
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING ON LAND AT
MELTON ROSS QUARRY,
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE
(MTRQ 11)**

**Work Undertaken For
Singleton Birch Limited**

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Report Compiled by
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was agreed as a condition for planning consent for an extension to quarrying at Melton Ross Quarry, North Lincolnshire. The initial stage of this involved a scheme of tree planting and landscaping adjacent to the A180.

The site lies just to the north of Yarborough Camp, a probable Iron Age hill-fort. Previous investigations within the proposed extension area had identified remains of prehistoric and Roman date including a large enclosure of apparent prehistoric date to the north. An earlier programme of geophysical survey had also identified several potential features within the investigation area.

The archaeological investigations revealed features of probable Iron Age and Roman date including ditches, two large quarry pits and a road or trackway. The pottery finds suggest that the site was occupied from the late Iron Age to the later 2nd century AD with only slight evidence for later activity.

The majority of the features on the site are likely to relate to a succession of agrarian activities, with many of the ditches present likely to be field boundaries or livestock enclosures. Two rectilinear ditches may form a small enclosure at the southwest of the site and two large ditches may also form the boundaries of a field or enclosure, being parallel and approximately 60m apart.

A metalled trackway discovered running southeast-northwest within a wide hollow allows better interpretation of earlier geophysical survey results and may link to known late Iron Age and Roman sites within the vicinity.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Singleton Birch to undertake a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample during a scheme of tree planting and landscaping at Melton Ross Quarry, North Lincolnshire. The work was undertaken in advance of tree planting alongside the A180, prior to mineral extraction in the adjacent fields. The work was carried out in January and February 2011 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the planning archaeologist for North Lincolnshire.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Melton Ross Quarry is located 20km east of Scunthorpe, between the villages of Croxton and Melton Ross in North Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The investigation area is situated 2km northeast of Melton Ross, immediately to the north of the A180, centred at National Grid Reference TA 0800 1230 (Fig. 2). The site covers an area approximately 230m x 10m and lies at around 45m OD.

The quarry site is dominated by soils of the Hunstanton Association, typically well-drained and coarse loamy soils developed on the Welton Chalk formation (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 225; GSGB 1983). The site lies on a spur of land sloping gently down to the east and south.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

The site lies less than 500m north of Yarborough Camp, a sub-rectangular Iron Age or Romano-British enclosure where a 4th century AD coin hoard has been recovered (SAM32623).

Fieldwalking of the northern quarry

extension area, north of the A180, yielded a sparse scatter of prehistoric flint tools, undated slag and pottery dating from the Roman to medieval periods although no sites were noted (Lane 2004; Cope-Faulkner and Lane 1999). Detailed geophysical survey was undertaken over the proposed extension area (Donaldson 2004a, & b). This located geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin in various areas of the site.

Subsequent trial-trench evaluation revealed prehistoric and Romano-British features. Fields immediately to the north of the investigation area contained a large prehistoric enclosure ditch. The area of tree planting is within Field D and Trench 10, which runs into the area to be stripped, contained prehistoric features which included two gullies. However, other surrounding fields to the east and the west contained only a sequence of natural deposits (Hall 2005).

Melton Ross appears in the Domesday Survey of 1086 indicating a settlement since at least Late Saxon times. It was in the Wapentake of Yarborough and Eddeua, Ernegis de Burun and Geoffrey, son of Payne in Goxhill held land there (Foster and Longley 1976). The village is referred to in Domesday as *Medeltone*. Melton is a partial Scandinavianisation of Middleton ‘the middle farmstead, village’ from Old English *middel* and *tūn* with Old Norse *methal* replacing the former. The *de Ros* family held one fee in Melton in 1303, hence Ross (Cameron 1998).

The 2004 geophysical survey encompassed the current investigation area and revealed a number of magnetic anomalies that were potentially identified during this phase of works.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to investigate and characterise geophysical anomalies or any

further features identified at the site following the stripping of the topsoil.

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 and function of any archaeological features present on the site; determine the state of preservation and spatial arrangement of any archaeological features encountered; determine the extent to which any surrounding archaeological features extend into the extension area and establish the way in which any archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

4. METHODS

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Any features exposed were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the monitoring was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. 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.

Environmental sampling was undertaken on the discretion of the site supervisor using guidelines established by English Heritage (2002). The subsequent processing of the samples is detailed in Appendix 5.

The locations of the features and excavated sections were surveyed using a Thales Z-Max dGPS. Raw satellite data is

calibrated via the OS NET service resulting in extremely accurate readings. The calibrated data is logged in the field to a mobile device running Fast Survey and subsequently processed in the office by n4ce data processing software which is used to produce customised CAD files.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). 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

Archaeological contexts are listed and described in Appendix 2. The numbers in brackets below are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 0: Natural Deposits

The earliest deposits encountered on the site were rubbly chalk, (003, 075) and chalky clays (145, 146, 153, 154, 155), the top of the natural chalk strata. These were identified across the majority of the site and were cut by all of the features.

Phase 1: Prehistoric

A small number of worked flints, chiefly dating to the Mesolithic period, was recovered during the investigations (Appendix 3). The items attest to a presence in the area of Mesolithic communities, perhaps working the items during their cycle of hunting and gathering. Three were recovered from the orangey brown sandy silt fill (044) of sub-oval feature [043] (Fig. 5; Fig. 11, Section 16; Plate 4). Upon investigation this appeared to be a natural anomaly, probably a tree bowl, rather than of anthropogenic origin. The use of blown down trees for Mesolithic shelter has been suggested in the archaeological literature, but there is

nothing to clearly indicate such use here. Remaining flintwork was recovered from features of Roman date and must therefore be residual/redeposited.

Phase 2: Iron Age – Roman

At the southwesterly extent of the stripped area was a single feature that remained unexcavated, [166], due to its location across the site entrance. However pottery collected from the surface of the feature would suggest that it was Iron Age to Roman in date. Approximately the next 80m of the site northeast of this was blank, having no archaeological features.

The termini of two features, [021] and [023], were excavated to determine their relationship with a further rectilinear feature [010=019=033] (Fig. 5; Fig. 10, Section 7; Plate 5). Ditch [021] was 0.78m in width and up to 0.19m in depth, gently sloping up to the terminus. [023] was similar, but only 0.4m wide and 0.1m in depth. The fills, (022) and (024) respectively, were also similar, both being a medium greyish brown, clayey, sandy silt and both containing pottery of Iron Age to Roman date. The fill (020) of [010=019=033] also had the same composition as (022), meaning that the relationship between the ditch and [021] remains unclear.

To the east was a linear feature that may relate to an anomaly previously identified during the geophysical survey. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch [012=134] ran through the width of the excavated area, continuing beyond both limits of excavation (Fig. 5; Fig. 9, Section 5; Fig. 12, Section 46; Plate 7). The ditch varied between 1.2m – 1.5m in width and 0.47m up to 0.82m in depth. A shallow ditch, 0.7m-1.4m wide, along the southwesterly edge, [014=031=136], is likely to be a re-cut of the ditch. Linear [012=134] is likely to be Iron Age in date, containing late Iron Age pottery, perhaps re-cut in the Roman period [014=031=136].

Approximately one metre to the northeast were several intercutting ditches. Two parallel northwest-southeast aligned ditches [057=082] and [066=110] were cut at the south-eastern end by a further ditch [055=064=076] and at the north-western extent by Roman quarry pit [059=084=112] (Fig. 6; Plate 9).

[057=082] was a wide shallow ditch measuring between 1m and 1.5m in width up to 0.42m deep and over 9m in length (Fig. 12, Sections 19 and 20; Fig. 14 Section 29; Plates 9 and 10). The ditch had a single mid brown clayey sandy silt fill which yielded late 1st century BC – 1st century AD pottery.

Immediately to the east of these features was northwest-southeast aligned gully [071=099] measuring up to 0.72m wide by 0.16m deep (Fig. 6; Fig. 13, Section 24; Fig. 15, Section 35). Pottery from the mid brown sandy clayey silt fill suggests that this is late Iron Age or early Roman. The relationship of [071=099] with quarry pit [051=102=114] at its north-eastern end was unclear.

Pit [051=102=114] was 21m in width along the excavated area, at least 1.6m deep, and appears to have been dug and then remained open for a considerable period of time (Fig. 6; Fig. 13, Sections 22 and 23; Fig. 17, Sections 40, 42 and 45; Plate 11). Primary fills of weathered chalk (074) suggest that the pit remained open long enough for significant weathering of the sides to occur and accumulate in the base of the pit. Subsequent deposits of silts, followed by dumped deposits, often with pottery and other material finds, suggests periods of natural deposit build-up (silts), followed by purposeful backfilling, as seen with deposits (107), (108) and (109) (Fig. 15, Section 36). Dating evidence from the pottery in the deposits suggest the pit was dug in the late Iron Age and was gradually backfilled until at least the 2nd century AD.

Extending out on a northeast alignment from the northeast edge of this quarry pit were two parallel ditches (Fig. 7; Fig. 13, Sections 22, 27; Fig. 14, Section 31; Plate 12). [080] was a shallow narrow ditch, 0.45m wide x 0.2m deep. This was either parallel to or had been partly re-cut by [078], which was 1.3m wide and 0.36m deep. These were not directly dated but appear to be cut by the quarry pit and by Phase 3 ditch [115].

Phase 3: Roman

Approximately 98 metres northwest of the site entrance was a large rectilinear ditch [004=037=039] (Fig. 4-westernmost feature; Fig. 5), aligned east-west with a north-south return at the westernmost point. The ditch contained a single fill of mid orange/brown silty sand, the pottery from which appears to date the feature to the 2nd century AD (Fig. 5; Fig. 9, Section 3; Fig. 11, Sections 15 and 16; Plate 3). A further ditch to the east [010=019=033], (Fig. 9, Section 4; Fig. 10, Sections 7 and 9) also Roman in date, may form a rectilinear enclosure with [004=037=039]. The two ditches would form an internal space of approximately 40m x 11m.

Between these ditches was a further northeast-southwest aligned linear feature [008=041=156] approximately 23m in length and 1.35m at its widest point (Fig. 11, Section 16; Fig. 18, Section 47; Plate 4). Finds retrieved from the surface of the feature suggest a date for the fill from the 1st-3rd century AD.

Adjacent to ditch [010=019=033] was a smaller ditch/gully [025], 3m in length, up to 0.5m in width and 0.2m deep (Fig. 5; Fig. 10, Sections 10 and 11; Plate 6). Although the purpose of this feature was unclear, the fill (026=027=028) contained large amounts of domestic pottery, including an entire but broken vessel, and animal bone. The sandy silt fill appears to have been purposely backfilled rather than

a natural accumulation of silts. The pottery, which includes Fine and Coarse Grey Ware, can be dated to the 2nd century AD.

Approximately 7 metres further to the northeast was a single northeast-southwest aligned ditch [017=048] (Fig. 5; Fig. 9, Section 6; Fig. 12, Section 17; Plate 8). The ditch measured 8.4m in length x 1m wide with a medium greyish brown clayey sandy silt fill (018=049). The feature was only shallow, measuring no more than 0.06m deep where excavated, and is likely to have been largely destroyed by later ploughing activity. Adjacent to the linear, to the north, was a tree bowl [124].

Immediately east of this was a collection of intercutting features, including northwest-southeast aligned ditch [066=110] measuring up to 0.8m wide and 0.19m in depth (Fig. 6; Fig. 15, Sections 37 and 38; Plate 10). This ditch also had a single mid brown clayey sandy silt fill and contained pottery of 1st – 2nd century AD date.

Ditch [066=110] and the parallel ditch [057=082], to the south, were both cut by northeast-southwest aligned ditch [055=064=076], which extended 8m out from the edge of the section (Fig. 6; Fig. 12, Sections 19 and 21; Fig. 13, Sections 25 and 26; Plate 10). The ditch measured 0.8m in width and up to 0.46m in depth although the ditch became considerably shallower to its terminus at the northeast. The medium brown clayey sandy silt fill also contained 1st – 2nd century AD pottery, suggesting that although it cuts ditch [066=110], it is possibly contemporary.

These two ditches also had a relationship at their northern extent with quarry pit [059=084=112], of which only the southern extent was evident within the excavated area. The pit was approximately 11m wide and at least 1.1m in depth (Fig. 6; Fig. 12, Section 18; Fig. 13, Section 28;

Fig. 14, 29 and 30; Plate 9). The pit was not fully excavated to the base of the cut but dating evidence suggests the upper fills are 2nd – 4th century in date. The pit appears to cut linears [057=082] and [066=110], and the dating suggested by the material finds would corroborate this.

Adjacent to these features was the terminus of a ditch [097] extending out from the southern edge of excavation. Measuring 0.8m wide, a 3m length extended into the trench and appears to cut shallow ditch [071=099]. The pottery recovered from (098), the fill of [097], are indicative of a date of 1st – early 2nd century AD.

At the north-eastern extent of the excavated area was a northwest-southeast aligned metallised surface (126=152=162/163) within cut [149=158], probably a road or trackway (Fig. 7; Fig. 16, Section 39; Fig. 18, Section 48; Plate 13). The metallising comprised a thin layer of compact, sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk with flint fragments and pebbles at the base of a shallow hollow some 8m in width and up to 0.5m in depth. A further patch of metallising adjacent to the west (165) may suggest that the trackway had originally been wider or had adjoining tracks (Fig. 18, Section 50).

Although the layers that form the metallised road remain undated, pottery from the layer immediately above (161) can be dated to the 3rd or 4th century AD, suggesting that the road was in use until at least this date, even though the date of its inception remains unknown.

To the west of the metallising were a series of parallel ditches. [117=169] was a ditch that ran parallel to [149=158] and was immediately adjacent to metallised surface (165) (Fig. 16, Section 39; Fig. 18, Section 50). The ditch measured up to 0.85m wide and 0.3m deep and appeared to have been re-cut by [142], 0.75m wide x 0.23m deep. At the north, both of these ditches had

been cut by [140], a wide shallow ditch, 3.1m wide and up to 0.3m in depth (Fig. 16, Section 39). No dating evidence was recovered for this series of ditches but the shared alignment with the metalled surface suggests that they are related.

Three metres further west was linear ditch [115=086] (Fig. 7; Fig. 14, Section 32 and 33; Fig. 16, Section 39; Plate 13). Measuring 1.83m by up to 1.5m in depth, the mid greyish brown sandy silt fill (116=087) contained 1st – 2nd century AD pottery and appeared to continue into both edges of the excavation.

Phase 4: Post Roman or Modern

A further natural sandy-silt deposit (002) was observed above the natural chalk brash layer (003=146=153); this subsoil was probably created by ploughing of the area.

Prior to stripping, topsoil (001) covered the majority of the site, a discrete area of the site had more modern layers of re-deposited topsoil (006) and disturbance (007) likely to be from the construction of the adjacent A180 (Fig. 9, Section 2).

6. DISCUSSION

Although there were numerous features exposed within the stripped area, relatively few of them were uncovered in their entirety. The relatively narrow width of the area and the similarity in composition of many of the fills has resulted in the relationships of many of the features being unclear. The material finds from the fills often contributed little, in that much of the pottery survived only as small fragments that were heavily abraded and may have been re-deposited several times, leading to a lack of definitive dates for some features.

Some of the features located within the stripped area, may relate to those previously identified during geophysical

survey of the investigation area. This includes a wide boundary ditch, two quarry pits that align with two large anomalies noted on the results of the survey and the alignment of the trackway (Fig. 8).

The flint flakes from the finds assemblage confirm the presence, however fleeting, of Mesolithic communities in the area. The flints recovered from Roman contexts, such as the quarry pit, are likely to be re-deposited.

Iron Age – Roman

The majority of the features that have been dated to the late Iron Age or early Roman period appear to be clustered toward the centre of the area containing archaeological features. However, very little can be noted about some of the features, for example contexts [021] and [023] represent only the termini of two ditches.

The wide northwest-southeast aligned ditch [012=134] that continued beyond both edges of excavation may correlate with a feature identified during previous geophysical survey. The fact that this ditch appears to have been re-cut in the Roman period [014=031=136] suggests that it may have been of some importance and had a prolonged period of use.

A concentration of features toward the northeast end of the excavated area contains two ditches of Iron Age – Roman date, [057 = 082] and [071 = 099]. The function of [057 = 082] is unclear. It appears to have been truncated at the northwest end by a quarry pit. A parallel Roman feature may be related in function to this ditch. [071=099] abuts the large quarry pit, but the relationship is unclear. It is possible that this ditch functions as a ditch draining into the open quarry pit.

The stratigraphy of fills within quarry pit [051=102=114] and the dateable pottery finds from within those fills, suggest that

this pit was probably dug in the late Iron Age. However, although deposits (062), (105) and (107) all contained Iron Age pottery, the pit was not completely filled until much later with upper fills (052), (109) and (128) containing finds of 2nd century AD date.

Roman

Two rectilinear features in the southwest of the excavated area, whilst not definitively linked, may form a small enclosure. The internal space that they would create would measure approximately 40m x 11m. The fills of both ditches contained Roman pottery which would suggest that they are contemporary even if they are not adjoined. The purpose of the linear features, between these two curvilinear ditches, is unknown. The smaller of the two features contained significant amounts of both pottery and bone.

Several features are unclear in function, but share a common alignment which may indicate that they are contemporary or perform similar functions. Ditches [008=041=156] and [017=048] share a similar northeast-southwest alignment. Although they differentiate in morphology, the finds in the fills (009) and (018=049) all date from the 1st to the 3rd century AD

Several of the intercutting features to the south of quarry pit [059=084=112] are Roman in date. Again, their functions are often unclear, but those that are parallel to earlier features may perform the same function. Ditches [057=082] and [066=110] are parallel to one another, less than 1.5m apart, and although [066=110] is both narrower and shallower than the other, pottery from the fills of each ditch suggest they are roughly contemporary dated to 1st century BC – 1st century AD and 1st century AD respectively, with the potential that the later ditch was dug to replace the earlier one. The purpose of the ditch cutting both of these is unknown.

Although ditch [115] is parallel to the metalled surface it lies 2m to the west of it. It is possible that the trackway was originally wider and that this functioned as a roadside ditch. However, the ditch is on the same alignment and is of a similar size and morphology to ditch [012=134], both can be dated to the Roman period (the re-cut of [012=134], [014=031=136], contained Roman pottery) which may suggest they performed the same function or were related. At a distance of 60m it is possible that these ditches marked the boundaries of a field or enclosure.

Quarry pit [059=084=112] appears to be later in date than the other quarry pit, with finds suggesting that the fills of the pit date to the 2nd century onwards. The primary fill (060) contained a piece of 2nd – 4th century Greyware. It is possible that as one pit went out of use, a further quarry pit was opened. The quarry pits both appear to have remained open for sustained periods of time as defined layers of natural aeolian and colluvium deposits are evident in the stratigraphy of the fills along with larger tipped and purposeful backfill deposits.

Most of the features within the investigation area appear to be indicative of an agrarian landscape, with the majority of ditches being field boundaries or for stock enclosures. If this was an agricultural landscape, then the large quarry pits may have been for the extraction of marl, often used to spread on the land in order to improve the quality of the soil.

A metalled surface within the north-eastern extent of the stripped area has been interpreted as a road or trackway. Further sporadic patches of metalling within the vicinity of the trackway may suggest that the road was wider or had other intersecting roads. The ditches that run parallel to the metalled area, [117=169], [142], [140] and [144], are likely to be roadside ditches of the metalled trackway. Both the surface and the ditches remain

undated. Finds from above the trackway suggest it was constructed prior to the 3rd or 4th century, but as the majority of features on the site date from the Iron Age to the 2nd century, this is not unexpected. The surface appears to be on a northwest-southeast alignment and matches the position and alignment of a geophysical survey anomaly continuing for at least 360m to the northwest (Donaldson 2004a). To the south and east it could potentially lead to Yarborough camp, less than 300m away, and/or to the settlement at Kirmington 2km to the southeast. It is worth noting that the line of the High Street Roman road has been assumed to run along the very straight southwestern boundary of this field, following the parish boundary. Previous trial trenching (Hall 2005) failed to find any trace of this along that line.

Two parallel, or re-cut ditches, [078] and [080] that ran northeast-southwest between quarry pit [051=102=114] and the series of ditches parallel to the road [115=086], [117] and [142], may have acted as an overflow moving excess water from the roadside ditches to the open quarry pit. Although these ditches contained no dateable material, they may have been draining into the quarry pit, which at least makes them later than the excavation of the pit, which appears to be Iron Age in date.

The pottery finds from the site suggest a period of activity from the late Iron Age until the mid or late 2nd centuries AD, with only a single context from above the road dating to the later 3rd or 4th centuries. Much of the late Iron Age material recovered from Melton Ross is from contexts that are certainly of a later date. Fabrics include Iron Age Shell tempered and coarse and fine shelled variants as well as miscellaneous Native Type Fabrics, Fine Native Fabrics and Iron Age Grit Tempered wares. Many of the vessel types identified within the Iron Age assemblage

could belong to the Iron Age/Roman transition period of the 1st century AD.

The majority of the pottery recovered from excavation at Melton Ross dates to the 1st and 2nd century AD, perhaps indicating the period of greatest occupation and utilisation of the site. Where decoration was noted, it had a strong 2nd century bias. There was a notable lack of finewares from the site which may relate to the use of the site as a largely agrarian area.

The bone, although a relatively small assemblage, was dominated by domesticated animal bone. Cattle and sheep/goat were recorded in Iron Age deposits, with a more diverse group including pig, dog and horse present in later deposits (Appendix 4).

Charred plant remains within feature fills were sparse. Although oat, wheat and barley grains were recorded most of the plant remains appear to be derived from very small quantities of scattered or wind-dispersed detritus, accidentally incorporated within the feature fills rather than indicating cereal processing close by. Shells of terrestrial molluscs occurred more frequently than plant macrofossils with open country species being predominant. However, it would appear that some features were either damp (see also the limited number of wetland plants) or filled with leaf litter, as species including *Ena* sp, *Punctum pygmaeum* and *Vitrea* sp. were also recorded (Appendix 5).

7. CONCLUSION

A programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Melton Ross Quarry prior to a scheme of landscaping and tree-planting. Previous geophysical survey had identified potential archaeological features in the area and prehistoric and Romano-British remains had previously been found in the vicinity.

The stripped area of investigation measured approximately 230m x 10m. There were numerous cut features, most of which were confined to the north-eastern half of the area. Several of the features were intercutting, but relationships were often unclear due to a similarity in the composition of the fills and the relative narrowness of the stripped section.

The pottery finds suggest that the site was occupied from the late Iron Age to the later 2nd century AD. The majority of the features were Roman although they were difficult to date more definitively, as features were generally severely truncated by ploughing and most of the finds were small and abraded and may have been re-deposited several times. Only one feature had primary deposition and was definitively dated, the remainder were more difficult to date with the likelihood that much pot was re-deposited or residual.

The majority of the features on the site are likely to relate to a succession of agrarian activities, with many of the ditches present likely to be field boundaries or livestock enclosures. Two rectilinear ditches may form a small enclosure at the southwest of the site and two large ditches may also form the boundaries of a field or enclosure, being parallel and approximately 60m apart. The large quarry pits therefore may have been dug with the intention of extracting marl to spread on the land in order to improve the quality of the soil.

A metalled trackway discovered running southeast-northwest within a wide hollow allows better interpretation of earlier geophysical survey results and may link to known late Iron Age and Roman sites within the vicinity.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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9. PERSONNEL

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 Site Assistant: Bob Garland, Bob Hamilton
 Surveying: Chris Moulis
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 CAD Illustration: Liz Murray
 Post-excavation analysis: Liz Murray

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Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

Lane, T., 2004, *Archaeological Fieldwalking on land at Croxton and Melton Ross, North Lincolnshire (CMR 04)*. Unpublished APS Report **49/04**

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

GSGB Geological Survey of Great Britain

SM Scheduled Monument

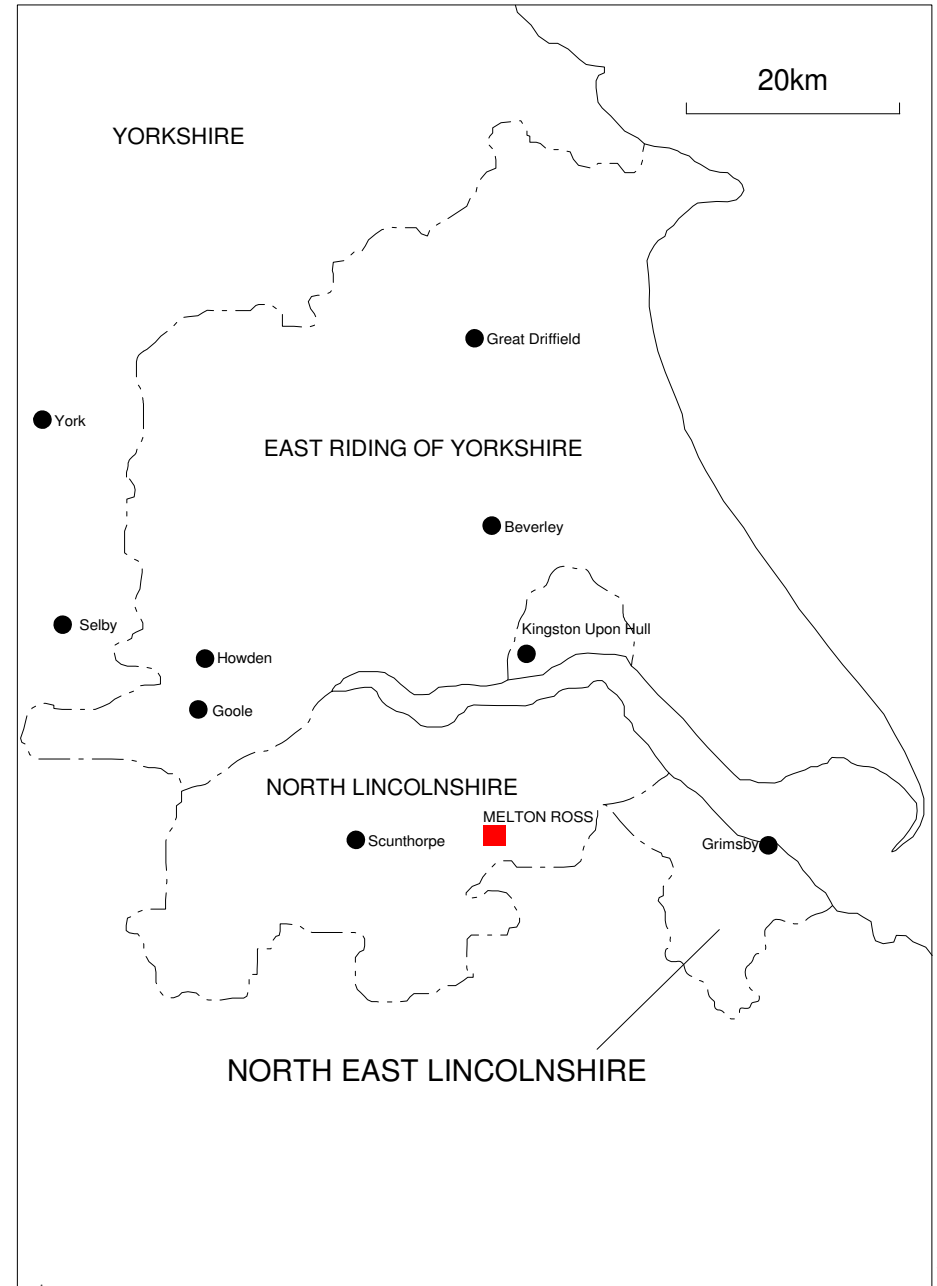


Figure 1 General Location Plan

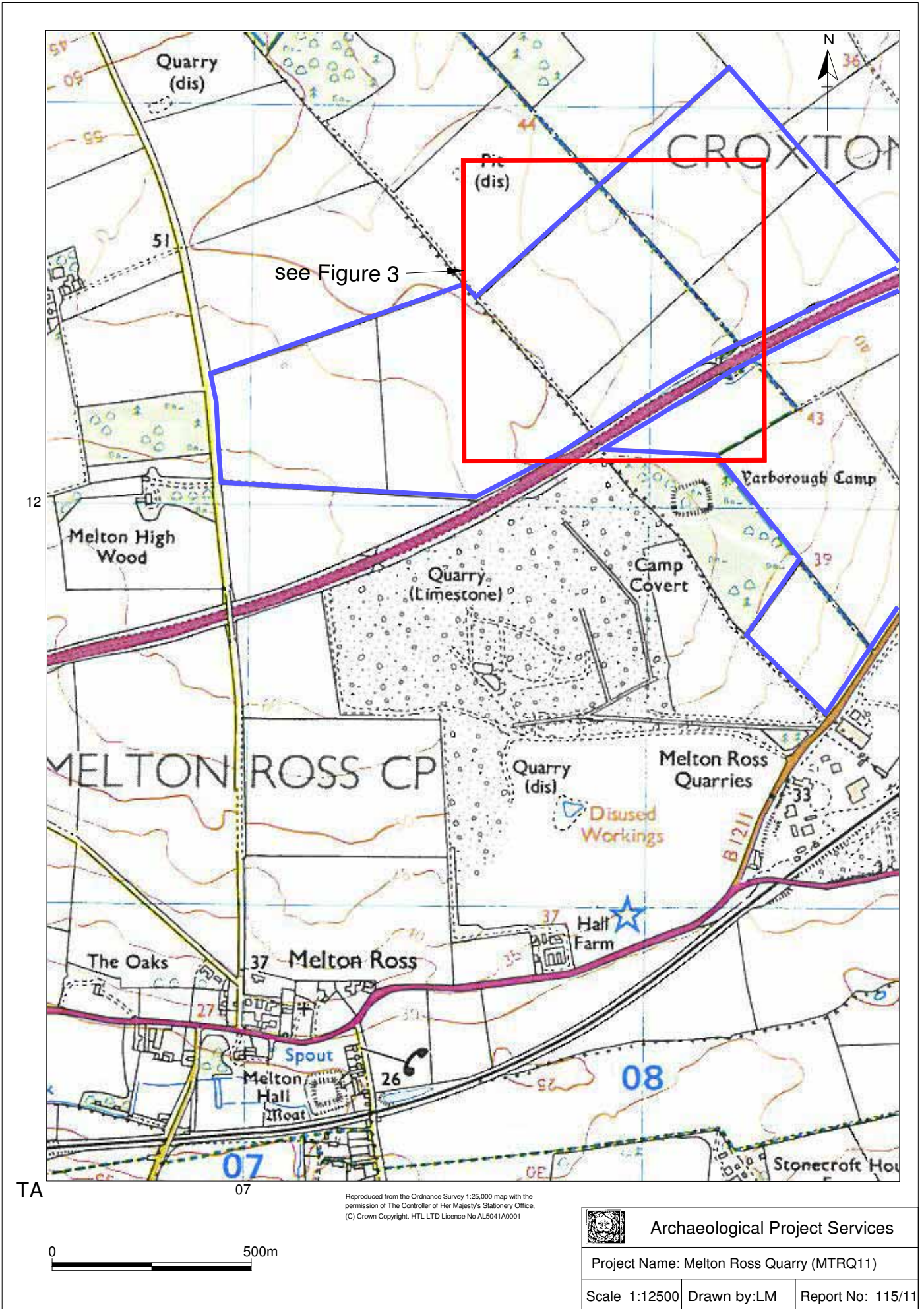


Figure 2: Site Location Plan

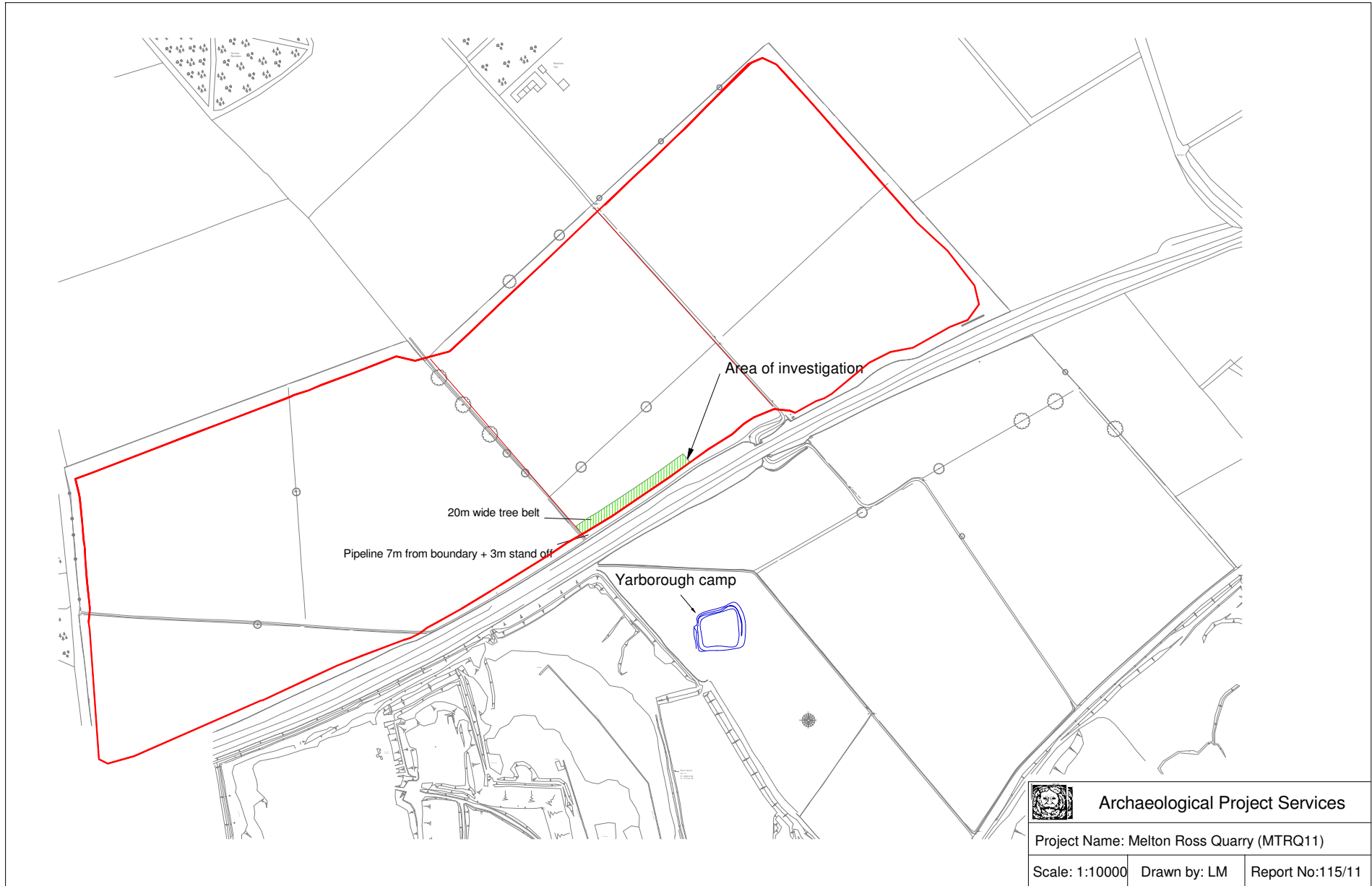


Figure 3: Location of Area of Investigation

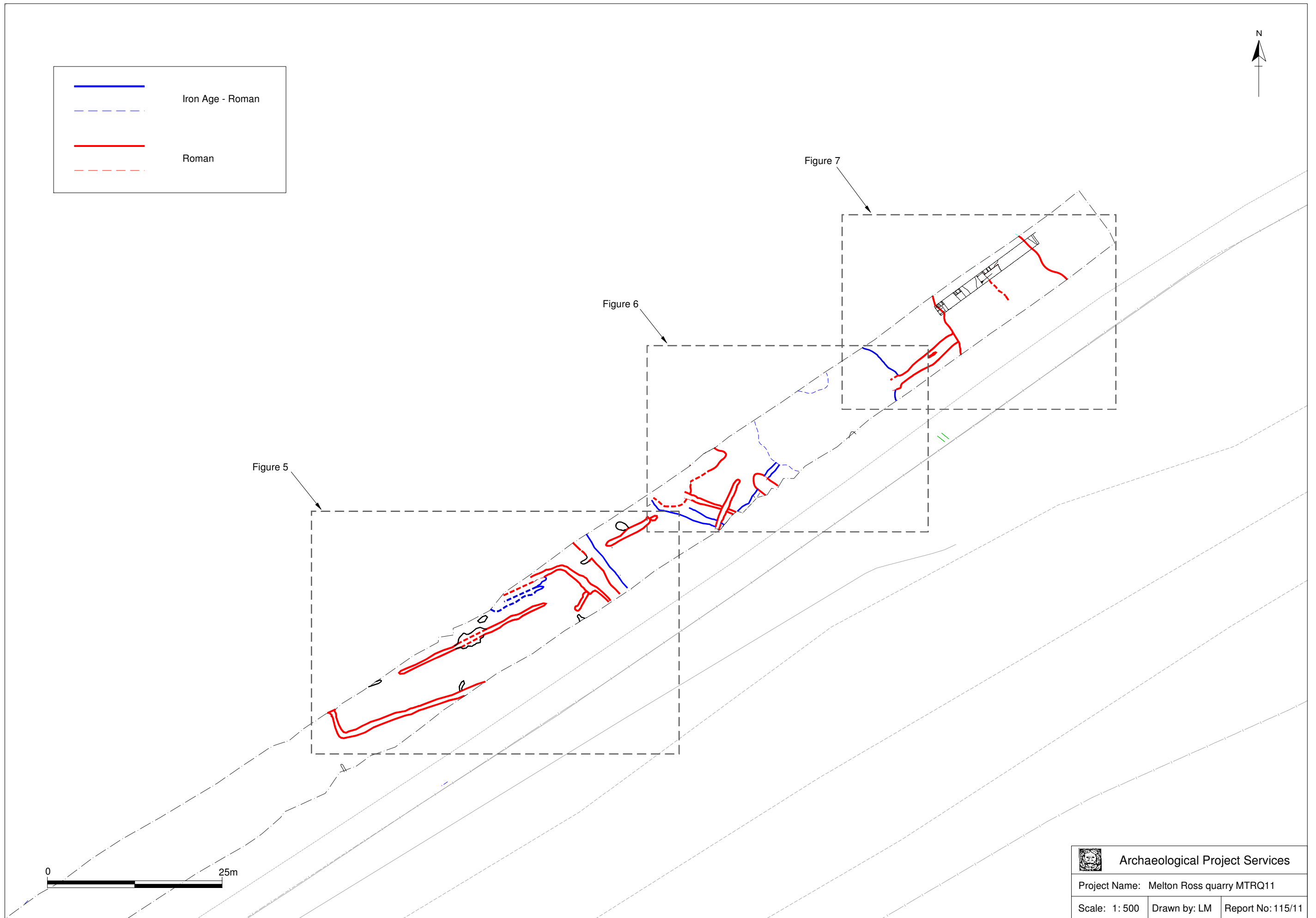



Figure 4: Plan of features

	Archaeological Project Services
Project Name: Melton Ross quarry MTRQ11	
Scale: 1: 500	Drawn by: LM Report No: 115/11

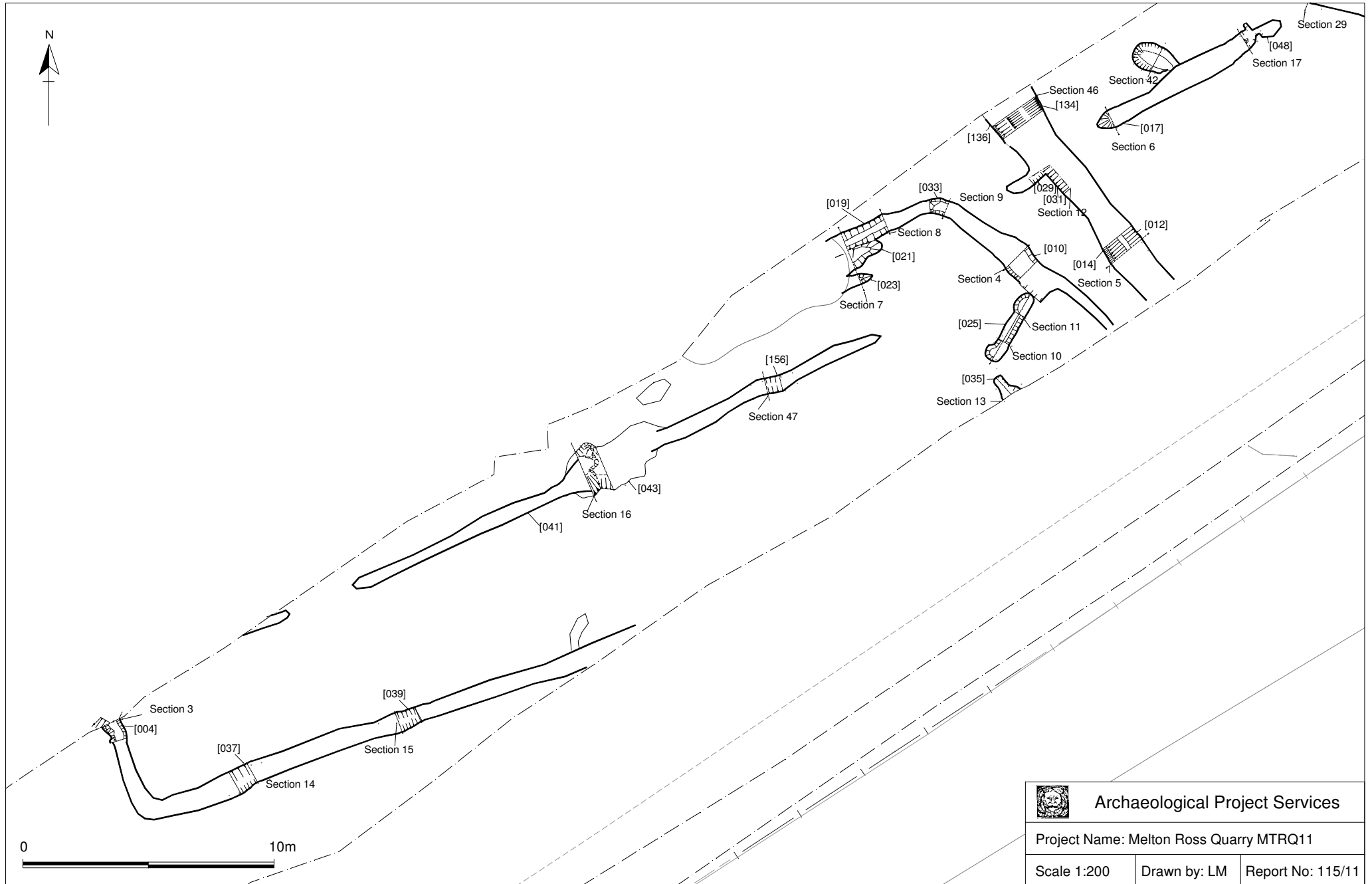


Figure 5: Plan A

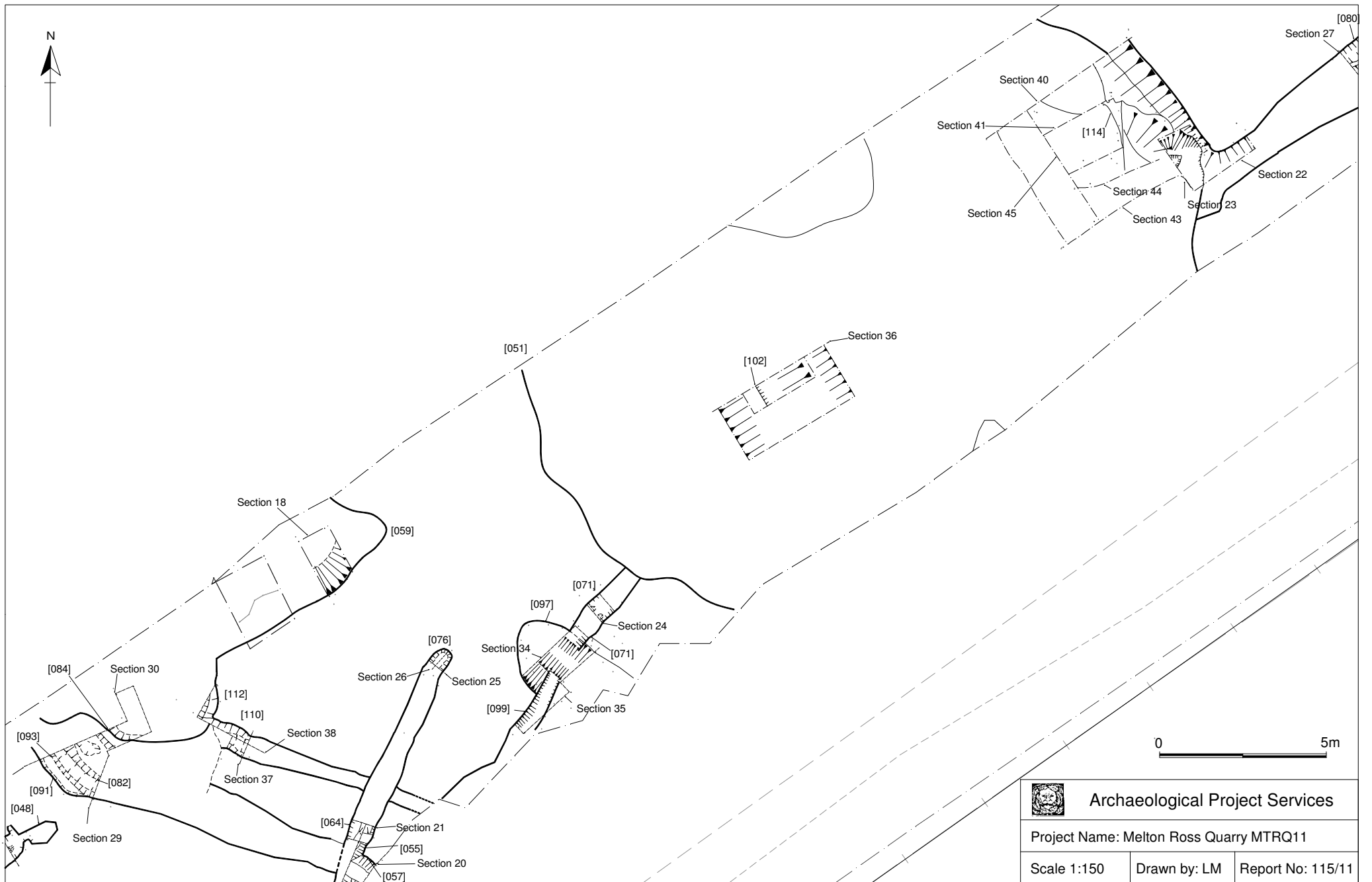



Figure 6: Plan B

 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11		
Scale 1:150	Drawn by: LM	Report No: 115/11

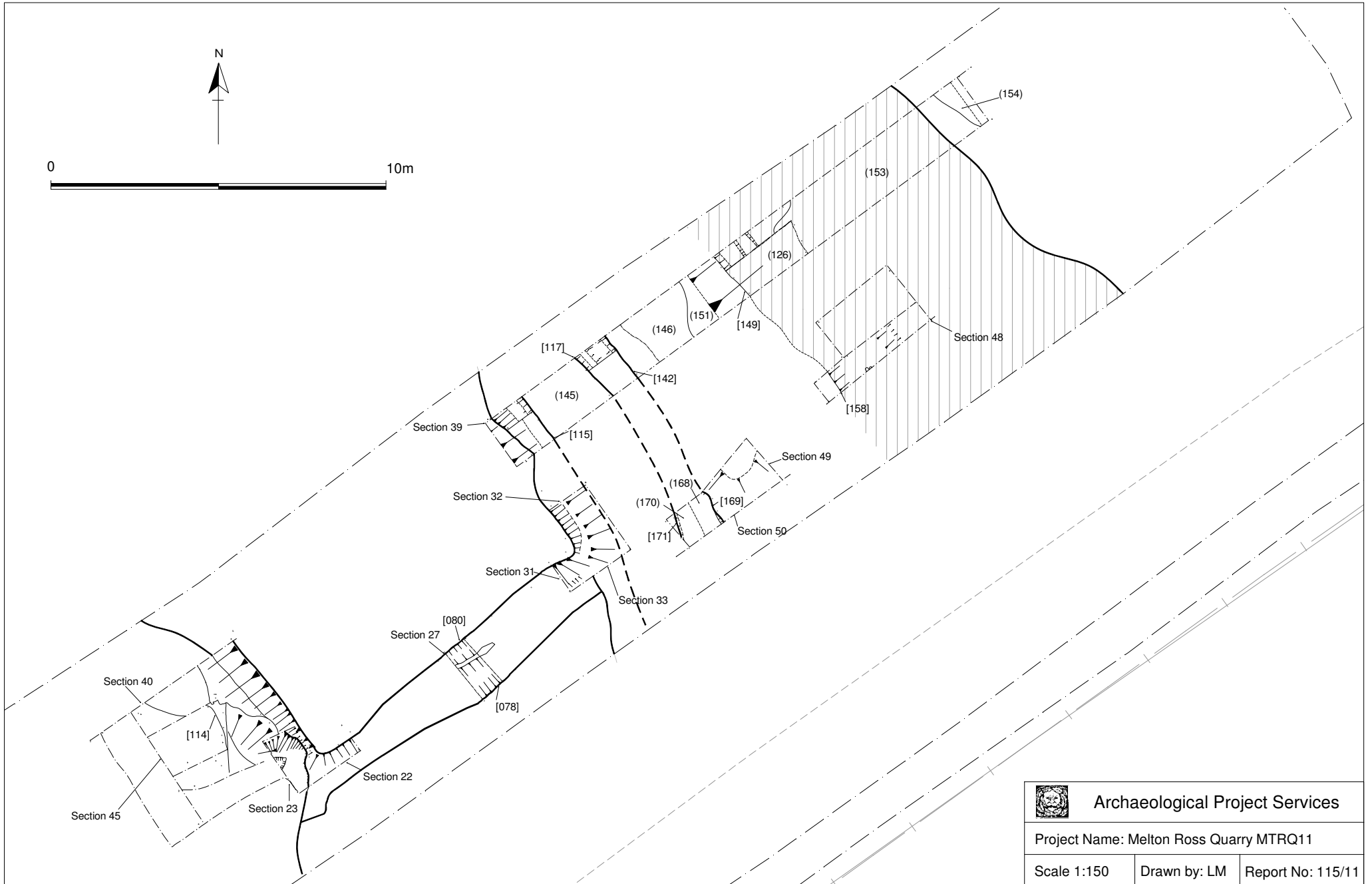


Figure 7: Plan C

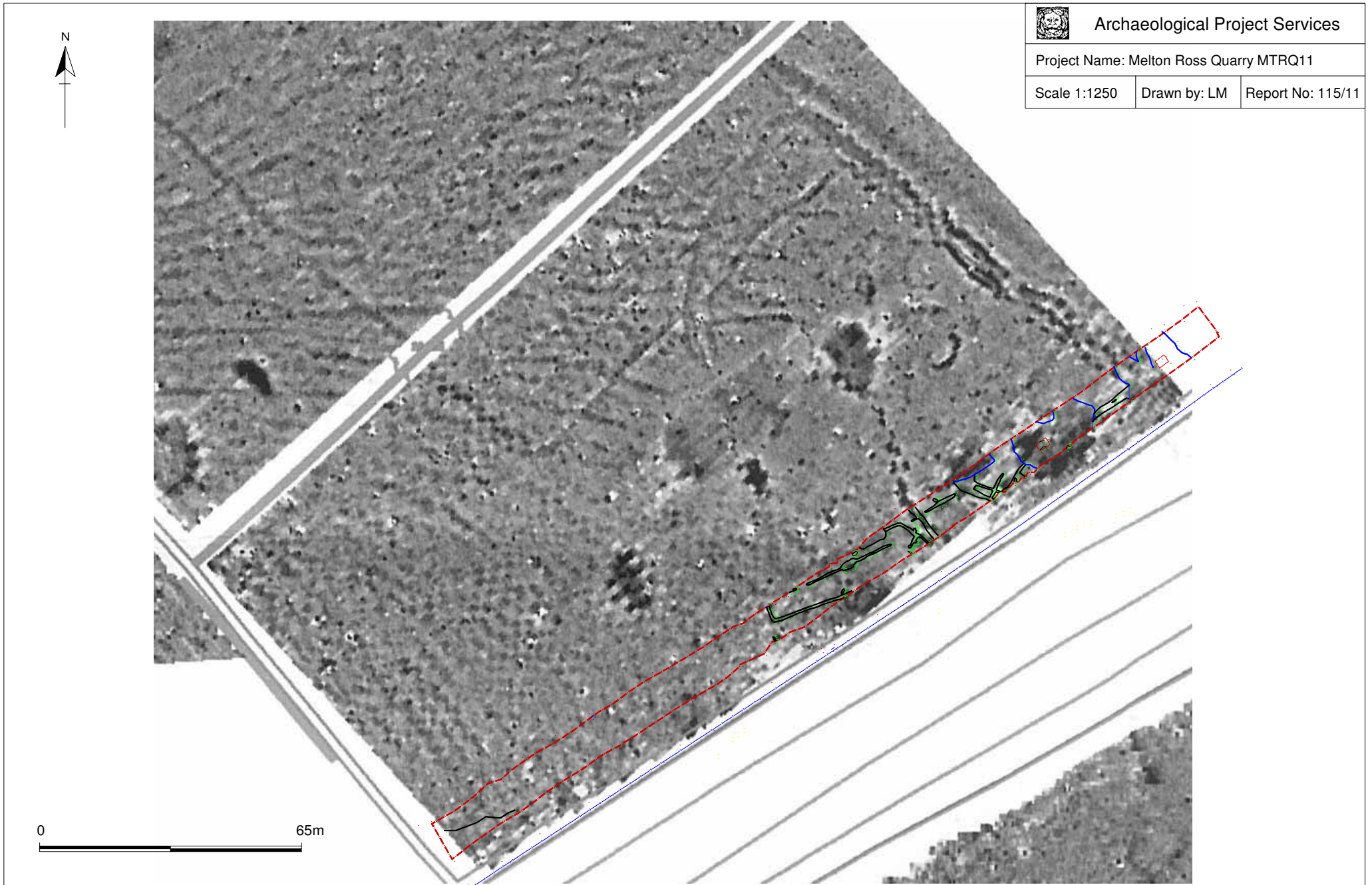
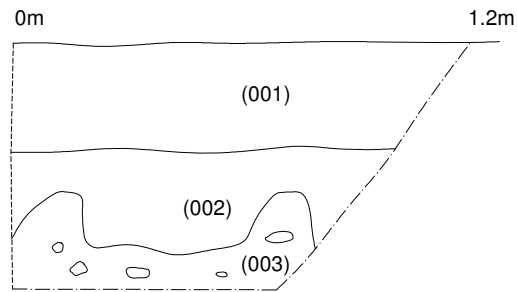


Figure 8: Plan of features overlaid on previous Geophysical survey results

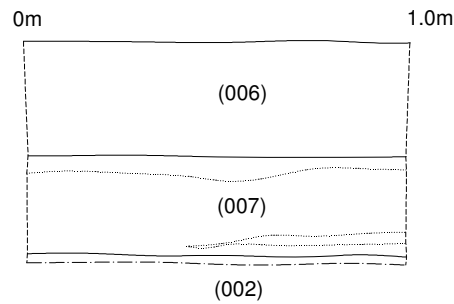
Section 1

South-south east facing



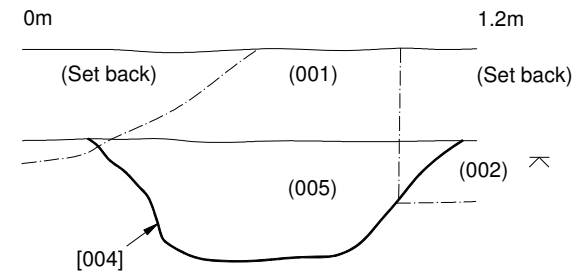
Section 2

North-north west facing



Section 3

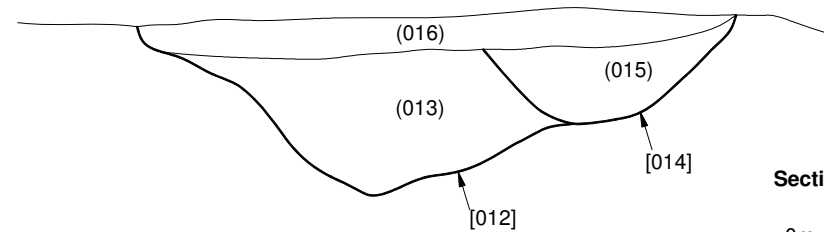
South facing



Section 5

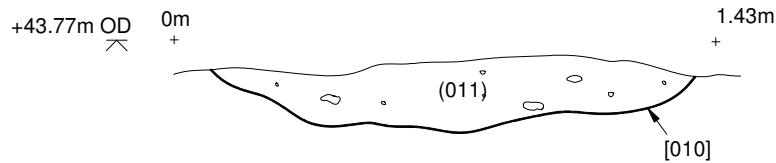
0m +
E

2.15m +
W ∇ +43.73m OD

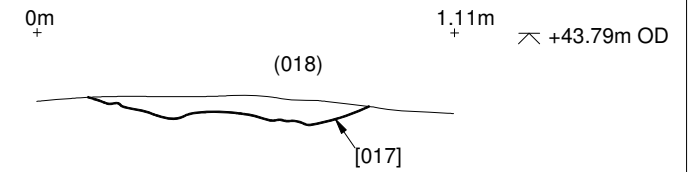


Section 4

South east facing



Section 6



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: LM

Report No: 115/11

Figure 9: Sections 1 - 6

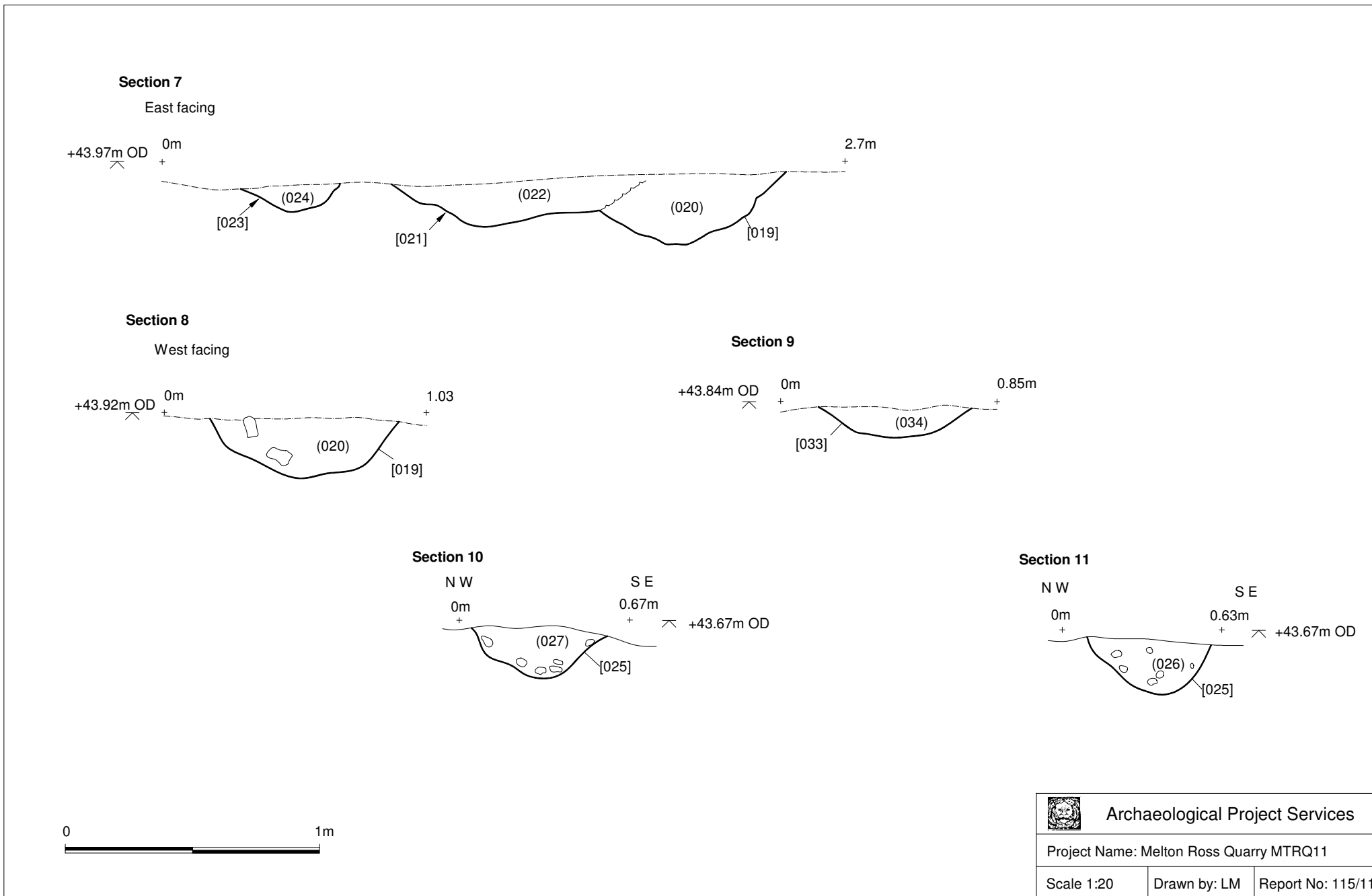
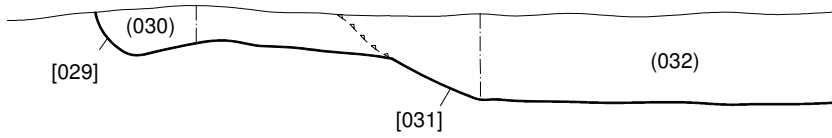
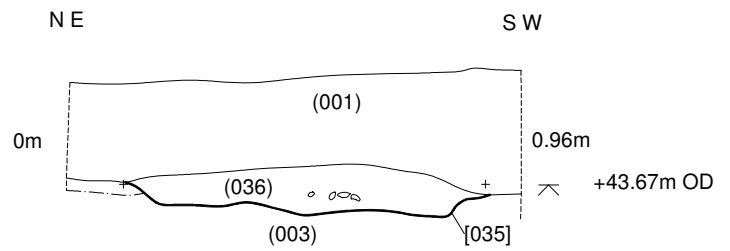


Figure 10: Sections 7 - 11

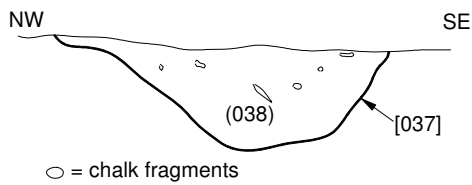
Section 12



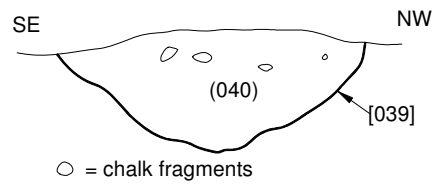
Section 13



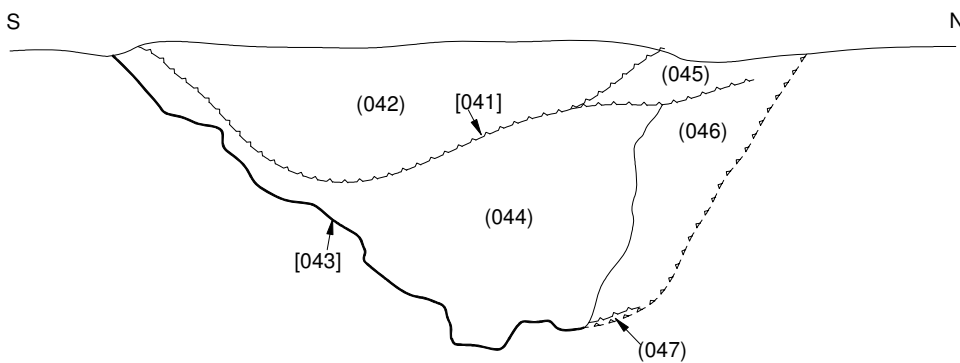
Section 14



Section 15



Section 16




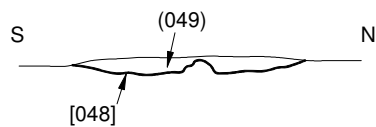
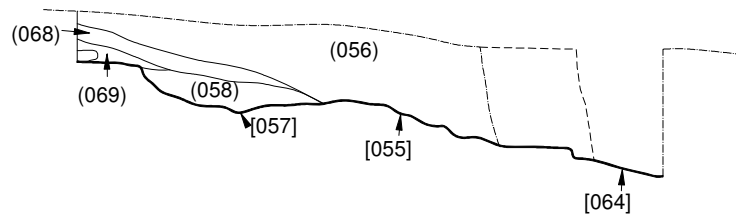
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Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: LM	Report No: 115/11

Figure 11: Sections 12 - 16

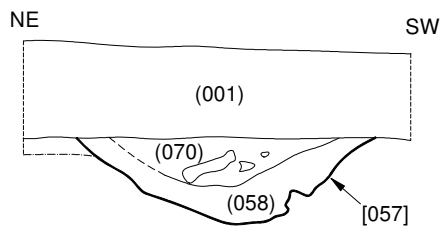
Section 17



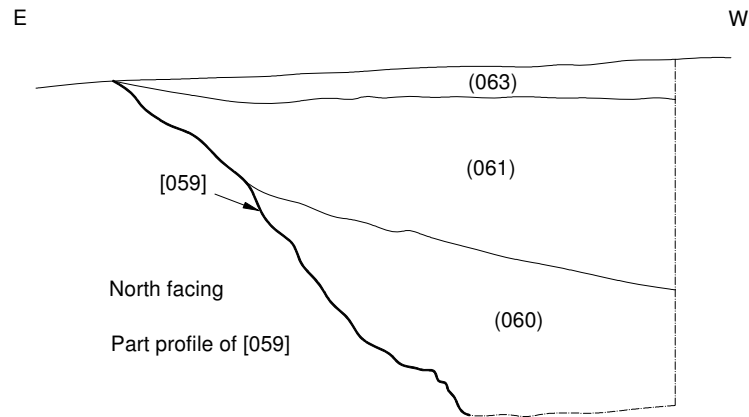
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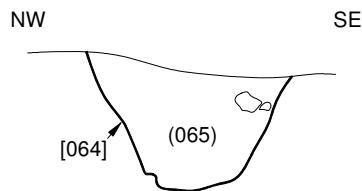
Section 20



Section 18



Section 21



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11

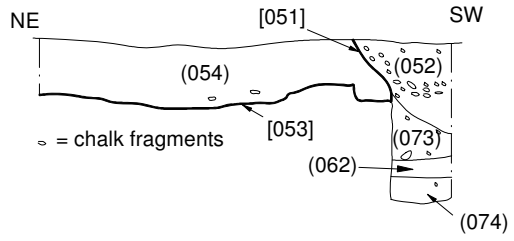
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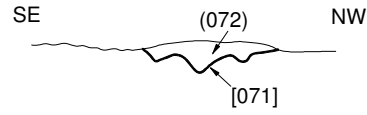
Report No: 115/11

Figure 12: Sections 17 - 21

Section 22



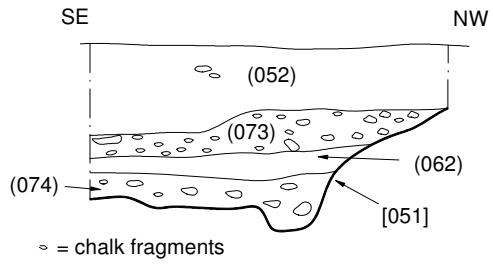
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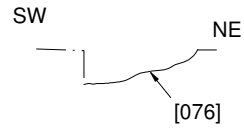
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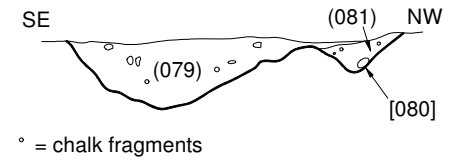
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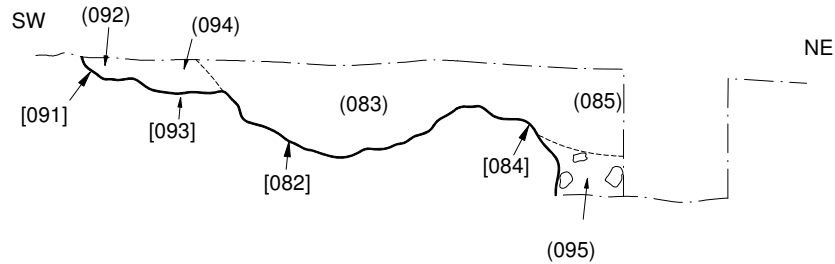
Section 26



Section 27



Section 28




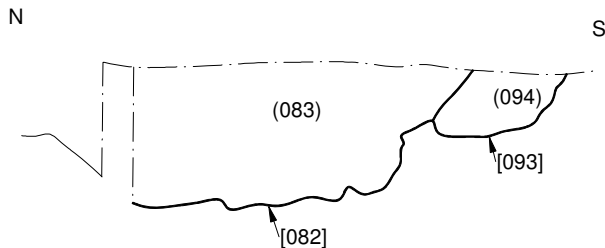
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Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11		
Scale 1:40	Drawn by: LM	Report No: 115/11

Figure 13: Sections 22 - 28

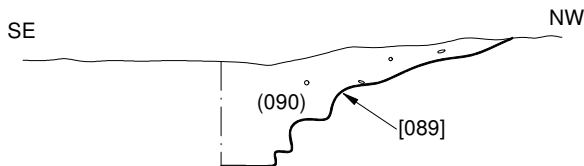
Section 29



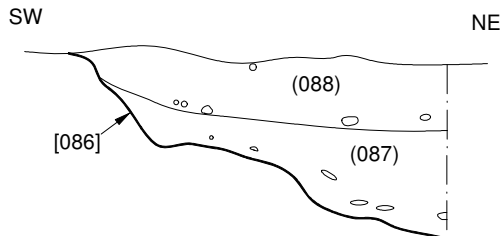
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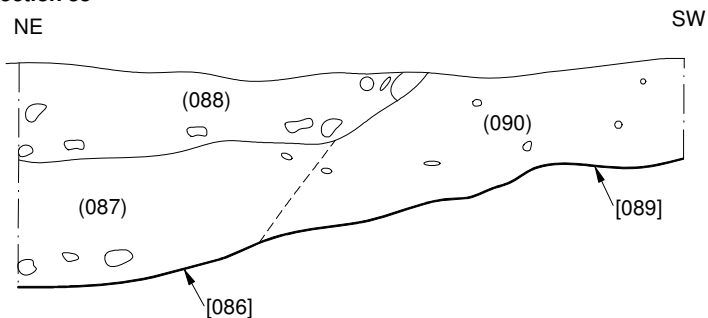
Section 31



Section 32



Section 33




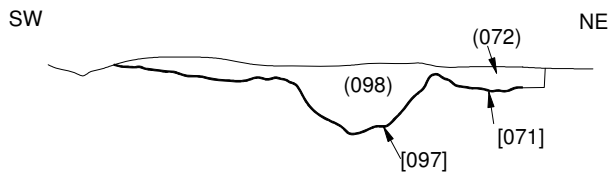
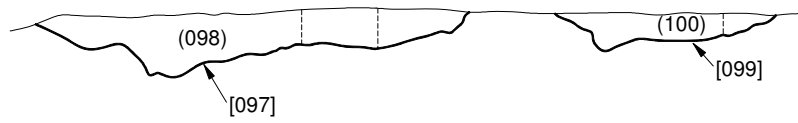
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Figure 14: Sections 29 - 33

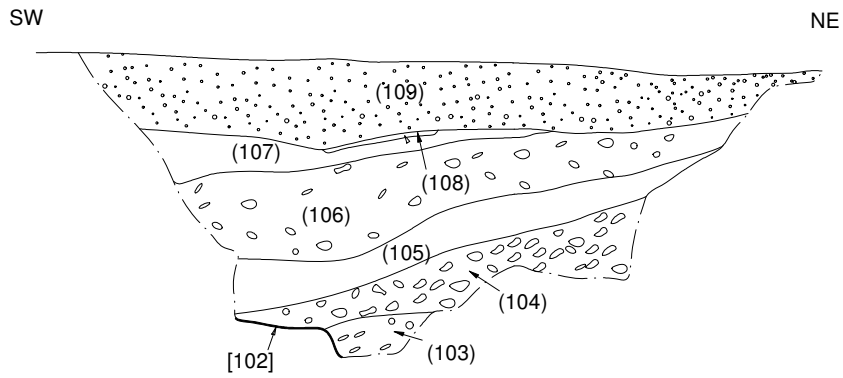
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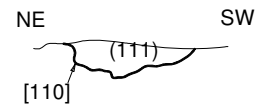
Section 35



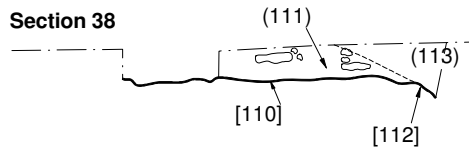
Section 36



Section 37



Section 38



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Melton Ross Quarry MTRQ11

Scale 1:40

Drawn by: LM

Report No: 115/11

Figure 15: Sections 34 - 38

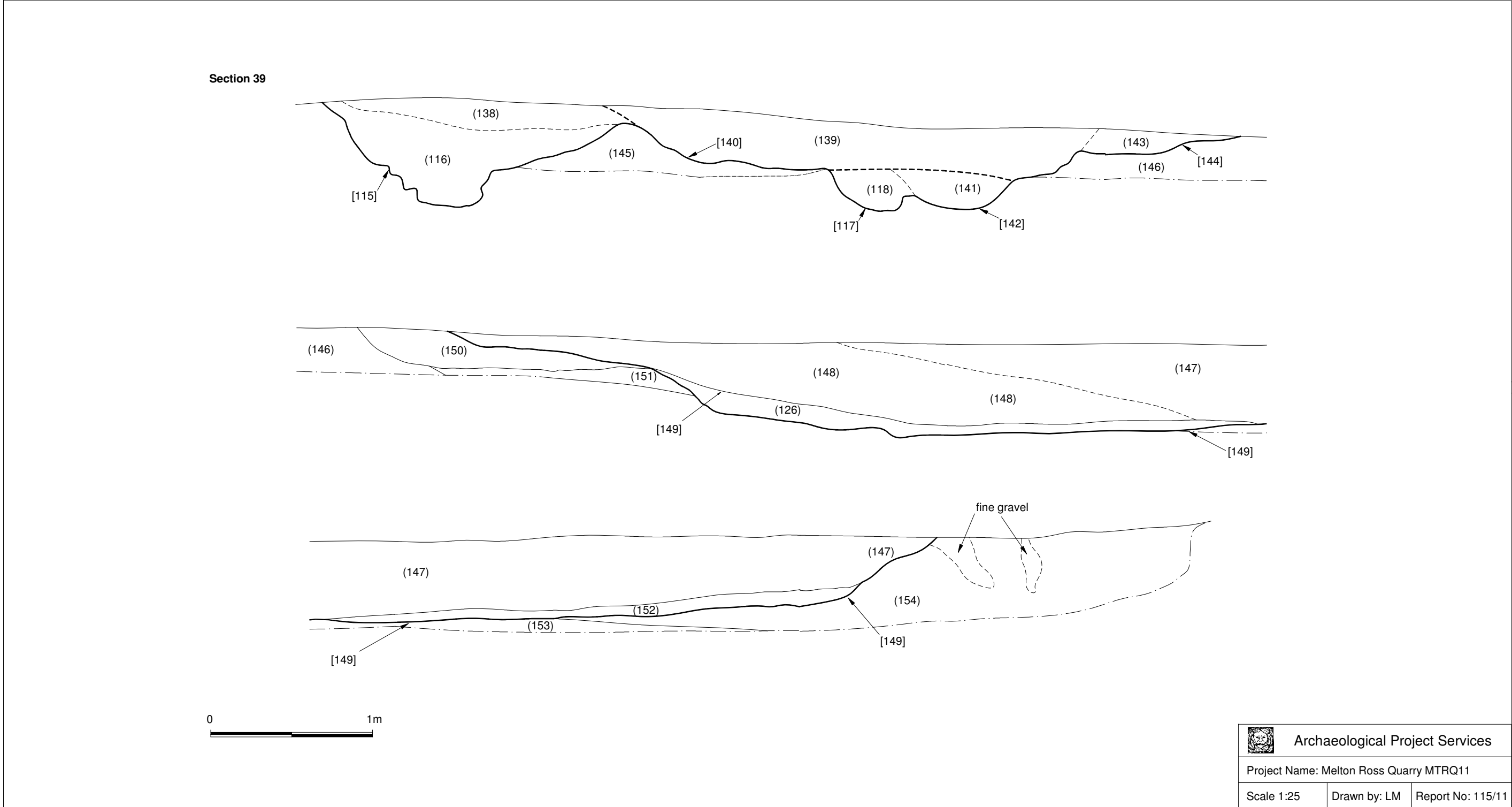
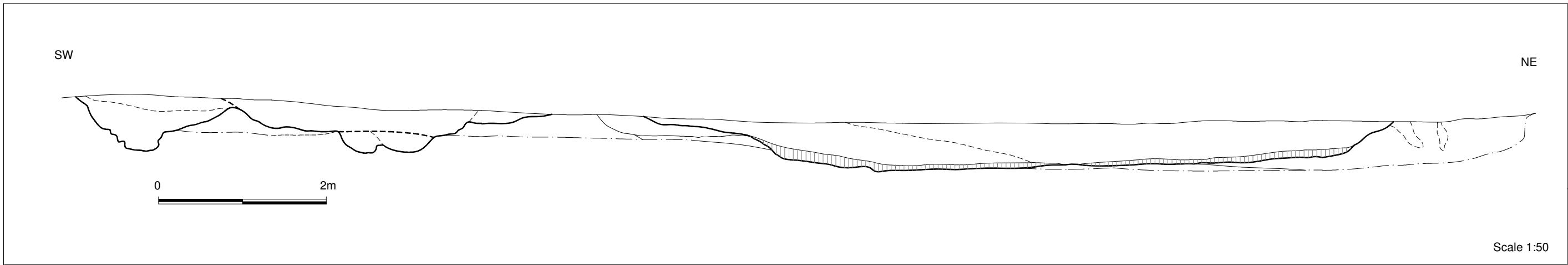


Figure 16: Section 39

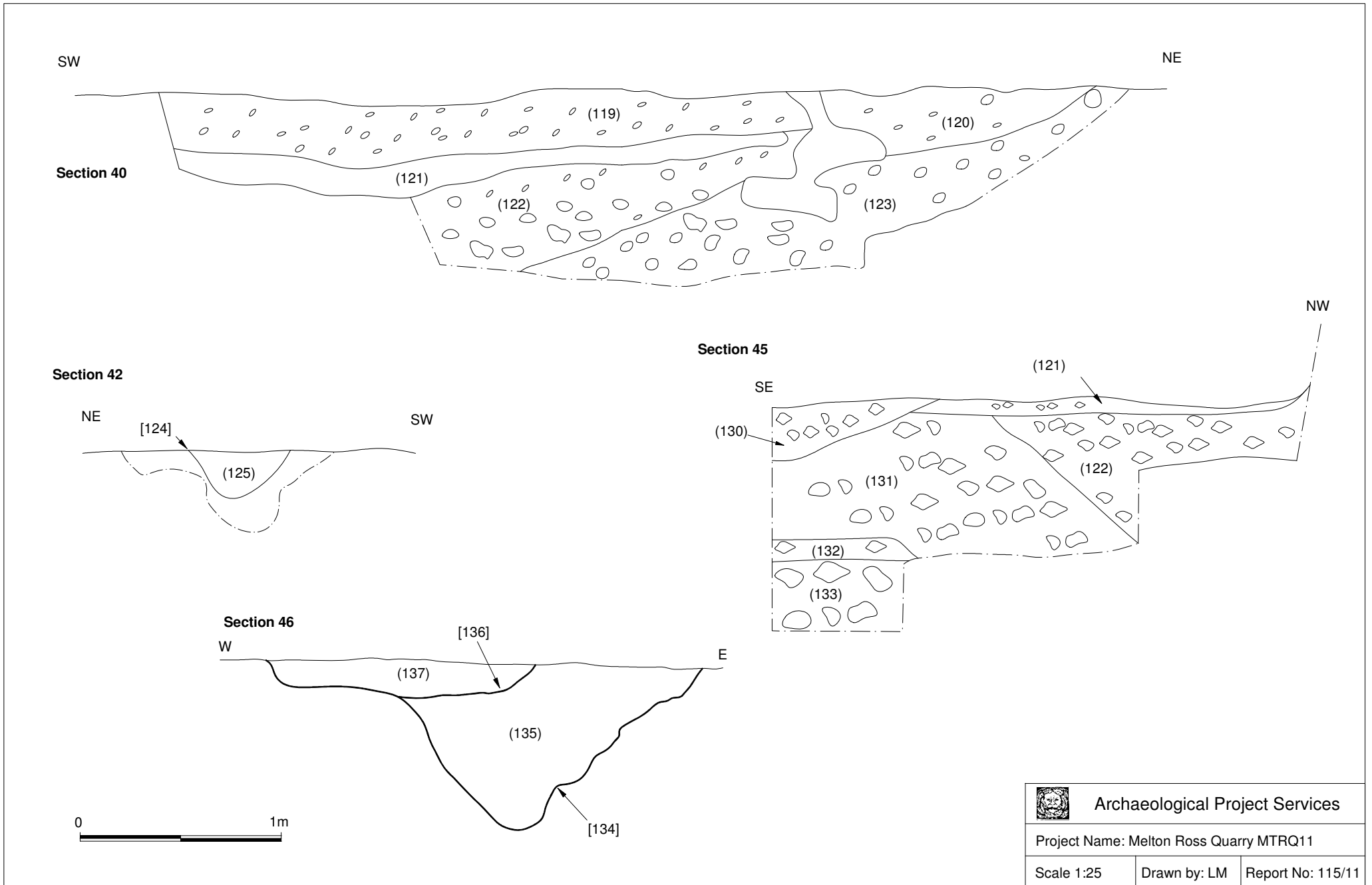


Figure 17: Sections 40, 42, 45 and 46

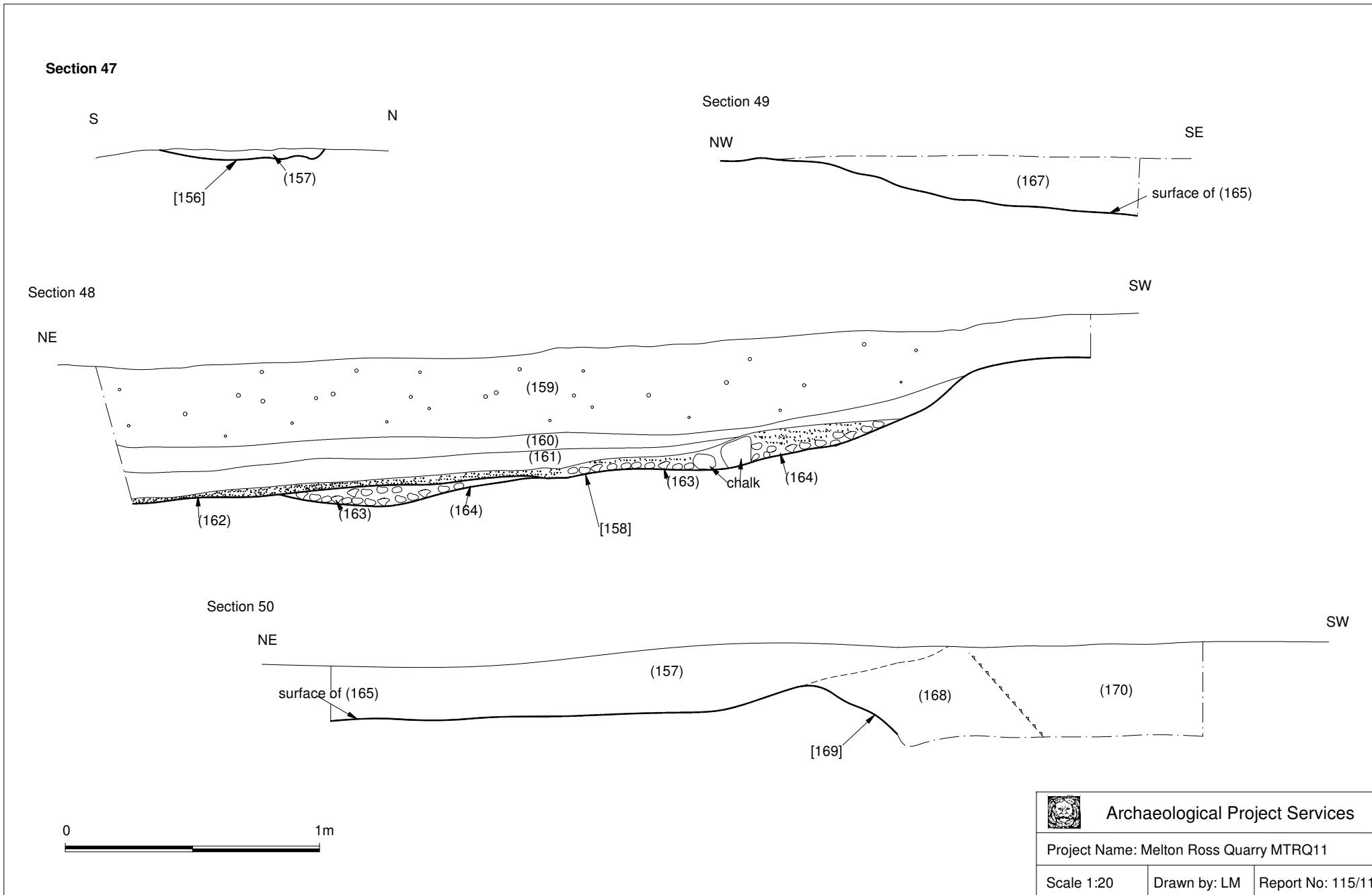


Figure 18: Sections 47 - 50

Plates



Plate 1: General view of site prior to excavation



Plate 2: General view of stripped area



Plate 3: Section through ditch [004]/[037]/[039]



Plate 4: Section through ditch [041] and natural anomaly [043]



Plate 5: Relationship between ditches [021] and [023]



Plate 6: Ditch [025]



Plate 7: Section through [012]/[134]



Plate 8: Shallow ditch [017]/[048]



Plate 9: Sondage through ditches [082], [091], [093] and quarry pit [084]



Plate 10: Intersection of ditches [057]/[082], [055]/[064]/[076] and [066]/[110]



Plate 11: Large quarry pit [051]/[102]/[114]



Plate 12: Ditches [078] and [080]



Plate 13: Section 39 - metalled surface (126)/(152) and roadside ditches

Appendix 1

Specification for archaeological investigations

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A programme of archaeological work has been agreed as a condition of planning consent for an extension to quarrying at the Melton Ross Quarry at Croxton, North Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The archaeological work will comprise a programme of intensive and extensive monitoring (Strip, Map and Sample) and open area excavation in specified areas of the site in accordance with the agreed mitigation strategy (APS 2008).*
- 1.3 *An initial phase of landscaping a belt of trees is to be planted on the southern edge of the extension area. This document comprises the project design for these works.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a method statement for archaeological investigations as part of tree-planting works related to the northern extension of the Melton Ross Quarry at Croxton, North Lincolnshire. The site is located at National Grid Reference TA 080 123.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview
 - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
 - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
 - 2.2.4 List of specialists
 - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 The quarry is located 20km east of Scunthorpe, between the villages of Croxton and Melton Ross, North Lincolnshire. The extension area is situated 1km west of Croxton and 2km northeast of Melton Ross, located on the north side of the A180 and centred at NGR TA 080 125. Tree planting is proposed along the southern boundary adjacent to the A180.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Permission for extension to the existing quarry includes conditions providing for a programme of archaeological work to be undertaken comprising archaeological monitoring (Strip, Map and Sample) and open area excavation. These are the subject of the agreed Mitigation Strategy (APS 2008).

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The quarry extension site is dominated by soils of the Hunstanton Association, typically well-drained and coarse loamy soils developed on chalk and chalky till (Hodge et al. 1984, 225). The local topography has the site lying on a spur of land at c. 45m to 40m O.D. sloping gently down to the east and south.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Much of the area of the northern quarry and proposed extensions had been fieldwalked during the evaluation (Lane 2004) and previously as part of the Brocklesby Survey in 1998/9 (Cope-Faulkner and Lane 1999). No sites were noted in these surveys but a sparse scatter of finds of lithics, Roman and Medieval pottery were recorded across the area.
- 6.2 Detailed geophysical survey followed by trenching has been undertaken over the proposed extension area to the east and north (Donaldson 2004a, b). This located geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin in various areas of the site. These were further investigated in a programme of trial trenching (Hall 2005, rev. 2007) and are summarised in the Mitigation Strategy (APS 2008).
- 6.3 The main focus of archaeological interest within the proposed extension area, lies in the Prehistoric remains within the proposed Phase 5, although Romano-British (in Trenches 20 and 47) and undated remains were also noted.
- 6.4 The tree-planting comprises a 20m-wide strip at the southern edge of the Phase 4 and 5 area. This lies outside of the enclosure but within the vicinity of prehistoric features recorded in Trench 10

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the archaeological excavations will be to record and interpret the archaeological features likely to be damaged or destroyed by landscaping associated with the quarrying operations on the site (preservation, or replacement, by record).
- 7.2 Archaeological remains at the site have potential to provide data to address a number of areas of research or 'gaps in knowledge' as defined in the regional and national research agendas (English Heritage 1998; Cooper 2006). The site has the potential to contribute to the understanding of prehistoric and later settlement on the chalk wolds, and of the multi-period complex of occupation and settlement related to the Kirmington Gap.
- 7.3 It is anticipated that data collected in the course of excavation will contribute to a number of specific research themes. These are laid out in detail in the Mitigation Strategy, but include:
 - The nature and extent of any prehistoric activity on the chalk wolds
 - Evidence for the character of Roman land-use and occupation in the hinterland of the settlements around the Kirmington gap.
- 7.4 Specific narrower objectives of the work will be to:
 - 7.4.1 Determine the form and function of any archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.4.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of any archaeological features present on the site.
 - 7.4.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features.
 - 7.4.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site; and.
 - 7.4.5 Determine the extent to which surrounding archaeological features extend into the investigation area and how the remains identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use known in the surrounding landscape.

8 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

- 8.1 Fieldwork will be undertaken in line with the provisions of the agreed Mitigation Strategy (APS 2008). For the area of Phase 5 this is laid out in Paragraph 7.6: open area excavation focused on the enclosure, stripping a minimum 50% sample area, forming a block in the north or south of the enclosure (depending of sub-phasing and intended direction of working) to allow more extensive

investigation of the nature of the enclosure and any internal features. Within the remainder of this area intensive SMS (as per 9.2 Strip Map and Sample Intensive) with provision to step up the level of investigation should remains of greater significance be revealed would be proposed (this was the proposal in, for example, the conveyor route 7.1: SMS with provision to upgrade the level of recording where crossing the Phase 5 area).

The following general considerations will apply:

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the archaeological monitoring and in accordance with the requirement of the main contractors.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant guidelines and codes of practice issued by English Heritage (EH) and the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA).
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 8.1.4 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn. Where stratified deposits are encountered a Harris Matrix will be compiled during the course of the investigation. Registers of plans, sections, photographs, samples, registered finds etc will be kept and cross-referenced to the context system.
- 8.1.5 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20 (as appropriate) and sections at a scale of 1:10. Burials will be drawn at 1:10 and should individual features merit it, they may also be drawn at a larger scale. If required, long sections to demonstrate overall site stratigraphy may be drawn at a smaller scale. Plans and sections will be annotated with absolute heights related to OS benchmarks.
- 8.1.6 Throughout the duration of the fieldwork a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour prints in a 35mm format will be compiled. Supplementary digital photography will be used for general or presentational purposes only. The photographic record will consist of:
 - the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important.
 - the site on completion of field work

Site photography will also take into account possible publicity/educational use including general views and shots of excavation work in progress and possible high level or air photographic recording where there may be large open areas under excavation.

- 8.1.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis. All finds will be retained from hand-excavated contexts unless of recent origin or of limited intrinsic interest (in which case a sample may be retained). Spoil will be monitored in order to recover artefacts to assist in the spatial distribution of finds; a metal detector will be used to assist in the recovery of artefacts on both excavation

surfaces and excavated spoil. Registered finds will be recorded in relation to the site grid and their height above OD.

- 8.1.8 Work within stripping phases will be arranged so as to prevent plant, vehicle or machinery from crossing newly stripped surfaces.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 Sampling will be undertaken in accordance with the agreed strategy (APS 2008, Appendix 2). The sampling strategy will be discussed with the environmental specialist before work commences. The specialist will visit the site, as appropriate (eg, in the event of buried soils, carbonised or waterlogged organic deposits, etc., being encountered), and prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.
- 9.2 If appropriate the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor will be consulted regarding the sampling strategy and/or invited to visit the site

10 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

10.1 Stage 1

- 10.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the investigations will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints and digital thumbnail images will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 10.1.2 All finds recovered during the investigations will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment, X-radiography and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

10.2 Stage 2

- 10.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 10.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

10.3 Stage 3

- 10.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
 - Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
 - Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
 - A text describing the findings of the investigation.
 - Plans of the investigation area showing the archaeological features exposed. If a

sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced. All plans will be related to OS grid and datum.

- Sections of archaeological features, with OS datum heights.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format specified by North Lincolnshire Museums Service. This sorting will be undertaken according to the guidelines and conditions stipulated by the museum (*Guidelines for deposition of Archaeological Archive with North Lincolnshire Museum*, 2008), and appropriate national guidelines, for long-term storage and curation. It is estimated that the archive will be deposited within 6 months of completion of the project.

NLM archaeology site code: **MRBP**

Entry form no: 3855

12 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 12.1 Copies of the assessment report will be provided to the client, the NLHER, the EH RSA, and the recipient museum within 6 months of the completion of the relevant phase of on-site works in the case of Strip, Map and Sample and within one year for full excavation and Intensive Strip, Map and Sample. The assessment report will be subject to the approval of the NLHER. An electronic copy of the report (in PDF format) will be provided to the NLSMR and EH Regional Science Advisor.

13 PUBLICATION

- 13.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).
- 13.2 Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

14 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 14.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MifA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type. Site staff will be from: M Peachey, A Failes, C Moulis (site supervisors); B Garland, L Green, J Smith, B Williams (site assistants).
- 14.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: D Trimble, APS in consultation with Dr D Knight Later prehistoric and Roman: A Beeby, APS, in consultation with B Precious, independent specialist Post-Roman: Dr A Boyle, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	G Weston, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	P Cope-Faulkner, APS/M Holmes, independent specialist
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy/V Fryer, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by appropriately experienced staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take up to three weeks.
- 15.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 15 days. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

16 INSURANCES

- 16.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation are enclosed.

17 COPYRIGHT

- 17.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Design.
- 17.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 17.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority

and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.

- 17.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

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Project Design: Version 2, 22 December 2010

Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
001		Soft, dark brown, sandy silt, frequent sub angular flint and chalk fragments, 0.28m thick	Topsoil
002		Quite soft, mid brownish orange, sandy silt, occasional sub angular flints and chalk frags, thickness varies, sits in fissures in chalk	Natural deposit
003		Compact, white, sub angular chalk fragments up to 150mm x 150mm x 50mm	Natural deposit – top of the natural chalk strata
004		Linear forming rectilinear enclosure, rounded corners, covering an area c. 4m x 10m. Quite steep sides, with gently concave, slightly uneven base. Roughly north-south turning to east-west	Cut of linear forming rectilinear enclosure – same as [037] and [039]
005		Soft, medium brown, silty fine sand, freq sub angular chalk frags, moderate small sub-angular flints, occasional charcoal flecks, 0.75m wide x 0.33m thick	Fill of ditch [004]
006		Quite soft, dark brown, sandy silt. Frequent small sub-angular flint and chalk frags, 0.3m thick	Topsoil – probably dumped
007		Firm, dark brown, mainly sandy silt, moderate small sub-angular chalk and flint frags, bands/lenses of light yellowish white coarse sand, 0.25m thick	Deposit caused by modern disturbance – probably by construction of A180. ‘Natural’ shows signs of compaction and wheel ruts
008		Linear, 1.35m wide x 0.35m deep, vertical sides with concave base, roughly ENE – WSW aligned, filled by (042)	Ditch cut same as [041]
009		Quite soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent small sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.5m thick	Fill of ditch [008], Same as (042)
010		Linear, 1.28m wide x 0.2m deep, extends beyond N and S edges of excavation, moderate sloping irregular sides, uneven base, aligned NW-SE	Linear field boundary ditch
011		Loose, mid brown silty sand, moderate angular chalk frags, deposit up to 0.2m in depth	Fill of ditch [010]
012		Linear, over 1.2m wide x 0.47m deep, fairly steep sides, with a V-shaped base, aligned NNE-SSW, re-cut by [014]	Ditch
013		Moderately compacted, mid brown with buff lenses, 75% sandy, clayey, silt, 25% chalk pieces, up to 0.37m deep	Fill of ditch [012], no occupation evidence
014		Linear, 0.67m wide x 0.2m deep, steep sides, concave base, NNE – SSW aligned, filled by (015)	Re-cut of ditch [012]
015		Friable, mid orangey brown, sandy clayey silt, occasional small chalk frags, up to 0.18m deep	Fill of ditch [014]
016		Friable, mid-brown, sandy clayey silt, occasional small	Layer which seals (013) and

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
		chalk frags, up to 0.13m deep	(015), probably part of subsoil
017		Linear, 0.73m wide x 0.06m deep, tapering to terminus, irregular gently sloping sides, slightly concave base, NE-SW aligned	Shallow gully with a single fill (018)
018		Friable, mid brown with darker patches, clayey sandy silt, fine charcoal flecks, up to 0.06m in depth	Fill of gully [017], pot and charcoal in deposit
019		Linear, 0.8m wide x at least 5m long x 0.3m deep, quite steep sides, overall gently concave but quite uneven, roughly E-W, filled by (020)	Ditch cut
020		Quite soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent sub angular limestone frags, up to 0.3m deep x 0.8m wide	Fill of ditch [019]
021		Linear cut, 0.78m wide x up to 0.19m deep, shallow sloping sides and concave base, roughly E-W aligned, possibly truncated by [019] but relationship is unclear, comes to a shallow sloping end at E, filled by (022)	Shallow linear cut, either terminating or ploughed out to the E
022		Soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent sub angular limestone frags, 0.19m deep x 0.78m wide	Fill of [021]
023		Linear, 0.4m x 1m x 0.1m deep, gently sloping sides with uneven base, E-W alignment, filled by (024)	Gully/ditch cut, may have continued further to the east and been ploughed out
024		Soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent sub angular chalk frags, 0.1m thick	Fill of gully/ditch [023]
025		Short linear, 3.04m x 0.5m x 0.2m deep, steep sloping irregular sides with an uneven base, SW-NE aligned, truncated by ploughing, filled by (026), (027) and (028)	Short linear cut
026		Friable, mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted gravel and sub-angular chalk fragments, up to 0.2m thick, NE end of [025]	Fill of linear [025], same as (027) and (028), pot fragments appear to be from whole pots damaged by later ploughing
027		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, unsorted gravel and sub-angular chalk fragments, up to 0.2m thick	Fill of linear [025], same as (026) and (028)
028		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted gravel and sub-angular chalk fragments, up to 0.2m thick at SW end of [025]	Fill of linear [025], same as (026) and (027)
029		Linear, 0.52m wide x 0.14m deep, quite steep sides and uneven base, WSW-ENE aligned, filled by (030), unclear relationship with [031]	Shallow linear feature, possible continuation of [017]/[048]
030		Soft, medium greyish brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk fragments, 0.52m wide x c. 0.14m thick	Fill of linear [029], relationship with [031] unclear
031		Linear, 1.3m wide x 0.24m deep, quite steep sides, roughly NW-SE, filled by (032)	Ditch cut same as [012] and [134]
032		Quite soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 1.3m wide x 0.24m thick	Fill of ditch [031]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
033		Linear forming a gently curving corner, 0.65m wide x 0.12m deep, gently sloping sides with uneven base, joins [019] and [019], filled by (034)	Ditch cut same as [010] and [019]
034		Quite soft, medium slightly greyish brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular limestone frags, 0.65m wide and up to 0.12m deep	Fill of ditch [033]
035		Cut unclear as continues beyond edge of excavation, 0.9m length, x 0.55m x 0.15m deep, moderately sloping irregular sides, uneven base, NW-SE aligned, heavily truncated by ploughing, filled by (036)	Possibly the terminus of a short linear feature
036		Friable mid orange brown sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.15m thick	Fill of [035], heavily truncated by later ploughing
037		Rectilinear (only partially exposed), 0.88m wide x 0.28m deep, irregular sides outer edge steeper than inner edge, uneven base, E-W aligned, filled by (038)	Rectangular enclosure ditch
038		Friable/loose, dark orange brown silty sand, moderate unsorted angular chalk fragments, up to 0.28m thick	Fill of enclosure ditch [037]
039		Rectilinear (only partially exposed), 0.8m across x 0.32m deep, steep sloping irregular sides with an uneven base, NE-SW aligned, filled by (040)	Rectangular enclosure ditch
040		Friable, dark orange brown silty-sand, frequent unsorted angular chalk frags, up to 0.33m thick, fill of rectilinear ditch	Fill of [039]
041		Linear, 1.35m wide x 0.35m deep, vertical sides with concave base, roughly ENE – WSW aligned, filled by (042)	Ditch cut
042		Quite soft, medium greyish brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent small sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.5m thick	Fill of ditch [041]
043		Irregular, 1.8m x 3.1m x 0.8m deep, steep and irregular sides, v. uneven base, truncated by [041] and filled by (044)	Anomaly, possibly natural e.g. tree throw
044		Soft medium brown slightly orange clayey sandy silt, moderate sub-angular chalk frags, mod angular flints, 0.8m thick	Fill of [043] probably naturally derived, but containing cultural material
045		Quite soft medium greyish brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub angular chalk frags, 0.15m thick	Fill of [043], base of subsoil
046		Firm, light whitish olive, 80% chalk frags and 20% silty clay, 0.65m thick	Fill of [043]
047		Soft mid orange brown silty-sand, moderate small chalk frags, c.20mm thick	Part of irregular filling of N side of [043]
048		Linear, 0.8m wide x 7m long x 60mm deep, roughly ENE – WSW, heavily truncated probably by ploughing, filled by (049)	Shallow ditch cut, mostly destroyed by ploughing
049		Quite soft, medium greyish brown clayey sandy silt,	Fill of shallow linear [048]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
		frequent sub-angular chalk frags, occasional chalk flecks, 60mm thick	
050		Same as (049)	Same as (049)
051		Sub-circular (extends beyond both edges of excavation), 0.96m deep, vertical sides, uneven base, filled by (052), (062),(073) and (074)	Quarry pit, stratigraphy of fills suggests it was left open for sometime
052		Friable mid orange brown silty sand, frequent unsorted chalk frags, up to 0.5m thick	Upper fill of quarry pit [051]
053		Linear, 1m wide x 0.33m deep, steep sloping slightly irregular sides, narrow concave base, SW-NE aligned, filled by (054)	Drainage or field boundary ditch
054		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted chalk fragments, 0.33m thick	Fill of ditch [053], pot and bone frags, appears to be cut by quarry pit [051]
055		Linear, 0.35m – 0.79m wide x 5m long x 0.42m deep, v steep sides, uneven but generally concave base, roughly SW-NE aligned, filled by (056), (068), (069)	Ditch cut
056		Quite soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, occasional charcoal flecks, up to 0.37m thick	Fill of ditch [055]
057		Linear, 0.92m wide x at least 5m long, 0.28m deep, sides are irregular with SW side v steep and opposing less so, generally concave but uneven base, roughly NW-SE, truncated by [055], filled by (058) and (070)	Ditch cut
058		Quite soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, moderate sub-angular chalk frags, occasional charcoal flecks, 0.12m thick	Fill of ditch [057]
059		Cut (shape in plan unclear as not fully exposed) over 2.5m wide x 1.1m deep, exposed edge is moderate to steep, filled by (060), (061) and (063)	Large cut feature, possibly chalk quarry pit
060		Firm but friable, greyish brown with buff patches, 60% sandy clayey silt, 40% chalk fragments, at least 0.75m deep	Lower fill of cut [059], contains pot and bone (possibly burnt)
061		Same as (060), at least 0.64m deep	Upper fill of [059], tip lines suggest deliberate backfilling
062		Friable dark grey brown sandy silt, occasional unsorted chalk fragments, up to 0.15m thick	Silty lower fill of quarry pit [051], backfilling of pit by natural processes
063		Friable, mid brown sandy clayey silt, freq small chalk frags, up to 0.13m deep	Fill seals cut feature [059], probably part of the subsoil
064		Linear cut, 0.72m wide x 0.46m deep, v steep sides, base is concave and slopes from SW-NE, filled by (065)	Ditch cut
065		Soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, occasional charcoal flecks, 0.46m thick and 0.72m wide	Fill of ditch [064]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
066		Linear cut, 0.43m wide x 5m long, truncated by [064] and filled by (067)	Ditch cut
067		Soft medium brown, clayey sandy silt, moderate sub-angular chalk frags, 0.43m wide	Fill of ditch [066]
068		Soft medium brown mottled with dark grey clayey silty sand, occasional sub-angular chalk frags, c.50mm thick	Fill of [055]
069		Quite soft, medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent small sub-angular chalk frags, 40mm thick	Fill of ditch [055]
070		Compact, 50:50 mix of light olive and medium brown, 70% sub-angular chalk and 30% clayey sandy silt, 0.16m thick x 0.6m wide	Fill of [057]
071		Linear cut, 0.72m x 0.16m deep, sides vary from steep to gentle slope, irregular base, NE-SW aligned, filled by (072)	Shallow gully, appears to run into [097] and may be the same as [099]
072		Friable brown sandy clayey silt, moderate chalk fragments, up to 0.16m deep	Fill of gully [071], degraded and abraded pot
073		Friable mid grey brown, chalk sand silt, up to 0.25m thick	Backfill of quarry pit [051]
074		Friable mid grey brown chalk silt sand, up to 0.3m in depth	Primary fill of quarry pit, possibly slump of weathered out natural material
075		Chalk bedrock	Chalk bedrock
076		Linear cut, 0.59m wide x 8m long x 0.17m deep, very steep sides, concave base rising gently to terminus, roughly SW-NE aligned, filled by (077)	Ditch cut
077		Soft medium brown, clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 0.17m thick	Fill of ditch [076]
078		Linear cut, 1.3m across x 0.36m deep, moderately sloping irregular sides, concave base, SW-NE aligned, filled by (079)	Ditch, possibly part of hedge and ditch arrangement with hedge [080]
079		Friable, mid grey brown, sandy silt, moderate unsorted chalk fragments, 0.3m across and 0.36m deep	Fill of ditch [078], several small bone frags
080		Linear, 0.45m wide x 0.2m deep, moderately sloping slightly irregular sides, narrow uneven base, SW-NE aligned, filled by (081)	Small ditch, possible remnant of hedge forming hedge and ditch with [078]
081		Friable mid orange brown silty sand, frequent unsorted chalk frags, up to 0.2m thick	Fill of ditch [080]
082		Curvilinear feature, 1.5m wide x at least 9m in length x 0.42m deep, site sides with flattish uneven base, curving round from ESE-WNW to SSE-NNW, filled by (083)	Curvilinear ditch, possible forming part of an enclosure
083		Quite soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.42m thick	Fill of ditch [082] similar to (085)
084		Sub-circular, 1.2m x 1.5m x 0.7m deep, v steep and undercut sides, filled by (085) and (095)	Pit cut possibly for extraction of chalk, relationship to [082]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
			is unclear
085		Quite soft, medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 0.5m thick,	Fill of pit [084]
086		Sub-circular feature (extends beyond both edges of excavation), full extent unclear at least 1.5m deep, moderate to steep sloping sides and irregular base, filled by (087) and (088)	Quarry/extraction pit, one of several similar features seen in the same field
087		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted angular chalk frags	Backfill of quarry pit [086]
088		Friable mid orange brown silty sand, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, particularly along the base of the deposit, up to 0.32m thick	Upper fill of pit [086]
089		Curvilinear feature, 1.5m wide x 0.34m deep, moderate sloping irregular sides with uneven base, SW-NE aligned, truncated at both ends by other features [086] filled by (090)	Drainage/boundary ditch same as [053] and [078]
090		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.34m thick	Fill of curvilinear ditch [089]
091		Curvilinear feature, at least 1.6m x 0.27m x 0.12m deep, quite steep sides and a concave base, filled by (092)	Ditch cut
092		Quite soft, medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.12m thick	Fill of [091], same as (094)
093		Curvilinear feature 1.9m x 0.5m wide, 0.22m deep, steep sides and a concave and uneven base, follows curve of [082], filled by (094)	Ditch cut
094		Quite soft medium brown, clayey sandy silt, freq sub-angular chalk frags, up to 0.22m thick	Fill of ditch [093]
095		White chalk with medium greyish brown matrix 80:20, at least 0.3m thick	Very rubbly chalky fill in pit [084]
096		Pottery finds from conjunction area of (083) and (085)	
097		Cut feature (not fully exposed may be ovoid or a ditch terminus), at least 0.8m wide x 0.37m deep, gradual then steep sloping sides, irregular although generally concave base, NW-SE aligned	May be terminus of a ditch or possibly the sump for gullies [071] and [099], but relationship is unclear
098		Friable, brown with white lenses, sandy clayey silt, moderate chalk pieces and smaller frags, up to 0.37m deep	Fill of cut [097], pot sherd
099		Cut feature (only partly exposed but most likely linear), 0.54m wide x 0.12m deep, moderately steep sides, NE-SW alignment, filled by (100)	Shallow gully, runs into [097]
100		Friable brown clayey sandy silt, occasional chalk frags, 0.12m deep	Fill of gully [099], some pot
101		Pottery recovered during machine excavation of big pit [051]	Unstratified finds from [051]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
102		Sub-circular feature (extends beyond both edges of excavation), at least 1.56m deep, sides not exposed, slot machined through centre of feature, base not reached, filled by (103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108 and 109)	Quarry/ extraction pit. Stratigraphy suggests several episodes of purposeful backfill with periods where colluvial deposits were allowed to occur
103		Friable mid grey brown silty sand and chalk rubble. Feature not excavated to base, but this is the earliest deposit noted	Earliest observed fill within quarry pit [102]
104		Firm pale brown chalk rubble, at least 0.23m thick,	Fill of quarry pit [102]
105		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted angular chalk frags, 0.3m thick	Fill of quarry pit [102]
106		Friable pale orange brown and silty sand and chalk rubble mix, up to 0.53m thick	Fill of quarry pit [102]
107		Friable mid grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted angular chalk fragments, up to 0.27m thick	Gradual accumulation of material in [102]
108		Friable dark grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted angular chalk frags, 20 – 30mm thick	Thin lens of material on surface of deposit (107)
109		Friable mid orange brown silty sand and chalk gravel mix, up to 0.48m thick	Upper fill of large quarry pit [102]
110		Linear feature, 0.78m wide x 8m long x 0.19m deep, quite steep sides with concave uneven base, roughly NW-SE aligned, possibly truncated by [112], filled by (111)	Ditch cut
111		Quite soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 8m x 0.78m x 0.19m,	Fill of ditch [110]
112		Sub-circular feature, at least 0.4m x 1.4m, 0.29m deep, steep sides, filled by (113)	Small section into substantial pit cut
113		Quite soft medium brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, at least 0.29m deep and 0.4m x 1.4m in plan	Fill of pit [112]
114		Irregular and large feature, full extent not established, irregular sides, steep, vertical and stepped, base not reached, filled by (119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133)	Extraction pit for chalk and/or flint, irregularity and stepping of cut indicates extraction over time, stratigraphy of deposits suggests sporadic backfilling
115		Linear feature, 1.83m x 1.6 x 0.68m deep, SW side steep, NE side more gentle with sharp drop to base, roughly NW-SE aligned, filled by (116) and (138)	Ditch cut, runs into ditch intersection as recorded on plan 22
116		Quite soft mid dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 0.6m thick and 1.83m wide	Fill of ditch [115]
117		Linear feature, 0.52m wide x 1.6m long x c0.25m deep, steep sides with concave base, roughly NW-SE aligned, truncated by [142] and filled by (118)	Ditch cut, subsequently re-cut as [142]
118		Quite soft mid dark brown clayey silty sand. Moderate sub-angular chalk fragments, 0.25m thick	Fill of ditch [117]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
119		Friable/loose, mid grey brown, silty sand, frequent unsorted angular chalk and gravel , up to 0.32m thick	Top fill of large backfilled pit [114], same as (127)
120		Friable mid orange brown silty sand, moderate unsorted chalk and gravel, up to 0.3m thick	Gradual accumulation of material in [114], possibly same as (122)
121		Friable dark grey brown sandy silt, occasional unsorted gravel , up to 0.2m thick	Backfill of large extraction pit [114]
122		Friable mid orange brown silty sand, frequent unsorted chalk and gravel, at least 0.5m thick	Backfill of [114] possibly same as (120)
123		Friable mid grey brown silt sand and chalk rubble mix	Fill of extraction pit [114]
124		Irregular elongated ovoid feature 0.52m x 0.22m deep, steep sides and irregular concave base, SE-NW aligned, filled by (125)	Irregular elongated ovoid feature within a 'halo' of natural clay, probable tree bowl
125		Friable mid brown sandy clayey silt occasional charcoal fragments, up to 0.22m deep	Fill of [124]
126		Firm compact, overall medium brown, 90% sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk and flint frags and pebbles, 10% silty clay, up to 100mm thick	Basal fill within cut [149], possibly forming a metallated track way/road. Possibly the same as (152)
127		Friable, mid grey brown silty sand, moderate unsorted angular chalk and gravel , up to 0.55m thick and 4.9m across	Upper fill of large quarry pit [114]
128		Friable dark grey brown, silt sand chalk rubble mix, up to 0.15m thick	Fill of [114]
129		Friable dark grey brown sandy silt, moderate unsorted angular chalk up to 0.25m thick and 2.2m across from NE edge of feature	Fill of [114]
130		Friable mid grey brown sand, silt and chalk rubble mix, full extent not established	Fill of [114]
131		Loose very pale brown chalk rubble and silty sand, at least 0.6m thick	Fill of [114]
132		Friable dark brown grey sandy silt moderate sub-angular chalk and gravel, 0.1m thick	Fill of [114]
133		Heavily compacted chalk rubble and gravel	Fill of [114], this is the lowest excavated fill of [114], although the feature was not dug to the base so this may not be the earliest
134		Linear feature, 1.5m wide x 0.82m deep, steep sloping sides and slightly concave base, NNW-SSE aligned, re-cut by [136] and filled by (135)	Ditch cut
135		Friable mid brown sandy clayey silt, occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk frags, up to 0.82m deep	Fill of ditch [134] with pot

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
136		Linear feature, 1.57m wide x 0.18m deep, steep sides and fairly flat base, NNE-SSW aligned, filled by (137)	Re-cut of ditch [134], but much shallower and fairly flat
137		Friable mid brown sandy clayey silt, moderate chalk frags, up to 0.18m deep, animal bone in deposit	Fill of ditch re-cut [136]
138		Soft, mid-dark slightly reddish brown clayey sandy silt, 1.8m wide x 1.6m long x up to 0.18m thick, occasional small sub-angular chalk frags,	Fill of ditch [115]
139		Quite soft mid dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 0.3m thick x 3.1m x 1.6m	Fill of cut [140]
140		Linear feature, 3.1m x 1.6m x 0.3m, gently sloping sides and a flattish base, roughly NW-SE aligned, filled by (139)	Shallow ditch, follows the same alignment as [117], possibly a re-cut of [117]/[142]
141		Soft mid dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 1.6m long x 0.75m wide x 0.23m thick,	Fill of ditch [142]
142		Linear feature, 1.6m x 0.75m x 0.23m, gently sloping sides and a concave base, roughly NW-SE aligned, possibly truncated by [140], filled by (141)	Ditch cut, possibly a re-cut of [117]
143		Quite soft mid black reddish brown clayey sandy silt, occasional sub-angular chalk frags, 0.95m wide x 0.15m thick	Fill of [144]
144		Linear feature, 0.95m wide x 0.15m deep, gently sloping sides to a gently concave base, possibly truncated by [140], filled by (143)	Linear cut. Might be associated with, or disturbance along, the edge of [117]/[142]
145		Firm, white and light whitish olive, sub angular chalk frags in alight olive sandy clay matrix, at least 0.7m thick	Natural chalk deposit
146		Compact, light yellowish brown, 80% small sub-angular sub-rounded chalk frags, 20% clayey sand, occasional sub-angular flints	Natural chalky deposit
147		Quite soft, medium-dark slightly reddish brown, clayey sandy silt, occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular chalk frags, occasional sub-angular flints, 6.4m long x 1.6m long	Later fill in cut [149], probably accumulation of naturally formed deposits
148		Quite soft mid-dark slightly reddish brown clayey sandy silt, moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk frags, 4.5m wide x 0.42m thick, similar to (147) but more stony	Fill in cut [149] over possible metalling (126)
149		Linear feature, 8.85m x 1.6m x up to 0.53m deep, gradient of sides 1:1, with a flattish base with stepping to the SW edge, roughly NW-SE aligned, filled by (126, 147, 148, 152)	Cut/linear anomaly. Primary fill (126) appears to be a metallated surface. This may be the cut for a track or maybe a worn hollow-way
150		Firm mid brown, 80% small sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk frags, 20% sandy clay, 0.24m thick	Probably a natural deposit
151		Firm-stiff light pinkish brown clay, occasional small sub-rounded chalk frags, at least 0.4m thick	Natural clay deposit

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
152		Firm/compact overall medium brown, 80% small sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk frags, 20% sandy clayey silt, moderate small sub-rounded flint frags, up to 90mm thick	Bottom fill in cut [149] very similar to possible metalling (126), a continuation of possible track way?
153		Compact, light yellowish brown, 80% small sub-angular and sub-rounded chalk frags, 20% clayey sand, at least 70mm thick	Natural deposit of chalky gravel, probably the same as (146)
154		Firm/stiff light pinkish brown clay, occasional patches of chalky gravel, 0.53m thick	Natural clay deposit
155		Soft, pale green grey clay, up to 0.1m thick	Thin layer of natural clay overlying chalk bedrock
156		Linear feature, 0.64m wide x 0.04m deep, shallow sloping sides and irregular base, roughly E-W aligned, filled by (157)	Shallow gully
157		Friable, mid brown sandy clayey silt, moderate small chalk frags, up to 0.04m deep	Fill of gully [156]
158		Linear feature, dimensions not established only SW edge exposed, shallow sloping edge and uneven base, NW-SE aligned, filled by (159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164)	Metalled road
159		Loose mid reddish brown silty sand, occasional unsorted chalk frags, up to 0.33m thick	Subsoil
160		Loose mid orange brown silty sand, frequent fine gravel, up to 0.1m thick	Subsoil
161		Compacted surface, pale grey brown silty sand, frequent gravel, up to 90mm thick	Surface of metalled road/track, accumulation of material trampled over cobbles
162		Loose, variable composition, small sub-angular and sub-rounded cobbles, frequent gravel, up to 60mm thick	Part of road surface metalling
163		Loose, variable composition, sub-rounded and sub-angular cobbles, red clay, up to 0.11m thick	Lower part of metalled surface
164		Soft dark brownish red clay, in intermittent patches up to 80mm thick	Layer of re-deposited clay on the NE side of the feature. Overlying a gravelly deposit, this material may have been used as a levelling layer
165		Compact, medium whitish brown, 90% small sub-angular chalk frags, flints and pebbles, 10% clayey silt, at least 2.2m x 1.6m	Part of a general band of metalling that runs across the site
166		Friable mid grey brown silt sand chalk mix	Unexcavated feature/spread of material close to site entrance, contains frequent pot and bone
167		Soft mid-dark slightly reddish brown clayey sandy silt, occasional small sub-angular chalk frags, exposed up to 0.27m thick	Fill of [169]

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
168		Quite soft, mid-dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, moderate sub-angular flints, 0.85m x 1.1m x at least 0.36m thick	Fill of ditch [169]
169		Linear feature, 0.85m x 1.1m x 0.35m deep, quite steep sides, aligned roughly NW-SE, possibly truncated by [171]. Filled by (168)	Ditch cut, possibly roadside ditch of (165)
170		Quite soft, mid-dark brown clayey sandy silt, frequent sub-angular chalk frags, 0.8m x 1.1m long x 0.36m thick	Fill of ditch [171]
171		Linear feature, 1.1m x 0.8m x 0.36m deep, quite steep side, feature was not bottomed, roughly NW-SE aligned, filled by (170)	Ditch cut, roadside ditch of (165)
172		Compact, light brownish yellow, 80% sub-angular chalk frags, 20% clayey sand	Probably natural deposit

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

ROMAN AND LATE IRON AGE POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at full archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004). A total of 448 sherds from 141 vessels, weighing 7622 grams was recovered from the site.

The pottery recorded here was recovered during the first phase of fieldwork on MTRQ11. It is intended that any further material retrieved during subsequent stages will be added to this archive for a full report to be compiled. There is little point carrying out statistical analysis of an incomplete archive and so this is, in effect, an interim report.

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 Archive Catalogue 1

Condition

The condition of the pottery is mixed, with some features producing large fresh pieces, including several smashed vessels, and others yielding just a few tiny fragments. The average sherd weight is moderately low at just 17 grams and a very high proportion of sherds are classed abraded or very abraded. To some extent this maybe the result of hostile soil conditions rather than redeposition though, as several contexts contained vessels with multiple abraded fragments. The excavator also records that plough damage may be at least partially responsible for this fragmented nature of much of the material, particularly the smashed vessels.

Much of the material recovered shows signs of being used. Many vessels are sooted internally and/or externally, suggesting use over a hearth or fire. Internal scale or cress deposits were also recorded within a small number of examples.

Results

Table 1, Summary of the Roman and Late Iron Age Pottery

Fabric	Cname	Full Name	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Fine (Reduced)	GFIN	Miscellaneous Fine Grey Ware	2	1	17
	GMIC	Grey Fine Micaceous Ware	9	2	191
	NATF	Miscellaneous Fine Native Wares	2	1	8
Grog (Coarse)	IAGROG?	Iron Age Grog Tempered Wares?	7	1	53
Oxidised (Coarse)	OX	Miscellaneous Oxidised Ware	2	1	5
Reduced (Coarse)	GREY	Miscellaneous Grey Ware	192	51	3008
	GREYC	Miscellaneous Coarse Grey Ware	3	2	120
	GRFF	Fairly Fine Grey Ware	2	1	1
	GROG	Grog Tempered Ware	15	1	202
Reduced (Coarse)	GRSAN	Undifferentiated Grey Ware with Sandwich Core/?*	4	4	21
	GRYMIC	Miscellaneous Micaceous Grey Ware (Sandy)	3	1	17
	GYMS	Grey Wheel-Made With Minimal Fine Shell/?	49	9	1052
	IAGR	Native Tradition Grit Tempered Ware	1	1	19
	NAT	Miscellaneous Native Wares/?*	14	8	268
Shell	GRSH	Grog with Shell	3	2	82
	IASH	Native Tradition Shell-Tempered/?*	28	19	281

Fabric	Cname	Full Name	NoS	NoV	W(g)
	IASHC	Iron Age Tradition Coarse Shell-Tempered	6	2	287
	IASHF	Iron Age Tradition Fine Shell-Tempered	4	4	15
	SHEL	Undifferentiated Shell-Tempered	58	22	1132
	SHEL C	Undifferentiated Coarse Shell-Tempered	38	5	827
	SHEL F	Undifferentiated Fine Shell-Tempered	5	2	15
Shell?	VESIC	Vesicular Fabric	1	1	1
Total			448	141	7622

*Includes some uncertain identifications

Dating and Provenance

A general summary of dating by context type is listed in Table 2 below. All contexts are listed by cut and then by fill context number. Layer, surface and finds retrieval numbers, where there is no cut, are listed first and in descending order.

Table 2, Provenance and Context Dating

Cxt	Cut Cxt	Cxt/Feature Type	Same As	Latest Cxt Date
096	n/a	Finds Retrieval (083) and (085)		1st
101	n/a	Finds Retrieval		Unstratified
161	n/a	Surface (Track)		Late 3rd to 4th
166	n/a	Feature or Layer (Spread)		Iron Age to Roman
005	004	Ditch (Rectilinear Enclosure)		Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century
009	008	Ditch	Cut 041	1st to 3rd Century
011	010	Ditch		Roman
013	012	Ditch		Late Iron Age
018	017	Gully	Cuts 048, 029?	Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century
020	019	Ditch		Roman
022	021	Linear Feature (Indeterminate)		Iron Age to Roman
024	023	Ditch/Gully		Iron Age to Roman
026	025	Linear Feature (Indeterminate)	Fills 027, 028	2nd
027		Linear Feature (Indeterminate)	Fills 026, 028	2nd
028		Linear Feature (Indeterminate)	Fills 026, 027	2nd
030	029	Linear Feature (Indeterminate)	Cuts 017?, 048?	2nd to 3rd
032	031	Ditch	Cuts 012, 134	Roman
036	035	Linear Feature (Indeterminate)		Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century
040	039	Ditch (Rectilinear Enclosure)		Late Iron Age
042	041	Ditch		Late Iron Age to Roman
044	043	Irregular Feature (Natural?)		Late Iron Age
049	048	Ditch	Fill 050	Mid 1st to 3rd
050		Ditch	Fill 049	1st to 2nd
052	051	Pit (Quarry)		2nd
062	051	Pit (Quarry)		Late Iron Age
054	053	Ditch		Roman
056	055	Ditch		2nd
058	057	Ditch		1st to 3rd
060	059	Pit (Quarry?)		2nd to 4th
065	064	Ditch		Mid 1st to 2nd
072	071	Gully		Late Iron Age to Roman
077	076	Ditch		Late 1st to 2nd
083	082	Ditch (Curvilinear)		Late 1st BC to 1st

Cxt	Cut Cxt	Cxt/Feature Type	Same As	Latest Cxt Date
085	084	Pit		2nd
087	086	Pit (Quarry)		1st to 2nd
098	097	Ditch or Sump		1st to Early 2nd
105	102	Pit (Quarry)		Late Iron Age to Roman
107		Pit (Quarry)		Iron Age to Roman
109		Pit (Quarry)		Early 2nd to Mid/Late 2nd
111	110	Ditch		Mid 1st to 2nd
113	112	Pit		Iron Age to Roman
121	114	Pit (Quarry)		Late 1st to 2nd
128		Pit (Quarry)		Early/Mid 2nd
116	115	Ditch		Late Iron Age to Early Roman
125	124	Irregular Feature (Natural?)		Mid 1st to Late 1st
135	134	Ditch		Late Iron Age

Most of the material dates to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, with only a few contexts likely to predate this. Only a single context track surface (161) is much later, this dating to the later 3rd or 4th centuries. It seems likely that most activity on the site dates therefore from the late Iron Age until the mid or late 2nd centuries AD, with no appreciable break in deposition during that time.

Range

Late Iron Age-Type Material

There is a restricted range of vessels in Iron Age type fabrics. The majority of vessels were recovered from within features certainly of a later date and/or are highly fragmentary. Fabrics include Iron Age Shell tempered (IASH), and coarse and fine shelled variants (IASHC) and (IASHF), as well as miscellaneous Native Type Fabrics (NAT), Fine Native Fabrics (NATF) and Iron Age Grit Tempered (IAGR) wares. There are 34 vessels within this category, although many, if not all, could conceivably belong to the Iron Age/Roman Transition period of the 1st century AD. At least three vessels, Native Cookpots (CPN) from (096), (098) and (125) are definitely transitional forms; these can be classified within the later (1st Century) types of jar included in the Group 20 form class, identified within the large assemblage from the nearby site at Dragonby (May and Elsdon, 1996, 416).

Roman Material

The Romanised material comprises mainly coarseware vessels in both open and closed forms. There is a high proportion of bowls as well as small jars or beakers. Where forms and decorative patterns can be defined there is a strong 2nd century bias throughout the group. Forms present include Roxby Type C lid seated jars (*c.f.* Rigby and Stead, 1976, 140) as well as stamped D452 and carinated B334 bowls. Decorative motif include low linear rusticated decoration and acute burnished lattice.

There are a variety of hard sandy greyware fabrics, many of which have calcareous and ferruginous inclusions, including ferrous oolite. These are most likely locally produced and will benefit from further analysis after the second stage of work, once the entire assemblage has been recovered.

There is a noticeable lack of finewares including imports, especially given the high proportion of table and oven to tablewares here. The 2nd century was the peak importation period for Samian Ware, particularly from Central Gaul, and given the date of this group its total absence here is of note.

Potential

A number of vessels have been suggested for illustration and these are marked with a letter 'Y' in the Dr column within the archive table. This list will be finalised and drawing numbers will be assigned once the next phase of fieldwork has been completed. Although at this point it is unnecessary due to the state and nature of the pottery, if a considerable quantity of Iron Age type pottery is subsequently recovered, it may be beneficial to record the entire group using the P.C.R.G. recording system (1997). This would allow for a more thorough analysis of fabric inclusions present.

Summary

An assemblage of pottery, most of which dates to the 1st and 2nd century AD was recovered during excavations at Melton Ross Quarry.

FIRED CLAY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of 80 sherds of fired clay weighing 403 grams were recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments of fired clay were counted and weighed within each context. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 3 below.

Condition

All of the material is abraded. A single piece has a curved surface whilst the remainder are surfaceless.

Results

Table 3, Fired Clay Archive

Cxt	Class	Fabric	Comment	Date	Fragments	Weight
020	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	Abraded; surfaceless frag from sample 6	Undated	1	1
050	FCLAY	Reduced; fine shell	Abraded; surfaceless; pottery?	Undated	1	10
056	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	Abraded; surfaceless frag from sample 9; poorly mixed clay; bleached?	Undated	11	3
065	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine sandy	Abraded; single curved surface; part of object?	Undated	1	4
085	FCLAY	Various	Abraded; surfaceless frags from sample 11	Undated	9	1
085	FCLAY	Reduced; vesicular	Abraded; surfaceless frag from sample 11; could be frag of PH pottery or concretion	Undated	1	1
085	FCLAY	Reduced; fine	Abraded; surfaceless frag from sample 11; could be frag of R pottery	Roman?	1	1
085	FCLAY	Oxid; fine sandy	Abraded; surfaceless frag from sample 11	Undated	1	1
107	FCLAY	Oxid; medium sandy	Abraded; surfaceless frags from sample 15; could be frags of pottery or CBM; Flint	Undated	9	6
Total					35	28

Provenance

Fired clay was recovered from Ditches [019], [055], [064], shallow linear feature [048], and pits [084] and [102].

Range

There is a small range of abraded flakes and fragments. One piece from (064), within [065], may be from an object.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The material should be retained as part of the site archive.

Summary

A small abraded assemblage of fired clay fragments was recovered during the archaeological investigation. None of the material can be securely dated.

WORKED FLINT*By Tom Lane***Introduction**

Five worked flints were collected from three features, a tree throw and two quarry pits.

Condition

The core from 044 is relatively unabraded while the remaining items have various states of abrasion. None will require conservation. All should be retained.

Results*Table 4, Worked Flint Archive*

Cxt	Description	No	Wt (g)	Date
044	Core from pebble with blade scars. 39mm x 31mm dia. Some cortex remaining. Patinated. Relatively unabraded. Mesolithic	1	46	Mesolithic
	Blade Flake. White patination. Notch at proximal end. 39 x 15 x 5mm Mesolithic	1	4	
	Broken flake. Possible blade scar on dorsal surface. Poss Mesolithic	1	8	
105<14>	From sample 14. Heavily patinated flake. Blade scars on dorsal surface. 30 x 21 x 5mm	1	5	Poss Meso
128	Notched Flake. Blade scars on dorsal surface. 25 x 31 x 2mm	1	4	Meso/Neo

Provenance

Three items were from the fill of a tree throw (044) and two from chalk quarry pits (105, 128).

Range

Most items were flakes belonging to a blade-based industry, as was the core.

Potential

The items have little potential other than to confirm a presence, however fleeting, of Mesolithic communities in the area.

Summary

Worked flints, chiefly dating to the Mesolithic period were present. The items attest to a presence in the area of Mesolithic communities, perhaps working the items during their cycle of hunting and gathering. The use of blown down trees for Mesolithic shelter has been suggested in the archaeological literature, but there is nothing to indicate that the tree throw was used this way. The chalk quarries appear to be Roman and, therefore, the flint finds therein are residual/redeposited.

OTHER FINDS*By Gary Taylor***Introduction**

Six other finds weighing a total of 597g were recovered.

Condition

The other finds are in moderate condition, though the iron is quite corroded.

Results*Table 5, Other Materials*

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
062	iron	ferrule	1	13	
100	stone	Stone, burnt??	2	21	
101 /1\	Copper alloy	Pin, probably hairpin, but head missing	1	2	Roman
126 /2\	iron	Thin rectangular sheet, approx 35-40mm wide, 28cm long, bent to form loop; possible binding. Heavily encrusted with soil	1	555	
167 /3\	iron	nail	1	6	

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from quarry fill (062), gully fill (100), as unstratified material from a quarry pit (101), a trackway (126), and a ditch fill (167).

Range

Most of the small collection of other finds is of metal, particularly iron. Amongst the iron artefacts there are a nail, a possible ferrule and a section that may be binding strip. The other metal item is copper alloy and is a pin, probably the shaft from a hairpin, though it lacks the head. There are also a couple of pieces of stone which may be burnt, but this is not certain.

Potential

As a small mixed collection the other finds are of limited potential.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 6 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 6, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
005	Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century	
009	1st to 3rd Century	Based on sherds from a single vessel
011	Roman	Based on a single sherd
013	Late Iron Age	Based on sherds from a single vessel
018	Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century	Based on sherds from a single vessel
020	Roman	
022	Iron Age to Roman	Based on a single sherd
024	Iron Age to Roman	Based on a single sherd
026	2nd	
027	2nd	
028	2nd	
030	2nd to 3rd	
032	Roman	Based on a single sherd
036	Mid 2nd to Late 2nd Century	
040	Late Iron Age	
042	Late Iron Age to Roman	Based on a single sherd
044	Late Iron Age	
049	Mid 1st to 3rd	Based on a single sherd
050	1st to 2nd	
052	2nd	
054	Roman	Based on a single sherd
056	2nd	
058	1st to 3rd	Based on a single sherd
060	2nd to 4th	Based on a single sherd
062	Late Iron Age	
065	Mid 1st to 2nd	
072	Late Iron Age to Roman	
077	Late 1st to 2nd	
083	Late 1st BC to 1st	
085	2nd	

Cxt	Date	Comments
087	1st to 2nd	
096	1st	
098	1st to Early 2nd	Based on a single sherd
100		
101	2nd	
105	Late Iron Age to Roman	
107	Iron Age to Roman	
109	Early 2nd to Mid/Late 2nd	
111	Mid 1st to 2nd	
113	Iron Age to Roman	
116	Late Iron Age to Early Roman	Based on a single sherd
121	Late 1st to 2nd	
125	Mid 1st to Late 1st	
126		
128	Early/Mid 2nd	
135	Late Iron Age	
161	Late 3rd to 4th	
166	Iron Age to Roman	Based on a single sherd
167		

ABBREVIATIONS

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

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive catalogue 1, Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Sub Fabric	Form	Dec	NoV	Alter	Dr	Comments	Join	NoS	W(g)
005	GREY	CLAY PELLIS	U		1			BS		1	3
005	ZDATE							M2-L2C			
005	GREY		U		1	ABR; BURNT		BS; FLAKE		2	1
005	GREY	MICA; CLAY PELLIS	BNK	BG GIRTH?	1	V ABR		RIM TO UWALL; SIMILAR TO VESSELS FROM ROXBY; DERIVED FROM BNAT TYPE		1	35
009	ZDATE							1-3C			
009	SHEL		OXMS		1	ABR		BS; FLAKE; SEEMS TO BE WM;		2	13
011	ZDATE							RO			
011	SHEL		J		1	ABR; LEACH		BS; GRITTY		1	71
013	IASH		J		1	V ABR		BS BASAL; FRAGS FROM SAMPLE 8		3	23
013	ZDATE							LIA			
018	GREY	CLAY PELLIS	JLS		1	SOOT OB; BURNT	Y	RIM TO UWALLS; LWALL TO BASE; SIMILAR TO ROXBY TYPE C		3	109
018	ZDATE							M2-L2C			
020	ZDATE							RO			
020	SHEL		U		1	ABR		BS; MICA		1	2
020	SHEL		U		1			BS; FRAGS; FROM SAMPLE 6; IASH? COULB BE DWSH		2	6
020	ZZZ							7 TINY FRAGS OF SHEL TEMPERED FAB NOT INCLUDED IN ARCHIVE FOR QUANTIFICATION			
022	SHEL		U	HM?	1	ABR		BS; SOFT		1	8
022	ZDATE							IA-RO			
024	SHEL		U		1	ABR; SOOT		BS		1	11
024	ZDATE							IA-RO			
026	GREY		JLS	BGS	1		Y	RIM TO GIRTH; DISTINCTIVE LID SEATED FORM; DARK SLIGHTLY SOAPY FABRIC	027	3	35
026	GYMS		D452	STAMPED	1		Y	PROFILE; STAMP READS "AED"...?; MARKET RASEN; CF RIGBY AND STEAD FIG 67.40-42		1	106
026	ZDATE							2C			
026	GMIC		J		1	ABR; BURNT; SOOT OB		LWALL TO BASE WITH FTM; LARGE FINE VESSEL;		8	182
026	SHEL		J		1	SOOT EX		LWALL TO BASE; BSS; J; LOWER HALF OF SMASHED VESSEL; FRESH		20	871
026	SHEL		BEV		1	SOOT	Y	RIM TO GIRTH; RIM; BSS; AS DARLING 2009 FIG 44.7		4	124

027	GREY	FE; MICA	J	RLIN				BS; THIN WALLED		1	13
027	GREY		JLS	BGS	1		Y	RIM TO LWALL; RIM; LWALL TO BASES; J; JOINS 026	026	14	184
027	ZZZ							026 AND 027 A GOOD 2C GRP LIKELY 120-180 BASED ON PRESENCE OF RLIN			
027	ZDATE							2C			
027	SHEL		JEV	WF?	1		Y	RIM TO GIRTH; SEEMS TO BE WHEEL FINISHED; COULD BE LIA-EROM; ALTHO SIMPLE JEVS ALSO OCCUR UP TO HORIZON III AT DRAGONBY; CF EG FIG 20.7.860		1	19
027	SHEL		JB?		1			RIM FRAG		1	1
028	OX		JBK	RLIN?	1	ABR		BSS; RUSTICATED VESS; PROB LINEAR RUST		2	5
028	ZDATE							2C			
030	ZDATE							2-3C			
030	GRSAN		BTR		1			RIM; SANDWICH CORE; POSSIBLY PART		1	1
030	GREY	FE GRITS; MICA	BEV		1	ABR; SOOT EX	Y	PROFILE; PALE FABRIC WITH OX CORESOMEWHERE BETWEEN A BFL AND A BEV; ROXBY TYPE FABRIC		2	60
030	GREY	CA - SHELL?	CLSD	ROUZ	1	ABR		BS; SANDY GREY; DARK FABRIC		1	21
030	GRSAN		U		1			BS; SANDWICH CORE; POSS PART		1	15
032	ZDATE							RO			
032	GREYC		JL		1			BS; V RARE SHELL AND FLINT		1	82
036	GREY	MICA; FOOL; FE; CA; SHELL?; CLAY PELLIS; NOT ROXBY	JLS	BG GIRTH	1	SOOT OB	y	RIMS; BSS; WASTER OR SECOND; ROXBY C; BADLY DEFORMED RIM; EVERTED RIM; FABRIC FULL OF INCL; CF WINTERINGHAM FIG 81.41 FOR AN A NON JLS VAR		55	613
036	ZDATE							M2-L2C			
036	GREY	CA GRITS; SHELL?	CLSD		1	SOOT EX?; ABR		BSS		4	24
036	GYMS		J?		1	ABR		BS		1	12
036	GREY		J		1	ABR		BASE WITH FTM		1	84
036	GREY		JLS		1	SOOT OB; THICK ACRBON DEP RIM		RIM; BSS; ROXBY C; DARK SLIP		3	25
036	GREY		BSEG		1	ABR	Y	RIM TO LWALL; ALMOST B36; INTERNAL GROOVE		1	27
040	NAT		U		4			FRAGS; FROM SAMPLE 3		4	1

040	ZDATE							LIA			
040	SHEL		U		4			FRAGS; FROM SAMPLE 3		4	1
042	SHELF	CLAY PELLETS?	U		1	ABR		BS; FINE VESSEL		1	1
042	ZDATE							LIA-RO			
042	ZZZ							UNDIAGNOSTIC BUT UNLIKELY TO BE 3-4C			
044	NAT		U		1			BSS; J; SEEMS TO BE WHEELMADE; 1C?		2	2
044	VESIC		U		1	LEACH; ABR		BS; SOFT COULD BE BA		1	1
044	ZDATE							LIA			
049	GREY	BLACK FE	BK		1	ABR		BS		1	3
049	ZDATE							M1-3C			
050	GREY	CA GRITS; FE	JBK	ROUL GIRTH	1	SOOT EX		BS; BLOWN FABRIC; V HIGHLY FIRED; BANDED DEC ON JL FROM SCUNTHORPE DATED 2-3C; BKBB TYPE?		1	6
050	IASH	CLAY PELLETS	JB	HM	1			BS		1	16
050	ZDATE							1-2C			
052	GYMS		JL		1	ABR; SCALE INT		BSS; BASE		16	485
052	ZDATE							2C			
052	GREY		B334		1	ABR		RIMS NECK; BSS		8	54
052	GREY	FLINT; FOOL	JB		3	ABR		BS; PALE FAB DARK CORE		3	67
052	GREY		B	STAMPED INT	1	ABR		BASES; J; PARTIAL INTERNAL STAMP; D452?; CENTRAL INTERBAL 'KICK'		2	37
052	ZZZ							GOOD 2C GROUP POSS MID TO LATE			
052	GYMS		JLS		1	ABR		RIMS; BSS; BASE; ROXBY TYPE C		10	173
052	GROG		BEV		1	ABR; BURNT	Y	RIM NECK; BSS; CF DARLING FIG 44.6; NOT LID SEATED; OXIDISED EXTERNALLY		15	202
052	GREY		BK	BG GIRTH; BWL	1	ABR; BURNT?		BSS; DARK SLIP; OXIDISED CORE; SPALLED		14	85
054	SHEL		JS		1	V ABR		BASE?		1	56
054	ZDATE							RO			
056	GREY	FLINT;	JL		1	ABR		LWALL TO BASE WITH FTM; BLUE GREY CORE		3	108
056	GRSAN		JB		1	ABR		FTM		1	4
056	GRFF		U		1	V ABR		FRAGS; SAMPLE 9		2	1
056	SHEL		U		1	ABR		BSS; FLAKES; SAMPLE 9; + 9 TINY FLAKES NOT COUNTED FOR QUANTIFICATION		7	15

056	GREY	FE GRITS	L		1	ABR	Y	PROFILE; ROXBY TYPE FABRIC; POSSIBLY BOWL; VIRTUALL IDENTICAL VESS FROM COLONIA RAMPART AT LINC DATED ML2C; DARLING 1984 FIG 16.78	1	51
056	ZDATE							2C		
056	GREY	FE	JSM		1	ABR	Y?	RIM TO UWALL; LWALL TO BASE; J; SLIGHT LID SEATING; ROXBY FABRIC; 3 SHERDS FROM SAMPLE 9	6	112
058	GRSAN?		U		1	ABR		BS; TINY FRAG; POSS PART TYPE OR LIA	1	1
058	ZDATE	CA- SHELL?						1-3C		
060	GREY	CLAY PELLE/GROG?	J		1	DEP		LWALL TO BASE	1	39
060	ZDATE							2-4C		
062	IASH?		J		1	ABR		BS BASAL	1	10
062	IASH		U		1	V ABR		BS; FRAGS; FROM SAMPLE 1	3	12
062	ZDATE							LIA		
065	GREY	CLAY PELLE	JBK		1	ABR		BS	1	3
065	ZDATE							M1-2C		
065	SHELF	CLAY PELLE	B		1	ABR; BURNT		FTMS; BSS	4	14
072	SHELC		JL	HM	1	ABR		BSS	34	417
072	ZDATE							LIA-RO		
077	ZDATE							L1-2C		
077	GREY		B334		1			RIM NECK; BSS	5	59
083	IASH		JB		1			BS	1	17
083	IASH		JB		1	LEACH		BS	1	8
083	ZDATE							L1C BC-1C AD		
083	NATF		JB	CORD	1	ABR		BSS	2	8
083	IASHF		B?	WM?	1	ABR		FTM	1	4
083	IASHF		JB		1			BS	1	3
083	IASH		JB		1	LEACH		BSS	2	9
083	IASH		JB		1	SOOT INT		BS	1	11
083	IASH	GROG; ORGANICS	JB		1	ABR		BS	1	6
085	IAGR	GROG; SHELL	JB		1			BS	1	19
085	GYMS	GROG	U		1	SCALE INT		BS	1	4
085	IASH	MICA	B	B INT	1			BS; FINE MIC FABRIC	1	19
085	GREY	GROG; SHEL?	JB	B EX?	1	LEACH; ABR		BS; VIRTUALLY BLACK FABRIC	2	45
085	ZZZ							MIXED GROUP WITH LIA AND RO TYPES; FROM TWO FEATURES?		

085	ZDATE							2C			
085	IASH		U		1	ABR		BS		1	1
085	IASH		U		1			BS		1	5
085	GREY		L?		1	ABR		BS; ANGULAR; STRANGE		1	20
085	GREY		JB		1			BS		2	13
085	GYMS		JBEV		1	SOOT RIM		RIM; DARK SLIP; OCCURS FROM HORIZON 3B AT DRAG (2C) AND PHASE 5 AT BURRINGTON R (ML2C); INTRUSIVE?		1	13
085	SHEL		U					FRAGS FROM SAMPLE 11		2	1
085	IASHF	FLINT; CLAY PELLETS	U		1			BS		1	4
085	GYMS	GROG	JB		1			BS; VERY STRANGE FABRIC		4	25
087	ZDATE							1-2C			
087	SHELC		JS		1	ABR		BS		1	80
087	SHEL		JBRR	WF	1	SOOT RIM		RIM; APPLIED RIM; PROB HANDMADE		2	12
096	IASHC		CPN		1	SOOT INT	Y	RIM TO UWALL; DRAGONBY TYPE GRP 20/C OR G; EITHER SIDE OF CONQUEST		1	92
096	IAGROG?		J	HM?	1			BASE WITH FTM; BSS; POSS WM?		7	53
096	ZDATE							1C			
096	IASH	GROG	CPN?		1	ABR		RIM FRAG		1	4
098	ZDATE							1-E2C			
098	SHELC		CPN	BG ABOVE WAIST	1	SCALE INT		RIM TO GIRTH; DRAGONBY TYPE GROUP 20		1	203
101	GREY		JBK		1			BS		1	5
101	GYMS	MICA	J	RLIN	1	ABR		BSS; POSS MORE THAN ONE VESS; LOW RUST		14	217
101	ZDATE							EM2-ML2C			
101	GRSH	BLUE	J		1	SCALE INT; SOOT		BS		1	23
101	GREY	GROG	JL		1	BURNT; SOOT INT; SPALLED		BS		1	87
101	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	JBEV		1	SOOT RIM		RIM		1	9
101	GREY	GROG	JBK		1			BS		1	9
101	GFIN		B334		1	ABR		BSS; J		2	17
101	ZZZ							NICE 2C GROUP			
101	GREY	LINCOLN?	J		1			BS; LIGHT FIRING; POSS LINCOLN FABRIC		1	7
101	GREYC	GROG	J		1	ABR		BSS		2	38
101	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	D452	B INT	1			RIM TO LWALL; BASE; BSS; PROFILE; J		4	166

101	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	BCOR	BIA; CORD	1		Y	PROFILE; PARRALELS?	1	208
101	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	BEV	B EX	1		Y	RIM TO LWALL; ROXBY TYPE J	1	52
101	GRSH		J		1			BS; COARSE FABRIC; UNUSUSAL	2	59
101	GREY		JBK		1	SOOT EX		BS	1	5
101	GREY		J	BWL	1			BS	1	14
105	ZDATE							LIA-RO		
105	SHEL		U		3			BSS; FRAGS FROM SAMPLE 14; 3 OTHER FRAGS COUNTED BUT NOT INCLUDED IN QUANT	4	7
105	SHEL		U	HM?	1	ABR; SOOT		BS	1	5
107	SHEL		U		1	V ABR		FRAGS FROM SAMPLE 15	3	1
107	ZDATE							IA-RO		
109	SHEL		JL		1	ABR; SOOT		BS	1	28
109	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	JB		1	ABR		BS	1	13
109	GREY	FE; ROXBY?	JBK	RUST	1	ABR		BS; J; PROB LINEAR	2	9
109	ZDATE							E2-ML2C		
111	GREY	FOOL	CLSD		1	SOOT EX		BS; ROXBY?	1	12
111	NAT?	GROG/CLAY PELLS; FOOL	J	HM?	1	SOOT		BS BASAL; DARK FABRIC	2	33
111	NAT		JL	HM	1	SOOT OB		BS; BS BASAL; J; COIL BUILT?; DARK FABRIC; VESICULAR; ORGANICS	2	174
111	ZDATE							M1-2C		
111	IASH		U		2	V ABR		BSS; FROM SAMPLE 16	2	6
113	IASH?	GROG/CLAY PELLS; SAND	U		1	V ABR		BSS; GROTTY PCS IN GROTTY FAB; SEEMS HANDMADE	2	13
113	ZDATE							IA-RO		
116	IASHF			B EX?	1			BS	1	4
116	ZDATE							LIA-EROM		
121	ZDATE							L1-2C		
121	GREY		JBKCOR	BWL; BS; DOUBLE CORD	1			BS; DARK SLIP; FINE BODIED VESSEL; JNN?	2	37
121	GREY	FE	J		1			BS; ROXBY	1	9
121	GREY	FE	JL		1	BURNT?		BSS	3	3
121	GREY	RARE CA; BLUE	JB		1			BASE	1	23
121	GREY	CLAY PELLs; FE	JNN?		1	V ABR; BURNT; SOOT		BSS	8	38

125	IASHC		CPN	WF; TRIP BG GIRTH	1	SOOT INT	Y	RIM TO GIRTH; DRAGONBY TYPE GROUP 20/E; TYPICAL LIA (FROM PERIOD 9) DRAG FORM	5	195
125	ZDATE							M1-L1C		
125	IASH		JCUR		1	ABR; LEACH		RIM	1	6
125	IASH	MICA	U	CORD?	1	V ABR		BS	1	1
128	ZDATE							EM2		
128	ZZZ							DATE BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT ONE PIECE HAS LA DEC		
128	GREY		J	LA?	1	ABR		BS	1	11
128	NAT	MINMAL SHELL	J		1	SCALE INT; SOOT OB		BSS	4	58
128	GYMS?		JCUR?		1	ABR		RIM; DRAGONBY TYPE GROUP 18?	1	17
128	GMIC		U		1	ABR; BURNT?		BS	1	9
128	GREY		JBK		1			BS	1	3
135	ZDATE							LIA		
135	IASH		J		1	ABR; SOOT INT; LEACH INT		BSS; BS BASAL; J	4	114
161	GRYMIC		BFB		1	ABR; BURNT?		RIM; BSS	3	17
161	GREY	FLINT; BLUE	JL		1	ABR		BASES WITH FTM; BSS; J	15	352
161	ZDATE							L3-4C		
166	SHEL		U	HM?	1	ABR; LEACH INT		BS; UNDIAGNOSTIC SCRAP	1	7
166	ZDATE							IA-RO		

Appendix 4

ANIMAL BONE

Melton, Ross Quarry (MTRQ 11). The animal bones.

Matilda Holmes. October, 2011.

Introduction

An extremely small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from Iron Age and Roman contexts including ditch and quarry pit features. There is little to be said of the site economy, but a brief overview is given below.

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection. Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/goat', unless a definite identification (Prummel and Frisch, 1986; Payne, 1985) could be made. Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (small – rodent /rabbit sized; medium – sheep / pig / dog size; or large – cattle / horse size). Ribs were not identified to species, vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments.

Tooth wear and eruption were recorded using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Silver (1969), as were bone fusion (Silver, 1969), metrical data (von den Driesch, 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996) and any evidence of pathological changes, butchery (Lauwerier, 1988) and working. The condition of bones was noted on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is fresh bone and 5, the bone is so badly degraded to be almost unrecognisable (Lyman 1994: 355). Other taphonomic factors were also recorded, including the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. All fragments were recorded, although articulated or associated fragments were entered as a count of 1, so they did not bias the relative frequency of species present. Details of associated bone groups were recorded in a separate table.

A number of sieved samples were collected but because of the highly fragmentary nature of such samples a selective process was undertaken, whereby fragments were recorded only if they could be identified to species and / or element, or showed signs of taphonomic processes.

The Assemblage

The assemblage was in fair to poor condition, with a high proportion of fresh breaks and refitted fragments that suggests that bones were friable and from a burial medium that was not conducive to good preservation. There was only one incidence of gnawing, indicating that the fragments were buried soon after disposal, and not available for dogs or rodents to chew. There was no evidence of burning, and only one bone from a Roman context bore butchery marks.

The assemblage was dominated by domesticates, of which cattle and sheep/ goat were recorded in the Iron Age phase, but a more diverse group were recorded in the later phases

(Table 1), including pig, dog and horse. This is reflected in the material from sieved contexts, with the addition of background species vole and frog that would have been present in the environment of the site (Table 2). These species are not uncommon on sites of this date, and the small sample sizes makes further analysis unjustified.

Table 1: Species Representation (fragment count) from the hand collected assemblage

Species	Iron Age	Iron Age/ Roman	Roman
Cattle	1	1	9
Sheep/ Goat	3		2
Pig			1
Horse		2	4
Dog		1	1
Total Identified	4	4	17
Large Mammal		1	15
Medium Mammal	1		9
Unidentified Mammal	2		134
Total	7	5	175

Table 2: Species Represented in the sieved samples

Species	Iron Age	Iron Age/ Roman	Roman
Sheep/ Goat	2	3	4
Horse		1	
Vole	1	2	
Frog		1	

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Bones

Context Number	n	Element	Species	Condition	Side	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	Z7	Z8	PFus	DFus	BType	BLoc'n	Burning	Gnawing	Worked	Pathology	Sexed	Articulated	Fresh Break	Refit	Comments
103	1	VC1	OX		2 B	-1	-1	0	0	-1	0	-1	-1	UM	UM					0	0	0		0		
087	1	SCAP	ULM		3	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0							0	0	0		-1	2	
087	1	TIB	OX		2 L	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1		F	P	CH-SH			0	0	0		0		
087	1	MC	HOR		3 R	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	F						0	0	0		0		
042	1	OC	OX		4 L	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	0	F						0	0	0		-1	16	
104	1	HUM	OX		2 R	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0							0	0	0		0		
137	1	MP	HOR		4	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	F						0	0	0		0		
054	1	PH1	DOG		4	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	F						0	0	0		0		
020	1	MP	OX		4	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0							0	0	0		0		
083	1	RAD	DOG		4	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0							0	0	0		0		
061	1	MP	OX		4	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	F						0	0	0		-1	4	
052	1	RAD	OX		4	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	NEONATAL						0	0	0		0		
056	1	OC	HOR		4	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	F						0	0	0		-1	11	
060	1	RAD	OX		3 R	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0							0	0	0		0		HIGHLY ABRADED ROUNDED CORNERS
065	1	RAD	S/G		4 R	-1	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	F						0	0	0		0		
062	1	HUM	S/G		2	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0							0	0	0		0		
062	1	RAD	S/G		2 L	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	F				C		0	0	0		0		
166	1	MP	HOR		4	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0	F						0	0	0		-1	3	
054	1	MC	OX		4 L	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	F						0	0	0		0		
054	1	HUM	OX		4	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0							0	0	0		0		

Lookup element

ElementID	Element	Key
1	UF	UNIDENTIFIED FRAGMENT
2	HC	HORN CORE
3	ULF	UNIDENTIFIED LONG BONE FRAGMENT
4	SOCC	OCCIPITALE
5	SZYG	ZYGOMATICUS
6	SMAX	MAXILLA
7	SKL	SKULL (COMPLETE)
8	VC1	ATLAS
9	VC2	AXIS
10	VSA	SACRUM
11	VC	CERVICAL VERTEBRAE
12	VT	THORACIC VERTEBRAE
13	VL	LUMBER VERTEBRAE
14	VCAU	CAUDAL VERTEBRAE
15	HYD	HYOID
16	SCAP	SCAPULA
17	HUM	HUMERUS
18	RAD	RADIUS
19	ULN	ULNA
20	CAR3	CARPAL 3
21	CAR	CARPAL
22	MC	METACARPAL
23	MC3	METACARPAL 3
24	MCL	LATERAL METACARPAL
25	PH1	1ST PHALANGE
26	PH2	2ND PHALANGE
27	PH3	3RD PHALANGE
28	PHL	LATERAL PHALANGE
29	OC	PELVIS
30	FEM	FEMUR
31	TIB	TIBIA
32	FIB	FIBULA
33	CAL	CALCANEUM
34	AST	ASTRAGALUS
35	TAR	TARSAL
36	MT	METATARSAL
37	MT3	METATARSAL 3
38	MTL	LATERAL METATARSAL
39	MP	METAPODIAL
40	MPL	LATERAL METAPODIAL
41	COR	CORACOID
42	MC4	METACARPAL 4
43	MT4	METATARSAL 4
44	SKELE	SKELETON
45	ANT	ANTLER
46	RIB	RIB
47	VERT	VERTEBRAE
48	HC+FR	HORN ATTACHED TO SKULL
49	PSKELE	PARTIAL SKELE
50	PH	PHALANGE
51	CAR/TAR	CARPAL / TARSAL
52	STERN	STERNEBRAE
53	MAND	MANDIBLE
54	MAX	MAXILLA
55	PMAX	PREMAXILLA
56	SES	SESAMOID

Lookup element

ElementID	Element	Key
57	PAT	PATELLA
58	NAV	NAVICULAR
59	SF	SKULL FRAGMENT
60	CLEITH	CLEITHRUM

Lookup species

Taxon ID	Taxon	KEY
1	CAT	CAT (DOMESTIC)
2	OX	CATTLE
3	FOW	CHICKEN
4	DOG	DOG
5	DUCK	DUCK
6	GOAT	GOAT
7	GOO	GOOSE
8	HARE	HARE
9	LAG	HARE / RABBIT
10	HOR	HORSE
11	PIG	PIG
12	RAB	RABBIT
13	SHE	SHEEP
14	S/G	SHEEP / GOAT
15	UB	UNIDENTIFIED BIRD
16	UF	UNIDENTIFIED FISH
17	ULM	UNIDENTIFIED LARGE MAMMAL
18	UM	UNIDENTIFIED MAMMAL
19	UMM	UNIDENTIFIED MEDIUM MAMMAL
20	USM	UNIDENTIFIED SMALL MAMMAL
21	WAD	WADER
22	PHES	PHEASANT
23	HUM	HUMAN
24	FROG	FROG
25	TOAD	TOAD
26	RED	RED DEER
27	ROE	ROE DEER
28	FAL	FALLOW DEER
29	DEER	DEER
30	ULB	LARGE BIRD
31	UMB	MEDIUM BIRD
32	SALM	SALMONID
33	COD	COD
34	MOUSE	MOUSE
35	BANK VOLE	BANK VOLE
36	AMPH	AMPHIBIAN
37	MOLE	MOLE
38	VOLE	VOLE
39	PIKE	PIKE
40	CROW	CROW

Appendix 5

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM MELTON ROSS QUARRY, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE (MTRQ 11)

by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Melton Ross Quarry, undertaken by Archaeological Project Services (APS), recorded pits, ditches, enclosures and other discrete features of probable Iron Age to Romano-British date. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and eleven were submitted for assessment.

The samples were bulk floated by APS and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997) for the plant macrofossils and Kerney and Cameron (1979) for the mollusc shells. All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded along with a number of natural ferrous concretions and numerous shells of the borrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula*.

Results

Cereal grains and seeds of common weeds and wetland plants were recorded at a low to moderate density within all but sample 20 (layer [126]). Preservation was generally quite poor, with a high proportion of the grains and seeds being both severely puffed and distorted, and very fragmentary. The precise reason for this is not known, but it would appear quite likely that the cereals in particular had been subjected to very high temperatures during combustion.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grains were recorded including a possible asymmetrical lateral grain of six-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) from sample 11 (pit [084]). However, most were present as single specimens within an assemblage. The majority of the grains were too poorly preserved for close identification. Chaff was rare, but spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume bases were noted within the assemblages from samples 11 and 15 (pit [102]). The single oat floret base from sample 11 lacked the diagnostic basal abscission scar and, as a result, it was not possible to ascertain whether it was from a cultivated or wild variety.

Seeds of common segetal weeds and wetland plants were recorded within most of the assemblages studied. Taxa noted included brome (*Bromus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), grasses (Poaceae), dock (*Rumex* sp.), sedge (*Carex* sp.) and blinks (*Montia fontana*). A single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell was noted within the assemblage from sample 7 (ditch [025]). Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, although rarely at a high density. Other plant macrofossils were scarce, but did include pieces of charred root, rhizome or stem (including two possible fragments of heather (Ericaceae) stem) and indeterminate seeds and tubers.

The fragments of black porous and tarry material, which were present within all but sample 20, were all probable residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Other remains were very scarce, but did include small fragments of bone (some of which were burnt) and pieces of burnt or fired clay.

Within all eleven assemblages, shells of terrestrial molluscs occurred more frequently than plant macrofossils. At the time of writing, it was unclear whether these shells were contemporary with the features from which the samples were taken, or later contaminants, although it was noted that some specimens were abraded. Three of Evans (1972) ecological groups of land taxa were represented, with open country species being predominant. However, it would appear that some features were either damp (see also the limited number of wetland plants) or filled with leaf litter, as species including *Ena* sp., *Punctum pygmaeum* and *Vitrea* sp. were also recorded.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, all eleven assemblages are extremely small (<0.1 litres in volume) and are very limited in composition. Most appear to be derived from very small quantities of scattered or wind-dispersed detritus, some or all of which was probably accidentally incorporated within the feature fills. The origin of this material is unknown, but the poor state of preservation of the remains, particularly of the cereals, may indicate that hearth or midden waste is represented. However, it is possibly of note that the assemblages from samples 9 (ditch [055]), 11 and 15 (quarry pit [102]) are slightly more diverse and may include some cereal processing waste. The significance (if any) of these assemblages is currently not fully understood, but it is tentatively suggested that these features may have been closer to any focus of either domestic or agricultural activity.

As none of the current assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

References

- Evans, J., 1972 *Land snails in Archaeology*. London
- Kerney, M.P. and *A Field Guide to the Land Snails of Britain and North-west Europe*
Cameron, R.A.D., 1979 Collins
- Stace, C., 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Second edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare fg = fragment b = burnt Q.Pit = Quarry pit E.Ditch = enclosure ditch
IA = Iron Age RB = Romano-British

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December 2011

Sample No.	1	3	6	7	8	9	11	14	15	16	20
Context No.	062	040	020	027	013	056	085	105	107	111	126
Feature No.	051	039	019	025	012	055	084	102	102	110	
Feature type	Q.Pit	Ditch	E.Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Q.Pit	Q.Pit	Ditch	Layer
Date		IA		IA	IA					IA	IA/RB
Cereals											
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)						x	x		xcf	xcf	
(florete base)							x				
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf				xcf		x		x	x	
<i>H. vulgare</i> L. (asymmetrical lateral grain)							xcf				
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)		xcf				x	x		x		
(glume base)							x				
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)							x		x		
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	x xfg	xfg	x	xx	xx	x	x	x	
(detached sprout)							x				
Herbs											
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	x										
<i>Bromus</i> sp.						x	x				
Chenopodiaceae indet.	xcf										
Fabaceae indet.				xcf		x	x		x	x	
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love						x					
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.						x			xcf		
Small Poaceae indet.	x				x				x		
Large Poaceae indet.						x					
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (siliqua frag.)							x				
<i>Rumex</i> sp.		x					x				
Wetland plants											
<i>Carex</i> sp.		x			x						
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.					x						
<i>Juncus</i> sp.					x						
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.			x						x		
Tree/shrub macrofossils											
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.				x							
Other plant macrofossils											
Charcoal <2mm	x	xx	xxx	xx	x	xx	xxx	xx	xx	xx	x
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x	x			x	x	x			x
Charred root/stem	x	x	x	x		xx	x	x	xx	x	
Ericaceae indet. (stem)	x				xcf						
Indet.seeds		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Indet.tubers						x	xcf		x		
Other remains											
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x		x	x	xx	x	x		x	
Black tarry material	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	
Bone						x xb		xb	xb		
Burnt/fired clay					x		x	x			
Small coal frags.			x		x						
Small mammal/amphibian bones	x										
Mollusc shells											
Woodland/shade loving species											
<i>Ena</i> sp.					x						
<i>Oxychilus</i> sp.	x	x			x			x	x		
<i>Punctim pygmaeum</i>											x
<i>Vitrea</i> sp.	x	x						x	x		
Open country species											
<i>Helicella itala</i>		xx	x		x	x	x		x	x	
Helicidae indet.		x	x		x						
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	x	xx	x	x	xxxx	x	x	xx	xx	x	x
<i>V. costata</i>	x	xx	x		xxx	x		xx	x		x
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>			x	x	x	x	x			x	x
Catholic species											
<i>Cepaea</i> sp.		x		x	x						
<i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.		x			x		x		x		x
<i>Nesovitreia hammonis</i>		x									
<i>Trichia hispida</i> group	x	xxxx	x	x	xxxx			xx	xxx	x	x
Sample volume (litres)	20	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	20	30	30
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 1. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from Melton Ross Quarry, North Lincolnshire

Appendix 6

GLOSSARY

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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> 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 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
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.
Residual	Artefacts that are noticeably earlier than others in an assemblage are often described as residual. Residual artefacts may be ones that were used for a very long time, or items that were maintained as heirlooms/antiques. If the dates of artefacts within a group do not exhibit major differences it can be difficult to determine if an artefact is residual or redeposited (<i>q.v.</i>)
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.
Unstratified	Not related to definable layers (strata).

Appendix 7

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

172	Context records
4	Photographic record sheet
2	Section record sheet
2	Plan record sheet
24	Daily record sheet
61	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Small finds register
20	Environmental Sample sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
	Finds

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:

North Lincolnshire Museum
Oswald Road
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BD

Accession Number

MRBP

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

MTRQ11

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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