

**PENN'S ORCHARD, STATION ROAD,
COGENHOE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
(SP829608)**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Historic Environment Record
Event No. ENN 107961

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Produced for:

Architectural Tectonics
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On behalf of:

Mr I Roy Esq. Cogenhoe

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CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	4
<i>List of Tables</i>	4
<i>Preface</i>	5
<i>Summary</i>	6
1. SCOPE OF THE DOCUMENT	7
2. PLANNING BACKGROUND	7
3. SITE LOCATION AND ASPECT	7
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	7
<i>Iron Age and Romano-British Periods</i>	8
<i>The Early Medieval Period</i>	8
<i>The Medieval Period</i>	9
<i>Recent Archaeological Work</i>	9
<i>Historic Map Evidence</i>	10
5. OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION	10
<i>Research priorities</i>	10
6. METHODOLOGY	11
7. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS	12
<i>Trench 1</i>	12
<i>Trench 2</i>	12
<i>Trench 3</i>	13
<i>Trench 4</i>	13
<i>Trench 5</i>	13
<i>Trench 6</i>	14
<i>Trench 7</i>	14
8. THE FINDS	15
<i>The Animal Bone</i> by Matilda Holmes PhD, ACIfA	15
<i>The Pottery</i> Identification by Jackie Wells MA	15
<i>The Sruck Flint</i> by Andrew Peachey BA MCIfA	15
<i>Environmental Assessment of Bulk Sample Light Fractions</i> by John Summers PhD	16
<i>Conclusions and statement of potential</i>	17
<i>Potential for Radiocarbon dating</i>	18

9. DISCUSSION OF FINDS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE	21
10. ARCHIVE	22
11. COPYRIGHT & CONFIDENTIALITY	22
12. REFERENCES	23
APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS	41

List of Figures

Figure 1	Location of Proposed Development Site
Figure 2	Location of evaluation trenches and distribution of archaeological features
Figure 3	Trench 1: Undated gully [104]
Figure 4	Trench 1: Section 1, gully [104]
Figure 5	Trench 1: plan of gully [104]
Figure 6	Trench 2: plan of post-holes and location of Sections 2 to 10
Figure 7	Trench 2: post-holes prior to excavation
Figure 8	Trench 2: post-holes. Top: facing NW, Right: facing SSE
Figure 9	Trench 2: post-holes, Sections 2 to 10
Figure 10	Overview of Trench 3, facing NW
Figure 11	Overview of Trench 4, facing NNW
Figure 12	Trench 4: direction of plough scores (marked by arrows)
Figure 13	Trench 5. Plan of gully: segments [504], [506] and [510] and location of Sections 11 to 13
Figure 14	Trench 5, Sections 11 to 13, facing WSW
Figure 15	Trench 5, Sections 11 to 13
Figure 16	Overview of Trench 6, facing NNE
Figure 17	Trench 7, Ditch [703] and location of Sections 14 and 15
Figure 18	Trench 7, Ditch [703] Sections 14 and 15
Figure 19	Trench 7, Ditch [703] Section 14, facing SE
Figure 20	Trench 7, Ditch [703] Section 15, facing NW
Figure 21	Trench 7, Ditch [706], facing NW
Figure 22	Trench 7, Gully [706] Sections 16 and 17
Figure 23	Trench 7, Gully [706], Sections 16 and 17
Figure 24	Trench 7, Gully [706] Section 16, facing W

(Illustrations follow the main text)

List of Tables

Table 1	Animal species represented
Table 2	Data from the bulk sample light fractions

Preface

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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Summary

In April / May 2015, seven evaluation trenches were excavated in a former orchard in the village of Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, in an area which had the potential to reveal evidence of Romano-British and Early medieval activity or occupation. The proposed development site is approximately 0.9 ha and the trial trenches provided a sample of approximately 4.6%.

Archaeological features were exposed in four of the trenches. These comprised three gullies, a ditch and an arrangement of eleven post-holes, the latter considered to be the site of an early medieval building.

A single sherd of Anglo-Saxon pottery was found in one of the post-holes. The overall assemblage of carbonised cereal grains and other plant macrofossils recovered from the post-holes and three other linear features are congruent with the Anglo-Saxon period or later.

1. SCOPE OF THE DOCUMENT

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (hereafter 'Souterrain') for Architectural Tectonics (the Agent) on behalf of Mr I Roy, Esq., Station Road, Cogenhoe. It presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at a Proposed Application Site (Fig.1): the former site of Penn's Orchard, Station Road, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire ('the Site'). The objective of the evaluation is to assess the significance of potential buried heritage assets, to assist in the determination of a planning application.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A pre-application discussion took place at the Site on the 25th March 2015, between the Agent and Liz Mordue, Assistant Archaeological Advisor of Northamptonshire County Council (hereafter 'AAA'). In view of the archaeological sensitivity of the locality (*post.4*), the AAA has recommended the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), approved in advance by the AAA. The purpose of the work is to ensure that potential buried remains of archaeological importance at the Site are adequately investigated and recorded. This is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework¹.
- 2.2 The archaeological investigation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation² which was prepared in response to a *Brief*³ provided by the AAA.

3. SITE LOCATION AND ASPECT

- 3.1 The proposed development site is located on the north side of the village Cogenhoe, centred on national grid reference E482920, N260830. It comprises an open parcel of land, measuring approximately 0.9ha, situated to north of Station Road and to the west of Church Street. Until recently, the site was a mature orchard. The trees have been recently felled and the stumps are just above ground level. The ground is fairly level throughout at approximately 85m OD.
- 3.2 The geology is understood to be comprised largely of Northamptonshire sand and Ironstone. In the north part is understood to comprise Oadby Member diamicton, a poorly sorted terrigenous sediment.
- 3.3 The proposed development site lies outside of the Designated Conservation Area of Cogenhoe.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The proposed development site was considered to have the potential to contain archaeological remains pertaining to the Iron Age, Romano-British and Early Medieval (Anglo-Saxon) periods. Data and archaeological investigation reports held by Northamptonshire County Council's Historic Environment Record were reviewed on the 20th April 2015. The information is summarised as follows:

¹ NPPF paragraph 141

² *Penn's Orchard, Station Road, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, (SP829608), Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation, Project: SOU15-399, April 2015, V.1, Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd*

³ *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Investigation of Land at Penn's Orchard, Station Road, Cogenhoe (15th April 2015)*

Iron Age and Romano-British Periods

- 4.2 A range of discoveries dating from the Iron Age and Romano-British period have been made in the vicinity of the Site. The earliest known find was a Roman cremation urn and some coins in the 18th century⁴, which is thought to have been located somewhere in the field to the NE (c.200m). Another urn was exposed during railway construction work some 200m or so to the N of the Site in the 1840s⁵.
- 4.3 A probable area of late Iron Age and Romano-British occupation⁶, and a possible cemetery⁷, existed about 240m to the west of the Site, between St Peters Way to the north and Station Road to the south⁸. The evidence came to light during house building in the second half of the 20th century. The first discovery, in 1951, comprised of three inhumation burials, an adult and two children⁹. A bronze bracelet found with the burials was stylistically dated to the Romano-British period. In 1962, an E-shaped corn drying oven, of 3rd or 4th century date was excavated, and later preserved in a front garden (now No.5, Corn Kiln Close)¹⁰. Further discoveries include a 4th century Roman coin found in the back garden of No.16 Station Road (c.124m SSE of the Site)¹¹ and, in 1971, a number of unstratified artefacts were recovered from the locality including possible Iron Age pottery, Roman pottery and roof tile, querns, bronze personal items and coins, also of 3rd and 4th century date¹². Roman ditches were also noted during construction work. In 1975, a late Roman inhumation of a decapitated male, with the head placed between the legs, was found in a garden¹³ about 130m SW of the Site.
- 4.4 Possible ditches of Romano-British date have been identified from aerial photographs, in a field N of St Peter's Way (c.100m to the NW of the Site)¹⁴. In 1997, soil stripping for a water pipeline took place in the vicinity¹⁵ (c. 10m - 145m NW of the Site). The works, within an 8m wide pipeline corridor did not expose any archaeological features, although three sherds of pottery and a late 2nd century AD coin were recovered from topsoil.
- 4.5 A ditch containing late Iron Age pottery was found in 1972 during ground work on the south side of the historic village (c.290m SW of the Site)¹⁶.

The Early Medieval Period

- 4.6 It is postulated that ditches known from cropmarks to the northwest of the Site denote the site of a possible Saxon settlement¹⁷. Pottery has been found above them during field-walking¹⁸ and ten sherds dating from the early to middle Saxon period were recovered during the construction of a Surface Water Sewer across the same area in 1997 (c.250 NW)¹⁹.

⁴ HER 2118/0/1; SP 83 61

⁵ HER ENN2110/0/0, SP 8300 6000

⁶ HER 2126, SP 8281 6069

⁷ HER 2126/1, SP 8280 6070

⁸ centred at SP 826607

⁹ HER 2126/1/1, SP 8280 6070

¹⁰ HER ENN10124

¹¹ HER 2126/0/0, ENN9116, SP 8302 6069

¹² HER 2126/0/0

¹³ HER 2126/1/2, SP 8281 6069

¹⁴ SP 828 609

¹⁵ HER ENN17317, 8092/0/0 SP 828 609

¹⁶ SP 831 605

¹⁷ HER2132/1

¹⁸ HER ENN8942, HER 2132/0/0

¹⁹ HER ENN17317, SP 828 609

The Medieval Period

- 4.7 The Site is understood to be situated on the western periphery of the medieval settlement of Cogenhoe. The focus of the historic settlement was centred at Church Street, just over 100m to the east of the Site. The medieval village extended beyond St Peter's Church to the north and northeast of the present village²⁰. Earthwork remains of closes, house platforms and scarps have been recorded on either side of Mill Lane²¹ (c.300 - c.550m NE of the Site). To the north and northwest of this area there are three linear ponds²² parallel to the course of a mill stream, which are considered to be contemporary with medieval ridge and furrow earthworks. In addition, several 'unspecified village earthworks' have been recorded by aerial photography, c.130m north-northwest of the Site²³, while an earlier part of the medieval settlement is also understood to have been situated, in the vicinity of Cotton Farm, about 450m to the southeast of the Site²⁴.
- 4.8 Prior to a private Inclosure Award of 1827, there were three open fields in Cogenhoe²⁵, known as Upper Field, Middle Field and Lower Field. These were located on the eastern and southern sides of the settlement. Earlier smaller enclosures had taken place before the Award, these to northeast and east of the village. The remains of ridge and furrow may still be seen in some of these areas.

Recent Archaeological Work

- 4.9 Over the past two decades a series of archaeological investigations have taken place in proximity to the Site, prompted by planning applications for new houses. In 1996, four trial trenches (each c.25m x 1.5m) were excavated between 10m and 80m beyond the western periphery of the Site²⁶. They revealed three gullies and four postholes, all of uncertain date and function. Ten years later, five trial trenches, each 13m by 1.5m, were excavated at St. Peter's Way (35 -100m SW of the Site), although there was no significant archaeology present²⁷. Another evaluation, of five trenches (each 13m x 1.5m), took place at St. Peter's Way in May 2006, but again, no archaeological evidence was found²⁸. In 2009, desk-based assessments were prepared for proposed developments at Nos. 37 and 76 Station Road²⁹. A watching brief was subsequently undertaken during groundwork at land to the rear of No. 76, although nothing of archaeological significance was revealed³⁰. Trial trenching took place in June 2012 on land at Watts Close³¹ (c.160m SW of the Site) which revealed a possible agricultural drainage ditch, or field boundary,

²⁰ HER 2129

²¹ SP 831 611

²² SP 829 612–SP 831 612

²³ HER 2129/0/6, SP 829 610

²⁴ SP 833 605

²⁵ HER 9058, SP 83 61 (point)

²⁶ HER 16965/0/1, SP 828 608; *Trial Excavation at St.Peter's Way, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*, January 1996, Northampton Archaeology

²⁷ HER ENN14528, Chapman, A. 2006. *Archaeological Trial Excavation at St. Peter's Way, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*. Northampton Archaeology

²⁸ HER ENN104161, Peachey M & Murphy, K.2006, *Archaeological Evaluation at St. Peter's Way, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*, Archaeological Project Services, CPW06

²⁹ Warner, A. 2009 (Aug). *Desk-based Assessment for land at 37 Station Road, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*. Northampton Archaeology, Rep.09/78; *Desk-based Assessment: 76 Station Road, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*. Northampton Archaeology, July 2009.

³⁰ HER ENN105844, *Archaeological Watching Brief on Land at the rear of 76 Station Road, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire*. Northampton Archaeology, 2011.

³¹ HER ENN105929; HER 4997, SP 827 607

again of uncertain date. The development plot was subsequently monitored during groundwork³², but no archaeology was found.

Historic Map Evidence

- 4.10 The first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 scale map of 1885 shows the Site as part of an enclosed field. The orchard was planted at sometime between 1927 and 1952.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION

- 5.1 The broad purpose of the evaluation was to identify any buried archaeological remains that might be affected by the proposed development, and to assess their significance, condition and age, in order to help formulate an appropriate level of mitigation to ensure that archaeological interest of the site is safeguarded.

- 5.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation thus advocated a series of Research Objectives, as follows:

- i. to ascertain the location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
- ii. to establish the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
- iii. to assess the significance (by sample excavation) of archaeological remains which will assist in the determination of an appropriate level of mitigation;
- iv. to establish the date, nature and extent of past activity or occupation at the proposed development site;
- v. to recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- vi. to recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

Research priorities

- 5.3 Given the archaeological background, the proposed development site was considered to have potential for buried archaeological remains dating from the Iron Age to Romano-British period and the Early Medieval ('Anglo-Saxon') period. If so, the site might yield data to contribute to the following Research Objectives (RO) identified for the region by the Updated Research Agenda (URA) of the *Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*³³:

Iron Age:

- The refinement of first millennium BC ceramic chronology, by absolute dating mechanism and typological analyses (RO 4B);

³² HER ENN105929, Peachey, M. .2012 (Sept). Archaeological Evaluation on land at Watts Close, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, Archaeological Project Services, Rep. 67/12; Archaeological Monitoring & Recording on land at Watts Close, Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, Archaeological Project Services, Rep.95/12.

³³ Knight, D, Vyner, B. & Allen, C. 2012. Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands, *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Nottingham/York).

- The assessment of the evidence for the evolution of Late Iron Age (LIA) settlement hierarchies (RO 4E). This may have particular regard to the continuity and development of Late Iron Age settlements in the Roman period (URA 4.5.3).

Romano-British period (AD 43-c.410):

- The creation of Romano-British regional pottery corpora and the publication of key production centres (RO 5A). This may have with particular regard to enhancing knowledge of developing pottery industries during the Conquest period (URA 5.1.1).
- The support of scientific analysis of human remains (RO: 5D).
- The promotion of integrated studies of subsistence, diet and health (RO 5E); this with particular regard to the diet of the population in rural settlements (URA 5.5.3).
- The investigation of the landscape context of Romano-British rural settlements (RO 5H). This may consider: the impact of the Roman Conquest on rural settlement (URA 5.4.1); variability and inter-relationship of patterns of rural settlement (URA 5.4.3); the development of field boundary networks over time and comparison with earlier systems of land allotment (URA 5.4.4); and Patterns in the location of settlements in the landscape (URA 5.4.5).
- Artefacts: production, distribution and social identity (URA 5.6).

Early Medieval

- The impact of Germanic and Scandinavian immigration upon rural settlement patterns (URA 6.4 1); and the progression from dispersed to nucleated settlement and the growth of settlement hierarchies (URA 6.4.4).

6. METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation fieldwork was carried out between the 26th of April and the 1st of May, 2015. Seven trial trenches (Figure 2) were excavated by mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket, under direct guidance of an experienced archaeologist.
- 6.2 The layout of the trenches was arranged to provide a representative coverage of the proposed development site. The positions of the trenches and were accurately surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and orthometric heights by means of RTK Differential GPS.
- 6.3 Deposits of archaeological interest were investigated using hand tools.
- 6.4 An archaeological context recording system was used for registering textual descriptions and stratigraphic relationships of deposits.
- 6.5 A digital photographic record was made of each trench. The photographic record also includes working shots which represent more generally the nature of the site and the fieldwork.
- 6.6 All records are referenced with the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record Event number ENN 107961.

6.7 The investigation was conducted with due consideration to Health and Safety and in accordance with the requirements of the Written Scheme of Investigation and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).

7. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

7.1 Seven trenches were excavated across the proposed development site (Fig.2), representing approximately 4.6% of the proposed development site. Archaeological features were present in four of the trenches: Trenches 1, 2, 5 and 7.

7.2 In the descriptions which follow, context numbers in square brackets denote 'cuts' (i.e. dug features), whilst those in round brackets denote layers, deposits, fills or structures.

Trench 1

7.3 The trench located in the NW part of the site, was 30m long by 2m wide and orientated WSW/ENE (Fig.2). The geological stratum (103) comprised compact light orange-brown sandy clay. The height of this horizon rose gradually from WSW to ESE: 85.46m to 85.26m (midpoint) to 85m AOD.

7.4 Cut into the geological stratum was a gully [104], c.0.35m and c.0.23m deep (Figs. 3 to 5), which ran perpendicular to the trench for a visible distant of 2m. The gully contained a single fill (105) of mid-brown silty clay. There were no artefacts present. A soil sample revealed a single grain barley (*Hordeum* sp.), two grains of emmer/ spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*) and one indeterminate cereal grain (*post.* Section 8, Table 2). Non-cereal *taxa* included commonly chickweed (*Stellaria media*).

7.5 The gully [104] was sealed by a layer of subsoil (102) comprised of compact mid orange-brown silty clay, c. 0.5m - 0.54m thick. The topsoil (101) was c.0.26m - 0.3m thick and composed of mid grey-brown clayey silt, very loose with abundant tree roots. No artefacts were present in the subsoil or topsoil.

Trench 2

7.6 This trench was located in the northern half of the site (Fig.2). It measured 30m long by 2m wide and was orientated NNW/SSE. The average depth of the trench was 0.6m. The geological stratum (203) at the NNW end of the trench was reached at 84.22m AOD. It comprised light orange-brown sandy clay. The height of this stratum gradually increased to c.84.64m AOD mid-way along the trench, and to 84.29m AOD at the SSE end. Outcropping bands of sandstone were present in the central to SSE half of the trench.

7.7 In the NNW half of the trench eleven post-holes were revealed, cut into the geological stratum (Figs. 6 to 9). They appeared to represent the site of a single structure (i.e. a building). The spacing between them was variable, some notably closer, between 0.08m and 0.21m (i.e. [218]+[220] and [208]+[201]+[212]), while others between 0.46m and 0.84m (i.e. [212]+[214] and [204]+[206]+[208]). They were either sub-circular or elliptical in plan. The top diameters were generally between 0.38m and 0.50m, while the base diameters generally between 0.25m and 0.33m (Figs. 6 and 9, Sections 2 to 10). Their depths ranged between 0.10m and 0.34m, while sides were generally between 45° and 75° and bases flat or near-flat. Each post-hole had a single fill, composed of compact mid-dark greyish clay silt, with occasional flecks of charcoal.

7.8 Post-holes [214] and [216] seem to represent the replacement of a post (Figs. 6 and 9, Section 5), although since their fills were undifferentiated it was not possible to determine their

chronological relationship. It is assumed that feature [224], against the trench baulk (Figs. 6 and 9, Section 2), represents either another post-hole or possibly two adjoining post-holes.

- 7.9 A very small amount of animal bone fragments were present in six of the post-holes: [210], [212], [214], [218], [220] and [222]. These were from cattle, sheep/ goat and pig (*post.* 8.1, Table 1). Struck flint was recovered from post-hole [212] and debitage from post-holes [204] and [220]. (*post.* 8.3). A single sherd of probable early Anglo-Saxon pottery (c.AD 400-650) was present in post-hole [210] (*post.* 8.2).
- 7.10 Soil samples were analysed from the fill of each post-holes. A small amount of carbonised cereal grain was recovered from nine of them, attesting to the cultivation of barley (*Hordeum* sp.), wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*) and oat (*Avena* sp.) (*post.* 8.7, Table 2). The samples also produced non-cereal *taxa*, commonly associated with cultivation.
- 7.11 The post-holes were sealed by a layer of subsoil (202) comprised of compact mid orange-brown silty clay, c. 0.3m thick. A single body sherd of 19th century black-glazed pottery was found in the subsoil. The topsoil (201) was c.0.3m thick and composed of mid grey-brown clayey silt, very loose with abundant tree roots; no artefacts were present.

Trench 3

- 7.12 The trench was located in the NE part of the site (Fig.2; Fig.10). It measured 30m long by 2m wide and was orientated NNW/SSE. The depth of the trench at the NNW end was 0.57m. This gradually decreased to 0.4m over a distance of c. 5m, and remained at 0.38m - 0.4m thereafter. The geology (303) was orange-brown sandy clay with occasional ironstone fragments; comparable to that of Trenches 1 and 2. There were no archaeological features present. The subsoil (302) was notably greater in depth at the NNW end of the trench (c.0.4m), gradually decreasing to c.0.24m midway along the trench and to c.0.17m at the SSE end. The topsoil (301) was generally between. 0.20m and 0.23m thick throughout. No artefacts were present in the topsoil or subsoil.

Trench 4

- 7.13 The trench was located in the west part of the site (Fig. 2; Fig.11). It measured 30m long by 2m wide and was orientated NNW/SSE. The height of this horizon was between c.85.92m AOD (NNW) and c.86.13m AOD (SSE). The geology consisted of light yellowy brown sandy clay. There were no archaeological features or finds present, although there were occasional ploughmarks running SSW-NNE showing in the surface of the geology (Fig.12) which were considered to be either late post-medieval or modern (*post.* 9.4). The subsoil (402) was c.0.3m -35m thick and comprised mid-orange-brown silty clay. It was considered to be redundant ploughsoil. The topsoil (401) was dark grey-brown loose silty clay with abundant roots, c.0.25m – 0.3m thick.

Trench 5

- 7.14 The trench was located near the centre of the site (Fig.2). It measured 30m long by 2m wide and was orientated WSW/ENE. The height of the geological stratum was 85.26m AOD at the WSW end, gradually decreasing to 85.03m AOD at the ENE end. The ENE end was sondaged by machine at the ENE end to confirm the geology. In the ENE half, a narrow gully [504/6/8] ran more or less parallel to the trench for a distance of c.13m (Figs. 13 and 14). Its fill was very similar in colour to the geological stratum. Three segments were hand-excavated through the gully (Fig. 13 and 15, Sections 11 to 13). The feature was between 0.45m and 0.59m wide and quite shallow, c.0.07m to 0.1m, with sides sloping gently to a flattish or concave base. There were no artefacts present. A sample from fill (505) obtained a single grain of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) (*post.* Section 8, Table. 2).

The gully [504/6/8] was sealed by a layer of subsoil (502) comprised of compact mid orange-brown silty clay, c. 0.3m thick, above which the topsoil (501) was c.0.3m thick and of similar composition to that witnessed in all of the trenches. No artefacts were present in the subsoil or topsoil.

Trench 6

- 7.15 The trench was located in the southern part of the site (Fig.2; Fig.16). It was oriented WSW/ENE and measured 30m long by 2m wide. The height of the geological stratum (603) increased gradually from 85.42m AOD at the ENE end of the trench, to 85.64m AOD at the WSW end. There were no archaeological features present. The subsoil (602) was generally c.0.2m thick and the topsoil c.0.2m thick. There were no artefacts present.

Trench 7

- 7.16 The trench was located in the SE part of the site (Fig. 2). It was oriented NNW/SSE and measured 30m long by 2m wide. The depth of the trench varied between 0.63m (NNW), 0.3m (midpoint) and 0.6m (SE). The geological stratum (708) was comprised of light yellowy brown sandy clay, its height at the NNW end of the trench was at 84.50m AOD. This gradually increased to 84.82m AOD mid way along the trench with a gently fall to 84.70m at the SSE end.
- 7.17 Two archaeological features were present: a ditch [703] at the NNW end of the trench, and a gully [706] in the SE part of the trench (Figs.2, 17 and 22). Both features were cut into the geological stratum. The evaluation trench was extended to the NNW to expose sufficient of ditch [703]. The ditch was between 0.9m and 0.98m wide and aligned NW/SE, and was visible for about 5m (Figs. 17 to 20). The hand-excavated segment revealed a depth of c.0.5m and variable profile. The ditch sides NW side of the segment were steeply inclined between c.60° and 70° to a flattish base (Fig.18, Section 14), while the SE profile was 'V'-shape (Fig. 18, Section 15) with sides inclined at c.60°. Two fills were present. The primary fill (705), 0.1m-0.2m thick, was composed of light yellowy brown sandy clay with abundant pebbles, stones and pieces of ironstone (<0.15m); very similar in colour and constituents as the geological stratum. It was interpreted as an initial erosion product. The upper fill (704), was 0.3m-0.4m thick and composed of mid orange brown silty sandy clay with unsorted pebbles, stones and pieces of ironstone (<0.1m).
- 7.18 There were no datable artefacts present. A fragment of pig bone and piece from a sheep or goat were recovered from fill (704) (*post* 8.1, Table 1). The soil sample from fill (704) produced a small, though varied assemblage of carbonised cereal grain (*post*. 8.10; Table 2): three of hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); two of barley (*Hordeum* sp.); three of free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum*); six of wheat (*Triticum* sp.); five of Oat (*Avena* sp.) and eight others of an indeterminate nature. A possible pea seed (*Pisum sativum*) was also present.
- 7.19 The gully [706] ran across the trench on a WSW/ENE alignment (Figs. 21 to 24). It was c.0.15m to c.0.18m deep and c.0.42m wide, with a concave base. It contained a single fill (707) comprised of mid orange brown silty sandy clay, with no clearly discernible division with the subsoil layer (702) above it. There were no artefacts present. The environment soil sample was devoid of carbonised plant remains.
- 7.20 Both of the archaeological features in Trench 7 were sealed by a layer of subsoil (703) composed of mid orange brown silty sandy clay with ironstone cobbles. The thickness of the layer varied between c.0.35m (NNW) to c.0.15m (midpoint), to c.0.33m (SSE), with the topsoil equally variable between c.0.15m and c.0.35m.

8. THE FINDS

The Animal Bone *by Matilda Holmes PhD, ACIfA*

8.1 A small assemblage of animal bone was recorded. It was well preserved and comprised bones and teeth from cattle, sheep/ goat and pig (Table 1). The sample sizes were too small to comment further on.

Table 1: Animal species represented (NISP)

Context	No.	Taxa	Element	Comments
211	2	umm	ulf	
211	1	ox	vl	
211	1	pig	pmax	
211	1	s/g	rad	r pf fresh break
213	1	ub	ulf	
213	1	umm	rib	
215	3	umm	ulf	
215	1	ox	tum1/2	
215	1	s/g	fem	du
219	1	s/g	tum1/2	
219	1	s/g	tib	
221	1	s/g	tib	gnawed
223	1	s/g	rad	r uln f
223	1	ox	max	m1 nd m2
704	1	pig	tc	male
704	1	s/g	tib	fresh break
Total	19			

The Pottery *Identification by Jackie Wells MA*

8.2 A single body sherd of probable Anglo-Saxon pottery was present in post-hole [210] / fill (211). Its regional fabric type is A31 (Beds)³⁴. The sherd (12g) is black, unglazed, very hard, with striations of manufacture on its interior. Its inclusions are predominantly poorly sorted sub-angular to sub-rounded milky coloured quartz (0.1-0.5mm). Also present is moderate calcareous material, and rare iron ore. In the absence of diagnostic middle Saxon wares such as Maxey-type the sherd may date to the early Saxon period, c.AD 400-650

The Struck Flint *by Andrew Peachey BA MCI fA*

8.3 Seven pieces (33g) of struck flint in a moderately patinated and rolled condition were recovered from three postholes. Posthole [213] contained a core fragment, small blade and bladelet. Small blade-like chips/debitage were from post-holes [205] and [221].

³⁴ Bedfordshire Type Series. There is presently no known Northamptonshire equivalent.

- 8.4 The core fragment from post-hole preserves part of a single faceted side indicative of repeated small blade removals, utilizing a perpendicular striking platform created by the removal of a tablet-like flake. The depth of the core is comparable to the length of the small blade in the same context (25mm), though the latter is clearly derived from a different nodule. The blade was removed using soft-hammer percussion, and a limited extent of 'wear' around the dorsal face of the bulbar end is probably the result of platform preparation by abrasion. The blade-like chips (each <1g) represent a similar process of creating ridges to facilitate accurate blade removal, or removing overhangs that may obstruct the same process. These methods of core technology and maintenance are particularly associated with blade production in the Mesolithic period, although may continue into the earlier Neolithic, where techniques evolved to utilize rotated cores.

Environmental Assessment of Bulk Sample Light Fractions

by John Summers PhD

- 8.5 Fifteen bulk soil samples were collected for environmental archaeological assessment. The deposits included four undated ditch and gully fills and eleven posthole fills, which, based on current artefactual data, could be of Anglo-Saxon in origin. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions and discusses the significance and potential of any remains recovered.
- 8.6 Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were sorted under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded using reference literature³⁵ and a reference collection of modern seeds. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits. The data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 2.

Post-holes features

- 8.7 Samples were examined from eleven post-holes considered to Anglo-Saxon in date. Carbonised plant remains were present in nine of the samples, with both cereal and non-cereal *taxa* represented. The cereals recovered were hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.), glume wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*), free-threshing type wheat (*T. aestivum/ turgidum* type) and oat (*Avena* sp.). Representation of wheat and barley was relatively equal, although only small numbers of each *taxon* was present in each sample. Oat was less common and only recorded in two of the post-hole fills. Although glume wheats were cultivated in Britain from prehistory into the Anglo-Saxon period, free-threshing type wheat is generally not considered to have been cultivated in Britain until the mid-late Iron Age at the earliest³⁶, which is likely to have been similar for oats.
- 8.8 Non-cereal *taxa* included common chickweed (*Stellaria media*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), vetch/ wild pea (*Vicia/ Lathyrus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), plantain (*Plantago* sp.), knapweed

³⁵ Cappers, R.T.J., Bekker R.M. & Jans J.E.A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4*, Eelde; Jacomet, S. 2006, *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (2nd edn), Laboratory of Palynology and Palaeoecology, Basel University; Kerney, M.P. 1999, *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*, Colchester; Kerney, M.P. & Cameron, R.A.D. 1979, *A Field Guide to Land Snails of Britain and North-West Europe*, London

³⁶ Campbell, G. and Straker, V. 2003, 'Prehistoric crop husbandry and plant use in southern England: development and regionality', p.23, in Brown, K.A.R. (ed) *Archaeological Sciences 1999: Proceedings of the Archaeological Sciences Conference, University of Bristol, 1999*, BAR International Series 1111, Oxford, 14-30

(*Centaurea* sp.), thistle (*Carduus/ Cirsium* sp.), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), sedge (*Carex* sp.) and wild grasses (Poaceae). All of these could have grown as arable weeds amongst the cereal crops. *Anthemis cotula* is characteristic of heavy, fertile soils, particularly clay-rich substrates. Its presence suggests the cultivation of heavy soils, which is likely to be a feature of later arable practice rather than prehistoric land use.

Charcoal

- 8.9 Charcoal was present and occasional common in the posthole fills, mostly represented as small (<5mm) fragments. Charcoal was assessed by selecting a random sub-sample of fragments and fracturing them to produce a transverse section. Vessel patterns were examined under a low power stereomicroscope (x10 magnification). The charcoal remains were variable, including oak (*Quercus* sp.) and at least one other ring-porous and one diffuse porous wood type. Further small charcoal fragments were recovered from contexts (205), (209) and (211). The variation and the small size of many of the fragments make it difficult to imply that the charcoal represents remains of the original posts. Considering the presence of cereals and associated weeds, the charcoal could have been deposited in the postholes as spent fuel debris.

Undated features

- 8.10 The richest sample was from undated ditch fill (704). This sample produced a number of cereal grains identifiable as free-threshing type wheat, hulled barley and oat. Wheat was marginally more abundant, followed by oat and barley. In addition, a single seed tentatively identified as pea (*Pisum sativum*) was recorded in (704). A number of non-cereal taxa were present, including pink family (Caryophyllaceae), oraches (*Atriplex* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), legumes (Fabaceae) and stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*). These are all likely to represent arable weeds associated with the crop taxa identified. Stinking chamomile suggests the use of heavy soils, most likely for wheat cultivation, while oraches, goosefoot and dock all indicate relatively high fertility, perhaps through soil amendment. Based on the composition of the charred macrofossils in (704), it is likely that this material dates to the Anglo-Saxon period or later.

Contaminants

- 8.11 Modern rootlets and seeds were present in most samples, with occasional insects and earthworm egg capsules. The concentration of such remains was relatively low and does not indicate significant biological disturbance of the sampled deposits.

Conclusions and statement of potential

- 8.12 The assessment of the bulk sample light fractions has demonstrated the widespread preservation of carbonised plant macrofossils within the excavated features at Penn's Orchard. The range and frequency of material is characteristic of an accumulation of cereal and pulse crops carbonised during routine processing and use. It is likely that the range of locally cultivated crops included hulled barley, glume and free-threshing wheats, oats and peas. Most non-cereal taxa were characteristic arable weeds. The presence of stinking chamomile indicates the use of heavy soils, most likely for the cultivation of free-threshing type wheat.
- 8.13 Many of the deposits contained a significant concentration of carbonised remains (up to 3.6 items per litre in (704)). However, none of the samples contained sufficient numbers of identifiable specimens for further detailed numerical analyses. It is considered that this report has made full use of the available data and that no further work on the assemblage is necessary. More detailed discussion of the material could be made if it becomes possible to more accurately date the sampled deposits.

Potential for Radiocarbon dating

- 8.14 Due to the possible significance of the deposits, an assessment of the potential for radiocarbon dating of the posthole features was requested. The presence of both charcoal and charred cereals in the deposits means that suitable material for AMS radiocarbon dating is available. The charcoal was generally not of adequate size to be able to reliably identify ring counts and stem diameters. The presence of oak, some of which was identified as heartwood by the presence of tyloses in the vessels, suggests that the problem of old wood may exist, potentially providing a date that is older than the event being investigated. Cereal grains represent a better candidate for dating as they are the product of a single year's growth.
- 8.15 If deposited towards the end of the lifetime of the post-holes, such remains would provide a *terminus ante quem* for the sampled deposits. If radiocarbon dating is required, it is recommended that a single range-finding sample is submitted first to assess the broad date of the deposits and the accuracy of the calibration that can be achieved. Further dates could subsequently be submitted to further refine the chronology. The posthole fills with suitable cereal grains for radiocarbon date are: 207, 209, 213 and 215.

Table 2 Data from the bulk sample light fractions

Sample number	Context	Feature type	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Flot (ml)	Cereals			Non-cereal taxa		Hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants				Other remains	
								Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal > 2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects		Earthworm capsules
1	105	gully	Undated	10	10	100%	40	X	-	Hord (1), FTW (1), Trit (2), NFI (1)	X	Stellaria media (1), NFI (1)	-	XX	Quercus sp., Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	XX	-	-	-
2	205	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	30	X	-	NFI (1)	X	Carex spl (1), Medium Poaceae (1)	-	X	Ring porous	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-	Small mammal bone (1)
3	207	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	12	X	-	E/S (1), Trit (1), NFI (2)	X	Medium Fabaceae (1), Medium Poaceae (1)	-	X	Quercus sp.	-	-	XX	-	XX	-	-	-
4	209	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	15	X	-	HB (1), Hord (1), E/S (1), NFI (3)	X	Caryophyllaceae (1), Rumex sp. (3), Polygonaceae (1), Vicia/ Lathyrus sp. (1), Centaurea sp. (1), Asteraceae (2)	-	X	Diffuse porous	X	Oxychilus sp.	XX	-	X	-	X	Small mammal bone (1)
5	211	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	20	X	-	Hord (1), NFI (3)	X	Small Fabaceae (1), Small Poaceae (1), Indet. (1)	-	X	Diffuse porous	-	-	XX	-	X	-	X	Small mammal bone (1)

6	213	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	10	X	-	HB (1), Trit (1), cf. Oat (1), NFI (5)	X	<i>Stellaria media</i> (1), Medium Fabaceae (1), Small Fabaceae (1), <i>Carduus/Cirsium</i> sp. (2), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (1), Small Poaceae (1)	-	XX	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	-	-	XX	-	X	X	X	-
7	215	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	5	X	X	HB (1), FTW (1), NFI (1), Cereal rachis (1)	X	<i>Centaurea</i> sp. (1)	-	X	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-
8	217	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	10	X	-	cf. Oat (1), NFI (1)	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	
9	219	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	<i>Quercus</i> sp.	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-
10	221	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	8	X	-	NFI (1)	X	<i>Plantago</i> sp. (1)	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	
11	225	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	XX	-	XX	-	-	-
12	423	posthole	?A/S	10	10	100%	12	X	-	Hord (2), NFI (1)	X	Medium/ Large Fabaceae (1)	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	
13	505	gully	Undated	10	10	100%	30	X	-	Trit (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX	-	XX	-	-	-
14	704	ditch	Undated	10	10	100%	8	XX	-	HB (3), Hord (2), FTW (3), Trit (6), Oat (1), cf. Oat (4), NFI (8)	X	cf. <i>Pisum sativum</i> (1), <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. (1), <i>Atriplex</i> sp. (1), Chenopodiaceae (1), Caryophyllaceae (1), <i>Rumex</i> sp., Medium Fabaceae (1), Small Fabaceae (4), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (2)	-	X	-	-	XX	-	X	-	-	-	Small mammal bone (1)
15	707	gully	Undated	10	10	100%	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	XX	-	-	-

9. DISCUSSION OF FINDS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- 9.1 The trial trenching revealed archaeological features in four trenches (Fig.2 Trenches 1, 2, 5 and 7). The features were distributed broadly across the site from NW to SE (Fig.2). They consisted of three gullies, one ditch and eleven post-holes, the latter which were probably associated with a single structure. A single sherd of pottery from a post-hole may suggest that the structure was early Anglo-Saxon (c.AD 400-650). The structure was at least 8m in length and may be a hall/house. Carbonised plant remains from nine of the post-holes, albeit in small quantities, are compatible with the Anglo-Saxon period or later. The cereal comprised hulled barley, glume wheat free-threshing type wheat and oat. None of the segments excavated through the linear features revealed artefacts. However, the composition carbonised cereal grains and other plant macrofossils recovered from ditch [704] are congruent with the Anglo-Saxon period or later. The evidence seems to accord with archaeological knowledge from a field c.250m to the NW where pottery of the Anglo-Saxon period has been found and where the site of a Saxon settlement has been postulated from aerial photographs (*ante*. 4.6).
- 9.2 No archaeological features were found in trenches placed in the SE part of the site (Trench 4), the S (Trench 6), or in the NE (Trench 3).
- 9.3 There were no archaeological features dated to the prehistoric periods or the Roman period (*ante*.5.3). Residual flint artefacts of probable Mesolithic to early Neolithic date were found in three post-holes, the latter which are considered to date from the Anglo-Saxon period.
- 9.4 There were no archaeological remains associated with the former medieval settlement of Cogenhoe. Neither, was there evidence of medieval ploughsoil, which is consistent with the documentary evidence that shows that Cogenhoe's open fields were located on the eastern and southern sides of the settlement (i.e. to the E and SE of the site; *ante*. 4.8). It is presumed therefore, that the proposed development site occupies an area of the former medieval landscape which was non-arable, such as common, heath/waste, outwood or woodland. However, in each of the trenches, there was a subsoil layer, c.0.3m in thickness, which was interpreted as a redundant ploughsoil. This layer sealed archaeological features wherever present. Notably, in Trench 4, there were plough scores in the geological stratum. These may have been caused in the post-medieval period (by 1885 the site was part of an enclosed field; *ante*. 4.10), or during ground preparation for mid-20th century orchard (*ante*. 4.10). A single sherd of c.19th century black-glazed pottery was found in the topsoil.
- 9.5 Samples of charcoal were recovered from four post-holes which are considered suitable for submission for radiocarbon dating, although it has been recommended that a single range-finding sample is initially submitted to ascertain accuracy of the calibration is achievable and to assess the broad date of the deposits (*ante*. 8.14-8.15).
- 9.6 The archaeological remains are postulated to date to the Anglo-Saxon period, based on: a) the presence of a pottery sherd in one of the post-holes; b) compatible plant macrofossil data; and c) archaeological knowledge from the locality. If the remains do date to the period then they are considered to be both locally and regionally significant, particularly with regard to the extent and character of early to middle Anglo-Saxon settlement along the Nene Valley, and to the date of origin of the nucleated settlement at Cogenhoe. It is possible that the archaeology represents a farming unit with post-built house, or hall, which pre-dates the nucleated settlement. The

development of many nucleated settlements in the East Midlands region is widely considered to have taken place in the mid-9th century³⁷.

10. ARCHIVE

- 10.1 A photographic record was made and the archaeological features have been surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and height datum.
- 10.2 The OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations: www.oasis.ac.uk) identification number for this project is souterra1-215419.
- 10.3 The archive from the project is to be dealt with in accordance with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Archives Standard of Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre –NARC (June 2014).
- 10.4 Artefacts will remain the property of the landowner although he/she will be invited to transfer finds ownership to the county museum facility when this becomes available. Provision is to be made by the Developer for retaining the project archive until such time as a suitable depository is available and arrangements have been made for the transfer of the archive, including financial provision to cover one-off long-term museum storage charges.

11. COPYRIGHT & CONFIDENTIALITY

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- 11.3 A licence is to be also granted to Northamptonshire's Historic Environment Record for the use of all reports arising from projects for planning purposes and *bona fide* research requests.
- 11.4 Souterrain will advise the Applicant of any such materials supplied in the course of projects which are not Souterrain's copyright.
- 11.5 Souterrain undertakes to respect all requirements for confidentiality about the Applicant's/Owner's proposals provided that these are clearly stated. It is expected that owners respect Souterrain's and the Institute for Archaeologists' general ethical obligations not to suppress significant archaeological data for an unreasonable period.

³⁷ Knight, D, Vyner, B. & Allen, C. 2012. *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Nottingham/York). 100; Lewis, C, 2006. 'The Medieval Period', in Cooper, N (ed.), *The Archaeology of the East Midlands*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, 191

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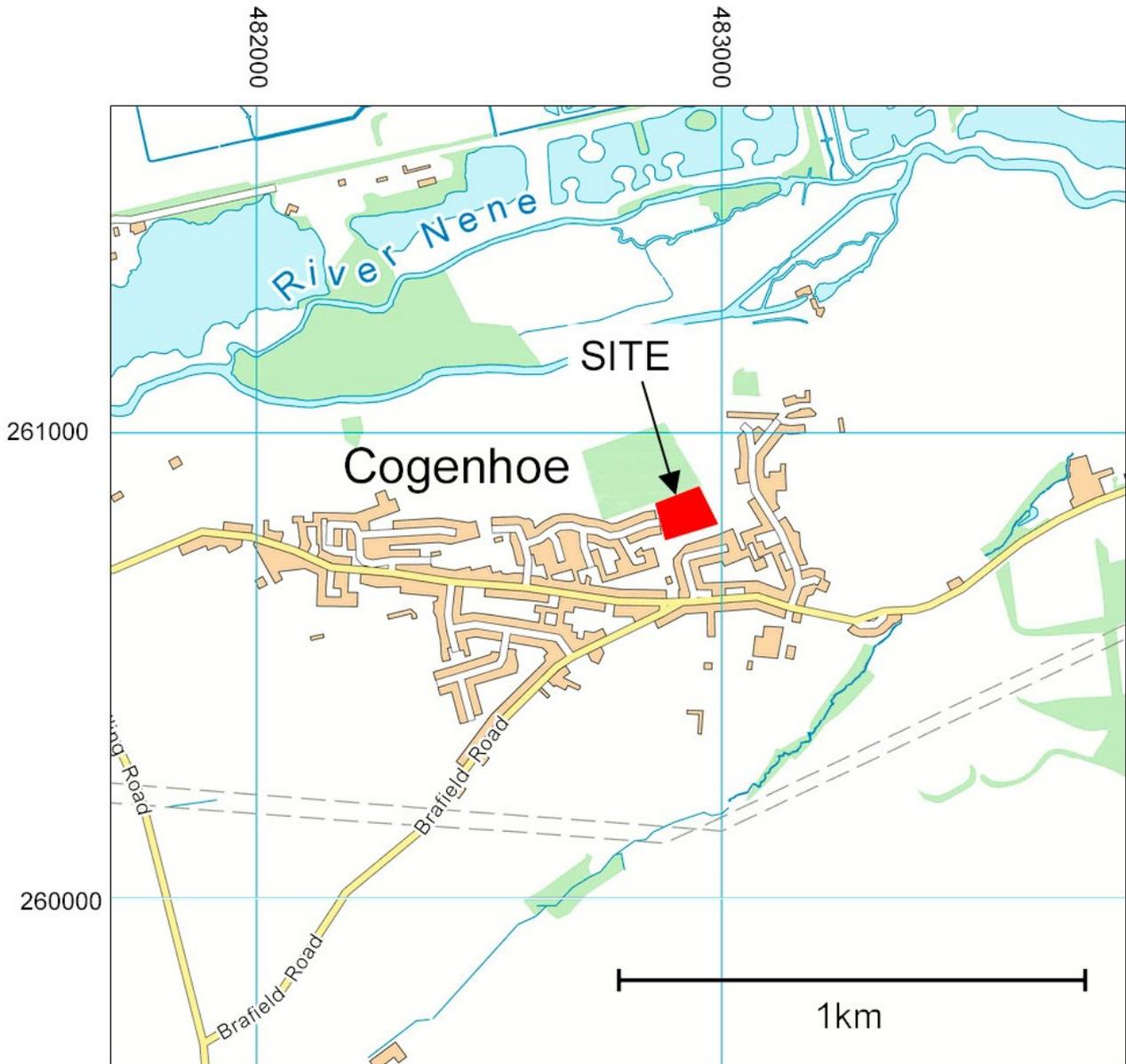
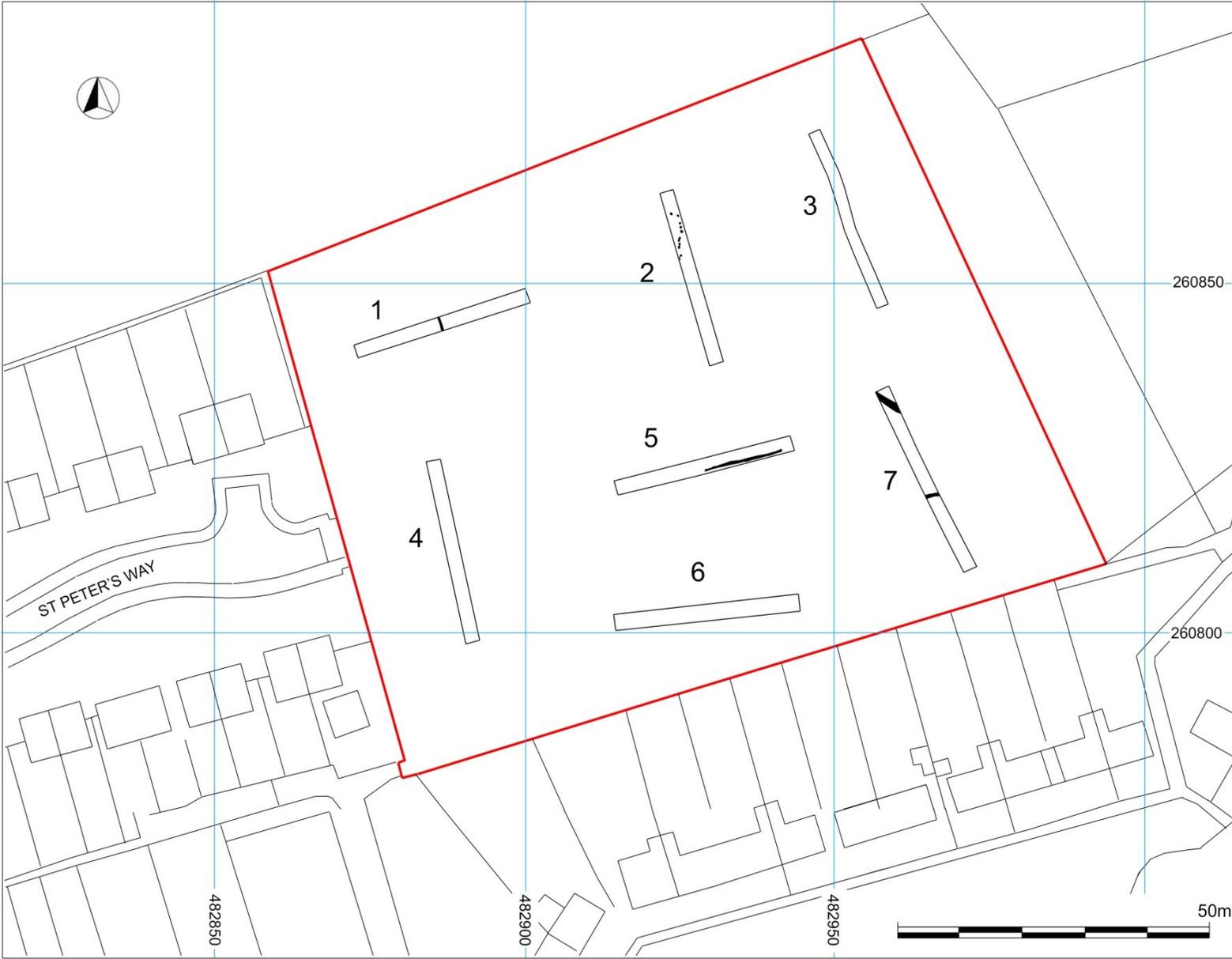


Figure 1. Location of Proposed Development Site

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Figure 2.
Location of trial
trenches and
distribution of
archaeological
features



(base map © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100015565)



Figure 3. Trench 1: Undated gully [104]

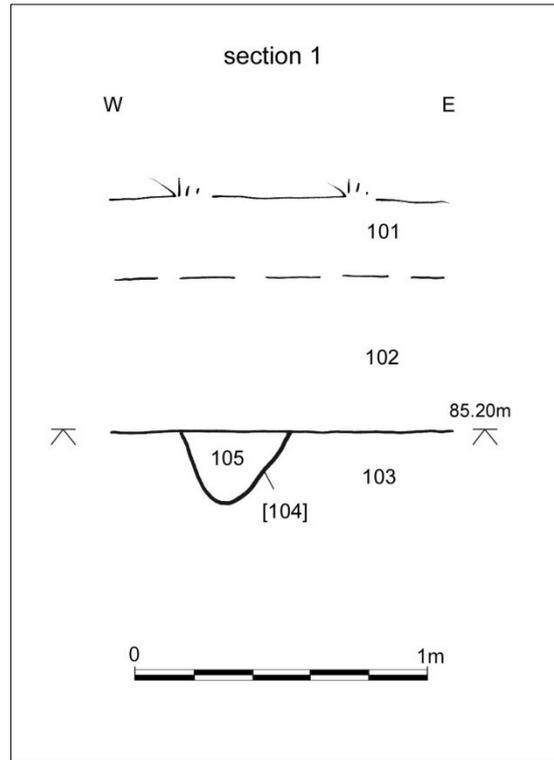


Figure 4. Trench 1: Section 1, gully [104]

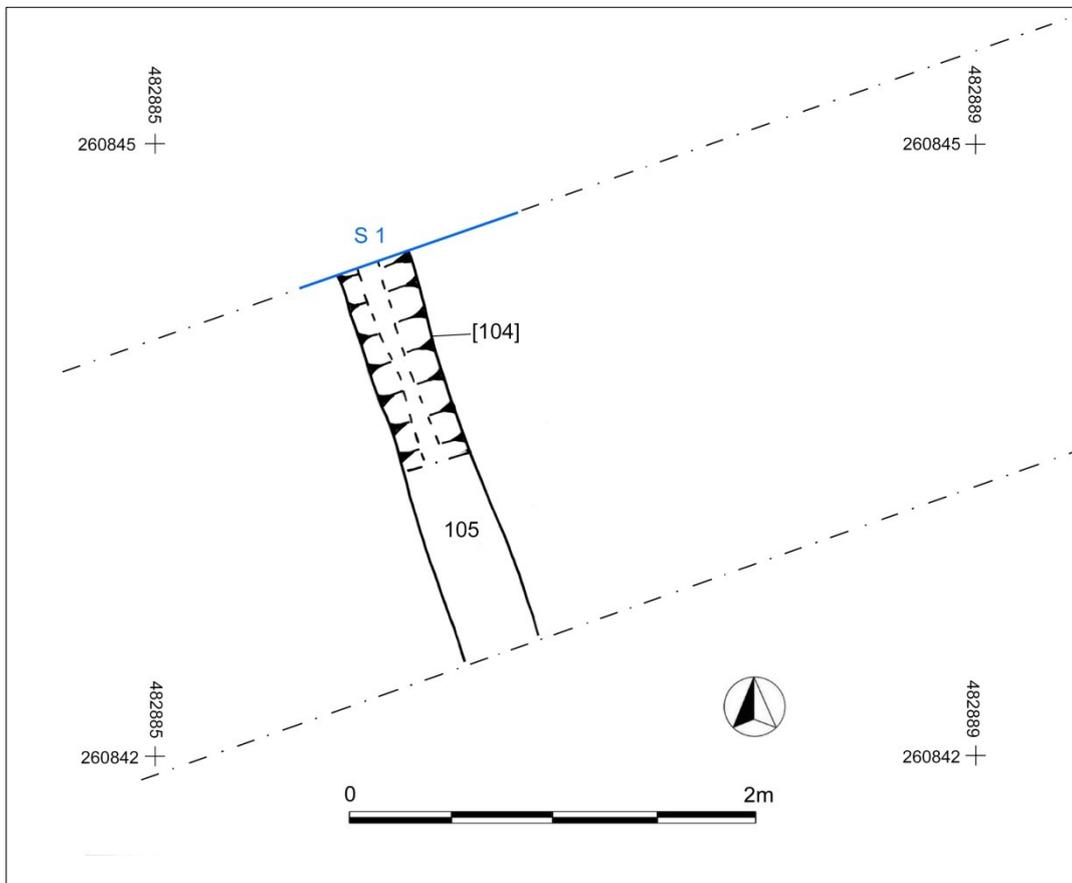


Figure 5. Trench 1: plan of gully [104]

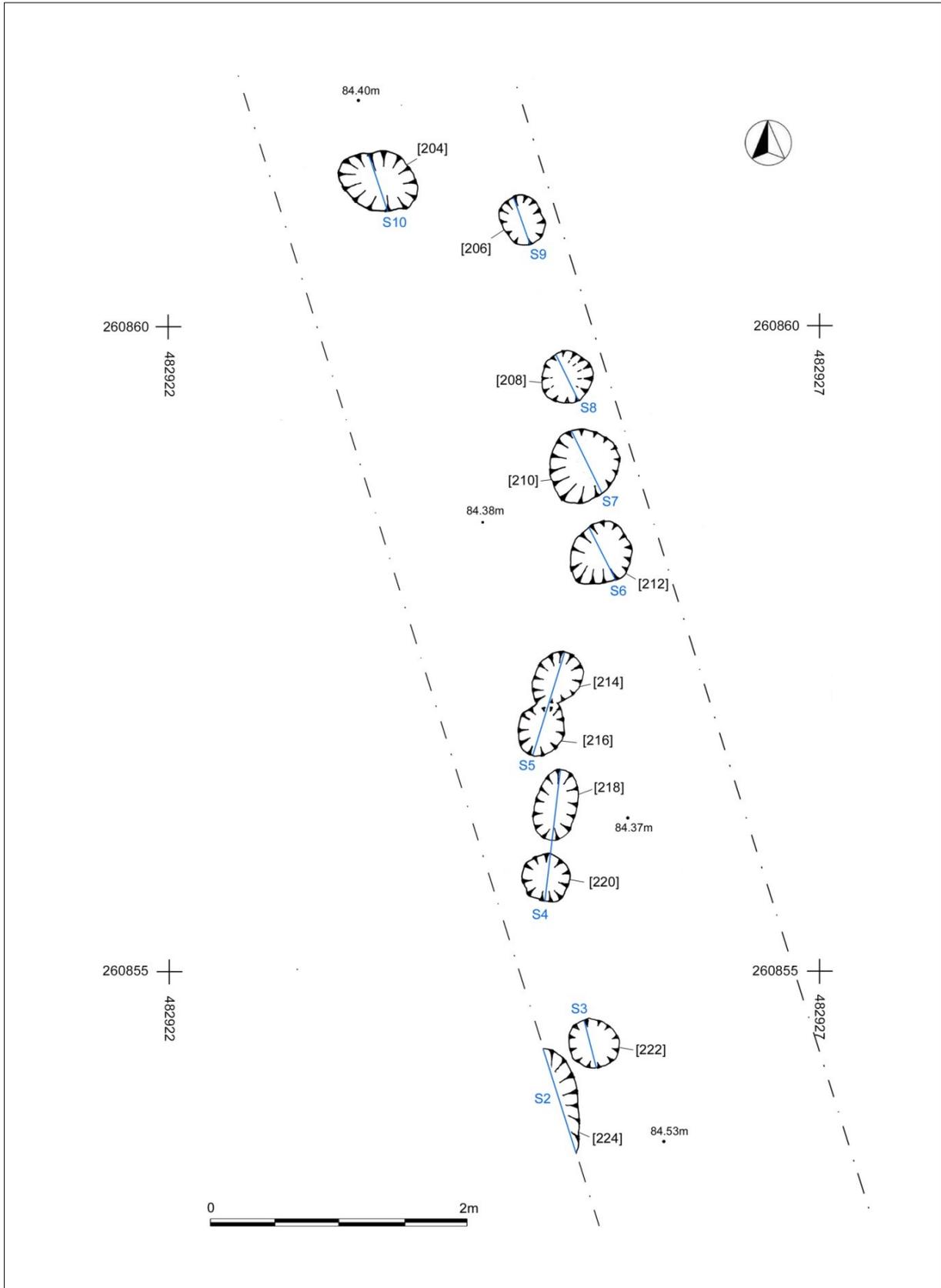


Figure 6. Trench 2: plan of post-holes and location of Sections 2 to 10



Figure 7. Trench 2: post-holes prior to excavation



Figure 8.
Trench 2: post-holes.
Top: facing NW
Right: facing SSE



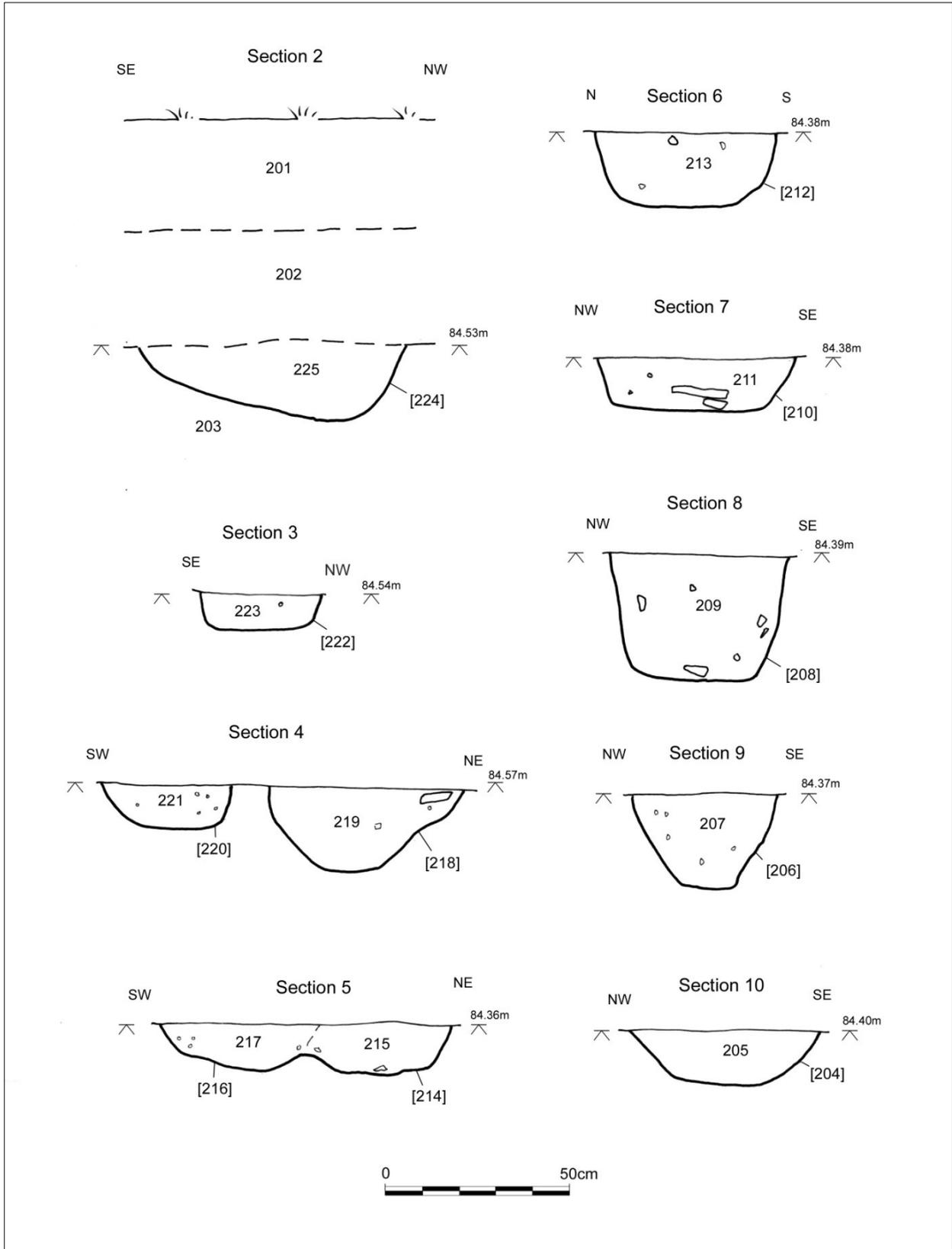


Figure 9. Trench 2: post-holes, Sections 2 to 10



Figure 10. Overview of Trench 3, facing NW



Figure 11. Overview of Trench 4, facing NNW

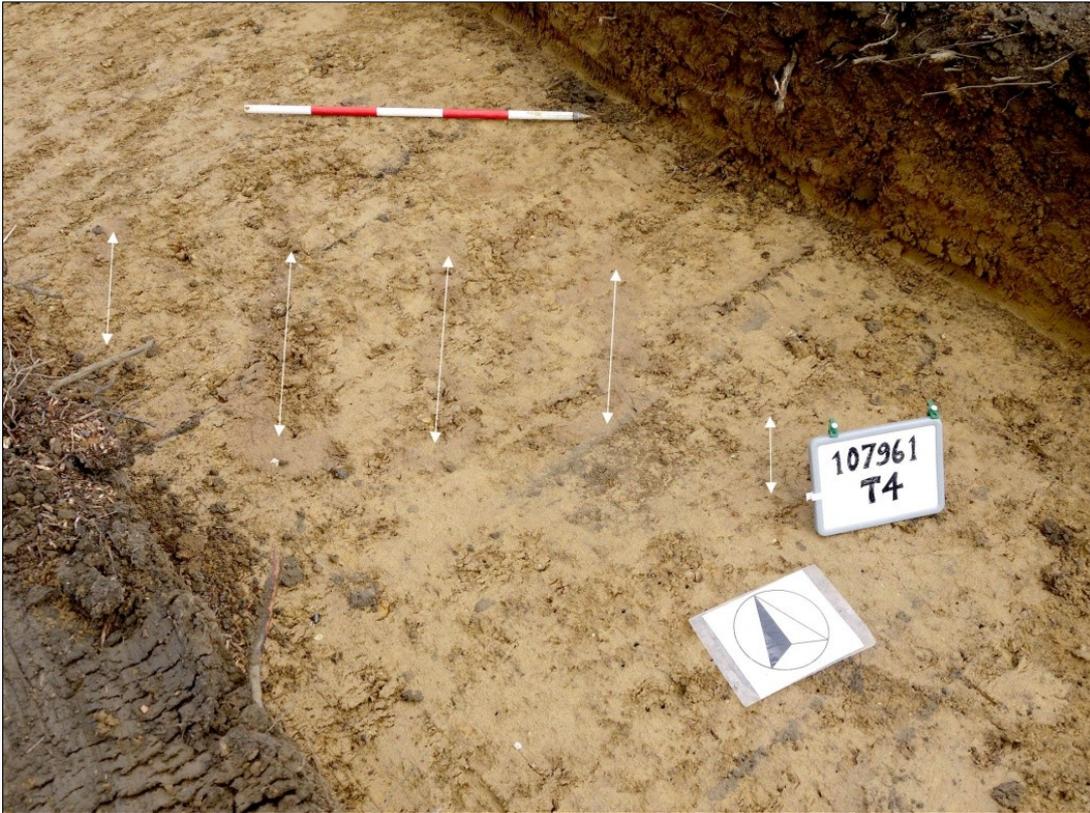


Figure 12. Trench 4: direction of plough scores (marked by arrows)

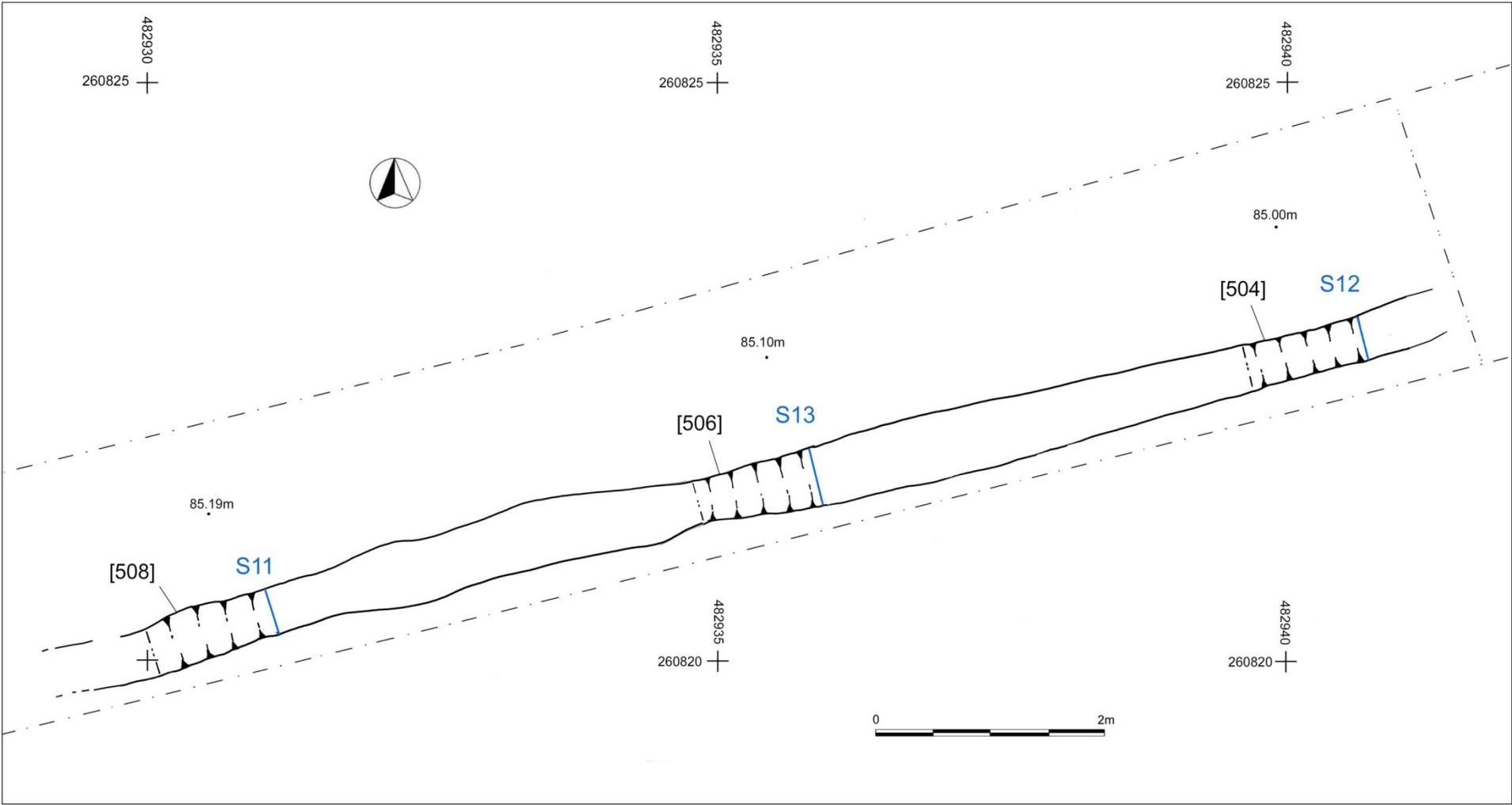


Figure 13. Trench 5. Plan of gully: segments [504], [506] and [510] and location of Sections 11 to 13



Figure 14. Trench 5, Sections 11 to 13, facing WSW

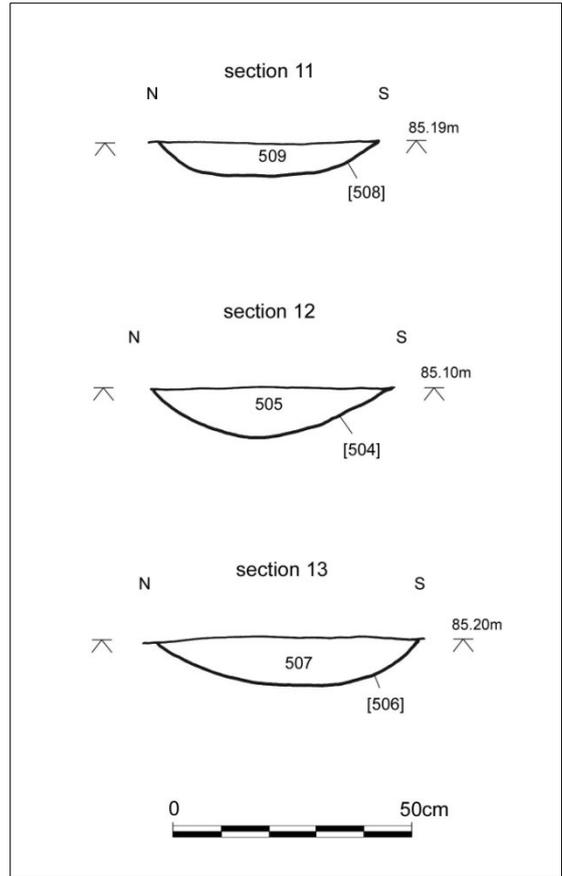
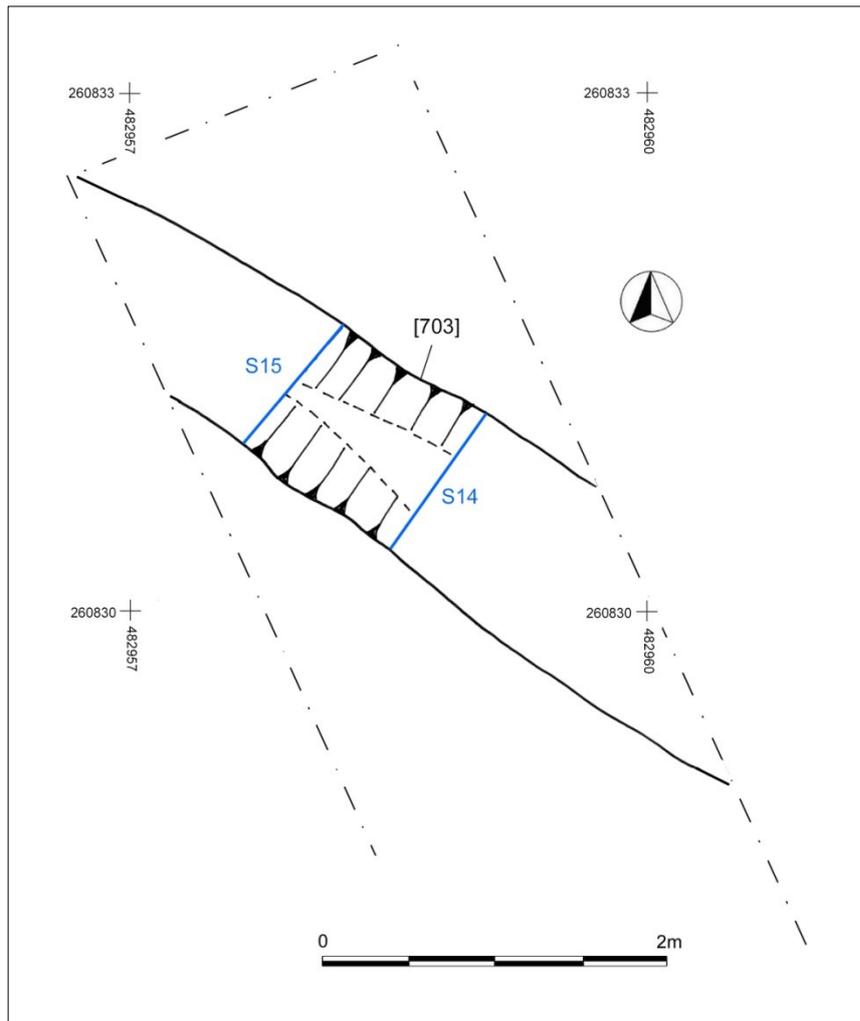
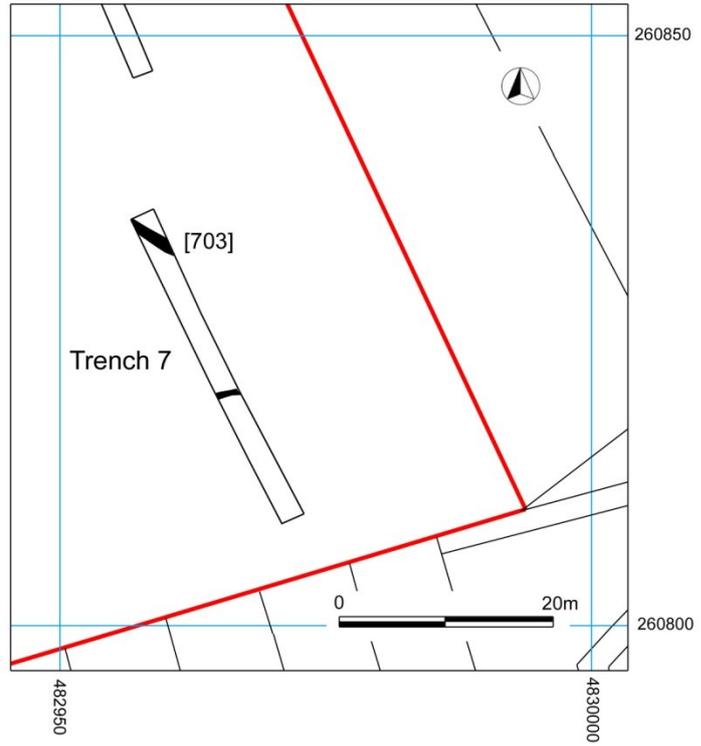


Figure 15. Trench 5, Sections 11 to 13



Figure 16. Overview of Trench 6, facing NNE

Figure 17. Trench 7, Ditch [703] and location of Sections 14 and 15



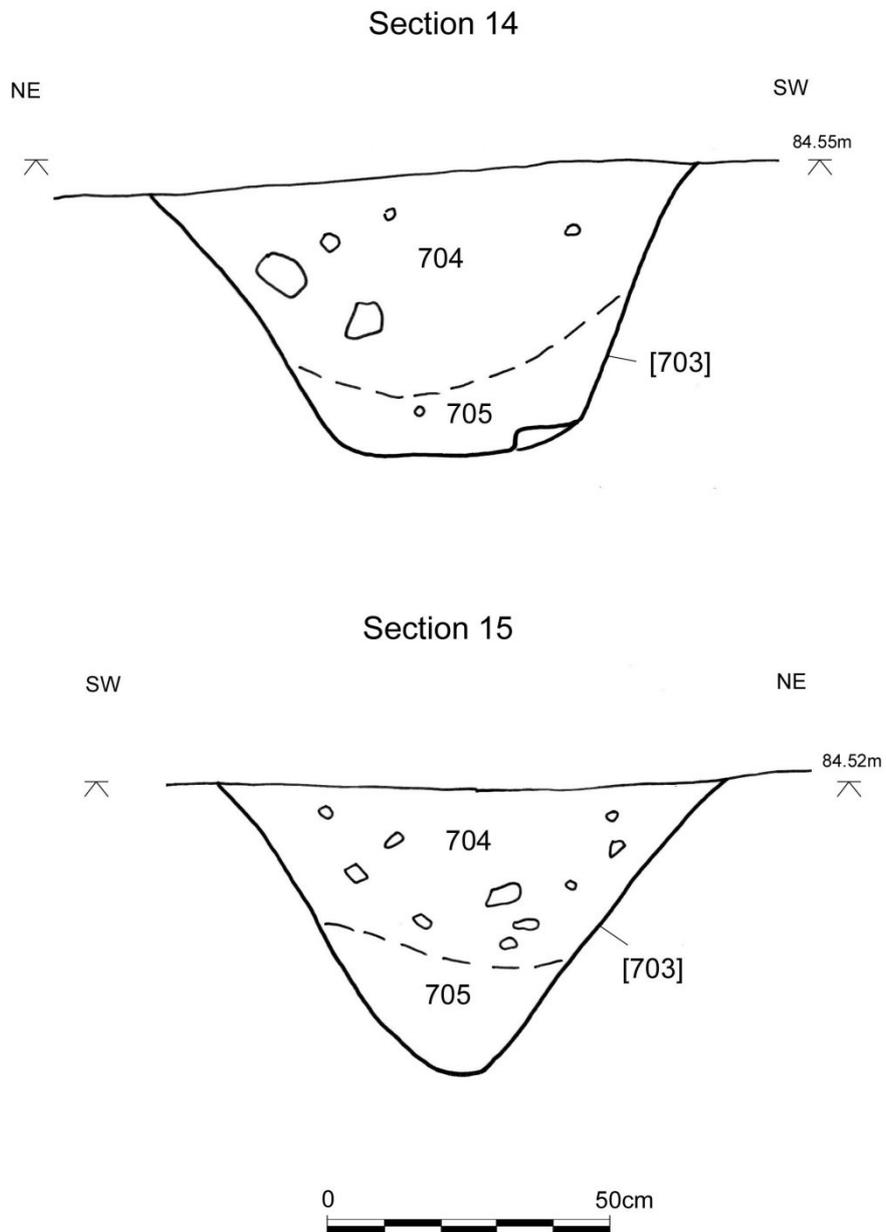


Figure 18. Trench 7, Ditch [703] Sections 14 and 15



Figure 19. Trench 7, Ditch [703] Section 14, facing SE

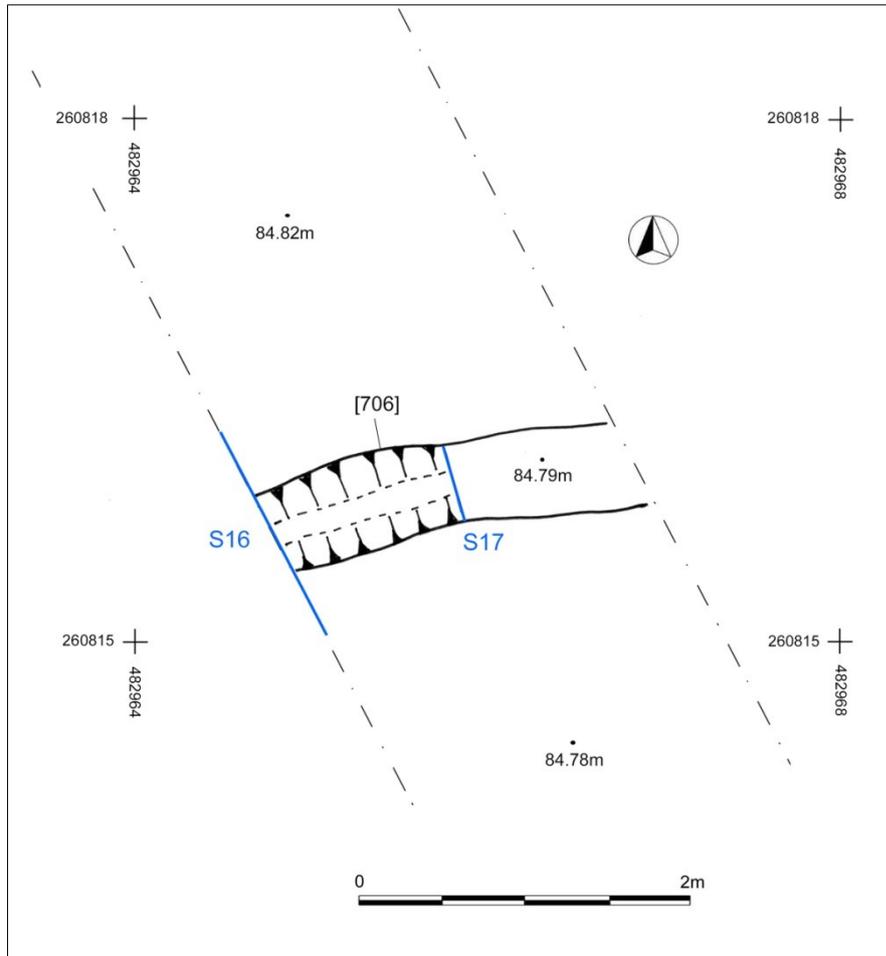
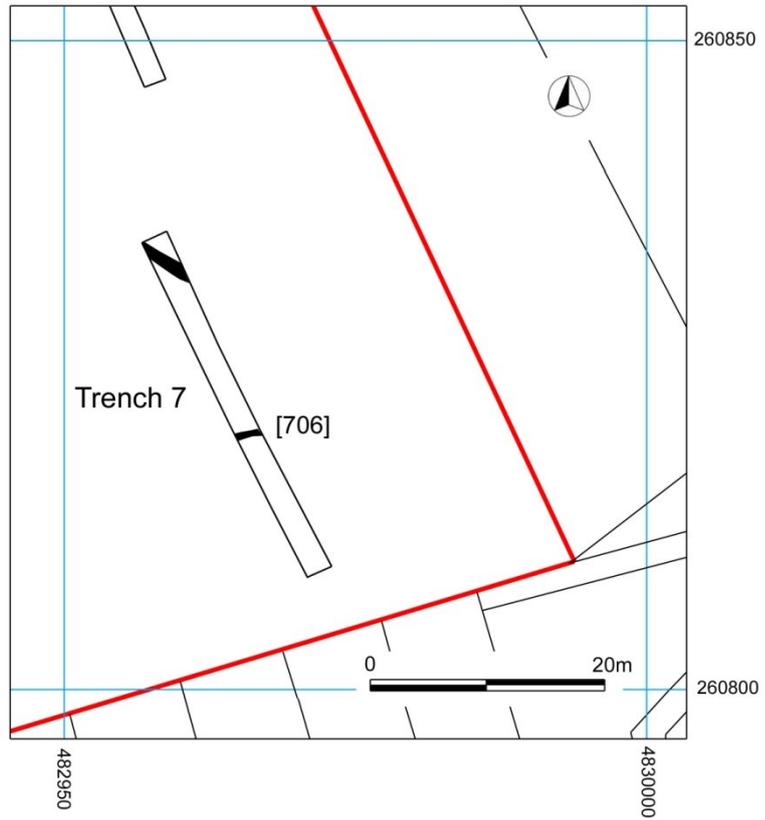


Figure 20. Trench 7, Ditch [703] Section 15, facing NW



Figure 21. Trench 7, Ditch [706], facing NW

**Figure 22. Trench 7,
Location of gully
[706] and
Sections 16 and 17**



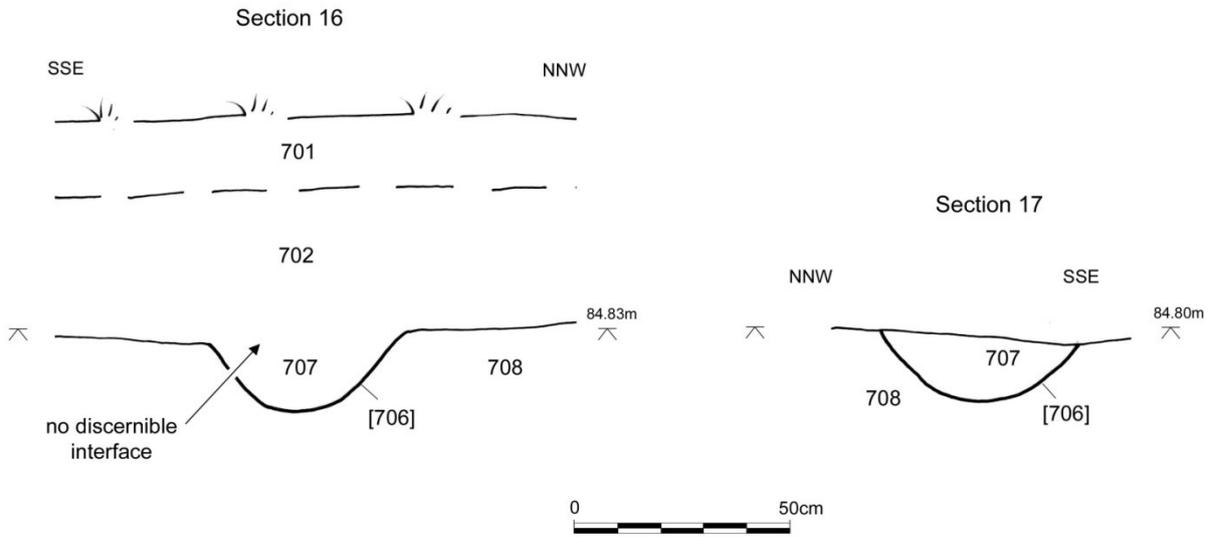


Figure 23. Trench 7, gully [706], Sections 16 and 17



Figure 24. Trench 7, Gully [706] Section 16, facing W

APPENDIX 1 List of Contexts

KEY: Relationships: **a.** above; **abt.** abuts; **adj.** adjoins; **b.** below; **c.** cuts; **cub.** cut by; **co.** contains; **wi** within
 Dimensions: **le.** length; **wid.** width; **de.** depth; **th.** thickness

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
TRENCH 1				30m x c.2m	GPS plan			
101	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clayey silty soil, loose with many roots	a.(102)	de.c.0.26m - 0.3m	Section 1	-		29:04:2015
102	Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay, compact	b.(101); a.(103)	de.c. 0.5m - 0.54m	Section 1	-		29:04:2015
103	Geo-logical stratum	Light orange silty calcareous clay, compact	b. (102); cub.{104}	-	Section 1	-		29:04:2015
104	cut	Gully, perpendicular to the trench for a visible distant of 2m.	c.(103); co.(105)	wid.c.0.35m; de.c.0.23m	GPS plan; Section 1	-		29:04:2015
105	fill	Fill of gully, mid-brown silty clay. no artefacts	wi.[104]	th.c.0.23m	Section 1	-	√	29:04:2015
TRENCH 2				30m x c.2.1m	GPS plan			
201	Topsoil	Same as (101)	a.(202)	c.0.3m	Section 2	1 body sherd C19th black glazed earthenware		01:05:2015
202	Subsoil	Same as (102)	b.(201), a.(203)	c.0.31m	Section 2	-		01:05:2015
203	Geo-logical stratum	Same as (103)	b.(202); cub. [204], [206], [208], [210], [212], [214], [216], [218], [220], [222], [224]	-	Section 2	-		01:05:2015
204	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides inclined	c.(203); b.(202); co.(205)	dia. top c.0.51m, base	GPS plan; Plan 1,	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
		c.45-60°, flat base		c.0.24m; de.c.0.14m	Plan 2; Section 10			
205	fill	Fill of post-hole, mid-dark greyish clay silt, quite compact, very occasional charcoal flecks	wi.[204]	th.c.0.14m	Section 10	flint (small blade-like chips/debitage)	√	01:05:2015
206	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides steeply inclined c.60-70°, flat base	c.(203); b.(202); co.(207)	dia. topc.0.4m, base c.0.15m; de.c.0.26m	GPS plan; P1; P2; Section 9	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
207	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[206]	th.c.0.26m	Section 9	-	√	01:05:2015
208	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides steeply inclined c.75-80°, flat base	c.(203); b.(202); co.(209)	dia. top c.0.47m, base c.0.33m; de.c.0.34m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 8	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
209	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[208]	th.c.0.34m	Section 8	-	√	01:05:2015
210	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Shallow, sides steeply inclined c.60-65°, flat base	c.(203); b.(202); co.(211)	dia. top c.0.53m, base c.0.4m de.c.0.14m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
211	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[201]	th.c.0.14m	Section 2	Animal bone; pottery body sherd (Saxon)	√	01:05:2015
212	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides steeply inclined c.65-70°, flat base.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(213)	dia. top c.0.5m, base c.0.32m; de. c.0.2m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 6	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
213	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[212]	th. c.0.2m	Section 6	Animal bone; flint (core fragment, small blade	√	01:05:2015

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
						and bladelet)		
214	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides inclined c.45-60°, irregular, near- flat base. Adjoins [216] -possible re-affirmation of a post-setting, although unclear which was first.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(215); poss. cub.[216]	dia. top c.0.38m, base c.0.25m; de. c.0.14m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 5	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
215	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[214]; poss. cub.[216]	th. c.0.14m	Section 5	Animal bone	√	01:05:2015
216	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides inclined c.45-60°, irregular, near- flat base. Adjoins [214] -possible re-affirmation of a post-setting, although unclear which was first.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(217); poss. c.[214]	dia.c.0.4m base c.0.32m; de.0.9 – c.12m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 5	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
217	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[216]		Section 5	-	√	01:05:2015
218	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides inclined c.45°, near- flat base.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(219)	dia. top. c.0.53m, base c.0.17m; de. c.0.21m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 4	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
219	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[218]	th. c.0.21m	Section 4	Animal bone	√	01:05:2015
220	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides steeply inclined c.45-75°, flat base.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(221)	dia. top c.0.35m, base c.0.23m; de.c.0.12m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 4	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
221	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205).	wi.[220]	th.c.0.12m	Section 4	Flint (small blade-like chips/ debitage)	√	01:05:2015
222	cut	Post-hole. One of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Sides inclined c.80°, flat base.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(223)	dia. top c.0.33m, base c.0.27m; de.c.0.10m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 3	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
223	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and	wi.[222]	th.c.0.10m	Section 3	Animal bone	√	01:05:2015

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
		composition as (205)						
224	cut	Presumably a post-hole (or two adjoining) Part of a series (11) apparently forming a single structure. Part-seen in baulk, SSW side steeply inclined c.65-70°, NNE side c.25°, flat base.	c.(203); b.(202); co.(225)	dia./le. top c.0.7m, base c.0.55m; de. c.0.12-.0.22m	GPS plan; Plan 1; Plan 2; Section 2	-		30:04:2015; 01:05:2015
225	fill	Fill of post-hole, same colour and composition as (205)	wi.[224]	th. c.0.12-c.0.22m	Section 2	-	√	01:05:2015
TRENCH 3				30m x c.2.1m	GPS plan			29:04:2015
301	Topsoil	Same as (101)	a.(302)	th.0.20m - 0.23m	-	-		29:04:2015
302	Subsoil	Same as (102)	b.(301); a.(302)	th. c.0.4m (nnw); c.0.24m (mid) ; c.0.17m (sse)	-	-		29:04:2015
303	Geo-logical stratum	Same as (103)	b.(302)	-	-	-		29:04:2015
TRENCH 4				30m x c.2.1m	GPS plan			29:04:2015
401	Topsoil	dark grey-brown loose silty clay with abundant roots	a.(402)	th. c.0.25m – 0.3m	-	-		29:04:2015
402	Subsoil	mid-orange-brown silty clay.	b.(401); a.(403)	th.c.0.3m - 35m	-	-		29:04:2015
403	Geo-logical stratum	light yellowy brown sandy clay. late post-med / modern plough scores in places, aligned NE/SW	b.(402)	-	-	-		29:04:2015
TRENCH 5				30m x c.2.1m	GPS plan			29:04:2015
501	Topsoil	Same as (101)	a.(502)	th.c.0.3m	-	-		29:04:2015
502	Subsoil	compact mid orange-brown silty clay	a.(503); b.(501)	th.c. 0.3m	-	-		29:04:2015
503	Geo-logical stratum	Same as (103)	b.(502), cub.[504]/ [506]/ [508]	-	-	-		29:04:2015

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
504	cut	Segment, through gully. Sides of gully sloping gently to a concave base.	b.(502); c.(503); co.(505)	wid. c.0.5m; de.c.0.1m	GPS plan; Section 12	-		29:04:2015
505	fill	Mid orange-brown sandy clay	wi.[504]	th.c.0.1m	Section 12	-	√	29:04:2015
506	cut	Segment, through gully. Sides of gully sloping gently to a flattish base.	b.(502); c.(503); co.(507)	wid. c.0.54m; de.c.0.09m	GPS plan; Section 13	-		29:04:2015
507	fill	Mid orange-brown sandy clay	wi.[506]	th.c.0.09m	Section 13	-		29:04:2015
508	cut	Segment, through gully. Sides of gully sloping gently to a flattish base.	b.(502); c.(503); co.(509)	wid. c.0.45m; de.c.0.07m	GPS plan; Section 11	-		29:04:2015
509	fill	Mid orange-brown sandy clay	wi.[508]	th.c.0.07m	Section 11	-		29:04:2015
TRENCH 6				30m x 1.8m	GPS plan	-		29:04:2015
601	Topsoil	Same as (101)	a.(602)	th. c.0.2m	-	-		29:04:2015
602	Subsoil	Same as (102)	a.(603); b.(601)	th.0.2m	-	-		29:04:2015
603	Geo-logical stratum	Same as (103)	b.(602)	-	-	-		29:04:2015
TRENCH 7				32.5m x 1.8m	GPS plan	-		
701	Topsoil	Same as (101)	a.(702)	th. variable – c.0.15m - c0.35m	Section 16	-		28:04:2015
702	Subsoil	mid orange brown silty sandy clay with ironstone cobbles.	b.(701); a.(708)	th. c.0.35m (nnw), c.0.15m (midpoint), c.0.33m (sse)	Section 16	-		28:04:2015
703	cut	Ditch. Segment 1m wide. Ditch aligned NW/SE, visible for c. 5m. Variable profile: NW sides 60° and 70° to a flattish base; SE side 'V'-shape, c.60°.	b.(702); co.(704, (705)	wid.0.9m - 0.98m; de. c.0.5m	GPS plan; Sections 14 & 15			28:04:2015
704	Fill	Upper fill of ditch; thick and composed of mid orange brown silty sandy clay with unsorted pebbles and pieces of ironstone (<0.1m).	wi.[703]; a.(705), b.(702)	th.0.3m-0.4m	GPS plan; Sections 14 & 15	Animal bone	√	28:04:2015

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
705	fill	Primary fill of ditch; light yellowy brown sandy clay with abundant pebbles, stones and pieces of ironstone (<0.15m); very similar in colour and constituents to geology. Prob. erosion product	wi.[703]; b.(704)	th.0.1m-.0.2m	Sections 14 & 15	-		28:04:2015
706	cut	Gully. crosses trench, aligned WSW/ENE, concave profile	b.(702); co.(707); c.(708)	de. c.0.15m to c.0.18m; wid. c.0.42m	GPS plan; Sections 16 & 17	-		28:04:2015
707	fill	Fill of gully	wi.[706], b.(702)	th. c.0.15m to c.0.18m;	Sections 16 & 17	-	√	28:04:2015
708	Geo-logical stratum	Same as (103)	b.(702); cub. [703], [706]	-		-		28:04:2015