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Dunstall Farm, Tamworth, Staffordshire

Archaeological Evaluation
Report No. MK107/18

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1. SUMMARY

CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out a trial Trench evaluation on a proposed development near Dunstall Farm, Tamworth, Staffordshire (centred on SK 18853 03849). The evaluation took place between the 29th of November and 15th of December 2017. Thirty nine trenches were dug, revealing one Roman ditch and multiple Medieval features. The Roman ditch is probably part of an enclosure perhaps a field, with evidence (pottery) of a settlement nearby. The medieval features form a dense area of occupation and perhaps metalworking activity around Trench 3 and the next field has a few medieval features sealed beneath very deep modern dumped topsoil. Contingency trenches were subsequently dug to establish the course and extent of these remains.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. General

This document presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between the 29th of November and 15th of December 2017 on a proposed housing development. The work was commissioned by Environment Design Partnership Ltd. on behalf of Barratt West Midlands.

The work was carried out to fulfil the planning condition 29 attached to planning application (ref 0308/2016) and in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated November 2017 (Roberts 2017) covering this programme of works produced by CFA and approved by Staffordshire County Council's Historic Environment Advisor.

2.2. Project Background

The Site is approximately 25ha and occupies open farm land. It is bounded to the north by the River Thame and a canalised Flood Relief Channel, and Birmingham to Fazeley Canal to the south.

The Staffordshire County Council has granted planning permission for residential development of affordable housing with associated facilities.

2.3. Archaeological Background

A desk-based assessment and a geophysical survey were conducted prior to the works commencing (Moore and O'Seaneachain 2016, Webb 2016). The desk-based assessment report considers that:

The Site contains within its boundaries the non-designated Dunstall Farm historic farmstead (294). It is proposed to retain the historic farm buildings within the development, although the fixed use for these buildings is still to be determined. It is recommended that the historic buildings in Dunstall Farm should be redeveloped in a manner which is sympathetic to their historic character and landscape setting. This would have a potential long-term minor beneficial impact for this low value non-designated heritage asset.

Part of a possible Post-medieval water meadow (285), and a short section of road to Bonehill Farm (284) which is aligned along Dunstall Lane, also are located within the within the Site. The scheme is likely to have a neutral impact on the heritage value of these two low value non-designated heritage assets.

It is considered that the Site has a high potential to contain sub-surface archaeological remains which relate to the Post-Medieval period. These remains are most likely to be settlement and agricultural remains associated with the historic farmstead of Dunstall farm and are considered to have a low historical and archaeological value.

The Site is considered likely to have a low potential for containing buried archaeological remains of all other periods based on the findings of this desk-based assessment and the geophysical survey carried out as part of this assessment (Webb 2016).

The potential impact of the proposed development on any currently unknown buried archaeological resource within the site could be reduced to neutral by appropriate archaeological mitigation.

The geophysical report concludes that:

Linear anomalies locating former boundaries and various pipes and drains and by ridge and furrow and more recent cultivation have been identified. Areas of magnetic disturbance are also likely to have a relatively modern origin and may also be due to ground disturbance associated with improving drainage. A former pond is also located as an area of disturbed responses. Variations in the composition and depth of the superficial deposits of till and alluvium account for the broad amorphous anomalies and the generally variable magnetic background recorded across the site. No anomalies of obvious archaeological potential have been identified. Therefore, based solely on the results of the geophysical survey the archaeological potential of the site is assessed as low.

2.4. Geology

The bedrock underlying the Site is mudstone of Gunthrope Member with superficial deposits being sand and gravel from river terrace deposits (BGS).

2.5. Objectives

In accordance with WSI the aim of the project was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development, should they exist on the site and to inform discussions around the need for and scope of any further archaeological mitigation across the site.

The trial trenching was design specifically to test possible archaeological remains identified as geophysical anomalies.

3. WORKING METHODS

3.1. General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance (2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2014d).

3.2. Trenching

Thirty nine trenches were excavated, each measuring 50m x 1.8m. An additional 10 contingency trenches of various lengths were dug, measuring 349.27m in total. These concentrated in three areas. Trenches 3A and 3B were dug on the same alignment and same length as Trench 3, to establish the extent of medieval activity. Trenches 20A-20J were excavated around Trench 20 to find the course of the Roman ditch. Trenches 5A, 6A and 8A were dug perpendicular to trenches 5, 6 and 8, in order to check the depth of the redeposited topsoil.

3.3. Excavation and Recording Strategy

The area for the evaluation (25ha) was investigated by a 1.5% sample of the area formed by trial trenches targeting features identified by geophysical survey. The trenches were excavated by machine with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision to remove topsoil to natural subsoil or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first. Any further excavation of archaeological features required

to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation were carried out by hand. All works were carried out according to Cifa standards and guidance (2014b).

All excavation and on-site recording were carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms. The stratification was recorded even if no deposits of archaeological significance were discovered. The trenches were backfilled on completion of excavation. The locations of the trenches were recorded using industry standard surveying equipment.

The convention used for numbering contexts was trench number followed by the layer number, e.g.: 0101 was topsoil in Trench 1. Where layers are discussed collectively across trenches, the trench numbers are substituted by a hash tag, e.g.: #01.

3.4. Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be deposited at Potteries Museum & Art Gallery and will conform to its requirements (PMAG 2010) and current guidelines e.g. MoRPHE (HE 2015), Brown (2011), Cifa (2014d), MGC 1994, SMA 1995, Walker 1990. A proper transfer of ownership will be ensured, according to the guidance mentioned above. The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery accession number (2017.LH.94) will appear on archived items and all related reports.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1. General

The locations of the trenches are shown in Fig. 1. Illustrations and photos referred to in the text can be found at the back of the report. An overview of the trenches is presented below.

4.2. Trench Description

4.2.1. All trenches

In all cases, the topsoil (#01) consisted of very dark brown silty sand with occasional stones. Trenches on Field 3 (Tr 4-8) had significantly deeper topsoil (max. 1.5m), while Trenches 9, 10, 24, 27 and 29 (on Field 2) had no topsoil. According to the machine operator (who had worked on the farm for over 25 years) all the topsoil was transported from Field 2 and accumulated on Field 3 some years ago.

4.2.2. Trench 1

An large feature was found at the north-west end of the trench. It measured 12m across, and was filled by 0105, a very dark grey-black silty sand. It was not excavated, but a single sherd of pottery was found on the surface of the feature. The sherd was dated to 18th century AD. The machine operator had installed a drain for a pond/spring at this point some 20 years previously.

4.2.3. Trench 3 (fig. 2)

Five features were identified. At the south-east end of the trench was feature 0303, running on an E-W alignment. It measured 0.33m in width, 1.8+m in length, and 0.16m in depth, with irregular-steep slopes and irregular base. It was filled with 0304, a brown clayey friable sand with frequent medium-sized stones. Multiple pieces of late 12th century pottery were found inside. Eighteen metres further north-west a linear feature 0307 was excavated (fig. 6), measuring 1.8+m in length, 1.2m in width and 0.24m in depth. It had irregular gentle sides with irregular concave base. It was aligned north-to-south. It was filled with 0310, a very dark brownish-grey silty sand of moderate compaction, containing an abundance of the late 12th century pottery. Adjacent to it was 0308, a 0.9m wide linear measuring 0.2m in depth, running on the same alignment. It had irregular sides and base and was filled with very dark grey loose sand with frequent gravel (0309). Further north two more features were found, none of them were excavated. 0312 was a linear measuring 0.6m in width and more than 1.8m in length, running on an E-W alignment. It was filled with dark brown silty sandy clay with few stones. The pottery found on its surface points to a late 12th century date. Next to it was 0311, a curving linear measuring more than 6.5m in length and 0.6m in width. It was filled with dark greyish brown sandy clay of moderate compaction.

4.2.4. Trench 3A (fig. 2)

Four features were found in this trench which was placed to determine the extent of activity in Trench 3, none were excavated (fig. 7). On the south-east end was 03A04, an area of possible metalworking activity. It was approx. 5m in diameter, filled with dark brown-grey silty sand of moderate compaction, with frequent slag fragments and stones. Further north was 03A05, a possible pit measuring approx. 4m in diam. It was filled with very dark brown gravelly sand with charcoal flakes. To the north of it was 03A06, a linear feature measuring 11.5m in length and more than 1.8m in width, running on a NW-SE alignment. It was filled with dark brown-grey silty sand of moderate compaction. At the north-west corner a linear feature 03A07 was found, running on a NW-SE alignment. It was 3.25m in length and 0.5m in width, filled with loose greyish brown silty gravelly sand.

All features in this trench contained the same type of late 12th century pottery.

4.2.5. Trench 3B (fig. 2)

Four features were found in this trench which again was placed to determine the extent of activity found in Trench 3, none of the features were excavated (fig. 8). First from the south-east was a linear feature 03B06. It was running on a N-S alignment, measuring 0.6m in width and filled with dark brown-grey silty clayey sand of moderate compaction with stone inclusions. Immediate to the north of it 03B05, another linear feature on the same alignment, was found. It was 0.3m in width and was filled with dark grey silty sand of moderate compaction with stones. Further north was 03B04, a linear feature running on an E-W alignment. It was 2m in width and filled with very dark grey silty sand of moderate compaction with few stones. Two pieces of pottery found on the surface indicating a late 12th century dating. Eighteen metres to the north of it a linear feature 03B07 was found, running on the same alignment. It was 0.4m in width and was filled with very dark grey gravelly sand of moderate compaction, with stone inclusions.

4.2.6. Trench 5A

Three features were found in this trench. Due to the safety constraints (the trench was more than 1.2m deep) none of them were excavated. On the south-west corner of the trench, on the intersection with Trench 5, a pit was found (05A04). It was more than 1.2m in diameter (not exposed in full), filled with very dark brown silty sand with charcoal and brick flakes (fig. 9). It contained three large sherds of 12th century pottery. To the north-east of it was 05A05, a small linear running north-south, and measuring 0.5m in width. It was filled with very dark grey sand with frequent poorly-sorted large gravel. The last feature in this trench was 05A06, a pit measuring 0.3m in diameter. It was filled with dark brown-grey silty sand and poorly sorted medium-sized gravel.

4.2.7. Trench 7

One unexcavated feature was found in this trench, located at its eastern end. It was 0704, a 1.5m wide linear running north-south, filled with black sandy gravel. Tarmac and modern brick was found inside, giving it a modern date.

4.2.8. Trench 12

One feature was found in this trench, located near its southern end. It was a linear feature 1205, running on a N-S alignment, with medium to steep sides and flattish base. It measured more than 1.8m in length, 1.7m in width and more than 1.10m in depth. It was filled with 1204, a loose dark brown sandy silt with frequent rounded gravel (fig. 10). A few fragments of animal bone were retrieved from this context.

4.2.9. Trench 13

One feature was found in this trench. It was a linear 1304, running on an E-W alignment. It had irregular, half-steep sides with flat base. It measured more than 1.8m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.3m in depth. It was filled with 1305, a dark brown moderate-loose silty sand with gravel lenses. It was cut out from the topsoil and had no finds; therefore it is likely it is a modern feature.

4.2.10. Trench 20 (fig. 3)

All the features found in the contingency trenches around Trench 20 will be discussed here collectively. The main feature in this trench was 2005, a ditch found 5.5m from the eastern end of Trench 20 (fig. 11). It was a linear feature running east-west, measuring more than 27m in length, 2m in width and 0.4m in depth. It had med-steep sides with concave base. It was filled with 2004, a pale brown silty sand and rounded well-sorted gravel of moderate compaction (fig. 12). The fill yielded very small fragments of roundwood charcoal but no other conclusive environmental evidence. Its possible terminus was found in Trench 20B, though the feature continued on the same alignment in Trench 20I further east. It was not found east of it in Trench 20F, but there was another linear that could have overlaid/cut the ditch. The ditch contained multiple sherds of Roman pottery including Black Burnished Ware and Samian (fig. 13 and 14).

At the south-west end of Trench 20 and continuing in Trench 20E was an unexcavated feature 20E04. It was not clear whether it was a pit or a linear from the revealed portion. It measured more than 8.5m in length. It was filled with very dark brown silty sandy clay of moderate compaction with few stones. It contained a single piece of mid 17th century pottery. Further north was a possible feature in Trench 20D. A half-slot was excavated through it, revealing this to be topsoil seeped into the natural. It was not established whether ditch 2005 was beneath it. Further east a linear feature 20C04 running on a NE-SW alignment was found. It was measuring 0.5m in width, filled with grey gravelly clayey sand of moderate compaction. There was an identical linear, parallel to it, excavated further east (2006). It had very gentle sides and flat base with the same fill (2007).

4.2.11. Trench 22

One feature was found in this trench. It was 2204, a linear running east-west. It measured more than 1.8m in length, 2m in width and 0.65m in depth. It had gentle slopes turning vertical at 0.1m deep, with a flat base. It was filled with black silty sand of moderate compaction (2205). Where the sides turned vertical the fill changed to well-sorted large-sized gravel. It was cut from the topsoil and it probably was a modern field drain.

4.2.12. Trench 23 (fig. 4, fig. 5)

An intersection of two ditches was found in this trench. The earliest was 2307, 2.82m wide and 0.76m deep linear with the gentle slopes, running on a north-south alignment. It was filled with dark grey-black sandy silt with gravel inclusions (2306). This was cut by 2305, a linear running on an east-west alignment. It was 1.1m wide and more than 0.9m deep (the water table prevented further exploration). It was filled with 2304, a dark brown-black clayey sand of moderate compaction. No finds were recovered from neither of them. Three plough marks were running on a north-south alignment over the intersection, but their stratigraphical relationship with features could not be established.

4.2.13. Trench 25

A single feature was found in this trench. 2504 was an irregular feature measuring more than 1.8m in length, 1.2m in width and 0.42m in depth. It had irregular-steep sides and base, filled with brown friable silty clay with many medium to small stones. It was probably a natural feature.

4.2.14. Trench 29

A single feature was found in the south-west corner of the trench (2904). Only a small area of it was exposed. It was filled with very dark brown-black clayey sand of moderate compaction, with frequent gravel. According to geophysical survey it was a former field boundary, therefore it was not investigated.

4.2.15. Trench 31

One feature was found in this trench. It was linear 3104, measuring more than 1.8m in length, 1.2m in width and 0.6m in depth. It was on a NE-SW alignment and had steep sides with a flat base. It had two fills 3106 was the lower fill, 0.25m thick, composed of very dark reddish-brown silty sand and gravel of moderate compaction. It was topped with a very thin layer of charcoal. Similar layers could be noted throughout. The upper fill (3105) was a very dark brown-black silty sand of moderate compaction, poorly distinguishable from the topsoil. No finds were retrieved from this feature.

4.2.16. Trench 37

Two linear features were found in this trench. 3707 was a linear on a NW-SE alignment. It was more than 7m in length, 0.76m in width and 0.18m in depth. It had very gentle sides with flat bottom. It was filled with soft pale brown sandy silt with occasional rounded stones (3706). It was cut by 3705, which was running on the exact same alignment. It was a linear feature with med-steep sides and concave base, measuring more than 7m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.18m in depth. It was filled with 3704, a dark grey loose sandy silt with occasionally occurring charcoal flakes.

5. FINDS

5.1. Pottery from Tamworth, Staffs (P. Blinkhorn)

The pottery assemblage comprised 192 sherds with a total weight of 3510g. It mostly consisted of Romano-British and medieval material, along with a few post-medieval sherds. The following fabric types were noted:

IGW: Iron-Glazed Blackware, 18th century (Ratkai 2007, 77). 2 sherds, 42g.

ISW: Iron-rich Sandy Ware, 11th – 14th century (Ford 1995, 32). 4 sherds, 103g

MWW: Midlands White Ware, late 12th – 14th century (ibid. 34). 146 sherds, 2645g.

RB: All Romano-British. 39 sherds, 700g.

SS: Staffordshire Slipware, 1640-1800 (Brears 1969). 1 sherd, 20g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region.

The Romano-British assemblage mainly comprised both oxidized and reduced Severn Valley Wares, along with a few sherds of Black-Burnished Ware and single sherds of Shelly Ware and Samian Ware (Tomber and Dore 1994). The sherds were mostly fairly large, although they were also somewhat abraded. This seems likely to be due to the soil conditions and the softness of the Severn Valley Wares rather than redeposition, and the group appears to be a primary deposit.

The medieval assemblage was dominated by MWW, mostly in the form of fragments of jars and a few bowls. These were largely unglazed other than a few splashes which seem likely to be due to glaze dripping from other vessels in the kiln. This is typical of the tradition (Ford 1995, 33). A few sherds of glazed jugs were also noted. All the ISW is from fragments of glazed jugs, which are usually of 12th - 13th century date (ibid. 33). The majority of the assemblage comprised large sherds in good condition, with a large number of re-fitting sherds, particularly amongst the large group of material from context 0307. There seems little doubt that they are mostly primary deposits, and that there was fairly significant activity in the vicinity of these excavations in the 12th – 14th centuries.

Common late medieval pottery types, particularly Midland Purple and Cistercian Wares, are entirely absent, suggesting that medieval activity at the

site did not continue beyond the middle of the 14th century. The few post-medieval sherds are very common finds in the region.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Cntxt	RB		ISW		MWW		SS		IGW		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
0105									1	15	18thC
0312					6	115					L12thC
Tr03A04					1	11					L12thC
Tr03A05					1	28					L12thC
Tr03A06					2	43					L12thC
Tr03A07					3	84					L12thC
Tr03B04			1	20	1	21					L12thC
Tr05A04			3	83							12thC
Tr20D04											L12thC
Tr20E04							1	20			M17thC
0304					46	695					L12thC
0307					74	1449					L12thC
1904									1	27	18thC
2004	39	700									RB
3401					10	170					L12thC
Total	39	700	4	103	146	2645	1	20	2	42	

5.2. Dunstall Farm, Tamworth, Staffordshire - Sample Assessment (M. Hastie)

5.2.1. Methodology

One bulk soil sample was retained from the fill of a ditch [2004] uncovered during archaeological investigations at Dunstall Farm, Tamworth. The sample (20 litres in volume) was processed through a Siraf style flotation tank to recover small finds, animal bone, metal working debris and any carbonised remains (etc) that may survive within it. The floating material (flot) was collected in a 250µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope (x10-x100 mag.). The material remaining in the tank (retent) was washed through a 1mm mesh and sorted for archaeological significant remains.

All significant material was removed and stored in plastic finds bags. Identification of archaeobotanical material was carried out with reference to modern seed atlases and CFAs in-house reference collection.

The results are summarised in Table 1 (Sample Composition) and discussed below.

5.2.2. Results

The samples contained little palaeoenvironmental remains, the remains being generally abraded and fragmentary, and do not allow any detailed discussion.

Pottery: Fragments of black gritty ware were recovered from the sample; these were rather abraded and fragmentary.

Metal working debris: Occasional small fragments of possible ferrous slag were recovered from the fill of the feature; these were very small and may be later contaminants moved down the soil profile by bioturbation.

Wood charcoal: Small fragments of wood charcoal were present in the sample. The charcoal comprises a mixture of oak and non-oak species (i.e. alder, hazel, etc) small diameter roundwood. The charcoal was vitrified (glassy) with some iron-replacement and would not be suitable for AMS dating.

Table 1. Sample Composition

Sample number	Context number	Flots		Retents		
		Approx. flot vol (ml)	Charcoal	Pottery	MWD (poss)	Charcoal
		20	+ (vsf)	++	+	+

Key: + = rare, ++ = occasional, +++ = common and ++++ = abundant
 sf = small fragments (<5mm in dia.), vsf = very small fragments (<2mm in dia.)
 MWD = metal working debris

6. SUMMARY

The undated features in Trench 23 had a lack of pottery, but their regular shapes and topsoil-like fill probably date them as recent.

Features in Trenches 7, 22, 25 and 29 were visible on the geophysical survey. Except for feature 2904 which was a field boundary, all the features were identified as field drains.

An extensive post-Medieval feature was found in Trench 20E. It was unclear whether it was a linear or pit feature. It was close to the Dunstall Lane and Dunstall Cottage, and could be possibly connected to them.

Trench 3 revealed an area of dense medieval features. The assemblage of very homogeneous pottery dated to the late 12th century. The many excavated features were quite shallow, which could explain why the geophysical survey failed to record them. Their shallow depth possibly indicates that the original ground surface was reduced by later activity. This hypothesis is further supported by relatively thin topsoil with sherds of the same type of pottery

that came from the features, suggesting some recent disturbance. The abundance of features points to an extensive use of this field in the 12th century, including some evidence of iron working/smelting in the vicinity.

Trench 5A in the field with the modern dumped topsoil, revealed three features, of which one 05A04 is dated to the 12th century. Due to the safety concerns, this feature was not excavated.

A ditch found in Trench 20 contained multiple large fragments of early Roman pottery. The ditch was thought to be part of an enclosure, but despite many contingency trenches dug around it, no change in alignment of the ditch was observed so the area enclosed by the ditch may be large - perhaps a field. A possible terminus was found in Trench 20B which may indicate an entrance way. The large unabraded sherds of pottery suggest they originate from settlement very close nearby which may lie outside the site beneath the nearby cottage.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation revealed an area of medieval activity with metalworking evidence and pits – perhaps related to a settlement, and evidence of an early Roman enclosure (perhaps a field) with a settlement focus nearby.

The Roman activity is a little enigmatic; there are several Roman enclosures identified in the heritage statement along the line of Watling Street and there is the Roman fort, bath houses and late Roman enclosure at Wall. This early Roman enclosure may be a part of this occupied landscape.

The 12th-century settlement and metal working seems to be well away from any current settlements with medieval origins although Tamworth, with its castle, mill and market must have had a densely occupied hinterland and the site found in this evaluation could be a failed settlement within this landscape. Dunstall Farm may perhaps have had an origin as an early medieval hamlet.

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9. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY

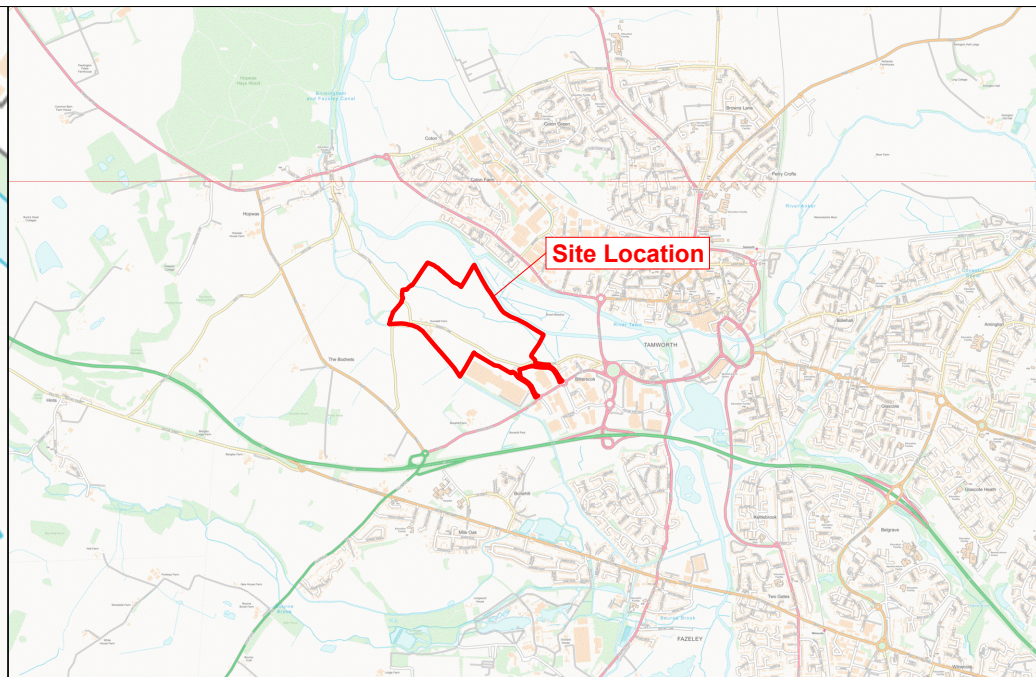
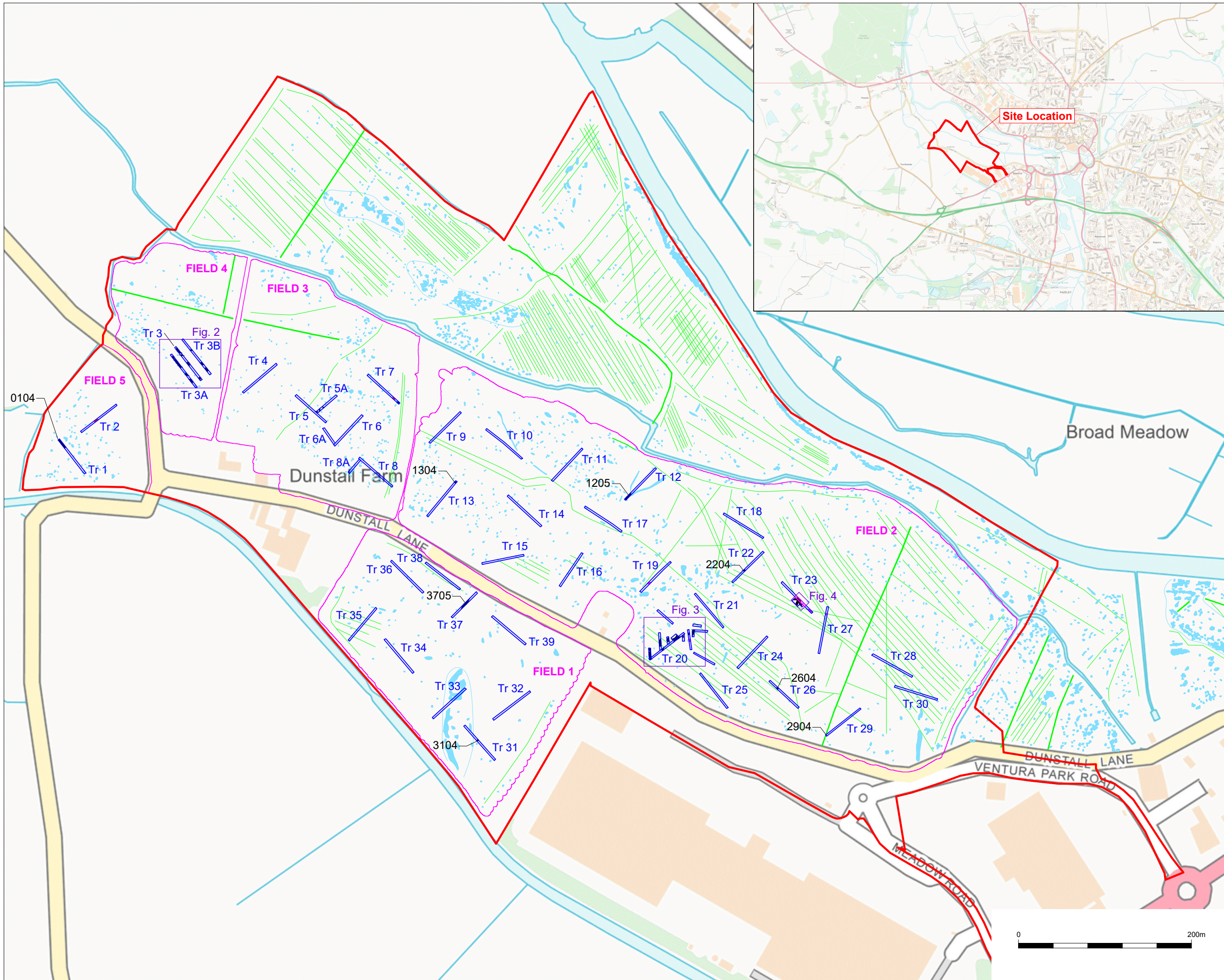
Trench 01			Trench Size 49.8m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.45-0.6m			Topsoil Depth 0.45-0.46m	Subsoil Depth 0.05-0.14m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
0105	-	Large pit	L: 12+m	Large pit , not excavated; dark grey-black silty sand of moderate compaction with stones
Trench 02			Trench Size 51.7m x 1.8m	Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.55-0.6m			Topsoil Depth 0.45-0.5m	Subsoil Depth 0.05-0.1m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 03			Trench Size 48.6m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.4-0.6m			Topsoil Depth 0.35-0.42m	Subsoil Depth 0.1m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
0303	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.33m; D: 0.16m	S-N aligned linear feature with an irregular sides and base.
0304	0303	Fill of linear	L: 1.8m; W: 0.33m; D: 0.16m	A friable brown clay/sand deposit with medium sized stone inclusions;
0305	-	Subsoil	-	-
0306	-	-	-	void
0307	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2+m; D: 0.24m	S-N aligned irregular linear feature; turns southwards at the end and the base is very irregular.
0308	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.9m; D: 0.2m	Linear irregular feature, E-W orientation; very shallow. Possible auxiliary installation to [0307].
0309	0308	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.9 m; D: 0.2 m	Dark brown grey sand filled densely with big gravel; No finds.
0310	0307	Fill of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2+m; D: 0.24m	Dark brown silty sand, almost no gravel. Pottery found.
0311	-	Linear feature	L: 6.5m; W: 0.6m	Possible linear feature, not excavated; dark grey-brown sandy clay, stone inclusions.
0312	-	Linear feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.6m	Possible linear feature, not excavated; dark grey-brown sandy clay, stone inclusions.
Trench 03A			Trench Size 48.2m x1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.45-0.55m			Topsoil Depth 0.35-0.4m	Subsoil Depth 0.1-0.2m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
03A04	-	Possible furnace	diam.: 5m	Possible furnace/ smelting activity, not excavated; dark brown – grey silty sand, slag and stone inclusions.
03A05	-	Possible pit	diam.: 4m	Half – round possible pit, not excavated; very dark brown gravelly sand, gravel and charcoal inclusions.
03A06	-	Linear feature	L: 11,5+m; W: 1.8+m	NW- SE aligned (possible) linear feature, not excavated; dark brown-grey silty sand, few stone inclusions.
03A07	-	Linear feature	L: 3.25m+; W: 0.5m	Curving very thin linear, possible feature, not excavated; NW-SE Orientation.
Trench 03B			Trench Size 51.9m x1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.40m-0.5m			Topsoil Depth 0.30m-0.42m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
03B04	-	Linear feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 2m	E-W aligned feature. Very dark grey silty sand with stone inclusions not excavated.
03B05	-	Linear feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.3m	N-S aligned feature. Dark grey silty sand with stone inclusions not excavated.
03B06	-	Linear feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.6m	N-S aligned feature. Dark brown-grey silty clay-sand with stone inclusions not excavated.

03B07	-	Linear feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.4m	E-W aligned feature. Very dark grey gravelly sand with stone inclusions, not excavated.
Trench 04			Trench Size 51.5m x 1.8m	Orientation: SW-NE
Trench Depth 1m-1.2m			Topsoil Depth 0.9m-1.2m	No Subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 05			Trench Size 47m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 1.2m			Topsoil Depth 1.2m+	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 05A			Trench Size 33m x 1.8m	Orientation: W-E
Trench Depth 1.5-1.53m			Topsoil Depth 1.45-1.5m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
05A04	-	Pit	diam.: 1.2+m	Small pit in very deep trench, not excavated; very dark brown firm silty sand with frequent charcoal and brick inclusions. Medieval pottery found.
05A05	-	Linear feature	L: 1.25+m; W: 0.5m	N-S aligned small linear feature not excavated; very dark brown sand with poorly sorted big gravel (50%).
05A06	-	Pit	L: 0.7+m; W: 0.3+m	Small pit, not excavated; dark brown-grey silty sand with poorly sorted medium gravel inclusions (30%).
Trench 06			Trench Size 47.6m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 1m-1.14m			Topsoil Depth 1m-1.10m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 06A			Trench Size 22m x 1.8m	Orientation: SE-NW
Trench Depth 1.45m-1.5m			Topsoil Depth 1.44m-1.45	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 07			Trench Size 49.4m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.50m-1.20m			Topsoil Depth 0.40m – 1.20m+	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
704	-	Modern linear feature	L: 1.2+m; W: 1.5+m	Modern linear feature running N-S, not excavated; Dark grey-black sandy gravel with big lumps of modern brick and tarmac.
Trench 08			Trench Size 50.7m x 1.8m	Orientation: SE-NW
Trench Depth 0.65m -1.5m			Topsoil Depth 0.45m -1.5m	Subsoil Depth 0.05m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 08A			Trench Size 1.20m x 1.8m	Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 1.45m-1.5m			Topsoil Depth 1.45m – 1.5m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 09			Trench Size 50.5m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.38m-0.54m			Topsoil Depth 0.06m-0.22m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 10			Trench Size 50.7m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.3m-0.45m			Topsoil Depth 0.05m-0.2m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 11			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: SW-NE
Trench Depth 0.4m-0.44m			Topsoil Depth 0.3m-0.35m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 12			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: W-E
Trench Depth 0.22m -0.38m			Topsoil Depth 0.12m-0.14m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
1204	1205	Fill of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 1.70m; D: 1.10m	Dark brown, silty sand and loose deposit within a NE-SW aligned linear feature. Bone found.
1205	-	Cut of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 1.70 m; D: 1.10 m	N-S aligned shallow linear feature, medium steep sides and flat base.
Trench 13			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.42m-0.54m			Topsoil Depth 0.18m – 0.28m	Subsoil Depth 0.17m – 0.18m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
1304	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.6m;	E-W aligned regular Cut with even half-steep sides and a flat base. Cuts all the way under the

			D: 0.3m	topsoil, possibly modern.
1305	1304	Fill of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 0.6m; D: 0.3m	Dark brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions possibly modern linear. No finds
Trench 14			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.40m-0.58m			Topsoil Depth 0.16m-0.22m	Subsoil Depth 0.16m – 0.20m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 15			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.40m-0.44m			Topsoil Depth 0.20m-0.22m	Subsoil Depth 0.17m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 16			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.48m-0.58m			Topsoil Depth 0.20m-0.40m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 17			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.35m-0.44m			Topsoil Depth 0.3m-0.35m	Subsoil Depth 0.05m- 0.1m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 18			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.47m -0.7m			Topsoil Depth 0.48m-0.55m	Subsoil Depth 0.18m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 19			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: SW-NE
Trench Depth 0.42m-0.7m			Topsoil Depth 0.4m-0.6m	Subsoil Depth 0.05m-0.08m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: SW-NE
Trench Depth 0.55m-0.6m			Topsoil Depth 0.37m-0.55m	Subsoil Depth 0.05
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
2004	2005	Fill of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 1.90m; D: 0.40m	Pale brown, silty gravel with 30% rounded gravel inclusions. Contained Roman Pottery
2005	-	Cut of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 1.90m; D: 0.40m	NW-SE aligned linear ditch, medium steep sides with flat base.
2006	-	Cut of linear feature	L: 2+m; W: 0.35m; D: 0.07m	E-W aligned shallow linear ditch with straight sides and flat base.
2007	2006	Fill of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 0.35m; D: 0.07m	Grey clay sand. At the bottom of the feature an orange/ yellow silty clay with small stone inclusions. No finds.
Trench 20A			Trench Size 6m x 3m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.71m			Topsoil Depth 0.48m-0.55m	Subsoil Depth 0.18m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20B			Trench Size 7.8m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-W
Trench Depth 0.53m-0.81m			Topsoil Depth 0.45m-0.64m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20C			Trench Size 7m x 1.8m	Orientation: W-E
Trench Depth 0.52m-0.68m			Topsoil Depth 0.45m-0.64m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
20C04	-	Narrow linear gully	L: 5+m; W: 0.5m; D: 0.2m	Same as [2006].
Trench 20D			Trench Size 18.5m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.42m-0.77m			Topsoil Depth 0.45m-0.64m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
20D04	-	Cut of linear feature	L: 5+m; W: 0.5m; D: 0.2m	N-S aligned linear ditch with flat sides and irregular base. Gradually gets deeper in the N direction.
20D05	20D04	Fill of linear feature	L: 5+m; W: 0.5m; D: 0.2m	Grey, clay sand and friable deposit of a linear ditch with many small stone inclusions. No finds.
Trench 20E			Trench Size 11m x 1.8m	Orientation: W-E
Trench Depth 0.53m-0.76m			Topsoil Depth 0.45m-0.64m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
20E04	-	Pit/ linear	W: 8.5+m;	Pit or linear, no clear from exposed position. Very dark brown silty sand deposit with stone

				inclusions. Post-medieval pottery.
Trench 20F (L-shaped)		Trench Size 15m x 1.8m + 8.4m x 1.8m		Orientation: NE-SW + E-W
Trench Depth 0.5m-0.59m		Topsoil Depth 0.45m-0.5m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20G		Trench Size 10.7m x 1.8m		Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.5m -0.62m		Topsoil Depth 0.48m- 0.5m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20H		Trench Size 27m x 1.8m		Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.58m – 0.64m		Topsoil Depth 0.40m – 0.50m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20I		Trench Size 32m x 1.8m		Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth		Topsoil Depth 0.20m		Subsoil Depth 0.16m – 0.20m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 20J		Trench Size 27m x 1.8m		Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.40m – 0.50m		Topsoil Depth 0.26m – 0.38m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 21		Trench Size 50m x 1.8m		Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.45m – 0.48m		Topsoil Depth 0.3m – 0.4m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 22		Trench Size 51m x 1.8m		Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.2m – 0.7m		Topsoil Depth 0.5m – 0.65m		No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
2204	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.2+m; W: 2m D: 0.65m	E-W aligned linear feature, with gentle then vertical sides and flat base.
2205	2204	Fill of linear	L: 1.2+m; W: 2m D: 0.65m	Back silty sand. Vertical part filled with big gravel inclusions at the bottom of the feature. Probable field drain.
Trench 23		Trench Size 50m x 1.8m		Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.45m – 0.65m		Topsoil Depth 0.32m – 0.5m		Subsoil Depth 0.05m – 0.1m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
2304	2305	Fill of linear	L: 5+m; W: 1.1m; D: 0.9m	Dark brown-black quite compact clayey sand. Probably field drain. No finds.
2305	-	Cut of linear	L: 5+m; W: 1.1m; D: 0.9m	A linear running E-W. Very deep with steep sides, goes under [2307]. Not bottomed due to water level. Probably a field drain.
2306	2307	Fill of linear	L: 10+m; W: 2.82m; D: 0.76m	Dark grey-black compact sandy silt with gravel inclusions. Yellow gravel wash- in material visible in the middle, probably ditches was half-filled and left open for a longer period.
2307	-	Cut of linear	L: 10+m; W: 2.82m; D: 0.76m	Wide linear running N-S. Gently sloping sides and concave base. Cuts (2304) which is thought to be a drain, therefore this is even younger.
Trench 24		Trench Size 50m x 1.8m		Orientation: NE - SW
Trench Depth 0.27m - 0.55m		Topsoil Depth 0.02m – 0.52m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 25		Trench Size 44m x 1.8m		Orientation: SE-NW
Trench Depth 0.53m – 0.67m		Topsoil Depth 0.41m – 0.62m		No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
2504	-	Cut of natural feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2m; D: 0.42m	NE aligned linear shaped feature with irregular/ steep sides and irregular base.
2505	2504	Fill of natural feature	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2m; D: 0.42m	Brown silty clay with medium/ small stone inclusions.
Trench 26		Trench Size 50m x 1.8m		Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.35m – 0.5m		Topsoil Depth 0.3m – 0.4m		No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 27		Trench Size 50m x 1.8m		Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.25m – 0.5m		Topsoil Depth 0.02m – 0.43m		Subsoil Depth 0.05m – 0.07m
<i>No archaeology</i>				

Trench 28			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.5m – 0.55m			Topsoil Depth 0.3m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 29			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.15m – 0.23m			Topsoil Depth No topsoil	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
2904	-	Linear	-	A field boundary not excavated; Very dark brown-black clay sand with 40% gravel inclusions.
Trench 30			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.4m – 0.6m			Topsoil Depth 0.3m – 0.4m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 31			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.48m – 0.66m			Topsoil Depth 0.12m – 0.20m	Subsoil Depth 0.25m – 0.30m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
3104	-	Cut of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2m; D: 0.6m	A linear running SW-NE. Clear cut feature, going steep, with flat bottom. Not truncated.
3105	3104	2 nd (younger) Fill of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2m; D: 0.35m	Quite loose dark brown-black silty sand with frequent small gravel inclusions. Barely distinguishable from the topsoil. Most probably modern. No finds.
3106	3104	1 st (Older) Fill of linear	L: 1.8+m; W: 1.2m; D: 0.25m	Medium-firm very dark reddish brown silty sand and gravel with higher frequency of larger gravel inclusions. Similar thinner later can be noted throughout this fill. No finds.
Trench 32			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.60m – 0.70m			Topsoil Depth 0.14m – 0.16m	Subsoil Depth 0.16m – 0.18m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 33			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.50m – 0.54m			Topsoil Depth 0.14m – 0.20m	Subsoil Depth 0.14m – 0.22m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 34			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.48m – 0.60m			Topsoil Depth 0.14m	Subsoil Depth 0.20m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 35			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.44m – 0.58m			Topsoil Depth 0.10m – 0.24m	Subsoil Depth 0.20m – 0.34m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 36			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.38m – 0.64m			Topsoil Depth 0.30m – 0.34m	No subsoil
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 37			Trench Size 30.40m x 1.8m	Orientation: E-W
Trench Depth 0.50m – 0.60m			Topsoil Depth 0.30m – 0.38m	No subsoil
<i>Context</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Description</i>
3704	3705	Fill of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 0.50m; D: 0.18m	Soft dark grey, sandy silt with occasional charcoal inclusions. No finds.
3705	-	Cut of linear ditch	L: 2+m; W: 0.50m; D: 0.18m	A shallow NW-SE aligned linear ditch with slightly sloped sides and concave base.
3706	3707	Fill of linear ditch	L: 7+m; W: 0.76m; D: 0.18m	Soft pale brown, sandy silt with occasional rounded stone inclusions. No finds.
3707	-	Cut of linear ditch	L: 7+m; W: 0.76m; D: 0.18m	NW-SE aligned shallow linear ditch with slightly sloped sides and flat base.
Trench 38			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.60m – 0.68m			Topsoil Depth 0.18m – 0.20m	Subsoil Depth 0.18m – 0.28m
<i>No archaeology</i>				
Trench 39			Trench Size 50m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.44m – 0.50m			Topsoil Depth 0.14m – 0.18m	Subsoil Depth 0.16m – 0.20m
<i>No archaeology</i>				



- Key:**
- Site Boundary
 - Trench Outline
 - Field Boundary
 - Archaeological Feature
 - Field Drain
 - Geophysical Survey**
 - Agricultural
 - Former Field Boundary
 - Magnetic Enhancement: Geology



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Title:
Location plan and trench plan

Project:
Dunstall Farm, Tamworth, Staffordshire: Archaeological Evaluation

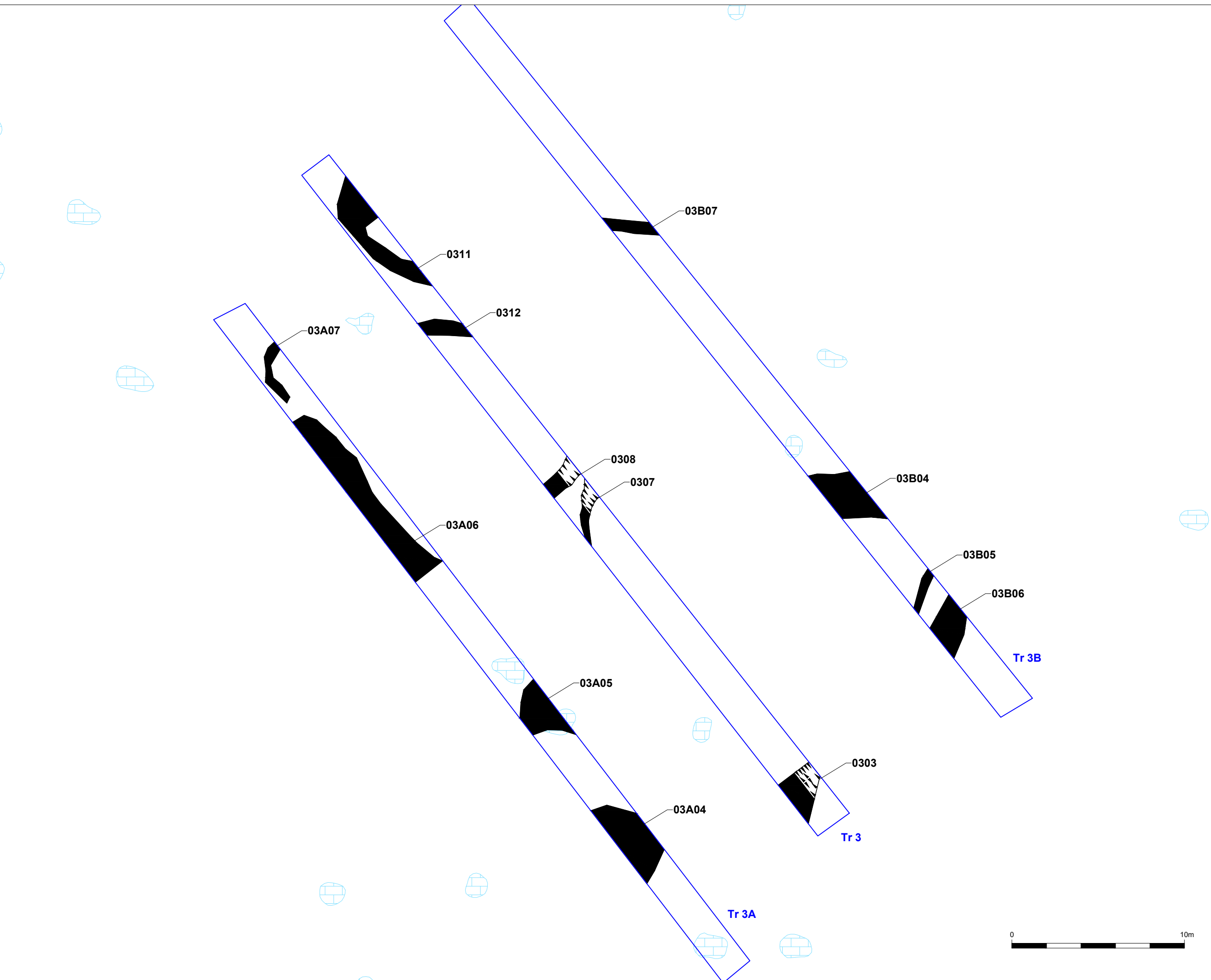
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Scale at A3:
1:4000





Drawn by: MP	Checked: SW	Date: 24/01/2018
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Report No: MK107/18	Fig. No: 1
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Key:

-  Trench Outline
-  Archaeological Feature
- Geophysical Survey**
-  Magnetic Enhancement:
-  Geology




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Title:
Plan of Trenches 3, 3A and 3B

Project:
**Dunstall Farm, Tamworth,
 Staffordshire: Archaeological
 Evaluation**

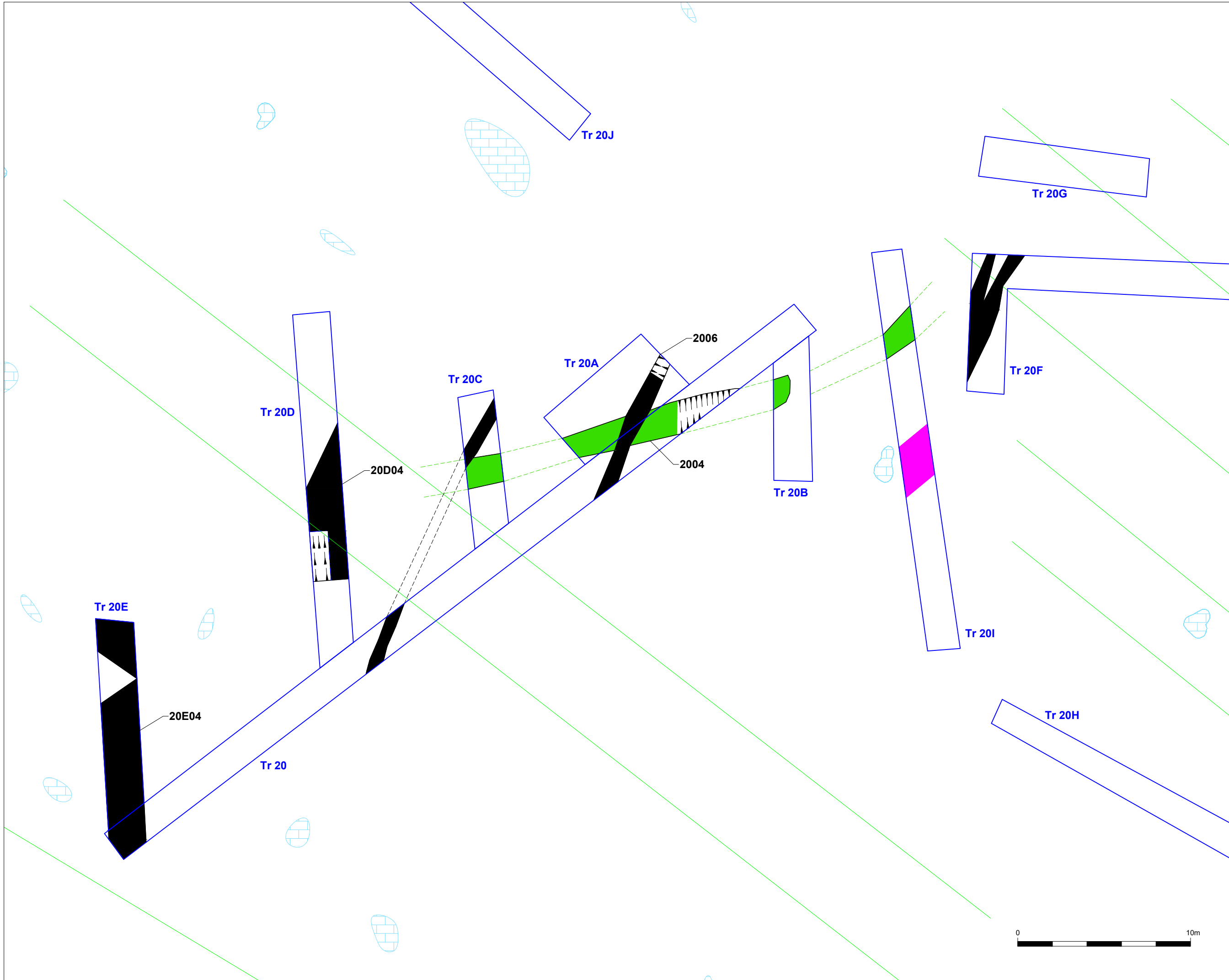
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Barratt West Midlands

Scale at A3:
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Report No: MK107/18	Fig. No: 2
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Key:

- Trench Outline
- Roman Ditch
- Field Drain
- Archaeological Feature

Geophysical Survey

- Agricultural
- Magnetic Enhancement: Geology



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Title:
Plan of Trenches 20 and 20A-20J

Project:
Dunstall Farm, Tamworth, Staffordshire: Archaeological Evaluation

Client:
Barratt West Midlands

Scale at A3:
1:200

Drawn by: MP	Checked by: SW	Date: 24/01/2018
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Report No: MK107/18	Fig. No: 3
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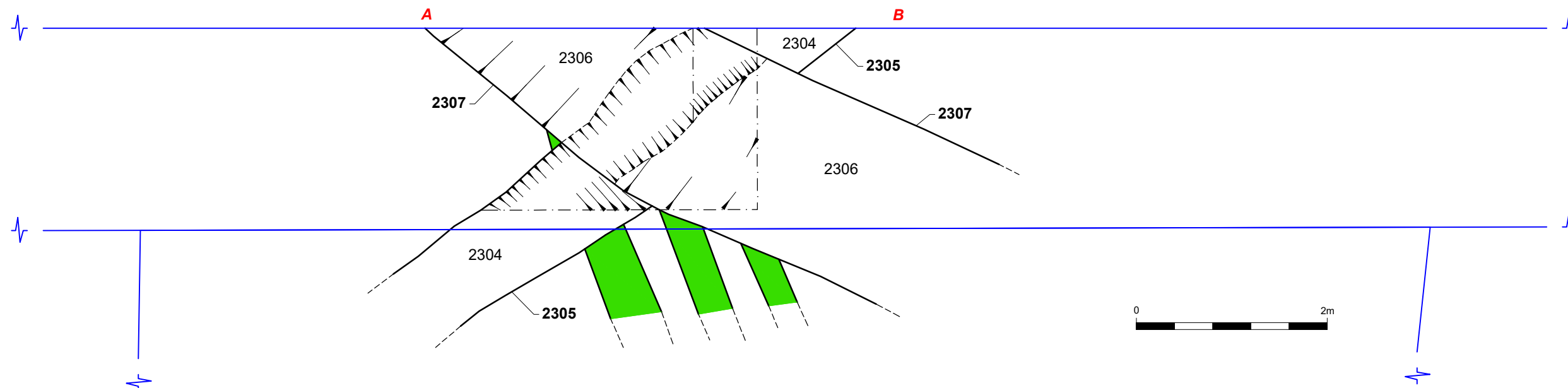


Fig. 4 - Plan of features in Trench 23

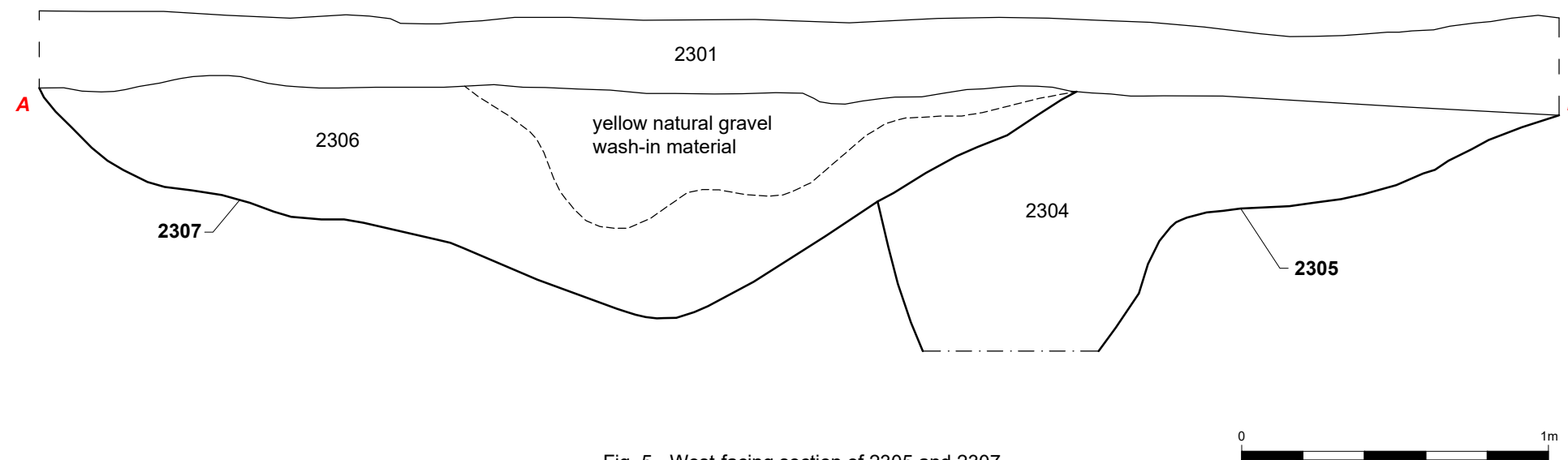


Fig. 5 - West-facing section of 2305 and 2307

Key:

- Trench Outline
- Plough Scar

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Title:
Features in Trench 23

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Scale at A3:
plan: 1:50; section: 1:20

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Report No: MK107/18	Fig. No: 4-5
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Fig. 6 - Plan of 0307, looking NE



Fig. 7 - 3A, looking NE

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Fig. 8 - Trench 3B, looking N



Fig. 9 - Unexcavated feature 05A04, looking W

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Fig. 10 - South-facing section of 1205, looking N



Fig. 11 - Plan of extension 20A with 2005 and 2006 intersection visible, looking N

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Fig. 12 - West-facing section of 2005 with pottery handle visible, looking E



Fig. 13 - Samian ware found in 2004

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Fig. 14 - Roman pottery handle found in 2004

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