

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

**Former Runwell Hospital,
Runwell Chase, Runwell,
Essex**

**ASE Project No: 8161
Site Code: RUH14**

ASE Report No: 2014211



June 2014

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Planning Ref: 12/01480/OUT

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Abstract

Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was carried out on behalf of Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd in advance of residential development of the former Runwell Hospital site.

The investigation comprised seventy-seven trenches, distributed across the undisturbed green field areas alongside the edges and to the south of the now mostly demolished hospital buildings complex. Nineteen of the intended trenches proved impossible to investigate as they were either inaccessible or located within areas of still-in-use sports pitches. Fifty-eight of the original trenches were excavated, with an additional two trenches dug at the request of ECC Place Services.

The evaluation has identified the presence of archaeological remains within eleven of the excavated trenches, denoting three separate archaeological sites (A to C) that date to the later prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods respectively.

The earliest of the identified sites (site A) sits at the base of a hill in the north-western part of the development area. It is indicated by small numbers of dispersed ditches and pits and may represent an area of enclosures and pitting. Later prehistoric sherds form part of it, but are small in size and number. All of them are undiagnostic and therefore not closely datable.

The medieval site (site C) is situated alongside the A132 at the opposite end of the development area. It is represented by a small cluster of gullies, ditches and pits; although all of these are shallow, possibly due to truncation. Most contain small numbers of medieval pot sherds, the dates of which suggest that they may have been in use during the 12th to 14th centuries. The cluster of features is conjectured to represent a roadside settlement and / or work area.

The most recent of the newly discovered sites (site B) is located towards the north-western part of the development area and is indicated by ditches, pits and layers spread across four adjacent trenches. Many of the features contain numerous pieces of pottery and abundant amounts of brick and roof tile, suggesting that they may derive from a house and / or farm. Much of the pottery is coarseware and is dated to the 17th century, although smaller amounts of earlier sherds are present as residual items, suggesting that the putative house or farm may have originated during the 15th to 16th centuries. Included amongst the many artefacts found by the site are a small, copper-alloy liturgical bell, a Nuremburg jetton, lead spoon handles, and sherds of Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed earthenware. The site of the house / farm is close to the former site of Runwell Hall Farm, although the relationship between them is not established.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at the former site of Runwell Hospital, Runwell Chase, Runwell, Essex. The archaeological work was recommended by Essex County Council Place Services and was commissioned by Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd. It was carried out in advance of residential development and was undertaken by Archaeology South-East.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The former Runwell Hospital site is located in arable and pastoral farmland, north-east of the town of Wickford, and is skirted along the east side by the A130 (Fig.1). Access to the site is via Runwell Chase, a residential side road connected to the A132. The total size of the residential development area is approximately 77.4ha.

1.2.2 Virtually all of the hospital buildings have recently been demolished, with the exception of the Grade II Listed hospital chapel, the boiler house and the central administration block. Much of the surrounding land is agricultural in nature.

1.2.3 The topography of the site comprises a south-facing slope overlooking the River Crouch and the A132. The slope steadily increases in height, but rises more sharply towards the north end, peaking beyond the site at 50 to 60m OD.

1.2.4 The superficial geology of the site comprises glacial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel, which are collectively referred to as Head (www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience). The overlying subsoil and topsoil compose brownish-orange / orange-brown plastic silt clay and reddish, brownish grey friable silt clay respectively. Both contain few natural inclusions.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The planning application (12/01480/OUT) for the residential development was submitted to Chelmsford City Council in October 2012.

1.3.2 The development will comprise a primary school, recreational open space, sports facilities, neighbourhood retail, business and community use, access routes and up to 575 houses. It will also include landscaping.

1.3.3 Essex County Council Place Services in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority recommended that a phased archaeological condition be attached to any grant of planning consent because the development site is located within an area of high potential for archaeological deposits according to the Historic Environment Record.

1.3.4 An archaeological condition based upon guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) was duly attached to the grant of outline planning permission. In summary, it states that archaeological evaluations will be carried out in accordance with an archaeological brief on

each phase or sub-phase of the development work in accordance with the time frame expressed by the condition, and will be followed within six months of completion by submission of written reports of the results.

- 1.3.5 An archaeological brief of works for this evaluation phase was provided by ECC Place Services Historic Environment team and a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by ASE and approved by ECC HE prior to the commencement of works.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at the former Runwell Hospital site, Chase Road, Runwell. The trenching took place during 28th April to 16th May 2014 and was undertaken ahead of residential development within an c.7.4ha plot of greenfield and brownfield land. The fieldwork was carried out under the supervision of Mark Germany and managed by Adrian Scruby.
- 1.4.2 The results of this work will be provided to the client and the ECC Historic Environment team and used to inform decision-making on the need for and scope of further archaeological works either preceding or during development.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological background

- 2.1.2 Archaeological work undertaken in 1999-2002 in advance of and during the construction of the A12 to A127 section of the A130 road, to the east of the former Runwell Hospital, identified and investigated twenty-nine archaeological sites (Dale *et al* 2005). Site 13, the closest of these to Runwell Hospital, lay immediately to its east and extended across the lower part of the west-facing slope of Curry Hill. This site included the remains of two Iron Age settlements represented by pits, enclosures and roundhouses, and Iron Age trackway and Roman enclosure ditches. Similar results were found in some of the other identified sites along the A130 and together with those of Site 13, their presence was interpreted as indicating that the heavy clay soils of south Essex had not been a deterrent to farming and occupation during the past. From the results of the work it seemed probable that the settlement pattern of south Essex during the late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age periods had largely comprised dispersed farmsteads and small, 'village-like' settlements, often closely associated with ditches, trackways and fields.
- 2.1.2 Other than these A130 discoveries, there are very few recorded sites and find spots within the Runwell area. Roman coins are recorded to have been found west of the former hospital (HER 7641).
- 2.1.3 No archaeological work has previously been undertaken within the development area and no remains are known within the grounds of the former hospital.

2.2 Historical background

2.2.1 Prior to the 1930s development of the hospital, the site comprised enclosed farmland and small areas of woodland. The farmland belonged to the manor of Runwell and was occupied by a hall / farm, which is initially labelled as 'Runwell Hall' and then as 'Runwell Hall Farm' on the 1880 and 1896-87 editions of the Ordnance Survey respectively (Fig.9). Also related to the estate was 'New Runwell Hall', which was sited 1km to the south-east alongside the present-day A132. 'New Runwell Hall' no longer exists and its site is located outside the boundary of the residential development. The nomenclature makes it likely that the former is the site of the original hall, and that it was eventually downgraded to a farm after the construction of 'New Runwell Hall'; though the date for this is not known. Runwell Hall manor is probably of some antiquity as information provided by the Wickford History website suggests that it originated in the late Saxon period (www.wickfordhistory.org.uk). The word 'chase' in the road name 'Runwell Chase' refers to an associated medieval hunting reserve and this too is likely to have been part of the manor; an indication of high status.

2.2.2 The former Runwell Hospital (EHER 15657) accommodated 1032 patients and treated people with mental and nervous diseases. It was designed by the architects Elcock and Sutcliffe and was constructed by the civil engineers John Mowlam and Co. Ltd. The Mental Treatment Act of 1930 influenced the design of the hospital complex and emphasised the remedial treatment of mental disorders rather than custodial care.

2.2.3 The extensive hospital complex was set out on a broadly symmetrical plan within landscaped grounds of c.500 acres (Fig.1). The various wards, and a wide range of other facilities, were laid out around a central administration/reception/catering block, with a nurses home, other staff housing and sports facilities to the south. All were connected by concrete roads and the hospital buildings by a network of covered walkways/corridors. Much of the original form and character of the site was maintained right up to its closure in 2009. The hospital and its associated buildings were the subject of an English Heritage Level III historic building record in 2012 (ECC FAU 2012). All of the hospital buildings have since been demolished, apart from the Grade II listed chapel, the boiler house and the central administration block.

2.3 Project Aims and Objectives

2.3.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains and to establish their character, location, date, quality and significance. Archaeological remains uncovered by the evaluation were to be assessed against the wider background of previous fieldwork in the area.

2.3.2 The specific research aim of the trial-trenching was to identify any evidence, including the nature and extent of, for settlement and / or land use predating 1934, which was when the construction of the hospital was completed.

- 2.3.3 In the event that significant discoveries were made, the resulting report was to seek to identify appropriate research objectives for any future work, in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology: a framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the east of England* (Medlycott 2011).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD

3.1 Fieldwork Method

- 3.1.1 The intended plan as stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014) was to trench a 4% sample of the housing development site and its new ring / access road areas, excluding those areas which were formerly occupied by buildings. In practice, this was to comprise fifty-four 30m by 1.8m wide trenches for the new areas of housing, and twenty-four 30m by 1.8m trenches for the new ring / access road. The total extents of the housing blocks and the ring / access roads were 7.3ha and 3.32ha respectively.
- 3.1.2 Modification to the trenching plan was carried out in the field and was necessitated by unforeseen obstacles. These included underground services, copses of trees, still-in-use sports pitches, locked gates without keys for access, and long stretches of immovable Heras fences with unusual fastenings which couldn't be undone without obtaining specialised equipment. In partial compensation, two 15m long trenches (78 and 79) were added to further investigate a concentration of post-medieval features exposed within trenches 32 to 34, and the south end of trench 73 was slightly enlarged. All of the modifications to the trench layout were approved by ECC Place Services. The width of the trenches was 2.1m, not 1.8m as stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The final sample percentage for the new housing blocks and access network combined was 3.03%, c.1% less than the intended target. The eventual trench layout is shown in Figure 1 on which excavated and non-excavated trenches are distinguished.

The trenches affected by on-site constraints are summarised in Table 1.

Trench	Comments
13	Reduced to 24m due to gas and drain pipes at south end
14	Cuts underground services. Not stripped
20	Reduced to 17m due to immovable fence at north end
23	Reduced to 27m due to immovable fence at north end
25	Reduced to 24m due to immovable fence at north end
26	Reduced to 22m due to immovable fence at north end
27	Cuts underground services. Not stripped
28	Cuts underground services. Not stripped
36	Located in copse. Not stripped
40	Located in copse. Not stripped
41	Unable to obtain access. Not stripped
42	Rotated & reduced to 18m due to surrounding trees & immovable fence
43 to 48	In sports fields and unable to obtain access. Not stripped
57 to 61	In sports fields and unable to obtain access. Not stripped
62	Located in copse. Not stripped
63	Located on concrete. Not stripped
73	South end enlarged to 6m by 8m
78 to 79	Additional. Both 15m long

Table 1: Unstripped, modified and additional trenches

- 3.1.2 The trenches were located by using a Leica GPS and were stripped of their topsoil and subsoil using a 360 tracked excavator equipped with a 2.1m wide toothless ditching bucket. The stripping of the trenches was carried out under archaeological supervision.
- 3.1.3 The surface of the underlying superficial geology (hereafter referred to as 'natural') within each trench was cleaned by hand if necessary and visually inspected for archaeological features, deposits and finds which, if present, were investigated and recorded by hand in accordance with the stipulations of the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014).
- 3.1.4 Standard ASE excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout. Written records, comprising trench and context sheets were created, together with drawn plans and sections and a colour digital photographic record. Finds were retrieved for analysis from all investigated deposits and bulk soil samples collected for environmental analysis from deposits with potential for plant macrofossil, charcoal and small artefact recovery.
- 3.1.5 The work was carried out in accordance with the IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) Code of Conduct, by-laws and guidelines (IfA 2013a and 2013b) and in compliance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).
- 3.3 Archive**
- 3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the Braintree office of Archaeology South-East and will be deposited at Chelmsford Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 2).

Number of Contexts	82
No. of files/paper record	82 context sheets, 59 trench sheets, 1 photo register, 4 bulk sample record sheets, 2 drawing register sheets
Plan and sections sheets	9
Bulk Samples	3
Photographs	109
Bulk finds	7
Registered finds	7
Environmental flots/residue	3

Table 2: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The results of the trial-trenching reveal three distinct clusters of archaeological remains consisting of later prehistoric pits and ditches in trenches 2, 3, 7 and 9 (site A) in the north-west part of the site, post-medieval layers, gully and ditches in trenches 32, 33, 34 and 78 (site B) in the north-central part of the site, and medieval pits and ditches in trench 73 alongside the A32 (site C). Site A is suggested to represent later prehistoric (Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age) enclosures and pitting, site B a late medieval to mid 17th century farm, and site C a 12th to 13th-century roadside settlement and / or work place.

4.1.2 All but one of the recorded archaeological features cut natural and lie sealed beneath varying thicknesses of subsoil and topsoil, which in all cases generally comprises brownish-orange plastic silt clay, and reddish-brownish grey friable silt clay respectively. Both deposits contain few natural inclusions and the inclusions which do occur tend to be small. The underlying natural consists of pale brownish orange / pale orange brown plastic silt clay, usually with no or very few natural inclusions, but sometimes with small pockets of gravel.

4.1.3 The thickness of the topsoil across the development area presents no clear evidence for distribution bias and is between 0.1m and 0.36m. The thickness of the underlying subsoil, by contrast is more variable, although in most places it measures between 0.1m and 0.5m. Two exceptions are present and are located in the general areas indicated by trenches 1 to 3, and trenches 30 and 31. In trenches 1 to 3 the subsoil is c.0.68m thick, although this could be due to it being integrated with colluvium as it lies at the base of a hill. In trenches 30 and 31 the thickness of the subsoil is 0.52m and 0.94m respectively, the reasons for which are not known. A suggested explanation is that the extra thickness represents a large, silted-up glacial depression.

4.1.4 Trenches 1, 4 to 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 to 26, 29 to 31, 35, 37 to 39, 42, 49 to 56, 64 to 68, 70 to 77 and 79 contained no archaeological remains and are not considered further.

4.1.5 The locations of all trenches are shown on Figure 1. Those that contained identified archaeological remains are described below.

4.2 Trench 2

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[2/004]	Cut	Ditch	1.9+	2.6	0.55
[2/005]	Deposit	Primary fill of [2/004]	-	-	0.32
[2/006]	Deposit	Upper fill of [2/004]	-	-	0.25

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Ditch [2/004] had a broad, rounded, 0.55m deep gradual-sided profile and ran north-west to south-east across the central part of trench 2 (Fig.2). The primary fill [2/005] of it was similar to, but slightly greyer than, the surrounding natural, whereas its upper fill [2/006] was a pale brownish grey colour and more friable. The only finds retrieved from the ditch were two sherds of later prehistoric pottery from its upper fill, both of which were very small and abraded and therefore perhaps residual.

4.3 Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[3/005]	Cut	Ditch	2.1+	2.3	0.90
[3/006]	Deposit	Primary fill of [3/005]	-	-	0.25
[3/007]	Deposit	Secondary fill of [3/005]	-	-	0.09
[3/008]	Deposit	Third fill of [3/005]	-	-	0.04
[3/009]	Deposit	Fourth fill of [3/005]	-	-	0.50
[3/010]	Deposit	Latest fill of [3/006]	-	-	0.37
[3/011]	Cut	Pit	0.9	0.8	0.16
[3/012]	Deposit	Single fill of [3/011]	-	-	0.16
[3/013]	Cut	Pit	1.00	0.52	0.08
[3/014]	Deposit	Single fill of [3/013]	-	-	0.08

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 The north half of trench 3 revealed an east-west ditch [3/005] and two pits [3/011 and 3/013] (Fig.2). The ditch had a slightly concave base and moderate to steep sloping sides (Fig. 10). It measured 0.9m deep and contained five fills of brownish grey and yellowish brown plastic silt clay (Fig.8, Section 1). Finds from the feature came from the primary and latest fills and consisted of small amounts of abraded and undiagnostic later prehistoric pottery in quartz-rich fabrics.

4.3.2 Both pits were small and shallow, with [3/011] being round in plan and [3/013] an elongated oval. Two small sherds of undiagnostic later prehistoric pottery were retrieved from the fill of pit [3/011]. No finds were present in undated pit [3/013].

4.4 Trench 7

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[7/004]	Cut	Ditch	4.6+	1.26	0.29
[7/005]	Deposit	Single fill of [7/004]	-	-	0.29
[7/006]	Cut	Pit	1.32	0.78	0.27
[7/007]	Deposit	Single fill of [7/006]	-	-	0.27
[7/008]	Cut	Post-hole	0.35	0.30	0.09
[7/009]	Deposit	Single fill of [7/008]	-	-	0.09

Table 5: Trench 7 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 The near-central section of trench 7 was occupied by a small cluster of three features, comprising ditch [7/004] and discrete features [7/006 and 7/008] (Fig.2). The ditch ran north-west to south-east and was small and shallow. It had moderate sloping sides and an uneven base. Its single fill, consisting of grey silt clay, yielded three small conjoining sherds of undiagnostic later prehistoric pottery.

4.4.2 Pit [7/006] was notably irregularly shaped in both plan and profile. It intersected with the ditch, although the stratigraphic relationship between them was unable to be established. It contained a single fill. Post-hole [7/008] to the west was small and shallow. Both it and the pit contained no finds and are therefore undated.

4.5 Trench 9

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[9/004]	Cut	Pit	0.79+	0.5	0.15
[9/005]	Deposit	Single fill of [9/004]	-	-	0.15

Table 6: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Pit [9/004] was located at the west end of trench 9 and was small and shallow (Fig.3). It contained a grey silt clay fill from which no finds were retrieved.

4.6 Trench 12

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[12/001]	Cut	Pit	1.10	0.96	0.21
[12/002]	Deposit	Single fill of [12/001]	-	-	0.21

Table 7: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Pit [12/001], at the north end of trench 12, was a small, shallow oval feature with a rounded profile (Fig.3). Its single fill [12/002] was similar to the surrounding natural and contained two small sherds of undiagnostic later prehistoric pottery.

4.7 Trench 32

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
[32/001]	Cut	Ditch	0.36+	0.61	0.21
[32/002]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/001]	-	-	0.21
[32/003]	Cut	Ditch	1.02	3.0	0.4m
[32/004]	Deposit	Third fill of [32/003]	-	-	0.18
[32/005]	Deposit	Latest fill of [32/003]	-	-	0.19
[32/006]	Cut	Ditch	3.6+	1.3	0.4m
[32/007]	Deposit	Latest fill of [32/006]	-	-	0.35
[32/008]	Deposit	Secondary fill of [32/006]	-	-	0.17
[32/009]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/015]	-	-	0.24
[32/010]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/010]	-	-	0.33
[32/011]	Deposit	Secondary fill of [32/003]	-	-	0.44
[32/012]	Deposit	Primary fill of [32/003]	-	-	0.23
[32/013]	Deposit	Layer			0.05
[32/014]	Cut	Ditch	0.6+	0.8	0.33
[32/015]	Cut	Ditch	2.2+	0.6	0.24
[32/016]	Cut	Pit	?	?	0.30
[32/017]	Deposit	Primary fill of [32/006]	-	-	0.08
[32/018]	Cut	Ditch	1.5	0.26	0.12
[32/019]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/018]	-	-	0.12
[32/020]	Cut	Gully	1.8+	0.25	0.11
[32/021]	Deposit	Layer			0.17
[32/022]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/020]	-	-	0.11
[32/023]	Cut	Pit	0.7+	0.7	Unex
[32/024]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/023]	-	-	Unex
[32/025]	Cut	Ditch	2.5+	2	Unex
[32/026]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/025]	-	-	Unex
[32/027]	Cut	Ditch	2.7+	2.7	Unex
[32/028]	Deposit	Single fill of [32/027]	-	-	Unex
[32/029]	Deposit	Primary fill of [32/016]	-	-	0.11
[32/030]	Deposit	Latest fill of [32/016]	-	-	0.18

Table 8: Trench 32 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Six ditches, a gully and two pits were exposed in Trench 32 (Figs.4 and 7). The ditches constitute an intercut sequence that was only partially explored and understood within the confines of the trench. Most of these features were probably in use during the mid 17th century, although an earlier phase of activity in this vicinity is suggested by residual sherds of later medieval pottery. Ditch [32/003] was not bottomed due to a high water table, and three features in the south part of the trench, a pit and two ditches ([32/025], [32/027] and [32/023]), were recorded but not excavated.

4.7.2 Narrow ENE-WSW aligned gully [32/020] crossed the north end of the trench and had a square-shaped profile, measuring 0.11m deep (Fig.8, Section 4). Its single fill [32/022] comprised grey silt clay and contained sherds of late medieval and 17th-century pottery. It also yielded a small amount of post-medieval ceramic building material. Dark greyish brown clay silt layer [32/021] overlaid it and extended across the far northern end of the trench. This deposit included a similar range of finds to that of the gully, together with a quantity of iron nails.

- 4.7.3 Narrow ditch [32/014 and 32/015] extended across the central part of the trench and formed a right-angled corner. Both arms had rounded, concave profiles and were reduced in depth to 0.33m and 0.24m respectively by overlying and truncating ditch [32/006] (Fig.8, Section 3). Their single fills [32/010] and [32/009] contained sherds of late 16th / 17th-century and earlier pottery. Other finds included a copper-alloy Nuremburg jetton, dated to the 14th to 17th centuries, and a small copper-alloy bell, which may have been used during the carrying out of the Christian liturgy (registered finds <5> and <7>).
- 4.7.3 A roughly north-south aligned ditch, investigated within segments [32/001], [32/006] and [32/018], overlay and truncated ditch [32/014 and 32/015] and was in turn cut by later ditch [32/003] (Fig.8, Section 2). Somewhat irregular in plan, its southern end extended beyond the trench limit at an oblique angle, while at its north end the ditch appeared to make a right-angled turn westwards. It had a shallow, irregular profile measuring 0.3m to 0.4m deep. Single fills [32/002] and [32/019] were recorded in segments [32/001] and [32/018] (Fig.12). However, segment [32/006] had three fills ([32/007], [32/008] and [32/017]) - probably because more of it was exposed in the trench and was therefore able to be investigated to its full depth (Fig.11). The secondary fill was the most distinctive of the ditch's deposits. It was represented by [32/002], [32/019] and [32/008] and largely consisted of compacted pieces post-medieval roof tile, with small amounts of orange-red un-frogged brick. Other finds from ditch segment [32/006] were a copper-alloy dress pin, three lead alloy spoon handles, a fragment of whetstone, and an unidentified fragment of copper alloy sheet (registered finds <1>, <2>, <3>, <4>, <6> and <8>).
- 4.7.4 Ditch [32/003] ran east-west, extending across the north-central part of the trench and cutting the north side of the westward return of ditch [32/001 etc], making it one of the demonstrably latest features (Fig.4). It was in excess of 0.65m deep, with a moderate to steep sided profile, becoming more irregular towards the top; in particular on the south side where it cut ditch segment [32/001] (Fig.8, Section 2). It contained a sequence of four fills, beginning on the south-facing side with a primary fill of brownish grey silt clay [32/012] with frequent pieces of tile, then a more extensive darker deposit of silt clay [32/011] coming in from the opposite side. The final two fills sat more centrally within the ditch and consisted of deposits of orange brown and dark brownish grey silt clays [32/004] and [32/005]. Finds from this fill sequence mainly comprised fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material, but also present were pieces of animal bone and sherds of mostly 17th-century pottery. Fill [32/004] also contained a fragmentary whittle-tanged iron knife, probably dating to the late 16th / early 17th century. Immediately north of the ditch, and possibly cut by it, was a thin spread of artefacts, most of which consisted of fragments of tile and oyster shell [32/013].
- 4.7.5 Cut-feature [32/016], probably a pit, was identified in section only, in the east baulk of the trench and cut into ditch [32/006] (Fig.8, Section 2 and Fig.11). Its two fills [32/029] and [32/030] contained no finds. The feature probably post-dates the mid 17th century, but is perhaps following the east/west alignment and positioning of earlier ditch [23/001].

4.7.6 Ditches [32/025] and [32/027] in the southern part of the trench were recorded, but not excavated. The ditches ran on alignments slightly different to those within the northern part of the trench and likely intersected with them - perhaps further evidence for the remains within trench 32 being of more than one phase. Ditch fills [32/026] and [32/028] consisted of brownish-orange plastic silt clay with amorphous brownish-grey patches and were possibly derived from two different sources, suggesting that the ditches may have been deliberately backfilled. Pieces of post-medieval ceramic building material were observed in the surfaces of both.

4.7.7 Small rounded pit [32/023] was similarly unexcavated. No finds were apparent in the surface of its single fill [32/024].

4.8 Trench 33

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
33/004	Cut	Cut-feature	2.1+	4.7	0.5
33/005	Deposit	Single fill of [33/004]	-	-	0.5
33/006	Deposit	Lens within [33/005]	-	-	0.2

Table 9: Trench 33 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 The centre of trench 33 was occupied by large cut feature, which was either a broad ditch or perhaps a large elongated pit [33/004] (Fig.3). The 0.5m deep cut was gradual and irregular sided, leading down to an uneven base. Its single fill [33/005] consisted of greyish brown silt clay with orange mottles and incorporated lens [33/006]. Artefacts from the feature comprised oyster shells, pieces of post-medieval ceramic building material, and a small amount of 14th to 16th century pottery, which could have been residual as it was much abraded.

4.9 Trench 34

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
34/001	Cut	Ditch	30+	1.23	0.3
34/002	Deposit	Primary fill of [34/001]	-	-	0.15
34/003	Deposit	Latest fill of [34/002]	-	-	0.21
34/004	Cut	Ditch	30+	1.22	0.3
34/005	Deposit	Primary fill of [34/003]	-	-	0.16
34/006	Deposit	Latest fill of [34/003]	-	-	0.24

Table 10: Trench 34 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Excavated in two segments [34/001] and [34/003], this north-south ditch ran more-or-less down the middle of trench 34 (Figs.4 and 14). Where excavated, the 1.22m wide cut had moderate to steep-sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Both segments contained a primary fill of pale brownish grey silt clay ([34/002 and 34/005]) beneath a latest fill of brownish grey silt clay [34/002 and 34/006]; probably the result of erosion followed by concerted silting. The finds from the segments came from the latest fills and included small amounts of animal bone and ceramic building material. Fragments of earthenware, and black-glazed ware cylindrical mug dating to the Late Tudor period and the 17th / 18th century respectively were also present.

4.10 Trench 69

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
69/001	Cut	Ditch	2.1+	2.8	1.15
69/002	Deposit	Primary fill of [69/001]	-	-	0.14
69/003	Deposit	Secondary fill of [69/001]	-	-	0.25
69/004	Deposit	Fourth fill of [69/001]	-	-	0.22
69/005	Deposit	Third fill of [69/001]	-	-	0.35
69/006	Deposit	Latest fill of [69/001]	-	-	0.32

Table 11: Trench 69 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 A back-filled post-medieval / modern field ditch [69/001], which appears on early editions of the Ordnance Survey, ran east-west across the southern part of trench 69 and was investigated at the request of ECC Place Services by machine and by hand (Fig.5). The ditch cut subsoil and measured 2.8m wide and 1.15m deep. The cut had gradually-sloping sides leading down to a central narrow slot with a U-shaped profile. The primary and secondary fills [69/002] and [69/003] contained abundant gravel stones and these may have added deliberately, as a means to ensure that the ditch continued to act as a drain after backfilling, albeit less effectively. The cut profile and slightly north positioning of latest fill [69/006] possibly indicate partial ditch clearance, probably by use of a machine (Fig.8, section 5).

4.11 Trench 73

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
73/001	Cut	Ditch	2.3+	1.12	0.12
73/002	Deposit	Single fill of [73/001]	-	-	0.12
73/003	Cut	Gully	3m	0.44	0.08
73/004	Deposit	Single fill of [73/003]	-	-	0.08
73/005	Cut	Pit	1.08	1m	0.16
73/006	Deposit	Single fill of [73/005]	-	-	0.16
73/007	Cut	Gully	2.14	0.27	0.08
73/008	Deposit	Single fill of [73/007]	-	-	0.08
73/009	Cut	Ditch	2.31+	1.3	0.08
73/010	Deposit	Single fill of [73/009]	-	-	0.08
73/011	Cut	Cut-feature	2.68	0.7m+	0.18
73/012	Deposit	Single fill of [73/011]	-	-	0.18

Table 12: Trench 73 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Expansion of the south end of trench 73 at the request of ECC Place Services revealed a small cluster of undated and medieval features, comprising ditch terminals [73/001] and [73/009], gullies [73/003] and [73/007], pit [73/005] and cut feature [73/011] (Figs.5 and 15).

4.11.2 The two ditches ran parallel with each other and with the A132 road, which lay behind the hedge to the immediate south. Aligned roughly NW-SE, both terminated at the same southwest extent. The two gullies were not aligned on the road. Gully [73/003] was very irregular, the other slight, yet despite this could have been associated with each other. The gullies curved around sub-circular pit [73/005] and may once have enclosed it. Only the north side of

feature [73/011] extended into the trench, and its form and purpose remains uncertain. All six features were between only 0.12m and 0.18m deep, perhaps implying that all been truncated by ploughing, and each contained a single brownish-grey fill. Small quantities of sherds of late 12th to 14th-century coarsewares were retrieved from features [73/001], [73/007], [73/009] and [73/011], but were possibly residual as the majority of them were mostly small and abraded. Gully [73/003] and pit [73/005] contained no artefacts, but could be inferred to be of medieval date by association.

4.12 Trench 78

Context	Type	Description	Max. Length m	Max. Width m	Depth / Thickness m
78/003	Deposit	Layer	9.5+	1.8+	0.37
78/004	Deposit	Modern disturbance	4.5+	2.1+	0.40
78/005	Deposit	Layer	9.5+	1.8+	0.10

Table 13: Trench 78 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Layers [78/003] and [78/005] extended across most of trench 78, but were cut away at the east end by modern disturbance [78/004], probably related to ground clearance when the hospital was constructed in the 1930s (Fig.5). The layers were investigated by means of a 1m square box section hand-excavated through them. Only a sample of the ceramic building material from this box section was retained for analysis. In addition, the finds from layer [78/005] were inadvertently processed and recorded under the number [78/003]. Modern disturbance [78/004] contained semi-decayed pieces of cut wood, lumps of concrete and a large ceramic drain pipe. It was c.0.4m deep and was investigated by use of a machine bucket. Continuing beyond the east end of the trench, the full extent of his ground disturbance was not determined.

4.12.2 Layer [78/005] was overlain by [78/003] and mainly composed a 0.1m thick deposit of fragments of post-medieval peg tile. Layer [78/003] extended across all of [78/005], apart from its far western end, and was 0.37m thick. It comprised dark brownish grey silt clay with few natural inclusions and occasional pieces of post-medieval brick and tile and sherds of 14th, 15th/16th and late 16th-century pottery. Other artefacts from the context comprised oyster shells and animal bones.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 The archaeological evaluation has retrieved a wide range of finds from the site, with most originating from the features and layers contained within trenches 32 to 34 and 78 (site B), and dating to the 15th to 17th centuries. Pieces of post-medieval roof tile, alongside smaller amounts of post-medieval brick, comprise most of the artefacts, although only a c.10% sample of these were retained during excavation for analysis; the remainder being discarded on site. The pottery sherds from trenches 32 to 34 and 78 are probably mostly primary refuse since they are often large and unabraded and therefore unlikely to have travelled far from their point of use. The same, however, cannot be said for the prehistoric and medieval pot sherds from trenches 2, 3,

7 and 9 (site A) and 73 (site C) respectively, as these are few in number and are largely small and abraded, a possible indication that their associated stratigraphic features were located not within, but on the fringes of, settlement areas. Bulk sampling of deposits [3/010], [34/006] and [34/011] for environmental remains produced disappointing results.

5.2 Worked Flint, by Karine Le Hégaret

5.2.1 Two pieces of struck flint weighing 8g were recovered. Both flakes were hand collected from context [32/008]. They are chronologically undiagnostic, and could even represent accidental flakes. A further eleven fragments (272g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from three numbered contexts in trenches 2 and 3. This material is undatable, although often associated with prehistoric activity.

5.3 Prehistoric Pottery, by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery amounting to thirty-six sherds, weighing 188g, clearly pre-dates the main periods of medieval and post-medieval activity on the site although it is unfortunately so fragmentary and lacking in feature sherds that it is of fairly ambiguous date. The material has been briefly examined using a x20 binocular microscope although it has not yet been formally assigned to fabric type-series. The ceramic evidence is summarised below by context in Table 14.

5.3.2 Most of the sherds found in contexts [2/006], [3/006], [3/010], [3/012], [7/005] and [12/002] are in low-fired hand-made quartz-rich fabric types. These include examples with very large rounded quartz grains and finer fabrics with sparse / moderate linear voids suggesting burnt out organic matter. These could belong to the Early / Middle Saxon period, but are more likely to be later prehistoric, possibly Middle Iron Age. In a few contexts the quartz-rich fabric types were stratified with heavily flint-tempered wares. These can be more certainly attributed to the prehistoric period although several examples are much coarser than typical for the Middle Iron Age, with sparse very ill-sorted inclusions of 0.5-4mm, within dense matrixes with fewer visible quartz inclusions. Where these occur with quartz-rich fabrics (contexts [3/006], [3/010] and [3/012]) it is assumed that they may represent residual pottery from either the Early Neolithic or the Middle / Late Bronze Age. One tiny plain rim sherd from [3/010] could also be consistent with either of these periods.

Context	Count	Weight	Comments
2/006	2	4	Extremely abraded sherds (fine quartz-rich fabrics with organics)
3/006	5	68	Three conjoining unabraded coarse quartz rich sherds; one highly abraded coarse flint-tempered ware
3/010	22	84	Fragmented quartz-rich fabrics (24 sherds, weighing 38g from 2 vessels). Larger but equally abraded coarse flint-tempered ware (8 sherds 46g from 4 vessels), including one tiny plain rim sherd.
3/012	2	6	One quartz rich sherd; one coarsely flint-tempered sherd both highly abraded
7/005	3	8	Three small conjoining fine quartz-rich wares with organic inclusions
12/002	2	18	Two small sherds in fine quartz-rich fabrics with organic inclusions
Total	36	188	

Table 14: Summary of the later prehistoric pottery by context

5.4 Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery, by Helen Walker

5.4.1 A total of 527 sherds weighing 11.287kg was excavated from twenty contexts and has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985a, 1-16).

5.4.2 Early medieval pottery was retrieved only from trench 73, at the very southern end of the excavation and only in small quantities. That from contexts [73/002] and [73/008] (the fills of ditch [73/001] and gully [73/002] respectively) comprises a couple of very abraded sherds of medieval coarseware, with the addition of an abraded sherd of shell-tempered ware in context [73/008]. Rather more pottery was recovered from context [73/010], the fill of ditch [73/009], although again the sherds are very abraded. The earliest is a thumbbed beaded bowl rim in early medieval ware dating from the 12th to early 13th centuries, and most frequent are sherds of medieval coarseware including single examples of H1 and H2 cooking-pot rims. Two fineware sherds are present; one may be Hedingham ware, showing a mustard-coloured glaze and the second is Mill Green ware. All could be 13th century, although the presence of Mill Green ware precludes a date before the mid-13th century. A fragment from the same early medieval thumbbed rim was collected from context [73/012], the fill of feature [73/011], indicating that that features [73/009] and [73/011] may have been open at the same time. Also found in [73/012] was a shell-tempered ware everted beaded rim perhaps dating to the 12th century and a sherd of very abraded medieval coarseware. In addition to the medieval pottery from trench 73, a sherd of Mill Green ware was found residually in trench 32 (context [32/004]), but it is possible that this is a late medieval example.

5.4.3 Pottery of late medieval date was recovered from trenches 33 and 78 in the centre of the site. Context [33/006], the fill of feature [33/004], produced very abraded sherds of Mill Green-type ware and sandy orange ware, the latter comprising a small fragment of slip-painted handle, or possibly foot attachment. Neither sherd is closely datable, spanning the 14th to 16th centuries. Rather more late medieval pottery was recovered from layer [78/003], finds comprising relatively large unabraded sherds. Finds include

sherds which are transitional between medieval coarseware and sandy orange ware, indicating a 14th century date when the two wares merge. There are also fragments from jugs and a probable cistern, some slip-painted, in sandy orange ware, Mill Green-type ware and Tudor red earthenware. The latest material, however, is a glazed post-medieval red earthenware slightly everted jug rim with a bead below the rim. Both the cistern and jug rim can be paralleled by vessels in late 16th century pits in Moulsham Street, Chelmsford (Cunningham1985b, fig.44.20 and fig.45.28-30, 33-4). Two contexts in adjacent trench 32, namely [32/022], the fill of gully [32/020], and succeeding layer [32/021], produced a similar range of fabrics to that from layer [78/003] and may also belong to the late 16th century. In addition, sherds of late medieval pottery are not uncommon as residual finds in post-medieval contexts in trench 32. Most of this residual material is similar to that described, but also present (in [32/007]) is a sherd of German stoneware. The sherd is thin-walled with an all over un-mottled brown glaze and may be an example of Langerwehe stoneware, perhaps dating to the 15th century.

- 5.4.4 By far the largest proportion of the excavated assemblage comprises 17th-century pottery excavated from ditches in trench 32. Although there is a stratified sequence, with ditch [32/002] cut by ditch [32/003] and ditches [32/014] and [32/015] cut by ditch [32/006], no difference in dating or the composition of the assemblage could be detected. The pottery is therefore described as a single group. A single context in trench 34, the upper fill [34/003] of ditch [34/001] also produced 17th century pottery, albeit a single sherd.
- 5.4.5 As is typical of any post-medieval assemblage, post-medieval red earthenware is the main component. Many sherds are abraded or otherwise damaged, although several large unabraded fragments are also present. There are several examples of large wide bowls with hollowed flanged rims. These vary in shape and can have either flared, convex or straight sides but are collectively known as pancheons and were used for dairying. Most have a partial or all over internal glaze, one pancheon fragment has a horizontal looped handle and a second, instead of having a flanged rim, has no change in profile, but a simple rounded rim. Smaller bowls, again with hollowed flanged rims, are present including one with a lug handle. Jar forms include large storage jars with collared rims, hooked beaded rims, which may be from one handled jars, although no matching handles were noted, and jar fragments with rounded shoulders and hollowed everted rims (Cunningham's vessel form C4EA). Jug fragments are present, but are not common and there are also some fragments from flanged dishes. More specialised vessels include the foot from a possible pipkin and a handle from a skillet or dripping dish, the handle attaching at the rim. There are the remains of several horizontal loop handles in the assemblage, while some are undoubtedly from bowls are jars, they may indicate the presence of specialised vessels and activities. The pancheons are a vessel type datable to the later 16th and 17th centuries and beyond. The C4EA jars have a similar date range, but other forms such as the collared jar rims and the hooked beaded rims are typical of the 17th century.

- 5.4.6 Closer dating can be obtained by other types of pottery present. Relatively common are examples of black-glazed ware, a type of post-medieval red earthenware covered by a thick-glossy black glaze. Although production was underway by the late 16th century and continued into the 18th, black-glazed ware is characteristic of the 17th century. Fragments from black-glazed jugs and drinking vessels are present in the assemblage and it was noticed that a couple of examples are semi-wasters, where the liquid glaze has flowed on to the underside of the vessel, causing adhesions of clay where the vessel has stuck to other vessels in the kiln. Vessel forms include part of a barrel-shaped jug (in ditch fill [32/008]), which may date to the second quarter of the 17th century and the base of a tall cylindrical mug (in ditch fill [34/003]). This fragment shows two bands of rilling around the lower part of the vessel and may be quite late as it shows similarities to stoneware drinking mugs, it may be late 17th century or even early 18th century. Less common are examples of Metropolitan slipware, a type of post-medieval red earthenware decorated with slip trailed patterns, which was produced from the second quarter of the 17th century until the earlier 18th. Sherds from dishes and perhaps a jar were found in fill [32/002] of ditch [32/001] at the bottom of one of the ditch sequences and in the fill [32/004] of ditch [32/003], intercutting the earlier ditch.
- 5.4.7 Smaller quantities of other types of pottery are also present. One of the most interesting finds comprises a total of eight sherds of Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed earthenware dating to the 17th century, which occurred in several of the ditch fills in trench 32. All sherds appear to be from dishes and at least two, more likely three, vessels are represented, all showing a thin tin glaze on the internal surface and a plain lead glaze on the external surface. One shows intersecting blue and ochre-painted dashes around the rim and the remainder have blue decoration only. A couple show what appear to be stylised flowers separated by blue-painted lines and comparable vessels have been excavated from Norwich (Jennings 1981, fig.86.1387,1389; fig.89.1413). These are dated to c.1640, c.1650-1700 and early 17th century respectively, so that a mid-17th century date might be suggested for the Runwell examples. Other wares comprise two sherds of 17th century Frechen stoneware, one showing a very mottled 'Tiger ware' salt glaze, which came from context [32/017], the primary fill of ditch [32/006]. The remaining ware comprises a single tiny sherd of yellow glazed white ware showing banded decoration, achieved by adding a brown colorant to the glaze, rather than by the use of dark slip. The fabric is consistent with that of Surrey-Hampshire white ware, but decoration is virtually unknown in this type of ware.
- 5.4.7 The pottery assemblage therefore demonstrates slight evidence for medieval activity dating to the 12th and 13th centuries in trench 73 at the very southern limit of the development area. Most activity is centred at the middle, in features in trenches 32, 33, 34 and 78. While some late medieval pottery is present, most of the pottery dates to the late 16th and 17th centuries. The preponderance of large bowls or pancheons indicates dairying was taking place, while other utilitarian vessels indicate there were a number of domestic activities. In addition, a couple of sherds are discoloured and may have been used for an industrial purpose. Tablewares comprise the black-glazed ware jugs and drinking vessels, the Frechen stoneware sherds (probably from

jugs), the Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed dishes and the sherd of Surrey-Hampshire whiteware. While most of these tablewares are commonplace, the Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed earthenware is unusual and may indicate high, or at least middling status. All varieties of post-medieval red earthenware are of local manufacture, with Harlow a major producer, although the pottery is perhaps more likely to originate from production centres at Stock, which is nearer and lies to the north-west of Runwell.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material, by Trista Clifford

5.5.1 A total of 327 fragments of ceramic building material weighing 59.1kg were examined from seventeen contexts. The identifiable material consisted of medieval and / or post-medieval roofing tile and post-medieval brick. The total weight and number of fragments for each category is 264 pieces and 29.4kg for medieval / post medieval roof tile, and sixty-three pieces and 29.7kg for post-medieval brick.

5.5.2 All the ceramic building material has been recorded on a standard recording form. Brick has been quantified by form, weight and fragment count only and the information has been entered onto an Excel database. Tile has been recorded by fabric, form, weight and fragment count. Tile fabrics are summarised in Table 15 and the broad date range of each brick/tile related context in Table 16. All material has been retained at this stage.

Fabric	Description
T1	Orange fabric with sparse to moderate fine quartz, moderate coarse coloured quartz in lenses, sparse coarse clay pellets and sparse medium to coarse calcareous and siltstone inclusions
T2	As T1 with more abundant silt stone and less / no calcareous material.
T3	Mid orange frequent fine quartz, moderate medium quartz, moderate coarse rounded quartz.
T4	Moderate very fine quartz, sparse iron rich / silt stone coarse inclusions.
T5	Mid orange, moderate to frequent rounded rose quartz, medium to coarse silty marls

Table 15: Tile fabrics

5.5.3 All contexts contained abraded roof tile, which comprises 50% of the total CBM assemblage by weight. Five fabrics were noted (Table 15). Fabrics are very similar and are likely to derive from the same local geological source. Fabrics T1 and T3 were the most numerous (13.6% and 17.1% of the total CBM assemblage by weight). 8.1% of the tile was vitrified or burnt to such an extent that Fabric could not be discerned.

Context	Context date (approx range)	Types present
32/002	1200-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/004	1200-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/005	1200-1700	Roof tile, Early post-medieval brick
32/007	1200-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/008	1200-1700	Peg tile, ridge tile, early post medieval brick
32/009	1400-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/010	1400-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/011	1400-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/013	1200-1600	Roof tile
32/017	1400-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/021	1400-1700	Peg tile, Early post medieval brick
32/022	1200-1600	Roof tile
33/005	1200-1600	Peg tile
33/006	1200-1700	Peg tile, ridge tile, early post medieval brick
34/003	1200-1600	Roof tile
34/006	1200-1600	Peg tile, ridge tile, early post medieval brick
78/003	1200-1600	Peg tile

Table 16: CBM date ranges, by context

- 5.5.4 One complete peg tile was present in fabric T1 (context [32/008]) with a complete length of 270mm, width of 161mm and two nail holes of c.12mm diameter. Nail-holes where present were either circular or polygonal; diameters range between 10mm and 16mm. Two fragmentary ridge tiles were present: context [32/008] contained a vitrified fragment, and [33/006] contained a fragment in Fabric T4. The peg and ridge tiles could not be closely dated but were likely to date from the later medieval or early post-medieval periods. Fabrics T1 and T5 may be slightly earlier in date.
- 5.5.5 All bricks, where diagnostic, were un-frogged indicating a pre-1700 date. 25% of the bricks by count were vitrified, and a number were significantly warped or distorted. Indented margins were recorded on seventeen fragments. A significant number of brick fragments exhibit uneven wear abrasion on the upper surface consistent with use or reuse as flooring or cobbles. One fragment from [32/004] has vitrified stretchers and is worn from a thickness of 47mm down to 34mm. No complete bricks were recovered; breadths range between 87-116mm and thicknesses between 40-75mm. Pieces from contexts [32/004] and [32/017] exhibited grassy impressions on the surfaces, and a fragment from [32/011] has diagonal pressure marks along the stretcher from where the brick was stacked to dry.
- 5.5.6 The assemblage consists of late medieval or early post-medieval roof tile, of which the only identifiable types were peg and ridge tile together with early post-medieval brick. Identifiable material appears to date from the 15th to 18th century. A significant proportion of the assemblage is over fired or vitrified and a number of pieces are sooted or heat cracked, indicating possible fire damage. Bricks appear to have been used or reused as cobbles or flooring.

5.6 Geological Material, by Luke Barber

5.6.1 Two pieces of stone were recovered from the site during the archaeological work. Context [32/008] produced a 136g whetstone fragment (see registered finds report). The other piece of stone consists of a fragment of Welsh roofing slate from [78/003], undoubtedly of the 19th century and possibly intrusive in this context.

5.7 Glass, by Elke Raemen

5.7.1 A small assemblage of six glass fragments (weight 54g), dating mostly to c.1650-1750, was recovered from four different contexts. Included are four green glass fragments from globular bottles dated to c.1650-1750 ([32/007], [32/008], [32/022]). Pieces are too small to establish the exact bottle type. A green glass base fragment from a small square bottle with rounded edges and kick was recovered from [32/008]. This too dates to c.1650-1750, and probably represents a pharmaceutical bottle. In addition, [32/009] contained a pale green window pane fragment (0.8mm thick), dating to c.1600-1800.

5.8 Clay Tobacco Pipe, by Elke Raemen

5.8.1 A total of nine fragments weighing 32g were found in five individually numbered contexts. All nine comprise undecorated and unmarked stem fragments. The earliest piece was found in [32/007] and dates to c.1640-60. Later fragments, dating to c.1660-1750, were recovered from [32/002], [32/004], [32/008] and [32/011]. An 18th-century fragment was contained by [32/004].

5.9 Fired Clay, by Trista Clifford

5.9.1 Eight fragments of fired clay were recovered from four separate contexts. Fabric was similar for each: fine sand temper with little or no other temper. Most pieces were reduced or had reduced cores. Contexts [3/010], [32/011], and [78/003] each contained a piece with one wattle impression. Diameters range from 8.5-12.5mm. Two conjoining fragments from [78/003] are triangular in section, exhibiting two parallel wattle impressions of 10mm and 15mm diameter and two flat surfaces at right angles. A wedge shaped fragment from [73/012] is clearly utilised but the form is not diagnostic of function.

5.10 Bulk Metalwork, by Trista Clifford

5.10.1 A total of twenty-one nails weighing 162g were recovered from seven separate contexts. The nails are in good condition and eleven were recovered complete. General purpose nails were present in all seven contexts; two heavy duty nail fragments came from [32/008]. Complete circular headed nails measured between 38-59mm ([32/013], [32/022]). Complete square / rectangular headed nails measured between 32-62mm ([32/002], [32/007], [32/008], [32/013] and [32/021]). A T-headed nail came from [32/005]. None of the nails appear to be machine cut, therefore a pre-1800 date is proposed.

5.10.2 Six pieces of bulk iron with a total weight of 438g were also recovered including amorphous pieces ([32/005], [32/008] and [32/021]), strip and rod fragments ([32/002] and [32/008]). The function of these pieces could not be established. X-radiography is recommended in order to provide identifications.

5.11 Registered Finds, by Trista Clifford and Luke Barber

- 5.11.1 Ten registered finds were recovered. The largest group of five objects was recovered from ditch fill [32/008]. The majority of finds are of early post medieval date.
- 5.11.2 A complete copper alloy dress pin with a large spherical head was recovered from ditch fill [32/008] RF<1>. The pin measures 36.9mm in length with a head diameter of 3.4mm. It is not clear how the head was formed; however a post-1600 date is probable.
- 5.11.3 Three fragments (two conjoining) from a whittle-tanged iron knife, RF<10>, came from [32/004]. The conjoining fragments consist of the tang, solid bolster and part of the blade and have a total length of c.102mm. The knife is similar to late 16th / early 17th-century examples from London (e.g. Egan 2005, 87; Brown 2001, 77)
- 5.11.4 Three lead alloy spoon handles were recovered. The most complete example, RF<2> from ditch fill [32/008] consists of the roughly cast handle and part of the bowl. The handle is tapered, hexagonal in section and measures 97mm in length. A second probable spoon handle, RF<3> also came from this context; however this example has been bent to form a loop and may represent waste lead alloy retained for re-casting. Lastly, ditch fill [32/009] contained a similar handle, RF<6>, with a more uneven section and flattened ends. Spoons of this form are 16th century or later date (Egan 2005, 110).
- 5.11.5 Context [32/008] produced a 136g whetstone fragment in a light grey non-calcareous well-cemented fine / medium grained sandstone, RF<8>. The stone is elongated with only a slight taper to it and has a rectangular cross-section measuring 32 by 40mm. Although not particularly datable it does have similarities to some late post-medieval whetstones from the Midlands.
- 5.11.6 A copper alloy Nuremburg jetton, RF<7>, came from ditch fill [32/010]. The jetton is worn with broken edges. Both faces are illegible; it measures 24.7mm in diameter. A 14th to 17th century date is probable.
- 5.11.7 A small cast copper alloy bell was recovered from ditch fill [32/010] (RF<5>). The bell is 55.6mm tall with a diameter of 52.8mm. The square suspension loop is cast integrally with the body of the bell and has a circular aperture. The form is similar to that of bells found within liturgical contexts at Winchester; it is of 15th century or later date (Biddle 1990, 725-726, fig. 207).
- 5.11.8 A modern horse shoe, RF<9>, was recovered from ditch fill [32/005], the latest fill of [32/003], and is perhaps intrusive. The horse shoe is complete with a toe clip and measures 172mm across. An unidentified fragment of copper alloy sheet, RF<4>, came from ditch fill [32/008].

5.12 Slag, by Luke Barber

- 5.12.1 Context [38/008] produced two fragments of fuel ash slag of a type typically associated with the burning of coal. A post-medieval date is probable.

5.13 Animal Bone, by Hayley Forsyth

5.13.1 The evaluation excavations at the former Runwell Hospital produced a small animal bone assemblage containing 207 identifiable fragments of mammal bones. The assemblage has been hand-collected and retrieved from bulk samples that date from the medieval/post-medieval period (12th to 18th century) dated by the pottery and ceramic building material. The majority of the faunal remains derive from fills of ditches, layer deposits, pits and a gully.

5.13.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with the zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size and identified as large, medium, small mammal.

5.13.3 In order to distinguish between the bones and teeth of sheep and goats a number of criteria were used including those outlined by Boessneck (1969), Boessneck *et al* (1964), Halstead *et al* (2002), Hillson (1995), Kratochvil (1969), Payne (1969, 1985), Prummel and Frisch (1986) and Schmid (1972).

5.13.4 Tooth eruption and wear has been recorded according to Grant (1982) and all mammalian metrical data has been taken in accordance with von den Driesch (1976). The state of fusion has been noted and each fragment has then been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology.

5.13.5 The assemblage contains 296 fragments weighing c.5041g, of which 207 have been identified to taxa (Table 17). The majority of the specimens from all contexts are in poor condition, surface erosion is evident on several of the bones. Bulk environmental samples from context [34/006] <2> and context [32/011] <3> produced 30g of small to medium sized mammal bone fragments, as well as a small quantity, 1.2g, of burnt/calced bone from context [32/011].

Period	No. Fragments	NISP	Preservation		
			Good	Moderate	Poor
Medieval/Post-medieval 12th-18th Century	296	207	5%	29%	66%
Total	296	207			

Table 17: The total number of fragments, NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) count and percentage preservation based on the NISP.

5.13.6 The majority of the bone derives from the large and medium mammal groups due to the high proportion of fragmented bones from this assemblage (Table 18). Dog bones dominate the assemblage, with cattle, horse, sheep and pig remains present in some abundance.

Taxa ID	Count
Cattle	17
Sheep	8
Pig	8
Horse	11
Deer Red/Fallow	4
Dog	24
Large mammal	68
Medium mammal	57
Small mammal	10

Table 18: NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) by period

5.13.7 The medieval/post-medieval assemblage (12th-18th century) contains two hundred and seven identifiable fragments which include large mammal, medium mammal, dog, cattle, horse, small mammal, sheep, pig, deer bones. The deer specimens were either too small or in too poor a condition to be confidently distinguished and may represent either red or fallow deer. The assemblage is dominated by large and medium mammal bone fragments from ditch fill deposits [32/002], [32/004], [32/005], [32/008], [32/009], [32/011], [32/017], [34/003], [34/006], layer deposits [32/013], [32/021], [78/003], pit deposits [33/006], [33/005] and a gully deposit [32/022]. This is due to the large quantity of fragmented bone present that could not be identified further to species or element.

5.13.8 Several bones exhibited evidence of butchery. Large mammal bone fragments of vertebra, radius, metapodial, mandible and long bone from [32/008] have been roughly chopped. Twenty large mammal long bone fragments from [32/008] have been chopped into pot-sized pieces. Large mammal pelvis elements from [32/022] and [33/006] exhibit chop marks, as well as a vertebra fragment from [32/011]. A cattle mandible from context [32/012], a metatarsal from [32/004], a radial fragment from [33/006], a humeral fragment from [32/008] and a pelvis fragment from [32/008] have also been roughly chopped. A cattle scapula fragment from [32/008] has been broken across the blade. Four fragments of deer pelvic bones have been chopped and roughly broken, three from [32/008] and one from [33/006]. Medium mammal bone fragments from a humerus [33/006] rib [78/003] and scapula [32/002] have been chopped with fifteen long bone fragment from [32/008] chopped into pot-sized pieces. Pig mandible fragments from [32/008] and [32/005] exhibit chop marks which could suggest the removal of the tongue. Also from [32/005] a small fragment of medium mammal sized bone has a possible tool mark running through the shaft and a sheep calcaneus from [32/008] has been cut. The majority of the butchered bones are from adult animals, with two juvenile bones present. This type of butchery suggests the dismembering and portioning of the carcass possibly for marrow extraction, grease rendering and consumption.

5.13.9 Several bones exhibited evidence of carnivore gnawing including a large mammal pelvis fragment from gully fill [32/022], a large mammal thoracic vertebra fragment and a sheep calcaneus from ditch fill [32/008]. A horse metatarsal from layer deposit [78/003] and a cattle 1st phalange from context [32/004] had also been gnawed by carnivores.

- 5.13.10 A small amount of unidentifiable burnt bone, 1.2g, was recovered from bulk sample <3> from context ditch deposit [32/011]; it is white-blue/black in colour.
- 5.13.11 Pathology, possibly related to joint disease, was evident in two bones. Localised eburnation was present in the acetabulum of a large mammal pelvis fragment from pit deposit [33/006] and osteophytic lipping was visible on the proximal articulation of a horse 3rd metatarsal from layer deposit [78/003].
- 5.13.12 One measureable bone was recovered from this assemblage, a horse 3rd metatarsal from context [78/003] giving a withers height of 129.9cm or c.13 hands. No other measurable bones were recovered.
- 5.13.13 The majority of the specimens from this assemblage are shaft fragments from a range of elements and species. The available fusion data shows that most of the remains are adult with a small number of bones representing juveniles; these include five fragments of large mammal bone, three fragments of dog bone and two fragments of medium mammal bone from a range of feature types. One ageable sheep mandible was also present from context [78/003].
- 5.13.14 The bone assemblage is of local significance. Due to the condition and size of the assemblage it holds no potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

5.14 Marine Molluscs, by Trista Clifford

- 5.14.1 A total of 157 fragments weighing 1866g were recovered by hand from ten individual contexts. An overview is shown in Table 19. Five edible species are represented: Common oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Common cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*), Common periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*), Common whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) and Edible mussel (*Mytilus edulis*). In addition, context [32/008] contained a possible lower valve from *Anomina ephippium* or Jingle shell, a non-edible species similar in appearance to the edible oyster. An unidentified land mollusc was recovered from [32/004]. No groups are statistically significant; however a high percentage of juvenile individuals was noted within the oyster assemblage.

Context	Species	MNI
[32/002]	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	7
32/004	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	4
	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	1
	<i>unident land snail</i>	1
32/005	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	1
32/008	<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>	1
	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	20
	? <i>Anomina ehippium</i>	1
	<i>Littorina littoria</i>	1
32/009	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	12
32/013	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	1
	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	1
32/017	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	1
32/022	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	3
	<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	1
33/006	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	1
78/003	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>	45
	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	1
	<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>	1
	<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	3
Total		107

Table 19: Minimum number of individual mollusc species, by context

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES, by Dawn Elise Mooney

6.1.1 Three bulk environmental samples were taken during evaluation work at the site in order to retrieve environmental remains such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, bone and mollusca, and well as to aid finds recovery. Sample <1> was taken from the basal fill [3/006] of prehistoric ditch [3/005], while samples <2> and <3> were taken from the primary and secondary fills respectively of post-medieval ditch [34/004].

6.1.2 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank, and the flots and residue were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively, and air dried prior to sorting. The residue was passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains. The flot was scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and its contents recorded. Taxonomic identifications were made by comparing the macrobotanical remains with modern specimens and with those documented in reference manuals (Cappers *et al.* 2006, and NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.1.3 All three samples produced small flots dominated by uncharred modern plant material including rootlets, grass leaves and stems and small twig fragments.

A large assemblage of uncharred modern seeds, mostly comprising nettles (*Urtica* sp.) but also including blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus/idaeus* agg.), knotgrass / dock (Polygonaceae) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*), was recorded in sample <3>. A single charred seed was noted in sample <2>, however its preservation was too poor to permit taxonomic identification. Very small quantities of wood charcoal fragments were noted in the flots and residues of all three samples. The residues of samples <2> and <3> also contained animal bone fragments, while sample <3> also produced small amounts of burnt bone, iron objects, pottery, ceramic building material, magnetised material, and land snail shells.

- 6.1.4 No environmental remains of archaeological significance were noted in any of the samples taken at the site. The dominance of modern plant material in the samples suggests that the deposits have been disturbed through bioturbation. Charred wood remains in the samples are likely to derive from the dumping of domestic or industrial waste. However, the small quantities recovered indicate that this material may have arrived through secondary or accidental deposition. Despite the paucity of the environmental data resulting from these samples, a programme of sampling for environmental remains from promising features should continue to be operated in any future archaeological work at the site.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview

- 7.1.1 The archaeological trial trenching has identified three areas within the development site, which are likely to contain the remains of tangible archaeological sites. These are identified as Sites A to C and are located in the north-west, north-central and south-east parts of the development area respectively. Site A has been partly exposed by trenches 2, 3, 7, 9 and 12 (Fig.6), site B by trenches 32, 33, 34 and 78 (Fig.7), and site C by trench 73 (Fig.5). Only one archaeological feature has been detected outside those areas (post-medieval to modern field ditch [69/001]) and is of little significance.
- 7.1.2 Site A is represented by a widespread, thin scattering of later prehistoric ditches and pits.
- 7.1.3 Site B comprises a dense and potentially complex intercutting cluster of 16th to 17th century ditches, pits and layers.
- 7.1.4 Site C is a small concentration of 12th to 14th-century pits, gullies and ditches within a single trench.
- 7.1.5 Site B is the best preserved, probably due to it being the most recent and to having been protected from regular ploughing by being located in the grounds of a hospital for the last eighty years. Site C, by contrast, shows signs of having been disturbed and truncated, as all of its features are shallow, and most of its pottery sherds are small and abraded. Many of the recorded features at all three sites extend beyond the trench extents and are clearly parts of more extensive complexes of remains, the full extents of which have

not necessarily been determined by this evaluation.

7.1.6 Other archaeological sites may be present within those parts of the development area not subject to evaluation. Two areas of it have not been trenched because they are still in use as sports pitches and/or are currently inaccessible behind locked gates and fences. The largest of these areas is the vicinity of unexcavated trenches 41, 43 to 46, and 57 to 61. The other is the vicinity of trenches 47 and 48.

7.1.7 Although not demonstrated unequivocally by the evaluation to date, it is very likely that the locations of the former hospital buildings, paths and roads, plus their various associated service runs, will have severely disturbed the ground at these locations. The east end of trench 78 is perhaps the only obvious indicator of this.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.2.1 The archaeological remains of Sites A and C are situated in agricultural fields and are located beyond areas previously occupied by former hospital roads, hardstanding and buildings. All damage and disturbance to the archaeological remains in these areas is likely to have been agricultural and to have been caused by ploughing and infrequent insertion of mole drains and agricultural drain pipes. Truncation by ploughing of Site C may have been particularly severe as all of its surviving archaeological features are very shallow.

7.2.2 By contrast to Sites A and C, Site B is located in a grassed area, close to areas of concrete hardstanding and footprints of former hospital buildings to the north and east. In the north part of Site A, around trench 32, the limits of its surviving archaeological deposits are perhaps indicated by an east-west road to the north, a largely silted up pond containing a large willow tree to the east, and modern clearance [78/004] in the west end of trench 78. By contrast, to the south, within the general area surrounding trenches 33 and 34, a more open, extensive area of archaeological deposits may be present as it is still within the grassed area, is less encumbered by trees and shows no signs of modern disturbance. The grassed area is part of the landscaping of the former hospital and is unlikely to have been ploughed or deeply cultivated since the hospital was constructed in the 1930s, meaning that, in contrast to site C, it has not been deeply disturbed by modern agriculture.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

7.3.1 Site A is the earliest of the three sites identified by the archaeological work and is potentially an area of later prehistoric enclosures and pitting. Its component features are scattered and not obviously complex (Fig.6). The retrieved pottery sherds from their fills are small, abraded and few in number, a possible indication they are incidental to site use and that contemporary settlement lay at some distance. Ditches [2/004] and [7/004] are possibly parts of the same boundary, perhaps marking a field edge or even forming one side of an enclosure. The wider landscape context of Site A during the later prehistoric period is suggested by the results of the A130 archaeological work (Dale *et al* 2005), and to have comprised dispersed farmsteads and small 'village-like' settlements, within a partially enclosed landscape of field systems and trackways.

- 7.3.2 The archaeological features, deposits and finds of Site B probably represent the site of a 17th-century settlement, one which may have been founded c.200 years earlier as its ceramic assemblage includes sherds of late medieval pottery. The site is likely to have been part of the manor of Runwell as it sits close to the site of the no longer extant Runwell Hall (Fig.9), although its role within that establishment remains uncertain. Runwell Hall was demolished in the 1930s, although its date of construction is currently not known, making the relationship between it and Site B difficult to determine. A suggested interpretation of Site B is that it represents an earlier farm associated with Runwell Hall and that it was demolished in the 17th century when Runwell Hall was downgraded to farm status, following the construction of New Runwell Hall alongside the A132. A simpler scenario, however, is that the remains of Site B represent an area of estate workers' cottages. Support for this second suggestion is provided by the Site B pottery as it mostly comprises prosaic, locally manufactured earthenware vessels, alongside smaller amounts of higher status Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed dishes and Surrey-Hampshire whiteware, perhaps indicating that the status of site B was lower-middle, less than expected for a house of some standing like Runwell Hall.
- 7.3.3 The archaeological features of trench 32, within Site B, mainly comprise three phases of ditches. All of these ditches contain 17th-century pottery, implying that one part of Site B at least underwent three or more episodes of reorganisation within a fairly tight period of c.100 years. The trenches of site B have revealed no datable features predating the 17th century, although it is possible that layer [78/003] in trench 78 was deposited during the late 16th century. Activity taking place within the site prior to this is perhaps suggested by the residual sherds late medieval and Tudor pottery. Building construction, alteration and demolition probably preceded the introduction of ditch [32/003] as the secondary fill of the preceding ditch [32/001, etc) contains abundant fragments of dumped tile and brick. This and the nature of the latest fill of the ditch might suggest deliberate backfilling and a levelling of ground before an episode of reorganisation.
- 7.3.4 Activities represented by the artefactual evidence from site B include the keeping of dogs, the hunting of deer, and the consumption, butchering and eating of sheep, cattle, deer and possibly horse. The diet of the site's users and occupants is also known to have included the consumption of shell fish, most of which appears to have consisted of oyster, but also included cockle, periwinkle, whelk and mussel. A carrying out of dairying is indicated by the preponderance of large bowls, and the consumption of food and drink by numerous fragments of tableware and drinking vessels. All of these items, along with the food remains, are good evidence for Site B having been used for domestic occupation even though the trenches have revealed no *in situ* building remains to confirm this.
- 7.3.5 Site C is the smallest and probably the least well-preserved of the three sites to have been discovered by the trenching. It is sited alongside the A132, and is possibly a remnant of a 12th to 14th-century low-status roadside settlement or work area. Archaeologically investigated examples of medieval peasant houses and / or work areas are not uncommon and include five from the excavations along the A12 to A127 section of the A130 (Dale *et al* 2005, sites

3, 15, 16, 18 and 20).

7.4 Consideration of research aims

7.4.1 The specific research aims for the archaeological trial trenching as stated in the Written Scheme of Investigation, to obtain new information on pre-modern settlement and land use, has been accomplished by the discovery of Sites A, B and C, as they demonstrate that the former Runwell Hospital site has been used, perhaps intermittently, for dispersed settlement and/or farming from at least the later prehistoric period onwards. Consequently, further archaeological investigation of sites A to C, if required, has the potential to improve understanding of the following regional research objectives, as identified by Brown and Glazebrook (2000, 24 and 42), and Medlycott (2011, 29 and 70).

- Obtain more information about the development of the Bronze Age to Iron Age agrarian economy and the process of change during the Bronze Age to Iron Age transition
- Investigate the origins and development of different medieval and post-medieval rural settlement types, including their forms and the range of building type present
- Study the interrelationship between hall, church, farm and manor

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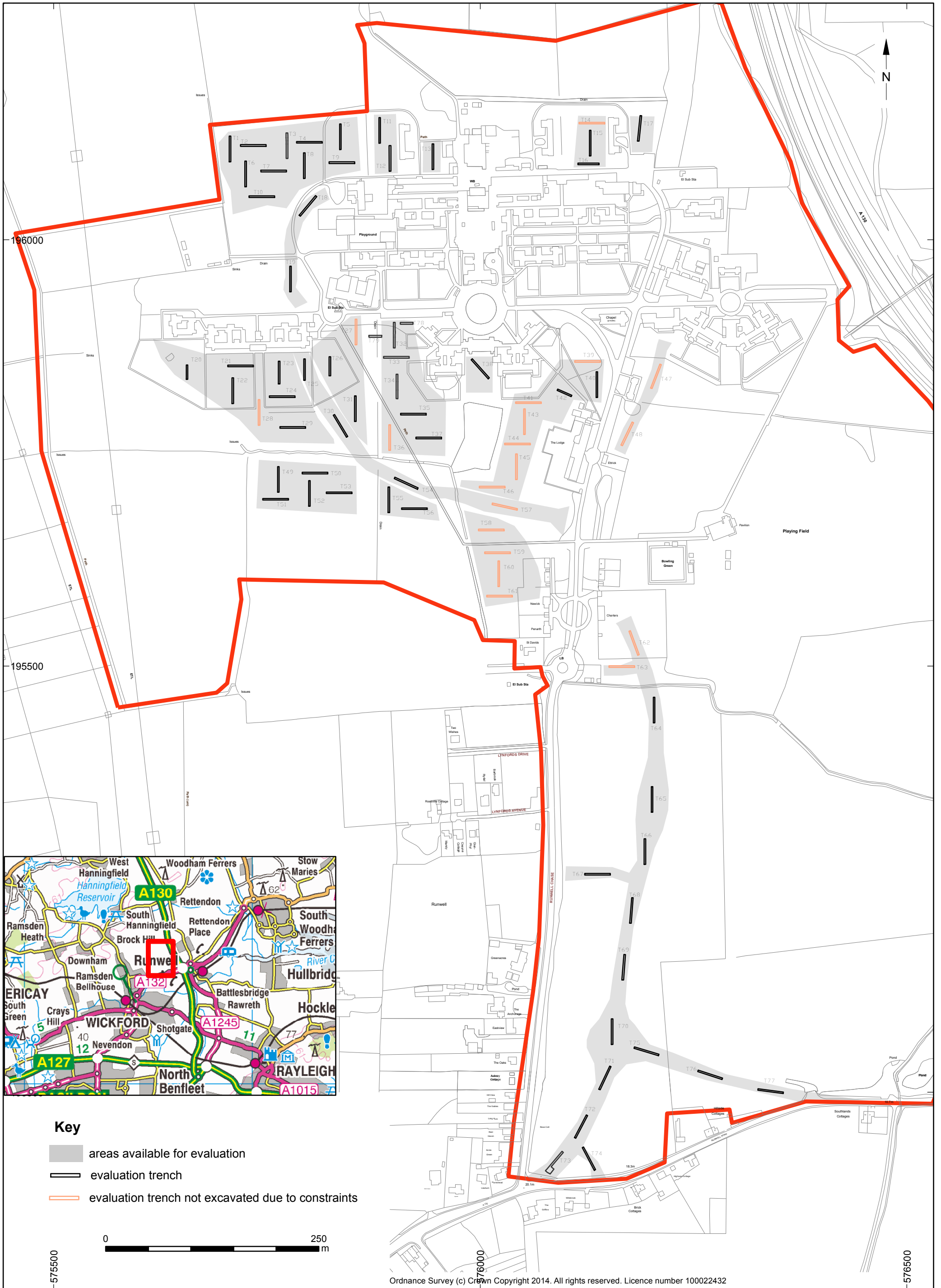
Appendix 1: Essex Historic Environment Record Summary

Site name/Address: Former Runwell Hospital, Runwell Chase, Runwell	
Parish: Runwell	District: Chelmsford
NGR: TQ 75993 95924	Site Code: RUH14
Type of Work: Evaluation	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany, Archaeology South-East
Date of Work: 28/4/14 to 16/5/14	Size of Area Investigated: 61 trenches (c.3700m ²)
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Chelmsford Museum	Client: Developer
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Yes	Related HER Nos:
Final Report: EAH roundup	OASIS Ref: 181798
Periods represented: Prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching carried out on behalf of Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd in advance of residential development at the former Runwell Hospital has identified the presence of archaeological remains denoting three separate archaeological sites (A to C), dating to the later prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods respectively.</p> <p>The earliest of these (site A) sits at the base of a hill in the north-western part of the development area. It is indicated by small numbers of dispersed ditches and pits and may represent an area of enclosures and pitting. Later prehistoric sherds form part of it, but are small in size and number. All sherds are undiagnostic and therefore not closely datable.</p> <p>The medieval site (site C) is situated alongside the A132 at the opposite end of the development area. It is signposted by a small cluster of gullies, ditches and pits, although all of these are shallow, possibly due to truncation. Most hold small numbers of medieval pot sherds, the dates of which suggest that they may have been in use during the 12th to 14th centuries. The cluster of features is conjectured to represent a roadside settlement and / or work area.</p> <p>The most recent of the newly discovered sites (site B) is located towards the north-western part of the development area and is indicated by ditches, pits and layers spread across four adjacent trenches. Many of the features contain numerous pieces of pottery and abundant amounts of brick and roof tile, suggesting that they may have originally been part of a house and / or farm. Much of the pottery is coarseware and is dated to the 17th century, although smaller amounts of earlier sherds are present as residual items, suggesting that the putative house or farm may have originated during the 15th to 16th centuries. Included amongst the many artefacts found by the site are a small, copper-alloy liturgical bell, a Nuremburg jetton, lead spoon handles, and sherds of Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed earthenware. The site of the house / farm is close to the former site of Runwell Hall Farm, although the relationship between them is not established.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: none	
Author of Summary: Mark Germany	Date of Summary: June 2014

Appendix 2: Oasis Form

Project name	Former Runwell Hospital
Short description of the project	Trial-trenching in advance of residential development at the former site of the hospital in Runwell revealed three separate concentrations of archaeological features. The first of these consisted of later prehistoric enclosure ditches and pits, the second of a small concentration of assorted medieval features alongside the A32, and the third of a dense concentration of 17th-century ditches and finds.
Project dates	Start: 28-04-2014 End: 16-05-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	8161 - Project No. RUH14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric POTTERY Medieval POTTERY Post Medieval CBM Post Medieval METALWORK Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX CHELMSFORD RUNWELL Former Runwell Hospital
Study area	10.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 75993 95924 51.6340348711 0.543362364684 51 38 02 N 000 32 36 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project	Adrian Scruby

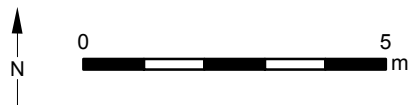
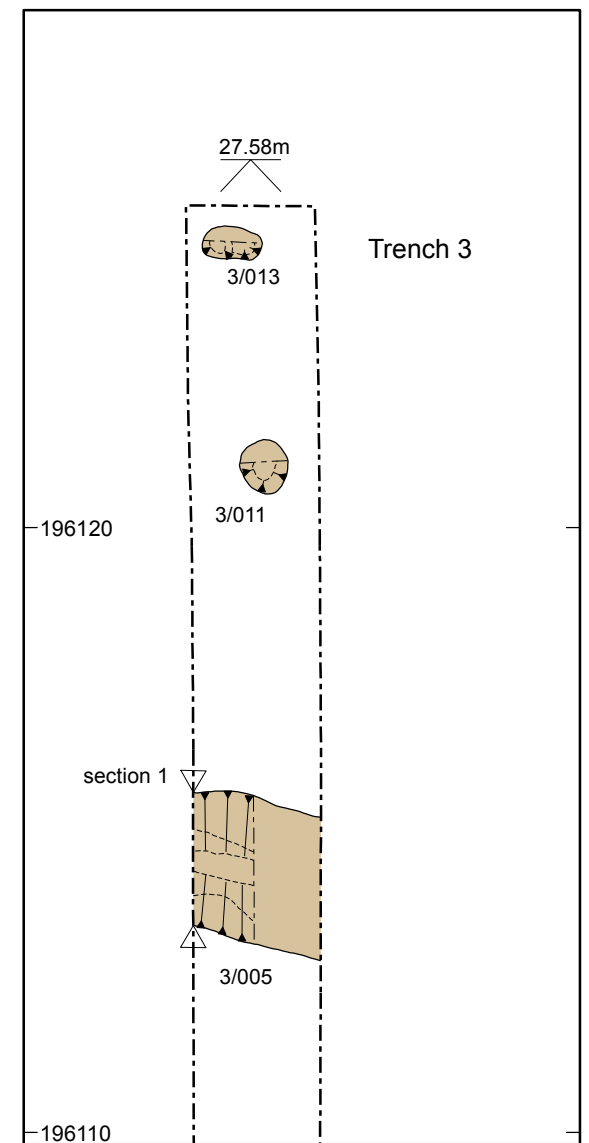
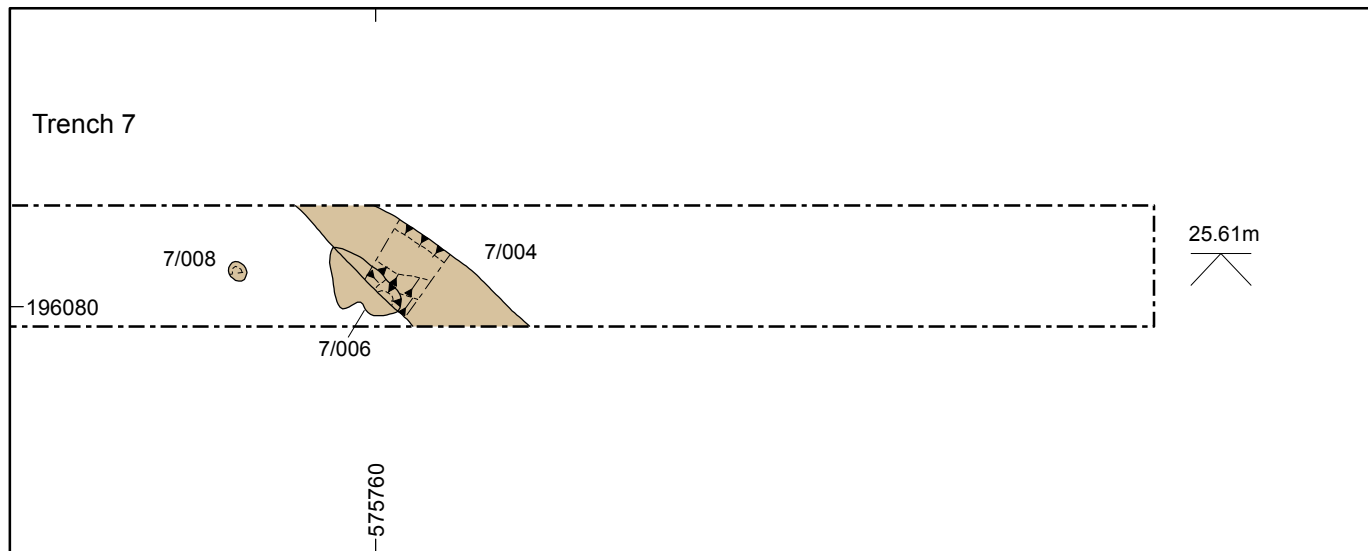
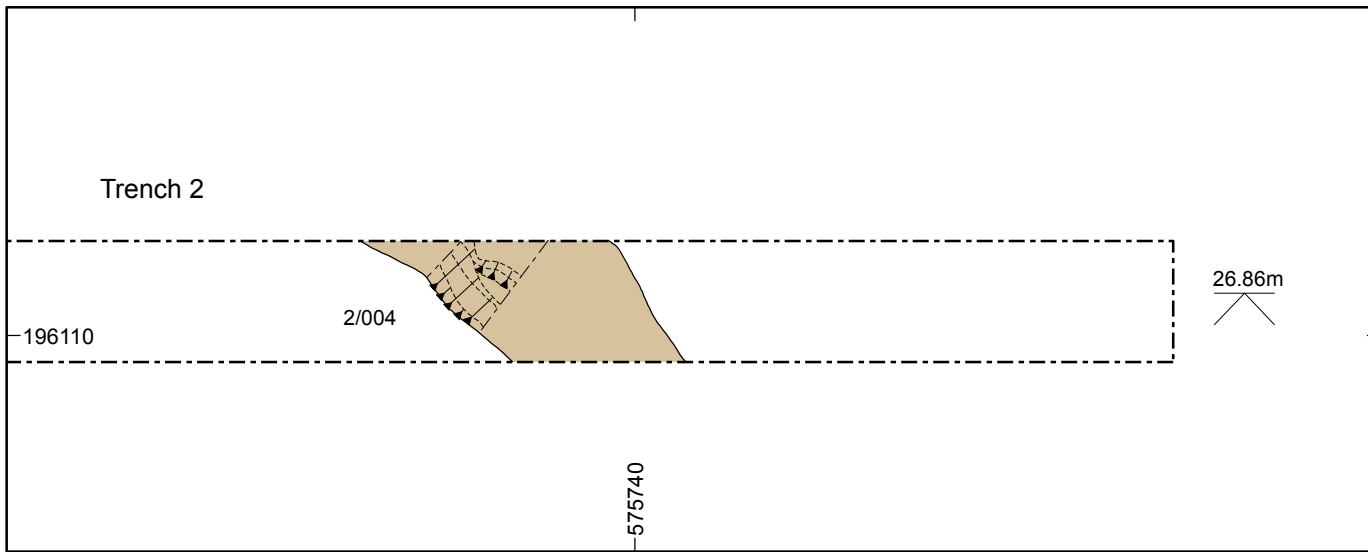
director/manager	
Project supervisor	Mark Germany
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Chelmsford Museum
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "
Project bibliog	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at the former Runwell Hospital, Runwell Chase, Runwell, Essex
Author(s)	Germany, M.
Other bibliographic details	ASE report no: 2014
Date	2014211
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Archaeology South-East, The Old Magistrates Court, 79 South Street, Braintree, Essex
Entered by	Mark Germany (mgermany@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	18 June 2014



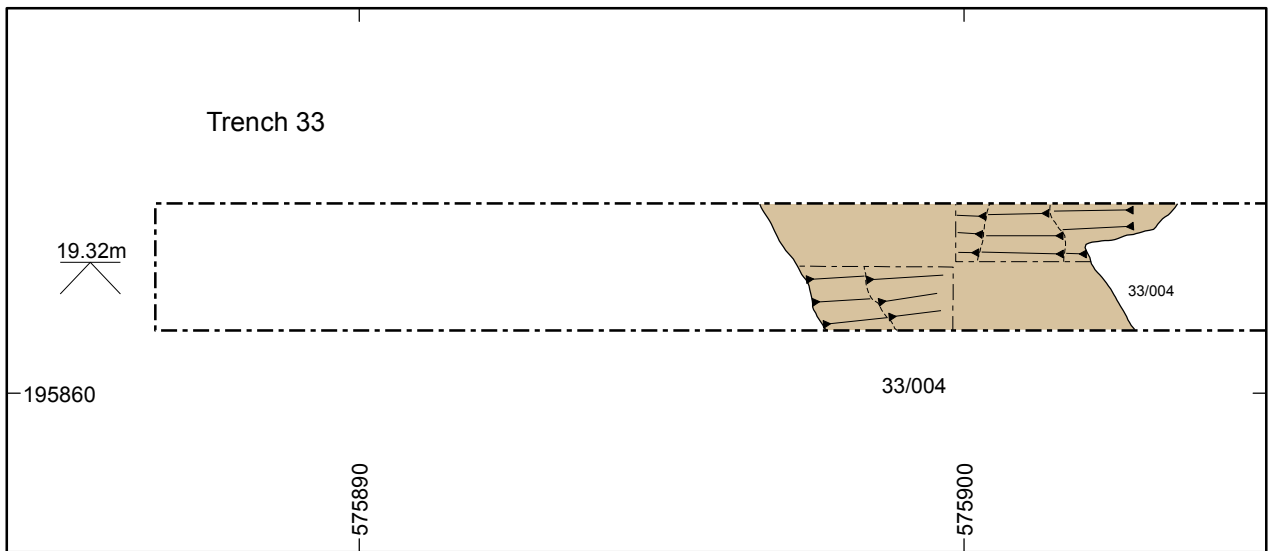
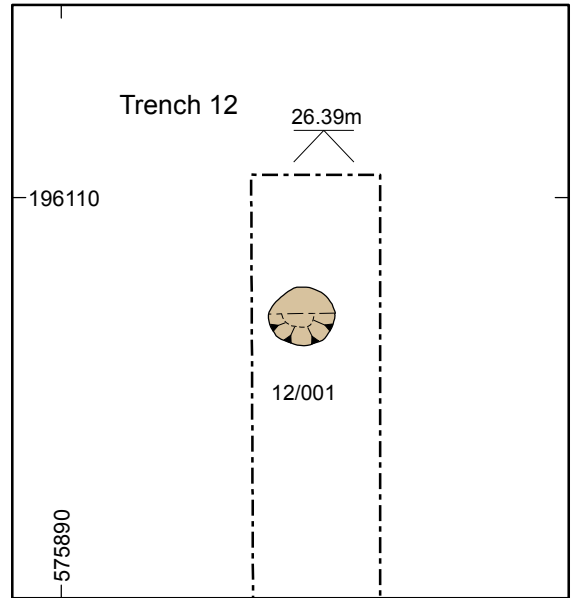
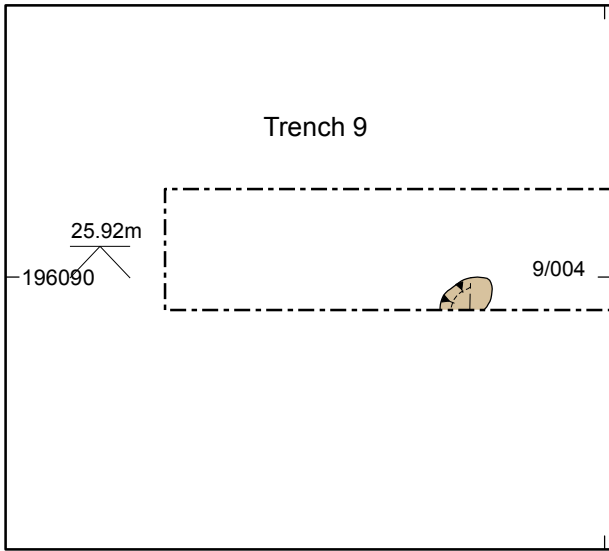
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© Archaeology South-East		Former Runwell Hospital		Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	Location of archaeological evaluation trenches		
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL			

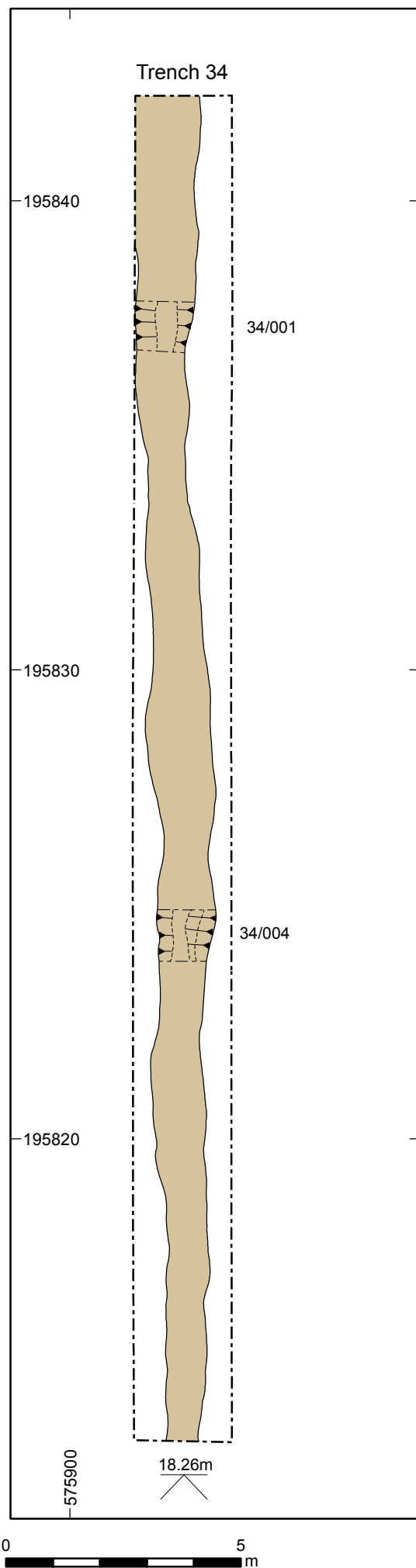
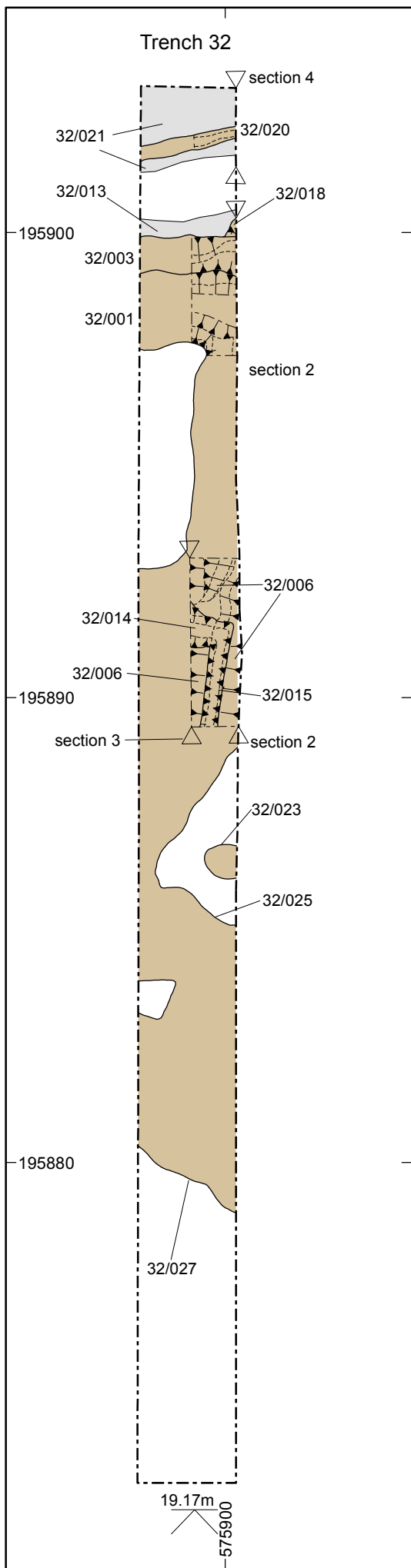
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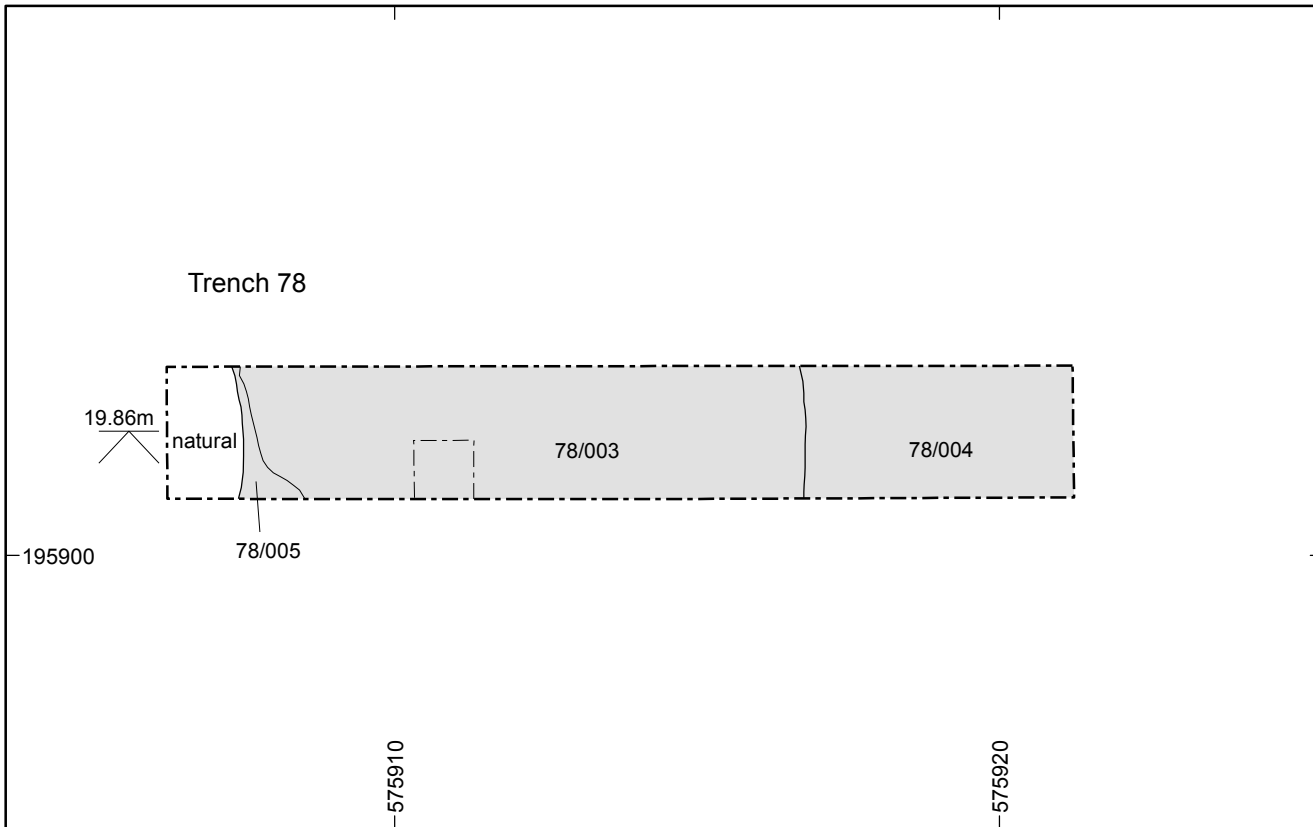
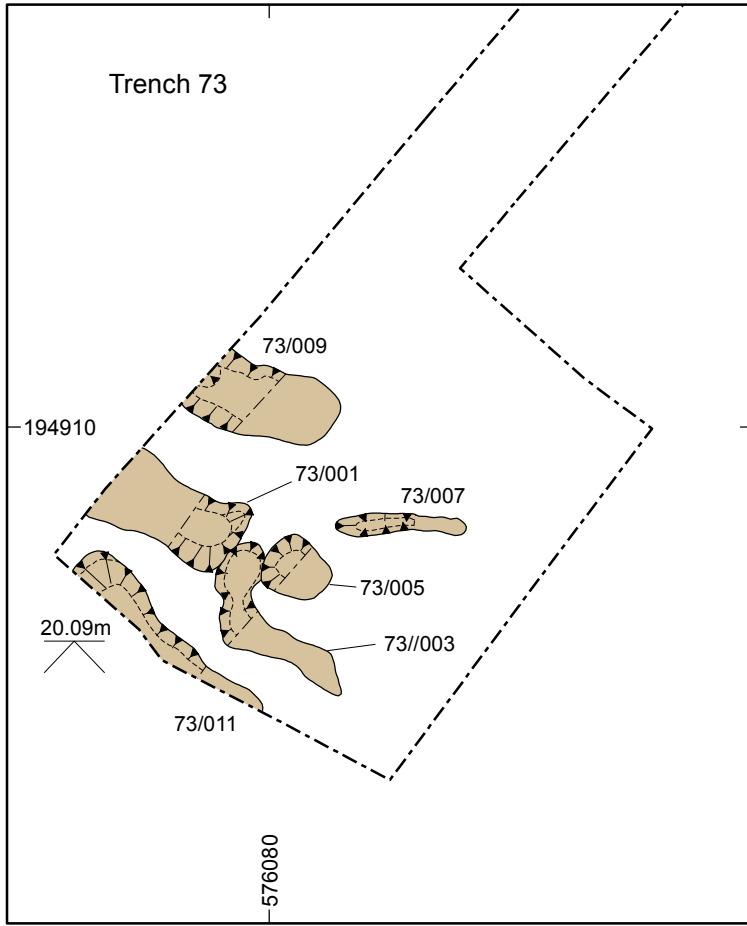
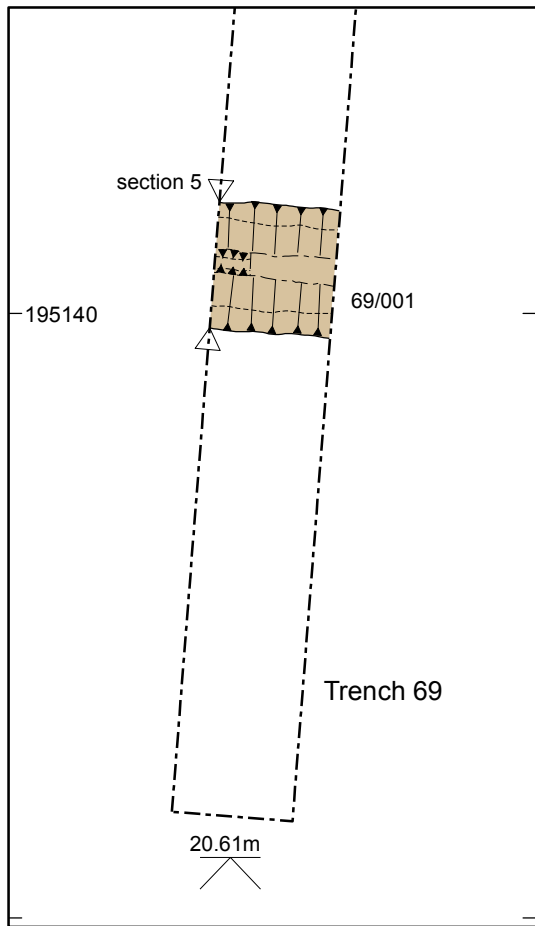


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Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL		

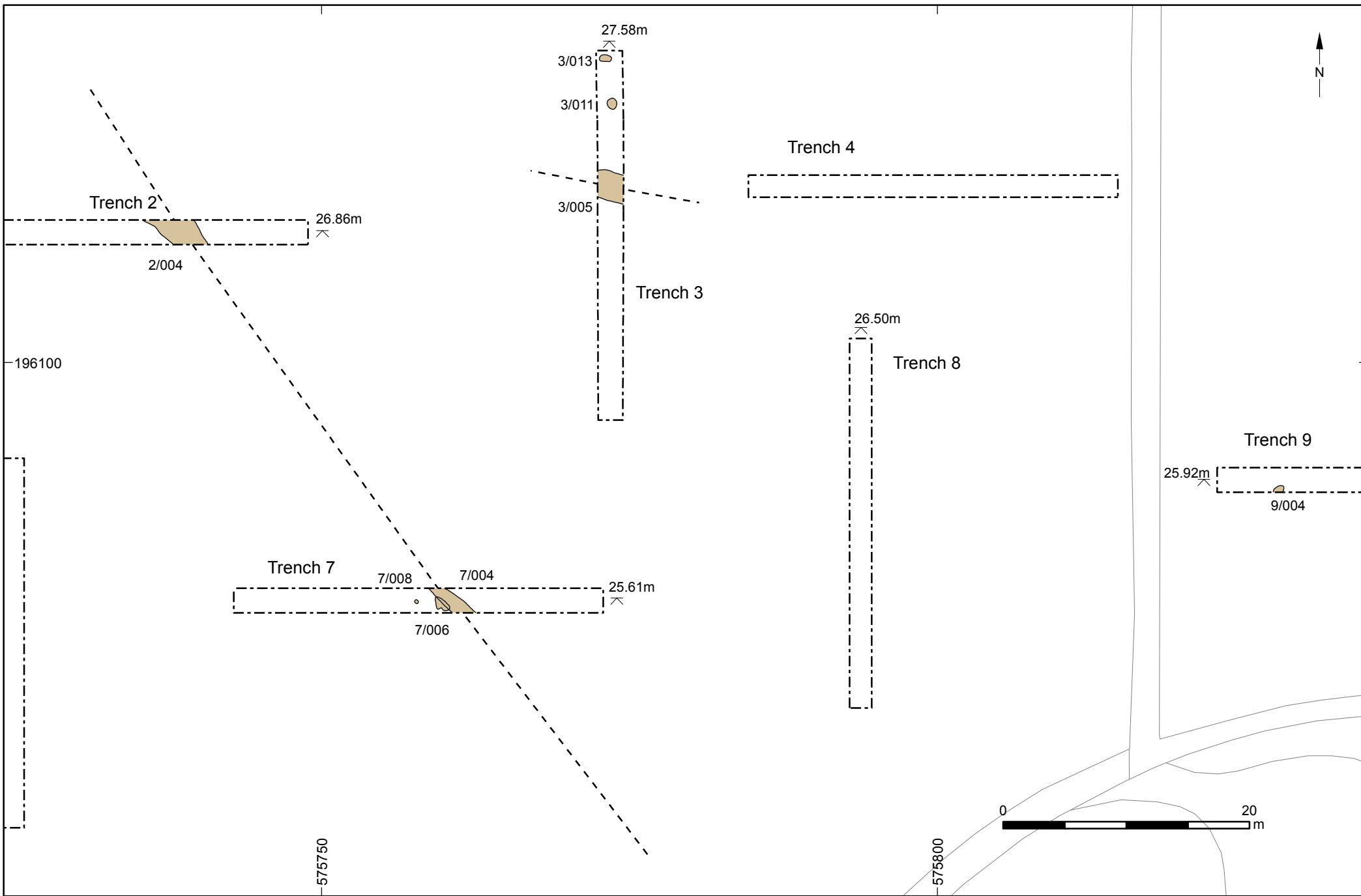


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Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	Trenches 9, 12 & 33	
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL		

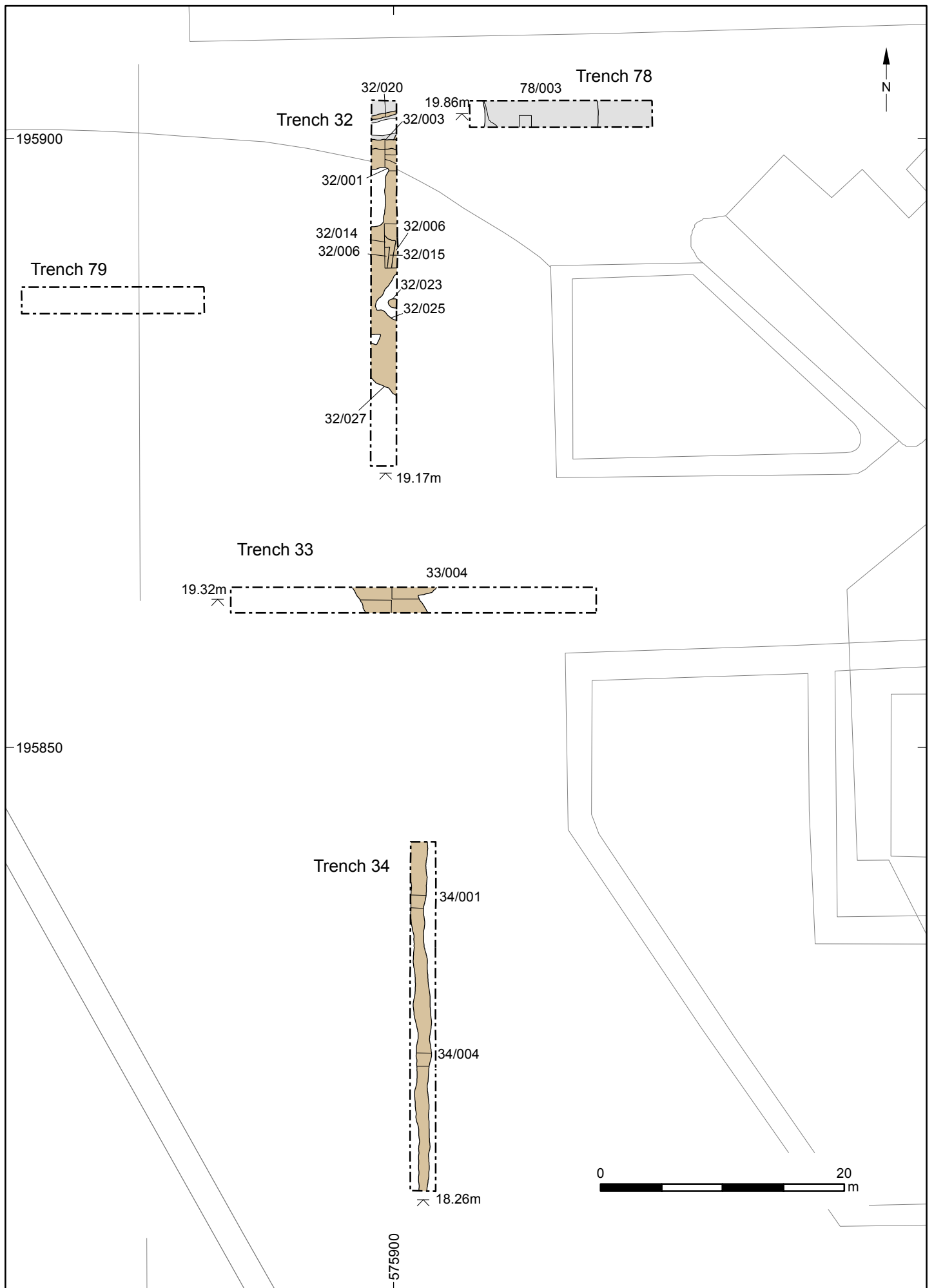




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Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	Trenches 69, 73 & 78	
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL		

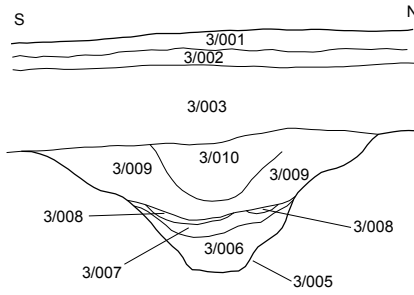


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Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	Site A	
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL		

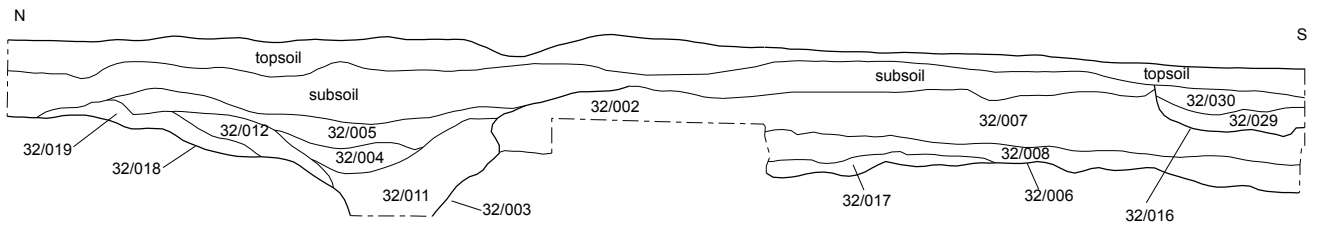


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Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	Site B		
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL			

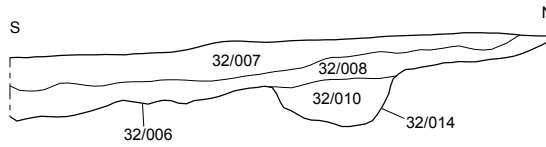
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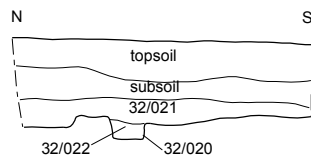
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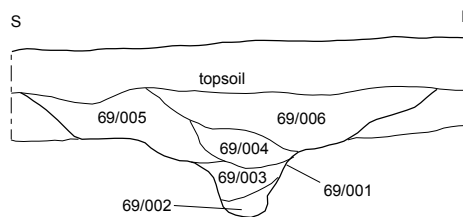
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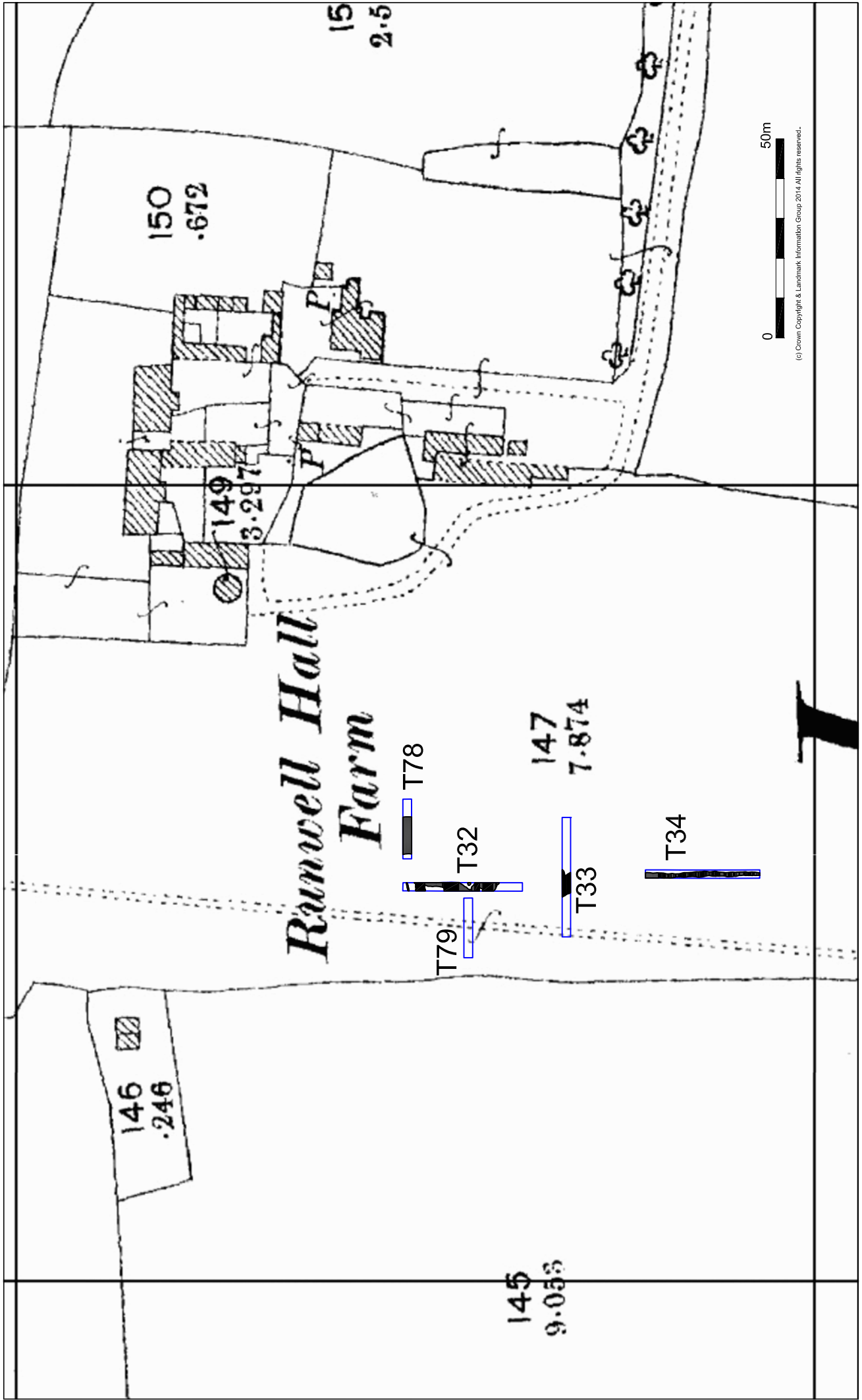


Section 4



Section 5





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Project Ref: 8161	Jun 2014	1896-97 Ordnance Survey and Site B trenches	
Report Ref: 2014211	Drawn by: APL		

Fig.9



Fig. 10. Later prehistoric ditch [3/005], looking west



Fig. 11. 17th-century ditch [32/006] and pit [32/016], looking east



Fig. 12. 17th-century ditches [32/018], [32/003] and [32/001], looking east



Fig. 13. Trench 32, looking north



Fig. 14 Trench 34, 17th/18th-century ditch [34/001] / [34/004], looking south



Fig. 15. Trench 73, medieval features [73/001], [73/003], [73/005], [73/007] and [73/009], and [73/011], looking south-west

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