

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AT THE OLD HALL HOTEL,
CAISTER-ON-SEA
NORFOLK
(37421 CBY)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr M. Gilbert

October 2006

Report Compiled by
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National Grid Reference: TG 5209 1214
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. **109/03**

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 Caister on Sea
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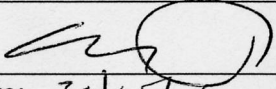
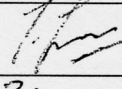
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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at the Old Hall Hotel, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk. The watching brief monitored the excavation of foundation trenches for a new sports and leisure complex.

Flint tools and pottery of Neolithic (4000-2200 BC) and Bronze Age (2200-800 BC) date are known from the immediate vicinity of the site. Finds and an enclosure of Iron Age date (800 BC-AD 42) have also been recorded. During the Romano-British period (AD 43-410), Caister was the site of a military fort constructed during the 3rd century. This fort lay to the northwest of the site, although evaluation had identified civilian settlement in the immediate proximity of The Old Hall Hotel. The interior of the fort was reoccupied during the Middle Saxon (AD 650-850) period and may be the possible site of the Saxon monastery of Cnobheresburg. The site lies close to the medieval (AD 1066-1540) core of Caister, although remains of this period have not previously been identified at this site.

The watching brief identified a sequence of undated, Romano-British and post-medieval deposits. Undated remains include a number of pits and a posthole and are possibly contemporary with three Romano-British pits recorded at the site. A post-medieval subsoil, pits and wall remains, associated with a former malt-house at the site were also encountered. Finds include Romano-British and later pottery sherds, brick, tile, clinker and mortar.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted

during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.” (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

A planning application for the construction of an extension to The Old Hall, Norwich Road, Caister-on-Sea has been submitted to Great Yarmouth Borough Council (Planning Ref. 06/01/0663/F). The proposed development comprises a leisure and fitness centre including an extension to an existing swimming pool. As the site lies within an area of known archaeological remains Norfolk Landscape Archaeology requested that an archaeological scheme of works be undertaken. An archaeological evaluation trench excavated at the site in November 2002 revealed pits and ditches of Roman date. Based on the results of the evaluation an archaeological watching brief was requested during the groundworks for the development.

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr M. Gilbert of The Old Hall to undertake the watching brief during the proposed development. The project was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (Appendix 1). The fieldwork was undertaken between 5th and 12th March 2003.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Caister-on-Sea is located 5km north of Great Yarmouth and 30km east of Norwich in Norfolk (Fig. 1).

The site is 160m southeast of the village centre as defined by the parish church of Holy Trinity at National Grid reference TG 5209 1214 (Fig. 2). The site lies adjacent to High Street at a height of c. 3m

OD on a gentle slope down to the south.

Local soils are of the Newchurch 2 Association, typically pelo-calcareous alluvial gleys (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 263). Underlying this deposit is the Norwich Brickearth, a till deposited during the Anglian glaciation (Funnell 1994, 14).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Caister-on-Sea is located in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Neolithic to the present day. A Neolithic flint arrowhead was found during excavations in the village and other worked flints have been found to the west.

Excavations, prior to the construction of a supermarket immediately west of the site revealed an assemblage of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age pottery and worked flint, associated with a group of postholes. These postholes may represent a prehistoric building (Albone 2003b).

Late Bronze Age activity is represented by a hoard of four Irish gold bracelets discovered at Belstead Avenue *c.*250m west of the site in 1955 (*ibid.*). Pottery and metalwork found during the 19th century, have been tentatively identified as being of Iron Age date. However, no unequivocal evidence of this period has been recorded in the vicinity of the site (*ibid.*). An enclosure dating from the mid 1st century was identified during the construction of the by-pass, *c.*700m west of the site.

A Roman fort, was constructed 350m northwest of the site on previously unoccupied ground in the early 3rd century AD. The site may well be equated with the place-name *Gariannonum*. The fort commanded a defensive position on the southeast side of the island of Flegg, overlooking the Yare estuary. In the later 3rd century it was complemented by the construction of Burgh Castle on the south side of the estuary. Excavations at the fort, principally in its southwest corner,

established its chronology, showing it functioned through to the late 4th century. Evidence of cavalry troops and apparently domestic activity was also recorded (*ibid.*).

An evaluation trench excavated at the site in 2002 revealed ditches and pits of mainly 3rd century date (Albone 2003a). These formed part of a wider complex of ditched enclosures dating principally to the 3rd and 4th centuries, which were identified during an earlier campaign of evaluation and excavation adjacent to the present site in 2001. Although only limited structural remains were encountered, the remains appear to be associated with a civilian settlement, or *vicus*, associated with the fort.

Immediately north of Norwich Road, approximately 130m from the site, a mosaic floor was reputedly found in the garden of Church Cottage. However, it was buried without any recording and the details of the find have never been confirmed. Isolated finds of Romano-British date have also been recorded elsewhere in the vicinity.

A significant amount of Middle Saxon evidence has been recorded at Caister-on-Sea. The interior of the fort appeared to have been occupied during this period with finds including pottery and coins. Immediately south of the fort was a large inhumation cemetery that remained in use from the 8th to mid-11th centuries (Darling and Gurney 1993, 6). The evidence for a large Middle Saxon population at Caister is taken as indicating that it may be the site of Fursa's monastery of *Cnobheresburg* recorded by Bede (*ibid.*, xvii).

The settlement is recorded in the Domesday Survey as *Castre* when land was held there by King William and St. Benedict's monastery at Holme. Prior to the Norman Conquest the King's manor had been held by 80 freemen. Recorded among the holdings of the King and St. Benedicts' were 2 mills, 45 salt-houses

and 92 half acres of meadow (Morris 1984).

The only extant remains of the medieval period is the church of the Holy Trinity, located to the north of the site. The earliest surviving part is the nave, which dates from the early 13th century (Pevsner and Wilson 1997, 424). Despite the proximity of the church, evidence of the medieval settlement was absent from adjacent archaeological investigations. However, pits containing medieval pottery were identified during an evaluation at number 3 West Road, immediately south of the site (Penn 1993).

3. AIMS

The requirements of the watching brief were to identify and record archaeological deposits and, if present, determine their nature, function, date and origin.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. The sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to determine their function and to retrieve artefactual material. Each deposit or feature was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appear as Appendix 2. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and annotated section location plans were produced at a scale of 1:100. A photographic record was also compiled. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation, the finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendices 3 and 4). Records were also checked and a

stratigraphic record compiled. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis five phases were identified;

Phase 1	Natural deposits
Phase 2	Undated deposits
Phase 3	Romano-British deposits
Phase 4	Post-medieval deposits
Phase 5	Modern deposits

Archaeological deposits are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural Deposits

The earliest deposit encountered in the base of the foundation trenches was a layer of a light reddish brown clay (038) that measured over 0.6m thick.

Phase 2 Undated deposits

Cutting natural deposits in the northwestern foundation trench was a pit (037). This was over 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.29m deep (Fig. 5, Section 8) and contained a single fill of reddish brown clayey silt (036).

Located 5m to the south was a further pit (040). This measured 1.72m long and 0.32m deep (Fig. 5, Section 9). This was filled with a greyish brown clayey silt (039).

Situated 1.4m southwest of (040) was pit (044) which measured 1.52m wide and 0.28m deep (Fig. 5, Section 9). A single fill of reddish brown sandy silt (043) was recorded.

A further pit (059) was located to the northeast. This was 1.1m wide and 0.56m

deep (Fig. 6, Section 10) with a single fill of reddish brown sandy silt (058).

Approximately 8m to the southeast of this pit was pit (053). This measured 0.62m across and was 0.3m deep (Fig. 6, Section 15) with a recorded fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (052).

Located 0.4m southwest of this pit was a posthole (073) that measured 0.46m wide and 0.24m deep. This also contained a fill of yellowish brown sandy silt (054).

Located within the southwest foundation trench was a pit (067) that measured 0.9m wide and 0.42m deep (Fig. 7, Section 18). A fill of reddish brown clayey silt (066) was identified.

Phase 3 Romano-British Deposits

Located towards the northwest of the foundation trenches was a large pit (048). This measured 4.64m long by 2m wide and 1.18m deep (Fig. 5, Sections 9, 13, 14; Fig. 6, Section 15). A single fill of reddish brown clayey silt (047) was recorded from which a single sherd of 2nd to 3rd century pottery was retrieved.

Lying adjacent to the undated pit (037) was a further pit (035). This was 1.84m wide and 0.44m deep (Fig. 5, Section 8) and contained a fill of reddish brown clayey silt (034). Pottery of 2nd to 3rd century date was retrieved from this fill.

Some 15m to the south was pit (063) that was 1.7m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig. 7, Section 17). This contained a fill of yellowish brown clayey silt (062) from which Romano-British tile was retrieved.

Phase 4 Post-medieval Deposits

Cutting the Romano-British pit (048) was a pit (051). This was over 1.4m long by 0.47m wide and 0.56m deep (Fig. 6, Section 15; Fig. 7, Section 16). A single fill of reddish brown sandy silt (050) was

identified from which post-medieval brick and tile were retrieved.

This was sealed by a 0.1m thick layer of compacted chalk (049) which was only evident towards the central northern part of the site (Fig. 6, Section 15; Fig. 8, Section 20).

Developed across the site was a subsoil (033 and 061) that measured between 0.3m and 0.4m thick.

Cut into this subsoil was a pit (065). This was 1.3m wide by 0.72m deep (Fig. 7, Section 18) and was filled with reddish brown sandy silt (064).

Aligned northwest-southeast through the more northerly foundation trenches was a construction cut (057). This was at least 11m long by 0.7m wide and 0.94m deep (Fig. 6, Sections 10 and 12; Fig. 8, Section 20; Fig. 9, Sections 21, 23 and 24). Within this trench was a handmade brick built wall (055) and a backfill deposit of reddish brown clayey silt (056).

A possible post-medieval wall foundation (069) lay adjacent to this wall and measured 0.6m wide and 0.24m high.

Another foundation trench (071) was identified towards the southwest of the site and was broadly parallel to wall (055). This was 0.5m wide and 0.5m deep (Fig. 10, Section 25). The wall (070) was constructed of brick and cobbles.

Phase 5 Modern Deposits

Cut into the post-medieval subsoil was a posthole (042) located to the northwest of the foundation trenches. This was 0.52m wide and 0.6m deep (Fig. 5, Section 9) and was filled with greyish brown sandy silt (041).

Adjacent to this posthole was a pit (046) that was 3.96m long by 0.69m deep (Fig. 5, Section 9). This contained a single fill

of greyish brown sandy silt with brick, sand and plastic (045).

Located towards the south of the site and sealing archaeological deposits was a 0.32m thick topsoil comprising reddish brown clayey silt (060).

The remainder of the site was sealed by a make-up deposit for modern surfaces of reddish brown sandy silt (003) that contained frequent brick and cobbles.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits (Phase 1) of clay represent the upper surface of the underlying drift geology of glacially derived till.

A number of deposits remain undated (Phase 2) due to a lack of artefactual material. These comprise six pits and a posthole. Although undated, these features have a similar stratigraphic position to Romano-British deposits.

Deposits of Romano-British date (Phase 3) are restricted to three pits, possibly for the disposal of refuse, although finds were limited. Most of the pottery retrieved during the investigation is of 2nd to 3rd century date.

Post-medieval deposits (Phase 4) include pits, a subsoil, a compacted chalk layer and walls. The presence of a subsoil may imply that the site was under an agricultural regime. The walls encountered during the watching brief appear to be associated with a malt-house that stood on the site as evidenced by 19th century Ordnance Survey maps.

Finds retrieved from the investigation includes a small quantity of Roman and later pottery. Brick, tile, mortar and clinker, mostly of post-medieval date, were also recovered during the watching brief.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at The Old Hall, off Norwich Road, Caister-on-Sea, as an evaluation undertaken previously at the site had revealed remains of Romano-British and later date.

Further Romano-British remains were encountered and comprise three pits. A number of undated features, mainly pits with a posthole, may also be of this date. They may indicate a possible continuation of the probable *vicus* remains identified in previous excavations adjacent to the site.

Post-medieval remains, including brick walls, pits and a subsoil, indicate later use of the site, although there is an absence of features and deposits dated to the medieval period.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include Roman pottery and tile along with post-medieval and later pottery, brick, tile, mortar and clinker.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M. Gilbert who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
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 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
 Illustration: James Albone, Paul Cope-Faulkner, Robert Evans
 Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth
 Post Excavation Analysts: James Albone,

Paul Cope-Faulkner

NAU Norfolk Archaeological Unit

NLA Norfolk Landscape Archaeology

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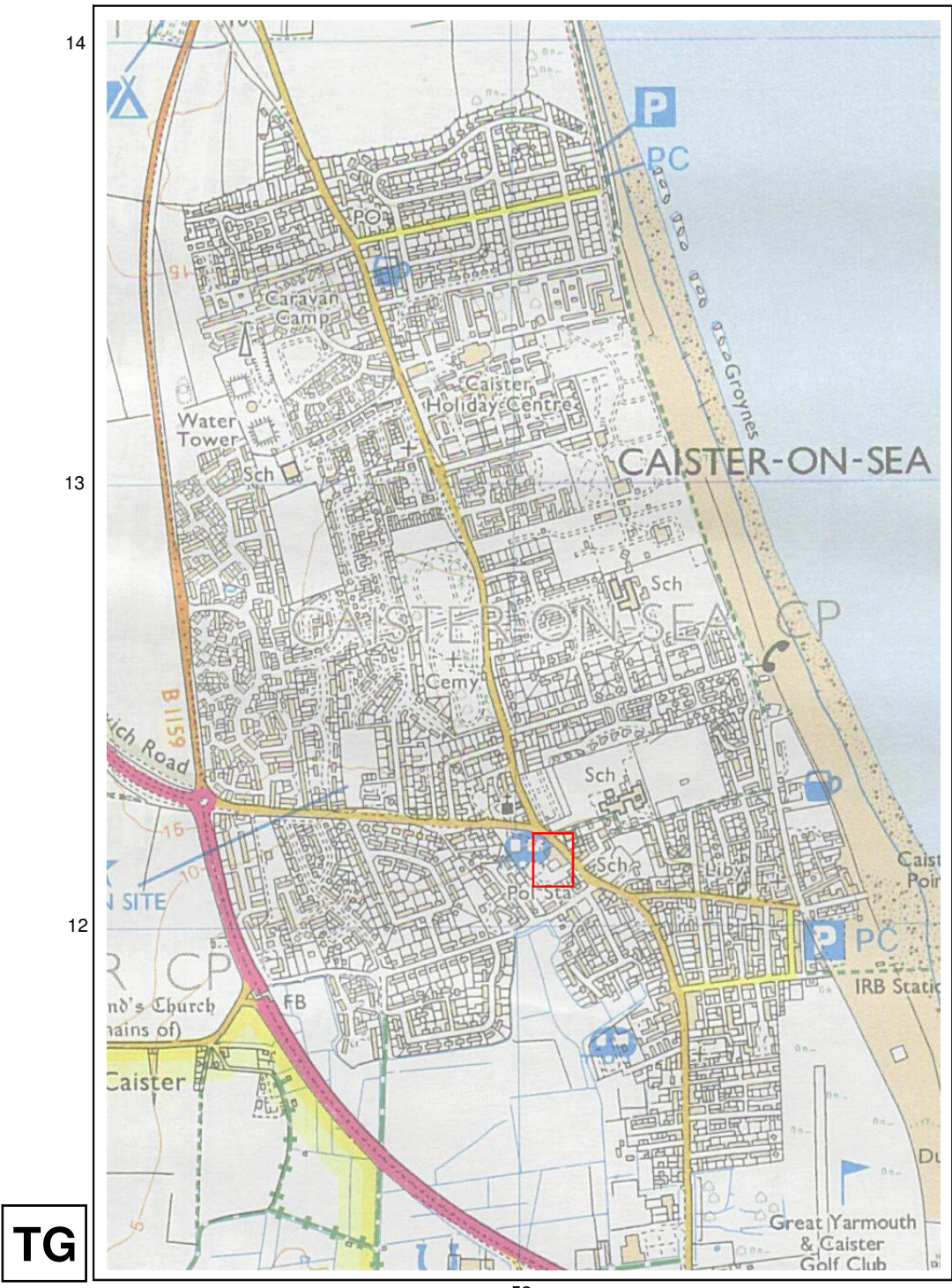
11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services


IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan



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 Area detailed in Figure 3

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Figure 2 - Site location plan

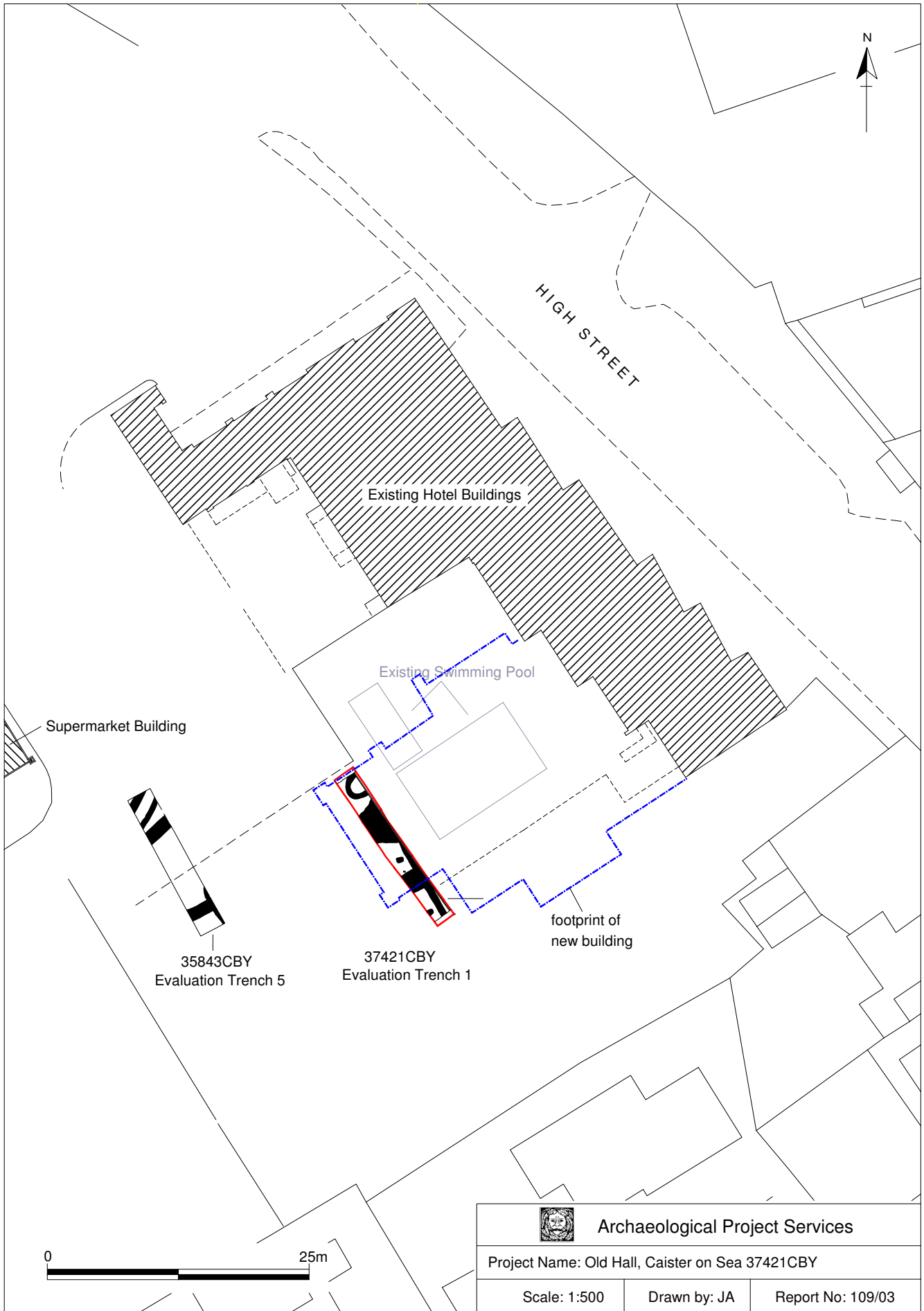


Figure 3 - Plan showing the location of the development and previous evaluations at the site

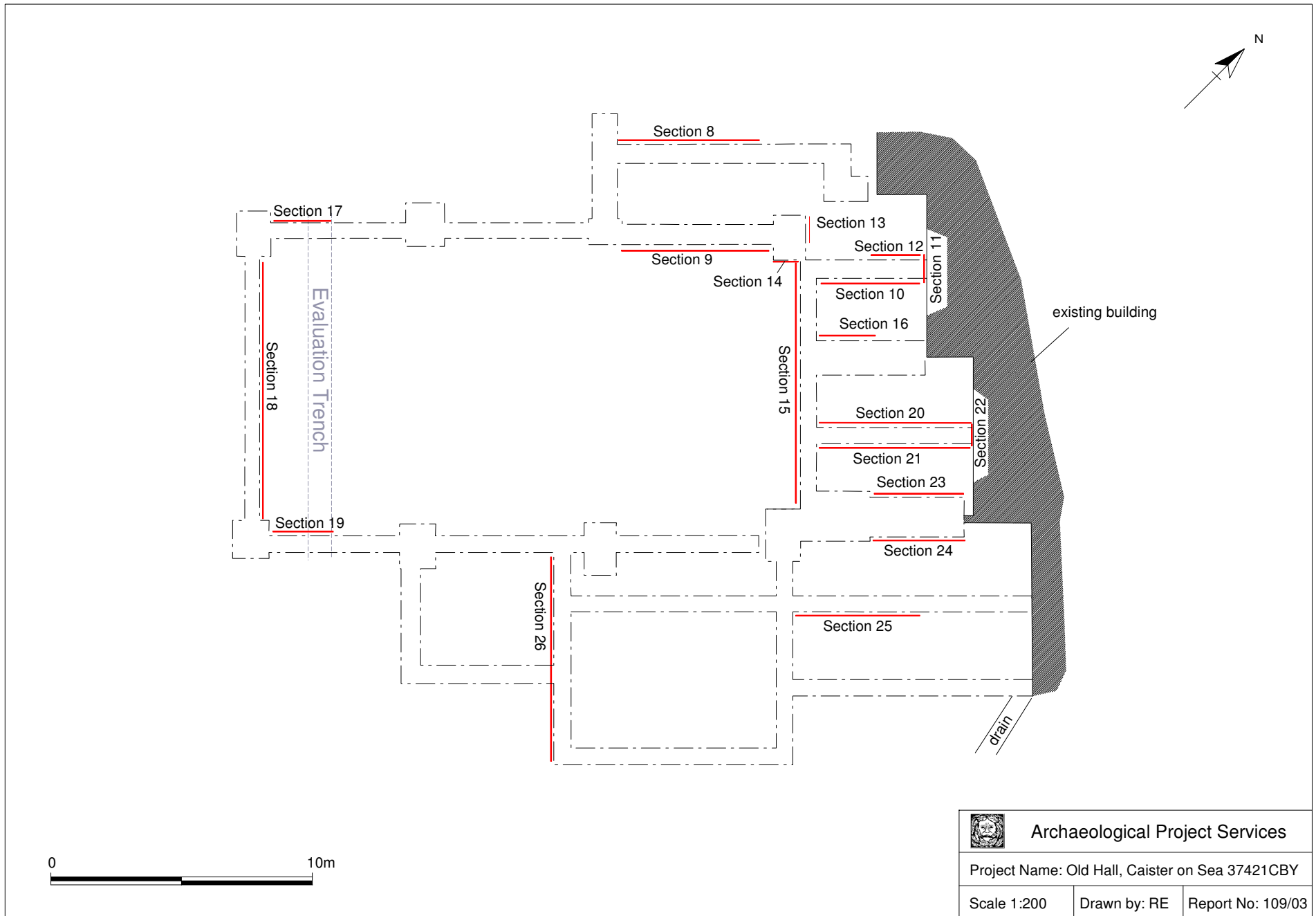
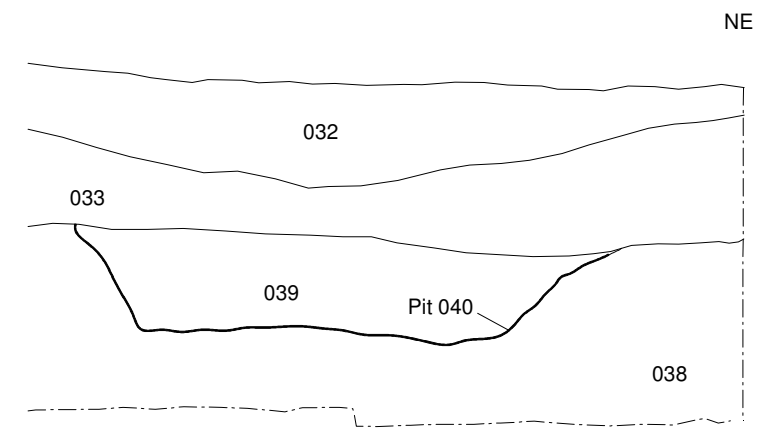
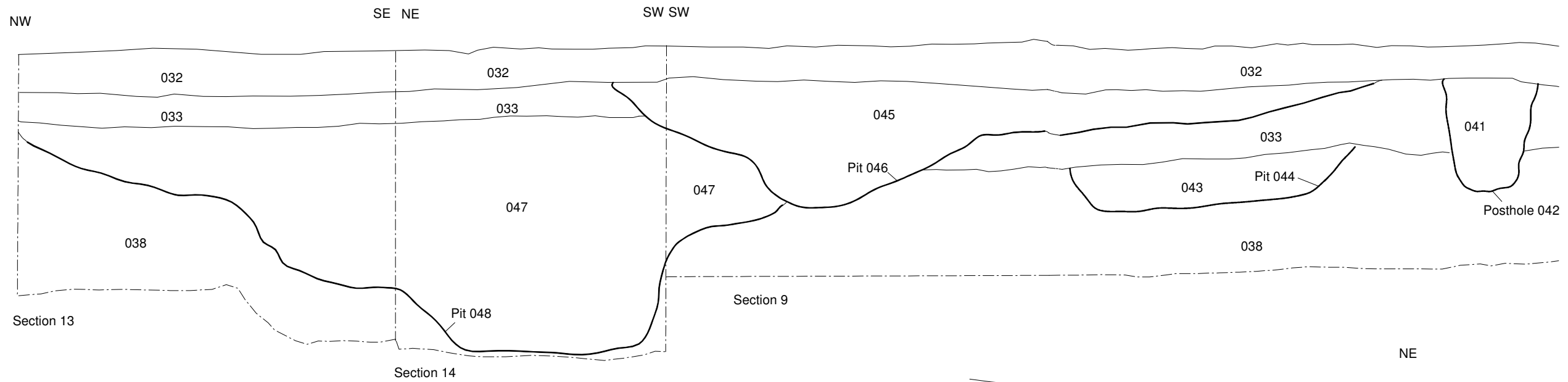
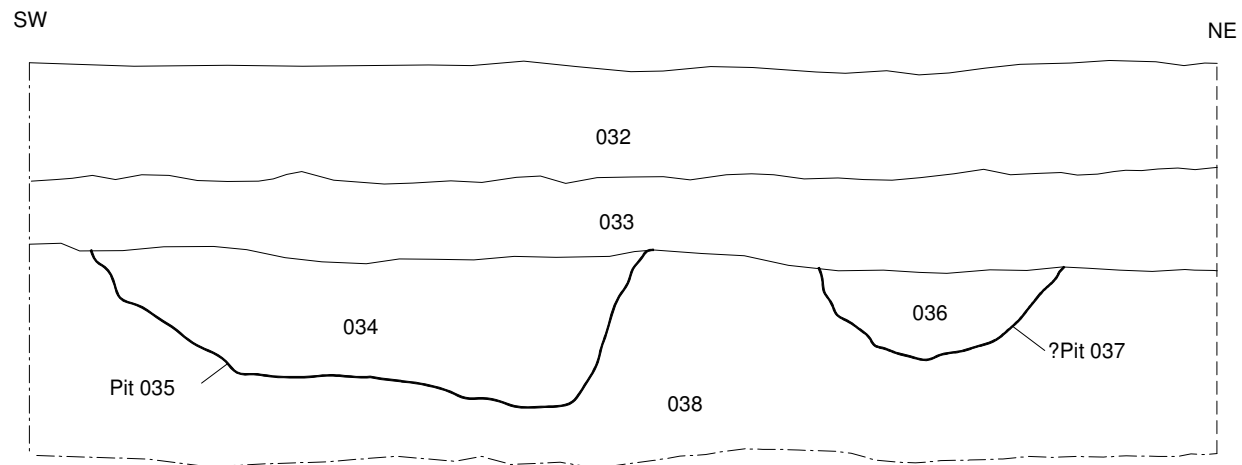


Figure 4 - Plan of the foundation trenches showing section locations




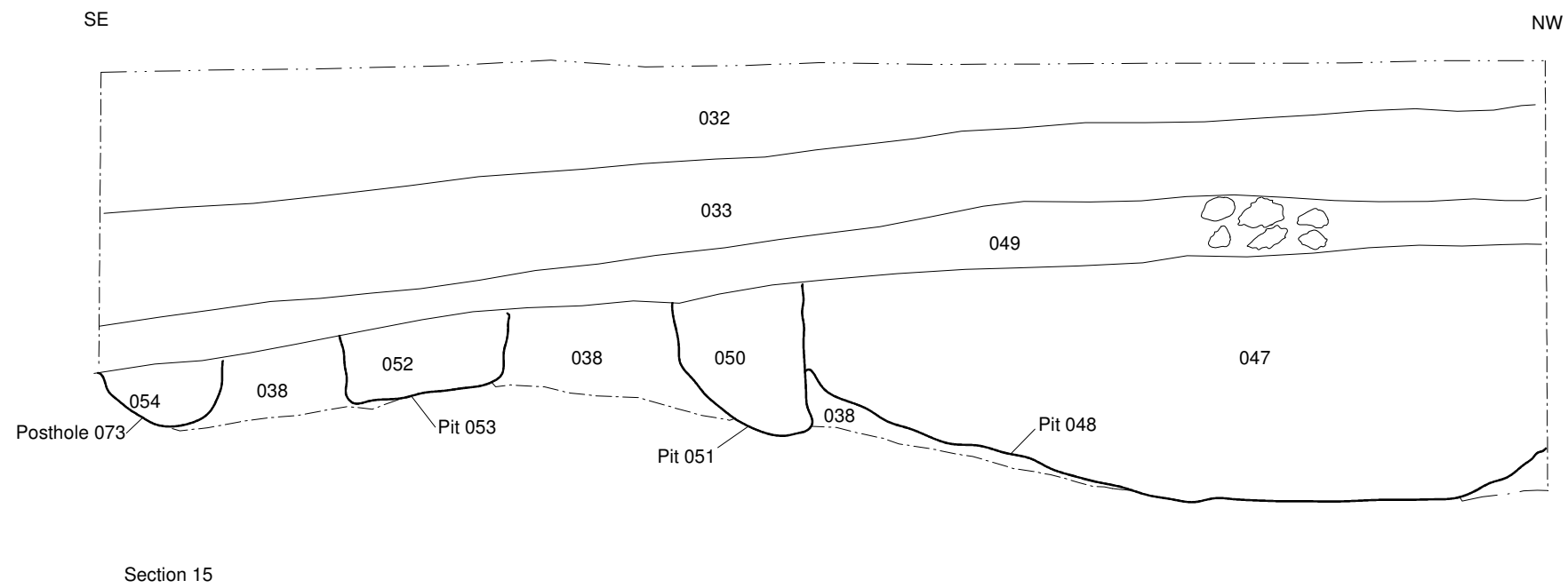
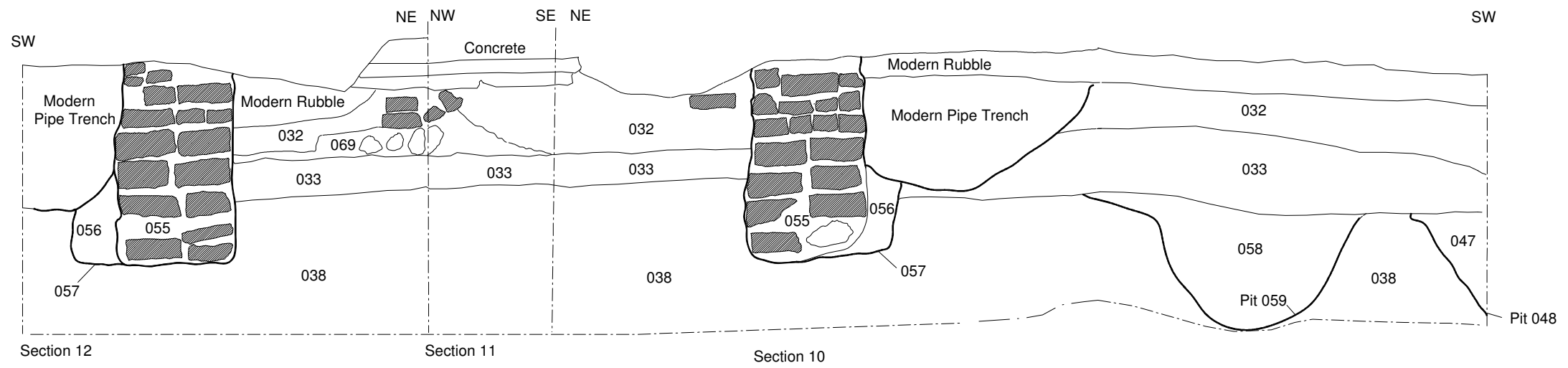
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Figure 5 - Sections 8, 9, 13 and 14




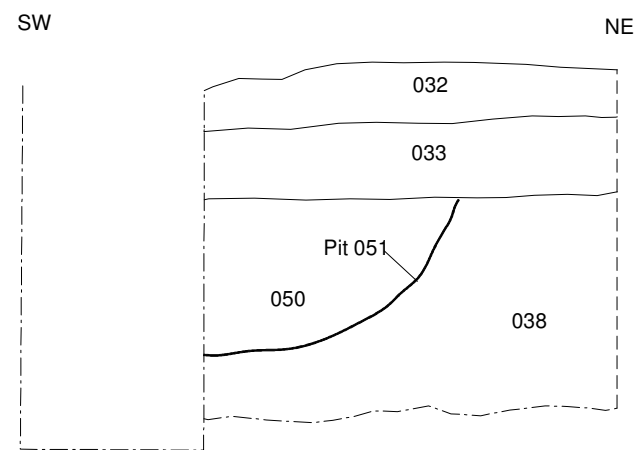
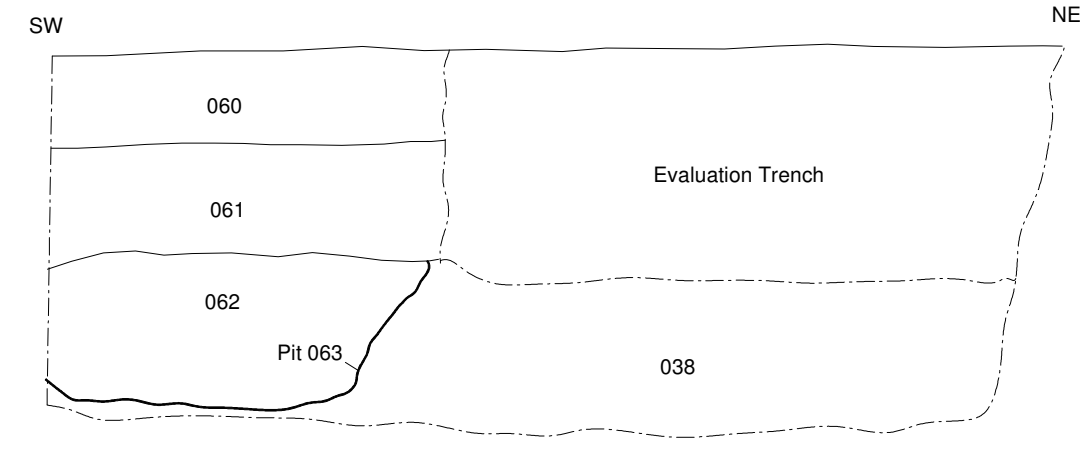
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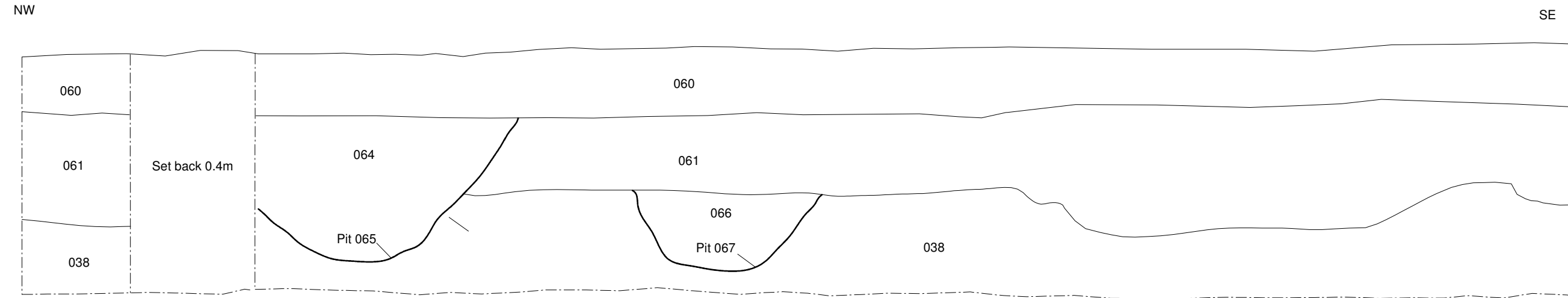
Figure 6 - Sections 10 to 12 and 15



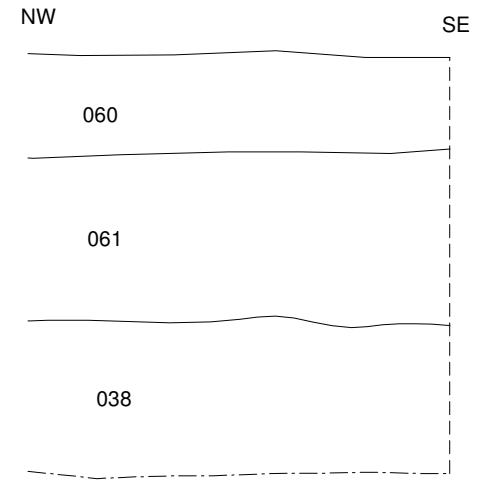
Section 16



Section 17



Section 18



Section 18 (continued)




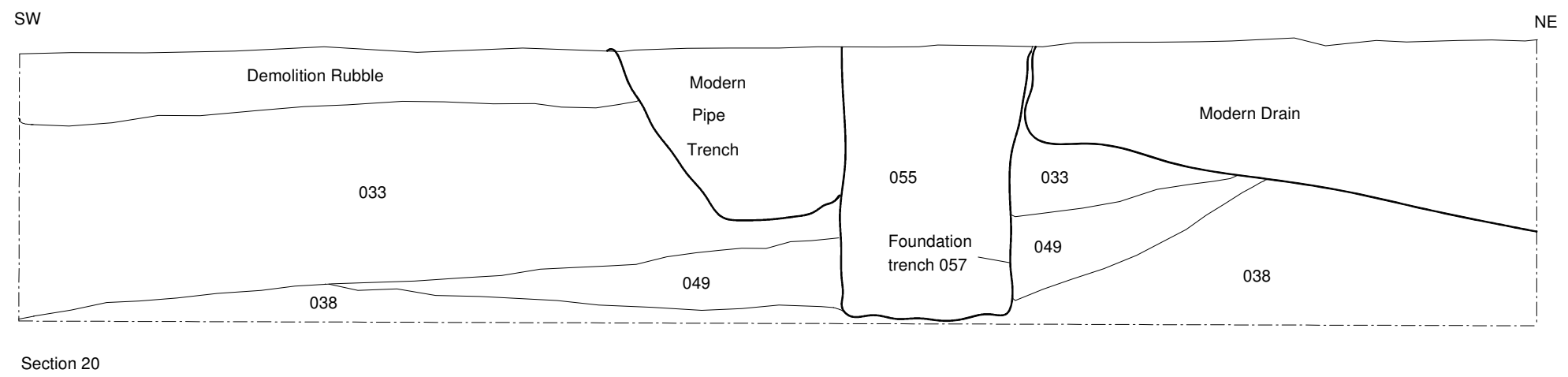
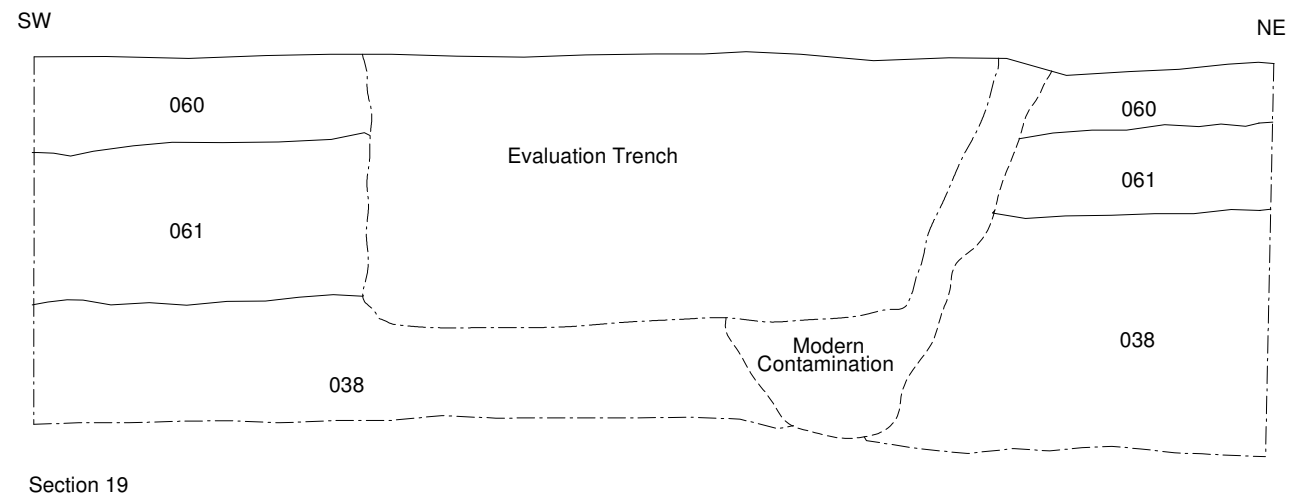
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Figure 7 - Sections 16 to 18




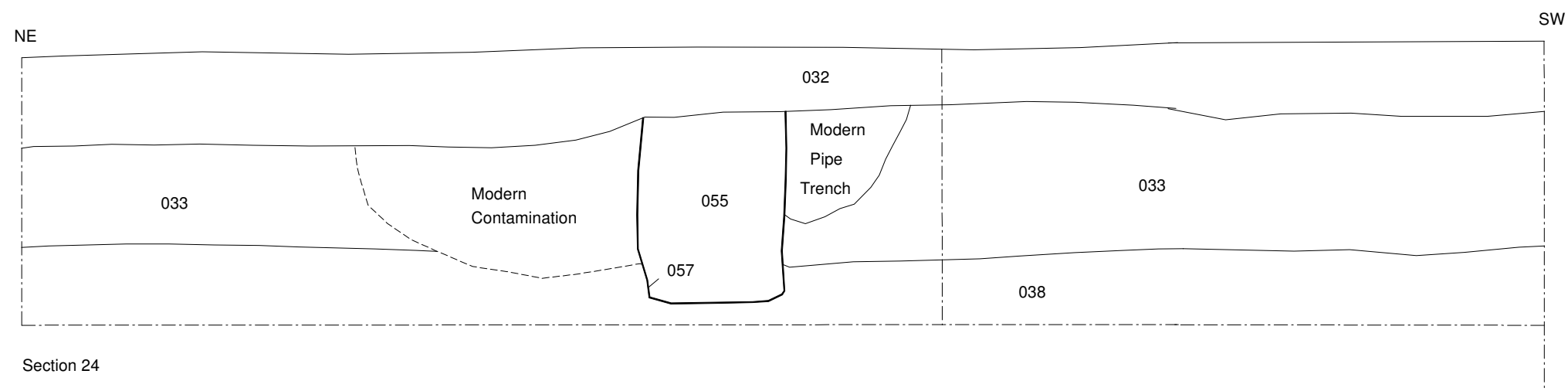
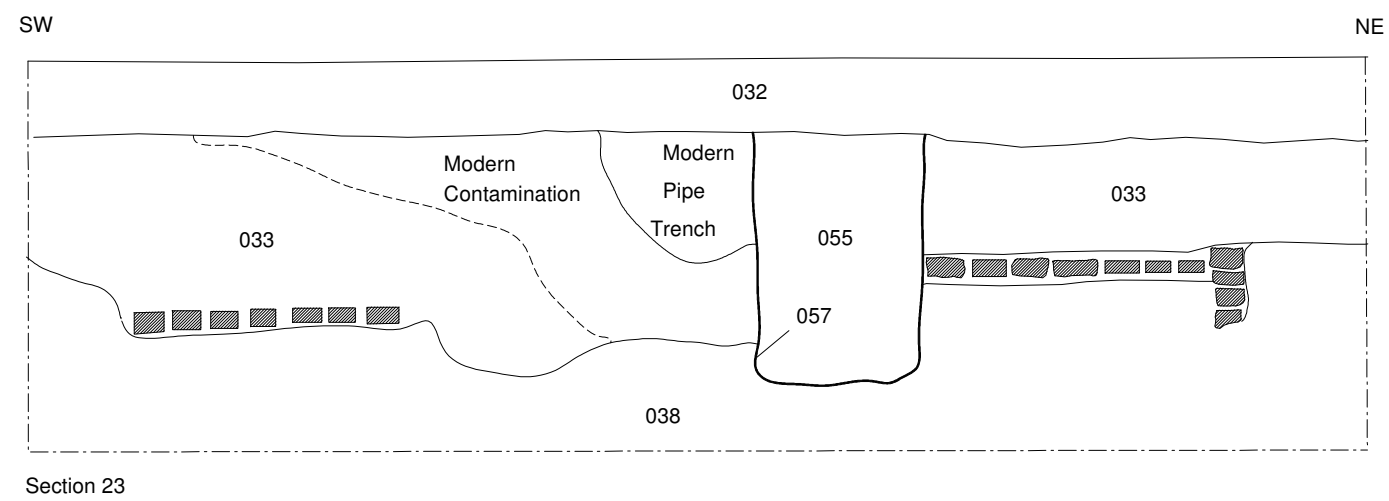
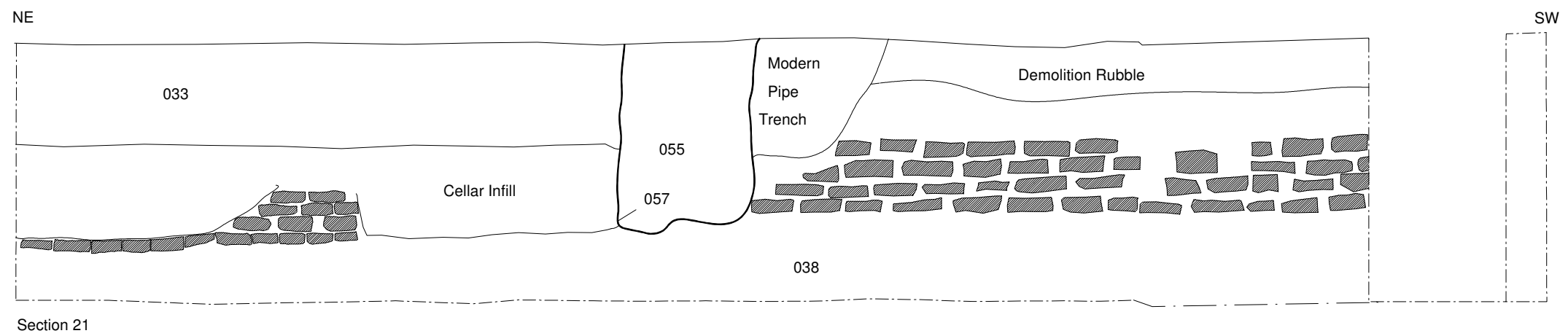
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Figure 8 - Sections 19 and 20




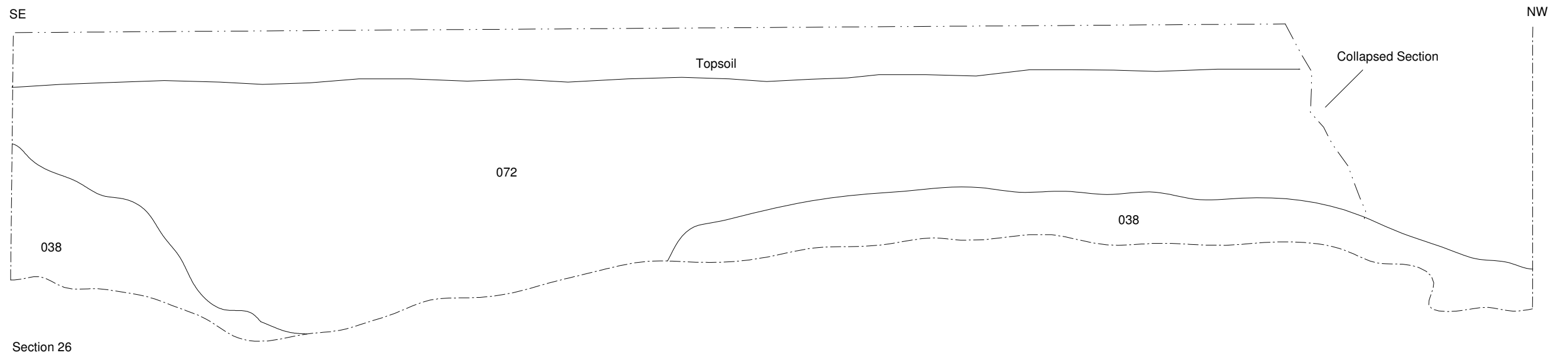
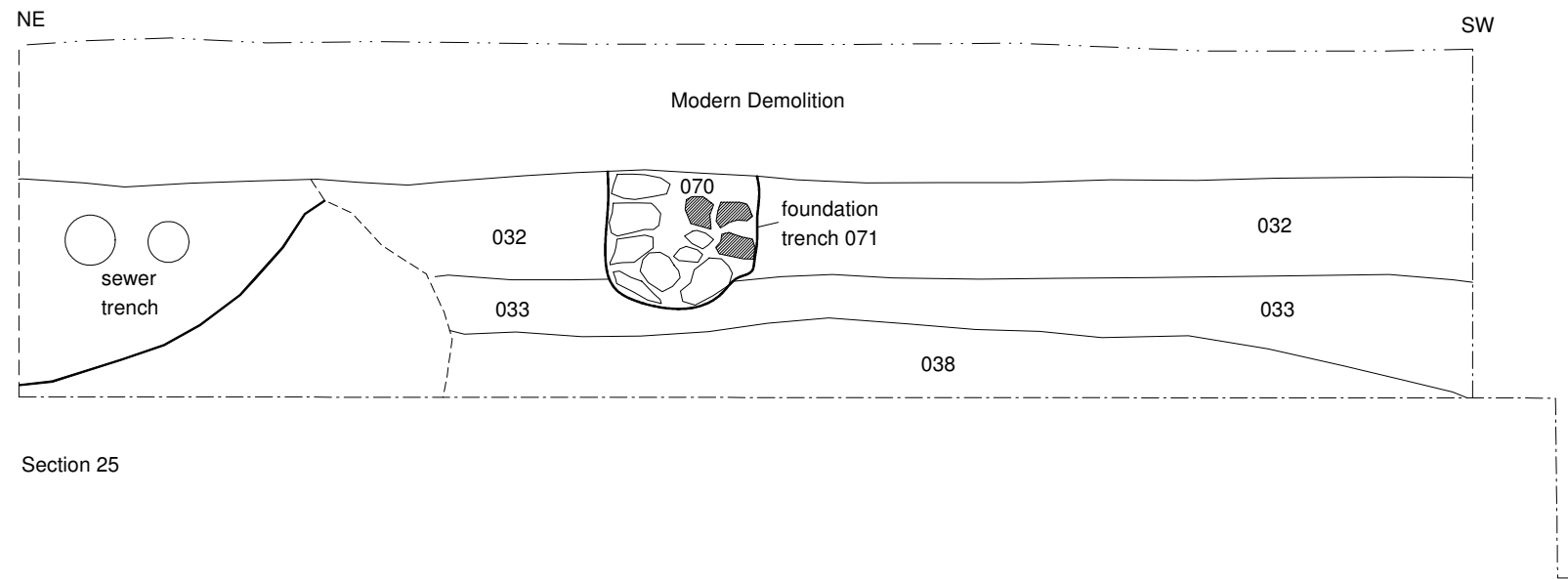
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Figure 9 - Sections 21, 23 and 24




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Figure 10 - Sections 25 and 26



Plate 1 - View across the development area, looking north



Plate 2 - Section 8 showing the Romano-British pit (035) and the undated pit (037), looking west



Plate 3 - Section 12 showing the post-medieval wall (055), looking northwest



Plate 4 - Section 10 showing the undated pit (059), looking south-east



Plate 5 - View showing the Romano-British pit (048), looking east



Plate 6 - Section 18 showing the undated pit (067) and the post-medieval pit (065), looking north

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
032	Firm dark reddish brown sandy silt with frequent brick and cobbles, 0.3m thick	Make-up layer
033	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt, 0.3m-0.4m thick	Subsoil
034	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (035)
035	Feature, 1.84m wide by 0.44m deep, steep sides	Pit
036	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (037)
037	Feature, >0.8m long by 0.6m wide by 0.29m deep, gradual sides and	Pit
038	Firm light reddish brown silty clay, >0.6m thick	Natural deposit
039	Firm mid greyish brown clayey silt	Fill of (040)
040	Feature, 1.72m long by >0.6m wide and 0.32m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Pit
041	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt	Fill of (042)
042	Feature, 0.52m wide by 0.6m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Posthole
043	Firm mid reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (044)
044	Feature, 1.52m wide by 0.28m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Pit
045	Firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with brick, sand and plastic	Fill of (046)
046	Feature, 3.96m long by 0.69m deep, uneven sides and rounded base	Pit
047	Soft mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (048)
048	Feature, 2m long by 4.64m wide by 1.18m deep, stepped sides and flattish base	Pit
049	Firm white chalk, 100mm thick	Layer
050	Quite firm mid reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (051)
051	Feature, >1.4m long by 0.47m wide by 0.5m deep, steep to rounded sides with uneven base	Posthole
052	Quite firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of (053)
053	Feature, 0.62m wide by 0.3m deep, vertical sides and flattish base	Pit
054	Quite firm light yellowish brown sandy silt	Fill of (073)
055	Brick (230mm x 110mm x 50mm and 230mm x 110mm x 70mm) structure, aligned north-south, >12m long by 0.6m wide and 0.95m high	Wall
056	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt	Backfill of (057)
057	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >11m long by 0.7m wide by 0.94m deep, vertical sides and flat base	Foundation trench
058	Firm mid reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (059)
059	Feature, 1.1m wide by 0.56m deep, variable sides and rounded base	Pit
060	Firm mark reddish brown clay silt, 0.32m thick	Topsoil
061	Firm dark reddish brown clay silt, 0.36m thick	Subsoil
062	Firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt	Fill of (063)
063	Feature, 1.7m wide by 0.5m thick, steep sides and flat base	Pit
064	Quite firm mid reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (065)
065	Feature, 1.3m wide by 0.72m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Pit
066	Firm mid reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (067)
067	Feature, 0.9m wide by 0.42m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Pit
068	Unstratified finds retrieval	
069	Brick (180mm x 60mm) structure, aligned north-south, 0.6m wide by 0.24m high	Wall foundation
070	Brick (180mm by 100mm) and cobble structure, aligned north-south, 0.51m wide by 0.5m deep	Wall

No.	Description	Interpretation
071	Linear feature, aligned north-south, 0.51m wide by 0.5m deep, near vertical sides and rounded base	Foundation trench
072	Soft dark greyish brown sandy silt, 1.4m thick	Dumped deposit
073	Feature, 0.46m wide by 0.24m deep, steep sides and rounded base	Posthole

Appendix 2

THE ROMAN POTTERY

by Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

QUANTITY AND CONDITION

The total quantity of pottery amounted to seven sherds, weighing 0.138kg from four contexts. This has been archived to the standard recommended by the *Study Group for Roman Pottery*, with sherd count and weight measures; a copy of the computer archive is attached (and is available on disk), and will be curated for future research. There are no problems for long term storage.

DETAILS

Context 033, Subsoil. A single cream (CR) body sherd broken in two, from a closed form. This is not closely datable. The fabric is slightly unusual and could be from an imported vessel.

Context 034, Fill of pit/ditch. Three sherds, including a fragment of Central Gaulish samian (SAMCG), probably from a bowl or dish, of 2nd century date and a fragment from a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker (NVCC), from the basal zone of a type likely to date to the earlier part of the 3rd century. The final sherd is an oxidized (OXL) body sherd from a closed form, possibly with a footring base, and therefore probably a flagon, in a laminar fabric; most of the surfaces has been lost but there are traces of a reddish slip in the angle by the base fragment. The fabric is not recognized, and is probably from a non-local source, possibly an import. The dating must necessarily rest on the known dating of the Nene Valley beaker, as being early to mid 3rd century.

Context 045, fill of modern cut. A single fragment from a bowl or dish, probably a variety of BB2 from Essex/Thames estuary, only broadly datable to the later 2nd to 3rd century, probably before c AD 250.

Context 047, fill of pit/ditch. Single fragment from a bowl or dish base, grey fabric. 2nd to 3rd century.

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ARCHIVE DATABASE

Cxt	Fabric	Form	Manuf+	V	D?	DNo	Details	Link	Shs	Weight
033	CR	CLSD	-	1	-	-	BSS;SOME MICA IN FAB;?IMPORT	-	2	2
033	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	ROM	-	-	-
034	SAMCG	-	-	-	-	-	BS	-	1	2
034	NVCC	BK	-	-	-	-	BS BASAL BK ?SM.BASE TYPE;LTBN FAB	-	1	5
034	OXL	CLSD	-	-	-	-	BS PT FTM OR FTRG;BASAL ZONE;LTBN LAMINAR FB;TRACES LOST RB SLIP BASE ANGLE	-	1	33
034	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	EM3?	-	-	-
045	BB2?	BD	-	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;DKGRY;SOME MICA	-	1	13
045	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	L2-3 PROB	-	-	-
047	GREY	BD	-	-	-	-	BASE FRAG;DIAM 15;SOME MICA;MID GRY	-	1	83
047	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	2-3C	-	-	-
									7	138

Appendix 3

THE OTHER FINDS

by Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified by count and weight. Six fragments of pottery weighing 434g were recovered from 4 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a quantity of other artefacts, almost all building materials, comprising 16 items weighing a total of 6834g, was retrieved. No faunal remains were recovered. In accordance with current Norwich Museums policy, all artefacts of 18th century and later date were discarded after recording.

Provenance

The material was recovered from dumped layers (049 and 072), fill of a foundation trench (070), a posthole fill (050), walls (055 and 069), a pit fill (062) and as unstratified finds (068).

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
049	Glazed red earthenware, pancheon/bowl	1	53	17 th century
068	Late stoneware ginger beer bottle, printed trademark:]AUNT & SONS, 1D,]INGE[, discarded, late 19 th -early 20 th century	1	43	Late 19 th -early 20 th century
	Glazed red earthenware, 17 th century	1	4	
071	White glazed sanitary ware, discarded	1	29	19 th -20 th century
072	Pearlware platter, 19 th century, discarded	1	47	19 th -20 th century
	Plant pot, 19 th -20 th century, discarded	1	258	

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
049	CBM	Tile, 29mm thick, post-medieval, discarded	1	204	Post-medieval
	Mortar	Mortar, post-medieval, discarded	1	523	
050	CBM	Handmade brick, 113mm wide, 60mm thick, post-medieval, discarded	1	604	Post-medieval
	CBM	Pantile, post-medieval, discarded	1	265	
055	CBM	Handmade brick, 220mm x 110mm x 49mm, mortar adhering, discarded	1	2525	Post-medieval
	CBM	Handmade brick, 230mm x 100mm x 50mm, mortar adhering, discarded	1	2384	
062	CBM	Tegula, abraded	2(link)	232	Roman
069	Mortar	Mortar, post-medieval, discarded	5	44	Post-medieval
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval, discarded	1	26	
	Clinker	Clinker, discarded	1	5	
070	CBM	Tile, mortar adhering, discarded	1	22	Post-medieval

Note: CBM = Ceramic Building Material

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class. As noted above, in accordance with current Norwich Museums policy, all items that appear to be of 18th century and later date have been discarded.

Documentation

There have been previous archaeological investigations at Caister-on-Sea, including at the current site, that are the subjects of reports. Additionally, there has been reported study of the archaeological evidence for the town and its vicinity. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Record.

Potential

As a predominantly post-medieval collection of artefacts the assemblage is of limited local significance. However, the relative concentration of building materials indicates the presence of structures at the site during the post-medieval period.

Roman material is present but then there is no later material until the 17th century. This concurs with previous investigations at the site and immediately adjacent which indicate this area was abandoned after the Roman period, or not used for activities that involve artefact deposition, and not reoccupied until the late post-medieval period.

References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper **2**

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.
Till	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

73	Context records
15	Sheets of scale drawings
6	Daily record sheets
2	Photographic record sheets
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Box of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Norfolk Landscape Archaeology
Norfolk Museums Service
Union House
Gressenhall
Dereham
Norfolk
NR20 4DR

Museum Accession Number: 37421 CBY

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: COH 03

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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