



RAF CARGO, CARLISLE

CUMBRIA

Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation Report

Oxford Archaeology North



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SUMMARY

In December 2002, an archaeological desk-based assessment and evaluation was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) on behalf of Crowther Homes of an area surrounding No 4 Site, Cargo, part of the former RAF No 14 Maintenance Unit (14MU) (NY 3680 5960). The site lies immediately north-east of the village of Cargo, c4km north-west of Carlisle, and c2.5 km north of the line of Hadrian's Wall. The work was undertaken to inform a planning application for a residential development.

The assessment involved a search of primary and secondary maps and records held in the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle, and the local studies section of Carlisle Library. Records and aerial photographs held in the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) at Kendal were also consulted. The desk-based assessment was followed by a visual inspection of the site. This was followed by a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching, which entailed the excavation of 5% of the study area, and comprised 62 30m x 1.8m trenches. The trenching was undertaken between December 2002 and January 2003

The documentary study identified a few sites of archaeological interest within the environs of the study area, although these included an important cropmark complex located immediately north of the subject site (Site 1), which probably represents the remains of an Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement or farmstead, and a second cropmark site of indeterminate character (Site 2) a short distance to the east of the site. The village of Cargo, or Carrighow as it was formerly known, is first recorded in the twelfth century, although a pre-Norman origin for the settlement is suggested by its name, which probably derives from the British (Celtic) *carrecc* (rock).

For the most part the trial trenching revealed evidence of a post-medieval agricultural landscape comprising a field drainage system. These features were associated with the fields shown on the 1839 tithe map and the 1865 and 1901 Ordnance Survey maps, which appears to have been the main land use of the site until the development of the former RAF No 14 Maintenance Unit in 1937. The evaluation did, however, reveal a series of linear gullies thought to represent field boundaries, which contrasted with the other relict boundaries and drains identified on the site. Despite their complete excavation, they produced no dating evidence, but their alignment suggests they may have been associated with the pattern of early strip fields shown on the 1839 tithe map and OS maps located to the north of Cargo.

The identified archaeological resource is generally of low significance. The only sites of potentially greater significance, the earlier field system, were only within the south-westernmost corner of the study area, and have been almost entirely excavated, and therefore mitigated. It is therefore considered that there is no archaeological constraint for the granting of planning permission, and that there is no need for further archaeological investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Rachel Kemp, Crowther Homes Ltd, for commissioning and for her assistance in the set up of the project. OA North would also like to thank Richard Newman and Bette Hopkins, Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service, for their assistance with the curation of the project and for the provision of SMR data. We would also like to thank the staff of the Cumbria Record Office in Carlisle

The desk-based study was undertaken by John Zant. The evaluation was supervised by Mark Bagwell, and assisted by Nicola Gaskell and Martin Sowerby. The illustrations were undertaken by Emma Carter, and the finds were examined by Sean McPhillips. The report was compiled by John Zant and Mark Bagwell, and was edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Ian Miller. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 The Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service (CCCAS) was consulted by Carlisle City Council following the submission by Crowther Homes of a planning application for a residential development at No 4 Site, Cargo, part of the former RAF 14MU depot north of Carlisle (Fig 1) (NY 3680 5960). Given the close proximity of known sites of archaeological interest, CCCAS recommended that further work be undertaken before a planning decision was taken to determine the archaeological significance of No 4 Site.
- 1.1.2 CCCAS produced a brief in October 2002 (*Appendix 1*), in which the scope of the archaeological works was defined. The work required comprised a desk-based assessment of the existing resource, a visual inspection of the site, and a field evaluation involving the excavation of a series of trial trenches, the latter representing a minimum 5% sample of the undeveloped area. The aim of the work was to assess the nature and potential of the archaeological resource within the study area, and to determine the extent to which any archaeological remains within the subject site may be affected by the proposed redevelopment. In response to this brief, a project design was produced by OA North (*Appendix 2*). The work was undertaken in December 2002 and January 2003.
- 1.1.3 This report sets out the methodology and results of the work in the form of a short document which outlines the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area, an assessment of the impact of the proposed development, and recommendations for further work.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 Following the production of a brief by CCCAS in October 2002 (*Appendix 1*), a project design was submitted by OA North in November 2002 (*Appendix 2*). Following acceptance of the project design, OA North undertook the desk-based assessment in early December 2002, and the evaluation in December and January 2003.
- 2.1.2 The project design provided for an archaeological assessment involving a desk-based study and a walk-over survey; this was followed by a programme of evaluation trenching.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 ***Cumbria Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)***: existing information relating to the archaeological resource of the study area was obtained from the SMR in Kendal. Copies of SMR entries within an area of approximately 1km radius of the subject site were obtained, and aerial photographs of cropmarks located close to the subject site (Sites 01 and 02) were studied.
- 2.2.2 ***Cumbria Record Office, Carlisle***: there were no relevant manuscript maps of the study area, the earliest map being the tithe map of 1839. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25 inch map of 1865 (Fig 3) was consulted, as were subsequent editions of the relevant OS maps dating from 1901 (Fig 4) to 1972. County histories and other published sources were studied.
- 2.2.3 ***Carlisle City Library***: a number of secondary sources held in the local studies section of Carlisle library were consulted.
- 2.2.4 ***OA North Archive***: published and unpublished books, reports and articles held in the OA North archive at Lancaster were studied.

2.3 VISUAL INSPECTION

- 2.3.1 The visual inspection of the site was undertaken on 4th December 2002. It was aimed at the discovery of any previously unrecorded sites by walking across the site in a systematic fashion. It was also intended to identify the extent of the study site, general ground conditions, areas of significant disturbance, and locations of live services, in order to target locations for proposed evaluation trenches. A photographic record of the site was taken simultaneously.

2.4 TRIAL TRENCHING

- 2.4.1 The programme of trenching aimed to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits and, if established, briefly test their date, nature, and quality of preservation. The evaluation assessed the character of all archaeological deposits to the depth of the natural subsoils.

- 2.4.2 CCCAS suggested that 5% of the study area was required for evaluation. This required the excavation of 3075m², equal to 90 20m x 1.7m trenches. Due to the constraints of upstanding buildings and live electricity and gas services limiting the number of potential trench location sites, it was found to be more practical to excavate fewer, but longer, trenches. Therefore, 62 trenches were excavated, the majority of which were 30m in length by 1.8m wide, covering 3348m² area (Fig 6).
- 2.4.3 Large areas of the site were covered with grass, with the remainder covered with the RAF No 14 Maintenance Unit buildings joined by a network of tarmac roads. Several trenches confirmed that, as part of the construction of the concrete slab for roads, the land was reduced by c0.5m to the level of the natural deposits. Therefore the majority of the trenches were sited on the grass areas, thought to have greater archaeological potential, whilst still maintaining a good coverage across the site.
- 2.4.4 An assessment of service plans was undertaken so that potentially live services could be avoided. In addition, each proposed trench location was scanned for sub-surface services immediately prior to excavation, and moved to new locations in the event of live services being encountered. In some areas live electricity cables and gas pipes severely restricted trenching, and in some instances trenches were abandoned and relocated when many services and/or severe modern truncations were encountered.
- 2.4.5 The trenches were excavated mechanically through relatively soft ground using a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket, working under archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation progressed down to the level of natural deposits or first potentially significant archaeological deposits in each trench, to an approximate depth of between 0.40m and 1m. Subsequently, all trenches were hand cleaned, and where archaeological features were encountered, these were subject to manual excavation in order to ascertain their date, character, and extent. All trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner, whether by machine or by hand. The trenches were accurately located by the use of a Global Positioning System, which provides accuracies of +/- 0.2m.
- 2.4.6 All archaeological features, and the ground level of each trench, were levelled with reference to the benchmark located on Cargo primary school, with the value of 17.04m OD.
- 2.4.7 **Recording:** all information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both black and white and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.
- 2.4.8 Results of the field investigation were recorded using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology of English Heritage. The archive includes both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20, and 1:10). Recording was principally in the form of *pro forma* Trench Sheets for each trench, which recorded the orientation, length and depth of machining, and described the nature of topsoil, subsoil and geological deposits. Features considered to be of archaeological importance were recorded using *pro forma* context sheets.

2.5 FINDS

- 2.5.1 All finds recovered were bagged and recorded by context number; all finds were retained for analysis, and have been processed and temporarily stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines). The finds have been analysed by the OA North in-house finds specialist

2.6 GAZETTEER OF SITES

- 2.6.1 Information concerning the few archaeological sites located within the study area has been collated into a gazetteer (*Appendix 3*), which provides details of site location, period and character. Locations are given as eight-figure National Grid References.

2.7 ARCHIVE

- 2.7.1 A full archive of the work undertaken has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive with the appropriate County Record Office, and CCCAS will be provided with a copy of the report. An archaeological fieldwork form will be forwarded for deposition with the National Monuments Record (NMR).

3. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The subject site is a roughly D-shaped area of c10 hectares, situated at c15m OD on the north-eastern edge of the village of Cargo, Cumbria (NY 3680 5960) (Fig 1). The village itself lies on the north bank of the River Eden, approximately 4km north-west of the historic city of Carlisle. The site is fenced, bounded on all sides by minor roads; by the Kingmoor to Rockcliffe road on the east, and on the north, west and south by two minor roads leading into the village from the Kingmoor-Rockcliffe road.
- 3.1.2 The entire site is currently occupied by the now redundant remains of buildings and other features associated with the former RAF depot, which finally closed in 1997. Although several large sheds and other buildings remain standing, there are also quite large areas of open ground; from map evidence some of these areas once contained buildings, which have since been demolished (*Section 4.5.5* below).
- 3.1.3 The study area is centred on fairly level ground at a height of between 16m and 17m OD. The land drops away towards the east of the site to below 15m OD. In areas of buildings and associated roads the land is up to 0.5m lower, and the ground appears to have been reduced during their construction.
- 3.1.4 The geology of the study area comprises Stanwix shales overlain by glaciofluvial drift deposits comprising clays, sands and gravels. The soil survey map (MAFF 1983) indicates that the drift geology is overlain by well-drained coarse loamy and sandy soils of the Wick Association. These comparatively light and well-drained soils are likely to have been favoured for settlement in ancient times over the more intractable soils of the Clifton Association, which occur elsewhere in the region.

4. DESK-BASED STUDY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 This section reviews the existing body of knowledge of the history and archaeology of the study area and its immediate environs. For periods where little or nothing is known for the study area itself, the archaeology of the wider region is considered. Site numbers refer to the gazetteer (*Appendix 3*), which provides more information about specific sites, and these are shown on gazetteer site location map (Fig 5). For the most part, little information on the history and archaeology of the area was available. A search of the County SMR produced very few records, other than the aerial photographic evidence noted in the project brief. No scheduled sites or listed buildings are known within the study area, and there appears to have been a general paucity of archaeological fieldwork in the vicinity.

4.2 PREHISTORY

- 4.2.1 In north Cumbria generally there is no evidence at all for the Palaeolithic period, as might be expected in what was a heavily glaciated region. Whilst there is good evidence for Mesolithic activity on the West Cumbrian Coastal Plain and in the limestone uplands of east Cumbria (Cherry and Cherry 2002), the North Cumberland Plain and the area inland of the Cumbrian coast have produced very little material, although this is in part due to a lack of survey (Bewley 1994, 54). However, the recovery of Mesolithic flintwork from Carlisle, some 4km south-east of the subject site (Caruana and Cherry 1994; Tolan-Smith in preparation), and from Brampton, 16km to the east (Zant 1998, 298-9), hints at a potential for inland sites in the region.
- 4.2.2 Indications of activity during the Neolithic period in north Cumbria are provided by numerous finds of stone axes, flintwork, and some pottery (Bewley 1994, 54-5, fig 4.1; Cherry and Cherry 2002, 6-12). Several axes are known from Carlisle (McCarthy 1993, 1), which has also produced a large assemblage of late Neolithic-early Bronze Age flints (Fell 1990; Fell forthcoming; Richardson 2000; Tolan-Smith forthcoming), together with stratigraphic evidence for an extensive system of arable fields, possibly of a similar date (McCarthy 1990, 13-4; McCarthy 1993, 1; Caruana forthcoming; OA North 2002a, 15-6; OA North 2002b, 17-8; Zant forthcoming). Small quantities of probable early Neolithic pottery have been recovered from rural sites at Durranshill, on the eastern edge of Carlisle, and at High Crosby, approximately 8km north-east of Cargo (McCarthy *et al* 1997; McCarthy *et al* 1998, 3).
- 4.2.3 As with the earlier prehistoric periods, the Bronze and Iron Ages are not well represented in the Cargo area, although there is plentiful evidence for Bronze Age activity within north Cumbria as a region, in the form of metalwork, pottery and flints. Again, in spatial terms, the closest archaeological evidence comes from Carlisle, where probable Bronze Age settlement sites, associated with pottery and flints, have been excavated at Botcherby and Durranshill on the eastern edge of the city (McCarthy *et al* 1998, 4-5).
- 4.2.4 Direct evidence for the Iron Age in north Cumbria is elusive, due in large part to the absence of Iron Age pottery in the region, and the scarcity of other items of

material culture. However, Bewley's extensive aerial photographic survey of cropmark sites on the Solway Plain has identified a large number of ditched enclosures of varying shapes and sizes, most of which probably represent the remains of 'native' settlements or farmsteads (Bewley 1994). Whilst the precise date and function of the majority of these monuments is unknown, limited excavation at a handful of sites has demonstrated that some may have their origins in the Late Bronze Age or Iron Age, with occupation continuing into the Romano-British period (Bewley 1986; Bewley 1992).

- 4.2.5 A well-defined cropmark site (Site 01) (Fig 5), similar to those recorded by Bewley, is located on Cargohill, c300m north of the subject site. This monument comprises an oval ditched enclosure with what appears to be a ditched 'annexe', or extension, on the north-west side; linear features, possibly representing boundary ditches, appear to extend north and east of the main enclosure. Although this monument is undated, an Iron Age or Romano-British date is probable on typological grounds. A second, poorly-defined, cropmark site of unknown date (Site 02), is located at Cargoback, some 200m south-east of the subject site. A little over 1km to the south-east of the study area lies Grinsdale enclosure (Site 03), an undated site of probable prehistoric and/or Romano-British date enclosed by at least two circuits of banks and ditches, and defended on its western side by the River Eden.
- 4.2.6 In addition to the ditched enclosures, which show up comparatively well from the air, excavations at Durranhill, Carlisle (McCarthy *et al* 1998, 4-5), uncovered parts of two palisaded enclosures of possible Iron Age date. By comparison with the ditches enclosing Bewley's sites in the Solway Plain, palisade trenches of the kind found at Durranhill are narrow and shallow, and are therefore unlikely to be detectable from the air, especially if the site is under pasture. Such features, and other comparatively ephemeral traces of prehistoric occupation in the region, are likely to be revealed only by excavation.

4.3 ROMAN AND EARLY MEDIEVAL

- 4.3.1 The study area lies approximately 2km north of Hadrian's Wall, and is separated from that monument by the River Eden. It is also approximately 2.5km west of the Roman road running north from the fort and town of Carlisle (*Luguvalium*) to the outpost fort at Netherby (*Castra Exploratorum*). No direct evidence for Roman activity, military or otherwise, is known from within the study area. There is, however, no reason to suppose that life for the great majority of the native population of north Cumbria changed significantly in the aftermath of the Roman occupation in the AD 70s, or following the construction of Hadrian's Wall in the AD 120s. The work of Bewley and others in the Solway Plain has demonstrated the existence of many 'native' settlements of Romano-British date in this area, some probably continuously occupied since at least the pre-Roman Iron Age, and it seems that a similar situation pertained on the North Cumberland Plain, especially on the lighter, well-drained soils. As has been noted above (*Section 4.2.5*), the cropmark enclosure on Cargohill, just north of the study area, could have originated at this time, or may have seen continuity of occupation from the Iron Age into the Romano-British period.
- 4.3.2 Although there is little tangible evidence for early medieval activity in the study area, the Cargo/Carrighow place-name, which derives either from the British *caer*

(Ferguson 1890, 12) or, more probably, *carrecc* (rock) (Armstrong *et al* 1950, 94-5), suggests a pre-Norman origin for the settlement. That Carlisle itself continued to function as some kind of centre throughout the early medieval period seems certain both from the archaeological evidence and occasional documentary references (Phythian-Adams 1996, 48, 51-2, 62-5).

4.4 MEDIEVAL

- 4.4.1 Cargo, or Carrighow, is first recorded in the twelfth century, as a manor and demesne of John de Lacy, Constable of Chester, who held it directly of the king (Hutchinson 1794; Whellan 1860, 181). De Lacy granted the manor to William de Vescy and his heirs, lord of Alnwick, who in turn granted it to Sir Ewan Carlisle (Whellan 1860, 181). By 1274 it was held from William Carlisle by Robert de Ross, lord of Wark, in whose family it remained until 1338, when the inheritance passed to the Parrs of Kendal. In 1310, the settlement had six landed tenants and 12 cottagers (Winchester 1987). The standard holding of a landed tenant in medieval Cumbria was typically two bovates (c20-40 acres), although some holdings could be considerably larger. Cottagers may have held a house and a small parcel of land, but relied on selling their labour or undertaking non-agricultural employment in order to make a living (*ibid*, 66-7).
- 4.4.2 The tithe map of 1839 (CRO(C) DRC 8/42), which represents the earliest large-scale map of Cargo, shows the village as a ribbon development comprising two rows of properties, one on either side of the main road, with rectangular fields or enclosures extending back from buildings fronting the road. It seems possible, if not likely, that this arrangement reflects, at least in part, the pattern of medieval land holdings as well as the post-medieval layout.

4.5 POST-MEDIEVAL AND MODERN

- 4.5.1 During the late sixteenth century Cargo was given to Elizabeth I, and was subsequently granted by James I to the Whitmores, who still held it in 1688 (Whellan 1860, 181). It was later bought by the Dacres, then sold in 1793 to Joseph Lamb, whose family still owned it in 1860. The population of the village was 237 in 1801, and increased to 292 by 1851 (*ibid*). The earliest large-scale map or plan of Cargo is the tithe map of 1839 (CRO(C) DRC 8/42), which shows the village extending in a linear fashion along the main street. At this time, much of the street frontage was occupied by buildings, to the rear of which rectangular fields or enclosures extended back from the road. As has already been noted, it is possible that this arrangement reflected the layout of the medieval settlement (*Section 3.4.2*). The study area did not form part of this pattern, however, but was located immediately to the north-east, on the periphery of the settlement. The site was divided into seven arable fields (numbered 193-199 on the tithe map (CRO(C) DRC 8/42)), and was referred to as 'Chapels'. The significance of this name is unclear, although a Chapel House is today situated c150m south of the site, on the Kingmoor-Rockcliffe road.
- 4.5.2 No buildings or other features are depicted within the subject site on the 1839 map. As today, the boundaries of the site were defined by the Kingmoor to Rockcliffe road on the east, and by two minor roads running south-west into the village. The

names of landowners and tenants are presented in Table 1. Tithes were paid to the Vicar of Stanwix and the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral.

Field	Owner	Tenant	Paid to the Vicar of Stanwix	Paid to Dean and Chapter
193	Edward Atkinson	-	½ d	6d
194	Edward Atkinson	-	3d	4/- 11d
195	Mary Ferguson	Thomas Hetherington	4d	6/-
196	Thomas James	Thomas Storey	1/- ½ d	18/- 10d
197	Thomas Bone	-	1/- 1d	5/- 10d
198	William Robinson	-	5d	7/- 6d
199	Thomas James	Thomas Dalton	3/- 6 ¾ d	18/- 4d

Table 1: Owners and tenants of land within the subject site, from the tithe map of 1839

- 4.5.3 The field boundaries shown on the tithe map were largely unchanged when the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25 inch map was produced in 1865 (Fig 3), and still survived when the 2nd edition was produced in 1901 (Fig 4), although by 1865 the south-western part of the site was occupied by a narrow field or strip of land situated adjacent to, and roughly parallel with, the Cargo to Rockcliffe road. This strip, which contained a small pond, had been partially planted with conifers by 1901. Also by 1865, the small field on the north-western part of the site (field 193 on the tithe map) had been sub-divided, and a row of what appear to be three or four small cottages occupied the road frontage. To the south, on the site of what is today Cargo Primary School, was the National School of 1856 (Whellan 1860, 181), built on the southern edge of what had been field 199 on the tithe map.
- 4.5.4 Thereafter, the site remained essentially unchanged until 1937, when work began on the construction of the RAF's No 14 Maintenance Unit (14MU). 14MU was one of seven RAF Universal Equipment Depots, planned and built during the 1930s in response to the threat of war (Oldaker 1996, 1). Previously, stores had been concentrated mainly in single holdings and were consequently vulnerable to air attack. In order to disperse supply and storage, each new depot held a 'universal stock' with which to supply RAF units within its service area. If one depot was put out of action, supply was still possible from the others (*ibid*). Each depot consisted of an HQ site and a number of other sites located some 1-3 miles apart, in order to minimise the threat of air attack.
- 4.5.5 14MU comprised a headquarters site and five (later six) other depots. The study area was completely occupied by No 4 Site, which opened in September 1938. This site appears to have never been fully utilised, however; a sparse record of wartime use was followed in the post-war period by the transfer of stores and equipment to some of the other sites. No 4 site was designated a low-active site in 1983, and was largely redundant by 1993 (*ibid*, 49). Some buildings in the central part of the site, shown on the 1:2500 OS map of 1972, do not appear on the most recent maps. The whole of the 14MU site finally closed in 1997.

- 4.5.6 The County SMR holds a record of a World War 2 radar station, described as a Ground Control Interception Station (Site 04), which was situated in a field some 800m west of No 4 Site. The SMR states that this station was a mobile facility rather than a final-type, with operations probably being carried out largely from trucks; however, a photograph from 1946 shows three buildings on the site. The relationship of this facility to the 14MU site is unknown.

5. VISUAL INSPECTION RESULTS

5.1 INSPECTION RESULTS

- 5.1.1 The visual inspection was undertaken in December 2002. This involved systematic fieldwalking across the study site in an attempt to identify unrecorded sites and survey general ground conditions in advance of a programme of trial trenching. It was accompanied by a general photographic survey of the site (eg Plate 1). Site plans showing upstanding RAF buildings, demolished buildings and services were used during the reconnaissance of the site to mark out the most appropriate positions for proposed trial trenches.
- 5.1.2 The site is bounded by a perimeter fence, and access was via the gate on Cargo Lane at the sites southern boundary. Large areas of the site are currently occupied by the now redundant remains of buildings and large storage hangers associated with the former RAF depot, linked by a network of tarmac roads and paths (Plate 1). Large open spaces between the buildings are covered with grass, which were probably once formally managed lawns, but have now become wet scrub grassland intermingled with rushes. There was no evidence of archaeological surface features within any of these areas. The site is fairly flat, but the roads and buildings are generally lower than the open grass areas, suggesting them to have been landscaped during their construction.

6. EVALUATION RESULTS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1 In total, 62 archaeological evaluation trenches were opened, covering an approximate combined area of 3348m² (Fig 6). They were spread as evenly as possible across the site, but limited by areas of modern, sunken roadway and modern services.

6.2 TRENCH 1

- 6.2.1 Trench 1 was placed north-east/south-west along the southern boundary of the study area, and measured 30m long by 1.8m wide. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.79m OD) to a depth of 0.75m to the level of the natural deposits, and to a maximum depth of 1.75m within a sondage at the northern end of the trench, which was excavated to examine underlying natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.2.2 The natural subsoil consisted of a 0.30m thick orange-yellow soft sand. In the sondage, three discrete sand deposits, which varied in colour between yellow and dark orange, were observed below the upper level of natural subsoil; these were similarly interpreted as being of natural origin. The natural subsoil was truncated by ten north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter, orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m wide linear cuts, spaced at regular intervals along the trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.75m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.3 TRENCH 2

- 6.3.1 Trench 2, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the southern part of the site, immediately to the north of Trench 1. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.89m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.3.2 The natural subsoil consisted of patchy orange-yellow and light-grey soft sand, and was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.15m wide linear cuts. These deposits were overlain by a 0.70m thickness of dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.4 TRENCH 3

- 6.4.1 Trench 3, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the southern part of the site, immediately to the north of Trench 2. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.73m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.4.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Frequent root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by several shallow, irregular shaped patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. They were excavated by hand, which confirmed their interpretation. The natural subsoil was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.15m wide linear cuts. These deposits were overlain by a 0.70m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.5 TRENCH 4

- 6.5.1 Trench 4, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-west of the site, immediately to the west of Trench 1. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.89m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.45m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.5.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Frequent root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by several shallow irregular shaped patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots, some of which were excavated by hand to confirm this interpretation. The natural subsoil was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.15m wide linear cuts, and a 1m wide north/south modern drain. These deposits were overlain by a 0.30m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.6 TRENCH 5

- 6.6.1 Trench 5, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-west corner of the site, immediately to the west of Trench 4. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.91m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.60m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.6.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Frequent root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by several shallow, irregular shaped patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. The natural subsoil was truncated by six north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.15m wide linear cuts, spaced at regular intervals along the trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.7 TRENCH 6

- 6.7.1 Trench 6, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-west corner of the site, immediately to the north-west of Trench 4. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.79m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.60m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.7.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Three irregular shaped patches of orange-brown silty-sand, up to 1m in diameter, and containing fine

fibrous roots were encountered in the top of the natural subsoil. These were half sectioned to reveal they filled shallow scoops with irregular profiles, interpreted as possible tree throws or animal borrows. In the eastern end of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by a 1m diameter pit that contained modern brick rubble and redeposited topsoil, and by seven north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.15m wide linear cuts spaced at regular intervals along the trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.8 TRENCH 7

- 6.8.1 Trench 7, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-west corner of the site, to the north of Trench 5. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.63m OD) to a depth of 1.2m along the length of the trench and to a maximum depth of 1.80m in two machine-excavated sondages at either end of the trench. No significant archaeological features were encountered
- 6.8.2 The natural subsoil, observed in the base of the sondages, at 1.80m below ground level, consisted of dark-orange clayey sand, and contained c10% small sub-rounded stones, and c5% medium sub-rounded stones. Overlying it was a 0.90m thick layer of dark-brown silty-sand, which contained large amounts of modern brick rubble and occasional pieces of corrugated asbestos. It was overlain by modern made ground comprising bands of redeposited topsoil and natural, as well as brick rubble. The depth of the natural subsoil, relative to its depth found in other trenches, suggests that the ground in the vicinity of Trench 7 was relatively recently truncated to a depth of 1.80m, and then built up again using modern backfill. These deposits were capped by a 0.20m thick dark-brown soft silty-sand topsoil.

6.9 TRENCH 8

- 6.9.1 Trench 8, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-west corner of the site, immediately to the east of Trench 7. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.56m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.40m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.9.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by irregular shaped shallow patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. The natural subsoil was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.14m wide linear cuts. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.10 TRENCH 9

- 6.10.1 Trench 9, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-west corner of the site, immediately to the north of Trench 7. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.46m OD) to a depth of 0.80m along the length of the trench and to a maximum depth of 1.50m in two machine-excavated sondages at either end of the trench. No significant archaeological features were encountered
- 6.10.2 The natural subsoil, observed in the base of the sondages, at 1.50m below ground level, consisted of dark-orange-grey clayey sand with *c*10% small sub-rounded stones and *c*5% medium sub-rounded stones. It was overlain by modern made ground to a depth of 1.30m comprising bands of redeposited topsoil and natural, as well as brick rubble, plastic, and corrugated asbestos. The depth of natural subsoil, relative to its depth found in other trenches, suggests that the ground in the vicinity of Trench 9 was truncated fairly recently to a depth of 1.50m and then built up again using backfill, and was probably the same activity as that observed in Trench 7. These deposits were capped by a 0.20m thick dark-brown soft silty-sand topsoil.

6.11 TRENCH 10

- 6.11.1 Trench 10, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the west of the site immediately to the north of Trench 9. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.63m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.11.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand, truncated by two north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes. One was set within a 0.15m wide linear cut, and the other was contained within a 1.4m wide x 0.30m deep modern drainage ditch with a rounded profile. Both were backfilled with redeposited topsoil. A north/south aligned linear feature, with a rounded profile, measuring 2.30m wide x 1.20m deep, ran across the centre of the trench. It contained nineteenth century pottery, modern brick rubble, and occasional pieces of corrugated asbestos within a redeposited topsoil fill. This feature was directly in line with the modern disturbance encountered in trenches 7, 9, and 11, and may therefore represent a the backfill of a large modern trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.12 TRENCH 11

- 6.12.1 Trench 11, 30m long by 1.8m wide, orientated east/west, and positioned in the west of the site, immediately to the north of Trench 9. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.75m OD) to a depth of 0.40m to the level of the natural deposits and to a maximum depth of 1.80m in the west of the trench. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.12.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by irregular shaped shallow patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. The natural subsoil was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes set within 0.15m wide linear cuts, and backfilled with redeposited topsoil. A north/south aligned 2.30m

wide x 1.60m deep linear feature with a rounded profile ran across the western end of the trench. Its fills were very similar to the modern deposits found in Trenches 7 and 9. Its lowest fill was a dark-brown silty-sand which contained large amounts of modern brick rubble and occasional pieces of corrugated asbestos, and was overlain by a second fill comprising bands of redeposited topsoil and natural, as well as brick rubble. This feature was directly in line with the modern disturbance encountered in Trenches 7, 9 and 10 and may represent the same activity, possibly from the excavation of a large modern trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.13 TRENCH 12

- 6.13.1 Trench 12, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned close to the western boundary of the study area. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.21m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.13.2 The natural subsoil consisted of brownish orange-yellow soft clayey sand, and was truncated by two modern service trenches, one of which truncated two north-west/south-east and north-east/south-west aligned field drains comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts. These deposits were overlain by a 0.70m thick greyish-dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.14 TRENCH 13

- 6.14.1 Trench 13, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated east/west, was positioned close to the western boundary of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.95m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.60m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.14.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand, with occasional patches of grey sand. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. The natural subsoil was truncated by a linear cut across the centre of the trench which contained an electricity cable. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.15 TRENCH 14

- 6.15.1 Trench 14, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned close to the sites western boundary. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.95m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.15.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil, and overlain by a 0.50m

thick layer of modern made ground consisting of mixed redeposited natural subsoil and topsoil with brick rubble. These deposits were overlain by a 0.25m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.16 TRENCH 15

- 6.16.1 Trench 15, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned close to the sites western boundary. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.33m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.16.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by two field drains aligned north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. At the north of the trench the natural was truncated by an east/west aligned trench which contained a lead water pipe. The natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.30m thick layer of modern made ground consisting of mixed redeposited natural subsoil and topsoil with brick rubble. These deposits were overlain by a 0.20m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.17 TRENCH 16

- 6.17.1 Trench 16, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned close to the sites western boundary. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.52m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.45m, to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.17.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow clayey soft sand, truncated by a north-west/south-east aligned field drain at the southern end of the trench, which comprised a 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear cut, backfilled with redeposited topsoil. The natural subsoil was overlain by 0.30m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil. The trench was extended southwards by 3m into an area covered by a tarmac road in order to evaluate its archaeological impact. It sealed a 0.20m thick concrete slab and its 0.5m cobble make-up, as well as numerous modern services including a concrete manhole and a large drain. These elements had quite a severe impact, truncating the natural deposits by up to 0.40m deeper than the rest of the trench.

6.18 TRENCH 17

- 6.18.1 Trench 17, 30m long by 2m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the west of the site, immediately to the east of Trench 12. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.43m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.18.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. Root disturbance was observed in the top of the natural subsoil represented by irregular shaped shallow patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. The natural subsoil was truncated by three north/south aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.14m wide linear cuts,

backfilled with redeposited topsoil. These deposits were overlain by 0.25m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.19 TRENCH 18

- 6.19.1 Trench 18, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the western part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.78m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.19.2 The natural subsoil consisted of brownish-yellow soft sand and was truncated by two north-east/south-west aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. These were overlain by a 0.30m thick layer of modern made ground consisting of mixed redeposited natural subsoil and topsoil with brick rubble. Two electricity cables ran across the centre of the trench contained within a 1m wide cut. These deposits were overlain by 0.20m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.20 TRENCH 19

- 6.20.1 Trench 19, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the west of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.57m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.20.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand with c10% small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. Occasional patches topsoil and root disturbance filled irregular shaped shallow hollows and undulations in the top of the natural subsoil, which was truncated by a north/south aligned linear, rounded profile feature running across the eastern end of the trench, measuring 2.30m wide x 0.70m deep. It was filled with redeposited topsoil and modern brick rubble. These deposits were overlain by a 0.70m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.21 TRENCH 20

- 6.21.1 Trench 20, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the west of the site and to the east of Trench 18. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.75m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.21.2 The natural subsoil, consisting of orange soft sand, was truncated by a north-east/south-west aligned field drain, which comprised a 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear cut backfilled with redeposited topsoil. The natural subsoil was truncated by a modern concrete-lined sump in the south of the trench and by a concrete stanchion base and a linear concrete drain cover in the north of the trench. These were extant elements of a demolished RAF building immediately to the east of Trench 20 (Building E). These deposits were overlain by a dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.22 TRENCH 21

- 6.22.1 Trench 21, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.38m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits.
- 6.22.2 The natural subsoil, **6**, consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. In the north of the trench the natural subsoil was truncated by two parallel linear north/south aligned gullies set 1m apart (at 16.61m OD), probably representing a field boundary (Fig 7). The most northerly, **3**, was 0.50m wide x 0.30m deep with a rounded profile and observed for a length of 2.90m extending beyond the limits of the trench. Gully **5**, to its south, had gradual sloping sides with a rounded base and was 0.30m wide x 0.20m deep. Both were filled with mid-grey soft silty-sand with approximately c10% small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Although both were completely excavated, neither of the gullies produced dating evidence. Both gullies continued northwards where they were observed in Trenches 22 and 62, probably representing a field boundary. They undoubtedly related to the linear features in Trench 58 and perhaps Trench 32 which share the same alignment. Together they may form part of a field system surviving along the northern edge of the site. Gully, **5**, was truncated by an north-west/south-east aligned post-medieval field drain. These deposits and features were overlain by a 0.25m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil, **1**.

6.23 TRENCH 22

- 6.23.1 Trench 22, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site and in line with the projected alignments of gullies **3** and **5** in Trench 21. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.37m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits.
- 6.23.2 The natural subsoil, **12**, consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. In the west of the trench the natural subsoil was truncated by two parallel linear north/south aligned gullies set 0.60m apart (at between 16.63m OD and 16.68m OD), which represent the same field boundary alignment encountered in Trench 21 (Fig 7). Gully, **9**, was 0.57m wide x 0.20m deep with a rounded profile and observed for a length of 5.60m extending beyond the limits of the trench. Gully **11**, to its south, was very ephemeral, had gradual sloping sides with a rounded base and was 0.20m wide x 0.05m deep. Both were filled with mid-grey soft silty-sand with approximately c10% small sub angular and sub-rounded stones. Unfortunately neither of the gullies produced any dating evidence. These deposits and features were overlain by a dark-brown silty-sand topsoil between 0.30m and 0.50m thick.

6.24 TRENCH 23

- 6.24.1 Trench 23, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site, immediately to the south of Trench 22. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.76m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.24.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft silty-sand. It was truncated by two field drains aligned east/west and north-west/south-east which ran across the trench, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.15m wide linear cuts. At the southern end of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by two modern sub-oval shaped pits c0.80m in diameter. Both were filled with redeposited topsoil and contained modern brick rubble, lumps of stone and pieces of rusty metal. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.25 TRENCH 24

6.25.1 Trench 24, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site, immediately to the south of Trench 22. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.60m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.25.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft silty-sand. It was truncated by two field drains, aligned north-east/south-west and north-west/south-east, which ran across the trench comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.20m and 0.35m wide linear cuts. At the southern end of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by a modern sub-oval shaped feature measuring 0.90m north/south by 0.45m wide, filled with redeposited topsoil and subsoil with lumps of concrete. The feature appeared most likely to be a recent test pit. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.26 TRENCH 25

6.26.1 Trench 25, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site, immediately to the south of Trench 24. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.02m OD) to a maximum depth of 1.20m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.26.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand with occasional root disturbance represented by irregular shaped shallow patches of orange-brown silty-sand containing fine fibrous roots. The natural subsoil was truncated by two north-east/south-west aligned field drains, comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.30m wide linear cuts. These deposits were overlain by a 0.30m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.27 TRENCH 26

6.27.1 Trench 26, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the centre of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.15m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.27.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand with approximately c20% small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. It was truncated by a north-west/south-

east aligned modern concrete lined drain in the east of the trench and by a modern service trench in the west of the trench, overlain by a 0.80m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.28 TRENCH 27

6.28.1 Trench 27, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the centre of the site, and to the south of Trench 26. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.19m OD) to a maximum depth of 1.10m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.28.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand. The natural subsoil was heavily disturbed by modern intrusions, most notably a north-west/south-east 1m wide brick-lined, linear service trench, possibly for carrying central heating pipes. The natural deposits were overlain by a 0.80m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.29 TRENCH 28

6.29.1 Trench 28, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was also situated in the central area of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.85m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.29.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand, heavily disturbed by modern intrusions, comprising a north-west/south-east concrete capping probably of a modern service, and one side of a brick structure similar to that found in Trench 27. Natural deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.30 TRENCH 29

6.30.1 Trench 29, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the central area of the site, immediately to the south of Trench 26. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.14m OD) to a maximum depth of 1m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.30.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft silty-sand. A north-east/south-west aligned field drain ran across the trench comprising a 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear redeposited topsoil filled cut. At the northern end of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by a square shaped modern concrete stanchion base. These deposits were overlain by a 0.65m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.31 TRENCH 30

6.31.1 Trench 30, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-western area of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.78m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.31.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft silty-sand with occasional patches of grey sand. It was truncated by two north/south aligned and one north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. The natural subsoil was also truncated by an electricity cable trench across the southern end of the trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.50m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.32 TRENCH 31

6.32.1 Trench 31, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the north of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.34m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.32.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greyish-yellow soft silty-sand with occasional patches of yellow clay and c10% small sub-rounded stones. The northern end of the trench was heavily truncated by a concrete stanchion base of demolished RAF building 10. Two electricity cables were observed running across the southern end of the trench at the level of the natural, overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.33 TRENCH 32

6.33.1 Trench 32, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned along the sites northern boundary. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.87m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits..

6.33.2 The natural subsoil, **18**, consisted of orange-yellow soft sand with occasional root disturbance and occasional small sub-rounded stones. In the centre of the trench the natural subsoil was truncated by two parallel linear north/south aligned gullies, **14** and **16** (at 16.26m OD), probably representing a field boundary. Gully **14**, was 0.40m wide x 0.16m deep with a rounded profile and observed for a length of 2.50m extending beyond the limits of the trench. Gully **16**, located 0.20m to its east, had shallow rounded sides and a flat base and was 0.80m wide x 0.12m deep. Both were filled with light-grey soft silty-sand with approximately c10% small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. Although both were completely excavated, neither of the gullies produced dating evidence. Both gullies were on the same alignment as those in Trenches 21, 22 and 62, and probably form part of a related, if not the same, agricultural field system. Both were subsequently cut by a north/south post-medieval field drain. These deposits and features were overlain by a 0.25m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil, **1**.

6.34 TRENCH 33

6.34.1 Trench 33, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the northern area of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.57m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.34.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light-orange soft sand with occasional patches of small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated along the length of the trench by a north/south aligned field drain, which comprised a 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe set within a 0.15m wide linear cut backfilled with redeposited topsoil. The natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.50m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.35 TRENCH 34

- 6.35.1 Trench 34, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-eastern part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.58m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.35.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil, and overlain by a 0.60m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.36 TRENCH 35

- 6.36.1 Trench 35, 10m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.58m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.36.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greyish-yellow soft sand and was heavily disturbed by a modern concrete intrusion in the centre of the trench. A modern plastic water pipe with a 0.50m diameter ran along the trenches northern edge. Natural deposits were overlain by a 0.60m thick dark-grey silty-sand topsoil.

6.37 TRENCH 36

- 6.37.1 Trench 36, 15m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.58m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.37.2 The natural subsoil consisted of grey soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by two north/south aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. An electricity cable and a modern drain were encountered in the eastern end of the trench at the level of the natural. The natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.60m thick greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.38 TRENCH 37

- 6.38.1 Trench 37, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-east part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.93m OD) to a maximum depth of 1m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.38.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-grey soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance and occasional small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. An electricity cable was encountered running across the centre of the trench at the level of the natural. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.20m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil with occasional medium size sub-rounded stones.

6.39 TRENCH 38

- 6.39.1 Trench 38, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-east part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.93m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.95m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.39.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-grey soft sand with occasional patches of root disturbance and occasional small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. A north/south alignment of three central heating pipes, in line with a heating conduit outside RAF warehouse building B, was encountered running across the centre of the trench at the level of the natural. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil with occasional medium size sub-rounded stones.

6.40 TRENCH 39

- 6.40.1 Trench 39, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the north-east part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.64m OD) to a maximum depth of 1m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.40.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-grey soft silty clayey sand with occasional patches of small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by a north-west/south-east aligned field drain, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.30m wide linear cut backfilled with redeposited topsoil. An electricity cable was encountered running across the eastern end of the trench at the level of the natural. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.25m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil with occasional medium size sub-rounded stones. The removal of a concrete slab and its cobble make-up in the western end of the trench released a large quantity of standing water into the trench making it unworkable; once it was ascertained that no live water pipes or drains had been breached, the trench was backfilled.

6.41 TRENCH 40

- 6.41.1 Trench 40, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned to the west of Trench 39 in the north-east area of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.46m OD) to a maximum depth of

1.20m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.41.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greenish-yellow soft clayey sand with occasional patches of small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by two north-west/south-east and one east/west aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.30m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 1m thick made ground deposit of redeposited topsoil and brick rubble, with clinker lenses. A concrete cast drain was encountered in the top of the made ground, capped with 0.25m thick dark greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.42 TRENCH 41

- 6.42.1 Trench 41, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the west of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.71m OD) to a maximum depth of 1m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.42.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greenish-yellow soft clayey sand with occasional patches of small sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by four north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within approximately 0.30m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil, capped with a 0.75m thick dark greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.43 TRENCH 42

- 6.43.1 Trench 42, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the west of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.20m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.43.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange soft sand with occasional patches of small sub-rounded and angular stones. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.30m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil, and capped with a 0.40m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.44 TRENCH 43

- 6.44.1 Trench 43, 23m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated east/west, was positioned in the north-western part of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.91m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.44.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand with c5% small sub-rounded and angular stones. The natural subsoil was truncated by two field drains in the centre of the trench, which contained 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes, and two linear north/south cuts containing electricity cables, capped with 0.40m thick dark greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.45 TRENCH 44

- 6.45.1 Trench 44, 20m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the centre of the site, partially over rough grass (at 17.06m OD) and partially over the concrete forecourt surface of Building A. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.45.2 Natural subsoil comprised yellowish-orange soft sand. In the northern half of the trench it was sealed by topsoil and rough grass to a depth of 0.50m. In the southern half of the trench, the concrete slab and its rubble make-up were removed. Here, topsoil was absent and natural deposits appeared to have been truncated by up to 0.40m deep to allow for the construction of the slab. The natural subsoil was also truncated by two linear north-east/south-west cuts containing electricity cables.

6.46 TRENCH 45

- 6.46.1 The overall length of trench 45 measured 19m north-west/south-east. It comprised an area measuring 12m x 2m at the south of the trench covered by a 0.80m thick rough grass and topsoil (at 16.26m OD), below which natural deposits comprised yellowish-orange soft sand. The 7m x 7m area in the north of the trench was covered by the concrete forecourt for building C. Below the concrete slab, topsoil was absent, having been previously removed during the concrete slabs construction, and natural deposits were encountered up to 0.40m deeper than in the south of the trench. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.47 TRENCH 46

- 6.47.1 Trench 46, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.98m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.47.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greyish-orange soft silty-sand. It was truncated by a north/south aligned field drain in the north of the trench, which comprised 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within a 0.20m wide linear cut backfilled with redeposited topsoil. An electricity cable within a 0.3m wide north/south linear cut was encountered in the southern end of the trench at the level of the natural. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.60m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.48 TRENCH 47

- 6.48.1 Trench 47, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 14.78m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.48.2 The natural subsoil consisted of greyish-orange soft silty clayey sand, truncated by three north-west/south-east and two east/west aligned field drains, comprising 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.10m to 0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.68m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.49 TRENCH 48

- 6.49.1 Trench 48, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.38m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.40m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.49.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light-orange sand with c20% small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by three north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.30m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.50 TRENCH 49

- 6.50.1 Trench 49, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.27m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.50.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light-orange sand with c10% small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. It was truncated by a north-east/south-west aligned field drain, comprising 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear cut backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.40m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.51 TRENCH 50

- 6.51.1 Trench 50, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.68m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.65m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.51.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light-orange-yellow sand with c20% small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones and occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by three north/south aligned field drains, comprising 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m wide linear cuts, backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.52 TRENCH 51

- 6.52.1 Trench 51, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated east/west, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 15.98m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.52.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand with patches of root disturbance and patches of grey sand. It was truncated by two north/south aligned field drains, which ran across the trench comprising 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.20m and 0.35m wide linear cuts. In the centre of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by a modern sub-rectangular shaped feature

measuring 2.50m east/west by 0.80m wide, filled with redeposited topsoil and subsoil with lumps of concrete. The feature appeared to be a recent test pit. Electricity cables were encountered in the west of the trench at the level of the natural, within a north/south cut. These deposits were overlain by a 0.40m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.53 TRENCH 52

- 6.53.1 Trench 52, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.48m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.60m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.53.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light-orange-yellow sand with occasional patches of root disturbance. It was truncated by two north-west/south-east aligned field drains, comprising 0.07m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within 0.20m to 0.30m wide linear cuts backfilled with redeposited topsoil. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.50m thick dark-greyish-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.54 TRENCH 53

- 6.54.1 Trench 53, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-east corner of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.49m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.70m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.54.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellow soft sand, truncated by three north/south aligned field drains comprising 0.12m diameter orange ceramic drain pipes within c0.20m and 0.35m wide linear cuts. An electricity cable was encountered in the north of the trench at the level of the natural within a north-east/south-west cut. These deposits were overlain by a 0.60m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.55 TRENCH 54

- 6.55.1 Trench 54, 25m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-east of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.87m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.55.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-orange soft sand, truncated by a north/south aligned field drain, comprising a 0.12m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear cut. Two water pipes and a gas pipe were also encountered. These deposits were overlain by a 0.70m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.56 TRENCH 55

- 6.56.1 Trench 55, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south-east of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.29m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. The RAF canteen building's concrete forecourt surface in the

centre of the trench was not excavated due to the presence of live electricity cables detected during cable scanning. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.56.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft sand, truncated by gas mains in the north and south of the trench and overlain by a 0.60m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.57 TRENCH 56

- 6.57.1 Trench 56, 17m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the south of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.09m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.60m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.57.2 The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-orange soft sand, truncated by a north-west/south-east aligned field drain, which ran across the trench comprising a 0.12m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.20m wide linear cut. An electricity cable was encountered in the east and two gas pipes were encountered in west of the trench, at the level of the natural. These deposits were overlain by a 0.45m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.58 TRENCH 57

- 6.58.1 Trench 57, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated east/west, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site, to the south of Trench 22. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.60m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.50m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

- 6.58.2 The natural subsoil consisted of orange-yellow soft silty-sand. It was truncated by an east/west aligned field drain which ran across the trench, comprising a 0.08m diameter orange ceramic drain pipe within a 0.15m wide linear cut. At the northern end of the trench, natural subsoil was truncated by a modern rectangular shaped 3m x 2m pit, filled with redeposited topsoil, modern brick rubble, lumps of stone and pieces of rusty metal. These deposits were overlain by a 0.30m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil.

6.59 TRENCH 58

- 6.59.1 Trench 58, 19m long by 5m wide, and orientated north/south, was positioned in the north-west corner of the site, to the north of Trenches 21 and 22. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.30m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits.

- 6.59.2 The natural subsoil, **28**, consisted of orange-yellow soft silty-sand. Additional evidence of the north/south aligned field system, found in Trenches 21, 22, 32 and 62, was identified in Trench 58 by a shallow north/south linear ditch or gully, **21** (Fig 7 and Plate 2). It ran along the western side of the trench (at between 16.42m OD at its southern extent and 16.64m OD at its northern extent), continued beyond the trenches southern limits and petered out or was truncated to the north, with dimensions of 12.84m north/south x 1.5m wide x 0.20m deep. It was filled with

light-grey soft silty-sand with occasional charcoal fragments and occasional small to medium sub-angular and sub-rounded stones. It had gradual sloping sides with an undulating base indicating it may have been two intercutting gullies, or one recut gully. Their fills though, were identical, and so the sequence was not established. The remains of roots found in two of the four slots across the feature also tentatively suggested it may be a hedgeline. It was truncated at its northern extent by a nineteenth century field drain. To its east three ploughmarks, **23**, **25**, and **27**, were recorded at 16.55m OD. They were on the same alignment as **21** and with very similar fills, measuring between 1.5m and 3.9m long x 0.23m wide x 0.08m deep. Unfortunately none of the features in Trench 58 produced dating evidence despite being fully excavated before backfilling.

6.60 TRENCH 59

- 6.60.1 Trench 59, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-west/south-east, was positioned in the centre of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.05m OD) and modern building rubble to a maximum depth of 0.80m to the level of the natural deposits. No significant archaeological features were encountered.
- 6.60.2 The natural subsoil consisted of light orange-yellow sand at 0.70m below ground level. It was heavily truncated by structural elements demolished RAF Building D, represented by four 3m x 1.3m concrete stanchions along the western side of the trench, and by a central heating pipe along the entire length of the eastern side of the trench.

6.61 TRENCH 60

- 6.61.1 Trench 60, 25m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated north-east/south-west, was positioned in the central-north area of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 16.47m OD) to a maximum depth of 1m. The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-orange soft sand. An electricity cable and a plastic water pipe were encountered within modern linear cuts in the east of the trench. These deposits were overlain by a 0.80m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.62 TRENCH 61

- 6.62.1 Trench 61, 30m long by 1.8m wide, and orientated east/west, was positioned in the north-west of the site. The trench was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.12m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m. The natural subsoil consisted of yellowish-orange soft sand. The north-eastern corner of demolished RAF Building E was encountered in the east of the trench, represented by a north-east/south-west modern brick wall with a southerly return. Natural subsoil was overlain by a 0.80m thick dark-brown silty-sand topsoil. No significant archaeological features were encountered.

6.63 TRENCH 62

- 6.63.1 Trench 62, 14m long by 3m wide and orientated north/south, was excavated through rough grass and topsoil (at 17.37m OD) to a maximum depth of 0.90m.

The trench was positioned between Trenches 21 and 22, along the projected line of the field boundary gullies **3**, **5**, **9**, and **11**, so that they could be further excavated and dated.

- 6.63.2 The natural subsoil, **34**, consisted of orange-yellow soft sand, truncated by two parallel linear north/south aligned gullies, **31** and **33**, set 0.70m apart running along the entire length of the trench at 16.65m OD (Fig 6). They represented the field boundary observed in Trenches 21 and 22 (Features **3**, **5**, **9**, and **11**), were of similar dimensions and filled with similar material. Both were completely excavated but dating evidence was elusive.

6.64 FINDS

- 6.64.1 In total, nine fragments of pottery was recovered from the evaluation, all of which may be dated to the mid-nineteenth / twentieth centuries. Analysis of the pottery was based solely on visual inspection of individual sherds, and has been described using the terminology developed by Orton *et al* (1993). In general terms, the sherds were in poor condition, and most fragments were clearly abraded and rolled.
- 6.64.2 The nine sherds were yielded within unstratified topsoil deposits from trenches across the site. The pottery comprised small fragments of bone china and Transfer Printed ware, representing common domestic forms, such as plates, dishes, and cups. For the most part, the pottery was recovered from the topsoil, and was probably a product of night soiling. The pottery offers little in aiding the interpretation of the site, and is of little archaeological importance.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 ***The Undated Field System:*** in addition to a post-medieval field drainage system, the archaeological investigation of the site at RAF Cargo identified several surviving archaeological features which formed part of an undated, but probably earlier, field system located in the north-west of the site. Trenches 21 and 22 revealed two parallel gullies that ran across the north-west corner of the site (Fig 7). Trench 62 was excavated between them, so that almost the entire length of the gullies, within the boundary of the study site, was exposed in order to maximise the area excavated, in an endeavour to recover dating evidence. Trenches 32 and 58 both revealed pairs of parallel gullies to their east and west. They were all set out on north/south alignments and all had identical fills, suggesting that they were broadly contemporary. The gullies may represent drainage features, or truncated field boundary ditches, probably forming elements of a single field system. Three pairs of gullies were recorded, either forming double gully alignments, or possibly representing more than one phase of activity. The linear feature in Trench 58 certainly appeared to have been recut, suggesting more than one phase of activity. Although the gullies were fully excavated, dating evidence proved elusive. Several of the gullies were truncated by post-medieval field drains, which had very different fills, suggesting that the gullies were from an earlier period. Their alignments differed from the north-east/south-west orientated post-medieval drainage system, and with the post-medieval field pattern on the 1839 tithe map (CRO(C) DRC 8/42; Fig 2). Their alignments share more similarities with the narrow, rectangular north/south orientated field pattern to the north of Cargo, and to the west of the study area, as shown on the 1839 tithe map. Assuming that the gullies in Trenches 22 and 32 were parallel boundaries of a single field, then such a field would have been very narrow, c30m in width, which again compares to the former fields north of Cargo. This may suggest that a precursor of the nineteenth century field system was one based upon the enclosure of a medieval open field, comparable to the field system to the north of Cargo. Narrow fields such as these would probably have extended out from the main road through the village, and as such broadly matches the observed evidence.
- 7.1.2 ***Post-Medieval Period:*** the tithe map of 1839 (CRO(C) DRC 8/42; Fig 2) shows that the subject site, located on the north-eastern periphery of Cargo village, was divided into seven arable fields (numbers 193-199), which remained essentially unchanged until 1937. The only surviving archaeological evidence pertaining to the post-medieval pastoral agricultural landscape were the large number of ceramic drains encountered in the archaeological trenches, the majority of which were aligned north-west/south-east, following the general orientation of the post-medieval field system. Some of the evaluation trenches contained up to ten drains, some of them intercutting, suggesting a chronological succession of individual drains dating probably from the nineteenth century onwards, and emphasises the wet conditions of the area. The 1839 tithe map, and the 1865 and 1901 Ordnance Survey maps, depict no buildings or other features within the subject site, and the paucity of finds suggests little activity in its vicinity until the construction of the RAF's No 14 Maintenance Unit in 1937.

- 7.1.3 **Modern features:** the evidence from the evaluation trenches suggest that the site was landscaped during the construction of the maintenance units in 1937. The ground level in the vicinity of the tarmac roads and buildings had been reduced, with the stripped topsoil probably redeposited onto the open areas of the site. This may account for the great depth, up to 0.90m, of topsoil. Many of the trenches encountered structures, as well as electricity cables, gas and central heating pipes, water pipes, and drainage, associated with the former RAF No 14 Maintenance Unit. Although several demolished structures, shown on the OS 1972 map, were generally avoided, the edges of demolished buildings D, E and 10 were encountered in the form of concrete stanchions, brick walls, and demolition debris.

8. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 IMPACT

- 8.1.1 The archaeological resource within the study site comprises elements of a post-medieval, but also possibly earlier, agricultural landscape. The nineteenth century drainage system, identified in nearly all of the trenches across the site, is of low archaeological significance. Whilst the features in the north-west of the site may be earlier, and therefore of greater archaeological importance, almost the entire lengths of the features in Trenches 21, 22, 58, and 62 have been excavated. The undated gully in Trench 32 was located in a thin strip of land between the site boundary and RAF Building F, but was not observed in Trench 23 to the south of the building. This feature also has little potential for further work.
- 8.1.2 A majority of the trenches were located on open areas of rough grass. The paucity of finds and features suggests that the site has low archaeological potential. Much of the remainder of the site was covered with the RAF No 14 Maintenance Unit buildings joined by a network of tarmac roads. Several trenches confirmed that as part of the construction of the roads, the land was reduced by approximately 0.5m, truncating natural deposits; these areas are therefore also considered to have low archaeological potential.

8.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.2.1 The identified archaeological resource is generally of low archaeological significance. The only sites of potentially greater significance, the earlier field system, were only within the south-westernmost corner of the study area, and have been almost entirely excavated, and therefore mitigated. It is thus considered that there is no archaeological constraint for the granting of planning permission, and that there is no need for further archaeological investigation.

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APPENDIX 3

GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number 01
Site name Cargohill
NGR NY 3680 6010
SMR No 6110
Site type Settlement cropmark
Period Iron Age /Romano-British?
Source SMR

Description

Well-defined cropmarks are visible on oblique aerial photographs, showing an oval ditched enclosure with an irregular ditched 'annexe' on the north-west and some linear features (ditches?) extending to the east and north-east, which were possibly associated

Assessment

The enclosure is situated on a low hill approximately 300m north of the northern limit of the subject site. The cropmark evidence suggests that the complex does not extend south towards the subject site.

Site number 02
Site name Kingmoor, Cargoback
NGR NY 3725 5933
SMR No 6938
Site type Cropmarks
Period Unknown
Source SMR

Description

Poorly-defined cropmarks of uncertain form or significance.

Assessment

The site lies approximately 230m south-east of the study area.

Site number 03
Site name Grinsdale Oval Enclosure
NGR NY 3750 5850
SMR No 399
Site type Earthworks and cropmarks
Period Iron Age /Romano-British /post-medieval ?
Source SMR

Description

A well-defined D-shaped enclosure, possibly bi-vallate, situated on a low hill adjacent to the east bank of the River Eden, which forms its fourth side. It is probably of Iron Age and/or Romano-British date, although documentary sources suggest it may have been used as a temporary camp by elements of the Jacobite army of Charles Stuart in 1745.

Assessment

The site lies over a kilometre to the south-east of the subject site, and will not be impacted by the development.

Site number 04
Site name King Garth Radar Station, Kingmoor
NGR NY 3600 5970
SMR No 19791
Site type Site of WW2 radar station (mobile?)
Period Modern
Source SMR
Description

This is recorded as the site of a mobile Ground Control Interception Station dating from 1942. Operations were probably carried out largely from wheeled vehicles, but a 1946 photograph shows three buildings on the site.

Assessment

The site lies approximately 800m west of the study area. Its precise character, and its relationship to the 14MU base, is unclear.

APPENDIX 4

SUMMARY CONTEXT LIST

Context	Trench	Category	Form
1	Trench 21	Deposit	Topsoil
2	Trench 21	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 3
3	Trench 21	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 2
4	Trench 21	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 5
5	Trench 21	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 4
6	Trench 21	Deposit	Natural subsoil
7	Trench 22	Deposit	Topsoil
8	Trench 22	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 9
9	Trench 22	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 8
10	Trench 22	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 11
11	Trench 22	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 10
12	Trench 22	Deposit	Natural subsoil
13	Trench 32	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 14
14	Trench 32	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 13
15	Trench 32	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 16
16	Trench 32	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 15
17	Trench 32	Deposit	Topsoil
18	Trench 32	Deposit	Natural Subsoil
19	Trench 58	Deposit	Topsoil
20	Trench 58	Fill	Linear gully/ hedge, fill of 21
21	Trench 58	Cut	Linear gully/ hedge, filled by 20
22	Trench 58	Fill	Ploughmark, fill of 23
23	Trench 58	Cut	Ploughmark, filled by 22
24	Trench 58	Fill	Ploughmark, fill of 25
25	Trench 58	Cut	Ploughmark, filled by 24
26	Trench 58	Fill	Ploughmark, fill of 27
27	Trench 58	Cut	Ploughmark, filled by 26
28	Trench 58	Deposit	Natural Subsoil
29	Trench 62	Deposit	Topsoil
30	Trench 62	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 31
31	Trench 62	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 30
32	Trench 62	Fill	Linear gully, fill of 33
33	Trench 62	Cut	Linear gully, filled by 32
34	Trench 62	Deposit	Natural Subsoil

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Site Location Map

Figure 2: Tithe map (1839) showing the extent of the study area (CRO(C) DRC 8/42)

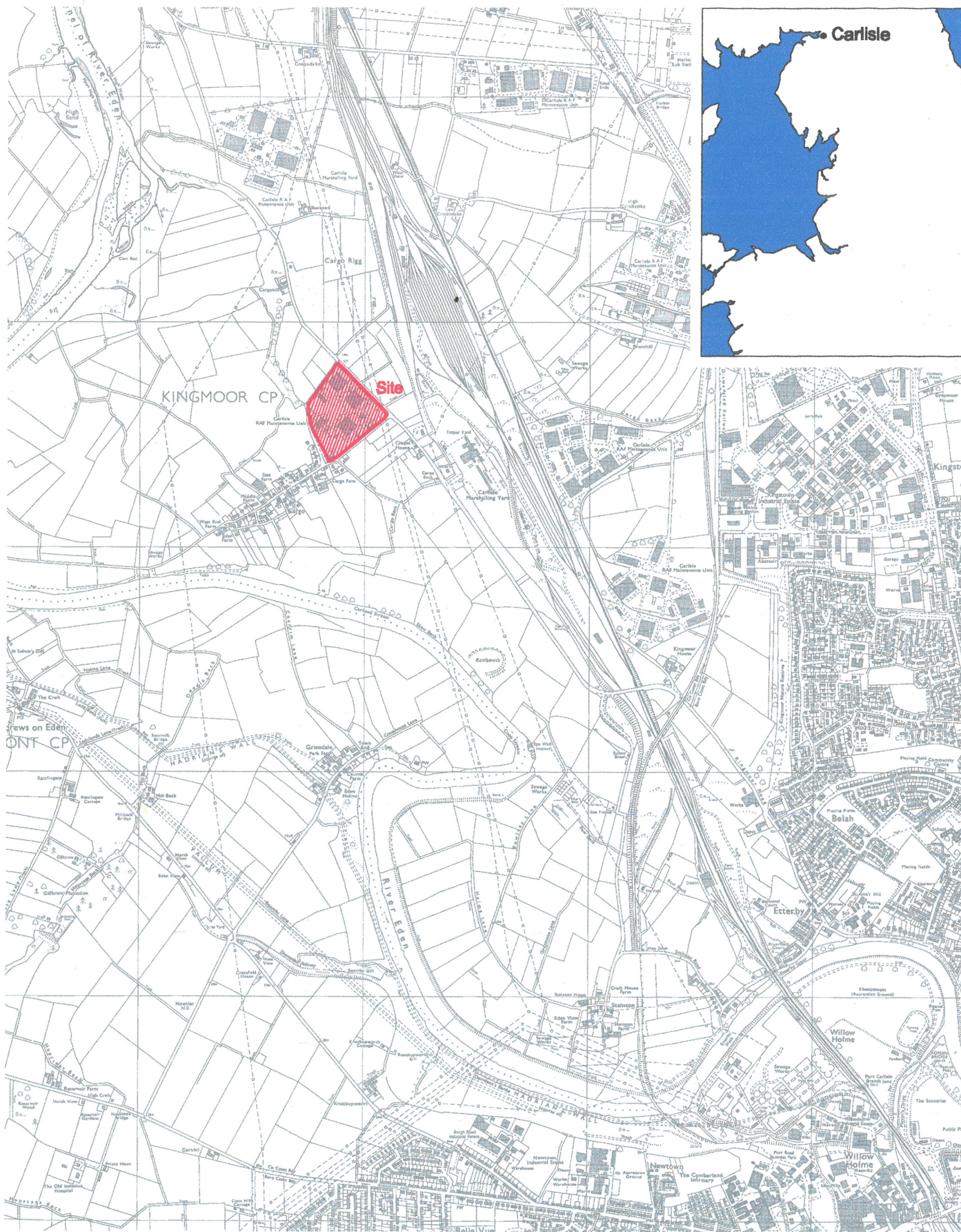
Figure 3: OS 1st edition map (1865) showing the extent of the study area

Figure 4: OS 2nd edition map (1901) showing the extent of the study area

Figure 5: Location of Gazetteer Sites

Figure 6: Trench Location Plan

Figure 7: Plan of Trenches 21, 22, 32, 58, and 62



based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:10000
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0 1km
metres

Figure 1: Site Location Map



Fig 2: Tithe map (1839) showing the extent of the study area ((CRO(C) DRC 8/42))



Fig 3: OS 1st edition map (1865) showing the extent of the study area

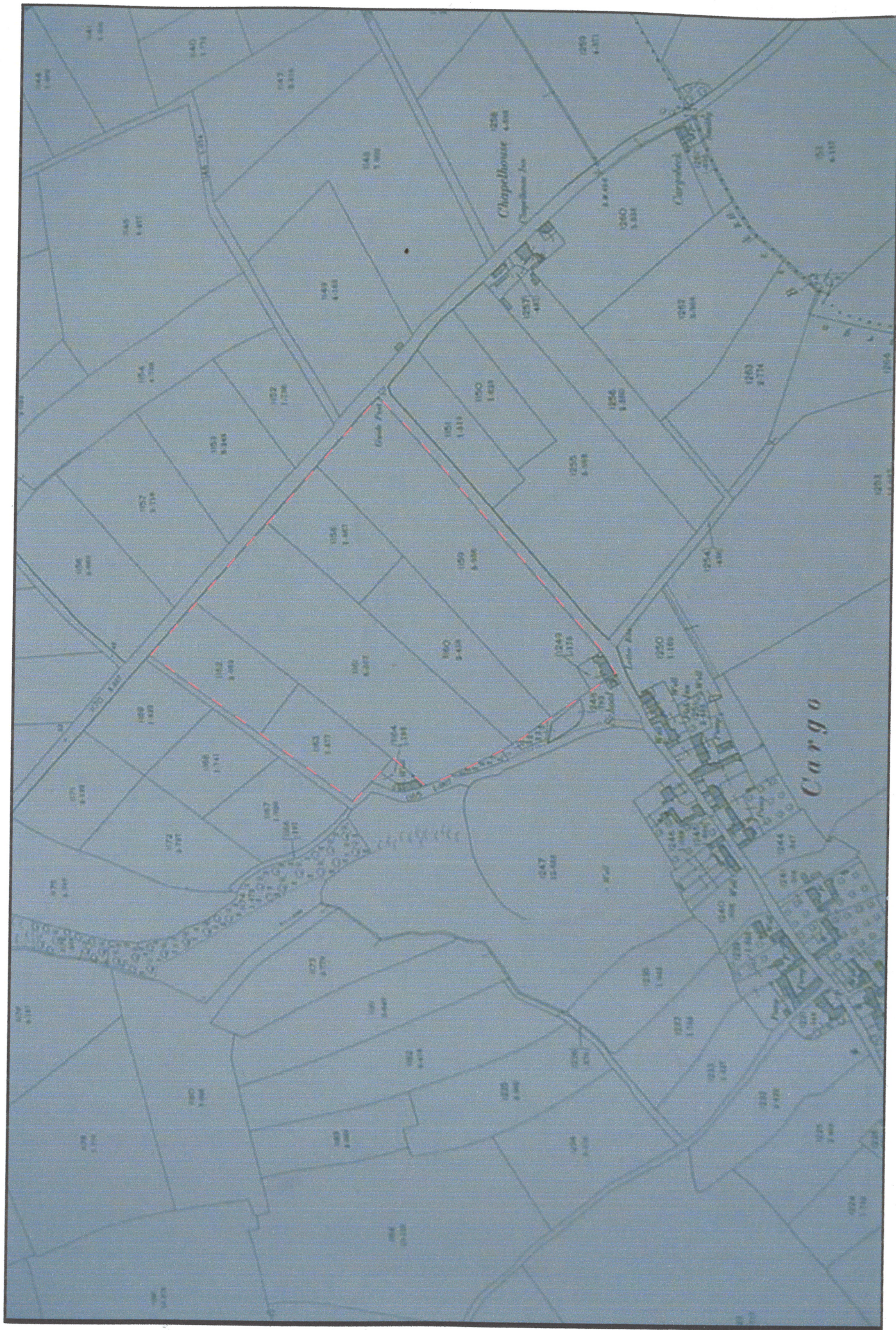
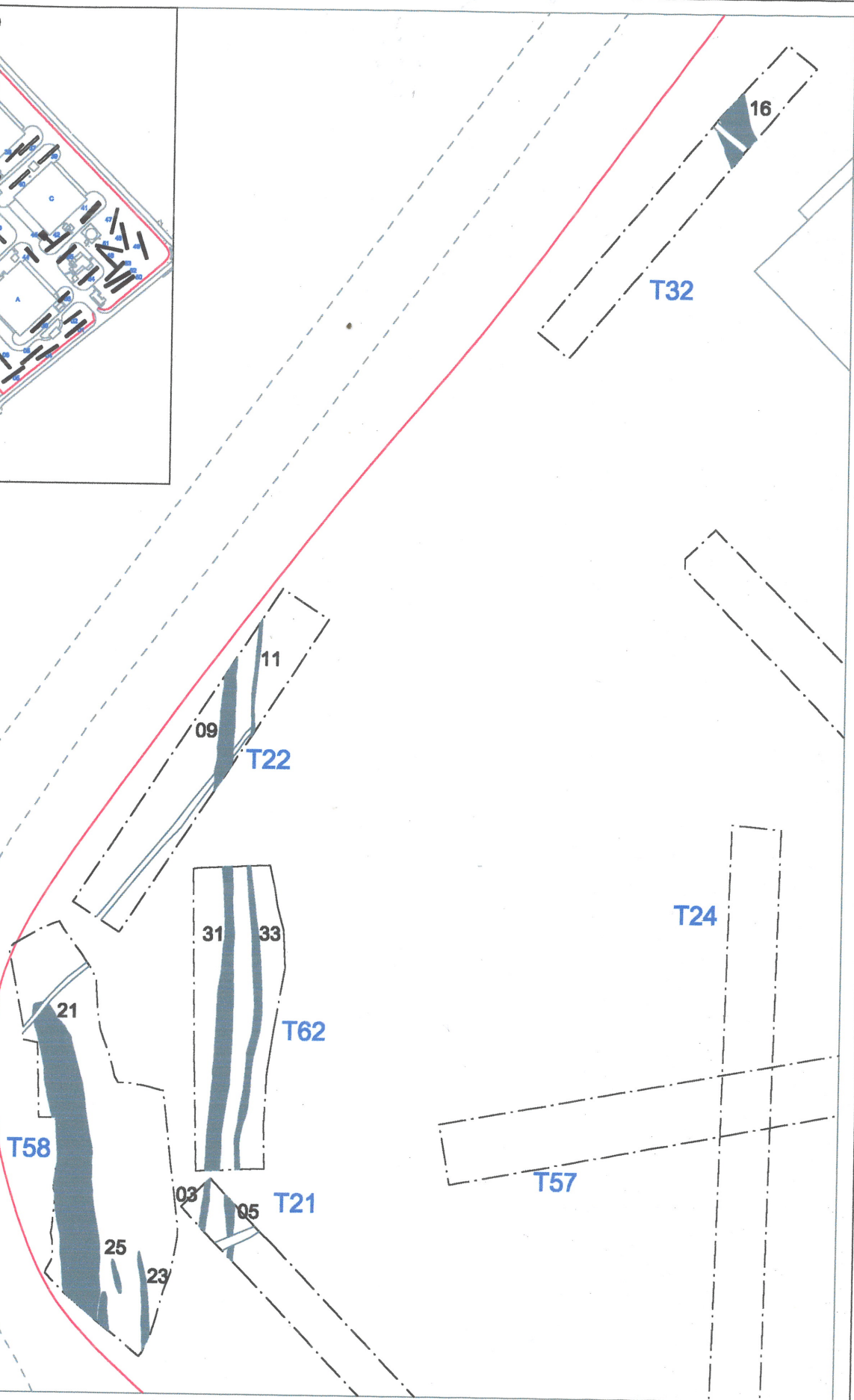


Fig 4: OS 2nd edition map (1901) showing the extent of the study area



Figure 6: Trench Location Plan

Location Map



Scale 1:300 at A4

0 5m



Figure 7: Plan of Trenches 21, 22, 32, 58 and 62

PLATES

Plate 1: RAF Buildings A, B and C looking south-east

Plate 2: Trench 58, Gully **2I**, looking north



Plate 1: RAF Buildings A, B and C looking south-east



Plate 2: Trench 58, Gully **21**, looking north