



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk



Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822
e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council

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Jim Brown & Adam Yates

Report 11/22

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STAFF

Project Manager	Adam Yates BA AlFA
Fieldwork	Jim Brown BSc PGDip MlFA and Adam Yates
Fieldwork	Jim Brown, Jonathan Elston BA, Lazlo Lichtenstein MA and Samuel Eagan BSc
Illustration	Amir Bassir BSc
Geology and metal detecting	Steve Critchley BSc MSc
Worked flint	Yvonne Wolfram-Murray PhD
Pottery	Paul Blinkhorn BTEch
Brick and tile	Pat Chapman BA CMS AlFA
Other finds	Tora Hylton
Human remains	Sarah Inskip (Southampton University)
Animal bone and soil samples	Karen Deighton MSc

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Pat Chapman		
Verified by	Adam Yates		
Approved by	Andy Chapman		

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk	
Short description (250 words maximum)	Archaeological trial excavations were undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting Ltd at Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk. A possible disarticulated burial, or perhaps two individuals, were encountered during the investigation of a substantial possibly prehistoric ditch. A third crouched individual was buried within a grave. Other remains included a number of late medieval or early post-medieval ditches, subdividing the modern field. A series of roughly parallel irregular linear features seen in the northern half of the site may be of geological origin.	
Project type	Trial excavations	
Site status	None	
Previous work	None	
Current Land use	Arable	
Future work	No	
Monument / period	Undated cemetery	
Significant finds	Human bone, Roman coin, Flint tool	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Suffolk	
Site address	Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk, IP31 2AJ	
Study area		
OS location	centred on NGR TL 9680 7330	
Height OD	c38-45m above Ordnance Datum	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Jess Tipper, Suffolk County Council	
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	Jim Brown, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project Manager	Adam Yates, Northamptonshire Archaeology, Matt Smith CgMs	
Sponsor	CgMs Consulting Ltd	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	January 2011	
End date	January 2011	
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no) Content	
Physical	SNT 050	Human bone, Roman coin, pottery, brick, tile and other finds
Paper		Context record, associated registers, photographic record, permatrace drawings & background documentation
Digital		Client report PDF
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report	
Title	Undated inhumations at Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk	
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AT UPTHORPE ROAD, STANTON, SUFFOLK

January 2011

Abstract

Archaeological trial excavations were undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting Ltd at Upthorpe Road, Stanton, Suffolk. A possible disarticulated burial, or perhaps two individuals, were encountered during the investigation of a substantial possibly prehistoric ditch. A third crouched individual was buried within a grave. Other remains included a number of late medieval or early post-medieval ditches, subdividing the modern field. A series of roughly parallel irregular linear features seen in the northern half of the site may be of geological origin.

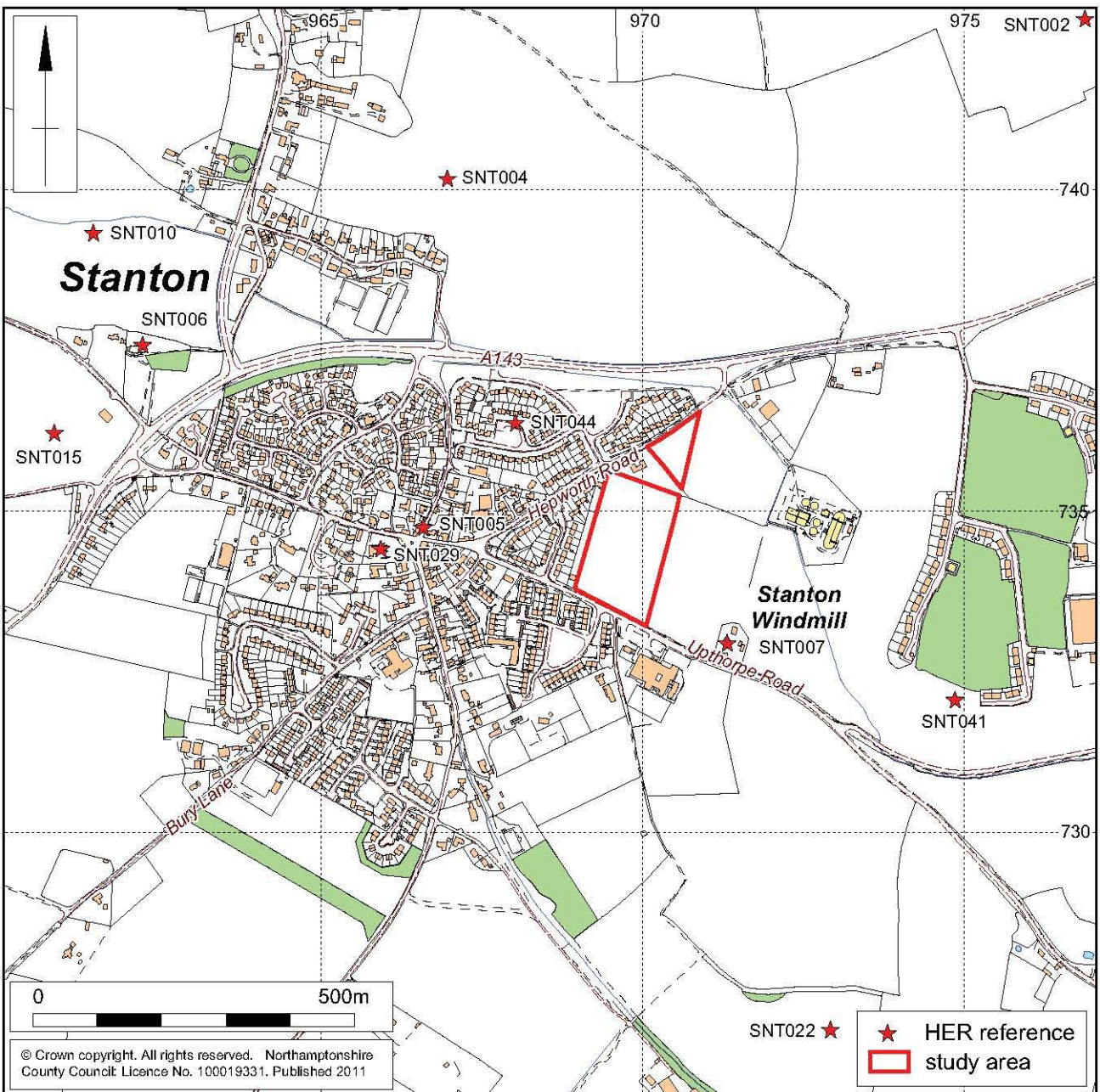
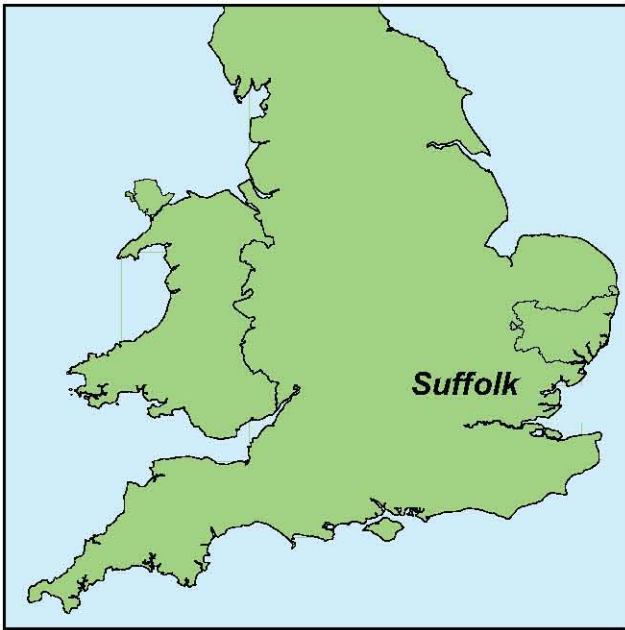
1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook archaeological trial trench excavation for CgMs Consulting Ltd on 2.4ha of land between Upthorpe Road and Hepworth Road, Stanton, Suffolk (Fig 1; centred on NGR TL 9680 7330). The work took place in order to allow an informed decision relating to planning application SE/10/1410 by Abbey Developments Ltd. Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Conservation Team (SCCASCT), as the archaeological advisors to St Edmundsbury Borough Council, indicated that the site lies in an area of high archaeological importance and advised that a programme of archaeological evaluation should be undertaken in accordance with PPS5 *Planning for the Historic Environment*. This work was undertaken following a specification produced by Northamptonshire Archaeology for CgMs Consulting Ltd to meet the requirements of a brief issued by SCCASCT (Tipper 2010; NA 2010). The specification was approved prior to the works by the Suffolk County Council archaeological officer, who also visited the site during its undertaking.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological background

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was undertaken by CgMs Consulting Ltd prior to the trial trench excavations (Smith 2010). The study examined information held within the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER), the Suffolk Records Office at Bury St Edmunds and other cartographic sources. It concluded that there was moderate potential for remains of Roman date within the site, due to the potential for a high status building nearby, and such remains may have been severely affected by modern ploughing and the modern construction of Grafton Villa (Smith 2010, 15). The following information is extracted from the DBA.



Scale 1:10,000

Site location and Historic Environment Record data Fig 1

Prehistoric

Worked flint has been discovered at two sites, 0.8-1.0km south of Stanton (SNT022/28). An undated circular cropmark lies 0.5km to the north, thought to be a ploughed-out burial mound (SNT004). Iron Age pottery has been found at Duke Street in Stanton (SNT005) and Potters Lane, south of the town (SNT022).

Roman

A large mosaic was located c100m north-west of the study area; said to have been found and destroyed by builders in the 1960s' during construction of Buckles Field and Catchpole Way (SNT044). Clamp tile kilns were located at New Hall Farm, 1km to the north-east (SNT002).

Local metal detector finds include Roman coins and a figurine found near High Wood, to the east (SNT041). Pottery has been found at Potters Lane, 0.8km to the south (SNT022), at Blacksmiths Cottage on Duke Street (SNT005) and a brooch was found near George Hill to the north-west (SNT010).

Saxon and medieval

A silver coin of King Athelstan was found 1km to the west (SNT015). Pottery has been recovered at Duke Street (SNT005).

The 1086 Domesday Survey records Stanton village church. There are two churches in Stanton; the Church of All Saints and the Church of St John. The former is still in use and there is much recorded history surrounding the collapse of its south tower in 1906, the bulk of the building is of 14th-century date (SNT029). The latter church is a ruin on the north-west side of the village that is also of 14th-century date (SNT006).

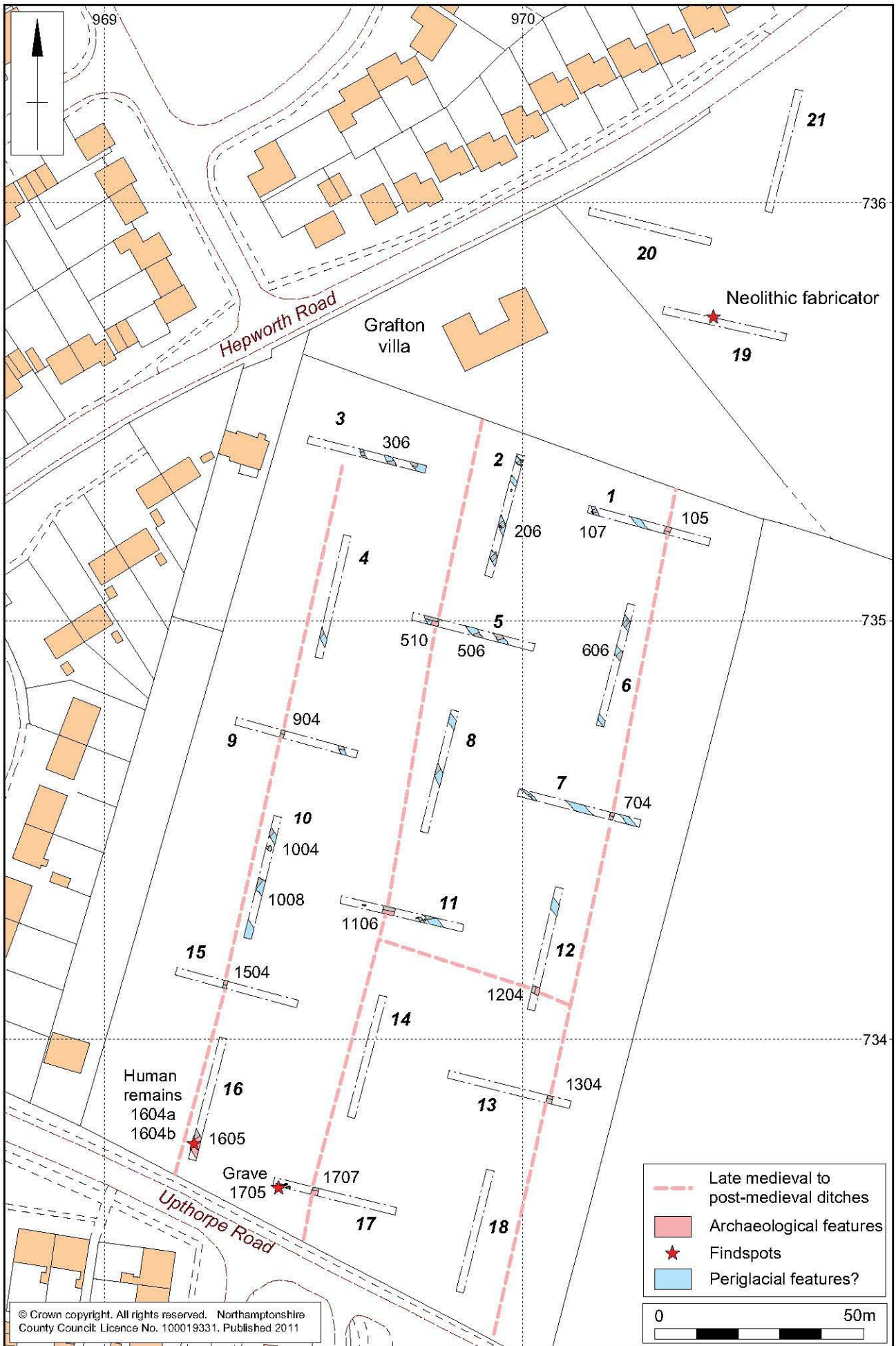
Post-medieval

Stanton Windmill (SNT007; SAM136) is a Grade II* Listed Building, it is a post mill, located c100m to the south-east of the site. The HER states that it was constructed in 1751 and relocated to the site in 1820. English Heritage records the construction in 1807 and its restoration in 1939. The windmill appears on most of the cartographic sources since the tithe map of 1838.

Cartographic sources provided little information on the previous layout of the site. The open field was a single unit in 1838, with the northern triangle within the neighbouring field to the north. This situation remained until 1984 when Grafton Villa was built.

2.2 Topography and geology

The site is on the east side of the village of Stanton, Suffolk. To the south the site fronts onto Upthorpe Road and to the north and west it is bounded by residential properties and gardens. To the east is an open ploughed field upon the other side of which stands the local landmark, Stanton Windmill. A smaller triangle of rough scrubland lies to the north-east of the main site and fronts onto Hepworth Road. The land occupied by Grafton Villa between the two fields lies within the application area, but outside of the scope of trial trench excavation. The site lies between c38-45m above Ordnance Datum on a gentle downward slope from Upthorpe Road.



Scale 1:1250

Trial trench and feature distribution Fig 2

The village of Stanton is located on the east slopes of the Black Bourn valley, a major tributary of the River Little Ouse. The underlying geology is Cretaceous Chalk (BGS 2001). Variations to this were observed during excavations comprising mixed sand and gravel glacial till and terrace gravels. The soil belongs to the Beccles 1 soil association derived from chalky till and comprises slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey soils (LAT 1983).

3.3 Geological observations by Steve Critchley

The bedrock is Cretaceous Chalk which, around Stanton, is a mixture of three or four lithological units. The sand and gravels on hilltop to the south of the site are localised fluvial deposits belonging to the Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup, dated to the early to mid-Pleistocene, and deposited as Terrace Gravels by the pre-glacial River Thames.

The trenches exhibited periglacial deposits formed during the Devensian Glaciation and its associated arctic tundra climate. The result is a locally very complex series of mixed sands and fine to coarse gravels, clays and chalky clays reworked by ground ice over a long period of time and added to by wind-blown fine sands and silts. There were no observable ice wedge casts and little in the way of periglacial features except the planed off tops of involutions. A series of parallel linear features noted in the trenches may be of periglacial origin subsequently affected by solution, although given the limited exposure within the trenches, it is difficult to draw definitive conclusions. This would not be surprising with chalk bedrock as this is susceptible to solution, particularly by the aggressive ground water in the periglacial active layer and by later rain water penetration.

3 TRIAL EXCAVATION STRATEGY

3.1 Objectives

It was the principal objective of the trial trench evaluation to quantify the quality and extent of the archaeological resource and inform further decisions regarding the suitability of the site for development. The aim was to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial for important archaeological remains within the application area (Tipper 2010, 2.1-2.5).

Specifically this sought to:

- establish whether any archaeological remains exist in the area with particular regard to any which merit preservation *in situ*
- identify the date, form and function of any archaeological remains, together with the extent, depth and quality of preservation
- evaluate the likely impact of past land use and the possible presence of masking colluvial or alluvial deposits
- establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological features or deposits, working practises, timetables and overheads.

3.2 Methodology

There were twenty-one archaeological trial trenches, 30m long by 2m wide, which were excavated within the application area (Fig 2). The locations were recorded in relation to the Ordnance Survey using Leica System 1200 GPS survey equipment or measured into

existing property boundaries marked on the Ordnance Survey. All site levels, drawn plans and sections were related to Ordnance Datum.

The topsoil and subsoil was removed under archaeological supervision by mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, to reveal significant archaeological remains or, where these were absent, the natural substrate. Archaeological deposits were cleaned and examined sufficiently to characterise, record and date their nature and extent. Features were partially excavated with at least 50% of discrete pits and postholes being examined, or for ditches, a hand dug section at least 1.0m wide. A metal detecting survey of the trenches was undertaken. All artefacts were retained for analysis.

Digital photographs were taken, supplemented with 35mm monochrome negatives, and colour transparencies for archive purposes. The photographic record is accompanied by *pro forma* trench record sheets that contain detailed context information on the archaeological deposits encountered, accompanied by a register of plans, section drawings, levels, soil samples and small finds. Feature locations were planned on permatrace at 1:100, and section profiles were drawn to scales 1:10 or 1:20. Skeletal remains were planned in more detail at 1:10. All photographs and paper archive records have been compiled in accordance with recognised museum practise (Walker 1990, IfA 2008).

The discovery of human remains was discussed on site. It was decided that human bone would be retained for assessment where it had been disturbed by excavation and that other remains would be cleaned, recorded and then reburied. The remains were recovered under a Ministry of Justice Licence (no.11-0002) in accordance with section 25 of the Burial Act 1857. The remaining skeleton has been covered by a sheet of blue polythene, lightly covered with soil and then covered by hardboard at the top of the grave cut, before reinstatement.

The sampling strategy was discussed on site during the process of monitoring. It was agreed to retrieve samples from the possible cultivation features (see 4.1 below) in order to try and determine their provenance.

Northamptonshire Archaeology is an Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) registered organisation (RAO48). All work was undertaken in accordance with current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010), *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2009), the procedural documents of English Heritage (EH 1991; 2002; 2006).

4 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

Topsoil was consistent across the site and comprised friable greyish brown sandy loam 0.25-0.35m in depth. Subsoil was patchier, perhaps reflecting variations in the underlying natural substrate, and comprised soft orange-brown sandy loam up to 0.01m deep. There was some evidence for previous cultivation in the form of plough scars and mole drills, although these were not extensive, and archaeological features did not appear to have suffered greatly from truncation from recent agricultural practices.

An inventory of context descriptions is appended at the end of this document (Appendix 1). The features that were encountered fall broadly into four groups comprising probable periglacial features, an undated boundary ditch, undated human remains and late medieval to post-medieval boundaries. The location and extent of the features are depicted upon the trench layout (Fig 2).

4.1 Patterned ground

There were a total of thirty-nine potential features that were investigated by hand excavation, and of these nineteen were features orientated on a roughly parallel north-west to south-east alignment. The majority of these features were located towards the northern end of the main field (Fig 2). Each of these features was distinct and unique, different from its counterparts, but bearing similar characteristics (Figs 3-7). None of the features had an easily defined cut, they were usually diffuse at the edges and hard to define where worm caste stained sand became cleaner, firmer sand but with little change in colouration. Most of the features were spread over an area between 1.5-3.6m in width and some were as shallow as 0.28m or as deep as 0.78m. Often the edges were heavily scored with hollows or smaller gullies, the fills of which were almost identical to the main fill, usually orange-brown sandy loam mottled with worm castes and with pebble flint sorted with the larger stones towards the upper horizon.



Feature [206], Trench 2, looking south-east Fig 3



Feature [506], Trench 5, looking north-west Fig 4



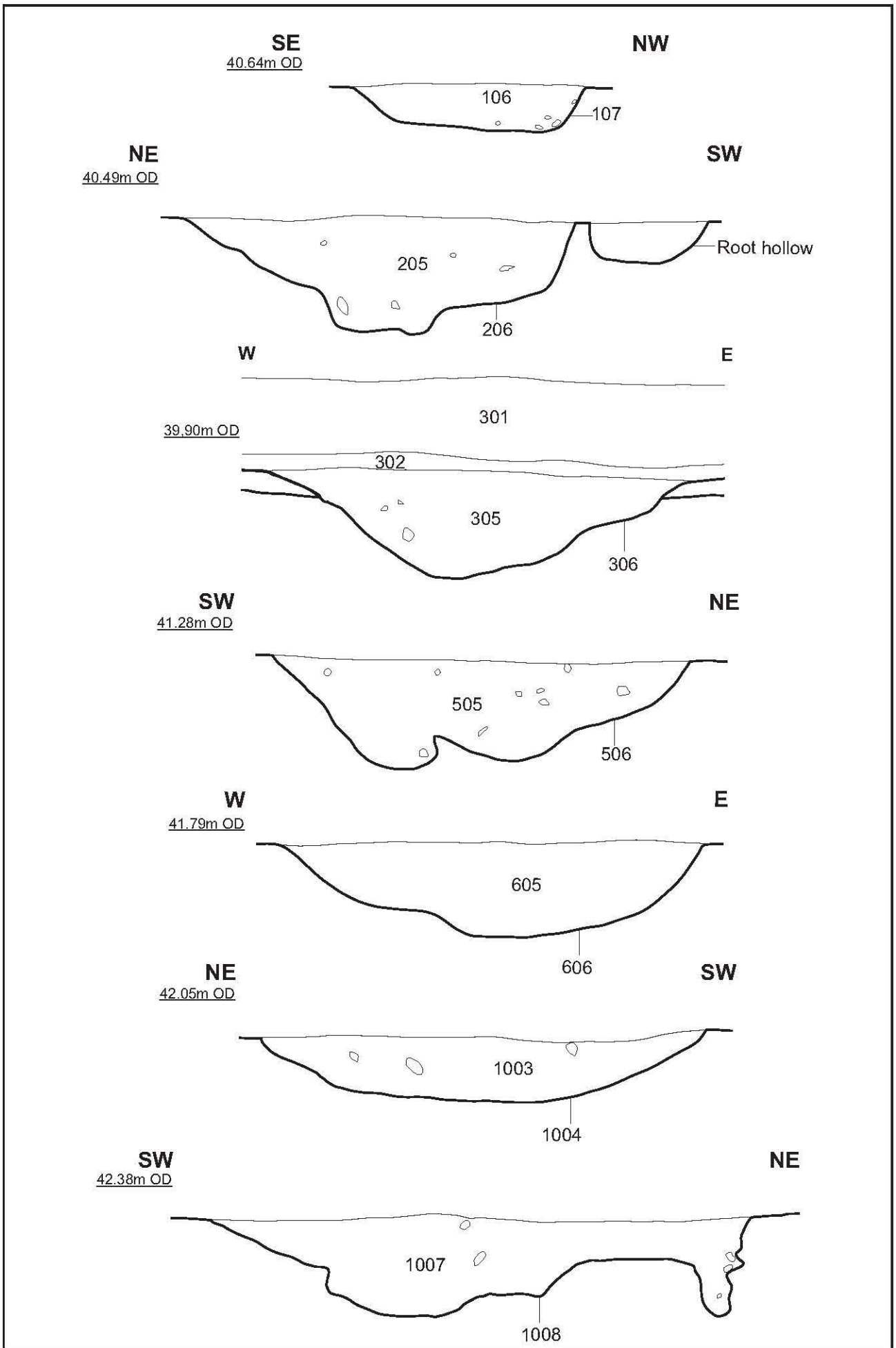
Feature [1008], Trench 10, looking south-east Fig 5



Feature [1004], Trench 10, looking south-east Fig 6

A Roman coin of the 1st century AD was recovered from the upper fill of one of these features (505). A sieved sample from the same feature (sample 3) produced charcoal and a few charred cereal grains and weed seeds. The coin is clearly of anthropogenic origin, as may be the charred material. This may indicate an artificial origin for these features, but the finds and seeds may have been introduced through worm action or other bioturbation, noted during the excavation. This is also consistent with the high incidence of *Cecilioides acicula* mollusc species present.

Comparison was made between features of periglacial origin excavated at Moulton, near Newmarket, Suffolk (Stone 2009) and features of vegetative origin that formed planting rows at Ampthill, Bedfordshire (Brown 2010). It is more likely that the features at Stanton are typical of the periglacial formations known as stripes, which are a product of the freeze-thaw processes that occur in semi-arid tundra landscapes, such as those with which the Devensian Glaciation is associated (Ballantyne and Harris 1994, 193-203; French 1976, 189-96).



Scale 1:20

Sections of probable periglacial streaks Fig 7

There are key differences between features at Ampthill and those at Stanton. Finds at Ampthill were sparse, but pottery from manuring activity was present in most features, at Stanton they were almost all sterile and the Roman coin that was recovered lay amongst the upper worm disturbed horizon. Almost all of the features at Ampthill lay within a very close range of dimensions 0.6-0.8m wide by 0.4-0.5m deep and the spacing of the rows was consistent to 6.0-7.6m apart. At Stanton there is no consistency between size and spacing, the rows do not appear to be straight, uniform, or in any way planned or organised. At Ampthill the complexity of root disturbance was significantly dense and confined to the planting trenches such that the gullies and hollows produced a continuous linear progression that left little doubt as to their origin.

At Stanton the periglacial gullies and hollows are spread over wider areas with a tendency to exhibit contradictory characteristics where large variations in the colour and texture of the sand were interspersed with chalk, forming ridges at the base and sides. The fill materials at Ampthill were generally darker tending towards greyish-blue clay with very little stone apparent, whilst at Stanton the fills were generally mottled by worm castes where the softer sand is more easily penetrated than the surrounding chalk and compact gravels. Stone in these features was sorted towards the upper horizon, which is a key characteristic produced through the formation process of patterned ground.



Ditch [1605], Trench 16, looking north Fig 8

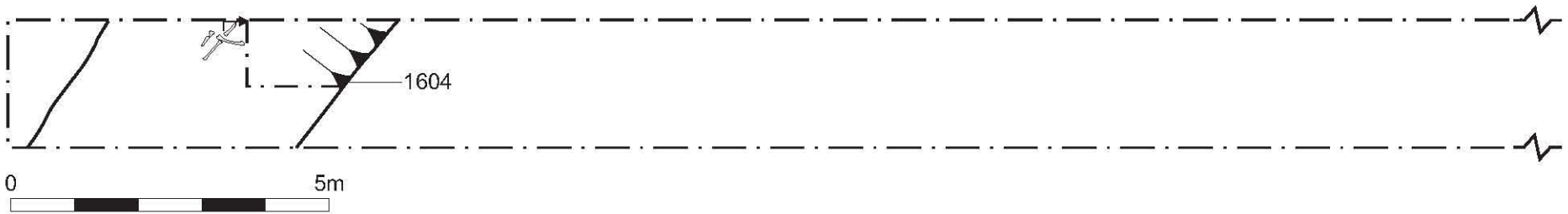


Skeletal remains [1604a], Trench 16, looking west Fig 9



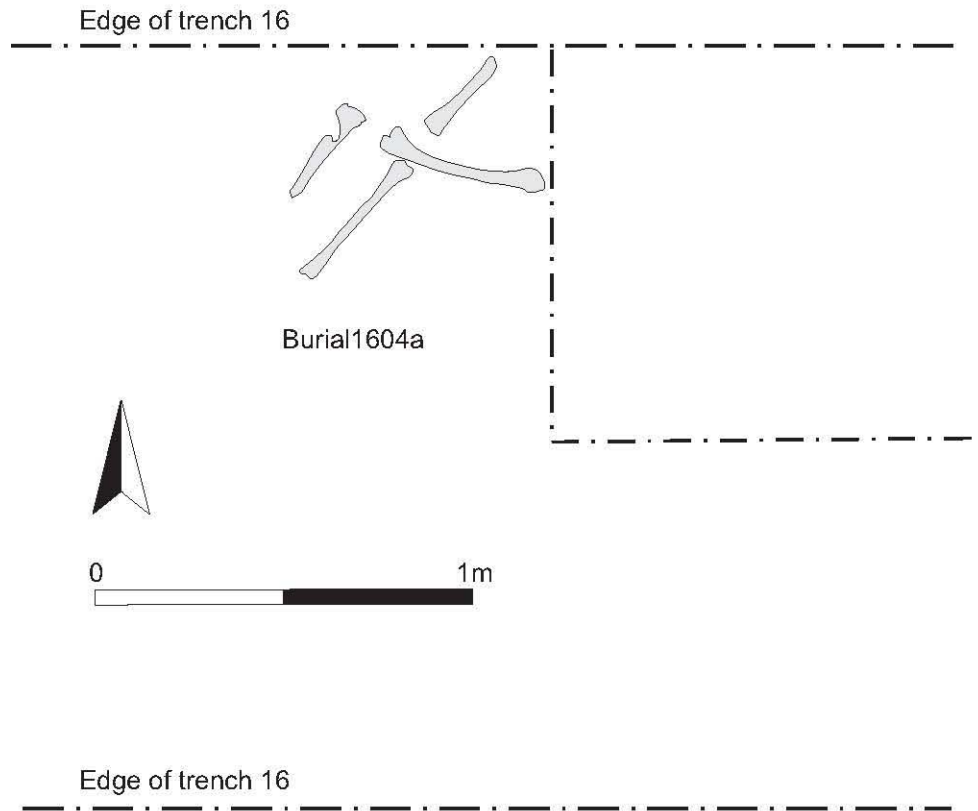
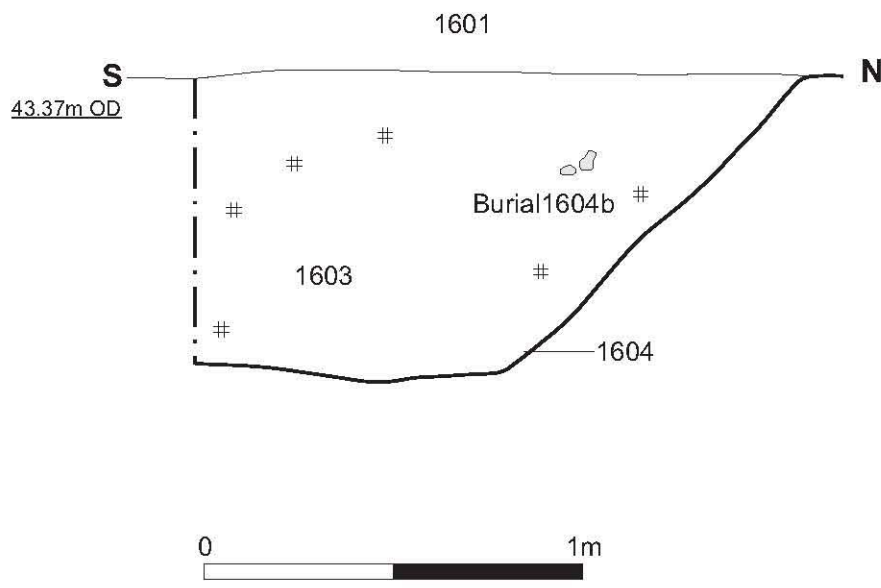
Ditch [1605] section, Trench 16, looking west Fig 10

Trench 16



Ditch 1604 and Burials 1604a and 1604b Trench 16 Fig 11

Section 31



4.2 A ditch containing human remains

In the south-west corner of the site, Trench 16, a substantial boundary ditch [1605] was aligned north-west to south-east; its full true profile could not be excavated within the confines of the trench because the feature contained human remains. The ditch was 3.6m wide by 0.8m deep (Figs 8 and 11). The sides sloped steeply and the break of slope was swift towards a flat base. It contained a single homogenous fill that comprised friable dark orange-brown sandy loam (1603) with frequent worm castes and flint pebbles <100mm in size.

Within the upper fill, with no apparent grave cut visible and protruding from the west side of the trench, was the lower portion of a human burial (1604a, Figs 9 and 11). The skeleton lay roughly east-west and seems likely to have lain full length, there were no associated finds. Only the bones which were disturbed by the trial excavations were recovered for analysis, the remainder of the burial lies *in situ* beneath the west baulk.

During investigation of the ditch further remains were recovered from the lower fill; distinctly separate from the initial skeleton, over c1.0m from the first and c0.20m down within the fill (Figs 10-11). These remains constitute bones from a human foot (1604b). Unless disarticulated, a possible second individual may lie *in situ* beyond the west baulk of the trench. The fill produced a single sherd of possible late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery. The sherd was very small and abraded and may be residual; however a prehistoric date for this feature cannot be discounted.

4.3 An undated grave

Grave [1705] was located at the west end of Trench 17, overlain by 0.35m of topsoil and subsoil. It was located approximately 22m east south-east of grave [1604]. The rectangular cut aligned east to west, which was distinct and well defined against the natural chalk, 2.0m long by 0.8m wide by 0.27m deep (Fig 12). The sides of the grave were vertical and the base was flat. At the base of the grave lay a human skeleton was orientated with its skull at the west end. It is not clear whether the skeleton lay in a crouched position since so few bones remain and the skull may have rolled to one side, (Figs 13 and 15). The burial was in a poor state of preservation, only the skull, clavicle and some arm bones were present, more delicate bone such as ribs, vertebrae and smaller bones did not survive. The burial was not exposed below the pelvis. The grave was recorded, covered and reburied.

Other features nearby

In close proximity to grave [1705] were three smaller features that were considered either as possible postholes or root/solution hollows [1709/11/13]. They lay in a roughly square arrangement space 0.4-0.6m apart between centre points, but orientated eccentric to the grave (Figs 14 and 16). The smallest was 0.36m wide by 0.32m deep, but the largest was 0.96m wide by 0.58m deep and did not have the characteristics to suggest a double posthole. The fill was consistent and no additional cut could be seen.

These features were very poorly defined against the natural chalk (Figs 14-15). The edges were subject to mottled variations and the sides whilst steep and near vertical, were uneven and the bases did not form flat or pointed profiles at a consistent level but were as unpredictable as the edges. The firm mottled dark orange-brown sandy loam fills contained worm castes and the few flint pebbles showed no particular sorting and whilst consistent between the four features, this was their only similarity.



Grave [1705], Trench 17, looking south Fig 12



Skeleton [1704], Trench 17, looking south Fig 13



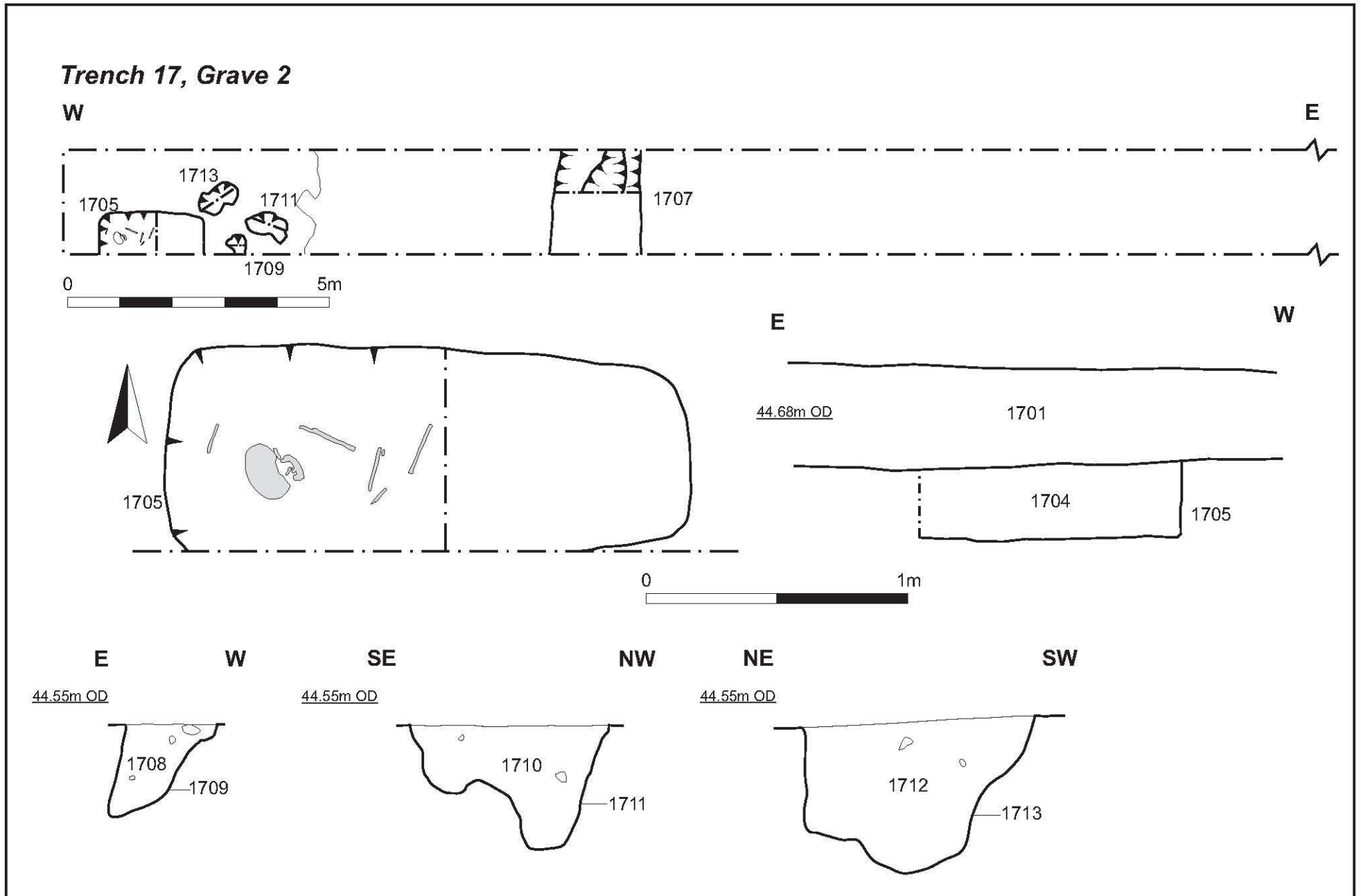
Grave [1705] and posthole/hollows [1709/11/13], Trench 17, looking south Fig 14



Posthole/hollow [1713], Trench 17, looking south-east Fig 15

Scale 1:20

Trench 17, Grave 1705 and posthole/hollows 1709/11/13 Fig 16



4.4 Late medieval to post-medieval boundary ditches

Three unequally-spaced ditches aligned north-south sub-divided the field (Fig 2).

Ditch [904/1504] in Trenches 9 and 15 had steep 50-60° sloping sides with a rapid break of slope towards a flat base, 0.89-1.5m wide by 0.28-0.30m deep. The fill was soft light greyish-brown sandy loam with infrequent pebbles up to 30mm across, dated by late medieval sandy ware pottery to after the 12th to 14th centuries.

Ditch [510/1106] was visible only in Trenches 5 and 11, the majority of it having been lost to the recut [504/1104/1707], which also crossed Trench 17. The recut was 1.07-1.68m wide by 0.50-0.58m deep. This ditch had sharp sloping sides at 50° to the horizontal, eroded at top, with a gradual break of slope that curved into a flattish base. For the most part the fill comprised loose dark greyish-brown sandy loam with moderate pebbles up to 60mm across, generally poorly sorted.

Ditch [105/704/1304] was found within Trenches 1, 7 and 13. Its overall dimensions were 1.50-1.76m wide by 0.36-0.57m deep. The fill was generally loose dark greyish-brown silty sand loam with occasional flint pebbles up to 80mm across, dated by a sherd of glazed red earthenware to after the mid-16th century.

One ditch within Trench 12 lay perpendicular to the alignment to the other ditches. Ditch [1204] was 1.5m wide by 0.48m deep, it lay east-west with steep sloping sides that met rapidly in a flattish base. However, the ditch profile was unconvincing, it was irregular and uneven, had hollows and narrow gullies at base and sides, and combined with the loose dark reddish brown sandy loam fill mottled with worm castes was similar to many periglacial features. The discovery of roof tile in the fill was the only firm evidence to suggest it was a ditch.

5 FINDS

5.1 Worked flint by Yvonne Wolfram-Murray

There are three pieces of worked flint that were recovered as residual finds from late medieval to post-medieval ditches and the surface of colluvium in Trench 19. The flint comprises two flakes, of which one is broken, and a possible fabricator. The raw material comprised of mid grey-brown vitreous flint and a small amount of mid-brown cortex was present on the flake fragment. The flint was probably sourced from local gravel beds.

The fabricator is bi-facially worked and is tapered with an oval cross section. It is 108mm long and 31mm wide at the base, 14mm wide at its tip. There is post-depositional edge damage on the tip of the implement and the piece is patinated. Fabricators are typical of the Neolithic period (Fig 17).

Post-depositional damage was present on the flint flakes, consisting of occasional nicks and crushing of the edges. They are not patinated. Technologically, the flakes do not conform to a particular period, but broadly date from the Neolithic to the early Bronze Age.



Neolithic flint fabricator (Scale 50mm) Fig 17

5.2 Prehistoric pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

A single sherd weighing 2g of possible Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery was recovered from ditch [1605]. The sherd has a grey fabric with reddish-brown surfaces. Sparse angular white flint and shell up to 1mm, rare fine quartz and red and black ironstone. The sherd is small and damaged, with only one surface remaining, making precise identification difficult. Given its condition it could easily be residual.

5.3 Brick and tile by Pat Chapman

There are nine small roof tile sherds and two brick fragments.

The tile sherds weigh 143g, seven are between 10mm and 13mm thick, the other two are tiny fragments from ditches [1304] and [1707]. Three sherds from fills (104) and (1107) of ditches [105] and [1106] are made from hard coarse sandy red-brown clay, while the four sherds from ditches [1106] and [1204], and the two fragments, are made from a less coarse orange-brown sandy clay fabric. All the pieces have a few tiny angular flint inclusions up to 1mm, and one inclusion is at least 6mm long. There is a trace of white mortar on one sherd.

The brick from fill (104) of ditch [105] is 120mm wide, c48mm thick (4¾ by c1¾ inches) and weighs 1.07kg. It is made from well-mixed coarse sandy orange-brown clay, but with large lumps of flint and grog up to 30mm long. Traces of darker over-fired surfaces survive and there is white lime mortar on most surfaces. The brick, comprising two

joining pieces from context (503), weighs 445g and is 40mm thick⁵/₄ inches). The fabric is hard coarse sandy slightly friable orange clay with occasional mainly flint inclusions up to 5mm long. Both bricks are handmade.

The roof tile could date from the 15th to the early 19th centuries; the bricks could be of 15th to 18th century date.

5.4 Roman coin by Ian Meadows

A single heavily worn and corroded Roman coin 26mm in diameter from fill (505) in Trench 5. The coin, either an As or a Dupondius, preserved the shadow of a centrally standing figure on the reverse and a thick-necked bust on the obverse. The head faced right. The form of the bust was similar to those of either Nero (AD54-68) or Domitian (AD81-96); sadly no part of the legend could be discerned. That the coin was heavily worn and corroded would suggest that it had been in circulation some time before being lost.

5.5 Late medieval and post-medieval pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

There are two sherds, weighing 17g. The sherd from ditch [904] is medieval sandy ware of the 12th to 14th centuries. It is a fine grey ware with moderate to dense fine quartz sand and rare fragments of calcareous material <0.2mm. Such medieval wares are found throughout East Anglia. This sherd is from a base with a sagging profile and weighs 11g.

The other sherd from ditch [704] weighs 6g and is glazed red earthenware of the mid-16th century onwards. It is fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, occurring in a range of utilitarian forms. Such 'country pottery' was first made in the 16th century, and in some areas continued in use until the 19th century.

5.6 Medieval and post-medieval finds by Tora Hylton

There are five metal finds; a buckle, a jetton, an iron horseshoe nail, an undiagnostic iron strip and a probable fragment of 19th-century farm machinery, perhaps a harrow.

The plain medieval gilded buckle-plate is of a common type (cf. Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig 72, 499); it was recovered from topsoil in Trench 1. The Nuremberg jetton from topsoil in Trench 18 is of 16th- to 17th-century date (cf. Barnard 1916, plate XXXIII, 84). The nail and iron strip both come from ditch [904]. The machinery fragment is from ditch [1104].

There is a clay tobacco-pipe bowl from the subsoil in Trench 2 which is an Oswald type G19, dating c1690-1710 (Oswald 1975, 37). The bowl has a foot and a partial groove set below the lip of the bowl.

6 HUMAN REMAINS by Sarah Inskip

The remains of two or three individuals were revealed and partially excavated. The incompleteness of the remains examined limits osteological analysis. The legs and feet of skeleton (1604a) were disturbed by machine during excavation of Trench 16 at the surface of the feature. The distal left tibia and feet from a possible second individual, skeleton (1604b), were recovered separately from the fill of ditch [1605] during hand excavation. Neither of the individuals can be aged or sexed reliably, although skeleton

(1604a) has a stature of 1.76m and is more likely to be male. The most complete skeleton, (1704), remained *in situ* and appeared to be a crouched inhumation. Evidence suggests that this individual can be aged and sexed if fully excavated.

The remains from grave [1705] were recorded with the individual *in situ*. Accordingly observations are very broad. Recognised guidelines were followed where possible (Brickley and McKinley 2004). All bones were measured using Sylvac electronic digital callipers. A standard measuring tape was used to record diameters. Measurements were taken to one decimal place (Table 1; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994). Metric assessment is based on measurements of individuals of European descent (Trotter 1977; Trotter and Gleser 1952; 1958). In case of future work, post cranial non-metric traits were recorded (Finnegan 1978; Buisktra and Ubelaker 1994; Brickley and McKinley 2004).

Results

Skeleton (1604a) comprises the semi-articulated legs (femora, tibiae, talus, calcaneus and navicular) of one individual. Skeleton (1604b) comprises the partial disarticulated feet and distal tibia which are quite likely to come from the same individual because the left tibia, talus and calcaneus articulate and the right sided bones match morphologically to the left sided bones. It is therefore possible that skeleton (1604) may be a single disarticulated individual or two separate individuals, partially exposed within the ditch fill.

The semi-articulated remains in grave [1705] seem to indicate that the individual was placed in the ground on their right side, possibly in a crouched position, although the position of the legs was not fully exposed (Figs 10-11).

Preservation

The remains of skeleton (1604a-b) are fairly preserved with less than 60% of the cortical bone surfaces available for observation (Behrensmeyer Grade 2-3). Deterioration has largely been caused by chemicals secreted by roots which demineralise the bone (Roberts 2009, 61). One of the right leg bones of (1604a) has been *fragmented post mortem* during machining, but is largely reconstructable. There is no evidence of gnawing on any of the bones.

The exposed remains within the excavated portion of grave [1705] indicate that preservation was fair, a number of teeth are clearly present in the lower anterior mandible. Areas of the skull may also still have some substantial layers of cortical bone which could prove fruitful in terms of information.

Completeness

All the remains are incomplete. Skeleton (1604a-b) is less than 25% complete and no elements above the femurs were recovered.

The individual in grave [1705] is also incomplete (Fig 11). However the whole skeleton was not exposed and there is potential to glean further information from the individual if fully excavated.

Ageing

The absence of skull and pelvis prevents the macroscopic determination of age for skeleton (1604a-b). As such it is only possible to provide a wide age estimate. All the long bone epiphyses are fused and the epiphyseal lines have been completely obliterated. The epiphyses of the tibia and femur are normally fused by the age of 20 years (Scheuer and Black 2000, 392). The individual is probably an adult. There is no evidence for osteoarthritis and the long bones do not appear to be osteoporotic.

The disarticulated foot and tibia (1604b) have completed epiphyseal union. The distal tibia fuses at the latest by 19 years of age (Scheuer and Black 2000, 414) and the first metatarsal head is fused by 18 years (Scheuer and Black 2000, 463).

In grave [1705] it is possible to see that the anterior dentition in the mandible has fully erupted adult teeth (Fig 11). It appears that molars and possibly one premolar are absent on the lower left side. Although the articulating ends of the bones are not visible, the size of the bones suggests an adult individual.

Sexing

As the most sexually dimorphic regions of the skeleton, the skull and pelvis are key to gender (Roberts 2009, 124). It is therefore very difficult to sex the remains for skeleton (1604a-b). The leg bones are long and robust. Although the bones were measurable and a stature obtained, the individual could have feasibly been male or female, male seems more likely.

The bones from the disarticulated foot were small. Sexual dimorphism in the foot has been shown to vary between populations (Mountrakis *et al* 2010). Furthermore, there are no known sex individuals to set a baseline for assessing gender through foot measurements.

The gender of the individual in grave [1705] is not determinable from the photographs. The preservation of the remains, particularly the amount of skull present, would permit this.

Metric assessment

It was possible to calculate stature for the semi articulated individual skeleton (1604a) from the femur and the tibia. The maximum length of the left femur was estimated at 468mm and the left tibia at 381mm. Stature was calculated to be 1.76m +/- 0.04m. Since the burial is undated no comparison to existing population data is currently possible.

The maximum length of the left metatarsal from skeleton (1604b) was 56mm. It is not possible to take accurate measurements from photographs for skeleton (1704) in grave [1705].

Table 1: Left femur and tibia measurements (mm) for skeleton (1604a)

Measurements (mm) for skeleton 1604										
60	61	64	65	66	67	68	69	72	73	74
468	464	262	338	275	263	90	381	352	229	89

- 60 = Femur: maximum length
- 61 = Femur: bicondylar length
- 64 = Femur: anterior posterior subtrochanteric
- 65 = Femur: medio-lateral subtrochanteric
- 66 = Femur: anterior posterior midshaft diameter
- 67 = Femur: medio-lateral midshaft diameter
- 68 = Femur: midshaft circumference
- 69 = Tibia: physiological length
- 72 = Tibia: maximum diameter at foramen
- 73 = Tibia: minimum diameter at foramen
- 74 = Tibia: circumference at foramen

Non-metric traits

Non-metric traits are morphological variations on the skeleton which have been used to examine genetic relationships and activity. With just two, observable partial individuals, it is not possible to make comments on either subject. Of note were squatting facets on the distal tibiae of both 1604a and 1604b, often associated with prolonged hyperdorsiflexion of the ankle joint, such as when adopting a squatting posture (Trinkaus 1975).

Table 2: Post cranial non-metrics for 1604a and 1604b

	Finnegan's (1978) trait numbers																			
	4		6		7		8		20		21		22		23		24		25	
Skeleton	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R
1604a	P	U	A	U	A	A	P	P	A	A	U	A	U	A	S	S	A	A	A	A
1603b	U	U	U	U	U	U	P	U	U	A	U	A	U	A	U	S	U	U	U	U

L= left, R= right, A = absent, P = present, S = single, U = unobservable. Traits: 4 = Hypotrochanteric fossa, 6 = Third trochanter, 7 = Medial squatting facet, 8 = Lateral squatting facet, 20 = Os trigonum, 21= Medial talar facet, 22 = Lateral talar extension, 23 = Inferior talar articular surface, 24 = Anterior calcaneal facet double, 25 = Anterior calcaneal facet absent

Pathologies

No notable pathology was observed on any of the skeletal remains. This may have been partially due to the loss of the cortical bone on (1604a-b) through root and soil damage. There was no evidence of trauma and the contours of the bones are normal.

It was possible to examine a number of the synovial joints of skeleton (1604a-b) for evidence of osteoarthritis. Although consensus is divided on the indicators, it is generally accepted that sclerosis, eburnation and new bone growth around the joint margin are seen in relation to the disease. The femoral head of the distal tibia of skeleton (1604a) were not affected. Similarly, skeleton (1604b), the distal tibia, talus, calcaneous and first metatarsal had no changes attributable to the disease.

Summary

Skeleton (1604a-b), whether one individual or two, cannot be confidently aged or sexed beyond that of an adult. Further information will be possible if the full skeletons are excavated. The skull and tooth remains in grave [1705] alone will provide an estimate of both age and sex. Grave [1705] may contain a crouched inhumation, it is not possible to comment any further on burial rites or comparison with contemporary evidence until the remains are dated. The use of scientific dating is recommended if no other datable evidence is retrieved from any subsequent excavations. This is required in order to incorporate the evidence into existing research data.

No further macroscopic work is required for the present remains that were recovered for skeleton (1604a-b), however, this should be included with the further analysis of any additional material if excavated and the remains reunited with the individual.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Animal bone by Karen Deighton

Two pieces of animal bone weighing 212g were collected from ditch [1707]. There is a mid-shaft cattle tibia fragment, which is sawn at the proximal end, and sawn and broken at the distal end. There is also a mid-shaft sheep/goat humerus which was sawn at the distal end and freshly broken at the proximal end. Neither of the bones showed evidence of canid gnawing or surface abrasion. Their condition is fair, but to judge by associated contexts they are likely to be post-medieval.

An assemblage of small mammal bone was recovered from sieved sample 3 (505). This is not readily diagnostic, but may be mouse (*mus/apodemus* sp).

7.2 Soil samples by Karen Deighton

Following a sampling strategy discussed on site as part of the monitoring process, four samples were collected from the possible cultivation features. A single sample was chosen for assessment to determine the presence, nature and preservation of ecofacts and to inform on any future sampling strategies and to assess the viability of processing the remaining samples.

Method

The sample was processed using a siraf tank fitted with a 250 micron mesh and flot sieve. The resulting flot and residue were dried, and sorted with the aid of a dilapidated old microscope at 10x magnification. Residues were dry sieved (3.4mm, 1mm) and the 3.4mm retent sorted by eye. The 1mm retent was scanned using a microscope.

Charred seeds and grains were identified with the aid of the author's small reference collection and Jacomet (2006). Molluscs were identified with the aid of Cameron and Kerney (1994)

Results

Preservation of plant remains was solely by charring. Fragmentation and surface abrasion was fairly high. The taxa present are summarised in Table 3.

Table 3: Ecofacts by sample and context

Cut/fill	506/505
Sample	3
Feature type	Periglacial streak
Volume(litres)	40
Charcoal	20
Breadwheat, <i>Triticum aestivum</i>	1
Cereal	2
Dock, <i>Rumex</i> sp	2
Speedwell, <i>Veronica</i> sp	1
Molluscs	
<i>Helix aspersa</i>	3
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	12
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	7
Small mammal bones	18

A large number of the mollusc *Cecilioides acicula* are present and may account the incongruities between the periglacial character of the feature and its contents. These

specimens are believed to be intrusive. The taxa was introduced to the United Kingdom in 1848 and its burrowing habits are documented (Cameron and Kerney 1994).

Discussion

The low number and mixed nature of the ecofacts suggests material was washed or blown onto the feature from elsewhere. Worm sorting and other bioturbation may also be a causal factor dragging material down from the plough soils. Poor levels of preservation add credence to this supposition.

The sample produced ecofacts which provide no definite evidence of the economy or environment of the site. The remaining samples were also taken from periglacial features, therefore it is suggested that these will also produce ecofactual assemblages of a similar origin, if any. No future work is recommended.

8 SUMMARY

The chance discovery of a Neolithic flint fabricator in the north of the site was not associated with any archaeological features or deposits. It is believed to have been a casual loss and has probably been moved there amongst the surface colluvium. Other stray losses may be found, but they are not associated with any settlement evidence within the area of trial excavation.

The most significant and important archaeological remains are located at the southern edge of the site adjacent to Upthorpe Road. A ditch of possible late Bronze Age or early Iron Age date in Trench 16 contained human remains of one or two individuals within its upper fill. These may be later insertions into the ditch, although there were no visible grave cuts. This may be due to the graves being backfilled with material derived from the ditch fill itself; resulting in a consistent and undifferentiated appearance. Alternatively the burials could be seen as closure events in the life of the ditch itself.

A further undated grave was also discovered in Trench 17. It was recorded and then preserved *in situ*, buried beneath a hardboard and polythene cover. The full extent of this burial was not exposed and only its upper part was visible. This appeared to have been placed on its right side and may have been in a crouched position. This may imply a Bronze Age date, although this is extremely tentative, based upon incompletely excavated remains.

The Human remains are considered to be of suitable quality for full osteological study and, if excavated, require dating. If no datable materials are found in association with the burials scientific dating techniques should be implemented so that the skeletal remains can be compared with contemporary evidence in the region. Although no definite associated features were identified, the possibility of related pits or postholes cannot be ruled out and where there are two or three burials, further inhumations can be expected.

Careful comparison of north-west to south-east orientated features with periglacial evidence from Moulton, near Newmarket, Suffolk and with archaeological features from Ampthill, Bedfordshire indicate that the pattern of parallel formations is of purely geological origin. Excavated sections were consistent with this view and match published parallels for the morphology of patterned ground, a product of arctic tundra conditions. A soil sample from one of the fills of these is largely sterile, intrusive material in the surface of some deposits has been introduced by worm castes and root activity which accounts for the single poor quality Roman coin at the surface interface. These features do not constitute archaeological remains.

There are four late medieval or post-medieval boundaries that do not appear on historical map evidence and divide the main field area into five parts. They are part of an earlier enclosure layout that is probably associated with Stanton. The finds recovered from these features suggest that they were filled shortly before the fields were mapped in 1838. They may represent the successors of late medieval field partitions that became redundant with modern farming techniques. All of these ditches have been truncated by ploughing and other than their date and plan layout they are unlikely to provide further information for this period of Stanton's agricultural history.

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APPENDIX – CONTEXT INDEX

Table 3: Context index

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
<i>Trench 1</i>					
101	topsoil	friable dark greyish-brown sandy loam with occasional pebble flint <80mm		0.30-0.37	medieval buckle plate
102	subsoil	soft dark orange-brown sandy loam with worm castes and occasional pebble flint <80mm		0.19-0.20	
103	fill of 105	friable mid- greyish-brown sandy loam with worm castes, moderate pebbles <40mm		0.24	
104	fill of 105	friable mid- greyish-orange-brown sandy loam with few pebbles <60mm		0.33	CBM flint flake
105	ditch	N-S, sharp sloping 45-50° sides, gradual break of slope to rounded base	1.60	0.57	
106	fill of 107	soft light orange brown sandy loam with worm castes, pebble flint <80mm, ill sorted		0.20	sample 1
107	?periglacial	NW-SE, shallow sloping sides, uneven and irregular with many changes in natural, narrow channels and hollows	0.88	0.20	
108	fill of 109	similar to 106		0.18	
109	?periglacial	narrow slot in SW side of 107, vertical sides and flat base tapers to a point at the end	0.30	0.18	
110	fill of 111	similar to 106		0.12	
111	?periglacial	circular hollow with vertical sides and ill-defined base on SW side of 107	0.23	0.12	
112	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 2</i>					
201	topsoil	same as 101		0.24-0.28	
202	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		0.12-0.15	clay tobacco pipe bowl
203	fill of 204	soft light orange-yellow brown sandy loam with worm castes and pebble flint <40mm, sorted towards surface		0.20	
204	?periglacial	NW-SE, shallow sides meet swiftly in an uneven base, hollows and narrow channels along NE side	1.30	0.20	
205	fill of 206	soft dark greyish-orange brown sandy loam with worm castes, moderate pebble flint <90mm sorted towards surface		0.56	sample 2
206	?periglacial	NW-SE, steep uneven assymetrical sides meet rapidly with uneven rounded base, several hollows and variations in natural evident	1.84	0.56	
207	fill of 208	dark greyish-brown silty sandy loam, few small stones <15mm		0.13	
208	pit	small circular pit, steep uneven sides, sharp change to flat base	0.39	0.13	
209	fill of 210	soft reddish brown sandy loam and mottled yellow sand with moderate pebble flint <60mm, sorted towards surface		0.58	
210	?periglacial	NW-SE, two ragged channels join together into a single channel with sharp steep uneven sides and narrow flattish bases, broad spread of material at the surface	1.35	0.58	
211	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			

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Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
<i>Trench 3</i>					
301	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.34	
302	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		0.08-0.12	
303	fill of 304	soft mid- orange brown sand and worm castes with occasional pebble flint <80mm sorted towards surface		0.30	
304	?periglacial	NW-SE, gently sloping but uneven sides meet in a broad flattish base	>1.90	0.30	
305	fill of 306	soft light orange brown sandy loam with moderate pebble flint <80mm sorted towards surface		0.39	
306	ditch	N-S, steep sloping sides at 50° angle, slightly eroded at upper edge, sharp break of slope into rounded base	1.65	0.39	
307	fill of 308	similar to 303 but with fewer stones		0.35	
308	?periglacial	NW-SE, gently sloping sides with gradual break of slope into a broad uneven flattish base	2.20	0.35	
309	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 4</i>					
401	topsoil	same as 101		0.25-0.30	
402	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.03	
403	fill of 404	soft mid orange-brown sandy loam with worm castes, occasional ill sorted pebble flint <60mm		<0.27	
404	?periglacial	uneven and irregular, seemingly random hollows concentrated in an area at S end of trench	c3.00	<0.27	
405	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 5</i>					
501	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.31	
502	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.04	
503	fill of 504	soft dark greyish brown silty sandy loam with occasional mixed pebble <60mm, ill sorted		0.58	CBM
504	ditch	sharp steep 45-50° sloping sides, recut on W side of 510, sharp change of slope and rounded base	1.20	0.58	
505	fill of 506	soft light orange brown sandy loam mottled with worm castes, moderate pebble flint <120mm sorted towards surface		0.42	Roman coin at surface sample 3
506	?periglacial	NW-SE, steep sloping sides curve rapidly into undercut base with many smaller disturbances in sides/base and variations of natural	1.60	0.42	
507	fill of 508	similar to 505		0.33	
508	?periglacial	NW-SE, gently sloping sides at 30° angle, slightly uneven, hollows and variation in sides make them ragged and uneven, uneven broad base	2.00	0.33	
509	fill of 510	light orange-brown sandy loam, cut by 504		0.35	
510	ditch	shallow gently sloping side with curved break of slope into rounded base	>0.60	0.35	
511	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			

EVENT no. SNT050, UPTHORPE ROAD, STANTON

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
<i>Trench 6</i>					
601	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.33	
602	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.09	
603	fill of 604	friable light orange brown sandy loam with occasional pebble flint <40mm		0.36	
604	?periglacial	steep sloping sides with uneven rounded decent meets rapidly with a flattish base, small rootlets and gullies along east side	2.00	0.36	
605	fill of 606	friable light yellowish-brown sandy loam, moderate pebble flint <140mm sorted towards surface		0.33	
606	?periglacial	sloping sides at 50-60° angle with rapid change to broad flattish base, uneven ragged sides and variations in natural sands make definition poor	1.50	0.33	
607	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 7</i>					
701	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.35	
702	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.10	
703	fill of 704	dark greyish-brown soft sandy loam with few chalky flecks and pebble flint <60mm		0.36	16th C pottery flint flake
704	ditch	N-S, steep sloping sides at 50°, rapid break of slope into flattish base	1.76	0.36	
705	fill of 706	light orange brown mottled with worm castes, sandy loam, occasional pebble flint <30mm, sorted towards surface		<0.18	
706	?periglacial	NW-SE, no distinct cut, series of shallow hollows and gullies on the same alignment	1.30	<0.18	
707	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 8</i>					
801	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.32	
802	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.12	
803	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 9</i>					
901	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.30	
902	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.10	
903	fill of 904	soft light greyish-brown sandy loam with infrequent pebbles <30mm		0.28	Medieval pottery Fe nail Fe strip
904	ditch	N-S, shallow sloping sides gradually descend from eroded upper edge to rapid break into flat base	1.50	0.28	
905	fill of 906	soft light reddish brown sandy loam with occasional pebbles <50mm		<0.72	
906	?periglacial	NW-SE, no definitive cut visible, large irregular hollows and uneven, seemingly random variations in natural	1.08	<0.72	
907	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			

EVENT no. SNT050, UPTHORPE ROAD, STANTON

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
<i>Trench 10</i>					
1001	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.34	
1002	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.06	
1003	fill of 1004	loose light yellowish-orange sand with worm castes, moderate pebbles <60mm towards surface		0.46	
1004	?periglacial	NW-SE, sharp sloping sides somewhat irregular sides and undulating base	1.72	0.46	
1005	fill of 1006	soft friable reddish brown sandy loam with moderate pebbles <80mm		0.56	
1006	root hollow	pit contains substantial root hollows that taper towards the sides and base, irregular and uneven profile	1.00	0.56	
1007	fill of 1008	soft mottled reddish brown sandy loam and dark brownish smears from worm castes, few pebbles <40mm towards surface		0.41	sample 4
1008	?periglacial	NW-SE, numerous hollows and gullies formed within close proximity, steep slightly undercutting sides and uneven base with clasts of chalk between chalky till with sand and gravel patches	2.15	0.41	
1009	natural				
<i>Trench 11</i>					
1101	topsoil	same as 101		0.31-0.34	
1102	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.14	
1103	fill of 1104	loose dark greyish-brown silty sandy loam with occasional chalky flecks and pebbles <50mm		0.50	CBM Fe machine part
1104	ditch	N-S, steep 60° sloping sides with rapid change of slope to flat base, cuts 1105	1.07	0.50	
1105	fill of 1106	firm dark orange brown sandy loam with worm castes, moderate pebbles <50mm		0.36	
1106	ditch	N-S, 45° sloping sides, some root action along upper edges, shallow rounded base with uneven break of slope	>0.68	0.36	
1107	fill of 1108	dark greyish-black loose silty clay loam, similar to topsoil		0.10	CBM
1108	pit	small oval pit with gently sloping sides and a flat base	0.4	0.10	
1109	fill of 1110	loose light orange-brown sandy loam, moderate flint pebbles <120mm sorted towards surface		<0.45	
1110	?periglacial	NW-SE, no distinct trench cut, sides and base are irregular with smaller gullies and hollows making up the wider depression	3.50	<0.45	
1111	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 12</i>					
1201	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.32	
1202	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.05	
1203	fill of 1204	loose dark reddish brown sandy loam mottled with worm castes		0.48	CBM
1204	ditch	E-W, steep sloping sides meet rapidly in a flattish base, irregular and uneven profile, hollows and narrow gullies at base and sides	1.50	0.48	
1205	natural	sand and gravel			

EVENT no. SNT050, UPTHORPE ROAD, STANTON

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
<i>Trench 13</i>					
1301	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.34	
1302	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.06	
1303	fill of 1304	loose dark greyish-brown silty sand loam with occasional flint pebbles <80mm		0.50	CBM
1304	ditch	N-S, steep sloping sides, slightly eroded at upper edge, some root disturbance with a sharp break of slope towards flattish base	1.50	0.50	pottery
1305	natural	sand and gravel			
<i>Trench 14</i>					
1401	topsoil	same as 101		0.31-0.34	
1402	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.10	
1403	natural	sand and gravel			
<i>Trench 15</i>					
1501	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.34	
1502	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.09	
1503	fill of 1504	soft reddish brown sandy loam mottled with worm castes, few flint pebbles <80mm, ill sorted		0.30	
1504	ditch	N-S, steep 50-60° sloping sides with a rapid break of slope towards a flat base	0.89	0.30	
1505	fill of 1506	soft mottled reddish brown and orange sandy loam		0.20	
1506	?periglacial	shallow irregular hollows and gullies, no definitive cut, orientation or profile	1.10	0.20	
1507	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 16</i>					
1601	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.34	
1602	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.05	
1603	fill of 1605	friable dark orange brown sandy loam mottled with worm castes, pebble flint <100mm, ill sorted throughout, foot bones recovered from fill close to cut line of ditch within lower profile		0.80	?Prehistoric pottery human bone
1604	skeletal remains	W-E, long bones of legs exposed in top of 1603 with feet at east end, assorted chanel recovered during cleaning, head and body lie to west beyond trench limit		0.38	human bone
1605	ditch	NW-SE, steep sloping side with slight concave curvature, change of slope from 50° to 60° to 40° before rapid change to flat base	3.60	0.8	
1606	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
<i>Trench 17</i>					
1701	topsoil	same as 101		0.28-0.32	
1702	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.05	
1703	fill of 1705	firm mottled orange-brown sandy loam and redeposited chalk mix		0.27	
1704	skeletal remains	W-E inhumation, skull, clavicle and arm bones,, no survival of ribs, vertebrae and smaller bones, head is at the west end		0.27	reburied
1705	grave	W-E rectangular grave with clear edges, vertical cut and flat base, 2.0m long by 0.8m wide	0.80	0.27	
1706	fill of 1707	loose dark greyish-brown sandy loam with moderate pebbles <60mm		0.53	CBM
1707	ditch	N-S, sharp sloping side at 50°, eroded at top, gradual break of slope into a flattish base	1.68	0.53	
1708	fill of 1709	firm mottled dark orange-brown sandy loam with worm castes, few flint pebbles <50mm		0.32	
1709	?root hollow	steep sloping sides, not quite vertical, rapid change towards rounded uneven base, slightly pointed, edges are poorly defined against the chalk	0.36	0.32	
1710	fill of 1711	similar to 1708		0.47	
1711	?root hollow	similar to 1709 except that the base has a deeper hollow at one side and no evident difference in the fill to suggest a second cut	0.77	0.47	
1712	fill of 1713	similar to 1708		0.58	
1713	?root hollow	exhibit same variation as 1711	0.96	0.58	
1716	natural	chalky till with sand and gravel patches			
<i>Trench 18</i>					
1801	topsoil	same as 101		0.30-0.34	jetton
1802	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.04	
1803	natural	sand and gravel			
<i>Trench 19</i>					
1901	topsoil	same as 101		0.35-0.36	
1902	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.04	flint tool
1903	natural	orange-brown colluvial sandy and gravel			
<i>Trench 20</i>					
2001	topsoil	same as 101		0.35-0.37	
2002	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.04	
2003	natural	orange-brown colluvial sandy and gravel			
<i>Trench 21</i>					
2101	topsoil	same as 101		0.35-0.39	
2102	subsoil	same as 102, thin and patchy where present		<0.04	
2103	natural	orange-brown colluvial sandy and gravel			