#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT:

# TRIAL TRENCHING AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF LAND OFF JUBILEE AVENUE, FALDINGWORTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

NGR: TF 0692 8456 AAL Site Code: FAJA 13 Museum Accession Number: LCNCC: 2013.145 OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-162585



Report prepared for Cyden Homes Limited

By Allen Archaeology Limited Report Number 2013131

November 2013







#### Contents

	Executive Summary	1
1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Site Location and Description	2
3.0	Planning Background	2
4.0	Archaeological and Historical Background	3
5.0	Methodology	3
6.0	Results6.1Negative Trenches6.2Trench 16.3Trench 36.4Topographic Survey	4 4 4 4
7.0	Discussion and Conclusions	5
8.0	Effectiveness of Methodology	5
9.0	Acknowledgements	6
10.0	References	6
	f Appendices ndix 1: Colour Plates	7

		-
Appendix 2:	Roman Pottery Report	9
Appendix 3:	Post-Roman Pottery Report	10
Appendix 4:	Context Summary List	12

#### **List of Figures**

- **Figure 1:** Site location outlined in red
- **Figure 2:** Location of site with trenches outlined in red, superimposed over geophysical survey interpretation and proposed development. Sections shown on Figure 3
- **Figure 3:** Sections from Figure 2
- **Figure 4:** Location of earthworks (furrows) shown in green and numbers in square brackets referring to earthwork features discussed in the report

#### List of Plates

- Plate 1: General shot of Trench 1 facing south east. Scale is 1m
- Plate 2: Southwest facing section of Trench 1. Scales are 1m and 0.5m
- Plate 3: Southwest facing section of Trench 2. Scales are 1m and 0.5m
- Plate 4: Southeast facing section of Trench 3. Scales are 1m and 0.2m
- Plate 5: Southwest facing section of Trench 4. Scale is 1m
- Plate 6: General shot of Trench 5 facing east. Scales are 1m

#### **Document Control**

Element	Name	Date
Report prepared by:	Robert Evershed	31/10/2013
Illustrations prepared by:	Robert Evershed	31/10/2013
Report edited by:	Mark Allen	31/10/2013
Report produced by:	AAL2013131	01/11/2013

Allen Archaeology reports are printed double sided on 100% recycled paper to reduce our carbon footprint

#### **Executive Summary**

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Cyden Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and topographic survey of land off Jubilee Avenue, Faldingworth, Lincolnshire, to support a planning application for a proposed residential development.
- The site contains extant ridge and furrow, and a preceding geophysical survey of the site did not identify any other features of interest, other than a possible headland at the north end of the site.
- The evaluation and topographic survey has revealed a hollow way cutting the medieval ridge and furrow earthworks and an associated headland. A small quantity of medieval pottery was recovered from the former medieval ploughsoil, as well as a small quantity of residual Roman pottery, attesting to a low level of Roman activity in the vicinity.

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Cyden Homes Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and topographic survey of land off Jubilee Avenue, Faldingworth, Lincolnshire, to support a planning application for a proposed residential development.
- 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 1999, revised 2001 and 2008), the English Heritage document 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (English Heritage 2006), the local guidelines in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC 2012) and a specification prepared by this company (AAL 2013a).
- 1.3 The receiving museum will be The Collection in Lincoln where the archive will be stored under the museum accession code LCNCC: 2013.145. The agreed date of deposition is December 2013.

## 2.0 Site Location and Description (Figures 1 and 2)

- 2.1 Faldingworth is located in the administrative district of West Lindsey District Council, approximately 17km northeast of central Lincoln (Figure 1). The proposed development site itself (hereafter referred to as 'the site') is c.1.2 hectares in area and is located towards the east side of the village, to the east of Jubilee Avenue (Figure 2). The site is currently pasture, and is centred on NGR TF 0692 8456.
- 2.2 The site is situated on a bedrock geology of glacial till, with superficial deposits of glaciofluvial sand and gravel in the northern half of the site (British Geological Survey 1999).

#### 3.0 Planning Background

3.1 The proposed development entails a residential scheme of approximately 40 dwellings, for which a planning application has not yet been submitted. During pre-planning consultation the Historic Environment Team at Lincolnshire County Council advised for a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording and topographic survey of the site. However, the client opted for an alternative strategy, comprising a programme of geophysical survey followed by trial trenching, in order to provide further information concerning the archaeological potential of the proposed development area, and to allow the planning authority to establish appropriate measures to mitigate the effect of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource. This approach was agreed with the Historic Environment Officer, advising West Lindsey District Council, and the first stage of these investigations was the non-intrusive geophysical survey (AAL 2013b). The results of this work informed the nature and extent of the current trial trenching works.

#### 4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (hereafter LHER), records a single Acheulian handaxe recovered from an unknown location in the parish (LHER Reference 51719), as well as a Neolithic flint scraper, found c.400m west of the site (LHER Reference 50162). A scatter of Romano-British greyware pottery is recorded from the same location (LHER Reference 50162).
- 4.2 There is no physical evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity in the vicinity of the site, although the village appears in the Domesday Book of 1086. At this time there were four estates listed, two owned by Kolsveinn, one by William Blunt and one by Osbern the Priest. The estates were populated by a total of 26 villagers of varying status, along with their dependents (Morgan and Thorn 1986). The place name is also of Old English origin, meaning 'the enclosure of the family/dependents of Falda' (Cameron 1998).
- 4.3 The site appears to be on the periphery of the medieval settlement, as ridge and furrow earthworks survive on the site, running on a broadly north-northwest to south-southeast alignment. Scatters of medieval and post-medieval pottery are recorded c.400m to the west of the site (LHER References 50164 and 50165).
- 4.4 The preceding geophysical survey identified few features of archaeological interest, except for a possible headland associated with the surviving ridge and furrow on the site, although no further trace of the ridge and furrow was detected during the survey. Significant interference was observed around the margins of the field, as well as an area of possible geological variation towards the east side of the site.

#### 5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 A strategy for the trial trenching was agreed with the Historic Environment Officer, advising West Lindsey District Council,, comprising five trenches, each measuring 30m long by 1.6m wide (Figure 2). The trenches were located on site using a Leica GS08 Net Rover GPS, receiving RTK corrections. The fieldwork was carried out by a team of experienced field archaeologists on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013.
- 5.2 Each trench was excavated using a JCB 3CX wheeled excavator fitted with a smooth ditching bucket. In each trench, topsoil, subsoil and underlying non-archaeological deposits were removed in spits no greater than 0.1m until the natural geology or first archaeological horizon was exposed. All further excavation was then undertaken 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 and 1:50). Photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy. All photographs incorporated scales, with 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 three digit unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 4.
- 5.5 The topographic survey was based on an English Heritage Level 2 record of the earthworks (English Heritage 2007). The survey was undertaken by over a single day, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013. The survey was undertaken using a Leica GS08 GPS unit receiving RTK

corrections, with a line convention used to show the orientation and length of each of the furrows (English Heritage 2007, 34).

#### 6.0 Results

#### 6.1 Negative Trenches (Trenches 2, 4 and 5) (Figures 2 and 3)

- 6.1.1 Trenches 2, 4 and 5 contained no significant archaeological features or deposits. In Trench 2, a 0.2m thick topsoil, 200, overlay 0.17m thick light yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil, 201, which sealed the natural yellowish grey clay, 202.
- 6.1.2 Trench 4 contained a 0.2m thick topsoil, 400, which overlies the natural mid orange brown silty clay, 401. During machine excavation of the topsoil seven sherds of Roman pottery of 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD date were recovered.
- 6.1.3 Trench 5 contained a 0.1m thick topsoil, 500, which sealed the natural geology of mid orange brown silty clay, 501. Two sherds of abraded medieval pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> to possibly 15<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from the topsoil.
- 6.2 Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)
- 6.2.1 Topsoil 100 sealed 101 and 107; 0.2m and 0.1m thick mid yellowish brown clayey silt subsoil deposits and 104, the natural geology of yellowish grey clay. Towards the southeast end of the trench the natural geology 104 overlay a further geological deposit 105, of yellow-brown clayey silt. At the northwestern end of the trench a series of layers infilling a linear hollow were exposed below 101. The uppermost of these deposits was 106, a 0.15m thick dark greyish brown clayey silt, which overlay 103, a 0.05m thick orange brown sand and gravel layer, which partially sealed 102, a 0.15m thick dark grey brown clayey silt, identified as a possible buried soil. All these deposits were undated.

## 6.3 Trench 3 (Figures 2 and 3)

6.3.1 The trench was positioned perpendicular to the ridge and furrow orientation within the field. A 0.32m thick topsoil, 300, containing the remnants of ridge and furrow, sealed a mid orangebrown silty clay natural geology. Three sherds of Roman pottery of 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD or later date were recovered from topsoil 300, as well as a sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

#### 6.4 Topographic Survey (Figure 4)

- 6.4.1 The earthwork survey can be divided into two areas comprising the alternating shallow linear hollows and low linear mounds [1], which are characteristic of the ridges and furrows created by strip farming in a medieval open field agricultural system, across the majority of the site, and a headland, with adjacent hollow way [2] at the northern end of the site.
- 6.4.2 The ridge and furrows ran approximately north-northwest to south-southeast across the site, with the distance between the centre lines of each furrow varying between 7.5 and 14m, broadly consistent with known dimensions for medieval ridge and furrow.

- 6.4.3 Across the majority of the site the earthworks were relatively slight with the difference in height between the top of the ridges and the base of the furrows being 0.06m 0.21m. Towards the southeastern end of the site, the ridges and furrows became gradually less pronounced, possibly a result of increased modern ploughing at this end.
- 6.4.4 At the northwestern end of the site there is a raised headland running approximately west-southwest to east-northeast, and likely to be related to the ridge and furrow to the south, representing the material accumulating at the edge of the field by the turning of the plough. The headland is cut by a parallel linear feature that most likely represents a track or hollow way running across the field.

## 7.0 Discussion and Conclusions

- 7.1 The evaluation results compared very favourably with the geophysical survey results. Trenches 2, 4 and 5 were devoid of archaeological features.
- 7.2 Trench 1 was located across the only anomaly of note revealed by the geophysical survey. This was a linear hollow running roughly west-southwest to east-northeast across the northern end of the site. This feature was clearly visible as a hollow cutting the adjacent headland and also appears to respect a pond that lies to the northwest of the site. On this evidence it would appear therefore that the ridge and furrow and headland were created, before the pond to the north was excavated and the trackway developed at a later date.
- 7.3 Trench 3 was located at right angles to the ridge and furrow and remnants of the profile of these earthworks were still just visible within the section.
- 7.4 Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil in Trenches 3 and 4, indicating limited century activity in the area of these two trenches. However, the fact that no *in situ* deposits of this date were exposed suggests that the medieval agricultural practices are likely to have damaged or removed any stratified evidence of Roman activity on the site.
- 7.5 The earthwork survey has shown that the site is dominated by shallow ridge and furrow earthworks indicative of strip farming in an open field system, on one distinct alignment. The ridges and furrows are most likely to be of a broadly medieval date, perhaps of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century date, although this is based on two small fragments of pottery recovered from Trench 5. However, later post-medieval ridge and furrow is often more closely set, with the distance between furrows less than 5m, or it is found in marginal areas such as moorland, often bought into use following the agricultural depression after the Napoleonic wars of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (Rackham 2000 and Hall 1982).

#### 8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

8.1 The archaeological evaluation methodology was appropriate to the nature and extent of the proposed development. It has revealed a hollow way cutting ridge and furrow agriculture associated headland, with a small assemblage of ceramics indicating limited Roman activity in the local landscape. The likelihood of impacting on any buried heritage assets within the proposed residential development is therefore deemed to be negligible.

#### 9.0 Acknowledgements

9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Cyden Homes Limited for this commission and to the landowner Mr Edward Backus for his cooperation during the groundworks.

#### 10.0 References

AAL, 2013, Specification for an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and topographic survey: Land off Jubilee Avenue, Faldingworth, Lincolnshire. Allen Archaeology Limited project document

AAL, 2013b, Archaeological Evaluation Report: Geophysical Survey by Magnetometry on Land off Jubilee Avenue, Faldingworth, Lincolnshire, Allen Archaeology Limited report number 2013102

British Geological Survey, 1999. Market Rasen. England and Wales Sheet 102. Solid and Drift Geology. 1:50000 Provisional Series. Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey

Cameron K., 1998, A dictionary of Lincolnshire place-names, English Place-Name Society, University of Nottingham, Nottingham

Department for Communities and Local Government, 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department for Communities and Local Government, London

English Heritage, 2007, Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes. A guide to good recording practice. English Heritage Publishing

IfA, 1994 (revised 2001 and 2008), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations*, Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

LCC, 2012, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: a manual of archaeological practice*. Lincoln, Lincolnshire County Council, Built Environment Dept.

Morgan P. and Thorn, C. (eds.), 1986, *Domesday Book: vol.31: Lincolnshire*, Phillimore & Co. Ltd, Chichester

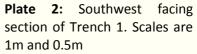
Muir, R., 2000, The New Reading the Landscape, University of Exeter Press

Rackham, O., 2000, The History of the Countryside, Phoenix Press, London

# **Appendix 1: Colour Plates**



**Plate 1:** General shot of Trench 1 facing southeast. Scale is 1m



**Plate 3:** Southwest facing section of Trench 2. Scales are 1m and 0.5m



**Plate 4:** Southeast facing section of Trench 3. Scales are 1m and 0.2m

**Plate 5:** Southwest facing section of Trench 4. Scale is 1m

**Plate 6:** General shot of Trench 5 facing east. Scales are 1m

#### **Appendix 2: Roman Pottery Report**

#### By I.M. Rowlandson

Ten sherds (weighing 129g) were presented to this author for archiving from archaeological investigations at Faldingworth, West Lindsey. An archive has been produced to comply with the requirements of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 2004) using the codes and system developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (Darling and Precious *forthcoming*). A tabulated summary by context and a sherd archive are presented below. The dates provided represent the pottery recorded here: the main text of the report and other specialist contributions should be consulted to ascertain the overall date attributed to each context.

The assemblage as a whole could be broadly dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD until the end of the Roman period with the optimum date for these collections of pottery being sometime in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century or perhaps later. A single native tradition sherd from context 400 probably dates to the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. Beyond the broad dates given to these groups of pottery from topsoil contexts little more can be inferred about the nature of any Roman occupation on this site on the basis of the ceramics alone. It is recommended that this pottery should be deposited with the relevant local museum along with the rest of the archive.

	FAJA13- Dating summary							
Context	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)				
300	2C+	A small group of local greyware including the rim from a jar.	3	55				
400	1-2C+	A small group including a rim fragment from a native tradition shell gritted large bowl and sherds of local greyware.	7	74				

	FAJA13- Sherd data									
Context	Fabric	Form	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight
300	GREY	JBL		1	ABR		BASE		2	28
300	GREY	JL		1	ABR		RIM; LARGE EVERTED TYPE		1	27
400	GREY	BD		1	ABR		BASE		1	20
400	GREY	BD		1	VAB; BURNT		BS		2	18
400	GREY	CLSD		2	ABR		BS		2	12
400	GREY	BD		1	ABR		BASE		1	10
400	IASH	BNAT	НМ	1			RIM; BLACK/REDUCED FIRING; ROUNDED EXTERNAL RIM WITHINTERNAL 'WEDGE' PROJECTION		1	14

#### References

Darling, M.J., 2004, Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery. *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 11, 67-74

Darling, M.J. and Precious, B.J., *forthcoming*, *Corpus of Roman Pottery from Lincoln*, Lincoln Archaeological Studies No. 6, Oxbow Books, Oxford

#### **Appendix 3: Post-Roman Pottery Report**

By Dr A. Irving

#### Pottery

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. All of the pottery codenames (Cname) are those established for Lincolnshire (Young *et al.*, 2005). A total of three sherds from three vessels, weighing 17 grams was recovered from the site.

#### Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 3.1.

#### Results

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
300	SLIP	Red	Jar/bowl	1	1	5	BS	White internal slip; burnt	18th to 19th
500	LSW2/3		Jug	1	1	4	Rim	Small form; abraded	
500	MISC		Jar?	1	1	8	Base	Abraded; burnt	13th to 15th?

Table 3.1: Archive of the Pottery

#### Spot Dating

The dating in Table 3.2 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3.2: Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comment
300	18th to 19th	Date on a single sherd
500	13th to 15th	

#### Conclusions

The pottery is all from residual topsoil contexts and is suitable for discard

#### Abbreviations

BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
W (g)	Weight (grams)

#### References

~ 2010, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <http://www.lincolnshire. gov.uk/ section.asp?catId=3155>

Slowikowski, A. M., 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

Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln (Oxford)

# Appendix 4: Context Summary List

#### Trench 1

Tencir I			
Context	Туре	Description	Interpretation
Number			
100	Layer	Firm to friable, mid/dark brown clayey silt with infrequent small sub-rounded pebbles. 0.2m thick	Topsoil
101	Layer	Firm to friable, light/mid yellow/brown clayey silt with small sub-rounded pebbles and flint fragments. 0.2m think	Subsoil
102	Layer	Firm, dark grey/brown clayey silt with infrequent small pebbles. 7.86m wide and 0.15m thick	Possible buried soil
103	Layer	Friable, orange/brown sand and gravel. 2.16m wide and 0.05m thick	Gravel layer
104	Layer	Well compacted, yellow/grey clay with pockets of small angular chalk and infrequent flint	Natural
105	Layer	Friable, yellow/brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-rounded pebbles and angular flint	Natural
106	Layer	Firm, dark grey/brown clayey silt with infrequent small pebbles. 0.15m thick	Possible buried soil
107	Layer	Firm, light/mid yellow/brown clayey silt with infrequent small rounded/sub- rounded pebbles. 0.1m thick	Subsoil

## Trench 2

Context Number	Туре	Description	Interpretation
200	Layer	Firm, light/mid brown silty sand with infrequent small sub-rounded pebbles. 0.2m thick	Topsoil
201	Layer	Firm, light/yellow brown clayey silt with infrequent small sub-rounded pebbles and flint. 0.17m thick	Subsoil
202	Layer	Well compacted, yellow/grey clay with occasional angular flint, sub-rounded pebbles and chalk fragments	Natural

## Trench 3

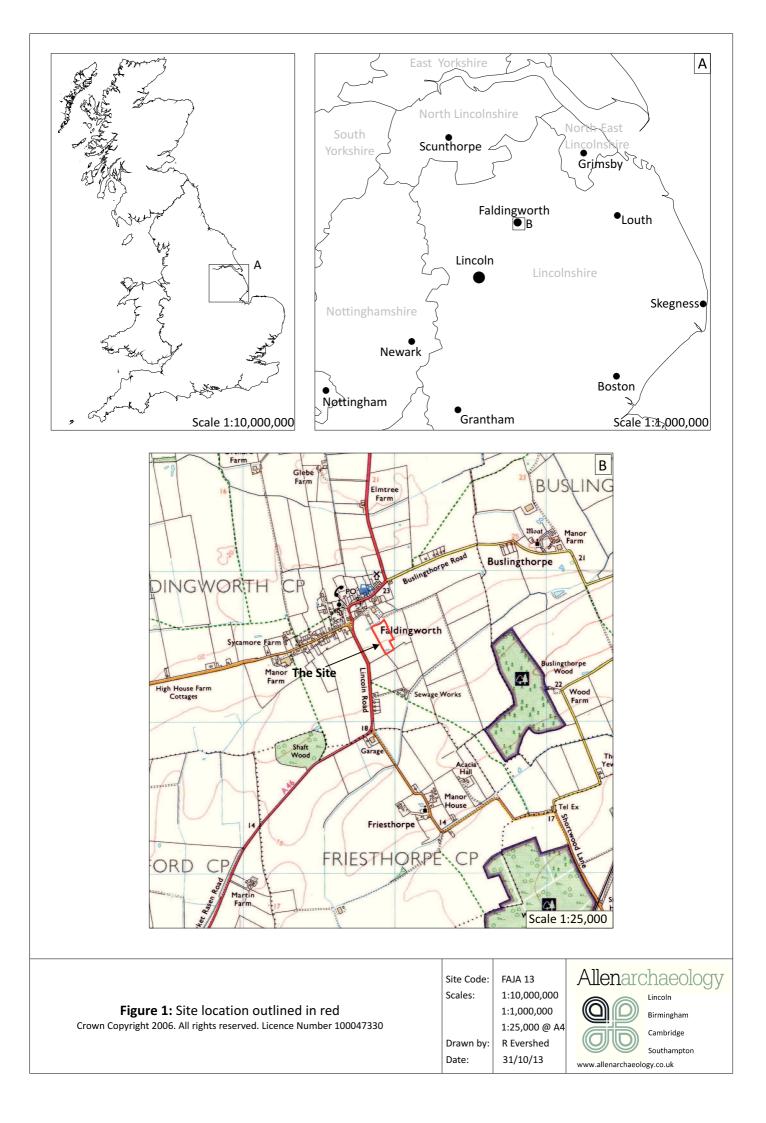
Context Number	Туре	Description	Interpretation
300	Layer	Friable, dark grey/brown silty clay with occasional small stones. 0.32m thick	Topsoil
301	Layer	Well compacted, mid orange/brown silty clay with occasional limestone fragments and flint	Natural

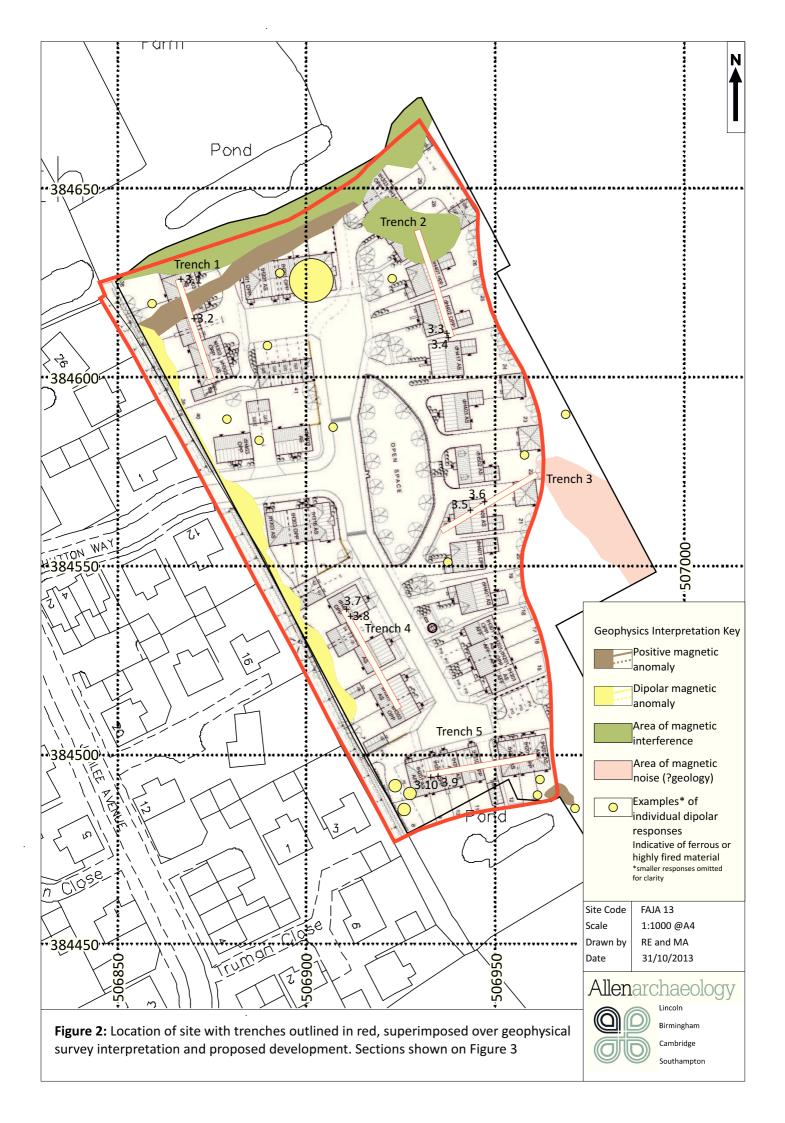
#### Trench 4

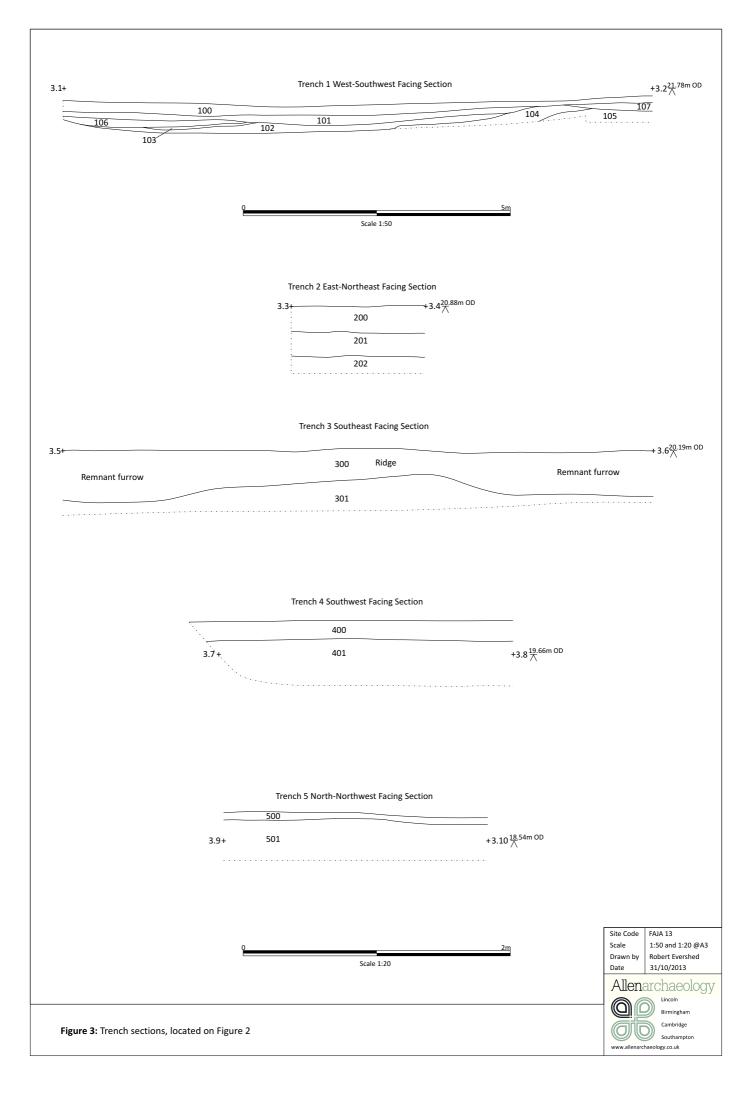
Context Number	Туре	Description	Interpretation
400	Layer	Firm to friable, dark/mid orange/brown clayey silt with occasional small pebbles.	Topsoil
		0.16m thick	
401	Layer	Well compacted, mid orange/brown silty clay with occasional limestone	Natural
		fragments and flint	

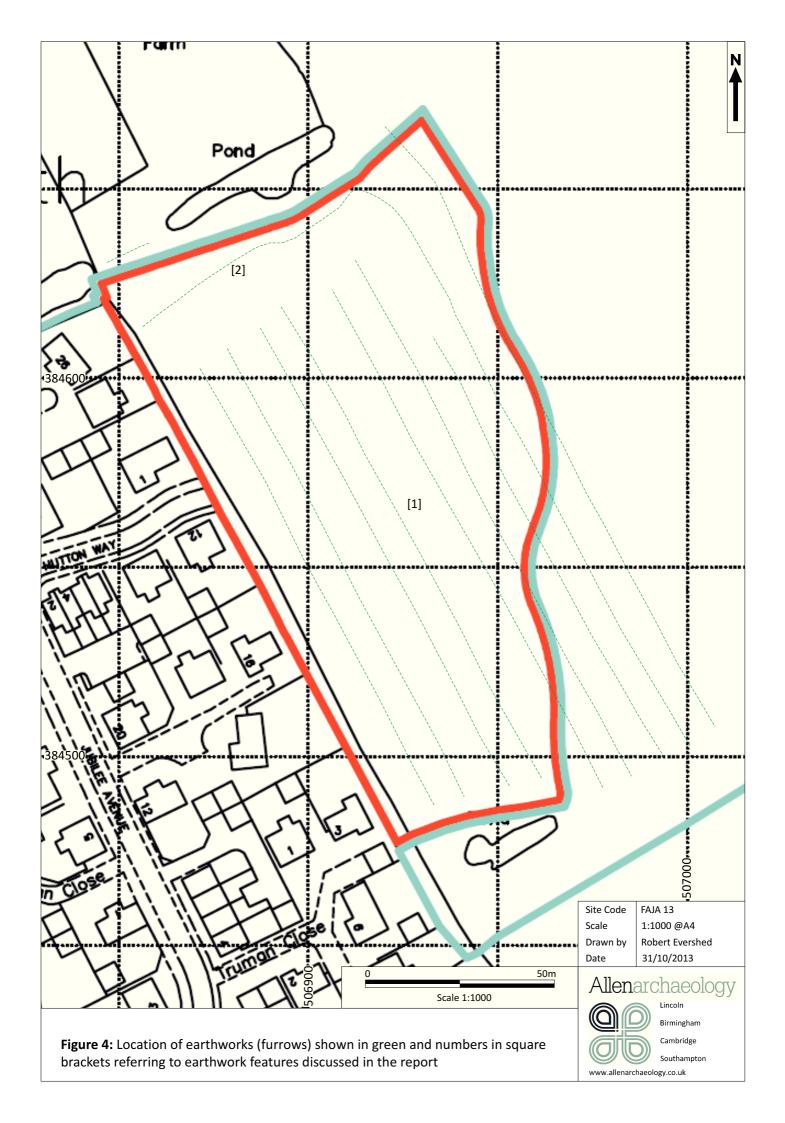
## Trench 5

Context Number	Туре	Description	Interpretation
500	Layer	Firm to friable, dark/mid orange/brown clayey silt with occasional small pebbles. 0.1m thick	Topsoil
501	Layer	Well compacted, mid orange/brown silty clay with occasional limestone fragments and flint	Natural











Allen Archaeology Limited Website: www.allenarchaeology.co.uk

Company Registered in England and Wales No: 6935529

Lincoln Unit 1C Branston Business Park Lincoln Road Branston Lincolnshire LN4 1NT

#### Birmingham Arion Business Centre Harriet House 118 High Street Birmingham B23 6BG

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 800 610 2545 Email: birmingham@allenarchaeology.co.uk

#### Cambridge Wellington Ho

Wellington House East Road Cambridge CB1 1BH

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 800 610 2550 Email: cambridge@allenarchaeology.co.uk

#### Southampton

International House Southampton International Business Park George Curl Way Southampton SO18 2RZ

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 1522 794400 Email: info@allenarchaeology.co.uk Tel: +44 (0) 800 610 2555 Email: southampton@allenarchaeology.co.uk