

HERITAGE NETWORK



**Land adjacent to
69 HIGH STREET
Haddenham, Cambridgeshire**

HN573

Archaeological Evaluation Report



THE HERITAGE NETWORK LTD

Registered with the Institute of Field Archaeologists as an Archaeological Organisation

Archaeological Director: David Hillelson, BA MIFA

Land adjacent to
69 HIGH STREET
Haddenham, Cambridgeshire

HN573

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared on behalf of E.J Gifford (Construction) Ltd

by

Geoff Saunders, BA AIFA

Report no.335

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Contents

	Summary	Page i
Section 1	Introduction	Page 1
Section 2	Fieldwork	Page 2
Section 3	Discussion & Conclusion	Page 12
Section 4	Bibliography	Page 13
Section 5	Illustrations.....	following Page 13

The cover photograph shows the site looking ESE.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Geoff Saunders and Abigail Rothwell. The report was text and illustrations were prepared by Geoff Saunders. The report was edited by David Hillelson.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Ed Gifford, Gifford (Construction) Ltd; and Andy Thomas and Kasia Gdaniec, County Archaeology Office, CCC, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

Site name and address:	Land adjacent to 69 High Street, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire		
County:	Cambridgeshire	District:	East Cambridgeshire
Village/town:	Haddenham	Parish:	Haddenham
Planning reference:	E/05/00044/FUL	NGR:	TL 4627 7510
Client name and address:	E.J Gifford (Construction) Ltd, 16b High Street, Landbeach, Cambridgeshire		
Nature of work:	New Housing	Former land use:	Barn and yard
Site status:	-	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (PPG 16)
Position in planning process:	After determination	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c.1075m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.63m ²
Site Code:	HN573	Other reference:	n/a
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.:	Evaluation	Archive recipient:	North Hertfordshire Museums
Start of work	21/02/2006	Finish of work	27/02/2006
Related SMR Nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	Medieval/ Victorian/Modern
Oasis UID	heritage1-13628	Significant finds:	No significant finds
Monument types:	Ditch- medieval; Pit- medieval, Ditch- Late post-medieval/Victorian, Pit- Victorian/modern, Gully- Victorian/modern, Posthole- Victorian/modern, Animal burial- Victorian/modern, Posthole- uncertain date.		
Physical archive:	Pottery, tile, brick, animal bone, daub, mortar, iron object, stone		
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Synopsis:

In order to determine the archaeological risk posed by a proposal to construct new housing on land adjacent to 69 High Street, Haddenham, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developer to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation in advance of development.

Two trenches were machined to the first significant archaeological horizon. Trench 1, located beneath the barn demolished immediately prior to the evaluation, revealed a late post-medieval/Victorian boundary ditch, and contemporary pits and postholes. Trench 2 revealed two medieval boundary ditches with a possible associated trackway, the base of a shallow medieval feature, possibly a pit, and further features of Victorian/modern date.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of *E.J. Gifford (Construction) Ltd* as part of the archaeological evaluation of a proposed development site located on land adjacent to 69 High Street, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire. The investigation was a requirement of the planning consent for the development, under the provisions set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note No.16 (PPG16) on Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990). The work was defined in an *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* prepared by the *Cambridgeshire Archaeology, Planning and Countryside Advice* (CAPCA) section of Cambridge County Council (ref. AT 21/04/2005), acting as archaeological advisers to the local planning authority, East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) (planning ref. E/05/00044/FUL). A full specification for the work was contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design*, dated January 2006.

1.2 The study area comprises a narrow rectangular plot, measuring approximately 1075m². The site lies to the rear of 69 High Street, centred at NGR TL 4627 7510. The site had been occupied by a brick barn, which was demolished prior to the archaeological works. The development proposes the construction of three new houses and their associated garages.

1.3 The site is located within the historic core of Haddenham to the south of the village. The study area lies on a Lower Greensand ridge forming part of the Isle of Ely, with the lower fenland occurring c.750m to the south. The discovery of a Saxon cross in the village less than 500m to the north, coupled with medieval finds from the area, suggested that there was potential for encountering artefacts and/ or deposits dating from these periods. Within the vicinity there is a background of Roman activity with evidence of settlement at West End, approximately 600m to the north west of the site.

1.4 The aim of the evaluation has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development, and to provide a local and regional, archaeological and historical context for such remains, in accordance with the current published regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000), should they be discovered. The fieldwork was considered to have the potential to contribute specifically to the study of settlement morphology during the Roman, Anglo Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods.

1.5 The present report is intended to provide the planning authority with sufficient data to allow it to consider the archaeological implications of the proposed development, and to determine what further, if any, mitigation measures might be required to allow the development to proceed.

2. Fieldwork

SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The site is located close to the centre of the village and comprises a narrow plot of land previously occupied by a barn used for apple drying. Several large trees bound the garden plot at the rear of the site. The ground is relatively level at approximately 27mOD.

2.2 The soils belong to the Milford Association (541a), and consist of well drained fine loamy reddish soils over Devonian sandstone (SSEW, 1983).

2.3 The underlying geology of the area consists of terrace deposits of sand and gravel.

METHODOLOGY

2.4 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the approved *Project Design*, current health and safety legislation, and the appropriate IFA and ALGAO guidance documents.

2.5 The trenches were located by triangulation from known points using fibreglass tape measures.

2.6 Two trenches were opened using a tracked 360⁰ excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket (see Figure 2). Spoil from the machining was inspected for archaeological artefacts. Trenches were machined to the first significant archaeological horizon.

2.7 The trenches were cleaned by hand, and all potential archaeological features and deposits were sampled to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

2.8 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate pro-forma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on drafting film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50.

RESULTS

Trench 1

2.9 Trench 1 was located within the footprint of the former barn. It measured 1.80 x 20.00m, had a maximum depth of 0.70m, and was aligned east –west.

2.10 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of loose, dark brown, silty sand topsoil with frequent brick rubble pushed into it from the demolition of the barn. Beneath this was a layer of firm, very dark greyish brown, clayey sand subsoil over the natural dark yellowish brown clayey sand. In the west end of the trench a layer of redeposited natural sand was observed between the topsoil and the subsoil, this has been interpreted as a levelling layer deposited prior to the construction of the barn.

2.11 A single modern drainage pipe associated with the former barn was observed within the topsoil running along the trench on an east – west alignment.

2.12 The trench contained a large pit [101], three small pits or large postholes [105], [109], and [110], a boundary ditch [103], and an area of modern disturbance [111].

2.13 Pit [101] was observed cut through the natural geology in the centre of the trench. The pit was sub-square in shape, its full dimensions were unclear as it ran beneath the southern trench baulk. It had a maximum depth of approximately 0.25m. The feature was aligned east – west and had steep slightly concave sides and a flat base. The primary fill (102) of firm, dark olive brown, clayey sand yielded fragments of 18th/19th century CBM. The function of the pit is unknown.

2.14 Ditch [103] was observed cut through the subsoil, crossing the west end of the trench on a north – south alignment. The full dimensions of the feature were not revealed as it extended beneath the western trench baulk. It had a width in excess of 0.7m and a maximum depth of approximately 0.35m. The ditch had steep slightly concave sides and a flattish ‘u’ shaped base. The primary fill (104) of firm, dark olive brown, clayey sand yielded several sherds of pottery of 18th/19th century date and a redeposited sherd of 10th –12th century date. The feature aligns with the high street and has been interpreted as a former rear plot boundary.

2.15 Sub-ovoid feature [105] was observed cut through the natural geology, in the east end of the trench. The feature measured 0.66m long by 0.50m wide by 0.16m deep, and was aligned east – west. The feature had moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (106) of firm, very dark greyish brown, clayey sand yielded no archaeological artefacts. The feature has been interpreted as a small pit or large posthole.

2.16 Posthole [107] was observed cut through the natural geology, in the centre of the trench. The feature was sub-circular in shape and measured 0.4m by 0.35m by 0.14m deep. It had steep slightly concave sides and a flat base. The primary fill (108) of firm, very dark greyish brown, clayey sand yielded several fragments of late post-medieval CBM and mortar.

2.17 Sub-square feature [109] had been backfilled with topsoil which contained several fragments of 19th/20th century CBM. The feature, which may represent a small pit or posthole, was not excavated.

2.18 Feature [110] had been backfilled with topsoil which contained several fragments of late 19th/20th century CBM. The feature, which ran beneath the southern trench baulk and may represent either a small pit or the butt end of a linear, was not excavated.

2.19 Feature [111] had been backfilled with topsoil which contained 20th century pottery and CBM. The feature appeared to be modern disturbance associated with the former barn demolished prior to the evaluation and was not excavated.

Trench data:

Length (m):	20.00	Width (m):	1.80	Maximum Depth (m):	0.70	Orientation	E – W
Level at E End of Trench (mOD)		Top	26.88	Level at W End of Trench (mOD)		Top	26.78
		Base	26.18			Base	26.42
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
101	Cut	Sub-square cut feature with steep slightly concave sides and a flat base on a E – W alignment. Pit.	1.65	1.14 +	0.25		
102	Fill	Firm, dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3), clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular flints. Fill of [101].	1.65	1.14 +	0.25		
103	Cut	Linear cut feature with steep slightly concave sides and a flattish ‘u’ shaped base on a N – S alignment. Boundary ditch.	1.80 +	0.70 +	0.35		
104	Fill	Firm, dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3), clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular flints. Fill of [103].	1.80 +	0.70 +	0.35		
105	Cut	Sub-ovoid cut feature with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base on an E – W alignment. Small pit or posthole.	0.66	0.50	0.16		
106	Fill	Firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular flints. Fill of [105].	0.66	0.50	0.16		
107	Cut	Sub-circular cut feature with steep slightly concave sides and a flat base. Posthole.	0.40	0.35	0.14		
108	Fill	Firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, small sub-angular flints, and moderate redeposited natural sand patches. Fill of [107].	0.40	0.35	0.14		
109	Feature	Sub-square cut feature with a firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand fill. Unexcavated small pit or posthole.	0.45	0.45	-		
110	Feature	Sub-ovoid cut feature with a firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand fill. Unexcavated feature.	0.60 +	0.60	-		
111	Feature	Irregular cut feature with a firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand fill. Unexcavated feature.	1.80 +	0.80	-		

Trench 2

2.20 Trench 2 was located immediately to the east of Trench 1 in the eastern half of the site. It measured 1.80 x 15.20m, had a maximum depth of 0.65m, and was aligned north – south.

2.21 The stratigraphy in the trench consisted of a layer of loose, dark brown, silty sand topsoil over a firm, very dark greyish brown, clayey sand subsoil. Beneath this lay the natural firm, dark yellowish brown, clayey sand. In the northern end of the trench a layer of gravel, sand, and CBM fragments over the topsoil forms the existing surface.

2.22 The trench contained a large pit [201], two ditches [203], and [219], two small pits [205], and [207], four gullies [209], [213], [224], and [226], four postholes [211], [215], [223], and [225], and animal burial [217].

2.23 Large sub-rectangular pit [201] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern half of the trench. The feature measured 2.25m long by 0.87m wide by 0.21m deep, and was aligned N – S. It had shallow concave sides and a rounded ‘u’ shaped base. The primary fill (202) of friable, very dark greyish brown, slightly clayey silty sand yielded several fragments of late post-medieval CBM and a redeposited sherd of 12th – 14th century pottery. The function of the feature is not clear.

2.24 Ditch [203] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern end of the trench on an E – W alignment. The ditch had a width of 1.85m and a maximum depth of 0.33m. It had steep slightly concave sides and a flat base. The primary fill (204) of firm, dark olive brown, slightly clayey sand yielded several pottery sherds ranging in date between the 6th – 15th centuries, the feature itself is likely to be of 12th – 13th century date. The feature appears to represent a large boundary ditch.

2.25 Sub-circular pit [205] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern half of the trench. The full dimensions of the feature are unclear as it ran beneath the eastern trench baulk, it had a maximum depth of 0.06m. The pit had steep concave sides and a flat base. The primary fill (206) of loose, dark brown, sandy silt yielded pottery sherds of 11th – 13th century date. The function of the pit is unclear and only the very base of it survives.

2.26 Sub-circular pit [207] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern half of the trench. The full dimensions of the feature are unclear as it ran beneath the western trench baulk, it had a maximum depth of 0.12m. It had moderately steep straight sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (208) of loose, dark brown, sandy silt yielded no archaeological artefacts. The function of the feature is unclear, only a small portion of it was visible within the trench.

2.27 Gully [209] was observed cut through the subsoil in the centre of the trench, on an E – W alignment. The feature had a width of 0.25m and a maximum depth of 0.07m. It had steep straight sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (210) of loose, dark brown, sandy silt yielded late post-medieval CBM. The feature has been interpreted as a drainage gully.

2.28 Sub-ovoid posthole [211] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern end of the trench. The feature was 0.54m long by 0.20m wide by 0.15m deep and was aligned N – S. It had steep concave sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (212) of loose, brown, sandy silt yielded no archaeological artefacts.

2.29 Linear feature [213] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern end of the trench on an E – W alignment. The feature had a width of 0.30m and a maximum depth of 0.04m. It had shallow concave sides and a slightly rounded base. The primary fill (214) of loose, dark brown, sandy silt yielded no archaeological artefacts. Only the very base of the feature survived in the trench it has been interpreted as a small ditch or gully. The feature appears to

come to a butt end in the trench, however it may originally have ran further but no longer survives beyond its current terminus.

2.30 Sub-rectangular posthole [215] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern half of the trench. The feature measured 0.25m long by 0.20m wide by 0.28m deep, and was aligned E – W. It had steep near vertical sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (216) of loose, brown, sandy silt yielded a small sherd of 19th/20th century pottery.

2.31 Sub-circular pit [217] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern half of the trench. The full extent of the feature was not revealed as it ran beneath the eastern trench baulk, it had a maximum depth of 0.15m. The feature had moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base. The primary fill (218) of loose, dark brown, sandy silt yielded a fragment of 19th/20th century tile. The feature also contained the remains of at least two probable neo-natal pigs. The feature has been interpreted as an animal burial.

2.32 Linear cut feature [219] was observed cut through the natural geology in the southern end of the trench on a NW – SE alignment. The full extent of the feature was not revealed as it ran beneath the southern trench baulk. The one side of the feature observed was steep and straight and it had a flat base. The primary fill (220) of firm, dark yellowish brown, clayey sand yielded a single sherd of pottery of probable 10th –12th century date. The secondary fill (221) of firm, dark olive brown, slightly clayey sand yielded several sherds of pottery of 11th to 13th century date. The feature, which has been interpreted as a boundary ditch, appears to be contemporary with [203].

2.33 Deposit [222] was observed over and to the northern side of ditch [203]. The surface consisted of compacted gravel with sand and measured 2.40m in width and had a maximum thickness of 0.12m. The deposit appears to form a linear rough metalled surface and may represent a trackway to the side of drainage ditch [203]. Although no archaeological artefacts were recovered from [222], it does sit partially above fill (204) in ditch [203], indicating the ditch had began silting up by the time the possible trackway was constructed.

2.34 Posthole [223] was observed cut through the subsoil in the southern half of the trench, the full extent was not observed as it ran beneath the western trench baulk. The feature was not excavated.

2.35 Gully [224] was observed cut through the subsoil in the centre of the trench on an E – W alignment. The feature which appears to be contemporary with gully [209] was not excavated.

2.36 Posthole [225] was observed cut through the natural geology in the centre of the trench, the feature was sub-square in shape and contained 19th/20th century CBM. The feature was not excavated.

2.37 Gully [226] was observed cut through the natural geology in the northern half of the trench. Cleaning over the feature revealed that it only survived to a maximum depth c.0.02m. The feature was not excavated.

Trench data:

Length (m):	15.10	Width (m):	1.50	Maximum Depth (m):	1.02	Orientation	NE – SW
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	53.27	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	52.85
		Base	52.16			Base	52.25
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
201	Cut	Sub-rectangular cut feature with shallow concave sides and a rounded 'u' shaped base on a N – S alignment. Pit.	2.25	0.87	0.21		
202	Fill	Friable, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), slightly clayey silty sand with frequent very small flints, and occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of [201].	2.25	0.87	0.21		
203	Cut	Linear cut feature with steep slightly concave sides and a flat base on an E – W alignment. Ditch	1.90 +	1.85	0.33		
204	Fill	Firm, dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3), slightly clayey sand with very occasional small sub-angular flints, occasional charcoal flecks, and frequent patches of redeposited natural sand. Fill of [203].	1.90 +	1.85	0.33		
205	Cut	Sub-circular cut feature with steep concave sides and a flat base. Shallow pit, only partially revealed in trench.	0.70	0.39 +	0.06		
206	Fill	Loose, dark brown (10YR 3/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [205].	0.70	0.39 +	0.06		
207	Cut	Sub-circular cut feature with moderately steep straight sides and a rounded base. Pit, only partially revealed in trench.	0.80	0.14 +	0.12		
208	Fill	Loose, dark brown (10YR 3/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [207].	0.80	0.14 +	0.12		
209	Cut	Linear cut feature with steep straight sides and a rounded base on an E – W alignment. Gully.	1.80 +	0.25	0.07		
210	Fill	Loose, dark brown (10YR 3/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [209].	1.80 +	0.25	0.07		
211	Cut	Ovoid cut feature with steep concave sides and a rounded base on a N – S alignment. Posthole.	0.54	0.20	0.15		
212	Fill	Loose, brown (10YR 4/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [211].	0.54	0.20	0.15		
213	Cut	Linear cut feature with shallow slightly concave sides and a slightly rounded base on an E – W alignment. Possibly gully or ditch, only the very base of which survives.	0.75 +	0.30	0.04		
214	Fill	Loose, dark brown (10YR 3/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [213].	0.75 +	0.30	0.04		
215	Cut	Sub-rectangular cut feature with steep near vertical sides and a rounded base. Posthole.	0.25	0.20	0.28		
216	Fill	Loose, brown (10YR 4/3), sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [215].	0.25	0.20	0.28		
217	Cut	Sub-circular cut feature with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base. Animal burial.	0.46	0.27 +	0.15		

Length (m):	15.10	Width (m):	1.50	Maximum Depth (m):	1.02	Orientation	NE – SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	53.27	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	52.85	
		Base	52.16			Base	52.25	
Context	Type	Description				Dimensions (m)		
						Length	Width	Depth
218	Fill	Loose, (10YR 3/3), dark brown sandy silt with occasional small stones. Fill of [217].				0.46	0.27 +	0.15
219	Cut	Linear cut feature with steep straight sides and a flat base on a NW – SE alignment. Probable boundary ditch, runs beneath southern trench baulk so full extent unclear.				1.50 +	0.45 +	0.39
220	Fill	Firm, dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4), clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks. Primary fill of [219].				1.50 +	0.45 +	0.25
221	Fill	Firm, dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3), slightly clayey sand with very occasional small sub-angular flints, occasional charcoal flecks, and frequent patches of redeposited natural sand. Secondary fill of [219].				1.50 +	0.45 +	0.15
222	Deposit	Compacted, dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4), gravel and sand with frequent powdery mortar inclusions. Possible track surface, appears to follow alignment of ditch [203] on its northern side.				1.90 +	2.40	0.12
223	Feature	Sub-ovoid cut feature with a loose, brown (10YR 4/3), sandy silt fill. Unexcavated small pit or posthole.				0.20 +	0.20	-
224	Feature	Linear cut feature with a loose, dark brown (10YR 3/3), sandy silt fill. Unexcavated gully.				1.80 +	0.23	-
225	Feature	Sub-square cut feature with a loose, brown (10YR 4/3), sandy silt fill. Unexcavated posthole.				0.25	0.20	-
226	Feature	Linear cut feature with a firm, very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2), clayey sand fill. Unexcavated gully.				1.80 +	0.20	-

CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Context	Pottery		CBM		An bone		Daub/ Mortar		Fe.object		Comments
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
102			3	360					1	150	
104	4	105	2	25							
108			4	50			2	60			
Tr 1 U/S	1	5									
202	1	20	3	690					1	95	
204	14	170			1	5					
206	3	35									
210			1	20	2	30					
216	1	2	1	10							
218			1	70	149	50					

	Pottery		CBM		An bone		Daub/ Mortar		Fe.object		Comments
220	1	15									
221	4	25					1	5			
Total	29	377	15	1225	152	85	3	65	2	245	

Pottery

2.38 A total of 29 sherds of pottery, weighing 377g, was recovered from seven stratified and one unstratified contexts during the present investigation. The pottery ranged in date from the early Saxon period to the modern period. The assemblage consisted mostly of small, abraded, undiagnostic, bodysherds of medieval date, ranging from the 9th to the 15th century.

2.39 Sherds recovered from fill (204) within ditch [203] make up 45% of the assemblage by weight and 48% by number. The earliest pottery from the context is a small, undiagnostic, and heavily abraded sherd of possible 6th-8th century date. The context yielded a variety of local and regional wares including, St Neots-type ware and sandy wares of 9th – 12th century date, and green glazed pottery of 12th-15th century date.

2.40 Fill (206) in pit [205] yielded a sherd of green glazed pottery, and two sherds of calcite gritted pottery one of which formed part of a base, all of 11th to 13th century date. A further sherd of handmade calcite gritted ware of 10th – 12th century date was recovered from fill (220) in feature [219]. Fill (221) in the same feature yielded a further four sherds of calcite gritted wares with glaze splashes of 11th-13th century date.

2.41 Fill (104) in ditch [103] yielded a single small, abraded, and redeposited sherd of 10th-12th century pottery along with brown glazed pottery of 18th-19th century date. Fill (202) in pit [201] yielded a single redeposited rim sherd of sandy ware, possibly part of a jar or flagon, of 12th-14th century date. A single sherd of St Neots-type ware was recovered unstratified in Trench 1.

2.42 A sherd of white glazed 19th-20th century pottery was recovered from fill (216) in posthole [215].

2.43 Further Victorian and modern pottery was observed in the overburden but not collected.

2.44 The pottery from the present site represents a domestic assemblage. The small and abraded nature of the sherds indicates that this material was not in its primary place of deposition. This, combined with the small size of the assemblage, indicates that it is not the result of the dumping of domestic refuse in the features. It does, however, suggest domestic occupation in the vicinity of the site at this time.

Recommendations

2.45 Given the small size of the assemblage and that the pottery is largely abraded and undiagnostic, and is not in its place of primary deposition, no further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

2.46 A total of fifteen fragments of CBM, weighing 1225g, was recovered from 7 stratified contexts during the course of the investigation. The assemblage consists entirely of late post-medieval peg tile and brick fragments.

2.47 The CBM on the site is likely to be the result of activity on the site associated with its use as a yard for the barn which was demolished prior to the evaluation.

Recommendations

2.48 Post-medieval CBM is a common find on urban sites of medieval and post-medieval date. On this basis, no further work is proposed on this material.

Animal Bone

2.49 A total of 152 fragments of animal bone, weighing 85g, was recovered from 3 stratified contexts during the course of the investigation.

2.50 Bone recovered from fill (218) in animal burial [217] makes up 59% of the assemblage by weight and 98% by number. The burial contained the remains of at least two possibly neo-natal pigs. The burial contained peg tile of late post-medieval date.

2.51 The remainder of the assemblage is fragmentary in nature making species identification difficult. A single burnt piece of bone was recovered from fill (204) in ditch [203] which yielded pottery varying in date between the 6th–15th centuries.

Recommendations

2.52 The majority of the assemblage represents a single burial, with other species represented by only a few fragmentary bones, as such no further work is proposed on the animal bone.

Daub/Mortar

2.53 Two pieces of lime mortar, weighing 60g, were recovered from fill (108) in posthole [107]. The posthole also yielded brick of late post-medieval date.

2.54 A single small and abraded piece of daub, weighing 5g, was recovered from fill (221) in feature [219]. This fill has been dated by pottery to the 11th-13th centuries.

Recommendations

2.55 No further work is proposed on this assemblage.

Iron Objects

2.56 Two iron objects, weighing 245g, were recovered from 2 stratified contexts during the present investigation.

2.57 A heavily corroded and concreted elongated sub-rectangular object was recovered from fill (102) in pit [101]. The object, which may have been a nail, measures approximately 110mm long, by 19mm wide, by 12mm deep.

2.58 A heavily corroded thin sheet of iron was recovered from fill (202) in pit [201]. The sheet measures approximately 199mm long by 103mm wide by 1mm deep.

Recommendations

2.59 No further work is proposed on this assemblage.

3. Discussion & Conclusion

3.1 The site is located within the historic core of Haddenham and finds from the Roman, Saxon, and medieval periods have been recovered from within c.1km of the present site. The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated low density activity on the site from the early medieval period onwards.

3.2 The evaluation revealed two large boundary ditches [203], and [219], in the southern end of Trench 2. The ditches yielded artefacts of 9th-15th century date, a redeposited sherd of early Saxon pottery of 6th-8th century date was also recovered from [203]. The ditches run approximately parallel with the existing southern boundary of the site and at right angles to the High Street, it is possible that they are forerunners of this boundary. A possible trackway [222] associated with the ditches was observed on the northern side of [203].

3.3 Boundary ditch [103] observed in the western end of Trench 1 yielded artefacts of 18th-19th century date. The ditch runs parallel to the High Street and appears to be a former rear plot boundary. The feature runs beneath the barn that was demolished prior to the evaluation, suggesting an 18th-19th century construction date for the barn.

3.4 The majority of the features revealed during the evaluation are of 19th-20th century date. These features include drainage gullies [209], [224], and [226], postholes and small pits [107], [211], [215], [223], and [225], large pits [101], and [201], and animal burial [217]. These appear to be contemporary with the presence of the barn and suggest the possibility that the site was used as a farmyard.

3.5 The abraded nature of the medieval pottery and other contemporary artefacts from the site suggest that at this time the site was located on the fringe of the medieval settlement at Haddenham. The medieval boundary ditches suggest that by this time the present alignment of the High Street had been established. An increase in activity on the site can be observed with the construction of the barn in the late post-medieval period and the site's possible use as a farmyard.

Conclusion

3.6 The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated the presence of boundary features of medieval date within the current study area. In addition the finds recovered indicate the presence of occupation within the vicinity of the site, possibly on the higher ground to the north closer to the present centre of the village. No direct evidence of occupation on the site during this period was recovered.

3.7 Activity on the site increased probably at the time the barn which previously occupied the site was constructed during the 18th-19th century. The site may have served as a farmyard at this time.

3.8 On this basis of these findings, it is considered that medieval boundaries, and further similar or related features are likely to be disturbed by the proposed development. The risk that

significant occupation features predating the 19th century will be disturbed can be considered to be Low.

Confidence Rating

3.9 During the course of the fieldwork, the conditions were generally acceptable for the identification of potential features and deposits, and for their investigation.

3.10 There are no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than High.

4. Bibliography

Thomas, A, 2005 *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation: Land adjacent to 69 High Street, Haddenham*. Cambridgeshire County Council

Turner, C, 2006 *Land adjacent to 69 High Street, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire. Project Design: Archaeological Evaluation*. Heritage Network.

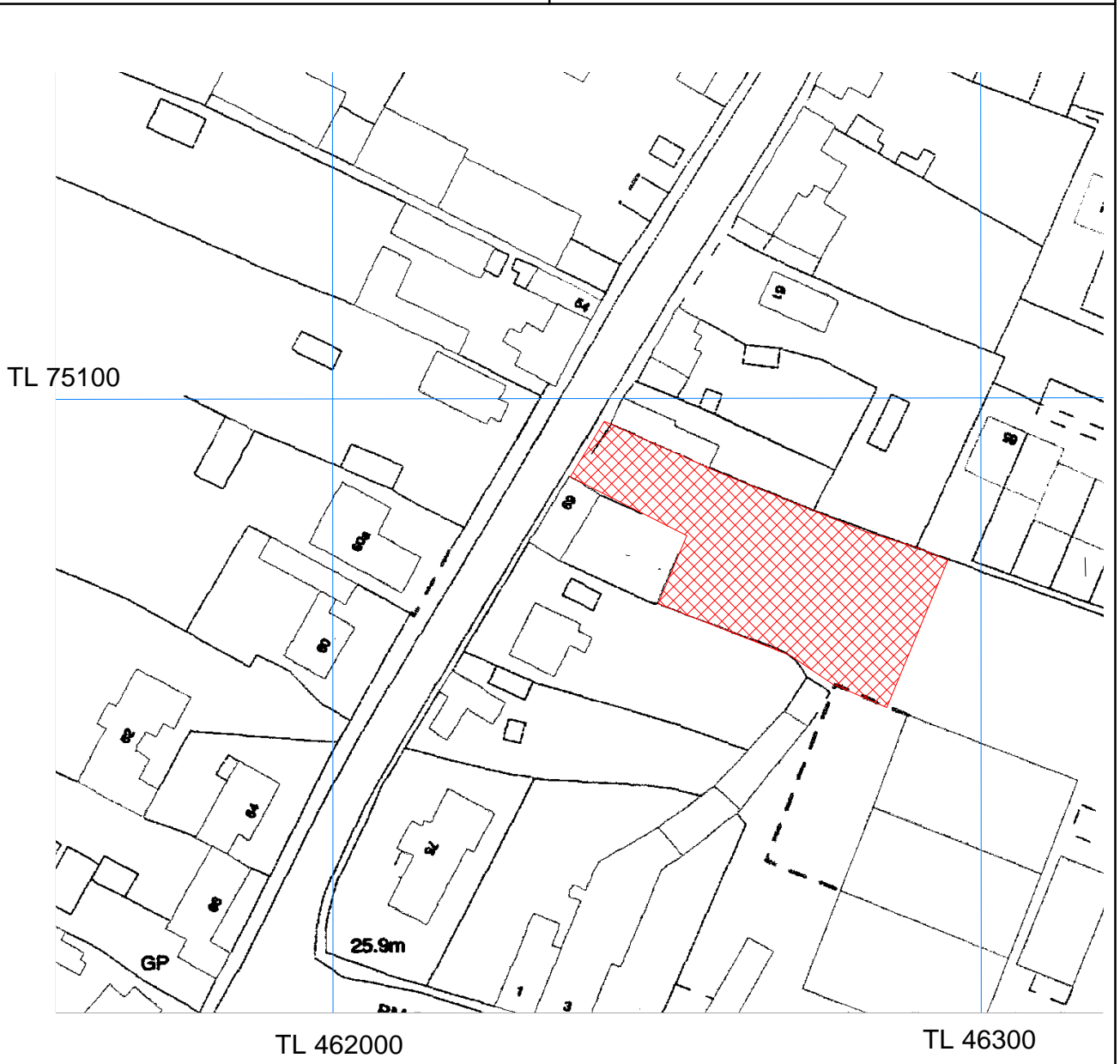
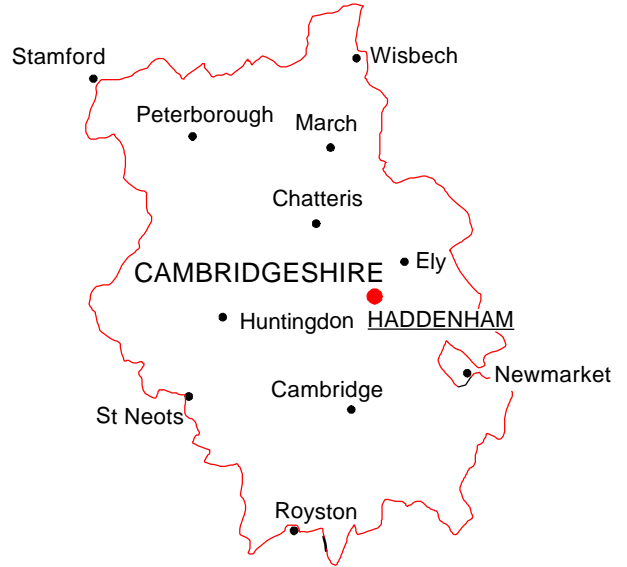
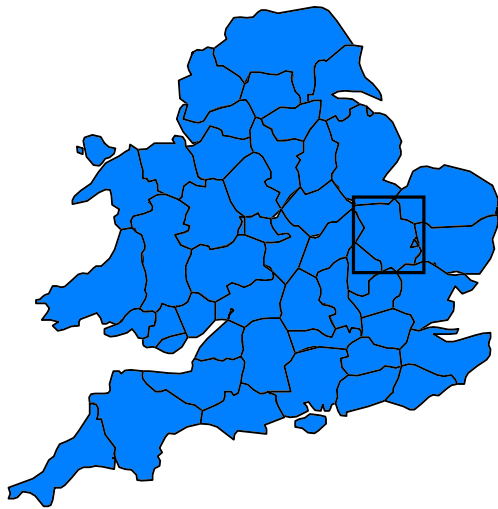
5. Illustrations

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Trench location
Figure 3	Trench plans and sections
Figure 4	Feature sections

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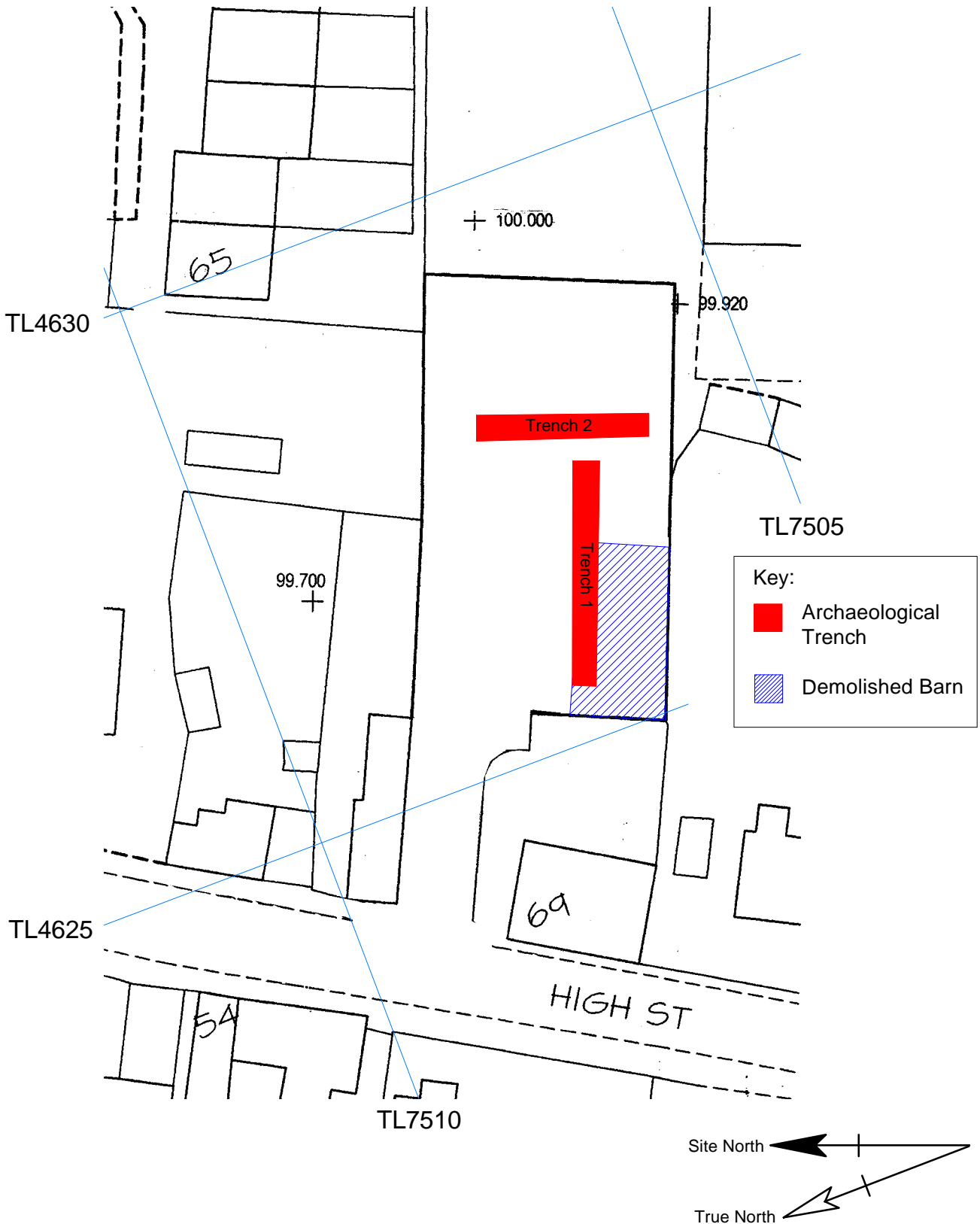
69 High Street, Haddenham

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Site location plan

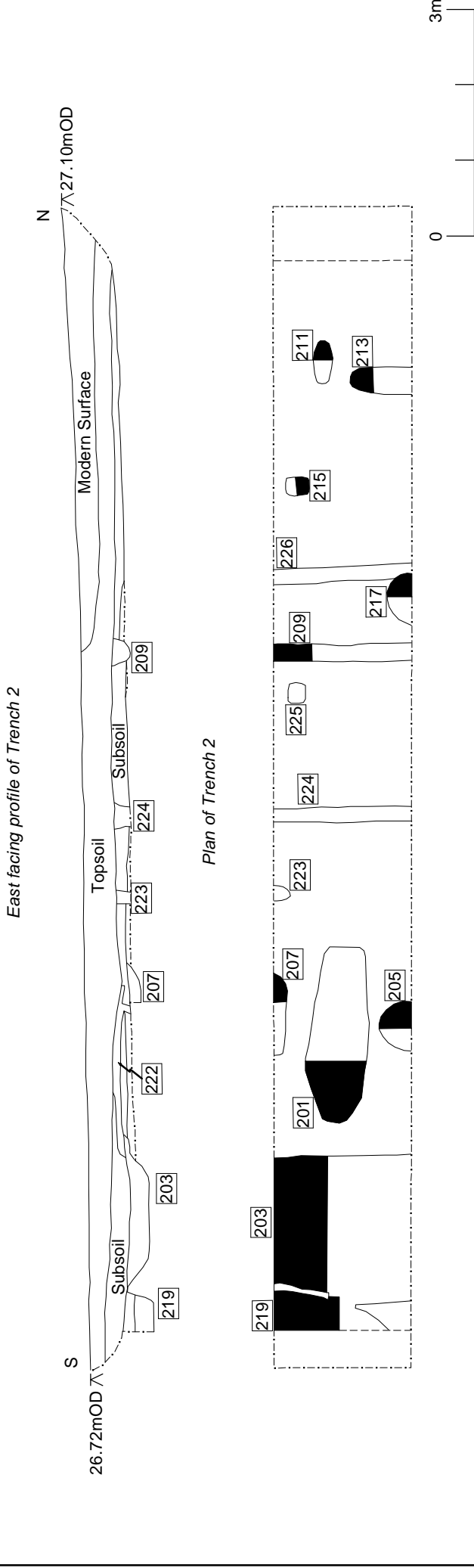
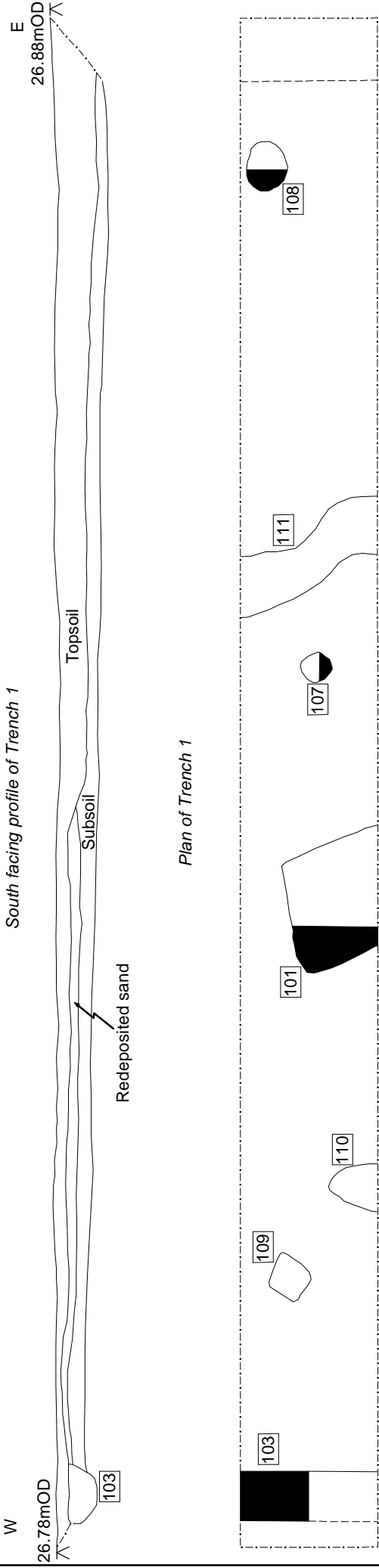
Scale 1:1000



Trench Location

Scale 1:500

Figure 2



Trench sections and plans

Scale 1:75

Figure 3

