



Northamptonshire County Council

# Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological evaluation  
on land off Stretton Road  
Great Glen, Leicestershire

June 2009

Site code: X.A137.2009

NGR SP 6630 9856



Christopher Jones and Charlotte Walker

July 2009

Report 09/88

## Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House  
Wootton Hall Park  
Northampton NN4 8BE  
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822  
e. [sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk)  
w. [www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk)



Northamptonshire  
County Council



## STAFF

Project Manager:	Adam Yates BA AlfA
Text:	Christopher Jones and Charlotte Walker BSc AlfA
Fieldwork:	Christopher Jones, Rob Smith, Angela Warner BSc, Dan Nagy BA
Roman Pottery:	Elizabeth Johnson
Tile:	Pat Chapman BA CMS AlfA
Other Roman finds:	Ian Meadows BA and Andy Chapman BSc MlfA
Post-medieval pottery:	Iain Soden BA MlfA
Animal bone:	Karen Deighton MSc
Charred plant remains:	Karen Deighton
Illustrations:	Charlotte Walker, Pat Walsh BA Richard Watts

## QUALITY CONTROL

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

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	An archaeological evaluation on land off Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire	
Short description	In June 2009, an archaeological trial excavation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire. Sixteen trenches each 50m long, and two areas, one 20m by 14m and the other 30m by 12m, were excavated. Archaeological features were concentrated within a group of four trenches in the north-western part of the area. A small quantity of pottery suggests that occupation began in the Middle to Late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC. Subsequently the site seems to have been in continuous usage through the 1st century AD to the 4th century AD, with a complex of intercutting Roman settlement enclosure ditches and related features. The remains probably represent a small rural, agricultural settlement, although finds such as flue, wall and floor tile and a possible fragment of window glass may indicate the presence of a substantial late Roman building in the vicinity.	
Project type	Evaluation	
Site status	None	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (ArchaeoPhysica)	
Current Land use	Arable	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type/ period	Romano-British settlement	
Significant finds	None	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
County	Leicestershire	
Site address	Land of Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire	
OS Easting & Northing	SP 6630 9856	
Area (ha or sq m)	9.1ha	
Height OD	c102-125m aOD	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council	
Project Design originator	CgMs Consulting	
Director/Supervisor	Christopher Jones	
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA) Simon Mortimer (CgMs)	
Sponsor or funding body	Miller Homes (East Midlands)	
<b>PROJECT DATE</b>		
Start date	June 2009	
End date	July 2009	
<b>ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Location (Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)</b>
Physical	LCCEHS Accession No: X.A137.2009	Pottery Tile Bone Small finds
Paper	As above	Evaluation pro forma sheets, context sheets, colour slides, black and white contact prints, digital photographs, plans and section drawings
Digital	As above	Report text and figures

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>	
2.1	Location, topography and geology	
2.2	Archaeological background	
<b>3</b>	<b>OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.1	Objectives	
3.2	Methodology	
<b>4</b>	<b>THE IRON AGE AND ROMAN SETTLEMENT</b>	
4.1	Introduction	
4.2	The Late Iron Age and Roman settlement	
4.3	Later land use	
<b>5</b>	<b>THE FINDS</b>	
5.1	Iron Age and Roman pottery	by Elizabeth Johnson
5.2	Tile	by Pat Chapman
5.3	Slag	by Andy Chapman
5.4	Stone	by Andy Chapman
5.5	Other finds	by Ian Meadows
5.6	Post-medieval pottery	by Iain Soden
<b>6</b>	<b>THE FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS</b>	
6.1	Animal bone	by Karen Deighton
6.2	The charred plant remains	by Karen Deighton
<b>7</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	

## Tables

Table 1: Quantification of Iron Age pottery

Table 2: Post-medieval pottery

Table 3: Taxa by context

Table 4: The availability of ageing and metrical data

Table 5: Ecofacts by sample and context

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Context list

Appendix 2: Roman pottery quantification

**Figures**

Fig 1: Site location

Fig 2: Trench location

Fig 3: The enclosure complex from geophysical survey and excavation

Fig 4: Plan of Trench 3, western area

Fig 5: Plan of Trench 7, eastern area

Fig 6: Sections 1-8

**Plates**

Plate 1: Ditch [305], looking south

Plate 2: Ditch [410], looking west

Plate 3: Ditch [610], looking west

Plate 2: Ditches [730] and [731], looking west

Front cover: Site prior to excavation

Back cover: Trench 6 extension

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND OFF STRETTON ROAD  
GREAT GLEN, LEICESTERSHIRE  
JUNE 2009**

***Abstract***

*In June 2009, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of CgMs Consulting on land at Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire. Sixteen trenches each 50m long, and two areas, one 20m by 14m and the other 30m by 12m, were excavated. Archaeological features were concentrated within a group of four trenches in the north-western part of the area. A small quantity of pottery suggests that occupation began in the Middle to Late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC. Subsequently the site, which comprises a complex of intercutting Roman settlement enclosure ditches and related features, seems to have been in continuous usage through the 1st century AD to the 4th century AD. The remains probably represent a small rural, agricultural settlement, although finds such as flue and floor tile and a possible fragment of window glass may indicate the presence of a substantial late Roman building in the vicinity.*

**1 INTRODUCTION**

Miller Homes (East Midlands) have applied for outline planning permission (planning reference no. 09/00536/OUT) for the construction of residential homes on land off Stretton Road, on the outskirts of Great Glen, Leicestershire (NGR SP 6630 9856; Fig 1).

The programme of archaeological investigation, as outlined in the specification issued by CgMs Consulting in response to a brief provided by the Assistant Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council, involved the excavation of 18 trenches across the development area. Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, acting on behalf of Miller Homes (East Midlands) Ltd, to undertake the archaeological trial excavation, the results of which are presented in this report.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the specification (Mortimer 2009) and *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991, appendix 4: assessment report specification) and the appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

## **2 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Location, topography and geology**

Great Glen is situated six miles to the south-east of Leicester, east of the A6. The topography of the parish largely comprises the valley of the River Sence and the rising ground on either side. The site is situated on the northern edge of the village, with Stretton Road to the west. Garfield Park and the rear gardens of the houses to the north of Coverside Road form the southern boundary (Fig 1). To the immediate west, east and north the site is bounded by agricultural land.

The site occupies a high point overlooking a minor valley to the north and the River Sence to the west, and slopes down from 125m above Ordnance Datum at the east to c102m OD at Stretton Road to the west. The underlying solid geology is Lower Lias Clay and Limestone overlain by boulder clay and morainic drift.

### **2.2 Archaeological background**

There are few known archaeological features or artefacts in the vicinity of the site, although it has been argued that this is more a reflection of a lack of investigation than anything else. Flint scatters are known to the north of the application site (MLE16942). Some of the only evidence of Roman occupation in the immediate area is an assemblage of finds including samian and Romano-British coarse pottery, some tesserae, part of a box flue tile and a coin dated to the 4th century AD, which were found at the recreation ground in 1971, c670m to the south-west of the site (MLE1613). This may indicate the presence of a high-status building, possibly a villa.

The westernmost field fronting Stretton Road has already been subject to geophysical survey (Bartlett-Clark Consultancy 2005) and trial trenching by Archaeological Investigations Ltd (Hereford Archaeology Series 669) as part of a previous development proposal. Ridge and furrow, remnants of the medieval/post-medieval field system, were recorded, but no other archaeological features or deposits were identified.

A geophysical survey was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica (2009) of the two easternmost fields, prior to trial trenching by Northamptonshire Archaeology. This survey revealed a complex of settlement enclosures thought likely to date to the late Iron Age/Romano-British periods. These features cover an area of c1.9ha in the north-western part of the study area (Fig 3). The enclosures appeared to represent a discrete, contained

settlement, with little or no archaeological features beyond it. The geophysical survey also mapped the overlying ridge and furrow.

### **3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Objectives**

The general objectives of the overall evaluation were set out in the specification (Mortimer 2009):

- To provide consistent detailed information on the presence or absence, extent, degree of survival and depth of burial of archaeological deposits or features throughout the entire site
- To provide sufficient information on the site's surviving archaeology to allow a full assessment of the implications of the proposed development and to inform decisions on the effective mitigation of the impact

Specific objectives of the brief are to:

- Assess the remains of archaeological interest identified from aerial photographic and geophysical surveys
- Identify the extent, depth, character, function, state of preservation and date
- Identify the percentage of negative areas.

The broad research frameworks for the eastern counties of England are set out in Brown and Glazebrook (2000). The research aims set out in this document has been referred to by the project.

#### **3.2 Methodology**

The works were conducted in accordance with the specification (Mortimer 2009), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA1994, revised 2008) and the *Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists* (IfA1985, revised 2008).

Sixteen trenches, each 50m long, and two areas, one 20m by 14m and the other 30m by 12m, were machine-excavated using a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. The trenches were positioned in accordance with the trench location plan approved by CgMs Consulting archaeological advisor and have been related to Ordnance Survey National Grid (Fig 2). The work was monitored by a planning archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council.



A misunderstanding regarding the requirements for trenching led to Trenches 3 and 7 being excavated as a series of joined linear trenches, rather than as two small open areas, as intended. However, subsequent to discussions with both CgMs Consulting and the planning archaeologist it was agreed that a further six metre-wide trench through the centre of Trench 7, in order to allow the examination of a major ditch intersection, would satisfy the requirements of the brief.

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 1:50. Sections of the sequence of deposits in each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and related to Ordnance Datum. Archaeological artefacts were recovered from the surface and excavated deposits. Deposits suitable for environmental assessment were encountered and sampled. 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. On completion of archaeological recording the trenches were backfilled. There was no requirement for specialist re-instatement.

The field data was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

## **4 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

### **4.1 Introduction**

The trenches were typically aligned approximately north-south or east-west, although a few lay at oblique angles. They were positioned to provide a full coverage of the area, with the two small rectangular areas designed to provide more detailed coverage where the geophysical survey had identified a complex of archaeological features.

Overlying the clay natural was subsoil, up to 0.50m thick, comprising mid orange-brown silty clay, with an intermittent sand fraction dependant upon the underlying natural. The topsoil was a light grey-brown humic loam, up to 0.40m thick. Few inclusions were noted in either the subsoil or the topsoil.

Archaeological features were found in Trenches 3, 4, 6 and 7, which all lay within the area identified by geophysical survey as being occupied by a complex of intercutting ditch systems. There were no archaeological features in Trenches 1, 8, 10 and 11. Furrows were found in Trenches 12 to 18.

### **4.2 The Late Iron Age and Roman settlement**

Trenches 3 and 4 lay to the west of a modern field boundary, the western area, while trenches 6 and 7 lay to the east, the eastern area. However, the geophysical survey indicates that the features within these two areas were all part of a single settlement area, measuring in excess of 120m east-west by 100m north-south, with several ditches apparently spanning both areas (Fig 3). The features within this area comprised linear ditches forming boundary systems that included several intercutting rectangular enclosures, and smaller features, such as pits, were also present. The pottery assemblage suggests that occupation began in the Middle to Late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC. There subsequently seems to have been continuous occupation from the mid-late 1st century AD through to the 4th century AD, with a focus in the 2nd century. The remains probably represent a small rural, agricultural settlement, although finds such as flue and floor tile and a possible fragment of window glass may indicate the presence of a substantial late Roman building in the vicinity.

**Western area**

The small quantity of Iron Age pottery was found in Roman features in Trenches 3 and 4.

Part of a regular, curvilinear gully [409], 0.35m wide and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a concave base, was exposed in Trench 4 (Fig 3). It may have formed a ring ditch approximately 18m in diameter. The ditch appears to be rather too narrow and the diameter rather too large for it to have been a roundhouse. The fill contained pottery dating from the mid 1st to 2nd centuries.

There were several discrete pits in trench 3 (Fig 4: [318], [319], [321], [322] and [329]). Although none were excavated, pottery from the top of pit [319] was 2nd century AD in date. Pit [322], however, may have been post-medieval, since a sherd of 17th- to 18th-century pottery was recovered from the top of the fill.

At the northern end of Trench 3, there were three shallow gullies, up to 0.54m wide and 0.17m deep, (Fig 4: [330], [331] and [332]). All had wide U-shaped profiles and were filled with mid greyish-brown silty clays with orange flecking, indicating that they were waterlogged at some point. The similarity of form suggests that they were contemporary. Pottery from ditch [332] dated to the 2nd century AD. These gullies were not identified by the geophysical survey. Two further ditches, [327] and [328], in the north-eastern corner of the trench, may also be related, although they were unexcavated and no dating material was recovered (Fig 4).

Ditch [305]/[307] was 0.50m wide and 0.25m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, and may have formed the eastern arm of a square or rectangular enclosure (Figs 4 and 6, Section 1, Plate 1). In the northern part of the trench the ditch turned to the west and was exposed in the western part of the trench, ditch [320]. The geophysical survey indicates that this northern arm of the possible enclosure was at least 45m long. The western and southern sides were not identified during the survey. Finds from the ditch included a copper alloy coin dating to 367-375 AD, indicating a late 4th-century date for the final filling of the ditch. Several fragments of tile were from flue and floor tiles, indicating the presence of a substantial building in the vicinity. Pottery found in the ditch included 3rd- and 4th-century AD colourcoat wares, but also included residual sherds of mid/late 1st-century pottery as well as two sherds of Iron Age pottery. This enclosure ditch was truncated by an east-west aligned ditch [310], itself later re-cut [312] (Figs 4 and 6, Section 2).

Ditch [312], along with ditch [314] to the west, may have been the northern arm of an enclosure; both were c1.20m wide by up to 0.70m deep with dark brown clay fills (Figs 4 and 6, Section 3). Ditch [314] may have been a recut of ditch [316], which only partially survived. Pottery dated from the mid-1st to 4th centuries AD, as well as three sherds of late Iron Age pottery; this broad range indicating some redeposition of earlier material. Other finds included a small fragment of glass and two pieces of mortar, indicating the presence of a building in the vicinity.

The geophysical survey indicates that the southern arm of the enclosure may be represented by either ditch [404] or [410] (Fig 3). Ditch [404] was unexcavated but was 2.0m wide. Pottery from its surface dated from the late 1st to 2nd centuries AD. It was on the same east-west alignment as ditch [610] to the east, indicating that it was at least 80m in length. Similarly, ditch [410], which was 1.7m wide and 0.70m deep, continued to the east and was at least 62m in length (Fig 6 Section 4, Plate 2). Within the fill were several large burnt stones and a piece of slag, possibly indicating that industrial processes were being carried out in the vicinity, as well as pottery dating to the 2nd century AD. West of Trench 4, ditch [410] appears to turn northwards (Fig 3).

### ***Eastern area***

Some of the earliest Roman features appear to have lain in the south-eastern part of the site within Trenches 6 and 7. A short length of curvilinear ditch [725] was 0.48m wide and 0.30m deep and had a narrow U-shaped profile (Fig 5). None of the pottery from the ditch dated later than the late 1st century AD. There was no evidence that it had a structural function.

Although unexcavated, pit [718], c4m long and at least 1.3m wide, appeared to be one of the earliest features within the trench since it was truncated by a series of ditches. Most of the pottery found on the surface of the ditch dated to the mid-late 1st century AD, although some dated to the 2nd century AD. A pit to the east [720], at least 2.4m long and 2.0m wide, was also unexcavated. There were three further discrete pits to the north, [710], [711] and [713], none of which were excavated. Eleven sherds of a single vessel were found on the surface of the larger pit, an oxidised ware tankard possibly 2nd century AD in date and of a type unusual in the county. This pit group appears to be broadly contemporary and may have been a series of rubbish pits associated with domestic settlement.

A pair of parallel ditches [730] and [731], up to 0.65m wide and 0.56m deep with U-shaped profiles, were aligned east to west (Figs 5 and 6, Section 7, Plate 2). The fills of both ditches were greyish-brown clay silts, although the fill of ditch [731] was slightly mottled indicating it had been waterlogged. This ditch contained large amounts of pottery as well as a number of large stones. The ditches may terminate in the central, unexcavated, part of Trench 7, since a possible opposing terminal [721], was exposed in the eastern part of the trench, but wasn't excavated. However, they may turn south to meet up with parallel ditches [733] and [734], which had similar dimensions and profiles (Fig 6, Section 8).

A series of broadly east-west and north-south aligned ditches seem to have formed a succession of small rectangular enclosures, a ladder system. The main western boundary of the enclosures was exposed in Trench 6, but was not excavated ([613], Fig 3). Ditch [728], which formed the main eastern boundary, was 0.80m wide and 0.35m deep with relatively steep sides leading onto a wide U-shaped base (Figs 3, 5 and 6, Section 6). A large quantity of pottery was recovered, including a number of 2nd-century AD jars. A sherd of Black burnished ware may have dated to the late 2nd or 3rd century AD, while an unusual sherd of burnt mortarium could have dated to at least the mid 3rd-century AD. Ditch [728] appears to have continued to the south, unexcavated ditch [715].

At the north there was an intersection with ditches [707] and [736], and although it is not known how they related to each other, ditch [707] seemed to be a continuation of the main north-south boundary. Ditch [736] might have been one of the dividing elements, but the geophysical survey suggests it may have been the eastern end of an extensive linear boundary, including ditch [610] in Trench 6 and ditch [404] in the western area.

Of a similar profile to [728], ditch [610] was up to 1.80m wide and 0.63m deep. The fills were mid grey-brown silty clays with occasional small pebbles, the ditch appeared to have silted naturally rather than been deliberately backfilled. Pottery from the ditch fills is dated to the 2nd century AD. The largest assemblage of animal bone from the site was recovered from this ditch.

Ditches [726] at the south of Trench 7 and [611] at the north of Trench 6 do form east-west dividing elements within this the ladder-like enclosure system. Pottery from ditch [611] is dated to the late 1st and early 2nd centuries AD.

#### 4.3 Later land use

Undated ditches were found in Trenches 5 and 17 and a possible undated pit in Trench 9 (Fig 2).

In Trench 7 (Fig 5) and Trenches 12 to 18 (Fig 2), there were remnant furrows from a truncated ridge and furrow field system. The majority of the furrows were orientated north-south, suggesting that they lay within a single field, while those in the south-eastern corner of the area, in Trench 16, were aligned east-west. The furrows were situated c10m apart and were up to 3m wide and 0.30m deep.

Trenches 2 and 5 showed modern disturbance from the earlier house building to the west.

## 5 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Iron Age and Roman pottery by Elizabeth Johnson

The assemblage comprised 284 sherds, weighing 3.71kg. The average sherd weight of 13.1g suggests reasonable levels of preservation, although this is variable with some large sherds but also abraded and fragmentary material.

#### *Methodology*

The material was examined in hand specimen using a binocular microscope at x20 magnification and classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series for Roman and Prehistoric pottery, which is summarised below (Pollard 1994; Marsden 2000).

#### *Iron Age Pottery Fabrics*

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>
---------------	--------------------

Q1	Sandy ware: moderate-very common sub-rounded-rounded quartz and sparse-moderate angular quartz
----	--

R1	Igneous rock inclusions: sparse-very common sub-angular igneous rocks
----	---

R2	Sandy ware with igneous rock inclusions: moderate-very common sub-rounded-rounded quartz and sparse-moderate angular quartz, with rare-sparse angular-sub-rounded igneous rocks
----	---

(Marsden 2000, 171)

*Roman Pottery Fabrics*

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>
Samian	Samian wares
C2NV	Nene Valley colour-coated wares
C13	Oxfordshire red-brown colour-coated wares
BB1	Black Burnished wares
MO	Mortaria
MO4	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria
GW3, 5, 6	Grey wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy
OW2, 3	Oxidised wares: fine and coarse sandy
WW1	Coarse sandy white ware with clay and limestone inclusions
WW2, 4, 5	White wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy
CG1A	Early Roman shelly wares (late Iron Age to 2nd century)
CG1B	Late Roman shelly wares including Harrold shell-tempered wares
GT2	Fine grog-tempered wares in “Belgic style” forms
GT3, 4	Coarse and fine grog-tempered wares
GT5/6	Grog-tempered wares in generally grey fabrics
SW2	Fine sandy wares in “Belgic style” forms
SW4	Coarse sandy wares

(Pollard 1994, 112-114)

Quantification was by sherd count, weight (g) and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs) using rims only. Vessel forms were assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed, using the Leicestershire Form Series and other published typologies (Young 1977, Howe *et al* 1980, Clamp 1985, Webster 1996). The complete dataset was recorded and analysed within an Excel workbook, which comprises the archive record.

***Iron Age Pottery***

Seven sherds weighing 82g were recovered from Trenches 3 and 4 as detailed in the table below.

*Table 1: Quantification of Iron Age pottery*

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Sherds</b>	<b>Wt (g)</b>
Ditch	305	304	Q1	Jar or Bowl	1	7
Ditch	305	304	R2	Jar or Bowl	1	9
Gully	307	306	R2	Jar or Bowl	1	3
Ditch	312	311	R2	Jar	1	35
Ditch	312	311	R2	Jar or Bowl	1	4
Ditch	312	311	R1	Jar or Bowl	1	3
Ditch	404	404	R2	Jar	1	21

The late Iron Age pottery comprises quartz-sand and rock tempered jars and/or bowls. Unfortunately the material is fragmentary on the whole with no rims present and only one decorated sherd. The jar from (311) has scored decoration of the Ancaster-Breedon tradition, commonly known as East Midlands scored ware (Elsdon 1992, 83-86). Scored wares generally date from the middle to late Iron Age and in Leicestershire are believed

to continue into the first century AD. The rock inclusions in the R1 and R2 fabrics are most likely from the Mountsorrel igneous rock outcrops (Marsden 2000, 173).

### ***Roman Pottery***

The Roman pottery forms the largest portion of the assemblage comprising 277 sherds weighing 3.63kg with an EVEs value of 3.91. Stratified material was recovered from Trenches 3, 4, 6 and 7. There is a pottery quantification of the stratified material in Appendix 2.

#### *Trench 3*

Fifty-three sherds weighing 486g with an EVEs value of 0.1 were recovered from a series of ditches, gullies and a pit within Trench 3.

Ditch [305], fill (304) contained six sherds (30g) of pottery ranging from a transitional sandy ware jar or bowl dating to the mid-late 1st century through to a Nene Valley colour-coated ware dating to the mid-3rd or 4th centuries (Howe *et al* 1980, 24-25; Pollard 1994, 74-75). In addition two sherds of late Iron Age pottery were also recovered. A mix of material such as this within a small group suggests the presence of re-deposited material within the ditch fill.

Gully [307], fill (306) produced three sherds (9g) of pottery comprising a shelly ware jar and grey ware jar or bowl both dating to the late 1st or early 2nd centuries. A sherd of late Iron Age pottery was also found.

Ditch [312], fill (311) contained 23 sherds (195g) with a similar range to that found in (304) above. A grog-tempered jar dating to the mid-1st century and an early grey ware dating to the later 1st century. The oxidised ware jar or bowl and remaining grey wares are not closely datable but most likely date to the 2nd century. Two Nene Valley colour-coated ware vessels dating to the mid-3rd or 4th centuries were found along with an Oxfordshire red-brown colour-coated ware bowl dating to the 4th century, perhaps the mid-4th century, whilst the Harrold shell-tempered ware jar dates to the early 4th century (Young 1977, 133; Howe *et al* 1980, 24-25; Brown 1994, 63; 69). In addition, three sherds of late Iron Age pottery, including the sherd of definite scored ware were found in this fill.

Thirteen sherds (96g), from four vessels, were recovered from ditch [314], fill (313). A sandy ware jar or bowl dates to the mid-late 1st century, whilst the grey wares are most



probably 2nd century. One sherd from a grey ware jar base, found in pit [319], probably dates to the 2nd century. Two grey ware jars, found in ditch [330], fill (325), date to the 2nd century and one very small sherd of grey ware was recovered from gully [332] (323).

#### *Trench 4*

Twenty sherds weighing 721g were recovered from Trench 4

Ditch [404], fill (404) had ten sherds (589g) of pottery comprising grey ware jars dating to the late 1st and 2nd centuries and an abraded oxidised ware also dating to the 2nd century. In addition, one sherd of late Iron Age pottery was also found. Four sherds (48g) representing two vessels were recovered from gully [409], fill (406). The grog-tempered jar dates to the mid-1st century whilst the grey ware jar is probably 2nd century. The surface of the grey ware is abraded but may show traces of white painted decoration. A further six sherds (84g) were found in ditch [410], fill (405), comprising a white ware flagon and two grey ware jars all dating to the 2nd century

#### *Trench 6*

Twenty-six sherds weighing 330g with an EVEs value of 0.875 were recovered from Trench 6 (Appendix 1).

Ditch [611], fill (604) contained 14 sherds (136g) of pottery from five vessels. The oxidised ware and shelly ware neckless ledge-rimmed jars date to the late 1st-early 2nd centuries. The grey ware jars include a carinated form with roulette band along with a necked jar dating to the 2nd century.

Twelve sherds (194g), recovered from ditch [610], fill (606), are from seven vessels. The grey and oxidised ware jars include 2nd-century necked and everted-rimmed jars. The mortarium is from Mancetter-Hartshill and, though abraded, can be dated to the first half of the 2nd century.

#### *Trench 7*

An assemblage comprising 178 sherds of pottery weighing 2.091kg with an EVEs value of 2.935 was recovered from Trench 7 (Appendix 2). The material from the features found in this trench accounts for 64.3% of the total sherds, 75.1% of the EVEs and 57.6% by weight of the site assemblage as a whole.

Ditch [728], fill (708) contained 45 sherds (400g) of pottery. Most of the vessels are jars in a range of grey, shelly and oxidised wares, dating within the 2nd century. The only sherd of Black Burnished ware from the site was found in this context; a jar rim dating to the late 2nd or 3rd centuries. One of the grey wares is burnished with lattice decoration clearly derived from Black Burnished ware forms which could date into the early 3rd century. A white ware flagon is 2nd century, whilst a Northamptonshire white grog-tempered jar dates from the late 1st century to the middle of the 2nd century (Pollard 1994, 113). An unusual mortarium sherd is also present. The fabric is severely burnt all the way through preventing definite identification; however, the trituration grit appears to be grog which suggests Mancetter-Hartshill as a source. The form is wall sided, which if it is from Mancetter, suggests a date of at least the mid-3rd century. As yet no precise parallel has been found but it appears most similar to the Drag.45 derivatives typical of the 3rd and 4th centuries. Further work is required to achieve a positive identification.

Nineteen sherds (178g) were recovered from pit (710), eleven of which are from a single vessel, an oxidised ware tankard. The tankard form is unusual in Leicestershire, though common elsewhere especially towards Gloucestershire where it was produced in Severn Valley wares. The oxidised ware fabric here is typical of those found in Leicestershire, most likely from either Northamptonshire or Mancetter (Swan 1984, 98-101). Tankards were produced throughout the Roman period and dating appears to be based on changes in decorative style and flaring of the rim. The vessel from this site is abraded although a trace of a groove near the rim can be detected. Similar examples from the Severn Valley date to the 2nd and 3rd centuries (Webster 1977, 30-31; Rawes 1982, 44-45). Closer to Leicestershire, tankards were found at Alcester ranging in date from the late 1st to the early 3rd centuries (Lee and Lindquist 1994, 21; Fig.14, 39). The remaining vessels comprise a grog-tempered bead-rimmed jar and grey ware jar dating to the late 1st century along with a grey ware dish or platter with a beaded rim dating to the late 1st-2nd centuries. It may be that the tankard also dates to the late 1st-2nd centuries.

Thirty-eight sherds (649g) were retrieved from ditch [731], fill (712). Most of the vessels are jars in grog-tempered or grey wares dating to the late 1st-early 2nd centuries. Decorative styles present include zones of incised lattice or chevrons at the shoulder. A grog-tempered bowl with a low carination and a cordoned oxidised ware jar or bowl, are both comparable to vessels from Bath Lane in Leicester dating to the late 1st century (Clamp 1985, fig.31, 50). The samian ware dish is South Gaulish dating to the late 1st

or early 2nd centuries (Webster 1996, 35). This is the only samian ware vessel found on the site.

Twenty-three sherds (255g) were recovered from a pit (718). The assemblage comprises grey ware jars dating to the 2nd century and a white ware flagon or bowl, possibly from Verulamium, dating from the late 1st century to the middle of the 2nd centuries. A further 22 sherds (264g) were found in ditch [730], fills (729) (732), comprising grog-tempered, sandy and grey wares. Most of the vessels are jars though one or two may be bowls. The sandy and grog-tempered wares date to the mid-late 1st century, whilst the two grey ware vessels date to the later 1st century.

Ditch [733], fill (716) produced 14 sherds (127g) comprising grey ware jars and/or a bowl. One of the jars is bead-rimmed dating to the late 1st-early 2nd centuries. Eight sherds (47g) were recovered from a gully [725], fill (723) comprising sandy and grey wares. The sandy ware jars, including one with rusticated decoration date to the mid-late 1st century, as does the sandy ware platter probably derived from the samian Drag.15/17 form. The single grey ware jar dates to the late 1st century.

The remaining features revealed very small quantities of pottery. One abraded sherd from a grey ware jar was found in ditch [707] (706), most likely dating to the 2nd century. One very small sherd of shelly ware, either a jar or bowl, was recovered from ditch [726] (714). This probably dates to the late 1st or 2nd centuries. Three sherds (13g) comprising a sandy ware jar or bowl and two grey ware jars dating to the late 1st-2nd centuries were retrieved from ditch [734] (717). A further three sherds (39g) comprising grey ware jars or bowls dating to the 2nd century were found in ditch [721], fill (722). One sherd from a grey ware jar base was recovered from a possible furrow [719] (719). It is not closely datable, but probably dates within the 2nd century.

### **Summary**

The small quantity of late Iron Age pottery suggests some pre-Roman activity. Overall, there is evidence for activity throughout the Roman period from the mid-late 1st century to the mid-4th century. The small quantity of late Iron Age pottery also suggests some pre-Roman activity.

Trench 7 not only revealed the largest quantity of pottery but also the most coherent groups, with most features dating to either the late 1st-early 2nd centuries or within the 2nd century. Ditch [728] contained the latest datable pottery, as the Black Burnished

ware jar could date to the early 3rd century. This is also the context from which the severely burnt mortarium was found, which could date into the 3rd century. However, as the identification is tentative, the dating should also be treated with caution.

The two ditches from Trench 6 date to the first half of the 2nd century, whilst the features from Trench 4 also date within the 2nd century. One sherd of late Iron Age pottery was also recovered from Trench 4 which, in this instance, is likely to be residual.

Trench 3 provided the latest datable material from the site although the deposits appeared very mixed. The presence of 3rd and 4th-century colour-coated wares from ditches [305] and [312] clearly indicates later Roman activity, however, early Roman and late Iron Age pottery was also recovered from these features. The remaining late Iron Age pottery was found in gully [307] along with early Roman material which is less unusual, whilst the other features date within the 2nd century.

On the basis of the evidence so far, the focus of occupation would appear to be during the late 1st and 2nd centuries within Trenches 4, 6 and 7. Trench 3 is intriguing as it provides the later Roman evidence, however, the material found here has either been re-deposited or earlier and later features have been repeatedly re-used or disturbed to such an extent that they cannot be distinguished stratigraphically.

## **5.2 Ceramic building material** by Pat Chapman

### ***Tile***

There are fourteen tile sherds, weighing 1267g. Eight of these tile sherds, weighing 1067g and comprising flue tile, thicker flat tile and small fragments, come from fill (304) of ditch [305], dated provisionally to the late 4th century AD.

The flue tile comprises three sherds: one has two sides surviving, one with a broad comb design and the adjacent side plain; there is a very worn fragment with a fine comb, and a very worn shellyware sherd (broken) with a broad comb design.

There are also three flat tile sherds, 25-30mm thick. Two are plain and are most likely from floor tiles. The other sherd has a fragment of a cross design, possibly part of a relief-pattern, and could be from a wall tile.

Three sherd fragments come one each from ditches [312] and [404] and gully [725], and three tiny pieces only weighing 9g come from ditch [410]. All the sherds are small and generally well worn.

The main fabrics vary between slightly soft silty orange, a hard slightly coarse orange and hard, orange red to brown. One fragment is made from a hard sandy red fabric, another from a slightly soft pinkish silty sand, and there is one shellyware sherd.

### ***Mortar***

There are two fragments of pink mortar from fill (313) of ditch [314], weighing 144g, with grog and calcareous inclusions. They originally filled corners as each has three flat adjacent sides at right angles to each other.

This assemblage of small and generally worn tile sherds and mortar fragments, although little is indicative of a residence of reasonable status in the vicinity, particularly with the presence of combed flue and wall tile.

### **5.3 Slag** by Andy Chapman

The fills (311) and (405) of ditches [312] and [410], each contained single small fragments, weighing 39g and 13g respectively, of cream to light grey, highly vesicular fuel ash slag. This material is debris from high-temperature burning, which includes processes such as iron working, although in this instance no metalworking slags were recovered.

### **5.4 Stone** by Andy Chapman

There is an irregular block of stone, probably quartzite glacial debris, measuring 100 by 80mm and 65mm thick from pit [319]. The stone has worn surfaces and edges, and in one face, which is burnt, there is a broad linear groove, 40mm wide by 5mm deep, running across the full width of the stone, 80mm. It is unclear whether this groove is a product of human usage or natural erosion.

### **5.5 Other finds** by Ian Meadows

There are six other finds, three from stratified contexts and two from unstratified contexts. There was a residual prehistoric small, partially cortical flint flake.

Two finds from Trench 3 comprised a small sherd of light blue green glass from fill (311) of ditch [312], and a coin from fill (304) of ditch [305]. The glass was 17 x 10mm and 3mm thick. One surface of the piece was smooth whilst the other had the dimples characteristic of laying on a sand bed when molten, suggesting this piece may be a fragment of window glass, although it may be a little thin for Roman window glass. The 16mm diameter copper alloy coin had a GLORIA RO-MANORVM reverse, the emperor standing undraped dragging a captive, and obverse with the bust and partial legend of Valentinian I. The officina mark O F II indicates production at Lyon between 367-75.

A lead weight (87g) formed in an irregular mould 50x20mm and 18mm deep came from ditch [408].

There were two unstratified finds. A possible buckle plate comprised a rectangular copper alloy sheet bent almost in half, 33mm long, 13.5mm wide and 0.5mm thick with two small drilled holes 1mm in diameter and 5mm apart, across the width of the piece, presumably for riveting or stitching the piece to a softer material. The other is a copper alloy antoninianus of Victorinus (268-70). The bust is shown bearded with a radiate crown, unfortunately the obverse legend is only partially legible; the reverse is PAX AVG and has Pax standing holding a palm branch.

This is a very ordinary assemblage of finds and no further work need be undertaken.

## 5.6 The post-medieval pottery by Iain Soden

Three sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered, as follows:

*Table 2: Post-medieval pottery*

Context	Sherd no		Context date
322 pit	1	EA3/4	c1650-1770
702 layer	1	EA (Pancheon)	19th century
1304	1	EA6	16th-18th century

The above material has been identified and related to the published Leicestershire Type Series (Davies and Sawday, in Connor and Buckley 1999, 166). None of the three, un-diagnostic body sherds is distinctive or of intrinsic value. They are useful merely for providing a likely *terminus post quem*, albeit a wide one, for the three contexts from which they derive.

## 6 THE FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

### 6.1 The animal bone by Karen Deighton

A total of 4.8kg of animal bone was collected by hand. This material has been assessed to ascertain the condition of the bone, the species present and potential contribution to the understanding of the site and to inform on future collection strategies.

The animal bone was scanned and identifiable elements were noted (following Halstead 1985, after Watson 1979). Preservation and modification (after Binford 1981) were also noted. Any available biometrical data (after von den Driesch 1976) was noted as was any available ageing data. Ageing data included state of fusion (after Silver 1969) and tooth eruption and wear (after Payne 1973 for *Ovicaprids* and Halstead 1985, after Payne 1973 for *Bos*). Bone from wet sieving (1mm, 2mm and 3.4mm mesh sizes) is also included.

#### **Results**

Fragmentation was fairly heavy. The frequency of surface abrasion was low. Six instances of Canid gnawing were seen which suggests the presence of dogs/foxes at the site. The low frequency of both surface abrasion and canid gnawing could suggest bone was rapidly buried after disposal. A single example of burning was seen in context (309) fill of ditch [310]. Three possible examples of butchery were seen including both chopping and knife marks.

*Table 3: Taxa by context*

Cut/fill	Feature	<i>Bos</i> cattle	<i>Ovicaprid</i> Sheep/goat	<i>Sus</i> pig	<i>Equus</i> horse	L. ungulate	S. ungulate	Total
305/304	Ditch	1		1				2
307/306	Gully	1						1
312/311	Ditch	3	4			1		8
314/313	Ditch	2				1		3
322	Pit	1					1	2
404	Ditch	1						1
409/406	Gully	1						1
407	Pit					1		1
611/604	Ditch	1			1			2
610/606	Ditch	4	4		1	2		11
707/706	Ditch	1						1
728/708	Ditch	1					1	2
731/712	Ditch	1						1
718	Pit	1						1
722	Ditch	1						1
725/723	Gully	1	1					2
Total		21	9	1	2	5	2	40

Fills (309) ditch [310] and (405) ditch [410] had indeterminate bone fragments only. The most abundant taxon present was cattle followed by sheep/goat with much smaller quantities of horse and pig. A concentration of bone is seen in context (606), enclosure ditch [610].

*Sieved material*

A sheep/goat 2nd phalange, unfused distal tibia fragment and neonatal pig humerus were recovered from sample 4 fill (606) ditch [610], along with a large ungulate vertebra fragment. A sheep/goat maxillary molar was recovered from sample 3 fill (313) ditch [314].

*Ageing and metrical data*

Table 4: The availability of ageing and metrical data

<b>Cattle</b>		<b>Sheep/goat</b>		<b>Horse</b>	
Fusion	Toothwear	Fusion	toothwear	Fusion	toothwear
4		1	3	2	

**Discussion**

The dominance of cattle is not unusual for a site of this period. The mixed nature of the bone both in terms of anatomical element and species suggest its presence to be the result of domestic waste disposal.

The high level of preservation, identifiability and the availability of ageing data suggest that the collection of further material from dateable/phaseable contexts, should further excavation take place, would provide information on the animal economy of the site.

The importance of the assemblage lies in what it can tell us about refuse disposal at the site and the animal economy. Regionally there is a need for more rural assemblages, firstly to aid in the understanding of the rural economy, and secondly for comparisons to urban material. Existing rural sites for comparisons include Whitwell (Harman 1981) and Scalford Brook (Baxter forthcoming), whereas urban material is available from a number of sites in Leicester.

Analysis has shown that further collection of bone during the course of any subsequent excavation would be valuable on both a local and regional level.



**6.2 The charred plant remains** by Karen Deighton

Six soil samples each of twenty litres were collected. These were processed and assessed to establish the presence/absence, nature and preservation of ecofacts and to inform on future sampling strategies.

Samples were processed in a modified siraf tank fitted with a 500micron mesh and flot sieve. The resulting flots were dried and analysed using a microscope (10x magnifications). Identifications were made with the aid of the author’s small reference collection and a seed atlas (Cappers *et al* 2006).

Preservation was by charring only. Charcoal was too fragmentary and abraded to permit further identification. Seeds and grains were reasonably well preserved with moderate levels of fragmentation and abrasion.

*Table 5: Ecofacts by sample and context*

Cut/fill	410/405	322	314/313	610/606	731/712	734/717
Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feature	ditch	pit	ditch	Ditch	ditch	ditch
Volume	20	10	20	20	20	20
Charcoal*	3	7	7	+	4	+
Cereal			4	3		2
Chaff						1
Wild/weed					4	2

\*Key for charcoal +=present, 1=2-10, 3=10-20, 4=20-30, 5=30-50, 6=50-100, 7=100-200

**Results**

The cereal taxa present were: spelt (*Triticum spelta*), wheat (*Triticum sp*) and naked barley (*Hordeum vulgare* var. *nudum*). These are all expected for the Roman period. The wild/weed taxa present were fat hen, small indeterminate pulses, buttercup and dock, most of which are common crop or ruderal weeds. The ecofacts appear to represent background material that is washed or blown into the features from activities taking place elsewhere.

Although the amount of material was small some was still recovered, suggesting that suitable dated contexts should be sampled during the course of any further excavation.

## 7 DISCUSSION

The trial trenching has confirmed the validity of the earlier geophysical survey results which showed that the main concentration of archaeological remains lay in the north-west of the site, while there were few features elsewhere.

The settlement comprised a sequence of overlapping boundary ditches, some of which formed extensive linear boundaries, while to the east there appeared to be contemporary small rectangular enclosures forming a 'ladder' enclosure system. These contained relatively widely dispersed pits and gullies.

The pottery evidence indicates that occupation began in the Middle to Late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC, with the settlement in continual use from the mid 1st century AD through to the late 4th century.

Although few structural features were revealed, finds of flue and floor tile indicate that there may have been a substantial building in the vicinity. The veracity of the geophysics has been substantially proved by the trenching and it can therefore be asserted with confidence that there was no substantial Roman building within the application area.

Artefact preservation from the site was good, especially pottery and bone. The site has potential regional importance in terms of rural Roman settlement, especially since so little comparable archaeological investigation has been carried out in the vicinity.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bartlett, A D H, 2005 *Great Glen, Leicestershire: Report on Archaeological Survey 2005*, Barlett-Clarke Consultancy
- Baxter, I L, forthcoming *The animal bone from Scalford Brook*
- Binford, L, 1981 *Bones: ancient myths and modern man*
- Brothwell, D, and Higgs, E, (eds) *Science in Archaeology*, Thames and Hudson
- Brown, A E, 1994: A Romano-British Shell-Gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire, *Bedfordshire Archaeology*, **21**, 19-107
- Brown, N, and Glazebrook, J, (ed) 2000 *Research and archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2: research agenda and strategy*, East Anglian Archaeol, Occasional Paper, **8**
- Cappers, R, Bekker, R, and Jans, J, 2006 *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*, Barkhuis Publishing, Netherlands
- Clamp, H, 1985 The Late Iron Age and Romano-British Pottery, in Clay and Mellor, 41-49
- Clay, P, and Mellor, J, 1985 *Excavations in Bath Lane, Leicester*, Leicester: Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service
- Clay, P, and Pollard, R, (eds) 1994 *Iron Age and Roman Occupation in the West Bridge Area, Leicester. Excavations 1962-1971*, Leicester: Leicestershire County Council Museums, Arts and Records Service
- Charles, B M, Parkinson, A, and Foreman, S, 2000 A Bronze Age Ditch and Iron Age Settlement at Elms Farm, Humberstone, Leicester, *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, **74**, 113-220
- Connor, A, and Buckley, R, 1999 *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeol Monog, **5**
- Cracknell, S, and Mahany, C, (eds) 1994 *Roman Alcester: Southern Extramural Area Part 2: Finds and Discussion*, Council for British Archaeology research report, **97**
- Davies, S, and Sawday, D, 1999 The post-Roman pottery and tile, in Connor and Buckley, 165-214
- Elsdon, S M, 1992 East Midlands Scored Ware, *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, **66**, 83-91
- EH 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*, English Heritage
- Halstead, P L, 1985 A study of mandibular teeth from Romano-British contexts at Maxey, in Pryor and French, 219-24
- Harman, M, 1981 The Mammalian bones in Todd, 40-2

- Howe, M D, Perrin, J R, and Mackreth, D F, 1980: *Roman Pottery from the Nene Valley: A Guide*, Peterborough City Museum Occasional Paper, **2**
- IfA 1994 (revised 2008) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists
- IfA 1985 (revised 2008) *Code of Conduct*, Institute for Archaeologists
- Lee F, and Lindquist, G, 1994 Romano-British Coarse Pottery, in Cracknell and Mahany (eds), 3-92
- Marsden, P, 2000 The prehistoric pottery, in Charles *et al*, 170-186
- Mortimer, S, 2009 *Specification for Archaeological Trial Trenching at Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leics*, CgMs Consulting
- Payne, S, 1973 Kill-off patterns in Sheep and goats: the mandibles from Asvan Kale, *Anatolian Studies*, **23**, 281-303
- Pollard, R, 1994 The Iron Age and Roman Pottery, in Clay and Pollard (eds), 51-114
- Pryor, F, and French, C, The Fenland Project No 1 Archaeology and environment in the Lower Welland Valley, *East Anglian Archaeology*, **27**
- Rawes, B, 1982 Gloucester Severn Valley Ware, *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **100**, 33-46
- Roseveare, M J, and A C K, 2009 *Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire: Geophysical Survey Report*, ArchaeoPhysica, Report SGL081
- Silver, I, 1969 The ageing of domestic mammals in Brothwell and Higgs (eds), 283-302
- Swan, V G, 1984 *The Pottery Kilns of Roman Britain*
- Todd, M, 1981 *The Iron Age and Roman settlement at Whitwell, Leicestershire*, Leicester Museums, Art galleries and records service, Archaeological report, **1**
- Von den Driesch, A, 1976 *Guide to the measurement of Animal bones from Archaeological sites*, Harvard: University Press
- Watson, J P N, 1979 The estimation of the relative frequencies of mammalian species: Khirokitia, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, **6**, 127-137.
- Webster, P V, 1977 Severn Valley Ware, *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **94**, 18-46
- Webster, P, 1996 Roman Samian Pottery in Britain, *Practical Handbooks in Archaeology*, **3**, Council for British Archaeology
- Young, C J, 1977 *Oxfordshire Roman Pottery*, British Archaeological Report, **43**

## Appendix 1: Context list

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
101	Layer	Topsoil: 0.26-0.40m thick	-
102	Layer	Subsoil: 0.29-0.31m thick	-
103	Layer	Natural	-
201	Layer	Topsoil: 0.20-0.30m thick	-
202	Layer	Subsoil: 0.40-0.50m thick	-
203	Layer	Natural	-
204	Layer	Building rubble	Modern
205	Layer	Building waste	Modern
301	Layer	Topsoil: 0.20m thick	-
302	Layer	Subsoil: 0.15m thick	-
303	Layer	Natural	-
304	Fill	Fill of ditch [305]	Mid 3rd-4th C
305	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
306	Fill	Fill of gully [307]	Late 1st-2nd C
307	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
308	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [310]	Roman
309	Fill	Primary fill of ditch [310]	Roman
310	Cut	Cut of ditch, truncated by [312]	-
311	Fill	Fill of ditch [312]	Mid 3rd-4th?
312	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
313	Fill	Fill of ditch [314]	Late 1st-2nd C
314	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
315	Fill	Fill of ditch	Roman
316	Cut	Cut of ditch, truncated by [314]	-
317	Cut/fill	Posthole	Roman?
318	Cut/fill	Pit	Roman?
319	Cut/fill	Pit	2nd C
320	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
321	Cut/fill	Pit	-
322	Cut/fill	Pit	-
323	Fill	Fill of ditch [332]	2nd C
324	Cut/fill	Pit	Roman?
325	Fill	Fill of ditch [330]	2nd C
326	Fill	Fill of ditch [331]	Roman
327	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
328	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
329	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
330	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
331	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
332	Cut	Cut of gully	-
401	Layer	Topsoil: 0.20m thick	-
402	Layer	Subsoil: 0.20m thick	-
403	Layer	Natural	-
404	Cut/fill	Ditch	Late 1st-2nd C
405	Fill	Fill of ditch [410]	2nd
406	Fill	Fill of ditch [409]	Mid 1st-2nd
407	Cut/fill	Possible pit or ditch terminal	Roman?
408	Cut/fill	Ditch, possibly truncated by [407]	Roman?
409	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
410	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
501	Layer	Disturbed ground: 0.60m deep	Modern
502	Layer	Topsoil: 0.07-0.40m thick	-
503	Layer	Subsoil: 0.30-0.50m tick	-

## STRETTON ROAD, GREAT GLEN

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
504	Layer	Natural	-
505	Fill	Fill of ditch [506]	Undated
506	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
601	Layer	Topsoil: 0.2m thick	-
602	Layer	Subsoil: 0.2m thick	-
603	Layer	Natural	-
604	Fill	Fill of ditch 611	Late 1st-early 2nd C
605	Cut/fill	Possible pit	Roman?
606	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [610]	Late 1st-mid 2nd C
607	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
608	Cut/fill	Possible pit	Roman?
609	Fill	Primary fill of ditch [610]	-
610	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
611	Cut	Cut of ditch	Roman?
613	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman/
701	Layer	Topsoil: 0.24m thick	-
702	Layer	Subsoil: 0.20m thick	-
703	Layer	Natural	-
704	Fill	Fill of furrow	Med/post-med
705	Cut	Cut of furrow	-
706	Fill	Fill of furrow	Med/post-med
707	Cut	Cut of furrow	
708	Fill	Fill of ditch [728]	Late 1st – 3rd
709	Cut/fill	Land drain	Modern
710	Cut/fill	Pit	Late 1st-2nd
711	Cut/fill	Pit	Roman?
712	Fill	Fill of ditch [731]	Late 1st-early 2nd
713	Cut/fill	Pit	Roman?
714	Fill	Fill of ditch [726]	Late 1st –early 2nd
715	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
716	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [733]	Roman?
717	Fill	Fill of ditch [734]	Roman?
718	Cut/fill	Pit	Late 1st-mid 2nd
719	Cut/fill	Furrow?	Med/post-med
720	Cut/fill	Pit	Roman?
721	Cut/fill	Ditch terminal?	2nd C?
722	Cut/fill	Ditch	Mid 1st-2nd C
723	Fill	Fill of gully [725]	Mid-late 1st C
724	Cut/fill	Ditch	Roman?
725	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
726	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
727	Cut/fill	Gully	Roman?
728	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
729	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [730]	Mid-late 1st
730	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
731	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
732	Fill	Primary fill of ditch [730]	Mid-late 1st
733	Cut	Cut of ditch	-
734	Cut	Cut of ditch [717]	-
735	Fill	Lower fill of [733]	-
801	Layer	Topsoil	-
802	Layer	Subsoil	-

## STRETTON ROAD, GREAT GLEN

Context Number	Type	Brief description	Date
803	Layer	Natural	-
901	Layer	Topsoil: 0.40m-0.50m thick	-
902	Layer	Subsoil: 0.10m thick	-
903	Layer	Natural	-
1001	Layer	Topsoil: 0.40m thick	-
1002	Layer	Subsoil: 0.20m thick	-
1003	Layer	Natural	-
1101	Layer	Topsoil: 0.13-0.20m thick	-
1102	Layer	Subsoil: 0.17-0.30m thick	-
1103	Layer	Natural	-
1201	Layer	Topsoil: 0.10-0.20m thick	-
1202	Layer	Subsoil: 0.16-0.30m thick	-
1203	Layer	Natural	-
1301	Layer	Topsoil: 0.10-0.13m thick	-
1302	Layer	Subsoil: 0.10-0.16m thick	-
1303	Layer	Natural	-
1401	Layer	Topsoil: 0.10-0.13m thick	-
1402	Layer	Subsoil: 0.10-0.17m thick	-
1403	Layer	Natural	-
1501	Layer	Topsoil: 0.07-0.15m thick	-
1502	Layer	Subsoil: 0.09-0.10m thick	-
1503	Layer	Natural	-
1504	Cut/fill	Furrows	Med/post-med
1601	Layer	Topsoil: 0.07-0.14m thick	-
1602	Layer	Subsoil: 0.09-0.14m thick	-
1603	Layer	Natural	-
1604	Cut/fill	Furrows	Med/post-med
1701	Layer	Topsoil: 0.02-0.18m thick	-
1702	Layer	Subsoil: 0.05-0.18m thick	-
1703	Layer	Natural	-
1704	Cut/fill?	Possible feature	Undated
1705	Cut/fill	Ditch?	Undated
1706	Cut/fill	Ditch?	Undated
1707	Cut/fill	Ditch?	Undated
1708	Cut/fill	Natural depression?	Undated
1709	Cut/fill	Furrows	Med/post-med
1801	Layer	Topsoil : 0.08-0.14m thick	-
1802	Layer	Subsoil: 0.06-0.12m thick	-
1803	Layer	Natural	-
1804	Cut/fill	Furrows	Med/post-med

**Appendix 2: Pottery quantification****Trench 3**

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cont</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Dating</b>
Ditch	305	304	C2NV	Misc	1	7	Mid 3rd-4th C
Ditch	305	304	SW2	Jar or Bowl	2	4	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	305	304	GW3	Jar	1	6	2nd C+
Ditch	305	304	GW3	Jar or Bowl	2	13	2nd C+
Gully	307	306	CG1A	Jar	1	1	Late 1st-2nd C
Gully	307	306	GW3	Jar or Bowl	2	8	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	312	311	GT4	Jar	1	14	Mid 1st C
Ditch	312	311	GW5	Jar	1	19	Late 1st C
Ditch	312	311	OW2	Jar or Bowl	1	1	2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	GW6	Jar	2	29	2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	GW6	Jar	4	46	2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	GW3	Jar	1	9	2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	GW3	Jar	4	19	2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	GW5	Jar or Bowl	1	5	Late 2nd C+
Ditch	312	311	C13	Bowl	1	6	4th C
Ditch	312	311	C2NV	Jar or Flagon	1	18	4th C
Ditch	312	311	C2NV	Bowl or Dish	1	6	Mid 3rd-4th C
Ditch	312	311	CG1B	Jar	5	23	Early 4th C
Ditch	314	313	SW2	Jar or Bowl	4	12	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	314	313	GW3	Jar	7	56	2nd C+
Ditch	314	313	GW5	Jar	1	27	2nd C+
Ditch	314	313	GW6	Jar or Bowl	1	1	Late 1st-2nd C
Pit	319	319	GW5	Jar	1	79	2nd C+
Gully	332	323	GW3	Jar	1	6	2nd C+
Ditch	330	325	GW3	Jar	2	6	2nd C
Ditch	330	325	GW3	Jar	4	65	2nd C

**Trench 4**

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cont</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Dating</b>
Ditch	404	404	GW5	Jar	2	383	Late 1st-early 2nd C
Ditch	404	404	OW2	Misc	1	2	2nd C
Ditch	404	404	GW3	Jar	2	68	2nd C+
Ditch	404	404	GW5	Jar	1	93	2nd C+
Ditch	404	404	GW3	Jar	4	43	2nd C+
Ditch	410	405	WW2	Flagon	1	8	2nd C
Ditch	410	405	GW5	Jar	3	33	2nd C
Ditch	410	405	GW5	Jar	2	43	2nd C+
Gully	409	406	GT3	Jar	1	10	Mid 1st C
Gully	409	406	GW5	Jar	3	38	2nd C+



STRETTON ROAD, GREAT GLEN

---

Trench 6

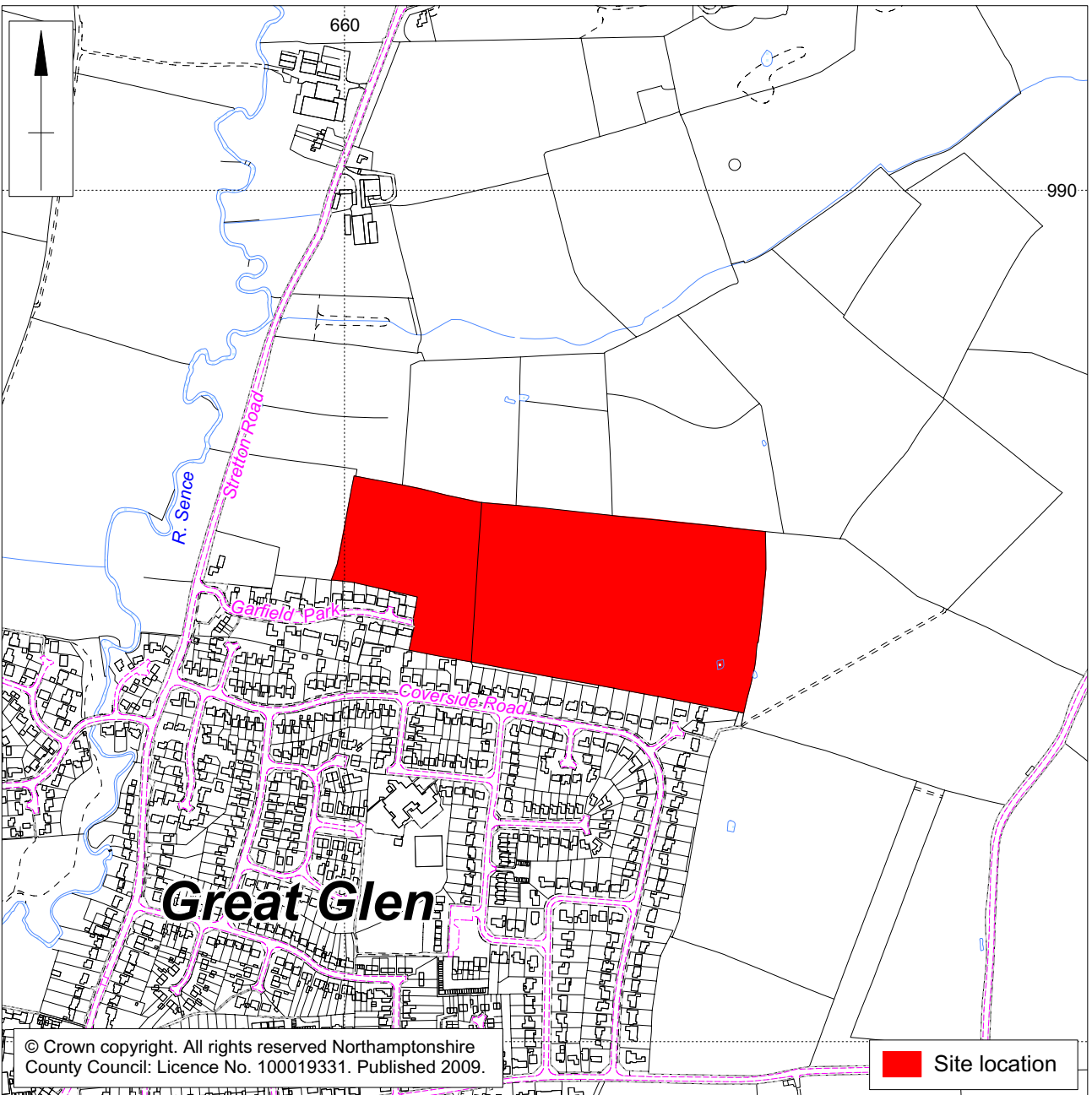
Feature	Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Dating
Ditch	611	604	CG1A	Jar	9	45	Late 1st-early 2nd C
Ditch	611	604	OW2	Jar	1	9	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	611	604	GW5	Jar	1	11	2nd C
Ditch	611	604	GW3	Jar	1	19	2nd C
Ditch	611	604	GW3	Jar	2	52	2nd C+
Ditch	610	606	OW2	Jar	2	15	2nd C
Ditch	610	606	MO4	Mortarium	1	92	Early-mid 2nd C
Ditch	610	606	GW3	Jar	1	30	2nd C+
Ditch	610	606	GW5	Jar	1	14	Early-mid 2nd C
Ditch	610	606	GW3	Jar	3	8	2nd C
Ditch	610	606	GW5	Jar	3	33	2nd C+
Ditch	610	606	GW6	Jar or Bowl	1	2	Late 1st-2nd C

Trench 7

Feature	Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Dating
Ditch	707	706	GW3	Jar	1	15	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	OW3	Jar	2	45	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	WW2	Flagon	1	11	2nd C
Ditch	728	708	WW1	Jar	1	32	Late 1st -mid 2nd C
Ditch	728	708	BB1	Jar	1	15	2nd-3rd C
Ditch	728	708	MO	Mortarium	1	29	mid-3rd C+?
Ditch	728	708	CG1	Jar	2	31	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW5	Jar	4	13	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW6	Jar	1	50	Late 2nd- early 3rd C
Ditch	728	708	GW5	Jar	3	14	2ndC+
Ditch	728	708	GW3	Jar	1	9	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW3	Jar	11	30	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW5	Jar	11	29	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW3	Jar	3	22	2nd C+
Ditch	728	708	GW5	Jar	3	70	2nd C+
Pit	710	710	OW2	Tankard	11	160	2nd C?
Pit	710	710	GW3	Dish or Platter	1	5	Late 1st-2nd C
Pit	710	710	GT4	Jar	1	2	Late 1st C
Pit	710	710	GW3	Jar	6	11	Late 1st C
Ditch	731	712	SGSam	Dish	3	71	Early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GW3	Jar	12	176	Early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	OW3	Jar or Bowl	2	22	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GT2	Bowl	2	68	Late 1st C
Ditch	731	712	OW2	Jar or Bowl	1	3	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	WW4	Flagon or Bowl	2	6	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GW6	Jar	1	7	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GT5/6	Jar	4	66	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GT5/6	Jar	2	62	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GT5/6	Jar	5	60	Late 1st- early 2nd C
Ditch	731	712	GT4	Jar	4	108	Late 1st C

Trench 7 (continued)

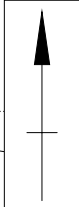
Feature	Cut	Cont	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Dating
Ditch	726	714	CG1	Jar or Bowl	1	3	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	733	716	GW3	Jar	1	52	Late 1st-early 2nd C
Ditch	733	716	GW6	Jar or Bowl	1	2	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	733	716	GW3	Jar	9	40	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	733	716	GW5	Jar	3	33	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	734	717	SW2	Jar or Bowl	1	2	Late 1st C
Ditch	734	717	GW5	Jar	1	6	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	734	717	GW3	Jar	1	5	Late 1st-2nd C
Pit	718	718	WW5	Flagon or Bowl	1	3	Late 1st-mid 2nd C
Pit	718	718	GW3	Jar	16	199	2nd C
Pit	718	718	GW5	Jar	4	30	Late 1st-2nd C
Pit	718	718	GW3	Jar	2	23	2nd C
Furrow	719	719	GW3	Jar	1	101	2nd C+
Ditch	721	721	GW5	Jar or Bowl	1	4	Late 1st-2nd C
Ditch	722	722	GW3	Jar or Beaker	1	2	2nd C+
Ditch	722	722	GW3	Jar or Bowl	1	33	2nd C+
Gully	725	723	SW2	Jar	1	5	Mid-late 1st C
Gully	725	723	SW2	Platter	3	22	Mid-late 1st C
Gully	725	723	GW5	Jar	1	8	Late 1st C
Gully	725	723	SW4	Jar	3	12	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	GT4	Jar	3	66	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	CG1A	Jar or Bowl	4	11	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	GT4	Jar	1	11	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	GT4	Jar	1	10	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	GW5	Jar or Bowl	3	9	Late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	GW5	Jar	1	8	Late 1st C
Ditch	730	729	SW4	Jar	6	137	Late 1st C
Ditch	730	732	GT4	Jar or Bowl	2	8	Mid-late 1st C
Ditch	730	732	SW2	Jar or Bowl	1	4	Mid-late 1st C



Scale 1:7500

Site location Fig 1

Scale 1:2,500



660

680

700

987

985

T1

T3

T6

T9

T12

T18

T2

T7

ridge and furrow

T4

T13

T17

T5

T11

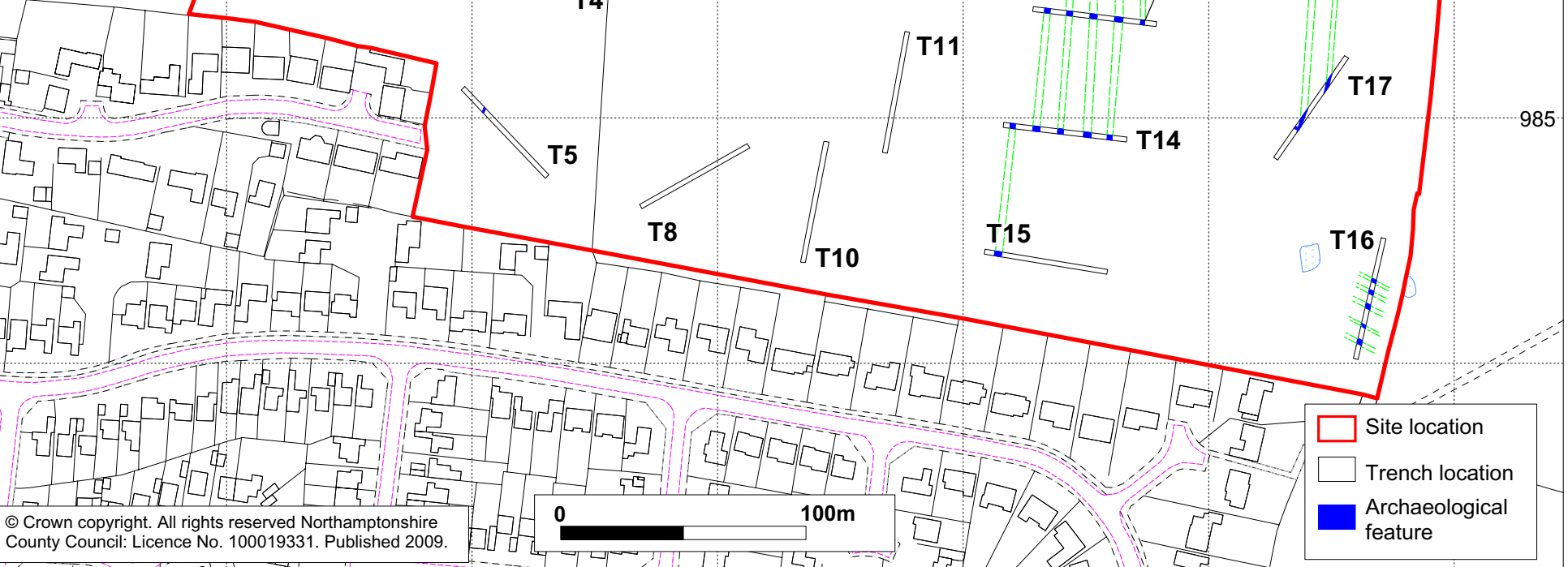
T14

T8

T10

T15

T16

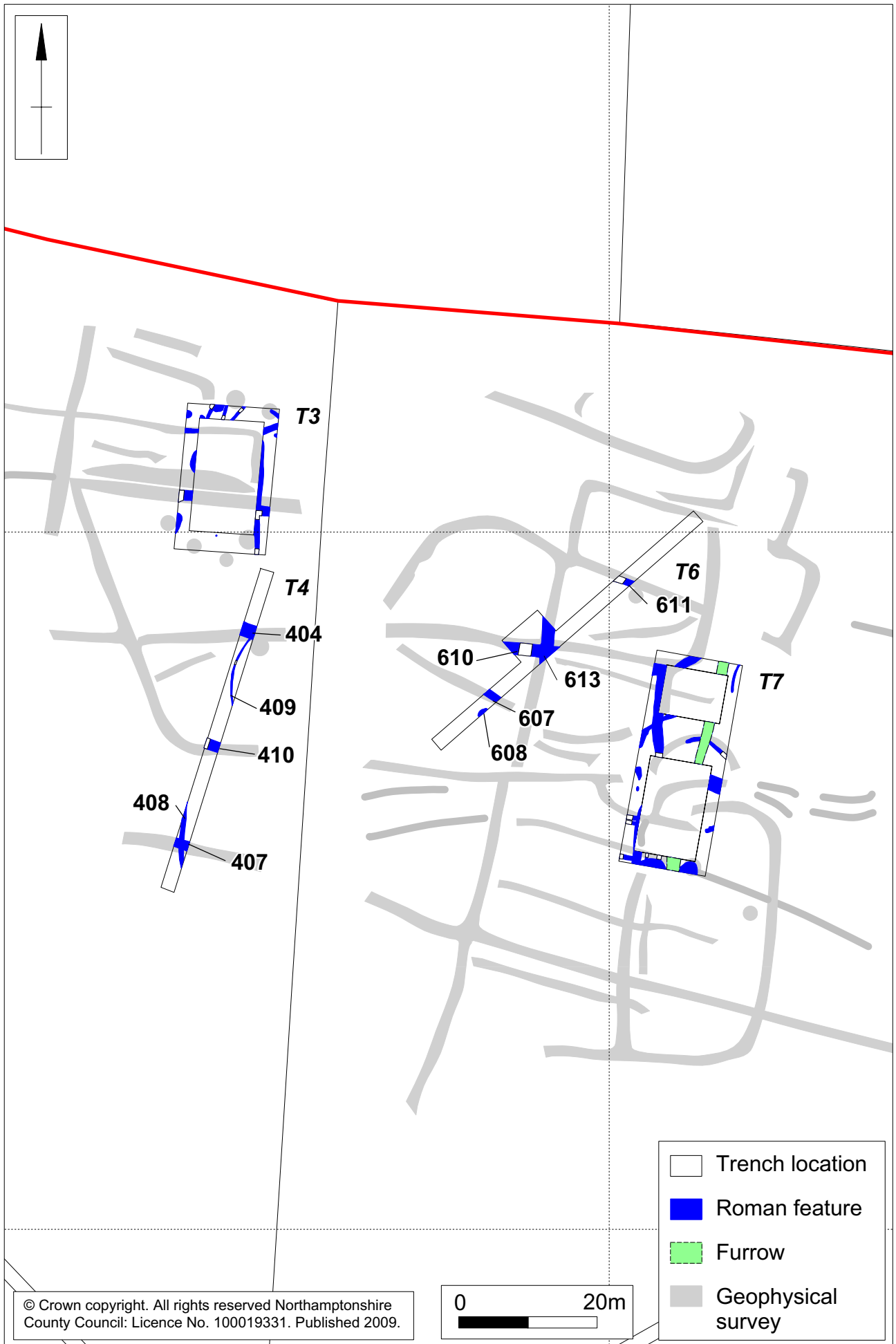


- Site location
- Trench location
- Archaeological feature

© Crown copyright. All rights reserved Northamptonshire County Council: Licence No. 100019331. Published 2009.

0 100m

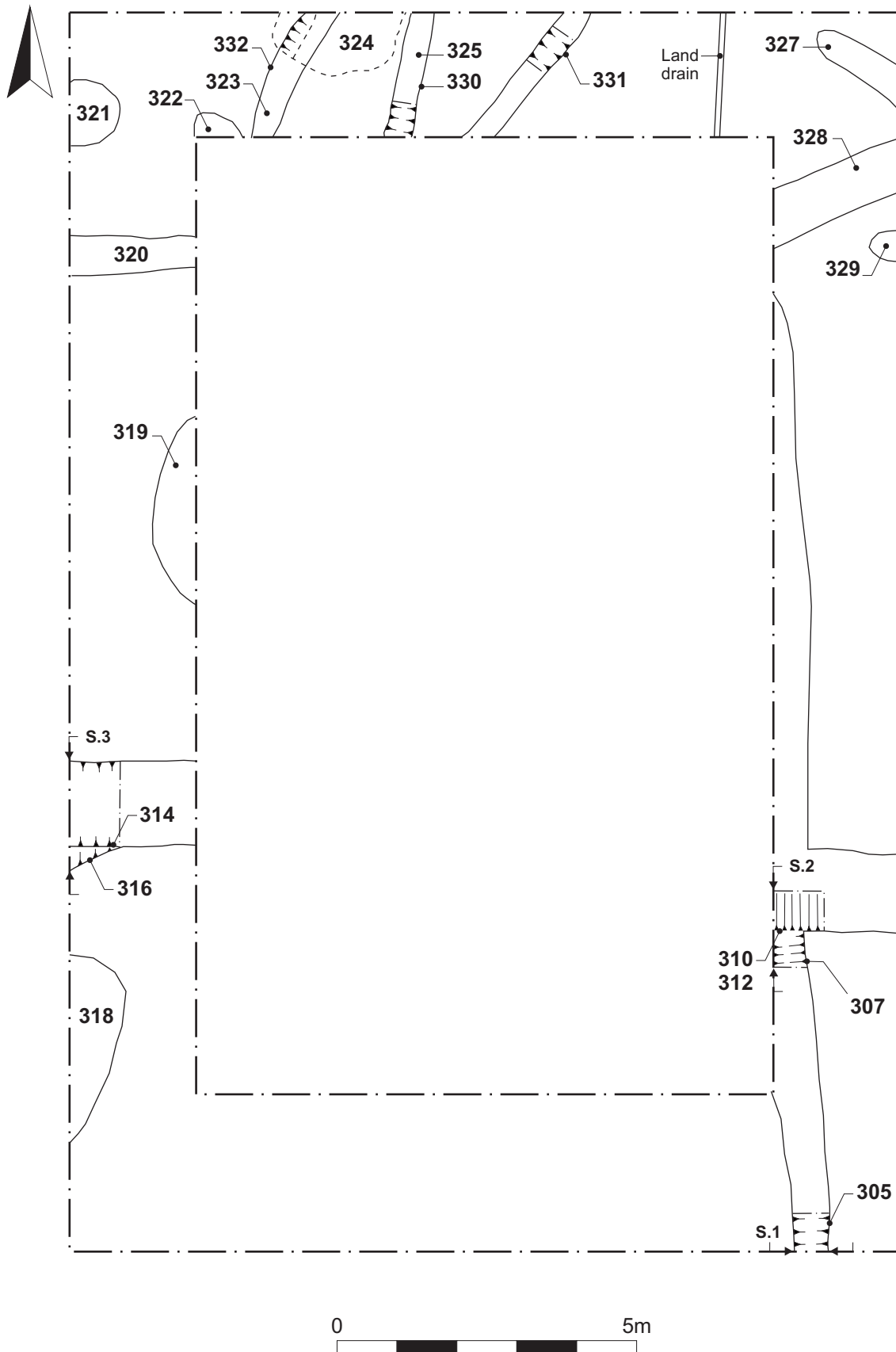
Trench location Fig 2



Scale 1:750

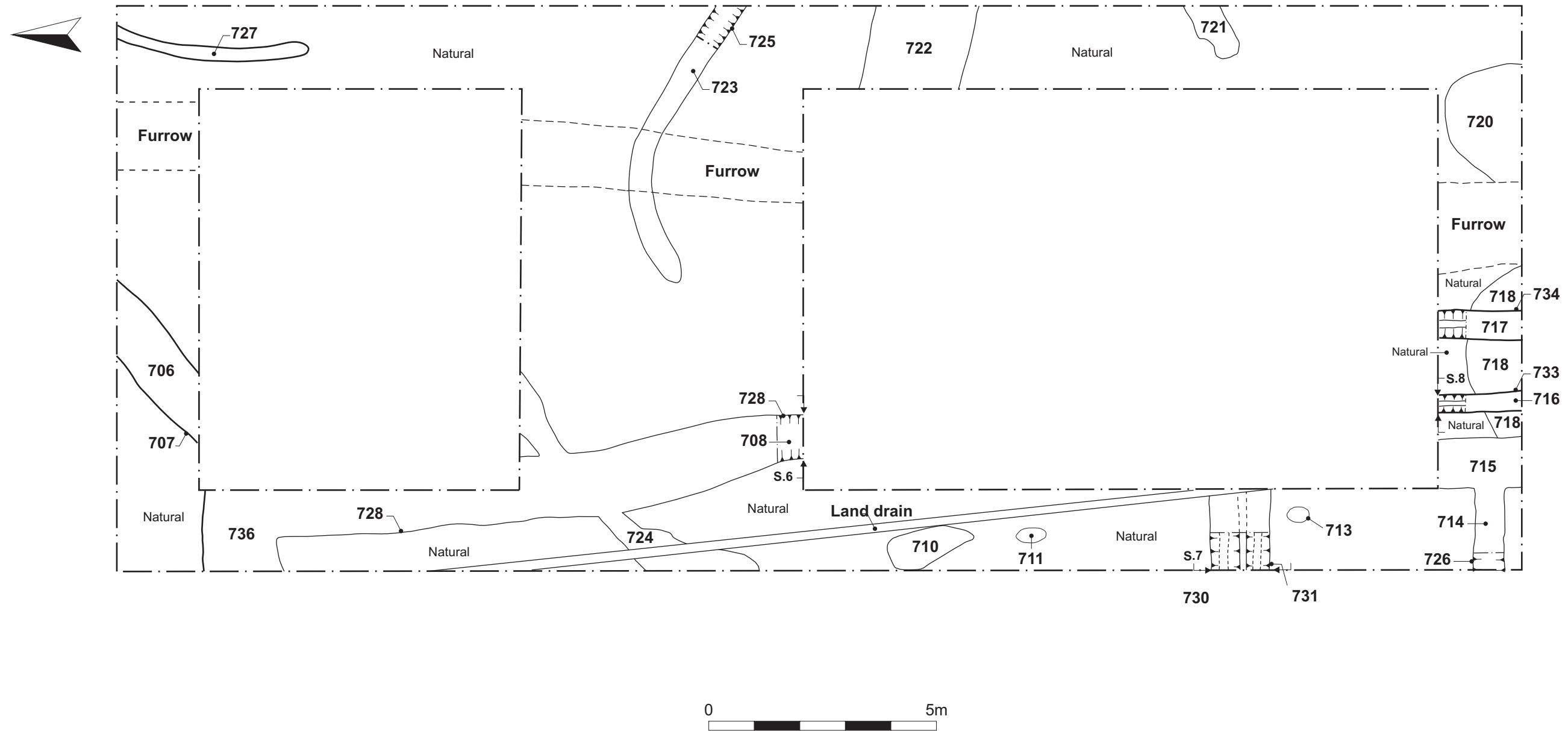
The enclosure complex from geophysical survey and excavation Fig 3

# Trench 3



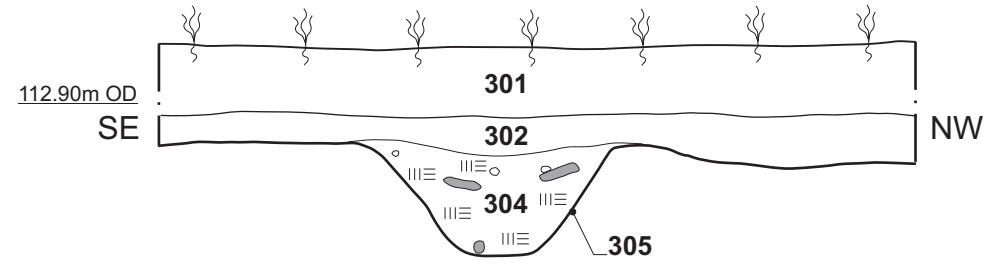
Plan of Trench 3, western area Fig 4

# Trench 7

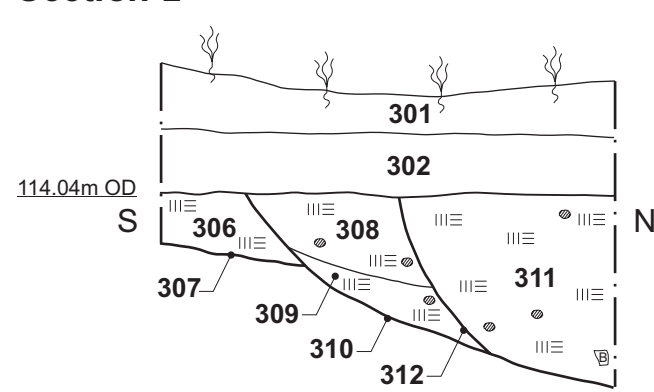


Plan of Trench 7, eastern area Fig 5

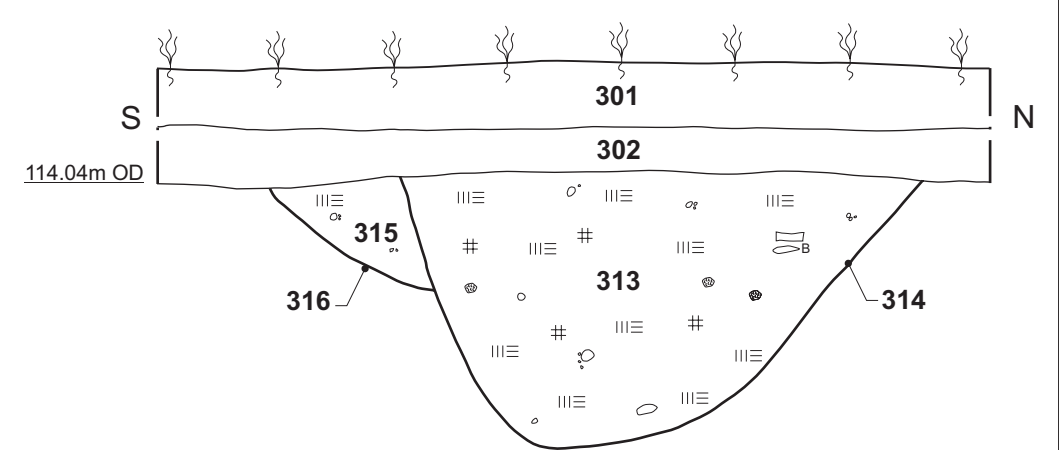
**Section 1**



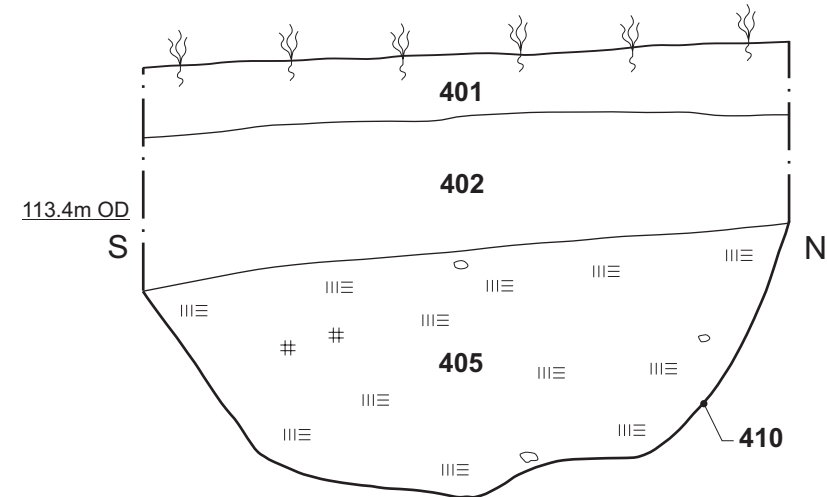
**Section 2**



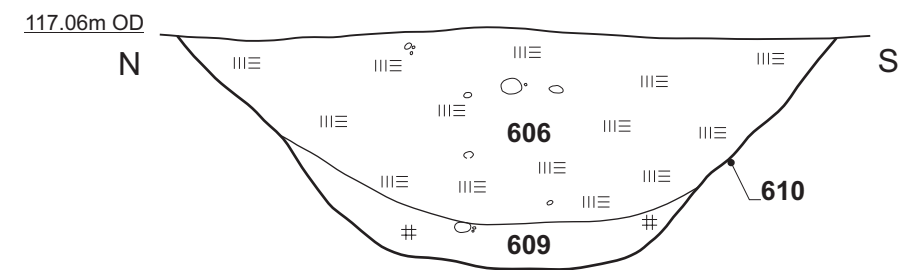
**Section 3**



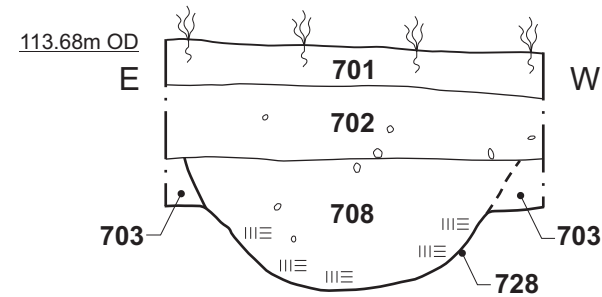
**Section 4**



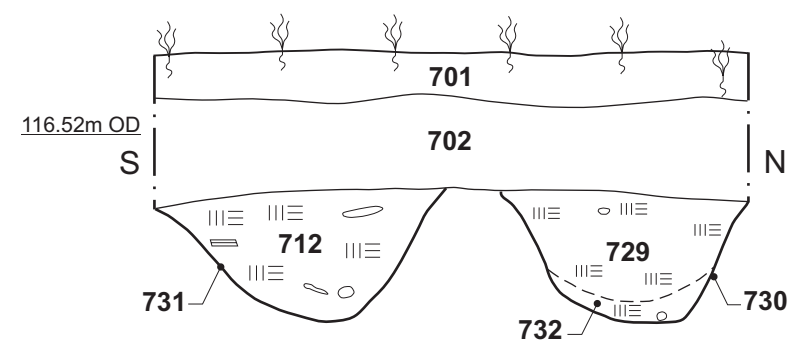
**Section 5**



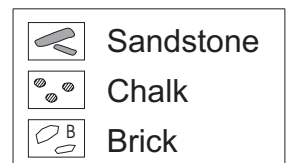
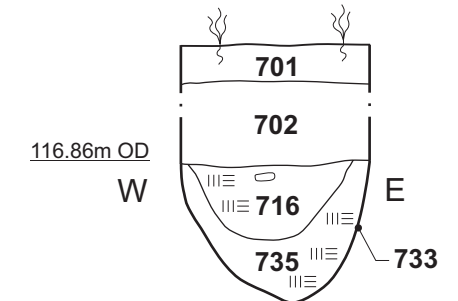
**Section 6**



**Section 7**



**Section 8**



Sections 1 - 8 Fig 6





Plate 1: Ditch [305], looking south



Plate 2: Ditch [410], looking west



Plate 3: Ditch [610], looking west



Plate 4: Ditches [730] and [731], looking west



Northamptonshire County Council

# Northamptonshire Archaeology



## Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House  
Wootton Hall Park

Northampton NN4 8BE

t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822

e. [sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

w. [www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk)



Northamptonshire  
County Council

