

**Tillbridge Solar Project
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Evaluation: Report for Fields 88, 99, 107
and 108
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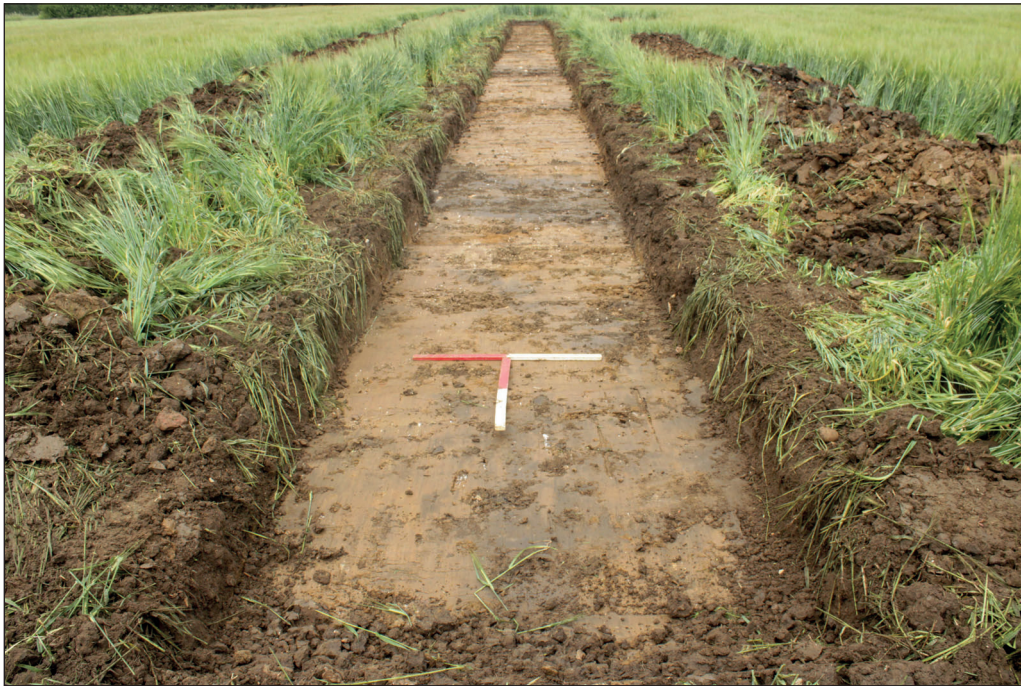
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This report presents a survey of a larger area which was considered for the Scheme during the application and assessment process. As such there are areas surveyed and presented in this report which are no longer within the Order limits. This does not impact on the conclusions of this report.



Tillbridge Solar Scheme Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation
Report for Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108



Planning Ref: DCO Application
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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Tillbridge Solar Limited to undertake the archaeological evaluation of a 1,400 hectare parcel of land. The overall evaluation area is centred on NGR 491197 388413 located to the north and south of Common Lane, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UZ.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in association with the proposed Tillbridge Solar Scheme in Lincolnshire. The proposed scheme comprises the installation of solar photovoltaic generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities, along with associated infrastructure for a grid connection route to connect into the national grid at Cottam sub-station in Nottinghamshire. A Development Consent Order application is in progress.

The evaluation forms part of a staged approach determining the archaeological potential of the site. Earlier non-intrusive works comprised a cultural desk-based assessment, as well as geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys. Across the wider Tillbridge Solar Scheme, 2628 archaeological evaluation trenches have been investigated and recorded.

This report covers the results of Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108 situated in the north-east of the proposed scheme. These fields are located to the west of the village of Harpswell and are bordered by open farmland on all sides; the A631 lies 300 m to the north with Common Lane a similar distance to the south. A total of 89 trial trenches were excavated and recorded, the work was carried out between 19 June and 25 July 2023. Archaeological features and deposits predominantly comprised ditches, gullies and pits, although postholes, a wall and furrows were also encountered. In addition, features interpreted as hedgerows are likely to represent the remains of former historic field boundaries.

The greatest concentration of archaeological features was located in Field 99, in the centre of the area. Here, a Romano-British settlement represented by a group of linear, curvilinear, rectilinear and discrete features were investigated. These formed a series of enclosures and field boundaries that covered an area of approximately 2 hectares. Overall, the settlement appears, from the geophysical survey data, to have a rectangular shape in plan and measured 170 m by 130 m. Beyond the main settlement, further Romano-British ditches were found towards the north-western edge of Field 99, and elements of a contemporary field system lay towards the north-east. The features generally accord well with the results of the earlier geophysical survey and taken together, suggest that this marks the south-eastern extent of a series of Romano-British settlements that continue towards Harpswell Grange, 700 m to the north-west.

Alongside ditches, gullies, pits and postholes, tentative evidence of a possible structure was identified towards the centre of the settlement (trench 1768). This comprised a linear arrangement of stone associated with a possible posthole; a dump of stone within a ditch in the same trench may be related. Finds collected from across the trenches indicate that the settlement was probably established during the mid-1st to early 2nd centuries AD, with activity continuing into the 3rd to 4th centuries AD.

Elsewhere, buried archaeological remains were related to the historic use of the landscape and comprise evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries. An undated enclosure in Field 108, known from records in the Lincolnshire HER (MLI53953) and from geophysical and aerial imagery surveys, was also investigated. In trench 1805, a ditch and wall correlate almost exactly with the mapped enclosure; finds and environmental samples from these features indicate a post-medieval/modern date, perhaps suggesting it was associated with the post-medieval house and gardens of Harpswell Hall to the east.

The evaluation has, therefore, achieved its aim of providing information on the archaeological potential of the site. The results of the evaluation help to refine the understanding of the presence,



nature and distribution of archaeological features across Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108. There is a particular focus on Romano-British rural settlement and the results from Field 99, in combination with those from further evaluation to the north-west, help to develop our understanding of settlement in this part of Lincolnshire during the 1st to 4th centuries AD. These results will be combined in a subsequent overarching summary report.

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Tillbridge Solar Scheme, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report for Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Tillbridge Solar Limited ('the client'), to undertake the archaeological evaluation of a 1,400 hectare (ha) parcel of land ('the principal site') centred around Common Lane, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 5UZ. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 491197 388413 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in association with the proposed Tillbridge Solar Scheme in Lincolnshire. The proposed scheme comprises the installation of solar photovoltaic generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities at the principal site in Lincolnshire, along with associated infrastructure for a grid connection corridor, which will comprise underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the principal site to the national grid at Cottam sub-station in Nottinghamshire.
- 1.1.3 Due to its proposed generating capacity being more than 50 megawatts, the scheme is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, and therefore requires consent via a Development Consent Order (DCO), under the Planning Act 2008 (Section 14(1)(a) and 15(2)). The scheme is considered to fall within the definition of 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development' under the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017 (Ref. 1-1), requiring an EIA to be prepared as part of the Application (AECOM 2023a; 2023b).
- 1.1.4 The evaluation is part of a staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the principal site. A Preliminary Environmental Information Report for the scheme (AECOM 2023a; 2023b) was prepared in relation to the DCO application. This report included appendices relating to the archaeological background and potential of the scheme. Those that consider non-intrusive archaeological work comprise:
- Appendix 8-2: Cultural heritage desk-based assessment (AECOM 2023c);
 - Appendix 8-4: Air photo and LiDAR mapping and interpretation (Deegan 2023);
 - Appendix 8-5: Geophysical surveys (Magnitude Surveys 2023).
- 1.1.5 Across the principal site at the Tillbridge Solar Scheme, 2628 archaeological evaluation trenches were investigated and recorded; additional fieldwork will also be undertaken along the course of the grid connection route. The rationale for the trench positioning was informed by the cultural heritage desk-based assessment (AECOM 2023c) and geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023), and was presented within the written scheme of investigation (WSI) for the project (Wessex Archaeology 2023a). Trenches were positioned to target:
- non-designated assets as recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER);



- geophysical anomalies interpreted as probable/potential archaeological features;
- geophysical anomalies interpreted as possible features of non-archaeological origin;
- LiDAR anomalies interpreted as possible archaeological feature;
- anomalies identified on aerial photography;
- a sample of areas with ridge and furrow coverage, which may or may not be masking buried archaeological features; and
- a sample of 'blank' areas.

1.1.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the WSI which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2023a). The Historic Environment Officer at Lincolnshire County Council approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.7 In line with the agreed reporting arrangements, this report covers the results from all of the fields belonging to a single landowner, in this instance Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108.

1.1.8 The archaeological evaluation of the fields considered in this report, comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 89 trial trenches (each measuring approximately 50 m by 2 m) and was undertaken between 19 June and 25 July 2023.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the evaluation in Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108, consolidating and expanding upon the weekly reports submitted to the client. It will be followed by an overarching summary report that will interpret of the results of the wider evaluation within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming a).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The Tillbridge Solar principal site encompasses an area of approximately 1,400 ha and is located entirely within the administrative area of West Lindsey District Council. It is situated approximately 5 km to the east of Gainsborough and approximately 13 km north of Lincoln.

1.3.2 The principal site is located to the north and south of Common Lane. It is bounded to the north by the A631, to the east by Middle Street (B1398), and extends 500 m south of Kexby Road. The villages of Springthorpe, Harpswell and Glentworth lie to the west, east and south-east respectively. The principal site is predominately open agricultural land, with a mixture of arable and pasture, and small areas of scattered woodland.

1.3.3 Fields 88, 89, 107 and 108 lie towards the north-eastern part of the principal site, centred on NGR 492146 389915. The evaluation area described in this report is bordered by open farmland to all sides, with the A631 and Common Lane located approximately 300 m to the north and south respectively. Harpswell Hall Farm lies approximately 1 km to the east.

1.3.4 From north to south, the topography of the principal site is essentially flat with gentle undulations, located at an average of 22 m above Ordnance Datum (OD). From west to east, the land gently rises from 16 m to 32 m OD at Harpswell before rising more steeply to



65–68 m OD along Middle Street (the B1398), which follows the upper edge of the Lincoln Cliff.

- 1.3.5 The underlying bedrock geology across the majority of the principal site is mapped as Mudstone of the Charmouth Formation with, along its eastern boundary, narrower north–south aligned bands of other sedimentary rocks (Limestone of the Lincolnshire Formation, Mudstone of the Whitby Formation and Grantham Formations and ferruginous Limestone and Sandstone of the Marlston Rock Formation) correlating with a spring line and the Lincoln Cliff.
- 1.3.6 Superficial deposits largely comprise Middle Pleistocene glacial till, with localised bands of Holocene alluvium, comprising clay, silt, sand and gravel (British Geological Survey 2023).
- 1.3.7 Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108 conform to the wider geological trends, with bedrock recorded as the Charmouth Mudstone Formation. This is overlain by superficial deposits of till across all of the fields, with Holocene alluvium recorded along the eastern boundary of the area.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior cultural heritage desk-based assessment (AECOM 2023c) which considered the recorded historic environment resource within 1 km (non-designated heritage assets) and 3 km (designated heritage assets) of the proposed Tillbridge Solar Scheme. The results were outlined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a), and are further summarised below, with an emphasis on records that are of particular relevance to Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108, and their immediate vicinity. Relevant entry numbers from the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (LHER; prefixed with MLI below) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are included, with additional sources of information referenced as appropriate.

2.2 Archaeological and historical context

Summary

- 2.2.1 No designated heritage assets are located within the principal site but there are 17 scheduled monuments within 3 km of the entire Tillbridge Solar Scheme (principal site and grid connection corridor combined), including a Romano-British fort south of Littleborough Lane (NHLE 1004935), the Roman town of *Segelocum* (Littleborough; NHLE 1003669), a Roman settlement at Owmbly (NHLE 1004922), medieval settlements at Harpswell (NHLE 1019068), Coates (NHLE 1016979), Temple Garth (NHLE 1007689) and the medieval town of Torksey (NHLE 1004991). Religious centres are also recorded such as the site of 12th-century Heynings Priory (NHLE 1008685) and the site of a college and Benedictine Abbey at Stow (NHLE 1016979).

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic (970,000–4000 BC)

- 2.2.2 No recorded Palaeolithic remains or artefacts have been identified within the principal site or in the local area (AECOM 2023c). The nearest worked flint findspots are located alongside the River Trent near Torksey, 13 km to the south-west. These include a flint bladelet (MLI98514), a core adze (MLI98513) and several scrapers and microliths (MLI98505).
- 2.2.3 Evidence for Mesolithic occupation in Lincolnshire is limited, mostly comprising surface scatters or isolated findspots of flint artefacts. Mesolithic activity within the principal site is limited to a single findspot (MLI51357) at the north-west corner of the site near School Lane,

where three or four Mesolithic flints were recovered. These indicate the potential for dispersed earlier prehistoric remains within the Trent Valley.

Neolithic and Bronze Age (4000–700 BC)

- 2.2.4 Artefactual evidence for Neolithic activity within the principal site is limited to a single isolated findspot of a straight-sided polished stone axe (MLI51341) recorded in its north-west corner. Further evidence for Neolithic activity in the landscape to the north-west of the principal site is provided by other findspots of lithic artefacts including a stone axe (MLI51358) and a stone axe and flint scrapers (MLI51349).
- 2.2.5 Although there is a notable concentration of Bronze Age metal finds along the river valleys of the Trent and Witham, the Bronze Age is poorly represented within the proposed scheme area. A bronze flanged axe is recorded approximately 130 m north of the principal site, north of Harpswell Lane (MLI50983).

Iron Age (700 BC–AD 43)

- 2.2.6 Greater levels of activity during the later prehistoric period are apparent. Iron Age remains, including a fragment of Early Iron Age pottery associated with a skeleton (MLI50980), were found during the 1930s just east of the Harpswell crossroads. Settlement activity is indicated by a series of cropmarks, south-east of Harpswell Grange, which appear to represent a later prehistoric enclosure (MLI53952). These are situated within the north-east section of the principal site, approximately 120 m to the north and north-west of Fields 88 and 99 respectively.
- 2.2.7 Other areas of settlement are located 900 m to the south-west of Field 108. Here, archaeological remains comprising ditches and pits represent the edge of a small settlement of Late Iron Age to early Romano-British date (MLI86409). The remains were found during an archaeological watching brief undertaken ahead of the replacement of a gas main between Caenby Corner and Sturgate Airfield (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2003). One ditch produced pottery sherds dating to the Late Iron Age to early Romano-British transition (50 BC–AD 150).
- 2.2.8 In the wider area excavated evidence for extensive Iron Age rural settlement lies to the west of the River Trent, with Iron Age and Romano-British settlement recorded south of Cottam power station and at Rampton Quarry, both 14 km south-west of the principal site.

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

- 2.2.9 Three main Roman roads were established in Lincolnshire, meeting at *Lindum Colonia* (Roman Lincoln). These were Ermine Street (connecting London to York via Lincoln), the Fosse Way (Exeter to Lincoln) and Till Bridge Lane (linking Lincoln with the small town of *Segelocum* – now Littleborough on Trent). A section of Ermine Street (now the A15) passes 2.5 km to the east of the principal site boundary and Till Bridge Lane is around 6 km to the south.
- 2.2.10 The presence of this communication network encouraged a number of smaller settlements to develop within the region, exploiting the agricultural resources of the area as well as the resources and transport route provided by the River Trent. This growth included a number of forts designed to control and protect the region. Roman forts are located off Till Bridge Lane near Marton and at Gate Burton.
- 2.2.11 Owmbly Roman Settlement is a scheduled monument (NHLE 1004922) located 3 km to the south-east of the principal site. The site comprises the remains of an extensive Romano-British settlement straddling Ermine Street, 2 km east of Fillingham.
-

2.2.12 As mentioned above, the Roman town of *Segelocum*, located 10 km to the south-west, is a scheduled monument (NHLE 1003669). Archaeological investigations have identified extensive settlement evidence including building foundations, pavements, kilns and ovens, along with multiple small finds. A piece of paving, possibly associated with the Roman road of Till Bridge Lane, was also found in Marton in the 18th century.

Early medieval and medieval (AD 410–1500)

2.2.13 By the 7th century, the kingdom of Lindsey was formed from a number of smaller tribal groups, eventually becoming part of Mercia following the Battle of the Trent in AD 679. The evidence for early and middle Saxon settlement in Lincolnshire is sparse, with only a small number of sites excavated and most of the evidence derived from cremation cemeteries.

2.2.14 The first Viking raids on Lincolnshire started in 841, with the Great Viking Army overwintering at Torksey in 872–873. Their camp has been identified to the north of Torksey village, in the parishes of Brampton and Torksey, 11 km to the south-west of the principal site (Hadley *et al.* 2016).

2.2.15 There are three grade I listed churches in the local area, all associated with late Saxon villages. These are the Church of St Mary, Stow (NHLE 1146624), the Church of St Margaret of Antioch, Marton (NHLE 1359484), and the Church of All Saints, Rampton (NHLE 1233879), all located between 9 km and 17 km south-west of the principal site. A possible holy spring (MLI50423) is recorded at All Saints' Church in Heapham. St Chad's Church in Harpswell (NHLE 1309029) is also situated on the site of a holy spring (MLI50422); the church has a small Saxon west tower.

2.2.16 The pattern of settlement within the area in the 11th century is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086, which details significant settlements, population, land use and ownership. The medieval landscape was one of manorial sites and religious houses set within open agricultural land interspersed with small villages, farmsteads and moated complexes.

2.2.17 The scheduled monument of Harpswell Hall (NHLE 1019068; MLI5004) lies 450 m east of Fields 107 and 108. It comprises the remains of a post-medieval house and gardens (see below) constructed over the site of the medieval village. Little can now be seen of the core medieval settlement (due to the construction of the grounds and gardens of Harpswell Hall) but a hollow-way, visible as an earthwork, lies to the north of the gardens and would have been associated with the medieval settlement. At right angles to the hollow-way are a series of low banks that may indicate the position of former property divisions. A survey recorded the remaining earthworks of the medieval village and recovered a small assemblage of medieval pottery (AECOM 2023c).

2.2.18 Elsewhere, medieval settlements, some recorded in Domesday Book and others as the cropmarks and earthworks of deserted villages, include Hemswell, Glentworth, Corringham, Little Corringham, Springthorpe, Sturgate, Heapham, Harwick, and Thorpe. As is typical across the Midlands, each medieval village would have been surrounded by a series of communally farmed unenclosed, open fields, evidenced today by ridge and furrow earthworks surviving either as visible earthwork remains or as cropmarks. Ridge and furrow is recorded at several locations within the boundary of the principal site (MLI54254; MLI53910; MLI86414; MLI54253; and MLI54272).

Post-medieval and modern (AD 1500–1900)

2.2.19 The 16th and 17th centuries saw a further decline in the rural population as former arable land was converted to pasture by wealthy landowners, who gained much former monastic land following the Dissolution. In the 17th century the former medieval field systems were



altered by private enclosure into smaller land parcels and a pattern of dispersed farmsteads developed within the newly enclosed fields.

- 2.2.20 A number of villages shrank in size with changing estate management. Harpswell Hall (NHLE 1019068) is located approximately 450 m to the east of the eastern limit of land which comprises the scope of this report. It consists of the earthworks and buried remains of a post-medieval house and geometric formal gardens overlying the remains of the medieval village of Harpswell.
- 2.2.21 Large country houses with surrounding designed landscapes are notable features of the post-medieval landscape. Two examples, Fillingham Castle (NHLE 1166045) and Glentworth Hall (NHLE 1063348), are located close to the principal site. The site of the former parkland and gardens (MLI98355) associated with Glentworth Hall is located within the principal site.
- 2.2.22 Historic mapping reveals an agricultural landscape, with thin rectilinear fields, in use as arable land, with small, nucleated settlements and isolated farms interspersed throughout the area. Farmsteads in the area are mostly of 19th-century date.
- 2.2.23 Other post-medieval land use within the principal site is recorded by the LHER in the form of a possible brick kiln at 'Brick Kiln Holt' (MLI53950) which is shown on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map. Other post-medieval activity is signalled by 16th and 17th-century metal objects (MLI51093) found north of Park Lane in the south-east corner of the principal site. Industrial features in the wider landscape include mills, such as the Grade II listed Corringham Windmill (NHLE 1359417) and the Heapham windmill (NHLE 1064049). To the north-west of the principal site a former brickyard lies close to Harpswell Lane (MLI50996), and earthworks of quarries were identified to the south of Church Street in Hemswell (MLI81810).
- 2.2.24 The flat open landscapes of Lincolnshire are well suited to military aviation and a number of airfields were constructed within the area during the World War I and II. There are two World War II assets located within the principal site. The first is the former RAF Sturgate (MLI50912). The eastern end of the main runway, taxiways, concrete perimeter track and several dispersal areas extend into the western side of the principal site. The second is the site of a World War II searchlight battery and gun emplacement (MLI80678) located in a field to the south of Harpswell Lane, close to the northern boundary of the principal site.
- 2.2.25 The former RAF Hemswell (MLI53944), located approximately 540 m east of the principal site, was opened in 1918 and was used during both World Wars.

Undated

- 2.2.26 Many of the undated heritage assets located within the principal site boundary consist of cropmarks, soil marks and earthworks. An undated cropmark and earthwork enclosure lies within Field 108 (MLI53953).

2.3 Previous investigations related to the proposed scheme

Geophysical survey at Tillbridge Solar (Magnitude Surveys 2023)

- 2.3.1 A geophysical survey was conducted across approximately 1050 ha of the principal site, with 114 fields subject to survey by fluxgate gradiometer. This identified 12 major 'Areas of Archaeological Activity' (AAA). These appear to form settlement complexes focussed on elevated points on the landscape and comprise ditched enclosures, ring ditches, trackways, former field systems and discrete pits. These major areas were thought to represent multi-



period archaeological landscapes and were probably associated with various phases of occupation. Other anomalies consist of ditched features, trackways, and a moated feature (Magnitude Surveys 2023).

2.3.2 Evidence for historical and modern agricultural use of the landscape was also noted. This includes two demolished 19th-century farmhouses and widespread indications of historical and modern agriculture (ridge and furrow cultivation, ploughing, drainage, former field boundaries and ponds). Anomalies of more recent origin correlate with the former RAF Sturgate (in the west of the principal site).

2.3.3 A group of linear, curvilinear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies were detected in the south of Field 99 and interpreted as a likely Iron Age or Romano-British settlement. A second smaller group of linear and curvilinear anomalies in the north of Field 99 are assumed to be related to the probable settlement, or to features associated with a penannular anomaly interpreted as a roundhouse drip gully in Field 98, to the north-east. Both groups of features were defined as part of AAA 3, an extensive area of anomalies that formed likely multi-phased settlements and field systems. AAA 3 was detected across Fields 87, 98 and 99, with those in Field 99 forming its south-western extent.

Aerial assessment (Deegan 2023)

2.3.4 An assessment of aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery was undertaken for the Tillbridge Solar Scheme. It identified the likely remains of Iron Age and Romano-British settlements in at least two areas and tentatively within a third but highlighted the potential for further remains of these periods not detected by the survey. Extensive medieval or post-medieval remains, including ridge and furrow, plough headlands and small dew ponds as well as a moat and hollow way were also recorded. Parts of Sturgate Airfield, which had its origins in World War II, was located in the south-west corner of the principal site.

2.3.5 The recorded remains relating to Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108 were sparse, comprising:

- medieval or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, areas of plough headland and field boundaries visible as cropmarks and earthworks (Fields 88, 107 and 108);
- a small post-medieval enclosure and a dew pond in the south-west corner of Field 108.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a) and in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the scheme on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:



- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (Knight *et al.* 2012; Research Frameworks 2023), the site-specific objectives of the evaluation were to:

- test the results of the geophysical survey;
- test the 'blank areas' for any previously undetected archaeological remains;
- determine the presence or absence of early prehistoric remains covered by alluvial deposits or by peat;
- examine evidence for remains of Late Iron Age/Roman dispersed settlements that may exist within the site;
- examine evidence for medieval/post-medieval agricultural remains and assess if this has impacted on any earlier remains;
- examine the evidence of water management and land drainage change in the post-medieval and modern (AD 1750+) periods; and
- assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, and are shown on Figure 1. Minor adjustments to the layout and trench lengths were required to take account of constraints such as known or located services, vegetation, and to allow for machine manoeuvring. Where trenches crossed modern agricultural vehicle routes (tramlines), the route was left unexcavated, and the trench extended accordingly to ensure the intended length was



achieved. Trench positions also took in to account the locations of known underground buried services which crossed the principal site, and suitable health and safety buffers were maintained between the trenches and services at all times.

- 4.2.2 Across Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108, a total of 89 trial trenches, each measuring approximately 50 m in length and 2 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.
- 4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts, except those of obvious modern date, were retained.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the AECOM Heritage Team (technical consultants for the Tillbridge Solar Scheme) and in agreement with the Historic Environment Officers (Lincolnshire County Council, on behalf of the LPA) and the land agent (acting on behalf of individual landowners) were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn; OD), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images were subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal; ClfA 2022a).



4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Historic Environment Officers at Lincolnshire County Council monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA via a series of weekly monitoring meetings which were also attended by the AECOM Heritage Team. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the Historic Environment Officers at Lincolnshire County Council and the AECOM Heritage Team.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Archaeological features and deposits were confirmed and investigated in 21 of the 89 excavated trial trenches. The evaluation has recorded evidence of human activity from the Romano-British to post-medieval/modern periods, with the main chronological focus represented by Romano-British remains.
- 5.1.2 The principal group of features was recorded in Field 99, which lies in the central part of the area covered by this report. Here, the remains of Romano-British ditched enclosures, pits and postholes, many of which correlated with the geophysical survey data, were identified and investigated. These features formed part of a series of probable Romano-British settlement complexes that continued to the north-west into adjacent fields. Other features, including a wall and ditch, were investigated in Field 108, approximately 300 m to the south-west, and correspond with an undated enclosure known from earthworks visible as cropmarks and identified in the LiDAR data (Deegan 2023). Elsewhere, undated ditches and gullies as well as historic field boundaries and furrows were identified.
- 5.1.3 The features investigated (Table 1) comprised ditches, gullies, pits, hedgerows, postholes, furrows and a wall.

Table 1 Feature type by field and trench number

Field No.	Feature/deposit type	Trench No.
88	Hedgerow	1733, 1739
99	Ditch	1762, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1776, 1804, 1805
	Gully	1763, 1765, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1775, 1776, 1777
	Pit	1767, 1768, 1771
	Posthole	1768, 1776
107	Gully	1780, 1792
108	Ditch	1804, 1805
	Furrow	1802, 1805
	Wall	1805

- 5.1.4 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological remains described by field and discussed by period where possible.
- 5.1.5 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Blank trenches are not described in the following section. Figures 2 and 3 provide an overview of the trench layout set against the results of the preceding geophysical survey and the assessment of the aerial data (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023). Figures 4–10 show detailed trenching results with the recorded features, together with the preceding non-intrusive survey results. A selection of photographs, illustrating the investigated archaeological features and trial trenches are provided on Figures 11–24.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural soil sequence observed across Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108 was consistent, typically comprising topsoil above the natural geological substrate, although subsoil was noted in one trench (Figs 11–13). The natural geological substrate was generally encountered at 0.35 m below ground level (bgl) and comprised a moderately compact, yellow silty clay, with a grey hue. Sparse sub-rounded pebbles were apparent within the deposit.
- 5.2.2 At the south-eastern corner of Field 108, subsoil was recorded in trench 1804. Here, a yellowish brown silty clay deposit (0.15 m thick) was evident between the topsoil and natural substrate. The trench location coincides with an area of alluvium shown on geological maps and a sinuous weak geophysical anomaly thought to be of natural origin. It is possible that the subsoil is related to these deposits, although it was not thought to be alluvial in nature and its occurrence here may be due to differential modern ploughing closer to the edge of the field.
- 5.2.3 Across the fields the natural substrate was overlain by a moderately compact, greyish brown silty clay topsoil (approximately 0.2–0.45 m thick), which contained occasional small sub-rounded pebbles. Finds from the topsoil comprised two sherds of pottery; one mid–late Romano-British sherd was collected in trench 1771 and a sherd of medieval pottery came from trench 1805.

5.3 Field 88

- 5.3.1 Few features were identified within Field 88 by the preceding geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023). These were limited to three east–west field boundaries represented by low earthwork banks in the LiDAR imagery and weak linear anomalies, interpreted as agricultural in nature, in the geophysical data.
- 5.3.2 The trenching results identified features in trenches 1733 and 1739 which correlate well with the results of the earlier surveys (Figs 2 and 4). A north-east to south-west aligned linear feature (173303; 0.3 m wide and 0.4 m deep) crossed the northern end of trench 1733. Although it contained no finds and was interpreted as a ‘hedgerow’, it accords well with the position of a field boundary depicted on 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping and with a linear anomaly, thought to be of probable agricultural in origin, detected by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2023).
- 5.3.3 A likely continuation was recorded in trench 1739, approximately 175 m to the east (Fig. 4). Here, a similarly sized east–west feature (173903; 0.3 m wide and 0.25 m deep) was investigated. As in trench 1733, this had an irregular shaped base that was thought to be the result of bioturbation. Given their close association with field divisions depicted on historic mapping and the geophysical anomaly, the feature crossing trenches 1733 and 1739 is probably a former field ditch, the base of which had been disturbed by vegetation growing alongside the boundary.

5.4 Field 99

- 5.4.1 Archaeological features were exposed in trenches across the western portion of Field 99, with an increased density of features towards the south; continuations were also found towards the northern edge of the field. These features correspond with AAA 3, an area of possible Iron Age or Romano-British settlement defined by the geophysical survey (Magnitude Survey 2023, 15–16, figs 101 and 104) as well as Lincolnshire HER records of prehistoric enclosures (LHER MLI53952). Archaeological Activity Area 3 comprised three settlement complexes, spread across almost 1 km of the north-eastern part of the principal

site. Within Field 99 the settlement was represented by a group of linear, curvilinear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies forming a series of enclosures and field boundaries that covered an area of approximately 2 ha. A possible boundary ditch appeared to enclose the settlement.

- 5.4.2 The trenching results predominately recorded ditches and gullies, and good correlations were apparent between these and the geophysical features; they were shown to form various enclosures, typically rectangular or curvilinear in plan (Figs 2–3). The rectangular enclosures had a long axis broadly aligned either north-west to south-east, or north-east to south-west, and ranged up to 50 m by 35 m. Smaller curvilinear enclosures were also evident, with the clearest example measuring approximately 11 m wide. Overall, the settlement appears, from the geophysical survey data, to have had a rectangular shape in plan and measured 170 m by 130 m (Fig. 3). Artefacts and environmental remains recovered from across the excavated sections indicate that the settlement dates to the Romano-British period.
- 5.4.3 At the north-western corner of the settlement, ditches that form part of a rectangular enclosure were excavated in trench 1765 (Fig. 6). Three NNW–SSE aligned ditches (176503, 176505 and 176507) and one gully (176511) crossed the trench. The ditches were all similar in size, between 1.1–1.5 m wide and 0.5–0.9 m deep, with moderate to steeply sloping, concave profiles. Ditches 176503 and 176505 contained a similar silty clay deposit, whilst a succession of three secondary deposits was observed in ditch 176507 (Fig. 14). Only the westerly ditch (176505) contained finds; its assemblage comprised animal bone and a sherd of Romano-British pottery. The central and westernmost of the three ditches, 176503 and 176505 respectively, corresponded with geophysical anomalies that appeared to form part of rectangular enclosure approximately 30 m wide (Fig. 6). A small gully, 176511 (0.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep), lay within the enclosure but had a slightly more north-west to south-east alignment than the larger ditches, perhaps suggesting it was of a different chronological phase.
- 5.4.4 Within trench 1769, a north-east to south-west gully (176903; Fig. 6) may represent a perpendicular boundary to the rectangular enclosure defined by ditches 176503 and 176505 to the north. The gully was considerably smaller (0.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep) and may define an internal division of the enclosure; Romano-British pottery was collected from its single fill suggesting it is contemporary. Alternatively, the gully may form a continuation of ditch 176615 to the west.
- 5.4.5 Ditches that formed parts of the settlements outer edges were investigated in trenches 1767 and 1770 (Fig. 5). In trench 1767, ditch 176705 (3.6 m wide and 0.95 m deep) formed the north-east to south-west aligned northernly limit of the settlement. It had a wide profile with convex to slightly irregularly sloping sides and produced animal bone and mid–late Romano-British pottery. An elongated possible pit (176707; 4.7 m long, 0.8 m wide and 0.3 m deep) lay close to its northern edge and was filled with a single deposit that contained animal bone and mid–late Romano-British pottery. Approximately 60 m to the south-west the westerly limit of the settlement activity was represented by a north-west to south-east aligned ditch (177006); it had a wide V-shaped profile (2.6 m wide and 0.96 m deep; Fig. 15). Animal bone and large fresh sherds of mid–late Romano-British pottery were collected from its three fills, which became darker and charcoal-rich towards the top of the ditch. Two joining fragments of human skull were also recovered from the darker finds-rich upper fill, perhaps suggesting the human bone was deposited along with other material, perhaps following a period of curation, or that graves lie within the settlement – although none were identified during the trenching.

- 5.4.6 Within both trenches internal ditches were also apparent. In trench 1767 a curvilinear ditch (176703; 2 m wide and 0.5 m deep; Figs 5 and 16) was located 10 m to the south of ditch 176705 and corresponds with a curvilinear enclosure indicated by the geophysical survey. In trench 1770, ditch 177003 lay parallel to outer ditch 177006 and formed the eastern side of a square enclosure. Ditch 177003 was smaller than the outer enclosure ditch and measured 1.45 m wide and 0.55 m deep; a moderate finds assemblage, dominated by animal bone and pottery, was recovered. A small possible gully lay almost centrally between ditches 177003 and 177006. The gully (177010; 0.55 m wide and 0.3 m deep) produced no finds and while undated may be related to the enclosure or possibly later agricultural practices.
- 5.4.7 Trenches 1766, 1768 and 1776 lay towards the centre of the settlement area and provide evidence of its potential complexity (Figs 5 and 6). Across the three trenches 13 ditches, four gullies, two pits, two postholes and a furrow were investigated. Despite the number of features, few stratigraphic relationships were evident with only one instance of intercutting, perhaps suggesting boundaries were cleaned out or shifted during the lifespan of the settlement.
- 5.4.8 Trench 1766 contained the largest number of features with ten ditches identified and investigated (Fig. 6). Nine of the ditches crossed the trench from north-east to south-west (176603–13 and 176615–22), with one following a north-west to south-east alignment (176617). All ten of the ditches contained finds; the total assemblage weighed approximately 4.5 kg and was predominately Romano-British pottery (132 sherds, 2.3 kg) and animal bone (1.8 kg), with smaller amounts of fired clay, marine shell and a single iron nail. The pottery dates from across the Romano-British period, with a focus towards the earlier part of the period. The ditches generally had straight sided, flat-bottomed profiles and were of similar size, and ranged between 0.7–1.3 m wide and 0.16–1 m deep. Only one feature exceeded this width; ditch 176622 towards the south of the trench, which was 2.7 m wide and 0.7 m deep. In the north of the trench, ditch 176607 had re-cut ditch 176609 on its northern edge and a third slightly deeper ditch (176605; Fig. 17) lay immediately to the north; the close spatial association of these ditches and the stratigraphic relationship between the two may indicate the boundary shifted to the north over time. The ditches largely accord well with geophysical anomalies and eight showed good correlations, while two had no corresponding feature.
- 5.4.9 Approximately 55 m to the west, trench 1768 contained seven features (Figs 5–6). At the southern end of the trench two ditches (176803 and 176819) lay at broad right angles and probably formed part of a small enclosure, 16 m by 13 m, defined by the geophysical survey. Although only partially exposed at the southern end of the trench, ditch 176819 (1.2 m wide and 0.55 m deep) was aligned north-east to south-west and contained animal bone, mid-late Romano-British pottery and a small amount of shell. Ditch 176803 (Fig. 18), orientated north-west to south-east, formed the eastern side of the possible enclosure. In contrast to ditch 176819 its full profile was exposed and measured 3 m wide and 0.6 m deep; it contained a dark charcoal-rich fill and large amounts of stone had been backfilled into the top of the ditch. The stone seemed to have been dumped into the ditch from its eastern side. In this regard, two pits located 9 m to the north-east are perhaps significant. Pit 176811 was the earlier feature and had been re-cut by a deeper conical pit 176808 (Fig. 19). On the upper edge of the later pit was a linear arrangement of stones, each set on edge. Although unclear, given their limited exposure, the stones in pit 176808 may represent a wall foundation and the deeper conical part of the pit could indicate a posthole within the wall. If these features were parts of a structure, it is possible that the stone dumped into the upper parts of ditch 176803 was related to its demolition and abandonment.



- 5.4.10 Other features in the trench comprised two east–west aligned gullies (176813 and 176815) and a posthole (176817; Fig. 20). The northernmost gully (176813; 0.5 m wide and 0.25 m deep) contained a small amount of early Romano-British pottery.
- 5.4.11 Trench 1776 lay to the south of the central area of the settlement and contained two north–south aligned ditches (177603 and 177605), a parallel gully (177607), a posthole (177609) and a furrow (177611; Fig. 6). Both the ditches and gully correlate exactly with geophysical anomalies, forming parts of enclosure or boundary features. The westerly ditch (177603; 1.4 m wide and 0.7 m deep) was the larger of the two; it had a steep sided, concave profile and contained mid–late Romano-British pottery, ceramic building material (CBM) and animal bone. No finds came from either the ditch (177605) or gully (177607). The small, undated posthole (177609; 0.3 m diameter and 0.15 m deep), lay 7 m to the east of gully 177607, in a somewhat isolated position. Although no other features were identified within the trench the geophysical survey indicates further enclosures and ditches may be present to the east.
- 5.4.12 Towards the south-western edge of the settlement parts of a smaller enclosure, possibly with a curved north-western end, were recorded in trench 1771 (Fig. 5). The trench contained two ditches (177103 and 177109) and a rectangular pit (177106). The easterly of the ditches (177109; over 1 m wide) was partially exposed in the trench; it had steeply sloping sides and a concave base and was up to 0.65 m deep, with animal bone and mid–late Romano-British pottery collected from its two fills. The second ditch (177103; 1.8 m wide and 0.35 m deep) was aligned NNE–SSW and produced animal bone and negligible amounts of pottery and fired clay. Both ditches appeared to correspond with an enclosure detected in the geophysical data, forming its curved north-western end, and both ditches continued to the south-east – although a gap was indicated along the eastern side. A sub-rectangular pit (177106; 1 m long, 0.8 m wide and 0.5 m deep), was positioned almost centrally between the two ditches. Its two fills, both dark charcoal flecked deposits, suggested backfilling with waste materials that included large, fresh, sherds of mid–late Romano-British pottery (18 sherds, 1.6 kg) and animal bone.
- 5.4.13 The geophysical survey indicated a second, smaller area of enclosures towards the northern edge of Field 99, investigated in trench 1764 (Figs 3 and 5). Crossing the north-east end of the trench was a NNW–SSE aligned ditch (176405: 0.95 m wide and 0.5 m deep; Fig. 21) that had been re-cut along its western side by ditch 176407. The later ditch was 2.3 m wide and 0.8 m deep and had a stepped western edge; animal bone and early Romano-British pottery were recovered from its fill. Both ditches were subsequently truncated by a furrow (176403) and a land drain. Towards the south-western end of the trench ditch 176410 corresponds to a broadly linear geophysical anomaly; it had a U-shaped profile (0.5 m wide and 0.3 m deep), and was smaller than those to the north-east, but probably forms an additional element of the enclosure complex.
- 5.4.14 To the north and north-east, and widely spaced across trenches 1762, 1763, 1772, 1775 and 1777, were ditches and gullies that form part of a probable field system. Evident in the geophysical data, this extended beyond the settlement in Field 99 (Figs 3, 6 and 7). The ditches and gullies were orientated either north-west to south-east or north-east to south-west, and those in trenches 1762 and 1763 (176203 and 176303) correlated with boundaries identified by the geophysical survey. In contrast, those in trenches 1772 and 1775 (177203 and 177503) had no corresponding geophysical anomalies, but their spatial arrangement suggests they form parts of the extended field system. A fifth possible field boundary (gully 177703) crossed trench 1777, approximately 90 m to the east of gully 177503, and although it had no corresponding geophysical feature could also be related to the field system. Generally, the ditches and gullies had moderate, concave profiles that

varied from 0.55–1.6 m wide and 0.25–0.65 m deep; only ditch 176203 contained finds, a small collection of early Romano-British pottery (three sherds, 13 g).

5.5 Field 107

- 5.5.1 Within Field 107 archaeological features were limited to two gullies. This scarcity supports the results of earlier non-intrusive surveys which had identified former ridge and furrow cultivation and possible plough headlands, as well as ferrous, undetermined and natural geophysical anomalies (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023).
- 5.5.2 Both gullies were undated and north-west to south-east aligned, spaced 120 m apart (Figs 3 and 8). The northernmost (178003; 0.75 m wide and 0.4 m deep; Fig. 22) crossed the centre of trench 1780. It contained a dark greyish brown clay, which produced no finds. The second gully (179203; 0.75 m wide and 0.35 m deep; Fig. 8), was investigated in trench 1792 and also contained no artefacts. Both follow the orientation of ridge and furrow identified by the geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023), and it seems likely that the gullies are related to former cultivation.
- 5.5.3 An unexcavated, broadly east–west, feature in trench 1781 (unnumbered on plan; Fig. 9) lies close to the course of a curvilinear anomaly identified in the geophysical survey. The feature (1.32 m wide) also broadly correlates with a path depicted on 19th-century historic mapping and it is possible that surveyed feature relates to either the course of the path or geophysical anomaly.

5.6 Field 108

- 5.6.1 An undated enclosure, recorded in the Lincolnshire HER (MLI53953), was identified by both the geophysical, air photo and LiDAR surveys in the south-west corner of Field 108 (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023). Elsewhere in the field, plough headlands and ridge and furrow were mapped from cropmarks, while undetermined, ferrous and natural anomalies were apparent in the geophysical data.
- 5.6.2 The undated enclosure was investigated towards the southern end of trench 1805; a ditch, wall foundation and a demolition deposit correspond with the previously mapped features (Figs 3 and 10). Ditch 180505 lay on the north-eastern side of this group of features; broadly aligned north–south it had a moderate concave profile (2.9 m wide and 0.4 m deep Fig. 23). No finds came from its fill, although pieces of wood were apparent close to its base and probably represent roots or fallen branches/twigs. Environmental samples from the fill contained further waterlogged plant remains, including fragments of wood and seeds of nettle and birch. Immediately adjacent to its southern edge was a linear wall foundation (180504; 1 m wide and 0.5 m high; Fig. 24). The dry-stone wall foundations, set within a wider construction cut (180503), comprised three courses of roughly hewn limestone (maximum 0.4 m long, 0.2 m wide and 0.15 m thick) above clay and sand, which may have formed a bedding layer. The exact relationship between the ditch and wall is somewhat uncertain but they appeared to be contemporary. Demolition rubble (180507), presumably from the wall, filled the upper part of the ditch and extended approximately 1.8 m to the south of wall 180504, suggesting the ditch was open whilst the wall was in use. Both may have fallen out of use at the same time, with rubble from the wall becoming incorporated in the ditch fill. Artefacts collected from the demolition rubble comprised animal bone, fragments of modern glass bottles, post-medieval CBM, as well as various pieces of iron (nails, wire and an object).
- 5.6.3 Close to the south-eastern corner of the field an ENE–WSW aligned ditch (180404; 30 m long, 1.64 m wide and 0.8 m deep; Fig. 9) crossed the eastern side of trench 1804. It was



only partially exposed within the trench and had wide profile with moderately sloping, concave sides. No finds were recovered. It broadly corresponds with the overall alignment of ridge and furrow recorded on air photos (Deegan 2023), but its depth (0.8 m) may preclude this interpretation.

- 5.6.4 Evidence of ridge and furrow was recorded towards the western side of the field in trenches 1802 and 1805 (Figs 3 and 10). Here, north-west to south-east aligned furrows (averaging 1.8 m wide) were identified; the example in trench 1805 was excavated and had a wide, shallow, concave profile that was 0.1 m deep. Both furrows align with cropmarks mapped during the aerial assessment (Deegan 2023).



6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Finds amounting to 23.5 kg were recovered, by hand during the normal course of excavation and extracted from the residues of environmental samples. The assemblage is predominantly of Romano-British date.
- 6.1.2 With the exception of the metalwork, all the finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type within each context. This data has been recorded using a timestamped digital database, which forms part of the project archive and is summarised by material type and trench in Table 2. Reporting conforms to the ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2, Appraisal; ClfA 2022a), which aims to characterise the finds assemblage, with specific reference to dating where possible.

Table 2 Finds by trench and material type, by count and weight (in grammes)

	Animal bone	CBM	Fired clay	Human bone	Pottery	Other finds	Total
Trench	No./Wt.	No./Wt.	No./Wt.	No./Wt.	No./Wt.	No./Wt.	No./Wt.
1762	-	-	-	-	4/15	-	4/15
1764	18/614	-	4/6	-	17/126	-	39/746
1765	17/754	-	-	-	1/15	-	18/769
1766	262/1842	-	17/311	-	132/2309	1/9 iron, 2/28 shell	414/4499
1767	46/1356	-	-	-	70/2113	1/260 stone	117/3729
1768	314/3901	7/724	3/28	-	162/2347	2/32 iron, 1/25 slag, 13/133 shell	502/7190
1769	-	-	-	-	4/31	-	4/31
1770	48/353	1/63	7/341	2/34	45/493	-	103/1284
1771	168/1659	-	1/4	-	39/2031	-	208/3694
1776	26/211	2/617	-	-	12/283	1/9 slag	41/1120
1805	9/3	8/37	-	-	1/42	12/232 glass, 36/139 iron	66/453
Total	908/10,693	18/1441	32/690	2/34	487/9805	12/232 glass, 38/180 iron, 2/34 slag, 15/161 shell, 1/260 stone	1516/23,503

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The pottery provides the primary dating evidence for this area of the principal site and includes material of Romano-British and medieval date. The assemblage was recovered from 40 contexts in 32 features/layers in 11 of the excavated trenches, with the largest quantities from trenches 1766–1768 and 1771 (Field 99). The features consisted of 21 ditches, four gullies, three pits, two furrows as well as two topsoil deposits.
- 6.2.2 The majority of the sherds survive in a crisp, fresh condition, enabling refits to be made. Sherds showing significant abrasion were limited to just two fragments found within furrow 176403. The mean sherd weight is 20 g. Sixty-one rim sherds (joining rims within a single context were counted as one) were recognised with an estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) of 7.52 vessels.



6.2.3 The sherds from each context were divided into fabric groups using the systems developed by Darling and Precious (2014) and Young *et al.* (2005), and were quantified by number and the weight of pieces. Where possible, detail of the vessel form and other diagnostic features have been noted and a spot date for each context has been assigned. All data was recorded in the project's timestamped digital database. A breakdown of the fabrics is shown in Table 3. The level of recording is consistent with the 'basic record' advocated for the rapid characterisation of pottery assemblages (Barclay *et al.* 2016, section 2.4.5).

Table 3 Pottery totals and ware types

Period	Material	Ware code	No.	No. %	Wt. (g)	Wt. %
Romano-British	Central Gaulish samian	LEZ SA	1	0.2	5	0.0
	Central Gaulish black-slipped ware	MOSL	30	6.1	88	0.8
	Nene Valley-type colour-coated ware	LVCC	17	3.4	398	4.0
	Swanpool colour-coated ware	SPCC	5	1.0	36	0.3
	South Carlton creamware	CR	6	1.2	57	0.5
	Swanpool oxidised ware	SPOX	2	0.4	21	0.2
	Swanpool mortaria	MOSP	4	0.8	245	2.4
	Greyware	GREY	207	42.5	5539	56.4
	Grey-burnished ware	GREYB	3	0.6	41	0.4
	Nene Valley greyware	NVGW	1	0.2	15	0.1
	Dales-type greyware	DWGR	12	2.4	295	3.0
	Dales-type ware	DWSH	8	1.6	67	0.6
	Fine shell-tempered ware	SHELF	30	6.1	425	4.3
	Shell-tempered ware	SHEL	131	26.8	2275	23.2
	Leached shell-tempered ware	SHELL	3	0.6	17	0.1
	Bourne Greetham ware	BOG SH	1	0.2	17	0.1
	Grog-tempered ware	GROG	13	2.6	93	0.9
	Sandy ware	SW	3	0.6	6	0.0
	Oxidised ware	OX	6	1.2	74	0.7
	Black Burnished ware	BB1	4	0.8	54	0.5
Medieval	Toynton All Saints glazed ware	TOY	1	0.2	42	0.4
Total			487	-	9805	-

Romano-British pottery

6.2.4 The Romano-British assemblage consists of forms and fabrics common in this area throughout the Roman period (1st to 4th centuries AD). It is dominated by utilitarian coarsewares in a range of greyware and shell-tempered fabrics, with a smattering of Continental imports, table wares and specialist wares from recognised industries in the region and beyond.

Early Romano-British

- 6.2.5 The earliest group of pottery of 1st to early 2nd century AD date derives from ditches 176203, 176407, 176605, 176615, 176617 and 176622, and gullies 176609 and 176813 (all in Field 99), with contemporary residual sherds also occurring in furrow 176403. These early sherds include pieces from the body of a decorated butt-beaker in a sandy fabric (gully 176609). This vessel has similarities, both in fabric and decoration, to a beaker from Dragonby (Gregory and Elsdon 1996, fig 19.61. no. 752).
- 6.2.6 The coarseware of this period are dominated by shell-tempered wares. Three variants are included, containing fine crushed shell, coarse shell and a leached-out variety. This latter fabric is represented by just three sherds (furrow 176403, ditches 176203 and 177003), so the leaching may have been caused by localised soil conditions. The early Romano-British vessel forms present within these fabrics include bead and everted rim jars, while a body sherd from a carinated bowl like examples from Dragonby and Sleaford (Gregory and Elsdon 1996, fig. 19.61. no. 755; Elsdon 1997, fig 62. no. 148) indicates the use of these wares for bowls too. Other pieces of note include conjoining sherds from a cooking pot with an angular, almost beaded rim, heavily undercut internally (Precious 2014a, fig 70, 692) found in ditches 176609 and 176615, and pedestal bases from jar-type vessels of a style encountered at Sleaford (Elsdon 1997, fig. 56 and 58), Dragonby (Gregory and Elsdon 1996, figs. 19.27 and 19.28) and Saltersford (Elsdon 1993, 29 and fig. C16) which were found in ditches 176615 and 176622.
- 6.2.7 Other diagnostic sherds from these features include a rim from a shallow greyware dish with an inturned rim, based on a Gallo-Belgic form (Precious 2014b, fig 129, 1326) found within ditch 176605. A greyware body sherd and the ring base from a grog-tempered vessel from this feature both conjoin other vessel fragments found in ditch 176615, suggesting deposition at more or less the same time.

Middle Romano-British

- 6.2.8 No features belonging within this period were identified, but a limited number of late 2nd century AD sherds were encountered residually within ditch 176803 (Field 99), highlighting the possibility that others occur among the less chronologically diagnostic greyware and oxidised ware sherds from this feature (and in the rest of the assemblage). These late 2nd century AD sherds comprise part of a Central Gaulish samian cup base (foot-ring missing) and body sherds from a South Carlton cream ware vessel.

Late Romano-British

- 6.2.9 Pottery assemblages of late 3rd to 4th century AD date were encountered within 14 ditches (176603, 176619, 176703, 176705, 176707, 176803, 176808, 176819, 177003, 177006, 177103, 177106, 177109 and 177603), and a single gully (177010; all in Field 99).
- 6.2.10 A limited number of both imported and local finewares are present within the late Romano-British assemblage. Sherds from a single Central Gaulish black-slipped ware folded beaker were found in three deposits within ditch 177006. The other finewares (Table 3) are dominated by regional Nene Valley-type wares (Precious and Rigby 2014, 31–38), including sherds from straight-sided dishes (ditches 176703 and 177003) and jugs (ditches 176619 and 176705), along with two base fragments discoloured by contact with a heat source (ditches 176703 and 176803). A local Swanpool red colour-coated beaded-and-flanged bowl and sherds from a number of other vessels from this centre in Lincoln were found in ditch 176803.

- 6.2.11 The specialist wares also include Swanpool products. These include a rim from a hammer-headed/bead-and-flange mortaria of late Roman date (Precious *et al.* 2014, fig 148, 574) found in the topsoil of trench 1771, as well as fragments from several other mortaria (ditches 176703, 176803 and 177006). Some of the oxidised wares, which mainly consist of local products, may also derive from the Swanpool kilns. The few diagnostic sherds from ditches 176703 and 176803 include sherds from a bowl, a straight-sided dish, a thin strap handle probably from a jug and a heat affected jar rim.
- 6.2.12 The greywares constitute 42% of the total Romano-British assemblage. Diagnostic forms (Precious 2014b, 121–59) include a number of bowls including a substantial part of a deep beaded-and-flanged bowl (ditch 176703), wide-mouthed forms with triangular rims (ditch 176803), and a bifurcated type from ditch 177106. A small number of dish forms include a triangular flat-rimmed dish (ditch 176705), and a bead-and-flanged type from ditch 176819. Everted rims from either jars or bowls, a beaker rim and the majority part of a heat affected cheese press (ditch 176803) were also recovered.
- 6.2.13 The three sherds from grey burnished vessels consist of an everted rim and an additional body sherd from jar forms (ditch 176705), and a rim from a lid-seated jar from ditch 177109. Ditch 177006 contained a single fragment from a beaded-and-flanged Nene Valley greyware bowl of late 3rd to early 4th century AD date (Howe *et al.* 1981, fig. 2, 21).
- 6.2.14 The small number of Dales-type greywares from the Trent Valley industry (Field and Palmer-Brown 1991, 40–56), include a hooked-lip everted rim jar sherd (ditch 176803), a lid-seated cooking pot rim (ditch 177109), and a lid-seated everted rim with a cordon on the shoulder, from the fills of ditch 176808. This vessel is like one from the Lea kiln, south of Gainsborough (*ibid.*, fig. 16, 30).
- 6.2.15 The use of shell as a tempering agent in this area continued into the late Romano-British period; in this assemblage, only 8% (by sherd count) of the shell-tempered wares could be attributed to this period. These include a small number of ‘classic’ Dales-type cooking pot sherds (from ditches 176705, 176707 and 177109) of types usually associated with products of the mid–late 4th century AD kilns in North Lincolnshire (Loughlin 1977, 85–148; Darling 2009, 37–55). These copied late Trent Valley greyware and North Lincolnshire Dales-type cooking pots and jar forms. Only one body sherd (ditch 177109), could be attributed to the Bourne-Greetham shelly fabric made in southern Lincolnshire/Rutland (Precious 2014a, 94).
- 6.2.16 The Black-Burnished wares are mainly products from the Lincoln (Precious 2014b, 112–115) or South Yorkshire (Buckland *et al.* 2001) industries. The vessel fragments from the late 3rd and 4th century AD contexts comprise pieces from two beaded-and-flanged bowls (ditches 176819 and 177003), and an undiagnostic body sherd from ditch 176619. A further body sherd from ditch 176803, possibly from a bowl/dish, is a product of the Wareham/Poole Harbour region of Dorset (Williams 1977, 163–220).

Medieval

- 6.2.17 A single rim sherd from a Toynton-All-Saints glazed jug of mid-14th to late 15th century AD date (Young *et al.* 2005, 174–5) was recovered from the topsoil of trench 1805.

6.3 Iron

- 6.3.1 The iron items (Table 2) were derived from just three deposits. The assemblage includes 14 nails and nail fragments, all of a standard form with round, flat heads and a square-sectioned shanks. These came from ditches 176615 and 176803 (Field 99), as well as

demolition deposit 180507 (11 nails; Field 108). Fourteen pieces of twisted wire probably from a fence, and a single looped fragment were also recovered from this layer, where associated finds suggest a modern date.

6.4 Slag

6.4.1 Two fragments of ironworking slag came from ditches 176803 and 177603 in two adjacent trenches in Field 99. The fragments are not intrinsically datable, and no other finds were recovered from ditch 176803; those from ditch 177603, however, are of 2nd to 4th century AD date.

6.5 Fired clay

6.5.1 The fired clay came from five trenches in Field 99 (Table 2). Two broad fabrics are represented, one with shelly/calcareous inclusions and the other a finer, more silty, slightly sandy, micaceous fabric. With the exception of fragments from ditches 176803 and 177003, which are highly fired/vitrified and probably derived from the linings of ovens, hearths or kilns, the rest of the pieces are featureless, with no indications of their function or date surviving.

6.6 Building materials

6.6.1 A small group of building materials, comprising 18 fragments of ceramic building material and one of stone, was derived from five trenches (Table 2). Ten of the ceramic fragments are of Romano-British date and their presence hints at substantial building in the area. The pieces include flanged (*tegula*) and curved (*imbrex*) roof tile as well as brick fragments predominantly used in the construction of underfloor heating systems and as lacing or bonding courses in walls. This group was recovered from trenches 1768, 1770 and 1776 in Field 99. A flat, fine-grained sandstone fragment found alongside 2nd to 4th century AD pottery and animal bone in ditch 176703 may derive from a polygonal roof tile, although no obvious signs of working survive.

6.6.2 Eight small pieces (37 g) from ceramic roof tiles of post-medieval/modern date were also recovered from demolition deposit 180507.

6.7 Glass

6.7.1 Glass fragments were only recovered from demolition deposit 180507 (Field 108). The most diagnostic pieces derive from a dark green cylindrical wine bottle and the base of a pale green/blue pharmaceutical phial, both of late 18th or 19th century AD date. Two other pieces occur in green (probably from a bottle) and blue glass.

6.8 Human bone

6.8.1 Two joining fragments of human skull were recovered amongst the animal bone from the upper fill (177007) of ditch 177006, which lay towards the western edge of the settlement complex in Field 99. Ceramics recovered from the feature indicate a mid-late Romano-British date for the deposit.

6.8.2 The bone is in good condition (Grade 1–2), the slight level of surface erosion a probable artefact of the sandy clay (acidic) soil matrix. The skeletal element comprises most of the left temporal bone of an adult male; the break between the joining fragments is fresh, but the upper broken margins of the missing squamous part comprise old, dry bone breaks with slightly worn edges. The element might have been complete when deposited and damaged in deposition, but the condition of the bone suggests it has not been subject to repeated episodes of redeposition.



- 6.8.3 The sex of the individual is indicated by the large, rounded mastoid process. The presence of a small – 15 x 6 mm area – of slight pitting on the lateral side of the articular tubercle suggests the individual had the initial stages of temporo-mandibular osteoarthritis. The presence of this progressive, largely age-related disease suggests the individual was at least >35 years of age.
- 6.8.4 No indication of graves or disturbed burial deposits were noted in the archaeological investigations, though the possibility of funerary activity in the area cannot be dismissed. Alternatively, the cranial element could have been redeposited having formerly been subject to curation. The latter activity, particularly involving all or parts of human skulls, formed a relatively common – thought not fully explored or understood – feature at various stages in prehistory and, to a slightly lesser extent, in the Romano-British period (e.g., deposits from various of the Lincolnshire sites within the Hornsea off-shore investigations; McKinley 2021). Fragments of human cranium were recovered in similar circumstances from the fill of ditch 62111, some 1.7 km to the south-west (Wessex Archaeology 2023c), and further deposits of this nature are likely to exist within the area of investigation.

6.9 Animal bone

- 6.9.1 A total of 908 fragments (10.693 kg) of animal bone was recovered from features of Romano-British and modern date. Once refits and associated bone groups (or ABGs) are considered the total is reduced to 397 fragments. The assemblage includes both hand-recovered and sieved material; all have been rapidly scanned and assessed following current guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019).

Results

- 6.9.2 The bones survive in good condition, although a few show slight evidence of physical weathering. These are mostly from ditch fills which suggests a background of residuality within this feature type. Canid gnaw marks are present on 4% of post-cranial bones, more extensive rates of damage have previously been recorded on bones from other areas of the proposed scheme. The extent of damage on some bones has resulted in a loss of detailed information, but has not prevented identification to species.

Table 4 Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP)

Species	Romano-British	Early Romano-British	Mid-late Romano-British	Post-medieval/modern and undated	Total
Cattle	11	10	52	2	75
Sheep/goat	1	16	24	1	42
Pig	-	3	10	-	13
Horse	1	3*	6	-	10
Dog	-	1	4*	-	5
Rabbit	-	-	-	1	1
Domestic fowl	-	-	1	-	1
Crow/rook	-	-	1	-	1
?woodcock	-	-	-	3	3
Small mammal	-	-	1	-	1
Amphibian	-	-	2	-	2
Total identified	13	33	101	4	154
Total unidentifiable	9	72	158	4	243
Overall total	22	105	259	11	397

Note counts adjusted to take account of ABGs, counted once.



Romano-British

- 6.9.3 Most of the animal bones came from features of mid-late Romano-British date, with small quantities from broadly dated and earlier contexts (Table 4). The single largest concentration of bones came from ditch 176803, with slightly smaller, but no less significant quantities from ditches 176505 and 176703, all located in Field 99.
- 6.9.4 Bones from livestock species predominate and the basic pattern of relative importance is the same as recorded for Romano-British contexts in other parts of the principal site, which indicates a local emphasis on cattle-farming. The overall number of bones from early and later parts of the sequence are insufficient to establish if the focus of livestock husbandry shifted over time, but this is a general trend that has been noted in the wider region (Allen 2017).
- 6.9.5 The broad range of skeletal elements from both main livestock, cattle and sheep/goat, indicates that these animals were slaughtered and butchered nearby, and the meat distributed for local consumption. All of the large group of bones, including those from mid-late Romano-British ditch 176803, are mixed deposits of waste from different stages in the carcass reduction sequence, from primary butchery through to consumption (O'Connor 1993). The bones deposited in ditch 176803 include the fragmented skulls of two cattle, one a juvenile and the other an adult, three mandibles, all from different animals, as well as several post-cranial bones.
- 6.9.6 Butchery marks, mostly chop marks resulting from primary and secondary butchery, are mostly evident on cattle bones because of the larger size of the carcass, while few were noted on the bones of sheep/goat and pigs. No evidence for specialist techniques (e.g., curing) was noted and there is limited evidence the bones were processed for marrow. Several parallel knife cuts were recorded across the dorsal surface of a sheep/goat atlas vertebra and result from detaching the head from the rest of the carcass.
- 6.9.7 Disarticulated horse bones and loose teeth were recovered from several ditches and an ABG came from early Romano-British ditch 176407. The latter comprises the lower, left hindquarter of a pony-sized adult animal. Several parallel cut marks from skinning, were noted on the anterior and lateral aspects of the distal shaft. The main elements are complete and can be measured to establish shoulder height.
- 6.9.8 Several disarticulated dog bones were also recovered from ditches, as well as an ABG, the latter from mid-late Romano-British ditch 176803. The bones are from a juvenile animal and comprise two vertebrae and several bones from the hindquarters, including both sides of the pelvis. Also of note is a partial dog skull from early Romano-British ditch 176615, which has a pronounced sagittal crest indicating an animal with powerful jaw muscles.
- 6.9.9 Single bones from a domestic fowl and a crow (or rook) were also found, together with a few amphibian and small mammal bones, the latter retrieved from sample residues.

Post-medieval/modern and undated

- 6.9.10 A few fragments of bone came from post-medieval/modern demolition deposit 180507. The identified elements comprise a rabbit metapodial and three bones from a wading bird, most probably a woodcock. A few bones were also recovered from the terminal of undated gully 177010, these include fragments of sheep/goat and cattle metapodials and a cattle tooth.



6.10 Marine shell

- 6.10.1 Eight near-complete oyster shells and seven fragments were recovered from mid-late Romano-British ditches 176611, 176619, 176803 and 176819, as well as pit 176808 (Field 99). The eight near-complete examples, consisting of four left and four right valves, provide good evidence for the disposal of domestic food waste.
- 6.10.2 The shape of all the left valves suggests that they were recovered from a firm seabed in deep water. Scars associated with marine invertebrates that attack oysters were noted on three of the shells – a left valve from ditch 176803 and an incomplete right valve from ditch 176819 – both have *Polydora ciliate* infestations, while a left valve from pit 176808 has *Cliona celata*.

6.11 Conservation

- 6.11.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field, but subsequent examination has identified the iron objects as being of a potentially unstable material type in need of further conservation treatment. Consequently, these objects are stored with supportive packaging and a desiccant (silica gel) to ensure a dry environment below 35% relative humidity, and condition is frequently monitored. All the objects have been x-radiographed as part of this assessment as an aid to identification and to provide a permanent archive record, but no further conservation is considered necessary.

6.12 Conclusion

- 6.12.1 The assessment results indicate that artefacts of all material types survive in good condition, albeit often in a highly fragmented state, across this area of the principal site. Therefore, any further archaeological mitigation therefore has the potential to provide a larger and more informative assemblage. A fairly broad range of material culture was recovered, but only the animal bone, pottery and ceramic building material were recovered in any appreciable quantity.
- 6.12.2 The pottery has provided the primary dating evidence and has been used in conjunction with the other chronologically diagnostic material types (glass and ceramic building material), to establish a chronological framework for the site through the spot-dating of contexts. The assemblage is predominantly of Romano-British date and represents occupation waste from a nearby/adjacent settlement. Its composition is comparable with the other Romano-British assemblages recovered from other areas of the principal site (Wessex Archaeology 2023b–d) and other contemporary sites in the region. As such, it has the potential to provide further insights into the local, regional and continental trade and exchange networks operating within the area and the ways in which pottery was used by the community. The single medieval sherd is potentially indicative of the manuring of agricultural fields with domestic waste.
- 6.12.3 The ceramic building material is consistent with a substantial Romano-British building lying beyond the limits of the current area of investigation. The animal bone provides evidence of animal husbandry and, together with the marine oyster shells, the food resources consumed. The other material types provide limited evidence for lifestyle and other activities conducted by the inhabitants of the local settlement(s) and the potentially curated fragments of human skull are of particular interest in the regard. Such curation is a relatively common – although not fully explored or understood feature – at various times during prehistory and, to a slightly lesser extent, in the Romano-British period. Overall, however, the further research potential of other material types is limited by the small quantities recovered, but this may change when they are considered alongside the larger assemblage from the wider

principal site, especially if this is further augmented by additional material recovered during any archaeological mitigation works.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Seven bulk sediment samples were taken from ditches, a gully and a pit and were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence. One sample from a potentially waterlogged (anoxic) deposit was examined for uncharred plant remains, wood and insects.

7.2 Aims and methods

7.2.1 The aim of this assessment is to determine the nature and significance of the environmental remains preserved in this part of the principal site and their potential to address the project aims. This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Historic England's guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 10 and 40 litres, with an average volume of approximately 28 litres. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank; the flots retained on a 0.25 mm mesh and the residue on a 1 mm mesh. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The fine residue fractions and the flots were scanned and sorted using a Leica MS5 stereomicroscope at magnifications of up to x40.

7.2.3 Different potential indicators of bioturbation were considered, including the percentage of roots and the abundance of other material including modern seeds, mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g., *Cenococcum geophilum*), animal remains, such as burrowing blind snails (*Cecilioides acicula*), or earthworm eggs and modern insects.

7.2.4 Plant remains were identified through comparison with modern reference material held by Wessex Archaeology and relevant literature (e.g., Cappers *et al.* 2006). The volume of wood charcoal (>2 mm) in the flots was estimated. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for wild taxa and Zohary *et al.* (2012) for cereals and other cultivated crops (using traditional names).

7.2.5 Mollusc nomenclature follows Anderson (2005), identification and habitat classifications follow Kerney (1999).

7.2.6 All remains were recorded semi-quantitatively on an abundance scale: C = <5 ('Trace'), B = 5–10 ('Rare'), A = 10–30 ('Occasional'), A* = 30–100 ('Common'), A** = 100–500 ('Abundant'), A*** = >500 ('Very abundant'/Exceptional').

7.3 Results

7.3.1 The results are presented in Appendix 2. The flots are of variable volumes. Potential indicators of bioturbation are present in high quantities and consist of modern roots, modern seeds, modern insects, earthworm eggs, modern cereal crop chaff and soil fungal sclerotia, suggesting the possibility of contamination from later intrusive material.

7.3.2 Environmental evidence comprises plant remains preserved by charring and one sample contains waterlogged material (wood fragments and uncharred seeds). Wood charcoal is present in generally small quantities and is mineral coated in some samples. Also present



are terrestrial and freshwater molluscs, small animal bones and amorphous fragments of animal bone. Highly fragmented coal, and small fragments of clinker/cinder are present in small numbers.

- 7.3.3 Charred plant remains are generally sparse and consist of both cereal remains and wild/weed taxa, of broadly similar compositions. Ditch 176803 (Field 99) produced the highest number of cereal remains: these consist of occasional wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains, barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and indeterminate cereal (Triticeae) grains, and rare chaff fragments identifiable as spelt/emmer wheat (*Triticum spelta/diccocum*), or spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). Cereal remains present in the other samples consist only of small numbers of poorly-preserved wheat grains or indeterminate cereal grain fragments. Tubers/rhizomes are present in most of the samples, alongside seeds of other wild/weed taxa including wild grasses (Poaceae) including heath-grass (*Danthonia decumbens*), small-seeded vetches (Viciae), cleavers (*Galium* sp.), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), and small fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell. Ditch 177603 also contains large numbers of freshwater molluscs, in particular, the marsh-loving species *Anisus leucostoma*.
- 7.3.4 The waterlogged remains from ditch 180505 (Field 108) are particularly well-preserved and consist predominantly of fragments of uncharred wood and the seeds of common nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Also present in small numbers are seeds of birch (*Betula* sp.), water-crowfoots (*Ranunculus* subg. *Batrachium*), sedges (Cyperaceae) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.).

7.4 Conclusions

- 7.4.1 This assessment indicates that features in this part of the principal site area have some potential for the preservation of environmental evidence, in particular charred plant remains. The presence of large numbers of freshwater molluscs (e.g., marsh-loving species *Anisus leucostoma* in ditch 177603) indicates the likelihood of periods of standing water. However, the mineral coating on some of the wood charcoal is indicative of fluctuations in the water levels. On the whole, this evidence suggests seasonal periods of wetting/drying which is consistent with the local floodplain soils and a high water table, which could be detrimental for the preservation of organic evidence.
- 7.4.2 The presence of cereal grains and chaff are probably the result of domestic settlement activities, and the spelt wheat from Romano-British ditch 176803 is consistent with wider trends during this period – spelt wheat was the main crop cultivated in this period (Lodwick 2017).
- 7.4.3 Some of the wild taxa recorded, such as heath grass alongside tubers/rhizomes, could be associated with heath grassland, as has been suggested for other areas of the principal site (Wessex Archaeology 2023b; 2023c).
- 7.4.4 The preservation condition of the waterlogged remains in ditch 180505, including particularly delicate seeds such as birch and common nettle, suggests that this deposit is modern, and that the plant remains could derive from a recent hedgerow.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Discussion

- 8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation has been successful in its stated aims and has provided information about the archaeological potential of this part of the principal site. The results of the evaluation help to refine the understanding of the presence, nature and distribution of archaeological features across Fields 88, 99, 107 and 108.



- 8.1.2 During the Romano-British period a large settlement was established in Field 99. The settlement covers approximately 2 ha and comprises a series of ditched curvilinear and rectilinear enclosures which contain gullies, pits, postholes and a possible wall. Beyond the settlement a contemporary field system was also evident. Datable materials indicate the settlement was probably established during the mid-1st to early 2nd centuries AD, with activity continuing into the 3rd to 4th centuries AD. Earlier Romano-British pottery was most common in trench 1766, towards the eastern, central, side of the settlement. Here, two ditches (176609 and 176615) produced the largest assemblages (total 1.7 kg) which includes large fresh sherds; joining fragments were noted between the two ditch sections (15 m apart), potentially implying their concurrent use and backfilling. Smaller amounts of contemporary pottery from other ditches, as well as their common alignments, suggests further activity in the immediate area. Additional earlier Romano-British pottery came from more distant ditches (trenches 1762 and 1764) but was generally in smaller quantities, and while these features may date to the mid-1st to early 2nd centuries a later date also seems possible.
- 8.1.3 As with other settlement complexes investigated across the principal site (Wessex Archaeology 2023b–c) the main period of Romano-British activity in Field 99 occurred during the 3rd to 4th centuries AD. Larger ditches in trenches 1767 and 1770 probably represent a boundary ditch at the northern and western sides of the settlement. Rectilinear and curvilinear enclosures also appear to have been established within the settlement; these included both smaller cell-like compounds (trench 1768) and larger enclosures (trench 1765), while possible curved enclosures were added to both the north and south (trenches 1767 and 1771). Aside from the enclosures, possible structural remains were indicated by a tentative stone wall and demolition rubble (trench 1768), postholes (trenches 1768 and 1776) and fragments roof tile (CBM and stone), as well as brick. Dumps of large, fresh sherds of pottery, butchered animal bone and dark charcoal-enriched fills suggest settlement waste was backfilled into disused features. In addition, the inclusion of two joining pieces of human skull, from the dark upper fill of ditch 177006, may suggest other practices particularly around the curation and redeposition of human bone within the settlement. Similar deposits have been found in other areas of the principal site (trench 621; Field 60), 1.7 km to the south-west, perhaps indicating a commonality of practice (Wessex Archaeology 2023c).
- 8.1.4 Trenching in Field 100, immediately to the south, did not identify the supposed southern enclosure ditch defining this side of the settlement (as indicated by the geophysical survey; see Wessex Archaeology 2023d). This was also the case in Field 99 where a ditch apparently marking the south-west of the settlement, again identified by geophysical survey, had no corresponding archaeological feature (trench 1771).
- 8.1.5 The settlement in Field 99 conforms to the pattern of complex farmsteads seen widely across the Romano-British rural landscape (Allen and Smith 2016). It forms part of a series of settlements towards the north-east of the principal site. These extend over 1.4 km and form a densely spaced group, with each concentration of features separated by 150–350 m. Further work in Fields 62, 86 and 87 will aid our understanding of these settlements, their relationships and relative chronologies.
- 8.1.6 Later activity, related to the historic use of the landscape, was recorded sparsely across all of the fields in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries. Examples were investigated in Field 88, 99 and 108 and in each instance closely parallel geophysical features, cropmarks or boundaries depicted on 19th-century historic maps.

- 8.1.7 The trenching results in Field 108 provide a date for an enclosure, recorded in the Lincolnshire HER (MLI53953), and also identified by the geophysical and aerial imagery surveys. Here, a ditch and dry-stone wall accord well with the enclosure; both seem to be contemporary, with the wall built alongside the western side of the ditch, perhaps acting as a revetment. Fragments of waterlogged wood and seeds typical of damp environments (water-crowfoots and rushes) suggest the ditch contained standing water. Well preserved seeds of common nettle and birch indicate a modern date for the features, which is supported by finds of post-medieval/modern date (glass, iron nails, wire and CBM) collected from the ditch and a demolition deposit. The enclosure is located approximately 750 m to the west of Harpswell Hall and may be associated with the post-medieval house and gardens.
- 8.1.8 Overall, the evaluation has added to our understanding of the geophysical, LiDAR and aerial photography survey results (Magnitude Surveys 2023; Deegan 2023), and demonstrated that the main period of activity represented in this part of the principal site is of Romano-British date. The complex farmstead and field system investigated in Field 99 correlates well with areas defined by the geophysical survey as being of archaeological interest (AAA 3; Magnitude Surveys 2023) and the evaluation has enabled a preliminary understanding of its date and function.
- 8.1.9 Further consideration of the results in relation to local archaeological sequences will be provided in the forthcoming overarching summary report.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

- 9.1.1 A full summary of the physical and digital archive generated by the evaluation, and the recommended selection strategy relating to it, will be included in the forthcoming overarching summary report on the results of the trenching from across the entire site.

9.2 Museum

- 9.2.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield. The Collection Museum, Lincoln has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code LCNCC:2023.32. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

9.3 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 9.3.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by The Collection Museum, Lincoln, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; SMA 1995).
- 9.3.2 All archive elements are marked with the accession code LCNCC:2023.32, and a full index will be prepared.

Digital archive

- 9.3.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs, and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.



9.4 Selection strategy

- 9.4.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.
- 9.4.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (ClfA 2022b). It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 9.4.3 In this instance the selection process will be deferred until after the fieldwork stage is completed. The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 9.4.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

9.5 Security copy

- 9.5.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

9.6 OASIS

- 9.6.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (wessexar1-517568). Following the completion of the trenching and the assessment of the finds and environmental assemblages, a copy of a summary of the OASIS form will be presented as an appendix within the overarching summary report (Wessex Archaeology forthcoming a). A .pdf version of the evaluation report will be submitted following approval by the Historic Environment Officers at LCC on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.



10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1722		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172201		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.45
172202		Natural	Mid-orange grey silty clay, with inclusions of caulk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.45–0.6+

Trench No 1723		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.45 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172301		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.35
172302		Natural	Mid-orange grey silty clay, with inclusions of caulk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.35–0.45+

Trench No 1724		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172401		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.4
172402		Natural	Mid-orange grey silty clay, with inclusions of caulk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.4–0.6+

Trench No 1725		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
172502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1726		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.34



172602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.34+
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Trench No 1727		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172701		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
172702		Natural	Mid-orange grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.3–0.4+

Trench No 1728		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
172802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1729		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
172901		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
172902		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.3–0.4+

Trench No 1730		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173001		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.38
173002		Natural	Mid-orange grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.38–0.5+

Trench No 1731		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31



173102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+
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Trench No 1732		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
173202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1733		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173301		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.32
173302		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.32–0.4+
173303	173304	Hedgerow	Hedgerow Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.29 m. Depth: 0.38 m.	0.32–0.7
173304	173303	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with none	0.32–0.7

Trench No 1734		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
173402		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1735		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
173502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+



Trench No 1736		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.34
173602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.34+

Trench No 1737		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173701		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.2
173702		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.2–0.3+

Trench No 1738		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
173802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1739		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
173901		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
173902		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+
173903		Tree-throw hole	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rooting, infrequent angular stone flakes - poorly sorted	0.33–0.55

Trench No 1740		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174001		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
174002		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.3–0.4+



Trench No 1741		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174101		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.35
174102		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.35–0.4+

Trench No 1742		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
174202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1743		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174301		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
174302		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1744		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
174402		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1745		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
174502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+



Trench No 1746		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
174602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1747		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174701		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.32
174702		Natural	Mid-orangey grey silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.32–0.43+

Trench No 1748		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
174802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1749		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
174901		Topsoil	Greyish-brown. Silty-clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
174902		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1750		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175001		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
175002		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+



Trench No 1751		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
175102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1752		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
175202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1753		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175301		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
175302		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1754		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
175402		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1755		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
175502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+



Trench No 1756		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
175602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1757		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175701		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
175702		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1758		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
175802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1759		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
175901		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
175902		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1760		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176001		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
176002		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+



Trench No 1761		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
176102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1762		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.36
176202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.36+
176203	176204	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, convex sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth: 0.65 m.	0.36–1.01
176204	176203	Secondary fill	Greyish brown silty clay with rare various sizes of rocks	0.36–1.01

Trench No 1763		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176301		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
176302		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.31+
176303	176304	Gully	Linear gully aligned NW–SE with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >0.72 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	0.31–0.61
176304	176303	Secondary fill	Mid-brown grey silty clay with rare sub-angular and angular stones	0.31–0.61

Trench No 1764		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176401		Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with rare fine rooting, rare medium sub-rounded stones. slightly diffuse boundaries.	0.0–0.3



176402		Natural	Dark yellow clay with light blue grey mottling, rare medium sub-angular flint, moderate small rounded chalk, sparse large rounded chalk, sparse streaks of dark yellow sand and root disturbance. Probably glacial till.	0.3+
176403	176404	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned N–S with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.10 m.	0.3–0.4
176404	176403	Secondary fill	Silty clay yellowish brown with very occasional small stones	0.3–0.4
176405	176406	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch aligned N–S with moderate, stepped sides and a concave base. Depth: 0.53 m.	0.3–0.4
176406	176405	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasionally small sized stones. occasionally charcoal flecks	0.5–1.03
176407	176408, 176409	Ditch recut	Curvilinear ditch recut aligned N–S with steep, stepped sides and a concave base. Depth: 0.80 m.	0.3–1.1
176408	176407	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with occasionally small stones, charcoal flecks throughout	0.3–0.57
176409	176407	Secondary fill	Mid- to strong brownish grey sandy silty clay with occasionally small to medium stones, charcoal flecks throughout	0.3–1.1

Trench No 1765		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.35
176502		Natural	Ligh to brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.35+
176503	176504	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, convex sides and a flat base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 1.10 m. Depth: 0.50 m.	0.35–0.5
176504	176503	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with gravel (<30 mm) sparse (<3%) sub-angular poorly sorted	0.35–0.5
176505	176506	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with irregular, convex sides and a convex base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.40 m. Depth: 0.89 m.	0.35–0.89
176506	176505	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare snail shell, common various sizes if rocks, sparse flint stones	0.35–0.89



176507	176508, 176509, 176510	Ditch	Linear ditch with steep, concave sides and an U-shaped base. Length: 20.00 m. Width: 1.47 m. Depth: 0.85 m.	0.35–1.2
176508	176507	Secondary fill	Reddish brown silty clay with 10% unsorted small pebbles	0.35–1.15
176509	176507	Secondary fill	Mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 5% unsorted small stones	0.35 – 0.95
176510	176507	Secondary fill o	Dark brown, mottled with mid-brown silty clay with 10% unsorted grit	0.95 – 1.15
176511	176512	Gully	Linear gully aligned E–W with steep, straight sides and an U-shaped base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.60 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	0.35–0.67
176512	176511	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay (30/70) with gravel (<30 mm) sparse (1–2%) sub-angular poorly sorted	0.35–0.67

Trench No 1766		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176601		Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with rare fine rooting, rare medium sub-rounded stones. slightly diffuse boundaries.	0.0–0.33
176602		Natural	Dark yellow clay with light blue grey mottling, rare medium sub-angular flint, moderate small rounded chalk, sparse large rounded chalk, sparse streaks of dark yellow sand and root disturbance. Probably glacial till.	0.33+
176603	176604	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE–SW with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 1.02 m. Depth: 0.59 m.	0.33–0.92
176604	176603	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey silty clay with 5% sparse sub-angular gravel 2–80 mm	0.33–0.92
176605	176606	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E–W with moderate, convex sides and a concave base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.29 m. Depth: 0.58 m.	0.33–0.91
176606	176605	Secondary fill	Dark blueish grey clay with 5% sparse poorly sorted sub-angular gravel 2–90 mm	0.33–0.91
176607	176608	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E–W with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.05 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	0.33–0.68



176608	176607	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey with a yellow hue clay with 3% sparse poorly sorted sub-rounded gravel 2–40 mm	0.33–0.68
176609	176610	Gully	Linear gully aligned E–W with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.63 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	0.33–0.63
176610	176609	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey with a yellow hue clay with 3% sparse poorly sorted sub-angular gravel 2–40 mm	0.33–0.63
176611	176612	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.87 m. Width: 0.92 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	0.33–0.73
176612	176611	Secondary fill	Dark blueish grey with a brown hue clay with 3% sparse poorly sorted sub-angular gravel 2–50 mm	0.33–0.73
176613	176614	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.91 m. Depth: 0.38 m.	0.33–0.71
176614	176613	Secondary fill	Dark orangeish grey silty clay with common flints, small and medium size, sparse calcareous stones	0.33–0.71
176615	176616	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE–SW with irregular, irregular sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.14 m. Depth: 0.43 m.	0.33–0.76
176616	176615	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish black clayish silt with common small and medium size stones, few stones bigger than 0.3 m in diameter; flints, mudstone and other types	0.33–0.76
176617	176618	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E–W with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.50 m. Width: 1.06 m. Depth: 0.16 m.	0.33–0.49
176618	176617	Secondary fill	Mid-orange grey sandy clay with sparse calcareous small stones, sparse flint	0.33–0.49
176619	176620, 176621	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE–SW with moderate, straight sides and an U-shaped base. Length: 1.80 m. Width: 1.90 m. Depth: 0.99 m.	0.33–1.32
176620	176619	Secondary fill	Brownish black silty clay with common mudstones, few flints	0.65–1.32
176621	176619	Secondary fill	Mid-reddish brown silty clay with common mudstones few flints	0.33–1.02



176622	176623, 176624	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, convex sides and an U-shaped base. Length: >1.70 m. Width: 2.90 m. Depth: 0.68 m.	0.33–0.69
176623	176622	Secondary fill	Mid-reddish grey silty clay with common chalk sub-oval small to medium gravels rare flints	0.33–0.68
176624	176622	Secondary fill	Mid-reddish grey silty clay with sparse flints, common chalk - sub-rounded small to medium gravels	0.33–0.68

Trench No 1767		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176701		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
176702		Natural	Mid-greyish yellow clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.3–0.5+
176703	176704	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch aligned NE–SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 2.00 m. Depth: 0.50 m.	0.3–0.8
176704	176703	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with common various size stones	0.3–0.8
176705	176706	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE–SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 2.00 m. Width: 3.60 m. Depth: 0.94 m.	0.3–1.24
176706	176705	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with moderate stones, rare charcoal	0.3–1.24
176707	176708	Pit	Sub-oval pit aligned NW–SE with moderate, stepped sides and a concave base. Length: 4.68 m. Width: 0.80 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	0.3–0.6
176708	176707	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare charcoal, rare stones	0.3–0.6

Trench No 1768		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176801		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.38
176802		Natural	Mid-greyish yellow clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.38–0.5+



176803	176804	Ditch	Linear ditch with steep, irregular sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 3.00 m. Depth: 0.60 m.	0.45–0.69
176804	176803	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare snail shell, common various sizes of rocks, large ones on N side, rare oyster shells, occasional charred rocks,	0.45–0.69
176805		Number not used	Void	
176806		Number not used	Void	
176807	176808	Deliberate backfill	Medium brown coarse mix of soil and sandstone with medium sized sandstone fragments	0.38–0.68
176808	176809, 176810	Pit	Sub-oval pit aligned NW–SE with steep, irregular sides and a concave base. Width: 1.95 m. Depth: 0.88 m.	0.38–1.26
176809	176808	Secondary fill	Medium brown grey hue coarse grain silt	1.15–1.26
176810	176808	Secondary fill	Medium brown grey hue coarse grain silt	0.68–1.15
176811	176812	Pit	Irregular pit aligned NW–SE with steep, irregular sides and a concave base. Width: 2.43 m. Depth: 0.88 m.	0.38–0.94
176812	176811	Primary fill	Medium brown coarse grain silt with frequent small fragments of chert and limestone	0.68–0.94
176813	176814	Gully	Linear gully aligned SE–NW with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.49 m. Depth: 0.23 m.	0.38–0.61
176814	176813	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with very rare, very small stone inclusions ≤10 mm	0.38–0.61
176815	176816	Gully	Linear gully aligned NW–SE with moderate, irregular sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.49 m. Depth: 0.34 m.	0.38–0.72
176816	176815	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare small stone inclusions ≤10–50 mm	0.38–0.72
176817	176818	Posthole	Circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.42 m. Depth: 0.36 m.	0.38–0.74
176818	176817	Secondary fill	Brownish black sandy clay with very rare small stone inclusions ≤10–50 mm	0.38–0.74



176819	176820	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, irregular sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: >1.20 m. Depth: 0.53 m.	0.38–0.93
176820	176819	Secondary fill	Medium brown coarse grain silt with infrequent chert and limestone fragments	0.38–0.93

Trench No 1769		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
176901		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
176902		Natural	Light brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.32+
176903	176904	Gully	Linear gully aligned E–W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >6.20 m. Width: >0.60 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	0.32–0.63
176904	176903	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare stones, rare chalk stones	0.32–0.63

Trench No 1770		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.41 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177001		Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with rare fine rooting, rare medium sub-rounded stones. slightly diffuse boundaries.	0.0–0.33
177002		Natural	Dark yellow clay with rare medium sub-angular flint, moderate small rounded chalk, sparse large rounded chalk, sparse streaks of dark yellow sand and root disturbance. probably glacial till.	0.33+
177003	177004, 177005	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.46 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	0.33–0.88
177004	177003	Secondary fill	Very dark grey silty clay medium compaction with stones 20–50 mm sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.33–0.68
177005	177003	Secondary fill	Mid-grey silty clay medium compaction with stones 20–40 mm sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.73–0.88
177006	177007, 177008, 177009	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 2.58 m. Depth: 0.96 m.	0.33–1.29



177007	177006	Secondary fill	Very dark grey silty sandy clay medium compaction with stones 20–40 mm sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.33–0.83
177008	177006	Secondary fill	Mid-grey silty sandy clay medium compaction with stones 20–40 mm sub-angular 5%, poorly sorted.	0.78–1.14
177009	177006	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey silty clay with stones 20–50 mm sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.33–1.29
177010	177011, 177012	Gully terminal	Linear gully terminal aligned E–W with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >1.70 m. Width: >0.36 m. Depth: 0.36 m.	0.33–0.67
177011	177010	Secondary fill	Very dark grey silty clay medium compaction with stones 20–50 mm sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.33–0.57
177012	177010	Secondary fill	Mid-grey silty clay with stones 20–200 mm sub-angular 20% poorly sorted	0.33–0.67

Trench No 1771		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177101		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
177102		Natural	Mid-greyish yellow clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.3–0.6+
177103	177104, 177105	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N–S with shallow, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >3.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	0.3–0.62
177104	177103	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey medium silty clay with stones rounded 20–50 mm 5% poorly sorted	0.3–0.52
177105	177103	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay medium compaction with stones rounded 20–40 mm 5%	0.3–0.62
177106	177107, 177108	Pit	Sub-rectangular pit aligned N–S with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 1.00 m. Width: 0.80 m. Depth: 0.46 m.	0.3–0.76
177107	177106	Secondary fill	Very dark blackish grey sandy clay medium compaction with stones 20–50 mm rounded 5% poorly sorted. Charcoal 5%	0.3–0.66
177108	177106	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey sandy clay medium compaction with stones 20–50 mm rounded 5–10% poorly sorted	0.43–0.76



177109	177110, 177111	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E–W with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: >1.00 m. Depth: 0.65 m.	0.3–1.17
177110	177109	Secondary fill	Very dark grey sandy clay medium / soft compaction with stones 20–50 mm rounded and sub-angular 5% poorly sorted	0.3–0.95
177111	177109	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey sandy clay medium/soft compaction with stones 20–40 mm rounded 5% poorly sorted	0.95–1.17

Trench No 1772		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.34
177202		Natural	Light brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.34+
177203	177204	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW–SE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Width: 0.90 m. Depth: 0.24 m.	0.63
177204	177203	Secondary fill	Brownish grey silty clay	0.63

Trench No 1773		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177301		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.34
177302		Natural	Light brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay and orange silty sand.	0.34+

Trench No 1774		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.41 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.36
177402		Natural	Light brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay and orange silty sand.	0.36+



Trench No 1775		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
177502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.33+
177503	177504	Gully	Linear gully aligned NE–SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.50 m. Width: >0.55 m. Depth: 0.28 m.	0.33–0.61
177504	177503	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with moderate angular and sub-angular stones	0.33–0.61

Trench No 1776		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177601		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.34
177602		Natural	Mid-greyish yellow clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint unsorted	0.34–0.5+
177603	177604	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N–S with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.40 m. Depth: 0.70 m.	0.34–1.04
177604	177603	Secondary fill	Yellowish grey silty clay with rare small and medium rocks	0.34–1.04
177605	177606	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N–S with steep, stepped sides and a V-shaped base. Depth: 0.40 m.	0.45–0.85
177606	177605	Secondary fill	Yellowish grey silty clay with rare small stones	0.45–0.85
177607	177608	Gully	Linear gully aligned N–S with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Depth: 0.12 m.	0.5–0.62
177608	177607	Secondary fill	Yellowish grey silty clay with rare small stones	0.5–0.62
177609	177610	Posthole	Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	0.55–0.67
177610	177609	Deliberate backfill	Strong grey silty clay	0.55–0.67
177611	177612	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned NW–SE with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.14 m.	0.34–0.48
177612	177611	Secondary fill	Yellowish grey silty clay with rare small stones	0.34–0.48



Trench No 1777		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177701		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.36
177702		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay and orange silty sand.	0.36+
177703	177704	Gully	Linear gully aligned NW–SE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >0.56 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	0.36–0.67
177704	177703	Secondary fill	Mid-grey brown silty clay with small sub-angular and angular stones, rare	0.36–0.67

Trench No 1778		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.44 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.38
177802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay.	0.38+

Trench No 1779		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
177901		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.36
177902		Natural	Ligh brownish orange sandy clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and pockets of gravel. Patches of grey clay and orange silty sand.	0.36+

Trench No 1780		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178001		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
178002		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+



178003	178004	Gully	Linear gully aligned NNW–SSE with moderate, convex sides and a flat base. Length: >2.09 m. Width: 0.74 m. Depth: 0.38 m.	0.3–0.68
178004	178003	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown clay with 3% sparse poorly sorted sub-angular gravel 2–20 mm	0.3–0.68

Trench No 1781		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
178102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1782		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.4
178202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay. More homogeneous and sandy to the North.	0.4+

Trench No 1783		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.28 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178301		Topsoil	Moderately compacted mid-brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting.	0.0–0.24
178302		Natural	Mid-yellow clay with light blue grey mottling, rare large sub-rounded stones, rare medium sub-rounded stones, root disturbance, sparse medium and small rounded chalk pieces and abundant manganese flecks.	0.24+

Trench No 1784		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.31 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
178402		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+



Trench No 1785		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.38
178502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.38+

Trench No 1786		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
178602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1787		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178701		Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting	0.0–0.36
178702		Natural	Mid-yellow sandy clay with light blue grey mottling, sparse medium angular stones, rare medium pebbles, rare small pebbles, rare streaks of light orange sand, abundant manganese flecks and vehicle track marks.	0.36+

Trench No 1788		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
178802		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1789		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
178901		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32



178902		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+
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Trench No 1790		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179001		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.37
179002		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks, pockets of gravel and patches of grey clay.	0.37+

Trench No 1791		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.31
179102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.31+

Trench No 1792		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179201		Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting	0.0–0.35
179202		Natural	Mid-yellow sandy clay with light blue grey mottling, sparse medium angular stones, rare medium pebbles, rare small pebbles, moderate fine rooting, rare streaks of light orange sand, abundant manganese flecks.	0.35+
179203	179204	Gully	Linear gully aligned N–S with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >0.74 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	0.35–0.7
179204	179203	Secondary fill	Mid-brown grey silty clay	0.35–0.7

Trench No 1793		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179301		Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting	0.0–0.29



179302		Natural	Mid-yellow sandy clay with light blue grey mottling, sparse medium angular stones, rare medium pebbles, rare small pebbles, rare streaks of light orange sand, abundant manganese flecks	0.29+
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Trench No 1794		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179401		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.3
179402		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.3+

Trench No 1795		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.35
179502		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.35+

Trench No 1796		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179601		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
179602		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

Trench No 1797		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179701		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
179702		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+



Trench No 1798		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179801		Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay. Sparse fine rooting, rare small pebbles and stones, clear boundaries. Moderate to loosely compacted.	0.0–0.3
179802		Natural	Mid-yellow clay with light blue grey mottling, rare fine rooting, rare medium sub-rounded stones. Rooting and track marks. Abundant manganese flecks	0.3+

Trench No 1799		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
179901		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.3
179902		Natural	Light yellow silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint all unsorted	0.3–0.4+

Trench No 1800		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180001		Topsoil	Mid-greyish brown, silty sand unsorted inclusions of rooting and stone	0.0–0.35
180002		Natural	Light yellow silty clay, with inclusions of chalk, limestone and flint all unsorted	0.35–0.51+

Trench No 1801		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180101		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
180102		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+

Trench No 1802		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180201		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
180202		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+



Trench No 1803		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180301		Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting, rare medium sub-rounded stones, sparse tiny sub-angular stones, relatively clear boundaries	0.0–0.25
180302		Natural	Dark yellow clay with light blue grey mottling, rare medium and small angular stones, rare large and medium pebbles	0.25+

Trench No 1804		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180401		Topsoil	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with sparse fine rooting. Clear boundaries	0.0–0.35
180402		Subsoil	Firmly compacted mid-orange brown sandy clay with rare manganese flecks. Relatively clear boundaries.	0.35–0.43
180403		Natural	Firmly compacted light yellow with light blue grey mottling clay	0.43+
180404	180405	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E–W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Width: 1.30 m. Depth: 0.80 m.	0.43–1.2
180405	180404	Secondary fill	Greyish brown silty clay with rare poorly sorted angular small stones; sparse poorly sorted little pieces of "charcoal" like material	0.43–1.2

Trench No 1805		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180501		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.32
180502		Natural	Light brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.32+
180503	180504, 180507, 180508	Construction cut	Irregular construction cut with vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.60 m.	0.32–0.98
180504	180503	Foundation	Linear foundation aligned N–S with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from limestone and bonded with clay, and sand. Maximum height: 0.53 m.	0.68–0.98



180505	180506	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch with moderate, stepped sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.40 m.	0.36–1.24
180506	180505	Secondary fill	Light to mid-brownish grey silty clay with occasionally small to medium limestones	0.62–1.24
180507	180505	Demolition material	Mottled strong brownish grey silty clay with frequent limestones of variety sizes, moderate charcoal inclusions, and moderate wood remnants	0.34–1.24
180508	180503, 180505	Secondary fill	Yellowish brown silty clay with occasionally small stones	0.44–0.61
180509	180510	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned NW–SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.10 m.	0.32–0.42
180510	180509	Secondary fill	Mid-brownish grey silty clay with very occasionally small stones	0.32–0.42

Trench No 1806		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.31 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180601		Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting, fairly clear boundaries. loose to moderate compaction. Rare small sub-rounded stones.	0.0–0.26
180602		Natural	Mid- to dark yellow clay with moderate manganese flecks, sparse large and medium sub-angular stones, sparse fine rooting, sparse large pebbles	0.26+

Trench No 1807		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180701		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.28
180702		Natural	Light brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.28+

Trench No 1808		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180801		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.00–0.33
180802		Natural	Light brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+



Trench No 1809		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
180901		Topsoil	Moderately compacted mid-brown silty clay with moderate fine rooting. Relatively clear boundary to natural.	0.0–0.32
180902		Natural	Dark yellow sandy clay with rare fine rooting, rare small sub-rounded stones and abundant manganese flecks, root disturbance and, track marks	0.32+

Trench No 1810		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
181001		Topsoil	Greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderately compacted. Occasional small rocks.	0.0–0.33
181002		Natural	Ligh brownish orange silty clay. Compact. Occasional various sizes of rocks and patches of grey clay.	0.33+

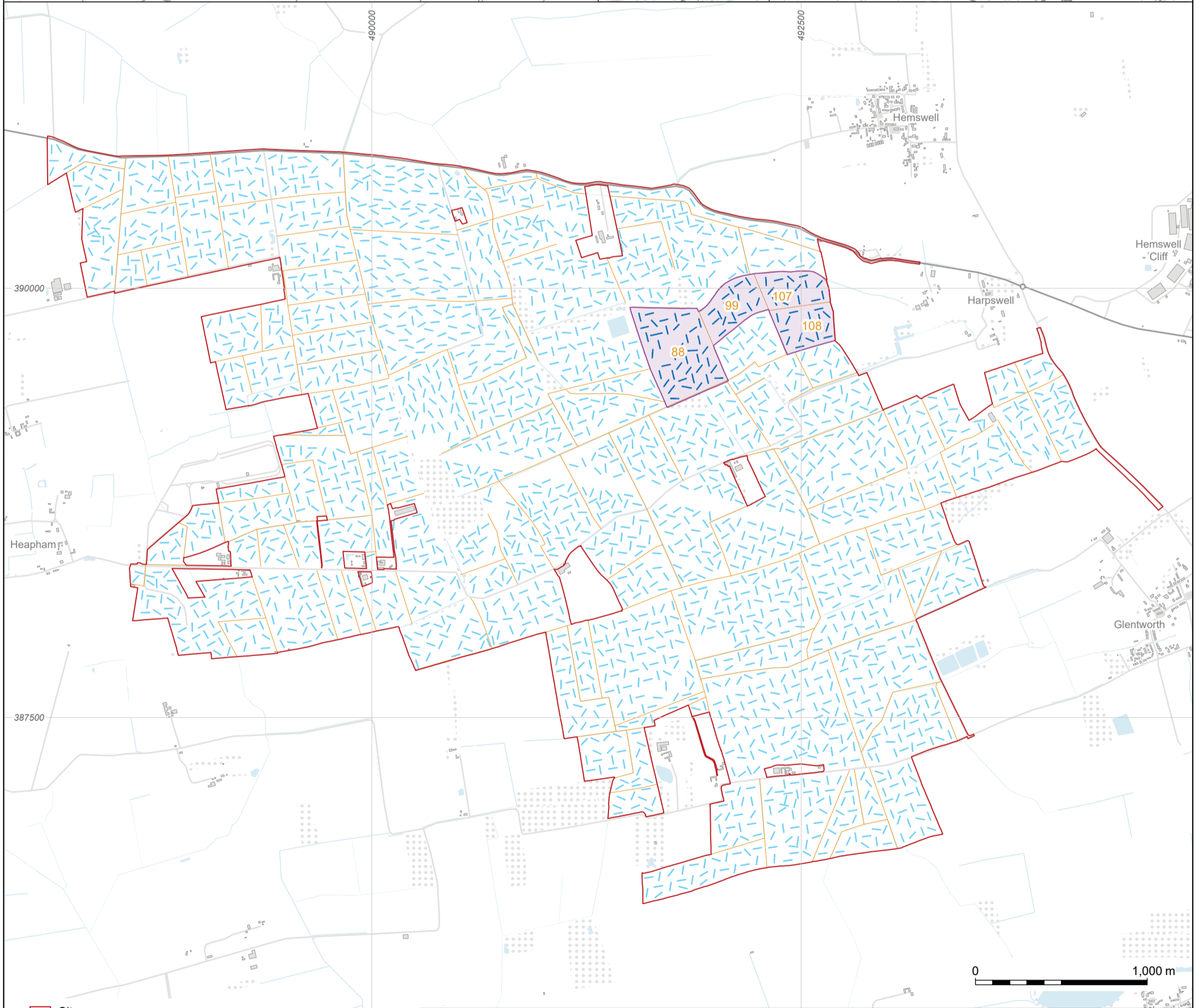
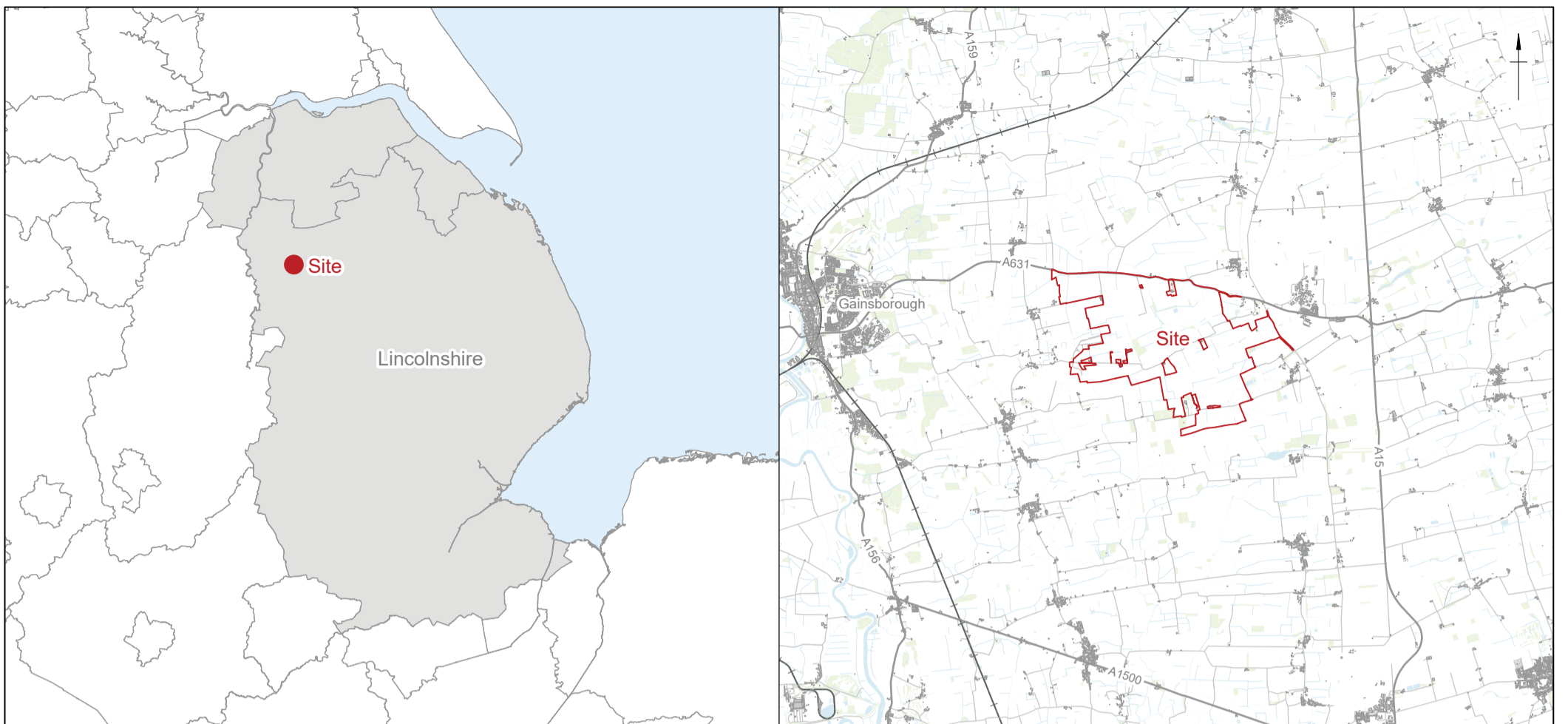


Appendix 2 Environmental evidence

Field	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample no.	Sample vol. (l)	Flot vol. (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Preservation	Waterlogged data
99	Ditch	176203	176204	176201	33	50	90% modern roots, modern seeds (C)	-	-	-	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i> nutshell	2	Some mineral-coating	Moll-t (A**), Moll-f (A)	P	-
99	Gully	176609	176610	176601	32	50	90% modern roots and modern crop chaff, modern seeds (C), E	C	-	Triticeae	C	Poaceae (incl. <i>Danthonia decumbens</i>), tubers/rhizomes	<1	Some mineral-coating	Moll-t (A*), Coal (B)	P	-
99	Ditch	176615	176616	176602	25	50	60% modern roots, modern seeds (A), E, I, F	C	-	Triticeae	C	Poaceae, tubers/rhizomes	10	Some mineral-coating	Moll-t (A), amorphous bone (C), Sab (C)	P	-
99	Ditch	176803	176804	176801	29	30	80% modern roots and modern crop chaff, modern seeds (A), E, I	A	B	Triticum sp. grains, Triticum spelta/dicoccum glume bases, incl. T.spelta, Hordeum sp., Triticeae	A	Poaceae (incl. <i>Danthonia decumbens</i>), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Viciae (small-seeded), tubers/rhizomes	<1	Some mineral-coating	Coal (A), Clinker/cinder (B), Moll-t (A), Sab (C)	P	-
99	Pit	176808	176809	176802	40	5	90% modern roots and modern crop chaff, modern seeds (A**) (incl. <i>Juncus</i> sp.)	C	-	Triticum sp.	C	<i>Galium</i> sp., tuber/rhizome	<1	-	-	P	-



Field	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample no.	Sample vol. (l)	Flot vol. (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Preservation	Waterlogged data
99	Ditch	177603	177604	177601	30	50	80% modern roots and modern crop chaff, modern seeds (A**) (incl. <i>Juncus</i> sp., <i>Lemna</i> sp.)	C	-	Triticeae	C	tuber/rhizome	1	-	Moll-f (A** - mainly <i>Anisus leucostoma</i>), Moll-t (A*)	P	-
108	Ditch	180505	180506	180501	10	150	<1% modern roots, E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moll-t (C)	VG	Vegetative material: A*** - All wood pieces and degraded wood fragments Uncharred seeds: A* - Mainly <i>Urtica dioica</i> , also <i>Betula</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus</i> subg. <i>Batrachium</i> , Cyperaceae, <i>Juncus</i> sp.



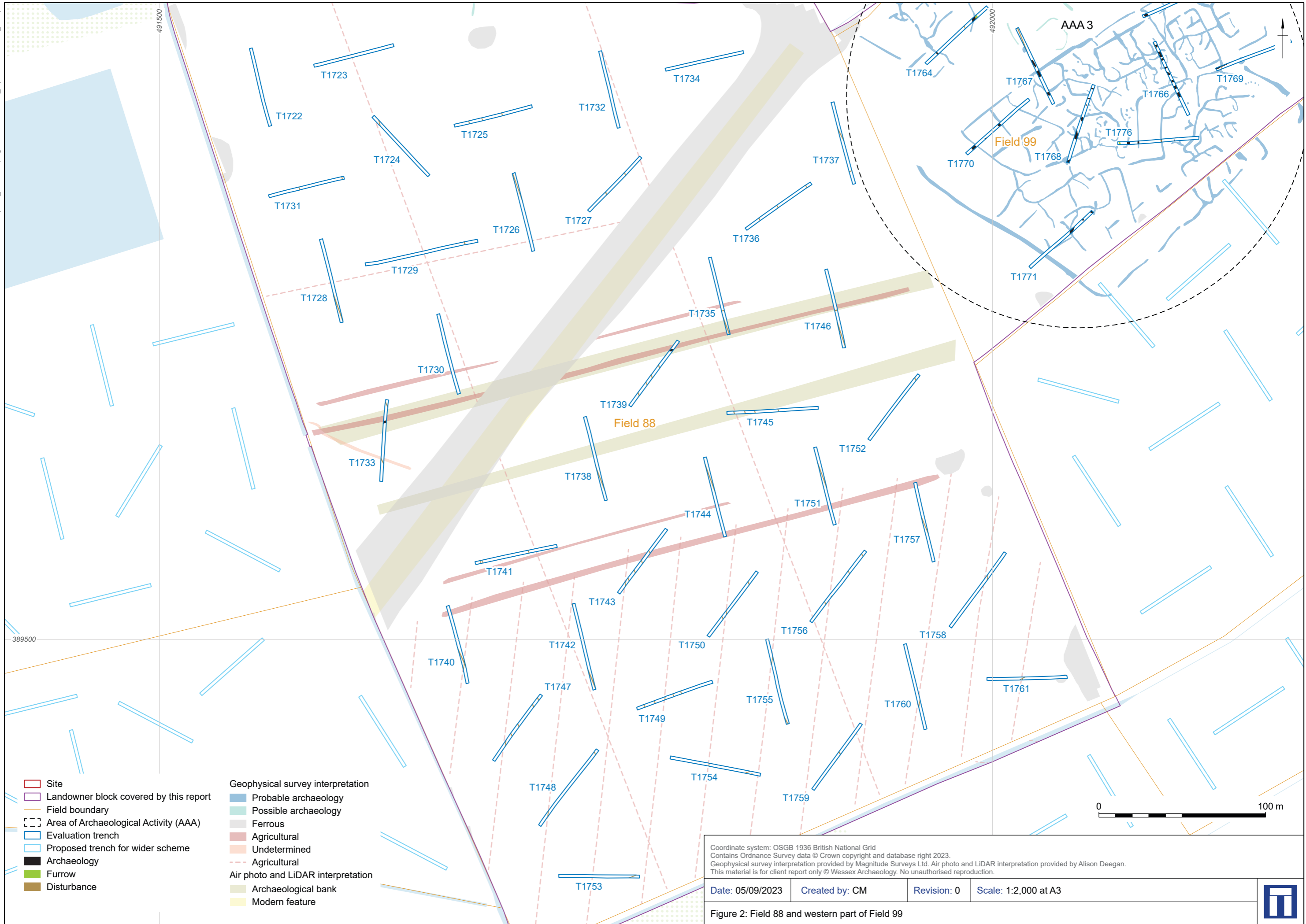
- Site
- Landowner block covered by this report
- Field boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Proposed trench for wider scheme

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Figure 1: Site location plan




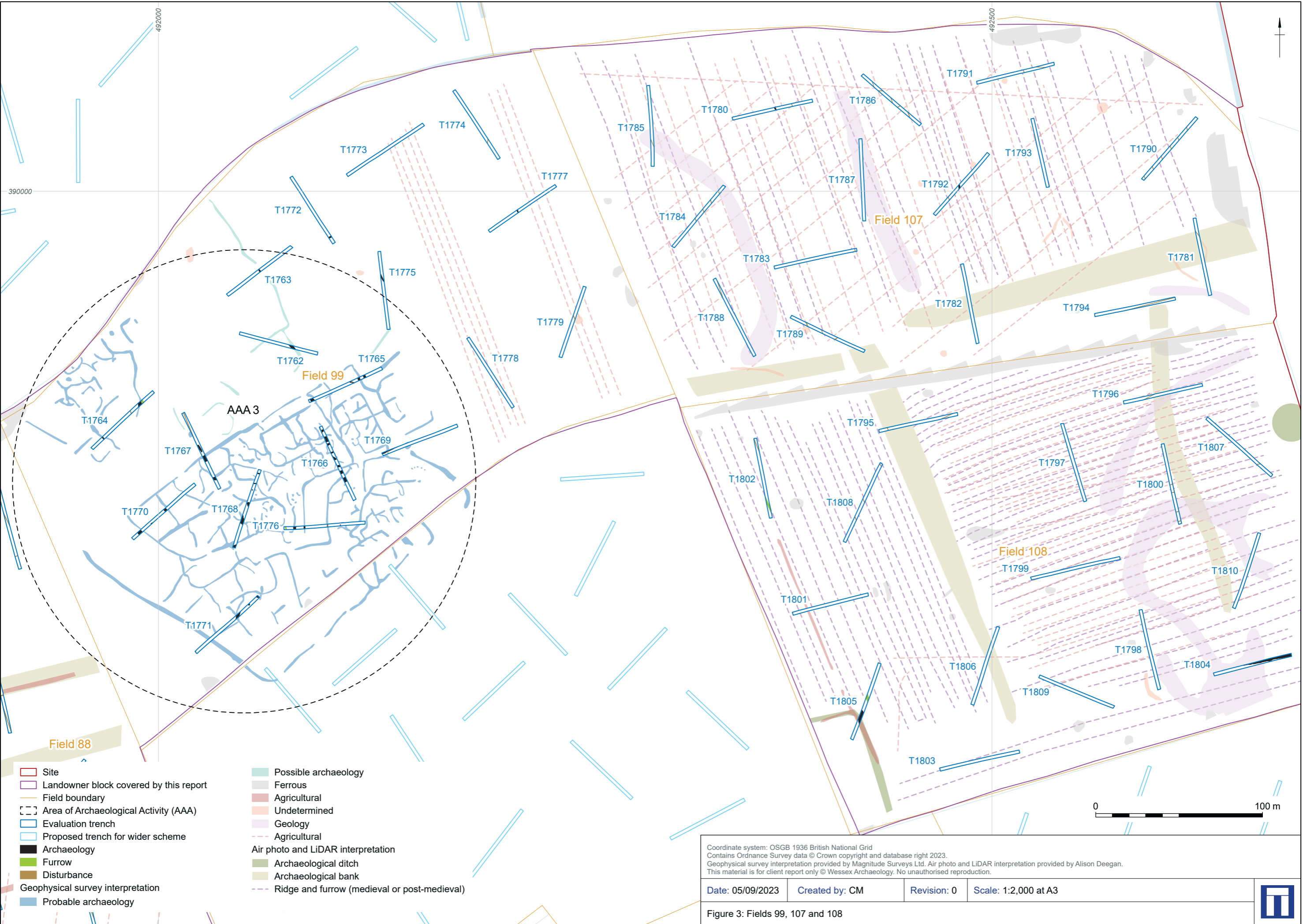


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Figure 2: Field 88 and western part of Field 99




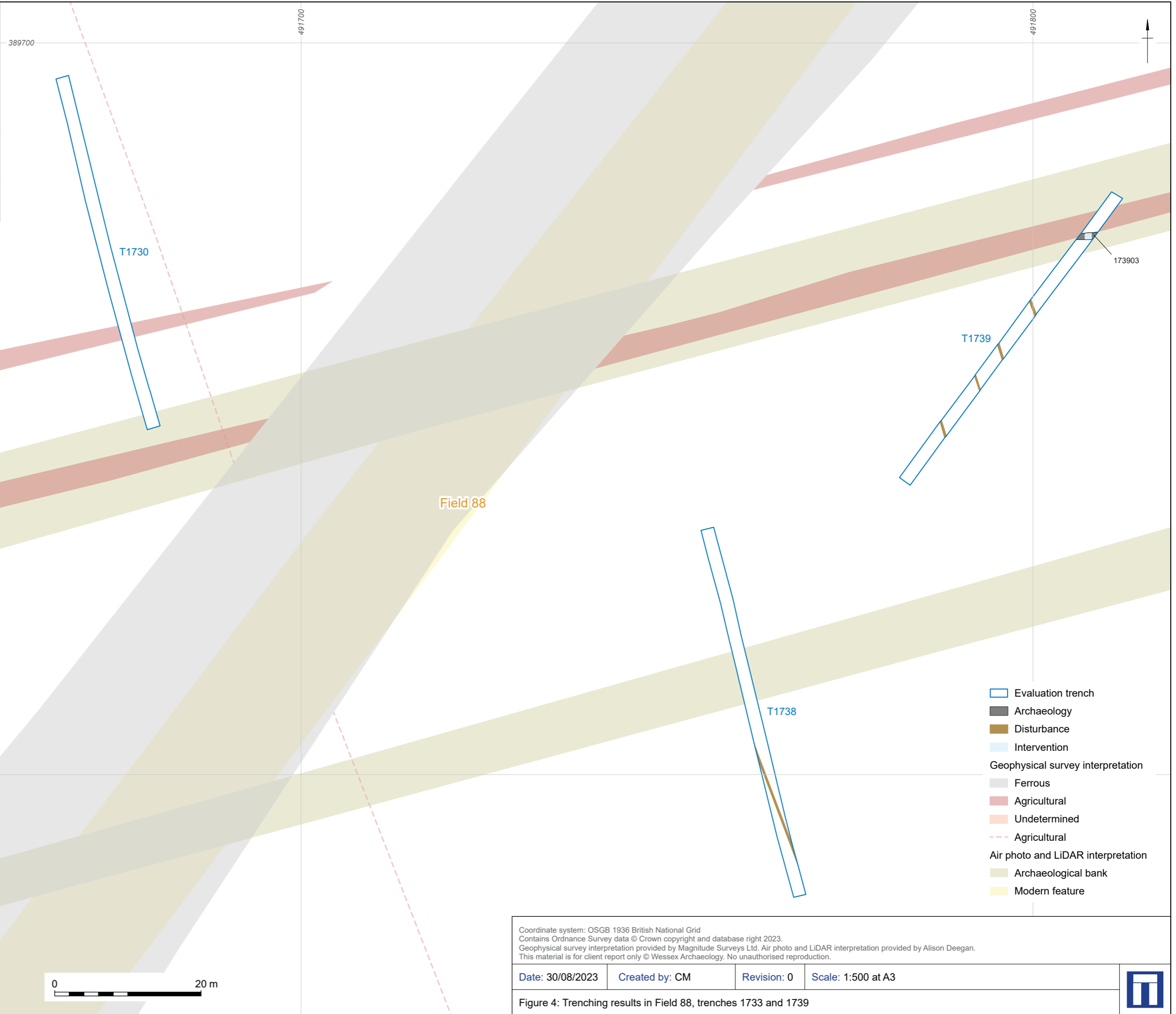
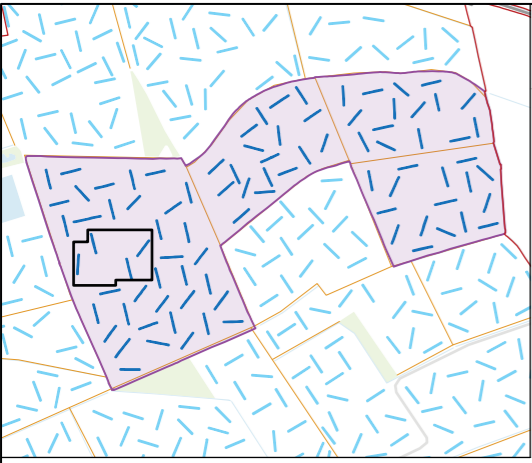


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Figure 3: Fields 99, 107 and 108





- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Disturbance
- Intervention
- Geophysical survey interpretation**
- Ferrous
- Agricultural
- Undetermined
- Agricultural
- Air photo and LiDAR interpretation**
- Archaeological bank
- Modern feature

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Figure 4: Trenching results in Field 88, trenches 1733 and 1739



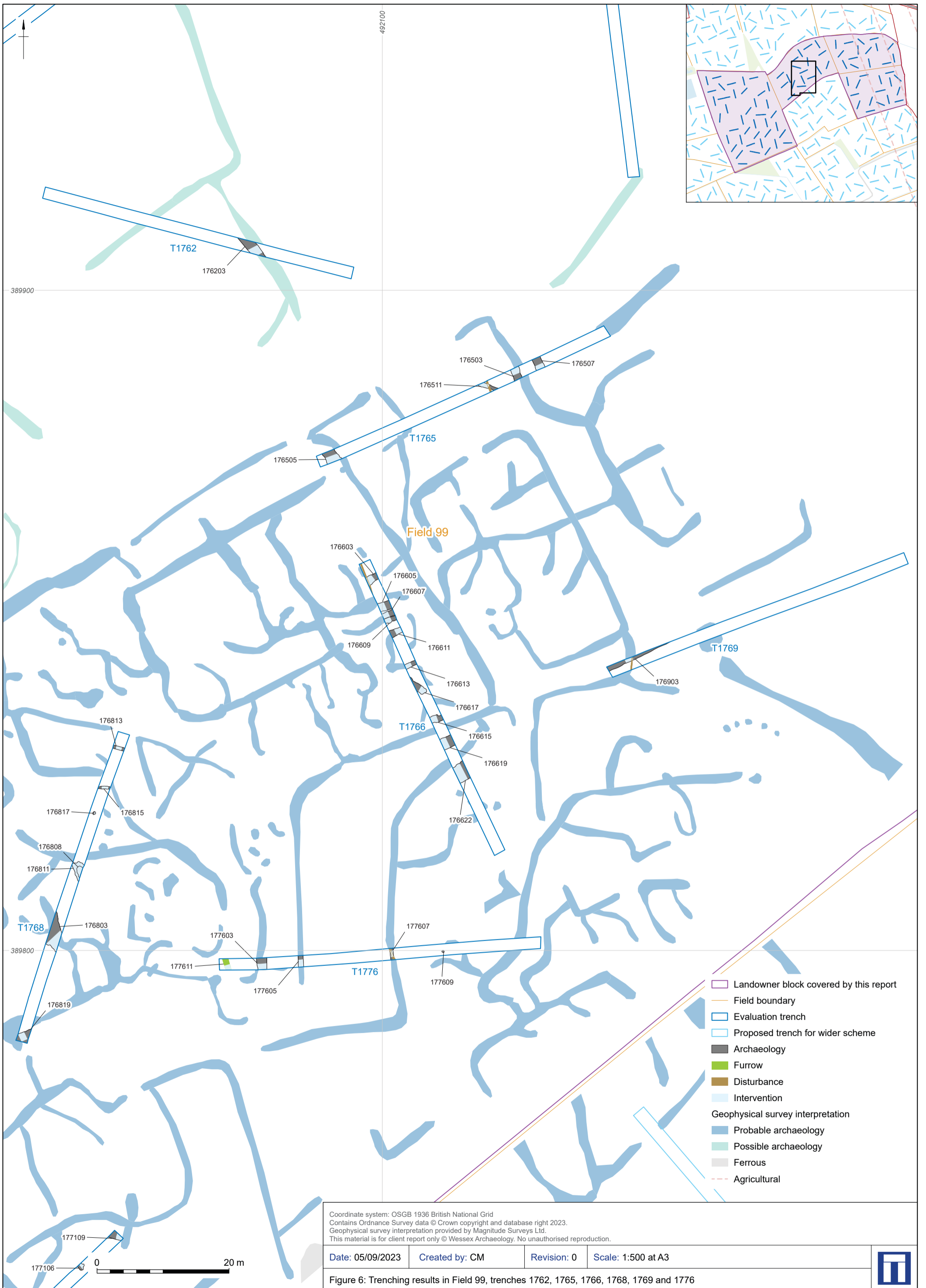


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Figure 5: Trenching results in Field 99, trenches 1764, 1767, 1768, 1770 and 1771



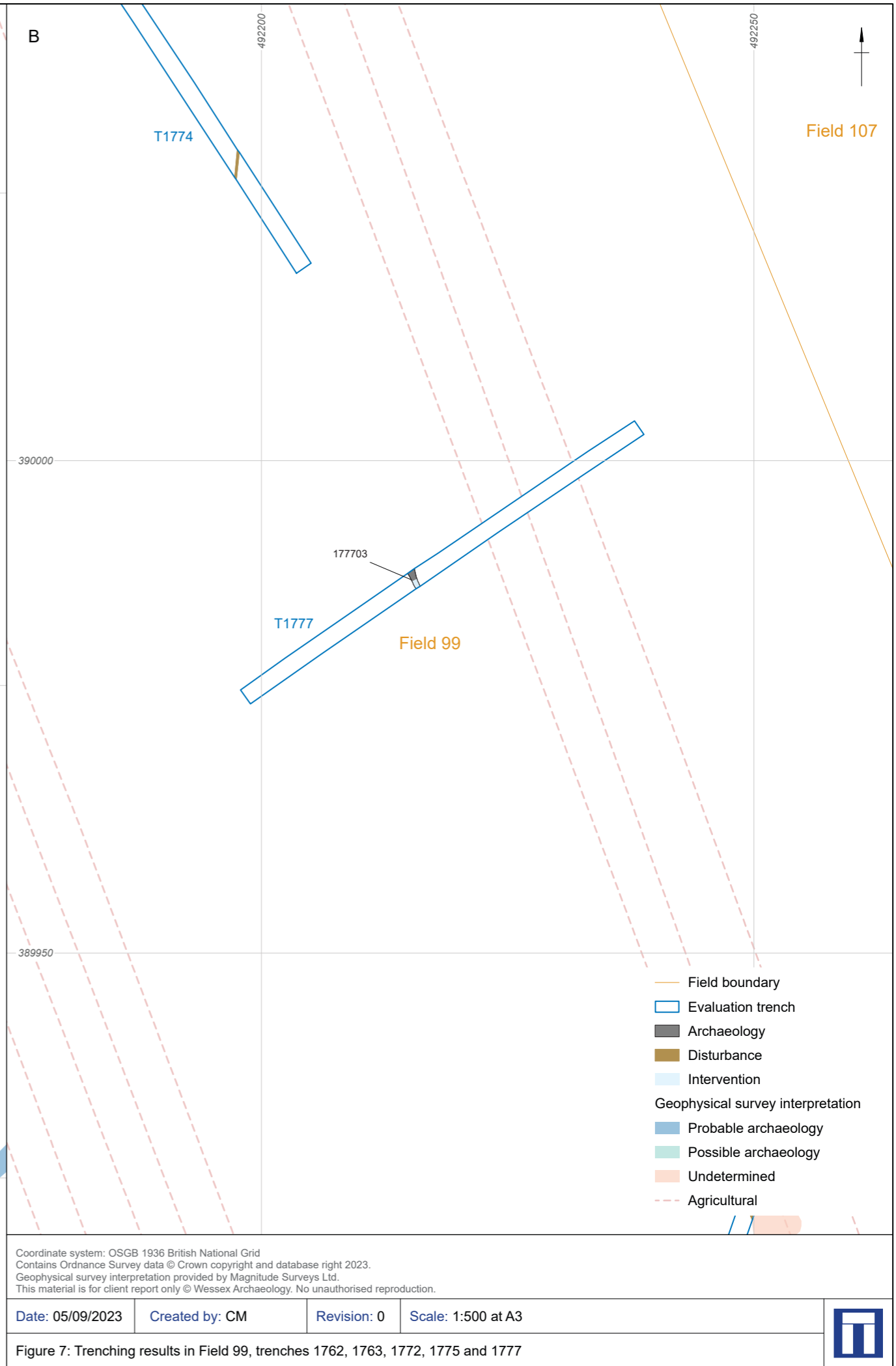
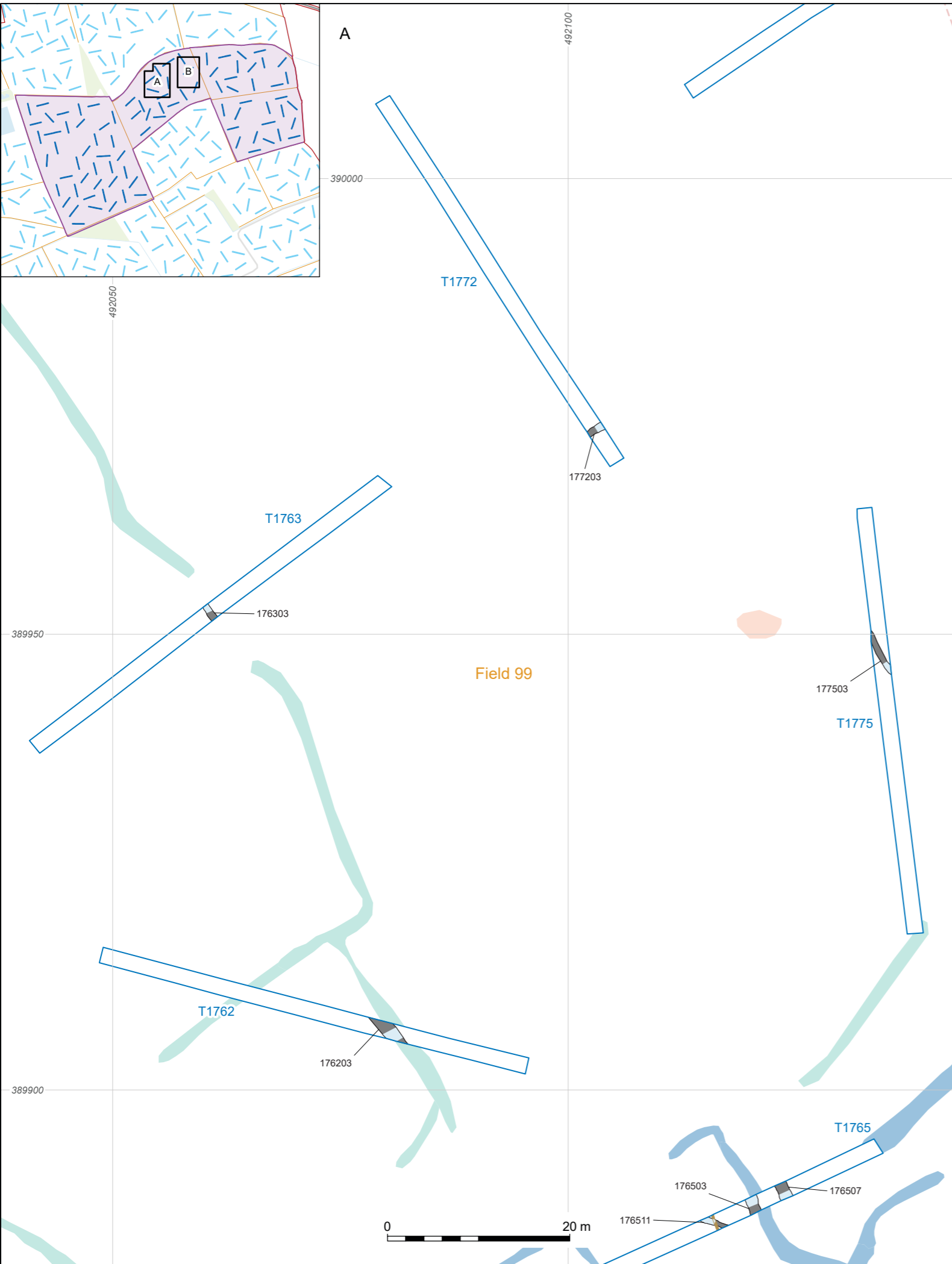


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Figure 6: Trenching results in Field 99, trenches 1762, 1765, 1766, 1768, 1769 and 1776



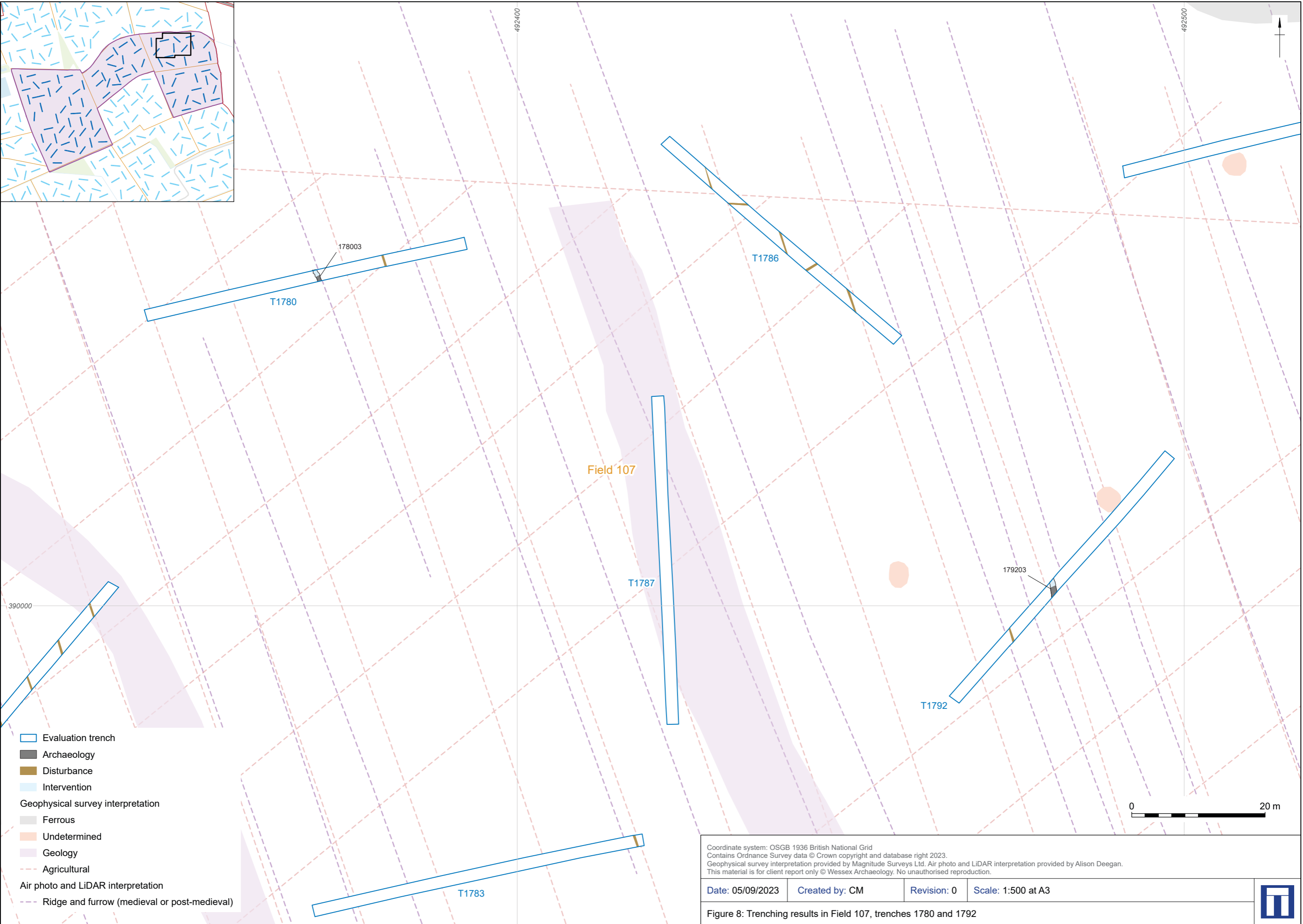


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Figure 7: Trenching results in Field 99, trenches 1762, 1763, 1772, 1775 and 1777




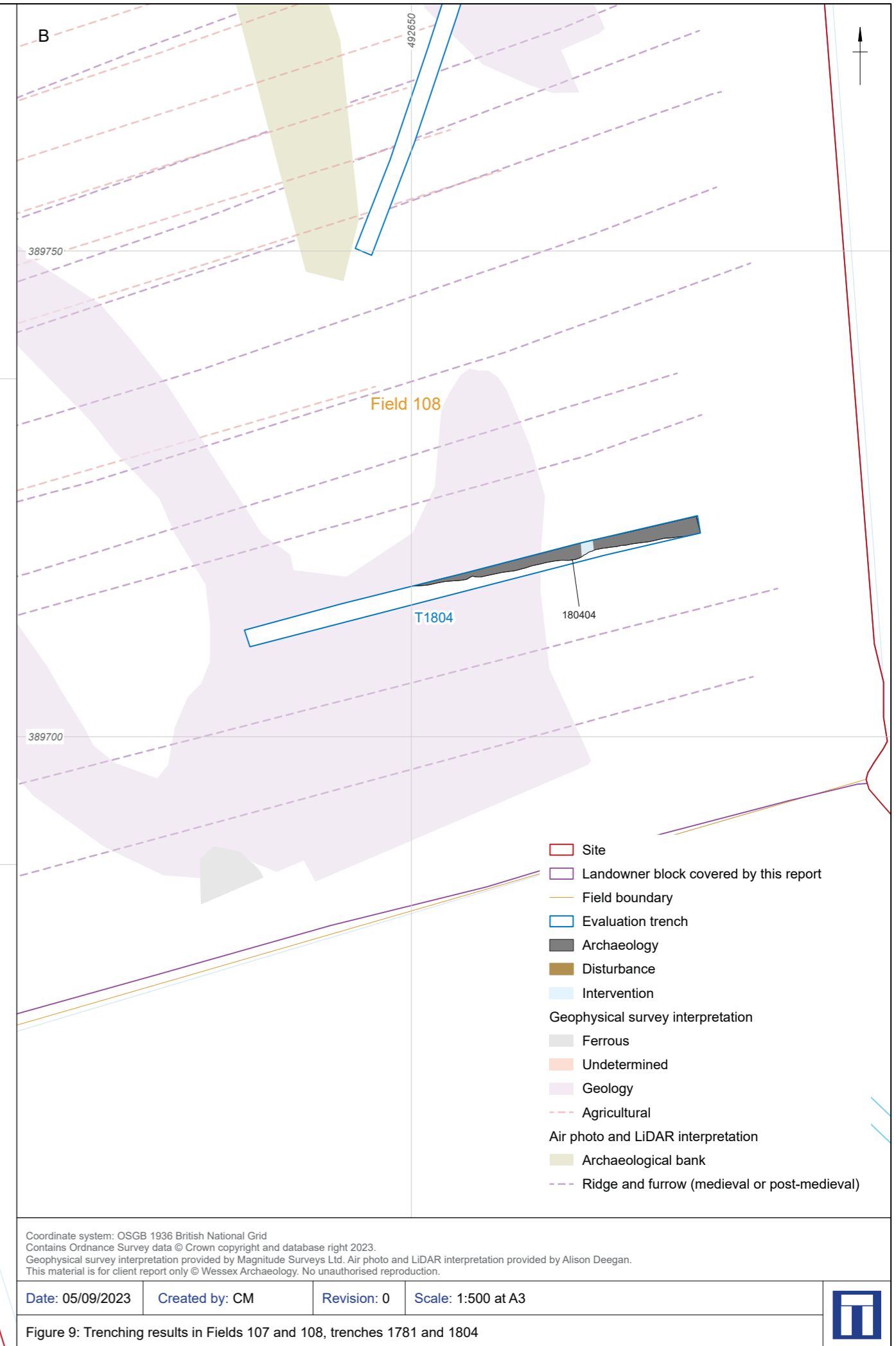
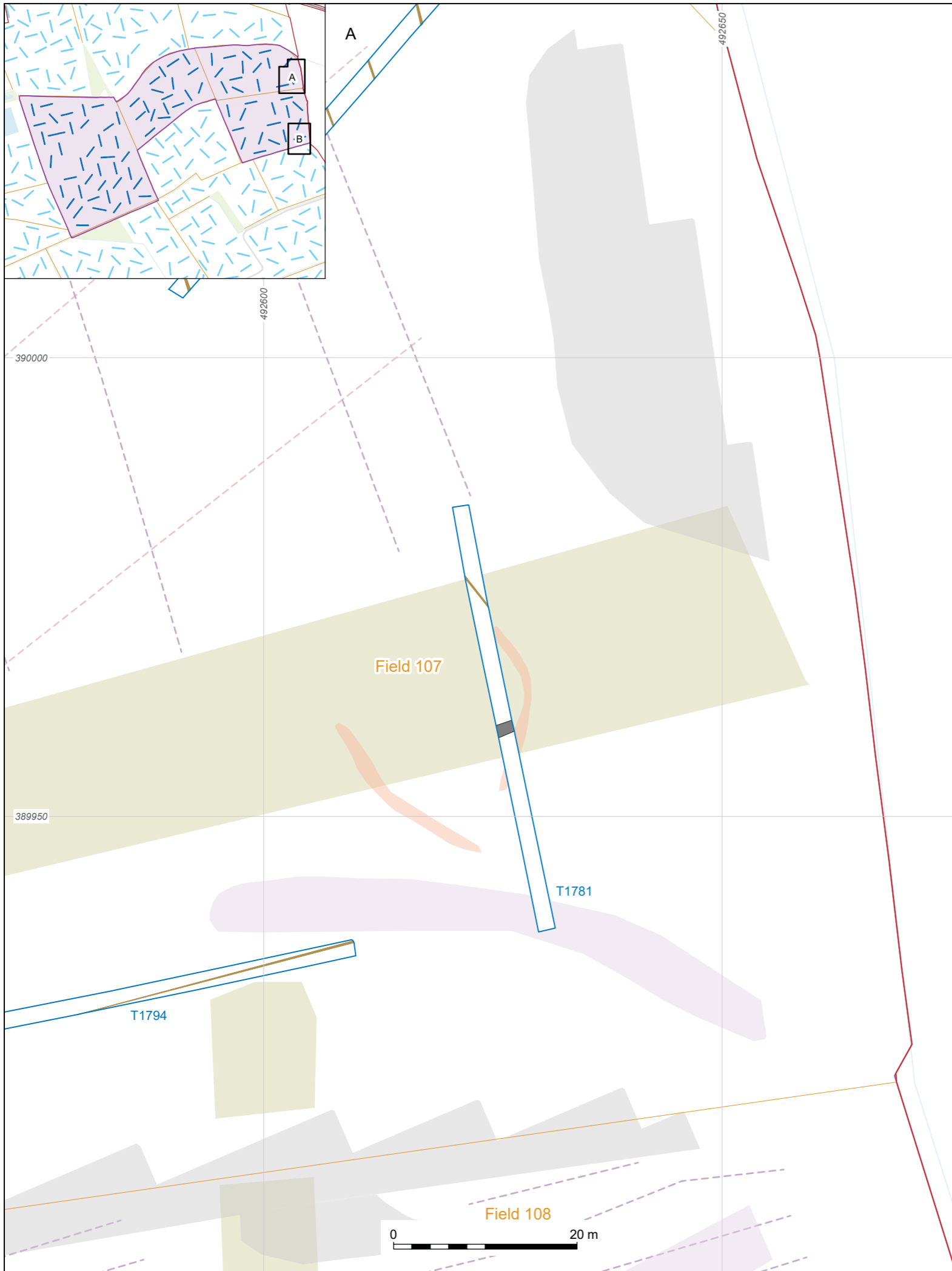


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Figure 8: Trenching results in Field 107, trenches 1780 and 1792





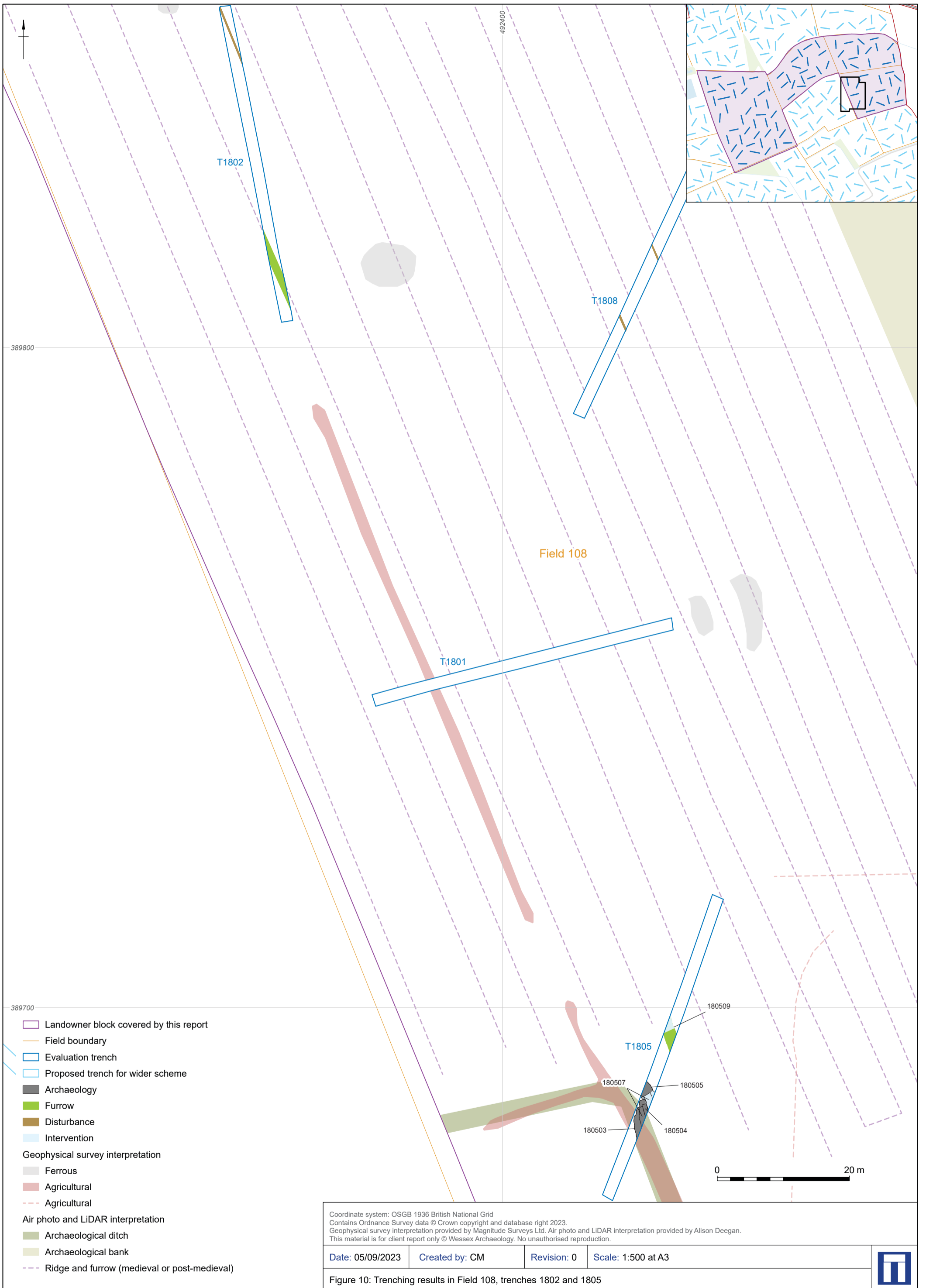
- ▭ Site
- ▭ Landowner block covered by this report
- ▭ Field boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Disturbance
- ▭ Intervention
- Geophysical survey interpretation
- ▭ Ferrous
- ▭ Undetermined
- ▭ Geology
- - - Agricultural
- Air photo and LiDAR interpretation
- ▭ Archaeological bank
- - - Ridge and furrow (medieval or post-medieval)

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Figure 9: Trenching results in Fields 107 and 108, trenches 1781 and 1804





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Figure 10: Trenching results in Field 108, trenches 1802 and 1805



Figure 11: Trench 1797, viewed from the north, 2 x 1 m scales



Figure 12: South-west facing section of trench 1809, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 13: Trench 1764, viewed from the north-east, 2 x 1 m scales



Figure 14: North facing section of ditch 176507, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 15: North-west facing section of ditch 177006, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 16: South-west facing section of ditch 176703, 2 x 1 m scales



Figure 17: Oblique view of north-east facing section of ditches 176605, 176607, 176609, 2 x 1 m scales



Figure 18: Ditch 176803, viewed from the south, note dump of stone, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 19: North-west facing section of pits 176808 and 176811, note stone in foreground, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 20: South-west facing section of posthole 176817, 1 x 0.3 m scale



Figure 21: South-east facing section of ditches 176405 and 176407 and furrow 176403, 3 x 1 m scales



Figure 22: South facing section of gully 178003, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 23: North-west facing section of ditch 180505, 2 x 1 m scales



Figure 24: North-east facing elevation of wall 180504, 1 x 0.5 m scale



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