Wessex Archaeology

Norman Cross
Great Haddon, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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NORMAN CROSS, GREAT HADDON, PETERBOROUGH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a small evaluation of seven trenches at NGR 516149, 291403 to supplement a previous larger phase of evaluation. The main aim of the project was to establish whether any prisoner of war graves associated with the adjacent Napoleonic Norman Cross Camp (Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) number 364539) extended into the proposed development area.

No traces of any burials were discovered and it was concluded that the present day north-western boundary of the SAM was contemporary with the camp.

Sparse prehistoric activity was identified consisting of a small pit and the terminus of a small curvilinear feature, this seemed to confirm the results of the previous evaluation that the focus of prehistoric and later Romano-British activity lay further to the north. A shallow ditch adjacent to the pit was also identified but could not be dated.

A post-medieval ditch was located and this was thought to correspond to a field boundary visible on the 1887 OS mapping. A further post-medieval gully and a brick lined drain were also discovered.

Four wide shallow features were also seen, it was not clear whether these were the remnants of furrows or natural features.

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The evaluation was directed by Naomi Hall, assisted by Darryl Freer and Ross Lefort. The report was written and complied by Naomi Hall with specialist reports by Lorraine Mephem (finds) and Dr. Chris Stevens (environmental). The illustrations were prepared by Ken Lymer. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Norman Cross, Great Haddon, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire; centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 516149, 291403, hereafter referred to as the 'Site' (**Figure 1 and 2**).

1.1.2 This work was to supplement a previous evaluation phase undertaken by Albion Archaeology (2008) and to confirm whether any Prisoner of War burials extended into the proposed development area.

1.1.3 The evaluation was carried out between the 13th-17th September 2010.

1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The Site lies approximately 7.4km to the south of Peterborough and 2.5km to the south-west of Yaxley and is immediately to the north of Junction 16 of the A1 (M). It is located within the parish of Yaxley.

1.2.2 The field in which the Site was situated comprises approximately 20.42 hectares of land, trapezoid in shape. The western edge of the Site is bounded by New Road which runs along the edge of the present A1 (M), the south-east boundary lies along the Scheduled Ancient Monument ((SAM) number 364539) of Norman Cross Camp. The north-east and north-west edges of the Site are defined by existing field boundaries. All the trenches lay along the south-east edge of Site immediately adjacent to the SAM area.

1.2.3 The topography of the Site is generally flat with a slight promontory to the north-east along the south-east boundary. The Site is located at a height of approximately 32m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.2.4 The Site geology consists of Oxford Clay overlain by Mid Pleistocene glaciofluvial deposits (British Geological Survey sheet 172).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

Prehistoric

1.3.1 A Palaeolithic hand axe (Historic Environment Record (HER) number 011419) is recorded as being found in the area of Yaxley as well as Neolithic implements, a Bronze Age axe head (Page *et al*. 1936, 241-7) and unstratified flint finds from Manor Farm, Yaxley (Cambridgeshire County Council 2002, 14). There were no prehistoric sites identified on Yaxley Fen during the Fenland Survey; however, due to the rising water table from the Mesolithic period onwards, early sites in the fen are likely to have been buried within the deep peat sequence (Cambridgeshire County Council 2002, 14).

Romano-British

1.3.2 Part of the current A1 was originally the Roman route of Ermine Street. This major Roman road linked *Londinium* (London) to *Eboracum* (York) via *Lindum Colonia* (Lincoln).

1.3.3 Some 8km to the north of the Site lies the Roman settlement of *Durobrivae* (Water Newton). This settlement was built to guard the crossing point of Ermine Street and the River Nene. When the garrison withdrew, the military were replaced by a civil authority, with large scale colonization and population growth occurring by the 2nd century AD. Romano-British settlement is also known from Yaxley (Page *et al*. 1936, 241-7).

1.3.4 The Nene Valley was an area of continuous pottery production from before the Roman conquest, and there were a number of potteries in existence from the 1st century AD onwards. Around the mid 2nd century an important pottery industry specialising in colour-coated wares was established in the Lower Nene Valley, centred on *Durobrivae*. The Nene Valley potteries stretched westward towards Northamptonshire and along both banks of the river, from Castor in the north to Chesterton to the south.

1.3.5 Roman findspots of pottery and coins have been recorded to the north and east of the Site (HER 01636 and 50399).

Medieval and post-medieval

1.3.6 Norman Cross gave its name to the local hundred division (Page *et al*. 1936, 241-7) and the meeting point is likely to have been at the cross-roads of the Yaxley to Folksworth road and Ermine Street, which was marked by the cross (Cambridgeshire County Council 2002, 15).

1.3.7 Yaxley is known to have been held from the 12th century by the Abbey of Thorney, which held much of the land in the area until the Dissolution (Page *et al*. 1936, 241-7). Thorney was one of the great 'Fen Five' Benedictine monasteries, all of which have early foundations. These are Peterborough, Thorney, Ramsey, Crowland and Ely. The abbey was granted the right to hold a market on Thursdays by William the Conqueror and, although the market appears to have disappeared by the 16th century, it had a later revival during the operation of the camp (Page *et al*. 1936, 241-7).

1.3.8 Various archaeological investigations in the vicinity of Manor Farm, Yaxley suggest that the location of the medieval manor complex in this area. As well as features dating from the 12th to 14th centuries, sherds of St Neots and Stamford wares suggest a Saxo-Norman origin. There was also some residual Roman pottery (Cambridgeshire County Council 2002, 12-13).

Modern

1.3.9 The known background to the camp is substantially documented by Thomas Walker in his book *The Depot for the Prisoners of War at Norman Cross, Huntingdonshire, 1796-1816* (1913), which is based on documentary sources and accounts as well as some observation by the author of parchmarks visible during the summer of 1911. The following paragraphs summarise his work.

1.3.10 Norman Cross Camp (SAM 364539) was officially known as 'The Norman Cross Depot for Prisoners of War', though locally it was often referred to as Norman Cross Prison, or the Norman Cross Barracks, or even Yaxley or Stilton Barracks. It was specifically constructed to house prisoners taken captive during the Napoleonic Wars. It was opened in April 1797 and formed part of a move to construct institutions explicitly for the purpose of housing prisoners of war. The Depot was in use until the end of the war, finally closing in 1814 with the majority of the buildings demolished or sold at auction in 1816. At its height the population (including prisoners and the garrison) was probably nearly 8000 adult males but it was probably normally nearer 5500. During the time it was open, both Dutch and French prisoners were held here.

1.3.11 The camp was divided into quadrants, and within each were four wooden two-storied barracks, or caserns, designed to hold about 500 prisoners each, who slept in tiered rows of hammocks. There was some variation in the quadrants. Within the north-eastern quadrangle was the hospital and in the corner behind the caserns was the mortuary. Within each quadrant was an airing-ground, in which the prisoners spent the greater part of their waking lives. The quadrants were divided by two perpendicular roads leading to four gateways with a guarded blockhouse in the centre. The outer boundary was originally a wooden stockade but this was later replaced by a brick wall. To the east and west beyond the boundary wall of the prison was situated the military barracks. The main entrance lay to the west and was linked to the Great North Road (A1).

1.3.12 Initially, prisoners who died were buried outside the prison wall, in the north-east corner of the site. A field to the west of the A1 and slightly north of the camp was purchased by the Government 'early in the history of the prison', as an additional burial place. Soldiers were initially buried in the local church at Yaxley, but after 1813 they were buried in a plot adjacent to the barrack master's house.

1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

1.4.1 In 2007 Stratascan (2008) carried out a phase of geophysical survey over the proposed development area. 54 hectares were subjected to detailed gradiometric survey. While the survey identified well preserved ridge and furrow to the north-west of the Site these responses were less pronounced immediately to the north of the SAM. Here however a large number of discrete positive and negative anomalies were interpreted as possible quarrying activity.

1.4.2 An evaluation of 119 trenches was undertaken by Albion Archaeology (2008). The additional trenches that form this phase of evaluation lie within Area E of the previous evaluation (**Figure 2**). Middle to late Iron Age settlement activity was located in Area B, approximately 1.8km to the north-west of the Site, as well as traces of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. In Areas C and D which lie over 1km to the north of Site, intensive Iron Age and Romano-British settlement activity was identified with a series of enclosures and other related features. The extensive ridge and furrow activity identified from geophysical survey proved to be less archaeologically visible though several furrows were identified within the trenches. Within Area E itself some traces of Iron Age activity were found in the more

northern part of the area with a roundhouse and enclosure ditch. An Anglo-Saxon sunken featured building (SFB) was identified to the east of the Site. Traces of ridge and furrow cultivation were also seen as well as an area of quarrying to the east of the SAM, presumed to have been related to the construction of the camp. Little other activity which could be potentially related to the camp was identified. Two apparently isolated postholes were located, one of which was undated and a brick lined drain was discovered to the east. Several undated small ditches were also seen. In general the archaeology was concentrated in the northern and eastern parts of Area E.

1.4.3 In July 2009 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' within the Scheduled Monument of Norman Cross Camp (Wessex Archaeology 2010). An evaluation comprising nine trenches and geophysical survey (GSB 2009) confirmed the basic layout of the prisoner of war internment camp and provided some detail of its construction and use. The outer perimeter of the camp appears to have been a double ditch, separated by a walkway, within a brick built wall. There was also evidence of an earlier timber palisade, mentioned in documentary sources. A number of graves were located in the northern part of the Site (**Figure 2**). Several of these contained more than one inhumation, although individuals may have been interred in several phases. A possible Romano-British pit was also located.

1.5 Aims and Objectives

1.5.1 The aims of the field evaluation are to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

1.5.2 This evaluation aimed specifically to:

- establish the presence or absence of burials associated with the Napoleonic prisoner of war camp, particularly to determine whether the camp cemetery in the northwest corner of the Scheduled Ancient Monument extends beyond the boundary of the monument
- further elucidate the results of the previous archaeological work
- establish the presence/absence of archaeological deposits to the immediate north of the Scheduled Ancient Monument
- establish the date, condition, quality, extent and depth of the archaeological features north of the Scheduled Ancient Monument
- enable an informed decision to be made on the planning application.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2010), this is summarised below:

2.1.2 The trenches were excavated using a 180° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through topsoil and subsoil down

to either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. Topsoil was separated from subsoil and any other arisings and stored at a minimum of 1m from the trench edge. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. The trenches were back-filled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.

2.1.3 Where archaeological features were encountered they were investigated by hand, with a sufficient sample of each layer/feature type excavated in order to establish, as may be possible, their date, nature, character, extent and condition. As a minimum 50% of each intrusive feature (i.e. pits, postholes) and a reasonable sample of each linear feature's exposed area was excavated.

2.1.4 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections, these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and this information is included on both plans and sections. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.

2.1.5 A photographic record was kept utilising black and white film, colour slides and digital images. The record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the site as a whole.

2.1.6 The survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.

2.1.7 A unique site code **75670** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.

2.1.8 Each trench was assigned a unique number from a continuous sequence and all context numbers for that trench were derived from this. Given the previous works which had been undertaken on the Site (AA 2008 and WA 2010) the trench numbers began at 120 to allow continuity from the previous works and to avoid duplication of number sequences.

2.2 Best practice

2.2.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation* (2008).

2.3 Copyright

2.3.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

3.1.2 Seven 30m trenches were excavated; these lay along the north-west boundary of the SAM and outside the scheduled area (**Figure 2**). The numbering of the trenches was begun at 120 in order to continue the sequence established by the previous phase of evaluation. Several of the trenches were moved slightly from their proposed location to the north-west in order to be a suitable distance from the active hedgerow and Trench 126 was moved slightly to the south-west to keep it within the existing field boundary. The natural geology was very variable and ranged from gravels to a sandy clay loam and the depth that this was encountered ranged from around 31.20-32.50m aOD. While the depth of the ploughsoil was fairly consistent (between 0.32-0.41m deep) the depth of the subsoil varied considerably. This is likely to at least partly due to the variation in the underlying natural geology, with poorer subsoil or B Horizon development on the gravels. Subsoil depth therefore varied from 0.14-0.31m.

3.2 Results

3.2.1 Although the southern part of Trench 124 was widened in order to confirm or disprove the presence of a possible feature, no features were found in this trench.

Natural features

3.2.2 Small sub-oval features were identified in Trenches 120, **12004** and 121, **12110**. Investigation showed these to be irregular and they were concluded to be small tree-throw holes. A change between gravel and a more silty clay geology running along the length of Trench 120 was confirmed as natural variation.

3.2.3 Trench 125 contained a large number of potential features all of which were found on investigation to be natural features. A group of three irregular features were revealed in the south-western part of the trench, two of these were investigated (**12509** and **12504**). All three were found to have very poorly defined edges which merged into each other; the features were extremely irregular with lenses of poorly sorted gravel within the fills (**Figure 3, Plate 1**). The features were therefore concluded to be the probable result of bioturbation activity.

3.2.4 Two features immediately to the east of **12504** had a similar appearance in plan, the better defined one of these, (**12505**), was investigated and was concluded to be due to variation in the underlying geology. At this point there is a harder ridge of gravel, this had created a natural step and **12505** lay along the eastern edge of this. A similar ridge of harder gravel was observable in the representative section. A roughly linear but poorly defined band of silty clay was seen running north-west – south-east across the trench, (**12507**). Upon investigation this was concluded to be a natural feature. A final roughly linear band was seen near the eastern end of the trench, (**12508**). Investigation showed that it was extremely shallow and lay immediately along a change in the geology where there was natural band of sandy loam with flint cobbles.

Possible agricultural activity

3.2.5 Four relatively wide but shallow features were observed on a variety of alignments in Trenches 121 (**12108**), 123 (**12304**), 125 (**12506**) (**Figure 3, Plate 2**) and 126 (**12605**). They ranged from between 1.4-2m wide and 0.06-0.20m deep. They did not appear to correspond with any geophysical anomaly.

3.2.6 They contrast with the ridge and furrow activity identified by the Stratascan survey (2008) and the investigation by the earlier evaluation phase (Albion Archaeology 2008). In general this activity was poorly preserved in the immediate vicinity of the Site and was better preserved to the north-west, here furrows were identified in a number of trenches and proved to be on average 0.85m wide and where investigated around 0.2m deep. The general alignment of these was north-north-west – south-south-east and they displayed a fairly regular spacing of less than 10m apart. Trenches to the east of the Site and within Area C did show features interpreted as ridge and furrow with a wider spacing and with greater width of the furrow; this activity was also visible on the geophysical survey plot.

3.2.7 Given the shallowness of the features encountered in this phase, their irregularity and variation it is difficult to say whether they are traces of furrows or natural features, potentially relating to past glacial activity. **12108**, which had a very dissimilar alignment to the other three features, contained a fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem.

Prehistoric and Romano-British

3.2.8 A small shallow pit was seen in the northern part of Trench 121, **12104** (**Figure 3, Plate 3**). As the main focus of prehistoric activity appears to lie beyond the immediate vicinity of the Site, there was very little residual material present in the ploughsoil with only one piece of unstratified struck flint recovered. Struck flint recovered from the fill of this feature, therefore, suggests a possible prehistoric date.

3.2.9 A small curvilinear feature **12603** was identified at the far south-western end of Trench 126, at the request of the County Archaeologist this trench was extended and it was confirmed to be the terminal end of a small ditch of gully (**Figure 3, Plates 4 and 5**). A number of pieces of struck flint and a small piece of fired clay confirmed that this feature was prehistoric but with only a small length visible its purpose remains unclear. The results from the environmental sample taken do not seem to indicate any nearby settlement

activity. The terminal end was excavated and it was established as a true terminus rather than the result of truncation.

3.2.10 Only two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the Site. The scarcity of residual and unstratified material of this date would seem to indicate low levels of Romano-British activity in the immediate area.

Post-medieval

3.2.11 Trench 122 lay immediately to the north-east of the presumed north-western gateway of the camp and at the south-eastern edge of the higher area of ground. Here the natural geology lay at a considerably greater depth from the ground surface than the trenches excavated to the south-east. Nevertheless, the majority of the trench was only stripped down to the lower depth of subsoil due to the visibility of features cutting through at this level. The depth at which these features were seen and the finds recovered suggest that these are post-medieval in date.

3.2.12 A south-west – north-east aligned gully **12207** ran across the western part of the trench. This had a shallow concave profile; an iron nail and a large fragment of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from the fill.

3.2.13 A second ditch **12204** lay on a north-west – south-east alignment (see **Front cover**). This contained clay pipe and a small fragment of animal bone. Its position suggests it is the continuation of a trend visible in the magnetometry data gathered by Stratascan (2008) and that it is the field boundary visible on the 1887 OS map of Huntingdonshire (1:10,560 scale).

3.2.14 A fragment of pantile from the interface between subsoil layers **12202** and **12203** provides an interesting link with the camp as it is stamped with an 'H'. Seven examples of this stamp were retrieved during the 2009 excavation within the Scheduled Monument (Wessex Archaeology 2010) where examples also appeared to have been incorporated into rough rubble foundations.

3.2.15 Evidence from the 'Time Team' excavation (Wessex Archaeology 2010) suggests that the topsoil across the area of the camp was removed and that the ground may have been levelled prior to the construction of the camp. It is possible that the elevated ground seen in the north-eastern part of the Site may be partly due to deposition of spoil from this clearance.

3.2.16 A final post-medieval feature lay near the north-eastern end of Trench 126, **12606** (**Figure 3, Plate 6**). This consisted of a brick lined drain on a north-west – south-east alignment. At least two different types of unfrogged brick were used in its construction and they are likely to have been reused, potentially from the demolition of the camp. A similar feature was identified in the earlier evaluation phase (Albion Archaeology 2008) to the north-east of the Site.

Undated

3.2.17 A north-east – south-west aligned linear was revealed in Trench 121, **12106**. This was relatively shallow with a single secondary fill. Despite the recovery of a small fragment of CBM and its proximity to pit **12104**, this feature must effectively be considered undated.

3.2.18 Two defined areas of blue-grey clay were seen, one along the south-east edge of Trench 120 and a further one along the north-western edge of Trench 122. In both cases the full extent of the feature in plan was not seen but a sondage was excavated into the visible extent of **12209**, in Trench 122. The nature of the deposit in both trenches suggested a modern origin as it appears to be re-deposited natural clay that is likely to have been derived from moderately deep down within the Site's stratigraphy. The investigation in Trench 122, showed the feature at this point to be relatively shallow, with a concave profile. No dating evidence was obtained.

4 FINDS

4.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, deriving from contexts in four trenches (Trenches 120, 121, 122 and 126), and also including some unstratified material. Quantities by material type and by context are given in **Table 1 (Appendix 2)**.

4.1.2 The assemblage includes items of prehistoric, Romano-British and post-medieval date, and provides very limited dating evidence for the features excavated, although it should be noted that absolute confidence cannot be placed on dating based on such small quantities of material.

4.1.3 Prehistoric finds comprise seven pieces of struck flint, five deriving from curvilinear feature **12603** (fill 12604), one from pit **12104** (fill 12105), and one found unstratified. All are undiagnostic waste flakes and as such cannot be more closely dated, although a Neolithic/Bronze Age date is most likely. One small piece of undiagnostic fired clay from feature **12603** could also be of prehistoric date, although of unknown function, as could three pieces of burnt, unworked flint from tree-throw hole **12004** (fill 12005).

4.1.4 Two sherds of pottery comprise the Romano-British finds. One is a coarse greyware, from Trench 122 subsoil (12202), and the other, found unstratified, is from the rim of a jar in Nene Valley colour coated ware.

4.1.5 The ceramic building material is all of post-medieval date. Most was found in Trench 122 (unstratified, subsoil 12202, and gully **12207**), with one tiny fragment from ditch **12106**. The single fragment from 12202 is from a pantile (curved roof tile) stamped with the letter H or M; similar fragments were found during recent investigations by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at Norman Cross Camp (Wessex Archaeology 2010).

4.1.6 Other post-medieval finds comprise two sherds of pottery, both coarse redwares, found unstratified in Trench 121 (context 12100); and the clay tobacco pipe (plain stems), recovered from cut **12108** (fill 12109) and ditch **12204** (fill 12206). Iron nails from gully **12207** and cut **12209** (fill 12210) are probably also post-medieval.

4.1.7 One piece of animal bone (unidentified species) from ditch **12204** is undated.

5 PALEO-ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 Introduction

Environmental samples taken

5.1.1 A single bulk sample was taken from a possible prehistoric curvilinear ditch within Trench 126. The sample was processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals the results are given in **Table 2 (Appendix 2)**.

5.2 Charred Plant Remains and wood Charcoal

5.2.1 The sample was processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded.

5.2.2 The flot was scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains and wood charcoal quantified (**Table 2, Appendix 2**) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

5.2.3 The flot was generally small with little charred material within it. There were generally few modern roots, but a few modern insect remains (millipedes etc), modern coal and occasional small seeds of *Atriplex* sp. in the samples, that generally indicative a small amount of stratigraphic movement and hence the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.

5.2.4 The sample also has a single small fragment of probable *Helix aspera* or *Cepaea* sp. type mollusc shell that again may be a modern inclusion.

5.2.5 The only potential cereal remains were two scraps of possible grains, although these may be general parenchyma (soft plant tissue) material. Other remains included a single stone of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), two fragments of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) and a single charred seed of field pennycress (*Thlaspi arvense*). The last is a common weed of arable fields on sandy soils.

5.2.6 Generally the low amount of charred remains does not give a strong indication of domestic activity or settlement waste. Hazelnuts can be present within any period, although tend to be more common in Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age assemblages (especially where cereals are absent) and as such would be in keeping with the provisional prehistoric date of the feature. Given the small size of the field pennycress seed this is probably intrusive.

5.2.7 Previous excavations of the Napoleonic prisoner of war camp had produced some evidence for fish bone, slag and large amounts of coal, but no plant remains (Wessex Archaeology 2010). The general absence of fish bone and only small amounts of coal would tend to suggest that such material had not managed to contaminate this early feature.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1.1 Despite the concentration of positive and negative anomalies identified by Stratascan in the vicinity of the Site few of these seem to correspond to archaeological features, they may however, correlate to variation in the natural geology, particularly the presence of gravel.

6.1.2 Archaeology along the boundary with the SAM is generally sparse and seems to confirm that the focus of the prehistoric and later activity lay to the north of the Site. Though prehistoric features were identified in Trenches 121 and 126, there appears to have been a fairly low level of activity in this area during that period.

6.1.3 A ditch thought to correspond to the field boundary shown on an 1887 OS map was identified in Trench 122. Apart from a small gully within the same trench and a brick lined drain there were no other traces of early post-medieval activity.

6.1.4 No traces of any further graves associated with the Napoleonic prisoner of war camp were identified. Examination of the 1887 map shows a vegetated boundary in the same position as the present day boundary. Today this can be seen to consist of a double hedge-line and ditch. Although the map was not published until 1887, it is likely to have been surveyed some years before this. It seems probable therefore, that the present day boundary was also the north-western boundary of the camp. This idea is supported by the various plans drawn up within the lifetime of the camp (for examples see illustrations in Walker 1913). Also an undated painting of the camp (held by the Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery accession number PETMG:E544); looking to the north-east shows a line of vegetation and trees along its north-west boundary and seems to suggest that the road leading out from the north-west gate was a no through route.

6.1.5 Although some possible furrows were identified during this evaluation they could not be conclusively identified as such.

7 ARCHIVE

7.1.1 The project archive has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the project code **75670**. Subject to the agreement of the Site owner it is recommended that the complete archive will be deposited with Peterborough Museum.

7.1.2 Once the final report has been accepted by the Peterborough City Council Historic Environment Section, information on the Site and a summary of the fieldwork results will be placed on the online information resource OASIS.

8 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 120			**Type:** Machine excavated	
Dimensions: 30.60x1.55m		**Max. depth:** 0.45m	**Ground level:** 31.83-32.05m aOD	
Context	**Description**			**Depth (m)**
12001	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown sandy clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Fairly loose and friable. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12002). Overlies (12002).		0.00-0.32 bgl
12002	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Pale orange-brown sandy clay loam. 2% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-7cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Slightly diffuse interface with (12003).		0.30-0.44 bgl
12003	*Natural*	Natural geology. Pale orange-brown sandy clay loam. 10% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-8cm. Lies over gravel seen in northern part of trench. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous.		0.44+ bgl
12004	***Tree-throw hole***	**Irregular sub-oval in plan. Shallow, moderate, concave sides. Irregular, concave base. 1.38m long, 0.80 wide. Slightly diffuse in plan and section. Filled with (12005). Cuts (12003).**		**0.13 deep**
12005	*Secondary fill*	Mid brown silty clay loam. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Moderately compact. Fairly homogeneous. Fill of **(12004)**. Overlies **(12004)**.		0.13 deep

TRENCH 121			**Type:** Machine excavated	
Dimensions: 29.30x1.55m		**Max. depth**: 0.42m	**Ground level:** 32.28-32.52m aOD	
Context	**Description**			**Depth (m)**
12101	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-10cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose and friable. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12102). Overlies (12102).		0.00-0.37 bgl
12102	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Pale brown silty clay. 5% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-15cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Diffuse interface with (12103).		0.28-0.42 bgl
12103	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange-brown silty clay. 5-15% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-20cm. Compact. Occasional patches of mid green-grey clay. These patches include frequent sub-rounded chalk flecks and fragments, < 1-2cm. The mid green-grey clay lies beneath the mid orange-brown silty clay.		0.34+ bgl
12104	***Pit***	**Shallow, sub-oval pit. Moderate, concave sides, concave base. 1.10m long, 0.85m wide. Fairly clear in plan and section. Filled with (12105). Cuts (12103).**		**0.18 deep**
12105	*Secondary fill*	Gradual silting. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% sub-angular - rounded, <1-8cm. One fragment of sandstone, sub-angular, 17cm long. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fill of **(12104)**. Overlies **(12104)**.		0.18 deep
12106	***Ditch***	**North-east - south-west aligned linear. Moderate, concave sides, irregular fairly flat base. 1.14m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan, fairly clear in section. Filled with (12107). Cuts (12103).**		**0.16 deep**
12107	*Secondary fill*	Gradual silting. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 20% sub-angular - rounded, <1-15cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fill of **(12106)**. Overlies **(12106)**.		0.16 deep
12108	***Cut***	**Possible furrow or natural feature. West-south-west - east-north-east aligned. Moderate, concave sides, flat, slightly irregular base. 2.0m wide. Filled with (12109). Cuts (12102).**		**0.14 deep**

12109	*Secondary fill*	Gradual silting. Mid brown silty clay loam. 10% sub-angular - rounded, <1-4cm. Rare coal/coke fragments, frequent charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fill of **(12108)**. Overlies (**12108)**.	0.14 deep
12110	***Cut***	**Tree throw or possible pit. Sub-oval in plan. Moderate, slightly convex sides, concave, slightly irregular base. 0.75m long, 0.65m wide. Fairly clear in plan and section. Bioturbated. Filled with (12111). Cuts (12103).**	**0.20 deep**
12111	*Secondary fill*	Mid brown silty clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Rare chalk fragments, <1-2cm. Moderately compact. Slightly mixed. Fill of **(12110)**. Overlies **(12110)**.	0.20 deep

TRENCH 122			**Type:** Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30.80x1.55m		**Max. depth:** 0.90m	**Ground level:** 32.49-33.01m aOD
Context	**Description**		**Depth (m)**
12201	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown sandy clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Fairly loose and friable - base of deposit more compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12202). Overlies (12202).	0.00-0.41 bgl
12202	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Pale brown sandy clay loam. 5% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-7cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Slightly mixed. Diffuse interface with (12203).	0.41-0.54 bgl
12203	*Subsoil*	Lower subsoil. Pale orange-brown sandy clay loam. 5% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-8cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Slightly mixed. Slightly diffuse interface with (12211).	0.54-0.71 bgl
12204	***Ditch***	**North-west - south-east aligned linear. Moderate, concave sides, irregular, concave base. 1.0m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan, fairly clear in section. Filled with (12205) and (12206). Cuts (12203).**	**0.26 deep**
12205	*Primary fill*	Pale grey clay with occasional pale brown mottles. 10%chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare charcoal flecks. Compact. Slightly mixed. Fairly clear interface with **(12204)**. Fill of ditch **(12204)**. Overlies **(12204)**.	0.04 deep
12206	*Secondary fill*	Low to mid energy silting. Mid brown silty clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. 1% chalk sub-rounded fragments, <1-3cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fairly clear interface with (12205). Fill of ditch **(12204)**. Overlies (12205).	0.22 deep
12207	***Ditch***	**South-west - north-east aligned linear. Shallow - moderate, concave sides, concave base. 0.54m wide. Slightly diffuse in plan, fairly clear in section. Truncated to the south-west. Filled with (12208). Cuts (12203).**	**0.11 deep**
12208	*Secondary fill*	Low to mid energy silting. Mid brown silty clay loam. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fairly clear interface with **(12207)**. Fill of ditch **(12207)**. Overlies **(12207)**.	0.11 deep
12209	***Cut***	**Only partly seen in plan. Sharp interface in plan and section. North-east - south-west aligned. Moderately concave sides, concave base. Filled with (12210). Cuts (12202).**	**0.21 deep**
12210	*deliberate backfill*	Mid blue-grey clay with mid-brown mottling. <1% flint/gavel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Very compact. Sharp interface with **(12209)**. Fill of **(12209)**. Overlies **(12209)**.	0.21 deep
12211	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange sandy silt loam with frequent patches of mid green-grey clay. These patches include frequent sub-rounded chalk flecks and fragments, < 1-2cm.	0.63+ bgl

TRENCH 123			**Type:**	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 28.60x1.58m		**Max. depth:** 0.74m	**Ground level:** 33.07-33.43m aOD	
Context	**Description**			**Depth (m)**
12301	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Fairly loose and friable - base of deposit more compact. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12302). Overlies (12302).		0.00-0.38 bgl
12302	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Mid yellow-grey sandy silt loam, base of deposit more mid orange-brown in colour. 2% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Slightly mixed. Diffuse interface with (12303).		0.37-0.62 bgl
12303	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange sandy silt loam with frequent patches of mid green-grey clay. These patches include frequent sub-rounded chalk flecks and fragments, < 1-2cm. The mid green-grey clay appeared on investigation to lie beneath the mid orange clay.		0.58+ bgl
12304	***Cut***	**Possible furrow or natural feature. Roughly linear in plan, north-west - south-east aligned feature. Diffuse edges. Recorded in section only. Very shallow.1.4m wide. Bioturbated. Filled with (12305). Cuts (12303).**		**0.11 deep**
12305	*Secondary fill*	Natural silting, similar to subsoil. Mid yellow-grey sandy silt loam. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Rare chalk and charcoal flecks. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Fill of **(12304)**. Overlies **(12304)**.		0.11 deep

TRENCH 124			**Type:**	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 29.35x2.70m		**Max. depth:** 0.72m	**Ground level:** 32.96-33.23m aOD	
Context	**Description**			**Depth (m)**
12401	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Fairly loose and friable. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12402). Overlies (12402).		0.00-0.32 bgl
12402	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Mid yellow-grey sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Colour darker and more homogeneous near interface with ploughsoil. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Slightly mixed. Diffuse interface with (12403).		0.30-0.65 bgl
12403	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange sandy silt loam. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-2cm and rare 8-12cm flint nodules. Compact. Frequent patches of sub-rounded chalk and occasional patches of mid green-grey clay with chalk flecks. The mid green-green clay appeared on investigation to lie beneath the mid orange sandy silt loam.		0.65+ bgl

TRENCH 125			**Type:**	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30.70x1.55m		**Max. depth:** 0.76m	**Ground level:** 33.13-33.28m aOD	
Context	**Description**			**Depth (m)**
12501	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-10cm. Fairly loose and friable. Rare chalk flecks. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12502). Overlies (12502).		0.00-0.32 bgl
12502	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Pale brown silty clay.5% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-10cm. 2% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Very slightly diffuse interface with (12503).		0.32-0.63 bgl
12503	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange-brown silty clay. 30% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Compact. Variable.		0.54+ bgl
12504	*Natural*	Highly irregular in plan, relatively shallow with diffuse, irregular and		0.29 deep

	Feature	unclear edges. Merges into adjacent feature. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose. Mixed, contains lenses of gravel.	
12505	*Natural Feature*	Sub-oval/linear in plan, north-west - south-east aligned. Similar feature to immediate east. Steep western edge, shallow eastern edge. Mid brown silty clay. 3% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose, moderately homogeneous. Edges poorly defined.	0.38 deep
12506	*Furrow or Natural Feature*	Roughly linear feature, north-west - south-east aligned. 1.65m wide. Mid - dark brown silty clay. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-20cm. Rare chalk flecks and fragments. Fairly loose, moderately homogeneous. Edges diffuse.	0.20 deep
12507	*Natural Feature*	Roughly linear in plan, north-west - south-east aligned but with poorly defined edges. Mid brown silty clay. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose, moderately homogeneous.	0.18 deep
12508	*Natural Feature*	Very shallow silting along variation in natural geology with concentration of flint nodules in sandy loam. Mid brown silty clay. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose, moderately homogeneous. Edges diffuse, irregular.	0.04 deep
12509	*Natural Feature*	Highly irregular in plan, relatively shallow with diffuse, irregular and unclear edges. Merges into adjacent feature. Mid brown silty clay. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose, slightly mixed with lenses of gravel.	0.33 deep

TRENCH 126			**Type:** Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.00x1.55m	**Max. depth:** 0.78m		**Ground level:** 32.89-33.18m aOD
Context	**Description**		**Depth (m)**
12601	*Topsoil*	Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-10cm. Fairly loose and friable. Rare chalk flecks. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Under stubble. Sharp interface with (12602). Overlies (12602).	0.00-0.39 bgl
12602	*Subsoil*	Modern subsoil. Pale brown silty clay.5% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Bioturbated. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Slightly diffuse interface with (12609).	0.39-0.64 bgl
12603	***Ditch***	**Curvilinear ditch, west - east aligned, turning to the south-east, terminating at the west end. Steep, concave sides, steeper on north-east side, concave base. 0.64m wide. Filled with (12604). Cuts (12610).**	**0.42 deep**
12604	*Secondary fill*	Low to mid energy silting. Mid brown silty clay. 2% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Frequent charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Fairly clear interface with **(12603)**. Environmental sample number 1. Fill of **(12603)**. Overlies **(12603)**.	0.42 deep
12605	*Furrow or Natural Feature*	Roughly linear in plan, north-west - south-east aligned feature. Slightly diffuse edges. Very shallow. 1.48m wide. Mid grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly compact. Fairly homogeneous. Some bioturbation. Overlies (12610).	0.06 deep
12606	***Ditch***	**Brick lined drain. North-west - south-east aligned. Vertical, straight sides, very slightly concave base. 0.34m wide. Filled with (12607) and (12608). Cuts (12609).**	**0.40 deep**
12607	*deliberate backfill*	Mid brown silty clay. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular- sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact. Slightly mixed, occasional mid blue-grey clay mottles. Fill of **(12606)**. Overlies (12608).	0.18 deep
12608	*Deposit*	Deliberate deposit. Reused brick and flint nodules used to construct	0.28 deep

		drain. Fill of **(12606)**. Overlies **(12606)**.	
12609	*Layer*	Possible colluvial deposit or variation in natural geology. Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact. Slightly mixed. Slightly diffuse interface with (12610). Overlies (12610).	0.64-0.75 bgl
12610	*Natural*	Natural geology. Mid orange-brown silty clay. 5% flint/gravel, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Compact. Slightly mixed.	0.75+

APPENDIX 2:

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

Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	CBM	Clay Pipe	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Iron	Pottery
12005		3/11						
12100								2/71
12105						1/1		
12107			1/1					
12109				1/1				
12200			9/351					
12202			1/80					1/10
12206	1/11			1/2				
12208			1/114				1/3	
12210							2/9	
12604					1/6	5/5		
unstrat						1/3		1/24
TOTAL	**1/11**	**3/11**	**12/546**	**2/3**	**1/6**	**7/9**	**3/12**	**4/105**

Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				Flot								
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other	Analysis
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments			
Trench 126 Curvilinear ditch												
12603	12604	1	20	30	20%	C?	-	C	1x *Crataegus monogyna*; 2x *Corylus avellana*. 2x ?Cereal/parenchyma frgs. *Thlaspi arvense*	0.3/0.2ml	Moll-(C)	-

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; sab/f = small animal/fish bones, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = freshwater molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon.

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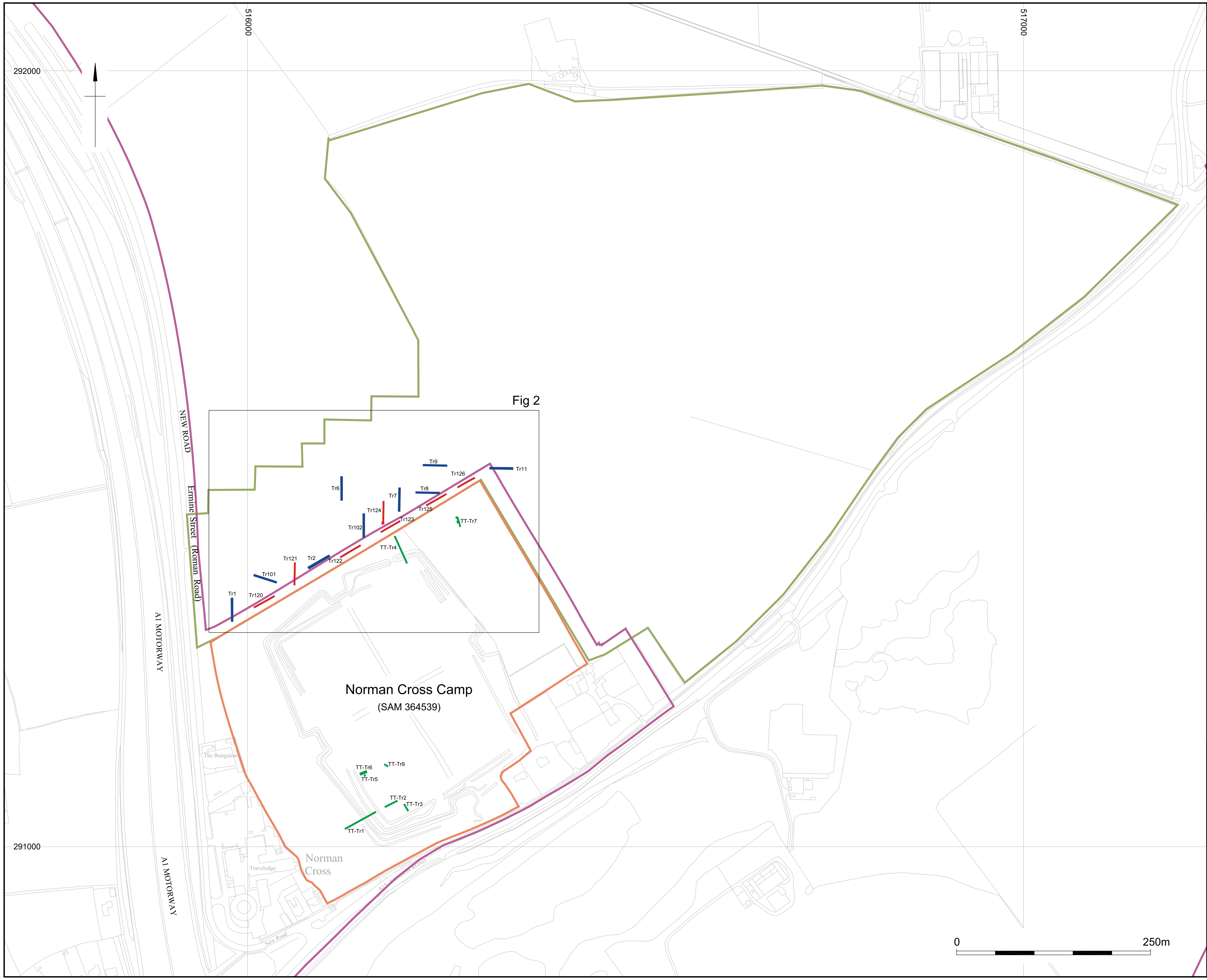

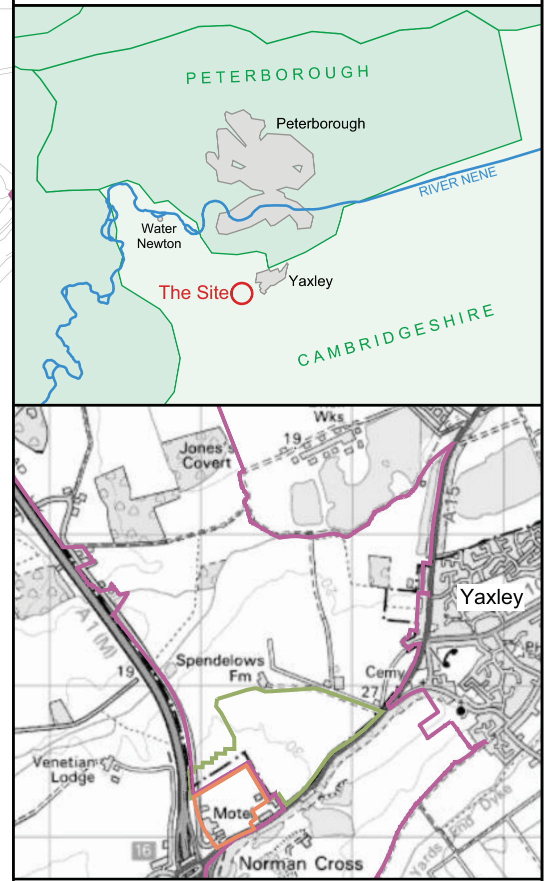

Great Haddon development area

Scheduled Monument area

Survey Area E

WA trench

Time Team trench 2009

Albion Archaeology trench 2008

Date:	01/10/10
Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:50,000 & 1:5000
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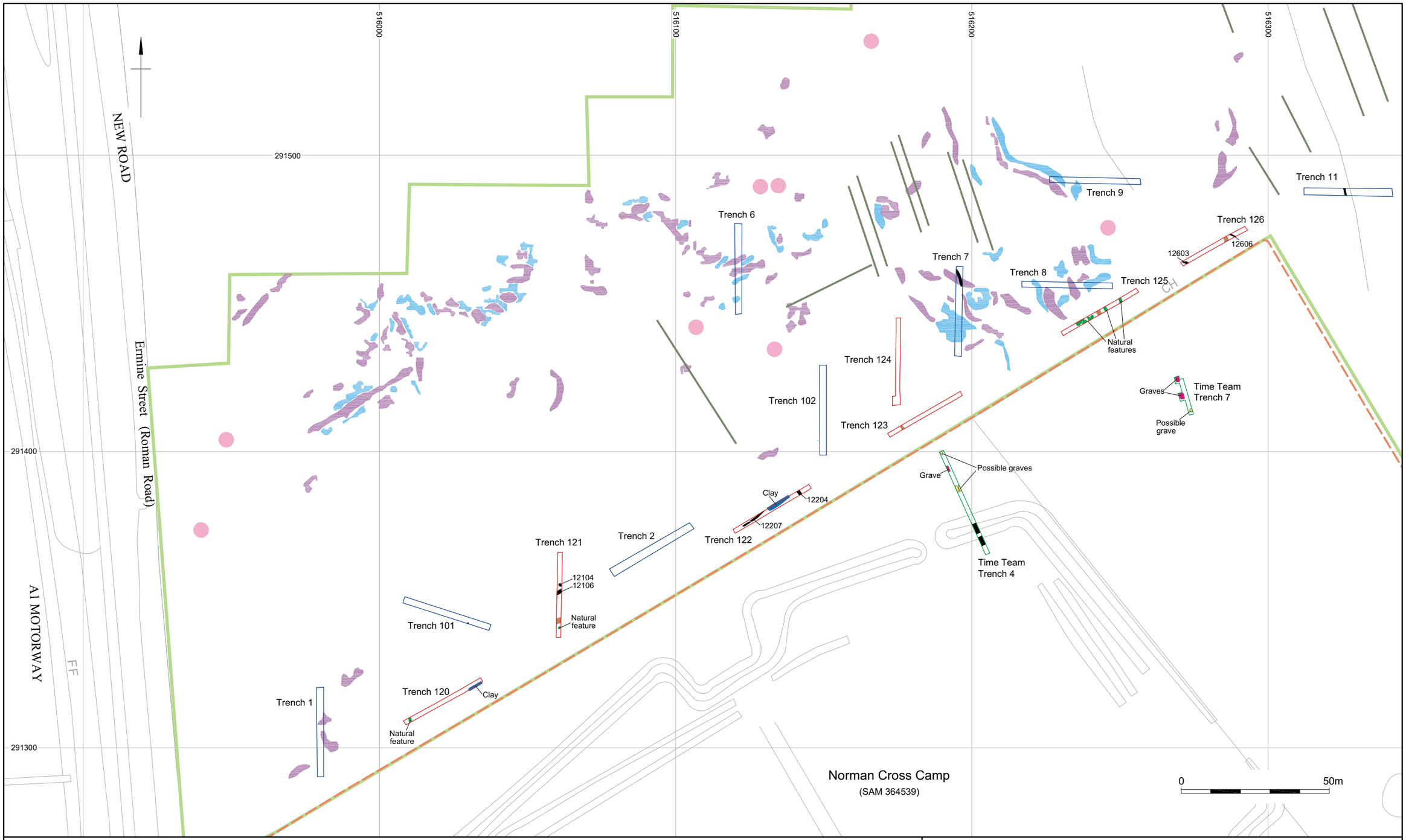
Site location plan

Figure 1



Area E
Scheduled Monument
WA trench
Time Team trench 2009
Albion Archaeology trench 2008
Scheduled Monument
Archaeological feature
Track furrow
Grave
Possible grave
Natural feature
Clay

Stratascan (2008) magnetometry interpretation
Negative anomaly
Positive anomaly
Agricultural mark
Possible ferrous response

Wessex Archaeology

Date:	01/10/10	Revision Number:	0
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Site location and results of current and previous investigations

Figure 1

Plate 1: Natural features 12509 and 12504, viewed from the south-west

Plate 2: Possible furrow 12506, viewed from the south-west

Plate 3: Pit 12104, viewed from the south-west

Plate 4: South-east facing section through curvilinear ditch 12603

Plate 5: Plan view of terminus of curvilinear ditch 12603, viewed from the west

Plate 6: Mid-excavation view of brick lined drain 12606, from the south-east

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Figure 3

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