St Ives Golf Course, St Ives

An Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

An Archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit, who were commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of David Wilson Homes South Midlands, at St Ives Golf Course, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, prior to the construction of a housing development. Archaeological features were recorded in all but three trenches (there were nineteen trenches in total) the majority of which were furrows, the remnants of ridge and furrow agricultural practices. A few undated linear features and field boundary ditches that corresponded with cartographic evidence were also revealed. Limited quantities of artefacts were recovered from the site, supporting the interpretation that the site was agricultural land outside the core activity areas.

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INTRODUCTION

Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) were commissioned by David Wilson Homes South Midlands Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation within the grounds of St Ives Golf Course, Houghton Road, St. Ives, Huntingdonshire (NGR TL 3045 7225) to address a condition placed on planning permission for the construction of housing (ref: 9801132OUT). The works were undertaken from the 5th May to the 14th May 2010. The evaluation trenches were excavated across the development area in order to determine the presence/absence of any archaeological remains and to investigate their extent, date, character, significance and state of preservation. The investigations followed a project specification set out by CgMs Consulting (Gajos 2010) and the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) (Beadsmoore 2010) in response to a design brief that was issued by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (CAPCA) (Thomas 2010).

The trenches revealed archaeological activity comprising nine undated linear features to the east and south of the area, in addition to a system of agricultural linear features recorded across the whole of the development area, that were overlain by a system of potentially medieval ridge and furrow and later field boundaries. As no chronologically diagnostic artefacts were recovered from the agricultural linear features, they could not be dated; however, they predated the overlying system of furrows.

Topography and Geology

The development area is approximately 4.5ha, in the north-eastern area of St Ives Golf Course and is bounded to the north by Houghton Road, St. Ivo School to the east, with the remaining areas of golf course to the south and west. The underlying geology is Boulder Clay (British Geological Survey 1993) that was overlain by orange/grey brown silt clay subsoil.

The topography of the study area is characterised by the golf course features; sand bunkers, large grassed fairways and raised/built up areas utilised as putting greens. Trees were also prevalent throughout the area including mature trees and newly planted sapling trees. A large pond was to the west of the area, with a small stream cutting across the area to the northwest. The development area slopes downward from the west to the east; Trench 10 was 23.18m OD whilst Trench 18 was 15.40m OD, with a 7.78m height difference. The area also slopes down from the south to the north, with a 4.27m height difference. To the south and west, outside the development area, the land falls steeply down to a wide plateau where there is evidence of preserved upstanding ridge and furrow.

Archaeological and Historical Background

Abundant archaeology is known from the surrounding landscape, the archaeological background of the site's environs was fully presented in the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and will consequently only be summarised here (Bennett-Samuels 2006). St Ives is a market town approximately 24km northwest of Cambridge and lies within the historic boundaries of Huntingdonshire. The original name of the town was Slepe which was recorded in the Domesday Book 1086, the name changed to St Ivo after the body of a Persian bishop was allegedly found buried in the town. The town

itself is built in a strategic position on the bank of the river Great Ouse (Bennett-Samuels 2006).

Archaeological remains are known from the surrounding landscape (especially to the east of the town) and previous fieldwork has revealed a widely utilised landscape with evidence of settlement spanning the last three to four thousand years. Earlier activity from the Mesolithic period includes flint from Houghton Hill Farm 900m northwest of the development area, and Houghton Grange, 550m to the southwest (HER 01942, HER 02112a). Recorded find spots of pottery and coins indicate settlement activity south and southeast of the development area (HER 00459, HER 035080, HER 03581, and HER 03649). The original Anglo-Saxon and Medieval town is thought to be centred on the parish church and priory approximately 350m southeast of the development area.

Archaeological activity previously recorded within the immediate environs includes a Romano-British cremation cemetery found at Houghton Hill in 1843. The cremations were primarily in cinery urns and were associated with brooches, pottery from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD and a glass bottle. Archaeological excavations that have previously taken place within the immediate vicinity include an evaluation and a subsequent open area excavation at Green End House 0.4km east of the development area (Prosser 2000; Abrahams 2001). Here evidence for Late Saxon and Early Medieval domestic activity comprising enclosure, boundary ditches, postholes and an oven were found.

Cartographic evidence highlighted in the Desk-Based Assessment illustrated two field boundaries in the development area which date to 1728. The boundaries shown in Edmund Pettit's' survey in 1728 comprise a curved boundary enclosing a field called 'Germans Hole', and an east-west field boundary across the centre of the development area. These are still visible on the 1808 enclosure map; however, by 1890 only the straight east-west orientated boundary remains and continued until the Ordnance Survey 6" map in 1950 (Bennett-Samuels 2006).

A Geophysical Survey was carried out at the site (GSB Prospection Ltd 2007), which did not define any definitive archaeological anomalies. The survey did reveal a potential truncated ditch like response, two possible earlier boundaries and numerous responses that were likely to be ridge and furrow.

ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

The principle objective of the excavation was to determine the presence, absence and extent and nature of archaeological activity and to assess the degree of preservation of any features and environmental remains and how this could impact upon any future development. More broadly, the evaluation aims were:

- To determine the degree of preservation and chronological range of archaeological remains
- To assess the presence or absence of a palaeosol, or a 'B' horizon and with potential truncation of said deposits
- To assess the environmental potential of the site through the examination of suitable deposits

- To identify ‘sites’ within the development area and determine the relationship of those sites within the broader archaeological landscape
- To assess the regional context of the site and to highlight any relevant research issues within a regional and national research framework

INVESTIGATION STRATEGIES

The trial trenches were machined with a 360° tracked excavator with a 2.20m wide toothless ditching bucket, which removed the topsoil down to an archaeological level, under the careful supervision of an experienced archaeologist. The unit modified version of the MoLAS recording system was used; all relevant archaeological and geological features were planned at 1:50 and 1:20, with sections drawn at 1:10 and augmented by a colour digital imagery and black and white film photographic record. Small pits were half sectioned and linear features sampled at appropriate intervals. Archaeological features were assigned a unique number (e.g. **F.100**; bolded upon introduction within the text) and each stratigraphically distinct episode (e.g. a cut, a fill) was recorded with a unique context number, (e.g. [001]).

The exposed archaeological features and trench-excavated topsoil and subsoil were metal detected using a Laser Rapier metal detector. The site was surveyed into the Ordnance Survey Grid and Ordnance Datum by means of an RTK GPS unit. All work was carried out with strict adherence to Health and Safety legislation and within the recommendations of SCAUM.

In total, 37 features were sampled during the excavation, with 62 separate contexts assigned. The artefacts and accompanying documentation have been compiled into a stable, cross-referenced and indexed archive in accordance with MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006). The archive is currently stored at the offices of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit under the project code SIG 10.

RESULTS

In total, 19 trenches were machined in a systematic sampling strategy across the development area to investigate and sample selected anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey in addition to the ‘blank’ areas between these potential features. No evidence for a palaeosol, or a ‘B’ horizon was identified in any of the trenches. Three trenches contained no archaeological features; Trenches 6, 7 and 13. The remaining trenches revealed the remnants of linear agricultural features, potentially a strip-cultivation trench system or truncated ridge and furrow that were overlain by later ridge and furrow, the latter of probable Medieval date. In addition, several linear features were exposed that yielded un-diagnostic pottery.

A geophysical survey was carried out prior to the trenched evaluation that highlighted various anomalies (GSB Prospection Ltd 2007). The most prevalent were furrows on a northeast-southwest orientation across the northern part of the site, and east-west across the south-eastern part of the development area. Other anomalies represented old field boundaries and modern drains (Figure 2). Ceramic field drains were prevalent throughout the area suggesting that the development area was cultivated prior to the establishment of the golf course.

In the southwest of the development area, Trenches 6 and 7 contained no archaeological features; only field drains and pipes from the golf course sprinkler system were revealed. Trench 5 exposed two linear features, comparable in form and fill that could potentially represent an enclosure. These were truncated by later ploughing and produced pottery, the date of which is uncertain (see Appendix). Similar ditches were recorded to the east of the area, in Trenches 15, 16, 17 and 19 (Figure 5). Again, undiagnostic pottery was recovered from **F.18** in Trench 17 (Figures 5 and 6). Shallow truncated linear features were sampled and recorded in Trenches 14 (**F.22**) and 15 (**F.15** and **F.17**) that contained no material culture and were cut by later features (**F.14**), (Figure 5), whilst linear features in Trench 15 (**F.23** and F.**24**) and 19 (**F.21**) yielded no artefacts.

Linear features were identified across the centre of the development area that represented two phases of agricultural activity. The first consisted of narrow, shallow linear features that were between approximately 5m and 7m apart, orientated north-south in the western part of the development area and changing to a more north-northeast and south-southwest orientation towards the east (Figures 3 and 6). Terminals of these features were identified in Trenches 4 (**F.5** and **F.6**) and 15 (**F.25** and **F.35**); no artefacts were recovered from the features to provide a date although furrows observed in several locations clearly cut them. This earlier phase of agricultural features did not continue eastwards past Trench 15 to the east of the evaluation area. F.25 and F.38 were originally terminals to two of these agricultural trenches that were later conjoined (F.14) to perhaps mark the boundary edge of this system; they do not appear to continue past this point. This could mark the edge of the agricultural system; the adjacent linear features to the east potentially forming enclosures or paddocks, suggesting a difference in land usage.

The ridge and furrow is compatible with the results from the geophysical survey and was on a northeast-south west orientation across most of the site (Figures 2, 4 and 6). Furrows identified in Trenches 4 and 5 indicate that the furrows changed direction to a more east-west alignment. The orientation of the furrows aligns with the layout of the enclosure field boundaries, evidence of which was recorded in Trenches 4 (**F.31**) and 9 (**F.35**), matching the field boundaries from the 1728 map. Both the geophysical and trenching results reveal the curvature or ‘s’ shape of the furrows, suggestive of an earlier pre-enclosure farming system; the field boundaries were probably influenced and formed around the layout of the ridge and furrow (Fowler 2002); however, later examples of furrows can also follow the orientation of field boundaries, and as with this evaluation, without any dating evidence it is difficult to determine a definitive date for these features.

DISCUSSION

The landscape of St Ives has been utilised for several millennia and investigations carried out within the borough have highlighted activity dated from the Palaeolithic through to the Medieval period. The overall results of the current evaluation provided evidence of agricultural land use outside the early Medieval urban core of St Ives potentially spanning from the Romano-British period into to the Medieval period.

There was no evidence of prehistoric activity within the development area. A single piece of pottery recovered from the earlier linear agricultural features could

potentially be Romano-British; however, the remaining pottery recovered from the site was chronologically non-diagnostic. Due to the low densities of artefact recovery and their poor condition an accurate date for the features could not be established. Evidence from the faunal assemblage and environmental remains, together with the small artefact assemblage, suggests that the archaeological features represent activity outside main areas of settlement.

The narrow parallel linear features could represent an early phase of agricultural activity comparable to the later ridge and furrow agricultural practices. No diagnostic material culture was recovered from the earlier features, which could potentially be Romano-British cultivation beds; previous examples of which have been recorded at March and Fen Drayton where cultivation trenches were approx. 0.30m in depth and about 5m apart, and formed part of an extensive organised field system (Mortimer 1995, Hutton *et al* 2008). These known examples had uniform profiles, flat bases and were straight in plan. However, the cultivation strips in the development area had greater affinity to furrow profiles and were uneven in orientation, with the soil matrix similar to the fills from the later furrows and subsoil.

The cultivation strips were overlain by later ridge and furrow that were approximately orientated northeast-southwest, following the alignment of the edges of the field boundaries. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the features, the layout and matrix were similar to furrows prevalent throughout the area. To the south of the development area, on the golf course itself, there were remains of upstanding ridges of various alignments that have not been disturbed by later agricultural activity. The similarity of fill composition of the two agricultural systems, the earlier linear features and the ridge and furrow, could suggest that they are similar in date; the earlier narrow linear features representing an earlier form of furrow. Similar agricultural strips have been recorded in Cambridgeshire, which have also produced little or no artefactual evidence. Comparable features were excavated at Low Fen, Fen Drayton, which had furrow-like ditches 5m apart containing Romano-British pottery (Mortimer 1995) with further examples also found at Addenbrooke's (Timberlake 2007).

Although the examples from Addenbrooke's are Romano-British in date, undated narrow furrows such as those identified during the evaluation may represent early Medieval strip farming, particularly as their orientation changes through roughly 90˚, a pattern of different furlongs within a given area (Hey 1996). Such a possible 'succession' was identified at Downham Road, Ely, where two phases of furrows were sampled (Appleby *et al* 2009); the earlier phase comprised narrow linear features on a northeast-southwest orientation, tentatively dated to the Middle Saxon period. These linear features were overlain by large furrows on a more north-south orientation. Similarly, furrows that were Saxon and Medieval in date have also been recorded on land west of Longstanton, Cambridgeshire (Cutler 2003).

The small assemblage of domestic debris recovered from the evaluation indicates that settlement or occupation was not situated within the immediate vicinity and that these two phases of field system probably represent outlying fields away from the centre of the contemporary settlement. In contrast, Romano-British field systems that were similar in form, yielded datable domestic assemblages, whereas Early Medieval field systems usually contain very little or no artefacts to date them. The majority of the linear features revealed by the evaluation in the development area were sampled for

artefact recovery and produced no finds; chronologically evidence was supplied by the stratigraphic relationship, which identified two agricultural systems, an earlier one which predated the ridge and furrow.

In reference to the aims and objectives of the evaluation; surviving, truncated, archaeological activity was identified, however the chronological range of the remains was difficult to determine due to the limited quantities of artefacts recovered, despite extensive sampling. No palaeosol or 'B' horizon was identified in the trenches. The environmental potential of the site was limited; no archaeobotanical remains were recovered from the environmental samples. The character of the archaeological features exposed during the evaluation and the limited quantities of artefacts recovered indicate that the development area was away from the settlement areas and 'sites'.

APPENDICES

Specialist Reports

Burnt Clay *Jacqui Hutton*

A small assemblage of burnt clay was recovered from two features during the evaluation. Due to the size and poor quality of the artefacts, no diagnostic attributes were evident.

Table 1; Burnt clay remains

Burnt Clay					
Trench:	**Feature:**	**Context:**	**Qty:**	**Wt:**	**Notes**
5	1	1	1	13	
19	20	44	12	9	
		Total	13	22	

Environmental Remains *Anne de Vareilles*

Methodology

Two samples of possible Medieval date were retrieved on site and processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flots were collected in 300µm aperture meshes and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. Both the flots and heavy residues were dried indoors prior to analysis. Sorting of the flots and identification of macro remains were carried out under a low power binocular microscope (6x-40x magnification). Frances Cox scanned through the small heavy residues; neither ecofacts nor artefacts were present. Nomenclature follows an updated version of Beedham (1972) for molluscs. All environmental remains are listed in table 2.

Results and Conclusion Linear features, F.18 [39] and F.19 [42]

Neither sample contained any archaeobotanical remains other than a few small fragments of residual or intrusive charcoal. Snail shells occurred in low quantities; they are presented in table 2. All the snails in F.18, except perhaps for *Vertigo* sp., are juveniles. Abundant modern rootlets were present in both samples, and F.19 also had some intrusive seeds. Modern ploughing seems to have disturbed both features. Examination of the samples from the site indicates that the environmental potential of the site is very limited.

Table 2; Charred Plant Macro Remains

Sample number	**1**	**2**
Context	39	42
Feature	18	19
Feature type	linear	linear
Phase/Date		
Sample volume - litres	10	10
Charcoal volume - millilitres, estimates	<1mm	<1mm
Flot fraction examined - %	100	100
Botanical remains		
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		-
small charcoal (<2mm)	++	++
vitrified charcoal	-	

Fresh water mollusca		
Lymnaea truncatula Müller	+	+
Damp / Shade loving species		
Vallonia excentrica / pulchella		+
Catholic species / Unknown habitats		
Lauria / Pupilla sp.		-
Vertigo sp.	+	+
Helicella sp.	-	
Trichia sp.		-
Ceciloides acicula Müller –Blind burrowing snail		-
Modern seeds		P
Modern rootlets	P	P

Key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-50, '+++' >50 items, P = present

Faunal Remains *Vida Rajkovača*

Evaluations carried out at SIG site resulted in the recovery of three bone specimens, two of which were identified to species. Strip-cultivation trench F.2 yielded a fragmented cow femur and post-Medieval linear F.4 produced a fragment of sheep pelvis and an unidentifiable mammal fragment.

Table 3; Faunal remains

Bone					
Trench:	**Feature:**	**Context:**	**Quantity**	**Weight (g)**	**Notes**
5	2	3	26	137	Animal
8	4	7	1	15	Animal
8	4	8	1	1	Animal
		Total	28	153	

Pottery *Jacqui Hutton with Katie Anderson and David Hall*

A small assemblage of pottery was recovered from linear features to the south and to the east of the development area. Due to the size and fabric of the sherds, diagnostic characteristics were unclear. The pottery from F.18 bears similar characteristics in form and fabric to 12th century sandy wares but was deemed too small in size to confirm or deny this. The pottery recovered from F.2 could potentially be the base/pedestal of a lamp or candlestick, although dating this has also been problematic as the fabric contained grog which suggests an earlier date, although the form is unfamiliar. There was no pottery recovered from either of the field systems, only from the linear features to the east and south-west of the development area. These could form linear features associated with fields or paddocks. The low density of pottery indicated that occupation was not within the immediate vicinity.

Table 4; Pottery Assemblage

Pottery					
Trench	**Feature:**	**Context:**	**Quantity**	**Weight (g)**	**Notes**
5	1	1	3	8	Undiagnostic
5	2	3	4	30	Undiagnostic
6		top soil	1	13	Undiagnostic
17	18	39	1	9	Potentially Roman
		Total	9	60	

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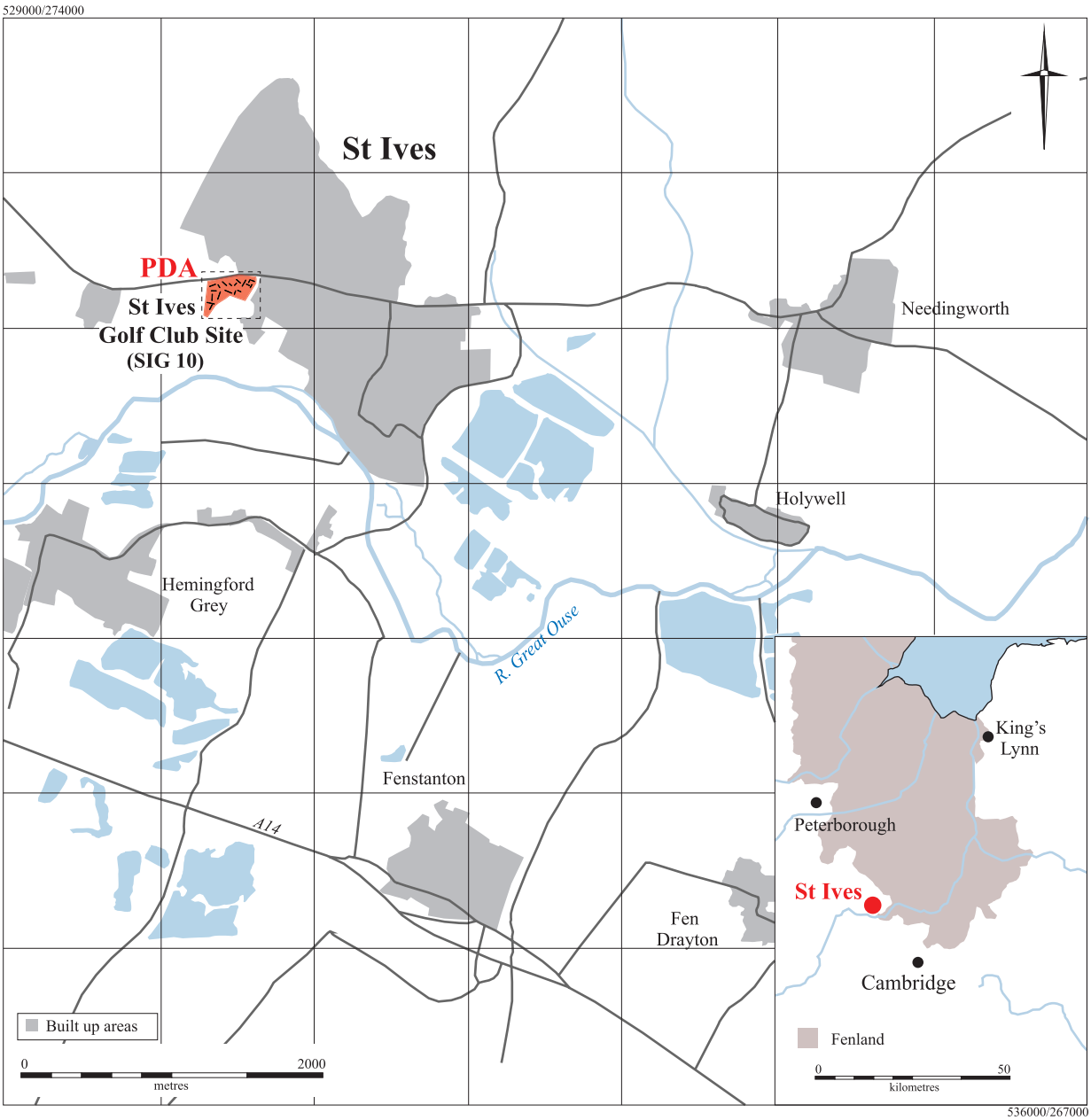

Figure 1. Location map

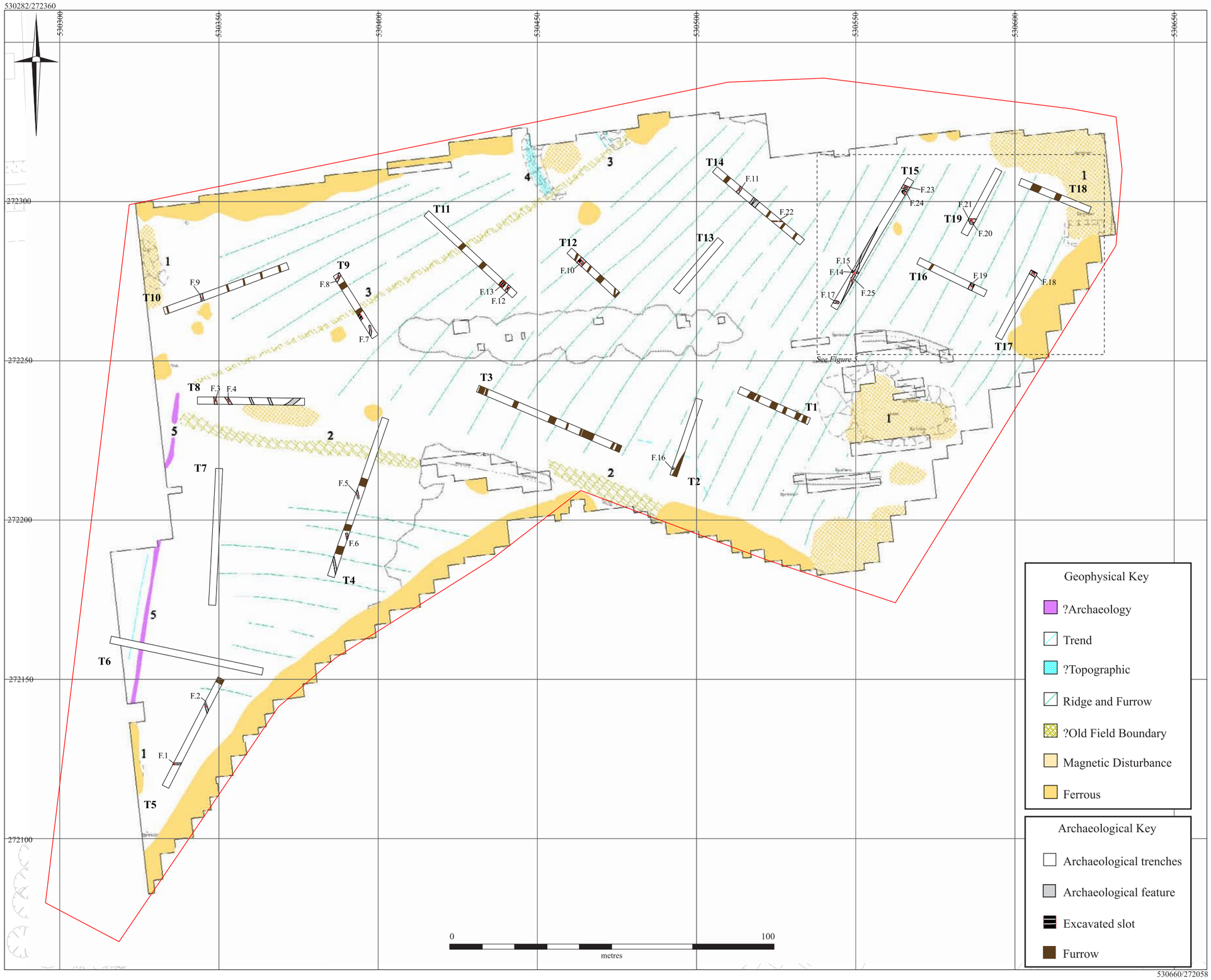

Figure 2. Plan of archaeological trenches with underlying geophysics

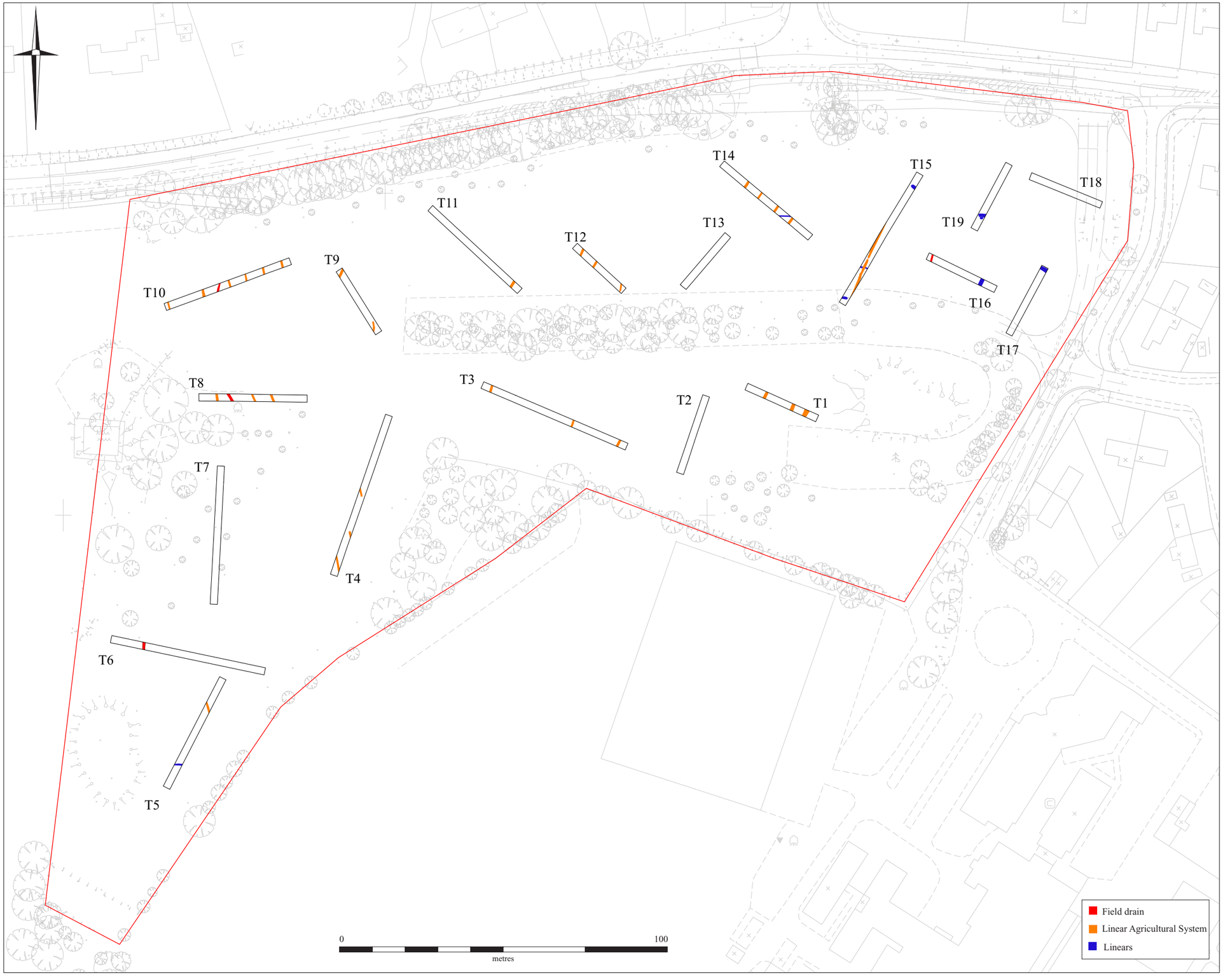

Figure 3. Linear agricultural system

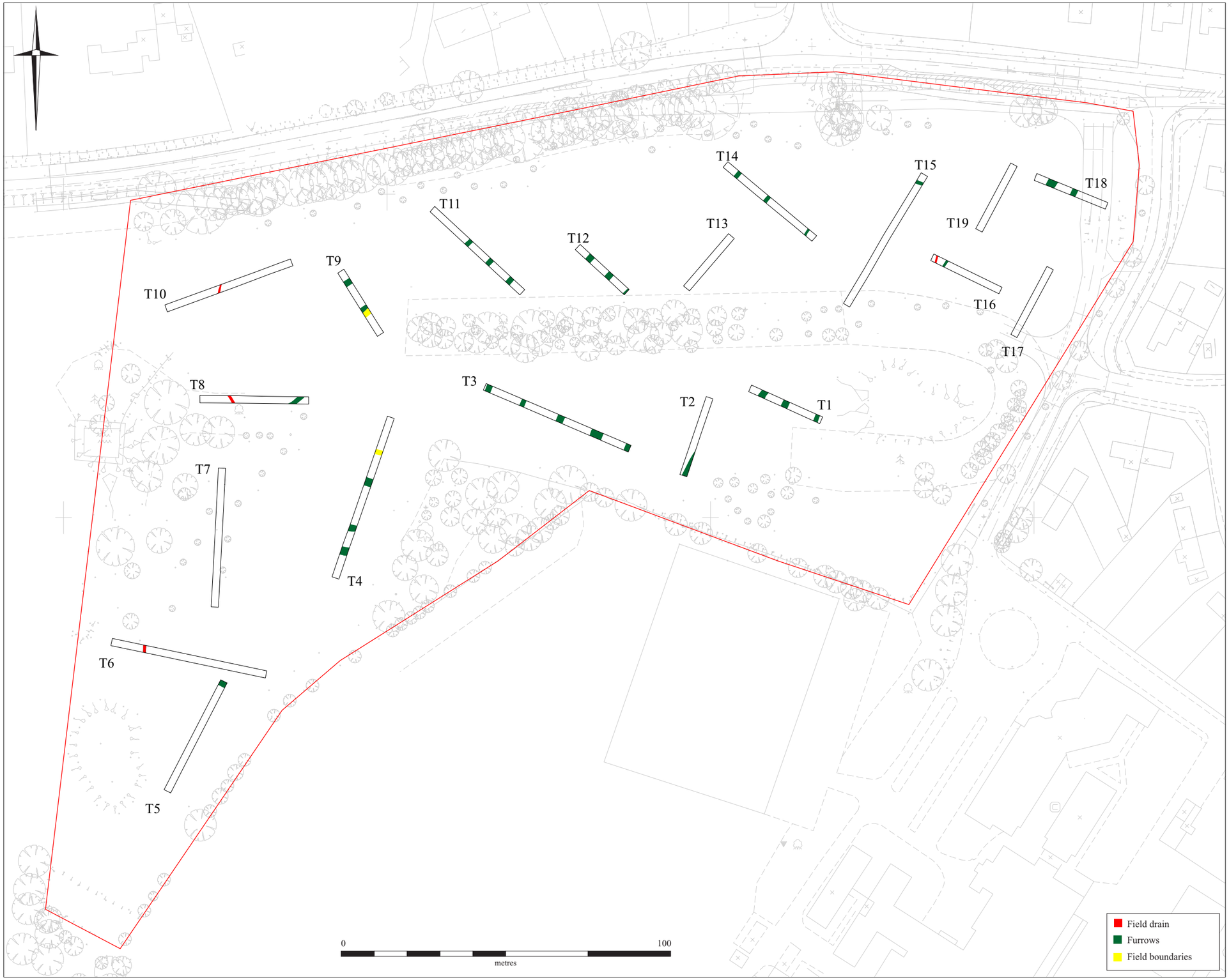

Figure 4. Furrows

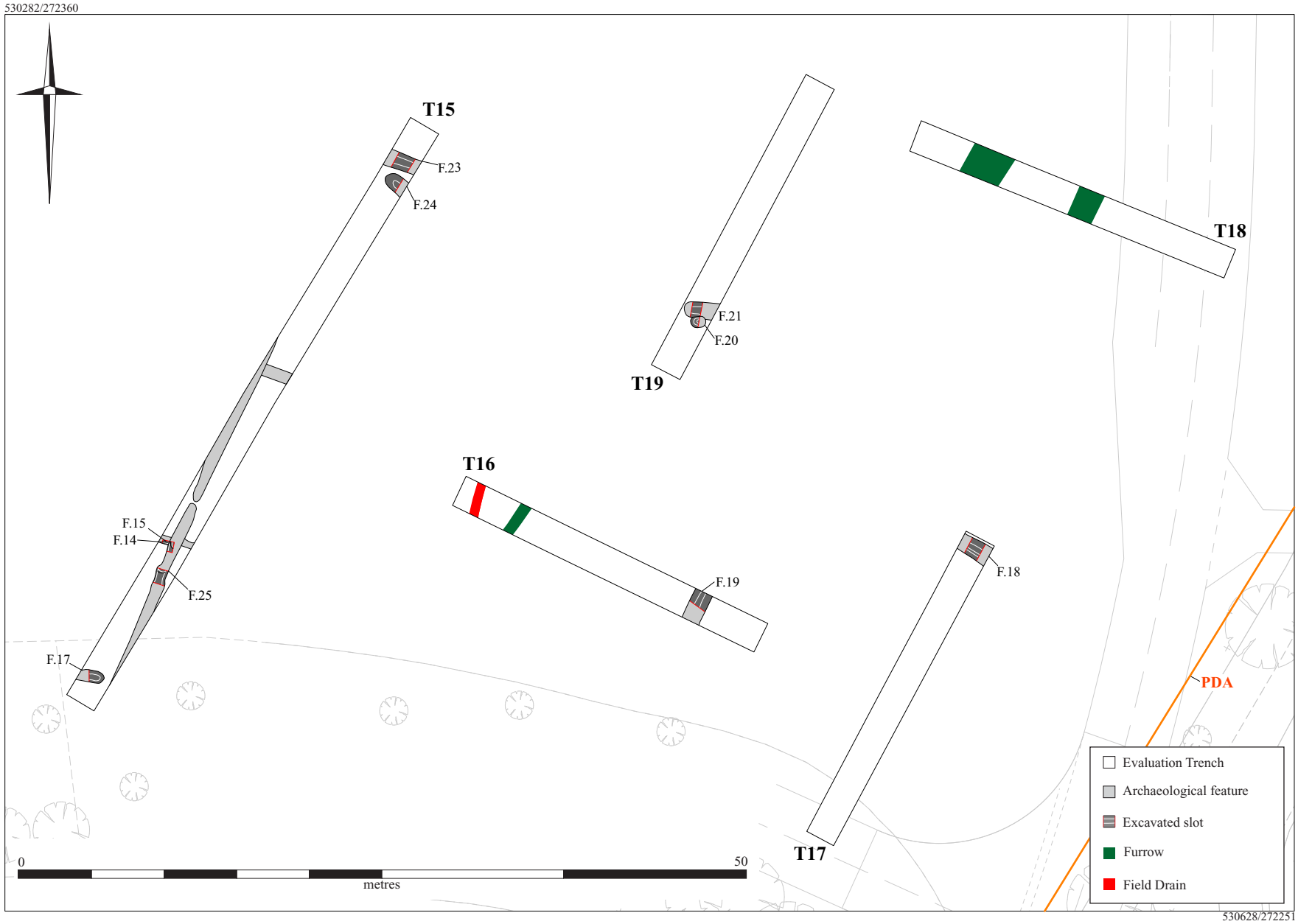

Figure 5. Plan of linear features in the North-East of the site

A.

B.

C.

Figure 6. Photographs of A. F. 12; Agricultural linear feature, facing NE.
B. F. 13; Furrow, facing NE.
C. F. 18; Linear, facing SE.

FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1							
General Description						**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained six archaeological features; three from the strip-cultivation trenches; and three furrows. One was sampled from each. There was also evidence of a field drain. The natural geology was orange/grey clay which was overlain with light orange/						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.17-0.19
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.14-0.23
						Approx. Width (m)	2.2
						Approx. Height m OD	19.06-18.90
						Length (m)	24.1
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
26	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Medieval Furrow
27	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Srip-cultivation trench

Trench 2							
General Description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained two archaeological features; a furrow and a shallow pit or linear terminal. The natural geology was orange silty clay overlain by light brown/orange silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.25
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.19-0.35
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	19.37-20.34
						Length (m)	25.40
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
16	Pit?	33	f			None	Possible pit or linear terminal
		34	c	0.60	0.15		
28	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Medieval Furrow

Trench 3							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained nine archaeological features; three strip-cultivation trenches; five furrows. One was sampled from each. The natural geology comprised of mottled light grey and orange clay overlain by mid brown/grey clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.23-0.28
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.24-0.29
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	21.49-20.57
						Length (m)	48.70
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
29	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Strip-cultivation trench
30	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Medieval Furrow

Trench 4							
General Description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained seven archaeological features; three strip-cultivation trenches, included two terminals; three furrows; one linear that represented a field boundary. The natural geology comprised or mottled light grey and orange clay overlain by light or						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.20-0.35
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.25-0.30
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	22.10-23.11
						Length (m)	52.50
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
5	Linear Terminal	10	f			None	Strip-cultivation trench
		11	c	0.6	0.14		
6	Linear Terminal	12	f			None	Strip-cultivation trench
		13	c	0.6	0.08		
31	Linear	59	f			None	Field Boundary
		60	c	1.55	0.56		
32	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Medieval Furrow

Trench 5							
General Description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained three archaeological features; one linear, potentially related to the strip-cultivation trenches; one strip-cultivation trench; one furrow. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/brown silty clay with chal						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.19-0.23
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.29-0.35
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	23.96-24.26
						Length (m)	38.20
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
1	Linear	1	f			Pottery, Tile, burnt	Possibly strip-cultivation trench
		2	c	0.47	0.27		
2	Linear	3	f			Pottery, Tile, bone	Strip-cultivation trench
		4	c	0.57	0.15		
33	Linear	Sampled, not recorded					Medieval furrow

Trench 6							
General Description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained one feature; a field drain that correspnded with the anomalie highlighted in the geophysical survey. The natural geology comprised of mid grey clay with orange sandy clay patches and was overlain by light brown/grey clay with chalk fleck						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.21-0.28
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.30-0.38
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	23.63-24.30
						Length (m)	48.80

Trench 7							
General Description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained no archaeological features. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light brown/grey clay with chalk flecked subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.18-0.22
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.34-0.51
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	23.50-23.66
						Length (m)	42.50

Trench 8							
General Description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained five features; three strip-cultivation trenches; one furrow; one post-medieval gully. The natural geology was light brown/grey clay with chalk flecked subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.17-0.24
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.42-0.49
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	22.67-23.15
						Length (m)	33.60
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
3	Linear	5	f			None	Strip-cultivation trench
		6	c	0.75	0.15		
4	Linear	7	f			None	Post-Medieval
		8	f			Bone	
		9	c	0.9	0.15		
34	Linear	Sampled, not recorded					Medieval Furrow

Trench 9							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained five archaeological features; two strip-cultivation trenches; one furrow; one linear ditch that represented a field boundary. The natural geology was mid grey clay and mid brown/orange silty clay that was overlain by light grey and orang						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.19-0.20
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.40-0.47
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	21.70-21.58
						Length (m)	23.00
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
7	Linear Terminal	14	f			None	Strip-cultivatio trench
		15	c	0.5	0.06		
8	Linear	16	f			None	Strip-cultivatio trench
		17	c	0.75	0.02		
35	Linear	61	f			None	Field Boundary
		62	c				
36	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Medieval Furrow

Trench 10							
General Description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained six archaeological features and one modern filled in drain; the features related to strip-cultivation trenches. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/broen silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.18-0.30
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.16-0.26
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	22.35-23.18
						Length (m)	41.30
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
9	Linear	18	f			None	Strip-cultivation trench
		19	c	0.9	0.2		

Trench 11							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained four archaeological features; one strip-cultivation trench; three furrows. The natual geology was orange/grey clay that was overlain by light orange/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.21-0.25
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.32-0.34
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	19.99-20.21
						Length (m)	37.85
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
12	Linear	24	f			None	Strip-cultivation trench
		25	f			None	
		26	c	0.80	0.20		
13	Linear	27	f			None	Medieval furrow
		28	c	1.65	0.15		

Trench 12							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained six archaeological features; three strip-cultivation trenches; three furrows. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/grey/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.23-0.26
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.23-0.30
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	19.31-19.28
						Length (m)	20.55
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
10	Linear	20	f			None	Medieval Furrow
		21	c	2.1	0.14		
37	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	Strip-cultivation trench

Trench 13		
General Description	**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained no archaeological features. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/grey/brown silty clay subsoil.	**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.18-0.20
	Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.26
	Approx. Width (m)	2.20
	Approx. Height m OD	17.83-18.71
	Length (m)	21.30

Trench 14							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained eight archaeological features;						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.23-0.25
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.17-0.23
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	17.13-17.23
						Length (m)	35.70
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
11	Linear	22	f			None	
		23	c	0.67	0.12		
22	Linear	53	f			None	
		54	c	0.40	0.07		

Trench 15							
General Description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained eight linear features; three adjoining on the same orientation; two terminals; two linears; one furrow. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/grey/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.23
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.23-0.32
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	15.93-17.61
						Length (m)	49.00
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
14	Linear	29	f			None	On same orientation at F.35 and F.38
		30	c	0.75	0.22		
15	Linear	31	f			None	Cut by F.14
		32	c	0.50	0.08		
17	Linear Terminal	37	f			None	Undated
		38	c	0.80	0.10		
23	Linear	55	f			None	Medieval furrow
		56	c	1.00	0.15		
24	Linear Terminal	57	f			None	Undated
		58	c	1.00	0.20		
35	Linear	Sampled, not recorded				None	On same orientation as F.14

Trench 16							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two archaeological features; one furrow; one linear. the natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by light orange/grey/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.18-0.27
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.25-0.29
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	16.49-16.89
						Length (m)	23.50
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
19	Linear	42	f			None	Undated
		43	c	1.00	0.40		

Trench 17							
General Description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained oner archaeological feature; a linear. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by loight ornage/grey/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.20-0.22
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.32-0.40
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	16.43-17.43
						Length (m)	23.80
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
18	Linear	39	f			Pottery	Ditch
		40	f			None	
		41	c	1.30	0.60		

Trench 18							
General Description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained two archaeological features; both were furrows that were sampled ut not recorded. The natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by mid orange/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.25-0.27
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.41-0.49
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	15.60-15.40
						Length (m)	23.70

Trench 19							
General Description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two features; a linear terminal and a pit. the natural geology was mid grey clay that was overlain by mid ornage/brown silty clay subsoil.						**Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)**	0.19-0.23
						Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.20-0.30
						Approx. Width (m)	2.20
						Approx. Height m OD	15.67-16.26
						Length (m)	23.00
Contexts							
Feature No.	**Feature Type**	**Context No.**	**Cut/Fill/ Layer**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Artefacts**	**Comments**
20	Pit	44	f			Burnt clay, burnt stone	Undated
		45	f				
		46	c	0.80	0.30		
21	Linear Terminal		f			None	Cut by F.20, a pit. Undated
			f			None	
			f			None	
			f			None	
			f			None	
			c	1.05	0.30		

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Project details

Project name	St Ives Golf Course, St Ives, Cambridgeshire; An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	An Archaeological evaluation was undertaken at St Ives Golf Course, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, prior to the construction of a housing development. Archaeological features were recorded in all but three trenches (there were nineteen trenches in total) the majority of which were furrows, the remnants of Medieval agricultural practices, ridge and furrow. A few undated linears and field boundary ditches that corresponded with cartographic evidence were also revealed. Limited quantities of artefacts were recovered from the site, further supporting the interpretation that the site was agricultural land outside the core activity areas.
Project dates	Start: 05-05-2010 End: 14-05-2010
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GIG 10 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 3358 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	LINEARS Uncertain
Monument type	FURROWS Medieval
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Significant Finds	BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Uncertain
Significant Finds	BURNT CLAY Uncertain
Methods & techniques	'Environmental Sampling','Metal Detectors','Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE SAINT IVES St Ives Golf Course
Study area	4.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 3045 7223 52.3322222222 -0.08527777777780 52 19 56 N 000 05 07 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 15.40m Max: 23.18m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Emma Beadsmoore
Project director/manager	Emma Beadsmoore
Project supervisor	Jacqui Hutton
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	David Wilson Homes

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Archive ID	SIG 10
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental'
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Stratigraphic','Survey'
Digital Media available	'Text','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Survey'
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Contents	'Environmental','Stratigraphic','Survey'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '

Entered by	J Hutton (jah99@cam.ac.uk)
Entered on	4 June 2010

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