1EW03 – Enabling Works Central

AWH- Fieldwork Report for Trial Trenching at Welsh Road Boddington Cutting, Northamptonshire AC320/21

Site Code: 1C20WRBTT

Document no.: 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

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1 Executive Summary

1.1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by MOLA at Welsh Road, Northamptonshire (AC320/21) (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). The site code allocated for the works was 1C20WRBTT, centred on NGR 446439, 253258 and enclosing approximately 20.09ha. The site is located in the historic parish of Boddington and comprises of a single land package (C32051). The Site is located c.1.5km south-southwest of the village of Upper Boddington, c.1.5km northwest of Lower Boddington, c.1.3km east-southeast of Wormleighton and immediately northwest of Spella House (Figure 1).

1.1.2 The land package is divided into four arable fields off Banbury Road; three immediately west of the road (Fields 43, 46 and 50) and one (Field 44) between Banbury Road (to west) and Warwick Road (to east) *(*Figure 2*)*. The three fields west of Banbury Road form a roughly northwest to southeast aligned rectangular area, divided by ditched hedgerows and bounded to the north by the Northamptonshire/ Warwickshire county border, and to the south by the tree-lined Boddington Road. The field between Banbury Road and Warwick Road (Field 44) forms an irregular, northwest-facing triangle determined by the confluence of the two roads.

1.1.3 The Site is required to enable the construction of the rail alignment formation associated with the Boddington Cutting, including earthworks, satellite construction compound, road diversion for Welsh Road, two attenuation ponds, and a water main diversion.

1.1.4 The Site is located in Northamptonshire, within the Greatworth to Lower Boddington Community Forum Area (CFA15), with the north-western boundary of the Site marking the county boundary with Warwickshire. Previous geophysical survey across the Site has identified potential late prehistoric (Bronze Age and/or Iron Age) or Roman settlement areas, comprising the likely remains of several roundhouses and associated enclosures in the south-eastern part of the Site, fragmented sub-circular cropmarks in the northern part of the Site and a rectilinear enclosure and associated features in the centre of the Site. Extant and below ground medieval or early post-medieval ridge and furrow earthworks have also been identified across the Site

1.1.5 The trial trench evaluation comprised of a total of 125 trenches, primarily 30m long by 1.8m wide, as detailed in the Project Plan for Trial Trench Evaluations at land at Welsh Road, Northamptonshire (AC320/21) (Document No. EW03-FUS_COP-EV-PLN-CS07_CL14-000001) and the LSWSI (1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000003). Of these 60 trenches revealed the presence of archaeological features that included furrows, ditches and pits as well as a modern field boundary in Field 43 and an earthwork bank in Field 46. These features produced pottery dating to the Iron Age, Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval periods. Clay Pipe fragments, Iron object and fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) were also retrieved during test pitting of several trenches.

1.1.6 The trial trenching confirmed dating of a concentration of archaeology in the south-eastern part of site as Iron Age potentially transitioning into Roman. The north-eastern side further

confirmed a small boundary. Across the whole site medieval and post-medieval ridge and furrow was observed. There was an absence of features to the north-western area of site other than four pits across three trenches that were sterile.

2 Project Background and Scheme Design

2.1.1 The High Speed Two (HS2) railway network has been proposed by the Government to provide a new link between London, the West and East Midlands, South Yorkshire, Leeds and Manchester. Phase One of HS2 entails the construction of a new railway approximately 230km (143 miles) in length between London and Birmingham. Powers for the construction, operation and maintenance of Phase One are conferred by the High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Act 2017.

2.1.2 The Site is required to enable the construction of the rail alignment formation associated with the Boddington Cutting, including earthworks, satellite construction compound, road diversion for Welsh Road, two attenuation ponds, and a water main diversion.

2.1.3 The location for the trial trench evaluation has been selected to address the construction programme archaeological risk to land required for the proposed development.

3 Site location

3.1.1 The Site is located within CFA15 Greatworth to Lower Boddington, within the parish of Boddington. The Site is located just south-east of the parish of Wormleighton in Warwickshire and the north-western boundary of the Site forms the county boundary between Northamptonshire and Warwickshire. The Site is located mostly to the south-east of Welsh Road apart from a V-shaped land parcel located north of Welsh Road and south of Warwick Road.

3.1.1 The Site comprises four agricultural fields: three to the south-east of Welsh Road and one field is located north of Welsh Road and south of Warwick Road. The part of the Site between Welsh Road and Warwick Road does not constitute the whole field. The Site itself is presently in arable use.

4 Geology and Topography

4.1.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2020) indicates that the underlying solid bedrock geology across the Site is comprised of mudstone of the Charmouth Mudstone Formation, having formed in shallow carbonate seas approximately 183 to 199 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. No superficial geology is mapped above the bedrock. No Hs2 boreholes are recorded within the Site but a borehole located 25m north-west of the Site recorded heavy clay loam topsoil that was recorded at 0.25m below ground. This overlay further clay loamy deposits containing 2% stone content, likely representing the Charmouth Mudstone Formation (Hs2 borehole U200128_T_0732).

4.1.2 The Site is situated on a gentle slope rising from approximately 125m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the south-eastern corner to 140m aOD at the north-western corner of the Site. The topography of the surrounding landscape raises sharply to the north up to a plateau 180m aOD. The landscape slopes down to the south-west where several feeder streams drain into the Oxford Canal located 1.5km south-west of the Site.

5 Previous Works

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The Site is situated within Archaeological Sub-Zone (ASZ) 15-33 undulating lias lowland located south-west of Upper Boddington. This landscape is principally characterised by agricultural land, mainly arable with a smaller proportion of fields dedicated to market gardening. The archaeological character is generally comprised of a modified enclosure landscape with good survival of ridge and furrow. The location of the Site overlooking a tributary of the Cherwell (Highfurlong Brook) means that it has good potential for archaeological activity including late prehistoric and Roman remains.

5.2 Previous investigations

5.2.1 The Site has been included in several previous non-intrusive archaeological investigations. The nature and results of the various phases of investigation are described chronologically below and summarised within this section with reference to the following documents:

- Project Plan (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-C000-009807) for the boundary between the historic parishes of Boddington in Northamptonshire and Wormleighton in Warwickshire (Area C32034 of a route-wide parish boundary evaluation).
- Project Plan (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-C000-000007) for Woodland Evaluation has covered the area of Fox Covert (Area 32033 of a route-wide evaluation) located just north-west of the Site.
- Remote sensing survey (interpretation of aerial photographs, hyperspectral imagery and LiDAR imagery) as part of the HS2 Central Environmental Statement (ES 3.5.2.15.7; Figure 3).
- Geophysical survey in 2018-19 (Part 1; 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-007768). A first phase covered one of the north-western fields of the Site along with the V shaped land parcel north of Welsh Road and several land parcels to the south-east and outside of the Site (C32006).
- Geophysical survey in 2020 (Part 2; (1EW03-FUS_CNA-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000003). This survey covered the remaining land parcels of the Site including the furthest field to the north-west along with a field to the south (lying partially within the Site) and the large south-easterly field of the Site.

5.2.2 The Project Plan for the trial trench evaluation (1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-PLN-CS07_CL14-000001) contains a detailed archaeological baseline for the Site. A summary of the

archaeological background and previous works relevant to the archaeology of the Site is included below.

5.2.3 Following the conclusion of the archaeological recording the results of the work were briefly summarised in an interim report, AWH-Interim Report for Trial Trench Evaluation at Welsh Road, Boddington Cutting, Northamptonshire, AC320/21, Site Code: 1C20WRBTT (1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000006).

5.3 Prehistoric and Romano-British

5.3.1 The palaeo-geological character and potential of the Site has been informed by a Scheme Wide Palaeoenvironmental Detailed Desk-Based Assessment (1D037-EDP-EV-REP-000-000033) and Geoarchaeological Desk-Based Assessment (1D037-EDP-EV-REP-000-000031).

5.3.2 CFA15 has no recorded superficial deposits apart from in the vicinity of the Highfurlong Brook (GCZ23) located 2km south-east of the Site. The area immediately either side of the brook has a higher potential for Palaeolithic findspots but is outside the Site boundaries. No Palaeolithic artefacts have been recorded within the Site or immediate environs.

5.3.3 There is no known evidence for Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age features and finds within the Site or within the immediate environs. This area has not been subjected to many intrusive archaeological events and this has limited the understanding of this area during those periods. It is possible that during the early prehistoric period and onwards into the Bronze Age activity may have been focused along the Highfurlong Brook, located 2.4km south-east of the Site. The Highfurlong Brook is a tributary of the River Cherwell and the brook joins the main channel 6km south of the Site. A number of Neolithic long barrows have been recorded close to the headwaters of the River Cherwell, but these are located within upland areas and not within relatively flat areas such as the Site.

5.3.4 Within the wider area (CFA15 and the south of CFA16) there is more activity from the Middle Bronze Age and into Iron Age with enclosed sites located on hilltops surrounding the upper reaches of the River Cherwell. No later prehistoric sites are known in the vicinity from previous archaeological investigations, but there are a number of cropmark sites in the vicinity of the Site and its environs, which may be indicative of later Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman settlement activity. These sites have been identified from aerial photography and have been recorded by the Northamptonshire and Warwickshire HERs. These sites were also studied as part of the Environmental Statement for CFA 15 and 16 (ES 5.2.15.5/ ES 5.2.16.5). Aside from the cropmarks that have been identified within the Site (discussed in detail below) a cluster of cropmarks are recorded immediately south-west of the Site (GLB208/MNN4101) and northwest of Boddington Road. The cropmarks plotted by the Warwickshire HER for this site include several rectilinear and curvilinear enclosures and associated linear features. Another known cropmark site is located 300m south of the site (GLB208/MNN4150). Other cropmarks have been identified in Fox Covert (GLB211), immediately north-west of the Site, and nearby to the north-west of the wood (LBS003), less than 150m north-west of the Site and at Wormleighton (LBS011), located 0.5km north-west of the Site. However, the woodland study

of Fox Covert suggested the cropmarks here (GLB211) may not be associated with prehistoric activity.

5.3.5 The Site has been subjected to two geophysical surveys which have identified several areas of possible later prehistoric/Roman activity. A number of curvilinear features and parallel linear features were recorded within the south-eastern part of the Site. Three of the smaller curvilinear features were 9-13m diameter and these may represent drip gullies of roundhouse features, particularly since one of them contained a positive pit-like anomaly which may represent a hearth. A number of other curvilinear features are attached to the possible roundhouses and these may represent windbreaks or small stock enclosures. Three linear features aligned NE-SW are located just south-west of the curvilinear features. These may represent possible the ditches of possible trackways leading away from the curvilinear features, with another possible trackway defined by linear anomalies of uncertain origin leads to the north-west. This activity is likely to be associated with possible settlement remains extend further south-east, as recorded during the Part 1 geophysical survey. These remains comprised rectangular enclosures or structures, alongside a round structure with a visible entrance on the eastern side. Long linear features were seen to form a main boundary or trackway through the area around which the enclosures were concentrated. The circular nature of the enclosures is indicative of prehistoric settlement patterns, perhaps dating to the Middle-Late Bronze Age or Iron Age.

5.3.6 Later prehistoric settlement located in the south-eastern part of the Site may extend further northwards. During the Part 1 works a number of partial curvilinear features were recorded in the V shaped land parcel of the Site. These features are more fragmentary than those identified in the south-eastern part of the Site. A cluster of these features were sub-circular and were less than 10m in diameter. A number of spreads of material were also noted in this field and these have an uncertain origin. The character and nature of these features is less clear than the features further south, but they may represent intercutting features associated with a settlement.

5.3.7 The Part 2 geophysical survey also recorded a possible rectilinear enclosure within the central part of the Site. It is possible that this anomaly represents an Iron Age or Romano British/Roman settlement or farmstead. This enclosure appears to be c.75m long and c.50m wide and aligned NNE-SSW. A small curvilinear feature was recorded within the enclosure; this may be the remains of a roundhouse, and several small anomalies which could represent discrete features. The enclosure appears to be associated with a number of other linear features located to the north which may be extensions of the enclosure. Another linear feature is recorded c.50m south of the enclosure on an ESE-WSW alignment which is parallel to the enclosure. This may be a boundary ditch defining the edge of the settlement. A number of partial features are located just north of the enclosure and these may be associated, although they are less well defined than the enclosure and may be geological. Further linear features and fragmentary curvilinear features were also recorded 100-200m north-west of the enclosure and these may also be archaeological features. A number of other linear features

were recorded within the Site, and within a radius of several hundred metres of the enclosure. These may be part of a field system or trackways associated with the settlement.

5.3.8 Welsh Road (GLB115/MNN14764) which bisects the Site may have been established in the Roman period, or perhaps a likely Roman road may follow an established prehistoric route. This road was designated by Ivan Margary as Route 166 and it connects Lower Boddington to Aston le Walls and southwards towards Brackley. There is no definite archaeological evidence that this road dates from the Roman period, but a number of Roman sites are located in the vicinity of this possible road. This includes the scheduled site of Edgcote Roman villa (1006616) which is located 5.6km south-east of the Site. The Roman villa at Edgcote (GLB138) was excavated in 1840 and it is located just west of Welsh Road (GLB115). A wider settlement (GLB144) associated with the villa was identified by fieldwalking and geophysical survey. This settlement may have developed from the Iron Age into a Roman settlement (this settlement was subject to geophysical survey and trial trenching as part of the HS2 works, and further archaeological recording will be undertaken; 1D037-EDP-EV-REP-040-000020 and 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS07_CL26-008121). A possible Roman smelting site was also recorded 3.8km south-east of the Site and 800m north-east of the Welsh Road. The smelting furnace was only tentatively dated as Roman as one sherd of Iron Age and one sherd of Roman pottery was found within the furnace. The furnace was also located adjacent to an enclosure recorded from cropmarks (The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain 2018: 26084).

5.3.9 Another branch of the modern Welsh Road turns before Lower Boddington and heads northwest past Upper Boddington to Napton on the Hill, Warwickshire. It is possible that this branch of the modern Welsh Road may have originated in the Roman period. Roman finds have been recorded in Upper Boddington (discussed below). In addition, a Roman farm dating to the mid-1st to 2nd centuries (MWA7395) was recorded at Napton on the Hill adjacent to Welsh Road, located 8km NNW of the Site.

5.3.10 During the early Roman period, the countryside was reorganised, and a number of large towns and local market centres were established. No Roman settlements are known in the immediate vicinity of the Site although Roman finds have been recorded in the vicinity of Upper Boddington located 1km north-east of the Site. In 1873, 360 Roman coins dating to the second half of the 3rd century were found in a vessel north of Upper Boddington. Roman pottery has also been recorded within Upper Boddington itself (RCHME 1982).

5.3.11 The Roman settlements recorded within CFA15 and the southern part of CFA16 appear to be mostly rural and similar in nature to later prehistoric settlements. A number of the Roman sites in the region may have developed from late Iron Age sites. Cropmark sites in the vicinity may be Iron Age settlements which then continued to be occupied in the Roman period. This includes the rectilinear enclosure in the central part of the Site and the settlement in the south-eastern part of the Site along with the cropmarks sites either side of Boddington Road (GLB202 and GLB208) and the two sites near Fox Covert (GLB211, LBS003).

5.4 Early medieval and medieval

5.4.1 No early to mid-Saxon activity has been recorded within the Site or in the vicinity. One of the nearest settlements of this date may have been located close to Edgcote Roman villa (1006616), located 5.6km south-east of the Site. Scaetta coins (late 7th-mid 8th century AD) were recorded at Edgcote and were possibly associated with burials suggesting there may have been a mid-Saxon cemetery and settlement at this location.

5.4.2 The settlement of Boddington was recorded in the Domesday Survey as having two manors. One of the manors comprised 20 heads of household and belonged to Count Robert of Mortain. The other manor had 10 villagers, one priest and one man at arms and belonged to Earl Hugh of Chester in 1086 (Open Domesday 2020). Both settlements had ploughlands and meadow lands (possibly for pasture) suggesting a mixed agrarian economy. It is possible that the two manors noted in Domesday developed into the medieval villages of Upper and Lower Boddington. The mention of a priest associated with one of the manors suggests that there may have been a late Saxon church in either Upper or Lower Boddington. A number of nucleated villages developed in CFA15 in the late Saxon period including Upper and Lower Boddington. These settlements were associated with large open field systems, along with a more dispersed pattern of smaller hamlets and farmsteads, especially in the upper reaches of the Cherwell tributaries.

5.4.3 The church of St John the Baptist in Upper Boddington dates from the 13th century but it is possible it was built on the site of an earlier church. A number of earthworks have been recorded around Upper Boddington (GLB207) and Lower Boddington (GLB198, GLB201) which suggests both settlements are medieval shrunken villages. The first edition OS map of 1884 suggests that the Site may have been part of the parish of Upper Boddington in the medieval and post-medieval period.

5.4.4 The parish boundary between Upper Boddington and Wormleighton in Warwickshire (GLB210) is designated as Area C32034 in the route-wide parish boundaries evaluation Project Plan (1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-C000-009807). This parish boundary (GLB210) runs along the north-western boundary of the Site on a north-east to south-west alignment. Just north-west of the Site this boundary is represented by a substantial bank feature which is covered in mature vegetation and undergrowth. This feature diminishes markedly to the south-west. It is possible that this feature may be a medieval or post-medieval parish boundary bank. It is also possible that this earthwork may be a manorial boundary bank dating to the late Saxon period, contemporary with one of the Boddington manors mentioned in the Domesday survey.

5.4.5 The Site and environs contain evidence for extant and levelled ridge and furrow which has been recorded by aerial photography and the LiDAR survey. These earthworks and features are likely to have been part of medieval or early post-medieval open field systems. This includes ridge and furrow to the west and north-west of Lower Boddington (GLB189 and GLB199), ridge and furrow to the west of Upper Boddington (GLB205), within the northern part of the Site (GLB206), just west of the Site (LBS002) and just south-east of the Site

(083/MNN132445). The 2028/2019 and 2020 geophysical surveys also recorded below ground remains of ridge and furrow within the Site including:

• Ridge and furrow aligned NE-SW within one of the north-westerly fields of the Site;

• NE-SW and north-south aligned ridge and furrow within the V shaped northern parcel of the Site;

• NE-SW aligned ridge and furrow in the central part of the Site with NW-SE aligned ridge and furrow in the south-eastern part of the Site.

5.5 Post-medieval and modern

5.5.1 The two settlements of Upper and Lower Boddington were combined into a single parish during an Act of Parliament of 1758. It is very likely that the Site was used as agricultural land associated with Upper Boddington in the post-medieval period.

5.5.2 The medieval open field systems with the associated ridge and furrow were replaced by enclosed fields in the later post-medieval period. The arable and pastoral fields of the Site were subjected to enclosure between 1760 and 1780. The fields within and close to the Site have the character of regular enclosed fields although this system has been fragmented by later amalgamation of some fields. This enclosed system can be seen on the OS map of 1887.

5.5.3 Much of the built heritage within 1-1.5km of the Site dates between the 17th and 19th centuries, including buildings in Lower Boddington (GLB198) and Upper Boddington (GLB207). The nearest listed buildings of this date are in Upper and Lower Boddington. Spella House (GLB204) located just north-east of the Site is shown on the OS map of 1887 and is likely later post-medieval in date. The below ground remains of two post-medieval buildings were located within the Site during the geophysical survey. One of these was identified within the north-westerly land parcel (3J3) and matches the location of a former building shown on OS maps from 1887-1969. The remains of the other building are located in the central part of the Site (3F28) and this may be a possible barn shown on OS maps from 1887-1969. This building may be associated with an NNE-SSW field boundary located just east of the possible barn (3F27) which is shown on OS maps of the same date.

5.5.4 The Oxford Canal (GLB183) was built between 1769–1789 and is located 2km south-west of the Site. A drainage ditch located just south of the Site (and within the southern part of the Site) may be associated with a canal feeder (GLB196) located 0.5km south-east of the Site which drains into the canal.

5.5.5 There has been very little change in the field boundaries within and surrounding the Site since the 1st Edition OS mapping from 1887 and there is good survival of a number of historically important hedgerows. Important amongst these is the County and Parish boundary (GLB210), which separates the western part of the Site in the parish of Boddington with the Warwickshire parish of Wormleighton to the north-west.

5.6 Previous disturbance

5.6.1 Below ground impacts within the Site are likely to be limited to those associated with agricultural activity, such as ploughing. The geophysical survey data demonstrates that the Site had good archaeological potential as medieval ridge and furrow survives across the Site and possible late prehistoric or Roman settlement remains are located beneath these earthworks.

6 Aims and Specific Objectives

6.1.1 The full aims and objectives for the archaeological trial trenching can be found in Section 4 of the Project Plan (1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-PLN-CS07_CL14-000001). Trial trench investigation provides the most suitable method for the recovery of archaeological evidence in order to inform the research objectives.

6.2 General Aims

6.2.1 The aims of the trial trenching were to:

- Confirm the presence/absence, extent and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site;
- Determine the nature, date, condition, state of preservation, complexity and significance of any archaeological remains;
- Determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
- Suggest measures, if appropriate and feasible, for further archaeological investigation to mitigate identified significant impacts; and
- Contribute to the delivery of GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives.

6.3 Specific HERDS Objectives

6.3.1 Through delivery of the works set out in the Project Plan Section 5 and through addressing the aims set out in 4.1, the trial trench evaluation will create knowledge and outputs that would contribute to the following specific objectives:

- KC10: Provide further understanding of the transition between a mobile pattern of settlement in the Early Bronze Age to the development of fixed settlement and enclosure, in the Middle and Late Bronze Age.
- KC15 (KEY OBJECTIVE): Can we identify regional patterns in the form and location of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement across the route, and are there associated differences in landscape organisation and enclosure?

- KC16: Investigate the degree of continuity that existed between Late Bronze Age and Iron Age communities in terms of population, mobility and subsistence strategies.
- KC18: Explore the evidence for increasing social complexity in the archaeological record in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, and to identify patterns of intra-regional and regional variation.
- KC19: The Romano-British period saw the beginning of a more established infrastructure network. Can we investigate the development of these routes, trackways and roads and the influence they had on landscape change?
- KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Romano-British period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.
- KC40: Identify patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.
- KC47: Test and develop geophysical survey methodologies.

7 Scope and Methodology

7.1 Scope

7.1.1 The archaeological work consisted of the excavation and recording of 125 trial trenches which took place between January and February 2021. The work was undertaken in accordance with a Project Plan (Document No. EW03-FUS_COP-EV-PLN-CS07_CL14-000001) and LSWSI (Document No. 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000003).

7.1.2 Guidance for the fieldwork is provided in the Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035), GWSI: HERDS (HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000015), and the Project Plan for Trail Trench Evaluation at Welsh Road, Northamptonshire AC320/21 (1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000003).

7.2 Methodology

7.2.1 The archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated as per the Project Plan and LSWSI as follows:

- 1 No. 40m by 1.8m trenches;
- 4 No. 20m by 4m trenches; and
- 120 No. 30 x 1.8m trenches

7.2.2 This represents an approximate 3–4% sample of the available areas of the Site.

7.2.3 Exploratory test pits were excavated at each trench location in order to recover artefacts from the topsoil and upper subsoil horizons. Three test pits were excavated at each trench location: one at either end and one in the centre. This gives a total of 375 test pits. Samples were recovered using the mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and placed on plastic sheeting adjacent to the pit.

7.2.4 The trial trenching scope included a 400m2 contingency equating to approximately seven trenches measuring 30m long by c. 1.8m wide. The purpose of the contingency was to investigate any significant or unexpected remains (see Section 5.1.4 of the LSWSI) during the archaeological evaluation. The extension of trial trenches under this contingency was not undertaken.

7.2.5 The trenches were positioned such as to avoid identified constraints.

Change control

7.2.6 During the archaeological investigation fourteen trenches were moved after consultation with Fusion/HERDS. Trench 111 was removed as it could not be opened due to an ecological buffer zone (artificial badger sett) and did not target archaeology; the additional trench length was added to three trenches, 108, 109 and 113.

7.2.7 Trenches 60, 84 and 123 were relocated due to ecological buffer zones; Trench 60 moved 10meters southeast and Trench 84, 5 meters south. Trench 123 was flipped 180 degrees and moved west by 10 metres.

7.2.8 Trench 50 was located directly underneath the compound and so was moved 10 metres east. Trench 42, 43 and 44 were moved due to obstruction by bracken piles from clearance work. Trench 42 was moved 10 metres northeast; Trench 43 moved 2metres northwest and Trench 44 was moved 5 meters southwest. Flooding in Field 50 resulted in Trench 12 being inaccessible and being moved 7 metres north and rotated west.

7.2.9 Trenches 53, 54, 64 and 70 were all relocated by 5 metres due to an unidentified buried service. The service was identified by VISION in advance of trenching but was not indicated in the PAS survey. On consultation with Fusion/HERDS a 5m exclusion zone was created either side of the buried service. Trenches 53 and 70 were moved south, Trench 54 east and Trench 64 to west. Trench 125 was moved east by 2metres to give further clearance from the overhead services located in Field 44.

Setting out and recording

7.2.10 Trial trenches were located to a horizontal accuracy of ±0.5m and were set out with Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) equipment with Real Time Kinematic (RTK) corrections from the Leica Smartnet service.

7.2.11 Trial trench limits, height data and significant archaeology was recorded 'as dug' using RTK GNSS equipment to a 3-dimensional accuracy of ±100mm.

7.2.12 Geochemical and geoarchaeological sampling points were located to a horizontal accuracy of ±0.5m and were set out with Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) equipment with Real Time Kinematic (RTK) corrections from the Leica Smartnet service.

Artefact recovery

7.2.13 Prior to the machine excavation of the trenches, exploratory test pits measuring 0.25m x 0.25m were excavated at each end and middle of each evaluation trench to recover any artefacts present in the topsoil.

7.2.14 Metal detecting was undertaken by an experienced member of staff prior to the trench being machine excavated and at 300mm depth intervals where appropriate.

Machine excavation

7.2.15 Trenches were excavated to either the first archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was reached first, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the continuous supervision of a competent archaeologist.

7.2.16 A cable avoidance tool (CAT) was used prior to machine excavation of each trench and then at 300mm excavated spits where required.

7.2.17 Topsoil and the interface between topsoil and the natural substrate were stripped and stored separately on either side of the trench, as per the Technical standard: Route Wide Soil Resource Plan (HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000008).

Hand excavation

7.2.18 Archaeological hand excavation was undertaken according to the requirements described in the GWSI: HERDS and the Technical Standard Specification for historic environment investigations (Document No. HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000- 000035; section 4.14 and 4.17). The sufficient sample strategy will be guided by the CIfA Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (2014), as well as, where applicable, Local Planning Authority guidance documents, detailed in the LSWSI. A sufficient sample of the features and deposits encountered were sampled/fully excavated to allow the resolution of the aims and objectives of the work.

7.2.19 All investigation of archaeological levels was undertaken by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section.

7.2.20 Within significant archaeological levels, the minimum number and proportion of features required to meet the aims of the evaluation were hand excavated. Pits and postholes were subject to a 50% sample by volume, at sufficient frequency to characterise the archaeological activity across the Site. Linear features were sectioned as appropriate.

Fieldwork recording

7.2.21 The requirements for fieldwork recording are set out in paragraphs 5.2.25 – 5.2.31 of the Project Plan. All archaeological recording was carried out in accordance with the general requirements as described in the GWSI: HERDS and the HS2 Technical Standard for Historic Environment Investigations (Document No. HS2-HS2-EVSTD-000-000035

7.2.22 The recording of trenches, the nature and level of all horizons they contain, and all archaeological contexts encountered within them was carried out digitally, on Apple iPad Pro tablets, using pro-forma templates created in iAuditor that were based on the MOLA Fieldwork Recording Manual. All archaeological features display the relevant accession/event number for the site and were given a unique context number. The digital context sheets include details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds or samples taken. The digital approach ensured that all data collected was backed up to the cloud every 15 minutes in the presence of a wi-fi signal or cached and backed up as and when a signal was present.

7.2.23 All context numbers consist of the Trench number followed by the context number (e.g. Context 105 = Trench 1, context 05; Context 2311 = Trench 23, context 11). All context numbers ending 01 = topsoil and all context numbers ending 02 = subsoil (e.g. Context 101 = Trench 1 topsoil; Context 2302 = Trench 23 subsoil).

Environmental Sampling

7.2.24 The requirements for developing an environmental sampling strategy are set out in paragraphs 5.2.34 – 5.2.45 of the Project Plan.

7.2.25 In line with the *Employer*'s Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (Document No. HS2-HS2-EV0STD-000-000035) an initial sampling strategy is set out below for the Site. This strategy is based on the existing information about the Site, gathered from nonintrusive surveys and the HERDS objectives.

7.2.26 This sample strategy, along with the HERDS objectives, identified the key elements that should, where present, be sampled during the evaluation. However, there was scope for the strategy to be reviewed throughout the on-site work and, if necessary, revised accordingly and in consultation with the HERDS manager.

7.2.27 The purpose of sampling at the evaluation stage was to identify the range of environmental materials present on site, their preservation, significance and distribution.

7.2.28 The Site has the potential for features associated with late prehistoric/Roman peripheral settlement activity as well as medieval agricultural features, as identified in Section 2. Sampling targeted the following, where present, as a minimum:

- Archaeological features identified as cropmarks or geophysical anomalies which are likely associated with potentially prehistoric, Roman or medieval activity (i.e. ditches, gullies, earthworks) as well as other relevant remains (i.e. pits or postholes); and

• Deposits representing the main phases of activity on site (to assess whether there are changes in rates of deposition or material survival over time).

7.2.29 Sampling was undertaken on those features outlined above, in consideration of advice from MOLA's environmental archaeologist. This ensured that samples were recovered from a representative range of contexts, which adequately characterise past activities on site and allowed an assessment to be made of the extent to which they help address palaeoenvironmental and paleoecologic questions.

7.2.30 All samples were taken in order to address a specific question. The purpose of the sample and the question it addressed was recorded on a Site-specific sample record sheet.

7.2.31 Samples were taken using ten litre plastic buckets (with lids and handles), or strong polythene bags (double bagged) secured at the neck, for the recovery of bulk 'disturbed' environmental samples. Labelling followed guidance set out in the Technical Standard Specification for Historic Environment Investigations (Document No. HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000035).

7.2.32 The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved were assessed by MOLA's recognised specialist. Special consideration shall be given to any evidence for recent changes in preservation conditions that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment.

8 Results of Trial Trench Evaluation

8.1 Stratigraphic report

Introduction

8.1.1 In total, 125 trenches were excavated across four fields within one land parcel C32051 (Figure 2). Of the 125 trenches, 60 contained archaeological features, predominantly furrows. Finds from the site included Iron Age, Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery, in addition to clay building material, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and Fe Objects.

8.1.2 The depth at which natural geology or archaeology was encountered varied between 0.26 and 0.41 below ground Level (BGL). The natural geology generally comprised mixed mid-brown or yellowish-brown compacted silty clay with manganese staining and natural bands of ironstone; Field 50 additionally had natural pea gravels.

8.1.3 Topsoil and subsoil depths varied erratically across the site. Topsoil measured 0.2m to 0.5m deep and generally comprise dark brown silty-clay loam. Subsoil measured 0.08m to 0.14m in depth and was a yellowish-brown silty-clay more compacted than the topsoil.

8.1.4 Colluvium/ hill wash was present in Field 43; this was visible in Trenches 70, 71 and 69 and aligned with the natural land-slope down from northeast–southwest. It consisted of an orangey yellow very silty loam. The colluvium/hill wash was evident slightly west of the modern field

boundary, visible in Trenches 70 and 71, and was in line with the pond to the southwest. At the start of slope the depth was 0.1m reaching 0.25m to towards the bottom.

8.1.5 Trenches: 1–4, 6–18, 25, 26, 30, 34, 35, 37, 39-44, 47, 49–51, 58, 60, 63-66, 82, 84, 88, 94, 97,101, 106,107,109, 113–119 and 122–125 contained no archaeology or finds (Table 1).

Early Prehistory to Bronze Age (Before 800BC)

8.1.6 No Palaeolithic artefacts or features were recorded. It is possible that during the early prehistoric period and into the Bronze Age, the activity may have been focused along the Highfurlong Brook, located 2.4km southeast of the Site. The Highfurlong Brook is a tributary of the River Cherwell and the brook joins the main channel 6km south of the Site. A number of Neolithic long barrows have been recorded close to the headwaters of the River Cherwell, but these are located within upland areas and not within relatively flat areas such as the Site *(1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000003).*

Iron Age and Roman (800BC-AD410)

Iron Age-Roman settlement east of field 43 (Fig.3)

8.1.7 Iron Age/Roman activity was most prominent in Field 43; this included a concentration in the south-eastern area of site. Trenches (abbreviated from now as Tr) 102,103, 104 and 105 presented curvilinear features corresponding with the potential Iron Age/Roman settlement identified in the geophysical survey. The area forms a small plateau to the north of the hill slope.

8.1.1 Ditch [10505] (Fig.6) was recorded across the south-east of Tr105. This trench targeted a potential oval feature which extended into Tr104 to the north, where it was found not present. The ditch was not bottomed for safety reasons. The excavated section was 1.24m wide by >0.57m deep. The sides were found gradually curving from north to south-west. The northern side was moderately steep of convex profile, whilst the southern side was found almost vertical. The ditch contained two fills, which lower fill (10504) yielded two Iron Age pottery sherds (5g).

8.1.2 Ditch [10311] was recorded across Tr103 in a north-west to south-east alignment. The section in Tr103 was partially excavated in width, as it was truncated by a furrow [10309], which in return was cut by modern tracking [10305]. Where excavated it was >1.56m wide by 0.32m deep, with a southern steep concave side gradually breaking into a flat base. It was located in correspondence with the southern segment of a possible small rounded feature suggested by the geophysical survey. The slot contained a single fill (10310) and included one single Iron Age pottery sherd (6g). Its fill was also sampled for environmental analysis providing only remains of common herbs and seeds, one of them a possible fragment of a charred parsley-piert seed (*Aphanes sp*.).

8.1.3 Ditch [10413] (Fig.6), located to the southwest of Tr104 corresponded to the southern section of a ring ditch suggested by the geophysical survey, whilst further northeast in the trench [10406] was the northern section of the same feature re-entering the trench. The section

[10413] was 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep and consisted of four fills and a deep, V-shape cut. The fills indicated a stratigraphic sequence of waterlain deposition, natural silting and backfilling.

8.1.4 Its upper fill (10409) produced one sherd (3g) of Romano-British grog-tempered pottery, and 15 fragments of mammal bone, three of them identified as cattle and one as ovicaprid, along with 47 fragments (252g) of fired clay. This fill was also sampled for environmental analysis producing remains of wheat (*Triticum sp.*), emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), along with common herbs and seeds.

Plate 1: Ring ditch [10413] looking east

8.1.5 Ditch [9807] (Fig.6) was located on a north-east to south-west alignment across the east side of Tr98, in correspondence with a long linear feature suggested by the geophysical survey across Tr98 and Tr100, although this was not found in the latter. The sides gradually sloped into an undulating bottom that dropped sharply, becoming unsafe to fully excavate. This was 3.22m wide and a depth of 0.68m was reached. Its basal fill (9806) contained 22 fragments of mammal bone (69g), one of which identified as horse. The upper fill (9805) provided one single sherd (3g) of grog-tempered Romano-British pottery along with two fragments (6g) of daub or fired clay. This fill (9805) was also sampled for environmental purposes providing only remains of common herbs and seeds. The ditch was interpreted as a possible trackway, although a draining ditch would not be discarded.

Roman enclosure west of field 43 (Fig.4)

8.1.6 A Roman enclosure, defined by a trapezoidal outline with a possible add-on to the north, was identified in the geophysical survey to the west of field43. Eight trenches (52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 59, 67 and 68) were positioned in order to investigate the feature along with an additional trench (61), which targeted possible features inside the enclosure. The only trench that did not

provide evidence of the enclosure wasTr52, which was positioned to the north-east corner of the area.

8.1.7 The nature of the trial trench evaluation did not permit to follow the alignment of the uncovered features with certainty in order to trace the whole extension of them. The results obtained comprised a number of discrete linear features with similar alignment. Some of these probably represent furrows or other archaeological features. The distribution and alignment of the recorded features suggest a double, even triple, ditched enclosure.

8.1.8 Trenches 56, 59 and 68 uncovered three alignments of linear features. All having a roughly north-west to south-east alignment and described from north to south below:

8.1.9 The first alignment was the only one that contributed dating evidence and comprised two ditch sections. Ditch [5904] (Fig.6) was found across the centre-south of Tr59. Its sides, moderately steep, broke into a roughly flat base. The feature was found to be truncated by a later land drain. It measured 3m in width by 0.2m in depth. Its single fill (5903) produced one single pottery sherd (22g) of Romano-British grey ware, suggesting that this feature correspond to the targeted enclosure. Ditch [5608], was uncovered to the north of Tr56, and seemed to be the continuation of [5904]. It had moderately to shallow steep sides, which gradually broke into a slightly concave base. It measured 1.3m in width by 0.13m in depth.

8.1.10 A second alignment to the south consisted of two more ditch sections. Ditch [6805] (Fig.6) was uncovered to the north of Tr68. It was of steep sides gradually breaking into a flat base, measuring 0.69m in width by 0.23m in depth. Ditch [5604] was uncovered across the centre of Tr56 and measured 0.38m in width by 0.26m in depth. This ditch also had steep sides and a slightly concave base. Both features contained single sterile fills. The absence of these feature in Tr59 suggests an access to the enclosure from the south, which is also supported by the geophysics plan.

Plate 2: Enclosure ditch [5604] looking west

8.1.11 A third ditch alignment was found further south comprising two wide and shallow ditches of steep concave sides and flat bases. Ditch [6807] (Fig.6) located to the centre of Tr68, measured 2.7m in width by 0.2m in depth. Ditch [5606] located across the south of Tr56, measured 2.9m in width by 0.15m in depth, both contained undated single fills.

8.1.12 The west side of the suggested enclosure was targeted by Tr55, which uncovered three linear features with two different alignments. The roughly north-east to south-west alignment may represent a double ditched enclosure.

8.1.13 Ditch [5509] was found across the east side of Tr55 in correspondence with the targeted enclosure. It was of steep sides breaking into a roughly flat base. It measured 2.4m in width by 0.4m in depth. Its single fill (5508) was devoid of dating evidence.

8.1.14 Gully [5507] was located to the west of Tr55 following the same alignment. It was of shallow concave profile in section, measuring 0.17m in width by 0.05m in depth. It contained one single fill (5506), which yielded one single pottery sherd (6g) of Romano-British greyware. Its alignment, coincident with the targeted enclosure, suggests a second enclosing feature, which was heavily truncated on top, and therefore not recorded by geophysics.

8.1.15 The north side of the enclosure was targeted by Tr53 and Tr54, which uncovered remains of three linear features, north-west to south-east aligned. The southern features seem likely to form the north side of the enclosure. Another potential phase of the enclosure could be represented by a ditch further north in Tr54, whilst the linear feature to the north of Tr53 was a likely furrow.

8.1.16 Ditch [5405] was located in the south of Tr54. It had moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It measured 1m in width by 0.12m in depth, its sole fill (5404) was sampled for environmental purposes producing remains of emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) along with common herbs and seeds. Ditch [5307] was not excavated and it has been thought to be the same linear recorded as [5405] in Tr54, both possibly correspondent to the north side of the enclosure.

8.1.17 Ditch [5407] was located in the north of Tr54. It was partially excavated its sides being moderately steep and gradually breaking into a flat base. It measured 2.44m in width by 0.21m in depth. No dating evidence was present in its single fill.

8.1.18 The only trench targeting the eastern side of the possible enclosure was Tr67.

8.1.19 Ditch [6704] was aligned north to south alignment across the centre of the trench. The ditch had moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It measured 1.02m in width by 0.18m in depth. Its single fill (6703) was devoid of dating evidence.

Medieval (AD1066-1540)

Ridge and furrow cultivation system (Fig.5)

8.1.20 A ridge and furrow system for cultivation previously noted in the geophysical survey plan was confirmed by the archaeological evaluation works. This cultivation system is believed to originate in the medieval period (13-15th century) and to have been in use into the post-medieval period, when the land was levelled possibly in the 18th century. Some of the furrows recorded by geophysics were not found probably due to the extrapolation of the readings or their lack of depth. The furrows were characterised by shallow concave profiles in section due to the later levelling of the fields.

8.1.21 Field 43 showed three distinct patterns, which are coincident with the three different fields out bounded by ditches and tree rows as documented in 19th century maps.

8.1.22 The eastern side consisted of north-west to south-east aligned furrows, seven of which were investigated. Fill (10306) of furrow [10307] provided a tiny pottery sherd (2g) of late-15th century date, whilst fill (10407) of furrow [10408] contained one pottery sherd (6g) mid-15th century in date. One environmental sample was taken from fill (9106) of furrow [9107] but only produced remains of common herbs and seeds.

8.1.23 The central area consisted of north-east to south-west aligned furrows. The northern side between the eastern and central areas also showed a limited resetting of the furrow system. A total of 13 potential furrows were investigated. Fill (7706) of furrow [7707] produced one single

fragment (128g) of post-medieval tile. Fill (8004) of furrow [8005] contained one single pottery sherd (26g) of mid-16th century dating. Fill (7603) of furrow [7604] was sampled but only produced remains of common herbs and seeds.

8.1.24 Fill (9006) of furrow [9007] provided one more pottery sherd (22g) of 18th century date and one ovicaprid metatarsus (35g). This furrow [9007] seemed to truncate an earlier furrow [9005], found to be part of a more easterly-westerly aligned system. However, the shallowness of the earliest made it impossible to establish the stratigraphical relationship. It is also possible that this easternmost furrow was reused as a field boundary between post-medieval central and eastern fields in alignment with the possible pond to the south in Tr88.

8.1.25 The western side was apparently not worked following that system, and probably used for grazing. However, some north-west to south-east aligned linear features uncovered to the north suggest that the area could have also furrows, which were heavily truncated when the field was levelled. Two features, whose alignment and dating evidence may be related to furrows are described below:

8.1.26 Linear feature [5305] was uncovered to the north of Tr53. It had moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a flat base and measured 2.25m in width by 0.16m in depth. Its fill (5304) produced a single fragment of post-medieval tile (34g). The fill was also sampled for environmental analysis, but only produced remains of common herbs and seeds.

8.1.27 Linear feature [5906] was uncovered to the north of Tr59. This feature had a shallow concave profile in section and was interpreted as a possible furrow. It measured 2.04m in width by 0.15m in depth and was infilled by (5905), which contained one pottery sherd (16g) of late-15th century date and one daub or fired clay fragment (14g).

8.1.28 Field 44 was suggested to have a north-east to south-west aligned pattern of furrows by the geophysics plan. Only two furrows were uncovered to the east of the field due to the heavy truncation produced by levelling. One of these furrows was sealed on top by an undated deposit (10802).

8.1.29 Field 46 also showed a pattern of north-east to south-west aligned furrows which were found to survive in the north of the area. Seven of them were investigated. The fill (1902) of furrow [1903] produced a fair amount of artefacts: three pottery sherds (25g), which were dated to the 18th century; one brick fragment (54g) and seven of tile (305g), all post-medieval in date; a number of three pieces of glass, two of them post-medieval flat glass, and one possible stopper for a glass bottle or decanter, which could be mid-17th century to modern in date; 11 stem fragments of clay tobacco pipes (35g); and five tiny fragments of mammal bone (1g). Whilst fill (2403) of furrow [2404] produced two (14g) late-15th century in date.

Plate 3:Cultivation furrow [1903] looking south-west

8.1.30 Field 50, to the western end of the investigating area, was devoid of ridge and furrow cultivation system.

Single medieval ditch

8.1.31 Ditch [4607] was north-west to south-east aligned towards the north end of Tr46, on field 43. It had moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a concave base and measured 0.94m in width by 0.65m in depth. Its single fill (4606) contained one pottery sherd (10g) dated to the 13th century.

Post-Medieval (AD1540-1901)

Boundary ditch

8.1.32 A former boundary ditch between the central and eastern areas of field 43 was previously noted in the 19-20th century cartographical evidence and geophysical survey (Project Plan: 1EW03-FUS_COP-EV-PLN-CS07_CL14-000001). This appeared on a roughly north-east to south-west alignment breaking to the south into a more easterly-westerly alignment. The ditch apparently bounded the western end of the ridge and furrow cultivation system to its west and was targeted by Trenches 69, 70, and 71.

8.1.33 Trench 69 contained a colluvium layer (6902) in the eastern half of the trench. This layer was probably represented hill wash associated with erosion of the slope.

8.1.34 Ditch [7005] was recoded across the south-east of Tr70 on a north-east to south-west alignment. It was not bottomed having a land drain in the base. The sides were steep

gradually breaking into a concave base. The feature measured 1.16m in width by >0.5m in depth. The single fill (7004) of the feature contained one pottery sherd (16g) of modern date.

8.1.35 This ditch formed the original field boundary depicted on the Ladbroke Warwickshire map of 1812, which had disappeared from the cartographical record by 1885 (first OS map). Although the cartographical documentation points to the late post-medieval period for the backfilling of the ditch, dating evidence obtained was from the modern period. The ditch was replaced by a land drain that drove excess of water into the watercourse which bounds the field to the south.

Plate 4: Ditch [7005] looking south-west

8.1.36 Ditch [7007] was located further west in Tr70. It was more easterly-westerly aligned and had moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a concave base. The feature measured 0.7m in width by 0.11m in depth. The sole fill (7006) was devoid of dating evidence, however, the ditch appeared for the first time on the 1885 OS map, diverting water into the pond still located to the south-west. The cartographic evidence suggests the ditch was backfilled between the 1955 and 1974 OS maps.

8.1.37 Ditch [7105] was uncovered across the centre of Tr71. Due to adverse weather conditions the ditch was investigated through mechanical sondage. The sondage exposed a ditch with moderately steep sides gradually breaking into a concave base, measuring circa 1m in width by 0.9m in depth. Its single fill (7104) provided one fragment (141g) of mid/late 19th to early 20th century sewage drain. Cartographic evidence for this section of the field boundary can be traced back to the Ladbroke Warwickshire map of 1812, it is still shown in the 1983-4 OS map.

Modern

8.1.38 Deposit (3602) was located on the north-east side of Tr36 measuring 6.4m in length by 1.84m in width by 0.7m in depth. The deposit was found to be covered by topsoil disturbed by ploughing. Five fragments of two large bottle bases of early-mid 18th century date, 18 modern pottery sherds (148g), nine fragments of brick (220g) and one fragment of tile (11g) of post-medieval date, and one fragment of mammal bone (5g) were retrieved.

8.1.39 Pit [8807] was located across the west side of Tr88 where a large ferrous area was detected during the geophysical survey. It was partially excavated and was found to have shallow concave sides and slightly concave base. It was >2m in width by 0.23m in depth and was infilled by three fills. The basal fill seemed to be natural silting, whilst the upper fills seem to be a deliberate backfill of a possible former pond with burnt waste. One modern large land drain fragment was retrieved from the upper fill (8804) but not retained. This upper fill was sampled but did not produce environmental remains other than common herbs and seeds. It was possibly a pond excavated to the south of a post-medieval field boundary (See 8.1.23).

Plate 5: Backfilled pit [8807] looking north-east

Undated

8.1.40 Bank deposit (1502) was located to the south of Tr15 on a north-west to south-east alignment. This deposit was 3m wide by 0.08m thick. It was also found in the south end of Tr30 as (3003), being 2.2m in width by 0.23m in thickness. No dating evidence was retrieved from the feature.

Plate 6: Bank deposit [1502] looking south-east

8.1.41 Pit [2703] was located in Tr27. It was of oval shape in plan with steep to shallow steep sides and a flat base, measuring 0.6m in width by 0.1m in depth.

8.1.42 Pit [3103] was located to the north of Tr31. It was of sub-circular shape in plan and had a concave profile, measuring 0.4m in diameter by 0.07m in depth. Its single fill (3102) was sampled for environmental analysis and produced remains of common herbs and seeds besides few fragments of unidentified cereal grains.

8.1.43 Ditch [4504] was aligned northwest-southeast across the southern half of Tr45. This was probably the base of a disturbed concave ditch and was recorded as 0.4m in width by 0.05m in depth. Its single fill (4503) was devoid of dating evidence.

8.1.44 Plough scar [4605] was uncovered in the northern third of Tr46 on a north-west to south-east alignment.

8.1.45 Ditch [4607] was also uncovered in Tr46, further north. This ditch had a shallow concave profile and was north-west to south-east aligned, measuring 0.94m in width by 0.13m in depth.

8.1.46 Ditch [5505] was north-west to south-east aligned across the centre of Tr55. Partially excavated it had a concave profile in section, measuring 1.32m in width by 0.3m in depth.

8.1.47 Ditch [5704] was located across the south of Tr57 on a roughly north to south alignment. It had concave steep sides gradually breaking into an uneven base and measured 2.14m in width by 0.12m depth.

8.1.48 Pit or tree bole [6105] was located in Tr61. This trench targeted a possible sequence of pits on a penannular alignment within the possible Roman enclosure of field 43. The pit was of oval shape in plan with steep sides breaking into a roughly flat base and measured 1.24m wide by 0.48m deep.

Plate 7 : Pit/tree bole [6105] within Roman enclosure looking south-east

8.1.49 Two undated pits were recorded in Tr99. Pit [9903] was oval in plan, extending beyond the Tr99 limit and displaying shallow steep sides imperceptible breaking into a flat base. Its measurements were 0.7m in width by 0.07m in depth. Pit [9905] was found in close proximity to [9903]. This pit also extended beyond the limit of the excavation. It was of sub-circular shape in plan and had steep sides gradually breaking into a flat base. Its measurements were 0.32m in diameter by 0.05m in depth.

8.1.50 To the south-east of Tr100 two parallel linear features were uncovered which were identified during the geophysical survey as most likely associated with possible settlement remains extending further southeast. Gully [10004] was of shallow concave profile in section. It had a depth of 0.12m and a width of 0.47m. Gully [10006], also had a concave profile and was 0.16m deep and 0.35m wide. Neither feature contained any datable evidence.

8.1.51 Three features correspondent to geophysical anomalies and probably related with the aforementioned Iron Age/Roman settlement were recorded in Tr102. Gully [10207] was 0.35m wide by 0.12m deep, and was cut by [10205], which was 0.57m in width by 0.15m in depth. These features had gradually steeping sides and concave bases, with the deeper gully cutting the shallower example. No dating evidence was found. Ditch [10210] (Fig.6) was of a similar profile to that of [10413]; forming a deep U-shape (with a slightly more rounded base) at a depth of 0.66m and 2m wide. Fill (10209) contained 31 fragments of mammal bone, five of which were identified as horse.

Plate 8: Intercutting gullies [10205] and [10207] looking south-east

8.1.52 Two shallow linear features were uncovered to the west of field 44, where several anomalies were recorded during the geophysical survey. Feature [11003] east-west aligned across Tr110 measuring 1.1m in width by 0.06m in depth. Feature [12003] was north-west to south-east aligned and measured 0.6m in width by 0.06m in depth.

Table 1- Trench Summary

Field	Trench	Depth (m)	Length (m)	Environmental Remains	Finds	Archaeology
50	1	0.25-0.27	30	NO	NO	NO
50	2	0.28-0.31	30	NO	NO	NO
50	3	0.26-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
50	4	0.28-0.34	30	NO	NO	NO
50	5	0.30-0.32	30	NO	CBM	NO
50	6	0.40-0.47	30	NO	NO	NO
50	7	0.27	30	NO	NO	NO
50	8	0.28	30	NO	NO	NO
50	9	0.30	30	NO	NO	NO

50	10	0.26-0.28	30	NO	NO	NO
50	11	0.26-0.31	30	NO	NO	NO
50	12	0.27-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
50	13	0.28	30	NO	NO	NO
50	14	0.29-0.31	30	NO	NO	NO
46	15	0.30-0.46	30	NO	CBM	YES
46	16	0.31-0.34	30	NO	NO	NO
46	17	0.26-0.32	30	NO	NO	NO
46	18	0.23-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
46	19	0.30-0.34	30	NO	CBM/CTP/ 18th century Pot/A.Bone/ Glass/FE object/ Coal	YES
46	20	0.30-0.33	30	NO	NO	YES
46	21	0.36-0.32	30	NO	NO	YES
46	22	0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
46	23	0.21-0.25	30	NO	CBM	YES
46	24	0.38-0.48	30	NO	Late 15th century Pot	YES
46	25	0.28-0.32	20	NO	NO	NO
46	26	0.31-0.40	30	NO	NO	NO
46	27	0.33-0.40	20	NO	NO	YES
46	28	0.33-0.40	30	NO	CBM	NO
46	29	0.30-0.36	30	NO	CBM	YES
46	30	0.20-0.50	30	NO	NO	YES
46	31	0.26-0.31	30	YES	NO	YES
46	32	0.27-0.34	30	NO	NO	YES
46	33	0.33-0.40	30	NO	CBM	NO
46	34	0.31-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
46	35	0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
46	36	0.34-0.61	30	NO	CBM/Modern Pot/ A. Bone/ Glass	YES
46	37	0.29-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO

46	38	0.24-0.34	30	NO	Fe nail/ Mid-13th century Pot	NO
46	39	0.27-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO
46	40	0.28-0.31	30	NO	NO	NO
46	41	0.33-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
46	42	0.31-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
46	43	0.31-0.40	30	NO	NO	NO
46	44	0.30-0.34	30	NO	NO	NO
43	45	0.25-0.40	30	NO	NO	YES
43	46	0.30-0.40	30	NO	13th century Pot	YES
43	47	0.30-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
43	48	0.10-0.30	26	NO	NO	NO
43	49	0.26-0.32	30	NO	NO	NO
43	50	0.28-0.40	30	NO	NO	NO
43	51	0.26-0.31	30	NO	NO	NO
43	52	0.28-0.32	30	NO	NO	NO
43	53	0.30-0.40	30	YES	CBM	YES
43	54	0.30-0.32	30	YES	NO	YES
43	55	0.06-0.26	30	NO	CBM/CTP/ Romano-British Pot/	YES
43	56	0.25-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	57	0.20-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
50	58	0.31-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO
43	59	0.20-0.30	30	NO	CBM/ Romano-British Pot	YES
46	60	0.32-0.33	30	NO	NO	NO
43	61	0.30-0.45	20	NO	CBM	YES
46	62	0.27-0.36	30	NO	NO	YES
43	63	0.28-0.32	30	NO	NO	NO
43	64	0.29-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO
43	65	0.35-0.38	30	NO	NO	NO
43	66	0.40-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO

43	67	0.25-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	68	0.35-0.40	30	NO	18th century Pot/ Fe Object	YES
43	69	0.50	30	NO	Fe Object/ CBM	YES
43	70	0.30-0.52	30	NO	Fe Object/ CTP/ Modern Pot	YES
43	71	0.30-0.40	30	NO	CBM	YES
43	72	0.20-0.25	30	NO	NO	YES
43	73	0.40-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	74	0.25-0.32	30	NO	NO	YES
43	75	0.20-0.30	30	NO	Fe Object	YES
43	76	0.30	30	YES	NO	YES
43	77	0.40	30	NO	CBM	YES
43	78	0.30	30	NO	CTP	YES
43	79	0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	80	0.30-0.45	30	NO	Mid-16th century Pot	YES
43	81	0.32	30	NO	NO	NO
43	82	0.28-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	83	0.35-0.39	30	NO	NO	YES
43	84	0.28-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	85	0.50	30	NO	NO	YES
43	86	0.27-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	87	0.30-0.35	30	NO	Late 17th century Pot	YES
43	88	0.50	30	YES	NO	YES
43	89	0.42	30	NO	Pot	YES
43	90	0.40	30	NO	A. Bone/ 18th century Pot/ CBM	YES
43	91	0.34-0.42	30	YES	NO	YES
43	92	0.30-0.40	30	NO	CBM	YES
43	93	0.30-0.35	30	NO	NO	YES
43	94	0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	95	0.35	30	NO	NO	YES

43	96	0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
43	97	0.27-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	98	0.20-0.30	30	YES	CBM/A.Bone/ Romano-British Pot	YES
46	99	0.25-0.36	30	NO	NO	YES
43	100	0.27-0.30	30	NO	NO	YES
46	101	0.25-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	102	0.30	30	NO	A. Bone	YES
43	103	0.21-0.42	30	YES	Iron Age and Late 15th century Pot	YES
43	104	0.40-0.50	40	YES	Mid-15th century and Romano-British Pot/A.bone/Fired Clay	YES
43	105	0.26-0.38	20	NO	Iron Age Pot	YES
44	106	0.20-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
44	107	0.30-0.35	40	NO	NO	NO
44	108	0.30	40	NO	Fe Horseshoe	YES
44	109	0.20-030	30	NO	NO	NO
44	110	0.35-0.40	30	NO	NO	YES
44	111	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	NO
46	112	0.42-0.45	30	NO	NO	YES
44	113	0.30-0.35	40	NO	NO	NO
44	114	0.18-0.20	30	NO	NO	NO
44	115	0.24-0.29	30	NO	NO	NO
44	116	0.30-0.33	30	NO	NO	NO
44	117	0.30-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO
44	118	0.33-0.35	30	NO	NO	NO
44	119	0.30-0.36	30	NO	NO	NO
44	120	0.35-0.40	30	NO	NO	YES
44	121	0.30-0.35	30	NO	CBM	NO
44	122	0.20-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
44	123	0.20-0.30	26	NO	NO	NO

50	124	0.28-0.30	30	NO	NO	NO
43	125	0.37-0.52	30	NO	NO	NO

8.2 Pottery

8.2.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 48 sherds with a total weight of 560g. It consists of a mixture of Iron Age, Romano-British, and Medieval and later wares, with most of the material being Post-Medieval or early modern. The post-Roman material was recorded using the conventions of the Northamptonshire County Ceramic Type-Series (CTS), as follows:

F324: **Brill/Boarstall Ware**, early 13th-16th century. 1 sherd, 10g.

F329: **Potterspury Ware**, AD1250 – 1600. 1 sherd, 6g.

F369: **Brill/Boarstall 'Tudor Green' Ware**, mid 15th – mid 16th century. 1 sherd, 16g

F401: **Late Medieval Oxidized Ware**, AD1450 – 1550. 1 sherd, 6g

F403: **Midland Purple Ware**, AD1450-1600. 2 sherds, 33g.

F404: **Cistercian Ware**, AD1470 – 1600. 4 sherds, 20g.

F411: **Midland Blackware**, 1550-1700. 2 sherds, 41g.

F412: **Chinese Porcelain**, 17th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 6g.

F413: **Manganese Glazed Ware**, AD1680-1750. 1 sherd, 6g.

F426: **Iron-Glazed Coarsewares**, 18th century. 10 sherds, 253g

F1000: **Misc. 19th and 20th century Wares**. 17 sherds, 118g.

IA: **Iron Age**. 3 sherds, 11g

RB: **Romano-British**. 4 sherds, 34g

8.2.2 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 2. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region (e.g. Blinkhorn 2010). The Iron Age sherds are both in shelly fabrics typical of the period, and the Romano-British material consisting of grog-tempered and grey wares.

8.2.3 The sherd of F324 from context 4606 is much abraded and may be residual. Most of the material is in fairly poor condition and is the product of secondary deposition and could easily be redeposited material.

Table 2- Pottery by occurrence, weight and number of sherds

	IA		RB Grog		RB Grey		F324		F329		F369		F401		F403		F404		F411		F412		F413		F426		F1000		
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
U/S Tr 43															2	33			1	15					3	131			U/S
U/S Tr 53																					1	6							U/S
1902																	1	4							2	21			18thC
2403																	2	14											L15thC
3602																									2	46	16	102	MOD
3801									1	6																			M13thC
4606							1	10																					13thC
5502																									1	24			18thC
5506					1	6																							RB
5903					1	22																							RB
5905											1	16																	L15thC
6801																									1	9			18thC
7004																											1	16	MOD
8004																			1	26									M16thC
8701																							1	6					L17thC
9006																									1	22			18thC
9805			1	3																									RB
10306																	1	2											L15thC
10310	1	6																											IA
10407													1	6															M15thC
10409			1	3																									RB
10504	2	5																											IA
Total	3	11	2	6	2	28	1	10	1	6	1	16	1	6	2	33	4	20	2	41	1	6	1	6	10	253	17	118	

8.3 Animal bone

8.3.1 A small assemblage of poorly preserved animal remains comprising 75 fragments and weighing 225gms was collected. A total of 11 fragments (approx. 15%) could be identified to taxon. Due to the similarities in skeletal morphologies of sheep and goats, the term ovicaprids was employed. Unidentifiable bone fragments were attributed to size categories where possible, including large mammal (cattle-sized) and medium sized (sheep-sized). All other remains were quantified as unidentified mammal. Identifications per fill/taxon are given in Table 3.

8.3.2 Fill (9006) of linear feature [9007] produced a fully fused ovicaprid metatarsus. This element showed excessive bone growth on the medial side, mainly anterior but also posterior, possible due to an infection.

8.3.3 Several horse teeth, predominately fragments of incisors, were retrieved from fills (9806) of ditch [9807] and (10209) of ditch [10210]. Cattle molars and a fragment of a first or second phalanx were identified from fill (10409) of ditch [10413].

8.3.4 No evidence for butchering, burning or carnivore gnawing was observed, possibly due to the high degree of fragmentation and abrasion. The research value of this assemblage is limited and discard is recommended.

Fill	Cattle	Horse	Ovicaprid	LM	MM	UM	Wt (g)
1902						5	1
3602						1	5
9006			1				35
9806		1				21	69
10209		5		4		22	62
10409	3		1	2	1	8	53

Table 3- NISP (number of identified specimens per taxon) per fill

8.4 Glass

8.4.1 Eight glass fragments were recovered from two contexts. The assemblage collectively weighed 577g. The glass was generally stable and in good condition.

Bottle glass

8.4.2 Two large bottle bases (x5 fragments) in dark olive-green glass came from context (3602). The bases were 86mm and 88mm in diameter and were from mouth-blown straight-sided cylindrical wine bottles with bulged heels and high conical kick-ups; they both probably dated from the early–mid-18th century.

Flat glass

8.4.3 Two small pieces of flat glass came from (1902). These vary between 1mm and 2mm thick and are both of self-coloured glass with a strong green tint. They likely originate from Post-medieval glazing.

Glass object

8.4.4 Part of a small glass object was recovered from context (1902). This comprised a roughly teardrop-shaped glass knob made of dark green almost opaque glass, which widened into a smooth rounded bulb at the larger end. The narrow end was broken off showing that the object was solid; the surface is pitted and shows some swirling degradation. The surviving length was 35mm.

8.4.5 It is possible this artefact was a stopper for a glass bottle or decanter. That this object is in dark green glass is unusual, as glass stoppers were more usually made to match self-coloured or colourless glass decanters or apothecary bottles. Early green-glass decanters were used from the mid-17th century, although these were little more than standard wine bottles with glass handles attached (Hume 2001: 198). They may have been sealed by simple stoppers of the same glass type. From 1720 onwards dark green glass was mainly used for wine and beer bottles, and decanters were generally being produced in lead glass, either colourless or in bright colours. In the 18th century, stoppers were typically topped with ball finials, followed by conical and disc-shaped tops which then became more decorative to match the increased ornamentation of the decanters, with facets or engraving (*ibid*: 200).

8.4.6 No other stoppers of comparable shape to this example have been identified, as stoppers were usually formed with a distinct neck separating the shank from the finial. This object is only broken off at the narrow end of the cone, which indicates that it lacked any type of finial at the broader end as would be usual. Teardrop-shaped stoppers have been used in the 20th century for perfume bottle stoppers, but no earlier examples have been identified.

8.4.7 Other possible interpretations for this object might be suggested; glass-handled utensils are not unknown (Corning Museum of Glass, CMOG: 81.3.121) although they are rare. Another possibility is that the object is a glass pestle, although it is very small for such a use and these are more usually made of harder lead glass. Three green glass pestles are recorded in the collections of the Science Museum, the smallest of which was 102mm long (SM: A657129). An opaque dark green 17th-century pestle, which had a more mushroom-shaped head, measured >131mm in length (CMOG 81.3.121). An example of more comparable length was a colourless probable pestle from London which was 74mm long (Museum of London, MoL: A27568/4).

8.5 Metal/Small Finds

8.5.1 A small group of eight iron small finds (*SF*) were recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits overlying Trenches 19, 38, 69, 70, 75 and 108. The assemblage dates to the c19th and 20th century and includes a complete horseshoe and a range of miscellaneous fragmentary fittings and nails.

8.5.2 The horseshoe <SF10801.1> is lightweight (219 g/7.7ounces), it would have been used as a riding shoe, rather than a draught shoe. It has a narrow web (just c20mm wide) with a rounded profile and the shape of the inside-edge mirrors that of the outside-edge. One branch is sharply tapered and terminates in a pointed heel (feathered-heel), a feature that prevents 'brushing' – when the horse strikes the inside of one leg with another. The other branch is thicker and terminates in broad wedge-shaped heel.

8.5.3 Fragmentary iron fittings are represented by, an eye bolt <SF7001.1>, a strap fragment <SF6901.1> and four nails <SF3801.1>, <SF7002.1>, <Context 1902>. The eye bolt <SF7001.1> is incomplete, it comprises a sturdy threaded bolt with a terminal loop, and such objects are used to attach/secure ropes or cables to structures or even farm equipment. The strap fragment <SF6901.1> is flat-sectioned and parallel-sided and it may have been used for binding a large item manufactured from wood. Finally, there are four incomplete nails that measure up to 60mm in length, all retain their heads, three have small flat heads and one has a large convex T-shaped head.

Finds catalogue:

<SF1902.1> Nail, iron. Incomplete, terminal of shank missing. Convex T-shaped head, same width as the rectangular-sectioned shank. L: c65mm, Trench 19, subsoil

<SF3801.1> Nail, iron. Incomplete, parts of shank have broken off.? Burred head with? Circular-sectioned shank. L (incomplete): 43mm, Trench 38, Context 3801, topsoil,

<SF6901.1> Strap fragment, iron. Incomplete, both terminals missing. Flat-sectioned parallel-sided strip slightly bent. Probably part of a binding strip for farming equipment. Measurements: 123 x 30mm Th: c2mm, Trench 69, Context 6901, Topsoil

<SF7001.1> Eye bolt, iron. Incomplete, terminal of shank missing. Cast circular eye with circular countersunk perforation, vestige of threaded shank/bolt protruding from one side. Head – W: 40mm, Trench 70, Context 7001, topsoil,

<SF7002.1> Nails x 2, iron. Trench 70, Context 7002, subsoil,

i) Incomplete, terminal of shank missing. Sub-circular head with circular-sectioned shank. L:60mm
ii) Incomplete. Short stubby nail with flat head and tapered circular-sectioned shank. L:27mm

<SF7501.1> Unidentifiable object. Small tapered fragment with convex upper surface and concave underside. Measurements: 59 x 30mm, Trench 75, Context 7501, topsoil,

<SF10801.1> Horseshoe, iron. Complete, displays signs of wear and the nails holes not evident because so corrosion deposits. It has been made from a narrow band of metal, the outer-edge rounded, inner-edge rounded and vertical. One branch is slightly thickened and terminates in a wedge-shaped heel; the other is sharply tapered and terminates in a pointed heel. Shoe does not appear to be fullered. Date: 19th-20th century. Size: 4 ½ x 4 ½ inches, WGT: 219g (7.7 ounces)

8.6 Clay Tobacco Pipe

8.6.1 Several fragments of Clay Tobacco Pipe were retrieved from site weighing a total of 43g. The fragments consisted of stem pieces with no decoration. The bulk of pieces were retrieved from Furrow [1903], constituting 35g to the overall weight. All other pieces were retrieved from Topsoil or Subsoil contexts. The fragments are currently in processing to determine any further details that may contribute to the understanding of Site.

Context	Stem	Weight (g)	Bore hole size
TR52 topsoil	1	2	5/64ths
1902	1	2	5/64ths
1902	3	7	6/64ths
1902	6	23	7/64ths
1902	1	3	8/64ths
5502	1	2	4/64ths
7002	1	5	6/64ths
7801	1	3	6/64ths
TOTAL	**15**	**47**	

Table 4: Clay tobacco pipe type, number and weight

8.6.2 Bore hole size can be used to approximate a date range as the size of the holes reduced over time with changing techniques and the use of finer wire. However, it is not exact and should be taken as more of a guide than definitive. Most of this assemblage shows bore holes of 7/64ths and 6/64ths of an inch, indicating a date range around the late 17th to 18th century.

8.7 Clay Building Material (CBM)

8.7.1 A very small collection of 36 (1.31kg) ceramic building fragments (CBM) was recovered (Table 5). All brick, drain and tile were post-medieval or later in date and were all much abraded. None of the brick fragments had any measurable thicknesses. It is very likely that most, if not all, of the material derived from manure scatters. It is recommended that all CBM fragments are discarded.

	Brick	Tile	Fired clay/daub	Drain	Total
No of fragments	16	14	5	1	36
Weight (g)	428	710	30	141	1309
No of contexts	7	8	4	1	-

Table 5- Clay Building Material by type, number and weight

The material comprised:

Brick

- Context (501). One fragment (71g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval
- Context (1902). One fragment (54g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval
- Context (2801). One fragment (107g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval
- Context (3602). Nine fragments (220g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval
- Context (5502). Two fragments of probable brick (27g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval +
- Context (6901). One fragment of brick (14g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Has a frog. Modern
- Context (9201). One fragment of probable brick (24g) in a hard orange sandy fabric. Post-medieval

Post Medieval Tile

- Context (1902). Seven fragments (305g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised. They are between 14-18mm thick
- Context (2081). One fragment (123g) in a hard orange sandy fabric which is fully oxidised. It is 19mm thick
- Context (3602). One fragment of probable tile (11g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised
- Context (5304). One fragment (34g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised. It is 13mm thick
- Context (5502). One fragment (35g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised. It is 13mm thick
- Context (5901). One fragment of probable tile (36g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised
- Context (7706). One fragment (128g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised. It is

17mm thick

- Context (12101). One fragment (38g) in a hard orange sandy which is fully oxidised. It is 15mm thick

Undiagnostic Daub/ Fired Clay

- Context (3301). One fragment (6g) in an orange sandy fabric with very small stone inclusions
- Context (5905). One fragment (14g) in an orange sandy
- Context (9805). Two fragments (6g) in an orange sandy fabric which has been burnt
- Context (12101). One fragment (4g) in an orange sandy

Sewage Drain

- Context (7104). One fragment of salt glazed sewer pipe (141g). Mid/late 19th to early 20th century.

8.8 The fired clay

8.8.1 A total of 47 fragments of fired clay, weighing 252g, were recovered from fill (10409), including 38 fragments from sample <10409.1>. All fragments were of a similar dark lightweight fabric with quartz inclusions and a buff surface. Most were amorphous in shape and showed impressions indicating the previous presence of organic material, such as grass and chaff. One fragment had two small perpendicular oxidised surfaces surviving suggesting a corner shape. However, not enough of the surfaces or the fragment have survived to determine the original overall shape or function. The clay had likely been fired to very high temperatures to achieve its lightweight consistency.

8.8.2 One fragment of reduced amorphous fired clay weighing 3g was recovered from sample <8804.1>, fill (8804). This fragment is recommended for discard. Due to the fragmentation and amorphous nature of the assemblage, it is not possible to determine whether the fragments recovered relate to a structure or any kind of firing process at the site.

8.9 Environmental samples

8.9.1 A total of 9 environmental soil samples comprising 330 litres were submitted for paleoenvironmental analysis. The samples were processed at MOLA Northampton through bulk flotation. The flots and residues were sorted using a desk magnifier; analysis was carried out using a low-power binocular microscope with a maximum magnification of 40x.

8.9.2 The identified macrofossils per fill are given in Table 6. Fills (10409) of ring ditch [10413] and (5404) of ditch [5405] produced few fragments of wheat (*Triticum* sp.), of which some could be identified as emmer or spelt (*T. dicoccum/spelta*). Fill (3102) of pit [3103] produced few fragments of cereal grains which were too fragmented and abraded for identification.

8.9.3 The remainder of the assemblage consists of dewatered seeds of common herbs and weeds, including goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*). A single possible fragment of a charred parsley-piert seed (*Aphanes* sp.) was observed from fill (10310) of ditch [10311].

8.9.4 Varying quantities of charcoal were present in all fills, some fills produced small quantities of unidentifiable, calcined bone.

8.9.5 No further work is required on this assemblage, discard is recommended for all materials unless radiocarbon dating is required.

Fill	**10409**	**3102**	**5304**	**5404**	**7603**	**8804**	**9106**	**9805**	**10310**
Vol (L)	10	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Cereal grains									
Triticum diccocum/spelta	Xc			Xc/cfXc					
Triticum sp.	Xc								
Grain indet		Xc							
Herbs/weeds									
Aphanes sp.									cfXc
Chenopodium sp.	Xdw		XXXdw	XXXdw					
Fallopia convolvulus		Xdw	Xdw	Xdw			XXdw		
Polygonaceae sp.		Xdw				Xdw			

Table 6: Environmental samples identified macrofossils

8.10 Test Pitting Samples

8.10.1 Exploratory test pits were excavated at each trench location to recover artefacts from the topsoil and upper subsoil horizons. Three test pits were excavated at each trench location: one at each end and one in the centre. This gives a total of 375 test pits. Samples were recovered using the mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and placed on plastic sheeting adjacent to the pit.

8.10.2 Nineteen of the trenches produced artefacts from test pitting as indicated below in Table 7. Additional fragments were retrieved from other trenches but were too small for analysis.

Table 7- Test-pit sampling finds

Field 43

Trench	**Context**	**Material/type**	**Detail**	**Date/period**
52	5201 (Topsoil)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	1 x stem frag	Late 18th/19th century
53	5301 (Topsoil)	Pottery	1 x Chinese Porcelain	17th to 19th century

55	5502 (Subsoil)	Clay Building Material	2 x brick frag	Post-Medieval
55	5502 (Subsoil)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	1 x stem frag	Late 18th/ 19th century
59	5901 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	2x frag tile	Post-Medieval
69	6901 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	1x brick frag	Post-medieval
69	6901 (Topsoil)	Fe Object	1x Fe Strap	Post-medieval/ modern
70	7001 (Topsoil)	Fe object	1x Fe Eye bolt	Modern
70	7002 (Subsoil)	Fe Object	1x Nails	Modern
71	7104 (Colluvium)	Clay Brick Material	1x frag glazed sewer pipe	Mid/late 19th to early 20th century
75	7501 (Topsoil)	Fe Object	1x Fe object- Unidentified	Post-medieval/ Modern
78	7801 (Topsoil)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	1x stem frag	Late 18th/19th century
80	8001 (Topsoil)	Clay Tobacco Pipe	1x stem frag	Late 18th/ 19th century
85	8501 (Topsoil)	Pottery	1x pot sherd	Modern
87	8701 (Topsoil)	Pottery	1x pot sherd	Modern
92	9201 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	1x brick frag	Post-medieval

Field 44

Trench	Context	Material/type	Detail	Date/period
108	10801 (Topsoil))	Fe Object	1x Fe horseshoe	Post-medieval/ modern
121	12101 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	1x tile fragment	Post-medieval

Field 46

Trench	Context	Material/type	Detail	Date/period
33	3301 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	1 x frag undiagnostic daub/ fired clay	Unidentified
38	3801 (Topsoil)	Pottery	1 x sherd of Potterspury Ware	AD1250 - 1600

Field 50

Trench	Context	Material/type	Detail	Date/period
5	5001 (Topsoil)	Clay Building Material	1 x brick fragment	Post-medieval

9 Assessment and interpretation of results

9.1.1 The archaeological evaluation at Welsh Road (C32051) revealed a small collection of finds and features, which were predominantly located in the south-eastern part of site. The artefactual assemblages spanning from the Iron Age to the early modern era are small and mostly residual. They do, however, indicate that the area has been populated and the land worked over a long, and possibly continuous, timespan.

9.1.2 The Iron Age/ Roman roundhouses and linear features identified In Field 43 are probably associated with a settlement extending further to the southeast. This comprised three possible roundhouses and smaller curvilinear stock areas as well as a possible trackway or ditch running northwest–southeast, to the southwest of the roundhouses. A rectilinear enclosure towards the centre of site confirmed the presence of a possible farmstead/settlement, identified in the geophysical survey.

9.1.3 The archaeology was predominantly located in Field 43, with only a small boundary in Field 44 and a few pits in Field 46. There was, however, a clear indication of Medieval to modern agricultural practices throughout site, in the form of cultivation furrows. The area was clearly used for arable farming in the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods, probably associated with the nearby village of Boddington. The land appears to have continued to be used for agricultural activities to the present day, with a shift from arable to pastoral farming.

10 Consideration of Results in their Wider Context

10.1.1 The Site is located in Northamptonshire, within the Greatworth to Lower Boddington Community Forum Area (CFA15) in an area of identified Romano-British, prehistoric and medieval activity overlooking the valley and floodplain of the River Cherwell to the south.

10.1.2 The results of the archaeological evaluation at Welsh Road can be seen to conform to the pattern of human activity in this general context, although admittedly mostly on the fringes.

10.1.3 The remains identified on site during the archaeological evaluation are primarily of local significance and have a somewhat limited impact on the understanding of human activity on the Site and its environs.

10.1.4 Although human presence on the site has not left a sizeable mark on the landscape, human activity is represented from the Iron Age and Roman and Medieval and Post-Medieval periods.

10.1.5 The Iron Age/Roman settlement identified to the eastern part of the Site, although appearing rather isolated, could be seen as an indication of a dispersed settlement in farmsteads. The continuation of the activity into the Roman period is also suggested by the possible multi-ditched enclosure to the centre of site.

10.1.6 This dispersed settlement pattern is supported by the existence of cropmarks that have been identified immediately south-west of the Site (GLB208/MNN4101) and north-west of Boddington Road. Another known cropmark site is located 300m south of the site (GLB208/MNN4150). This could play a part when considering patterns of growth of such settlements in similar settings.

10.1.7 The medieval and post-medieval finds, although again of minor significance, can still perhaps assist in understanding the continuation of the rural/agricultural character of an area within the immediate vicinity of the village of Lower Boddington.

11 Scheme Impacts

11.1.1 The provisional results of trial trenching at Welsh road (C32051) indicate that the south-eastern corner and towards the western end of Field 43 have potential to contribute to specific objectives KC10, KC15, KC18, KC19 and KC21. Further work is necessary to build upon the evaluation findings.

11.1.2 Three potential roundhouses in the south-eastern corner of Field 43 were identified, in addition to stock areas that were confirmed as Iron Age to Roman in date. A speculative trackway in the same vicinity and the rectilinear enclosure towards the western extent of Field 43 produced Romano-British pottery. A multi-ditched enclosure with possible inner features located to the west of field 43 could be Roman in date. Further investigation of these areas

will add to the corpus of knowledge on Iron Age and Roman settlement activity in the region. MHI would recommend mitigation in these areas in order to achieve this.

11.1.3 No further archaeological fieldwork is recommended in Fields 44, 46 and 50 (C32051) due to the paucity of archaeological features identified there and the low potential of gaining meaningful information from further works.

12 Evaluation of methodology used

12.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised 125trial trenches across the Site. This represents approximately 4% of the total site area and was judged to be a suitable mitigation.

12.1.2 All the archaeological features and deposits were relatively shallow. The contractor is confident that all the surviving archaeological evidence was successfully identified.

12.1.3 All features and deposits were successfully excavated under guidance set out in Section 3.3 in the Interim Report (Doc no: 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000006).

12.1.4 Artefactual retrieval was solely by hand excavation, which was successful in providing a small assemblage of dating evidence, largely in the form of ceramics.

13 Statement of Archaeological Potential

13.1.1 The archaeological trial trenching at Welsh Road (C32006) revealed a relatively small number of archaeological finds and features. The Iron Age/Roman ditches potentially represent one rural settlement to the east. The continuation of activity into the Roman period is also represented by a possible multi-ditched enclosure to the centre of site. The area was clearly used for arable farming and grazing in the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods, probably associated with the nearby village of Lower Boddington to the south-east. The land appears to have continued to be used for agricultural activities up to the present day, with a shift from arable to pastoral farming.

13.1.2 The extent to which the evaluation of the site can answer the HERDS objectives as set out in the Project Plan is addressed below:

Table 8- Contribution to specific objectives - Knowledge Creation

Specific Objective	Contribution
KC10: Provide further understanding of the transition between a mobile pattern of settlement in the Early Bronze Age to the development of fixed settlement and enclosure, in the Middle and Late Bronze Age.	Although no Bronze Age features or finds have been recorded within the Site, it is possible that the two or three areas of possible settlement within the Site contain evidence for Bronze Age activity. Iron Age settlements elsewhere within England occasionally exhibit a small, earlier presence. Features of Iron Age period were identified in the south-eastern area of site which suggests Bronze Age origins for the area of

	settlement and contribute to our understanding of the development of static settlement during this period.
KC15: Can we identify regional patterns in the form and location of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement across the route, and are there associated differences in landscape organisation and enclosure?	Geophysical survey has identified two or three key areas of highly likely later prehistoric (late Bronze Age/Iron Age) or Roman settlement within the Site. Further investigation of these areas and their constituent features attributed a possible date of late prehistoric to Roman. Several of the features in the south-eastern area of site respect the roundhouse layouts of those further southeast. As such, the evaluation has the potential to inform our understanding of regional patterns of settlement in the Iron Age, and possibly Late Bronze Age, and offer indication for any differences in organisation and layout. Iron Age/Roman features were identified during evaluation works. These are probably associated with settlement activity continuing southeast of the site, but they shed little light on regional patterns or differences in landscape organisation and enclosure.
KC16: Investigate the degree of continuity that existed between Late Bronze Age and Iron Age communities in terms of population, mobility and subsistence strategies.	Potential exists for the prehistoric settlement areas within the Site to have Bronze Age origins, remaining and expanding in use during the subsequent Iron Age. Evaluation to the south-east of Site attributed an Iron Age date to several features. Further evidence suggests a number of nucleated settlements or farmsteads within the vicinity, some of which may exhibit Bronze Age origins and provide an insight into settlement continuity. Iron Age/Roman features were identified during evaluation works. These are probably associated with settlement activity continuing southeast of the site, but they shed little light communities in terms of population, mobility and subsistence strategies.
KC18: Explore the evidence for increasing social complexity in the archaeological record in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, and to identify patterns of intra-regional and regional variation.	The later prehistoric or Roman settlement areas within the Site have the potential to inform our understanding of contemporary social complexity through analysis of archaeological features and artefacts. The results of this analysis can then be compared with other similar sites encountered along the route in order to determine any patterns of regional variation. Iron Age/Roman features were identified during evaluation works. These are probably associated with

	settlement activity to the south of the site but did not provide evidence for increasing social complexity in the archaeological record in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age or identify patterns of intra-regional and regional variation.
KC19: The Romano-British period saw the beginning of a more established infrastructure network. Can we investigate the development of these routes, trackways and roads and the influence they had on landscape change?	Roman or earlier origin of Banbury/Welsh Road (GLB115) is proposed and this bisects part of the Site. There is evidence of Roman settlement adjacent to this road further south for which may suggest that there could be further Roman activity within the Site. A speculative trackway was investigated, which dated Roman aligning NE-SW, running away from the Iron Age/Roman roundhouses. If proven this may help interpret further information on landscape change through an infrastructure network.
KC21: Assess the evidence for regional and cultural distinctiveness along the length of the route in the Romano-British period, with particular regard to the different settlement types encountered along the route.	The settlement areas identified within the Site may feasibly date to the Roman period or exhibit some continuation into this period from the preceding Iron Age. It is perhaps more likely that the rectilinear enclosure in the centre of the Site has a late Iron Age or Roman date, but this is not certain. Should evidence of Roman occupation be encountered, this would contribute to our understanding of settlement types and patterns along the route, through analysis of layout, activities and artefacts. The rectilinear in the centre of site produce Romano-British dating pottery, which was also found in the potential trackway in the south-east area of site. In the same area possible roundhouses were identified and dated as Iron Age. The confirmation of archaeological feature of Romano-British period preceding Iron Age will improve the understanding of Roman occupation within South Northamptonshire
KC40: Identify patterns of change within medieval rural settlement from the 11th to mid-14th century.	The Site was probably located in the parish of Upper Boddington in the medieval period and was likely used as agricultural land at the edge of the parish. It is likely that the medieval settlement of Upper Boddington was located c. 1km east of the Site and Lower Boddington was located 1.3km south-east of the Site. A boundary bank was also located at the north-western edge of the Site and this may represent a parish boundary of medieval date or even a late Saxon manorial boundary bank.

	Ridge and furrow agricultural activity representing at least two phases was identified above and below ground at the site, and a small assemblage of pottery was recovered dating between AD1470 to modern period, unfortunately no datable evidence was retrieved from the bank.
KC47: Test and develop geophysical survey methodologies.	N/A.

14 Publication and Dissemination Proposals

14.1.1 Publication of the results of this fieldwork will be undertaken at an appropriate time as determined by HS2 Ltd.

15 Archive Deposition

15.1.1 The Site archive containing original records will be stored in accordance with the Historic Environment Physical Archive Strategy and Procedure (HS2-HS2-EV-STR-000-000018 and HS2-HS2-EV-STD-000-000039). Hs2 has not yet determined how the archive from the fieldwork will be archived, but final deposition of the archive will be determined by HS2 Ltd.

15.1.2 All retained finds and archaeo-environmental samples will be treated and conserved in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document, A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds (1995) and the UKIC's document, Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (1990).

15.1.3 A summary of information from the project has been entered onto the OASIS online databases of archaeological projects in Britain.

16 Acknowledgements

16.1.1 MOLA personnel:

Project Manager	Jim McKeon
Project Officer	Paulo Clemente and Susan Porter
Site Supervisor	Sara Farey, Paige Savage

Field Archaeologists	Claire Holubowskyi, Joan Dols Fernandez, and Andrea Bonci
Surveyor	Andrew Knight, Letisha Service
Geomatics	Catherine Drew and Diego Rodrigo Maganto
Pottery (all)	Paul Blinkhorn
Glass	Claire Finn
Metal/ SF's	Tora Hylton
Clay tobacco pipe	Jenny McNulty
Animal Bone	Sander Aerts
Clay building material	Rob Atkins
Environmental remains	Sander Aerts
Finds & Environmental processing team	Robert Pearce, Donna-Maria Brady, Simona Falanga, Malo Vannet

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HS2 AWHf Route-wide Project Plan for Woodland	1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-C000-000007
HS2 Central Environmental Statement and Supplementary Environmental Statements	HS2 ES 3.5.2.15.7 ES 5.2.15.5 ES 5.2.16.5
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Appendix 1: Context Register

FIELD	TRENCH	CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	ARTIFACTUAL REMINS	WIDTH	DEPTH	DISCUSSION
43	100	10003	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.47	0.12	Shallow fill of ditch, distinct from natural (no leaching etc). No finds nor dating.
43	100	10004	Ditch	Cut		0.47	0.12	Shallow scoop-like cut. Defined undulating form. No finds nor dating.
43	100	10005	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.35	0.16	Homogenous fill of shallow ditch. No finds nor dating. Some mixing with natural in the upper areas of fill.
43	100	10006	Ditch	Cut		0.35	0.16	Asymmetric cut of ditch, some mixing but largely distinct from natural. No dating.
43	45	4503	Disturbed Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.4	0.05	Fill disturbed ditch [4504]
43	45	4504	Disturbed Ditch	Cut		0.4	0.05	Cut of disturbed ditch
43	46	4604	Linear ditch	Fill or deposit		1.17	0.2	Small linear ditch, potential plough scar. Pottery recovered.
43	46	4605	Linear ditch	Cut		1.17	0.2	Cut of possible plough scar, irregular shape
43	46	4606	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	0.94	0.13	Part of a possible ditch system. Found one piece of pottery in this context.
43	46	4607	Ditch	Cut		0.94	0.13	Possible ditch or, potentially a furrow. Very silty regular shows as unknown on geophysical survey
43	54	5403	Boundary Ditch	Fill or deposit		1	0.12	Primary fill, no finds
43	54	5404	Boundary Ditch	Cut		1	0.12	Gradual, U-shaped cut
43	54	5406	Ditch	Fill or deposit		2.44	0.21	Primary fill, no finds
43	54	5407	Ditch	Cut		2.44	0.21	Gradual, U-shaped cut
43	55	5504	Small linear	Fill or deposit		1.32	0.3	A small linear ditch to the east of a larger boundary [5509]
43	55	5505	Small linear	Cut		1.32	0.3	Has only one fill. Perhaps linked to the larger enclosure ditch next to it [5509].

43	55	5506	Linear ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	0.17	0.05	
43	55	5507	Linear ditch	Cut		0.17	0.05	Cut of ditch
43	55	5508	Linear	Fill or deposit	CBM	2.4	0.4	Main fill of enclosure ditch [5509] with just a piece of CBM. Natural silting.
43	55	5509	Linear	Cut		2.4	0.4	Cut of enclosure ditch with one fill (5508). Axis runs roughly N-S
43	56	5603	Small Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.38	0.26	No finds were found in situ, no natural inclusions as well.
43	56	5604	Small Ditch	Cut		0.38	0.26	Fairly small ditch which continues outside the trench from the East to the West. Cannot be seen in TR059 which is a few metres to the East, so possibly ending before it. No finds were found in situ.
43	56	5605	Linear trench	Fill or deposit		2.9	0.15	Fill of [5606]
43	56	5606	Linear trench	Cut		2.9	0.15	Linear feature
43	56	5607	Linear	Fill or deposit		1.3	0.13	Main fill of ditch [5608] with no finds. A storm pipe runs along on a NW-SE direction, on the N side of the ditch.
43	56	5608	Linear	Cut		1.3	0.13	Cut of ditch with one fill (5607) and no finds. Axis runs roughly E-W. Storm pipe runs in a NW-SE direction.
43	57	5703	Ditch	Fill or deposit		2.14	0.12	No finds nor inclusions, no dating
43	57	5704	Ditch	Cut		2.14	0.12	Continuation of ditch running NW-SE from Trench 45
43	59	5903	Linear	Fill or deposit	Pot	3	0.2	Main fill of ditch [5904] with pot. Natural silting. Storm pipe runs along on a NW-SE direction.
43	59	5904	Linear	Cut		3	0.2	Cut of ditch with one fill (5903) with pot. Runs along roughly on a E-W axis. Storm pipe runs along roughly on a NW-SE direction
43	59	5905	Furrow	Fill or deposit		2.04	0.15	Part of the furrow that extends roughly east to west. Part of a system of furrows in the area.
43	59	5906	Furrow	Cut	CBM and Pot	2.04	0.15	Only has one fill. (5905). Is a shallow but long feature.
43	61	6104	Tree Bole	Fill or deposit	CBM	0	0.48	Fill highly variable, with distinct root disturbance to the NE and in the centre. Infrequent flecks of charcoal and undercutting fill to the NE edge suggest the feature is a tree.
43	61	6105	Tree Bole	Cut		0	0.48	Irregular cut, with smooth U-shaped edge to the SW starkly contrasting with irregular & undercut almost vertical edge to

								the NE. Boundaries merging with natural throughout the feature.
43	67	6703	Boundary Ditch	Fill or deposit		1.02	0.18	No artefactual or natural inclusions in situ aside from very tiny natural stones. Fill was fairly sterile.
43	67	6704	Boundary Ditch	Cut		1.02	0.18	No finds. Ditch that is part of the boundary system that can be seen in Trenches 54, 55, 56 and 59.
43	68	6804	Boundary Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.69	0.23	Fill was fairly sterile, no finds. Appears to be redeposited natural, as similar to the surrounding natural aside from being a bit darker and having silt.
43	68	6805	Boundary Ditch	Cut		0.69	0.23	On geophysics the ditch is part of the same boundary system that appears in trenches 56 and 59 but has a break before continuing of which can be seen here in this trench. It has been cut by a modern land just outside of the slot that was excavated. No finds were found in situ and the fill was sterile.
43	68	6806	Ditch	Fill or deposit		2.7	0.2	Disturbed to the N edge of feature by likely rooting (infrequent flecks of charcoal limited to this area). No finds nor dating.
43	68	6807	Ditch	Cut		2.7	0.2	Disturbed by rooting event to the N, margins clear to the S edge of feature.
43	70	7004	Boundary Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	1.16	0.50	Primary fill of boundary, pottery found.
43	70	7005	Boundary Ditch	Cut		1.16	0.50	Gradual, V-shaped cut
43	70	7006	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.70	0.11	Primary fill of ditch, no finds
43	70	7007	Ditch	Cut		0.70	0.11	Gradual, U-shaped
43	72	7204	Furrow	Fill or deposit		1.89	0.2	Primary fill of furrow, no finds nor dating.
43	72	7205	Furrow	Cut		1.89	0.2	Single furrow perpendicular to trench. No finds nor dating. Largely regular shape, slightly deeper to the W edge.
43	73	7304	Furrow	Fill or deposit		2.1	0.16	Primary fill of furrow, no finds nor dating
43	73	7305	Furrow	Cut		2.1	0.16	Cut of furrow running perpendicular to trench. Edges merging with natural to the sides, but clearer with the base (natural below blue-tinged).
43	73	7306	Furrow	Fill or deposit		1.2	0.2	Main fill of furrow [7307] with no finds. Natural silting.
43	73	7307	Furrow	Cut		1.2	0.2	Cut of furrow with one fill (7306) and no finds. Axis runs roughly on a N-S direction.

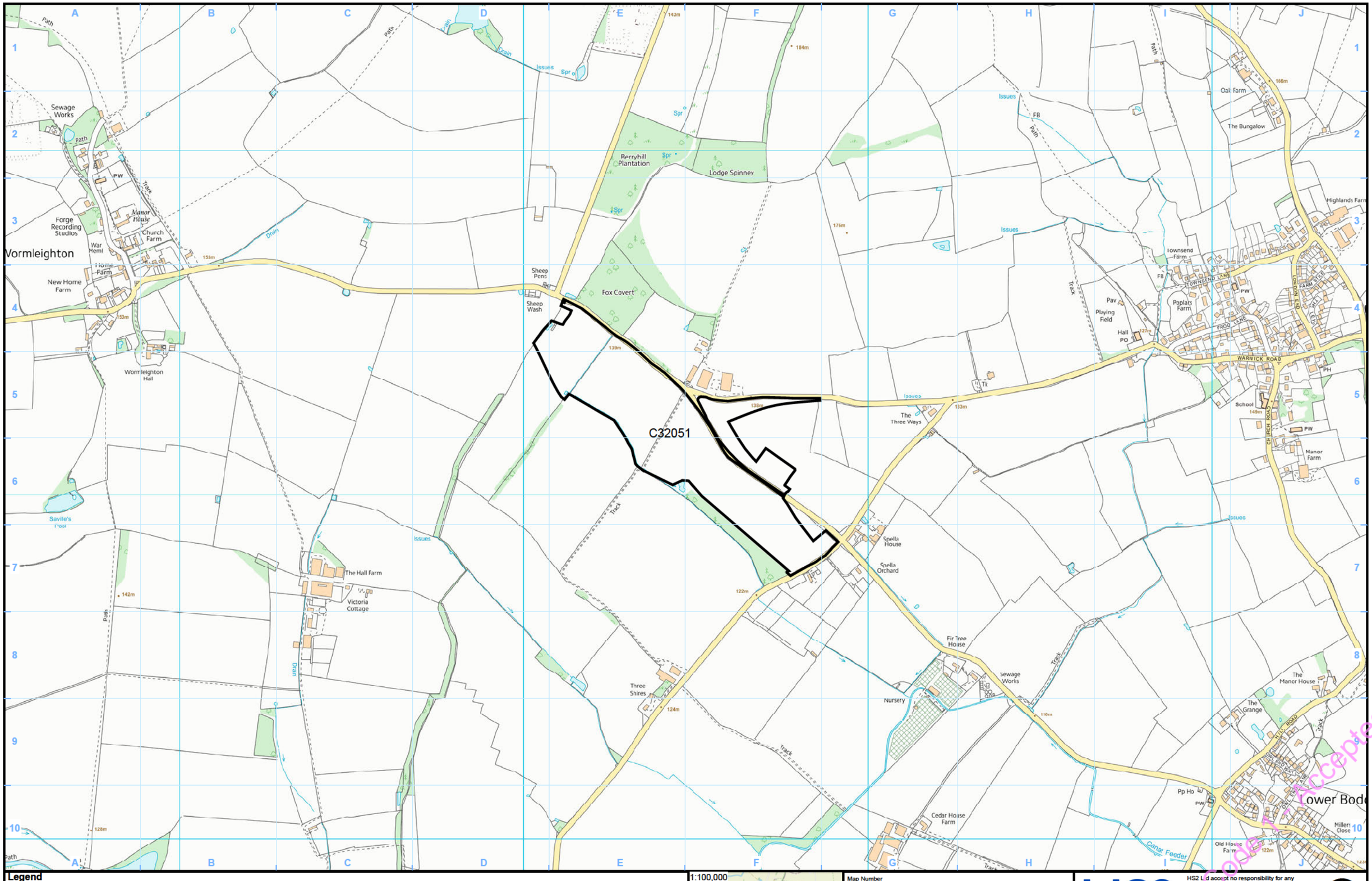
43	75	7503	Furrow	Fill or deposit		0.9	0.35	Primary fill of furrow, significant disturbance with natural. Not fully excavated to the N margin due to flooding.
43	75	7504	Furrow	Cut		0.9	0.35	Shallow furrow with significant mixing with natural. Clear base with true natural.
43	76	7603	Furrow	Fill or deposit		2.25	0.15	Main fill of furrow [7604] with no finds. Natural silting.
43	76	7604	Furrow	Cut		2.25	0.15	Cut of furrow with one fill (7603) and no finds. Axis runs roughly E-W.
43	77	7704	Furrow	Fill or deposit		1.7	0.1	Main fill of furrow [7705] with no finds. Natural silting.
43	77	7705	Furrow	Cut		1.7	0.1	Cut of furrow with one fill (7704). Axis runs roughly SW-NE.
43	77	7706	Furrow	Fill or deposit	CBM	1.43	0.3	Severely disturbed/mixed fill of furrow. Edges to the sides clear, with significant leaching from grey-blue natural clay to the base.
43	77	7707	Furrow	Cut		1.43	0.3	Clear edges to the sides, severely diffused boundary to the base. Furrow possibly re-ploughed due to extent of mixing
43	78	7803	Furrow	Fill or deposit		1.6	0.03	Main fill of furrow [7804] with no finds. Natural silting.
43	78	7804	Furrow	Cut		1.6	0.03	Cut of furrow with one fill (7803) and no finds. Axis runs roughly N-S.
43	89	8904	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	1.37	0.23	Upper fill, pot found
43	89	8905	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.54	0.17	Lower fill
43	89	8906	Ditch	Cut		1.37	0.40	Cut of ditch, V-shaped gradual sloping
43	98	9804	Ditch	Fill or deposit		2.4	0.05	Top fill, natural silting
43	98	9805	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot and CBM	1.8	0.2	Natural silting most likely washed in during times of heavy rain
43	98	9806	Ditch	Fill or deposit		2.46	0.32	Natural silting with manganese inclusions throughout
43	98	9807	Ditch	Cut		3.22	0.68	Cut of Ditch, gradual sloping irregular shape
43	10	10304	Modern Linear	Fill or deposit		1.59	0.08	
43	103	10305	Modern Linear	Cut		1.59	0.08	
43	103	10306	Furrow	Fill or deposit	Pot	0.90	0.14	
43	103	10307	Furrow	Cut		0.90	0.14	

43	103	10308	Furrow	Fill or deposit		0.93	0.14	
43	103	10309	Furrow	Cut		0.93	0.14	
43	103	10310	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	1.56	0.32	
43	103	10311	Ditch	Cut		1.56	0.32	
43	104	10404	Ditch	Fill or deposit				Fill, most likely hillwash
43	104	10405	Ditch	Fill or deposit		1.05	0.07	Fill, main silted fill of ditch
43	104	10406	Ditch	Cut		1.02	0.26	U-shaped, concaved cut
43	104	10407	Furrow	Fill or deposit	Pot	2.60	0.24	Silted fill of furrow
43	104	10408	Furrow	Cut		2.60	0.24	Shallow, gradual sloping cut
43	104	10409	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot/ A. Bone/ Fired Clay	1.6	0.29	Potential manual backfill
43	104	10410	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.85	0.18	Fill of ditch
43	104	10411	Ditch	Fill or deposit		0.60	0.27	Natural Silting
43	104	10412	Ditch	Fill or deposit		1.4	0.12	Natural Silting
43	104	10413	Ditch	Cut		1.6	0.60	Gradual V-shape
43	105	10503	Ditch	Fill or deposit	Pot	1.24	0.57	Silted over time
43	105	10504	Ditch	Cut		1.24	0.57	Gradual sloping, with irregular base
44	108	10802	Deposit, likely hedge clearance/rooting.	Fill or deposit		4.12	0.13	
44	108	10803	Furrow	Fill or deposit		2.88	0.16	
44	108	10804	Furrow	Cut		2.88	0.16	
44	108	10805	Furrow	Fill or deposit		2.3	0.05	Main fill of furrow [10806] with no finds. Natural silting.
44	108	10806	Furrow	Cut		2.3	0.05	Cut of furrow with one fill (10805) and no finds. Axis runs roughly SE-NW

44	110	11002	Linear ditch	Fill or deposit		1.1	0.06	Main fill of an old boundary [11003] with no finds. Natural silting.
44	110	11003	Linear ditch	Cut		1.1	0.06	Cut of an old boundary with one fill (11002) and no finds. Axis runs roughly N-S
44	120	12002	Linear ditch	Fill or deposit		0.6	0.06	
44	120	12003	Linear ditch	Cut		0.6	0.06	
46	15	1502	Bank	Fill or deposit		3	0.08	Deposit of spoil with a piece of CBM. Artificial silting.
46	19	1902	Furrow	Fill or deposit	Pot/ A. Bone/Glass/CTP/CBM	6	0.14	Fill of furrow [1903] with pot, CBM, bone, glass, clay pipe and a possible worked stone. Natural silting.
46	19	1903	Furrow	Cut		6	0.14	Cut of furrow with one fill (1902) and with pot, CBM, bones, glass, clay pipe and a possible worked stone. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.
46	21	2102	Furrow	Fill or deposit		4.7	0.05	Main fill of furrow [2103] with no finds. Natural silting.
46	21	2103	Furrow	Cut		4.7	0.05	Cut of furrow with one fill (2102) and no finds. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.
46	22	2202	Furrow	Fill or deposit		4.2	0.1	Main fill of furrow [2203] with no finds. Natural silting.
46	22	2203	Furrow	Cut		4.2	0.1	Cut of furrow with one fill (2202) and no finds. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.
46	23	2302	Furrow	Fill or deposit	CBM	2.5	0.05	Main fill of furrow [2303] with a couple of fragments of CBM. Natural silting.
46	23	2303	Furrow	Cut		2.5	0.05	Cut of furrow with one fill (2302) and a couple of fragments of cbm. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.
46	24	2403	Furrow	Fill or deposit	Pot	1.06	0.1	Post med pot found
46	24	2404	Furrow	Cut		1.06	0.1	Cut of furrow running diagonally along trench - only half sectioned as it extended into the baulk
46	27	2072	Pit	Fill or deposit		0.6	0.1	Main fill of pit [2703] with no finds. Natural silting.
46	27	2703	Pit	Cut		0.6	0.1	Cut of pit with one fill (2702) and no finds. Circular shape. Main axis runs roughly N-S.
46	29	2902	Furrow	Fill or deposit	CBM	0	0.1	Main fill of furrow [2903] with a couple of fragments of cbm. Natural silting.
46	29	2903	Furrow	Cut		0	0.1	Cut of furrow with one fill (2902) with a couple of fragments of cbm. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.

46	30	3003	Bank	Fill or deposit		2.2	0.23	It extends NW/SE and is caught at the edge of this trench, so the SW edge of bank is unknown. The bank extends for roughly half of field 46 and is a visible bump in the ground. Likely modern, no finds. Full profile visible in tr15.
46	31	3102	Pit	Fill or deposit		0	0.07	Only fill of pit and it is most likely naturally silted. No apparent link to archaeology in the area with no other features in this trench. Very shallow.
46	31	3103	Pit	Cut		0	0.07	A small circular pit that is steep it's SW side and more gradual on its NE
46	32	3202	Furrow	Fill or deposit		3.05	0.05	Main fill of furrow [3203] with CBM. Natural silting.
46	32	3203	Furrow	Cut		3.05	0.05	Cut of furrow with one fill (3202) and with CBM. Axis runs roughly NE-SW.
46	36	3602	Modern deposit pit	Fill or deposit	CBM/Pot	1.84	0.7	A pit like dump of a single action to create a modern fill composing of glass, pottery, bone and brick. It is of irregular shape and holds a lot of natural iron stone.
46	99	99002	Pit	Fill or deposit		0	0.07	Main fill of pit [9903] with no finds. Natural silting.
46	99	9903	Pit	Cut		0	0.07	Cut of pit with one fill (9902) and no finds. Oval shape. Longer axis runs roughly N-S.
46	99	9904	Small pit	Fill or deposit		0	0.05	A circular small pit that is next to a slightly larger pit. A shallow Pit that only contains one fill. Most likely natural siltation with no finds.
46	99	9905	Small pit	Cut		0	0.05	Only contains one fill and is part of a sequence of 2 pits in this trench. The other pit is slightly larger than this one.

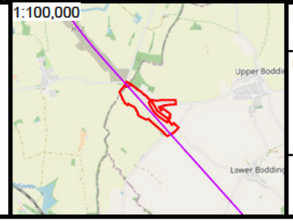
Appendix 2: Figures



Legend

Project Plan Area

1:100,000



Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 1 Site Location

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

HS2

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Registered office: 2 Snowhill, Queensway, Birmingham B4 6GA.

Scale at A3: 1:10,000

0 100 200 300 400
Metres

Doc Number: Figure 1

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 07/04/21

Field 50

Field 46

Field 44

Field 43

C32051

TR001 TR002 TR003 TR004 TR005 TR006 TR007 TR008 TR009 TR010 TR011 TR012 TR013 TR014 TR015 TR016 TR017 TR018 TR019 TR020 TR021 TR022 TR023 TR024 TR025 TR026 TR027 TR028 TR029 TR030 TR031 TR032 TR033 TR034 TR035 TR036 TR037 TR038 TR039 TR040 TR041 TR042 TR043 TR044 TR045 TR046 TR047 TR048 TR049 TR050 TR051 TR052 TR053 TR054 TR055 TR056 TR057 TR058 TR059 TR060 TR061 TR062 TR063 TR064 TR065 TR066 TR067 TR068 TR069 TR070 TR071 TR072 TR073 TR074 TR075 TR076 TR077 TR078 TR079 TR080 TR081 TR082 TR083 TR084 TR085 TR086 TR087 TR088 TR089 TR090 TR091 TR092 TR093 TR094 TR095 TR096 TR097 TR098 TR099 TR100 TR101 TR102 TR103 TR104 TR105 TR106 TR107 TR108 TR109 TR110 TR111 TR112 TR113 TR114 TR115 TR116 TR117 TR118 TR119 TR120 TR121 TR122 TR123 TR124 TR125

Legend

- Project Plan Area
- trench location
- field boundary

Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 2 Site with trench overlay

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

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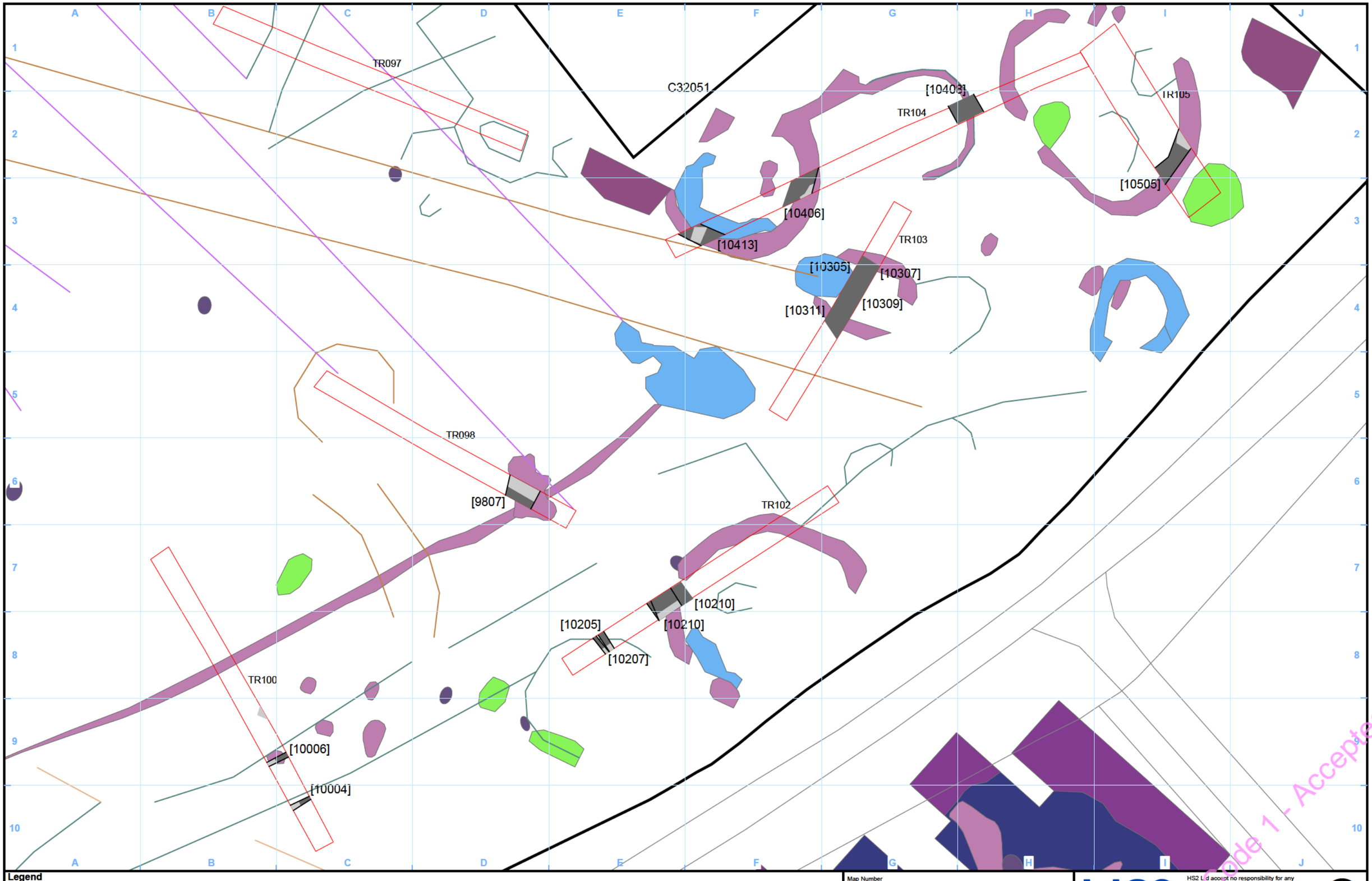
Scale at A3: 1:3,000

0 30 60 90 120 Metres

Doc Number: Figure 2

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 07/04/21



Legend

- Project Plan Area
- trench location
- archaeological context
- excavated slot
- Plough
- Possible archaeology
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Archaeology discrete
- Edge of Geophys area
- Ferrous
- Ferrous Object
- Halo
- Noise
- Possible archaeology

Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 3 Iron Age-Roman settlement area with geophysics underlay (Trenches 98, 100, 102, 103, 104 and 105)

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

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Scale at A3: 1:300

0 3 6 9 12 Metres

Doc Number: Figure 3

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 07/04/21

TR043
TR048
TR054
[5407]
[5405]
[5305]
TR053
TR052
TR064
[5307]
C32051
[5507]
[5509]
[5505]
TR055
TR047
TR061
[6105]
TR063
TR065
[6704]
TR067
TR046
[4607]
[4605]
TR056
[5906]
TR059
[5608]
[5604]
[5606]
[5904]
TR071
TR066
TR045
[4505]
TR057
[5704]
[6805]
TR068
[6807]

Legend

- Project Plan Area
- trench location
- archaeological context
- excavated slot
- Plough
- Possible archaeology
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Archaeology discrete
- Edge of Geophys area
- Ferrous
- Ferrous Object
- Noise
- Old field boundary
- Possible archaeology
- Uncertain
- Unknown

Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 4 Roman multi-ditched enclosure with geophysics underlay (Trenches 53, 54, 55, 056, 59, 61, 67 and 68)

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

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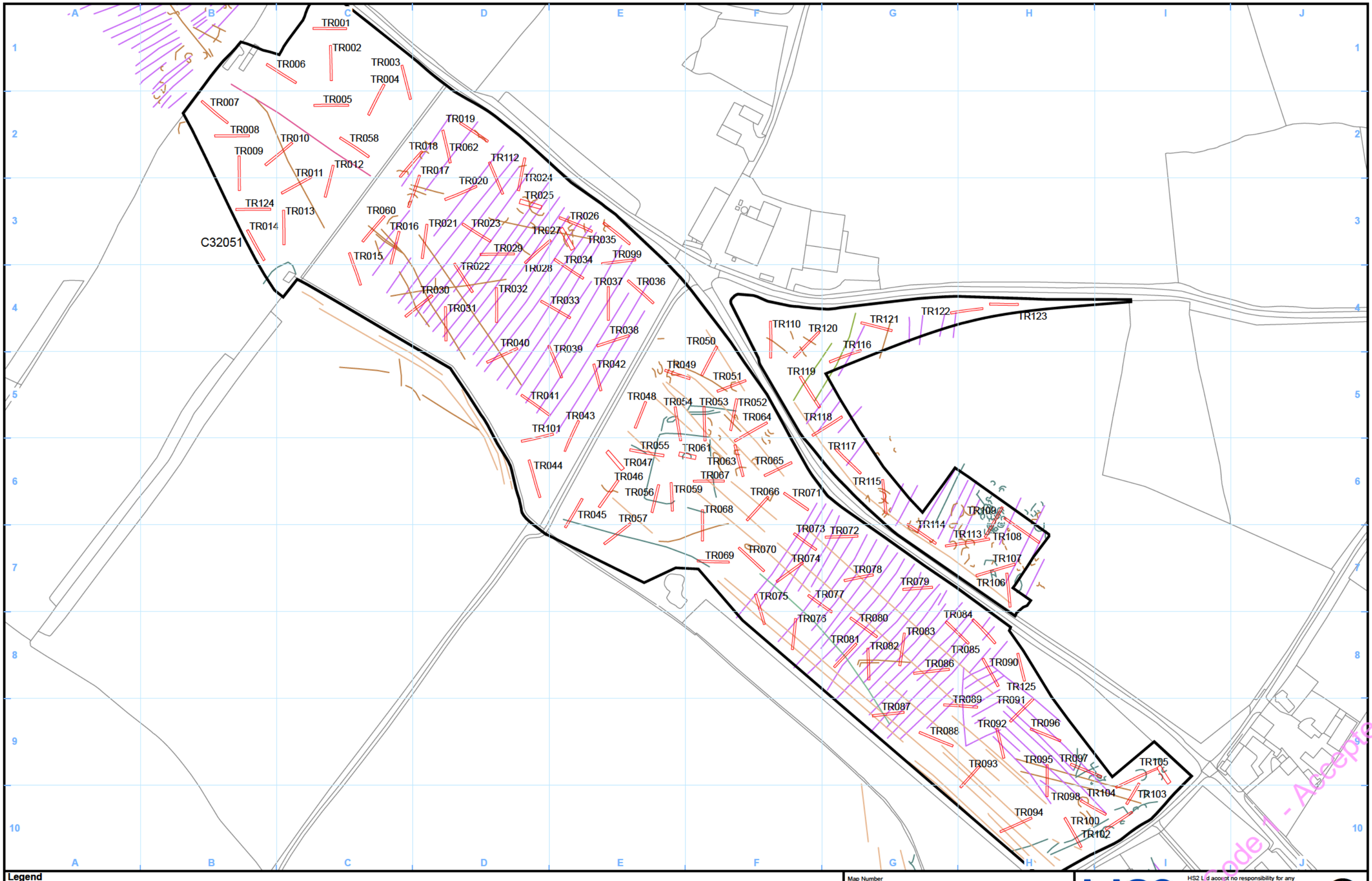
Scale at A3: 1:500

Metres

Doc Number: Figure 4

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 12/04/21



Legend

- Project Plan Area
- trench location
- Drain
- Old field boundary
- Pipe
- Plough
- Possible archaeology
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain

Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 5 Ridge and furrow system and post-medieval field boundary

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

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Scale at A3: 1:3,000

0 30 60 90 120
Metres

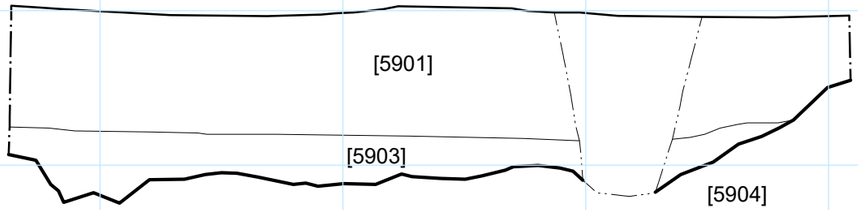
Doc Number: Figure 5

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 07/04/21

131.6mOD

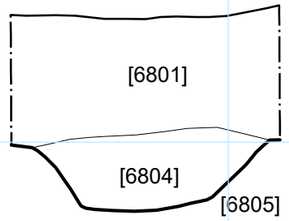
South North



East facing section of ditch [5904]

131mOD

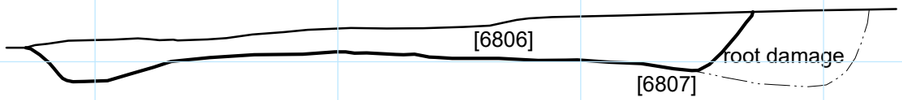
South North



East facing section of ditch [6805]

130.2mOD

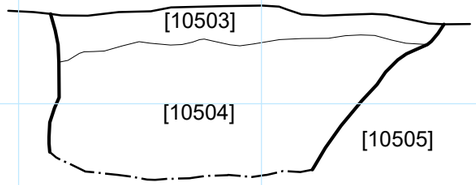
South North



East facing section of ditch [6807]

124.6mOD

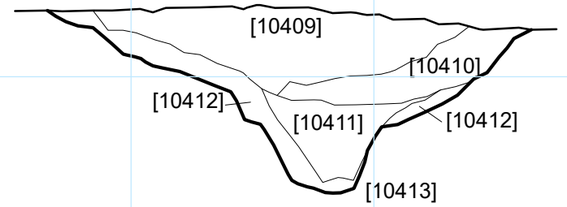
East West



North facing section of ditch [10505]

124.5mOD

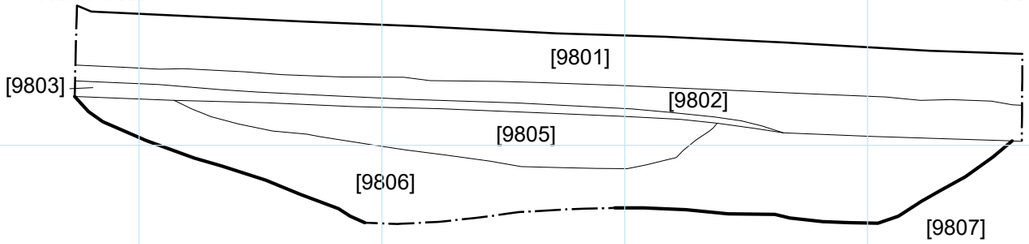
North South



West facing section of ditch [10413]

124.7mOD

North-west South-east



South-west facing section of ditch [9807]

124.5mOD

North-east South-west

North-west facing section of ditch [10210]

Legend

- archaeological cut
- archaeological fill
- limit of excavation
- truncation

Map Number
1EW03-FUS_MHI-GI-MAP-CS07_CL14-000008

Map Name
Figure 6 Section drawings of ditches [10505], [10413], [9807], [5904], [6805], [6807] & [10210]

Community Forum Area 15:
Greatworth to Lower Boddington

Scale at A3: 1:20

0 0.5 Metres

Doc Number: Figure 6

This figure forms part of report 1EW03-FUS_MHI-EV-REP-CS07_CL14-000009

Date: 08/04/21

Appendix 3: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: molas1-416929

Project details	
Project name	Trial Trenching at Welsh Road Boddington Cutting, Northamptonshire
Short description of the project	125 trial trenches were excavated for an archaeological evaluation at Welsh Road. This revealed a small collection of finds and features. The artefactual assemblages spanning from the Iron Age to the early modern era are small and predominantly residual. The Iron Age/ Roman roundhouses and linear features identified are most likely associated to a settlement extending further to the southeast. A rectilinear enclosure towards the centre of site confirmed the presence of a possible farmstead/settlement, identified in the geophysical survey. Clear indication of Medieval to modern agricultural practices throughout site, in the form of cultivation furrows were identified. The area was clearly used for arable farming in the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods, probably associated with the nearby village of Boddington. The land appears to have continued to be used for agricultural activities to the present day, with a shift from arable to pastoral farming.
Project dates	Start: 11-01-2021 End: 19-02-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	1C20WRBTT - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	DITCHES Iron Age
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	ENCLOSURE Roman
Monument type	RIDGE AND FURROW Medieval
Monument type	DITCH BOUNDARIES Post Medieval
Monument type	PITS Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	IRON FITTINGS Post Medieval

Significant Finds	HORSESHOE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Environmental Sampling","Metal Detectors","Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rail links/railway-related infrastructure (including Channel Tunnel)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BODDINGTON Welsh Road, Boddington Cutting
Postcode	NN11 6HF
Study area	20.09 Hectares
Site coordinates	SP 446439 253258 51.924225375446 -1.350723291307 51 55 27 N 001 21 02 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 125m Max: 140m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	MOLA Headland Infrastructure (MHI)
Project brief originator	Fusion
Project design originator	Fusion
Project director/manager	Jim McKeon
Project supervisor	Sara Farey and Paige Savage
Project supervisor	Paulo Clemente
Type of sponsor/funding body	HS2
Name of sponsor/funding body	HS2

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	To be designated

Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	To be designated
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	To be designated
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Drawing","Matrices","Report","Section"

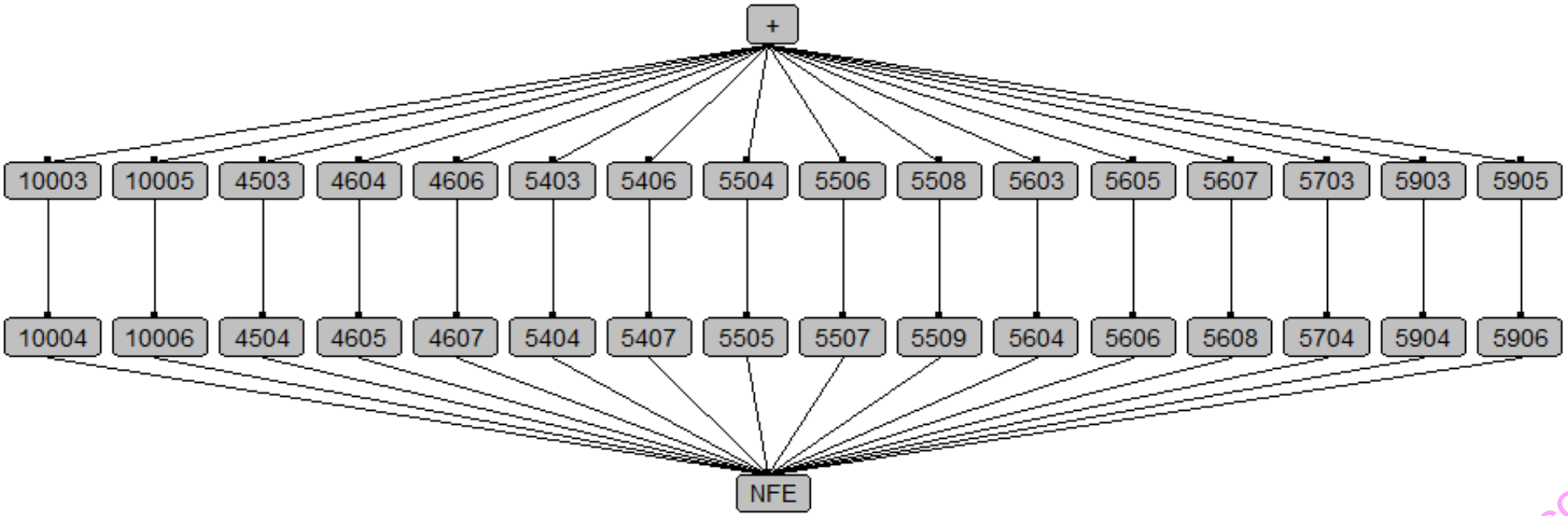
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	AWH- Fieldwork Report for Trial Trenching at Welsh Road Boddington Cutting, Northamptonshire AC320/21
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Clemente, P
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	MHI
Place of issue or publication	London

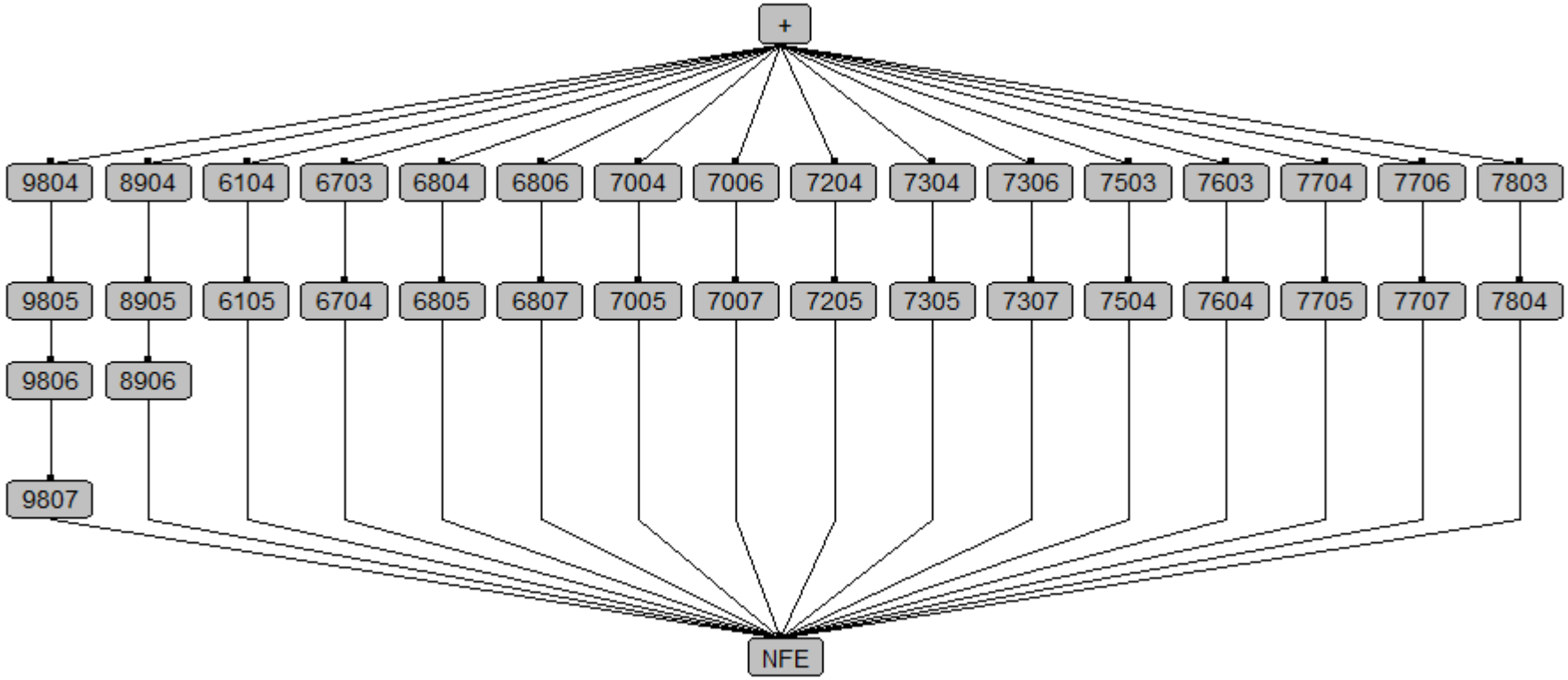
Entered by	Paulo Clemente [redacted]
Entered on	8 March 2021

Appendix 4: Site Matrix

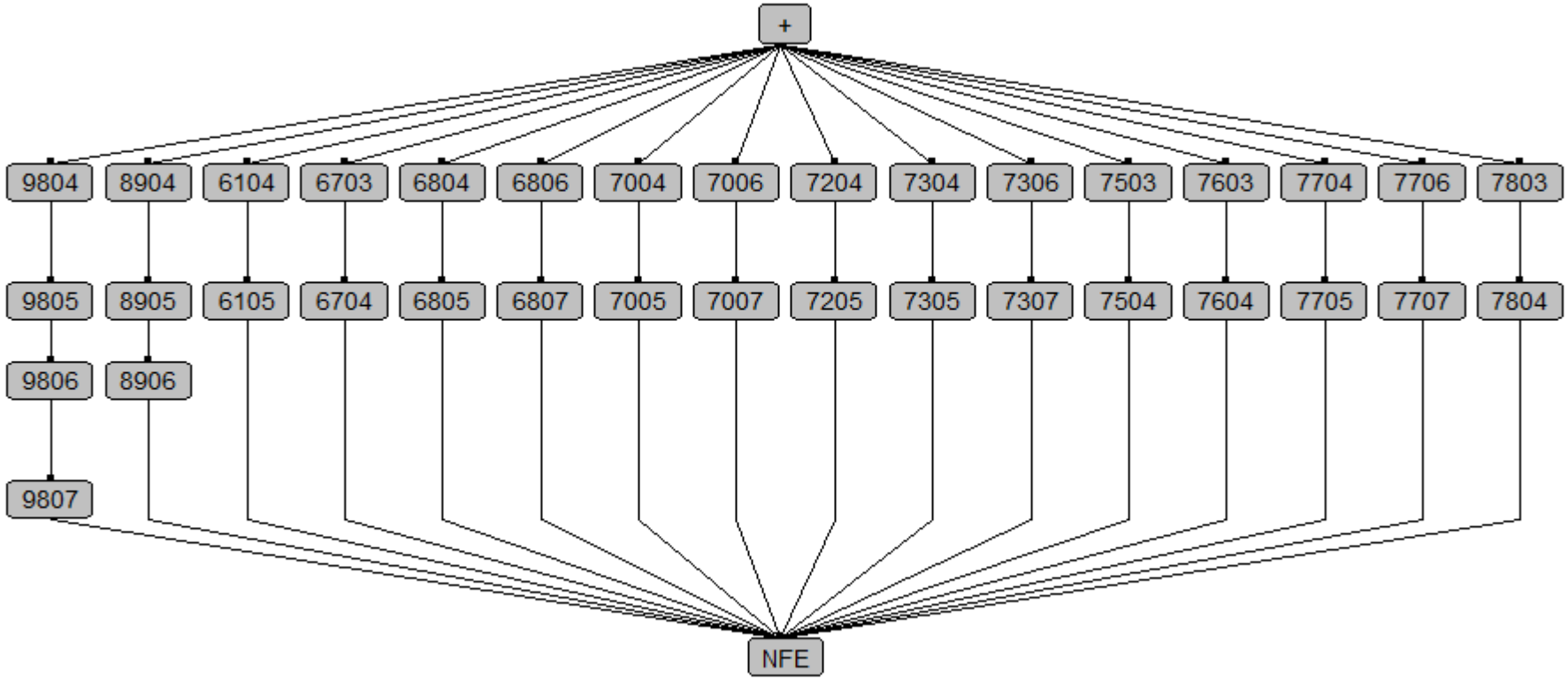
Tr45, Tr46, Tr54, Tr55, Tr56, Tr57, Tr59 and Tr100



Tr61, Tr67, Tr68, Tr70, Tr72, Tr73, Tr75, Tr76, Tr77, Tr78, Tr89 and Tr98



Tr103, Tr104, Tr105, Tr108, Tr110, TR120, Tr15 and Tr19



Tr20, Tr21, Tr23, Tr24, Tr29, Tr30, Tr31, Tr32, Tr36 and Tr99