

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Letchworth Golf Club,
Letchworth, Hertfordshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by James McNicoll-Norbury

Site Code: LGC12/128

(TL 2175 3066)

Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Woodland Environmental**

by James McNicoll-Norbury
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code LGC 12/128

November 2013

Summary

Site name: Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire

Grid reference: TL 2175 3066

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 22nd – 30th October 2013

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: James McNicoll-Norbury

Site code: LGC 12/128

Area of site: 7ha

Summary of results: The trenches confirmed the presence of archaeological features on the site mostly as previously identified by geophysical survey. Most of the linear features were undated though some correspond with boundaries present on 19th century maps. However, a probable trackway was identified which was dated to the later Roman period. Relatively few artefacts were recovered and no features recorded other than linear ones. It is considered that these features are parts of enclosed agrarian landscape of Roman and perhaps other periods, but which are locate away from core settlement areas.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Letchworth Museum in due course.

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www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp.*

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| Report edited/checked by: Steve Ford✓ 14.11.13 Steve Preston✓ 14.11.13 |
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Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by James McNicoll-Norbury

Report 12/128c

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire (TL 2157 3066) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Charles Bishop of Woodland Environmental, 3 Priestlands Lane, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 4HL.

Planning permission (app no 13/00993/1CC) has been granted by North Hertfordshire District Council to develop a new practice area at the golf club involving extensive remodelling of the contours of the site with the creation of new tees, greens, a lake and earthworks. The consent was subject to a condition (26) relating to archaeology, which requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work prior to commencement of groundworks. A geophysical survey (Dawson 2013) formed the first phase of this programme and the evaluation forms the second phase.

This is in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the District Council policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Andy Instone of Hertfordshire County Council, archaeological adviser to the District. The fieldwork was undertaken by James McNicoll-Norbury and Kyle Beaverstock between 22nd and 30th October 2013 with the site code LGC12/128. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Letchworth Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located within a parcel of land on Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). It is bounded to the south by Willian Road and to the east by Letchworth Lane. Letchworth Hall stands to the north of the site (Fig. 2). The site comprises a golf practice range with a gradual slope down from east to west and from north to south and lies at a height between 71m above Ordnance Datum in the west and 83m AOD in the east. The underlying geology is mapped as Till (boulder clay) (BGS 1990) which was observed in all trenches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a desk-based assessment for the project (Dawson 2012). In summary, the report noted the proximity of the site to two medieval villages (Letchworth and Willian). Willian is a shrunken settlement with the evidence of earthworks to its north demarking the former extent of the village and the manor of Brays lies further to the east. To the north of the proposal site was the medieval settlement of Letchworth with the parish church of 12th- or 13th-century date possibly with Saxon origins. Closer to the site is Letchworth Hall, a 15th-century timber framed building now used as a hotel. Medieval ridge and furrow field system lay in the main part of the golf course to the west. A geophysical survey (Dawson 2013) has identified a moderate number of magnetic anomalies which may represent buried archaeological features.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

Specific research aims of the project are to:

- determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on site;
- determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- determine if there are any Medieval deposits relating to the shrunken village of Willian, or Letchworth on site; and to
- provide sufficient information to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be produced if necessary.

A total of 28 trenches were to be excavated using a 360° machine fitted with a ditching bucket and constantly monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Each trench was to measure 25m in length and 2m wide, covering approximately 2% of the development area (Fig. 2). Trench locations were partly based on the geophysical survey results, and partly randomized to provide even coverage. Topsoil and subsoil (where present) was to be removed using the machine and all archaeological deposits were to be investigated by hand. Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, without compromising the integrity of any features which might better be investigated under the conditions pertaining to full excavation. At least 50% of the volume of each pit or posthole was to be dug, and a 25% sample of each linear feature (or a minimum of a 1m wide slot per feature).

Results

All trenches were dug as intended (Fig. 2) ranging in length from 24.8 to 28.0m. All were 2.0m wide and were between 0.42–1.04m deep. One of the trenches proposed for the northern corner of the site was moved to a different location as its original position did not fall within the area to be developed. Stratigraphy across all the trenches was similar: c.0.3m of topsoil above up to 0.6m of silty-sand subsoil, above a geology of chalky clay with gravel patches. Only those trenches with potential features are described in detail below. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. A catalogue of all excavated features forms Appendix 2.

Trench 3 (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7, Pls 1 and 2)

Trench 3 was aligned SE-NW and measured 25.2m long and was 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.19m topsoil and 0.21m subsoil overlying natural chalky clay. Two ditches (1 and 2) aligned E-W were identified corresponding with geophysical anomalies that resembled a trackway. Ditch 1 measured 1.16m in width and was 0.5m deep. It contained two deposits of grey brown silty clay (52) and a brown silty clay (53), a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from each deposit, along with tiny chips of brick or tile from 53. Ditch 2 was 0.96m wide and 0.48m deep and contained a single grey brown silty clay deposit (54) from which 100g of animal bone were recovered. A third linear feature (3) aligned NE-SW was recorded towards the NW end of the trench. It measured 0.72m wide and was 0.18m deep, it contained a brown grey silty clay deposit (55) but no finds were recovered. This linear feature did not correspond with anything from the geophysical survey.

Trench 4 (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7; Pl. 5)

Trench 4 was aligned E-W and measured 25.2m in length and was 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.2m topsoil and 0.2m subsoil overlying natural chalky clay. Linear feature 4, aligned NE-SW and measuring 0.97m wide and 0.44m deep, was recorded (Pl. 3). It contained a single deposit of grey brown silty clay (56) from which a single horse bone was recovered. Ditch 4 corresponds with a geophysical anomaly and with ditch 2 in Trench 3.

Trench 6 (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7; Pls 3 and 4)

Trench 6 was aligned W-E and measured 25.2m long and 0.53m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.3m topsoil and 0.18m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch (6) was aligned NE-SW and measured 1.4m wide and 0.33m deep. It was filled with a brown silty clay (58) from which no finds were recovered. The ditch was not previously identified in the geophysical survey but roughly parallels those to the north.

Trench 9 (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7)

Trench 9 was aligned W-E and measured 25.1m long and 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.33m topsoil and 0.43m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch (5) aligned NW-SE measured 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep and was filled with a brown silty clay (57) from which no finds were recovered. The ditch was cut through the subsoil and is considered to be modern. It was also traced through two trenches (10, 11) further south.

Trench 10 (Figs 2, 3, 6 and 7; Pl. 9)

Trench 10 was aligned W-E and measured 24.95m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.2m topsoil and 0.16m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch (7) aligned NE-SW was recorded that measured 0.36m wide and 0.26m deep and was filled with a grey brown silty clay (59) from which no finds were recovered. The ditch was truncated by a modern boundary ditch (8; probably the same as ditch 5 observed in Trench 9) which was filled with a soft dark brown deposit of silty sand (60).

Trench 15 (Figs 2, 4, 6 and 7; Pls 7 and 8)

Trench 15 was aligned SE-NW and measured 25.0m long and 0.64m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.21m topsoil and 0.39m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch at the south end of the trench (9) was aligned NE-SW and measured 1.92m wide and 0.78m deep was recorded (Pl. 4). It contained deposits of dark brown sandy silt with flints (61), light brown sandy silt (62) and dark brown sandy silt (63); 28 sherds from the lower half of a single Roman pot were recovered from deposit 61. Ditch 9 matches a geophysical anomaly, part of the same trackway noted to the north-east. A second ditch marking the other side of the same trackway (17) was 3.86m wide, 0.55m deep and contained three deposits of dark brown sandy silt (71), light brown sandy silt (72) and sandy gravel (73). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 19 (Figs 2, 4, 6 and 7; Pl. 10)

Trench 19 was aligned W-E and measured 25.0m long and 0.70m deep. The stratigraphy comprised 0.3m topsoil and 0.18m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch (14) aligned roughly N-S was recorded that measured 1.4m wide and 0.39m deep and was filled with a grey brown sandy clay (68) from which no finds were recovered. Ditch 15 lay parallel to ditch 14 and measured 1.46m wide and 0.40m deep and was filled with grey brown sandy clay (69) and no finds were recovered.. Both match geophysical anomalies that continue north.

Trench 20 (Figs 2, 4, 6 and 7)

Trench 20 was aligned SW-NE and measured 25.1m long and 0.66m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m topsoil and 0.3m subsoil overlying natural geology. Ditch 18, 1.4m wide and 0.6m deep was aligned N-S and

was filled with a grey brown silty clay (74) from which no finds were recovered. This is the ditch also recorded in Trench 19 (ditch 14) and on the geophysical survey.

Trench 23 (Figs 2, 4, 6 and 7; Pl 11)

Trench 23 was aligned SE-NE and measured 28.1m long and 0.62m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m topsoil and 0.3m subsoil overlying natural geology. Three linear features aligned SW-NE (11, 22 and 23) were recorded and measured 0.8m wide and up to 0.3m deep, all were filled with a brown silty clay deposit and no finds were recovered, their spatial pattern suggests that they are the remains of furrows. A N-S aligned ditch (12) was 1.0m wide and 0.4m deep. It contained a grey silty clay deposit (66) but no finds were recovered, the ditch was not identified during the geophysical survey and nor did it appear in nearby trenches.

Trench 24 (Figs 2, 5, 6 and 7)

Trench 24 was aligned SE-NE and measured 25.0m long and 0.59m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m topsoil and 0.25m subsoil overlying natural geology. Three linear features aligned SW-NE were recorded and measured 0.8m wide and up to 0.3m deep (16, 19 and 24), all were filled with a brown silty clay deposit and no finds were recovered, their spatial pattern suggests that they are the remains of furrows and the continuation of features identified in trench 23. A N-S aligned gully (13), 0.6m wide and 0.05m deep, contained a grey silty clay deposit (70) from which no finds were recovered. This ditch was not identified during the geophysical survey and nor did it appear in nearby trenches. Its alignment would suggest that it was part of the same system of features as ditches 12 and 20.

Trench 25 (Figs 2, 5, 6 and 7)

Trench 25 was aligned SE-NE and measured 25.2m long and 1.04m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m topsoil and 0.66m subsoil overlying natural geology. A N-S aligned ditch (20) was recorded in plan but not excavated due to the depth of the trench in which it lay. In plan it measured 1.2m wide and it contained a grey brown silty clay deposit (76). The ditch was not identified during the geophysical survey but is probably the continuation of the feature recorded in trenches 20 and 19.

Trench 26 (Figs 2, 5 6 and 7; Pl. 12)

Trench 26 was aligned E-W and measured 25.1m long and 0.64m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m topsoil and 0.3m subsoil overlying natural geology. A ditch (10) aligned NW-SE and measured 0.8m wide and 0.27m deep was recorded. It was filled with a brown silty clay (64) from which no finds were recovered. The alignment of the ditch suggests a relationship with the linear features recorded in Trenches 23 and 24.

Finds

Pottery by Malcolm Lyne

The evaluation yielded 30 sherds (347g) of Roman pottery from three contexts, all part of one trackway. These few sherds indicate that the trackway ditches were open to receive rubbish until after AD 200.

Fabrics

R.1. Hard black fabric fired rough red with profuse grog and <0.30 mm. quartz-sand filler.

R.2. Very-fine wheel-turned greyware with silt<0.10 mm. quartz-sand filler. Much Hadham Greyware.

R.3. Very-fine-sanded wheel-turned greyware fired polished black with profuse <0.20 mm. multi-coloured quartz-sand filler: a few grains are <0.50 mm.

Animal Bone by Danielle Millbank

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from two contexts, a total of 14 pieces weighing 226g. The remains are moderately well preserved, with some surface erosions and a moderate degree of fragmentation. Identifiable pieces were limited to two fragments, both left horse mandible pieces. One was derived from 2 (54) and the other piece, from a slightly larger animal, from 4 (56). The total minimum number of individuals (MNI) was found to be 2 horses, based on the duplication of mandibles and differing jaw size. No further information could be obtained from the highly fragmented remains.

Brick/tile by Danielle Millbank

Three fragments of tile with a total weight of 94g of tile derived from ditch 8 (60) which comprises two different fabric types. were recovered. The first (1 piece) is a slightly soft clay fabric with moderate coarse rounded quartz sand and is an orange red colour. The piece is 14mm thick, abraded, and has two impressed finger prints along one edge. The characteristics of the fragment suggest it is of Roman date but the type of tile is unclear.

The second fabric is a hard, fine fabric with occasional fine sand inclusions, a dark red colour and the pieces are 14mm thick, with peg hole present on one fragment. These are not closely dateable, and could equally be of medieval or post-medieval date.

Two tiny scraps (under 1g) also came from ditch 1.

Conclusion

The evaluation has revealed the presence of a number of archaeological features on the site, most of which correspond with anomalies identified by the prior geophysical survey. These archaeological remains take the form of a probable trackway running NE-SW across the site before possibly turning and assuming a NW-SE route. This has been dated to the Roman period with pottery recovered from three excavated slots which suggest that it was in use in the 3rd century AD. Several features were undated and at least one ditch was shown to be modern. Despite several cut features being present, these were all linear in nature, with no pits/postholes and with few artefacts of any period present. It is suggested that these features are a part of an agrarian landscape of Roman, and perhaps other periods, all of which were located away from core occupation areas.

References

- BGS, 1990, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 222, Solid and Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Dawson, T, 2012, 'Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire: A Desk-based heritage assessment', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 12/128, Reading
- Dawson, T, 2013, 'Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire: A geophysical survey (magnetic)', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 12/128b, Reading
- NPPF, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Govt, London

APPENDIX 1: Trench details

| <i>Trench</i> | <i>Length (m)</i> | <i>Breadth (m)</i> | <i>Depth (m)</i> | <i>Comment</i> |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 25.4 | 2.0 | 0.66 | 0-0.2m dark brown sandy with turf (topsoil); 0.2-0.6m brown sandy clay (subsoil); 0.6m+ chalky clay with flints (natural geology) |
| 2 | 24.95 | 2.0 | 0.59 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.57m subsoil; 0.57m+ natural geology |
| 3 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.42 | 0-0.19m topsoil; 0.19-0.4m subsoil; 0.42m+ natural geology Ditches 1, 2, 3 [Pls 1, 2] |
| 4 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.42 | 0-0.2m topsoil; 0.2-0.4m subsoil; 0.4m+ natural geology Ditch 4 [Pl. 5] |
| 5 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 0-0.28m topsoil; 0.28-0.46m subsoil; 0.46m+ natural geology |
| 6 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.53 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.48m subsoil; 0.48m+ natural geology Ditch 6 [Pls 3, 4] |
| 7 | 25.0 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 0-0.17m topsoil; 0.17-0.44m subsoil; 0.44m+ natural geology [Pl. 6] |
| 8 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.48 | 0-0.2m topsoil; 0.2-0.37m subsoil; 0.37m+ natural geology |
| 9 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 0-0.33m topsoil; 0.33-0.76m subsoil; 0.76m+ natural geology Ditch 5 |
| 10 | 24.95 | 2.0 | 0.42 | 0-0.2m topsoil; 0.2-0.36m subsoil; 0.36m+ natural geology Ditch 7, 8 [Pl. 9] |
| 11 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.62 | 0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.58m subsoil; 0.58m+ natural geology Ditch 21 |
| 12 | 27.1 | 2.0 | 0.7 | 0-0.24m topsoil; 0.24-0.61m subsoil; 0.61m+ natural geology |
| 13 | 26.1 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 0-0.26m topsoil; 0.26-0.57m subsoil; 0.57m+ natural geology |
| 14 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.92 | 0-0.2m made ground; 0.2-0.41m topsoil; 0.41-0.86m subsoil; 0.86m+ natural geology |
| 15 | 25.0 | 2.0 | 0.64 | 0-0.21m topsoil; 0.21-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ natural geology Ditches 9, 17 [Pls 7,8] |
| 16 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 0-0.25m topsoil; 0.25-0.56m subsoil; 0.56m+ natural geology |
| 17 | 25.3 | 2.0 | 0.64 | 0-0.30m topsoil; 0.30-0.57m subsoil; 0.57m+ natural geology |
| 18 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.63 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.57m subsoil; 0.57m+ natural geology |
| 19 | 25.0 | 2.0 | 0.7 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.58m subsoil; 0.58m+ natural geology Ditch 14, 15 [Pl. 10] |
| 20 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.66 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ natural geology Ditch 18 |
| 21 | 25.3 | 2.0 | 0.64 | 0-0.3m- topsoil; 0.3-0.59m subsoil; 0.59m+ natural geology |
| 22 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.67 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.61m subsoil; 0.61m+ natural geology |
| 23 | 28.1 | 2.0 | 0.62 | 0-0.3 topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ natural geology Gully 11, 22, 23, Ditch 12 [Pl. 23] |
| 24 | 25.0 | 2.0 | 0.59 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.55m subsoil; 0.55m+ natural geology Gully 13, 16, 24, Ditch 19 |
| 25 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 1.04 | 0-0.32m topsoil; 0.32- 0.98m subsoil; 0.98m+ natural geology Ditch 20 |
| 26 | 25.1 | 2.0 | 0.64 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.6m subsoil; 0.6m+ natural geology Ditch 10 [Pl. 12] |
| 27 | 25.3 | 2.0 | 0.62 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3-0.58m subsoil; 0.58m+ natural geology |
| 28 | 25.2 | 2.0 | 0.53 | 0-0.3m topsoil; 0.3- 0.5m subsoil; 0.5m+ natural geology |

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

| Trench | Cut | Fill (s) | Type | Date | Dating evidence |
|--------|-----|------------|-------|----------|-----------------|
| 3 | 1 | 52, 53 | Ditch | Roman | Pottery |
| 3 | 2 | 54 | Ditch | Roman | By association |
| 3 | 3 | 55 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 4 | 4 | 56 | Ditch | Roman | By association |
| 9 | 5 | 57 | Ditch | Modern | Stratigraphy |
| 6 | 6 | 58 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 10 | 7 | 59 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 10 | 8 | 60 | Ditch | Modern | Stratigraphy |
| 15 | 9 | 61, 62, 63 | Ditch | Roman | Pottery |
| 26 | 10 | 64 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 23 | 11 | 65 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 23 | 12 | 66 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 24 | 13 | 67 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 19 | 14 | 68 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 19 | 15 | 69 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 24 | 16 | 70 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 15 | 17 | 71, 72, 73 | Ditch | Roman | By association |
| 20 | 18 | 74 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 24 | 19 | 75 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 25 | 20 | 76 | Ditch | Unphased | None |
| 11 | 21 | 77 | Ditch | Modern | Stratigraphy |
| 23 | 22 | 78 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 23 | 23 | 79 | Gully | Unphased | None |
| 24 | 24 | 80 | Gully | Unphased | None |

APPENDIX 3: Pottery catalogue

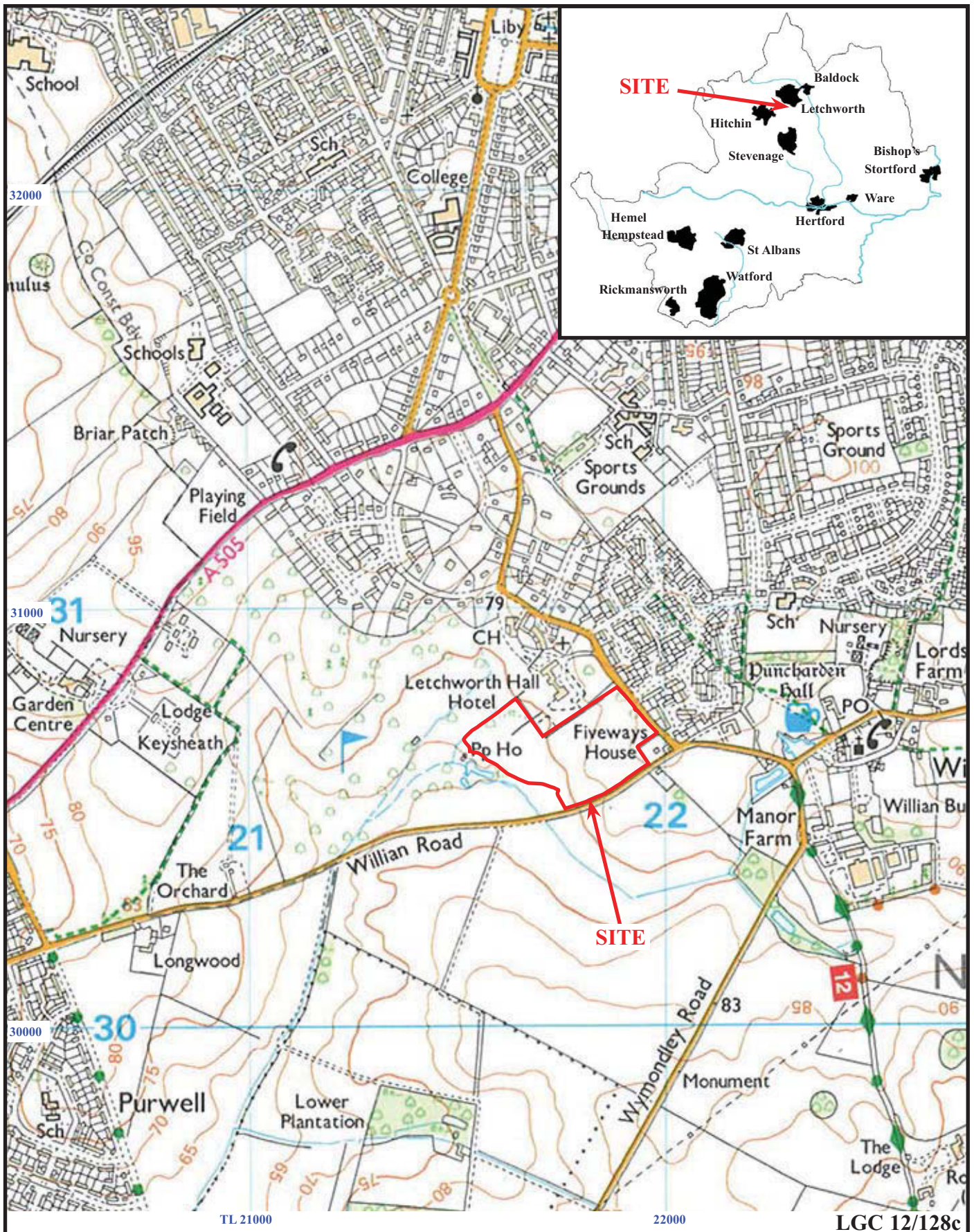
| <i>Trench</i> | <i>Cut</i> | <i>Deposit</i> | <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Form</i> | <i>Date-range</i> | <i>No of sherds</i> | <i>Wt (g)</i> | <i>Comments</i> |
|---------------|------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 3 | 1 | 52 | R3 | Jar basal | c.200-400 | 1 | 3 | Fresh. |
| 3 | 1 | 53 | R1 Tile | Jar | c.43-100 Roman | 1 2 | 6 1 | Fresh Abraded |
| 15 | 9 | 61 | R2 | Jar base | c.200-400 | 28 | 338 | Lower part of one jar |

APPENDIX 4: Animal bone catalogue

| <i>Cut</i> | <i>Deposit</i> | <i>No Frags</i> | <i>Wt (g)</i> | <i>Horse</i> | <i>Unidentified</i> |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2 | 54 | 13 | 100 | 1 | 12 |
| 4 | 56 | 1 | 126 | 1 | |
| | Total | 14 | 226 | | |

APPENDIX 1: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

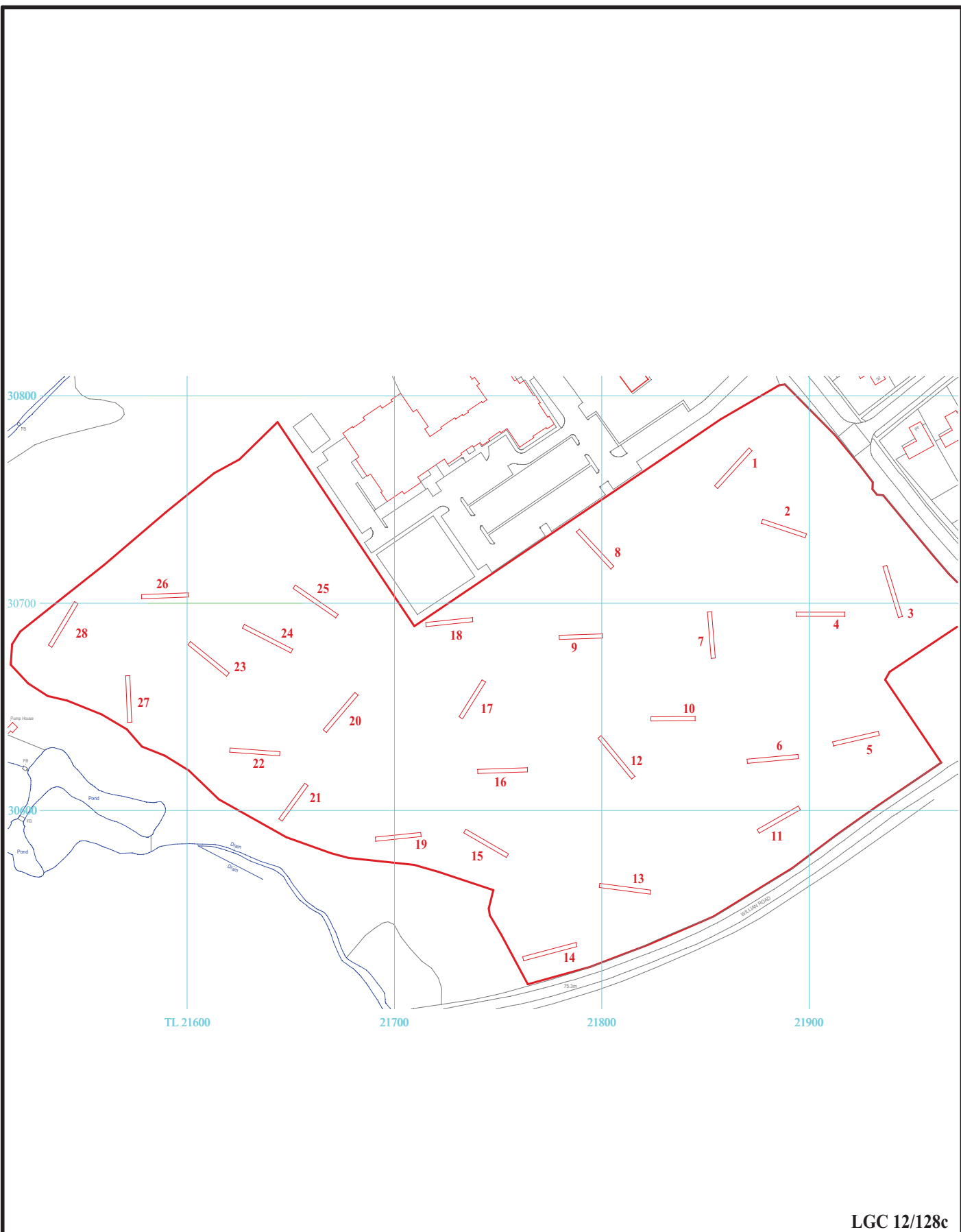
| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Site name and address: Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth, Hertfordshire | | |
| County: Hertfordshire | District: North Hertfordshire | |
| Village/Town: Letchworth | Parish: Letchworth | |
| Planning application reference: not known | | |
| Client name, address, and tel. no.: Woodland Environmental, 3 Priestlands Lane, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 4HL | | |
| Nature of application: Golf facilities | | |
| Present land use: Golf course | | |
| Size of application area: 7ha | Size of area investigated: 7ha | |
| NGR (to 8 figures): TL 2175 3066 | | |
| Site code (if applicable): LGC 12/128 | | |
| Site director/Organization: James McNicoll-Norbury Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd | | |
| Type of work: Evaluation trenching | | |
| Date of work: 22nd – 30th October 2013 | Start: 22nd October 2013 | Finish: 30th October 2013 |
| Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: (to go to Letchworth Museum) | | |
| Related HER Nos: | Periods represented: Roman Post-medieval | |
| Relevant previous summaries/reports Dawson, T, 2012, 'Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire: A Desk-based heritage assessment', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 12/128, Reading Dawson, T, 2013, 'Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire: A geophysical survey (magnetic)', Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 12/128b, Reading | | |
| Summary of fieldwork results: The trenches confirmed the presence of archaeological features on the site as previously identified by geophysical survey. The features identified comprise a probable later Roman trackway and other undated linear features, all forming one or more periods of landscape enclosure | | |
| Author of summary: James McNicoll-Norbury | Date of summary: 14/11/2013 | |



**Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane,
Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, 2013
Archaeological Evaluation**

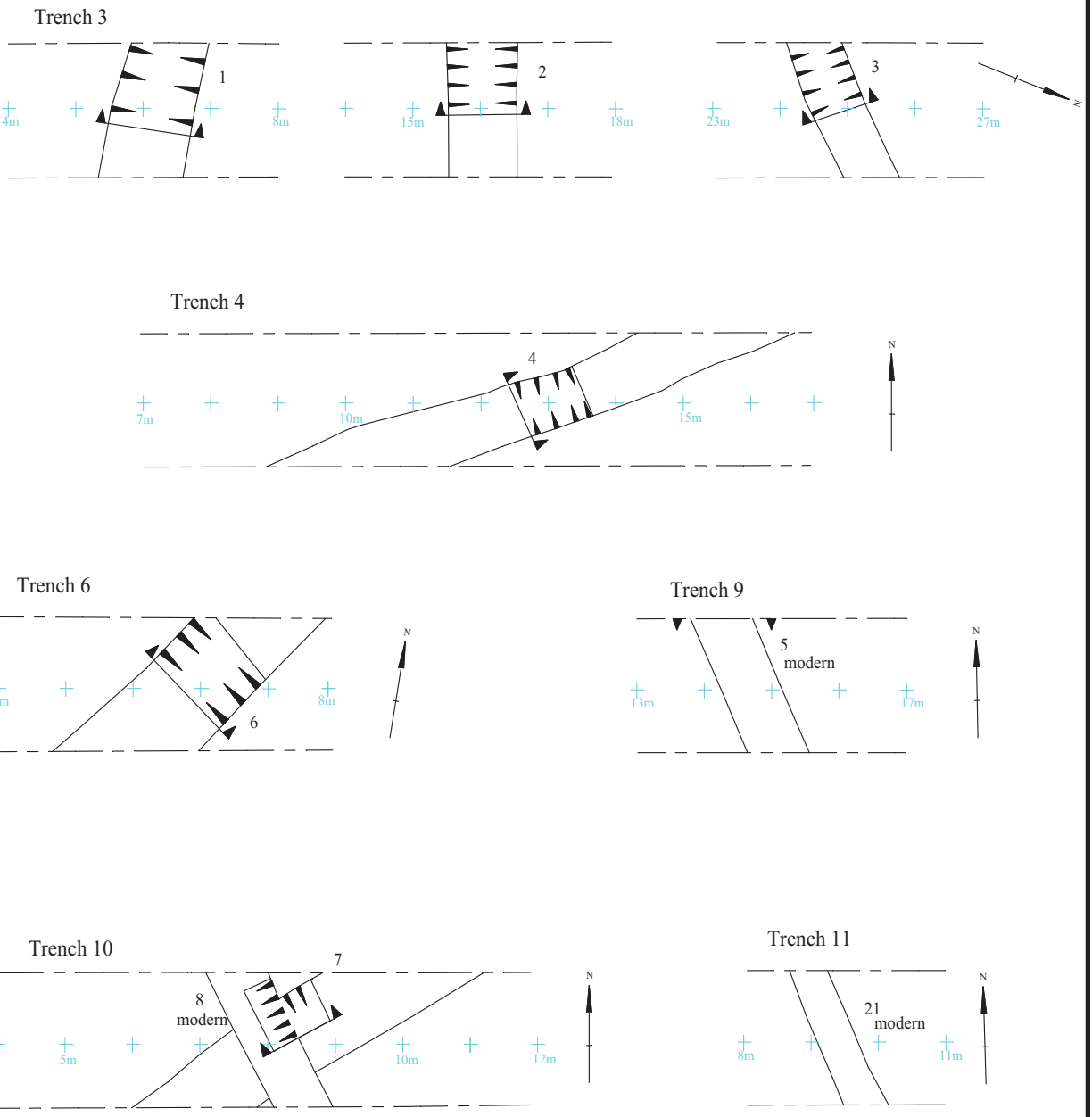
Figure 1. Location of site within Letchworth Garden City and Hertfordshire.

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LGC 12/128c

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p style="text-align: center;">Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, 2013 Archaeological Evaluation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Figure 2. Location of trenches.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0 125m</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES</p> |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



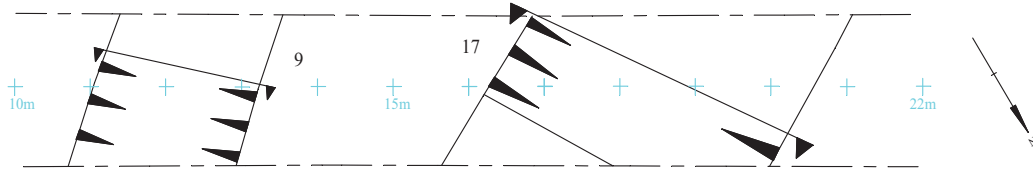
LGC 12/128

**Letchworth Golf Club, Letchworth Lane,
Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, 2013
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 3. Detail of trenches.



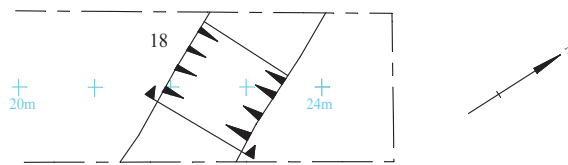
Trench 15



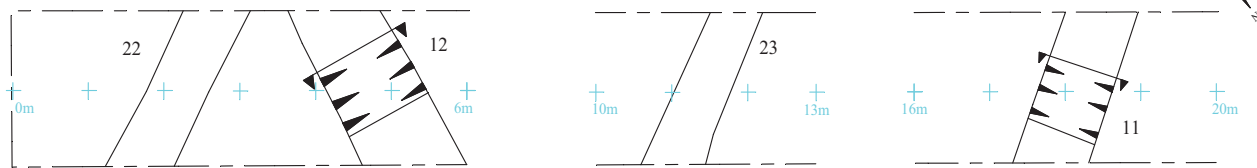
Trench 19



Trench 20



Trench 23



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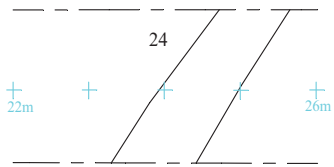
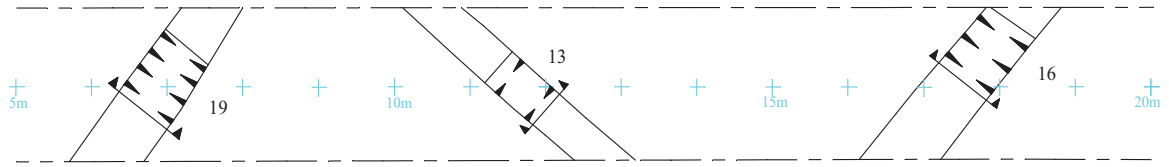
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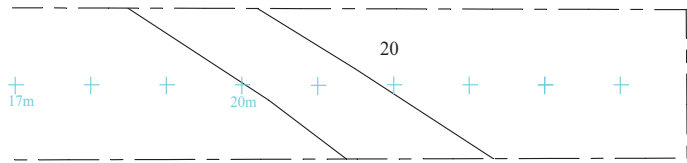
Figure 4. Detail of trenches.



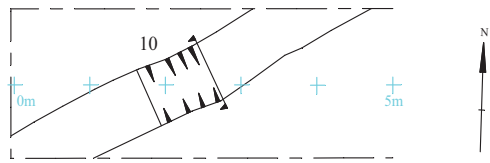
Trench 24



Trench 25



Trench 26



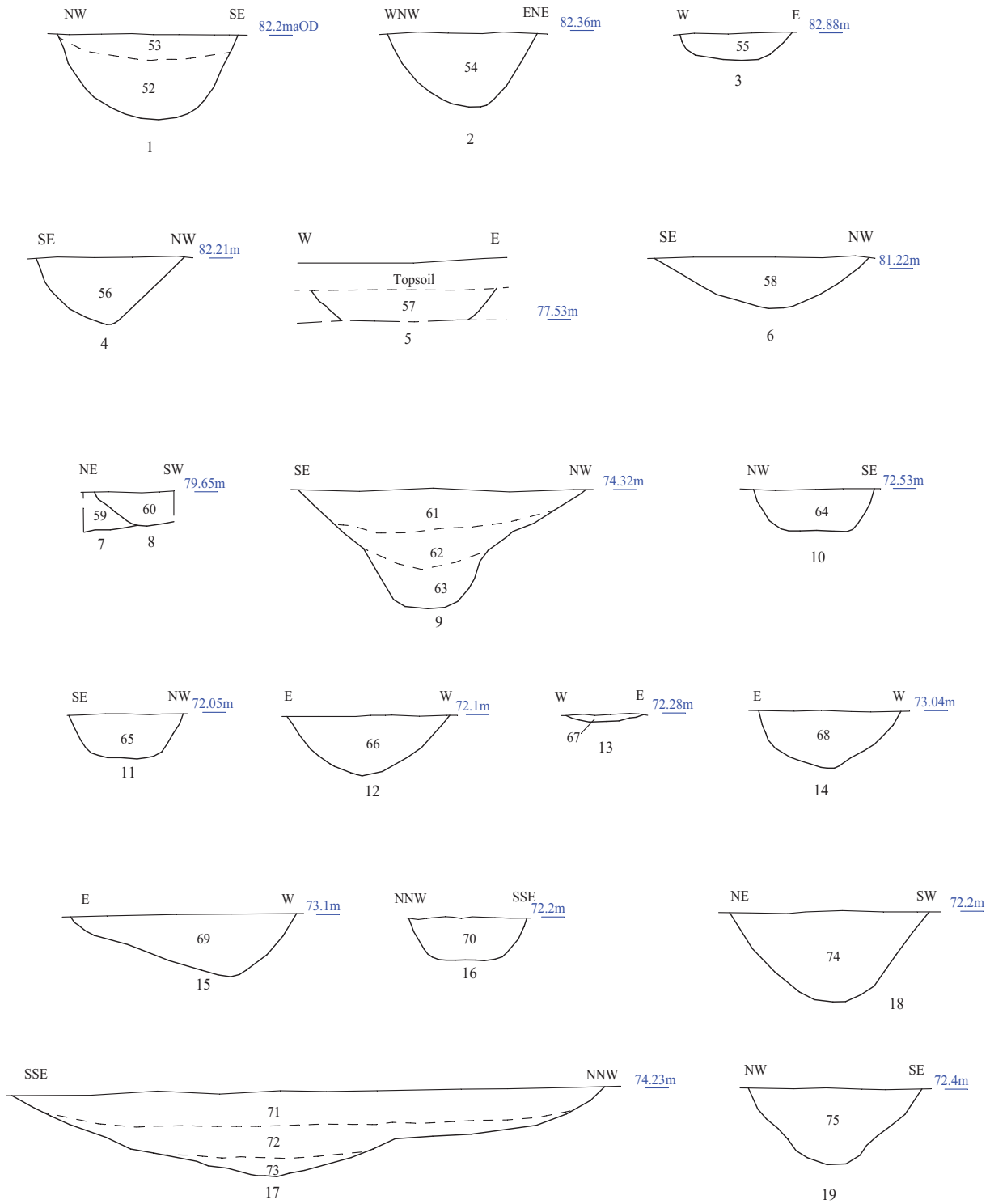
N ch 24

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Figure 5. Detail of trenches.



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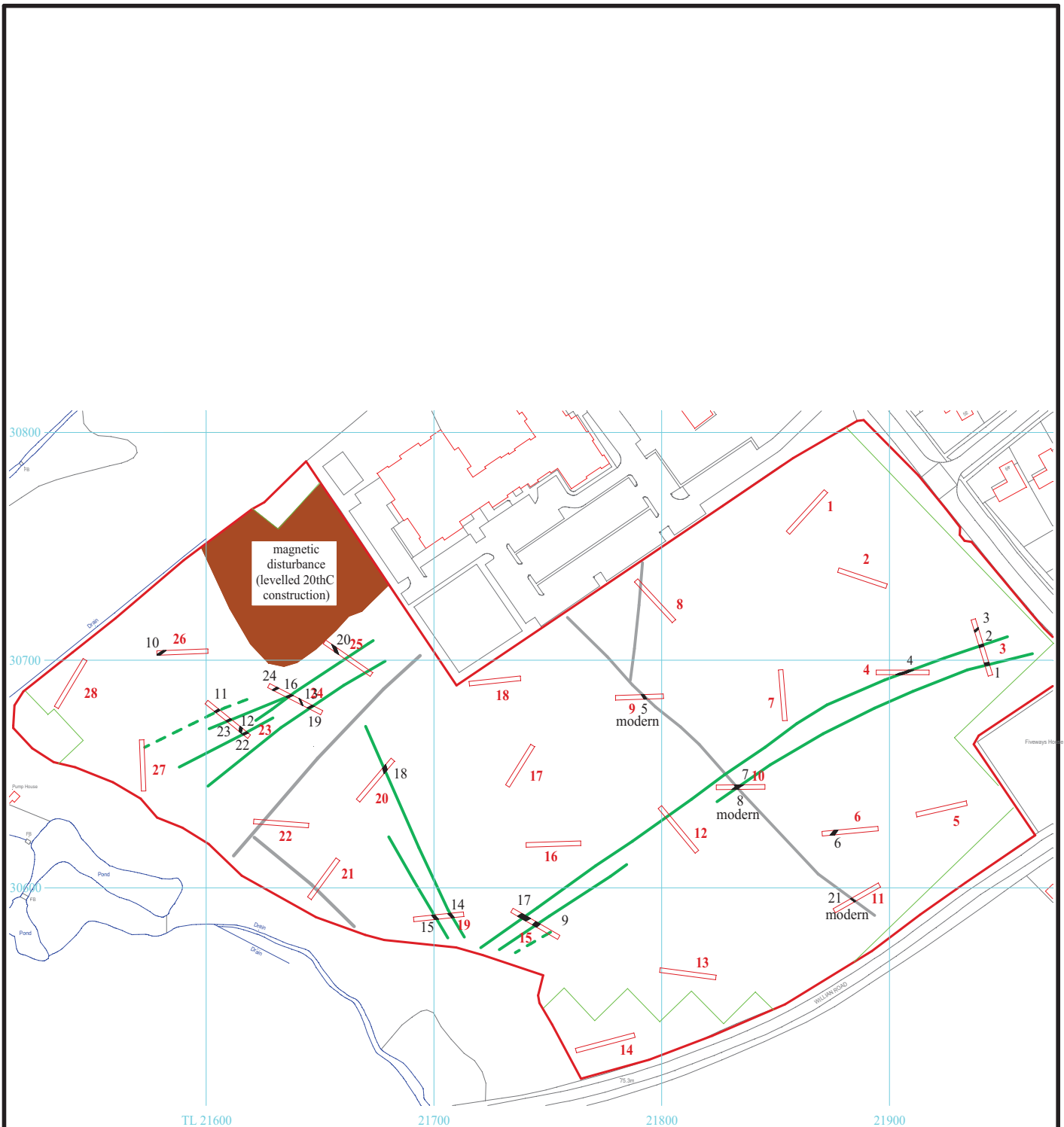
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Figure 6. Sections.



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Key

- positive magnetic anomaly (20thC field boundaries)
- positive magnetic anomaly (older features)

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Figure 7. Location of trenches, in relation to magnetic anomalies.





Plate 1. Trench 3, looking north, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.



Plate 2. Trench 3, ditch 1, looking south east, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

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Plates 1 - 2.

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Plate 3. Trench 6, looking east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.



Plate 4. Trench 6, ditch 6, looking south west, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

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Plates 3 - 4.

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Plate 5. Trench 4, ditch 4, looking west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 6. Trench 7, looking north, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

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Plates 5 - 6.

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Plate 7. Trench 15, looking south east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.



Plate 8. Trench 15, ditch 9, looking south west, Scales: 2m and 0.5m.

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Plates 7 - 8.

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Plate 9. Trench 10, looking east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 10. Trench 19, looking east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.

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Plates 9 - 10.

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Plate 11. Trench 23, looking north west, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.



Plate 12. Trench 26, looking east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.1m.

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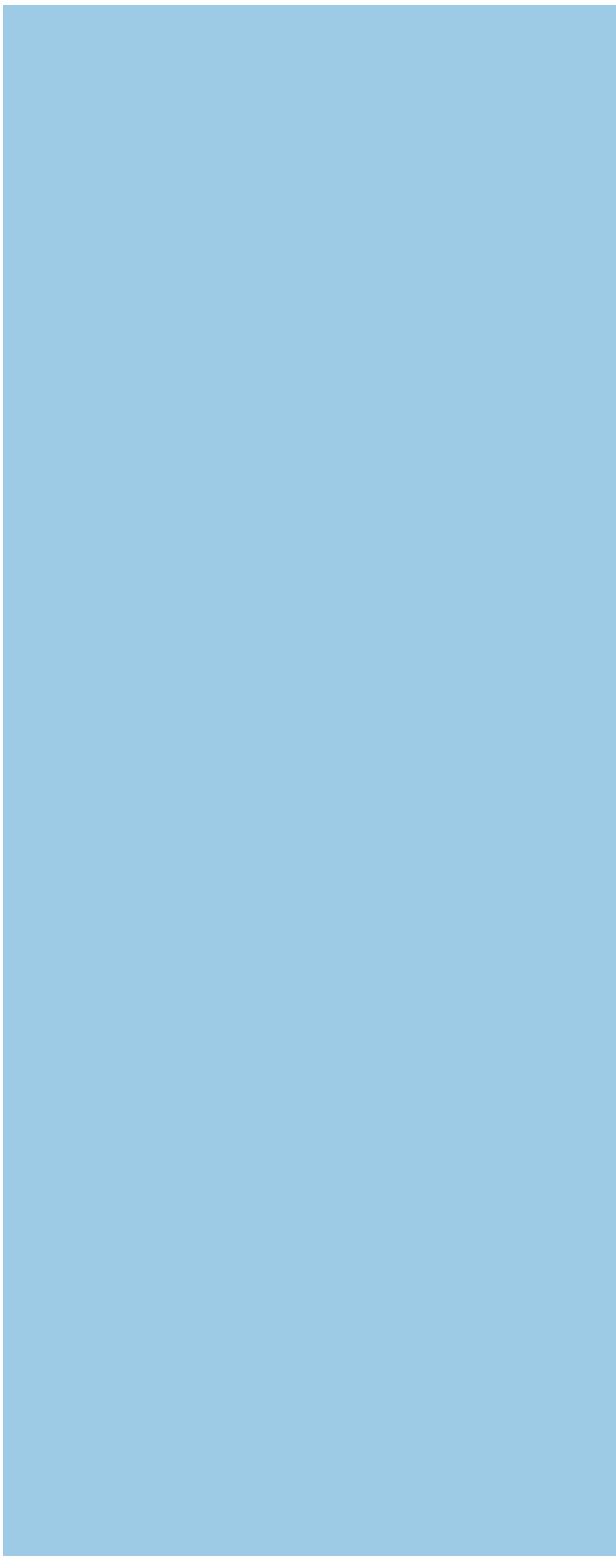
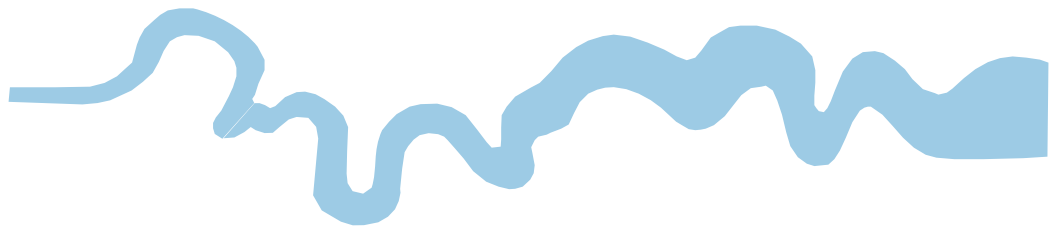
Plates 11 - 12.

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TIME CHART

| | Calendar Years |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Modern _____ | AD 1901 |
| Victorian _____ | AD 1837 |
| Post Medieval _____ | AD 1500 |
| Medieval _____ | AD 1066 |
| Saxon _____ | AD 410 |
| Roman _____ | AD 43 |
| Iron Age _____ | BC/AD 750 BC |
| | |
| Bronze Age: Late ----- | 1300 BC |
| Bronze Age: Middle ----- | 1700 BC |
| Bronze Age: Early ----- | 2100 BC |
| | |
| Neolithic: Late | 3300 BC |
| Neolithic: Early | 4300 BC |
| | |
| Mesolithic: Late | 6000 BC |
| Mesolithic: Early | 10000 BC |
| | |
| Palaeolithic: Upper | 30000 BC |
| Palaeolithic: Middle | 70000 BC |
| Palaeolithic: Lower | 2,000,000 BC |





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