

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Luddington Investments**

by Simon Cass

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SCS 08/18

December 2008

Summary

Site name: Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire

Grid reference: SJ 9008 2240

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 2nd–19th September 2008

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Simon Cass

Site code: SCS08/18

Area of site: *c.* 46ha

Summary of results: An area of late Roman occupation was identified in the north-western corner of the site, with some further, undated, activity in the northern fields. Most of the site appears to have little or no archaeological potential.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and it is anticipated that it will be deposited at Stoke-on-Trent Museum in due course.

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	Steve Preston ✓ 08.12.08

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Report 08/18

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire (SJ 9008 2240) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Mark Clarke of Luddington Investments Limited, Stonebridge, Somers Road, Meriden, Warwickshire, CV7 7PL.

Planning permission (app no 07/08083/FUL) has been gained from Stafford Borough Council for the construction of a new 18-hole golf course, practice ground and clubhouse, with associated landscaping and access/ parking facilities. The permission is subject to a condition (30) relating to archaeology requiring a programme of archaeological investigation, in this instance to begin with geophysical investigation of the site, followed by an archaeological field evaluation. Further fieldwork or mitigation would be able to be designed dependent upon the results of these initial phases of investigation.

This is in accordance with the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance, *Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16 1990), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist with Staffordshire County Council, adviser to the Borough on archaeological matters. The fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Cass, Aidan Colyer, Vanya Blomqvist, Heather Hopkins and Julian Newman between the 2nd and 19th September 2008 and the site code is SCS 08/18. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and it is anticipated that it will be deposited at Stoke-on-Trent Museum.

A desk-based assessment of the site (Frost 2007) summarized the previously known archaeological potential of the site and concluded that investigation by means of geophysical survey and trial trenching should be secured, particularly for an area of likely Roman evidence (see below).

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the western edge of Stafford, in fields around the west, north and north-east of the castle mount. The castle site occupies high ground commanding the confluence of two streams. The site is bordered to the west by the M6 motorway, to the south by an area of residential occupation and to the east by the current golf course. To the north of the site is arable farmland (Fig. 2). The site lies at a height of between 92 and 117m AOD and the underlying geology over the entire site is shown as Keuper Marl (red marl with thin sandstones) (BGS

1974), as was observed in the trenches. The land was used as arable farmland but was left fallow at the time of this investigation.

Archaeological background

A desk-based assessment of the site (Frost 2007) documented the previously recorded archaeology for the environs of the site. In summary, the area is within the shadow of the medieval castle, (a Scheduled Ancient Monument) and in an area likely to have been part of one (or more) of three associated parks. Fieldwalking finds of Roman pottery, not closely located but probably from somewhere in the vicinity of the north-west corner of the site, seemed to indicate the presence of a Roman settlement. The size of the proposal site area indicated a generalized potential for remains of any period, but it was concluded that use of the area as a deer park, and after disparkment, arable land, that this somewhat reduced the likely potential medieval and later periods.

The castle probably originated as an early Norman motte and bailey, with a stone replacement in the 14th century. Stafford itself was founded as a *burh* in the 10th century, but a settlement may already have existed by then. In the medieval period the area around the castle was occupied by a deer park, one of three associated with the castle. To date, no surviving evidence for the park pale has been located, despite efforts in 1958 and 1996–7.

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. Specifically, the evaluation was to

- determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;
- determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present and to
- determine if there are any Roman or medieval deposits present on the site.

Prior to the trenching evaluation, the site was subjected to a two-phase geophysical survey, with the intention of allowing some of the trenching to be selectively targeted. Some 42 ha were tested for magnetic susceptibility, following which six areas, approximately 10% of the overall area, were scanned in more detail using a magnetometer (Smalley 2008). Those areas where the geophysical results suggested higher archaeological potential were evaluated with a higher sample fraction of trenching, in order to better examine the anomalies encountered.

The trenches were excavated by a tracked 360-degree mechanical excavator under constant archaeological supervision, to a length of 25m and a width of 1.8m. A metal detector was employed in order to increase the chance of recovery of any metalwork from the trenches both during and after excavation.

In total, the evaluation was intended to comprise 95 trenches distributed across the site. All archaeological deposits were hand-cleaned and planned, although not every feature was excavated. Ten proposed trenches located at the easternmost extent of the site could not be opened at this time due to their location within an in-use area of the current golf-course. Because of this, and to better characterize the deposits located elsewhere, a number of new trenches were located in the north-western corner of the site and two other trenches were increased in width in the area immediately north of the castle. This was done in consultation with the County Council's Principal Archaeologist on site.

Summary of Geophysical Survey

A rapid scan magnetic susceptibility survey indicated five areas of higher potential across the site (Areas 2–6) (Smalley 2008). These areas, and one 'control' area of lower potential (Area 1) were therefore subjected to detailed magnetometry. In general, many anomalies probably representing ferrous objects were recorded, but fewer that were likely to be significant archaeological features. In Area 1 in the north-west corner of the site, (the area of low magnetic susceptibility) the detailed survey suggested possibly half a dozen pits and one linear anomaly, perhaps a ditch. In Area 2, north-central to the site, it was suggested the results showed a possible earthwork, several ditches and many pits, and an uninterpreted spread of magnetic debris (presumably metalwork or slag). Area 3, north-east of the castle, appeared to be dominated by ploughmarks, aligned SE–NW, but with stronger anomalies perhaps representing ditches, banks and other features, including likely pits. Area 4 at the extreme east of the site showed possibly six pits. Area 5 at the west edge of the site, showed two ditches and several other likely cut features. Finally, the results from Area 6 in the south-west were dominated by a pipe or cable trench, but also showed ploughmarks aligned SW–NE, ditches, and other potential features.

Results

In total 96 trenches were excavated (Fig. 3), with lengths from 10m to 35m and depths from 0.3–0.6m. In general there was little or no identifiable subsoil on the site, with the topsoil sitting directly above natural geology. In a number of trenches (especially those on the eastern side of the site) plough scarring was visible. The metal detector survey did not find any metallic remains of archaeological relevance, despite the geophysical survey's having identified an area as having a large spread of magnetic debris, and indicating 'ferrous objects' in all areas.

The features identified were cleaned and planned and a selection of features in each trench excavated in order to date and characterize the archaeological features, or possible features, revealed.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1 and a list of features forms Appendix 2.

Trench 1

This trench was 28.5m long, 1.8m wide and 0.46m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of greyish brown silty clay topsoil above dark brownish red clay natural geology. Two possible features in this trench were examined and assessed as natural features (water run-off channels and/or ice wedges).

Trench 2 (Figs 4, 8, 9)

This trench was 29.5m long and 0.4m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil (as in Trench 1) above clay natural geology. This trench contained three possible features: a possible wide shallow ditch (23), a small gully (4) and a possible pit (3). The gully and possible pit appear to be natural features, probably relating to water run-off or ice-wedges, while the wide ditch-type feature is of dubious nature, having irregular sides and sinuous shape, although it appears to be orientated in the wrong direction with regards to the slope to be a water-formed feature. It was 1.5m wide at its widest point and just 0.13m deep, filled with a pale reddish brown silty clay deposit, similar to that seen in other features more certainly of natural origin.

Trench 3 (Figs 4, 8, 11)

This trench was 25.5m long and 0.5m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.15m of mixed greyish brown/dark brownish red silty clay interpreted as a colluvial deposit. This overlay the clay natural geology. This trench contained a ditch, 48, orientated approximately NE–SW, and two possible gullies, 1 and 2, which were orientated approximately east-west. The ditch was 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep with slightly irregular edges (possibly the result of animal action or bioturbation) and contained two deposits (152 and 153), the lower of which (153) was rich in wood charcoal but lacked any direct dating evidence such as pottery. The two possible gullies are believed to be natural features (ice wedges or striations within the clay).

Trench 4 (Figs 4, 9; Pls 1 and 2)

This trench was 25.8m long and 0.35m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single pit, 15 (Pl. 1), was located. It was 0.15m deep and at least 1.35m across, containing a greyish brown fill (65) which provided a fragment of Roman pottery: a *mortarium* which dates to the 4th century AD.

Trench 5 (Figs 4, 9; Pls 3 and 4)

This trench was 24.5m long and 0.35m deep, orientated approximately NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained four intercutting pits, 19, 20, 21

and 25, and a posthole, 22. Pottery found in pit 25 was identified as 4th century Roman date and that from pit 19 tentatively of the same date.

Trench 6

This trench was 26.5m long and 0.55m deep, orientated approximately north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.15m of mixed pale cream/dark brownish red silty clay colluvium. This overlay clay natural geology. A single possible ditch was found in this trench, however after excavation this was written off as a natural feature.

Trench 7 (Figs 4, 10)

This trench was 26.5m long and 0.45m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Three possible features in this trench were examined: a ditch, 31, orientated approximately north-south; a shallow scoop, 30, containing a large amount of charred material; and a possible gully terminal, 29, just entering the trench from the west. Ditch 31 was 0.66m wide and 0.11m deep and contained a reddish brown silty clay fill (83). Pottery recovered from this feature was dateable to the 4th century. Scoop 30 was 0.74m wide but only 0.01m deep, filled with charcoal (82). Feature 29, the possible gully terminal, was 0.25m wide and 0.14m deep, filled with a reddish brown silty clay (81).

Trench 8 (Figs 4, 9)

This trench was 26.0m long and 0.3m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.25m of topsoil above the natural geology of clay with occasional stoney inclusions. Two features were located in this trench. A small posthole, 16, was 0.14m across and 0.12m deep. A shallow pit, 17, was 0.66m across but only 0.11m deep. The fills of both features were similar (66 and 67 respectively), consisting of a grey silty clay deposit with charcoal and occasional small stones.

Trench 9 (Figs 4, 8)

This trench was 26.0m long, and 0.3m deep, orientated approximately east-west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A shallow pit or scoop, 6, was 0.62m across and 0.08m deep containing a dark grey silty clay deposit with frequent charcoal fragments (56). A possible gully terminal, 5 is believed to be a natural feature due to its irregular form and sterile fill.

Trench 10 (Figs 4, 9)

This trench was 28.0m long, and 0.35m deep, orientated NE-SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology of clay with occasional stoney inclusions. This trench contained a single ditch, 18, which may have terminated at the edge of the trench. It was 0.82m wide and 0.31m deep, with an irregular base, containing a reddish brown clayey silt with occasional stones (68). There was also a possible linear offshoot heading north from the gully although this could have been a result of animal burrowing.

Trench 11 (Figs 4, 10)

This trench was 32.5m long and 0.45m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.45m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single posthole, 27, was revealed in this trench. It was 0.3m in diameter, 0.28m deep and filled with a reddish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions (79).

Trench 12

This trench was 27.0m long and 0.4m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A possible gully was seen during the initial excavation of this trench but was not able to be located after flooding, despite pumping and cleaning the trench. It is probable that this was either a natural feature or was very shallow (<0.02m deep) and therefore did not survive additional hand-cleaning of the trench.

Trench 13 (Figs 4, 9; Pl 5 and 6)

This trench was 30.0m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained a pit, 24, filled with hearth debris (Pl. 5). Pit 24 was sub-oval in shape, measuring 1.3m long, 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep. Three fills were identified in this feature, appearing to be two layers of burnt/heated clay (74 and 76) with a charcoal layer separating them (75). The presence of the heated clay would point to the presence of an intense fire, although the position of the fills appears more in keeping with tip-lines than *in situ* burning (perhaps a pit dug specifically for disposal of hearth ash). A possible posthole and a possible spread/pit, were also investigated in this trench but were interpreted as animal action and natural features respectively

Trench 14 (Figs 5, 9, 10)

This trench was 25.1m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.27m topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained a gully, 28, and a possible gully, 14. Gully 28 appears to relate to gully (106) found in the western end of Trench 93. It was 0.7m wide by 0.28m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. The fill was a pale reddish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal fragments and stones (80). Pottery found within the feature can be dated to the 4th century AD. Gully 14 was 0.44m across and 0.22m deep with a v-shaped profile.

Trench 15 (Figs 5, 9)

This trench was 30.9m long and 0.35m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.25m of topsoil above 0.1m of clay natural geology. A single pit, 26, was located and was at least 2m across and was 0.6m deep with steep sides and possibly a shallow concave base. The fill of this pit (92) was a mottled grey/reddish brown clayey sand with intermittent charcoal flecking and small stones. Pottery found within this feature dates from the 4th century AD.

Trench 16 (Figs 5, 8)

This trench was 25.3m long and 0.35m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.28m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single possible gully terminal, 7, was located in this trench but is considered to be of natural origin.

Trench 17

This trench was 29.2m long and 0.35m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.27m of topsoil above clay natural geology. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 18 (Figs 5, 10)

This trench was 24.8m long and 0.5m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.15m of dark greyish brown silty clay subsoil. This sealed the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. A test-pit at the northern end of the trench dug to a depth of 1.0m confirmed that this deposit was natural. Two posthole-sized features, 32 and 33, were investigated. Both features were cut through subsoil and are interpreted as being of modern date though of uncertain purpose.

Trench 19 (Figs 5, 10)

This trench was 25.5m long and 0.35m deep, orientated east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. A single shallow gully, 34, was noted. It was 0.9m wide and up to 0.1m deep with irregular sides and base. The fill was quite loose and disturbed, a pale grey silty clay with frequent stoney ashy/charred inclusions more concentrated towards the eastern side. The feature produced no dating evidence, but is potentially related to the existing field boundary to the north.

Trench 20

This trench was 25m long and 0.45m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. Two possible features were located in this trench, one of which was found to be of natural origin, the other, was modern (containing willow-pattern pottery) and approximately parallel to the field boundary to the west, possibly a related boundary or field division.

Trench 21

This trench was 24.0m long and 0.4m deep, orientated north-south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. A single feature of natural origin was investigated.

Trench 22 (Figs 5, 10)

This trench was 27.5m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NW–SE. It was originally 1.8m wide but was widened to 4m. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with

moderate gravel inclusions. Five possible features were found in this trench. Pit 35, was 1.3m wide and 0.45m deep filled with an orangey grey sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks (87) and a light grey clayey silt primary fill with occasional small stones (88). A gully terminal, 36, was 0.85m wide and 0.2m deep and extended out of the trench to the north-east. It contained a reddish brown silty clay with occasional stones (89). It is possible this is a terminal of one of the two linear features shown on the geophysics results close to this location. A possible ditch terminal (37) was revealed to be the end of a natural feature, turning to the south-east and becoming more irregularly shaped. A large circular pit (46), c.1.3m by 1.8m across cut pit 35, A small pit (45), 0.3m wide and 0.05m deep contained a dark grey silty clay with very frequent charcoal fragments.

Trench 23

This trench was 27m long and 0.25m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.2m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench. The south-eastern end of the trench was disturbed, probably as a result of a large marl pit immediately to the east.

Trenches 24–27, 29, 30, 32–46, 49–50, 63, 69, 73–79, 85, 88, 91, 94

These trenches consisted of topsoil, 0.20–0.40m deep, directly overlying natural geology comprising dark brownish red clay or clay with gravel. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in any of these trenches. Possible features identified in Trench 24, 27, 38, 43, 50, 74, 76, after excavation all proved to be natural. A test-pit to a depth of 0.6m was excavated in Trench 25 and a second one in Trench 30 to a depth of 1.1m. were dug to confirm the interpretation of the stratigraphy. Trench 44 had to be shortened to avoid a pathway.

Trench 28

This trench was 24m long and 0.55m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.2m of dark greyish brown silty clay subsoil. This overlay the natural geology comprising clay with occasional moderate gravel inclusions. A single irregular feature was located this trench, and after investigation was determined to be a natural feature, probably relating to water run-off. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 31

This trench was 26m long and 0.55m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above 0.2m of a reddish brown subsoil/colluvium. This overlay the natural geology comprising brownish red clayey gravels. A test pit dug at the northern end of this trench to a depth of 1.0m to confirm stratigraphy. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 47

This trench was 26m long and 0.4m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above pale grey/cream silty clay natural geology. Three possible features were identified but upon excavation they were revealed as part of one feature, believed to be an ancient watercourse running through the valley floor. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 48 (Figs 5, 8)

This trench was 29m long and 0.3m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil clay natural geology. Several parallel north-south aligned linear features (8, 9, 10, 11) identified in this trench upon excavation were shown to be modern wheel ruts and/or excavation related to the service pipe running through the trench. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 51

This trench was 26m long and 0.45m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of topsoil above 0.05m of reddish brown sandy clay with frequent medium stones above the natural geology comprising a mottled brownish red and pale cream-grey clay with moderate gravel. Three possible features were noted, although all were written off as natural features. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trench 52

This trench was 2m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench was shortened due to its position at the lowest point of the valley in an area already partially flooded and written off as it flooded almost immediately. No finds or features of archaeological interest were noted in this trench.

Trench 53 (Figs 6, 9)

This trench was 25m long and 0.35m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising clay with moderate gravel inclusions. Two features were noted in this trench; one proved to be a natural feature while the other, 13, was a gully orientated approximately north west – south east. It was 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep and filled with a reddish brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions. No finds were located in this feature.

Trench 54

This trench was 25m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above mottled dark brownish red/ pale cream/grey clay natural geology. A single feature was noted in this trench between a square-ended terminal, though it was visibly cut through the topsoil and written off as a modern truncation. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in this trench.

Trenches 55–57, 59, 60, 64, 65, 83, 84

The stratigraphy in these trenches typically consisted of 0.3m of greyish brown silty clay topsoil above mottled brownish red/ pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel natural geology. A small patch with charcoal flecking was visible in Trench 56, cut through the topsoil and therefore considered modern. Two possible linear features encountered in Trench 61 and an ephemeral feature in Trench 65 were written off after excavation as natural features. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in these trenches. A small fragment of moderately degraded bone, probably of no great antiquity, was found in the topsoil in Trench 65 (not retained).

Trench 58 (Figs 6, 8)

This trench was 27m long and 0.4m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of topsoil above the natural geology comprising a mottled dark brownish red/ pale cream grey clay with occasional gravelly patches. This trench contained a dubious linear feature, 12, with irregular sides and base. It was 1.5m wide and 0.6m deep at its maximum extents, filled with a reddish brown sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions (62). The shape in plan was hard to determine due to local variation in the natural geology and gravel patches.

Trench 62 (Figs 6, 10)

This trench was 25m long, originally 1.8m wide and 0.3m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above mottled brownish red/ cream grey clay with intermittent gravelly patches natural geology. Originally, this trench revealed a pit (38) and a ditch (39). Pit 38 was 0.95m in diameter and 0.15m deep, containing a reddish brown silty clay (93) with charcoal concentrated around the sides and base. Ditch 39, was 0.21m deep and 1.05m wide, containing a reddish/grey brown silty clay (94) deposit. Due to the presence of these features it was decided, in consultation with the principal archaeologist, to extend the width of the trench to the north-west to a total of 4m. This extension revealed another ditch (40), with a right-angled corner. This was 0.75m wide and 0.15m deep, filled with a pale blue/grey sandy clay (98) with occasional stoney inclusions. In addition, ditch 39 terminated within the extended trench, just prior to ditch 40. None of these features contained any finds.

Trench 66

This trench was 24m long and 0.3m deep, orientated east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Three features were investigated in this trench, though all proved to be of natural origin. The eastern end of the trench (from 20.5m) contained prominent plough-scarring.

Trench 67

This trench was 24m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single ditch was recorded but containing modern brick and was parallel to the visible plough scarring in the trench. This may be a boundary shown on all maps up to 1938.

Trench 68

This trench was 24.5m long and 0.3m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single linear feature was noted which cut through the topsoil. Two other features were shown to be natural features after investigation. Plough scarring ran down the length of the trench, on a similar orientation to the trench.

Trenches 70, 71, 81

The stratigraphy typically encountered consisted of 0.25–0.30m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Plough scarring was observed along the length of these trenches. No finds or deposits of archaeological interest were located in these trenches.

Trench 72

This trench was 26m long and 0.3m deep, orientated east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology which consisted of clay with frequent stoney inclusions in places.

Trench 80

This trench was 23m long and 0.3m deep, orientated east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Ploughmarks were observed in most of the trench.

Trench 82

This trench was 24m long and 0.3m deep, orientated approximately east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Ploughmarks were observed in most of the trench.

Trench 86 (Figs 6, 11)

This trench was 15m long, 2m wide and 0.4m deep, orientated north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.35m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained a large irregular oval pit (47) which was 0.45m deep and at least 1.2m across containing a pale red sandy silt (150) with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal flecking. Pottery found in this feature dated to the 4th century AD. It is possible that this feature is another segment of feature 15 in trench 4.

Trench 87 (Fig. 6)

This trench was 25.5m long, 2m wide and 0.4m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained possibly two ditch termini, 49 and 100, which were recorded in plan only, in addition to two other dubious features believed to be of natural origin.

Trench 89 (Fig. 6)

This trench was 27m long, 2m wide and 0.3m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. This trench contained two pits, 101 and 102 and a spread or ditch, 109 which contained pottery in its surface layer. These possible features were only recorded in plan.

Trench 90 (Fig. 6)

This trench was 25m long, 2m wide and 0.4m deep, orientated east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above clay natural geology. A single gully terminal, 103, was found in this trench and was recorded in plan only.

Trench 92 (Figs 7, 10)

This trench was 25.6m long, 2m wide and 0.4m deep, orientated NE–SW. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of topsoil above the natural geology which consisted of brownish red clay with moderate stoney inclusions. This trench contained a ditch, 104 and two spreads/irregular pits, 105 and 44. These features were only recorded in plan at this stage.

Trench 93 (Figs 7, 10)

This trench was 25m long, 2m wide and 0.4m deep, orientated approximately east–west. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.4m of topsoil above clay natural geology. Three features were revealed in this trench; a ditch, 106, which may be a continuation of ditch 28 from Trench 14, a dubious posthole, 107, and two pits, 42 and 108. Pit 42 was 1.02m in diameter and 0.22m deep, containing a grey silty clay (97) with occasional small stones and charcoal flecking. Two fragments of Roman pottery were found in this feature, dating it to the 4th century. The other features were recorded in plan only.

Trench 95 (Figs 7, 10)

This trench was 35m long, 2m wide and 0.3m deep, orientated NW–SE. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above silty clay natural geology. A single posthole, 41, was found which was 0.28m in diameter and 0.08m deep, containing a dark grey silty clay with occasional stones and charcoal flecking.

Trench 96 (Figs 7, 10)

This trench was 15m long, 2m wide and 0.3m deep, orientated approximately north–south. The stratigraphy encountered consisted of 0.3m of topsoil above the natural geology which consisted of brownish red clay with occasional stoney inclusions. Pit 43 was 0.7m in diameter and 0.1m deep and contained a grey silty clay (95) with very frequent charcoal fragments.

Finds

Pottery by Alan Vince

A small collection of pottery was recovered (Appendix 3). The majority probably dates to the late Roman period.

Fabrics

A total of 52 sherds of Roman pottery was recorded, along with a single sherd of late 18th century or later date.

All the Roman sherds were similar in condition and apparent date and probably represent a relatively short-lived occupation in the 4th century.

Greyware (GREY) Sherds of greyware were the most common type present. All have a very similar appearance both in the hand and under x20 magnification. The fabric contains moderate to abundant well-rounded matt-surfaced quartz grains, ultimately of Permo-Triassic origin but quite possibly obtained from Quaternary cover sands. All the sherds probably come from wheelthrown jars. No rims, decorated sherds or sherds with traces of use or surface treatment were present. On their own these sherds are not closely datable but given the late date of the associated finewares a 4th century date is likely.

Mancetter-Hartshill *Mortaria* (MOMH) A single fragment of a red-painted Mancetter-Hartshill *mortarium* was recorded. Unlike most of the collection it is in fresh condition, despite having a rivet hole in the body.

Nene Valley Colour-coated ware (NVCC) Sherds of several Nene Valley colour-coated vessels were present. These include at least two dishes and one beaker. No decorated pieces were present but the thickness of the sherds suggests a late date (i.e. 4th century).

Oxfordshire Colour-Coated Ware and *Mortaria* (OXCC and MOOXR). Sherds of an Oxfordshire colour-coated bowl with a bead rim (Young 1977, C81) and an Oxfordshire flanged redware *mortarium* (MOOXR; Young 1977, C100) were recorded.

Oxidized wares (OXID) Sherds of several fine oxidized vessels were recorded. Where large sherds were present they were mainly identifiable as Severn Valley ware types (SVW), including wide-mouthed bowls, a small jar and tankards. Some of the sherds, however, appear to have a less silty, micaceous groundmass and are likely to come from another source. Without large fragments, and especially rims, it is not possible to classify these types.

Miscellaneous Whitewares (WW) A single abraded rim from a small flagon or jug was found. It cannot be attributed to a source but appears to be more powdery in fabric than the other whitewares (Mancetter-Hartshill and Nene Valley).

Early Modern (SUND) A single body sherd of a black-glazed vessel appears to have the fine, homogenous, calcareous fabric of Sunderland Coarseware, produced in the Wear valley in the late 18th and 19th centuries

All of the datable Roman pottery is likely to be of 4th century date and this suggests that the entire collection is late, since these types occur in the majority of the deposits. The pottery is by and large quite heavily abraded but this is likely to be due to soil conditions rather than mechanical abrasion, since the sherds are mainly relatively large. The range of sources represented in the collection is not unusual for the 4th century although the lack of shell-tempered pottery indicates that the local grey sandy ware and Severn Valley ware industries were sufficiently active to offer competition to the south-east Midlands shelly wares, which by the 4th century were supplying much of the lower Severn Valley and are found in Wales.

By the 4th century most of the imported types found in earlier Roman assemblages were no longer being imported but the absence of North African *amphorae* might be significant. Certainly, however, the inhabitants of the Stafford Castle site were able to obtain finewares from other parts of Britain and were therefore integrated into the wider Roman economy.

The single sherd of late 18th or 19th century date is remarkable because of its likely north-eastern English source, despite the proximity of Stafford to The Potteries, where similar blackwares were produced.

Brick and Tile

Two fragments of tile weighing 14g were recovered from 4th-century pit 25 (77) in Trench 5. The fragments were too small to be identified but there is no reason to suppose they are not Roman.

Charred plant remains by Joanna Pine

Environmental samples were taken from 19 deposits and wet sieved through 25 micron mesh. No remains other than wood charcoal were present in most samples, sometimes in large quantities. No detailed analysis has been undertaken, though it all appears to be oak (*Quercus*) and/or alder (*Alnus*), typical fuel woods in all periods.

Conclusion

Based on the results of this evaluation, the majority of the site has no archaeological potential. The trenching exercise has, however, confirmed the presence of an area of archaeological potential in the north-western corner of the proposed golf course, covering around 2.5 ha, corresponding with Trenches 2–15 and 86–96 (Fig. 12). It is considered that this area contains an occupation site of Roman date. Where closely datable, pottery from this area is all certainly or probably of late Roman (4th century) date, although many of the sherds could be of any date within the Roman period. The previous finds of 2nd- to 4th-century pottery from fieldwalking from this vicinity may suggest a longer period of activity close by, but this could just as easily be the vagaries of a ceramic chronology based on long-lived wares. The spread of Roman features (pits, ditches and gullies, occasional post holes) would appear to be confined within the boundaries of the existing field in the north-western corner.

The two trenches that were widened (Trenches 22 and 62 to the north of the castle) could both indicate further areas of archaeological interest, although of considerably lesser extent than that in the north-western corner. Unfortunately none of the features in either of these trenches provided any datable finds. The features in Trench 22 may indicate a specific localized activity rather than a wider area/landscape of features. Trench 62 revealed features potentially indicative of enclosures or a field system, probably extending northwards out of the proposal area.

Most of the anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey, that were subsequently revealed in the trenches, proved to be of natural or ambiguous origin. The area of greatest concentration of archaeological features was in and around geophysical area 1 in the north-west corner of the site, where the magnetic susceptibility was low (or even blank). Although magnetometry did suggest some possible pits, but only one linear feature, the trenching revealed many more features. Features identified in Trenches 10 and 14 bore no resemblance to those predicted.

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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at South or West end

Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
1	28.5	1.8	0.46	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ dark brownish red clay (Natural geology) Two natural features.
2	29.5	1.8	0.40	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology. Ditch 23. Pit 3, Gully 4, probably natural.
3	25.5	1.8	0.5	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30-0.45m Subsoil; 0.45m+ natural geology. Ditch 48, two natural features.
4	25.8	1.8	0.35	0-0.28m Topsoil; 0.28m+ natural geology. Pit 15. [Plates 1 and 2]
5	24.5	1.8	0.35	0-0.28m Topsoil; 0.28m+ natural geology. Pit 19, 20, 21, Posthole 22. [Plates 3 and 4]
6	26.5	1.8	0.55	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30-0.45m Subsoil; 0.45m+ natural geology. Natural feature.
7	26.5	1.8	0.45	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology. Ditch 31, Scoop 30, Gully terminal 29.
8	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology with stoney inclusions. Posthole 16, Pit/Posthole 17.
9	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30 Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Pit 6, terminal 5, possibly natural.
10	28.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with stoney inclusions. Ditch 18.
11	32.5	1.8	0.45	0-0.45m Topsoil; 0.45m+ natural geology. Posthole 27.
12	27.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology. Possible gully (natural?).
13	30.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.28m Topsoil; 0.28m+ natural geology. Pit 24. [Plates 5 and 6]
14	25.1	1.8	0.30	0-0.27m Topsoil; 0.27m+ natural geology. Gully 14, Gully 28.
15	30.9	1.8	0.35	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology. Pit 26.
16	25.3	1.8	0.35	0-0.28m Topsoil; 0.28m+ natural geology. Gully terminal 7 (natural?).
17	29.2	1.8	0.35	0-0.27m Topsoil; 0.27m+ natural geology.
18		1.8	0.50	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30-0.45m Subsoil; 0.45m+ natural geology with moderate gravel inclusions. Modern postholes 32, 33.
19	25.5	24.8	1.8	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions. Gully 34, probably modern.
20	25.0	1.8	0.45	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology with frequent gravel inclusions. Modern ditch, natural feature.
21	24.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with gravel inclusions. Natural feature.
22	27.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with gravel inclusions. Pit 35, Gully 36, terminal 37, Pit 45, Pit 46.
23	27.0	1.8	0.25	0-0.20m Topsoil; 0.20m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions. Disturbed.
24	24.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions. Natural feature.
25	25.0	1.8	0.25	0-0.20m Topsoil; 0.20m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
26	26.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
27	22.5	1.8	0.45	0-0.32m Topsoil; 0.32-0.42m Subsoil; 0.42m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions. Natural feature.
28	24.0	1.8	0.55	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30-0.50m Subsoil; 0.50m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions. Natural feature.
29	24.5	1.8	0.45	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
30	25.0	1.8	0.25	0-0.20m Topsoil; 0.20m+ dark brownish red clayey gravels.
31	26.0	1.8	0.55	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30-0.50m Subsoil; 0.50m+ mid brownish red clayey gravels.
32	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
33	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
34	29.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
35	24.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
36	25.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
37	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravel inclusions.
38	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Natural feature.
39	23.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology.
40	25.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
41	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
42	22.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology.
43	28.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology. Natural feature.
44	19.8	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology.
45	30.3	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
46	26.2	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
47	26.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ pale grey/cream silty clay. Natural feature.
48	29.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Modern ruts.
49	27.7	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
50	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravels. Natural feature.
51	26.0	1.8	0.45	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology with moderate gravels. Natural features.
52	2.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Flooded.
53	25.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology with moderate gravels. Gully 13.
54	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay. Modern truncation.
55	26.5	1.8	0.35	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay.
56	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches. Modern feature.
57	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches.

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
58	27.0	1.8	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches. Ditch? 12, perhaps natural.
59	26.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches.
60	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay.
61	26.5	1.8	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches. Natural feature.
62	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with intermittent gravel patches. Pit 38, Ditch 39, Ditch 40.
63	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional gravels.
64	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches.
65	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay with occasional gravel patches. Natural feature.
66	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Three natural features.
67	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Modern ditch. Ploughmarks.
68	24.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Modern feature. Ploughmarks.
69	28.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with gravel inclusions.
70	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.25m Topsoil; 0.25m+ natural geology. Ploughmarks.
71	28.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Ploughmarks.
72	26.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with frequent stone inclusions.
73	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
74	25.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Natural feature.
75	28.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
76	44.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Natural feature.
77	25.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
78	26.0	1.8	0.35	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
79	35.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
80	23.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Ploughmarks.
81	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Ploughmarks.
82	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Ploughmarks.
83	28.5	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay
84	28.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ mottled dark brownish red/pale cream grey clay
85	24.0	1.8	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology.
86	15.0	2.0	0.40	0-0.35m Topsoil; 0.35m+ natural geology. Pit 47.
87	25.5	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology. Gully terminals 49, 100
88	15.5	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology.
89	27.0	2.0	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Pit 101, 102, spread 106.
90	25.0	2.0	0.40	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Gully terminal 103.
91	10.0	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology.
92	25.6	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology with moderate stoney inclusions. Ditch 104, Pit 44, 105.
93	25.0	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology. Linear 106, Posthole 107, Pit 42, 108.
94	10.0	2.0	0.40	0-0.40m Topsoil; 0.40m+ natural geology with moderate stoney inclusions.
95	35.0	2.0	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology. Posthole 41.
96	15.0	2.0	0.30	0-0.30m Topsoil; 0.30m+ natural geology with occasional stoney inclusions. Pit 43.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

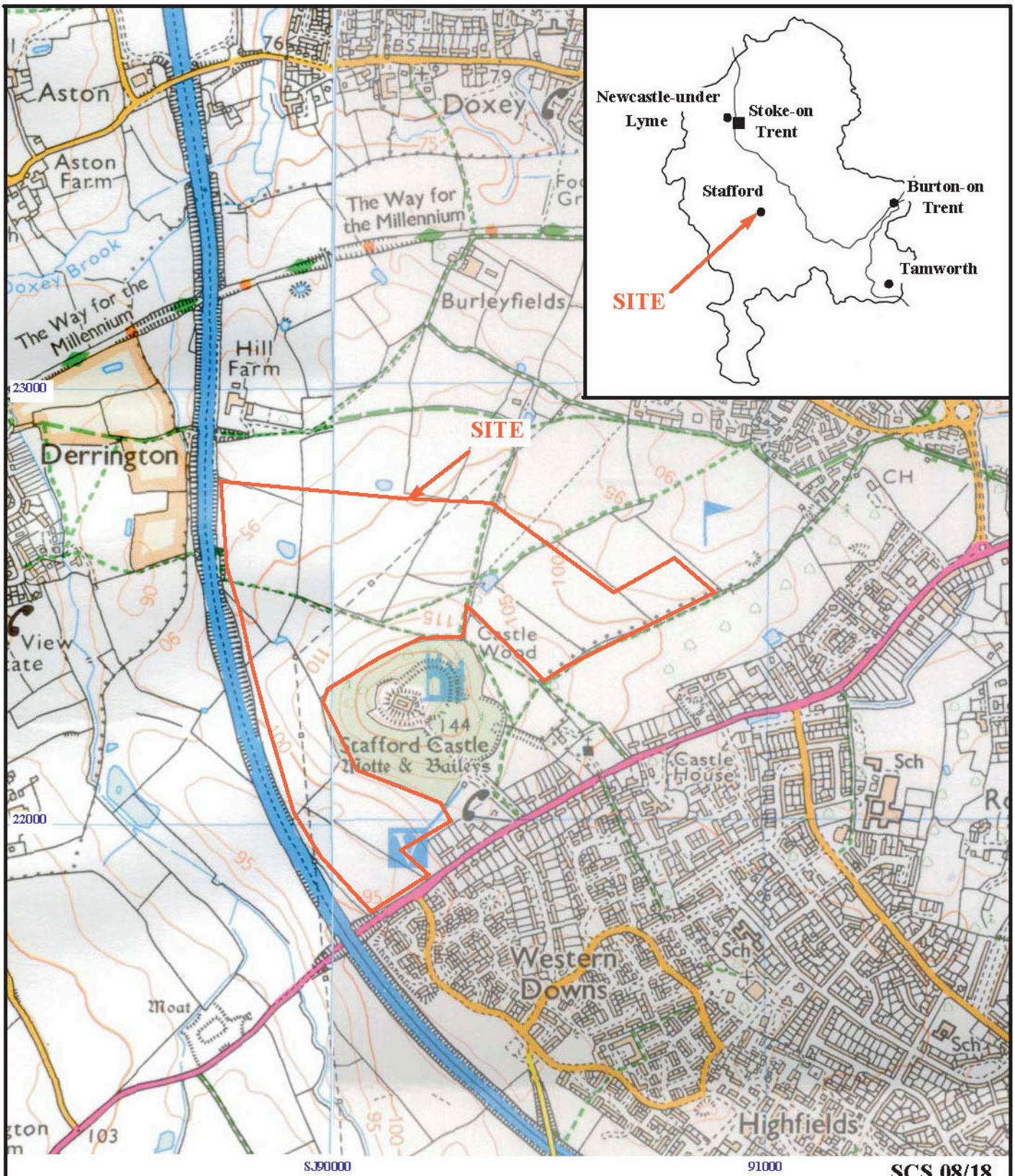
Trench	Cut	Fill (s)	Type	Date	Dating evidence
3	1	51	Natural feature		
3	2	52	Natural feature		
2	3	53	Natural feature		
2	4	54	Natural feature		
9	5	55	Natural feature		
9	6	56	Pit		
16	7	57	Natural feature		
48	8	58	Rut	modern	
48	9	59	Rut	modern	
48	10	60	Rut	modern	
48	11	61	Rut	modern	
58	12	62	Natural feature		
53	13	63	Ditch		
14	14	64	Gully		
4	15	65	Pit	Roman 4th century AD	Pottery
8	16	66	Posthole		
8	17	67	Pit		
10	18	68	Ditch		
5	19	69	Pit	Roman	Pottery
5	20	70	Pit		
5	21	71	Pit		
5	22	72	Posthole		
2	23	73	Ditch		
13	24	74, 75, 75	Hearth?		
5	25	77, 78	Pit	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
15	26	92	Pit	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
11	27	79	Posthole		
14	28	80	Ditch	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
7	29	81	Gully terminal		
7	30	82	Scoop	Roman 4th century AD	
7	31	83	Ditch	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
18	32	84	Posthole	modern	stratigraphy
18	33	85	Posthole	modern	stratigraphy
19	34	86	Ditch	modern?	
22	35	87, 88	Pit		
22	36	89	Ditch		
22	37	90, 91	Ditch (or ? natural feature)		
62	38	93	Pit		
62	39	94	Ditch		
62	40	98	Gully		
95	41	96	Posthole		
93	42	97	Pit	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
96	43	95	Pit		
92	44	154, 155	Pit		
22	45	151	Pit		
22	46	99	Pit		
86	47	150	Pit	Roman 4th century AD	pottery
3	48	152, 153	Ditch		
87	49	156	Possible ditch terminal		
87	100	157	Possible ditch terminal		
89	101	158	Pit		
89	102	159	Pit		
90	103	161	Gully terminal		
92	104	162	Ditch		
92	105	163	Pit/Spread		
93	106	164	Ditch		
93	107	165	Posthole?		
93	108	166	Pit		
89	109	160	Spread or ditch	Roman 4th century AD	Pottery

APPENDIX 3A: Pottery Catalogue

Trench	Cut	Deposit surface	GREY	MOMH	NVCC	OXCC	OXCC?	OXID	WW	SUND	Total
89								2			2
48	11	61								1	1
4	15	65		1	5						6
5	19	69	16					8	1		25
5	25	77					1				1
15	26	92	1		1	2	1	5			10
14	28	80				3					3
7	31	83			1						1
93	42	97			2						2
86	47	150				1		1			2

APPENDIX 3B: Summary by fabric:

Code	Sherds	Weight (g)
GREY	17	117
MOMH	1	60
NVCC	9	81
OXCC	7	36
OXCC?	1	6
OXID	16	154
WW	1	1
SUND	1	2
Total	53	457



SJ0000

91000

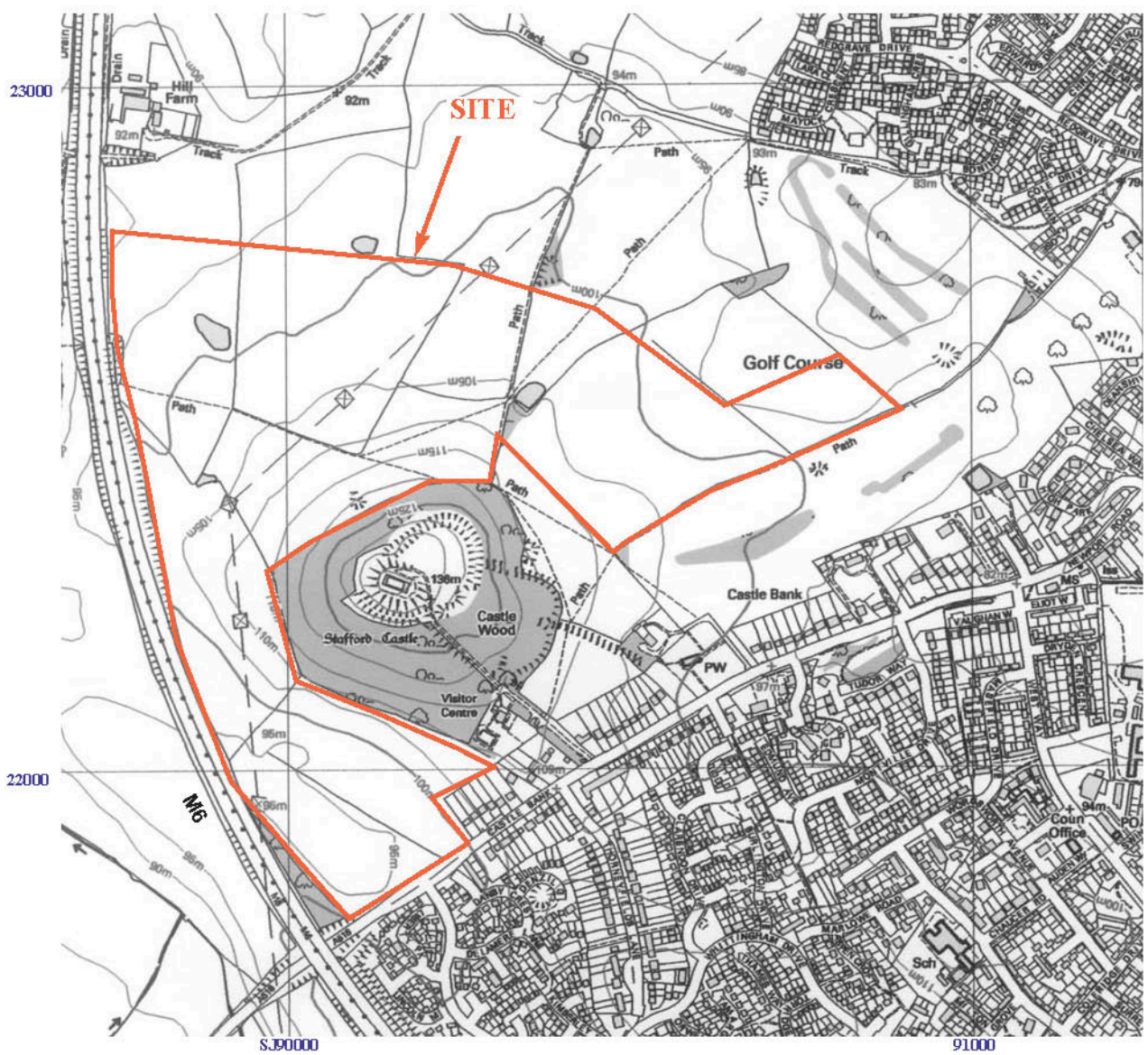
SCS 08/18

**Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road,
Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Stafford and Staffordshire.

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T H A M E S V A L L E Y
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 S E R V I C E S



SCS 08/18

**Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road,
Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008
Archaeological Evaluation**

Figure 2. Detailed location of site around Stafford Castle.

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

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

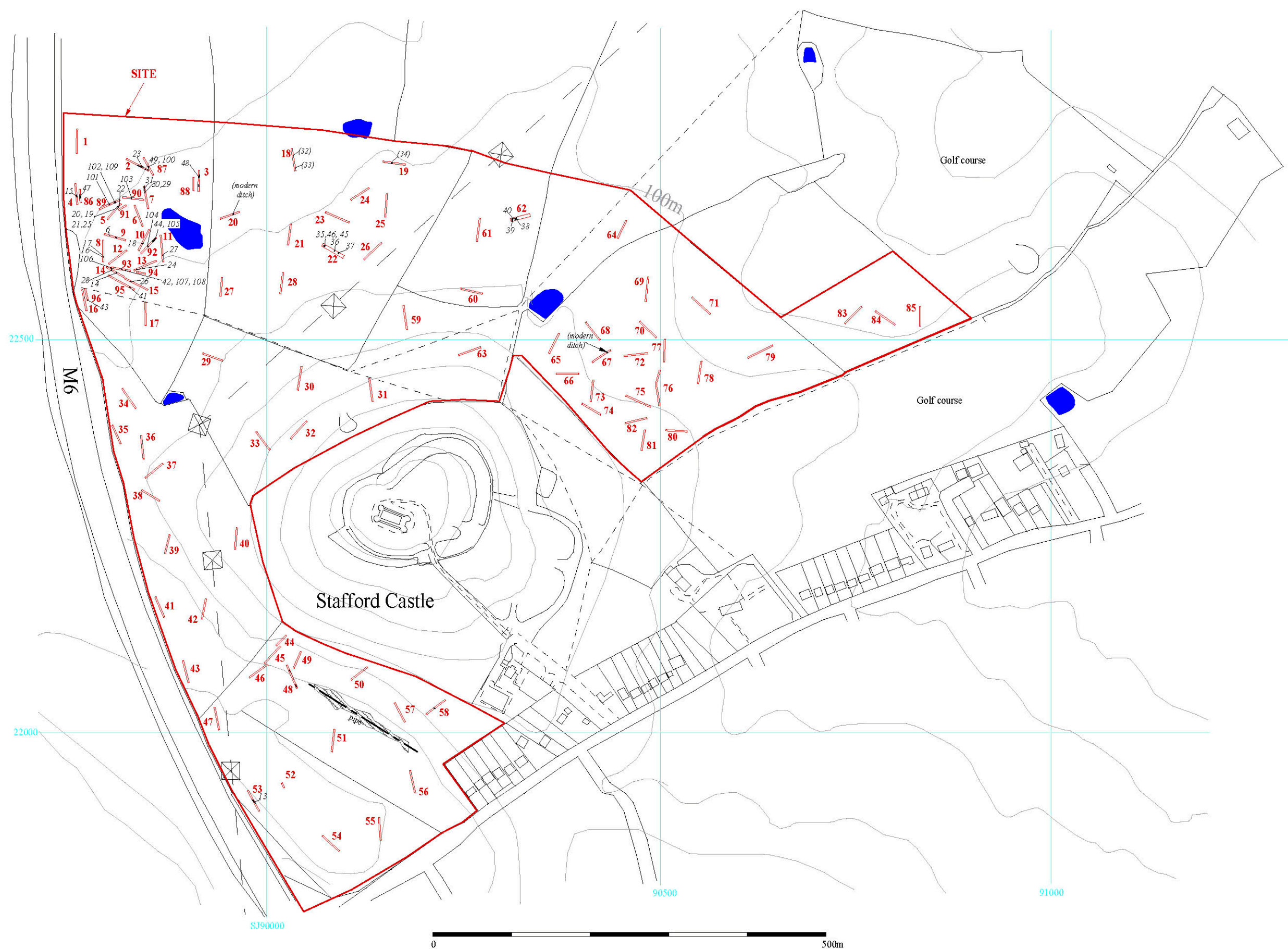
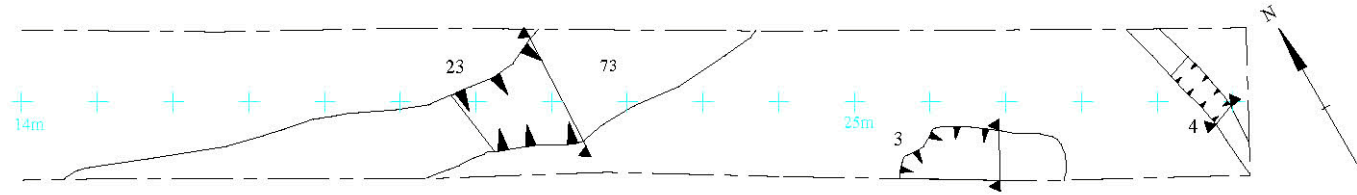


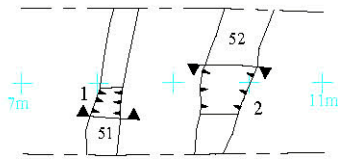
Figure 3. Plan of trenches. (Trench numbers red, feature numbers black, modern features in parentheses, natural features not numbered.)

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

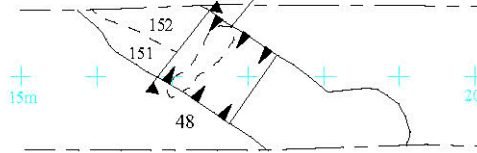
Trench 2



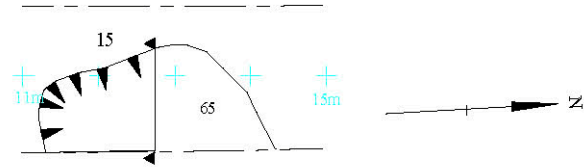
Trench 3



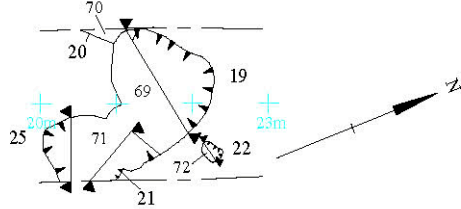
animal disturbance



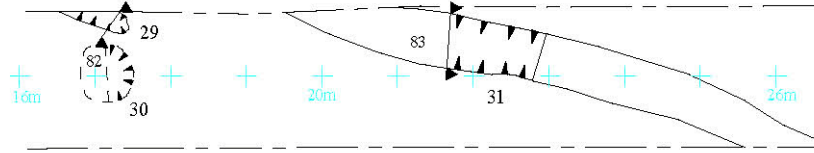
Trench 4



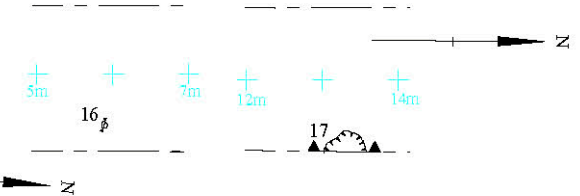
Trench 5



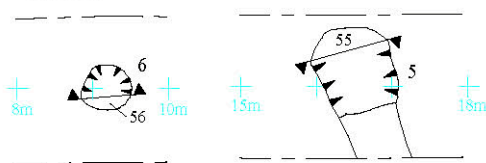
Trench 7



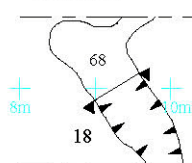
Trench 8



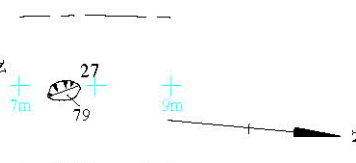
Trench 9



Trench 10



Trench 11



Trench 13

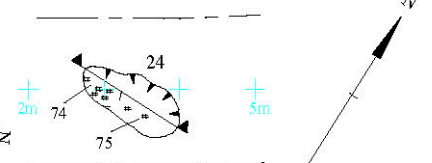


Figure 4. Detail of trenches.

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

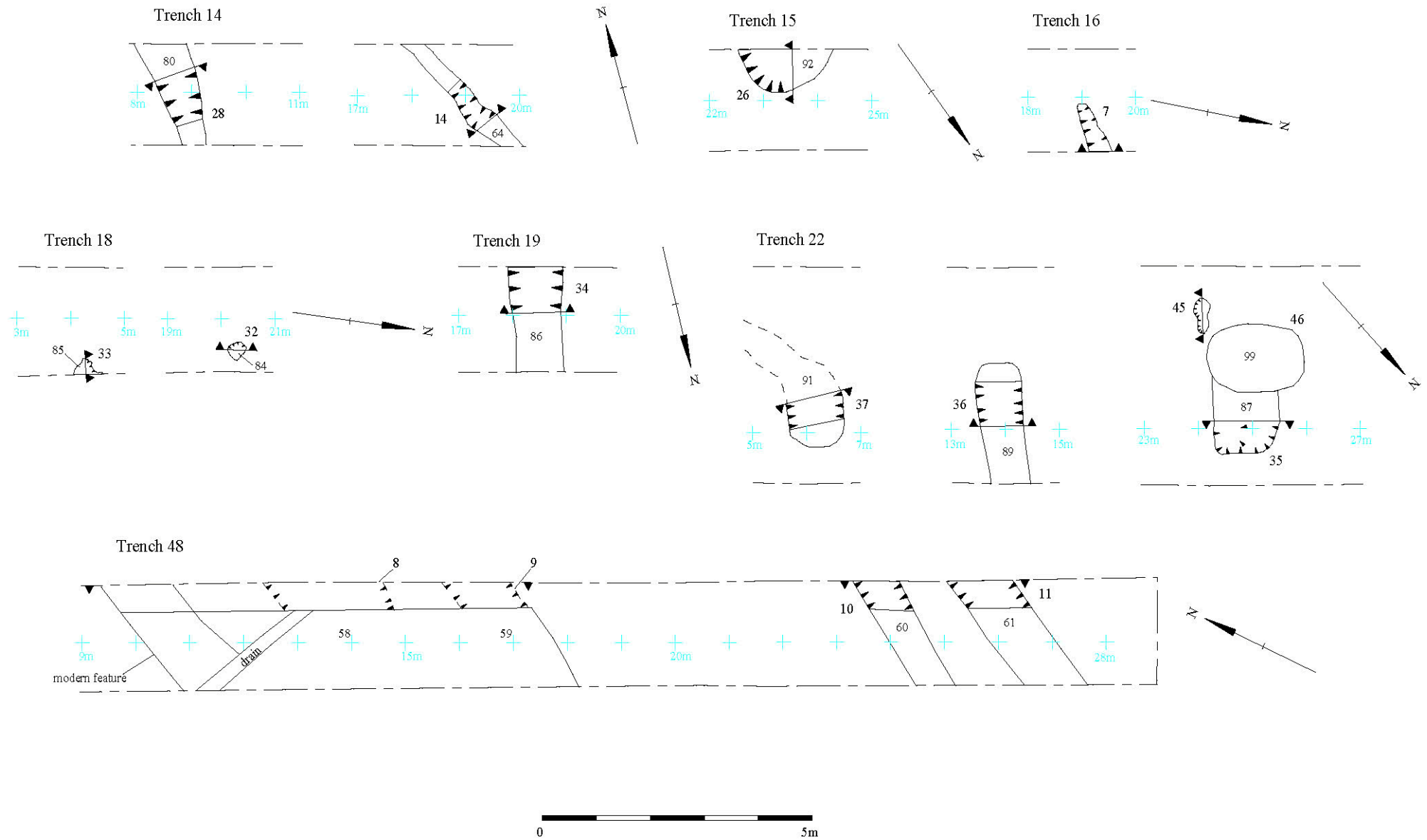


Figure 5. Detail of trenches.

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

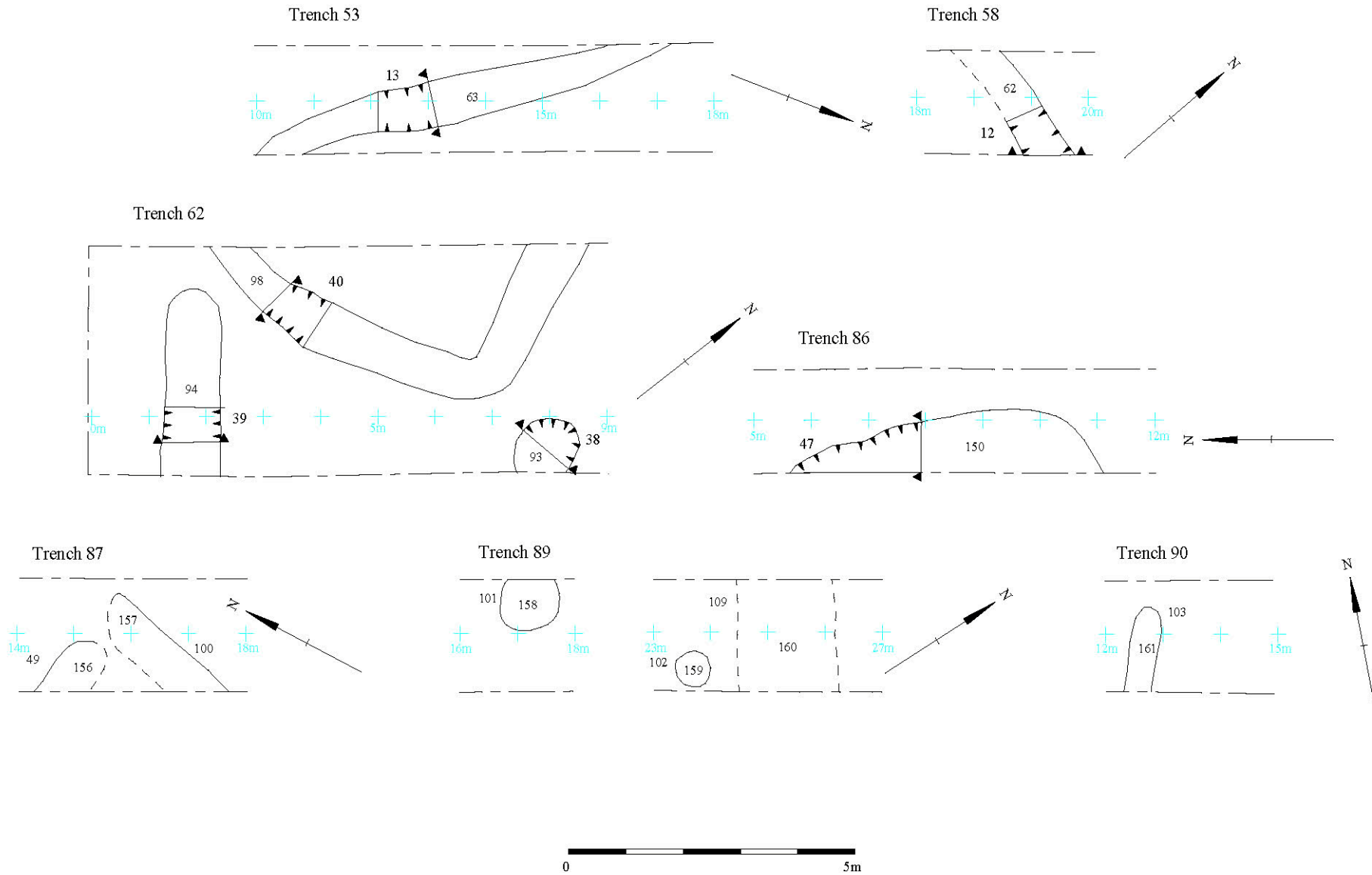


Figure 6. Detail of trenches.

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

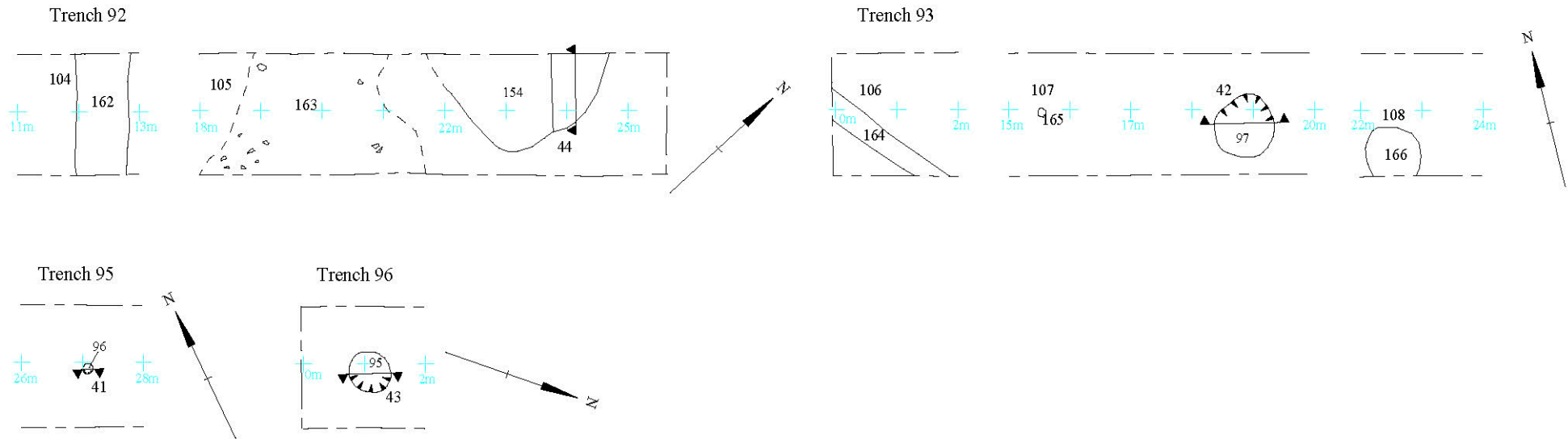


Figure 7. Detail of trenches.

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

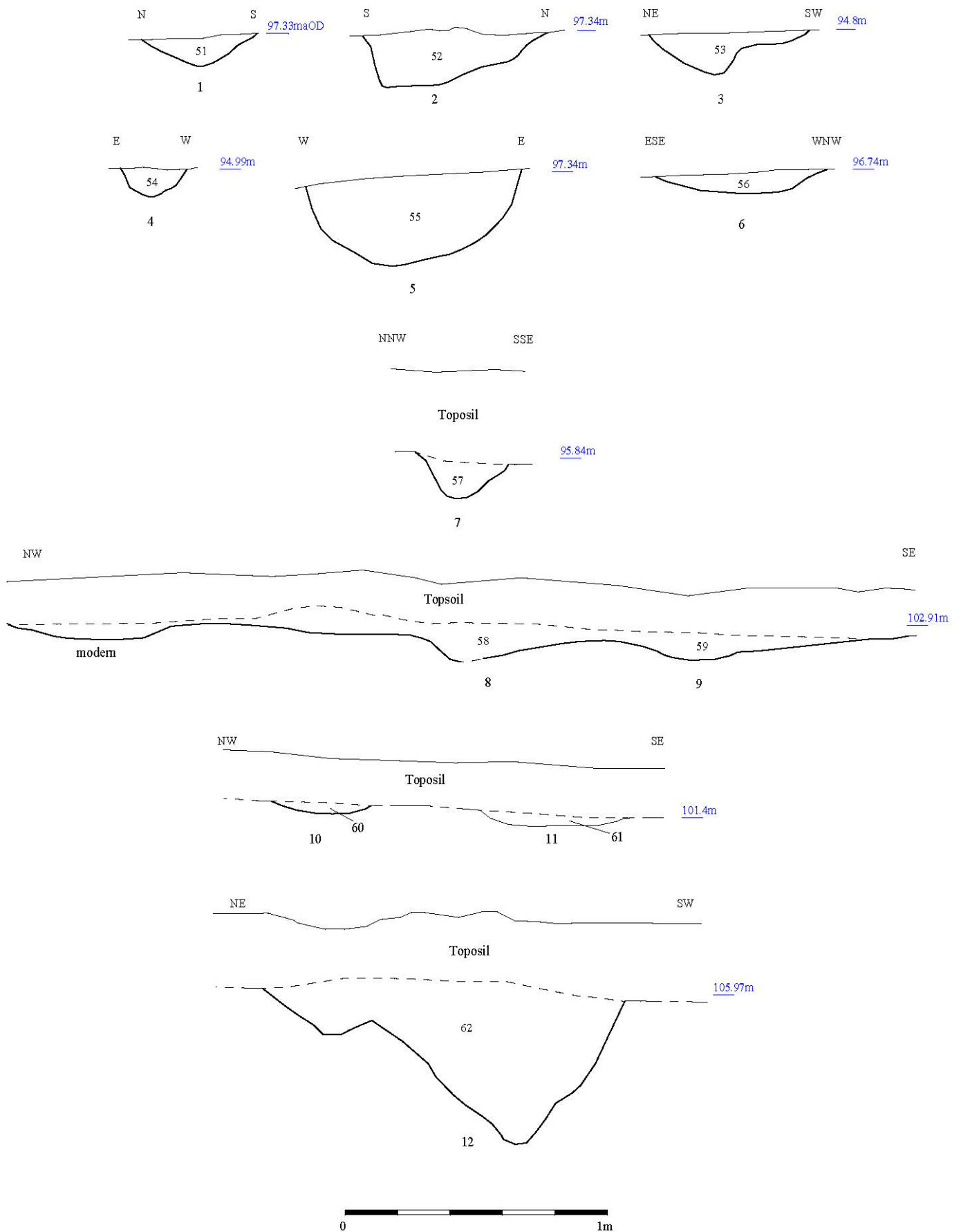


Figure 8. Sections.

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

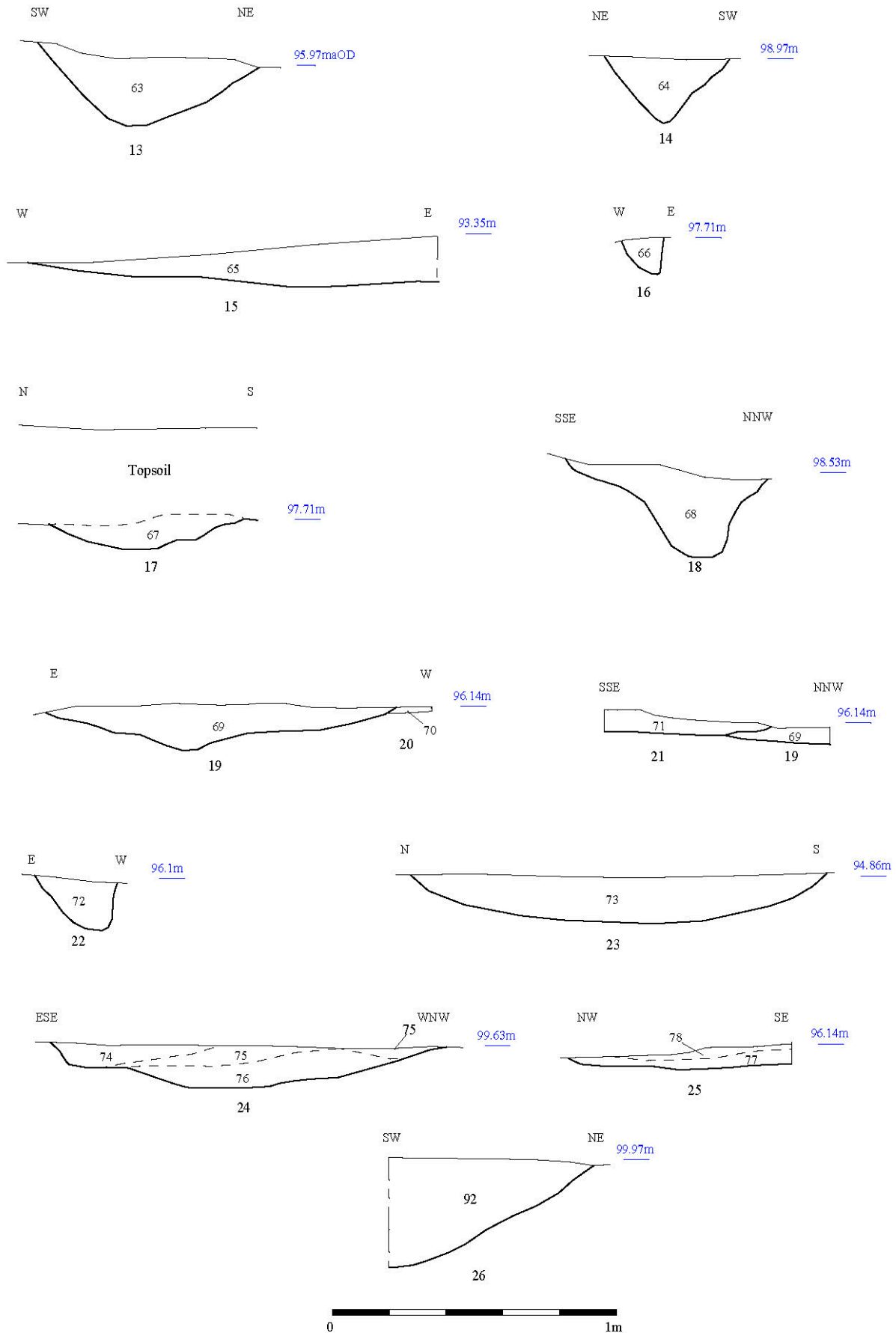


Figure 9. Sections (continued).

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

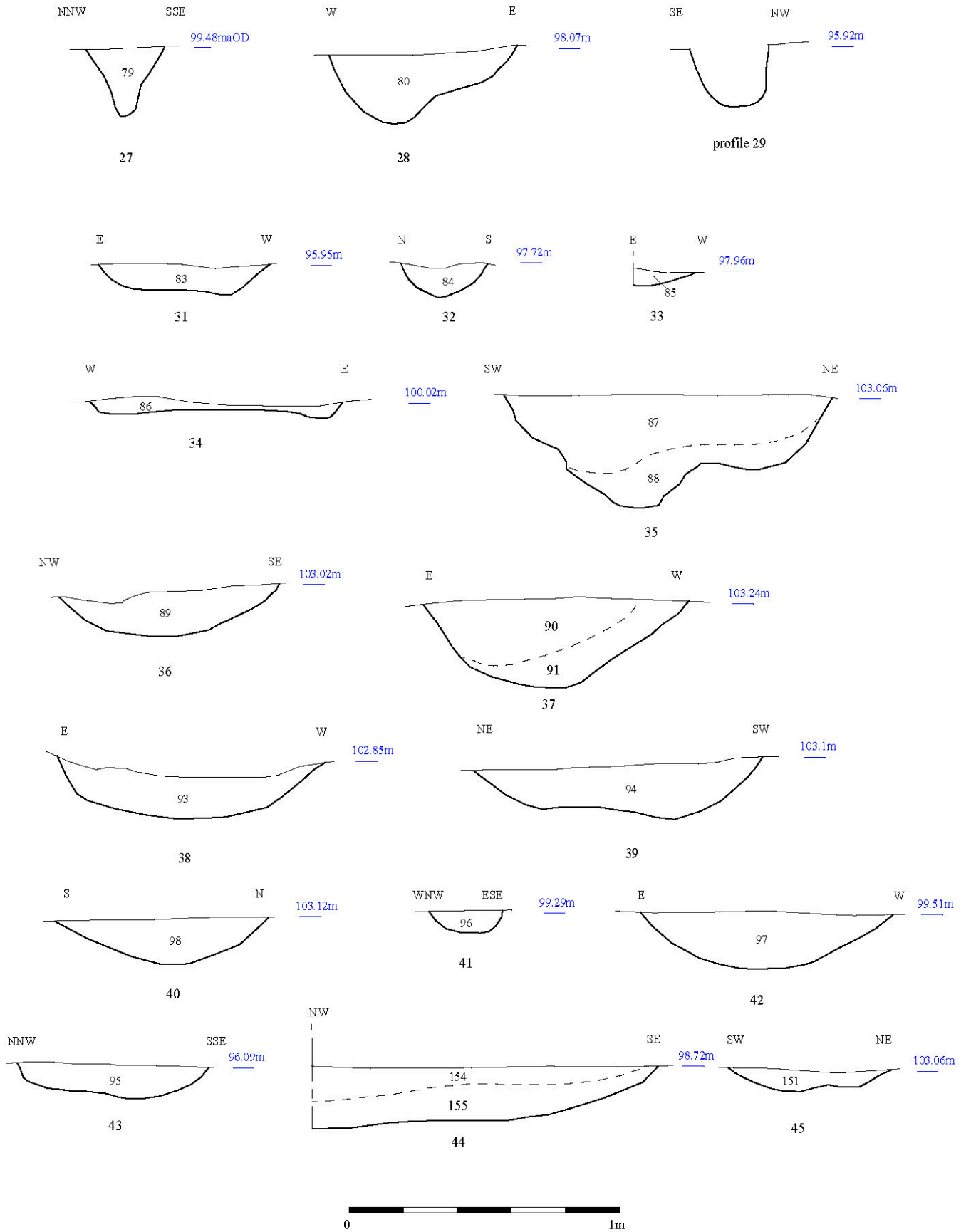


Figure 10. Sections (continued).

Stafford Castle Golf Course, Newport Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, 2008

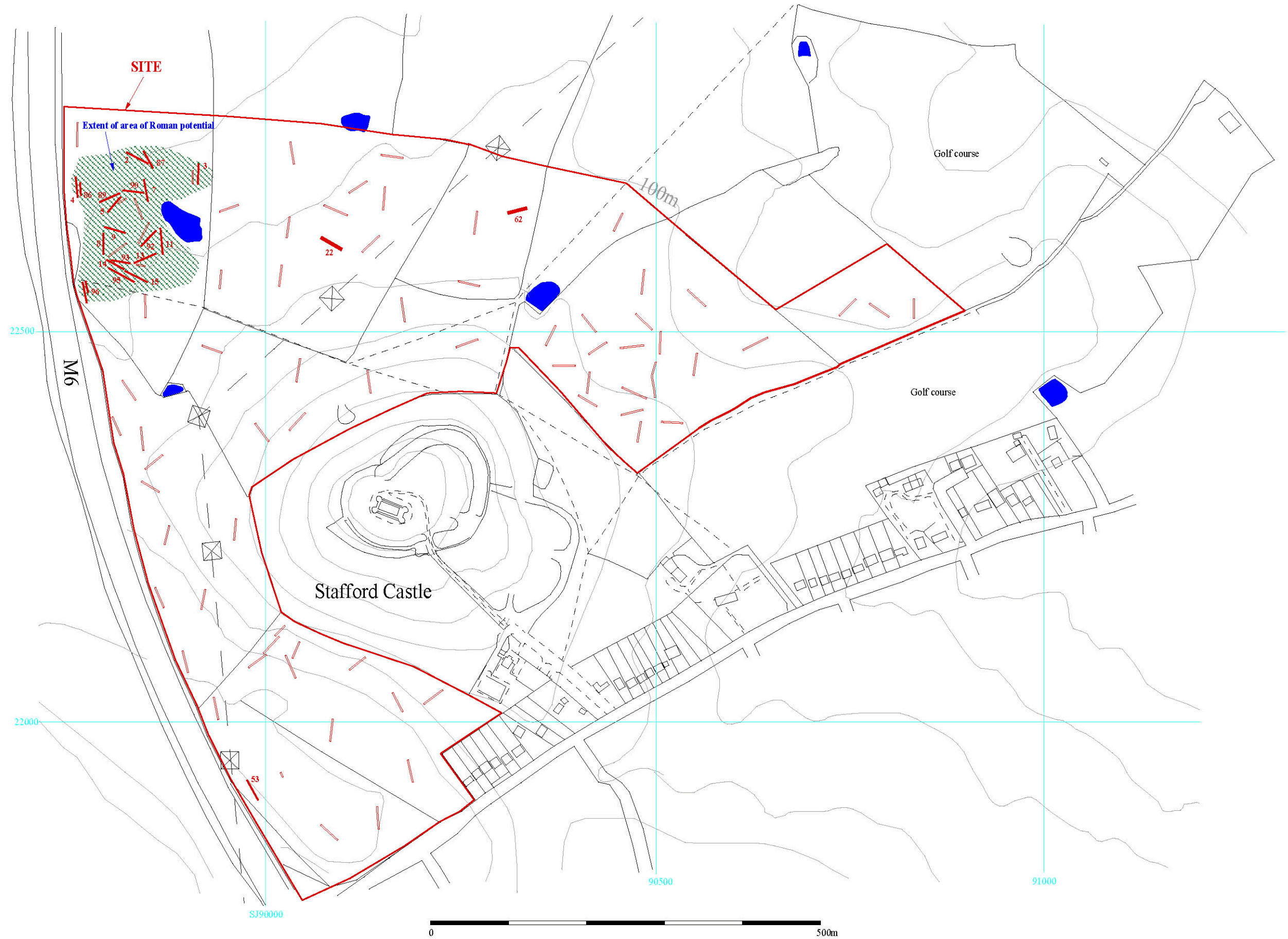


Figure 12. Areas of archaeological potential. (All trenches containing features filled solid.)



Plate 1. Pit 15, Trench 4 looking north, horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.1m.



Plate 2. Trench 4 looking north, horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.5m.



Plate 3. Pit 19 and 20, Trench 5 looking south, horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.1m.



Plate 4. Trench 5 looking north east, horizontal scale 2m, vertical scale 0.5m.

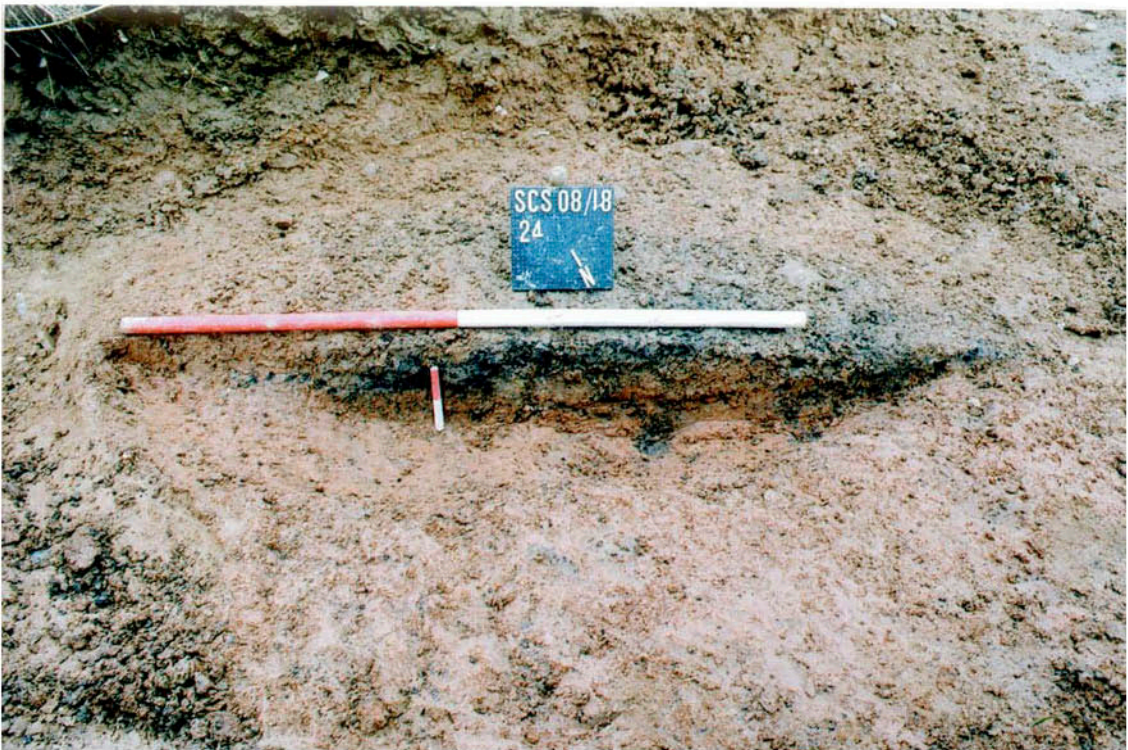


Plate 5. Hearth(?) 24, Trench 13 looking south west, horizontal scale 1m, vertical scale 0.1m.



Plate 6. Trench 13 looking north east, horizontal scales 2m and 1m.