

Archaeological Evaluation Report

TALL TREES MALPAS

For Stewart Milne Homes

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L~P:ARCHÆOLOGY

Archaeological Evaluation Report

TALL TREES MALPAS

Client: Stewart Milne Homes

Local Authority: Cheshire West and Chester Council

NGR: 348440,347492

Planning App: 12/05430/OUT

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Abstract

This report describes the results of the non intrusive survey and archaeological evaluation carried out at the site of Tall Trees, Malpas, Cheshire. The work was implemented as part of planning permission to ascertain the potential for archaeological remains on the site. The site work was carried out by L – P : Archaeology in January 2015. This report has been prepared by Rachael Matthews of L – P : Archaeology on behalf of Stewart Milne Homes.

Research shows that the site lies to north of the historic core of Malpas in an area characterised by Medieval townfields in the Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Survey. It is thought that the original layout has been retained in the current landscape, with an historic routeway running north south across part of the site.

Fieldwalking and a topographic survey showed no upstanding earthworks or features in the landscape that were not natural in origin. The metal detecting survey revealed a typical late Post Medieval to Modern domestic/agricultural waste assemblage associated with nearby farms. Of note a total of seven Medieval metal finds were recovered from the site during the metal detecting survey, all identified as stray finds within the topsoil.

The evaluation exposed two Post Medieval field boundaries and a Post Medieval linear feature. The field boundaries had filled up with make up from the surrounding field. The ditch was filled with a series of modern fills which had been heavily truncated by the pathway cutting northwest-southeast through the site.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This document discusses the results of the fieldwalking, topographic survey, metal detecting survey and archaeological evaluation of the proposed development of Tall Trees and West End Poultry Farm, Tilston Road, Malpas, SY14 7DA (FIGURE 1). The site is located at grid reference NGR (SJ) 348440,347492.
- 1.2. The site was granted planning permission 12/05430/OUT for the development of 60 new residential dwellings and the demolition of the extant standing structures on the site. The above works were required as part of planning consent and were carried out in advance of groundworks. An archaeological watching brief will be carried out during the main groundworks and will be addressed in a separate report.
- 1.3. The fieldwalking and topographic survey was carried out by Blair Poole and Heidi Archer of L – P : Archaeology. The metal detecting survey was monitored by James Cook of L – P : Archaeology and carried out by Colin Sherratt and members of the local metal detecting club. All metal detectorists signed a waiver form assigning all finds to the local museum service.
- 1.4. The archaeological evaluation element was carried out by Christopher Matthews and Rachael Matthews of L – P : Archaeology on 12th January 2015. This report was written by Rachael Matthews of L - P : Archaeology on behalf of Stewart Milne Homes.
- 1.5. The site code allocated by L - P : Archaeology is MAL/TT14.
- 1.6. The work was carried out in accordance with an agreed written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by Blair Poole of L – P : Archaeology (POOLE 2014). The work was carried out in accordance with Cheshire County Council's revised General Conditions for Archaeological Contractors and Consultants (CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 2003) in conjunction with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation (CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS 2014).

2. Site Information

2.1.PLANNING

- 2.1.1. Planning consent has been granted for the construction of 60 new residential dwellings on the site of Tall Trees and West End Poultry Farm, Tilston Road, Malpas. The planning application reference is 12/05430/OUT.
- 2.1.2. Tall Trees and West End Poultry Farm is in the historic core of Malpas, to the immediate north of the Malpas Conservation Area and Malpas Area of Archaeological Importance. A Scheduled Monument, Castle Hill Motte (1012105), a Norman motte and bailey castle, lies 150m to the south of the site and several listed buildings dating from the 19th century lie to the south of the site. Watling Street, a main Roman road, runs in a north south alignment approximately 100m to the east of the site.
- 2.1.3. In March 2012 the Department for Communities and Local Government issued the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG 2012). This document sets out planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment and replaces all previous Planning Policy Guidance, specifically PPS5. Section 12 of this document sets out planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment.
- 2.1.4. The NPPF indicates planning decisions should be made based on the significance of Heritage Assets. These are defined as buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions.
- 2.1.5. In considering any planning application for development the Local Planning Authority is Cheshire West and Chester Council, who take advice from the Cheshire Archaeological Planning Advisory Service (CAPAS). Cheshire West and Chester abide by the policies laid out in the Chester District Local Plan, in this case policy ENV 32 and ENV 34.
- 2.1.6. Julie Edwards of CAPAS has made a detailed comment on the application, which states:

The proposed development impacts on both the archaeological and historic landscape significance as

follows:

1. The proposed area of development consists of fields which the historic mapping and aerial photographs indicate have been subject to only limited development in the later post-medieval period. There is therefore potential for undisturbed archaeological evidence, relating to the early settlement of Malpas, to survive on the site as below ground remains and deposits which will be disturbed and destroyed by the proposed development.

2. There will be a direct impact on the historic landscape character. However the outline proposals retain the historic boundaries and routeway but it is not clear whether their historic character and nature will be protected.

2.1.1. Planning permission was granted for the site (12/05430/OUT) relating to the construction of 60 new dwellings. Condition 15 of the planning permission states:

No development shall take place within the area indicated on site location plan WEF 001 until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme has been secured by the applicant, or their agents or successors in title and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

2.1.2. CAPAS have agreed the methodology for these works in the WSI .

2.2.GEOLOGY

2.2.1. The site lies along the Mid Cheshire Ridge, a formation of Triassic sandstone bedrock with undifferentiated mudstones and siltstones.

2.2.2. The area is known for its glacial geology with glacial meltwaters responsible for the formation of much of the current landscape (LEAH ET AL. 1997). The underlying drift geology is a combination of glacial clay and glacial sand and gravel, which overlies the natural bedrock of Malpas Sandstone (BUREK 2005).

2.3.TOPOGRAPHY

2.3.1. The area is situated on a high ridge overlooking the Cheshire plain, Shropshire and North Wales, 24km to the south of Chester. The site lies to the north of the main village in an area of open agricultural fields, bounding the residential elements of the village to the south and west (FIGURE 2).

2.3.2. The site area gradually slopes from a low point at the south of 121mOD to 130mOD at the north, covering an area 9.68 acres.

2.4.SITE CONDITIONS

2.4.1. Part of the site had sitting tenants and trench four lay over the current drive way of this property. There was an abandoned chicken shed to the east of the site, though this gave no hindrance to the archaeological investigations. There was a hedgerow running northwest-southeast through the middle of the site, which had to be removed in the areas of target trenches two and four.

2.5.METHODOLOGY

2.5.1. A written scheme of investigation was submitted by L – P : Archaeology containing a detailed methodology, and had been agreed in advance of works by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (POOLE 2014).

2.5.2. All excavation works were undertaken by an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologist. Examination and cleaning of all the archaeological deposits were carried out by hand using appropriate tools. All archaeological deposits were examined and recorded in section.

2.5.3. The intended methodology was adhered to at all times during the groundworks as there were no obstacles or constraints which impeded the implementation of the WSI. Therefore the methodological approach to addressing the aims and objectives was satisfactory and the highest confidence can be placed in the data recovered and the report.

2.6.AIMS

2.6.1. The general aims of the archaeological evaluation were to assess the character, date, type, state of preservation, and extent of any archaeological remains on site.

2.6.2. The methods of survey were undertaken in two phases:

2.6.3. A non-intrusive survey that included a topographic survey, field-walking and metal detecting.

2.6.4. The aims of the non-intrusive survey were to:

- ◆ Identify any extant earthworks within the site area,

- ◆ Define areas of archaeological interest through topography and/or finds spreads.

2.6.5. Target trenching was based on the results of the non-intrusive survey and of the historic field boundaries indicated on the Tithe Map as lying within the development, these are: the boundary dividing Tithe plots 306 and 307 and the northern boundary of 307; the historic hedgerow/boundary bordering the historic pathway at the points where it is to be breached.

2.6.6. The aims of the target trenching were to:

- ◆ Determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or features on the site and the need and extent of further investigation and reporting
- ◆ Establish the date, character, location, and condition of any below ground deposits or features,
- ◆ Recover palaeo-environmental samples of relevant deposits for assessment in order to better understand the environmental conditions at the time of deposition.

2.6.7. The objective of this report is to provide enough information for a suitable mitigation strategy to be devised.

3. Archaeology and History

- 3.1. This section is a summary historic background taken from a previous Desk Based Assessment carried out by L – P : Archaeology on the site (POOLE 2012). The study site falls at the northern extent of the historic core of Malpas, to the immediate north of the Malpas Conservation Area and Malpas Area of Archaeological Importance. The area is characterised as Medieval townfields in the Cheshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Survey and it is thought that the original layout has been retained in the current landscape, with an historic routeway running north south across part of the site.
- 3.2. A Scheduled Monument, Castle Hill Motte (1012105), a Norman motte and bailey castle, lies 150m to the south of the site and several listed buildings dating from the 19th century lie to the south of the site. Watling Street, a main Roman road, runs in a north south alignment approximately 100m to the east of the site.
- 3.3. A 13th century silver penny was found on the site, which forms part of a wider Medieval assemblage recovered from points across Malpas.
- 3.4. The 1836-41 Tithe Map for Malpas shows a small structure on the site, possibly a domestic dwelling in the east corner of the site. It was still on the site when the fieldwork was undertaken in 2015 and is currently used as a business premises.
- 3.5. An east west field boundary is shown on the 1836-41 Tithe Map, roughly half way down the site (FIGURE 3). This field boundary also appears on the 1875 Ordnance Survey (OS) map (FIGURE 4) and subsequent editions, until the 1973 OS map (FIGURE 5). It is thought that this is an early Post Medieval field boundary that went out of use in the late 20th century. However, due to the Medieval townfield system, which characterises the site, it is possible it is of an earlier date. As such it was investigated as part of this evaluation.
- 3.6. The 1954 Ordnance Survey Map for Cheshire (OS) shows that two more larger structures have been built on the site, one next to the original building and another to the west in the field of Tall Trees. By the 1973 OS, we can see the land has been repurposed as an *Egg Packing Station* and now has several more buildings, most of which are currently still standing, however the main building was demolished at some point in the early 21st century.

4. Results

4.1. FIELDWALKING & TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

- 4.1.1. Systematic fieldwalking of the site was undertaken alongside a topographic survey.
- 4.1.2. The site was walked by qualified archaeologists in 10m transects along north-south tracks. As the field has been in use as pasture no upturned soils were exposed. The grass had been cut to give good visibility for both fieldwalking and topographic survey. A Leica total station with prism was used to carry out the topographic survey. Levels were recorded in respect to a benchmark located on the entrance to the church, to the south of the site.
- 4.1.3. The field to the east of the central footpath appears to have been stripped and had hardcore laid to act as a base for some now demolished chicken sheds.
- 4.1.4. The field to the west of the footpath appears to follow the natural slope, although it is clear that in the past it had been ploughed. However, the fields had not been ploughed recently and as such there were no exposed areas which could have produced upturned topsoil finds. As such only three finds were recovered from the fieldwalking. These comprised a modern steel file, small sherd of 18th to 19th century blue and white ware with printed flower pattern, and a modern drop pin from a tractor. All three finds were recovered from a small area at the southern end of the site, along the central hedgerow.
- 4.1.5. The field to the north also appears to follow the natural gradients.
- 4.1.6. The topographic survey revealed no archaeological or historic features in the landscape visible above ground. All contours appear to follow the natural slope of the land. Apart from the holloway/footpath there seems to be no landscaping that doesn't relate to the 20th century chicken farm.

4.2. METAL DETECTING

- 4.2.1. Metal detecting was undertaken in a systematic approach, with 10m transects laid out along a north south alignment. These were traversed by a line of detectorists, allowing for several sweeps of each transect. Where finds were

encountered, these were bagged and plotted using a hand held Garmin GPS (FIGURE 6).

- 4.2.2. Appendix 1 Shows the assemblage recovered during the detecting.
- 4.2.3. The northern extent of the site produced no metal finds. A number of the detectorists did pick up modern agricultural waste in this area, however discarded them without recording. No historic finds were present in this area. The southern edge of the field to the north contained limited late Post Medieval and Modern finds.
- 4.2.4. The field to the east had been the site of chicken sheds, and as mentioned above had been stripped and hardcore laid. As such only limited finds were present in the field. More were present along the line of the footpath/holloway. In this field a single Medieval spindle whorl was found along the line of the footpath.
- 4.2.5. The field to the west produced the majority of finds. In fact. Nearly all the finds were Post Medieval to Modern in date and can be characterised as domestic and agricultural waste.
- 4.2.6. However seven Medieval finds were recovered from this field. Two cauldron legs were recovered from the site (PLATE 1). The first was a copper alloy leg, rectilinear in shape with parallel incised lines on the inner face, thought to date to the 14th to 15th Century. The second was a tapered, undecorated, copper alloy cauldron leg, also dating to the 14th to 15th Century.

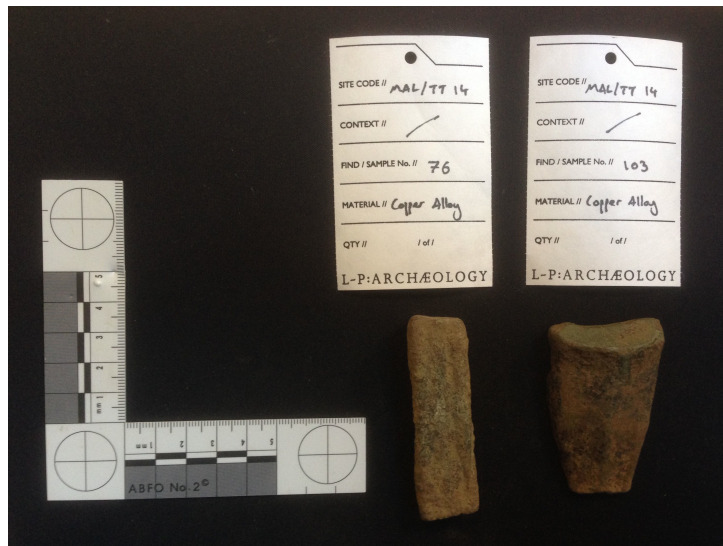


Plate 1 - Cauldron legs

- 4.2.7. A rectangular lead coin weight with design in relief at the edges was recovered, thought to date to the 14th to 15th century (PLATE 2).
- 4.2.8. Two lead spindle whorls dating to the 12th to 15th centuries were recovered along with two lead weights, also dating to the 12th to 15th centuries (PLATE 3).



Plate 2 - Lead coin weight and lead weights

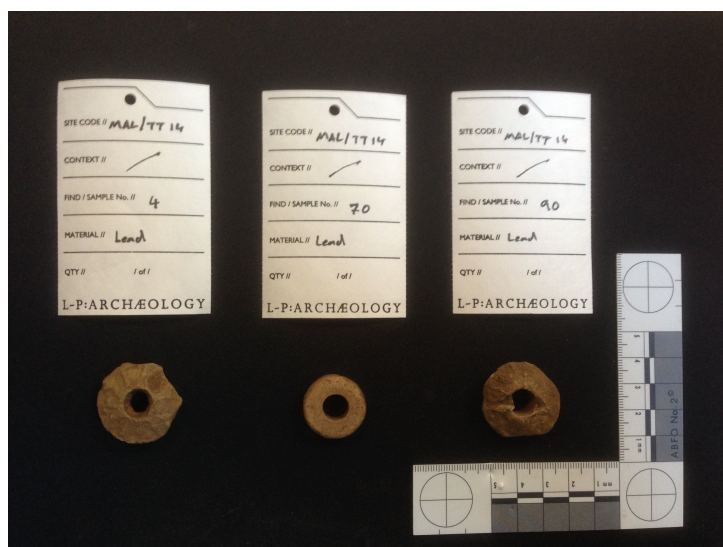


Plate 3 - Lead finds

4.2.9. Two buckles and a cloth seal, all dating to the 17th to 18th century, were also found on the site. All remaining finds were late Post Medieval in date and appeared to relate to agricultural activity on the site or domestic waste from nearby houses.

4.3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

4.3.1. A series of four trenches were excavated on the site at pre-determined locations, as laid out in the WSI (FIGURE 2). This section will outline the results of the evaluation trenches. They are given below trench by trench. Trench is abbreviated below to Tr. Not all context numbers referred to in the text are illustrated, but all are in the archive. Deposit numbers are given in (parentheses) and cut numbers are given in [square brackets].

TRENCH 1

4.3.2. Trench 1 measured 2m by 5m and was located across a southwest-northeast aligned boundary, to the northwest side of the site (FIGURE 2). The upper deposit was a soft mid-brown humic topsoil (101) 0.10m in depth, overlying a soft mid-brown humic sandy silt (102). This appeared to be a plough soil with inclusions of small gravel stones at 15% and sparse flecks of CBM (ceramic building material), 0.17m thick. Below this a mid-brown sandy clay (106) with a few small pebbles and CBM fleck inclusions, 0.22m thick. Beneath an orange-brown sandy clay (107) was encountered, 0.12m thick

with gravel inclusion 0.01-0.07m at 20%, probable hill wash sitting just above the natural. The lowest deposit was the natural pink sandy clay and gravels (108).



Plate 4: Trench one: Oblique northeast facing section of field boundary, Facing South, 0.5m scale

4.3.3. At the northwest end of the trench was a linear boundary ditch running southwest-northeast (PLATE 4). It had two fills, the upper; a firm mid brown sandy silt (103), with small pebble inclusions at 5% and the lower; a orangey-brown sticky sandy clay (104) with small pebble inclusion at 5% (FIGURE 7). The former was of similar makeup to the plough soil (102) overlaying the ditch, though of a more compact nature, while the lower deposit was very similar to the sandy clay (107) sitting above the natural, and is likely to be a wash of this collected in the bottom of the ditch. Both fills sit in the cut for the ditch [105], 0.50m deep and at least 2.20m in width, which cuts into the natural (108).

4.3.4. The boundary is thought to be Post Medieval in date, part of the field enclosure system from at least the 18th century.

TRENCH 2

4.3.5. Trench 2 was a 2m by 5m trench located by the current northwest-southeast aligned footpath, in the middle of site (FIGURE 2). The upper deposit was a mid brown humic soil (202) making up the current hedgerow, showing lots of root action and small pebbles, 0.50m deep by 1.50m in width. Below this a

soft brown humic topsoil (201) 0.32m in depth. Underneath was a series of fills for the ditch [205], all tipping downhill towards the northeast edge of the trench (FIGURE 8). The uppermost a compact pinky-brown re-deposited natural (207) with inclusions of sandstone fragments and late Post Medieval pottery, 0.50m thick. Below this a sticky grey-blue sandy clay (208), 0.42m in depth. The lowest fill consisted of a light beige-brown loose sand (203), which sat above the natural gravely-sandy-clay (204).

4.3.6. It is likely that this is an historic hedgerow, possibly part of the Medieval field boundaries, forming a boundary between the fields and the main route from Overton towards the church.

TRENCH 3

4.3.7. Trench 3 was a 2m by 5m trench located in the centre of the southwest quadrant of the site, in line with both trench one and three (FIGURE 2). The upper deposit was a soft mid brown humic topsoil (301) 0.20m thick (PLATE 5).



Plate 5: Trench three, ditch fills Facing East, 1m scale

4.3.8. Below which was a soft mid-brown humic sandy silt plough soil (302), 0.22m in depth, which contained late Post Medieval ceramic fragments. The lowest deposit an orangey-brown sandy clay subsoil (303), with gravel inclusion 0.18m thick, which sat above the natural pinky sandy-clay gravels (304).

4.3.9. Below the modern topsoil (301), a linear feature cut [305] through the north end of this trench, aligned northeast-southwest; 0.70m in depth and 1.50m in width across the 2.00m trench (PLATE 6). It had one main fill, a dark brown sandy-silty-clay (306) with inclusions of modern CBM towards the top of the fill, with a depth of 0.70m (FIGURE 9).



Plate 6: Trench three, Northeast facing section of field boundary, Facing southwest, 1m scale.

4.3.10. Below this an orangey-brown sandy-clay (307), a minimum of 0.20m thick, above the natural sandy-clay-gravels (304).

4.3.11. The ditch appears to be the remnant of a removed hedgerow. As it has been grubbed out the original cut is no longer visible and all backfill material was late 20th century in date. It is likely that this represents a Post Medieval enclosure boundary.

TRENCH 4

4.3.12. Trench 4 was a 2m by 5m trench located by the current northwest-southeast aligned footpath towards the south of the site (FIGURE 2). The trench fell half into the current garden of a private house and half over the current public footpath, with a hedgerow dividing the two.

4.3.13. The southeast half lay in the garden and had a soft dark brown organic topsoil and turf (401), 0.35-0.65m thick, which overlay a solid re-deposited layer of pink natural (409). Finds from the topsoil comprised a brick fragment and

sherd of printed blue and white ware.

4.3.14. Below this a compact, but soft red-brown sandy-clay (404) 0.57m thick, with inclusions of charcoal and CBM flecks and fragments of Post Medieval pottery (PLATE 7). The natural pink sandy-clay-gravels (407) sat below this.



Plate 7: Trench four, Oblique southeast facing section of ditch, Facing Southwest, 1m Scale.

4.3.15. The northwest half, covering the current northwest-southeast aligned pathway, had a very similar dark humic topsoil (403), but with more wild plants and was very truncated due to its use as a pathway –it varied in depth up to a metre below that of the field it ran through. Finds from this topsoil comprised a single sherd of printed green and white ceramic.

4.3.16. Below this was the cut [405] and fill of the holloway/path, the southwest edge of the cut had a scooped, sloped edge, with a possible earlier cut slightly steeper towards the bottom (FIGURE 10).

4.3.17. The base was straight and sloping up towards the northeast edge, where it turns slightly steeper and levels out. To the southwest it cut through red-brown sandy-clay (404) which extended to this half. Several sherds of black glazed ceramics were found within (404). The northeast side cut light orangey-brown sandy-clay (408) 0.05m thick, which overlay the natural (407). The fill was a soft dark brown sandy silt (406), with inclusion of Post Medieval debris including glass bottles and fragments of ceramics and stoneware pots. Towards the bottom of the fill it was a slightly more compact,

possibly a lower fill but it was not conclusive and could be a result of compaction from its use as a path (PLATE 8).



Plate 8: Trench four, Ditch fill (406) Facing southeast, 1m scale.

4.3.18. Dividing the two halves was a hedgerow which cut through the two top soils (401) and (403) and their respective underlying contexts (404) and (406). The cut and organic silty fill [402], showed obvious signs of root activity and mixes of 0.03-0.07m pebbles.

5. Finds

5.1. Three trenches produced finds, which have been catalogued below and will be included in the primary archive. All finds are late Post Medieval in date and form a typical assemblage of domestic and agricultural waste seen as field spread in the area.

5.2. Finds are catalogued by trench number and context.

CONTEXT	MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION	DATE
TR2 - (207)	Ceramic	Black glazed vessel, rim sherd	18 th - 19 th C
TR 32 - (207)	Ceramic	Black glazed vessel, rim sherd	18 th - 19 th C
TR 3 - (302)	Ceramic	Stone ware dish, rim sherd	18 th - 19 th C
TR 3 - (302)	Ceramic	Black glazed sherd	18 th - 19 th C
TR 4 - (401)	CBM	Brick fragment	20 th C
TR 4 - (401)	Ceramic	Blue and White ware, printed leaf decoration	19 th C
TR 4 - (403)	Ceramic	Green and White glazed dish, printed flower decoration	19 th C
TR 4 - (404)	Ceramic	Three sherds of black glazed ceramic, body sherds.	18 th - 19 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Glass	Milk bottle neck fragment	20 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Metal	Lid from oil drum	20 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Ceramic	Three sherds of cider jug	19 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Ceramic	Six sherds of cream glazed dish	19 th - 20 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Ceramic	Press moulded slipware dish rim	18 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Ceramic	Industrial slip ware rim sherd	19 th C
TR 4 - (406)	Ceramic	Two sherds black glazed ceramic	18 th - 19 th C

Table 1 - Finds

5.2.1. Context (207) was a fill from ditch [205] and can be seen to date to the late Post Medieval Period, with ceramic finds of 18th to 19th century in date.

5.2.2. Context (302) was a buried plough soil containing finds dating to the 18th to 19th century. It is likely that the field was ploughed in the 20th century and these are disturbed finds.

5.2.3. Contexts (401) and (403) are topsoil deposits which produced 19th to 20th century ceramic finds.

5.2.4. Context (404) was a buried plough soil which contained similar material to (302), with 18th to 19th century black glazed ceramic sherds.

5.2.5. Context (406) represents build up within the holloway [405]. Finds ranged from the 19th to the 20th century in date and comprised domestic and agricultural items. The proximity of the hedgerow could suggest that these are

discarded items brought up by ploughing the neighbouring field, which were pushed into the hedgerow.

6. Summary and Conclusions

- 6.1. This report outlines the results of the non-intrusive survey and archaeological evaluation carried out at Tall Trees and West End Poultry Farm, Tilston Road, Malpas, SY14 7DA. The site is located at grid reference NGR (SJ) 348440,347492, Planning permission has been granted for the development of 60 new residential dwellings and the demolition of the extant standing structure on site.
- 6.2. The site lies in the northern extent of the historic core of Malpas, to the immediate north of the Malpas Conservation Area and Malpas Area of Archaeological Importance.
- 6.3. In the surrounding area is a Scheduled Monument, Castle Hill Motte (1012105), a Norman motte and bailey castle, 150m to the south of the site and Watling Street, a main Roman road, runs in a north south alignment approximately 100m to the east of the site.
- 6.4. Fieldwalking and a topographic survey revealed no upstanding earthworks of interest and limited surface finds.
- 6.5. The metal detecting survey showed a clear model for the site, with the eastern field producing very few finds and evidence suggesting that the field had been stripped prior to the construction of the chicken sheds, and the northern field only produced finds from its southern section. The central and northern sections of the northern field had previously been excavated for the installation and maintenance of a buried aqueduct.
- 6.6. The western field produced nearly all of the finds in the assemblage, which could be seen to be characteristic of other metal detecting surveys in the area. The majority of finds dating from the late Post Medieval period onwards, suggesting modern ploughing. However, a series of seven Medieval artefacts were recovered including cauldron legs, spindle whorls and lead weights.
- 6.7. The evaluation showed a homogenous stratigraphy for the site, with Post Medieval boundary ditches cut into the natural soils.
- 6.8. Trench 1 in the northwest area of the site, showed a build up of modern plough soils above a sandy clay hill wash, which had collected above the natural. To the

northern end of the trench were the remains of a Post Medieval field boundary, which hinted at possibly being re-cut, after the initial ditch was dug. The lower fill was of a similar make up to the lower subsoils, suggesting that the ditch was open for some time and that these subsoil's naturally washed in. The upper fill, and potential secondary cut, appears to be a more compact and thicker fill of the surrounding plough soils, and would appear to have filled in at a much quicker rate than the lower. Unfortunately no dating evidence was produced from these fills. Natural was at a depth of 0.52-0.75m.

6.9. Trench 2 was excavated over the current hedgerow, and revealed a buried field boundary. Finds from this show it to be of Post Medieval date. The path running adjacent to this trench was only marginally truncated, however it was in close proximity to an abandoned chicken shed. The natural was at a depth of 0.83-1.00m.

6.10. Trench 3 was located in the centre of the southwest area of the site, and showed the same build up as Trenches 1 and 2, with topsoil, overlying the plough soil and hill wash. To the northern end of the trench a previous Post Medieval boundary ditch was uncovered. This could be seen running across the field in a northeast-southwest alignment, with a single fill with modern inclusions. The ditch seems to be that of an old field boundary no longer in use, it runs parallel to that of the field boundary to its north. The natural gravel-clays were found at a depth of between 0.52-0.90m.

6.11. Trench 4 to the south of the site revealed the build up of the holloway leading north, through the site. The finds from the deposits dated to the Post Medieval and modern periods. The natural was found at a depth of 0.50-1.22m.

7. Archive

7.1. The paper archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x Drawing Register
- ◆ 5 x Drawing Film
- ◆ 1 x Photographic Register
- ◆ 33 x Black and white photographs and negatives
- ◆ 1 x Context Register
- ◆ 31 x Context sheets

7.2. The finds archive consists of:

- ◆ 1 x box artefacts as described in Section 5 (all materials).

7.3. The archive is to be deposited with the Cheshire West and Chester Museum Service.

SOURCES CONSULTED

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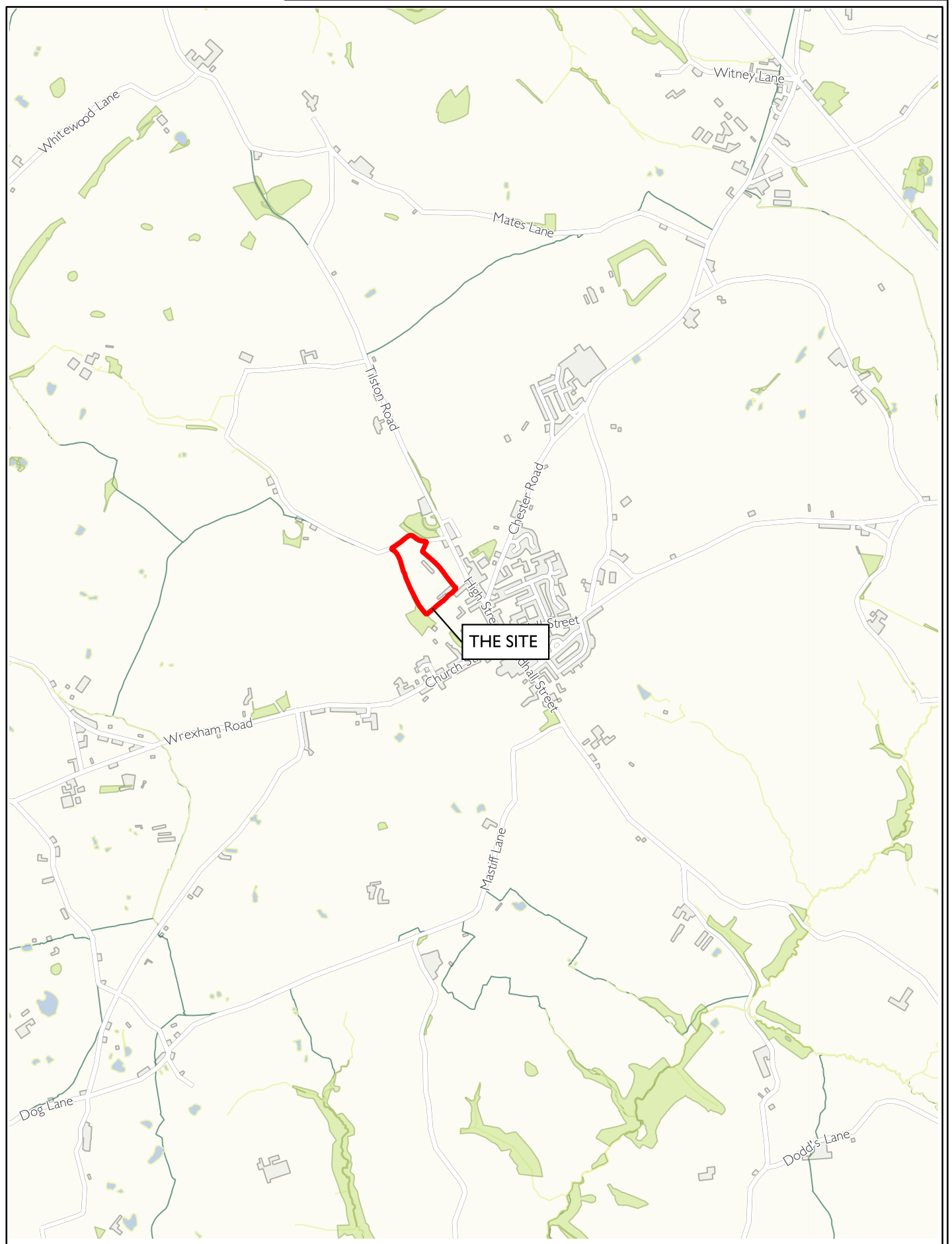
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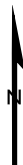
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FIGURES

FIGURE 1 // Site Location General



0 500 m



PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

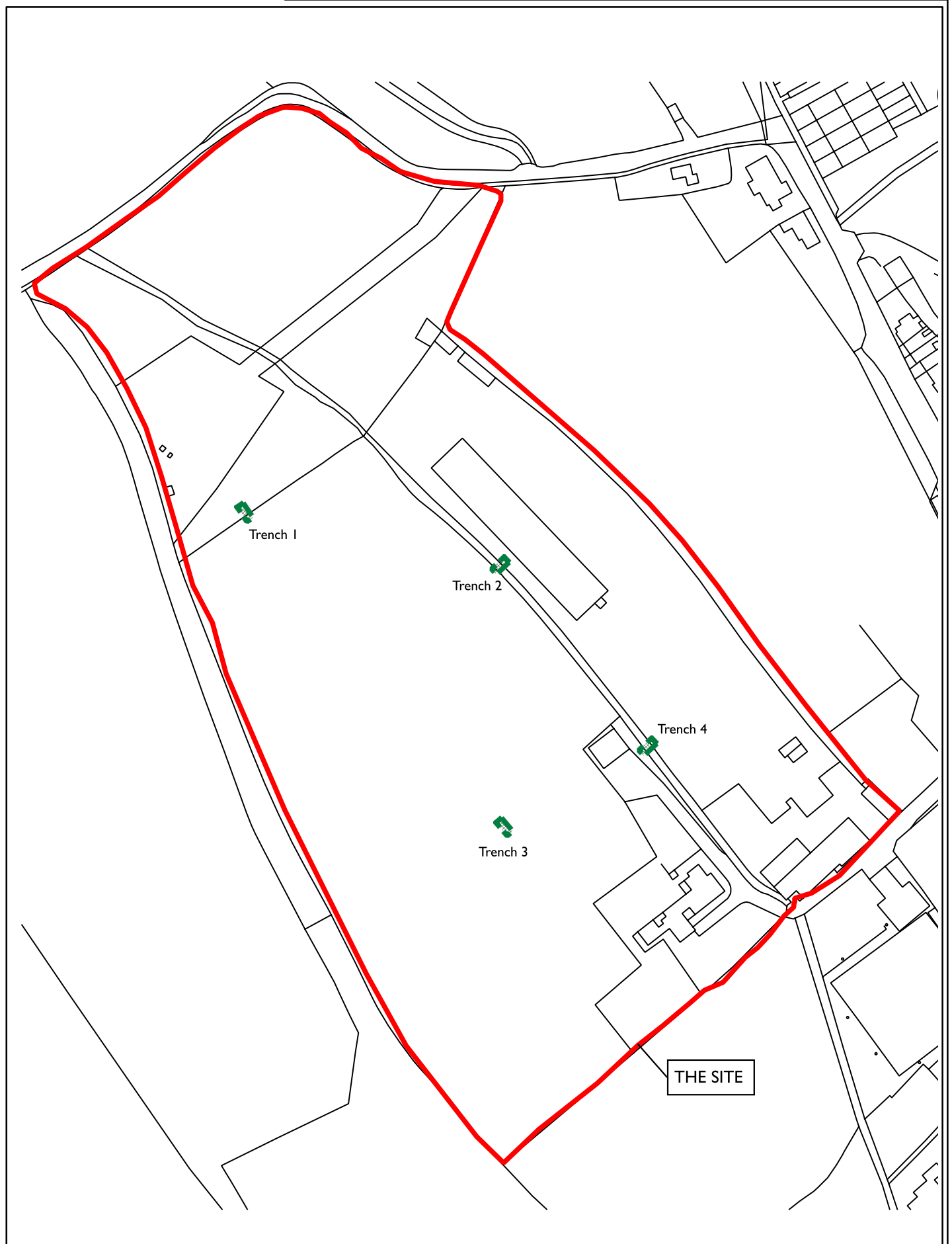
DESCRIPTION // Site Location General

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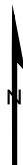
DOC REF: LPI1779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 2 // Site Location Detail



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // Site Location Detail and Trench Plan

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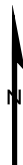
DOC REF: LPI779C-AER-v1

L~P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 3 // 1841 Tithe Map



0 50 m



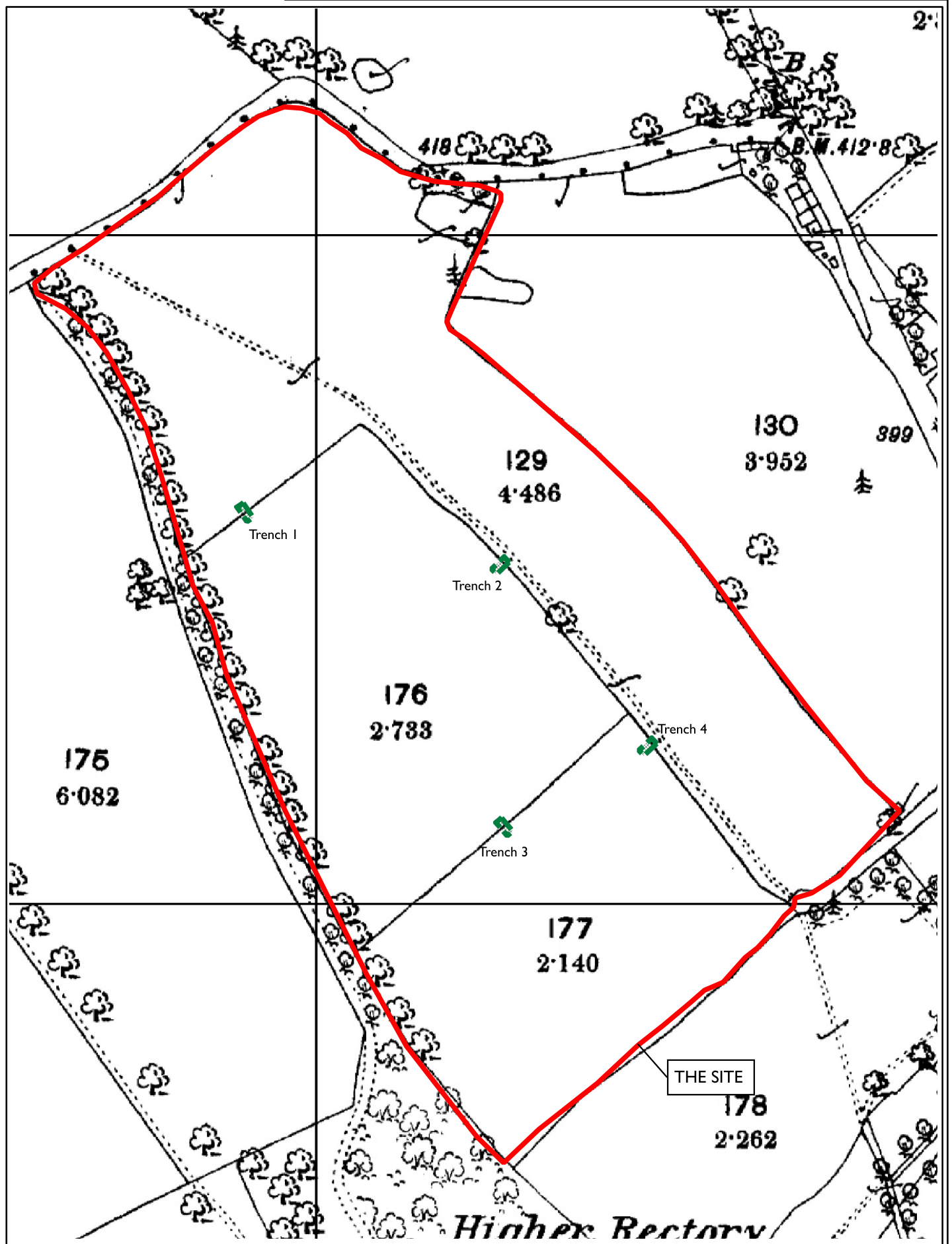
PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // 1841 Tithe Map

DOC REF: LPI779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

FIGURE 4 // 1875 Ordnance Survey Map



0 50 m



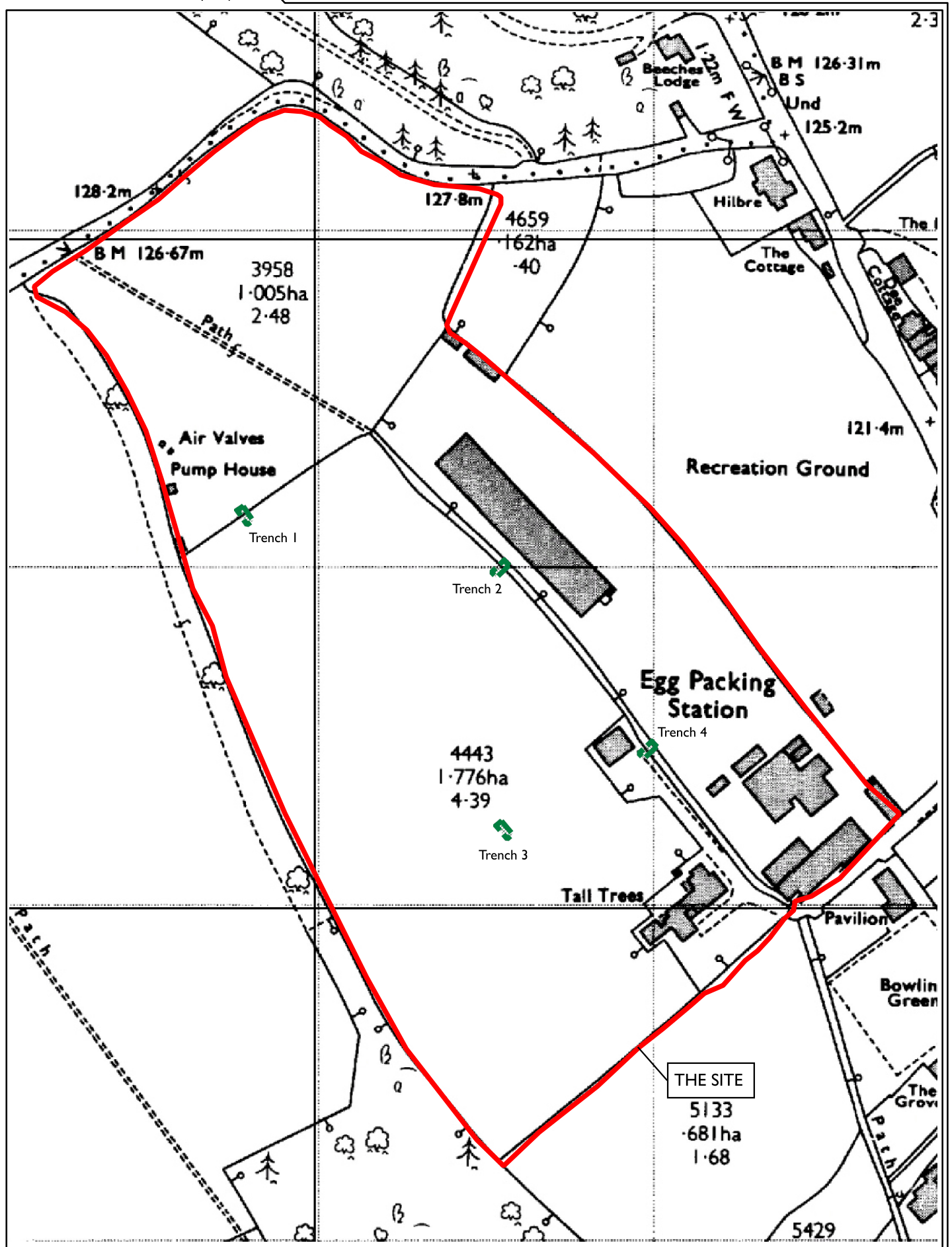
PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // 1875 Ordnance Survey Map

DOC REF: LPI779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 5 // 1973 Ordnance Survey Map



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

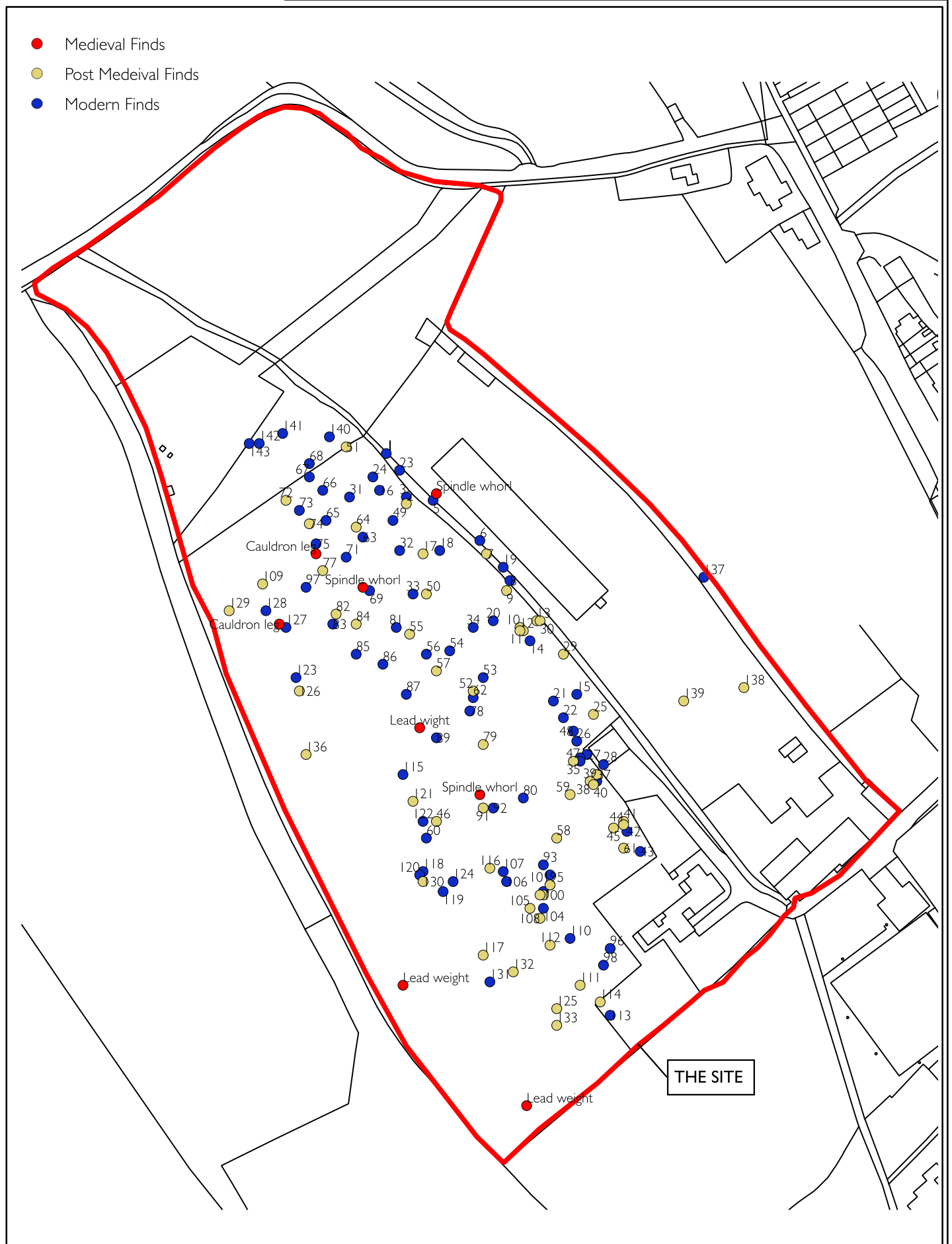
DESCRIPTION // 1973 Ordnance Survey Map

DOC REF: LPI1779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

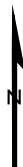
FIGURE 6 // Metal Detecting Finds

- Medieval Finds
- Post Medieval Finds
- Modern Finds



THE SITE

0 50 m



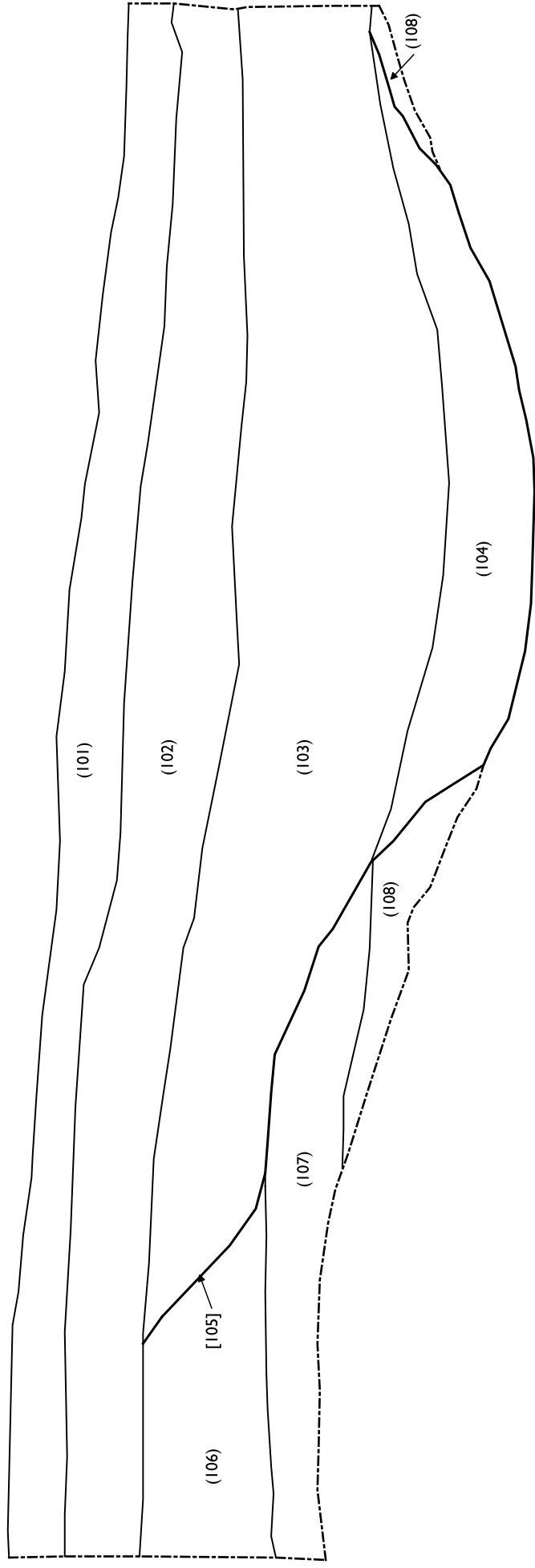
PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // Metal Detecting Finds

DOC REF: LPI779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 7 // Northeast Facing Section - Tr1



PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

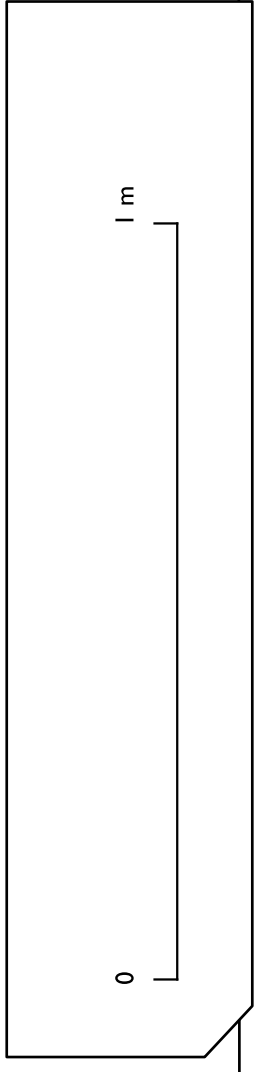
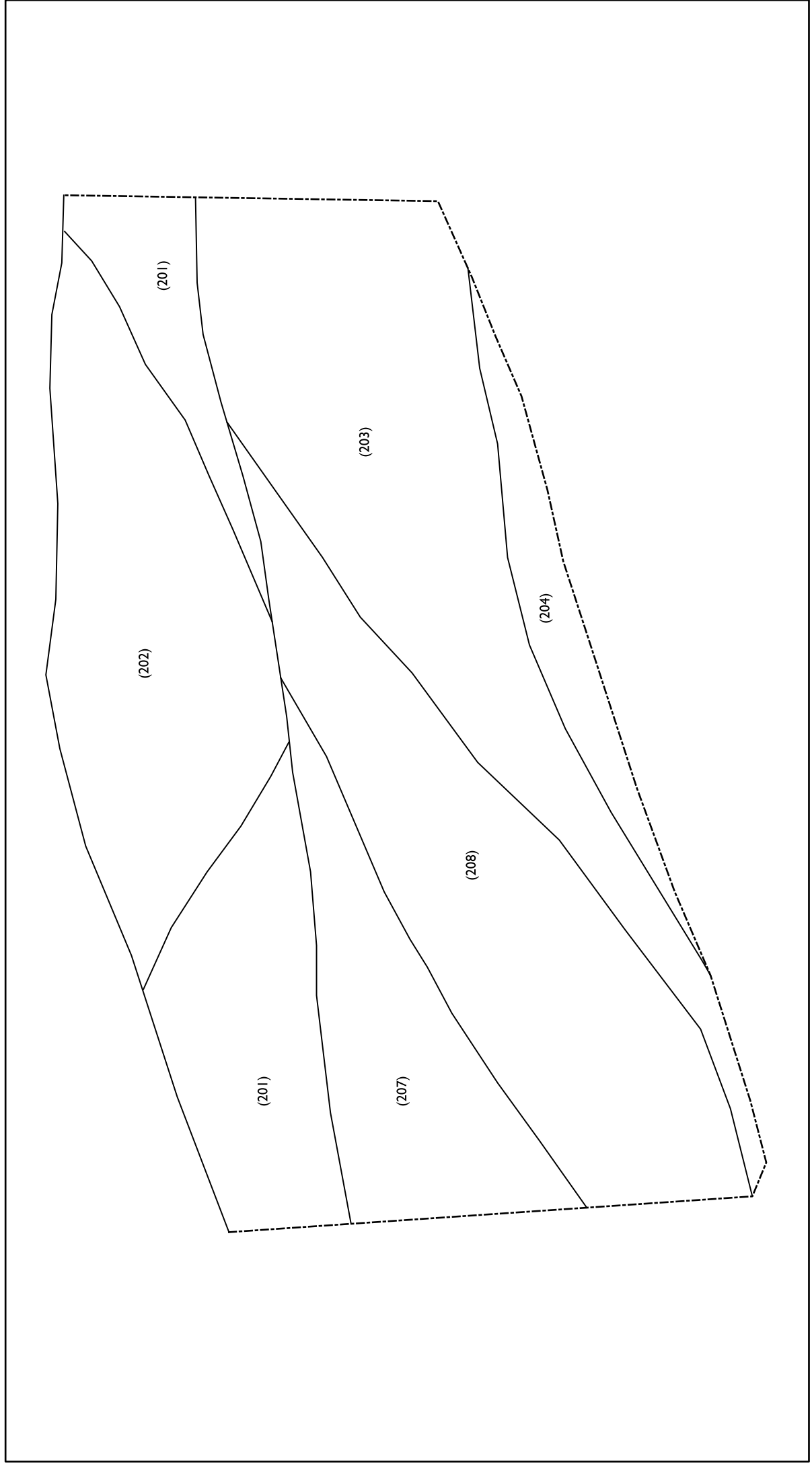
DESCRIPTION // Northeast Facing Section of Trench 1

DOC REF: LP1779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

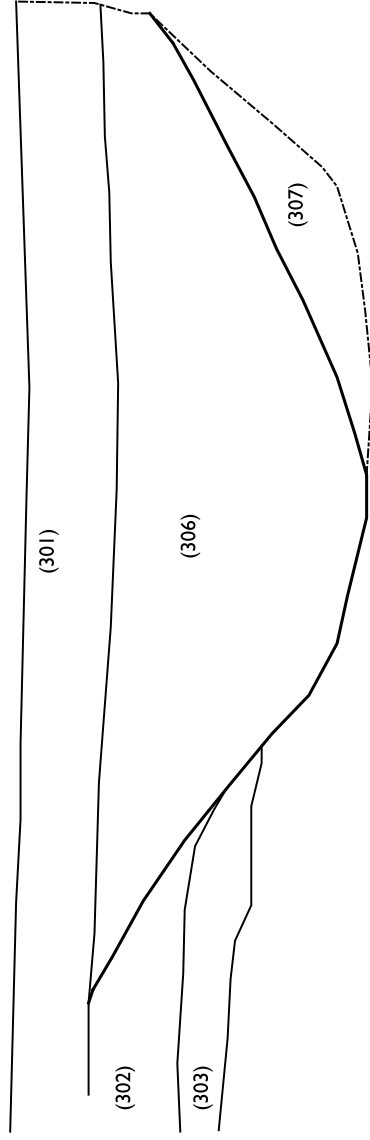
0 1 m

FIGURE 8 // Northwest Facing Section - Tr2



PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees
DESCRIPTION // Northwest Facing Section of Trench 2
DOC REF: LP1779C-AER-v1 L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

FIGURE 9 // East Facing Section - Tr3

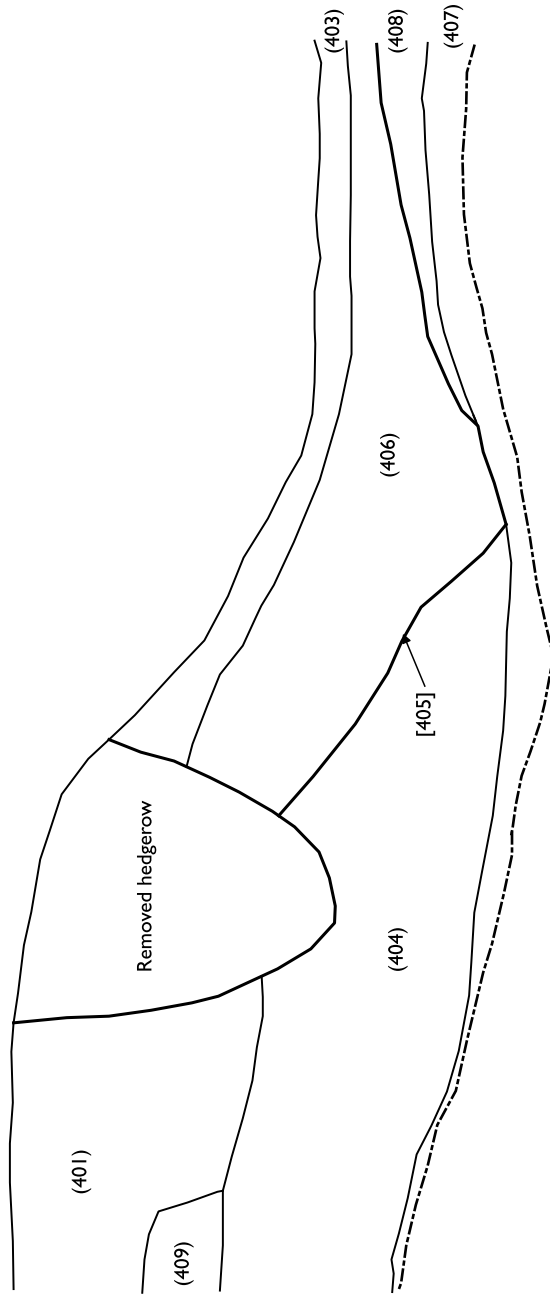


PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // East Facing Section of Trench 3

DOC REF: LP1779C-AER-v1

FIGURE 10 // South Facing Section - Tr4



0 | m

PROJECT // 1779C - Tall Trees

DESCRIPTION // South Facing Section of Trench 4

DOC REF: LPI779C-AER-v1

L-P:ARCHÆOLOGY

METAL DETECTING FINDS

APPENDIX I

Metal Detecting Finds by date

Pt_ID	Eastng	Northing	Elevation	Description	Period	Date Range
4	348436	347523	180	Lead spindle whorl with radiating lines and pellets design.	Medieval	12 th - 15 th C
88	348431	347453	180	Lead weight, roughly circular with triangular profile, poorly made.	Medieval	12 th - 15 th C
90	348449	347433	178	Lead spindle whorl with radiating line decoration.	Medieval	12 th - 15 th C
134	348463	347340	175	Lead weight, plough damaged. Possibly originally circular, now flattened with a tail.	Medieval	12 th - 15 th C
70	348414	347495	179	Undecorated lead, cast, spindle whorl.	Medieval	14 th - 15 th C
76	348400	347505	179	Copper alloy cauldron leg, rectilinear with parallel incised lines on inner face.	Medieval	14 th - 15 th C
135	348426	347376	175	Lead coin weight?, rectangular in plan and cross-section. Edges show relief design, possible worn decoration on one side.	Medieval	14 th - 15 th C
103	348389	347484	182	Copper alloy cauldron leg, tapered, undecorated.	Medieval	15 th - 16 th C
41	348492	347425	178	Buckle	Post Medieval	17 th - 18 th C
55	348428	347481	178	Cloth seal with possible wheat sheaf motif	Post Medieval	17 th - 19 th C
114	348485	347371	175	Copper alloy shoe buckle - 17 th C	Post Medieval	17 th C
109	348384	347496	182	Window lead	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
17	348432	347505	189	Lump of lead	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
52	348447	347464	176	Door strap	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
64	348412	347513	183	Strap buckle	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
100	348468	347403	177	Spoon handle	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
105	348464	347399	180	Lead fragment	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
108	348467	347396	176	Button	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
112	348470	347388	181	Button fragment	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
132	348459	347380	173	Button	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
45	348489	347423	181	Black glazed ceramic fragment	Post Medieval	18 th - 19 th C
129	348374	347488	184	Cable tensioner	Post Medieval	19 th - 20 th C
44	348492	347424	181	Bottle cap	Post Medieval	19 th - 20 th C
2	348427	347520	184	Large, decorative, bronze bedstead finial	Post Medieval	19 th C
7	348451	347505	186	Spoon	Post Medieval	19 th C
9	348457	347494	185	Lead fragment	Post Medieval	19 th C
10	348461	347483	185	Marmalade jar fragment	Post Medieval	19 th C
11	348462	347482	182	Lead fragment	Post Medieval	19 th C
12	348461	347482	183	Blue and white ware	Post Medieval	19 th C
13	348466	347485	180	Copper alloy coin, Victoria, 1861	Post Medieval	19 th C
25	348483	347457	183	Bedstead frame cap – copper alloy	Post Medieval	19 th C
29	348474	347475	178	Door hook	Post Medieval	19 th C
30	348467	347485	185	Copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
35	348477	347443	182	Lead window flashing	Post Medieval	19 th C
37	348484	347439	182	Name plate	Post Medieval	19 th C
38	348482	347437	181	Drawer handle	Post Medieval	19 th C
40	348483	347436	182	Lead flashing	Post Medieval	19 th C

Metal Detecting Finds by date

46	348436	347425	183	Bronze button	Post Medieval	19 th C
50	348433	347493	183	Harness buckle	Post Medieval	19 th C
51	348409	347537	188	O-ring	Post Medieval	19 th C
57	348436	347470	180	Harness link	Post Medieval	19 th C
58	348472	347420	176	Key head	Post Medieval	19 th C
59	348476	347433	177	Lead fragment	Post Medieval	19 th C
61	348492	347417	180	Steel clasp	Post Medieval	19 th C
72	348391	347521	181	Copper alloy coin, George III, 1807	Post Medieval	19 th C
74	348398	347514	182	Gas lamp valve	Post Medieval	19 th C
77	348402	347500	180	Bridle harness	Post Medieval	19 th C
82	348406	347487	184	Fireplace surround decoration – leaf	Post Medieval	19 th C
84	348412	347484	183	Lead water spout	Post Medieval	19 th C
91	348450	347429	180	Bronze threaded a corn decoration finial	Post Medieval	19 th C
95	348470	347406	178	Bronze eyelet	Post Medieval	19 th C
116	348452	347411	174	Tin cowling	Post Medieval	19 th C
117	348450	347385	174	Worn copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
121	348429	347431	174	Door handle	Post Medieval	19 th C
125	348472	347369	177	Button	Post Medieval	19 th C
126	348395	347464	181	Teapot lid	Post Medieval	19 th C
130	348432	347407	176	Backing of harness fitting	Post Medieval	19 th C
133	348472	347364	176	Copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
136	348397	347445	179	Lead tag/plate	Post Medieval	19 th C
138	348528	347465	178	Worn copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
139	348510	347461	175	Worn copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
102	348467	347403	179	Window latch	Post Medieval	19 th C
111	348479	347376	176	Worn copper alloy coin	Post Medieval	19 th C
1	348421	347535	186	Chain link	Modern	20 th C
3	348427	347522	183	Distributor head	Modern	20 th C
5	348435	347521	183	Steel fragment	Modern	20 th C
6	348449	347509	181	Lead roof flashing	Modern	20 th C
8	348458	347497	185	Tin plate	Modern	20 th C
14	348464	347479	182	Steel cap	Modern	20 th C
15	348478	347463	184	Button	Modern	20 th C
16	348419	347524	188	Steel plate	Modern	20 th C
18	348437	347506	186	Cap badge	Modern	20 th C
19	348456	347501	183	Lead fragment	Modern	20 th C
20	348453	347485	187	O-ring	Modern	20 th C
21	348471	347461	183	Button	Modern	20 th C

Metal Detecting Finds by date

22	348474	347456	183	Gasket ring	Modern	20 th C
23	348425	347530	186	Pikel	Modern	20 th C
24	348417	347528	184	Button	Modern	20 th C
26	348478	347449	183	Steel horse harness	Modern	20 th C
27	348481	347445	183	Lead roof flashing	Modern	20 th C
28	348486	347442	185	Pulley wheel	Modern	20 th C
31	348410	347522	178	Tin plate	Modern	20 th C
32	348425	347506	183	Lead fragment	Modern	20 th C
33	348429	347493	180	Gate pin	Modern	20 th C
34	348447	347483	178	Bronze rabbit	Modern	20 th C
36	348479	347444	183	Button	Modern	20 th C
39	348484	347437	181	Lead fragment	Modern	20 th C
42	348493	347422	180	Tin plate	Modern	20 th C
43	348497	347416	180	Ladle	Modern	20 th C
47	348479	347443	181	Chain link	Modern	20 th C
48	348477	347452	181	Lead fragment	Modern	20 th C
49	348423	347515	184	Radiator patch	Modern	20 th C
53	348450	347468	183	Button	Modern	20 th C
54	348440	347476	177	Spoon handle	Modern	20 th C
56	348433	347475	181	Steel clasp	Modern	20 th C
60	348433	347420	178	Barbed Wire	Modern	20 th C
62	348447	347462	185	Hot tap	Modern	20 th C
63	348414	347510	181	Window latch	Modern	20 th C
65	348403	347515	183	Bronze threaded nut	Modern	20 th C
66	348402	347524	181	Tin plate	Modern	20 th C
67	348398	347528	180	Cupboard door clasp	Modern	20 th C
68	348398	347532	183	Tin plate	Modern	20 th C
69	348416	347494	180	Radiator cap	Modern	20 th C
71	348409	347504	181	Nail	Modern	20 th C
73	348395	347518	179	Screwdriver	Modern	20 th C
75	348400	347508	184	Steel plate	Modern	20 th C
78	348446	347458	177	Window fittings	Modern	20 th C
79	348450	347448	177	Copper alloy penny, George V, 1916	Modern	20 th C
80	348462	347432	177	Steel horse harness	Modern	20 th C
81	348424	347483	181	Telephone isolator	Modern	20 th C
83	348405	347484	183	Clock mechanism	Modern	20 th C
85	348412	347475	182	Button	Modern	20 th C
86	348420	347472	181	Eyelet	Modern	20 th C
87	348427	347463	182	Drop pin	Modern	20 th C

Metal Detecting Finds by date

89	348436	347450	179	O-ring	Modern	20 th C
92	348453	347429	180	Union padlock key	Modern	20 th C
93	348468	347412	177	Steel plate	Modern	20 th C
94	348470	347409	178	O-ring	Modern	20 th C
96	348488	347387	178	Steel chain	Modern	20 th C
97	348397	347495	181	Squire padlock key	Modern	20 th C
98	348486	347382	176	Button	Modern	20 th C
99	348468	347404	176	Barbed Wire	Modern	20 th C
101	348470	347406	178	Steel tractor valve cover	Modern	20 th C
104	348468	347399	180	Fragment of steel	Modern	20 th C
106	348457	347407	178	Washers	Modern	20 th C
107	348456	347410	174	Fence ring	Modern	20 th C
110	348476	347390	180	Tractor engine component	Modern	20 th C
113	348488	347367	177	Lock nut, threaded	Modern	20 th C
115	348426	347439	175	Screw	Modern	20 th C
118	348432	347410	176	Button	Modern	20 th C
119	348438	347404	174	Sixpence of George V – 1933	Modern	20 th C
120	348431	347409	175	O-ring	Modern	20 th C
122	348432	347425	176	Steel fragment	Modern	20 th C
123	348394	347468	177	Door handle	Modern	20 th C
124	348441	347407	175	Washer	Modern	20 th C
127	348391	347483	179	Button	Modern	20 th C
128	348385	347488	180	Tin bottle cap	Modern	20 th C
131	348452	347377	178	Button with flower motif	Modern	20 th C
137	348516	347498	177	Button	Modern	20 th C
140	348404	347540	182	Drop pin	Modern	20 th C
141	348390	347541	184	Copper alloy penny, George VI – 1938	Modern	20 th C
142	348383	347538	183	Screw cap cover	Modern	20 th C
143	348380	347538	183	Copper alloy penny, George V, 1908	Modern	20 th C

OASIS FORM

APPENDIX 2

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: Iparchae1-206169

Project details

Project name	Tall Trees, Malpas
Short description of the project	non intrusive survey and archaeological evaluation of a rural site in Malpas, Cheshire
Project dates	Start: 11-01-2015 End: 13-03-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	MAL/TT 14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	SPINDLE WHORL Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Fieldwalking", "Metal Detectors", "Targeted Trenches", "Topographic Survey"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CESHIRE CHESTER MALPAS Tall Trees
Postcode	SY14 7DA
Study area	4.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	SJ 348440 347492 52.9059013465 -2.96887923639 52 54 21 N 002 58 07 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 121.00m Max: 130.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	L - P : Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	L - P : Archaeology
Project director/manager	Blair Poole
Project supervisor	Dan Garner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Stewart Milne Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Grosvenor Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass","Metal"
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Grosvenor Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: Tall Trees, Malpas
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Matthews, R.
Other bibliographic details	LP1779C-AER-v1.2
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	L - P : Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Chester
Description	Report on the results of field evaluation and non intrusive survey at Tall Trees, Malpas
Entered by	R Mathews (chester@lparchaeology.com)
Entered on	13 March 2015

OASIS:

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