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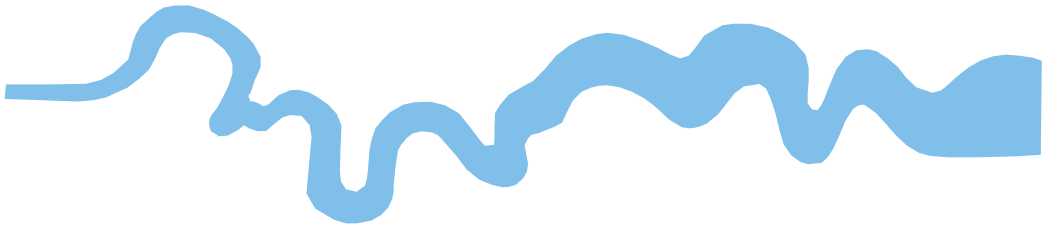

EAST MIDLANDS

Land West of Kirby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot

Site Code: KRB20/135
(SP 4445 9855)

Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire

An Archaeological Evaluation

For Armour Heritage Ltd

by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot

TVAS East Midlands

Site Code KRB20/135

October 2020

Summary

Site name: Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire

Grid reference: SP 447 986

Site activity: Archaeological Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 7th-24th September 2020

Project coordinator: Tim Dawson

Site supervisor: Joshua Hargreaves

Site code: KRB20/135

Area of site: *c*.32ha

Summary of results: The evaluation was successful in characterising the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. Two areas of archaeological potential were discovered in the south of the site and two less clear cut areas in the north. The first focused around an Iron Age enclosure discovered in four trenches and from cropmarks, the second appears to have some potential for Roman archaeology. The northern areas involved two potentially prehistoric ditches. The majority of the site revealed no archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held TVAS, East Midlands, Wellingborough, and will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums in due course, with accession code X.A29.2020.

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 20.10.20 Steve Preston✓ 20.10.20

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire
An Archaeological Evaluation

by Joshua Hargreaves and Eleanor Boot

Report 20/135

Introduction

This report documents the results of the second phase of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire (SP 446 986) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Sue Farr, of Armour Heritage Ltd, Foghamshire Timber Yard, Fogamshire Lane, Trudoxhill, Frome, Somerset BA11 5GD.

A planning application (19/01379/FUL) has been submitted to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council for the construction of a 32-hectare solar farm with access, and associated substation building, infrastructure and landscaping. The Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council Archaeology Service, the archaeological advisor to the Borough, recommended an archaeological evaluation was undertaken to 'ground truth' the results of an earlier geophysical survey of the site ahead of a decision on the application. This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2019), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology.

The field investigation was carried out to a specification (AH 2020) approved by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council Archaeology Service. The fieldwork was undertaken by Eleanor Boot, Camila Carvalho, Richard Dewhurst, Emily Gibson, Cat Gregori, Joshua Hargreaves and Beth Tucker between 7th and 24th September and the site code is KRB20/135.

The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands, Wellingborough and will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums in due course with accession code X.A29.2020.

Location, topography and geology

The site comprises an irregular parcel of land consisting of four agricultural fields which occupy an area of some 32ha. The southern extent of the site lies some 160m north of Barwell (Figs 1 and 2). The site is bounded on all sides by mature hedgerows. The boundary between fields 1 and 2 in the north is also marked by a narrow brook which curves around to mark the south-eastern boundary of field 1. The boundary between fields 3 and 4 in the south had been removed at the time of the project, but a public right of way remained in place. Overhead

electricity lines cross the northern part of the site. The site undulates, at elevations of between 98m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the western extent, adjacent to Kirkby Road and 121m aOD south of Barwell Fields Farm. The underlying geology is recorded as Gunthorpe Member – Mudstone (BGS 2010) which matches the geology observed in the evaluation trenches.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site had been highlighted in a desk-based assessment (AH 2018) and prior to the trenching a geophysical (magnetometry) survey. In summary, the desk-based assessment concluded that the potential for prehistoric archaeology at the site was high. Two groups of undated cropmarks have been identified on the site from aerial photography. These likely indicate enclosures and trackways which based on their form, might be dated to the later prehistoric period. North-west of the site lay a group of rectangular crop marks together with smaller circular features, likely to represent an Iron Age settlement. There is also some evidence of Roman activity in close proximity to the site. Archaeological work in the 1990s recovered two Roman coins and a considerable quantity of pottery to the north of the site. Field walking to the east also recovered Roman finds including pottery and ceramic building material. Evaluation by trial trenching to the immediate south recovered further Roman artefacts. Surrounding the site are multiple Medieval and Post-Medieval listed buildings identified on maps from the late 1800's and early 19th century as well as entries in the HER. The settlement at Barwell is first recorded in the 1086 Domesday Book, where it is identified as *Barewelle* (Mills, 2003).

Previous Archaeological work on site

Geophysical Survey

A magnetic survey across the site (MS 2020) identified no previously unknown features of clear-cut archaeological interest. Natural variations were interpreted as alluvial deposits. The geophysical survey noted several linear anomalies in the areas of the known cropmarks in the south of the site but their significance was undetermined as their character was of similar form to the natural anomalies. Anomalies related to historical agricultural use were identified and interpreted as ridge and furrow, historic field boundaries and drainage features.

First Phase Evaluation

The trial trenching part of the evaluation was intended to comprise 106 trenches, with a contingency for more if required. A total of 56 trenches were opened out of the 106 required for the first phase of the work (Fig.2)

(Owen 2020) and the report on those findings needs to be read in conjunction with the report below. These initial trenches were located in the southern fields (3 and 4). All of the opened trenches were rapidly recorded before being backfilled. Most of the trenches containing potential archaeological features could not be investigated by hand excavation, but all features in those trenches were recorded in plan.

The evaluation recorded 30 blank trenches and 26 containing archaeological features or possible features. Of these 26 trenches only 10 were fully investigated (trenches 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 20, 25, 28, 30 and 31). Three further trenches (10, 11 and 15) were partially investigated by hand. Features in the remaining 13 trenches were recorded in plan but not investigated (trenches (12, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 33, 37, 39, 46, 50, 57, and 60).

A circular enclosure (Enclosure 1) indicated by cropmark evidence was investigated by trenches 24, 25, 26 and 43 (Fig. 2). Trench 25 was located within the interior of the circular cropmark and contained a north-east to south-west aligned ditch from which prehistoric pottery was retrieved. Trenches 24, 26 and 43 were positioned over the cropmark ditch but no features were present. Trench 27 across this enclosure was not opened in the first stage of work.

Four trenches (11, 12, 15 and 16) were opened up targeting a rectangular enclosure (Enclosure 2) again seen as a cropmark to the south of the circular enclosure (Fig. 2). These were backfilled before they could be investigated but it appeared linear features corresponding to the cropmark were present in each trench. Roman pottery was collected from the northern arm of the enclosure and prehistoric pottery was retrieved from the southern arm. A further cropmark enclosure (Enclosure 3) was located in the western part of field 4. This was investigated by trenches 31 and 32. Trench 31 recorded a ditch which produced a large amount of Roman pottery. Trench 32 was empty. Trench 33 was opened up but had to be backfilled before it could be investigated. It appeared to contain a substantial north-east to south-west aligned ditch which correlated well with the cropmark enclosure ditch.

The two sets of parallel linear cropmarks were investigated by trenching. The southernmost set of the two was investigated by Trench 3 but no archaeological features were encountered. The northernmost cropmarks were investigated by Trench 4. A ditch was recorded on a similar NW-SE alignment and contained Roman pottery.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the second phase 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:

'Ground truth' the results of the recently completed geophysical survey

Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the site that may be impacted by development

Identity, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the site

Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits

Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in such detail as to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the sites archaeological potential

Facilitate production of a mitigation strategy for the project; and to relate (where appropriate) the archaeological results to their local, county and regional (Cooper 2006) context informed by the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (EMHERF).

The second phase of work was designed to complete the phase 1 evaluation.. It was proposed to excavate 66 trenches, each 30m long, all with a width of 1.8m, which previously could not be not opened or finished. A further 53 trenches of similar dimensions formed a contingency. The trenches were to be dug using a 360^0 tracked machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were to be kept separate and stored on opposite sides of the trench. In accordance with the brief (LCC 2019), at least one end of each trench was to be ramped. Any features uncovered were to be cleaned, excavated using the appropriate hand tools, sampled where appropriate and recorded. Trenches where features had been planned but not investigated were to be re-examined.

Results

All sixty-six trenches were dug as intended; they ranged in length from 29m to 40m and in depth from 0.23m to 1.48m (Appendix 1). Two additional trenches 107 and 108 were excavated with the aim of identifying and clarifying the route of a potential prehistoric linear feature. These trenches were 15m and 22m in length and 0.36m and 0.31m in depth respectively and excavated either side of trench 91. Trench 91 was also extended 10m

to the north east for the same purpose. Trench 52 was moved 5m north to avoid a public right of way. All changes and additional trenching were in consultation with the archaeological consultant. A metal detector was used to scan the spoil heaps for metal artefacts, but none were recovered. Trenches 21-39, 50, 57, and 60 were originally opened in the first phase evaluation but were not fully examined and were then backfilled. These trenches were reopened and the features within were investigated.

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. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed in many trenches. By and large, archaeological features were present in the southern part of the site, with trenches in the centre and north either showing no features or only those of doubtful significance. Trenches in this northern part of the site consistently revealed ridge and furrow, aligned NW to SE, which was investigated in some instances to confirm the interpretation (Trenches 64, 71, 87, 91 to 94) In the southern fields, furrows were only infrequently noted and only one feature that was excavated appears to be a furrow (in Trench 33) aligned SW–NE.

Southern fields (3 and 4)

As already noted, most of these trenches had been opened in the first phase evaluation. Trenches in this area were much more varied than those in the northern fields (1 and 2) and are detailed individually below.

Trench 10 (Fig. 3; Pl. 1)

Trench 10 was aligned NW-SE and was 33m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of topsoil overlying 0.20m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a light reddish brown silty sand. At 2.2m from the south-west end of the trench, a possible linear feature was investigated, proving to be of geological origin. This appears to be the feature planned at the previous stage of work. Furrows were recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 11 (Figs 3, 5 and 9)

Trench 11 was aligned N-S and was 30.6m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil, sealing 0.24m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a light reddish brown silty sand. At 8m from the south end of the trench a ditch (32) with re-cut (33) was recorded. The original cut (32) survived to 0.74m wide but projects to have originally been around 2m wide, and was 0.49m deep with slightly concave base and gradual sides. The recut 33 was 2.43m wide and 0.48m deep. Both cuts were filled with similar fills of dark reddish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and flint inclusions (87 and 88) respectively. A total of 19 sherds of Iron Age pottery weighing 38g were recovered from the fill of ditch 32. Allowing for some inaccuracy in plotting the cropmarks, this ditch appeared to be part of enclosure 2 identified from cropmarks and partly

present in the geophysical survey (Fig. 2). This enclosure ditch was also identified in trenches 12, 15 and 16. The previous evaluation revealed a wide but relatively shallow feature with irregular base (11/004)(Fig.4) aligned East -West but which produced no dating evidence.

Trench 12 (Figs 3, 5 and 9; Pls 17-19)

Trench 12 was aligned SW - NE and was 32.5m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil overlying 0.23m of subsoil which in turn overlay the natural geology, a light reddish brown silty sand. Two pits (12/004 and 12/006) were excavated in the initial evaluation with two unexcavated linear features. The latter were re-observed and investigated. At 4.4m from the south-west end of the trench, a ditch, 30 with re-cut 31, was recorded. The original cut (30) survived the truncation to a width of 1.85m (and was probably not much wider originally) and 0.36m deep with slightly concave bases and gradual sides. The recut 31 was 1.89m wide and 0.41m deep with similar shallow profile. Again both ditches were filled with dark reddish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and flint inclusions (85 and 86 respectively). A total of 7 sherds of Iron Age pottery weighing 48g were recovered from the fill of ditch 30, which again matched the cropmark of enclosure 2. This enclosure ditch was also identified in trenches 11, 15 and 16. At 23.7m from the south west end of the trench a second ditch (29) was recorded which was 1.1m wide and 0.35m deep. It was filled with dark greyish brown silty sand (84) with common flint inclusions. At 28.45m from the south-west end of the trench, roughly circular pit 28 was 0.83m wide and 0.23m deep with steep sides and a concave base, filled with (83) a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal inclusions. An environmental sample taken from this feature produced no plant remains nor finds.

Trench 15 (Figs 3, 5 and 10; Pl. 20)

Trench 15 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 31.5m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil, sealing 0.21m of subsoil which overlay the natural geology (a light reddish brown silty sand). At 1m from the WNW end of the trench a ditch, 35, with re-cut, 34 was recorded. The original cut (35) was 1.9m wide and 0.44m deep with slightly concave base and gradual sides. The recut 34 was 1.65m wide and 0.33m deep with a much more rounded profile. Both were filled with dark reddish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal and flint inclusions (90 and 89 respectively). This ditch appeared to be a further part of enclosure 2, as also identified in trenches 11, 12 and 16. A N–S ditch excavated in the first phase evaluation as ditch 015/006 had five sherds of Iron Age pottery and there was a pit (15/03) with Roman pottery, daub and slag at the SE end of the trench. These features do not closely match the cropmark evidence.

Trench 16 (Figs 3 and 5; PL 2)

Trench 16 was aligned E-W and was 30.1m long and 0.63m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil, overlying 0.35m of subsoil. This in turn sealed the natural geology; a light reddish brown silty sand. At 21.4m from the west end of the trench a ditch had been excavated in the previous phase (016/005) but produced no dating evidence. This ditch also appeared to be part of enclosure 2.

Trench 19 (Figs 3, 5 and 10; Pl. 21)

Trench 19 was aligned N - S and was 32m long and 0.8m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil, sealing 0.12m of subsoil. This sealed 0.5m of colluvial deposits which in turn overlay the natural geology. At the south end of the trench, NW–SE aligned ditch 101 was 1.2m wide and 0.17m deep. It was filled with a dark brownish grey clay-silt (101) with common medium stone inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 21 (Figs 3, 5 and 10; Pl. 22)

Trench 21 was aligned NW - SE and was 30m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil, sealing 0.16m of subsoil, over the natural geology; a mid yellowish brown clay. The features identified but unexcavated in the initial evaluation were re-located. From the north-west end of the trench, a stone-lined land drain (41) ran into boundary ditch 39 and its recut, 40, at 7.65m from the north west end of the trench (Pl. 22). Ditch 39 was 0.45m wide and 0.44m deep, it had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It had two fills: a mid greyish brown sandy clay (97) with small stone inclusions, overlay the primary fill (96) a mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent medium-sized stone inclusions and frequent manganese flecks. The recut, ditch 40, was 0.68m wide and 0.34m deep, it had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill was a dark brownish grey clayey sand (98) with frequent stone inclusions. A sample from fill 98 produced nothing of interest. Land drain 41 did not continue on the other side of the ditches, which suggests all these features are contemporary (modern).

Trench 22 (Fig. 3)

This was aligned NE - SW and was 31.3m long and 0.41m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil, sealing 0.2m of subsoil which in turn overlay the natural geology; a mid yellowish brown clay. A linear feature was identified in the initial evaluation but was not confirmed as being of archaeological origin. Furrows were recorded along the trench at regular spacing but no archaeological features, nor were any finds recovered.

Trench 23 (Figs 3, 5 and 10; Pl. 23)

Trench 23 was aligned E - W and was 29.4m long and 0.27m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil which in turn overlay the natural geology; a mid yellowish brown clay. A linear feature was identified in the initial evaluation but appear to be of natural origin. Across most of the middle of the trench, two palaeochannels (102 and 103) were aligned NW–SE (Pl 23). A 1.7m wide slot was excavated approximately at the mid-point of their joint width and showed they were both up to 0.75m deep with a single fill each (153 and 154) of brownish grey silty clay with occasional stones.

Trench 27 (Fig. 3)

This trench across the circular cropmark (Enclosure 1) had contained a ditch in the initial evaluation, but although it appeared to match the enclosure precisely, this was not excavated at the time. The TVAS trench was 31.1m long, up to 0.55m deep and revealed only 0.23m of topsoil above 0.27m of subsoil above yellowish brown clay natural geology with no features present and the previous evaluation feature could not be confirmed. This trench was viewed during the Local Planning Authority Archaeologist's monitoring visit.

(Trench 31 (Fig. 3))

Although not reopened in phase 2, it is worth noting that in phase 1 this trench produced the largest group of pottery from the site, some 303 2nd-century Roman sherds from one feature, ditch 031/002, largely complete vessels, possibly suggesting some ritual function, although the feature as plotted does not appear a good match for the ditch of cropmark enclosure 3, and the trench (32) in the interior located no features at all.

Trench 33 (Figs 3, 5 and 10; Pl. 24)

This was aligned close to W–E and was 29.6m long and 0.24m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.11m of topsoil, sealing 0.13m of subsoil which overlay the natural geology; a mid reddish brown sand. A single feature was recorded at the western end of the trench by the previous evaluation but was un-investigated. This corresponded with ditch 42 which was 1.2m wide and 0.35m deep, with very steep sides and a concave base. It had three fills (92, 93 and 94). These respectively were a mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent medium and large stones and frequent charcoal inclusions (92). This overlay a mid yellowish brown silty sand fill (93), which sealed the primary fill (94) a dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional small and medium stone inclusions and frequent charcoal inclusions. Ditch 42 was truncated by furrow 43.

At 15.3m from the west end of the trench ditch 36 was recorded which was 0.42m wide and 0.14m deep. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base, its fill (81) was a mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent small and medium stone inclusions. At 16.1m from the west end of the trench, ditch 37 was recorded which was 0.4m wide and 0.19m deep. It had shallow sloping sides and a concave base, its fill (82) was a mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent medium and large stone inclusions. Any relationship between ditches 36 and 37 is unknown due to heavy plough damage in the trench. Ditch 42 might be a reasonable match to Enclosure 3 if the cropmark has been plotted too far south, but ditch 36/37 would be at right angles to it, so given the results from trenches 31 and 32, it seems more likely that this enclosure has not been located here.

Trench 37 (Figs 3, 6 and 10)

This trench was aligned E-W and was 30m long and 0.24m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.12m of topsoil, sealing 0.12m of subsoil, over the natural geology, a mid reddish brown sand. A single feature was recorded at the eastern end of the trench by the previous evaluation and was investigated as ditch 49. It was aligned SSW–NNE and was 1.8m wide and 0.47m deep and filled with a mid reddish brown clayey silt (150) with frequent flint and occasional charcoal inclusions form which no finds were recovered.

Trench 39 (Figs 3, 6 and 10; Pl. 25)

Trench 39 was aligned NE-SW and was 30.3m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil overlying the natural geology, a light reddish brown sandy clay. A single feature was recorded in the trench by the previous evaluation and was investigated as ditch 38. At 11.8m from the south-west end of the trench was north–south ditch 38 (Pl 25). This was 0.45m wide and 0.2m deep and filled with a dark greyish brown silty clay (91) with common charcoal inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 41 (Fig. 3)

This was aligned E-W and was 30m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.17m of subsoil overlying the natural geology; a light reddish brown sandy clay. There was heavy plough scarring in the natural geology. No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 46 (Fig. 3; Pl. 4)

This was aligned E-W and was 33m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.17m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a light reddish brown sandy clay. There was heavy plough scarring in the natural geology. No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 50 (Figs 3, 4, 6 and 10)

Trench 50 was aligned N-S and was 30.4m long and 0.5m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil, sealing 0.14m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a medium reddish brown clay. There was heavy plough scarring observed in this trench. At 8m from the south end of the trench, ditch 47 was a continuation of a NW–SE aligned field boundary also observed in trench 54 [46] and excavated in trench 57 [48]. Here it was 0.5m wide filled with (156) dark brownish grey silty clay. It was not excavated in this trench following agreement of the Local Planning Authority Archaeological Officer. It corresponds with the locations of 'two parallel ditches' (050/004 and 050/006) noted but not investigated in the first phase evaluation (TPA 2020).

Trench 52 (Figs 3 and 4)

This was aligned E-W and was 30.1m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.19m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a medium reddish brown clay. Trench 52 had to be moved 5m north from its originally planned location to avoid blocking a public right of way. No archaeological features were identified.

Trench 54 (Figs 3, 4 and 6)

Trench 54 was aligned NW-SE and was 29.8m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology; a medium reddish brown clay. At 25.1m from the south-east end of the trench a ditch [46] was a continuation of the field boundary observed in Trench 50 [47] and excavated in Trench 57 [48]. This was 0.50m wide and filled with dark brownish grey silty clay(156). Ditch 46 was not excavated in this trench.

Trench 57 (Figs 3, 4, 6, 10 and 11; Pls 26 to 28)

This trench was aligned NE - SW and was 30m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil, overlying 0.15m of subsoil. This sealed the natural geology; a medium reddish brown clay. At 1.05m from the south end of the trench a ditch (44) was recorded. This was at least 4.1m wide (only one edge was

clearly defined) and at least 1.1m deep: it was not bottomed within the trench. The trench was widened to establish if it was in fact one feature (Pls 27, 28). Ditch 44 had multiple fills of different clays (160-164) with varying (but infrequent) stone content, all devoid of any organic remains. A total of 3 sherds of Iron Age pottery weighing 2g were recovered from the lowest fill 164. Ditch 44 cut an earlier feature (45), probably a natural palaeochannel, with two fills (165, 166) that appeared to be alluvial clays, which produced no finds. Ditch 44 in turn was cut by a modern land drain (105). The north side of ditch 44 was markedly stepped which might indicate recutting but this was not obviously reflected in the fill sequence.

At 23.2m from the south end of the trench was a much less substantial ditch (48) (Pl 26), 0.5m wide and 0.19m deep, filled with dark brownish grey silty clay (157). Ditch 48 was also observed continuing in Trenches 50 [47 and 46].

Trench 58 (Figs 3 and 4)

This trench was aligned E-W and was 33m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.18m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brown clay. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed, with furrows recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 59 (Figs 3 and 4)

Trench 59 was aligned NW - SE and was 30.1m long and 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil overlying 0.16m of subsoil. This sealed the natural geology, mid reddish brown clay. Furrows were again recorded along the trench at regular spacing but no other features of interest.

Trench 60 (Figs 3 and 4; Pl. 6)

Trench 60 was aligned NNE - SSW and was 29.6m long and 0.45m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil, sealing 0.21m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brown clay. As with the other trenches in this field, regularly spaced furrows were recorded along the trench at regular spacing but no other features of interest..

Northern fields (1 and 2)(Fig. 4)

No trenches had previously been opened in these fields. Trenches in Field 2 (Trenches 63 to 84) all had very similar stratigraphy and all were marked by traces of ridge and furrow (regularly spaced furrows). All had between 0.12m and 0.20m of topsoil, overlying 0.12m to 0.19m of subsoil (in a few cases as deep as 0.25m)

above the natural geology, mid reddish brown clay. All of the furrows contained similar fills of light greyish brown sandy silt. For Field 2, therefore, only trenches which differed from this description are described below. Details of these individual trenches are given in Appendix 1. The trenches in Field 1 (Trenches 85 to 108), on the other hand, showed marked differences in natural geology, and these are described individually, except that unless noted, the information that all of these trenches contained regularly spaced furrows, is not repeated.

Trench 64 (Figs 3 and 4; Pl. 29)

Trench 64 was aligned E-W and was 30.5m long and 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil, overlying 0.21m of subsoil. This sealed the natural geology, a mid reddish clay. As with the other trenches in this area, only furrows were recorded along the trench at regular spacing. One of these was excavated to confirm the interpretation. Furrow 18 (Pl. 29) was investigated 18m from the west end; it was 1.17m wide, very shallow (no more than 0.09m deep) with an undulating base. Its fill (71) was more or less identical to the subsoil and produced no finds.

Trench 69 (Figs 4, 6 and 8)

This trench was aligned NNW - SSE and was 30.3m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil overlying 0.14m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brown clay. At 20.75m from the south-east end of the trench an old field boundary ditch (2) was recorded. This was 1.40m wide and 0.65m deep and filled with a mid dark brown clayey-silt (55) with frequent small and medium stone inclusions and some charcoal flecks. Ditch 2 was truncated by land drain 4 at 21.2m. It was filled with a mid-dark greyish brown silty clay (56) with occasional large stones and frequent charcoal inclusions, as well as intact ceramic land drain pipes. Both ditch 2 and land drain 4 were cut by gully 3, located at 21.9m from the south-east end and filled with a mid yellowish brown clayey silt (57) with frequent small and medium stone inclusions. Field boundary ditch 2 and land drain 4 were also recorded as continuing into trench 70. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed, with furrows recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 70 (Figs 4, 6 and 8; Pl. 30)

Trench 70 was aligned E-W and was 31m long and 0.29m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil, overlying 0.14m of subsoil which in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid reddish brown clay. At 16m from the west end of the trench the same ditch as in Trench 69 (here numbered [16]) was recorded which was 2.03m wide and 0.61m deep. It was filled with a mid reddish brown clayey silt (69), with occasional inclusions of small stones and chalk. Ditch 16 was truncated by land drain 17 which was filled with a mid greyish brown clayey silt

(70) with occasional medium stone and charcoal inclusions, as well as intact ceramic land drain pipes and tile fragments. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was again noted.

Trench 71 (Figs 4 and 9; Pl. 8)

Trench 71 was 30.5m log, up to 0.30m deep, aligned west–east. Topsoil 0.16m deep overlay 0.14m of subsoil above the mid reddish brown clay natural geology. Furrow 27 was investigated 17m from the west end of trench 71. This was 1.40m wide and 0.08m deep and from its fill (80) no finds were recovered.

Trenches 78, 79, 80, 82, 85 and 86 (Fig. 4; Pls 11 and 12)

These trenches conformed to the general description given for the northern fields, with the exception that all contained a layer of colluvium above the natural clay and below the subsoil. This varied considerably in depth from 0.37m in Trench 79 to 0.84m in Trench 86 and as much as 0.9m in Trench 85. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed, with furrows recorded along all of these trenches at regular spacing above the colluvium.

Trench 87 (Figs 4 and 8)

Trench 87 was aligned SW - NE and was 32m long and 0.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil, sealing 0.16m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, mid reddish brown clay. Furrow 11 was investigated 21m from the south-west end. Its fill (64) was cut by a ceramic land drain 12 (fill 65). A sliver of late post-medieval/early modern brick was recovered from furrow 11 (64).

Trench 88 (Fig. 4)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and was 30.2m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil, sealing 0.14m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, light yellowish red sandy gravel.

Trench 89 (Fig. 4)

Trench 89 was aligned SW - NE and was 31m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil, sealing 0.21m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a light yellowish red sandy gravel.

Trench 90 (Fig. 4; Pl. 13)

Trench 90 was aligned NW- SE and was 32.1m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil, sealing 0.19m of subsoil. This overlay the natural geology, a light yellowish red sandy gravel.

Trench 91 (Figs 4, 7 and 8; Pl. 31)

Trench 91 was aligned NE-SW and was 40m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a light yellowish red sandy gravel. At 26m from the south-west end of the trench, ditch 19 was recorded. This was 1.1m wide and 0.33m deep and filled with a mid greyish brown sandy silt (72). Furrow 20 overlay ditch 19 and was 1.42m wide and 0.04m deep filled with a mid red brown sandy clay (73). Furrows 21 and 22 were also investigated in this trench to investigate the possibility of other potential prehistoric linear features which could have been masked by their presence. They ranged from 1.29m-1.67m wide and 0.06m-0.08m deep; they contained no finds and no further features were revealed below.

Trench 92 (Figs 4, 6 and 9; Pl. 32)

Trench 92 was aligned N-S and was 30.3m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil, overlying 0.14m of subsoil, which in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. At the south end of the trench was a NW–SE aligned ditch, 25, which was 1.14m wide and 0.45m deep. It was filled with a mid brownish grey clayey sand (78) with occasional small stone inclusions. Furrow 26 overlay the ditch. It was 1.42m wide and 0.04m deep filled with a mid red brown sandy clay (79). The two other furrows (23 and 24) were also investigated in this trench at regular spacing along its length. They ranged from 1.29m-1.67m wide and 0.06m-0.08m deep and were filled with single deposits (76 and 77 respectively). There was heavy plough scarring in this trench, but no further features were revealed below the furrows. Additional trench (108) was excavated to the south of Trench 92 to clarify the nature and extent of ditch 25 (see below).

Trench 93 (Figs 4, 7 and 8)

Trench 93 was aligned WNW-ESE and was 30.1m long and 0.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil overlying 0.14m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. At 1m from the north-west end of the trench a ditch (5) was recorded which was 0.8m wide and 0.27m deep. It was filled with a dark brownish grey clay-silt (58) with occasional small stone inclusions. Furrow 14 was investigated at 17m from the west north-west end. It was 0.9m wide and 0.14m deep and filled with, a light greyish brown sandy silt (67). There was heavy plough scarring in this trench.

Trench 94 (Figs 4 and 8)

This trench was the furthest north on the site and was aligned E-W and was 33m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. Furrows 9, 10 and 15 were investigated down the length of the trench at regular intervals. They ranged in width from 0.52m to 1.48m and in depth from 0.06m to 0.1m. Their fills (62, 63 and 68 respectively) respectively were all of medium brownish red sandy clay with occasion medium stone inclusions, markedly different from the fills of most of the other furrows but presumably only reflecting the underlying natural. Heavy plough scarring was observed in this trench.

Trench 95 (Fig. 4)

This was aligned SSW-NNE and was 31.47m long and 0.23m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.07m of topsoil, sealing 0.16m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. There was heavy plough scarring observed in this trench.

Trench 96 (Fig. 4)

Trench 96 was aligned N-S and was 30.4m long and 0.3m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil, overlying 0.16m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology; a mid brownish grey gravel.

Trench 97 (Fig. 4)

This trench was aligned E-W and was 30.1m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil, sealing 0.28m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid brownish grey gravel.

Trench 98 (Fig. 4; Pl. 14)

This trench was aligned E-W and was 30.6m long and 1m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil, sealing 0.43m of subsoil. This in turn overlay 0.33m of colluvium which in turn sealed the natural geology, a light brownish blue clay.

Trench 99 (Fig. 4; Pl. 15)

Trench 99 was aligned NW-SE and was 30.7m long and 0.89m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.17m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the 0.57m of colluvium and this sealed the natural geology, a light brownish blue clay.

Trench 100 (Figs 4, 7 and 8; Pl. 33)

Trench 100 was aligned N-S and was 31.7m long and 0.33m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.18m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. At 4m from the south end of the trench a ditch (7) was recorded aligned SE-NW. It was 0.8m wide (0.4m in slot) and 0.38m deep. It was filled with a mid brownish grey sandy clay (60) with common stone inclusions. At 7m from the south end ditch 6 was recorded as being cut by ditch 7. Ditch 6 was 0.78m wide (0.32m in slot) and 0.23m deep. It was filled with a mid brownish grey sandy clay (59) with lenses of brownish red clay. Furrows were also recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 101 (Fig 4; Pl. 16)

Trench 101 was aligned NW - SE and was 29.7m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.14m of topsoil, sealing 0.16m of subsoil. This then sealed the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions.

Trench 102 (Fig. 4)

Trench 102 was aligned E-W and was 31m long and 0.9m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.19m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay a layer of colluvium being 0.56m thick. This sealed the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions.

Trench 103 (Figs 4, 7 and 8; Pl. 34)

Trench 103 was aligned N-S and was 30.6m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.16m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. At 13m from the south end of the trench a ditch (1) was recorded which was 0.55m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled with dark reddish brown clayey silt (54) with occasional flint inclusions. This contained a small glazed rim sherd of post-medieval pottery. Allowing for slight irregularity in its line, it is likely that this is the ditch also noted in Trenches 105 and 106. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed, with furrows recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 104 (Figs 4 and 7)

Trench 104 was aligned E-W and was 29m long and 1.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil, sealing 0.08m of subsoil. This in turn overlay a 0.4m deposit of colluvium which sealed the natural geology, a mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. At the west end of the trench below the colluvium was a palaeochannel (106). This was excavated to a depth of 1.48m by machine fitted with a toothless

ditching bucket. The palaeochannel was filled with a dark brownish grey clayey silt rich in organic material (167) *c*. 0.6m deep which overlay 0.18m of a mid grey blue clay with shell inclusions (168). A column sample was taken though the base of the colluvium and the fills of palaeochannel 106.

Trench 105 (Figs 4, 7 and 8; Pl. 35)

This trench was aligned NW-SE and was 30.2m long and 0.4m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.18m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology; a mid purplish red clay. At 17m from the north west end of the trench was an east–west ditch, 8, which was 0.7m wide and 0.26m deep. It was filled with a dark brownish grey clay-silt (61) with occasional small stone inclusions. As usual, evidence of ridge and furrow was also noted.

Trench 106 (Figs 4, 7 and 8; Pl. 36)

Trench 106 was aligned ENE -WSW and was 31.4m long and between 0.34m and 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of topsoil, sealing 0.13m of subsoil which at the eastern end of the trench overlay the natural geology. The trench then deepened to the west with a layer of colluvium recorded below the subsoil which was seen to be at its maximum 0.87m deep. This in turn sealed the natural geology; a medium purplish red clay. At 27.5m from the west south-west end of the trench a ditch (13) was recorded which was 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a dark brownish grey clay-silt (66) with occasional small stone inclusions. The usual furrows were also recorded along the trench at regular spacing. This is the same ditch as seen in trench 105 and probably also in Trench 103.

Trench 107 (Figs 3, 7 and 10; Pl. 37)

This trench was aligned E-W and was 15m long and 0.36m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.14m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a medium purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. Trench 107 was one of two contingency trenches requested by the county monitor, to clarify the course of a ditch identified in trenches 91, and 92. At 1.5m from the west end of the trench, ditch terminus 100 (Pl 37) was recorded which was 0.67m wide and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a light brownish grey sandy clay (152) with occasional small stone inclusions. Its continuation was recorded in Trenches 91, 92, and 108. There was heavy plough scarring observed in this trench. Evidence of ridge and furrow farming practice was observed, with furrows recorded along the trench at regular spacing.

Trench 108 (Figs 3, 7 and 10; Pl. 38)

Trench 108 was aligned NW-SE and was 22m long and 0.31m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.16m of topsoil, sealing 0.15m of subsoil. This in turn overlay the natural geology, a medium purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions. Trench 108 was the second contingency trench to clarify the course of the ditch identified in Trenches 91 and 92. Extending along the trench from the north west end for some 14m, ditch 104 was 0.75m wide and 0.4m deep. It was filled with a light brownish grey sandy clay (158) with common small stone inclusions. The continuation of this linear was recorded in Trenches 91, 92, and 107. There was heavy plough scarring and the usual furrows along the trench.

Finds

Prehistoric Pottery by Sarah Percival

A total of 29 sherds of pottery weighing 88g were recovered from three features across three trenches (Table 1). The pottery is all of mid- to late Iron Age date.

Table 1: Quantity and weight of pottery by trench and feature

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Fabric*	*Form*	*Type*	*Date*	*No.*	*Wt (g)*
11	32	87	Q1			Iron Age	9	20
			R1			Iron Age	3	5
			S2			Iron Age	7	13
12	30	85	R1	1	Small jar	Iron Age	7	48
57	44	164	Q1			? Iron Age	3	2
Total							*29*	*88*

The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group's General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication (PCRG 2010). The sherds were examined using a handheld lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types following the Leicestershire County Museums prehistoric pottery fabric series (Marsden 2000; Marsden 2011, 62, table 1).

The small assemblage contains sherds in three fabrics. Ten sherds are of fabric R2, an igneous fabric with coarse angular inclusions and rare biotite mica. The nature of the granitic inclusions is uncertain but thin-section analysis of medieval Potters Marston ware manufactured near to Barwell, demonstrated that the nearby outcrop of syenite at Croft was the source of igneous rock used (Vince 1984, 38-39) and syenite has been found in Iron Age assemblages such as Lutterworth (Cooper 2014).

Fabric descriptions

Q1 Common to abundant sub-rounded to rounded quartz sand (0.25–1mm): 12 sherds, 22g
R1 Rare to moderate sub-angular with syenite (0.5–4mm), (from Croft SW Leics. sites) and rare to sparse sub-rounded to rounded quartz sand (0.25–1mm). Inclusions include plates of biotite (yellow) mica: 10 sherds, 53g

S2 Moderate to very common shell or plate-like voids (1–5mm) As S1, but common to very common sub-rounded to rounded quartz sand (0.25–1mm): 7 sherds, 13g

The bulk of the sherds are undiagnostic plain body sherds. A single rim, from ditch 30 in trench 12, is from a small ovoid jar with short slightly everted rim (Elsdon 1992, fig. 34, 1). A base sherd from ditch 32, trench 11, is from a simple base angle. No sherds are decorated or scored with most having smoothed surfaces.

Locally mid to late Iron Age assemblages have been found at Huncote (6km to the east) and Enderby (9km to the east) and the Barwell assemblage compares well to these having typical domestic utilitarian vessels and a mix of sandy, igneous and shell-tempered fabrics.

Post-medieval pottery

A single rim sherd of glazed pottery was recovered from ditch 1 (54) Trench 103. It weighed 8g.

Brick and Tile by Joanna Pine

Eight fragments of brick and tile were recovered. None is closely datable except the sliver of modern brick from furrow 11 (64). Brick fragments from land drain 41 (99) were handmade.

Table 2: Catalogue of Ceramic Building Material

Trench	*cut*	*deposit*	*no*	*Wt (g)*	
87	11	64	1	5	Brick
70	17	70	1	124	tile fragment
33	27	80	1	5	Worn cbm fragment
21	41	99	4	47	Brick fragments
33	43	95	1	6	cbm fragment

Environmental samples by Joanna Pine

Six bulk soil samples were processed from the evaluation (as noted in appendix 2). These were floated and wet sieved to 0.25mm and air dried. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnification of x10. No Charred plant macrofossils were present in the samples and no charcoal was identified. The column sample from undated palaeochannel 106 will be retained for future analysis if this feature is deemed to be of interest.

Conclusion

The evaluation trenching established the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The vast majority of the trenches revealed nothing of archaeological interest and on the basis of this exercise, most of the site has no archaeological potential. Three areas of archaeological potential however have been identified. An area of high potential is focused in the south of the site around the Iron Age enclosure (2) identified from

cropmarks. Evaluation trench 12 also identified the possibility of internal features relating to this enclosure (Pit 28). While limited material culture and no environmental evidence were recovered to elucidate the purpose of the enclosure, its dating to the Iron Age is reasonably certain as all the pottery was consistently of this period.

A second area of potential centres on cropmark Enclosure 3. The potential here is less clear cut as the features identified appear to miss its projected location, but this depends on the accuracy with which the cropmark evidence was plotted, and even if these features do not relate to an enclosure, there was a substantial assemblage of Roman pottery from Trench 31 and other features nearby suggesting some archaeological potential here.

Cropmark Enclosure 1, however, was not revealed in four trenches and must have been ploughed out after the aerial photographs were taken.

Another area of less certain archaeological potential may lie at the northern edge of the development area where an undated but possibly prehistoric ditch was identified in four trenches. Further trenches in this area, however, failed to find any related features and the ditch itself contained no finds. Other features were identified over the proposed development area were mainly post medieval field boundaries and extensive ridge and furrow.

A ditch in trench 57 also produced 3 tiny sherds of Iron Age pottery but it is unclear if this dates the ditch.

The archaeological potential of the site based on this information is for the main part limited to the area focused around trenches 11, 12, 15, and 16 where an Iron Age enclosure has been identified. The second area (trench 31, 33, 37) appears to have Roman potential. The features identified further north are of uncertain significance (one ditch in Trench 57, and one ditch tracked through trenches 91, 92, 107 and 108).

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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

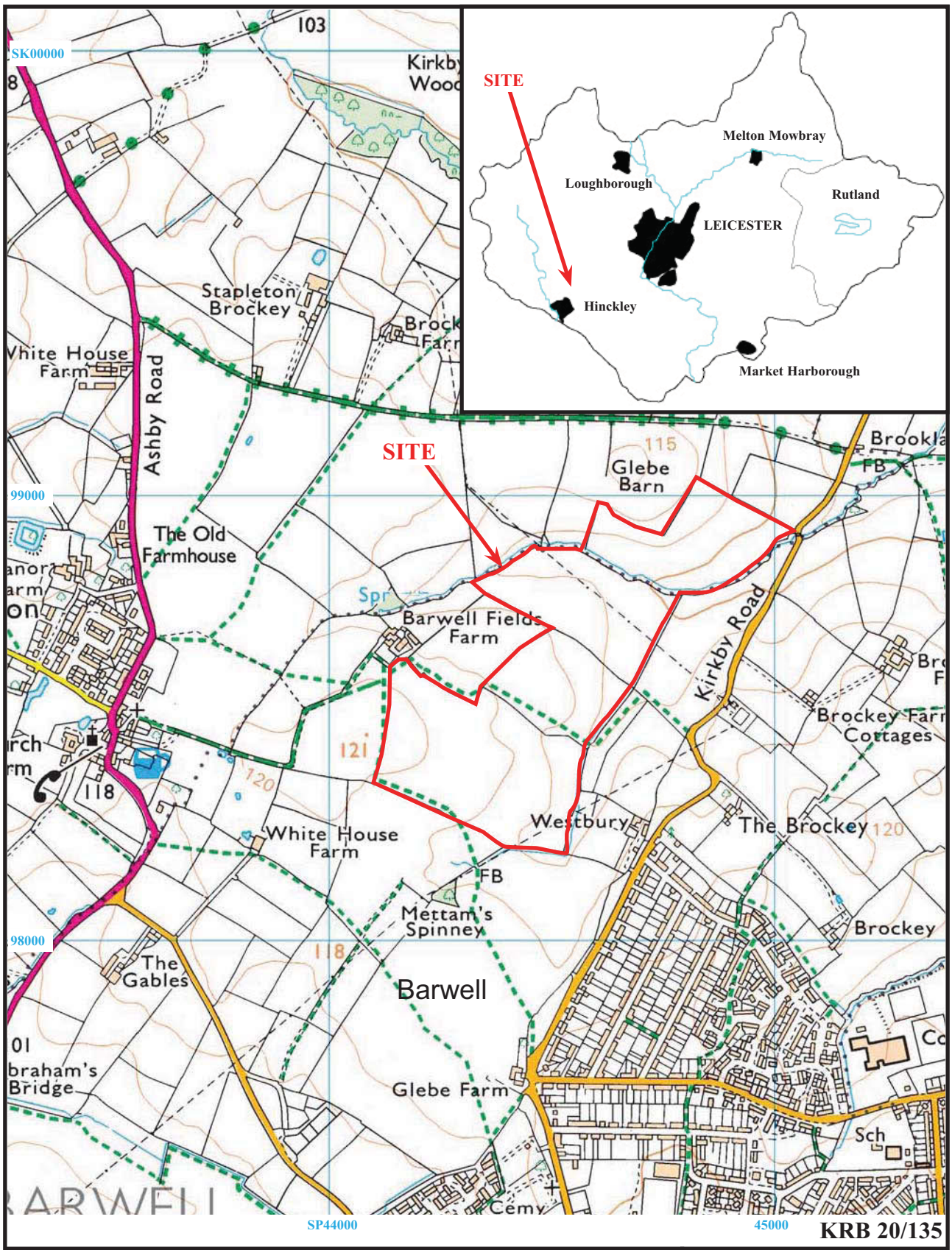
0m at S or W end

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
10	33	1.8	0.46	0-0.2m topsoil, 0.2-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+light reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 1]**
11	30.6	1.8	0.55	0-0.24m topsoil, 0.24-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ light reddish brown silty sand natural geology. Ditches 32 and 33 and 11/004.
12	32.5	1.8	0.47	0-0.24m topsoil, 0.24-0.47m subsoil, 0.47m+ light reddish brown silty sand natural geology. Pit 28, Ditches 29, 30 and 31. Pits 12/004 and 005 **[Pls 17–19]**
15	31.5	1.8	0.48	0-0.26m topsoil, 0.26-0.47m subsoil, 0.47m+ light reddish brown silty sand natural geology. Ditches 34 and 35and 15/005, pit 15/003 **[Pl. 20]**
16	30.1	1.8	0.63	0-0.23m topsoil, 0.23-0.58m subsoil, 0.63m+ light reddish brown silty sand natural geology. Ditch 16/005 **[Pl. 2]**
19	32	1.8	0.8	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.3m subsoil, 0.3-0.8m colluvium. 0.8m+ reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditch 101. **[Pl. 21]**
21	30	1.8	0.42	0-0.26m topsoil, 0.26-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ mid yellowish brown clay natural geology. Ditches 39 and 40, Land drain 41. **[Pl. 22]**
22	31.3	1.8	0.41	0-0.19m topsoil, 0.19-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ mid yellowish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 3]**
23	29.4	1.8	0.27	0-0.12 topsoil, 0.12-0.27m subsoil, 0.27m+ mid yellowish brown clay natural geology. Channels 102 and 103. **[Pl. 23]**
27	31.1	1.8	0.55	0-0.23m topsoil, 0.23-0.5m subsoil, 0.5m+ mid yellowish brown clay natural geology.
33	29.6	1.8	0.24	0-0.11m topsoil, 0.11-0.24m subsoil, 0.24m+ mid reddish brown sand natural geology. Ditches 36, 37 and 42. **[Pl. 24]**
37	30	1.8	0.24	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.24m subsoil, 0.24m+ mid reddish brown sand natural geology. Ditch 49.
39	30.3	1.8	0.31	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ light reddish brown sandy clay natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Ditch 38. **[Pls 25, 27]**
41	30	1.8	0.33	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ light reddish brown sandy clay natural geology, with plough mark scarring.
46	33	1.8	0.38	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 4]**
50	30.4	1.8	0.5	0-0.19m topsoil, 0.19-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditch 47
52	30.1	1.8	0.35	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 5]**
54	29.8	1.8	0.31	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditch 46.
57	30	1.8	0.42	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditches 44, 48, 105, Channel 45. **[Pls 26, 28]**
58	33	1.8	0.48	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology.
59	30.1	1.8	0.36	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ mid reddish brown clay natural geology.
60	29.6	1.8	0.45	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ mottled reddish blue clay natural geology. **[Pl. 6]**
63	30.2	1.8	0.32	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
64	30.5	1.8	0.4	0-0.19m topsoil, 0.19-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. Furrow 18. **[Pl. 64]**
65	31	1.8	0.45	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.31 subsoil, 0.31m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
66	30.5	1.8	0.31	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.28m subsoil, 0.28m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
67	32	1.8	0.41	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.41m subsoil, 0.41m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 7]**
68	30.1	1.8	0.42	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
69	30.3	1.8	0.32	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditch 2, Gully 3, Land drain 4.
70	31	1.8	0.29	0-0.15m topsoil, 0.15-0.29m subsoil, 0.29m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. Ditch 16, Land Drain 17. **[Pl. 30]**
71	30.5	1.8	0.3	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. Furrow 27.
72	29.9	1.8	0.36	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 8]**
73	30.2	1.8	0.35	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
74	32	1.8	0.42	0-0.2m topsoil, 0.2-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology. **[Pl. 9]**
75	31.9	1.8	0.24	0-0.12m topsoil, 0.12-0.24m subsoil, 0.24m+ light reddish brown clay natural geology.
76	32	1.8	0.36	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ mid reddish brown sand natural geology.
77	29.8	1.8	0.3	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ mid reddish brown sandy silt gravel natural geology. **[Pl. 10]**
78	30.4	1.8	0.68	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.31m subsoil, 0.31-0.68m colluvium, 0.68m+ mid reddish brown sandy silty gravel natural geology.
79	30.2	1.8	0.87	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.34m subsoil, 0.34-0.87m colluvium, 0.87m+ mid reddish brown, disturbed mixed clay and gravel natural geology.

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
80	30.1	1.8	0.78	0-0.16 topsoil, 0.16-0.28m subsoil, 0.28-0.78m colluvium, 0.78m+ mid reddish brown silty clay gravel natural geology. **[Pl. 11]**
81	30.4	1.8	0.34	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.34m subsoil, 0.34+ mid reddish brown silty clay gravel natural geology.
82	31.2	1.8	0.7	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.32m subsoil, 0.32-0.7m colluvium, 0.7m+ mid reddish brown silty clay gravel natural geology.
83	29.7	1.8	0.53	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ mid reddish brown silty clay gravel natural geology.
84	30.3	1.8	0.4	0-0.18m topsoil 0.18-0.34 subsoil, 0.34m+mid reddish brown silty clay natural geology.
85	31.1	1.8	1.42	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.34 subsoil, 0.34-1.24m colluvium, 1.24m+ mid reddish brown silty clay natural geology. **[Pl. 12]**
86	30.7	1.8	1.17	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.16-0.33 subsoil, 0.33-1.17m colluvium, 1.17m+ mid reddish brown silty clay natural geology.
87	32	1.8	0.3	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ mid reddish brown silt clay natural geology. Furrow 11, Land Drain 12.
88	30.2	1.8	0.35	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ light yellowish red sandy gravel natural geology.
89	31	1.8	0.55	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ light yellowish red sandy gravel natural geology.
90	32.1	1.8	0.33	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ light yellowish red sandy gravel natural geology. **[Pl. 13]**
91	40	1.8	0.31	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ light yellowish red sandy gravel natural geology. Ditch 19, Furrows 20, 21, 22. **[Pl. 31]**
92	30.3	1.8	0.31	0-0.17m topsoil, 0.17-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Furrows 23, 24, 26, Ditch 25. **[Pl. 32]**
93	30.1	1.8	0.3	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Ditch 5, Furrow 14.
94	33	1.8	0.31	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Furrows 9, 10, 15.
95	31.47	1.8	0.23	0-0.07m topsoil, 0.07-0.23m subsoil, 0.23m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring.
96	30.4	1.8	0.3	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ mid brownish grey gravel natural geology.
97	30.1	1.8	0.46	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.46m subsoil, 0.46m+ mid brownish grey gravel natural geology.
98	30.6	1.8	1	0-0.24m topsoil, 0.24-0.67m subsoil, 0.67-1m colluvium, 1m+ light brownish blue clay natural geology. **[Pl. 14]**
99	30.7	1.8	0.89	0-0.17 topsoil, 0.17-0.32m subsoil, 0.32-0.89m colluvium, 0.89m+ light brownish blue clay natural geology. **[Pl. 15]**
100	31.7	1.8	0.33	0-0.18m topsoil, 0.18-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology. Ditches 6, 7. **[Pl. 33]**
101	29.7	1.8	0.32	0-0.14m topsoil, 0.14-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology. **[Pl. 16]**
102	31	1.8	0.9	0-0.19m topsoil, 0.19-0.34m subsoil, 0.34-0.9m colluvium, 0.9m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology.
103	30.6	1.8	0.42	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology. Ditch 1. **[Pl. 34]**
104	29	1.8	1.48	0-0.22m topsoil, 0.22-0.3m subsoil, 0.3-0.7m colluvium, 0.7m+ mid purplish red clay natural geology. Excavated into channel at the SW end to a depth of 1.09m Palaeochannel 106.
105	30.2	1.8	0.4	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ mid purplish red clay natural geology. Ditch 8. **[Pl. 35]**
106	31.4	1.8	1.2	0-0.2m topsoil, 0.2-0.33m subsoil, 0.33-1.2m colluvium, 1.2m mid purplish red clay natural geology. 0.34m natural geology at the E end. Ditch 13. **[Pl. 36]**
107	15	1.8	0.36	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.30m subsoil, 0.30m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Ditch 100. **[Pl. 37]**
108	22	1.8	0.31	0-0.16m topsoil, 0.16-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ mid purplish red clay with occasional gravel and stone inclusions natural geology, with plough mark scarring. Ditch 104. **[Pl. 38]**

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill (s)*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*
103	1	54	Ditch	Post Medieval	Pot
69	2	55	Ditch	Undated	
69	3	57	Gully	Undated	
69	*4*	*56*	*Land Drain*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
93	5	58	Ditch	Undated	
100	6	59	Ditch	Undated	
100	7	60	Ditch	Undated	
105	8	61	Ditch	Undated	
94	*9*	*62*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
94	*10*	*63*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
87	*11*	*64*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association, CBM*
87	*12*	*65*	*Land Drain*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
106	13	66	Ditch	Undated	
93	*14*	*67*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
94	*15*	*68*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
70	16	69	Ditch	Undated	
70	*17*	*70*	*Land Drain*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association, CBM*
64	*18*	*71*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
91	19	72	Ditch	Undated	
91	*20*	*73*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
91	*21*	*74*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
91	*22*	*75*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
92	*23*	*76*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
92	*24*	*77*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
92	25	78	Ditch	Undated	
92	*26*	*79*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
71	*27*	*80*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association*
12	28	83	Pit	Undated	Sampled
12	29	84	Ditch	Undated	Sampled
12	30	85	Ditch	Iron Age	Pottery
12	31	86	Ditch	Undated	
11	32	87	Ditch	Iron Age	Pottery; Sampled
11	33	88	Ditch	Undated	
15	34	89	Ditch	Undated	Sampled
15	35	90	Ditch	Undated	Sampled
33	36	81	Ditch	Undated	
33	37	82	Ditch	Undated	
39	38	91	Ditch	Undated	
21	39	96, 97	Ditch	Undated	
21	40	98	Ditch	Undated	
21	*41*	*99*	*Land Drain*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association, CBM*
33	42	92, 93, 94	Ditch	Undated	Sampled
33	*43*	*95*	*Furrow*	*Post-Medieval*	*Landscape feature and association, CBM*
57	44	160– 164	Ditch	Iron Age	Pottery
57	45	165, 166	Channel	Undated	
54	46	155	Ditch	Undated	
50	47	156	Ditch	Undated	
57	48	157	Ditch	Undated	
37	49	150	Ditch	Undated	
107	100	152	Ditch Terminus	Undated	
19	101	151	Ditch	Undated	
23	102	153	Channel	Undated	
23	103	154	Channel	Undated	
108	104	158	Ditch	Undated	
57	105	159	Ditch	Undated	
104	*106*	*167,168*	*Palaeochannel*	*Undated*	



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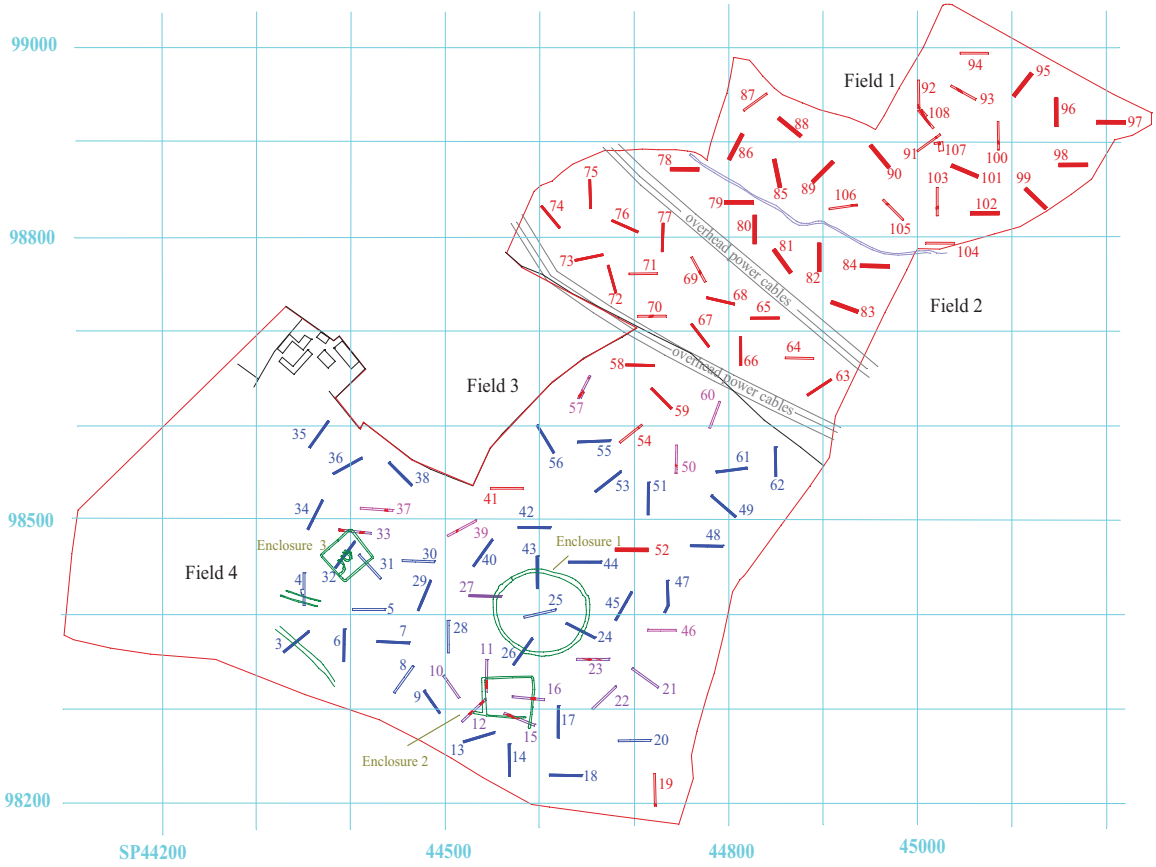
Land at Kirby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site in relation to Barwell and Leicestershire.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



TPA Completed Trenches

TPA Trenches reopened by TVAS

TVAS Trenches

Filled trenches were 'blank', open contained features

cropmarks

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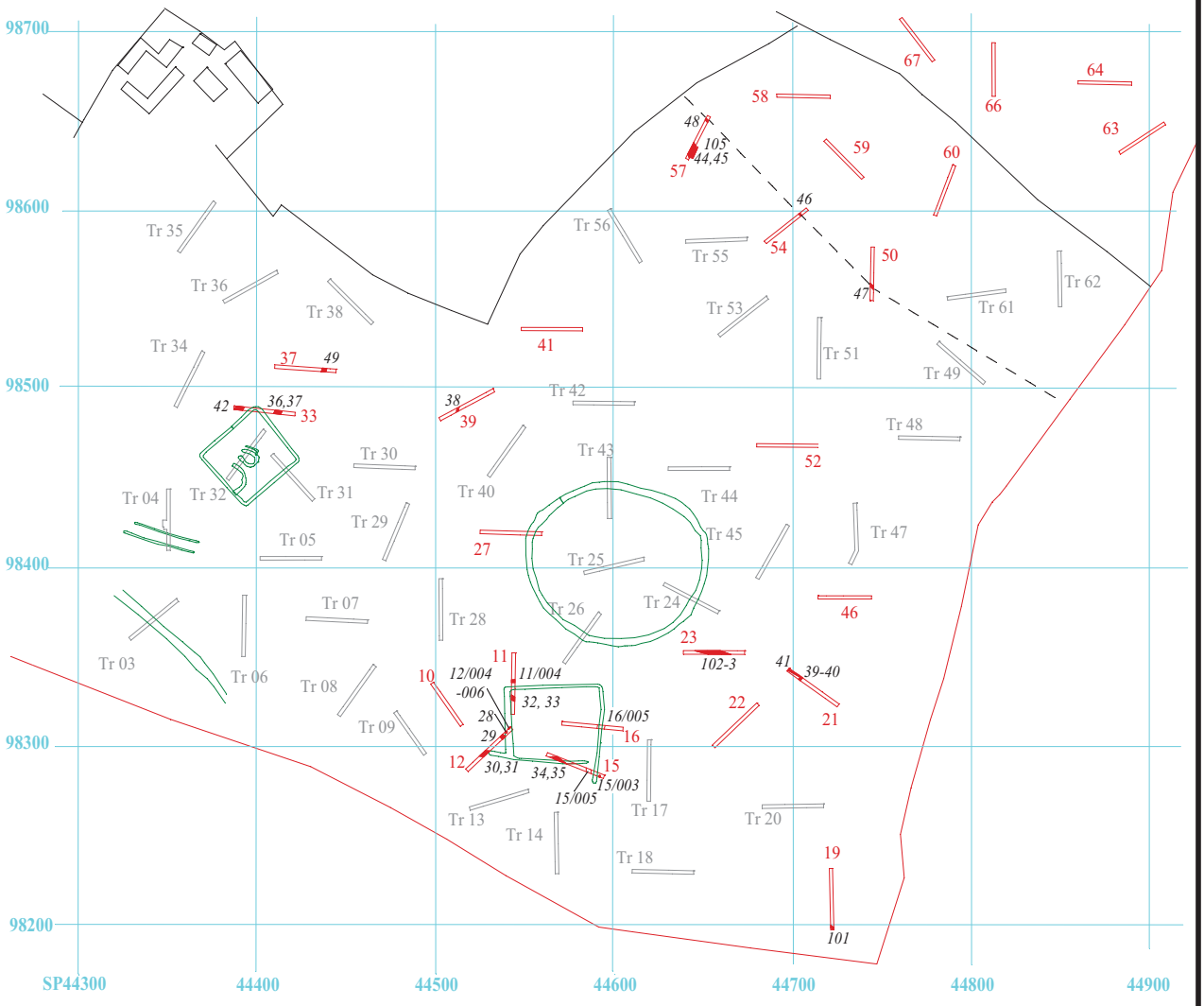
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2. Location of TVAS trenches and TPA trenches overall, together with cropmarks

0 500m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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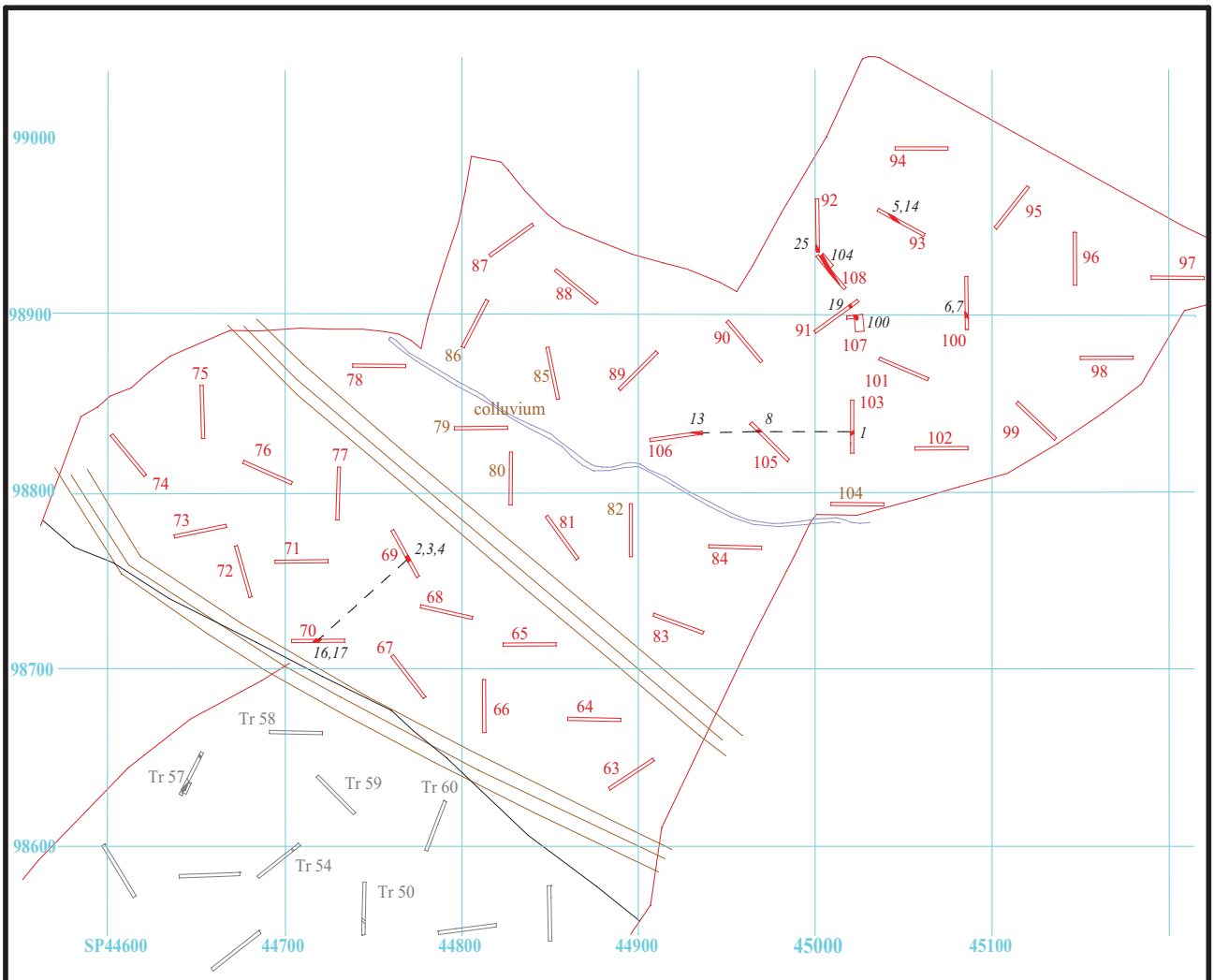
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 3. Detailed location of trenches in southern field with cropmark evidence (TVAS trenches in red)

0 100m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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N

Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 4. Detailed location of trenches in the northern fields (TVAS trenches in red)

0 200m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

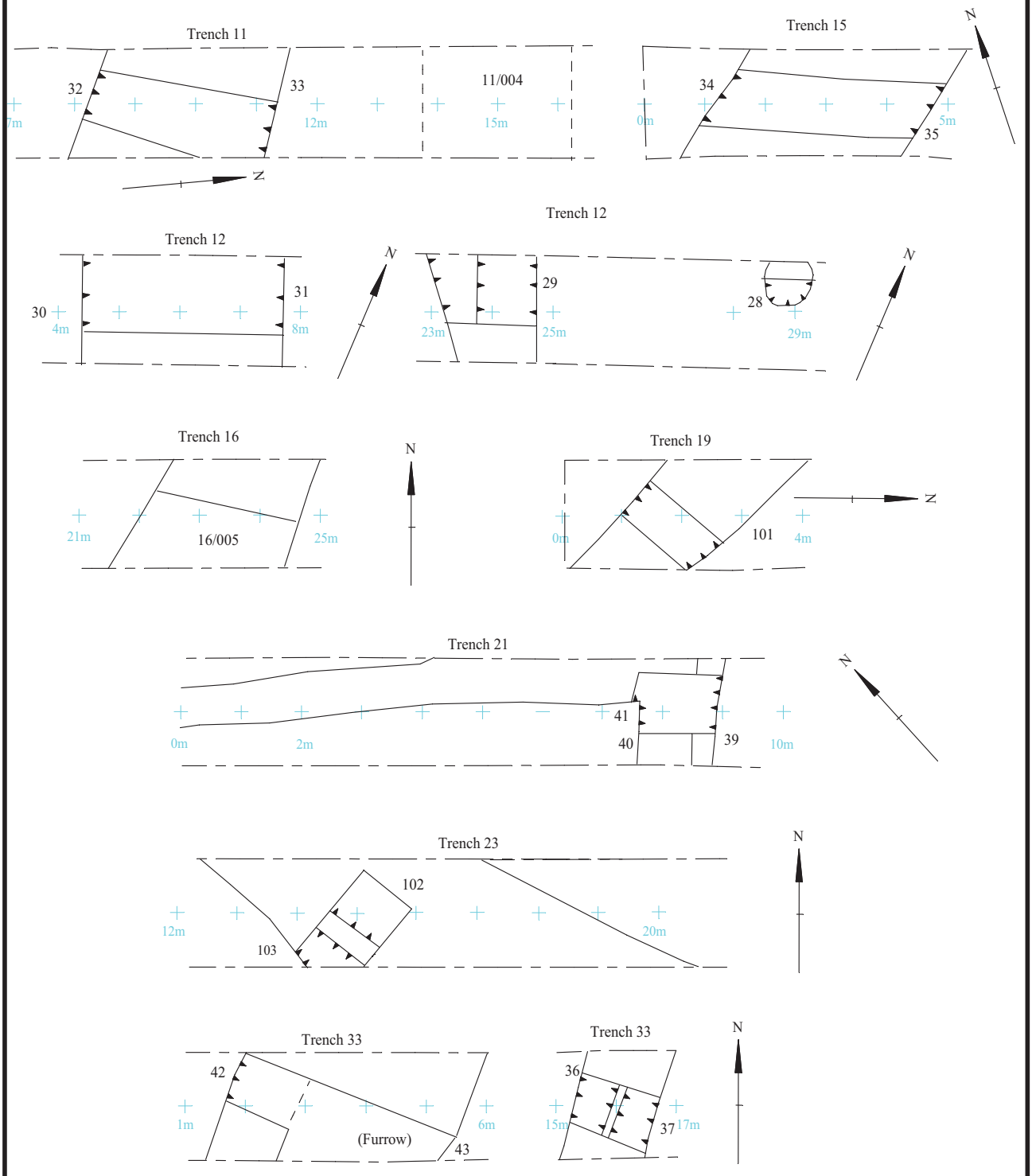

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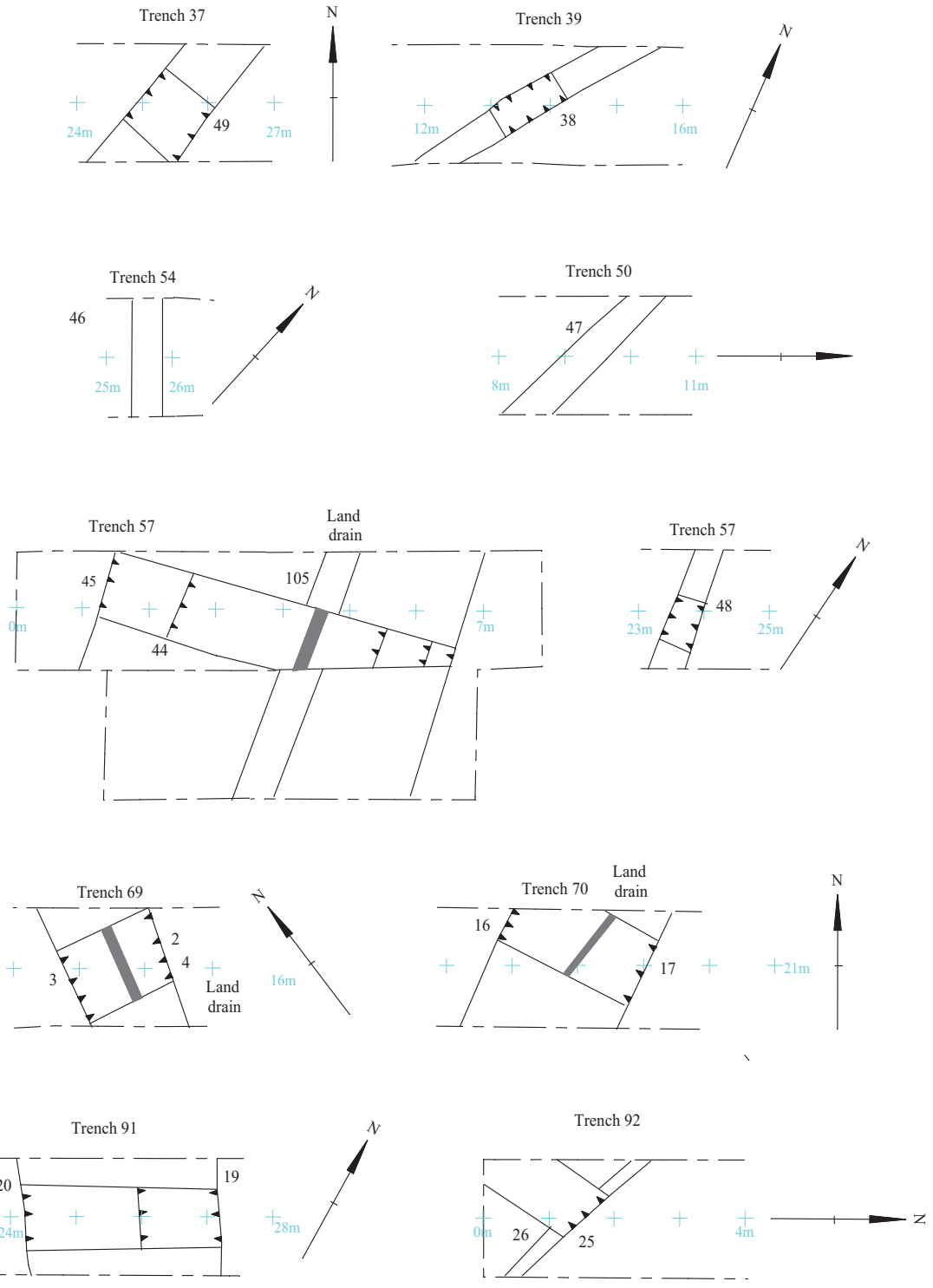
Figure 5. Plans of trenches.

0 5m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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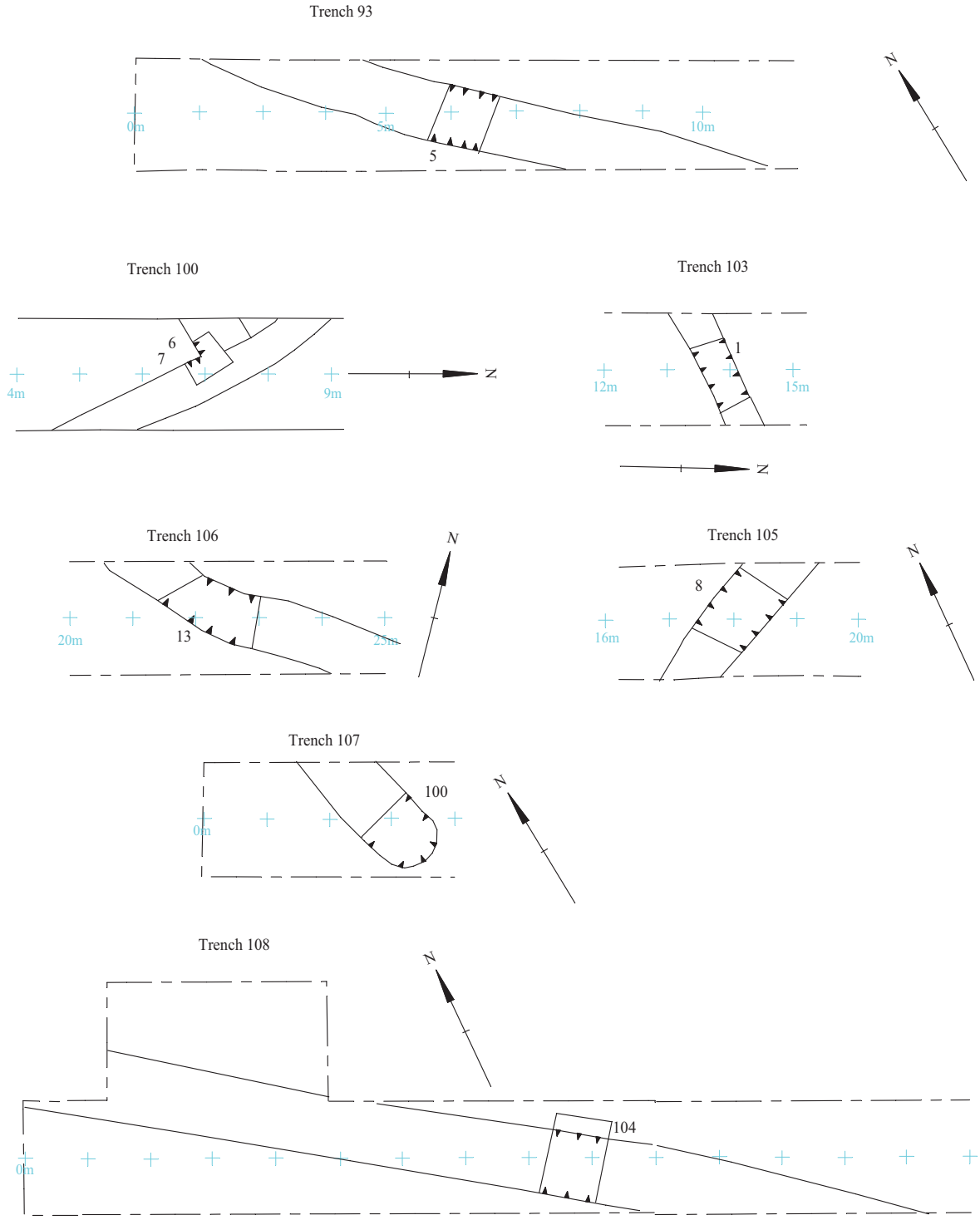
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 6. Plan of trenches.

0 5m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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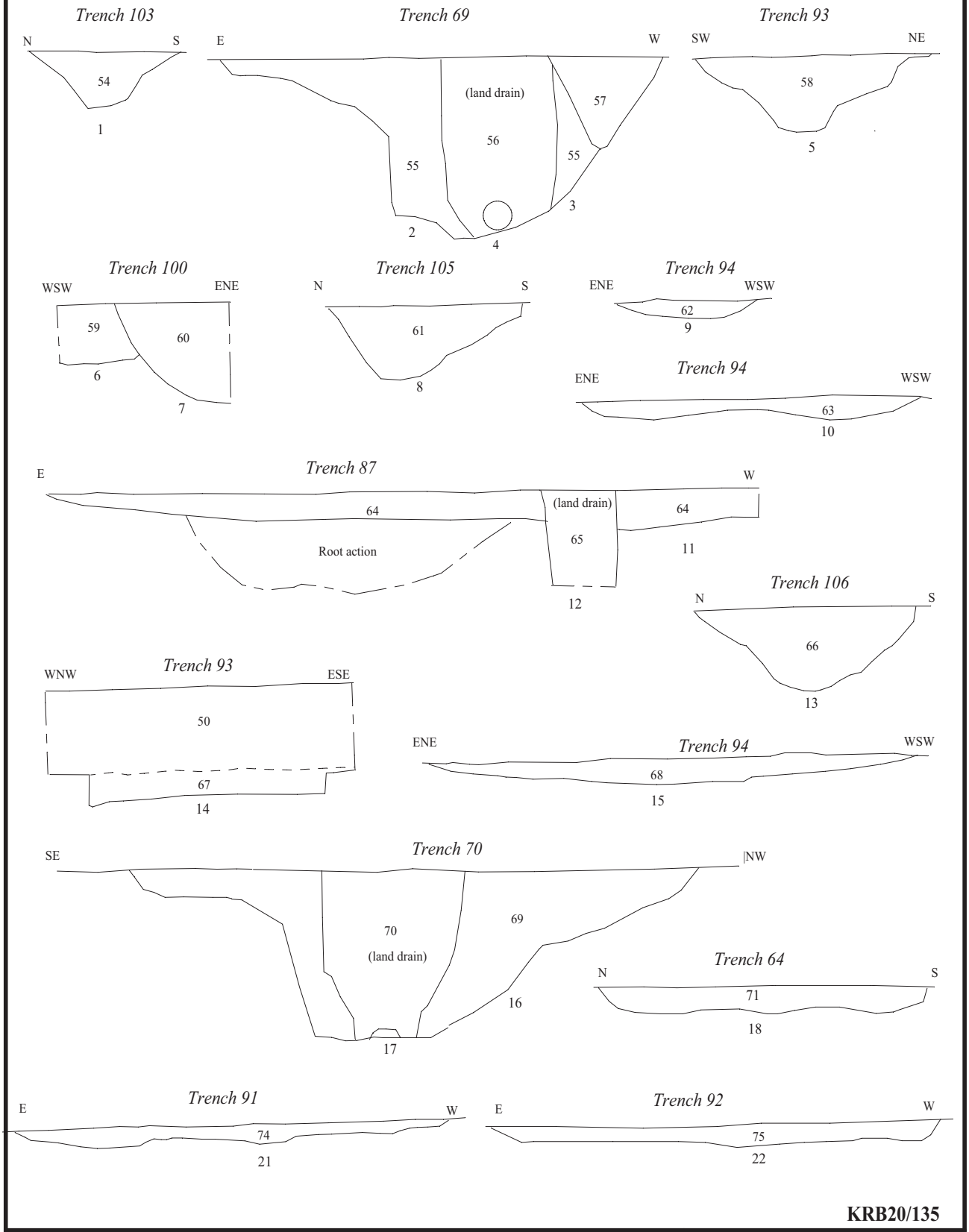
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 7. Plan of trenches.

0 5m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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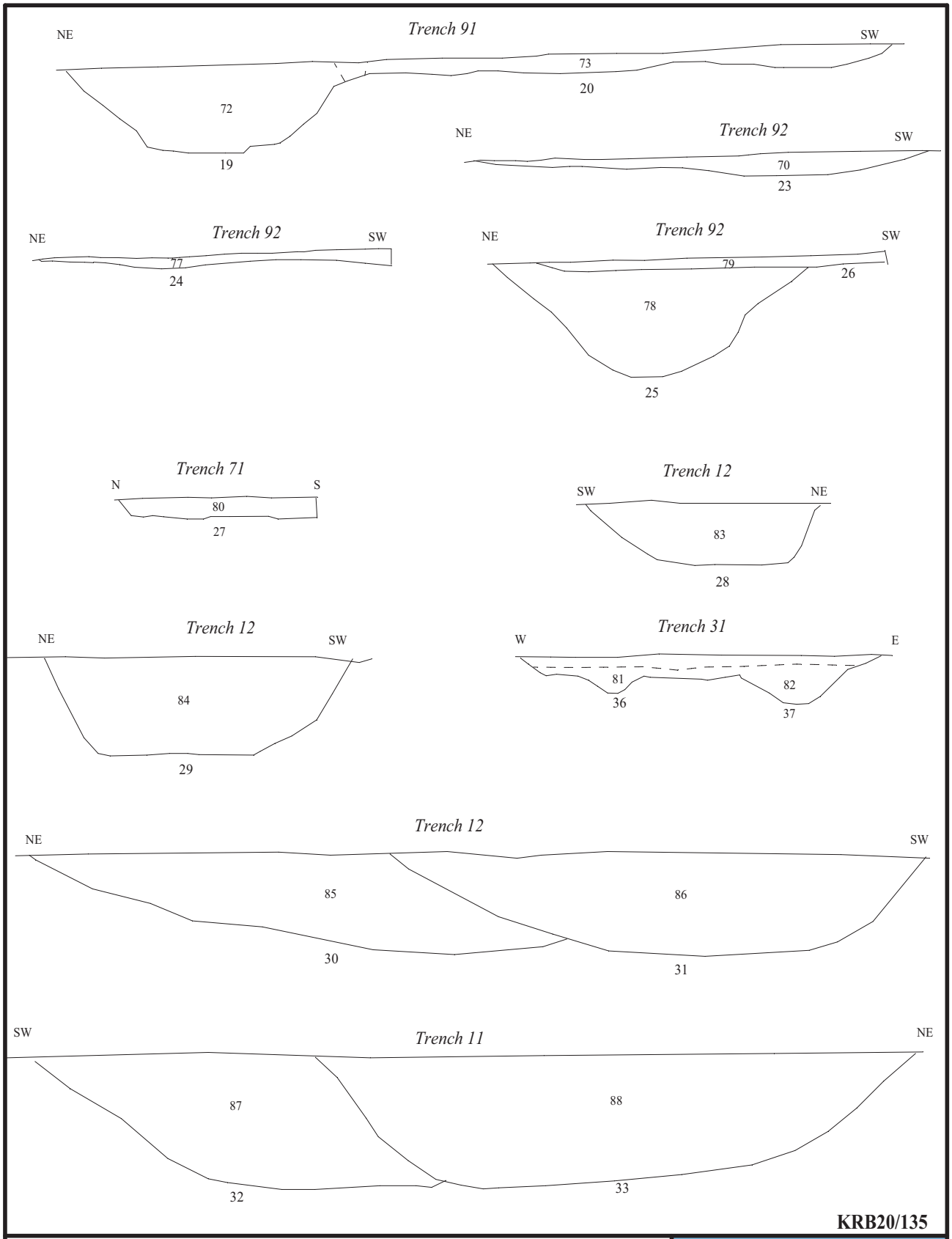
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 8. Sections

0 1m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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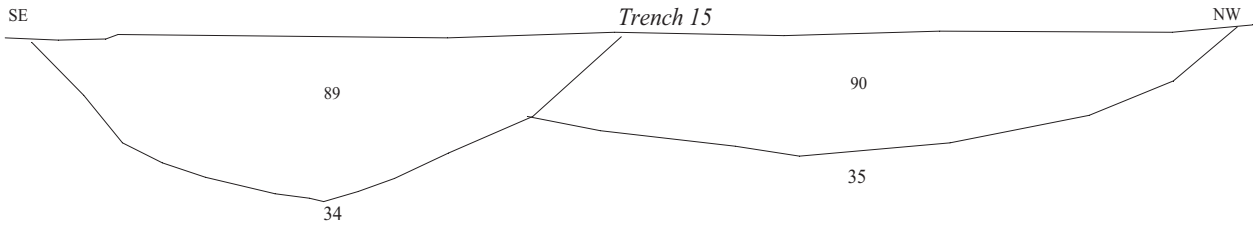
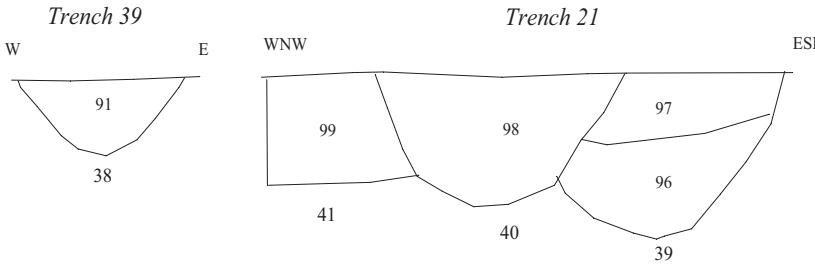
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

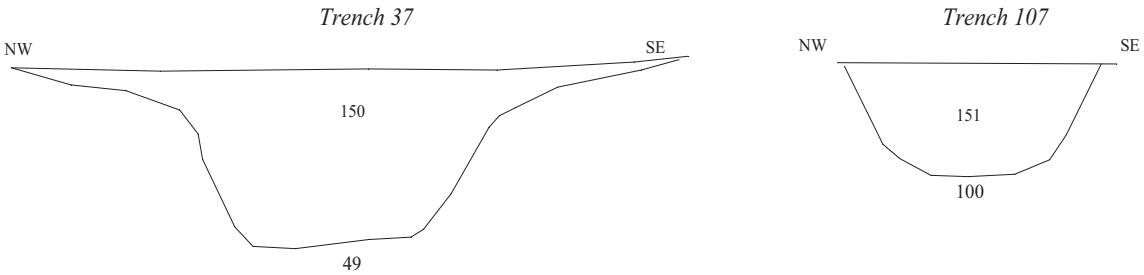
Figure 9. Sections

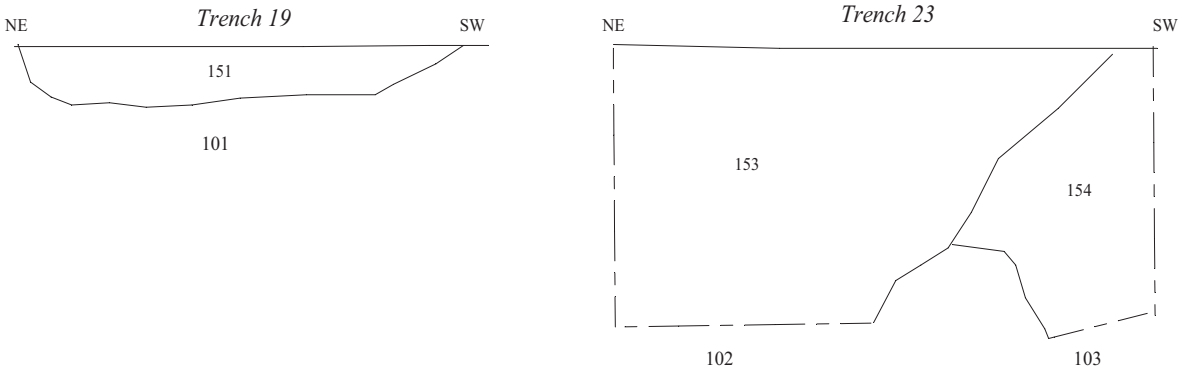
0 1m

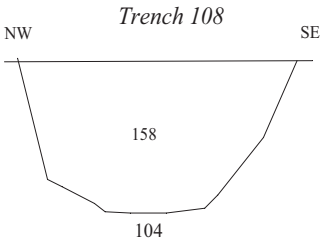
TVAS EAST MIDLANDS











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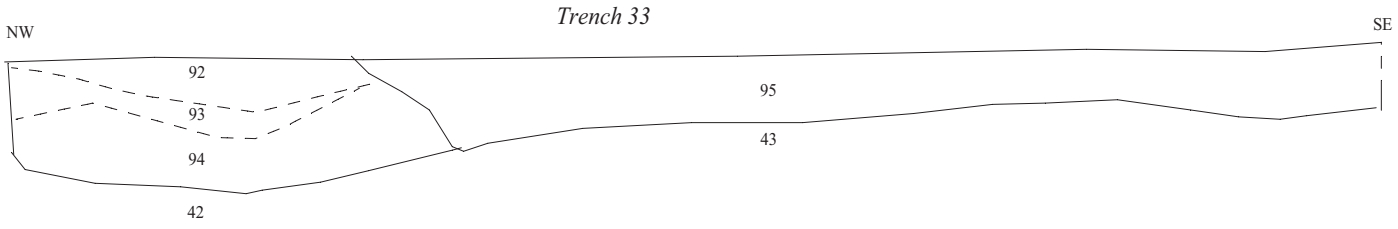
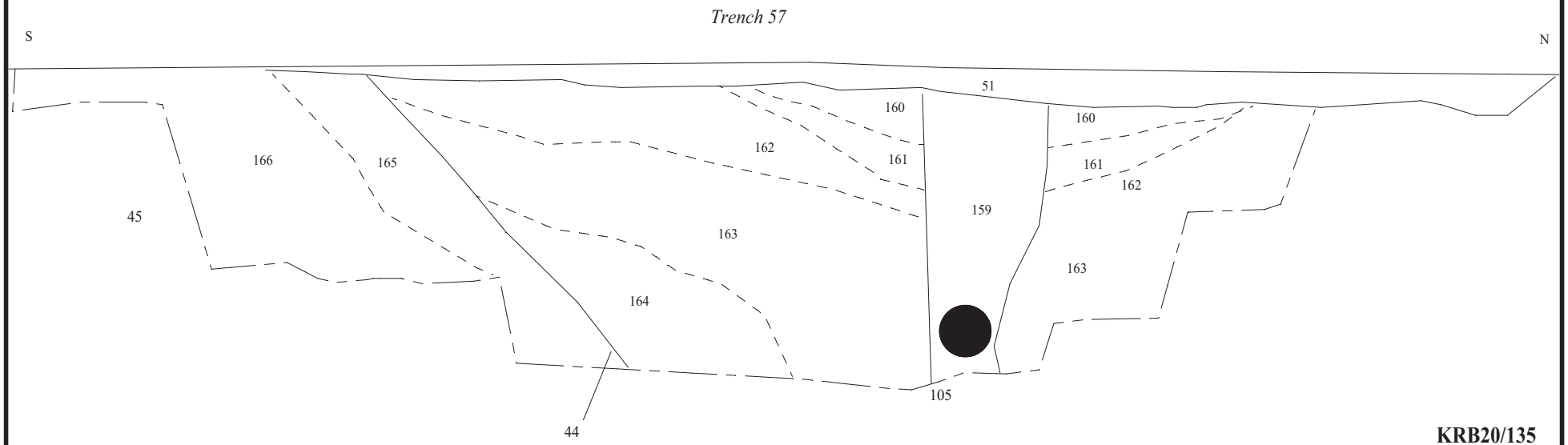
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 10. Sections

0 1m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS





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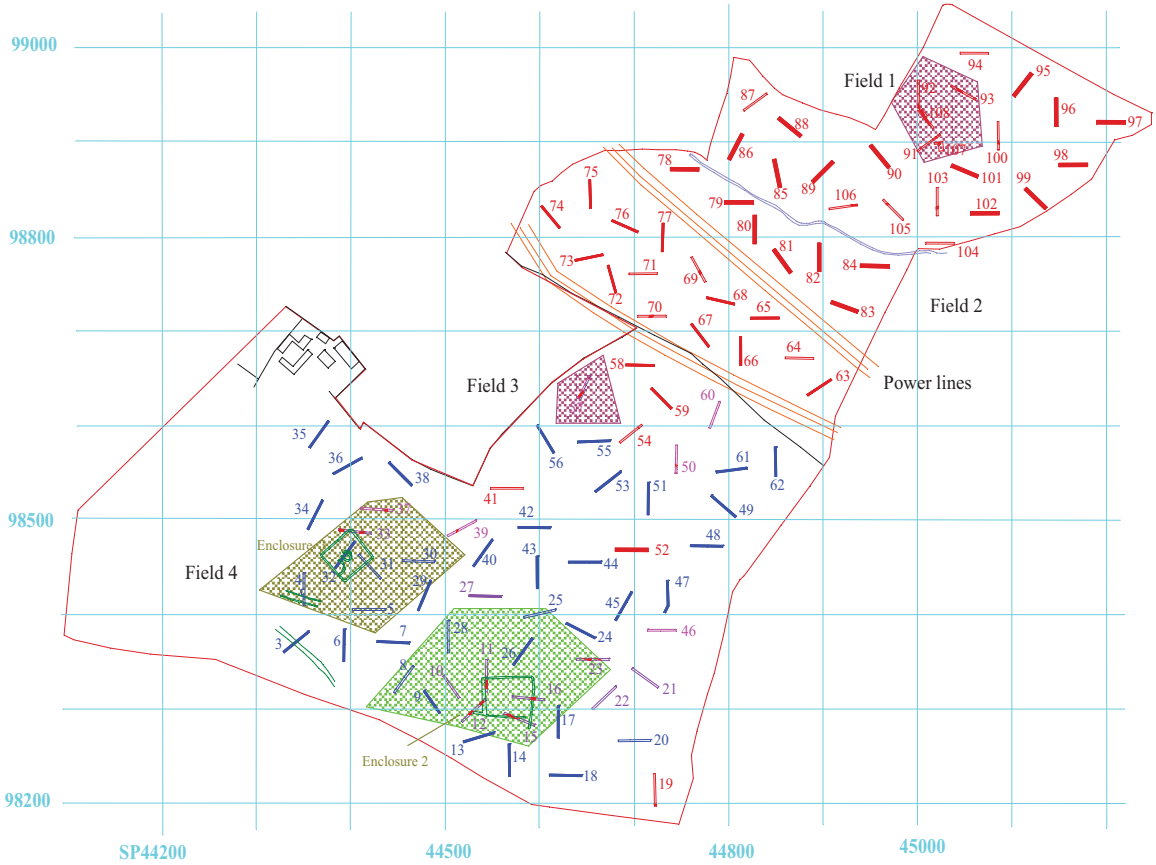
Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 11. Sections

0 1m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



High potential - Iron Age

High potential - Roman

Low potential - possibly prehistoric?

Unshaded areas have no archaeological potential

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Land west of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire, 2020 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 12. Location of areas of high, low and no archaeological potential

0 500m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

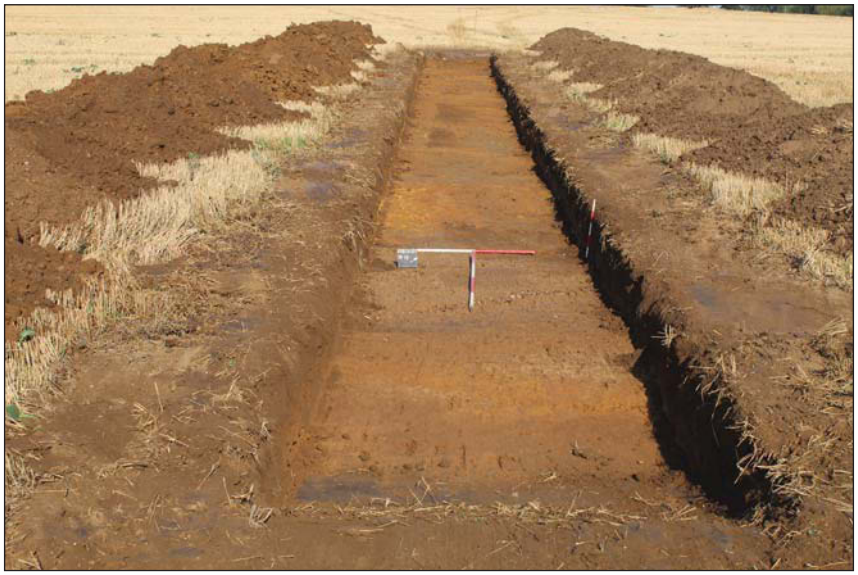

Plate 1. Trench 10, looking NW, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 2. Trench 16, looking E, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire.
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 1-2

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

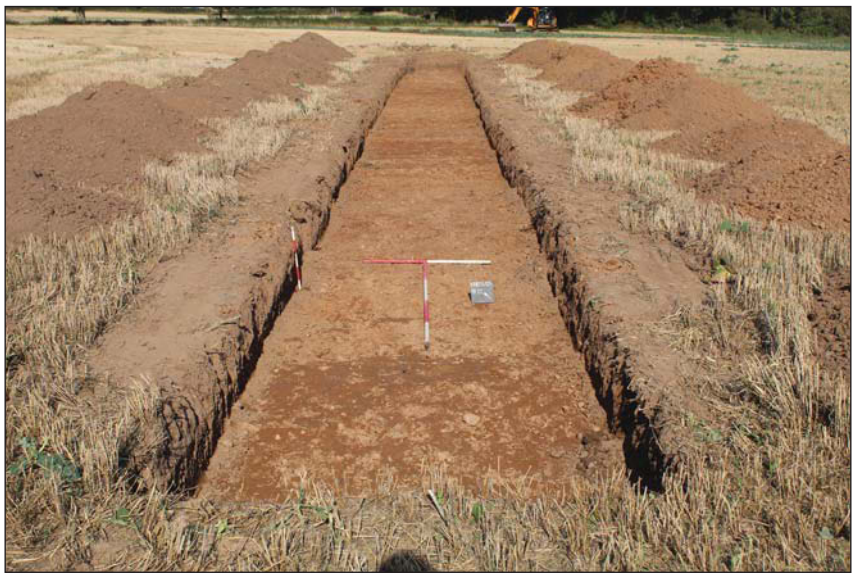

Plate 3. Trench 22, looking NE, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 4. Trench 46, looking E, Scales: 2m , 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 5. Trench 52, looking E, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 6. Trench 60, looking N, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 7. Trench 67, looking SE, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 8. Trench 72, looking N, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire.
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 7 and 8.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

Plate 9. Trench 74, looking NNW, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 10. Trench 77, looking N, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate11. Trench 80, looking NE, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 12. Trench 85, looking NW, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire.
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 11 and 12.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

Plate 13. Trench 90, looking NNW, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 14. Trench 98, looking E, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire.
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 13 and 14.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

Plate 15. Trench 99, looking NW, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 16. Trench 101, looking E, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.2m.

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Land West of Kirkby Road, Barwell, Leicestershire.
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 15 and 16.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

Plate 17. Trench 12, Ditch [29], looking SE, Scales: 1m and 0.2m.

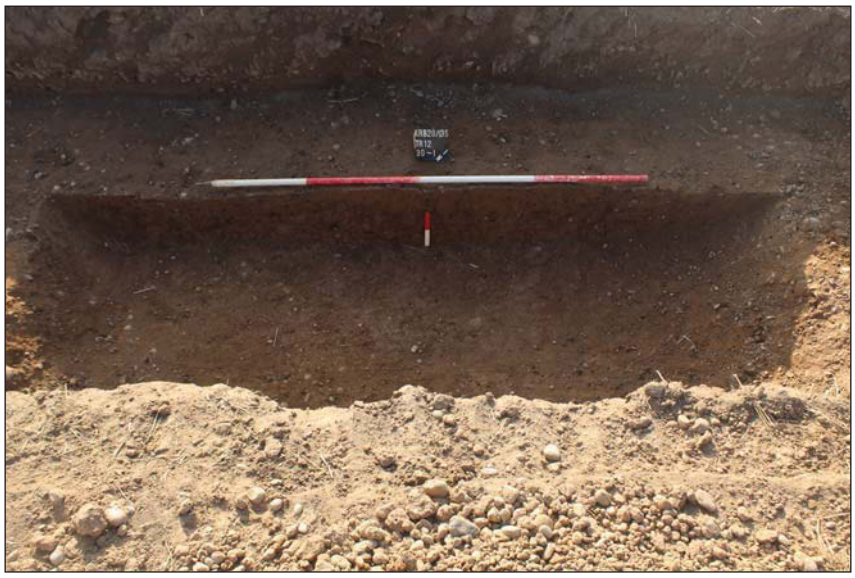


Plate 18. Trench 12, Ditch [30-1], looking SE, Scales: 2m and 0.2m.

Plate 19. Trench 12, Pit [28], looking NW, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.

Plate 20. Trench 15, Ditch [34-5], looking SW, Scales: 2m and 0.2m.

Plate 21. Trench 19, Ditch [101], looking SE, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

Plate 22. Trench 21, Ditch [39-40] and Stone Lined Land Drain [41], looking NE, Scales: 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 23. Trench 23, Channel [102-3], looking SE, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 24. Trench 33, Ditch [42] and Furrow [43], looking NE, Scales: 2m, 0.1m and 0.2m.

Plate 25. Trench 39, Ditch [38] looking N, Scales: 2m and 0.1m.

Plate 26. Trench 57, Ditch [48] looking NW, Scales: 0.2m and 0.1m.

Plate 27. Trench 57, Ditch [44] and Channel [45], looking SE, Scales: 2m, 0.5m, 1m and 0.2m..

Plate 28. Trench 57, Ditch [44] and Channel [45], looking SE, Scales: 2m, 0.5m, 1m and 0.2m..

Plate 29. Trench 64, Furrow [18], looking E, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

Plate 30. Trench 70, Ditch and Land Drain [16-7], looking S, Scales: 2m and 0.5m.

Plate 31. Trench 91, Ditch and Furrow [19-20], looking SE, Scales: 2m, 0.2m and 0.1m.

Plate 32. Trench 92, Ditch and Furrow [25-6], looking SE, Scales: 1m and 0.2m.

Plate 33. Trench 100, Ditch [6-7], looking NW, Scales: 0.5m, 0.1m and 0.2m.

Plate 34. Trench 103, Ditch [1], looking NE, Scales: 0.2m and 0.1m.

Plate 35. Trench 105, Ditch [8], looking E, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.

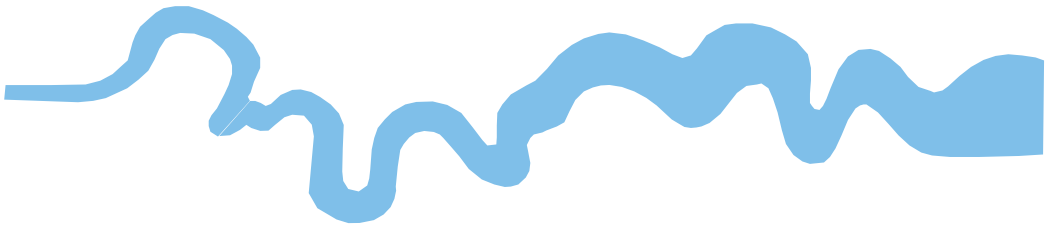
Plate 36. Trench 106, Ditch [13], looking SE, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.

Plate 37. Trench 107, Ditch Terminus [100], looking NW, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.

Plate 38. Trench 108, Ditch [104] looking NW, Scales: 0.5m and 0.2m.

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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