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Archaeological Investigations: Earthwork Survey, Trial Trenching and Monitoring

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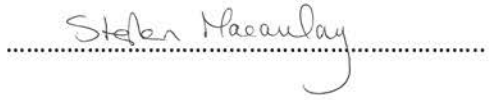

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Great Bowden, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

Archaeological Investigations: Earthwork Survey, Trial Trenching and Monitoring

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Summary

Between the 9th of October 2017 and the 6th of April 2018, Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) undertook several phases of archaeological investigation on land to the east and west of Great Bowden, Leicestershire (SP 73750 88870 to SP 72380 88690 and SP 74870 88760). This entailed an earthwork survey to record ridge and furrow earthworks, followed by a trial trench evaluation (32 30mx1m trenches) along the route to the west of Great Bowden. Subsequently, three further areas were designated for further investigation following the results of the trial trenching. Finally, in March and early April 2018 a watching brief was carried out on land off Dingley Road to the east of Great Bowden.

In advance of the trial trenching an earthwork survey was carried out along the route of the pipeline in the four westernmost fields (Field 1 to 4) and in the field off Dingley Road (Field 6) in order to record the profile of the surviving ridge and furrow earthworks. Extensive and well preserved ridge and furrow is present in the vicinity of the pipeline route and the results of this survey were intended to aid the reconstruction of any features subject to disturbance during the proposed works.

Surviving ridge and furrow earthworks were identified in all of the fields surveyed to the west of Great Bowden, with the pipeline route passing through particularly well-preserved examples in the south-west of Field 2 and the north-east of Field 4. The pipeline passed through areas where headlands were preserved in Fields 2, 3 and 4.

The archaeological investigations revealed the remains of three early Romano-British boundary ditches within an arable field immediately to the west of the village (Field 5), along with several other linear features which the additional areas were targeted to investigate. Alignments of ridge and furrow extending to the south-western extremity of the site were also encountered.

Assemblages of early Roman ceramics were recovered from the ditches encountered in Field 5, together with post-medieval ceramics from the furrows.

Acknowledgements

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stephen Macaulay. The fieldwork was directed by the authors, who were supported by Thomas Houghton, Thomas Sigsworth and Anna Lound. Survey and digitizing was carried out by the authors, Gareth Rees and David Brown. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the management of Katherine Hamilton.

The earthwork survey was carried out in several phases; Lindsey Kemp conducted the UAV and pole-mounted camera surveys whilst Dave Brown carried out a topographic survey using a dGPS. Sarita Louzolo also carried out dGPS survey. The figures were produced by Gareth Rees.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) was commissioned by Anglian Water to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation on the proposed site of a new water pipeline SEW-10721. The new pipeline is located to the west of Great Bowden and runs from land south of Leicester Lane, west to the B6047, (SP 73752 88877 to SP 72381 88691; Fig. 1). This was accompanied by a new water main construction on land north of Dingley Road, to the east of Great Bowden (SP 74877 88757; Fig 15).

1.1.2 The archaeological investigation comprised of three elements:

- Earthwork recording to the west of Great Bowden, on land south of Leicester Lane and to the east of Great Bowden along Dingley Road (Appendix D).
- Evaluation by trial trenching, followed by reinstatement of the earthworks, to the west of Great Bowden. Subsequently also included three additional areas for strip, map and sample.
- Monitoring (Watching Brief) of the construction of a new water main to the east of Great Bowden along Dingley Road.

1.1.3 The Local Planning Authority, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) had recommended the need for a programme of archaeological work, commencing with trial trenching, to be carried out prior to commencement of any development of the site (LCC 2017).

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site of the trial trenching (Fields 1-5; Fig. 1) lay on land to the north of Market Harborough and to the west of Great Bowden, between 94.70m OD (to the north-east) and 108m OD (at the south-west). The trial trenches ran northwards before turning east through Fields 1-4, which was under pasture at the time of the investigations. The route terminated at the eastern-most extremity of the evaluation in Field 5 which was in arable use. The trenching/monitoring along Dingley Road (Field 6) took place on the eastern side of Great Bowden and the area lay at c. 73.5m OD.

1.2.2 The geology of the investigated area is mapped as either Dyrham Siltstone and Mudstone or Whitby Mudstone formations (BGS online viewer). During the various trenching pale yellow clay natural was encountered across all of the trenches, which was interspersed with patches and lenses of ironstone.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The following archaeological and historical background is based on the background from the Written Scheme of Investigation (Macaulay 2017). Selected HER records from a search area along the pipeline route through Fields 1-5 are plotted in Figure 2.

Prehistoric and Roman

1.3.2 The Leicestershire HER identifies a number of Iron Age and Roman settlement sites in the vicinity (Fig. 2). Settlement remains dating from 1st century BC to the 2nd century

AD (MLE21329; not mapped) were recorded c100m southeast of the proposed pumping station, whilst to the west of Great Bowden further Iron Age and Roman remains, including pottery and lithics, were suggestive of earlier archaeology (MLE1999).

Saxon, Medieval and Post-Medieval

1.3.3 Anglo-Saxon activity has been recorded to the west of Great Bowden (MLE17041 and 17042; Fig. 2).

1.3.4 Fieldwalking and metal detecting have produced large quantities of medieval and post-medieval finds to the south-west of Great Bowden (MLE17040; not mapped).

1.3.5 The site of a post-medieval windmill was recorded to the west of Great Bowden (MLE1949).

1.3.6 The eastern leg of the route lies within the historic medieval (and post medieval) settlement core of Great Bowden (MLE9021; not mapped).

1.3.1 The site lies in a well-preserved landscape of ridge and furrow, some of which remained in use until the 19th century (MLE22063). Earthworks associated with the Market Harborough branch of the Great Union Canal (MLE16299) were crossed by the trial trenching to the east of the B6047.

Historic Maps

1.3.2 Examination of readily available historic Ordnance Survey maps for the area (maps.nls.uk, 2018) undertaken in the hope of finding evidence to explain the different ridge and furrow alignments discussed below, produced no useful information.

Geophysical Survey

1.3.3 In July 2015 a gradiometric geophysical survey was carried out by Stratascan on behalf of University of Leicester Archaeological Services (Richardson 2015; Fig. 3). This work was independent of this project, and only covered an area lying between Fields 2-4.

1.3.4 Four positive linear anomalies (of a possible archaeological or agricultural origin) were recorded in Field 2, which were not encountered in the trial trenches.

1.3.5 In addition, widely spaced linear anomalies were recorded across the site, related to the extant ridge and furrow alignments also recorded in the Earthwork Survey below (Appendix D).

1.3.6 The geophysical survey found no evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity in Fields 2-4, a result corroborated by the negative results of the trial trenching described below.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The evaluation sought to establish the character, date and state of preservation of the archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aimed to:

- Establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeological and environmental remains.

2.1.2 The site-specific research objective of this investigation were:

- Pre-construction recording of earthworks along the route of the pipeline to allow the reinstatement of any earthworks damaged/destroyed by the pipeline construction.

2.2 Research Frameworks

2.2.1 The excavation took place within, and aimed to contribute to, the goals of the Regional Research Framework relevant to this area:

- *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (Cooper 2006, Leicester Archaeology Monograph No. 13).
- East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands (Knight et al. 2012, Nottingham Archaeological Monographs 6).

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The methodology for the earthwork survey is presented separately below (Appendix D).

2.3.2 During the initial programme of trial trenching, in October and November 2017, a total of 32 trenches were excavated along a course off-set by 5m from the proposed pipeline, within the arc described by the route. This was equivalent to 5% of the development area (20m x 1800m). The standard dimensions of the trenches were 1m wide and 30m long, with the exception of those tabulated below.

Trench	Alteration
4	Shortened by 24m from the south because of flooding.
13	Shortened by 7m from the east to avoid a hedge line.
19	Shortened by 8.5m from the west to avoid overhead power cables.
21	Moved 3m to the south-south-east to avoid a tree.

24	Shortened by 3.5m from the east to avoid a Tree Protection Order (TPO)
25.2	Shortened by 8m from the north-east to avoid a high-pressure gas main.

Table 1: Trench alterations

2.3.3 Trenches 29-32 were backfilled and then re-opened due to land access timings.

2.3.4 In January 2018 three additional trenches/small areas in Field 5 (25.2, 28.2 and 32.2) were designated by the county archaeologist for stripping, mapping and sampling, to investigate the possibility of further archaeological remains close to those identified during the initial trenching (Figs. 9, 10 and 13).

2.3.5 Finally, in March and April 2018, the topsoil was stripped from the area of the new water main and three trenches were dug along the line of pipeline to the north east of Dingley Road (Field 6, Fig. 1b). Two of these measured 30m x 2.1m and one was 40m x 2.1m. They were excavated to a depth of 0.3m on average.

2.3.6 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 6 tonne, 360 excavator using a 1m wide toothless ditching bucket.

2.3.7 The survey of the trial trenching was carried out with a Leica GS08 GPS fitted with 'Smartnet' technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

2.3.8 Excavation of the furrows encountered in the trial trenches was targeted to focus on those which were near, or showed the potential (based on size, frequency and any variance in the fill compared to nearby furrows) for overlying, other archaeological remains.

2.3.9 A sample of excavated furrows were fully recorded, detailed below. In addition, all the furrows which were not fully recorded in trenches 27-32 were fully excavated, given their proximity to the likely Romano-British enclosure ditch **70** in Trench 28. Full details are provided in the trench plans (Figs. 4-13), and in the trench descriptions (Appendix A).

2.3.10 The main focus of the trial trenching, and subsequent strip map and sample, was to establish the presence, or otherwise, of archaeological features other than furrows. Nonetheless, the data gained from the furrow recording and excavation is brought together to make some general observations in the discussion section below.

2.3.11 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, features and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Digital SLR and black and white film photographs were taken of all features and deposits.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Earthwork Survey

3.1.1 The earthwork survey is presented in its entirety as Appendix D. This Appendix essentially represents a separate report, designed to allow the client to efficiently access the required information for the earthwork reinstatement.

3.2 Fields 1-5

Introduction and presentation of results

3.2.1 The results of the trial trenching and strip map and sample areas (Fields 1-5) are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of all trenches that contained archaeological remains. The results are divided by field and then described by trench where archaeological remains were present. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are included in Appendix B.

3.2.2 Of the 32 trenches excavated during the trial trenching, seven contained archaeological remains (other than furrows) and six were entirely devoid of archaeological features, including furrows (Figs. 4-13). In Trenches 3-6 extensive alluvial deposits (27) were encountered and mechanical excavation up to the safe digging depth failed to reach the base of these deposits (Fig. 4). Similarly, Trenches 21 and 22 revealed thick deposits of what had been interpreted as upcast spoil from canal digging (40) (Fig. 7).

3.2.3 All of the three additional areas designated for strip, map and sample contained archaeological remains (Figs 9, 10 and 13). The results from these areas are presented below after the trial trenches, in Field 5.

3.2.4 Topsoil (01) across the site consisted of dark brown silty clay, which measured 0.1m to 0.3m in thickness, containing very low levels of Post-Medieval and modern debris. Subsoil (02) across the site consisted of a dark grey silty clay, which measured 0.05m to 0.15m, and contained low levels of archaeological artefacts as detailed below.

3.2.5 Unless otherwise stated, no finds were recovered from the fills of the features. Where not provided, full details of finds can be found in Appendix B.

Furrows

3.2.6 Furrows were found in twenty-one trenches along the pipeline route (1-3, 11-17, 23-30, 32-34). It appears that at least two alignments of furrows are represented, although given the unusually narrow trenches (1m) these variations can only be analysed superficially. Further excavation would be required to clarify and characterise these putative phases of ridge and furrow.

3.2.7 In general, the furrows measured between 4.10m and 0.95m wide and between 0.015m and 0.45m deep with wide U-shaped profiles (this characteristic and ubiquitous profile will not be repeated in the results below). The distance between them varied considerably, ranging from 0.67m to 6.5m. The shorter gaps tended to occur where more than one alignment was present, with the larger gaps occurring

where only one alignment was present. They mostly contained similar single mid greyish brown silty clay fills that produced occasional finds of post-medieval pottery and CBM.

Field 1

Trench 1

3.2.8 Trench 1 was located at the south-western extremity of the route and revealed a single ditch, a natural feature and a series of furrows. (Fig. 4). Natural feature **12** ran north-west to south-east through the trench, and in plan had the general appearance of a gully or ditch. Upon excavation it was found to be 0.5m wide and 0.4m deep, but with irregularly sloping sides and an undulating base. The solitary fill of this feature (13), a mid-orange grey silty clay, continued under the southern 'edge' of the feature which, when combined with the irregular profile of this feature, indicated that it was a variation in the natural geology.

3.2.9 Approximately 1.5m to the north was ditch **14**, on a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 14a, Section 6). Measuring 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a flat base, it contained two fills. The lower fill (15) was a mid-brownish yellow silty clay with rare iron-panning which was 0.09m thick. This was overlain by upper fill (16), a 0.1m thick mid-brownish grey silty clay.

3.2.10 The trench also contained five furrows, four of which appeared to be on an east to west alignment. However, so little of these features cut into the natural geology that it was not possible to be conclusive about their alignment. Furrow **10**, by contrast, was well preserved and ran on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. It was 2.36m wide and 0.44m deep with a single mid-brownish orange silty clay fill (11).

Field 2

3.2.11 This field contained a ridge and furrow system surviving as extant earthworks (Plate 6; Appendix D; Fig. D3).

Trench 2

3.2.12 Trench 2 contained eight furrows and no other archaeological features. Three of the features were on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment and the other five ran broadly east to west (Fig. 4). Both furrow **19** and **21** were on the former alignment. Furrow **19**, at the northern end of the trench, was 4.9m wide and 0.4m deep, while **21**, in the centre of the trench, was 1.8m wide and 0.3m deep. Both were filled by mid-bluish grey silty clay, (20) and (22) respectively.

Trench 3

3.2.13 Three furrows were found in this trench, all along an east to west alignment. Furrow **23**, at the south-south-eastern end of the trench, measured 1.3m wide and 0.05m deep (Fig. 4). It was filled solely by a mid-greyish brown silty clay (24). Approximately 1.3m to the north-north-west was furrow **25**, which was 1m wide and 0.06m deep and also filled with a mid-brownish grey silty clay (26). Furrow **17**, approximately

0.5m to the north-north-west, was 1m wide and 0.06m deep, filled by a mid-brownish grey silty clay (18).

3.2.14 Beginning approximately 2.3m to the north-north-west of furrow **17** was a mid-reddish brown alluvial layer (27). This waterlogged clay silt deposit continued for the remaining 24m of the trench. This layer was at least 1.6m deep, at which point the limit of the safe excavation depth was reached. The appearance of this deposit coincided with a drop in the site level where the extant ridge and furrow terminated, giving way to a floodplain to the north-east associated with the watercourse to the north which was canalised in the post-medieval period (MLE16299).

3.2.15 This trench yielded a horseshoe and a fragment of a clay pipe from the subsoil layer (2), both of a Post-Medieval date.

Trench 4

3.2.16 Trench 4 exposed the continuation of alluvial deposit (27) along its entire length (Fig. 4). No meaningful depth measurements were possible before the trench became unworkable due to flooding.

Trench 5

3.2.17 Approximately 26.5m to the north-north-west of Trench 4, Trench 5 was entirely filled with the continuation of alluvial deposit (27) (Fig. 4). Given its position on the floodplain no attempt was made to excavate beyond the 1.2m average depth of the trench due to the likelihood of flooding.

Trench 6

3.2.18 Beginning approximately 22m to the north of Trench 5, Trench 6 again contained only alluvial deposit (27) for its entire length and to an average depth of 0.75m (Fig. 4 and Plate 7).

Trench 9

3.2.19 Lying approximately 50m to the south of the Market Harborough branch of the Grand Union Canal, this trench was on a north-east to south-west alignment (reflecting a change in the orientation of the pipeline route) and contained a single ditch, **41**, near to its south-western end (Fig. 5). This feature was 1m wide and 0.22m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a v-shaped base (Fig. 14, Section 12). It was filled by a single deposit of mid-grey silty clay (43).

3.2.20 This trench showed no signs of the alluvial deposit (27) encountered Trenches in 3, 4, 5 and 6, despite still lying in the low-lying area of the floodplain. Similarly, Trenches 7 and 8, which did not contain any archaeological features, did not reveal any alluvial deposits.

Trench 10

3.2.21 Trench 10 contained a row of five features identified as tree throws, following a generally north-east to south-west alignment (Fig. 5). Tree throw **28** was excavated and was found to measure 0.72m at its widest point with an average depth of 0.08m. It

had the irregularly sloping sides and undulating base typical of such features, and was filled solely with a light brown silty clay (42).

3.2.22 Two sherds of post-medieval pottery (48g) was recovered from the topsoil (1) in this trench.

Trench 11

3.2.23 Approximately 17m to the north-east, this trench encountered features relating to the ridge and furrow system in Field 2 (Fig. 5).

3.2.24 Five furrows were present, all running on a north-west to south-east alignment. Furrow **36**, in the north-eastern half of the trench, was 0.36m wide and 0.07m deep and filled by a dark-brownish grey silty clay (37). Furrow **34**, approximately 2.2m to the north-west, was 0.67m wide and 0.08m deep (Fig. 14). It was also filled by a dark-brownish grey silty clay (35).

Trench 12

3.2.25 Trench 12 contained ten furrows (Fig. 5). The two furrows at the south-western end of the trench appeared to be on a north-west to south-east alignment, with the remaining eight showing an alignment of north-north-west to south-south-east. On furrow was excavated on each apparent alignment. Furrow **32**, on the former alignment, was 1.35m wide and 0.12m deep and was filled by a mid-brownish grey silty clay (33). This fill contained a single sherd of post-medieval pottery (17g). Furrow **30**, on the latter alignment, was 1.4m wide and 0.05m deep, with a mid-greyish brown silty clay fill (31).

Trench 13

3.2.26 Trench 13 contained only nine furrows, all on a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 5).

3.2.27 At this point in Field 2 the ridge and furrow was less visible as upstanding earthworks. Given this, and combined with the lack of any indication of any other archaeology, the paucity of finds from the furrows previously excavated and the lack of variation in alignments, it was decided not to excavate any of the furrows in this trench. The lack of any evidence of non-furrow archaeology indicated by the previous geophysical survey was also a factor in this decision (Richardson 2015).

Field 3

3.2.28 As with Trench 13, Field 2, the furrows within Trenches 14, 15, 16 and 17 in this field, immediately to the east of Field 2, were not excavated (Fig. 6)**.** The furrows in these trenches appeared to all run along the same alignment dictated by the slope of the hill to the south (Fig. D1).

3.2.29 This ridge and furrow system was no longer visible in trenches 18, 19 and 20, which were devoid of archaeological features.

3.2.30 Trench 14 contained two fragments of large mammal bone (31g) from the subsoil (2).

3.2.31 Trench 17 contained two sherds of post-medieval pottery (110g) in the subsoil layer (2).

Field 4

Trench 21

3.2.32 Lying approximately 32m to the south of the Market Harborough branch of the Grand Union Canal, Trench 21 was on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment to the east of Trenches 19 20 (both of which were devoid of archaeological features) (Fig. 7). This trench exposed a mixed silty clay deposit along its entire length which ranged from mid-orange brown to dark blue in colour and contained frequent river gravel inclusions (40).

3.2.33 A machine-dug sondage at the western end of the trench established that this deposit continued for a depth of 0.79m below the subsoil horizon, at which point the safe excavation depth limit was judged to have been reached.

3.2.34 Given the nature of this deposit, its difference to any other deposits in this area and its proximity to the canalised water-course, this layer (40) has been interpreted as up-cast created during the canalisation process.

Trench 22

3.2.35 Running along the same alignment this trench began approximately 32m to the north-east of Trench 21 (Fig. 7). Canal up-cast deposit (40) was found to be present along the entire length of the trench (Plate 5).

3.2.36 A further attempt was made to establish the depth of this deposit by excavating three machine-dug sondages. At the western end a depth of 1.1m was reached below the subsoil horizon before excavation was stopped. At the eastern extremity of the trench the deposit was found to be 1.2m deep before excavation was stopped. In the centre of the trench, however, the lower boundary of the deposit was reached, at a depth of 0.9m below the subsoil.

3.2.37 It is likely that the variations in the depth of this deposit can be accounted for by these deposits directly overlying the remains of ridge and furrow earthworks.

Trench 23

3.2.38 Trench 23 contained only five furrows, all of which were on a north to south alignment (Fig. 7). No evidence of canal up-cast deposit (40) was found.

Trench 24

3.2.39 This trench also contained only five furrows on the same north to south alignment as in Trench 23 (Fig. 7).

Field 5

Trench 25

3.2.40 This trench revealed a single gully, a pit and four furrows. Gully **52** (Fig. 14a, Section 25, Plate 1) was at the western end of this trench running north to south (Fig. 7 and Fig. 10). It measured 0.45m wide and 0.4m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base and was entirely filled by a mid-orange brown silty clay (53). This fill contained one sherd of prehistoric pottery (29g).

3.2.41 Approximately 2.1m to the north-east furrow **44** was on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment. Measuring 1.25m wide and 0.1m deep, it was filled by a mid-grey brown silty clay (45) and contained one sherd of Romano-British pottery (1g), and two sherds of post-medieval pottery (30g). An environmental sample was taken from this deposit but no significant data was collected (Appendix C).

3.2.42 To the north-east, approximately 2m away, a further furrow was found to be on a north-west to south-east alignment. Given its proximity to other archaeology in this trench, this feature was fully excavated, but was not recorded beyond basic planning.

3.2.43 Running on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, furrow **46** was approximately 2m to the north-east of the previous furrow (Fig. 14a, Section 22). This feature was 0.85m wide and 0.17m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled solely by a light-greyish brown silty clay (47).

3.2.44 Approximately 4.6m to the north-east, furrow **48** was 0.75m wide and 0.12m deep and was on a north to south alignment. It was filled entirely by mid-brownish grey silty clay (49), which contained one sherd of post-medieval pottery (3g).

3.2.45 Near to the eastern end of the trench, pit **50** had a circular shape in plan and extended 0.6m out of the southern baulk of the trench (Fig. 14a, Section 24). It was found to be 0.06m deep with gradually sloping sides and a concave base, filled by a mid-greyish brown silty clay (51).

Trench 26

3.2.46 Following a change in the course of the pipeline route, this trench ran west-north-west to east-south-east (Fig. 8 and 11). At the western end of the trench an unexcavated furrow ran north-north-west to south-south-east, whereas the remaining furrows exposed in this trench were on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. It is possible that this change may be accounted for by the change in the direction of slope in this field (Fig. D1).

3.2.47 Near the centre of the trench, furrow **58** was 3.4m wide and 0.016m deep. It was filled solely by a light-greyish brown silty clay (59) which contained four sherds (44g) of post-medieval pottery.

3.2.48 Approximately 2.4m to the south-west, ditch **56**, running north-north-east to south-south-west, was 1.1m wide and 0.14m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 14a, Section 27). Its sole fill was a light-grey brown silty clay (57). This deposit contained one fragment of undated ceramic building material (CBM)

(33g), one sherd of Romano-British pottery (4g) and two sherds of post-medieval pottery (7g).

3.2.49 Less than 1m to the east were post holes **60** and **62**, with **60** being approximately 0.2m south of **62**. They were both found to measure 0.2m in diameter and 0.18m deep, with steep sides and concave bases (Fig. 14a, Sections 29 & 30). Both were filled with a mid-grey silty clay, 61 and 63 respectively.

3.2.50 Immediately to the east was furrow **54**. This feature was 1.8m wide and 0.18m deep, and was filled with a light-grey brown silty clay (55), which contained one fragment of undated CBM (11g); one sherd of prehistoric pottery (4g); two sherds of medieval pottery (7g); and five sherds of post-medieval pottery (66g).

3.2.51 At the eastern end of the trench was a further unexcavated furrow which ran along the north-north-east to south-south-west alignment previously described above.

Trench 27

3.2.52 Trench 27 contained nine furrows and no other archaeological features, all of which were excavated to check for the possibility of earlier archaeological deposits and/or features (Fig. 8 and Plate 2). Five of the furrows ran north-north-east to south-south-west and four ran north to south in a broadly alternating sequence. Three of the features were fully recorded, and are described here.

3.2.53 Furrow **66** was filled by a dark brownish grey silty clay (67) and ran north to south. It measured 0.08m deep and was 0.5m wide before being truncated by furrow **64** to the west (Fig. 14a, Section 31). This furrow was on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment, was 1.64m wide and 0.18m deep and was filled by a light-grey silty clay (65). This was the only stratigraphic relationship between furrows observed during the trenching, and thus was not sufficient to allow for a broader stratigraphic analysis of alignments.

3.2.54 Near the centre of the trench, furrow **68** ran north-north-east to south-south-west and was found to be 1.3m wide and 0.013m deep. The solitary fill (69), a light-brownish grey silty clay, contained one sherd of Romano-British pottery (21g) and seven sherds of post-medieval pottery (18g).

Trench 28

3.2.55 This trench exposed a single ditch (with associated recut) and a pit, alongside two furrows on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment and five furrows running north-north-east to south-south-west (Fig. 8 and 9). Six of the furrows were fully excavated, while the western-most furrow was unexcavated for reasons of health and safety, given its proximity to the deep ditch **70** (**115, 150**) described below.

3.2.56 Ditch **70** (**115**, **150**; further investigated in the strip map and sample area, Trench 28.2, see below) was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east and was heavily truncated by re-cut **72** (Fig. 14a, Section 32, Plate 3). Its surviving dimensions were 0.6m wide and 0.36m deep, with a near-vertical side to the west coming down onto a gradually sloping possible base. The sole surviving fill (73) was a light-grey silty clay which contained 38 fragments of a single horse mandible (84g) and one sherd of Romano-British pottery (2g).

3.2.57 Ditch re-cut **72** cut fill 73 of ditch **70** and appeared to follow precisely the same alignment as the earlier ditch. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base, and measured 0.7m deep and 1.08m wide. This feature was truncated by pit **75** to the east and furrow **77**, which directly overlay it. The lower fill (71), a mid-brownish grey silty clay, contained one fragment of fired clay/CBM (152g) and was 0.15m thick. Above this was a dark-blueish grey silty clay deposit (74) measuring 0.56m thick. This deposit contained three fragments of cattle mandible (41g); seven fragments of fired clay (42g); and 102 sherds of Romano-British pottery (1.405kg). An environmental sample was taken from this deposit but no significant material was recovered (Appendix C).

3.2.58 Given its significant depth and v-shaped profile it is possible that ditch **72** (and possibly earlier ditch **70**) had an enclosure function. The pottery assemblage would also suggest that it may have been associated with settlement in the immediate vicinity.

3.2.59 Fill 74 of ditch **72** was cut by pit **75** to the east. It was not visible in plan being overlain by furrow **77** (Figure 14a, Section 32). The pit had steeply sloping sides and a sub-flat base, measuring 0.57m wide and 0.36m deep in section. Its sole fill (76) was a light-yellowish brown silty clay.

3.2.60 Furrow **77** cut over the top of the recut ditches and pit **75** (Figure 14a, Section 32). This furrow measured 1.7m wide and 0.1m deep, and followed the same alignment as ditches **70** and **72**. This was filled entirely by a light brownish grey silty clay (78).

3.2.61 Approximately 6.5m to the east-south-east of furrow **77** was furrow **79**, which ran north to south. It was 2.4m wide and 0.1m deep, filled by a mid-brownish grey silty clay (80). This deposit contained one fragment of coal (1g); one fragment of undated CBM (3g); and one piece of slag (69g).

Trench 29

3.2.62 Trench 29 contained three furrows on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment, and one on a north to south alignment (Fig. 8). All of these features were fully excavated, but none were recorded beyond GPS planning.

Trench 30

3.2.63 This trench contained five furrows, all of which ran north-north-east to south-south-west (Fig. 8). All were excavated to check for the presence of other archaeological features, but only one, **81**, was fully recorded.

3.2.64 Furrow **81** measured 0.9m wide and 0.02m deep. It was entirely filled by a dark-grey silty clay (82).

Trench 31

3.2.65 At this point the pipeline route turned south-east to follow a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 8).

3.2.66 Trench 31 (Fig. 12) contained no evidence of furrows. However, given that furrows were found in Trenches 30 and 32 it is likely that this is not evidence of the absence of furrows, but rather an indication that any furrows in this area may have been so shallow as to have not survived machine truncation during the opening of this trench.

3.2.67 Approximately 3.7m from the south-eastern end of this trench a ditch (**4**), on a north to south alignment, was exposed (Fig. 14a, Section 1). It measured 0.75m wide and 0.18m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The solitary fill of this feature was a mid-orange grey silty clay (5), which contained three sherds of Romano-British pottery (8g).

Trench 32

3.2.68 This trench contained two ditches and five furrows. All of the furrows were excavated. A linear feature at the north-western end of the trench was initially interprete as a furrow and whislt it was excvated, it was not fully recorded. Upon opening trench 32.2 (see below) it became clear that this feature corresponded with enclosure ditch **99**/**97**/**95** (see Fig. 13) and it seems likely (especially given its different alignment to the other furrows) that this was the continuation of this ditch.

3.2.69 Furrow **8** was fully recorded as it was very close to ditch terminus **6**. It measured 1.25m wide and 0.08m deep, and was entirely filled by a light-greyish brown silty clay (9).

3.2.70 Ditch terminus **6** appeared to be on an east to west alignment, although not enough of the feature was present in the trench to be definitive (Fig. 14a, Section 2, Plate 4). It was found to be 0.66m wide and 0.04m deep, and was solely filled with a dark greyish brown silty clay (7). The gradually sloping sides came down on to a flat base, although it is not possible to be certain that this is the base.

3.2.71 Immediately to the south-east of furrow **8** a dark-reddish brown clay silt colluvial deposit was found to be filling an undulation in the natural geology (83). This was excavated to ensure it was not obscuring any archaeology. It measured 3.63m wide north-west to south-east and 0.23m deep.

Strip, map and sample in Field 5

Trench 25.2

3.2.72 This trench measured 32m along its southern edge, 22m along its northern edge, and 10m wide (Fig. 10). It contained four furrows all on a north to south alignment, two of which were excavated. Furrow **106**, a continuation of furrow **48** in Trench 25, was 0.41m wide and 0.04m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its sole fill was a mid-grey silty clay, which contained 4g of fired clay and one sherd (4g) of medieval pottery (107). Similarly, furrow **108** measured 0.43m wide and 0.05m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The sole fill was a mid-grey silty clay (109). This feature is the continuation of furrow **46** in Trench 25.

3.2.73 In the south-western corner of the trench was linear gully terminus **113**, which extended for approximately 2m on a north to south alignment from the southern limit of the trench (Fig. 14b, section 44, Plate 8). The steeply sloping sides came down onto a flat base, measuring 0.52m wide and 0.26m deep. It was filled entirely by a mid-grey silty clay (114). This feature is the terminus of gully **52** found in Trench 25 (Fig. 10).

3.2.74 Located in the northern half of the trench, sub-circular pit **110** measured 2.35m long, 1.02m wide and 0.26m deep (Fig. 14b, Section 43, Plate 9). Its steeply sloping sides came down onto a concave base. The lower fill was a 0.16m thick mid-yellow grey silty clay which contained one sherd (6g) of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery (111). The upper fill was a dark-bluish grey silty clay containing frequent charcoal flecks, measuring 0.1m thick (112). An environmental sample taken from this fill found only charcoal (Appendix C). This feature was truncated at its western end by furrow **106**.

Trench 28.2

3.2.75 This trench contained six furrows all broadly on a north to south alignment (Fig. 9). Some of them are continuations of furrows found in Trench 28, however the lack of evidence for the furrow immediately to the east of ditch **70** continuing into Trench 28.2 is likely a result of a slightly deeper machine-stripping depth in that part of the trench.

3.2.76 In the western third of the trench, running along a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment was a line of four pits **153**, **155**, **157** and **161**. These circular features ranged from 1.4m to 0.8m in diameter and 0.52m to 0.32m in depth, with moderately sloping sides and concave bases. They were filled by light to dark mid-brown grey silty clay, ranging from 0.52m to 0.19m in depth (154, 156, 158, 159, 160, 162, 163). Pit **153** contained one possibly Neolithic secondary flint flake (2g) in its sole fill (154) (Fig. 14b, Section 56). Pit **161** contained one prehistoric primary flint flake (3g) in its lower fill (162). These finds are likely to be residual in nature (Appendix A).

3.2.77 In the central third of the trench curvilinear ditch **139** extended from the southern limit of the trench running north-east to south-west, turning east after approximately 4m before being truncated by ditch **115** and a furrow (Fig. 14b, Section 52, Plate 11). This ditch measured 11.07m wide and 0.38m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled entirely by a mid-grey brown silty clay which contained one flint core fragment (24g) (140). This feature was not seen previously in Trench 28 where it may have been entirely truncated by ditch **70**/recut **72**.

3.2.78 Running along a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, ditch **115** (and recut **118**) turned west-south-west after approximately 14m (Fig. 14b, Section 45, Plate 10). It measured 1.7m wide and 0.78m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a 0.34m deep light-grey brown silty clay to the north-east (116), and by a similar 0.76m deep fill to the south-west (117). These two deposits were truncated by ditch recut **118** (Fig. 14b, Section 45, Plate 10). This measured 1m wide and 0.78m deep, with steeply sloping sides coming down onto a flat base. It was filled with a lower deposit of light-grey silty clay measuring 0.42m deep (119), and an upper deposit of mid-brown grey silty clay which was 0.32m deep and contained 55 sherds of Romano-British pottery (1075g), 21 fragments of animal bone (81g), one piece of CBM (5g), one burnt stone (227g) and six pieces of slag (91g).

3.2.79 Ditch **150** was the continuation of ditch **115**, lacking any sign of recut **118**, and having changed alignment to run east-south-east to west-north-west. It also had steeply sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 1.6m wide and 0.72m deep. The lower fill of a mid-brown grey silty clay measured 0.5m deep (151) and contained one irregular

shatter flint (7g), three fragments of animal bone (45g), five pieces of slag (56g) and 16 sherds of Romano-British pottery (216g). The upper fill was a light-brown grey silty clay measuring 0.22m deep (152), which contained three sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery (23g) and seven fragments of animal bone (1g). Ditch **115** (**118**, **150**) is the continuation of ditch **70** found in Trench 28.

3.2.80 Also observed in Section 45 (Fig. 14b, Plate 10) was gully **121** (**127**), running on a north-west to south-east alignment and cutting recut ditch 118. No evidence was seen of this gully in the opposing section despite it being the stratigraphically latest feature, thus it seems to have terminated in this excavated segment. Its dimensions ranged from 0.6m to 0.52m wide and 0.36m to 0.13m deep, with steep to moderately sloping sides and a sub-flat base. Its sole fill was a mid-grey silty clay (122, 128). Deposit (128) contained five sherds of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery (93g) (Fig. 14b, Section 48).

3.2.81 In the western third of the trench probable gully **123** was so heavily truncated only approximately 2.9m of the feature had survived, running along a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. It was 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was entirely filled by a mid-grey silty clay (124).

3.2.82 Running east-north-east to west-south-west a further gully, **129**, appeared to terminate approximately 3.6m after entering the trench from the northern limit. It was not possible to excavate the likely terminus as this area of the trench was flooded. It measured 0.58m wide and 0.19m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its sole fill was a mid-yellow brown silty clay (130).

3.2.83 In the eastern third of the trench sub-circular pit **125** was 2m long, 1.1m wide and 0.18m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The sole fill was a mid-grey silty clay (126).

Trench 32.2

3.2.84 No furrows were observed in this trench, despite their presence in Trench 32 (Fig. 13).

3.2.85 The north-westernmost feature in this trench was sub-circular pit **103**, which measured 1.6m long and 0.45m wide, had a moderately sloping side to the west and a near-vertical side to the east with a sub-flat base. It was entirely filled with a mid-grey silty clay (104) which contained one sherd of Romano-British pottery (9g) and six fragments of animal bone (160g).

3.2.86 Immediately to the south-east was a probable colluvial deposit (131). This measured approximately 8.4m north-west to south-east and approximately 10m south-west to north-east. A machine-excavated sondage was put across this deposit, where it was found to be no more than 0.2m thick (Plate 17). This deposit was cut by ditches **95** and **101**, and no other features were identified in the machine slot.

3.2.87 Ditch **101** ran north to south through the trench, truncating deposit (131) and was truncated itself by ditch **95**. It measured 1m wide and 0.22m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 14b, Section 41). It was filled by a mid-grey silty clay and contained two fragments of animal bone (10g) (102).

3.2.88 Ditch **95** (**97**, **99**) was a linear ditch which ran east to west before turning directly south after approximately 8m (Fig. 14b, Section 40, Plate 18). As noted above (Trench 32) this ditch probably represents a continuation of a feature initially interpreted as a furrow in Trench 32. It ranged in dimensions from 0.8m to 0.5m wide and 0.15m to 0.1m deep. It had steeply sloping sides and a sub-flat to concave base. It was filled by a mid-grey silty clay (96, 98, 100). Deposit (100) contained one sherd of Romano-British pottery (14g) and one fragment of animal bone (37g).

3.2.89 Near the centre of the trench natural undulation/hollow **93** was identified (Fig. 14b, Section 37, Plate 12). This was approximately 7.1m wide, 0.63m deep and crossed the trench on a north to south alignment. It had a moderately sloping side to the north-west and a generally flat, but somewhat undulating, base. It was entirely filled by a mid-brown grey silty clay (94). The deposit contained one sherd of medieval pottery (5g), sherds of post-medieval pottery (106g) and one animal tooth (3g). This was the continuation of deposit (83) found in Trench 32. The relatively small amount of finds and lack of any evidence of wheel ruts argues for this not having been used as a trackway of any kind, but rather a natural undulation respected as a landscape feature by those carrying out agricultural activity, as seen by the fact that it is cut by ditch **145** along the same alignment.

3.2.90 Ditch **145** ran north to south through the trench and seemed to respect the natural undulation **93** immediately to the west (Plate 14). It measured 0.8m wide and 0.46m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled entirely by a dark-yellowish brown silty clay (146). Despite containing no finds, it is likely that this feature was post-medieval in date given that it cut deposit (94) which contained medieval and post-medieval pottery.

3.2.91 Approximately 3.3m to the east was sub-circular pit **132** (Fig. 14b, Section 51, Plate 15). This measured 3.35m long, 2.1m wide and 1.2m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The lowest fill was a 0.22m thick mid-grey silty clay which contained one sherd of medieval pottery (23g) (133). Above this was a 0.35m thick mid-brown grey silty clay (134) containing nine fragments of animal bone (150g). This was followed by a light-brown grey silty clay (136) which was 0.35m deep and contained 1 sherd of CBM (12g) and 13 animal bone fragments (69g). The upper fill was a light-grey silty clay, 0.25m thick, containing two sherds of residual Romano-British pottery (16g).

3.2.92 Truncated by pit **132**, feature **137** was a probable pit whose dimensions and extent it was not possible to adequately record given the flooded conditions on site. It had a gently sloping side to the east, and a concave base. Its sole fill was a dark grey silty clay (138).

3.2.93 Immediately to the south, and truncated by pit **132**, was pit sub-circular pit **141** (Plate 16). Given its irregular shape it may be that this was more than one feature represented here, although this was not clarified by excavation. This feature was 3.5m long, 2.2m wide and 0.9m deep. It had steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The lower fill consisted of a 0.25m thick mid-grey brown silty clay (142). Above this was a 0.24m deep mid-grey silty clay (143). The upper fill was a mid-brown grey silty clay (144). Environmental samples were taken from deposits (143) and (144) (Appendix C).

3.2.94 Ditch **84** was on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment and appeared to terminate approximately 1.8m in from the south-eastern corner of Trench 32.2, where it was truncated by pit **86** (Fig. 14b, Section 34). It measured 1.05m wide and 0.17m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a thin basal deposit of mid-red sandy clay (92), above which was a 0.17m thick mid-grey silty clay (85).

3.2.95 Approximately 1m to the north were post holes **88** and **90**. Both were circular in plan, with gently sloping sides and concave bases. The former was 0.36m in diameter while the latter was 0.24m. Both were 0.1m deep and contained single fills of mid-grey silty clay (89, 91).

3.2.96 Truncating these post holes, as well as ditch **84**, was pit **86**. This sub-circular feature was 2.02m in diameter and 0.26m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled entirely by a mid-grey silty clay (87), from which an environmental sample was taken (Appendix C). This fill contained three sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery (28g), one piece of fired clay (6g) and one fragment of animal bone (43g).

3.3 Watching Brief in Field 6 (Dingley Road)

3.3.1 The investigations in Field 6 comprised the excavation of 90m of continuous trenching on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment which has been divided into three separate trenches (33, 34 and 35) (Fig. 15). The trenches were all 2.1m wide and exposed a series of ditches, several pits/postholes and three furrows.

Trench 33

3.3.2 Located at the southern end of the pipeline within Field 6, Trench 33 was on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment and measured 40m long x 2.1m wide (Fig. 15).

3.3.3 The most southerly feature was ditch **1004**, aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 1.24m wide and was 0.22m deep, featuring gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was found to contain a single deposit of light orangey grey silty clay (1005).

3.3.4 Ditch **1010**, immediately to the north of ditch **1004**, was also aligned north-east to south-west, measuring 1.1m wide and 0.16m deep. A single deposit (1011) was excavated, from which 1182g faunal remains were recovered, along with a single sherd of medieval pottery (155g). Truncating this feature was ditch **1006** to the north, and a probable field drain back-filled with redeposited natural.

3.3.5 Ditch **1006**, measured 1.06m wide and 0.4 deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was found to be directly parallel to and to truncate ditch **1010**. A single deposit (1007) was excavated of dark brown grey silty clay from which 478g of faunal remains were recovered.

3.3.6 Ditch **1008** was aligned north to south and was exposed along the length of the trench for 3m, it was found to be 0.86m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides

and a concave base. A single deposit (1009) of dark grey brown silty clay was excavated. No finds were recovered.

3.3.7 Gully **1012**, aligned north-east to south-west was 0.5m wide, and 0.33m deep. This feature was found to have steep sides and a slightly concave base, with a single deposit (1013) of dark reddish grey ironstone rich clay.

3.3.8 Natural feature **1014**, located between **1012** to the south and **1016** to the north appeared in plan to be a ditch aligned north-east to south-west. On excavation, however, it was found to be 0.56m wide and 0.07m deep with an irregular concave profile and did not appear to represent a deliberately cut feature.

3.3.9 Furrow **1016**, the most northerly feature in this trench, was aligned eat to west and measured 2.56m wide and 0.12m deep. This feature contained a single deposit (1017) of mid orangey brown silty clay. Evidence of bioturbation from roots was seen resulting in a slightly uneven profile that was otherwise a slight concave base with gentle sloping sides.

Trench 34

3.3.10 Nineteen metres from the southern end of Trench 34 furrow **1018** was exposed, aligned east to west and measuring 2.6m wide and 0.1m deep. This contained a single deposit (1019) of mid greyish brown silty clay, from which no finds were recovered.

3.3.11 Furrow **1020** located 4.75m north of ditch **1018**, and again was found to be 2.1m long, 2.16mn wide and 0.12m deep, with evidence of rooting at the base of an otherwise shallow slightly concave based gentle sided ditch (Figure 16, Section 67). A single sherd of medieval pottery 16g was recovered from its fill (1021), a mid brown grey silty clay.

Trench 35

3.3.12 Posthole **1022**, located 2m from the southern end of Trench 35, was 0.7m in diameter with a total depth of 0.28m, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (Fig 16, Section 68). A single deposit (1023) of dark brown grey silty clay was excavated, with no finds or notable inclusions.

3.3.13 Ditch **1024**, directly to the north and truncated by posthole **1022**, was aligned east to west. It was found to be 0.5m wide, with a total depth of 0.54m, steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single dark grey brown silty clay (1025) within which very rare charcoal fragments were seen.

3.3.14 Slightly further to the north was pit **1026**. This feature was oval in plan, with sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 0.75m along it longest axis and up to 0.19m deep. It contained a brown grey silty clay (1027), in which a small amount of charcoal was seen. In the process of obtaining an environmental sample this feature was 100% excavated. It was bounded to the north by an *in situ* ceramic field drain.

3.3.15 Some 6.5m from the northern limit of the trench was pit **1030**, measuring 0.24m deep and 0.35m wide and partially extending under the baulk of the trench to the north-west. It contained a single deposit (1031) of very dark brown grey silty clay from which 1 sherd of worked flint, a sherd of Romano-British pottery and some heat affected flint were recovered. This feature truncated ditch **1028**, to the north.

3.3.16 Ditch **1028**, aligned east to west, was truncated to the south by **1030**. It was found to be 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep, with steep sloping sides and a concave base. A single firm deposit (1029) of mid brown grey silty with no notable inclusions was excavated.

3.2 Finds and environmental summary

3.3.17 A total of 254 sherds of pottery, weighing 3.748kg, was recovered from the features along the route. Of this assemblage, over three quarters was early Romano-British in date, which derived almost exclusively from Field 5. The rest of the assemblage consisted of medieval and post-medieval pottery, largely recovered from the fills of furrows and from topsoil and subsoil deposits. There was also one prehistoric sherd from a furrow in Field 5, and a small assemblage of residual prehistoric flintwork. A total of 2.8kg of large animal bone was also recovered along the route. The feature most prolific for finds was enclosure ditch **70** (**72**, **115**, **118**, **150**), where the majority of the Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British pottery and animal bone were recovered.

3.3.18 Of the environmental samples taken, many contexts contained few poorly preserved remains. The samples taken from Trenches 28 and 28.2 in Field 5 proved to the most productive, with charred grain, legumes and weed seeds recovered from the Early Roman features.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 There were two site-specific factors which somewhat inhibited the archaeological investigations undertaken along the pipeline route. Firstly, the north-eastern portion in Field 2 was affected by its location on a low-lying floodplain. This led to Trench 4 being considerably shortened due to flooding, and also meant that a large portion of Trench 3, and the entirety of Trenches 5 and 6 were filled with an alluvial layer (27), below which it was not possible to excavate and which may have sealed earlier archaeological features and deposits (Fig. 4 and Plate 7).

4.1.2 The second site-specific impediment was the presence, in Field 4, of the probable canal up-cast deposit (40). It is possible that this may have overlain archaeological features in Trenches 21 and 22, but, again, its depth (extending to beyond 1.2m deep below the subsoil horizon in Trench 22) meant that this was not possible to satisfactorily investigate this (Fig. 7).

4.1.3 A more general and common issue was the high likelihood that the medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow systems along the route had truncated and/or destroyed earlier archaeological remains. The discovery of earlier remains under furrows, such as ditch **70** in Trench 28, implies that other, less substantial, features may not have survived.

4.1.4 It should also be noted that the strip, map and sample phase of the fieldwork was hampered to a large extent by inclement weather and flooding in the trenches. This led to the extent of at least one feature (pit **137**) being unknown, and to some interventions being put in less than ideal locations (such as Section 45 not being able to be placed at the corner of ditch **115**).

4.1.5 During the watching brief off Dingley Road (Field 6) the pipeline was stripped in stages due to concerns that the trenches may have flooded if left exposed overnight.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The general aim of establishing the presence or absence of archaeological remains along the route was met. These remains fell broadly into two categories; Roman remains found in Field 5 and Medieval – Post-Medieval ridge and furrow remains in Fields 1-6.

4.2.2 The data provided by the Earthwork Survey will allow for the reinstatement works (Appendix D).

4.3 Interpretation

Fields 1-5

Prehistoric

4.3.1 The presence in Trench 28.2 of pits **153**, **155**, **157** and **161**, two of which contained worked flint, along with curvilinear ditch **139**, which also contained worked flint, may

indicate the potential for further prehistoric features on this site. However, the fact that these finds are likely to be residual, and that the quantities are relatively small, implies a lack of any large-scale prehistoric activity.

Late Iron Age

4.3.2 The presence of a small amount of Late Iron Age pottery in Field 5 (gully **52** in Trench 25, furrow **54** in Trench 26 and ditch **115** in Trench 28.2) indicates some pre-Roman activity in this area. While not being in large enough quantities to securely date any features, it is possible that gully **52**, and possibly other undated features, may be Late Iron Age in origin. This corresponds with existing HER data for this area, which records Late Iron Age – Early Roman activity (MLE1999).

Roman

4.3.3 The data gathered from the trenches in Field 5 allows for a general interpretation of Romano-British agricultural and settlement activity in this area. Ditches **4**, **56** and **95** were likely field boundary ditches containing small amounts of early Roman pottery, whereas boundary/enclosure ditch **70** (**72**, **115**, **118**, **150**) produced over a kilogram of abraded early Roman pottery (Appendix B). This, combined with the existing local HER data (MLE1999), suggests the presence of early Roman agricultural and settlement activity in the vicinity, although it is not possible to further characterise this based on current evidence. Unfortunately, there is also no geophysical data available for this field, which might have indicated the scale and extent of this activity.

4.3.4 No evidence for Roman activity was found in Fields 1-4. This is consistent with the results of the earlier geophysical survey (Richardson 2015).

Medieval/Post-Medieval

4.3.5 The data gathered from Fields 1-4 consisted of ridge and furrow on more than one alignment, and these which continued into Fields 5. The earthwork survey below describes in detail the extant alignments encountered (Appendix D). In some trenches, for example Trench 24, only one well-spaced alignment was present (Fig. 7). However, several trenches, such as Trench 27, clearly showed the presence of more than one alignment, with furrows being unusually close together (Fig. 8).

4.3.6 Given the nature of ridge and furrow, the presence of more than one alignment in the same area can only be explained by different phases of similar field systems, although it is not possible to assign specific dates to these various phases on the basis of the fieldwork results described here.

4.3.7 It is equally difficult to offer an explanation for the alteration in the alignment of the ridge and furrow, especially as no useful data could be gleaned from the available historic Ordnance Survey maps (Maps.nls.uk, 2018). One possible explanation, however, may be that changes in ploughing techniques and draft animals, which led to the transition from the earlier 'S' shaped strips to far straighter alignments, may be responsible (Aston, 1985: 122). Certainly, the alignments visible in the landscape today are of the straighter variety and seem to closely respect the local topography (Fig. D1). Here we see that, through Fields 1-4 and 6, the ridges radiate down the slope from the higher ground to the east and south. Consequently, it is possible to say, for example,

that the furrows passing east to west through Trench 2 in Field 2 are part of the same system as those passing north to south through Trench 17 in Field 3. The complexity of the surviving ridge and furrow systems in this area is demonstrated by the presence of an east to west alignment immediately to the south of Trenches 8, 9 and 10 in Field 2 (Fig 5), which does not follow the line of the slope. This anomaly may be explained by this alignment being parallel to the Market Harborough branch of the Grand Union Canal, and thus respecting the boundary created by it. Certainly, the complexity of the ridge and furrow in this landscape would benefit from further investigation and research, outside of the scope of this report.

4.3.8 Medieval pit **132** and probable post-medieval boundary ditch **145**, both in Trench 32.2 (Fig. 13), indicate the presence of other post-Roman agricultural features along with the ridge and furrow systems.

4.3.9 A final point of interest to note is the similarity of alignment of ditches **101** and **145**. Ditch **101** is truncated by Romano-British ditch **95**, whereas ditch **145** is probably of post-medieval date. The similarity of alignment could indicate a continuity of field boundaries stretching over a long period of time.

Dingley Road (Field 6)

4.3.10 The majority of features uncovered during this phase of the project align with features described in the earthworks survey (Appendix D, Fig D5). These include three furrows **1016**, **1018**, and **1020** (Plate 19) from which a single sherd of abraded medieval pottery was recovered, Ditches **1008**, **1006**, **1028** also appear to align broadly with the ridge and furrow, although no dating evidence was found.

4.3.11 Ditch **1024** (Plate 22), is on a parallel alignment to **1028** and **1006**, and seems likely to be a drainage ditch, possibly from an earlier phase of field system and may relate to ditch **1004** to the south, which is also likely to be an earlier field boundary.

4.3.12 Pit **1030**, contained a single worked flint, some burnt flint and a single sherd of Nene-Valley Greyware pottery (0.008Kg. It is likely that these finds are residual as the pit is cuts ditch **1028**, and is perhaps most likely to date to the medieval or post-medieval period.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 This investigation has been able to present evidence for Romano-British settlement and later medieval and post-medieval agricultural activity immediately to the west of Great Bowden. The Roman remains confirm the HER records for activity of this period in this vicinity and it is also significant that archaeological remains were discovered beneath the later ridge and furrow systems. The discovery of *at least* two phases of ridge and furrow alignment is also of interest and may relate to different agricultural regimes associated with Great Bowden's medieval and post-medieval open field system.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1				
General description			**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one ditch, one natural feature and five furrows, four of which were not excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
10	Cut	Furrow		
11	Fill	Furrow		
12	Cut	Natural Feature		
13	Fill	Natural Feature		
14	Cut	Ditch		
15	Fill	Ditch		
16	Fill	Ditch		

Trench 2				
General description			**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench contained eight furrows, six of which were not excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
19	Cut	Furrow		
20	Fill	Furrow		
21	Cut	Furrow		
22	Fill	Furrow		

Trench 3				
General description			**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench contained three furrows and a reddish brown alluvial deposit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.9
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil	Horseshoe, clay pipe	Post-Medieval
17	Cut	Furrow		
18	Fill	Furrow		
23	Cut	Furrow		
24	Fill	Furrow		
25	Cut	Furrow		
26	Fill	Furrow		
27	Layer	Alluvial deposit		

Trench 4				
General description			**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench devoid of archaeology and was shortened due to water logging. Consists of topsoil overlying reddish brown alluvial deposit.			**Length (m)**	6
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.95
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
27	Layer	Alluvial deposit		

Trench 5				
General description			**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying reddish brown alluvial deposit.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	1.2
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
27	Layer	Alluvial deposit		

Trench 6				
General description			**Orientation**	NNW-SSE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying reddish brown alluvial deposit.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.75
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
27	Layer	Alluvial deposit		

Trench 7				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 8				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 9				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
41	Cut	Ditch		
43	Fill	Ditch		

Trench 10				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay, which is cut by five tree bowls.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil	Pottery	Post-Medieval
2	Layer	Subsoil		
28	Cut	Tree bowl		
42	Fill	Tree bowl		

Trench 11				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained six furrows, two of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
34	Cut	Furrow		
35	Fill	Furrow		
36	Cut	Furrow		
37	Fill	Furrow		

Trench 12				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained ten furrows, two of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
30	Cut	Furrow		
31	Fill	Furrow		
32	Cut	Furrow		

33	Fill	Furrow	Pottery	Post-Medieval

Trench 13				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained nine furrows, none of which were excavated. It was shortened to avoid overhead power cables. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	23
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 14				
General description			**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained thirteen furrows, none of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil	Bone	

Trench 15				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained nine furrows, none of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 16				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained six furrows, none of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 17				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained ten furrows, none of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		

2	Layer	Subsoil	Pottery	Post-Medieval

Trench 18				
General description			**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 19				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench devoid of archaeology and was shortened to avoid overhead power cables. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	22
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 20				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 21				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a silty clay mixed deposit identified as upcast from the canal approximately 35m to the north. This deposit was found to be 0.8m deep in a machine dug sondage at the western end of the trench.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
40	Layer	Canal upcast deposit		

Trench 22				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a silty clay mixed deposit identified as upcast from the canal approximately 40m to the north-west. This deposit was found to be 1.26m deep in a machine dug sondage in the middle of the trench.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
40	Layer	Canal upcast deposit		

Trench 23				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench contained six furrows, none of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 24				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench contained five furrows, none of which were excavated. It was shortened to avoid a tree with a protection order applied. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.			**Length (m)**	27
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 25				
General description			**Orientation**	WSW-ENE
Trench contained four fully excavated furrows, a pit and a gully. It was shortened to avoid a Tree Protection Order to the south-west. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	20
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
44	Cut	Furrow		
45	Fill	Furrow	Pottery	Roman, Post-Medieval
46	Cut	Furrow		
47	Fill	Furrow		

48	Cut	Furrow		
49	Fill	Furrow	Pottery	Post-Medieval
50	Cut	Pit		
51	Fill	Pit		
52	Cut	Gully		
53	Fill	Gully	Pottery	Prehistoric

Trench 26

General description			Orientation	WNW-ESE
Trench contained four furrows, three of which were excavated. It also contained one ditch and two post holes. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			Length (m)	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
54	Cut	Furrow		
55	Fill	Furrow	Ceramic Building Material (CBM), Pottery	Prehistoric, Medieval, Post-Medieval
56	Cut	Ditch		
57	Fill	Ditch	CBM, Pottery	Roman, Post-Medieval
58	Cut	Furrow		
59	Fill	Furrow	Pottery	Post-Medieval
60	Cut	Post Hole		
61	Fill	Post Hole		
62	Cut	Post Hole		
63	Fill	Post Hole		

Trench 27

General description			Orientation	WNW-ESE
Trench contained nine furrows, all of which were excavated. It also contained one ditch and two post holes. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			Length (m)	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil	Nail	
64	Cut	Furrow		
65	Fill	Furrow		
66	Cut	Furrow		
67	Fill	Furrow		
68	Cut	Furrow		

69	Fill	Furrow	Pottery	Roman, Post-Medieval

Trench 28				
General description			**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained seven furrows, six of which were excavated. It also contained one ditch and a pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
70	Cut	Ditch		
71	Fill	Ditch	Fired clay	
72	Re-cut	Ditch		
73	Fill	Ditch	Bone, pottery	Roman
74	Fill	Ditch	Bone, fired clay, pottery	Roman
75	Cut	Pit		
76	Fill	Pit		
77	Cut	Furrow		
78	Fill	Furrow		
79	Cut	Furrow		
80	Fill	Furrow	Coal, CBM, slag	

Trench 29				
General description			**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained four furrows, all of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		

Trench 30				
General description			**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained five furrows, all of which were excavated. It also contained one ditch and two post holes. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
81	Cut	Furrow		
82	Fill	Furrow		

Trench 31				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained only one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
4	Cut	Ditch		
55	Fill	Ditch	Pottery	Roman

Trench 32				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained five furrows, all of which were excavated. It also contained one recorded ditch and a colluvial layer. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.85
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
6	Cut	Ditch		
7	Fill	Ditch		
8	Cut	Furrow		
9	Fill	Furrow		
83	Layer	Colluvium		

Trench 25.2				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Contained five furrows, four of which were excavated. Also contained one gully and one pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	32
			Width (m)	10
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
106	Cut	Furrow		
107	Fill	Furrow		
108	Cut	Furrow		
109	Fill	Furrow		
110	Cut	Pit		
111	Fill	Pit		
112	Fill	Pit		

Trench 28.2		
General description	**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Trench contained six furrows, none of which were excavated. It also contained four ditches, one ditch re-cut, one gully and 5 pits.	**Length (m)**	50
	Width (m)	10

Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
115	Cut	Ditch		
116	Fill	Ditch		
117	Fill	Ditch		
118	Re-Cut	Ditch		
119	Fill	Ditch		
120	Fill	Ditch		
121	Cut	Gully		
122	Fill	Gully		
123	Cut	Ditch		
124	Fill	Ditch		
125	Cut	Pit		
126	Fill	Pit		
127	Cut	Gully		
128	Fill	Gully		
129	Cut	Ditch		
130	Fill	Ditch		
139	Cut	Ditch		
140	Cut	Ditch		
150	Cut	Ditch		
151	Fill	Ditch		
152	Fill	Ditch		
153	Cut	Pit		
154	Fill	Pit		
155	Cut	Pit		
156	Fill	Pit		
157	Cut	Pit		
158	Fill	Pit		
159	Fill	Pit		
160	Fill	Pit		
161	Cut	Pit		
162	Fill	Pit		
163	Fill	Pit		

Trench 32.2				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained four pits, four ditches, two post holes, one colluvial deposit and one natural hollow. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	43
			Width (m)	10
			Avg. depth (m)	0.85
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1	Layer	Topsoil		
2	Layer	Subsoil		
84	Cut	Ditch		

85	Fill	Ditch		
86	Cut	Pit		
87	Fill	Pit		
88	Cut	Post Hole		
89	Fill	Post Hole		
90	Cut	Post Hole		
91	Fill	Post Hole		
92	Fill	Ditch		
93	Cut	Natural Hollow		
94	Fill	Natural Hollow		
95	Cut	Ditch		
96	Fill	Ditch		
97	Cut	Ditch		
98	Fill	Ditch		
99	Cut	Ditch		
100	Fill	Ditch		
101	Cut	Ditch		
102	Fill	Ditch		
103	Cut	Pit		
104	Fill	Pit		
105	Fill	Pit		
131	Layer	Colluvium		
132	Cut	Pit		
133	Fill	Pit		
134	Fill	Pit		
135	Fill	Pit		
136	Fill	Pit		
137	Cut	Pit		
138	Fill	Pit		
141	Cut	Pit		
142	Fill	Pit		
143	Fill	Pit		
144	Fill	Pit		
145	Cut	Ditch		
146	Fill	Ditch		
147	Cut	Field drain		
148	Fill	Field drain		

Trench 33				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Contained three ditches, and three furrows. Also contained evidence of field drains. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	40
			Width (m)	2.1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	Subsoil	-	-
1003	Layer	Natural	-	-
1004	Cut	ditch	-	-
1005	Fill	Ditch	-	-
1006	Cut	Ditch	-	-
1007	Fill	Ditch	Faunal bone	-
1008	Cut	?furrow	-	-
1009	Fill	?furrow	-	-
1010	Cut	Ditch	-	-
1011	Fill	Ditch	Faunal bone, Pottery	Medieval
1012	cut	Natural ice crack	-	-
1013	fill	Natural ice crack	-	-
1014	cut	Bioturbation	-	-
1015	fill	Bioturbation	-	-
1016	cut	?Furrow	-	-
1017	Fill	?Furrow	-	-

Trench 34				
General description			**Orientation**	NW-SE
Contained two furrows, both of which were excavated. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.			**Length (m)**	30
			Width (m)	2.1
			Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	Subsoil	-	-
1003	Layer	Natural	-	-
1018	Cut	Furrow	-	-
1019	Fill	Furrow	-	-
1020	Cut	Furrow	-	-
1021	Fill	furrow	Pottery	Medieval

Trench 35		
General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Contained two ditches, one small pit, a single post hole and large shallow pit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of silty clay with bands of iron panning.	**Length (m)**	30
	Width (m)	2.1
	Avg. depth (m)	0.32

Context No.	Type	Description	Finds	Date
1001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	Subsoil	-	-
1022	Cut	Post hole	-	-
10 23	Fill	Post hole	-	-
1024	Cut	Ditch	-	-
1025	Fill	Ditch	-	-
1026	Cut	Pit	-	-
1127	Fill	Pit	-	-
1028	Cut	Ditch	-	-
1029	Fill	Ditch	-	-
1030	Cut	Pit	-	-
1031	Fill	pit	Flint, Pottery	Pre-historic, Romano-British

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

A.1 Non-Building Stone

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

A.1.1 A small piece of partially burnt, unworked, medium-grained sandstone (0.228kg) was recovered from ditch **118** in Trench 28.2. Simplified recording has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

A.1.2 From ditch **118**, a single fragment of pale grey micaceous medium-grained sandstone (0.228kg) was recovered. The sandstone is unworked, weathered, irregular, with no diagnostic features, and is partially burnt around its edge. A relatively fresh break indicates that this fragment was once larger, or part of a larger stone.

Discussion

A.1.3 The burnt stone is unworked, although it may have been part of a firepit or hearth kerb.

Retention, dispersal and display

The fragmentary and unworked nature of the assemblage means it is of little significance. The stone may be deselected prior to archival deposition.

A.2 Ironwork

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

A.2.1 The evaluation produced three iron objects: a partial horseshoe from subsoil, context 2, in Trench 3, a nail from subsoil, context 2, in Trench 27, and a large flat piece of iron from ditch 147 in Trench 32.2. The functional categories used are those defined by Crummy in 1983 and 1988: Category 8 objects associated with transport, Category 11 fastenings and fittings and Category 18 objects the function or identification of which is unknown or uncertain. Hand-forged nails (Category 8) are a long-lived form and dating is problematic, the nail will be described in general terms; it does not closely match the description of Roman nails given by Manning (1985 133-137). Terminology for the horseshoe is taken from Clark (1995).

Assemblage

A.2.2 Recovered from the subsoil in Trench 3, the partial horseshoe is corroded and slightly flaking. No nail holes are visible, however, a corroded lump on one surface may represent the remains of a single nail. This is probably a type 4 horseshoe (Clark 1995 88-91), and Clark indicates 'this form of horseshoe is frequently reported from 14th

and 15th century [contexts] … although they appear earlier in London, but are universal in 15th century contexts' (*op cit* 96-97). The partial horseshoe is somewhat oval, suggesting it may be a hind shoe.

A.2.3 The iron fragments from Trench 27 appear to be from a hand-forged, corroded nail. Rectangular in section, tapering slightly, the shank has been broken in two during excavation and the head is absent. Dating is uncertain, as is usage, although most nails were used in constructing wooden structures or objects. No dating material was recovered with the nail, although post-medieval pottery was recovered from furrows in Trench 27.

A.2.4 The iron object from post-medieval field drain **147**, recorded as SF1, is a flat, sub-rectangular piece of iron, somewhat axe-like in shape at first glance. However, a closer inspection reveals that both ends are relatively straight, and it is only the lower curved edge that gives this impression. There is also no evidence of a socket or of any sharpening. The object is corroded, although not heavily, and covered in dried soil/mud, however, there are no obvious surface features, holes or attachment points and its purpose is unclear. It may be a fragment of farm machinery of uncertain, but probably post-medieval, date.

Discussion

A.2.5 The late medieval horseshoe is likely a thrown shoe, possibly lost due to wear or damage, as the shoe is broken across the web beyond the toe and appears worn quite thin at this point. Its significance is limited to indicating that a shod horse lost a shoe sometime in the 14th or 15th century. No other horse or transport-related finds were recovered. A single nail is not a significant find; if a wooden structure was present on the site, a larger number of nails would have been expected. The nail is not closely datable and represents a random loss or is present due to middening and manuring. The unidentified iron object SF1 does not add to the significance of the assemblage and is most likely a fragment of farm machinery.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.2.6 The ironwork assemblage is fragmentary and of little significance. Should further work be undertaken, additional iron objects may be recovered from the subsoil or from features. If further work is undertaken, the ironwork report should be incorporated into any later archive.

A.2.7 If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the horseshoe may be retained, possibly used for educational purposes, or deselected prior to archival deposition. The nail may be deselected prior to archive deposition.

Catalogue

Category 8; objects associated with transport: A partial, iron, type 4 horseshoe (Clark 1995 88-91). A single complete branch and most of the toe survives, the shoe is broken across the web, on the quarter. The horseshoe is damaged, and the metal is thinned in this area. There are no obvious nail holes, however, a lump on the ?ground surface and rectangular scar on the foot or bearing surface, may be the remains of a nail. No

calkin is present, the surviving heel is a feathered type, with some corrosion damage. Surviving length 115mm, surviving width across the branches 88mm, web width 27mm, thickness 4mm at break, 7mm at toe and 13mm at feathered heel. Subsoil 2, Trench 3

Category 11; fastenings and fittings: A single partial, moderately corroded, hand forged iron nail, broken into two pieces. Rectangular-sectioned, uneven due to damage and corrosion, tapering slightly, shaped tip, shank 38mm long, head missing. Roughly rectangular shank 9x7mm tapering to 7x7mm. Dating uncertain. Subsoil 2, Trench 27

Category 18; objects the function or identification of which is in known or uncertain: SF1, an incomplete, roughly sub-rectangular (in plan) piece of flat iron with an irregular lower edge (slightly curved), roughly the same thickness along its length. Heavily encrusted with soil and moderately corroded. Length 170mm (upper edge), width at shorter end 50mm, lower edge widens and curves slightly to surviving maximum width of 77mm along surviving portion of edge (corner has been damaged). Thickness: upper edge approximately 8mm, lower edge 7mm. Dating uncertain, however, most likely post-medieval. Field drain **147**, 148

A.3 Slag

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

A.3.1 A single fragment of slag, weighing 0.069kg, was collected from Trench 28 by hand during the evaluation. Further fragments of slag (0.144kg) were recovered from ditches **118** and **150** in Trench 28.2. The slag was weighed and rapidly recorded, with basic description and weight recorded in the text.

Assemblage

A.3.2 Slag was recovered from fill 80 of furrow **79** in Trench 28. It consists of a single irregular piece of moderately dense, slightly glassy tap slag, weighing 0.069kg, externally purplish-black to black, internally black, with numerous small, and occasional larger, vesicles. The presumed upper surface has the typical, somewhat 'liquid', appearance of tap slag and the lower surface is rough. Despite these superficial characteristics, the lower density and more porous nature of the slag may indicate that it is almost a frothy tap slag, which suggests 'a high air pressure inside the furnace while the slag was liquid … [and] a relatively quick solidification when the slag was tapped' (English Heritage 2015 23, figs 17, 18). Although predominantly non-metallic, four areas of the lump exhibit weak magnetism, and it presumably contains tiny fragments of high iron content material.

A.3.3 Glassy fuel ash slag was recovered from ditches **118** and **150** in Trench 28.2 that also produced moderate assemblages of Roman pottery. The material is low density and fragile, extremely vesicular and porous. Its colour varies from very pale through to dark grey, with greenish and reddish tinges in places. There is no indication of

archaeomagnetism, except for one fragment from context 151 that appears to exhibit weak magnetic repulsion.

Discussion

A.3.4 The slag recovered from furrow **79** may indicate iron smelting on, or close to, the area excavated. Alternatively, the material may represent the disposal of waste, as only a small quantity was recovered. Other material recovered from furrows includes a fragment of bituminous coal and a fragment of post-medieval, dull red, quartz-tempered brick. The slag itself is not closely datable and Roman, medieval and post-medieval finds were recovered from the site.

A.3.5 The vitreous slag is more likely to be indicative of non-metallurgical use of high-temperature ovens or hearths (Historic England 2015 59). Its significance is unclear, although it could be contemporary with the Roman pottery also recovered from ditches **118** and **150**.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.3.6 The slag assemblage is fragmentary and its significance is uncertain, other than to possibly indicate metalworking. Should further work be undertaken, additional metalworking deposits may be recovered. If no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the slag may be deselected prior to archive deposition, and possibly used for educational purposes.

A.4 Late Iron Age and Early Roman Pottery

by Alice Lyons with Stephen Wadeson

Introduction

A.4.1 A total of 202 sherds, weighing 2923g (2.38 EVE), of Roman pottery were collected from a total of 16 excavated contexts, the majority recovered from ditches, primarily enclosure ditch [**70**] and enclosure/boundary ditch [**118**], accounting for *c*. 85% by weight of the total assemblage recovered. (RB pot table 1).

Feature	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	EVE	Weight (%)
Layer; Subsoil (2)	8	45	0.00	1.54
Ditch [**4**]	3	8	0.00	0.27
Ditch [**56**]	1	3	0.00	0.10
Enclosure Ditch [**70**]	102	1402	1.32	47.96
Furrow [**54**]	1	4	0.00	0.14
Furrow [**44**]	1	1	0.00	0.03
Pit [**86**]	2	8	0.00	0.27
Ditch [**99**]	1	14	0.00	0.48

Pit [**103**]	1	9	0.09	0.31
Pit [**110**]	1	6	0.00	0.21
Ditch [**118**]	56	1074	0.48	36.74
Gully [**127**]	4	93	0.29	3.18
Pit [**132**]	2	16	0.00	0.55
Ditch [**150**]	19	240	0.20	8.21
Total	**202**	**2923**	**2.38**	**100.00**

Table 2: Early Romano-British Pottery. The pottery by feature

A.4.2 The pottery represents a minimum of 71 fragmentary vessels, none of which were complete or buried *in situ*. Indeed, the pieces are severely abraded with an average sherd weight of *c*. 14g.

Methodology

A.4.3 The Roman pottery was analysed following guidelines recorded in *A Standard for Pottery Studies in* Archaeology (Barclay *et al* 2016). The total assemblage was rapidly recorded and a summary catalogue was prepared (reproduced at the end of this pottery report). The sherds were examined using a hand lens (x10 magnification) and were divided into groups according to the Leicestershire Roman Fabric Series (Pollard 1994) (see Catalogue). Vessel forms (cup, dish, bowl) are also recorded. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram and recorded by context. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

A.4.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

Acknowledgements

A.4.5 Thanks to Nick Cooper (University of Leicester) for providing the regional fabric codes.

Pottery

A.4.6 A total of six broad fabrics were identified (Table 3).

Coarse wares

A.4.7 Accounting for *c.* 51% of the pottery recovered, grog tempered wares form the majority of this assemblage by both sherd count and weight, (79; 1500g). Chronologically the earliest are the undiagnostic handmade grog tempered Shelly ware (CG1A) jar or storage jar fragments of late Iron Age type. Most numerous, and probably contemporary, are Grog tempered coarse wares (GT1-4) also found in a range of handmade and wheelmade/finished jars (some lid-seated), bowl and storage jar fragments.

A.4.8 The second most common fabric, by count and weight (76; 862g), accounting for *c.* 29.5% (by weight) of the total assemblage are a range of early Roman Sandy grey ware fabrics (GW3, 5, 6, 9) of unknown source but probably originating from Leicester, Ravenstone or possibly Mancetter-Hartshill (Pollard 1994, 114). Vessels produced in these fabrics include several forms comprising a carinated cup, lid-seated globular

jars, also a beaker, flagon and a Gallo-Belgic style dish. A small number of contemporary wheelmade Roman Shelly ware (CG1) jar/bowl fragments were also found.

Fine wares

A.4.9 Fine wares were limited to a small quantity (4 sherds; 18g), of South Gaulish samian (Tomber and Dore 1998, 28) from La Graufesenque (*c*. AD50-110). Vessels identified include sherds from dish forms Drag.18 and 18R and are representative of the only examples of fine table wares recovered.

Specialist Wares

A.4.10 No specialist wares such as amphora (Tyers 1996, 85-105) or mortaria (*ibid*, 117-135) were recovered.

Adapted vessels

A.4.11 None of the vessels were adapted (post-firing).

Graffiti

A.4.12 No graffiti, etched into the surface of the vessels, was found.

Fabric and published reference (Pollard 1994, p112-114)	Vessel form	Sherd Count	Wgt (g)	EVE	Weight (%)
Grog tempered coarse wares: GT1-4	Jar (some lid-seated), bowl, Storage jar	79	1500	0.85	51.32
Sandy grey wares: GW 3, 5, 6, 9	Beaker, dish, Gallo-Belgic Platter, flagon, carinated cup, globular neckless jar (some lid-seated)	76	862	1.40	29.49
Shelly ware with grog inclusions (Iron Age type): CG1A	Jar/Storage jar	27	366	0.00	12.52
Shelly ware: CG1	Jar, Jar/bowl	15	175	0.00	5.99
Samian: SAM	Dishes (Drag. 18 & 18R), Cup/Dish (Drag. 35/36)	4	18	0.13	0.62
Oxidised wares: OW1		1	2	0.00	0.07
Total		**202**	**2923**	**2.38**	**100.00**

Table 3: The Roman pottery fabrics, listed in descending order of weight (%)

Potential

A.4.13 This small abraded late Iron Age to early Roman pottery assemblage primarily recovered from ditch fills, is located within a known Iron Age and Roman landscape (MLE21329; MLE1999) and adds to the growing ceramic corpus from the region.

A.4.14 No further work is required on this assemblage.

Catalogue

KEY: B = base, C=century, D = decorated body sherd, Dsc = description, E=early, Eval = evaluation, Ex = excavation, H = Handle, L=late M=mid, R = rim, U=undecorated body sherd.

For full fabric names see Table 3.

TR.	Context	Cut	Feature	Leicester Fabric Code	Dsc	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Pot date
0	2	0	SUBSOIL	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	8	45	C1-EC2
31	5	4	DITCH	CG1	U	JAR/BOWL	3	8	C1-EC2
25	45	44	FURROW	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	1	1	MC1-E/MC2
26	55	54	FURROW	GT1	D	JAR	1	4	C1BC-ADE/MC1
26	57	56	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR/BOWL	1	3	MC1-EMC2
28	73	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	1	4	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	UB	BEAK	1	9	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	RU	SJAR	2	226	E/MC1
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	UB	JAR/BOWL	10	174	C1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	UB	JAR	8	96	C1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	u	JAR/BOWL	2	1	C1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR	1	3	C1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR/BOWL	6	67	C1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	SAM	R	DISH	2	8	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	UD	JAR	14	234	MLC1-2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	RUD	NJAR	7	106	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	RUD	WJAR	11	61	MC1
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	JAR	1	19	MC1-MC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	BEAK	1	4	MC1-C2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	DISH	1	7	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	JAR	1	12	MC1-E/MC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	2	5	MLC1-2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	1	7	MC1-EC2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	FLAG	8	40	MC1-C2
28	74	70	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	1	3	MC1-C2
28	74	70	DITCH	CG1A	U	JAR/SJAR	21	316	C1-EC2

TR.	Context	Cut	Feature	Leicester Fabric Code	Dsc	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Pot date
32.2	87	86	PIT	CG1A	U	JAR/BOWL	2	8	C1-EC2
32.2	100	99	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	1	14	MC1-C2
32.2	104	103	PIT	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	JAR	1	9	MC1-C2
25.2	111	110	PIT	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	1	6	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT3	UB	JAR	8	163	MC1-E/MC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1	R	BOWL	1	161	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	SAM	U	DISH/CUP	1	5	MC1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	PLATTER	1	9	MC1-MC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	D	JAR/BOWL	1	3	MC1-C2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	4	18	MC1-C2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	3	100	MC1-C2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	CG1	UB	JAR	12	167	MC1-C2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	CG1A	UB	JAR	4	42	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR	2	77	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR/SJAR	1	39	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR/BOWL	2	25	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	2	31	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	2	6	C1-EC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT3	U	JAR	1	70	MC1-E/MC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	GT3	R	JAR	1	59	MC1-E/MC2
28.2	120	118	DITCH	OW1	U		1	2	MC1-C2
28.2	128	127	GULLY	GT3	R	JAR	4	93	MC1-E/MC2
32.2	136	132	PIT	GT1-4	B	JAR/BOWL	1	11	C1-EC2
32.2	136	132	PIT	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	1	5	C1-EC2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR	1	27	MC1-C2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	B	JAR	1	48	MC1-C2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	1	15	MC1-C2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	U	JAR/BOWL	1	3	MC1-C2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GW 3, 5, 6, 9	R	JAR	1	7	MC1-C2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	1	28	C1-EC2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	4	43	C1-EC2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GT3	UR	JAR	5	44	MC1-E/MC2
28.2	151	150	DITCH	GT1-4	D		1	2	C1-EC2

TR.	Context	Cut	Feature	Leicester Fabric Code	Dsc	Form	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Pot date
28.2	152	150	DITCH	GT1-4	U	JAR/BOWL	1	16	C1-EC2
28.2	152	150	DITCH	GT1	U	JAR/BOWL	2	7	C1-EC2
						Total	202	2923	

A.5 Post-Roman Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

A.5.1 Archaeological works produced a small post-Roman assemblage of predominantly post-medieval pottery, with a limited number of medieval sherds. Many features produced only two or three sherds of pottery, and the medieval sherds are mainly residual alongside post-medieval pottery. In total, 35 sherds, weighing 0.540kg, were recovered, the bulk of which came from furrows in Trenches, 12, 25, 25.2, 26, 27 and a hollow in Trench 32.2. Ditch **56** in Trench 26 produced two sherds of post-medieval pottery; and two pits in Trench 32.2 produced medieval and late medieval to early post-medieval material. Pottery was also recovered from the topsoil in Trench 10 the subsoil in Trench 17 and from colluvium in Trench 32.2. All the post-medieval sherds are unabraded to moderately abraded and the majority of the medieval sherds are abraded. The average sherd weight is moderate to low at approximately 0.015kg.

Methodology

A.5.2 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), and The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG 1998) act as standards. For fabric classification of medieval sherds and for all post-medieval types, the Leicestershire fabric codes have been used; in some cases, identifications are tentative. The pottery and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition or dispersal.

Acknowledgements

A.5.3 Thanks to Debbie Sawday (University of Leicester) for providing the regional fabric codes.

Assemblage

A.5.4 Topsoil in Trench 10 produced sherds from a Midland Purple (MP) bowl and a Black ware (EA6) jar. Subsoil in Trench 17 produced sherds from two Pancheon ware (EA2) bowls. The colluvium in Trench 32.2 contained a rim sherd from a White Earthenware (EA10) saucer.

A.5.5 Furrow **32** in Trench 12 produced a single sherd from an EA2 bowl. Two furrows in Trench 25, **44** and **48**, also produced EA2 bowl body sherds, with furrow **44** additionally producing a sherd from a stoneware (SW) drinking jug. Furrow **106** in Trench 25.2 produced an abraded sherd of Medieval Sandy ware (MS).

A.5.6 Trench 26 contained the largest number of features that produced pottery, including ditch **56**, which contained a sherd of MP and a body sherd from a *c*.1770-1830 transfer-printed Pearlware (EA9) body sherd. The trench also contained furrows **54** and **58**, both of which produced pottery; furrow **54** included four sherds from several EA2 vessels and an abraded sherd from a MS vessel. Furrow **58** also produced medieval sherds from two Lyveden-Stanion ware (LY1) jugs, alongside a rim sherd from a Staffordshire-type ware (EA7) press-moulded bowl *c*.1600-1850.

A.5.7 Trench 27 contained a single furrow that produced pottery. Furrow **68** produced only 17th century or later pottery, including EA2 and a fragment from a moulded SW bowl with internal white slip, possibly from a mixing bowl of a type that can still be purchased today.

A.5.8 Ditch **118** in Trench 28.2 produced a single small sherd of EA2 from an upper fill 120, the lower fill produced Roman pottery (see xxx section 14b) and slag, and it may be that the EA2 is intrusive, as the ditch is cut by a later feature.

A.5.9 Three features in Trench 32.2 produced post-Roman pottery, pit **86** produced a leached and abraded rim sherd from a Lyveden Stanion A ware: (LY4) jar *c*.1150-1400, Roman pottery was also recovered from the feature. Hollow **93** produced the largest number of sherds, the majority of which are 18th and 19th century, Creamwares (EA8) and White Earthenwares (EA10). Finally, pit **132** produced a relatively unabraded rim sherd from a Bourne D ware (BO1) jug *c*.1450-1650.

A.5.10 From the watching brief ditch **1010** produced a rim sherd from an EA2 bowl and furrow **1020** contained a single sherd from a poorly glazed MP vessel.

Discussion

A.5.11 The sherds of medieval pottery are mostly residual alongside the later pottery. The medieval sherds and late medieval to early post-medieval sherd indicate activity in the vicinity of the area evaluated. The majority of the medieval pottery deposition is most likely to be the result of manuring along the ridge and furrow. However, the paucity of medieval pottery indicates that the fields are likely to be some distance from their settlement, with only pit **131** in Trench 32.2, which produced late medieval to early post-medieval pottery, appearing to possibly be deliberate deposition. The medieval material was subsequently possibly heavily reworked by later ploughing. Later ploughing is also the likely reason for the 17th century and later material to have become incorporated into the feature fills, and its presence is only significant in indicating continued agricultural activity from the 17th century onwards.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.5.12 The assemblage is fragmentary, mostly recovered from furrows, and should not be considered reliable dating, the pottery indicating the dispersal of medieval and post-medieval rubbish, mostly 17th and 18th-19th century pottery, probably through

ploughing. This statement acts as a full record and should further work be undertaken, the pottery report should be incorporated into any later archive. If no further work is undertaken, the pottery may be dispersed for educational use, or deselected prior to archival deposition.

Pottery catalogue

(EVE= Estimated vessel equivalent, MNV= Minimum number of vessels)

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric Code	Fabric and form	MNV	No. of Sherds	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
10	1	**Topsoil**	EA6	Black ware: jar rim sherd, sharply everted rim with slight internal bead (diameter 200mm, EVE 18%), externally and internally glazed, unabraded to moderately abraded	1	1	0.026	1650-1750
			MP	Midland purple: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, unabraded	1	1	0.022	1375-1550
12	33	**32**	EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, moderately abraded	1	1	0.017	1600+
17	2	**Subsoil**	EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, moderately abraded, and base angle (obtuse base angle, flat base) from a second bowl. Both sherds are internally glazed and moderately abraded	2	2	0.110	1600+
25	45	**44**	EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed with a significant percentage of the glaze having flaked off, otherwise moderately abraded	1	1	0.006	1600+
			SW	Stoneware: drinking jug base angle, moderately abraded to abraded, incised grooves survive above partial base angle, mottled brown external glaze	1	1	0.024	1670-1900
25	49	**48**	EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, moderately abraded	1	1	0.003	1600+
25.2	107	**106**	MS2	Medieval Sandy ware 2: abraded jug body sherd with slight traces of external green glaze	1	1	0.004	1200-1400
26	55	**54**	SW5	Brown stoneware: body sherd, incised decoration	1	1	0.007	1670-1900
			EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl or jar rim sherd (too small to establish rim diameter), and body sherd, internally glazed. Much of the internal glaze has flaked away, leaving the iron wash beneath moderately abraded	1	3	0.052	1600+
				Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, moderately abraded	1	1	0.007	
			MS	Medieval Sandy ware; unglazed, moderately abraded to abraded, body sherd from a jar or jug	1	2	0.007	1200-1450
	57	**56**	MP	Midland purple: bowl body sherd (vitrified) internally glazed, moderately abraded	1	1	0.006	1400-1550
			EA9	Pearlware: transfer-printed body sherd	1	1	0.001	1770-1830
	59	**58**	LY1	Lyveden-Stanion ware: jug body sherds, external pale green glaze. One sherd has applied white slip stripes; all the sherds are abraded	2	3	0.033	1200-1350
			EA7	Staffordshire-type Slipware: rim sherd from a press-moulded bowl, internally decorated with white and brown striped slip, much of which has flaked off. Notched pie crust-type rim (diameter 200mm, 8% EVE), moderately abraded	1	1	0.010	1600-1850
27	69	**68**	SW	Stoneware: bowl body sherd, internally white slipped, external moulded decoration. A type of mixing bowl, modern versions of which may still be found in today's kitchens (Yellow ware)	1	1	0.012	1800+

Trench	Context	Cut	Fabric Code	Fabric and form	MNV	No. of Sherds	Weight (kg)	Pottery Date
			SW5	Brown stoneware: body sherd, incised decoration	0	1	0.005	1670-1900
			EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl body sherd, internally glazed, relatively unabraded	1	1	0.021	1600+
28.2	120	**118**	EA2	Pancheon ware: unglazed abraded body sherd	1	1	0.004	1600+
32.2	87	**86**	LY4	Lyveden Stanion A ware: abraded, somewhat leached jar rim sherd, everted slight internal bevel. Small external cordon below rim diameter 220mm EVE 10%	1	1	0.020	1150-1400
	94	**93**	NO	Nottingham ware: abraded jug body sherd with copper mottled external green glaze and applied slip (vertical striped) deportation in pale and iron rich clay	1	1	0.005	1230-1350
			EA2	Pancheon ware: jar flat upright base sherd, internally iron-glazed, relatively unabraded	1	1	0.057	1600+
			EA8	Creamware: dish or plate rim sherd moderately abraded to abraded, diameter 200mm EVE 9% (it is possible that the vessel is in fact oval)	1	1	0.011	1730-1850
			EA8	Creamware: bowl base sherd, with foot ring moderately abraded	1	1	0.018	1730-1850
			EA10	White Earthenware: body sherd moderately abraded	1	1	0.011	1850+
			EA10	White Earthenware: jar/pot lid undecorated and moderately abraded, diameter 80mm EVE 25%	1	1	0.014	
	133	**131**	BO1	Bourne D ware: jug rim slightly internally thickened, rounded, neck pushed out slightly below rim to form external cordon. Externally olive-green glaze over pale slip and occasional copper mottles. Diameter 100mm EVE 23%	1	1	0.023	1450-1650
	149	Colluvium	EA10	White Earthenware: saucer rim with internally painted annular decoration moderately abraded, diameter 150mm EVE 5%	1	1	0.004	1850+
	1011	**1010**	EA2	Pancheon ware: bowl rim internally glazed moderately abraded. Diameter 500mm EVE 4%	1	1	0.155	1600+
	1021	**1020**	MP	Midland purple: bowl body sherd externally glazed, moderately abraded	1	1	0.015	1375-1550
Total					**30**	**35**	**0.540**	

Table 5. Post-Roman pottery catalogue (EVE= Estimated vessel equivalent, MNV= Minimum number of vessels)

A.6 Clay Tobacco Pipe

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

A.6.1 During the evaluation, two fragments of white ball clay tobacco pipe, weighing 0.016kg, were recovered. Simplified recording only has been undertaken, with material type, basic description and weight recorded. Terminology used in this report is taken from Oswald's simplified general typology (Oswald 1975, 37–41), and Hind and Crummy (Hind and Crummy 1988, 47-66).

Assemblage by Trench and Discussion

A.6.2 Trench 3, subsoil 2, produced a length of abraded stem with spur scar, and a bowl, from two different pipes. The loss of the spur makes the dating of the stem problematic, beyond the broad range of sometime after *c*.1580. The pipe bowl most closely matches a Hind and Crummy type 7 pipe *c*.1670-1700 (Hind and Crummy 1988, 49). The fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered represent what were most likely casually discarded pipes. The fragments do little, other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on, or near, the site, in the late 17th century.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.6.3 The assemblage is fragmentary and, if no further work is undertaken, this statement acts as a full record and the clay tobacco pipe may be retained for educational purposes, or deselected prior to archival deposition. Should further work be undertaken, the clay tobacco pipe report should be incorporated into any later archive.

Clay Tobacco Pipe Catalogue

Trench	Context	Form	No of pipe stem fragments	No of complete bowls or fragments	Description	Weight (kg)	Date
3	2	Pipe stem with spur scar	1		Fragment of stem 40mm long, slightly oval, 8mm diameter, upper mould seam visible on stem and stem halves appear slightly offset, while lower mould seam is poorly trimmed or untrimmed and stands proud of the stem. The stem has broken at join with bowl and scar on lower surface of stem appears to be from a spur, unfortunately this does not aid dating	0.003	Not closely datable
		Hind and Crummy type 7		1	A semi-complete bowl, damaged around the rim, below which is a partial incised line, not clearly rouletted. Bowl is broken where the stem joins the bowl, the scar reveals a relatively thick stem.	0.013	*c*. 1670-1700
Total			**1**	**1**		**0.016**	

Table 6: Clay Tobacco Pipe

A.7 Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and Methodology

A.7.1 A fragmentary assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay, consisting of brick, roof tile, structural fired clay and formless fired clay fragments, was recovered from features in four trenches. In total, 14 CBM and fired clay fragments, weighing 0.263kg, were retrieved. No complete examples were recovered, and all are moderately abraded or abraded. The material recovered is ?Roman to post-medieval.

A.7.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, counted, weighed, and form recorded, where this was identifiable. Fabrics are noted and dating is necessarily broad. Only complete dimensions were recorded, which was most commonly thickness. Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group *Ceramic Building Material, Minimum*

Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication (2002) forms the basis for recording, and Woodforde (1976) and McComish (2015) form the basis for identification.

Assemblage

A.7.3 The small assemblage of CBM and fired clay was dispersed across ditches, furrows and pits in Trenches 25.2, 26, 28 and 32.2. Fired clay objects and fragments are the most common form. Some of the fragments are formless and not closely datable, however, they were recovered from features that also produced pottery dated from the Roman to the post-medieval periods.

Discussion

A.7.4 A fragmentary and mixed assemblage of CBM was recovered from the site. No brick-built, or tile-roofed structures were found during the evaluation, and the CBM and fired clay probably represents a small quantity of rubble that has become incorporated into the furrows and ditches.

Retention, dispersal or display

A.7.5 The plain and fragmentary nature of the total assemblage means it is of little interest. However, it does indicate that, if further work is undertaken, CBM and fired clay is likely to be produced, although only at low levels. This statement acts as a full record and the CBM may be deselected prior to archival deposition, however, the structural fired clay from ditch **72** should perhaps be retained, as its shape is unusual, its form uncertain and its function unclear. Should further work be undertaken, the CBM and fired clay report should be incorporated into any later archive.

CBM and Fired Clay catalogue

Trench	Context	Cut	CBM or Fired Clay description and form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
25.2	107	**106**	Formless fragment of CBM or fired clay with an area of surviving surface. Fine, silty dull pink fabric with moderate very fine mica and rare dark red grog.	1	0.004	Not closely datable, however, the context produced medieval pottery
26	55	**54**	Formless fragment of CBM or fired clay. Very mixed, moderately silty, orange-pink fabric, with occasional yellow swirls and rare darker red streaks. Moderate dark red grog and occasional mica.	1	0.011	Not closely datable, however, the context produced both medieval and post-medieval pottery
	57	**56**	Fragment of roof tile with portions of surviving upper and lower surfaces. Pale yellowish-red, slightly silty fabric with occasional yellow streaks. Moderate black specks, rare small irregular stones up to 5mm, including some irregular flint. Rare possible grog. Lower surface sanded. 14mm thick.	1	0.033	Late medieval-post-medieval
28	71	**72**	Partial CBM or fired clay structural object, with all but one surviving side; only the length is uncertain. The presumed base is slightly concave from side to side, with several cracks and voids. The sides slope out from the base to a slight lip, above which the edges are somewhat rougher. The upper surface is somewhat irregular but broadly flat and relatively	1	0.152	Not closely datable, however, the fabric is very similar to the fired clay recovered from pit **75**, which may be Roman

Trench	Context	Cut	CBM or Fired Clay description and form	No. of fragments	Weight (kg)	Date
			smooth. Overall, the object resembles a small brick or ingot, made by pressing clay into some type of mould or very specifically-shaped space. Very mixed, moderately silty, orange-pink fabric, with moderate yellow swirls and occasional darker red streaks. Moderate dark red grog and occasional mica. 84mm+ long, 50-60mm wide, 25-27mm thick.			
	74		Formless fragments of fired clay. Very mixed, moderately silty, orange-pink, purple-brown, and pale grey to dark grey fabric, with occasional yellow swirls and rare darker red streaks. Moderate dark red grog and occasional mica.	7	0.042	Not closely datable, however, the feature produced only Roman pottery
	80	**79**	Fragment of brick. Portions of two surfaces at right angles survive. Dark brownish-red well-mixed fabric, occasional quartz grains, rare mica and specks of off-white calcareous material. Surfaces are rough and sanded.	1	0.003	18th century or later
32.2	87	**86**	Formless fragment of fired clay. Fine silty fabric with rare very fine mica and rare voids. Dull reddish-orange exterior and dark grey core.	1	0.006	Not closely datable, however, the feature produced Roman and medieval pottery
	135	**132**	Formless fragment of CBM, probably brick. Fine silty fabric with rare dark quartz grains, voids, mica and dark red grog. Very mixed dull orange and pale yellow, with a dark grey core.	1	0.012	Not closely datable, however, the feature produced late medieval to early post-medieval pottery *c*.1450-1650
Total				**14**	**0.263**	

Table 7: CBM and Fired Clay by Trench, Context and Cut

A.8 Flint

By Lawrence Billington

A.8.1 A total of four worked flints were recovered from the site (Table 8). The flints were recovered as single pieces from four individual contexts, all of which were fills of cut features. All of the flint is in fairly good condition, with only minor edge-damage and no traces of recortication. The character of the flint, especially the three pieces with surviving cortical surfaces, suggests all of the material flint derives from secondary sources of flint, from small to medium sized cobbles with hard abraded cortical surfaces and incipient thermal flaws.

A.8.2 The assemblage includes two pieces of thermally fractured flint, categorised here as a core fragment and a piece of irregular shatter, although both appear to derive from flake cores which have split/fractured along incipient thermal flaws during reduction. Alongside these pieces are two flakes, one wholly cortical (primary) flake and a partly cortical (secondary) flake with a narrow, carefully trimmed, striking platform and regular dorsal scars.

A.8.3 None of the flintwork is strongly chronologically diagnostic. The irregular shatter and core fragment appear to derive from simple flake cores of the kind common from the later Neolithic onwards and the primary flake could also belong to almost any period of prehistory. The traits of the secondary flake, however, suggest this is the product of a structured and systematic technology, probably of Neolithic date. The recovery

of the flint as isolated pieces suggests that the assemblage is most likely to represent residual material inadvertently caught up in the fills of later features.

A.8.4 The five fragments of burnt flint (182g) were all recovered from pit **1030**; all were heavily spalled/crazed with red and pale grey surfaces. It is not possible to date this material but it is notable that they were recovered alongside a single (unburnt) worked flint and it is possible this feature and its associated finds is of prehistoric date. The single piece of burnt stone is a fragment of a rounded quartzite pebble, from ditch **1010.**

Trench	Cut	Context	Type	Primary flake	Secondary flake	Tertiary flake	Irregular shatter	Core fragment	**Total worked**	Unworked burnt flint no.	*Unowrked burnt flint weight (g)*	Burnt stone no.	*Burnt stone weight (g)*
28.2	139	140	Ditch					1	**1**				
28.2	151	150	Ditch				1		**1**				
28.2	154	150	Pit		1				**1**				
28.2	162	161	Pit	1					**1**				
34	1020	1021	?Ditch			1			**1**				
35	1030	1031	Pit		1				**1**	5	*182*		
33	1010	1011	Ditch									1	*6.2*
				1	**2**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**6**	5	*182*	**1**	*6.2*

Table 8. Quantification of the flint assemblage

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Remains

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Ten bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area Great Bowden, Leicestershire in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from ditches encountered within Trenches 25 and 28 and from Trenches 25.2, 28.2 and 32.2 in a subsequent stage of investigation.

Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume (up to 20L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.1.4 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-5, ## = 6-25 specimens

Results

C.1.5 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation although charcoal volumes are low; rootlets and modern seeds are present in most of the flots. Molluscs were not preserved.

The results are discussed by trench:

Trench 25

C.1.6 Charred plant **remains** are present as single charred bean (Fabaceae) in fill 45 of ditch/furrow **44**.

Trench 25.2

C.1.7 Fill 112 of pit **110 contains** sparse charcoal only.

Trench **28**

C.1.8 fill 74 of early Roman ditch **70** contains occasional charred cereal grains that include wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and **barley** (*Hordeum* sp.) and a possible rye (*Secale cereale*) grain in addition to a single charred seed of black-bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*). Whilst rye was occasionally cultivated in the Roman period, this would be an early example although it is possible that this is a later intrusion.

Trench 28.2

C.1.9 Four samples were taken from features within Trench 28.2; a single indeterminate cereal grain is present in fill 140 of ditch **139** which also produced a flint flake. The three pits/post holes **155**, **157** and **161** do not contain any preserved plant remains.

Trench **32.2**

C.1.10 Two features sampled within Trench 32.2 had very similar contents of charred cereal grains and frequent charred legumes. The lower fill (142) of undated pit **141** was sterile but the middle fill (143) contains occasional wheat and barley grains with peas (*Pisum cf. sativum*) and beans. Fill 87 of possible medieval pit **86** contains a moderate assemblage of free-threshing wheat (*T. aestivum/turgidum*) grains and frequent peas and beans. In both cases the legumes were retrieved from the sample residue rather than the flot. Pit **141** did not contain any dating evidence but the similarity in the charred plant assemblage of the middle fill of this feature with that from the fill of possible medieval pit **86** suggests that they may be contemporary.

Trench 33

C.1.11 There is no preservation of plant remains from ditch **1004**

Trench 35

C.1.12 There is no preservation of plant remains from pits **1026** and **1030**.

Area/trench No.	Feature No.	Context No.	Sample No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Preservation	Cereals	Legumes	Weed Seeds	Estimated charcoal volume (ml)	Flot comments	Pottery	Flint debitage
25	44	45	1	Furrow	10	5	Charred	0	#	0	0	pea fragment	0	0
25.2	110	112	4	Pit	7	1	Charred	0	0	0	<1	Sparse charcoal only	0	0

28	70	74	2	Ditch	20	5	Charred	#	0	#	<1	Occasional barley, wheat and possible rye grains	#	0
28.2	139	140	5	Ditch	9	1	Charred	#	0	0	0	single indet grain	0	#
28.2	155	156	8	Pit/post hole	5	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
28.2	157	158	9	Pit/post hole	10	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
28.2	161	162	10	Pit/post hole	7	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
32.2	86	87	3	Pit	9	15	Charred	###	###	0	0	Wheat grains with frequents peas and beans	0	0
32.2	141	142	6	Pit	10	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
32.2	141	143	7	Pit	9	1	Charred	##	###	#	5	occasional wheat, barley, peas and beans	0	0
33	1005	1004	11	Ditch	16	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
35	1031	1030	16	Pit	18	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0
35	1027	1026	17	Pi	16	1	None	0	0	0	0	No preservation	0	0

Table 9: Environmental samples from XLEGBO17

Discussion

C.1.13 The recovery of charred grain, legumes and weed seeds indicates that there is potential for the preservation of plant remains from medieval deposits at this site, particularly in the area around Trench 32.2. Preservation of plant remains from earlier deposits appears to be poor. Future excavation has the potential to recover larger, more meaningful assemblages that would contribute to the evidence of diet and economy at this site.

C.1.14 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Faunal Remains

By Hayley Foster and Zoë Uí Choileáin

Introduction and Methodology

C.2.1 The animal bone from Great Bowden represents faunal remains weighing 2.8kg in total and 1.9kg of which could be recorded. There were 41 fragments all from hand collection at the writing of this evaluation report. The species represented include

cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*), horse (*Equus caballus*), pig (*Sus scrofa*) and large mammal.

C.2.2 The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972), von den Driesch (1976) were used where necessary.

Results of Analysis

C.2.3 The faunal assemblage is very small, consisting of four identified species mainly from ditches and pits. The material is in moderate condition however fragmentation is high. There were no complete long bones recovered in the assemblage, with teeth being the most common element recovered. Most of the faunal remains came from stratified contexts, except context 2, which was subsoil. The remains dated mainly to the Medieval to post-Medieval period with only those fragments from contexts **73** and **74** dating to the Roman period. The horse remains from ditch **1006**, likely belong to one individual specimen as do the cattle remains

C.2.4 Ageing data was minimal, however of the long bones present, all consisted of fused epiphyses. The horse mandibles and loose teeth belonged to animals over a year of age. There was a horse canine recovered from ditch **1010**, indicating the presence of a male animal.

C.2.5 There was evidence of gnawing on one cattle first phalanx, from pit **141** produced by a dog.

C.2.6 Cattle and horse fragments dominated the assemblage, with the other domestic species only minimally represented. The size and fragmentation of the faunal assemblages severely limits the amount of evidence that can be gathered. The types of species recovered would be expected for similar sites in the region for this time period.

Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Horse	Pig	Large Mammal	Total
16	3	20	1	1	41

Table_10: Total number of identifiable fragments (NISP) by species

Context	Species	Element	Number of Fragments
2	Large Mammal	Unidentifiable Long Bone	1
73	Horse	Mandible	1
74	Cattle	Loose Mandibular Row	3
87	Pig	Pelvis	1
94	Sheep/Goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
102	Sheep/Goat	Pelvis	1
105	Cattle	Horn Core	1
105	Cattle	Metacarpal	1
118	Cattle	Loose Mandibular M12	1
134	Cattle	Radius	1
134	Sheep/Goat	Loose Mandibular M12	1
135	Cattle	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
143	Cattle	First Phalanx	1
149	Cattle	Metacarpal	1
149	Cattle	Axis	1
149	Cattle	Cervical Vert	1
149	Cattle	Cervical Vert	1
151	Cattle	Loose Mandibular M12	1
151	Horse	Loose Mandibular M3	1
1007	Horse	Loose mandibular row	6
1007	Cattle	Loose maxillary incisor	1
1007	Horse	Loose Maxillary Tooth	1
1007	Horse	Loose Maxillary M3	1
1011	Horse	Tibia	2
1011	Horse	Loose Mandibular Row	8
1011	Cattle	Loose Maxillary M12	1

Table 11: Identifiable fragments by species and element

Recommendations for Further Work

C.2.7 The assemblage is small in size therefore no meaningful interpretations can be made regarding husbandry practices and diet at Great Bowden, unless further remains are recovered from the site.

APPENDIX D EARTHWORK SURVEY

By Gareth Rees

Introduction

Scope of work

D.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Anglia Water to undertake an earthwork survey at the site of the proposed site of a new Anglian Water Pipeline SEW-10721. The pipeline is to the west of Great Bowden and runs from land south of Leicester Lane, west to the B6047, (SP 73752 88877 to SP 72381 88691; Figs 1a & b).

D.1.2 The Local Planning Authority, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) recommended the need for a programme of archaeological work, including earthwork survey, to be carried out prior to commencement of any development of the site (LCC 2017).

Location, topography and geology

D.1.4 The site of the earthwork survey lies to the north of Market Harborough and to the west of Great Bowden. It is situated between 94.69m OD (to the north-east) and 107.97m OD (to the south-west). All of the fields surveyed were under pasture at the time of the field work.

D.1.5 The geology along the proposed pipeline route to the west of Great Bowden consists of the Dyrham Siltstone and Mudstone, and Whitby Mudstone formations (BGS online viewer).

Evaluation Aims and Methodology

Aims

D.1.7 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- To determine or confirm the general nature of any above ground remains present.
- To determine the state of preservation of any remains present.
- To accurately record the position and height of any earthworks in order to enable their reconstruction after the works are completed.

Methodology

D.1.9 The earthwork survey and analysis was conducted in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines.

D.1.10 All work was conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations.

D.1.11 The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the guidance provided in the form of the OA Photogrammetry Policy Guidelines and the English Heritage Guidance

document, Understanding the Archaeology of Landscape: A guide to good recording practice (2007).

D.1.12 The earthwork survey was conducted using three techniques due to varying conditions across the survey area. Photogrammetric survey was conducted in Field 1 and 2 using a camera mounted on a 5m long pole or an unmanned automated vehicle (U.A.V.).

D.1.13 Due to the proximity of the B6047 main road to the west of the survey area in Field 1 it was not possible to safely fly the U.A.V. The survey here was conducted using a pole-mounted Sony α5000 camera with a fixed 20mm lens. Photographs were taken along 3m transects either side of the centre line of the pipeline route.

D.1.14 There were no obstacles to flying the U.A.V. in Field 2 and all of the earthwork survey in this area was conducted using a camera mounted on a DJI M V2 F550 Flame Wheel Hexacopter. Photos were taken along 10m wide transects.

D.1.15 Control for both pole-mounted and U.A.V. mounted photogrammetric surveys was established using a Leica GS08 survey grade GPS. Images were processed in AgiSoft Photoscan Pro to produce georectified orthophotos and digital elevation models (D.E.M.).

D.1.16 The survey in Fields 3 and 4 was carried out using a Leica GS08plus dGPS due to the presence of overhead electricity cables. Points were recorded along transects 2-4m apart, 10m either side of the pipeline route. Heights were recorded along the transects at 1m intervals. Additional measurements were recorded in areas with better earthwork preservation. The data was processed using Surfer and QGIS.

Results

Introduction and presentation of results

D.1.18 The results of the earthwork survey are presented below, by field. All of the remains identified related to medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. Analysis of available LIDAR data (Figure D1; Environment Agency 2015) clearly showed large amounts of surviving ridge and furrow in this area.

General ground conditions

D.1.20 Ground conditions throughout the fields were generally good with all the fields laying under pasture at the time of the survey.

Field 1 (Figure D2)

D.1.22 A 10m wide strip was surveyed in this field, spanning 82m of the proposed route of the pipeline. The ground within the area sloped from south to north. This area lay at the base of a sloping field in which ridge and furrow were visible on the ground and in the LIDAR plot. A total of seven earthwork ridges were present that crossed the surveyed area from east to west and survived to a maximum height of 0.45m (Figure D6; cross-sections). The maximum width from ridge to ridge was 8.40m.

Field 2 (Figure D3)

D.1.25 The U.A.V. survey allowed for a larger area to be surveyed in this field. All the features identified are depicted in Figure 3, however only those directly impacted by the pipeline are discussed here.

D.1.26 The remains of three separate blocks of ridge and furrow were identified in Field 2. The best preserved features were those located in the south-western corner of the field. A total of eight features were identified along the an 80m stretch of the pipeline route. These features were the curvilinear west north-western ends of a series of ridges that ran up the slope in an east south-easterly direction. They survived to as maximum height of 0.50m (Figure D6; cross-sections); the distance between ridges was approximately 8m however the features were inconsistent since they were curving and merging into a headland at the end of the field.

D.1.27 The second block of ridge and furrow was located the central north-western part of the pipeline route. This block appeared to abut those ridges running up the hill to the south. This field was orientated north-east to south-west and consisted of a series of ridges up to 170m long which appeared to be the total length of the field. Six ridges, standing up to a maximum of 0.20m high, were identified by the photogrammetric survey. The distance between ridges varied from 6 to 7m.

D.1.28 A third block lay to the north-east of Field 2, 33m to the north-east of the second block described above. At least 11 ridges were located in this area in a field which appeared to have measured at least 72m wide from north-east to south-west, however they were badly preserved, standing to a maximum height of 0.15m (Figure D6; cross-sections), and so more furrows may have been present below the surface. The distance between ridges varied from 6 to 7m indicating that they may have been related to those that lay to the west.

Field 3 (Figure D4)

D.1.29 The LIDAR plot (Figure D1) for this field shows the route of the pipeline crossing an area of poorly preserved ridge and furrow at the base of a slope, much of which is overlain by later up-cast from a canal. The topographic survey of this area recorded the best preserved ridge and furrow at the western side of the field with a build-up of material overlying features at the eastern side. The pipeline route crosses a headland between former fields in the north-west of Field 3. Four well preserved ridges were identified during the topographic survey whilst the LIDAR plot shows at least 32 small ridges, spaced 5-6m apart in two to three separate fields. It is unclear whether the modern boundary between Fields 2 and 3 was also a boundary between the medieval fields.

Field 4 (Figure D4)

D.1.30 The majority of the pipeline route in Field 4 ran through up-cast and disturbance probably dating to the period of the construction of the canal. An area of well-preserved ridge and furrow was identified at the north-western corner of the field. The topographic survey identified 11 well preserved ridges in this area standing to a maximum height of 0.35m (Figure D6; cross-sections), whilst another 4 less well preserved earthwork ridges are depicted on the LIDAR plot. The distance between the

ridges ranged from 5-8m which may be due to the poor preservation of some to the features. Neither the width nor breadth of the field in which they were located could be ascertained due to the later disturbance.

Dingley Road site, Field 6 (Figure D5)

D.1.31 Part of medieval or post-medieval field was recorded at this site to the east of Great Bowden. Only the western part of this field, measuring 71m from south-southwest to east-northeast and in excess of 79m from west-northwest to east-southeast, lay within the survey area. A total of ten ridges were identified running from west-northwest to east-southeast and spaced between 7.2 and 8.6m apart. The field was surrounded by a shallow ditch to the south, west and north which measured up to 0.40m deep and between 1.5m and 2.30m wide. The western ditched formed one side of a north-south orientated feature at the west of the field. This feature, measuring 9m wide, may have been a trackway however its northern extent lay beyond the limit of the survey.

D.1.32 The photogrammetric survey in this area also recorded 7 other ridges on a similar orientation which lay to the north outside of the designated survey area.

Discussion

Earthwork Survey

D.1.33 Features have been identified along the route of the pipeline using various survey methods including photogrammetry, GPS topographic survey and LIDAR analysis. Each method varies in quality and resolution however it has been possible to identify, characterise and record all of the above-ground features that lie in the course of the pipeline route.

D.1.34 The types of features and relationships between the various groups of earthworks tends to indicate that all the ridge and furrow systems identified to the north of Great Bowden were broadly contemporary. With the exception of one block of ridge and furrow in Field 2, all of the features were aligned on the slopes on which they were located (Figure D1). The block at the north of the Field 2 was orientated at c.90 degrees to the others and was located on generally flat ground. Up to 8 different fields of ridge and furrow may have been present in the survey area although the variation in preservation makes this difficult to say for certain. The northern extent of the earthworks in Fields 2, 3 and 4 were all overlain by later material associated with the construction of the canal (Figure 7).

D.1.35 Earthworks identified in the north-west corner of Field 2 may be associated with sporadic flooding everts.

Great Bowden Pipeline with local topography (LIDAR)

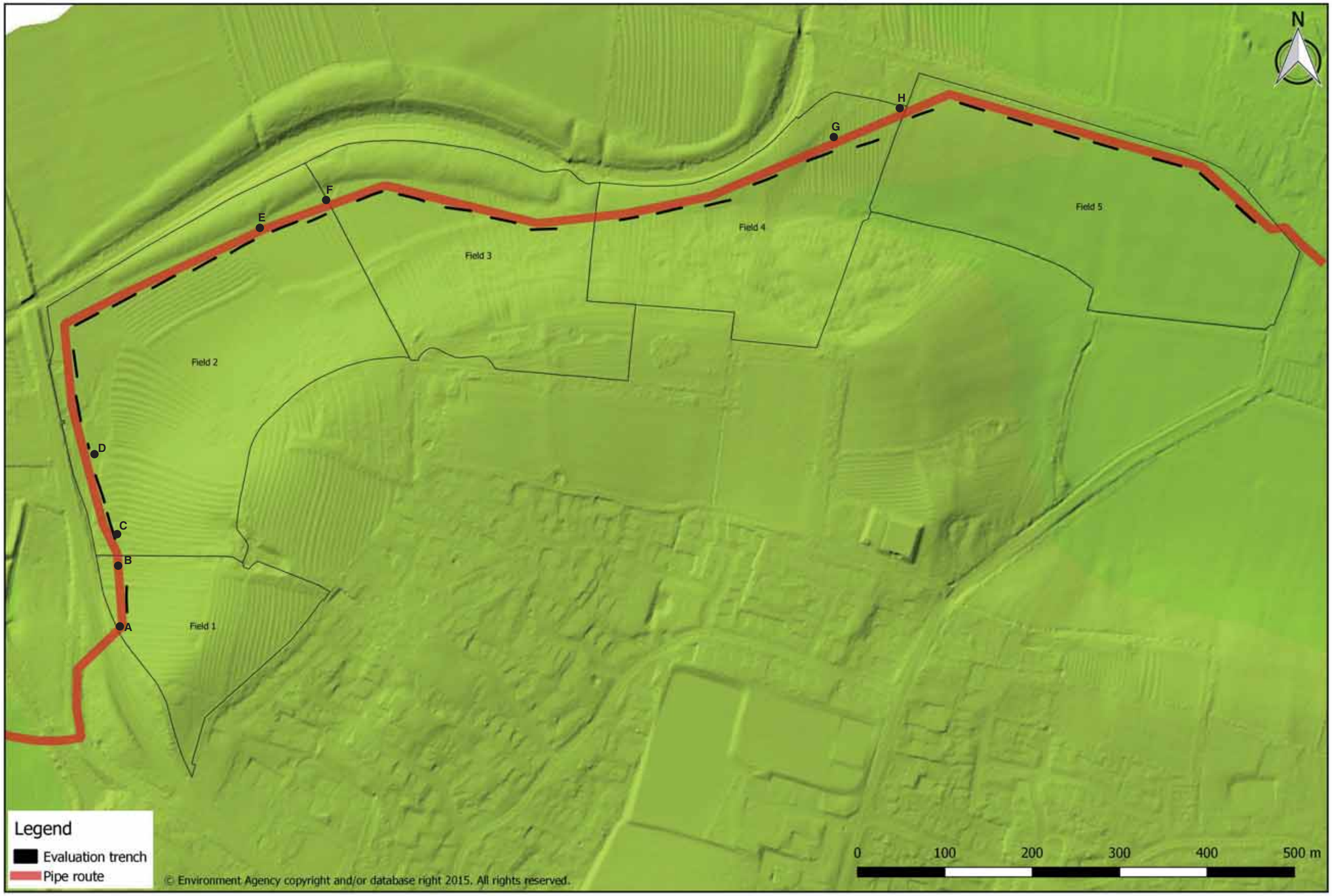


Figure D1: Great Bowden pipeline with local topography and location of Figure D6 cross-sections

Field 1. Earthworks depicted in hillshade

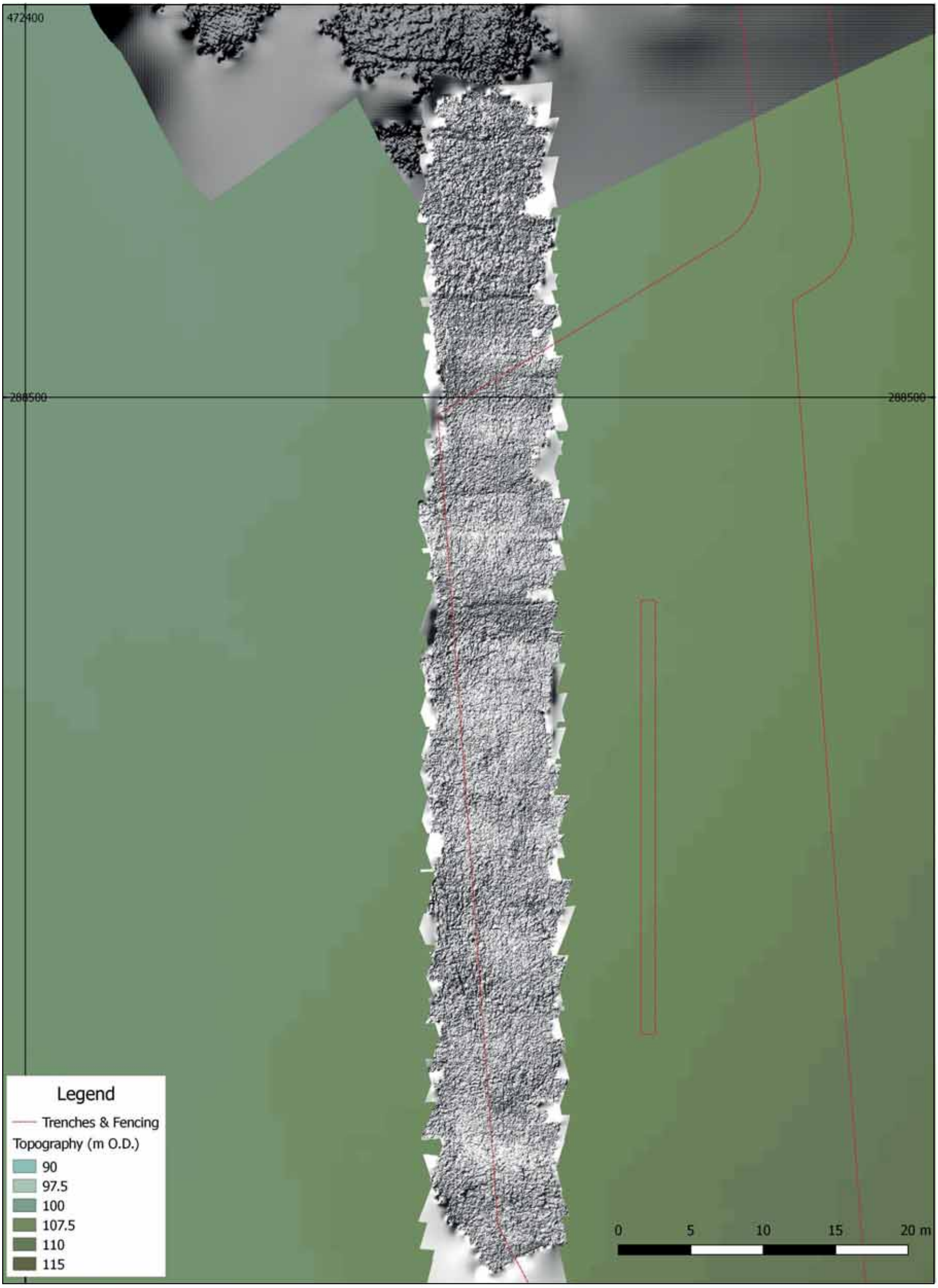


Figure D2: Field 1. Earthworks depicted in hillshade

Field 2. Earthworks

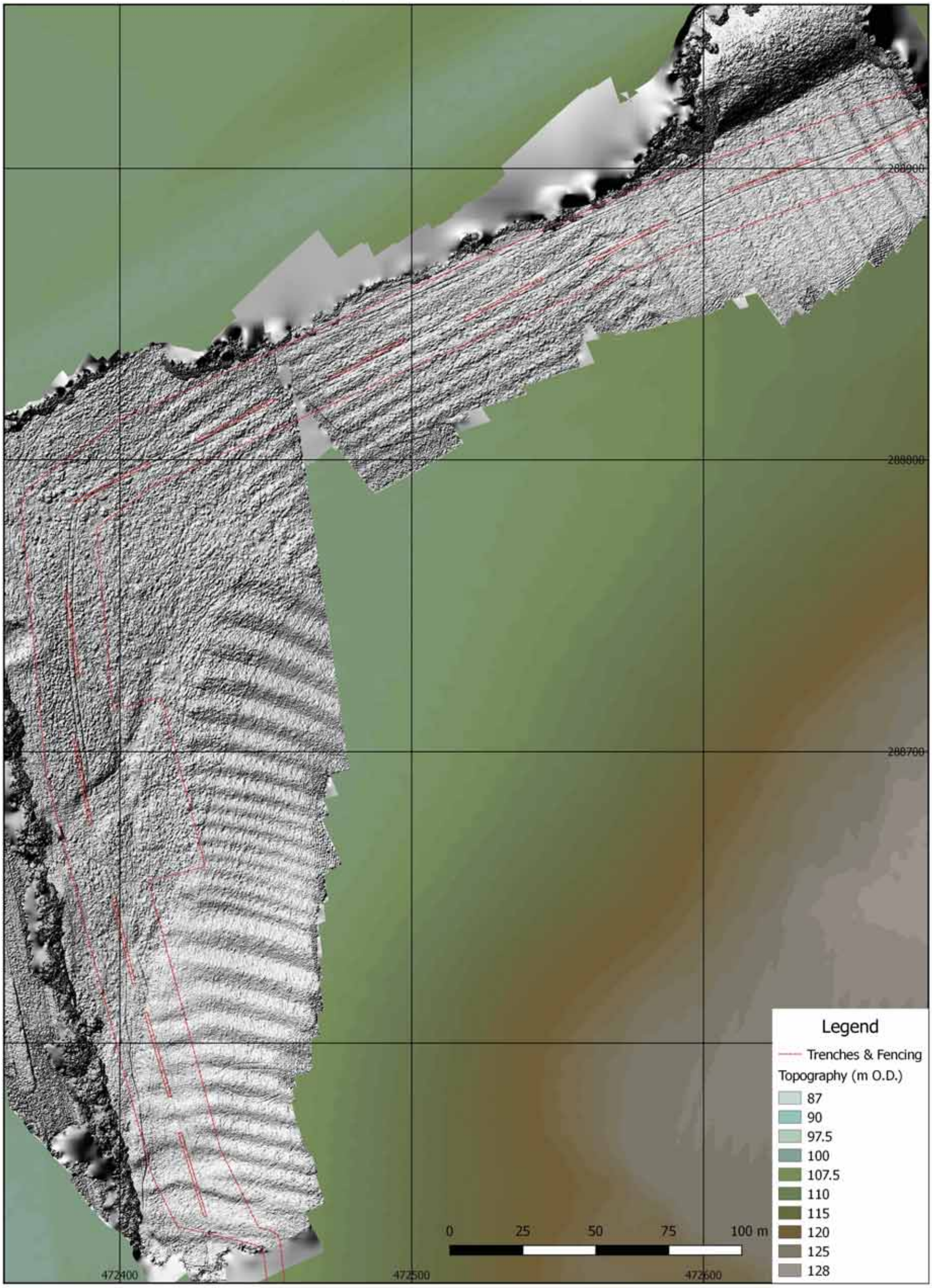


Figure D3: Field 2. Earthworks

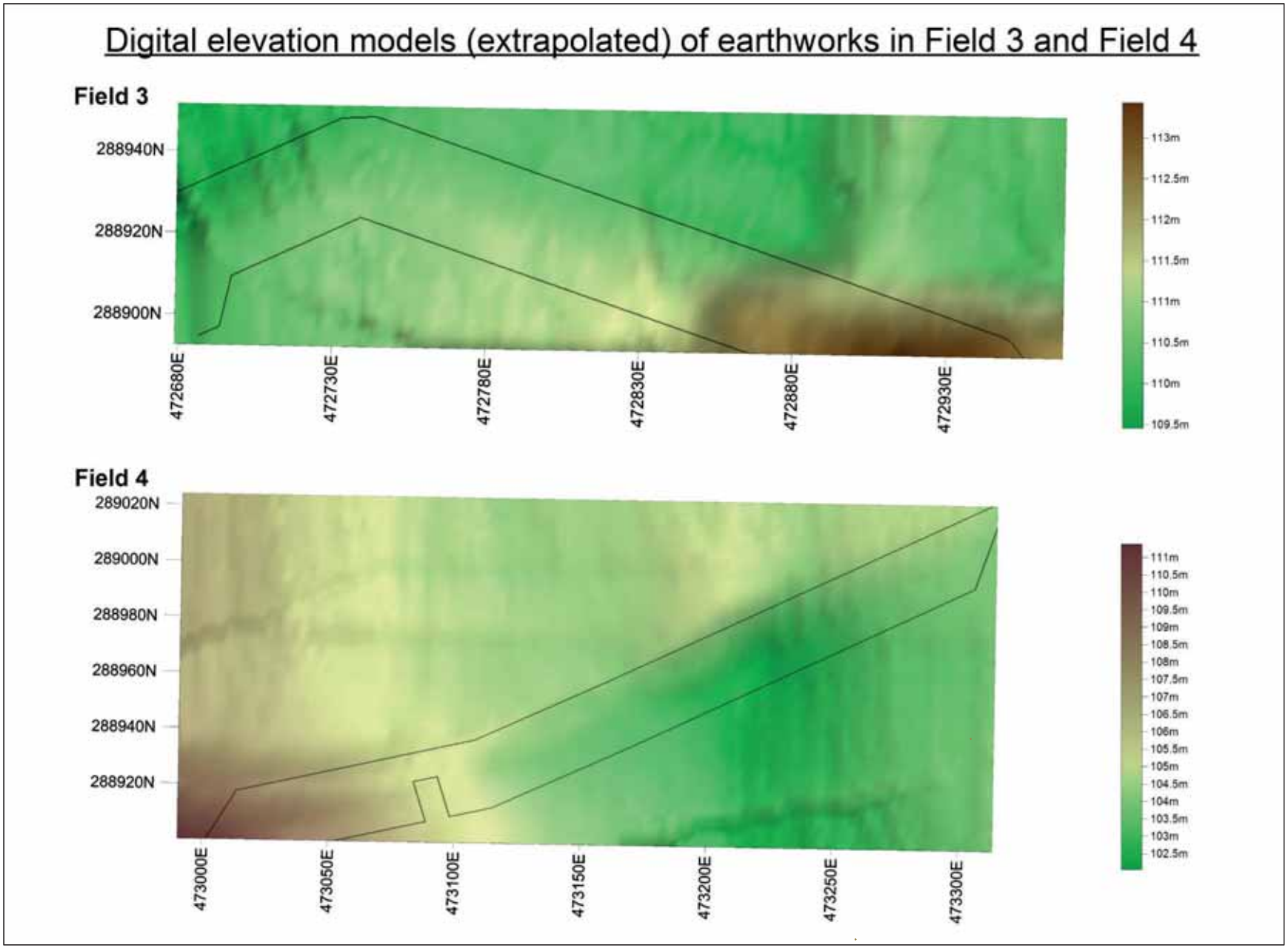


Figure D4: Digital elevation models (extrapolated) of earthworks in Field 3 and Field 4

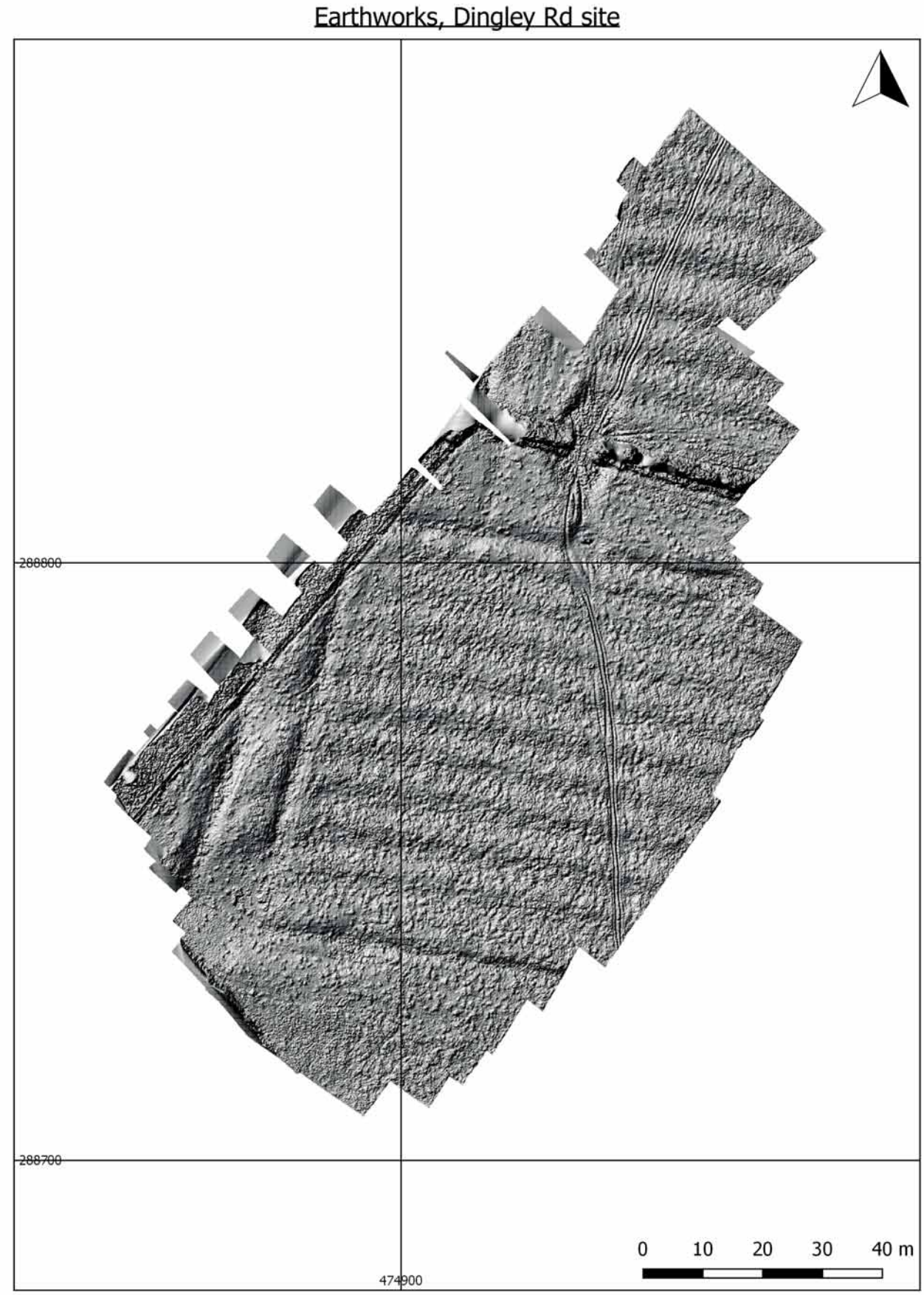
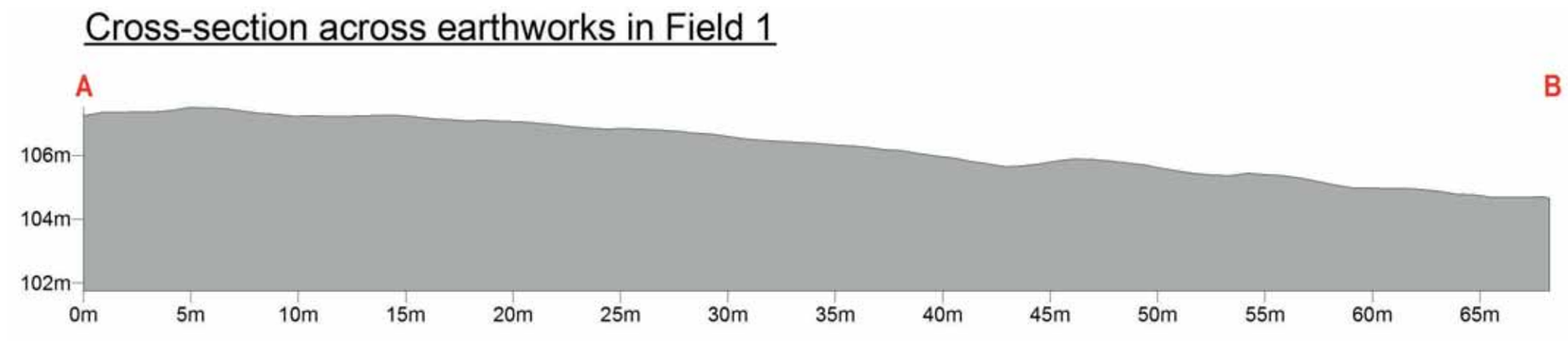
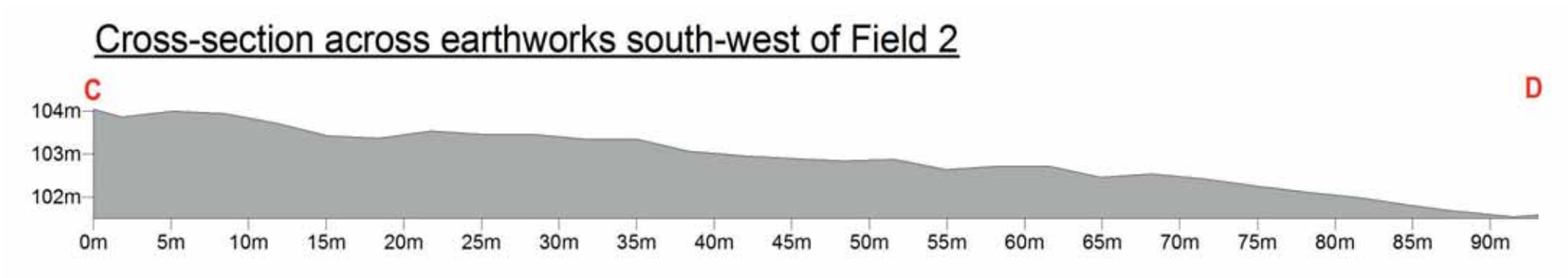
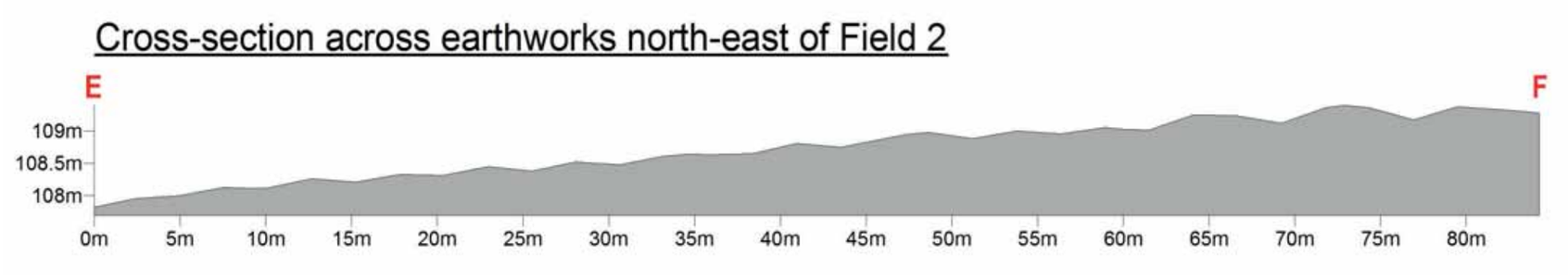


Figure D5: Earthworks, Dingley Road site







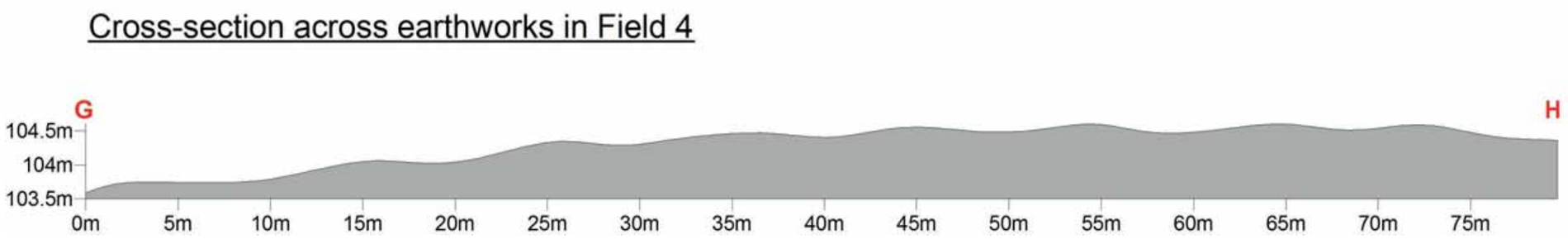


Figure D6: Sections across earthworks in Field1, Field 2 and Field 4

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APPENDIX F OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-304406
Project Name	Anglian Water Pipeline S98 Scheme – SEW-10721, Great Bowden, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

Start of Fieldwork	9/10/2017	End of Fieldwork	10/11/2017
Previous Work	No	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XLEGBO17	Planning App. No.	
HER Number		Related Numbers	

Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent Code of Practice
Development Type	Pipeline
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐	Aerial Photography – interpretation	☐	Grab-sampling	☒	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
☐	Aerial Photography - new	☐	Gravity-core	☒	Sample Trenches
☒	Annotated Sketch	☐	Laser Scanning	☐	Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure
☐	Augering	☒	Measured Survey	☐	Targeted Trenches
☐	Dendrochonological Survey	☐	Metal Detectors	☐	Test Pits
☐	Documentary Search	☐	Phosphate Survey	☒	Topographic Survey
☒	Environmental Sampling	☒	Photogrammetric Survey	☐	Vibro-core
☐	Fieldwalking	☐	Photographic Survey	☐	Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
☐	Geophysical Survey	☐	Rectified Photography		

Monument	Period
Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)
Ridge and Furrow earthworks	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
	Choose an item.

Object	Period
Ceramic	Roman (43 to 410)
Ceramic	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
	Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Leicestershire
District	Harborough
Parish	Great Bowden
HER office	Leicestershire
Size of Study Area	10m X 1.760km easement
National Grid Ref	SP 73752 88877 to SP 72381 88691 & SP 74877 88757

Address (including Postcode)

Land west of Great Bowden,
Leicester Lane,
Great Bowden,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
LE16 7HA

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	Leicestershire County Council
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macualay
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Project Supervisor	Neal Mason

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	LEICS CC Museums	TBA
Digital Archive	OA East	XLEGBO17
Paper Archive	LEICS CC Museums	TBA

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☒	☒	☒
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☒	☒
Stratigraphic		☒	☒
Survey		☒	☒
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☐	☐	☐
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☒	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☐	Context Sheets	☒
Geophysics	☐	Correspondence	☐
Images (Digital photos)	☒	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☒	Drawing	☐
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☐
Spreadsheets	☐	Map	☐
Survey	☒	Matrices	☐
Text	☒	Microfiche	☐
Virtual Reality	☐	Miscellaneous	☐
		Research/Notes	☐
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	☒
		Plans	☐
		Report	☒

Sections	☒
Survey	☐

Further Comments

Size of study area is an approximate measurement of pipeline easement and length, allowing for additional area of earthwork survey.

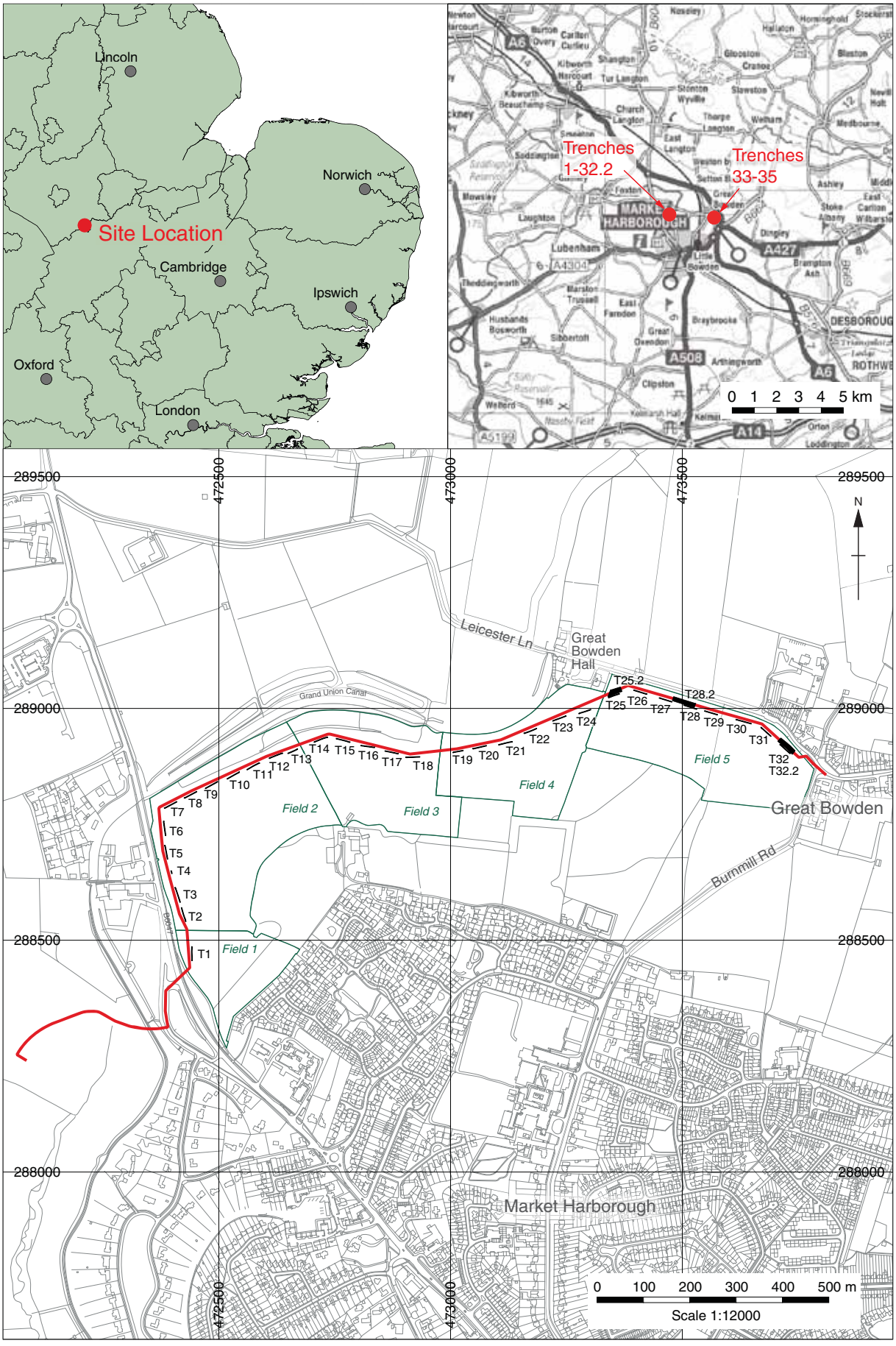


Figure 1a: Site location showing pipe route (red) and archaeological trenching (back), trenches 1-32.2

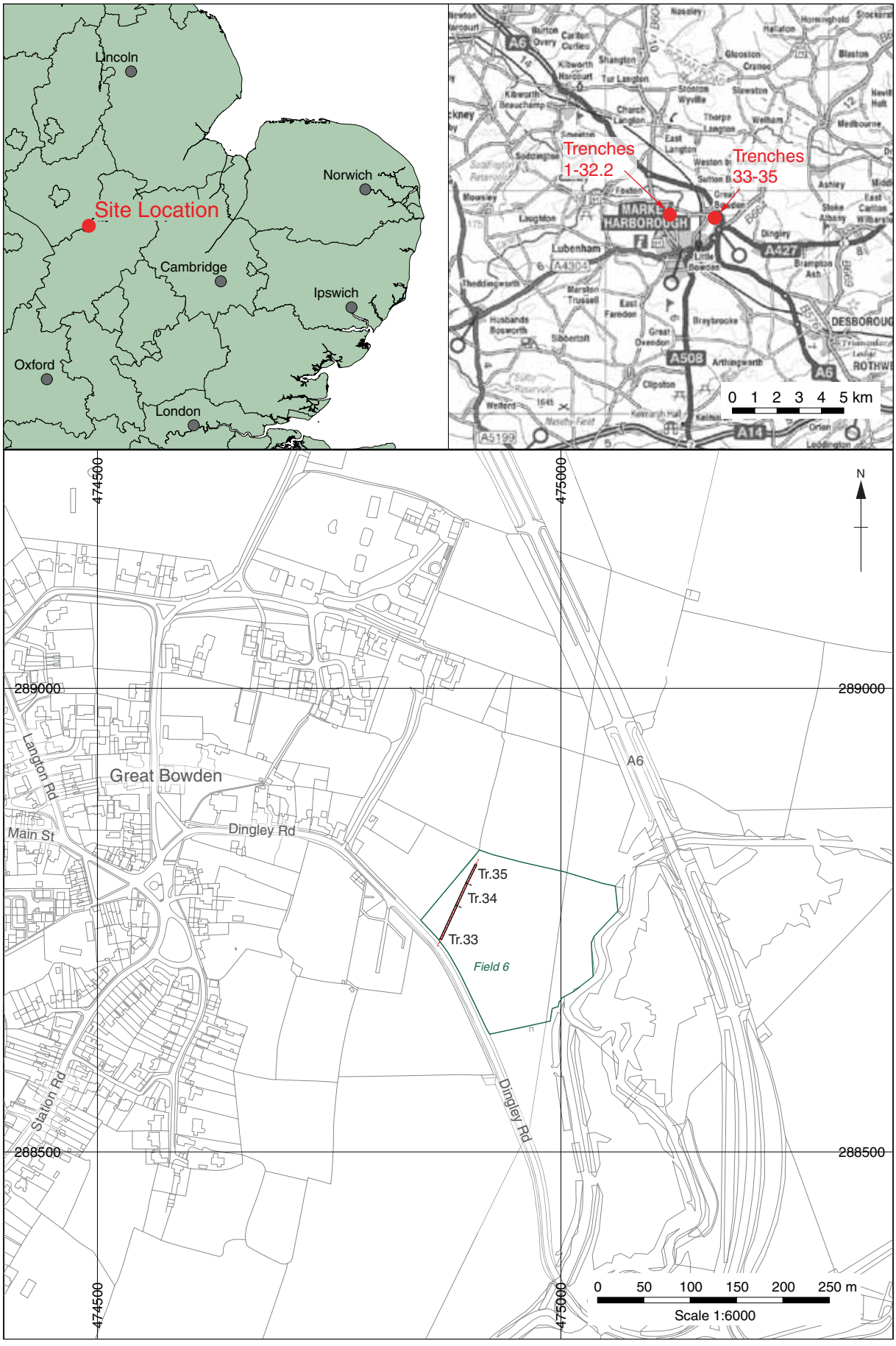


Figure 1b: Site location showing pipe route (red) and archaeological trenching (back), trenches 33-35

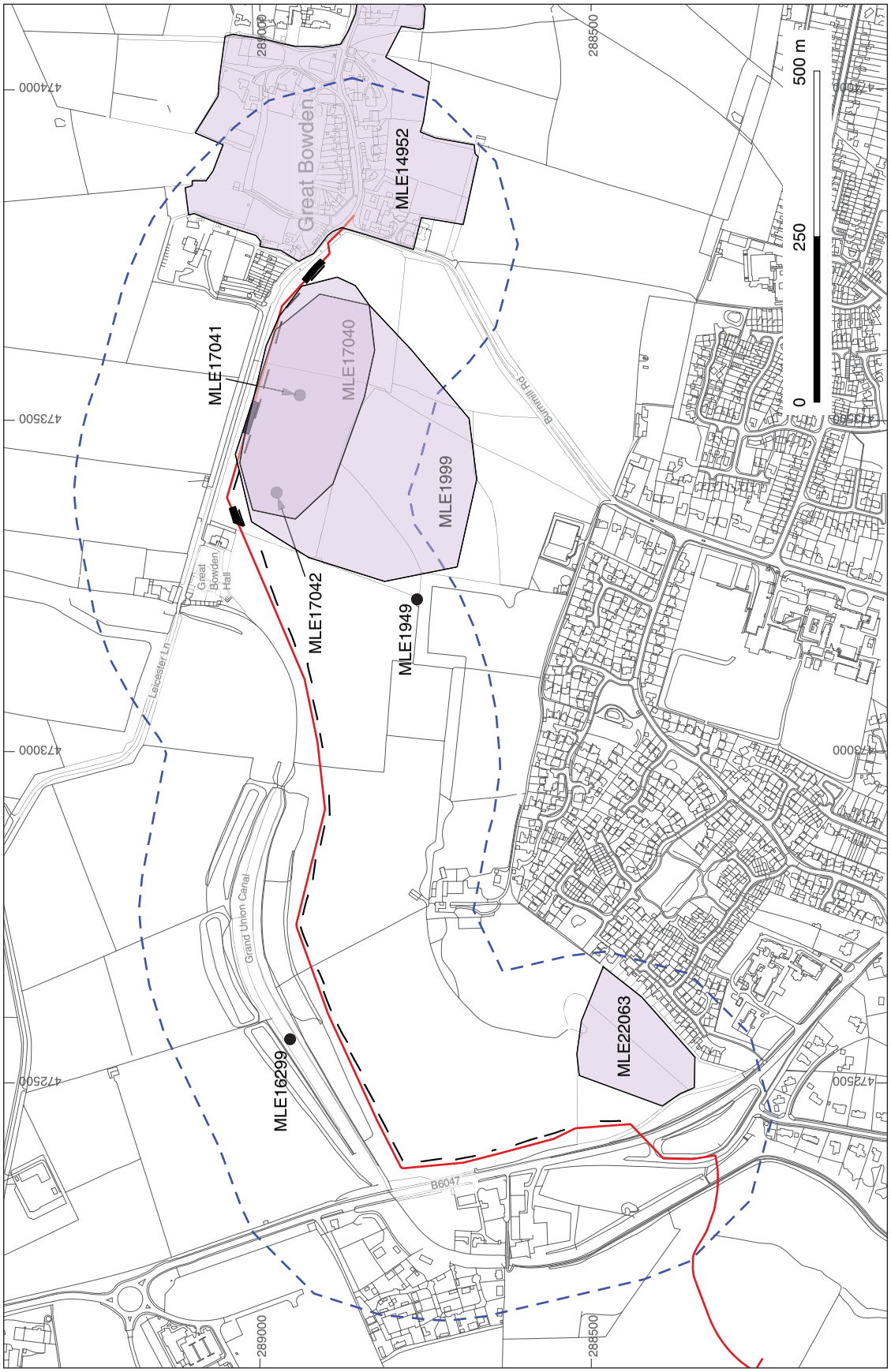


Figure 2: Pipeline route (red), showing HER search area (blue) and location of MLE numbers mentioned in the text

Figure 3: Geophysical survey results, Fields 2 and 3 (Richardson 2015)

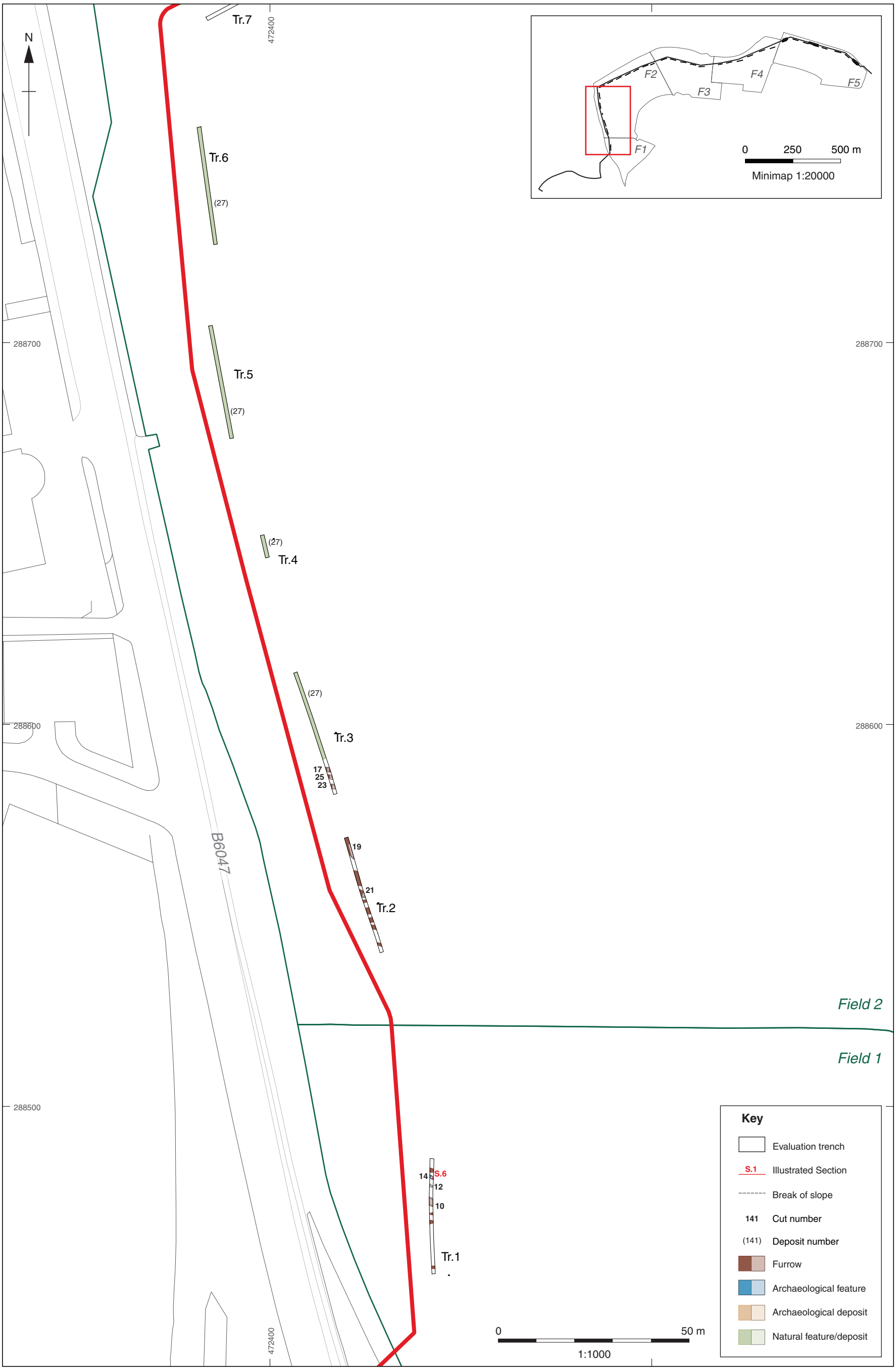


Figure 4: Trenches 1 to 6 all features plan

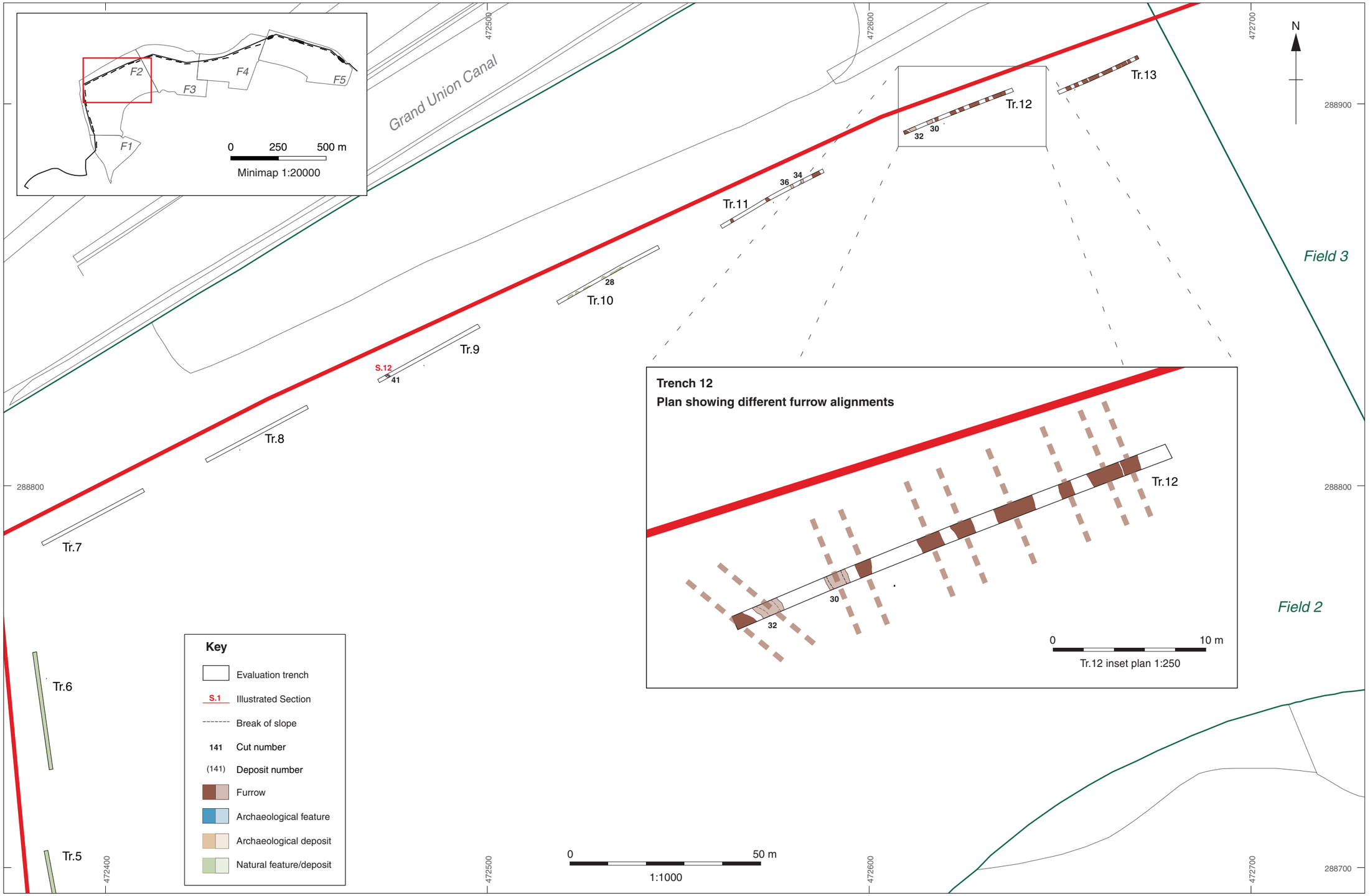


Figure 5: Trenches 7 to 13 all features plan, with plan of Trench 12 furrow alignments inset

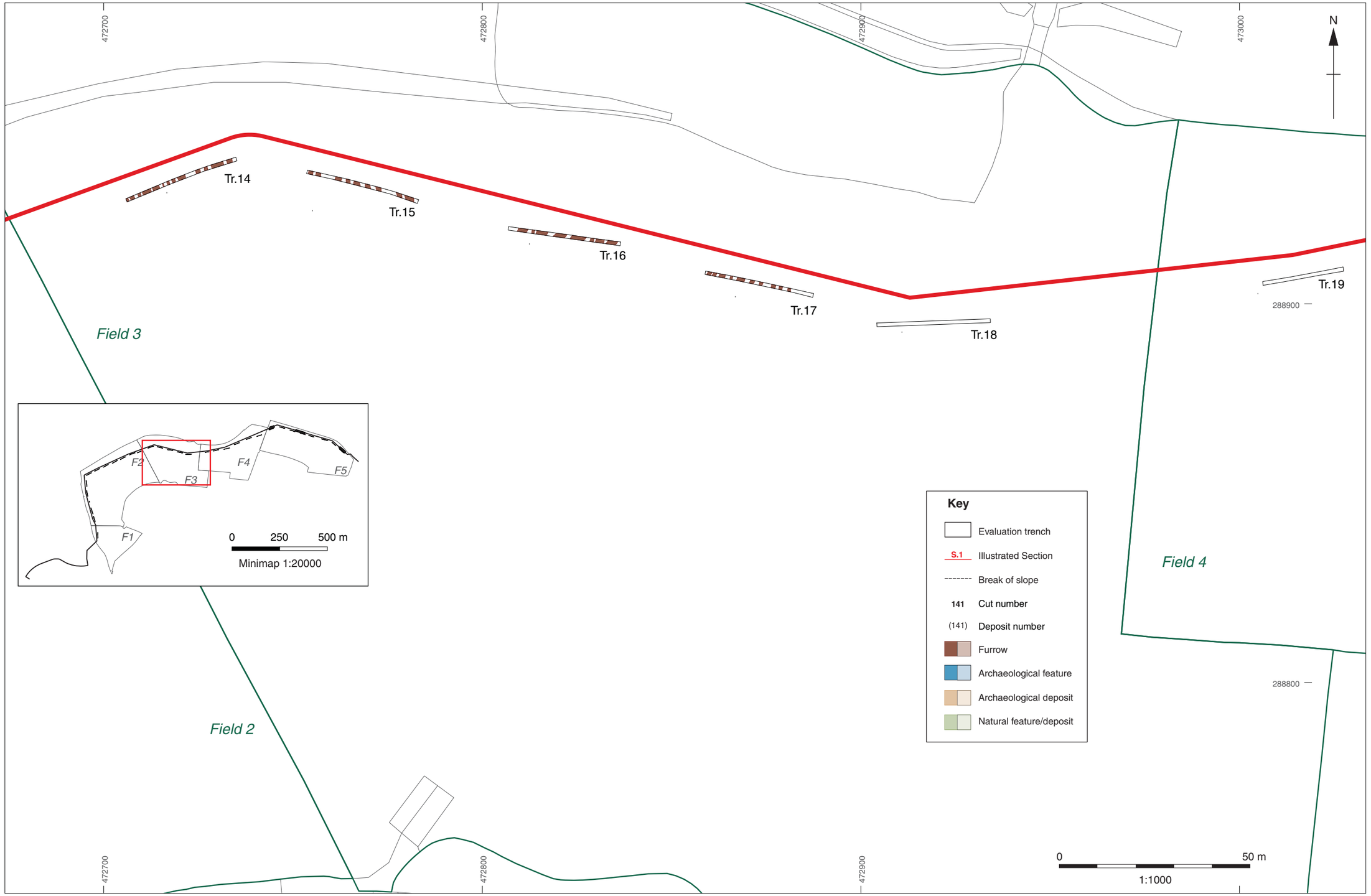


Figure 6: Trenches 14 to 19 all features plan

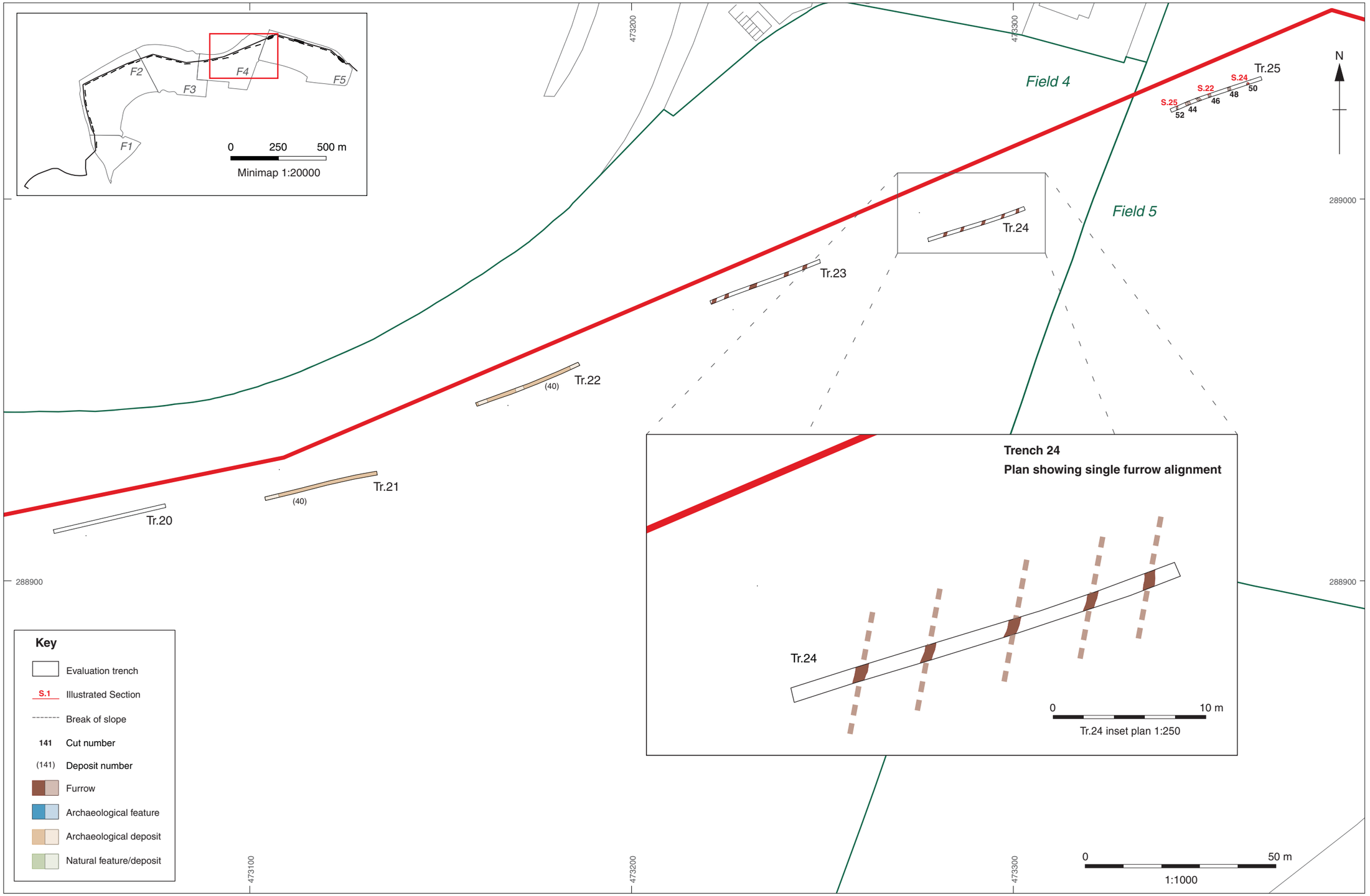


Figure 7: Trenches 20 to 25 all features plan, with plan of Trench 24 furrow alignments inset

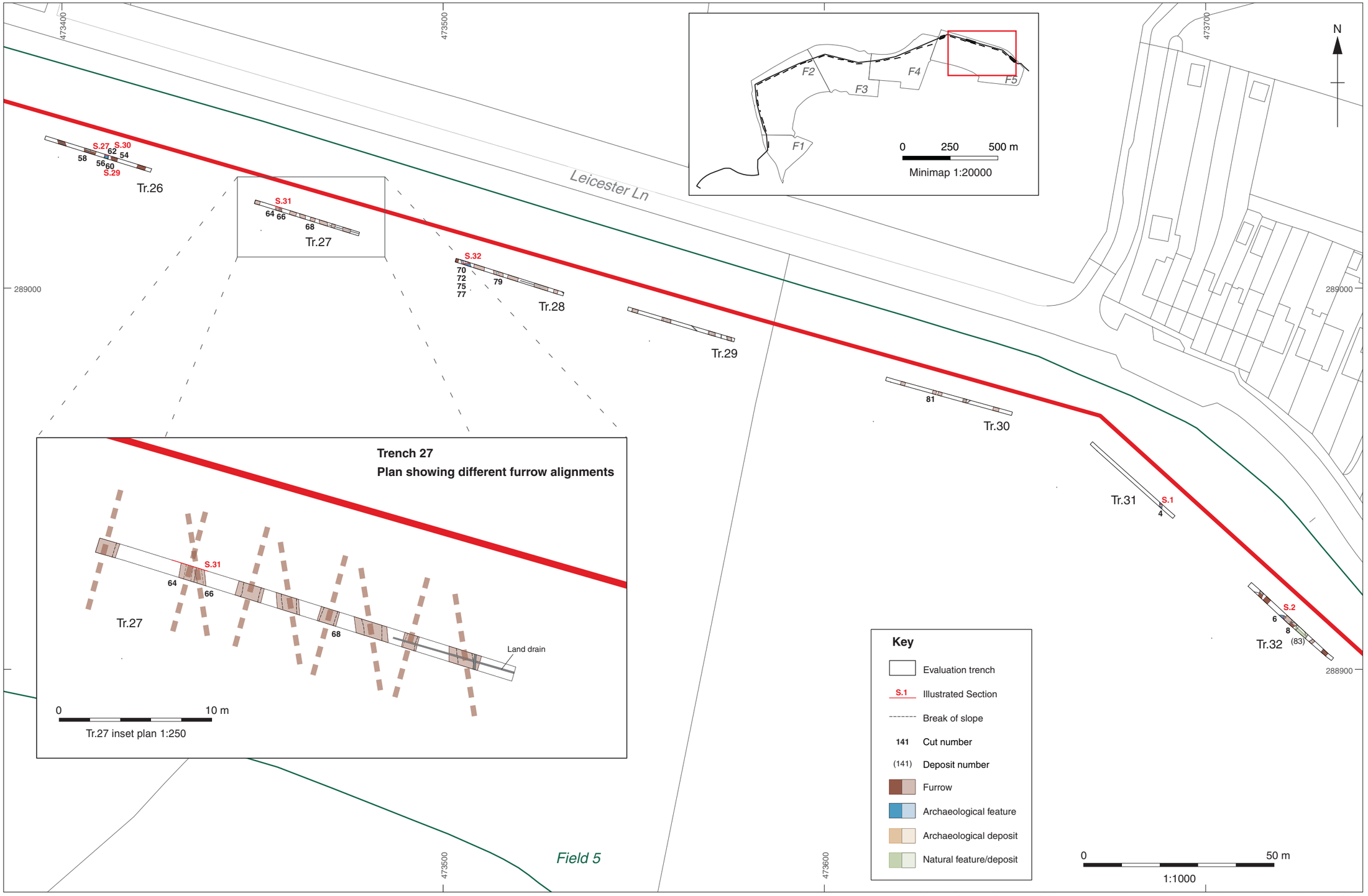


Figure 8: Trenches 26 to 32 all features plan, with plan of Trench 27 furrow alignments inset

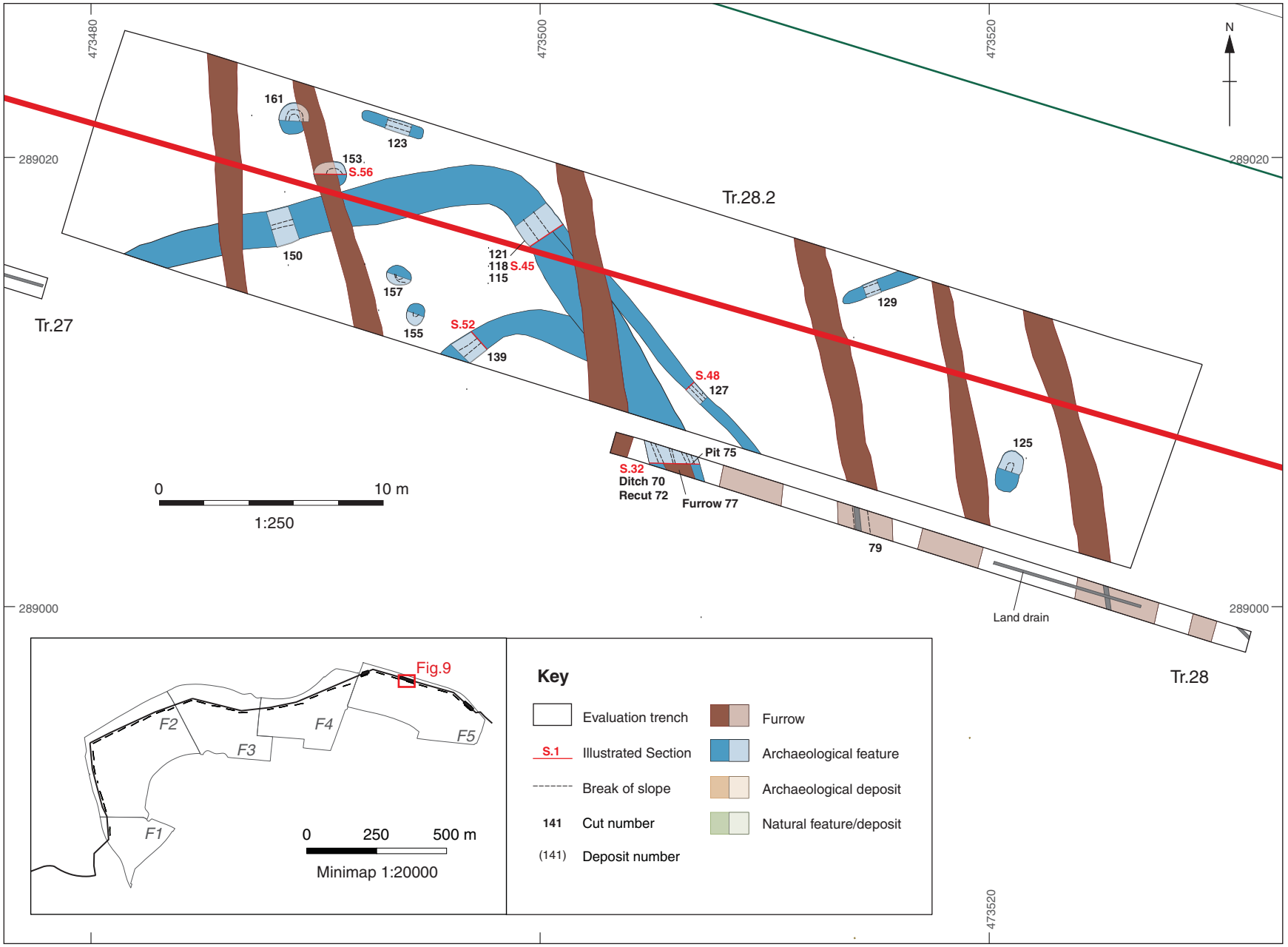
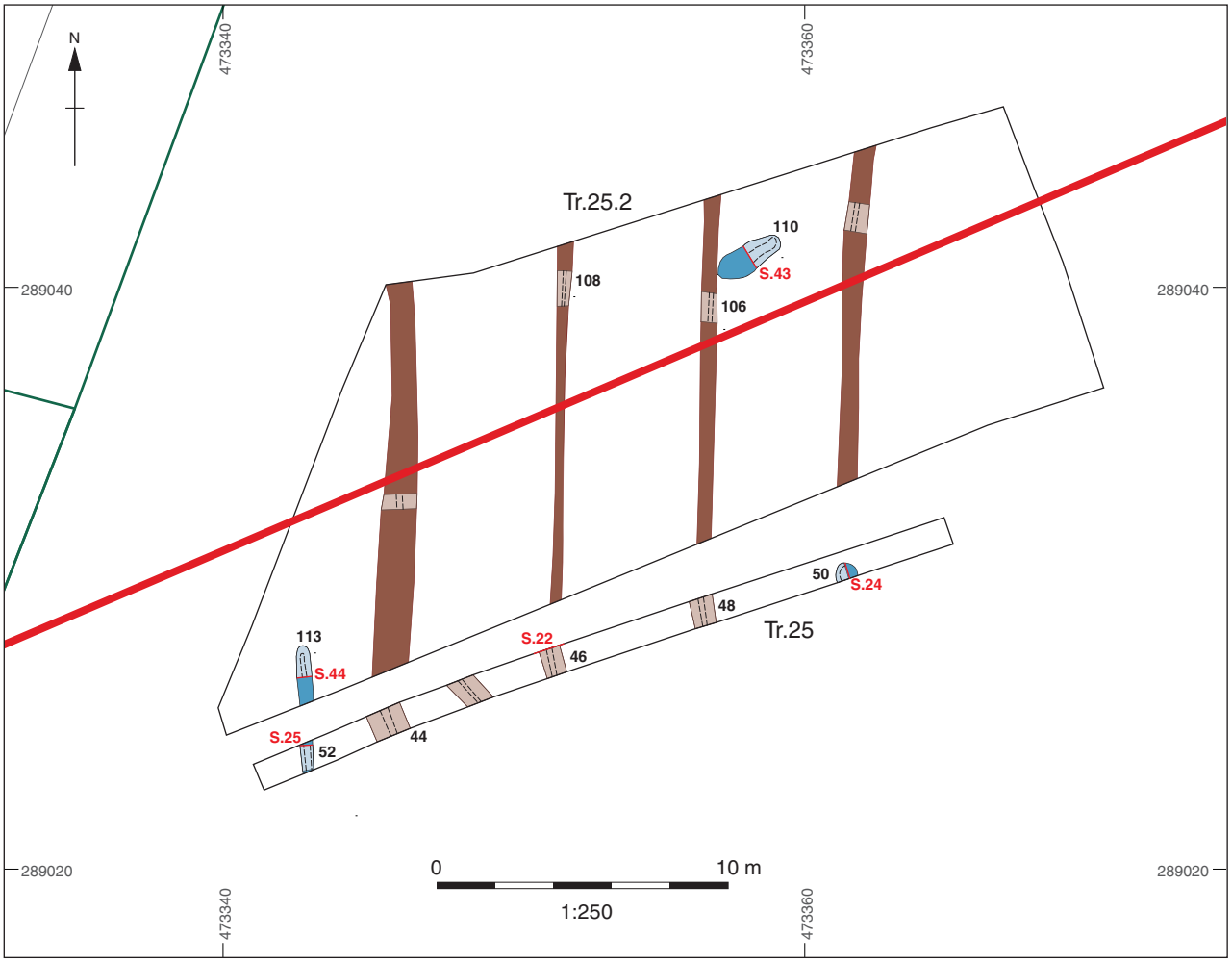


Figure 9: Trench 28 and 28.2 with Romano-British enclosure ditch **70**



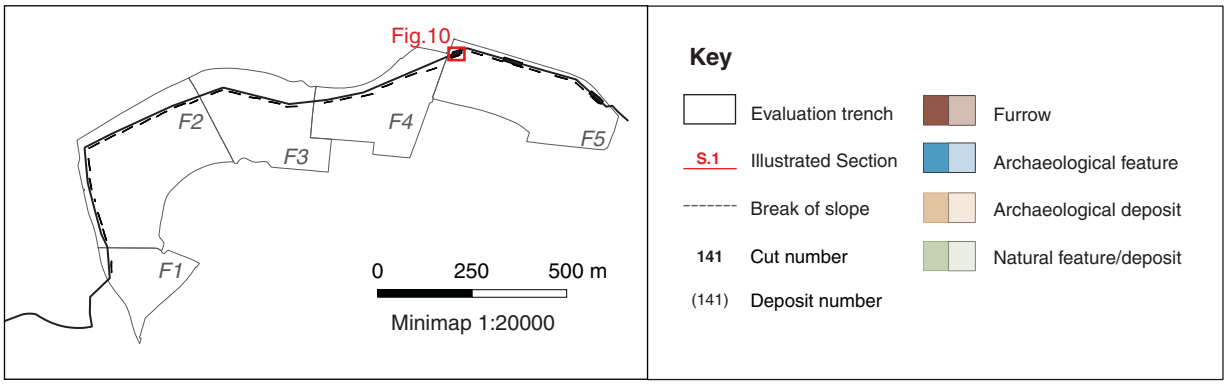


Figure 10: Trench 25 and 25.2 with Middle Iron age ditch **46** and pit **50**

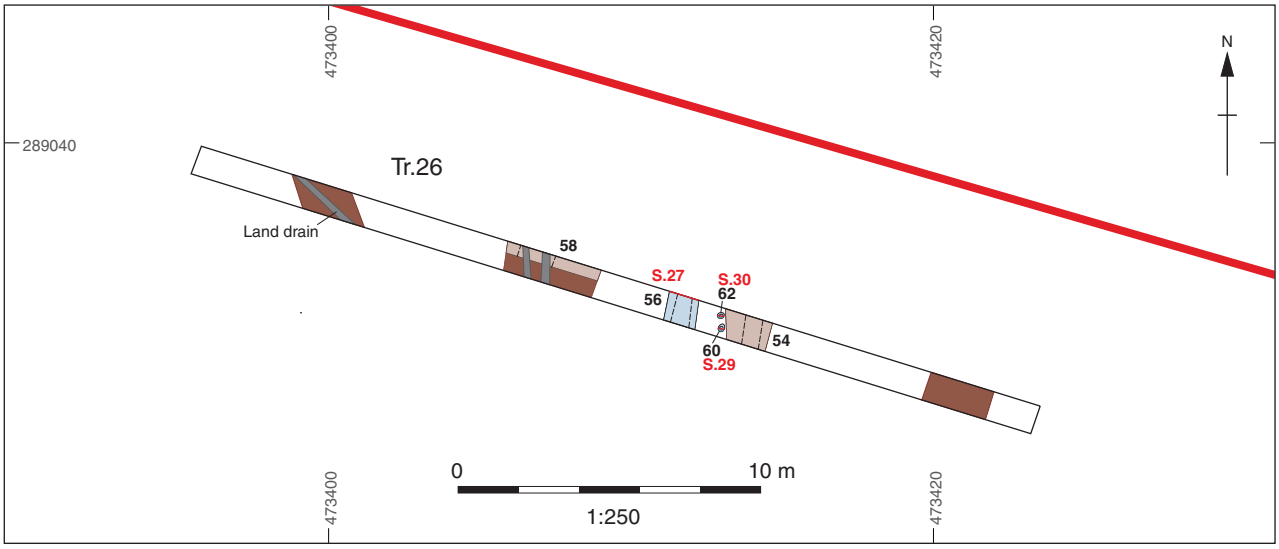
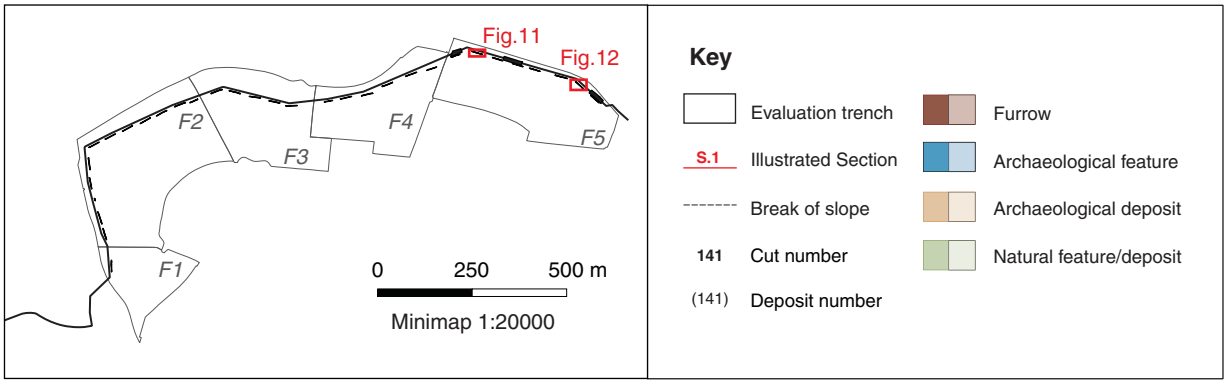


Figure 11: Trench 26 showing post holes **60** and **61**, with ditch **56**



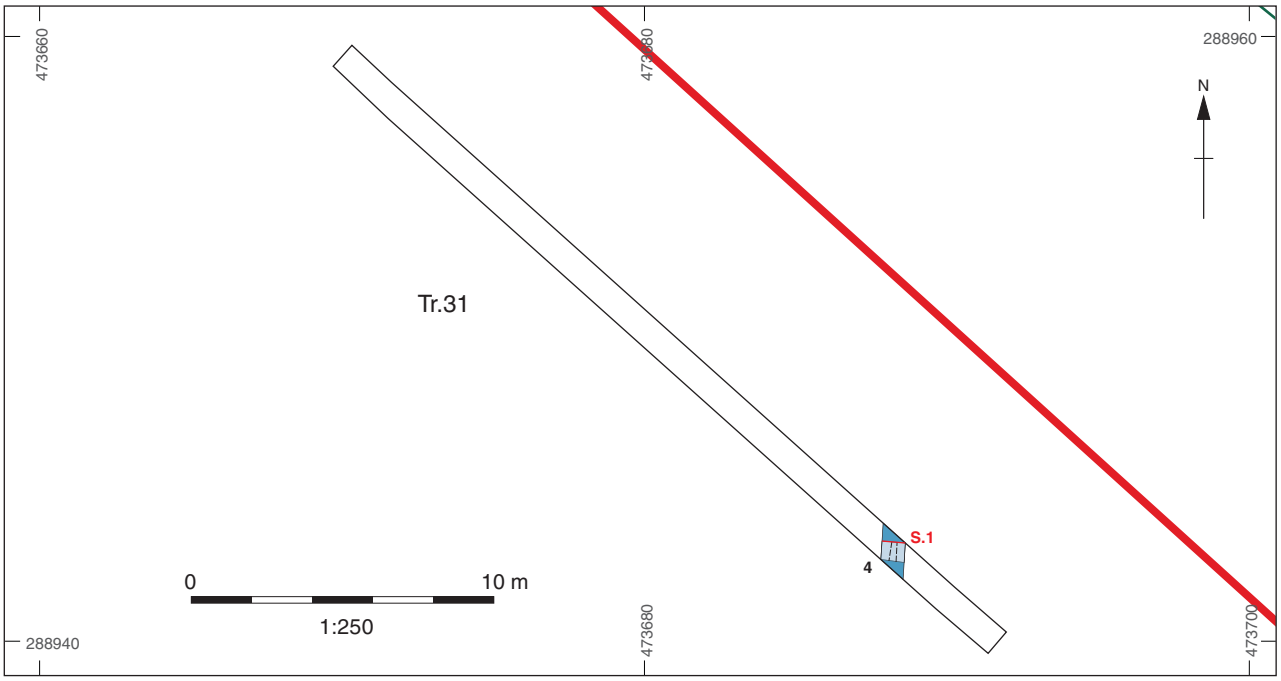


Figure 12: Trench 31 showing boundary ditch **4**

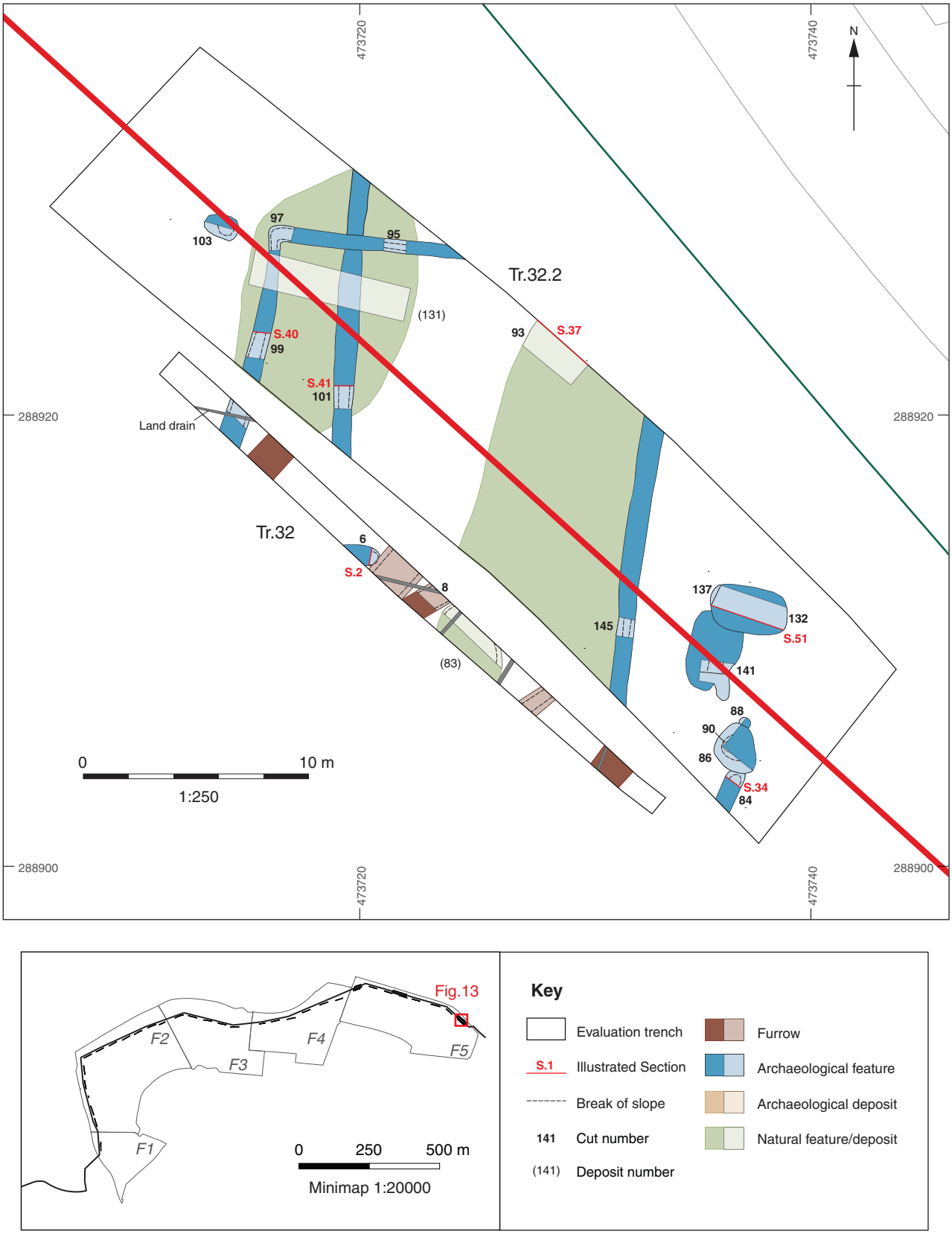
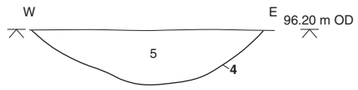


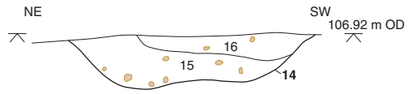
Figure 13: Trench 32 and 32.2 showing ditch terminus **6**

Section 1 Trench 31

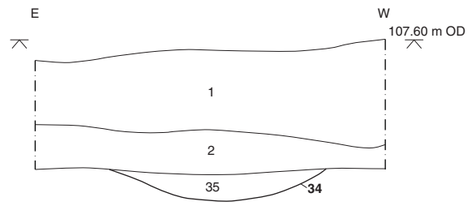


Section 2 Trench 32

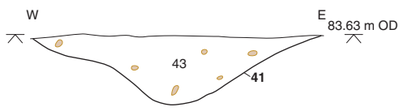
Section 6 Trench 1



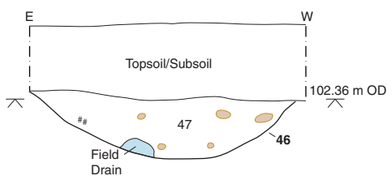
Section 14 Trench 11



Section 12 Trench 9

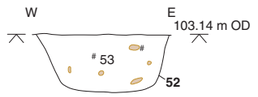


Section 22 Trench 25

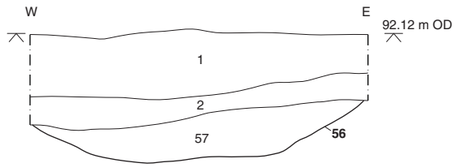


Section 24 Trench 25

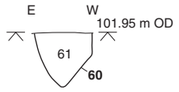
Section 25 Trench 25



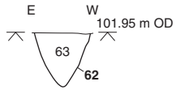
Section 27 Trench 26



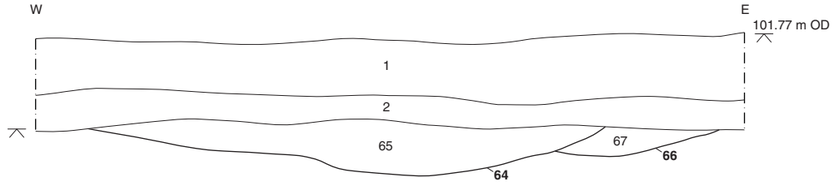
Section 29 Trench 26



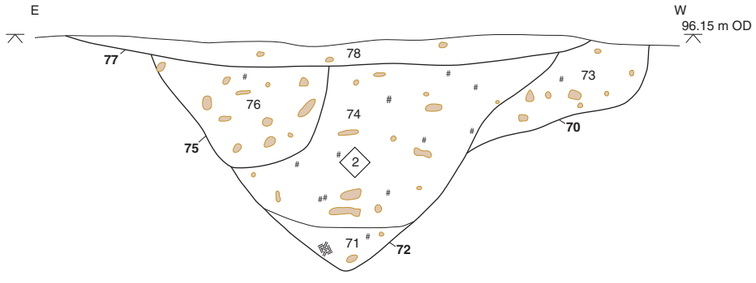
Section 30 Trench 26



Section 31 Trench 27



Section 32 Trench 28



Key

- Limit of Excavation
- Cut
- Deposit Horizon
- Intrusion/Truncation
- Break in Section
- 117 Cut Number
- 116 Deposit Number
- 2 Sample Number
- Stone/Flint
- Burnt Clay
- Charcoal/Burning
- Modern

Figure 14a: Selected sections. Scale 1:20

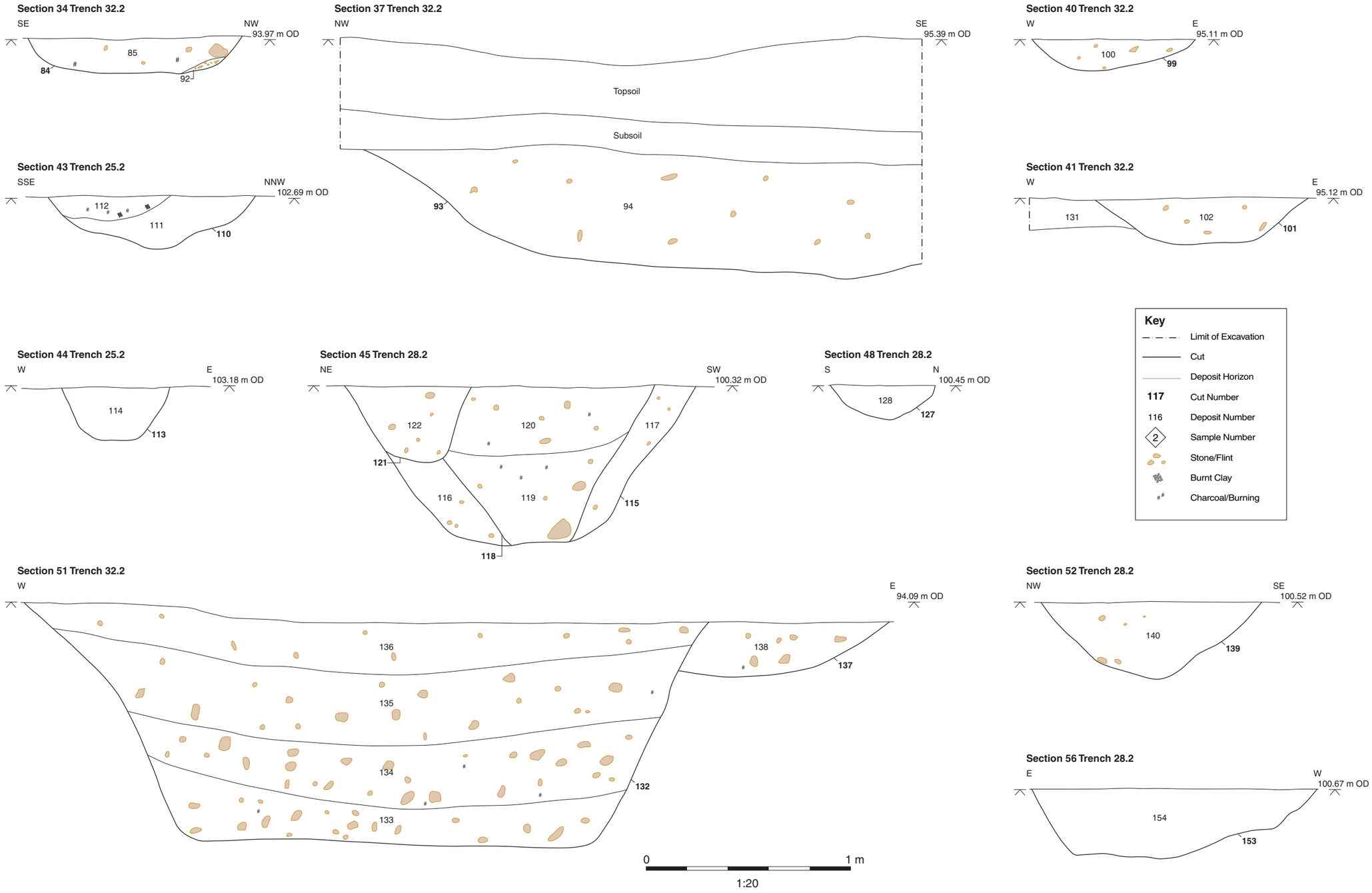


Figure 14b: Selected sections. Scale 1:20

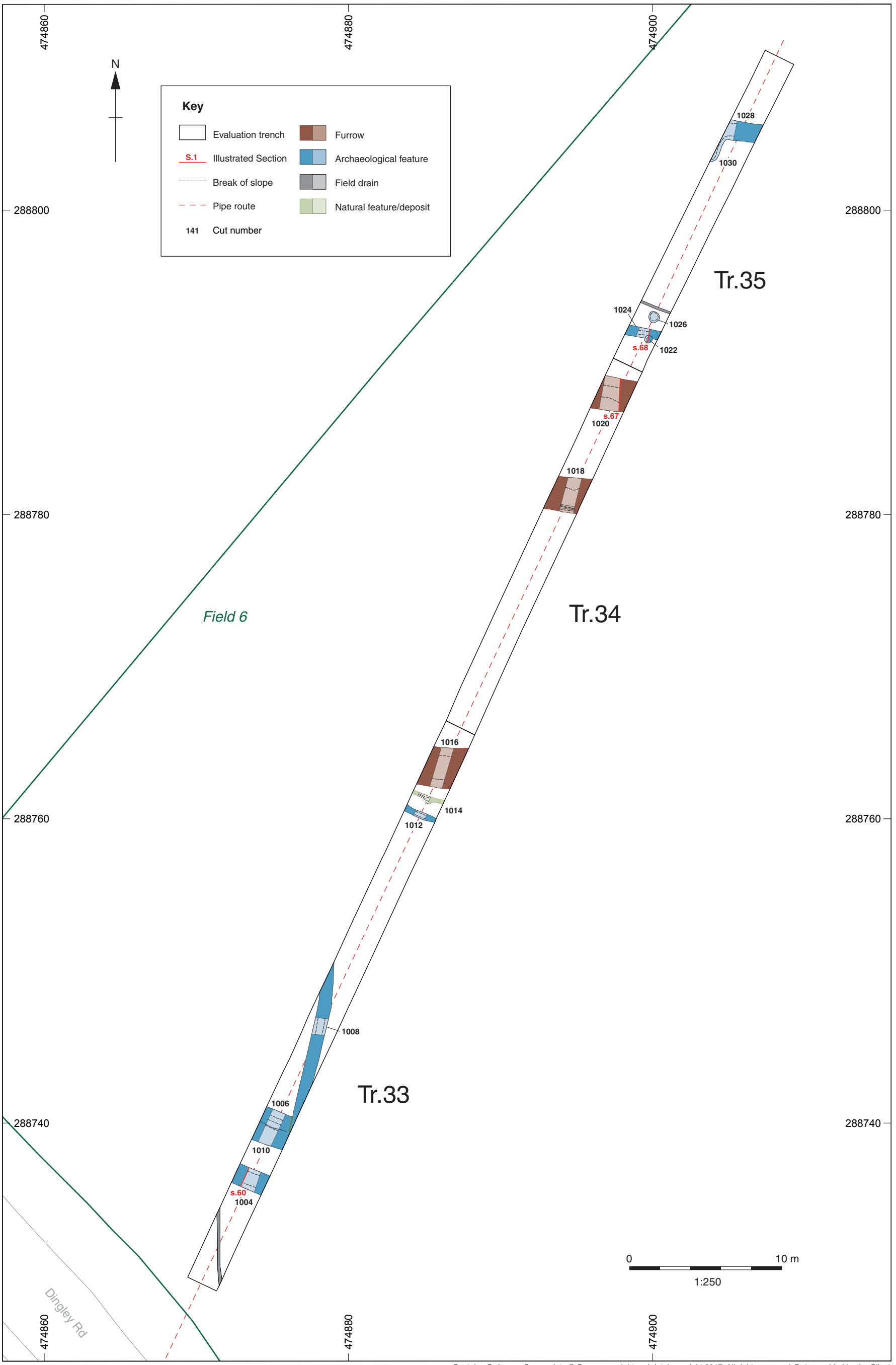


Figure 15: Trenches 33-35, showing all features

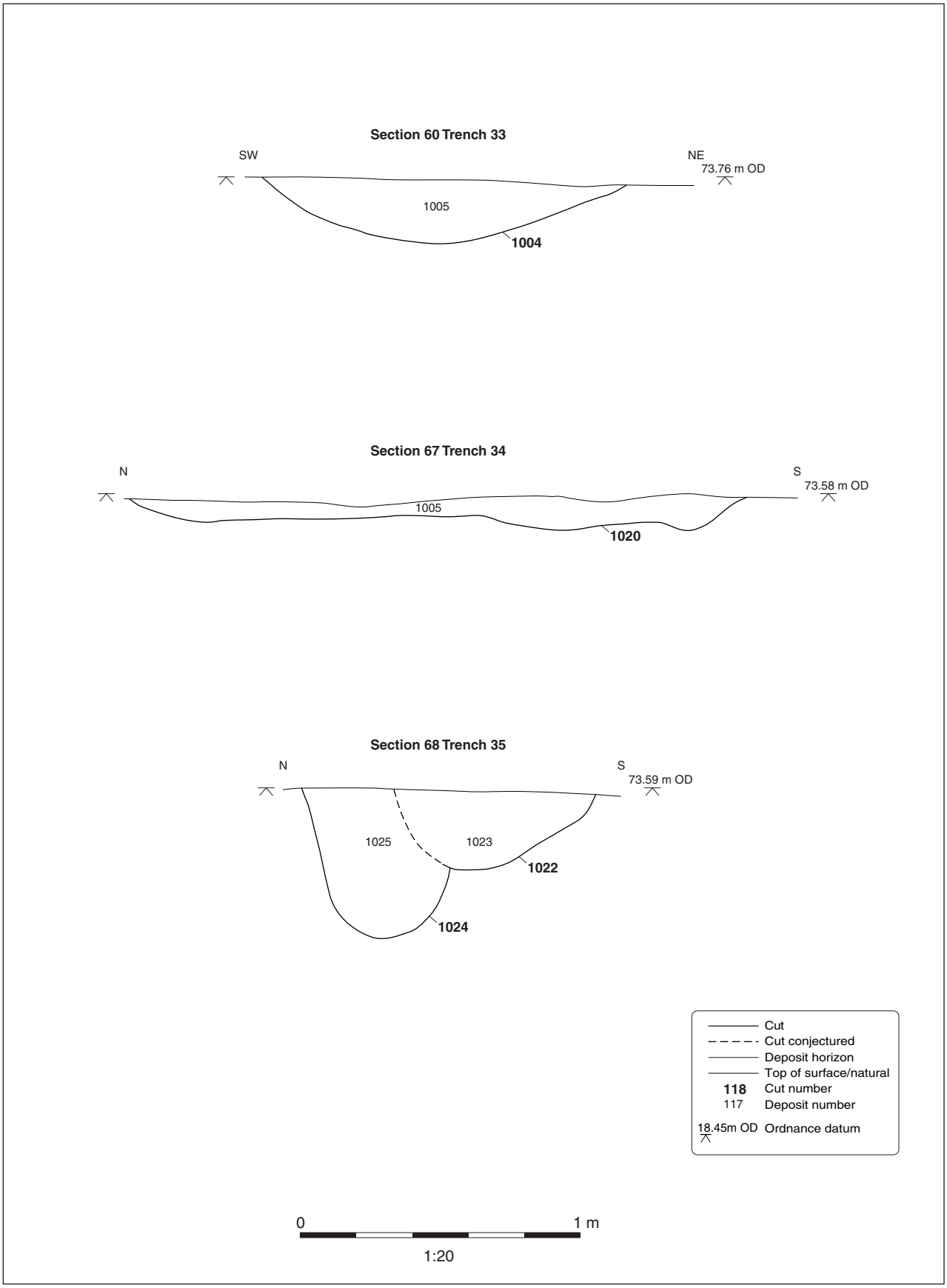


Figure 16: Selected sections. Scale 1:20

Plate 1: Trench 25, gully **52**, looking north

Plate 2: Trench 27 showing different furrow alignments, looking west

Plate 3: Trench 28, Romano-British enclosure ditch **70**, looking south-east

Plate 4: Trench 32, ditch terminus 6, looking north-west

Plate 5: Trench 22, machine-dug sondage through canal up-cast deposit (40), looking north-west

Plate 6: Extant ridge and furrow in field 2, looking east

Plate 7: Trench 6, showing alluvial deposit (27), looking north

Plate 8: Trench 25.2, gully **113**, looking south

Plate 9: Trench 25.2, pit **110**, looking west-south-west

Plate 10: Trench 28.2, Roman enclosure ditch **115**, looking south-east

Plate 11: Trench 28.2, curvilinear ditch **139**, looking north-east

Plate 12: Trench 32.2, natural hollow **93**, looking north-north-east

Plate 13: Trench 32.2, pit 103, looking north

Plate 14: Trench 32.2, Post-Medieval boundary ditch **145**, looking north

Plate 15: Trench 32.2, pit **132**, looking west

Plate 16: Trench 32.2, pit **141**, looking north

Plate 17: Trench 32.2, machine slot through deposit (131), looking east

Plate 18: Trench 32.2, ditch corner **97**, looking south

Plate 20: Trench 35 viewed from south-east

Plate 19: Trench 34 viewed from south-southeast

Plate 21: Pit **1026**, viewed from south-east

Plate 22: Ditch **1024** and post hole **1022** from the west

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