

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological evaluation on land at Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire August 2011



Northamptonshire Archaeology

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Carol Simmonds and Adrian Butler Report 11/226 November 2011

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Acknowledgement:

Northamptonshire Archaeology would like to thank Mr Paul Sharp for the information regarding the fieldwalking he undertook on the site.

QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

Project name Archaeological evaluation on land at Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire, August 2011 The geophysical survey identified three enclosures, possible pits, an substantial areas of disturbance. The trial trenching targeted the areas of archaeology as well as 'blank' zones. The ditches of three Roman enclosure have been identified, as well as two pits with burnt stone, one of which have been identified, as well as two pits with burnt stone, one of which have been identified, as well as two pits with burnt stone, one of which have enclosures, and is suspected to be of Roman pottery recovered was of mid/late 1s century to late 2nd century date. Small scale quarrying truncated the enclosures, and is suspected to be of Roman date. Remnants of post-medieval field boundaries, corresponding with fields shown on historic maps. The remains of the infiller tramway, are shown on 19th-centurly historic maps. The remains of the infiller pit and the tramway were located in the northern part of the site. Project type Evaluation Site status Project work None Previous work Fieldwalking (P Sharp), Cultural Heritage Statement (RSK 2011) Arable and set-aside Future work Unknown Monument type/ period Unknown Unknown Worthamptonshire (Statio 2nd century), early ironstone quarrying, post-medieval to modern ironstone workings and field boundaries Significant finds PROJECT LOCATION County Northamptonshire Northamptonshire Northamptonshire Northamptonshire Archaeology Northamptonshire Archaeology Project Design originator Northamptonshire Archaeology Project Date Start date November 2011 Archives Adam Yates Sponsor or funding body PROJECT Carol Simmonds and Adrian Butler Project Manager Adam Yates Sponsor or funding body Project Manager Adam Yates Sponsor or funding body PROJECT Onter BRIX11 Northamptonshire Archaeology Archive box of site pro-forms sheets, permatrace and other documents Onter documents Digital BRIX11 Northamptonshire Archaeology of Project Manager Archaeology is a development of the Society of Projec	DASIS REPORT F	UKIVI				
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND AT NORTHAMPTON ROAD, BRIXWORTH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AUGUST 2011

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by Carter Jonas LLP, on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers, to undertake a geophysical survey and trial trenching exercise on land to the west of Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire.

Earlier fieldwalking surveys and aerial photographic analysis suggested that there was Roman activity in the north-western corner of the proposed development area. The geophysical survey identified three enclosures, possible pits, and substantial areas of disturbance. The trial trenching targeted areas of archaeology as well as 'blank' zones. The ditches of three Roman enclosures have been identified, as well as two pits with burnt stone, one of which had a quantity of charred grains. The Roman pottery recovered is dated to the mid/late 1st century to late 2nd century date. Small scale quarrying truncated the enclosures, and is suspected to be of Roman date.

Remnants of post-medieval field boundaries, corresponding with fields shown on historic maps, were also found. Large industrial-scale ironstone quarrying took place in the post-medieval/modern period. The works, including a tramway, are shown on 19th-century historic maps. The remains of the infilled pit and the tramway were located in the northern part of the site.

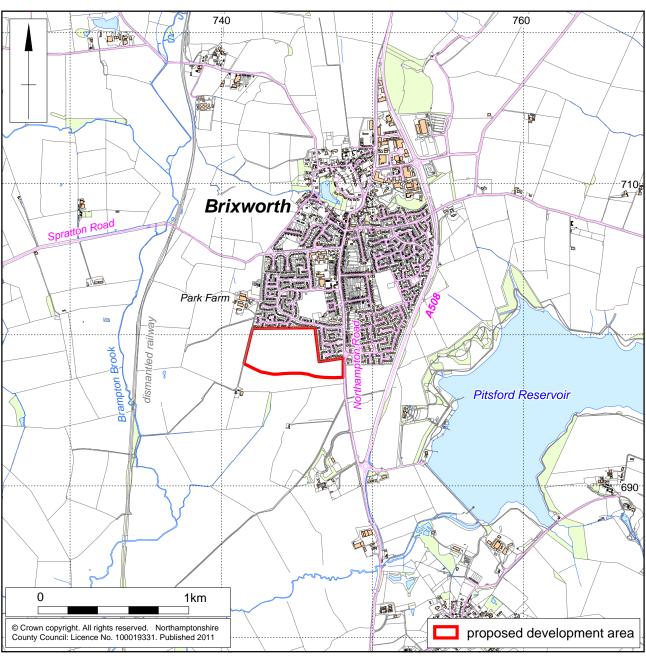
1 INTRODUCTION

Carter Jonas LLP, on behalf of the Society of Merchant Venturers, commissioned Northamptonshire Archaeology to undertake archaeological work on a proposed development site on land off Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire (NGR 474500 269900, Fig 1). The archaeological works comprised magnetometry survey across 15ha of land followed by trial trenching, comprising 1850 linear metres.

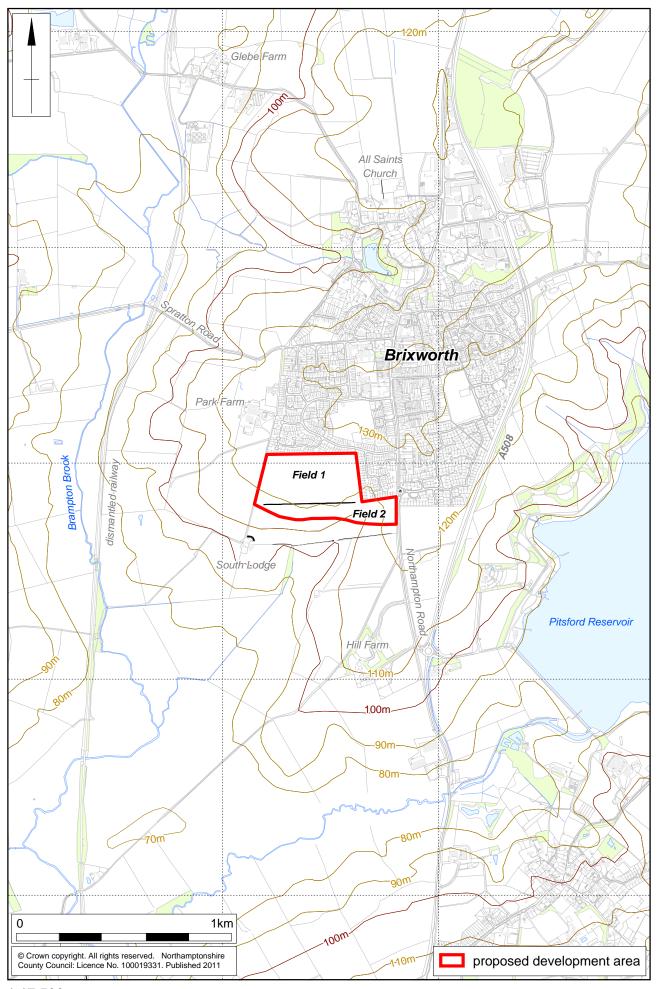
The works were required in response to a planning application for residential development, in line with *PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010). A Written Scheme of Investigation was produced by Northamptonshire Archaeology for both phases of work (NA 2011) following a Brief from the County Archaeological Advisor (Mather 2011). The works were monitored by the County Archaeological Advisor to Northamptonshire County Council.







Scale 1:25,000 Site location Fig 1



1:17,500 Topography Fig 2

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and topography

The development area occupies the northern half of a field on the southern edge of Brixworth village. The village occupies an ironstone ridge overlooking the Brampton valley to the west and south-west and Pitsford Reservoir to the east. The site is situated at an altitude of approximately 120m above Ordnance Datum.

The development area is divided into two fields by an earthwork bank and sward providing habitat for insects. The northern area (Field 1) is generally flat to the northwest and slopes gradually down southwards (Figs 2 & 3).



General view of Field 1, with Trench 2 being excavated, looking west Fig 3

The southern field (Field 2) continues sloping down southwards, with a series of incised north to south aligned slades (dry valleys; Figs 2 & 4).

The western boundary of the site is formed by a farm track, to the north lies modern housing, Northampton Road lies to the east and to the south arable fields. The site occupies a total area of 15.3ha, much of which is arable. There is an area comprising approximately 3ha of farm stewardship grassland in the north-western corner of the site.



General view of Field 2, with Trench 55 in the foreground, looking north-west Fig 4

2.2 Geology by Steve Critchley

All the site lies on the Northampton Sand Formation which is part of the Inferior Oolite Group of the Middle Jurassic. These rocks are composed of fossiliferous sandy berthierine-ooidal sideritic ironstones with some subordinate sandy limestones and mudstones which weathers at outcrop to a reddish-brown limonitic sandstone with patches of kaolinitic clays and fine unconsolidated sands.

2.3 Archaeological background

An Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Statement was prepared by RSK Group plc (2011). Further historical and archaeological background has been gathered for this report and includes data from Northamptonshire's Historic Environment Record (HER) and from historic map sources.

The area surrounding Brixworth is rich in recorded archaeological remains, in part due to comprehensive fieldwalking exercises undertaken by David Hall, Paul Martin and Paul Sharp and through aerial photographic plots. Brixworth has also expanded significantly throughout the 20th century and archaeological works were often carried out in advance of the developments. The ridge on which Brixworth sits has been occupied since the Iron Age with the focus tentatively centred on the site of the church (Anglo-Saxon foundation), some 1.5km north of the site (RCHME 1981).

A total of 51 sites and monuments were recorded within a 1km radius of the site and range in date from the Mesolithic to the present day. Of those records a total of seven entries fall within the proposed development area. An inventory of the sites is recorded in Appendix 1 accompanied by Figure 5.

A number of records currently comprise undated sites. They include cropmark enclosures of agricultural marks to the south-west of the site (HER1280), a fieldwalking scatter identified by Paul Martin within the development area (HER6440) and a site to the south south-west (HER4412). A possible settlement identified from aerial photography is situated to the east of the Brixworth bypass (HER 6213). Two other sites are currently undated and are thought to indicate the site of windmills (HER2964 and 4411).

The earliest artefacts recorded in the area comprise Mesolithic flint artefacts scatters (HER4582 and 6377/0/0). Other prehistoric sites, including possible settlements, have been identified during fieldwalking (HER2952/0/0, 2959, 2961, 2962, 4443, 4515 and 5949). Bronze Age finds have also been recorded (HER2952/0/0)

The aerial photographs suggest an Iron Age settlement (HER 2958) to the south-west of the site, as defined by rectangular enclosures and ditches (HER 2958/0/1, 2958/0/2, 2958/0/3, 2958/0/4, 2958/0/5, 2958/0/6 and 2958/0/8). There is evidence of internal features within two of the enclosures. A pit (HER 2958/0/9) is situated within a small enclosure (HER 2958/0/8). A ring ditch is also recorded (HER 2958/0/7) within HER 2958/0/4. Other features, including ditches (HER 0/0/0 MNN130757) and enclosures (HER 0/0/0 MNN130759 and 6214/0/1), were recorded to the east of Northampton Road. A rectangular enclosure (HER 0/0/0 MNN130770) was situated within the site boundary, and this together with field walking finds suggest a settlement occupied from the Iron Age to Saxon period (HER 2961).

Roman activity around Brixworth is presumed to have been focussed on the area around the church (RCHME 1981, 27-29). To the north of the church was the site of a villa which was occupied from the 1st century through the early Saxon period (RCHME 1981, 29). Evidence for the Roman occupation of the area south of the church is sparser, but possible settlement is recorded north of the site (HER 2963). Fieldwalking undertaken by Paul Sharp (Upper Nene Archaeological Society) in the 1980s recovered approximately 2kg of Roman pottery from the north-western corner of the site (Paul Sharp, pers comm; Brown 1980). The pottery included sherds of Nene Valley Colour Coat (3rd century), mortaria, Samian and grey ware. A fragment of Roman tile and a 4th-century bronze coin were also found.

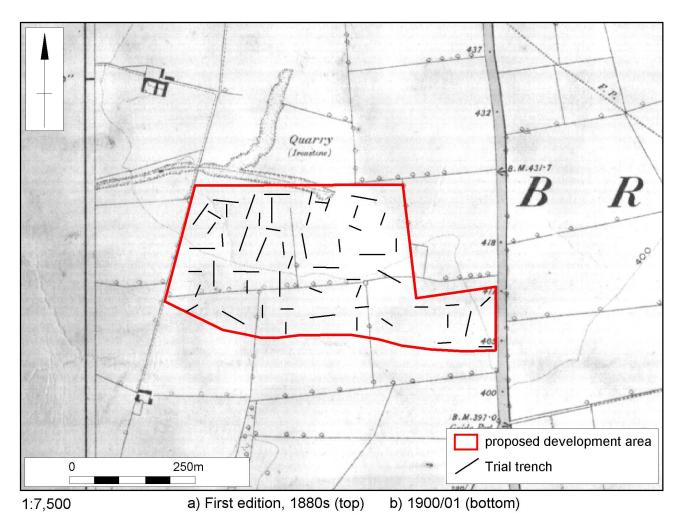
The Saxon village of Brixworth superseded the Roman settlement around the church. The church dedicated to All Saints is reputed to have 7th-century monastic foundation which was destroyed in the Danish invasion of 870 (Salzman 1937, 150-157). It was rebuilt as a parish church in the 9th century. Roman brick, probably reused from the earlier buildings in the vicinity, was used in the construction of the walls and arches. At least two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries are known to have been found north of the church prior to 1904 (RCHME 1981, 29-31). A Saxon burial (HER 2960) is recorded as being found on the northern boundary of the site, around the time of the construction of the housing estate. Saxon and early medieval settlement to the east of Northampton Road (HER 4581) was investigated in 1994 (Ford 1995). This identified five post-built structures and four sunken-featured buildings. This settlement was also occupied in the prehistoric period. Other settlements which appear to have been occupied in prehistoric, Roman and Saxon/medieval periods are situated to the south (HER 4413) and to the west of the site (HER 5949).

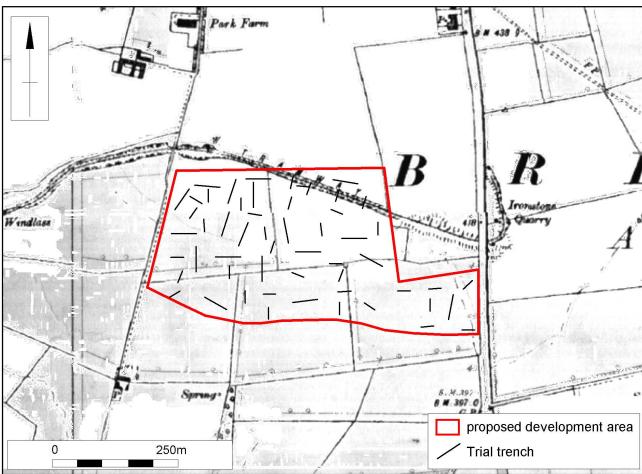
Earthworks and documentary sources refer to Wolfage Park (HER 6604), the location of which lies to the north-west of the site. This comprises building platforms, manor house, a pond/macula (HER 2954/1/6) and embanked enclosures. It is believed to have been occupied in early and middle Saxon times and is recorded as Wolfage Manor on a map dating from 1668. In 2005 medieval architectural fragments are believed to have

come from Wolfage Manor (HER 2954/0/0). Medieval open fields (HER6103) are recorded to the east of Northampton Road and on the site of Pitsford reservoir (RCHME 1981, 31). Brixworth probably flourished in the medieval period as it was situated on the road between London and Derby (HER6745/1). More local roads linked Brixworth with other villages such as Spratton to the west (HER 8555/1).

It was in the post-medieval and modern periods that the greatest changes on the landscape took place, especially in the exploitation of ironstone cuttings outside of the village (HER 8409 and 8414/4). The exploitation was aided by the development of local railway (now dismantled) to the west of the site and by the Turnpike road between Northampton and Market Harborough (HER 9342/1). The ironstone workings and mine (HER 8409/1 and 8409/1/1) fell within the site boundary as seen on historic maps dating from 1880s (Fig 6a) to the early 20th century (Fig 6b) (www.old-maps.co.uk). They included a tramway (HER8409/1/5) with locomotive shed (HER 8409/1/3) and two bridges (HER 8409/1/2 and 8409/1/4). The tram way appears to have linked the turnpike road with the dismantled railway at Attenborough Siding.

During the First World War a Prisoner of War camp is reported to have been in operation to the west of Brixworth (HER 8502). As this is situated in the vicinity of the cropmarks (HER 2958/0/5 etc) it is likely that some of the enclosures may relate to the camp. Much of the modern village comprises modern expansion dating from the 1970s to 1990s, including the estates to the north and east of the development area.





Ordnance Survey maps Fig 6

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

The purpose of the work was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The aims of the investigation were to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation on the development site;
- Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine past local environmental conditions.

The following specific research objectives drawn from national and regional research frameworks documents (English Heritage 1991, Cooper 2006) are relevant:

Iron Age

Settlement continuity and development (Willis 2006, 107), morphology (op cit 111) and agricultural economy (op cit 113);

Roman

Distribution and morphology of rural settlement (Taylor 2006, 143-5), changing status and social organisation;

Anglo-Saxon

Transition from Roman to Anglo-Saxon (Vince 2006, 163) and the recognition and study of burial sites (*op cit* 170);

Modern, 1750-2000

Markets, settlements, communities and transport infrastructure related to extractive industries, in this case ironstone extraction (Campion 2006, 250).

3.2 Methodology

Geophysical survey

The survey was conducted with Bartington Grad 601-2, twin sensor array, vertical component fluxgate gradiometers (Bartington and Chapman 2003). These are standard instruments for archaeological survey and can resolve magnetic variations as slight as 0.1 nanoTesla (nT).

A tape measure and optical square was were used to divide the survey area into a grid of 30m squares, and this grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid with a Leica Systems 1200 dGPS. The gradiometers were then carried at a brisk but steady pace through each grid square, collecting data along 1m spaced traverse lines. Measurements were automatically triggered every 0.25m along the traverses, giving a total of 3600 measurements per square.

The works were conducted in accordance with the specification (NA 2011), and a Project Design (NA 2011). All fieldwork methods complied with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and by the Institute for Archaeologists (EH 2008; IfA forthcoming).

The survey data was processed using Geoplot 3.00v software. Striping, caused by slight mismatches in sensor balance, was removed using the 'Zero Mean Traverse' function and destaggering of the data was performed as necessary.

The processed data is presented in this report in the form of a grey-tone plot, at a scale of +/- 4nT black/white. The plot has been scaled, rotated and resampled (georectified) for display against the Ordnance Survey base mapping (Fig 7). An interpretative overlay has been produced and is shown in Figure 8. A plot of the raw (unprocessed) survey data is given in Figure 9.

Trial trenching

The works were conducted in accordance with the specification (NA 2011) and following discussions with the County Archaeological Advisor. The following guidelines were adhered to: *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 1994, revised 2008) and the *Code of Conduct* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 1985, revised 2010). The work was monitored by the County Archaeological Advisor to Northamptonshire County Council

Trial trenching comprised the excavation of 55 trenches. Of these, 36 trenches measured 25m x 2m, and the remaining 19 trenches were 50m by 2m. The trenches were machine-excavated in dry conditions using a toothless ditching bucket. The trenches were positioned in accordance with the trench location plan approved by Natural England and the County Archaeological Advisor to Northamptonshire and have been related to Ordnance Survey National Grid (Fig 10). On completion of archaeological recording the trenches were backfilled. There was no requirement for specialist re-instatement.

The topsoil, subsoil and non-structural post-medieval and later deposits were removed to reveal archaeological remains or where absent to the natural. The topsoil was stacked separately from the subsoil and other deposits. The trenches were cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification of any features.

All deposits encountered during the course of the excavation were given a separate context number and fully recorded. Recording followed standard Northamptonshire Archaeology procedures. Deposits were described on pro-forma context sheets to include details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds.

The trenches were planned at a scale of either 1:50 or 1:100. Sections of the sequence of deposits in each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and related to Ordnance Datum. The excavated area and spoil heaps were scanned visually and with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

A full photographic record comprising both 35mm black and white negatives and colour transparencies was maintained, supplemented with digital images. The field data has been compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

4 **GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY** by Adrian Butler

The survey was characterised by a highly variable background, characteristic of the shallow ironstone substrate. The existence of this particular geology has made the site a prime location for small-scale quarrying, likely to be indicated by the very large positive and negative magnetic area anomalies in the north-east, south and south-east of the proposed development area (Figs 7, 8 & 9). Alternating positive-negative bands aligned north to south across the site indicate the presence of relict medieval ridge and furrow ploughing.

Magnetic anomalies representing probable archaeological features were identified in the north-west of the site. Linear positive anomalies in an orthogonal pattern appear to indicate a sub-rectangular ditched enclosure (E2), approximately 70m wide on a north-west to south-east orientation. Positive anomalies indicating likely ditches appear to continue the south-western side of the large enclosure, (E1), north-west (E4) and intermittently to the south-east. A second, smaller, square enclosure (E3) was detected dividing the south-west quadrant of the larger enclosure. A sinuous ditch anomaly was located turning south from the northern corner of the small enclosure and then to the north-west. Three large discrete positive anomalies, possibly reflecting substantial pits or quarries, were located within the enclosure. Other similar anomalies were recorded both to the south-east and north-west of the large enclosure.

Curvilinear positive anomalies were detected, effectively enclosing the north-west corner of the site with ditches. Two particularly highly magnetic discrete anomalies were located in this area, possibly 'thermoremnantly' magnetised by heating from an oven or furnace.

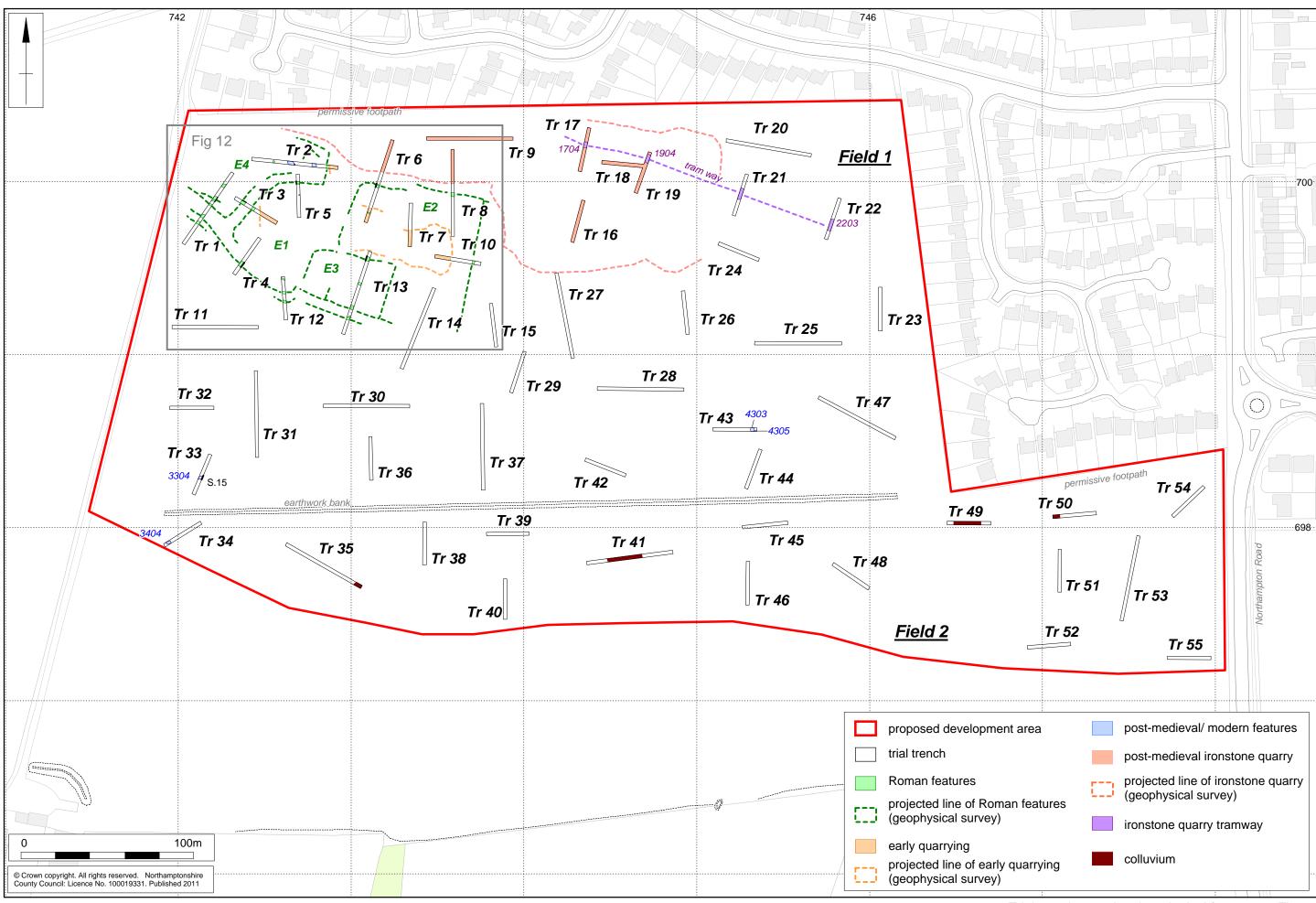
Central to the northern edge of the site, an area of mixed magnetic readings suggests the possibility of densely sited occupation or activity areas. From this area, a broad positive magnetic lineation, most likely a ditch, is orientated north-west to south-east. A U-shaped negative anomaly was detected on the southern side, towards the north-western end of the ditch, suggesting possibly a stone or embanked structure.

Anomalies describing possible short ditch lengths have been identified in the south-west, south-central and south-east of the site.









5 TRIAL TRENCHING

5.1 General comments

The natural soils typically comprise Northampton Sands and Ironstone, encountered at an average depth of 0.35m below modern ground surface. However, the levels were more variable across the undulating ground in the eastern part of the site (Trenches 49 to 55). Here, the depths ranged from 0.34m up to 0.55m. In places, the natural showed signs of plough scarring. An undated tree-hole was investigated at the south-western end of Trench 29.

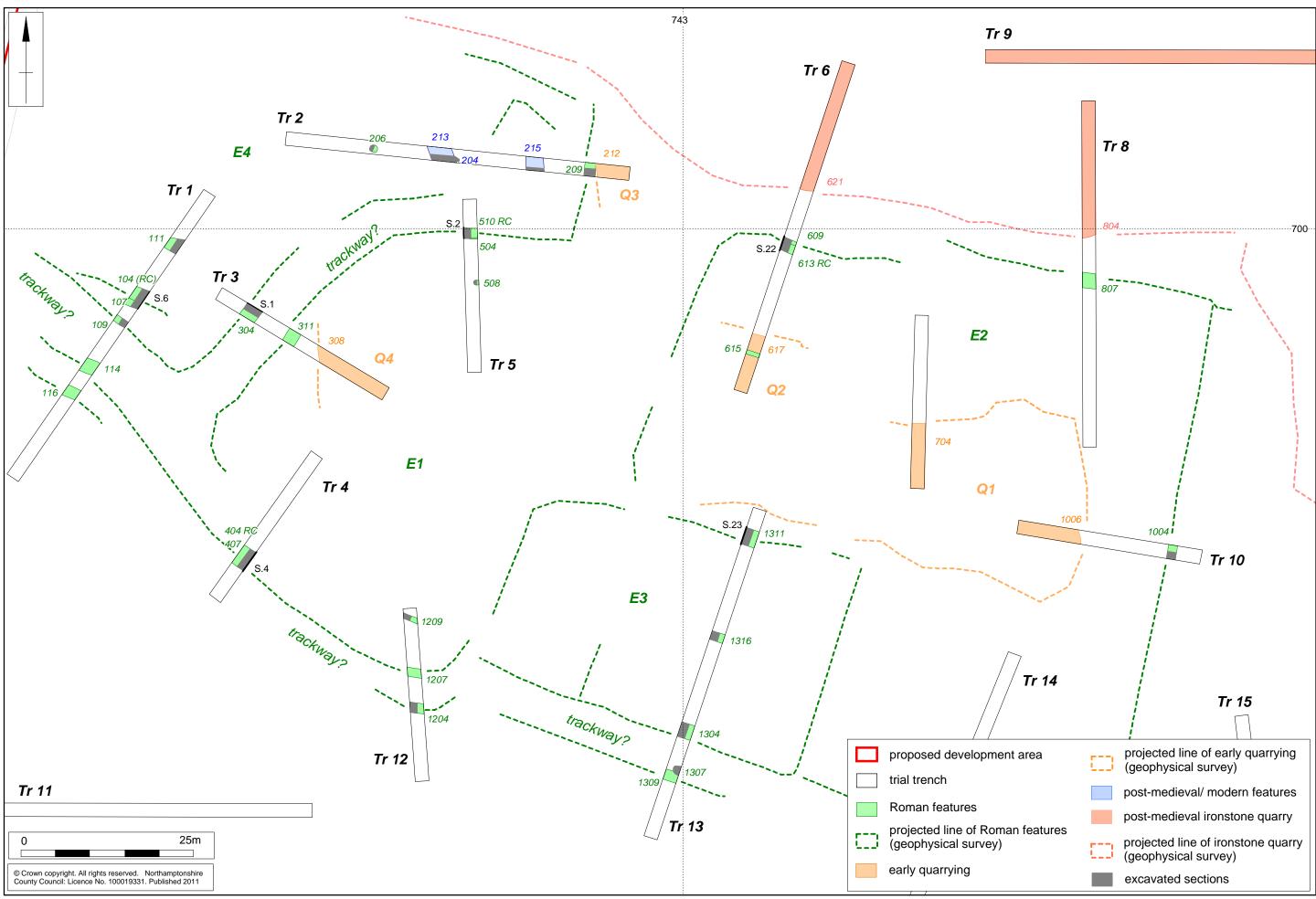
Colluvium, at least 0.50m thick was encountered in Trenches 35, 41, 49 and 50. This typically comprised reddish-brown or greyish-brown silty clay and was sealed by the subsoil. This layer of colluvium corresponded with the hollows in the natural topography (Fig 11).



The colluvium (4904) in the centre of Trench 49, looking east Fig 11

Subsoil was present in the majority of the trenches, the exceptions being Trenches 9, 17-19, 22, 43 and 44. It was not present in Trenches 17-19 or in the northern part of Trenches 6 and 8 because of the post-medieval infilling of an ironstone quarry. Although the subsoil typically comprised sandy clays, it varied in colour from reddish-brown or greyish-brown to orange-grey. It varied considerably in thickness, from a thin, weathered interface between natural and topsoil 0.02m-0.12m in Field 1 up to more developed layer up to 0.30m thick in Field 2. The topsoil was of a consistent thickness, averaging 300mm thick, across the entire area. It typically comprised greyish-brown sandy clay.

In general, and unless otherwise stated, the fills of the features ranged from yellowish-brown to reddish-brown sands and clays. The majority of the fills had varying quantities of ironstone fragments and small rounded gravel. The fills were not overly charcoal rich unless otherwise stated.



5.2 Roman occupation

The geophysical survey had suggested that there was an area of enclosed settlement, encompassing 1.5ha in the north-western part of Field 1. The enclosures are roughly aligned north-west to south-east, reflecting the curve of the top of the natural slope.

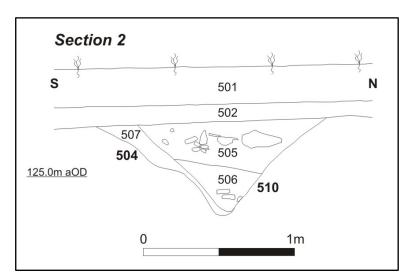
The enclosures, as defined by the geophysical survey, comprised four areas (E1- E4; Fig 12). Enclosures E1 and E4 were separated by a double ditch, possibly forming a trackway and the southern boundaries of enclosures E1 and E3 were also defined by double ditches. The trial trenching ascertained the presence of enclosure ditches and some internal features that were not visible on the geophysical survey.

Enclosure 1

Enclosure 1 (E1) lay in the north-western corner of the field and was investigated in Trenches 2- 5 and 12 (Fig 12). It encompassed an irregular area measuring 82m north-east to south-west by up to 50m wide, covering at least 0.33ha. Rather than an enclosure, it may rather be the space between a trackway to the south and west and Enclosures 2 and 3 to the east.

The northern and western part was defined by a double-ditch system seen in Trenches 2, 5 and 3 (Fig 12). In Trench 2 it was aligned north to south and then turned to the west in Trenches 5 and 3. The ditches were spaced 4.5m apart with ditches [209], [504/510] and [311] forming the eastern side of the double ditches. Ditch [304] (see section on enclosure E4 below) formed the western side.

Ditch [209] had an asymmetrical U-shaped profile, 1.66m wide and 0.52m deep, with a steeper eastern edge. The fills comprised firm light reddish-brown sandy clay (211) overlain by firm reddish-brown sandy clay (210). By contrast, in Trench 5, the southern edge of the ditch [504] was very weathered and the fill comprised light orange-greyish-brown sandy clay fill (507) (Fig 13). A recut [510] had a fill of loose dark greyish-brown clayey sand (506) which was overlain by firm greyish-brown sandy clay (505). The fills tipped in from the south.

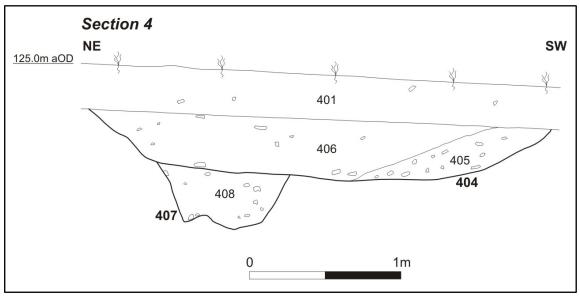


Northern boundary of enclosure E1 [504]/ [510], Scale 1:25 Fig 13

Roman pottery, comprising greywares and shell-gritted wares was recovered from the upper fills (210), (305) and (505). Cattle bone came from fills (210) and (505).

The southern boundary of E1 was defined by a double ditch system that was recorded in Trenches 4, [404]/ [407], and 12, [1207] and [1204] (Figs 10 & 12).

In Trench 4 ditch [407], 0.88m wide by 0.45m deep, had a U-shaped profile and an uneven base (Fig 14). The fill of firm, reddish-brown sand (408) contained sherds of Roman pottery. It was recut by a broad ditch [404], 3.07m wide and 0.48m deep, with a dish-shaped profile. The primary fill (405) comprised compact orange-brown sandy clay tipping from the south-west, overlain by compact brown sand (406). Roman pottery was recovered from the upper fill.



Section 4, showing ditch [407] and recut [404], Scale 1:25 Fig 14

Where the boundary curved round into Trench 12 it was formed by two ditches [1207] and [1204], aligned east to west and spaced 3.5m apart. Ditch [1207] was 1.30m wide, with a fill of firm light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay (1208). To the south, ditch [1204] was 1.56m wide by 0.23m deep, with a bowl- shaped profile. Its primary fill comprised firm, light brownish-grey silty/sandy clay (1206) overlain by firm greyish-brown sandy-silty clay (1205). No artefacts were recovered from the ditches.

There were a number of features within the enclosed area. They include a shallow ditch [1209] in Trench 12, two extraction pits in Trenches 2 and 3 (see Section 5.3) and a pit [508] in Trench 5.

Ditch [1209], seen at the northern end of Trench 12 (Fig 12), was not recorded in the geophysical survey. It was aligned east-south-east to west-north-west and was 0.80m wide by 0.13m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. The fill was friable light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay (1210).

An oval pit [508], located 6m south of the ditch [504]/ [510] was 0.60m long by 0.18m deep, with a fill comprising firm greyish-brown sand with large pieces of burnt limestone and ironstone (509).

Enclosure 2

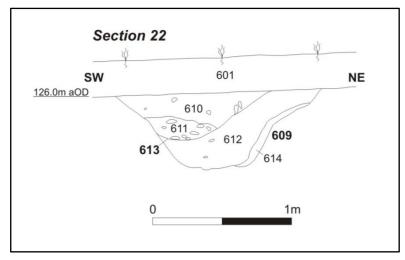
Enclosure 2 (E2), located to the east of E1, was a rectangular area measuring 77m north-west to south-east by 81m north-east to south-west, encompassing 0.5ha. It was defined in the geophysical survey by fragmentary positive magnetic anomalies, and in the trenching by a ditch seen in Trenches 6, 8 and 10. The geophysical survey

suggested that there was a break in the ditch on the northern and western boundaries. Much of the southern boundary was not seen on the geophysical survey and no identifiable features were seen in Trench 14.

Part of the interior of the enclosure had been quarried away (see section 5.3) but it was not clear at what date this occurred. With the exception of a gully cutting the top backfill of a quarry in Trench 6, no other internal features were recorded.

The northern boundary of the enclosure, recorded in Trenches 6 and 8, was between 1.07m and 2.0m wide ([609] and [807]). It is likely that there was a gap (entrance) in the boundary between Trenches 6 and 8. The eastern boundary ditch was investigated in Trench 10.

Ditch [609] was 1.20m wide and 0.56m deep, with a weathered, U-shaped profile; with the upper portion of the north-eastern edge eroded (Figs 12 and 15). A primary fill of brownish-orange sandy clay (914) was overlain by orange-brown sandy clay (612). Both fills tipped from the north-east. Cattle and sheep/goat bone and a small quantity of Roman pottery, comprising greyware and shell-gritted ware, was also recovered from (612). This part of the enclosure ditch was recut, on the southern side, by a ditch [613] with a bowl-shaped profile, and fills of firm orange-brown sandy clays (611) and (610).



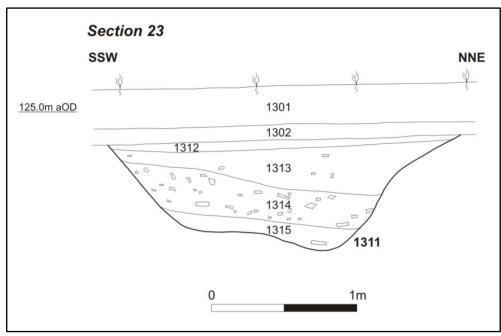
Section 22, ditch [609] and recut [613], Scale 1:25 Fig 15

The eastern arm of enclosure E2 (Trench 10) was defined by a ditch [1004] with a V-shaped profile, 1.50m wide and up to 0.56m deep. The fill was hard reddish-brown sandy clay. No artefacts were recovered from the ditch fill.

Enclosure 3

Enclosure 3 (E3), identified during the geophysical survey, was rectangular, measuring 48m north-west to south-east by 30m north-east to south-west, an area of 0.15ha. The southern boundary was defined by double ditches, [1304] and [1309], spaced 5m apart, and the northern boundary by ditch [1311]. The geophysical survey and the evaluation suggest that the enclosure was sub-divided by a shallow ditch [1316].

Ditch [1311] was 2.44m wide and 0.77m deep with a weathered, asymmetrical profile (Figs 12 and 16). The fill was a sequence of greyish-brown or brownish-grey sandy or silty clays, (1315), (1314), (1313) and (1312), which tipped from the southern side, all containing artefacts.



Section 23, ditch [1311], enclosure E3, Scale 1:25 Fig 16

Fill (1313) was particularly rich; containing Roman pottery including two sherds of Samian, and a small quantity of cattle and sheep/goat animal bone, and two residual flint flakes (SF6). A bulk soil sample, 4, produced small quantities of cereal grains and charcoal (section 6.7).

A large posthole [1307] was situated between ditches [1304] and [1309]. It was at least 0.97m long, 0.72m wide and up to 0.40m deep with a U-shaped profile, and a fill of firm, dark greyish-brown slightly clayey sand (1318) with occasional charcoal. Soil sample 3, revealed a quantity of cereal grain and charcoal. An unexcavated ditch [1309] cut the posthole [1307].

Ditch [1304], 1.22m wide and 0.42m deep, had a weathered, asymmetrical profile with a flattish base (Figs 12 & 17). The primary fill (1305) was compact, light yellowish-brown slightly sandy clay, overlain by a firm, dark greyish-brown clayey sand (1306). No artefacts were recovered from either of the fills.

There was a shallow ditch [1316] positioned roughly equidistant between [1304] and [1311] (Figs 10 & 12). This measured 1.10m wide and was up to 0.08m deep with a dish-shaped profile and was filled with hard, reddish-brown sandy/silty clay.

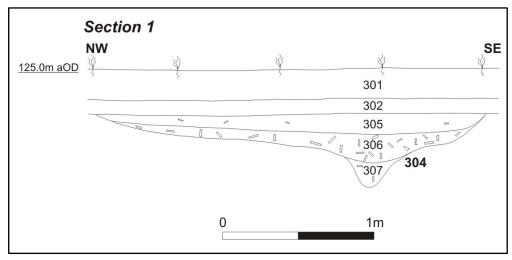


General view of the excavated section of ditch [1304], looking north-west Fig 17

Enclosure 4

Enclosure (E4) lay to the north-west of Enclosure (E1) and encompassed an area measuring 50m north-west to south-east and 40m north-east to south-west, an area of at least 0.30ha. Much of the geophysical survey for this area was affected by mixed magnetic responses suggesting compacted or disturbed ground. The recorded portion comprised the south-eastern corner of a rectangular enclosure, separated from E1 by a possible trackway, ditches [304], [311] and [504]. The definition of the southern boundary was more complicated with an array of four ditches ([116], [114], 109] and [107]/ [104]) aligned north-west to south-east. Internal features comprised a pit [206] and a ditch [111]. There were three post-medieval features [204], [213] and [215] (section 5.4).

The eastern boundary, as defined by ditch [304], measured up to 2.58m wide and 0.49m deep (Figs 12 & 18). A deeper section defined the south-eastern edge made the ditch asymmetrical in profile, the fills comprising a sequence of light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay fills (307), (308) and (309). Sherds of Roman pot were recovered from the upper fill (305).

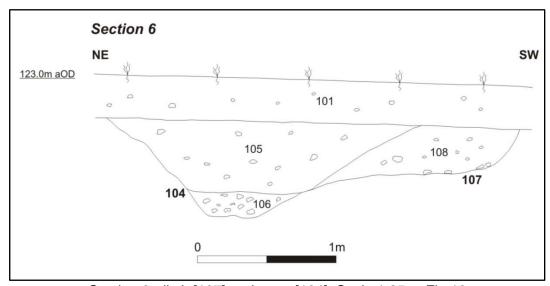


Section 1, ditch [304], Scale 1:25 Fig 18

The southern boundary was defined in Trench 1 by four ditches. Unexcavated ditches [116] and [114] were spaced 2.5m apart and were between 1.77m and 2.03m wide. It is probable that [116] is the same ditch seen in Trenches 12 [1204] and 13 [1309] whilst [114] is the same as ditches [407], [1207] and [1304]. Ditches [109] and [107]/ [104] were 6m to the north-east and the gap between them was 2m. The geophysical survey suggests that ditch [109] is the same as ditch [304].

Ditch [109] had a bowl-shaped profile and was up to 0.19m deep, filled with hard yellowish-brown sandy clay and charcoal flecks (110). A small quantity of Roman pottery was recovered from the fill. Due to the presence of charcoal, a bulk soil sample was taken and small quantities of barley and spelt wheat were recovered.

Ditch [107], 1.20m wide and 0.36m deep, had a bowl-shaped profile (Figs 12 and 19), with a fill of compact light yellowish-brown sandy clay (108). Fragments of sheep bone were recovered from the fill. The ditch was later recut [104] on the same alignment, with the U-shaped recut measuring 2.03m wide by 0.62m deep, with fills of compact reddish-brown sandy clay (106) and (105).



Section 6, ditch [107] and recut [104], Scale 1:25 Fig 19

Ditch [111] was 6m to the north-east of ditch [107] and within enclosure E4 (Fig 12). It measured 1.95m wide and 0.34m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. A primary fill of compact light orange-brown sandy clay (112) with fragments of animal bone, was overlain by compact dark brown clay (113).

A circular pit [206], 0.95m in diameter and 0.18m deep, had a shallow, asymmetrical dish-shaped profile (Figs 10, 12 & 20). The primary fill (208) comprised a very dark greyish-black ash with abundant quantity of charcoal and charred seed grains, including oat, barley and wheat, suggesting that there may have been small scale cereal processing in the vicinity. There was also a residual flint flake (SF5). The primary fill was overlain by firm reddish-brown grey sandy clay (207) with abundant small to large burnt stone.



General view of pit [206], looking east Fig 20

5.3 Early quarrying

Small scale ironstone extraction was seen in Trenches 2, 3, 6, 7 and 10 (Figs 10 & 12). From the geophysical survey and trenching data it is likely that there are at least four irregular-shaped pits, which probably post-date the enclosures.

Extraction pit Q1, seen in Trenches 7 and 10 ([704] and [1006]), was a flat-bottomed pit (Fig 21). In Trench 7 the pit was at least 10m long and 0.31m deep, filled with compact, light whitish-yellow clayey sand (706) overlain with compact reddish-brown slightly clayey sand (705). In Trench 10 the pit was at least 9m long and 1.0m deep. It was filled with reddish-brown sandy clay (1009) overlain by very dark greyish-brown sand with a high ash content (1008), and sealed with firm reddish-brown sandy clay (1007). A bulk soil sample from the ash laden fill ((1008) sample 5) contained a quantity of cereal grain, small quantities of charcoal (section 6.7).



General view of extraction pit Q1 [1006], looking north-east Fig 21

Extraction pit Q2 was located within enclosure E2, at the southern end of Trench 6 [617], and was at least 5m long and 0.90m deep, with an eroded and steeped northwestern edge. The fill of red clay (620) was overlain by orange-brown clayey sand (619) and mottled sandy clay (618).

Within enclosure E2, gully [615] cut the upper fill of an extraction pit (618)/[617]. The gully, which was on the same alignment as the enclosures (north-west to south-east), measured 0.90m wide and up to 0.28m deep, with a U-shaped profile. It was filled with firm, dark orange-brown sandy clay, with charcoal flecking (616). Sherds of Roman pottery, and cattle and sheep bone were recovered from the fill. A bulk soil sample, 6, contained small quantities of cereal grains as well as abundant charcoal.

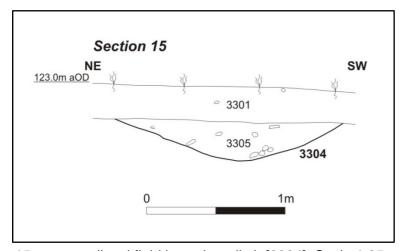
Extraction pit Q3, located at the eastern end of Trench 2 cut the upper fill of ditch [209]/(210) enclosure E1. It was at least 5m long and 0.56m deep with a flattish base. The fill comprised mixed bands of sands (214) slumping from the west, overlain by firm light yellowish-brown sands (213). The upper fill contained a sherd of Roman pottery.

Extraction pit Q4, located at the south-eastern end of Trench 3, was at least 12m long and 0.66m deep, with a flattish base [308]. The fill comprised a series of yellowish-grey or orange-brown sandy/silty clays, and some grey ash/sand (315). Sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from fill (309).

5.4 Post-medieval features

The post-medieval features comprised the remains of three field boundaries, in Trenches 33 and 43; a tree throw in Trench 34 and two possible furrows in Trench 2 (Figs 10 & 12).

It is probable that the ditch aligned east to west in Trenches 33 [3304] (Fig 22) and Trench 43 [4305] are part of the same boundary. In Trench 43 a shallow ditch aligned perpendicular to [4303] was also present. The field boundaries comprised shallow ditches with bowl-shaped profiles, the edges of which were disturbed by root action. They varied from 1.60m to 3.40m wide by up to 0.30m deep. The fills of ditches [3304] and [4305] were dark yellowish-brown sand ((3305) and (4306)) while ditch [4303] was filled with a firm reddish-brown silty sand (4304). Sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from fill (4306).



Section 15, post-medieval field boundary ditch [3304], Scale 1:25 Fig 22

A partially articulated and disturbed dog-burial [204] was located in the central portion of Trench 2. This shallow cut was aligned north-east to south-west and filled with a reddish/greyish-brown sandy clay. A flint flake (SF4) was found on top of the scapular of the dog, but it is probably residual.

The remains of two furrows ([215] and [217]) in Trench 2 were aligned north to south and spaced 10m apart. They were between 2.50m and 3m wide and up to 0.10m deep with shallow dish-shaped profiles. They were filled with dark brown sandy clays. Post-medieval and modern glass and pottery were seen in the fills but were not retained.

A tree hole [3404] at the south-western end of Trench 34 had an asymmetrical bowl-shaped profile, 2.9-0m long, 1.0m wide and up to 0.14m deep, aligned east to west. The fill comprised compact dark greyish-brown clayey sand. A small fragment of slate, probably Welsh slate dating from the 19th century (see section 6.5) was recovered.

5.5 Post-medieval ironstone quarry

An infilled ironstone quarry, encompassing at least 1.4ha, was recorded in Trenches 6, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The southern extent of the quarrying was seen in Trenches 6, 8 and 16 (Figs 10, 12 & 24).



General view of Trench 6, with the extraction pit [621] in the foreground Fig 23

A machine-excavated sondage at the eastern end of Trench 9 (Fig 25) suggested that the pit was at least 2m deep. The infilling of the quarry comprised a mixed white and brown sand overlain by a levelling deposit of light brown sandy clay. Sherds of Roman pottery and post-medieval pottery were recovered from the lower fill in Trenches 8 and 9.



The machine-excavated sondage in Trench 9, looking north Fig 24

Associated with the ironstone extraction pit was a tramway recorded on the 1880s and 1900/01 historic maps (Fig 6) and in the geophysical survey (Figs 7, 8 & 9). It was aligned north-west to south-east and was at least 215m long. The line of the tramway survived as a ditch-type feature and was identified in Trenches 17, 19, 21 and 22.

In Trenches 17 and 19 it was up to 4m wide and was cut into the upper fills of the infilled quarry. It was investigated in Trench 21, where it was at its widest at 6m. In Trench 22 it was up to 5.50m wide and cut into the natural ironstone.

In Trench 21, the tramway comprised a group [2112] of backfilling events or ditches (Fig 25). The fills comprising hard brownish clays with burnt stone tipped from the south-west. Artefacts ranging from brick fragments, pottery, iron nail, a copper alloy strip and an 18th-century clay pipe stem were recovered from the backfilled material.



Composite view of the tramway [2112] in Trench 21, looking south-east Fig 25

6 THE ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

6.1 The worked flint by Yvonne Wolframm-Murray

Six pieces of worked flint were recovered as residual finds from Roman ditches.

The flint comprised five flakes and one blade (Table 1).

Table 1: Catalogue of flint

Fill/	SF	Flake/	Portion	Material	Cortex	Comments
cut		Blade				
205/204	4	Flake	Whole	Vitreous mid grey-brown	-	-
208/206	5	Flake	Whole	Vitreous	mid brown	Heavy patination, potlidding
210/209		Flake	Distal	Vitreous mid brown		
302 Subsoil	2	Blade	Distal	Vitreous light brown-grey	Light brown	Slight patination
307/304	1	Natural-	-	-	-	discarded
1313/1311	6	Flake	Distal	Vitreous light brown	-	-
1313/1311	6	Flake	Whole	Vitreous grey-brown	-	Slight post- depositional edge damage
/	3	Natural-	-	=	=	discarded

The condition of the assemblage was good. The flints showed little post-depositional edge damage, displaying occasional small edge spalls. Patination was present on two pieces in the assemblage, ranging from a slight mottled to a heavy white discolouration of the surface, the latter through accidental burning with potlidding.

The raw material is a vitreous flint of light to mid coloured greys and browns. The light and mid brown coloured cortex was present on the dorsal surface of the two pieces. The raw material was likely to have comprised local gravel deposits.

The flints recovered consisted of waste flakes and blades. The assemblage comprised fiver flakes, of which two were broken, and one broken blade.

The worked flints are not directly dateable but their technological characteristics suggest a broadly Neolithic to Bronze Age date.

6.2 The pottery by Tora Hylton

In total, 110 sherds of pottery, with a combined weight of 1,228kg, were recovered from 22 individual deposits in 12 trenches (1-6, 9, 13 16, 21, 43). The majority of the assemblage dates to the mid/late1st century AD, with a small group dating medieval and post-medieval periods (Table 2).

Roman pottery

A small assemblage of 103 pottery sherds weighing 1,073kg was recovered from a series of linear features located in the north-west corner of the area of investigation (Trenches 1-6, 13, 16). In addition, three residual sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from Trench 9 (903), together with sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery. The overall condition of the pottery is relatively poor, the sherds are small

and abraded and this is reflected in a mean sherd weight of 10g. There are very few diagnostic sherds therefore the fabric type has been used as an indicator of date.

The assemblage is dominated by locally produced coarsewares in greyware (49.3% by weight), shell-gritted (18.3%) and grog-tempered fabrics (17.5%). Chronologically the earliest forms represented date to the mid/late 1st century and these were only located in Trench 1 (105) and include a wide mouthed bowl/jar in a grog-tempered fabric and sand-tempered body sherds ornamented with carinations, cordons and girth grooves. The assemblage is dominated by greyware and forms represented include necked jars and shallow bowls with plain rims. Decorative techniques include grooved necks, burnishing and hatched motifs.

Imported wares are represented by four sherds of Samian, diagnostic forms include a base sherd from a Dragendorff 18/31R which dates to c AD 100-120 (Webster 1996, fig 21), and a hemispherical bowl with hooked flange and plain rim (Dragendorff 38) which dates to the second half of the 2nd century (ibid 1996, fig 36).

Comments

The assemblage dates from the mid/late 1st century AD to the late 2nd century AD, no later forms are represented. Evidence of the earliest occupation appears to be in the north-west corner of the site in the vicinity of Trench 1.

Medieval and post-medieval pottery

Seven sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from Trenches 8, 9, 21 and 43 which lay to the north and west of the site. One sherd of calcite-gritted medieval pottery (CTS 330) and one sherd of post-medieval salt-glazed stoneware (CTS 429) was recovered from Trench 9 (903). In addition four fragments of post-medieval iron-glazed earthenware (CTS 426) were recovered from Trenches 8 (803), 21 (2105, 2109) and 43 (4306).

Table 2: Catalogue of the pottery

FABRIC TYPE	Fill/d	cut																				
PADRIC TIFE	105/ No/V	104 Vt (g)	106/ ⁻ No/V		110/ No/V	109 /t (g)	210/ : No/W			3/ 212 /Wt (g)	305/ No/\	304 Vt (g)		/ 308 Wt (g)		/ 404 Wt (g)	408/ No/V	407 Vt (g)	505/ No/V	510 Vt (g)		2/609 Wt (g)
Roman Pottery		(3)		(3)		(3)		(3)		. (3)		(3)		(3)		* (3)		* (3)		* (3)		. (3)
Grog tempered wares	9	103	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	56	-	-
Greyware	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	229	1	13	1	7	4	99	1	5	-	-	1	28	1	7
Shell-gritted ware	-	-	4	20	-	-	2	9	-	-	1	2	2	19	-	-	-	-	4	12	1	2
LNVCČ	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sand-tempered wares	14	64	-	-	-	-	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported wares	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	-	_	-	_	_	_	=	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Samian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	90	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Medieval Pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-medieval Pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	23	167	4	20	2	7	31	254	1	13	2	9	7	208	1	5	1	3	7	96	2	9

EADDIO TYPE	TRE	NCH/C	ONTE	XT NUI	MBER																	
FABRIC TYPE	616/ No/W		806/ No/V	804 Vt (g)	901 (No/W	topsoil) /t (g)		3 quarry /Wt (g)	1312 No/V	z/ 1311 Vt (g)		3/ 1311 V t (g)	-	4/ 1311 Vt (g)		5/ 1311 Wt (g)		5/ 2104 Vt (g))/ 2108 Vt (g)		6/ 4305 Vt (g)
Roman Pottery																						
Grog tempered	1	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
wares																						
Greyware	2	15	-	-	-	-	3	16	8	60	-	-	1	5	1	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shell-gritted ware	2	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LNVCC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sand-tempered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
wares																						
Imported wares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Samian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medieval Pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-medieval	-	-	1	11	1	56	1	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3	1	28
Pottery																						
Total	5	113	1	11	1	56	5	71	9	68	4	36	1	5	1	25	1	2	1	3	1	28

6.3 The clay pipe by Tim Upson-Smith

Two 18th-century clay pipe stems were recovered from the trial trenching exercise. They were recovered from post-medieval ditch (3305)/ [3304] and from the backfill of the ironstone quarry trackway (2107).

6.4 The other finds by Tora Hylton

Two post-medieval finds were recovered from the back fill of the cutting for the ironstone quarry tramway Trench 21, they comprise a folded fragment of copper alloy from (2107) and a corroded iron nail from (2109).

6.5 Building materials by Pat Chapman

One broken sherd from a flat ceramic roof tile, weighing 50g, comes from the fill (2105) of ditch [2104]. It is 13mm thick and made from hard fine silty orange clay with grog inclusions and could date from the 14th to 19th centuries. Four small fragments of hard orange fired clay, weighing 18g, possibly from a brick, come from the fill (2107) of ditch [2106]. A tiny fragment of slate, 3mm thick, comes from context (3405), the fill of a tree throw [3404]. It is probably Welsh and as such could be of 19th century date, when Welsh slate roof tiles became common through the facility of the railways.

6.6 The animal bone by Karen Deighton

A total of 2.3kg of animal bone was hand recovered from the excavation. This material was scanned to establish the species present and state of preservation and to assess the potential for future work and to inform on further collection strategies if necessary.

Method

Identifiable bones were noted. Ageable and measurable bones after Von Den Driesch (1976) were also noted. Ageable elements included cheek tooth rows where eruption and wear could be examined, Payne (1973) for ovicaprids, Silver (1969) for dog and Halstead (1985) for cattle, bones where the state of epiphyseal fusion (Silver 1969) could be determined. Hand collected bones had previously been washed.

Results

Fragmentation was heavy and largely the result of old breaks although fresh breaks were noted on material from context (610). The condition of bone surfaces was reasonable. Evidence for butchery consisted of knife marks on a rib and cattle bone and longitudinal splitting on a sheep/goat metatarsal. Canid gnawing was present on five elements suggesting the presence of dogs or foxes at site.

Table 3: Identifiable bones by context (Roman)

Fill/cut	Туре	Bos	Ovicaprid	Canid	Small ungulate	Large ungulate	Total
105/104	Ditch	5	-	-	-	-	5
108/107	Ditch	-	-	-	-	-	2
112/111	Ditch	-	-	-	-	2	2
205/204	Pit	-	-	1*	-	-	1
210/209	Enclosure ditch E1	1	-	-	-	-	1
505/510	Enclosure ditch E1	2	-	-	-	-	2
609/610	Ditch	1	1	-	1	-	-
609/611	Ditch	1	2	-	-	-	3
609/612	Ditch	1	1	-	-	-	2
616/615	Gully	3	1	-	-	-	4
1311/1313	Ditch	4	1	-		3	8
Total		18	8	1	1	5	33

Contexts (608), (806) and (1314) produced indeterminate bone fragments only.

Table 4: Number of ageable and measurable bones by taxa

Taxon	Bos	Ovicaprid	Dog	
Epiphyseal fusion	5		1	
Tooth eruption and wear	1	3	1	
Measurable(number of bones)	2(2)		1	

Discussion

The mixed nature of bone and heavy fragmentation suggests kitchen waste, although this assertion is tentative due to the small amount of bone involved. The predominance of bone recovered from ditch contexts suggests these features could have been used for waste disposal; however the small amounts from each context may suggest that this activity was casual. Without further excavation the preceding statement remains tentative.

The partial dog skeleton possibly represents a deliberate burial.

Potential

The reasonable level of preservation and the range of taxa identified suggest if further work were undertaken at the site animal bone should be retained from dateable/phaseable contexts. The analysis of further material would provide some idea of animal husbandry and dietary preferences at the site.

Assessment has shown a small assemblage of common domesticates and suggests further work may be viable.

^{*}A partial dog burial consisting of a complete left mandible with adult dentition, fragments of maxilla, the bones of a foreleg, 4 first phalangees, 2 second phalangees axis and 4 lumbar vertebra. It should also be noted that the context was disturbed.

6.7 Charred plant material by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area and six were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 5. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous roots and arthropod remains were also recorded.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis. At the request of the excavator, a number of grains were removed from sample 2 for potential dating purposes.

Results

Cereal grains, chaff elements and/or seeds of common weeds were present at varying densities in all six assemblages. Preservation was very variable; whilst some grains were extremely well preserved, others were puffed and distorted, almost certainly as a result of combustion at very high temperatures. In addition, a high proportion of the grains within the assemblage from sample 2, fill of pit [208], were fractured, both longitudinally and transversely. At the time of writing, it was unclear whether these breaks occurred during combustion/deposition, or whether they were a result of subsequent damage, but it was noted that while some appeared clean and fresh, others were of a distinct convex shape which is often seen in grains which were 'gristed' or roughly milled prior to combustion.

Oat (Avena sp.), barley (Hordeum sp.) and wheat (Triticum sp.) grains (including a number of small/immature specimens) were recorded, with barley and wheat occurring most frequently. Both elongated 'drop-form' grains typical of spelt wheat (T. spelta) and more rounded hexaploid form grains typical of bread wheat (T. aestivum/compactum) type were recorded, with the former being predominant. Asymmetrical barley grains were also noted, although it was unclear whether these were lateral grains of the six-row variety H. vulgare or whether their form was a product of combustion. Although chaff elements were generally quite scarce, spelt glume bases were recorded, particularly within the assemblages from samples 3 posthole [1307] and 5 quarry pit fill [2008].

Weed seeds occurred infrequently, and were entirely absent within the assemblage from ditch [615] (sample 6). Most were of common segetal taxa including brome (Bromus sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae) and dock (Rumex sp.), although a single annual nettle (Urtica urens) seed was noted within the assemblage from sample 2. Small hazel (Corylus avellana) nutshell fragments were recorded from samples 1 (ditch [109]) and 2. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, although rarely at a high density.

Table 5: Catalogue of charred plant remains

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Context No.	110	208	1308	1313	1008	616
Feature No.	109	206	1307	1311	1006	615
Feature type	Ditch	Pit	ph	Ditch	QP	Ditch
Cereals						
Avena sp. (grains)	xcf	-	xcf	-	xcf	-
(floret frag.)		-	X	-	-	-
Hordeum sp. (grains)	Х	XXXX	X	-	xcf	xcf
(grain fragments)	-	XXX	-	-	-	-
(rachis node)	-	-	Х	-	-	-
Triticum sp. (grains)	-	XXXX	Х	-	XX	х
(grain fragments)	-	XXXX	Х	-	-	-
(glume bases)	-	Х	-	-	-	-
(spikelet bases)	-	-	Х	Х	XX	-
(rachis internodes)	-	-	-	-	Х	-
T. spelta L. (glume bases)	-	xcf	XXX	Х	XXX	Х
Cereal indet. (grains)	х	XXX	X	X	XXX	X
(grain fragments)	-	XXXX	XX	-	-	-
(detached embryos)	-	X		-	Х	-
(detached sprouts)	-	-	x	-	-	=
Herbs						
Bromus sp.	-	-	х	-	xxx	-
Chenopodiaceae indet.	-	х	-	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet.	-	-	-	х	X	-
Large Poaceae indet.	Х	-	-	-	-	-
Rumex sp.	-	-	-	-	-	_
Urtica urens L.	-	V	-	-	-	_
Tree/shrub macrofossils		Х				
	xcf	v	-	-	-	_
Corylus avellana L.	XCI	X				
Other plant macrofossils			.,		.,	
Charcoal <2mm	XX	XX	Х	XX	Х	XXXX
Charcoal >2mm	Х	X	X	X	Х	XXX
Charred root/stem	Х		X -	_	X -	X -
Indet.seeds	Х	Х				
Other remains		_	_			
Black porous 'cokey' material	X		_	X	X	Х
Black tarry material	<u>-</u>	-	-	- -	-	
Bone	xx xb	-	X -	xx xb	Х	Х
Burnt/fired clay	Х	-	-	-	X	
Small coal frags. Small mammal/amphibian	Х	-	X	XX	-	-
bones	-	-	xpmc	xpmc	xpmc	-
Vitreous material			·	·		х
Sample volume (litres)	20ss	10	14ss	20ss	20	40
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	0.7	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	12.50%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Key to Table

x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 11 - 50 specimens xxx - 51 - 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens of xxxx = 100+ specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens

The fragments of black porous and tarry material were all probable residues of the combustion of organic materials (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Bone fragments, including some burnt pieces, were present in all but sample 2, and fragments of burnt or fired clay and vitreous material were also recorded. At the time of writing it was unclear whether the coal fragments were contemporary with the contexts from which the samples were taken, or later contaminants.

Discussion

The assemblage from sample 2 is of particular note as it is almost entirely composed of cereal grains (both barley and wheat), many of which are fractured and fragmented. As stated above, the reason for their condition is currently unknown, but it would appear quite likely that some of the grains may be derived from cereals that had been roughly milled prior to combustion. How such material came to be burnt is also unknown, but it is, perhaps, of note that evidence for the catastrophic destruction of granaries and/or stored grain is known from elsewhere within Roman East Anglian and the east Midlands (for example from Beck Row, Suffolk (Fryer 2004). Although small, the composition of the other assemblages from the current site may also indicate that some cereals were being processed in the near vicinity, although possibly only on a small scale.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, these assemblages may represent the accidental destruction of a small store of grain, which had been processed on a reasonably *ad hoc* basis to supply the day-to-day needs of the local inhabitants.

Although the assemblage from sample 2 does contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (ie 100+ specimens), analysis of a single sample in isolation would add little to the data contained within this assessment, particularly as there is so little in the way of corroborative data. Therefore, no further work is currently recommended. However, if any further investigations are planned within the immediate area, it is strongly recommended that additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20 – 40 litres in volume are taken from all dated features recorded during excavation. It is hoped that analysis of such samples would provide additional data for activities, which were hitherto unrecorded within an area formerly considered to be of low archaeological potential.

7 DISCUSSION

The geophysical and trial trench evaluations have revealed a number of features that form part of a landscape dating from the Roman through to the modern period. The works proved the veracity of the cropmarks seen on aerial photographs and provided a wider context for this and for the field walking exercises. No evidence for Saxon occupation or burial was found during the works, although this does not exclude the presence of any Saxon remains on the site. Survival of archaeological features has been affected by early and post-medieval ironstone extraction and by the intensive ploughing regime that has taken place. The works have confirmed that archaeological remains are confined to the north-west corner of the site.

In places the variations in the sands and ironstone meant identification of features in the survey results was difficult. In particular the full extent of the post-medieval/modern ironstone workings was not realised until trial trenching had taken place. The semi-circular anomaly seen in the geophysical survey and explored in Trenches 17 and 18 was probably variations in the back filling of the pit.

The following approximate chronology may be suggested. The enclosures, of early Roman origin, were situated on the brow of the ironstone ridge overlooking the Brampton valley, and may reflect peripheral occupation or outfield enclosures to settlement elsewhere on the ridge. Although a more refined chronology is not possible from the results of the evaluation, there was evidence of the maintenance of the ditches. This suggested at least two phases of remodelling of the enclosures. Much of the pottery was recovered from contexts in the north-western corner of the enclosures. The pottery from the evaluation suggested that there was occupation on the site from the first to the 2nd centuries AD. However, this is augmented by the fieldwalking finds which suggest a broader date of occupation of the site (up to the 3rd century). The function of the enclosures is currently not known although it is likely that there was some small scale agricultural activity (butchery and grain processing) on the site. Although the fills of the features were largely sterile the processed samples suggested that there was some potential to refine the environmental history of the site.

A phase of ironstone extraction appears to post-date the enclosures, and on the limited evidence of the evaluation the extraction maybe Roman in date. The geophysical survey identified a number of rectangular positive magnetic responses. Two of the anomalies were targeted in Trenches 3 and 10 and correspond with ashy backfill of extraction pits.

The geophysical survey suggested that the proposed development area had been under plough for some time as there were indications of ridge and furrow in the data. The modern intensive ploughing regime has ploughed out any physical evidence of medieval open field cultivation and the geophysical anomalies may indicate shadows of the furrows in the topsoil.

After parliamentary enclosure, the development area was divided into small rectangular fields defined by shallow, ephemeral ditches. Later the fields were merged into larger units and the ditches were infilled. The ironstone extraction continued on a large scale with extraction situated away from the village core. The use of a tramway across the proposed development area indicated how the material was moved from the extraction site to a transit station (railway) for dispersal to the markets.

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Northamptonshire Archaeology A service of Northamptonshire County Council

9 November 2011

APPENDIX 1: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD DATA

NHER	Name	Period	Туре	NGR
0/0/0	Field boundary, linear	Prehistoric	Aerial	474919
(MNN130757)	feature?		photograph	269711
0/0/0	Enclosure?	Prehistoric	Aerial	474958
(MNN130759)			photograph	269301
0/0/0	Enclosure?	Prehistoric	Aerial	474286
(MNN130770)			photograph	269931
1280	Possible enclosure/	Unknown	Aerial	474000
	agricultural marks		photograph	269700
2952/0/0	Unstratified Bronze	Bronze Age	Fieldwalking	473800
(MNN26156)	Age finds			270300
2952/0/0	Unstratified Bronze	Bronze Age	Fieldwalking	474080
(MNN27583)	Age finds			270410
2952/0/0	Unstratified Bronze	Bronze Age	Fieldwalking	473900
(MNN22588)	Age finds			270400
2954/0/0	Probable medieval	Medieval	Find spot	474150
	architectural finds,		,	270190
	possibly from Wolfage			
2954/1/6	Macula? Pond?	Early Saxon to	Aerial	474065
		Late Medieval	photograph	270500
2958	Settlement	Iron Age	Aerial	474050
			photograph?	270000
2958/0/1	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	474020
			photograph	269970
2958/0/2	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473960
			photograph	269930
2958/0/3	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473930
			photograph	269910
2958/0/4	Field boundary, linear	Iron Age?	Aerial	474040
	feature?		photograph	269930
2958/0/5	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473960
			photograph	269970
2958/0/6	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473820
			photograph	269890
2958/0/7	Hut Circle?	Iron Age?	Aerial	474030
			photograph	269920
2958/0/8	Enclosure?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473750
			photograph	269810
2958/0/9	Macula? Pit?	Iron Age?	Aerial	473760
			photograph	269810
2959	Prehistoric site?	Prehistoric	Aerial	474150
			photograph?	270000
2960	Possible early	Early Saxon		474330
	Saxon funerary site			270030
2961	Possible Iron Age to	Iron Age to Saxon	Excavation	474350
	Saxon settlement			270050
2962	Unassigned	Neolithic?	Finds	474400
				270100
2963	Possible Roman	Roman	Excavation	474320
	settlement			270340
2964	Windmill	Unknown date	Historic maps	474580
				270380
4411	Windmill?	Unknown date	Historic maps	474700
				269900
4412	Unassigned	Unknown date	Aerial	474100
			photograph	269500

NHER	Name	Period	Туре	NGR
4413	Settlement	Early Roman to	Fieldwalking	474750
		Late Saxon		269550
4443	Prehistoric Activity	Prehistoric	Fieldwalking	473900
				269650
4515	Unassigned	Late Neolithic to	Fieldwalking	473700
		Bronze Age		269900
4581	Enclosed Settlement	Early Roman to	Excavation/	475130
	comprising post-built structures and sunken featured buildings	Early/Middle Saxon	fieldwalking	269870
4582	Settlement?	Early Mesolithic to	Excavation/	475100
		Late Bronze Age	fieldwalking	269850
5949	Uncertain	Early Iron Age to	Fieldwalking	474000
		late medieval		270000
6103	Open Field System,	Medieval to modern	RCHME	475000
	Brixworth			270000
6213	Possible undated	Undated	Aerial	475330
	settlement		photograph	270050
6214/0/1	Ditched enclosures,	Prehistoric	Aerial	475100
	ditches and possible ring ditch		photograph	269400
6377/0/0	Unstratified Mesolithic	Mesolithic	Find Spot	474900
	Finds			270100
6440	unassigned	Undated	Fieldwalking	474300 269900
6604	Wolfage Park? (Deer	Medieval to post-	Documentary	473880
	Park)	medieval		270468
6745/1	London to Derby	Early medieval to	Documentary	475180
	Road	post-medieval		263498
8409	Spratton Quarries	Post-medieval to Modern	Documentary	474200 270000
8409/1	Ironstone Workings	Modern	Documentary	474200
				270000
8409/1/1	Ironstone Mine	Modern	Documentary	474800 269900
8409/1/2	Bridge for Ironstone	Modern	Documentary	474200
	Tramway			270000
8409/1/3	Locomotive Shed	Modern	Documentary	474300
				270100
8409/1/4	Bridge Under Main	Modern	Documentary	474800
	Road			269900
8409/1/5	Ironstone Tramway	Modern	Documentary	474327 270073
8414/2	Ironstone Workings	Modern	Documentary	475100 270100
8502	Brixworth World War I	Modern	Defence of	474000
	Prisoner of War camp		Britain	270000
8555/1	Brixworth to Spratton	Medieval to modern		473640
	Road			270730
9342/1	Northampton to	Post-medieval to	Documentary	475108
	Market Harborough turnpike	modern	,,	275141

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
1	50m x 2m, SW-NE	474217, 269984	124.00m	0.33m & 123.67m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
101	Topsoil	Light greyish-brown silty clay	0.28m	
102	Subsoil	Compact reddish-brown silty clay	0.08m	
103	Natural	Light reddish-brown clays and ironstones	-	
104	Ditch Fills 105, 106	Aligned NW-SE, U- shaped profile, sharp breaks of slope	2.03m wide, 0.62m deep	
105	Upper fill of Ditch 104 Overlain by 101	Compact reddish-brown sandy clay, occasional ironstone fragments, occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles	2.03m wide, 0.46m thick	Roman pottery, animal bone
106	Primary fill of Ditch 104	Compact reddish-brown sandy-clay, occasional ironstone fragments, occasional small-medium sub-rounded pebbles	0.81m wide, 0.18m thick	Roman pottery
107	Ditch Fill 108	Aligned NW-SE, bowl- shaped profile	1.20m wide 0.36m deep	
108	Fill of Ditch 107	Compact, light yellowish-brown sandy clay, few ironstone	1.20m wide 0.36m thick	Animal bone
109	Ditch Filled by 110	North-west to south- east aligned ditch, bowl- shaped profile	0.84m wide 0.19m deep	
110	Fill of Ditch 109 Overlain by 101	Hard, yellowish-brown sandy clay, occasional ironstone fragments, rare small to medium sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks	0.84m wide 0.19m deep	Roman pottery, Animal bone Sample 1
111	Cut of Ditch Filled by 112, 113	Aligned NW-SE, bowl- shaped profile	1.95m wide 0.34m deep	
112	Primary fill of Ditch 111 Overlies 113	Compact light orange- brown sandy clay, rare small ironstone fragments, small to medium sub-rounded pebbles	1.95m wide 0.34m thick	Animal bone

113	Upper fill of Ditch 111	Compact dark brown clay, rare small sub-rounded pebbles	0.66m wide 0.10m thick	
114	Ditch Filled by 115 Same as 404	Unexcavated ditch on a north-west to south-east alignment	2.03m wide	
115	Fill of Ditch 114	Compact light orange- brown sandy clay, few small ironstone fragments, small sub- rounded pebbles	2.03m wide	
116	Ditch Filled by 117	Unexcavated ditch. on a NW-SE alignment	1.77m wide	
117	Fill of Ditch 116	Compact, light orange- brown sandy clay, few small ironstone fragments and rare small to medium sub- rounded pebbles	1.77m wide	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
2	50m x 2m, E-W	474267, 270010	126.00m	0.31m & 125.69m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
201	Topsoil	Friable, light greyish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
202	Subsoil	Light orange-grey sandy clay, rare rounded pebbles	0.11m thick	
203	Natural	Northampton Ironstone and sands, patches of orange-grey sands and clays		
204	Pit (dog burial) Filled by 205	Rectangular pit, SE-NW axis, shallow dish-shaped profile	0.60m long 0.40m wide 0.05m deep-	
205	Fill of pit (dog burial) 204	Firm, reddish/greyish- brown very sandy clay	0.60m long 0.40m wide 0.05m thick	SF4 flint flake Animal bone
206	Pit Filled by 207 and 208	Circular, shallow dish shaped, asymmetrical profile with flattish base. N slope fairly steep (45 degree) and a more gradual S slope	0.95m diameter 0.18m deep	
207	Upper fill of pit 206	Firm reddish/brownish- grey, very sandy clay, abundant small to large rounded and angular burnt stone, poor sorting, no definite indication of tipping	0.95m diameter 0.18m thick	
208	Primary fill of pit 206	Friable very dark greyish-black ash, abundant charcoal and seed grains	0.80m diameter 0.08m thick	SF5 flint Sample 2
209	Ditch Filled by 211 and 210	Aligned N-S, asymmetrical U-shaped profile. Base is slightly uneven and rounded, eastern slope has near vertical side with very sharp breaks of slope, western side is gradual with sharp breaks of slope.	1.66m wide 0.52m deep	
210	Upper fill of ditch 209	Firm reddish-brown sandy clay with rare small angular ironstone fragments	1.66m wide 0.35m thick	Flint flake Roman pottery Animal bone

211	Primary fill of ditch 209	Firm, light reddish- brown sandy clay, with rare small angular ironstone and rounded gravel	1.05m wide 0.18m thick	
212	Quarry Pit Filled by 213 and 214	Not fully defined in plan or excavated. Gradual western slope	At least 5m long and 0.56m deep	
213	Upper fill of Quarry Pit 212	Firm light yellowish- brown sands, few small sub-rounded stones	At least 3.10m long and 0.15m thick	Roman pottery
214	Primary fill of Quarry Pit 212	Firm mixed bands of brown sands, whitish and yellow sands slumping in from the west. few small rounded stones	At least 5m long and 0.40m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
3	25m x 2m NW-SE	474244, 269983	124.80m	0.30m & 124.50m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
301	Topsoil	Friable, light greyish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
302	Subsoil	Friable orangey/greyish- brown sandy clay	0.10m thick	SF2 flint blade
303	Natural	Reddish-brown sandy clays, chalk flecking and flint nodules		
304	Ditch Filled by 305, 306 and 307	Broad but shallow ditch aligned NE-SW. Asymmetrical profile comprises flattish base with gradual slopes, deeper slot to south-east	2.58m wide 0.49m deep	
305	Upper fill of Ditch 304	Hard, light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay, with charcoal flecking, rare small ironstone fragments and rare small gravel	2.58m wide 0.49m thick	Roman pottery
306	Middle fill of Ditch 304	Compact, light greyish- brown mixed orange, sandy/silty clay, few small ironstone fragments	2.34m wide 0.19m thick	
307	Primary fill of Ditch 304	Hard, light grey sandy/silty clay, few small ironstone fragments	0.37m wide 0.16m thick	
308	Quarry Pit Filled by309, 310, 313-316	Not fully defined in plan. Gradual NW slope, flattish base	At least 12m long 0.66m deep	
309	Fill of Quarry Pit 308	Hard light brownish-grey sandy/silty clay, few small gravel, few small to medium ironstone fragments	At least 12m long 0.14m thick	Roman pottery
310	Fill of Quarry Pit 308	Hard, light orangey- brown silty clay, few small gravel	At least 12m long 0.07m thick	
311	Ditch Filled by 312 Same as 504	Unexcavated ditch aligned north-east to south-west	2m wide	
312	Fill of Ditch 311	Unexcavated, dark greyish-brown slightly clayey sand	2m wide	

313	Primary fill of Quarry Pit 308	Firm, yellowish-grey sandy clay, few small rounded stones	6.80m wide 0.52m thick	
314	Fill of Quarry Pit 308	Firm, light greyish – brown clayey sand, rare angular ironstone fragments	At least 2.30m wide 0.16m thick	
315	Fill of Quarry Pit 308	Loose light grey sand/ash, rare small rounded stones	1.56m long 0.12m thick	
316	Fill of Quarry Pit 308	Friable light yellowish- brown clayey sand, few small ironstone fragments and rounded stones	At least 2.80m long 0.40m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
4	25m x 2m NE-SW	474239, 269556	123.50m	0.30m & 123.20m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
401	Topsoil	Friable, light greyish- brown sandy clay	0.18m thick	
402	Subsoil	Friable orangey/greyish- brown sandy clay	0.12m thick	
403	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands		
404	Re- cut of ditch Filled by 405, 406 Cuts 408	Aligned NW-SE, dish- shaped profile	3.07m wide, 0.48m deep	
405	Primary fill of Ditch 404 Overlain by 406	Compact orange-brown sandy clay, abundant ironstone fragments, few small to medium sub-rounded pebbles	1.31m wide 0.36m thick	
406	Upper fill of Ditch 404 Overlies 405	Compact brown sandy clay, few ironstone fragments, few small to medium sub-rounded pebbles	2.71m wide 0.46m thick	Roman pottery
407	Ditch Filled by 408	Aligned NW-SE, uneven base with steep sloping sides (U-shaped)	0.88m wide 0.45m deep	
408	Fill of Ditch 407	Firm reddish-brown sand, few regular ironstone fragments rare small/medium sub rounded pebbles	0.88m wide 0.45m thick	Roman pottery

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
5	25m x 2m N-S	474269, 269991	125.50m	0.42m & 125.08m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
501	Topsoil	Friable, light greyish- brown sandy clay, rare ironstone fragments	0.26m thick	
502	Subsoil	Reddish-brown sandy clay	0.16m thick	
503	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands		
504	Enclosure (E1) Ditch Filled by 507	Ditch aligned E-W, with a V-shaped profile and weathered southern edge	0.90m wide 0.60m deep	
505	Secondary fill of 510 Ditch recut	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay, few large angular fragments of ironstone	1.25m wide 0.36m thick	Roman pottery Animal bone
506	Primary fill of 510 Ditch recut	Loose, dark greyish- brown clayey sand, few small angular ironstone	0.58m wide 0.30m thick	
507	Fill of 504 Ditch	Firm light orangey/greyish-brown sandy clay, rare small ironstone fragments, rare rounded pebbles, stones tipping gradually from south	0.90m wide 0.15m thick	
508	Pit Filled by 509	Oval, aligned E-W, bowl-shaped profile	0.60m wide 0.18m deep	
509	Fill of 509 Pit	Firm, greyish-brown sand, large angular pieces of burnt limestone and ironstone	0.60m wide 0.18m thick	
510	Recut of Ditch 504 Filled by 505, 506	Aligned NW-SE, V-shaped profile, slightly asymmetrical	1.25m wide 0.60m deep	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
6	50m x 2m NE-SW	474316, 270000	126.00m	0.32m & 125.68m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
601	Topsoil	Friable greyish-brown sandy clay, rare small stones	0.30m thick	
602	Subsoil	Firm, dark orange- brown sand, with rare small stones	0.02m thick	
603	Quarry backfill 1 621	Loose, white mottled brown sands	At least 19.50m wide and 0.15m thick	
604	Natural	Northampton Ironstones		
605	Tree bole Filled by 606	Irregular (oblong), shallow bowl-shaped profile	1.30m long 0.60m wide 0.08m deep	
606	Fill of tree hole 605	Friable ,dark brown sandy silt, few small sub-rounded pebbles	1.30m long 0.60m wide 0.08m thick	Animal bone
607	Gully/hollow Filled by 608	Aligned NW-SE, with a bowl- shaped profile	0.55m wide 0.07m deep	
608	Fill of gully/ hollow 607	Friable dark brown sandy silt, few small ironstone lumps, few small to medium sub- rounded pebbles	0.55m wide 0.07m thick	Animal bone
609	Ditch E2 Filled by 612 and 614	Aligned NW-SE, U-shaped profile with steep sides	1.20m wide 0.56m deep	
610	Upper fill of recut Ditch 613	Firm orange-brown sandy clay, few small ironstone fragments and pebbles	1.10m wide 0.25m thick	
611	Primary fill of recut Ditch 613	Firm, orange-brown sandy clay, occasional small ironstone lumps, few small to medium sub-rounded pebbles	0.52m wide 0.15m thick	Animal bone
612	Upper fill of Ditch 609	Firm, orange-brown sandy clay, few ironstone lumps, few small to medium sub- rounded pebbles	1.20m wide 0.56m thick	Animal bone
613	Recut of Ditch 609 Filled by 610 and 611	Aligned NW-SE, shallow bowl-shaped profile	1.07m wide 0.36m deep	

614	Primary silting fill of Ditch 609	Firm, dark brownish- orange sandy clay, few ironstone lumps, few small to medium sub- rounded pebbles	0.52m wide 0.10m thick	
615	Gully Filled by 616	Aligned NW-SE, U-shaped profile	0.90m wide 0.28m deep	
616	Fill of gully 615	Firm, dark orange- brown sandy clay, few small sub-rounded pebbles, charcoal flecking and rare burnt stone	0.90m wide 0.28m thick	Roman pottery Animal bone Sample 6
617	Quarry Pit Filled by 618- 620	Stepped, broken north north-eastern edge	At least 5m long and 0.90m deep	
618	Fill of Quarry Pit 617	Compact, mottled light greyish-brown and orange-brown sandy clay, few ironstone lumps, few small to medium sub-rounded pebbles	At least 4.80m long and 0.20m thick	
619	Fill of Quarry Pit 617	Firm, dark orange- brown clayey sand, occasional ironstone fragments	At least 5.50m long and 0.50m thick	
620	Fill of Quarry Pit 617	Firm red clay, rare small rounded stones	At least 4m wide and 0.20m thick	
621	Post-medieval quarry Pit Filled by 603 Same as 804	Not excavated	At least 19.50m wide and 0.15m deep	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
7	25m x 2m N-S	474334, 269974	125.50m	0.26m & 125.24m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
701	Topsoil	Friable light greyish- brown sandy clay	0.18m thick	
702	Subsoil	Friable greyish-brown sandy clays	0.08m thick	
703	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sandy clays		
704	Quarry pit Fills 705, 706	Unknown shape in plan, very gradual sloping sides and gradual breaks of slope	At least 10m long and 0.31m deep	
705	Upper fill of 704 Quarry pit	Compact reddish-brown slightly clayey sand, rare small flint nodules and occasional small ironstone fragments	At least 10m long 0.10m thick	
706	Fill of 704 Quarry pit	Compact, light whitish- yellow clayey sand, few small flint, occasional ironstone fragments	At least 10m long and 0.20m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
8	50m x 2m N-S	474358, 269993	126.00m	0.45m & 125.55m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
801	Topsoil	Friable, greyish-brown slightly clayey-sand, rare ironstone fragments	0.27m thick	
802	Subsoil	Firm greyish-brown sandy clays	0.18m thick	
803	Natural	Northampton Sands and Ironstone, principally sands to mid and south ends of the trench		
804	Post-medieval ironstone quarry Filled by 805, 806 Same as 621	Located at northern end of trench. Not fully excavated.	At least 19.5m long and 1m deep	
805	Fill of 804 Quarry backfill 1	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay, rare small ironstone fragments, small pebbles	At least 19.5m long and 0.37m deep	
806	Fill of 804 Quarry backfill 2	Loose, mixed orange- brown, light greyish- brown and greyish- brown sands or sandy clays, rare small sub- rounded pebbles, rare medium ironstone lumps	At least 19m long and 0.60m deep	Post-medieval pottery Animal bone
807	Ditch (E2) Filled by 808	Unexcavated ditch, aligned E-W	2m wide	
808	Fill of 807 Ditch (E2)	Unexcavated, extremely ephemeral. Firm dark greyish-brown sandy clays	2m wide	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
9	50m x 2m E-W	474368, 270024	126.00m	No natural
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
901	Topsoil	Friable greyish-brown slightly clayey-sand, rare small stones	0.30m thick	Post-medieval pottery
902	Post-medieval ironstone quarry, backfill 1	Firm, dark yellowish- brown slightly clayey sand, rare small stones, rare burnt stone	0.15m thick	
903	Post-medieval ironstone quarry, backfill 2	Friable, mixed bands of dark-brown clayey sand, white and yellow sands. Rare small rounded stones, rare medium angular stones	At least 1.55m thick	Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
10	25m x 2m WNW- ESE	474361, 269954	125.00m	0.36m & 124.66m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1001	Topsoil	Friable, greyish-brown sandy clay	0.26m thick	
1002	Subsoil	Friable greyish-brown sandy clay	0.10m thick	
1003	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands/clays, bands of gravel		
1004	Enclosure Ditch (E2) Filled by 1005	Aligned N-S, V-shaped profile	1.50m wide 0.56m deep	
1005	Fill of 1004 Enclosure Ditch (E2)	Hard reddish-brown sandy clay, occasional small to medium angular and rounded ironstone and gravel mix	1.50m wide 0.56m thick	
1006	Quarry Pit Filled by 1007, 1008 and 1009	Unknown shape in plan Not fully bottomed Uneven gentle slopes	At least 9m long And 1m deep	
1007	Upper fill of quarry pit 1006	Firm, reddish-brown sandy clay, occasional small angular ironstones fragments	At least 9m long 0.25m thick	
1008	Fill of quarry pit 1006	Firm very dark greyish- brown sand, high ash content and rare small ironstone fragments	At least 4.4m long and up to 0.20m thick	Sample 5
1009	Fill of quarry pit 1006	Firm reddish-brown sandy clay, small to medium angular ironstone fragments	At least 4.40m long and 0.30m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
11	50m x 2m W-E	474221, 269915	122.00m	0.40m & 121.60m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1101	Topsoil	Firm, dark reddish/ greyish-brown sandy clay	0.30m thick	
1102	Subsoil	Firm reddish-brown sandy clay	0.12m thick	
1103	Natural	Northampton ironstones with patches of light grey sand and reddish-brown sandy clays	-	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
12	25m x 2m N-S	474261, 269932	123.00m	0.40m & 122.60m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1201	Topsoil	Firm, dark reddish/ greyish-brown sandy clay	0.28m thick	
1202	Subsoil	Firm reddish-brown sandy clay	0.12m thick	
1203	Natural	Northampton ironstones with patches of light grey sand and dark orangey-brown sandy clays		
1204	Ditch Filled by 1205, 1206	Aligned WNW-ESE, shallow bowl-shaped profile	1.56m wide, 0.23m deep	
1205	Upper fill of Ditch 1204	Firm, greyish-brown sandy-silty clay, rare gravel, rare ironstone fragments	1.56m wide 0.14m thick	
1206	Primary fill of Ditch 1204	Firm, light brownish- grey silty/sandy clay, rare small gravel, few small ironstone fragments	1.30m wide 0.10m thick	
1207	Ditch filled by 1208	Unexcavated ditch aligned east to west	1.30m wide	
1208	Fill of Ditch 1207	Firm light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay, rare small gravel, few small ironstone fragments	1.30m wide	
1209	Ditch Filled by 1210	Aligned WNW-ESE, shallow bowl-shaped profile	0.80m wide 0.13m deep	
1210	Fill of Ditch 1209	Friable, light greyish brown sandy/silty clay, few small ironstone fragments. Some tree root disturbance	0.80m wide 0.13m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
13	50m x 2m NNE-SSW	474261, 269932	124.00m	0.42m & 123.58m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1301	Topsoil	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay	0.30m thick	
1302	Subsoil	Firm, reddish-brown sandy clay, few small ironstone fragments	0.12m thick	
1303	Natural	Mottled light orangey- grey and dark orange- grey clayey sands. Ironstone at south south- western end of the trench		
1304	Ditch Filled by 1305 and 1306	Aligned NW-SE, asymmetrical, weathered profile with flattish base and gradual slopes with a step, then steep sides below the step.	1.22m wide 0.42m deep	
1305	Primary fill of ditch 1304	Compact, light yellowish- brown slightly sandy clay, rare small rounded stones, merging (weathered) with 1306	0.60m wide 0.05m thick	
1306	Upper fill of Ditch 1304	Firm, very dark greyish- brown clayey sand, few small ironstone fragments, rare small rounded pebbles, rare charcoal flecking	1.22m wide 0.37m thick	
1307	Posthole Filled by 1308	Sub-oval in plan, slightly U-shaped profile with steep concave sides and rounded base	At least 0.97m 0.72m wide 0.40m deep	
1308	Fill of posthole 1307	Firm, very dark greyish- brown slightly clayey- sand, few small ironstone fragments, occasional charcoal flecking, rare burnt stone	At least 0.97m 0.72m wide 0.40m thick	Sample 3
1309	Ditch Filled by 1310 Cuts 1308	Unexcavated ditch aligned E-W	1.50m wide	
1310	Fill of Ditch 1309	Reddish/greyish-brown very sandy clay	1.50m wide	

1311	Ditch Filled by 1312- 1315	Aligned SE-NW, weathered, asymmetrical profile with a slightly rounded base, steep north north-eastern edge and more gradual south south-western edge	2.44m wide 0.77m deep	
1312	Upper fill of Ditch 1311	Hard brown sandy/silty clay, rare small gravel, rare small ironstone fragments	2.44m wide 0.06m thick	Roman pottery Animal bone
1313	Tertiary fill of Ditch 1311	Hard, light brownish-grey sandy/silty clay, rare small gravel and few small to medium ironstone fragments	2.30m wide 0.34m thick	SF6 flint flake Roman pottery Animal bone Sample 4
1314	Secondary fill of Ditch 1311	Hard, mixed light greyish-brown and light yellow sandy/silty clay, few small gravel, few small to medium ironstone fragments, few small to medium sandstone, charcoal flecking	1.70m wide 0.30m thick	Roman pottery Animal bone
1315	Primary fill of Ditch 1311	Firm greyish-brown silty clay, rare small ironstone	1.33m wide 0.16m thick	Roman pottery
1316	Ditch Filled by 1317	Aligned E-W, shallow dish-shaped profile with rounded base and gradual concave sloping sides	1.10m wide 0.08m deep	
1317	Fill of Ditch 1316	Hard dark reddish-brown sandy/silty clay, few small angular ironstone and rounded gravel mix	1.10m wide 0.08m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
14	50m x 2m NE-SW	474338, 269915	124.10m	0.55m & 123.55m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1401	Topsoil	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay	0.40m	
1402	Subsoil	Firm, dark reddish- brown sandy clay, few angular ironstone fragments	0.20m thick	
1403	Natural	Grey sands in north- eastern part of the trench, orangey-red sandy clays with patches of ironstone	-	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
15	25m x 2b SSE-NNW	474382, 269917	123m	0.43m & 122.47m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1501	Topsoil	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay,	0.30m thick	
1502	Subsoil	Firm, reddish-brown sandy clay, few angular ironstone fragments	0.13m thick	
1503	Natural	Red sandy clays and ironstone, bands of white sand	-	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
16	25m x 2m SSW-NNE	474431, 269977	126.20m	0.48m & 125.72m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1601	Topsoil	Firm, greyish-brown sandy clay,	0.28m thick	
1602	Fill of post- medieval quarry pit?	Firm, reddish/greyish brown sandy clay, occasional angular ironstone fragments	0.20m thick	
1603	Fill of post- medieval quarry pit?	Loose, light yellow sand, patches of ironstone and limestone	-	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
17	25m x 2m N-S	474435, 270018	127.14m	No natural
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1701	Topsoil	Friable, greyish-brown sandy clay	0.25m thick	
1702	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 1	Reddish-brown sandy clay	0.10m thick	
1703	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 2	Mottled brown and white sands and clays	At least 0.12m thick	
1704	Ditch (Ironstone tramway) Filled by 1705 Same as 1904, 2104, 2203	Ditch aligned east to west, unexcavated	At least 4m wide and 0.32m deep	
1705	Fill of 1704 Ditch	Unexcavated, compact orange-brown sandy clay	At least 0.32m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
18	25m x 2m E-W	474457, 270009	127.25m	No natural
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1801	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.38m thick	
1802	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 1	Light orange-brown sandy clay, some small to medium sized ironstone	0.30m thick	
1803	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 2	Light brownish-grey sandy clay, white clay and yellow sand patches		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
19	25m x 2m NE-SW	474468, 270005	127.50m	0.70m & 126.80m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
1901	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.30m thick	
1902	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 1 Fill of 1907	Light orange-brown sandy clay, some small to medium sized ironstone	0.10m thick	
1903	Post-medieval ironstone quarry backfill 2 Fill of 1907	Light brownish-grey sandy clay, white clay and yellow sand patches	0.30m thick	
1904	Ditch (Ironstone tramway) Filled by 1705 Same as 1904, 2104, 2203	Aligned SE-NW, gradual slopes, Unexcavated	At least 4m wide and 0.17m deep	
1905	Fill of 1704 Ditch	Unexcavated. Compact orangey-brown sandy clay	At least 0.17m thick	
1906	Natural	Orange sands at SW end		
1907	Post-medieval ironstone quarry Filled by 1902, 1903	Unexcavated and seen in section at SW end of the trench. Gradual slope	At least 0.30m deep	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
20	50m x 2m E-W	474541, 270019	128.50m	0.38m & 128.12m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2001	Topsoil	Friable, greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, rare small ironstone fragments	0.30m thick	
2002	Subsoil	Friable orange-brown sand, occasional ironstone fragments	0.08m thick	
2003	Natural	Sands and clays		
2004	Natural	Northampton Ironstones		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
21	25m x 2m NE-SW	474525, 269992	127.50m	0.35m & 127.15m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2101	Topsoil	Friable, greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, rare small ironstone fragments	0.30m thick	
2102	Subsoil	Friable orange-brown sand, occasional ironstone fragments	0.05m thick	
2103	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands		
2104	Ditch, quarry tramway Filled by 2105	Aligned E-W, U-shaped profile	2.15m wide 0.50m deep	
2105	Fill of 2104 Ditch	Hard, brownish-grey sandy/silty clay, occasional small ironstone fragments	2.15m wide 0.50m thick	Pottery Tile
2106	Ditch,quarry tramway Filled by 2107	Aligned E-W, U-shaped profile	1.10m wide 0.44m deep	
2107	Fill of 2106 Ditch	Hard light brownish-grey sandy/silty clay, few small ironstone fragments	1.10m wide 0.44m thick	Brick Clay tobacco-pipe SF7
2108	Ditch, quarry tramway Filled by 2109	Aligned E-W, U-shaped profile	1.66m wide 0.38m deep	
2109	Fill of 2108 Ditch	Hard light brownish-grey sandy/silty clay, few small ironstone fragments, charcoal flecking	1.66m wide 0.38m thick	Pottery SF8
2110	Ditch, quarry tramway Filled by 2111	Aligned E-W, U-shaped profile	1.60m wide	
2111	Fill of 2110 Ditch	Compact, dry light brown clay, few small burnt stone fragments, charcoal flecking	1.60m wide	
2112	Tramway ditch (group) Including 2104- 2111	Individual 'ditches likely to represent tipping/backfilling from south-west	6m wide 0.50m deep	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
22	25m x 2m NE-SW	474578, 269978	127.00m	0.30m & 126.70m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2201	Topsoil	Friable greyish-brown slightly clayey sand	0.30m thick	
2202	Natural	Northampton Ironstone		
2203	Ditch (Ironstone tramway) Filled by 2204 Same as 1704, 1904, 2104	Aligned ENE-WSW, Unexcavated	At least 5.50m wide and 0.30m deep	
2204	Fill of 2203 Ditch	Compacted orange- brown sandy-clay, few ironstone fragments, few small rounded pebbles Unexcavated	At least 5.50m wide and 0.30m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
23	25m x 2m N-S	474606, 269926	124m	0.40m & 123.60m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2301	Topsoil	Friable greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, few ironstone fragments	0.28m thick	
2302	Natural	Northampton ironstones		
2303	Subsoil	Firm, yellowish-brown slightly clayey sand, occasional ironstone fragments and small stones	0.10m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
24	25m x 2m NW-SE	474524, 269959	126.50	0.35m & 126.15m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2401	Topsoil	Friable greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, few ironstone fragments	0.30m	
2402	Subsoil	Firm yellowish/greyish- brown sand, occasional ironstone fragments	0.05m	
2403	Natural	Northampton ironstones and sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
25	50m x 2m, W-E	474558, 269906	124.50m	0.36m & 124.14m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2501	Topsoil	Friable, dark greyish- brown slightly clayey sand, rare ironstone fragments	0.30m	
2502	Subsoil	Orange-brown sands, with occasional angular ironstone gravel	0.06m	
2503	Natural	Northampton ironstones and sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
26	25m x 2m NNW-SSE	474493, 269924	124.80m	0.40m & 124.40m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2601	Topsoil	Friable, dark greyish- brown slightly clayey sand	0.30m	
2602	Subsoil	Firm yellowish/greyish- brown sand, occasional ironstone fragments	0.10m	
2603	Natural	Northampton ironstones and sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
27	50m x 2m NNW-SSE	474423, 269922	124.20m	0.50m & 123.70m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2701	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.35m	
2702	Subsoil	Dark reddish-brown sandy clay	0.15m	
2703	Natural	Northampton ironstones and sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
28	50m x 2m, W-E	474467, 269880	122m	0.55m & 121.45m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2801	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.33m	
2802	Subsoil	Dark reddish-brown sandy clay. Few ironstone fragments and few pebbles	0.22m	
2803	Natural	Northampton sands and ironstone with patches of Light orangey sand and clay		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
29	25m x 2m	474396, 269889	123m	0.43m & 122.57m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
2901	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.25m	
2902	Subsoil	Dark reddish-brown sandy clay	0.18m	
2903	Natural	Light orange/greyish- brown sandy clay, with patches of crumbled ironstone		
2904	Tree throw	Whitish sand, occasional small rounded gravel		
2905	Tree throw	Burnt red sand overlying 2904		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
30	50m x 2m, W-E	474308, 269870	121m	0.38m & 120.62m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3001	Topsoil	Greyish-brown sandy clay	0.28m	
3002	Subsoil	Firm, dark yellowish- brown, slightly clayey sand	0.10m	
3003	Natural	Northampton sands and ironstone		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
31	50m x 2m, N-S	474245, 269865	120.00	0.38m & 119.62m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3101	Topsoil	Friable, dark greyish- brown slightly clayey sands, rare small stones	0.30m thick	
3102	Subsoil	Firm dark yellowish- brown, slightly clayey and, rare small ironstone and flint fragments	0.08m thick	
3103	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and Sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
32	25m x 2m, W-E	474207, 269869	119.00m	0.38m & 118.62m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3201	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/silty clay	0.22m thick	
3202	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay	0.16m thick	
3203	Natural	Northampton Ironstones, patches of greyish-brown and orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
33	25m x 2m NE-SW	474213, 269830	117.50m	0.31m & 117.19m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3301	Topsoil	Friable, brown sandy/silty clayey sands	0.16m thick	
3302	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay	0.15m thick	
3303	Natural	Northampton Ironstones, patches of orange-brown silt		
3304	Ditch post-medieval field boundary Fill 3305	Aligned E-W, bowl-shaped profile comprising very gradual sloping sides and slightly rounded base. Some root action	1.60m wide, 0.28m deep	Clay pipe
3305	Fill of ditch 3304	Loose, dark yellowish- brown sand, rare small sub-rounded ironstone fragments	1.60m wide 0.28m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
34	25m x 2m NE-SW	474202, 269796	115.00m	0.36m & 114.64m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3401	Topsoil	Friable, brown sandy/silty clayey sands	0.17m thick	
3402	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay	0.19m thick	
3403	Natural	Northampton Ironstones, patches of orange-brown silt		
3404	Tree Throw Fill 3405	Roughly rectangular, aligned E-W, asymmetrical bowl- shaped profile with sharp breaks of slope at the top and gradual at the base	2.90m long 1m wide 0.14m deep	
3405	Fill of 3404 Tree Throw	Compact, dark greyish- brown clayey sand, occasional small poorly sorted rounded stones	2.90m long 1m wide 0.14m thick	Slate

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
35	50m x 2m NW-SE	474284, 269778	114.50m	0.41m & 114.09m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3501	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/silty clay	0.16m thick	
3502	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy/silty clay	0.25m thick	
3503	Natural	Northampton Ironstones, bands of orange-brown silt		
3504	Colluvium	Dark reddish-brown silty/sandy clay, occasional small ironstone fragments		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
36	25m x 2m, N-S	474311, 269840	119.00m	0.33m & 118.67m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3601	Topsoil	Loose greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, few ironstone fragments	0.24m thick	
3602	Subsoil	Firm dark yellowish- brown slightly clayey sand, rare ironstone fragments	0.09m thick	
3603	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and Sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
37	50m x 2m, N-S	474376, 269846	120.00m	0.34m & 119.66m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3701	Topsoil	Firm greyish-brown slightly clayey sand, few ironstone fragments	0.26m thick	
3702	Subsoil	Firm dark yellowish- brown slightly clayey sand,	0.08m thick	
3703	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and Sands, bands of whitish clays		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
38	25m x 2m, N-S	474342, 269790	116.00m	0.36m & 115.64m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3801	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/silty clay	0.17m thick	
3802	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown mottled orange sandy/silty clay	0.19m thick	
3803	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
39	25m x 2m, E-W	474390, 269796	117.15m	0.39m & 116.76m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
3901	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/ silty clay	0.18m thick	
3902	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown mottled orange sandy/silty clay	0.21m thick	
3903	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
40	25m x 2m, N-S	474389, 269758	115.00m	0.41m & 114.59m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4001	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/ silty clay	0.18m thick	
4002	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown mottled orange sandy/silty clay	0.23m thick	
4003	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
41	50m x 2m, E-W	474461, 269782	115.25m	0.49m & 114.76m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4101	Topsoil	Friable brown sandy/ silty clay	0.17m thick	
4102	Subsoil	Light greyish-brown mottled orange sandy/silty clay	0.32m thick	
4103	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and orange-brown silts		
4104	Colluvium	Dark reddish-brown silty/sandy clay, occasional small ironstone fragments		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
42	25m x 2m, NW-SE	474447, 269834	119.00m	0.38m & 118.62m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4201	Topsoil	Friable very dark yellowish-brown slightly clayey sand	0.27m thick	
4202	Subsoil	Firm dark yellowish- brown sand	0.11m thick	
4203	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
43	25m x 2m, E-W	474522, 269856	121.20m	0.32m & 120.88m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4301	Topsoil	Friable, dark orange/yellowish-brown slightly clayey sands	0.32m thick	
4302	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and sands		
4303	Post-medieval field boundary ditch Filled by 4304	Aligned N-S, shallow bowl-shaped profile. Very gradual breaks of slope and slightly rounded base	3.40m wide 0.20m deep	
4304	Fill of 4303 Ditch	Firm, dark yellowish- brown slightly clayey sand	3.40m wide 0.20m thick	
4305	Ditch? Filled by 4306	Aligned E-W,	At least 3.50m long and 0.30m wide 0.22m deep	
4306	Fill of 4305 Ditch	Firm reddish-brown silty sand, few small rounded stones	At least 3.50m long and 0.30m wide 0.22m thick	Pottery

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
44	25m x 2m NNE- SSW	474532, 269833	120.00	0.35m & 119.65m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4401	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish- brown slightly clayey silts, few small rounded stones	0.35m thick	
4402	Natural	Northampton ironstones		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
45	25m x 2m, E-W	474539, 263801	117.70m	0.34m & 117.36m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4501	Topsoil	Friable, brown silty/sandy clay	0.16m thick	
4502	Subsoil	Friable light greyish- brown silty/sandy clay	0.18m thick	
4503	Natural	Northampton ironstones interspersed with orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
46	25m x 2m, N-S	474539, 269768	115.00	0.34m & 114.66m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4601	Topsoil	Friable, brown silty/sandy clay	0.15m thick	
4602	Subsoil	Friable light greyish- brown silty/sandy clay	0.19m thick	
4603	Natural	Northampton ironstones interspersed with orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
47	50m x 2m NW-SE	474592, 269863	120.00m	0.42m & 119.58m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4701	Topsoil	Friable dark orange- brown slightly clayey sand, rare small ironstone pebbles	0.30m thick	
4702	Subsoil	Firm reddish-brown sand with coarse small ironstone gravel	0.12m thick	
4703	Natural	Northampton ironstones, some plough scarring		
4704	Natural	Sands and clays at SE end		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
48	25m x 2m NW-SE	474589, 267771	111.00m	0.42m & 110.58m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4801	Topsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown silty/sandy clay	0.24m thick	
4802	Subsoil	Friable light greyish- brown silty/sandy clay	0.18m thick	
4803	Natural	Northampton ironstones and patches of light grey clay orange-brown silts		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
49	25m x 2m, E-W	474657, 269802	110.50m	0.50m & 110.00m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
4901	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.40m	
4902	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay, rare angular flint	0.30m thick	
4903	Natural	Light greyish-blue clay		
4904	Colluvium	Mid greyish-brown silty clay	At least 0.50m thick	

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
50	25m x 2m, E-W	474718, 269807	116.00m	0.55m & 115.45m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5001	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.35m thick	
5002	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5003	Colluvium	Dark reddish-brown silty/sandy clay, 20% small ironstone fragments. At western end	0.30m thick	
5004	Natural	Light grey clay		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
51	25m x 2m, N-S	474709, 269775	114.00m	0.55m & 113.45m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5101	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.35m thick	
5102	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5103	Natural	Northampton ironstones and sands, light orange- grey clay to north		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
52	25m x 2m, E-W	474703, 269731	115.00m	0.37m & 114.63m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5201	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5202	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.17m thick	
5203	Natural	Light grey clay with mottled blue and orange clays		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
53	50m x 2m NNE-SSW	474750, 269770	119.00m	0.54m & 118.46m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5301	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.34m thick	
5302	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5303	Natural			

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
54	25m x 2m NE-SW	474784, 269815	123.00m	0.50m & 122.50m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5401	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.30m thick	
5402	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5403	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and Sands		

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
55	25m x 2m, E-W	474785, 269724	121.50m	0.33m & 121.17m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
5501	Topsoil	Friable dark reddish- brown/grey sandy clay	0.20m thick	
5502	Subsoil	Friable, dark reddish- brown sandy clay	0.13m thick	
5503	Natural	Northampton Ironstones and Sands		



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