



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
ON
LAND NORTHWEST OF LIME TREE VILLAGE,
CAWSTON, WARWICKSHIRE

NGR 447440, 273040

On behalf of
Retirement Villages Ltd

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REPORT FOR Retirement Villages Ltd
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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services conducted an archaeological evaluation on land to the north of Lime Tree Village in Cawston. Seven ditches, five of which had been initially identified as cropmarks, were investigated. A single ditch yielded dating evidence. The ditches are associated with the deserted medieval village to the northwest of the site. The former northern edge of the present watercourse was observed; the southern having been entirely truncated during the same works that had levelled the south part of the proposal area.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

The development site is located adjacent to and northwest of Lime Tree Village, Cawston, Warwickshire (centred NGR 447440 273040). The site is approximately c. 3.2ha in extent and is currently an area of rough pasture. The perimeter around the site boundary is at approximately 110m AOD.

There is a significant dip that runs northeast to southwest across the length of the site that slopes down to a lowest level of 107m AOD. A drainage channel runs along this natural dip and turns 90 degrees at the northeastern end of the site towards Lime Tree Village. The site comprises an agricultural field of overgrown pasture; the ground is uneven in areas, which can be associated with the construction of Lime Tree Village and the deposited made ground identified across the south of the site.

The solid geology for the site is Charmouth Mudstone Formation, which comprises Mudstone (British Geological Survey Sheet 184, 1984). The site is overlain by Wolston Clay, which comprises clay and silt. Geotechnical investigations carried out in April 2009 identified varying deposits of made ground across the eastern half of the site ranging between 0.7m-3.1m deep. In this area Wolston Clay was identified at an average depth of 1.4m, overlain by Dunsmore Gravel and topsoil deposits.

During the evaluation it was observed that the geology to the south of the modern brook was Wolston Clay while that to the north was Dunsmore Gravel.

1.2 Planning Background

The site forms a proposed extension to Lime Tree Village, comprising residential housing, centred on a care home and care suites. The archaeological advisor to the local planning authority (Rugby Borough Council) had advised that an archaeological field evaluation is required prior to the determination of any planning application on the site. Following discussions between Warwickshire County Council Planning Archaeologist, Anna Stocks, and CgMs Consulting (archaeological consultants to Retirement Villages Ltd) evaluation trenches equating to a 2% sample of the site were to be carried out, with a contingency of up to 1% set aside if archaeological deposits were encountered that required further clarification.

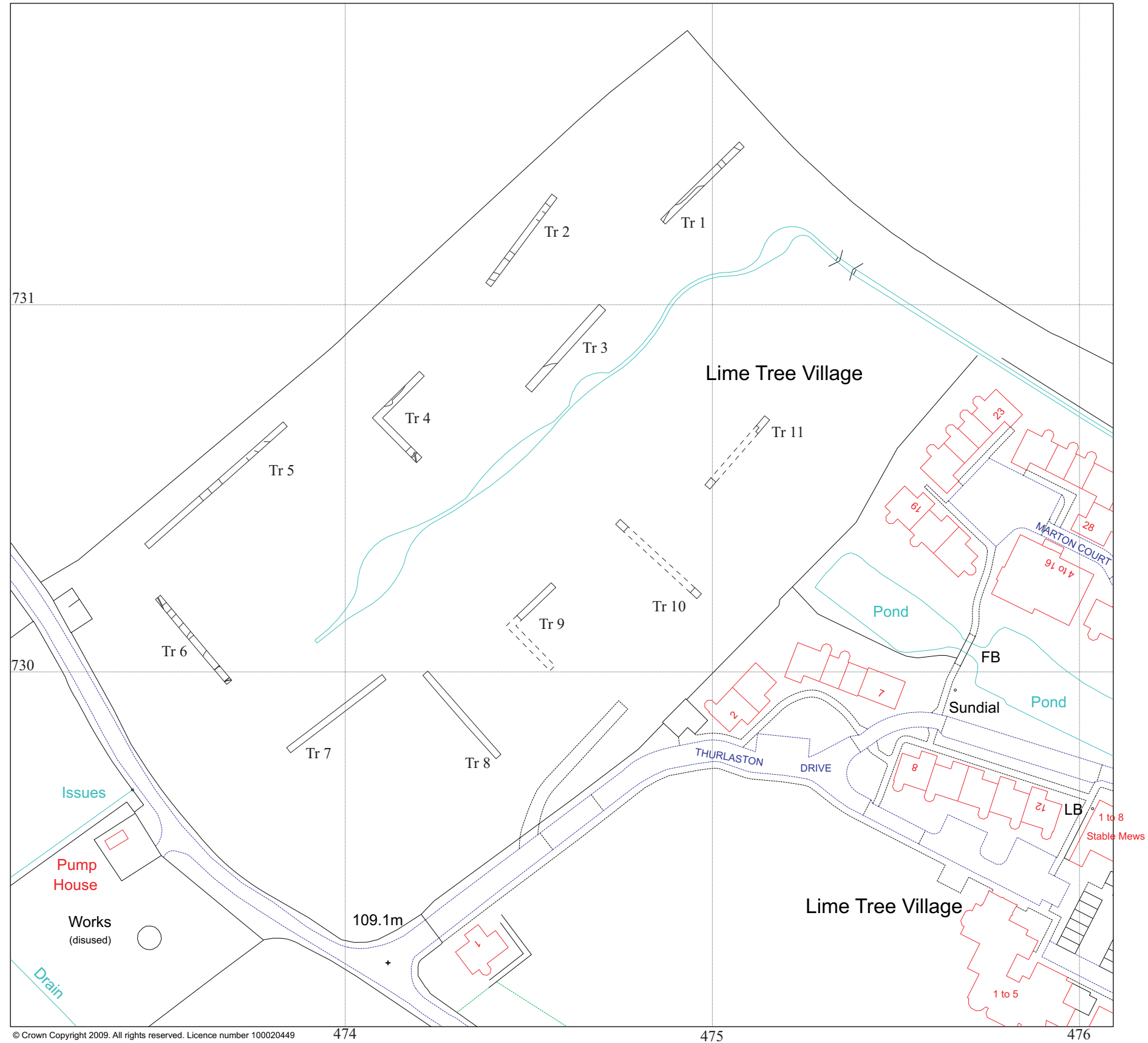


Figure 1. Location Plan

1.3 Archaeological Background

A desk-based assessment of the site was carried out in March 2009 (CgMs 2009). The assessment identified a potential for medieval activity associated with the nearby deserted medieval settlement of Cawston. There was a low potential for prehistoric and Roman archaeology.

The County Historic Environment Record (HER) holds only one record for the prehistoric period; this was situated approximately 250m beyond the north of the site boundary. The record related to flint find spots dating to the Mesolithic-Bronze Age. An additional Mesolithic flint scatter (MWA7246) was recorded to the south of Cawston Old Farm, some 900m to the north of the site. No further records dating to the early and mid Prehistoric period are identified within a 500m radius of the centre of the site.

Unidentified late prehistoric activity may be adjacent to the site. The aerial photographic assessment carried out by CgMs (2008) identified crop marks to the northeast of the site that do not respect the present road and field boundaries and are likely to relate to earlier settlement activity to that of the identified medieval occupation to the north of the site. The form of the crop marks suggested a late prehistoric or early Romano-British date. A moderate potential for the late prehistoric/Romano-British period had been identified for the northwestern half of the site.

No records were present relating to the Roman period within the site or the surrounding area.

A high potential for medieval archaeology on the site was identified. The HER holds one record from this period for the site; earthwork remains associated with Cawston deserted medieval village (MWA4135). The deserted medieval village of Cawston is situated adjacent to the northwestern site boundary (visible as cropmarks – CgMs 2008) (MWA4144). The results of English Heritage's National Mapping Programme survey showed evidence of crop marks extending into the site along the northwestern boundary and central southern extents.

An archaeological evaluation (HER record EWA7308) was carried out in 2003 along the southeast of the site (Havard 2003). No archaeological deposits pre-dating the post-medieval/modern period were identified during the evaluation. Two earthworks targeted in the evaluation were of modern date, and two other earthworks remained undated but were of probable modern date. This suggested that the medieval features encountered to the north (EWA A7626) of the site were unlikely to extend south into the central and southern extent of the site.

The archaeological excavation carried out prior to the installation of a water main (EWA7626) north of the site revealed an enclosure with three structures (two of which were made of stone). Areas of charcoal and burnt soil deposits containing a significant quantity of nails are believed to be associated with a smithy. Medieval window glass was also recovered. Pottery finds suggested occupation during the 12th and 13th century, with desertion or shrinkage in the 14th/15th century (Daniels 1999). No archaeological excavation was carried out along the water main route within the site. The location of these features corresponds with the crop mark site identified

beyond the northwestern extent of the site, which represents the deserted medieval village of Cawston (MWA4144) (Daniels 1999).

Significant post-medieval archaeology has a low potential of being present with post-medieval/modern earthworks being situated within the site (Havard 2003, CgMs 2008). The site is adjacent to the site of the post-medieval Manor of Cawston House (MWA4138), now Lime Tree Village. A pond was situated in the southern corner of the site and can be seen on the 1925 Ordnance Survey map. The pond was then filled in some time before 1957.

Assessment of the available historic mapping of the site (dating from 1633 to the present day) showed that the historic land use of the site remained an area of agricultural land throughout the post-medieval and modern periods.

This information has been drawn from the Desk-Based Assessment prepared by CgMS Consulting (CgMS Consulting, 2009).

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The objectives of the evaluation were to:

- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any archaeological deposits that may relate to the deserted medieval settlement of Cawston situated within the site
- To identify and determine the nature of the crop marks within the site
- Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition, significance, quality and depth of any surviving remains within the site
- Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by CgMs Consulting and agreed with Warwickshire Museum. Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record throughout, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate and possible.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994) and the procedures laid down in MAP2 (English Heritage 1991).

3.2 Methodology

Trial trenching was to comprise nine 30m x 1.8m trenches, one 25m x 1.8m and one 50m x 1.8m trench (relates to dimensions at base of trench). In agreement with County Planning Archaeologist Anna Stocks, Trenches 9, 10 and 11 had only both ends of the proposed trenches excavated down to the top of the natural due to

evidence of modern truncation and levelling in Trenches 7 and 8. A fence line ran through the proposed line of Trenches 4 and 6 and therefore the area of the fence line was left un-excavated. Trenching had been specifically located to target crop marks identified by English Heritage's NMP project and represents an even sample across the site. The trenches had been positioned away from known service runs, current ecological constraints (badger sett), former evaluation trenches and extensive areas of made ground.

The topsoil and modern overburden was removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a wide blade ditching bucket. However, due to the compact nature of the modern levelling layers to the south of the site a toothed bucket was used to machine the made ground in Trenches 7, 8, 9 10 and 11. The mechanical excavator was used only for the removal of non-archaeologically significant material to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology.

4 RESULTS

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers in [] indicate features such as cuts; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material.

4.1 Field Results

Trenches 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (Figs. 2, 3 & 4)

Trenches 1, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 yielded no archaeological remains and contained deposits of modern redeposition and levelling. Trenches 7-11 were situated in the southern end of the proposal site, whilst Trench 1 was located on the northeast side of the proposal area.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2) was 30m in length, 1.80m wide and oriented northeast/southwest. The top of the northeast end was at 109.57m OD while the southwest end was at 109.02m OD. The lowest observed deposit at a depth of 0.3m was Dunsmore Gravel which was a firm orange-brown clay silt that contained frequent rounded stone inclusions. Sealing the gravel was a 0.1m thick, firm mid orange-brown clay subsoil (1/02). Cut into the subsoil (1/02) were two layers of material, (1/05) to the southwest and (1/04) to the northeast, that had been used to level the area (see section 6 Discussion below). A clear physical relationship between the two deposits was not apparent in the trench. They both contained the same fill of loose mid grey-brown silt that contained a frequent amount of small angular stones and post-medieval debris of tile, glass and brick. Deposit (1/05) extended for 14.7m within the trench and continued beyond the edge of excavation. Deposit (1/04) was 2.0m wide and also extended beyond the edge of the evaluation trench. It contained nine sherds of 19th century pottery. Neither deposit was excavated. Above all deposits was topsoil (1/01), a firm mid brown silt (S 1.1).

Trenches 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 all displayed the same stratigraphic sequence. The natural was a light firm orange clay natural ground with up to 40% small angular stone inclusions. Overlying the clay was a layer of redeposited peat, between 0.3m-0.6m in thickness, which was black-blue in colour; grass turves were also present, particularly in Trenches 9, 10 and 11 to the east. Sealing this deposit was a levelling layer

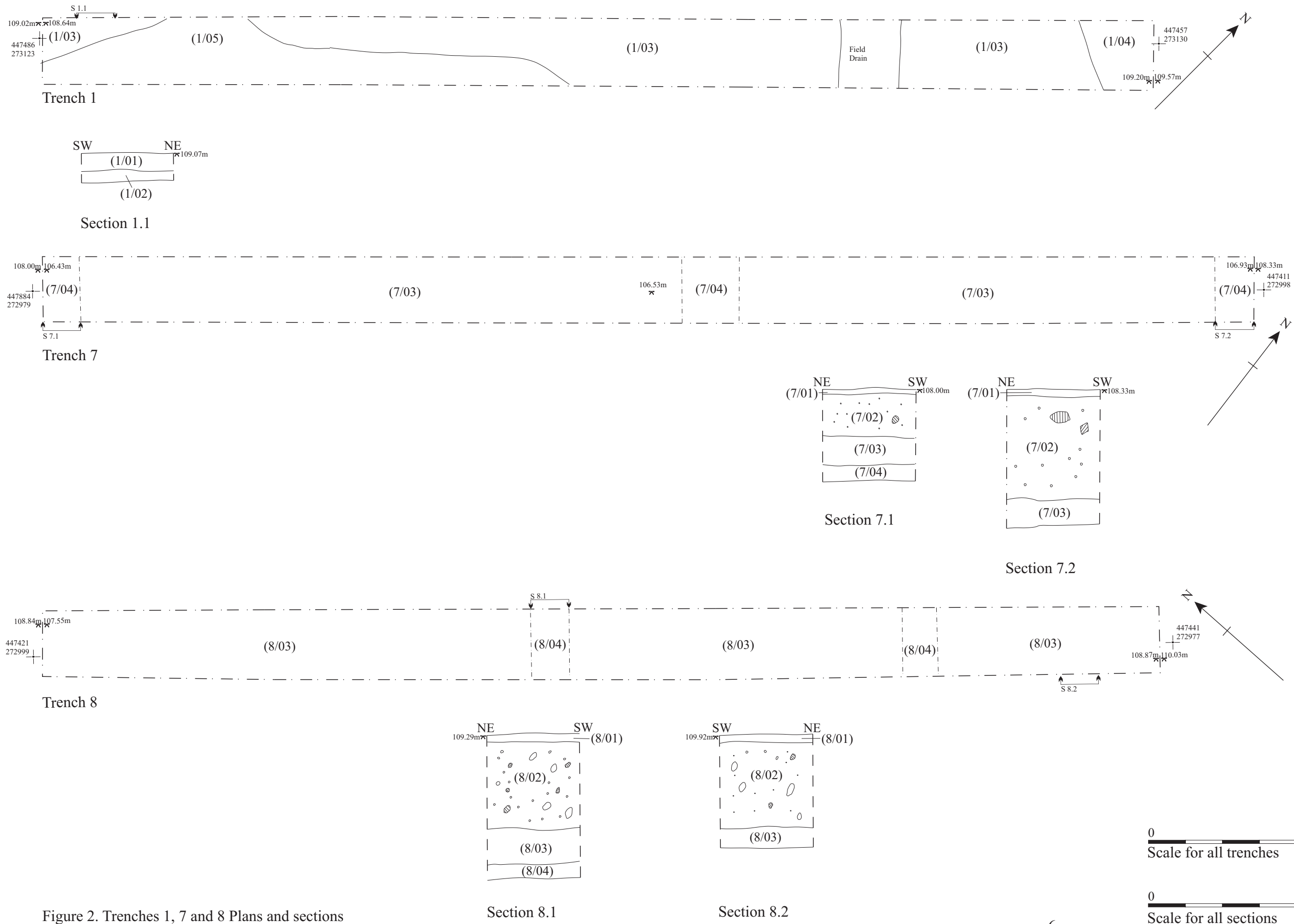


Figure 2. Trenches 1, 7 and 8 Plans and sections

of made ground, varying in thickness from 1.1m on the east side of the proposal area to 0.7m along the west limit. This levelling layer comprised loose mid red-brown silt containing building rubble, plastic ties and iron pipe. Topsoil, 0.1m thick, sealed the levelling layer.

Trench 7 (Fig. 2) was on a northeast/southwest axis and 1.6m wide. The trench was extended from 30m to 33m in length. The top of the northeast end of the trench was at 108.33m OD, which sloped down to 108.13m OD at the southwest end. Three sondages were dug in this trench to ascertain the depth of modern build up layers and to determine the depth of natural ground. The first was against the northeast end of the trench and was 2.3m wide and 1.4m deep. The second sondage was in the centre of the trench, c. 13m from the north end of the trench, and was 1.5m in width with natural observed as the lowest deposit. The third sondage was against the southwest end of the trench and measured 1.5m in width with natural seen at a depth of 0.8m.

Lying above the natural was a layer of 0.3m thick mixed peat and silt (7/03), originally from an old watercourse (S 7.1). It had been removed and re-laid as bedding for the modern levelling layer (7/02) above, which was 1.1m thick. Above layer (7/02) was topsoil (7/01).

Trench 8 (Fig. 2) was 30m in length, 1.8m wide and 1.4m in depth. It was on a northwest-southeast alignment. The northwest end was at 108.84m OD while the southeast edge was higher at 110.03m OD. The lowest deposit encountered was a light firm orange clay natural (8/04). Similar to Trench 7, two sondages were excavated to determine depth of deposits and the depth of natural. The first sondage was c. 6m from the southern end of the trench and was 0.9m wide and 0.7m deep. The second sondage was c. 13m from the northern edge of the trench and measured 1.7m in width and 1.2m in depth, at which natural was observed.

Above the natural (8/04) was a 0.4m thick deposit (8/03) of re-deposited peat/silt (S 8.1). Overlying deposit (8/03) was a 0.9m thick modern levelling layer that contained brick, metal and frequent small angular stone. This in turn was overlain by a 0.06m thick topsoil (8/01).

Trench 9 (Fig. 3) was laid out as an L-shaped trench with the northeast/southwest arm measuring 14m and the northwest/southeast 16m. However, due to clear evidence of modern truncation in Trenches 7 and 8, only 13m along the original northeast/southwest arm was excavated. The northeast end was at a height of 109.10m OD which rose slightly to 109.20m OD at the southwest. Results were similar to Trenches 7 and 8 with natural (9/04) seen at a depth of 1.4m. Above the natural was a 0.4m thick mixed layer of peat and river silt deposit (9/03). It had modern debris including plyboard, brick and ironwork within the deposit (S9.1). Overlying this re-deposited peat layer was a 0.9m thick levelling layer (9/02) that contained modern materials including barbed wire. Lying above this layer was a 0.1m thick topsoil (9/01).

Trenches 10 and 11 (Fig. 3) were originally to be 30m in length. However, in consultation with County Planning Archaeologist Anna Stocks it was agreed that only the ends of the trenches need be excavated and recorded due to the truncation observed elsewhere across the south side of the site.

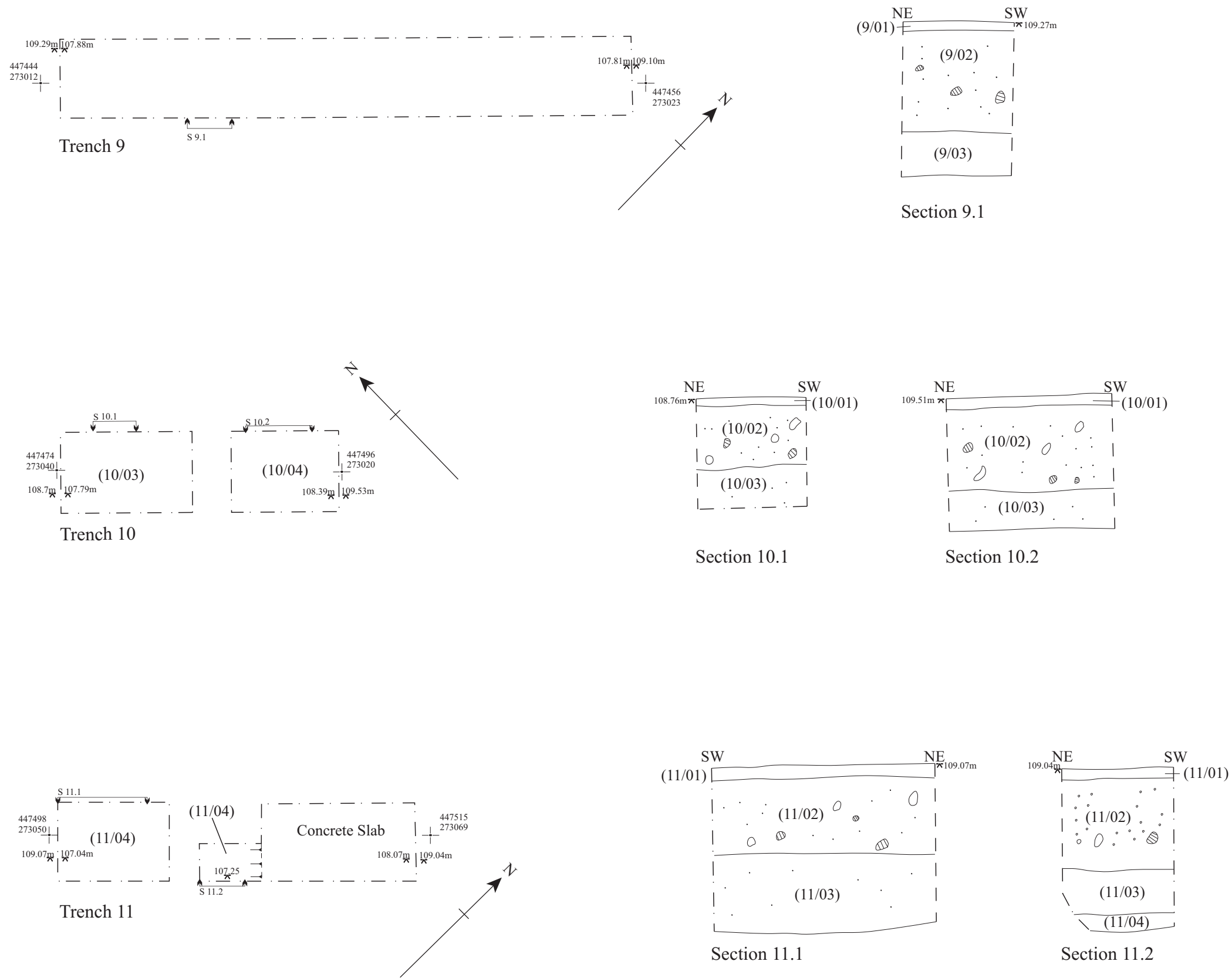
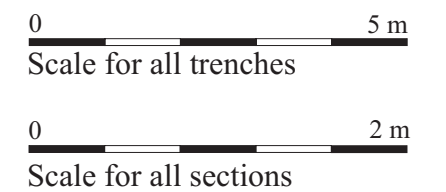


Figure 3. Trenches 9, 10 and 11 Plans and sections



At the southeast end of Trench 10 a test pit, measuring 2.4m long by 1.8m wide, was excavated. The top was at a height of 109.53m OD. The lowest observed deposit was the natural clay (10/04). Overlying the natural was a 0.36m thick deposit of the re-deposited peat and silt (10/03) (S10.2). Sealing this layer was the modern levelling layer (10/02), which was 0.75m thick. Above the levelling deposit (10/02) was the 0.08m thick topsoil (10/01). A test trench measuring 3m long by 1.80m wide at 108.76m OD was excavated at the northern end of the proposed line of excavation (S10.1). The stratigraphy was the same as in the southern end with the lowest natural layer (10/04) covered by a 0.35m thick deposit of the peat/silt (10/03), which was overlain by the 0.55m thick levelling layer (10/02). This was covered by 0.08m of topsoil (10/01).

A 2.50m long by 1.8m wide test pit was excavated at the southwest end of the proposed line of Trench 11 at a height of 109.07m OD with the lowest discernable deposit being the natural clay (11/04) at a depth of 1.4m (S11.1). Lying above the natural was the redeposited 0.7m thick peat/silt (11/03). Above this layer was the levelling layer (11/02), which was 0.65m thick. Overlying deposit (11/02) was the 0.1m thick topsoil (11/01). At the northeast end a test pit measuring 3.5m long by 1.8m wide was dug (Fig. 3). The test pit was extended a further 1.5m along the south edge of the trench as concrete slabs had been dumped in the base of the levelling layer (11/02). This extension measured 0.9m wide. The top of the trench was at a height of 109.04m OD. The same stratigraphy as the southern end was present (S11.2), with the lowest deposit natural (11/04) covered by mixed peat/silt layer (11/03), 0.4m thick, which in turn was overlain by levelling layer (11/02), 0.8m thick. This levelling deposit had a band of re-deposited light orange clay c 0.1m thick within it. Overlying deposit (11/02) was a 0.08m thick topsoil (11/01).

Deposits (7/03), (8/03), (9/03), (10/03) and (11/03) were all the same mixed layer of peat and silt. This was a peat deposit from the nearby water course which was removed and re-lain in a more even thickness of deposit before the modern levelling layer which covers it in all these trenches. Modern make up layer (Fig. 4) is visible in all of these trenches as deposits (1/04), (1/05), (7/02), (8/02), (9/02), (10/02) and (11/02) comprising a mixture of clay silt, and modern debris such as brick, metal and tile which had been heavily compacted for landscaping.

Trench 3, 4, 6

Trenches 3, 4 and 6 were all situated in the northern part of the site. The line of the stream defines a change in the natural from clay south of the stream to the firm mid orange brown Dunsmore Gravel, north of the stream. All trenches revealed the gravel. Black peat deposits, between 0.1m and 0.4m deep, overlay the gravel within the dip of the line of the watercourse. This was overlain by a colluvially derived firm mid orange-brown silt subsoil, 0.1m-0.2m thick. In Trench 3 this colluvial subsoil was probably truncated by a landscaping layer similar to that seen in Trench 1 between the peat and the topsoil. The subsoil was covered by a friable mid grey-brown topsoil.

Trench 3 (Fig. 6) was situated north of a current watercourse and was 30m long, 1.8m wide and 0.4m deep on a northeast/southwest alignment. The northeast end of the trench was at 108.53m OD, with the southwest at 108.10m OD.

The lowest seen deposit was natural gravels (3/03). Directly above this was a layer of peat (3/10), 0.4m thick and visible in section (S3.1) for 2.8m; this was associated with

the watercourse to the south of the trench. At the northeast end of the trench the base of this peat deposit was at 106.94m OD. Due to water infiltration and depth it was not possible to enter the sondage. However, the deposit (3/04), a blue-grey loose silty deposit, which appeared to be water borne in origin, was observed to overlie (3/10). It is a possibility that the deposit (3/04) is redeposited; in the sondage to the southwest it overlies dumped material (3/05) (see below). A similar peat deposit to (3/10) was seen in Trenches 4 and 6 indicating that the peat extended the length of the north bank of the stream.



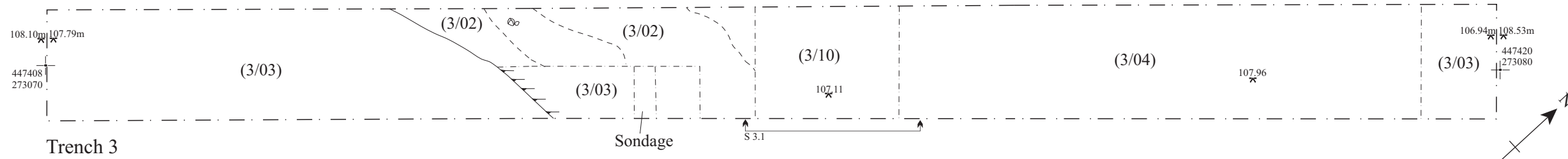
Figure 4. Made ground present throughout trenches 1, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11



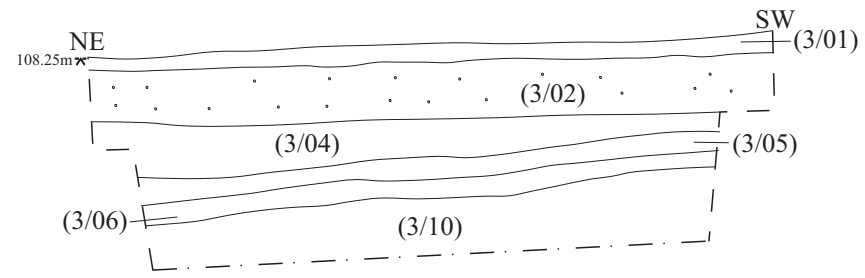
Figure 5. Peat deposit (4/05) in Trench 4

A section c. 3m wide was excavated across the deposit (3/04) within the centre of the trench to determine its depth and character (S3.1). In this sondage a water-borne deposit (3/06) overlay the peat (3/10). The 0.1m thick layer (3/06) was a dark blue-grey gleyed soil with 1% small sub circular stone inclusions. Directly above this deposit was a 0.08m thick layer (3/05) comprising a loose mid orange silt with grey patches. This may well represent colluvial activity or perhaps dumping of material to consolidate the ground near the stream edge. The layer (3/05) was overlain by (3/04). Overlying the layer (3/04) was a made ground deposit (3/02) composed of mixed blue-grey and mottled orange loose silt, 0.2m in depth that was present in the trench for c. 20m at the northern end of the trench. This may well be the same dumping as observed in Trench 1 (1/05) and (1/04). Topsoil (3/01), 0.2m in thickness, sealed the trench.

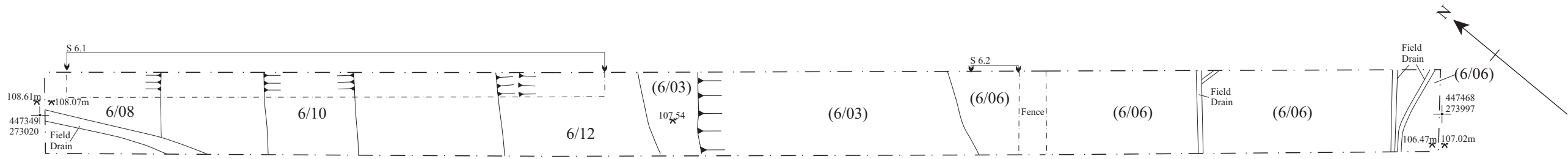
Trench 4 (Figs. 5 & 7) was L-shaped with a northeast/southwest aligned arm 14m long by 1.8m wide and a northwest/southeast arm 16m by 1.8m. A fence ran at a right angle to the northwest/southeast-oriented part of the trench approximately 2.5m from the southeast end of the trench. The top of the trench at the northeast edge was at a height of 108.84m OD, which dropped to 107.67m OD at the southeast end. The natural (4/03) was at a depth of 0.3m. Apparent features which proved to be



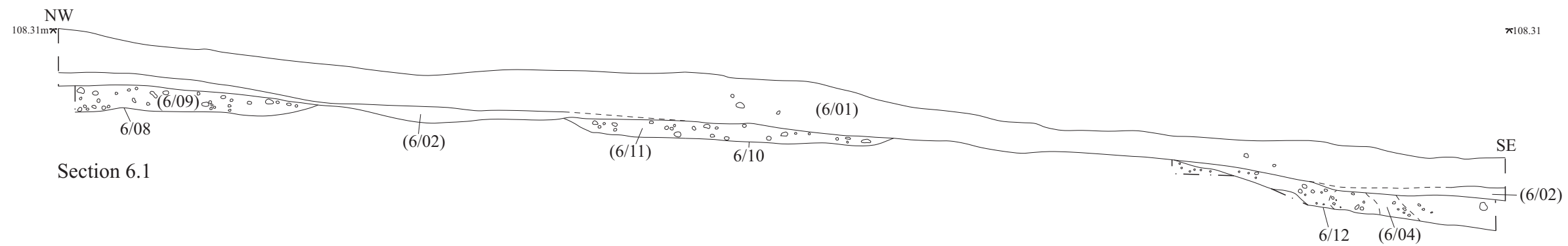
Trench 3



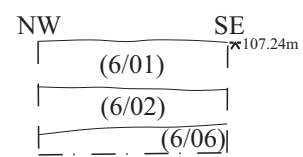
Section 3.1



Trench 6



Section 6.1



Section 6.2



Figure 6. Trenches 3 and 6 Plans and sections

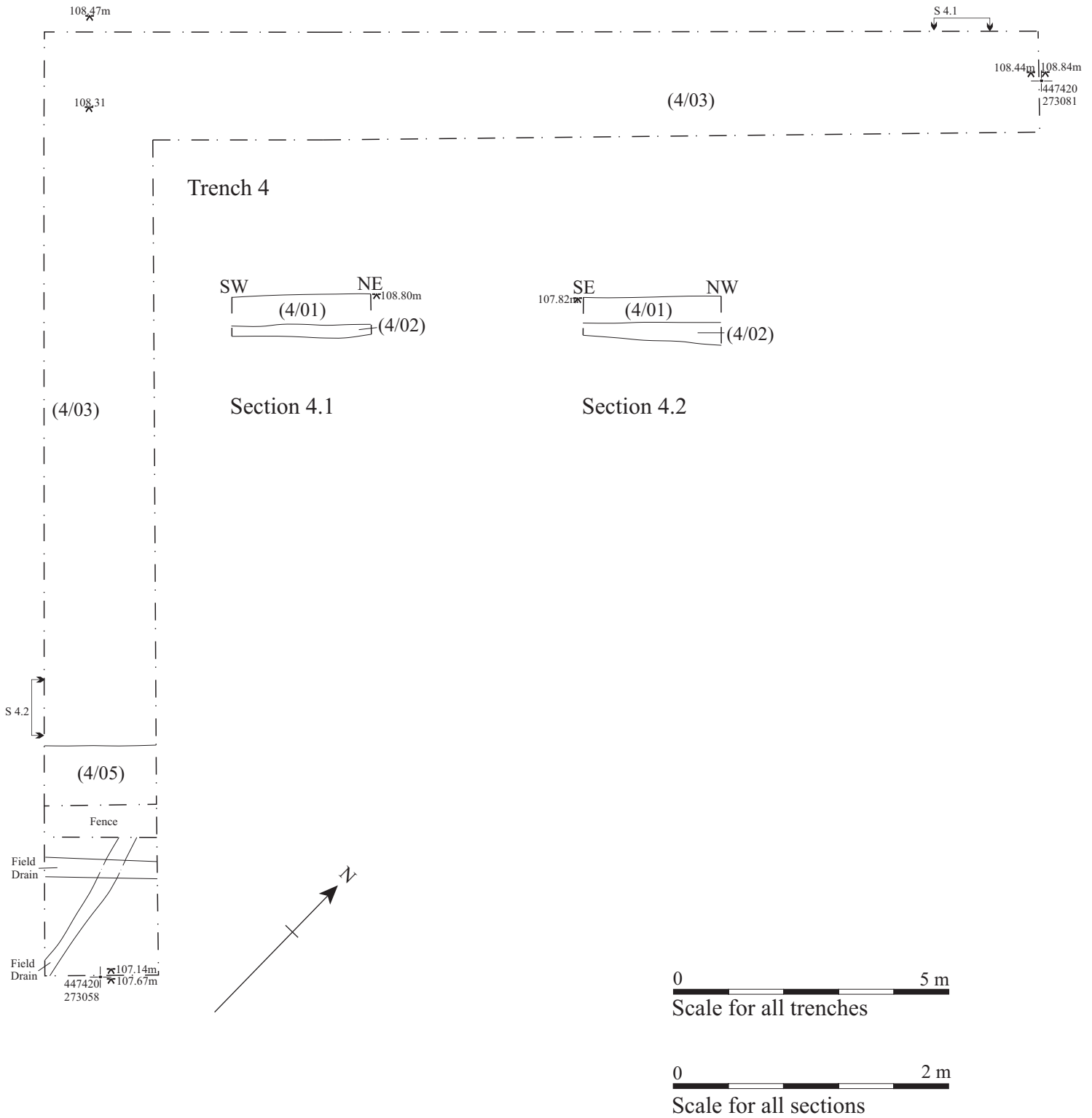


Figure 7. Trench 4 Plans and sections

irregularities in the natural were investigated. A layer of peat (4/05) associated with the streambed was present at the southeast end of the trench for c. 4m. The peat was c. 0.4m thick. Sealing the natural and the peat deposits was a 0.1m thick subsoil (4/02), which in turn was overlain by a 0.2m deep topsoil (4/01) (S4.1). No archaeological features were present in the trench.

Trench 6 (Fig. 6) was 30m long, 1.80m wide and 0.2m deep; it was oriented northwest/southeast. The trench was broken by a fence c. 8.5m from the southeast end. The top of the northwest end was at a height of 108.61 OD, the southeast end was at a level of 107.02. The natural (6/03) was Dunsmore Gravel. Overlying the natural at the south end was a 0.4m thick peat deposit (6/06) (S6.2). The peat was sealed by topsoil (6/01).

To the north of the edge of the historic stream, ridge and furrow was observed in the trench, running parallel with the stream on a northeast/southwest alignment (Fig. 6, S.6.1). Furrows 6/08, 6/10 and 6/12 were spaced c. 4m from the centre of each furrow to the adjacent furrow; they were uniformly shallow at c. 0.1m in depth with sharp breaks of slopes, moderate sloping edges and irregular bases. All of the furrows were filled with a loose mid grey-brown silt (6/09), (6/11) and (6/04). These furrows were overlain by a subsoil (6/02), c. 0.1m thick. This orange brown silty clay may well be colluvially derived. It was sealed by topsoil (6/01).

Trenches 2 and 5

Trench 2 (Fig. 8 & 9) was 30m long, 1.80m wide and 0.3m deep, on a northeast/southwest axis. The southwest end of the trench was at 109.02m OD, this rose to 110.45m OD towards the northeast edge. The natural ground (2/03) was the same gravel as found across the northern part of the site. Approximately 3m from the northeast end of the trench in a natural undulation in the gravel a colluvial deposit (2/11) had accumulated. The deposit (2/11) was a compact mid brown gravelly slightly silty sand. This was a similar deposit to (2/12) and (2/25) observed in Trench 2. Above the natural (2/03) and the colluvium (2/11) was deposit (2/02), a colluvial deposit; it was a loose gravelly mid brown silty sand, 0.3m thick. It is the same deposit as the colluvial layers seen in Trenches 1 (1/02), 4 (4/02), 5, (5/12) and (5/25) and 6 (6/02).

Ditch 2/08 was present c. 10m from the southwest edge (S2.2); it was 2.2m wide and 0.4m deep. The breaks of slope at the top were sharp, with medium sloping edges and an irregular base. It was filled by a firm mid brown clayey silt (2/06) with 10% sub angular stone inclusions. A single sherd of medieval pottery dating between 1300-1500AD was present within fill (2/06).

Approximately 4m from the northeast edge of the trench was a large ditch that had been cut by a modern field drain. Ditch 2/09 cut the colluvial layer (2/11) and was 3.2m wide and 1.08m deep (S2.3). The northeast edge had a diffuse and poorly discernible break of slope, while the southwest break of slope was sharp; the edges were moderate sloping and the base was concave. The 0.7m deep basal fill (2/10) was a friable dark grey silty sand with 10% small sub rounded stones; the deposit appeared to have been water borne. This was overlain by 0.1m thick fill (2/13), a friable red-brown sand. The uppermost fill (2/14) was a loose light red-orange-brown silty sand 3.2m wide and 0.4m thick that contained smithing hearth blooms which can be associated with the smithy in the deserted medieval village. Cutting ditch 2/09 was

field drain 2/15, 0.6m in width and 0.6m deep. It was filled by (2/12). Sealing both ditches 2/08 and 2/09 was the colluvium (2/02), which was, however, cut by the field drain 2/15. Topsoil (2/01), 0.2m thick, sealed the trench.



Figure 8. Ditch 2/08

Both ditches 2/08 and 2/09 had been identified by the NMP survey of the cropmarks associated with Cawston deserted medieval village..

A second field drain 2/18 (S2.1) was excavated to the southwest of the trench and was filled by (2/19) and by (2/07). Layer (2/07) was a firm mid orange brown clayey silt, measuring 0.3m thick. Victorian pottery dating from the late 18th century was recovered from the deposit. The field drain cut the colluvium (2/02)

Trench 5 (Fig 9) was the longest trench measuring 50m long by 1.8m wide on a northeast/southwest axis. The trench targeted two linear features visible as cropmarks, ditch 5/22 towards the southwest end and 5/07 / 5/08 to the northeast. An additional pair of ditches, not visible as cropmarks, was also revealed. The northeast edge of the trench was at 109m.35 OD, this dropped to 109.09m OD at the southwest end. The Dunsmore Gravel (5/03) was observed at heights between 108.88m and 108.83m OD at the northeast and southwest ends, respectively. However, the gravel rose slightly between the southwest end and the west edge of the western cropmark (5/22) to a height of 108.97m OD. Beyond the eastern edge of the ditch (5/22), a colluvial deposit (5/25) overlay the gravel, which dropped c. 0.3m to c. 108.7m OD. This can be seen throughout the trench as deposits (5/12) and (5/25) and is similar to deposit (2/11) in Trench 2. It was a friable light brown silty sand and up to 0.4m thick, which had accumulated in an undulation in the gravel; it extended 21.5m along the trench.

Four of the five ditches cut the colluvium. The ditch 5/22 (S5.2) was located approximately 20m from the southwest end of the trench and was located beyond the observed western extent of the colluvial deposit. The ditch 5/22 was c. 3.8m wide and 0.6m deep. It was truncated to the northeast by a field drain. Its feature was previously identified on the cropmark assessment.

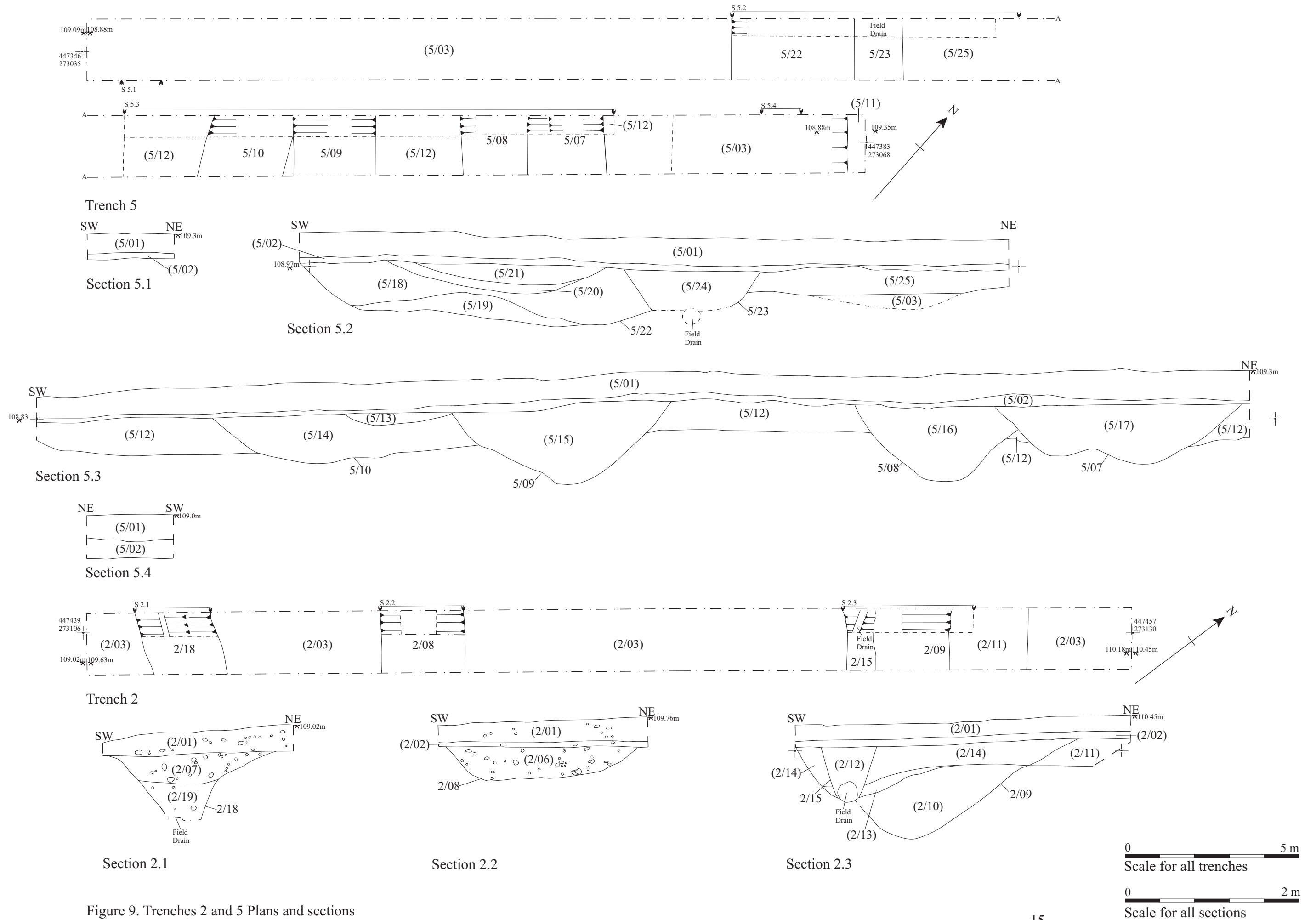


Figure 9. Trenches 2 and 5 Plans and sections

The break of slope was sharp with a moderate inclining edge and an irregular base. The lowest fill (5/19) was a firm mid orange-brown clay with flecks of light grey clay present. It contained occasional flecks of charcoal and that was 0.1m thick. Overlying layer (5/19) was deposit (5/18), a 0.6m thick, firm mid brown sandy clay. Above deposit (5/18) was a gravel deposit (5/20), 0.08m deep comprising a firm mid brown sandy clay with 80% sub angular stone inclusions. The uppermost fill (5/21) was a 0.2m thick firm mid orange-brown silt. No pottery was recovered from any of the fills. The filling sequence suggests that there was more than one recut to this feature.

Immediately adjacent, cutting the northeast edge of 5/22 was field drain 5/23; it measured 1.6m wide and at least 0.4m deep. It was not fully excavated, but the earthen pipe was exposed. The field drain cut the western edge of the colluvial deposit (5/25).

Approximately 8m to the northeast was the ditch 5/10 (S5.3), which measured 3.0m wide by 0.55m deep, although it was truncated to the northeast by ditch 5/09. It had not been plotted by the cropmark survey. The break of slope of ditch 5/10 was sharp with a moderate sloping side and a relatively flat base. The single fill (5/14) was a friable dark brown silty sand. No pottery was recovered from any of the ditches, but some small undiagnostic pieces of iron working slag were recovered from (5/14).

The ditch 5/09, which measured 2.5m in width and 0.85m in depth, cut 5/10. It had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a friable dark brown silty sand (5/15) almost identical to fill (5/14) of ditch 5/10. A thin deposit (5/13) overlay the two ditches; it was a lighter friable brown silty sand, 1.2m wide and c. 0.1m in depth.

Located approximately 2.5m to the northeast were the ditches 5/08 and 5/07 (S5.3), which were plotted by the cropmark survey. Ditch 5/08 was 1.8m wide and 0.85m deep and was truncated to the northeast by 5/07. Ditch 5/08 had a sharp break of slope on its western edge, moderate sloping edge and a concave base. It was filled by a firm mid brown silty clay (5/16). Ditch 5/07, which cut 5/08, was 2.8m wide and 0.65m deep, and was situated c. 8m from the northeast end of the trench. It had sharp breaks of slope, moderate sloping edges and a stepped, concave base. The step may well indicate that it was recut, although no evidence for this was apparent from the fill. It was filled with a friable dark brown silty sand (5/17) that had frequent inclusions of small sub-angular stone.

Sealing all of these features was a layer of 0.05m thick, colluvially derived subsoil (5/02); the same as in Trenches 1 (1/02), 2 (2/02), 4 (4/02), and 6 (6/02). Situated between subsoil and topsoil was broken brick and mortar (5/11) at the northeast edge of the trench. Only 0.5m was visible due to the limit of excavation. Topsoil (5/01) sealed the trench.

4.2 Reliability of results and methodologies

All results were gathered in good conditions and using previously stated approved methodologies. All sections were hand dug where appropriate and recorded in accordance with John Moore Heritage Services' techniques.

The site was monitored by Greg Pugh and Hannah Heard for CgMs Consulting and Anna Stocks for Warwickshire Museum.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 14 sherds with a total weight of 216g. It was all modern, apart from a single sherd of medieval material. It was recorded using the codes and chronology of the Warwickshire Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery Type-Series (Ratkai and Soden, in archive), as follows:

Sq30. **Chilvers Coton ‘C’ ware**, 1300-1500. 1 sherd, 48g.
MGW. **Modern earthenwares**, late 18th century +. 13 sherds, 168g.

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 sherd of Chilvers Coton ware is from the base of a jar with splashes of internal glazing. It is in very good condition, with no evidence of abrasion, indicating that there was activity in the vicinity of these excavations during the medieval period.

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

Tr	Cntxt	Sq30		MGW		Date
		No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	4			9	110	19thC
2	6	1	48			14thC
2	7			4	58	19thC
	Total	1	48	13	168	

5.2 Slag Report by Gwilym Williams

The slag was examined by eye, weighed and measured.

The blooms from ditch fill (2/14) of ditch 2/09 are typically smithing hearth blooms (SHB), derived from the base of smithing hearths following the heating of billets or similar processed iron. Although the size and weight of the largest piece strongly militates against it having been moved by plough, it was found in the uppermost fill of a ditch, visible as a cropmark, associated with the DMV of Cawston to the north of the proposal site. This final backfilling was interpreted as a colluvial deposit. It clearly derives from the metal-working observed during monitoring of the water main excavated across the site of the DMV (Daniels, 1999).

The indeterminate slag is characterised by a strong presence of grit and also derives from metal-working. The pieces are too small to assert their exact nature, and given that all slag contains varying proportions of ore, ash, silica and alumina, these are entirely typical. Given the proximity of this trench to the cropmark DMV site to the north, and that the context which the material comes from is one of the cropmarks it is

clear that this can be associated with the same metal-working as the blooms from Trench 2.

Context Number	Weight (g)	Dimensions (LBT)	Type	Comments
(2/14)	621	149x100x67mm	SHB	Imprint of charcoal visible; grit
(2/14)	58	70x39x30mm	Part of SHB	Imprint of pebbles visible; calcined material; secondary slag in bloom; machine-damaged
(2/14)	203	86x72x37mm	SHB	None
(5/15)	11	29x22x16mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible
(5/15)	10	31x21x12mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible
(5/15)	10	28x25x22mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible
(5/15)	6	22x15x12mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible
(5/15)	5	25x15x10mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible
(5/15)	4	20x17x14mm	Indeterminate	Grit visible

5.3 Samples

Two samples of peat layer (3/10) were taken at the request of County Planning Archaeologist Anna Stocks. These have been retained until further mitigation.

6 DISCUSSION

The land to the south and east of the site has been heavily truncated by modern disturbance; this is evidenced in Trenches 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. The stream that runs on a northeast/southwest axis across the site has left deposits of peat in the bottom of the valley. This peat was observed *in situ* in Trenches 3, 4 and 6. In Trenches 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 this peat had been stripped off to the underlying clay during works associated with the construction of Lime Tree Village. The peat and topsoil were then redeposited. After compacting, it provided a consolidated layer for the subsequent dumping of modern rubble and building materials. No archaeological features were observed in these trenches as truncation was extensive.

The air-photographic assessment identified cropmarks that were targeted by Trench 7. None were present when excavated because of the extensive truncation which had occurred previously (Fig. 10). The assessment also shows the cropmarks extending over the pond in the southwest corner. The pond was present on the 1741 Map of Cawston Manor and was backfilled before 1957. It is possible that the cropmarks were present historically where they are located by the NMP survey in the location of Trench 7; the data has not been released (CgMS, 2009, 11). It is not clear whether the cropmarks were observed to extend to the southwest across the former pond. If they were seen to extend over the pond, then it must be concluded that they date from after 1957. Crop marks were also indicated where Trench 9 lay although no archaeological remains were found, again due to extensive truncation.

Trench 1 contained no archaeological remains although landscaping post-dating the 19th century was observed. The deposits of dumped material (1/04) and (1/05) are similar and appeared to be contemporary, although no clear physical relationship was present within the trench; deposit (1/05) may well be related to the episode of dumping (3/02) observed in Trench 3 (see below). The dump (1/04) may well be related to a backfilling of the former field boundary visible on the early editions of the



Figure 10. Geophysical Plan

Ordnance survey maps (1887, 1905 and 1925). To the southeast of Trench 1 the land formed a small headland, which then dropped toward the stream beyond the fence line which divided the proposal site in two. The dump (1/05) in the southeast end of the trench spread out beyond the edges of the evaluation trench and appears to have filled a depression, where the present headland is. The depression may well relate to an earlier course of the stream or to gravel quarrying. A number of ponds exist to the east and southeast of the site, all of which fed the streams visible on the 1741 map. Some of these appear to have been canalised or straightened. It is possible then that an earlier channel was located under the headland southeast of Trench 1, as well as where peat was observed in Trench 3.

Trenches 3 and 4 contained no archaeological remains although they did have deposits of peat and a gleyed soil associated with the streambed to the south of the trenches. The cropmark survey indicated that a ditch may have been present in Trench 3 but no evidence of it was found although it was found in Trench 2. Similar looking deposits which are interpreted as landscaping were observed overlying the peat in Trench 3 similar to deposits that were observed in Trench 1. In Trench 3 the landscaping overlay the peat and gleyed soil, as well as earlier dumped layers, and was dumped to consolidate what was probably a boggy area. Whether the peat deposition relates to an earlier channel or a pool on the northern edge of the stream is not clear. Equally, quarrying may well provide the origin for such a pool. Moreover, ditch 2/09, which was observed to be filled with a water lain deposit, may well have fed the speculated pool in Trench 3.

Trench 6 not only exhibited a layer of peat from the nearby streambed, but also possible ridge and furrow on a northeast/southwest alignment. The furrows are evenly spaced and quite shallow. These are more than likely associated with the deserted medieval village (DMV) to the northwest, although no dating evidence was recovered from them.

Trenches 2 and 5 evidenced substantially sized ditches. The cropmark survey results show two ditches on a northwest/southeast alignment, which can be determined to be ditches 2/08 and 2/09 within Trench 2. Ditch 2/09 contained slag used in the production of metalworking; this is associated with the probable smithy excavated in the DMV to the northeast (Daniels 1999). The lowest fill of the ditch was a water lain deposit and the ditch may well have functioned as a drain from the village. Ditch 2/08 appears to be part of the DMV complex to the northwest, medieval pottery was present within the fill of the ditch. In contrast with 2/09, the ditch 2/08 was more likely a field boundary rather than a drain.

In Trench 5 two linear features were detected from the cropmark survey on a northwest/southeast axis. The northeast feature can be identified as ditches 5/07 and 5/08. The southwest linear feature is interpreted as ditch 5/22. Ditch 5/07 is part of an enclosure associated with the DMV to the northwest. It has been re-cut at some point although there is no dating evidence to suggest at what period. Ditches 5/09 and 5/10 are not visible on the cropmark survey.

The evaluation demonstrated that the south part of the site was extensively truncated. However, the north part of the site has yielded remains of the very southern limit of the DMV of Cawston, located just to the north. This comprises some six field boundary ditches, a drain and an area of ridge and furrow.

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9 CONTEXT INVENTORY

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1								
1/01	Deposit	Firm Mid Brown Silt	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
1/02	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silty Clay	0.1m	1.8m	30m		Subsoil	
1/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Clay with frequent mediums sized round stones	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	-
1/04	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	Unk	1.8m	2m	Glass	Modern Levelling layer	Modern
1/05	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	Unk	1.8m	13.75m		Modern Levelling Layer	Modern
Trench 2								
2/01	Deposit	Loose Mid Brown Silt	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
2/02	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silty Clay	0.1m	1.8m	30m		Subsoil	
2/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Clay with frequent mediums sized round stones	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	-
2/04	Void							
2/05	Void							
2/06	Fill	Firm mid Brown Clayey Silt	0.4m	2.2m	1.8m	Tile	Fill of Ditch 2/08	
2/07	Deposit	Firm mid Orange Brown Clayey Silt	0.3m	1.8m	30m	Fe Object, Tile	Colluvial Layer	
2/08	Cut	Sharp BOS, Medium Sloping Edges and Irregular Base	0.4m	2.2m	1.8m		Cut of Ditch	
2/09	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping sides and Concave Base	3.2m	1.08m	1.8m		Cut of Ditch	
2/10	Fill	Friable Dark Grey Silty Sand with 10% Small Stone Inclusions	0.70m	1.90m	1.8m		Fill of 2/09	
2/11	Deposit	Loose Mid Brown Silty Sand/Gravel	0.3m	2m	30m		Colluvial Hill Wash	
2/12	Fill	Loose Mid Brown Silty Sand	0.6m	0.6m	1.8m		Fill of 2/15	
2/13	Fill	Friable Reddish Brown Sand	0.1m	1.4m	1.8m		Fill of 2/09	
2/14	Fill	Loose Light Orange Reddish Brown Silty Sand	0.4m	3.2m	1.8m		Fill of 2/09	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
2/15	Cut	Sharp BOS, Steep Sloping Sides and a Concave Base	0.6m	0.6m	1.8m		Cut of Field Drain	Modern
2/16	Void							
2/17	Void							
2/18	Cut	Sharp BOS, steep sloping sides	0.4m	2m	1.8m		Field Drain	Modern
2/19	Fill	Firm dark Yellowish Brown Clayey Sand with 1% Charcoal Inclusions	0.4m	2m	1.8m	Tile	Fill of 2/18	
Trench 3								
3/01	Deposit	Firm Mid Brown Silt	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
3/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt Containing Modern Rubble	0.2m	c. 7m	1.8m		Made Up Ground	Modern
3/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Clay with frequent mediums sized round stones	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	-
3/04	Deposit	Loose Mixed Bluish Grey and Mottled Orange Silt	0.24m	>3m	1.8m		River Deposit	
3/05	Deposit	Loose Mid Orange with Grey Patches	0.08m	>3m	1.8m		River Deposit	
3/06	Deposit	Loose dark Bluish Grey Silt with 1% Small Rounded Stone	0.1m	>3m	1.8m		Gley River Deposit	
3/07	Void							
3/08	Void							
3/09	Void							
3/10	Deposit	Firm Black Peat	0.4m	>3m	1.8m		Peat River Deposit	
Trench 4								
4/01	Deposit	Firm Mid Brown Silt	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
4/02	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silty Clay	0.1m	1.8m	30m		Subsoil	Modern
4/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Clay with Frequent Medium Sized Round Stones	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	-
4/04	Deposit	Firm Mid Greyish Brown Silt	0.02	1.2m	c. 8m		Tree Throw/Natural	
4/05	Deposit	Firm Dark Reddish Brown Peaty Silty Clay	Unk	1.8m	c. 6m		Peat River Deposit	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
Trench 5								
5/01	Deposit	Friable Dark Brown Sandy Silt	0.3m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
5/02	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silty Clay	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Subsoil	Modern
5/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Clay with Frequent Mediums Sized Round Stones	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	-
5/04	Void							
5/05	Void							
5/06	Void							
5/07	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping Sides and a Concave Base	0.6m	2.8m	30m		Ditch	
5/08	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping Edges and a Concave Base	0.8m	1.8m	30m		Ditch	
5/09	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping Edges and a Concave Base	0.7m	2.5m	30m		Ditch	
5/10	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping Edges and a Flat Base	0.6m	3.0m	1.8m		Ditch	
5//11	Deposit	Modern Brick rubble	Unk	0.5m	1.8m		Surface	
5/12	Deposit	Friable Light Brown Silty Sand	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Colluvial Layer	
5/13	Fill	Friable Light Brown Silty Sand	0.1m	1.2m	1.8m		Fill of 5/10	
5/14	Fill	Friable Dark Brown Silty Sand	0.6m	3.0m	1.8m		Fill of 5/10	
5/15	Fill	Friable Dark Brown Silty Sand	0.7m	2.5m	1.8m		Fill of 5/09	
5/16	Fill	Firm Mid Brown Clay	0.8m	1.8m	30m		Fill of 5/08	
5/17	Fill	Friable Dark Brown Silty Sand	0.6m	2.8m	30m		Fill of 5/07	
5/18	Fill	Firm Mid Brown Silty Clay	0.6m	3.8m	1.8m		Fill of 5/22	
5/19	Fill	Firm Mid Orange Brown clay with flecks of Light Grey Clay	0.6m	2.8m	1.8m		Fill of 5/22	
5/20	Fill	Firm Mid Brown Sandy Clay with Gravel Inclusions	0.08m	2.2m	1.8m		Fill of 5/22	
5/21	Fill	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silt	0.2m	2m	1.8m		Fill of 5/22	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
5/22	Cut	Sharp BOS, Moderate Sloping Sides and an Irregular Base	0.6m	3.8m	1.8m		Ditch	
5/23	Cut	Sharp BOS, Sharp Sloping Edges. It Was Not Bottomed	>0.4m	1.6m	1.8m		Field Drain	
5/24	Fill	Firm Dark Brown Silty Clay	>0.4m	1.6m	1.8m		Fill of 5/23	
5/25	Deposit	Friable Light Brown Silty Sand	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Colluvial Layer	
Trench 6								
6/01	Deposit	Firm Mid Brown Silt	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
6/02	Deposit	Firm Mid Orange Brown Silty Clay	0.2m	1.8m	30m		Subsoil	-
6/03	Deposit	Firm Mid Brownish Orange Clay	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	
6/04	Deposit	Loose Light Orange Grey Silt with 70% Sub Angular Stone Inclusions	0.1m	2.2m	1.8m		Fill of Ditch 6/12	Modern
6/05	Void							
6/06	Deposit	Firm Black Peat	0.01	1.8m	c. 10m		Peat River Deposit	
6/07	Deposit	Firm Mid Brownish Red Clayey Silt	0.3	1.8m	1.5m			Modern
6/08	Cut	Gradual BOS, Gentle Sloping Sides and an Irregular Base	0.2m	2.5m	1.8m		Ridge and Furrow	
6/09	Fill	Loose Mid Brownish Grey Silt with 40% Sub Rounded Stone Inclusions	0.02m	2.5m	1.8m		Fill of Furrow 6/08	
6/10	Cut	Sharp BOS with Gradual Sloping Sides and a Flat Base	0.1m	2m	1.8m		Ridge and Furrow	
6/11	Fill	Loose Mid Brownish Grey Silt	0.1m	2m	1.8m		Fill of Furrow 6/10	
6/12	Cut	Gradual BOS, Gradual Sloping Sides and Irregular Base	2.2m	0.1m	1.8m			
Trench 7								
7/01	Deposit	Light Greyish Brown Silt with 1% Small Stone	0.08m	1.6m	33m		Topsoil	Modern
7/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt	1.1m	1.6m	33m		Make Up Layer	Modern
7/03	Deposit	Black with Grey Mottling Peat with 50% Small Angular Stone	0.3m	1.6m	33m	Tile	Peat Make Up Layer	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Findings	Interpretation	Date
7/04	Deposit	Firm Light Orange Clay	N/A	1.6m	33m		Natural	
Trench 8								
8/01	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	0.06m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
8/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt	0.9m	1.8m	30m		Make Up Layer	Modern
8/03	Deposit	Dark Blackish Blue-Grey with Orange Gravel Pieces	0.4m	1.8m	30m		Peat Make Up Layer	
8/04	Deposit	Firm Light Orange Clay	N/A	1.8m	33m		Natural	
Trench 9								
9/01	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	0.1m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
9/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt	0.9m	1.8m	30m		Make Up Layer	Modern
9/03	Deposit	Dark Blackish Blue-Grey Peat/Silt	0.4m	1.8m	30m		Peat Make Up Layer	
8/04	Deposit	Firm Light Orange Clay with Gravely Parts	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	
Trench 10								
10/01	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	0.08m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
10/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt	0.7m	1.8m	30m		Make Up Layer	Modern
10/03	Deposit	Dark Blackish Blue-Grey Peat/Silt	0.4m	1.8m	30m		Peat Make Up Layer	
8/04	Deposit	Firm Light Orange Clay with Gravely Parts	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	
Trench 11								
11/01	Deposit	Loose Mid Greyish Brown Silt	0.1m	1.8m	30m		Topsoil	Modern
11/02	Deposit	Loose Mid Reddish Brown Silt	0.7m	1.8m	30m		Make Up Layer	Modern
11/03	Deposit	Dark Blackish Blue-Grey Peat/Silt	0.6m	1.8m	30m		Peat Make Up Layer	
11/04	Deposit	Firm Light Orange Clay with Gravely Parts	N/A	1.8m	30m		Natural	