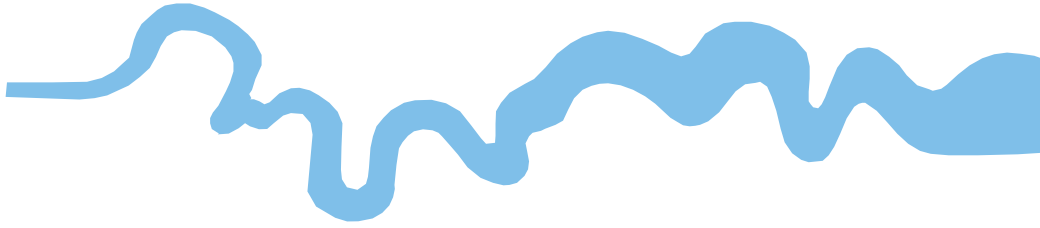


T V A S



EAST MIDLANDS

**Land between 225 and 239 Main Street,
Witchford, Cambridgeshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot

Site Code: MSW20/111

(TL 4922 7874)

Land between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Lovell Partnerships Ltd**

by Joshua Hargreaves, Eleanor Boot

TVAS East Midlands

Site Code MSW20/111

CHER: ECB6258

August 2020

Summary

Site name: Land between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire

Grid reference: TL 4922 7874

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 20th-24th July 2020

Project coordinator: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Joshua Hargreaves

Site code: MSW 20/111

Area of site: c.1.2ha

Summary of results: Nine evaluation trenches were excavated, two of which were found to contain features of some archaeological interest: a Roman ditch, a post medieval gully and an undated dog burial in Trench 2; and a medieval gully in Trench 9. Medieval to post-medieval furrows were seen in all but one trench and modern features were encountered in Trenches 4 and 9.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands, Wellingborough and will be deposited with Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeological Archive Storage Facility in due course, with accession code CHER ECB6258

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Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 08.08.20
	Steve Preston ✓ 08.08.20

Land Between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot

Report 20/111

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at land between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire (TL 4922 7874) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Paul Gajos, of Lanpro Services on behalf of Lovell Partnerships Ltd, Lakeside, 500 Old Chapel Way, Norwich, NR7 0WG.

Planning permission (18/01821/FUM) has been granted by East Cambridgeshire District Council to develop the site for housing. The consent is subject to a condition relating to archaeology. This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019), and the District Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Kasia Gdaniec, Senior Archaeologist for Cambridgeshire County Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot between 20th and 24th July 2020 and the site code is MSW 20/111. The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands, Wellingborough and (with the client's permission for transfer of title) will be deposited with Cambridgeshire County Council's Archaeological Archive Storage Facility in due course, with accession code CHER ECB6258.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located south-west of the historic Saxon and medieval core of Witchford, west of Ely, on the Isle of Ely (Fig. 1). The site lies at a height of c.12.5m above Ordnance Datum and the underlying geology is recorded as Kimmeridge Clay formation overlain by Oadby Member Diamicton (BGS 2020) which matches the geology observed in the evaluation trenches. At the time of the fieldwork the site was under rough pasture, somewhat overgrown. early Ordnance Survey maps show it as having been allotments in the late 19th century although this notation has disappeared on the early 20th-century maps.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted in a brief for the project prepared by Kerry Hopper of Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team drawing on records from the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER). In summary, the site lies within a rich archaeological landscape which has been subject to several investigations, including significant results from considerable recent work. These have revealed evidence dating to the Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods in addition to modern wartime features. Phases of evaluation and excavation conducted immediately to the east of the current site uncovered Iron Age and Roman settlement deposits beneath medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (Davey 2017; Hargreaves in prep; CHER ECB5438) while two possible Roman trackways were identified immediately to the west on Sutton Road (ECB5152). Further fieldwork to the north-east at Field End (ECB4170; ECB4252; ECB4772) revealed Bronze Age occupation, Bronze Age cremation and inhumation cemeteries and occupation, Iron Age occupation, a late Iron Age to early Roman field system, and medieval ridge and furrow (Blackbourn 2018). To the west is evidence of Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval occupation (ECB4978). Cropmarks have been interpreted as medieval, further to the west (ECB425). At Needhams Farm, mainly medieval and post-medieval features were revealed in an evaluation (ECB5346; Barlow 2018). Roman pottery has been recovered from fieldwalking (ECB442, site 7) and stray finds reported from the vicinity include a Saxon brooch, (FCB8234). A geophysical survey has revealed undated anomalies of potential archaeological significance though some have been identified as relatively recent boundaries or tracks (ECB4874). Other investigations have revealed little or nothing of archaeological interest (ECB4562; MCB20543; MCB23243).

Witchford appears in Domesday Book of AD1086 as a large settlement belonging to the Abbey of St Etheldrada, Ely and with a population of 37 households (Williams and Martin 2002).

There are several listed buildings within 1km of the site, all well to the east in the core of the village (e.g., DCB790; DCB71; DCB1094; DCB1192) and the HER also contains entries for a variety of features noted from 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps, and unlisted buildings of local interest.

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. All works were to be carried out in such a manner as would not compromise the integrity of the archaeological features or deposits that would be best suited for investigation under conditions pertaining to full excavation.

The specific research aims of this project are:

- to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- to determine if any Iron Age or Roman occupation is present;
- to determine if any archaeologically significant deposits relating to the late Saxon, medieval and later settlement of Witchford are present;
- to determine the presence/absence of palaeosols or old land surface soils/deposits and assess the potential to inform on the general environmental and dietary evidence of the inhabitants;
- to study and record any palaeochannels encountered; and
- to provide information to assist in the development of a mitigation strategy.

It was proposed to excavate 8 trenches, each 25m long, and one trench 50 m long, all with a width of 1.8m. A contingency of 25m of trench was included should it have been required to clarify the nature of the initial findings. The trenches were dug using a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under supervision of an experienced archaeologist and positioned using a handheld GPS unit. Lower soil horizons overlying the archaeologically sensitive levels were sampled at each end of each trench. A total of 90 litres were removed per soil horizon per trench and hand-sorted with the spatial distribution of any artefacts recovered being recorded. Any features uncovered were cleaned, excavated and recorded using the appropriate hand tools.

A single context recording system was used in accordance with the TVAS Field Recording Manual (8th edition 2018). Descriptions of individual deposits and features were recorded on pro-forma context recording sheets. All archaeological deposits exposed were planned by pencil on drafting film at a scale of 1:20 and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. Heights above OD were recorded on plans and sections.

Results

All nine trenches were dug as intended (Fig 2). The eight 25m trenches ranged in length from 24.80m to 26.40m and in depth from 0.37m to 0.49m. Trench 9 had a length of 50.10m and a maximum depth of 0.44m. From Trenches 1-9 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds. Any identified features were excavated to their full extent and spoil heaps were monitored for finds recovery. No finds were recovered from the spoilheaps, nor from the stripped surface of the trenches, including by use of a metal detector, but a sherd of medieval pottery and one iron nail came from the subsoil of trench 2 and one of

post-medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil sampling in trench 6. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. The excavated features, with dating evidence, are summarized in Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned N-S and was 26.2m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.13m of topsoil sealing 0.19m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil. This in turn overlay a mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. From Trench 1 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. Furrow 4 was located at 10.1m from the south end aligned NE-SW with a width of 1.6m. It was investigated and a ceramic land drain was located within the furrow on the same alignment.

Trench 2 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pls 8, 14)

Trench 2 was aligned E-W and was 24.8m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil sealing 0.19m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil; which in turn overlay the mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. From Trench 2 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds. One sherd of medieval pottery and one iron nail were recovered from the subsoil.

Ditch 1 (Pl. 9) was recorded at 23.40m from the west end of the trench on a N-S alignment. It had a concave base with gradually shallowing sloping sides and was 0.90m wide and 0.28m deep. Its fill (52) was a dark brown silty clay. Finds from ditch 1 comprised 11 sherds of Roman pottery, a flint core and a flint flake.

Gully 3 (Pl. 8) was recorded at 14.3m from the west end of the trench, aligned N-S. It had a slightly concave base with shallow sloping sides and was 0.5m wide and 0.09m deep. Its fill (55) was a mid-reddish-brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions and contained a sherd of glazed post-medieval pottery.

A dog burial (54) (Pl 14) was located 6.9m from the west end of the trench. Its grave cut (2) was oval in plan with a flat base and short, shallow, straight sides, was 0.80m wide and 0.63m in length it had a depth of 0.05m. Its fill (53) was a mid-greyish brown silty clay. The dog (54) had the bottom of its jaw present, including teeth, which was facing north. The bones were well preserved and the animal was buried in a curled position, with no dating evidence found in association.

Three parallel furrows were aligned N-S across this trench, each carrying a ceramic land drain. Furrow 5 was located at 2.2m from the west end with a width of 1.8m. Furrow 6 was located at 11.7m, with a width of 1.2m. Furrow 8 was located at 20.5m and was 1.60m wide.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 3)

Trench 3 was aligned N-S and was 25.5m long and 0.41m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil sealing 0.23m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil which in turn overlay a mid-brownish yellow clay natural geology. From Trench 3 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. Furrow 8 was located at the trench's south end aligned NE-SW with a width of 2m. A ceramic land drain was located within the furrow on the same alignment. Furrow 9 was located at 21.6m from the south end on the same alignment, with a width of 1.7m.

Trench 4 (Figs 2 and 3; Pl. 3)

Trench 4 was aligned E-W and was 26m long and 0.49m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil sealing 0.18m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil overlying the mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. From Trench 4 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. A modern ditch (28) was recorded at 10m from the west end of the trench, aligned north-south; it had a width of 0.5m. The ditch was directly next to a patch of modern made ground with a width of 10.5-13.7m which was a light brownish yellow with inclusions of clay, gravel, flint, chalk and stone truncating the trench.

Furrows 10 and 11 (each containing a land drain) were located at 8m and 17.5m respectively from the west end on a N-S alignment, with widths of 2m and 1.7m.

Trench 5 (Fig. 2; Pl. 4)

Trench 5 was aligned N-S and was 25.8m long and 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil sealing 0.22m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil which in turn overlay a mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint inclusions and some rooting. From Trench 5 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. No features were recorded in this trench.

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

Trench 6 was aligned E-W and was 24.9m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil sealing 0.18m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil overlying the mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint and stone inclusions and some rooting. Topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds; one sherd of glazed post-medieval pottery was found in the topsoil. Three furrows (12,

13, 14) each carrying a ceramic land drain on a NE–SW alignment were located at 0.2m, 10.2m and 19.3m: their respective widths were 2.25m, 1.5m and 1.4m.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 3 and 4; Pls 6, 11 and 12)

Trench 7 was aligned N-S and was 25.7m long and 0.27m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil sealing 0.17m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil overlying a mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint inclusions. Both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. Trench 7 contained an alignment of six postholes (21-26) on a N-S alignment. Two of these postholes (22 and 23) were excavated.

Posthole 22 (Pl. 11) was located 5.2m from the south end, 0.5m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a flat base and gradual sloping sides. Its fill (58) was a dark greyish brown silty clay, with large flint inclusions and occasional charcoal; two iron nails were found in posthole 22. Posthole 23 was located 7.4m from the south end, 0.5m in diameter and 0.16m deep with a flat base and gradual sloping sides. Its upper fill (64) was a dark blackish grey silty clay of the post-pipe. The lower fill (59) was a dark greyish brown silty clay with infrequent inclusions of small flint, charcoal and burnt clay. The lower fill (59) contained a sherd of modern glazed pottery. Postholes 21-26 made up a fence line.

Pit 27 (Pl. 12) was located 14.5m from the south end of the trench. It had a wide concave base and shallow sloping sides and was semi-circular in plan. It was 1.7m wide and 0.15m deep. Its fill (63) was a mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions together with occasional fragments of charcoal and large rounded stone evenly spread throughout the fill. This fill (63) contained one large iron nail and one sherd of modern industrial glazed pottery.

Trench 8 (Figs 2; Pl. 7)

Trench 8 was aligned E-W and was 26.4m long and 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil sealing 0.18m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil over the mid-light brownish yellow clay natural geology with gravel patches. From Trench 8 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found. Furrows 15, 16 and 17 were aligned NE–SW along this trench, at 3.7m, 13.3m and 22.2m from the west end. Each was investigated and a ceramic land drain was located within the furrow on the same alignment. Furrow 15 was 2.3m wide, furrow 16 was 2.5m wide and furrow 17 was 2.7m wide.

Trench 9 (Figs 2, 3, 4;Pl. 10)

Trench 9 was aligned E-W and was 50.1m long and 0.16m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil sealing 0.22m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay subsoil above the mid-light brownish yellow clay natural geology. From Trench 9 both topsoil and subsoil from both ends of the trench were sampled and hand-sorted for finds, none were found.

Ditch 18 (Pl. 10) was recorded 11.8m from the west end of the trench. It had a concave base with gradually sloping curved sides, it was 0.67m wide and 0.34m deep. Its fill (56) a mid-greyish brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional stones, more frequent amounts flint and occasional charcoal. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from ditch 18.

Furrows 19 and 20, each carrying a ceramic land drain, were located at 17.25m and 25.2m from the west end of the trench, aligned NE-SW with widths of 1.2m and 1.9m. Five pieces of burnt clay were recovered from furrow 20.

Finds

Pottery by Sue Anderson

Nineteen sherds (164g) of pottery were collected from seven contexts during the evaluation (Appendix 3). Quantification was carried out using sherd count and weight – estimated vessel equivalent (eve) was not recorded as no rims were present. The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. Methods follow MPRG recommendations (MPRG 2001) and form terminology follows MPRG classifications (1998). The results were input onto an MS Access database, which forms the archive catalogue. Roman pottery fabric coding follows the Cambridgeshire fabric series (*e.g.* Lyons 2019). Medieval wares were identified based on Spoerry (2016); post-medieval to modern fabrics are based on the author's fabric series.

Table 1 Summary quantification by fabric.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Date range</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>MNV</i>
Sandy greyware	SGW	1st-4th c.	9	112	1
Sandy coarse ware	SCW	1st-4th c.	1	14	1
Sandy reduced ware	SRW	1st-4th c.	1	1	1
Medieval Ely ware	MEL	M.12th-15th c.	4	9	3
Frechen stoneware	FREC	16th-17th c.	1	7	1
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	16th-18th c.	1	17	1
Late slipped redware	LSRW	L.18th-19th c.	1	<1	1
Industrial slipware	INDS	L.18th-19th c.	1	1	1
<i>Totals</i>			<i>19</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>10</i>

The assemblage

Eleven sherds of Roman pottery were collected, all from ditch 1 (fill 52) in Trench 2. There were nine sherds of

a thick-walled greyware storage vessel, a body fragment of sandy coarse ware with diagonal combing in the form of chevrons, and a small body sherd of sandy reduced ware. None of this material was particularly closely datable, although the decorated coarse ware sherd is comparable with Early/Middle Roman pottery found previously in Witchford (Wadeson and Lyons 2010).

Four sherds are of medieval date. Two are fragments of probably glazed Ely ware, being dark grey/black with a thin oxidised surface, but no glaze had survived on the abraded surfaces. Two small joining sherds were Ely coarseware. They were found in ditch 18 (fill 56) (Trench 9) and subsoil in Trench 2.

Two sherds are of post-medieval date, comprising a glazed red earthenware sherd which is likely to have been made at the Broad Street kilns in Ely (Cessford *et al.* 2006), and a small fragment of Frechen stoneware, probably from a bottle. These were from topsoil in Trench 6 and gully 3 (fill 55) in Trench 2 respectively.

Modern pottery comprised a tiny chip of late slipped redware with internal white slip and clear glaze, found in post-hole 23 (fill 59) in Trench 7, and a small sherd of industrial slipware with black line and blue incised line banding decoration, from pit 27 (fill 63) in Trench 7.

There are no particular concentrations of pottery on the site, although there is potentially Roman activity close to Trench 2. The medieval pottery from the site is in small quantities and may have reached the site through manuring rather than through occupation, likewise the post-medieval and modern wares probably reflect the distribution of night soil on the land.

This small assemblage was dominated by Roman pottery, albeit from a single context. Only four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered, all typical of the Ely production sites. The glazed redware of post-medieval date is typical of East Anglia as a whole, but is likely to have been made in Ely, and there is a single example of a common import of the same period. The modern wares are both common types.

Ceramic building material by Sue Anderson

One fragment (7g) of a thin plain tile (possibly land drain tile or plain roof tile) was found in furrow 20 (fill 80) in Trench 9. The fragment was in a hard silty fabric with common small to large rounded voids, most likely due to the leaching of chalk, and occasional ferrous oxide. The tile was orange with a slightly darker red core. It is likely to be of post-medieval date, although a Roman date is also possible. However, at only 8mm thick, this tile would be unusually thin for an *imbrex*.

Animal Bone by Eleanor Boot

Trench 2 contained an articulated animal skeleton in cut 2 (54). The assemblage contained 118 bone fragments weighing 758g. Present was the lower maxillary including the teeth but the skull was missing. A large proportion of the spine including the bottom of the cervical vertebrae, all of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae as well as the upper half of the caudal vertebrae was found in situ. Multiple ribs were recovered, these were fragile and in multiple pieces. Fragments of the sacro and pelvis were recovered. The animal had both front legs with the presence of the humerus, ulna and radius for both legs and a few metacarpals and phalanges from the front feet. The animal had both back legs with the presence of the femur, tibia and fibula of both. A few phalanges were recovered from the back feet. Over all the skeleton was well preserved and buried in its own grave cut in a curled position. From analysis of the lower maxillary and teeth recovered, this articulated animal burial is most likely that of a small dog.

In trench 2, 1 fragment of bone weighing 2g was recovered from ditch 1 (fill 52), it is from an animal but cannot be specified further.

Macrobotanical remains by Joanna Pine

Besides the dry sieving of top-and subsoil, two samples were processed from the deposits encountered during the evaluation. The samples were wet sieved to 0.25mm and air dried. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnifications between x10 and x40.

A single indeterminate cereal grain) was recorded in the sample from ditch 1 (52) but no charcoal was present in this flot.

Charcoal was present in the sample from ditch 18 (56); this comprised a high density of charcoal for the 10 litres processed. It was of a size over 2mm to enable species identification if required.

Conclusion

All 9 trenches were successfully excavated. Trenches 2, 7 and 9 contained potentially archaeological features. In trench 2 there was a ditch containing 11 sherds of Roman pottery, a post-medieval gully, and an undated articulated dog skeleton burial. Trench 7 contained six postholes which made up a modern fence line: two of the postholes were fully excavated and produced some iron nails and a sherd of modern glazed pottery. Trench 7 also contained a pit in which one sherd of glazed modern industrial pottery was found. Trench 9 contained a linear ditch which contained 2 sherds of Medieval pottery.

All trenches excluding trench 5, were found to have furrows which contained ceramic land drains. There was no archaeological evidence concerning any Iron Age or earlier occupation or significant deposits relating to the Late Saxon, Medieval and later settlement of Witchford. There is nothing to suggest that the furrows/drains were medieval and while they are on broadly the same alignment as those on the site 200m to the east, this reflects the influence of the line of the main road and extant boundaries. While the Roman pottery is perhaps in sufficient quantity to provide a date for one feature (ditch 1), the scant medieval pottery could easily have been brought to the site with manure and be redeposited in the contexts where it was found. If ditch 1 is Roman, this isolated feature cannot be convincingly related to the field systems recorded nearby.

The evaluation has therefore confirmed the archaeological potential of the site to be limited with no evidence of any substantial archaeological deposits.

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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S and W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	26.2	1.8	0.38	0-0.13m topsoil, 0.13-0.32m subsoil, 0.32+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology [P1. 1]
2	24.8	1.8	0.46	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.34m subsoil, 0.34+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. Ditch 1, Gully 3, animal burial 2 [P1s 8, 9, 13]
3	25.5	1.8	0.41	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.35m subsoil, 0.35+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. [P1. 2]
4	26	1.8	0.49	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. [P1. 3]
5	25.8	1.8	0.4	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint inclusions and some rooting. [P1. 4]
6	24.9	1.8	0.37	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint and stone inclusions and some rooting [P1s 5, 14] .
7	25.7	1.8	0.37	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.29m subsoil, 0.29m+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology with flint inclusions. Postholes 21-26, Pit 27 [P1s 6, 11, 12]
8	26.4	1.8	0.44	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ mid-light brownish yellow clay natural geology with gravel patches [P1. 7]
9	50.1	1.8	0.44	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ mid brownish yellow clay natural geology. Ditch 18 [P1. 10]

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
2	1	52	Ditch	Roman?	Pottery
2	2	53, 54	Animal Burial	Undated	
2	3	55	Gully	16th-17th century	Pottery
1	4	65	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
2	5	66	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
2	6	67	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
2	7	68	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
3	8	69	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
3	9	70	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
4	10	71	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
4	11	72	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
6	12	73	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
6	13	74	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
6	14	75	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
8	15	76	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
8	16	77	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
8	17	78	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
9	18	56	Ditch	Mid 12th-14th century	Pottery
9	19	79	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain
9	20	80	Furrow		Landscape, Association, and land drain, Pot.
7	21	57	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Association with 23
7	22	58	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Association with 23
7	23	59, 64	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Pottery
7	24	60	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Association with 23
7	25	61	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Association with 23
7	26	62	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Association with 23
7	27	63	Posthole	Late 18th-19th century	Pottery

APPENDIX 3: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt/g</i>	<i>MNV</i>	<i>Decoration</i>	<i>Spot date</i>
2		Subsoil	MEL	U	1	3	1	glazed?	Mid 12th -15th century
2	1	52	SCW	D	1	14	1	diag ?combed/parallel lines forming chevrons	Early Roman?
2	1	52	SGW	U	9	112	1		Roman
2	1	52	SRW	U	1	1	1		Roman
2	3	55	FREC	D	1	7	1		16th –17th century
6		Topsoil	GRE	D	1	17	1		16th –18th century
7	23	59	LSRW	D	1	1	1	white slip int	Late 18th -19th century
7	27	63	INDS	D	1	1	1	black line, blue band with IHLs	Late 18th -19th century
9	18	56	MEL	U	1	5	1	glazed?	Mid 12th -15th century
9	18	56	MEL	U	2	3	1	coarseware	Mid 12th -15th century

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OASIS ID: thamesva1-408753

Project details

Project name	: Land between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	Nine evaluation trenches were excavated, two of which were found to contain features of possible archaeological interest: a Roman ditch, a post medieval gully and an undated dog burial in Trench 2; and a medieval gully in Trench 9. Medieval to post-medieval furrows carrying land drains were seen in all but one trench and modern features were encountered in Trenches 4 and 9.
Project dates	Start: 20-07-20 End: 24-07-2020
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	MSW20/111 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	18/01821/FUM - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB6258 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	GULLY Uncertain
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMICS 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	CAMBRIDGESHIRE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE WITCHFORD Land between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford
Study area	1.2 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 4922 7874 52.385918996193 0.192870266554 52 23 09 N 000 11 34 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 12m Max: 12m

Project creators

Name of Organisation TVAS East Midlands
 Project brief originator Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
 Project design originator Steve Ford
 Project director/manager Tim Dawson
 Project supervisor Josh Hargreaves
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
 Name of sponsor/funding body Lovell Partnerships Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire archaeological archive store
 Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental"
 Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archive Stores
 Digital Contents "other"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"
 Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archive Stores
 Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Stratigraphic","Survey","other"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Correspondence","Drawing","Matrices","Microfilm","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title Land Between 225 and 239 Main Street, Witchford, Cambridgeshire An Archaeological Evaluation
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Hargreaves, J
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Boot, E
 Other bibliographic details 20/111
 Date 2020
 Issuer or publisher TVAS East Midlands
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 Description A4 comb-bound client report

URL <http://tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp>

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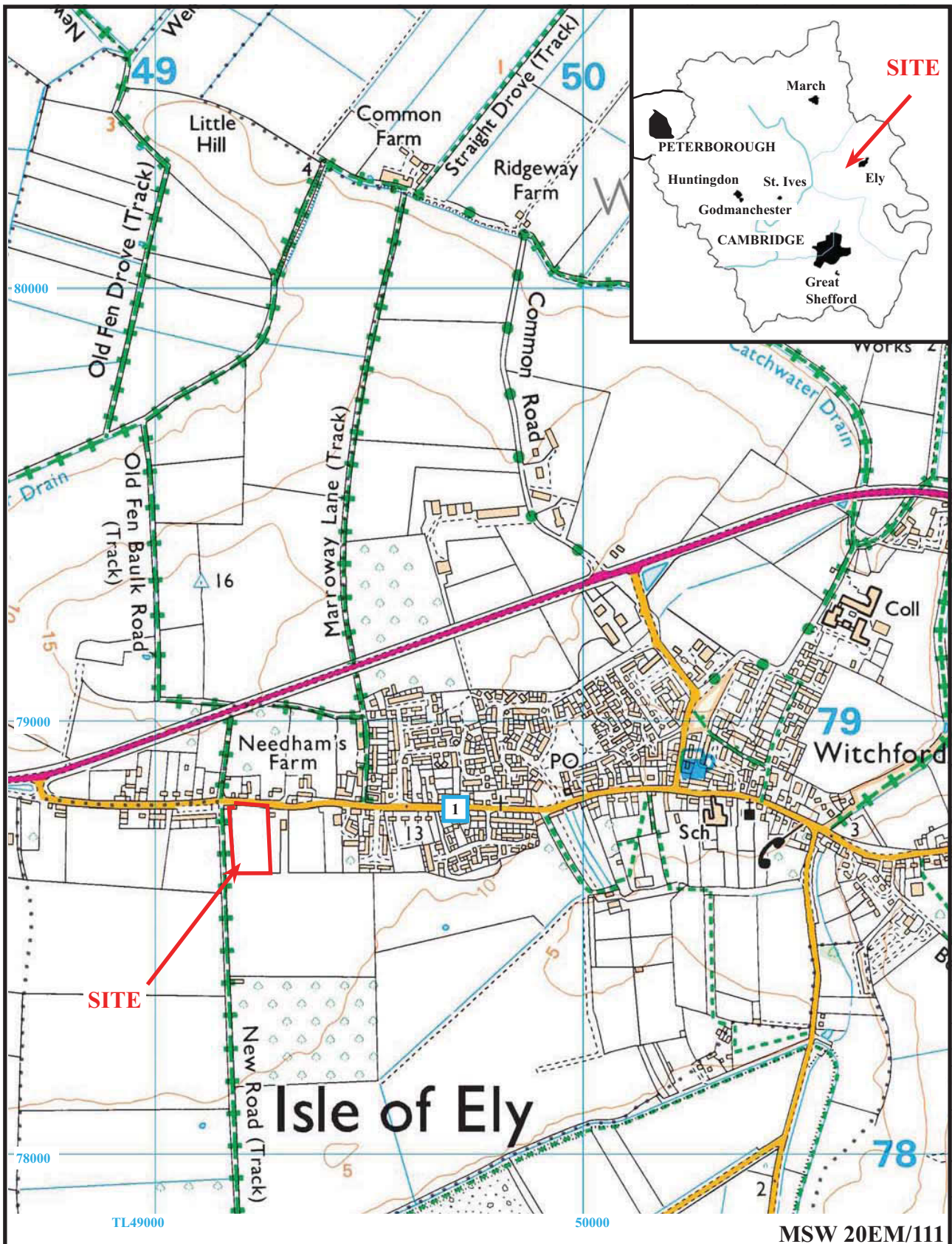
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Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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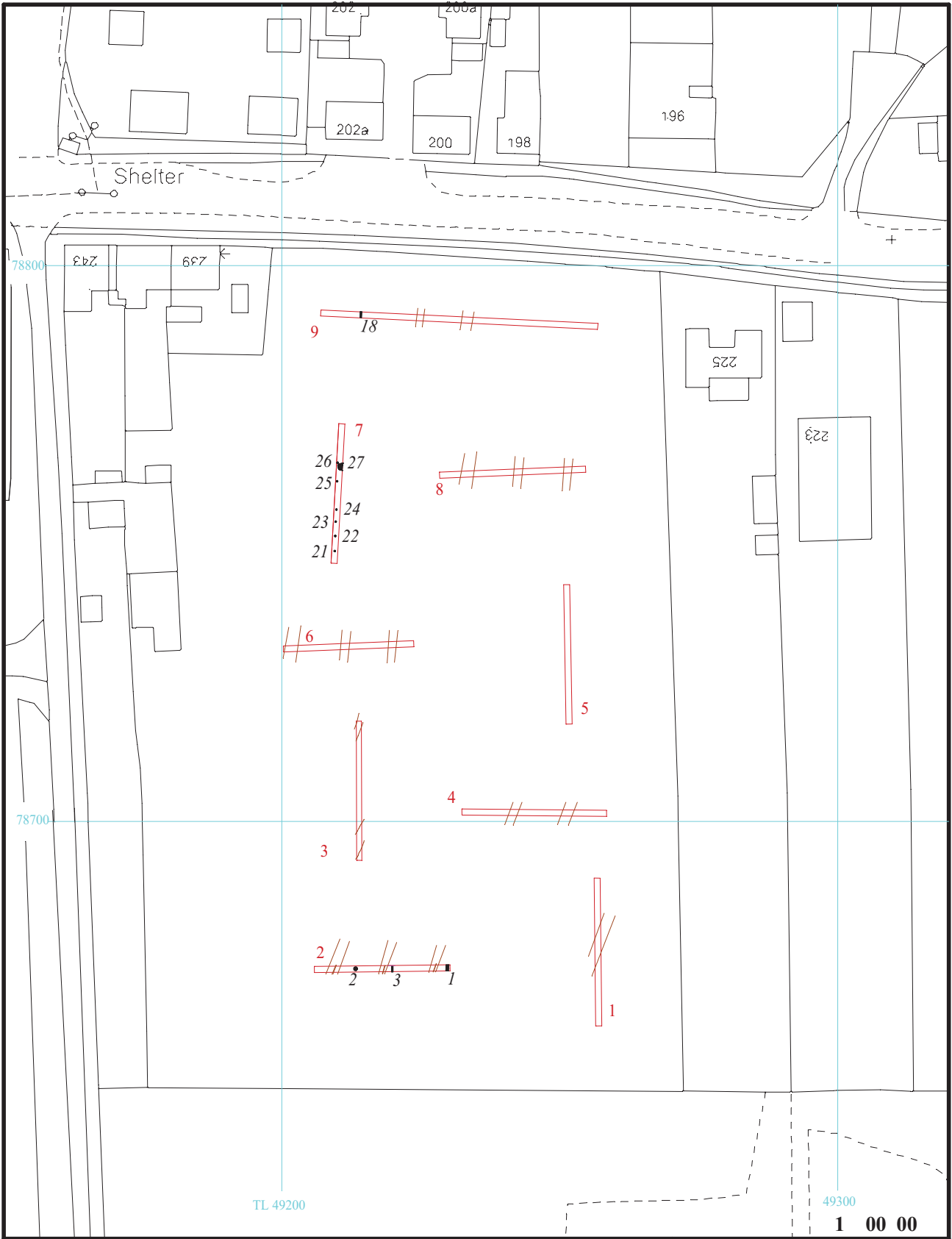


**Land between 225 and 239 Main Street,
Witchford, Cambridgeshire, 2020
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Witchford and Cambridgeshire.

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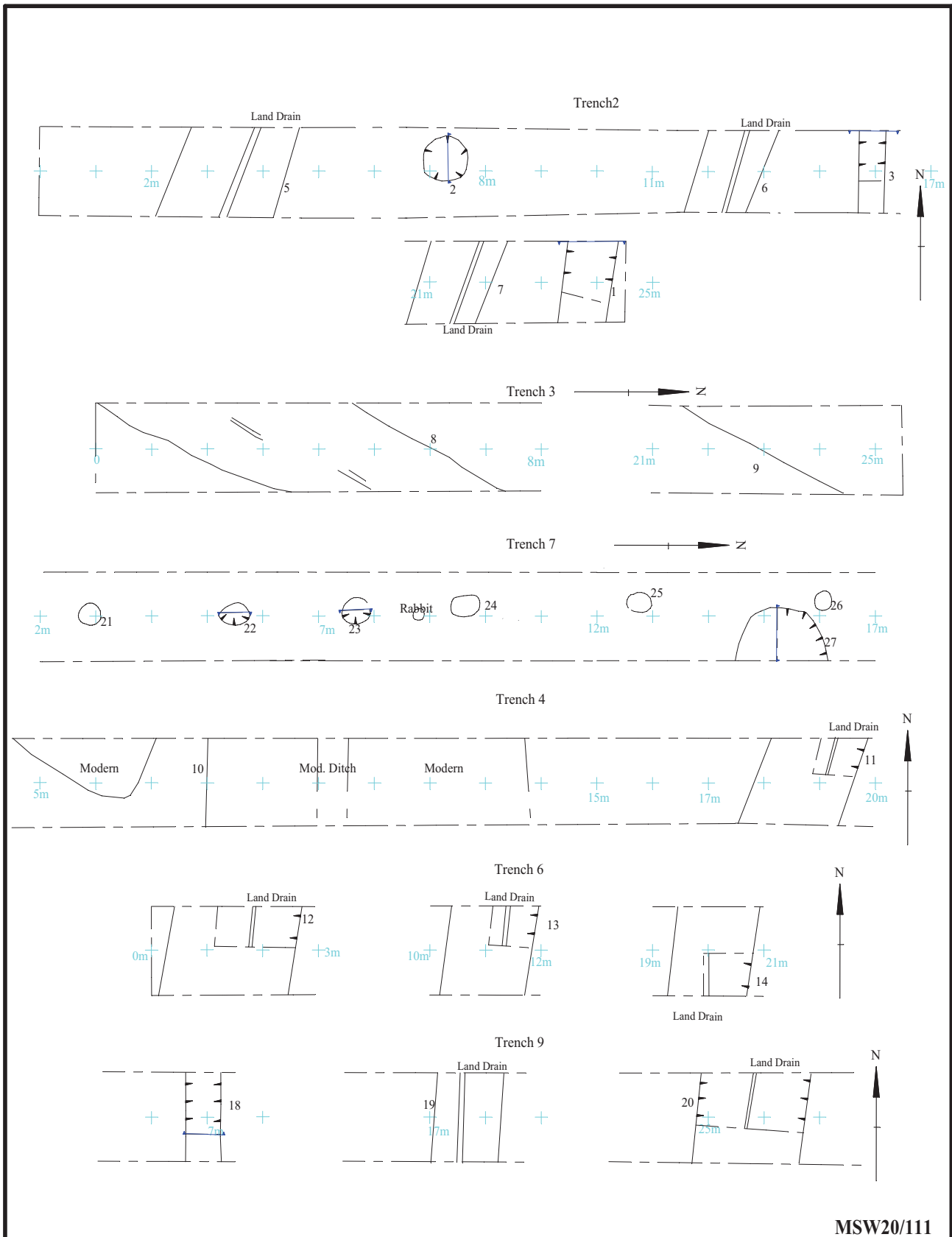




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Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Trench layout. Furrows/drains approximate alignments in brown.



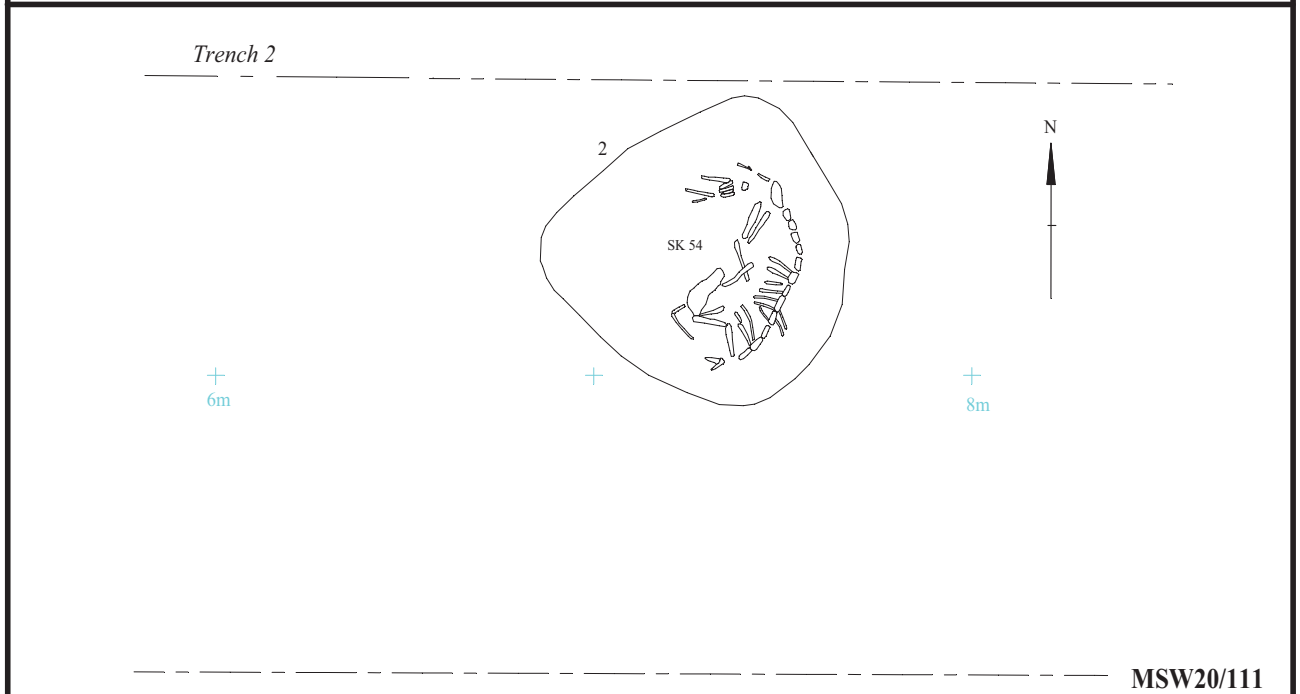
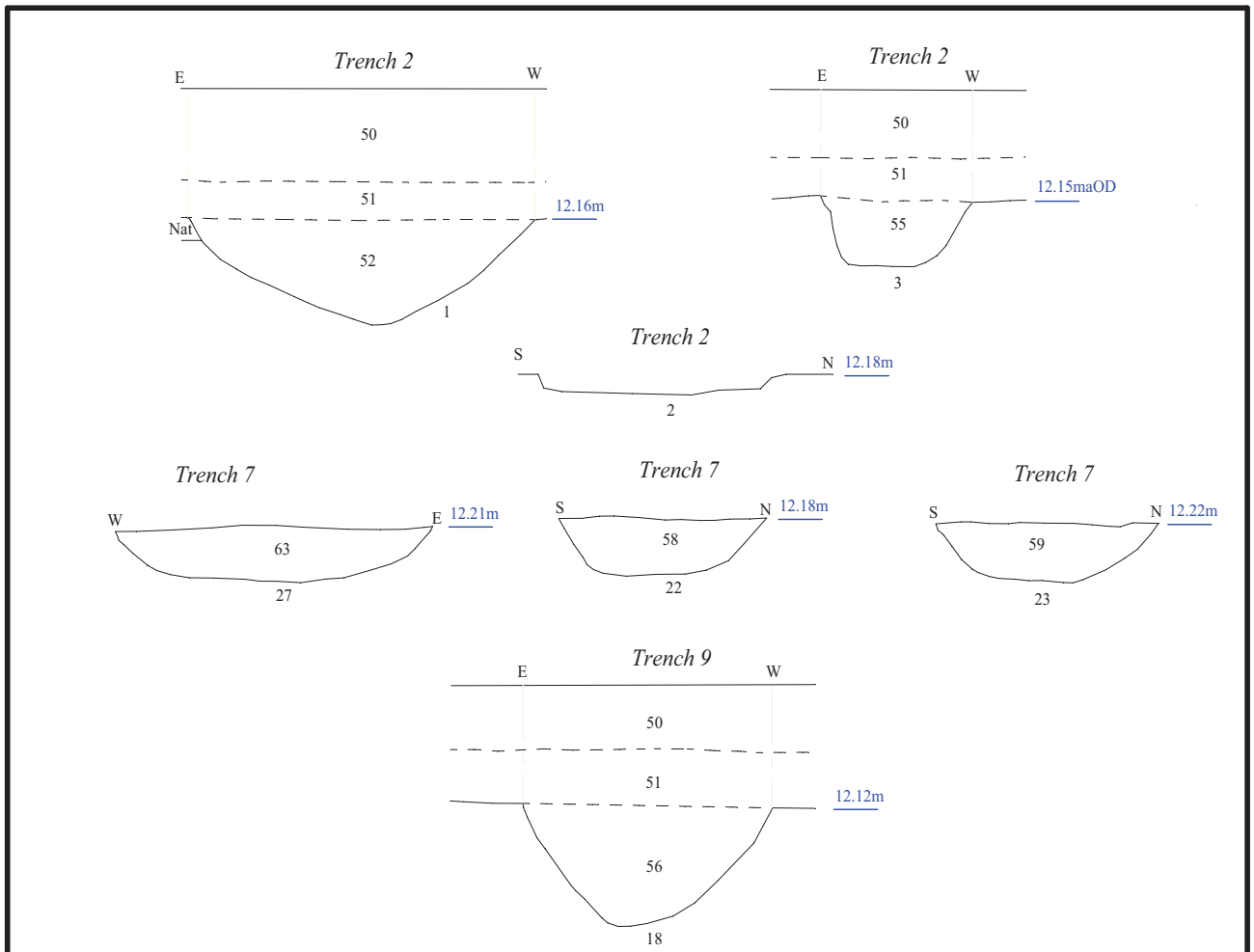


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Figure 3. Plan of trenches.





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Figure 4. Sections and Dog Burial





Plate 1. Trench 1, looking N, Scales: 2m and 1m.



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

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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 1 and 2.**





Plate 3. Trench 4, looking E, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 4. Trench 5, looking N, Scales: 2m and 1m.

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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 3 and 4.**





Plate 5. Trench 6, looking E, Scales: 2m and 1m.



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

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Plates 5 and 6.**





Plate 7. Trench 8, looking E, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 8. Gully 3, Trench 2, looking N, Scales: 0.2m and 0.1m.

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Plates 7 and 8.**





Plate 9. Ditch 1, Trench 2, looking N, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.



Plate 10. Ditch 18, Trench 9, looking N, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

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Plates 9 and 10.**





Plate 11. Posthole 22, Trench 7, looking W, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 12. Pit 27, Trench 7, looking S, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 11 and 12.**





Plate 13. Trench 2, Dog burial, looking E, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.



Plate 14. Trench 6, Furrow 14 with land drain, looking W, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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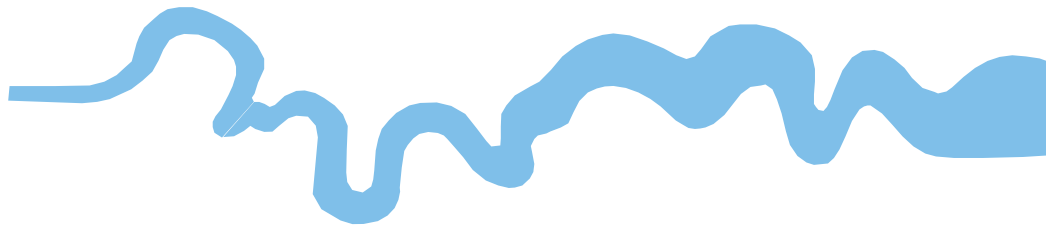
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Archaeological Evaluation
Plates 13 and 14.



TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43 AD 0 BC
Iron Age _____	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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