

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
LAND OFF MAIN ROAD,  
OAKHAM (BARLEYTHORPE),  
RUTLAND  
(OAMR 14)**

**Work Undertaken For**  
Larkfleet Homes Limited

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Report Compiled by  
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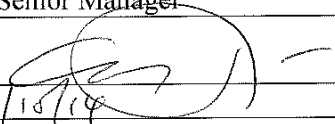
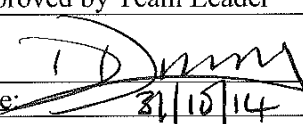
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land off Main Road, Barleythorpe, near Oakham, Rutland. The work formed part of an ongoing scheme of investigation related to a larger development at the site. The current investigation area comprises Phases 9 and 10 of the present development on land that was previously agricultural show ground and playing fields.*

*The area is archaeologically sensitive, with previous investigations in the immediate vicinity revealing a Bronze Age barrow containing burials and grave goods, including a complete food vessel. A previous geophysical survey at the site identified curvilinear anomalies that were thought to represent barrows along with linear and pit-like features.*

*The evaluation revealed the curvilinear anomalies in the northwestern corner of the site to be a locus for Bronze Age funerary practice. Trenching in this area revealed a barrow with a double concentric ring ditch, the probable partial remains of a second barrow adjacent to the ring ditch and a sheep/goat cremation within a collared urn further to the west. The collared urn was probably originally placed as a secondary burial in a barrow mound; this suggests that a third barrow may have existed here, but no longer survives.*

*To the east of the barrows was the partial remains of a furnace/industrial feature. This was undated but indicates high temperature processes at the site.*

*The majority of the features uncovered during the evaluation remain undated and include pits, ditches and occasional post holes.*

*Medieval ridge and furrow was recorded*

*across the whole of the site, along with a small amount of pottery of the same period. Post-medieval and modern pottery had a low intensity presence at the site and mostly derived from topsoil deposits, suggesting the land remained relatively undisturbed during this period and probably continued to be used in an agricultural capacity until it was set aside as land for an agricultural showground with playing fields.*

*A north-south alignment of post holes revealed in the northeastern area of the site is recent and demarcates the boundary between the agricultural show ground and modern playing fields.*

## 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

*A planning application (2014/0581/RES) was submitted to Rutland County Council for residential development on the site. A programme of archaeological evaluation is required.*

*The evaluation was undertaken between 9<sup>th</sup> June and 4<sup>th</sup> July 2014 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and*



approved by the Leicestershire and Rutland Planning Archaeologist.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Barleythorpe is located 1.5km northwest of Oakham in the county of Rutland (Fig 1). Situated at the southeastern edge of the village. The investigation area comprises Phases 9 and 10 of the present development on land used as agricultural showground and playing fields. The site is located on the northeast side of Main Road at SK 853 0954 (Fig 2).

Local soils at the site are Banbury Association loamy ferritic brown earths (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 103). These are developed upon a solid geology of the Jurassic Middle Lias Marlstone Rock Bed with Upper Lias clays to the north of the site (GSGB 1978).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development is located within a rich archaeological landscape with evidence for significant archaeological remains dating from the early prehistoric period onwards (Mellor 2006).

A Bronze Age barrow with a triple concentric ring ditched enclosure was identified immediately to the north of the site (Heard 2007; Holt and Cope Faulkner 2008) and was the subject of an archaeological excavation under a separate scheme of investigation (Fig 3). This revealed two burials accompanied by grave goods; an array of flints around the skull of one skeleton and a complete food vessel with the other (Mellor 2011).

Geophysical survey of the present site recorded curvilinear magnetic anomalies including concentric rings and other arcing features, which probably represent further Bronze Age barrows. Other linear and pit-type anomalies were also recorded within

the present site (Malone 2010). In addition, evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlement has been identified just to the southwest of the present site.

Previous work 400m to the northwest of the site identified a Saxon settlement. Geophysical survey recorded magnetic anomalies suggestive of Saxon sunken-featured buildings, as well as possible pits and probable medieval ridge and furrow (Malone 2010). Subsequent excavations confirmed the presence of sunken-featured buildings and post-built halls. Pottery of 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> century date, along with animal bone and indications of metal-working were found along with several wells (Holt and Cope-Faulkner 2008; Mellor 2013).

Barleythorpe is first mentioned in *c.* 1200. Referred to as *Thorp juxta Ocham* and *Bolaresthorp*, the name has at its root the Anglo-Scandinavian *þorp*, meaning ‘an outlying farmstead or secondary settlement’ (Fellows-Jensen 1978, 132). The prefix is derived from the family of John le Bolar who are recorded in Oakham in 1200 (Bourne 1977, 28). No mention is made of Barleythorpe in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. However, Barleythorpe may have originated as the manor that was given, along with Oakham church, to Westminster Abbey by William Rufus (Page 1935).

## 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 Planning Archaeologist from Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Service to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

## 4. METHODS

A total of 27 trenches, measuring 2m in width by 50m in length were excavated (Fig. 3) to the top of archaeological deposits. Trench 9 was extended laterally at both ends in order to more fully understand the archaeology and a small 10m long by 2m wide trench (9a) was also excavated just to the west of Trench 9 (Fig. 3). The area where Trench 18 and 19 met was also extended.

Trenches were positioned to investigate geophysical anomalies and areas of extensive medieval ridge and furrow agriculture (Fig. 3).

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. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

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

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, supplemented by artefact dating.

## 5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field (full descriptions of the individual deposits can be found in Appendix 2).

### *Trench 1*

Two separate natural deposits were identified at the base of Trench 1. In the western end of the trench the natural consisted of hard limestone brash (104), while in the eastern end of the trench the natural comprised hard mid yellowish red clay and mudstone (108) (Fig 4).

A probable palaeochannel [107] cut through the natural (104) near the centre of the trench (Figs 4 & 12, Section 1). The cut extended in length across the 2m width of the trench and was 1.24m wide with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly irregular concave base. The fill consisted of hard, dark blackish brown limestone and clay (103).

To the east of the palaeochannel was a discrete ovoid possible posthole or small pit base [106] measuring 0.50m in width by 0.10m deep (Figs 4 & 12, Section 9). The sides were fairly shallow at first before angling steeper and breaking gradually to a concave base. The fill of this feature comprised firm reddish brown clay (105) with no inclusions.

The features and natural were overlain by a 0.24m thick subsoil (102) consisting of firm mid orangey red clay (Fig 12, Section 1).

Subsoil (102) was sealed by a 0.15m thick deposit of firm, mid orangey red silty clay (101), containing rounded to angular pebbles (Fig 12, Section 1). This possibly represents a former topsoil.

Overlying deposit (101) was the modern topsoil (100), composed of friable dark brownish red silty clay with occasional small rounded pebbles and a thickness of 0.20m.

An agricultural furrow was also recorded in the western half of the trench and aligns with the ridge and furrow pattern observed in the geophysical survey.

#### *Trench 2*

The natural deposit in this trench was compact mid yellowish red stoney clay (203) (Figs. 4 & 17) (Section 65) (Plate 14).

This was overlain by 0.15m thick, firm mid reddish yellow silty clay (202) subsoil (Figure 17, Section 65) (Plate 14).

The subsoil deposit was sealed by a 0.20m thick layer of firm mid yellowish red silty clay (201), containing moderate small pebbles (Figure 17, Section 65) (Plate 14). A single sherd of 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery was retrieved from this deposit which possibly represents a former topsoil layer.

Layer (201) was overlain by a modern topsoil deposit consisting of friable mid reddish grey silty clay (200) with rare small pebbles (Figure 18, Section 65) (Plate 14).

#### *Trench 3*

The natural deposit at the base of this trench was composed of hard mid brownish red silty clay (303) (Fig 4).

A total of 18 post holes were recorded cut through the natural in this trench, oriented on a north/south alignment, along the eastern edge of the trench, with three outliers' in the western half of the trench. However, it is probable they were cut through an overlying deposit, but this was difficult to observe during machining.

The northernmost post hole was circular in plan and measured 0.50m in diameter by 0.22m deep [304] (Figs 4 & 12, Section 2). The southern side was steep with the northern side shallower, breaking gradually to a slightly concave base. The post hole was filled with firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (305).

Posthole [318], the third from the north, yielded a fragment of a Mesolithic to Early Neolithic prismatic flint blade.

Post hole [306], the sixth from the northern end of the trench, was circular in shape and measured 0.35m in diameter by 0.25m deep (Figs 4 & 12, Section 3) (Plate 1), with steep straight sides breaking sharply to a concave base. The fill comprised firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (307).

The eleventh post hole [312] from the northern end of the trench was out of alignment with the first ten, and in the western half of the trench. Post hole [312] was ovoid in plan, measuring 0.52m wide by 0.48m long by 0.16m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 4 & 12, Section 5). Its fill consisted of firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (313).

The seventeenth post hole [316] from the northern end of the trench was rectangular in plan, measuring 0.35m in diameter by 0.81m deep with straight sides breaking sharply to a concave base (Figs 4 & 12, Section 7). The post hole fill comprised firm, mid brownish red silty sand (317).

The rounded terminal ends of two furrows were recorded in the southern half of the trench, cut through natural deposit (303) (Fig 4). The northernmost of these [314] was investigated and measured 2.30m wide by 0.11m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 4 & 12, Section 6). The furrow was filled with firm, orangey brown silty clay

(315).

The post holes, apparently, and furrows were overlain by a 0.10m thick layer of subsoil (302) consisting of light greyish red silty clay.

A small ditch or gully [308] cut through the subsoil (302) near the centre of the trench and extended in length through the width of the trench, measuring 1.12m wide by 0.18m deep with steep straight sides breaking sharply to a flat base (Figs 4 & 12, Section 4). This feature was filled with firm, mid brownish red silty clay (309).

A 0.42m thick layer of firm mid orangey brown silty clay (301) probably represents a former topsoil or ploughsoil and overlay feature [308] (Fig 12, Section 4).

A rectangular feature with rounded corners [310] was recorded cut through deposit (301) and measured 2.04m long by 0.92m wide. The feature contained a cattle burial within a firm mid yellowish brown silty clay matrix (311) (Fig 4) (Plate 2).

The cow burial was overlain by a layer of modern topsoil (300) consisting of friable mid greyish brown silty clay (Fig 12, Section 4). Two sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered from this deposit.

#### *Trench 4*

The natural in Trench 4 consisted of firm, dark brownish red limestone brash and clay (403).

Four agricultural furrows were observed cutting through the natural in this trench. One of these was investigated and found to measure 1.94m in width by 0.17m depth with a slightly irregular concave base [405] (Figures 4 & 12, Section 8). The fill consisted of firm dark brownish red clay, containing coal and charcoal inclusions (404). Finds recovered from this deposit

include five sherds of post-medieval pottery, a fragment of bone from a small mammal and some fire residue.

The furrows were overlain by a subsoil layer (402) which probably represents a former ploughsoil containing bank material from the ridge and furrow cultivation. The subsoil comprised firm, dark brownish red clay (Fig 12, Section 8) and contained two fragments of clay pipe stem dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The ploughsoil was sealed by a 0.19m thick, friable dark brownish red clay (401) which may represent a former topsoil. A single fragment of 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from this deposit.

Overlying deposit (401) was a 0.10m thick modern topsoil deposit (400) of friable dark brownish red clayey silt with occasional rounded pebbles.

#### *Trench 5*

The natural in the base of Trench 5 comprised firm mid yellowish brown clayey limestone brash (502) (Figs 5 & 16, Section 53).

A sub-oval pit [510] cut the natural in the northwestern half of the trench and measured 1.40m wide by 0.31m deep with moderately steep sides breaking sharply to an irregular base (Figs 5 & 16, Section 53). It contained a single fill of soft, mid reddish brown silty clay (509). This pit was truncated by a furrow and thus predates it.

A sub-oval pit [506] cutting through the natural was partially exposed near the centre of the trench and measured 1.80m wide by 0.25m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a mainly flat base (Figs 5 & 16, Section 51). The fill of this pit consisted of soft, mid reddish brown silty clay (505).

A third sub-oval pit [508] was partially exposed in the southeastern half of the trench, measuring 1m wide by 0.28m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base (Figs 5 & 16, Section 52). It was filled with compact mid reddish brown silty clay (507).

The pits and furrow were overlain by an 80mm thick subsoil (501) composed of firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (Fig 16, section 53).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.48m thick topsoil (500) consisting of friable mid brown silty clay.

#### *Trench 6*

The natural in Trench 6 comprised firm mid reddish yellowish brown clayey limestone brash (602) (Fig 5).

The natural deposit was cut by a linear feature [604] oriented on an approximately north-south alignment and measuring at least 35.64m long by 0.43m wide by 0.10m deep, with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base (Figs 5 & 16, Section 56). This shallow ditch or gully was filled with soft mid reddish brown silty clay (603). A fragment of stone quern was recovered from this deposit but was too small to be diagnostic and thus remains undated.

A total of three furrows were also recorded.

Overlying the feature and furrows was a 0.20m thick, firm mid brownish red silty clay subsoil (601) (Fig 17, Section 66).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.10m topsoil (600) deposit composed of friable mid to dark reddish brown silty clay.

#### *Trench 7*

The natural in this trench consisted of firm mid yellowish brown limestone brash

(701) (Fig 5).

Near the centre of the trench, a ditch [704] cut through the natural on a north-south alignment and measured 1.08m wide by 0.33m deep, with one steep side and a shallower side breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 5 & 14, Section 25). The ditch fill consisted of hard, dark brownish red silty clay (705) and limestone brash.

Ten furrows were recorded oriented on an approximately north-south alignment.

The ditch and furrows were overlain by a 0.29m thick, mid dark brownish red silty clay (702) subsoil (Fig 17, Section 67).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.26m thick topsoil (703) composed of friable, mid dark brownish red silty clay.

#### *Trench 8*

At the base of Trench 8 a natural deposit of limestone brash and mid brown silt (803) was revealed (Fig 5).

At the western end of the trench, two features cut through the natural. The westernmost of these was only partially exposed and was either the rounded terminal end of a linear or a pit [806], measuring 0.71m long by 0.70m wide by 0.35m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 5 & 14, Section 24).

To the east of the pit was a post hole cut [804], oval in plan, measuring 0.40m long by 0.38m wide by 0.18m deep, with moderately steep concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 5 & 14, Section 23). The post hole was filled with firm mid reddish brown silt (805).

The features were overlain by a 0.10m thick deposit of friable mid yellowish brown silt (802) subsoil (Fig 14, Section

24).

The subsoil was sealed by a modern topsoil (801) consisting of friable mid greyish brown silt. A probable Bronze Age flint flake with some retouching was recovered from the topsoil.

#### *Trench 9*

The natural in Trench 9 and 9a was composed of mid yellowish brown limestone brash (902) (Fig 6).

In the northwestern half of Trench 9 was a sub-rectangular pit [903] with rounded corners, measuring 0.50m long by 0.35m wide by 60mm deep, with shallow sides breaking imperceptibly to a slightly concave base (Figs 6 & 13, Section 17) (Plate 3). This pit contained a cremation within an urn (905) and was surrounded by a backfill deposit of firm mid reddish brown clayey silt (904). A number of teeth fragments from the cremation confidently identify it as sheep/goat, probably deriving from a single animal (Rackham, Appendix 4). The incomplete collared urn which contained the cremation was recovered in 62 pieces weighing 776g. The form and decoration of the urn suggest an Early Bronze Age date (Percival, Appendix 3).

To the southeast of the cremation was a medieval furrow [906] which measured 3.60m in width and truncated linear [916]. The fill consisted of firm, mid reddish brown silty clay (907) from which a single fragment of small mammal bone was retrieved along with sixteen sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery.

Near the centre of the trench were two shallow linear features oriented on an east-west alignment. The earlier of these [914] measured at least 1m in width by 0.20m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base (Figs 6 & 15, Section 40). The fill of this feature consisted of hard, mid to dark brownish

red, clayey silt and stone (915). A retouched Bronze Age flint flake and two fire cracked pebbles were recovered from this deposit.

Linear [914] was truncated by linear [916], which measured at least 1.22m wide by 0.21m deep with fairly steep sides and an irregular base (Figs 6 & 15, Section 40). This linear ditch cut contained two fills, the earlier of which comprised hard, mid to dark brownish red, clayey silt (917) with frequent pebbles. An undated flint flake, a single sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery and a relatively large amount of animal bone was recovered from this deposit. The animal bone included seventeen pieces of cattle horn core, eight fragments of large mammal bone and a single piece of small mammal bone. The second fill in the sequence consisted of hard mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (918).

In the southeastern end of this I-shaped trench was a circular pit cut [909], truncating the natural and measuring 0.53m in diameter by 0.13m deep, with shallow sides breaking gradually to an irregular base (Figs 6 & 14, Section 26). The pit fill was composed of hard, mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (910).

In the southwestern end of the trench, a northwest-southeast oriented linear ditch [911] cut through the natural, measuring 0.82m wide by 0.12m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to an irregular and uneven base (Figs 6 & 14, Section 27). The ditch contained two fills. The primary fill comprised hard mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (912), containing rounded flint stones and two fire cracked pebbles. The second fill consisted of hard mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (913). This upper fill (913) yielded a fragment of 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century Stamford Ware pottery, two pieces of coal and a tooth from a large mammal.

A total of seven furrows and a possible furrow base were also recorded cut through the natural in this trench.

In Trench 9a, a partially exposed pit or ditch terminus [920] impacted the natural and measured at least 1.42m long by 1.14m wide by 0.29m deep with shallow straight sides (Figs 6 & 15, Section 43). This feature was filled with hard mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (921) containing redeposited natural stone and was truncated by one of the two furrows observed in this trench. Finds from (921) consisted of one flint flake dated to before the mid Bronze Age, six sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery, a fragment of cinder and two fire cracked pebbles.

A northeast-southwest oriented linear gully [922] cut through the natural in the northwestern end of Trench 9a and measured 0.59m wide by 0.13m deep with gradual to steep convex sides breaking gradually to a concave point (Figs 6 & 15, Section 44). The gully was filled with hard, mid to dark brownish red clayey silt (923).

Overlying the furrows was a subsoil deposit (901) of friable mid brownish red silt with frequent pebbles. A number of finds were retrieved from the subsoil including six sherds of 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery, three Bronze Age flint flakes, a fragment of modern field drain and seven iron objects of which five were identified as nails and one as a blade. The concentration of iron items may indicate some form of smithing activity in the area.

The subsoil was sealed by friable mid brownish red silt (900) topsoil.

#### *Trench 10*

Trenches 10, 11 & 12 were connected and targeted over a double ring ditch identified during the geophysical survey as a probable barrow and an adjacent

curvilinear anomaly.

The natural in these trenches consisted of firm, dark reddish brown silty clay and limestone brash to light orangey reddish brown clay and limestone brash and was assigned context numbers (1002), (1102) and (1202) respectively (Fig 7). A flint core dating from the Mesolithic to Early Neolithic was found on the surface at the interface between the natural and overlying subsoil.

A partially exposed sub-rectangular pit [1011] cut through the natural in the southern end of Trench 10 and measured 1.43m long by at least 1.20m wide by 0.46m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base, sloping slightly down to the south (Figs 7 & 13, Section 20). The pit was filled with hard mid dark brownish red silty clay (1012) and redeposited limestone brash with occasional small rounded pebbles.

The outer curvilinear ring ditch [1009]/[1003] of the barrow feature was recorded cut through the natural in this trench in two places. The ring ditch in the southern section [1009] measured 1.30m wide by 0.43m deep with one steep side and one shallow side breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 18). The fill was composed of hard, mid brownish red silty clay and limestone brash (1010). A fragment of prehistoric flint core was retrieved from this deposit but was unable to be closely dated.

The northern section [1003] of the outer ring ditch measured 0.87m wide by 0.36m deep with steep sides and a jagged concave base (Figs 7 & 12, Section 11) (Plate 7). The ditch contained a single fill of hard, mid to dark brownish red silty clay with limestone brash (1004).

The inner ring ditch of the barrow

[1005]/[1007] was also recorded twice in this trench and cut through the natural deposit (Fig 7).

The southern section [1007] of the inner ring ditch measured 1.05m wide by 0.36m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly irregular base (Figs 7 & 12, Section 12) (Plate 6). The fill of the ditch in this area consisted of hard mid reddish brown silty clay (1008) with frequent limestone brash.

The northern section of the inner ring ditch [1005] was located at the junction of Trench 10 and 11 (Fig 7) and was recorded in both of these trenches. In Trench 10 the ditch measured 0.51m wide by 0.27m deep with steep sides and an irregular base (Figs 7 & 12, Section 10) (Plate 4). The fill consisted of hard mid reddish brown silty clay (1006) with frequent small stones. A small and extensively flaked flint core dating from the Neolithic to Bronze Age was retrieved from this fill along with three sherds of pottery that were not closely datable but are of Iron Age or later date.

#### *Trench 11*

The inner barrow ring ditch was recorded in sections 13 & 22 in Trench 11. It was ascribed context numbers [1118] & [1103].

The westernmost section of the inner ring ditch [1118] was only partially exposed and measured at least 0.80m wide by 0.28m deep with steep sides breaking gradually towards a slightly irregular base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 22). The fill consisted of firm mid brownish red clayey silt (1117) with occasional lumps of mudstone and limestone fragments.

The easternmost section through the inner barrow ditch [1103] measured 0.58m wide by 0.34m deep and had steep sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave pointed base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 13). It

was filled with firm mid brownish red silty clay (1104) which contained three pieces of burnt stone.

A group of three possible stake holes [1116] and an ovoid feature [1114] may be associated with the inner ring ditch but the relationship between feature [1114] and ring ditch [1118] could not be ascertained due to only partial exposure and similarity of fills (Fig 7) (Plate 5).

It is possible that the group of stake holes [1116] was earlier than feature [1114] (Figs 7 & 13, Section 21) (Plate 5). The stake holes were rounded and measured between 40mm to 60mm in diameter and roughly 0.20m depth with steep vertical sides breaking gradually to a concave point. They were filled with soft to firm mid reddish brown clayey silt (1115).

A roughly oval and somewhat amorphous feature [1114] may post date the stake holes and measured at least 2m in length by 1m wide by 0.44m deep, with irregular sides breaking gradually to an irregular angled pointy base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 21). The fill of this feature consisted of firm mid brownish red clayey silt (1113) with moderate mudstone and limestone fragments. It also contained two pieces of Early Bronze Age pottery.

The outer ring ditch of the barrow [1105] was also recorded in Trench 11. The ditch measured 1.35m wide by 0.34m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave and slightly irregular base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 13) (Plate 8). The ditch fill comprised firm mid brownish red silty clay (1106) and contained a probable Bronze Age flint flake. The ditch was truncated by the base of a medieval furrow.

Approximately 5m to the east of the outer ring ditch was a curvilinear ditch [1107] oriented approximately northeast-



southwest, that is, on the opposite alignment to the ring ditch (Fig 7). The ditch measured 1.19m in width by 0.31m deep and had moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly irregular base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 15) (Plate 9). The ditch was filled with a firm mid brownish red silty clay (1108) deposit, which produced a fragment of burnt stone, six pieces of large mammal bone and a sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery. The ditch was truncated by a medieval furrow in this area.

A linear ditch [1109] was located roughly 2.30m east of ditch [1107] and on a similar northeast-southwest alignment (Fig 7). Ditch [1109] measured 0.90m in width by 0.50m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to an irregular base (Fig 7 & 13, Section 16) and was filled with firm mid reddish brown silty clay (1110) with a slightly yellowish hue. A total of eight fragments of burnt earth/stone were retrieved from this deposit. This ditch was also truncated by a medieval furrow.

A linear ditch [1112] oriented on a northwest-southeast alignment was cut through the natural in the eastern half of Trench 11 and measured 0.60m wide by 0.26m deep with irregular sides and base (Figs 7 & 13, Section 19). The fill of this ditch was composed of firm and slightly pliable mid brownish red silty clay (1111) with occasional stone fragments.

#### *Trench 12*

A number of pits and at least one ditch were identified in Trench 12. In the southern end of the trench, sub-oval pit [1221] cut through the natural, measuring 0.40m wide by 0.14m deep with moderately steep sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 33). This pit contained three fills. The primary fill (1220) consisted of firm yellowish white limestone fragments within a reddish brown silty clay matrix.

The second fill in the sequence (1219) comprised firm 30mm thick, mid greenish brown silty clay. The final fill in the sequence was composed of 90mm thick, firm mid reddish brown silty clay (1218) with green mottle.

Pit [1221] was truncated by sub-oval pit [1217] which measured 0.62m wide by 0.20m deep, with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Two fills were identified in this pit. The primary fill comprised 0.14m thick, hard yellowish white limestone fragments (1216) in a mid reddish brown silty clay matrix. The uppermost fill was composed of 0.12m thick, soft mid reddish brown silty clay (1215).

Sub-oval pit [1214] was partially exposed near the centre of the trench (Fig 7) and measured 1.02m in width by at least 0.78m long by 0.35m deep, with one steep side and a moderately steep side breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 32). The pit was filled with firm, mid yellowish brown silty clay (1213) with moderate limestone fragments.

Linear ditch [1226] was truncated by a medieval furrow near the centre of the trench. The ditch measured at least 1.26m in length by 1.02m wide by 0.27m deep, with one vertical side and a moderately steep side, breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 34). A sequence of four fills was identified within this pit. The primary fill was up to 80mm thick and consisted of soft mid reddish brown silty clay (1225). The second fill in the sequence was 0.20m thick and composed of hard yellowish white limestone fragments within a mid reddish brown silty clay matrix (1224). The third fill, overlying this, comprised 0.26m thick soft mid reddish brown silty clay (1223). The uppermost fill in this sequence (1222) was 40mm thick and consisted of soft mid brownish yellow silty clay.

A series of discrete features was recorded in the northern part of Trench 12. Irregular-shaped feature [1210] measured 0.95m wide by at least 1.30m long by 0.38m deep, with irregular steep sides breaking sharply to a fairly flat base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 31). The fill of this feature comprised firm yellowish white limestone fragments within a mid reddish brown silty clay matrix (1209).

Cut through feature [1210] was a sub-oval pit [1212] measuring 0.67m wide by 0.28m deep, with a steep side and a stepped side breaking gradually to a concave point (Figs 7 & 14, Section 31). This pit was filled with soft, mid reddish brown silty clay (1211).

To the north, an oval feature [1208] measured 0.50m long by 0.30m wide and 80mm deep, with irregular sides and base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 30). This feature was filled with firm, mid reddish brown silty clay (1207).

To its north was an irregular-shaped feature [1206] measuring 0.65m in width by at least 1.32m in length by 0.26m depth, with steep sides and an irregular base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 29). The fill of this feature comprised friable mid reddish brown silty clay (1205) with a lens of moderately sized limestone fragments. A single fragment of Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from this fill.

Feature [1228] was only partially exposed and was sub-rounded in shape suggesting it was either a pit or the terminal rounded end of a ditch. It measured at least 0.68m in length by 1.10m wide and 0.15m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 7 & 15, Section 35). This pit or ditch was filled with friable mid reddish brown silty clay (1227).

A linear cut [1204] oriented on a north-

northwest to south-southeast alignment was visible in Trench 11 and extended into the northern half of Trench 12 truncating features [1206] and [1210]. The ditch measured at least 11.13m in length by 0.51m wide and 0.14m deep, with stepped sides breaking sharply to a flat base (Figs 7 & 14, Section 28). This ditch was filled with friable mid reddish brown silty clay (1203) and contained a fragment of clay pipe stem dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century along with a cattle scapula and a piece of burnt stone.

Ditch [1204] was overlain by a 0.20m thick subsoil layer (1201) which consisted of friable mid orangey brown silty clay (Fig 14, Section 32). This subsoil layer extended throughout Trenches 10 & 11, where it was given context numbers (1001) and (1101).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.40m thick layer of topsoil composed of friable mid reddish brown silty clay (1200). In Trenches 10 & 11 this deposit was assigned context numbers (1000) and (1100) respectively. An unidentified fragment of animal bone was retrieved from deposit (1000).

### *Trench 13*

The natural at the base of Trench 13 comprised firm, dark reddish brown silty clay and limestone brash (1308).

In the southern end of the trench three linear features were identified. The southernmost of these was ditch [1302], which cut through the natural and was aligned approximately north-south alignment. The ditch measured 0.92m wide by at least 3.75m long by 0.15m deep, with a moderately steep side breaking imperceptibly to what is probably a fairly flat or slightly concave base (Figs 8 & 16, Section 57). The ditch was filled with a deposit of firm mid reddish brown silt with occasional limestone fragments

(1303) which yielded two fragments of very abraded unidentified (but possibly Stamford type of the late 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century) pottery.

The second linear identified in the southern end of the trench was a wide ditch [1306] oriented approximately north-northeast to south-southwest. The ditch measured 1.95m in width by at least 2.44m long and over 0.27m deep, with a moderately steep side (Figs 8 & 17, Section 60). The fill of this ditch comprised firm mid brown clayey silt (1307) with moderate red and black flecks.

The third ditch [1305] measured approximately 0.68m wide by at least 2.61m long and 0.15m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a gently undulating base (Figs 5 & 16, Section 58). This ditch was aligned north-northeast to approximately south-southwest and was filled with firm, mid yellowish brown silty clay (1304), containing occasional small limestone fragments and a Bronze Age flint flake.

A medieval furrow was recorded in the northern end of the trench.

The furrow was overlain by a layer of subsoil, approximately 90mm thick and composed of firm mid brown silt (1301) with occasional charcoal flecks (Fig 17, Section 68). Two fragments of pottery were recovered from this deposit including a sherd of Roman Grey ware and a piece of mid 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> century Charnwood ware.

The subsoil was sealed by topsoil deposit (1300), a firm yet friable mid yellowish brown silt with moderate ceramic building material fragments and occasional charcoal flecks, limestone fragments and gravel.

#### *Trench 14*

The natural in Trench 14 consisted of mid yellowish white limestone brash (1401) in

a friable mid brown silty clay matrix (Fig 8).

At the eastern end of the trench a rounded terminal end of a ditch or ovoid pit [1407] cut through the natural and measured at least 0.82m in length by 0.80m wide by 0.30m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a narrow concave base (Figs 8 & 17, Section 63). The possible pit or ditch terminus was filled with friable mid yellowish brown to reddish brown silty clay (1406) with occasional limestone fragments.

Linear ditch cut [1403] was oriented on a northeast to southwest alignment with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a gently undulating base (Figs 8 & 17, Section 61). This ditch measured at least 1.5m in length by 1.05m wide and 0.31m deep and was filled with friable mid brownish red silty clay (1402) with moderate to occasional limestone fragments.

The westernmost feature in this trench was a linear gully [1405] measuring at least 2.3m in length by 0.64m wide and 0.29m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave and slightly irregular base (Figs 8 & 17, Section 62). The gully was filled with firm mid reddish brown silty clay (1404) with occasional to moderate limestone fragments.

A total of five medieval furrows were identified in this trench. One of these truncated ditch [1403], while the other four cut the natural.

The furrows were overlain by a 0.33m thick topsoil deposit (1400) consisting of mid yellowish brown silt with occasional black and white flecks (Fig 18, Section 69). Single fragments of post-medieval and Early Modern pottery were recovered from this deposit.

### *Trench 15*

The natural in this trench was composed of mid yellowish white limestone brash (1502) in a friable mid reddish brown silty clay matrix (Fig 8).

Nine furrows were identified cutting through natural which was overlain by a 0.13m thick layer of subsoil (1501) consisting of firm mid brown clayey silt with occasional gravel and limestone fragments (Figs 4 & 18, Section 70). A Neolithic to Bronze Age flint flake was recovered from this layer.

A 0.37m thick topsoil (1500) sealed the subsoil and comprised firm, mid yellowish brown silt with moderate sub-angular gravel (Fig 18, Section 70).

### *Trench 16*

The natural in Trench 16 was the same as (1502), however in this trench it was ascribed context number (1602) (Fig 8). Nine furrows were identified cutting the natural.

The natural was overlain by a 0.22m thick subsoil (1601) consisting of firm, mid yellowish brown silt with frequent white flecks and occasional limestone fragments (Fig 18, Section 71).

The subsoil was sealed by a topsoil deposit (1600) which was 0.15m thick and composed of friable mid brown silt with moderate small sub-rounded pebbles and limestone fragments.

### *Trench 17*

The natural observed in Trench 17 was a mixture of limestone brash and mid brown silty clay (1704) (Fig 8).

In the eastern end of the trench the natural was cut by a probable linear ditch [1702] or gully, or possible elongated oval pit, measuring at least 1.59m in length and 0.43m wide by 0.14m deep (Figs 8 & 16,

Section 50). This pit or ditch/gully was filled with firm, mid reddish brown silt (1703).

A total of eight medieval furrows were identified cut through the natural in this trench.

The furrows were overlain by a 0.12m thick subsoil deposit (1701) of firm, mid brownish yellow stoney silt (Fig 18, Section 72).

The subsoil was sealed by a firm mid brown silt (1700) topsoil containing an undated, but probably prehistoric, worked flint flake.

### *Trench 18*

Trench 18 and 19 were connected in a T shape with some extended areas (Fig 9). The natural in these trenches was a mixture of hard yellowish white limestone brash and mid brown clay (1804)/(1902).

At the southeastern end of Trench 18, a linear ditch [1800] was cut through the natural, extending through the trench on a north-south alignment and measuring 0.50m wide by 0.28m deep, with steep sides tapering to a point (Figs 9 & 15, Section 36). The ditch was filled with hard mid to dark brownish red clay (1801) with occasional angular flints. A total of three sherds of medieval pottery, along with two fragments of late medieval pottery and a single piece of post-medieval pottery were recovered from this fill, as was a fragment of burnt stone and a piece of medium sized mammal bone.

At the northwestern end of the trench another linear ditch [1802] was identified, oriented approximately east to west. The ditch measured at least 4.07m in length and 1.37m wide by 0.38m deep, with one moderately steep concave side and a near vertical side turning to moderately steep and concave, breaking imperceptibly to a

fairly flat base (Figs 9 & 15, Section 41). The ditch was filled with hard mid red grey silty clay (1803). There was a medieval furrow in the same area but no relationship between the ditch and the furrow could be ascertained.

Approximately six medieval furrows were identified cut through the natural in this trench. They were overlain by a 0.15m thick subsoil deposit (1805) of friable mid to dark brown clayey silt (Fig 18, Section 73).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.28m thick topsoil (1806) consisting of friable mid greyish brown clayey silt (Fig 18, Section 73).

#### *Trench 19*

The area where Trench 18 and 19 met was extended in order to better observe a curvilinear ditch [1914] cut through the natural and oriented on a southwest to northeast alignment, curving round at the southwestern end into a semi-circular shape (Figs 9 & 15, Section 42). The ditch measured 0.92m in width by 0.32m deep, with one very steep side and a shallower side which extends almost to the opposite side. Both sides break gradually to imperceptibly to a concave base. This ditch contained a primary fill of 0.40m thick, firm, mid brownish grey clay (1923). A possible secondary fill (1915) comprising 0.24m thick, firm mid reddish brown silty clay may have been associated with a recut, but the relationship had been obscured by later gulley (1916).

Curvilinear gully [1916] measured 0.20m wide by 0.24m deep (Figs 9 & 15, Section 42), with steep sides and concave base. The fill of this gully consisted of hard dark brownish grey clay (1917).

In the northeastern part of the trench the base of a possible circular pit [1921] was partially exposed truncating the natural

and measuring 2.33m in length by at least 1.21m wide and 80mm deep, with an undulating base (Figs 9 & 15, Section 46). The shallowness of this feature suggests it may be natural. The fill of this shallow feature comprised firm mid reddish brown silty clay (1922) with frequent sub-rounded limestone pebbles.

A curvilinear gully or ditch [1918], 0.50m in width by 0.30m deep, with irregular sides and a pointed base (Figs 9 & 15, Section 45) was partially exposed in the southwestern end of the trench. The feature defined by this gully was semi-circular in plan and may have been recut. The primary fill of [1918] was composed of firm mid brownish grey clay and sub-rounded limestone pebbles (1919). This may have been from an earlier cut, or perhaps formed due to erosion of the side of the ditch and subsequent slippage. The second fill within this feature may actually be associated with a recut. If so it would then form the primary fill of the later incarnation of this feature and consisted of soft mid reddish brown silty clay (1920) with frequent sub-rounded limestone pebbles.

Trench 19 was extended to the northwest near its centre in order to more fully reveal the extent of oval furnace/industrial feature [1907]. The cut of this feature measured at least 3.54m in length by 1.53m wide and 0.30m deep, with steep concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Figs 9 & 15, Sections 38 & 39) (Plates 10-13). A number of fills were identified within this cut. The primary fill was a clay lining composed of soft mid yellowish brown clay (1908) with frequent sub-angular limestone pebbles. The second deposit in this sequence comprised firm, dark brownish red clay (1909) and was also probably part of the lining within this feature. Collapsed superstructure (1913) was recorded overlying (1910) and consisted of firm mid brownish reddish

yellow clay (1913) containing moderate small sub-angular pebbles. Remnants of the flue of the furnace (1910) consisting of 20mm thick, firm, mid orangey red clay, 0.10m thick and containing frequent sub-angular limestone pebbles were recorded within deposit (1913). Within the flue structure (1910) was a deposit of possible collapsed furnace superstructure consisting of friable black clay (1911), 0.10m thick. The blackness of this deposit suggests this came from the area directly exposed to the fire. Overlying (1911), within the flue structure (1910), was a 0.13m thick deposit of firm dark greyish red clay (1912) with moderate sub-angular pebbles which also was interpreted as collapsed superstructure.

A single post hole [1904] was cut through furnace [1907], specifically through the collapsed superstructure deposit (1913), suggesting it was dug sometime after the collapse and disuse of the furnace and thus was not part of the furnace structure. The post hole [1904] was oval in shape, measuring 0.60m in length by 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep with steep concave sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Figs 9 & 15, Section 37). The post hole contained two fills, the lower of which consisted of 0.10m thick, dark brownish red clay (1905), with moderate sub-angular limestone pebbles. The upper fill comprised firm mid brownish red clay (1906), with moderate sub-angular limestone fragments, 0.10m thick.

A total of six medieval furrows were identified cut through the natural in this trench. They were overlain by a 0.15m thick subsoil deposit (1901) of friable mid to dark brown clayey silt which contained seven fragments of fired clay.

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.28m thick topsoil (1900) consisting of friable mid greyish brown clayey silt. A fragment of burnt shale, a piece of cinder and a sherd

of post-medieval pottery were retrieved from this layer.

#### *Trench 20*

The natural deposit identified in Trench 20 comprised firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (2002) and limestone brash (Figs 10 & 18, Section 74).

A small pit [2004] was cut through the natural and measured 0.60m in diameter by 40mm deep, with shallow sides breaking gradually to an irregular base (Figs 10 & 17, Section 59). The pit was filled with a deposit of soft mid reddish brown silty clay (2003).

The pit was overlain by a 0.29m thick subsoil deposit (2001) of firm mid reddish brown silty clay (Fig 18, Section 74).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.25m thick deposit of friable mid reddish brown silty clay (2000) topsoil. East-west aligned furrows were also present in this trench.

#### *Trench 21*

The natural deposit at the base of this trench was composed of mid yellowish to yellowish brown clay over limestone brash (2103) (Figs 10 & 18, Section 75)

At the southern end of this trench an east-west aligned linear ditch [2112] cut into the natural and measured 0.54m wide by 0.22m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 10 & 16, Section 49). The ditch fill comprised friable mid yellowish brown silty clay (2111).

A probable rounded terminal end of a linear ditch [2110] was cut through the natural near the centre of the trench and measured at least 3m long by 1m wide and 0.34m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Figs 10 & 16, Section 48). The ditch cut was filled with firm mid brownish red silty clay

(2109) with flecks of yellowish brown stone.

A linear ditch [2108] was cut through the natural near the centre of the trench and measured 0.90m in width by 0.31m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 10 & 15, Section 47). The fill of this ditch comprised firm mid reddish brown silty clay (2107) from which a Mesolithic to Early Neolithic prismatic blade was recovered. The ditch was oriented on a northeast to southwest alignment.

A linear cut [2106] on a parallel alignment truncated ditch [2108] on its north side (Figs 10 & 15, Section 47). This later ditch measured at least 2.42m in width by 0.25m deep, with a moderately steep side and an irregular base. Its fill comprised firm yet pliable light to mid brownish yellow clay (2105), 0.18m thick. This ditch was recut by [2113] which was filled by 0.25m thick firm, light to mid yellowish brown, silty clay (2104).

The features in this trench were overlain by a 0.21m thick deposit of firm, light to mid yellowish brown to reddish brown silty clay (2102) subsoil (Fig 18, Section 75).

The subsoil was sealed by a 0.26m thick topsoil (2101) deposit composed of firm, mid brown silty clay.

#### *Trench 22*

The natural in Trench 22 consisted of hard mid yellowish brown and reddish brown clay (2203) (Figs 10 & 18, Section 76).

Three furrows were identified overlain by a 0.20m thick deposit of light to mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (2202) (Fig 18, Section 76).

Overlying the subsoil was a 0.32m thick modern topsoil deposit (2201) of mid

brown clayey silt containing a single fragment of medieval pottery.

#### *Trench 23*

The natural in Trench 23 consisted of limestone brash (2302) (Fig 10).

Cut into the limestone brash was a possible pit [2304] which itself was truncated by a medieval furrow. The possible pit measured at least 0.48m in length by 1.24m wide by 0.32m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base (Figs 10 & 16, Section 54). The pit was filled with firm mid brownish red silty clay (2303) with occasional small limestone fragments.

Near the centre of the trench, a gully or ditch [2306] cut through the natural, oriented approximately east-west and measuring at least 3.76m in length and 0.52m wide by 0.22m deep, with steep irregular sides and an irregular base (Figs 10 & 16, Section 55). The fill of the gully consisted of loose to soft mid brownish yellow silty clay (2305), containing frequent pebbles. A fragment of 17<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe bowl was recovered from this fill.

Two medieval furrows, aligned approximately north-south, were identified in this trench, one of which truncated pit [2304].

A later furrow, on a northeast-southwest alignment, was identified towards the west end of the trench, cutting one of the medieval furrows. This may have been a later horticultural feature.

The furrows were overlain by a 0.30m thick topsoil (2301) deposit of friable mid brown clayey silt.

#### *Trench 24*

The natural deposit encountered at the base of Trench 24 consisted of hard limestone

brash (2403) (Fig 11).

No features were identified in this trench apart from six medieval furrows, aligned north-south.

Overlying the furrows was a 40mm thick deposit of light yellowish brown clayey silt (2402) subsoil (Fig 18, Section 77).

This subsoil was, in turn, sealed by 0.32m thick topsoil (2401) consisting of slightly stoney mid brown clayey silt (2401).

#### *Trench 25*

Natural in Trench 25 comprised mid yellowish brown silty clay (2502) with occasional limestone fragments (Fig 11).

Three east-west medieval furrows cut the natural in this trench.

The furrows were overlain by a 0.20m thick subsoil [2501] deposit of firm mid yellowish brown silty clay (Fig 19, Section 78) (Plate 15).

Modern topsoil [2500] sealed the subsoil deposit and consisted of friable reddish brown silty clay.

#### *Trench 26*

The natural deposit in this trench comprised firm yellowish brown silty clay (2602) (Fig 11).

A circular pit [2604] was cut through the natural near the centre of the trench and measured 0.49m in diameter by 60mm deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs 11 & 17, Section 64). The pit contained a single fill consisting of friable mid reddish brown silty clay (2603).

A total of five east-west medieval furrows were also identified cut through the natural clay.

The pit and furrows were overlain by a 0.22m thick subsoil deposit (2601) of firm mid reddish brown silty clay (Fig 17, Section 79). Above the subsoil was a 0.40m thick layer of friable mid reddish brown silty clay (2600) topsoil.

#### *Trench 27*

The natural in Trench 27 comprised soft mid yellowish brown silty clay (2702) (Fig 11).

The natural was truncated by two medieval furrows. These furrows were overlain by a 0.32m thick subsoil (2701) deposit of firm mid reddish brown silty clay (Fig 19, Section 80).

Overlying the subsoil was a layer of modern topsoil (2700) consisting of friable mid reddish brown silty clay.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

Trenches 1-4 were located in the northeastern area of the site (Fig 3).

A line of post holes oriented approximately north-south was recorded in Trench 3 (Fig 4). This post hole alignment extended in length for at least 45m which suggests that it forms the remains of a fence line rather than a building. The alignment of the fence demarcates an area of playing fields to the east and is in line with the old rugby club building to the south. This suggests the fence line is related to the organisation of this area for sports and is thus fairly recent in date. The alignment also respects a shift in direction of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (recorded by geophysical survey) from roughly east-west to north-south. A fragment of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic prismatic flint blade was recovered from one of the post holes but is almost certainly redeposited.



The sequence of soils overlying the natural in Trenches 3 & 4, relate to the agricultural use of the land and are characterised by subsoil deposits formed as the result of the headland in this area being ploughed out and spread around. Headlands consist of a build up of soil and occur where ridge and furrow agriculture has a change in orientation.

In Trench 4 the furrows were overlain by a subsoil which probably represents a former ploughsoil containing bank material from the ridge and furrow agriculture. The subsoil here contained two fragments of clay pipe stem dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. As with Trench 3, a former topsoil overlay the subsoil which was in turn sealed by a recent topsoil deposit. The modern topsoil was probably brought in as a levelling deposit for landscaping the sports pitches to the south and east.

A rectangular pit containing a cow skeleton was cut through the former topsoil deposit (301) in Trench 3, which suggests a recent date for the animal burial.

Trenches 5-8 were located along the northern edge of the site (Fig 3).

Three possible pits of sub-oval shape were identified in Trench 5. One of these at least was of some antiquity, as it was truncated by a medieval furrow. The similarity in form of the three features suggests they may be contemporary, however, they yielded no finds or dateable evidence to confirm this.

A long and relatively narrow linear cut was observed in Trench 6. Its form and function remain unclear and although a fragment of stone quern was recovered from the fill it could not provide a date.

Trench 7 revealed an undated ditch, while in Trench 8 an undated possible pit/ditch

terminus and discrete post hole were recorded.

Trenches 9 & 9a were located in the northwestern corner of the site in the vicinity of at least one barrow recorded by the geophysical survey. The extensions to the trench were a result of the discovery of a cremation in this area.

The cremation [903] within a Bronze Age collared urn was revealed in the northern end of Trench 9 (Fig 6). Much of the cremated bone was heavily fragmented and unidentifiable, but a number of the fragments and teeth can be confidently identified to sheep or goat (Rackham, Appendix 3). These probably all derive from a single animal. It should be noted that prehistoric sheep cremations are not common, although they do occur. The distal epiphyses of the metapodials were unfused indicating that the animal was immature when it died or was killed (Rackham, Appendix 4). The lack of charcoal in the samples suggests that the bones were selected from a pyre before interment in the pot.

The collared urn was incomplete and recovered in pieces. The urn is decorated with twisted cord impressions forming a herringbone motif on the collar and upper body, stopping below the shoulder. The urn is well made and has been finely finished. The form and decoration of the urn is very similar to an example from Earl Shilton, Leicestershire, some 45km west of Oakham (Longworth 1984, 853). Recent archaeological investigations at Cossington, c.30km west of Oakham, recovered four complete urns, including one with comparable decoration (Thomas 2008, 9). Further collared urns, also with twisted cord decoration, have also been found at Sproxton 17km north of Oakham (*ibid*, 30).

The collared urn may have been placed as a secondary burial in a barrow mound, however, the accompanying ring ditch has not survived. The collared urns found at nearby Cossington were secondary burials inserted into a barrow mound and it is probable that this example is from a similar secondary burial deposit. A previous investigation 45m to the north (Mellor 2011) revealed a barrow that was characterised by poor ditch preservation, so the notion that the ring ditch may not have survived here, especially given the prevalence of deep medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, is not outlandish. There are two other barrows in the immediate vicinity. A double concentric ring ditched Bronze Age barrow was recorded in Trenches 10-12 just to the northeast, with the partial remains of a probable second round barrow adjacent to the first (Fig 3).

Just to the southeast of the cremation, were two possible ditch cuts. The earliest of these [914], was cut by the other [916], which in turn was truncated by a medieval furrow. The status of these two features as 'possible' ditch cuts is due to their very flat and relatively wide bases. Feature [914] had a fill containing some burnt stone and a Bronze Age flint flake suggesting a possible date. Feature [916] contained a large assemblage of animal bone along with a flint flake and a fragment of Bronze Age pottery. This further suggests a Bronze Age date for these features and raises the possibility of a connection with the cremation just to the northwest. It may be possible that these features represent the remains of a recut and reworked barrow ditch associated with the deposition of the nearby sheep/goat cremation. A fragment of bone from a small mammal and a total of sixteen sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the medieval furrow which truncated feature [916] but this material is clearly redeposited and probably associated with the cremation and possible

barrow. One of the sherds from the furrow may be from a food vessel or undecorated collared urn. Both types of pottery are found in funerary contexts and indeed, a food vessel was found associated with the primary burial in the barrow excavated to the north (Mellor 2011).

A probable pit [920] (truncated by a medieval furrow) in Trench 9a contained six sherds of Bronze Age pottery and is probably related to the possible barrow and cremation in this area as the Bronze Age pottery from this context and from the whole of the site assemblage (with one exception) is almost certainly derived from funerary vessels (Percival, Appendix 3).

A ditch [911] in the southeastern extension of Trench 9 is dated tentatively to the medieval period due to a single fragment of Stamford Ware pottery recovered from its fill. A small undated pit was also identified in the southeastern extension of Trench 9.

A concentration of undated iron objects was revealed in the subsoil of Trench 9 and suggests the possibility that some form of smithing activity was taking place in the area.

Trenches 10-12 were located over the geophysical signal of a Bronze Age barrow with a double concentric ring ditch and an adjacent partial ring ditch which probably represents another barrow (Fig 3).

The outer ditch of the barrow identified from the geophysical survey was recorded in Trenches 10 and 11 where it was assigned context numbers [1003], [1009] and [1105] (Fig 7). The diameter of the outer ditch measured roughly 26.50m. A prehistoric flint core and a sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery were the only artefacts recovered from it. The inner ditch [1005], [1007], [1103] and [1118] had an internal diameter of roughly 20m and was

truncated by a medieval furrow. Three sherds of prehistoric pottery and a flint core which had been extensively flaked were retrieved from the inner ring ditch. No features were revealed in the area of Trench 10 that lay within the barrow.

A second barrow may have been located adjacent to the first on its eastern side, but only partially survives. This was recorded by geophysical survey and in Trench 11 where ditch [1107] matched up with the survey and had the correct morphology (Fig 7). In plan it is almost a mirror image to ring ditch [1105].

It is also possible that [1112] is part of the ring ditch as well. Although it appears somewhat straight in comparison to [1107], it remains possible that this might be a slight irregularity in the circular shape of the ditch.

Ditch [1226] may also form part of the ring ditch of this second barrow, but due to truncation by a medieval furrow, it remains difficult to be certain. However, its placement suggests this ring ditch would have overlapped with the first barrow, which is somewhat improbable.

A single sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery was retrieved from ring ditch [1107], while no finds were recovered from [1112] or [1226].

Within what may have been the inside of the ring ditch was a cluster of four pits, a possible small pit or post hole and a linear gully or ditch which truncated two of the pits. A single sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery was retrieved from one of the pits which gives a tentative date and suggests a similar chronology for the other pits and possible post hole. The linear gully [1204] or narrow ditch probably extended through the ring ditch which would suggest a later date for it and indeed, a fragment of post-medieval clay pipe was recovered from the

fill along with a piece of burnt stone and a fragment of cattle scapula.

Three undated pits (two of them intercutting) were recorded in the southern end of Trench 12 and would have been external to the barrow ring ditch.

Trenches 13-17 were located to the south of the barrows in the southwestern area of the site (Fig 3). A number of undated features were revealed in Trenches 13 and 14 including a linear gully, four ditches and a possible pit or ditch terminus (Fig 9). Trenches 15 and 16 were blank while Trench 17 contained one undated curvilinear ditch (Fig 9).

Trenches 18-19 were located in the central area of the site and contained a number of undated features including four ditches a pit and an ovoid feature. The trenches were extended in order to further characterise some of the features (Fig 9). The extension in Trench 18 revealed east-west oriented ditch [1914] to have a C-shaped terminal end giving the ditch a 'candy cane' shape in plan. Although this is a somewhat novel form, the purpose of the ditch remains unclear. A medieval furrow either cut or was itself truncated by this feature but the relationship could not be identified.

To the west, an ovoid furnace/industrial feature [1907] was revealed. The fill of this feature contained the remains of a flue and collapsed fragments of furnace superstructure. A post hole cut through the feature was probably associated with later activity.

In the southern end of Trench 19 curvilinear ditch [1918] was only partially exposed but was semi-circular in shape. This was of undetermined date and condition, though its size, 3.2m diameter, would imply that it was too small to be a ring ditch associated with a barrow or native-style building.

Trenches 20-27 were located in the southeastern quadrant of the site (Fig 3). Trenches 22, 24, 25 & 27 did not reveal any archaeological features other than evidence of medieval cultivation identified across the whole site.

A single undated post hole was revealed in Trench 20. Trench 21 contained an east-west oriented ditch, an ovoid pit or terminal end of a linear ditch and a southwest-northeast oriented ditch [2108] which was truncated by a ditch [2106] on a parallel alignment. The fill of ditch [2108] contained a Mesolithic to Early Neolithic prismatic blade, but this may well be residual as a second example of this type of tool was found in the fill of a recent post hole in Trench 3. The fill of [2106] contained a fragment of 17<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe, suggesting a post medieval date for this feature which could well be a recut of [2108].

Trench 23 contained an undated gully and a probable pit which was truncated by a medieval furrow, while Trench 26 contained a discrete undated post hole.

It is interesting to note that a significant amount of burnt stone was present throughout most of the site, indicating the presence of fires, hearths and other high temperature processes.

The worked flint assemblage was mostly derived from redeposited contexts. Two fragments of prismatic blade and a core are probably Mesolithic to Early Neolithic in date, while the rest are more typically Bronze Age. As a whole the assemblage is comparable in size and character with other assemblages in the vicinity, which have revealed extensive, if not intensive, multi-period occupation throughout the prehistoric period (Appendix 3).

The Early Bronze Age pottery all derives from the northwestern corner of the site in

the area of the barrows and cremation. The assemblage of mainly collared urns and perhaps a fragment of food vessel is almost certainly derived from accessory or cremation vessels originally placed in a barrow mound and subsequently disturbed. The only non-funerary pottery may be the shell-tempered sherds from (1005) of the barrow ditch, which are of Iron Age or later date. This may suggest that the barrow was slighted by agricultural activity in the later Iron Age or Roman period, when these sherds were incorporated into the ditch fill.

Single sherds of Roman and Saxon pottery were recovered from topsoil, along with a small amount of medieval pottery. The assemblage also contained post-medieval ceramics.

Remains of medieval ridge and furrow were revealed across the whole of the site (Fig 3) in a previous geophysical survey (Malone 2010) and were recorded in every trench.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land off Main Road, Barleythorpe, near Oakham, Rutland. This was part of a larger development where previous work has already taken place. The investigation area constitutes Phases 9 and 10 of the present development on land that was previously agricultural show ground and playing fields.

The area is archaeologically sensitive with previous investigations in the immediate vicinity revealing a Bronze Age barrow containing burials and grave goods, including a complete food vessel. A previous geophysical survey (Malone 2010) at the investigation site revealed curvilinear anomalies that were thought to represent barrows along with linear and

pit-like features located in the northwestern corner of the site.

Trenching in this area revealed a barrow with a double concentric ring ditch. The probable partial remains of a second barrow were recorded adjacent to the first, while a sheep/goat cremation within a collared urn was uncovered further to the west. The collared urn was probably originally placed as a secondary burial in a barrow mound; this suggests that a third barrow may have existed here, but does not survive.

To the east of this locus for funerary activity were the partial remains of a furnace/industrial feature. The dating of this feature is problematic due to lack of finds, but its existence attests to high temperature activities being carried out at the site.

Many of the features uncovered during the evaluation remain undated. These include pits and ditches for the most part with occasional discrete post holes.

Medieval ridge and furrow was recorded across the whole of the site, while post-medieval pottery recovered from topsoil deposits probably derives from manuring scatters which indicate the lands continued in agricultural use after the medieval period.

A north-south alignment of post holes located in the northeastern area of the site is probably recent as it demarcates the edge of the modern playing fields.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

Drury. Elizabeth Bates kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
 Site Staff: Fiona Walker, Chris Moulis, Andrew Failes, Maria Gale, Andy Pascoe, Steve Thompson  
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
 Archiving: Sarah Pritchard  
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Illustration: Andrew Failes  
 Post-excavation Analyst: Andrew Failes

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## **11. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS	Archaeological Project Services
GSGB	Geological Survey of Great Britain
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
OS	Ordnance Survey



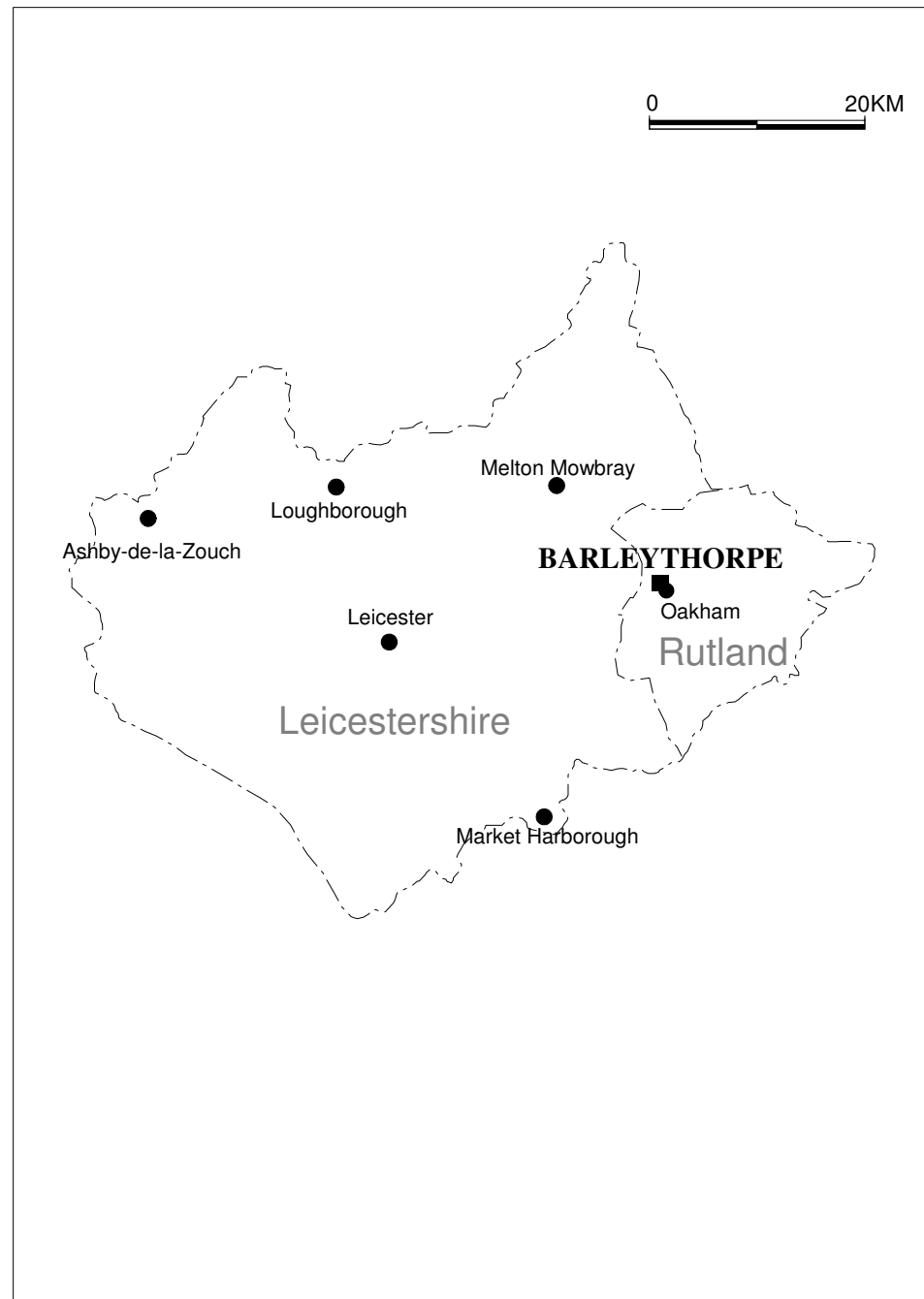
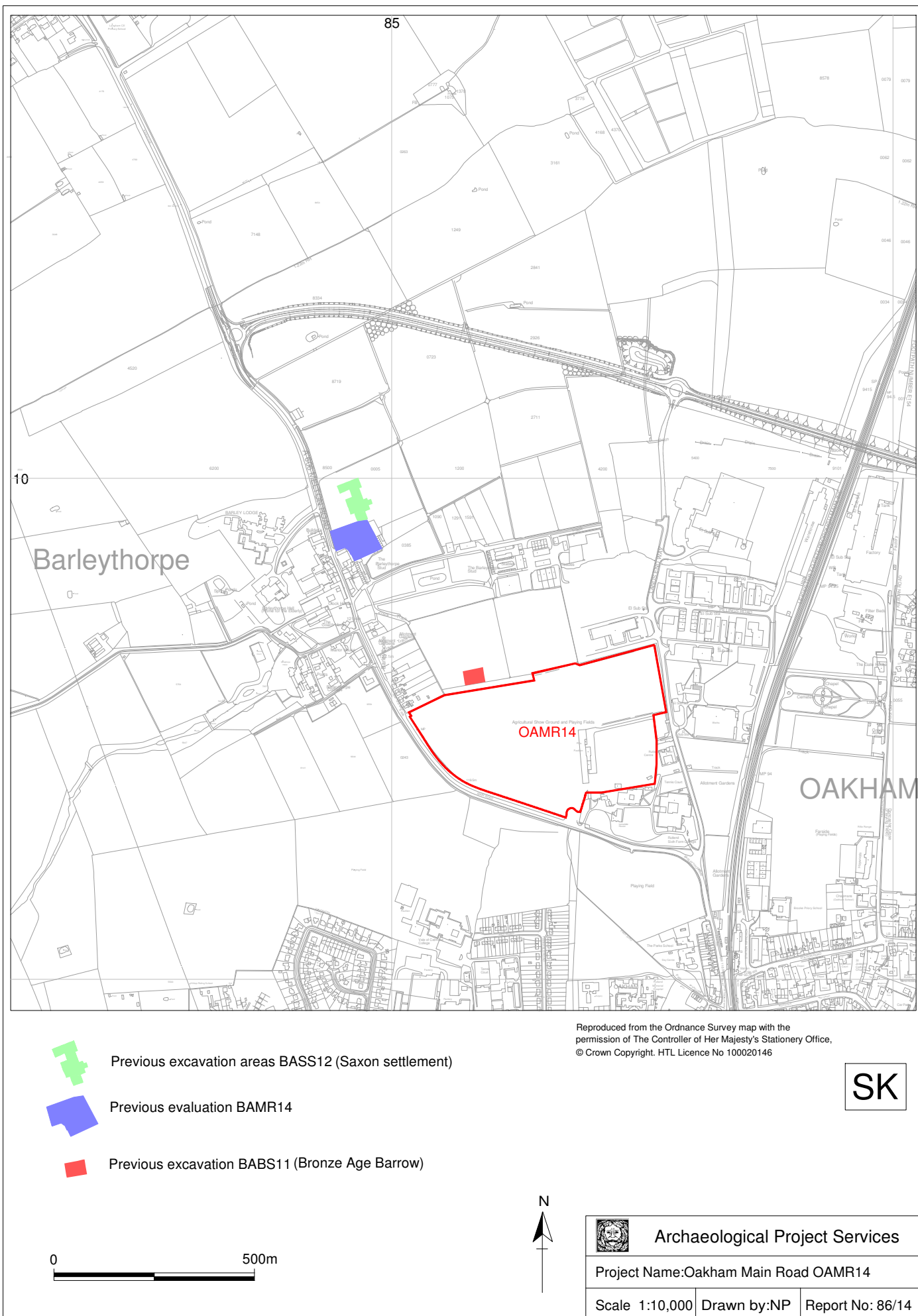


Figure 1 General location plan









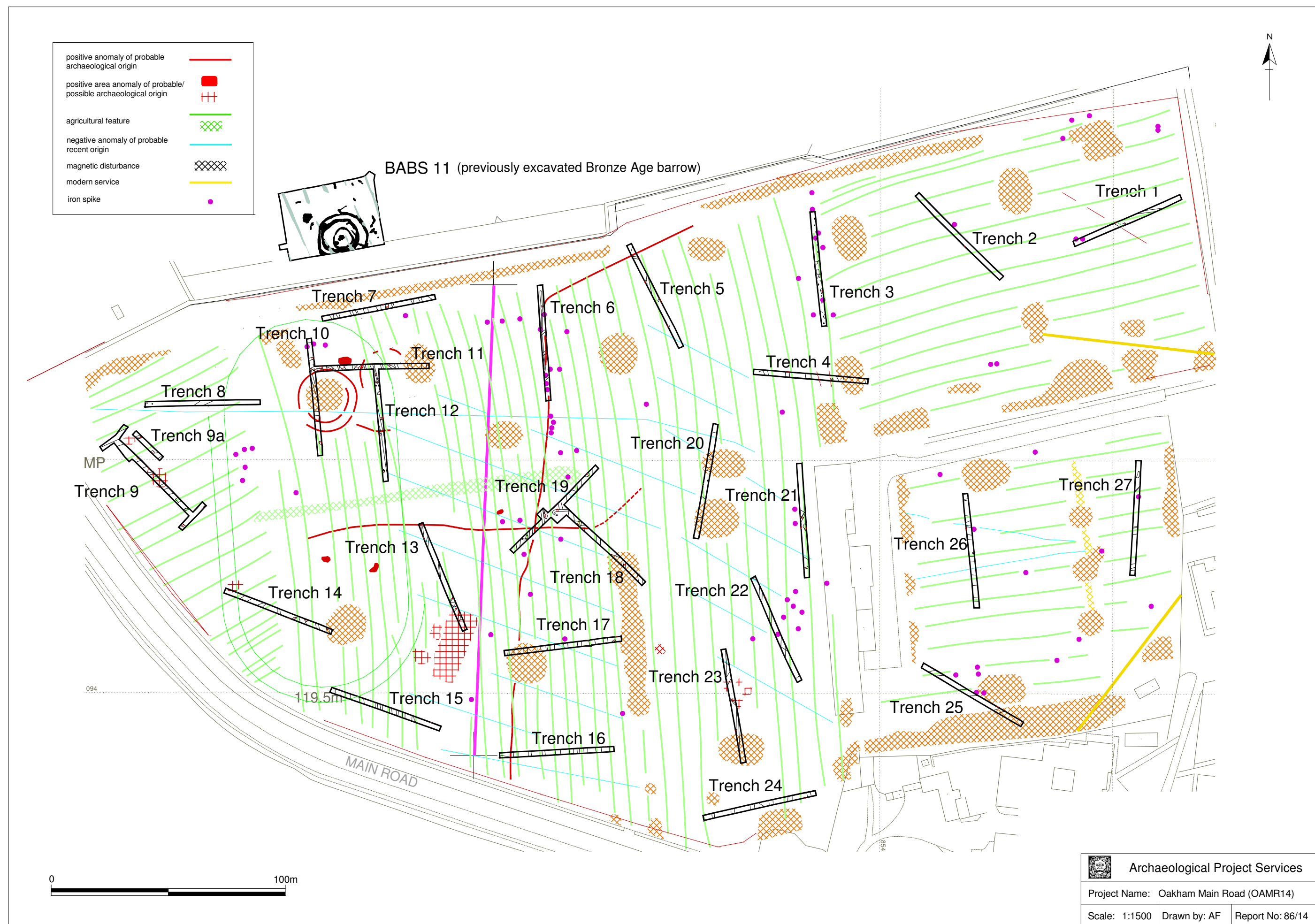


Figure 3 - Trench location with geophysical survey results overlain



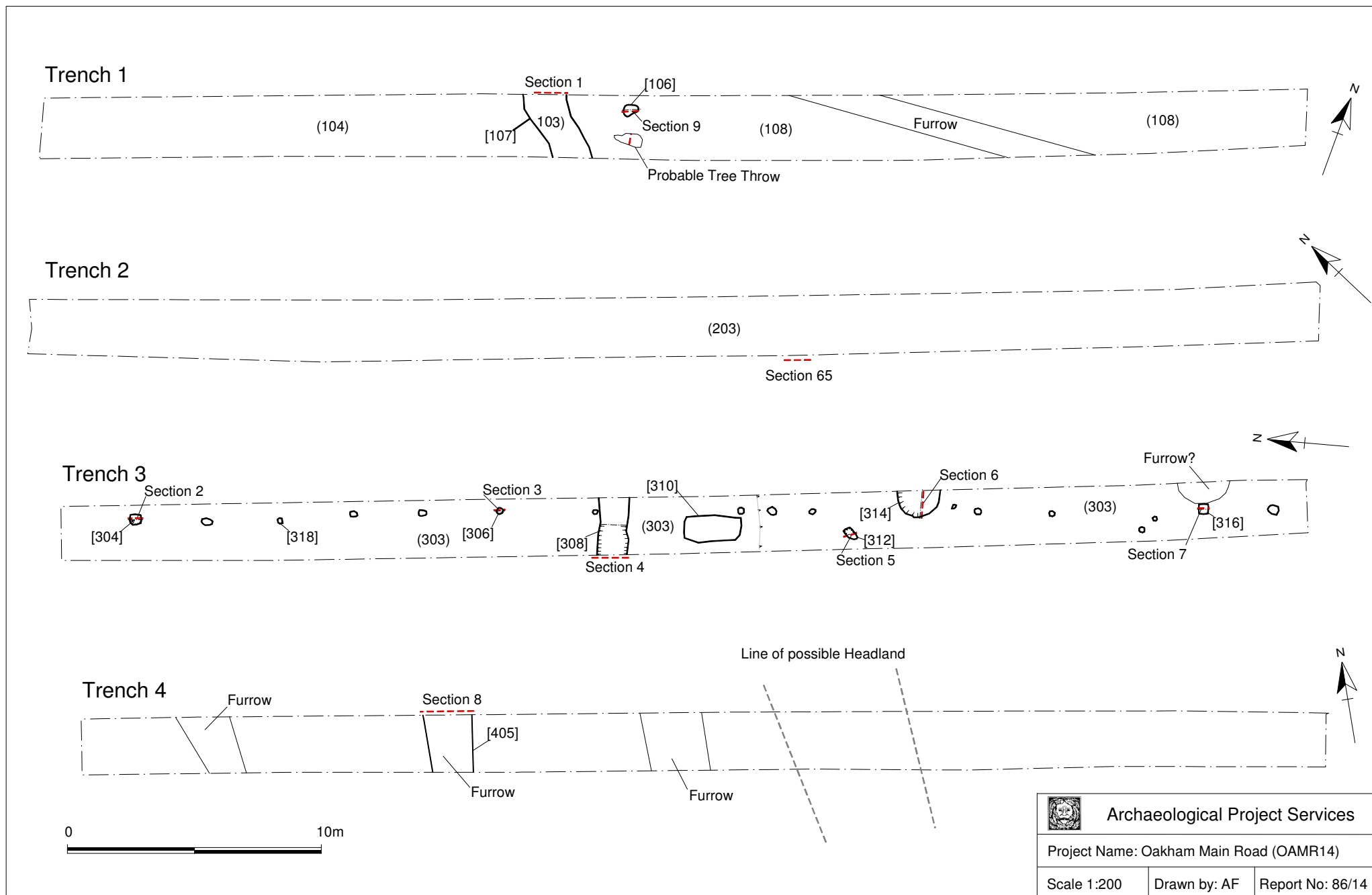


Figure 4 - Plan of Trenches 1-4



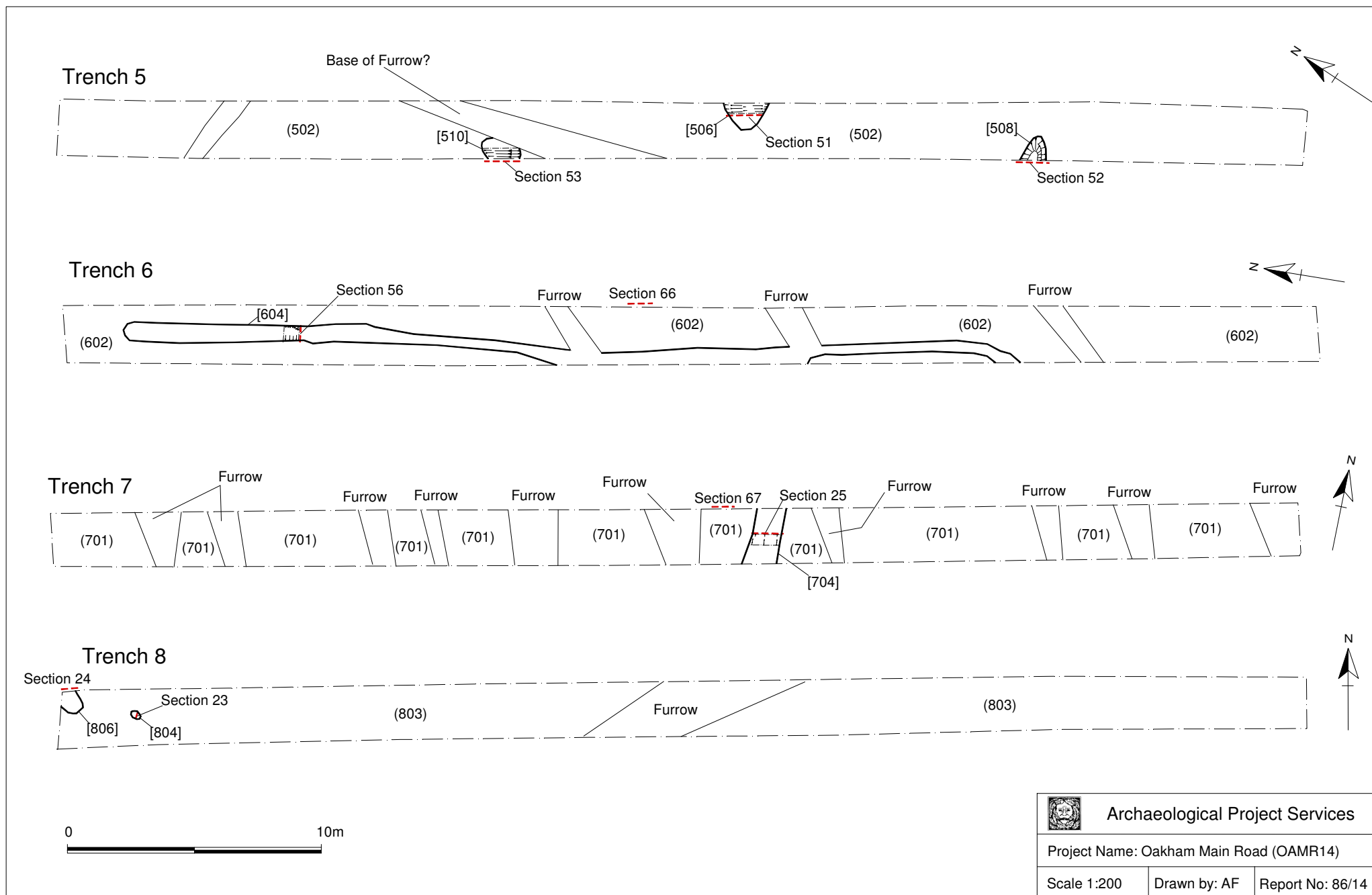


Figure 5 - Plan of Trenches 5-8





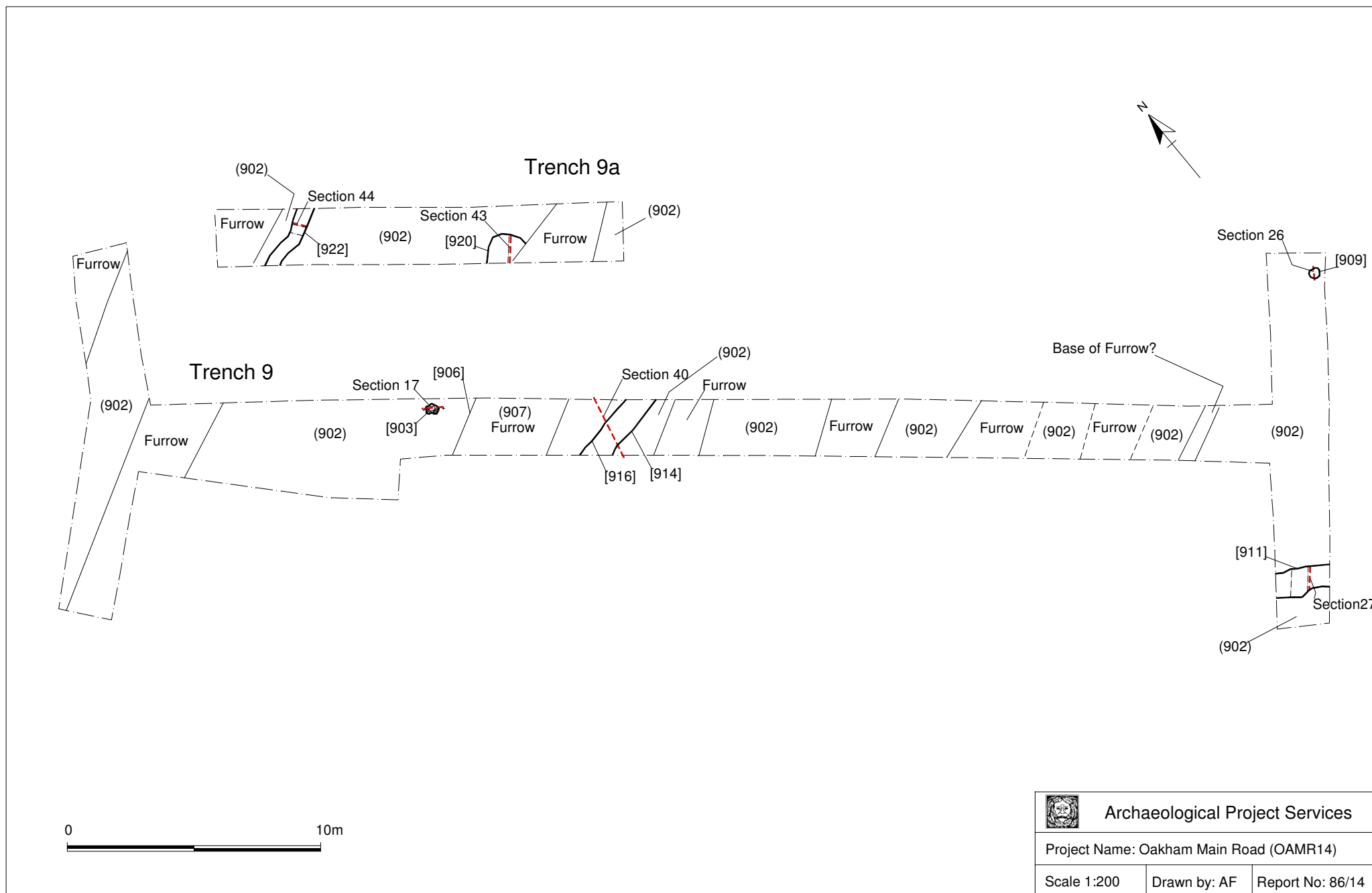


Figure 6 - Plan of Trenches 9, 9a



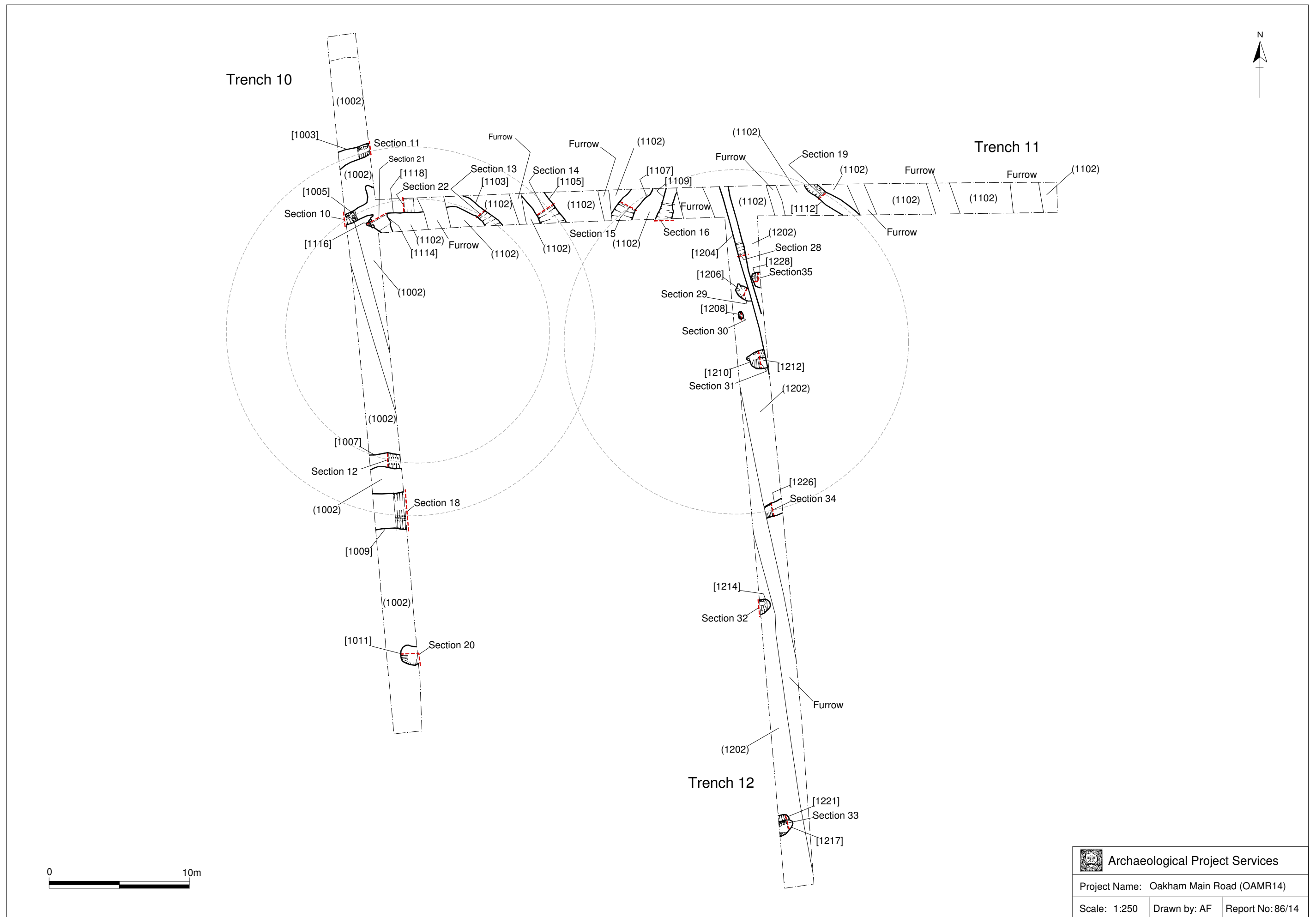


Figure 7 - Plan of Trenches 10, 11 & 12



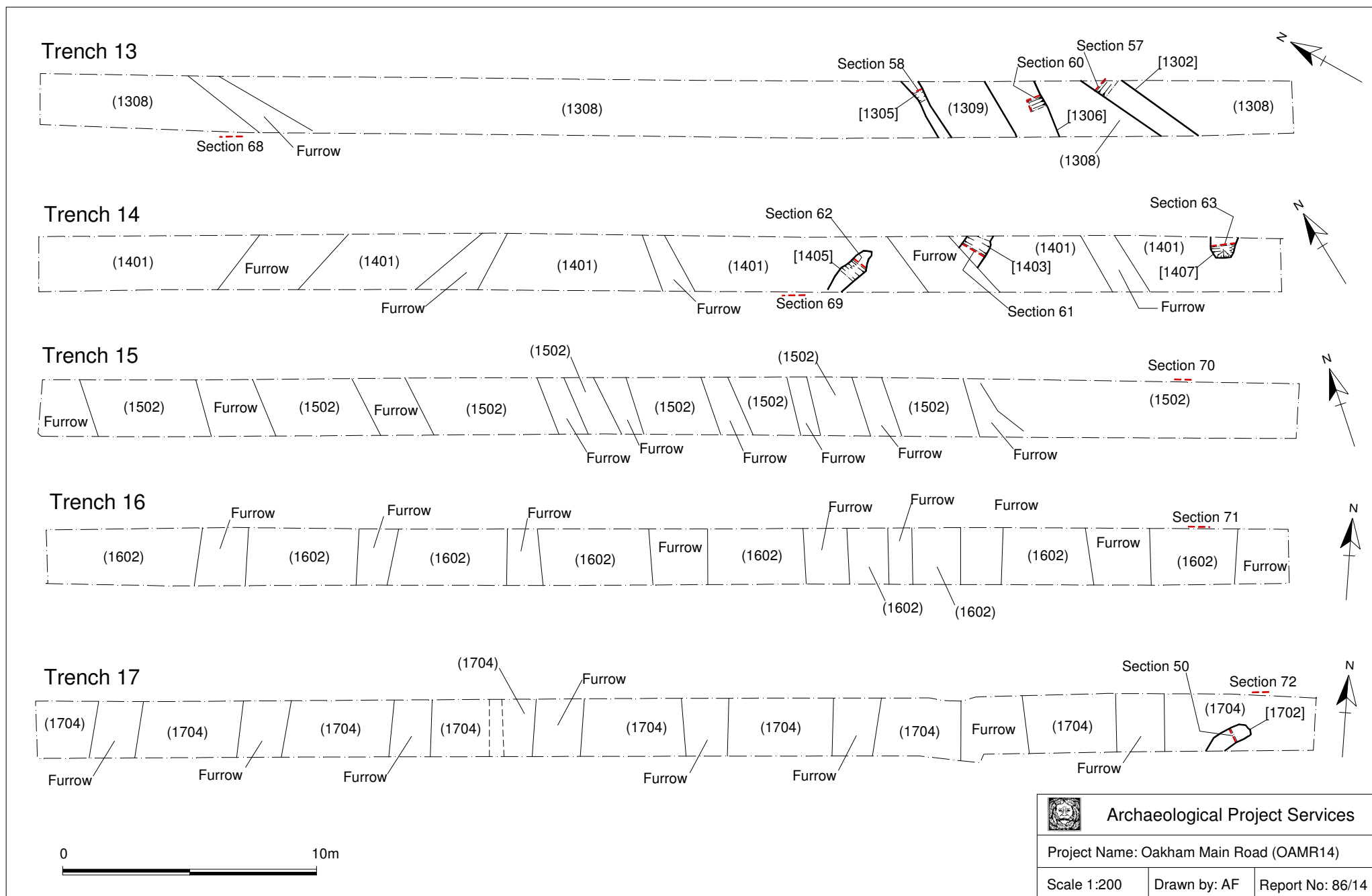


Figure 8 - Plan of Trenches 13-17



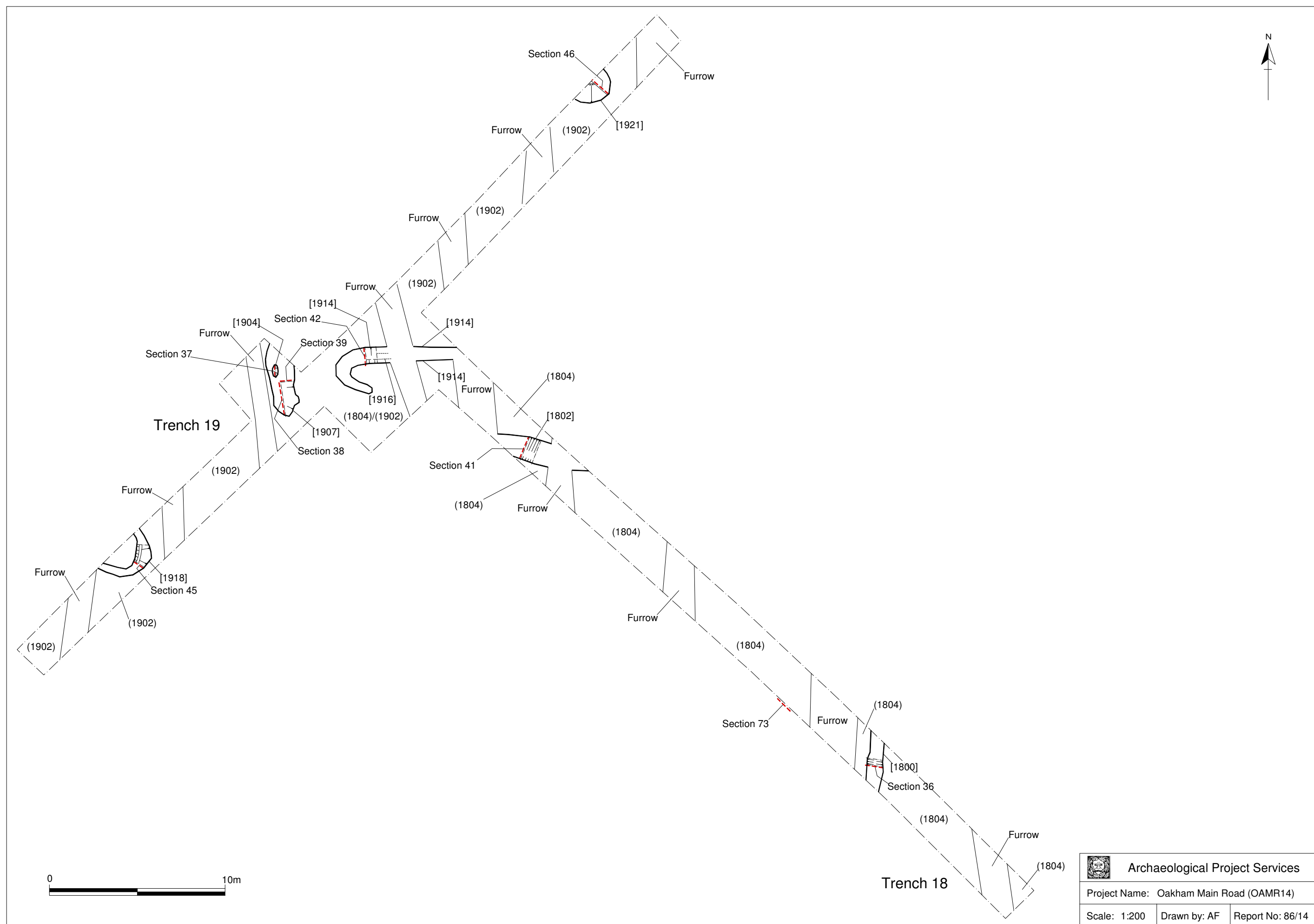


Figure 9 - Plan of Trenches 18 & 19





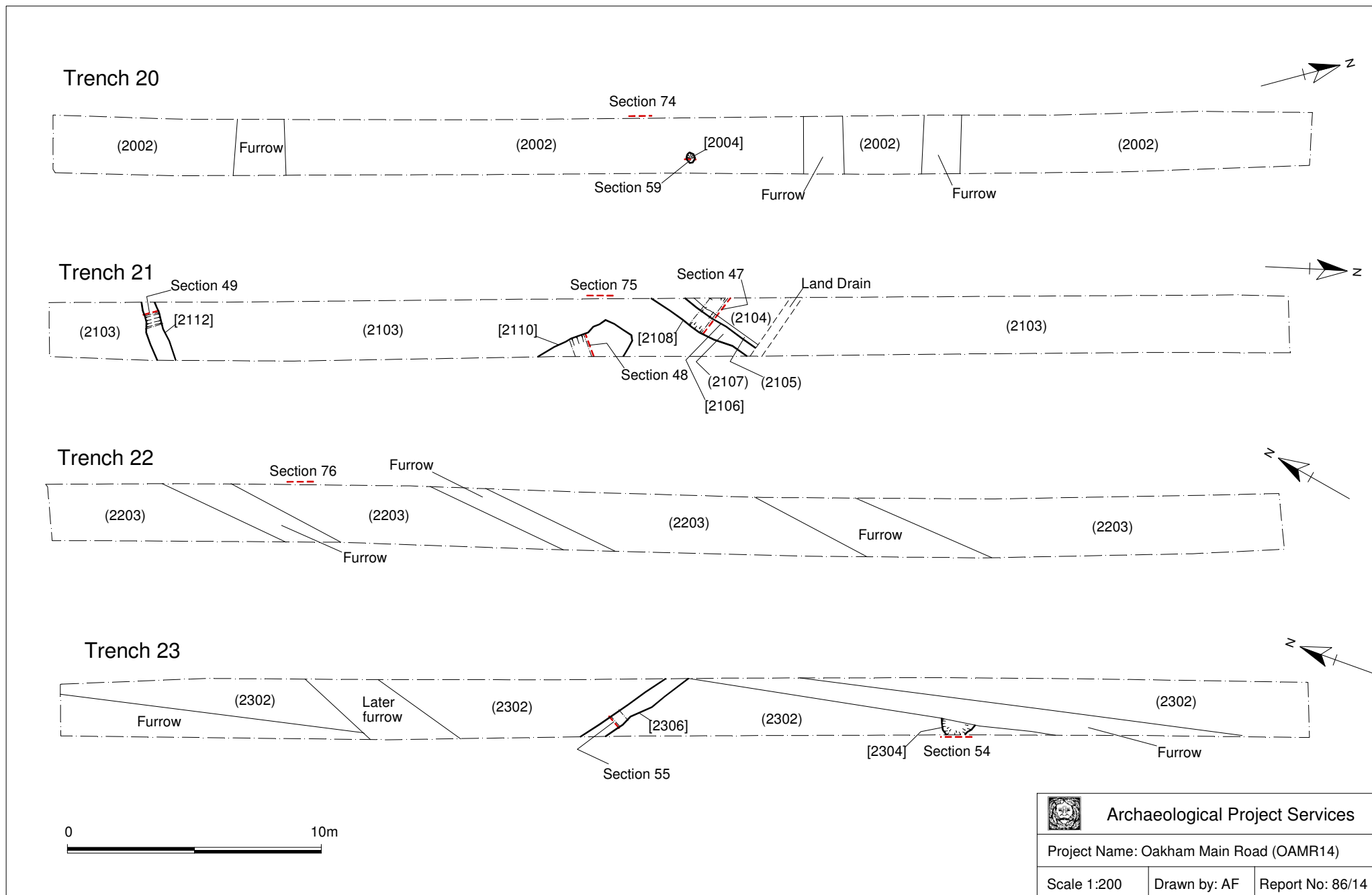


Figure 10 - Plan of Trenches 20-23



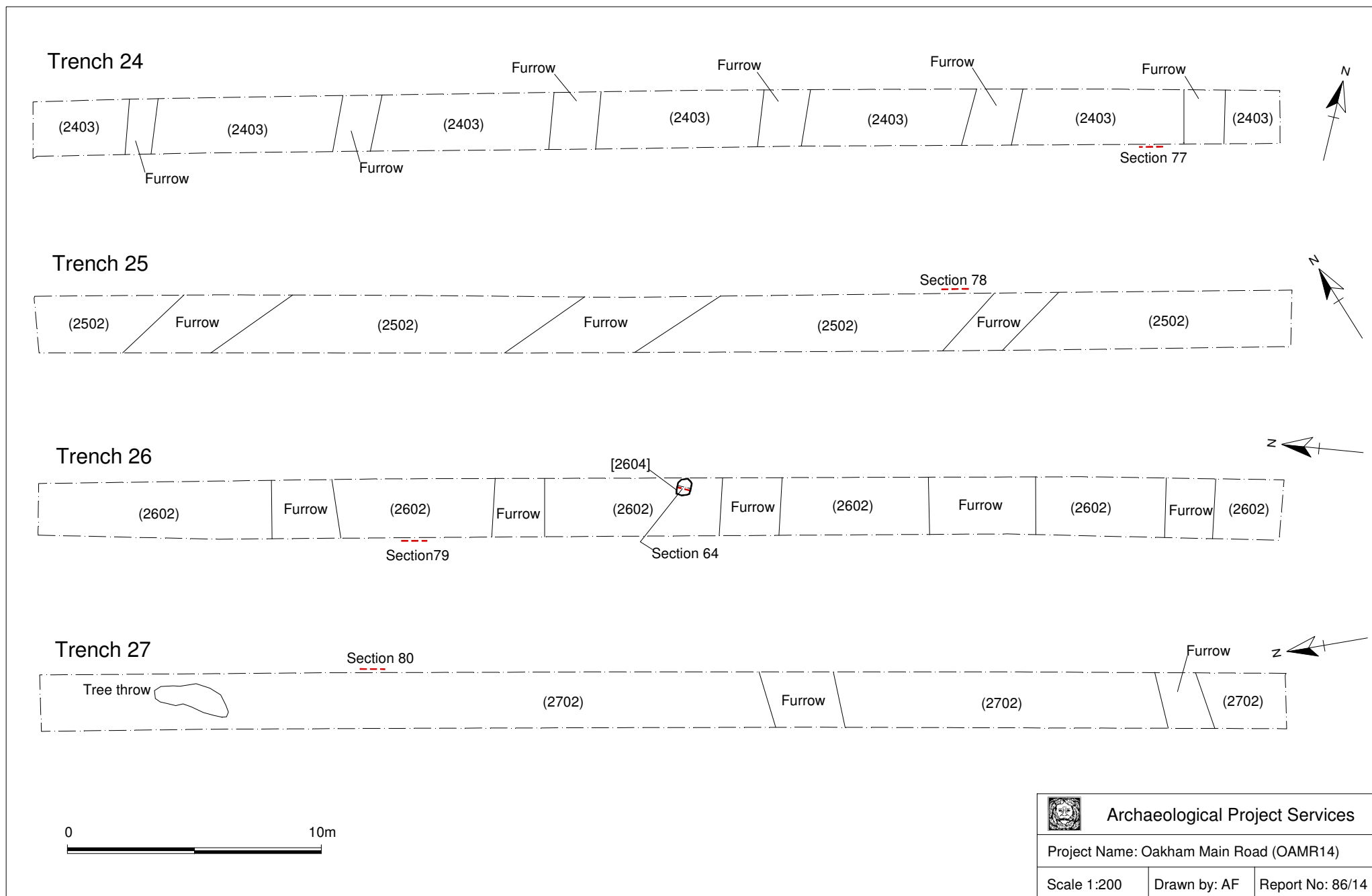


Figure 11 - Plan of Trenches 24-27



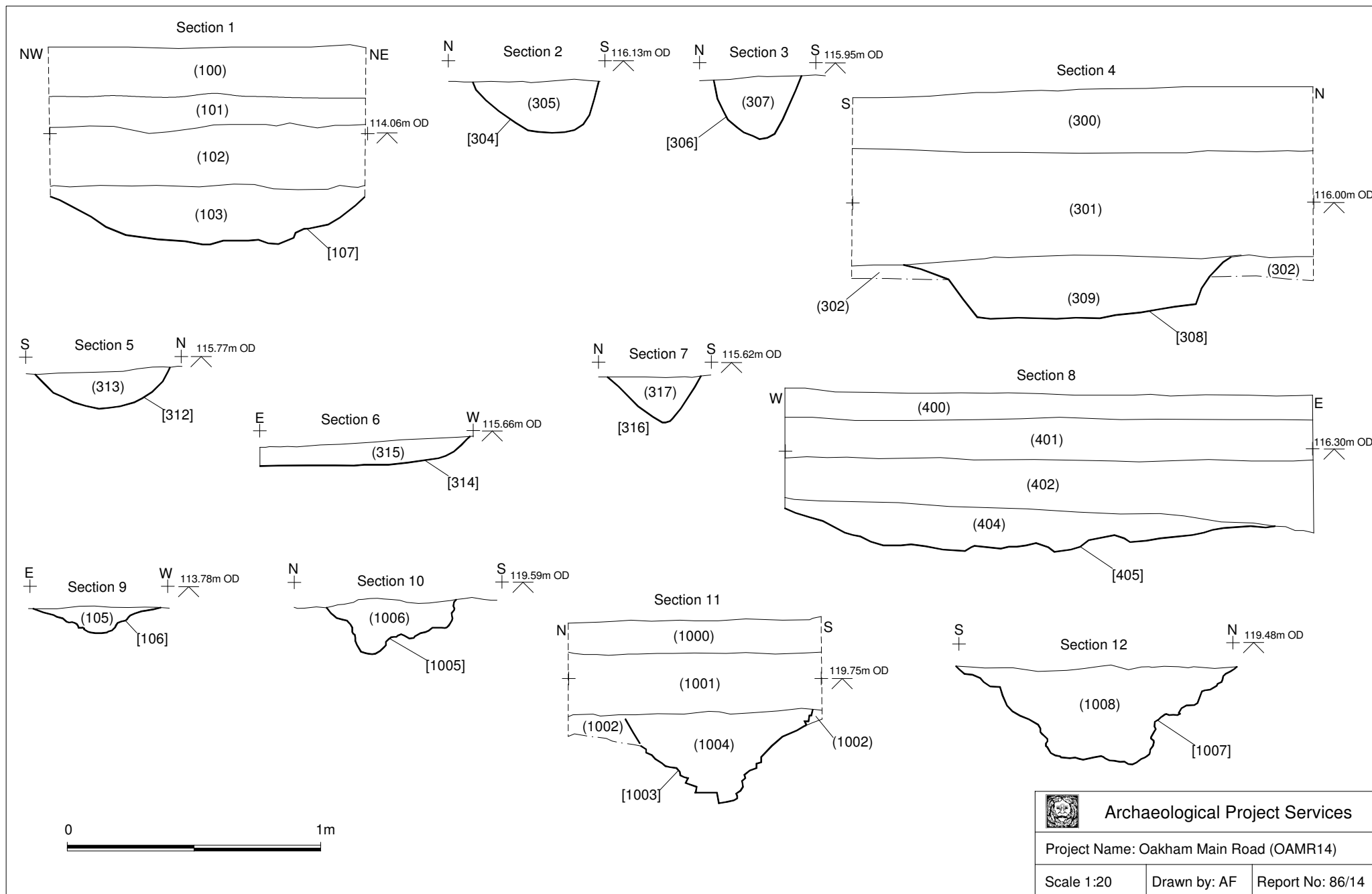


Figure 12 - Sections 1-12



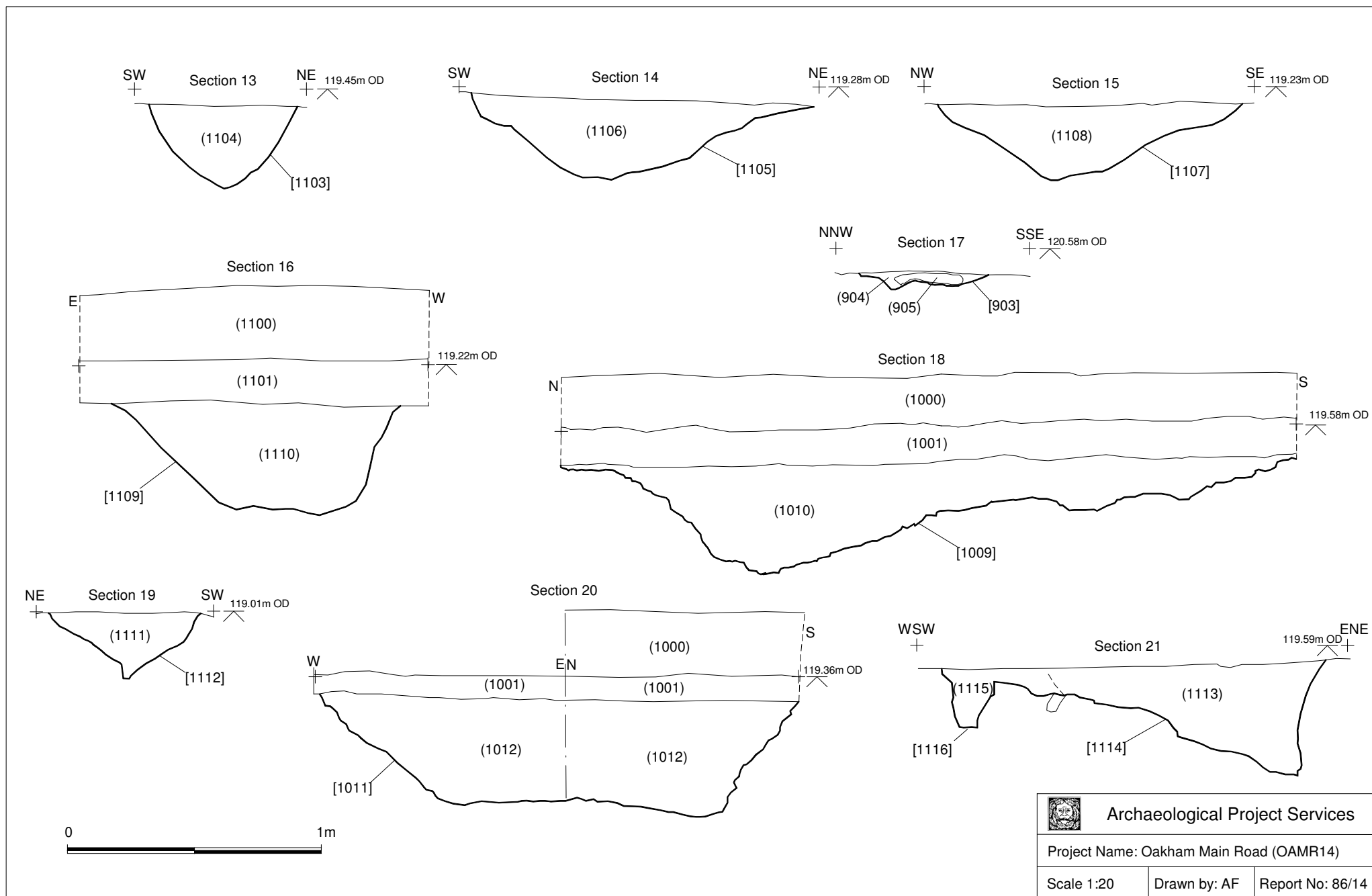


Figure 13 - Section 13-21





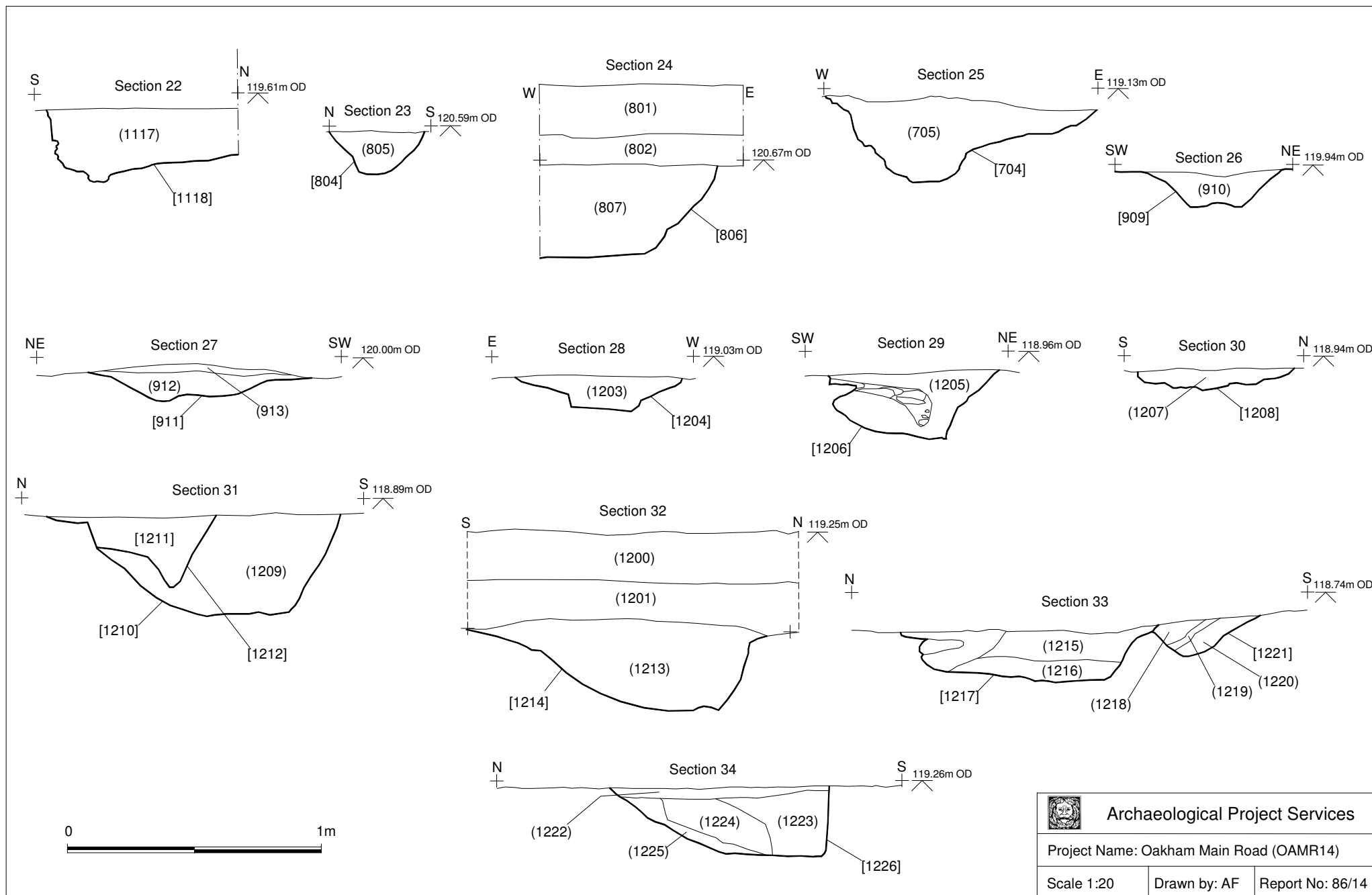


Figure 14 - Sections 22-34



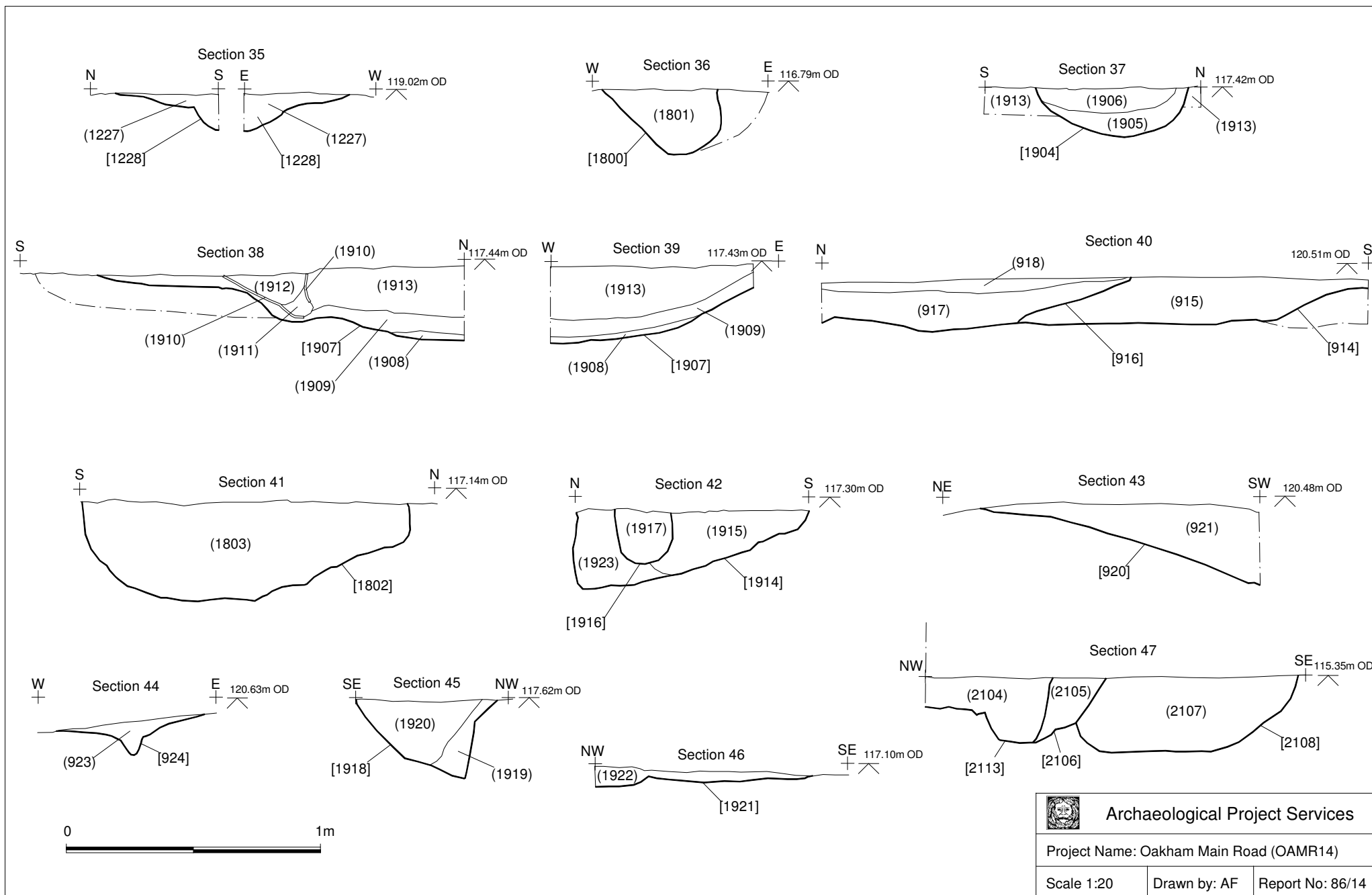


Figure 15 - Sections 35-47



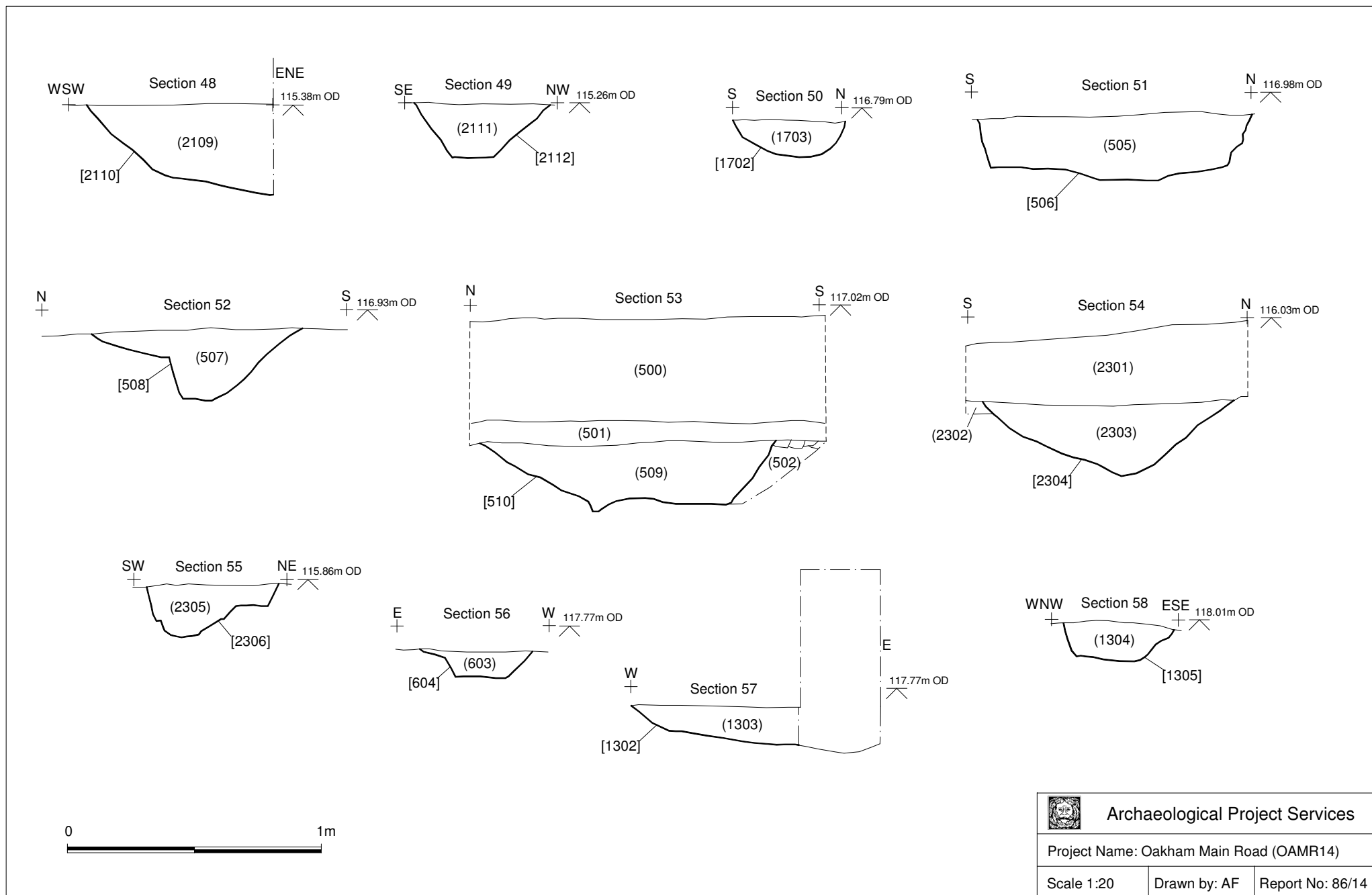
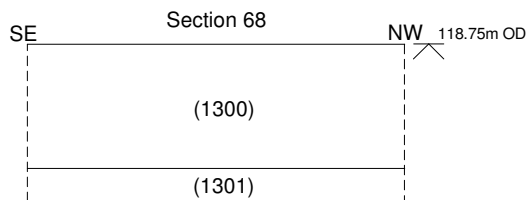
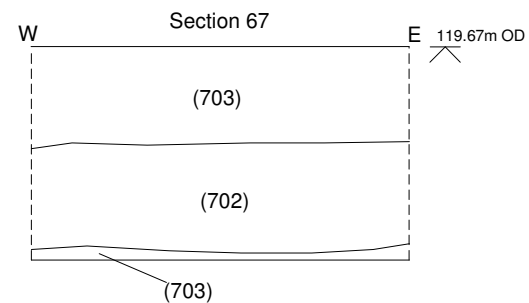
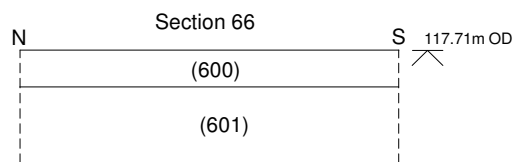
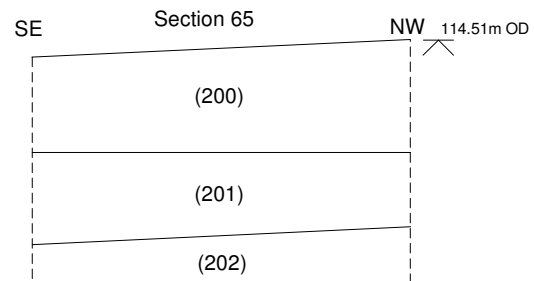
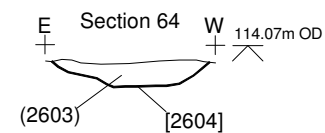
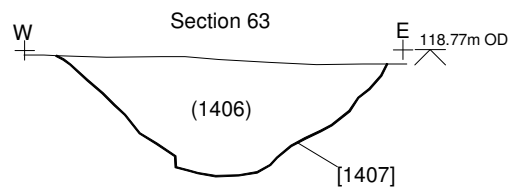
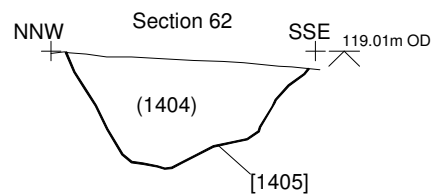
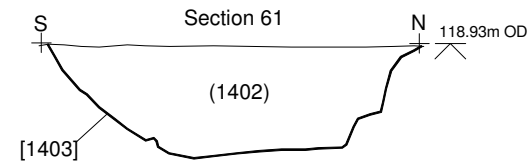
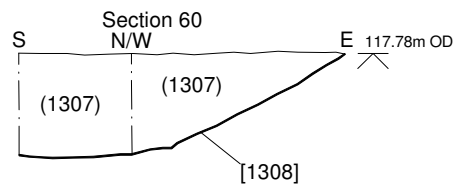
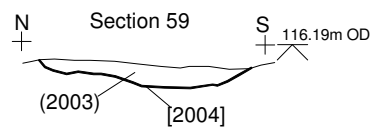


Figure 16 - Sections 48-58





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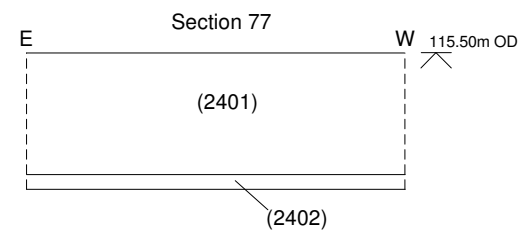
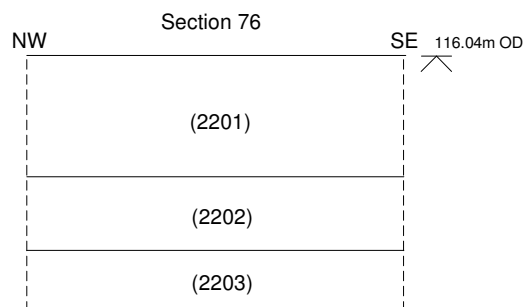
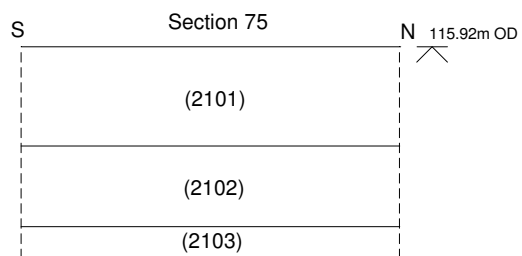
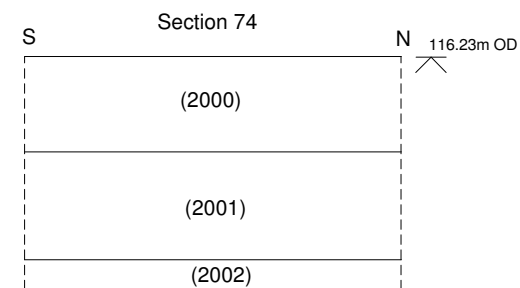
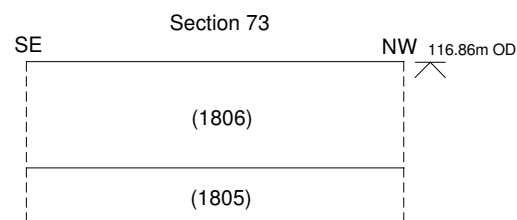
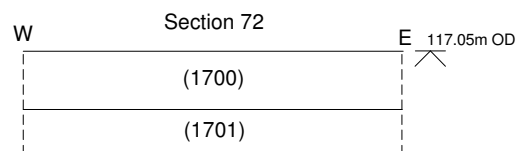
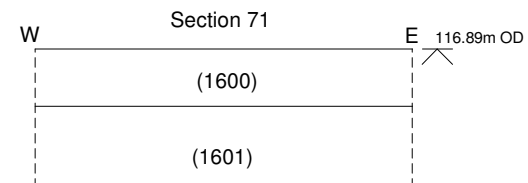
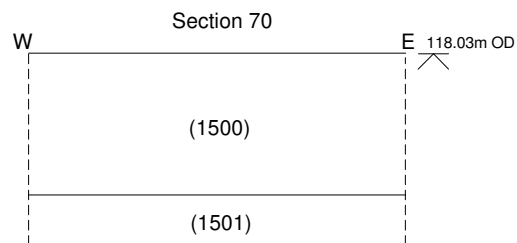
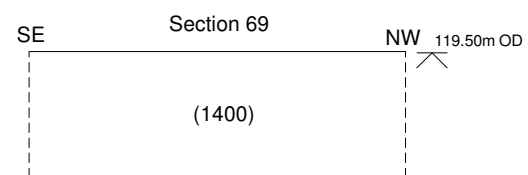
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Figure 17 - Section 59-68







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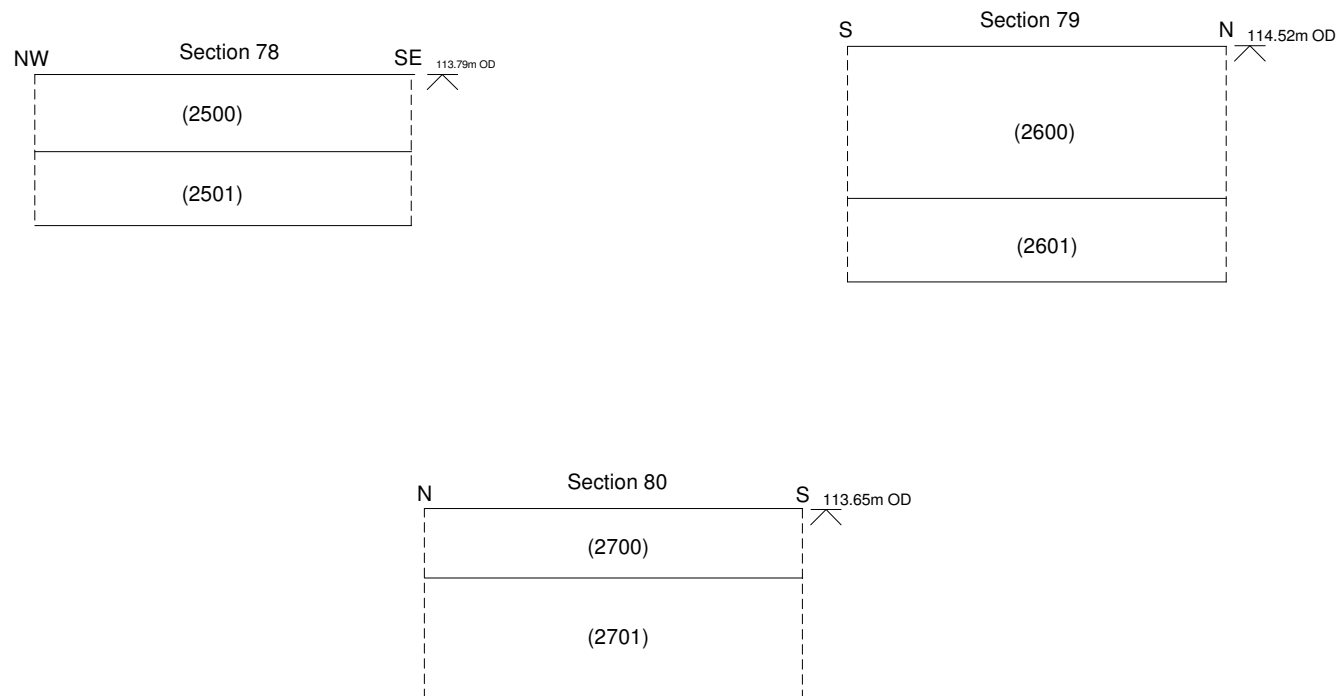
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Figure 18 - Sections 69-77





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Figure 19 - Sections 78-80



Plate 1 – Post hole [306], Section 3



Plate 2 – Cattle burial [310], Trench 3



Plate 3 – In-situ sheep/goat cremation [903], Trench 9



Plate 4 – Inner barrow ring ditch [1005], Section 10



Plate 5 – Feature [1114] and post hole group [1116], Trench 11



Plate 6 – Inner barrow ring ditch [1007], Section 12





Plate 7 – Outer barrow ditch [1003], Section 11



Plate 8 – Outer barrow ditch [1105], Section 14



Plate 9 – Possible barrow ditch [1107], Section 15



Plate 10 – View of heat affected deposits within furnace/industrial feature [1907]



Plate 11 – Furnace/industrial feature [1907], Section 38



Plate 12 – Furnace/industrial feature [1907], Section 38, showing part of possible flue in section





Plate 13 - Furnace/industrial feature [1907], Section 39



Plate 14- Representative section: Trench 2, Section 65



Plate 15 – Representative section: Trench 25: Section 78

## **Appendix 1**

### **Specification for Archaeological Evaluation of Land off Main Road, Oakham (Barleythorpe Area) Rutland**

#### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land off Main Road, Barleythorpe, near Oakham, Rutland.*
- 1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive. Previous investigations in the immediate proximity of the present site revealed a Bronze Age barrow containing burials with grave goods, including a complete Food Vessel. In addition, geophysical survey of the present site revealed curvilinear anomalies that probably represent further barrows. Other linear and pit-like features were also recorded by the geophysics. In addition, Roman remains have been identified to the south of the area.*
- 1.3 A programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required at the site.*
- 1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

#### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological field evaluation of land off Main Road, Barleythorpe, near Oakham, Rutland.
- 2.2 The document contains the following parts:
  - 2.2.1 Overview
  - 2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting
  - 2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used
  - 2.2.4 List of specialists
  - 2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

#### **3 SITE LOCATION**

- 3.1 Barleythorpe is located 1.5km northwest of Oakham in the county of Rutland. Situated on the southeastern edge of the village, the investigation area is Phases 9 and 10 of the present development and is on land that was the agricultural show ground and playing fields, located on the northeast side of Main Road at SK 853 095.

#### **4 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A planning application (2014/0581/RES) was submitted to Rutland County Council for residential development of the site. A programme of archaeological evaluation is required. Should the evaluation reveal significant archaeological remains then further investigation or mitigation measures may be necessary.

## 5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The site is on a fairly level land at 119m OD. The site is on Banbury Association loamy ferritic brown earths on shattered ironstone (Hodge *et al.* 1984).

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 Previous archaeological investigations immediately to the north have identified remains of prehistoric and later date (Holt and Cope-Faulkner 2008). A Bronze Age barrow which contained two burials was identified just beyond the northern boundary of the present site. These two burials were accompanied by grave goods, an array of flints around the skull of one skeleton and a complete Food Vessel with the other (Mellor 2011). Geophysical survey of the present site recorded curvilinear magnetic anomalies including concentric rings and other arcing features which probably represent further Bronze Age barrows. Other linear and pit-type anomalies were also recorded within the present site (Malone 2010). In addition, evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlement has been identified just to the southwest of the present site.

## 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 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

- 8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

## 9 TRIAL TRENCHING

### 9.1 Reasoning for this technique

- 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 9.1.2 The trial trenching has been specified as twenty-seven (27No.) trenches each approximately 50m x 2m, as shown on the attached trench plan.

### 9.2 General Considerations

- 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IfA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21), managed by a member (MIfA) of the institute.
- 9.2.3 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.
- 9.2.4 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, 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.
- 9.2.5 Open trenches will be marked by orange mesh fencing 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.

### 9.3 Methodology

- 9.3.1 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.
- 9.3.2 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.
- 9.3.3 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.
- 9.3.4 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.
- 9.3.5 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:
  - 9.3.5.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.
  - 9.3.5.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
  - 9.3.5.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.

9.3.5.4 groups of features where their relationship is important.

9.3.5.5 the site on completion of fieldwork

9.3.6 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 Ministry of Justice licences will be obtained and the local environmental health department informed. If relevant, the coroner and the police will be notified.

9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

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

9.3.9 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by a GPS and/or EDM survey.

## 10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. 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.

## 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:

11.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

- 11.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- 11.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- 11.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- 11.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.
- 11.3.1.6 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.
- 11.3.1.7 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 11.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- 11.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 11.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- 11.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

## 12 **ARCHIVE**

- 12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation 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 Rutland Museum as soon as possible after completion of the post-excavation and analysis.
- 12.2 If required, microfilming of the archive will be carried out. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record.
- 12.3 Prior to the project commencing, Rutland Museum 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.
- 12.4 Upon completion and submission of the excavation report, the landowner 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 effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

## 13 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 13.1 Copies of the investigation report will be sent to: the client and the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record.

## 14 **PUBLICATION**

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

- 14.2 Notes report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the appropriate local journals, *Transactions of the Leicestershire Historical and Archaeological Society* and *Rutland Record*. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* for prehistoric remains, *Medieval Archaeology* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

## 15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

- 15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Leicestershire & Rutland Principal Planning Archaeologist. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make 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, the client and their consultant.
- 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 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIfA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: A Beeby/D Trimble, APS Roman: A Beeby, APS, independent specialist Post-Roman: A Beeby, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Kendall, University of Durham
Animal Remains Analysis	P Cope-Faulkner, APS/M Holmes, independent specialist
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy, or Val Fryer, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA

## 18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 18.1 Fieldwork is expected to be undertaken by appropriate staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about 3-4 weeks.
- 18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 3-4 weeks. A project officer or supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

## 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 are enclosed.

## 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.

## 21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## Appendix 2

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Description	Interpretation
100	Crumbly, dark brown red silty clay with some round pebbles. Average thickness 0.2m.	Topsoil
101	Firm, mid orange red silt clay with small and medium stones. Average thickness 0.15m.	Subsoil
102	Hard, mid orange red Clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.24m.	Subsoil
103	Hard, dark blackish brown brash and clay. Average thickness 0.25m.	Fill of [107]
104	Firm/ solid light-mid brownish yellow limestone brash. Seen 0.25m thickness.	Natural
105	Firm, Mid red brown clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.1m.	Single fill of [106]
106	Round feature with gradual sides and concave base. Maximum depth 0.1m and 0.5m diameter	Posthole
107	Roughly linear cut with extending across the width of the trench and measuring 1.24m wide with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly irregular concave base	Possible palaeochannel
108	Hard mid yellowish red clay and mudstone	Natural substrate
200	Friable, mid red grey silt clay with some stones	Topsoil
201	Firm, mid yellowish red silty clay with some stone. Average thickness 0.25m.	Subsoil
202	Firm, mid red-yellow silty clay. Average thickness seen 0.15m (not bottomed).	Natural
203	Compact, mid yellowish red stony clay.	Natural
300	Friable, mid grey brown, silty clay. Average thickness 0.26m.	Topsoil
301	Firm, mid yellowish-red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.48m.	Former topsoil
302	Firm, light grayish red silty clay with no inclusions. 0.10m thick	Subsoil
303	Hard, mid brownish red silty clay.	Natural
304	Round feature with moderately steep sides and concave base. Maximum depth 0.22m and 0.5m diameter	Posthole
305	Firm, mid yellowish brown silt clay. Deposit 0.22m thick	Single fill of [304]
306	Round feature with steep sides and concave base. Maximum depth 0.25m and 0.35m diameter.	Posthole

Context	Description	Interpretation
307	Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.36m.	Single fill of [306]
308	Linear feature with steep straight sides and flat base. Aligned south-southeast- north-northwest. Seen 2m length, 1.12m wide and 0.18m deep.	Drainage gully
309	Firm, mid brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.18m.	Single fill of [308]
310	Rectangular feature with rounded corners. Measuring 2.04m by 0.92m. This feature was unexcavated as it contained a cow burial and cut the ridge and furrow.	Modern Pit for animal disposal.
311	Firm, mid yellowish red/ brown silty clay and contained a cow skeleton. (not excavate).	Fill of [310]
312	Rounded feature with moderately steep concave sides and base. Maximum depth 0.16m and 0.52m x 0.48m diameter	Posthole
313	Firm, mid yellowish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.16m.	Single fill of [312]
314	Linear feature with rounded corners, moderately steep sides and concave base. Seen 0.82m length, 2.3m wide and 0.11m deep.	Terminus of furrow
315	Firm, mid yellowish red-brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.11m.	Single fill of [314]
316	Rectangular feature with steep straight sides and concave base. Maximum depth 0.18m and 0.36m x 0.35m diameter.	Posthole
317	Firm, mid brownish red silty sand. Average thickness 0.18m.	Single fill of [316]
318	Post hole and fill	Post hole and fill
400	Crumbly dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.1m.	Topsoil
401	Firm friable, dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.19m.	Subsoil
402	Firm, dark brown red, clay. Average thickness 0.16m.	Fill of furrows/ subsoil
403	Firm, dark brown red clayey limestone brash.	Natural
404	Firm dark brownish red clay with charcoal and coal inclusions	Fill of [405]
405	Linear cut measuring 1.94m wide x 0.17m deep with a slightly irregular concave base	Agricultural furrow
500	Moderate crumbly, mid brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.4m.	Topsoil
501	Moderate, mid yellowish brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.08m.	Subsoil

Context	Description	Interpretation
502	Firm, mid yellow brown, clayey limestone brash. Average thickness seen 0.01m (not bottomed).	Natural
505	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.25m.	Single fill of [506]
506	Sub oval feature with steep sides and flat gently undulating base. Maximum depth 0.25m, 1.8m+ length and 1.07m diameter	Pit
507	Compact, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.28m.	Single fill of [508]
508	Sub-oval feature with steep sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.28m, 1m+ length and 0.82m diameter	Pit
509	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.31m.	Single fill of [510]
510	Sub-oval feature with moderately steep sides and irregular base. Maximum depth 0.31m, 1.4m+ length and 1.15m diameter	Pit
600	Friable, mid-dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Topsoil
601	Moderate, mid brown red silt clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Subsoil
602	Moderate-firm, mid reddish yellow-brown clayey limestone brash.	Natural
603	Soft, mid reddish brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Single fill of [604]
604	Curvi-linear feature with steep sides and flat base. Aligned north-south. Seen 30m length, 0.43m wide and 0.1m deep.	Gully
701	Moderate to firm, mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
702	Moderate, mid-dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.26m.	Subsoil
703	Friable, mid-dark brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.25m.	Topsoil
704	Linear feature with gradual to steep sides and a concave base. Aligned north-south. Seen 2m+ length, 1.08m wide and 0.34m deep.	Ditch
705	Hard mid-dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.34m.	Single fill of [704]
801	Friable, mid grayish brown silt. Average thickness 0.2m.	Topsoil
802	Friable, mid yellowish brown Silt. Average thickness 0.12m.	Subsoil
803	Firm, mid brown silty limestone brash.	Natural

Context	Description	Interpretation
804	Oval feature with medium scooped sides and flat base. Aligned east-west. Maximum depth 0.18m and 0.4 x 0.38m diameter.	Posthole
805	Firm, mid reddish brown silt. Average thickness 0.18m.	Single fill of [805]
806	Oval feature with medium sides and flat base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Maximum depth 0.35m and 0.71m+ x 0.7m diameter.	Pit or ditch terminus
807	Firm, mid reddish brown silt. Average thickness 0.35m.	Single fill of [806]
900	Friable, mid brown red silt clay. Average thickness 0.25m.	Topsoil
901	Friable, mid brown red silt clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Subsoil
902	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
903	Irregular feature with gradual sides and gentle concave base. Maximum depth 0.06m and 0.5m x 0.35m.	Pit for cremation burrial
904	Moderate, light-mid red brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.06m.	Fill in pit [903] around cremation urn
905	Soft-moderate, dark black brown and white, ash and cremated bone in a ceramic urn. Average thickness 0.04m.	Cremation and urn in pit [903]
906	Plough furrow cutting feature [916]	Plough furrow
907	Moderate, mid reddish brown silty clay.	Fill of [906]
908	Moderate- firm, mid yellow brown silty clay and limestone brash. Average thickness 0.02m.	Natural (below cremation cut [903])
909	Rounded feature with gradual sides and irregular base. Maximum depth 0.13m and 0.53m diameter	Pit
910	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.12m.	Single fill of [909]
911	Linear feature with gradual sides and gently undulating base. Aligned roughly northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 0.82m wide and 0.12m deep.	Ditch
912	Hard, mid- dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.12m.	Primary fill of [911]
913	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.03m.	Fill of [911]
914	Linear feature with moderate solid side and irregular base. Aligned roughly east-west. Seen 2m length, 1m+ wide and 0.18m deep. Truncated by [916].	?Ditch
915	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.18m.	Single fill of [914]

Context	Description	Interpretation
916	Linear feature with gradual sides and gently irregular/ concave base. Aligned roughly east-west. Seen 2m length, 0.1m+ wide and 0.18m deep. Truncates [914] and is truncated by furrow [906].	Ditch
917	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.16m.	Primary fill of [916]
918	Hard, mid- dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.06m.	Fill of [916]
920	?Linear/ sub-linear feature with gradual sides, not see base as outside trench. Seen 1.5mx 1m and 0.3m depth. Truncated by a furrow.	Truncated pit or ditch
921	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Thickness seen 0.3m.	Single fill of [920]
922	Linear feature with gentle sides and concave base with ?stake holes in base. Seen 2m length, 0.52m wide and 0.13m deep.	Gully
923	Hard, mid-dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.13m.	Single fill of [922]
1000	Friable, dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.15m.	Topsoil
1001	Firm, dark brown red clayey silt. Average thickness 0.24m.	Subsoil
1002	Firm-hard, dark red brown silty clay limestone brash.	Natural
1003	Curvy linear feature with moderately steep sides and narrow uneven concave base. Seen 2m length, 0.72m wide and 0.35m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1004	Hard, mid-dark brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.35m.	Single fill of [1003]
1005	Curvy linear feature with steep irregular sides and irregular concave base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 2m length, 0.47m wide and 0.22m deep.	Gully/ ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1006	Hard, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Single fill of [1005]
1007	Curvy linear feature with gradual sides and concave base. Aligned northwest-east. Seen 2m length, 1.1m wide and 0.48m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1008	Compacted hard, mid brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.48m.	Single fill of [1007]
1009	Curvy linear feature with gradual sides and irregular concave base. Aligned northwest-east. Seen 2m length, 1.3m wide and 0.43m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1010	Hard, mid brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.4m.	Single fill of [1009]

Context	Description	Interpretation
1011	Sub-rectangular feature with rounded corners, gradual-steep sides and concave base. Aligned roughly east-west. Seen 0.93m length, 1.8m wide and 0.46m deep.	Pit or terminus of ditch
1012	Hard, mid-dark brown red limestone brash. Average thickness 0.46m.	Single fill of [1011]
1100	Moderate crumbly, mid brown silt and clay. Average thickness 0.3m.	Topsoil
1101	Moderate-firm, light yellow brown clay to light-mid yellowish brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.16m.	Subsoil
1102	Moderate to firm, light yellow brown clay brash.	Natural
1103	Curvy linear feature with steep concave sides and concave base. Aligned northnorthwest- southsoutheast. Seen 2m length, 0.58m wide and 0.35m deep.	Ditch or gully (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1104	Firm, mid brownish red silty clay. Average thickness 0.35m.	Single fill of [1103]
1105	Curvy linear feature with gradual concave sides and irregular concave base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 1.35m wide and 0.35m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1106	Firm, mid brownish red silty clay. Average thickness 0.34m.	Single fill of [1003]
1107	Curvy linear feature with irregular convex sides and irregular concave base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 2m length, 1.19m wide and 0.31m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1108	Firm, mid brownish-red silty clay. Average thickness 0.31m.	Single fill of [1107]
1109	Linear-curvy linear feature with steep- near vertical sides and broad concave base. Aligned roughly north-south. Seen 2m length, 0.9m wide and 0.5m deep.	Ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)
1110	Moderate-firm, mid red brown- brown red silt clay. Average thickness 0.5m.	Single fill of [1009]
1111	Moderate-firm pliable, mid brownish red with yellow hue silt clay. Average thickness 0.26m.	Single fill of [1112]
1112	Linear- curvy linear feature with moderate-steep sides and a squared v- shaped narrow base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 0.6m wide and 0.26m deep.	Gully
1113	Moderate-firm, mid brownish red with yellow mottles clayey silt. Average thickness 0.44m.	Single fill of [1114]
1114	Curvi-linear- sub-linear feature with one irregular gradual side and a near vertical side and an irregular narrow base. Aligned roughly northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 1.1m wide and 0.44m deep.	Ditch

Context	Description	Interpretation
1115	Soft-moderate, mid red brown clayish silt. Average thickness 0.24m.	Single fill of [1116]
1116	Irregular feature with rounded edges, gradual-steep sides and rounded bases. Average depth 0.24m.	Group of 3 or 4 stake holes
1117	Moderate, mid brownish red and yellow brown mottles, clayish silt. Average thickness 0.28m.	Single fill of [1118]
1118	Linear/ sub-linear feature with gradual sides and broad gently undulating base. Aligned roughly east-west. Seen 2m+ length, 0.8m+ wide and 0.28m deep.	Ditch
1200	Friable, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Topsoil
1201	Friable, mid orange brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.21m.	Subsoil
1202	Firm, mid red brown silty clay.	Natural
1203	Friable, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.13m.	Single fill of [1204]
1204	Linear feature with moderately steep sides and flat base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 14m length, 0.65m wide and 0.13m deep.	Gully (drain)
1205	Friable, mid reddish brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.27m.	Single fill of [1206]
1206	Truncated, irregular feature with steep sides and irregular base. Seen 0.4m length, 0.65m wide and 0.27m deep.	Pit
1207	Firm, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.08m.	Single fill of [1208]
1208	Irregular feature with irregular sides and base. Maximum depth 0.08m and 0.6m diameter.	Pit
1209	Compact, whitish yellow limestone brash in a matrix of reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.4m.	Single fill of [1210]
1210	Irregular feature with moderate-steep sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.38m and 0.95m diameter.	Pit
1211	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.28m.	Single fill of [1212]
1212	Sub-oval feature with irregular steep scooped sides and v-shaped base. Maximum depth 0.27m and 0.67m diameter.	Pit
1213	Firm, mid yellowish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.34m.	Single fill of [1214]
1214	Sub-oval feature with moderate- steep sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.34m and 1.17m long.	Pit

Context	Description	Interpretation
1215	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.12m.	Fill of [1217]
1216	Compact, mid white/ yellow limestone fragments and mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.14m.	Fill of [1217]
1217	Sub-oval feature with steep sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.2m and 0.62m diameter.	Pit
1218	Firm, mid reddish brown with green mottles silty clay. Average thickness 0.09m.	Fill of [1221]
1219	Firm, mid greenish brown silt clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.24m.	Fill of [1221]
1220	Compact, white/ yellow fragmented limestone in a matrix of reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.08m.	Fill of [1221]
1221	Sub-oval feature with medium sides and concave base. Maximum depth 0.14m and 0.4m diameter.	Pit
1222	Soft, mid brownish yellow silty clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.04m.	Fill of [1226]
1223	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.26m.	Fill of [1226]
1224	Compact, white/ yellow fragmented limestone in a matrix of reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Fill of [1226]
1225	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.08m.	Fill of [1226]
1226	Linear feature with one vertical side and one gradual and a flat base. Aligned east-west. Seen 2m length, 0.86m wide and 0.27m deep.	Ditch
1227	Friable, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.15m.	Single fill of [1228]
1228	Truncated sub-rounded- linear feature with gradual to moderate sides and concave base. Seen 0.4m length, 0.8m wide and 0.16m deep.	Pit / ditch terminus
1300	Firm but friable, mid yellow brown silt. Average thickness 0.33m.	Topsoil
1301	Firm, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.09m.	Subsoil
1302	Linear feature with moderate sides and broad gently concave base. Aligned east-west. Seen 2m length, 3m wide and 0.33m deep.	Ditch
1303	Firm, mid reddish brown silt. Average thickness 0.14m.	Single fill of [1303]
1304	Moderate, light-mid yellow brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.16m.	Single fill of [1305]



Context	Description	Interpretation
1305	Linear feature with moderate-steep sides and gently undulating base. Seen 2m length, 0.48m wide and 0.16m deep.	Gully (?drainage)
1306	Linear feature with moderate-steep sides. Aligned North-south. Seen 2m length, 4m wide and 0.27m depth seen.	Ditch
1307	Firm, mid brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.27m.	Single fill of [1306]
1400	Moderate, mid yellow brown silt. Average thickness 0.33m.	Topsoil
1401	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
1402	Moderate crumbly, mid brownish red silt clay. Average thickness 0.31m.	Single fill of [1403]
1403	Linear feature with moderate-steep sides and broad gently undulating base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 1.5m length, 1.05m wide and 0.31m deep.	Ditch
1404	Moderate, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.29m.	Single fill of [1405]
1405	Linear feature with steep sides and concave base (near v-shaped). Aligned eastnortheast-westsouthwest. Seen 2.3m length, 0.64m wide and 0.29m deep.	Gully
1406	Moderate, mid yellowish brown- red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.3m.	Single fill of [1407]
1407	Oval/ sub-rounded to linear feature with steep sides and narrow concave base. Aligner northeast-south west. Seen 0.82m length, 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep.	Pit/ gully terminus
1500	Moderate, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.37m.	Topsoil
1501	Firm, mid brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.13m.	Subsoil
1502	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
1600	Friable, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.15m.	Topsoil
1601	Firm, mid yellow brown silt. Average thickness 0.22m.	Subsoil
1602	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
1700	Firm, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.15m.	Topsoil
1701	Moderate, mid brown yellow limestony silt. Average thickness 0.12m.	Natural subsoil
1702	Linear/ sub-oval feature with medium sides and broad concave base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 1m length , 0.43m wide and 0.14m deep.	Pit/ ditch terminus
1703	Firm, mid red brown silt. Average thickness 0.14m.	Single fill of [1702]
1704	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural

Context	Description	Interpretation
1800	Linear feature with steep sides and v-shaped base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 2m length, 0.5m wide and 0.28m deep.	Ditch/ gully
1801	Hard, mid-dark brown red clay. Average thickness 0.28m.	Single fill of [1800]
1802	Linear feature with one vertical side and one steep becoming gradual and a concave base. Aligned east-west. Seen 2m length, 1.3m wide and 0.4m deep.	Ditch
1803	Hard, mid red clay. Average thickness 0.4m.	Single fill of [1802]
1804	Firm, light-mid yellowish brown limestone brash and clay. Average thickness seen 0.1m (not bottomed). Firm, light-mid yellowish brown limestone brash and clay.	Natural
1805	Moderate, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.15m.	Subsoil
1806	Moderate friable, mid grayish brown silt. Average thickness 0.28m	Topsoil
1900	Moderate friable, mid grayish brown silt. Average thickness 0.28m.	Topsoil
1901	Moderate, mid brown silt. Average thickness 0.15m.	Subsoil
1902	Firm, light-mid yellowish brown limestone brash and clay.	Natural
1904	Oval feature with steeply scooped sides and concave base. Aligned north-south. Maximum depth 0.2m and 0.6m x0.5m diameter.	Post hole
1905	Firm, dark brownish red clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Fill of [1904]
1906	Firm, mid brownish red clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Fill of [1904]
1907	Oval feature with steeply scooped sides and concave base. Aligned north-south. Maximum depth 0.35m and 1.1m x 2.9m diameter.	?Furnace
1908	Soft, Mid yellowish brown clay. Average thickness 0.13m.	Re-deposited natural in [1907]
1909	Firm, dark brownish red clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	Heat modification of furnace lining in [1907]
1910	Firm, mid orange red clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Flue in [1907]
1911	Friable, black burnt clay. Average thickness 0.1m.	?Collapsed superstructure of furnace [1907]
1912	Firm, dark grayish red clay. Average thickness 0.13m.	Collapsed superstructure of furnace [1907]
1913	Firm, mid brown (yellowish towards top and reddish at base) clay. Average thickness 0.2 m.	Collapsed superstructure of furnace [1907]

Context	Description	Interpretation
1914	Curvy linear feature with gradual sides and concave base. Aligned east-west. Seen 2m length, 0.92m wide and 0.35m deep.	Ditch
1915	Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.22m.	Fill of [1914]
1916	Curvy linear feature with moderately steep sides and concave base. Aligned east-west. Seen 2m length, 0.2m wide and 0.24m deep.	Gully
1917	Hard, dark brown grey clay. Average thickness 0.24m.	Single fill of [1916]
1918	Curvy linear feature with steep and scooped sides and a flat base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep.	Gully/ ditch
1919	Firm, mid brownish grey stony clay. Average thickness 0.3m.	Slippage in side of [1918]
1920	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.25m.	Fill of [1918]
1921	Circular feature with gentle sides and broad scooped base. Seen 1m length, 2.2m wide and 0.09m deep.	Shallow pit / process area
1922	Firm, mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.09m	Single fill of [1921]
1923	Firm, mid brownish grey clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.4m.	Fill of [1914]
2000	Friable , mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.24m.	Topsoil
2001	Firm, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.36m.	Subsoil
2002	Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay and limestone brash.	Natural
2003	Soft, mid reddish brown silty clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.04m.	Single fill of [2004]
2004	Circular feature with shallow sides and irregular concave base. Maximum depth 0.04m and 0.6m diameter.	Small pit
2101	Moderate, mid brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.26m.	Topsoil
2102	Moderate, light-mid yellow brown- red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.22m.	Subsoil
2103	Firm friable, light-mid yellow- brownish yellow colluvial clay on limestone brash.	Natural
2104	Moderate (crunchy), light-mid yellow brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.31m.	Fill of [2106]
2105	Firm pliable, light-mid brownish yellow clay. Average thickness 0.18m.	Fill of [2106]

Context	Description	Interpretation
2106	Roughly triangular segment of a feature with steep smooth side and irregular concave base. Seen 2.4m length, 1.2m+ wide and 0.25m deep.	Ditch
2107	Moderate- firm, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.31m.	Single fill of [2108]
2108	Linear feature with moderate concave sides and broad flat base. Aligned northeast-southwest. Seen 2m length, 0.9m wide and 0.31m deep.	Ditch
2109	Moderate-firm, mid brown red- red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.34m.	Single fill of [2110]
2110	Sub-rectangular/ linear feature with rounded corners, smooth steep sides and flat base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 3m length, 1m wide and 0.34m deep.	Pit/ ditch terminus
2111	Moderate crumbly, mid yellow brown silty clay with no inclusions. Average thickness 0.22m.	Single fill of [2112]
2112	Linear feature with steep concave sides and flat base. Aligned northeast- southwest. Seen 2m length, 0.54m wide and 0.22m deep.	Ditch
2113		Recut of [2106]
2201	Moderate, mid brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.32m.	Topsoil
2202	Moderate, light-mid yellowish brown silt clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Subsoil
2203	Firm pliable, mid yellow brown- red brown clay. Average thickness seen 0.16m (not bottomed).	Natural
2301	Moderate crumbly, mid brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.28m.	Topsoil
2302	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash. Average thickness seen 0.08m (not bottomed).	Natural
2303	Moderate, mid brown red silty clay. Average thickness 0.32m.	Single fill of [2304]
2304	Oval/ sub rounded feature with moderate sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.32m and 0.48m x 1.24m diameter.	?Pit
2305	Loose/soft, mid brown with yellowish hue stony silt clay. Average thickness 0.22m.	Single fill of [2306]
2306	Linear feature with steep irregular sides and base. Aligned northwest-southeast. Seen 2m length, 0.52m wide and 0.22m deep.	Gully
2401	Moderate, mid brown clay silt. Average thickness 0.32m.	Topsoil
2402	Moderate, light yellow/ brown yellow clay. Average thickness 0.04m.	Subsoil

Context	Description	Interpretation
2403	Firm, light-mid yellow brown limestone brash.	Natural
2500	Friable, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Topsoil
2501	Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.2m.	Subsoil
2502	Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay.	Natural
2600	Friable, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.18m.	Topsoil
2601	Firm, mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.22m.	Subsoil
2602	Firm, light-mid yellowish brown silt clay.	Natural
2603	Friable, Mid reddish brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.06m.	Single fill of [2604]
2604	Round feature with moderate sides and flat base. Maximum depth 0.06m and 0.49m diameter.	Pit
2700	Friable, Mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.18m.	Topsoil
2701	Firm, Mid red brown silty clay. Average thickness 0.32m.	Subsoil
2702	Soft, mid yellow brown silt clay.	Natural

## Appendix 3

### THE FINDS

#### Prehistoric Pottery

by Sarah Percival

A total of 94 sherds weighing 868g were collected from nine contexts. The assemblage includes a partially complete Collared Urn from a cremation burial plus small numbers of Early Bronze Age (EBA) sherds, mostly collected from the fills of the barrow ditch. Three sherds, in shell-tempered fabric, are not closely datable (NCD; Table 1).

Context	Feature	Feature type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Pottery date
905	903	Cremation and urn in pit [903]	62	776	EBA
907	906	Furrow cutting ditch 916	17	54	EBA
917	916	Primary fill of ditch [916]	1	1	EBA
921	920	Single fill of truncated pit or ditch [920]	6	10	EBA
1006	1005	Single fill of [1005] Gully/ ditch (?part of barrow/ enclosure)	3	4	NCD
1104	1103	Single fill of [1103] Ditch or gully (?part of barrow/ enclosure)	1	8	EBA
1108	1107	Single fill of [1107] Ditch or gully (?part of barrow/ enclosure)	1	5	EBA
1113	1114	Single fill of [1114] ditch	2	9	EBA
1205	1206	Single fill of pit [1206]	1	1	EBA
<b>Total</b>			<b>94</b>	<b>868</b>	

Table 1: Quantity weight and date of pottery by feature

#### Collared Urn

The incomplete Collared Urn was recovered in 62 pieces weighing 776g. Around 25% of the rim survives, suggesting that the vessel would have had a diameter at the rim of 170mm. The upper part of the urn has broken along a coil join at the shoulder. The vessel is of tripartite form, with a collar 40mm deep above a curved neck c. 50mm deep ending at a change of angle at the shoulder. The vessel wall is 8mm thick at the rim, which is simple and flat. A small area of the lower body survives, indicating that the vessel had a simple, slightly concave base angle and flat base. The urn is decorated with twisted cord impressions forming a herringbone motif on the collar and upper body, stopping below the shoulder. The form and decoration of the urn suggest that it is of Longworth's primary series (1984). The urn is well made and has been finely finished using a wet hand to close the surface.

The Collared Urn is made of a dense coarse fabric containing sparse, sub-angular pieces of black igneous rock up to 7mm within a blocky clay matrix. Thin section analysis of early Bronze Age fabrics from excavations at nearby Cossington suggests that igneous inclusions found in pottery there were derived from glacial erratics local to the site (Allen 2008, 28).

Fabric	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)
G1 (Collared Urn)	Blocky fabric with sparse, medium dark grey igneous rock? up to 5mm	62	776

Table 2: Collared Urn fabric

The urn is very similar to an example noted in Longworth's corpus from Earl Shilton, Leicestershire, some 45km west of Oakham (Longworth 1984, 853; Plate 16, (e)). More locally previous excavations in the area of Rutland Water uncovered a single sherd of Collared Urn from Whitwell (Cooper 2000, 143), whilst recent archaeological investigations at Cossington, c.30km west of Oakham, recovered four complete examples, including one with comparable decoration

(Thomas 2008, fig.33, 9). Further Collared Urns, also with twisted cord decoration, have also been found at Sproxton 17km north of Oakham (Thomas 2008, 30).

## Other Pottery

### Fabric

In addition to the Collared Urn five further fabrics were identified, almost all containing grog inclusions (Table 2). One exception, a shell-tempered fabric with numerous fine shell pieces, is not closely datable but may be Iron Age or later.

Fabric	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)
G2	Common sub-rounded pale grog	20	64
G3	Common fine, sub-rounded pale grog	7	15
G4	Common sub-rounded pale grog, rare chalk	1	8
QG	Common quartz sand with moderate sub-rounded pale grog	1	1
S1	Common small fine shell plates throughout	3	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>92</b>

Table 3: Quantity weight and date of pottery by fabric

The grog-tempered fabrics, G2 and G3, are similar and it is likely that they derive from comparable vessels, probably urns. Sandy fabric QG, which also contains grog, and fabric G4, which contains grog and chalk, are probably also from early Bronze Age vessels.

### Form

The majority of the assemblage is formed of undecorated body sherds with closed, wet-hand-wiped surfaces. A rim from furrow 906, has an external lip and possible internal bevel and may be from a Food Vessel or undecorated Collared Urn. A decorated sherd, from ditch 1114, has incised decoration forming a lattice design. This may be from a Beaker or perhaps another Collared Urn.

### Discussion

The prehistoric pottery assemblage is almost certainly derived from accessory or cremation vessels originally placed in the barrow mound and subsequently disturbed. The Collared Urns found at nearby Cossington were secondary burials inserted into a barrow mound and it is likely the Oakham example is from a similar secondary burial deposit. The only non-funerary pottery may be the shell-tempered sherds from section 1005 of the barrow ditch, which are of Iron Age or later date. This may suggest that the barrow was slighted by agricultural activity in the later Iron Age or Roman period, when these sherds were incorporated into the ditch fill. Cremated bone associated with one of the Collared Urns from Cossington produced a radiocarbon date of 1880-1630 cal. BC (SUERC 11276, Thomas 2008, 30) and a similar earlier second millennium date is likely for the urn from OAMR14.

## THE CERAMIC FINDS

*Dr Anne Irving*

### THE POTTERY

#### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). A total of 31 sherds from 27 vessels, weighing 523 grams was recovered from the site.

#### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an

Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary in Table 4. The pottery dates from the Roman to the early modern period.

## Results

*Table 4, Summary of the Pottery*

Period	Cname	Full name	Leic Cname	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
Roman	GFIN	Miscellaneous Fine Grey ware	-	R	R	1	1	4
Early to Middle Saxon	CHARN	Charnwood ware	-	450	800	1	1	6
Medieval	ST	Stamford Ware	ST3	970	1200	1	1	1
	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	-	1175	1400	3	2	15
	STANLY	Stanion/Lyveden ware	LY	1150	1250	1	1	51
Late Medieval	CIST	Cistercian-type ware	CW2	1480	1650	6	5	48
Post-medieval	BL	Black-glazed wares	MB	1550	1750	6	6	128
	MY	Midlands Yellow ware	MY	1550	1650	1	1	24
	SLIP	Unidentified slipware	EA7	1650	1750	1	1	35
	SWSG	Staffordshire White Saltglazed stoneware	SW4	1700	1770	1	1	4
	LERTH	Late Earthenwares	EA	1750	1900	3	3	10
Early Modern	BS	Brown stoneware (generic)	SW5	1680	1850	1	1	20
	ENGs	Unspecified English Stoneware	SW	1690	1900	2	1	172
	WHITE	Modern whiteware	EA10	1850	1900	1	1	2
Miscellaneous	MISC	Unidentified types	-	-	-	2	1	3
					<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>523</b>

## Discussion

Cistercian ware drinking vessels occur, along with Glazed Earthenwares dating to the 16th and 17th centuries. Later earthenwares, stonewares and modern whitewares bring the date of the assemblage into the 19th and 20th centuries. All the ware types present are typical of this area and include locally manufactured vessels and regional imports.

## Potential

The sherds are stable and suitable for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

## THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). Eight fragments of fired clay and modern drain were recovered from the site.

### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 5.

## Results

*Table 5, Ceramic Building Material Archive*

Cxt	Came	Full name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
901	MODDRAIN	Modern Drain	Refractory	1	38	Discard	18th to 20th
1901	FCLAY	Fired Clay	Oxidised	7	39	Amorphous; no surfaces	-

## Potential

The fragments are stable and suitable for discard. No further work is required on the assemblage.



## FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

### Introduction

A total of 35 (175g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts. A single mollusc shell weighing less than 1g was also collected.

### Methodology

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

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

### Provenance

The bone was collected from the fill of furrow (907), ditch fills (913, 917, 1108 and 1801), a gully fill (1203) and topsoil (1000).

### Condition

The overall condition of the remains was generally poor, averaging at grades 4-5 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

### Results

Table 6, *Fragments Identified to Taxa*

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
907	small mammal	long bone	-	1	1	burnt
913	large mammal	tooth	-	1	1	fragment
917	cattle	horn core	-	17	10	fragments
	large mammal	long bone	-	8	6	fragments
	small mammal	long bone	-	1	1	
1000	unknown	unidentified	-	1	1	eroded
1108	large mammal	long bone	-	6	3	fragments
1203	cattle	scapula	L	1	149	
	banded snail	shell		1	1	fragment
1801	medium mammal	incisor	-	1	3	

### Summary

The assemblage has limited potential as it is very fragmentary and also falls below the minimum threshold of 300 bones required for meaningful analysis. It should, however, be retained as part of the site archive.

## LITHIC ASSESSMENT

By Barry Bishop

### Introduction

The archaeological investigations at the above site resulted in the recovery of a small assemblage of struck flint. These have been catalogued individually according to context (Finds Catalogue 2) and this report should be read in consultation with the catalogue. This report provides a summary description of the assemblage and assesses its archaeological significance and potential to contribute to the further understanding of the nature and chronology of activity at the site. All metrical descriptions follow the methodology established by Saville (1980).

### Quantification

Type	Decortication flake Retouched	Flake	Flake fragment	Prismatic blade	Core	Conchoidal	chunk
Number	1	9	3	1	2	1	1

Table 7: Quantification of Lithic Material from Main Road, Oakham

The lithic assemblage from the site consists of eighteen struck flints that were recovered from thirteen separate contexts (Table 7). These include cut features, some of which may date to the prehistoric period, and soil horizons (see Finds Catalogue 2).

### Description

Although the pieces do vary in condition most show some signs of edge chipping, suggesting that at least most had been residually deposited and there is certainly no evidence for in-situ knapping or deliberate acts of deposition. Some of the pieces are in the process of recortication, although the degree to which this has occurred varies considerably. Such variation may have a chronological significance but it can also be a factor of localized variations in soil chemistry, and cannot therefore be used to date individual pieces or estimate the duration over which the assemblage was produced. The assemblage has been made from flint of a variety of colours and textures but it is all fine-grained and of good potential knapping quality. The struck pieces are mostly small, however, and cortex, where present, is smooth-worn or thin and weathered; some thermal surfaces are also present and internal thermal flaws are common. This indicates that the raw materials had been obtained as pebbles and small cobbles from derived deposits, most likely from the chalky boulder clay tills or the alluvial gravel terrace deposits that are present in the vicinity.

The assemblage is small and no truly typologically diagnostic pieces are present, meaning that confident dating is problematic. Nevertheless, the technological attributes of the material strongly suggest that at least two flintworking traditions can be identified. The earliest is represented by the prismatic blade and one of the cores, which although small had also produced blades or narrow flakes, and a further flake fragment is also likely to have derived from a prismatic blade. These can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. Although less diagnostic, most of the remaining flakes are thick and crudely struck, often of 'squat' appearance (cf Martingell 1990). They are more typical of Bronze Age flintworking industries, particularly those dating to the later second or first millennia BC (e.g. Herne 1991; Young and Humphrey 1999; Humphrey 2003; McLaren 2009). A few of the flakes display damage consistent with light edge retouch or heavy use-wear, but the general condition of the material precluded confident identification and the only certainly retouched piece consists of the denticulated flake.

### Significance and Recommendations

The struck assemblage indicates low level flint-using activity at the site during the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic and also during the later prehistoric periods, although it is too small to indicate the precise chronology or nature of the occupations. It is comparable in character and size with other assemblages recovered from archaeological investigations conducted in the vicinity, which have revealed extensive if not intensive multi-period occupation occurring throughout the prehistoric period (e.g. Clay 1998; Bishop 2007).

Due to its limited interpretational potential, this report is all that is required of the assemblage for the purposes of archiving and no further analytical work is proposed. It can, however, contribute to a broader understanding of landscape use in the region and complement the findings from other archaeological investigations conducted in the vicinity. Its details should therefore be noted in the local Historic Environment Record and a short description included in any published accounts of the investigations.

### 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 but some are abraded.

### Results

Table 8, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
402	1	1				2	6	stems only, abraded	17 <sup>th</sup> century
1203		1				1	<1	stem	17 <sup>th</sup> century
2305				1		1	3	spurred 17 <sup>th</sup> century bowl fragment	17 <sup>th</sup> century
Totals	1	2		1		4	9		

### Provenance

The clay pipes were recovered from subsoil/fill of furrows (402) and gully fills (1203, 2305). They are probably local products, perhaps made in nearby Oakham.

### Range

All the clay pipes are of probable 17<sup>th</sup> century date and are represented mainly by stems, though there is one bowl fragment.

### Potential

Other than providing dating evidence the clay pipes are of very limited potential.

## OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor and Denise Buckley

### Introduction

A total of thirty-six other finds, together weighing 905g, were recovered.

### Condition

The other finds are in good condition, though the metal items are corroded.

### Results

Table 9, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
603	Stone	Quern fragment	1	287	
901	Iron	Blade, canted tang, total length 120mm	1	37	
		Nails, including probable horse-shoe nail	5	33	
		Sheet, possible blade fragment	1	6	
912	Stone	Fire-cracked pebbles	2	147	
913	Fire residue	Coal	2	2	
915	Stone	Fire-cracked pebbles	2	146	
921	Fire residue	Cinder	1	1	
	Stone	Fire cracked pebble	2	44	
1104	Stone	Burnt stone	3	3	
1108	Stone?	Burnt stone?	1	1	
1110	?earth?	Burnt earth/stone?	8	7	
1900	Fire residue	Shale, burnt	1	32	
2302	Fire residue	Cinder	1	1	
	Plaster	Plaster with reed impressions to rear; 1 angled corner piece	5	158	

### Provenance

The other finds were recovered from a gully (603), subsoil (901), ditch fills (912, 913, 915, 921), fills of barrow ditches (1104, 1108, 1110), topsoil (1900) and the surface of natural (2302).

### Range

Stones, almost all of them heat-affected, and fire residues dominate the assemblage of other finds. An unburnt stone was also recovered and appears to be part of a quern, but does not have any distinctive features to suggest date.

One context (901) yielded several iron items. These were mostly nails, including a probable horse-shoe nail, but there were also two probable blades. One of these has an unusual canted tang, the other is a small sheet fragment that is probably, though not certainly, a piece of a blade. The canted blade is not readily matched with published examples but bears some similarity to a 12<sup>th</sup> century knife with a sloping shoulder, found in London (Cowgill *et al.* 1987, fig 57, no 3).

### Potential

The other finds have moderate potential. The burnt stones and fire residues indicate the presence of fires, hearths or similar high temperature activities. The localisation of iron objects from Trench 9, context (901), is of note and may indicate some form of smithing activity in the area. The probable quern indicates the grinding of food stuffs, and the mortar derives from a nearby building.

### SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 10 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 10, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
201	16th to 18th	Date on a single sherd
211	19th to 20th	Date on a single sherd
300	19th to 20th	Date on a single vessel
401	17th to 18th	Date on a single sherd
404	Mid 17th to 18th	
402	17 <sup>th</sup> century	based on clay pipe
901	17th to 18th	
905	Early Bronze Age	Cremation and Urn
907	Early Bronze Age	
913	11th to 12th	Date on a single sherd
917	Early Bronze Age	Date on a single sherd
921	Early Bronze Age	
1006	Prehistoric	
1104	Early Bronze Age	Date on a single sherd
1108	Early Bronze Age	Date on a single sherd
1113	Early Bronze Age	
1117	16th to 18th	Date on a single sherd
1203	17 <sup>th</sup> century	based on 1 clay pipe
1205	Early Bronze Age	Date on a single sherd
1301	Mid 5th to 9th	
1303	?	
1400	18th to 19th	
1801	Mid 16th to Mid 17th	
1900	18th to 20th	Date on a single sherd
2201	Late 12th to 14th	Date on a single sherd
2305	17 <sup>th</sup> century	based on 1 clay pipe

### 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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## FINDS CATALOGUE

### *Finds Catalogue 1, The Pottery*

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
201	LERTH		Garden pot	1	1	2	BS	Very abraded	
211	WHITE		?	1	1	2	BS	Burnt; ?ID	
300	ENGS		Bowl	2	1	172	Base + BS		
401	BL	Oxidised	Jar/ bowl	1	1	11	Base		17th to 18th
404	CIST		Drinking cup	1	1	2	Rim		
404	CIST		Jug	1	1	13	Rim		
404	SLIP	Buff	Jar/ bowl	1	1	35	Base	Black glaze	Mid 17th to 18th
404	SWSG		?	1	1	4	Base		
901	BL	Oxidised	Jar/ bowl	4	4	42	Base + BS	Abraded	17th to 18th
901	CIST		Large drinking mug	1	1	24	Rim		
901	CIST		Small vessel	1	1	7	BS		
913	ST	A/G	?	1	1	1	BS	Thin yellow glaze	11th to 12th
1117	LERTH		Garden pot	1	1	3	BS		
1301	CHARN		Jar/ bowl	1	1	6	BS		
1301	GFIN		Jar/ bowl	1	1	4	BS	Abraded	
1303	MISC	Light firing; oxidised	?	2	1	3	BS	Very abraded; Stamford type?; no glaze	
1400	BL	MP type	Jar/ bowl	1	1	75	BS		
1400	BS		Straight sided bottle	1	1	20	Base	Raeren?	
1801	CIST		Drinking cup	2	1	2	Rim + BS		
1801	MY		Bowl	1	1	24	Rim	Very abraded	
1801	PSHW		?	2	1	14	BS	Very abraded	
1801	STANLY	B	Bowl	1	1	51	Rim	Abraded	
1900	LERTH		Garden pot	1	1	5	Rim		18th to 20th
2201	PSHW		Jar/ bowl	1	1	1	BS	Abraded; ?ID	

## Finds Catalogue 2. Lithics

Context	Context	Decortication flake	Flake fragment	Prismatic blade	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Colour	Cortex	Condition	Recortication	Suggested date	Comments
318	Find from (316)		1					Translucent light grey	Smooth worn	Chipped	Milky	Meso / ENeo?	Medial section of probable prismatic blade 10mm wide
801	Topsoil		1					Translucent dark grey	Rough but weathered	Chipped	None	Late?	Thick badly struck, possibly irregularly edge retouched
901	Subsoil		1					Translucent light grey	None	Chipped	None	Late?	Irregular, badly struck
901	Subsoil	1						Translucent dark grey	Rough but weathered	Chipped	None	Late?	Thick, proximal end missing
901	Subsoil		1					Translucent dark grey	Smooth worn	Chipped	None	Late?	Narrow but thick
915	Single fill of Ditch [914]						1	Opaque light grey	Thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	Late?	Distal end of narrow but thick cortical flake with coarse denticulation along left margin and inversely on right. >37 x 28 x 8mm
917	Primary fill of Ditch [916]		1					Translucent light grey	Thermal scar	Slightly burnt	None	Undated	Small fragment of a flake with a hinged distal termination
921	Single fill of Pit/Ditch [920]		1					Semi- translucent light grey	None	Chipped	None	Neo - EBA	Small well struck flake with narrow edge-trimmed striking platform
921	Single fill of Pit/Ditch [920]		1					Opaque light grey	Rough but weathered	Slightly chipped	None	Undated	Undiagnostic flake fragment
921	Single fill of Pit/Ditch [920]		1					Semi- translucent light grey	Thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	Pre-MBA	Fairly convincing utilization of right margin cf cutting hard materials
1006	Single fill of Gully/ ditch [1005]				1			Translucent dark grey	Thermal scar	Chipped	None	Neo-BA	Very small extensively flaked single platform flake core. made on an unmodified angular pebble. Weighs
1010	Single fill of Ditch [1009]					1		Mottled opaque grey/brown	Smooth worn	Slightly chipped	None	Undated	Disintegrated core fragments?
1106	Single fill of Ditch [1003]		1					Translucent brown	Smooth worn	Good	None	Late?	Rather squat, split laterally
1202	Natural				1			Translucent light grey	Rough but weathered	Chipped	Bluish	Meso / ENeo	Small single platformed 'Front type' blade/narrow flake core made on a thermally split pebble. Some limited working at back and also platform rejuvenation. Weighs 18g
1304	Single fill of Gully [1305]		1					Translucent dark grey	None	Good	None	Late?	Narrow but thick and badly hit
1501	Subsoil		1					Translucent light grey	Smooth worn	Chipped	Incipient	Neo-BA	Medial section of a flake, possibly edge retouched but condition too bad to be confident
1700	Topsoil		1					Translucent light grey	Smooth worn	Chipped	None	Undated	Distal end of a cortical flake or blade, possibly edge retouched but condition too bad to be confident

2107	Single fill of Ditch [2108]	1	Translucent light grey	Rough but weathered	Slightly chipped	Blue-white	Meso / ENeo	Complete systematically produced. 50 x 18 x 4mm
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#### Appendix 4. Cremation samples by D. James Rackham

A cremation was sampled on site, with the cremated bone, soil from around and in the cremation pot, and a third sample from the cremation kept separate. The samples were washed individually and their finds kept separate.

**Table 1:** Samples taken for environmental analysis

sample no.	context no.	sample volume (l)	sample weight kg.	feature	Provisional date
1a <3>	905	0.375	0.437	cremation	Early Bronze Age
1b <3>	905	3.5	3.75	Soil from in and around cremation pot	Early Bronze Age
1 <3>	905	0.31	0.31	Cremated bone	Early Bronze Age

#### Methods

The sample volume and weight were 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 the residue and flot were dried and the residue subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material.

The residue was sorted by eye and archaeological and environmental finds picked out. A magnet was run through the residues in order to recover magnetised material such as hammer scale and prill. The residue was then discarded. The flots of the samples were studied using x10 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 residue, constitute the material archive of the sample.

#### Results

The washed residue comprised concretions, mudstone, some sandstone, limestone and ironstone and occasional flint. The magnetic component in sample '1b' is composed of pot crumb, heated stone and ironstone. A little coal was recorded as present in the sample flots. Apart from the cremated bone present in each sub-sample, pottery crumbs were recovered from two of the sub-samples, a flint chip from one, and a very small chip of glass (presumably intrusive).

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

sample no.	context	sample vol. l.	residue volume (ml)	pot no/ wt g.	fire-cracked stone wt. g.	fired earth wt. g.	flint no/wt. g.	magnetic wt. g.	bone wt. g.	
1a <3>	905	0.375	500	2/1				-	5.6	
1b <3>	905	3.5	700	14/7			1/0.1	13	45.4	Glass chip
1 <3>	905	0.31	200	-				-	203	

The sample flots were small with very little charcoal present, a single fragment of charred hazel nutshell, and a few shells of the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula*, the latter almost certainly intrusive having burrowed in to the deposit.

Much of the cremated bone is heavily fragmented and unidentifiable, but a number of the fragments and teeth can be confidently identified to sheep or goat. These probably all derive

from a single animal although this has not yet been substantiated by careful study of the bones. The distal epiphyses of the metapodials were unfused indicating that the animal was immature when it died or was killed.

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

sample no.	cont. no.	sample vol. (l)	flot vol. (ml)	char-coal #	charred grain *	chaff *	charred seed *	snail *	comment
1a <3>	905	0.375	<0.5	-/1					Cremated sheep bones
1b <3>	905	3.5	2	2/2				2	Hazel nutshell x1; cremated sheep bone; snail- <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> .
1 <3>	905	0.31	<0.5	-/-					Cremated sheep bone

\*frequency 1=1-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-150; 4=151-250; 5=>250; # frequency >2mm/<2mm

## Conclusion

This assemblage would appear to represent the remains of a cremated immature sheep. There is a distinct lack of charcoal in the 3.5 litre sample processed which suggests that the bones must have been gathered from the pyre before internment in the pot. If the material from the pyre had been ‘shovelled’ up then a much larger charcoal component might have been expected. Whether the single fragment of charred hazel nutshell was associated with the event or an incidental or residual find it is impossible to establish.

A more detailed analysis of the remains could establish a more precise age for the animal, some indication of how complete the cremation might be, and any evidence for butchery. The context of the cremation and its date should be reviewed. Prehistoric sheep cremations are not common, but they do occur.

## Acknowledgments

Trude Maynard and Angela Bain undertook the sample processing and sorting.

## Bibliography

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Environmental Archaeology Consultancy  
13<sup>th</sup> September 2014

## Appendix 5

### GLOSSARY

<b>Bronze Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
<b>Context</b>	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].
<b>Cut</b>	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.
<b>Domesday Survey</b>	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
<b>Fill</b>	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).
<b>Geophysical Survey</b>	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.
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Mesolithic</b>	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Neolithic</b>	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC.
<b>Post hole</b>	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.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

<b>Prehistoric</b>	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.
<b>Ridge and Furrow</b>	The remains of arable cultivation consisting of raised rounded strips separated by furrows. It is characteristic of open field agriculture.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	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:

158	Context record sheets
30	Trench record sheets
3	Section register sheets
1	Plan register sheet
6	Photographic register sheets
1	Sample record sheet
3	Environmental sample sheets
19	Daily record sheets
16	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Box of finds

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:

Rutland County Museum  
Catmose Street  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 6HW

Accession Number: OAKRM: 2014.50

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: OAMR 14

OASIS Record No: archaeo11-191971

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: archaeol1-191971**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation, land off Main Road, Oakham (Barleythorpe), Rutland
Short description of the project	An evaluation comprising 27 trenches revealed a focus of Bronze Age funerary activity including a barrow comprising a double concentric ring ditch, probable remains of a second barrow and a sheep/goat cremation within a collared urn. To the east of this was the partial remains of a furnace/industrial structure. There were a number of undated features and a pattern of medieval ridge and furrow.
Project dates	Start: 09-06-2014 End: 04-07-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	OAMR14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	2013/0867/RES - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	OAKRM:2014.50 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	BARROW Bronze Age
Monument type	CREMATION Bronze Age
Monument type	FURNACE Bronze Age
Monument type	RIDGE AND FURROW Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""
	Rural residential

Development  
type

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the  
planning process Between deposition of an application and determination

### Project location

Country England

Site location LEICESTERSHIRE RUTLAND BARLEYTHORPE Land off Main Road

Postcode LE15 7TD

Study area 10.00 Hectares

Site coordinates SK 853 095 52.6761308056 -0.73823117142 52 40 34 N 000 44 17 W Point

Height OD /  
Depth Min: 113.00m Max: 121.00m

### Project creators

Name of  
Organisation Archaeological Project Services

Project brief  
originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design  
originator Gary Taylor

Project  
director/manager Gary Taylor

Project  
supervisor Fiona Walker

Type of  
sponsor/funding  
body Developer

Name of  
sponsor/funding  
body Larkfleet Homes

### Project archives

Physical Archive  
recipient Oakham Museum

Physical  
Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal"

Digital Archive  
recipient Oakham Museum

Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal"

Digital Media  
available "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive  
recipient Oakham Museum

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal"

Paper Media  
available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation, Land off Main Road, Oakham(Barleythorpe), Rutland
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Failes, A.
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