

**Land north of Bell Plantation  
Towcester  
Northamptonshire**

*Archaeological Evaluation*



for:  
*RPS Consulting*

on behalf of:  
*DHL*

CA Project: MK0471  
CA Report No.: MK0471\_2  
Event Number: ENN110242

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# Land north of Bell Plantation Towcester Northamptonshire

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	Land north of Bell Plantation
<b>Location:</b>	Towcester, Northamptonshire
<b>NGR:</b>	468603 250299
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	4 May – 3 June 2021
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Accession Number:</b>	ENN110242
<b>Site Code:</b>	BEP21

In May and June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land north of Bell Plantation, Towcester, Northamptonshire, at the request of RPS Consulting acting on behalf of DHL. A total of 93 trenches measuring 50m long by 2m wide were excavated across the proposed development site.

A preceding geophysical of the Site identified anomalies of probable and possible archaeological origin interpreted as multiple settlement complexes with possibly associated field systems of possible Late Prehistoric to Romano-British date. Areas of potential archaeological industrial activity were also identified within one of these complexes. Historical and modern agricultural activity is evident across the survey area in the form of several ridge and furrow regimes along with former field boundaries and modern ploughing trends.

The results of the trial trenching broadly confirmed those of preceding geophysical survey, although a high level of plough disturbance through the relatively thin ploughsoil was noted to affect feature preservation across the Site. The strongest geophysical anomalies corresponded well with features investigated in the evaluation trenches, although a number of weaker signals were not matched by features. Furrow preservation across the Site was similarly variable, with the geophysical survey recording a much denser system than was evident in the trenches; surviving furrow remains were also generally poorly preserved.

Early activity within the Site is represented by a small assemblage of lithics encountered in trench 32, including bladelets of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, and a small thumbnail scraper of possible Early Bronze Age date. While these objects were recovered

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from later features they nonetheless hint at the exploitation of the site and surrounding landscape during these periods.

The evaluation also identified three spatially distinct focal zones of activity within the Site, two of Late Iron Age – Early Roman date, comprising the remains of a ring ditch and rectangular enclosure in the north part of the Site and a smaller, square enclosure with possibly associated external activity in the south. The third area of activity, in the southwest corner of the Site, adjacent to Watling Street, produced evidence for activity in the Roman period, with pottery evidence suggesting a broad 2nd – 4th century date.

The pottery assemblage recovered from the Site comprises for the most part locally produced vessel types, with very little evidence for regional or imported wares. Analysis of environmental samples also suggested the proximity of some level of domestic settlement activity, producing evidence for hearth and food preparation waste. This would suggest the existence within the Site of one or more relatively self-sufficient later Iron Age farmsteads, which may have declined and/or shifted in use during the early Roman period following the establishment of the Roman settlement centre at Towcester in the mid to late 1st century AD.

The area of Roman activity in southwest part of the site does not appear to have been heavily Romanised, with little tile and virtually no high status or imported pottery having been recovered from the investigated features. The recovery of industrial waste and hammerscale from the Site, albeit in limited quantities suggest industrial processes were taking place in the vicinity.

Evidence for post-Roman activity within the Site is limited primarily to features relating to the agricultural management of the landscape although a pit in trench 13 contained a large number of heat-affected wheat and rye grains suggestive of crop processing within the Site; rye not having been introduced into England before the Middle Saxon period. The ridge and furrow system identified by the geophysical survey and confirmed by the trenching is illustrative of the ongoing agricultural use of the Site during the medieval and post-medieval and periods, a use that has continued through to the present.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In May and June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land north of Bell Plantation, Towcester, Northamptonshire (centred at NGR: 468603 250299); hereafter 'the Site'), at the request of RPS Consulting acting on behalf of DHL. The evaluation was undertaken to support development proposals for the Site.
- 1.2. Discussions between RPS Consulting and the Archaeological Advisor at North Northamptonshire Council (AANNC; Liz Mordue) have highlighted the potential for the Site to contain heritage assets of archaeological interest and determined that a programme of field evaluation be undertaken to inform the forthcoming planning application, in order to allow an informed assessment of the presence/absence, extent, and significance of any archaeological remains within the Site.
- 1.3. A programme of geophysical survey was consequently undertaken in December 2020 (Magnitude Surveys 2020). The scope of the trial trenching was determined in subsequent consultation between RPS Consulting and the AANNC, and the fieldwork was carried out in line with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2020), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.4. The Site consists of two arable fields. located c. 950m north of Towcester, and bounded by A5 Watling Street to the west, arable fields to the north, east and south, and woodland to the southwest. The northern, larger of the two fields is hereafter referred to as area 1 and the south field as area 2.
- 1.5. In area 2 and to the east and west edges of area 1 the underlying bedrock geology of the Site is mapped as mudstone of the Whitby Mudstone Formation, formed approximately 174 to 183 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. A band of Northampton sandstone, limestone and ironstone runs north to south through the centre of Area 1.

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- 1.6. No superficial deposits are recorded across the majority of the survey area, except for an area of Oadby Member diamicton which is recorded in the southern part of Area 1 and in the south-western part of Area 2 (British Geological Survey, 2021).
  - 1.7. The soils consist of slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (Soilscapes, 2021).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### Prehistoric

- 2.1. Little evidence for early prehistoric activity is recorded in the immediate vicinity of the Site, with recorded activity principally comprising stray findspots and lithic scatters. An unspecified quantity of struck flint flakes recovered at Bury Mount, c. 1200m to the south-east, have been attributed to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age. A further scatter of 87 flints recorded near to Bury Mount has also been attributed to the Bronze Age, although an alternative Late Neolithic date is possible. Investigations at Belle Baulk Farm, c.990m south of the Site, recorded a ditch and several pits containing significant quantities of burnt stone and charcoal residues. Radiocarbon analysis provided a Middle Bronze Age date of 1370-1130 BC.
- 2.2. Iron Age evidence within Towcester generally comprises dispersed findspots, such as coins (including a silver menander of Hellenic Bactria), pottery sherds and a scabbard chape mount, recorded between c. 930m and 1.3km south-east of the Site. Two sections of an Iron Age ditch were also recorded near to Bury Mount.
- 2.3. The location of a possible Middle Iron Age farmstead has been recorded c. 1km to the south-east of the Site, comprising a partial ring gully and several pits which produced a quantity of pottery sherds and charcoal residues providing a radiocarbon date of 330-204 BC. A small assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery sherds was recovered from a field at Bell Plantation, while the findspot of a single gold stater of Andoco (c. 10 BC - 10 AD) is also recorded from this locality (MoLA 2019a)..

### Roman

- 2.4. Roman activity within the area is characterised primarily by activity associated with *Lactodorum*, the settlement at the historic centre of present Towcester. The earliest Roman settlement dates to the mid-late 1st century AD, comprising a series of enclosures and roadside flanking ditches of Watling Street (road 1f; Margary 1973) and the Alchester Road (road 160a; *ibid*). The intersection of these routes and core

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of the Roman settlement lay c. 1km south-east from the Site. The true settlement developed during the late 1st century and early 2nd century, its importance suggested by the addition of further roads along the present Kings Sutton Road and possibly a Towcester-Duston road along the later boundary of Easton Neston Park. The c. 11.7ha settlement was enclosed by defensive works by c. 170 AD, comprising a stone wall with a wide bank to the rear and a series of ditches. Part of the eastern ditch is believed to have been preserved in the medieval mill leat. The Towcester Extensive Urban Survey (EUS; Taylor et al 2002) illustrates two nuclei of Roman settlement: one centred on the fortified crossroads and extending along these road routes, and a second slightly to the north along Watling Street. The Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (NHER) polygon joins these two locations with evidence of intervening Roman tenements, close to the River Tove, otherwise replicating the overall limits of settlement suggested by the EUS. The northern, extramural settlement evidence comprises further structural remains, occupational evidence, domestic artefact findspots and burials, along with possible evidence for metalworking industry.

2.5. More definitive evidence of Roman activity is represented along the eastern side of Watling Street. Archaeological investigations at Old Tiffield Road/Towcester Bypass, east of the Site, comprised evidence of well, ditches, pits and domestic refuse, suggesting an area of dwellings. Investigations at Bell Plantation, adjacent to the Site, recorded several phases of activity spanning the mid-1st to 3rd century, varying in character from agricultural, to mineral extraction and domestic. A single inhumation burial was also encountered, which, although undated, has been attributed to the Early Roman period (MoLA 2019). These remains suggest an area of Roman occupation extended northwards along the alignment of Watling Street, primarily focused on the eastern side of the Roman road in the vicinity of the Site.

2.6. Less conclusive evidence is recorded to the west of Watling Street. Fieldwalking to the south of the A5 in 1992 recovered just five sherds of Romano-British pottery, compared to 35 sherds at Old Tiffield Road c. 350m to the south during the same phase of investigation (NAU 1992). At Central Woolgrowers, south-east from the Site, observations made during the construction of an earlier building in 1975 noted the presence of human inhumations, Romano-British pottery and coins, though the exact locations were not recorded.



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- 2.7. More recent investigation here in 2009 recorded a Romano-British cremation burial, likely part of the larger former cemetery. Dense pockets of likely domestic evidence, comprising features and artefacts, were encountered during small-scale investigations to the immediate north of the Central Woolgrowers site, although no further funerary evidence was noted here.
- 2.8. A recent archaeological evaluation at Woolgrowers Field, circa 300m south of the Site, identified remains of Roman date including pits and a series of ditches seemingly extending back off Watling Street (CA 2021).

### Early medieval

- 2.9. Although little evidence is available to suggest 5th century occupation of Lactodorum, even less is suggestive of Early Saxon activity. Two sherds of Early-Middle Saxon pottery were recovered from near Bury Mount, c. 1.2km south-east from the Site, and three further sherds from a possible defensive ditch. Closer to the Site, part of an Anglo-Saxon brooch was recovered in 1987 from the topsoil to the east of Watling Street while, more recently, an archaeological evaluation of land to the south of the Site and the A5, at Woolgrowers Field, recovered a quantity of Early Saxon pottery, found in association with a bone pin, in a large ditch or pit feature (CA 2021).
- 2.10. Several sections of Anglo-Saxon, or possibly Early Norman, defensive works have been encountered at Towcester, overlaying or reusing the Roman walls and ditches. The largest cluster of these locations, provided by the NHER, does not correlate with the projected circuit of the Roman defences, also provided by the NHER. Edward the Elder (r. 899-924) reportedly ordered the refortification of Towcester against the Danes in 921 which may have included a smaller, central redoubt within the old Roman walls. Furthermore, Watling Street, to the immediate east of the Site, is recorded to have formed the boundary between the Saxon kingdoms and the Danelaw, established during the 10th century (Taylor et al 2002). The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle documents an unsuccessful Danish assault on Towcester (Giles 1914), although no archaeological evidence has been recovered in relation to this.

### Medieval

- 2.11. It is unlikely that Towcester (derived from Tove-ceaster – Roman settlement on the River Tove – University of Nottingham 2020) recovered to reflect its Roman extent and prosperity during the medieval period, although by the end of Saxon rule it is understood to have been at the centre of a royal estate (Taylor et al 2002). At the

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time of the 1086 Domesday Survey it was recorded as just 16 households and a mill, owned by the Crown (Open Domesday 2020). This mill has been suggested to lay at North Mill Field, c. 830m south-east from the Site, which reused the town's eastern defensive ditch as a leat.

- 2.12. The extent of settlement at Towcester during the medieval period is not known with certainty, although post-medieval maps, such as Jeffreys's map of 1791 and the 1845 Towcester Parish Tithing Map, suggest that it was largely confined to the limits of the Roman walls, with some extension to the south-east along Watling Street known as Nether End (Taylor et al 2002).
- 2.13. The hinterland beyond the settlement was likely employed in agricultural use, irrigated by the River Tove and its tributaries. The Open Fields Project (original source not available – data from NHER) recorded large tracts of medieval cultivation and meadow either side of the river, including to the immediate north-west of the Site. Typically identified by surviving ridge and furrow earthworks, the cultivation evidence within the Site is corroborated by the results of the recent geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2020). Further such earthworks have been encountered along Old Tiffield Road, c. 350m south from the Site, truncating underlying Roman settlement features.

#### **Post-medieval and modern**

- 2.14. The importance of Towcester during the post-medieval period is suggested by the intersection of several key road routes at the town, and also by its fortification during the English Civil War (1642-49) as a settlement of strategic importance.
- 2.15. The Old Stratford to Dunchurch Turnpike followed Roman Watling Street, the Towcester to Weston-On-The-Green/Brackley Turnpike followed Kings Sutton Road and the Towcester to Cotton End Turnpike followed the possible Towcester-Duston Roman road. As these were established upon the Roman routes, it is likely that the earlier surfaces were preserved and maintained to some extent throughout the medieval period. Towcester therefore developed alongside the coaching industry from the mid-18th century, seeing the establishment of several inns, blacksmiths and ostlers (Taylor et al 2002).
- 2.16. The first detailed plan of Towcester is provided by Jeffreys' 1791 map, illustrating settlement along Watling Street and to a lesser extent along Kings Sutton Road. Jeffreys' layout of the town was maintained throughout the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century,

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as illustrated by the 1812 Ordnance Survey Drawing and 1845 Towcester Parish Tithe Map. The town began to expand with the construction of the Northampton & Banbury Junction Railway in 1866. Towcester Station was situated c. 230m south-east of the Site and became a hub for commercial and industry activity during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

### **Geophysical survey**

- 2.17. A magnetometer survey was carried out in September 2020 to establish the potential of the Site to contain remains of archaeological interest and to inform the location of the trial trenches (Magnitude Surveys 2020).
- 2.18. Anomalies of probable and possible archaeological origin were identified across a large portion of the survey area and have been interpreted as multiple settlement complexes with possibly associated field systems of possible Late Prehistoric to Romano-British date. Various different forms of enclosures were identified, including a potential pentagonal enclosure and multiple possible roundhouses. Areas of potential archaeological industrial activity were also identified within one of these complexes. The survey also detected bands of ironstone, sandstone and limestone which may have masked weaker anomalies in small sections of the survey area. Historical and modern agricultural activity is evident across the survey area in the form of several ridge and furrow regimes along with former field boundaries and modern ploughing trends. The impact of magnetic interference from modern infrastructure is limited to from material in field edges (Magnitude 2020).

## **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1. The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information to allow West Northamptonshire Council (WNC), as advised by the AANNC, to make an informed assessment about the archaeological resource within the Site, including the presence/ absence, extent and significance of any archaeological remains that are identified and the likely impact of the proposed development on that significance, in order to avoid or minimise conflict between the conservation of those heritage asset and any aspect of the development proposals. This process is in line with policies contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019). A further objective of the project was to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.
- 3.2. The specific objective of the evaluation is to investigate the potential enclosures and other features identified by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2020) and to

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confirm the presence or absence of any archaeological features in those areas which appear blank on the geophysical survey results.

- 3.3. Where significant archaeological remains have been identified this report has sought to place them in their local and regional context with regard to the *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (Cooper 2006), *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012) and the *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework* (EMHERF, <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/>).

## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of 93no. 50m long by 2m wide trenches in the locations shown on figure 2. The trench plan was designed to investigate anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2020), to test the apparently blank areas in the survey results and as a means of prospection for remains of a type or period that may not respond to geophysical survey.
- 4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. A total of 14 bulk samples were recovered (see below).
- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the

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legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020). The requirements of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Archive Standards (Donnelly-Symes 2020) will be followed throughout.

- 4.7. 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 are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the Site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C. An overall trench plan is presented as figure 2 with figures 3 to 11 comprising a series of plans covering the Site at a larger scale, showing the trenches, geophysical anomalies, and excavated features. Photographs of a selection of blank trenches are presented in figure 12, and sections and photographs of a selection of excavated features and furrows in figures 13 to 30.
- 5.2. The results of the fieldwork broadly confirmed those of the preceding geophysical survey; several spatially distinct areas within the Site were seen to contain archaeological remains which corresponded well with the strongest of the geophysical anomalies. It was noted however that due to the shallow nature of the topsoil across the Site, and resulting heavy modern plough truncation, feature preservation was adversely affected. Consequently, some of the weaker geophysical anomalies could also not be matched to any features in the excavated trenches, although it is possible that some anomalies in fact did not represent archaeological features but rather reflected changes in the highly variable natural geology. Furrow preservation across the Site was similarly variable, and those furrows that were observed and investigated in a number of trenches appeared relatively poorly preserved.

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### Geology and blank trenches

- 5.3. The natural substrate was encountered across the Site at depths between 0.26m and a maximum of 0.8m, and was observed to vary substantially, with mid yellow/blue clay, mid red brown silty clay, bands of mudstone/ironstone formation, as well as areas of mid red/grey sandy clay, all recorded across the Site area. Across most trenches the natural substrate was directly overlain by ploughsoil comprising dark grey brown silty clay; although trenches 12-15, 30, 32-34, and 82 were seen to contain localised subsoil deposits.
- 5.4. The following trenches contained no archaeological features and will not be discussed further as part of this report: 1, 3-4, 6, 11, 20-22, 24, 33, 38-40, 42, 47, 53, 57, 59, 77-78, 81-82, 84, 88, and 90.

### Furrows (Fig. 3-11, 13)

- 5.5. Trenches 2, 8, 12, 16-19, 23, 25-28, 31, 34, 41, 43, 45, 51-52, 54-56, 58, 60, 67, 70-71, 74, 76, 79, 83, 85, 89, and 91-93 contained only the remains of furrows associated with previous ridge and furrow cultivation of the area. Furrows were also observed in a number of trenches containing other features (see Fig. 3-11).
- 5.6. In broad terms, the furrows observed as part of the trial trenching corresponded well with the geophysical survey results. In the northern field, the furrows followed the northeast/southwest alignment indicated by the geophysical anomalies, although the varying distances between recorded furrows appear to suggest an element of reorganisation, seemingly via the subdivision of originally wider strips to form additional, narrower, strips after the initial ridge and furrow system had been established. While the geophysical survey indicated two areas close to the westernmost corner of the northern field (around trench 2, and around trenches 22 and 23) with furrows on a different, NW – SE, alignment to that mapped across the rest of the Site, physical evidence for this in the excavated trenches was sparse. No furrows were seen in trenches 22 or 23, and only a single remnant furrow base survived in trench 2.
- 5.7. Furrow 202, running on a northwest/southeast alignment measured 1.9m wide and 0.09m deep, and contained a single fill (203) of mid grey red brown silty clay which produced no finds. The relatively poor feature preservation in this part of the Site is most likely explained by the thin ploughsoil which offers very little protection from modern plough truncation.



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5.8. In trench 36, a total of five furrows were observed, forming part of the main northeast/southwest aligned ridge and furrow system. As a typical example, furrow 3604 measured 1.24m wide and 0.10m deep (see Fig. 13). The sterile single fill (3605) comprised a mid red brown silty clay.

5.9. The ridge and furrow system at the south end of the southern field appeared to trend from a northeast-southwest orientation to an east-west alignment, also seen in the geophysical survey results, most likely reflecting part of reverse-S curve resulting from this method of ploughing. In trench 87, a total of seven remnant furrows were observed. Furrow 8705 measured 0.95m wide and 0.16m deep and was filled by a single deposit (8706) of light yellow grey brown silty clay. Elsewhere in this field the furrows (both those recorded in the trenches and the alignments identified by the geophysical survey) more closely match the northeast/southwest alignment seen in the northern field.

#### **Trench 9 (Figs 11 & 14)**

5.10. In trench 9 a large, shallow pit (904/906; see Fig. 14) was investigated which broadly matched a discrete geophysical anomaly. The pit measured 3.1m wide by 0.35m deep, with moderately sloping straight sides and a slightly concave base, and contained a single fill (905/907) of dark grey brown silty sand that produced pottery and animal bone fragments.

5.11. Slightly to the north of pit 904/906, a smaller pit (902) was also excavated. This feature measured 0.4m in diameter and 0.09m deep, with steep, straight sides and a flat base. A single fill (903) of dark brown grey silty clay produced fragments of pottery and animal bone.

#### **Trench 13 (Figs 11 & 15)**

5.12. The features investigated in trench 13 did not correspond with any geophysical anomalies, and conversely those anomalies that were recorded did not correspond with any sub-surface features with the exception of one remnant furrow.

5.13. Ditch 1302 crossed the northwest end of the trench on a northeast/southwest alignment and survived to a maximum width of 0.27m and depth of 0.48m. The feature contained a single deposit (1303) of mid red grey silty clay that produced pottery fragments. This was truncated by a heavily root disturbed possible recut of the ditch (1304), which measured 0.9m wide and 0.48m deep, with steep, slightly

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irregular sides and a narrow, concave base. The recut contained a single fill (1305) of dark brown grey silty clay which produced no finds.

- 5.14. Near the middle of the trench a sondage slot was excavated in the area of what appeared to be a large spread or levelling layer (1312). This was seen to overlay an earlier possible ditch terminus (1313) which extended into the trench from the northeast, with a visible length of 1.03m, width of 0.83m, and depth of 0.25m. The terminus contained a single sterile fill (1314) of light orange grey silty sand.
- 5.15. Spread 1312 was truncated by a wide, shallow feature, 1310, with a visible width of 1.52m and depth of 0.42m. This was filled by a deposit (1311) of mid brown grey silty clay which contained no finds. This in turn was cut by a pit, 1308, measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.2m deep, filled by a single deposit (1309) of dark blue grey silty clay with relatively large proportions of charcoal and animal bone. This fill also contained a large assemblage of grain processing waste, recovered during the processing of bulk environmental soil sample (see section below). The presence of rye in this sample indicates a Middle Saxon or later date for this feature.

#### **Trench 14 (Figs 11 & 16)**

- 5.16. In trench 14 a set of intercutting ditches, 1404 and 1407, were seen to match a large curvilinear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. The earlier, southernmost, ditch (1407) measured in excess of 1.7m wide and 0.42m deep, with a moderately sloping straight side and flat base. The feature was filled by a single deposit (1408) of mid orange brown silty clay, which contained pottery fragments.
- 5.17. Ditch 1407 was truncated on its northern side by recut 1404, a u-shaped ditch with steep, slightly concave sides and a concave base, with a width of 2.4m and depth of 1.17m. A basal fill (1406), measuring 0.43m thick and composed of mid grey brown silty clay which included pottery fragments, was overlain by an upper deposit (1405) of dark orange brown silty clay 0.68m thick, which also produced sherds of pottery.
- 5.18. Two furrows corresponding with northeast/southwest anomalies identified by the geophysical survey were recorded in the northern half of the trench.

#### **Trench 15 (Fig 10)**

- 5.19. A linear geophysical anomaly predicted to run through the northwest end of the trench, as a potential continuation of an anomaly also running through trench 5, broadly corresponded with a very thin band of silty material less than 0.05m thick

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(1505). To the southwest of this was ditch (1502), which measured 3.3m wide by 0.44m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, and contained a single deposit (1503) of mid brown grey sandy silt. Although this feature did not correspond with any geophysical anomalies it was on the same alignment and potentially the continuation of a curving anomaly, presumably a ditch, located to the northwest. Another linear anomaly projected to run through the central part of the trench did not have any corresponding sub-surface feature.

#### **Trench 29 (Fig. 8)**

- 5.20. Trench 29 contained five furrows and two pits, 2902 and 2904, both of which were undated.

#### **Trench 32 (Fig. 6)**

- 5.21. Trench 32 contained three features, pits 3202 and 3206 and a layer. At the southwest end of the trench, small pit or posthole 3202 was 0.4m in diameter by 0.13m deep and contained a single undated fill. To the northeast was shallow pit 3206, which was 3.4m wide by 0.38m deep, extending out of the trench to the north and south. The single fill of dark grey brown silty sand (3207) produced a variety of finds including pottery of Roman date and industrial waste including small quantities of probable hammerscale recovered from a bulk environmental soil sample and what may be fragments from a hearth associated with the smithing of iron.
- 5.22. Covering the southeast half of the trench, which sloped downhill to the east from the approximate midpoint of the trench, was layer 3209/ 3211, which was interpreted as a layer of soil wash/ sediment that had accumulated in a shallow depression on the east facing slope. Pottery of 2nd – 4th century date was recovered from this layer but due to the suggested depositional environment may not provide a reliable date for the feature.
- 5.23. At the east end of the trench was posthole 3204, which cut the soil layer and was approximately 0.3m in diameter by 0.12m deep. The single fill did not produce any dating evidence.

#### **Trench 35 (Fig 6)**

- 5.24. Trench 35 contained two features, shallow ditch/ gully 3502, which measured 0.7m wide by 0.08m deep and contained a single undated fill of mid yellow-brown silt clay, and small pit 3504, which contained a single fill of mid grey-brown silt clay (3505) that produced a single sherd of Late Prehistoric Pottery and animal bone.

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### **Trench 36 (Figs 6 & 17)**

- 5.25. Trench 36 was targeted on geophysical anomalies relating to a large rectangular enclosure with potential internal activity, as well as a number of furrows. A total of five furrows were recorded and are discussed in 5.8 above.
- 5.26. The enclosure ditch indicated by the geophysical survey was encountered in the form of roughly east/west aligned ditch 3606, measuring 1.55m wide and 0.58m deep, with steep, slightly irregular sides and a narrow, concave base. The feature was filled by a single deposit (3607) of mid red brown silty clay which contained no finds, with the top of the fill truncated by furrow 3608.

### **Trench 37 (Fig 6)**

- 5.27. The suggested north/south aligned return of the enclosure boundary seen in trench 36 was also observed in trench 37, as northeast/southwest aligned ditch 3702. The feature dimensions notably differed from those of 3606, measuring 1.17m wide and 0.27m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The single fill (3703), comprised a mid yellow brown silty clay containing pottery.

### **Trench 46 (Figs 7 & 18)**

- 5.28. Trench 46 contained three furrows and a small northeast/southwest aligned ditch (4602) broadly corresponding with the line of an L-shaped geophysical anomaly. Measuring 1m wide and 0.14m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, it contained a single fill (4603) of light yellow brown silty clay that produced no finds.
- 5.29. The possible continuation of the ditch was observed in trench 44, where a feature corresponding with the geophysical anomaly was recorded in plan.

### **Trench 48 (Figs 5 & 19)**

- 5.30. A total of 5 furrows were observed in trench 48, matching the northeast/southwest alignment indicated by the geophysical survey. In addition, broadly corresponding with a linear anomaly was intercutting pit 4802 and ditch 4805. Large pit 4802 was measured greater than 1.8m long, approximately 1.5m wide, and 0.62m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. A basal fill (4803) of dark orange grey silty clay produced fragments of pottery and was overlain by a sterile upper deposit (4804) comprising light yellow grey silty sand.
- 5.31. The pit was truncated by a likely ditch terminus, 4805, measuring 1.24m long, 1.15m wide and 0.46m deep, with steep, straight sides and a concave base. The feature

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contained two fills, a sterile possible slumping or deliberate backfill deposit (4806/4807) composed of mid yellow grey silty clay, and an upper fill (4808) of dark orange brown silty clay which contained fragments of pottery.

#### **Trench 49 (Fig. 5 & 20)**

- 5.32. A series of small ditches were investigated across trenches 49, 69 and 73. While the features were relatively shallow and poorly preserved, the alignments broadly match linear geophysical anomalies forming a large L-shaped enclosure running north-south through trench 49, as ditch 4904, before turning north east and running across trench 69 (ditch 6902). The line of a furrow may obscure the ditch in the northern end of trench 68 or it may have been entirely removed here by ploughing. Similarly, a very thin patch of silty material observed in the western end of trench 72 may represent a highly truncated eastern north-south return.
- 5.33. In the central part of the trench, ditch 4904 ran north – south across the trench, broadly corresponding with a linear anomaly seemingly forming one side of a trackway or enclosure. Measuring 1.8m wide by only 0.09 deep, it contained an undated single fill of mid brown clay.
- 5.34. At the east end of the trench were ditches 4902 and 4906 (unexcavated), and probable pit 4906 (unexcavated). Ditches 4902 and 4906 broadly correspond with a NNW-SSE aligned linear anomaly with, allowing for a small margin of positional accuracy in the plotting of the survey results, ditch 4902 considered to correspond with the anomaly. Measuring 1.24m wide by only 0.17m deep, it contained a single fill that contained equal quantities of Roman and post-medieval pottery. The geophysical survey indicates ditch 4902 continues to the southeast, where it was investigated in trench 73 as section 7302.

#### **Trench 50 (Fig. 5)**

- 5.35. Trench 50 contained a oval pit (5002), measuring 0.96m long by 0.46m wide and 0.21m deep. The single fill (5003) of light gery brown silt clay was undated. No evidence was seen for any features corresponding with a number of geophysical anomalies crossing the trench.

#### **Trench 61 (Fig. 7)**

- 5.36. Trench 61 was positioned to investigate a number of anomalies including furrows and a possible enclosure. Five furrows were identified, all corresponding with linear trends, and one shallow ditch/ gully, 6102, which broadly corresponded with an east

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– west orientated anomaly that appears to represent the south side of a rectangular enclosure. The feature was 0.4m wide by 0.15m deep and the single fill of mid grey brown silt clay produced no finds. To the south was undated ovoid pit 6104, which also contained a single undated fill.

#### **Trench 62 (Fig. 7)**

- 5.37. Trench 62 was also positioned to investigate a number of linear anomalies, only one of which was confirmed within the trench. Ditch 6202 corresponded with a short anomaly on a different alignment to the ridge and furrow in this part of the Site and possibly representing an internal division within a funnel-shaped enclosure visible on the geophysics. Measuring 0.53m wide by only 0.03m deep, seemingly having been heavily plough truncated, ditch 6202 contained a single fill of mid grey brown silt clay that produced a small amount of pottery and tile of broad Roman date.

#### **Trench 63 (Figs 7 & 21)**

- 5.38. Trench 63 was targeted on geophysical anomalies relating to possible settlement or other activity adjacent to the line of Watling Street, but only one northwest/southeast aligned ditch (6302) was encountered within the trench, matching a strong linear anomaly. The feature measured 1.12m wide and 0.31m deep, with steep straight sides and a flat base. A single fill (6303) of mid grey red brown silty clay produced pottery of early – mid 1st Century date, with a fragment of tile (CBM) suggesting a post-Conquest date.

#### **Trench 64 (Figs 7 & 22-23)**

- 5.39. Trench 64, also located in the area of possible settlement adjacent to Watling Street, also revealed a number of features broadly matching geophysical anomalies, with three features investigated in detail and another three recorded in plan.
- 5.40. Near the centre of the trench a partially exposed pit (6402) was excavated, measuring 1.22m long, 0.94m wide and 0.14m deep. The feature contained a single fill (6403) comprising dark brown grey silty clay that produced no finds.
- 5.41. Further to the northwest a furrow-truncated ditch, 6406, was investigated. The feature, which matched a northwest/southeast aligned linear geophysical anomaly, survived to a width of 1.42m and depth of 0.27m and contained a single sterile fill (6407) of dark brown grey silty clay. The top of the ditch was truncated by furrow 6408, running northeast/southwest with a surviving depth of 0.09m.



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- 5.42. Near the northwest end of the trench, ditch 6404 appeared to match a short linear geophysical anomaly. The feature measured 1.2m wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a flat base filled by a single deposit (6405) of dark brown grey silty clay which produced fragments of pottery and animal bone. A sherd of post-medieval modern pottery from the feature may be intrusive, most likely incorporated into the upper part of the fill via agricultural operations/ crop root action.

#### **Trench 65 (Figs 7 & 24-25)**

- 5.43. Three features revealed in trench 65 broadly matched linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey; a fourth was recorded in plan that did not match an anomaly.
- 5.44. Ditch 6502 crossed the western end of the trench on a northwest/southeast alignment, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep, with steep, concave sides and a concave base. The feature contained a single deposit (6503) of mid brown grey silty clay which produced no finds.
- 5.45. Further to the east, ditch 6504 was observed running on a parallel alignment to 6502, with a similar profile and a width of 1.07m and depth of 0.2m. The single fill (6505) of mid grey brown silty clay contained no finds. Based on the geophysical survey results, ditches 6502 and 6503 appear to define two sides of a northwest – southeast orientated trackway that potentially opens out into a funnel-shape further to the northwest, in the vicinity of trench 62.
- 5.46. Ditch 6506 was investigated in the eastern half of the trench, running on a similar alignment to the other linear features. The ditch measured 0.54m wide and 0.24m deep, with a single fill (6507) of mid brown grey silt clay that contained pottery of Late Iron Age – Roman date and a piece of tile, with the presence of tile suggesting a post-Conquest date for the feature.

#### **Trench 66 (Figs 7 & 26-27)**

- 5.47. Two furrows were recorded in plan in the northern half of trench 66; both corresponding with the geophysical survey results and forming part of the main northeast/southwest aligned field system seen in this part of the Site.
- 5.48. In the southern half of the trench a series of roughly parallel, northeast/southwest aligned ditches were investigated; all of these were observed to match strong or moderately strong geophysical anomalies. The northernmost of these, ditch 6608, measured 1.5m wide by 0.25m deep, with steep, straight sides and a flat base, and

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contained a single fill (6609) comprising mid yellow brown silty clay. Fragments of pottery of 1C AD date and animal bone were recovered from the deposit.

- 5.49. Slightly further south, small ditch 6602 measured 0.65m wide by 0.13m deep, with steep, concave sides and a concave base. The feature was filled by a single deposit (6603) of mid brown grey silty clay which produced two sherds of Late Iron Age – Early Roman pottery and a piece of tile, with the presence of tile inferring a post-Conquest date for the feature.
- 5.50. At the southern end of the trench, a set of large ditches matched strong linear trends, with ditch 6606 measuring 3.9m wide and greater than 0.6m deep, with steep sides (the base was not reached due to poor ground conditions). The feature contained a deposit of dark brown grey silty clay (6607) that produced pottery of Roman date and some animal bone.
- 5.51. On the south side, ditch 6606 appeared to truncated a smaller, earlier ditch, 6604, measuring 1.9m wide and 0.26m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The single fill (6605) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay that produced large quantities of pottery including in fabrics in production between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD, indicating a mid to late Roman date for the feature.
- 5.52. Ditch 6610 was only partly exposed within the trench, but a sondage excavated to test the profile and level of preservation suggested a similar size and profile to 6606. The fill (6611) appeared visually comparable to 6605 and also contained pottery and tile, with a 2nd – 3rd century date indicated.
- 5.53. A small posthole (6612) located between the two possible trackway ditches was also investigated. The feature measured 0.3m long, 0.2m wide and 0.13m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, and contained a single charcoal-rich fill (6613) of mid orange brown silty clay.

#### **Trench 68 (Fig. 5)**

- 5.54. Trench 68 contained two small pits, both at the south end of the trench and neither corresponding with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. Oval pit 6802 measured 1.1m long by 0.82m wide and 0.24m deep and contained a single fill of dark brown grey silt clay, while pit 6804 contained two fills, 6805 and 6806, that produced fired clay and Roman pottery. Respectively.

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#### **Trench 69 (Fig. 5)**

- 5.55. Trench 69 contained a single southwest – northeast aligned ditch, corresponding with a strong linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and also on the projected line of a furrow. Ditch 6902 was 0.79m wide by 0.24m deep and contained a single undated fill of dark brown grey silt clay.

#### **Trench 73 (Fig. 5)**

- 5.56. Trench 73 contained a single northwest to southeast orientated ditch that broadly aligned with a strong linear anomaly. Ditch 7302 was 0.71m wide by 0.28m deep and contained a single fill of mid grey to red brown silt clay that produced artefactual material ranging in date from the Late Iron Age – Early Roman period through to the post-medieval period. The geophysical survey indicates the feature continues to the northwest, where it was also recorded in trench 49, as ditch 4902, again producing post-medieval material.

#### **Trench 75 (Fig. 4)**

- 5.57. Trench 75 contained two small possible pits, 7502 and 7504, although their poor level of preservation and resulting shallow profile at approximately 0.09m deep, makes clear identification as anthropogenic features difficult. Neither feature produced any dating evidence.

#### **Trench 80 (Fig. 4)**

- 5.58. Trench 80 contained a single ditch or gully, 8002, which ran broadly east to west across the trench and measured 0.28m wide by 0.19m deep. The single fill of mid reddish brown silt clay produced pottery of Late Iron Age/ Roman date. A linear anomaly crossing the northeast part of the trench on a northwest to southeast alignment did not correspond with a sub-surface feature.

#### **Trench 86 (Figs 3 & 29)**

- 5.59. Trench 86 revealed a single northwest/southeast aligned ditch, 8602, which corresponded with part of a square enclosure-like anomaly identified by the geophysical survey. The feature measured 1.2m wide and 0.47m deep, with step straight sides and a narrow concave base forming a v-shaped cut. The single fill (8603) comprised a deposit of mid brown grey silty clay that contained fragments of pottery and animal bone.

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### Trench 87 (Figs 3 & 30)

- 5.60. Eight linear features were observed in trench 87, all running east-west across the trench, matching with the alignment of the ridge and furrow identified in this part of the Site by the geophysical survey, although not all corresponded directly with an anomaly.
- 5.61. In the northern half of the trench, small ditch 8702 corresponded with both a furrow and a curving anomaly interpreted as an enclosure ditch. The feature measured 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a slightly irregular base. A single fill (8703), comprising light grey brown silty clay, produced fragments of pottery and animal bone. In the central part of the trench ditch/ furrow 8705 measured 0.95m wide and 0.16m deep and was filled by a single deposit (8706) of light yellow grey brown silty clay. The feature did not correspond with any geophysical anomalies or the interval spacing of the furrows in this part of the field but the width and shallow depth of the feature coupled with the nature of the fill are more suggestive of a furrow.

## 6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. The artefactual material is recorded from 35 deposits, the fills of ditches, pits, and from the topsoil (Appendix B). The material was recovered by hand and from five bulk soil samples. The material was collected and recorded in accordance with the CfA finds Toolkit (CfA 2021).

### Lithics by Peter Banks

- 6.2. Three deposits in trench 32 produced four fragments of yellowish-brown flint weighing 5g. Two bladelets, one with a proximal fracture, the other with a distal hinge fracture, are recorded from ditch fill 3207 and layer 3208 respectively. A thumbnail scraper, a tool class most often associated with Beaker/Early Bronze Age flintworking, was recorded from layer 3208. A small flake with a distal fracture is recorded from layer 3209. A blade made in a grey-brown flint (3g) was also recorded from ditch fill 6303. Blade technology is commonly associated with Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint assemblages.

### Pottery by Peter Banks

- 6.3. The pottery from the evaluation has been recorded direct to an Excel spreadsheet from which Appendix B (Table 1) is derived and which forms part of the project archive. The pottery was examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabrics are

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described in summary in Appendix B (Table 2) in accordance with the Historic England guidelines (Barclay et al. 2016) and, where appropriate, the guidelines set out by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010) and the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

- 6.4. The assemblage comprises 279 sherds, weighing 3386g. The pottery is in moderately poor condition with most sherds exhibiting signs of wear, however sherd size is large and the mean sherd weight of 12.1g is moderately high for a largely Late Iron Age and Roman group.

#### *Late Prehistoric*

- 6.5. A total of 22 sherds (214g) of handmade pottery can be dated to the late prehistoric period. The group is made in sandy (Q), shell-tempered (SH) or limestone-tempered (LI) fabrics. The only feature sherd noted is an externally expanded upright rim in fabric SH, derived from ditch fill 4808. A single sherd made in a coarse sandy grog-tempered fabric (QGR) is decorated with curvilinear grooves. The sherd is small, but possibly represents a locally produced vessel decorated in the La Tène style. La Tène style pottery dates to the 2nd or 1st centuries BC (Knight 2002). Given the grog-tempered fabric a 1st century BC date is mostly likely for this example if this sherd is indeed made in the La Tène style. Due to the scarcity of diagnostic sherds precise dating of the group is uncertain but a Middle or Late Iron age date would seem appropriate.

#### *Late Iron Age/Roman*

- 6.6. A total of 253 sherds (3154g) can be dated to the Late Iron Age or Roman pottery. The majority of the group is made in fabrics the use of which span the transitional period between the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period. The largest individual group are grog-tempered (UNS GR) sherds (110 sherds, 1577g), although sandy grog (UNS QGR), shelly grog (UNS SHGR) and sandy fabrics (UNS Q) are present in smaller quantities. Diagnostic sherds are rare and few vessel profiles are recorded. A carinated cup, from ditch fill 6303, is the only preserved vessel profile and can be dated to the first half of the 1st century AD (Thompson 1982, 350, E1-1). The base of a pedestal jar, recorded from ditch fill 6609, can be dated to the 1st century AD (Thompson 1982 35, A1). Combed body decoration is present on 13 sherds and stabbed or impressed lozenged decorate a large thick-walled sherd. Both styles of decoration are common during the Late Iron Age to Early Roman transitional period. A lid-seated jar made in developed grog-tempered fabric (UNS DGR) is most likely

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an early Roman form. Both the fabric and the form are common in this area of the South Midlands during mid-1st to 2nd centuries AD (McSloy 2018, 113). The Roman group consists largely of sandy grey (UNS GW), black (UNS BSW), oxidised (UNSOX) and white wares (UNS WW). The origin of these fabrics is unknown, but they have most likely been produced locally. Vessel forms in these fabrics are uncommon. Neckless jars with everted or corniced rims and straight-sided bowls with small, flange rims are the only two forms present. The latter of these forms, recorded from ditch fill 3207, ditch fill 6605 and posthole fill 6611, is common during the mid-Roman period (c. 2nd to 3rd centuries AD). A large storage jar decorated with a band of incised wavy lines (UNS GTG) is also recorded from deposit 6605. Roman shell-tempered (UNS SH) and grog-tempered sherds are recorded but in small quantities. Two featureless body sherds contain coarse black inclusions, possibly iron, in an otherwise fine white ware fabric (UNS WH). The inclusions are similar to the trituration grits in Nene Valley mortaria but are contained throughout the fabric. The fabric is unusual and it has not been possible to determine its origin, although given the similarity of inclusions to Nene Valley trituration grits it is possible the sherds are a products from this region. Nine sherds (32g) of pink grog-tempered ware (PNK GT) dating to between the 2nd to 4th centuries AD are recorded. A wide mouthed jar or bowl with an out-curved rim is the only form recorded in this fabric.

- 6.7. Regional wares are uncommon and tended to date to the Middle or Late Roman period (c. 2nd to 4th centuries AD). One sherd of Lower Nene Valley white ware mortaria (LNV WH) can be dated to this period. Two featureless body sherds of Oxfordshire colour coated ware (OXF RS) are slightly later in date (c. 3rd to 4th centuries AD).
- 6.8. A single sherd from a Form 33 cup made in Central Gaulish samian (LEZ SA2) is the only evidence for imported Roman pottery at the Site. This form typically dates to the mid to late 2nd century AD (Webster 1996, 45).

#### *Post-medieval/Modern*

- 6.9. Four sherds (18g) of pottery can be dated to the post-medieval or modern periods. Body sherds of Staffordshire-type slipware (STAF) and Nottingham-type stoneware (ESWN) are likely to date from the late 17th to 18th centuries. A body sherd of North Midlands earthenware (NMEW) with an internal purple glaze dates to between the late 17th to 20th centuries and a small body sherd of refined white earthenware (REFW) can be dated to between the late 18th to 20th centuries AD.



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### Summary

- 6.10. The pottery provides evidence for activity during the late prehistoric, Roman, post-medieval and modern periods; the focus of activity taking place during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods. Featured sherds identifying vessel forms are uncommon but where present they suggest activity associated with domestic usage, particularly the jar and bowl forms noted in the Roman group. The scarcity of regional and imported wares suggests a reliance on locally produced pottery. The late prehistoric, post-medieval and modern assemblages are of less significance and due to their small size and lack of diagnostic material it is not possible to provide meaningful discussion of this material.

### Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Peter Banks

- 6.11. A total of 15 fragments (162g) of ceramic building material (CBM) are recorded from nine deposits. The assemblage is made in oxidised shelly (sh), fine (fs) or medium sandy (ms) fabrics, some with clay pellet (cp), ferrous (fe) or flint inclusions (fl). Four fragments of tile, including a possible fragment of imbrex (curved Roman roof tile), are recorded and based on their fabric, thickness and conditions of firing six fragments of CBM probably date to the Roman period. A further nine fragments (34g) of CBM due to their highly fragmented nature could not be dated with certainty. It is possible based on their fabric and conditions of firing that these date to the post-medieval or modern period.

### Fired clay by Peter Banks

- 6.12. A total of 21 fragments (69g) of fired clay are recorded from three deposits. The assemblage is made in fine (fs) or medium sandy fabric (ms), some with inclusions of grog (g). The fired clay assemblage consists entirely of undiagnostic fragments.

### Industrial waste by Peter Banks

- 6.13. A total of 114 fragments of industrial waste (1980g) are recorded from two features. Most fragments are ferrous but do not exhibit any diagnostic features. They are probably fragments from a hearth associated with the smithing of iron. Two fragments, recovered from sample 7, taken from ditch fill 3207, are most likely fragments of hammerscale which are also derived from iron smithing.

### Metalwork by Peter Banks

- 6.14. Two fragments of metalwork are recorded from two deposits. An iron nail is recorded from ditch fill 3207. The fragment is heavily encrusted and corroded and it is not

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possible to identify any diagnostic features. A silver coin of Edward III (4g) is recorded from the topsoil of trench 83. The coin is a groat, minted in London, and of pre-treaty series E, dating to between 1353-55/6.

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

### Animal bone by Andy Clarke

7.1. Animal bone amounting to 84 fragments (998.3g) was recovered via hand excavation and the processing of bulk soil samples from the fills of 14 pit and ditch features spread across the Site. Artefactual material dating from the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transition, Romano-British and post-medieval to modern periods was also recovered from these features (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but well preserved enough to make possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*), dog (*Canis familiaris*) and horse (*Equus caballus*). Where modern breakage occurred and re-fitting was possible, fragments were counted as a single bone.

### Late Iron Age/Early Roman

7.2. Eight fragments (119.2g) were recovered from deposits 3505 and 4808, the fills of pit 3504 and ditch 4805. Cattle was the only species identified from a partial, fragmented pelvis from 3505.

### Romano-British

7.3. The Roman activity on site produce the most amount of bone with 47 fragments (399.1g) recovered from eight deposits. A limited amount of cattle and sheep/goat bone was identified with each species represented by fragments of meat-poor skeletal elements such as fragments of the skull or the bones of the lower limbs. A single chop mark was observed on a cattle radius shaft from 907, suggesting a possible origin in the butchery waste. Horse and dog were also present on site, with each species identified from the recovery of a single tooth.

### Post-medieval/Modern

7.4. Five fragments (375g) were recovered from ditch fill 6405. Cattle was identified from a molar tooth and a partial pelvis and horse from a fragmented mandible. No evidence of butchery practice was observed.

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### Undated

- 7.5. Twenty-four fragments (105g) were recovered from deposits 2903, 6803 and 8603 the fills of pits 2902 and 6802 and ditch 8602. Cattle and sheep/goat were identified from three and five fragments respectively, all of which were meat-poor skeletal elements. No cut or chop marks indicative of butchery practice were present.

### Plant macrofossils by Emma Aitken

- 7.6. A series of 14 environmental samples (169 litres of soil) were processed from a range of feature types and periods from across the site. This was done to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the Site and also examining how this changed over time. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.7. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 2, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals.
- 7.8. The flots varied in size from small to large with low to high numbers of rooty material and uncharred seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation. Due to the poor to moderate preservation levels, it was hard to identify many of the charred cereal grains to species level, but where possible this was achieved. Much of the charcoal was impregnated with silt and iron residue which can inhibit further wood species identification.
- 7.9. Any dates discussed within this report have been obtained through the spot dating of finds (see Banks, this report).

### Trench 13

- 7.10. Pit 1308 (sample 9) contained a large number of cereal grain fragments, which include those of wheat (*Triticum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*), and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type). Many of the grains are abraded and heat affected. A small number of weed seeds were noted in the assemblage and include such species as fumitory (*Fumaria* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), curled docks (*Rumex crispus*), and celtic bean/pea (*Vicia faba/Pisum* sp.). A large quantity of charcoal was also observed in the assemblage.

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7.11. The environmental material recovered in fill 1309 from pit 1308 is likely to be indicative of a dump of food preparation/hearth waste material. Although a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the feature, the assemblage would be compatible with a post-Roman date for this deposit, as the presence of free-threshing wheat and rye is typical of assemblages of post-Roman date in this area (Greig 1991).

#### *Trench 14*

7.12. Two samples were recovered from fills 1405 and 1406 from undated ditch 1404 (samples 13 and 12 respectively). Small quantities of cereal grains were recovered in both assemblages, with sample 13 also containing barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains. Sample 13 also contained a small number of weed seeds which includes such species as curled dock and oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.). Both assemblages contained small quantities of charcoal fragments.

7.13. Both assemblages from ditch 1404 are likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material and do not suggest any form of settlement or industrial activity taking place within the immediate vicinity of trench 14, although the presence of fired clay in both contexts does suggest activity in the wider area, the ditch perhaps being used for rubbish disposal.

7.14. Late Iron Age to Early Roman ditch 1407 (sample 14) contained a small number of very abraded cereal grain fragments and a small amount of charcoal. This assemblage is likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material.

#### *Trench 29*

7.15. Sample 8 from undated pit 2902 contained a small number of wheat grain fragments alongside a minimal number of vetch/wild pea seeds. Large quantities of charcoal were noted and include fragments of oak (*Quercus* sp.). Sample 8 is likely to be representative of a dump of domestic hearth waste material but does not assist with dating this pit.

#### *Trench 32*

7.16. Undated ditch 3206 (sample 7) contained a single barley grain (still in its husk) alongside a small number of cereal grain fragments. Moderately small quantities of charcoal fragments were also observed in the assemblage. Sample 7 is likely to be indicative of a small dump of domestic hearth waste material but again provides no indication of the likely date of this feature.

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- 7.17. Fill 4803 (sample 5) of Late Iron Age – Early Roman pit 4802 contained only a small number of weed seeds which includes those of oat/brome grass and fumitory. A small number of charcoal fragments were noted. This assemblage is likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material.
- 7.18. Undated ditch terminus 4805 (sample 6) contained a small number of cereal grains, including those of hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) alongside a small number of weed seeds including such species as vetch/wild pea and fumitory. Moderately small quantities of charcoal fragments were noted. Sample 6 is likely to be representative of a small dump of domestic hearth waste material. This assemblage may suggest a tentative later prehistoric or Roman date for this ditch.

#### *Trench 66*

- 7.19. Fill 6605 (sample 3) of Roman ditch 6604 contained no charred plant remains or charcoal.
- 7.20. Roman ditch 6606 (sample 4) contained a single cereal grain fragment alongside a single charred spelt glume (*Triticum spelta*) fragment. A small number of charred plant remains were noted and include seeds of curled docks and fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*). A small number of charcoal fragments were also observed. This assemblage is likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material.
- 7.21. Roman deposit 6610 (sample 10) contained a small number of hulled wheat grain fragments alongside low levels of weed seeds. The weed seeds include those of oat/brome grass and vetch/wild pea. A small number of charcoal fragments were noted. This assemblage is likely to be representative of wind-blown/dispersed waste material.
- 7.22. Fill 6613 (sample 11) of undated posthole 6612 contained a very small number of vetch/wild pea seeds alongside large quantities of charcoal, which includes fragments of oak. The charcoal contains mature wood fragments with no round or twig wood present. Fill 6613 may be representative of a dump of hearth waste material or in-situ burning.

#### *Trench 68*

- 7.23. Samples 1 and 2 from Roman pit 6804 (fills 6805 and 6806 respectively) contained moderately small quantities of cereal grain fragments, including those of hulled

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wheat. Small numbers of hazelnut shell fragments were observed alongside low levels of charcoal fragments. The two assemblages from pit 6804 are likely to be indicative of small dumps of food waste material.

### *Summary*

- 7.24. The environmental assemblages suggest that some form of domestic settlement activity was taking place on the Site, particularly in the vicinity of trenches 13, 29, 32, 66 and 68, during the Late Prehistoric and Roman periods. The presence of rye in the sample obtained from pit 1308 (fill 1309) potentially suggests that crop processing was taking place within the site in the post-Roman period, rye being regarded as having been introduced into England in the Middle Saxon period. However, it is possible that the crop was processed elsewhere off-site and the material was simply carted onto site to be used as fertiliser, although the recovery of the material from a pit-like feature does imply an intention to dispose of the waste, rather than spread it on the fields.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1. The results of the trial trenching in part confirm those of preceding geophysical survey, with high levels of plough truncation noted to affect feature preservation across the Site. The strongest geophysical anomalies generally corresponded well with sub-surface although a number of weaker signals were not matched by features. Furrow preservation across the Site was also variable, with the geophysical survey identifying a much more extensive ridge and furrow system than was seen in the trenches. Surviving furrows appeared relatively shallow and poorly preserved.
- 8.2. Very little evidence was encountered for earlier prehistoric activity within the Site; a small assemblage of lithics dating to between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age was encountered in trench 32, in relation to a large likely naturally formed layer at the edge of a slope that dips towards a lower area along the northeast edge of the site. It is likely that this material is representative of a combination of natural erosion or hillwash activity combining with the effects of ploughing and agricultural exploitation to form a layer within which artefactual material has become incorporated. The presence of these artefacts nonetheless points to the exploitation of the site and surrounding landscape during these periods.
- 8.3. Evidence for Late Iron Age and potentially Early Roman activity within the Site was identified in the form of two spatially distinct focal zones which were also identified by

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the geophysical survey: one in the northern part of the site, in trench 9, 13 and 14 in particular and centred around the remains of a ring ditch and rectangular enclosure, and a second in the south part of the site, centred on the square enclosure and possible peripheral activity investigated in trenches 36 and 37.

- 8.4. The majority of these features, corresponding with the strongest of the geophysical anomalies, were comparatively well preserved and in some cases recut at least once, suggesting a level of continuity in the more intensively occupied parts of the Site. It is likely that the smaller scattered features in the areas between these focal points are representative of smaller-scale, lower-impact everyday agricultural as well as domestic activity.
- 8.5. Based on the pottery assemblage, comprising for the most part of locally produced, domestic vessel types, it is likely that occupation within the Site during the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transition took the form of a relatively self-sufficient farmstead, or set of farmsteads, surrounded by field systems. Very little evidence was recovered for regional or imported pottery types, further supporting this theory.
- 8.6. A fainter, less well-preserved undated series of smaller ditches seem to form a possible field system in the space between the two focal areas that does not entirely align with them. While it is possible that this is merely representative of agricultural subdivisions governing the spaces between the respective farmsteads, this system may be representative of earlier occupation within the Site.
- 8.7. A third focus of activity was identified by the geophysical survey in the southwest corner of the site, adjacent to Watling Street, with the geophysics suggesting the presence of a series of enclosures with internal features, stock funnels(?) and trackways. Trenching in this area, trenches 61 and 63 – 66 in particular, demonstrated a generally good correlation between recorded anomalies and sub-surface features, this correlation becoming poorer to the north, with the pottery assemblage indicating a broad 2nd to 4th century date for activity in this area. Whatever the nature of this activity, it does not appear to have been heavily Romanised, with little tile and virtually no high status or imported pottery having been recovered from the investigated features.



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- 8.8. The recovery of industrial waste and hammerscale from the Site, albeit in limited quantities suggest industrial processes were taking place in the vicinity during the Roman period.
- 8.9. Environmental analysis of soil samples recovered from a variety of features produced low levels of evidence for domestic hearth and food waste material, including some charcoal and cereal grains, particularly from trenches in the vicinity of the ring ditch and enclosure in the north of the site. However, overall, environmental remains were not abundant in the samples taken, suggesting that activities likely to produce such material (cooking, crop processing etc) were either generally not taking place within the site, that the disposal of any such material was taking place in specific parts of the site that were not identified by the current works or that the dispositional environment on the site is such that any remains of this nature are as a consequence poorly preserved. Another focal area for domestic waste disposal was identified in trenches 66 and 68, at the edge of the area of Roman occupation immediately adjacent to the line of Watling Street.
- 8.10. The pottery assemblage suggests that activity in the Late Iron Age tradition ceased on site around the middle of the first century AD. While it has not been possible on the basis of the trial trenching results alone to achieve a detailed chronology for features within the various focal zones, it does appear that a shift or break did occur following the Roman Conquest, perhaps following or related to the establishment of the Roman settlement at Towcester. While there is some, albeit limited, evidence from the pottery assemblage to suggest that activity may have continued on part of the site in a different or diminished form, the current evidence suggests that from the middle of the first century AD domestic settlement activity within the Site had effectively ceased before being re-established in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, adjacent to Watling Street.
- 8.11. This apparent dislocation in the settlement pattern may have the potential to contribute to research questions identified in *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012), particularly in relation to changing rural settlement patterns and landscapes during the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British transition. The changing use of the landscape surrounding Towcester may provide some insight into the process of Romanisation in rural communities whose proximity to incoming

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Roman roads and new urban settlements necessitated and/or facilitated a shift in lifestyle.

- 8.12. Evidence for post-Roman activity within the Site other than features relating to the agricultural management of the landscape is less abundant, although pit 1308 in trench 13 contained a large number of heat-affected wheat and rye grains suggestive of crop processing and/or food preparation waste, rye having been introduced into England no earlier than the Middle Saxon period. However, this appears to have taken the form of a relatively isolated event, given the apparent absence of any other non-agricultural features from this period. This is also supported by the large scale, seemingly uninterrupted, ridge and furrow system identified by the geophysical survey, despite the poor preservation of furrows in the ground. The agricultural focus of the Site appears therefore to persist beyond the Roman period with little significant change, in fact persisting to the current day.

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Anna Wolf (Project Officer), assisted variously by Eilidh Barr (Project Supervisor), Adrienne Morris, Imogen Geoghegan, Sian Bramble, Ruth Tipton, Georgia Slater, Callum Warr, Alessandra Rossi, Georgina Matthews, Thomas Clayton, Alice Riley-Ward, and Tommaso Rossi. This report was written by Anna Wolf. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Peter Banks, Andy Clarke, and Emma Aitken, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Li Sou and Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Adrian Scruby.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones	50	2	0.27
1	101	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel with bands of silty clay	50	2	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.25
2	201	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel (mudstone/ironstone) Firm	50	2	
2	202	Cut		Furrow	Cut of linear furrow, NW-SE aligned	>2	1.90	0.09
2	203	Fill	[202]	Fill of furrow	Mid grey red brown Silty clay Firm Some natural stones	>2	1.90	0.09
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
3	301	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown , silty mudstone/ironstone Firm	50	2	
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
4	401	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown , silty mudstone/ironstone Firm Same as (301)	50	2	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.28
5	501	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown , silty mudstone/ironstone Firm Same as (301)	50	2	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey Silty clay	50	2	0.29
6	600	Layer		Natural	Mid greyish brown Silty sand	50	2	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
7	701	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty clay +Light yellow Clay Firm Infrequent natural stone	50	2	
7	702				Treethrow			
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.30
8	801	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty clay	50	2	>0.12

					+Light yellow Clay Firm Infrequent natural stone			
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
9	901	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty clay +Light yellow Clay Firm Infrequent natural stone	50	2	-
9	902	Cut		Pit/Posthole	Cut of circular pit	0.36	?	0.11
9	903	Fill	[902]	Fill of Pit/Posthole	Dark brownish grey Silty clay Friable Ironstone, charcoal	0.36	?	0.11
9	904	Cut		Pit	Cut of rectangular pit	1.03 (full interrupt ed length)	?	0.08
9	905	Fill	[904]	Fill of pit [904]	Dark brownish grey Silty clay Ironstone, charcoal	1.03 (full interrupt ed length)	?	0.08
9	906	Cut		Pit	Cut of feature with both sides going beyond the trench borders. It looks linear or sub-oval. Same as [904]	>1.80	3.10	0.35
9	907	Fill	[906]	Fill of pit [906]	Dark brown, few orange patches Silty sand Friable	>1.80	3.10	0.35
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.26
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown Silty clay	50	2	0.12
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Blue/yellow Clay	50	2	-
10	1003			Treethrow?	Mottled mid greyish brown Silty sand Friable Mottled with natural	>2	0.86	0.12
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
11	1101	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish/blue Clay With bands of mid red brown silty clay Same as (3401)	50	2	>0.04
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.37
12	1201	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.03
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown Silty clay Friable	50	2	0.40
13	1301	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown	50	2	-

					Clay silt Firm			
13	1302	Cut		Ditch	Cut of curvilinear ditch, turning WSW-NE, affected by rooting [1304]	>2	0.27	0.25
13	1303	Fill	[1302]	Fill of ditch [1302]	Mid reddish grey Silty clay Moderate Rare pottery (1 sherd)	1.10 Exc. L	0.27	0.25
13	1304	Cut		Rooting	Cut of rooting following the curvilinear shape of ditch [1302]	>2	0.90	0.48
13	1305	Fill	[1304]	Fill of rooting [1304]	Dark brownish grey Silty clay Moderate to friable Very frequent roots and small stones, sub-rounded	1.10 Exc. L	0.90	0.48
13	1306	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch, NNE-SSW orientated	>2	0.80	Un-excavated
13	1307	Fill	[1306]	Fill of ditch [1306]	Mid reddish grey Silty clay Moderate	>2	0.80	Un-excavated
13	1308	Cut		Pit	Cut of circular pit	0.80	>0.25 (W Unexc. On plan)	0.20
13	1309	Fill	[1308]	Fill of pit [1308]	Dark bluish grey Silty clay Moderate to soft Frequent charcoal flecks and occ. to freq. animal bones	0.80	>0.25 (W Unexc. On plan)	0.20
13	1310	Cut		Poss. Ditch	Cut of ditch, poss. Re-cut or pit	0.20 (section)	1.52	0.42
13	1311	Fill	[1310]	Fill of poss. ditch [1310]	Mid brownish grey Silty clay Moderate Occ. charcoal flecks	0.20 (section)	1.52	0.42
13	1312	Deposit		Levelling deposit	Mid orange brown Silty clay Moderate Very frequent medium size sub-squared stone, rare pottery sherds (x1 piece). Diffuse horizon	>1.20 (Exc)	>1.10 (Exc)	0.35
13	1313	Cut		Poss ditch terminus	Cut of possible ditch terminus extended WSW-ENE	1.04 (plan)	0.83 (section)	0.25
13	1314	Fill	[1313]	Fill of possible ditch terminus [1313]	Light orange grey Silty sand Friable	1.04 (plan)	0.83	0.25
13	1315	Cut		Pit	Cut of circular pit	1	1	Un-excavated
13	1316	Fill	[1315]	Fill of pit [1315]	Mid reddish brown Silty clay moderate	1	1	Un-excavated
14	1400	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey Clay silt Firm	50	2	-
14	1401	Layer		Top soil	Dark brownish grey Silty clay Friable	50	2	0.80
14	1402	Cut		Furrow	Cut of furrow WSW-ENE orientated	>2	1	0.07
14	1403	Fill	[1402]	Fill of furrow [1402]	Mid orange brown Silty clay Moderate Freq. small stones	>2	1	0.07
14	1404	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ring ditch running NNE-SSW in the slot	>2	2.40 (plan)	1.17



						(1.20m exc)		
14	1405	Fill	[1404]	Upper fill of ditch[1404]	Dark orange brown Silty clay Moderate Occ. pottery, charcoal flecks and chalk	>2 (1.20m exc)	2.40 (plan)	0.68
14	1406	Fill	[1404]	Bottom fill of Ditch [1404]	Mid brownish grey Silty clay Moderate to soft Occ. to frequent charcoal flecks and pottery sherds	>0.50 (Exc)	>0.90 (Exc)	0.43
14	1407	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch, running N-S	>1	>1.50 (plan)	0.41
14	1408	Fill	[1407]	Fill of ditch [1407]	Mid orange brown Silty clay Moderate Occ. chalk and charcoal, rare pottery sherds	>1	>1.50 (exc. on plan)	0.41
14	1409	Cut		Furrow	Cut of furrow WSW-ENE	>2	1	Un-excavated
14	1410	Fill	[1409]	Fill of furrow [1409]	Mid orange brown Silty clay Moderate	>2	1	Un-excavated
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey Silty clay Firm Fragmented flint inclusions	50	2	0.39
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey grey Silty clay Friable Occ. rounded fragmented stone inclusions	50	2	0.40
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Light greyish yellow Compact Mudstone throughout	50	2	>0.79
15	1503	Cut		Ditch	Cut of ditch, NE-SW, steep, nearly vertical sides and flat base	3.30	1	0.44
15	1504	Fill	[1503]	Fill of ditch [1503]	Mid brownish grey Sandy silt Firm Stone inclusions	3.30	1	0.44
15	1505	Layer		Possible basal remnant of layer or ditch fill	Mid grey brown silt clay	2m	3	0.05
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Soft Some natural stones	50	2	0.30
16	1601	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty clay Bands of mudstone/ironstone, firm	50	2	-
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
17	1701	Layer		Natural	Mid grey red brown Silty clay Firm Some natural stones + lenses of yellow brown sandy silt	50	2	>0.06
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (100)	50	2	0.27

18	1801	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel with bands of silty clay Same as (101)	50	2	>0.01
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones	50	2	0.26
19	1901	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel Firm with bands of mid red brown silty clay	50	2	>0.02
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Soft	50	2	0.29
20	2001	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown Silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.03
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.30
21	2101	Layer		Natural	Mid red orange Clay with patches of mudstone throughout	50	2	>0.07
22	2200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay, soft, some stones	50	2	0.32
22	2201	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow/blue clay and mid red brown silty clay, rare stones	50	2	>0.03
23	2300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown Silty clay Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
23	2301	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty clay Bands of mudstone/ironstone Firm	50	2	>0.04
24	2400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (2600)	50	2.1	0.3
24	2401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey orange silty clay Friable	50	2.1	0.18
25	2500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Friable Rooting and rounded stone inclusions	50	2	0.3
25	2501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty clay Friable Occasional fragmented flint inclusions	50	2	0.15
25	2502	Layer		Natural	Mid red orange clay with patches of mudstone throughout	50	2	70.45
26	2600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.30
26	2601	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm Frequent gravel	50	2	>0.08
27	2700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (2600)	50	2	0.30
27	2701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey orange silty clay Friable Same as (2401)	50	2	0.09
27	2702	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm Frequent gravel Same as (2601)	50	2	>0.39

28	2800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.29
28	2801	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.04
29	2900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (2800)	50	2	0.27
29	2901	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.04
30	3000	Layer		Topsoil		50	2	0.27
30	3001	Layer		Natural		50	2	0.05
30	3002	Layer		Layer	Mottled grey/orange/light grey silty sand Friable Occasional angular ironstone	50	2	-
31	3100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.34
31	3101	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.03
32	3200	Layer		Topsoil		50	2	
32	3201	Layer		Natural		50	2	
32	3202	Cut		Pit/posthole	Circular pit/posthole Occasional stone Frequent charcoal inclusions	0.40	-	0.13
32	3203	Fill	[3202]	Fill of pit/posthole	Fill of circular posthole/pit Moderate ironstone and charcoal inclusions	0.40	-	0.13
32	3204	Cut		Posthole	Circular posthole Possible gradual packing side to shore the post	0.30	-	0.12
32	3205	Fill	[3204]	Fill of posthole	Fill of posthole. Frequent stone and charcoal inclusions Shallower part of fill possibly used as packing material to shore the post	0.30	-	0.12
32	3206	Cut		Poss linear	Cut of discrete feature aligned north-south	-	3.4	0.38
32	3207	Fill	[3206]	Primary fill of linear	Possible dump of material outside of enclosure ditch. Contained metalworking slag		3.4	0.38
32	3208	Layer		Wash of TR32	TP1 Wash running downhill (visibly running east in trench) Possibly containing unstratified finds	1	1	
32	3209	Layer		Continuation of wash of TR32	Wash running downhill. Possibly containing unstratified finds. No section drawn (4cm deep)	1	1	0.04
32	3210	Layer		Subsoil				
32	3211	Layer		Wash of TR32 Same as (3208)	TP2	1	1	
33	3300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.34
33	3301	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow/blue clay Firm	50	2	>0.03

					Bands of mid red brown silty clay Same as (3401)			
34	3400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.36
34	3401	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow/blue clay Firm Bands of mid red brown silty clay	50	2	>0.03
35	3500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Friable Rooting and fragmented stone inclusions	50	2	0.2
35	3501	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange clay Firm	50	2	0.05
35	3502	Cut		Drain gully	Cut of drainage gully running the width of TR35 Largely irregular and shallow.	>2	0.7	0.08
35	3503	Fill	[3502]	Drain gully	Mid yellowish brown silty clay Occasional charcoal inclusions Compact	>2	0.7	0.08
35	3504	Cut		Pit	Sub circular pit with occasional stone inclusions Concave gradual slope on east side, concave on west side			
35	3505	Fill	[3504]	Pit	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Friable Ironstone inclusions. Two fragments of pottery from edge of fill. Partially exposed animal bone (x20) removed from unexcavated fill of pit.			
36	3600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Friable with rooting and fragmented flint inclusions	50	2	0.29
36	3601	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey red silty clay Firm with occasional mudstone inclusions			
36	3602	Cut		Linear	Linear with sharp break, steep sides Concave base running SW-NE	1.8	0.9	0.17
36	3603	Fill	[3602]	Linear	Mid brown grey silty clay Loose Occasional small stone inclusions	1.8	0.9	0.17
36	3604	Cut		Linear Furrow	Linear with sharp break, steep sides. Concave base. Running NE-SW	>1.8	1.24	0.10
36	3605	Fill	[3604]	Linear Furrow	Mid reddish brown silty clay. Firm. Occasional small stone inclusions.	>1.8	1.24	0.10
36	3606	Cut		Ditch		2.1	>1.3	0.59
36	3607	Fill	[3606]	Ditch		2.1	>1.3	0.59
36	3608	Cut		Furrow		2.1	>0.67	0.2
36	3609	Fill	[3608]	Furrow		2.1	>0.67	0.2
37	3700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark, yellowish brown clayish silt, firm. Natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.27
37	3701	Layer		Natural	Lightish medium yellow brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.04

37	3702	Cut		Linear	Cut of linear running SW-NE. Likely a furrow. Rooting on east edge of slot, near section	1.17	1.03	0.27
37	3703	Fill	[3702]	Linear	Medium greyish yellow silty clay Firm >1% small pebbles >1% natural flint	1.17	1.03	0.27
38	3800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.30
38	3801	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Friable Infrequent natural flint inclusions	50	2	>0.02
39	3900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones	50	2	0.31
39	3901	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.01
40	4000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (3900)	50	2	0.28
40	4001	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm Same as (3901)	50	2	>0.06
41	4100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.26
41	4101	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Firm	50	2	>0.02
42	4200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Soft Some stones Same as (3400)	50	2	0.27
42	4201	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown silty gravel Mid yellow blue clay Firm	50	2	0.02
43	4300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.27
43	4301	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.07
44	4400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.29
44	4401	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.04
45	4500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.36
45	4501	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.09
46	4600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.30
46	4601	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.06
46	4602	Cut		Ditch	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm Linear cut of ditch Gentle slope	50	2	0.30
46	4603	Fill	[4602]	Ditch	Light yellowish brown silty clay. Firm >5% sandstone. >1% chalk inclusions. Natural silting.	1.1	1	0.14
47	4700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Firm	50	2	0.36
47	4701	Layer		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay. Firm with stone inclusions	50	2	>0.08

48	4800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Firm	50	2	0.19
48	4801	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.12
48	4802	Cut		Pit	Sub circular cut of possible waste pit. Near vertical sides	>1.07	0.45	0.40
48	4803	Fill	[4802]	Pit	Lower fill Dark orange grey silty clay fill of possible waste pit. High frequency of charcoal and burnt pottery.	0.65	0.45	0.24
48	4804	Fill	[4802]	Pit	Upper fill Light yellowish grey silty sand fill of possible waste pit.	0.50	-	0.34
48	4805	Cut		Ditch terminus	Sub oval ditch terminus. 2 slumping/side fills and a main fill. Truncates pit [4802]	1.24	1.15	0.46
48	4806	Fill	[4805]	Ditch terminus	Mid yellowish grey silty clay Firm to moderate Rare mid size stones	0.22	-	0.22
48	4807	Fill	[4805]	Ditch terminus	Mid yellowish grey silty clay Firm to moderate Occasional chalk, rare charcoal and small sized stone inclusions	0.40	-	0.35
48	4808	Fill	[4805]	Ditch terminus	Main top fill. Dark orange brown silty clay. Moderate High frequency of charcoal and pottery	1.01	0.75	0.40
49	4900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm Occasional gravel inclusions	50	2	0.31
49	4901	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown silty clay Compact with stone inclusions	50	2	>0.06
49	4902	Cut		Potential linear	Linear with gradual sides. Concave base. Some smaller dark grey soil patches.	>1.8	1.24	0.17
49	4903	Fill	[4902]	Potential linear	Dark brownish grey Slightly silty clay Firm Occasional small stones	>1.8	1.24	0.17
49	4904	Cut		Furrow	Linear with slightly concave, shallow sides.	>1	1.80	0.09
49	4905	Fill	[4904]	Furrow	Mid grey brown clay. Friable Charcoal flecks and CBM. Fill of furrow.			
50	5000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Firm	50	2	0.19
50	5001	Layer		Natural	Mid orangeish grey silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.13
50	5002	Cut		Possible pit	Possible pit. Oval with steep sides and flat base	0.96	0.46	0.21
50	5003	Fill	[5002]	Possible pit	Light greyish brown silty clay Firm	0.96	0.46	0.21
51	5100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.17
51	5101	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay. Compact	50	2	>0.09
51	5102	Cut		Furrow	E-W	8	0.8	-
51	5103	Fill	[5102]	Furrow	Mid grey brown silty clay	8	0.8	-

					Friable – unexcavated			
52	5200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.35
52	5201	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay. Compact with flint inclusions	50	2	0.07
52	5202	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	2	
52	5203	Fill	[5202]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	2	
52	5204	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	0.9	
52	5205	Fill	[5204]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable. Unexcavated	>2.1	0.9	
52	5206	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.39	
52	5207	Fill	[5206]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.39	
52	5208	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	2.46	
52	5209	Fill	[5209]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	2.46	
52	5210	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.64	
52	5211	Fill	[5210]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.64	
52	5212	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	0.76	
52	5213	Fill	[5212]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable	>2.1	0.76	
52	5214	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.19	
52	5215	Fill	[5214]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable	>2.1	1.19	
52	5216	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1		
52	5217	Fill	[5216]	Furrow	Mid brown grey friable silty clay	>2.1	1.44	
52	5218	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.95	
52	5219	Fill	[5218]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable			
53	5300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm Fragmented flint and rounded stone inclusions	50	2	0.32
53	5301	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey, silty clay Compact Flint and gravel inclusions	50	2	>0.32
54	5400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm with gravel inclusions	50	2.1	0.24
54	5401	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay	50	2.1	>0.24
54	5402	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.35	
54	5403	Fill	[5402]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.35	
54	5404	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.75	
54	5405	Fill	[5404]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.73	
54	5406	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.47	
54	5407	Fill	[5406]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.47	
54	5408	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.5	
54	5409	Fill	[5408]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable	>2.1	1.5	



					Unexcavated			
54	5410	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.35	
54	5411	Fill	[5410]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.35	
54	5412	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	3.0	
54	5413	Fill	[5412]	Furrow	Mid brown grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	3.0	
55	5500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay Firm with gravel and stone inclusions	50	2	0.29
55	5501	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay. Compact with stone and flint inclusions	50	2	>0.11
55	5502	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.82	
55	5503	Fill		Furrow	Mid brownish grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.82	
55	5504	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	0.56	
55	5505	Fill		Furrow	Mid brownish grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	0.56	
55	5506	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	1.33	
55	5507	Fill		Furrow	Mid brownish grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	1.33	
55	5508	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	2.10	
55	5509	Fill		Furrow	Mid brownish grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2.1	2.10	
55	5510	Cut		Furrow	NE-SW	>2.1	3.22	
55	5511	Fill		Furrow	Mid brownish grey silty clay Friable Unexcavated	>2,1	3.22	
56	5600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.3
56	5601	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact Stone and gravel inclusions	50	2	>0.09
57	5700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm Gravel and stone inclusions	50	2	0.24
57	5701	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact Common gravel and rare flint inclusions	50	2	>0.10
58	5800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm Stone inclusions	50	2	0.36
58	5801	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact Stone inclusions	50	2	>0.02
59	5900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm Occasional flint and small stone inclusions	50	2	0.28
59	5901	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact Stone inclusions	50	2	>0.09
60	6000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.29
60	6001	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown silty clay	50	2	>0.10
61	6100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm Rare stone inclusions	50	2	0.29

61	6101	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.08
61	6102	Cut		Ditch	Cut of shallow ditch running W-E	>1	0.4	0.15
61	6103	Fill	[6102]	Ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay Fill due to slow silting	>1	0.4	0.15
61	6104	Cut		Possible pit	Oval cut for possible pit with moderate straight sides and flat base	~0.73	0.52	0.08
61	6105	Fill	[6104]	Possible pit	Mid greyish brown silty clay Friable	~0.73	0.52	0.08
62	6200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.28
62	6201	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.06
62	6202	Cut		Linear Potential gully	Linear feature running E-W. Shallow with gentle sides and flat base.	3.4	0.53	0.03
62	6203	Fill	[6202]	Linear Potential gully	Fill of linear. Mid greyish brown silty clay Rare charcoal inclusions	3.4	0.53	0.03
63	6300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm Rare flint inclusions	50	2	0.34
63	6301	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact Occasional flint and stone inclusions	50	2	>0.01
63	6302	Cut		Ditch	Linear ditch crossing trench on NE-SW alignment. Steep, straight sides, sharp break of slope.	>2	1.12	0.31
63	6303	Fill	[6302]	Ditch	Mid grey red brown silty clay Firm Some natural stone inclusions	>2	1.12	0.31
64	6400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Occasional stone and flint inclusions	50	2	0.2
64	6401	Layer		Natural	Mid brownish orange silty clay	50	2	>0.12
64	6402	Cut		Pit	Cut of shallow, circular pit. Shallow, concave side	1.22	0.94	0.14
64	6403	Fill	[6402]	Pit	Dark brownish grey silty clay Loose Occasional small stones	0.94	1.22	0.14
64	6404	Cut		Linear	Cut of linear ditch with steep, concave sides. Aligned SW-NE	>1.8	1.20	0.35
64	6405	Fill	[6404]	Linear	Dark brownish grey silty clay Loose Occasional small rocks	>1.8	1.20	0.35
64	6406	Cut		Potential furrow	Cut of potential furrow, with shallow concave sides. Aligned SW-NE	>1.8	1.42	0.09
64	6407	Fill	[6406]	Potential furrow	Medium brownish grey silty clay Loose Occasional small rocks	>1.8	1.42	0.09
64	6408	Cut		Furrow	Cut of furrow with shallow, concave sides. Aligned SW-NE Truncated by furrow [6408]	>1.8	1.42	0.27
64	6409	Fill	[6408]	Furrow	Dark brownish grey silty clay Loose Frequent small rocks	>1.8	1.42	0.27
65	6500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown grey silty clay	50	1.8	0.30
65	6501	Layer		Natural	Mid brown orange silty clay Stone brash	50	1.8	>0.10

65	6502	Cut		Ditch	Cut of small ditch with steep concave sides with gradual break Aligned NW-SE	>1.8	0.60	0.20
65	6503	Fill	[6502]	Ditch	Mid brown grey fine silty clay Firm Occasional small stone inclusions	>1.8	0.60	0.20
65	6504	Cut		Ditch	Cut of shallow ditch. Possibly boundary ditch.	>1.8	1.07	0.20
65	6505	Fill	[6504]	Ditch	Mid grey brown fine silty clay. Friable Occasional stone fragments	>1.8	1.07	0.20
65	6506	Cut		Ditch	Cut of linear ditch with steep concave sides and sharp break.	>1.8	0.54	0.24
65	6507	Fill	[6506]	Ditch	Mid brown grey silty clay Firm Frequent stone fragment inclusions	>1.8	0.54	0.24
66	6600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown grey fine silty clay	50	1.8	0.51
66	6601	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay. Patches of stony areas	50	1.8	>0.04
66	6602	Cut		Ditch	Cut of linear ditch, with steep concave sides. Aligned NE-SW	>1.8	0.65	0.13
66	6603	Fill	[6602]	Ditch	Brown grey fine silty clay Firm Occasional rounded stone inclusions	>1.8	0.65	0.13
66	6604	Cut		Boundary Ditch	Cut of boundary ditch, with shallow concave sides. Gradual break. Aligned NE-SW	>1.8	1.9	0.26
66	6605	Fill	[6604]	Boundary Ditch	Mid brownish grey fine silty clay Firm Occasional small stone fragment inclusions.	>1.8	1.9	0.26
66	6606	Cut		Boundary Ditch	Cut of boundary ditch. Truncates (6605). Linear, steep concave sides. Unexcavated	>1.8	3.9	0.49
66	6607	Fill	[6606]	Boundary Ditch	Dark brown grey fine silty clay Firm Occasional small stone fragments	>1.8	3.9	>0.8
66	6608	Cut		Ditch	Cut of linear ditch aligned E-W	>1.8	1.5	0.25
66	6609	Fill	[6608]	Ditch	Mid yellow brown fine silty clay. Firm Occasional rounded stone inclusions. Roman pottery found			
66	6610	Cut		Posthole	Oval cut of sharp, steep sided posthole. Aligned NE-SW	0.30	0.20	0.13
66	6611	Fill	[6610]	Posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay Friable Charcoal fleck inclusions	0.30	0.20	0.13
66	6612	Cut		Potential pit	Cut of potential pit with sloping sides.	>0.50	>0.80	0.20
66	6613	Fill	[6612]	Potential pit	Dark grey brown with orange mottling and areas of light grey. Potsherds and charcoal flecking found.	>0.50	>0.80	0.20
66	6614	Layer		Subsoil		50	1.8	0.20

67	6700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, silty clay Firm ~1% natural flint	50	2	0.29
67	6701	Layer		Natural	Light yellow brown silty clay. Firm ~1% natural flint ~1% chalk	50	2	
67	6702	Cut		Furrow	Linear, gradual sloping sides.	0.92	0.51	0.17
67	6703	Fill	[6702]	Furrow	Light-mid yellowish brown silty clay Firm ~1% charcoal ~1% natural flint	0.92	0.51	0.17
68	6800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rounded stone and natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.3
68	6801	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish grey silty clay with occasional flint inclusions	50	2	>0.08
68	6802	Cut		Pit	Oval pit with steep concave sides and concave base Orientated NE-SW	1.1	0.82	0.24
68	6803	Fill	[6802]	Pit	Dark brownish grey silty clay Firm Stone and charcoal inclusions	1.1	0.82	0.24
68	6804	Cut		Possible pit	Probable pit with moderate concave sides and concave base. NE-SW orientation	0.75	0.57	0.14
68	6805	Fill	[6804]	Possible pit	Dark brownish silty clay Firm Charcoal inclusions	0.75	0.57	0.14
68	6806	Fill	[6804]	Possible pit	Redeposited natural – mid yellowish grey silty clay Charcoal inclusions	0.75	0.57	0.11
69	6900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown, silty clay Firm	50	2	0.35
69	6901	Layer		Natural	Mid orange brown clayey silt, Moderate	50	2	>0.14
69	6902	Cut		Potential ditch	Cut of potential ditch. Most likely natural following excavation.	>1.8	0.79	0.24
69	6903	Fill	[6902]	Potential ditch	Dark brown grey silty clay Loose	>1.8	0.79	0.24
70	7000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay Firm	50	2	0.34
70	7001	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey brown silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.20
71	7100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.19
71	7101	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.14
72	7200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.33
72	7201	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.16
72	7202	Cut		Pit	Cut of shallow pit.	1.46	1.30	0.13
72	7203	Fill	[7202]	Pit	Mid orange brown fine silty clay Loose Occasional stone fragments	1.46	1.30	0.13
73	7300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay Firm Natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.35
73	7301	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish grey silty clay. Firm	50	2	

73	7302	Cut		Possible furrow	Cut of probable furrow	0.9	0.71	0.28
73	7303	Fill	[7302]	Possible furrow	Mid greyish reddish brown silty clay Moderate >1% small irregular stones >1% medium sandstone inclusions	0.9	0.71	0.28
74	7400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay. Firm	50	2	0.41
74	7401	Layer		Natural	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.19
75	7500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.39
75	7501	Layer		Natural	Mid orange brown silty clay Compact	50	2	>0.21
75	7502	Cut		Pit	Cut of sub circular pit	0.36	0.34	0.09
75	7503	Fill	[7502]	Pit	Dark brown grey fine silty clay Loose	0.36	0.34	0.09
75	7504	Cut		Pit	Cut of sub circular pit			
75	7505	Fill	[7504]	Pit	Dark brown grey silty clay. Loose			
76	7600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey silty clay Moderate	50	2	0.33
76	7601	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.14
77	7700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.35
77	7701	Layer		Natural	Mid orange brown sandy silt. Friable	50	2	
78	7800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey silty clay Firm	50	2	0.31
78	7801	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow grey silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.28
79	7900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.4
79	7901	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow grey silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.15
80	8000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.37
80	8001	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish grey silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.19
80	8002	Cut		Gully	Cut of linear with steep sloping sides.	1.07	0.28	0.19
80	8003	Fill	[8002]	Gully	Mid reddish brown silty clay Firm	1.07	0.28	0.19
81	8100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey silty clay Firm	50	2	0.30
81	8101	Layer		Natural	Mid orange grey clayey silt. Moderate	50	2	>0.31
82	8200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Occasional natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.34
82	8201	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay	50	2	>0.17
82	8202	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	50	2	0.27
83	8300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Occasional flint inclusions	50	2	0.27
83	8301	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay	50	2	>0.34
84	8400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.30
84	8401	Layer		Natural	Light yellow clay Firm	50	2	>0.20
85	8500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm	50	2	0.29
85	8501	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.25

					Occasional natural flint inclusions			
86	8600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Occasional flint inclusions	50	2	0.31
86	8601	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay	50	2	>0.17
86	8602	Cut		Ditch	Steep V-shaped cut of enclosure ditch	>1	1.2	0.47
86	8603	Fill	[8602]	Ditch	Mid brownish silty clay fill Moderate compaction Charcoal and stone inclusions	>1	1.2	0.47
87	8700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm Natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.36
87	8701	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay Firm	50	2	>0.14
87	8702	Cut		Possible ditch	Cut of linear – possibly a ditch.	>1	0.5	0.75
87	8703	Fill	[8702]	Possible ditch	Light greyish brown silty clay Moderate Flecks of red mineral >1% charcoal flecks >1% pebbles	>1	0.5	0.17
87	8704	Layer		Subsoil	Light yellowish brown silty clay Moderate			
87	8705	Cut		Furrow	Cut of linear Edges difficult to find	0.98	0.95	0.16
87	8706	Fill	[8705]	Furrow	Light yellowish greyish brown silty clay Moderate	0.98	0.95	0.16
88	8800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm Natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.18
88	8801	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay Firm Some limestone inclusions	50	2	>0.23
89	8900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm Some flint inclusions	50	2	0.2
89	8901	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay Firm Some flint inclusions	50	2	>0.15
90	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm Occasional natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.31
90	902	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm Occasional natural flint inclusions	50	2	>0.08
91	9100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay Firm Some natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.28
91	9101	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm Some natural flint inclusions	50	2	>0.07
92	9200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm Some natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.29
92	9201	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay Firm Some natural flint inclusions	50	2	>0.05
93	9300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay Firm Some natural flint inclusions	50	2	0.32
93	9301	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty clay	50	2	>0.13

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					Firm Some natural flint inclusions			
--	--	--	--	--	---------------------------------------	--	--	--



## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

**Table 1: Finds Concordance**

Context	Class	Sample No.	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
907	Roman Pottery		Pink grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b>	4	151	C2-C4
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	3	35	
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy white ware	UNS WW	1	13	
1303	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	1	1	RB
1309	Roman Pottery	9	Unsourced sandy grey ware	UNS GW	1	3	RB
1312	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	1	3	RB
1405	Fired clay			fsg	8	25	
1406	Fired clay			fsg	8	35	
1408	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	3	2	LIA-ERB
2002	CBM			fs	1	11	
	Industrial waste				1	3	
3002	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	2	19	LIA-ERB
3207	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy ware	UNS Q	2	12	RB
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	1	13	
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy greyware	UNS GW	2	34	
	Flint		Bladelet		1	1	
	Iron		Nail		1	14	
	Industrial waste				36	1810	
	Industrial waste	7			75	166	
Industrial waste	7	Hammerscale		2	1		
3208	Flint		Bladelet x 1, scraper x 1		2	3	
3209	Roman Pottery		Lower Nene Valley White Ware	<b>LNV WH</b>	1	4	C2-C4
	Flint		Flake		1	1	
3505	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Sandy fabric	Q	1	1	LATE PREH
3607	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	3	17	LIA-ERB
4403	Roman Pottery		Oxfordshire colour coated ware	<b>OXF RS</b>	1	30	C3-C4
4803	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	1	4	LIA-ERB
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	6	8	
4808	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Shell-tempered fabric	SH	9	58	LIA-ERB
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	1	12	
4903	Post-medieval Pottery		Staffordshire-type slipware	STAF	1	3	LC17-C18
	Post-medieval Pottery		Nottingham-type stoneware	ESWN	1	4	
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	1	2	
	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy white ware	UNS WW	1	3	
6203	Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy greyware	UNS GW	2	3	RB
	CBM		Tile	fscp	1	9	
6303	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	17	114	EMC1
	CBM		Tile	fsfe/msflcp	2	12	
	Flint		Blade		1	3	
6405	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Limestone-tempered fabric	LI	4	42	C17-C20
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	1	15	
	Post-medieval/modern Pottery		North Midlands earthenware	NMEW	1	9	
6507	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Shell-tempered fabric	SH	2	19	LIA-ERB
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	7	346	
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	2	20	
	LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced sandy ware	UNS Q	1	8	

6603	LIA/Roman Pottery CBM		Unsourced grog-tempered ware Tile	UNS GR sh	2 1	20 63	LIA-ERB
6605	Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery	3	Pink grog-tempered ware Unsourced shell-tempered ware Developed grog-tempered ware Unsourced sandy oxidised ware Unsourced sandy black ware Unsourced sandy white ware Unsourced sandy greyware Unsourced white ware Unsourced grog-tempered greyware Unsourced sandy grey ware Unsourced sandy grog- tempered ware Unsourced grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b> UNS SH UNS DGR UNS OX UNS BSW UNS WW UNS GW UNS WH UNS GTG UNS GW UNS QGR UNS GR	1 6 10 5 5 2 40 2 4 1 3 25	9 54 110 41 17 18 233 7 495 2 21 254	C2-C4
6607	LIA/Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery Roman Pottery	4 4 4	Unsourced grog-tempered ware Unsourced sandy ware Unsourced sandy white ware	UNS GR UNS Q UNS WW	2 1 1	6 4 2	RB
6609	Late Prehistoric Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery		Shell-tempered fabric Unsourced grog-tempered ware	SH UNS GR	4 42	19 614	C1 AD
6611	Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery CBM	10	Unsourced sandy grey ware Unsourced grog-tempered ware Unsourced shelly grog- tempered ware Unsourced grog-tempered ware Tile	UNS GW UNS GR UNS SHGR UNS GR fscp	1 8 2 4 1	19 163 3 49 22	C2-C3
6805	Fired clay			ms	5	9	
6806	Roman Pottery	2	Unsourced sandy grey ware	UNS GW	1	3	RB
7303	LIA/Roman Pottery Post-medieval/modern Pottery Roman Pottery CBM		Unsourced sandy grog- tempered ware Refined white earthenware Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS QGR REFW UNS OX fscpl/fscp	1 1 1 3	4 2 2 14	LC18-C20
8003	LIA/Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery		Unsourced grog-tempered ware Unsourced sandy ware	UNS GR UNS Q	3 1	8 2	LIA-ERB
8300	Silver		Coin		1	4	C14
8603	LIA/Roman Pottery Late Prehistoric Pottery CBM		Unsourced grog-tempered ware Sandy grog-tempered fabric	UNS GR QGR mscp	1 1 4	22 12 8	LIA-ERB
9003	CBM			fscp	1	4	RB
9005	Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery Roman Pottery LIA/Roman Pottery CBM		Lezoux Central Gaulish samian ware Unsourced sandy oxidised ware Oxfordshire colour coated ware Unourced sandy greyware Pink grog-tempered ware Unsourced grog-tempered ware Unsourced sandy grog- tempered ware Tile	<b>LEZ SA2</b> UNS OX <b>OXF RS</b> UNS GW <b>PNK GT</b> UNS GR UNS QGR fsfe	1 1 1 3 4 1 1 1	13 12 2 41 18 9 5 19	C3-C4

\*National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are indicated in bold (Tomber and Dore 1998)

**Table 2: Fabric Descriptions**

Period	Fabric Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)
Late Prehistoric Pottery	Limestone-tempered fabric	LI	4	42
	Sandy fabric	Q	1	1
	Shell-tempered fabric	SH	16	159
	Sandy grog-tempered fabric	QGR	1	12
LIA/Roman Pottery	Unsourced grog-tempered ware	UNS GR	117	1641
	Unsourced sandy ware	UNS Q	5	26
	Unsourced sandy grog-tempered ware	UNS QGR	5	30
	Unsourced shelly grog-tempered ware	UNS SHGR	16	64
	Unsourced sandy black ware	UNS BSW	5	17
	Developed grog-tempered ware	UNS DGR	10	110
	Unsourced grog-tempered greyware	UNS GTG	4	495
	Unsourced sandy greyware	UNS GW	51	338
	Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	UNS OX	14	109
	Unsourced shell-tempered ware	UNS SH	6	54
	Unsourced white ware	UNS WH	2	7
	Unsourced sandy white ware	UNS WW	5	36
	Lower Nene Valley white ware	<b>LVN WH</b>	1	4
	Oxfordshire colour coated ware	<b>OXF RS</b>	2	32
	Pink grog-tempered ware	<b>PNK GT</b>	9	178
Lezoux Central Gaulish samian ware	<b>LEZ SA2</b>	1	13	
Post-medieval/modern Pottery	Staffordshire slipped ware	STAF	1	3
	Nottingham-type stoneware	ESWN	1	4
	North Midlands earthenware	NMEW	1	9
	Refined white earthenware	REFW	1	2
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>279</b>	<b>3386</b>

\*National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are indicated in bold (Tomber and Dore 1998).

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

**Table 1:** Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	EQ	Canis	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Late Iron Age-Early Roman</b>											
3504	3505	1								1	119
4805	4808								7	7	0.2
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1</b>							<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>119.02</b>
<b>Romano-British</b>											
906	907	2								2	189
1308	1309	2						1		3	15
	3207	1			1					2	100
6604	6605							1	17	18	29
6606	6607		1						6	7	1.1
6608	6609			1				4		5	61
6610	6611								8	8	2
6804	6806		2							2	2
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>399.1</b>
<b>Post-medieval/Modern</b>											
6404	6405	2		1		2				5	375
<b>Undated</b>											
2902	2903	1								1	1
6802	6803	1	1					9		11	47
8602	8603	1	4					7		12	57
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>					<b>16</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>84</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>624</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>998.3</b>	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; EQ = horse; Canis = dog; LM = cattle size mammal; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = unidentifiable, burnt fragments from bulk soil samples

**Table 2: Assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains**

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 13												
Pit 1308	1309	9	10	185	<1	*****	-	wheat grain; indet grain (v. abraded); cf. rye; cf. f-t wheat grain	**	<i>Fumaria; Vicia/Lathyrus; Rumex crispus; Vicia faba/Pisum</i>	*****/*****	bn**
Trench 14												
	1406	12	5	7	<1	*	-	indet grain (v. abraded)	-	-	*/*	-
Ditch 1404	1405	13	15	3	<1	**	-	indet grain (v. abraded); barley	*	cf. <i>Rumex crispus; Avena/Bromus</i>	*/**	-
Ditch 1407	1408	14	14	4	<1	*	-	indet grain (v. abraded)	-	-	*/*	-
Trench 29												
Pit 2902	2903	8	10	212	2	*	-	indet grain (v. abraded); wheat grain	*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	*****/*****	-
Trench 32												
Ditch 3206	3207	7	16	30	80	**	-	barley (in husk); indet grain (v. abraded)	-	-	**/**	-
Trench 48												
Pit 4802	4803	5	4	17	90	-	-	-	*	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> (v. abraded); cf. <i>Fumaria</i>	*/**	-
Ditch Terminus 4805	4808	6	12	30	90	*	-	indet grain (v. abraded); hulled wheat grain	*	cf. <i>Vicia/Lathyrus; Fumaria</i>	**/**	brnt bn*
Trench 66												
Ditch 6604	6605	3	14	15	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ditch 6606	6607	4	17	15	85	*	*	indet grain (v. abraded); spelt glume	*	<i>Rumex crispus; Corylus avellana</i>	*/**	brnt bn*
Pit/Deposit 6610	6611	10	35	15	2	*	-	hulled wheat grain	*	<i>Avena/Bromus; Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	**/**	brnt bn*
Posthole 6612	6613	11	4	30	1	-	-	-	*	cf. <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	*****/*****	-
Trench 68												
	6805	1	4	2	80	***	-	indet grain (v. abraded); hulled wheat grain	*	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	*/*	-
Pit 6804	6806	2	9	6	90	**	-	indet grain (v. abraded); hulled wheat grain	*	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	*/**	-

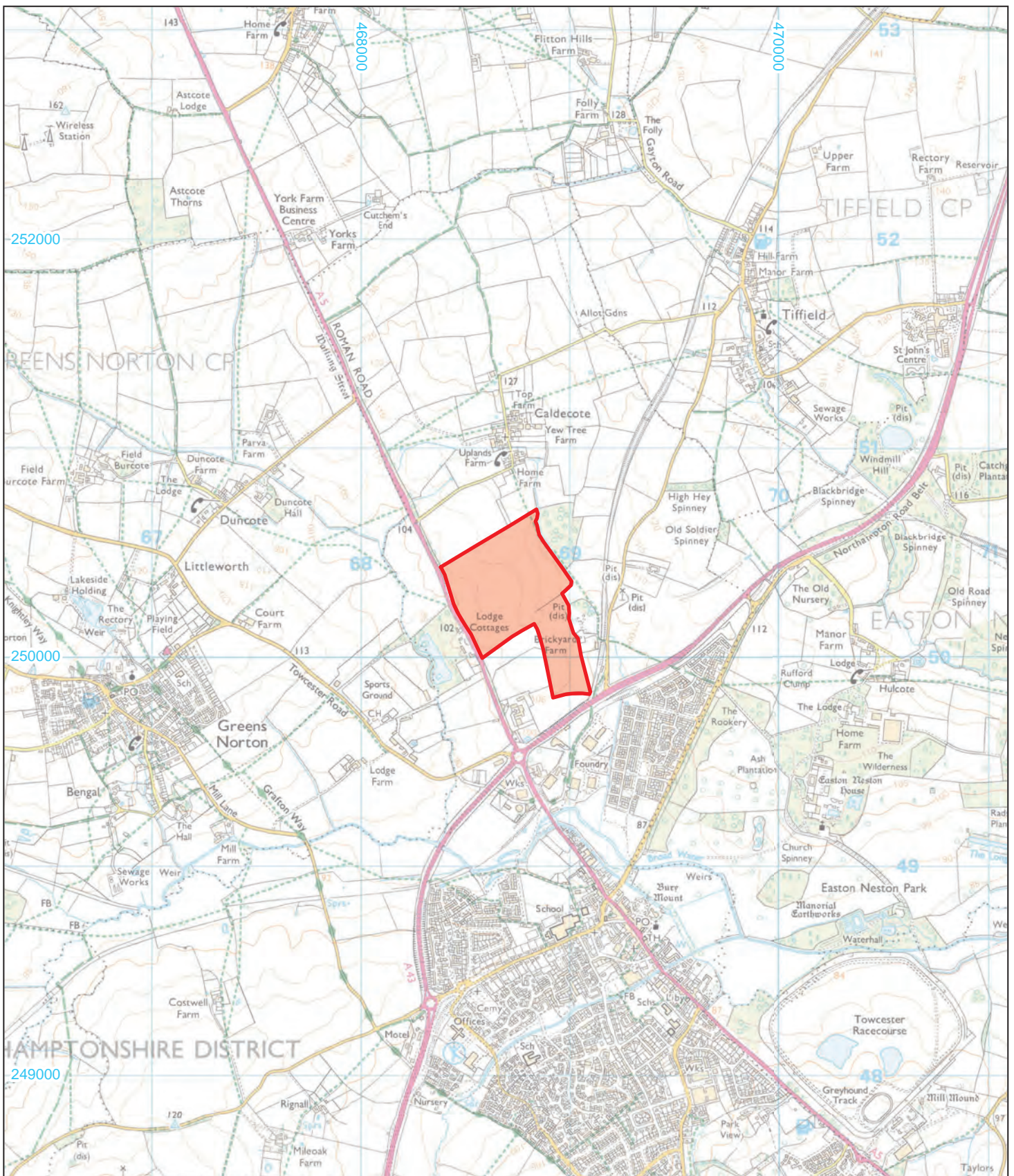
Key: \* = 1–4 items; \*\* = 4–20 items; \*\*\* = 21–49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50–99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 Items: brnt bn = burnt bone, bn = bone

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
Project name	Land north of Bell Plantation
Short description	<p>In May and June 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land north of Bell Plantation, Towcester, Northamptonshire. A total of 93 trenches measuring 50m long by 2m wide were excavated across the proposed development site.</p> <p>A preceding geophysical of the Site identified anomalies of probable and possible archaeological origin interpreted as multiple settlement complexes with possibly associated field systems of possible Late Prehistoric to Romano-British date. The results of the trial trenching broadly confirmed those of preceding geophysical survey, although a high level of plough disturbance through the relatively thin ploughsoil was noted to affect feature preservation across the Site. The strongest geophysical anomalies corresponded well with features investigated in the evaluation trenches, although a number of weaker signals were not matched by features. Furrow preservation across the Site was similarly variable, with the geophysical survey recording a much denser system than was evident in the trenches; surviving furrow remains were also generally poorly preserved.</p> <p>Early activity within the Site is represented by a small assemblage of lithics. While these objects were recovered from later features they nonetheless hint at the exploitation of the site and surrounding landscape during these periods.</p> <p>The evaluation also identified three spatially distinct focal zones of activity within the Site, two of Late Iron Age – Early Roman date, comprising the remains of a ring ditch and rectangular enclosure in the north part of the Site and a third in the south part of the Site, centred on a smaller square enclosure with possibly associated external activity. The third area of activity, in the southwest corner of the Site, adjacent to Watling Street, produced evidence for activity in the Roman period, with pottery evidence suggesting a broad 2nd – 4th century date.</p> <p>The pottery assemblage recovered from the Site comprises for the most part locally produced vessel types, with very little evidence for regional or imported wares. Analysis of environmental samples also suggested the proximity of some level of domestic settlement activity, producing evidence for hearth and food preparation waste.</p> <p>The area of Roman activity in southwest part of the site does not appear to have been heavily Romanised, with little tile and virtually no high status or imported pottery having been recovered from the investigated features. The recovery of industrial waste and hammerscale from the Site, albeit in limited quantities suggest industrial processes were taking place in the vicinity. Evidence for post-Roman activity within the Site is limited primarily to features relating to the agricultural management of the landscape.</p>
Project dates	4 May – 3 June 2021
Project type	Field evaluation
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (Magnitude Surveys 2020)
Future work	Mitigation work on key areas identified during trial trenching
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Site location	North of Bell Plantation, Towcester, Northamptonshire
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	30.8ha
Site co-ordinates	468603 250299
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology

Project brief originator	North Northamptonshire Council	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby	
Project Supervisor	Anna Wolf	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	Ring ditch, boundary ditches, pits, postholes, furrows	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	Pottery (Iron Age/Roman), lithics (Mesolithic/Neolithic/Bronze Age), animal bone, metalworking	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)</b>	<b>Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)</b>
Physical	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Ceramics, animal bone, metal artefacts
Paper	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Context sheets, trench sheets, registers, section drawings
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Digital photos, digital plans
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2021 <i>Land north of Bell Plantation, Towcester, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report <b>MK0471_1</b>		





 Site boundary



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**PROJECT TITLE**

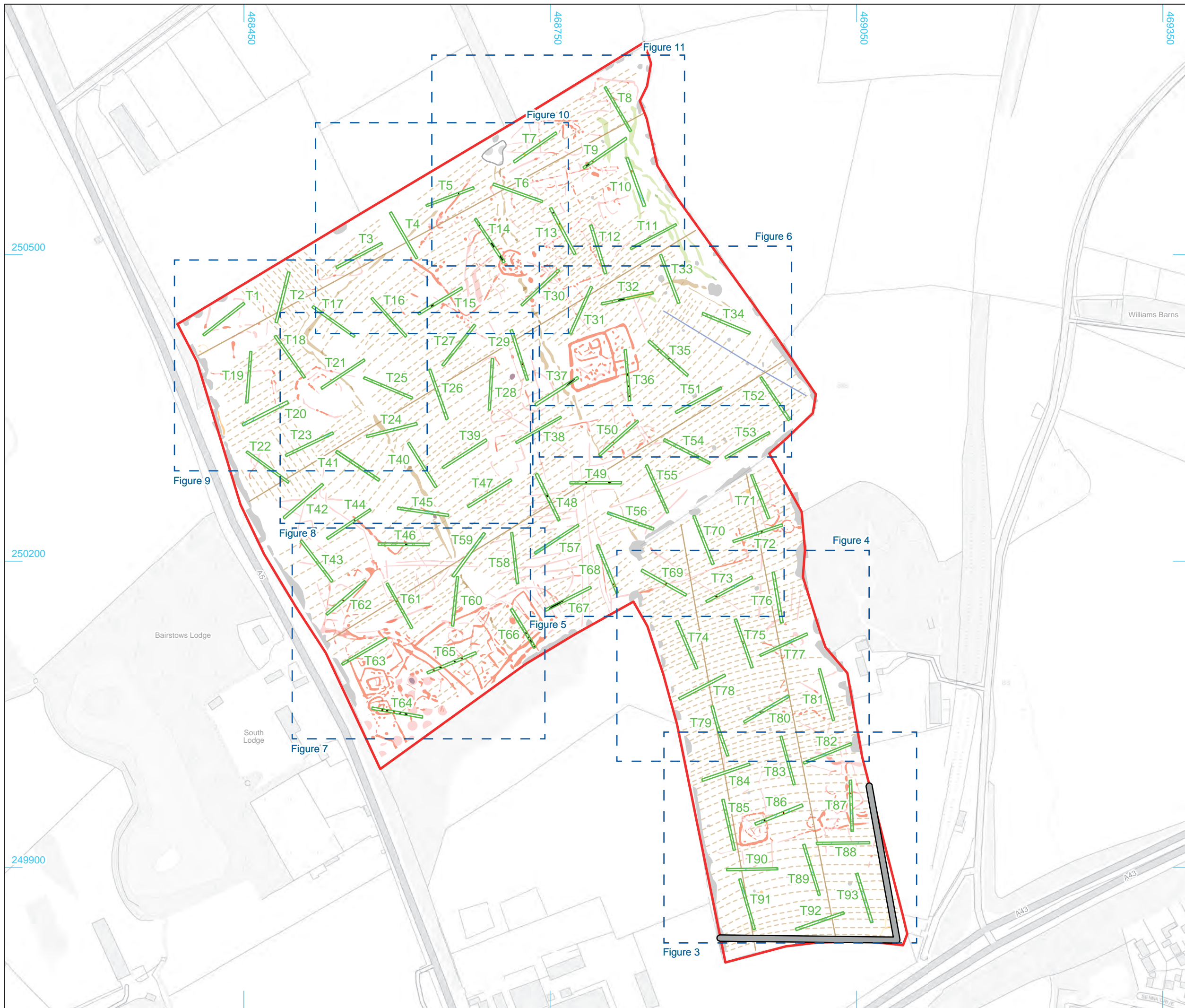
Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	LZS	PROJECT NO.	MK0471	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	01/07/21	1
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	





- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- HV cable 3m buffer

Geophysical survey results  
(Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)

- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
- Archaeology possible
- Agricultural
- Natural
- Possible burnt / fired
- Magnetic disturbance
- Agricultural (trend)
- Ridge and furrow
- Drainage
- Ferrous (spike)



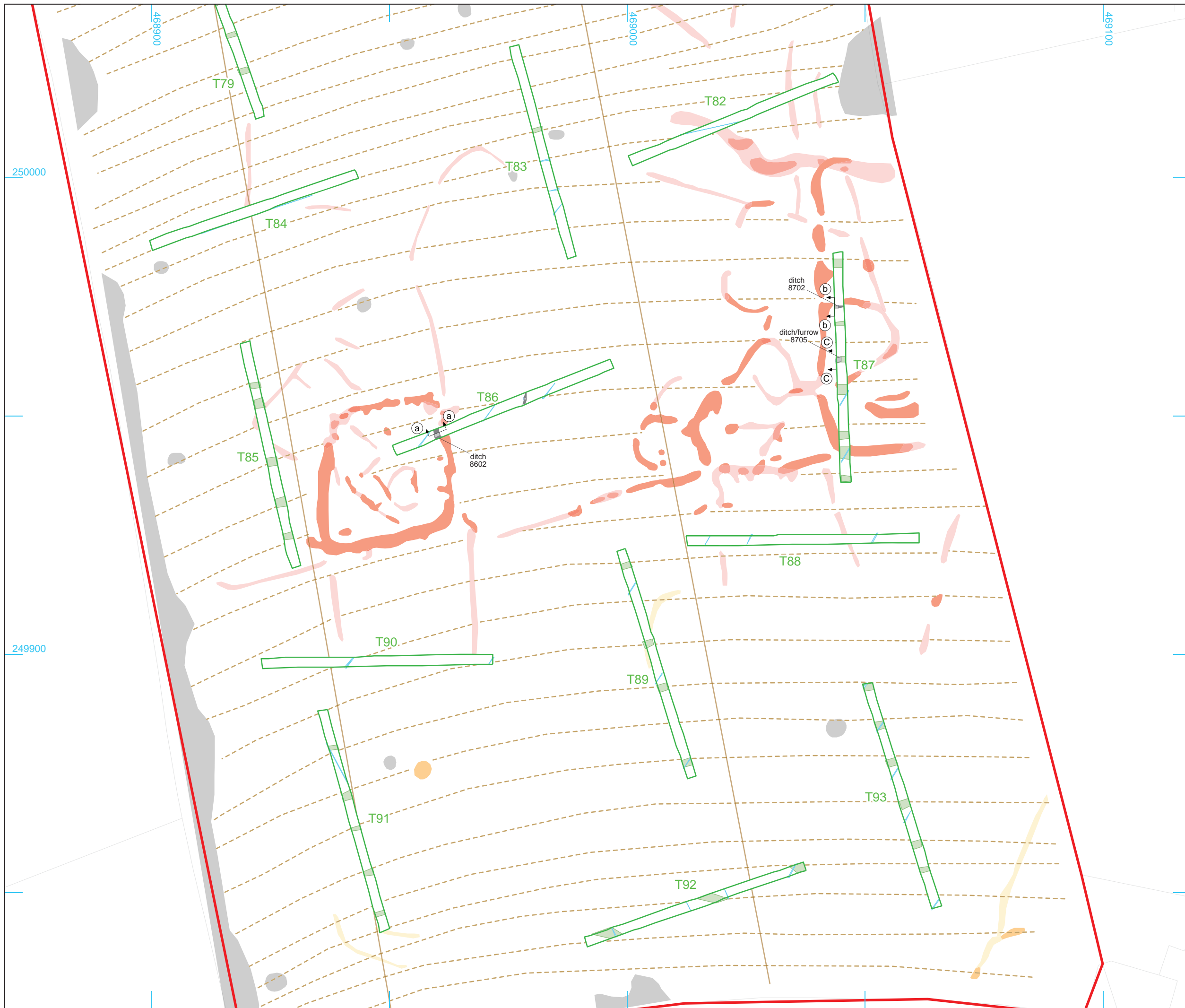
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land north of Bell Plantation  
Towcester, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trench location plan: whole site and  
geophysical survey results**

<small>DRAWN BY</small> LZS	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0471	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 29/06/21	<b>2</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> AS	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:3500	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan: trenches 82-92

<small>DRAWN BY</small> LZS	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0471	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 29/06/21	<b>3</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> AS	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:750	





- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



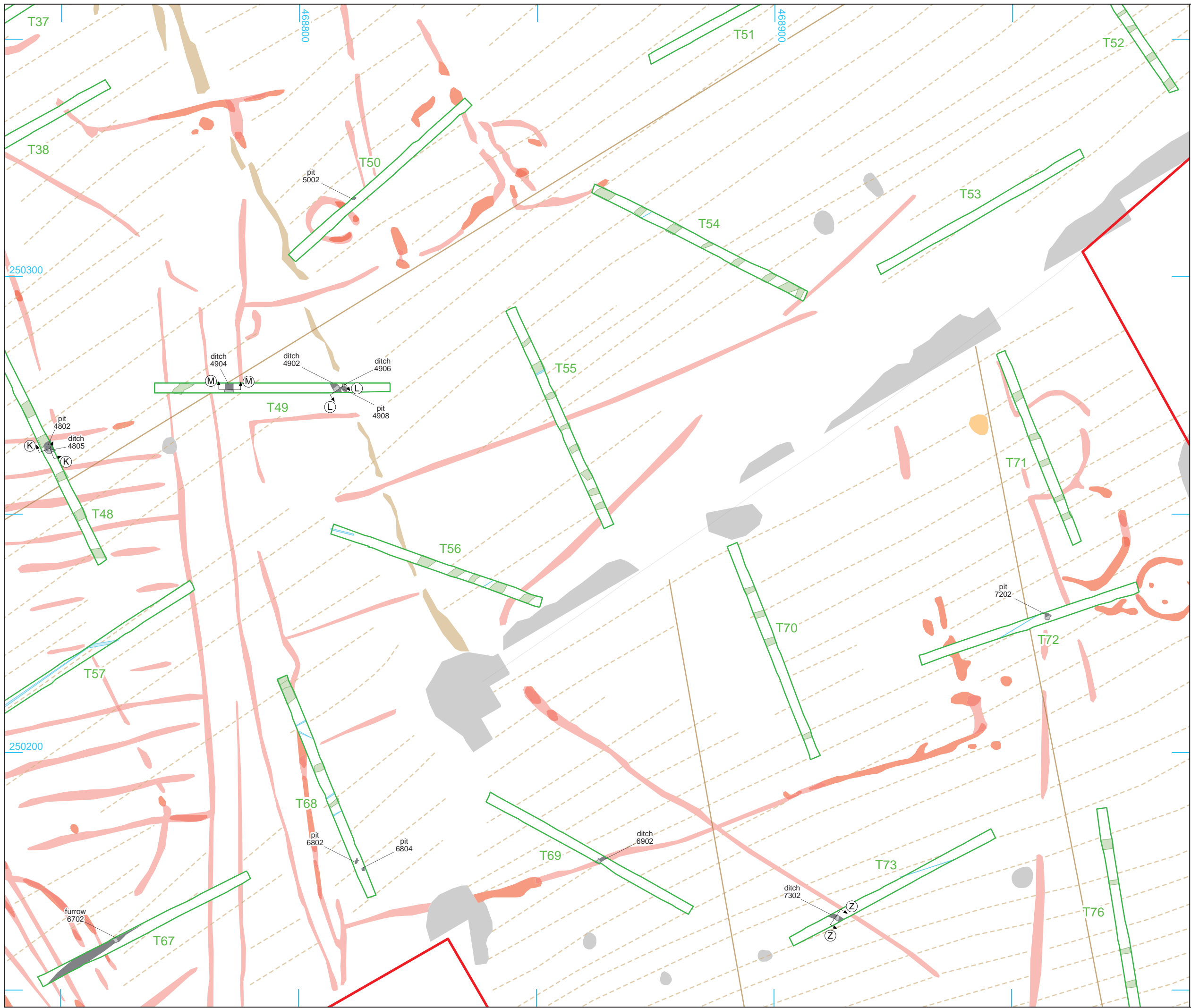
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan: trenches 69,  
 73-81

<small>DRAWN BY</small> LZS	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0471	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 29/06/21	<b>4</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> AS	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:750	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



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PROJECT TITLE  
**Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire**

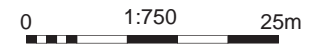
FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan: trenches 48-50,  
 53-57, 67-73**

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CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 29/06/21	
APPROVED BY AS	SCALE@A3 1:750	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Deposit
- Field drain
- Treethrow
- Furrow
- Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



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**Land north of Bell Plantation  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan: trenches 31-36,  
 50-53**

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- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow
- A A Section location

**Geophysical survey results**  
(Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)

- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
- Archaeology possible
- Agricultural
- Natural
- Possible burnt / fired
- Magnetic disturbance
- Agricultural (trend)
- Ridge and furrow
- Drainage
- Ferrous (spike)



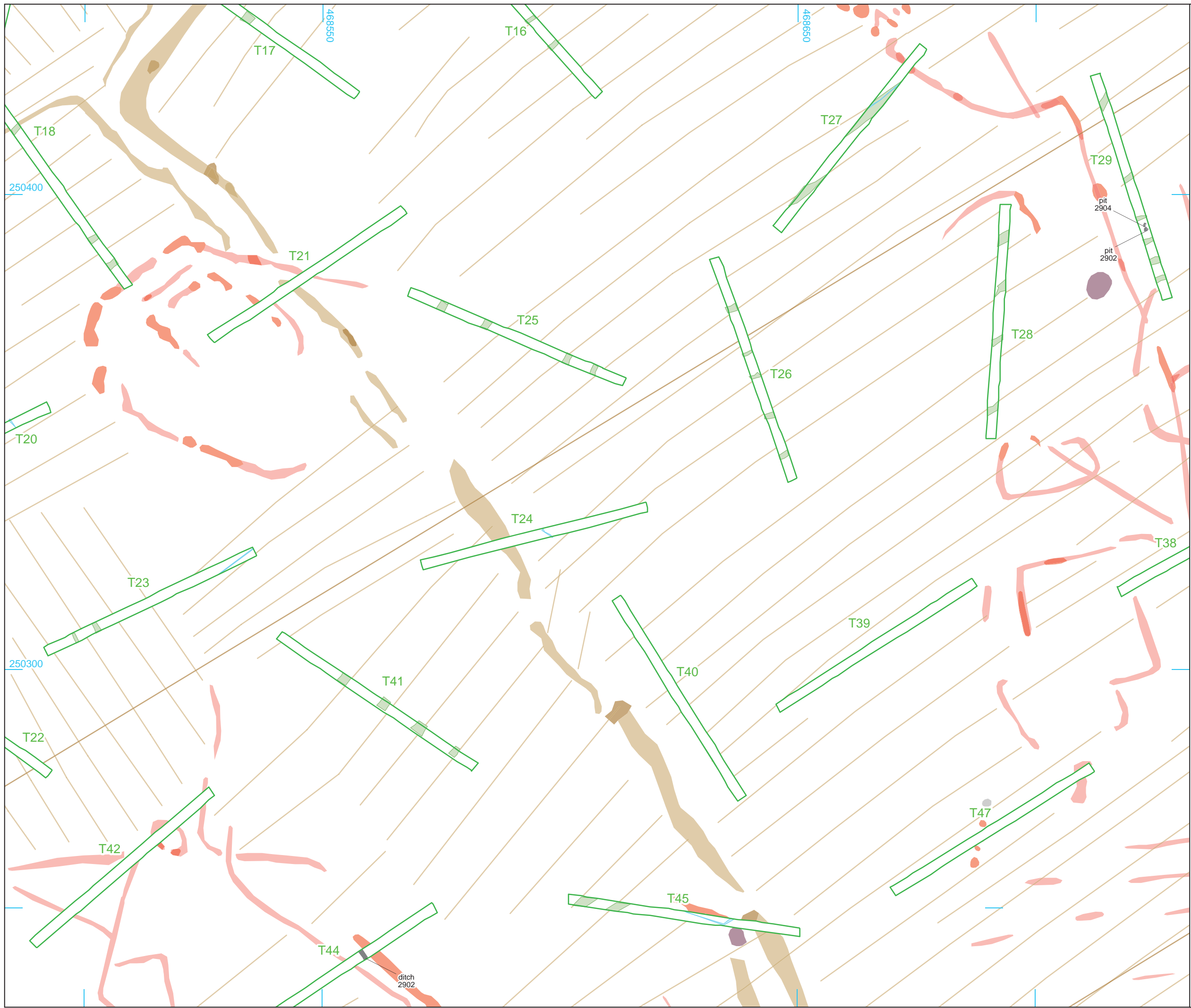
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**FIGURE TITLE**  
Trench location plan: trenches 43, 46,  
58-66

<small>DRAWN BY</small> LZS	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0471	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 29/06/21	<b>7</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> AS	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:750	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



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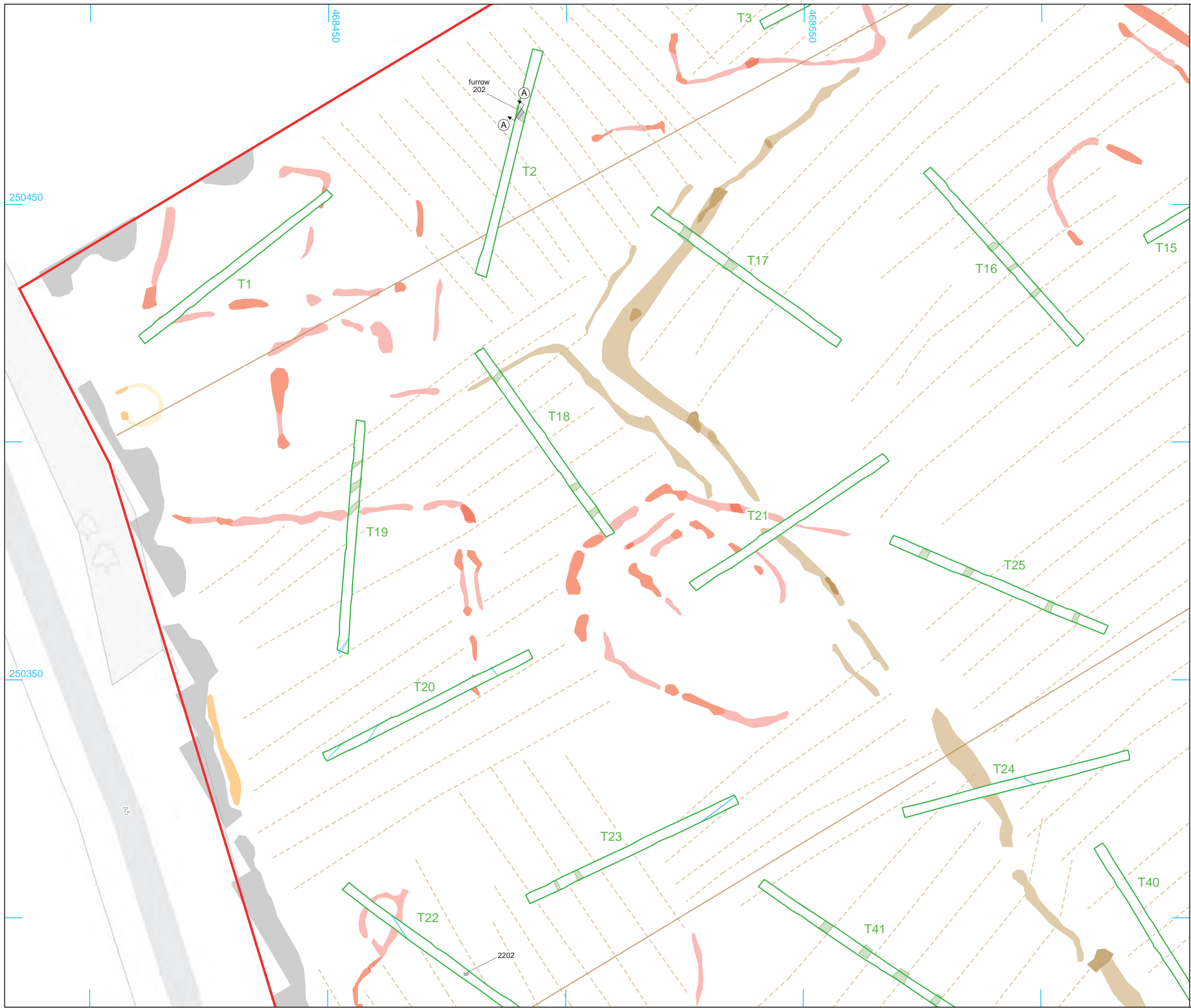
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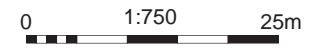
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan: trenches 21,  
 23-29, 39-42, 45, 47

DRAWN BY	LZS	PROJECT NO.	MK0471	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	29/06/21	8
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:750	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Field drain
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



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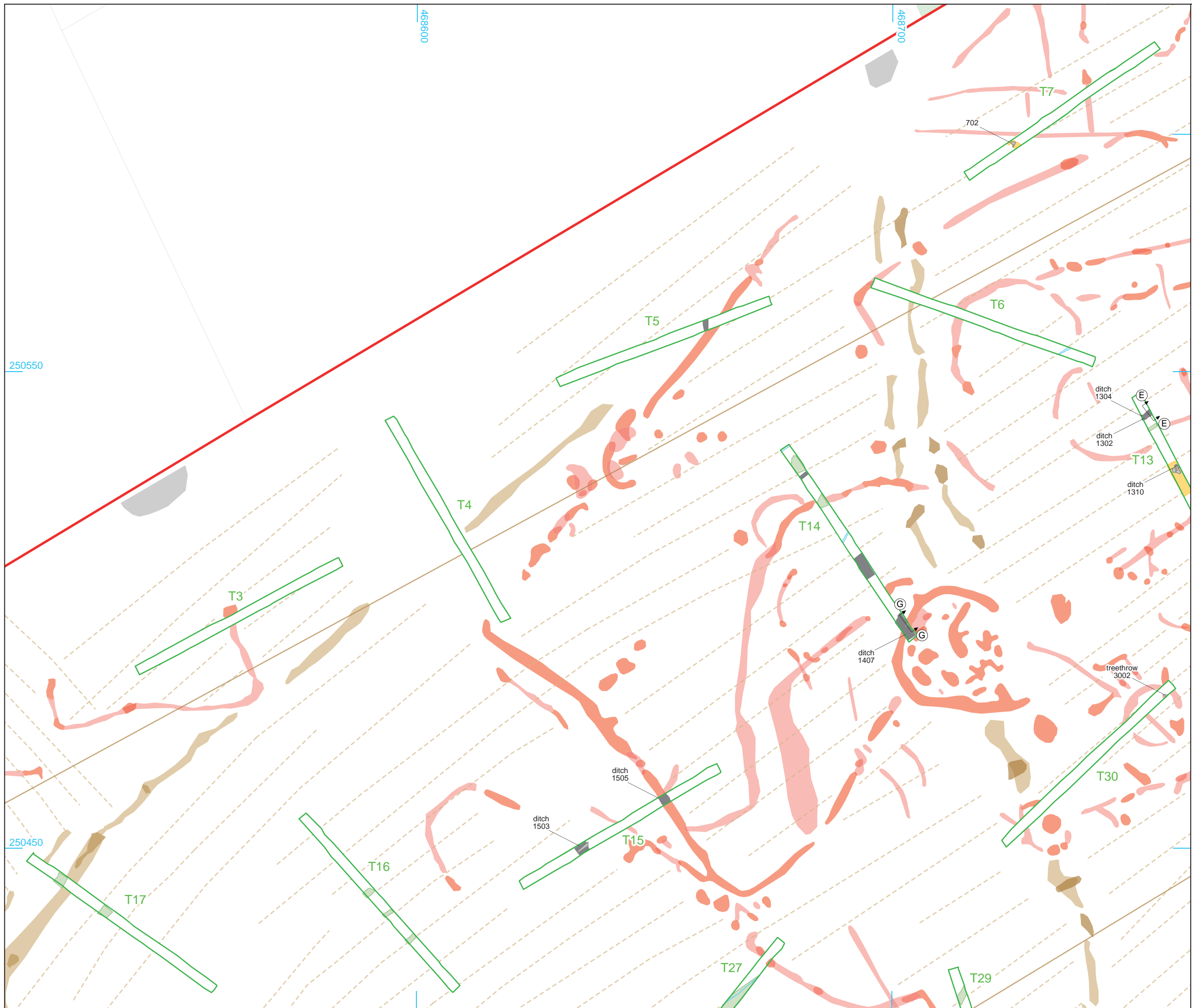
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**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan: trenches 1, 2,  
 16-25

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- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Deposit
- Field drain
- Treethrow
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)**
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
  - Drainage
  - Ferrous (spike)



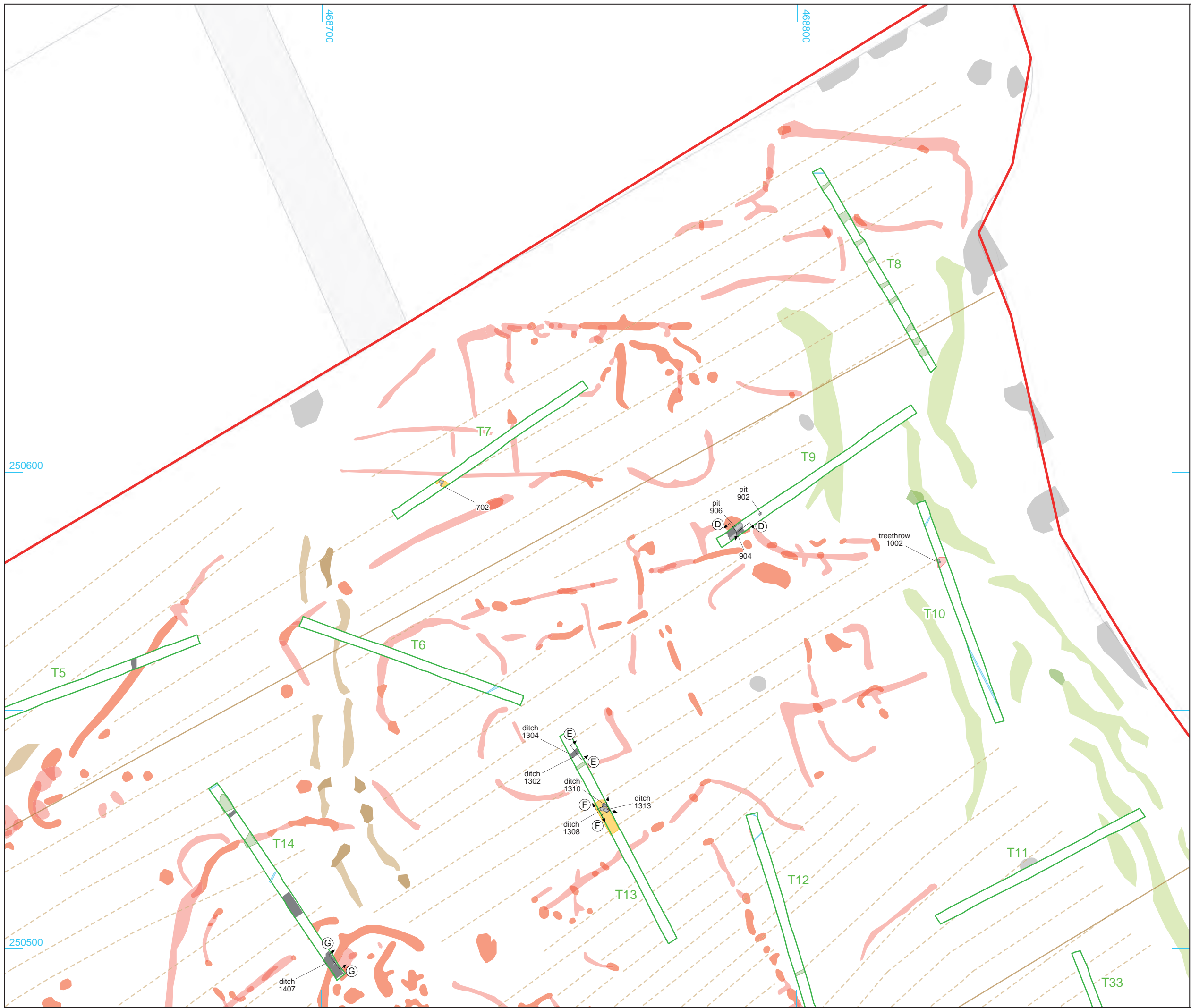
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**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan: trenches 3-7, 14, 15

DRAWN BY LZS CHECKED BY DJB APPROVED BY AS	PROJECT NO. MK0471 DATE 29/06/21 SCALE@A3 1:750	<b>FIGURE NO.</b> <b>10</b>
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- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Deposit
- Field drain
- Treethrow
- Furrow
- A A Section location

- Geophysical survey results (Magnitude Surveys Ltd 2020)
- Archaeology probable (strong / weak)
  - Archaeology possible
  - Agricultural
  - Natural
  - Possible burnt / fired
  - Magnetic disturbance
  - Agricultural (trend)
  - Ridge and furrow
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan: trenches 6-14**

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Trench 3, looking east (1m scales)



Trench 11, looking east (1m scales)



Trench 39, looking north-east (1m scales)



Trench 87, looking east (1m scales)


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FIGURE TITLE  
**Selection of blank trenches:  
 photographs**

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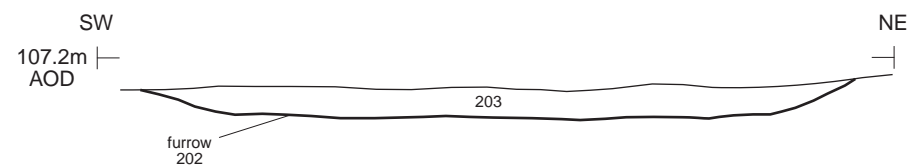


Furrow 202, looking north-west (1m scale)

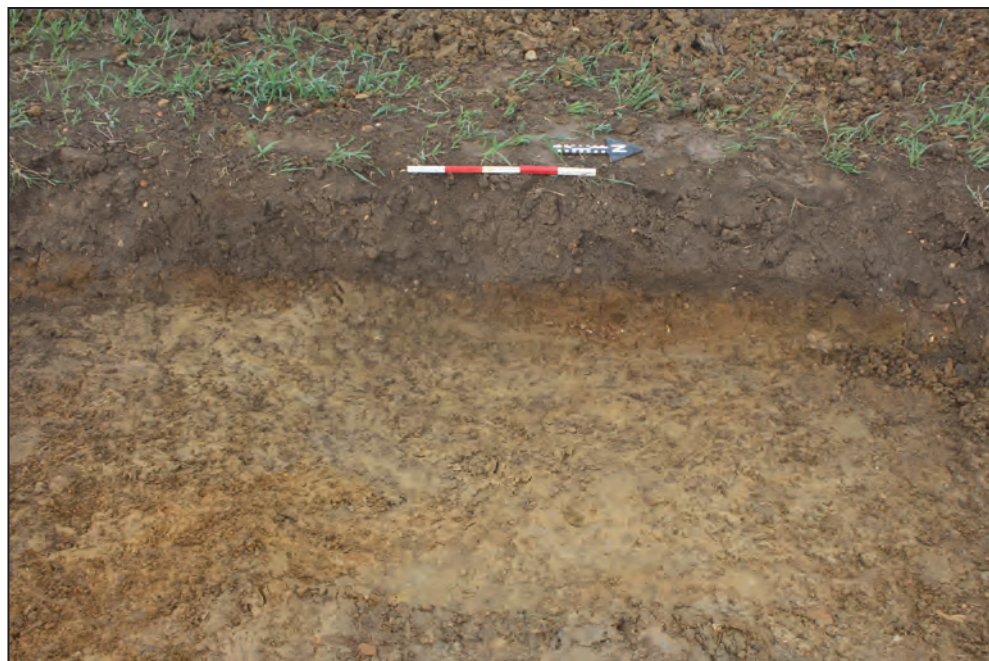
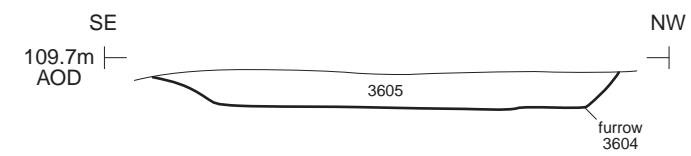


Furrow 3604, looking south-west (1m scale)

Section AA

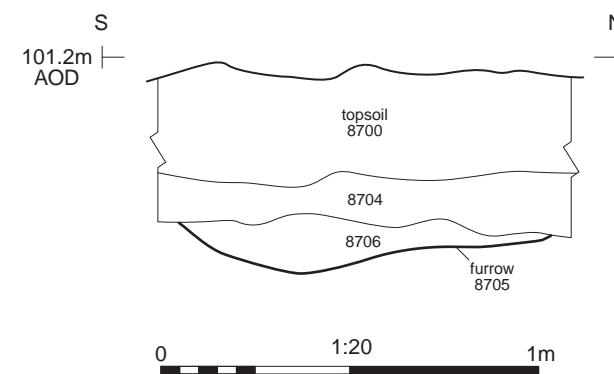


Section BB



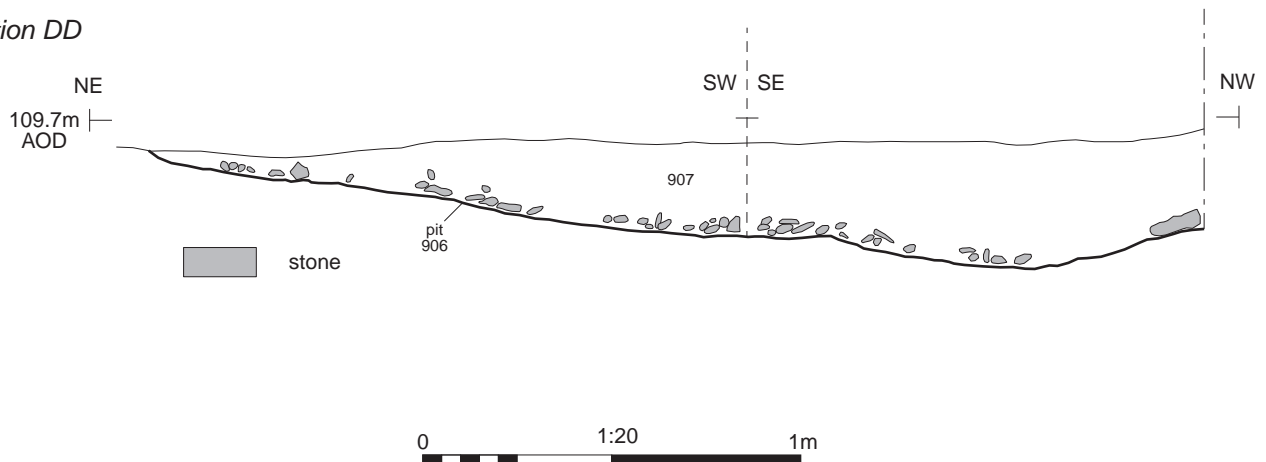
Furrow 8705, looking west (1m scale)

Section CC





Section DD



Pit 906, looking south-west (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

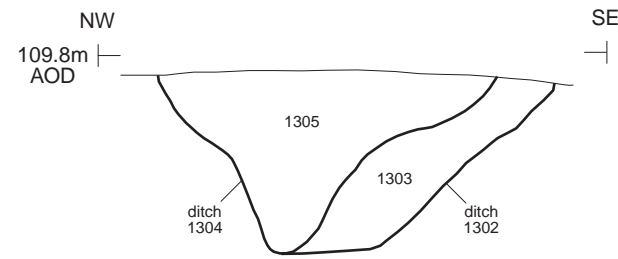
Trench 9: section and photograph

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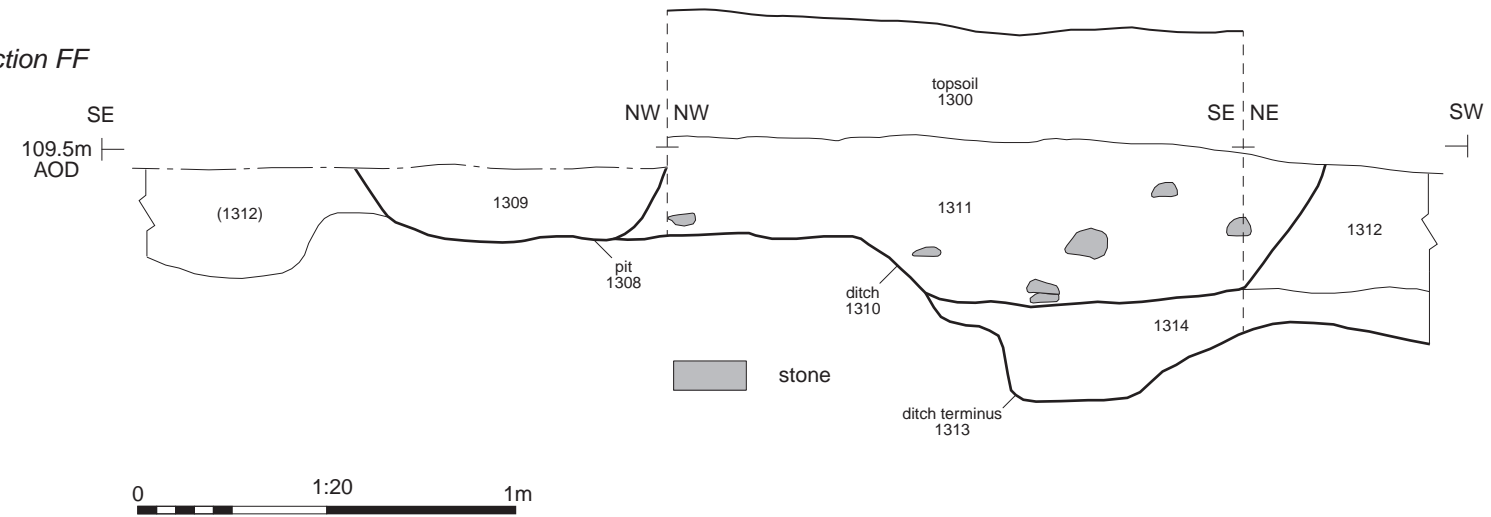
FIGURE NO.

14

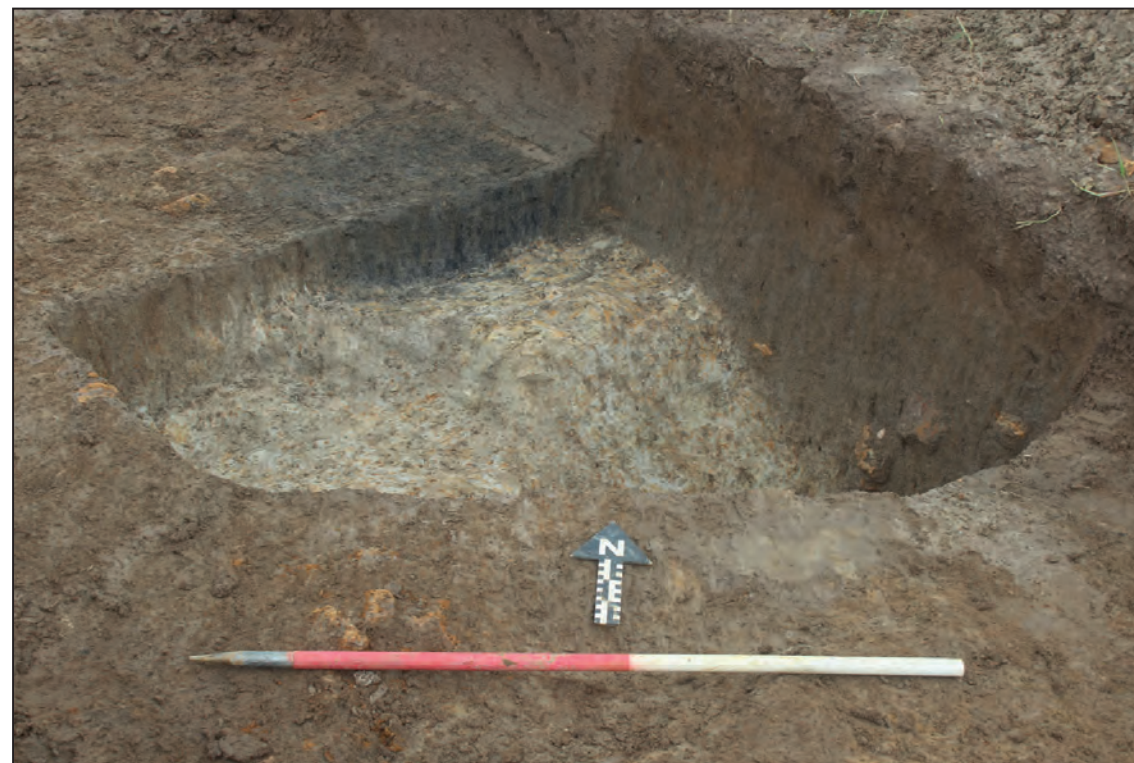
Section EE



Section FF



Ditch 1302, looking south-west (1m scale)



Pit 1308, ditch 1310, deposit 1312, and ditch terminus 1313, looking north (1m scale)


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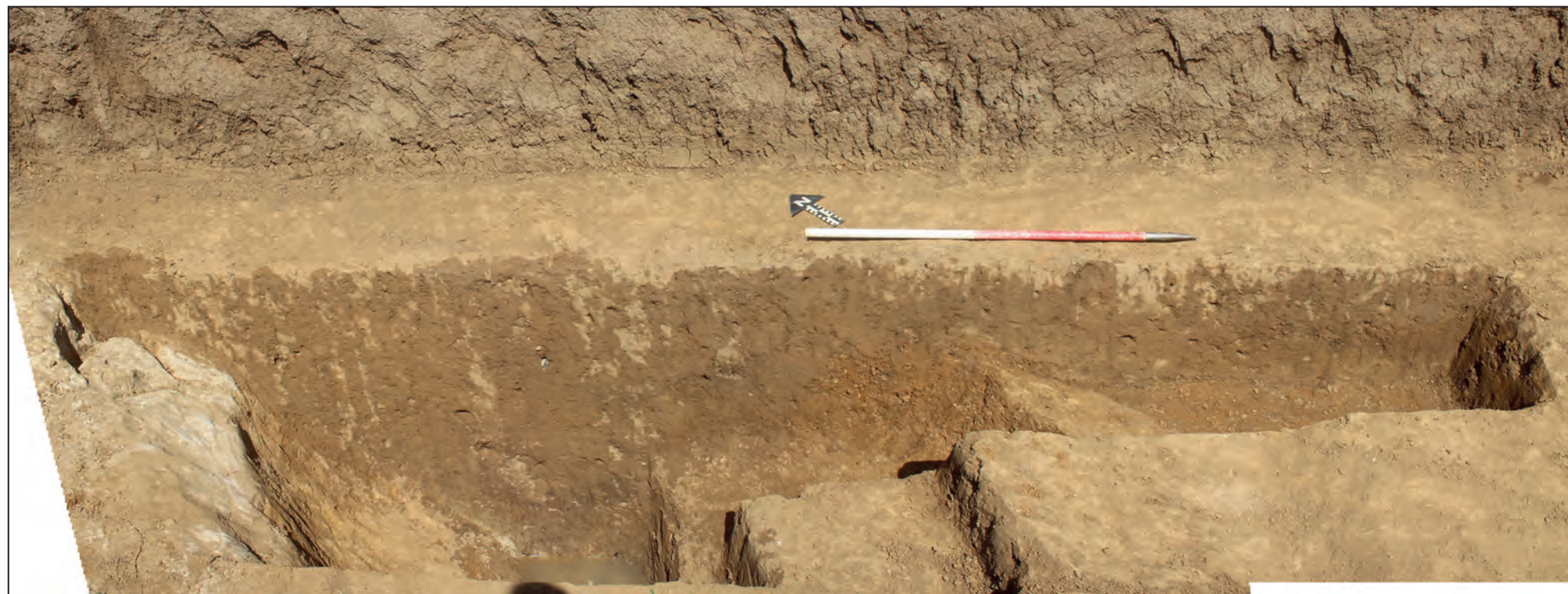
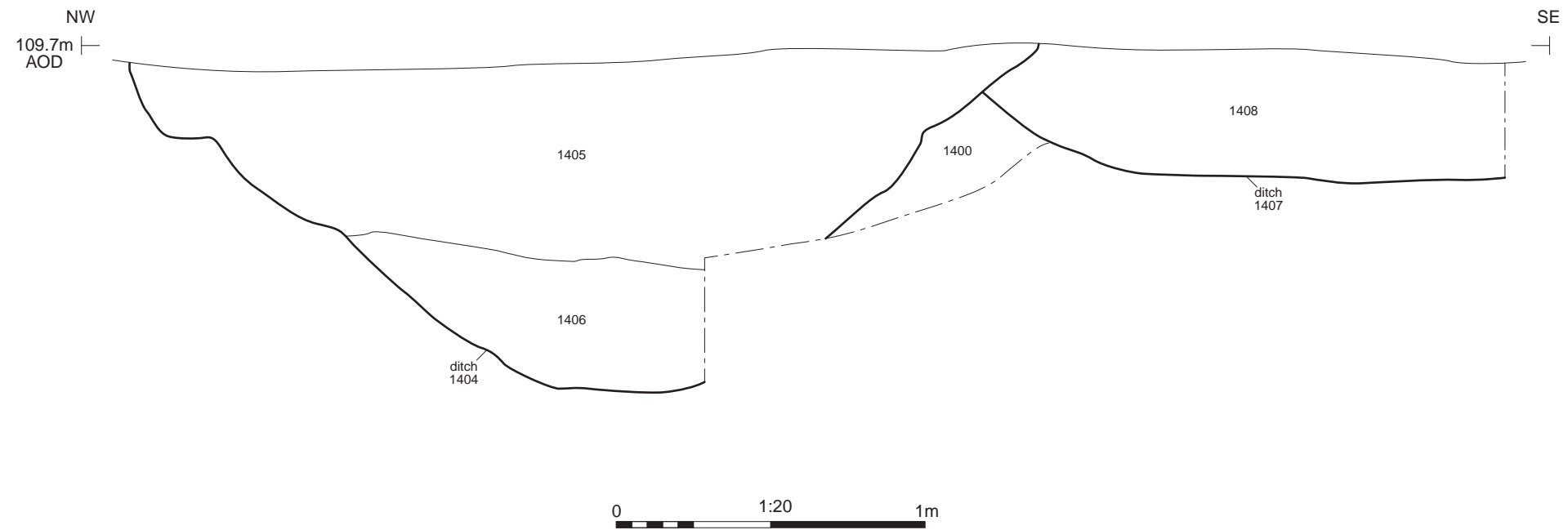
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 13: sections and photographs**

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CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>02/07/2021</b>	<b>15</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>AS</b>	SCALE	<b>@A3 1:20</b>	



Section GG



Composite image of ditches 1404 (left) and 1407 (right), looking north-east (1m scale)

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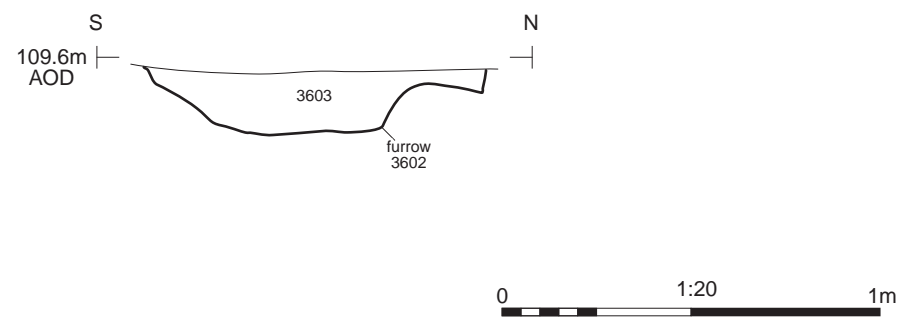
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FIGURE TITLE  
Trench 14: section and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	02/07/2021	16
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Section HH



Section II



Ditch 3602, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



Ditch 3606, looking south-west (1m scale)


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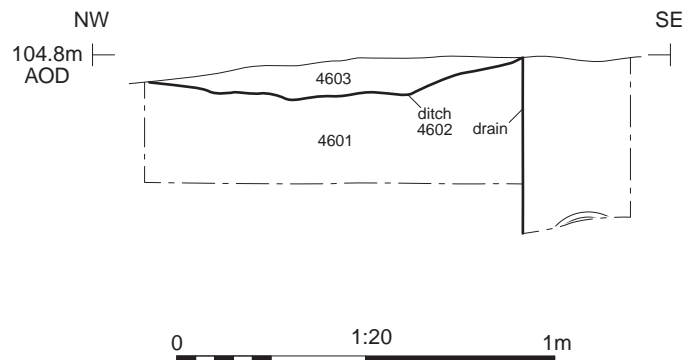
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 36: sections and photographs**

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Section JJ



Ditch 4602, looking north-east (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

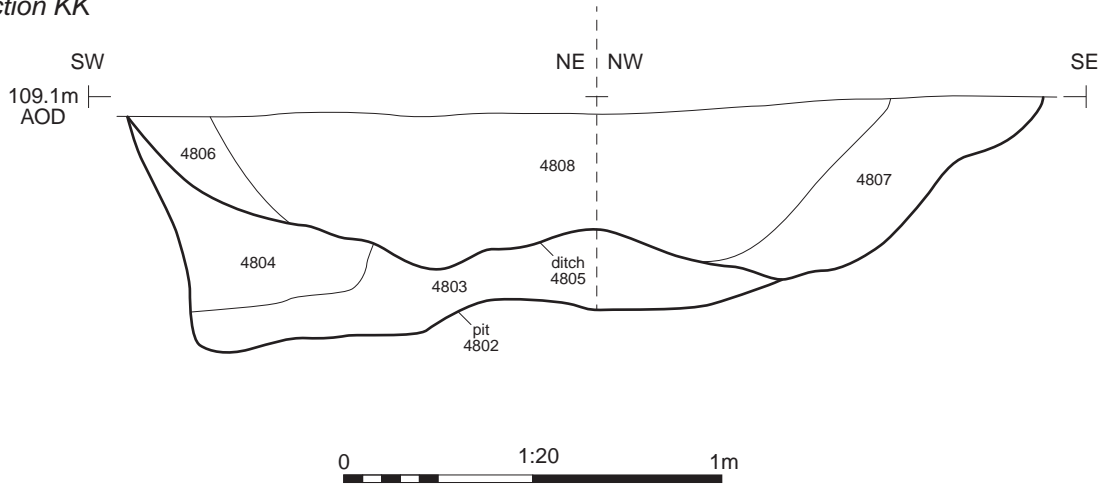
**Trench 46: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**18**

Section KK



Pit 4802 and ditch 4805, looking north (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land north of Bell Plantation  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 48: section and photograph**

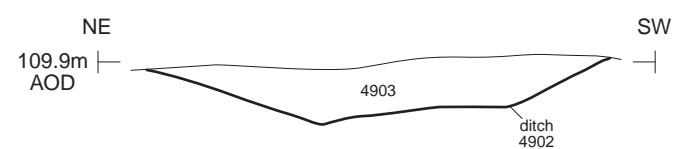
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FIGURE NO.

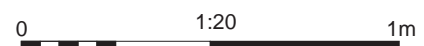
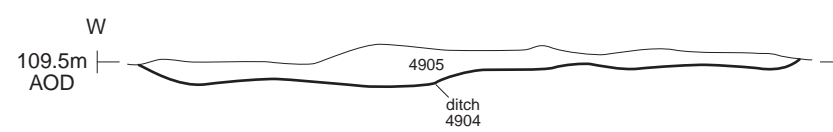
**19**



Section LL



Section MM



Ditch 4902, looking south-east (0.3m scale)



Ditch 4904, looking north (1m scale)


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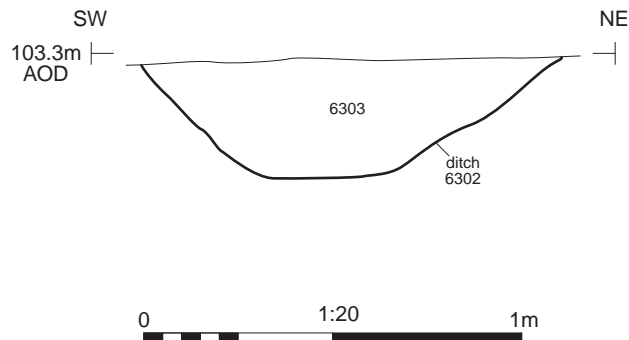
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 49: sections and photographs**

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Section NN



Ditch 6302, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

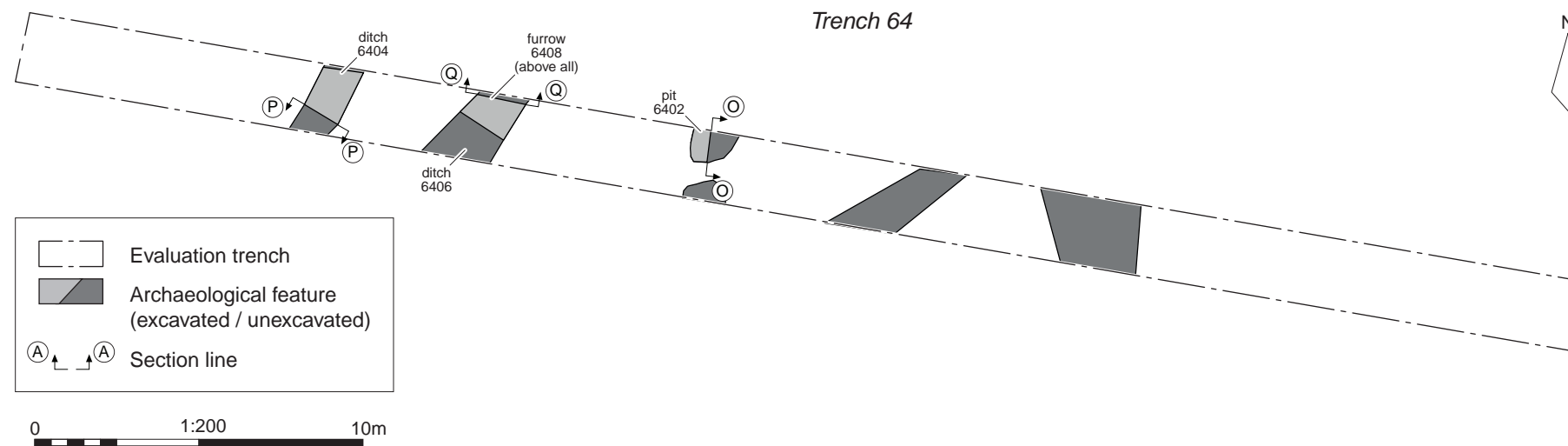
**Trench 63: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**21**

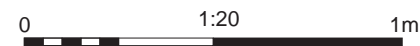
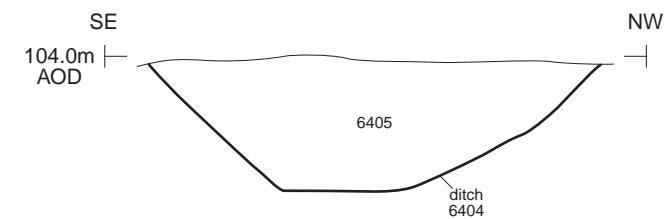




Section OO



Section PP



Ditch 6402, looking east (0.3m scale)



Ditch 6404, looking south-west (1m scale)


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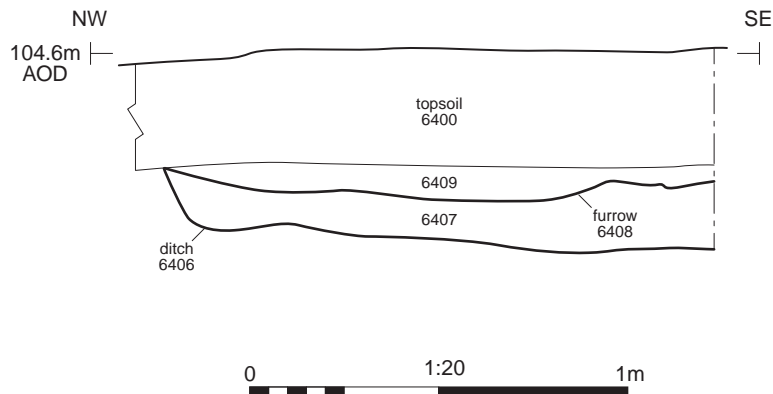
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 64: plan, sections and photographs**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	02/07/2021	22
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Section QQ



Ditch 6406 and furrow 6408, looking north-east (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 64: section and photograph**

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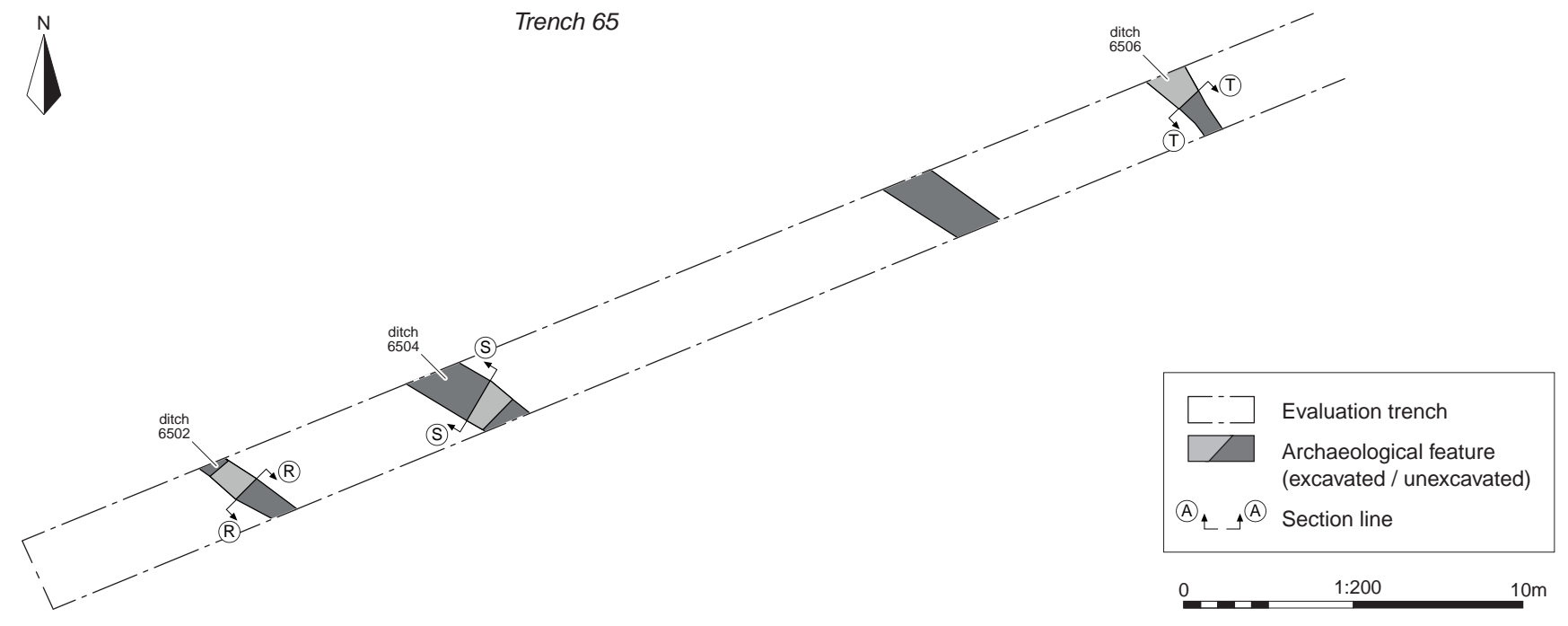
FIGURE NO.

**23**

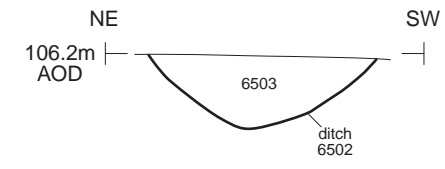




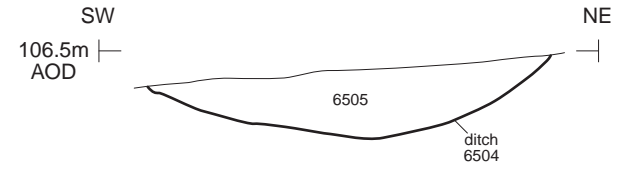
Trench 65



Section RR



Section SS



Ditch 6502, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



Ditch 6504, looking north-west (0.5m scale)


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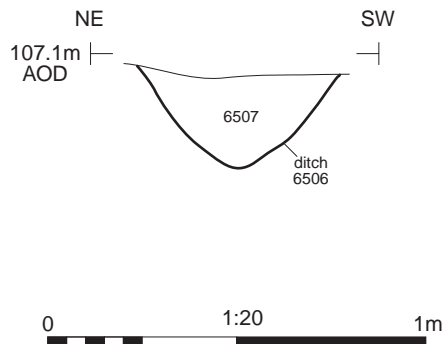
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 65: plan, sections and photographs**

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Section TT



Ditch 6506, looking south-east (0.3m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

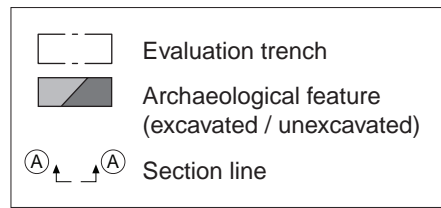
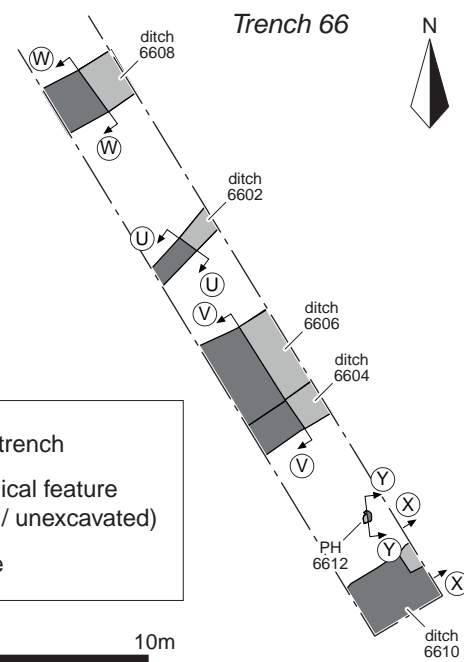
**Trench 65: section and photograph**

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APPROVED BY AS SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

**25**

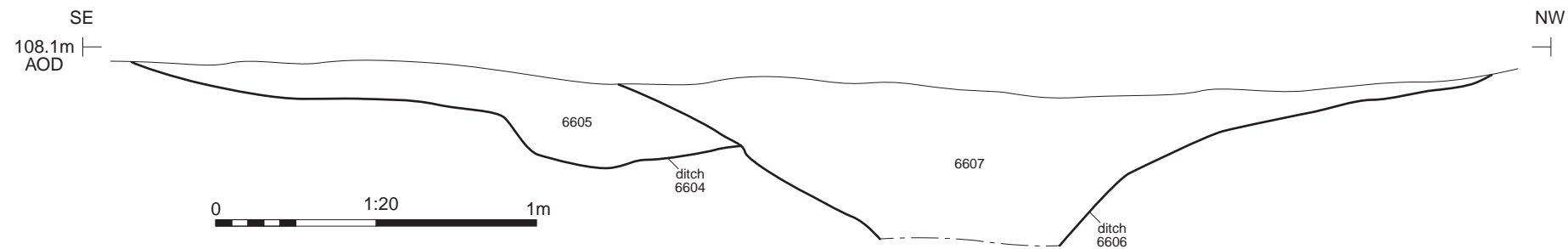




Section UU



Section VV



Ditch 6602, looking south-west (0.3m scale)



Ditches 6604 (foreground) and 6606 (background), looking south-west (2m scale)


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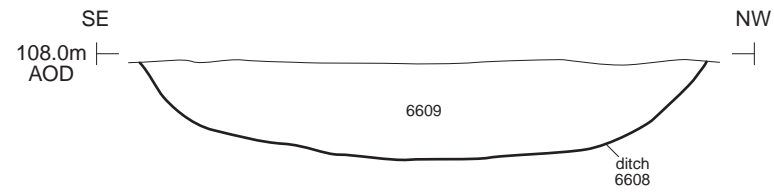
PROJECT TITLE  
 Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 66: plan, sections and  
 photographs**

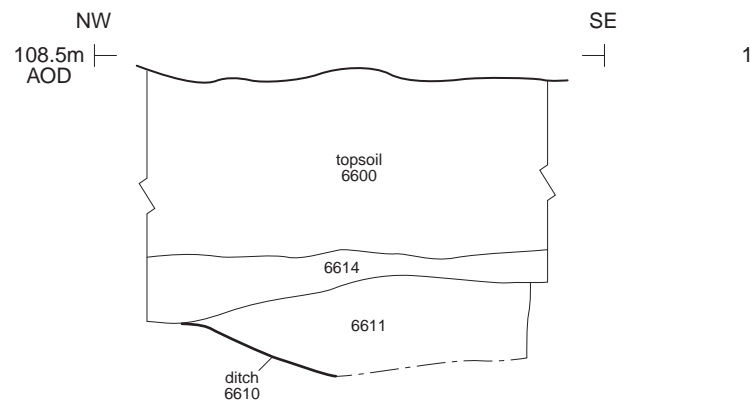
DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0471	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	02/07/2021	26
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:200, 1:20	



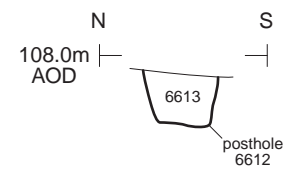
Section WW



Section XX



Section YY



Ditch 6606, looking southwest (0.5m scale)



Ditch 6610, looking north-east (0.3m scale)



Posthole 6612, looking east (0.2m scale)


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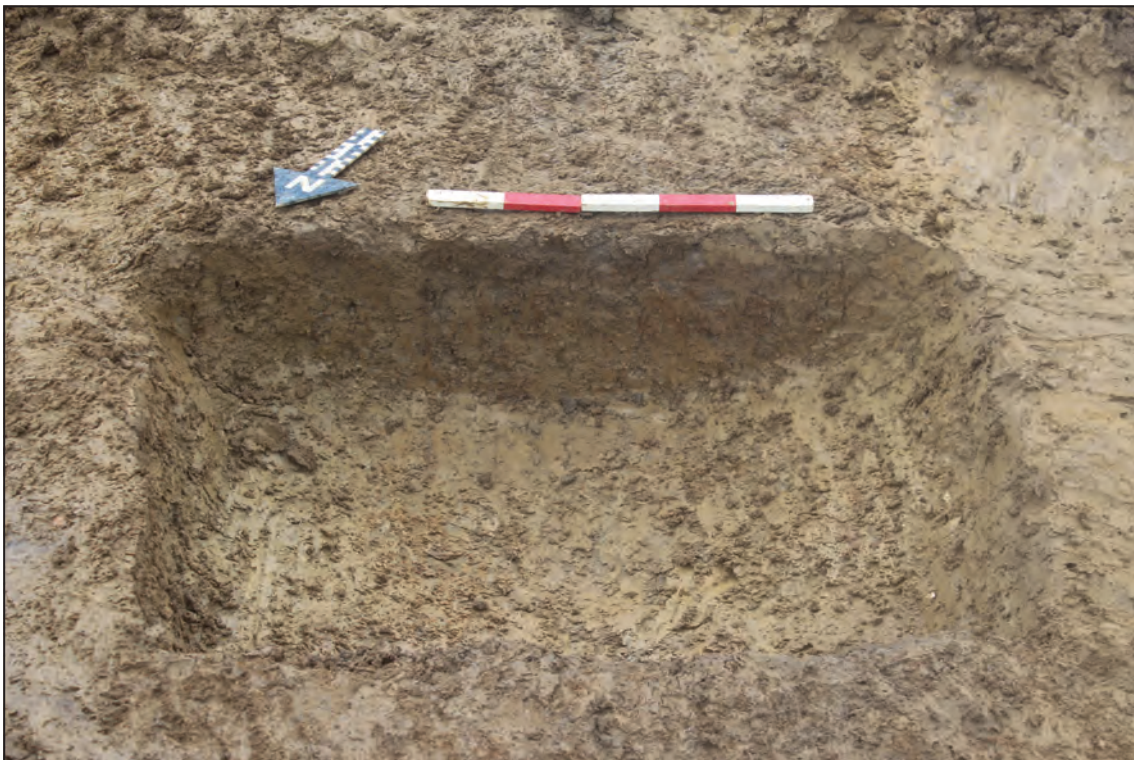
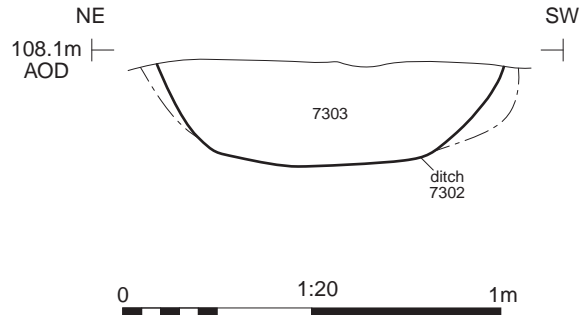
PROJECT TITLE  
**Land north of Bell Plantation  
 Towcester, Northamptonshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 66: sections and photographs**

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0471	FIGURE NO.
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Section ZZ



Ditch 7302, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land north of Bell Plantation  
Towcester, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

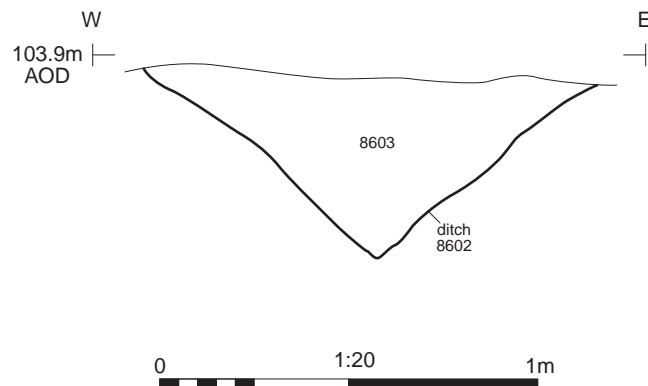
**Trench 73: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**28**

Section aa



Ditch 8602, looking north-east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land north of Bell Plantation  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 86: section and photograph**

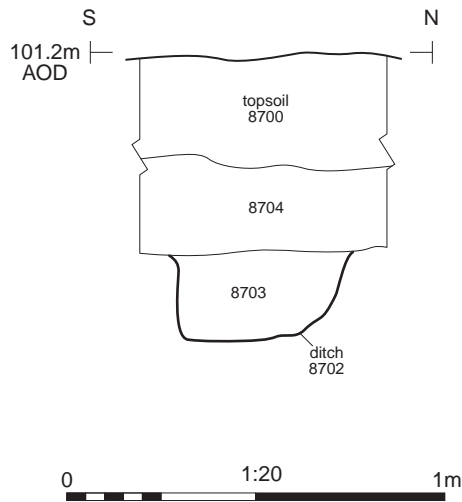
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FIGURE NO.

**29**



Section bb



Ditch 8702, looking west (0.4m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land north of Bell Plantation  
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FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 87: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**30**

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