

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT:**

**TRIAL TRENCHING AT FREDERICK GOUGH SCHOOL, GRANGE LANE SOUTH, BOTTESFORD,  
SCUNTHORPE, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

Planning Reference: PA/2011/1544  
NGR: SE 90209 07755  
AAL Site Code: SCFG 12  
Museum Accession Number: SCAH  
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Report prepared for Niven Architects

By  
Allen Archaeology Limited  
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The  
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## Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Niven Architects to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land at Frederick Gough School in Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire.
- The works were located within the school playing fields, where geophysical survey, which had preceded the trial trenching, revealed a limited number of anomalies of possible archaeological origin. A desk-based assessment of the site had highlighted the presence of archaeological remains, particularly those of Iron Age and Roman origin, in the vicinity of the site.
- The trial trenches revealed evidence of buried soil deposits, possibly dating as early as the Bronze Age, along with a number of cut features, mostly ditches, of Roman origin. The ditches are perhaps most likely to represent enclosures, field systems or other land boundaries. Pottery from the features suggests that the system of boundaries represented by the ditches developed at the site during the third century AD. Extensive deposits of possible windblown sand were also revealed.
- Extensive horizontal truncation of deposits was apparent in most of the trenches and was probably the result of landscaping of the school playing fields in the recent past.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Niven Architects to undertake an archaeological evaluation at Frederick Gough School, Grange Lane South, in Bottesford, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The excavating, recording and reporting conforms to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations*' (IfA 1994, revised 2001 and 2008), and a specification by this company (AAL 2012a).
- 1.3 The documentary archive will be submitted to North Lincolnshire Museum within six months of the completion of the project and will be stored under the Museum Accession Number SCAH.

## 2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Scunthorpe is situated approximately 13km south-west of the River Humber, in the unitary authority of North Lincolnshire. The school grounds comprise a sub-rectangular block of land of c.9.6 hectares in the southern suburb of Bottesford, with the block of school buildings in the northern portion of the site and playing fields to the south. The area of investigation is towards the east side of the site, to the east and south of the existing school buildings (Figure 2). The site lies at a height of approximately 20m above Ordnance Datum and the central NGR is SE 90209 07755.
- 2.2 The local geology comprises bedrock deposits of Frodingham Ironstone and Scunthorpe Mudstone, banded with limestone, with a superficial geology of blown sand (British Geological Survey 1982).

## 3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 A planning application has been submitted to North Lincolnshire Council for the '*partial demolition of part of the existing school, the construction of a new entrance, community sports facility, teaching block, 3G pitch, new car park and associated landscaping*' (Planning Application Reference PA/2011/1544). A desk-based assessment of the potential impact of the proposed development on heritage assets was prepared as part of the application (AAL 2010). It was considered that further information regarding the impact of the proposed development upon the potential archaeological resource was required and the Historic Environment Officer advised a holding objection until such time as further information was submitted. Accordingly, a geophysical survey of a c.1.8 hectare area affected by development was undertaken in February 2012 (AAL 2012b). Following the geophysical survey, a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was requested by the Historic Environment Officer at North Lincolnshire Council to further characterise the archaeological resource.
- 3.2 The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5), which superseded Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG 16) (Department of the Environment) in 2010.

## **4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment (AAL 2010) was prepared and submitted in support of the application, a summary of which is presented below.
- 4.2 Scatters of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age material were recorded in the 500m study area, mainly to the east of the site.
- 4.3 Extensive fieldwork in advance of residential development to the east of the site has identified a mid to late Iron Age banjo enclosure, overlain by a series of late Iron Age settlement enclosures, which were in turn superseded by a Roman ditched trackway running east – west with associated enclosures. Subsequent fieldwork in the area between these features and the site failed to identify any evidence to suggest that the activity may extend into the site however. Further cropmarks indicative of later prehistoric to Roman settlement and agriculture have been recorded to the south of the site, close to Bottesford Beck.
- 4.4 There is only limited evidence of Anglo-Saxon and later activity in the vicinity of the site. It is situated in the parish of Bottesford, but is likely to have been in agricultural land throughout this period, at some distance to the north of the historic core of the village.
- 4.5 The desk-based assessment concluded that there was a moderate potential for significant archaeological features to be affected by the proposed development, but that the scope of the proposed development was unknown at that stage and as such the potential impacts could not be fully assessed. As a subsequent stage of archaeological investigation, a geophysical survey by magnetometry was undertaken over a c.1.8 hectare study area over the location of the proposed new sports pitch, car park and PE block (AAL 2012b). The survey identified significant disturbance caused by drainage features associated with the sports pitch as well as probable spreads of demolition material related to the construction of the adjacent school buildings. A curvilinear anomaly towards the south-west corner of the survey area was potentially of archaeological interest.

## **5.0 Methodology**

- 5.1 The fieldwork was carried out a team of experienced field archaeologists from AAL during the week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2012. Initially six trenches were opened, a further trench being opened in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the evaluation, as set out in the project brief (AAL 2012a).
- 5.2 All seven trenches were machine excavated to the natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless bucket. All further deposits were investigated by hand.
- 5.3 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. Archaeological features and deposits were drawn to scale, in plan and section (at scales 1:20, 1:50 or 1:100). Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy. All photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow, and a selection of these images has been included in Appendix 1.

- 5.4 Each deposit, layer or cut was allocated a unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 6. Three digit numbers within square brackets reflect cut features (e.g. ditch [316]).

## **6.0 Results (Figures 3 – 6)**

### **6.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3)**

- 6.1.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered in Trench 1. The earliest deposit revealed was a layer of dark grey and brown sand, 104, which extended across the entire trench. The layer was at least 0.15m thick but its full thickness was not exposed.
- 6.1.2 The mottled sand was sealed by a second sandy layer, 103, which measured 0.16m thick and comprised a slightly mottled orange sand. The sand was fine and loose and as a result the deposit has been interpreted as being windblown in origin.
- 6.1.3 The windblown sand was, in turn, sealed by a further layer of sand, 102. It was mid grey in colour and was 0.12m thick. It may represent a buried agricultural soil but its origin is not fully clear. A 0.1m thick layer of sandy topsoil formed the uppermost deposit in the trench, the top of the trench lying at 17.75 – 18.25m OD. The topsoil contained large quantities of stone rubble and tarmac associated with the construction of the adjacent school buildings.

### **6.2 Trench 2 (Figure 3)**

- 6.2.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were encountered in Trench 2. The earliest deposit revealed was a light yellowish brown sand, 202, with frequent seams of mineral staining. It extended across the entire base of the trench and measured at least 0.15m thick. The full thickness of the deposit was not exposed. A 0.18m thick layer of topsoil, 202, sealed the underlying sand and formed the ground surface, which lay at 18.6 – 19.1m OD.

### **6.3 Trench 3 (Figure 4)**

- 6.3.1 Numerous archaeological features and deposits were encountered in Trench 3. They were revealed with relatively regular frequency along the entire length of the trench and each was filled with similar mid to dark grey sands.
- 6.3.2 In the northern half of the trench a series of eleven east to west orientated ditches, [348] – [368] (even numbers only), were similar in form. Each had moderately steep sides and a flat, or largely flat, base. The largest of the ditches measured 0.8m wide, the narrowest measured 0.4m wide. Only one ditch, [364], exceeded 0.25m in depth, this larger ditch being 0.4m deep. Given their similarity and proximity it seems most likely that the ditches represent the recutting, perhaps due to regular maintenance, of a single ditch, or possibly a small number of ditches, over a period of time. Regular maintenance, through cleaning out and redefinition, would have been necessary to prevent any ditch from filling up in such a sandy area as natural filling of the ditches is likely to have been a relatively rapid process.
- 6.3.3 A single pit, [344], at the southern extent of the sequence of ditches may be the remains of a posthole. Its function is not clear but its proximity to the ditches may hint at the presence of a

fenceline alongside these features. The recovery of a disc-shaped, flint scraper of possible Neolithic or Bronze Age date from the fill of the pit may indicate a somewhat earlier date for the pit's origin but it could equally have been a residual artefact.

- 6.3.4 In the central area of the trench, two shallow gullies, [310] and [312], were also broadly east to west orientated but the eastern end of both terminated within the trench. They may have been the heavily truncated remains of further ditches, similar to those in the northern half of the trench, but are perhaps more likely to represent less substantial features such as drainage gullies. The function of a small pit or posthole, [314], located nearby is unclear but a bulk soil sample taken from the feature proved to be particularly charcoal-rich and revealed evidence of extremely high combustion temperatures. The abraded condition of the charcoal suggests that it had been exposed to the elements and this, combined with an absence of scorching around the pit, probably suggest that the deposit had been dumped in the pit as refuse rather than suggesting *in situ* burning.
- 6.3.5 The southern end of the trench was dominated by a recut ditch, recorded as three separate contexts, [305], [319] and [331]. It extended into the trench on a north-west to south-east orientation, turning to the south-west at its south-eastern end. A group of six sherds of pottery, which included Dalesware and greyware and most likely dates to the third century AD, was recovered from fill 308 of ditch [305], whilst a larger group of sherds from fill 320 of ditch [319] were probably fragments of a single Dalesware jar, also of third century date. A group of forty-nine Dalesware sherds from fill 333 of ditch [331] probably originates from up to five jars of the same date.
- 6.3.6 The fragmentary remains of what appeared to several earlier ditches, [321], [316], [336], [339] and [334] were cut by the ditch represented by contexts [305], [319] and [331]. They indicate that the later ditch was only the most recent of a series of similarly aligned ditches in this location, suggesting that this particular boundary was the subject of regular maintenance or renegotiation over a period of time. The only finds recovered from these earlier ditches were a few scraps of Dalesware recovered from fill 317 of ditch [316] which date to the third century AD. Bulk soil samples from fills of ditches [321] and [336] revealed little of interpretative value, although tarry droplets on some of the charcoal fragments seem to indicate extremely high combustion temperatures.
- 6.3.7 A small pit, [342], was located close to the inner edge of the ditch but it is not clear the extent to which its location should be taken to suggest that the pit and the ditch are contemporary. A bulk soil sample taken from the fill of the pit revealed a very low density of wheat chaff and possible fragments of heather. This assemblage may be indicative of crop processing at the site but the presence of possible heather fragments may also suggest that the chaff was used as kindling.
- 6.3.8 A 0.25m thick layer of mid grey sand, 304, completely sealed the ditches and pits, slumping into the top of ditch [319], where it was assigned a separate context number, 327. It may have been a windblown deposit but is perhaps more likely to have been a buried soil layer which had been heavily leached. A second layer, 303, which comprised a 0.16m thick deposit of very dark brown sandy silt, sealed layer 304 and may have been the remains of a turf layer or land surface which had developed on top the earlier deposit. A further layer, recorded as two separate contexts 302 and 330, consisted of up to 0.20m of fine yellow sand, had been deposited over the possible land surface, possibly as a windblown deposit.



6.3.9 The uppermost deposits within the trench were a topsoil and subsoil, 300, 328 and 329, which formed a combined layer approximately 0.20m thick, the modern ground surface lying at 17.35 – 17.4m OD.

#### **6.4 Trench 4 (Figure 3)**

6.4.1 No archaeologically significant features were revealed in Trench 4. The only deposits encountered were a yellowish brown sand with frequent mineral staining, 402, which was in excess of 0.1m thick and a 0.15m thick layer of topsoil 401.

#### **6.5 Trench 5 (Figure 5)**

6.5.1 The earliest deposit revealed in Trench 5 was a layer of mid grey sand, 509, up to 0.25m thick. It was revealed approximately 0.9m below the current ground surface within a sondage towards the northern end of the trench and may have been the remnants of a buried soil layer. It was sealed by a very dark grey, organic-rich, silty layer, 508, up to 0.22m thick. This layer produced a small sherd of Bronze Age beaker with an incised diamond pattern, along with three fragments of fired clay and three fragments of bone, two identified as cattle, the other identified as a large mammal. A bulk soil sample returned little information of value. The layer may have had been a buried soil layer similar to layer 509. A 0.15m thick layer of light yellow sand, 507, sealed the buried soil. Its pale colour suggests an absence of organic material and it may have been a windblown deposit. It had itself been sealed by a mid grey sandy silt, 506, which may suggest that after the windblown material had been deposited, a soil layer similar to layers 508 and 509, once more began to develop.

6.5.2 To the south, a second sondage revealed a 0.28m thick layer of mid grey sandy silt, 505, at the base of an apparently natural hollow. The deposit was most likely a continuation of layer 509 recorded in the northern sondage. A total of twelve fragments of a single long bone from a large mammal were recovered from context 505. A thin layer of dark grey, organic-rich silty sand, 504, which produced a single fragment of cattle tibia, partially sealed layer 505. A bulk soil sample from the deposit produced little data of interpretative value. The layer extended southwards, beyond the hollow, where it was recorded as layer 503, rising in elevation and becoming gradually paler in colour and less organic-rich. An assemblage of nine sherds of pottery in a typical 'Trentside' fabric were recovered from layer 503 and date to the late second or third century AD. The layer represented by deposits 503 and 504 is interpreted as a former land surface or turf line which formed in the late second to third century AD or later. It appeared to have been completely destroyed in the southern half of the trench, most likely the result of landscaping of the school playing field during recent years. A layer of fine, light yellow sand, 502, up to 0.35m thick, sealed the possible land surface and had also been completely destroyed in the southern half of the trench. The deposit may have been wind-blown and bears comparison with layer 302 in Trench 3.

6.5.3 A 0.20m thick subsoil layer, 501, and a layer of topsoil, 500, up to 0.25m thick formed the uppermost deposits encountered in the trench, the ground surface at the trench lying around 18.75m OD.

## **6.6 Trench 6 (Figure 3)**

6.6.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were revealed in Trench 6, which was located at the southern end of Trench 5. The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of yellowish brown sand, 602, which had frequent seams of mineral staining running through it. This sand deposit was sealed by a 0.12m thick layer of topsoil, 601, which formed the ground surface at 18.3 – 19.15m OD.

## **6.7 Trench 7 (Figure 6)**

6.7.1 The earliest deposit revealed in Trench 7 was an orange yellow sand, which was recorded as two separate contexts, 701 and 702, but was most likely a single deposit.

6.7.2 An indistinct north-west to south-east orientated ditch, 703, extended across the central area of the trench, its fill, 704, being almost indistinguishable from the underlying sand. It measured approximately 4.50m wide and 0.55m deep. A slightly undulating base to the feature may hint that this apparently single feature consisted of two separate ditches, most likely a ditch and its recut, but the fills were indistinguishable from one another.

6.7.3 A 0.20m thick layer of topsoil formed the latest deposit encountered in the trench, the top of the trench lying at 17.75 – 18.13m OD.

## **7.0 Discussion**

7.1 Of the seven trenches investigated, only Trenches 3, 5 and 7 revealed features or deposits of possible archaeological significance. In the remaining trenches topsoil, or topsoil and subsoil in the case of Trench 1, directly overlay natural geological sands. There is nothing to suggest that the subsoil in Trench 1 was of archaeological significance and it seems most likely that any significant deposits in these trenches had been completely destroyed during landscaping works associated with the school and its playing fields.

7.2 The majority of the archaeologically significant remains were revealed in Trench 3. A series of eleven ditches in the northern half of the trench are most likely to be the remains of a lesser number of recut ditches, reflecting the necessity for regular maintenance of ditches cut into the natural sand deposits to avoid them being lost due to natural infilling. At the southern end of the trench, part of a ditch, possibly marking the corner of an enclosure or a change in boundary alignment, was revealed. It was evident that the boundary marked by this ditch had been recut on several occasions, again reflecting the necessity for regular maintenance of features cut into the underlying sand. Pottery recovered from the ditch was of third century date and it is possible that all of the ditches in Trench 3 are part of a system of field boundaries and enclosures dating to this period.

7.3 Evidence of periods where soil layers developed, interspersed with periods when windblown sand accumulated, was recorded in Trenches 3 and 5, both trenches also revealing some evidence of the survival of buried land surfaces. A sherd of Bronze Age beaker pottery recovered from one of the earlier buried soils in Trench 5 and a flint scraper of a similar date might suggest the survival of earlier prehistoric features and deposits at the site but the very limited size of the finds assemblage from this period is acknowledged and the finds may have been residual. Pottery from the land surface or turf line in Trench 5 suggests that the surface

had developed by the late second to third century or later. It was confined to the northern half of the trench, having been completely destroyed in the southern half, probably by landscaping for the playing fields. A similar deposit in Trench 3 was more extensive, extending over the palimpsest of ditches in the trench. Its survival in this trench indicates that there has been no significant truncation of the underlying ditches in the period since the land surface formed.

- 7.4 An indistinct ditch encountered in Trench 7 may actually have been more than one feature, indistinguishable from one another. The fill of the ditch was notably different from the fills of the ditches encountered in Trench 3, being very similar in colour and composition to the underlying yellow sand, rather than the grey sands which formed the fills of the features in Trench 3. The ditch had been cut directly into the natural sand from beneath the topsoil and therefore there was no stratigraphic evidence to aid dating of the feature, nor were there any finds. As a result the age of the feature is unknown and it is possible that the colour of the fill is indicative of a difference in age between the Trench 7 ditch and those in Trench 3. Unfortunately it is not evident to what period the ditch may belong.

## **8.0 Conclusions**

- 8.1 The trial trenching revealed a number of archaeologically significant features and deposits, but these were confined to Trenches 3, 5 and possibly 7. Truncation of sub-surface deposits as a result of landscaping of the school playing fields was evident in the remaining trenches and the presence of remains and deposits in these three trenches is most likely a reflection of the extent of truncation at the site, rather than the result of archaeologically significant activity at the site being limited to a small area.
- 8.2 The remains suggests that archaeologically significant features are most likely limited to a broadly east to west band which includes the northern half of Trench 5 and all of Trench 3, but does not extend as far as north as Trench 4. The depth of remains below the present ground surface varies somewhat within this band, but the uppermost part of the buried land surface in Trenches 3 and 5 survives at 0.35m below the present surface.

## **9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology**

- 9.1 The archaeological evaluation methodology was appropriate to the nature and extent of the proposed development. It has demonstrated that the proposed development lies within a zone of archaeological activity but that the extent of archaeological remains is likely to be limited due to the truncation of buried deposits as a result of landscaping works association with the school playing fields.

## **10.0 Acknowledgements**

- 10.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Niven Architects for this commission. Thanks also go to the staff and students of Frederick Gough School for their cooperation during the fieldwork

## 11.0 References

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## Appendix 1: Colour Plates



**Plate 1:** General view of the site after trial trenches had been opened. Taken from the school buildings, looking south



**Plate 2:** View of Trench 1, looking east. 2m scale in base of trench and vertical scale at rear of trench is 0.5m



**Plate 3:** Trench 2, looking east. 2m scale in base of trench and vertical scale at rear of trench is 0.5m



**Plate 4:** Trench 3, looking south-east. 2m and 0.5m scales present



**Plate 5:** Indicative view of west facing section of Trench 3. Showing features [360], [362] and [364]. Horizontal scale is 2m and vertical scale is 0.5m



**Plate 6:** Trench 4 looking west. 2m scale in base of trench and vertical scale at rear of trench is 0.5m



**Plate 7:** Trench 5, southern sondage, looking north-east. The possible land surface 503 and 504 is visible as a distinct, rising, dark layer. Horizontal scale is 2m and vertical scale is 0.5m



**Plate 8:** Trench 6, looking west. 2m scale in base of trench and vertical scale at rear of trench is 0.5m



**Plate 9:** Box section through possible ditch [703], looking south. Horizontal scale is 2m and vertical scale is 0.5m

## Appendix 2: Prehistoric and Roman Ceramic Assessment

By Ian Rowlandson

### Introduction

The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery* (Darling 2004) using the codes developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit- CLAU (see Darling and Precious *forthcoming*) and the fabric series under development for North Lincolnshire Museum (Rowlandson *forthcoming*). Where appropriate the PCRG guidelines (1997) have been used for recording the earlier pottery. Rim equivalents (RE) have been recorded and an attempt at a 'maximum' vessel estimate has been made following Orton (1975, 31). The pottery has been bagged by fabric for ease of future reference as required by the Lincolnshire Handbook. The archive record (Appendix 1) is an integral part of this report and will be curated in an Access database, available from the author in a digital format. The report was produced on the basis of a site text provided by AAL.

### Condition

The ceramics presented for assessment totalled 136 fragments, weighing 0.595kg total RE 0.80, from 7 contexts from an archaeological evaluation. In this group there are five fragments of fired clay. It should be noted that the majority of the pottery is from a very small number of vessels: perhaps as low as ten individuals.

### Dating

The detailed archive is presented as Appendix 1. The dating summary is tabulated below. The Dalesware has been broadly dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD in this instance. The dating of this pottery type is discussed by this author elsewhere (Rowlandson 2010b).

Dating summary					
Context	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
308	3C	A small abraded group including Dalesware and greyware	6	42	7
317	3C	Scraps of Dalesware	4	2	0
320	3C	A small group probably all from one under fired and oxidised Dalesware jar.	62	174	19
322	?	Formless scraps of fired clay.	2	6	0
333	3C	A medium sized group from up to five Dalesware jars. One rim has carbonised deposits over the rim.	49	219	30
503	L2-3	Sherds from a single colander with a bifurcated rim. The vessel has a typical 'Trentside' fabric with common poorly sorted quartz temper. The form is similar to examples from the Little London kilns, Torksey The body shape and burnished decoration are as form 37A and the bifurcated rim is as form 46A. This vessel is certainly a local 'Trentside' product (Oswald 1937a). The vessel has internal use wear.	9	141	24
508	BA	Fired clay and a single small fragment from a Bronze Age beaker with a similar incised diamond pattern to a vessel from Risby Warren (May 1976, Fig. 36.8).	4	11	0



## Fabrics and forms

Fabric summary							
Fabric	Fabric group	Fabric details	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
GREY	Reduced	Miscellaneous grey wares	14	10.29%	179	30.08%	31
DWSH	Calcareous	Dales ware; lid-seated jars	116	85.29%	399	67.06%	49
QUSM	Quartz	Quartz- sparse medium	1	0.74%	1	0.17%	0
FCLAY	Fired Clay	Fired Clay	5	3.68%	16	2.69%	0

Form summary							
Form	Form Type	Form Description	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
BL	Bowl-large	Large	3	2.21%	23	3.87%	0
CLSD	Closed	Form	6	4.41%	7	1.18%	0
JDW	Jar	Dales ware	110	80.88%	387	65.04%	49
JB	Jar/Bowl	Unclassified form	2	1.47%	15	2.52%	7
COL	Misc	Colander	9	6.62%	141	23.70%	24
-	Unknown	Form uncertain	6	4.41%	22	3.70%	0

Although a small fragment from a Bronze Age beaker is present from context 508 which can be paralleled to other local finds the majority of the pottery is the typical shell-gritted Dalesware jar form. It has been noted that the area around Scunthorpe and Messingham was a focus for the production of Dalesware pottery, a distinctive late Roman type common in Lincolnshire (Rowlandson 2010a and Darling 2009). It is possible that this type of pottery is being made in the vicinity of this site but as it was probably fired in a simple clamp or bonfire it is often difficult to be sure of production on site as structural evidence is often very ephemeral. The large proportions of individual vessels that have been retrieved suggest occupation in the vicinity probably during the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.

## Conclusions

The pottery present suggests that the area was settled in the Roman period and that production of shell-gritted Dalesware may have taken place in the vicinity. There is also a possibility that any further investigations on the site may also encounter Bronze Age remains. Further interpretation on the basis of this small group would be spurious.

## Recommendations

All of the pottery should be retained and deposited in the relevant museum.

## References

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SCFG12- Ceramic archive											
Context	Fabric	Form	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Pub
308	DWSH	CLSD		1			BS	1	4	0	
308	GREY	JB		1			RIM; COMMON FE	2	15	12	
308	GREY	BL		1	ABR		RIM? BS	3	23	0	
317	DWSH	CLSD		4	VAB		BS SCRAPS; ?VESSEL COUNT	4	2	0	
320	DWSH	JDW		1	ABR; UNDERFIRED; WARPED RIM?		RIM BS BASE; FRIABLE OXIDISED UNDERFIRED ?LOCAL PRODUCTION	62	174	18	
322	FCLAY	-		2			FORMLESS FRAGMENTS OF FIRED CLAY OXIDISED INCLUDING LARGE FRAGMENTS OF FOSSIL SHELL	2	6	0	
333	DWSH	-		1	OXID		BS? FIRED CLAY- FABRIC AS DWSH FROM CONTEXT 320	1	6	0	
333	DWSH	JDW		1	ABR		RIM FRAG	1	2	0	
333	DWSH	JDW		1	SOOT OVER RIM		RIM SHLDR; PATCHY REDUCED FIRING	7	45	20	
333	DWSH	JDW		1			RIM SHLDR; PATCHY REDUCED FIRING	3	34	14	
333	DWSH	JDW		1			BS; REDUCED PATCHY SURFACES; PROB. ALL ONE VESSEL	37	132	0	
503	GREY	COL	BWL	1	WORN INTERNAL		RIM-BASE FULL PROF; BURNISHED WAVEY LINES AND BODY SHAPE AS LITTLE LONDON NO. 37A AND BIFURCATED RIM AS FORM 46A	9	141	19	
508	FCLAY	-		1			FORMLESS; LIGHT OXIDISED FINE FABRIC WITH SPARSE FINE QUARTZ; MICA AND FE	3	10	0	
508	QUSM	CLSD		1			BS; SCRAP; OXIDISED; QU- SPARSE 0.3-1MM; FROM A BA BEAKER INCISED DIMOND PATTERN AS AT RISBY WARREN MAY 1976 FIG. 36.8;	1	1	0	

### **Appendix 3: Flint Assessment**

*By Hugo Anderson-Whymark*

A disc-shaped end and side scraper from the fill of pit [344] was the only stuck flint recovered from the excavation. The scraper was manufactured from a thick hard hammer side trimming flake with a plain platform. The raw material is mid grey with a thick white chalky cortex and probably originates directly from the chalk. The scraper is not intrinsically datable, but its broad and thick proportions are most characteristic of Neolithic and Bronze Age examples.

No further work is recommended.

## Appendix 4: Animal Bone Assessment

By Jennifer Wood

### Introduction

A total of 5 (82g) refitted fragments of animal bone were recovered during archaeological works undertaken by Allen Archaeology Ltd at Frederick Gough School, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. The animal bone assemblage was recovered from a series of features within Trench 5; a possible buried turf line (504) and buried soil layers (505) and (508).

### Results

The remains were of a moderate to poor overall condition, averaging between grades 3 and 4 on the Lyman criteria (1996).

No evidence of butchery, pathology, gnawing or burning was noted on any of the remains.

Table 1, Summary of Identified Bone

Cut	Context	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	Weight	Comments
N/A	504	Cattle	Tibia	R	1	37	Distal shaft, fragmented
N/A	505	Large Mammal Size	Long Bone	X	1	14	In 12 fragments
N/A	508	Cattle	Phalanx I	L	1	15	GI <sub>Pe</sub> =54mm, B <sub>p</sub> =28mm, S <sub>D</sub> =23mm, B <sub>d</sub> =26mm
		Cattle	Phalanx I	L	1	9	Medial side, in 3 fragments
		Large Mammal Size	Humerus	R	1	7	Medial distal shaft

As can be seen from Table 1, only cattle and large mammal size remains were identified within the assemblage.

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation on site, save the presence of the animals/remains on site. Due to the general abundance of remains, the main focus of activity on site is centred on Trench 5.

In the event of future works, the site is liable to produce further remains of a similar condition with a moderate potential to provide further information of the animal husbandry and utilisation for the site.

### References

Lyman, R L, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

## Appendix 5: Palaeoenvironmental Assessment

By Val Fryer

### Introduction and method statement

Evaluation excavations at the Frederick Gough School, undertaken by Allen Archaeology Ltd, recorded a small number of features of probable Roman date, many of which were sealed by a layer of blown sand and a possible turf layer or later agricultural horizon. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from features within trenches 3 and 5, and six were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots, seeds and arthropod remains were present throughout.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

### Results

Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, other plant macrofossils are very scarce. However, sample 1, from ditch [321], does include a fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell, and the assemblage from sample 4 (pit [342]) contains a very low density of wheat chaff (including spelt (*T. spelta*) glume bases), a single persicaria (*Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia*) seed, possible fragments of heather (Ericaceae) stem and an indeterminate tuber. It is possibly of note that many of the charcoal fragments within the trench 3 assemblages are fringed with tarry droplets or concretions, which are almost certainly indicative of extremely high temperatures of combustion, whilst some charcoal within sample 3 (pit [314]) is very rounded and abraded.

Other remains are also scarce, although the assemblage from sample 2 (ditch [336]) does include a number of very small fragments of burnt or fired clay.

### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although most of the assemblages are small and sparse, containing little other than wind-dispersed detritus, sample 3 is somewhat larger (0.2 litres in volume) and is particularly charcoal rich, possibly indicating that it is derived from a small deposit of hearth or midden waste. The abraded condition of the charcoal may indicate that the material was exposed to the elements for some considerable time prior to deposition. The material within sample 4 appears to include a very low density of cereal processing waste, although the presence of both heather stem fragments and a tuber may suggest that the waste is not indicative of on-site cereal processing, but is, instead, derived from the use of chaff as kindling or fuel for an oven or hearth.

On the basis of the current assemblages, it is difficult to recommend a strategy for future sampling should any further interventions take place. However, the assemblage from sample 4 clearly illustrates that well-preserved plant remains are present within the archaeological horizon and, therefore, it is suggested that,

should further work permit, additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20 – 40 litres in volume should be taken from any dated and well-sealed features noted during excavation.

## Reference

Stace, C., 1997

*New Flora of the British Isles*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Cambridge University Press

## Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens

B.soil – buried soil

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Context No.	333	337	315	345	504	508
Feature No.	321	336	314	342		
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Pit	B.soil	B.soil
<b>Plant macrofossils</b>						
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (spikelet base)				x		
(rachis internode)				x		
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume base)				xx		
Cereal indet. (sprout)				x		
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>				x		
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x					
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xx	xxxx	xxx	xx	x
Charcoal >2mm	x		xxxx	xx	x	
Charcoal >5mm			xx	x		
Charcoal >10mm			x			
Charred root/stem	x	xx		x		
Ericaceae indet. (stem)						
Indet.tuber				x		
<b>Other remains</b>						
Black porous material	x	x	xx			
Black tarry material	x	x	xx			
Bone		x				
Burnt/fired clay		xx		x		
Burnt stone					x	
Pottery	x					
Small coal frags.	x	xx				x
Vitreous material		x				
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 1. Plant macrofossils and other remains

## Appendix 6: Context Summary List

### Trench 1

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
101	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. 0.10m thick	Topsoil
102	Layer	Dark grey sand. 0.12m thick	Subsoil
103	Layer	Mottled orange/yellow/brown sand. 0.16m thick	Windblown sand
104	Layer	Grey and brown mottled sand. At least 0.15m thick	Buried soil

### Trench 2

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
201	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. 0.18m thick	Topsoil
202	Layer	Yellowish brown sand, frequent seams of mineral straining. At least 0.15m thick	Natural

### Trench 3

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
300	Layer	Dark brown sandy silty clay. 0.10m thick	Topsoil
301	Layer	Mid brownish orange sandy silty clay. 0.08m thick	Subsoil
302	Layer	Light yellow sand. 0.14m thick	Windblown sand
303	Layer	Very dark brown sandy silty clay. 0.16m thick	Possible buried land surface/turf layer
304	Layer	Light grey sandy silt. 0.14m thick	Heavily leached buried soil layer
305	Cut	Linear, NW-SE orientated, turning to the SW at the SE end. Moderately steep sides, concave base. 1.60m wide x 0.46m deep	Boundary ditch
306	Fill	Orange yellow sand. 0.11m thick.	Primary fill of ditch [305]
307	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.08m thick	Fill of ditch [305]
308	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.28m thick	Fill of ditch [305]
309	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.08m thick	Upper fill of ditch [305]
310	Cut	Linear, NW-SE orientated, rounded terminus at eastern end, moderately steep sides, flat base. 0.20m wide x 0.08m deep	Possible drainage ditch
311	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.08m thick	Fill of ditch [310]
312	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, slightly irregular terminus at eastern end, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.88m wide x 0.08m deep	Possible drainage ditch
313	Fill	Mid brownish orange sand. 0.08m thick	Fill of ditch [312]
314	Cut	Semi-circular in plan (as seen), 0.20m wide x 0.15m deep, moderately steep sides, concave base	Pit
315	Fill	Dark greyish brown sand. 0.15m thick	Fill of pit [314]
316	Cut	Only visible in section, steep sides, flat base. In excess of 0.78m wide x 0.80m deep	Ditch, recut by [319]
317	Fill	Mottled dark grey sand. 0.24m thick	Primary fill of ditch [316]
318	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.60m thick	Secondary fill of ditch [316]
319	Cut	Linear, NE-SW orientated, near vertical sides, concave base. 0.66m wide x 0.62m deep	Boundary ditch. Same as [305] and [331]
320	Fill	Mottled black and dark grey sand, occasional charcoal flecks. 0.60m thick	Fill of ditch [319]
321	Cut	Only visible in section, moderately steep sides, flat base. 0.80m wide x 0.46m deep	Ditch, recut by [323] and [321]
322	Fill	Mid grey and light brown sand. 0.46m thick	Primary fill of ditch [321]
323	Cut	Only visible in section, steep sides, concave base. 0.34m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch, recut by [319]
324	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [323]
325	Fill	Black sand. 0.05m thick	Secondary fill of ditch [323]



Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
326	Fill	Mottled dark and light grey sand. 0.22m thick	Upper fill of ditch [323]
327	Layer	Mid to light grey sand. 0.13m thick	Buried soil layer, probably same as 304
328	Layer	Light brown sandy silt. 0.04m thick	Subsoil/modern levelling layer
329	Layer	Mid brown sandy silt. 0.10m thick	Subsoil
330	Layer	Yellowish brown sand. Up to 0.34m thick	Possible windblown sand
331	Cut	Linear, NW-SE orientated, steep sides, flat base. 0.59m wide x 0.63m deep	Boundary ditch. Same as [305]
332	Fill	Mottled black and dark grey sand, occasional charcoal flecks. 0.15m thick	Fill of ditch [331]
333	Fill	Dark to mid grey sand, occasional charcoal fragments. 0.60m thick	Fill of ditch [331]
334	Cut	Only visible in section. Steep sides, concave base. 0.40m wide x 0.52m deep	Boundary ditch, recut by ditch [336] and [331]
335	Fill	Mid to dark grey sandy silt. 0.52m thick	Fill of ditch [334]
336	Cut	Linear, NW-SW orientated, moderately steep sides, flat base. 1.2m wide x 0.48m deep	Boundary ditch, recut by ditch [331]
337	Fill	Mid grey sandy silt. 0.48m thick	Fill of ditch [336]
338	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.15m thick	Upper fill of ditch [336]
339	Cut	Only recorded in section. Moderately steep sides, flat base. In excess of 0.60m wide x 0.55m deep	Boundary ditch, recut by ditch [336]
340	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.10m thick	Primary fill of ditch [339]
341	Fill	Mid grey sand. 0.43m thick	Secondary fill of ditch [339]
342	Cut	Semi-circular in plan (as seen), moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.48m wide x 0.18m deep	Pit, possible posthole
343	Fill	Black sand, frequent charcoal flecks. 0.18m thick	Fill of pit [342]
344	Cut	Semi-circular in plan (as seen), steep sides, concave base. 0.60m wide x 0.50m deep	Pit or posthole
345	Fill	Mid grey and dark brown silty sand, occasional charcoal flecks. 0.50m thick	Fill of pit [344]
346	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, partially visible, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.30m wide (as seen) x 0.10m deep	Possible ditch
347	Fill	Mid greyish brown sand. 0.10m thick	Fill of ditch [346]
348	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.50m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch
349	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [348]
350	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.40m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch
351	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [350]
352	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.55m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch
353	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [352]
354	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, flat base. 0.35m wide x 0.15m deep	Ditch
355	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.15m thick	Fill of ditch [354]
356	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, flat base. 0.60m wide x 0.25m deep	Ditch
357	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.25m thick	Fill of ditch [356]
358	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.15m wide x 0.10m deep	Ditch
359	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.10m thick	Fill of ditch [358]
360	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.85m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch
361	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [360]
362	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.55m wide x 0.20m deep	Ditch

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
363	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.20m thick	Fill of ditch [362]
364	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, flat base. 0.85m wide x 0.40m deep	Ditch
365	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.40m thick	Fill of ditch [364]
366	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.65m wide x 0.15m deep	Ditch
367	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.15m thick	Fill of ditch [366]
368	Cut	Linear, E-W orientated, moderately steep sides, concave base. 0.30m wide x 0.10m deep	Ditch
369	Fill	Dark grey sand. 0.10m thick	Fill of ditch [368]
370	Layer	Mid brown sandy silt. 0.10m thick	Natural
371	Layer	Light yellow sand. At least 0.15m thick	Natural

#### Trench 4

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
401	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. 0.15m thick	Topsoil
402	Layer	Yellowish brown sand with frequent mineral staining. At least 0.10m thick	Natural

#### Trench 5

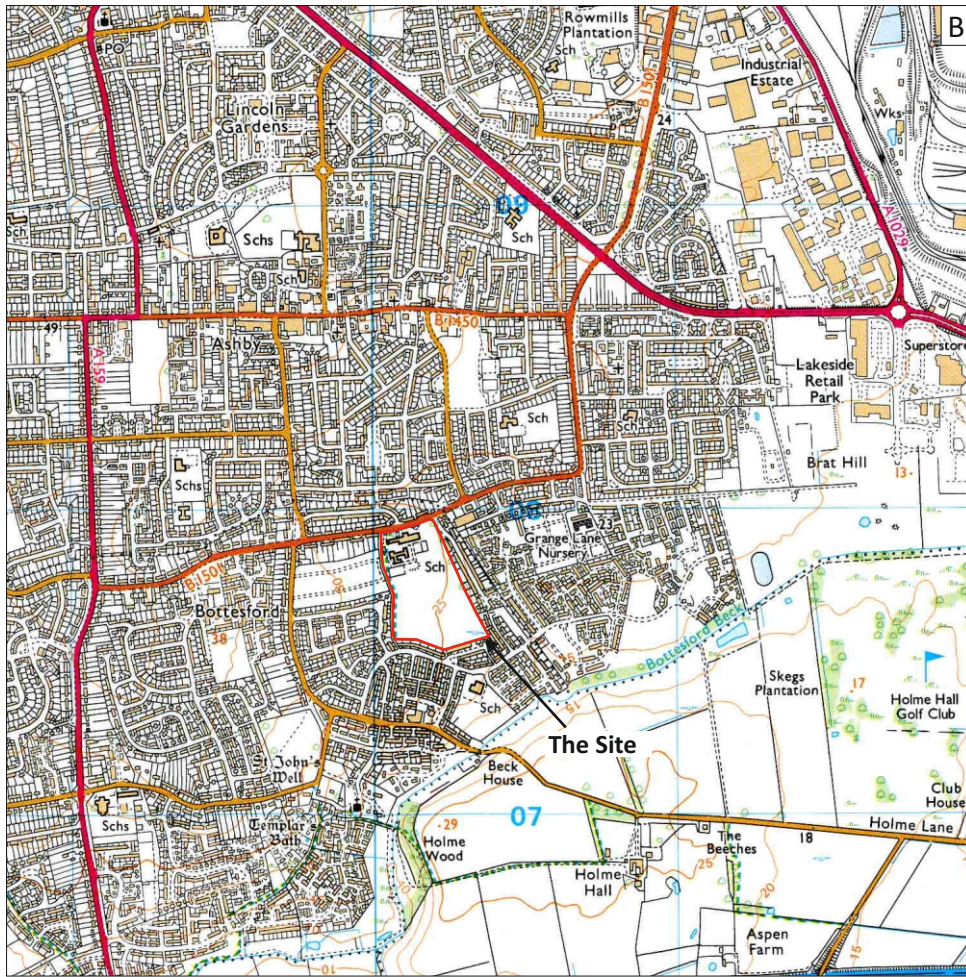
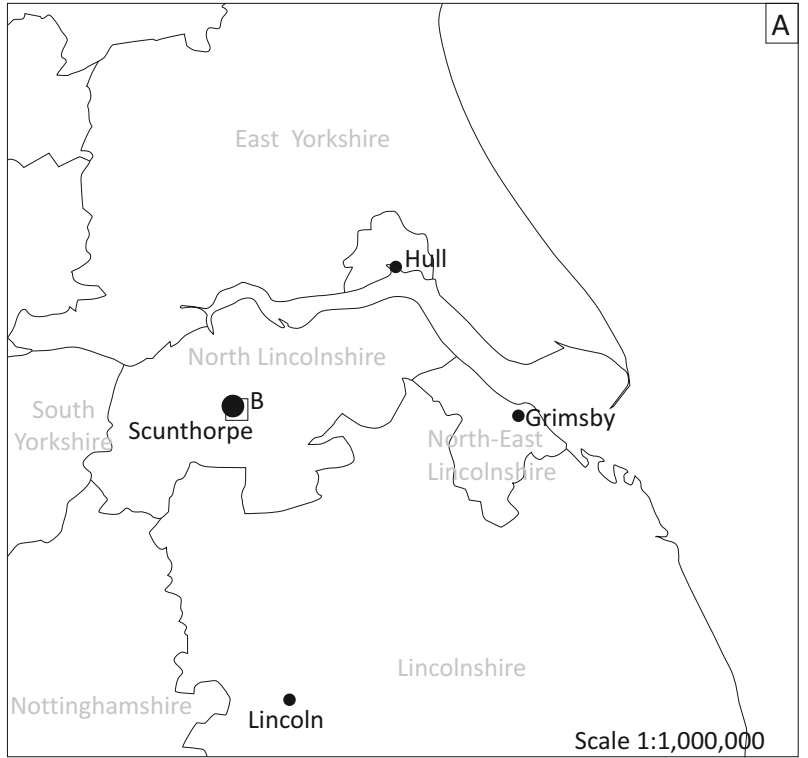
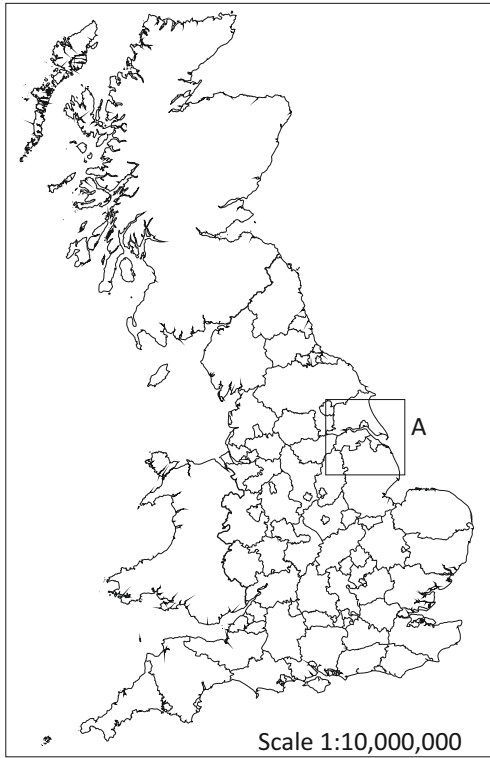
Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
500	Layer	Dark brown sandy silty clay. 90.25m thick	Topsoil
501	Layer	Orange brown sand. 0.20m thick	Subsoil
502	Layer	Light yellow sand. Up to 0.35m thick	Possible windblown sand
503	Layer	Mid to light grey silty sand. 0.06m thick	Possible buried turf line/land surface
504	Layer	Very dark grey organic-rich silty sand. 0.06m thick	Possible buried turf line/land surface
505	Layer	Mid grey, very sandy silt. 0.28m thick	Possible buried soil
506	Layer	Mid grey, very sandy silt.	Possible buried soil
507	Layer	Light yellow sand. 0.15m thick	Possible windblown sand
508	Layer	Dark grey, organic-rich silty sand. 0.22m thick	Possible buried soil
509	Layer	Mid grey sand. 0.25m thick	Possible buried soil

#### Trench 6

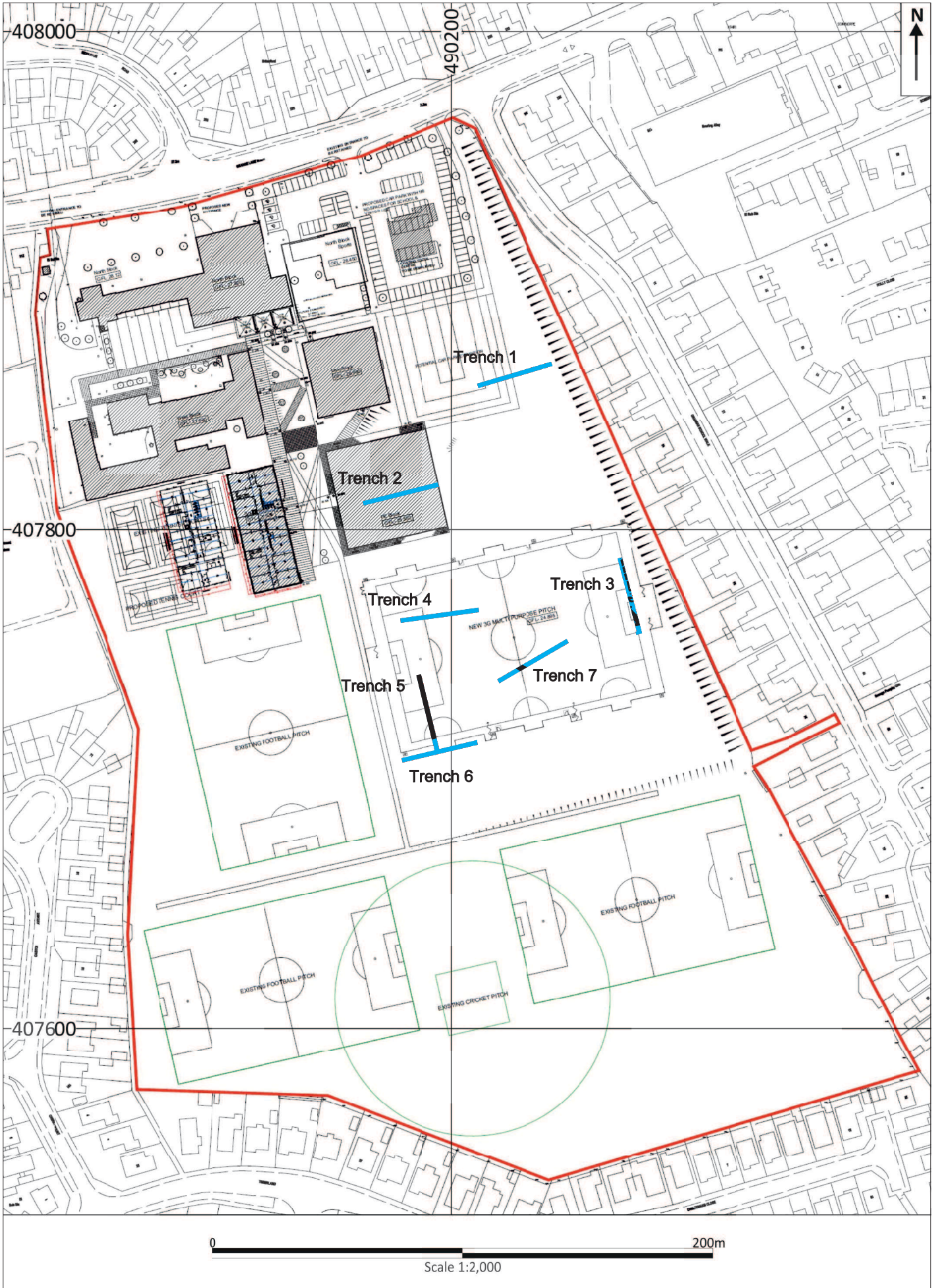
Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
601	Layer	Dark brown clayey silt. 0.12m thick	Topsoil
602	Layer	Yellowish brown sand. Frequent seams of mineral staining	Natural

#### Trench 7

Context	Type	Description	Interpretation
700	Layer	Dark brown sandy silty clay. 0.20m thick	Topsoil
701	Layer	Mid yellowish orange sand. Frequent mineral staining.	Natural
702	Layer	Light greyish yellow sand	Natural
703	Cut	Linear, NW-SE orientated, irregular sides, flat base. 4.50m wide x 0.55m deep	Indistinct feature. Possible ditch
704	Fill	Yellowish orange sand. 0.55m thick	Fill of possible ditch [703]

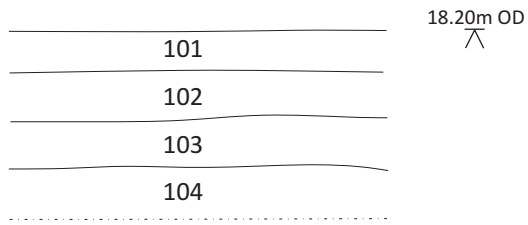


**Figure 1:** Site location at scale 1:25,000, with site outlined in red  
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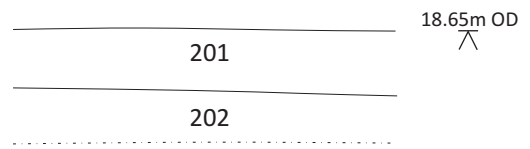


**Figure 2:** Trench location at scale 1:2000. Limit of development area shown in red and trenches in blue, with archaeological deposits in black

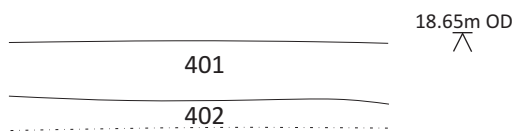
Trench 1 North-North-West Facing Section



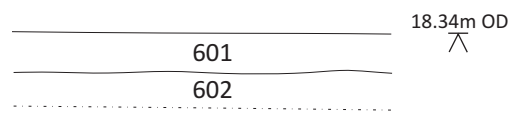
Trench 2 North-North-West Facing Section



Trench 4 North-North-West Facing Section



Trench 6 North-North-West Facing Section



**Figure 3:** Representative sections from Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 6 at scale 1:20

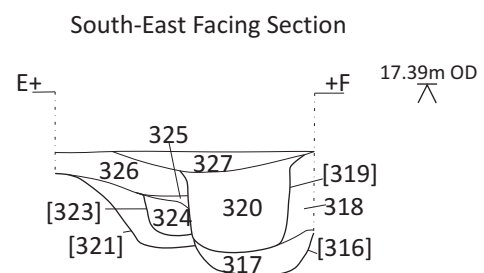
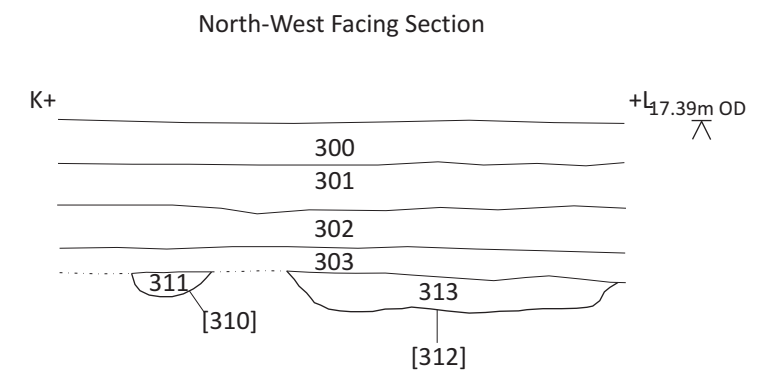
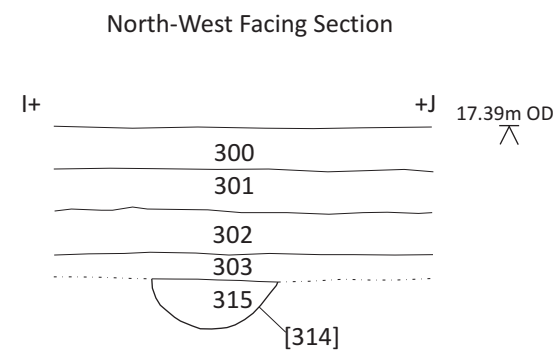
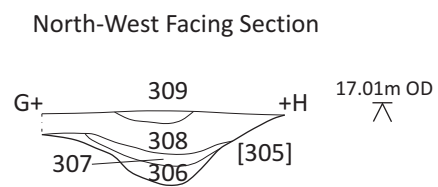
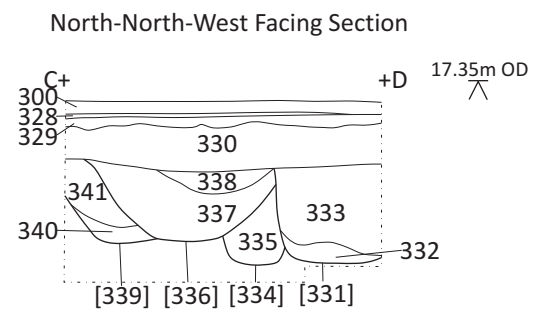
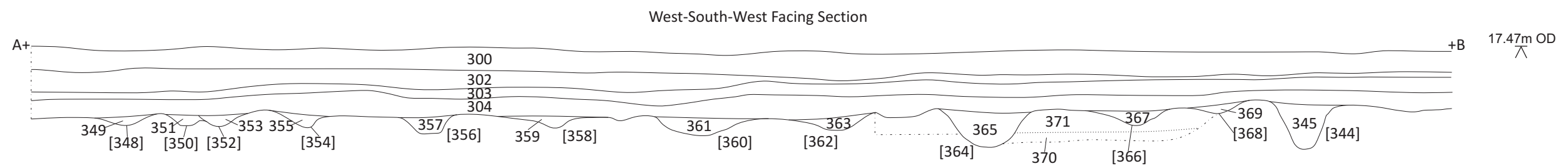
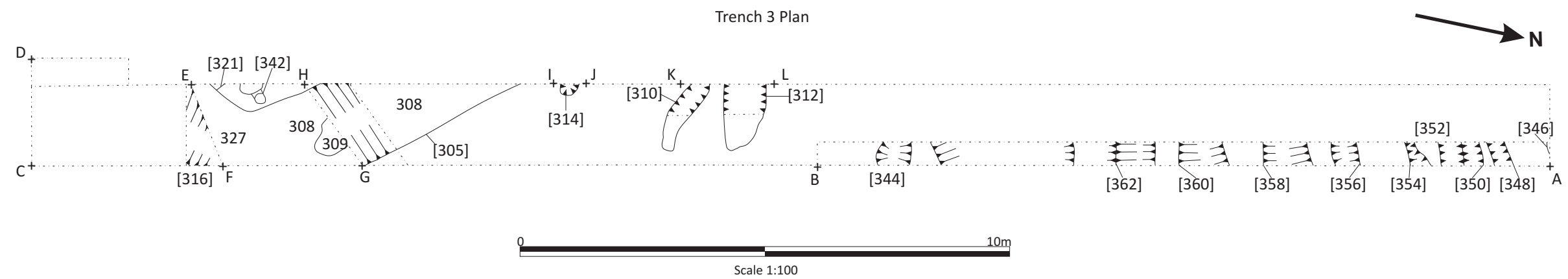
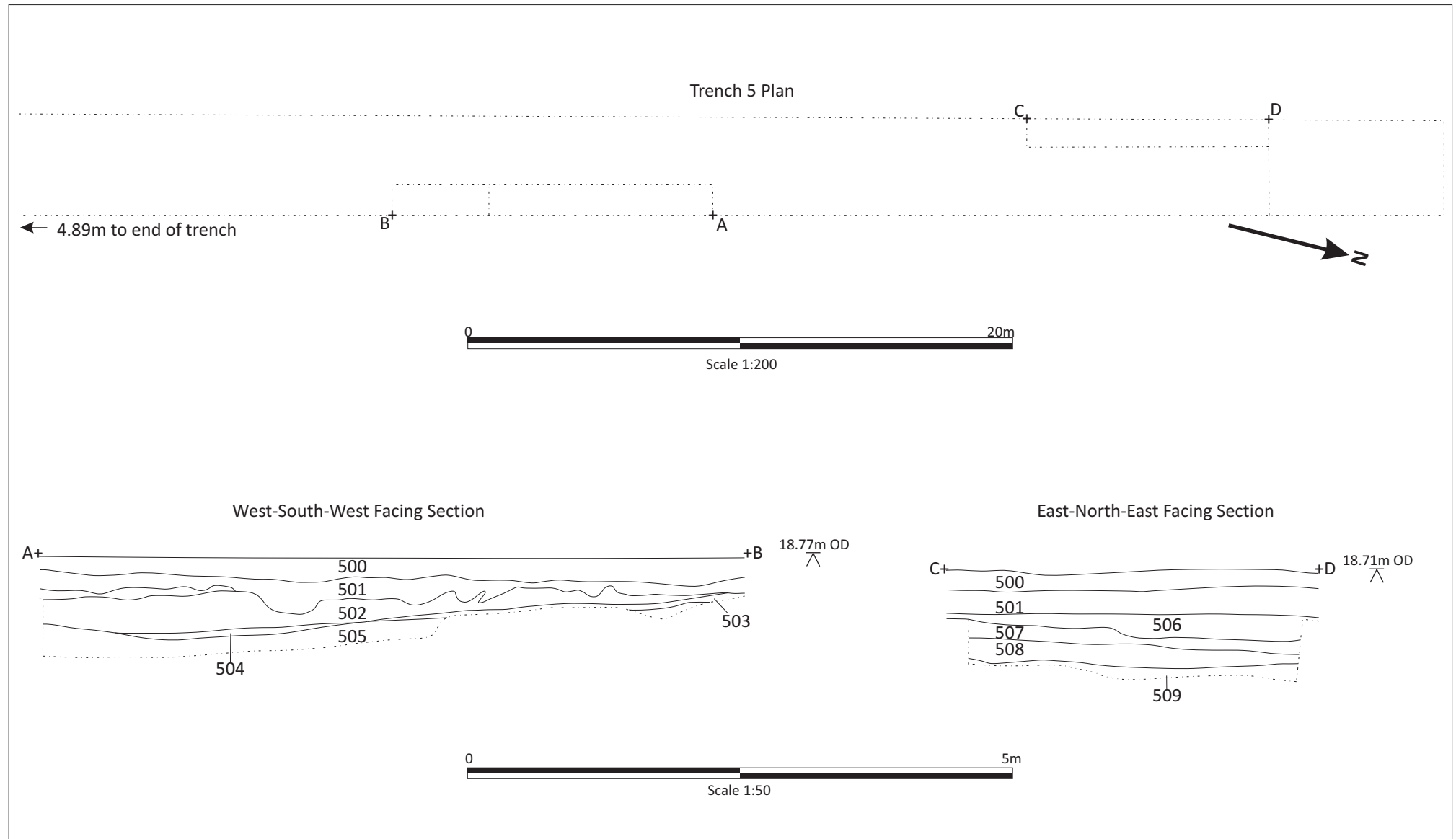
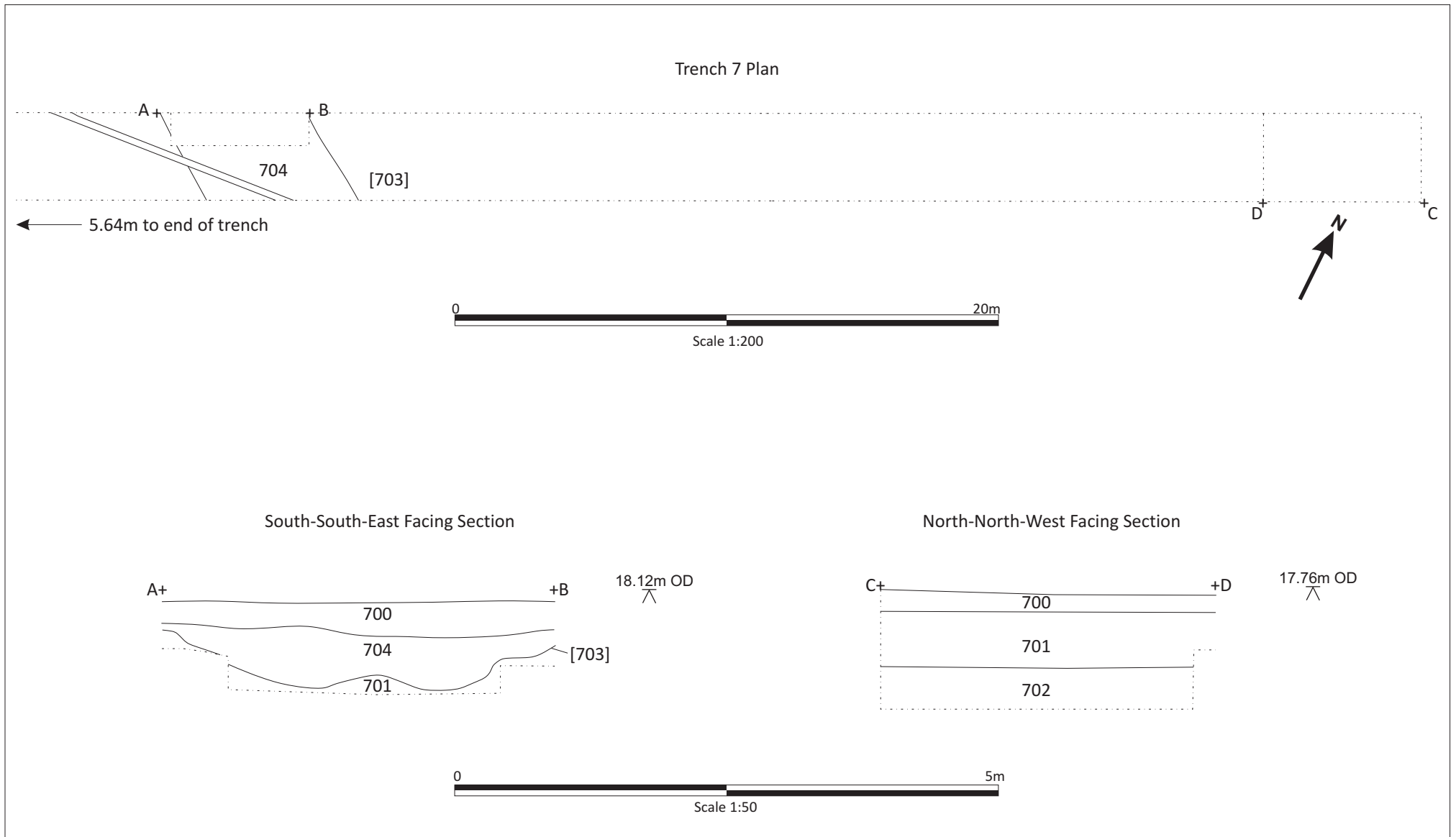


Figure 4: Trench 3 plan at scale 1:100 and sections at scale 1:50



**Figure 5:** Trench 5 plan at scale 1:100 and sections at scale 1:50



**Figure 6:** Trench 7 plan at scale 1:100 and sections at scale 1:50





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