



# East Midlands Gateway Hemington, Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting  
Addendum 2: Fields 35 and 43



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**East Midlands Gateway  
Hemington, Leicestershire**

**Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting  
Addendum 2: Fields 35 and 43**

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# East Midlands Gateway Hemington, Leicestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting Addendum 2: Field 35 and 43

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## **East Midlands Gateway Hemington, Leicestershire**

### **Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting Addendum 2: Field 35 and 43**

#### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a programme of evaluation trenching and test pitting on land near Hemington in Leicestershire. The work was undertaken as part of works relating to the development of the East Midlands Gateway strategic rail freight interchange, and followed on from previous desk-based assessment, geophysical survey and field walking. An initial phase of evaluation trenching occurred in 2014, and further work in 2016 marked the completion of the overall trenching programme. This addendum provides the results for Field 43, where evaluation trenching occurred after the main report for the 2016 evaluation had been issued, and also for supplementary trenching in Field 35, which was first investigated in 2016.

A total of nineteen trenches were dug during the fieldwork which is the subject of this report, with confirmed or probable archaeological remains recorded within nine or perhaps ten.

Within Field 35, where an Iron Age boundary ditch had already been identified and investigated, the supplementary trenching has confirmed that its location and extent are accurately represented within the geophysical survey data. Detail has been added to the understanding of its profile and lifespan. Some evidence for domestic activity was recorded within the area enclosed by the ditch, but there is no indication of a great concentration of remains within this area.

The results are more equivocal within Field 43, where an absence of dating evidence and the depth of overburden sealing the archaeological horizon hampered the evaluation. A number of linear ditches were recorded, and these probably defined plots of land associated with the Romano-British site excavated within the field immediately to the east during a separate stage of the East Midlands Gateway development. No obvious indication of settlement or other similarly intense landuse was recorded within Field 43.

A small quantity of finds (animal bone, pottery, worked flint) was recovered, with the great majority of trenches proving to be artefactually sterile. Datable material is all of prehistoric date.

The archive resulting from the archaeological evaluation will be deposited with Leicester Museum in due course, under the accession code X.A168.2013. An OASIS record, wessexar1-290777, has been completed for this work and will be finalised at the time of deposition.



## **East Midlands Gateway Hemington, Leicestershire**

### **Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting Addendum 2: Field 35 and 43**

#### **Acknowledgements**

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by CgMs Consulting. The assistance of Sally Dicks is gratefully acknowledged in this regard.

Thanks are extended to Richard Clark, Principal Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council, who provided curatorial support and guidance.

The fieldwork within Field 35 and 43 was carried out by Simon Brown, Callum Bruce, Emily Eastwood, Viktoría Halldórsdóttir, Michael Keech, Margaret Leman, Dora Olah, and Daniel Webster. Emily Eastwood and Sam Fairhead directed the fieldwork. Patrick Daniel compiled this addendum report. Illustrations were prepared by Nancy Dixon. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Norton.

The pottery, flint and animal bone were assessed by Lorraine Mephram. The sample was processed by Liz Chambers and Stavroula Fouriki. The flot was sorted by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Inés López-Dóriga.



# East Midlands Gateway Hemington, Leicestershire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting Addendum 2: Field 35 and 43

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a programme of evaluation trenching and test pitting on land near Hemington in Leicestershire, centred on NGR 445750 326950 (Figure 1), hereafter 'the Site'. The work was undertaken as part of works relating to the development of the East Midlands Gateway strategic rail freight interchange. The majority of the evaluation trenching and test pitting was completed by the autumn of 2016 (Wessex Archaeology 2015a, 2016f, 2016g). However, due to access issues, the evaluation of Field 43 at the Site did not occur until the summer of 2017. At the same time, a number of additional trenches were dug in Field 35 (which was originally evaluated in the summer of 2016). This report presents the results of the evaluation trenching of Field 43 and the additional works in Field 35, and so forms an addendum to the main trenching report (Wessex Archaeology 2016f).

1.1.2 Previous work on the wider Site includes desk-based assessment (CgMs 2013), geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2014a, 2016c), fieldwalking survey (Wessex Archaeology 2014b, 2016a, 2017a), watching brief (Wessex Archaeology 2015b) and LiDAR Assessment and Woodland Survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b).

1.1.3 A Development Consent Order (DCO) was obtained for the East Midlands Gateway strategic rail freight interchange and associated highways works in January 2016. The evaluation trenching and test pitting occurred in response to a Schedule of Works as set out in Requirement 13 of the DCO (Planning Inspectorate 2016). The evaluation trenching was carried out in accordance with agreed Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI; Wessex Archaeology 2014c, 2016d, 2016e, 2017b) which outlined how the archaeological requirements of the work would be met.

#### 1.2 Area of investigation

1.2.1 Field 35 occupies an area of 3.3 ha (Fig 1) and is centred on NGR 445555 327110. Field 43 lies immediately to the south of Field 35; it occupies an area of 6.25 ha and is centred on 445555 326900. The two fields are separated by a small, unnamed stream (which flows first west and then north into the village of Hemington) and a concrete track which formed part of RAF Castle Donington. The ground within both fields descends to the stream, which lies at around 61 m. The slope is fairly gentle in Field 43, and slightly steeper in Field 35.

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology comprises Permo-Triassic sandstone. The soils are predominantly slowly permeable, mainly coarse, loams of the Hodnet association.



## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Summary

2.1.1 The archaeological background of the wider development area is laid out in full in the main evaluation report (Wessex Archaeology 2016f), to which this report forms an addendum. Some details relevant to Field 35 and Field 43 are given below.

#### *Geophysical survey (2013–2014)*

2.1.2 Geophysical survey was carried out across the wider development area in the winter of 2013–2014 (Wessex Archaeology 2014a). Within Field 35, the survey detected a strong 'hockeystick'-shaped archaeological anomaly in the north/central part of the field. Field 43 was found to contain two linear anomalies of probable archaeological origin, traces of former field boundaries and tracks marked on the 1921–1922 OS maps, along with areas of ridge and furrow, weak linear trends and small positive anomalies of possible archaeological interest (Wessex Archaeology 2014a, 7).

#### *Evaluation trenching (2016)*

2.1.3 A total of 10 trenches were excavated Field 35 in 2016; two were positioned to intercept the 'hockeystick'-shaped anomaly. The evaluation revealed a relict ditch at this location; it was found to contain Middle–Late Iron Age Scored Ware pottery and animal bone (Wessex Archaeology 2016f, 13–4).

2.1.4 Evaluation of Field 30 (located immediately to the east of field 43) detected Field boundary ditches and discrete features of Romano-British date (Wessex Archaeology 2016g).

#### *Fieldwalking*

2.1.5 Field 43 was fieldwalked for artefact recovery in 2017 (Wessex Archaeology 2017a). The majority of finds encountered were fragments of modern white fineware. However, some post-medieval material was recorded, mostly consisting of earthenware and glass. A single piece of flint was recovered. No likely locations of sub-surface remains were identified.

2.1.6 Field 35 could not be fieldwalked at any point due to dense vegetation cover.

#### *Strip, map and sample excavation*

2.1.7 When the evaluation occurred in the summer of 2017, Field 30, was undergoing strip, map and sample excavation as a consequence of the remains exposed during the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2016g). Results included a field system of Romano-British date, with associated settlement-related features and an inhumation (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming).

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Summary

3.1.1 The fieldwork was carried out according to the Schedule of Work attached to the DCO (Planning Inspectorate 2016) and the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016d and 2017b). A summary of the methodology employed can be found in the main evaluation report (Wessex Archaeology 2016f), to which this report forms an addendum.

3.1.2 A total of six evaluation trenches were excavated in Field 35 and thirteen in Field 43, with the as-dug locations of these corresponding with the locations presented within the WSI.





3.1.3 To avoid duplication of context and other record numbers during the various campaigns of trenching and excavation undertaken as part of the East Midlands Gateway development, trench numbering commenced at 1034. As per standard practice, excavated stratigraphic units were individually numbered and recorded, with the trench number forming the prefix for the context number. Hence, contexts 103400–103499 were reserved for use within trench 1034, contexts 103500–103599 were allocated to trench 1035, etc.

## 3.2 Aims and objectives

### *General aims*

3.2.1 The general aims of the archaeological evaluation trenching were:

- *to record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;*
- *to test the presence or absence of archaeological remains in areas containing ridge and furrow earthworks;*
- *to better define the extent of previously identified archaeological sites;*
- *to test the presence or absence of archaeological remains;*
- *to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made about the need for additional archaeological mitigation;*
- *to make available the results of the work.*

### *Specific aims*

3.2.2 The specific aims for the archaeological evaluation trenching within Fields 35 and 43 were:

- *to further investigate the Iron Age ditch identified within Field 35, with particular focus on defining its extent; and*
- *to test the geophysical responses within Field 43 and investigate blank areas without any recognised geophysical anomalies.*

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The results of the evaluation trenching in Field 35 and Field 43 carried out during 2017 are presented below. A complete summary of the context data by trench is presented in Appendix 1.

### 4.2 Field 35 (trenches 1034–1039)

4.2.1 Geophysical survey had detected a ‘hockeystick’-shaped anomaly in the north/central part of the field, and where this was evaluated in 2016, a relict ditch containing Middle–Late Iron Age Scored Ware pottery and animal bone was exposed. In 2017 a further six trenches (numbered 1034–1039) were dug in this field on the advice of Richard Clark, Principal Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council, to further define the course of the feature and to test for other remains in its vicinity.

4.2.2 Archaeological remains were exposed in trenches 1035 and 1036, with the remaining four trenches proving to be archaeologically blank (Fig. 2).

### *Deposit sequence*

Within Field 35 the geological substrate was typically encountered at around 0.4 m–0.5 m below the current ground surface, and presented as a compact dark pinkish red clay with occasional fragments of greenish stone (Pl. 1). This material is thought to tally with the degraded upper surface of the Permo-Triassic sandstone recorded in the area by the British Geological Survey. A mid-orange brown silty clay subsoil was recorded in most trenches. Topsoil was recorded throughout as an approximately 0.3 m-thick layer of usually mid-greyish brown sandy silt.

#### *Trench 1035*

- 4.2.3 A 3.2 m-wide linear anomaly was seen crossing trench 1035 on an east–west alignment. Upon excavation, the feature, numbered 103504, proved to be at least 0.7 m deep. Two fills were recorded, a lower fill of stony grey brown sandy clay overlain by a deposit of less stony material (Pl. 3). The lower fill may represent the collapse of a bank positioned to the north of the ditch. The finds assemblage from the feature amounted to a broken flint blade of possible late Mesolithic/Neolithic date, recovered from the uppermost fill. Safety considerations dictated that excavation halted before the feature's base was exposed. As dug, the feature appeared to have a shallow, bowl-shaped profile.
- 4.2.4 Trench 1035 was positioned to intercept a geophysical anomaly representing the westward continuation of the Iron Age ditch previously excavated in trench 217. Feature 103504 matched the course and position of the anomaly. However, as recorded in trench 1035, the feature differs from that in trench 217, having a broader, gentler profile and markedly less rocky fill (Pl. 3 and 4). These dissimilarities correspond with an interruption in the geophysical data and the fact that the feature in trench 217 appeared to be terminating to the west (Wessex Archaeology 2016f, 14). Overall, the evaluation evidence appears to show that whilst the 'hockeystick'-shaped anomaly does continue into trench 1035, it is segmented rather than continuous in nature.

#### *Trench 1036*

- 4.2.5 A lozenge-shaped pit was exposed in trench 1036, where it matched a spike in the geophysical data. The feature, numbered 103604, was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 3.06 m long by 0.68 m wide. The feature was found to be 0.2 m deep and have a bowl-shaped profile (Fig. 4a; Pl. 5). A single fill of stony dark brown sandy clay was recorded. This contained an assemblage of animal bone (all small fragments, some burnt) and 19 sherds of Iron Age pottery. The pottery includes rims from three vessels, one scored.
- 4.2.6 A rich assemblage of charred plant remains was recovered from a bulk sample taken from pit 103604. The material was dominated by spelt wheat. Wild grasses and other potential crop weeds were also present.
- 4.2.7 Taken together, the finds and environmental assemblages indicate this feature may have functioned as a receptacle for domestic refuse.
- 4.2.8 A 1.9 m wide east–west aligned anomaly crossed the trench some 5 m to the north of pit 103604, and also matched a spike in the geophysical data. Numbered 103606, the feature was found to be 0.25 m deep with a shallow, irregular dish-shaped profile (Fig. 4b). A single fill of mid-yellowish brown sandy silt was recorded. The feature appeared to resemble a cultivation furrow, but was found to contain seven sherds of Iron Age pottery.
- 4.2.9 No other features were recorded in trenches 1034–1039. Trench 1039 had been positioned to intercept weak linear geophysical features. Matching buried anomalies were



encountered at the appropriate locations, although they were interpreted as being geological in origin.

### 4.3 Field 43 (trenches 1040–1052)

4.3.1 Features of confirmed or probable archaeological origin were exposed in trenches 1040, 1044, 1046–8 and 1051, with the remaining seven trenches proving to be archaeologically blank.

#### *Deposit sequence*

4.3.2 Within Field 43 the geological substrate was typically recorded as a red clay with weathered grey/green bedrock. It was encountered at a variety of depths. Within the southern part of the field it lay at around 0.5 m below the current ground surface, but within the northern part it typically lay around 1 m deep, and was occasionally not encountered until 1.6 m below the ground surface. These deeper trenches also contained colluvial deposits, which generally presented as a compact reddish brown sandy silt (Pl. 2). The overall indication would that be the ground surface originally sloped down more steeply to the north, but the accumulation of the colluvial material has eased the gradient somewhat, and possibly represents infilling of a minor valley where the current stream flows.

4.3.3 The field contained an unripe cereal crop when the evaluation occurred and all trenches were capped with ploughsoil. An orangey silt subsoil (0.4 m deep on average) was recorded in most trenches.

#### *Trench 1040*

4.3.4 An anomaly resembling an inverted “T” lay at the southern extremity of the trench (104005: 0.58 m wide by 0.2 m deep). It had a bowl-shaped profile and contained a pale brown sandy silt fill with large sub-angular stone inclusions (Pl. 6). The feature had been cut to the east by a north-east to south-west aligned anomaly (104007: 1.58 m wide by 0.24 m deep). This had an irregular dish-shaped profile and contained a pale greyish brown silt sand fill. No artefacts were seen. Both features followed the north-east to south-west alignment of the current field boundaries and the alignment of the traces of ridge and furrow cultivation detected by the geophysical survey. Feature 104007 seems to resemble a furrow, with feature 104005 possibly representing the junction of former field boundaries.

#### *Trench 1041*

4.3.5 Four linear anomalies, likely furrows, crossed the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment (104104, 104106, 104108 and 104110). The easternmost, 104110, was the largest, at 1.4 m wide by 0.2 m deep (Fig. 4c). The remainder were 0.45–0.6 m wide and 0.09–0.12 m deep. All were filled with a mid-reddish brown sandy clay.

#### *Trench 1042*

4.3.6 Two probable furrows crossed the trench on a north–south alignment. One was investigated (104205; 1.6 m wide by 0.09 m deep) and found to contain a single fill of artefactually sterile pale orange brown sand lying in a very shallow dish-shaped cut. The natural substrate was not exposed at the western end of the trench, where safety considerations halted excavation when the trench reached 1.2 m deep. At this level, the westernmost 9 m of the trench base comprised reddish brown sandy silt colluvium (104203).

#### *Trench 1043*

- 4.3.7 A linear feature crossed the northern end of the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment (104305; 2.3 m wide by 0.1 m deep). It had a dish-shaped profile filled with dark brown silty sand which was found to contain a sherd of modern pottery (not retained). Feature 104305 appeared to cut a probable furrow which ran along most of the trench on a north–south alignment. The latter feature shared the orientation of the traces of ridge and furrow cultivation detected by the geophysical survey.
- 4.3.8 Trench 1043 had been positioned to intercept the potential eastward continuation of a linear feature detected by the geophysical survey (and exposed in trench 1044). No traces of the anomaly were observed in trench 1043, however.

#### *Trench 1044*

- 4.3.9 As implied above, trench 1044 had been positioned to intercept an east–west feature visible within the geophysical data. A matching archaeological feature was duly exposed (104407; 3.5 m wide by at least 0.3 m deep). The base of the feature (a probable ditch) exceeded the safe working limit, so a full profile could not be exposed. Two fills were recorded, a pale greyish brown sandy clay overlain by a dark blackish brown sandy clay, with ‘iron objects’ noted on fieldwork records describing the latter material, but unfortunately no further details are known (Pl. 7).
- 4.3.10 To the south, a north-west to south-east aligned feature crossed trench 1044. It shared the position and alignment of a generalised band of increased magnetic response within the geophysical data. This continues the line of an extant field boundary to the south-east, and may represent a grubbed out hedge or similar, although nothing is marked in this location on the First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Where investigated the feature, numbered 104410, was 1.35 m wide and 0.18 m deep, with a shallow, irregular dish-shaped profile filled with an artefactually sterile orange brown sand. A small gully or pit (104413; 0.2 m wide by 0.08 m deep) had been cut by 104410. No finds were noted.

#### *Trench 1045*

- 4.3.11 Five probable furrows crossed trench 1045 on a north–south alignment. Two were investigated as they appeared contiguous (104503 and 104505). Both had shallow dish-shaped profiles and contained artefactually sterile brown silt fills.

#### *Trench 1046*

- 4.3.12 A probable furrow (104606; 1 m wide by 0.12 m deep) corresponded with a cultivation effect detected by the geophysical data. It contained an artefactually sterile fill of brownish orange silty sand.
- 4.3.13 A pit or ditch terminal (104608; 1.8 m wide by 0.16 m deep) extended for 0.8 m from the western trench wall (Fig. 4d). It had a shallow dish-shaped profile filled with a single deposit of orange brown silty sand found to contain a possible sherd of degraded prehistoric pottery which disintegrated upon excavation and so could not be not retained.
- 4.3.14 Trench 1046 was positioned so its northern end would intercept the potential continuation of a north-east to south-west aligned anomaly detected by the geophysical survey, although no remains were observed. A hollow filled with colluvial overburden was noted at the southern end of the trench, where it coincided with a band of disturbance within the geophysical data.

#### *Trench 1047*

- 4.3.15 A deep and well-defined ditch was recorded in trench 1047, where it appeared to mark the northward continuation of a prominent geophysical anomaly. Numbered 104708, the feature was at least 0.9 m deep—safety considerations halted excavation before its base could be reached. The feature appeared 5.8 m wide, although at the point at which it was exposed in the trench, ditch 104708 appeared to be turning a corner, so its true width was hard to ascertain within the confines of the trench. The feature had a bowl-shaped profile and contained a single fill of artefactually sterile mid-brown sandy silt containing occasional flecks of charcoal (Fig. 4e).
- 4.3.16 Two furrows were also recorded in trench 1047 (104704; 104706). With their shallow dish-shaped profiles and sterile orange brown silty sandy fills, they resembled other examples of this type of feature recorded during the evaluation. Their north-east to south-west alignment matched the traces of cultivation visible within the geophysical data.

#### *Trench 1048*

- 4.3.17 Trench 1048 was positioned to investigate the same prominent geophysical anomaly as was exposed in trench 1047, with ditch 104803 matching the course and position of the target anomaly. Excavation established the feature was 2.05 m wide by 0.95 m deep with a well-defined flared 'U'-shaped profile (Fig. 4g; Pl. 8). Two fills were recorded: a mid-greyish brown sandy clay overlain by a reddish brown sandy clay found to contain a small undiagnostic flint flake and 17 poorly preserved animal bone fragments including a horse tooth.

#### *Trench 1049*

- 4.3.18 A linear feature crossed the northern end of the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment (104904; 3.6 m wide by 0.16 m deep). It appeared to have a dish-shaped profile and was filled with an artefactually sterile brownish grey clay silt. The feature lacks any obvious correspondence within the geophysical survey, and was interpreted during fieldwork as a minor water erosion channel.
- 4.3.19 The southern half of the trench was dug to a depth of 1.2 m, although the natural substrate was not reached due to the thickness of the overlying colluvium. An exploratory machine-dug sondage at the southern end of the trench revealed the geological horizon lay some 1.55 m below the current ground level.

#### *Trench 1050*

- 4.3.20 Ditch 105006 crossed the eastern part of the trench on a north-south alignment. Upon excavation the feature was found to be 2.7 m wide by 0.47 m deep with a dish-shaped profile (Fig. 4h; Pl. 9). A single fill of dark brown silty sand was recorded. Ditch 105006 was sealed beneath 0.8 m of ploughsoil and subsoil, which perhaps accounts for its absence from the geophysical survey results. From its course and position, ditch 105006 may represent the southward continuation of a Romano-British ditch exposed in Field 30 (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming).
- 4.3.21 One of the two furrows exposed in trench 1050 was formally investigated. Numbered 105004, it was found to be 2 m wide by 0.08 m deep with a shallow dish-shaped profile. Furrow 105004 appeared to mark the southward continuation of a furrow exposed to the north in Field 30 (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming).

#### *Trench 1051*

- 4.3.22 A linear feature crossed the northern part of the trench on a north-west to south-east alignment (105104; 1.2 m wide by 0.32 m deep). It had a bowl-shaped profile and was



filled with an artefactually sterile brown silty sand (Fig. 4f; Pl. 10). The feature appears to resemble a small field boundary ditch, although it lacks any obvious correspondence within the geophysical survey.

#### *Trench 1052*

- 4.3.23 Trench 1052 was dug to prospect for the continuation of a stone-filled hollow containing profuse quantities of Roman-period pottery exposed a short distance to the east in Field 30 (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming). However, no corresponding remains were observed; the trench was both shallow (a 0.28 m thickness of ploughsoil directly overlay natural bedrock) and entirely blank.

## 5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A small quantity of finds in a restricted range of material types (animal bone, pottery, worked flint) was recovered during the evaluation, deriving from contexts in three of the trenches excavated (trenches 1035, 1036 and 1048). Datable material is all of prehistoric date.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	Animal Bone	Flint	Pottery
103507		1/2	
103605	8/3		19/328
103607			5/32
104805	17/97	1/1	
<i>Total</i>	<i>25/100</i>	<i>2/3</i>	<i>24/360</i>

### 5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 Pottery was recovered from two cut features in trench 1036, amounting to 24 sherds (weighing 360 g). All of this material is of Iron Age date.
- 5.2.2 Two fabric types are represented here, and have been assigned to fabric codes following the University of Leicester fabric type series (eg, Marsden 1998; 2000; 2009): sandy fabrics, containing fine to medium quartz grains (fabric Q1); and fabrics containing a mixture of quartz grains and rock fragments (Q2). The rocks are likely to be granodiorites from the Mountsorrel area, which outcrop to the south-east of the Site. Table 2 gives the breakdown of pottery by context.
- 5.2.3 The group of 19 sherds from pit 103604 includes rims from three vessels, one in fabric Q1 and the other two in fabric Q2. All are weakly shouldered vessels with thickened rims; one is scored. The five sherds from ditch 103606 are all undiagnostic body sherds.
- 5.2.4 Based on the fabric types, vessel forms and the presence of scored wares, this small group can be dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age (5th or 4th century to 1st century BC). Parallels can be found from other Iron Age sites in the Soar valley, such as Wanlip, Elms Farm, Humberstone and Hallam Fields, Birstall, and these sites also provide parallels for the vessel forms seen here (Marsden 1998; 2009), along with Enderby (Elsdon 2000).





Similar fabrics and forms were also recently recorded from a nearby site on the proposed route of the Kegworth bypass (Wessex Archaeology 2017c).

**Table 2: Pottery by context**

Context	Ware type	Code	No.	Wt. (g)	Comments
103605	IA sandy ware	Q1	7	85	1 thickened rim (two conjoining sherds) from weakly shouldered vessel
103605	IA sandy ware with rock inclusions	Q2	12	243	2 thickened rims from weakly shouldered vessels, 1 scored
103607	IA sandy ware	Q1	4	17	body sherds
103607	IA sandy ware with rock inclusions	Q2	1	15	body sherds

### 5.3 Flint

5.3.1 Two pieces of worked flint were recovered: a broken blade from ditch 103506, and a small flake from ditch 104803. The blade could be indicative of an early prehistoric industry (late Mesolithic/Neolithic), but the flake is not chronologically distinctive. Neither can be taken as reliable dating evidence for the features in which they were found, and are instead most likely to be residual finds.

### 5.4 Animal bone

5.4.1 Of the 25 fragments of bone recovered, 17 came from ditch 104803, and include a horse tooth. This context group is in very poor condition, and other fragments, all heavily abraded, are unidentifiable to species, as are the other eight fragments recovered, all from pit 103604 (all small fragments, some burnt).

## 6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A bulk sample was taken from a pit and was processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence, primarily charred plant remains and wood charcoal.

### 6.2 Aims and methods

6.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is the evaluation of the quality of plant remains preserved at the Site and the potential for further analysis to address specific site archaeological issues and to provide archaeobotanical data valuable for wider research frameworks.

6.2.2 The size of the sample was of 27 litres and was processed by standard flotation methods; the flots retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. A riffle box was used to split large flots into smaller flot subsamples when appropriate. The flots were



scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (eg, *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would only be preserved under anoxic conditions. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence/absence of other environmental remains such as molluscs, animal bone and insects (if anoxic conditions for their preservation are present), is recorded in Appendix 2.

- 6.2.3 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

### 6.3 Results

- 6.3.1 The flot was small and there were high numbers of roots that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. A rich assemblage of charred plant remains was recovered. Charred material was well preserved and was dominated by spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*), in both grains and chaff (glume bases). Abundant remains of wild grasses (Poaceae), composites (Asteraceae) and docks (Polygonaceae) were also present, which could have been crop weeds. A small amount of mature wood charcoal was noted.

### 6.4 Discussion and further potential

- 6.4.1 The preservation of environmental evidence from the sampled feature is fair and the charred plant assemblage has the potential to provide information on the nature of the settlement, the local environment and local agricultural practices. The assemblage is consistent with an Iron Age or Romano-British chronology and probably represents the remains of crop processing activities carried out in a domestic type of site.

## 7 DISCUSSION

### 7.1 General

- 7.1.1 In Field 35, the results of the geophysical survey have been supported by the evaluation trenching, where all excavated features are accompanied by a corresponding geophysical signature. The presence of a segmented boundary of Iron Age date has been confirmed. The differences in the form and fills within the different segments of the ditch might suggest that it was constructed, and became backfilled, at different times, with the westernmost segment potentially a later addition to an existing boundary. In addition, a small number of features are now known within the area that the boundary 'enclosed'. The environmental evidence indicates crop processing was carried out here, possibly in a domestic context. However, the indication from the geophysical survey and both campaigns of trench evaluation is that Field 35 does not contain a great concentration of archaeological features.

- 7.1.2 The soil sequence in Field 43 was unusually deep in places (up to 1.55 m) which may go some way to explaining the weaker geophysical results in this field compared to the rest of the East Midlands Gateway development area. Some of the probable archaeological features had not generated a geophysical response. The considerable thickness of the



colluvium further hindered the evaluation as, in accordance with the Risk Assessment, the excavation of trenches and features occasionally had to be halted before the natural substrate could be reached. Overall, however, there is no indication (from all stages of survey—magnetometry, fieldwalking and trench evaluation) that Field 43 contains a concentration of remains of enhanced complexity or significance.

- 7.1.3 Discounting ridge and furrow and other relatively modern effects, seven or perhaps eight of the thirteen trenches dug in Field 43 contained probable or confirmed archaeological remains. Their chronology is uncertain, as no artefactual material was obtained, other than an undiagnostic and probably residual flint flake. The relict boundary ditches investigated in the trenches may represent an outlying field system associated with the Romano-British site located just to the east, in Field 30 (Wessex Archaeology 2016g and forthcoming).
- 7.1.4 It is notable that, within the local landscape, the area of greatest archaeological significance lies within Field 30. The fact that the concentration of archaeological remains appears to diminish markedly beyond its boundaries may imply that the current boundaries express some zoning which was in place during the Romano-British period. Alternatively, differing land use regimes within the separate plots may have favoured the preservation of the archaeological horizon in Field 30, but affected it adversely elsewhere.
- 7.1.5 A series of furrows was present across Field 43, likely representing cultivation in the medieval or post-medieval period. The presence of these features within most trenches suggests that truncation by plough is likely to have affected preservation of archaeological features.

## **7.2 Conclusion**

- 7.2.1 The evaluation trenching largely succeeded in meeting its specific aims in Field 35, where further investigation of the Iron Age ditch has confirmed the accuracy of its representation within the geophysical data and added detail to the understanding of its form and lifespan. The archaeological character of the area enclosed by the ditch is better understood, with some evidence for domestic activity recorded, but no indication of a great concentration of remains.
- 7.2.2 The results are less straightforward to interpret in Field 43, where an absence of dating evidence and the depth of overburden sealing the archaeological horizon have hampered pursuit of the project aims. Some resolution has been gained regarding the form, character and extent of the archaeology within the field, however. The remains appear to relate to land division, with no indication of settlement or other similarly intense landuse. Although undated, it would be reasonable to assume that the ditches represent an outlying field system serving the Romano-British site investigated in Field 30 (Wessex Archaeology 2016g and forthcoming).

## **8 STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **8.1 Museum**

- 8.1.1 The archive resulting from the archaeological works will be combined with the archive from the main 2016 evaluation and deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code X.A168.2013. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.



## **8.2 Preparation of archive**

- 8.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Leicestershire County Council Museums Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession code (X.A168.2013), and a full index will be prepared.

## **8.3 Discard policy**

- 8.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2011).

## **8.4 Security copy**

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

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## 10 APPENDICES

### 10.1 Appendix 1: Context summary tables by trench

Trench 1034				
Trench dimensions: L: 31.2 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.54 m				
Context	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	Depth (m)
103401	-	Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent roots	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.38
103402	-	Compact mid orange brown silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.38–0.47
103403	-	Compact dark orange red silty clay with frequent bands of grey green bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.47–54+
Comments		No geophysical target, no archaeology		

Trench 1035				
Trench dimensions: L: 30.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.58m				
Context	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	Depth (m)
103501	-	Mid orange brown, sandy silt with frequent rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.30
103502	-	Mid grey brown, clay silt	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.30–0.52
103503	-	Reddish brown, clay silt turning to mid brownish red, compact silty clay	<i>Natural</i>	0.52–0.58+
103504	-	E-W linear	<i>Ditch</i>	0.7–1.2–1.4
103505	103504	Mid greyish brown silty clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.7–1.2
103506	-	E-W linear	<i>Ditch (recut?)</i>	0.64–1.2
103507	103506	Mid greyish brown silty clay	<i>Fill</i>	0.64–1.2
Comments		Archaeology matches geophysical target		

Trench 1036				
Trench dimensions: L: 31.4m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.45 m				
Context	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	Depth (m)
103601	-	Moderately compact mid orange brown sandy silt	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.22
103602	-	Moderately compact mid grey brown silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.22–0.42
103603	-	Compact mid pinkish red silty clay with occ. Bands of grey green weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.42–0.45+
103604	-	NE/SW sub-rectangular	<i>Pit</i>	
103605	103604	Dark blackish brown sandy clay. Enviro sample no. 1001	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
103606	-	E/W linear	<i>Ditch</i>	
103607	103606	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	<i>Fill</i>	
Comments		9.2 m-long N–S spur trench dug to north. Archaeology matches geophysical targets.		

Trench 1037				
Trench dimensions: L: 32.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.4 m				
Context	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	Depth (m)
103701	-	Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with dense rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.38
103702	-	Mid reddish brown silty clay and dense grey green bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.38–0.40+
Comments		No geophysical target, no archaeology		



<b>Trench 1038</b>				
<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 31.2 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.52 m				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
103801	-	Moderately compact mid grey brown sandy silt with frequent rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.28
103802	-	Compact mid orange brown silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.28–0.44
103803	-	Compact grey green bedrock with patches of compact dark reddish brown silty clay	<i>Natural</i>	0.44–0.52+
Comments	No geophysical target, no archaeology			

<b>Trench 1039</b>				
<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 30.4 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.44m				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
103901	-	Moderately compact mid grey brown sandy silt with dense rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.29
103902	-	Compact mid reddish brown silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.20–0.40
103903	-	Compact grey green bedrock with geological bands of compact orange brown silty clay	<i>Natural</i>	0.40–0.44+
Comments	8 m-long E–W spur trench dug to west. Geophysical targets found to coincide with geological anomalies			

<b>Trench 1040</b>				
<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 39.5 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 1.02 m				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104001	-	Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.30
104002	-	Compact mid orange red silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.30–0.54
104003	-	Compact mid brown yellow silty sand	<i>Natural</i>	0.96–1.02+
104004	-	Dark grey brown sandy silt	<i>Colluvium</i>	0.54–0.96
104005	-	NE/SW linear, part of larger T-shape	<i>Ditch</i>	
104006	104005	Mid brown grey, slightly greenish, sandy silt	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104007	-	N-S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	
104008	104007	Pale greyish brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
Comments	Furrow matched geophysics, ditch not apparent in geophysics			

<b>Trench 1041</b>				
<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.7 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.7 m				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104101	-	Moderately compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.34
104102	-	compact mid orange red silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.34–0.65
104103	-	compact mid pinkish red clay with dense grey green bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.65–0.70+
104104	-	SW/NE linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.65–0.77
104105	104104	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.65–0.77
104106	-	SE/NE linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.65–0.74
104107	104106	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.65–0.74
104108	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.65–0.75
104109	104108	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	<i>Fill</i>	0.65–0.75
104110	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.65–0.85
104111	104110	mid reddish brown sandy clay	<i>Fill</i>	0.65–0.85



<b>Trench 1041</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.7 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.7 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
Comments	Furrows matched geophysics; no archaeology, no targets			

<b>Trench 1042</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 39.9 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 1.02 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104201	-	Compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.34
104202	-	Very compact light pinkish red silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.34–0.75
104203	-	Dark compact reddish brown sandy silt	<i>Colluvium</i>	0.75–1.02
104204	-	Mixed weathered grey green bedrock and dark brown red clay	<i>Natural</i>	1.02+
104205	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.75–0.84
104206	104205	Light orange brown sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.75–0.84
Comments	Furrows matched geophysics; no archaeology, no targets			

<b>Trench 1043</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 39.1 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 1.1 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104301	-	Dark brownish grey moderately compact sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.33
104302	-	Mid brownish orange compact sandy silt	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.33–0.63
104303	-	Soft mid grey brown sandy sily	<i>Colluvium</i>	0.63–1.03
104304	-	Compact dark brown red silty clay with frequent grey green weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	1.03–1.1
104305	-	NE/SW linear	<i>Ditch</i>	1.1–1.25
104306	104305	dark brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	1.1–1.25
Comments	Furrow matches geophysics; otherwise poor correspondence between geophysics and evaluation results			

<b>Trench 1044</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 1.6 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104401	-	Moderately compact dark brownish grey sandy silt	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.30
104402	-	Compact med pinkish red sandy silty	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.30–0.75
104403	-	compact dark reddish brown sandy silt	<i>colluvium</i>	0.75–1.6
104404	-	Mixed compact weathered grey green bedrock and dark reddish brown silty clay	<i>Natural</i>	1.6
104405	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	
104406	104405	Light orange brown sandy clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104407	-	Irregular feature, possible ditch	<i>Ditch</i>	
104408	104407	Dark blackish brown sandy clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104409	104407	Light greyish brown sandy clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104410	-	NW/SE linear	<i>Boundary</i>	
104411	104410	Light orange brown sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104412	104413	very red sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104413	-	NW/SE linear	<i>Gully/pit</i>	
Comments	Results match geophysics			



<b>Trench 1045</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.6 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.26 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104501	-	Moderately compact dark brownish grey sandy silt	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.18
104502	-	Compact grey green weathered bedrock with a dark brownish red compact clay	<i>Natural</i>	0.26
104503	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.26–0.36
104504	104503	Mid greyish brown silty clay	<i>Fill</i>	0.26–0.36
104505	-	N/S linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.26–0.33
104506	104505	Moderately compact mid yellowish brown sandy silt	<i>Fill</i>	0.26–0.33
Comments	Furrows match geophysics			

<b>Trench 1046</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 39.3 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 1.06 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104601	-	Moderately compact dark brown grey sandy silt with dense rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.39
104602	-	compact light orange red silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.39–0.88
104603	-	Moderately compact mid grey brown sandy silt	<i>colluvium</i>	0.88–1.06
104604	-	compact mid orange red silty clay with frequent weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	1.06
104605	104606	Mid brown orange compact silty sand	<i>Fill</i>	
104606	-	E/W linear	<i>Furrow</i>	
104607	104608	Mid orange brown compact silty sand	<i>Fill</i>	
104608	-	N/S oval cut of possible pit	<i>Pit/ditch terminal</i>	
Comments	Results partially match geophysics			

<b>Trench 1047</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 39.1 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.4m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104701	-	Moderately compact mid brown grey sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.30
104702	-	compact light pinkish red silty clay with frequent green clay and weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.30+
104703	-	Compact mid orange red silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.3–0.40
104704	-	NE/SW sub linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.45-0.57
104705	104704	Mid orangey brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.45-0.57
104706	-	N/S sub linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.5-0.57
104707	104706	Mid orangey brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.5-0.57
104708	-	N/S Linear	<i>Ditch</i>	
104709	104708	mid brown sandy silt	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
Comments	Results match geophysics			

<b>Trench 1048</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.42 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104801	-	Moderately compact mid brown grey sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.34
104802	-	Compact dark purplish red silty clay with dense patches of weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.34–0.42



<b>Trench 1048</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.42 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104803	-	E/W linear	<i>Ditch</i>	0.40-0.55
104804	104803	Mid greyish brown silty clay	<i>Primary fill</i>	
104805	104803	Mid reddish brown silty clay	<i>Secondary fill</i>	
104806	-	Moderately compact mid reddish brown silty clay	<i>Subsoil</i>	
Comments	Results match geophysics			

<b>Trench 1049</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.3 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.82 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
104901	-	Mid brownish grey moderately compact sandy silt	<i>Topsoil</i>	0-0.30
104902	-	Compact light orange red silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.30-0.70
104903	-	Compact dark purplish red silty clay with frequent grey green weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.74-0.82+
104904	-	E/W curvilinear	<i>Natural feature?</i>	0.74-0.91
104905	104904	Mid brownish grey moderately compact clay silt	<i>Fill</i>	0.74-0.91
Comments	No geophysical target, no archaeology			

<b>Trench 1050</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 41.3 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.8 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
105001	-	Mid brownish grey moderately compact sandy silt with dense rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0-0.38
105002	-	Mid orange red compact silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.38-0.75
105003	-	Compact purplish red silty clay with frequent grey green weathered bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.75-0.8+
105004	-	N/S Linear	<i>Furrow</i>	0.6-0.75
105005	105004	Dark brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.6-0.75
105006	-	N/S linear	<i>Ditch</i>	0.75-1.3
105007	105006	Dark brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.75-1.3
Comments	No geophysical target; furrow matches geophysics, ditch may be a continuation of feature investigated in Area 30			

<b>Trench 1051</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 38.8 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.65 m		
<b>Context</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>
105101	-	Moderately compact mid brownish grey sandy silt with dense crop rooting	<i>Topsoil</i>	0-0.38
105102	-	Compact mid orange red silty sand	<i>Subsoil</i>	0.38-0.6
105103	-	Dark purplish red silty clay with frequent grey green bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.6-0.65+
105104	-	E/W Linear	<i>Ditch</i>	0.65-0.95
105105	105104	Dark brown silty sand	<i>Secondary fill</i>	0.65-0.95
Comments	No geophysical target; results do not match geophysics			

<b>Trench 1052</b>		<b>Trench dimensions:</b> L: 12.78 m, W: 2.3 m, D: 0.35 m		
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Context	Fill of	Description	Interpretation	Depth (m)
105201	-	Mid brownish grey clayish silt	<i>Topsoil</i>	0–0.28
105202	-	Light brownish yellow mudstone bedrock	<i>Natural</i>	0.28–0.35+
Comments	Contingency trench. No geophysical target, no archaeology.			





## 10.2 Appendix 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Subsample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Charcoal	Other	Comments
103604	103605	1001	27	35		80%, B, E	A	A	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (inc. <i>T. spelta</i> ) grains and chaff (glume bases)	A*	Poaceae ( <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> , <i>Poa/Phleum</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> ) Asteraceae, Polygonaceae	1ml	Mature	Moll-t	Fair

Key: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects; Sab/f/c = small animal/fish bones/charred faecal pellets, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = aquatic molluscs, Moll-m = marine molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon



### 10.3 Appendix 3: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-290777

#### Project details

Project name	East Midlands Gateway Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation Trenching
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology carried out a programme of evaluation trenching on land near Hemington in Leicestershire. The work was undertaken as part of works relating to the development of the East Midlands Gateway strategic rail freight interchange. An initial phase of evaluation trenching occurred in 2014-16. This Addendum provides the results for Field 43, where work occurred after the main report for the 2016 evaluation had been issued, and also for supplementary trenching in Field 35, which was first investigated in 2016. Within Field 35, detail has been added to the understanding of the profile and lifespan of the Iron Age boundary ditch previously investigated there. Some evidence for domestic activity was recorded within the area enclosed by the ditch, but there is no indication of a great concentration of remains hereabouts. The results are more equivocal within Field 43, where an absence of dating evidence and the depth of overburden sealing the archaeological horizon hampered the evaluation. A number of linear ditches were recorded, and it is thought most likely that they defined plots of land associated with the Romano-British site already excavated within the field immediately to the east. No obvious indication of settlement or other similarly intense landuse was recorded within Field 43. A small quantity of finds (animal bone, pottery, worked flint) was recovered, with the great majority of trenches proving to be artefactually sterile. Datable material is all of prehistoric date.</p>
Project dates	Start: 12-05-2017 End: 30-06-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	X.A168.2013 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	115291 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Significant Finds	POT Iron Age
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Extensive green field commercial development (e.g.



Prompt	shopping centre, business park, science park, etc.)
Position in the planning process	Planning condition
	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	LEICESTERSHIRE NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE LOCKINGTON HEMINGTON East Midlands Gateway
Postcode	DE74 2PJ
Study area	1.8 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 455 271 52.839161561827 -1.324450620484 52 50 20 N 001 19 28 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 63m Max: 67m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	with advice from County Archaeologist
Project design originator	Wessex archaeology
Project director/manager	Patrick Daniel
Project director/manager	Andrew Norton
Project supervisor	Owen Batchelor
Project supervisor	Sam Fairhead
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Leicestershire County Council Museums Service
Physical Archive ID	X.A168.2013
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Leicestershire County Council Museums Service
Digital Archive ID	X.A168.2013
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Leicestershire County Council Museums Service
Paper Archive ID	X.A168.2013
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

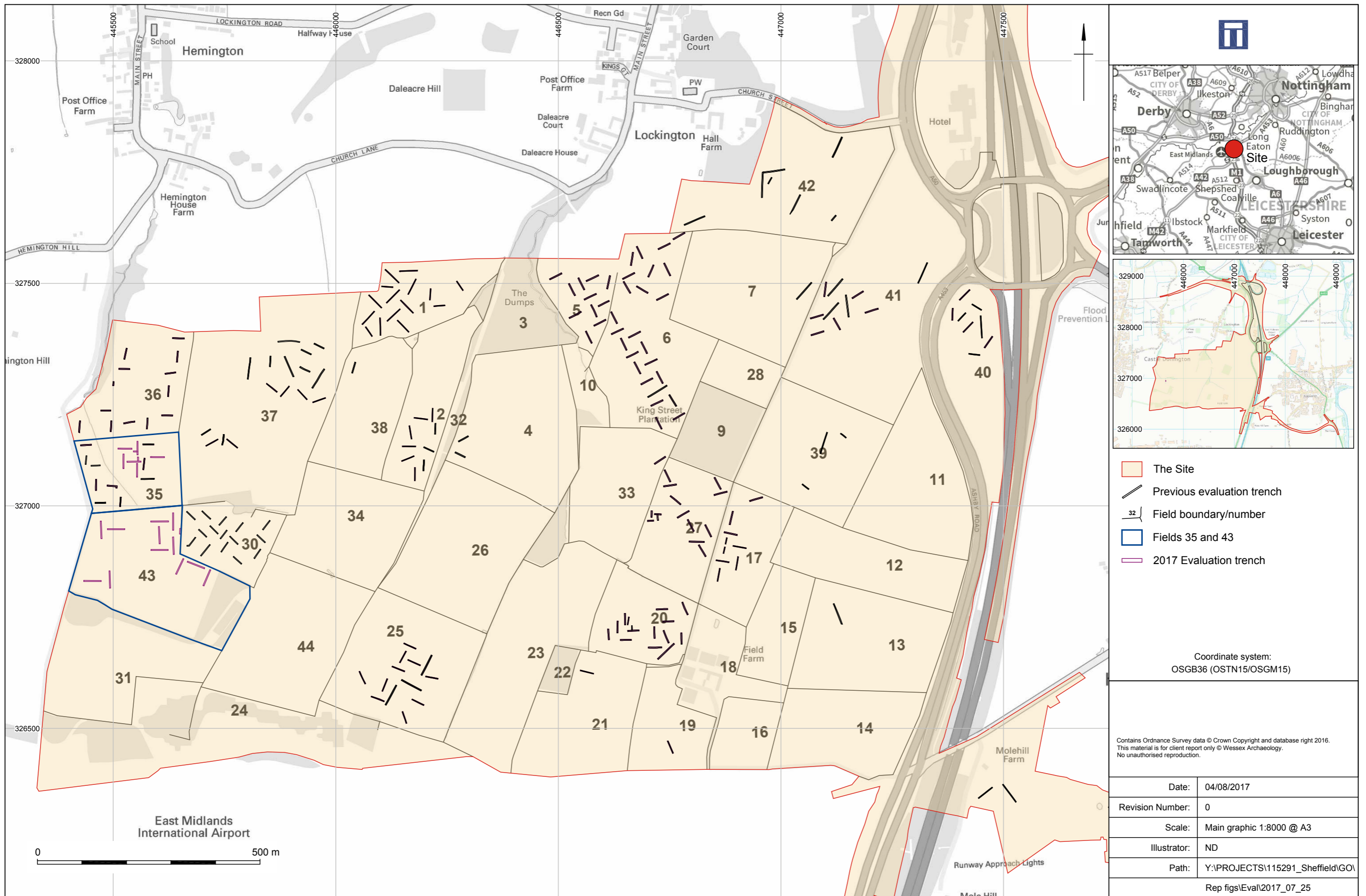
### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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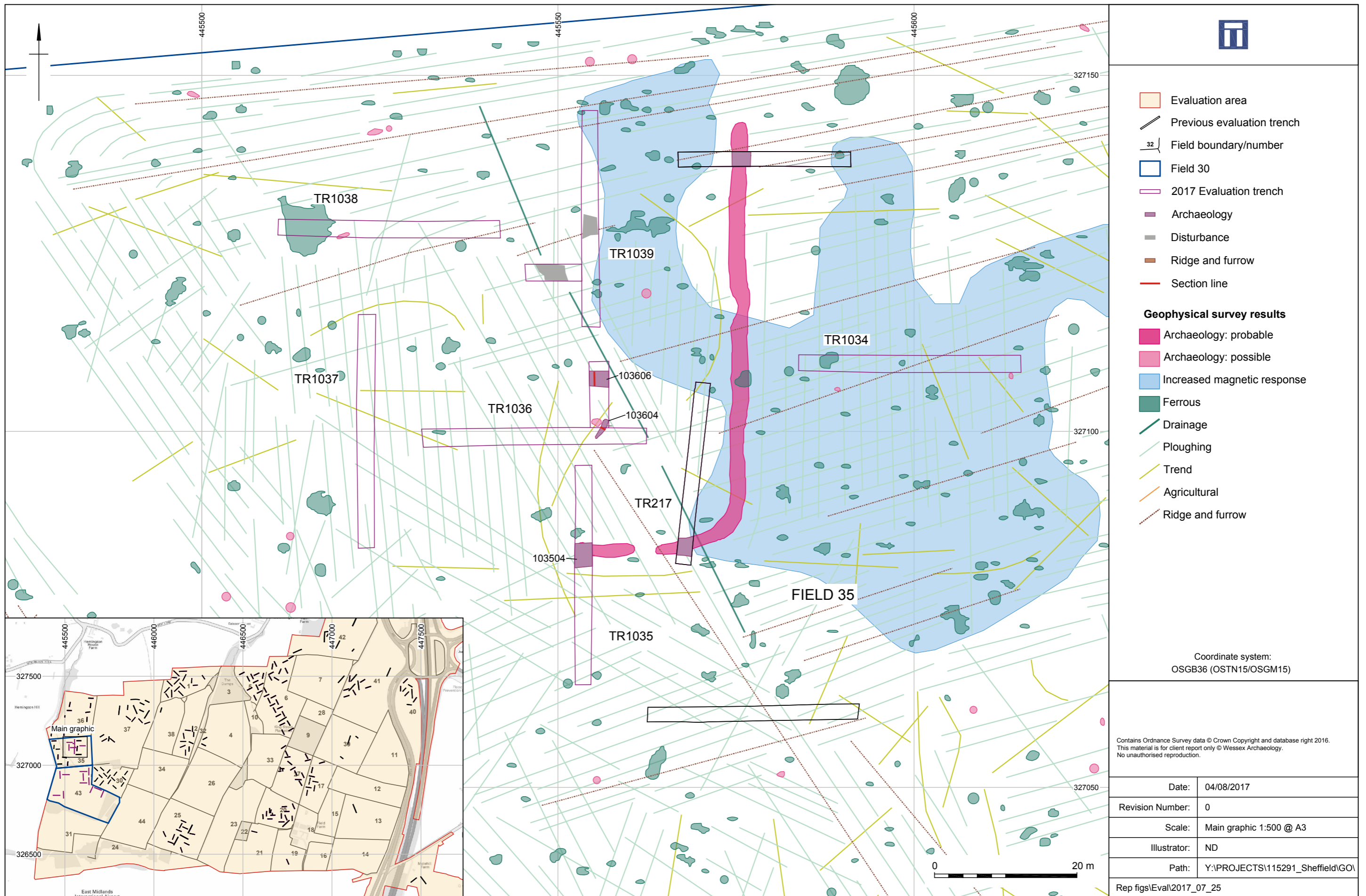
Title	East Midlands Gateway, Lockington, Leicestershire: Archaeological Evaluation and Test Pitting. Addendum 2: Fields 35 and 43
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Daniel, P.
Other bibliographic details	115291
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	c. 50-page comb-bound report with colour plates and figures
Entered by	Patrick Daniel (p.daniel@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	24 August 2017

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Site location and location of Fields 35 and 43 within the wider Site

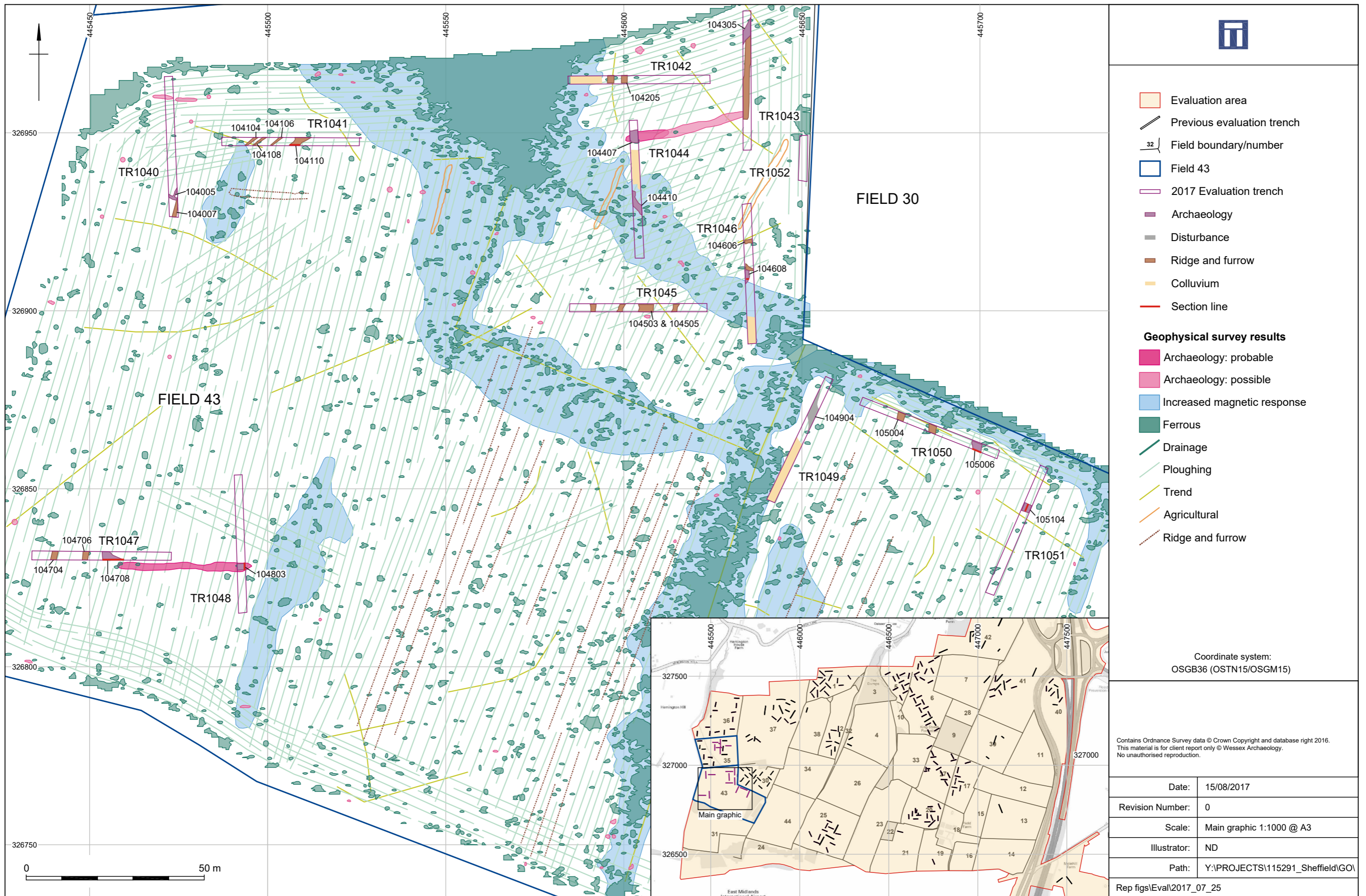




Evaluation trenches in Field 35

Figure 2





Evaluation trenches in Field 43

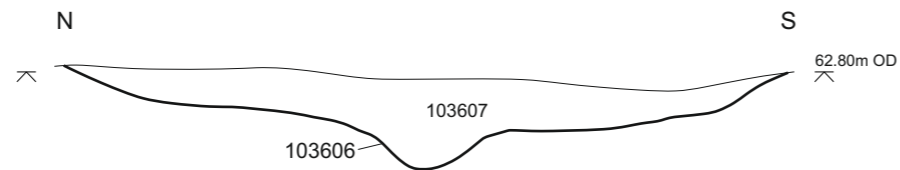
Figure 3



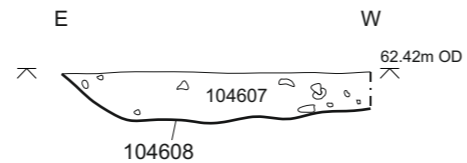
A. Pit 103604, north-east facing section



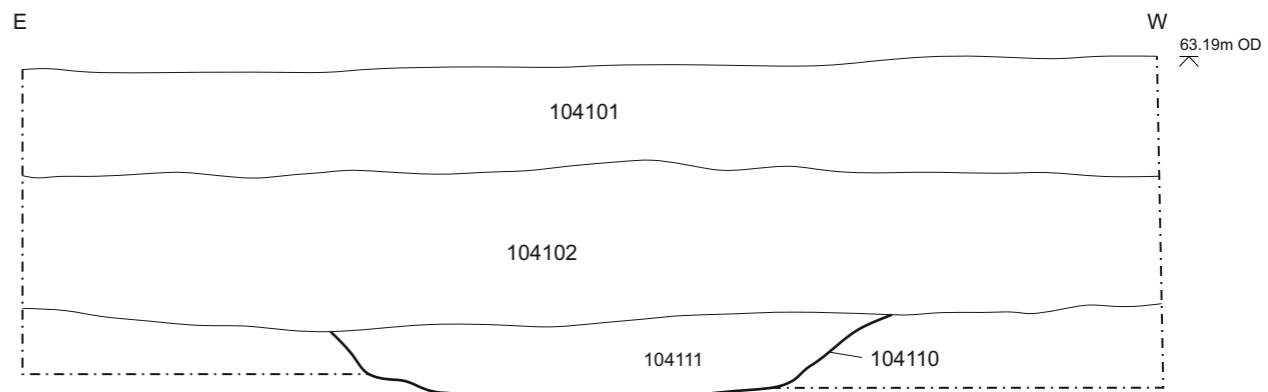
B. Ditch 103606, west facing section



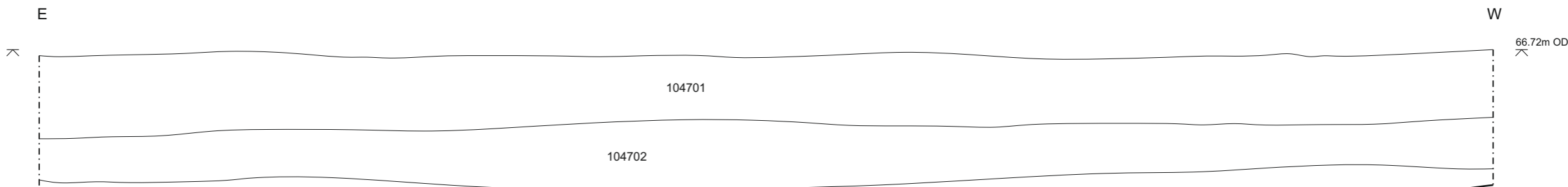
D. Pit/ditch terminal 104608, north facing section



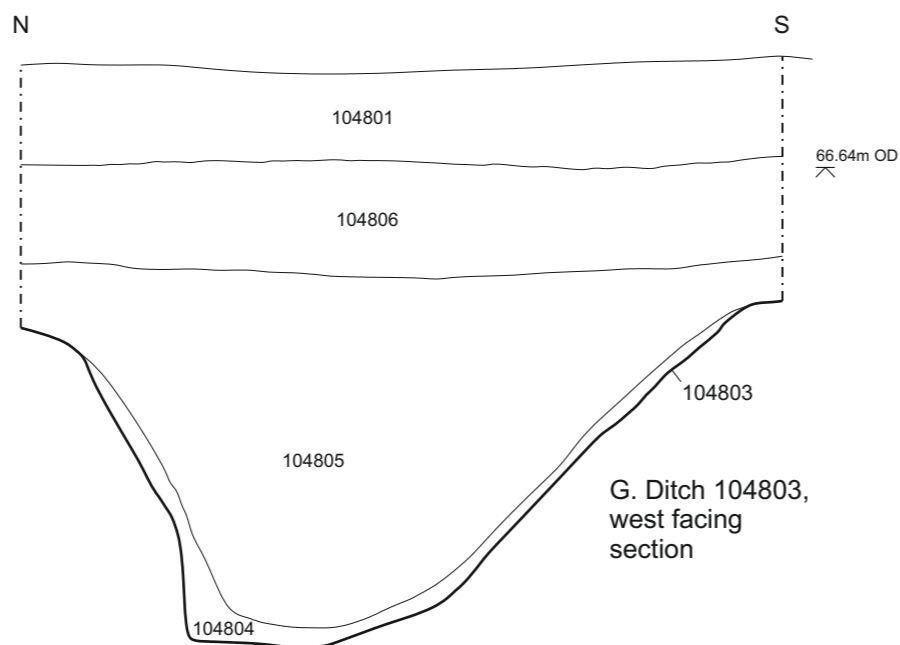
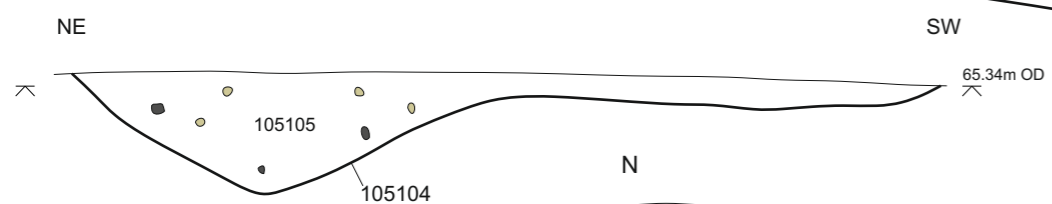
C. Furrow 104110, north facing section



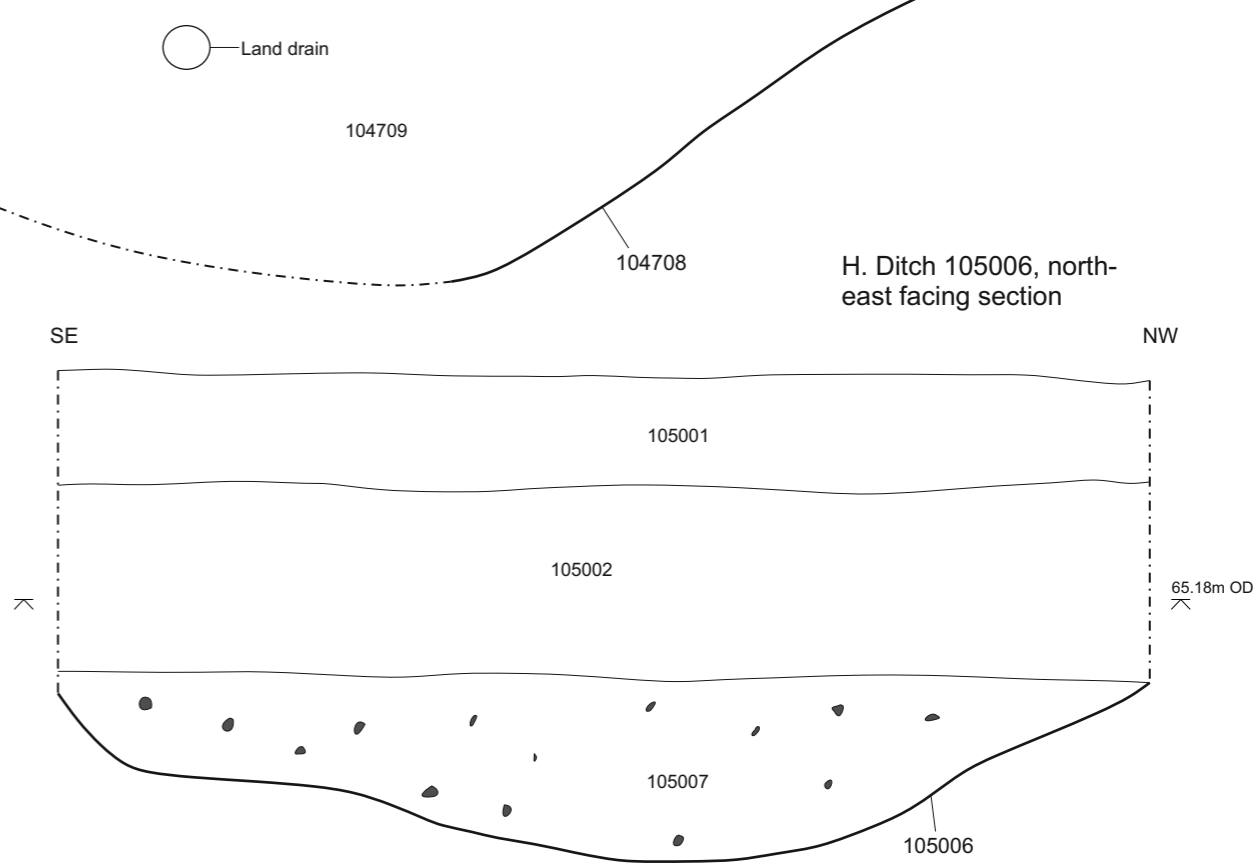
E. Ditch 104708, north facing section



F. Ditch 105104, north-west facing section

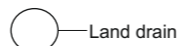


G. Ditch 104803, west facing section



H. Ditch 105006, north-east facing section

- Pottery
- Stones
- Charcoal
- Sandstone



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Plate 1: Typical deposit sequence in Field 35



Plate 2: Colluvial deposit in Field 43 (trench 1044)


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Plate 3: Ditch 103504, west facing section



Plate 4: For comparison: west facing section of ditch 21704 (excavated 2016)


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Plate 5: Pit 103604, north-east facing section



Plate 6: Ditch 104007, north-east facing section


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Plate 7: Ditch 104407, west facing section



Plate 8: Ditch 104803, west facing section


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Plate 9: Ditch 105006, north-east facing section



Plate 10: Ditch 105104, south-east facing section

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