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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND AT HALL FARM,  
NEWBOLD VERDON,  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
(NVHF 15)**

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Work Undertaken For  
**SLR Consulting Limited**  
on behalf of  
**Push Energy Limited**

September 2015

Report Compiled by  
Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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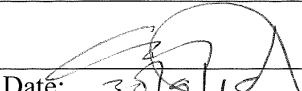
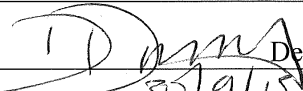




## Quality Control

Archaeological Evaluation on land at  
Hall Farm,  
Newbold Verdon,  
Leicestershire  
NVHF 15

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## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire prior to a solar farm development. This was because the site was archaeologically sensitive, lying close to known remains of a possible Roman villa and a deserted medieval village and possibly within a deer park.*

*The evaluation revealed ridge and furrow cultivation of probable medieval or post-medieval date. The presence of several probable post-medieval field boundaries indicated by mapping and prior geophysical survey was also confirmed. No earlier archaeological remains were identified.*

*Finds comprised a piece of glass and two fragments of ceramic building material.*

## 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' (CifA 2014).*

### 2.2 Project Background

Consideration of the archaeological context led to a requirement for a geophysical survey (Dean 2014).

Archaeological Project Services was then

commissioned by SLR Consulting Limited on behalf of Push Energy Limited to undertake this investigation by trial trenching, which was carried out between 6<sup>th</sup> August and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by SLR (SLR 2015b) and approved by the Senior Planning Archaeologist of Leicestershire County Council.

### 2.3 Location, Topography and Geology

Newbold Verdon is located 14km west of Leicester and 9km north-north-east of Hinckley, in the administrative district of Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire (Fig. 1).

The site is located southwest of the village between Bosworth Lane and Botany Bay Spinney, centred on National Grid Reference SK 4325 0315 (Fig. 2). It encompasses approximately 6 hectares.

The site lies at a height of c. 123-130m OD in a minor stream valley on land rising up to the south.

Soils at the site are mapped as typically fine loamy over clayey soils of the Beccles 1 Association developed on glacial drift (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 117-8). This overlies a solid geology of Triassic Mudstone.

### 2.4 Archaeological Context

Fieldwalking during the 1970s within Osbaston parish, 800m northwest of the site, revealed Roman pottery, *tesserae*, box-tiles and *tegulae* indicative of a probable Roman villa site (LHER ref. MLE 3002, Liddle 1979).

A small deserted medieval village lies within the grounds of Naneby Hall 550m southeast of the site, represented by the earthworks of building platforms (LHER

ref. MLE 8904). A medieval chapel was still extant here in 1811.

A deer park (LHER MLE 2710) attached to Naneby Hall, recorded in 1360, may have included the south field of the site.

There is a moated medieval site (LHER ref. MLE 2984), west of Newbold Verdon village, 850m northeast of the site (SLR 2015a).

A geophysical survey of the site identified anomalies probably representing field boundary ditches and ridge and furrow cultivation (SLR 2014).

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

#### Aims

The identified potential of the site has been compared with the research objectives in the *East Midlands Environment Research Framework*. As a result research objectives to which the project as a whole has the potential to contribute include Prehistoric, Roman and the medieval/post-medieval Park (SLR 2015b).

#### Objectives

- to establish and place on record the extent and significance of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site
- to excavate the trenches using the methodology set out in the WSI (SLR 2015b)
- to identify any archaeological features within the trench areas, and establish their nature and extent by sample-excavation; and
- to form a record a record of the trenches and features.

### 4. METHODS

Twenty-four trenches each measuring 25m long by 1.8m wide were opened by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision (Fig. 3). They were excavated to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of the underlying natural geology, as appropriate.

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

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2).

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

### 5. RESULTS (Figs. 4-5)

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.

Natural deposits on the site generally comprised a mix of orangey brown and yellow grey silty clay. There were



occasional darker red patches.

**Trench 1** (Fig. 3)

This trench was excavated a month earlier than the others, prior to harvest, in order to facilitate the early construction of a substation.

The earliest deposit was revealed in a machined *sondage* at the southeast end of the trench (Fig. 5, Section 2). This was at least 0.45m thick natural mid pinkish brown and grey clay (106). It was overlain by 0.24m thick mid yellow brown and grey brown silty clay (105) which was the same as (103) recorded at the north end of the trench (Fig. 5, Section 1). Overlying this layer was up to 0.13m thick light yellow brown sandy silt subsoil (102/104) above which was a 0.32m thickness of topsoil (101). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 2** (Fig. 4)

In this trench, a natural deposit of orangey brown and yellow grey silty clay with gravel patches (203) was overlain by a 0.1m thick dark red clay patch (204) (Fig. 5, Section 6). This was excavated at the request of the planning archaeologist to check if it was an archaeological feature but was found to be natural. It was sealed by 0.15m thick mid brown clayey silt subsoil (202).

Cutting the subsoil around the centre of the trench was an east-west aligned linear cut [206], measuring 0.85m wide, containing a fill of dark grey topsoil mixed with rounded pebbles (205) which contained a large ceramic drain pipe, part of which was exposed to confirm its presence. This corresponds with a mapped stream (Fig. 3), now in the pipe. It was covered by 0.3m thick topsoil (201).

**Trench 3** (Fig. 4)

The natural deposit on this site was mid orangey brown silty clay (304). It was cut,

towards the north end of the trench, by east-west aligned linear feature [303], a probable agricultural furrow (Fig. 5, Section 5; Plate 3). It was 1.6m wide and 0.3m deep with gradually sloping concave sides and base and filled with mid yellowish brown clayey silt (302). It was sealed by 0.28m thick topsoil (301).

**Trench 4** (Fig. 3)

Trench 4 contained a natural deposit of mid orangey brown/mid greyish brown silty clay (402) overlain by 0.25m thick topsoil (401). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 5** (Fig. 4)

Natural deposits of mid yellowish brown silty clay (502) occupied the south part of the trench with mid orangey brown silty clay (507) in the north part.

These were cut by northwest-southeast aligned linear feature [506] (Fig 5, Section 7; Plate 4). With concave sides and measuring 0.3m wide and 0.05m deep, this was filled with mid yellowish grey clayey silt (505). The feature may have been a gully or plough scar and was cut by east-west aligned linear feature [504], the continuation of drain trench [206]. The drain trench was 2m wide and filled by dark grey topsoil mixed with rounded pebbles (503). This contained the ceramic drain pipe, also seen in Trench 2, which was exposed only enough to show that it was around 0.45m in diameter and lay 0.6m below the current surface. The feature was sealed by 0.26m thick topsoil (501).

**Trench 6** (Fig. 4)

The natural deposit of mottled reddish brown clayey silt (602) was cut, towards the south end of the trench, by a single small, sub-rectangular feature [604] (Fig. 5, Section 8).

With steep sides and flat base, this

measured 0.4m long, at least 0.21m wide and 0.13m deep. It was filled with soft black charcoal (603). Its regular shape suggests a modern origin.

In the north end of the trench, there was an east-west aligned agricultural furrow, a continuation of [303].

The features were sealed by 0.25m thick topsoil (601).

**Trench 7** (Fig. 3)

A natural deposit of light orangey brown/mid grey silty clay (703) was overlain by 0.22m thick mid yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil (702). Above this was 0.3m thick topsoil (701). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 8** (Fig. 4)

The natural deposit in Trench 8 was mottled orangey brown/yellowish grey silty clay (802). It was cut by northwest-southeast aligned ditch [804] (Fig. 5, Section 8; Plate 5) which was 0.75m wide and 0.5m deep. It had very steep sides and a flattish base and was filled with hard pinkish red/yellowish grey clay (803). Two fragments of ceramic building material were retrieved from this, one of which is probably post-medieval, but could be Roman (Appendix 2). The regular shape of the feature was more in keeping with a modern origin. It was sealed by 0.3m thick topsoil (801).

**Trench 9** (Fig. 3)

In a machined *sondage* at the west end of the trench, the earliest deposit revealed was at least 0.28m thick natural mid orangey brown silty clay (904) (Fig. 5, Section 11; Plate 6). This was overlain by 0.15m thick natural orangey grey silty clay (903) which was sealed by 0.25m thick mid yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil (902) above which was 0.23m thick topsoil (901). No archaeological features were revealed.

**Trench 10** (Fig. 3)

The natural deposit in this trench was mid orangey brown clayey silt (1002). This was cut by three north-south aligned agricultural furrows which were overlain by 0.25m thick topsoil (1001).

**Trench 11** (Fig. 3)

In Trench 11 the natural deposit was mid orangey brown/light yellowish grey silty clay (1102). In the northwest corner of the trench, this was cut by a single north-south aligned furrow which was overlain by 0.29m thick topsoil (1101).

**Trench 12** (Fig. 4)

A natural deposit of mottled mid orangey brown/light greyish brown silty clay (1203) was cut by roughly north-south aligned ditch [1202] (Fig. 5, Section 4; Plate 7). This had fairly straight 45° sides and a narrow base and was 1.75m wide and 0.57m deep. It was filled by mid grey orangey brown sandy clay (1201). The feature corresponds with the projection of field boundaries mapped in 1885 (Fig. 3). The feature was sealed by 0.32m thick topsoil (1200).

**Trench 13** (Fig. 3)

The natural deposit of mid reddish brown/mid greyish yellow silty clay (1302) was overlain by 0.24m thick topsoil (1301). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 14** (Fig. 3)

Natural mid orangey brown silty clay (1402) was cut by three north-south aligned agricultural furrows, two of which appear to be continuations of those in Trench 10. They were overlain by 0.18m thick topsoil (1401).

**Trench 15** (Fig. 3)

The natural mid orangey brown silty clay (1502) was cut by a single NNE-SSW aligned agricultural furrow (Plate 8). This was sealed by 0.23m thick topsoil (1501).

**Trench 16** (Fig. 4)

The natural deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay (1602) was cut by NNE-SSW aligned ditch [1604] (Fig. 5, Section 10; Plate 10), the continuation of [1202]. This had steep, convex sides and a narrow base and was 1.65m wide and 0.8m deep. It was filled by mid greyish brown clayey silt (1603). There was a parallel agricultural furrow towards the west end of the trench. These features were overlain by 0.26m thick topsoil (1601). Feature [1604] corresponded with the projection of a field boundary mapped in 1885 (Fig. 3).

**Trench 17** (Fig. 3)

Natural mid orangey brown silty clay (1702) was overlain by 0.25m thick topsoil (1701). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 18** (Fig. 3)

A natural deposit of mid orangey brown silty clay (1802) was overlain by 0.25m thick topsoil (1801). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 19** (Fig. 4)

The natural deposit in this trench was a mix of orangey brown/mid yellowish grey silty clay (1904) (Plate 11). It was cut, towards the centre of the trench, by WNW-ESE aligned ditch [1903] (Fig. 5, Section 3; Plate 12). This had steep slightly convex sides, a narrow flat base and was 1.15m wide and 0.52m deep. It was filled by dark brownish grey clayey silt (1902) which contained a piece of 20<sup>th</sup> century glass bottle. The feature corresponded with a field boundary mapped in 1885 (Fig. 3). It was sealed by 0.3m thick topsoil (1901).

**Trench 20** (Fig. 3)

A natural deposit of mid orangey brown silty clay (2002) was cut by WNW-ESE aligned ditch [2004]. This was filled by dark brownish grey clayey silt (2003). As it was clearly the same ditch as [1903], from which a modern date had already

been obtained, this feature was not excavated. It was sealed by 0.3m thick topsoil (2001).

**Trench 21** (Fig. 3)

The mid orangey brown silty clay natural deposit (2102) in this trench was cut by three roughly north-south aligned agricultural furrows. They were sealed by 0.3m thick topsoil (2101).

**Trench 22** (Fig. 3)

A natural deposit of mid orangey brown silty clay (2202) was overlain by 0.28m thick topsoil (2201). There were no archaeological features.

**Trench 23** (Fig. 3)

The mid orangey brown silty clay (2302) was cut by three north-south aligned agricultural furrows. These were sealed by 0.25m thick topsoil (2301).

**Trench 24** (Fig. 3)

Natural mid orangey brown silty clay (2402) was cut, at the south end of the trench, by a single NNE-SSW aligned agricultural furrow. This was sealed by 0.28m thick topsoil (2401).

## 6. DISCUSSION

The natural deposits across the site were rather mixed silty clay of varying colours. *Sondages* were excavated in Trenches 1 and 9 which confirmed the natural origin of these deposits.

As indicated by the prior geophysical survey (Fig. 6), there was a pattern of north-south aligned agricultural furrows in the south field with a similarly aligned field boundary ditch to the east of them. This was excavated, in Trenches 12 and 16, but no dating evidence was obtained. It is on line with, and is likely to have been an extension of, a boundary shown to the south on the 1885 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (Fig.

3), and had probably been backfilled by then.

An east-west aligned furrow was identified in the north field and was excavated in Trench 3.

A small, WNW-ESE aligned, ditch was excavated in Trench 19, where it contained a piece of 20<sup>th</sup> century glass, and also identified in Trench 20. This corresponds both to the geophysical survey and a boundary shown on the 1885 map. The boundary was extant until at least 1966 but had been removed by 1982 (OS 1966; 1982).

An east-west aligned boundary, also shown on the 1885 map and identified by geophysics, in Trenches 2 and 5 contained a large diameter ceramic pipe. The boundary was also recorded on the 1904 OS map but had been removed by 1951 (OS 1904; 1951). It is therefore probable that the ceramic pipe was laid in the ditch, and the ditch backfilled, between those dates. The geophysical survey also postulated a parallel feature immediately to the south of the backfilled ditch. However, on excavation, this seemed merely to be the result of light root disturbance, probably representing a hedge line.

A further linear, northwest-southeast aligned, feature matching the geophysical survey was excavated in Trench 8. This had a very stiff clay fill and contained ceramic building material of probable post-medieval date.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire as remains of Roman and medieval date were known in the vicinity.

The furrows identified in both fields indicate the site was in use for arable agriculture probably from the medieval period. Ditches were also recorded and probably represent parts of the post-medieval field system established by enclosure. No earlier remains or artefacts were encountered.

Finds comprised two fragments of ceramic building material and one of glass.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of SLR Consulting on behalf of Push Energy for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Denise Drury.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
 Site Staff: Mark Peachey, Andy Failes, Fiona Walker  
 Surveying: Neil Parker, Andy Failes, Fiona Walker  
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
 Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey  
 CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey  
 Post-excavation Analysis: Mark Peachey

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Liddle, P, 1979 *Trans Leicestershire Archaeol Hist Soc* **54** p81

OS, 1885 *Leicestershire (Southern Division) Sheet XXIX*. S.E. 6 inches to 1 mile

OS, 1904 *Leicestershire Sheet XXIX*. S.E. 6 inches to 1 mile (2<sup>nd</sup> ed)

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SLR, 2015a *Push Energy Ltd. Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire Proposed Solar Farm Assessment of Direct Impacts*, SLR Ref: **404-04990-00002**

SLR, 2015b *Push Energy Limited. Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire Proposed Solar Farm Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Site Investigation by Trial-Trench*, SLR Ref: **403-04990-00012**

## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

CIfA Chartered Institute for  
Archaeologists

LHER Leicestershire Historic  
Environment Record

OS Ordnance Survey



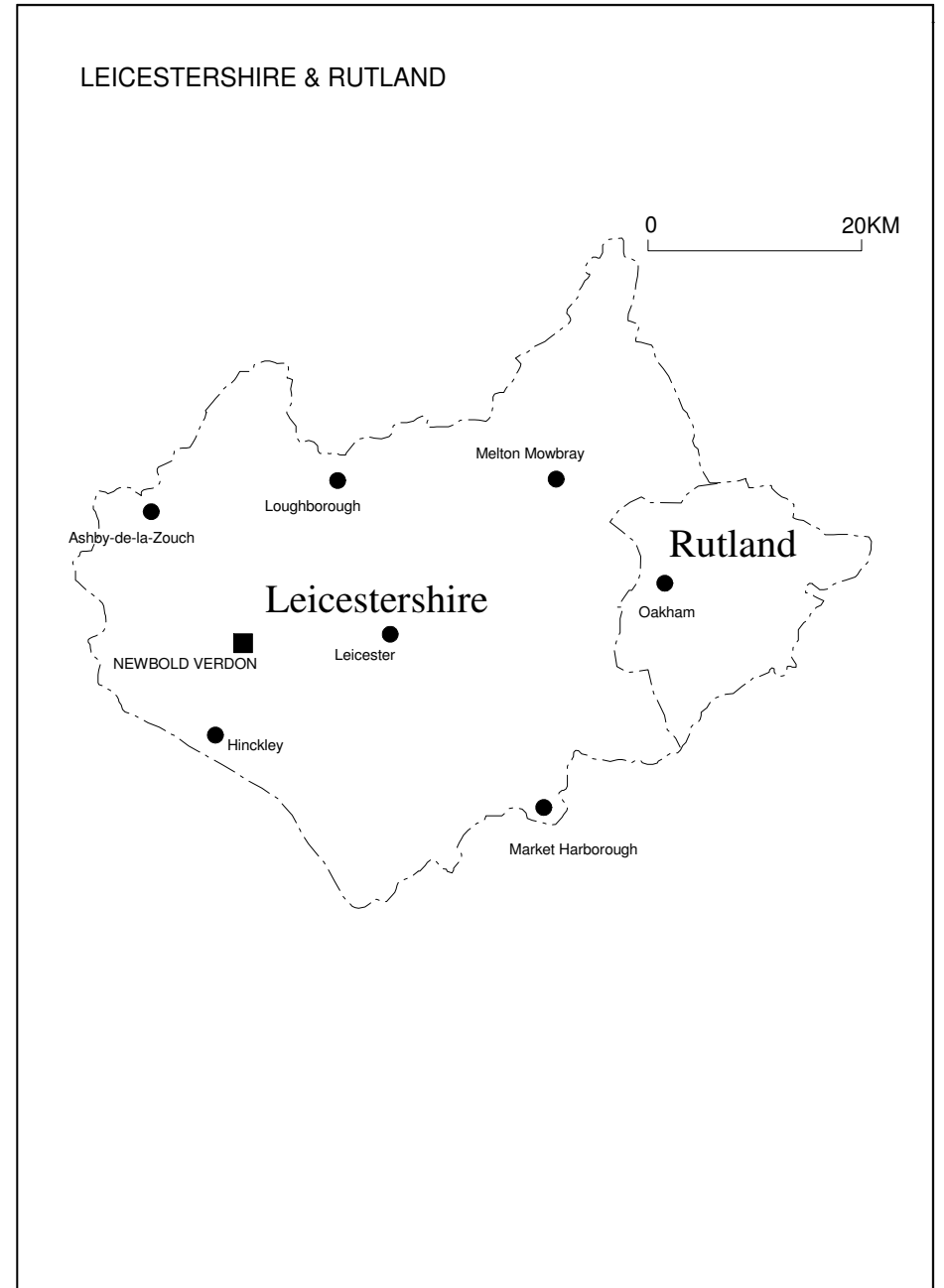
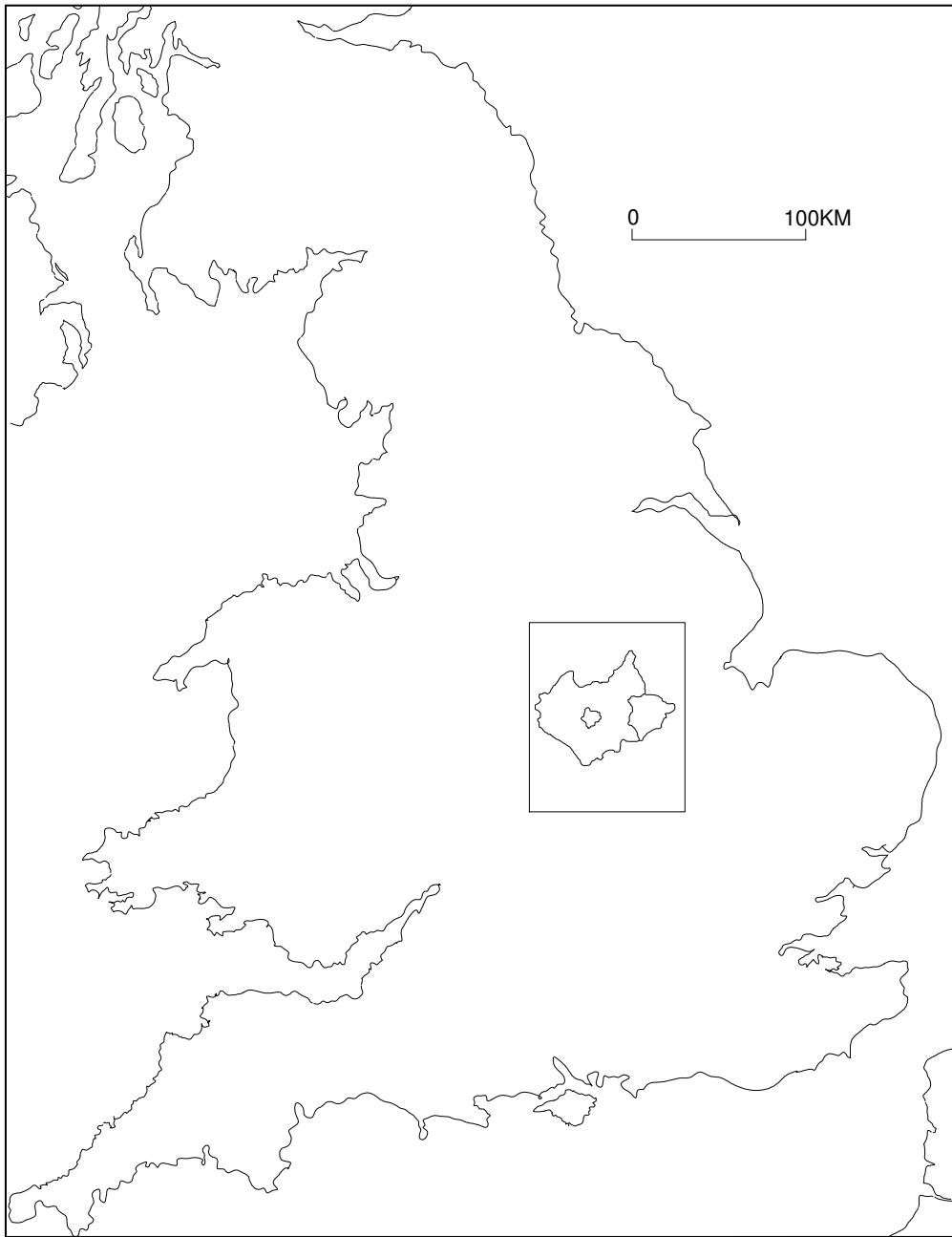
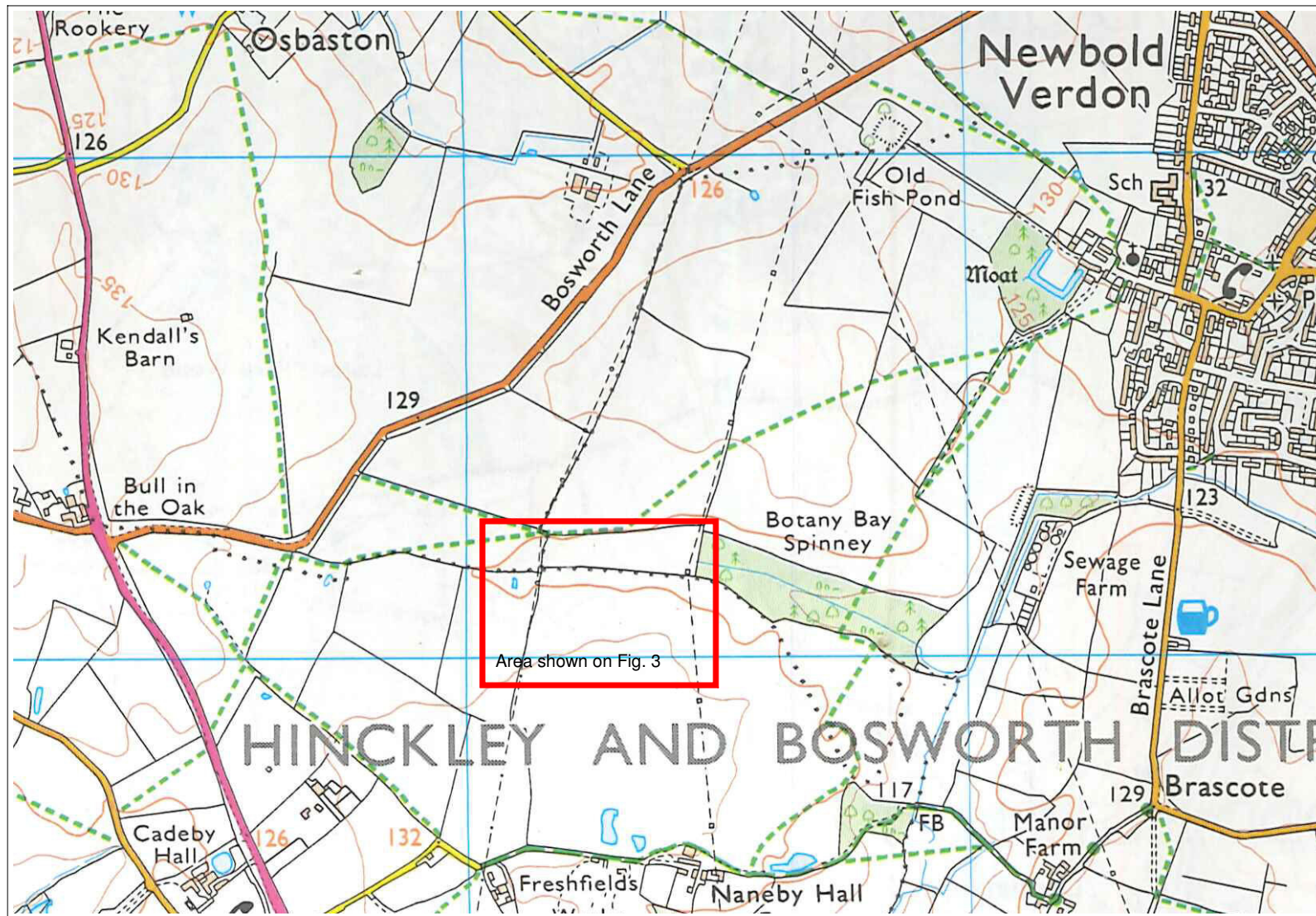


Figure 1: General location map







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Scale 1:12500	Drawn by: MJP	Report No: 92/15

Figure 2. Site location plan





Figure 3. Trench location plan overlaid on 1885 OS map



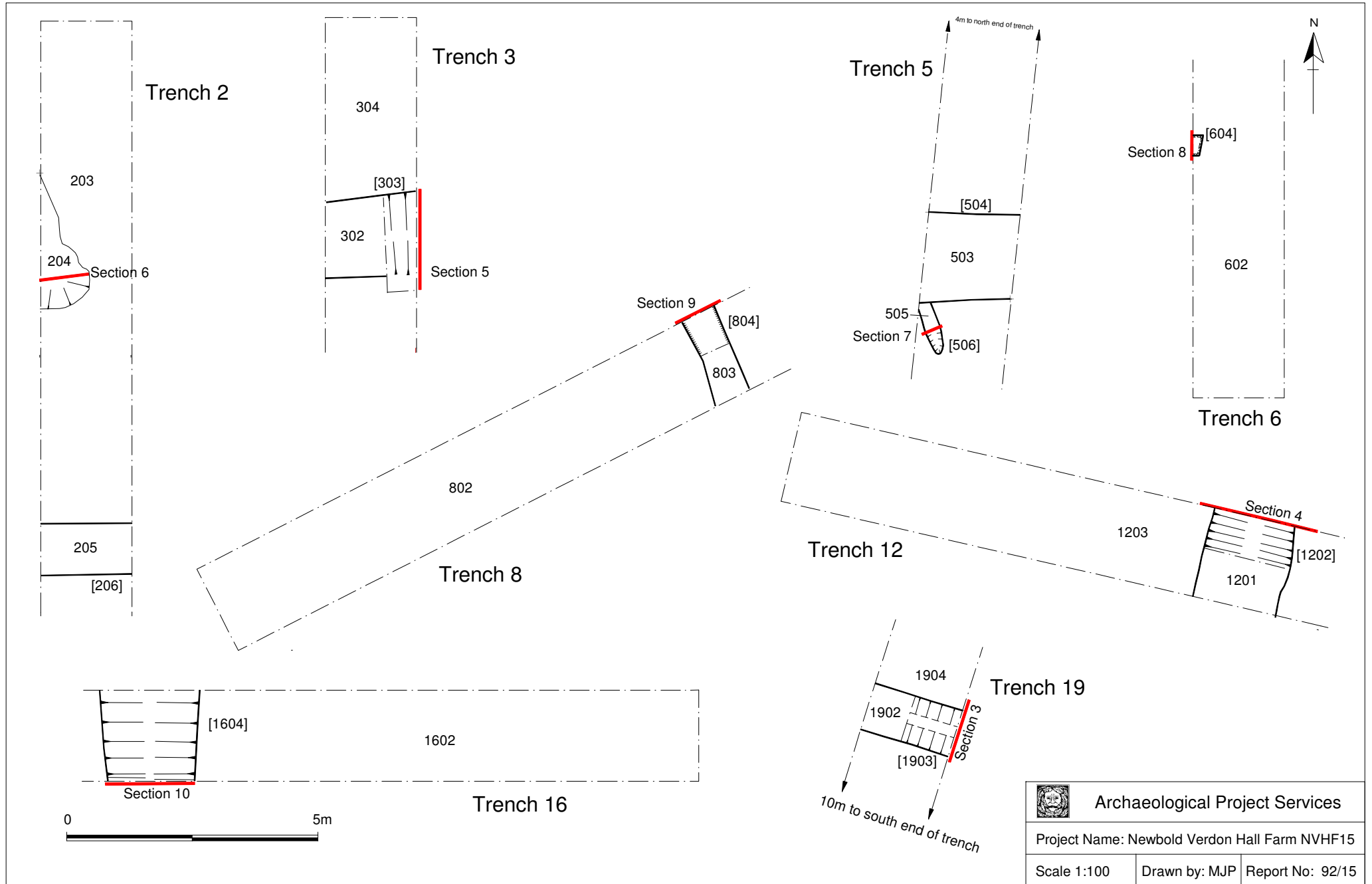


Figure 4. Trench plans



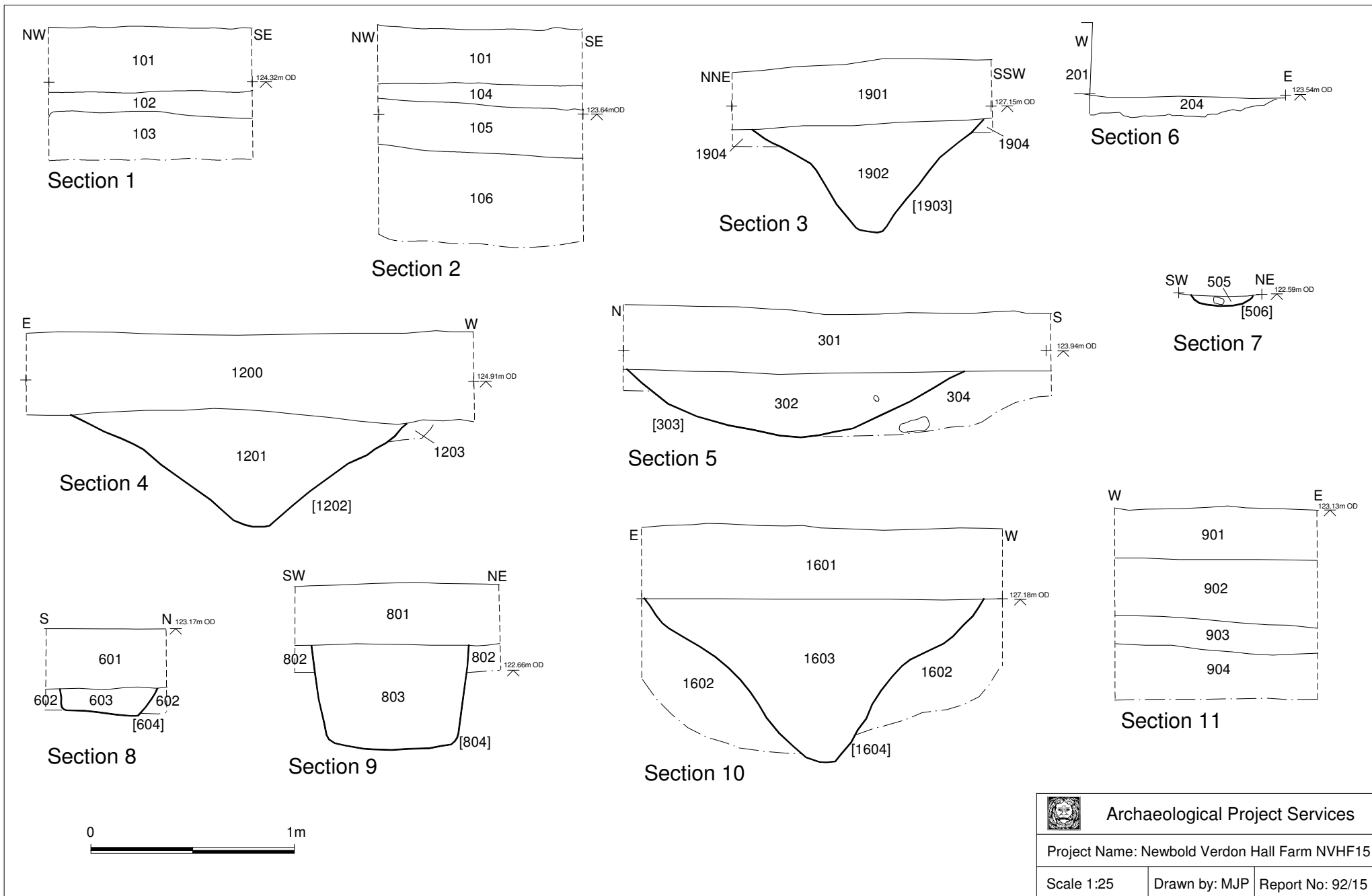
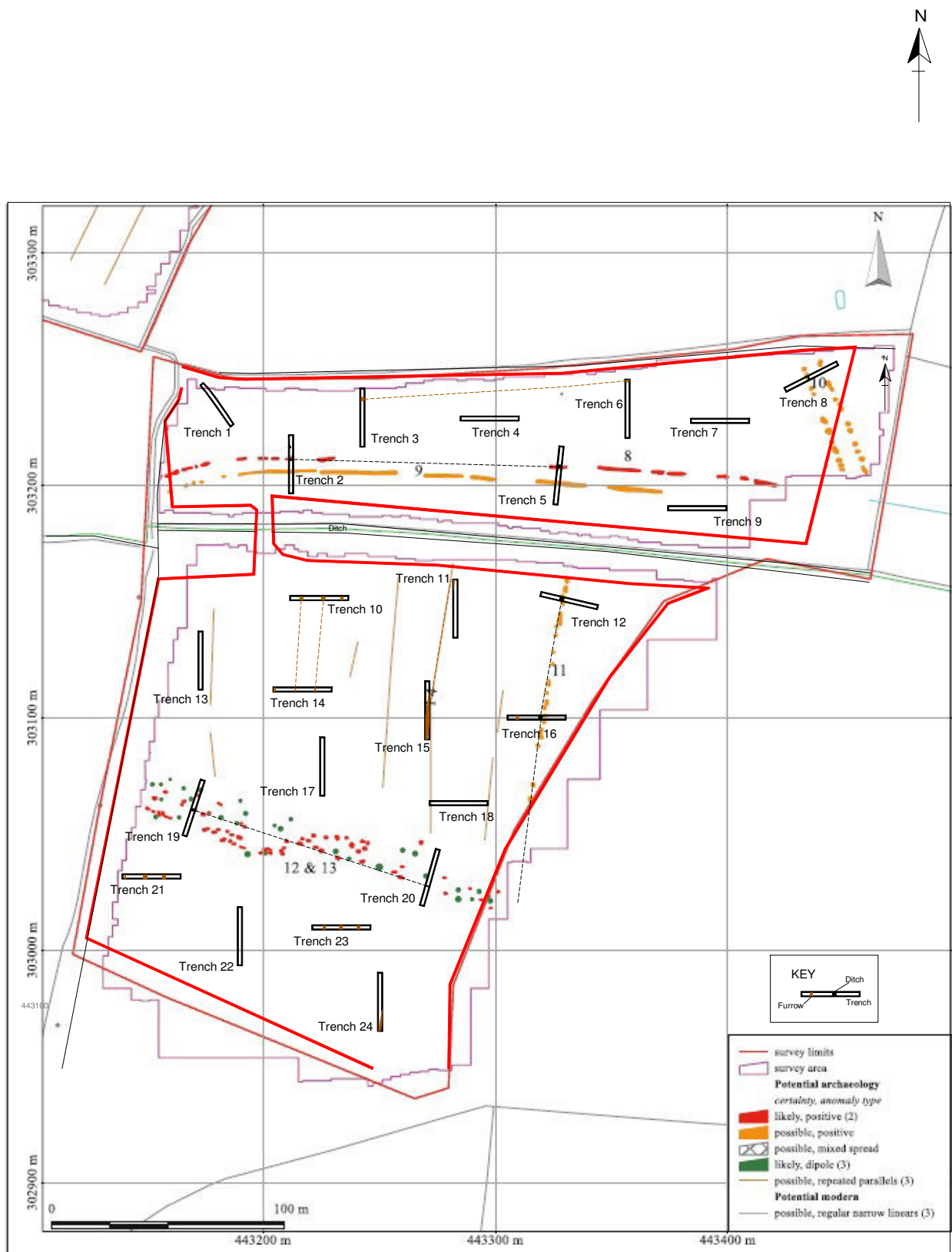


Figure 5. Sections







Geophysical survey interpretive diagram by Substrata



Archaeological Project Services

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Scale 1:2500

Drawn by: GT

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Figure 6. Trench plan overlaid on geophysical survey interpretive results





Plate 1. Pre-machining view of the north field looking east



Plate 2. Machining Trench 3 looking north



Plate 3. Trench 3, furrow [303], Section 5, looking east



Plate 4. Trench 5, Gully [506], Section 7, looking northwest



Plate 5. Trench 8, Ditch [804], Section 9, looking northwest



Plate 6. Trench 9 *sondage*, Section 11, looking north



Plate 7. Trench 12, Ditch [1202], Section 4, looking south



Plate 8. Trench 15 looking north showing plough furrow



Plate 9. Trench 16 looking east



Plate 10. Trench 16, Ditch [1604], Section 10, looking south



Plate 11. Trench 19 looking north



Plate 12. Trench 19, Ditch [1903], Section 3, looking east



## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Trench	Description	Interpretation	Date
101	1	Moderate- firm, dark grey brown sandy silt with some clay and occasional small pebbles, 0.32m thick	Topsoil	Modern
102	1	Moderate, light yellow/ brown sandy silt clay with moderate small rounded and sub- angular pebbles and flint, 0.13m thick, same as (104)	Subsoil	
103	1	Firm pliable, mixed light yellow brown and light grey clay with slight silt, occasional patches red brown sandy clay with gravel, occasional organic, occasional- moderate small/ fine pebbles and rare- occasional small- medium rounded pebble, at least 0.24m thick (not bottomed), same as (105)	Natural	
104	1	Moderate- firm, light brown yellow sandy silt with moderate- frequent stones, 0.11m thick, same as (102)	Subsoil	
105	1	Firm pliable, light- mid yellow brown and grey brown silty clay with moderate fine mineral/ organic flecks and occasional fine stones, 0.24m thick, same as (103)	Natural	
106	1	Firm (very resistant), mixed mid pinkish brown and grey clay with some sand and silt, occasional organic, occasional stones and moderate light- moderate patches pure clay, at least 0.45m thick (not bottomed)	Natural	
201	2	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
202	2	Friable mid brown clayey silt with frequent small rounded pebbles, 0.15m thick	Subsoil	
203	2	Firm mix of orangey brown silty clay and yellow grey silty clay with gravel patches	Natural	
204	2	Firm dark red clay patch, up to 0.1m thick	Natural anomaly	
205	2	Loose mix of 50% dark greyish brown clayey silt, 50% small to medium rounded pebbles	Fill of [206]	
206	2	East-west aligned cut, 0.85m, not excavated	Pipe trench	
301	3	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Topsoil	
302	3	Fairly firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt with common small rounded pebbles, 0.3m thick	Fill of [303]	
303	3	East-west aligned linear cut, gradually sloping sides and base, 1.6m wide, 0.3m deep	Agricultural furrow	
304	3	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent gravel	Natural	
401	4	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
402	4	Firm mid orangey brown/mid greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular to angular pebbles, at least 0.13m thick	Natural	

501	5	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt 0.26m thick	Topsoil	
502	5	Firm mid yellowish brown silty clay	Natural in south part of trench	
503	5	Loose mix of 50% dark greyish brown clayey silt, 50% small to medium rounded pebbles	Fill of [504]	
504	5	East-west aligned linear cut, 2m wide, not excavated	Pipe trench	
505	5	Friable mid yellowish grey clayey silt with frequent small lumps of charcoal, 0.05m thick	Fill of [506]	
506	5	NW-SE aligned linear cut with concave sides and rounded base, 0.3m wide, 0.05m deep	Cut of gully or plough scar	
507	5	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay	Natural in north part of trench	
601	6	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
602	6	Firm mottled reddish brown clayey silt with frequent gravel	Natural	
603	6	Soft black charcoal, 0.13m thick	Fill of [604]	
604	6	Sub-rectangular cut with steep sides and flat base, 0.4m long, at least 0.21m wide, 0.13m deep	Cut of pit	
701	7	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
702	7	Fairly firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt, 0.22m thick	Subsoil	
703	7	Firm mottled light orangey brown/mid grey silty clay with occasional small to medium rounded stones	Natural	
801	8	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
802	8	Firm mottled orangey brown/yellowish grey silty clay	Natural	
803	8	Hard mottled dark pinkish red/yellowish grey clay with occasional small rounded stones, 0.5m thick	Solid clay fill of [804]	
804	8	NW-SE aligned linear cut with steep sides and flattish base, 0.75m wide, 0.5m deep	Cut of ditch	
901	9	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.23m thick	Topsoil	
902	9	Fairly firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional small pebbles, 0.25m thick	Subsoil	
903	9	Firm light orangey grey silty clay with frequent small to large angular to rounded stones, 0.15m thick	Natural	
904	9	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded stones, at least 0.28m thick	Natural	
1001	10	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
1002	10	Firm mid orangey brown clayey silt with frequent small to medium rounded pebbles	Natural	
1101	11	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.29m thick	Topsoil	

1102	11	Mottled mid orangey brown/light yellowish grey silty clay with common small to medium rounded pebbles	Natural	
1200	12	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.32m thick	Topsoil	
1201	12	Firm mid greyish orangey brown sandy clay with frequent rounded to sub-rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal and burnt clay	Fill of [1202]-deliberate backfill	
1202	12	North-south aligned linear cut with fairly straight, steep 45° sides, narrow base, 1.75m wide, 0.57m deep	Cut of ditch	
1203	12	Firm mottled mid orangey brown/light greyish brown silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded to sub-rounded pebbles	Natural	
1301	13	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.24m thick	Topsoil	
1302	13	Firm mottled mid reddish brown/mid greyish yellow silty clay with occasional gravel patches	Natural	
1401	14	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.18m thick	Topsoil	
1402	14	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay	Natural	
1501	15	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.23m thick	Topsoil	
1502	15	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent small to medium rounded pebbles, at least 0.12m thick	Natural	
1601	16	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.26m thick	Topsoil	
1602	16	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay	Natural	
1603	16	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt with common small to medium sub-angular to rounded pebbles, 0.8m thick	Fill of [1604]	
1604	16	ENE-SSW aligned linear cut with steep, convex sides and narrow, flat base, 1.65m wide, 0.8m deep	Cut of ditch	
1701	17	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
1702	17	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with light greyish brown patches	Natural	
1801	18	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
1802	18	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with common small rounded pebbles	Natural	
1803	18	Friable mid grey silt with occasional small rounded pebbles, 0.15m thick	Probable disturbance	root
1901	19	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
1902	19	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt with a yellowish grey clayey silt lens in top, common small rounded to sub-angular stones, 0.52m thick	Fill of [1903]	Modern
1903	19	WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with steep, slightly convex sides and narrow, flat base, 1.55m wide, 0.52m deep	Cut of ditch	Modern

1904	19	Firm mix of orangey brown/mid yellowish grey silty clay with recent small to medium rounded pebbles	Natural	
2001	20	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
2002	20	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with occasional more silty yellow grey patches, common pebbles	Natural	
2003	20	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, not excavated	Fill of [2004]	
2004	20	WNW-ESE aligned linear cut, 0.85m wide, continuation of [1903]	Cut of ditch	
2101	21	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil	
2102	21	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay	Natural	
2201	22	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Topsoil	
2202	22	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with common small rounded pebbles	Natural	
2301	23	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil	
2302	23	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with common small to medium rounded pebbles	Natural	
2401	24	Friable dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Topsoil	
2402	24	Firm mid orangey brown silty clay with common small rounded pebbles	Natural	

## Appendix 2

### THE FINDS

#### CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

*By Alex Beeby*

##### Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002). A total of two fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 40 grams were recovered from the site.

##### Methodology

The material was laid out and weighed. 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 1 below.

##### Condition

There are two relatively small pieces. One of the fragments is abraded.

##### Results

*Table 1, Ceramic Building Material Archive*

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Comment	Date	NoF	W(g)
8	803	CBM	Oxidised; fine; sandy; mica	Abraded; no surfaces; fine white mica		1	33
8	803	CBM	Oxidised; medium sandy; Fe	Corner flake	Roman or Post Medieval	1	7
<b>Total</b>						<b>2</b>	<b>40</b>

##### Provenance

The ceramic building material was recovered from fill (803) within ditch [804] in Trench 8.

##### Range

There are two fragments of ceramic building material, both of which are in bright oxidised sandy fabrics. One is very abraded and undiagnostic, whilst the second piece is of either Roman or, more probably, post-medieval date.

##### Potential

There is no potential for further work. The ceramic building material should be discarded. If it is retained it will pose no problems for long term storage.

#### GLASS

*By Gary Taylor*

##### Introduction

One piece of glass weighing 8g was recovered.

##### Condition

The glass is in good condition.

##### Results

*Table 2, Glass Archive*

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
1902	Colourless bottle glass.	1	8	20 <sup>th</sup> century

**Provenance**

The glass was recovered from ditch fill (1902).

**Range**

One shard of a 20<sup>th</sup> century bottle was recovered.

**Potential**

Apart from dating evidence the glass is of no further potential and could be discarded.

**SPOT DATING**

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

*Table 3, Spot dates*

<b>Cxt</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
803	Roman or Post Medieval	Based on 1 CBM
1902	20 <sup>th</sup> century	Based on 1 glass

**ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

**REFERENCES**

~ 2002, *Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, version 3.2  
[internet]. Available at <<http://www.tegula.freemove.co.uk/acbm/CBMGDE3.htm>>

### Appendix 3

#### GLOSSARY

<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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<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>Layer</b>	A layer is 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>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<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>Sondage</b>	Small investigative excavation, from French meaning 'sounding'.
<b>Tessera</b>	Fragments of stone, tile, <i>etc.</i> used in the creation of mosaics (plural tesserae).

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

24	Trench record sheets
16	Context record sheets
4	Photographic record sheets
9	Daily record sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
2	Sheets of scale drawings

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:

Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services  
Room 500  
County Hall  
Leicester Road  
Glenfield  
Leicester  
LE3 8TE

Accession Number:	X.A81.2015
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	NVHF 15
OASIS record number	archaeo11-225233

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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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: archaeol1-225233**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation on land at Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire
Short description of the project	An evaluation comprising twenty-four trial trenches revealed evidence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation and several probable field boundary ditches of post-medieval date.
Project dates	Start: 06-08-2015 End: 11-09-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	NVHF15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	X.A81.2015 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	FURROW Uncertain
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches"" , ""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Solar Farm
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	LEICESTERSHIRE HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH NEWBOLD VERDON Hall Farm

Postcode CV13 0BB  
 Study area 6 Hectares  
 Site coordinates SK 4325 0315 52.624034992343 -1.361010445596 52 37 26 N 001 21 39 W Point  
 Height OD / Depth Min: 123m Max: 130m

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation SLR Consulting Ltd and Archaeological Project Services  
 Project brief originator SLR Consulting  
 Project design originator Gary Taylor  
 Project director/manager Gary Taylor  
 Project supervisor Mark Peachey  
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer  
 Name of sponsor/funding body Push Energy Limited

**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums Service  
 Physical Archive ID X.A81.2015  
 Physical Contents "Ceramics","Glass"  
 Digital Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums Service  
 Digital Archive ID X.A81.2015  
 Digital Contents "Ceramics","Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient Leicestershire Museums Service  
 Paper Archive ID X.A81.2015  
 Paper Contents "Ceramics","Glass","Stratigraphic","Survey"  
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Archaeological Evaluation at Hall Farm, Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire  
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Peachey, M.

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## OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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