NORTHAMPTON GATEWAY
STRATEGIC RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE

ARCHAEOLOGY TRIAL TRENCHING REPORT (ROADE BYPASS) ES CHAPTER 10 ADDENDUM

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The Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Order 201X

ARCHAEOLOGY TRIAL TRENCHING REPORT (ROADE BYPASS)
ES CHAPTER 10 ADDENDUM | 8 JANUARY 2019

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THE NORTHAMPTON GATEWAY RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE ORDER 201X

Document 8.12: Archaeology Trial Trenching Report (Roade Bypass) Environmental Statement Chapter 10 – Cultural Heritage: Addendum

10.10 Introduction

10.10.1 This addendum to the ES Cultural Heritage chapter has been prepared by CgMs Heritage (Part of RPS) and provides a summary of the results of a post-submission programme of archaeological trial trenching along the route of the proposed Roade bypass and an assessment of the significance of the archaeological remains encountered, and concludes with a determination as to whether this significance has any implications for the likely effects of the Proposed Development on buried archaeological remains as assessed in the ES Chapter.

10.10.2 The further trial trenching this addendum is concerned with is not considered necessary in order to determine the likely significant environmental effects of the Proposed Development. The desk based work and field evaluation already carried out is considered sufficient in order to establish that, in line with paragraph 5.127 of the National Policy Statement for Networks. However, the archaeological advisor for Northamptonshire has indicated concern at the extent of trial trenching carried out and, accordingly, further trial trenching was done to try and address that concern.

10.10.3 This updated assessment only has implications for buried archaeological remains – no historic buildings lie along the line of the route, and there are no changes to the settings of designated heritage assets beyond those previously identified in the ES Chapter.

10.11 Summary of the results of Trial Trenching along the Roade bypass

10.11.1 An archaeological trial trenching exercise was undertaken in November 2018 to investigate the potential for buried archaeological remains along the line of the proposed Roade bypass.

10.11.2 A total of forty trial trenches, each 50m by 2m, were excavated. The layout of the trial trenches was agreed in advance with Lesley-Ann Mather, archaeological advisor for Northamptonshire, and undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) also approved by Lesley-Ann Mather.

10.11.3 The line of the route had previously been subject to a Desk-Based Assessment (**Appendix 10.2**) and geophysical survey (**Appendix 10.4**).

10.11.4 A report detailing the results of the trial trenching was produced subsequent to their excavation, and approved by Lesley-Ann Mather (Archaeology Warwickshire 2018b, **Appendix 1 to this addendum**), on the proviso that the pottery report was amended subsequent to a visit to the Northamptonshire County pottery Type Series which is required for all work in the County. This will be undertaken early in January. The results of the trial trenching are summarised here.

10.11.5 The route was split into five areas by landholding, numbered Areas A – G from North to south, for ease of reference. Two of these areas (Area C and Area F) could not be investigated, and trial trenching took place in Areas A, B, D, E and G. All archaeological fieldwork was monitored and signed off by Lesley-Ann Mather and her colleague Liz Mordue.

10.11.6 Five Trenches (Trenches 1 – 5) were excavated in Area A. these revealed no archaeological features or deposits. Similarly three trenches in Area B (Trenches 6 - 8) also found no archaeological features.

10.11.7 Six trenches were excavated in Area D (Trenches 35 - 40). Two possible cremation burials were recorded in Trench 36. Because neither appeared to be suffering ongoing disturbance from archaeological activity, neither was excavated, in line with the requirements of the WSI and with the agreement of Liz Mordue. Neither can therefore be dated with certainty, but they are likely to be Prehistoric or Roman in date.

10.11.8 Ten trenches were excavated in Area E (Trenches 9 – 18). The only archaeological features identified in this were a boundary ditch in Trench 13, the line of which corresponds to field boundary marked on 19th century maps and a shallow undated furrow, likely to be of agricultural origin, in Trench 9

10.11.9 Sixteen trenches were excavated in Area G (Trenches 19 – 34). Two foci of archaeological features were identified (in Trenches 26 – 28 and Trenches 33 – 34). Trenches 26 – 28 identified a number of anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and interpreted as likely to be archaeological in origin. These trenches confirmed the presence of these features, and the accuracy of the geophysical survey. They revealed evidence for Iron Age settlement in the form of pits and ditches and a buried soil horizon (in Trench 27), most likely focussed on a sub ovoid enclosure as identified on the geophysical survey and targeted by Trench 28. The features in trenches 33 and 34 included a possible Iron Age roundhouse gully, a second gully, and three pits, one of which may have been a posthole. All were Iron Age in date and likely represent the remains of a further Iron Age settlement. An undated gully in Trench 33 is likely to be of similar date and belong to the same settlement. The geophysical survey did not extend this far west – the area investigated by trenches 33 and 34 was added to the line of the route after the geophysical survey was undertaken.

10.12 Significance of the archaeological remains identified in the trial trenching.

10.12.1 Two undated cremation burials were revealed in Trench 36 in Area D. Un-urned burials of this nature are not uncommon and are likely to date to the prehistoric or Roman periods. They are likely to be of local interest and their sensitivity is deemed to be low.

10.12.2 The undated furrow and probable 19th century field boundary identified in Trenches 9 and 13 in Area E are deemed as being of negligible sensitivity.

10.12.3 The two areas of Iron Age activity identified in Area G are likely to be of local interest and are also considered to be of low sensitivity.

10.13 Assessment of effects

10.13.1 As outlined in the ES chapter, impacts on buried archaeological remains are only anticipated during the construction phase of the project. Where there are impacts, these will be physical and destructive in nature.

10.13.2 The archaeological remains identified by the archaeological evaluation of the line of the Roade bypass are deemed to be of negligible or low sensitivity. Some of these, although they lie within the land take for the proposed route, will not be physically impacted by the route itself (in particular this is true of the Iron Age enclosure investigated by Trench 28), or by associated construction activities, and for these assets, no impacts are likely. However, construction of the proposed bypass, and associated works will physically destroy buried archaeological remains within their footprint. Here, the magnitude of effect on these low sensitivity receptors would be high. Therefore, the impact on the archaeological receptors on the Roade bypass is considered to be **Minor Adverse** at worst.

10.14 Further archaeological work and proposed mitigation.

10.14.1 In line with the approach proposed for the Main Site, the post-consent works should commence with further trial trenching to define the areas of mitigation. Once this is complete, areas for archaeological mitigation should be determined in consultation with the Local Planning Authority's archaeological advisor. These will be carried out under Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) that conform to recognised standards and guidance and which will have been prepared in consultation with and approved by them. This process will be governed by the requirements set out in the draft DCO. Based on the present understanding of the archaeological potential of the route, three likely areas for archaeological excavation have been identified – the two cremation burials in Trench 36, and the two areas of Iron Age activity in Area G.

10.15 Summary

The archaeological trial trenching of the Roade bypass has identified three areas of low sensitivity archaeological remains – two isolated undated cremation burials and two areas of Iron Age activity or settlement and two features of negligible sensitivity. Impacts on these during the construction would have a high magnitude of effect, which would lead to a **Minor Adverse** significance of effect. A further programme of archaeological works is proposed to ensure that any potential impacts on buried archaeological remains are identified and recorded if necessary as provided for by the requirements in the draft DCO.

Appendix 1

Archaeology Warwickshire Report No 18109
December 2018

Junction 15 M1: Roade Bypass
Roade
Northamptonshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

EXPERTISE WHERE YOU NEED IT

Archaeology Warwickshire Report No 18109

December 2018

archaeology warwickshire

Warwickshire County Council

Working for Warwickshire

Project:	Roade Bypass, Northamptonshire
Commissioned by:	CgMs Heritage
Site Code:	NR18
Event Number:	ENN109292
Planning Archaeologist:	Lesley-Ann Mather
National Grid Reference:	SP 7460 5145
Project Manager:	Caroline Rann MCI*f*A
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SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation, comprising 40 trial trenches, was carried out on behalf of CgMs Consulting, on an area outlined for the construction of Roade Bypass at Junction 15 of the M1.

The evaluation has demonstrated that the geophysical survey carried out in advance of the evaluation (Sumo 2017) was largely accurate identifying a concentration of archaeological features on raised ground at the southern part of the corridor.

A surface find of a flint blade dating from the Mesolithic or Neolithic was the earliest evidence for human activity on the site.

Two areas of Iron Age activity were recorded. A small rectilinear enclosure and a possible larger enclosure were found with associated pits. Further to the south-west a possible roundhouse gully, a linear gully and pits were recorded. Pottery recovered from the features showed that the assemblage dates from the mid-late Iron Age, with a small amount of transitional material. Two undated cremations of likely prehistoric or Roman date were also found.

Agricultural furrows of medieval/ post-medieval origin were recorded across the site. A field boundary depicted on 19th century maps was found in Area E and limestone land drains were recorded in a number of trenches.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 A new bypass for the village of Roade, Northamptonshire is being proposed. The proposal is part of wider Strategic Rail Freight Exchange Development comprising an intermodal freight terminal at land off Junction 15 of the M1, near Collingtree, to comprise storage, HGV parking, rail sidings, a “rapid rail freight” facility”. The Roade bypass is one element in a series of highway improvements planned to mitigate the forecasted increase in traffic from the proposed development.

1.2 A geophysical survey and desk-based assessment were commissioned to investigate the potential of the Main Site and Bypass Corridor (Sumo Services 2017, Smalley 2017), which identified areas of potential Iron Age, Roman and Saxon settlement and associated activity.

1.3 Archaeology Warwickshire were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation in accordance with the approved WSI, which took place in November 2018. This report presents the results of that work.

1.4 This work was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for field evaluation (2014).

2 SITE LOCATION

2.1 The bypass corridor is centred on National Grid Reference NGR SP 7460 5145 encompassing farmland in a crescent to the south, west and north-west of the village of Roade (Fig 1).

2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the bypass corridor is Limestone of the Blisworth Limestone Formation. This is overlain by sedimentary Diamicton till deposits (British Geological Survey 2018).

2.3 The topography of the bypass corridor is undulating, at 125m at its highest point in the north. A stream crosses the south-eastern corner of the study site (Smalley 2017).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

General Archaeological Background

3.1 This archaeological and historical background has been abridged from an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment by CGMS Heritage (Smalley 2017) Geophysical survey carried out to inform this desk based assessment identified archaeological remains along the bypass corridor comprising potential settlement activity or late Iron Age, Roman or Saxon date focused within the south, eastern and northern areas of the site (Sumo Services 2017).

3.2 No previous geophysical survey or intrusive archaeological investigation is reported on the HER to have been carried out in the area of the proposed Roade bypass.

UNDATED

3.3 There are numerous undated sites of potential archaeological origin recorded both as cropmarks and as sub-surface geophysical anomalies within the wider study area. These sites have either been observed on aerial Photographs examined under the NMP and through previous archaeological study. The cropmark evidence is summarised as betraying evidence of prehistoric monument complexes and settlement sites, Roman enclosures and field systems, Saxon/ Early-Medieval and Medieval settlement and land-use features and later Post Medieval activity.

PREHISTORIC

3.4 Cropmarks, identified from aerial Photographs are recorded in the southern part of the proposed bypass corridor on the HER (HER 4720) and interpreted as indicating potential for prehistoric activity.

3.3 Iron Age settlement enclosures (HER 92) are present in the wider landscape, approximately 500m west of the proposed bypass corridor.

3.4 Geophysical survey undertaken within the Bypass Corridor identified a rectilinear enclosure and other possible prehistoric anomalies in the field to the north of the disused railway line. The enclosure is in the same location as an undated cropmark previously recorded (HER 125927).

ROMAN

3.5 Roman settlement is known at Stoke Bruerne, approximately 550m to the south-east of the proposal site. A Scheduled Roman villa and associated buildings are present (NHLE Ref: 1003878) and late 20th century archaeological trenching identified shallow building foundations, roof and floor tiles, pottery, tesserae and Samian ware.

3.6 Other Roman activity is recorded to the east of Ashton Road in the form of enclosures and pits (HER 3544/0/1, 4707, 3544/0/2), approximately 1km east of the study site.

SAXON AND MEDIEVAL

3.7 The settlement at Roade is recorded at Domesday when it was called *Rode* (HER 4717).

3.8 The bypass corridor is outside and west of the historic settlement envelope of Roade. However the deserted medieval settlement of Hyde (HER 4658; present site of Hyde Farm) is located approximately 60m to the east. Medieval elements described include earthworks, closes and a manor farm.

3.10 Ridge and furrow earthworks survive in the locality indicating that the landscape outside the settlement was cultivated during the Saxon and medieval periods.

3.11 Traces of ploughed out ridge and furrow were located within the proposal site during the geophysical survey. No evidence suggesting medieval settlement evidence was located.

POST-MEDIEVAL/ IMPERIAL

3.12 The Roade cutting of the LNWR (HER 6297/1) crosses the northern part of the site, and the route of the Hardingstone to Stony Stratford Turnpike Road (HER 9279/1) in the south-eastern limits.

- 3.13 Historic map regression indicates that the proposed bypass corridor was mainly under fields since at least the early-mid 19th century (1811 Aston and Road Enclosure Map). The settlement at Road grew little until the end of the 20th century as shown on the Ordnance Survey maps from 1982 onwards.

4 AIMS AND METHODS

4.1 The main aim of the evaluation was to determine if there are any significant archaeological remains in the area to be developed; to form an understanding of their value and their potential to shed light on the subsequent development of the area.

4.2 Secondary aims included placing the results in their wider local and regional contexts as appropriate.

4.3 The objectives were to locate, record and analyse archaeological materials and deposits and to disseminate the results in an appropriate format.

4.4 The area of the road scheme was evaluated in five separate areas which are currently accessible (A, B, D, E, G) by means of 40 x 50m trenches representing up to 3% by area (Fig 1). The main area of archaeological interest identified by the geophysical survey was within Area G, trenches 26-28 (Fig 1). Here, a 2% sample of targeted trenching was carried out.

4.5 Topsoil, former ploughsoils and demonstrably modern overburden were removed by a 12 tonne 360 excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under direct archaeological supervision. Ground reduction was in shallow spits until the uppermost archaeological horizon, or the geological natural was reached (whichever the higher). Excavation then continued by hand. Land drains were not disturbed by the excavations.

4.6 The work was monitored on behalf of the planning authority by Lesley-Ann Mather and Liz Mordue and on behalf of the client by Nick Cooke from CGMS Heritage. Photographs were taken of each area prior to trial trenching taking place and again following completion of backfilling.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Archaeological features were recorded in eight of the trenches (Fig 1). Undated cremations were found in Trench 36 (Area D, Figs 1, 2, 6, 7). Two areas of Iron Age activity were found in Area G (Figs 4, 5, 6, 7). In Area E a furrow and a 19th-20th century field boundary ditch were excavated and recorded (Figs 1, 2, 3, 6, 7). In areas A and B limestone land drains were found running north-south (Photo 1).

5.2 Areas A and B are largely flat and gradually slope south-west and north-east respectively. Areas D, E and F slope gently down to the south. In Area F, Trenches 26, 27 and 28 were located on this southern slope and Trenches 33 and 34 on a small hill where the ground rises back up to the west. To the east of the area is a small stream.

Geological Natural

5.3 The underlying Blisworth Limestone was found across the site and mainly outcropped in Area F (indicative photos 19, 20). Elsewhere it was overlain by brown sandy clay with occasional variations including gravel patches in Trench 5 and reddish brown clay bands in Trench 27 and Trench 29. This variation accounts for the geophysical anomalies picked up by the magnetometer survey (Fig 1, from Sumo 2017).

5.4 The geological natural was reached between 0.22m to 0.50m below the current ground surface.

Deposit Sequence

5.4 Where not disturbed by anthropogenic activity, the geological natural was directly overlain by a simple sequence of subsoil overlaid by topsoil. In Area G, horticultural horizons were overall shallower than in other areas and there was no subsoil in evidence.

Mesolithic or Neolithic

5.4 Evidence for the Mesolithic or Neolithic period comprised a single flint blade found in the topsoil (1401) in Trench 14.

Iron Age rectilinear enclosure Trench 28

5.5 In Trench 28, the north-south and east-west aligned ditches (2803 and 2804) which formed part of the rectilinear enclosure visible on the geophysics, were cut directly into the bedrock (Figs 4 and 6, Photo 2). The ditches, measuring 0.45m and 0.51m in depth respectively, exhibited steep nearly vertical sides and fairly flat bases (Photo 3). In the excavated sections, two different events of infilling were recorded, all producing Iron Age pottery. The lower fill (2805) of ditch 2803 consisted of large limestone pebbles within dark brown clay matrix and above this was a moderately compacted dark brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized pebbles (2806). Similarly, the primary fill of 2804 comprised dark brown silty clay with occasional medium to large sized angular stones and charcoal flecks (2807), overlain by dark brown clayey silt (2708) with frequent small limestone pebbles, pottery and a small number of animal bones. No features were found within the enclosure. The latest pottery sherd found within the enclosure ditches was late Iron Age.

Other Iron Age features in Trench 28

5.6 A small sub-circular pit or gully terminus (2818), to the west of the enclosure ditch extended beyond the trench to the north. This was not excavated but a single Iron Age pottery sherd was recovered from the top of its dark brown silty clay fill (2819).

5.7 Three further pits were found to the west. Pit 2812 was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.65m in diameter, with steep sides and a flat base (Photo 4). This contained a single fill of light greyish brown silty clay (2813). Similarly, pits 2814 and 2816 were also sub-circular in plan and had greyish brown clay-rich fills (2815 and 2817). A small number of Iron Age pottery fragments were recovered from the surface of fill 2817 of pit 2816.

5.8 The pits were cut by an east-west aligned ditch (2809, Photo 4) which contained Later-Middle Iron Age pottery in its dark greyish brown silty clay upper fill (2810). The feature had a shallow profile with a slightly rounded base. It is noted that the ditch followed a similar alignment to the furrows or later plough marks indicated on the geophysical survey however, the presence of two fills suggests it was not a cultivation feature.

Possible Iron Age enclosure in Trench 26

5.9 In Trench 26 (Photo 5), the intersection of two ditches was exposed (Photo 6); ditch 2614 was 1.75m wide and was aligned north-south. Its lower fill comprised greyish brown silty clay (2616) which produced fragmentary pottery of likely Iron Age date, animal bone fragments and charcoal flecks, sealed by a fill of comparable consistency but slightly darker containing no finds (2615). It was cut by ditch 2617. The primary fill of ditch 2617 was reddish brown silty clay (2619). Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the upper fill of greyish brown silty clay (2618). Both ditches were apparent on the geophysical survey and it is possible that they represent part of an enclosure.

Other Iron Age features in Trench 26

5.10 Two pits in close proximity were recorded approximately 3m from the north-east end of Trench 26 (Fig 6). The most westerly pit (2602) was not entirely exposed in the trench, but measured 0.18m in depth and 1.60m in width, with gradually sloping sides to a fairly flat base (Photo 7). Its primary fill consisted of redeposited reddish brown clay with sand, charcoal flecks and possible degraded pottery sherds (2604). It was overlain by 0.10m of greyish brown clay (2603) which produced 23 fragments of Iron Age pottery and unidentifiable burnt clay.

5.11 The adjacent pit (2605) was 0.55m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and slightly rounded base (Photo 8). It was filled with multiple deposits of naturally weathered clays, sands and limestone fragments possibly representing different infilling events; the lower fill comprised charcoal-rich greyish brown silty clay (2612), overlaid by redeposited reddish brown silty clay (2613) and a slightly darker fill of similar colour and consistency (2611). Above this was a greyish brown silty clay (2608) and a localised darker deposit of greyish brown silty clay (2607), which produced some animal bone fragments. The uppermost deposit of dark greyish brown silty clay (2606) contained a moderate amount of small to medium sized limestone gravel and charcoal flecks. Iron Age pottery was recovered from the majority of the fills, including the primary fill (2612).

5.12 A possible third pit 2609 was recorded adjacent to the pit group, but was rather irregular in plan and was interpreted as a natural feature; this was filled with reddish brown clay (2610) and was not excavated (Fig 6).

5.13 Also in Trench 26 was a *c*.2.5m wide ditch (2620) aligned on the same orientation as ditch 2614 (Photo 8). It had gradually sloping sides, steeper and uneven on the east side and more gradual on the west. Late Iron Age pottery sherds were covered from within a greyish brown clay-rich fill (2621). The ditch was truncated along its length by a modern ceramic land drain and as a consequence the entire profile of the ditch was not seen.

5.14 Archaeological features in Trench 27 (Photo 9) were shallow but all produced Iron Age pottery fragments. The terminus of a NW-SE running gully 2705 was 0.65 in width and 0.15 in depth (Photo 10). It had moderately steep sloping sides and a nearly flat base. It contained a fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (2706) with occasional charcoal flecks and a few pottery and animal bone fragments. Immediately to the south-west was a gully terminus or pit (2707) filled with dark greyish brown silty clay (2708) (Photo 11). Approximately 3m to the south-west, the base of a pit (2709) was exposed filled with dark greyish brown silty clay (2710). A further possible base of a post hole was found (2711), measuring 0.35-0.40m in diameter and only 0.06m in depth, also filled with a clay-rich fill of similar colour (2712).

5.15 The shallow nature of the features in Trench 27 seems to be linked to the presence of a buried soil horizon (2703). It is notable that the fills of the features were identical in composition to the layer of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks (Fig 6, Fig 7 section F). It is possible that this layer is an occupation layer perhaps built up as the features went out of use.

Possible Iron Age roundhouse Trench 34

5.16 The terminus of a possible curvilinear gully (3402) was up to 0.16m in depth, but may have been truncated during machining (Photo 12). This had irregular profile with gently sloping sides and a concave base. A few flat stones were recorded along its base beneath a layer of dark brown clayey silt (3403). This could potentially represent the remnants of a gully of a roundhouse.

Other Iron Age features in Trench 34

5.17 A possible pit or post hole (3408) was found 8m to the south of gully 3402. It had fairly steeply sloping sides into a rounded base (Photo 13). It was filled with two fills; the lower comprised redeposited reddish brown silty clay (3410) with occasional fragments of limestone and charcoal flecks, overlain by dark greyish brown silty clay (3409) which produced a single Iron Age pottery sherd.

5.18 A north-south aligned gully (3404) was recorded at the northern end of Trench 34 (Photo 14). It had steep sides, a slightly rounded base and incorporated a single fill of dark brown silty clay (3405) which contained occasional small to medium sized pebbles and a small number of heat cracked stone and pottery fragments. It was dated to the Iron Age but its function is unknown.

5.19 Two pits (3406 and 3411), spaced 3m apart, were located approximately 20m from the north end of Trench 34. Both were circular in plan, measuring 0.80m and 1.10m in diameter respectively. Pit 3406 had steep sides, a slightly rounded base and was filled with a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (3407) which contained charcoal flecks, Iron Age pottery sherds and an animal bone fragment (Photo 15). Pit 3411 was larger and contained two fills; the bottom was redeposited yellowish brown clayey silt (3412) with occasional gravel, sealed by dark brown clayey silt with grey mottling (3413, Photo 15). A small quantity of animal bone and pottery sherds was recovered but there is no other evidence alluding to a particular function for the feature.

Undated cremations

5.20 Two possible cremations were uncovered in Trench 36 (Fig 6). Pit 3603 was ovoid in plan, measuring 1.09m long x 0.80m wide, and contained a large amount of charcoal, cremated bone fragments and possible pottery (3605) within a greyish brown silty clay matrix (3604, Photo 17). The second feature (3606) was also ovoid, 0.90m long x 0.70m wide, and two fills were discernible. A deposit of greyish brown silty clay (3607) and a darker deposit grey clay with substantial charcoal inclusions and cremated bone fragments (3606, Photo 18). These were not excavated at this stage. It is likely that the features are of Prehistoric or Roman date. The pottery sherd may have been part of an urn or pot and was therefore left *in-situ.*

Undated gully

5.21 Gully 3302 was 0.55m wide, slightly curving with steep sloping sides and a narrow concave base was located some 20m from the western end of Trench 33 (Photo 19). It was filled with 0.22m of brown clayey silt which incorporated occasional small and medium sized stones, charcoal flecks and possible burnt animal bone fragments, but no other finds.

Post-medieval

5.21 The remains of possible medieval/ post-medieval furrows that seemed to correspond with geophysical anomalies were visible in a number of trenches, but they were shallow and largely truncated by modern ploughing. Furrow 904 at the north-west end of Trench 9 was tested (Figs 6, 7). This had moderately sloping sides into a flat base. It incorporated a single fill of brown clayey silt (903) with occasional pebbles and small cobbles. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature, but it aligns with the ploughing trends visible on the geophysics.

5.22 A NW-SE aligned ditch (1303) was found in Trench 13 (Figs 6, 7). No dating evidence was found in the dark greyish brown clayey silt fill (1304) but is appears to correspond to a boundary depicted on 19th century maps.

6 THE FINDS

POTTERY *by Phil Mills*

Introduction

6.1 There were 336 fragments, weighing 2812g presented for study. This comprised 15 fragments of probable burnt clay, weighing 118g, and 321 sherds weighing 2596g of potter, with 15 rims, 7 bases and 1 handle scar.

6.2 The material was rapidly scanned for assessment, being recorded to ware type, but with some note being made of common fabric inclusions, following the Warwick archaeology/ Oxford Archaeology recording system (Booth 2000). with a basic concordance to the unpublished Northamptonshire fabric series, as summarised by Perrin 2006. Material was grouped into sherd families, based on ware type and recording number of sherds, NoSh. Weight in grams, WT, minimum number of rims, MNR, rim equivalent, RE, rim diameter in cm, base equivalent, BE, and base diameter in cm, BD, along with notes about decoration etc.

The burnt clay

6.3 None of the burnt clay had any recognisable function, and all derived from pit [2605].

Dating

6.4 The fabrics were mainly of IA/ MIA tradition type, but there was a small amount of wheel made class E, Aylesford-Swarling tradition material. There were very few rims and most of these were rim fragments and could not be readily identifiable. The larger identifiable fragment included a jar with an everted outcurving rim with a rounded tip in a fossil shell fabric, as Hancocks and Woodward 2015 Fig Cer1 no 11 of Late MIA date, from ditch [2802], a fossil shell fabric jar with and everted rounded rim with groove below, as Timby 2007 Fig 4.1 no 11 of Iron Age date from pit [2605], a large globular jar with an internal bevelled rim, as Timby 2007 Fig 4.1 no 4 of IA date from pit [2605]. There was also a fossil shell fabric thick walled globular jar with a stubby everted tapering rim with slight lid seating from ditch [2809].

6.5 There was a scored ware (Elsdon 1992) body sherd, in a quartz tempered fabric from ditch [2621] and a possible eroded scored ware sherd in a shell rich fabric from ditch [2803], which have a date range of *c*. C3 BC to C1 AD.

6.6 There was a shell tempered storage jar with a bead rim from ditch [2617] of possible LIA type.

6.7 There was a grog tempered wheel made/ slow wheel made high shouldered jar with a beaded tip of 'Belgic' (Aylesford-Swarling) type from ditch [2617] and a body sherd with cordons in a similar fabric from ditch [2621]. These are likely to be of late 1st century BC to early 1st century AD date.

6.8 The pottery suggests a date of later middle Iron Age with some LC1 BC to EC1 AD pottery, with no evidence of any deposition after the early 1st century AD.

Taphonomy

6.9 Table 1 pottery deposition by context type

Context Type	No%	Wt%	MNR%	RE%	BE%	MSW	MPR
Ditch	41.4%	43.2%	66.7%	64.3%	78.8%	8.71	7.40
Gully	1.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%		0.83	
Pit	56.4%	56.6%	33.3%	35.7%	21.2%	8.39	8.20
Posthole	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		1.00	
N/AVG	**321**	**2683**	**15**	**115**	**66**	**8.36**	**7.67**

6.10 Table 1 shows the deposition of the pottery by context type. The majority of the material comes from pits closely followed by ditches and gullies. This is a typical profile of rural site of the period in the region.

6.11 The number of rim fragments was 4.6% of the overall total of pottery, slightly below the average for sites of this period (6%). However, the suggestion of differential deposition practice, seen on rural site in the midlands, is not so apparent here, although the material from pits only comes from a single pit whilst most of the ditch segments excavated had rims or bases although most were concentrated in 2617 and 2803.

6.12 The majority of pottery from pits came from a single pit 2605 out of 8 pits that had pottery in them. There were 5 ditch segments with rims and bases from them out of 6 segments excavated with pottery in them.

Supply

6.13 Class E (Perrin 2006 Type A): Some 2 % of the assemblage fell into this category, suggesting that the site overlaps with the beginning of the uptake of this ware type in the late 1st century BC to early 1st century AD.

6.14 Class P: Some 98% of the assemblage could be assigned into this class. The majority were in shell rich fabrics (Perrin 2006 Type B), with a very few without obvious shell temper. This is a somewhat higher level than Crick Covert Farm (Hancocks and Woodward 2015) to the west and Silverstone (Timby 2007) to the south.

Decoration

6.15 There was 1 definite scored ware and a probable but eroded scored ware example. Other decoration included 3 eroded examples of impressed string decoration

Discussion

6.16 This is an assemblage of late middle Iron Age tradition and a small amount of late Iron Age pottery from Northamptonshire. Most of the pottery is in Class P and parallels suggest that activity between late-mid IA with a very small amount of transitional.

6.17 As there is no Roman pottery, occupation must be LIA at the latest (c.300BC - AD43).

6.18 The only vessel forms were jars and a storage jar, consistent with basic rural settlement.

6.19 Catalogue

Context	Fabric Code	Part	Function	Form code	Form Type	Base	Handle	spout	NoSh	Wt	MNR	RE	RD	BD	Date From	Date to	Comments
2603	P00	Body							2	31	0	0					buff surfaces sparse shell
2603	p21	Body							21	55	0	0					shell
2606	D00	Body							2	6	0	0					pale brown v friable some shell could be burnt clay
2606	P01	Body							1	15	0	0					oxidise some shell poss. Impressed decoration thick walled vessel

2606	p21	Body				6	13	0	0					shell
2606	p21	Rim	J			2	4	1	5	15				fragments from a jar with a simple rim
2606	p21	Rim	J			1	4	1	3	15				jar with an everted simple rounded rim with grooved below tip Timby 11
2606	p22	Body				1	3	0	0					sparse shell
2607	D00	Body				1	2	0	0					friable organic impression poss. burnt clay
2607	p21	Body				7	37	0	0					
2607	p21	Body				1	10	0	0					
2608	D23	Body				12	121	0	0					yellow with chalk tamper poss. Burnt clay
2608	P00	Body				1	3	0	0					reduced with abundant organics
2608	p21	Body				15	323	0	0					hard fired
2608	p21	Body				12	102	0	0					lost surfaces
2608	p21	Rim	J			4	87	1	25	20				large globular jar with internal bevelled rim as Timby 1995 fig 4.1 no 4 IA
2611	p21	Body				37	177	0	0					
2611	p21	Body				11	339	0	0					
2612	p21	Base		11		1	9	0	0		10			
2612	p21	Body				20	117	0	0					
2618	e00	Body				1	6	0	0					grog shell and quartz
2618	e00	Rim	J			1	14	1	12	15		1	70	high shouldered jar with a beaded tip reduced surfaces poss. WM / slow WM grog temper
2618	p21	Body				8	28	0	0					
2618	p21	Body				1	4	0	0					poss. eroded impressed decoration string
2618	P21	Rim	J			1	4	1	4	15				jar with a straight everted rim slightly thickening at the rounded tip
2618	p21	Rim	J			1	7	1	5	15				jar rim fragment everted with a rounded tip straight
2618	P21	Rim	SJ			1	165	1	7	35				large storage jar with a bead rim
2619	p21	Body				6	7	0	0					
2619	p21	Rim	J			1	1	1	5	10				jar rim fragment everted rim with a slight bead
2621	e00	Body				2	14	0	0					oxidised surface wm? Grog, cordons
2621	P11	Body				1	11	0	0					scored
2621	p21	Base		11		2	10	0	0		10			
2621	p21	Body				4	18	0	0					
2621	p21	Body				2	5	0	0					

2706	p21	Body					6	5	0	0			
2708	p21	Body					2	11	0	0			
2708	p21	Body				9	1	9	0	0			Handle Scar?
2710	p21	Body					3	18	0	0			
2710	p21	Body					1	9	0	0			oxiidsed
2712	p21	Body					1	1	0	0			
2805	e00	Body					2	53	0	0			HM brown surface string impression
2805	p21	Base			11		1	10	0	0		10	
2805	p21	Base	SJ		11		1	32	0	0		10	
2805	p21	Body					18	151	0	0			
2805	p21	Body					2	15	0	0			
2805	p21	Rim	J				1	2	1	5	15		rim fragment slightly everted rim with thickening tip
2806	p21	Base			12		1	4	0	0		10	
2806	p21	Body					17	85	0	0			
2806	p21	Body					1	7	0	0			
2806	p21	Body					1	17	0	0			oxidised surfaces with eroded scoring?
2806	p21	Rim	J				1	4	1	5	15		slightly everted rim with squared tip
2806	p21	Rim	J				1	29	1	6	15		organic voids everted outcurving rim with rounded tip Hancocks and woodward type 11
2807	p21	Body					2	9	0	0			
2808	p21	Base			11		1	14	0	0		10	
2808	p21	Body					12	193	0	0			oxidised surfaces
2808	p21	Handle				9	1	25	0	0			
2808	p21	Rim	J				1	5	1	5	15		jar rim fragment with squared tip
2810	p21	Base			11		1	10	0	0		12	
2810	p21	Body					24	120	0	0			
2810	p21	Body					1	1	0	0			
2810	p21	Rim	J				2	62	1	20	15		thick walled globular jar with stubby everted tapering rim with poss. slightly lid seating l - MIA
2817	p21	Body					3	6	0	0			
2819	p21	Body					1	6	0	0			brown surfaces
3403	P00	Body					4	1	0	0			shell
3405	p21	Body					5	16	0	0			
3407	p21	Body					15	43	0	0			shell temper
3409	p21	Body					1	1	0	0			shell

3413	P00	Body		9	76	0	0		SHELL
3413	P00	Rim	J	1	5	1	3	15	JAR RIM FRAGMENT WITH A BEAD RIM SHELL TEMPER
3413	P00	Rim	J	1	5	1	5	15	SHELL TEMPERD JAR RIM RAGMETN WTH BEAD RIM

FLINT *By Brian Meredith and Edwin Pearson*

6.20 A blueish-grey coloured flint blade with a milky blue patina of Mesolithic or Neolithic date was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 14 (1401). The flint had been struck off a conical blade core as indicated by dorsal flake scars. The thick platform is typical of hammer stone technology. One edge margin shows an impact from a narrow edged tool. The other margin is unifacially worked on the right hand edge towards the dorsal surface. The dorsal scars come from both directions but mostly from the distal end. The lack of patina on the worked edge suggests organised retouch at a later date. The milkiness of the patina suggests the blade has been exposed to calcareous (alkaline) soils for some time, but it cannot be established for how long.

ANIMAL BONE *by Shiela Hamilton-Dyer*

6.21 A small amount of animal bone was recovered from the evaluation trenches. After re-joining recent breaks there are 69 individual specimens of bone and teeth for appraisal (Table 1).

Context Type	Comments	cattle bones	sheep bones	sheep teeth	deer	dog	cattle sized	sheep sized	total bones and teeth
pit fill	sheep/goat metatarsus distal fragment fused, 2 sheep size fragments, other fragments		1				2	4	**7**
pit fill	sheep mandibles ?pair dp4 at stage g M1 at stage e, sheep/goat maxilla fragment, sheep/goat radius shaft, sheep/goat humerus shaft, sheep/goat metatarsus shaft, sheep/goat tibia shaft gnawed and ivoried, cattle radius shaft fragment, various rib and shaft fragments.	1	7				2	8	**18**
ditch	cattle metatarsus shaft gnawed, cattle tibia shaft fragment, sheep size fragment probably tibia	2						1	**3**
ditch	sheep/goat humerus R shaft gnawed		1						**1**
ditch	sheep/goat upper molar, shaft fragment of ?horse tibia			1			1		**2**

pit fill	sheep/goat metacarpus shaft fragment, sheep/goat tibia fragment gnawed, sheep size rib fragment		2					1	**3**
linear	very small dog sacrum and part pelvis, cattle ph1 gnawed, sheep/goat metacarpus proximal and shaft, sheep/goat hyoid, sheep size vertebra, various shaft rib and other fragments.	1	2			2	4	8	**17**
linear	red deer sawn antler beam chunk fragmented, sheep/goat metacarpus shaft fragment, sheep/goat radius shaft, sheep size gnawed shaft fragment, other fragment.		2		1		1	1	**5**
linear	cattle mandible R with P4 stage g M1 stage g, sheep/goat metacarpus proximal	1	1						**2**
ditch	cattle mandible L with P3 just in wear, sheep/goat tibia shaft, sheep/goat radius and ulna incomplete, cattle size rib, fragments.	1	3				4		**8**
pit fill	sheep/goat lower molar, cattle size shaft fragment			1			1		**2**
pit fill	sheep/goat metatarsus shaft gnawed		1						**1**
	count	**6**	**20**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**15**	**23**	**69**
	%	***8.7***	***29.0***	***2.9***	***1.4***	***2.9***	***21.7***	***33.3***	
	bone in mostly good condition pale slightly chalky, some Hackett tunnels								

6.21 The condition of the material is variable between contexts but mainly very good; less than 3% of the remains are of loose teeth and few bones are in poor condition. Some bones do have 'Hackett tunnels' (Hackett 1981) and several are gnawed but most of the determinate elements are readily identifiable. Sheep/goat elements are the most frequently identified and, together with rib, vertebrae and shaft fragments of sheep size, account for over 60% of all remains. The sheep/goat remains include a pair of well-preserved mandibles from a lamb under one year. The few bones of cattle present also include partial mandibles with tooth eruption and wear data. In addition to gnaw marks on some of the bones there are two bones of dog from 2805. These are a sacrum and a partial pelvis, probably from the same small dog of Jack Russell size. Also present is a section of a red antler beam. This in pieces and is not in as good condition as some of the other remains but does show clearly where it was sawn across at both ends of the section.

6.22 This very small collection of bone indicates that faunal material is present across the site and that it is preserved in good condition. There is potential for larger amounts to be recovered from further excavations in this locality. The sawn antler is expected to originate from levels of Romano-British date or later. The small dog is also likely to be from late Iron Age or later, as dwarf and miniature dogs first appear at this time, becoming more frequent in the Roman period (Clark 1995, 2000).

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The archaeological evaluation has identified distinct foci of human activity across the application area. The general distribution of features and their density within the site coincides well with that predicted by the geophysics, with a concentration of features lying in the southern part of the application area and no archaeological features other than stone field drains in the northern part. A number of features were identified within the trenches which were not identified by the geophysical survey; these were either small features that would be unlikely to be detected as anomalies by the survey or very shallow truncated features.

7.2 Mesolithic or Neolithic activity was identified in the form of a single blade fragment from the topsoil in Trench 27. There are no known occupation sites of these periods in the surrounding area and evidence of activity is limited to unstratified flints recovered during field walking. Settlement evidence for the Neolithic is elusive throughout the county, generally being limited to sites identified from aerial Photos and a few excavated examples with little structural evidence (Clay 2006).

7.3 Two areas of Iron Age activity were recorded in the evaluation. One area corresponded to a positive anomaly identified by the geophysical survey and aerial Photos (HER 125927). Here a small rectilinear enclosure approximately 37m x 30m was recorded. No features within the enclosure were found in the trenches but external pits and a ditch were recorded. A possible larger enclosure to the north-west was represented by two intersecting ditches which were most likely contemporary. Adjacent to and potentially within the enclosure were two pits. Smaller, more ephemeral features were found to be overlain by a possible occupation layer in Trench 27.

7.4 700m to the south-west in Trench 34 a second area of Iron Age activity was recorded. The presence of a curvilinear gully, several small pits and a linear gully suggests that this is likely to be an area of Iron Age settlement. An undated linear gully in the adjacent trench could be contemporary. No previous geophysical survey had been undertaken in the vicinity of this trench.

7.5 The Iron Age pottery assemblage found in association with the enclosures had a slightly wider date range than that found in Trench 34. A small amount of Aylesford-

Swarling pottery, which is typically dated between the late 1st century BC and early 1st century AD was found in both enclosure ditches.

7.6 This very small collection of bone indicates that faunal material is present across the site and that it is preserved in good condition. There is potential for larger amounts to be recovered from further excavations in this locality.

7.7 The two cremations in the centre of the site did not yield dating evidence, but they are likely to be prehistoric or Roman.

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1: Land drain example from Trench 5

2: Trench 28, looking south

3: Ditch 2803, looking north

4: Pit 2812, cut by ditch 2809, looking east

5: Ditches 2614 and 2617, looking west

6: Pit 2602, looking north-west

7: Pit 2605, looking south-east

8: Ditch 2620, looking south-east

9: Trench 27,looking north-east

10: Gully 2705, looking south-east

11: Gully 2707, looking south-east

12: Gully 3402, looking north

13: Pit 3408, looking south

14: Gully 3404, looking south

15: Pit 3406, looking east

16: Pit 3411, looking west

17: Cremation 3603, looking north

18: Cremation 3606, looking north

19: Trench 32, looking south

20: Trench 24, looking NW

APPENDICES

A List of contexts

Trench	*Context*	*Description*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
1	101	Dark grey brown, clay loam	0.30	Topsoil
1	102	Dark yellowish brown, clay loam	0.20	Subsoil
1	103	Dark yellowish brown clay with limestone flecks		Geological natural
2	201	Dark greyish brown, clay loam	0.30	Topsoil
2	202	Dark yellowish brown, clay loam	0.10	Subsoil
2	203	Dark yellowish brown clay with limestone flecks		Geological natural
3	301	Dark greyish brown, clay loam	0.25	Topsoil
3	302	Dark yellowish brown, clay loam	0.10	Subsoil
3	303	Dark yellow brown clay with limestone flecks		Geological natural
4	400	Dark brown, clay loam	0.32	Topsoil
4	401	Reddish and yellowish brown clay with limestone flecks		Geological natural
5	500	Dark greyish brown, clay loam	0.25	Topsoil
5	501	Yellowish brown, clay loam	0.10	Subsoil
5	502	Yellowish brown clay		Geological natural
5	503	Linear	0.15	Land drain cut
5	504	Vertical limestone stones, roughly hewn filled with brown pebbly sand	0.15	Land drain fill
6	600	Dark brown, clay silt. Friable small to medium sized angular stones, occasional charcoal flecks	0.34	Topsoil
6	601	Greyish brown. Occasional cobbles. Occasional charcoal flecks.	0.09	Subsoil
6	602	Light brown clay with limestone inclusions		Geological natural
7	700	Dark brown friable, clayey silt. Occasional cobbles and	0.30	Topsoil

		charcoal.		
7	701	Mid-brown friable, clayey silt	0.07	Subsoil
7	702	Yellowish and gryeish brown clay		Geological natural
7	703	Not excavated		Drain cut
7	704	Not excavated		Drain fill
8	800	Dark brown, silty clay, occasional cobbles.	0.30	Topsoil
8	801	Mid-brown clayey silt. Occasional stones and pebbles. Friable	0.8 – 0.10	Subsoil
8	802	Yellowish brown clay, irregularly sorted limestone gravel		Geological natural
9	900	Greyish brown clayey silt	0.34	Topsoil
9	901	Mid-brown silty clay	0.12	Subsoil
9	902	Light yellowish brown clay with gravel and limestone fragments		Geological natural
9	903	Mid-brown clayey silt, occasional gravel sorted irregularly	0.19	Fill of gully 904
9	904	Linear, moderately sloping sides, flat base	0.19	Gully cut
10	1001	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.25	Topsoil
10	1002	Mid-brown silty clay	0.10	Subsoil
10	1003	Greyish and reddish brown clay with occasional gravel and stones		Geological natural
11	1101	Greyish brown silty clay	0.10	Topsoil
11	1102	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.20	Subsoil
11	1103	Greyish and reddish brown clay, occasional gravel and limestone fragments		Geological natural
12	1200	Dark brown silty clay	0.28	Topsoil
12	1201	Mid greyish brown silty clay	0.08	Subsoil
12	1202	Reddish and yellowish brown clay, occasional gravel and		Geological natural

		limestone fragments		
13	1300	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.30	Topsoil
13	1301	Mid brown silty clay	0.10-0.20	Subsoil
13	1302	Yellowish and reddish brown clay		Geological natural
13	1303	Linear, moderately to sharply sloping sides, concave base	0.31	Field boundary ditch cut
13	1304	Dark greyish brown clayey silt, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional stones, organic-rich fill	0.31	Field boundary ditch fill
14	1400	Greyish brown clayey silt	0.12	Topsoil
14	1401	Greyish brown clayey silt	0.08–0.10	Subsoil
14	1402	Reddish and yellowish brown clay and limestone natural bedrock		Geological natural
15	1500	Dark brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
15	1501	Mid brown clayey silt	0.07	Subsoil
15	1502	Reddish brown/ light brown clay		Geological natural
16	1600	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.27	Topsoil
16	1601	Mid brown clayey silt	0.07	Subsoil
16	1602	Reddish brown clay, occasional gravel		Geological natural
17	1700	Dark brown silty clay	0.23	Topsoil
17	1701	Mid brown silty clay	0.07	Subsoil
17	1702	Reddish brown sandy clay and gravel		Geological natural
18	1800	Greyish brown, clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
18	1801	Mid-reddish clay and sandy silt	0.07	Subsoil
18	1802	Reddish brown sand and gravel		Geological natural
19	1900	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.33	Topsoil
19	1901	Yellowish brown clay and limestone fragments		Geological natural
20	2000	Dark greyish brown, clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
20	20001	Yellowish brown clay		Geological Natural
21	2100	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
21	2101	Yellowish brown clay		Geological Natural

22	2200	Dark brown clayey silt	0.32	Topsoil
22	2201	Yellow-brown clay		Geological Natural
23	2300	Dark brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
23	2301	Yellowish clay with occasional limestone flakes		Geological Natural
24	2400	Dark brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
24	2401	Yellowish clay and limestone fragments		Geological Natural
25	2500	Dark brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
25	2501	Reddish brown clay		Geological Natural
26	2600	Dark brown sandy clayey silt		Topsoil
26	2601	Yellowish brown clay and limestone bedrock		Geological Natural
26	2602	Circular, gradually sloping sides, fairly flat base	0.18	Pit cut
26	2603	Greyish brown silty sandy clay	0.10-0.14	Upper fill of 2602
26	2604	Reddish brown silty clay sand	0.04-0.06	Lower fill of pit 2602
26	2605	Circular, steeply sloping sides, rounded base	0.55	Pit cut
26	2606	Dark greyish brown silty sandy clay		Fill of pit 2605
26	2607	Dark greyish brown silty sandy clay		Fill of pit 2605
26	2608	Light greyish brown silty sandy clay		Fill of pit 2605
26	2609	Sub-circular pit	Not excavated	Pit cut
26	2610	Reddish brown sandy clay	Not excavated	Fill of pit 2609
26	2611	Greyish brown silty sandy clay	0.12	Fill of pit 2605
26	2612	Greyish brown silty sandy clay	0.14	Fill of pit 2605
26	2613	Reddish brown silty clay sand	0.28	Fill of pit 2605
26	2614	Not seen in section	0.42	Ditch cut
26	2615	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	0.22	Fill of ditch 2614
26	2616	Greyish brown silty sandy clay	Min.018	Fill of ditch 2614
26	2617	Linear, steep edges, base not reached	Min. 0.40	Ditch cut

26	2618	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	0.20	Fill of ditch 2617
26	2619	Reddish brown sandy silty clay, frequent limestone flecks	Min. 0.22	Fill of ditch 2617
26	2620	Assymetrical sides, flat base, truncated by landdrain		Ditch cut
26	2621	Greyish brown silty clay	Max.0.11	Fill of ditch 2620
27	2700	Dark brown sandy clay silt	0.30	Topsoil
27	2701	Light brown clayey silt and limestone fragments	0.10	Subsoil
27	2702	Yellow brown clay with limestone fragments	0.20	Geological natural
27	2703	Dark brown silty clay with limestone fragments	0.30	Occupation layer?
27	2704	Red brown silty clay	0.20	Geological natural
27	2705	Linear, moderately steep sides, nearly flat base	0.15	Terminus of a gully cut
27	2706	Dark greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional pottery and small animal bone fragments	0.15	Fill of gully 2705
27	2707	Shallow sides, flat base	0.05	Pit cut
27	2708	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.05	Fill of pit 2707
27	2709	Very shallow, gently sloping sides, nearly flat base	0.04	Pit cut
27	2710	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.04	Fill of pit 2709
27	2711	Circular, very shallow, moderately steep sides, flat base	0.06	Cut of post hole
27	2712	Greyish brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks	0.06	Fill of post hole
28	2800	Dark brown clayey silt	0.30	Topsoil
28	2801	Brown clayey silt with limestone fragments	0.10–0.20	Subsoil
28	2802	Yellow sandy clay/ yellow sand, sandstone fragments, outcrop of limestone bedrock		Geological natural
28	2803	Linear, steep sides, flat base	0.45	Ditch cut

28	2804	Linear, vertical sides, flat base	0.51	Ditch cut
28	2805	Dark brown clay, pale white limestone fragments (compacted), occasional charcoal flecks	0.35	Fill of ditch 2803
28	2806	Dark brown clayey silt	0.46	Fill of ditch 2803
28	2807	Dark brown silty clay, frequent small to medium sized stones, occasional charcoal flecks	0.25	Fill of ditch 2804
28	2808	Dark brown clayey silt, frequent small to medium sized stones, moderate charcoal flecks	0.29	Fill of ditch 2804
28	2809	Linear, steep sides, rounded base	0.25	Ditch cut
28	2810	Dark greyish brown silty clay, limestone fragments	0.18	Fill of ditch 2809
28	2811	Light grey silty clay, fragments of limestone	0.07	Fill of ditch 2809
28	2812	Sub-circular, steep sides, flat base	0.11	Pit cut
28	2813	Light greyish brown silty clay, occasional limestone fragments	0.11	Fill of pit 2812
28	2814	Sub-circular,	Not excavated	Pit cut
28	2815	Dark brown silty clay, occasional limestone fragments	Not excavated	Fill of pit 2814
28	2816	Sub-circular	Not excavated	Pit cut
28	2817	Dark brown silty clay, occasional limestone fragments	Not excavated	Fill of pit 2815
28	2818	Sub-circular	Not excavated	Pit cut
28	2819	Dark brown silty clay, limestone fragments, charcoal flecks	Not excavated	Fill of pit 2818
29	2900	Grey brown clayey sandy silt	0.35m	Topsoil
29	2901	Fractured limestone bedrock, yellow sandy clay, yellow sand		Geological natural
30	3000	Grey brown clayey sandy silt	0.30	Topsoil

30	3001	Yellow brown sandy clay with limestone fragments		Geological natural
31	3100	Grey brown clayey sandy silt	0.32	Topsoil
31	3101	Yellow sand and fractured bedrock limestone		Geological natural
32	3200	Grey brown clayey sandy silt	0.33	Topsoil
32	3201	Fractured limestone bedrock		Geological natural
33	3300	Greyish brown clayey sandy silt	0.33-0.36	Topsoil
33	3301	Fractured limestone bedrock		Geological natural
33	3302	Gradually sloping sides, concave base	0.22	Possible ditch cut
33	3303	Brown clayey silt, occasional small to medium sized stones and pebbles	0.22	Fill of possible ditch 3302
34	3400	Dark brown sandy clayey silt	0.35	Topsoil
34	3401	Fractured limestone, yellow brown clay		Geological natural
34	3402	Linear, gently sloping irregular sides, concave base	0.16	Terminus of a gully cut
34	3403	Dark brown clayey silt, occasional small to medium sized stones, cobbles and charcoal flecks	0.16	Fill of gully terminus 3402
34	3404	Linear, steep sides, narrow slightly rounded base	0.23	Ditch cut
34	3405	Dark brown silty clay, occasional small to medium sized limestone fragments	0.23	Fill of ditch 3404
34	3406	Sub-circular, steep sides, slightly rounded base	0.20	Pit cut
34	3407	Dark greyish brown silty clay	0.20	Fill of pit 3406
34	3408	Sub-circular, steeply sloping sides, slightly rounded base	0.17	Pit or post hole cut
34	3409	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate charcoal flecks	0.17	Fill f pit or post hole 3408
34	3410	Reddish brown silty clay, occasional limestone fragments	0.15	Fill of pit or post hole 3408

34	3411	Circular, steep sides, irregular base	0.46	Pit cut
34	3412	Yellowish brown clayey silt, irregularly sorted gravel and stones	0.09	Fill of pit 3411
34	3413	Dark brown with grey mottling clayey silt	0.37	Fill of pit 3411
35	3500	Dark brown grey silt, occasional gravel and cobbles	0.32	Topsoil
35	3501	Greyish brown clayey silt, frequent cobbles	0.10	Subsoil
35	3502	Yellowish brown sandy clay, limestone fragments		Geological natural
36	3600	Greyish brown silty clay	0.30	Topsoil
36	3601			Void
36	3602	Yellowish brown clay, grey patches, flint		Geological natural
36	3603	Elongated ovoid	Not excavated	Cremation pit cut
36	3604	Brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks	Not excavated	Fill of pit 3603
36	3605	Dark grey clay, frequent charcoal, cremated bone, possible pottery	Not excavated	Fill of pit 3603
36	3606	Elongated ovoid	Not excavated	Cremation pit cut
36	3607	Greyish brown silty clay, very occasional charcoal flecks	Not excavated	Fill of pit 3606
36	3608	Dark grey clay, frequent charcoal inclusions	Not excavated	Fill of pit 3606
37	3701	Dark brown, friable silty clay, occasional pebbles/ cobbles and stones	0.28–0.30	Topsoil
37	3702	Mid-brown friable silty clay, occasional pebbles, cobbles and stones	0.08-0.10	Subsoil
37	3703	Light brown clay with occasional irregularly sorted gravel		Geological Natural

38	3800	Dark brown silty clay, occasional pebbles and stones	0.23	Topsoil
38	3801	Mid-brown friable silty clay, occasional pebbles	0.6– 0.8	Subsoil
38	3802	Yellowish brown clay with occasional gravel and light brown clay		Geological natural
39	3900	Dark brown silty clay, occasional charcoal, occasional stones	0.28	Topsoil
39	3901	Mid brown silty clay, occasional pebbles and stones	0.8 – 0.10	Subsoil
39	3902	Yellowish brown clay with frequent irregular gravel, occasional limestone inclusions		Geological natural
40	4001	Dark greyish brown clayey silt, occasional pebbles	0.23	Topsoil
40	4002	Greyish brown clayey silt, occasional pebble, cobbles and stones	0.15	Subsoil
40	4003	Yellowish brown clay, frequent irregular limestone gravel		Geological natural

B List of finds

CONTEXT	MATERIAL	COMMENT	QUANTITY
704	Pottery	19-20th cent. glazed ware	13
1401	Flint	Mesolithic or Neolithic Worked flint	1
2603	Pottery	IA, body x 23	23
2606	Pottery	MIA, body x 10, rim x 3	13
2606	Animal bone		15
2607	Pottery	IA, body x 9	9
2607	Animal bone		26
2608	Pottery	MIA, body x 40, rim x 3	44
2611	Pottery	IA, body x 48	48
2612	Pottery	IA, base x 1	21
2618	Pottery	LC1BC – EC1AD, body x 11, rim x 3	14
2618	Animal bone		4
2619	Pottery	IA, body x 6, rim x 1	7
2619	Animal bone		1
2621	Pottery	LC1BC – EC1 AD, base x 2, rim x 9	11
2621	Animal bone		3
2706	Pottery	IA, body x 6	6
2708	Pottery	IA, body x 3	3
2708	Animal bone		3
2710	Pottery	IA, body x 4	4
2712	Pottery	IA, body x 1	1
2805	Pottery	LC1BC – EC1 AD, body x 22, base x 2, rim x 1	25
2805	Animal bone		22
2806	Pottery	LMIA, body x 19, rim x 2, base x 1	22
2806	Animal bone		10
2807	Pottery	IA, body x 2	2
2808	Pottery	(M) IA, body x13, base x 1, handle x 1	15
2808	Animal bone		5
2810	Pottery	L MIA, body x 26, base x 1, rim x 1	28
2810	Animal bone		14
2817	Pottery	IA, 3 x body	3
2817	Animal bone		2
2819	Pottery	IA, 1 x body	1

3303	Animal bone		5
3403	Pottery	IA, body x4	4
3403	Animal bone		1
3405	Pottery	IA, body x1	1
3407	Pottery	IA, body x 15	15
3407	Animal bone		1
3409	Pottery	IA, body x1	1
3413	Pottery	MIA, body x1, rim x 2	3
3413	Animal bone		4

M1

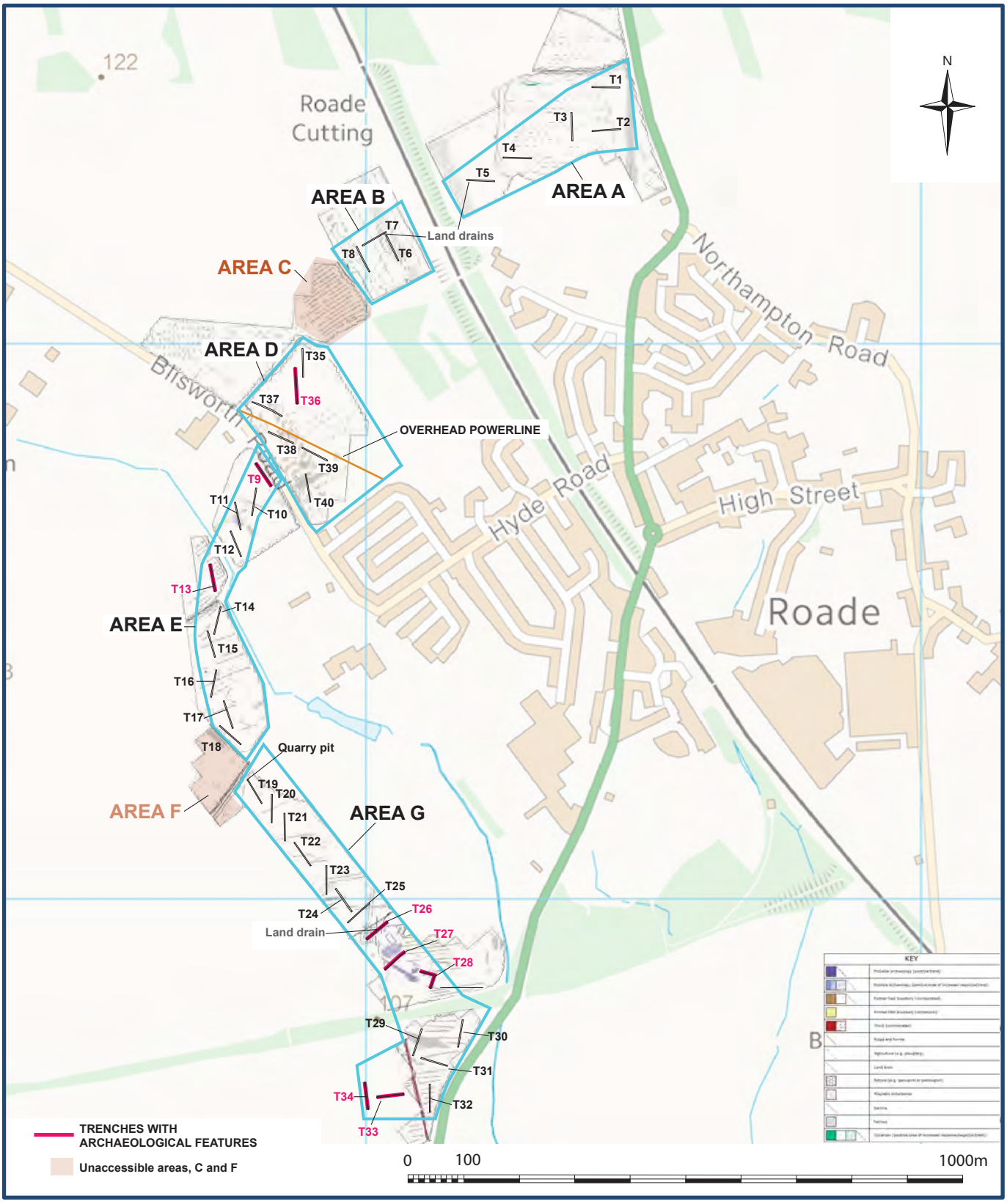

Fig 1: Location of excavated trenches, Areas A, B, D,E,G and geophysical survey

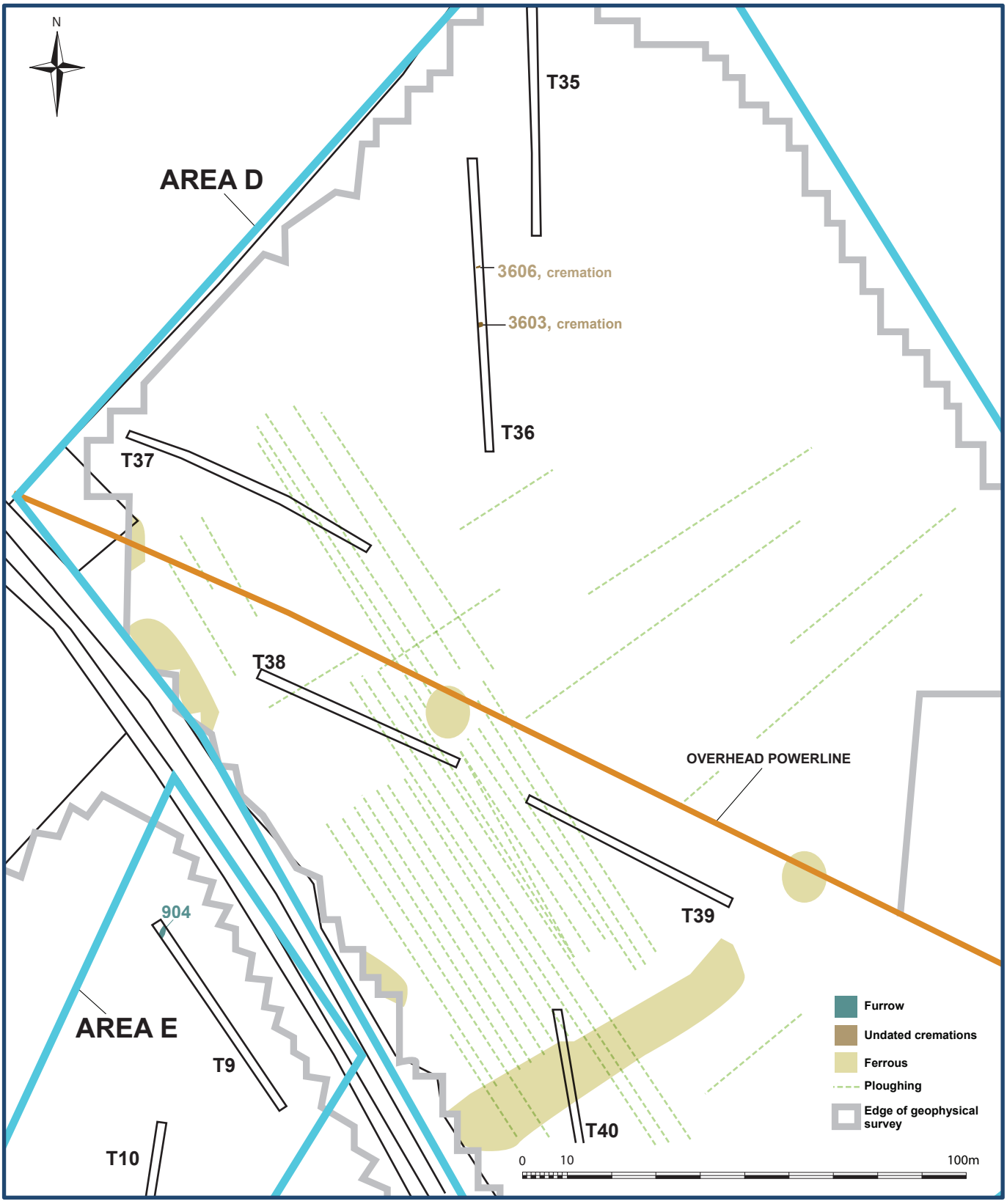

Fig 2: Detail of Area D and geophysical survey

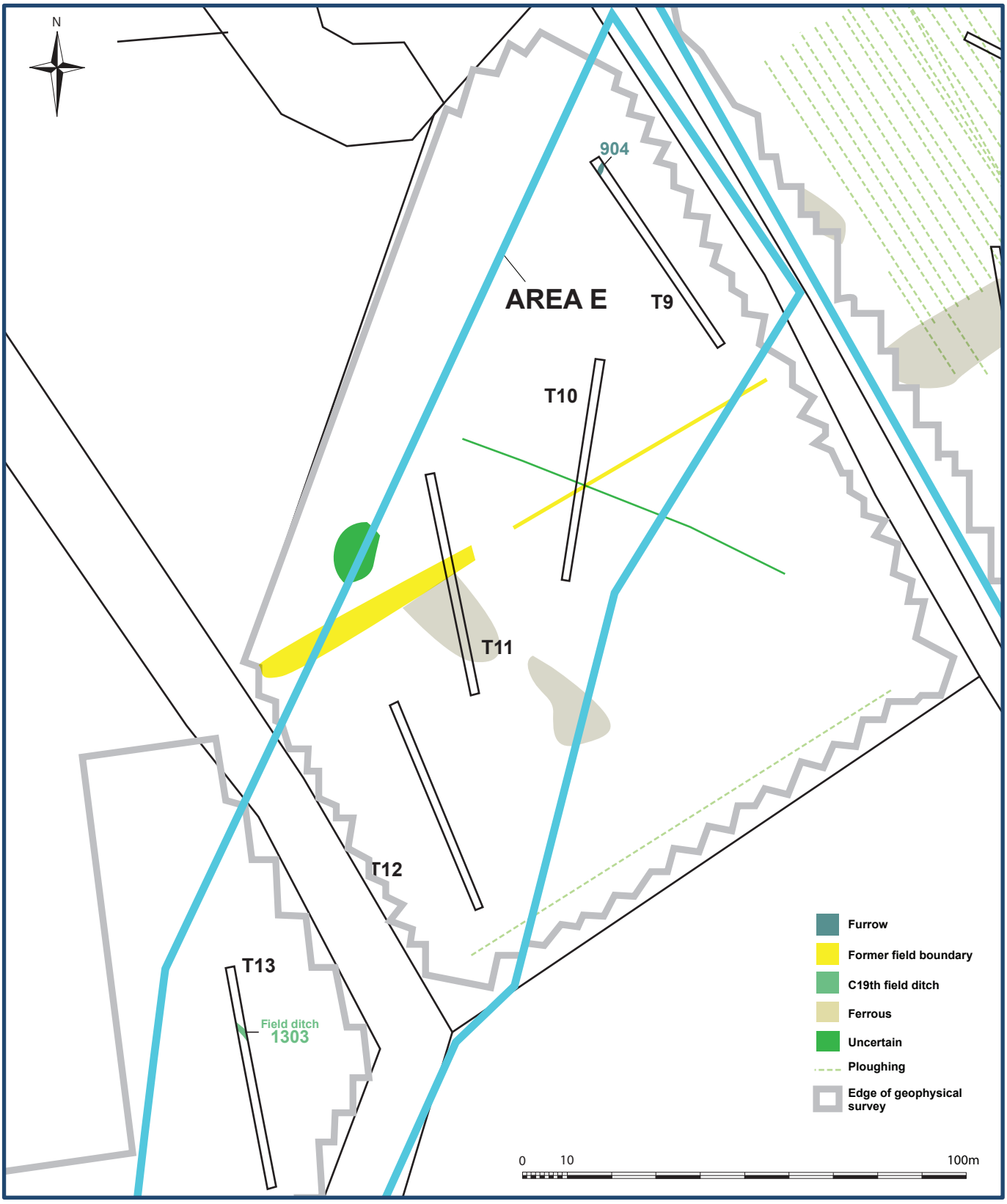

Fig 3: Detail of Area E and geophysical survey

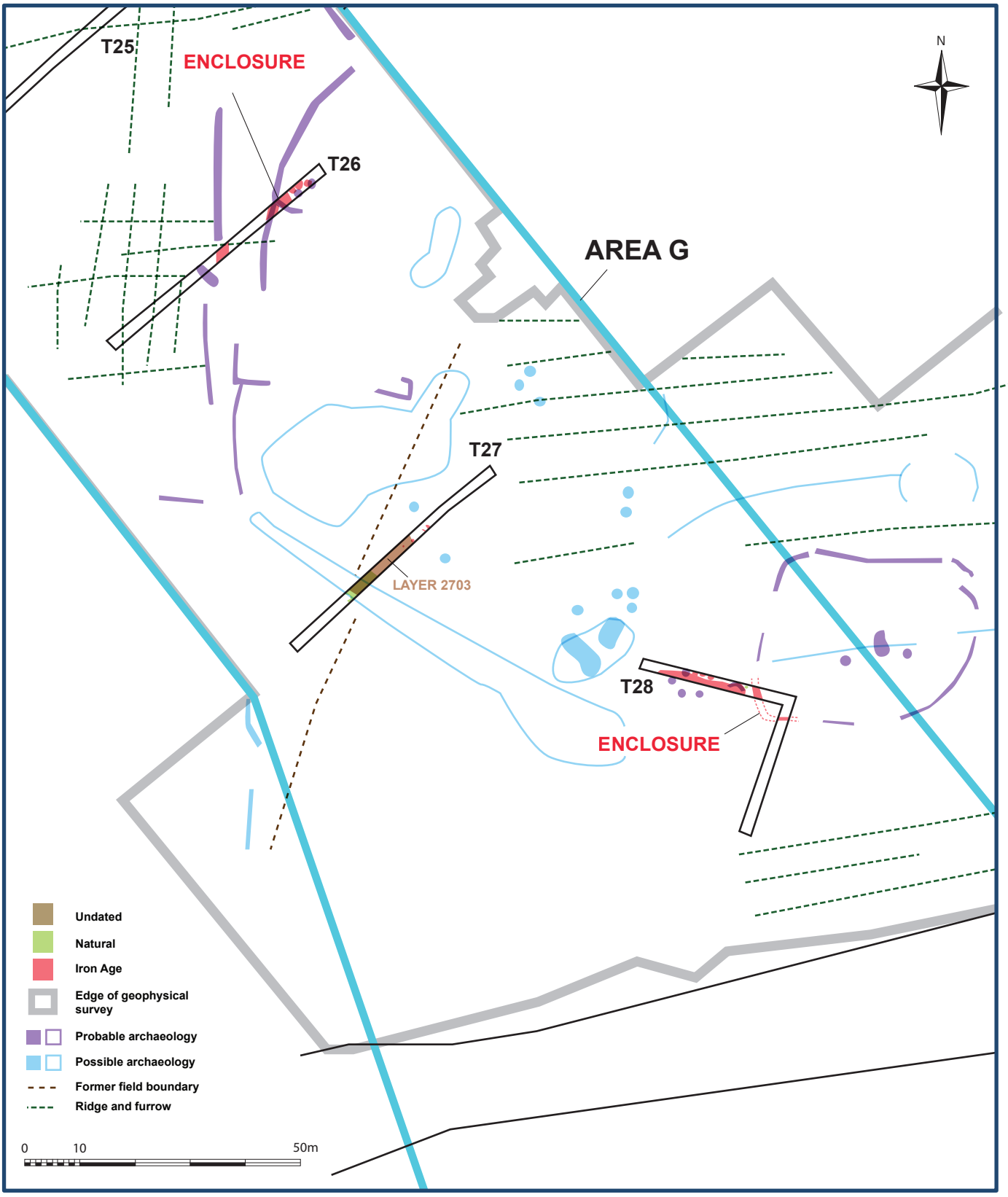

Fig 4: Detail of Area G and geophysical survey

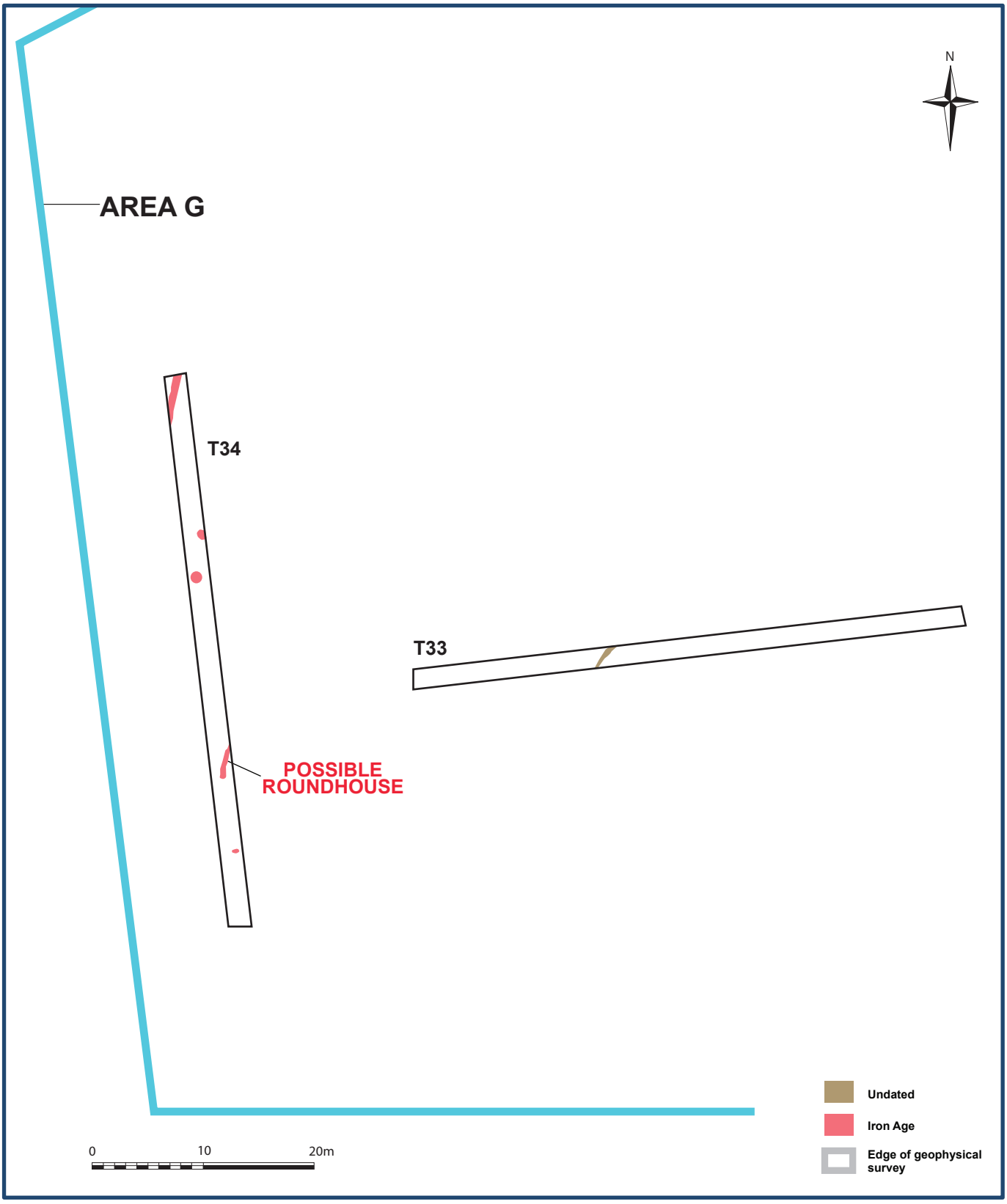

Fig 5: Detail of Area G, southern end

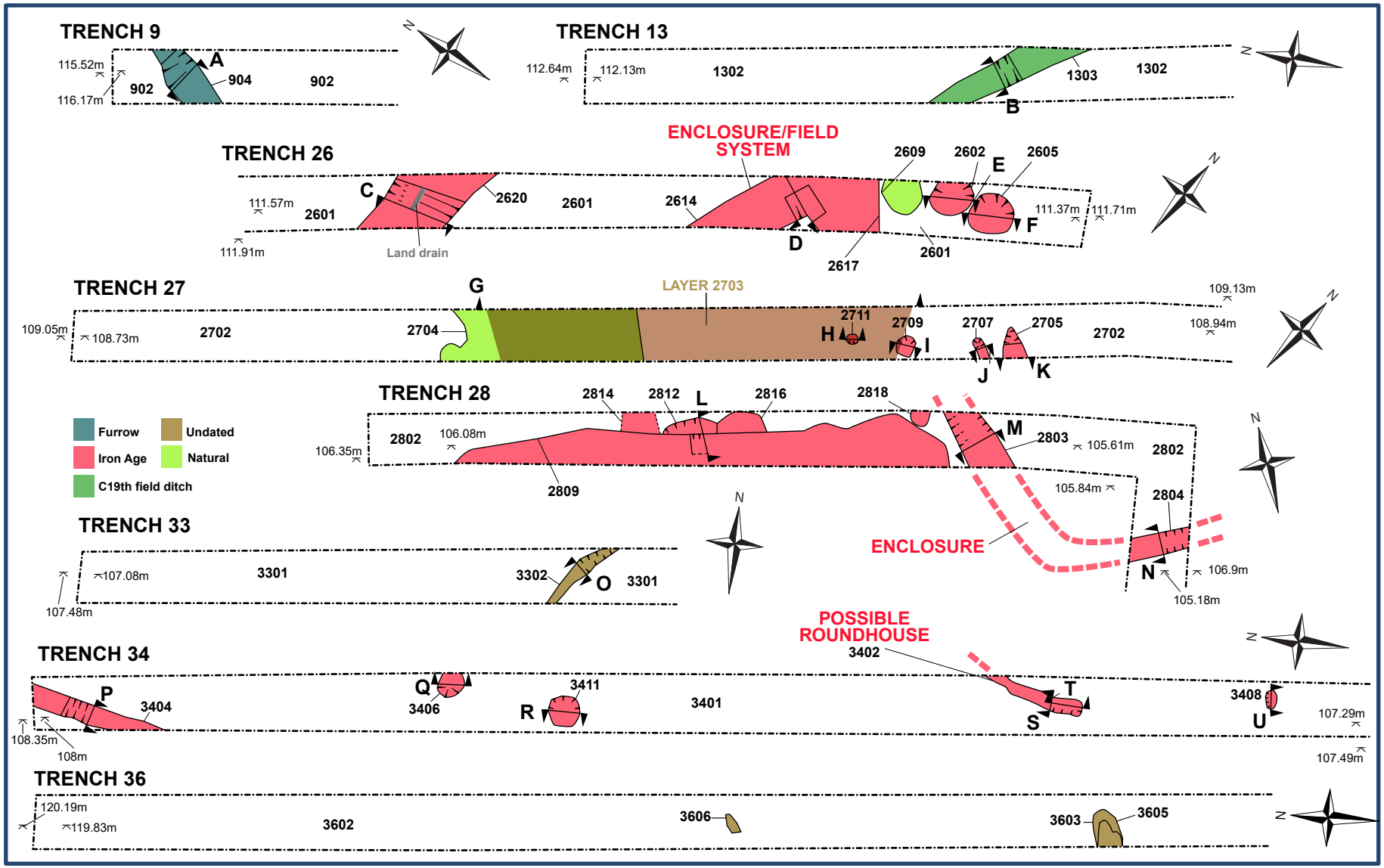

Fig 6: Detail of trenches 9, 13, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 36

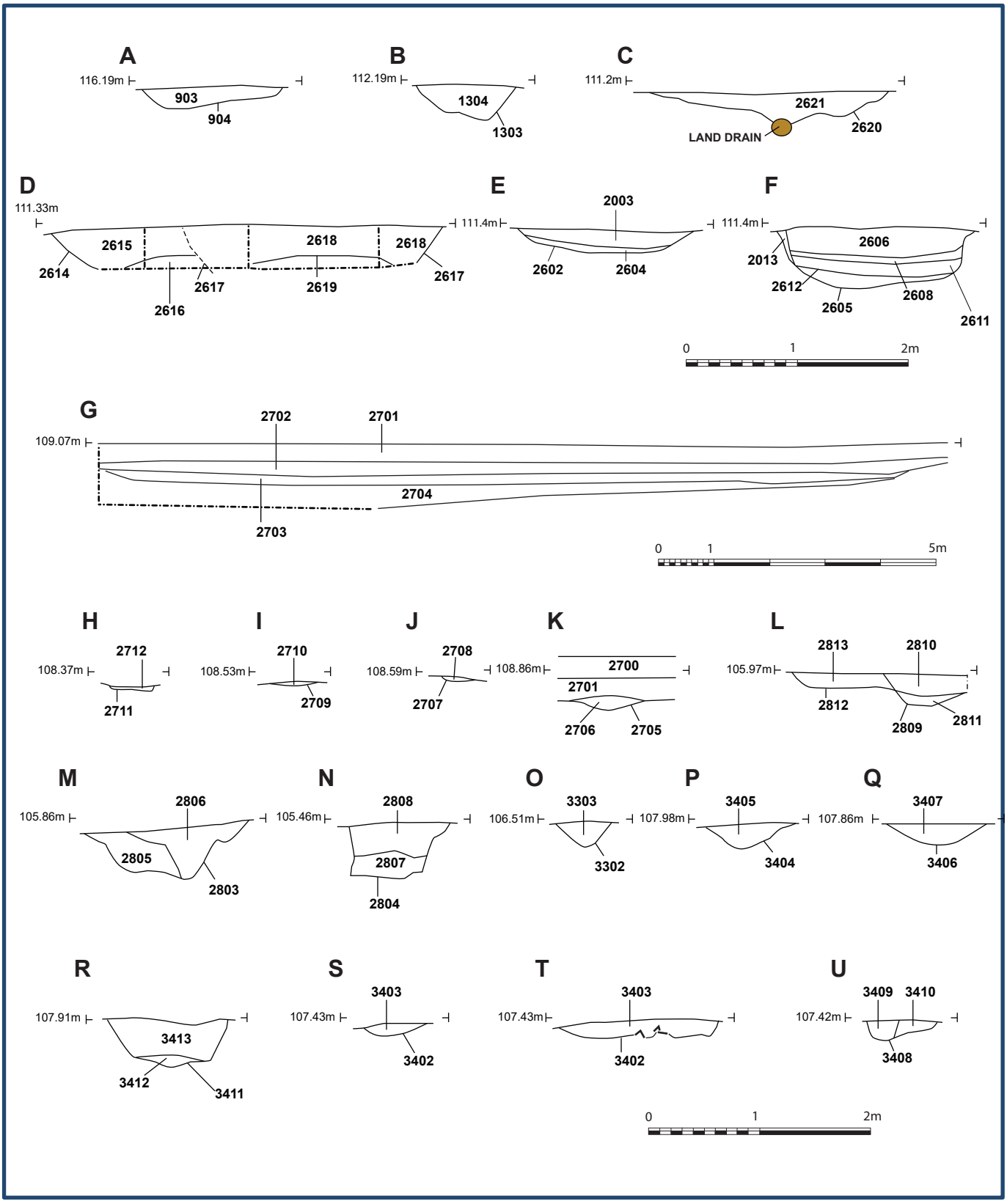

Fig 7: Sections A to T

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol27-336776

Project details

Project name	Junction 15 M1: Roade Bypass, Roade, Northamptonshire, archaeological evaluation
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation, comprising 40 trial trenches, was carried out on behalf of CgMs Consulting, on an area outlined for the construction of Roade Bypass at Junction 15 of the M1. The evaluation has demonstrated that the geophysical survey carried out in advance of the evaluation (Sumo 2017) was largely accurate identifying a concentration of archaeological features on raised ground at the southern part of the corridor. A surface find of a flint blade dating from the Mesolithic or Neolithic was the earliest evidence for human activity on the site. Two areas of Iron Age activity were recorded. A small rectilinear enclosure and a possible larger enclosure were found with associated pits. Further to the south-west a possible roundhouse gully, a linear gully and pits were recorded. Pottery recovered from the features showed that the assemblage dates from the mid-late Iron Age, with a small amount of transitional material. Two undated cremations of likely prehistoric or Roman date were also found. Agricultural furrows of medieval/ post-medieval origin were recorded across the site. A field boundary depicted on 19th century maps was found in Area E and limestone land drains were recorded in a number of trenches.
Project dates	Start: 12-11-2018 End: 13-12-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENN109292 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	NR18 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined
Monument type	GULLY Iron Age
Monument type	CREMATION Late Prehistoric
Monument type	RING DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	ENCLOSURE Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	FLINT Early Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"

Development type	Road scheme (new and widening)
Prompt	Environmental (unspecified schedule)
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ROADE Roade Bypass
Postcode	NN7 2LP
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 749920 509900 52.151684826107 -0.903796542264 52 09 06 N 000 54 13 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology Warwickshire
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Caroline Rann
Project director/manager	Caroline Rann
Project supervisor	Bryn Gethin

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	none
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	none
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	none
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

Entered by	Caroline Rann (carolinerann@warwickshire.gov.uk)
Entered on	13 December 2018

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice