

LAND EAST OF HACKTHORN ROAD, WELTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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Prepared for

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Summary

- A trial trench archaeological evaluation was carried out on land off Hackthorn Road in Welton, Lincolnshire, in advance of an application for planning permission for residential development.
- A preceding geophysical survey at the site recorded potential archaeological features, including a possible ring-ditch with other possible ditches and pits.
- The trial trench evaluation encountered very few archaeological remains, with the majority of features appearing to be of natural origin. The site appears to contain a single zone of limited archaeological interest, situated towards the northern side in the area of Trenches 2 and 3. Dating evidence was retrieved from only one feature, and this was modern, while two undated features indicated only that a low level of activity, apparently featuring the excavation of boundary or drainage ditches, had taken place on the site at some time prior to the 19th century.



Figure 1: Location of the proposed development site at scale 1:25,000, marked in red. (OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278).

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (PCAS) was commissioned by J. H. Walter to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Hackthorn Road, Welton, to inform a planning application for a residential development.

The evaluation consisted of six trenches, each 30m x 2m, positioned in accordance with the findings of a preceding geophysical survey by Pre-Construct Geophysics. The results of this evaluation will be used to determine whether or not further archaeological work will be necessary before or during development.

2.0 Location and description (figs. 1-3)

The village of Welton is c. 9km north of central Lincoln on the eastern slope of the Lincolnshire Edge. It is located on the A46 Lincoln to Market Rasen road, within the administrative district of West Lindsey.

The site is on the north side of the village, on the east side of Hackthorn Road which extends northwards towards Spidlington and then continues approximately parallel to the A15. The site is currently vacant, having previously been used for agriculture; modern aerial photographs indicate the presence of a former field boundary towards the east end of the site, in line with an existing boundary to the north. It covers around 2.38 hectares and is roughly rectangular in shape, centred on NGR TF 01704 80350. Access is in the south-west corner from Hackthorn Road, close to Northfield Road.

3.0 Geology and topography

The bedrock geology of the western half of the site is recorded as Cornbrash Formation Limestone. This changes to Kellaways Formation Sandstone, Siltstone and Mudstone in the east. Both these bedrocks are part of the Kellaways Formation, sedimentary bedrock formed in the Jurassic Period in a shallow, carbonate sea environment.

A narrow band of alluvium is the only recorded superficial geology; formed in the Quaternary Period, and deposited by a now extinct river (BGS).

The 15m contour line meanders across the eastern half of the site, with most of the site lying slightly higher than this. The site slopes gently downwards from west to east (plate 1).

4.0 Planning background

A planning application for the development of seventy-three houses, with associated landscaping, access roads and ancillary works was submitted to WLDC in June 2013 (planning application ref: 130150). In the light of the results of a geophysical survey carried out in July 2013, the Planning Archaeologist for West Lindsey advised that a scheme of trial trenching would be necessary to further inform the planning process and the need for any archaeological mitigation.

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

The settlement of Welton itself is rich in archaeological remains: fieldwork within the historic village core has identified remains from the Roman, Saxon and medieval periods, including an apsidal 10th-12th century building interpreted as an early ecclesiastical structure.

The proposed development site is within the agricultural hinterland of the historic settlement, and ridge-and-furrow earthworks have been identified to the north and south (LHER refs: 52218/52219), but no agricultural earthworks or other surface features have been noted within the site.

A geophysical survey undertaken on the proposed development site in July 2013 identified several features, including a possible ring-ditch approximately 12m in diameter close to its centre. Further potential ditches appeared adjacent to this, and to the west, and a small number of potential pits were also recorded. A strong anomaly to the south of the ring-ditch was provisionally identified as a post-medieval quarry or area of demolition material. Other readings, often concentrated around the boundaries of the site, were considered to indicate modern materials (Bunn, 2013).

6.0 Methodology

Trenches were positioned to investigate potential features identified by geophysical survey, with an additional trench sampling the area at the east end of the site where no geophysical anomalies had been encountered, in case a change in the underlying geological deposits had concealed potential features in this area (fig. 3). They were set out using GPS and excavated using a 180° back-acting excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Machine excavation was halted at the first archaeological or natural horizon; excavation thereafter was carried out by hand. The exception was Trench 5, where feature **508** proved too large to excavate by hand: an additional section was machined through this feature when the excavator returned to the site to back-fill the trenches.

The evaluation trenches were drawn in plan at scale 1:100. Where archaeological features were present, these were sample excavated and drawn in section at scales of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 as appropriate; where no features were encountered, a sample section of the trench baulk was drawn. Detailed individual plans were drawn of the excavated portions of the features, with the exception of the machine-dug section in Trench 5, as feature **508** ran at such an oblique angle to the trench that the sides had to be cut away in order to establish a full profile. The drawn record was supplemented by a photographic record on colour slide film and in digital format (Appendix 1). Deposits were recorded on standard PCAS context record sheets and trench record sheets, and an excavation site diary was also kept. Finds were processed and assessed in-house.

The evaluation was conducted by the author between 19th and 29th November, 2013. Conditions on site were frequently unfavourable, with a high water table and occasional heavy rain leading to flooding of portions of the trenches, and low winter sun causing difficulties with visibility and photography.

Results (figs. 4-5)

A full context summary list appears as Appendix 2.

6.1 Trenches containing potential archaeological features

6.1.1 Trench 2 (fig. 4a-e)

Trench 2 was positioned near the northern edge of the western half of the site, and was oriented east-to-west. It was situated in order to investigate a potential pit at the west end of the trench, and a pronounced linear anomaly, suggesting either two abutting ditches or one ditch turning a sharp corner, at the east end; a less strongly marked linear anomaly ran roughly north-to-south near the centre of the trench. Only the anomaly at the east end of the trench was identified: this comprised of two linear features, one of which was potentially

archaeological (although it produced no finds) while the other appeared to be natural (fig. 4a; plate 2).

The base of Trench 2 was formed by the natural solid geology 202. At the east end of the trench, this was cut by a narrow, slightly sinuous linear feature running roughly east to west, **204**. This had steep sides and an irregular base, which lay at the level where loose natural limestone brash changed to more solidly bedded stone (fig. 4b); it was cut to the west by the almost perpendicularly aligned feature **206**, and could not be traced beyond it. Due to its irregular shape and its clean, homogeneous clayey sand fill, feature **204** was interpreted as being of natural origin.

The linear feature **206** also appeared to be slightly curvilinear or sinuous, although only a short length of this was exposed. It ran roughly west-north-west to east-south-east, cutting across natural feature **204**, and appeared to be tapering to a terminal just beyond the southern trench edge, corroborating the geophysical survey plot, which did not show this feature projecting beyond the trench to the south. Ditch or gully **206** was 0.60m wide and 0.25m deep, with an irregular profile, undercut on the north-east side (fig. 4c-e), suggesting that it may have been disturbed by a process such as tree rooting. Its fill produced no finds, but contained frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal, suggesting that human activity had been taking place in the area at the time when the fill was deposited.

Above both features was a subsoil layer 201, 0.14m deep, lying below 0.30m of modern topsoil, 200; no finds were retrieved from either deposit.

6.1.2 Trench 3 (fig. 4f-j)

Trench 3 was also orientated east-west; positioned to the north-east of Trench 2 across the centre of the potential ring ditch to investigate both sides of this feature and sample a potential pit within its eastern edge and any other internal features. A further linear anomaly appeared to continue through Trench 2. The results of the evaluation bore very little resemblance to the geophysical survey plot, encountering a post-medieval or modern ditch that had not registered as a magnetic anomaly at all, and a second linear feature that could only tenuously be identified as potentially being the west side of the 'ring-ditch' (fig. 4f).

The natural geology at the base of Trench 3 was similar to the limestone brash in Trench 2. A narrow, north-east to south-west aligned linear feature cut through this, running across the middle of the trench: ditch or gully **306** was 0.26m deep and 0.38m wide, flaring or curving at the northern trench edge. It was more regular in profile than feature **206** in Trench 2 (fig. 4g-i), but had a very similar charcoal-flecked fill, from which no finds were retrieved. The similarity of the fills suggests that features **206** and **306** were contemporary; initially thought to be parts of the same ditch, although no such feature can be made to correspond to the geophysical survey.

Feature **306** was cut to the south by the wider, straighter linear feature ditch **304**. This ran for some 11m across the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment; it was 0.77m wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a bowl-shaped profile (fig. 4j). Its fill produced the only stratified finds retrieved during the evaluation: an assemblage of 19th- and 19th to 20th-century pottery, bottle glass and clay tobacco pipe (Appendix 3). Fragments of brick and slate were also seen, but not retrieved.

Both features were sealed by subsoil 301, 0.15m deep, overlain by 0.30m of modern topsoil 300. The fact that ditch **304** was sealed by the subsoil, which had sunk slightly into the feature, indicates that the subsoil on site is also a recent deposit, no earlier than the 19th century.

6.1.3 Trench 5 (fig. 5)

Trench 5 was positioned near the centre of the site, oriented north-east to south-west, targeted on two possible pits and a short length of an apparent linear anomaly, provisionally identified as a possible ditch. A very wide feature was encountered near the centre of the trench, suggesting that the apparent group of geophysical anomalies were actually responses to a single feature; two much smaller linear features, not identified by geophysical survey, were interpreted as natural (fig. 5a).

The natural substrate in Trench 5 varied across the length of the trench, changing from limestone gravel in a matrix of clayey sand in the eastern half to clayey sand with gravelly patches and abundant small limestone fragments in the western half. A very large, but shallow, feature ran across the centre of the trench at the point where the nature of the natural changed. Due to the oblique angle at which the trench intersected feature **508**, it was not possible to get a full perpendicular profile, but its width was estimated at some 8m, although it was no more than 0.40m deep (fig. 5b). Initial hand excavation of two small sections at its edges (fig. 5c-f) raised the possibility that it might have been a quarry pit, as one of the sections reached a deposit of more solidly bedded limestone, but subsequent re-excavation of the centre of the trench by machine to the base of the feature revealed that this deposit was only a narrow band along its western edge (plate 5). Its irregular shape and its position running along a change in the geology suggest that feature **508** was of natural origin, possibly a palaeochannel washed out by groundwater following the edge of the harder stone. No dating evidence was retrieved from its fill, whose banded appearance also suggested natural deposition, but which contained occasional charcoal flecks, potentially indicative of human activity in the vicinity during the period at which the feature was silting up or being filled in.

Two apparent linear features were investigated directly to the north-east of the possible palaeochannel. Features **504** and **506** both ran roughly perpendicular to the alignment of the trench, and both terminated to the north-west within it; both were shallow and irregular, with fills that appeared to be water-lain, and were interpreted as being of natural origin (fig. 5g-h).

6.2 Trenches containing natural or no features

6.2.1 Trench 1 (fig. 6a-b)

Trench 1 was positioned on the higher ground towards the west end of the site, and was oriented north-west to south-east. In spite of its elevated position, this trench was very wet, with the water table roughly coinciding with the surface of the natural; it was further flooded by heavy rain shortly after machining and during recording, making working conditions extremely difficult.

At the base of Trench 1 was the natural limestone brash, chiefly consisting of fragments, mostly small, in a matrix of mid-brown clayey sand. A band of much larger limestone fragments, platy in form and unworked, ran most of the way across the trench in a roughly east to west alignment (fig. 6a-b). This was initially thought to be a stone-lined or French drain, as groundwater was visible between the stones during machining, but subsequent investigation suggested that it was in fact a natural outcrop of the bedded limestone, disturbed by ploughing, as it terminated within the trench, which would have been unlikely for a drain, and no definite structure or construction cut could be discerned (plate 6).

The trench was sealed by 0.18m depth of subsoil 101, below 0.24m of modern topsoil 100. The topsoil in the vicinity of and to the west of Trench 1 contained frequent limestone fragments, which were visible on the surface of the field, possibly corroborating the theory that the stony 'feature' was a natural outcrop of bedded limestone, as no such fragments were visible on the ground surface in any part of the field to the east of Trench 1.

6.2.2 Trench 4 (fig. 6c-e)

Trench 4 was oriented north-west to south-east, and positioned towards the south side of the development site, within the western half of the field. A geophysical anomaly possibly representing a ditch fell within the southern end of the trench, while the northern end sampled an area of geophysical responses interpreted as either a potential quarry or modern disturbance.

The natural limestone brash at the base of Trench 4 consisted of fragments in a matrix of clayey sand, which changed to a more solid limestone at the base of feature **404**. This material incorporated areas of black and dark purple mineral staining, which was most prevalent at the north-western end of the trench, generating the scattered geophysical response recorded there (plate 7). The possible ditch was identified as narrow linear feature **404**, which was 0.50m wide and 0.15m deep, aligned north-east to south-west, with a steep south-east side and an irregular, undercut north-west side: its irregular profile and clean, homogeneous fill indicated that it was of natural origin, probably washed out along the edge of a band of more solidly bedded limestone (fig. 6e; plate 8). A further possible linear feature, not flagged up by the geophysical survey, was investigated toward the north-west end of the trench: feature **406** proved to be 1.07m wide but only 0.09m deep and very irregular, and was interpreted as also being of natural origin (fig. 6d).

Trench 4 was sealed by 0.20m depth of subsoil 401 below 0.25m depth of modern topsoil 400.

6.2.3 Trench 6 (figs. 6f-g)

Trench 6 was oriented north to south and was situated towards the east end of the site, in an area where no geophysical anomalies were recorded. Its purpose was to sample this area and ascertain whether it was genuinely negative, or whether changes in the local geology had masked possible features.

The natural in Trench 6 was markedly different from that encountered elsewhere, consisting of sandy clay with patches and bands of limestone gravel; its surface displayed a large number of narrow, closely-set striations running roughly east to west (fig. 6f). The largest of these 'features' was investigated, and proved to be very shallow and filled by subsoil 601: a sherd of post-medieval white-glazed pottery was retrieved from its surface (fig. 6g). The striations, which also appeared less clearly and in lesser numbers in the other trenches where areas of smooth-surfaced, clayey natural were present, were interpreted as being of recent agricultural origin, either representing deep ploughing or subsoiling. The only cut feature encountered was a field drain, running east to west across the north end of the trench, whose fill was conducting so much groundwater that this end of the trench was flooded, although the drain itself was not exposed.

The trench was sealed by 0.16m depth of subsoil 601 below 0.26m of modern topsoil 600.

7.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The evaluation encountered very few archaeological remains, with the majority of features appearing to be of natural origin: such features are typical on limestone brash geology, and normally derive from the actions of frost and running water.

The only features that definitely indicated human activity were in Trenches 2 and 3, although little can be deduced about the nature of ditches **206** and **306**; their charcoal-rich fills suggest that they were associated with human activity, but no evidence for their nature or date was retrieved. Ditch **304** was clearly modern, and so the stratigraphic relationship between it and ditch **306** shows only that ditch **306** pre-dates the 19th century. A natural origin seems most

likely for the large, undated feature **508** in Trench 5, as this produced no evidence for human activity beyond a few charcoal flecks, and appeared to be associated with variations in the natural geology. The stony feature in Trench 1 was probably not an undated stone-lined or French (stone-filled) drain, but a natural band of more solidly bedded limestone, similar to those seen in the sides of features in Trenches 4 and 5, but occurring at a higher level and so broken up by ploughing.

Unfortunately, correlation of the archaeology encountered to the geophysics results was much less successful in Trench 3 than in the rest of the site. Ditch **306**, although a substantial feature, was not identified by geophysical survey at all, while ditch **304** does not seem to be correctly positioned or oriented to be the continuation of ditch **206** from Trench 2, in spite of the very similar appearance of these two features. The west side of the anomaly interpreted as a ring-ditch is a closer match for the position and orientation of **304**; no explanation can be made for the apparent absence of the clearly marked linear feature that should have continued **206** across the west end of Trench 3, as the precise correspondence of features in other trenches to the geophysical plot indicates that there was no error in the positioning of the trenches.

The site presently appears to contain a single zone of limited archaeological interest, restricted to the area of Trenches 2 and 3: no more can be said than that a low level of activity, apparently featuring the excavation of boundary or drainage ditches, has taken place on the site at some time prior to the 19th century, and that there had been wood- or charcoal-fuelled fires in the neighbourhood at the time when the ditches were filled in.

8.0 Project archive

The project archive, currently in the custody of PCAS, will be deposited with printed copies of the full report at The Collection, Lincoln, by June 2014. Following deposition, it may be consulted under the global accession number LCNCC 2013.202.

9.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services would like to thank J. H. Walter for this commission.

10.0 References

British Geological Survey (BGS) consulted online at
<http://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>

Bunn, D., 2013, *Archaeological Geophysical Survey: Land to the East of Hackthorn Road, Welton, Lincolnshire*. Unpublished client report produced by Pre-Construct Geophysics.

Ordnance Survey, 2006, *Lincoln, Sleaford, Metherringham and Navenby: Explorer 1:25 000 Series*. Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

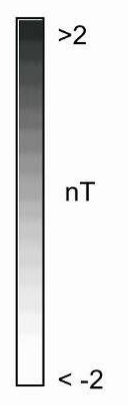


Fig. 2: Greyscale - processed data

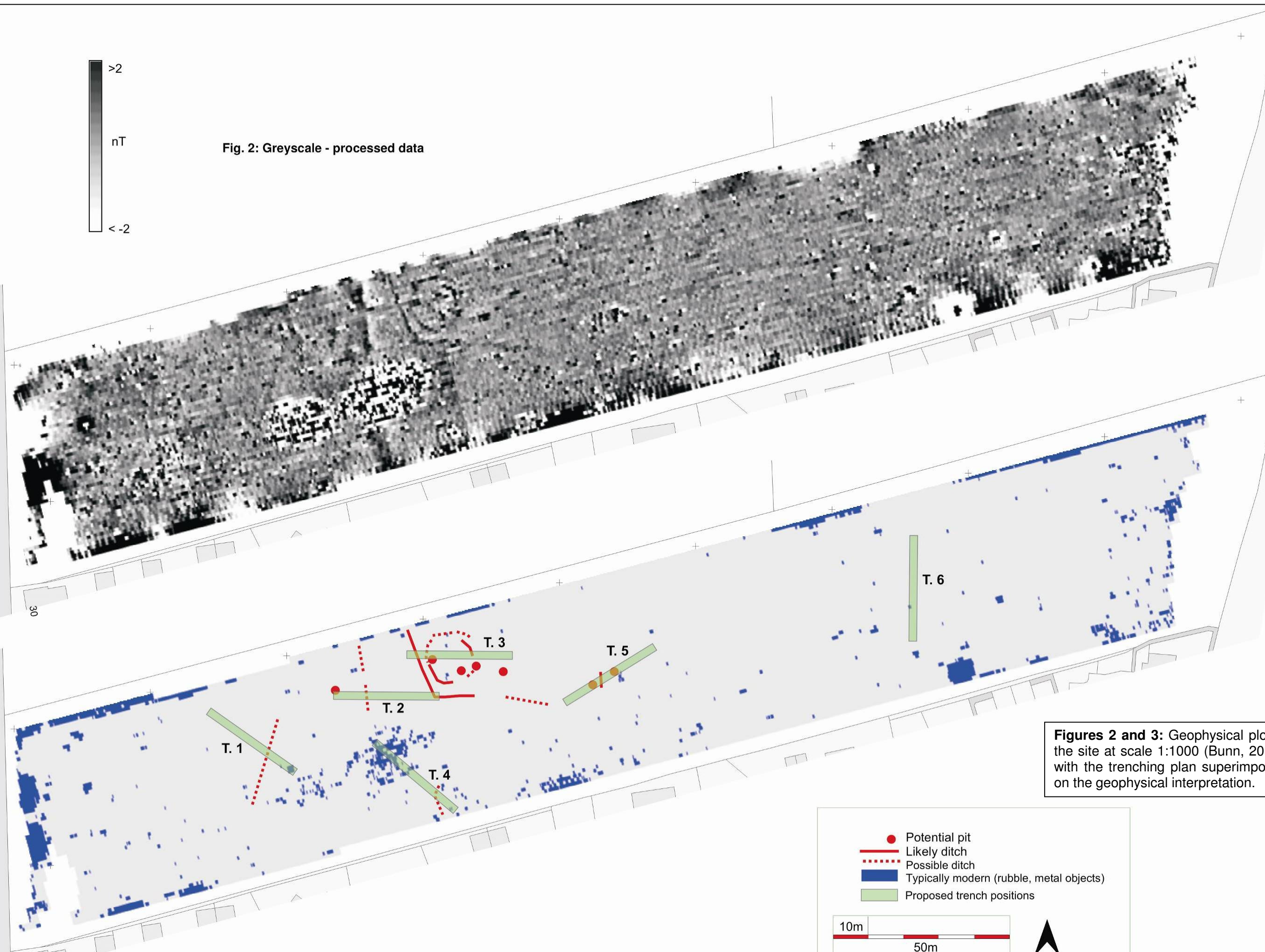
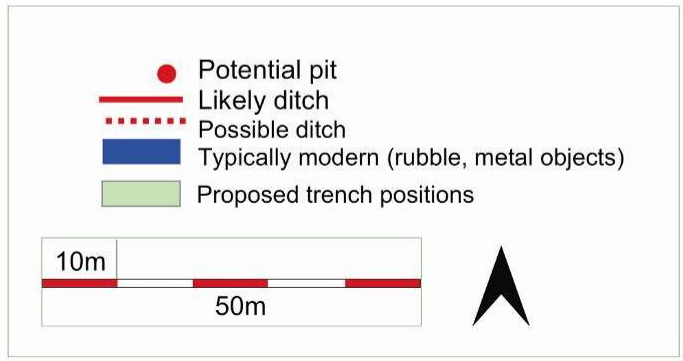


Fig. 3: Interpretation

Figures 2 and 3: Geophysical plot of the site at scale 1:1000 (Bunn, 2013), with the trenching plan superimposed on the geophysical interpretation.



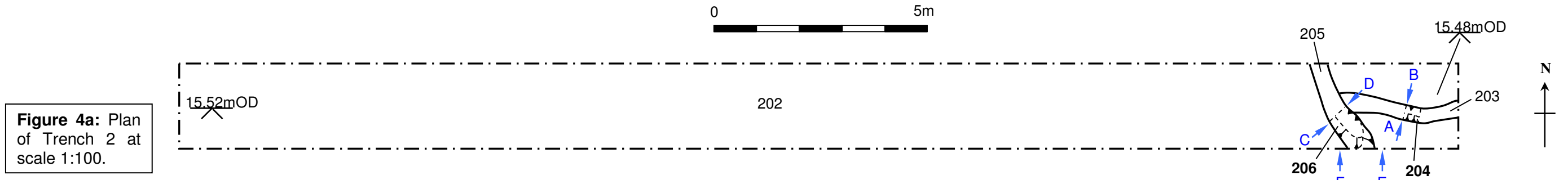


Figure 4a: Plan of Trench 2 at scale 1:100.

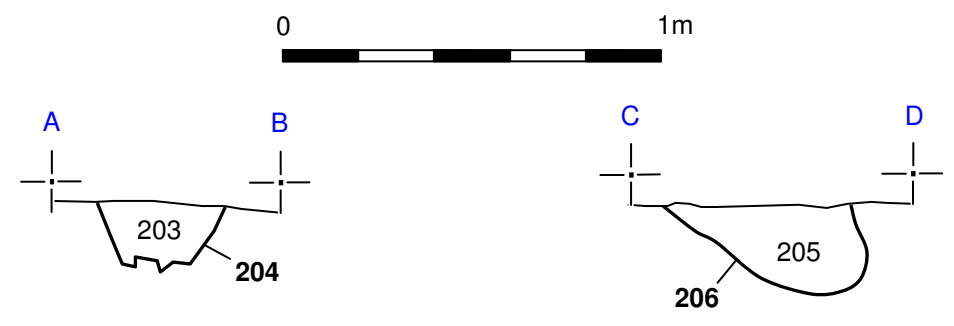


Figure 4b: Section through feature 204 at scale 1:20.

Figure 4c: Section through feature 206 at scale 1:20.

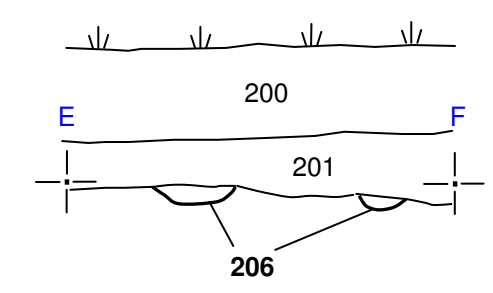


Figure 4d: Bulk section through feature 206 at scale 1:20.

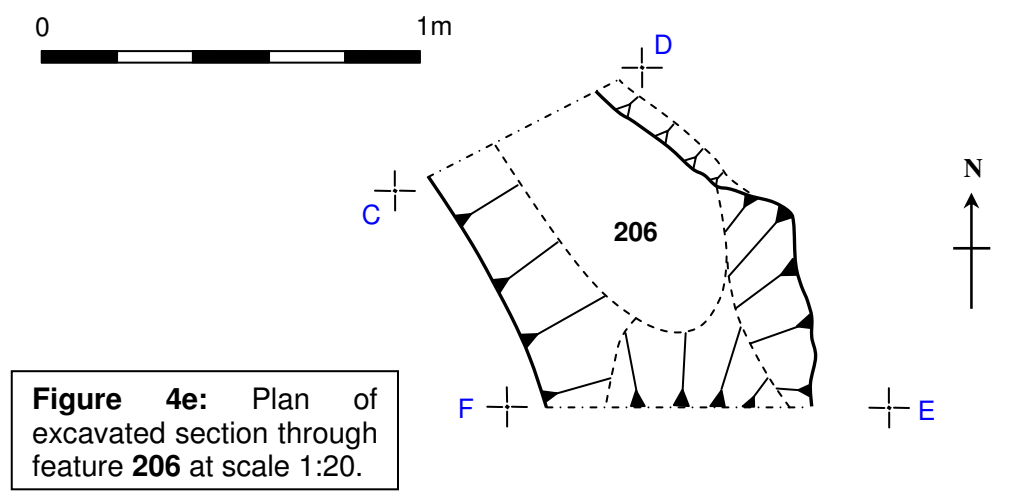


Figure 4e: Plan of excavated section through feature 206 at scale 1:20.

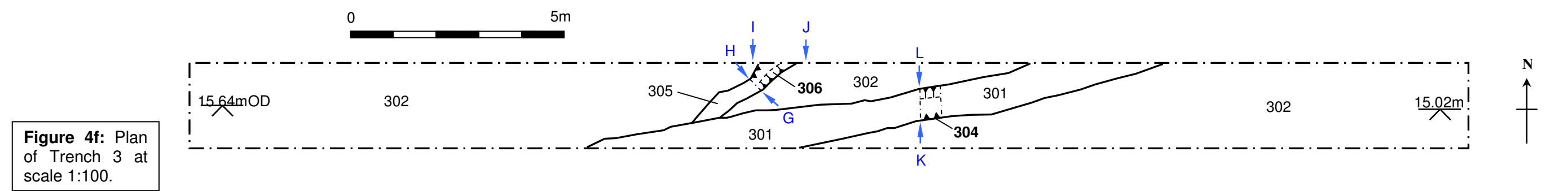


Figure 4f: Plan of Trench 3 at scale 1:100.

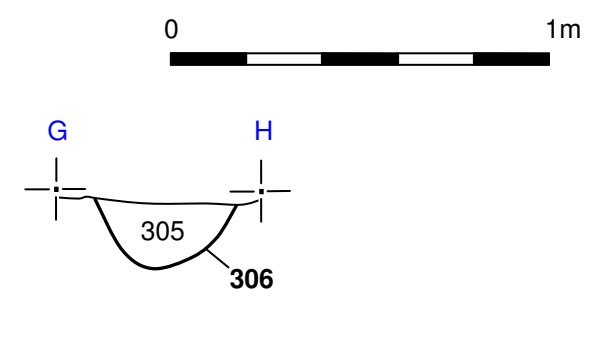


Figure 4g: Section through feature 306 at scale 1:20.

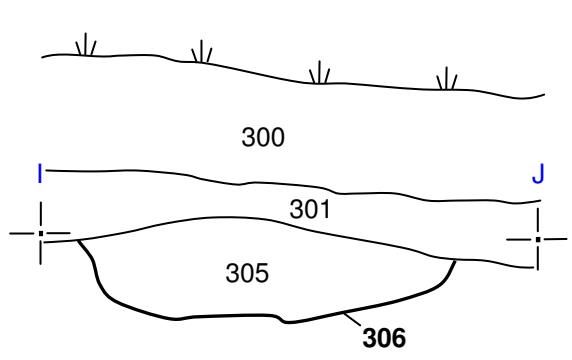


Figure 4h: Oblique bulk section through feature 306 at scale 1:20.

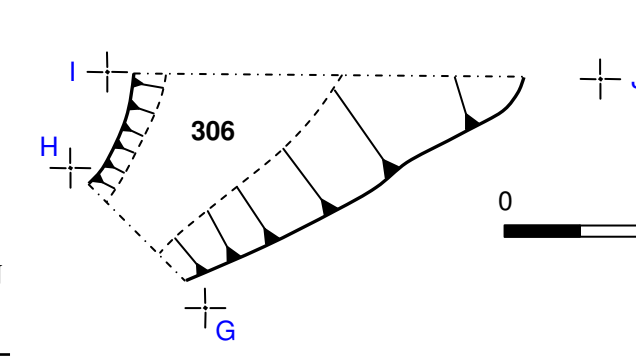


Figure 4i: Plan of excavated section through feature 306 at scale 1:20.

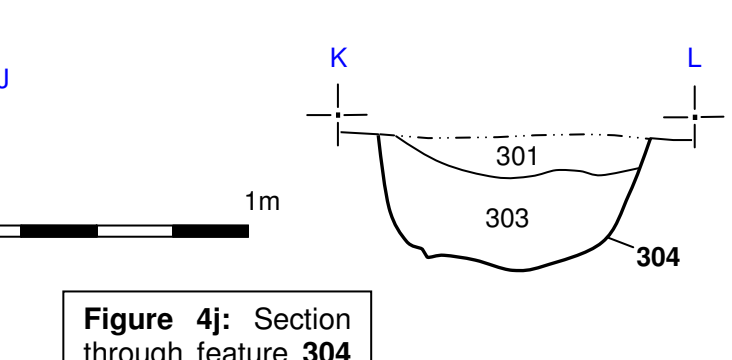


Figure 4j: Section through feature 304 at scale 1:20.

Figure 4: Plan drawings of Trenches 2 and 3 at scale 1:100, with section drawings and detail plans at scale 1:20.

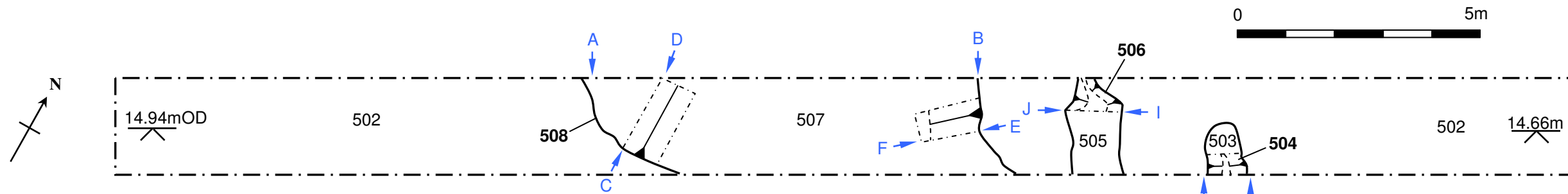


Figure 5a: Plan of Trench 5 at scale 1:100.

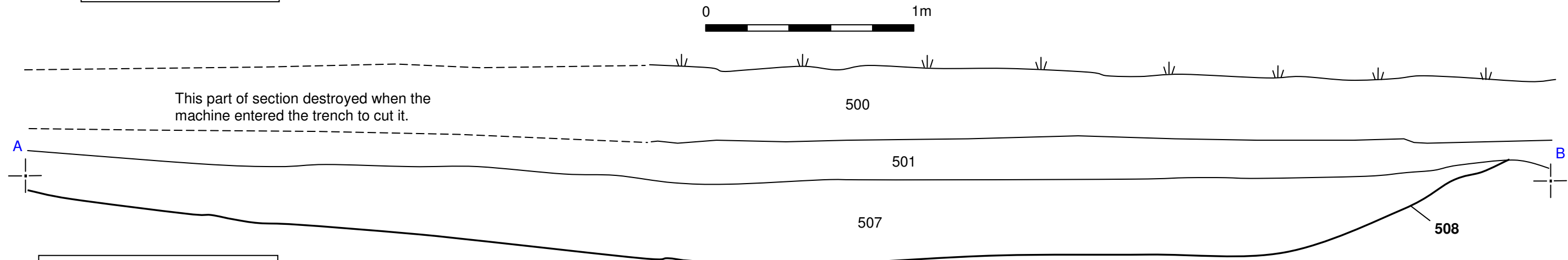


Figure 5b: Oblique, machine-excavated section through feature 508, at scale 1:20.

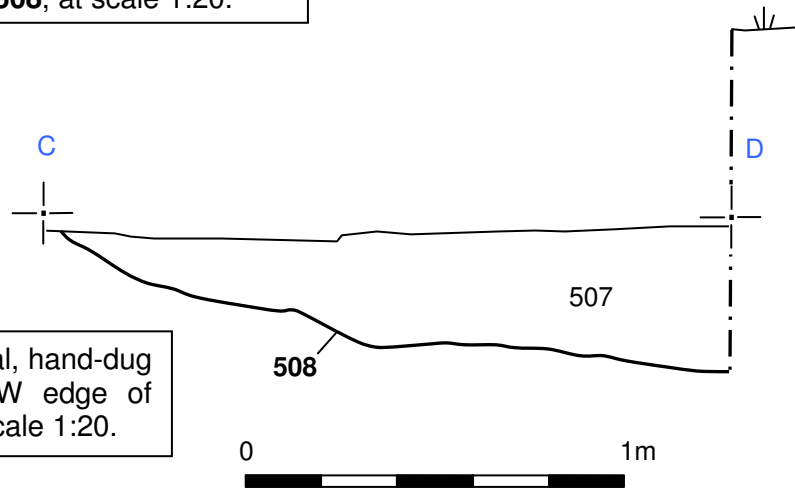


Figure 5c: Partial, hand-dug section at the W edge of feature 508, at scale 1:20.

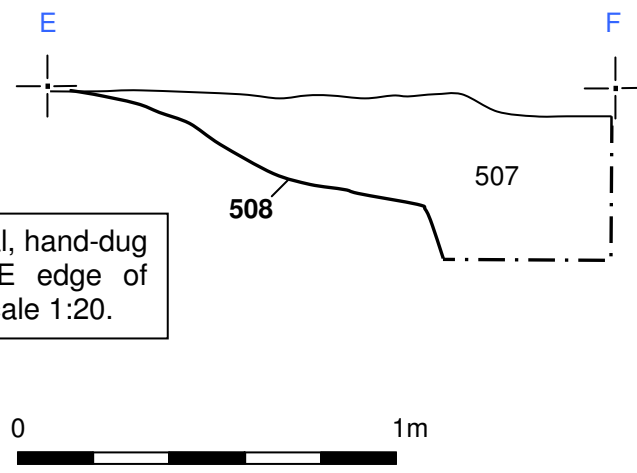


Figure 5d: Partial, hand-dug section at the E edge of feature 508, at scale 1:20.

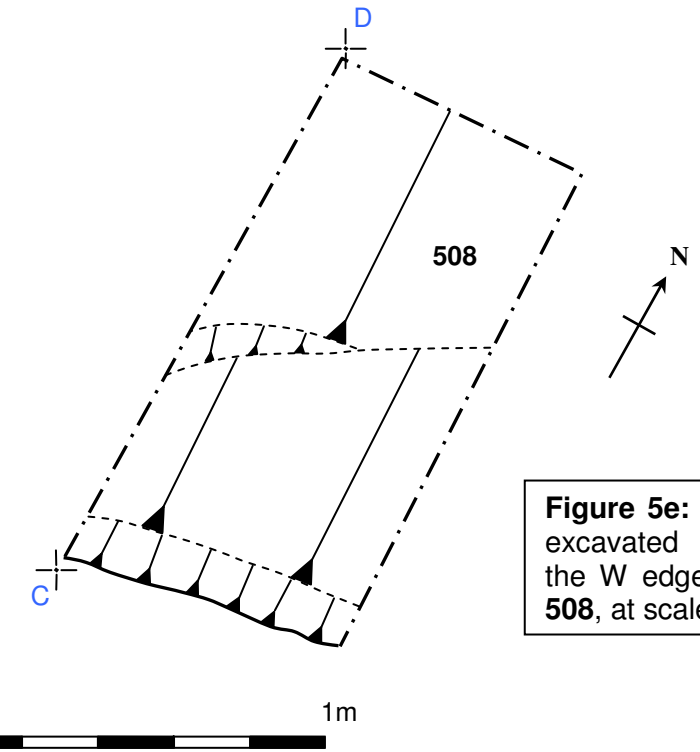


Figure 5e: Plan of the excavated section at the W edge of feature 508, at scale 1:20.

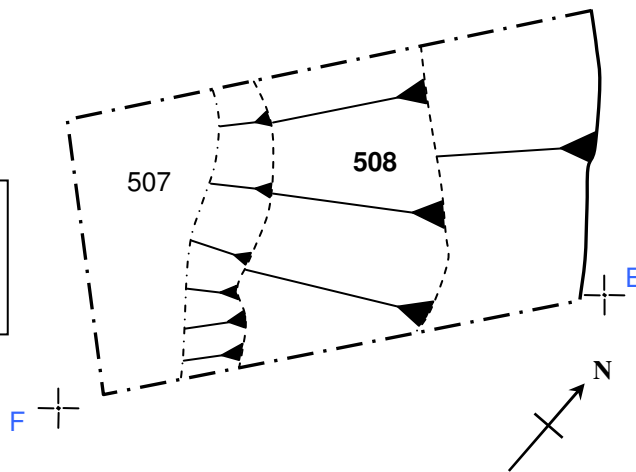


Figure 5f: Plan of the excavated section at the E edge of feature 508, at scale 1:20.

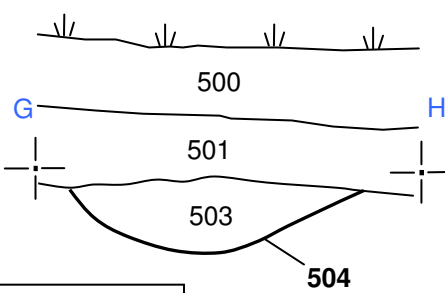


Figure 5g: Bulk section in Trench 5, showing feature 504, at scale 1:20.



Figure 5h: Section through feature 506 at scale 1:20.

Figure 5: Plan of Trench 5 at scale 1:100, with section drawings and detail plans at scale 1:20.

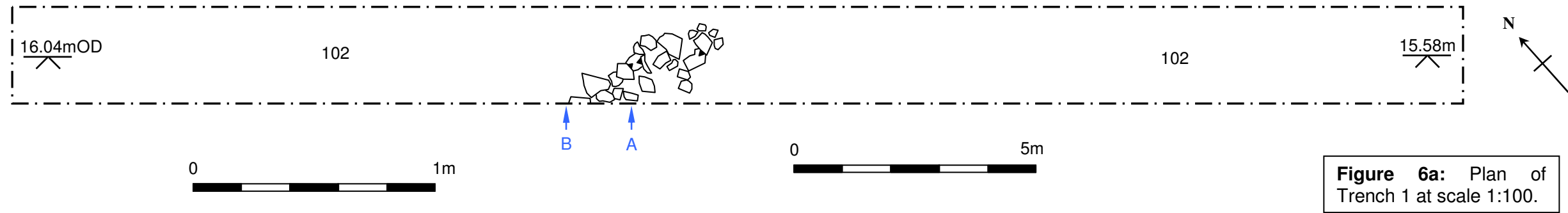


Figure 6a: Plan of Trench 1 at scale 1:100.

Figure 6b: Sample section in Trench 1, showing the surface of the stony deposit or outcrop, at scale 1:20.

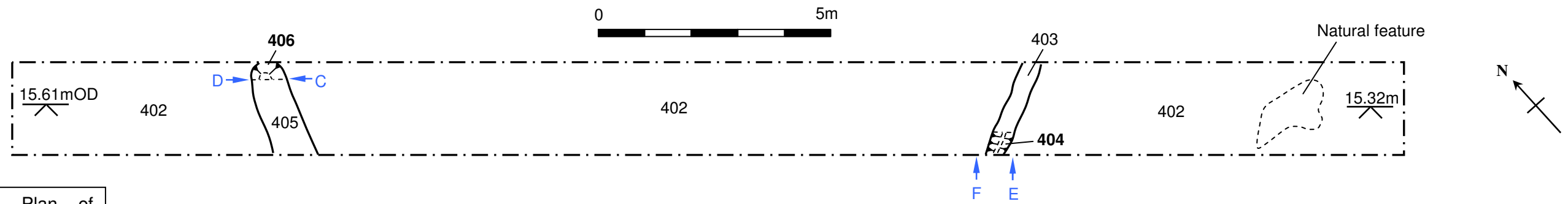
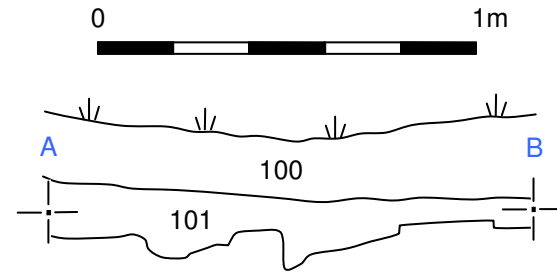


Figure 6c: Plan of Trench 4 at scale 1:100.

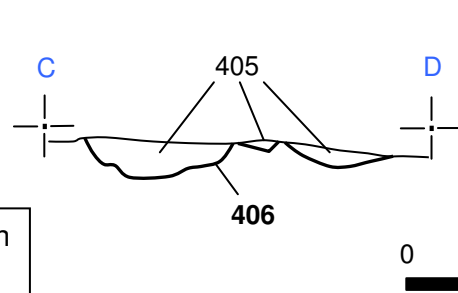


Figure 6d: Section through feature 406 at scale 1:20.

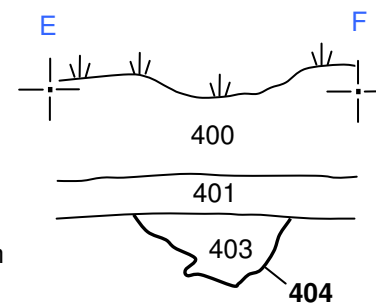


Figure 6e: Section through feature 404 at scale 1:20.

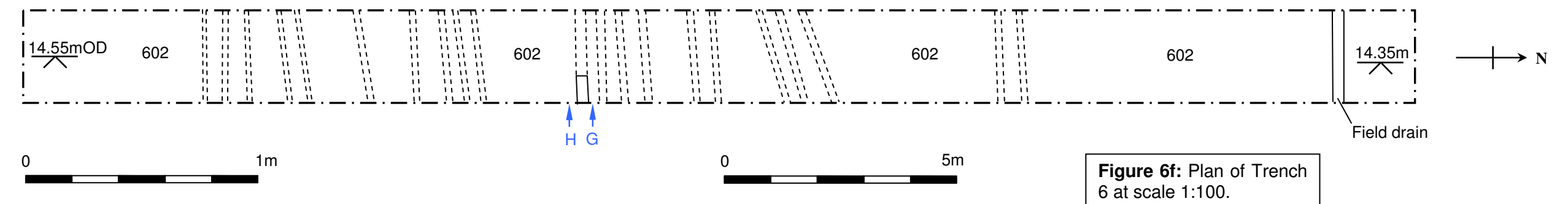


Figure 6f: Plan of Trench 6 at scale 1:100.

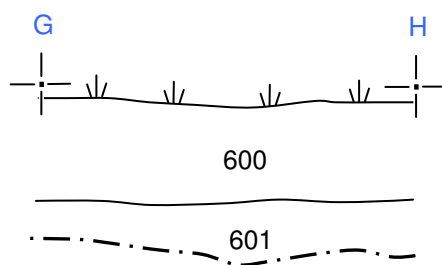


Figure 6g: Sample section in Trench 6, showing the excavated section through the probable plough-scar, at scale 1:20.

Figure 6: Plan drawings of Trenches 1, 4 and 6 at scale 1:100, with section drawings at scale 1:20.

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: General shot of the site after machine excavation of the trenches, looking W from the E end of the site.



Plate 2: Trench 2 at completion of excavation, looking W across the two linear features.



Plate 3: Excavated section through feature 306 in Trench 3, looking NW.



Plate 4: Machine section through large, shallow feature 508 in Trench 5, looking W.



Plate 5: Hand-dug section at the W edge of large feature 508, showing the band of more solid limestone natural, initially thought to be the base of a possible quarry-pit, which proved on further excavation to be a geological formation along which a natural channel appears to have developed.



Plate 6: The stony outcrop or deposit in Trench 1, looking N.



Plate 7: Trench 4 post-excitation, looking NW, showing the dark-coloured mineralised areas in the natural limestone brash.



Plate 8: Natural feature 404 in Trench 4, looking SW, showing the clean, homogeneous fill and the more solidly bedded limestone along whose edge the feature appears to have developed.

Appendix 2: Context Summary

Context no.	Type	Description	Finds/samples/ dating
Trench 1			
100	Layer	Mid-brownish-grey slightly plastic clayey silt topsoil with frequent small to medium limestone fragments, 0.24m deep	Modern
101	Layer	Light brownish-grey slightly plastic clayey silt subsoil, 0.18m deep	
102	Layer	Natural: limestone fragments, mostly small, in a matrix of mid-brown friable clayey fine sand. Includes a band of much larger, platy limestone pieces, believed to be a variation in the geology.	Geological
Trench 2			
200	Layer	Mid-brownish-grey plastic fine-sandy clay topsoil with occasional small to medium limestone fragments and pebbles, 0.30m deep	Modern
201	Layer	Mid-brown friable fine-sandy clay subsoil with occasional small limestone fragments, 0.14m deep	
202	Layer	Natural: mid-yellowish-brown plastic fine-sandy clay with abundant small to medium limestone fragments, overlying more solid limestone brash	Geological
203	Fill	Mid-brown friable slightly clayey fine sand, very clean with no inclusions, filling feature 204 , cut by feature 206	
204	Cut	Narrow linear feature, aligned E-W, with very steep sides and irregular base, 0.33m wide x 0.17m deep; base is at the surface of a more solid limestone natural. Truncated by feature 206 ; could not be traced beyond it.	Probably geological
205	Fill	Mid-brownish-grey friable clayey fine to medium sand, mottled mid-brown, with frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal, filling feature 206	Sample <3>
206	Cut	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature, terminating at S trench edge; 0.60m wide x 0.25m deep. Sides regular and moderate to SW, undercut and irregular to NE, very irregular (root disturbed?) at terminal. Cuts natural feature 204 .	
Trench 3			
300	Layer	Mid-brownish-grey plastic fine-sandy clay topsoil with occasional limestone gravel and pebbles, 0.30m deep	Modern
301	Layer	Light- to mid-greyish-brown plastic fine-sandy clay subsoil with moderate limestone gravel and small limestone fragments, 0.15m deep	
302	Layer	Natural: mid-yellowish-brown plastic fine-sandy clay with abundant small to medium limestone fragments and small lenses of bluish-grey clay, becoming more solid limestone brash towards the base of feature 306	Geological
303	Fill	Mottled light grey/greyish-white mixture of friable clayey fine sands and clayey silts, containing moderate small to medium angular/platy stone fragments and occasional fragments of building material, filling linear feature 304	Post-medieval to modern pottery, glass and clay tobacco pipe
304	Cut	NE-SW aligned linear feature with steep sides (S side almost vertical) and bowl-shaped profile. Filled by 303; subsoil 301 seals it and has slightly sunk into it. 11m+ long; 0.77m wide; 0.35m deep.	Post-medieval to modern
305	Fill	Mid-brownish-grey plastic fine-sandy clay, mottled mid-brown, with frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal, filling feature 306 ; strongly resembles fill 205 in Trench 2.	Sample <2>

Context no.	Type	Description	Finds/samples/ dating
306	Cut	NE-SW aligned linear feature, appearing to flare to NE within trench. NW side very steep; SE side changes from steep to moderate across excavated section. 3m+ long, 0.38m wide, 0.26m deep. Truncated to SW by feature 304 ; filled by 305. Possibly part of the same feature as 206 ?	
Trench 4			
400	Layer	Mid-brownish-grey plastic fine-sandy clay topsoil with occasional small limestone fragments, 0.25m deep	Modern
401	Layer	Mid-brown plastic fine-sandy clay subsoil with occasional small to medium limestone fragments, 0.20m deep	
402	Layer	Natural limestone brash: limestone fragments in a matrix of mid-brown clayey fine sand, with black/dark purple mineral staining in places. Changes to more solid limestone at base of feature 404 .	Geological
403	Fill	Mid-brown friable slightly clayey fine sand, very clean with no inclusions, filling feature 404	
404	Cut	Narrow linear feature, aligned NE-SW, with steep SE side and irregular, undercut NW side, filled by 403; 0.50m wide x 0.15m deep	Probable geological feature
405	Fill	Mid-brown friable slightly clayey fine sand, with no inclusions, but with patches of black and dark purple mineral staining, filling feature 406	
406	Cut	Shallow linear feature, aligned NE-SW, apparently terminating just beyond NE trench edge; very irregular sides and base. 1.07m wide x 0.09m deep.	Probable geological feature
Trench 5			
500	Layer	Mid-brownish-grey friable silty clayey fine-sand topsoil with occasional limestone gravel, 0.23m deep	Modern
501	Layer	Mid-brown friable clayey medium sand subsoil with frequent limestone gravel, 0.12m deep	
502	Layer	Natural: limestone gravel in a matrix of light- to mid-brown clayey medium sand in E half of trench, changing to mid-brown clayey medium sand with gravelly patches and abundant small limestone fragments in W half.	Geological
503	Fill	Mottled light greyish-brown/light grey friable clayey medium sand with frequent limestone gravel, filling feature 504	
504	Cut	Irregular linear feature with shallow, irregular sides and generally bowl-shaped profile, roughly N-S oriented, terminating to N within trench. 0.95m + long x 0.85m wide x 0.20m deep.	Probable natural feature
505	Fill	Mottled mid-brown, light greyish-brown and light grey friable silty fine sand with frequent limestone gravel, filling feature 506 .	
506	Cut	Very shallow linear feature with irregular sides, tapering to a width of 0.26m to N across a 0.60m wide excavated section. Max. width 1.22m; 0.10m deep.	Probable natural feature
507	Fill	Mid-brownish-grey friable fine-sandy clay with moderate small to medium limestone fragments, occasional small to medium flint fragments, abundant limestone gravel near base and occasional charcoal flecks. Also contains bands of limestone gravel in a matrix of the general fill, and of light grey mottling in the same material, which do not extend across the excavated section, and very small lenses of stiff bluish-grey/yellowish-brown mottled clay. Fill of very large, probably linear feature 508 .	Sample <1>

Context no.	Type	Description	Finds/samples/ dating
508	Cut	Very wide but relatively shallow feature, probably linear, although the two sides are not parallel within the trench, the eastern side running N-S and the western side NW-SE. Possibly a large, irregular palaeochannel. Estimated width c. 8m; 0.40m deep.	
Trench 6			
600	Layer	Friable to loose dark brownish-grey clayey fine sand topsoil with rare small limestone fragments, 0.26m deep	
601	Layer	Friable mid-greyish-brown silty medium sand subsoil with no inclusions, 0.16m deep	1 sherd post-medieval pottery from the surface of a subsoil-filled plough-mark
602	Layer	Natural: mid-yellowish-brown slightly plastic fine-sandy clay with patches and bands of limestone gravel.	

Appendix 3: Finds Catalogue

Context	Find	Description	Weight	Date
303	Glass	Aqua glass bottle body fragment		C19 th /20th
303	Clay pipe	Stem		C19th
303	Pottery	2x brown glazed earthenware body sherds		C19th
303	Pottery	2x brown stoneware vessel fragments – 1 base, 1 body sherd		C19 th /20th
303	Pottery	Shoulder of pale brown glazed earthenware, with 3 cream stripes below shoulder		C19 th /20th
303	Pottery	White glazed earthenware handle from a teacup		
303	Pottery	White glazed earthenware saucer, decorated with blue transfer print		C19th
303	Pottery	White glazed earthenware saucer, decorated		C19th
303	Pottery	Pearlware sherd from lower portion of a teacup decorated with blue sponged decoration.		C19th
601	Pottery	White bone china ?lid, with moulded bead decoration		C19th

Appendix 4: OASIS summary

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Hackthorn Road, Welton - Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd

OASIS ID - preconst3-166739

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Mrs. R. D. Savage	rachel@pre-construct.co.uk	12 December 2013
View 2	2	Mrs. R. D. Savage	rachel@pre-construct.co.uk	12 December 2013
View 3	3	Mrs. R. D. Savage	rachel@pre-construct.co.uk	13 December 2013

Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s	
Report release delay specified?	Yes	Release delay	Release into ADS library once signed off
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename	
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?	

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