

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Manor Farm Pertenhall, Bedfordshire



Archaeological Evaluation Report



January 2015

Client: Prosolia Siglo XXI SL

OA East Report No: 1720

OASIS No: oxfordar3-199138

NGR: TL 076 644

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

By Robin Webb (BA MA)

Editor: Richard Mortimer MCIfA

Illustrator: Robin Webb (BA MA)

Report Date: January 2015

Report Number: 1720
Site Name: Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire
HER Event No: EBB 874
Date of Works: December 2014
Client Name: Prosolia Siglo XXI SL
Client Ref: n/a
Planning Ref: 14/00986/MAF
Grid Ref: TL 076 644
Site Code: XBDMFP14
Finance Code: XBDMFP14
Receiving Body: Bedford Museum

Accession No:

Prepared by: Robin Webb
Position: Supervisor
Date: January 2015

Checked by: Richard Mortimer
Position: Senior project Manager
Date: January 2015

Signed:



Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,

15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oeast>

© Oxford Archaeology East 2015
Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

Summary.....	5
1 Introduction.....	7
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	7
1.2 Geology and topography.....	7
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	7
1.4 Acknowledgements.....	11
2 Aims and Methodology.....	12
2.1 Aims.....	12
2.2 Methodology.....	12
3 Results.....	13
3.1 Introduction.....	13
3.2 Trench Results.....	13
3.3 Finds Summary.....	16
3.4 Environmental Summary.....	16
4 Discussion and Conclusions.....	17
4.2 Archaeology.....	17
4.3 Significance.....	17
4.4 Recommendations.....	17
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	18
Appendix B. Bibliography.....	32
Appendix C. OASIS Report Form.....	33

List of Figures

- Figure 1 Site location map
Figure 2 Trench layout
Figure 3 Detail of Field 1 showing geophysics and archaeological features
Figure 4 Detail of Field 2 showing geophysics and archaeological features
Figure 5 Detail of Field 3 showing geophysics and archaeological features
Figure 6 Detail of Field 4 showing geophysics and archaeological features
Figure 7 Detail of Field 5 showing geophysics and archaeological features
Figure 8 Phased plan of the evaluations in 2013 and 2014

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Ditch terminus **44**, Trench 6. Photograph taken from the north-east
Plate 2 Ditch **40**, Trench 11. Photograph taken from the south-east
Plate 3 Pit **34** cutting pit **32**, Trench 15. Photograph taken from the south
Plate 4 Furrow **17**, Trench 20. Photograph taken from the south
Plate 5 Pit **42**, Trench 22. Photograph taken from the south-west
Plate 6 Ditch **39**, Trench 26. Photograph taken from the north-east
Plate 7 Pit **23**, Trench 32. Photograph taken from the north-east
Plate 8 Ditch **14**, Trench 34. Photograph taken from the south-east
Plate 9 Ditch **16**, Trench 34. Photograph taken from the east-south-east
Plate 10 Ditch terminus **04**, Trench 38. Photograph taken from the north-east
Plate 11 Ditch **06**, Trench 38. Photograph taken from the north-west
Plate 12 Photograph of Trench 23, showing the pooling of water on the surface and the poor drainage of the land Photograph taken from the west.

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land to the south of Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire. The fieldwork took place between 10/12/14 and 22/12/14. Forty four trenches were excavated within five fields over an area of 22 hectares.

The trenches were all sited to the east of a series of magnetic anomalies that had been interpreted as a likely Roman villa, with the development area adjusted to allow preservation of these remains in situ. The evaluation revealed 13 ditches, 7 furrows and 4 possible pits, but spread out across the whole of the development area. No features relating directly to the villa were identified, with the few finds representing residual material. The land to the east of the suspected villa is low-lying and wet, overlying the Oxford Clay, and has clearly had minimal activity within it. It is most likely to have been damp pasture.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire (TL 076 644). These works took place as a result of previous pre-planning works to the north-west of the current site that revealed substantial archaeological deposits and led to the re-location of the proposed site for the solar farm. The planned development is a 22 hectare solar farm that will have a generation capacity of between 15 and 20 megawatts that will be fed into the National Grid. The work took place between the 10th and the 22nd of December 2014.
- 1.1.2 The site is in Bedford Borough, the district of St Neots, and within the parish of Bolnhurst and Keysoe, and lies adjacent to the village of Pertenhall.
- 1.1.3 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Vanessa Clarke of Bedfordshire Borough Council (BBC; Planning Application 14/00986/MAF), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East.
- 1.1.4 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by BBC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with Bedford Museum in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The 22 hectare site is centred on National Grid Reference 507675, 264482, approximately 15km north of Bedford and 10km north-west of St Neots (figure 1). The site covers five fields (labelled Fields 1 to 5) that are currently under arable cultivation and form part of the holdings of Manor Farm, Pertenhall. There is a small wooded area in the middle of the fields, and a footpath that runs north-northeast to south-southwest across Fields 3 and 5.
- 1.2.2 The site lies in the base of a shallow bowl, at 39mOD at the eastern end, rising up to 49.7mOD in the south-western corner, and 48.4mOD in the north-western corner. Tributaries of the River Kym border the site to the north, east and south. The geology of the site is Oxford Clay Formation Mudstone with superficial deposits of River Terrace of sand and gravel (BGS 2006).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The following information is taken from the desk based assessment (Bush 2014).
Mesolithic (c.10,000-5500BC), Neolithic (c.5500-2000BC) and Bronze Age (c.2000-700BC)
- 1.3.2 Limited remains dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age have been recovered or recorded from the area around Pertenhall. An assemblage of 57 struck flints was recovered from a field to the north of Pertenhall Brook – near Chadwell End, Pertenhall. These included cores, flakes, microliths, scrapers, blades and a possible arrowhead that have been identified as being of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date (HER 21276-83,

21285, 21297-99, 21302-16, 21319-32, 21462-69, 21470-76 and 21479). These indicate that there was some prehistoric activity within the area surrounding the development area.

- 1.3.3 The immediate vicinity of the site has had no recorded monuments or field systems of Bronze Age or earlier date, although the tributary valleys of the wider area have shown some ploughed-out remains of Bronze Age barrows. Further suggestion of Bronze Age barrows is made through a circular barrow-like cropmark that has been seen on aerial photographs of land to the north-west of the site – although this is more likely to be a ditch around a modern building that is shown on OS maps. Barrows would have been extremely visible on the higher land to the north-west of the site, and, with settlement evidence harder to detect in the archaeological record, suggests that the land around the development area may have been settled during the Bronze Age.

Iron Age (c.700BC-AD43)

- 1.3.4 Evidence of Iron Age activity in the area exists from an archaeological evaluation carried out in June and July 2013 (see paragraph 1.3.19) during initial pre-planning works for the solar farm. This took place in the field to the immediate north-west of the current site. This indicated Iron Age settlement in the low lying area of the evaluation (on higher ground than the current site) with three possible roundhouses, charred grains and settlement boundaries. Otherwise, evidence for Iron Age settlement in the area is limited to an Iron Age gold stater found within Pertenhall Parish that had been recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Roman (AD43-410)

- 1.3.5 The Late Iron Age and Roman periods began to see extensive settlement within a comparatively open landscape. This was often on top of Boulder Clay ridges or spur ends, or on the gravels in the lower reaches of the tributary valleys (Land Use Consultants 2007). In the immediate vicinity of the site, Roman finds are limited to four coins found at Chadwell End by metal detector in 2004 (HER 21480-83) and the settlement activity found in the field to the immediate north during the evaluation of 2013 (see paragraph 1.3.20). This activity is probably related to the rectilinear ditched enclosures and magnetic anomalies identified in Field 1, and that are suggestive of a Romano-British settlement site (Bartlett 2014:3).

Anglo-Saxon (AD410-1066)

- 1.3.6 Woodland regeneration in the post-Roman period, and the resulting domination of ridges by woodland, saw settlement focus on valley floors. It is likely that Pertenhall and the scattered 'Ends' around it had their origins at this time. Water would have been sourced at Pertenhall Brook and Chadwell Spring – the name Chadwell is thought to derive from the Old English *Cealdwille*, meaning Old Spring.
- 1.3.7 Artefactual evidence from Anglo-Saxon activity in the area is provided by a 7th century mount that was found by metal detecting in 1997 at Chadwell End (HER 21477), a Saxon hanging bowl disc found to the north of Chadwell farm (HER 16304), and a 5th-6th century Anglo-Saxon brooch to the south-west of Grange Farm (HER 16325).
- 1.3.8 Confirmation of the presence of Saxon settlement around Pertenhall was supplied through the 250 sherds of Late Saxon pottery that were recovered during the 2013 evaluation to the north (Anderson 2013:81).

Medieval (AD1066-c.1500)

- 1.3.9 The medieval period saw the reversal of the Anglo-Saxon woodland regeneration, with the woodland clearance (assarting) resulting in a pattern of small irregular fields. Medieval villages, however, continued to be located on valley floors, surrounded by closes, and often containing the earthwork remains of shrunken and shifting hamlets and villages.
- 1.3.10 Within the Pertenhall and Keysoe historic parishes the settlement pattern is dispersed, with open fields filling the gaps between settlements and the woodland assart areas (Land Use Consultants 2007). Punctuating the landscape around Pertenhall are moated sites, such as Hoo Farm Pertenhall (HER 4983), College Farm Keysoe (HER DBD454), and Hall Farm Riseley (HER DBD1305); with Norman mottes also present at Castle Hill in Kimbolton Park, and a motte and bailey at Yelden. Moated sites usually enclosed manor houses and their associated buildings, but also surrounded farmsteads, granges and monasteries. To the immediate west of the site, a sub-circular homestead moat is extant as an earthwork (HER 4474), which, although little information exists about it, may be associated with the rabbit warren known from place-name evidence (HER 7822) – medieval terms for rabbit warren are shown in the map of 1712 ('cunnygrass' or 'grays'), in the Tithe Map of 1840 ('Coneygears'), and in Bryant's map of 1826 ('Coneygay Wood').
- 1.3.11 The medieval settlement of Pertenhall centres on the Church of St Peter (HER 966), with three outlying hamlets at Green End, Chadwell End and Wood End – each containing evidence of medieval settlement through documentary evidence, earthworks, medieval metal finds, place-name evidence and wells. Between the habitation areas, medieval field systems have been plotted through the surviving ridge and furrow (HER 3313). Medieval house platforms and holloways that are evident in the earthworks in pasture at Green End and Chadwell End indicate at the shrinkage and desertion of settlements within the later medieval period (HER 8438, 17084 and 17086).
- 1.3.12 Private deer parks existed despite the woodland clearance of the medieval period, with Beavers Park Wood thought to have been one such deer park that partly encompassed the site (HER 3041). 'Beavers' is thought to be corruption of 'Peyvre', the name of the Lords of the Manor in Pertenhall who held land in Keysoe during the medieval period. Deer parks were areas of land – between 3 and 1,600 hectares – in open countryside on the edge of the parish, were normally enclosed by a park pale (a massive fenced or hedged bank), and set aside for the management and hunting of deer and other animals. They comprised a mixture of woodland and grassland to provide cover and grazing, and often contained hunting lodges (sometimes moated), a park-keeper's house, towers for observation of hunts or for use as archery firing platforms, rabbit warrens, fishponds, dovecotes and enclosures for game.
- 1.3.13 If there was a deer park in the vicinity of the site, it is likely that it went out of use within a century or two of it being laid out. Manorial records for Keysoe, and Speed's map of 1610, do not mention a deer park (Bigmore 1979). However, the use of the name Middle Lodge for buildings (HER 7604 and 12034) implies the presence of earlier deer park lodge buildings, and there is the possibility that the suggested rabbit warren (paragraph 1.3.10) was associated with a deer park.

Post medieval

- 1.3.14 There is scant evidence for early post-medieval activity around the site: Middle Lodge Farmhouse was built in the 16th century (HER 7604), and was known as 'Keysoe Hill House' on 18th and 19th century maps which may suggest against it having been built as

a park lodge. Other associated structures that are no longer standing may survive below ground. The provision of bricks for the houses and agricultural buildings of the 18th to 20th centuries in Pertenhall and its environs was made by sand quarries (HER 7689) and brick kilns (HER 7692 and 8420) shown on maps; and the seven listed buildings within 1km of the site – with the exception of Middle Lodge Farmhouse – are post-medieval or 20th century in date.

- 1.3.15 Enclosure of the open fields in the Pertenhall and Keysoe parishes occurred between 1796 and 1806, with a contemporary turnpike road constructed through the parishes from Kimbolton. Areas of woodland shown on Bryant's map of 1826 are still present with Beaver Park Wood, Coneygay Wood and Keysoe Park to the south, and Honey Lane Wood, Tilbrook Bushes and others to the north.

1.3.16 Previous work

Aerial Photographs

- 1.3.17 In July 2013 aerial photographs from the National Monuments Record (NMR) at Swindon of an area of 2km around the site were examined, comprising of 74 oblique photographs from between 1984 and 2011, and 99 vertical photographs from between 1945 and 1998. These photographs showed the possible Bronze Age barrow mentioned in paragraph 1.3.3, the circular moat (HER 4474) still extant to the west of the site, and linear enclosure type cropmarks in the field to the north of the site travelling in the direction of the site (with several of the Late Iron Age and Roman ditches uncovered in the 2013 evaluation corresponding with these cropmarks). A few pale linear features are suggested in Field 4, and linear cropmarks just outside the area of the site (and may continue into the development area) that do not correspond with post-medieval field boundaries.

Trial Trench Evaluation 2013

- 1.3.18 During June and July 2013 a trial trench evaluation consisting of 104 trenches was undertaken in the field to the immediate north of the current site (the original proposed site for the solar farm) (Bush 2013). This evaluation predominantly found Late Iron Age to Early Roman archaeological features, although there were also high levels of Saxo-Norman and medieval activity. The evaluation shows that the area had been almost continuously settled since the Late Bronze Age.
- 1.3.19 The Late Iron Age activity was concentrated in the south-east corner of the site (to the immediate north of Field 2). This consisted of a large boundary ditch that enclosed several smaller ditches, pits and drip gullies.
- 1.3.20 The south-west of the evaluation revealed a number of small, parallel ditches running north-west to south-east, and are likely to be the remains of Roman cultivation strips. Both these, and the Late Iron Age activity were focused below the crest of the hill.
- 1.3.21 The crest of the hill was dominated by Saxon and medieval features: a cobbled surface with a ditch that bounded up to it, and high levels of Late Saxon and medieval pottery; with a second extensive area of cobbles further to the west with unabraded medieval pottery on its surface indicative of the potential for courtyard activity.

Geophysical Survey 2014

- 1.3.22 A geophysical survey was undertaken by Bartlett-Clark Consultancy in 2014 (Bartlett 2014), which revealed little of archaeological interest over the majority of the site. There may, though, be features or deposits underneath the modern overburden, as the geophysical survey showed possible ridge and furrow and land drains. However, the

north-western field (Field 1) produced positive results: distinct rectilinear enclosures with internal features orientated north-west to south-east, and is suggestive of a Roman building when considered in conjunction with the Roman pottery and ceramic building material found during informal field-walking in the evaluation of 2013.

- 1.3.23 The north-west corner of the site, as a result of the geophysical findings, has been removed from the proposed development area and will be preserved *in situ*.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Lorena Hernandez of Prosolia Siglo XXI SL for commissioning the work, and to the landowners Mr Bates and Mr Bates Senior for their help and cooperation. The author would also like to thank Rebecca Jarosv, Nick Cox, Conor Murphy and Meirion Prysor for their work doing hand excavation. Machine excavation was carried out by Anthill Plant Hire. The site was managed by Richard Mortimer and monitored by Vanessa Clarke of Bedford Borough Council.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine, as far as reasonably possible, the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 A total of 44 trenches were excavated, each 50m long and 2m wide (see figure 2), giving an area of 4,400 square metres. The trenches were aligned either north to south or east to west both to target geophysical anomalies and to provide a 2% sample of the site.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision – with a tracked 360 degree excavator using a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket – to the depth of geological horizons, or to the interface of archaeological features. Archaeological features were then excavated by hand.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Louise Bush using a Leica 1200 GPS.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 The site was largely wet underfoot with overnight rain that pooled and struggled to drain due to the clay nature of the site. The days were mostly sunny with strong winds.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results for each trench are presented below in numerical order (see figures 3-7 for the details of the features that were identified in the trenches). General descriptions and full details of the trenches are given in Appendix A.

3.2 Trench Results

3.2.1 The natural geology of the area consisted of a mixture of orange and blue clay with a gravel band running across the south of Field 3. All of the trenches were 50m by 2m and orientated either north to south or east to west.

3.2.2 Archaeological features were recorded in 14 of the 44 trenches, with field drains recorded in 35 of the trenches. The topsoil (01) across the site was a plastic dark greyish brown silty clay. The subsoil (02) levels varied across the area, and where present was a firm mid brownish orange silty clay. The natural geology was encountered at a depth of around 0.4m below the modern ground level, except at the southern end of Field 3 where it was seen at about 0.6m below the modern ground level.

Trench 1

3.2.3 Trench 1 was located at the west end of Field 4 at a height of 49.2mOD. No archaeological features were recorded in this trench.

Trench 2

3.2.4 Trench 2, located in Field 4 at 48.3mOD, contained a furrow aligned north-east to south-west, and a tree throw (**47**). The tree throw had an irregular base with gentle sides, and was filled by a plastic dark blueish grey silty clay (**46**) that contained the site's only struck flint, a small early Neolithic blade (R. Mortimer pers. comm.).

Trench 3-5

3.2.5 These trenches, all in Field 4, were devoid of archaeological features.

Trench 6

3.2.6 Trench 6, at 46mOD, contained a shallow ditch (**44**, plate 1) with a concave base and steep sides that was aligned north-east to south-west across the middle of the trench. It was filled by a plastic mid brownish grey silty clay (**45**). No finds were recovered from the feature.

Trench 7-9

3.2.7 No archaeological features were identified in these trenches, which were all in Field 4.

Trench 10

3.2.8 This trench in Field 1, at 47.5mOD, contained no archaeological features.

Trench 11

3.2.9 Trench 11, which sloped down from 48mOD at its west end to 47mOD at its east end, contained a shallow ditch (**40**, plate 2) running north-west to south-east, with a concave base and gentle sides, and was filled by a plastic mid greyish brown silty clay (**41**). This ditch contained a single highly abraded sherd of probable later Iron Age pottery (R. Mortimer pers. comm.).

Trench 12

3.2.10 No archaeological features were identified in trench 12, which was located in Field 1.

Trenches 13-14

3.2.11 These trenches in Field 2 contained no archaeological features.

3.2.12 Trench 15

3.2.13 This trench, in Field 2, contained two small, shallow, possible pits (**32** and **34**, plate 3). Pit **34** cut the north-west edge of pit **32**, and was circular with a concave base, gentle sides and was filled by a soft light blueish grey silty clay (33). Pit **34** was circular with a concave base and gentle sides, and was filled by a soft mid blueish grey silty clay (35). Both were undated, containing no finds.

Trench 16

3.2.14 The south end of this trench, in Field 2, contained a concave based ditch (**28**) with gentle sides that was filled by a plastic dark reddish grey silty clay (29), and a concave based possible ditch terminus (or tree throw) (**30**) with gentle sides that was filled by a plastic mid brownish grey silty clay (31). There were also a series of tree throws surrounding these features, and a modern pit cutting through the topsoil at the north end of the trench. No finds were recovered from the features.

Trench 17

3.2.15 This trench, located in Field 2 at 44.2mOD, was devoid of archaeology.

Trench 18

3.2.16 This trench in Field 2 contained a small undated ditch terminus (**26**) with a concave base and gentle sides. This was filled by a plastic light greyish yellow silty clay (27). This was probably part of a field system, but had no finds with which to date it.

Trench 19

3.2.17 No archaeological features were identified in this trench, which was located in Field 3.

Trench 20

3.2.18 This trench, at the west end of Field 3 at 42mOD, contained remnant ridge and furrow. Furrow **17** (plate 4) had a concave base with gentle sides and was filled by a loose mid orange-brown silty clay (18). Furrow **19** also had a concave base with gentle sides, and was filled by a loose mid orange-brown silty clay (20). These two furrows were at each end of the trench, with a further five furrows regularly spaced between. An abraded fragment of 19th century ceramic was recovered from the topsoil of this trench.

Trench 21

3.2.19 No archaeological features were identified in this trench, located at the west end of Field 3.

Trench 22

3.2.20 Trench 22, in Field 5, contained a single circular undated possible pit (**43**, plate 5) with a concave base and gentle slope on its south-east side and steep slope on its north-west side. It was filled by a soft mid grey clayey silt (43). No finds were recovered from the feature.

Trench 23-25

3.2.21 These trenches, all in Field 5, were devoid of archaeology.

Trench 26

- 3.2.22 Trench 26 was located in Field 5 at 41mOD. The north end of trench 26 contained a ditch terminus (**39**, plate 6) with root disturbance at the terminal end. It ran north-east to south-west, had a concave base with steep sides, and was filled by a plastic dark brownish grey silty clay (38) that contained a fragment of post-medieval brick. This ditch was probably part of the same field drainage system as ditch **37** in trench 29.

Trench 27-28

- 3.2.23 No archaeological features were identified in these trenches, both located in Field 5.

Trench 29

- 3.2.24 This trench, in Field 5, contained one ditch (**37**) running north-west to south east. Ditch **37** was linear with a concave base and steep sides, and was filled by a plastic mid yellowish brown silty clay (36). It was probably part of a field drainage system across the southern of the fields examined, and ran perpendicular to ditch **39** in trench 26.

Trenches 30-31

- 3.2.25 No archaeological features were seen in these trenches, which lay at 40mOD on the eastern edge of Field 5.

Trench 32

- 3.2.26 This trench in Field 3 contained a small possible pit (**21**) with a concave base and steep sides that was filled by a firm mid blueish grey clayey silt (22) that contrasted with the fills of other features. This trench also contained a curvilinear gully (**23**, plate 7) with a concave base and sharp sides. This was filled by a plastic light grey silty clay (24) and an overlying soft dark blueish grey clayey silt (25). The lower fill was a silting deposit, whilst the upper fill appeared deliberately deposited.

Trench 33

- 3.2.27 This trench, located in Field 3, was devoid of archaeology, but did contain two tree throws (**09** and **11**).

Trench 34

- 3.2.28 This trench in Field 3 contained a shallow ditch (**14**, plate 8) with gentle sides and rounded base that was filled by a compact light orange-grey clay silt (13), and a concave based ditch (**16**, plate 9) with steep sides that was filled by a compact light orange-grey clay silt (15). Both of these ditches were filled by natural silting once they had gone into disuse. These two ditches, with comparable profiles and fills, were close together and at about 45 degrees to each other, although they did not intersect within the trench, and may represent slight alterations in the prevailing drainage of the field.

Trench 35-36

- 3.2.29 These trenches in Field 3 did not contain archaeological features.

Trench 37

- 3.2.30 This trench in Field 3 contained a shallow curvilinear gully (**08**) with a concave base and steep sides. It was filled by a plastic mid reddish grey silty clay (07). It was probably a natural feature, and was cut by a field drain at its southern end.

Trench 38

- 3.2.31 This trench was located in the middle of Field 3. It contained a ditch terminus (**04**, plate 10) with gentle sides and a concave base, and was filled by a firm light greyish brown

silty clay (03). This was perpendicular to, and about 1m from, ditch **06** (plate 11) which had a flat base and gentle sides, and was filled by a firm light greyish brown silty clay (05). Ditch **04** contained a fragment of abraded Roman pottery (R. Mortimer pers. comm.), and ditch **06** a fragment of ceramic building material, probably post-medieval.

Trench 39

3.2.32 Trench 39, in Field 3, contained no archaeology, but the natural and subsoil were substantially sandier than any of the other trenches. This was probably due to the position of the trench towards the base of the bowl in which the examined fields lay and its proximity to the watercourse running between Fields 3 and 5.

3.2.33 Trenches 40-44

3.2.34 These trenches, all in Field 3, lay at 39mOD and were devoid of archaeological features.

3.3 Finds Summary

3.3.1 The evaluation produced a very small assemblage of finds: three pottery sherds - one Iron Age, one Roman and one post-Medieval, two fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material, and one piece of worked flint. These came from five of the trenches, with the remaining 39 producing no artefacts from either archaeological deposits, topsoil or subsoil.

3.3.2 The sherd of Iron Age pottery, in a shell-tempered fabric, weighed 2g, the Roman sherd, a hard sandy grey ware weighed 7g and the post-medieval sherd, a glazed red earthenware, weighed 23g. (R. Mortimer pers. comm.) The two fragments of ceramic building material weighed 3g and 4g. None of the material requires a specialist assessment.

3.3.3 The worked flint, a small, relatively fresh early neolithic blade, was recovered from a tree bowl (**47**) and does not signify a high level of prehistoric activity in the area (R. Mortimer pers. comm.).

3.4 Environmental Summary

3.4.1 No deposits were identified that were suitable for archaeological sampling. The majority of deposits were natural, whilst those from archaeological contexts had a high clay component with no indication of charcoal or seeds. All the archaeological features were also undated, and most likely to be post-medieval in date.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation at Manor Farm, Pertenhall has revealed limited archaeology within the proposed development area. There was no particular focus of activity; instead the paucity of evidence suggests that the land has predominantly been open fields, presumably largely pastureland until recently, with phases and areas of damp woodland. This interpretation is enhanced through the natural topography and geology of the site – a clay bowl to the south-east of a prominent ridge. Little evidence was gathered to date the archaeological features that were found, and the artefacts that were recovered were chiefly residual.

4.2 Archaeology

4.2.1 The features that were identified within the trenches suggest that there was minimal land use, and the use that was made was agricultural, mainly pastoral, with limited remnant medieval ridge and furrow on the higher slopes and post-medieval and modern drainage systems throughout. There are a handful of small interspersed, possible pit features, though none contained any archaeological finds or deposits and probably represent natural features. The finds that were recovered were residual and related to the activities on the higher land to the north-west that was utilised in the Iron Age, Roman and Late Saxon/Medieval periods.

4.2.2 The dearth of features or finds in the area, to the immediate south and east of a potential Roman villa site, suggest that the area was not cultivated, but instead proffered an open vista from the villa. This interpretation is perhaps enhanced when the poor drainage of the land is taken into consideration – even criss-crossed by post-medieval and modern land drains water collected on the surface of the field and stayed for several days after short periods of rainfall (see plate 12). The land that was utilised, for both the ancillary buildings of the villa and for cultivation was the sandier and chalkier ridge to the north and west of the villa.

4.3 Significance

4.3.1 The archaeological work has shown that there has been no settlement activity within the development area at any period – the only settlement suggested is in the area immediately to the west where a potential Roman villa complex is to be preserved *in situ* (see figure 8). Instead, the evaluation shows that, although settlement continued from the Late Iron Age into the Early Roman period to the west, and again through the late Saxon and Medieval periods, it did not migrate into the low-lying land to the east. Even the expansion of Medieval ridge and furrow seen elsewhere through the 12th and 13th centuries cannot be seen to have taken place over large parts of the area.

4.4 Recommendations

4.4.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the Borough Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
No archaeological features present. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural of pale blue-grey with gritty chalk inclusions. Patches of orange gravelly sand also present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.40	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 2						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Contained one north-east to south-west furrow which was recorded in plan only. No finds were present and only a shallow base remained. One surface find was recovered out of tree throw 47 , but no further finds were recovered. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural of pale blue-grey with gritty chalk inclusions. Patches of orange gravelly sand also present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
46	Fill	0.95	0.13	Fill of tree throw 47	Flint	-
47	Cut	0.95	0.13	Cut of tree throw	-	-

Trench 3						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
No archaeological features present. Natural clearly visible at excavated level but fairly irregular. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)	0.38	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 4						
General description				Orientation	N-S	

No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.		Avg. depth (m)	0.45			
		Width (m)	2			
		Length (m)	50			
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a north-east to south-west gully and modern field drains. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.					Avg. depth (m)	0.47
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
44	Cut	0.6	0.22	Cut of gully	-	-
45	Fill	0.6	0.22	Fill of gully 44	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date

01	Layer	-	0.23m	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.12m	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 8						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 9						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)		0.38
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 10						
General description				Orientation		W-E
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural. Modern intrusions are two field drains.				Avg. depth (m)		0.43
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 11						
General description				Orientation		W-E
Trench contained a north-west to south-east ditch containing pottery, and modern field drain disturbance. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)		0.49
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50

Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
40	Cut	1.2	0.28	Cut of ditch	-	-
41	Fill	1.2	0.28	Fill of ditch 40	Pottery	Roman

Trench 12						
General description	Orientation	S-N				
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural, with modern field drain disturbance.	Avg. depth (m)	0.60				
	Width (m)	2				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 13						
General description	Orientation	S-N				
No archaeological features present. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and two modern land drains.	Avg. depth (m)	0.46				
	Width (m)	2				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 14						
General description	Orientation	W-E				
No archaeological features, but modern field drains present. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.	Avg. depth (m)	0.51				
	Width (m)	2				
	Length (m)	50				
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 15						
General description				Orientation	S-N	
Trench contained two small pits and modern field drain disturbance. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)	0.52	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
32	Cut	0.46	0.12	Cut of pit/post hole	-	-
33	Fill	0.46	0.12	Fill of pit/post hole 32	-	-
34	Cut	0.51	0.13	Cut of pit/post hole	-	-
35	Fill	0.51	0.13	Fill of pit/post hole 34	-	-

Trench 16						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained an east to west ditch (28) and a curvilinear gully (30). No finds. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drain disturbance.				Avg. depth (m)	0.43	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	49	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
28	Cut	1.25	0.27	Cut of ditch	-	-
29	Fill	1.25	0.27	Fill of ditch 28	-	-
30	Cut	0.6	0.12	Cut of gully terminus	-	-
31	Fill	0.6	0.12	Fill of gully terminus 30	-	-

Trench 17						
General description				Orientation	W-E	
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with several patches of natural rooting.				Avg. depth (m)	0.56	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 18						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained an east-north-east to west-south-west gully terminus. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
26	Cut	0.68	0.16	Cut of gully terminus	-	-
27	Fill	0.68	0.16	Fill of gully terminus 26	-	-

Trench 19						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with no modern intrusions.				Avg. depth (m)		0.53
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 20						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Seven north to south furrows were visible in this trench. Two furrows were excavated. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)		0.43
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	Pottery	Post-medieval
02	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
17	Cut	0.52	0.22	Cut of furrow	-	-
18	Fill	0.52	0.22	Fill of furrow 17	-	-
19	Cut	0.55	0.12	Cut of furrow	-	-
20	Fill	0.55	0.12	Fill of furrow 19	-	-

Trench 21						
-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--

General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and two modern land drains.					Avg. depth (m)	0.47
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					Orientation	S-N
Trench contained a pit. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains.					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
42	Cut	0.8	0.2	Cut of pit	-	-
43	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of pit 42	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					Orientation	W-E
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and seven modern land drains.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains present.					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 25						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale blue clay natural with patches of bright orange and brown sand containing chalk and flint. Field drains present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.46
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 26						
General description				Orientation		S-N
There was a north-east to south-west gully terminus at the north end of the trench. A single piece of orange-pink CBM was recovered. The gully is truncated by a modern field drain and is located in an area of apparent tree root disturbance. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and modern field drains also present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.44
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
38	Fill	0.5	0.16	Fill of gully 39	CBM	post-Med
39	Cut	0.5	0.16	Cut of gully	-	-

Trench 27						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.42
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 28						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale blue-grey mixed natural with chalky inclusions and bright orange clay sand.				Avg. depth (m)		0.51
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 29						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench contained a north-west to south-east ditch. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with gravelly patches.				Avg. depth (m)		0.42
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
36	Fill	0.53	0.21	Fill of gully 37	-	-
37	Cut	0.53	0.21	Cut of gully	-	-

Trench 30						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 31						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with seven modern field drains.				Avg. depth (m)		0.47
				Width (m)		2
				Length (m)		50

Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 32						
General description				Orientation	W-E	
Trench contained a small pit (21), a curvilinear gully (23) and modern field drains. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural.				Avg. depth (m)	0.55	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
21	Cut	0.5	0.14	Cut of pit	-	-
22	Fill	0.5	0.14	Fill of pit 21	-	-
23	Cut	0.5	0.15	Cut of gully	-	-
24	Fill	0.5	0.15	Fill of gully 23	-	-
25	Fill	0.19	0.11	Fill of gully 23	-	-

Trench 33						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
There was a tree throw (09) at the northern edge, and tree throw (11) at the southern edge. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural with modern field drains present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.52	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
09	Cut	0.46	0.14	Cut of tree throw	-	-
10	Fill	0.46	0.14	Fill of tree throw 09	-	-
11	Cut	0.45	0.09	Cut of tree throw	-	-
12	Fill	0.45	0.09	Fill of tree throw 11	-	-

Trench 34						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained a north-west to south-east ditch (14) and a west-north-west to east-south-east ditch (16). These were close together				Avg. depth (m)	0.61	

and had similar fills, but did not meet within the trench. There was also a rooting channel near the south end of the trench, and several similar amorphous patches throughout the trench that contained a dark blueish fill consistent with natural features elsewhere on the site. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay and sand natural and modern field drains.	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
13	Fill	0.84	0.16	Fill of ditch 14	-	-
14	Cut	0.84	0.16	Cut of ditch	-	-
15	Fill	0.78	0.28	Fill of ditch 16	-	-
16	Cut	0.78	0.28	Cut of ditch	-	-

Trench 35

General description	Orientation	W-E
No archaeology found, and the trench was partially flooded. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and modern field drains.	Avg. depth (m)	0.55
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 36

General description	Orientation	S-N
No archaeological features. Trench contained natural hollows or depressions containing subsoil. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a clay natural and modern field drains.	Avg. depth (m)	0.48
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 37

General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained a single curvilinear gully towards the eastern end. This contained no finds and may be a natural channel. Several other patches of natural rooting. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a	Avg. depth (m)	0.38
	Width (m)	2

clay natural, and contains modern field drains.					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
07	Fill	0.4	0.15	Fill of gully 8	-	-
08	Cut	0.4	0.15	Cut of gully	-	-

Trench 38						
General description					Orientation	S-N
Trench contains a ditch terminus (04) running north-east to south-west. There is also a ditch (06) running north-west to south-east, which possibly makes a corner with the ditch terminus just beyond the western edge of trench. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale orange clay natural with chalky inclusions and modern field drains.					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	--	-
02	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
03	Fill	0.75	0.12	Fill of ditch 04	Pottery	Roman
04	Cut	0.75	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-
05	Fill	0.58	0.12	Fill of ditch 06	CBM	post-Med
06	Cut	0.58	0.12	Cut of ditch	-	-

Trench 39						
General description					Orientation	W-E
No archaeological features, but did have a very irregularly shaped rooting hollow with a dark fill. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a reddish orange sandy clay natural and modern field drains.					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 40						
General description					Orientation	E-W
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale orange-grey clay natural with gritty chalk inclusions and modern field drains running north-west to south-east across the trench.					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
					Width (m)	2

					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 41						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale orange-brown natural clay with gritty chalk inclusions and modern field drains.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 42						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale blue-grey clay natural with chalk inclusions and a small patch of reddish gravel colluvial (hillwash) for 10cm at the east end of the trench. Trench slopes down from 39.1mOD at the west end to 38.6mOD at the east end.				Avg. depth (m)	0.50	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 43						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale blue-grey clay with chalk inclusions and some gravelly colluvium. Modern field drains present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.51	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 44						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
No archaeological features. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a pale orange-grey clay natural with patches of a reddish gravel-colluvial layer and natural chalky inclusions.				Avg. depth (m)	0.53	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
01	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
02	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-

APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anderson, S. 2013. 'Post-Roman Pottery' in L. Bush 2013 *Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Medieval Activity at Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire*. OA East Report Number 1493. Unpublished. Pp.81-85.

Bartlett, ADH. 2014. *Land at Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire. Report on Archaeological Geophysical Survey 2014*. North Leigh: Bartlett-Clark Consultancy.

Bigmore, P. 1979. *The Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire Landscape*. Hodder and Stoughton

Bush, L. 2013. *Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Medieval Activity at Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire*. OA East Report Number 1493. Unpublished.

Bush, L. 2014. *Manor Farm, Pertenhall, Bedfordshire. Desk based and Heritage Impact Assessment*. Oxford: OA East Report Number 1592. Unpublished.

Land Use Consultants. 2007. *Bedford Borough Landscape Character Assessment*. Bedfordshire County Council.

Maps Consulted:

British Geological Survey. 2006. *Sheet 186. Wellingborough Bedrock and Superficial Deposits. 1:50,000 scale series*. Nottingham: Natural Environment Research Council.

Ordnance Survey. 1992. *Bedford and Huntingdon. Sheet 153. 1:50,000. Landranger Series*. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text"/>		
Project Name	<input type="text"/>		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	<input type="text"/>	Finish	<input type="text"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text"/>	Future Work	<input type="text"/>

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt	<input type="text"/>
Development Type	<input type="text"/>

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - interpretation	<input type="checkbox"/> Grab-Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Augering	<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core
<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography	

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Project Location

County	<input type="text"/>	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Parish	<input type="text"/>	
HER	<input type="text"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text"/>

Project Originators

Organisation	<input type="text"/>
Project Brief Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Design Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Manager	<input type="text"/>
Supervisor	<input type="text"/>

Project Archives

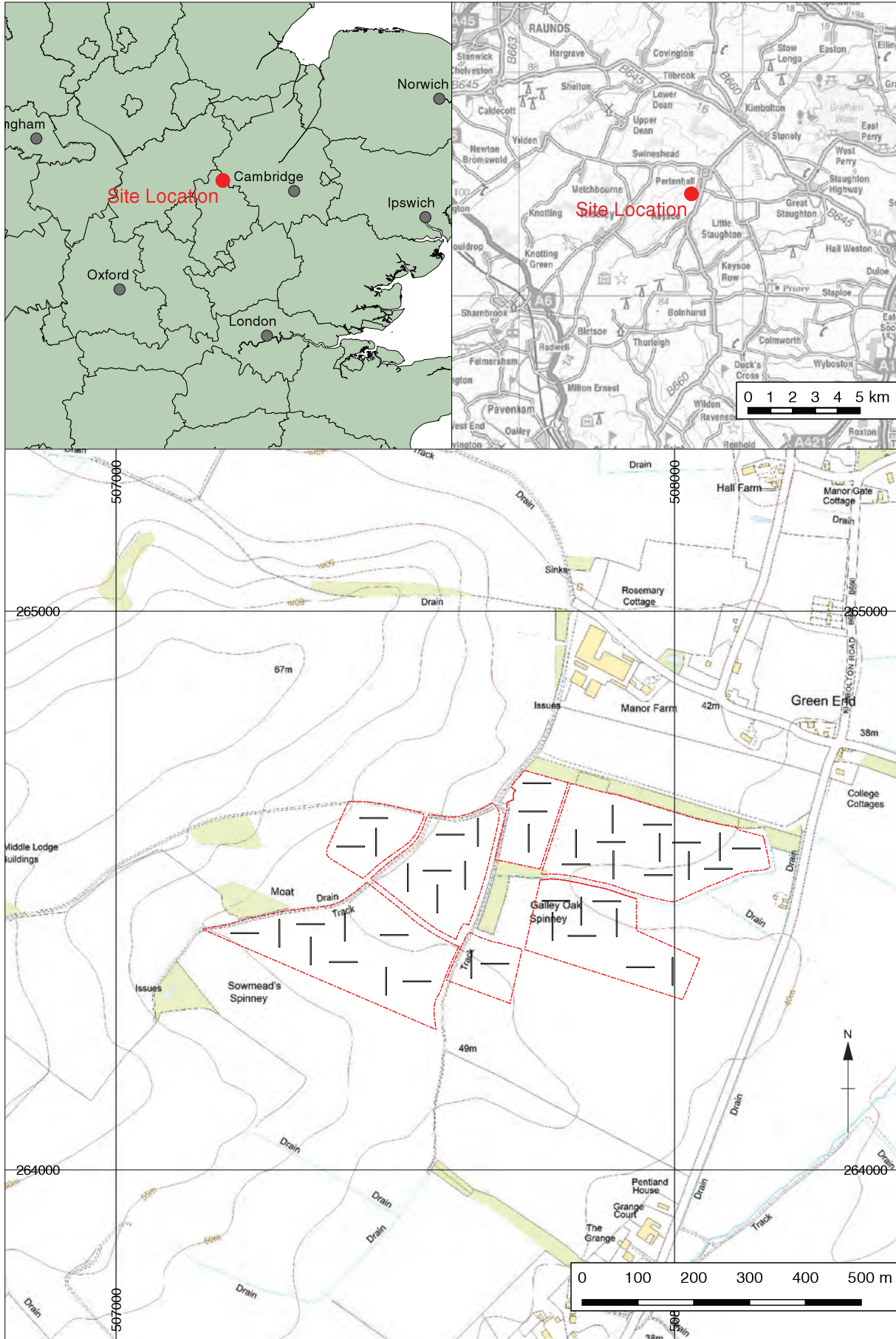
Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014. All rights reserved.

Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in the development area (red)
 © Oxford Archaeology East

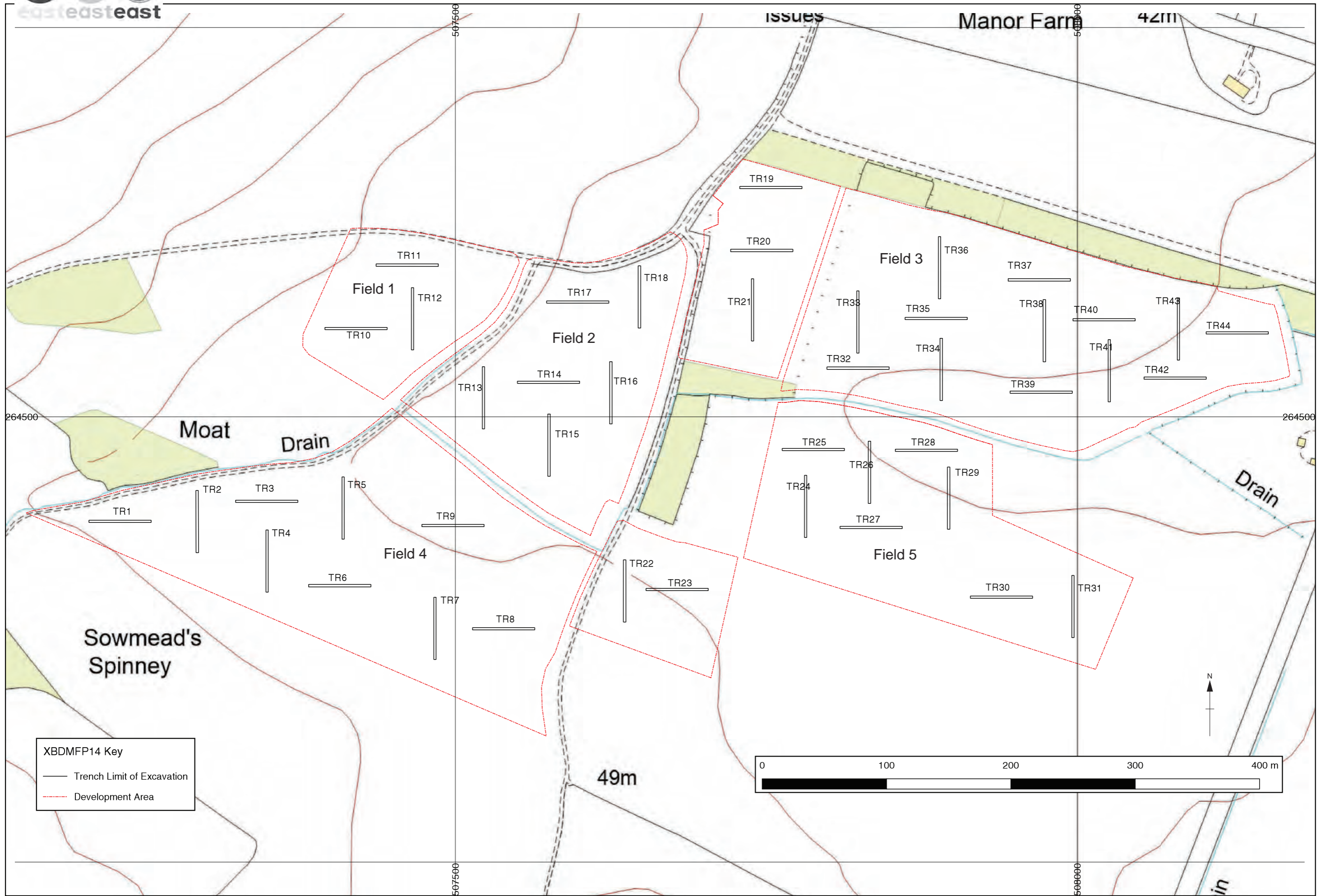


Figure 2: Trench layout
 © Oxford Archaeology East

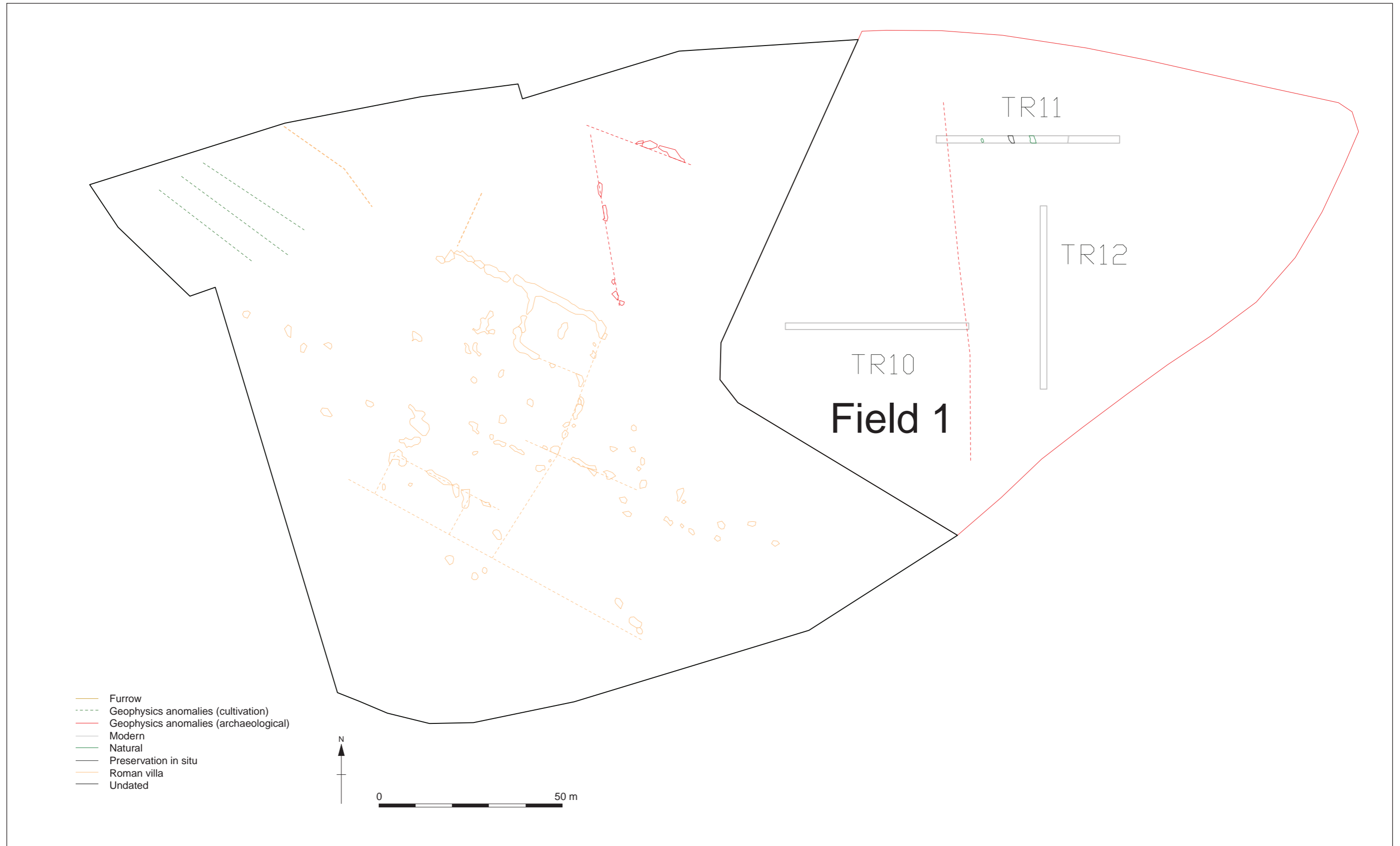


Figure 3: Detail of Field 1 showing geophysics and archaeological features

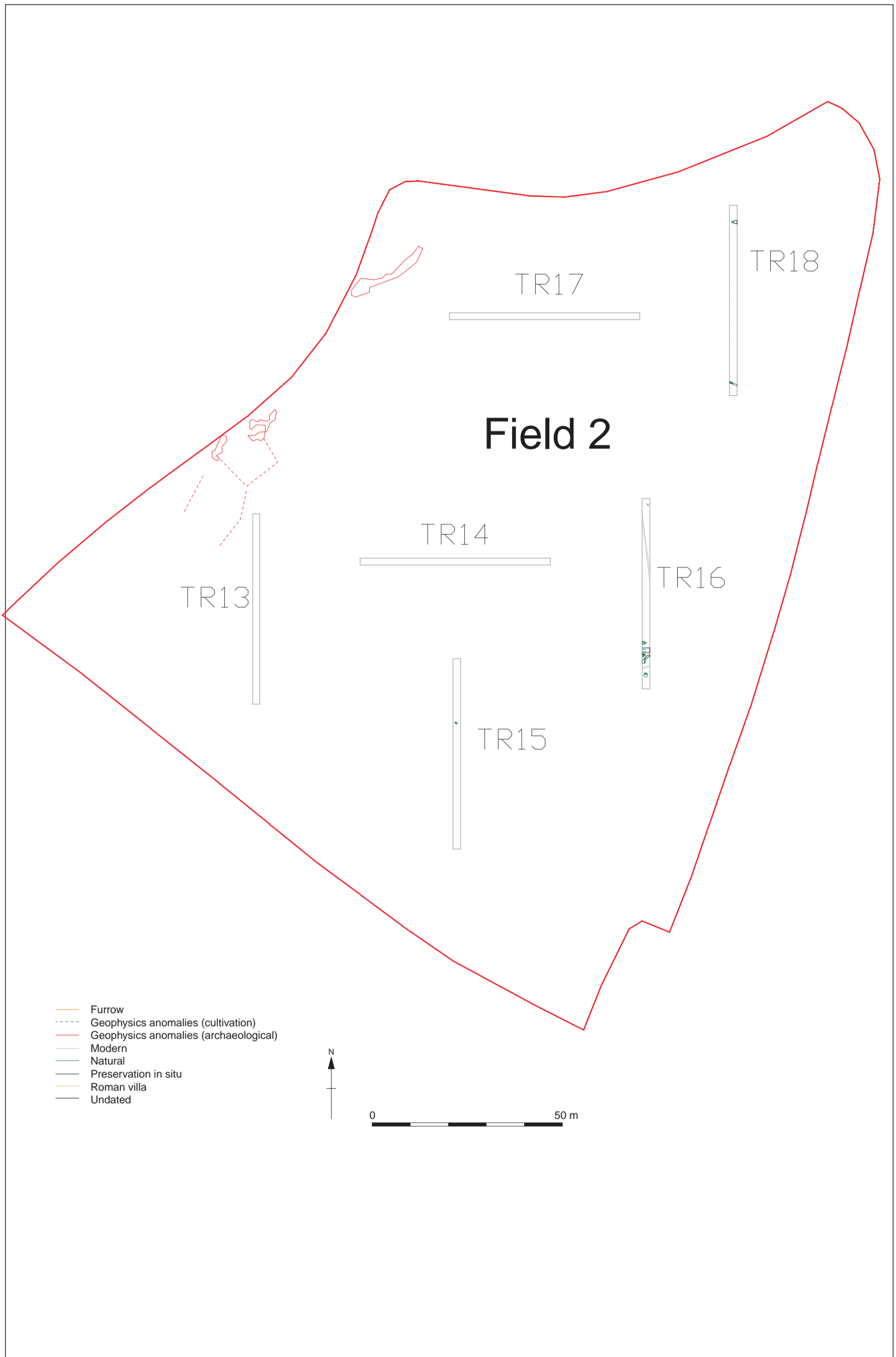


Figure 4: Detail of Field 2 showing geophysics and archaeological features

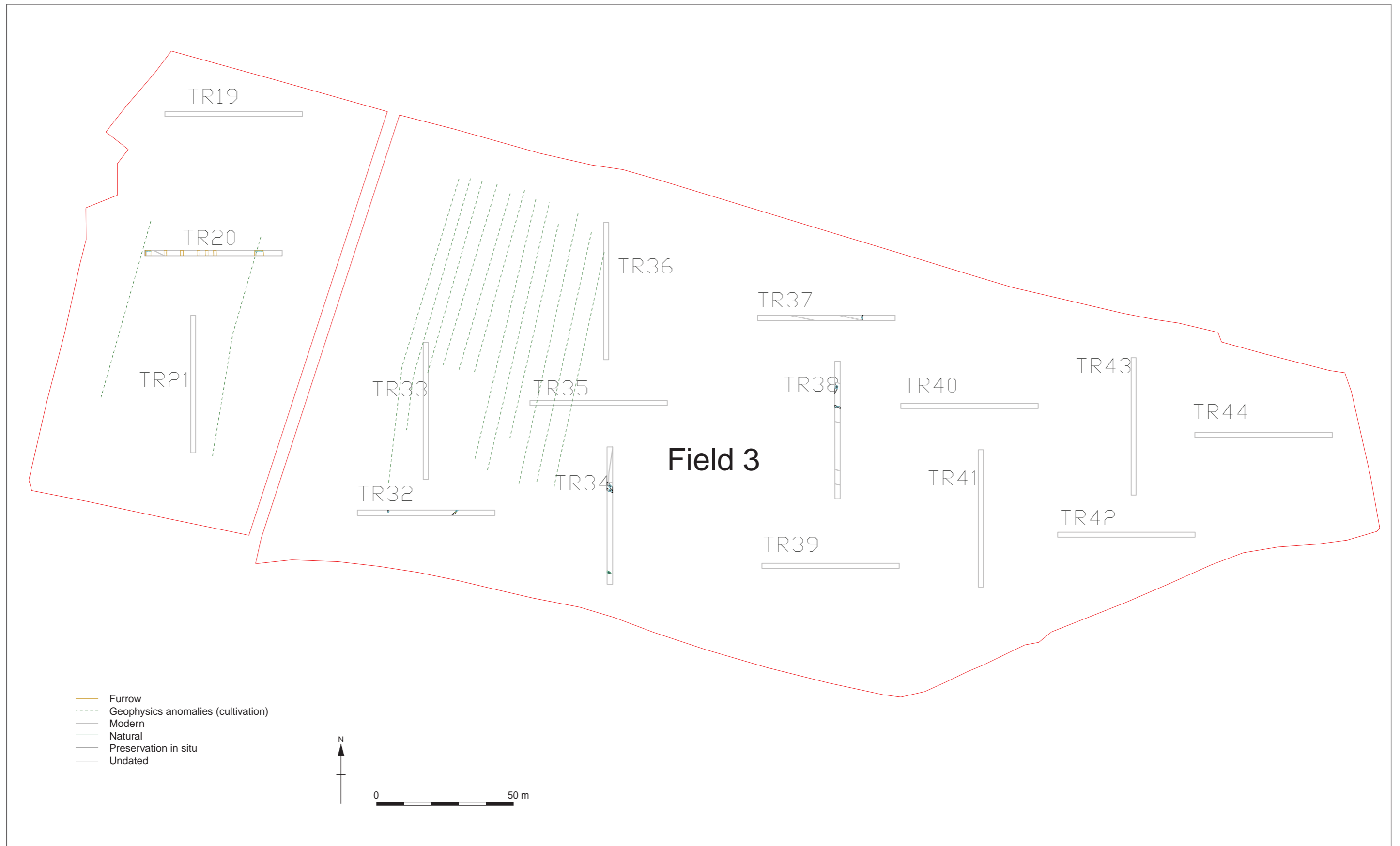


Figure 5: Detail of Field 3 showing geophysics and archaeological features

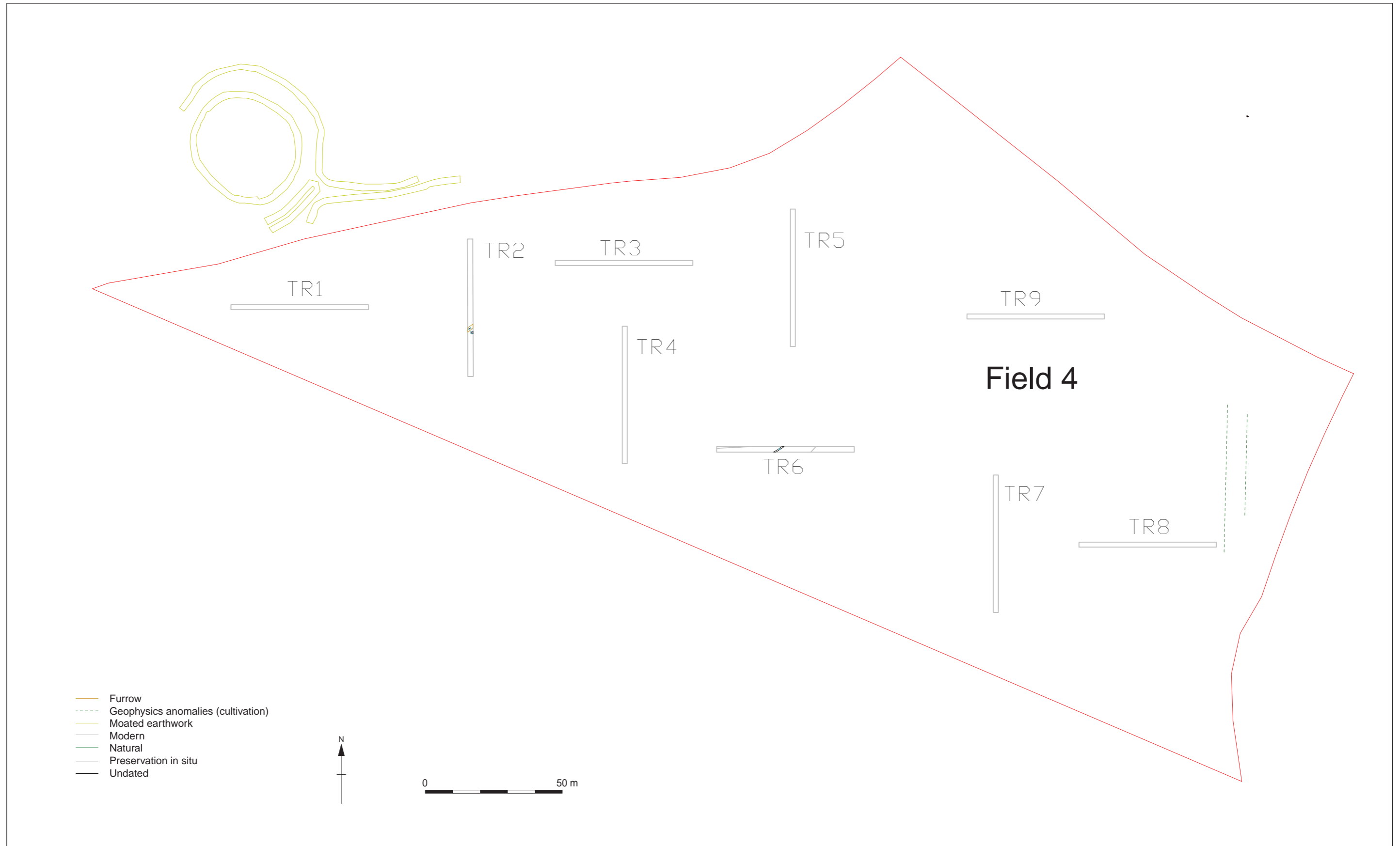


Figure 6: Detail of Field 4 showing geophysics and archaeological features

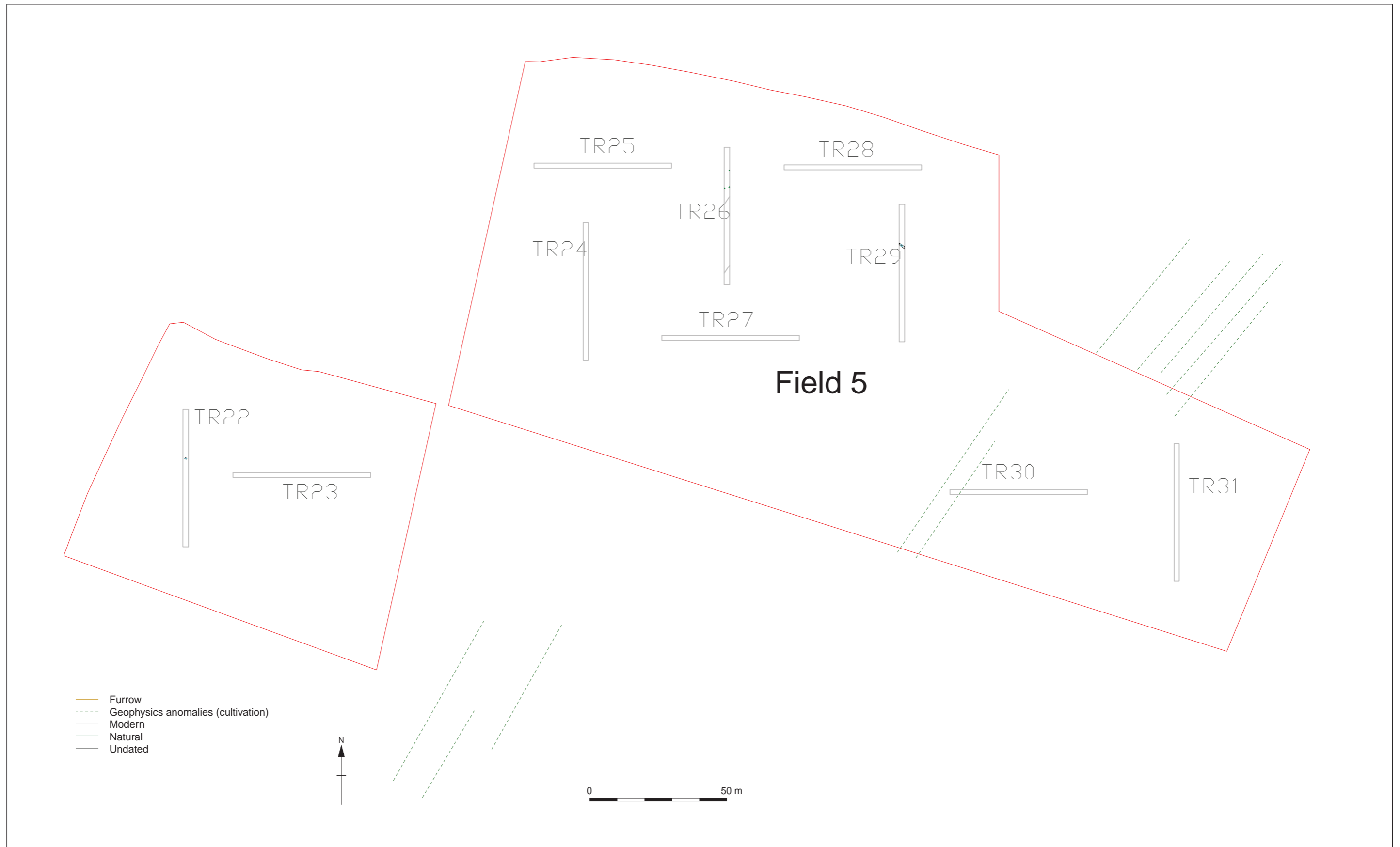


Figure 7: Detail of Field 5 showing geophysics and archaeological features



Figure 8: Phased plan of the evaluations in 2013 and 2014



Plate 1: Ditch terminus **44**, Trench 6. Photograph taken from the north-east.

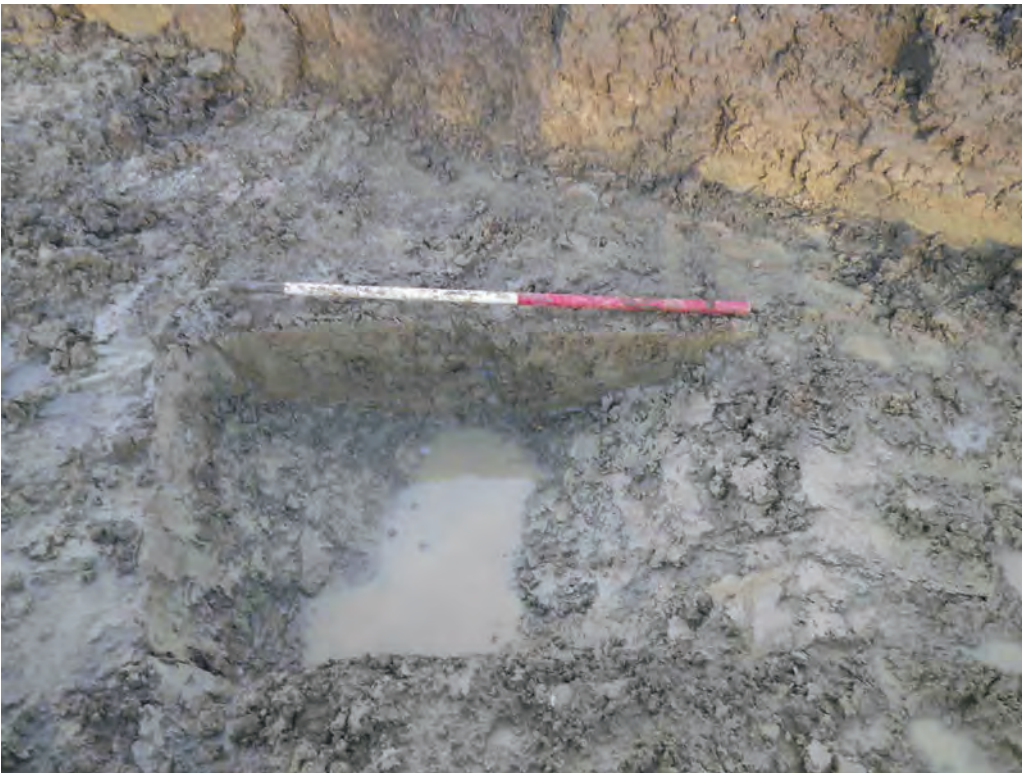


Plate 2: Ditch **40**, Trench 11. Photograph taken from the south-east



Plate 3: Pit 34 cutting pit 32, Trench 15. Photograph taken from the south



Plate 4: Furrow 17, Trench 20. Photograph taken from the south



Plate 5: Pit 42, Trench 22. Photograph taken from the south-west



Plate 6: Ditch 39, Trench 26. Photograph taken from the north-east



Plate 7: Pit 21, Trench 32. Photograph taken from the north-east



Plate 8: Ditch 14, Trench 34. Photograph taken from the south-east



Plate 9: Ditch **16**, Trench 34. Photograph taken from the east-south-east



Plate 10: Ditch terminus **04**, Trench 38. Photograph taken from the north-east.



Plate 11: Ditch **06**, Trench 38. Photograph taken from the north-west.



Plate 12: Photograph of Trench 23, showing the pooling of water on the surface and the poor drainage of the land, especially the field in the top right corner. Photograph taken from the west



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*