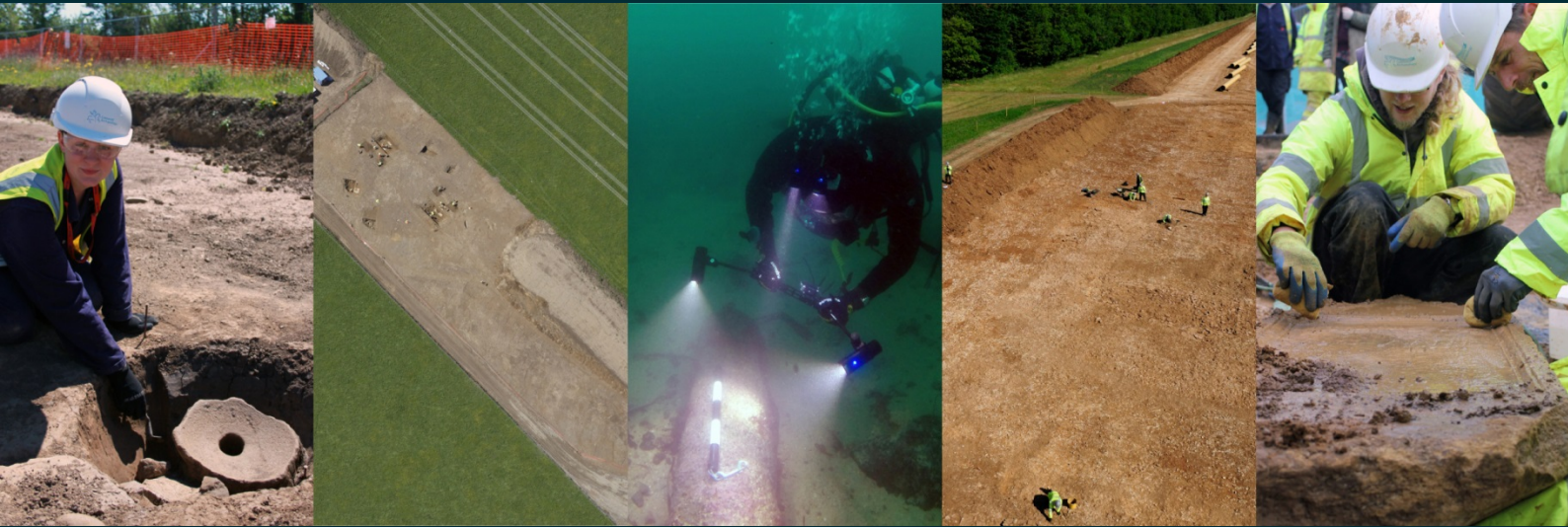


Proposed Solar Farm Bilton East Riding of Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Arup

on behalf of
Belectric

CA Project: 660478
CA Report: 15327

September 2015



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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Proposed Solar Farm
Location:	Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire
NGR:	TA 1609 3213
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	1–11 June 2015
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with East Riding Museums Service
Site Code:	LAB 15

In June 2015, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation of land at Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire. The evaluation was undertaken to inform a planning application for the development of a solar farm at the site.

The evaluation identified a series of substantial, well-preserved ditches and pits in the northern part of the site, corresponding with an enclosure complex detected by a previous geophysical survey. Outlying ditches were also recorded to the south of the enclosure complex, again corresponding to the geophysical survey results. Associated dating evidence indicated that activity commenced around the 1st century AD and continued until the end of the 4th century AD. The findings were consistent with a basic-level Roman rural site or farmstead. A further enclosure complex in the southern part of the site is known from cropmark and geophysical survey evidence; this southern complex was untested by the present evaluation (as it will be excluded from development), but is presumably also Roman in date.

The evaluation also identified evidence for a medieval ridge and furrow agricultural system and a small number of late post-medieval/modern features, including a field boundary ditch and former ponds.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2015, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Arup, acting on behalf of Belectric, of land at Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire (centred on NGR: TA 1609 3213; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to inform a planning application for the development of a solar farm at the site.
- 1.2 The scope of the evaluation was agreed in consultation with Dave Evans, Archaeology Manager, Humber Archaeology Partnership (HAP), the archaeological advisor to East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC; the local planning authority). A subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CA (2015a) and approved by Dave Evans. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). The evaluation was monitored by Dave Evans.

The site

- 1.3 The site is approximately 59.9ha in area (including access track, cable route and temporary construction compound) and is located south of the village of Bilton, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The site currently comprises five fields under arable cultivation. The Old Fleet River runs along the eastern and southern site boundaries. The site is bounded by further fields on all sides and forms part of the larger agricultural landscape south of Bilton and east of the urban extent of Kingston upon Hull. The site lies at approximately 2m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), on roughly level ground.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Flamborough Chalk Formation of the Cretaceous Period. This is overlain by superficial Quaternary tidal flat deposits, which comprise clays and silts (BGS 2015).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site has been the previous subject of a desk-based heritage statement (CA 2015b) and a geophysical survey (PCG 2015). The following section is summarised from these sources.

Prehistoric (pre-AD43) and Roman (AD 43–AD 410)

2.2 A number of undated cropmarks have been recorded in the vicinity of the site. These include possible round barrows c. 220m west of the site, as well as a potential field system and enclosure recorded c. 700m east of the site. These cropmark sites have not been investigated archaeologically, but their morphology suggests that they are prehistoric in date.

Early medieval (AD 410–1066) and medieval (1066–1539)

2.3 Bilton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as a medium-sized settlement of 17 households. As Bilton was an established settlement at the beginning of the medieval period, it is likely that it had early medieval origins.

2.4 The Scheduled Swan Hill medieval moated motte is located c. 110m north-west of the site.

2.5 Cropmarks and the geophysical survey indicate the presence of ploughed-out ridge and furrow within the evaluation site, indicating that it formed part of the open agricultural field system around Bilton in the medieval era.

Geophysical survey (Fig.2)

2.6 The geophysical survey detected a number of probable palaeochannels in the eastern part of the site (geophysical survey fields F2 and F4). It was considered possible that these water courses may have been a focus for prehistoric activity.

2.7 The survey recorded two separate enclosure complexes within the site: one at the northern site boundary (in geophysical survey field F1) and one south-west of the site's centre (in geophysical survey field F3). The southern enclosure complex principally comprised an array of conjoined rectilinear enclosures, with associated

ditch and pit features. The form and size of this enclosure complex indicates that it might be Roman in date, possibly representing a temple or part of a small courtyard farm complex. This enclosure complex was also visible as cropmarks.

- 2.8 The northern enclosure complex included a series of associated pit and ditch features and possible trackways extending from its south-western and north-eastern corners. Unlike the southern enclosure complex, the northern complex is not visible as cropmarks.
- 2.9 The geophysical survey detected a series of fainter potential features in the north-eastern part of field F1 and at the western edge of field F2. These mainly comprised linear features (including a possible trackway in F2), although there was also a small group of pits.
- 2.10 The geophysical survey also recorded limited numbers of potential pits and ditches further to those immediately associated with the enclosure complexes. These included suggestions of a relatively small rectilinear enclosure in the mid-western part of the site (geophysical survey field F3). Two larger pit-type anomalies (both in F3) were tentatively flagged as traces of former quarries or ponds.
- 2.11 The geophysical survey also detected a series of post-medieval/modern features, including land drains, former field boundaries and backfilled ponds.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the evaluation was to provide information about the potential archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and significance. This information will enable the HAP to identify and assess the particular significance of the site's heritage resource, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 27 trenches in the locations shown on Figure 2. The trenches varied in length from 20m to 80m. All trenches were 3m wide. They were located to test potential archaeological features identified by the geophysical survey. The southern enclosure complex was not tested by trenching, as it has been agreed that this area of the site will be excluded from development.
- 4.2 Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*. All trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate. Where archaeological deposits were encountered, they were excavated by hand in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Soil samples were taken and assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. A small number of samples was taken, but the palaeoenvironmental potential of these samples was not assessed as high enough to justify further analysis. All artefacts recovered from the site were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Milton Keynes. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, the site archive and artefacts will be deposited with East Riding Museums Service. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and animal bone can be found in Appendices A, B and C, respectively. Figures 3–5 show the trenches and the recorded archaeological features overlain on the geophysical survey results. In the following text, features marked “U” were not hand-excavated; such features were not excavated either

because they were linear features clearly identified in more than one trench (and so not excavated in all of them); or to preserve the integrity of the site where sufficient dating evidence had already been obtained.

- 5.2 A series of well-preserved ditches was recorded in the northern part of the site, corresponding with the enclosure complex detected by the geophysical survey (PCG 2015). Pottery recovered from these features was dated to the late Iron Age/Roman periods. Outlying features of similar date were also recorded to the south of the enclosure complex, again corresponding to the geophysical survey results.

General stratigraphy

- 5.3 The geological substrate generally comprised silty clays with occasional chalk inclusions and patches of sand and gravel. It was encountered across the site at depths of 0.4m (T25 and T26) to 0.9m (T4, T6, T15, T16, T23 and T27) below the present ground level (bpgl). There was a general tendency for the deepest trenches (>0.7m in depth) to lie in a broad north/south band through the central and east-central parts of the site, including the area of the northern enclosure complex.
- 5.4 Five trenches (T4, T5, T6, T7 and T27) featured 0.13m–0.4m thickness of clayey alluvial layers overlying the natural. These trenches were all adjacent to each other, within the northern enclosure complex.
- 5.5 The alluvial layers were sealed by 0.2m–0.5m of subsoil, which directly overlay the natural substrate in those trenches where the alluvium was absent. The only trench where subsoil was absent was T1. The sequence in all trenches was sealed by 0.2m–0.6m of topsoil.
- 5.6 Archaeological features were observed to be cut from the level of the natural substrate, the alluvium and the subsoil.

Blank trenches

- 5.7 Excepting furrows (discussed below), the following trenches contained no archaeological features: T2, T10, T12–T14, T17–T21, T24, T25 and T26. Of these, the following trenches tested geophysical anomalies interpreted as being of potential archaeological origin in the geophysical survey report (PCG 2015):

- T2: sampled linear anomalies, two of which corresponded to furrows (see below);
- T10: sampled two linear anomalies, one of which corresponded to a furrow (see below)
- T12: sampled two linear anomalies;
- T13: sampled one linear anomaly;
- T17 & T18: sampled linear and pit-type anomalies; and
- T24: sampled a pit-type anomaly.

5.8 The absence of archaeological features corresponding to these geophysical anomalies indicates that that they were caused by near-surface variations and/or localised variations in the composition of the natural substrate.

Furrows

5.9 The following trenches contained furrows: T2, T8, T10 and T14. These furrows were generally aligned east-north-east/west-south-west, corresponding broadly with the furrow alignment suggested by the geophysical survey.

Trench 1

5.10 Natural substrate 101 was exposed 0.5m bpgl. Cut into the natural were two irregular features (102 and 104). These corresponded to two geophysical anomalies, one of which had been identified in the survey report (PCG 2015) as a possible pond. Although unexcavated, 19th/20th-century artefacts were recovered from the upper surfaces of both of these features.

Trench 3

5.11 Natural substrate 302 was exposed at a depth of 0.8m bpgl. It was overlain by 0.38m of silty clay subsoil 301; this was cut by shallow, east/west orientated ditch 303, which terminated within the trench. Ditch 303 was 0.59m wide and 0.13m deep. It contained a single fill (304), from which late Iron Age/early Roman pottery was recovered. Ditch 303 was cut by a modern field drain and sealed by topsoil 300.

5.12 Ditch 303 was in the broad location of a geophysical anomaly, although the ditch was on a different alignment to the anomaly.

Trench 4 (Fig. 6)

5.13 Natural substrate 403 was identified 0.8m bpgl. It was cut by three pits:

- pit 405 (0.75m long, 0.5m wide, 0.4m deep) lay in the north-western end of the trench. This pit contained late Iron Age/early Roman pottery in its single silty sand fill (404);
- pit 407 (0.72m long, 0.34m wide, 0.21m deep) lay to the immediate east of pit 405. It contained a single silty sand fill (406) which yielded no artefactual material; and
- pit 413, which had been truncated by later ditch 415 (see below) but which survived to 0.8m in length, 0.4m in width and 0.22m in depth; the single sandy silt fill of this pit (412) contained no artefactual material.

5.14 Two parallel ditches (409 and 415) ran through the north-western end of the trench on a north-east/south-west alignment, corresponding to two linear geophysical anomalies. Both of these ditches were cut at the level of the natural substrate; as noted above, ditch 415 truncated pit 413. Ditch 409 was 2.7m wide and 0.5m deep. It contained a single silty clay fill (408) which yielded no artefactual material. Ditch 415 was 2.1m wide and 0.55m deep and contained a sequence of four clayey/silty fills (414, 418–420), three of which (418–420) yielded Roman pottery. The eastern edge of ditch 415 had been cut by shallow ditch 411, which was 0.51m wide and 0.15m deep and was undated artefactually.

5.15 The features described above were sealed by up to 0.2m of alluvial sandy clay 402, which was sealed in turn by up to 0.4m of clayey subsoil 401. The subsoil was cut by undated ditch 417, which ran through the south-eastern end of the trench on a broadly north/south alignment. This ditch was 0.8m wide. It was not excavated to depth but was over 0.3m deep. Ditch 417 was in the approximate location of a linear geophysical anomaly associated with a historic field boundary.

Trench 5 (Fig. 7)

5.16 Natural substrate 513 was encountered at an average depth of 1.2m bpgl. It was overlain by alluvial deposits 503 and 512, which had a combined thickness of up to 0.6m. All of the archaeological features in T5 were cut through these deposits.

- 5.17 North/south-orientated ditch 505 lay towards the north-eastern end of the trench. This ditch was 1.63m wide and 0.78m deep. No dating evidence was recovered from its single clayey fill (504). Ditch 505 corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly.
- 5.18 Ditch 505 was cut by ditch 515 (U), which corresponded with the northern arm of a substantial enclosure detected by the geophysical survey. The western arm of this enclosure passed through the south-western end of T5, where it was found to comprise three intercutting ditches. The earliest ditch in this sequence was ditch 507, which was 5.9m wide and over 0.4m deep. This ditch was cut by parallel ditches 509 (1.24m wide; over 0.6m deep) and 511 (2.4m wide; over 0.5m deep). Ditch 509 yielded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery; ditches 507 and 511 contained Roman pottery.
- 5.19 East/west-orientated ditch 519 (U) corresponded to another substantial enclosure ditch recorded by the geophysical survey. The line of this ditch continued through T6 (intercutting ditches 608/610; see below). Pit 516 (U) was present on the northern side of ditch 519. A further pit (517; U) lay to the immediate north of ditch 519.

Trench 6 (Figs. 8 and 9)

- 5.20 Natural substrate 603 was typically identified 0.8m–0.9m bpgl. It was cut by several archaeological features.
- 5.21 In the northern half of the trench, shallow pit 604 was 0.12m deep and survived to 0.88m in width. It contained a single clayey fill (605) which was undated artefactually.
- 5.22 To the immediate south of pit 604, east/west orientated ditch 616 was 2.05m wide and 0.44m deep, with two clayey fills. Upper fill 618 produced Roman pottery.
- 5.23 Ditch 619 ran on an east/west-alignment north of trench centre. This ditch was 0.52m wide and 0.1m deep. It contained a single clayey fill (620) from which late Iron Age/early Roman pottery was recovered.
- 5.24 East/west-orientated ditch 629 lay south of trench centre and continued into T27 (see below). This ditch survived to 3.8m in width and was excavated to a depth of

- 0.7m without its base being reached. It featured a sequence of five clayey/sandy fills, the uppermost of which (634) contained Roman pottery. Ditch 629 was re-cut along its southern side by ditch 635, which was 0.23m wide and 0.9m deep. Ditch 635 contained two clayey/sandy fills, the uppermost of which (637) yielded Roman pottery.
- 5.25 The natural substrate and intercutting ditches 629/635 were partially sealed by an intermittent layer of alluvial clay 602, which measured up to 0.2m in thickness. Cut into this alluvium were intercutting ditches 608 (0.98m wide, 0.46m deep) and 610 (1.12m wide, 0.46m deep), which ran on an east/west alignment north of trench centre. Both of these ditches featured single clayey fills (609 and 611, respectively), from which Roman pottery was retrieved. Both ditches were cut across by north/south-orientated ditch 612, which also cut ditch 619 and terminated within T6. Ditch 612 was 1.22m wide and 0.56m deep. It contained two clayey fills, the uppermost of which (613) yielded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.
- 5.26 The features and deposits discussed above were sealed by up to 0.4m of clayey subsoil 401, which contained sherds of Roman pottery. The following features were cut into the subsoil.
- 5.27 East/west-aligned ditch 606 was 1.06m wide and 0.4m deep, with a single clayey fill (607) from which Roman pottery was recovered. This ditch was deep enough to truncate pit 604 (see above), which was sealed by the subsoil.
- 5.28 Curved ditch 614 was exposed in the northern end of the trench. This ditch measured 0.45m in width and 0.32m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single clayey fill (615), from which Roman pottery was recovered. Ditch 614 was cut by east/west-aligned ditch 628 (U), which was the continuation of an enclosure ditch exposed in T5 (ditch 515).
- 5.29 East/west orientated ditch 622/624 lay in the southern end of T6. This ditch was 3.65m wide and 0.78m deep. Roman pottery was recovered from its single clayey fill (623/625). Ditch 622/624 was re-cut by ditch 626, which was 2.78m wide and 0.79m deep, and which also contained Roman pottery in its single clayey fill (627).
- 5.30 The archaeological features identified within T6 displayed a broad correspondence with the geophysical survey results.

Trench 7 (Fig. 10)

- 5.31 Natural substrate 703 was encountered 0.65m bpgl. Several features were cut at the level of the natural.
- 5.32 A series of three pits/ditch termini (711, 715, 717) were exposed in the north-western end of the trench. Only one of these (711) was excavated. It was found to be 1.26m wide and 0.34m deep, with two sandy/clayey fills (712 and 713), the uppermost of which (712) yielded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.
- 5.33 Sub-circular pit 708 lay to the immediate south of pit 711. Pit 708 measured 0.71m in width and 0.19m in depth. It featured two clayey fills (710 and 709), the uppermost of which (709) contained Roman pottery.
- 5.34 Ditch 704 ran through the centre of the trench on a north/south-alignment. This ditch measured 4.2m in width; it was excavated to a depth of 0.6m without its base being reached. It contained a single silty fill (705), from which Roman pottery was recovered.
- 5.35 The features described above were sealed by a 0.16m-thick layer of alluvial clay, which was cut by east/west orientated ditch terminus 706 to south-east of trench centre. Ditch 706 measured 0.71m in width and 0.14m in depth. Roman pottery was recovered from its single clayey fill (707).
- 5.36 The archaeological features recorded in T7 displayed a broad correspondence with the geophysical survey results.

Trench 8 (Fig. 11)

- 5.37 Natural substrate 802 was identified 0.42m bpgl. All of the archaeological features within T7 were cut at the level of the natural substrate.
- 5.38 Ditch 809 lay in the south-western part of the trench. This ditch was north-east/south-west aligned. It was not exposed to its full width, but measured 0.22 in depth. No finds were retrieved from its single clayey fill (810).

- 5.39 Parallel ditches 803 and 806 ran through T8 on a north-east/south-west alignment. Ditch 806 truncated ditch 809. Ditch 803 was 2.13m wide and 0.63m deep; ditch 806 was 2.91m wide and 0.69m deep. Each of these parallel ditches featured two fills – a sandy basal fill and a clayey upper fill yielding substantial amounts of Roman pottery. These ditches correspond to two geophysical anomalies and probably represent drainage/boundary features to either side of a trackway. There was no extant evidence for trackway surfacing or use deposits between the ditches.

Trench 9 (Fig. 12)

- 5.40 Natural substrate 902 was identified at an average depth of 0.8m bpgl. It was sealed by 0.3m-thick clayey subsoil layer 901, from which late Iron-Age/Roman pottery was recovered. All of the archaeological features within T9 were cut at the level of subsoil 901.
- 5.41 Parallel north/south-aligned ditches 903 and 910 lay towards the centre of T9. Ditch 903 was 1.62m wide and 0.54m deep. It contained two clayey fills, the uppermost of which (905) yielded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery. Ditch 910 survived to 1.2m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.7m without its base being reached. It had been re-cut by ditch 913, which was 1.65m wide and over 0.9m deep. Roman pottery was recovered from the lowest-exposed fill of ditch 910 (911) and late Iron Age/early Roman pottery was recovered from the lowest-exposed fill of ditch 913 (914).
- 5.42 Pit 906 lay to the immediate west of ditch 903. This pit was 1.21m wide and 0.65m deep. It featured a single silty fill (907) from which late Iron Age/early Roman pottery was retrieved.
- 5.43 Ditch terminus 908 lay in the western end of the trench. This ditch was 0.56m wide and 0.21m deep. Roman pottery was recovered from its single clayey fill (909).
- 5.44 Ditch 918 (U) was partially exposed in the eastern end of the trench.
- 5.45 There was a broad correspondence between the archaeological features exposed in T9 and the geophysical survey results.

Trench 11

- 5.46 Natural substrate 1102 was encountered 0.72m bpgl. North-west/south-east-aligned ditch 1103 cut the natural in the eastern end of the trench, corresponding with a linear geophysical anomaly. This ditch was 1.32m wide and 0.46m deep with two sandy/clayey fills, the uppermost of which (1104) contained Roman pottery.

Trench 15 (Fig. 13)

- 5.47 Natural substrate 1502 was exposed at an average depth of 0.8m bpgl. It was sealed by 0.54m of clayey subsoil 1501. All of the archaeological features recorded in T15 were cut at the level of subsoil 1501.
- 5.48 North-west/south-east-aligned ditch 1510 lay at the north-western end of T15. This ditch measured 1.6m in width and 0.69m in depth. It featured two clayey fills, the uppermost of which (1512) yielded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.
- 5.49 Towards the centre of the trench, ditch 1503 ran on a north-east/south-west alignment. This ditch was 1.2m wide and 0.7m deep. It featured a sequence of four clayey fills, three of which (1504, 1505 and 1507) contained late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.
- 5.50 North-west/south-east-aligned ditch 1508 lay at the south-western end of the trench. This ditch was 0.48m wide and 0.3m deep with a single clayey fill (1509). This feature was undated artefactually.
- 5.51 Ditch 1503 lay on the line of a geophysical anomaly; neither ditch 1508 nor ditch 1510 had been detected by the geophysical survey.
- 5.52 Four east-north-east/west-south-west-aligned modern field drains were cut through the subsoil. One of these drains cut across the upper surface of ditch 1510. A second drain was itself cut by a modern curvilinear gully, which corresponded to a curved geophysical anomaly.

Trench 16 (Fig. 13)

- 5.53 Natural substrate 1602 was exposed at an average depth of 0.8m bpgl. This was cut towards the centre of the trench by north/south-aligned ditch 1603, which was in the broad location of a geophysical anomaly. Ditch 1603 was 1.27m wide and 0.61m deep with two clayey fills, the uppermost of which (1605) yielded Roman pottery.

Trench 22

- 5.54 Natural substrate 2202 was exposed 0.85m bpgl. It was cut in the north-western half of the trench by circular feature 2206, which measured 9.5m in width and 0.58m in depth. The somewhat irregular edges of this feature and the sedimentary nature of its three fills suggested that it might represent a former pond or dip in the natural which had silted up, rather than a cut archaeological feature. The middle fill of this feature (2204) yielded two sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.

Trench 23 (Fig. 13)

- 5.55 Natural substrate 2302 was exposed 0.88m bpgl. The natural was cut by north-east/south-west-aligned ditch 2303, which was 0.56m wide and 0.19m deep. Ditch 2303 contained a single clayey fill (2304) which yielded late Iron Age pottery.
- 5.56 Ditch 2302 corresponded to part of a small sub-rectangular enclosure detected by the geophysical survey. There was no archaeological feature corresponding to a linear geophysical anomaly to the immediate north-west of the enclosure.

Trench 27

- 5.57 Natural substrate 2704 was exposed at an average depth of 0.8m bpgl. The natural substrate was cut by three north-north-east/south-south-west-aligned ditches: 2705, 2707 (U) and 2709 (U). Ditch 2705 was 0.41m wide and 0.21m deep, with a single clayey fill (2706). It was undated artefactually, but all three of these ditches were cut across by the continuation of Roman ditch 629 from T6 (see above).



6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 This section presents a brief summary of the artefactual material recovered during the evaluation. A detailed report on the analysis of the artefacts is presented in Appendix B.
- 6.2 A total of 401 pottery sherds/pieces of fired clay weighing a total of 7.572kg was recovered from the site. These consisted of 381 sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman and Roman pottery, eight sherds of post-medieval pottery and 12 pieces of fired clay.
- 6.3 The date range of the stratified material runs from the later Iron Age or 1st century AD through to the end of the Roman period. The bulk of the material is of late Iron Age fabrics; there is, however, clear evidence in this region that such fabrics continued to be employed in quantity until at least the mid second century AD, especially on rural sites.
- 6.4 As is usual on Roman rural sites in this region, the vast majority of the pottery was retrieved from ditches, with pits containing little artefactual material.
- 6.5 The small pottery assemblage is typical of a basic-level rural site in this area. The assemblage may extend back into the later Iron Age but seems certainly to commence by the 1st century AD. Occupation continued until the end of the 4th century AD.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1 This section presents a brief summary of the animal bones recovered during the evaluation. A detailed report on the animal bone analysis is presented in Appendix C.
- 7.2 A total of 161 fragments (6,226g) of animal bone was recovered from the site. This material was moderately well preserved but highly fragmented, rendering 46.5% of the assemblage unidentifiable beyond the level of cattle or sheep-size mammal.

Late Iron Age/early Roman

- 7.3 A total of 48 animal bone fragments (1,207g) was recovered from ditches 509 (T5), 612 (T6), 903, 913 (both T9), 2303 (T23), pit 906 (T9), possible pond 2206 (T22) and subsoil layer 901 (T9). Cattle and sheep/goat were identified from mainly meat-poor skeletal elements. No direct evidence of butchery was observed. The remains of horse were also identified.

Roman

- 7.4 The Roman activity on site produced the largest and best preserved assemblage of bone, with 113 fragments (5,019g) recovered from 15 ditch features within the northern enclosure system (in T5–T9) and one ditch to the south of the enclosures (ditch 1603, T16). The remains of cattle dominate, followed by sheep/goat and pig. Each of these species was predominantly identified from meat-poor skeletal elements such as the skull, mandible or lower limbs. Much of this bone was fractured in a manner suggestive of the dismemberment of an animal after slaughter. The majority of the bone dating to this period (59%) was recovered from T5 and T6 in the north-western and central parts of the northern enclosure, suggesting this area of site as the focus of this activity.
- 7.5 The animal remains recovered from the site indicate that beef was the favoured diet choice. This is consistent with the pattern seen at Roman rural settlements, which often display a marked concentration on cattle husbandry, with sheep/goat and pig exploited to a much lesser degree.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The evaluation identified a series of substantial, well-preserved ditches and pits in the northern part of the site, corresponding with an enclosure complex detected by the geophysical survey (PCG 2015). Outlying ditches were also recorded to the south of the enclosure complex, again corresponding to the geophysical survey results.
- 8.2 Artefactual material recovered during the evaluation indicates that activity associated with the closure complex and outlying features may have extended back

into the later Iron Age but seems certainly to have commenced by the 1st century AD (i.e. the end of the Iron Age). Occupation continued until the end of the 4th century AD (i.e. the end of the Roman period).

- 8.3 The small pottery assemblage recovered from the site is typical of a basic-level Roman rural site or farmstead in this area. Animal bone evidence indicates that cattle (and, to a lesser extent, sheep/goat and pig) were being slaughtered and butchered at the site, particularly in the central and north-western parts of the enclosure complex (T5 and T6). Evidence that beef was the favoured choice in terms of diet is consistent with the pattern seen elsewhere at Roman rural settlements.
- 8.4 The Roman date of the northern enclosure complex supports the theory of a Roman origin for the untested enclosure complex in the southern part of the site (see *Archaeological background*, above). Other than the southern enclosure complex, the only known evidence for Roman activity within 1km of the site is a single Roman coin found some 0.8km west of the site boundary (CA 2015b).
- 8.5 During the Roman period in this region, roads, forts, settlements and rural villas were established on the periphery of the lowlands in order to exploit the Humber wetland margins. The wetland margins were lower at the beginning of the Roman period than at the end, and early Roman sites in these areas were often buried by rising river deposits. This was reflected in the current evaluation, where five trenches (T4, T5, T6, T7 and T27) within the area of the northern enclosure complex featured clayey alluvial layers overlying the natural substrate and sealed by the subsoil. The sequence of subsoil and alluvial deposits within the site is not well understood from the evaluation. Archaeological features were recorded cutting the natural, the alluvium and the subsoil; features cutting the natural ranged in date from the late Iron Age to the 4th century AD, as did the features cutting the alluvium and those cutting the subsoil.
- 8.6 The evaluation also identified evidence for a medieval ridge and furrow agricultural system, supporting the hypothesis that the site formed part of the open agricultural field system around Bilton in the medieval era. Also recorded were a small number of late post-medieval/modern features, including a field boundary ditch and former ponds.

8.7 The evaluation results displayed a generally good correspondence with the geophysical survey results, and indicated that the geophysical survey had successfully identified the main areas of activity at the site. The main discrepancy between the geophysical survey and the evaluation was to the east of the northern enclosure complex (i.e. the area of T10–T12, T17 and T18), where the geophysical survey recorded some potential pit and ditch-type anomalies. The evaluation found no corresponding archaeological features in these locations, indicating that the geophysical anomalies were caused by near-surface variations and/or localised variations in the composition of the natural substrate.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathan Orellana, assisted by Jerry Austin, Mary Lutescu-Jones, Caoimhin O Coileain, Andy Whelan, Mathieu Ferron and Ronan Mooney. This report was written by Jonathan Orellana and Derek Evans. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jeremy Evans and Andrew Clarke, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Dan Bashford. The archive has been compiled by Jonathan Orellana and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Derek Evans.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
Trench 1 (length 20m)								
100	Layer		topsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.48	
101	Layer		natural substrate	mid orangey gravel with grey clay				
102	Cut		?pond	sub-circular in plan, not excavated	7.9	>2.3	>0.2	
103	Fill	102	fill of ?pond	dark brown/black silty clay			>0.2	C19-C20
104	Cut		pond	irregular in plan, not excavated	>6.2	>3	>0.2	
105	Fill	104	fill of pond	mid brown silty clay			>0.2	C19-C20
Trench 2 (length 50m)								
200	Layer		topsoil	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.35	
201	Layer		subsoil	mid reddish brown silty clay			0.37	
202	Layer		natural substrate	light brownish red clay with patches of manganese				
Trench 3 (length 50m)								
300	Layer		topsoil	mid brown silty clay			0.44	
301	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown silty clay			0.38	
302	Layer		natural substrate	light yellow brown silty clay with chalk lenses				
303	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, shallow, moderate sloping sides, flat base	>1	0.59	0.13	
304	Fill	303	fill of ditch	mid yellow brown silty clay			0.13	LIA-MC2
Trench 4 (length 50m)								
400	Layer		topsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.35	
401	Layer		subsoil	light grey brown silty clay			0.37	
402	Layer		alluvium	light orangey yellow silty sand			0.19	
403	Layer		natural substrate	mid reddish brown silty clay with patches of yellow sand				
404	Fill	405	fill of pit	light greyish brown silty sand			0.4	LIA-MC2
405	Cut		pit	rectangular plan, step sides, flat base	0.75	0.5	0.4	
406	Fill	407	fill of pit	light greyish brown silty sand			0.21	
407	Cut		pit	oval plan, steep sides, flat base	0.72	0.34	0.21	
408	Fill	409	fill of ditch	dark greyish brown silty clay			0.5	
409	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, steep sides with multiple breaks of slope, concave base	>1	2.7	0.5	
410	Fill	411	fill of ditch	light yellowish brown sandy silt			0.15	
411	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, U-shaped sides, concave base	>1	0.51	0.15	
412	Fill	413	fill of pit	light greyish brown sandy silt			0.22	
413	Cut		pit	sub-circular plan, moderate sloping sides, flat base	0.4	0.8	0.22	
414	Fill	415	lower fill of ditch	mid greyish brown sandy silt			0.2	
415	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, V-shaped sides, concave base	>0.7	2.1	0.55	
416	Fill	417	fill of ditch	mid brown silty clay			>0.3	
417	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, not excavated	>3.7	0.8	>0.3	
418	Fill	415	fill of ditch	mid orangey brown sandy silt			0.15	Roman (?C2+)
419	Fill	415	fill of ditch	dark grey clay			0.1	C2-EC3
420	Fill	415	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.25	Roman (?C2+)
Trench 5 (length 60m)								
501	Layer		topsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.2	
502	Layer		subsoil	light grey silty clay			0.2	

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
503	Layer		alluvium	light yellow sandy silt with small pebbles			0.3	
504	Fill	505	fill of ditch	light greyish brown silty clay			0.85	
505	Cut		ditch	NW/SE orientated, V shaped	>1	1.44	0.85	
506	Fill	507	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			>0.4	LC2+
507	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, irregular sides, base not reached	>1	5.9	>0.4	
508	Fill	509	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			>0.6	LIA-MC2
509	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, steep U-shaped sides, base not reached	>1	1.24	>0.6	
510	Fill	511	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			>0.55	AD 285+
511	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, steep V-shaped sides, base not reached	>1	2.4	>0.55	
512	Layer		alluvium	mid grey brown silty sand			0.3	
513	Layer		natural substrate	mid orangey clay with lenses of chalk				
514	Fill	515	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay				
515	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, not excavated	>1.3			
516	Cut		pit	oval in plan, not excavated	1.1	0.7		
517	Fill	516	fill of pit	mid yellowish grey silty clay				
518	Fill	519	fill of ditch	mid grey brown sandy silt				
519	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, not excavated	>2.9	0.9		
Trench 6 (length 80m)								
600	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silty clay			0.35	
601	Layer		subsoil	light brown grey silty clay			0.45	MC3-C4
602	Layer		alluvium	light grey brown sandy clay			0.2	
603	Layer		natural substrate	mid orangey grey clay with sandy patches				
604	Cut		pit	sub circular plan, shallow moderate sloping sides, flat base	1.85	0.88	0.12	
605	Fill	604	fill of pit	light brown grey silty clay			0.12	
606	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, U-shaped moderate sloping sides, flat base	>3	1.06	0.44	
607	Fill	606	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay			0.44	Roman
608	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, moderate sloping sides, flat base	>0.7	0.98	0.46	
609	Fill	608	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay			0.46	Roman (?C2-C3)
610	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, shallow sides, concave base	>0.7	1.12	0.46	
611	Fill	610	fill of ditch	mid grey silty clay			0.46	MC3-C4
612	Cut		ditch terminus	N/S orientated, rectangular plan, stepped sides	>0.9	1.22	0.56	
613	Fill	612	fill of ditch	dark brown silty clay			0.56	LIA-MC2
614	Cut		ditch terminus	E/W orientated, steep sides, concave base	>3	0.45	0.32	
615	Fill	614	fill of ditch	Mid grey brown silty clay			0.32	Roman (?C2+)
616	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, moderate sloping sides, concave base	>1	2.05	0.44	
617	Fill	616	lower fill of ditch	mid yellowish brown silty clay			0.07	
618	Fill	616	upper fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.37	LC4
619	Cut		gully	E/W orientated, moderate shallow sides, concave base	>0.2	0.52	0.1	
620	Fill	619	fill of gully	light grey sandy clay			0.1	LIA-MC2
621	Fill	612	fill of ditch	light yellowish grey sandy clay			0.38	
622	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, U shaped sides, flat base	>3	1.38	0.79	
623	Fill	622	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay			0.79	MC3+
624	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, same as 622	>3	1.82	0.81	

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
625	Fill	624	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay, same as 623			0.81	LC2+
626	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, moderate sloping sides, concave base	>3	2.78	0.79	
627	Fill	626	fill of ditch	mid yellowish brown silty clay			0.79	Roman
628	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, not excavated	>3	>0.6		
629	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, steep U-shaped side, base not reached	>5	3.8	>0.7	
630	Fill	629	fill of ditch	dark greyish brown silty sand			>0.7	
631	Fill	629	fill of ditch	dark brown silty clay			0.12	
632	Fill	629	fill of ditch	mid yellowish brown silty sand			0.19	
633	Fill	629	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty sand			0.14	
634	Fill	629	fill of ditch	Mid grey silty clay			0.49	MC3+
635	Cut		ditch	E/W orientated, steep U-shaped sides, base not reached	>0.8	0.23	0.9	
636	Fill	635	fill of ditch	mid reddish brown silty clay			0.08	
637	Fill	635	fill of ditch	dark brownish grey silty sand			0.89	MC3+
Trench 7 (length 50m)								
700	Layer		topsoil	mid greyish brown clayey silt			0.44	C18–C19
701	Layer		subsoil	light greyish brown clayey silt			0.2	
702	Layer		alluvium	mid reddish brown silty clay			0.16	
703	Layer		natural substrate	light reddish brown silty clay with lenses of chalk				
704	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, moderate sloping sides, base not reached	>1	4.2	>0.64	
705	Fill	704	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			>0.64	MC3+
706	Cut		ditch terminus	E/W orientated, moderate sloping sides, concave base	>1	0.71	0.14	
707	Fill	706	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.14	Roman (?C2+)
708	Cut		pit	sub-circular plan, moderate sloping sides, concave base	0.96	0.71	0.19	
709	Fill	708	upper fill of pit	mid greyish brown sandy clay			0.14	LC4
710	Fill	708	lower fill of pit	mid orange sandy clay			0.06	
711	Cut		ditch terminus	NE/SW orientated, steep sides, concave base	>1.11	1.26	0.34	
712	Fill	711	fill of ditch	mid brownish grey clayey sand			0.28	LIA–MC2
713	Fill	711	fill of ditch	mid brownish orange sandy clay			0.15	
714	void		void	void				
715	Cut		pit	sub-oval plan, not excavated	>1.7	1.03		
716	Fill	715	fill of pit	dark brown silty clay				
717	Cut		ditch terminus	NW/SE orientated, not excavated	>2.6	1.11		
718	Fill	717	fill of ditch	dark brown silty clay				
719	Cut		pit	sub-circular plan, not excavated	>0.2	1.13		
720	Fill	719	fill of pit	dark greyish brown silty clay				
Trench 8 (length 20m)								
800	Layer		topsoil	light greyish brown silty clay			0.26	
801	Layer		subsoil	mid brownish grey silty clay			0.29	
802	Layer		natural substrate	light yellowish brown clay				
803	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, U-shaped sides, flat base	>0.7	2.13	0.63	
804	Fill	803	upper fill of ditch	mid brownish grey silty clay			0.59	LC4
805	Fill	803	lower fill of ditch	mid orangey brown silty sand			0.05	
806	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, steep U-shaped sides, flat base	>0.7	2.91	0.69	
807	Fill	806	lower fill of ditch	mid greenish brown silty sand			0.14	
808	Fill	806	upper fill of ditch	dark greyish brown silty clay			0.56	LC4

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
809	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, moderate sloping sides, flat base	>0.9	0.58	0.22	
810	Fill	809	fill of ditch	mid orangey brown silty clay			0.22	
Trench 9 (length 50m)								
900	Layer		topsoil	mid brown silty clay			0.5	
901	Layer		subsoil	mid yellowish brown silty clay			0.3	LIA-MC2
902	Layer		natural substrate	light yellowish brown sandy clay				
903	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, steep U-shaped sides, flattish base	>3	1.62	0.54	
904	Fill	903	lower fill of ditch	mid orangey brown silty clay			0.24	
905	Fill	903	upper fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay			0.39	LIA-MC2
906	Cut		pit	circular plan, vertical sides, flat base	0.64	1.21	0.65	
907	Fill	906	fill of pit	dark grey clayey silt			0.65	LIA-Roman
908	Cut		ditch terminus	N/S orientated, symmetrical shallow sides, irregular base	>2.1	0.56	0.21	
909	Fill	908	fill of ditch	mid brownish grey silty clay			0.21	C2-C3
910	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, steep E side, base not reached	>1.2	1.2	>0.7	
911	Fill	910	fill of ditch	mid grey blue silty clay			>0.37	Roman (?C3-C4)
912	Fill	910	fill of ditch	light brown silty clay			0.6	
913	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, steep V-shaped sides, base not reached	>1.1	1.65	>0.98	
914	Fill	913	fill of ditch	mid grey brown sandy clay			>0.55	LIA-MC2
915	Fill	913	fill of ditch	mid brown silty clay			0.3	
916	Fill	913	fill of ditch	light yellow brown silty clay			0.3	
917	Fill	913	fill of ditch	mid light grey brown silty clay			0.45	
918	Cut		ditch	NW/SE orientated, not excavated	>3	>0.4		
919	Fill	918	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay				
Trench 10 (length 50m)								
1000	Layer		topsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
1001	Layer		subsoil	light yellowish brown silty clay			0.35	
1002	Layer		natural substrate	light bluish grey clay with lenses of chalk				
Trench 11 (length 50m)								
1100	Layer		topsoil	dark greyish brown clay			0.44	C18-C19
1101	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow sandy clay with frequent pebbles			0.36	
1102	Layer		natural substrate	mid greyish brown clay with chalk flecks				
1103	Cut		ditch	NW/SE orientated, symmetrical U-shaped sides, flat base	>3.1	1.32	0.46	
1104	Fill	110	upper fill of ditch	mid brown grey clayey sand			0.31	Roman
1105	Fill	110	lower fill of ditch	mid brownish red sandy clay			0.16	
Trench 12 (length 20m)								
1200	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay			0.4	
1201	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.34	
1202	Layer		natural substrate	light bluish grey clay with flecks of chalk				
Trench 13 (length 50m)								
1300	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay			0.36	
1301	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.27	
1302	Layer		natural substrate	light bluish grey clay with flecks of chalk				

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
Trench 14 (length 50m)								
1400	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay			0.32	
1401	Layer		subsoil	mid reddish brown silty clay			0.2	
1402	Layer		natural substrate	yellowish grey gravel with patches of grey clay				
Trench 15 (length 50m)								
1500	Layer		topsoil	mid brown silty clay			0.35	
1501	Layer		subsoil	mid yellowish brown sandy clay			0.54	
1502	Layer		natural substrate	light yellowish brown clay				
1503	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, step symmetrical sides, concave base	>1	1.2	0.7	
1504	Fill	150	fill of ditch	mid brown silty clay			0.33	LIA-MC2
1505	Fill	150	fill of ditch	mid bluish grey silty clay			0.12	LIA-MC2
1506	Fill	150	fill of ditch	mid yellow brown silty clay			0.4	
1507	Fill	150	fill of ditch	light bluish brown silty clay			0.35	LIA-MC2
1508	Cut		ditch	NW/SE orientated, moderate sloping sides, concave base	>0.5	0.48	0.3	
1509	Fill	150	fill of ditch	mid yellow brown silty clay			0.3	
1510	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, steep sides, flat base	>3	1.6	0.69	
1511	Fill	151	fill of ditch	mid yellowish brown silty clay			0.69	
1512	Fill	151	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.32	LIA-MC2
Trench 16 (length 20m)								
1600	Layer		topsoil	mid greyish brown clayey silt			0.58	
1601	Layer		subsoil	mid reddish brown silty clay			0.31	
1602	Layer		natural substrate	dark reddish brown clay with patches of sand				
1603	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, steep symmetrical sides, concave base	>1	1.27	0.61	
1604	Fill	160	lower fill of ditch	dark reddish brown silty clay			0.15	
1605	Fill	160	upper fill of ditch	mid bluish brown silty clay			0.46	Roman (?C2+)
Trench 17 (length 50m)								
1700	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty sand			0.3	
1701	Layer		subsoil	mid bluish brown silty clay			0.55	
1702	Layer		natural substrate	bluish grey clay with orangey gravel patches				
Trench 18 (length 20m)								
1800	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silty clay			0.25	
1801	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow blue silty clay			0.3	
1802	Layer		natural substrate	firm mid grey blue clay				
Trench 19 (length 25m)								
1900	Layer		topsoil	mid brown silty clay			0.2	
1901	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown silty clay			0.25	
1902	Layer		natural substrate	firm bluish grey clay				
Trench 20 (length 50m)								
2000	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay			0.2	
2001	Layer		subsoil	mid brown grey silty clay			0.3	
2002	Layer		natural substrate	firm bluish grey clay				
Trench 21 (length 25m)								
2100	Layer		topsoil	dark grey silty clay			0.2	

Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
2101	Layer		subsoil	dark greyish brown silty clay			0.35	
2102	Layer		natural substrate	firm bluish grey clay				
Trench 22 (length 20m)								
2200	Layer		topsoil	mid grey silty clay			0.6	
2201	Layer		subsoil	light grey silty clay			0.25	
2202	Layer		natural substrate	light yellowish clay with flecks of chalk				
2203	Fill	220	fill of ?pond	light orangey silty clay			0.44	
2204	Fill	220	fill of ?pond	dark greyish black clay			0.05	LIA-MC2
2205	Fill	220	fill of ?pond	light orangey brown silty clay			0.03	
2206	Cut		?pond	sub-circular plan, gentle sloping sides, flat base	>2	9.5	0.58	
Trench 23 (length 50m)								
2300	Layer		topsoil	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.52	
2301	Layer		subsoil	mid brown silty clay			0.38	
2302	Layer		natural substrate	mid yellowish brown clay with chalk inclusions				
2303	Cut		ditch	NE/SW orientated, symmetrical moderate sloping sides, concave base	>1	0.56	0.19	
2304	Fill	230	fill of ditch	mid greyish brown silty clay			0.19	AD1-60/70
Trench 24 (length 20m)								
2400	Layer		topsoil	dark grey silty clay			0.2	
2401	Layer		subsoil	mid bluish brown silty clay			0.3	
2402	Layer		natural substrate	firm dark bluish grey clay				
Trench 25 (length 25m)								
2500	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown sandy silt			0.2	
2501	Layer		subsoil	mid blue grey silty clay			0.2	
2502	Layer		natural substrate	firm greyish blue clay				
Trench 26 (length 25m)								
2600	Layer		topsoil	dark grey brown sandy silt			0.2	
2601	Layer		subsoil	mid blue grey silty clay			0.2	
2602	Layer		natural substrate	firm greyish blue clay				
Trench 27 (length 40m)								
2700	Layer		topsoil	dark greyish brown sandy clay			0.28	
2701	Layer		subsoil	mid brown sandy clay			0.23	
2702	Layer		alluvium	mid yellowish orange clayey sand			0.17	
2703	Layer		alluvium	mid orange brown clayey sand			0.22	
2704	Layer		natural substrate	orangey clayey sand				
2705	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, moderate sloping sides, concave base	>2.5	0.41	0.21	
2706	Fill	270	fill of ditch	mid brownish grey sandy clay			0.21	
2707	Cut		ditch	N/S orientated, not excavated			2.22	
2708	Fill	270	fill of ditch	dark brown sandy clay			2.22	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

By Jeremy Evans

Factual data

The assemblage was assessed in July 2015. Identifications were made to ware group and fabric, following the Oxford Archaeology/Warwickshire museum coding conventions (Booth 2000), with common fabrics identified within the ware groups. Sherd families were grouped by fabric and context. Unidentifiable body sherds (including bases) were counted together; body sherds from identifiable forms, handles and rims were counted separately. The assemblages were quantified by count (NoSh), weight (WT), minimum number of rims (MNR) and rim equivalent (RE). Spot dating evidence is provided in Table B6.

Some 401 sherds weighing 7.572kg were presented for examination. These consisted of 381 sherds of Iron Age style and Roman pottery, eight sherds of post-medieval pottery (80g) and 12 pieces of fired clay (129g), of which five (123g) may be of briquetage.

Dating

The date range of the stratified material runs from the later Iron Age or first century AD through to the end of the Roman period. The bulk of the material is of Iron Age tradition fabrics; however, there is clear evidence in this region that such fabrics continued to be employed in quantity until at least the mid second century AD, especially on rural sites. This can be seen in the evidence from Hayton (Mills forthcoming), where the Iron Age tradition ceramics from the rural site form a much higher proportion of the assemblage than on the linear settlement alongside the Roman road. Similar patterns are seen at Hawling Road (Evans 1999) and Shiptonthorpe (Evans 2006). Mills (forthcoming) commented: "It is of note that in phase 2.2 local handmade fabrics appear and provide a significant proportion of the handmade wares, at the expense of calcite gritted wares. This pattern parallels that at Hawling road (Evans 1999), although much less strongly. At Hawling Road local gritted wares eclipsed calcite gritted wares. At both sites this pattern suggests the conquest in some way disrupted pre-existing Iron Age supply patterns, linked to the Wolds."

Thus it is misleading to assume that these Iron Age tradition fabrics date to the Iron Age, and in the area north-west of Brough they seem to be principally of post-conquest date.

Pottery from 2304 is the most likely group to be pre-conquest, with a reduced ware footing base that seems likely to come from a vessel of Gallo-Belgic copy form, and otherwise a large collection of Iron Age tradition sherds. The carinated jar with a bifid rim from 419 is one of the few greyware vessels likely to be dateable to the second to earlier third centuries. Context 506 has a TPQ from a Dalesware type jar which could be later 2nd century but is more probably 3rd-4th. The presence of Holme-on-Spalding Moor forms and fabrics gives at mid third century TPQ to 601, 611, 623, 627, 637, and 705. A Crambeck greyware jar base gives 510 a TPQ after cAD 285 and later fourth century material comes from 618, 709 804 and 808.

Table B1 illustrates the proportions of greywares and gritted wares from the trenches with more pottery. Those with more gritted wares have an earlier emphasis and those with more greywares a later Roman one.

Table B1: Proportions of major ware types by trench (for trenches with over 20 sherds)

Fabric Class	Tr 23	Tr 15	Tr 9	Tr 7	Tr 8	Tr 6
G Gritted wares	97%	100%	90%	83%	52%	48%
R Reduced wares	0	0	10%	14%	39%	51%
Other wares	3%	0	0	3%	9%	2%

Taphonomy

Table B2 shows the quantities of pottery by context type for those features which are not obviously post-Roman. As is usual on basic level rural sites, the vast majority of the pottery comes from ditches and gullies. Pits contain little of the pottery and are at the lower end of the usual range.

Table B2: Taphonomic occurrence of pottery from Bilton

Feature type	% Nosh	% Wt	Mean sherd weight	% Min no rims	% Rim equivalent	Mean % of rim
Ditch fill	93%	97%	19.6g	96%	97%	11.5%
Gully fill	0.5%	0.4%	14.5g	-	-	-
Pits	3.5%	0.6%	3.1g	-	-	-

Ware types and fabrics

Table B3 shows the occurrence of major ware types in the assemblage following the major ware classes used in the Warwickshire Museum and OAU fabric recording systems.

As noted above, the assemblage is dominated by class G fabrics, at 73% (Nosh), with wheelmade greywares only providing 34% (Nosh). Amphorae are absent, as are Black Burnished wares, although BB2 seems to have been imported via the Humber estuary to its secondary northern distribution port at York (Evans 1985). Finewares are also very poorly represented, consisting of a single Crambeck parchment ware red painted bowl.

Table B3: Ware class occurrence at Bilton

Fabric Class	% Nosh	% Wt
A Amphorae	0	0
B, Black Burnished wares	0	0
E Belgic wares	0.9%	0.3%
F Colour-coated wares	0.3%	1.3%
G Gritted wares	73.8%	62.7%
M Mortaria	0.5%	2.3%
O Oxidised wares	0.3%	0.04%
Q White-slipped flagon fabrics	0	0
R Reduced wares	24.0%	33.2%
S Samian wares	0.5%	0.2%
W Whitewares	0	0
	381 sherds	7.363kg

Mortaria are reasonably represented, but in actuality this is a single second-century vessel in a fabric probably of local southern East Yorkshire origin. Oxidised wares are very rare, at 0.3% (Nosh), as is usual on rural sites. White slipped flagon fabrics are absent, as are whitewares. These are usually rare on rural sites, but their absence is a little surprising and given that these are usually distributed through urban markets their absence hints at the poor integration of the countryside with urban markets, as does the low level of finewares, especially samian, which are similarly distributed (*c.f.* Evans 2005).

Reduced wares (as noted earlier) form only 34% (Nosh) of the assemblage. This is unusual compared to the average Romano-British rural site, where they are dominant from the Flavian period onwards. However, this is typical for this area. Ruth Leary, discussing the pottery from the nearby Easington to Ganstead gas pipeline (in Flintoft 2009) noted that "All the assemblages were dominated by the locally produced handmade jars of native type." The use of handmade fabrics throughout the first and well in to the second century is also fairly typical for rural sites in the wider region (Evans 1995). In the Wolds and Vale of Pickering these are usually calcite gritted, in the Tees Valley they tend to be dolerite tempered, and in the Vale of York granitic or other stone temper is used.

Table B4 shows the occurrence of individual fabrics on the site, recorded using the NFABS type series also employed at Binchester, Newton Kyme, Shiptonthorpe, Thwing and various other northern sites (Evans 2006).

Table B4: Fabric occurrence in the Bilton assemblage

Fabric	% Nosh	% WT
BRIQ	1.25%	1.62%
D00	1.75%	0.08%
E11	0.75%	0.26%
F70	0.25%	1.23%
G01	6.98%	6.04%
G05	0.75%	0.74%
G08	0.25%	1.15%
G097	0.25%	0.05%
G099	0.25%	1.73%
G10	1.00%	1.22%

Fabric	% Nosh	% WT
G24	28.93%	21.51%
G26	14.21%	16.49%
G27	8.48%	3.96%
G271	1.75%	0.44%
G272	0.50%	0.55%
G281	1.00%	0.45%
G291	0.25%	0.01%
G292	2.24%	3.24%
G294	0.75%	0.12%
G296	0.25%	0.36%
G33	0.50%	0.26%
G60	1.00%	1.70%
G801	0.50%	0.26%
G82	0.25%	0.66%
M092	0.50%	2.27%
O19	0.25%	0.04%
R06	1.75%	0.96%
R062	0.50%	0.36%
R07	7.48%	14.57%
R07?	0.50%	0.33%
R09	0.50%	0.46%
R10	2.00%	2.44%
R11	4.74%	4.03%
R113	1.00%	0.26%
R13	0.50%	0.33%
R16	2.49%	2.21%
R19	0.25%	4.34%
R191	0.50%	1.31%
R194	0.50%	0.67%
S20	0.50%	0.21%
Z30	2.00%	1.06%
Grand Total	100.00%	100.00%

The sherds of fabric E11, and the footing base in this fabric probably from a platter are a little unusual on a rural site, although nothing like the much more extensive collection of 'Belgic' type material from the nearby site at Scorbrough Hill (Leary in Flintoft 2009). They reflect the connections around the Humber river system of such sites as North Ferriby, South Ferriby and Dragonby.

Colour-coated wares are entirely absent from the assemblage, the only fineware being a later 4th-century Crambeck painted parchment ware bowl. The absence of Nene Valley colour-coated ware is notable, especially since, like BB2, it was being imported into the region via the Humber river system to York and, probably, Catterick. It does occur on Leary's pipeline sites (Leary in Flintoft 2009) but again in surprisingly small quantities even for rural sites.

Early gritted wares occurring in Iron Age tradition jar forms dominate the assemblage. They seem to present a similar range to that seen at Hayton (Mills forthcoming) and Hawling Road (Evans 1999) to the west of Brough. It seems likely that they are of quite local origin using clay and inclusions from local alluvial deposits.

The commonest fabric at Bilton is G24, a handmade reduced fabric with some moderate sand temper and common angular white and translucent quartz inclusions at 28.9% (Nosh). This is followed by G26, a handmade reduced fabric with some sandstone inclusions at 14.2% (Nosh) and G27, a handmade reduced fabric with common moderate sand temper at 8.5% (Nosh). These groups occur at Shiptonthorpe but are not common there, and are likely to be of local origin. Forms include jars with fairly vertical rims and squared rim tips, beveled rim jars and a lid-seated jar. They fall within a typical East Yorkshire repertoire, and show no sign of Lincolnshire influence, despite the contemporary Lincolnshire connections in greywares on early Roman nucleated sites in the area.

Later Roman class G fabrics are much rarer in the assemblage. Dalesware (G10) occurs, but only at 1.0% (Nosh), despite its much greater frequency on sites south of the Humber (*c.f.* Evans 1985). The distinctive fabric G08 with shell, ooliths and quartz, which is used in many Dalesware copies and is dominant at Brough (Evans 1985), does occur, but only as a single bowl bodysherd (0.3% Nosh).

The commonest late gritted ware is East Yorkshire calcite gritted ware, which amounts to 7.0% (Nosh). This is produced from the early Iron Age until the end of the Roman period, but most and probably all of this material

here is likely to date to the third and fourth centuries, especially the latter. All the dateable jar forms represented are mid-late fourth century types and it is in this period that the fabric was most widely distributed across the region. Also present is the later 4th century fabric G05, a sandy burnished fabric with some calcite, used mainly to make small shouldered jars with lattice decoration, at 0.8% (Nosh). It was probably produced towards the eastern end of the Vale of Pickering (Evans 1985).

One surprise was the presence of a Southern Shell Tempered ware undercut rimmed jar, very probably of late 4th century date, likely to originate at Harrold, Bedfordshire. There is a small scatter of these in the north, but usually at urban and military sites.

Reduced wares are the second largest element of the assemblage. Amongst these, the largest identified group is R07, Holme-on-Spalding Moor greywares, comprising c8% (Nosh) of the pottery. The group from the HOSM industry will have been larger than this since only a fraction of the Holme products can be distinguished by fabric (Evans 2006) and most of the greyware forms from the site are likely to be of HOSM origin.

Crambeck greyware (R09) occurs rarely, only amounting to 0.5% (Nosh) of the assemblage, presumably Holme providing some competition to this source.

The only clearly identifiable 2nd to early 3rd century greyware vessels is the carinated bowl with a flanged bifid rim from context 419 in fabric R19, with parallels at Shiptonthorpe. Ruth Leary, discussing the pottery from the Easington to Ganstead gas pipeline (in Flintoft 2009) noted that: "The connection with Lincolnshire is visible in the second century groups along the pipeline and can be paralleled at Shiptonthorpe although Evans noted that quantities of second century Lincolnshire type grey wares on rural sites in the region were markedly lower than at Shiptonthorpe pointed to this as evidence of a lack of economic cohesion between the small town and surrounding rural sites. Certainly the sites along the pipeline show a similar picture with assemblages dominated by handmade native wares contrasting with 10-20% at Shiptonthorpe (Evans 2006, 140). However it would appear that the small amount of second century wheel-thrown pottery that was acquired came from the same Lincolnshire sources as served Shiptonthorpe."

Functional analysis and finewares

Table B5 shows a functional analysis of the Bilton rimsherds by MNR and RE. Jars at 63.0% (by MNR) overall are the largest group, as would be expected on a basic-level rural site. Amongst them, wide-mouthed jars/basins comprise 8.7% (MNR). The latter would be a high figure nationally, but in north Humberside it is fairly typical, reflecting the form range of the Holme-on-Spalding Moor industry. Whether there is a specific use for this vessel type, such as in dairying, is not clear, but there are regional concentrations of the type, another notable one being in the Severn Valley, where wide-mouthed jars are a common ware form (Webster 1977). Drinking vessels, an urban and higher status form, are completely absent, reflecting the slightly unusual dearth of colour-coated ware fabrics here. Tablewares at 28.2% (MNR) are quite well represented for a basic level rural site, although they are nearly all mid-late Roman in date, as perhaps might be expected as rural sites overall tend to functionally diversify with time from Iron Age assemblages focused almost entirely on the jar. Constricted-necked jars are represented, just, these probably serving as liquid containers (Evans 1985; 1993). Mortaria are reasonably represented at 2.1%, a level fairly typical for the region, but lids are well-represented at 4.4% (MNR) and a massive 20.2% (by RE), although there are only two, one an unusual HOSM type with a stream hole in the knob, like a tagine.

Table B5: Functional analysis of Bilton vessels by MNR and RE

CN Jar	Jar	WM Jar	Bowl	Bowl/Dish	Dish	Mortaria	Lids	N
0.2%	54.3%	8.7%	19.6%	2.1%	6.5%	2.1%	4.4%	46 rims
4.2%	48.1%	7.8%	14.5%	0.6%	3.1%	1.5%	20.2%	524%

As noted earlier, finewares are very poorly represented at 0.8% (Nosh) and 1.5% (Wt). They consist of two sherds of Central Gaulish samian ware and a Crambeck painted parchment war bowl. This level is very low, even for a basic level rural site.

Conclusions and assessment

This small assemblage is probably typical of a basic-level rural site in this area. The assemblage may extend back into the later Iron Age but seems certainly to commence by the 1st century AD. Occupation continued until the end of the 4th century AD, despite its proximity to the Humber river system. Whether there is a break in occupation between second and fourth century occupation is not clearly determinable from the present assemblage, although a null hypothesis of continuous occupation is probably best on current evidence.

Table B6: Finds concordance

Trench	Context	Context type	Ware	Nosh	WT	Date	
1	103	Pond fill	Z30	1	5	C19–C20	
1	103	Pond fill	Z30	3	3		
1	105	Pond fill	Z30	2	32	C19–C20	
3	304	Ditch fill	G27	1	26	LIA–MC2	
4	404	Pit fill	G281	3	13	LIA–MC2	
4	418	Ditch fill	R113	1	9	Roman, prob C2+	
4	418	Ditch fill	G27	1	12		
4	419	Ditch fill	R19	1	329	C2–EC3	
4	420	Ditch fill	G01	1	13	Roman, prob C2+	
4	420	Ditch fill	R062	2	27		
5	506	Ditch fill	G33	1	15	LC2+, prob C3–C4	
5	506	Ditch fill	G10	1	15		
5	506	Ditch fill	G24	1	9		
5	506	Ditch fill	G60	3	80		
5	506	Ditch fill	G01	2	12		
5	506	Ditch fill	G294	1	5		
5	506	Ditch fill	G33	1	5		
5	506	Ditch fill	G26	1	7		
5	506	Ditch fill	R11	1	3		
5	506	Ditch fill	G292	7	209		
5	506	Ditch fill	G292	1	11		
5	506	Ditch fill	G292	1	25		
5	506	Ditch fill	G24	6	18		
5	506	Ditch fill	R06	1	8		
5	506	Ditch fill	R113	1	4		
5	508	Ditch fill	G27	1	21		LIA–MC2
5	508	Ditch fill	G27	3	15		
5	508	Ditch fill	G27	2	9		
5	508	Ditch fill	G26	1	162		
5	508	Ditch fill	G296	1	27		
5	508	Ditch fill	G294	1	1	AD 285+	
5	510	Ditch fill	R09	1	23		
5	510	Ditch fill	G801	1	10		
5	510	Ditch fill	G24	3	22		
5	510	Ditch fill	G801	1	10		
5	510	Ditch fill	G24	3	22		
5	510	Ditch fill	G24	1	25		
5	510	Ditch fill	R113	1	5		
5	510	Ditch fill	R113	1	2		
5	510	Ditch fill	G26	1	3		
5	510	Ditch fill	R06	1	9	MC3–C4	
6	601	Topsoil	R16	1	6		
6	607	Ditch fill	G24	1	7	Roman,	

Trench	Context	Context type	Ware	Nosh	WT	Date
6	607	Ditch fill	O19	1	3	perhaps C1–C2
6	609	Ditch fill	G24	1	11	Roman, prob C2–C3
6	609	Ditch fill	R06	2	14	
6	611	Ditch fill	R16	3	51	MC3–C4
6	611	Ditch fill	G24	3	30	
6	611	Ditch fill	R06	1	3	
6	611	Ditch fill	R16	1	41	
6	613	Ditch fill	G24	2	24	LIA–MC2
6	613	Ditch fill	G24	1	108	
6	613	Ditch fill	G26	2	69	
6	613	Ditch fill	G27	5	30	
6	613	Ditch fill	BRIQ	5	123	
6	613	Ditch fill	G27	1	30	
6	615	Ditch fill	G26	1	4	Roman, prob C2+
6	615	Ditch fill	R16	1	25	
6	615	Ditch fill	R11	1	38	
6	618	Ditch fill	R16	4	44	LC4
6	618	Ditch fill	G01	3	14	
6	618	Ditch fill	G01	1	10	
6	618	Ditch fill	M092	1	100	
6	618	Ditch fill	R06	1	30	
6	618	Ditch fill	G24	2	24	
6	618	Ditch fill	R11	2	6	
6	618	Ditch fill	R06	1	9	
6	618	Ditch fill	R09	1	12	
6	618	Ditch fill	G01	2	26	
6	618	Ditch fill	G01	2	172	
6	618	Ditch fill	G05	2	39	
6	618	Ditch fill	M092	1	72	
6	618	Ditch fill	G26	1	4	
6	618	Ditch fill	G24	1	4	
6	618	Ditch fill	R11	1	11	
6	620	Ditch fill	G26	1	20	
6	620	Ditch fill	G271	1	9	
6	623	Ditch fill	R10	1	18	MC3+
6	623	Ditch fill	R10	1	33	
6	625	Ditch fill	G10	1	4	LC2+, probably C3–C4
6	625	Ditch fill	R10	1	15	
6	625	Ditch fill	R11	2	14	
6	627	Ditch fill	R191	1	61	Roman, perhaps MC3+
6	627	Ditch fill	R07	1	173	
6	634	Ditch fill	G01	3	84	MC3+
6	634	Ditch fill	G01	1	50	

Trench	Context	Context type	Ware	Nosh	WT	Date
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	100	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	35	
6	634	Ditch fill	R10	1	50	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	20	
6	634	Ditch fill	G24	1	16	
6	634	Ditch fill	G26	1	23	
6	634	Ditch fill	R191	1	38	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	35	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	2	46	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	75	
6	634	Ditch fill	R07	1	21	
6	634	Ditch fill	R10	1	22	
6	634	Ditch fill	R10	1	16	
6	637	Ditch fill	G10	1	43	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	28	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	55	
6	637	Ditch fill	G26	1	61	
6	637	Ditch fill	G10	1	30	
6	637	Ditch fill	G01	1	9	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	89	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	8	167	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	16	
6	637	Ditch fill	R10	1	27	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	4	
6	637	Ditch fill	R07	1	2	
6	637	Ditch fill	R10	1	4	
6	637	Ditch fill	D00	7	6	
6	637	Ditch fill	G26	5	111	
6	637	Ditch fill	G24	1	24	
6	637	Ditch fill	G271	1	15	
6	637	Ditch fill	G27	1	7	
7	700	Topsoil	Z30	1	30	C18–C19
7	705	Ditch fill	G24	4	207	MC3+
7	705	Ditch fill	G24	1	8	
7	705	Ditch fill	G24	1	10	
7	705	Ditch fill	G27	1	8	
7	705	Ditch fill	G27	1	9	
7	705	Ditch fill	G27	1	13	
7	705	Ditch fill	G26	1	13	
7	705	Ditch fill	G26	1	23	
7	705	Ditch fill	G24	2	43	
7	705	Ditch fill	G24	1	5	
7	705	Ditch fill	R07	1	25	

Trench	Context	Context type	Ware	Nosh	WT	Date	
7	705	Ditch fill	R07	3	72		
7	705	Ditch fill	G27	2	13		
7	705	Ditch fill	G27	8	41		
7	705	Ditch fill	G26	4	42		
7	707	Ditch fill	R11	1	4	Roman, prob C2+	
7	709	Pit fill	S20	1	7	LC4	
7	709	Pit fill	G05	1	17		
7	712	Ditch fill	G26	1	3	LIA-MC2	
8	804	Ditch fill	G01	2	20	LC4	
8	804	Ditch fill	S20	1	9		
8	804	Ditch fill	G097	1	4		
8	804	Ditch fill	G82	1	50		
8	804	Ditch fill	R07	1	84		
8	804	Ditch fill	R11	1	31		
8	804	Ditch fill	G24	1	28		
8	804	Ditch fill	G24	1	13		
8	804	Ditch fill	R194	1	20		
8	804	Ditch fill	R07	1	19		
8	804	Ditch fill	R07	1	37		
8	804	Ditch fill	R11	1	28		
8	804	Ditch fill	R11	1	23		
8	804	Ditch fill	R11	1	18		
8	804	Ditch fill	R11	1	13		
8	804	Ditch fill	G099	1	131		
8	808	Ditch fill	R11	1	91		LC4
8	808	Ditch fill	G01	1	41		
8	808	Ditch fill	F70	1	93		
8	808	Ditch fill	R07?	1	16		
8	808	Ditch fill	G08	1	87		
8	808	Ditch fill	R11	1	11		
9	901	Subsoil	G26	1	75	LIA-MC2	
9	905	Ditch fill	G281	1	21	LIA-MC2	
9	905	Ditch fill	G26	3	31		
9	905	Ditch fill	G27	1	8		
9	905	Ditch fill	G294	1	3		
9	907	Pit fill	G01	9	6	LIA-Roman	
9	909	Ditch fill	G26	1	1	C2-C3	
9	909	Ditch fill	R194	1	31		
9	911	Ditch fill	R07?	1	9	Roman, possibly C3- C4	
9	914	Ditch fill	G27	1	10	LIA-MC2	
11	1100	Topsoil	Z30	1	10	C18-C19	
11	1104	Ditch fill	R13	2	25	Roman	

Trench	Context	Context type	Ware	Nosh	WT	Date
15	1504	Ditch fill	G24	1	4	LIA-MC2
15	1504	Ditch fill	G24	2	10	
15	1505	Ditch fill	G60	1	49	LIA-MC2
15	1505	Ditch fill	G26	1	32	LIA-MC2
15	1507	Ditch fill	G26	1	17	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G24	4	41	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G271	3	3	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G24	7	96	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G24	3	16	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G24	1	11	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G271	2	6	
15	1507	Ditch fill	G272	2	42	
15	1512	Ditch fill	G26	1	20	
16	1605	Ditch fill	G26	1	23	Roman, probably C2(+)
16	1605	Ditch fill	G26	1	9	
16	1605	Ditch fill	G24	3	26	
16	1605	Ditch fill	R11	1	10	
16	1605	Ditch fill	R11	3	4	
22	2204	Pond fill	G26	1	3	LIA(-MC2)
22	2204	Pond fill	G24	1	7	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	3	45	AD1-60/70
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	1	23	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	10	77	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	10	226	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	27	248	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	6	169	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	1	13	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G24	1	4	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	2	194	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	5	120	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	10	126	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	2	5	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G27	4	48	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G26	2	3	
23	2304	Ditch fill	E11	1	17	
23	2304	Ditch fill	E11	2	3	
23	2304	Ditch fill	G291	1	1	

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APPENDIX C: THE ANIMAL BONE

By Andrew Clarke

Animal bone totalling 161 fragments (6,226g) was recovered from the site. This material was moderately well preserved but highly fragmented, having suffered both historical and modern damage, rendering 46.5% of the assemblage unidentifiable beyond the level of cattle or sheep-size mammal. For the purpose of this report, the bones were identified to skeletal element and species using the CA osteological reference collection and standard reference literature (Schmid, 1972), and quantified by fragment count and weight (Table C1). Where modern breakage was observed and re-fitting was possible, fragments were recorded as a single bone.

Late Iron Age/Roman

A total of 48 fragments (1,207g) was recovered from ditches 509, 612, 903, 913, 2303, pit 906, possible pond 2206 and subsoil layer 901. Cattle (*Bos Taurus*) and sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) were identified from mainly meat-poor skeletal elements. No direct evidence of butchery was observed but a cattle-sized long bone shaft from ditch 509 displayed a fracture pattern suggestive of marrow extraction. The remains of horse (*Equus caballus*) were also identified from isolated long bone fragments, and a single horse molar was recovered from pit 906. There is little interpretative potential within such a small assemblage. The material was highly fragmented and less well preserved than that of the Roman period.

Roman

The Roman activity on site produced the largest and best preserved assemblage of bone, with 113 fragments (5,019g) recovered from 15 ditch features within the northern enclosure system and one ditch to the south of the enclosures. The remains of cattle dominate, followed by sheep/goat and pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*). Each of these species was predominantly identified from meat-poor skeletal elements such as the skull, mandible or lower limbs with only occasional meat-rich elements (such as the femur) present. Much of this bone was highly fragmented and fractured in a manner highly suggestive of the dismemberment of an animal after slaughter, firstly into a carcass and then into individual cuts of meat. The characteristics of the assemblage are consistent across the site; however, the majority of the bone dating to this period (59%) was recovered from trenches 5 and 6 in the north-western and central parts of the northern enclosure, suggesting this area of site as the focus for this activity.

The animal remains recovered from the site indicate that beef was the favoured choice in terms of diet. This is consistent with the pattern seen at Roman rural settlements, which often display a marked concentration on cattle husbandry, with sheep/goat and pig exploited to a much lesser degree (Cool 2006, 83). It was also possible to identify horse and dog (*Canis familiaris*) from isolated fragments spread across the northern part of site. If this area was a focus for butchery activities, this may account for the low recovery of these two species, which were common in the Roman period (Baker and Worley, 2014) but were not generally exploited as food animals.

Table C1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context

Cut	Fill	Feature date	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	Canid	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
Late Iron Age/Roman												
509	508	LIA-MC2		1				3	2		6	71
612	613	LIA-MC2							2		2	14
903	905	LIA-MC2	4	1		2			1		8	771
903	904	LIA-MC2	1	1					2		4	93
906	907	LIA-Roman				1					1	7
913	914	LIA-MC2		1							1	15
2206	2203	LIA-MC2								1	1	2
2303	2304	AD1_60/70	2			2					24	227
	901	LIA-MC2	1								1	7
subtotal			8	4		5		3	7	1	48	1207
Roman												
507	506	LC2+	2		2						4	123
511	510	AD 285+	1						2		3	13
606	607	Roman	1								1	133
610	611	MC3-C4						1			1	26

Cut	Fill	Feature date	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	Canid	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
616	618	LC4	1	1		2			1		5	476
624	625	LC2+		1		3		31			35	304
626	627	Roman				1					1	156
629	634	MC3+	4	2		1					7	588
635	637	MC3+	4	3	1						8	667
704	705	MC3+	3	1			1	16			21	977
706	707	Roman		1							1	5
803	804	LC4	1			1					2	253
806	808	LC4	10					4			14	1200
908	909	C2-C3	1					2	1		4	75
910	912	Roman							4		4	17
1603	1605	Roman								2	2	6
subtotal			28	9	3	8	1	54	8	2	113	5019
Total			36	13	3	13	1	57	15	3	161	
Weight			4291	115	47	1157	17	537	57	8	6226	

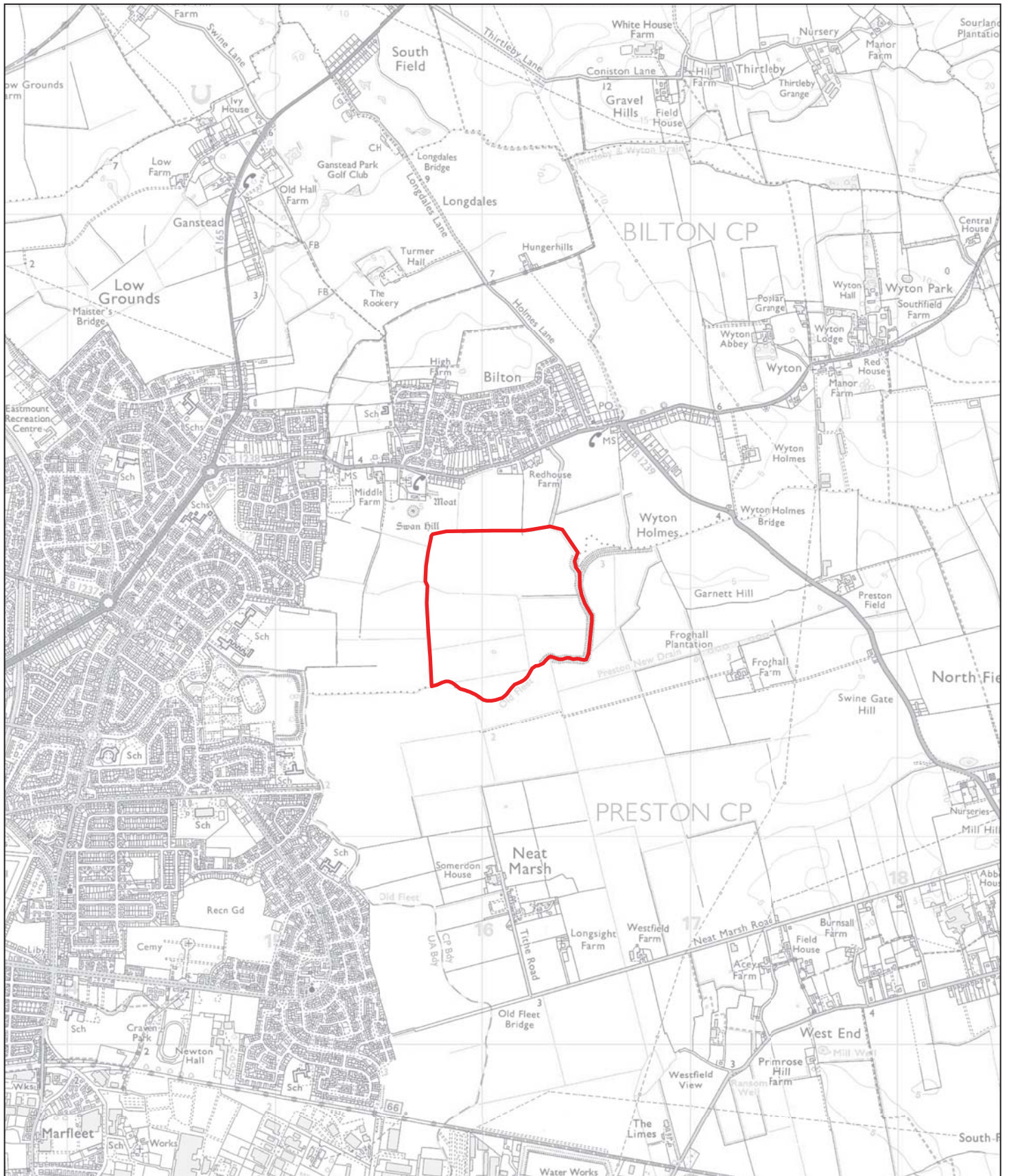
BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat, SUS = pig; EQ = horse; LM= cattle-sized mammal; MM = sheep-sized mammal; ind = indeterminate

References

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- Schmid, E. 1972 *Atlas of animal bones: For prehistorians, archaeologists and quaternary geologists* Amsterdam, Elsevier Publishing Company

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Proposed Solar Farm, Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire	
Short description	<p>In June 2015, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation of land at Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire. The evaluation was undertaken to inform a planning application for the development of a solar farm at the site.</p> <p>The evaluation identified a series of substantial, well-preserved ditches and pits in the northern part of the site, corresponding with an enclosure complex detected by a previous geophysical survey. Outlying ditches were also recorded to the south of the enclosure complex, again corresponding to the geophysical survey results. Associated dating evidence indicated that activity commenced around the 1st century AD and continued until the end of the 4th century AD. The findings were consistent with a basic-level Roman rural site or farmstead. A further enclosure complex in the southern part of the site is known from cropmark and geophysical survey evidence; this southern complex was untested by the present evaluation, but is presumably also Roman in date.</p> <p>The evaluation also identified evidence for a medieval ridge and furrow agricultural system and a small number of late post-medieval/modern features, including a field boundary ditch and former ponds.</p>	
Project dates	1–11 June 2015	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2015) Desk-based assessment (Cotswold Archaeology 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	59.9 ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	TA 1609 3213	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	East Riding of Yorkshire Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Jonathan Orellana	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive:	Content
Physical	East Riding Museums Service	Pottery, flint, animal bone
Paper	East Riding Museums Service	Context sheets, trench records, site drawings, photographic registers
Digital	East Riding Museums Service	Digital survey, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2015 <i>Proposed Solar Farm, Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report 15327		



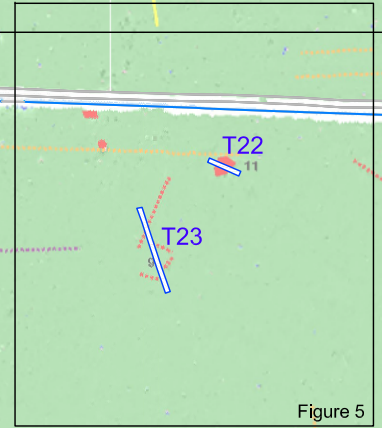
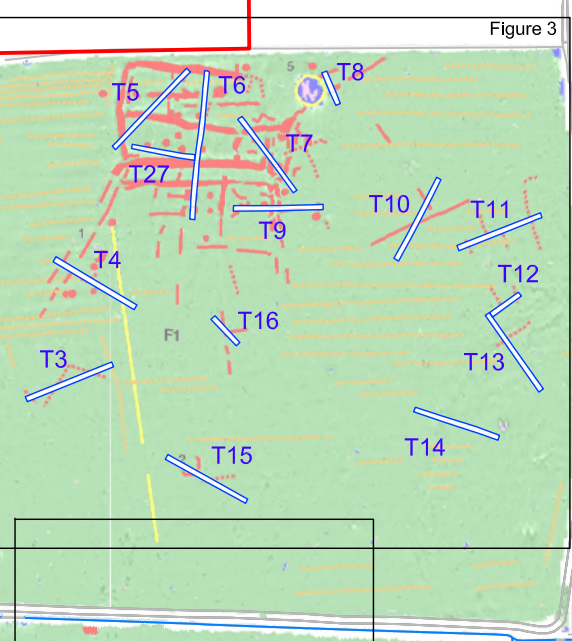
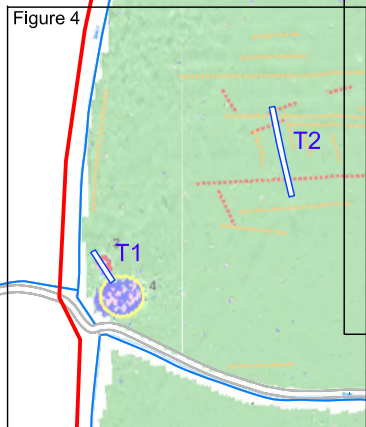
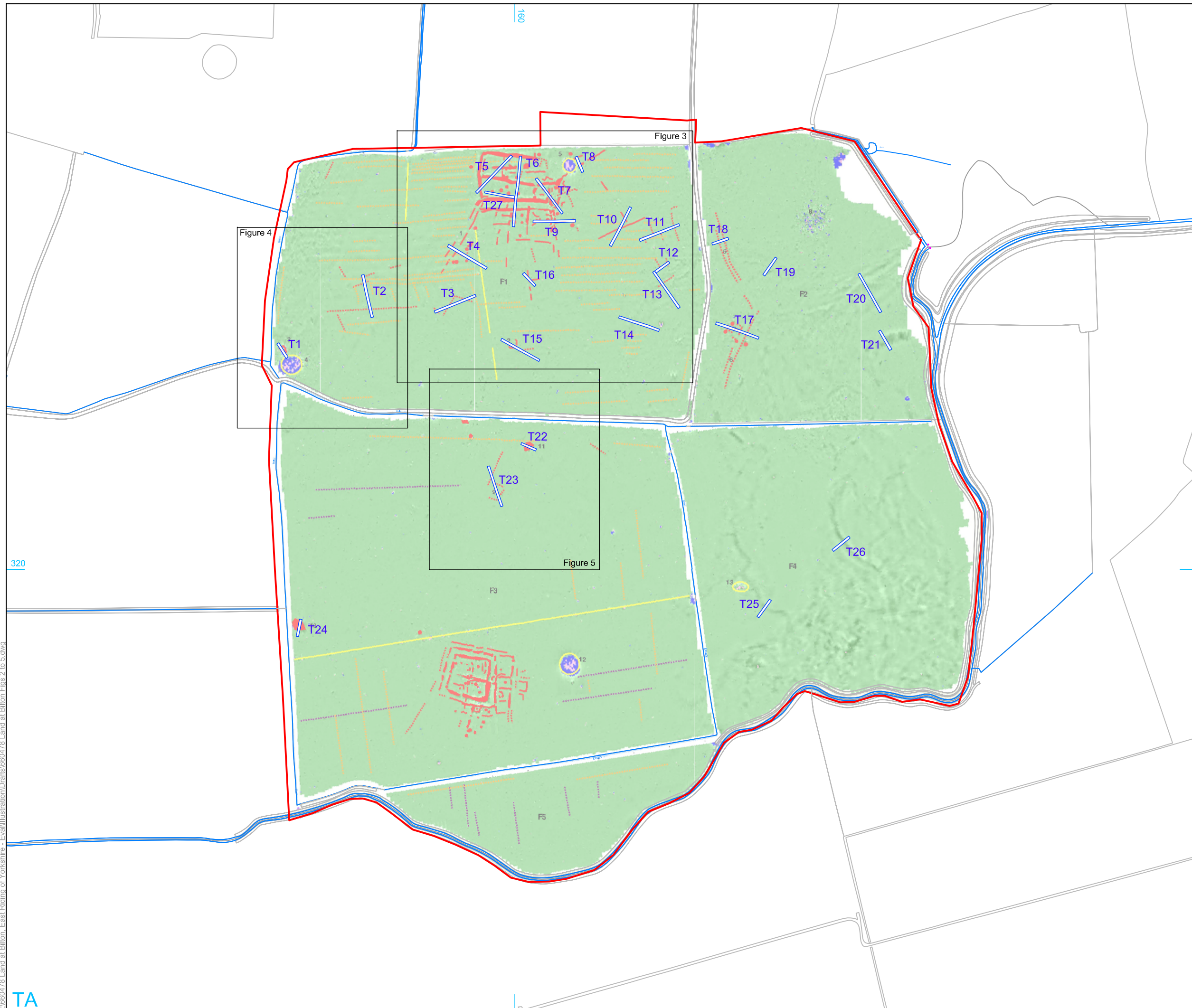
PROJECT TITLE
Proposed Solar Farm, Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan



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CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	18-06-2015	
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1



- site boundary
- evaluation trench

Geophysics Key (pre-construct geophysics)

- Stronger positive response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological ditches and pits typically respond magnetically within this range (typically +/- 10nT). Exceptions include fired material. Green scale predominately representative of weak natural features/processes.
- Stronger negative response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological/potential archaeological
- Land drain
- Recent boundary (historic maps)
- Former pond (historic maps)



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Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

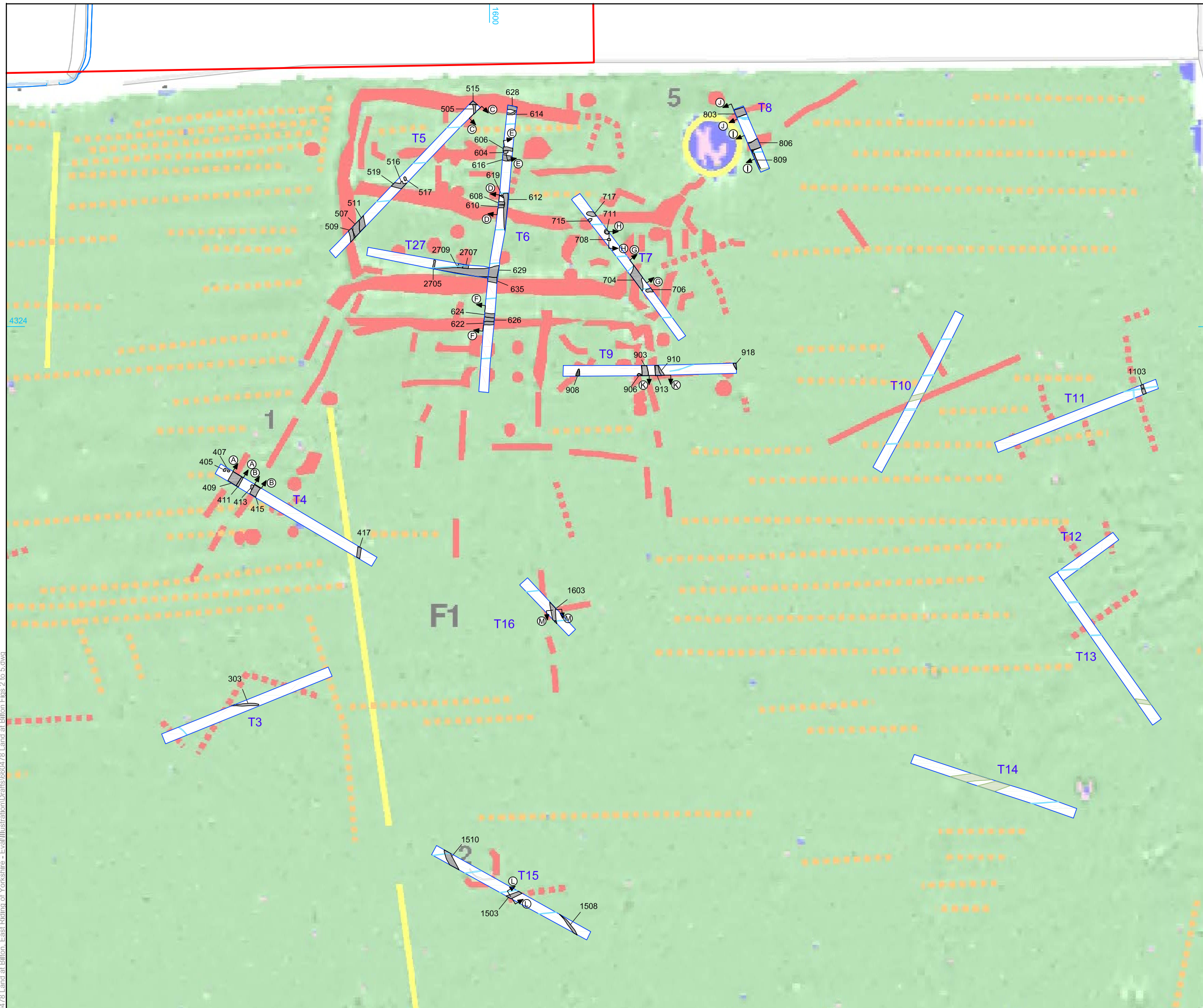
PROJECT TITLE
Proposed Solar Farm, Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan, showing geophysical interpretation results

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	15-07-2015	2
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE@A3	1:4000	

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- ▭ site boundary
- ▭ evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- modern
- field drain

Geophysics Key (pre-construct geophysics)

- ▬ Stronger positive response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- ▬ Archaeological ditches and pits typical response of magnetic within this range (typically +/- 10mT). Exceptions include fired material. Green scale predominately representative of weak natural features/processes.
- ▬ Stronger negative response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological potential archaeological
- ▬ Land drain
- ▬ Recent boundary (historic maps)
- Former pond (historic maps)



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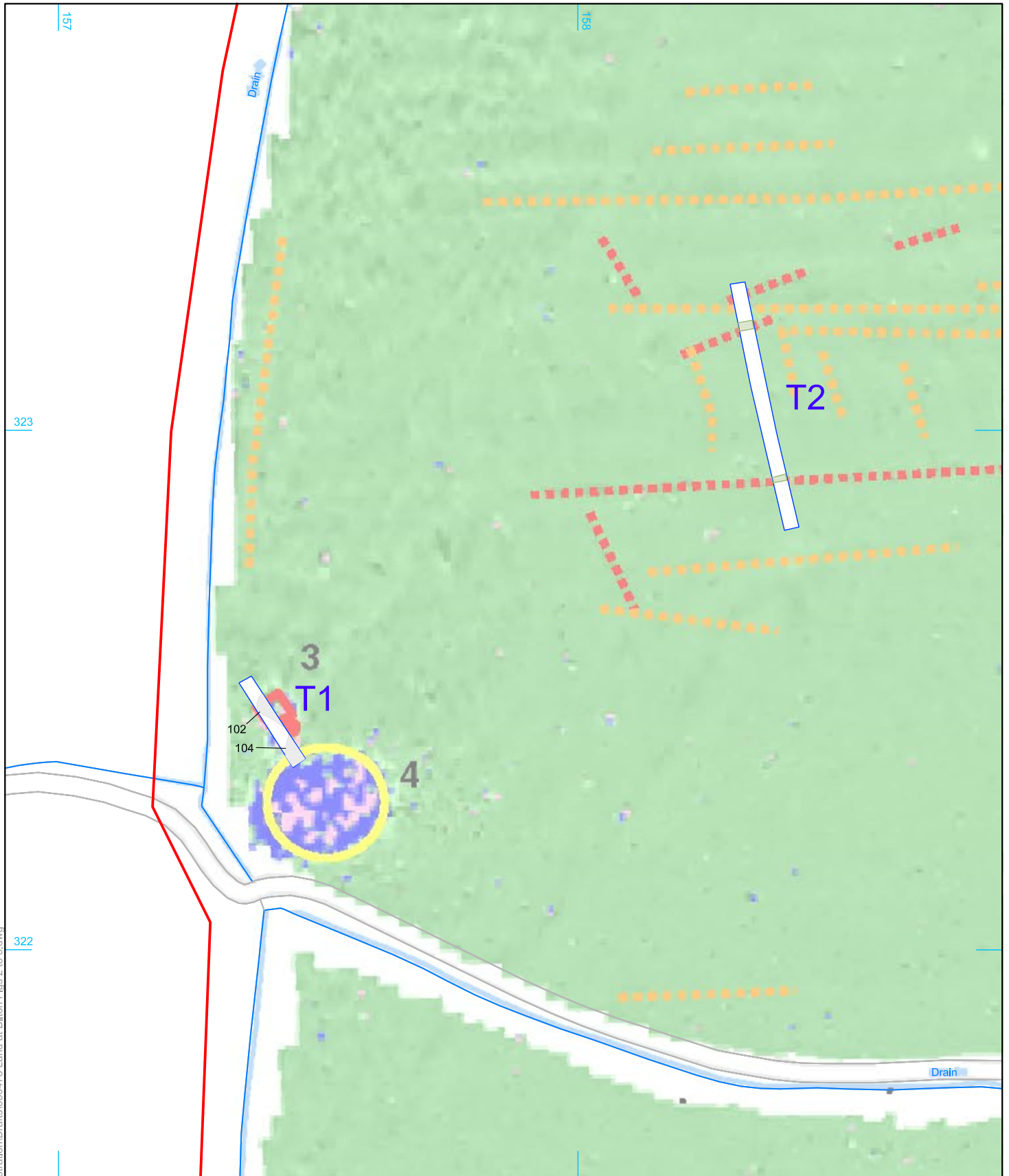
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 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	DJB/LJH	PROJECT NO.	660478	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	15-07-2015	3
APPROVED BY	DE	SCALE	A3 1:1000	

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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- furrow
- modern

Geophysics Key (pre-construct geophysics)



- Stronger positive response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological ditches and pits typical of pre-19th century sites (typically +/- 10nT). Exceptions include fired material. Greenscale predominately representative of weak natural features/processes.
- Stronger negative response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological/potential archaeological Land drain
- Recent boundary (historic maps)
- Former pond (historic maps)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
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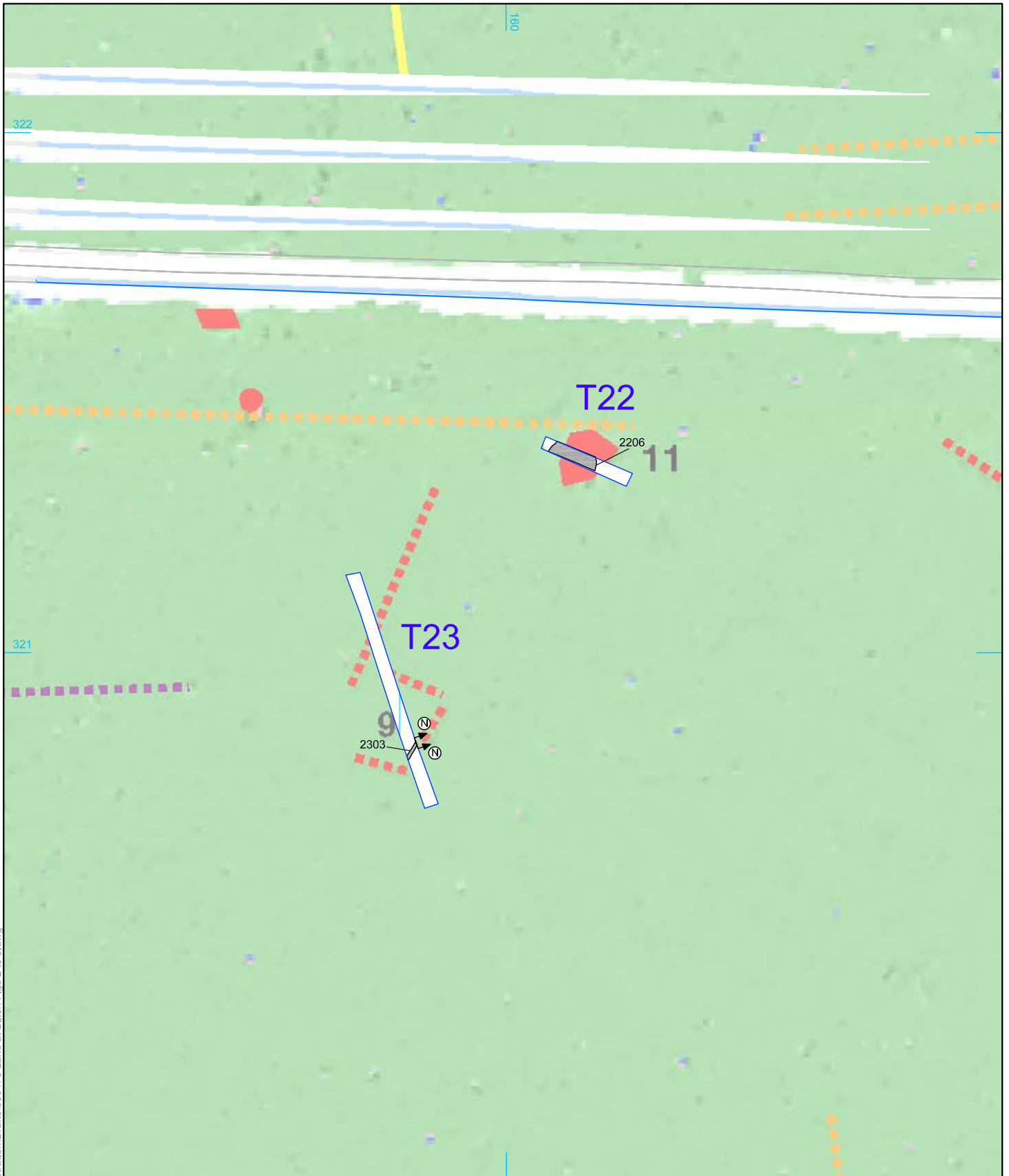
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Trenches 1 and 2, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

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 DATE 15/07/2015 SCALE@A4 1:1000

FIGURE NO.

4

0 50m



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- field drain
- modern

Geophysics Key (pre-construct geophysics)



- Stronger positive response - predominately modern, (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological ditches and pits typically respond magnetically within this range (typically +/- 10nT). Exceptions include fired material. Greenscale predominately representative of weak natural features/processes.
- Stronger negative response - predominately modern (rubble, iron objects, fencing, services, etc). Archaeological responses include those induced by industrial site (e.g kilns and furnaces), hearths and other sites subject to intense heat.
- Archaeological/potential archaeological
- Land drain
- Recent boundary (historic maps)
- Former pond (historic maps)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
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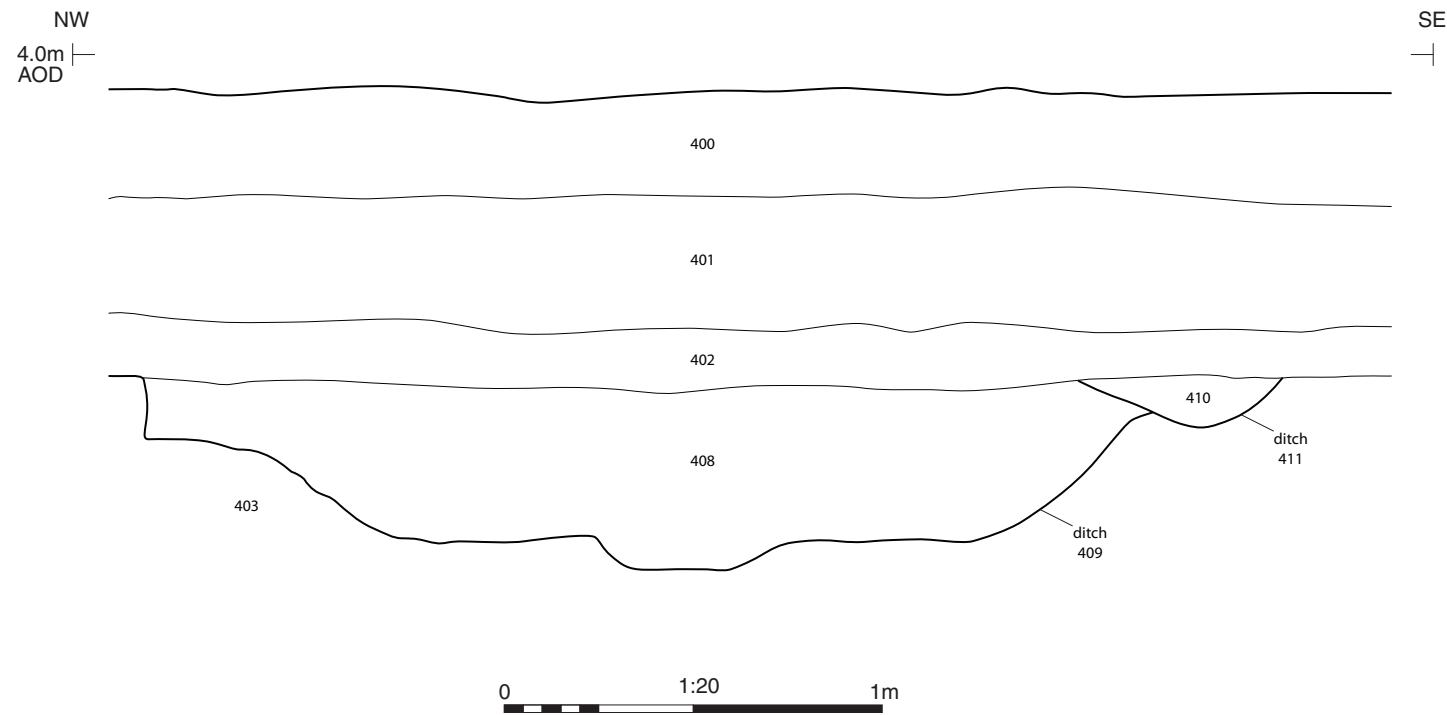
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 Proposed Solar Farm, Bilton, East Riding of Yorkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Trenches 22 and 23, showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

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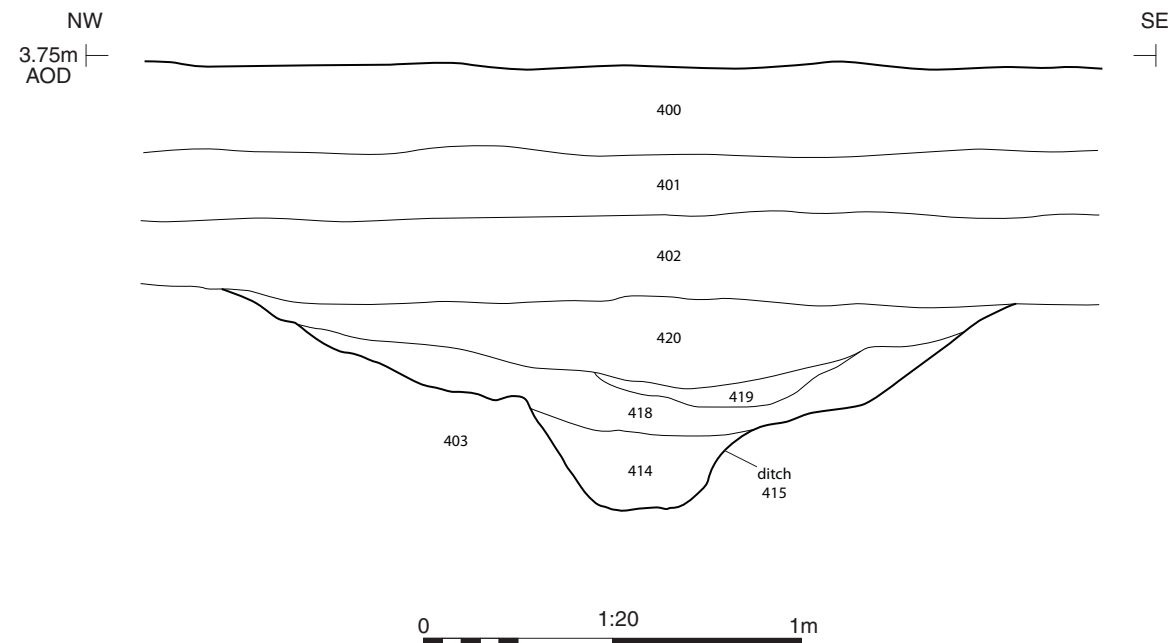
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Section AA



Ditch 409 and ditch 411, looking north-east (scale 1m)

Section BB



Ditch 415, looking north-east (scale 1m)

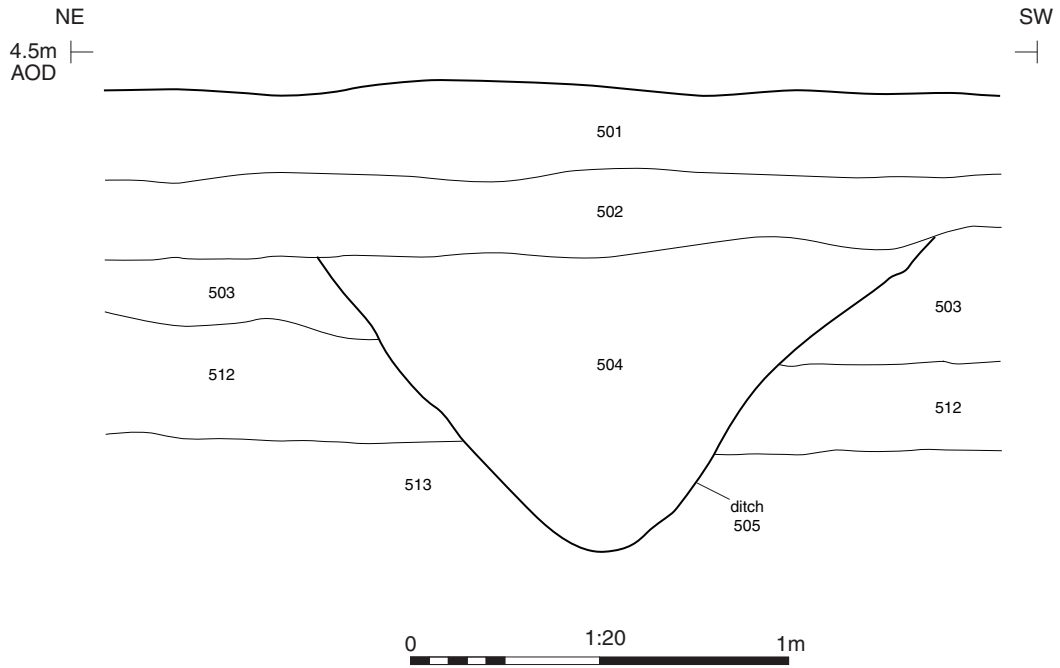
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 Exeter 01392 826185
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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 4: sections and photographs

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Oblique Section CC



Ditch 505, looking south (scale 1m)



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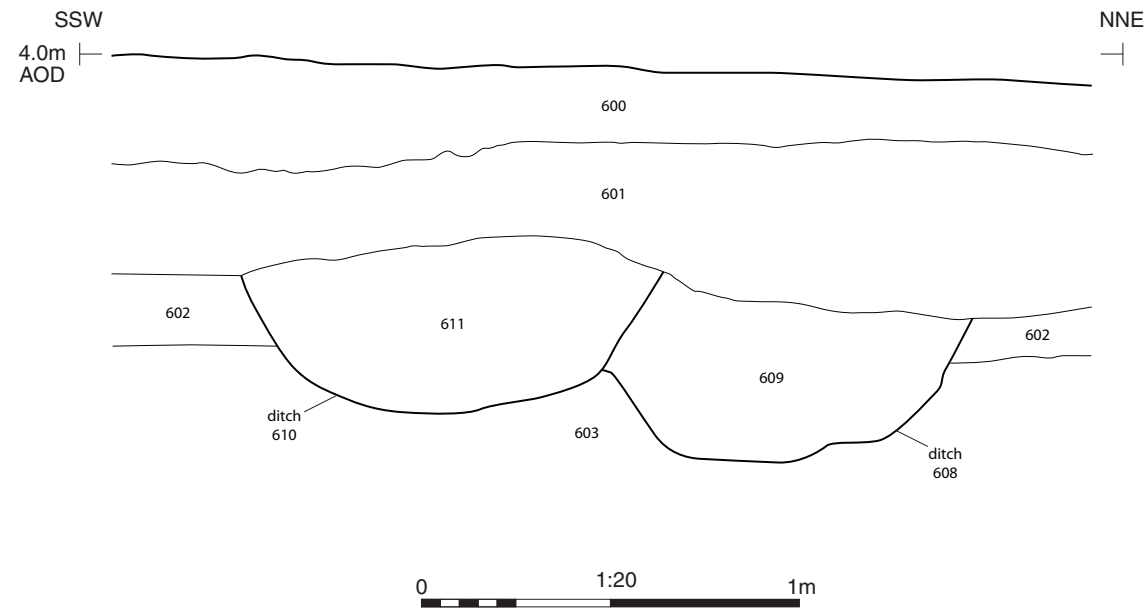
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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 5: section and photograph

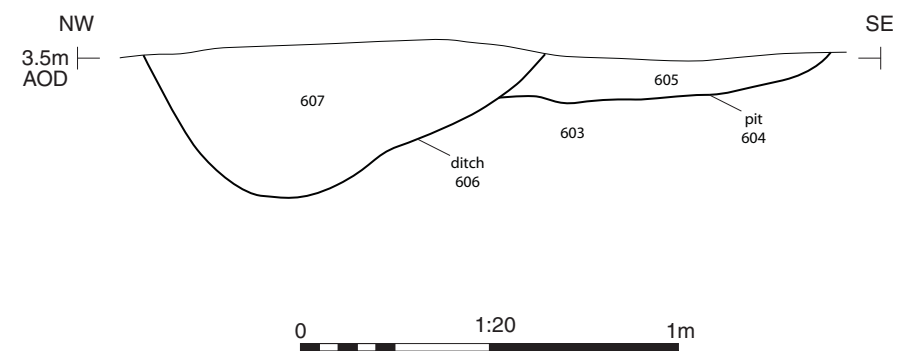
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Section DD



Ditches 608 and 610, looking west-north-west (scale 1m)

Section EE



Pit 604 and ditch 606, looking west-north-west (scale 1m)

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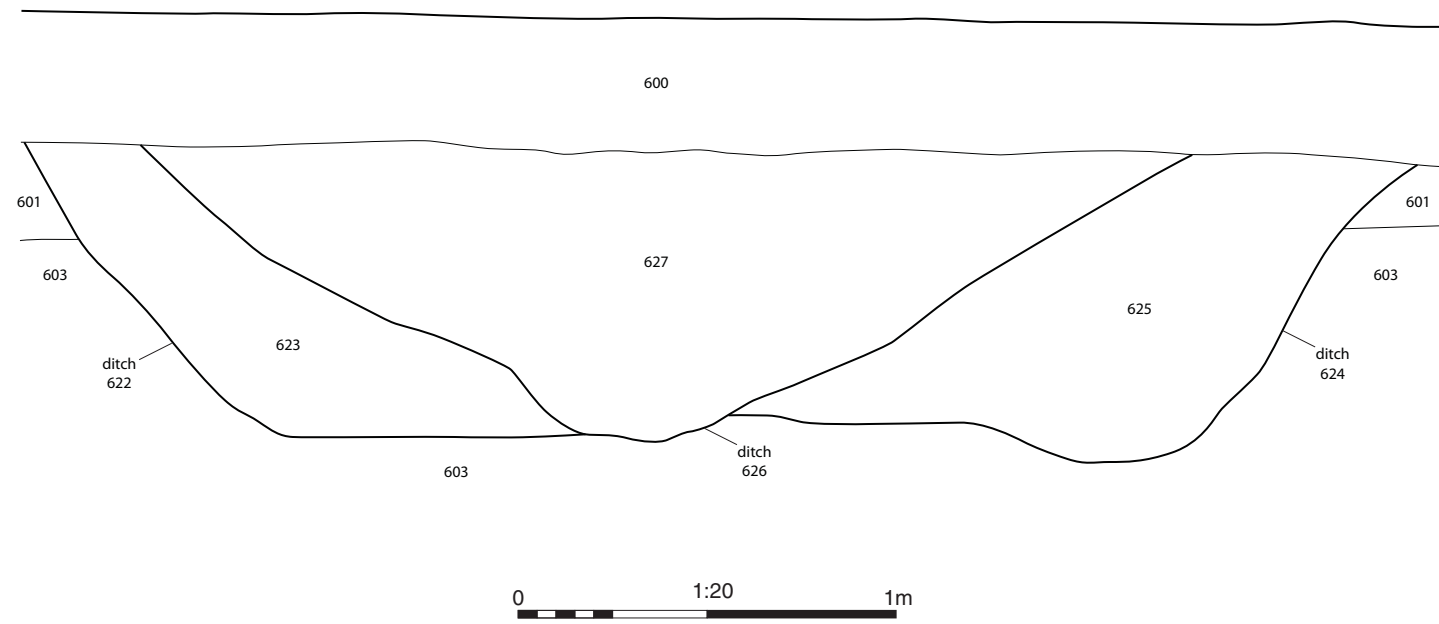
FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 6: sections and photographs

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Section FF

SSW
4.75m
AOD

NNE



Ditches 622 and recut 626, looking west-north-west (scale 2m)

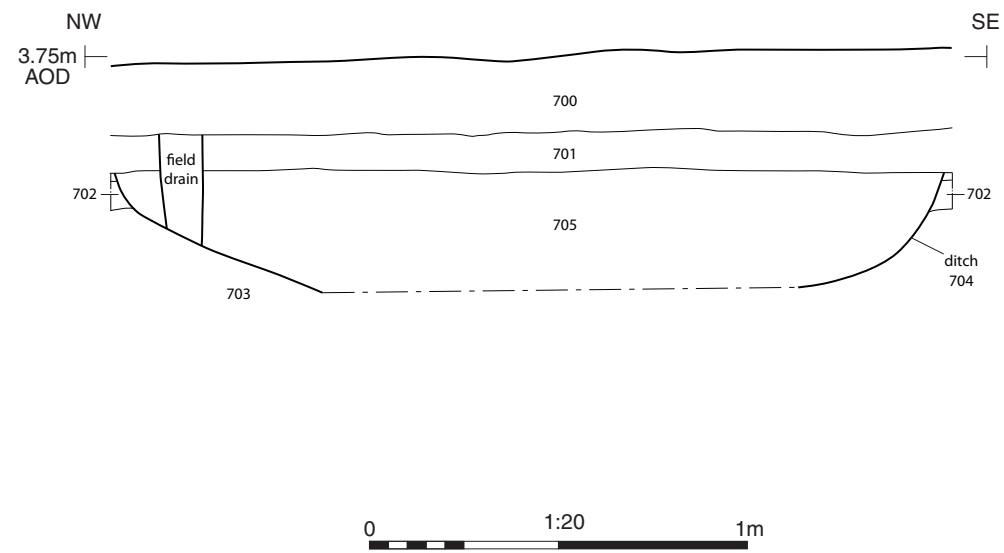

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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 6: section and photograph

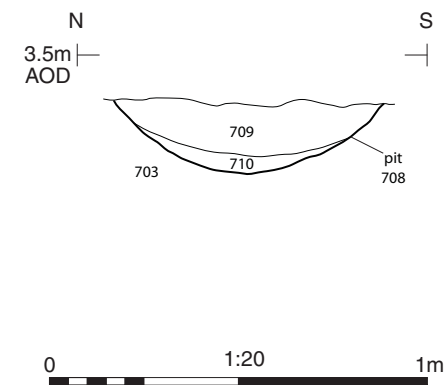
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Section GG



Ditch 704, looking north-east (scales 1m)

Section HH



Pit 708, looking east (scale 1m)

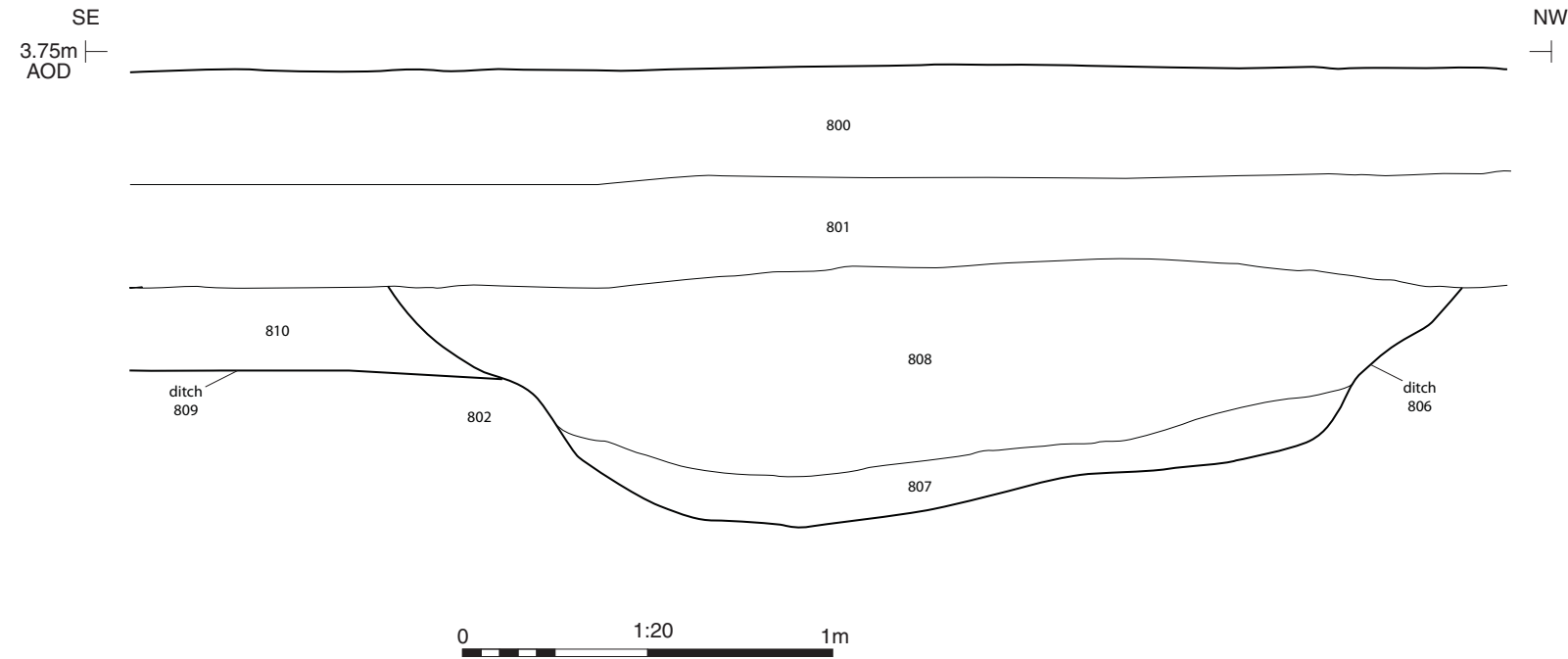
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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 7: sections and photographs

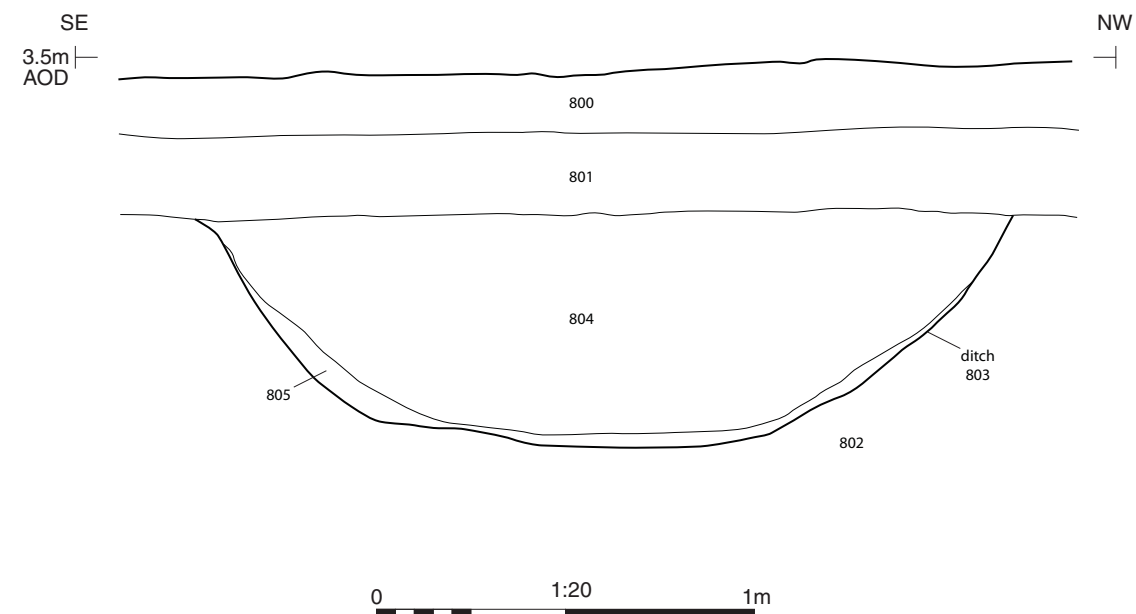
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Section II



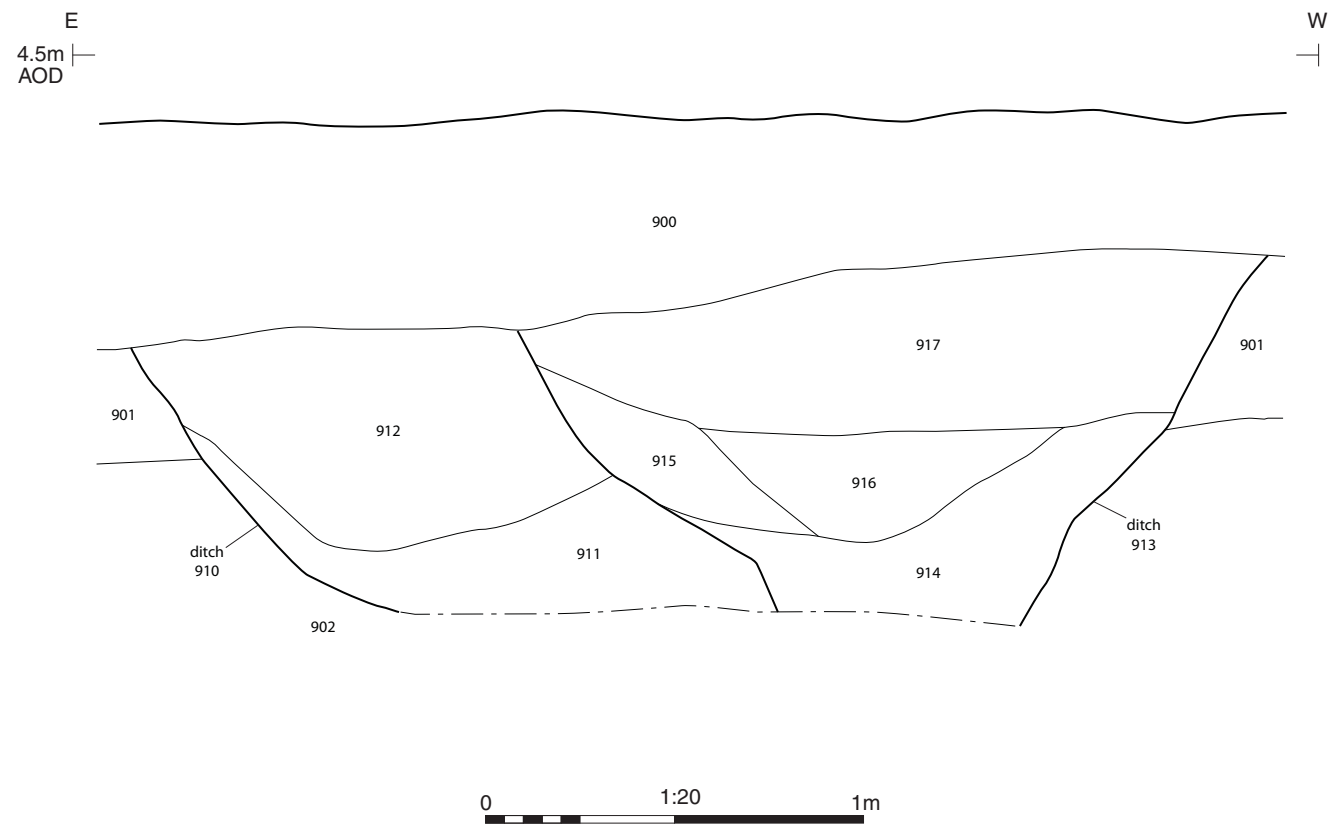
Ditches 809 and 806, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Section JJ



Ditch 803, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Section KK



Ditches 910 and 913, looking south (scale 1m)

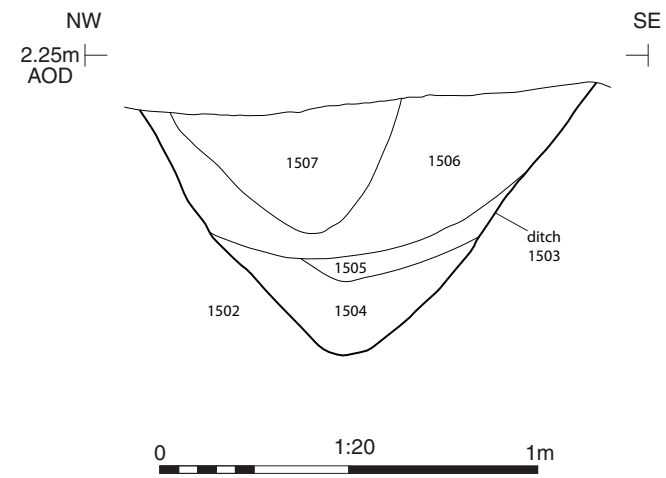

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 Andover 01264 347630
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 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
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 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 9: section and photograph

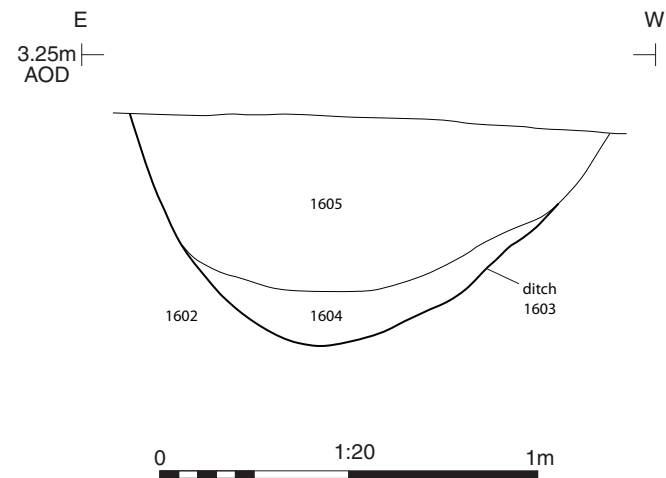
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Section LL



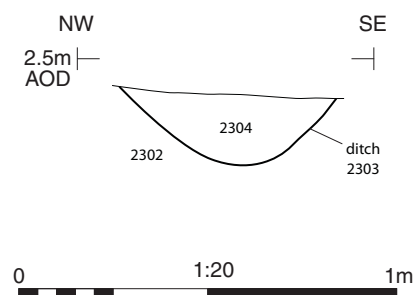
Ditch 1503, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Section MM



Ditch 1603, looking north-east (scale 1m)

Section NN



Ditch 2303, looking south-west (scale 1m)

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 8
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK1 3HA

t: 01908 564660