
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT WITHAM ROAD,
WOODHALL SPA,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WSWR 14)**

Work Undertaken For
Broadgate Homes Limited

November 2014

Report Compiled by
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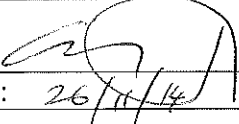
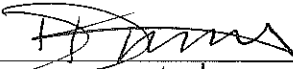
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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Archaeological Evaluation at
Witham Road,
Woodhall Spa
Lincolnshire
WSWR 14

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Witham Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire as the area was archaeologically sensitive, located close to prehistoric and medieval remains. Evidence of Late Iron Age settlement had been identified immediately west of the site.

Geophysical survey of the western quarter of the site identified possible pits, including a localised group in the area of Trench 2.

The evaluation revealed Late Iron Age remains in the form of two ditches and a possible beam slot at the western end of the site. These are probably related to the remains previously excavated nearby.

A large, deep undated feature which may have been a watering hole or quarry was revealed where the geophysical survey had indicated a group of pits. A late post-medieval field boundary was also revealed at the northeastern end of the site. In addition, a group of undated ditches and gullies was identified near the centre of the site.

Artefacts retrieved comprised pottery of Late Iron Age and post-medieval date, ceramic building material, animal bone and 19th century glass.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as '*a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such*

archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IfA 2008).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Broadgate Homes Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at Witham Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, as detailed in Planning Application S/215/00601/14. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Service. It was undertaken in three stages: the geophysical survey on 3rd July, Trenches 1-3 between 16th and 19th September and Trenches 4-9 between 20th and 24th October 2014.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Woodhall Spa is situated 10km southwest of Horncastle and 22km southeast of Lincoln, in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site itself lies 1km southwest of the centre of Woodhall Spa at National Grid Reference TF 1845 6249 (Fig. 2). It encompasses approximately 4.5 hectares of agricultural land and lies to the south of Witham Road, on level ground at roughly 6.5m OD.

Local soils are of the Alderby Series, typically sandy loams or loamy sands (Robson *et al.* 1974, 31). These are developed upon a drift geology of upper River Terrace Deposits overlying boulder clay which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge Clay (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Prehistoric remains include a causeway across the River Witham, located 500m from the southwestern end of the site. Perhaps dating to the Bronze Age, the causeway was still in existence during the medieval period. Directly to the south of the site, a complex of undated cropmarks, known from aerial photographs, may be related to the use of the causeway and artefacts believed to be votive offerings have also been found within the area. This is one of several causeways across the Witham valley (Everson and Stocker 2003).

Late Iron Age settlement remains were recorded immediately west of the site alongside Witham Road during an evaluation and watching brief. These comprised a 3.5m wide boundary ditch, two gullies and a pit sealed below a thin layer of alluvium, whilst finds of pottery, slag and a loomweight were recovered. The ditch appeared to define an area of contemporary features that were located to the south (Taylor and McDaid 1996). A subsequent watching brief identified further features, suggesting that the main focus of settlement lay to the southeast of the examined area (Field and Tann 1997). If so, this would mean that the settlement may not extend into the site, although the east-west boundary ditch may lie partly within the site bounds (Cope-Faulkner 2013).

Woodhall Spa is a comparatively recent settlement developed since 1811, when a shaft sunk in search of coal filled with mineral rich water thought suitable for therapeutic purposes (Wright 1982, 59).

3. AIMS

The aim of the work was to gather sufficient information for the

archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

The objectives of the work were to establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site and its likely extent; to determine the date, function, state of preservation and spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present on the site, to determine the extent to which surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area and to establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

4. METHODS

A geophysical survey, using a magnetometer, was carried out over c. 1.3ha in the southwest quarter of the site (Fig 3) as this was free of crops and close to known Iron Age remains. Subsequent trenching in this area identified ditches not recorded by the survey and therefore geophysics on the rest of the area was dispensed with.

Nine trenches, one measuring 30m by 1.6m and eight measuring 50m by 1.6m, were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology (Fig 4).

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations

appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches was plotted with a survey grade differential GPS.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Geophysical Survey (Fig 3)

A magnetometer survey was undertaken in the southwest part of the site, closest to known Iron Age remains, and the only area then free of crops. The survey showed possible pits in the area subsequently investigated by Trench 2 (see below).

Trench 1 (Fig 5, Plate 2)

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was mid reddish yellow to light yellowish brown, with blue grey mottles, sand and gravel with clay (101). This natural deposit was present across the whole of the site.

Cutting the natural in the southwestern end of the trench was a linear cut [108] oriented on a roughly NNE-SSW alignment measuring 0.69m wide by

0.18m deep, with fairly steep concave sides and a slightly concave base (Fig 6, Section 4). The fill consisted of mid greyish brown slightly clayey sand (107).

A substantial ditch [104] cut the natural approximately 7m from the southeastern end of the trench and measured 1.09m wide by 0.4m deep. The ditch had moderately steep sides and a flat base (Fig 6, Section 1, Plate 3). The primary fill of the ditch comprised mid to light grey slightly clayey silt (103), 0.18m thick. This was overlain by 0.32m thick dark grey slightly clayey sand (102) with frequent charcoal flecks and contained Late Iron Age pottery.

Gully [106] was located to the northwest of ditch [104] on a roughly east-west alignment and was truncated by a modern land drain. The gully measured 0.58m wide by 0.17m deep with moderately steep concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig 6, Section 3). The fill of this feature was mid brownish grey slightly clayey silt (105) containing Late Iron Age pottery and animal bone.

Near the centre of the trench a sub-rectangular feature [111] cut through the natural. This had a near vertical southwest side, a stepped base and a less steep northeast side. It measured 2.75m long by 1.12m wide and 0.8m deep. Lower fill (110) was 0.44m thick dark grey clayey sand which contained Late Iron Age pottery. A small sherd of post-medieval red earthenware was probably intrusive, perhaps deposited when a land drain was cut through the feature. Fill (110) was overlain by 0.19m thick grey clayey sand (109).

The base of this feature was cut, towards the northeast side, by possible post hole [113] (Fig 6, Section 5; Plate 4). This was sub-circular with near vertical sides and measured 0.1m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

Sole fill (112) was indistinguishable from ditch fill (110).

As it was considered that the rectangular feature may represent a beam slot, it was decided to extend the trench to the northeast of this feature to see if there were any related structural features. However, none was revealed in the 6m by 4m extension.

At the north end of the trench was a substantial east-west aligned ditch [114]. This had steep sides and a rounded base and measured 2.3m wide by 1.06m deep. Lower fill (116) was 0.28m thick mid greyish brown sandy silt. This was sealed by 0.38m thick mid grey sandy silt (117), above which was 0.56m thick mid grey silty sand (118). This was recut, on the southeast side, by ditch [115] (Fig 6, Section 7; Plate 5) which was 1.4m wide and 0.42m deep and filled by mid yellowish brown sandy clay (119).

The features were sealed by 0.34m thick topsoil (100).

Trench 2 Fig 5)

Two features were identified cutting the natural deposits (201) in Trench 2.

Roughly in the centre of the trench, where the geophysical survey had indicated a group of pits, was a large possible circular or ovoid well/watering hole or quarry [202]. This was substantial, measuring 6.73m wide by 1.36m deep. Lower fill (205) was 0.63m thick mid greyish brown sandy clay. This was overlain by 0.64m thick dark brownish grey silty sand (204) above which was 0.53m thick yellowish brown sandy clay (203).

Oval post hole [206] was very shallow and as such its interpretation remains uncertain. The features were sealed by 0.34m thick topsoil (200).

Trench 3

Trench 3 revealed a sequence of natural (301) overlain by topsoil (300). There were no archaeological features.

Trench 4

In this trench natural deposit (402) was overlain by 0.31m thick topsoil (401). No archaeological features were revealed.

Trench 5

Trench 5 revealed a sequence of natural (502) overlain by topsoil (501). There were no archaeological features.

Trench 6 (Fig 5, Plate 7)

The natural deposits (602) in this trench were overlain, in two natural hollows, by fluvial deposits of brownish grey silty sand (609) and greyish brown silty sand (620) about 0.25 – 0.3m deep.

Cutting the natural towards the west end of the trench was north-south aligned ditch [603] which was steep-sided with a flat base and 0.75m wide and 0.3m deep. Lower fill (604) was 0.1m thick light grey sand overlain by 0.2m thick black sandy silt (605). This was recut by ditch [621] which had shallow sides and a rounded base and was 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep. It was filled with dark grey silty sand (606).

Fill (605) was also cut by east-west aligned gully [607] (Fig 6, Section 10; Plate 9). This was V-shaped, 0.25m wide, 0.13m deep and filled by dark grey silty sand (608).

Several metres to the east, NNW-SSE aligned ditch [617] (Fig 6, Section 12) had steep concave sides and a flat base. Measuring 0.9m wide and 0.15m deep, a lower fill of light greyish brown sand redeposited natural (618) was overlain by 0.1m thick mid grey silty sand (619). This was cut, in the south side of the trench, by sub-circular pit [610] (Fig 6, Section 11). Lower fill (611) was 0.25m thick mottled

light grey/light brown sand overlain by lenses of thick mid brown sand (612) and dark grey silty sand (613). Above these were further lenses of dark grey silty sand (614) and (615) and mid brownish grey sand (616). These were overlain by lenses of black silty sand (622) and light brownish grey sand (623).

The features were sealed by up to 0.5m thick topsoil (601).

Trench 7

In this trench, natural deposit (702) was overlain by topsoil (701) (Fig 6, Section 8). There were no archaeological features.

Trench 8

Trench 8 revealed a sequence of natural (802) overlain by 0.34m thick topsoil (801). There were no archaeological features.

Trench 9 (Fig 5, Plate 12)

A single northwest-southeast aligned ditch cut the natural deposits (900) in this trench. Ditch [901] (Fig 6, Section 8; Plate 11) had 45° sides and a rounded base and was 1.57m wide and 0.42m deep. Main fill (902) was up to 0.51m thick dark grey loamy ashy sand containing post-medieval pottery and late 19th century glass. This was overlain by up to 0.05m thick mid brown yellow sand (903). The feature was sealed by 0.4m thick topsoil (904).

6. DISCUSSION

The geophysical survey of the southwestern quarter of the site showed possible pits in the area of Trench 2. However, it did not show the linear features subsequently revealed in Trench 1. Therefore, the remainder of the site was not subject of geophysical survey.

Natural deposits across the site comprised mid reddish yellow to light yellowish

brown, with blue grey mottles, sand and gravel with clay.

In Trench 1 at the western end of the site, a group of three features, ditches [104] and [106], and sub-rectangular feature [111], all contained Late Iron Age pottery. These are probably associated with an Iron Age settlement, previously excavated adjacent to the western edge of the site and possibly also with undated cropmarks identified to the south.

The stepped profile of the sub-rectangular feature [111] in the centre of Trench 1 may suggest a structural function, the deeper part possibly representing a beam slot while a post hole was cut into the higher ledge. However, no possibly structural features were identified in association with this.

The linear features in the trench may represent enclosure or boundary ditches.

A substantial feature further to the east, in Trench 2, may have been a watering hole or quarry. However no dating evidence was retrieved. The feature was located where the geophysical survey had indicated several pits.

Several shallow features in Trench 6 were undated. These were located in the centre of the site near a late 19th century building. They may have been associated with it.

A ditch in Trench 9 was a late post-medieval field boundary lying at right angles to Witham Road. Historic maps show this in existence in the early-mid 19th century but it had been infilled by 1890 (Cope-Faulkner 2013, Figs 3-5).

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Witham Road,

Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire as the area was archaeologically sensitive, located close to prehistoric and medieval remains. Archaeological remains were identified in four of the nine trenches excavated.

The evaluation revealed Late Iron Age remains in the form of two ditches and a possible beam slot at the western end of the site. These are probably related to a site previously excavated immediately to the west.

A large, deep undated feature which may have been a watering hole or quarry was revealed where the geophysical survey had indicated a group of pits. Near the centre of the site was a localised group of undated ditches and gullies. A late post-medieval field boundary was also revealed.

Finds comprised pottery of Late Iron Age and post-medieval date, ceramic building material, animal bone and 19th century glass.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Broadgate Homes Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Denise Drury.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
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 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Illustration: Andrew Failes, Mark Peachey, Jonathon Smith
 Post-excavation Analysis: Mark Peachey

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services
 BGS British Geological Survey
 IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan

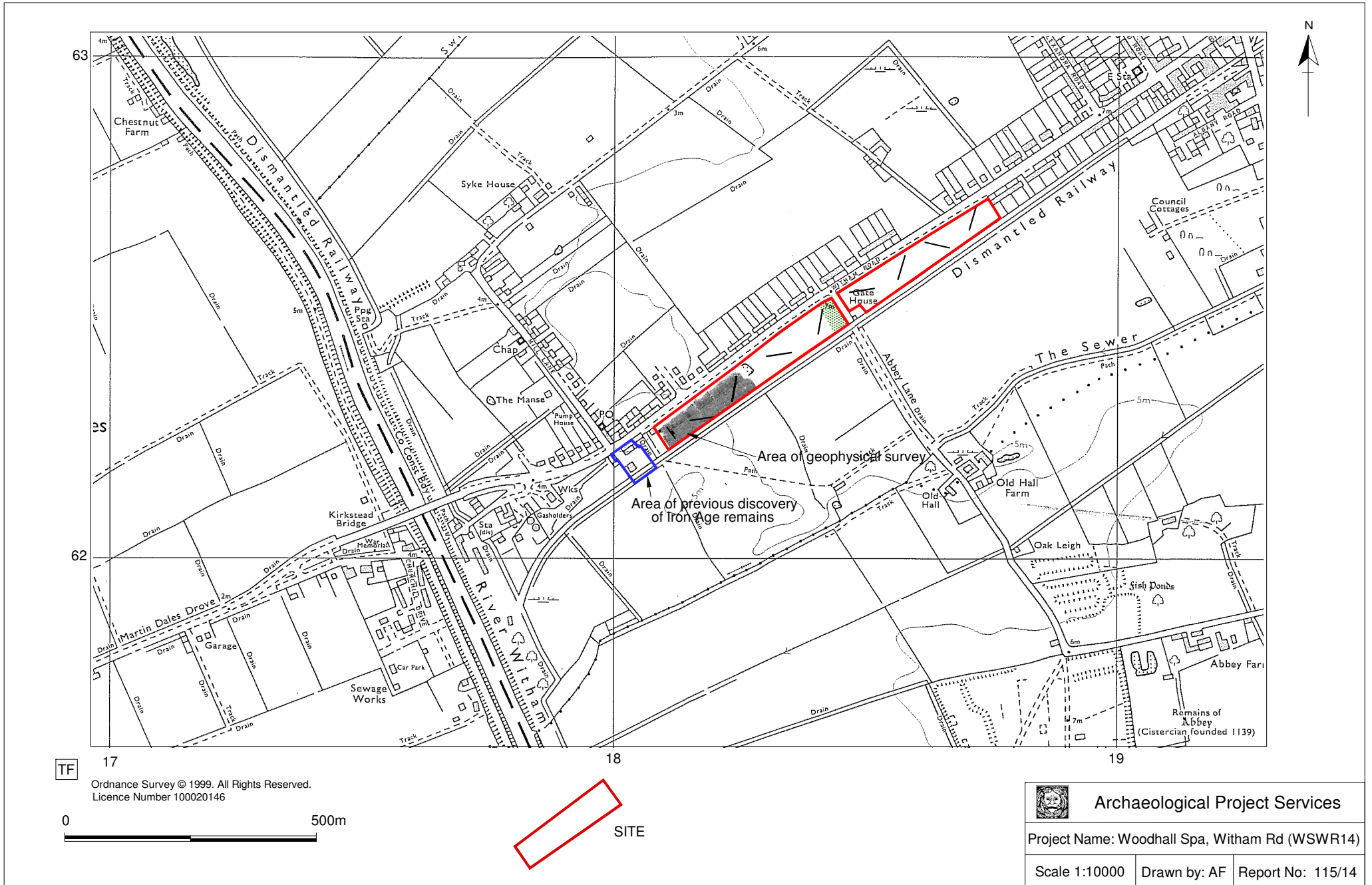
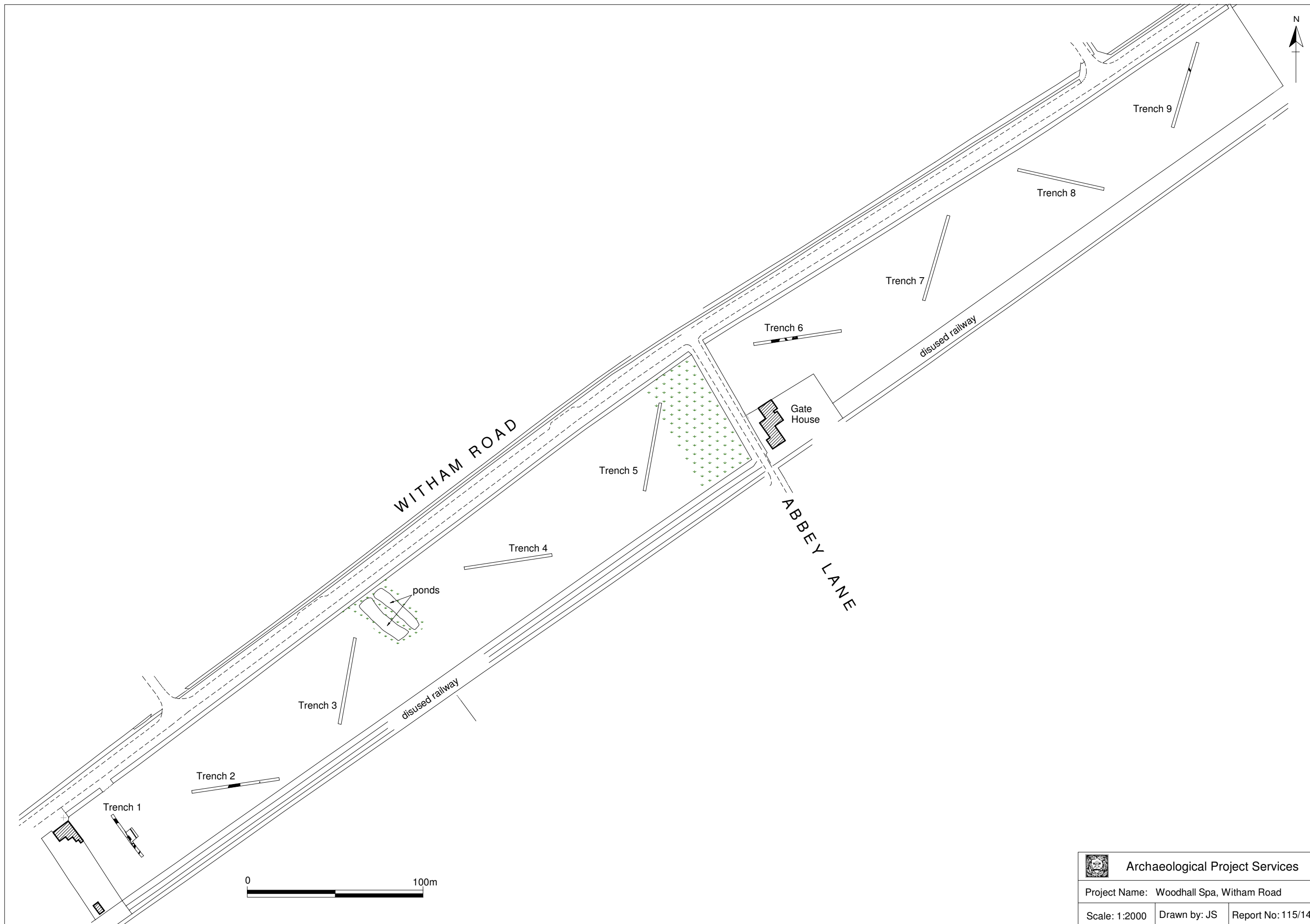


Figure 2 - Site location plan



Figure 3 - Geophysical survey results (processed data greyscale plot)




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Figure 4 - Trench Layout

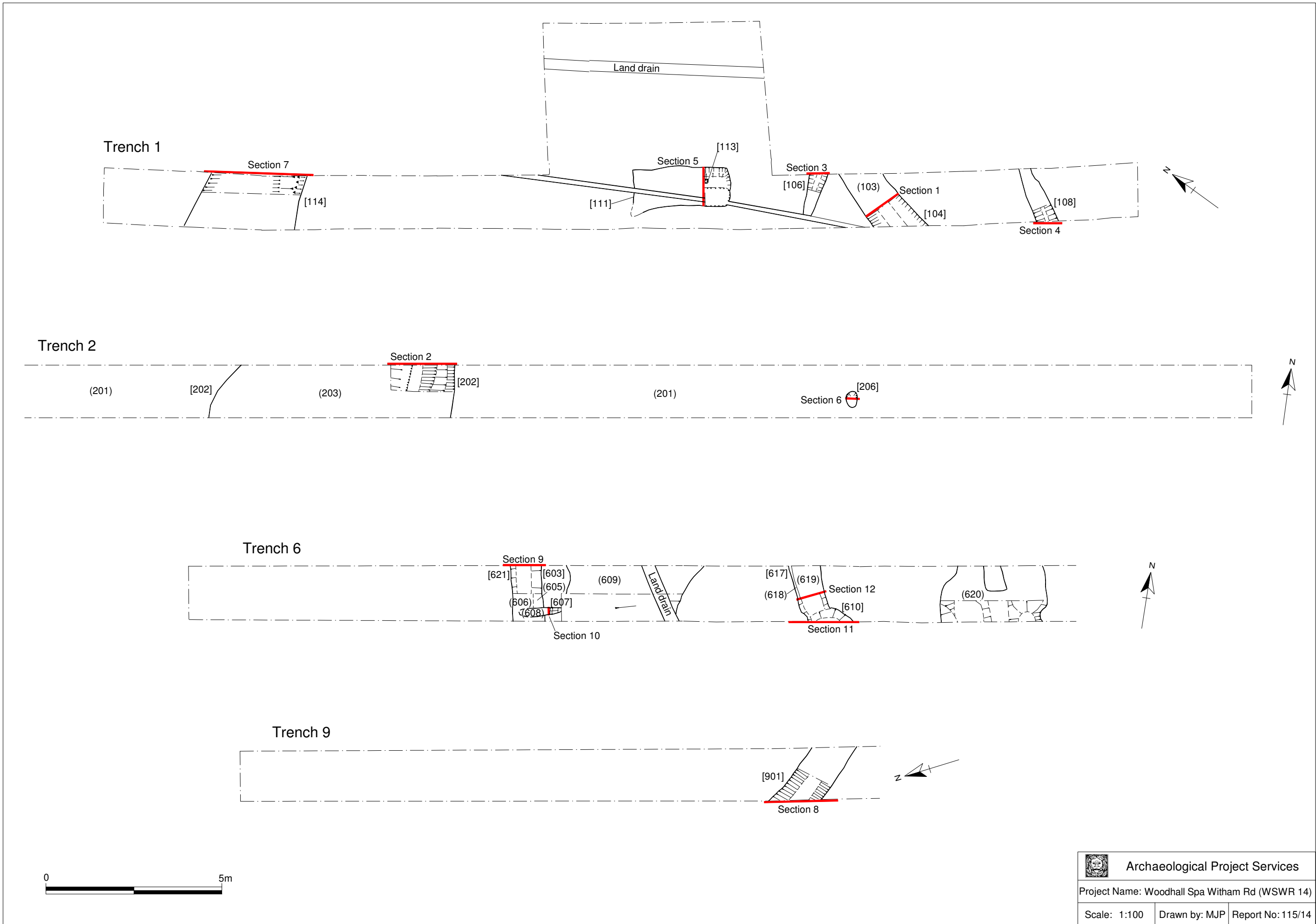


Figure 5 - Trench Plans

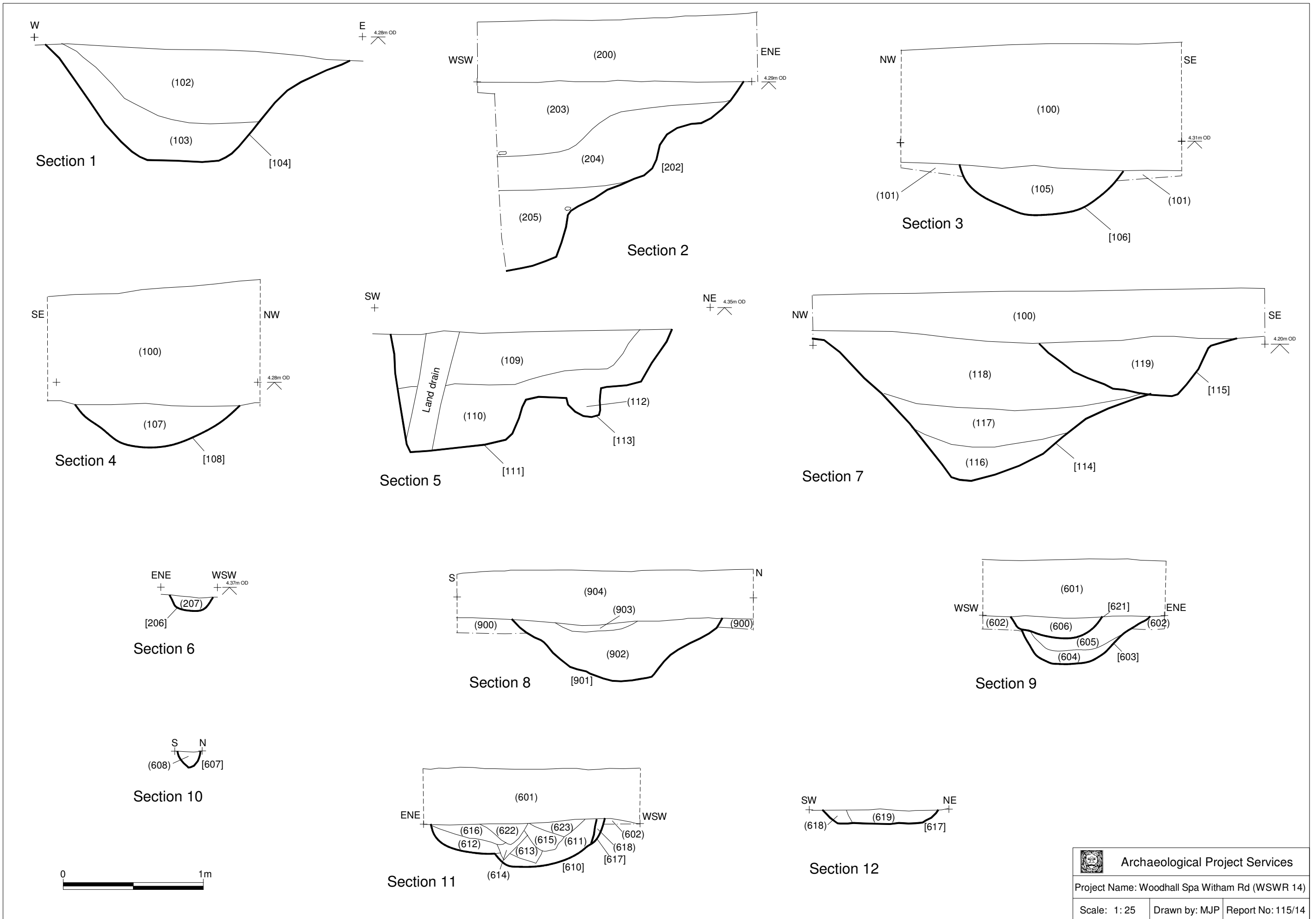


Figure 6 - Sections



Plate 1. View of site looking southwest



Plate 2. Trench 1 looking northwest



Plate 3. Ditch [104], Section 1, looking northwest



Plate 4. Sub-rectangular feature [111] with possible post hole [113], Section 5



Plate 5. Ditch [114] and recut [115]. Section 7



Plate 6. Possible well/watering hole or quarry [202], Section 2



Plate 7. Trench 6 looking east



Plate 8. Ditch [603] and recut [621], Section 9, looking north



Plate 9. Gully [607], Section 10, looking west



Plate 10. Ditch [617], Section 12, looking west

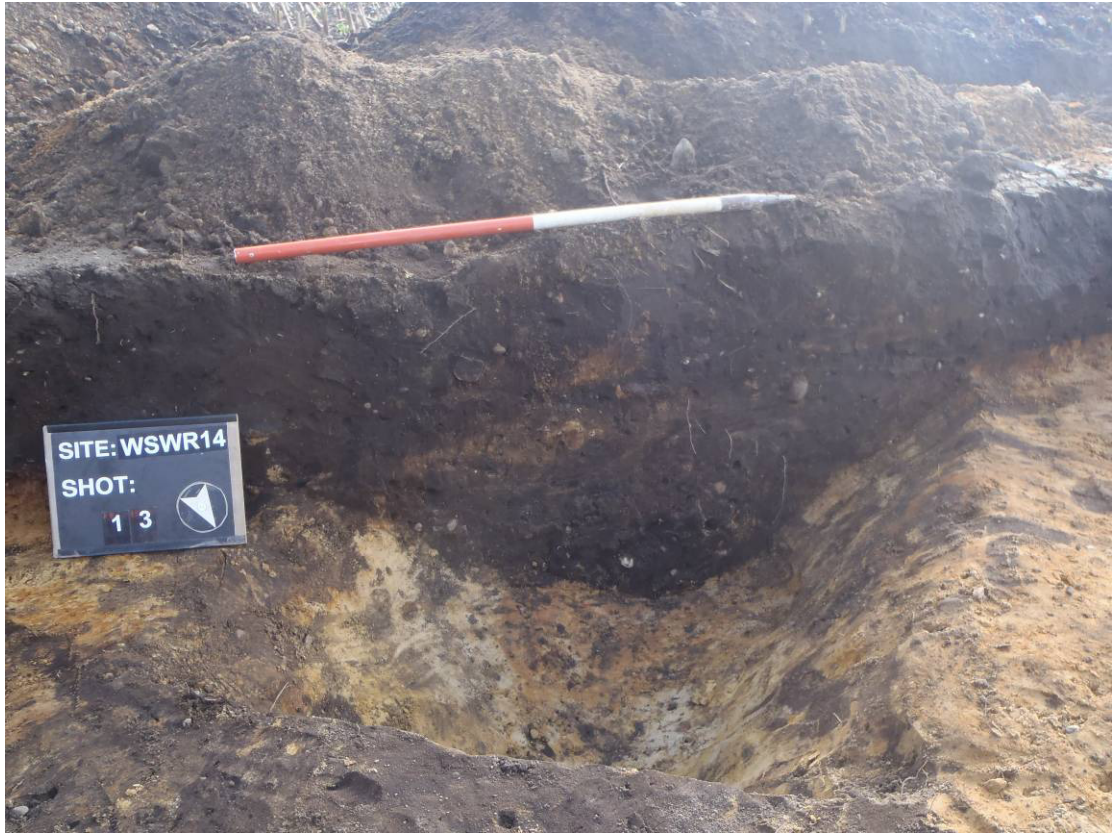


Plate 11. Ditch [901], Section 8, looking south



Plate 12. Trench 9 looking southwest

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
100	1	Friable mid to dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles, 0.34m thick	Topsoil	
101	1	Firm to friable mid reddish yellow to light yellowish brown, with blue grey mottles, sand and gravel with clay	Natural river terrace deposits	
102	1	Firm dark grey slightly clayey sand with frequent charcoal flecks/moderate sub-rounded pebbles. 0.32m thick	Fill of [104]	Late Iron Age
103	1	Firm mid to light grey slightly clayey sand with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, 0.18m thick	Primary fill of [104]	
104	1	NW-SE aligned linear cut with steep sides and flat base, 1.12m wide, 0.4m deep	Cut of ditch, possible boundary	Late Iron Age
105	1	Firm mid brownish grey slightly clayey sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [106], deliberate backfill	Late Iron Age
106	1	WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with fairly steep concave sides and concave base, up to 0.51m wide, 0.09m deep	Cut of gully	Late Iron Age
107	1	Firm mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt with moderate small rounded pebbles	Fill of [108]	
108	1	ENE-WSW aligned linear cut with concave sides and slightly concave base, 0.58m wide, 0.16m deep	Cut of gully	
109	1	Firm mid to light grey with orange brown mottles, clayey sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles, 0.19m thick	Fill of [111]	
110	1	Firm dark grey clayey sand with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks, 0.44m thick	Fill of [111]	Late Iron Age
111	1	East-west aligned sub-rectangular cut with steep sides and stepped base, 2.75m long, 1.12m wide, 0.8m deep	Cut of possible beam slot	Late Iron Age
112	1	Firm dark grey clayey sand with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks, 0.11m thick	Fill of [113]	
113	1	Sub-circular cut with near vertical sides and concave base, 0.1m diameter, 0.1m deep	Cut of possible post hole	
114	1	East-west aligned linear cut with steep sides and concave base, 1.5m+ long, 2.3m wide, 1.06m deep	Cut of boundary ditch	
115	1	East-west aligned linear cut with steeper south side and concave base, 1.5m+ long, 1.4m wide, 0.42m deep	Possible recut of [114]	
116	1	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt, 0.28m thick	Basal fill of [114], silting	
117	1	Firm mid grey, with reddish brown flecks, sandy silt with rare small pebbles, 0.38m thick	Silting fill of [114]	
118	1	Firm mid grey with reddish brown flecks, silty sand, 0.56m thick	Silting fill of [114]	
119	1	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with rare small pebbles, 0.42m thick	Fill of [115]	

200	2	Friable mid to dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles, 0.34m thick	Topsoil	
201	2	Firm to friable mid reddish yellow to light yellowish brown, with blue grey mottles, sand and gravel with clay	Natural river terrace deposits	
202	2	Large rounded cut with steep, stepped sides to concave base, 6.2m wide, 1.36m deep	Cut of large pit, could be a well or watering hole	
203	2	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with occasional small lenses of stones and yellow clay, 0.53m thick	Probable backfill of [202]	
204	2	Firm dark brownish grey silty sand with smooth stones, 0.64m thick	Silting fill of [202]	
205	2	Firm mid greyish brown 'peaty' sandy clay with rare small stones, 0.63m thick	Peaty basal fill of [202]	
206	2	Oval cut with steep 60° sides and concave sides, 0.45m by 0.32m, 0.12m deep	Cut of post hole	
207	2	Friable light yellowish grey clay sand with small rounded stones, 0.12m thick	Fill of [206]	
300	3	Friable mid to dark greyish brown silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles, 0.34m thick	Topsoil	
301	3	Firm to friable mid reddish yellow to light yellowish brown, with blue grey mottles, sand and gravel with clay	Natural river terrace deposits	
401	4	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional small pebbles, 0.31m thick	Topsoil	
402	4	Mainly light to mid yellow, with bands and patches of dark rusty brown and light whitish yellow, mainly gravelly sand with some patches of light yellow grey gravelly clay	Natural	
501	5	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand with 10% pebbles and occasional small cobbles, 0.33m thick	Topsoil	
502	5	Mix of light whitish and brownish yellow gravelly pebbly sand	Natural	
601	6	Loose dark grey silty sand with moderate rounded pebbles, 0.5m thick	Topsoil	
602	6	Loose mottled mid yellow and white sand with frequent rounded pebbles, occasional iron pan	Natural	
603	6	North-south aligned linear cut with steep west side, moderate, convex east side, flat base, at least 1.6m long, 0.75m wide, 0.3m deep	Cut of ditch, possible drainage	
604	6	Friable light grey sand with frequent light brown laminations, 0.1m thick	Lower fill of [603], several water laid events	
605	6	Firm black sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Upper fill of [603], stable plant growth	
606	6	Loose dark grey silty sand with moderate rounded pebbles, 0.1m thick	Sole fill of [621], similar to topsoil	
607	6	East-west aligned linear cut with steep sides and V-shaped base, at least 1m long, 0.25m wide, 0.13m deep	Cut of gully, poss to drain hollow (609)	

608	6	Loose dark grey silty sand with frequent large sub-rounded pebbles, 0.13m thick	Fill of [607]	
609	6	Friable mostly brownish grey, with some amorphous dark, light and orange patches, plus occasional lighter and darker laminations, silty sand with patches of frequent round gravel, 0.25m thick	Fluvial deposit in natural hollow	
610	6	Sub-circular cut with mainly steepish sides and rounded base, at least 1m long, at least 0.4m wide, 0.3m deep	Cut of pit or post setting	
611	6	Loose light grey, mottled with light brown, sand with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, 0.25m thick	Re-deposited natural fill of [610]	
612	6	Loose mid brown sand with occasional sub-angular pebbles, 0.07m thick	Fill of [610]	
613	6	Friable dark grey, with light mottles, silty sand, 0.15m thick	Fill of [610]	
614	6	Loose dark grey silty sand, 0.1m thick	Fill of [610]	
615	6	Loose dark grey silty sand, 0.12m thick	Fill of [610]	
616	6	Loose mid brownish grey sand, 0.1m thick	Fill of [610]	
617	6	North-south aligned linear cut with steep concave sides and flat base, at least 1.6m long, 0.9m wide, 0.15m deep	Cut of shallow ditch	
618	6	Loose light greyish brown, with orange mottles, sand, 0.1m thick	Re-deposited natural in [617]	
619	6	Loose mid grey silty sand with patches of rusty coloured sand with frequent round gravel, 0.1m thick	Fill of [617]	
620	6	Loose dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent rounded gravel, patches of mid grey sand, iron pan at some edges, 0.3m thick	A deposit built up in a natural hollow	
621	6	North-south aligned linear cut with shallow sides and rounded base, at least 1.6m long, 0.7m wide, 0.1m deep	Shallow re-cut of [603]	
622	6	Friable black silty sand with occasional rounded gravel, 0.15m thick	Fill of [610]	
623	6	Loose light brownish grey sand with occasional rounded pebbles, 0.1m thick	Re-deposited natural in [610]	
701	7	Soft dark brownish grey silty sand with 10% pebbles, 0.33m thick	Topsoil	
702	7	Soft mid yellow with bands/patches of mid rusty brown and light whitish grey gravelly sand	Natural	
801	8	Soft dark brownish grey silty sand with 10% pebbles, 0.34m thick	Topsoil	
802	8	Soft mid to light yellow, with patches of mid rusty brown and light whitish yellow, gravelly sand	Natural	
900	9	Firm, pale grey to mid brownish yellow, sand with common sub-rounded gravel	Natural	
901	9	NW-SE aligned linear cut with 45° sides and slightly concave base, 1.57m wide, 0.42m deep	Cut of ditch, probable boundary	19 th century
902	9	Firm dark grey loamy ashy sand with common poorly sorted sub-rounded gravels, up to 0.51m thick	Backfilling of [901]	19 th century
903	9	Soft mid brown yellow sand with moderate sub-rounded gravel, up to 0.05m thick	Top fill of [901]	
904	9	Firm dark grey sandy silt with moderate sub-rounded gravels, up to 0.4m thick	Topsoil	

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

PREHISTORIC POTTERY

By Sarah Percival

A total of 42 sherds weighing 352g were recovered from three contexts, all in Trench 1. The assemblage is of Later Iron Age date and represents the incomplete remains of at least five vessels. The sherds are medium sized, with an average sherd weight of 8g.

Methodology

The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by APS.

Fabric

Four fabrics were identified in three fabric groups (Table 1). A little more than half of the assemblage by weight is grog tempered (54%, 190g). Two grog tempered fabrics are present (GRSH and IAGROG), one of which also contained fossiliferous shell (GRSH). Fabric IASH, which contained only shell pieces, forms 25% of the assemblage and the remaining 21% is made of coarse sandy fabric IAGRCS.

The fabrics compare well with the Iron Age to Roman assemblage found at Old Sleaford (Elsdon 1997, 125), with the coarse, shell rich fabrics being equivalent to fabrics F1 and F2 and the sand with shell fabric IAGRCS to fabric F6. Grog was also present in several later Iron Age fabrics at Old Sleaford (Elsdon 1997, 124) and forms an increasing component of contemporary assemblages such as those from Werrington and Weekley (Mackreth 1988, Jackson and Dix, 1987).

Fabric	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)
GRSH	Common dark grey grog and sub-rounded voids up to 2mm, moderate white shell plates	2	108
IASH	Common medium shell and fine clay matrix	22	88
IAGROG	Common pale sub-rounded grog up to 3mm.	13	82
IAGRCS	Coarse grainy fabric containing rounded sand grains, probably quartz, and sparse shell up to 4mm.	5	74
Total		42	352

Table 1: Quantity and weight of pottery by fabric

Form

Rim and body sherds from five vessels were recovered. These include a partial profile from a carinated bowl in grog-tempered fabric with two raised cordons defining the vessel neck and bead rim (context (102)). The bowl is similar to examples found at Dragonby and Old Sleaford in late 1st century contexts, (May 1996, Fig.19.35, 293; Elsdon 1997, fig.62) and has a wide distribution across Eastern England (Thompson 1982 form B1-1).

A rim from a squat, ovoid jar with bead rim of Thompson's form C1-1 in shelly fabric was also found in context (102) along with rim sherds from a third jar, also of ovoid form, with an everted rim in sandy fabric containing sparse shell. A fourth vessel, found in context (105), also has an ovoid body with heavy T shaped rim. The jar is made of sandy fabric with shell. The globular jars are similar to coarse jars found at Old Sleaford (Elsdon 1997 fig. 51, 2 and fog. 51.5) and are widely found in the East Midlands for example at Werrington and Weekley (Mackreth 1988, fig.28, 82, 84 & 86; Jackson and Dix, 1987, fig.39, 146), dating to the 1st centuries BC to AD.

Deposition

The Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fills of ditches, gullies and a possible beam slot (Table 2). The largest assemblage came from the fill of ditch 104, which contained rims from three vessels.

Trench	Feature	Context	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)	% weight
1	104	102	Ditch	28	177	50.28%
	106	105	Gully	13	151	42.90%
	111	110	Beam slot	1	24	6.82%
Total				42	352	100.00%

Table 2: Quantity and weight of pottery by feature

Discussion

The small assemblage is very similar to the Late Iron Age assemblages from Old Sleaford and Dragonby which suggests that the pottery was in use at the very end of the 1st century BC and into the 1st century AD.

Other Pottery

A single sherd of post medieval Glazed Red Earthenware pottery weighing 3g was recovered from fill (110) of beam slot [111].

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Dr Anne Irving

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski et al. (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the established type series for Lincolnshire (Young et al. 2005). A total of ten sherds from eight vessels, weighing 145 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 3. The pottery ranges in date from the post-medieval to the early modern period.

Results

Table 3, Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
110	GRE	Glazed red earthenware		1	1	3	BS		17 th to 19 th
902	BL	Black-glazed wares	Jar/ bowl	1	1	12	BS		Mid 17 th to 18 th
902	CREA	Creamware	Straight sided jar	2	1	52	Base		Late 18 th to 19 th
902	CREA	Creamware	Open	1	1	9	Base	Abraded	
902	CREA	Creamware	Dish/ bowl	1	1	10	Rim	Blue feather edge; scalloped	
902	CREA	Creamware	Open	2	1	15	Base + BS	Burnt; ?ID	
902	PEARL	Pearlware	?	1	1	2	BS	Very abraded; blue transfer print	
902	PEARL	Pearlware	Dish	1	1	42	Rim	Blue transfer print	

Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Dr Anne Irving

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's Archaeology Handbook. Two fragments of Fired Clay and Ceramic Building Material weighing 228 grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 4.

Results

Table 4, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
902	BRK	Brick	Calcareous	1	209	Corner; handmade	16th to 18th
902	PNR	Peg, Nib or Ridge tile		1	19	Ridge tile?	13th to 15th

Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 2 (28g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Methodology

The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to species, element and side. Also fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were noted when present. Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to species when they were substantially complete and could accurately be identified. Undiagnostic bones were recorded as micro (mouse size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size).

The condition of the bone was graded using the criteria stipulated by Lyman (1996), Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and Grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

Provenance

The bone was recovered from the fill of a ditch (102) and the fill of a possible beam slot.

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was poor, averaging at grade 4 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

Results

Table 5, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
102	cattle	molar	-	1	14	fragmented
110	cattle	molar	-	1	14	fragmented

Summary

Only two cattle molars were recovered from the evaluation. This probably indicates that the enamel, being stronger, has survived in a fairly acidic soil. As a result, the bone has little potential, other than to say cattle were kept at the site. The bone should be retained as part of the site archive.

GLASS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

One piece of glass weighing 167g was retrieved.

Condition

Although naturally fragile, the glass is in good condition.

Results

Table 6, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
902	Base of flattened octagonal green bottle.	1	167	late 19 th century

Provenance

The glass was recovered from (902), the backfill of a probable boundary ditch.

Range

The lower part of a bottle of probable later 19th century date was recovered.

Potential

Other than providing dating evidence the glass is of limited potential and could be discarded.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 7 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 7, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
102	Late Iron Age	
105	Late Iron Age	
110	Late Iron Age	A small intrusive sherd of post-medieval earthenware was also retrieved
902	late 19 th century	based on 1 glass

ABBREVIATIONS

- ACBMG Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
- BS Body sherd
- CBM Ceramic Building Material
- CXT Context
- LHJ Lower Handle Join
- NoF Number of Fragments
- NoS Number of sherds
- NoV Number of vessels
- PCRG Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
- TR Trench
- UHJ Upper Handle Join
- W (g) Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

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Appendix 3

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Intrusive	Artefacts of later date found in deposits that must pre-date them are said to be intrusive. Such intrusive artefacts will usually be small and have worked down in the soil through cracks, or by root, worm or rodent action. Intrusive artefacts will generally be isolated and be distinctively later than a larger assemblage of earlier artefacts, for example, a single 19 th century pottery fragment found in a large collection of medieval ceramics in a refuse pit.
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.

Appendix 4

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

4	Context register sheets
6	Trench record sheets
56	Context record sheets
2	Plan record sheets
2	Section record sheets
10	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
15	Sheet of scale drawings
	Digital data

File names	01.xgd to 14.xgd and 09-a.xgd to 14-a.xgd WSWR14.xcp
Explanation of codes used in file names	xgd files are magnetometer grids, named with site code and number in the order surveyed. Grids suffixed with '-a' are re-orientated copies. xcp files are composites containing record of all the data and processes used to produce the end product
Description of file formats	All files are in plain text xml format with header data defining survey and processing parameters
List of codes used in files	D indicates a "dummy" value within the composite data
Hardware, software and operating systems	TerraSurveyor 3.0.25.1 running under Windows 7
Date of last modification	26/08/2014
Indications of known areas of weakness in data	

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2014.137

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WSWR 14

OASIS record number archaeo11-194234

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the

areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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OASIS ID: archaeol1-194234

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation on land at Witham Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	A geophysical survey was undertaken at the southwest end of the site and identified a possible pit group. A nine trench evaluation revealed Iron Age remains including ditches and a possible short beam slot in the southwest quarter of the site. A large undated quarry pit was identified where the geophysics had postulated pits. As the geophysics had not identified the linear features it was not used on the northeast part of the site. A late post-medieval ditch and several further undated features were revealed in this section.
Project dates	Start: 03-07-2014 End: 24-10-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WSWR14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2014.137 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	S/215/00601/14 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	BEAM SLOT Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Geophysical Survey","Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate

Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination
Solid geology	KIMMERIDGE CLAY
Drift geology	RIVER TERRACE DEPOSITS
Drift geology (other)	Boulder clay
Techniques	Magnetometry

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE EAST LINDSEY WOODHALL SPA Land at Witham Road
Postcode	LN10 6HP
Study area	4.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 1845 6249 53.1460632434 -0.22876414046 53 08 45 N 000 13 43 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 6.50m Max: 6.50m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Gary Taylor
Project director/manager	Gary Taylor
Project supervisor	Andrew Failes
Project supervisor	Jonathon Smith
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Broadgate Homes Limited

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	The Collection
Physical Archive ID	2014.137
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Archive ID	2014.137
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Geophysics", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	2014.137
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Map","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

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