

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT
WHITEMOOR HAYE QUARRY -
ALREWAS SOUTH PROPOSED
EXTENSION, ALREWAS,
STAFFORDSHIRE



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Archaeological Evaluation at Whitemoor Haye Quarry, Alrewas South Proposed Extension, Alrewas, Staffordshire

Richard Bradley

With contributions by Dennis Williams and Alan Clapham

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across a proposed extension area for Whitemoor Haye Quarry, covering approximately 154 hectares of land south-east of Alrewas in Staffordshire. It is centred on National Grid Reference SK 170 130 and was commissioned by Gary Coates of Phoenix Consulting, acting on behalf of Lafarge Aggregates Ltd (the Client) who own and manage the current quarry extraction programme.

Twenty-three 50m long trenches were excavated across eight fields as the site is considered to include potential heritage assets of archaeological interest, the significance of which may be affected by the proposed extension. This is due to the presence of widespread areas of cropmarks identified from aerial photography both on the proposed development area and in the surrounding landscape. The site is also located within an area that is relatively densely covered with known archaeological and historical features representative of a broad pattern of multi-period settlement activity.

Archaeological remains, although variable in their significance and extent, were present within nearly all of the fields investigated. The evaluation trenches clearly identified that prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval remains survive on this site but there was a lack of confirmed deposits dated to the Roman period. The later period features observed appear to be mainly representative of agricultural activity in the form of furrows and field-boundaries. A number of undated features could be representative of multiple phases of archaeology in the site area, but the antiquity and significance of these is currently unknown due to the lack of cultural finds recovered.

Of particular interest was an observed focus of medieval occupation in Trench 27 at the southern edge of the site. The feature types seen in the trench – a large ditch, a posthole, small pit, gullies and a large pit containing cooking pots and charcoal – coupled with the position on raised ground overlooking a known rural landscape, suggest that these remains are potentially representative of an enclosed rural medieval farmstead.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across a proposed extension area for Whitemoor Haye Quarry, for which a planning application is in preparation. The development covers approximately 154 hectares of land south-east of Alrewas in Staffordshire and is centred on National Grid Reference SK 170 130. It was commissioned by Gary Coates of Phoenix Consulting acting on behalf of Lafarge Aggregates Ltd (the Client) who own and manage the current quarry extraction programme.

The proposed development site is considered to include potential heritage assets of archaeological interest, the significance of which may be affected by the application. This is due to the presence of widespread areas of cropmarks identified from aerial photography both on the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape, as well as the position of the site within an area that is relatively densely covered with known archaeological and historical features representative of a broad pattern of multi-period settlement activity on the gravel terraces of the Trent, Tame and Mease river valleys of south-east Staffordshire (Phoenix Consulting 2009). Additionally, geophysical surveys, trial trenching and a programme of excavation and recording on the adjoining and ongoing extraction programme at Whitemoor Haye Quarry has demonstrated the survival of extensive and significant archaeological deposits that maintain a strong correlation with recorded cropmark evidence (see Coates 2002; Hewson 2006).

The project conforms to a verbal brief provided by Phoenix Consulting, after which a proposal for a series of trenches across the area was agreed with Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist at Staffordshire County Council (the Curator).

The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* provided by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2009).

2 Aims

The aims of this evaluation are:

- to describe and assess the significance of the heritage asset with archaeological interest;
- to establish the nature, importance and extent of the archaeological site;
- to identify the reliability of the cropmark evidence across the site;
- to assess the impact of the application on this site.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The project was undertaken by Richard Bradley (BA (hons.); MA; IfA), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2008 and has been practicing archaeology since 2005. Fieldwork assistance was provided by Timothy Cornah (BA (hons.)), Peter Lovett (BSc (hons.)) and Graham Arnold (BA (hons.); MSc). The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Robin Jackson (BA (hons.); IfA). Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt. Dennis Williams contributed the finds and Dr Alan Clapham contributed the environmental information.

3.2 Documentary research

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) undertaken by Phoenix Consulting (Phoenix Consulting 2009) on behalf of Lafarge Aggregates Ltd provides the detailed background research information for this specific project and therefore only a brief summary of the results is presented below. Additional comprehensive information on the nearby surrounds of the site is provided by a recent DBA covering land to the north of the site in Alrewas (Webster *et al.* 2012), a watching brief undertaken at the National Memorial Arboretum overflow car park located in the northern part of the site (Mann 2013), the published excavation reports concerning the adjacent quarry extraction programme (Coates 2002; Hewson 2006) and the area study resulting from the Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund project 'Where Rivers Meet' (Buteux and Chapman 2009). A geophysical survey was also carried out across the northern and southern parts of the site which mapped a number of features in these areas many of which corresponded with cropmark evidence (Bartlett 2012).

The site DBA consulted the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record to gather a record of all archaeological sites and finds relating to the proposed extension area, as well as conducting a map regression analysis and searching all accessible documents and published material. A visit was also undertaken to assess the local topography, current land use and setting of the site.

Two designated heritage assets were identified within the site area, one being the Grade II listed Roddige Farmhouse positioned in the centre of the proposed development, the other a Grade II listed triangular cast iron milepost on the A513 road which divides the northern part of the site. The northernmost field in this vicinity was previously a Scheduled Area, but when no archaeology was identified during the monitoring of the soil strip in advance of the conveyor route across this in the late 1990's, it was de-scheduled.

With regard to undesignated heritage assets, the DBA highlights the recorded cropmark evidence represented by linears and enclosures across the site, some of which may relate to probable Bronze Age settlement and ritual activity as well as possible Iron Age or Roman agriculture. It was also established that a number of the cropmarks clearly correspond to former field boundaries of later medieval and post-medieval date as depicted on the 1840 Tithe Award and the 1883 1st Edition Ordnance Survey mapping.

Geophysical survey and limited trial trenching took place on the site during the 1990's and identified little of archaeological interest, although only 9 trenches were excavated in the proposed extension area itself. Chance finds in the area have included a prehistoric stone axe and Roman, medieval and post-medieval metal accessories and parts of weaponry.

As a result of this analysis, the DBA concluded that 'the proposed extension area can be assumed to have a 'moderate' potential for the recovery of archaeological remains' (Phoenix Archaeology 2009, 26).

3.3 Fieldwork strategy

Fieldwork was undertaken between 4th February and 22nd February 2013. Twenty-three 50m long trenches (Trenches 6-28) were excavated across eight fields, initially using a JCB but latterly employing a 360° tracked excavator due to the wet ground conditions on site. Following consultation with the Curator, five intended trenches in a field at the north-western edge of the site (Trenches 1-5) were omitted due to access issues and also the completion of a recent watching brief on this part of the site (Mann 2013; see Figure 2 for location). One trench, Trench 6, was also extended in order to provide further clarity regarding a large feature seen in the original trench. The total excavated area of the trenches was 1910m².

The location of the trenches is indicated in Figures 2 and 3. The trenches were positioned to test the reliability and survival of the cropmark and geophysical survey evidence across the site, as well as assessing areas where no cropmarks or geophysical anomalies were visible and followed a trench plan and sample strategy devised by Phoenix Consulting and agreed with Stephen Dean (the Curator). In many cases, the specific location of these was restricted by the known presence

of a series of high-pressure gas and oil routes transecting the site, from which a minimum distance of 30m was retained during the excavation of the trenches. Also, a number of modifications to the proposed trench layout were necessitated by the waterlogged ground in some of the fields, where it was highly impractical to be excavating in large areas of standing water. Fortunately, the majority of these alterations affected trenches not targeted on specific cropmark anomalies; Trenches 9, 10, 16, 21 and 26.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using the machine employing a toothless bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012) and trench and feature locations were surveyed using a differential GPS. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

3.4 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

3.5 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams

3.5.1 Recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (WA 2012; appendix 2).

3.5.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date range was produced for each stratified context. These date ranges were used for determining the broad phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on *pro forma* sheets.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and referenced as appropriate by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst and Rees 1992 and www.worcestershireceramics.org).

3.5.3 Discard policy

The following categories/types of material will be discarded after a period of 6 months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):

- where unstratified;
- post-medieval pottery, and;
- generally where material has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.

3.6 Environmental archaeology methodology, by A J Clapham

3.6.1 Sampling policy

Samples were taken according to standard Worcestershire Archaeology practice (WA 2012). A total of 7 samples (each of between 10 and 40 litres) were taken from the site from the following contexts: see Table 1 below.

Context	Sample	Feature type	Fill of	Position of fill	Sample vol. (l)	Vol. processed (l)	Residue assessed	Flot. assessed
11005	1	Pit	11006	Primary	20	10	Yes	Yes
27012	2	Pit	27014	Secondary	20	10	Yes	Yes
27017	3	Ditch	27018	Other	20	10	Yes	Yes
24003	4	Pit	24005	Secondary	10	10	Yes	Yes
24004	5	Pit	24005	Primary	10	10	Yes	Yes
23019	6	Ditch	23018	Primary	40	10	Yes	Yes
6013	7	Ditch	6014	Primary	20	10	Yes	Yes

Table 1 Samples processed from Alrewas, South Extension

3.6.2 Processing and analysis

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flots were collected on a 300 μ m sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale. The flots were scanned using a low power MEIJI stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by Worcestershire Archaeology, and a seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2006). Nomenclature for the non-cereal plant remains follows Stace (2010).

4 The application site

4.1 Topography, geology and current land-use

The site covers a considerable area to the east of the A38 (formerly the Roman Ryknild Street), south-east of Alrewas village and is defined by the road running alongside the working quarry of Whitemoor Haye to the east (Barley Green Lane), the National Memorial Arboretum to the north, the main Lichfield to Derby railway line to the west and woodland to the south. It is currently characterised by mixed-use agricultural land comprising arable, set-aside and rough-pasture surrounding a number of farmhouse complexes. The eastern part of the site is occupied by a micro-light flying school and a grass runway for light-aircraft is located in the southern fields, whilst a conveyor belt for the current quarry workings transects the northern third of the area. The landscape is broadly level and low-lying, only rising slightly in the southern area from around 55m to 60m AOD where Sittles farm is located.

Geologically, the site occupies a gravel terrace that borders the western bank of the River Tame and consists of Devensian sand and gravel deposits overlying Triassic Mercian Mudstone, sandstones and Bunter Beds (BGS 1976). Studies have suggested that the gravel deposits are derived from the local quartzite and quartz of the Bunter Pebble Beds and that they are reflective of deposition during seasonal flood events in braided river conditions fed by glacial meltwater (Buteux and Chapman 2009, 38-9).

The overlying soils of this area are defined as slightly stony sandy loams and classified as gleyic brown earths of the Wigton Moor association (Ragg *et al.* 1984, 329-333).

4.2 Archaeological context of the site

As discussed in the desk-based assessment (Phoenix Consulting 2009; see also the summary above), the site is situated in an extensive area of known archaeological activity. This has largely been revealed by cropmarks and demonstrated through the results of discoveries during gravel

extraction, but also through extensive research work in the region. The quarrying work has uncovered archaeological and environmental evidence from the middle to lower Palaeolithic period onwards and allowed a complex environmental picture of the landscape during the period leading up to the Late Glacial maximum 13,000 years ago to be reconstructed. The faunal assemblage found in the basal sands and gravels at Whitemoor Haye included the partial remains of several woolly rhinos and other large herbivores as well as hunting animals such as wolf. Shallow river channels that had scoured the underlying Mercia mudstone have been observed and palaeoenvironmental analysis of insect, pollen and plant remains indicated that high Arctic tundra conditions existed here in the Palaeolithic. This suggests that the area was previously open landscape characterised by scrub vegetation and extensive grasslands alongside the banks of a highly braided river system that attracted the presence of grazing animals and, as a consequence of this, more predatory species. To date, no direct human cultural evidence is known to have been found within this Pleistocene landscape, although the existence of such abundant wildlife would have provided an ideal hunting ground (Hewson 2006, 1-2; Buteux and Chapman 2009, 42-9).

Studies indicate that changing climatic conditions in the Mesolithic period led to the development of anastomosed river systems in the lowland river landscapes of midland and southern Britain. Particular channels became dominant and earlier braided channels were colonised by different plant species, creating a stable river landscape. This is the expected environment for the Tame river corridor in this period and would have provided rich resources for Mesolithic hunter-gatherer populations, but there is no evidence for human activity in the immediate vicinity of the current development site (Hewson 2006, 2; Buteux and Chapman 2009, 50-53).

Evidence for human activity in the Early Neolithic is also limited, though monuments within the surrounding area do suggest the development of a 'cultural' landscape during this period. Nearby, a possible causewayed enclosure has been identified from aerial photography, just to the west of Alrewas village and thus north-west of the site, comprising three close-set ditch circuits that encompass an area of roughly 4.15ha. It has not been excavated and no artefacts have been found so is not definitively dated, but is morphologically comparable to similar examples in midland and southern Britain (Hewson 2006, 3; Buteux and Chapman 2009, 60-63; Webster *et al.* 2012, 6-7).

The Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age is well-represented in both the surrounding and localised area by a wide range of features that have been recorded as part of a highly complex monumental landscape. The focus of this activity is potentially located at Catholme Farm, around 3km north of the development area, where a 'Woodhenge' and 'Sunburst' henge complex that post-date an earlier cursus monument on the same site have been subject to focused investigation. A possible cursus has also been identified from aerial photography west of the National Memorial Arboretum on the northern boundary of this development, although geophysical survey and limited excavation on this site did not reveal any Neolithic activity. Work on the Arboretum itself in the 1990's and excavations at Whitemoor Haye Quarry over the past 20 years have recovered Grooved Ware, Beaker and other Bronze Age pottery, associated with pits and ring-ditches and two Bronze Age cremation cemeteries. This has demonstrated that a widespread and complex prehistoric landscape, containing a number of burial and 'ritual' monuments as well as occasional agricultural elements, once existed in this area (Hewson 2006, 4; Buteux and Chapman 2009, 85-6; Webster *et al.* 2012, 7; see also Coates 2002).

Extensive cropmark enclosures that are interpreted as Iron Age in date are visible from aerial photographs in the surrounding region. Excavations at Whitemoor Haye have shown that many of these suppositions are correct, with farmstead complexes emerging in the Middle Iron Age and continuing into the Romano-British period. In addition to these settlement areas, a number of linear pit alignments have been identified in the wider area and during excavations at Whitemoor Haye that probably represent territorial boundary markers of Bronze Age to Iron Age date (Coates 2002, 13-16; Hewson 2006, 4-6; Phoenix Consulting 2009, 22).

The most prominent Roman period feature in the vicinity of the site is where the modern A38 follows the line of the former Rykniel Street that connected the 'small towns' *Letocetum* (Wall) and *Derventio* (Little Chester on the outskirts of Derby). It is unsurprising, therefore, that outside this main thoroughfare and the occupation centres, evidence for small farming settlements is readily visible in the local area. Cropmark sites are abundant and excavation of a number of Roman farmsteads has occurred on many sites, including at Whitemoor Haye. These have revealed a series of segregated enclosures that are interpreted as a combination of livestock and domestic spaces and a driveway has been recorded running roughly north to south along the edge of the River Tame. This probably served a number of sites allowing movement of animals between grazing areas and individual farms and may represent a continuation and reaffirmation of an established Iron Age route way (Hewson 2006, 6; Phoenix Consulting 2009, 22-3, Buteux and Chapman 2009, 129-146; Webster *et al.* 2012, 8).

Typically, the cropmark evidence has been demonstrated to only reflect a portion of the remains present, the most notable absences being early prehistoric pits and remains of unenclosed roundhouses, the latter indicating the presence of a Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age component within the later prehistoric settlement record.

Post-Roman activity in the immediate surrounds of the site is poorly understood, although an exceptionally significant later Anglo-Saxon settlement has been excavated at Catholme, 3km north of the site. Also, the finds from two early Saxon cemeteries at Wychnor and Tuckleshome were discovered as a consequence of quarrying in the 19th century. There has been little evidence of activity from this period during work at Whitemoor Haye, but it is considered that the origins of the nearby settlement of Alrewas lie in the early medieval period, which was focused around the church founded in 822. The settlement seems to have developed into a nucleated form along a road axis in the 10th century and a considerable number of houses from the medieval period survive within the village, a large proportion of which are listed. It is thought that the village contracted following the epidemics and famines of the 14th century but expanded again soon after (Stubbs 1987; Hewson 2006, 6; Phoenix Consulting 2009, 23-4; Webster *et al.* 2012, 8-10).

The area of the current development site is likely to have been agricultural land associated with this nearby occupation during the medieval and post-medieval periods. Study of the historic mapping for the site undertaken during the desk-based assessment has shown that a small-field and track way landscape was prevalent, latterly becoming defined by established roadways and larger fields created by the removal of earlier boundaries. The development of the Coventry Canal (Fradley Junction to Huddlesford Section), built in 1787, and the 'London and North Western' railway in the 19th century added two new dominant elements to the local landscape (Phoenix Consulting 2009, 15-18 and 24).

5 Structural analysis

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 2- 11. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

5.1.1 Phase 1: Natural deposits

The natural substrate was encountered in all of the excavated trenches across the site. With the proposed development covering such an extensive area, this contained many slight variations in colour and consistency, but broadly comprised mid to light yellowish and reddish orangey sands with sub-rounded gravels. The gravels were noticeably patchier and the sands were of a more greyish yellow hue in the southern part of the site, but overall the natural substrate was consistently identifiable throughout the development area.

The majority of the trenches also contained a subsoil layer of unknown date and of variable depth, generally between 0.05m and 0.16m deep. Excepting Trench 27, the subsoil was not seen in the

trenches in Fields 5, 7, 6 and 9, but was very obvious and deep in parts of Trenches 16 and 17 where it was 0.25m and 0.28m deep respectively.

The subsoil was sealed by an organic topsoil layer between 0.20m and 0.36m, with this being resultant from modern and recent ploughing in the majority of fields.

5.1.2 Phase 2: Prehistoric deposits

One feature observed in the evaluation trenches is attributed a prehistoric date, though there does exist the potential for some of the undated features discussed below to also date from this period. This was located in the centre of Trench 11 in Field 3 and, although it extended beyond the trench limits so was not fully visible, it appeared to be a rectangular shaped pit [11006] 0.38m deep and at least 4.50m in length (Plate 3). The main fill of this feature was charcoal rich and contained abundant burnt and heat-cracked stones, as well as fragments of pottery thought to be at least Iron Age in date, possibly earlier.

A large ditch [6005] 2.46m wide and 0.73m in depth with a re-cut [6007] running alongside a parallel linear [6016] was seen at the south-east end of Trench 6 (Plate 7). The only dating evidence recovered from this sequence of features was a small flint blade of early prehistoric origin found in the upper fill (6003). Unfortunately, this is probably a residual artefact and the feature is unlikely to be of early prehistoric date, as comparison with 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping from 1883 shows a field boundary running through this trench on the same alignment as the ditches observed.

5.1.3 Phase 3: Medieval and post-medieval deposits

Trench 27, in Field 9 to the south of the development area, was particularly rich in archaeological features, some of which contained dating evidence from the medieval period. A small gully terminus [27004], 0.43m wide and 0.26m deep, was recorded at the northern end of the trench and it included cooking wares of medieval date. This was adjacent to a large pit [27014] that extended beyond the trench limit but appeared to be rectangular in shape and at least 1.30m in length and 1.70m wide. It was 0.40m deep and contained a series of fills, the uppermost of which (27011) included a number of fragments of medieval cooking pots (Plate 8). A clear band of burnt material (27012) was also observed within this pit. Other undated features in this trench, as discussed below, are probably associated with these medieval remains.

Although not always containing artefactual dating evidence, a significant number of features found across the site appear to correlate with historic field boundaries or are representative of furrows within this field system landscape and so are included here (Figures 4 and 5). Trench 10 contained a shallow ditch [10003] at its northern end which aligns almost exactly with a field boundary running north-east to south-west on the 1840 Alrewas Tithe and later mapping, as well as a series of shallow linear features no more than 0.05m in depth that ran parallel with this ditch and probably represent the remains of furrows. Similarly, two north-east to south-west furrow features, [13000] and [13009], were seen in Trench 13 and were both 0.15m in depth. A small gully [11004], 0.24m in depth and containing post-medieval pottery and Ceramic Building Material (CBM), was recorded at the north-east end of Trench 11. This correlates with a field boundary marked on the Tithe map and 1st edition Ordnance Survey which was also picked up by earlier geophysical work on the site area.

In Field 4 further to the south, two ditches 1.2m and 1m wide - [14008] and [14010] - were observed in the north-west part of Trench 14 that could not be excavated due to flooding. These broadly correspond to a cropmark recorded in this area and when compared alongside the 1st edition mapping they are seen to bracket a mapped field boundary. These probably represent drainage ditches on either side of a former hedgeline. Trench 15 contained a large ditch [15013] that had been re-cut at a later date by [15008]. The fill of the re-cut included a fragment of CBM and there is a boundary in this location on the 1840 Tithe map. Also in Field 4, in Trench 16 there were two furrows and a small drainage gully [16004] that aligns with a mapped historic boundary.

Similarly, a linear feature excavated at the north end of Trench 19 in Field 5, [19005], which contained a dark gravel rich fill with a ceramic drainage pipe within it, clearly matches the position of a boundary on the 1st edition mapping. Trench 20 contained three furrows, 0.11m in depth which were aligned south-west to north-east.

In the southern part of the development site the series of trenches in Field 8 contained a number of features that correspond to historic field boundaries. Positioned across the eastern side of a clear rectilinear cropmark, Trenches 22 and 23 both contained the same parallel ditches aligned north to south, [22008], [22010], [23004] and [23009], that appear to be on both sides of a mapped field boundary (Plate 6). Although on a slightly differing orientation, this is probably what the recorded cropmark is illustrating. In Trench 24 to the south of these a further ditch running north-west to south-east was observed to have consisted of three phases of excavation - [24009], [24011] and [24013] – and this can also be seen to align with a field boundary on the Alrewas Tithe and 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping. This boundary was picked up on earlier geophysical work in exactly this location, around 25m west of a cropmark that appears to be representative of this historic field boundary.

Finally, in addition to the medieval features in Trench 27, a small drainage gully [27023] 0.25m deep and 1.00m wide was observed that contained some small fragments of CBM and porcelain. Although not marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, it appears that this gully represents an earlier boundary dividing up a larger field seen on the 1840 Tithe map.

5.1.4 Phase 4: Undated deposits

Numerous undated features were located across the excavated trenches within all of the fields. In Field 2, Trench 8 contained a series of small gullies [8004], [8006], [8010], [8012] that were of comparable size, being around 0.65-0.81m in width and 0.28-0.29m in depth where excavated. An undated and sterile possible posthole [8008] was also observed at the north end of this trench.

In Field 3, Trench 12 contained a large oval pit [12004] around 3.46m in width with a very sterile sandy fill. Of particular interest in this field was a large undated ditch [13007] excavated in the middle of Trench 13, 2.14m wide and 0.74m deep, which appears to correspond to a cropmark indicating a 44m x 44m square enclosure in this area (Plate 4). Geophysical results from this field suggest that the transcription of the cropmark is around 25m away from its actual location, but that the drawn form is correct (Figure 7). Another ditch that appears to relate to an identified cropmark was excavated in Trench 17 in Field 4. This ditch, [17005], was 1.52m in width and 0.56m deep and contained a primary slumped fill that is suggestive of a bank on one side. It was potentially related to a ditch terminus [17007] located 0.6m to the north-west in the same trench, though neither feature produced dating evidence to confirm any association between the two. Also in Field 4, Trench 14 contained a small undated east-west gully [14004] and Trench 15 included a ditch [15003] that truncated a sub-circular posthole [15005] on its eastern side (Plate 5), as well as an undated linear [15007] running along the edge of the trench.

Further to the south, a series of shallow and closely located discrete features were recorded in Trench 19, although unfortunately there was no dating evidence to demonstrate any clear association between them. All of these features - [19007], [19009] and [19011] - were very shallow, being between 0.12m and 0.16m in depth, so it is unclear if these were the remains of postholes or pits. In Trench 20 a small v-shaped gully [20011] 0.30m wide and 0.21m deep and orientated east to west was observed, as well as the shallow remains of a ditch terminus [20003] running north-west to south-east and thus on a differing alignment to the three furrows seen at the northern end of this trench.

In Field 8, Trench 22 included a shallow sub-oval pit [22006], as did Trench 24 [24005], both of which remain undated but exhibited a comparable dark fill. In addition to the parallel field boundary ditches, Trench 23 contained a further ditch [23011] running north-east to south-west and a ditch terminus [23018] 1.06m wide and 0.32m deep, the fill of which was dark and charcoal rich but lacking in dating evidence.

Potentially associated with the medieval features already discussed, an undated shallow posthole [27006], pit [27016] and a large, deep ditch [27018] were excavated in Trench 27. The posthole contained a few charcoal flecks but no indication of a post-pipe (Plate 9) and the ditch was of substantial size, being 2.6m wide and 0.92m in depth with a re-cut on its southern edge. A linear cropmark is shown to run through this trench and it may be that this ditch is what that represents.

5.1.5 Phase 5: Modern deposits

A series of modern land drains were seen on varying orientations, mainly located in the southern part of the site in Trenches 14, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 28. Additionally, Trench 9 contained a layer (9003) that appeared to be of recent origin and included modern pottery sherds (not retained), potentially relating to dumped material from nearby road construction.

5.2 Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in the tables below.

The assemblage came from 13 stratified contexts and could be dated from the prehistoric period onwards (see Table 2). Using pottery as an index of artefact condition, this was generally good, with the majority of sherds displaying moderate levels of abrasion. Sherd weights were assessed as above average, with a mean value of 17g for the pottery assemblage.

Period	Material class	Material subtype	Object specific type	Count	Weight (g)
prehistoric	stone	Flint	waste	1	2
prehistoric	stone	Flint	blade	1	6
prehistoric	ceramic	-	pot	2	32
medieval	ceramic	-	pot	23	322
post-medieval	ceramic	-	brick/tile	2	572
post-medieval	ceramic	-	pot	9	230
post-medieval	ceramic	-	roof tile (flat)	2	354
post-medieval	glass	-	vessel	1	14
undated	bone	animal bone	-	1	40
Totals:				42	1572

Table 2: Quantification of the assemblage

The pottery assemblage comprised medieval and post-medieval pottery, as summarised in Table 3 below.

Period	Fabric code	Fabric common name	Count	Weight(g)
prehistoric	97	Miscellaneous prehistoric wares	2	32
medieval	64.4	Unglazed sandy white ware	1	8
medieval	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	21	244
medieval	142	Hampshire flint tempered	1	70
post-medieval	78	Post-medieval red wares	7	228
post-medieval	85	Modern china	2	2
totals:			33	558

Table 3: Quantification of the pottery

5.2.1 Summary of artefactual evidence by period

The finds summary by context is shown in Table 4 below.

Prehistoric

A Neolithic flint blade was recovered from fill (6003) in ditch [6005], and an undiagnostic waste flake from the topsoil by Trench 9 (9000).

In addition, two sherds of prehistoric pottery (fabric 97) were retrieved from pit fill (11005). The first was of a black, sandy fabric with nicely finished surfaces and was dated to the Iron Age. The second sherd was from a coarser ware with an oxidised external surface and reduced internal surface and is thought to be earlier in date, possibly Late Bronze Age.

Medieval

Three rims from medieval cooking pots were found in context (27011), the upper fill of pit [27014]. These included a rim provisionally identified as an unglazed sandy white ware (fabric 64.4), assigned to a 13th-15th century date range. A base sherd, probably from a jar, was found in subsoil (17001) and had a distinctive Hampshire flint tempered fabric (142) of late 11th-12th century date. The remaining body sherds, mainly from fill (27011), were undiagnostic in terms of form and fabric, but all had quartz tempering typical of medieval cooking pots and some exhibited signs of external sooting.

Post-medieval

Red wares (fabric 78) and china (fabric 85) were found in topsoil contexts (10000) and (11000), ditch fills (11003) and (27021), and furrow fill (13002), along with fragments of brick, tile and glass.

5.2.2 Significance of the artefacts

The presence of worked flint and particularly the pottery from pit [11006] is of particular note, indicating activity during the prehistoric period on this site.

In addition, the more substantial group of medieval pottery provides a clear indication of occupation on the site and in the vicinity during this period. Post-medieval finds were confined to near-surface contexts and are not deemed to be of significant archaeological value.

Context	Material class	Object specific type	Fabric code	Count	Weight (g)	Start date	End date	tpq date range
6003	stone	Blade	-	1	6	-4000	-2500	4000-2500BC
9000	stone	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
10000	ceramic	Pot	78	1	32	1600	1800	1850-1900
	glass	Vessel		1	14	1850	1900	
11000	ceramic	Pot	78	2	42	1600	1800	1800-1900
	ceramic	Pot	85	1	1	1800	1900	
11003	ceramic	roof tile (flat)		1	208	1600	1900	1600-1900
	ceramic	brick/tile		2	572	1600	1900	
	ceramic	Pot	78	2	80	1600	1800	
11005	ceramic	Pot	97	1	6	-	-	?LBA/IA
	ceramic	Pot	97	1	26	-	-	
13000	bone	Animal	-	1	40	-	-	-
13002	ceramic	Pot	78	2	74	1600	1800	1600-1800
15009	ceramic	roof tile(flat)	-	1	146	1600	1900	1600-1900
17001	ceramic	Pot	142	1	70	1075	1125	1075-1125
27003	ceramic	Pot	99	5	74	1066	1500	1066-1500
27011	ceramic	Pot	64.4	1	8	1200	1500	1200-1500
	ceramic	Pot	99	16	170	1066	1500	
27021	ceramic	Pot	85	1	1	1800	1900	1800-1900

Table 4: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

5.3 Environmental analysis, by A J Clapham

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Tables 5 and 6 on the following page.

From the tables it can be seen that very little in the way of charred plant remains were recovered from the features sampled, with the exception of (27012) which contained cereal grains and associated weed seeds. The presence of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp) suggests that this feature is at least medieval in date, as also indicated by associated artefacts. Charcoal was present in varying quantities in all of the samples.

5.3.1 Significance of the environmental remains

The presence of charred plant remains in (27012) suggests that there was medieval activity at the site. It is most likely that the crops were grown locally as indicated by the weeds associated with the cereals. The presence of abundant charcoal remains in (11005) and (27012) may require identification to deduce past woodland management regimes, fuel choice and possibly woodland composition.

Context	Sample	Large mammal	Charcoal	Comment
11005	1		abun	occ pot, fired clay; abun heat-cracked stone
27012	2	occ burnt	abun	occ pot and glass slag
27017	3		occ	
24003	4		occ	
24004	5		mod	
23019	6		mod	occ heat-cracked stone
6013	7		occ	abun modern plant roots

Table 5: Biological and non-biological artefacts recorded from the residues

Latin name	Common name	Habitat	23019	27012	27017
Charred					
<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain	free-threshing wheat	F		++	+
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled)	barley	F		++	
Cereal sp indet culm node	cereal	F		+	
<i>Avena</i> sp grain	oat	AF		++	
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp	vetch/pea	ABCD	+	+	
<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	stinking chamomile	AB		+	
<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	corn marigold	AB		+	
<i>Bromus</i> sp grain	brome grass	AF		+	

Table 6: Plant remains recovered from samples processed from Alrewas, South Extension

Habitat	Quantity
A= cultivated ground	+ = 1 - 10
B= disturbed ground	++ = 11- 50
C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc	+++ = 51 -100
D = grasslands, meadows and heathland	++++ = 101+
E = aquatic/wet habitats	
F = cultivar	

Key to Table 6

6 Synthesis

The archaeological potential for this site identified through the desk-based assessment is broadly supported by the archaeological remains observed during the excavation of the evaluation trenches. The presence of small-scale evidence for prehistoric activity and the preservation of field boundary remains from a medieval and post-medieval agricultural landscape is representative of the expected archaeological signature for a site in this location. The lack of confirmed deposits dated to the Roman period is surprising given both the proximity of the former Ryknild Street to the west and the Roman farming landscape excavated to the east on the current Whitemoor Haye Quarry site. This could illustrate that this area was not intensively managed or settled during this period. However, given the location and the known surrounding activity, it is more likely to be a result of the scope of the evaluation trenches rather than evidence of an absence of Roman archaeology across the evaluated area.

There was no direct evidence observed for prehistoric settlement in terms of ditches, gullies or postholes, but the pit [11006] identified in Trench 11 would suggest that there was likely to be

occupation or some other form of activity taking place nearby. The amount of burnt material and heat-cracked stones within the fill are probably indicative of water heating processes and the associated pottery could suggest that this deposit is related to domestic use. The presence of a residual Neolithic flint blade in the fill of the boundary ditch [6005] in Trench 6, as well as the flint flake found in the topsoil near Trench 9, are also suggestive of a background scatter of prehistoric material in the northern fields of the site. This is not unexpected given the cropmarks identified in the adjoining field that appear to show funerary monuments existing here (Figure 2) and the known presence of an extensive and complex prehistoric landscape at Whitemoor Haye and in the surrounding area.

The intensity of features in Trench 27, a number of which are medieval in date, suggest a possible focus of medieval occupation in this southern part of the site. The feature types seen in the trench – a large ditch, a posthole, small pit, gullies and a large pit – coupled with the position on raised ground overlooking a known rural landscape, suggest that these remains are potentially representative of an enclosed rural farmstead. The pottery found in gully [27004] and pit [27014] certainly appears to have originated from a domestic context and these are all relatively unabraded, indicating that they are probably in their original depositional location. The soot visible on the pottery is indicative of heating and the environmental remains from pit [27014] support this evidence; thus it is likely that this pit feature was once used for cooking. It could be the case that this collection of features relates to an earlier farm on this part of the site that preceded either the cottage currently positioned close to the southern end of Trench 27, or Sittles Farm which is located across Stockford Lane to the east.

The number of boundary ditches across the site, many of which correlate with historically mapped field boundaries, reveals that a post-medieval agricultural landscape extends throughout the development area. A post-medieval enclosed field system landscape such as this probably originally dates to between the 16th and 18th century in this area (Staffordshire County Council 2011, 9) and conforms to the expected findings as identified in the desk-based assessment (Phoenix Consulting 2009). Additionally, the presence of furrow features in some trenches on a variety of differing alignments may indicate the survival of earlier medieval agricultural field systems, although the exact dating of these furrows is not clear. It has previously been noted that furrows seen at Whitemoor Haye were often post-medieval in origin (Coates 2002, 40; Hewson 2006, 6); however, given the identification of a medieval occupation site in the southern part of the investigated area it seems likely that at some of the furrows identified are liable to relate to arable field systems associated with that settlement.

As well as the dateable and mapped features found during this evaluation, the amount of undated linear features present within the excavated trenches across all of the fields demonstrates that not only do the recorded cropmarks exist (albeit not always exactly in the location recorded) but that many features in addition to these have survived. This corresponds to the previously observed correlation between the presence of buried archaeological remains and visible cropmarks at the neighbouring Whitemoor Haye Quarry site. Some of these, such as the substantial ditch [13007] in Trench 13, may indicate the survival of a small enclosure and others, such as the posthole [15005] truncated by linear [15003], suggest that directly associated and stratigraphically related features are present. The infill of terminus [23018] located at the northern end of Trench 23 was particularly interesting when considered alongside the number of cropmarks in this area of the site that cannot be attributed to historic field boundaries, due to its dark and charcoal rich nature which is indicative of local settlement or rural craft/industrial activities.

Undated discrete features were observed in a number of trenches and although they were often very shallow, these indicate that where present, more fragile and ephemeral archaeological activity in the form of small pits and postholes should survive across the site area. To take this further, this implies that if enclosures are present in the development area, as suggested by ditch [13007] and the other similar enclosure ditch type feature [17005] with possible evidence of an internal bank seen in Trench 17, then internal occupational remains could probably be expected. Indeed, the cluster of three possible postholes seen in Trench 19, although not in a defined structural

alignment, included two features that are comparable in profile and with similar fills. This suggests a possible contemporary association between these and that similar features may exist in the vicinity of this trench. Other undated discrete archaeology in the form of small pits of unclear purpose was observed in Trench 22 and Trench 24 and a large pit [12004] excavated in Trench 12 possibly represents evidence of quarrying.

With the small sample of the site excavated during the evaluation it is not definitive as to whether every type of feature or period of activity surviving on the site has been observed, but it does appear to have provided a general characterisation of the archaeology of the site area.

7 Significance

7.1 Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The evaluation trenches have clearly shown that prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval remains are present on this site. A good correlation has been demonstrated between cropmarks, geophysical anomalies and buried remains and in addition a range of other features have been identified which were not detected through either cropmark evidence or geophysical survey.

The later period features observed appear to be mainly representative of agricultural activity in the form of furrows and field-boundaries and are therefore considered to be of lesser archaeological interest. A number of undated features seen across the trenches could be representative of multiple phases of archaeology in the site area, but the antiquity and significance of these is currently unknown due to the lack of cultural finds recovered. They remain poorly understood both in relation to one another and the sequence of activity. In some cases, linear features observed throughout the trenching have demonstrated a correlation between the cropmark evidence and the survival of buried archaeological deposits.

Potentially the most interesting and significant remains identified during the evaluation comprise the large pit filled with burnt stone and containing prehistoric pottery seen in Trench 11 in the northern part of the site and the focus of medieval occupation in Trench 27, much further to the south. It could be expected that similar features will exist in these areas outside the coverage of the trenches excavated, although the extent of such activity remains far from certain.

Very little in the way of charred plant remains were recovered from the samples processed for evaluation. The most significant environmental remains recovered were those of charred plant remains associated with the medieval pit [27014]. This assemblage may show some light on medieval activity in the area. Charcoal was recorded from all of the residues and included fragments large enough for identification.

7.2 Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

The features observed during the evaluation demonstrate an archaeological site of variable importance, with some features of limited significance and others that demonstrate a site of much greater potential. The probable furrows and the post-medieval field system observed throughout the evaluation area suggest the presence of archaeological remains important purely on a local level but other features, such as the Iron Age pit in Trench 11, represent archaeology of higher importance. This is especially pronounced given the archaeological context of the site and the known remains of later prehistoric ritual and agricultural activity in the adjacent quarry area. The potential area of medieval occupation identified in Trench 27 in the southern part of the site is also of significance. Previous work in the area has revealed little evidence of post-Roman activity and few excavations of rural medieval sites have taken place in the Staffordshire region (Hewson 2006, 6; Hunt 2011, 176).

7.3 Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

Archaeological remains, although variable in their significance and extent, were seen to exist across nearly all of the fields investigated. These were surviving to a considerable depth in some

instances, although in fields currently or recently cultivated the overlying plough soil was not significantly deep. The presence of more ephemeral archaeological activity in some trenches, such as small pits and post holes, suggests that similar features, where present, could be expected to have survived across the site area.

8 Publication summary

Worcestershire Archaeology has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, Worcestershire Archaeology intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken across a proposed extension area for Whitemoor Haye Quarry, covering approximately 154 hectares of land south-east of Alrewas in Staffordshire. It is centred on National Grid Reference SK 170 130.

Twenty-three 50m long trenches were excavated across eight fields and archaeological remains, although variable in their significance and extent, were identified within nearly all of the fields investigated. The evaluation trenches identified that prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval remains are present on this site but there was a lack of confirmed deposits dated to the Roman period, although given the intensity of activity of this date in adjacent areas it is felt likely that the area will include some Roman deposits. Later period features observed appear to be mainly representative of agricultural activity in the form of furrows and field-boundaries. A number of undated features recorded across the trenches could be representative of multiple phases of archaeology in the site area, but the antiquity and significance of these is currently unknown due to the lack of cultural finds recovered.

Of particular interest was an observed focus of medieval occupation identified in Trench 27 at the southern edge of the site. The feature types seen in the trench – a large ditch, a posthole, small pit, gullies and a large pit containing cooking pots and charcoal – coupled with the position on raised ground overlooking a known rural landscape, suggest that these remains are potentially representative of an enclosed medieval farmstead.

9 Acknowledgements

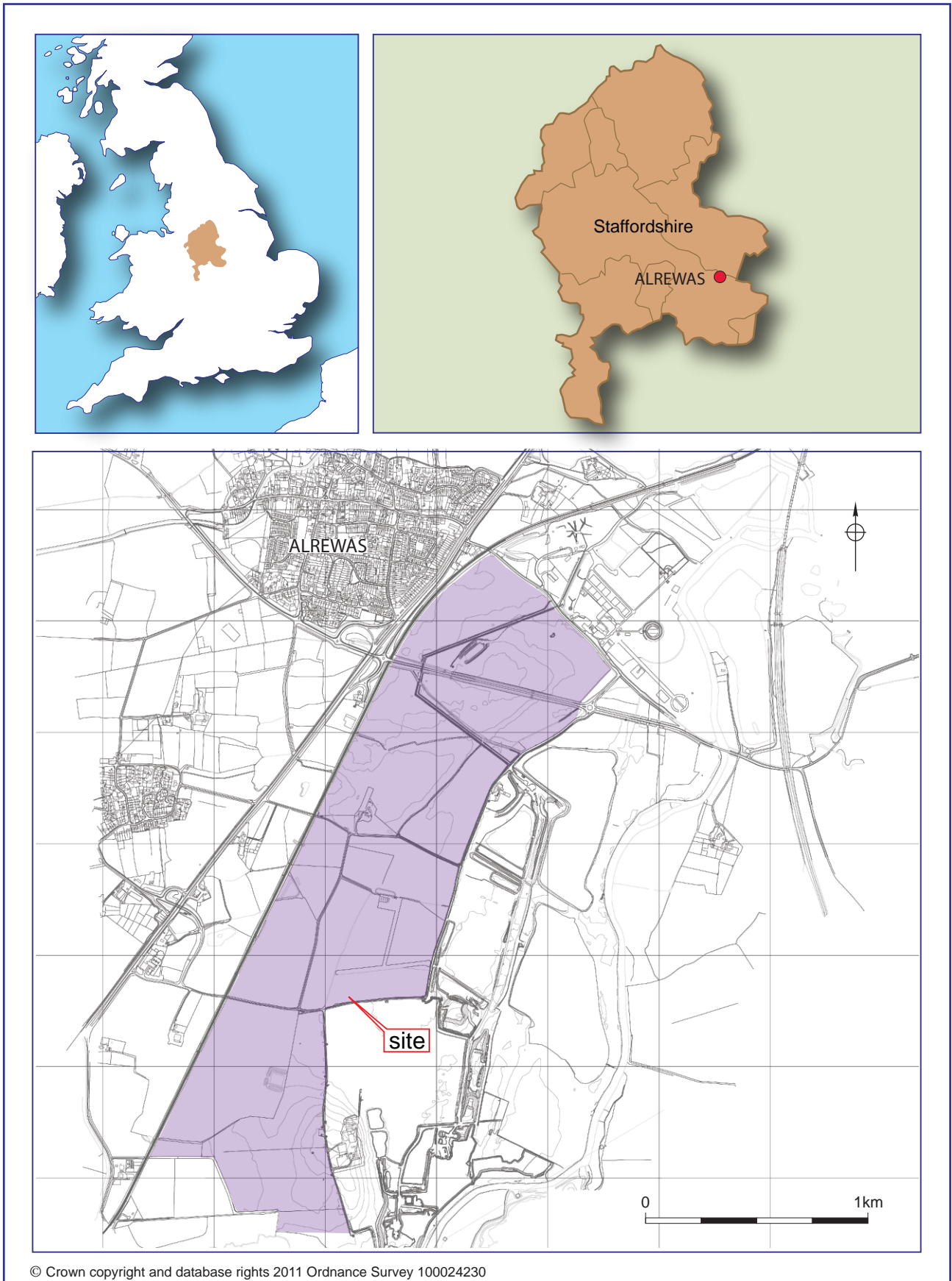
Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project: Gary Coates (Phoenix Consulting); Ross Halley and Adrian Bunyard (Lafarge Aggregates Limited) Stephen Dean (Principal Archaeologist at Staffordshire Historic Environment Record); Emma Stead (representative of Lafarge tenants); David Barnard (land agent for Mr Gilmour); Michael Grove (landowner); and the Leavesley Estate.

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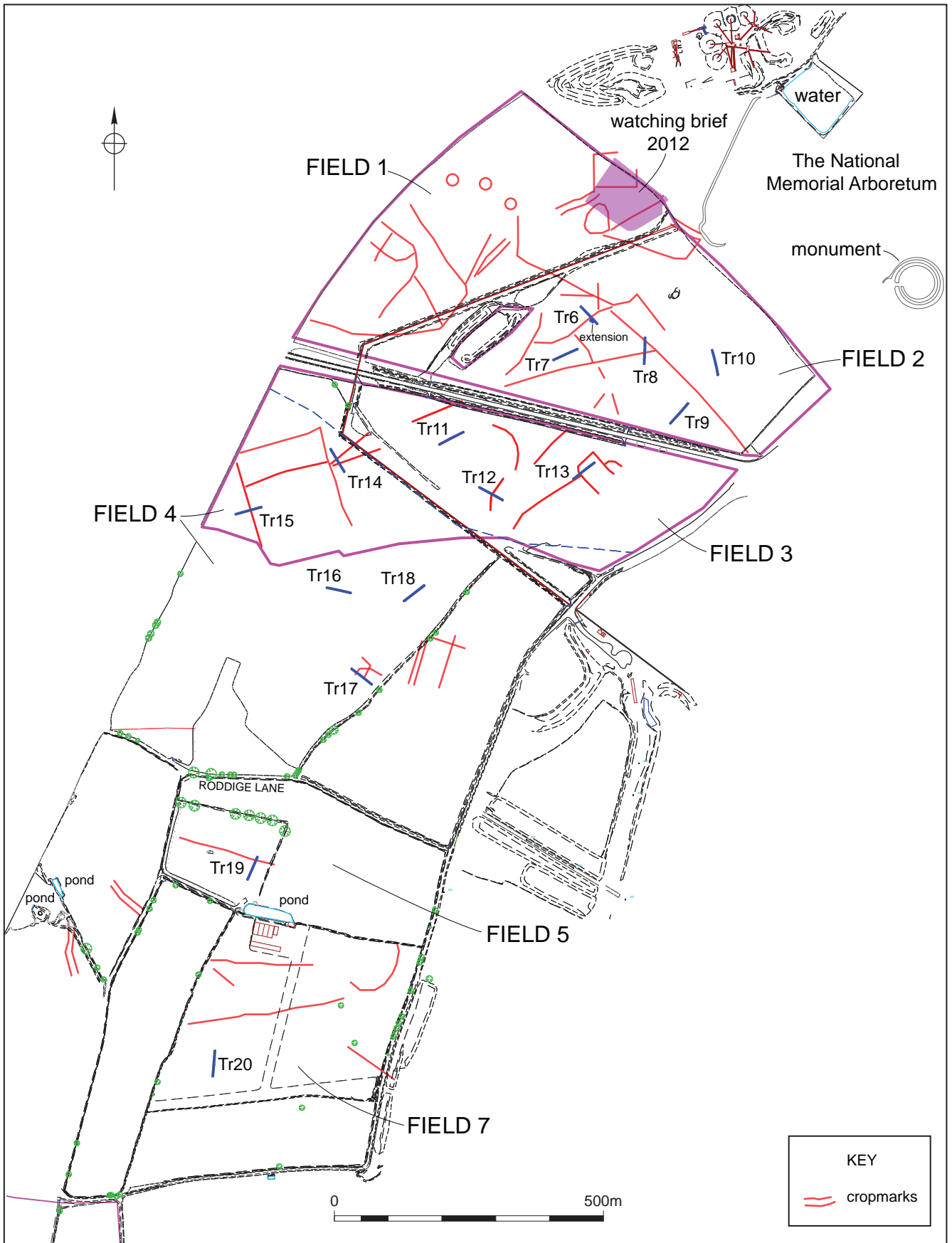
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Figures



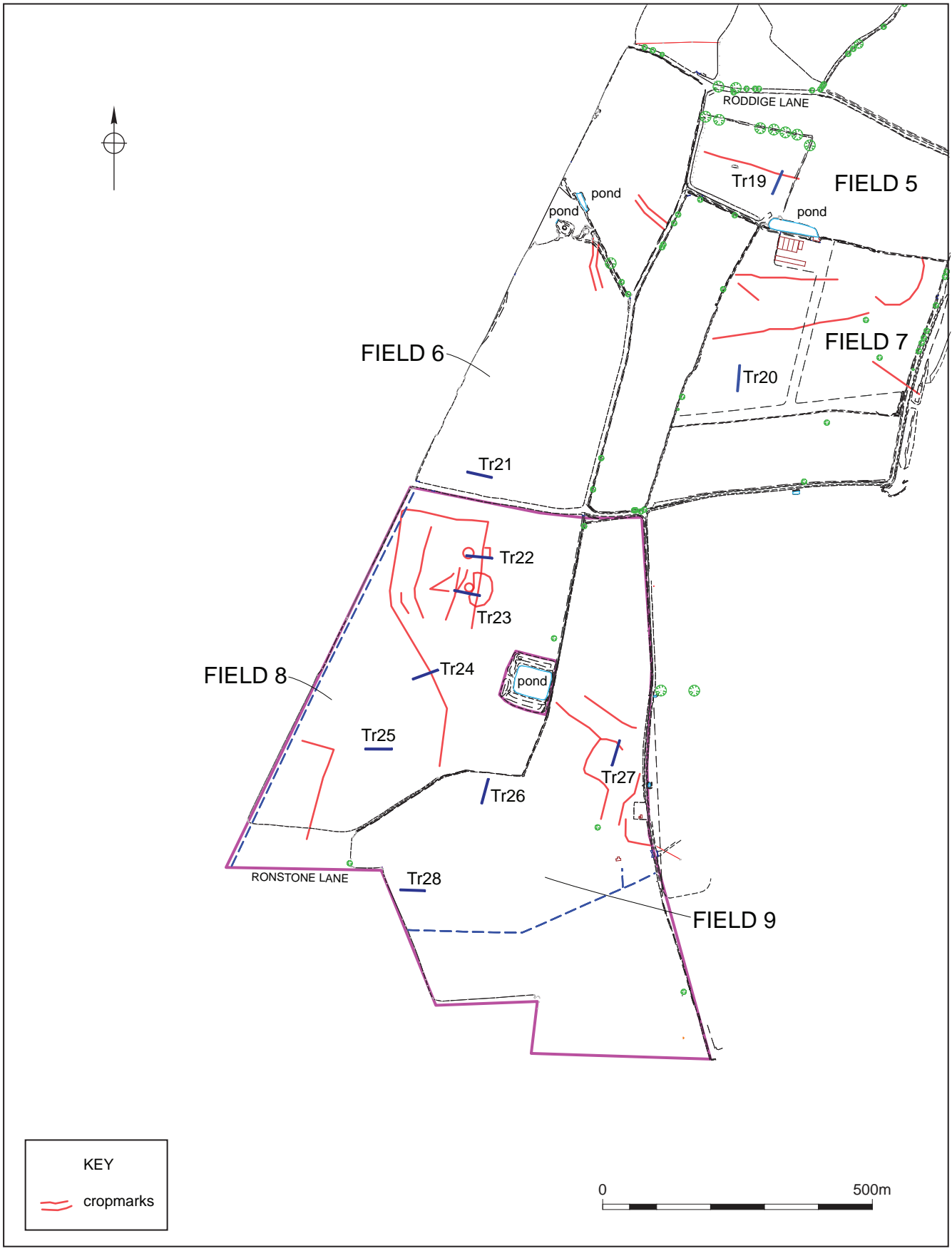
Location of the site

Figure 1



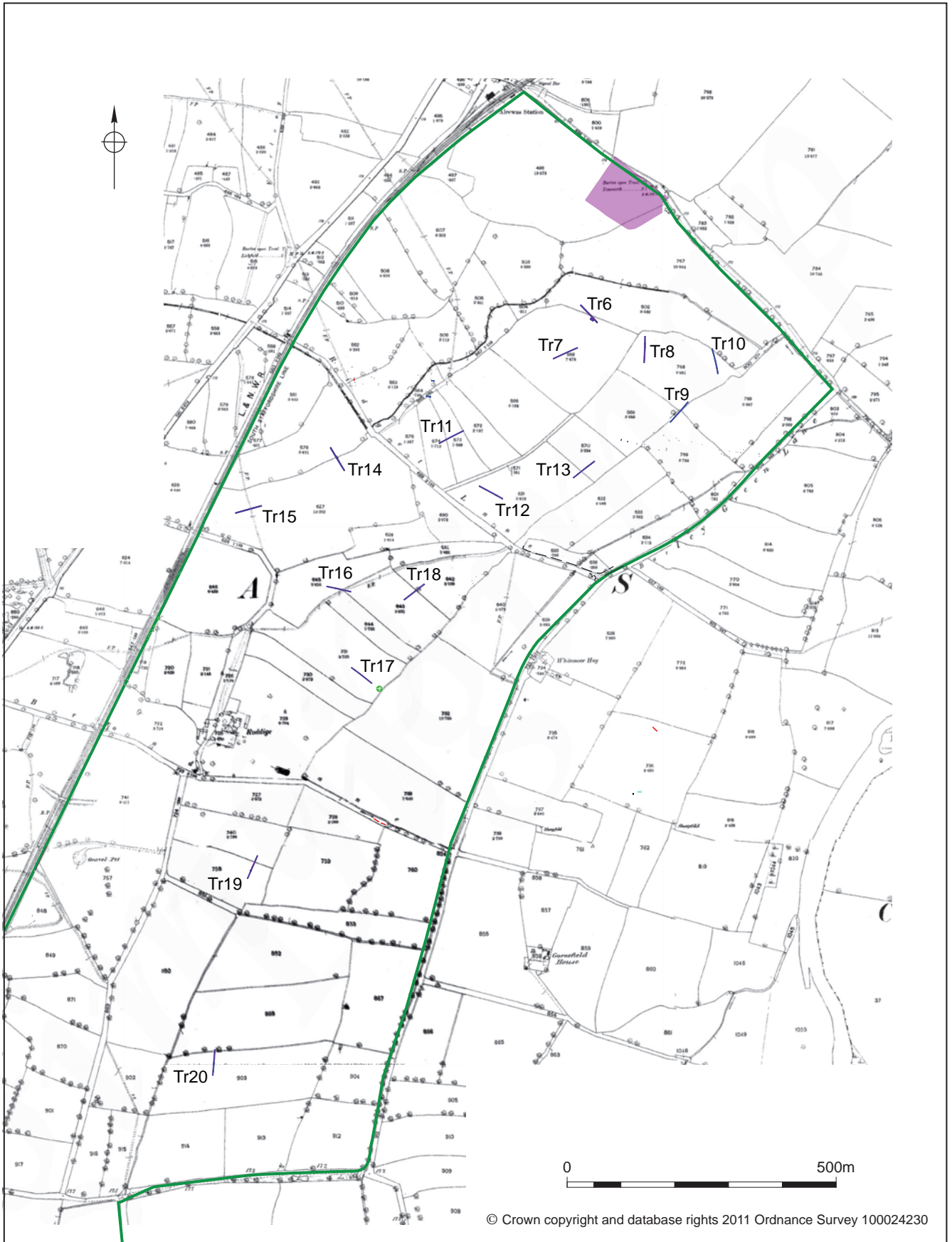
Trench location plan: Northern area

Figure 2



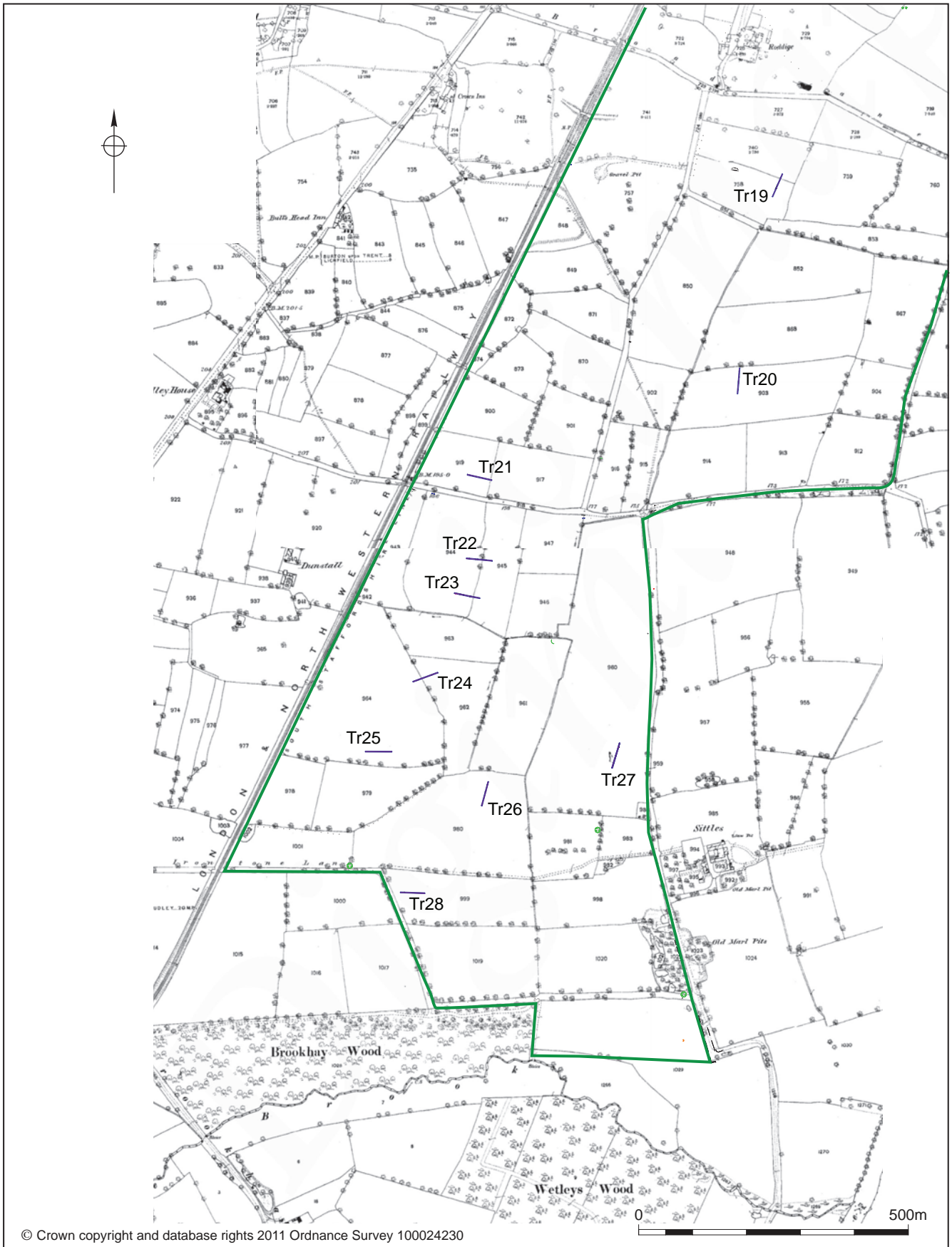
Trench location plan: Southern area

Figure 3



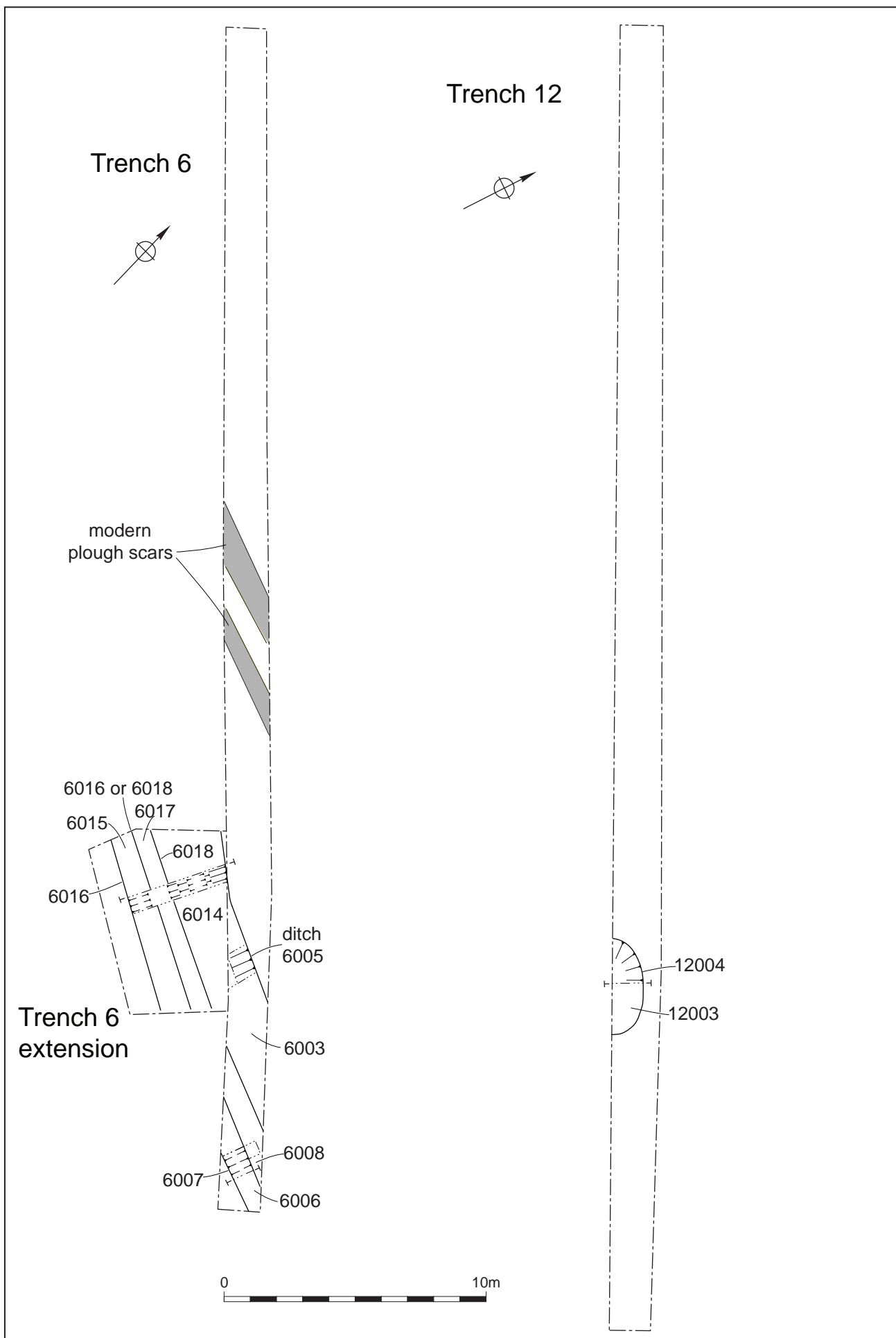
Trenches located on 1st edition OS: Northern area

Figure 4



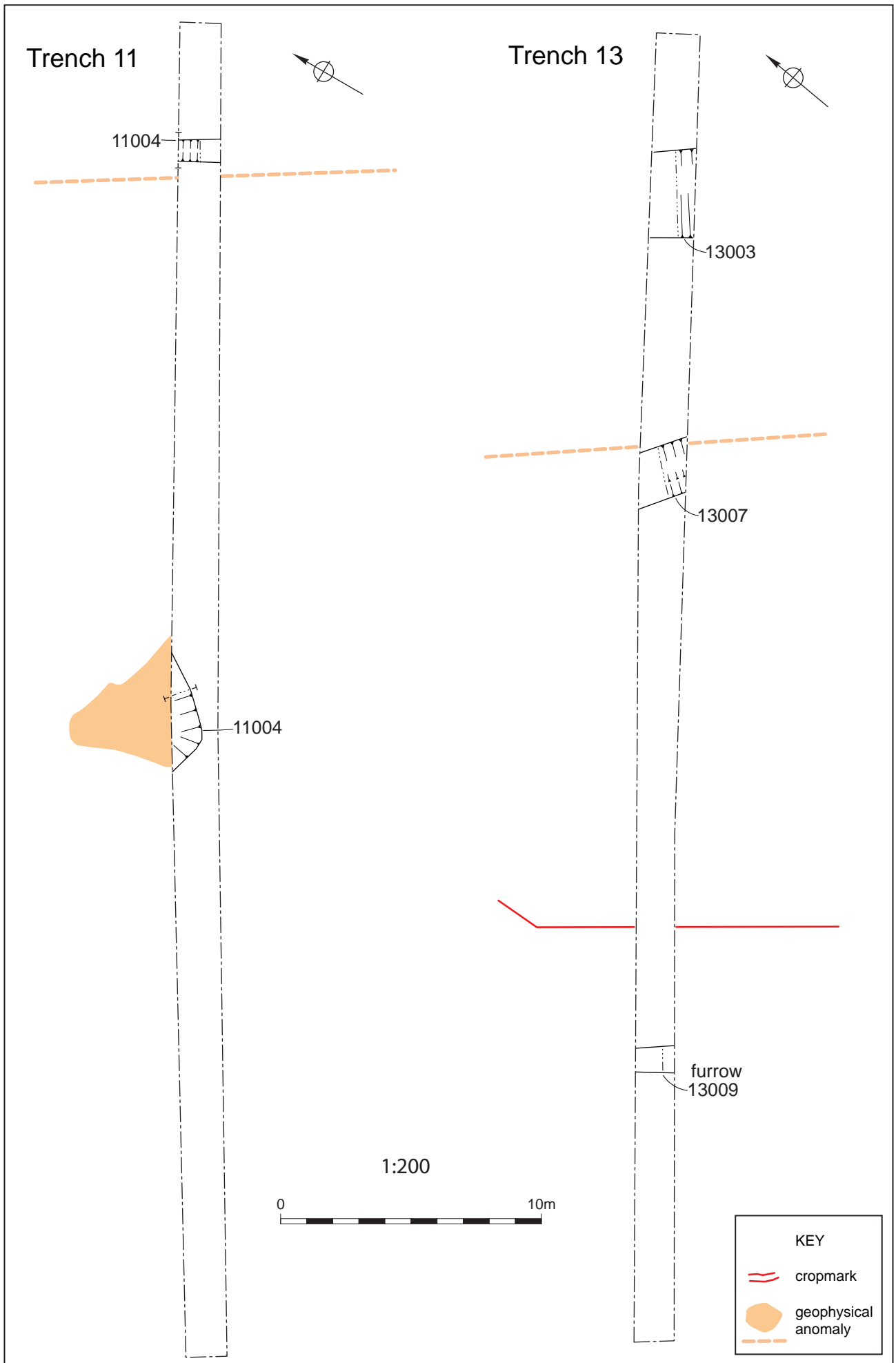
Trench location plan: Southern area

Figure 5



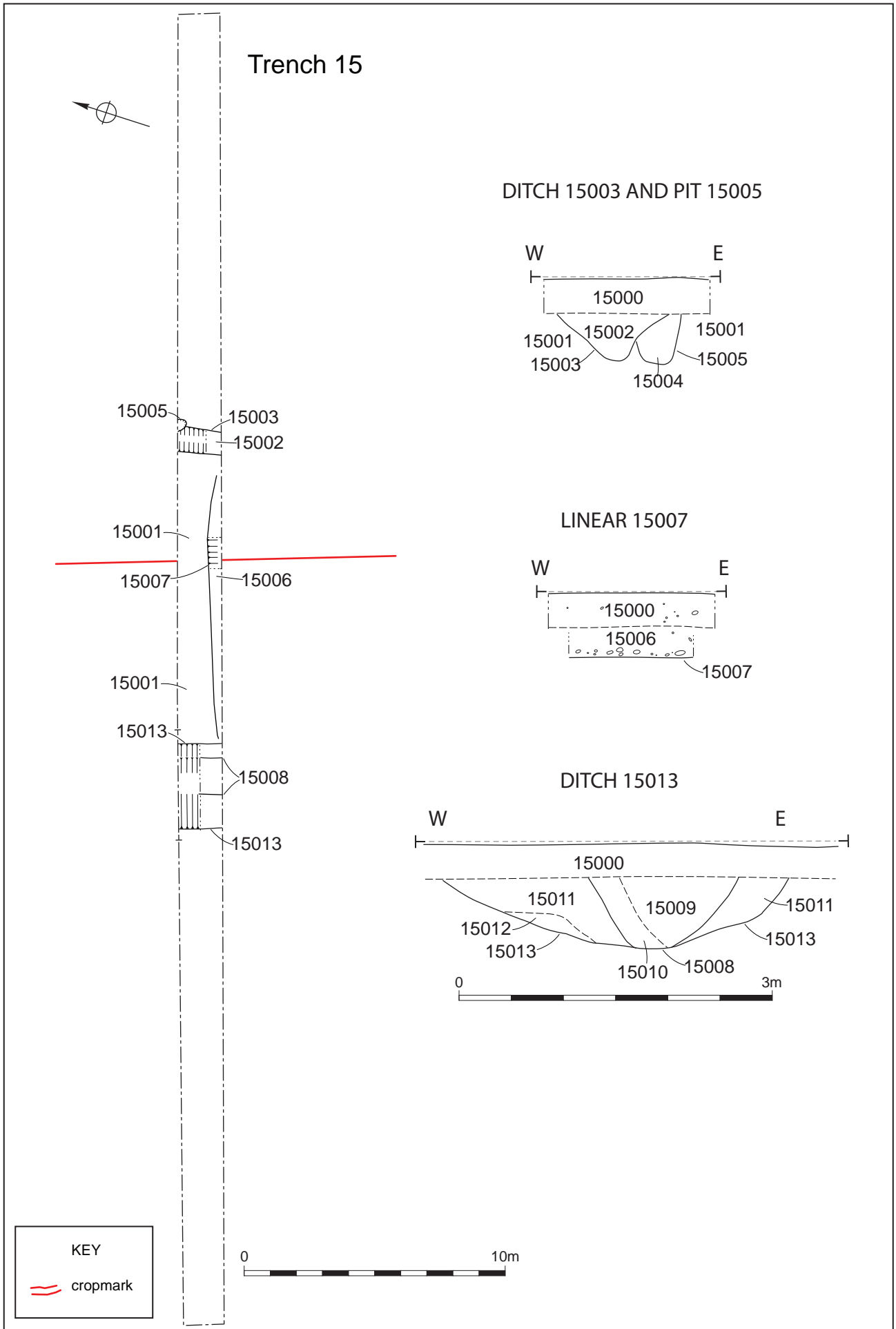
Trenches 6 and 12: plans

Figure 6



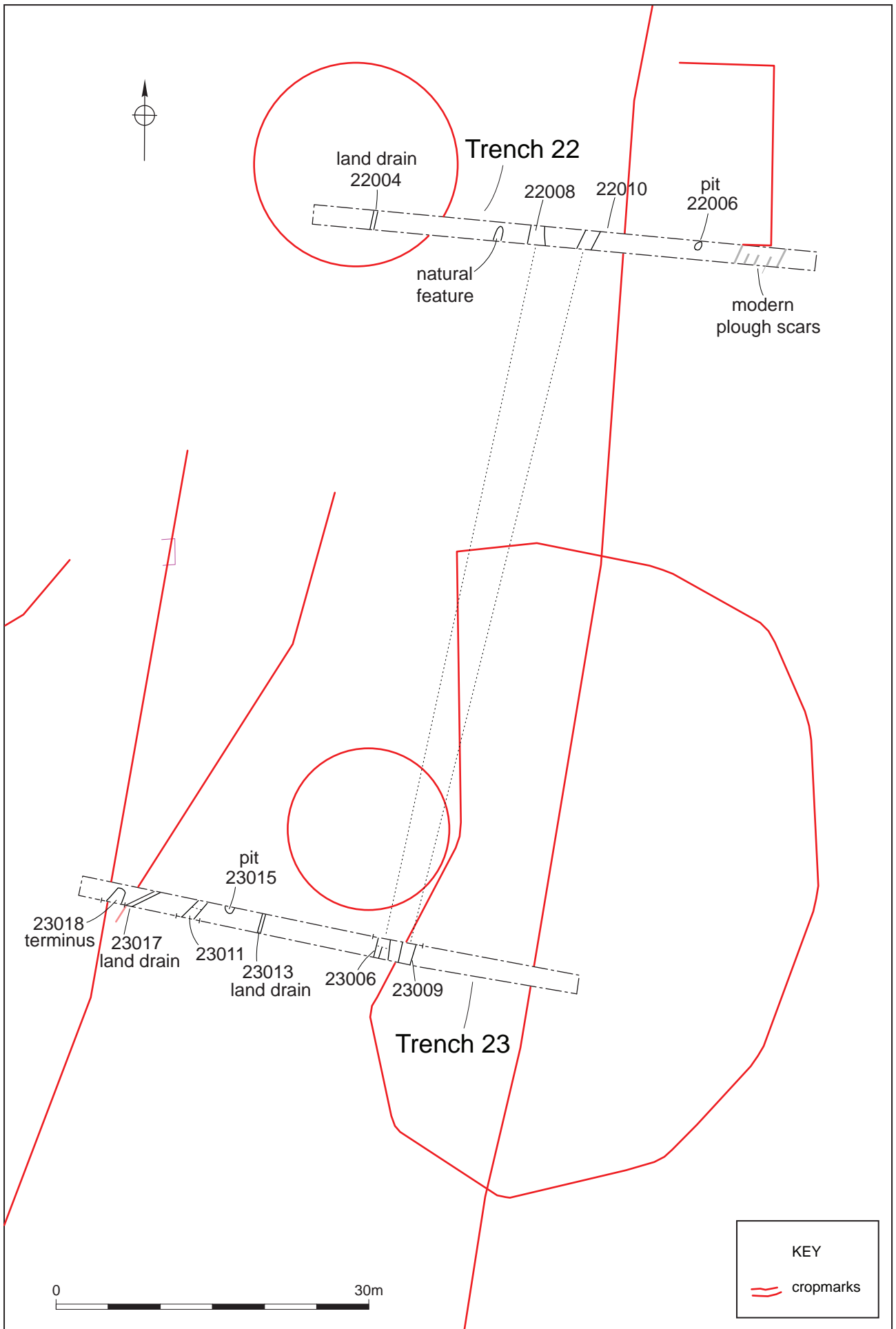
Trenches 11 and 13: plans

Figure 7



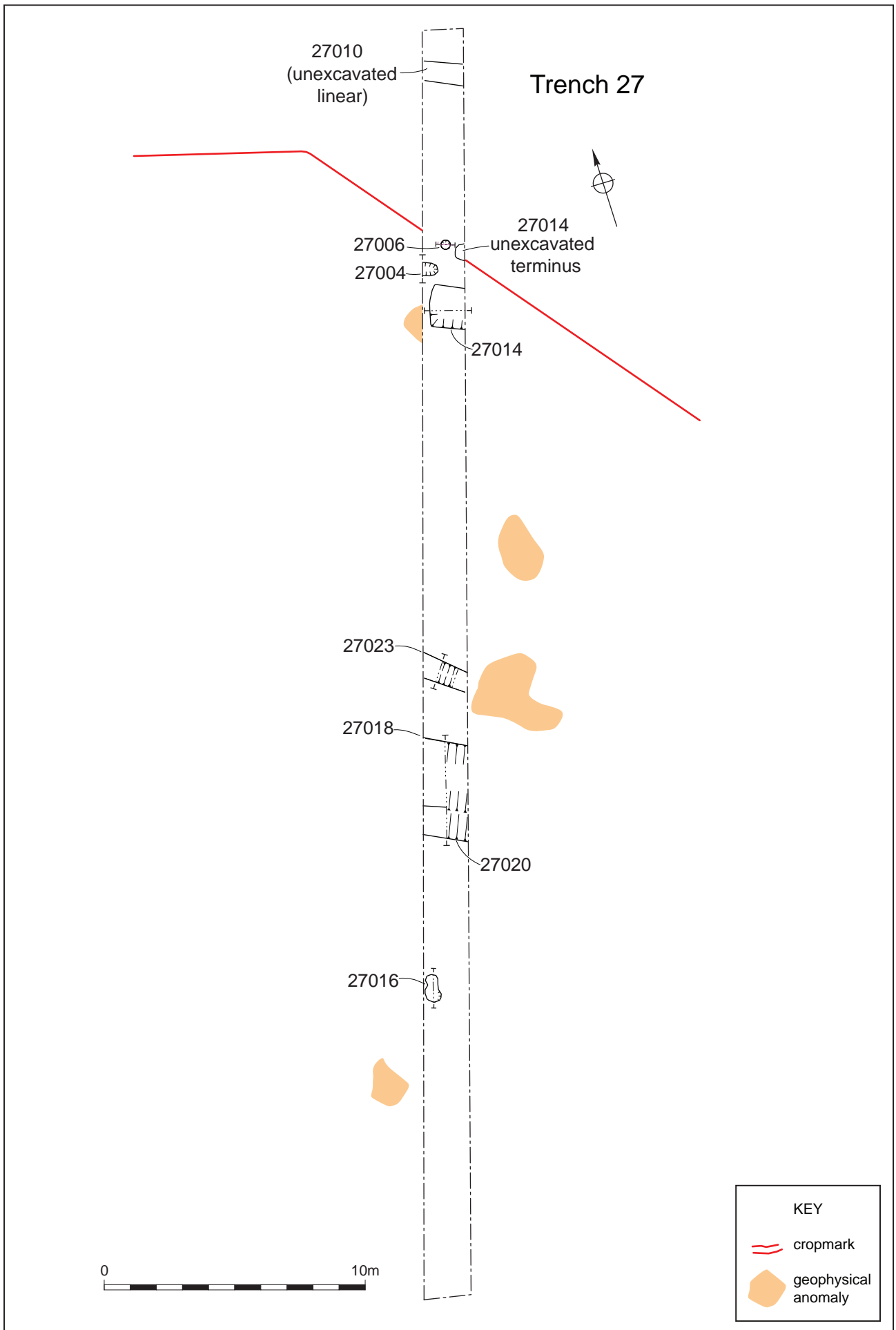
Trenches 15: plan and sections

Figure 8



Trenches 22 and 23: plan

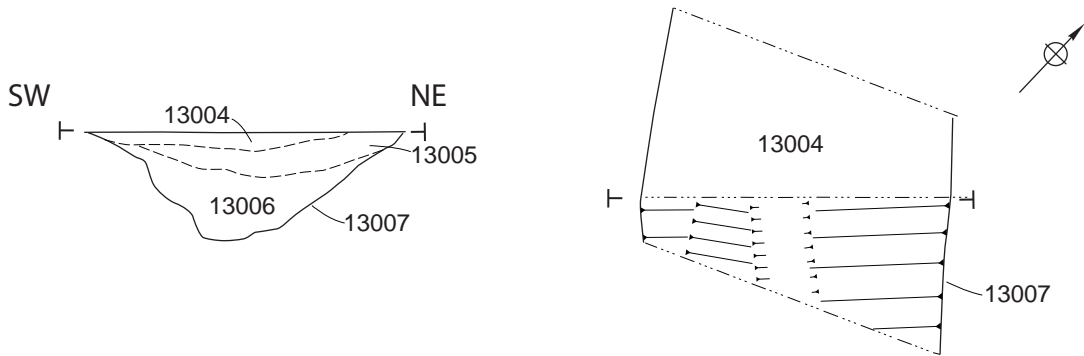
Figure 9



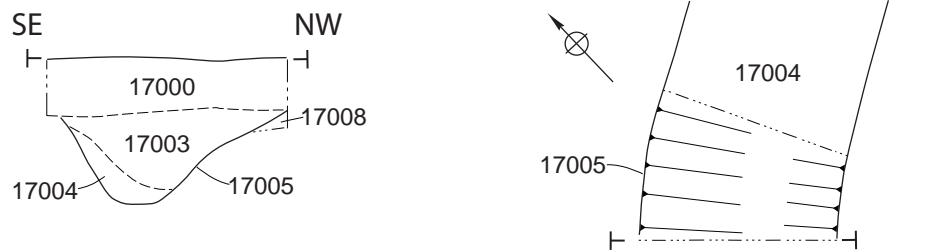
Trench 27: plan

Figure 10

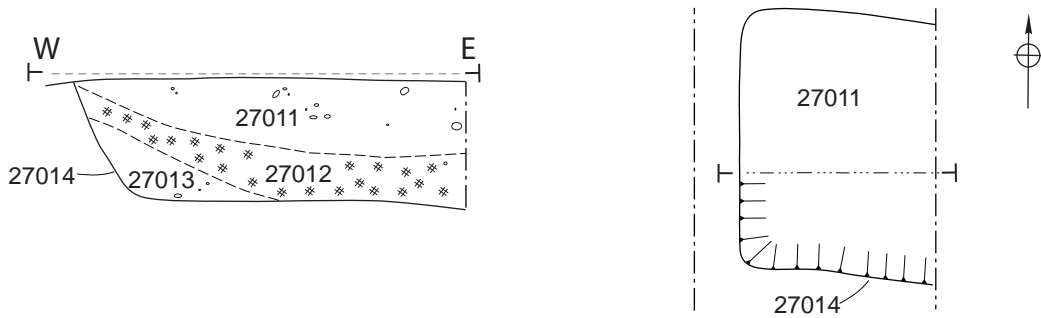
ENCLOSURE DITCH 130007



DITCH 170005



PIT 27014



Ditches 13007 and 17005 and pit 27104: plans and sections

Figure 11

Plates



Plate 1: Field 2 facing north



Plate 2: Field 3 facing west



Plate 3: Pit [11006], facing north



Plate 4: Enclosure ditch [13007], facing north-west



Plate 5: Small ditch [15003] truncating posthole [15005], facing north



Plate 6: Oblique view of boundary ditches [22008] and [22010], facing south-east



Plate 7: Boundary ditches in Trench 6 extension, facing north-west



Plate 8: Pit [27014], facing north



Plate 9: Posthole [27006], facing south

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Site area: Field 1

Unexcavated

Trench 2

Site area: Field 1

Unexcavated

Trench 3

Site area: Field 1

Unexcavated

Trench 4

Site area: Field 1

Unexcavated

Trench 5

Site area: Field 1

Unexcavated

Trench 6

Site area: Field 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.37m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
6000	Topsoil	Mid grey silty sand, friable. Frequent small and medium rounded stones with rooting. Recently ploughed.	0.00-0.24m
6001	Subsoil	Mid grey silty sand similar to (6000) but slightly lighter. Loose with frequent small and medium rounded stones. Possibly a remnant of topsoil not disturbed by ploughing.	0.24m-0.37m
6002	Natural	Pinkish red gravels and stones with patchy orangey sands.	0.37m+

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
6003	Fill	Upper fill of [6005] - moderately compact dark brown silty sand with frequent rounded stones, very sterile but included one flint blade of possible Neolithic date.	0.37-0.92m
6004	Fill	Primary fill of [6005] - moderately compact light blueish grey silty sand with frequent rounded stones and gravels.	0.84-0.92m
6005	Cut	Cut of ditch, possibly a large boundary ditch.	0.37-0.92m
6006	Fill	Fill of [6007] - moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt loam, with occasional rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	0.37-0.61m
6007	Cut	Small re-cut in the top of ditch [6005]	0.37-0.61m
6008	Fill	Fill of [6005] - moderately compact dark brown silty sand, same as (6003) and cut by [6007].	0.61-0.75m
6009	Fill	Fill of [6005] - moderately compact light blueish grey silty sand, same as (6004) and cut by [6007].	Unexcavated
6010	Fill	Upper fill of [6014] - soft mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-round stones, same fill as (6003).	0.37-0.69m
6011	Fill	Fill of [6014] - soft light greyish brown silty sand with rare small stones.	0.37-0.71m
6012	Fill	Fill of [6014] - soft light grey sand with occasional small sub-round stones, possibly the same fill as (6004).	0.37-0.73m
6013	Fill	Primary fill of [6014] moderately compact dark reddish brown sandy silt loam with some peaty content and occasional small rounded and sub-rounded stones.	0.53-1.12m
6014	Cut	Cut of ditch, possibly a large boundary ditch in three phases. Same cut as [6005].	0.37-1.12m
6015	Fill	Fill of [6016] - soft light brownish grey silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded stones.	0.37-0.62m
6016	Cut	Cut of ditch, possibly a small boundary ditch. Part of [6014], [6018] series of linear ditches.	0.37-0.62m
6017	Fill	Fill of [6018] - soft dark reddish brown silty sand with occasional small and medium sub-rounded stones.	0.37-0.54m
6018	Cut	Cut of ditch, probably a small boundary and the latest in a sequence with [6014] and [6018]. Same as [6007].	0.37-0.54m

Trench 7

Site area: Field 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.51m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
7000	Topsoil	Mid grey silty sand, friable. Frequent small and medium rounded stones with rooting. Recently ploughed.	0.00-0.27m
7001	Subsoil	Mid grey silty sand similar to (7000) but slightly lighter. Loose with frequent small and medium rounded stones. Possibly a remnant of topsoil not disturbed by ploughing.	0.27-0.39m
7002	Natural	Pinkish red gravels and stones with patchy orangey sands.	0.39-0.51m+

Trench 8

Site area: Field 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
8000	Topsoil	Same as (7000)	0.00-0.24m
8001	Subsoil	Same as (7001)	0.24-0.40m
8002	Natural	Same as (7002)	0.40m+
8003	Fill	Fill of [8004] - soft light greyish brown sand with occasional small rounded stones.	0.40-0.69m
8004	Cut	Cut of ditch, undated, very shallow, possible drainage ditch.	0.40-0.69m
8005	Fill	Fill of [8006] - soft light greyish brown silty sand with occasional small rounded stones.	0.40-0.68m
8006	Cut	Cut of ditch, undated, very shallow, possible drainage ditch.	0.40-0.68m
8007	Fill	Fill of [8008] - soft dark grey sand with occasional small rounded stones.	0.40-0.68m
8008	Cut	Cut of possible post hole, undated.	0.40-0.68m
8009	Fill	Fill of [8010].	Unexcavated

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
8010	Cut	Cut of small linear ditch.	Unexcavated
8011	Fill	Fill of [8012].	Unexcavated
8012	Cut	Cut of small linear ditch.	Unexcavated

Trench 9

Site area: Field 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.83m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
9000	Topsoil	Same as (7000)	0.00-0.26m
9001	Subsoil	Same as (7001)	0.26-0.43m
9002	Natural	Light yellow grey sands with patches of pinkish red gravels and stones.	Variable – 0.43-0.83m+
9003	Layer	Dark grey brown mixed silty sand with frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones. Moderately compact with some rooting and modern finds (not retained). Below subsoil, this could be a colluvial deposit of fairly recent origin or perhaps dumped material from nearby road construction.	0.43-0.83m

Trench 10

Site area: Field 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.38mm

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
10000	Topsoil	Same as (7000)	0.00-0.36m
10001	Natural	Same as (7002)	0.36-0.38m+
10002	Fill	Fill of [10003] - moderately compact mid greyish brown silty	0.36-0.62m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
		sand with frequent rounded and sub-rounded stones.	
10003	Cut	Cut of ditch, undated. Possible drainage ditch.	0.36-0.62m
10004	Fill	Fill of [10005] – loose light brown silty sand.	0.36-0.41m
10005	Cut	Cut of linear, possible furrow.	0.36-0.41m
10006	Fill	Fill of [10007] – loose light brown silty sand.	0.36-0.41m
10007	Cut	Cut of linear, possible furrow.	0.36-0.41m
10008	Fill	Fill of [10009] – loose light brown silty sand.	0.36-0.41m
10009	Cut	Cut of linear, possible furrow.	0.36-0.41m

Trench 11

Site area: Field 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.32m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
11000	Topsoil	Mid orangey grey brown silty sand with frequent small and medium rounded and sub-rounded stones. Occasional rooting.	0.00-0.20m
11001	Subsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand, friable. Frequent small and medium rounded stones.	0.20-0.28m
11002	Natural	Yellowish orange sand and gravels with patches of silty clay.	0.28-0.32m+
11003	Fill	Fill of [11004] - soft mid orangey brown silty sand with frequent small rounded stones and post-medieval pottery and CBM.	0.28-0.52m
11004	Cut	Cut of small post-medieval drainage ditch.	0.28-0.52m
11005	Fill	Main fill of [11006] - moderately compact mid greyish black silty sand with frequent angular burnt stones, occasional charcoal and pottery.	0.36-0.66m
11006	Cut	Cut of pit, possibly rectangular in form but only partly visible in trench, contains burnt waste related to water heating.	0.28-0.66m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
11007	Fill	Possible fill of [11006] - soft mid orangey brown sand with occasional burnt stone. Possible covering over of pit [11006].	0.28-0.42m

Trench 12

Site area: Field 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.42m

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
12000	Topsoil	Mid orangey grey brown silty sand with frequent small and medium rounded and sub-rounded stones. Occasional rooting.	0.00-0.22m
12001	Subsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand, friable. Frequent small and medium rounded stones.	0.22-0.31m
12002	Natural	Yellowish orange sand and gravels with patches of silty clay.	0.31-0.42m+
12003	Fill	Fill of [12004] - moderately compact mid greyish orange silty sand with frequent small and medium rounded stones.	0.31-0.77m
12004	Cut	Cut of possible quarry pit.	0.31-0.77m

Trench 13

Site area: Field 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.34m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
13000	Topsoil	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-round stones.	0.00-0.34m
13001	Natural	Soft mid reddish orange sands and gravels.	0.34m+
13002	Fill	Fill of [13003] – soft mid brownish red silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles.	0.34-0.54m

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Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
13003	Cut	Cut of furrow	0.34-0.54m
13004	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [13007] - soft mid greyish red silty sand with frequent sub-rounded pebbles.	0.34-0.46m
13005	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [13007] - soft mid orangey red silty sand with frequent sub-rounded pebbles.	0.34-0.64m
13006	Fill	Primary fill of ditch [13007] - moderately compact mid orangey red silty sand with frequent sub-round pebbles.	0.46-1.06m
13007	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch, undated.	0.34-1.06m
13008	Fill	Fill of [13009] – soft mid brownish red silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles.	0.34-0.49m
13009	Cut	Cut of furrow	0.34-0.49m

Trench 14

Site area: Field 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.36m

Orientation: NW-SE

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
14000	Topsoil	Soft dark grey brown silty sand with moderate small sub-round stones and bioturbation.	0.00-0.29m
14001	Subsoil	Soft mid grey silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded stones.	0.29-0.34m
14002	Natural	Mixed mid greyish orange sands with occasional patches of small sub-round gravels.	0.34-0.36m+
14003	Fill	Fill of linear [14004] - soft light orangey grey silty sand with occasional small rounded stones.	0.34-0.54m
14004	Cut	Cut of small linear gully.	0.34-0.54m
14005	Fill	Fill of [14006]	Unexcavated
14006	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
14007	Fill	Fill of [14008] - dark blackish grey silty sand.	Unexcavated
14008	Cut	Cut of linear ditch – unexcavated due to flooding.	Unexcavated

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
14009	Fill	Fill of [14010] - dark blackish grey silty sand.	Unexcavated
14010	Cut	Cut of linear ditch – unexcavated due to flooding.	Unexcavated

Trench 15

Site area: Field 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.35m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
15000	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent bioturbation and occasional gravels.	0.00-0.33m
15001	Natural	Mixed mid orangey brown sands and gravels.	0.33-0.35m+
15002	Fill	Fill of ditch [15003] - soft mid greyish brown sandy silt loam with occasional sub-round stones.	0.33-0.77m
15003	Cut	Cut of linear ditch, undated. Cuts post hole [15005]. Possible boundary ditch.	0.33-0.77m
15004	Fill	Fill of post hole [15005] - soft mid grey sandy silt loam with rare small sub-rounded stones.	0.33-0.79m
15005	Cut	Cut of sub-circular post hole, undated. Cut by linear [15003].	0.33-0.79m
15006	Fill	Fill of ditch [15007] - soft light greyish brown sandy silt loam with frequent small and medium sub-round stones.	0.33-0.61m
15007	Cut	Cut of linear ditch running along the edge of the trench, undated. Possible drainage ditch.	0.33-0.61m
15008	Cut	Re-cut of linear ditch re-establishing previous boundary ditch [15013].	0.33-0.99m
15009	Fill	Fill of ditch [15008] - soft dark greyish brown sandy silt loam with occasional small sub-round stones.	0.33-0.97m
15010	Fill	Fill of ditch [15008] - soft dark blackish brown sandy silt loam with rare small sub-round stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.33-0.99m
15011	Fill	Fill of linear ditch [15013] - mid brown sandy silt loam with moderate small sub-round stones.	0.33-0.99m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
15012	Fill	Primary fill of [15013] - loose light yellowish orange sand with occasional small sub-round stones. Slumped down west side of ditch.	0.64-0.92m
15013	Cut	Cut of wide linear ditch, undated. Probably a field boundary, later re-established by re-cut [15008].	0.33-0.99m

Trench 16

Site area: Field 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.60m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
16000	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent small rounded pebbles and rooting. Ridge in centre of trench has thicker topsoil.	0.00-0.35m
16001	Subsoil	Friable mid brown silty sand of variable depth, very shallow at ends of trench but thick in the middle, possibly representing the remains of a ridge or bank.	0.35-0.60m
16002	Natural	Mid orange sands and gravels with occasional pockets of yellow sand.	0.45-0.60m+
16003	Fill	Fill of modern drain [16004] – same as topsoil (16000) and containing rooting and CBM.	0.35-0.55m
16004	Cut	Cut of modern drainage ditch.	0.35-0.55m
16005	Cut	Cut of furrow. Aligned NE-SW.	0.35-0.50m
16006	Cut	Cut of furrow. Aligned NE-SW.	0.35-0.50m
16007	Fill	Fill of furrow [16005].	0.35-0.50m
16008	Fill	Fill of furrow [16006].	0.35-0.50m

Trench 17

Site area: Field 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.64m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
17000	Topsoil	Soft dark greyish brown silty sand.	0.00-0.36m
17001	Subsoil	Soft mid reddish brown silty sand with moderate sub-round pebbles. Deep at western end, no-existent at eastern end.	0.36-0.64m
17002	Natural	Reddish sands and gravels.	0.36-0.64m+
17003	Fill	Fill of large ditch [17005] - soft mid greyish brown silty sand with frequent rounded and sub-rounded pebbles.	0.36-0.84m
17004	Fill	Fill of large ditch [17005] - soft mid reddish orange silty sand with moderate sub-rounded pebbles.	0.42-0.92m
17005	Cut	Cut of linear ditch. Possible enclosure ditch running NE-SW, undated. Cuts buried soil (17008).	0.36-0.92m
17006	Fill	Fill of terminus [17007] - soft mid reddish brown silty sand with frequent sub-rounded pebbles.	0.36-0.65m
17007	Cut	Cut of ditch terminus, undated. Cuts buried soil (17008).	0.36-0.65m
17008	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand – possible relict subsoil or former ground surface.	0.36-0.50m

Trench 18

Site area: Field 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.35m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
18000	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-round stones and extensive bioturbation. Occasional brick and CBM (not retained).	0.00-0.26m
18001	Subsoil	Soft mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate small sub-round stones.	0.26-0.33m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
18002	Natural	Loose mixed mid orangey brown coarse sands and sub-rounded gravels.	0.33-0.35m+

Trench 19

Site area: Field 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.45m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
19000	Topsoil	Friable dark blackish brown silty loam with frequent rounded pebbles and bioturbation.	0.00-0.35m
19001	Natural	Orangey yellow sands and gravels.	0.35-0.45m+
19002	Fill	Fill of modern drain [19003] – similar to topsoil (19000).	0.35-0.45m
19003	Cut	Cut of modern drainage gully.	0.35-0.45m
19004	Fill	Fill of linear [19005] – Dark blackish brown gravelly silt with a large ceramic pipe cover and glass bottles.	0.50-0.85m+
19005	Cut	Cut of boundary ditch with modern service/drainage pipe.	0.50-0.85m+
19006	Fill	Fill of post hole [19007] – compact mixed brownish grey gritty sand with occasional small sub-round pebbles.	0.35-0.47m
19007	Cut	Cut of possible post hole, undated, very shallow.	0.35-0.47m
19008	Fill	Fill of post hole [19009] – Friable dark blackish brown gritty sandy silt with frequent gravels and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.35-0.51m
19009	Cut	Cut of possible post hole, undated.	0.35-0.51m
19010	Fill	Fill of post hole [19011] – Friable dark blackish brown gritty sandy silt with frequent gravels and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.35-0.50m
19011	Cut	Cut of possible post hole, undated.	0.35-0.50m

Trench 20

Site area: Field 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.45m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
20000	Topsoil	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded pebbles and rooting.	0.00-0.30m
20001	Natural	Firm yellowish orange sands and gravels.	0.30-0.45m+
20002	Fill	Fill of terminus [20003] - moderately compact mid grey brown silty sand with moderate gravel inclusions.	0.30-0.47m
20003	Cut	Cut of ditch terminus, undated, different alignment to furrows in this trench.	0.30-0.47m
20004	Fill	Fill of furrow [20005] – friable dark brown silty sand.	0.30-0.41m
20005	Cut	Cut of furrow. Aligned SW-NE.	0.30-0.41m
20006	Fill	Fill of furrow [20007] – friable dark brown silty sand.	0.30-0.40m
20007	Cut	Cut of furrow. Aligned SW-NE.	0.30-0.40m
20008	Fill	Fill of furrow [20009] – friable dark brown silty sand.	0.30-0.40m
20009	Cut	Cut of furrow. Aligned SW-NE.	0.30-0.40m
20010	Fill	Fill of linear [20011] – moderately compact dark brownish grey silty sand with small rounded gravels.	0.30-0.51m
20011	Cut	Cut of v-shaped linear gully orientated E-W.	0.30-0.51m

Trench 21

Site area: Field 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.32m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
21000	Topsoil	Loose, dark grey brown sandy silt with moderate small and medium sub-round stones and frequent bioturbation.	0.00-0.27m

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Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
21001	Natural	Light greyish yellow sands with patches of sub-round gravels.	0.27-0.32m+

Trench 22

Site area: Field 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.36m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
22000	Topsoil	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent bioturbation and small and medium sub-round gravels.	0.00-0.27m
22001	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate small and medium sub-round gravels.	0.27-0.32m
22002	Natural	Dark yellowish orange sandy gravels.	0.32-0.36m+
22003	Fill	Fill of [22004] – mid brown silt.	Unexcavated
22004	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
22005	Fill	Fill of pit [22006] – friable dark blackish grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-round stones, similar to topsoil (22000).	0.32-0.44m
22006	Cut	Cut of shallow pit feature, undated.	0.32-0.44m
22007	Fill	Fill of [22008] – mid grey brown sandy silt.	0.32m+
22008	Cut	Cut of linear boundary ditch – same as [23004]/[23006]	0.32m+
22009	Fill	Fill of [22010] – dark grey brown sandy silt.	0.32m+
22010	Cut	Cut of linear boundary ditch – same as [23009]	0.32m+

Trench 23

Site area: Field 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.37m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
23000	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent bioturbation and small and medium sub-round gravels.	0.00-0.29m
23001	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate small and medium sub-round gravels.	0.29-0.35m
23002	Natural	Mixed light greyish orange sandy gravels.	0.35-0.37m+
23003	Fill	Fill of ditch [23004] – Friable mid brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded and sub-rounded stones.	0.35-0.61m
23004	Cut	Cut of linear ditch – shallow drainage ditch, same as [22008] in trench 22. Re-cut of [23006].	0.35-0.61m
23005	Fill	Fill of ditch [23006] – friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded and sub-rounded stones.	0.35-0.63m
23006	Cut	Cut of linear ditch – shallow drainage ditch, undated.	0.35-0.63m
23007	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [23009] – friable mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded stones.	0.35-0.67m
23008	Fill	Lower fill of ditch [23009] – friable mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small rounded stones.	0.35-0.90m
23009	Cut	Cut of linear ditch, same as [22010] in trench 22.	0.35-0.90m
23010	Fill	Fill of ditch [23011] – compact mid greyish brown sandy silt with abundant large round pebbles at base.	0.35-0.58m
23011	Cut	Cut of shallow linear ditch, undated.	0.35-0.58m
23012	Fill	Fill of [23013].	Unexcavated
23013	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
23014	Fill	Fill of pit [23015].	Unexcavated
23015	Cut	Cut of pit feature seen at edge of trench.	Unexcavated
23016	Fill	Fill of [23017].	Unexcavated
23017	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
23018	Cut	Cut of ditch terminus, undated but with a dark charcoal rich fill, possibly a boundary ditch.	0.35-0.67m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
23019	Fill	Lower, main fill of ditch terminus [23018] – moderately compact dark grey black sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub rounded stones and charcoal pieces.	0.35-0.67m
23020	Fill	Upper fill of ditch terminus [23018] – moderately compact dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent small and medium sub-rounded stones.	0.35-0.63m

Trench 24

Site area: Field 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: NE-SW

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
24000	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent rooting and occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.34m
24001	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand, moderately compact. Thin layer visible as interface between (24000) and (24002).	0.34-0.40m
24002	Natural	Light yellowish orange sands with gravel patches.	0.40m+
24003	Fill	Upper fill of pit [24005] – friable, dark blackish brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.	0.40-0.48m
24004	Fill	Lower fill of pit [24005] – Moderately compact grey silty sand with moderate gravels.	0.48-0.54m
24005	Cut	Cut of oval pit feature, undated. Partly truncated by land drain [24007].	0.40-0.54m
24006	Fill	Fill of [24007] – natural and topsoil mix with ceramic pipe.	Unexcavated
24007	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
24008	Fill	Fill of ditch [24009] – friable mid brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub-round stones.	0.40-0.93m
24009	Cut	Cut of linear boundary ditch, undated. Latest in a sequence with [24011] and [24013].	0.40-0.93m
24010	Fill	Fill of ditch [24011] – friable mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub-round stones.	0.40-0.80

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
24011	Cut	Cut of linear boundary ditch, undated. Second in a sequence with [24009] and [24013]. Truncated by [24009].	0.40-0.80
24012	Fill	Fill of ditch [24013] – friable mid blueish grey sandy silt with occasional small and medium sub rounded stones.	0.40-0.83m
24013	Cut	Cut of linear boundary ditch, undated. Earliest in a sequence with [24011] and [24009]. Truncated by [24011].	0.40-0.83m

Trench 25

Site area: Field 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.35m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
25000	Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-round stones and rooting.	0.00-0.33m
25001	Natural	Light greyish orange sand with patches of sub-round gravels.	0.33-0.35m+

Trench 26

Site area: Field 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.37m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
26000	Topsoil	Dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-round stones and rooting.	0.00-0.31m
26001	Natural	Light greyish yellow sand with patches of sub-round gravels.	0.31-0.37m+
26002	Fill	Fill of [26003] – natural and topsoil mix.	Unexcavated
26003	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
26004	Fill	Fill of [26005] – natural and topsoil mix.	Unexcavated

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
26005	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated
26006	Fill	Fill of [26007] – natural and topsoil mix with ceramic pipe.	Unexcavated
26007	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated

Trench 27

Site area: Field 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.42m

Orientation: N-S

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
27000	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent bioturbation and sub round small and medium stones.	0.00-0.30m
27001	Subsoil	Friable light grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-round stones.	0.30-0.42m
27002	Natural	Mixed mid orangey yellow sands with small gravel pockets.	0.42-0.46m+
27003	Fill	Fill of gully terminus [27004] – Soft light brownish grey sand silt with rare small sub round stones, occasional charcoal flecks and moderated pottery of medieval date.	0.42-0.68m
27004	Cut	Cut of linear terminus of small gully, probably medieval in date.	0.42-0.68m
27005	Fill	Fill of post hole [27006] – soft mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-round stones and rare charcoal flecks.	0.42-0.62m
27006	Cut	Cut of small post hole, undated, but probably associated with nearby medieval features.	0.42-0.62m
27007	Fill	Fill of terminus [27008].	Unexcavated
27008	Cut	Cut of small terminus seen at edge of trench.	Unexcavated
27009	Fill	Fill of linear [27010].	Unexcavated
27010	Cut	Cut of small linear ditch at north end of trench, orientated E-W.	Unexcavated
27011	Fill	Upper fill of large pit [27014] – soft mixed mid greyish brown	0.42-0.65m

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
		sandy silt with occasional small sub-round stones, occasional charcoal, occasional heat-cracked stones and frequent medieval pottery.	
27012	Fill	Charcoal deposit forming secondary fill of large pit [27014] – soft mixed dark greyish black and orangey brown silty sand with abundant charcoal and occasional heat-cracked and small sub round stones.	0.42-0.77m
27013	Fill	Primary fill in large pit [27014] – soft mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-round stones.	0.52-0.82m
27014	Cut	Cut of large pit feature, possibly rectangular but extending beyond trench so not fully visible. Finds suggest a medieval date and it may have been a fire/cooking pit.	0.42-0.82m
27015	Fill	Fill of small pit [27016] – soft mid grey brown sandy silt with frequent small and medium sub rounded stones.	0.42-0.62m
27016	Cut	Cut of small possible pit, undated.	0.42-0.62m
27017	Fill	Fill of large ditch [27018] – friable dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sandstone fragments.	0.42-1.34m
27018	Cut	Cut of large deep ditch running E-W, undated but close to medieval features in this trench. Partly truncated by re-cut [27020].	0.42-1.34m
27019	Fill	Fill of ditch [27020] – friable mid orangey brown sand with occasional rounded gravels.	0.42-0.68m
27020	Cut	Re-cut ditch, possibly a drainage ditch, that truncates the top part of ditch [27018], undated.	0.42-0.68m
27021	Fill	Upper fill of gully [27023] – moderately compact dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional sandstone and rounded pebbles. Fragments of porcelain and CBM recovered.	0.42-0.63m
27022	Fill	Lower fill of gully [27023] – compact mid brownish orange sand redeposited in base of gully.	0.63-0.67
27023	Cut	Cut of small drainage gully, probably post-medieval or modern in date running NW-SE across trench.	0.42-0.67m

Trench 28

Site area: Field 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.34m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
28000	Topsoil	Dark grey sandy silt with frequent small sub-round stones and rooting.	0.00-0.34m
28001	Natural	Light yellowish orangey grey sand with patches of sub-rounded gravels.	0.34m+
28002	Fill	Fill of [28003] – natural and topsoil mix with ceramic pipe.	Unexcavated
28003	Cut	Cut for land drain.	Unexcavated

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

- 112 Context records AS1
- 10 Field progress reports AS2
- 5 Photographic records AS3
- 336 Digital photographs
- 1 Drawing number catalogues AS4
- 22 Scale drawings
- 1 Context number catalogues AS5
- 27 Trench record sheets AS41
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 CD-Rom/DVDs

1 Copy of this report (bound hard copy)

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery,
Bethesda Street,
Cultural Quarter,
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 3DW
