# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT MARCH, HATCHWOODS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE (MAHW12)

Work Undertaken For
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on behalf of
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Report Compiled by
Andrew Failes BA (Hons) MA

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

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# (MAHW 12)

| | |
|---|---|
| Project Coordinator | Tom Lane |
| Supervisor | Andrew Failes |
| Illustration | Andrew Failes |
| Photographic Reproduction | Sue Unsworth |
| Post-excavation Analyst | Andrew Failes |

| |
|---|
| Approved by Senior Archaeologist |
| Tom Lane |
| Date: 30-4-13 |

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.*

*This evaluation forms part of a larger ongoing scheme of works. The present investigation took place in Field 7 of the Application. Field 7 is an area of known archaeological remains. The HER records the site of a shrunken medieval village to the south of what was thought to be a moat or medieval fishponds where brick, 15th century pottery, shell, quern and bone have been found. This is thought to relate to part of Hatchwood manor or possibly part of Knights End manor.*

*The evaluation revealed a number of phases of activity from the possibly prehistoric to the present day. The earliest remains at the site include a pit and a ditch of possible Bronze Age date and an Early to Mid Saxon hearth or fire pit.*

*Late Saxon to medieval remains include a substantial enclosure ditch at the southern end of the site, with a number of recuts, dating from at least the 12$^{th}$ century and open through the 13$^{th}$ century and onwards and a field boundary extending north from the enclosure's northeastern corner. Within the enclosure and contemporary with it, was a midden deposit, a fire pit, two buried soils and a cluster of features including a ditch, two rectangular pits and a rectilinear feature (possibly a beam slot) which might represent structural remains.*

*Late medieval to post-medieval remains were also identified. Within the enclosure, evidence of quarrying and a substantial ditch (possibly a moat) was recorded. Outside of the enclosure and to the east, remnants of three furrows representing ridge and furrow agriculture were identified along with a narrow linear cut which probably had a drainage function.*

*Undated cropmarks and earthworks in the northwestern corner of the field were thought to represent the remains of a medieval fish pond. The earthworks first appear on a map from 1819. A map of 1887 labels them 'Moat Intrenchments' where they are depicted as a long pond, elongated north-south with a trapezoidal bank.*

*This substantial feature measured some fifteen meters wide by one hundred and twenty meters long by two and a half meters deep. A tentative radiocarbon date along with cartographic evidence suggests an eighteenth century date for this feature, while backfill deposits contained 19$^{th}$ to 20$^{th}$ century material including barbed wire and metal objects. Surprisingly, environmental samples revealed no fish bones in sixty litres of sediment. Taken with the dating evidence it is clear this was not a medieval fishpond. However, the interpretation of this feature remains uncertain.*

*Two undated ditches in the western half of the site were identified. However, the alignment of one of these ditches suggests it is probably contemporary with the enclosure ditch, while the others location suggests it is likely to predate the probable 18$^{th}$ century water filled feature.*

*Bulk sampling of the Late Saxon to post-medieval features revealed rubbish typical of medieval and post-medieval settlements. The presence of oyster, mussel, cockle and periwinkle, along with herring bones, indicate trade with the coast.*

*Environmental evidence from sampling shows the landscape to be dominated by open country and grassland and that the ditches almost certainly had accompanying hedgerows and remained*

*water filled for much of the year No crop processing or industry was taking place at the site, however animal husbandry was being practiced with sheep/goat forming the main part of the meat diet, along with pig from the 14th century onwards, while cattle were being used for traction. The possibility that sheep were being raised mainly for fleece is also suggested.*

*Sampling from the probable 18th century water filled feature contained small amounts of cereal pollen which attest to arable cultivation or at least local cereal use at this time.*

*The patterning of archaeological remains and demarcation of the landscape shows settlement and occupation occurring within the enclosure, while the surrounding landscape was being used to practice animal husbandry up until the post-medieval period when ridge and furrow agriculture is introduced. This patterning along with the possibility of a moat within the enclosure is consistent with the interpretation of this site as part of a manor or farmstead.*

*As part of the preliminary work at the site, an auger survey was undertaken in the northwestern corner of Field 8 and the results are included in this report. The survey revealed a probable palaeosol surviving on the bed of a dry river. It is suggested that the sides of the dry river valley may have afforded a suitable location for prehistoric settlement and further work should investigate both the high and low ground to explore the organic sediments and their potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence, and the prominences that overlook the valley for archaeological evidence.*

# 2. INTRODUCTION

## 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as *'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (IFA 2008).

## 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by The Landscape Consultancy on behalf of Stock Land and Estates Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire. The present investigation forms part of a larger scheme of ongoing works. The evaluation discussed in this report was undertaken on 29th to 30th of August 2012 and the 27th of September to the 25th of October 2012, in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Senior Archaeologist of the Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council.

## 2.3 Topography and Geology

March is located approximately 38km north of Cambridge and 23km east of Peterborough in the Fenland Administrative District of Cambridgeshire (Fig 1). The Application Site is located to the southwest of the urban core of March centred on National Grid Reference TL 410 955. It is an irregular shaped area of land measuring approximately 700m north–south by 1km east-west. It is bounded by March western bypass (A141) to the west, extending south to the rear of properties along Knight's End Road and

eastward to the developed area west of The Avenue. This investigation specifically targeted Field 7 at the southern end of the Application Site (Fig 2-4, 25), with a small auger survey in Field 8 (Fig 4) included. Field 7 contains significant earthworks and cropmarks which are thought to relate to part of Hatchwood manor or possibly part of Knights End manor.

March occupies a former island within the fenland, lying on the northern tip of a large peninsula between two major southern embayments of the fen. The pre-Flandrian bedrock of the area is Kimmeridge Clay, overlain by interglacial gravels (Hoxnian Phase) known as 'March Gravels' (flinty gravels with shelly fauna). Situated on the western edge of the low-lying island, which rises to *c.* 6m OD, the Application Site lies between 0m and 5m AOD.

Soils in the area are recorded as Ashley Association fine loamy over clayey stagnogleyic argillic brown earths over aeolian drift incorporated into the surface of chalky till (BGS 1983; Hodge *et al.* 1984, 96).

## 2.4 Archaeological Setting

Geological and soil mapping of the area has suggested that during the prehistoric periods the site lay on the edge of March 'island', with a small extension of the surrounding fen protruding into the site.

Approximately 1km northwest of the centre of the site, near Cherry Holt Farm, widely scattered waste flints and scrapers have been recorded, although most were found near the bypass (A141). A find of a Neolithic stone axe is also recorded in the vicinity. This prehistoric material was found by the former fen edge and other concentrations of prehistoric flint have been found in similar fen edge locations a little further north, by Gaul Road (Hall 1987, fig 20; Peachey 2009).

A large Bronze Age stone axe was found in the churchyard of St Wendreda, located just southeast of the Site. Prehistoric finds dating from the early Bronze Age, have also been recorded at the church hall. An archaeological evaluation south of the church, at Jobs Lane, revealed features dating from the Bronze Age to the Modern period, including a Bronze Age pit containing worked flint and Beaker pottery.

A concentration of Bronze Age flintwork was also recovered at Cherry Holt Farm along with the Neolithic material.

Iron Age-Roman remains have been recovered on the south side of St Wendreda's church and include a Late Iron Age pit alongside features of a later date. Artefacts of Late Iron Age date, comprising pottery and a possible loom weight, were also found immediately north of St. Wendreda's, during investigations at the church hall.

A Late Iron Age Iceni coin hoard was discovered at Field Baulk Farm, approximately 710m east of the centre of the Site, where subsequent excavation revealed a curving ditch, possibly associated with a round house.

Approximately 750m southeast of the centre of the Site at Wimblingdon Road, archaeological investigations identified a large number of late Iron Age and Roman remains including ditches, gullies, pits and post-holes thought to be associated with settlement dating from the 1st century BC to early 3rd century AD.

At the southern edge of the site by Hatchwood Farm a Roman coin hoard, recorded as a large pot full of coins, was found around 1820. However, it is likely that this indicates the general area (grid square) in which the hoard was reported,

rather than a precise location. Two other Roman coin hoards, one alongside a silver vase, were reported to have been found somewhere in the grid square to the north of the site.

Approximately 590m to the southeast of the centre of the Site, at Jobs Lane (south of St Wendreda's church), a Roman ditch was revealed during archaeological evaluation which identified a range of features from the Bronze Age to Modern periods.

A small assemblage of Roman and undated finds was found at Holly Lodge Cavalry Park, 635m to the east of the centre of the Site, comprising pottery, coins and metal objects including lead weights. An Anglo-Saxon bronze cruciform brooch of possible 6th century date was also recovered here.

The place-name March is probably derived from the Old English *mearc*, meaning 'boundary' (Ekwall 1989, 314). March has been identified as one of the estates given to Ely Abbey *c*. 1000 AD by Oswy and Leofleda when their son, Aelfwine, was admitted as a monk (Pugh 2002). March is first recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, indicating the settlement was in existence in the Late Saxon period.

Domesday records that March was held by the Abbey of Ely as a berewick of their manor of Doddington. Within this Ely holding were 12 villeins, each with 12 acres. The Abbot of St. Edmundsbury also held 16 acres in March. In this holding there was land for half a plough, meadow for 4 ploughs or oxen, and woodland for 4 pigs (Williams and Martin 2002, 525-6). On the basis of the Domesday entry it has been tentatively suggested that there were two centres of settlement and that there was a dispersed pattern of occupation in the Ely holding (Cambridgeshire County Council 2002, 19).

Hatchwood is first mentioned in 1251 when Stephen of the Marsh held 80 acres in the marsh below *Hachwood*. Hatchwood manor, the first manor to be recorded at March, is first referred to in 1328 when it was held by Geoffrey de Coleville (Pugh 2002).

Cropmarks recorded in Field 7 (the area of investigation in this phase of the works) at the southern end of the Site, to the northwest of Hatchwoods Farm, although undated, are thought to represent the remains of a medieval moated site or fishponds, and include evidence of ditches and enclosures. The site is now levelled and under crop. Later cartographic evidence shows a long trapezoidal earthwork containing a linear pond, which has been interpreted as a possible medieval fishpond.

The HER records the site of a shrunken medieval village to the south of the moat/fishponds where brick, 15th century pottery, shell, quern and bone have been found. This is thought to relate to part of Hatchwood manor or possibly part of Knights End manor.

Cropmark evidence (from aerial photographs) of ridge and furrow earthworks (remains of medieval cultivation) is recorded in the eastern part of the Application Site in Field 1 oriented on an east-west alignment (Fig 25). Further evidence of ridge and furrow was observed on aerial photographs within the Application Site (Fig 25) on an east-west alignment in part of Field 9, the eastern end of Field 6, in Field 3 and the eastern end of Field 7 in present area of investigation. Some north-south oriented cropmarks were observed in Field 2, Field 8 and the southern end of Field 9, which although on a different alignment may still represent ridge and furrow agriculture.

Saint Wendreda's Church, a Grade I Listed

Building, stands to the southeast of the Site. The church dates mainly from the 14th century but with some earlier elements. A Papal indulgence was granted in 1343 for the re-building of the church (Pevsner 2002, 437). The chancel was rebuilt in 19th century. Late Saxon and early medieval pottery found during archaeological investigations on Church Street are thought to indicate possible early medieval settlement associated with the church.

Post-medieval finds include 16th century pottery sherds found at the southern edge of the application site, together with medieval pottery.

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the Senior Archaeologist of the Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

## 4. METHODS

As a prelude to this investigation, two auger surveys (one focusing on the fishpond/moat feature and one across a dry river valley in the adjacent Field 8) were undertaken and three trenches opened to investigate the fishpond/moat feature in Field 7. The third 'environmental trench' was excavated in order to retrieve bulk samples and a core sample from the basal waterlain silts of the fishpond/moat feature. The core was sampled for pollen and a radiocarbon date.

The present investigation consisted of nineteen evaluation trenches (Figs 3 & 4) with the majority targeted over cropmarks and the remainder placed for maximum coverage of the area. Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 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, in consultation with environmental specialist James Rackham, using guidelines established by English Heritage (2002). The subsequent processing of the samples is detailed in Appendix 4.

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

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

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order with the results of the previous auger

survey of Field 8 presented first. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

***Auger Survey: Field 8***

Topographic survey of Field 8 showed that a small dry valley falls from the southeast to the northwest corner of the site and it was considered possible that the floor of the valley might preserve peats and organic sediments relating to a period when the wetlands stretched up to the site. A short transect of six auger holes at 10m intervals was laid across the northwestern corner of Field 8 (Fig 4) in order to investigate the deposits on the dry valley floor. The results of this investigation are fully detailed in Appendix 4 and summarised here.

The broad sequence revealed from the auger survey showed clay, sometimes with sands above, overlain by silty and sandy clays with occasional flints. Horizons in boreholes BH1-4 indicate a probable earlier land surface. BH2 contained a probable palaeosol and BH3 revealed a possible palaeosol. Degraded and humified organic silts/peats in BH4 were interpreted as lying on an earlier soil or perhaps eroded surface. In BH1 a loose friable slightly sandy silty clay loam was equated with the palaeosol interpreted in the other boreholes. Only in BH5 and BH6 was no horizon found that could be related to this palaeosol. The overlying sediments in BH1-4 were interpreted as colluvial sediments and 0.3m of friable humic silt or degraded peats in BH4 indicate a localised *in situ* build up of organic deposits on the floor of the valley. Although the deposit is very degraded, it might preserve pollen.

***Trench 1***

Trench 1 was located across the long and wide cropmark at the northeastern end of the site (Fig 3), which was thought to represent the remains of a medieval fish pond.

This trench was part of an earlier investigation at the site, undertaken in conjunction with environmental specialist James Rackham. The investigation included an auger survey, two evaluation trenches and a third 'environmental' trench, excavated to the base of the sequence of fills within the feature in order to expose the lower waterlain black silts and allow access for sampling. Two waterlogged bulk samples from the basal silts in this feature produced a range of aquatic and terrestrial plants and snails and small roundwood. Beetle fragments, mites and chironomid larvae (midges) are also present. These indicate a range of habitats - aquatic, scrub, grassland, marsh but with little indication of human activity (Rackham, Appendix 4). Despite 60 litres of silts being processed no fish bones were recovered, the only bones being from frog or toad and shrew.

Auger transects A and B were located across the feature and a few boreholes were laid along the longitudinal length of the feature (transect C). The augering was undertaken with a gouge auger and each borehole surveyed. Transects A and C were recorded with OD heights and the data from the boreholes is presented in Figures 3 and 4 in Appendix 4.

The results of the auger survey are presented in Appendix 4. Transect A was laid across the feature and subsequently excavated as Trench 1. The results of the trenching are described below.

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a layer of naturally deposited firm mid grey clay (103), containing occasional lenses of gravel (Fig 15, Section 1) (Plate 2)

A second natural deposit, consisting of firm mid greyish brown clay (102) with

frequent patches of brown sand overlay deposit (103) (Figs 5 & 15, Section 1) (Plate 2). This deposit was 1.20m thick.

Deposit (102) was truncated by a long wide linear cut [104] oriented on a roughly north-south alignment which extended approximately 130m in length from the northern boundary of the site. The width of this feature in Trench 1 measured 13m and had a depth of *c.* 2m, revealed through auguring in the bottom in the trench. The cut had concave sides breaking to a probable flat base (Figs 5 & 15, Section 1) (Plate 2).

At the base of this feature was a 50mm thick, soft black sediment (105), described by the environmental specialist as sediment laid down in open water. The sediment had been disturbed by infilling of heavy objects.

Sealing this sediment was a 1.30m thick deposit of firm dark grey clay (106), containing dumped material including barbed wire, cut tree stumps and large metal fragments etc. that suggests dumping in the 19th and/or 20th century.

A second backfill deposit consisting of a firm mix of mid brown and mid brownish yellow sandy clay and clayey silt (107) overlay deposit (106) and had a thickness of up to 1.30m.

The final fill within this feature comprised soft dark brownish grey clayey silt, up to 0.60m thick (108).

A layer of soft dark brownish grey clayey silt topsoil (101), up to 0.50m thick, sealed deposit (108).

***Trench 2***

Trench 2 was also placed across the possible fish pond and was located south of Trench 1 (Fig 3) in the area of auger Transect B.

The earliest deposit encountered in this trench was a firm mid grey clay (206), with frequent chalk flecks (Fig 15, Section 2) (Plate 3). This is the same natural deposit as observed in Trench 1 where it was assigned context number (103).

A second natural deposit of friable to firm, mottled light grey, yellow and orange clayey sand and gravel (205), overlay the firm mid grey clay (206) and had a thickness of 0.80m (Fig 15, Section 2) (Plate 3).

The north-south aligned cut of the possible fish pond [204] measured 19.2m in width by 2.2m deep with concave sides breaking to a probable flat base (Fig 15, Section 2) (Plate 3). This is the same cut identified in Trench 1 as [104].

The deposit at the base of the possible fish pond consisted of the same soft black sediment recorded in Trench 1 as (105). In this trench the sediment was assigned context number (203) and had a thickness of up to 0.20m.

The black sediment was overlain by a backfilled deposit consisting of a loose mix of mid brown, yellowish brown and dark greyish brown clayey silt (202), up to 2.10m thick, containing modern scrap including a length of wire rope and a black painted rectangular panel with bolt holes, probably from a modern vehicle.

This fill was sealed by a layer of friable mid greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (201), up to 0.38m thick.

***Trench 3***

Trench 3 also investigated the possible fish pond feature and was located to the south of Trench 2 (Fig 3). This trench was dug primarily for sampling and was not recorded in plan or section. However, the deposits were described and the same sequence of fills as observed in Trench 2

was identified.

The cut itself was assigned context number [304] and was 2m deep in this trench.

The primary fill was the soft black sediment (303) previously identified. However, it was thicker here and a number of samples were taken. A fragment of 13th to 15th century tile was recovered from this deposit.

The waterlain silt was overlain by the same mix of deposits described in Trench 2 as (202) and assigned context number (302) in this trench.

Deposit (302) was sealed by a 0.40m thick layer of topsoil (301) consisting of friable mid greyish brown clayey silt.

A total of two bulk samples were obtained from the basal 0.10m-0.14m of the primary waterlain silts in this trench, along with a core sample through the basal 0.50m of sediment. Results are described in Appendix 4 and summarised in this reports discussion.

***Trench 4***

Trench 4 was located across the cropmark of a substantial enclosure ditch in the central southern half of Field 7 (Figs 3-4).

The natural deposit encountered in this trench consisted of firm mid yellowish orange clayey sand, 0.17m thick, containing a moderate amount of flint pebbles.

The natural was truncated by the previously mentioned enclosure ditch, which took the form of a linear north-south aligned cut in this trench. A number of recuts of the ditch were identified. The earliest cut for this ditch was recorded on its western side and assigned context number [418]. The ditch cut measured at least 0.57m in depth and at least 1.10m wide. The cut would presumably have been much wider but had been truncated by several re-cuts of the ditch. The sides were steep, breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig 16, Section 3) (Plate 5).

Ditch cut [418] was filled with a soft mid grey clayey sandy silt (417) with rusty red mottle, measuring 0.40m thick with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints.

Fill (417) was cut by [416], a re-cut of the enclosure ditch measuring at least 1.95m wide and up to 0.55m deep, with a gently sloping side breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig 16, Section 3) (Plate 5).

Cut [416] was filled by moderately firm mid olivey brown clayey sandy silt (415), up to 0.27m thick and containing a moderate amount of small flints.

This fill was also truncated by a recut [414] of the ditch which measured 4.8m wide by at least 1.4m deep with steep sides and an unknown base The base of the cut was not observed due to wet conditions (Fig 16, Section 3) (Plate 5).

The primary fill within [414] consisted of firm mid olive grey clayey sandy silt (413) with rusty red mottle, at least 0.65m thick, containing frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles.

This was overlain by a second fill, consisting of soft mid grey clayey sandy silt (412), up to 0.30m thick, with a moderate amount of small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints.

The eastern side of the ditch was defined by cut [404], which measured 2.8m wide by 1.4m deep with steep sides. Once again the base was not observed due to the water table. This is probably the same cut as [414] and together they more fully represent the size of the enclosure ditch

(Figs 6 & 16, Section 3) (Plates 5 & 6).

The primary fill within cut [404] consisted of firm mid olive brownish grey clayey sandy silt (409), at least 0.40m thick with frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and stones. This was the same deposit as (413).

The second fill within [404] comprised soft mid grey clayey sandy silt (408) with red mottle, up to 0.40m thick and containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded stones. This was the same deposit as (412). An undated fragment of CBM, and undated piece of brick, two fragments of 15th to 18th century brick, six pieces of pig bone and a fragment of large mammal bone were recovered from this deposit.

Deposit (408) was overlain on the eastern side of cut [404] by an up to 0.30m thick, moderately firm, mid olive brown clayey sandy silt (407) with moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles.

Cut through (407) on the eastern edge of the deposit was a 0.28m wide by at least 0.35m deep linear field drain cut [406], with vertical sides oriented on a roughly north-south alignment (Fig 16, Section 3).

The fill of field drain cut [406] consisted of a mix of loose light yellowish grey sandy clay and dark brown sandy clayey silt (405) with moderate small stones.

Overlying deposit (407) and deposit (412) which lies within cut [414], was a soft mid olive brown clayey sandy silt (403), up to 0.35m thick with frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles. A number of artefacts were retrieved from this deposit, including three undated fragments of brick, a piece of 15th to 19th century brick, three sherds of early medieval to medieval pottery, including two fragments of Ely type ware *(1175-1350)* and a single sherd of Grimstone type ware dating from the 13th to mid 16th century.

Deposit (403) was truncated by a 0.23m wide, by at least 0.13m deep, linear field drain cut [421], oriented on a roughly north-south alignment (Fig 16, Section 3) (Plates 5 & 6).

The fill of cut [421] consisted of a loose mixture of dark brown and orangey brown clayey sandy silt and sandy clay (420), containing moderate small stones.

The modern field drain [421] was sealed by a deposit of soft dark brownish grey humic sandy silt (402), up to 0.20m thick and containing a single fragment of 19th century clay pipe stem. This deposit had formed within ditch cut [404]/[414], but is much later than the fills beneath it as it post-dates the field drain which cuts through deposit (403) and contains a fragment of 19th century pipe. This suggests that the enclosure ditch remained as an earthwork for a significant period of time, only completely filling up in modern times (Fig 16, Section 3) (Plates 5 & 6).

Deposit (402) was sealed by a 0.30m thick layer of dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (401) topsoil, containing moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints (Fig 16, Section3) (Plates 5 & 6).

***Trench 5***

Trench 5 was located at the central southern end of the site (Fig 3). The enclosure ditch investigated in Trench 4 also occurred in this trench (Figs 3 & 4), but was not excavated. The natural deposit identified at the base of Trench 5 consisted of mid greenish yellowish brown sandy silt (504) (Fig 7).

The natural deposit was overlain by a light brown clayey silt with orange mottle (503). This was thought to possibly represent a layer of subsoil but could also

be a natural deposit (Fig 7).

At the western end of the trench, deposit (503) was overlain by moderately compact light brownish yellow redeposited clay (500), up to 0.20m thick (Fig 7).

Truncating the redeposited clay (500) was a modern linear cut [502] oriented on a roughly east-west alignment (Fig 7).

This probable service trench was filled with loose light orangey brown gravel (501) (Fig 7).

The gravel was sealed by a layer of dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (505) topsoil, containing moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints (Fig 7).

***Trench 6***

Trench 6 was located within the area of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3 & 4), approximately 19m west of Trench 5. The earliest deposit encountered in this trench consisted of firm mid yellowish brown to dark yellowish brown boulder clay (616).

The boulder clay was overlain by an up to 0.38m thick, firm mid orangey brown silty clay (615), containing moderate small pebbles (Fig 22, Section 32). This was also a natural deposit.

Towards the central area of the trench, deposit (615) became a darker yellowish grey silty sand and was assigned context number (612) (Figs 7 & 23, Section 35) (Plate 7).

At the southern end of the trench, natural deposit (615) was overlain by an up to 0.22m thick deposit of firm dark yellowish greyish brown sandy silty clay (607), containing frequent flecks of chalk and sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and moderate charcoal flecks. (Figs 7 & 22, Sections 31-33) (Plate 9). Finds recovered from this deposit include seven sherds of 12$^{th}$ to 13$^{th}$ century Early Medieval Handmade ware, two fragments of Grimston-type ware *(1200-1400)*, an iron nail, a fragment of oyster, a single fragment of mussel shell and a small assemblage of animal bone. The animal bone assemblage consisted of two pieces of cattle bone, eight fragments of large mammal, one fragment of sheep and four pieces of medium sized mammal bone. A bulk sample from this deposit contained poorly preserved charred cereal, charred Cyperaceae, a few large pieces of charcoal, chicken eggshell, mussel, winkle, mouse, vole, lagomorph, small bird, eel and other small fish remains.

Near the central area of the trench the natural sand (612) was truncated by a linear cut [606] oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 4.7m in width by at least 0.8m in depth (the ditch was not bottomed due to the high water table) with moderately steep sides, concave in shape to the north and slightly convex to the south (Figs 7 & 23, Section 35) (Plate 7).

The earliest fill identified within this feature consisted of firm mid greyish brown silty sandy clay (611), at least 0.30m thick, containing occasional charcoal flecks. Finds retrieved from this deposit include three sherds of Bourne/Colne type ware *(1450-1650)* (one of which dates to the mid 14$^{th}$ to 15$^{th}$ century), one burnt residual fragment of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*, two fragments of large mammal bone, a chunk of timber and a broken fragment of probably 13$^{th}$ to 15$^{th}$ century Late Saxon to Medieval Norwegian Ragstone Whetstone. A waterlogged bulk sample was taken from this deposit. The sample revealed a large concentration of bark. No cereal grains were found but a few rachis internodes (chaff) were recovered. Chicken eggshell, oyster, mussel, cockle, sheep/goat, pig, water vole, shrew, newt, eel, herring, other small fish and several small bird remains

were also present.

Ditch fill (611) was overlain by a fill consisting of firm mid greyish brown silty sandy clay (610), containing occasional charcoal flecks. A number of finds were retrieved from this deposit, including five large mammal bone fragments, two pieces of medium mammal bone, an iron spike, two fragments of oyster shell, one mussel shell fragment and a Late Saxon to Medieval (probably 13th to 15th century) fragment of Norwegian Ragstone Whetstone. This fragment of hone appears to be made from a slightly different stone type to that recovered from (611), suggesting they are not from a single item.

Ditch fill (610) was sealed by a 0.30m thick light greyish brown silty sandy clay (609) deposit, containing occasional chalk flecks and occasional lumps of boulder clay. A total of seven fragments of fired clay, four pieces of Oyster shell, one sherd of Glazed Red Earthenware *(1500-1650)* pottery, a single fragment of 15th to 16th century Bourne/Colne Type ware, five fragments of large mammal bone, a sheep/goat molar and a single fragment of sheep/goat bone was retrieved from this deposit.

Overlying (609) was a third ditch fill comprising firm mid greyish yellow silty clay (608), up to 0.27m thick and containing frequent chalk flecks and sub-angular to sub-rounded flint cobbles.

The final fill within ditch [606] consisted of soft brown clayey silt (601), 0.32m thick, containing a moderate amount of red brick or CBM fragments.

Ditch [606] was truncated by a later field drain [602] which was filled with soft brown silty clay (600) containing redeposited material from the fills of ditch [606], including two fragments of Grimstone type ware *(1200-1400)* and a sherd of 14th to 15th century Midlands Purple ware (Fig 7). Animal bone recovered from this deposit included five fragments of cattle bone, five pieces of large mammal bone, one pig canine, a sheep incisor, a fragment of deer bone and a single piece of pig bone.

At the northern end of the trench the exposed deposit appeared natural at first but was revealed to be a fill of a large feature (Fig 7). However, the location of a cut for a feature could not be ascertained. An exploratory sondage was dug in order to further understand the sequence of events at this end of the trench and to identify the location of any cut.

The placement of the sondage did not reveal the location of the cut, however, it did reveal a sequence of backfilled deposits to a significant depth which suggests a cut does exist further to the south of the sondage, but north of ditch [606] (Fig 7).

A cut number [621] was assigned for the purposes of recording, but its placement and attributes remain unknown. A possible location for it is shown on the plan of Trench 6 (Fig 7).

The earliest backfill deposit identified in the sondage (which was not fully excavated due to the water table) consisted of firm dark olive grey sandy clay (619), at least 0.22m thick, containing frequent flecks of charcoal, chalk and mussel shell fragments (Figs 7 & 23, Section 34) (Plate 8).

Deposit (619) was sealed by a 0.12m thick fill of mottled red and orangey bluish grey mixed clay (618) containing frequent chalk pebbles (Fig 23, Section 34) (Plate 8).

Overlying (618) was a 0.18m thick deposit of very firm mid yellowish brown clay (617), containing frequent chalk pebbles,

fragments of CBM and redeposited boulder clay (Figs 7 & 23, Section 34) (Plate 8).

The next backfill deposit in the sequence consisted of firm mid to light greyish yellowish brown silty clay (614), 90mm thick, containing occasional CBM fragments, charcoal flecks and small pebbles (Fig 23, Section 34) (Plate 8).

The final deposit in the sequence comprised firm mid greyish olive brown silty clay (613), 0.11m thick, containing frequent charcoal flecks and moderate small pebbles (Fig 23, Section 34) (Plate 8). A number of finds including pottery, CBM, animal bone and an iron nail were recovered from this deposit. The pottery consisted of one sherd of Grimston-type ware *(1200-1400)*, two fragments of Late Grimston ware *(1350-1550)* and a single piece of late 15th to 16th century Glazed Red Earthenware. The CBM comprised two fragments of 15th to 18th century brick, an undated fragment of CBM and two undated pieces of brick. Finally, the animal bone assemblage consisted of four pieces of cattle bone and a fragment of medium mammal bone.

Deposit (613) was sealed by a 0.41m thick layer of dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (620) topsoil, containing moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and extending throughout the trench (Fig 23, Sections 34 & 35) (Plates 34 & 35).

***Trench 7***

Trench 7 was located across the western end of the enclosure ditch (although not excavated in this trench), as well as another linear earthwork oriented on a roughly north-south alignment further to the west and outside of the enclosure itself (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit at the base of this trench consisted of firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt (710), containing a moderate amount of stones and flints (Fig 8) (Plate 10).

The roughly north-south aligned ditch [704] identified previously as an earthwork to the west of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3-4) was cut through natural deposit (710) (Figs 8 & 16, Section 5) (Plate 10).

The ditch was not fully excavated due to the high water table The earliest fill that could be identified consisted of firm to friable mid reddish brown slightly sandy clayey silt (703), up to 0.10m thick, containing occasional stones and flints (Fig 16, Section 5) (Plate 10).

Overlying (703) was a 0.25m thick deposit of firm to friable dark reddish brown slightly sandy clayey silt (702), containing occasional stones and flints (Fig 16, Section 5) (Plate 10).

The final and latest fill within ditch [704] consisted of firm to friable dark yellowish and dark greyish brown slightly clayey silt (701) with moderate small stones and occasional flecks of CBM. Two 20th century golf balls were found within this deposit. However, this fill may have been of a much later date than the original cut, as many of the features across the site look to have stayed open as earthworks for a considerable time prior to their last phase of infilling, as with deposit (402) in the top of the enclosure ditch cut [421]. These two dark deposits are very similar and dating evidence from (402) represents a much later infilling episode of the enclosure ditch.

An exploratory sondage was dug in the eastern end of the trench within the enclosure ditch (Fig 8), in order to ascertain where natural deposits lay and what the sequence of any overlying deposits might be.

Natural deposit (710) was identified within the sondage at 0.71m below the current ground surface (Figs 7 & 17, Section 6).

Overlying (710) was a firm light greyish brown orange mottled silt (708), approximately 0.10m thick, containing occasional stones, flints and charcoal flecks (Fig 17, Section 6).

Overlying deposit (708) was a 40mm thick layer of firm light yellowish brown silty clay and limestone (707) (Fig 17, Section 6).

Deposit (707) was overlain by two separate and distinct layers. In the eastern end of the sondage the layer consisted of firm light greyish brown and orange mottled silt (706), with frequent small stones, flints and occasional flecks of charcoal, with a thickness of up to 60mm (Figs 7 & 17, Section 6).

In the western end of the sondage the overlying deposit comprised firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt (709), 0.14m thick, containing frequent small pebbles and flints (Figs 7 & 17, Section 6).

Deposits (706) and (709) were both overlain by firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt (705), *c.* 0.13m thick, containing frequent stones and flints and occasional fragments of charcoal (Figs 7 & 17, Section 6). An undated fragment of brick along with ten pieces of 15th to 17th century brick was recovered from this deposit. Pottery retrieved from this layer included six sherds of mid 12th to 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware and six fragments of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*.

Sealing (705) and the latest fill (701) of the north-south aligned ditch, was a firm to friable mid greyish brown slightly sandy silt (700) topsoil deposit, approximately 0.40m thick, containing frequent small stones, gravel and flints. A single sherd of 16th to 17th century Red Glazed Earthenware was recovered from the topsoil.

***Trench 8***

Trench 8 was located at the western side of the site, outside of the enclosure ditch and to the north of Trench 7 (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit at the base of Trench 8 comprised firm dark brown silty clay (801) with frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles and flints (Fig 8) (Plate 11).

The natural was sealed by a 0.37m thick, firm dark brown silty clay (800) containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (Fig 24, Sec 36) (Plate 11).

***Trench 9***

Trench 9 was placed over the northwestern corner of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3 & 4) cropmark and the southern end of the possible medieval fish pond earthwork.

At the southern end of this trench, the deposit identified as natural in origin consisted of firm mid brownish orange sandy clay (930), containing moderate flint pebbles and occasional cobbles (Figs 9 & 21, Sections 26-27) (Plates 12 & 16).

A single pit [903] was identified cut through natural deposit (930). It was oval in shape and measured 1.25m in length by 0.80m wide by 0.15m deep, with fairly shallow sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 9 & 17, Section 8) (Plate 12). A relatively large amount of fired clay in the upper fill of this feature suggests it may represent a fire pit or hearth.

The pit contained two fills, the earliest of which was a soft dark yellowish brown clayey silt (902), up to 0.10m thick, containing moderate small stones and

flints and occasional flecks of charcoal and CBM.

The second and later fill within [903] comprised soft dark greyish brown clayey silt (901), 60mm thick, containing frequent flecks of charcoal and CBM. This fill contained twelve fragments of fired clay, a flint chip or spall, a piece of medium mammal bone, a single sherd of 15th to 16th Bourne/Colne Type ware, three sherds of late 12th to mid 14th century Ely-type ware and five fragments of 12th to 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware. A bulk sample was obtained from this deposit and contained some poorly preserved charred cereal grain, a legume fragment, bird eggshell and rodent bones. There was a large fired earth component and relatively high magnetic component in this sample which is consistent with the interpretation of [903] as a hearth or fire pit (Rackham, Appendix 4).

Towards the central and western area of Trench 9, the natural deposit was assigned context number (924) and was the same in character as (930) (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13 & 15).

The earliest feature identified cut through natural deposit (924) was located at the base of possible ditch or pit [923] at the southern end of the enclosure ditch. This was a linear cut oriented on a northeast-southwest alignment, measuring 0.80m by 0.17m by 0.50m (Fig 9).

The cut had a single fill of very soft mid yellow sand (925), containing moderate rounded stones and flints near the top of the deposit (Fig 9). This was probably a natural feature, specifically an ice wedge and thus predates the rest of the cuts in the area of the enclosure ditch.

The area of the enclosure ditch was complicated containing a number of possible features and recuts. The earliest cut on the southern side of the enclosure ditch [921] was sub-circular in shape, measuring 1.30m in diameter by 0.50m deep, with steep sides (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13 & 15). This might be an earlier pit or possibly the terminal end of an early cut of the enclosure ditch before it was extended around to the south.

Cut [921] was filled with soft yet plastic, heavily mottled brownish grey silt (920), 0.50m thick, containing occasional flints. A single flint chip or spall was retrieved from this fill. A bulk sample was taken from this deposit and yielded very poorly preserved charred cereal remains, fruit/nut fragments, Modern uncharred seeds, mussel, periwinkle, water vole, mole, mouse, frog/toad and small bird remains.

At the southern end of the enclosure ditch the earliest cut [921] was truncated by [923] and was irregular in shape, measuring 1.50m by 0.50m deep, with a steep side breaking sharply to an undulating base (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13 & 15). This was a pit or possibly a re-cut of the enclosure ditch. However, it would seem somewhat shallow for this to be the case.

Cut [923] contained two fills, the first of which was soft, yet plastic mid grey clayey silt (922), 0.20m thick, containing moderate charcoal and frequent fragments of fired clay. A total of twenty-one fragments of fired clay were retrieved from this deposit.

The second and later fill within [923] was composed of moderately firm and slightly plastic, mottled orange brown silt (919), 0.32m thick, containing occasional angular flints.

At the northern end of the enclosure ditch the earliest cut was linear [918] and oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 2.46m wide by 0.96m deep,

with shallow sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 14-15). This appears to be the earliest identifiable cut of the enclosure ditch at the northern end.

A single fill was identified within this cut and consisted of firm mid greenish yellow silty clay (917), 0.20m thick.

Ditch cut [918] was truncated by a linear re-cut [916] oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.66m wide by 0.46m deep with moderately steep to very steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 14-15).

The earliest fill within [916] consisted of soft, yet plastic, mottled orange grey silty clay (915), 0.27m thick, containing very occasional angular flints. A single fragment of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*, four fragments of mid 12th to 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware and three flint chips or spalls were found within this deposit. A bulk sample taken from this deposit contained some very poorly preserved charred cereal grains, a few fruit/nut shell fragments, large and medium Legumes, reed culmn node, Modern uncharred seeds, mussel and oyster shell fragments, pig, field vole, frog/toad, eel and herring remains and three species of bird eggshell.

The next fill in the sequence was composed of 0.20m thick, soft yet plastic, dark grey clayey silt (914), containing clumps of charcoal and occasional angular flints. A fragment of fired clay, two pieces of bird bone, a fragment of 13th to 14th century Grimston-type ware pottery and a single sherd of Early Medieval Handmade ware *(1100-1250)* were retrieved from this fill.

Deposit (914) was overlain by a fill comprised of firm light brown silty clay (913), 0.18m thick, with very occasional charcoal flecks and angular flints. A single sherd of late 12th to mid 14th century Ely-type ware pottery was recovered from this deposit.

The final and latest fill within [916] was 0.42m thick and composed of firm mid brown clay (912), with frequent chalk flecks and fragments and occasional charcoal flecks.

Cuts [916] in the northern end and [923] in the southern end were both truncated by a re-cut of the enclosure ditch [911], described as a linear cut oriented on a east-west alignment, measuring 1.76m wide by 0.85m deep, with one near vertical side and a less steep side (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13-15). This was only partially excavated due to wet conditions raising the height of the water table in this area.

The earliest fill of [911] comprised soft, yet plastic, brownish grey clayey silt (910), 0.30m thick. Finds recovered from this deposit consisted of seven flint chips or spalls and a single iron nail. A bulk sample contained some Modern/uncharred seeds, chicken eggshell, mussel shell, water vole, field vole, shrew, frog/toad and snake remains.

The second fill within [911] comprised firm and somewhat plastic clayey silt (909), 0.48m thick. A total of three fragments of pottery were recovered from this fill; a single sherd of Stanyon/Lyvedon ware *(1150-1250)* and two sherds of late 12th to 13th century Ely-type ware.

Recut [911] was itself truncated by linear cut [908] oriented on an east-west alignment measuring 0.96m wide by 0.32m deep, with moderately steep sloping sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13-15). This ditch cut is very narrow and shallow relative to the enclosure ditch and thus

may not be a recut as such, but perhaps a ditch from a later date with a different purpose.

In the southern half of the trench, but to the north of pit [903], the natural was overlain by a layer of soft dark grey clayey silt (927)/(928)/(929), up to 0.13m thick, containing moderate pottery fragments, charcoal flecks and occasional fragments of CBM and rounded pebbles. This deposit was assigned three different context numbers in the three separate 1m square test pits which were dug through it (Figs 9 & 21, Sections 26-28) (Plate 16). A relatively large number of finds were retrieved from this deposit suggesting that it may represent the remains of a midden. Pottery recovered includes twelve sherds of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*, eighteen fragments of 12th to 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware, three sherds of 12th to 13th century Stamford Ware, a single fragment of 14th to 15th century Midlands Purple ware and one piece of Stanyon/Lyveden ware *(1150-1250)*. Animal bone included eight fragments of large mammal and one of bird. Other finds consisted of eighteen flint chips or spalls, one iron strap hinge, two fragments of mussel shell and three pieces of fired clay, one with possible wattle impressions. A bulk sample of this deposit taken from Test Pit 1 contained poorly preserved charred cereal, charred Legume, Cyperaceae, hazel nut shell fragment, bird eggshell, water vole/rat, frog/toad, small fish and indeterminate mammal bones. A second bulk sample, taken from Test Pit 3 yielded poorly preserved charred grain, charred Legume, Cyperaceae, twig, fruit/nut shell fragment, Modern uncharred seeds, bird eggshell, indeterminate mammal bone, snake, chicken, eel and other small fish remains.

A deposit of moderately firm dark grey silt (906), 0.18m thick, with some possible organic content overlay the area of the enclosure ditch, but did not appear to be within a cut (Figs 9 & 18, Section 13) (Plates 13-15). This suggests a much later fill within what was probably an earthwork depression associated with the remains of the former enclosure ditch. Finds recovered from this deposit include one sherd of mid 15th to mid 17th century Bourne/Colne Type ware, a 14th to 16th century fragment of tile, a tile fragment dating to the 13th to 16th century, five undated fragments of brick, an undated piece of CBM, two cattle molar, a fragment of cattle bone and a single fragment of bone belonging to a bird. The pottery is probably residual and redeposited as this dark infill clearly contains modern material where it was observed throughout the rest of the site in the top fills of enclosure ditch cut [421], ditch cut [704], [2007] and [2102].

Deposit (906) was truncated by field drain cut [905]; a linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 0.12m wide by 0.42m deep with vertical sides and a concave base (Fig 18, Section 13) (Plates 14-15).

The field drain cut was filled with moderately firm dark grey silty sandy clay (904), containing moderate fragments of CBM.

Sealing the field drain cut and extending throughout the trench was an up to 0.38m thick, soft dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (900), containing frequent small stones, flints and moderate larger stones.

***Trench 10***

Trench 10 was located over the possible medieval fish pond cropmark/earthwork in the northwestern area of the site just to the north of Trench 9 (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit identified at the base of Trench 10 was composed of firm mid brownish orange sandy clay [1006],

containing moderate flint pebbles (Fig 9).

The medieval fish pond area was not investigated in this trench as it had previously been augured, sampled and recorded by the environmental specialist James Rackham, in Trenches 1-3. However, the extent and character of the pond with regards to width and the identification of surviving remnants of a possible bank were further defined in the plan of Trench 10 (Fig 9).

To the west of the pond a linear ditch [1005] oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring 2.9m wide by 0.72m deep with moderately steep sides (Figs 9 & 22, Section 29) (Plate 17) cut through the natural deposit (1006).

A total of four fills were identified in this feature, however, it was not fully excavated due to the height of the water table. The earliest fill encountered in the ditch looked to be some slumped, firm mid yellowish brown silty clay natural (1004) in the eastern side of the cut.

This slumping or eroded natural was overlain by a fill composed of firm mid greyish brown silty clay (1003) containing frequent rusty coloured iron staining, moderate chalk fragments and occasional sub-rounded flint pebbles.

The third ditch fill in this sequence consisted of firm mid greyish brown silty clay (1002), 0.29m thick, containing occasional sub-rounded flint and sandstone pebbles.

The final fill comprised friable dark greyish brown peaty clay (1001), 50mm thick, containing occasional grit and charcoal flecks. This is very similar to the later dark fills recorded in the top of the enclosure ditch and in the ditch in Trench 7. This suggests that the possibility that the ditch may be of some antiquity and may have lain open as a significant earthwork for some time before the final episode of infilling.

Deposit (1001) was overlain by a 0.43m thick firm dark brown silty clay topsoil (1000), containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (Fig 22, Section 29) (Plate 17).

***Trench 11***

This trench was located in the northwestern area of the site to the west of the possible medieval fish pond.

The natural deposit at the base of this trench consisted of firm to soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay (1101), containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular sized pebbles (Fig 10)

The natural was overlain by firm dark brown silty clay (1100) topsoil, 0.33m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (Fig 24, Section 37).

***Trench 12***

This trench was located to the east of the possible medieval fish pond and north of the enclosure ditch.

The earliest natural deposit encountered in this trench comprised firm mid orangey brown silty sandy clay (1204) with frequent chalk and flint pebbles (Figs 10 & 19, Section 14) (Plate 18).

Cut through the natural near the centre of the trench was a linear ditch cut [1203] oriented on a roughly east-west alignment, measuring 0.48m wide by 0.35m deep with steep sides (stepped slightly on the north side) breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 10 & 19, Section 14) (Plate 18).

There were two separate fills identified within ditch [1203]. The earliest of these comprised firm mid greyish yellowish

brown silty clay (1202), 0.14m thick, containing frequent small chalk and flint pebbles and occasional charcoal. A Bronze Age *(2250-800 BC)* flint broken end scraper with retouch was recovered from this fill.

The second fill consisted of an up to 0.22m thick, firm mid brownish grey silty clay (1201) deposit, containing frequent charcoal flecks.

A layer of soft to firm dark brown silty clay (1200), up to 0.55m thick, containing frequent small pebbles, sealed ditch [1203] and extended throughout the whole of the trench (Fig 19, Section 14) (Plate 18).

***Trench 13***

This trench was located to the southeast of Trench 10, placed across the northern boundary of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit in this trench consisted of firm mid brownish orange sandy clay (1301), containing frequent flint pebbles and cobbles (Figs 11) (Plates 19-23).

To the north of the enclosure ditch the natural was cut by a circular pit [1312], measuring 0.90m in diameter by 0.18m deep, with shallow concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a flattish base (Figs 11 & 19, Section 20).

A total of two fills were identified within the pit, the earliest of which comprised soft light grey silt and clayey silt (1311), 80mm thick, containing occasional stone pebbles. However, the excavator was unsure as to whether this was fill or natural and suggested that this deposit may not have been within the cut.

The second and probable primary fill within [1312] consisted of soft, light to dark grey silty clay (1310), 0.10m thick, containing a concentration of charcoal and occasional pink clay, suggesting this may have been a firepit or hearth. A single sherd of 5$^{th}$ to 9$^{th}$ century generic Early or Middle Saxon wares was found within this deposit. A sample from this fill did not contain any charred grain remains, however, it did contain charcoal, a small burned mass, a twig and a fruit/nut fragment. A slightly inflated magnetic component in the sample is consistent with the interpretation of a fire pit or hearth; however, it contained no clear indications of hearth debris.

Another circular pit [1314] was recorded to the south of the enclosure ditch and measured 0.76m in diameter by 0.16m deep with shallow sloping sides and a slightly uneven base (Figs 11 & 19, Section 19).

The pit was filled with soft to friable mid grey silt (1313), 0.16m deep, containing very occasional gravel.

A cluster of features was identified to the south of pit [1314]. The northernmost of these was a linear (possibly curvilinear) ditch cut [1303], oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 0.87m wide by 0.23m deep with moderately steep, slightly convex sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 11 & 19, Section 15).

The ditch was filled with firm light brownish grey sandy clay (1302), containing occasional charcoal flecks, sub-rounded flint pebbles, rare fragments of burnt clay and chalk flecks. A total of three fragments of fired clay and two sherds of late 12$^{th}$ to mid 14$^{th}$ century Ely-type ware pottery was retrieved from this deposit.

To the south of the ditch lay a rectilinear cut [1307] with rounded corners, measuring 1.06m in length by 0.30m in width by 80mm deep, with vertical straight sides breaking sharply to a flat base (Figs

11 & 19, Section 17) (Plate 20).

The fill within this feature consisted of firm light greyish brown sandy clay (1306), containing frequent mortar and small CBM fragments, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sub-rounded flint pebbles. A total of thirty-six sherds of late 9th to 12th century St Neots-type ware pottery, representing ten separate vessels, was recovered from this fill. Other finds included five fragments of fired clay, three fragments of burnt stone and four flint chips or spalls. A bulk sample from this deposit contained poorly preserved charred cereal grain, charred Legume, Cyperaceae, fruit/nut shell fragment, water vole, frog toad and small fish remains.

To the south of the rectilinear feature was a sub-rectangular shaped pit cut [1305] with rounded corners measuring 1.36m long by 0.70m wide by at least 0.45m deep, with steep very slightly concave sides (figs 11 & 19, Section 16) (Plate 19).

The pit was filled with firm mid greyish brown sandy clay (1304), containing rare charcoal flecks, sub-rounded flint pebbles, small flint cobbles and two fragments of fired clay.

To the immediate south of rectilinear pit [1305] was a rectangular cut [1309] with rounded corners, measuring 1.08m long by 0.40m wide by 0.13m deep with vertical sides breaking sharply to a slightly concave undulating base (Figs 11 & 19, Section 18) (Plate 21).

The rectangular cut was filled with firm light greyish brown sandy clay (1308), containing occasional chalk, mortar, CBM, charcoal flecks and three fragments of fired clay.

To the south of the cluster of features was an oval pit cut [1318], partially exposed in plan, measuring 0.90m long by 0.59m wide by at least 0.49m deep with steep sides (Figs 11 & 21, Section 23) (Plate 22).

The oval pit was filled with a firm mid greyish brown silty clay (1317), containing rare charcoal flecks and six burnt flints, one of which was a probable Bronze Age *(2250-800 BC)* flake.

Oval pit [1318] lay within a natural hollow which was filled with firm light greyish brown silty clay (1316), containing occasional flint pebbles, charcoal flecks and CBM fragments (Figs 11 & 20, Section 22). Pottery recovered from this deposit includes six sherds of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)* and a single fragment of late 12th to 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware. Animal bone was represented by two fragments of large mammal bone and four pieces of medium mammal bone. Other finds included five fragments of fired clay.

To the south of this hollow two 1m square test pits were excavated through two deposits which overlay the natural in this area (Fig 11).

The northernmost of these (Test Pit 1) revealed a possible remnant of buried soil (1319) overlying the natural in this area. Deposit (1319) consisted of firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 60mm thick, containing frequent grit, small sub-angular pebbles and occasional charcoal and CBM flecks (Figs 11 & 21, Section 24). Finds retrieved from this layer include three flint chips or spalls, one fragment of 15th to 19th century brick, two undated pieces of CBM, a fragment of large mammal bone, a single sherd of 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware, one fragment of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*, and a single sherd of Grimston-type ware *(1200-1400)*. Bulk sampling yielded some charred seeds, fruit/nut shell fragment, Modern uncharred seeds, cockle, mussel and frog/toad remains.

Test Pit 2 also revealed a possible palaeosol (1320) consisting of firm, mid greyish brown silty clay, 90mm thick, containing occasional CBM and charcoal flecks (Figs 11 & 21, Section 25) (Plate 22). A total of two sherds of late 12th to 14th century Ely-type ware pottery were retrieved from this deposit. This was probably the same remnant of buried soil as (1319).

***Trench 14***

Trench 14 was placed across the north-south aligned boundary ditch that extends out from the northeastern corner of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3 & 4).

The earliest deposit at the base of the trench consisted of firm, yet somewhat soft, mid orange brown sandy silty clay (1402), containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles (Figs 11 & 23, Section 36).

This was overlain by a 0.30m thick layer of firm dark brown silty clay (1401), containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (Fig 23, Section 36).

***Trench 15***

Trench 15 was located across the northeastern corner of the enclosure ditch (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit in Trench 15 consisted of firm mid orange brown sandy silty clay (1506), containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles (Figs 11 & 19, Section 21).

The natural was truncated by an uncertain shaped feature [1502] measuring 1.80m in width by 0.5m deep with moderately steep sides that was probably natural in origin.

Feature [1502] contained two fills, the first of which was soft orange sand and gravel (1504).

The second fill consisted of soft light brown silty clay (1503), 0.28m thick, containing moderate to frequent charcoal flecks and occasional pebbles.

Feature [1502] was cut by a sub-circular shaped possible post hole [1501], only partially exposed, measuring 0.40m long by 0.45m deep, with a post-pipe forming in the northern end; the sides and base of this feature were irregular.

A deposit of soft mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt (1500), containing moderate charcoal flecks and occasional angular flints and gravel, filled sub-circular cut [1501]. Pottery recovered from this fill included six sherds of 13th to 14th century Ely-type ware.

Post hole [1501] was overlain by a layer of firm dark brown silty clay (1401) topsoil, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles that extended throughout the trench.

***Trench 16***

This trench was located in the southeastern area of the site (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural in this trench consisted of firm and slightly friable, mid to light yellowish brown silty clay (1601), containing frequent flints and occasional charcoal and CBM (Figs 12 & 17, Section 7).

The natural was impacted by a linear cut [1603], oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.55m wide by 0.10m deep (Figs 12 & 17, Section 7).

This feature was filled with a friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt (1602) with frequent flint, CBM and occasional charcoal and small fragments of snail shell (Figs 12 & 17, Section 7). Pottery recovered from this context includes three sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware *(1500-*

*1650)*, and three fragments of late 15th to mid 16th century Late Grimston ware. Other finds include four pieces of large mammal bone, three undated fragments of CBM and three pieces of 17th century clay pipe.

***Trench 17***

Trench 17 was located to the east of Trench 16 in the southeastern corner of the site (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural in this trench consisted of firm, yet friable, mid to light yellowish brown silty clay (1701), containing frequent sub-angular flints and pebbles and occasional CBM and charcoal flecks (Figs 12 & 17, Section 8).

The natural in this trench was truncated by a shallow linear cut [1703], oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.1m wide by 0.10m deep with a concave base [Figs 12 and 17, Section 6).

This probable furrow was filled with friable mid to light yellowish brown silty clay (1702) with frequent stones, flints and occasional charcoal. Finds recovered from this fill included a fragment of Oyster shell, a piece of large mammal bone, an undated fragment of CBM and two sherds of 16th to 17th century Glazed Red Earthenware.

***Trench 18***

This trench was located north of trenches 16 and 17 at the eastern side of the site (Figs 3-4).

The natural deposit at the base of the trench was composed of firm mid orangey brown sandy silty clay (1801), containing frequent pebbles of chalk and flint (Figs 13 & 24, Section 39) (Plate 24).

The natural was overlain by a layer of firm mid greyish brown silty clay (1800), with frequent small pebbles (Figs 13 & 24, Section 39) (Plate 24).

***Trench 19***

Trench 19 was placed across the north-south aligned boundary ditch that extends out from the northeastern corner of the enclosure ditch to the north of Trench 14 (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural in this trench consists of firm yet somewhat soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay (1901), containing frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles (Figs 13 & 24, Section 40).

The north-south aligned boundary ditch cut through the natural, but was not excavated in this trench. However, it was assigned context number [1904] and three fills that were visible from the surface were recorded.

The fill on the western side of the ditch comprised firm to soft mid brown and slightly orange sandy silty clay (1902), containing frequent small sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles (mostly flint and chalk) (Fig 13).

The eastern side of the ditch was filled with firm, mid to dark greyish brown silty clay (1903), containing occasional charcoal flecks (Fig 13).

Between these two fills was a deposit of firm mid brownish grey silty clay (1905), containing occasional chalk fragments (Fig 13).

The enclosure ditch was overlain by a firm dark brown silty clay (1100) topsoil, 0.31m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (Figs 13 & 24, Section 40).

***Trench 20***

This trench was located at the northern end of the site and was also placed across the north-south aligned boundary ditch that

extends out from the northeastern corner of the enclosure (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural in this trench was composed of firm to friable mid orangey brown silty clayey sand (2014), with frequent small pebbles.

The enclosure ditch cut through the natural deposit and contained at least one recut. The original ditch cut [2012] was linear and oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring at least 1.40m wide by 0.96m deep, with moderately concave sides breaking gradually to a probable slightly concave base (Figs 13 & 18, Section 12) (Plate 25).

A total of three fills were identified within ditch cut [2012]. The earliest of these comprised firm to soft mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay (2010), 0.39m thick, containing occasional chalk flecks. A bulk sample from this deposit contained some modern/uncharred seeds and field vole, small bird and frog/toad bones. Charred grain remains and chaff were absent from this sample.

The next fill in this sequence consisted of soft mid to light yellowish brown sandy silty clay (2009), 0.22m thick.

The final fill within ditch cut [2012] was a friable mid greyish yellowish brown clayey sandy silt (2008), 0.23m thick, containing occasional small chalk pebbles.

Deposit (2008) was truncated by a later recut of the ditch. This re-cut was assigned context number [2007] and measured 2.81m wide by 1.19m deep, with fairly steep sides becoming steeper and straighter towards the bottom, breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Figs 13 & 18, Section 12) (Plate 25).

The earliest fill within recut [2007] comprised firm yet friable, mid to light yellowish brown sandy silty clay (2006), 90mm thick, containing moderate small chalk flecks and pebbles. This fill was located along the eastern side of the cut, suggesting some slumping.

The next fill in the sequence was composed of firm mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay (2005), with reddish brown mottle, 0.29m thick, containing occasional stones. A bulk sample was taken from this deposit and found to contain insect body fragments, field vole and frog/toad bones. As with the sample from (2012), no charred grain remains or chaff were present.

Fill (2005) was overlain by 0.38m thick, friable dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (2004) with reddish brown mottle, containing very occasional small pebbles of chalk and flint.

The third fill within recut [2007] consisted of firm, slightly plastic mid greyish brown sandy silty clay (2003), 0.36m thick, containing frequent charcoal flecks and pebbles, occasional small flint pebbles a single undated iron nail and a fragment of medium size mammal bone.

The final fill within [2007] comprised firm dark brownish grey silty sandy clay (2001), up to 0.35m thick, containing a moderate amount of chalk and flint pebbles. A 20$^{th}$ century iron staple and fragment of modern land drain were found within this fill. This late dark infill is the same as that recorded in ditches [704], [1005] and enclosure ditch [421]. This suggests that the ditch remained open as an earthwork for a considerable amount of time before this late phase of infilling.

A partially exposed feature, roughly circular in shape [2013], measuring 0.52m long by 0.20m deep by at least 0.36m wide with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a base that was truncated

away, was located to the east of the enclosure ditch (Figs 13 & 18, Section 12) (Plate 25).

Possible pit [2013] was filled with firm dark grey sandy clayey silt (2011) with occasional chalk flecks.

Possible pit [2013] and enclosure ditch recut [2007] were both truncated by a semi-circular partially exposed pit cut [2002], measuring 2.06m long by 0.65m depth by at least 0.52m wide, with concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base.

The pit was filled with a dark greyish brown silty clay (2015), containing a moderate amount of flint and chalk pebbles.

Pit cut [2002] was overlain by an up to 0.38m thick, firm dark brown silty sandy clay topsoil (2000), containing moderate small chalk and flint pebbles that extended throughout the whole of the trench.

***Trench 21***

This trench was located to the east of Trenches 19 and 20 (Figs 3 & 4).

The earliest deposit identified within Trench 21 comprised firm to hard, mid yellowish brown, white flecked natural boulder clay (2107), with frequent chalk pebbles (Fig 16, Section 4) (Plate 26).

A second natural deposit overlay the boulder clay and consisted of slightly soft to firm, mid to light olive brown to orangey brown, clayey sandy silt (2106), containing moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded flint and chalk pebbles (Figs 14 & 16, Section 4) (Plate 26).

A shallow linear ditch cut [2104], oriented on an east-west alignment and measuring 1.50m wide by 0.31m deep, with concave sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base (Figs 14 & 16, Section 4) (Plate 26), cut through the natural.

Ditch [2104] was filled with a firm, yet pliable, dark yellowish brown silty clay (2103) with dark grey streaks, containing occasional small chalk flecks and wood fragments, along with two pieces of 15$^{th}$ to 19$^{th}$ century tile.

Ditch [2104] was truncated by a later linear ditch [2102], oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 2.04m wide by 0.55m deep, with moderate concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 14 & 16, Section 4) (Plate 26).

Ditch [2102] was filled with firm, yet pliable mid greyish yellowish brown silty clay (2101), 0.55m thick, containing frequent small chalk pebbles and rare charcoal flecks.

Overlying both (2100) and (2103) and covering both ditch cuts was a friable, yet sticky, dark grey (almost black) sandy silty clay (2105), with occasional fragments of wood and CBM (Figs 14 & 16, Section 4) (Plate 26). Finds recovered from this deposit included three fragments of modern 20$^{th}$ century land drain, three colourless pieces of 20$^{th}$ century glass bottle and a single sherd of late 18$^{th}$ to early 19$^{th}$ Creamware pottery. This dark infill has been recorded throughout the site and represents a much later phase of infilling in features that in some cases had remained as earthworks for a considerable amounts of time.

***Trench 22***

This trench was located to the east of Trench 21 (Figs 3 & 4).

The natural deposit in this trench consisted of soft to firm mid orangey brown clayey silty sand (2203), with moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded small pebbles of flint and chalk (Figs 14 & 17, Sections 10 & 11) (Plate 27).

Cut through the natural was narrow linear ditch cut [2202], oriented on a roughly north-south alignment, measuring up to 0.61m wide by 90mm deep, with shallow concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 14 & 17, Section 10) (Plate 27).

The narrow linear was filled with a firm dark grey silty clay (2201), containing occasional charcoal flecks, sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles and two fragments of 15th to 19th century tile.

The narrow linear [2202] was overlain by a firm dark brown sandy silty clay topsoil (2200), 0.32m thick, containing moderate small pebbles of chalk and flint extending throughout the width of the trench.

## 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise clays and silty clays, representing the underlying drift geology of Ashley Association fine loamy over clayey stagnogleyic argillic brown earths over aeolian drift incorporated into the surface of chalky till.

The survival of a probable palaeosol in Field 8 suggests the possibility that archaeology might survive on the surface and within the palaeosol, although Rackham (Appendix 4) points out that it survives on the floor of a dry valley in a location where settlement may be improbable. He also points out that the low knoll immediately north on the north side of the dry valley might have afforded a suitable location for prehistoric settlement overlooking the fen to the west, as equally might the south side of the dry valley.

Rackham (Appendix 4) suggests it would be appropriate to investigate both the high and low ground to explore the organic sediments and their potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence, and the prominences that overlook the valley for archaeological evidence.

The earliest remains at the site are represented by a single Bronze Age flint scraper recovered from a roughly east-west oriented ditch [1203] in Trench 12. It is possible that this ditch may extend east through Trench 21, where excavation revealed a broad linear [2104] (possibly the base of a furrow) truncated by a linear ditch cut [2102] similar in size to that in Trench 12. However, they do not line up perfectly and the truncation of a medieval or possibly post-medieval furrow would mean a much later date for the ditch if they are in fact the same. It may be that the Bronze Age scraper is residual and entered the ditch at a later date, but it is also possible that these may in fact be separate ditches and that the ditch in Trench 12 is possibly prehistoric, although the date is hardly secure as it comes from a single broken flint tool.

Another possible Bronze Age feature was identified in Trench 13 where a pit [1318] was revealed at the base of a natural silted up hollow. The pit contained six burnt flints, one of which was a probable Bronze Age flake.

The vast majority of the remains at the site are of the Late Saxon to medieval period, including a substantial enclosure ditch. However, a single sherd of pottery dating from the Early to Middle Saxon period was retrieved from the fill of a possible firepit or hearth [1312] in Trench 13. This fire pit would have predated the enclosure ditch which lies to the south.

A cluster of features including two rectangular pits with rounded corners, a rectilinear feature and an east-west aligned linear ditch, were uncovered south of and within the enclosure ditch in Trench 13. Rectilinear cut [1307] contained Late 9th to

12th century St Neots-type ware pottery representative of 10 different vessels (probably all jars). Ely-type ware pottery from ditch [1303] dates the ditch to the late 12th to middle 14th century. The fills of these two features were similar in that they were both brownish grey sandy clays containing charcoal and chalk flecks as well as fired clay. This, along with their close proximity suggests that they were contemporary and if so, the dating from the pottery gives these features a late 12th century date. The fills of the two rectangular pits that formed the other two features in this cluster were also similar to those of the ditch and rectilinear feature, being sandy clays containing chalk and charcoal flecks along with mortar flecks and CBM/fired clay in the case of rectangular pit [1309] and in rectilinear [1307]. Although no dateable evidence was retrieved from these fills their close proximity to the other features and the similarity of the deposits suggests that all four features in this cluster are contemporary and thus late 12th century in date. The shape of the rectilinear feature suggests the possibility that this might represent a beam slot while the inclusions of mortar flecks and CBM within the fill also give support to the notion that there might be a structural element to this cluster of features or at least some structural remains in the area.

The cluster of features is located within and to the south of the large rectangular enclosure ditch at the southern end of the site. The enclosure ditch was investigated in Trenches 9 and 4. In both trenches a number of recuts of the ditch were observed. The earliest dating evidence was obtained from fills within the first recut of the ditch in Trench 9 which contained Late Saxon to Medieval pottery. The first fill of the recut yielded Early medieval Handmade ware dating from the mid 12th to 13th century and Ely-type ware of late 12th to mid 14th century date. This suggests a late 12th century date for the first re-cut of the ditch which would mean the cluster of features discussed in Trench 13 would be contemporary with the first recut of the enclosure ditch and possibly with the original ditch cut itself.

A fill within this first recut of the enclosure ditch in Trench 4 yielded some slightly later pottery in the form of 13th to 14th century Grimston ware suggesting the first recut was open and in use into the 13th century as well. This dating is further confirmed in Trench 4 where the second fill within the first recut of the enclosure ditch contained a sherd of 13th to 15th century Grimston-type ware, along with Ely-type ware dating from the late 12th to mid 14th century.

The earliest enclosure ditch cut was truncated by possible pit [923], which contained a good deal of fired clay. This pit may have been dug purposefully for the disposal of the clay or it could be a shallow recutting of the ditch and the disposal of the fired clay opportunistic.

The second definite recut [911] of the enclosure ditch in Trench 9 had a fill which yielded Ely-type ware and Stanyon/Lyveden ware dating from the mid 12th to mid 13th century. With the pottery dating from the first recut in Trench 9 suggesting it was open into the 13th century, the dates from the second recut imply this occurred later on in the 13th century, but probably not in the latter half.

A large ditch attached to the northeastern corner of the enclosure ditch extended north to the northern boundary of the field. This ditch was investigated in Trench 20 where it too was found to contain at least one recut. Although no finds or dateable material was retrieved from the ditch, it is clearly associated and connected with the enclosure ditch and therefore

contemporary. The ditch probably functioned as a boundary and was also present in Trenches 19 and 14.

In Trench 9, within the internal area of the enclosure ditch, a dark charcoal and pottery rich layer (927)/(928)/(929) was identified at the base of the trench and three 1m square test pits hand dug through it in an effort to characterise and assess the deposit. Bulk samples were also taken and analysed.

The majority of the pottery from this deposit spanned the time period between the 12th to 14th century, however a single sherd of 14th to 15th century Purple Midlands ware was retrieved as well. The dating of this layer makes it contemporary with the enclosure ditch as would be expected. Other finds include animal bone, charcoal, mussel shell, fired clay and an iron object, while sampling revealed charred cereal and legume remains, eggshell, and bone from both domestic and wild fauna. This assemblage of rubbish is typical of a medieval site and suggests this layer represents the remains of a midden. Also, it is interesting to note that the samples produced a slightly higher than average magnetic component, suggesting that a certain amount of fire debris had entered the deposit (Rackham, Appendix 4). This is consistent with the interpretation of this deposit as a midden. This notion is further strengthened by its location near to the corner of the enclosure ditch, away from where any main settlement would take place. The inclusion of the later 14th to 15th century pottery is interesting and suggests that this deposit took some time to accumulate, which is also consistent with its interpretation as a midden, or that the earlier pottery is residual or redeposited, in which case the midden deposit was probably produced in the 14th century (Appendix 3).

In trenches 6 and 13 two deposits were identified as possible buried soils within the enclosed area of the site and were investigated with hand dug 1m square test pits.

At the southern end of the site, 3 test pits were dug through deposit (607) and samples were taken which contained rubbish typical of a domestic medieval site. This is consistent with the interpretation of this deposit as a buried soil. Pottery retrieved during the test pitting dated from the 12th to 13th century and the 13th to 14th century, making a 13th century date probable for the accumulation of this deposit and showing it to be contemporary with the enclosure ditch.

In Trench 13 two test pits were dug through deposits (1319) and (1320) which were almost certainly the same deposit which had been interrupted by truncation. Sampling of (1319) yielded charred seeds, mussel, cockle and fruit and nut shell fragments typical of medieval or post-medieval domestic rubbish. Pottery recovered from the deposit included a single sherd of 13th century Early Medieval Handmade ware, one fragment of Ely-type ware *(1175-1350)*, and a single sherd of Grimston-type ware *(1200-1400)*, giving a 12th to 13th century date for this deposit, making it contemporary with the enclosure ditch and the early medieval to medieval phase of the site. A single fragment of 15th to 19th century brick was also recovered from this deposit, but given the other finds it seems probable that this is intrusive.

A fire pit was identified just to the south of the midden deposit in Trench 9. Sampling of the feature revealed a large fired earth component and relatively high magnetic component consistent with this interpretation. Pottery recovered from one of the fills included wares spanning the 12th to 14th century and a single sherd of 15th to 16th century Bourne/Colne Type ware. The close proximity to the midden

deposit suggests that the earlier pottery may be redeposited and a 15th to 16th century date for this feature might be more appropriate.

A linear ditch [606] located within the enclosure in Trench 6 was excavated, but not bottomed due to the water table. Its lowest fill contained pottery from the 15th to 16th century, suggesting the ditch was open prior to, as well as during this period. A waterlogged sample from the same fill contained molluscan taxa typical of both hard and soft water conditions, suggesting the ditch remained water filled for most of the year. Unlike samples from the other ditch fills across the site (which contained a good deal of woodland taxa, suggesting the ditches had accompanying hedgerows), molluscan woodland taxa were completely absent from this ditch. This raises the possibility that this ditch might represent the remains of a moat. This would be consistent with the interpretation of the site as part of a manor and suggests the possibility of a manor house somewhere to the south on land currently in use for residential housing. Unfortunately this may have destroyed any archaeological remains and so the interpretation might remain uncertain.

A large feature in the northern end of Trench 6 was investigated with an exploratory sondage and probably represents a quarry [621]. This feature was only partially exposed and due to time constraints and conditions, its extent within the trench could not be identified. However, the deposits at the base of the trench suggest that this substantial feature may have extended for more than 16 meters to the north and the sondage was excavated to a depth of approximately 1m below the base of the trench before the rising water made the conditions unsuitable to continue. Taken together this suggests a substantial and deep feature. Pottery and CBM from one of the backfills suggests a 15th to 16th century date for the backfilling of this probable quarry.

A sequence of deposits was identified in the eastern end of Trench 7, and although undated, they were found to have a significant depth which might suggest they are also backfill deposits resulting from quarrying. This in turn suggests the possibility of a similar date for these deposits as the backfilled quarry deposits in Trench 6.

A shallow east-west oriented linear [1603]/[1703] was recorded running through trenches 16 and 17. This probably represents a surviving remnant of ridge and furrow agriculture and the linear forms the truncated base of a furrow. Ridge and furrow on the same alignment has been previously recorded as cropmarks in this field (Fig 4). The ridge and furrow extends from the eastern end of the field up to the enclosure ditch and the north south oriented boundary ditch which extends from the north eastern corner of the enclosure. Finds from the fills suggest a 17th century date indicating a post-medieval date for the ridge and furrow. The fact that the ridge and furrow respects these boundaries suggests they were still in use at this time.

A shallow linear ditch cut [2104] in Trench 21 contained 15th to 19th century tile and was also oriented on an east-west alignment, suggesting this could also be the base of a post-medieval furrow. This was truncated by a later ditch [2102] cut which contained no finds.

A narrow linear cut [2202] within Trench 22 also contained some 15th to 19th century tile. The purpose of this narrow cut remains uncertain and no field drain was found within it, however, the narrowness of the cut suggests that it may still have had a function connected with drainage.

An undated circular pit [1314] was identified in Trench 13.

A north-south aligned ditch in Trench 7 contained two 20th century golf balls in the top fill. It is interesting to note that a golf course appears on fields to the north on a 1950 map. However, this dark upper fill containing 20th century material has been recorded across the site, including within the 12th century enclosure ditch. This raises the possibility that this ditch is of some antiquity. A look at the cropmark (Figs 3 & 4) suggests it may in fact be contemporary with the enclosure ditch as it respects the alignment of that feature's western side and looks to be part of the same complex of ditches.

An undated roughly north-south oriented ditch was identified to the west of the 'pond/moat' feature in Trench 10. This may have been a boundary ditch at some point and is difficult to tie into the rest of the site due to the lack of dating evidence. However, the presence of the same dark upper fill which has been recorded across the site in features from the 12th century onwards and in some cases containing 20th century material, suggests the possibility that it may be of some antiquity. Its location just adjacent to the probable 18th century 'pond/moat' feature discussed below suggests it may have predated this feature if indeed it was a boundary ditch, which seems likely.

Undated cropmarks and earthworks in the northwestern corner of the field were thought to represent the remains of a medieval fish pond. The earthworks first appear on a map from 1819. Shown on an 1887 map they are labelled 'Moat Intrenchments' and depicted as a long pond, elongated north-south. Trenches 1 to 3 and an auger survey investigated this feature as a prelude to fieldwork. It was also recorded in plan in Trenches 9 and 10. In Trench 10 the redeposited clay remains of what was a bank were clearly visible to either side of the feature. The results of the work are fully described in Appendix 4.

The auger survey identified the feature as being some 15m wide by 120m long by 2.5m deep. Subsequent excavation identified backfilled deposits including redeposited natural clays, tree trunks, large metal fragments and barbed wire which suggests dumping in the 19th and/or 20th century.

Samples were taken from this feature in Trench 3, including bulk samples of the basal waterlain silts and a core through the basal 0.50m of the sediment, which was then sampled for pollen and radiocarbon dating.

The radiocarbon sample once calibrated produced a range of dates – 1661-1690 AD (18.9%), 1729-1810 AD (56.7%) and 1925-1954 (19.8%). These are somewhat unhelpful with regards to dating the feature, although the highest probability falls into the eighteenth century and cartographic evidence from an 1819 map depicts the earthwork at that time. A single piece of tile was recovered from the base of the silts but is probably residual and redeposited as it dates from the 13th to 15th century.

The bulk samples from the basal waterlain silts indicate a range of habitats, including aquatic, scrub, grassland, marsh, but with little suggestion of human activity. Interestingly, no fish bones were recovered despite 60 litres of the sediment being processed.

The pollen samples from the Trench 3 feature indicate that the local habitat was largely treeless and dominated by grassland. However, there were unusually high numbers of elm pollen and given the late historic age of the site, it is possible that the elm was introduced hedgerow elm.

The dominance of grass pollen, ribwort plantain and buttercups strongly suggest that grassland/pasture was of importance and small amounts of cereal pollen also attest to arable cultivation or at least local cereal use.

Bulk samples from across the site produced fairly typical rubbish assemblages from medieval and post-medieval sites. There is no indication of any industrial activity on the site or chaff, which is a by-product of cereal processing.

The faunal assemblage at the site was dominated by large mammals, which are likely to represent cattle. All of the cattle phalanges showed pathology consistent with the beasts being used for heavy loads or traction. Sheep/goat and pigs (after the 14th century) appear to be the primary meat source as the presence of juvenile bones of these species would suggest (Cope-Faulkner, Appendix 3). Those from context (408) perhaps represent a suckling pig. If the other unidentified juvenile medium sized bones are not sheep, it may suggest that the sheep were largely raised for their fleeces. Horse was represented by four bones from a single context and bird, most probably domesticated goose and chicken was also represented

Animal bone recovered from the samples included sheep/goat, pig, chicken, lagomorph, mouse, field vole, water vole, mole, shrew, small bird, snake, frog/toad, newt, eel, herring and several small fish. The fish and domestic species represent food items, while the small mammals, reptiles and amphibians are representative of the wild fauna (Rackham, Appendix 4). Other food items recorded from the samples included oyster, mussel, cockle and periwinkle, which with the herring bones indicate trade with the coast, and also bird eggshell. The latter probably derives for the most part from chicken eggs.

Terrrestrial and freshwater molluscs from sampling of the enclosure ditch recut [606] had taxa typical of both hard and soft water conditions, which suggests the ditch remained water filled for most of the year. There was also a strong woodland element in the samples which was more pronounced in those taken from the ditches. This suggests that the ditches were accompanied by hedgerows which would create the shade necessary for these species, as the other samples across the site indicated a generally more open country or grassland environment to be dominant in the area.

The environmental evidence together suggests an open landscape accompanied by ditches and hedgerows in which domesticated animals were reared for their meat and perhaps secondary products in some cases, with cattle also being used for work. There is little evidence for cereal cultivation until possibly the eighteenth century and there is no evidence that crop processing took place. The vast majority of the archaeological remains at the site come from within the enclosure ditch, including two possible buried soils a midden deposit and a possible moat amongst other features, including some possible structural remains. This places settlement and occupation within the enclosure, with the surrounding land being used to practice animal husbandry until the post-medieval period where evidence of ridge and furrow agriculture is recorded to the east of the enclosure and boundary ditch. The patterning of the archaeological remains and demarcation of the landscape is consistent with the interpretation of the site as a manor or farmstead. The presence of a single deer tibia amongst the faunal assemblage suggests that hunting may have taken place at or near the site, which would infer a high status. However, it is only a single bone and as such it would be too speculative to infer status from this one

remain. However, taken along with the settlement evidence from within the sizeable enclosure ditch and the possibility of a moat, the deer bone would also be consistent with the interpretation of this site as part of a manor.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire, as the site lay in an area of known archaeological remains. The work forms part of a larger ongoing investigation at the site and specifically evaluated Field 7. A small auger survey of the northwest corner of Field 8 is also included in this report.

The HER records the site of a shrunken medieval village to the south of what was thought to be a moat or medieval fishponds where brick, 15th century pottery, shell, quern and bone have been found. This is thought to relate to part of Hatchwood manor or possibly part of Knights End manor.

The earliest remains uncovered during the investigation consisted of a possible Bronze Age pit and ditch.

A possible fire pit dating from the Early to Middle Saxon period was also identified.

Investigation of the cropmark enclosure revealed a substantial enclosure ditch which dates from the 12$^{th}$ century at least with a number of recuts suggesting it was in use in the 13$^{th}$ century and onwards. Connected to the northeastern corner of the enclosure ditch was a north-south aligned field boundary ditch which extended to the northern border of the Field 7.

Late Saxon to medieval remains within the enclosure ditch consisted of a cluster of four features, two rectangular pits, a rectilinear feature and a ditch. The rectilinear feature may represent a beam slot and the other features are possibly related to this structural element. A midden deposit containing rubbish typical of medieval settlement was indentified in the northeast corner of the enclosure and two probable buried soils were also revealed. A number of possible pits were also recorded cut into the enclosure and boundary ditch.

Environmental evidence suggests that the landscape was dominated by open country and grassland and that the ditches remained water filled for much of the year with accompanying hedgerows. No crop processing or industry was taking place at the site, however animal husbandry was being practiced with sheep/goat and pig (from the 14$^{th}$ century onwards) forming the main part of the meat diet, while cattle were being used for work. The possibility that sheep were being raised mainly for fleece is also suggested.

Late medieval to post-medieval remains within the enclosure consisted of a substantial ditch and evidence of quarrying. The ditch contained molluscan taxa suggesting it was probably water filled for most of the year. A complete lack of woodland molluscan taxa (in contrast to other ditch samples which contained woodland taxa suggestive of accompanying hedgerows), suggests this ditch did not have an accompanying hedgerow and raises the possibility that it represents a moat. This would be consistent with the interpretation of the site as part of a manor. The lack of structural features suggests that any building remains are probably located further south within the enclosure. However, housing and road construction along the southern boundary of the field may have destroyed any traces of this.

Bulk sampling of Late Saxon to post-

medieval features contained rubbish typical of medieval and post-medieval settlements. The presence of oyster, mussel, cockle and periwinkle, along with herring bones indicate trade with the coast.

Outside and to the east and northeast of the enclosure three shallow furrows were identified and represent the remains of post-medieval ridge and furrow agriculture. Ridge and furrow cropmarks have previously been recorded in this area extending from the east of the field to the enclosure and boundary ditch which they respect.

The patterning of archaeological remains and demarcation of the landscape shows settlement and occupation (including a midden deposit, buried soils and a possible moat amongst other features) occurring within the enclosure, while the surrounding landscape was being used to practice animal husbandry up until the post-medieval period when ridge and furrow agriculture is introduced. This patterning along with the possibility of a moat within the enclosure is consistent with the interpretation of this site as part of a manor or farmstead.

Undated cropmarks and earthworks in the northwestern corner of the field were thought to represent the remains of a medieval fish pond and first appear on a map from 1819. Shown on an 1887 map they are labelled 'Moat Intrenchments' and depicted as a long pond, elongated north-south. Three trenches and an auger survey investigated this feature as a prelude to fieldwork. It was also recorded in plan in two other trenches where the redeposited clay remains of what was a bank were clearly visible to either side of the feature.

The auger survey identified the feature as being some 15m wide by 120m long by 2.5m deep. Redeposited natural clays, tree trunks, large metal fragments and barbed wire recovered from the basal fill of the feature suggest backfilling in the 19th and/or 20th century.

Bulk sampling and a core sample were taken from the waterlain silts at the base of the feature. A calibrated radiocarbon date of these fills was somewhat unhelpful but suggested a tentative 18th century date which is consistent with the cartographic evidence.

Bulk samples revealed no fish bones from the feature. Taken together with the dating evidence this clearly shows this was not a medieval fish pond, however its interpretation remains uncertain.

Pollen from the core sample of the feature revealed an open landscape dominated by grasslands, suggesting pasture was of importance. Small amounts of cereal pollen attested to arable cultivation or at least local cereal use.

The presence of an undated ditch and a ditch containing 20th century golf balls in its upper fill were recorded in the western part of the site. However it is suggested that both of these may be of some antiquity due to their locations and the fact that 20th century material has been found across the site in the upper fills of features dating from the 12th century onwards. This also suggests that the features containing this dark infill, including the enclosure ditch, remained open as earthworks (however shallow) into the 20th century. The dark infill may represent a significant flooding episode at the site.

As part of the preliminary work at the site an auger survey was undertaken in the northwestern corner of Field 8. The survey revealed a probable palaeosol surviving on the bed of a dry river. It is suggested that the sides of the dry river valley may have afforded a suitable location for prehistoric settlement and

further work should investigate both the high and low ground to explore the organic sediments and their potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence, and the prominences that overlook the valley for archaeological evidence.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of The Landscape Partnership for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Stock Land and Estates Ltd. The work was coordinated by Tom Lane who edited this report. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tom Lane
Site Staff: Andrew Failes, Denise Buckley, Marcus H, Tom Lane, Gerry Martin, Chris Moulis, Liz Murray, Mark Peachey, Neil Jefferson
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Andrew Failes
Post-excavation Analyst: Andrew Failes

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## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| APS | Archaeological Project Services |
| BGS | British Geological Survey |
| CBM | Ceramic Building Materal |
| IFA | Institute of Field Archaeologists |
| OS | Ordnance Survey |


Figure 1 General Location Plan

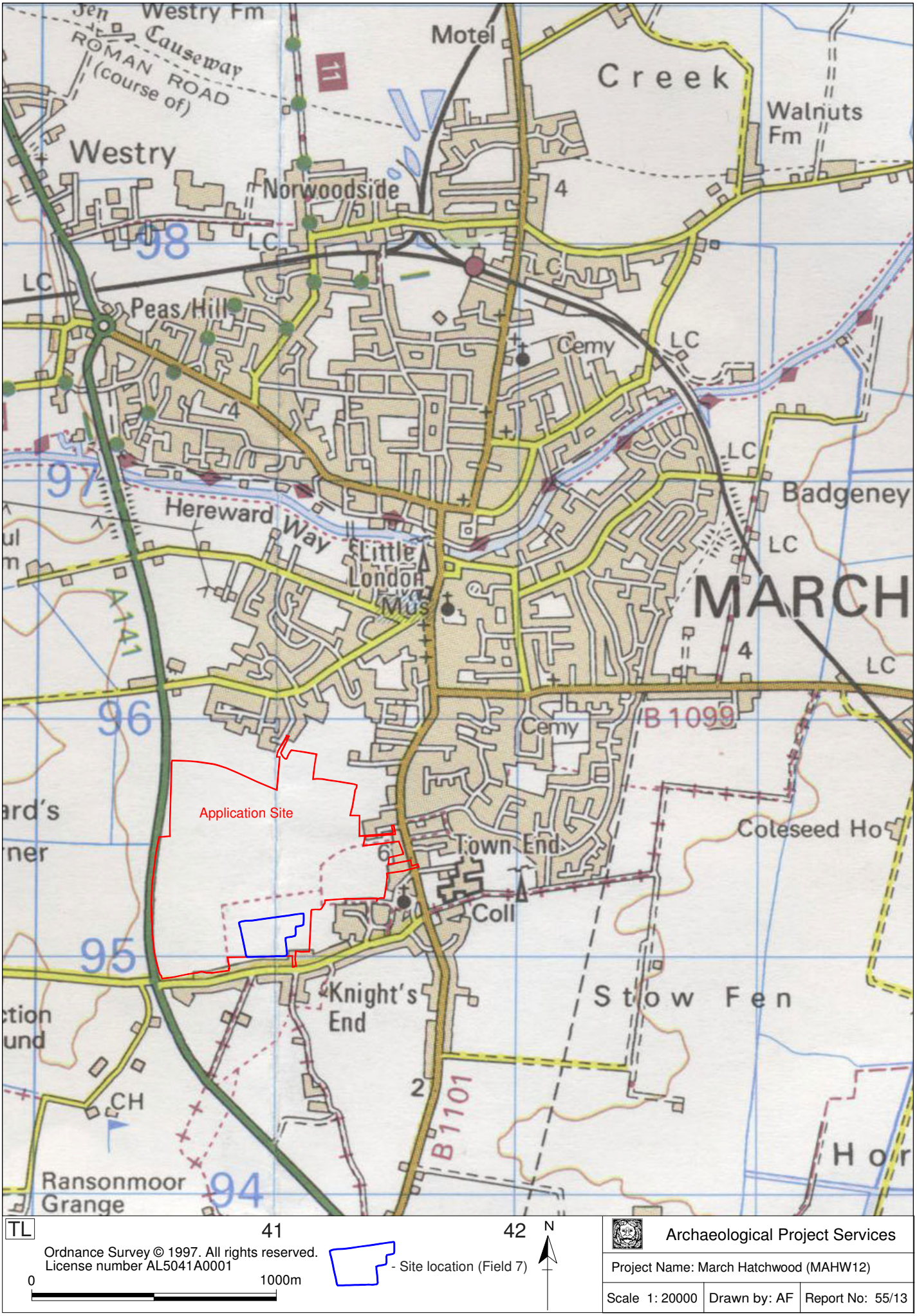


Figure 2 - Site location


Figure 3 - Trench locations and cropmarks


Figure 4 - Phased trench plan, showing auger survey locations

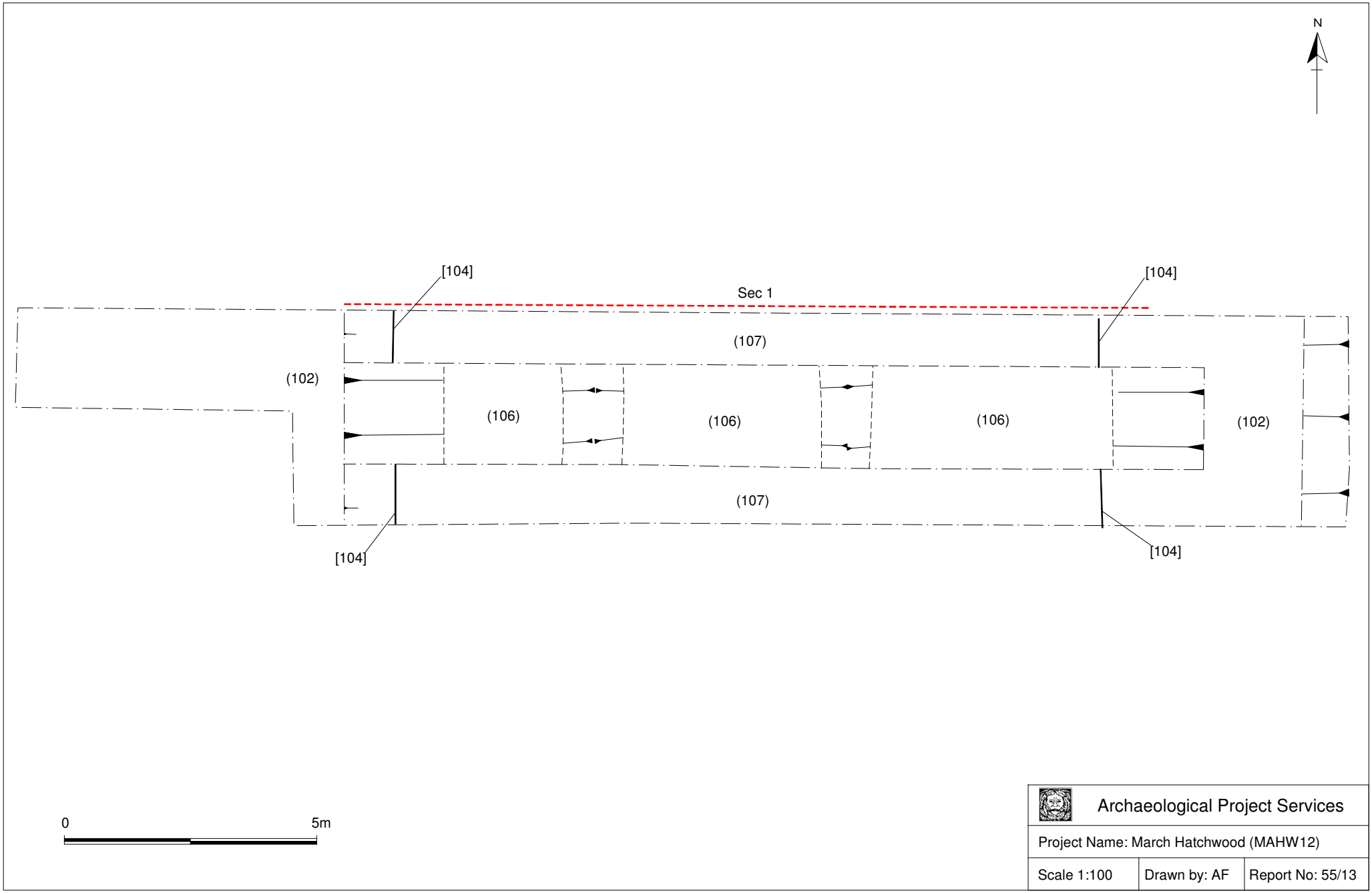


Figure 5 - Plan of Trench 1

Trench 4

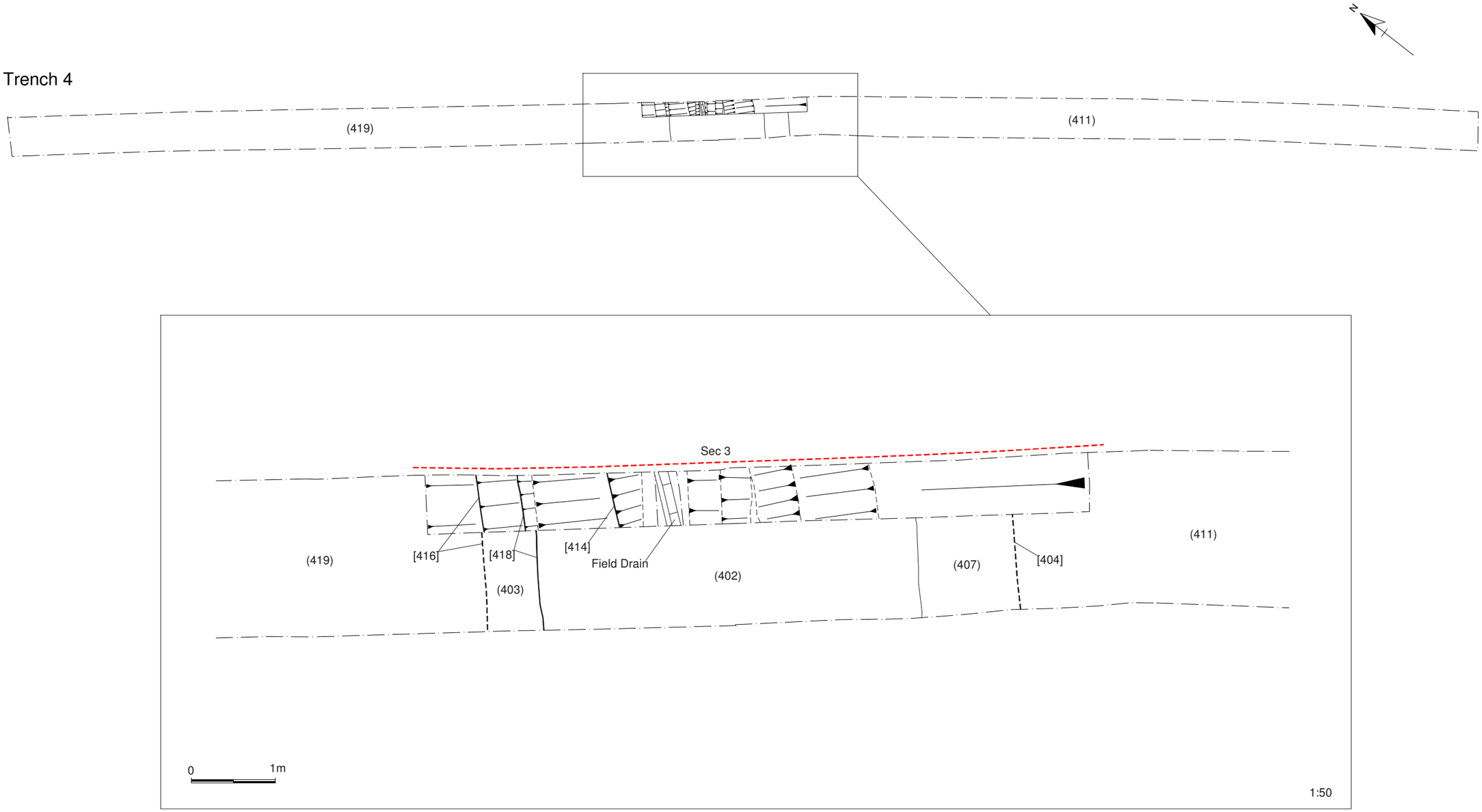


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Figure 6 - Plan of Trench 4

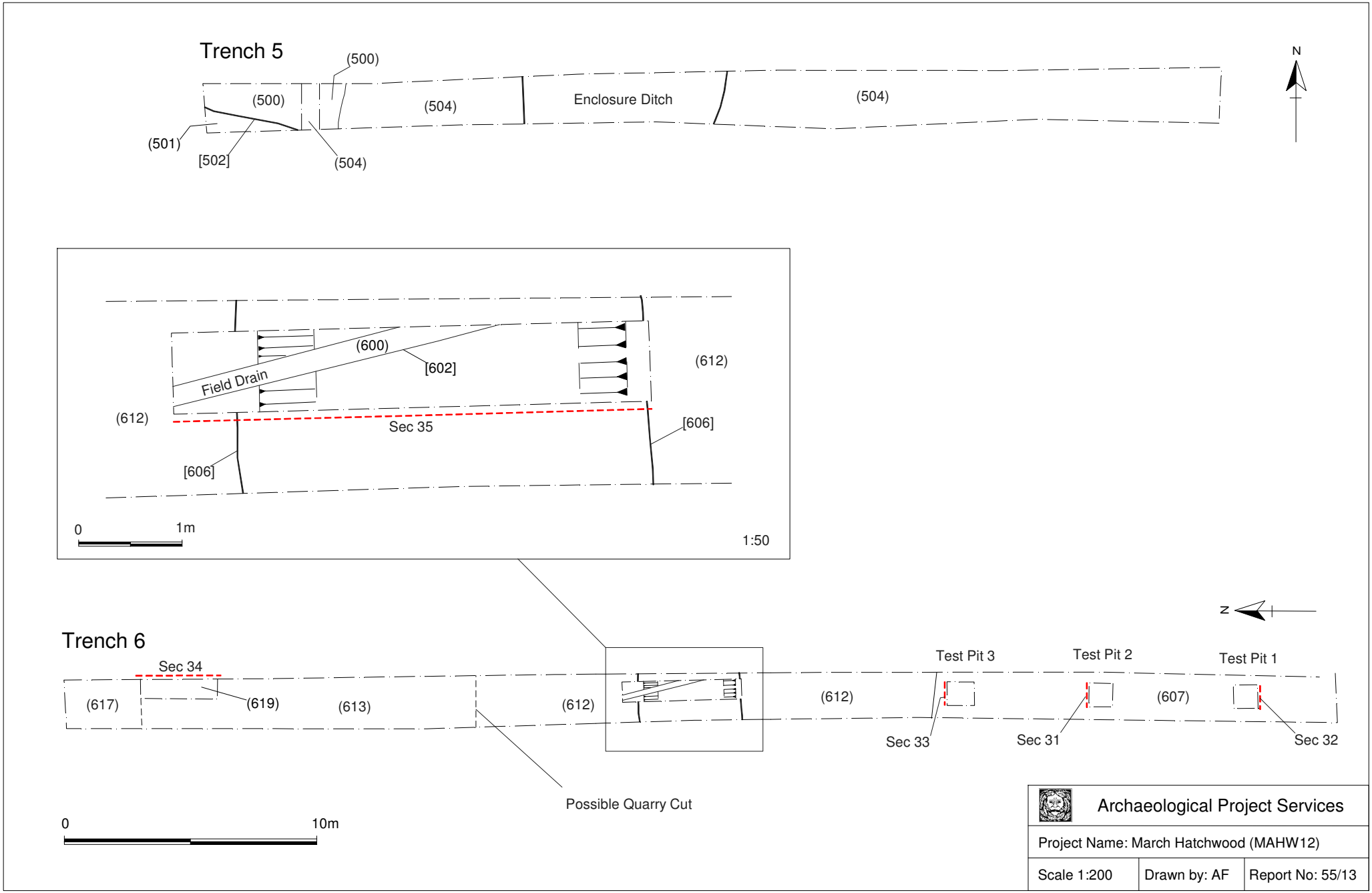
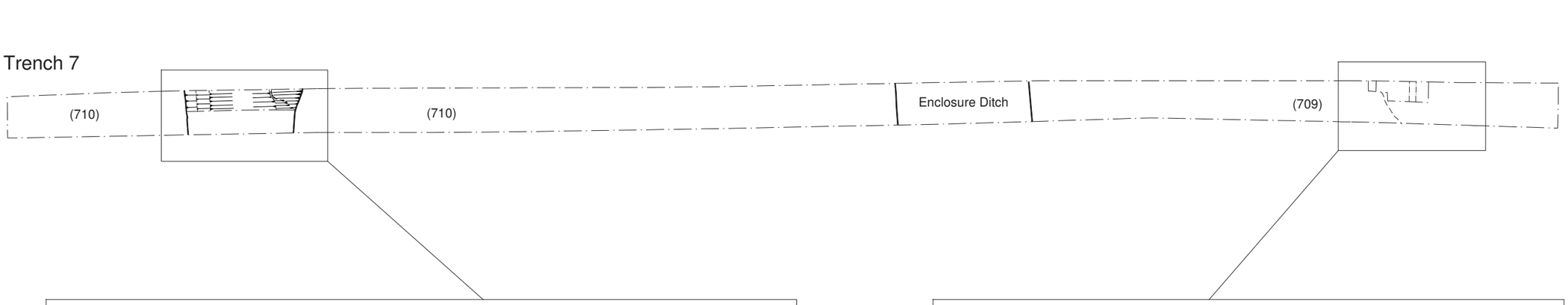



Figure 7 - Plan of trenches 5 & 6

Trench 7




Trench 8

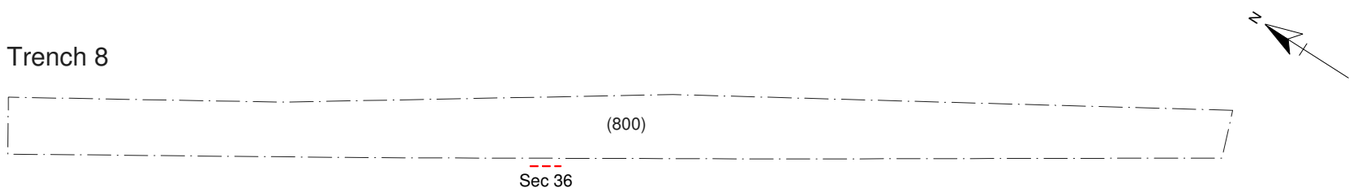




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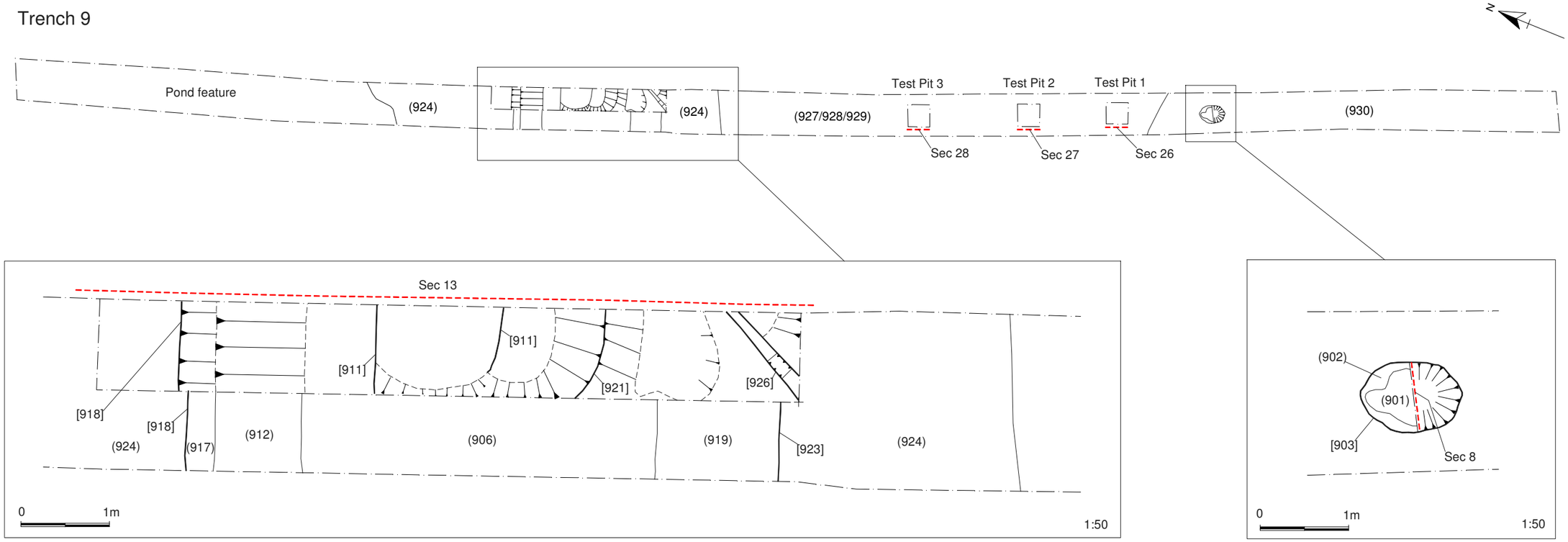
Figure 8 - Plan of trenches 7 & 8

Trench 9



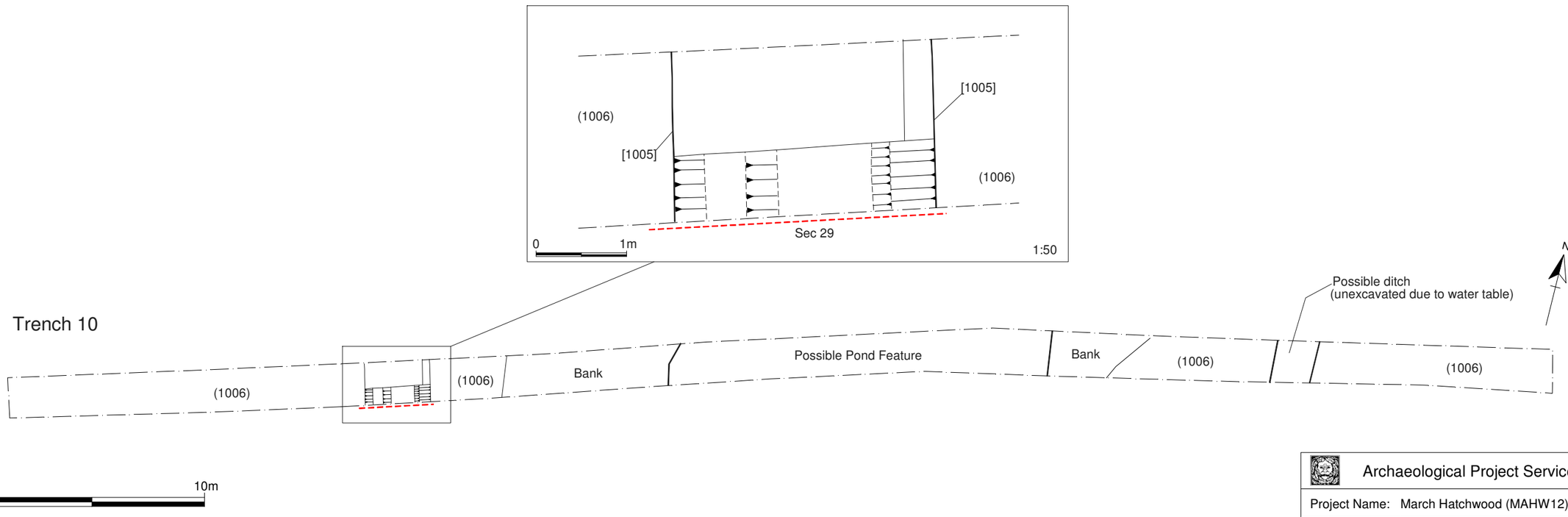




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Figure 9 - Plan of trenches 9 & 10

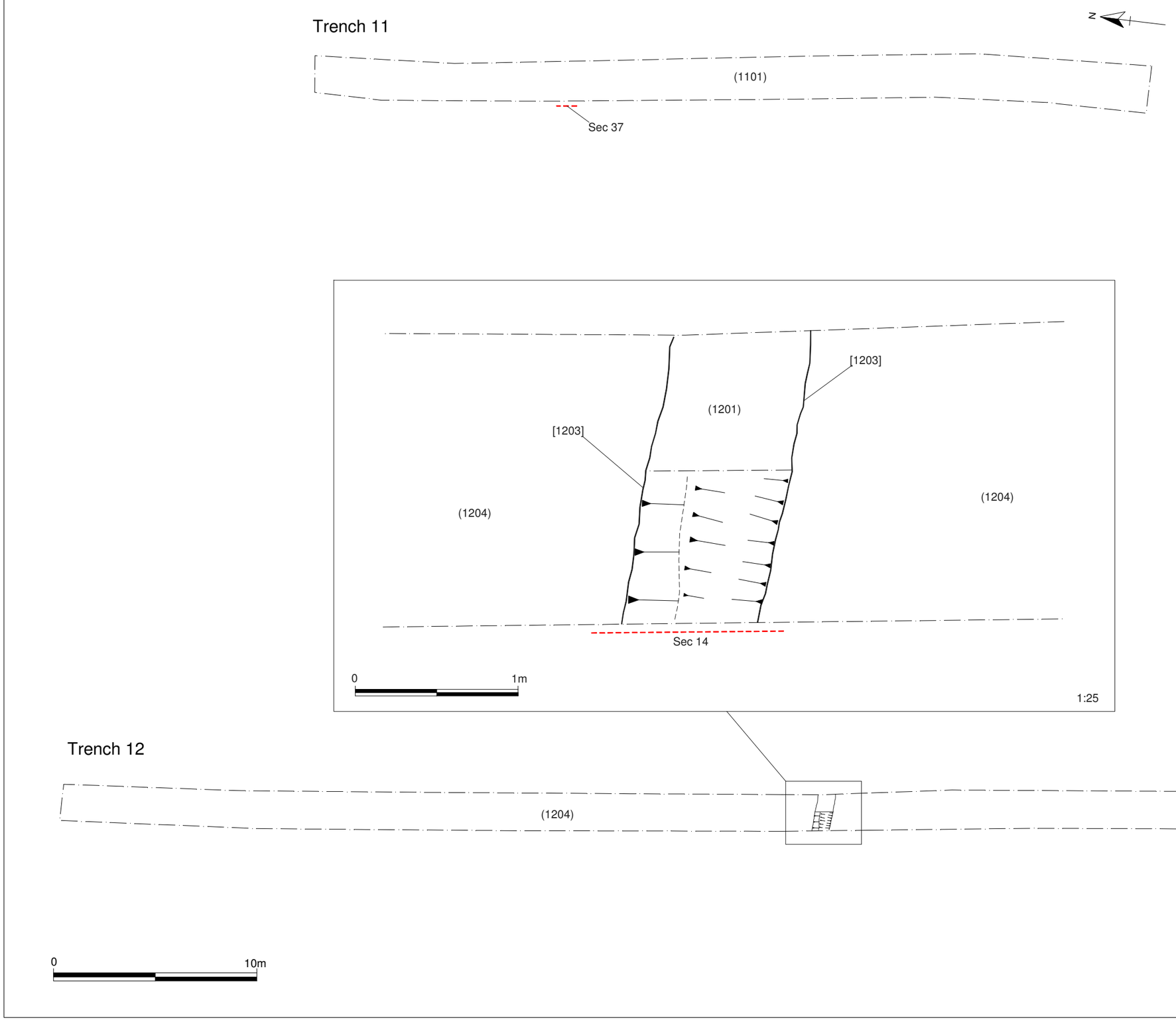


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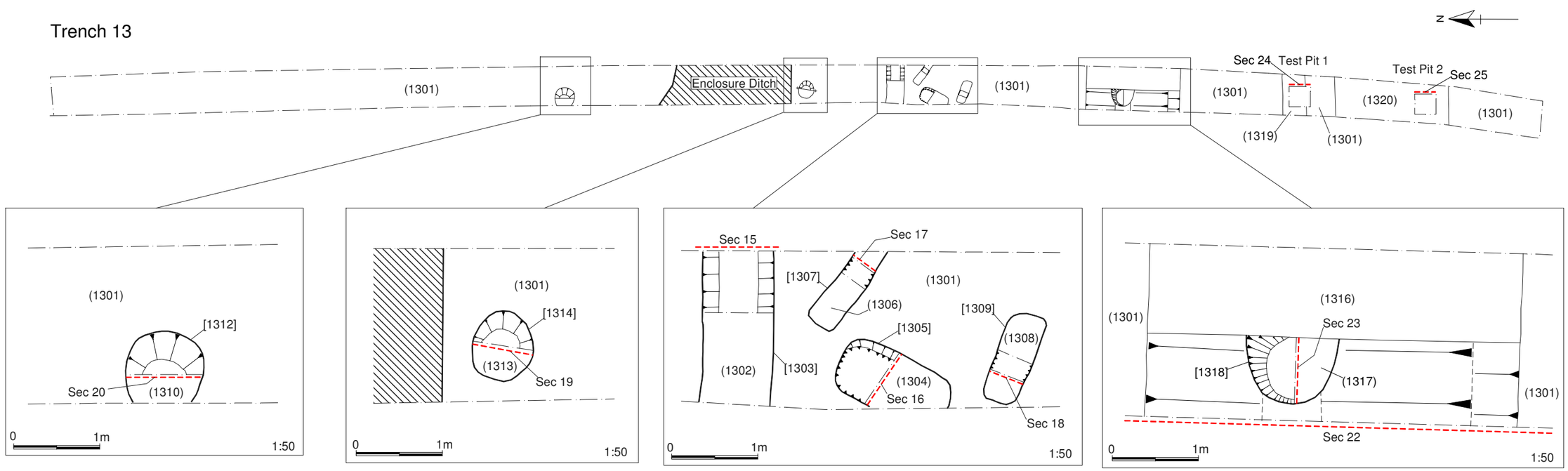
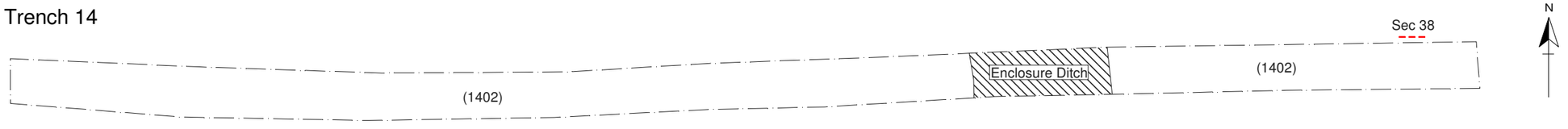
Figure 10 - Plan of trenches 11 & 12

Trench 13




Trench 14

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| Archaeological Project Services | | |
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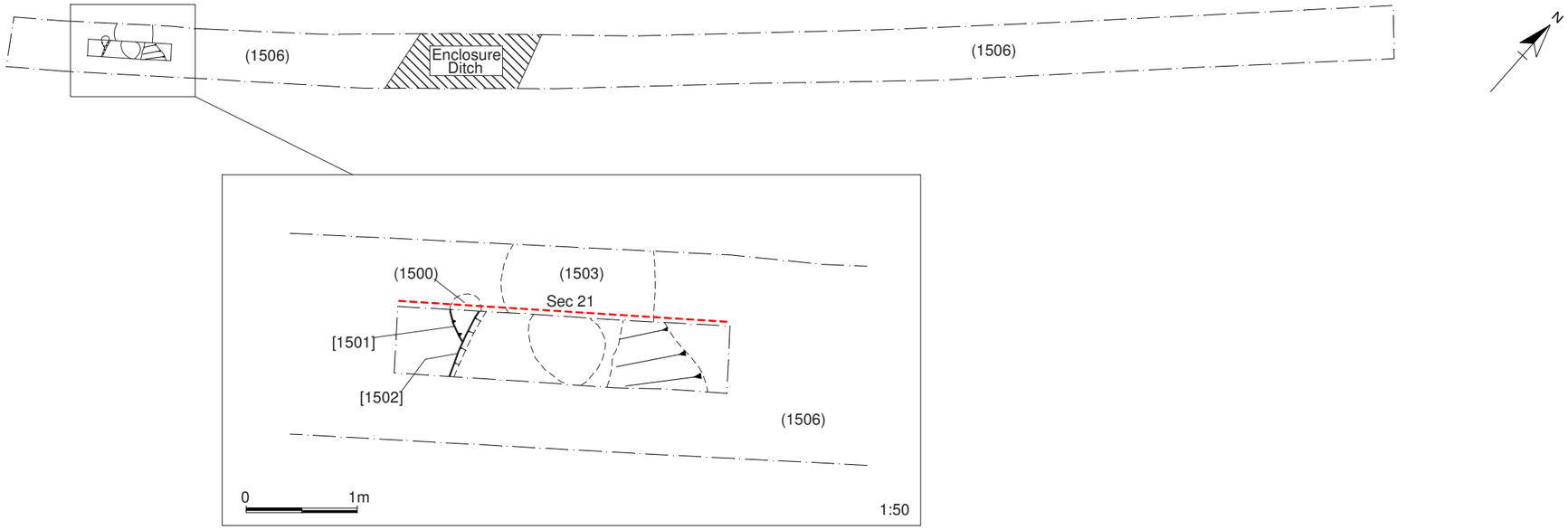
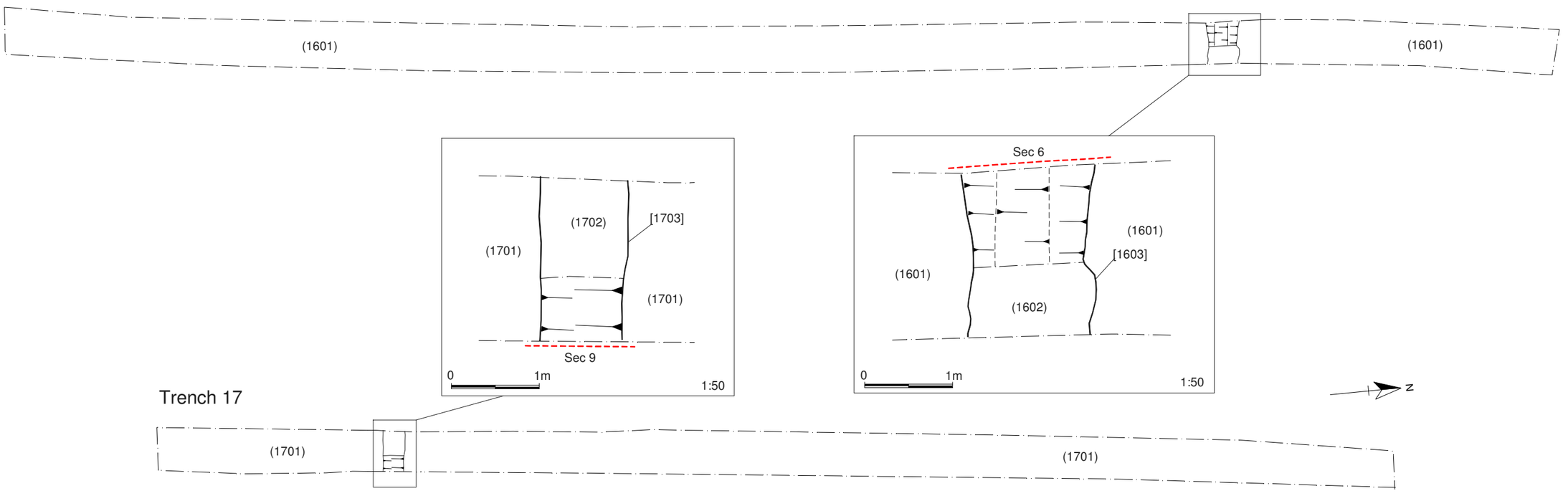
Figure 11 - Plan of trenches 13 & 14

Trench 15




Trench 16

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| Project Name: March Hatchwood (MAHR12) | | |
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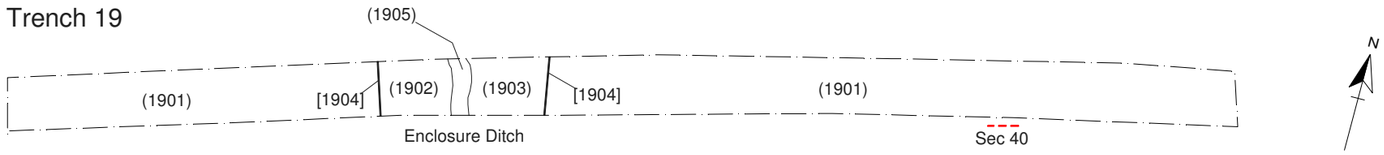
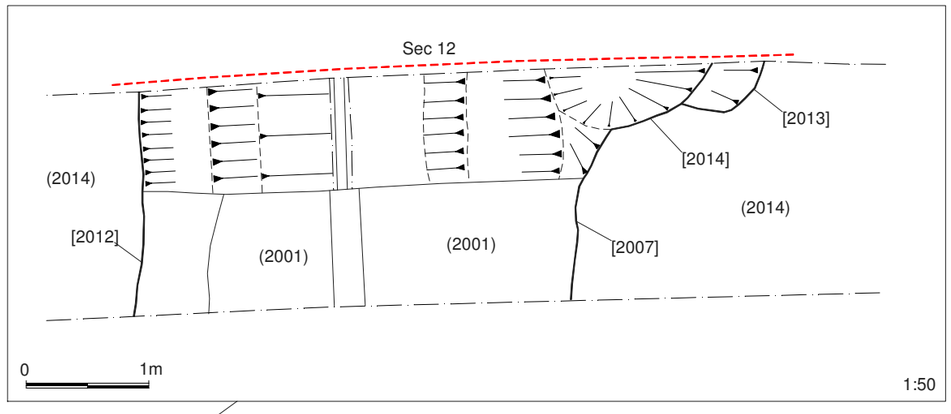
Figure 12 - Plan of trenches 15-17

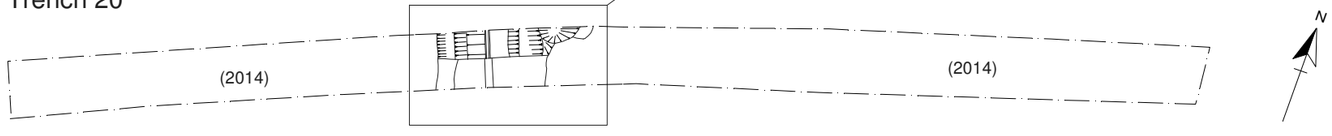
Trench 18


Trench 19




Trench 20





| Archaeological Project Services | | |
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| Scale: 1:200 | Drawn by: AF | Report No: 55/13 |

Figure 13 - Plan of trenches 18-20

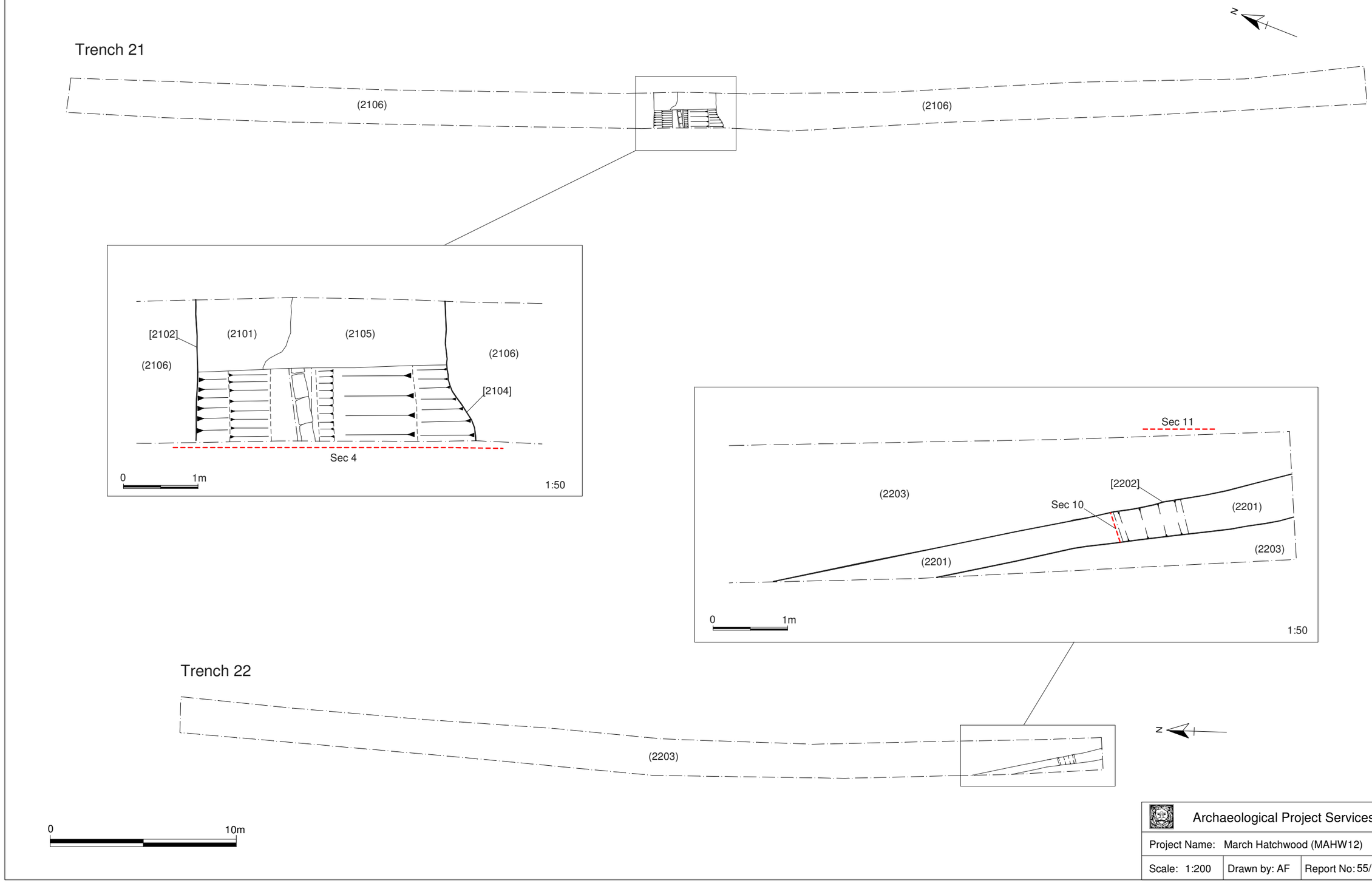
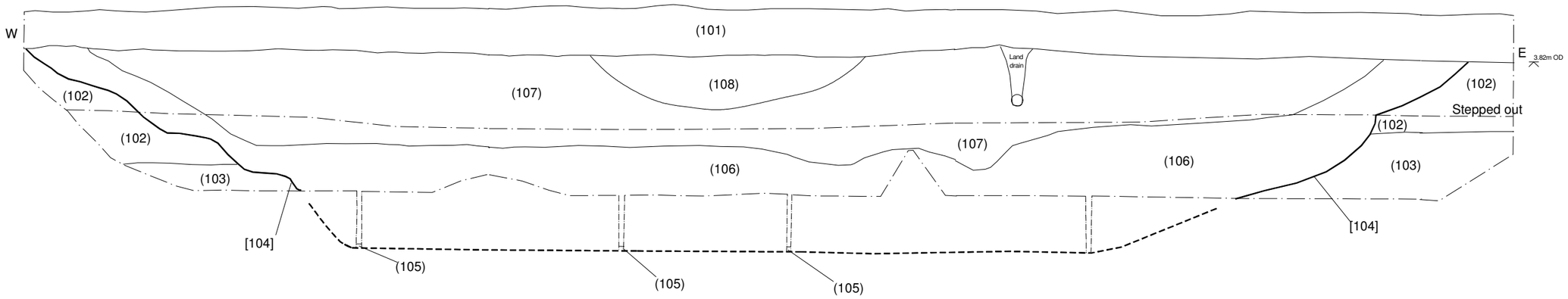
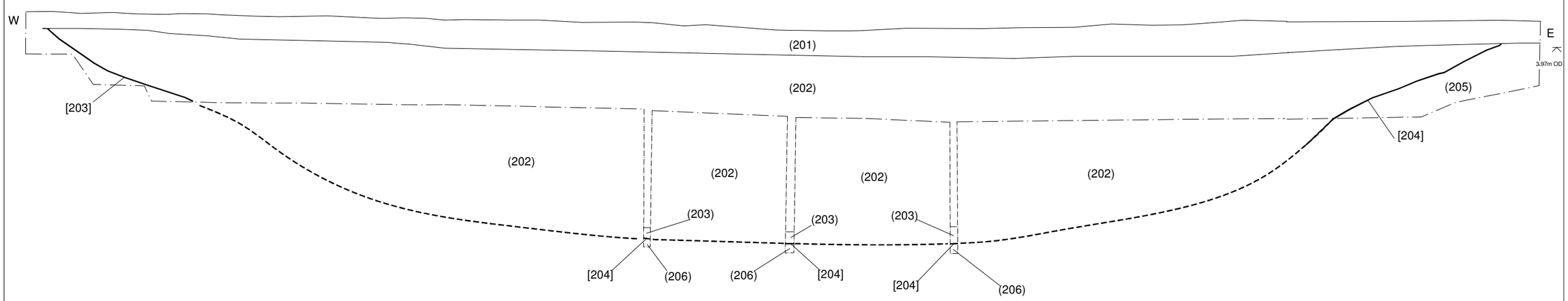



Figure 14 - Plan of trenches 21 & 22

Sec 1




Sec 2




Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: March Hatchwood (MAHW12)

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Figure 15 - Sections 1 & 2

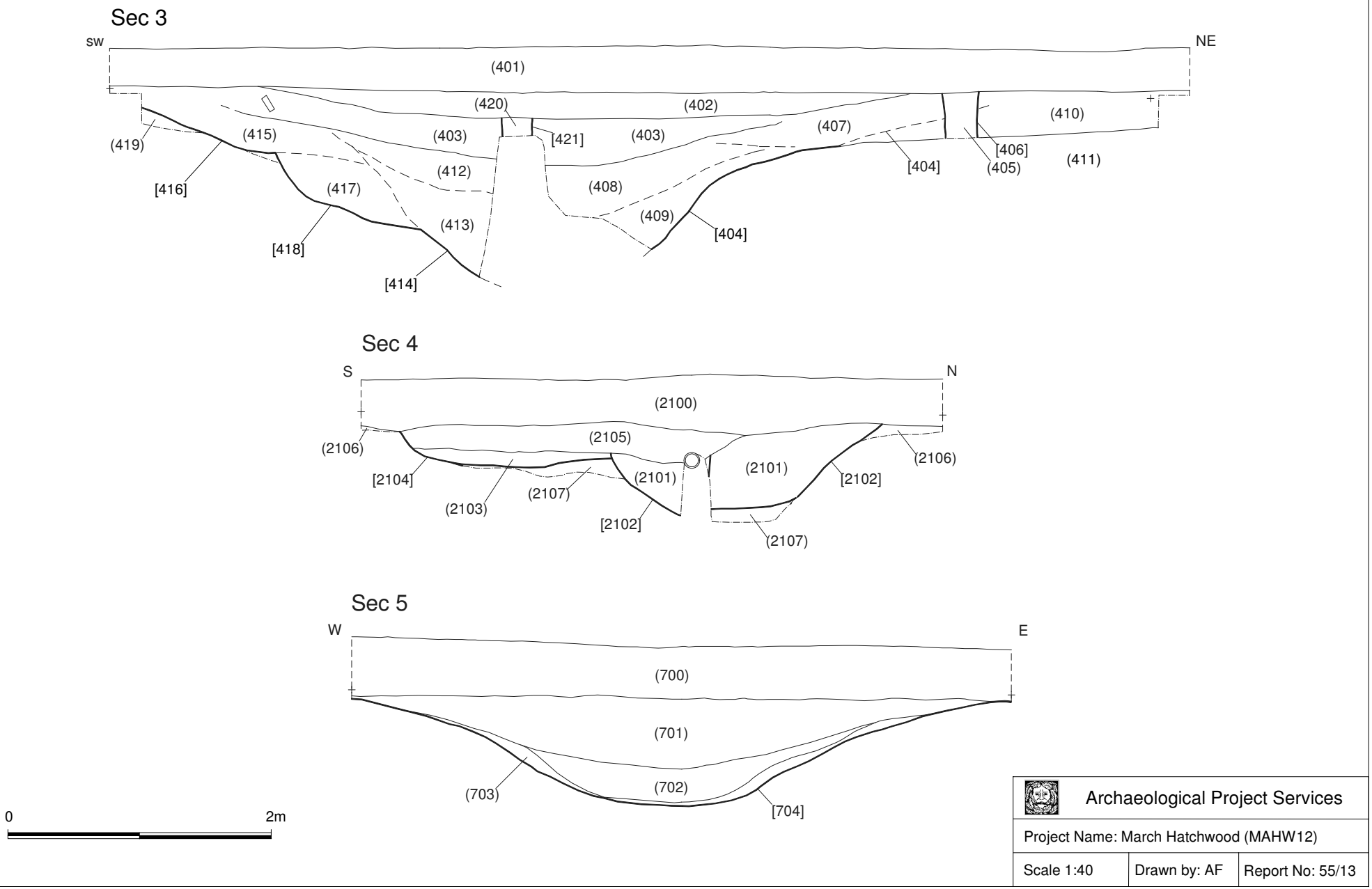


Figure 16 - Sections 3-5

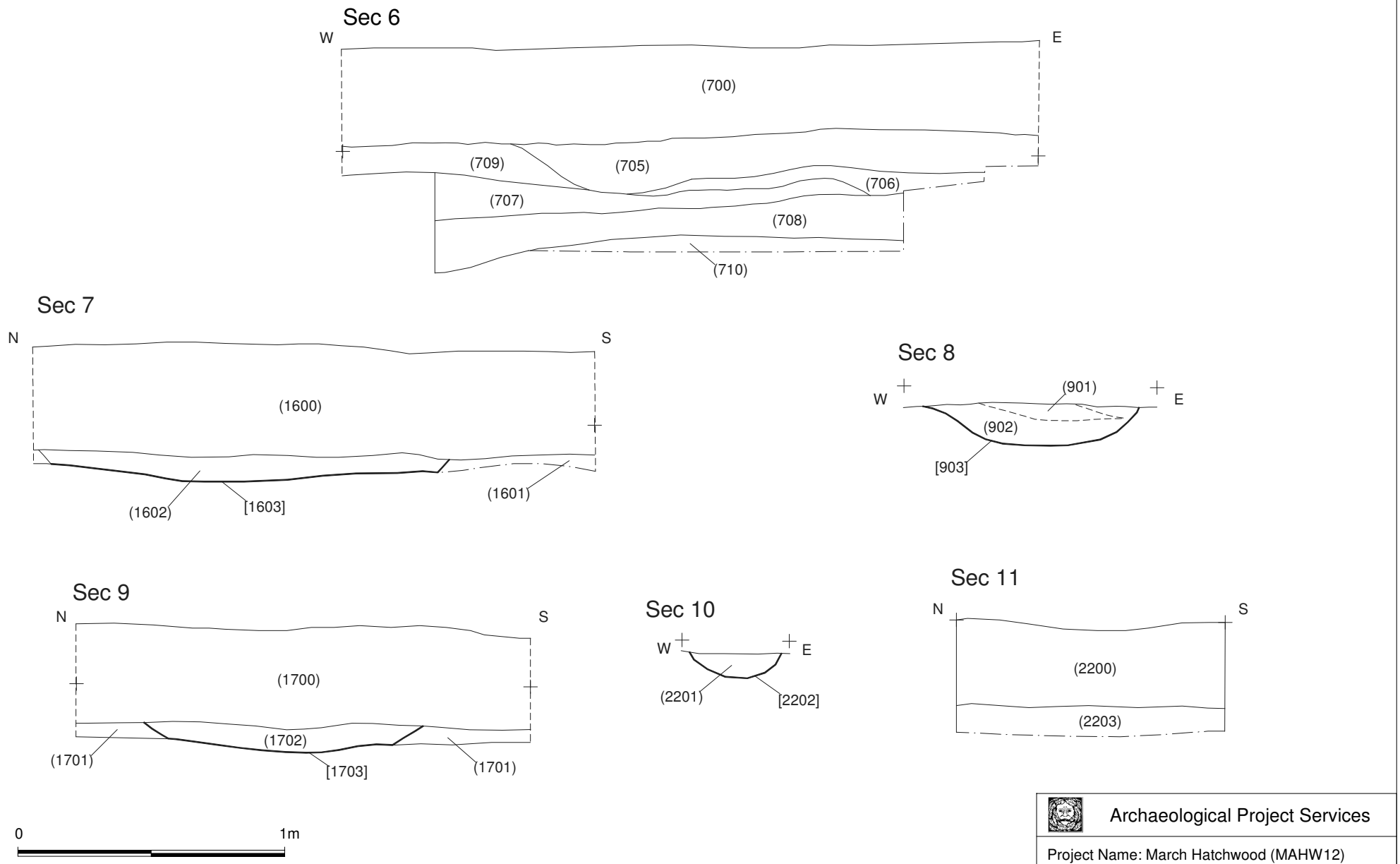


Figure 17 - Sections 6-11

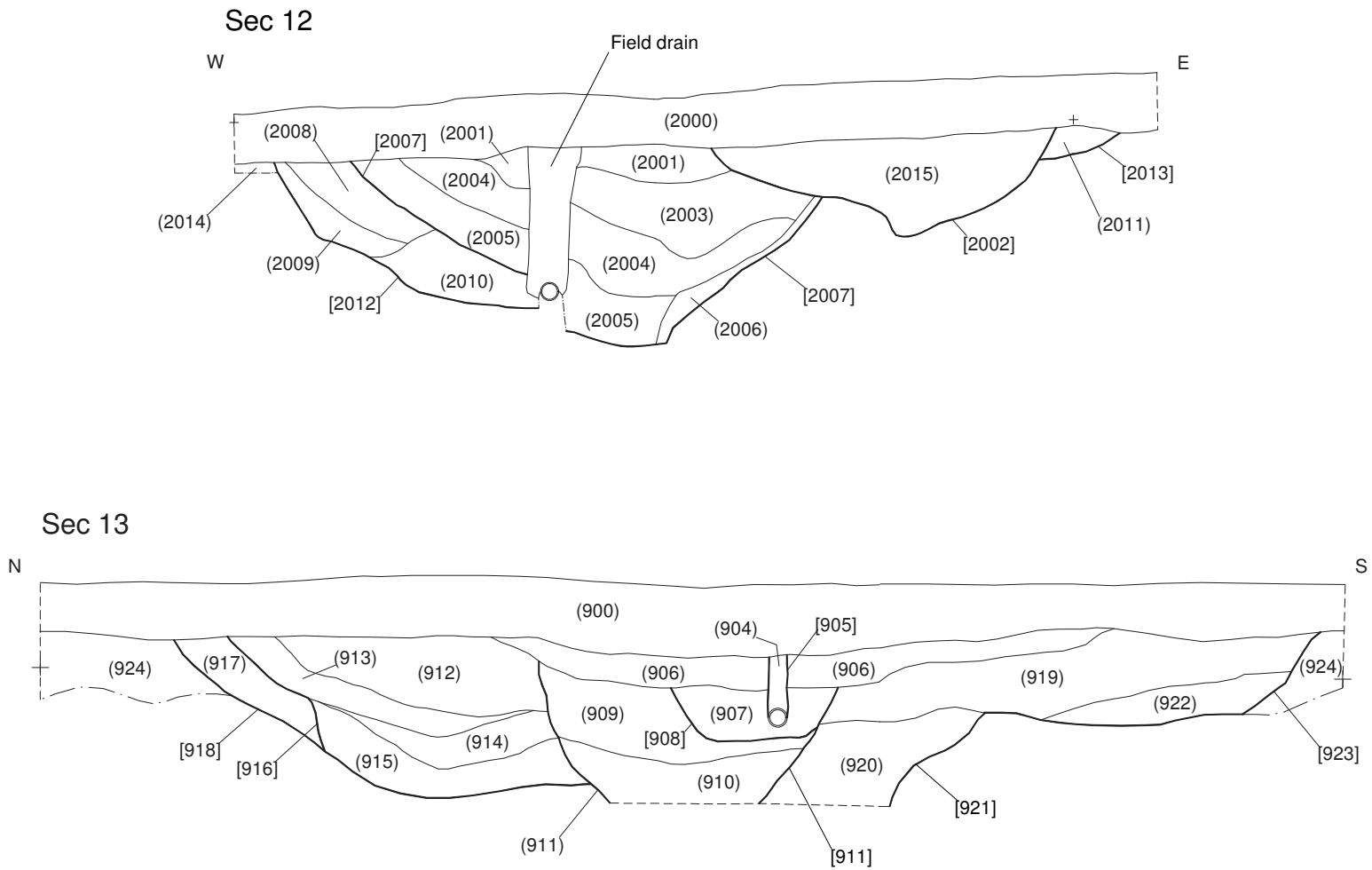


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Figure 18 - Sections 12-13

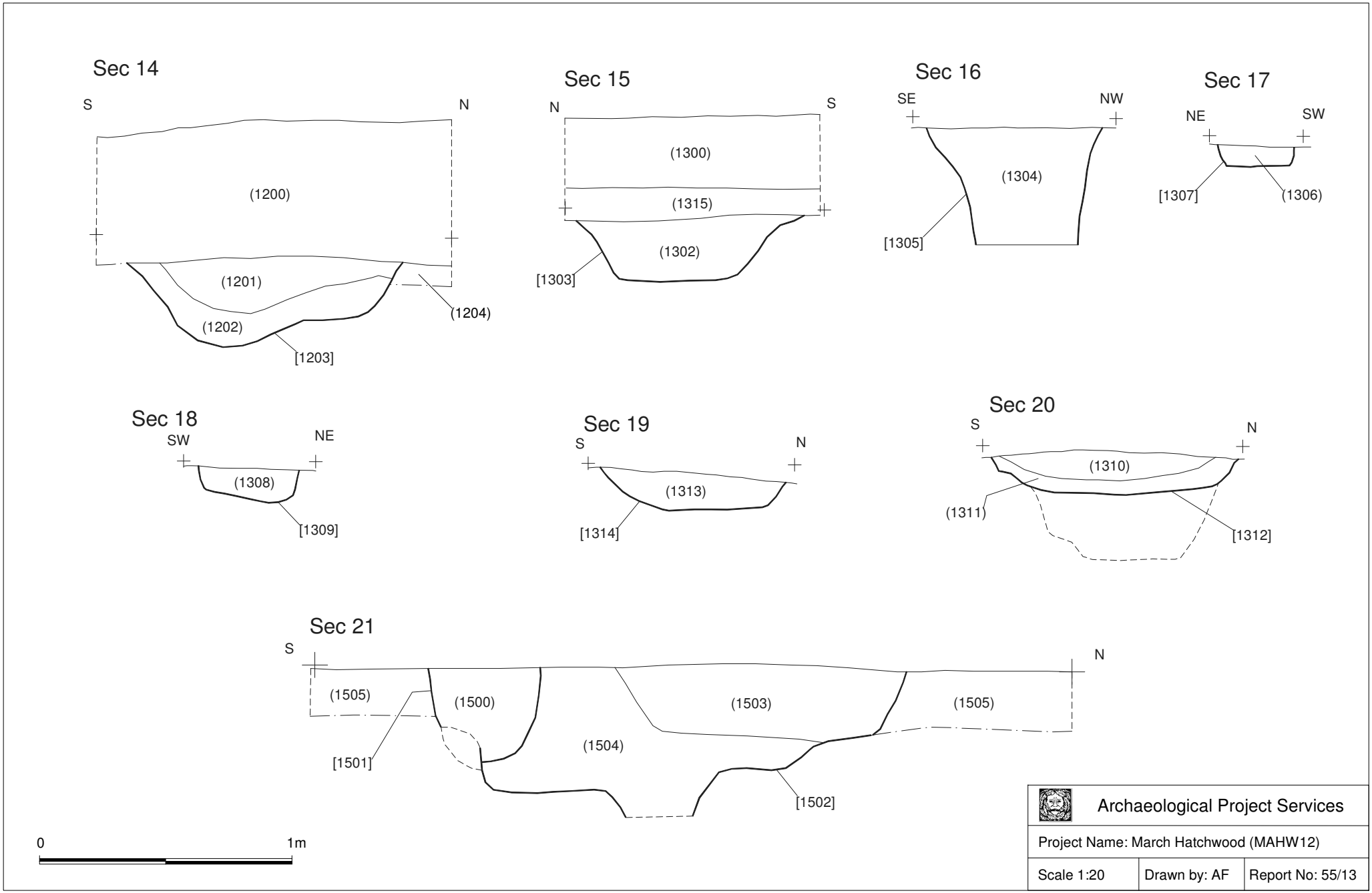


Figure 19 - Sections 14-21

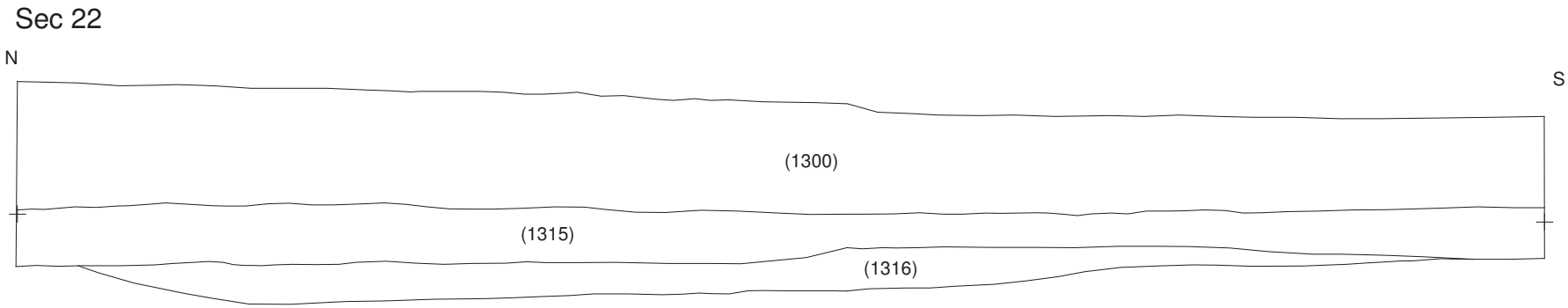


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Figure 20 - Section 22

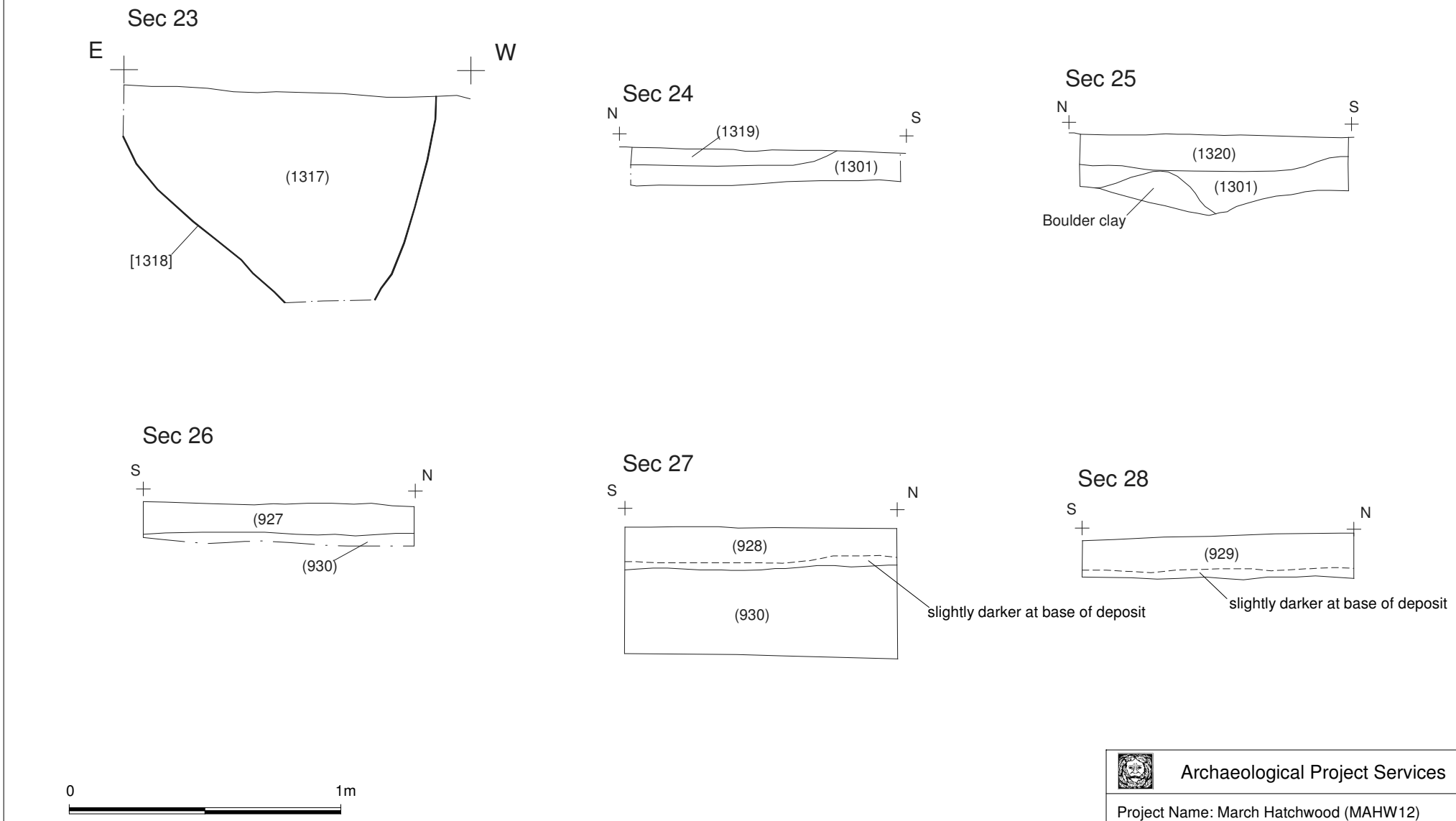
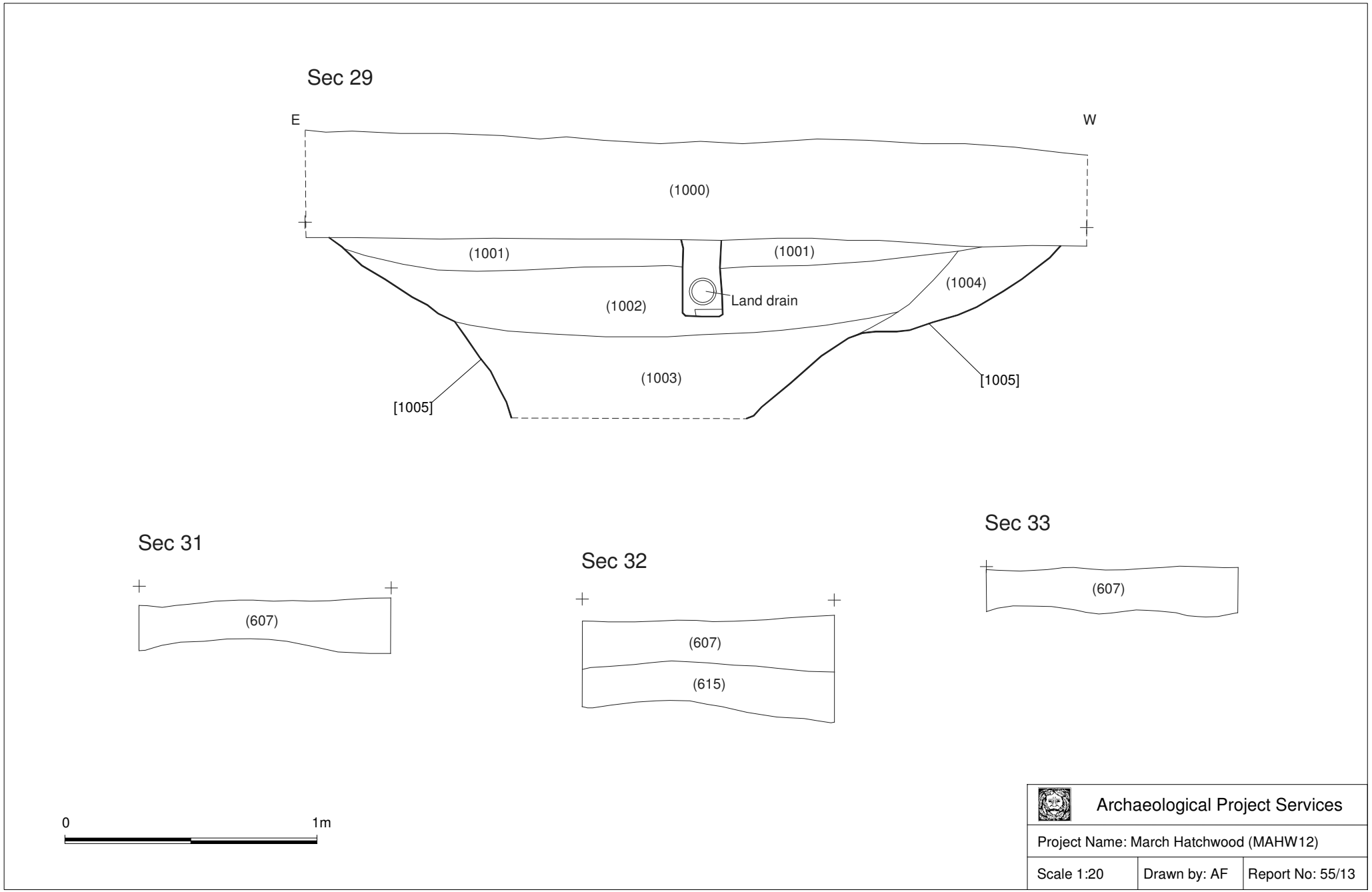



Figure 21 - Sections 23-28

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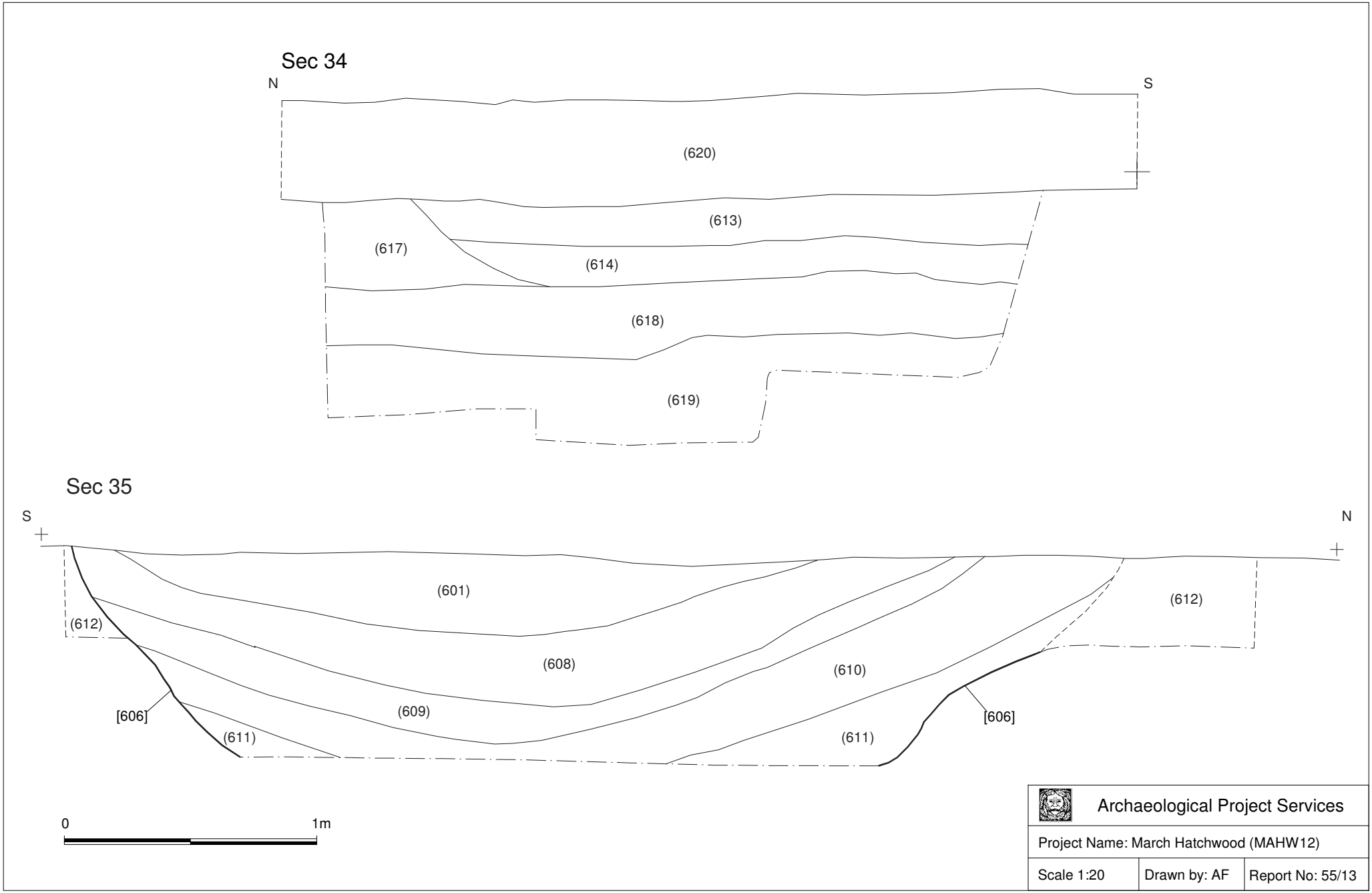



Figure 23 - Sections 34-35

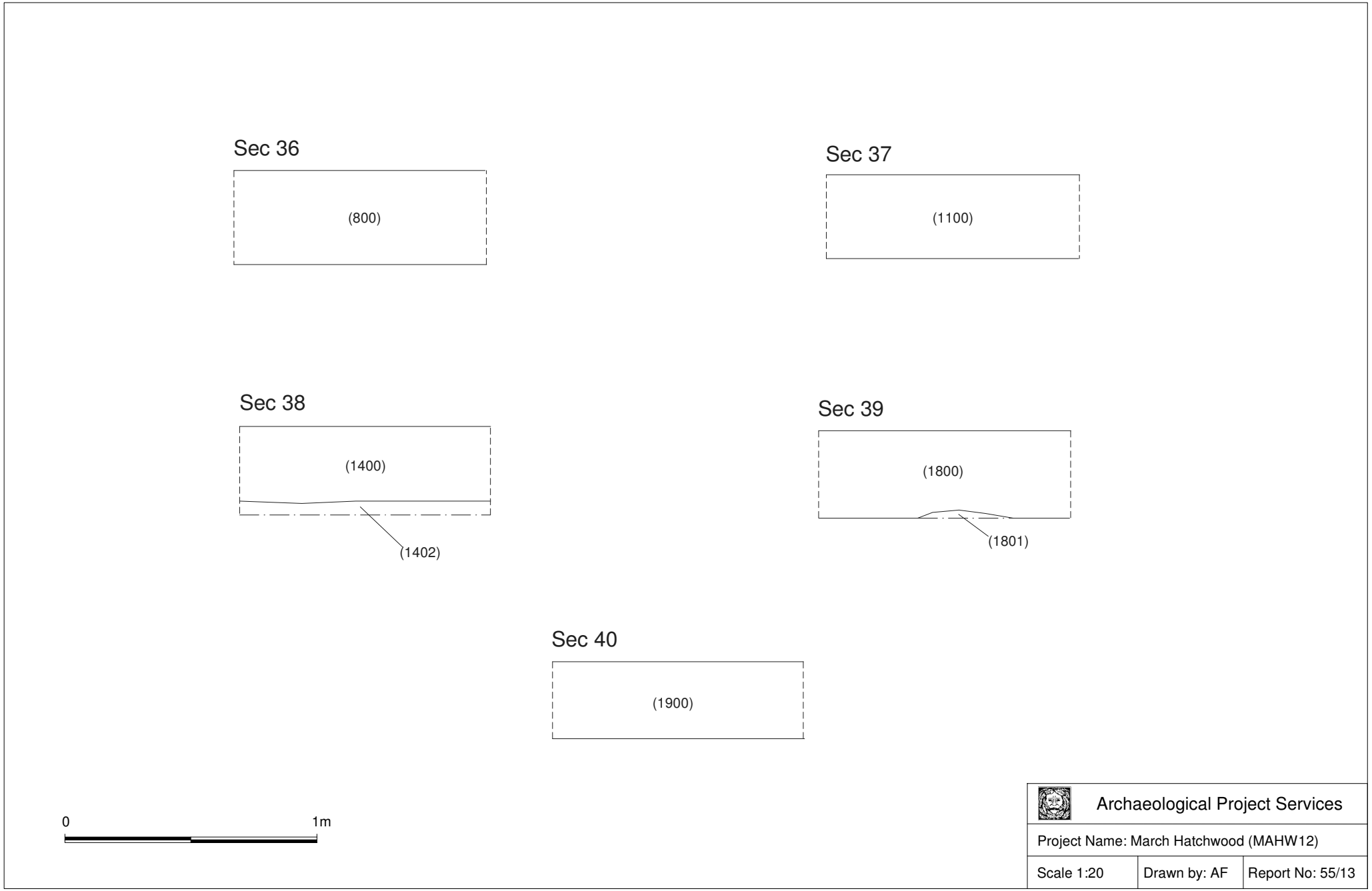
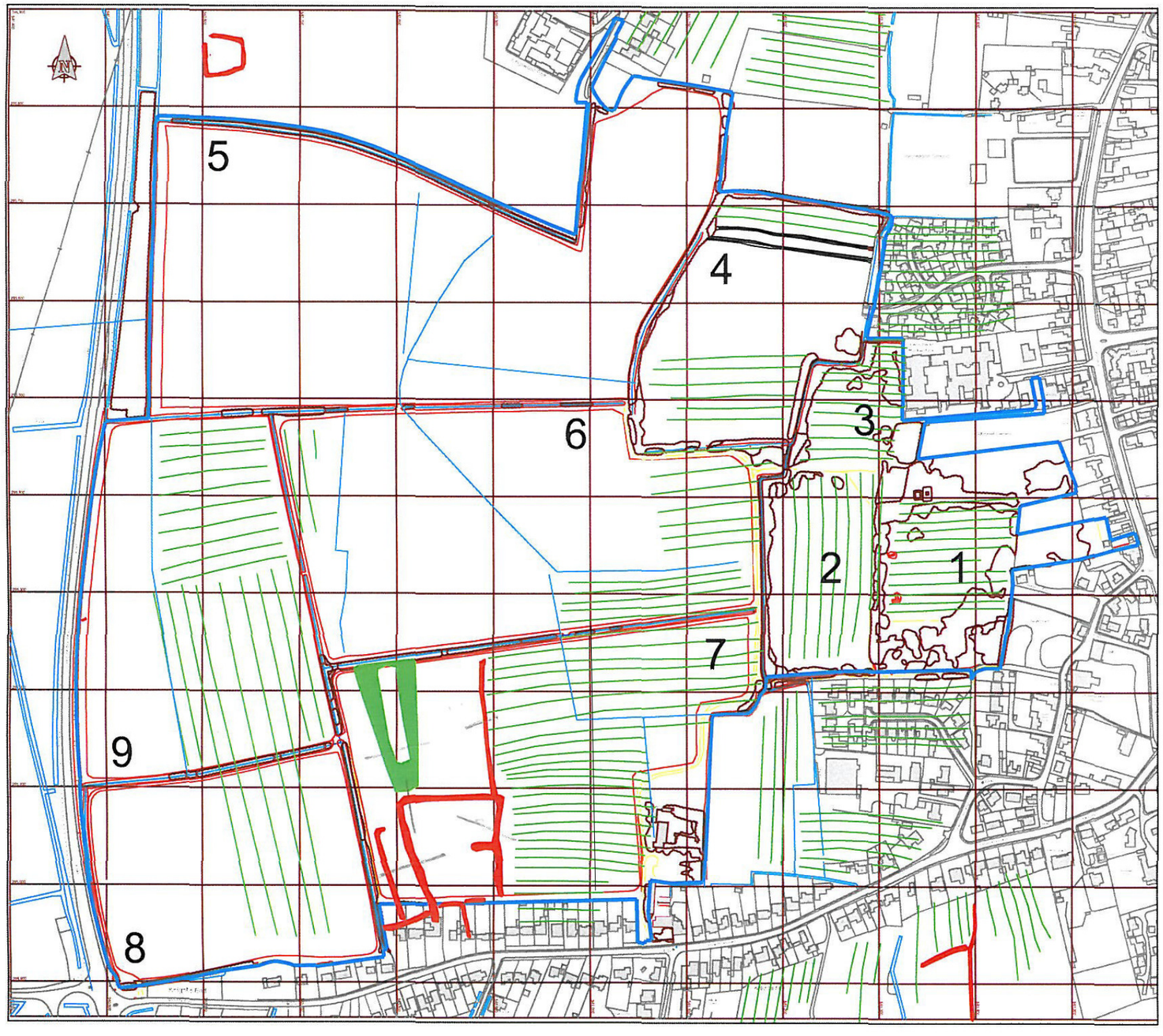



Figure 24 - Sections 36-40




Hatchwood Park, March, Cambridgeshire:
Features identified on aerial photographs.

Development area
Archaeological features:
Ditch
Bank
Ridge and furrow
Non-archaeological features:
Fen edge
Former field boundary

Field numbers (see text) are shown

Original photo interpretation and mapping at 1:2500 level based on aerial photographs at NMRC, CUCAP and Google Earth.

Air Photo Services Cambridge
January 2012
Drawing: 1201WMarch-map.dwg

| Archaeological Project Services | | |
|---|---|---|
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| Scale: 1:5000 | Drawn by: AF | Report No: 55/13 |

Figure 25 - Application Site showing cropmarks identified on aerial photographs

Plate 1 - General view of site looking east

Plate 2 – Trench 1, Section 1 looking northeast

Plate 3 – Trench 2, Section 2 looking northeast

Plate 4 – Trench 3, sampling in progress


Plate 5 – Trench 4, Section 3 through enclosure ditch [404]


Plate 6 – Trench 4, eastern end of Section 3

Plate 7 – Trench 6, Section 35 through ditch [606]

Plate 8 – Trench 6, Section 34 through possible quarry backfill deposits


Plate 9 – Trench 6, Section 31, Test Pit 2

Plate 10 – Trench 7, Section 5


Plate 11 – Trench 8 plan, looking southeast

Plate 12 – Trench 9, Section 8 through pit [903]

Plate 13 – Trench 9, Section 13 through enclosure ditch [918] (during excavation)

Plate 14 – Trench 9, Section 13, northern end


Plate 15 – Trench 9, Section 13 looking southeast

Plate 16 – Trench 9, Section 31, Test Pit 2

Plate 17 – Trench 10, Section 29 through ditch [1005]

Plate 18 – Trench 12, Section 12 through ditch [1203]

Plate 19 – Trench 13, Section 16 through pit [1305]

Plate 20 – Trench 13, Section 17 through rectangular feature [1307]

Plate 21 – Trench 13, Section 18 through rectangular feature [1309]

Plate 22 – Trench 13, Section 23 through pit [1318]

Plate 23 – Trench 13, Section 25

Plate 24 – Trench 18, Section 39

Plate 25 – Trench 20, Section 12 through enclosure ditch [2012]

Plate 26 – Trench 21, Section 4 through ditches [2102] & [2104]

Plate 27 – Trench 22, Section 10 through ditch [2202]

# APPENDIX 1

**LAND AT**
**HATCHWOOD, MARCH**
**CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR**
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**PREPARED FOR**

**Stock Land Estates**

**BY**
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES**
**Institute of Field Archaeologists'**
**Registered Archaeological Organisation No. 21**

**APRIL 2012**

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**Figure 1 Location of Area of Development and Trench Plan**

# 1 SUMMARY

1.1 *This document comprises a specification for the archaeological evaluation of land at Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire.*

1.2 *The site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area on the edge of a former Fen island. Previous fieldwalking during the Fenland survey revealed little in the way of artefacts.*

1.3 *Recent aerial survey has shown features and the location of a medieval settlement at the south of the proposed area. Features include an apparent large fishpond. Other than the medieval settlement and traces of former medieval ridge and furrow no other archaeological anomalies were recorded on the aerial survey.*

1.4 *Geophysical survey over part of the area recorded extinct field boundaries, mostly post-medieval in date, and further traces of ridge and furrow. A linear earthwork, probably post-medieval in date, was also recorded in the northeast of the proposed area.*

1.5 *Archaeological evaluation is proposed in order to assess the archaeological implications of the proposed residential development.*

1.6 *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 specification for the evaluation of land at Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire.

2.1.1 The document contains the following parts:

2.1.2 Overview

2.1.3 The archaeological and natural setting

2.1.4 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.1.5 List of specialists

2.1.6 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

# 3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 March is located approximately 38km north of Cambridge and 23km east of

Peterborough in the Fenland Administrative District of Cambridgeshire (Figure 1). The Proposed development site lays on the southwestern edge of the town, bounded by the A141 to the west, the rear of houses fronting Knight's End Road to the south, houses and allotments to the east and agricultural land to the north (Figure 2). This forms a parcel of land approximately 700m north-south and 1000m east-west, centred on National Grid Reference TL 410 955.

## 4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 Archaeological desk-based assessment (Drury and Taylor 2011) on the site formed the first stage of assessment for the proposed residential development of the area. Subsequently, an Aerial Photographic Assessment was undertaken (Palmer 2012), along with Geophysical Survey (Malone and Failes forthcoming). The proposed evaluation through a programme of trial trenching, augering and barrow-sorting of topsoil will form the next stage of archaeological assessment of the site. Subsequently, mitigation measures may comprise further investigations of significant archaeological remains at the site.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The pre-Flandrian bedrock of the area is Kimmeridge Clay, overlain in places by interglacial gravels (Hoxnian Phase) known as 'March Gravels' (flinty gravels with shelly fauna) and in places by chalky till. Soils are recoded as Ashley Association, loamy over clayey stagnogleyic argillic brown earths (BGS 1983; Hodge et al 1984, 96). The Investigation Area lies on the western edge of the low-lying island, which rises to c4m OD.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 The Fenland has long been recognised as an important archaeological landscape, containing superimposed evidence of settlement, ritual and agricultural sites dating from the prehistoric period onwards. March occupies a former island within the fenland, lying on the northern tip of a large peninsula. The surrounding fen landscape underwent a series of complex changes during the prehistoric, Roman and later periods, influenced by the peninsular and the constantly changing courses of the major rivers on either side of it (Hall 1987)

6.2 The earliest evidence for occupation at March is at Gaul Road to the north of Hatchwood where Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatters have been identified (Her refs 08455, 08455A, 05210, 05210A, 10913, 10913A). At the northwestern edge of the study area, Near Cherry Holt Farm, widely scattered waste flints and scrapers have been recorded. A Neolithic stone axe was also found in the vicinity. A large stone axe of Bronze Age date was found in the churchyard of St Wendreda, to the southeast of the application area. A group of four barrows is

known on Stonea island, approximately 6km to the southeast.

6.3 No finds of Iron Age, Roman or Saxon date have been found within the proposed development area but a summary of such sites in the vicinity appears in Drury and Taylor (2011).

6.4 March is first referred to in the Domesday Survey of 1086 where it was known as *Mearc*, meaning boundary. In 1361 the place-name *Marcheford* was used to describe March and it is presumed that there was a port or hithe at the river crossing (Hall 1987, 46).

6.5 Hatchwood is first mentioned in 1251 when Stephen of the Marsh held 80 acres in the marsh below *Hachwood*. Hatchwood manor, the first manor to be recorded at March, is first referred to in 1328 when it was held by Geoffrey de Coleville. A descendent, Geoffrey Colville, had licence of a private oratory in his house at Hachewood in 1407 (Pugh 2002).

6.6 Cropmarks recorded within the Application Site, to the northwest of Hatchwoods Farm, although undated, are thought to represent the remains of a medieval moated site or fishponds, and includes evidence of ditches and enclosures. The site is now levelled and under crop. Evidence from later cartographic evidence shows a long trapezoidal earthwork containing a linear pond, which perhaps suggests that the feature was a fishpond.

6.7 The HER records the site of a shrunken medieval village to the south of the moat / fishponds where brick, 15th century pottery, shell, quern and bone have been found. This is thought to relate to part of Hatchwood manor or possibly part of Knights End manor.

6.8 Cropmark evidence (from aerial photographs) of ridge and furrow earthworks (remains of medieval cultivation) is recorded in the eastern part of the Application Site, west of Town End. The ridge and furrow is aligned east – west. Further evidence of ridge and furrow, broad and slightly curved, typical of medieval agriculture, was recorded on aerial photographs (Palmer 2012).

6.9 Saint Wendreda's Church, a Grade I Listed Building, stands to the southeast of the Application Site. The church dates mainly from the 14th century but with some earlier elements. A Papal indulgence was granted in 1343 for the re-building of the church (Pevsner 2002, 437). The chancel was rebuilt in 19th century. Late Saxon and early medieval pottery found during archaeological investigations on Church Street are thought to indicate possible early medieval settlement associated with the church.

6.10 Part of a medieval cross shaft and base on the original plinth, Wayside Cross , is located on The Avenue. The cross is a Listed Structure, Grade II and was restored in 1980.

6.11 The Colvilles, who had held Hatchwood during the medieval period, conveyed the manor to Humphrey Gardner in 1586, at which time it contained 40 messuages. Gardner subsequently passed it to William Hynd, whose widow conveyed it to Sir John Peyton in 1606. As a result of the growth of population in the 17th century, the commons became overstocked. In 1669, Sir Algernon Peyton entered into an agreement with his 165 March tenants by which 4400 acres were set aside as common and cow pasture. Some of this land was in Burrowmoor and other parts at, *inter alia*, Knight's End and Town End (Pugh 2002).

6.12 Post-medieval finds and features include 16th century pottery sherds found at the southern edge of the application site together with medieval pottery.

6.13 One Grade II Listed Building, Hatchwoods Farm, lies by the southeastern corner of the Application Site. The two storey brick built house dates from the late 18th century with later, 20th century alterations. Cartographic evidence indicates that a number of buildings formerly stood within the Application Site. Their locations, out in the midst of the fields, would suggest they were probably agricultural in function.

6.14 Historic maps of 17th and late 19th century date depict buildings on the site, but these were no longer present by the beginning of the 20th century.

## 7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:

7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.

7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.

7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.

7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

# 8 TRIAL TRENCHING

## 8.1 Reasoning for this technique

8.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

8.1.2 No plans denoting the proposed development across the area are available at present. To date systematic fieldwalking during the Fenland Survey (Hall 1987) and unsystematic walking subsequently by T. Lane in 2012 failed to find any artefact scatters in the northern part of the proposed area. Moreover, no cropmarks, other than those of ridge and furrow were present there (Fields 5 and 6) (Palmer 2012). Other than recent field divisions nothing was revealed either during geophysical survey of the northern side (Malone and Failes, forthcoming). Neither the eastern side, where the fields are pasture, nor the southern side, where a rape crop was present, were subjected to unsystematic walking or geophysical survey. Therefore the variable density of trial trenching is designed to reflect these factors. In the northern fields (Fields 1-6) it is proposed to undertake a 3% sample. Additionally, each trench will have 1sq.m of the adjacent topsoil barrow sorted for artefacts, reflecting the possibility that prehistoric archaeology in particular may only survive as artefacts in the topsoil (see below).

8.1.3 Sampling on a 5% basis will take place in the south on the areas identified by aerial photographic assessment as of medieval archaeological significance on Field 7. Elsewhere on Fields 7-9 sampling will revert to 3% unless geophysical survey (if undertaken) indicates anomalies interpreted as archaeology.

8.1.4 100m of trenching will be held in contingency to be activated if required

8.1.5 Hand augering (subsequently followed by power augering if required) will be undertaken in the 'fishpond' area in Field 7 to determine its depth and shape and across the stream course in Field 8. The power augering will only be undertaken if samples for investigation in the Lab are required.

## 8.2 General Considerations

8.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

8.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21).

8.2.3 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.

8.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. All archaeological features exposed will be excavated and recorded unless otherwise agreed with the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Office. The investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

8.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by hazard tape attached to road irons or similar poles. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

8.3 Methodology

8.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed.

8.3.2 Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

8.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services 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.

8.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

8.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. 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

8.4 Should human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of the remains is necessary the appropriate licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

8.5 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.

8.6 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the top soil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

8.7 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by an GPS survey.

## 9 TOPSOIL ARTEFACT SAMPLING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

9.1.1 Topsoil sampling on sites where flints are present permits accurate sampling of artefact densities and assists in the characterisation of lithic assemblages.

9.1.2 Sampling will be undertaken in a 1m sq of topsoil at one end of each trench. A

measured sample of 1 wheelbarrow load of 100 litres will be sorted. Samples of 25l for wet sieving for retrieval of the smallest flints (debitage and microliths) will also be collected.

## 10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

10.1 During the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. If necessary the specialist will visit the site and will 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.

10.2 Samples will be taken from primary and secondary fills of dated features, likely to comprise ditches and pits, the level of sampling being appropriate to the content of the individual feature. Samples to characterise the survival of plant remains, molluscs and small faunal remains will be taken from suitable archaeological contexts. The samples will be extracted and recorded in accordance with Murphy & Wiltshire 1994. Bulk samples for small faunal remains will be wet-sieved through 0.5mm collecting meshes.

## 11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching 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 will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

11.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

11.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

11.3 Stage 3

11.3.1 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 trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 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

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of Museum Archaeologists' document *Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums* (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited within an approved County store as soon as possible after completion of the post-excavation and analysis.

12.2 If required, microfilming of the archive will be carried out at Lincolnshire Archives. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be

deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Service Historic Environment Record.

12.3 Prior to the project commencing, the Cambridgeshire County Archaeological Office will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive. An event number for this project will be issued by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record.

12.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowners will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themselves to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be by means of a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

## 13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 An unbound draft copy of the report will be supplied initially to the County Archaeological Office for comment. Copies of the final report will be sent to: the client; the Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office (2 copies); and the Cambridgeshire County Historic Environment Record.

## 14 PUBLICATION

14.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the appropriate local journal. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

14.2 Details of the investigation will also be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

## 15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Office. As much notice as possible will be given in writing to the curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

## 16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the

scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

## 17 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 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.

| Task | Body to be undertaking the work |
|---|---|
| Air Photograph plotting | Roger Palmer, independent specialist |
| Conservation | Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln. |
| Pottery Analysis | Early Prehistoric: Sarah Percival, independent specialist |
| | Later Prehistoric - Roman – medieval pottery: Alex Beeby, APS in-house ceramicist. |
| Other Artefacts | Gary Taylor, APS |
| Human Remains Analysis | R Gowland, independent specialist |
| Animal Remains Analysis | James Rackham Environmental Archaeology Consultancy |
| Environmental Analysis | James Rackham Environmental Archaeology Consultancy |
| Soil Assessment | Dr Charles French, independent specialist |
| Radiocarbon dating | Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA |
| Dendrochronology dating | University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory |

## 18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 The Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services, Tom Lane, MIFA, will have overall responsibility and control of all aspects of the work.

18.2 Site work will be undertaken by a Project Officer with experience of archaeological excavations of this type, assisted by appropriately experienced archaeological technicians.

18.3 Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by the Project Officer, or post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists.

18.4 Contingency

18.4.1 The activation of any contingency requirement will be by agreement with the client and in consultation with the County Archaeology Office.

## 19 INSURANCES

19.1 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 can be supplied on request.

## 20 COPYRIGHT

20.1 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 Specification.

20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

20.3 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.

20.4 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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Specification: Version 1, 24th April 2012

## Appendix 2

CONTEXT SUMMARY

| No: | Trench | Description | Interpretation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | 1 | Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.50 thick | Topsoil |
| 102 | 1 | Firm mid greyish brown clay, 1.20m thick, containing frequent patches of brown sand | Natural deposit |
| 103 | 1 | Firm mid grey clay with lenses of gravel | Natural deposit |
| 104 | 1 | Somewhat linear feature oriented on a north-south alignment, extending through the width of the trench and measuring 13m in width x 2m in depth with concave sides and a fairly flat base | Possible fish pond |
| 105 | 1 | Soft black sediment laid in open water and disturbed by filling in with heavy objects | Pond bottom sediment |
| 106 | 1 | Firm dark grey clay, 1.30m thick | Backfill deposit within pond [104] |
| 107 | 1 | Firm mix of mid brown and mid brownish yellow sandy clay and clayey silt, up to 1.30m thick, containing frequent gravel | Backfill deposit within pond [104] |
| 108 | 1 | Soft dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.60m thick | Backfill deposit or slumping of topsoil within pond [104] |
| 201 | 2 | Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.38m thick | Topsoil |
| 202 | 2 | Loose mix of mid brown, yellowish brown and dark greyish brown clayey silts, up to 2.1m thick and containing modern scrap | Backfill of pond [204] |
| 203 | 2 | Soft very dark blackish grey silt, up to 0.20m thick | Pond bottom sediment (same as 105) |
| 204 | 2 | Linear feature oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring 19.2m in width x 2.2m deep with slightly concave sides and a fairly flat base (as shown by auger survey) | Possible fish pond |
| 205 | 2 | Friable to firm mottled light grey to yellow to orange clayey sandy gravel, at least 0.80m thick | Natural gravel |
| 206 | 2 | Firm mid grey clay with frequent flecks of chalk | Natural clay |
| 301 | 3 | Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.40m thick | Topsoil |
| 302 | 3 | Loose mix of mid brown and dark greyish brown clayey silt | Backfill of [304] |
| 303 | 3 | Soft very dark grey (black) silt | Pond bottom sediment (same as 105 and 203) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 304 | 3 | Linear feature oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring 2m in depth with a flattish base | Possible fish pond |
| 401 | 4 | Soft dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt, 0.30m thick, containing moderate sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles | Topsoil |
| 402 | 4 | Soft dark brownish grey humic sandy silt, 0.20m thick | Fill of [404] |
| 403 | 4 | Soft mid olive brown clayey sandy silt, 0.35m thick, containing frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular flint pebbles | Fill of [404] |
| 404 | 4 | Linear feature, extending through the width of the trench and measuring 4.8m wide x 1.4m deep with steep sides (the feature was not fully excavated due to the water table) | Ditch cut |
| 405 | 4 | Loose mix of light yellow, grey and dark brown sandy clay and sandy silt, 0.35m thick with moderate stones | Fill of [406] |
| 406 | 4 | Linear cut oriented on a roughly north-south alignment measuring 0.28m wide x 0.35m deep with vertical sides and a concave base | Field drain cut |
| 407 | 4 | Firm mid olive brown clayey sandy silt, 0.30m thick, containing moderate small sub-angular to sub-rounded stones | Fill of [404] |
| 408 | 4 | Soft mid grey with red mottle, clayey sandy silt, 0.40m thick with frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded stones | Fill of [404] |
| 409 | 4 | Firm mid olive brownish grey with frequent red mottle, clayey sandy silt, 0.40m thick, with frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and stones | Fill of [404] |
| 410 | 4 | Firm mid to light slightly orangey olive brown clayey sandy silt, 0.35m thick, containing moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and stones | Subsoil deposit |
| 411 | 4 | Firm mid orange clayey sand, containing moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded flints | Natural deposit |
| 412 | 4 | Soft mid grey with red mottle, clayey sandy silt, 0.30m thick, containing moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded flints | Fill of [414] |
| 413 | 4 | Firm mid olive grey with red mottle, clayey sandy silt at least 0.65m thick, containing frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded flints | Fill of [414] |
| 414 | 4 | Linear feature measuring 4.8m wide x at least 1.4m deep with steep sides (the feature was not fully excavated due to the water table) | Ditch cut |
| 415 | 4 | Firm mid olive brown clayey sandy silt, 0.27m thick, containing moderate small flints | Fill of [416] |
| 416 | 4 | Linear feature, at least 1.95m wide and up to | Ditch cut |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | 0.55m deep with gently sloping sides breaking gradually to a flat base | |
| 417 | 4 | Soft mid grey with frequent red mottle, clayey sandy silt, up to 0.40m thick, containing occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded flints | Fill of [418] |
| 418 | 4 | Linear cut oriented on a roughly north-south alignment, measuring 1.10m in width x 0.57m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base | Ditch cut |
| 419 | 4 | Firm mid yellowish orange clayey sand, 0.17m thick, with moderate flints | Natural deposit |
| 420 | 4 | Loose mix of dark brown and orangey brown clayey sandy silt, sandy clay and light grey clay, 0.13m thick and containing moderate mud stone | Fill of [421] |
| 421 | 4 | Linear cut oriented on a roughly north-south alignment, measuring 0.23m wide x 0.13m deep with vertical sides | Field drain cut |
| 500 | 5 | Firm yet slightly friable light brownish yellow clay, 0.20m thick, containing frequent chalk flecks | Redeposited natural clay |
| 501 | 5 | Soft orangey brown gravel, 0.12m thick | Fill of [502] |
| 502 | 5 | Linear feature oriented on a east-west alignment, measuring 1.20m wide x 0.12m deep | Modern pipe trench |
| 503 | 5 | Light brown clayey silt with orange mottle, 0.40m thick, containing occasional pebbles | Subsoil |
| 504 | 5 | Mid greenish yellow sandy silt, 0.12m thick, containing occasional pieces of gravel | Natural deposit |
| 600 | 6 | Soft brown silty clay, ??? thick, containing clumps of redeposited yellow clay | Fill within land drain cut [602] |
| 601 | 6 | Soft brown clayey silt, ??? thick, containing moderate red brick | Fill of shallow pit or ditch [603] |
| 602 | 6 | Linear feature oriented on a north northwest-south southeast alignment with vertical sides | Field drain cut |
| 603 | 6 | Irregular shaped cut with concave shallow sides breaking gradually to a flat base | Possible ditch or pit |
| 606 | 6 | Linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.90m x 4.70m x at least 0.80m deep within the trench. | Ditch cut |
| 607 | | firm dark yellowish greyish brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent flecks of chalk and sub-angular to sub-rounded flints and moderate charcoal flecks. | Buried Soil |
| 608 | 6 | Firm mid greyish yellow silty clay, 0.28m thick, containing frequent chalk fragments, sub-rounded pebbles and occasional sub-angular flint cobbles | Fill of [606] |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 609 | 6 | Firm light greyish brown silty sandy clay, 0.16m thick with occasional flecks and very occasional lumps of boulder clay | Fill of [606] |
| 610 | 6 | Firm mid greyish brown silty sandy clay, containing very occasional charcoal flecks | Fill of [606] |
| 611 | 6 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, at least 0.28m thick, containing occasional fragments of wood and charcoal | Fill of [606] |
| 612 | 6 | Firm dark yellowish grey silty sand, 0.38m thick, containing very occasional flint grit | Natural deposit |
| 613 | 6 | Firm mid greyish olive brown silty clay, 0.11m thick, with moderate small pebbles and frequent charcoal flecks | Fill of [621] |
| 614 | 6 | Firm mid to light greyish yellowish brown silty clay, 90mm thick, containing occasional CBM, charcoal flecks and small pebbles | Fill of [621] |
| 615 | 6 | Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with moderate small flint and chalk pebbles | |
| 616 | 6 | Firm mid yellowish brown to dark brown clay with frequent chalk pebbles | Natural boulder clay |
| 617 | 6 | Very firm mid yellowish brown clay, 0.18m thick, containing frequent chalk pebbles, CBM and redeposited boulder clay | Fill of [621] |
| 618 | 6 | Very firm mottled red orange and bluish grey mixed clays, 0.12m thick, with frequent chalk pebbles | Fill of [621] |
| 619 | 6 | Moderately firm dark olive grey sandy clay, at least 0.22m thick, containing frequent chalk flecks, mussel shell fragments and charcoal flecks | Fill of [621] |
| 620 | | Firm to friable mid greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt, containing frequent small | Topsoil |
| 621 | 6 | Quarry cut number | Quarry cut |
| 700 | 7 | Firm to friable mid greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt, 0.40m thick, containing frequent small stones, gravel, flints and plant roots | Topsoil |
| 701 | 7 | Firm to friable dark yellowish brown slightly clayey silt with greyish brown patches, up to 0.53m thick and containing moderate small stones and occasional flecks of CBM | Fill of [704] |
| 702 | 7 | Firm to friable dark reddish brown slightly sandy clayey silt, up to 0.35m thick and containing occasional stones | Fill of [704] |
| 703 | 7 | Firm to friable mid reddish brown slightly sandy silt, up to 0.10m thick, containing occasional stones and flints | Fill of [704] |
| 704 | 7 | Linear cut oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring 5m wide x 1.20m deep | Ditch cut |

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| | | with moderately sloped convex sides and a concave base | |
| 705 | 7 | Firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt, approximately 0.13m thick, containing frequent stones, flints and occasional charcoal | Dumped deposit |
| 706 | 7 | Firm light greyish brown silt with orange mottle, approximately 60mm thick with frequent small stones, flints and occasional charcoal | Silt deposit |
| 707 | 7 | Firm light yellowish brown silty clay and limestone deposit, approximately 40mm thick | Redeposited natural spread |
| 708 | 7 | Firm light greyish brown silt with orange mottle, approximately 0.10m thick, containing occasional stones, flints and charcoal | Silt deposit |
| 709 | 7 | Firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.14m thick with frequent stones and flints | Layer |
| 710 | 7 | Firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt with moderate stones and flints | Natural deposit |
| 800 | 8 | Firm dark brown silty clay, 0.37m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (mostly flint) | Topsoil |
| 801 | 8 | Firm mid orangey brown sandy silty clay containing frequent moderately sized pebbles (mostly flint) ranging from sub-rounded to sub-angular | Natural |
| 900 | 9 | Soft dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.38m thick, containing frequent small stones, flints and moderate larger stones | Topsoil |
| 901 | 9 | Soft dark greyish brown clayey silt, 60mm thick, containing frequent charcoal and CBM flecks | Fill of [903] |
| 902 | 9 | Soft dark yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.10m thick, containing moderate stones, flints and occasional charcoal and CBM flecks | Fill of [903] |
| 903 | 9 | Oval shaped cut measuring 1.25m long x 0.80m wide x 0.15m deep with fairly steep concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base | Fire pit/hearth cut |
| 904 | 9 | Moderately firm dark grey silty sandy clay, 0.42m thick, containing moderate fragments of CBM | Fill of [905] |
| 905 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 0.12m wide x 0.42m deep with vertical sides and a concave base | Field drain cut |
| 906 | 9 | Moderately firm dark grey silt, 0.18m thick, with possibly some organic content | Buried soil remnant |
| 907 | 9 | Soft grey silty clay, 0.32m thick | Fill of [908] |
| 908 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment | Ditch (possible re- |

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| | | measuring 0.96m wide x 0.32m deep with moderately steep sloping sides breaking gradually to a flat base | cut) |
| 909 | 9 | Firm and somewhat plastic clayey silt, 0.48m thick | Fill of [911] |
| 910 | 9 | Soft yet plastic brownish grey clayey silt, 0.30m thick | Fill of [911] |
| 911 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on a east-west alignment, measuring 1.76m wide x 0.85m deep with a near vertical side and a less steep side (not bottomed due to water table) | Enclosure ditch recut |
| 912 | 9 | Firm mid brown clay, 0.42m thick with frequent chalk flecks and fragments and occasional charcoal flecks | Fill of [916] |
| 913 | 9 | Firm light brown silty clay, 0.18m thick with very occasional charcoal flecks and angular flints | Fill of [916] |
| 914 | 9 | Soft yet plastic dark grey clayey silt, 0.20m thick, containing clumps of charcoal and occasional angular flints | Fill of [916] |
| 915 | 9 | Soft yet plastic mottled orange grey silty clay, 0.27m thick, containing very occasional angular flints | Fill of [918] |
| 916 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.66m wide x 0.46m deep with moderately steep to steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base | Enclosure ditch recut |
| 917 | 9 | Very firm mid greenish yellow silty clay, 0.20m thick | Fill of [918] |
| 918 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 2.46m wide x 0.96m deep with shallow sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base | Enclosure ditch cut |
| 919 | 9 | Moderately firm and slightly plastic, mottled orange brown silt, 0.32m thick, containing occasional angular flints | Fill of [923] |
| 920 | 9 | Soft yet plastic, heavily mottled brownish grey silt, 0.50m thick, containing occasional flints | Fill of [921] |
| 921 | 9 | Sub-circular cut, measuring 1.30m in diameter x 0.50m deep, with steep sides | Possible pit |
| 922 | 9 | Soft yet plastic mid grey clayey silt, 0.20m thick, containing moderate charcoal and frequent fragments of pottery | Fill of [923] |
| 923 | 9 | Irregular (unknown) shape, measuring 1.50m x 0.50m deep, with a steep side breaking sharply to an undulating base | Possible ditch or pit cut |
| 924 | 9 | | Natural deposit |
| 925 | 9 | Very soft mid yellow sand, 0.50m thick, | Fill of [926] |

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| | | containing moderate rounded stones and flints near the top of the deposit | |
| 926 | 9 | Linear cut oriented on a northeast-southwest alignment, measuring 0.80m x 0.17m x 0.50m deep, with vertical sides | Cut of ice wedge |
| 927 | 9 | Soft dark grey clayey silt, 0.12m thick, containing occasional fragments of CBM, moderate pottery fragments and rounded pebbles | Possible buried soil |
| 928 | 9 | Soft dark grey clayey silt, 0.13m thick, containing occasional CBM, moderate pottery and occasional rounded pebbles | Possible buried soil |
| 929 | 9 | Soft dark grey clayey silt, 0.13m thick, containing occasional CBM fragments, pottery and rounded pebbles | Possible buried soil |
| 930 | 9 | | Natural deposit |
| 1000 | 10 | Firm dark brown silty clay, 0.43m thick, with frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1001 | 10 | Friable dark greyish brown peaty clay, 50mm deep, containing occasional grit and charcoal flecks | Fill of [1005] |
| 1002 | 10 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.29m thick, containing occasional sub-rounded flint and sandstone pebbles | Fill of [1005] |
| 1003 | 10 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, at least 0.32m thick, containing moderate chalk fragments and occasional sub-rounded flint pebbles | Fill of [1005] |
| 1004 | 10 | Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay, 0.28m thick, containing occasional chalk fragments and sub-rounded flint cobbles | Fill of [1005] |
| 1005 | 10 | Linear cut oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring 1.9m long x 2.9m wide x 0.72m deep with moderately steep sides | Ditch cut |
| 1006 | 10 | Firm mid brownish orange sandy clay, containing moderate flints and pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 1100 | 11 | Firm dark brown silty clay, 0.33m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1101 | 11 | Firm yet somewhat soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 1200 | 12 | Soft to firm dark brown silty clay, up to 0.55m thick, containing frequent small pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1201 | 12 | Firm mid brownish grey silty clay, up to 0.21m thick, containing frequent charcoal | Fill of [1203] |

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| | | flecks | |
| 1202 | 12 | Firm mid greyish yellowish brown silty clay, 0.14m thick, containing frequent small chalk and flint pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks | Fill of [1203] |
| 1203 | 12 | Linear cut oriented on a roughly east-west alignment, measuring 0.48m wide x 0.35m deep with steep sides (stepped slightly on the north side) breaking imperceptibly to a concave base | Ditch cut |
| 1204 | 12 | Firm mid orangey brown silty sandy clay with frequent chalk and flint pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 1300 | 13 | Soft to firm dark brown silty clay, up to 0.35m thick, containing frequent small pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1301 | 13 | Firm mid brownish orange sandy clay containing frequent flint pebbles and cobbles | Natural deposit |
| 1302 | 13 | Firm light brownish grey sandy clay, 0.23m thick, containing occasional charcoal flecks, sub-rounded flint pebbles, rare fragments of burnt clay and chalk flecks | Fill of [1303] |
| 1303 | 13 | Linear (possibly curvilinear) cut oriented on a east-west alignment, measuring 0.87m wide x 0.23m deep with moderately steep, slightly convex sides breaking gradually to a flat base | Ditch cut |
| 1304 | 13 | Firm mid greyish brown sandy clay, at least 0.45m thick, containing rare charcoal flecks, sub-rounded flint pebbles and small flint cobbles | Fill of [1305] |
| 1305 | 13 | Sub-rectangular shaped cut with rounded corners measuring 1.36m long x 0.70m wide x at least 0.45m deep with steep very slightly concave sides | Pit |
| 1306 | 13 | Firm light greyish brown sandy clay, 80mm thick, containing frequent mortar flecks, CBM flecks, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sub-rounded flint pebbles | Fill of [1307] |
| 1307 | 13 | Rectilinear cut with rounded corners, measuring 1.06m long x 0.30m wide x 80mm deep with vertical straight sides breaking sharply to a flat base | Shallow rectangular feature (structural?) |
| 1308 | 13 | Firm light greyish brown sandy clay, 0.13m thick, containing occasional chalk, mortar, CBM and charcoal flecks | Fill of [1309] |
| 1309 | 13 | Rectangular cut with rounded corners, measuring 1.08m long x 0.40m wide x 0.13m deep with vertical sides breaking sharply to a slightly concave undulating base | Shallow rectangular feature similar to [1307] (structural?) |
| 1310 | 13 | Soft light to dark grey silty clay, 0.10m thick, | Fill of [1312] |

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| | | containing a concentration of charcoal and occasional pink clay | |
| 1311 | 13 | Soft light grey silt and clayey silt, 80mm thick, containing occasional stone pebbles | Fill of [1312] |
| 1312 | 13 | Circular cut measuring 0.90m in diameter x 0.18m deep with shallow concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a flattish base | Fire pit |
| 1313 | 13 | Soft to friable mid grey silt, 0.16m deep, containing very occasional gravel | Fill of [1314] |
| 1314 | 13 | Circular cut measuring 0.76m in diameter x 0.16m deep with shallow sloping sides and a slightly uneven base | Probable tree bowl |
| 1315 | 13 | Firm light greyish brown silty sandy clay, 0.15m thick | Subsoil |
| 1316 | 13 | Firm light greyish brown silty clay, 0.16m thick, containing occasional flint pebbles, charcoal flecks and CBM fragments | Fill of [1318] |
| 1317 | 13 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.48m thick, containing rare charcoal flecks | Fill of [1318] |
| 1318 | 13 | Oval cut only partially exposed in plan, measuring 0.90m long by 0.49m deep by at least 0.59m wide with steep sides (not bottomed due to water table) | Small pit/large post hole |
| 1319 | 13 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 60mm thick, containing frequent grit, small sub-angular pebbles, occasional charcoal and CBM flecks | Layer |
| 1320 | 13 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 90mm thick, containing occasional CBM and charcoal flecks | Layer |
| 1401 | 14 | Firm dark brown silty clay, 0.30m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1402 | 14 | Firm yet somewhat soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 1500 | 15 | Soft mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt, 0.45m thick, containing moderate charcoal flecks and occasional angular flints and gravel | Fill of [1501] |
| 1501 | 15 | Sub-circular shaped cut only partially exposed measuring 0.40m long x 0.45m deep with a post-pipe forming in the northern end; the sides and base of this feature were irregular | Possible post hole |
| 1502 | 15 | Uncertain shaped feature measuring 1.80m in width x 0.5m deep with moderately steep sides | Probable natural feature |

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| 1503 | 15 | Soft light brown silty clay, 0.28m thick, containing moderate to frequent charcoal flecks and occasional pebbles | Fill of [1502] |
| 1504 | 15 | Soft orange sand and gravel, 0.44m thick | Fill of [1502] |
| 1505 | 15 | Firm yet somewhat soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular sized pebbles | |
| 1600 | 16 | Friable mid yellowish greyish brown silty clay, 0.35m thick, containing frequent flint and occasional charcoal and CBM | Topsoil |
| 1601 | 16 | Firm and slightly friable mid to light yellowish brown silty clay, containing frequent flints and occasional charcoal and CBM | Natural deposit |
| 1602 | 16 | Friable mid yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent flint, CBM and occasional charcoal and small fragments of snail shell | Fill of [1603] |
| 1603 | 16 | Linear cut, oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.55m wide x 0.10m deep | Shallow linear, probably the base of a furrow |
| 1700 | 17 | Friable mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.35m thick, containing frequent sub-angular flints and occasional fragments of CBM | Topsoil |
| 1701 | 17 | Firm yet friable mid to light yellowish brown silty clay, containing frequent sub-angular flints and pebbles and occasional CBM and charcoal flecks | Natural |
| 1702 | 17 | Friable mid to light yellowish greyish brown silty clay, 0.10m thick, containing frequent flints and pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks | Fill of [1703] |
| 1703 | 17 | Linear cut, oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.1m wide x 0.10m deep breaking gradually to a concave base | Shallow linear, probably the base of a furrow |
| 1800 | 18 | Firm mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.35m thick, containing frequent small pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Topsoil |
| 1801 | 18 | Firm mid orangey brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Natural deposit |
| 1900 | 19 | Firm dark brown silty clay, 0.31m thick, containing frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles | Topsoil |
| 1901 | 19 | Firm yet somewhat soft mid orange brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent moderately sized sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 1902 | 19 | Firm to soft mid brown and slightly orange | Fill of [1904] |

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| | | sandy silty clay, containing frequent small sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles (mostly flint and chalk) | |
| 1903 | 19 | Firm mid to dark greyish brown silty clay, containing occasional charcoal flecks | Fill of [1904] |
| 1904 | 19 | Not excavated | Enclosure ditch |
| 2000 | 20 | Firm dark brown silty sandy clay, 0.38m thick, containing moderate small pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Topsoil |
| 2001 | 20 | Firm dark brownish grey silty sandy clay, up to 0.35m thick, containing moderate pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Fill of [2007] |
| 2002 | 20 | Semi-circular (probably circular but only partially exposed) shaped cut, measuring 2.06m long x 0.65m depth x at least 0.52m wide, with concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base | Pit |
| 2003 | 20 | Firm, slightly plastic mid greyish brown sandy silty clay, 0.36m thick, containing frequent charcoal flecks and pebbles and occasional small flint pebbles | Fill of [2007] |
| 2004 | 20 | Friable dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt with reddish brown mottle, 038m thick, containing very occasional small pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Fill of [2007] |
| 2005 | 20 | Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay with reddish brown mottle, 0.29m thick, containing occasional stones | Fill of [2007] |
| 2006 | 20 | Firm yet friable mid to light yellowish brown sandy silty clay, 90mm thick, containing moderate small chalk flecks and pebbles | Fill of [2007] |
| 2007 | 20 | Linear cut oriented on a north-south alignment measuring 2.81m wide x 1.19m deep with fairly steep sides becoming steeper and straighter towards the bottom breaking gradually to a slightly concave base | Recut of ditch [2012] |
| 2008 | 20 | Friable mid greyish yellowish brown clayey sandy silt, 0.23m thick, containing occasional small chalk pebbles | Fill of [2012] |
| 2009 | 20 | Soft mid to light yellowish brown sandy silty clay, 0.22m thick | Fill of [2012] |
| 2010 | 20 | Firm to soft mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay, 0.39m thick, containing occasional chalk flecks | Fill of [2012] |
| 2011 | 20 | Firm dark grey sandy clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks | Fill of [2013] |
| 2012 | 20 | Linear cut oriented on a north-south alignment, measuring at least 1.40m wide x 0.96m deep with moderately concave sides | Ditch cut |

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| | | breaking gradually to a probable slightly concave base | |
| 2013 | 20 | Roughly circular shaped cut (only partially exposed) measuring 0.52m long x 0.20m deep x at least 0.36m wide with shallow concave sides breaking gradually to a base that was truncated away | Pit cut |
| 2014 | 20 | Firm to friable mid orangey brown silty clayey sand with frequent small pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 2100 | 21 | Firm dark brown silty sandy clay, up to 0.42m thick, containing moderate small pebbles (mostly chalk an flint) | Topsoil |
| 2101 | 21 | Firm yet pliable mid greyish yellowish brown silty clay, 0.55m thick, containing frequent small chalk pebbles and rare charcoal flecks | Fill of [2102] |
| 2102 | 21 | Linear cut, oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 2.04m wide x 0.55m deep, with moderate concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base | Ditch cut |
| 2103 | 21 | Firm yet pliable dark yellowish brown silty clay with dark grey streaks, 0.12m thick, containing occasional small chalk flecks and wood fragments | Fill of [2104] |
| 2104 | 21 | Linear cut, oriented on an east-west alignment, measuring 1.50m wide x 0.31m deep, with concave sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base | Shallow ditch cut |
| 2105 | 21 | Friable, yet sticky, dark grey (almost black) sandy silty clay with occasional fragments of wood and CBM | Fill of [2102] and [2104] |
| 2106 | 21 | Slightly soft to firm mid to light olive brown to orangey brown clayey sandy silt, containing moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles (mostly flint and chalk) | Possible subsoil |
| 2107 | 21 | Firm to hard mid yellowish brown, white flecked, boulder clay with frequent chalk pebbles | Natural deposit |
| 2200 | 22 | Firm dark brown sandy silty clay, 0.32m thick, containing moderate small pebbles (mostly chalk and flint) | Topsoil |
| 2201 | 22 | Firm dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded to sub-angular pebbles | Fill of [2202] |
| 2202 | 22 | Linear cut, oriented on a roughly north-south alignment, measuring up to 0.61m wide x 90mm deep with shallow concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base | Narrow ditch |
| 2203 | 22 | Soft to firm mid orangey brown clayey silty sand with moderate small sub-angular to sub- | Natural deposit |

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| | | rounded small pebbles (mostly flint and chalk) | |

# Appendix 3

## THE FINDS

### POST ROMAN POTTERY

*By Lavinia Green with Alex Beeby and Anne Irving*

**Introduction**

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005), which also covers surrounding counties. A total of 165 sherds from 80 vessels, weighing 1488 grams was recovered from the site.

**Methodology**

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. A summary list of the pottery types is included in Table 1 below and a full archive can be found in Archive Catalogue 1 at the end of this report. The pottery ranges in date from the Early or Middle Saxon to the Early Modern period.

**Condition**

The condition of the pottery is generally fragmentary, this is reflected in the low average sherd weight of just 9 grams; although many of the sherds are considerably smaller than this. A high proportion of vessels within the assemblage (31%) are abraded, with examples ranging from slightly to heavily damaged., Many vessels show evidence of usage; 16% are sooted internally and/or externally which is suggestive of use over a hearth or fire, whilst a further three have internal limescale or cess deposits. Sherds from a total of five vessels have a pale concretion over the broken edge, this is probably a result of being submerged after deposition, perhaps in cess. A sherd from a single vessel is sooted over the broken edge suggesting post depositional burning or damage during cooking. One sherd from Trench 6, (607) has an unusual iron stained area on the upper surface, this may be from an iron object that has decayed against it, probably after deposition (Gary Taylor, Pers Comm.).

**Results**

*Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive*

| Period | Cname | Full name | Earliest date | Latest date | NoS | NoV | W(g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Early Saxon to Middle Saxon | EMSAX | Early or Middle Saxon wares (generic) | 400 | 870 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Late Saxon to Early Medieval | SNEOT | St Neots-type ware | 870 | 1200 | 35 | 10 | 35 |
| | ST | Stamford Ware | 970 | 1200 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Early Medieval to Medieval | EMHM | Early Medieval Handmade ware | 1100 | 1250 | 48 | 21 | 287 |
| | STANLY | Stanion/Lyveden ware | 1150 | 1250 | 2 | 2 | 21 |
| | ELY | Ely-type ware | 1175 | 1350 | 46 | 19 | 613 |
| | GRIMT | Grimston-type ware | 1200 | 1400 | 8 | 6 | 151 |
| Late Medieval to Post Medieval | GRIL | Late Grimston ware | 1350 | 1550 | 5 | 2 | 60 |
| | MP | Midlands Purple ware | 1380 | 1600 | 2 | 2 | 29 |
| | BONC | Bourne/Colne Type ware | 1450 | 1650 | 6 | 5 | 133 |
| | GRE | Glazed Red Earthenware | 1500 | 1650 | 8 | 8 | 128 |
| Early Modern | CREA | Creamware | 1770 | 1830 | 1 | 1 | 22 |

| Period | Cname | Full name | Earliest date | Latest date | NoS | NoV | W(g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Total | 165 | 80 | 1488 |

**Provenance**
Trenches yielding material are listed below. Of the 22 trenches excavated nine produced pottery.

*Trench 4*
Pottery came from fill deposit (403) within ditch [404].

*Trench 6*
Fills (609) and (611) in ditch [606] yielded pottery, as well as deposit (601) in pit or ditch [603], and (600) in landrain cut [602] A small number of fragments was also retrieved from layers (607) and (613) here.

*Trench 7*
Topsoil layer (700) and dump deposit (705).produced single sherds of pottery in this trench..

*Trench 9*
Ditch fills which yielded material within Trench 9 include (909) in [911] and (913), (914) and (915) in [916], Pottery also came from (901) on fire pit/hearth [903] , and possible buried soil layers (906) and (927/928/929).

*Trench 13*
As well as layers (1319) and (1320) pottery was also recovered from (1302), in ditch [1303], (1306), within possible Medieval beam slot [1307], (1310) in fire pit [1312] and (1316) .in pit/large post hole [1318]

*Trench 15*
Pottery was only found within deposit (1500), a fill of [1501], a possible post hole feature.

*Trench 16*
A total of six sherds of pottery were retained from fill (1602) within feature [1603], a shallow linear/possible furrow.

*Trench 17*
Pottery was only retrieved from a single deposit here,(1702) in shallow linear feature or furrow [1703].

*Trench 21*
A single sherd of pottery was recovered from ditch fill (2105) in ditches [2102] and [2104].

**Range**
There is a wide range of pottery types within the assemblage, and although the majority are of medieval date, a single sherd of Early or Middle Saxon ware (EMSAX) (1310) is likely to date to between the 5$^{th}$ to 9$^{th}$ centuries AD. By number of vessels, 60% of the group are dated to the early medieval or medieval periods, with just 21% belonging to the later or post medieval eras. This suggests the majority of the material can be dated to between the 12$^{th}$ and 14$^{th}$ centuries. As might be expected from an assemblage of this date the form types are mainly jugs and jars.

*Early Saxon to Middle Saxon*
There is a single piece of pottery dated to this period. The sherd of Early or Middle Saxon ware (EMSAX) was recovered from fire pit [1312] in Trench 13. The sherd is reduced and contains poorly sorted well rounded quartz up to 2mm, rounded quartzite up to 3mm, rare angular flint, possible Charnwood fragments, occasional mica and abundant well to sub-rounded iron. The form is unknown as the piece is too small to be diagnostic.

*Late Saxon to Medieval*
There is a broad range of pottery belonging to this period, and although some may be slightly earlier, most should probably attributed to the 12th or 13th centuries. Features within Trenches 6, 7, 9 and 13 produced a large amount of material of this general date.

The earliest types present are St Neots type ware (SNEOT) and Stamford ware (ST), although these are long lived types which are found well into the Early Medieval period. There are a total of ten vessels, probably all jars, in SNEOT fabric all of which came from rectangular feature [1307] in Trench 13. Stamford ware came exclusively from Trench 9. where a total of three pieces all from jars or pitchers, were recovered from buried soil (927/928/929)

Jars in Early Medieval Handmade ware (EMHM) of 12th to 13th century date came from a wide range of features in four trenches, including 6, 7, 9 and 13. These include layers (607) in Trench 6, (705) in Trench 7, and 927/928/929 in Trench 9 as well as ditch [918] and fire pit [903], also in Trench 9. This is a common domestic early medieval type in this area and all vessels conform to the standard round walled everted rim jar types where a form can be discerned.

Only two pieces of Stanion/Lyveden ware (STANLY) were found, both came from Trench 9, with ditch [911] and buried soil (927/928/929) producing the material. This pottery was produced in Northamptonshire but was widely distributed across this region between the mid 12$^{th}$ to mid 13th centuries.

During the evaluation Trenches 4, 6, 7, 9, 13 and 15 also yielded a total of 46 sherds of Ely-type ware (ELY). Forms including jugs and jars date from the late 12$^{th}$ to mid 14$^{th}$ centuries. Ditch [404] in Trench 4 and [606] in Trench 6, yielded pottery as did dump deposit (705) in Trench 7. Within Trench 9 ELY was recovered from ditches [916], and recut [911] as well as fire pit/hearth [903] and buried soil (927/928/929). Trench 13 produced a good amount of the material with ditch [1303], pit/posthole [1318] and layers (1319 and (1320) all yielding fragments. In addition six sherds from a single vessel, recovered from post hole [1501] strongly suggest a Later 12th to Mid 14th century date for that feature. As is common with this ware type, some are decorated with an applied pressed strip ,whilst others have finger pressed decoration above the base and one vessel has stabbed linear impressions.

A small number of sherds in Grimston-type ware (GRIMT) were retained from features in Trenches 4, 6, 9 and 13. Pieces came from Ditch [404] in Trench 4 as well as layer (607) and feature [621] in Trench 6. Further fragments were recovered from dump deposit (705) in Trench 7, and ditch [916], fire pit/hearth [903] and buried soil 927/928/929 in Trench 9. A single small sherd was also retrieved from layer (1319) in Trench 13. All forms are likely to be jug types and date to between the 13$^{th}$ to 14$^{th}$ centuries.

*Late Medieval to Post Medieval*
Two pieces of Midlands Purple ware (MP) dating to between the 14$^{th}$ to 15$^{th}$ centuries, were recovered, these came from land drain [602] in Trench 6 and layer (927/928/929) in Trench 9. The recovery of this pottery along with a number of earlier medieval types within layer (927/928/929) is interesting and suggests that either this deposit took a long time to accumulate or that the earlier material is residual and/or redeposited. Given that Medieval Grimston and Ely wares were also present, a 14th century date is most likely for this layer.

As well as medieval Grimston ware, five sherds of Late Grimston ware (GRIL) were also recovered. These pieces came from feature [621] in Trench 6 and linear or furrow [1603] in Trench 16. This type of pottery was produced at the very end of the Grimston industry mainly between the 15$^{th}$ to mid 16$^{th}$ centuries.

Bourne/Colne Type ware (BONC) made in Cambridgeshire dates between the mid 14$^{th}$ to mid 17$^{th}$ centuries. Vessels in this fabric came from Ditch [606] in Trench 6 and fire pit/hearth [901] and buried soil (906) in Trench 9.

A number of vessels in Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE) were recovered during this evaluation. This is a common Late Medieval/ early Post Medieval ware type, which mostly dates to the 15$^{th}$ to mid 16$^{th}$ centuries. Examples were recovered from feature [621] and ditch [606] in Trench 6, as well as furrows [1602] and [1702] in Trenches 16 and 17.

*Early Modern*
A single sherd of Creamware (CREA) was recovered from ditch [2102] in Trench 21. This piece must date to after the late 18th century and is probably later than this.

**Potential**
All of the material should be retained as part of the site archive and the pottery would warrant a re-examination in the light of any further work. The material is stable and should pose no problems for long term storage. There are no pieces worthy of illustration.

A good variety of pottery was found during the evaluation, with a broad ranging assemblage of early medieval pottery recovered from a number of features, as well as pieces of later Medieval and early post Medieval date. Further excavation on the site, in particular the areas around Trenches 6, 9 and 13, would help show the chronology of occupation and activity here.

**Summary**
Most of the pottery recovered during the evaluation dates to the medieval period, principally between the 12th and 14th centuries. The bulk of the material came from Trenches 9 and 13, especially from buried soil layer (927/928/929) in Trench 9 and small pit/large posthole [1318] in Trench 13.

A single sherd of pottery likely to date to the Early to Middle Saxon period, which was also recovered from a feature in Trench 13 is of special note as this type is rare in this area.

**CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL**
*By Lavinia Green with Alex Beeby*

**Introduction**
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2002). A total of 54 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2700 grams was recovered from the site.

**Methodology**
The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. A summary of ceramic building material is included in Table 2 with an archive list of the ceramic building material included in Archive Catalogue 2.

**Condition**
The ceramic building material collected is mainly abraded and fragmentary. Some of the fragments are vitrified, sooted and have mortar adhered.

**Results**
*Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive*

| Cname | Full name | NoS | W (g) |
|---|---|---|---|
| BRK | Brick | 31 | 2056 |
| CBM | Ceramic building material | 10 | 165 |
| MODDRAIN | Modern Land Drain | 4 | 221 |
| PNR | Peg, nib or ridge tile | 9 | 258 |
| | **Total** | **54** | **2700** |

**Provenance**
A summary of material found is listed below in Trench number order, out of the 22 trenches excavated, ten yielded ceramic building material.

*Trench 3*
This trench produced one fragment of tile from the base of a pond [304].

*Trench 4*
Contexts (403) and (408) within ditch [404] produced brick and ceramic building material fragments within this Trench.

*Trench 6*
Brick, tile and an undiagnostic fragment all came from feature [621] in Trench 6.

*Trench 7*

From Trench 7, eleven pieces of brick were collected all from context (705), a dump deposit.

*Trench 9*
Brick, tile and a ceramic building material fragment were found here, in a possible buried soil remnant (906)

*Trench 13*
Possible buried soil layer (1319) yielded brick and ceramic building material fragments within Trench 13.

*Trench 16*
Within this trench a number of undiagnostic CBM pieces came from (1602) the fill of shallow linear feature [1603].

*Trench 17*
An undatable piece of ceramic building material was retrieved from context (1702), within [1702] a shallow linear feature.

*Trench 20*
A single modern drain fragment from context (2001) was obtained from a re-cut of a ditch [2007].

*Trench 21*
Context (2103) produced two fragments of tile and (2105) three pieces of modern drain, all from ditch [2104].

*Trench 22*
Two fragments of tile came from (2201) fill of a ditch [2202].

**Range**
*Medieval to Early Post Medieval*
Only a small proportion of all the material is dated to this period. Five pieces of peg, nib, or ridge tile (PNR) were recovered during the evaluation, all of which are unglazed flat roofing types. Pieces came from pond [303] in Trench 3, feature [621] in Trench 6, ditch [908] in Trench 9. and ditch [2202] in Trench 22. These were the earliest of all the ceramic building material dating to between the 13$^{th}$ to 16$^{th}$ centuries.

*Post Medieval to Early Modern*
The majority of the material came from this period, brick and ceramic building material fragments were retained. The brick fragments were mainly abraded and handmade. A calcareous "Fenland" type fabric was commonly used in this area to make bricks of which many are recorded here. These handmade bricks are difficult to date with precision, though can be dated between the 16$^{th}$ to 19$^{th}$ centuries. Examples came from Ditch [404] in Trench 4, feature [621] in Trench 6, dump deposit (705) in Trench 7, buried soil (906) in Trench 9 and layer (1319) in Trench 13.

Modern drains dating to the 20$^{th}$ century were also retrieved and these came from ditches [2012] in Trench 20 and [2102/2105] in Trench 21.

**Potential**
There is no potential for further work, the material should be kept as part of the site archive and should pose no problem for long term storage.

**Summary**
Most of ceramic building material retained during the evaluation is abraded, handmade bricks of a calcareous "Fenland" type. These are most likely to date to between the 15$^{th}$ to 19$^{th}$ centuries. A few pieces of medieval tile were also recovered.

**FIRED CLAY**
*By Lavinia Green with Alex Beeby*

**Introduction**
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001).

**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 summary of the fired clay is shown below (Table 3 ) and a full archive list of the fired clay can be find in Archive Catalogue 3 at the end of this report.

**Condition**
Most of the material comprises small formless pieces, some of which are abraded, bleached and sooted. A total of 22 piece have surfaces, including flat or irregular types and some have grass or straw impressions. Only one fragment is heavily burnt. In total 12 pieces are bleached, this maybe due to contact with salt, through natural weathering by the sun or due to saline inclusions within the clay rising to the surface .

**Results**
*Table 3, Fired Clay Archive*

| Cname | NoF | W(g) |
|---|---|---|
| FCLAY | 62 | 379 |

**Provenance**
Three trenches from the evaluation yielded fired clay material these are listed below.

*Trench 6*
This trench produced 7 fragments of fired clay from context (609) a fill of a ditch [606].

*Trench 9*
Trench 9 produced the most fired clay, this was found in three features including fire pit/hearth [903], ditch [916], ditch or pit [923] and possible buried soil (927/928/929).

*Trench 13*
Fired clay was found within five features from Trench 13; ditch [1303], pit [1305], rectangular features [1307] and [1309] and pit or posthole [1318].

**Range**
Although a good proportion of pieces have surfaces the vast majority of the material cannot be classified. All pieces have been hand formed and made in a crude manner. The bleached fragments could be indicative of domestic activity with possible salt surfacing. Some of the material could be daub although there are no diagnostically strong fragments that would allow this conclusion to be drawn with any certainty.

Despite the possible salt deposits recorded, none of these pieces are likely to be briquetage. (T Lane, Pers comm.). One unusual piece, with an upper and lower surface, could be prehistoric possibly pot. This item, which has irregular surfaces and some evidence of bleaching was retrieved from ditch [1303] in Trench 13.

**Potential**
There is limited potential for further work. All of the material should be kept as part of the site archive and should pose no problem for long term storage.

**Summary**
Virtually all of the material retained is very fragmentary, abraded and formless. Some of the pieces from the collection were bleached, sooted and had flat or irregular surfaces these could suggest domestic use and activity.

**FAUNAL REMAINS**
*By Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Introduction**
The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). No attempt was made to sex or age individual bones, although where this is apparent it is noted in the comments field. A total of 95 (2082g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts. An additional twelve mollusc shells weighing a total of 112g were also recovered.

**Provenance**
Animal bone was collected from the fill of an enclosure ditch (408), the fill of a land drain (600), pit fills (601 and 901), ditch fills (607, 609, 610, 611, 909 and 914), the fill of a quarry pit (613), a palaeosol (906, 928 and 929), a buried ploughsoil (1316), the fill of a feature (1602), the fill of a furrow (1702) and a re-cut ditch fill (2003).

**Condition**
The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, averaging at grades 2-3 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

**Results**

*Table 4, Fragments Identified to Taxa*

| Cxt | Taxon | Element | Side | Number | W (g) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 408 | large mammal | rib | - | 1 | 35 | |
| | pig | tibia | L/R | 3 | 30 | juvenile |
| | pig | femur | L/R | 3 | 23 | juvenile; 2 join |
| 600 | cattle | metatarsus | - | 2 | 117 | 1 juvenile |
| | cattle | phalange | R | 1 | 30 | pathology present |
| | cattle | humerus | R | 1 | 71 | |
| | cattle | pelvis | L | 1 | 13 | |
| | large mammal | rib | - | 3 | 4 | |
| | large mammal | skull | - | 2 | 8 | |
| | pig | pelvis | R | 1 | 26 | |
| | pig | canine | - | 1 | 6 | upper |
| | sheep/goat | incisor | - | 1 | 1 | |
| | deer | tibia | R | 1 | 28 | |
| 601 | large mammal | vertebra | - | 2 | 75 | axis, both join |
| | large mammal | rib | - | 2 | 16 | scored and snapped |
| | cattle | metatarsus | - | 1 | 89 | |
| | pig | canine | - | 1 | 19 | upper |
| | pig | radius | R | 1 | 8 | |
| 607 | cattle | phalange | L | 1 | 23 | pathology present |
| | cattle | metacarpus | L | 1 | 48 | pathology present |
| | large mammal | humerus | - | 1 | 18 | |
| | large mammal | rib | - | 7 | 58 | |
| | sheep/goat | tibia | R | 1 | 17 | |
| | medium mammal | long bone | - | 3 | 20 | |
| | medium mammal | vertebra | - | 1 | 26 | |
| 609 | large mammal | long bone | - | 5 | 153 | |
| | sheep/goat | tibia | R | 1 | 7 | |
| | sheep/goat | molar | - | 1 | 5 | |
| 610 | large mammal | humerus | - | 2 | 104 | |
| | large mammal | long bone | - | 3 | 49 | |
| | medium mammal | metacarpus | - | 1 | 9 | juvenile |
| | medium mammal | skull | - | 1 | 6 | |
| 611 | large mammal | vertebra | - | 2 | 48 | |
| 613 | cattle | metatarsus | - | 1 | 76 | |
| | cattle | metacarpus | - | 2 | 60 | |
| | cattle | phalange | - | 1 | 21 | slight pathology present |
| | medium mammal | radius | - | 1 | 10 | |
| 901 | medium mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 2 | burnt |
| 906 | cattle | molar | - | 2 | 122 | |
| | cattle | radius | - | 1 | 51 | |
| | bird | long bone | - | 1 | 2 | large bird; possibly goose |
| 909 | horse | tibia | R | 3 | 179 | |
| | horse | scapula | L | 1 | 204 | |
| 914 | bird | long bone | - | 2 | 6 | possibly chicken |
| 928 | large mammal | pelvis | - | 3 | 35 | |
| | large mammal | unidentified | - | 1 | 8 | |
| | bird | metatarsus | - | 1 | 2 | chicken |

| Cxt | Taxon | Element | Side | Number | W (g) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 929 | large mammal | rib | - | 3 | 19 | |
| | large mammal | skull | - | 1 | 7 | |
| 1316 | large mammal | pelvis | - | 1 | 14 | |
| | large mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 4 | chalky |
| | medium mammal | rib | - | 1 | 1 | |
| | medium mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 2 | |
| | medium mammal | pelvis | - | 1 | 8 | |
| | medium mammal | metatarsus | - | 1 | 8 | juvenile |
| 1319 | large mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 13 | |
| 1602 | large mammal | scapula | - | 2 | 13 | |
| | large mammal | skull | - | 1 | 8 | |
| | large mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 8 | |
| 1702 | large mammal | long bone | - | 1 | 9 | |
| 2003 | medium mammal | humerus | - | 1 | 4 | |

*Table 5, Hand collected molluscs*

| Cxt | Taxon | Element | Side | Number | W (g) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 607 | oyster | shell | bottom | 1 | 11 | V-shaped opening notch |
| | mussel | shell | | 1 | 1 | |
| 609 | oyster | shell | 3t, 1b | 4 | 39 | V-shaped opening notches or drilled holes in all 3 top shells |
| 610 | oyster | shell | 1t, 1b | 2 | 22 | |
| | mussel | shell | | 1 | 4 | |
| 928 | mussel | shell | | 2 | 1 | |
| 1702 | oyster | shell | bottom | 1 | 34 | |

**Summary**

Large mammals dominate the assemblage and most are likely to represent cattle. There are significantly fewer sheep/goat and pig, although the medium mammal increases this number slightly. Horse is represented by four bones from a single context and bird, most probably domesticated goose and chicken are also represented.

All of the cattle phalanges and one metacarpus show pathology consistent with the beast used for heavy loads or, more likely, traction. Pigs and medium mammal (sheep/goat and pigs) would appear to be the primary meat source as the presence of juvenile bones of these species would suggest. Pig bones are from deposits dating from the 14th century which may indicate a change in the animals reared at the site. Those from context (408) perhaps represent a suckling pig. If the other unidentified juvenile medium sized bones are not sheep, it may suggest that the sheep were largely raised for their fleeces.

Horse bone was collected from a ditch fill that was dated to the 12th – 13th centuries and was not present in other periods.

A single deer tibia suggests that hunting also occurred at or near the site. The presence of deer would suggest a higher-status site, though as only a single bone is represented of this species it would be too speculative to infer status. The high number of pigs may also indicate a higher status diet for the inhabitants of the site.

The mollusc shells are food waste. Several of the oysters have opening notches.

Overall, the assemblage is important. It largely comes from within an enclosed area which has an obvious function perhaps relating to animal husbandry.

The assemblage will warrant further examination particularly if future work is envisaged at the site. The bone is archive stable and should be retained with the remainder of the archive.

**GLASS**

*By Gary Taylor*

**Introduction**
Three pieces of glass weighing 45g were recovered.

**Condition**
Although naturally fragile the glass is in good condition.

**Results**
*Table 6, Glass Archive*

| Cxt | Description | NoF | W (g) | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2105 | Colourless vessel (bottle) fragments | 3 | 45 | 20th century |

**Provenance**
The glass was recovered from a ditch fill.

**Range**
Three pieces of 20th century bottle were recovered.

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

**CLAY PIPE**
*By Gary Taylor*

**Introduction**
Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

**Condition**
The clay pipes are in good condition although all of the pieces from (1602) are worn.

**Results**
*Table 7, Clay Pipes*

| Context no. | Bore diameter /64" | | | | | NoF | W(g) | Comments | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| 402 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 19th century |
| 1602 | | 1 | 2 | | | 3 | 11 | abraded | 17th century |
| Totals | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 4 | 13 | | |

**Provenance**
The clay pipes were recovered from a ditch fill (402) and the fill of a probable furrow (1602). They are probably fairly local products, perhaps manufactured in March.

**Range**
Only stems were recovered.

**Potential**
Other than providing dating evidence the clay pipes are of limited significance and potential.

**WORKED FLINT**
*By Tom Lane*

**Introduction**

Flints were found during evaluation. Four were collected during trenching the remainder, which are probably natural, came from environmental samples.

**Condition**
The flints are moderately abraded. None require conservation.

**Results**
*Table 8, Worked Flint Archive*

| Cxt | Description | No | Wt (g) | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 613 | Natural unworked flint. Discarded | 1 | | |
| | | | | |
| 1202 | Broken End Scraper. Moderately steep retouch. Cortex over all of dorsal surface except for retouch. 34 x 30 x 10mm | 1 | 14 | Bronze Age |
| | | | | |
| 1308 | Natural Flake. Heated and fire crazed. | 1 | 13 | Prob Prehistoric |
| | | | | |
| 1317 | Flake with various removal scars. Debitage. 45 x 30 x 7mm | 1 | 20 | Prob Bronze Age |
| | | | | |
| | Flints from Environmental Samples | | | |
| 901 | Sample 1. Chip or spall. | 1 | <1 | |
| 910 | Sample 9. Chip or Spall | 7 | <1 | |
| 915 | Sample 8. 1 Natural flake discarded. Chip or Spall | 4 | <1 | |
| 920 | Sample 10. 1 natural flake discarded. Chip or spall | 1 | <1 | |
| 927 | Sample 16. Chip or spall | 8 | <1 | |
| 929 | Sample 18. Chip or spall | 10 | <1 | |
| | | | | |
| 1306 | Sample 13. 2 natural flakes discarded. Chip or spall | 6 | <1 | |
| 1310 | One natural flake discarded | 1 | | |
| | | | | |
| 1319 | Sample 19. 2 natural flakes discarded. Chip or spall | 3 | <1 | |
| | | | | |
| 2005 | Sample 3. chip or spall | 2 | <1 | |
| | | | | |
| 2010 | Sample 2. Chip or spall | 7 | <1 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

**Provenance**
The chips and spalls were all from Environmental samples which originated in various feature fills. The remainder were from assorted features in trenches.

**Range**
Only one item is dateable, a Bronze Age end scraper from the fill of a linear cut. The chips are all likely to be natural.

**Potential**
The items have little potential to further the study of prehistory on March island but should be retained as part of the site archive.

**OTHER FINDS**
*By Gary Taylor*

**Introduction**
A total of 21 other finds, weighing 1493 g were recovered.

**Condition**
Most of the other finds are in good condition though the wood is slightly friable and retained damp.

**Results**
*Table 9, Other Materials*

| Cxt | Material | Description | NoF | W (g) | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 607<21> | Iron | Nail | 1 | 4 | |
| 610 | Stone | Norwegian Ragstone whetstone; 140mm long, 35mm max width, 20mm max thickness, extensively broken, one original worn face, two broken faces also worn | 1 | 132 | Late Saxon-medieval, probably 13th-15th century |
| | Iron | Spike | 1 | 57 | |
| 611 | Wood | chunk of timber, section of tree where branch springs from trunk; no obvious cut marks | 1 | 872 | |
| 611<22> | Stone | Norwegian Ragstone whetstone; 75mm long, 48mm max width, 30mm max thickness, extensively broken, only one worn face | 1 | 173 | Late Saxon-medieval, probably 13th-15th century |
| 613 | Iron | Nail | 1 | 15 | |
| 701 | mixed plastic/rubber | Golf balls | 2 | 77 | 20th century |
| 910<9> | Iron | Nail | 1 | <1 | |
| 928 | Iron | Possible strap hinge | 1 | 87 | |
| 1306 | Stone | Burnt stone | 3 | 21 | |
| 1317 | Stone | Burnt stone (flint) | 6 | 37 | |
| 2001 | Iron | Staple | 1 | 8 | 20th century |
| 2003 | Iron | Nail | 1 | 10 | |

**Provenance**
The other finds were recovered from a buried soil (607), ditch fills (610, 611, 701, 910, 2001, 2003), a possible quarry fill (613), a possible buried soil (928), the fill of a possible structural feature (1306), and the fill of a pit or posthole (1317).

**Range**
Two pieces of whetstone were recovered from separate contexts in Trench 6 (610, 611). These are made from Norwegian Ragstone, a fine grained micaceous schist quarried at Eidsborg in southern Norway. Whetstones of this material, and probably part-formed blocks or rods of the stone itself, were imported from the late 9th century and it was more common than local stones throughout the earlier medieval period (Mann 1982, 30). However, in Norwich, whetstones of this material are particularly common in the later medieval period, from the mid 14th to mid/late 16th centuries, though occur from the Late Saxon period (Mills and Moore 2009, 708-9; 176). Low numbers in the earlier periods suggest, however, that Norwegian Ragstone whetstones were not common during the Saxon period and only became widely available from the later 13th century (Shaffney 2011). There is a suggestion, based on evidence from Northampton, that importation of Norwegian Ragstone hones continued into the post-medieval period, but supporting evidence from elsewhere is lacking. On the basis of their size it has been inferred that Norwegian Ragstone hones were commonly used for sharpening small edged tools and there has been some suggestion that they were used by leather and iron-workers to keep their equipment effective (Mills and Moore 2009, 709). The two pieces of hone from Trench 6 appear to be from slightly different stone types, suggesting that they are not separate pieces from a single item.

**Potential**
The hones from Trench 6 indicate medieval activity in the area.

**SPOT DATING**
The dating in Table [#] is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

*Table 10, Spot dates*

| Cxt | Date | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 402 | 19th century | based on 1 clay pipe |
| 403 | 13th-M16th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 600 | 14th-15th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 607 | 12th-13th | |
| 609 | 15th-16th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 610 | Late Saxon-medieval, probably 13th-15th century | based on 1 stone |
| 611 | Late Saxon-medieval, probably 13th-15th century | based on 1 stone. 3 sherds of pot dating m14th-15th |
| 613 | L15th-16th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 700 | 16th-17th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 701 | 20th century | |
| 705 | M12th-13th | |
| 901 | 15th to 16th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 906 | M15th-M17th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 909 | L12th-13th | |
| 910 | | |
| 913 | L12th-M14th | Based on 1 sherd |
| 914 | 13th-14th | |
| 915 | 12th-13th | |
| 927 | 12th-13th | |
| 928 | 12th-13th | |
| 929 | 14th-15th | Only 1 sherd dates to this period, others earlier. |
| 1302 | L12th-M14th | |
| 1306 | L9th-12th | |
| 1310 | 5th-9th | Only 1 sherd |
| 1316 | L12th-13th | |
| 1317 | | |
| 1319 | 13th | |
| 1320 | L12th-M14th | |
| 1500 | 13th-14th | |
| 1602 | 17th century | |
| 1702 | 16th 17th | |
| 2001 | 20th century | based on 1 metal |
| 2003 | | |
| 2105 | 20th century | L18th-E19th based on 1 sherd |

**ABBREVIATIONS**

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

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**ARCHIVE CATALOGUES**

*Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery*

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Sub fab | Form | NoS | NoV | W(g) | Decoration | Part | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 403 | ELY | +Ca | Jar or Pitcher | 2 | 1 | 32 | | BS; BS with HJ | slightly abraded; handmade | |
| 4 | 403 | GRIMT | Mica | Jug | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | Abraded | 13th-15th |
| 6 | 600 | GRIMT | | Jug | 2 | 1 | 107 | | BSS | Oxidised over break | |
| 6 | 600 | MP | | Closed | 1 | 1 | 23 | | BS | CM?; orange margins? | 14th-15th |
| 6 | 601 | ELY | Fine | Closed | 1 | 1 | 38 | | Base | Heavily abraded | L12th-M14th |
| 6 | 607 | EMHM | | ? | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Sooted; Sample 21 | |
| 6 | 607 | EMHM | | ? | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Oxidised; burnt | |
| 6 | 607 | EMHM | | ? | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Iron staining on upper surface; Sample 21 | |
| 6 | 607 | EMHM | | Jar | 4 | 1 | 24 | | Rim; BSS | Hollow everted rim; sooted; handmade | 12th-13th |
| 6 | 607 | GRIMT | | Jug | 2 | 1 | 8 | | BSS | Abraded | |
| 6 | 609 | BONC | Smooth | Large Jug | 1 | 1 | 87 | Thumb pressed base | Base | | 15th-16th |
| 6 | 609 | GRE | Ca | ? | 1 | 1 | 11 | | BS | Thick brown glaze; highly fired | |
| 6 | 611 | BONC | Slightly Bumpy | Jug | 1 | 1 | 26 | | BS | Thick white residue over break | M14th-15th |
| 6 | 611 | BONC | Bumpy | Jug | 2 | 1 | 8 | | BSS | | |
| 6 | 611 | ELY | | ? | 1 | 1 | 7 | | BS | Burnt; residual; handmade | |
| 6 | 613 | GRE | | Bowl | 1 | 1 | 24 | | Rim | Hollow everted; thin green glaze | L15th-16th |

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Sub fab | Form | NoS | NoV | W(g) | Decoration | Part | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 613 | GRIL | | Jug | 2 | 1 | 40 | | BSS | | |
| 6 | 613 | GRIMT | | ? | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | ?ID; internal scale/cess | |
| 7 | 700 | GRE | | Bowl | 1 | 1 | 49 | | Rim | Abraded | 16th-17th |
| 7 | 705 | ELY | Fine | Large jug or jar | 6 | 1 | 144 | | Base; BSS | Very abraded | |
| 7 | 705 | EMHM | | Jar | 6 | 1 | 19 | | BSS | Sooted | M12th-13th |
| 9 | 901 | BONC | | ? | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | | 15th-16th |
| 9 | 901 | ELY | | ? | 2 | 1 | 14 | | BSS | Handmade; abraded; finger mark - HJ? | |
| 9 | 901 | ELY | Ca | ? | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | | L12th-M14th |
| 9 | 901 | EMHM | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 4 | | BSS | | 12th-13th |
| 9 | 901 | EMHM | | ? | 3 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Spalled; Sample 1 | |
| 9 | 906 | BONC | Smooth | Jug | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | | M15th-M17th |
| 9 | 909 | ELY | Ca | Jug/Jar | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | | L12th-13th |
| 9 | 909 | ELY | | Jug/Jar | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | | L12th-13th |
| 9 | 909 | STANLY | Fabric B | Jug/Jar | 1 | 1 | 9 | | BS | Sooted; abraded; leached; ID? | |
| 9 | 913 | ELY | Ca | Jug or Jar | 1 | 1 | 38 | | BS | Very abraded | L12th-M14th |
| 9 | 914 | EMHM | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | Abraded; burnt | |
| 9 | 914 | GRIMT | | Jug | 1 | 1 | 18 | | BS | Small rod handle with multiple grooves | 13th-14th |
| 9 | 915 | ELY | Fine | ? | 1 | 1 | 15 | | BS | Abraded | |
| 9 | 915 | EMHM | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 5 | | BSS | Sooted | M12th-13th |
| 9 | 915 | EMHM | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 26 | | BSS | | 12th-13th |
| 9 | 927 | ELY | | Jar/Jug | 5 | 1 | 24 | | BS | Soot over break; Sample 16 | |
| 9 | 927 | EMHM | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 26 | | BS | Yellow concretions over break probably cess | 12th-13th |
| 9 | 927 | ST | A/D | Pitcher | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | Fine clear glaze; Sample 16 | 12th-13th |
| 9 | 927 | ST | A/D | Jar/Pitcher | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Unglazed; Sample 16 | |
| 9 | 928 | ELY | | Jar | 7 | 1 | 61 | | Rim; Base; BSS | Sooted; rounded hollow everted rim | |
| 9 | 928 | EMHM | | Jug or Jar | 1 | 1 | 23 | | BS | ELY?; Heavily sooted/carbon; encrusted in white concretion; internal pinch mark | 12th-13th |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | Jug/Jar | 2 | 1 | 8 | | BS | | |

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Sub fab | Form | NoS | NoV | W(g) | Decoration | Part | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 11 | | Rim | Sooted; everted rim; Sample 18 | |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 10 | | BS | Sample 18 | |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | ? | 2 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Sample 18 | |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | ? | 3 | 1 | 3 | | BS | Sample 18 | |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | Very gritty fabric; green sand; highly micaceous | |
| 9 | 929 | EMHM | | Jar | 5 | 1 | 63 | | BS | Sooting outside; scale/cess inside | |
| 9 | 929 | MP | | Jug | 1 | 1 | 6 | | RIM | Upright rim | 14th-15th |
| 9 | 929 | ST | Fabric BC | Jar/Pitcher | 1 | 1 | 3 | | BS | | |
| 9 | 929 | STANLY | Fabric A | Jar | 1 | 1 | 12 | | BS | Leached; handmade; dark deposit possibly cess; ID? | |
| 13 | 1302 | ELY | | Jug | 2 | 1 | 7 | | Rim; BS | Abraded | L12th-M14th |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 5 | | BS | Sooted; Sample 13 | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | ? | 16 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Abraded frags; Sample 13 | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 6 | | BS | Sooted internally | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | Sooted; abraded; leached; Sample 13 | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | Abraded; leached | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | ? | 10 | 1 | 4 | | BS | Abraded frags | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | ? | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | Abraded; leached | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | ? | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | Abraded; leached | |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 1 | | BS | | L9th-12th |
| 13 | 1306 | SNEOT | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | Abraded, Sample 13 | |

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Sub fab | Form | NoS | NoV | W(g) | Decoration | Part | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13 | 1310 | EMSAX | Reduced; quart well rounded poorly sorted up to 2mm; quartzite rounded up to 3mm; rare angular flint; possible Charnwood; occ mica; abundant well rounded to sub rounded iron | ? | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | Sooted; EMHM ID? | 5th-9th |
| 13 | 1316 | ELY | +Ca | Jar | 3 | 1 | 15 | Applied pressed strip? | BSS; base | | |
| 13 | 1316 | ELY | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 35 | Applied pressed strip | BSS | Overfired; abraded | |
| 13 | 1316 | ELY | | Closed | 1 | 1 | 27 | | BS | Abraded; yellow concretion over break | |
| 13 | 1316 | EMHM | | Jar | 6 | 1 | 45 | Finger frilled rim | Rim; BSS; base | As ELY; simple everted rim | L12th-13th |
| 13 | 1319 | ELY | | Jug | 1 | 1 | 64 | Finger pressed - above base? | BS | Abraded; oxidised over break | |
| 13 | 1319 | EMHM | | Jar | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | External carbon deposit | 13th |
| 13 | 1319 | GRIMT | | Jug | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | | |
| 13 | 1320 | ELY | | Jar | 2 | 1 | 42 | Applied pressed strip | BSS | Burnt or overfired; partially vitrified ; internal cess or scale; misfired green glaze | L12th-M14th |
| 15 | 1500 | ELY | | Jug | 6 | 1 | 34 | Stabbed linear dec | BSS | Very abraded; handmade | 13th-14th |
| 16 | 1602 | GRE | | Closed | 1 | 1 | 2 | | BS | Abraded | |
| 16 | 1602 | GRE | BL type | Drinking cup | 1 | 1 | 4 | | BS | Thick browny black glaze; abraded | 16th-17th |
| 16 | 1602 | GRE | | Bowl | 1 | 1 | 25 | | Rim | Angled rim | 16th-17th |
| 16 | 1602 | GRIL | | Bowl | 3 | 1 | 20 | | BSS | Oxidised over break | 15th-M16th |
| 17 | 1702 | GRE | | ? | 1 | 1 | 8 | | BS | Fine dark green glaze | |
| 17 | 1702 | GRE | | Jug | 1 | 1 | 5 | | BS | Fine dark brown glaze | 16th-17th |
| 21 | 2105 | CREA | | Bowl | 1 | 1 | 22 | | Base | Spalled | L18th-E19th |

*Archive Catalogue 2, Ceramic Building Material*

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Fabric | NoF | W(g) | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 303 | PNR | Oxid; fine; light firing, mudstone; mica, fe | 1 | 75 | Flat roofer, common fine mica | 13th-15th |
| 4 | 403 | BRK | Oxid; fine, calcareous | 3 | 168 | Common fine mica, surfaceless, abraded | |
| 4 | 403 | BRK | Oxid; calcareous | 4 | 37 | Fenland type, single struck surface, abraded | 15th-19th |
| 4 | 408 | CBM | Oxid; fine-sandy, mica, fe | 1 | 28 | Surfaceless abraded | |
| 4 | 408 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 2 | 78 | Handmade, slop moulded | 15th-18th |
| 4 | 408 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 1 | 89 | Fenland type, struck side, sooted, finger impression, vitrified, depth 54mm | |
| 6 | 613 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 2 | 105 | Fenland type, grass impressions on sides | 15th-18th |
| 6 | 613 | CBM | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 1 | 45 | Fenland type, probably brick | |
| 6 | 613 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous; mica | 2 | 147 | Mortar adhered over break, slop moulded, knife trimmed side, handmade | |
| 6 | 613 | PNR | OX/R/OX; fine-sandy; calcareous; flint; mica | 2 | 109 | Post Med type, sooted over broken edge | 14th-16th |
| 7 | 705 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 1 | 169 | Sunken margins, mortar adhered, handmade | |
| 7 | 705 | BRK | Oxid; fine; mica | 10 | 589 | Mortar adhered o side and base, poorly formed, grass impressions (inside mould) | 15th-17th |
| 9 | 906 | BRK | Oxid; calcareous; vitrified | 1 | 441 | Slop moulded, mortar adhered, 67mm depth (vitrified) | |
| 9 | 906 | PNR | Oxid; medium-course sandy; fe; Gault | 1 | 17 | Poorly mixed clay | 14th-16th |
| 9 | 906 | BRK | Oxid; calcareous | 1 | 56 | High calcareous content, warped side, abraded | |
| 9 | 906 | CBM | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 1 | 17 | Probably brick, struck upper | |
| 9 | 906 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous; mica | 3 | 129 | Fenland type, grass impressions, abraded, handmade | |
| 9 | 906 | PNR | Oxid; medium-sandy; calcareous; mica | 1 | 13 | Flat roofer | 13th-16th |
| 13 | 1319 | CBM | Oxid; calcareous; fe | 1 | 7 | Abraded, mortar adhered | |
| 13 | 1319 | BRK | Oxid; fine; calcareous | 1 | 48 | Fenland type, mortar adhered, straw impression | 15th-19th |
| 13 | 1319 | CBM | Oxid; fe | 2 | 12 | Abraded | |
| 16 | 1602 | CBM | Oxid; calcareous; medium-sandy | 3 | 46 | Fenland type, surfaceless, very abraded | Undated |
| 17 | 1702 | CBM | Oxid; sandy; fe | 1 | 10 | Surfaceless, abraded | Undated |

| Tr | Cxt | Cname | Fabric | NoF | W(g) | Description | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | 2001 | MOD DRAIN | | 1 | 39 | | 20th |
| 21 | 2103 | PNR | Gault; fine; abundant fe | 2 | 26 | Rare coarse sand | 15th-19th |
| 21 | 2105 | MOD DRAIN | | 3 | 182 | | 20th |
| 22 | 2201 | PNR | Gault; fine; abundant fe | 2 | 18 | | 15th-19th |

*Archive catalogue 3, Fired Clay*

| Tr | Cxt | Class | Fabric | NoF | W(g) | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 609 | F CLAY | Oxid; coarse sandy; fe | 7 | 39 | 1 piece has a flattish surface |
| 9 | 901 | F CLAY | Oxid; fine; calcareous; fe | 12 | 52 | Abraded, surfaceless, soft, moderate rounded calcareous grits and flecks, 1 piece with possible wattle mark |
| 9 | 914 | F CLAY | Oxid; coarse sandy; fe | 1 | 9 | Straw impressions, very tiny surface area, heavily burnt |
| 9 | 922 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-coarse sandy; flint; calcareous; fe | 7 | 40 | bleached, only 1 piece without a flat surface |
| 9 | 922 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-coarse sandy; flint; calcareous; fe | 14 | 55 | 3 sooted, possible grass impressions, 12 with flat surfaces |
| 9 | 928 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-coarse sandy; calcareous; flint | 1 | 5 | Possible wattle impression |
| 9 | 928 | F CLAY? | Oxid; calcareous; fe | 1 | 2 | Possible grass impression, possibly CBM |
| 9 | 929 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-coarse sandy; calcareous, fe | 1 | 11 | Bleached, part of an object, 1 grit measuring 8mm length, 5 mm width |
| 13 | 1302 | F CLAY | Oxid; calcareous; flint | 3 | 7 | 1 piece with upper and lower surfaces, very irregular, upper bleached, possibly pot, 25mm length,12mm width. |
| 13 | 1304 | F CLAY | Oxid; fine-sandy; calcareous; fe | 2 | 6 | Abraded, surfaceless, 1 sooted |
| 13 | 1308 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium sandy; calcareous; sparse fe | 3 | 31 | Abraded, surfaceless, 1 bleached |
| 13 | 1306 | F CLAY | Oxid; fine-medium sandy; calcareous; fe | 2 | 5 | Abraded, surfaceless |
| 13 | 1306 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-sandy; calcareous; flint | 1 | 6 | Bleached, abraded, surfaceless |
| 13 | 1306 | F CLAY | Oxid; coarse-sandy; calcareous; | 2 | 13 | Surfaces irregular, ridged, grass or wattle impressions, sooted |
| 13 | 1316 | F CLAY | Oxid; medium-coarse sandy; calcareous; fe; flint | 5 | 98 | 2 piece bleached, surfaceless, abraded |

# Appendix 4

## Hatchwood, March, Cambridgeshire – MAHW 12
## Environmental Archaeology Assessment

### *Introduction*

Excavations carried out by Archaeological Project Services at Hatchwood, March investigated a series of large enclosures, ditches and a possible fishpond. A total of 12 soil samples and 3 waterlogged samples were taken (Table 1) and submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for processing and assessment. Samples 1, 8, 9, 10, 16, and 18 originate from Trench 9 (Fig. 1), which revealed the remains of a medieval fishpond. Samples 2 and 3 originate from trench 20 that included a ditch that contained one major re-cut. Samples 5, 13 and 19 originate from trench 13 which contained a series of circular and rectangular pits. The waterlogged sample 22 originates from trench 6, which was placed within a cropmark enclosure ditch. The other two waterlogged samples (1A and 1B) were taken from the very bottom of an environmental trench (Trench 3).

As a prelude to the fieldwork an auger survey was conducted on the putative fish pond in Field 7, two transects were laid across the feature and an additional series of four boreholes along its axis (Fig. 1) to define it and record the sediments infilling it. As a result of this auger survey and observation of Trenches 1 and 2 which were laid across the putative fish pond and could not be excavated to the full depth of the feature, a third trench was rapidly machine excavated at a location which the auger survey had revealed included 'good' basal sediments to expose a sequence of sediments that could be sampled for environmental analysis (Plate 1). The basal 0.5m of the sediments in the feature were sampled in a core (Plate 2) and two bulk samples of the basal 0.14m were taken for macrofossil analysis, particularly the recovery of possible fish bones.

An auger transect of six boreholes was also laid across the north west corner of Field 8 where a clear dry valley feature suggests a possible stream or storm channel that might contain organic sediments.

**Table 1**. Hatchwood – MAHW 12 Samples submitted for environmental assessment

| sample no. | Trench | context no. | samp. vol (l). | sample weight (kg) | Feature | Spot Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 9 | 901 | 8 | 8 | Fill of fire pit/hearth cut [903] | 15th –16th |
| 2 | 20 | 2012 | 7 | 7.75 | Ditch Cut | ND |
| 3 | 20 | 2005 | 8 | 8 | Fill of recut [2007] of ditch [2012] | 20th |
| 5 | 13 | 1310 | 8.5 | 9 | Fill of firepit [1312] | 5th-9th |
| 8 | 9 | 915 | 7 | 7 | Fill of enclosure ditch [918] | M 12th -13th |
| 9 | 9 | 910 | 7 | 7.75 | Fill of enclosure ditch recut [903] | 15th-16th |
| 10 | 9 | 920 | 6 | 6.25 | Fill of possible pit [911] | ND |
| 13 | 13 | 1306 | 6 | 6 | Fill of rectangular feature [1307] | L 9th -12th |
| 16 | 9 | 927 | 10 | 12 | Possible buried soil | 12th –13th |
| 18 | 9 | 929 | 10 | 10 | Possible buried soil | 14th-15th |
| 19 | 13 | 1319 | 9 | 9.5 | Layer | 15th- 19th |
| 21 | 6 | 607 | 8 | 8.75 | ND | 12th-13th |
| 22 (W) | 6 | 611 | 9 | 9.25 | Fill of ditch cut [606] | M 14th-15 |
| 1A(W) | 3 | | 20 | 20.25 | Fish Pond- Waterlogged | |
| 1B(W) | 3 | | 40 | 45.5 | Fish Pond-Waterlogged | |
| 1C | 3 | | | | Core sample of basal silts | |

(W)= Waterlogged ; ND= No Data

***Methods***

The soil samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residues recorded. A total of 119.5 litres of soil was processed in this way.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material. The residue was then discarded. The flot of each sample was studied using up to x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones, etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residues, constitute the material archive of the samples.

Waterlogged samples were washed on a 500micron mesh and floated onto a 250 micron mesh. Due to time restrictions at assessment stage, only 10% of the total waterlogged samples were scanned for assessment purposes. The data collected is representative of the whole waterlogged samples. The individual components of the samples were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 2 and 3.

**Auger Survey**

The auger survey was undertaken in advance of any fieldwork and was targeted on two areas of the site. In Field 8 the topographic survey shows that a small dry valley falls from the south east to the north west corner of the site with a fall of up to four metres. With an OD height of less than 1m in the north west corner of Field 8 and the fen edge lying a few tens of metres to the west it was considered possible that the floor of this dry valley might preserve peats and organic sediments relating to a period when the wetlands stretched up to the site. A short transect of six auger holes at 10m intervals was laid across the north west corner of field 8 (Fig. 1) to investigate the deposits on the floor of the dry valley.

The augering was conducted with a 25mm diameter gouge auger with the auger bit 1m long. The sediments were described and logged in the field (Appendix 2) and the three dimensional coordinates of the top of each hole recorded. Each auger hole was taken to the underlying diamicton (till) or sands, which were deemed to be the base of the Holocene sediments on the site. The data has been presented in a reconstructed section (Fig. 2). Diamicton (glacial till) and sands were recorded in the base of the auger holes, although BH3 was stopped by stones and the sands and clays were not proved. The broad sequence is clay, sometimes with sands above, overlain by silty and sandy clays with occasional flints. Horizons in boreholes BH1, BH2, BH3 and BH4 indicate a probable earlier landsurface. In BH2 a probable palaeosol was identified, in BH3 a clay loam with charcoal flecks is interpreted as a possible palaeosol, and the degraded humified organic silts/peats in BH4 are interpreted as lying on an earlier soil or eroded surface. In BH1 a loose friable slightly sandy silty clay loam at 52-60cm depth could be equated with the palaeosol interpreted in the other boreholes. Only in BH5 and BH6 was no horizon found that could be related to this palaeosol. The overlying sediments in BH1-4 are interpreted as colluvial sediments, although the 0.3m of friable humic silt or degraded peats in BH4 indicates a localized *in situ* buildup of organic deposits on the floor of the

valley. This organic sediment is well humified and very degraded and dessicated but might preserve pollen and with careful sampling could afford material suitable for radiocarbon dating. This deposit was recorded in only one borehole and is assumed to be of limited extent (Fig. 2).

The survival of a probable palaeosol has some archaeological implications in that archaeology may survive on the surface and within the palaeosol, although it should be pointed out that it survives on the floor of the valley in a location where settlement may be unlikely. The colluvial sediments may hold archaeological material washed down slope from sites lying higher on the hillside, and the low 'knoll' immediately north on the north side of the dry valley (bisected by the modern field boundary) might have afforded a suitable location for prehistoric settlement overlooking the fen to the west, equally might the south side of the dry valley.

It might be appropriate to investigate both the high ground on both sides of the valley and the floor of the valley with evaluation trenches, to explore the organic sediments and their potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence, and the prominences that overlook the valley for archaeological evidence.

A second area of auger survey was targeted at the putative fishpond in Field 7, a large apparently embanked feature. Two transects were laid across the feature (transects A and B) and a few boreholes laid along the longitudinal length of the feature (transect C). The augering was undertaken with the gouge auger and each borehole surveyed. Transects A and C were recorded with OD heights and the data from the boreholes is presented in Figures 3 and 4. Boreholes were undertaken at 10m intervals and A1 and A4 clearly lay outside the feature. Borehole A2 was stopped at a depth of 1.9m by an obstruction, possibly wood, while still in the fills of the feature. A gravel deposit in borehole A3 appears to mark the base of the fill sequence in this borehole. These results suggest a feature of probably no more than some 15m wide, and the upper fills of silty clays with frequent chalk fragments and in places the appearance of diamicton suggests that it was backfilled with clays. Subsequent excavation found tree trunks, large metal fragments, wire etc that suggests dumping in the 19$^{th}$ and/or 20$^{th}$ century, with the upper fills indicating active backfilling.

The boreholes along transect C were laid to identify the ends of the feature. The underlying diamicton was recorded in all except C1 (Fig. 4) which was blocked by stones at 1.25m depth. An adjacent hole approximately 3m south recorded diamicton at 1.7m depth. The very chalky and dusty friable sandy silts in C1 suggest backfill deposits. Boreholes C3 and C4 both recorded black very fine silts with occasional small roundwood at the base of the sequence overlying diamicton (see Fig. 00). These became oxidised higher in the sequence, becoming greyer but preserving a depth of 0.63m of waterlain silts, with further more disturbed silty clays possibly marking the base of the backfill deposits. The sequence from C5 indicates that this borehole lay south of the feature indicating a feature up to 2.5m deep, perhaps 15m wide and perhaps 120m long.

The putative fish pond was subsequently investigated in two evaluation trenches (Fig. 1), Trenches 1 and 2, and an 'environmental' trench located over borehole C4 specifically to uncover the lower waterlain black silts. Trench 3 was machine excavated (Plate 1) down to the base of the fill sequence to allow access to sample the primary silts. It was clear from the sequence of deposits that backfilling was active dumping of material. Large lumps of diamicton occurred in the lower waterlain silts indicating dumping of this material into the

feature along with tree trunks and other debris. The lower black silt sequence was sampled with a core and two bulk samples (Plate 2 and see below) and then immediately backfilled for safety.

**Figure 1.** Evaluation Trench layout and the location of the auger transects.

**Figure 2.** Reconstructed section across the NW corner of Field 8, based on the auger logs. (Key on Fig. 3)

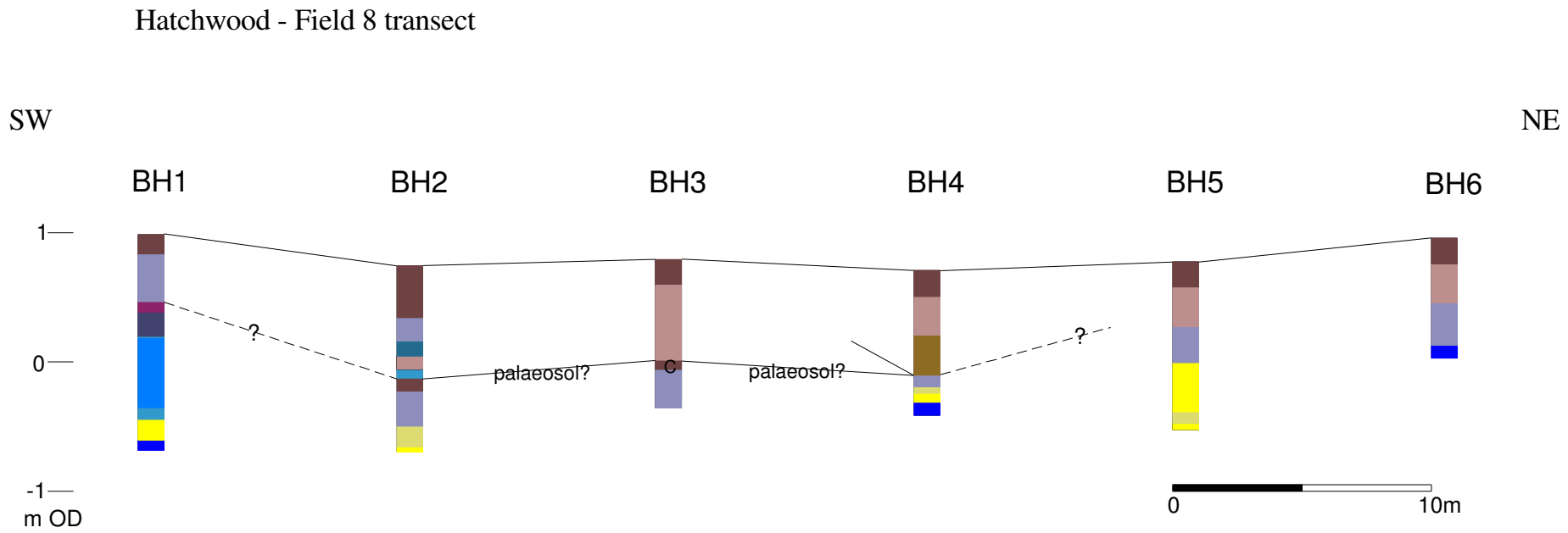


**Figure 3**. Transverse section west to east in the putative fish pond.

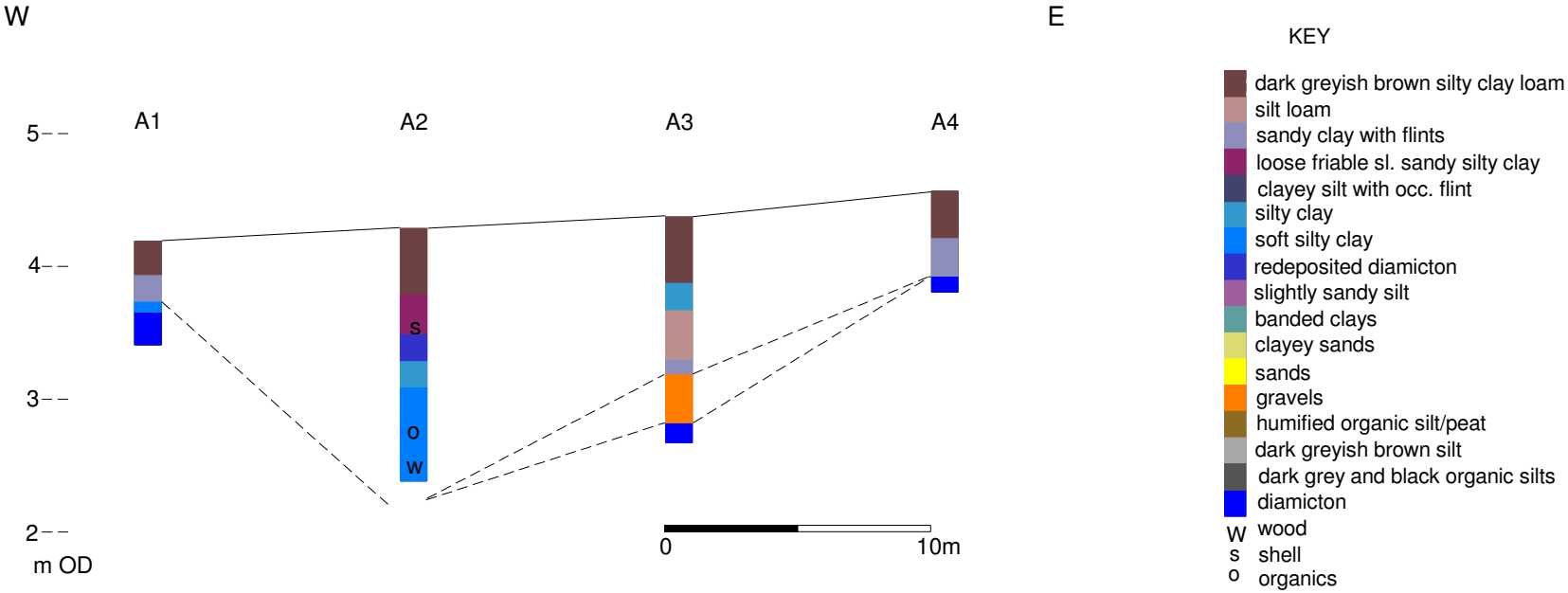



**Figure 4**. Longitudinal section north to south in the putative fish pond. (Key on Fig. 3)

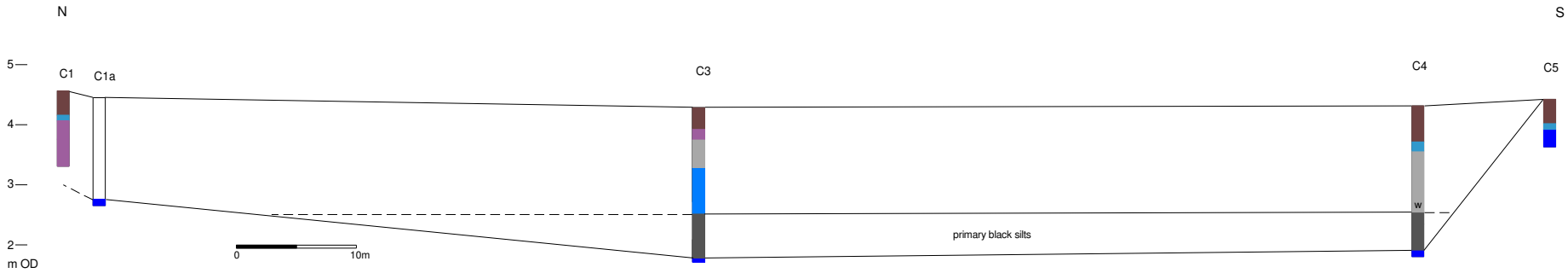


**Plate 1.** Trench 3 machine excavated to reveal the primary fills of the putative fish pond.

**Plate 2**. 0.63m Core sample being taken at the base of the sequence.

***Results from the soil samples***

The bulk samples washed down to a residue of flint gravel, rounded chalk, and pebbles, with a little ironstone and sand. Archaeological finds include pottery, flint debris, fired earth, firecracked flint, two unidentified iron objects and a couple of flakes of hammerscale. The sampled contexts have been assigned to the Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. Environmental finds sorted from the sample residues include animal bone, marine shell and bird eggshell. These are fairly typical rubbish assemblages from medieval and post-medieval sites. There is no indication of any industrial activity on site despite the occurrence of hammerscale, since this is in such low densities that it could derive from recent activities and have travelled down through the soil. The large fired earth component and relatively high magnetic component in sample <1> supports the interpretation of [903] as a hearth or firepit; sample <5> with a similar interpretation has a slightly inflated magnetic component but no clear indications of hearth debris. The two possible palaeosol contexts [927] and [929] in Trench 9 both produced higher than average fired earth components and slightly higher magnetic components which suggests a certain amount of fire debris entering these deposits.

The environmental finds from the samples included charcoal, charred cereal and seeds, animal bones, marine shells and terrestrial snail shells (Table 3). The animal bone recovered in the samples include sheep/goat, pig, chicken, lagomorph, mouse, field vole, water vole, mole, shrew, small bird, snake (grass snake?), frog/toad, newt, eel, herring and several small fish. The fish and domestic species reflect food items, while the small mammals, reptiles and amphibians represent the wild fauna of the site. Other food items recorded are oyster, common mussel, cockle and periwinkle, which with the herring bones indicate trade with the coast, and also bird eggshell. The latter in many cases probably derives from chicken eggs, but one or two contexts clearly have shell fragments of more than one species which it may be possible to identify using high power microscopy.

Preliminary identification of the archaeobotanical remains (Table 3) in samples 1,8,9,10,16, and 18, which originated from Trench 9, show that they contained low to moderate concentrations of poorly preserved and mostly un-identifiable cereal grains with the exception of a few (cf. *Hordeum vulgare*, *Triticum* spp., cf *Avena* sp.). All of these samples contained no chaff (a by-product of cereal processing). Other charred plant material was present at low concentrations and consisted of a few legumes, reed culms nodes, Poaceae, Cyperaceae, fruit/nut shell fragments and a charred twig. The samples from trench 9 also contained a variety of uncharred modern wild seeds. The assessment of samples 2 and 3, which originated from trench 20 revealed no charred grain, chaff or other charred seeds and only a few modern/uncharred seeds (*Chenopodium* sp). The samples assessed from trench 13 (5, 13 and 19) revealed very low numbers of unidentifiable cereal grain in only one sample (13) and a complete absence in the remaining two (5, 19). These samples did however contain low numbers of charred legume fragments, Cyperaceae, *Chenopoduim* sp. and *Carex* sp. and a few fruit/nut shell fragments.

The waterlogged sample 22, which originated from trench 6 and of which 10% of the whole sample was assessed, revealed a large concentration of bark. No cereal grains were found however, a few rachis internodes (chaff) were found. *Lemna* sp. were found in high concentrations along with lower numbers of legume, *Fumaria* sp., Cyperaceae, Ranunculaceae, *Sambucus*, Adoxaceae, Rosaceae, Asteraceae, Apeaceae, Fabaceae, Brassicaceae, Lemiaceae, *Chenopodium* sp., *Crataegus* sp.(Hawthorn), a few unidentified seeds and reed culms nodes. Samples 1A and 1B of which 10% of the each sample was assessed, again revealed no cereal grains and a few rachis internodes (chaff) were found.

**Table 2**. Finds from the processed samples

| sample no. | cont. no. | samp. vol. (l) | Residue weight. (g) | pot #/g | flint #/g | fired earth (g) | mag. (g) | ham' scale # | fire cracked flint (g) * | bone (g) | fish bone g. | marine shell (g) | bird egg-shell g | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 901 | 8 | 633 | 1/1.4 | 1/0.2 | 156 | 10 | - | 8.4 | 0.2 | + | | + | Magnetic component all fired earth |
| 2 | 2012 | 7 | 548 | | 6/0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | - | | 0.2 | | | | |
| 3 | 2005 | 8 | 733 | | 1/0.2 | | 0.2 | - | 0.8 | 0.2 | | | | |
| 5 | 1310 | 8.5 | 524 | | 2/0.4 | 1 | 1.6 | - | | | | | | |
| 8 | 915 | 7 | 733 | 1/1.8 | 4/1.6 | 10.2 | 0.2 | - | | 0.8 | + | 1 | 0.8 | |
| 9 | 910 | 7 | 544 | | 6/0.8 | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | | 1.8 | | 0.8 | + | Fe object x1 |
| 10 | 920 | 6 | 474 | | 2/1.2 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 0.8 | | |
| 13 | 1306 | 6 | 954 | 29/26.4 | 8/2.8 | 45 | 0.2 | - | | 0.2 | | | | |
| 16 | 927 | 10 | 730 | 7/29.2 | 7/0.6 | 180 | 3.8 | - | 22 | 2 | + | | 0.8 | |
| 18 | 929 | 10 | 794 | 7/28 | 11/0.4 | 64.4 | 1 | - | 1 | 5.8 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.4 | |
| 19 | 1319 | 9 | 1930 | | 5/39.4 | 4.2 | 0.2 | - | | 0.2 | | 1.2 | | |
| 21 | 607 | 8 | 825 | 4/2.6 | | 1.4 | 0.2 | 1 | | 13.6 | 0.2 | 8.8 | 0.4 | Fe object x1; coal –0.6g |
| 22 (W) | 611 | 9 | 1044 | | | | 0.8 | - | | 60 | 2 | 52.4 | 1 | |
| 1A(W) | | | 67 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1B(W) | | | 241 | | | | | | | 0.1 | | | | |

#/g = number/weight in grams; + present but not weighed
* sorted from >7mm residue only; sph – spheroidal hammerscale
(W)=Waterlogged

**Table 3**. Environmental finds from the processed samples

| sample no. | cont. no. | samp. vol. (l) | Flot vol. (ml) | char coal */<2* | charr'd grain * | chaff * | charr'd seed * | water-logged seed* | snails * | comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 901 | 8 | <1 | 0/3 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | Poorly preserved charred grain (indet. cereals). No chaff. Charred: pos. large legume frag. and a reed culmn node. Modern/uncharred seeds: *Chenopodium* sp. .Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Bird eggshell, rodent. |
| 2 | 2012 | 7 | <1 | 0/1 | | | | | 5 | No charred grain, chaff or other charred seeds. Modern/uncharred seeds: *Chenopodium* sp (1). Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Field vole, small bird, frog/toad. |
| 3 | 2005 | 8 | <1 | 0/1 | | | | | 4 | No charred grain, chaff or other charred seeds. Also no modern/uncharred seeds. Moderate concentration of roots in flot. . Occ. worm capsules and granules. Insect body fragments present.field vole, frog/toad. |
| 5 | 1310 | 8.5 | 336.5 | 5/5 | | | 1 | | 3 | No charred grain or chaff. Charred: Poaceae, small burned mass, twig and fruit /nut fragment. Low concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm granules. |
| 8 | 915 | 7 | 1 | 1/4 | 2 | | | | 4 | Very poorly preserved charred indet. cereals. No chaff. Charred: Poaceae (small), few fruit/nut shell fragments, Legumes (Lg and med), reed culmn node. Modern/uncharred seeds:, *Sambucus* sp. Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Insect body fragments present. Mussel, oyster, pig, field vole, frog/toad, eel, herring?, bird eggshell – 3 species? |
| 9 | 910 | 7 | <1 | 0/1 | | | | | 5 | No charred grain, chaff or other charred seeds. Modern/uncharred seeds:, *Sambucus* sp. Low concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Cf chicken eggshell, mussel, water vole, field vole, shrew, frog/toad, snake (grasssnake?). |
| 10 | 920 | 6 | <1 | 0/1 | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | Very poorly preserved charred cereal (single cf. *Hordeum vulgare*). No chaff. Charred: fruit/nut shell fragment. Modern/uncharred seeds: *Sambucus* sp. Low concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Mussel, periwinkle, water vole, mole, mouse, frog/toad, small bird. |
| 13 | 1306 | 6 | 7.5 | 1/4 | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | Poorly preserved charred grain (indet. cereals) No Chaff. Charred: Legume (large), Cyperaceae, fruit/nut shell fragment. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Water vole, frog/toad, small fish. |
| 16 | 927 | 10 | 15.5 | 2/5 | 2 | | 2 | | 4 | Poorly preserved charred grain (indet. cereals) No Chaff. Charred: Legume (large), Cyperaceae (c.20), hazelnut shell fragment. No modern/uncharred seeds. Low concentration of roots in flot. Insect body fragments present. Bird eggshell-3 species?, water vole/rat, frog/toad, small fish, indet mammal bone. |
| 18 | 929 | 10 | 9 | 2/5 | 2 | | 2 | | 5 | c. 43 poorly preserved charred grain (*Triticum* spp., cf *Avena* sp., indet. cereals) No Chaff. Charred: Legume (large cf bean), Cyperaceae), twig, fruit/nut shell fragment and indet. Modern/uncharred seeds: *Chenopodium* sp. Moderate-high concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Bird eggshell – 2 speices?, indet mammal, snake, chicken, eel, other small fish. |
| 19 | 1319 | 9 | <1 | 1/3 | | | 1 | | 2 | No charred grain, chaff. Charred seeds: *Chenopodium* sp *Carex* sp, Indet seed core, and fruit/nut shell fragment. Modern/uncharred seeds: *Chenopodium* sp., Caryophyllaceae . High concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. Cockle, mussel, frog/toad. |
| 21 | 607 | 2 | 20 | 2/5 | 1 | | 1 | | 3 | Poorly preserved charred grain (*Triticum* sp., indet. cereals) No Chaff. Charred: Cyperaceae, No modern/uncharred seeds. Moderate concentration of roots in flot. Occ. worm capsules and granules. A few large 1cm+ pieces of charcoal. Cf chicken eggshell, mussel, winkle?, mouse, vole, lagomorph, small bird, eel, other small fish. |
| 22 (W) | 611 | 9 | 1 | + | | | | 5 | 3 | **10% of sample ID'd at assessment stage.** Wood: Mostly bark, No grain, Rachis internodes (Chaff) found. (W) seeds: Legume, *Fumaria* sp., Cyperaceae, Ranunculaceae, *Lemna* sp. (5), *Sambucus*, Adoxaceae, Rosaceae, Asteraceae, Apeaceae, Fabaceae, Brassicaceae, Lemiaceae, *Chenopodium* sp., *Crataegus* sp.(Hawthorn) Indet (2) and reed culmn nodes. Worm capsules and granules present. Moderate roots in flot and insect bodies present. Cf Chicken eggshell, oyster, mussel, cockle, sheep/goat, pig, water vole, shrew, newt, eel, herring, other small fish and several small birds. |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1A (W) | | | 350 | + | | | | 5 | 1 | **10% of sample ID'd at assessment stage.** No grain. Rachis internode, Ranunculaceae, *Lemna* sp. (5), *Sambucus*, Adoxaceae, Rosaceae, Cyperaceae, Asteraceae, Apeaceae, Fabaceae, Brassicaceae, *Carex* sp., Legume, Lemiaceae, *Chenopodium* spp., Caryophyllaceae,, *Crataegus* sp. buds, fruit/nut shell, Indet (2). Insect bodies present along with worm capsules. Moderate concentration of roots in sample. Frog/toad |
| 1B (W) | | | 450 | + | | | | | 2 | **10% of sample ID'd at assessment stage.** Some large twigs. No grain. Rachis internode, Polygonum,, Ranunculaceae, *Lemna* sp. (5), *Sambucus*, Adoxaceae, Rosaceae, Cyperaceae spp, Asteraceae, Apeaceae, Fabaceae, Brassicaceae, *Carex* sp., Legume, Lemiaceae, *Chenopodium* spp., Caryophyllaceae spp,, *Crataegus* sp. notable numbers of buds, fruit/nut shell, Indet (2). Insect bodies present along with worm capsules. Moderate concentration of roots in sample. Shrew. |

* = abundance: 1=1-10, 2=11-50, 3=51-150, 4=151-250, 5=250+
*/<2* = abundance >2mm/abundance < 2mm
(W) = Waterlogged ; += present

**Table 4**. Molluscan taxa from the bulk samples ( + present; ++ abundant; * estimated total shell score - 1=1-10, 2=11-50, 3=51-150, 4=151-250, 5=250+)

| Species SAMPLE | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 22 | 1A | 1B |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *SAMPLE volume* | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8.5 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 20 | 40 |
| *Estimated shell score** | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| | Hearth | Ditch | Ditch | Firepit | Ditch | Ditch | Pit? | Feature | Paleosol? | Paleosol? | Layer | Nd | Ditch | Fishpond? | Fishpond? |
| **Grassland/open country taxa** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Cecilioides acicula* | + | + | | + | | | | + | + | + | + | + | | | |
| *Pupilla muscorum* | + | | + | | + | + | | | + | + | | + | | | |
| *Vallonia costata* | | + | + | + | | + | + | | | | | + | | | |
| *Vallonia excentrica* | + | + | + | + | | + | | + | + | + | + | + | | | |
| *Vallonia pulchella* | + | | | | + | | | | + | + | | + | | | |
| *Vertigo pygmaea.* | + | | | | | + | + | | | + | | + | | | |
| *Vertigo* sp. | | | | + | | | | | + | + | + | | | | |
| **Catholic taxa** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Trichia hispida* | + | + | | | + | + | + | | + | + | + | + | | | |
| *Cochlicopa* sp. | + | + | | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | | | | |
| *Helix aspersa* | | | | | | | + | | | | | | | | |
| *Cepaea* sp. | | | | | | | + | | | | | | | | |
| **Woodland/shade loving taxa** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Punctum pygmaeum* | | | + | | | | | | | + | | | | | |
| *Spermodea lamellata* | | + | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Vitrea* sp. | + | + | + | | + | | + | | | | | | | | |
| *Vitrea crystallina* | | + | | | | | + | | | | | | | | |
| *Aegopinella nitidula* | | + | | | + | + | + | | | | | + | | | |
| *Aegopinella pura* | | + | + | | + | | + | + | + | | | + | | | |
| *Oxychilus alliarus* | | | | | | | | | | | | + | | | |
| *Oxychilus* sp. | + | + | | | | | | | + | | | | | | |
| Clausilidae | | | + | | | + | + | | | | | | | | + |
| *Carychium* sp. | + | + | + | + | + | + | | + | ++ | ++ | | + | | | |
| **Aquatic and marsh** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Succinidae | | + | + | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Anisus leucostoma* | | + | ++ | | + | + | ++ | | + | + | | | + | + | + |
| *Galba truncatula* | + | + | + | | | + | + | | + | + | | + | | | |
| *Gyraulus crista* | | | | | | | | | | | | | + | | |
| *Lymneae peregra* | | | | | | | | | | | | | + | | |
| *Aplexa hypnorum* | | + | | | | + | + | | | | | | + | | |
| *Planorbis planorbis* | + | + | + | | + | + | + | | + | | | | + | | + |
| *Valvata macrostoma* | | + | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Valvata cristata* | | | | | | | | | | | | | + | | |
| *Segmentina nitida* | | | | | | | | | | | | | + | | |
| *Bithynia tentaculata* | + | + | + | | | + | + | | + | + | | | + | | |
| *Pisidium* sp. | | | | | | + | | | | | | | + | | + |

Also, *Lemna* sp. was found in high concentrations along with lower numbers of Ranunculaceae, *Sambucus*, Adoxaceae, Rosaceae, Cyperaceae, Asteraceae, Apeaceae, Fabaceae, Brassicaceae, *Carex* sp., Legume, Lemiaceae, *Chenopodium* spp., Caryophyllaceae, *Crataegus* sp. buds, fruit/nut shell, as well as some unidentified seeds.

The terrestrial and freshwater molluscs from the bulk samples have been scanned and individual taxa identified (Table 4). Where a taxon occurred with some abundance it was scored with two '+' (see Table 4). Three samples have an aquatic assemblage, the two samples from the basal sediments in the putative fishpond and the sample from ditch recut [606] –medieval sample <22>. The shell assemblage in the 'fishpond' is limited, possibly a preservational factor, but that from ditch recut [606] has taxa typical of both hard and soft water conditions, and suggests that the ditch remained water filled for most of the year. Aquatic taxa occur in a range of the sampled features, not exclusively ditches, and have been found in the hearth, pit and palaeosol samples. It is not clear how these shells arrived in the sampled deposits that were not ditch fills.

There is a strong woodland element in the samples (Table 4), although more pronounced in the ditch samples which might indicate that the ditches were accompanied by hedgerows, creating the shade necessary for these species. There is a more general indication of open country or grassland environments which suggests that this habitat might dominate the landscape. Confident interpretation of these assemblages would demand quantification of the shell species since relative abundance is important and consideration of the date of the deposits may also have some significance.

**Fishpond ?**

The samples from the putative fishpond comprise two bulk samples from the basal 10-14cm of the primary waterlain silts in the feature and a core through the basal 50cm of the sediment. The core was split and cleaned and photographed (Plate 3) and then sampled for pollen at 2cm intervals and radiocarbon dating (Plate 3). For the assessment a sample of small roundwood was submitted for dating from 44cm (see Plate 3) and four of the pollen samples from 30, 34, 38 and 42cm. The core is composed of banded fine black organic silts that oxidize to brown. The bulk samples show that organic material survives well in these sediments (Table 3).

The radiocarbon sample produced an age of 180±23 BP (SUERC-44187) which when calibrated (see Appendix 1) at 2 sigma gives a range of ages – 1661-1690 AD (18.9%), 1729-1810 (56.7%) and 1925-1954 (19.8%). This affords little help in dating the feature although the highest probability falls into the 18$^{th}$ century. A single piece of tile was recovered from the base of the silts in Trench 3 which may give additional dating evidence.

The two bulk samples from the basal silts in this feature produced a range of aquatic and terrestrial plants and snails (Tables 3 and 4) and small roundwood. Beetle fragments, mites and chironomid larvae (midges) are also present. These indicate a range of habitats - aquatic, scrub, grassland, marsh but with little indication of human activity. Despite 60 litres of silts being processed no fish bones were recovered, the only bones being from frog or toad and shrew.


**Plate 3.** Sample core from Trench 3 of the base of putative fish pond and the pollen samples collected**.**

30cm

34cm

38cm

42cm
**44cm C14 sample - 180 ± 23 BP**

diamicton

**Preliminary Pollen Analysis of the core**
*Dr Rob Scaife*

***Introduction***
A series of four samples was taken from the base of the sediment profile by D.J. Rackham (Plate 3) essentially to ascertain if sub-fossil pollen and spores are present and, if so, to provide some preliminary data on the local vegetation and environment. Results were successful and preliminary pollen counts have been made and a pollen diagram constructed

***Pollen method***
Standard techniques for pollen concentration of the sub-fossil pollen and spores were used on sediment sub-samples of 1.5 ml. volume (Moore and Webb 1978; Moore *et al*. 1992). A pollen sum (dry land) of 200 grains per level was identified and counted for each level. Wetland, primarily Cyperaceae, fern spores and misc. geological palynomorphs were counted outside of this sum. A pollen diagram (Figure 5) was produced using Tilia and Tilia Graph with percentages calculated as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sum = | % total dry land pollen (tdlp) |
| Marsh/aquatic herbs = | % tdlp + sum of marsh/aquatics |
| Ferns = | % tdlp + sum of fern spores |
| Misc. = | % tdlp + sum of misc. taxa. |

Taxonomy in general follows that of Moore and Webb (1978) modified according to Bennett *et al*. (1994) for pollen types. These procedures were carried out in the Palaeoecology Laboratory of the School of Geography, University of Southampton.

***The pollen data***

Pollen and spores are not abundant but are well preserved allowing pollen identification and satisfactory counts to be made. Because this is a short sequence, pollen zonation has not been carried out. Any fluctuations and the character of the pollen assemblages are described below.

*Trees and shrubs:* There is a paucity of trees and shrubs compared with the dominance of herbs. However, *Ulmus* (elm), is most important with values to 9% in the middle of the profile. There are sporadic occurrences of *Betula* (birch), *Pinus* (pine), *Quercus* (oak) and *Fraxinus* (ash).

*Herbs:* Overall, there is a low diversity of herbs which are largely of pastoral affinity. Poaceae (grasses) are dominant (to 75%) throughout the profile. *Plantago lanceolata* (ribwort plantain; to 27%) becomes important in the upper profile. Other taxa include *Ranunculus* type (buttercups) (to 9%), Cereal pollen (1-2%), Asteraceae (daisy, dandelion family) and sporadic occurrences of other taxa.

*Marsh:* Cyperaceae (sedges; to 3%)) are most important with occasional *Typha angustifolia* type (bur reed and/or lesser reedmace) and *Typha latifolia* (common reedmace).

*Ferns:* Numbers of fern spores are small with *Isoetes* (quillwort), *Pteridium aquilinum* (bracken), *Dryopteris* type (monolete spores of typical ferns).

*Miscellaneous:* Derived pre-Quaternary palynomorphs show some increase in the upper levels (to 5%).

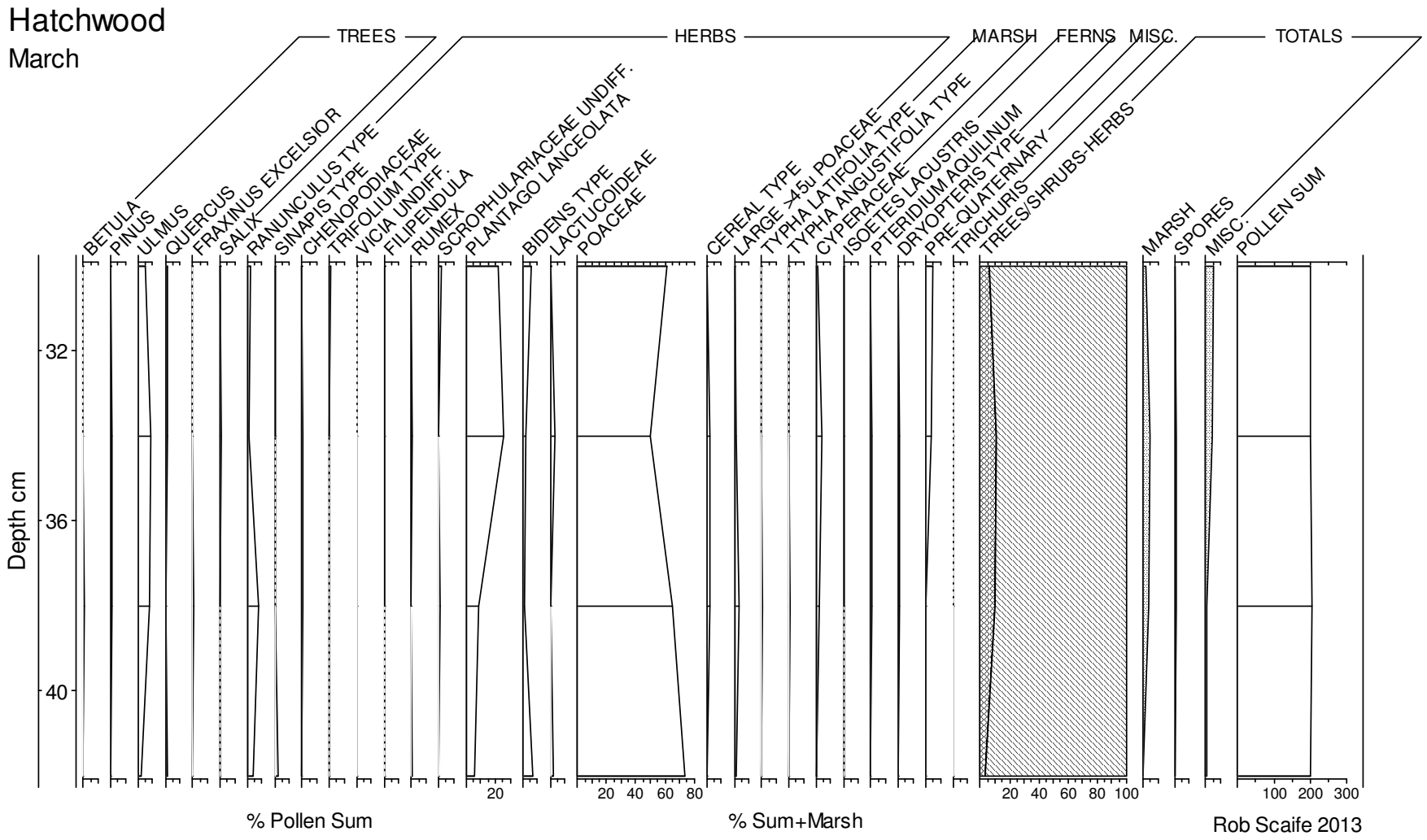
***The vegetation and environment***

Because of the small area of this feature, it is probable that the majority of the pollen in this sequence comes from on-site and near local sources. It appears that the local habitat was largely treeless and was dominated by grassland. However, there are unusually high numbers of elm pollen compared with other trees and shrubs. Ordinarily, oak and hazel form the background taxa with small numbers, if any of elm and other tree taxa. Here, the percentage values of 7-8% are probably suppressed by the substantial numbers of grass pollen within the pollen sum. Thus, it seems likely that elm was growing locally and it is possible given the late historic age of the site, that this was introduced ? hedgerow elm. Ash (*Fraxinus*) and willow (*Salix*) are poorly represented in pollen assemblages and these may also have been growing local to the site.

The dominance of grass pollen (Poaceae) along with ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and buttercups (*Ranunculus* type) strongly suggest that grassland/pasture was of importance around the site. Small numbers of cereal pollen (and occasional segetals - including charlocks, goosefoots/oraches) also attest to arable cultivation or at least local cereal use if the pollen is of secondary derivation. That is, from crop processing or other taphonomic complexities.

A single intestinal parasite egg was recorded in the upper sample. This may indicate a secondary source for pollen such as the cereals, coming from human and/or animal excrement. However, at this stage with a single record we can make no firm conclusions.

**Figure 5**. Pollen diagram for four samples from the base of the putative fish pond.



In terms of any change through time, it may suggested that grassland became more established or longer sward as indicated by the increasing importance of ribwort plantain in the upper part of the profile. That is, it may have been less grazed allowing plantain to mature and flower.

***Summary and conclusions from the pollen evidence***
The following principal points have been made.

- Sub-fossil pollen and spores have been recovered from these sediments in enough quantity and state of preservation to allow identification, counting and construction of a preliminary pollen diagram.

- Overall, the pollen spectra are in accord with a late historic age for the site.

- The pollen spectra are dominated by herbs, largely grasses and with other herbs of pasture clearly show locally dominant grassland.

- There are also minor indications of cereal cultivation.

- There are few trees although elm is of note and it is suggested that this may be late historic introduction into hedgerows as part of the enclosure movement.

- A single intestinal parasite was recorded (whipworm). This often signifies the presence of human and animal faecal material which has been dumped in pits ditches and other suitable repositories.

**General Discussion**
The general level of archaeological finds, mammal bone, fish bone of eel, herring and other taxa, marine shellfish, bird eggshell, charred grain and a little charcoal is fairly typical of domestic rubbish of late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date. This is fairly good evidence for occupation in the immediate vicinity and with the bone and pot rich layers excavated in Trenches 6 and 9 lends support to the interpretation of the enclosure features as a medieval farmstead or manor. The settlement is clearly receiving marine resources, presumably coming up river on the Old Nene from Wisbech and the Wash.

Despite the poor preservation of the charred cereals and there generally low density, wheat, barley, oats and probable cultivated pulses have been identified among the charred botanical remains. Other food items include sheep/goat, pig, rabbit/hare, chicken, possibly small song birds, eel, herring, other fish taxa, cockle, mussel, oyster, periwinkle, hazelnuts and eggs. Although only chicken has been tentatively identified from the eggshell at this stage, other species are present and may indicate other domestic birds or potentially eggs harvested from the wild.

There is no indication of crop processing or industrial activity on the site and the remains appear to largely derive from domestic rubbish, although the cereal pollen in the ‘fishpond’ might indicate local cereal cultivation in the post-medieval period.

There are a range of indicators of the local environment. The small mammals include water vole, field vole, mouse, shrew, snakes, newts and frog and/or toads. While not diagnostic of any particular habitat these reflect a wild fauna. The beetles, preserved plant remains from the

waterlogged samples and the terrestrial snails can give more precise information on the local habitats, although only the snails have been taken far enough to allow some interpretation at this stage. The site appears to lie in an open landscape, but with the ditches almost certainly accompanied by hedgerows. The pollen evidence from the putative fishpond supports an open landscape with the possible introduction of elms into the hedgerows. The ditches carried water, perhaps for most of the year.

The auger survey and excavation of Trench 3 has shown the pond feature to be 2.5m deep, about 120 metres long and perhaps 15-16m wide. The samples from the primary fills do not allow any more refined interpretation of this feature. No fish bones were recovered, but it was certainly water filled and fine organic silts built up on its floor. It is shown as an open 'pond' on the 1888 OS map and described as a moat with entrenchments around it. It was still shown as open on the 1926 OS map and still described as a moat and entrenchments. If its infilling was in the first half of the 20th century then this would account for the bits of metal, wire etc that occurred in its fills, and the trees around it shown on the 1888 map could have been felled and thrown into the pond when it was backfilled. Much of the backfilling was probably with local clays. The radiocarbon date from the base might perhaps suggest a 18th century date for the primary fills, since the later date range of 1925-1954 (Appendix 1) is clearly inconsistent with the map evidence, although the 17th century date cannot be ruled out. The low levels of pine pollen in the four pollen samples might argue for a pre 1700-1750 date, after which pine plantations produced sufficient pollen for a significant rise in pine pollen to be recognized in pollen diagrams, but this is not definitive. It is possible that the entrenchments and the pond were associated with the civil war or perhaps a later training exercise, but it seems unlikely on the basis of the radiocarbon date, the debris in its fill and the pollen evidence that it was a medieval fish pond, and perhaps not a fish pond at all.

The auger survey in Field 8 recorded colluvial deposits on the floor of the small dry valley but also a degraded humic layer which indicates a localised build up of peats or deposition of organic sediments on the floor of the valley, possibly fen peats extending up the valley floor. At an OD height of about zero it is well within the height range in which peats might be expected on the fen edge.

**Recommendations**

As an evaluation assessment there is no immediate need for further analysis of the bulk samples. They clearly indicate the survival of charred plant remains, snails, waterlogged deposits with good preservation in some of the ditches, animal bone and shell so most lines of environmental evidence can be expected in various deposits across the site. Only features of late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date have been sampled but earlier features can be expected to produce similar evidence although waterlogged remains may not have survived. Despite the often poor state of preservation and relatively low density of finds none of the samples exceeded 10 litres (except those from the pond silts), and since 30 litres is generally the recommended volume for bulk soil samples this can be expected to significantly increase the size of the environmental assemblages recovered and the number of identifiable grains, pulses and other seeds. Future evaluations and excavations on the site should therefore employ 30 litres bulk samples.

Some of the better preserved charred plant remains should be further identified to species and fully quantified at a post-excavation stage when this is undertaken. Similarly the waterlogged samples, though not rich in economic plants, would offer a good opportunity to reconstruct the landscape and environment at the time of occupation, and should be considered for further

study during any future post-excavation programme. The survival of waterlogged remains in these field and enclosure ditches indicates that pollen will also survive, and short pollen sequences should be collected from dated ditches where waterlogged material survives, and used to build up a vegetational history of the site that predates the sediments in the pond feature. All waterlogged deposits revealed in future excavations on the site should be sampled.

It is arguable as to whether the samples from the 'pond' feature deserve further study. The core has been sampled for pollen and 22 samples collected at 2cm intervals. These might represent some 200 years of the post-medieval period but predate the backfilling by some margin, since only the lower 0.5m of silts were collected. Pollen preserves well in the samples and a study of the spheroidal carbonaceous particles (SCP – emitted from coal and oil combustion and typically appearing from the 1850s in British sequences – Swindles 2010) may help to give a chronology to deposits for which radiocarbon analysis may prove problematic. The pollen data would give a picture of change in landscape use, vegetation, and the introduction of new species or plantings on the March 'island' in the post-medieval period and offer comparanda against any early data that might be collected from the site.

The auger survey in Field 8 identified a humic deposit buried by colluvium. This has some palaeoenvironmental potential and although dessicated and humified should be explored further, possibly with an evaluation trench across the valley floor. The deposit should be dated before any detailed work and assessed for its pollen survival, but it is very unlikely that any macrofossil remains will survive in a condition justifying study.

**Acknowledgements**
We should like to thank Trude Maynard and Angela Bain for processing the samples and sorting the residues. Zoe Knapp assisted with the auger survey and Gary Trimble surveyed in the auger holes.

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Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
25 Main Street, South Rauceby, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 8QG

* 'Heyside', Main Road, Newbridge, Isle of Wight, PO41 OYR

## Appendix 1

**Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre**

Director: Professor R M Ellam

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park,
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898
www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

12 February 2013

| | |
|---|---|
| **Laboratory Code** | SUERC-44187 (GU29353) |
| **Submitter** | James Rackham<br>Environmental Archaeology Consultancy<br>25 Main Street<br>South Rauceby, Sleaford<br>Lincolnshire NG34 8QG |
| **Site Reference** | Hatchwood, March |
| **Context Reference** | 44cm |
| **Sample Reference** | MAHW12 |
| **Material** | Wood : not id. - from 'pond' silts |
| **$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB** | -30.2 ‰ |
| **Radiocarbon Age BP** | 180 ± 23 |

**N.B.** The above $^{14}C$ age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standards, background standards and the random machine error.

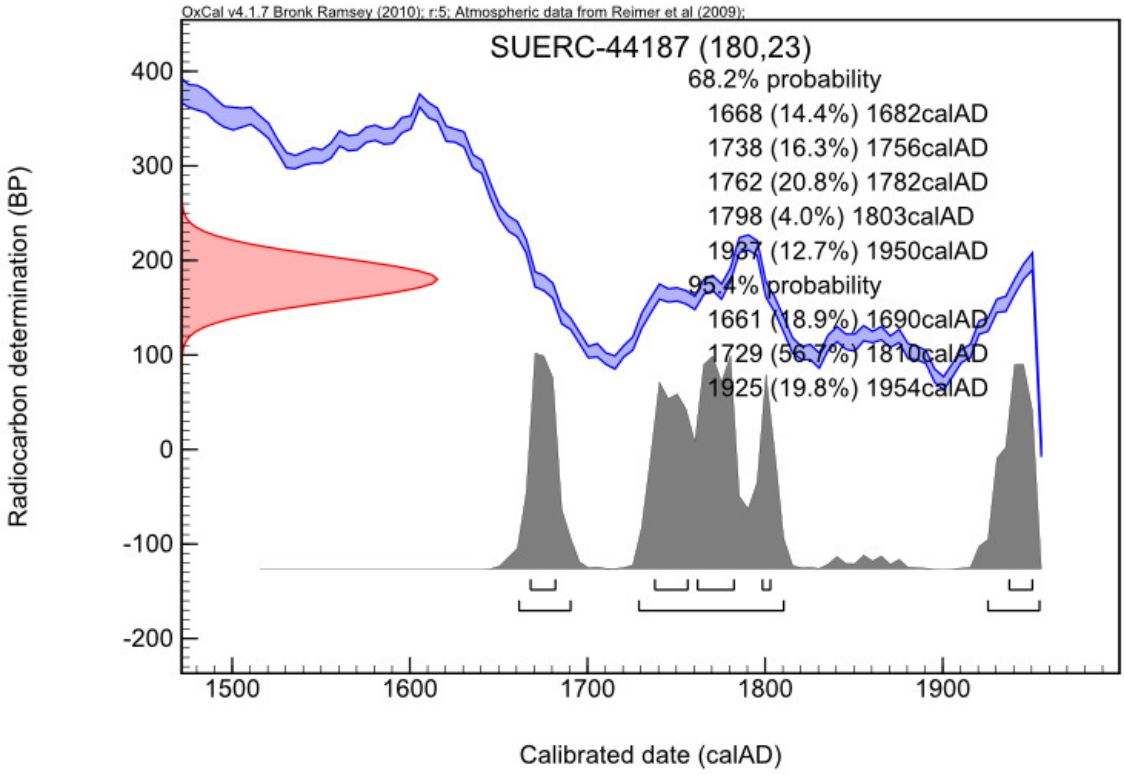
The calibrated age ranges are determined using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.1 (Bronk Ramsey 2009). Terrestrial samples are calibrated using the IntCal09 curve while marine samples are calibrated using the Marine09 curve.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk or Telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- Date :-

Checked and signed off by :- Date :-

## Calibration Plot



**Appendix 2**
Borehole logs for the auger survey I Field 8 and the putative fish pond.

Transect 1.
BH1 – south end

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-15cm | very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clayey silt |
| 15-52 | very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) clayey silt with occasional flint stones to 20mm, paling slightly downwards with pale sandy clay 'inwash'? |
| 52-60 | loose friable slightly sandy silty clay loam |
| 60-79 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) clay silt with occasional flint stones |
| 79-80 | greyish brown (10YR 5/2) fairly stiff silty clay |
| 80-134 | dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) softer silty clay |
| 134-143 | sharpish boundary onto stiffer slightly paler silty clay |
| 143-159 | black and brown medium sands |
| 159-167 | dark greenish grey (Gley 1 4/10Y) stiff clay – diamicton (till) |

BH2

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-40cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam, v. slightly sandy |
| 40-44 | slightly paler silty clay with patches of sandy clay |
| 44-58 | dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) silty clay |
| 58-70 | banded layers of yellow, grey and dark grey brown silty clays with fragments of charcoal |
| 70-80 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) friable silt loam |
| 80-87 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay lens |
| 87-97 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam – possible soil? |
| 97-98 | clay |
| 98-104 | greyish brown (10YR 5/2) slightly sandy iron mottled clay – diamicton? |
| 104-124 | as above with occasional small stones |
| 124-140 | slightly stoney clayey sands |
| 140-144 | yellow brown (10YR 6/8) medium-coarse sands |

BH3

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-20cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam with occasional flint stones |
| 20-80 | very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) friable silt loam with occasional flint |
| 80-85 | disturbed clayey loam with charcoal flecks |
| 85-113 | stiff sandy clay with iron mottling – diamicton |
| 115 | augering stopped by stones |

BH4

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-20cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam |
| 20-50 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silt loam |
| 50-81 | dark olive brown (2.5Y 3/3) friable humic silt/degraded peat |
| 81-90 | stiff sandy iron mottled clay |
| 90-95 | yellow brown clayey sand |
| 95-102 | stoney sand |
| 102-112 | stiff clay with a little chalk – diamicton |

BH5

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-20cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam with occasional flint |
| 20-50 | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) friable silt loam |
| 50-78 | sandy clay with iron mottling |
| 78-116 | medium sands with larger grits |
| 116-125 | sands, becoming slightly clayey with depth |
| 125-130 | sands and calcareous sands |

BH6

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-20cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam with occasionalo flints |
| 20-50 | very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silt loam |
| 50-83 | sandy clay with iron mottling |
| 83-93 | stiff clay – diamicton |

Transect A

BH A1

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-25cm | brown (10YR 4/3) clay loam with occasional chalk and stones |
| 25-45 | brownish yellow (10YR 6/8) sandy clay |
| 45-53 | light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) clay with chalk – diamicton? |
| 53-78 | light brownish grey (10YR 6/2) chalky clay – diamicton |

BH A2

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-50cm | brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay loam with small grits and stones |
| 50-68 | brown (10YR 4/3) silty slightly sandy clay with grits |
| 68-80 | brown (10YR 4/3) silts with grits and shell fragments |
| 80-100 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay with small chalk fragments – fill? |
| 100-120 | brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay with grits and stones – fill? |
| 120-190 | grey (2.5Y 5/1) soft silty clay/clay with chalk flecks, occasional organics – wood at 180cm – fill<br>Coring stopped by wood? |

BH A3

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-50cm | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay loam with grits and occasional chalk |
| 50-70 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay with abundant small rolled/weathered chalk grits and stones |
| 70-107 | dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) clayey silt with occasional small chalk grits |
| 107-118 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) slightly sandy silty clay with grits |
| 118-155 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) sandy gravel |
| 155-170 | chalky clay – diamicton |

BH A4

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-35cm | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay loam with grits and small stones |
| 35-64 | light yellowish brown and brownish yellow (10YR 6/4 and 6/5) slightly sandy silty clay |
| 64-76 | light yellowish brown and brownish yellow (10YR 6/4 and 6/5) chalky clay with small grits and stones to 8mm – diamicton |

Transect C

BH C1

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-40cm | brown (10YR 5/3) silty clay loam |
| 40-50 | brown (10yR 5/3) silty clay with chalk and grits |
| 50-80 | very chalky dirty friable silty clay |
| 80-125 | light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) iron mottled slightly sandy silt with occasional chalk grits – fill? |

| | |
|---|---|
| C1a | extra hole just to the south.<br>Clay (diamicton) recorded at 170cm depth – still in pond but floor coming up! |

BH C3

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-35cm | brown (10YR 4/3) silty clay loam with grits |
| 35-54 | brown (10YR 4/3) sandy silt with grits |
| 54-88 | dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) slightly sticky silt – pond silts? |
| 88-100 | as above – stone free and damp |
| 100-176 | soft silty clay with occasional chalk grits – fill |
| 176-220 | grey and black silts with organics, and occasional chalk – 'pond' sediments |
| 220-250 | black humic silt – wet – pond sediments |
| 250-257 | clay – diamicton |

BH C4

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-60cm | very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam |
| 60-75 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay with frequent chalk grits and small stones |
| 75-144 | mottled yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty clay with small chalk grits – fill |
| 144-177 | as above – wood at 175cm |
| 177-251 | black silt – pond sediments |
| 251 | stiff chalky clay - diamicton |

BH C5

| | |
|---|---|
| 0-40cm | brown (10YR 5/3) silty clay loam |
| 40-50 | yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty clay with chalk grits |
| 50-79 | chalky clay - diamicton |

# Appendix 5

## GLOSSARY

| | |
|---|---|
| **Bronze Age** | A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC. |
| **Context** | An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004]. |
| **Cropmark** | A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop. |
| **Cut** | A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded. |
| **Domesday Survey** | A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD. |
| **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. |
| **Iron Age** | A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50. |
| **Layer** | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| **Medieval** | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| **Natural** | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity |
| **Neolithic** | The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC. |
| **Old English** | The language used by the Saxon (q.v.) occupants of Britain. |
| **Post hole** | The hole cut to take a timber post, usually in an upright position. The hole may have been dug larger than the post and contain soil or stones to support the post. Alternatively, the posthole may have been formed through the process of driving the post into the ground. |
| **Post-medieval** | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500- |

1800.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Prehistoric** | The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD. |
| **Ridge and Furrow** | The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture. |
| **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 |

# Appendix 6

## THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

| | |
|---|---|
| 183 | Context records |
| 4 | Photographic record sheet |
| 2 | Section record sheet |
| 1 | Plan record sheet |
| 23 | Daily record sheet |
| 45 | Sheets of scale drawings |
| 1 | Stratigraphic matrix |

All primary records 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:

Cambridgeshire County Council
Castle Court
Shire Hall
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

| | |
|---|---|
| OASIS ID No: | archaeol1-150081 |
| Accession Number: | ECB3751 |
| Archaeological Project Services Site Code: | MAHW12 |

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.