

# Baston Quarry (No.2), Langtoft, Lincolnshire: *An Archaeological Evaluation*



Phases V and VI  
Areas D and E

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**Baston Quarry (No.2), Langtoft, Lincolnshire:**  
*An Archaeological Evaluation*

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Report Number 558

## Summary

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Hanson Aggregates Ltd at Baston Quarry (No. 2), Langtoft, Lincolnshire. This followed on from previous excavations in the immediately adjacent area (Hall 1999, Dickens & Patten forthcoming, Redding forthcoming). Within the excavated trenches traces of prehistoric settlement activity were recorded. Clusters and groups of postholes indicated individual structures and gullies enclosed areas. Romano-British and Medieval activity was evidenced in the form of a number of linears (representing field systems) recorded throughout the evaluated area.*

## Introduction

During a three-week period from the 20th May 2003 to 9th June 2003 an archaeological evaluation was carried out by a team from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) on behalf of Hanson Aggregates Ltd. The evaluation preceded the next phase of mineral extraction at Baston II Quarry, Langtoft, Lincolnshire (NGR 513400 312900) within Areas D and E, and followed on from several previous phases of archaeological investigation (Hall 1999, Dickens & Patten forthcoming, Redding forthcoming).

### *Topography and Geology*

The site is situated at c.5m OD within an area of previously agricultural land and quarry workings. To the north, east and west of the site are ongoing and previous

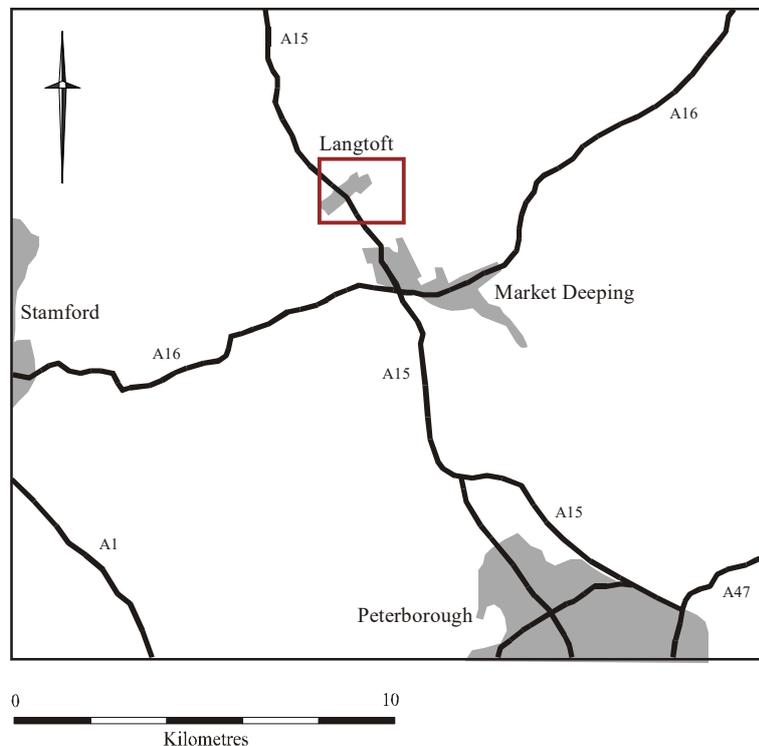


Figure 1 General Location

workings of the quarry, while to the south the fields are under arable cultivation. The underlying geology is Oxford Clay overlain with First Terrace river gravels.

### *Archaeological Background*

Baston Quarry (No. 2) and its environs lie within a landscape rich in archaeology. Cropmark surveys have shown a number of field systems and enclosures throughout, and traces of a Romano-British road have been plotted less than a hundred meters from the area under investigation. Excavations within the quarry itself (Hall 1999, Redding forthcoming, and Dickens & Patten forthcoming) have clearly shown that even areas which show up as apparently empty spaces on aerial photographs can contain a wealth of evidence attesting to periods of activity within this landscape.

In the summer of 1998 the first excavation within this part of the quarry land was undertaken by the CAU (Hall 1999). A 2ha area was excavated within the western corner of the quarry (Area A). Residual evidence for Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity was found in the form of a flint tool and flakes, along with two pits dated to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. The majority of the features were dated to the Later Bronze Age with a series of 31 large pits or wells being excavated along with two four-post structures and a third trapezoidal structure. There was no direct evidence for Iron Age or Early Roman activity with the land coming into arable use only in the Later Roman period. The area appeared to have then been enclosed in the Saxo-Norman period with the construction of a series of cut linears and fence lines.

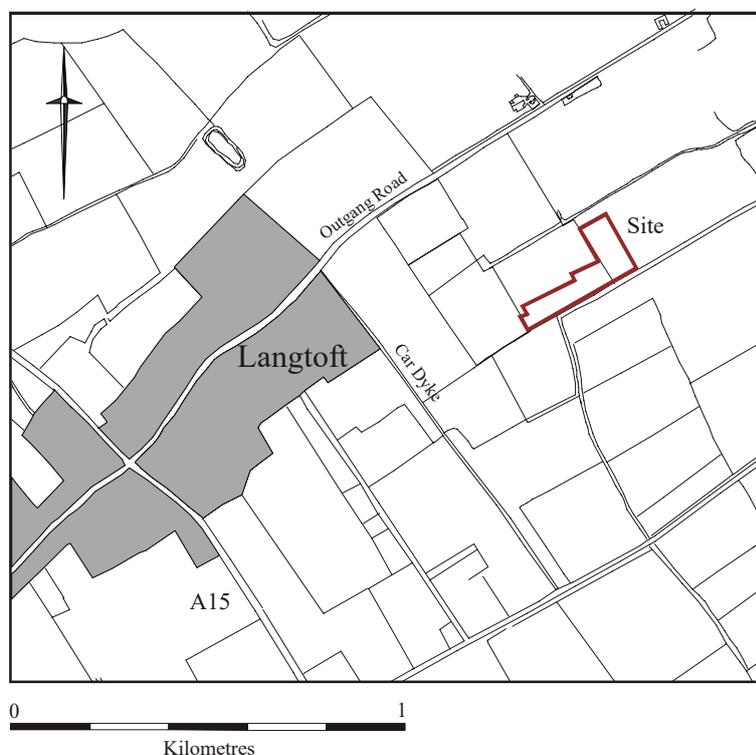


Figure 2 Site Location

In 2001 a second phase of excavation was undertaken (Area B) to the southeast and abutting the previous phase (Redding, forthcoming). An area 2.25ha was excavated revealing evidence for extensive Middle Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age activity. A number of large pits or wells were recorded along with evidence for two roundhouses and other potential structures. Two large ponds were recorded associated with the settlement and connected to salt production and metalworking. Unlike in the previous phase of excavation evidence for an extensive Romano-British rectilinear field system was recorded which in turn was overlain by a medieval field system and ridge and furrow.

In 2002 a third phase of excavation was undertaken (Area C) following on from the previous two phases (Dickens & Patten forthcoming). As with the previous excavations a number of large pits of Bronze Age date were recorded along with continuations of the Romano-British and later field systems. In this phase there was evidence of more intensive Romano-British activity, including an inhumation within a small enclosure in the southwest corner of the area.

## The Investigation

### *Methodology*

Eleven trenches were excavated using a 360°-tracked machine with a toothless ditching bucket that removed the topsoil and overburden down to an archaeological level. Each trench was then planned at 1:50 and fixed to the OS grid with an EDM.

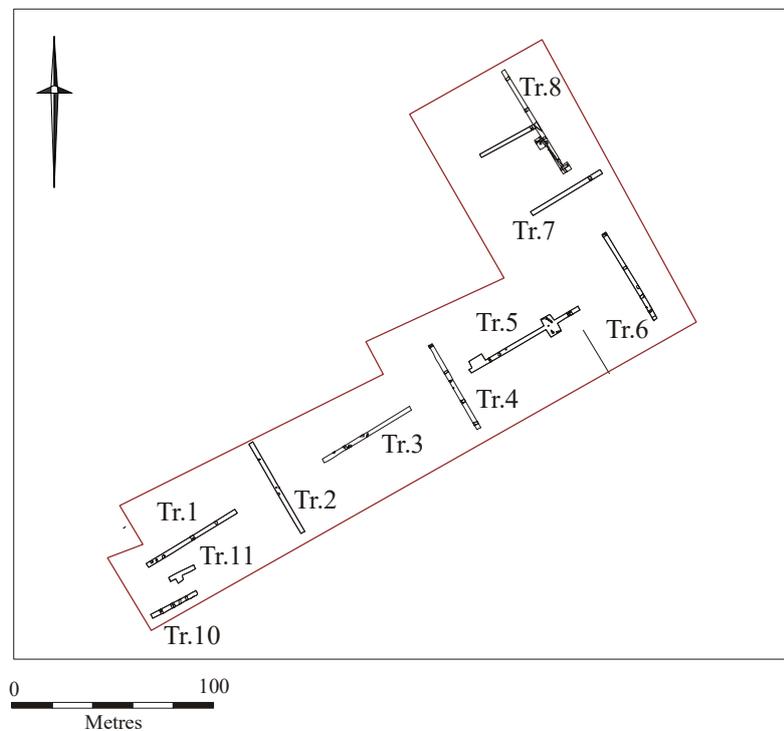


Figure 3 Trench Locations

All archaeological features were planned and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. Pertinent features were photographed on black and white, colour slide and digital mediums. The unit-modified version of the MoLAS recording system was employed throughout with all excavated stratigraphic events assigned feature numbers (F.'s) and all contexts assigned individual numbers (e.g. [a cut] [a fill]). Feature and context numbers were continued from previous phases of excavation, starting at 5000 for features and 11000 for contexts.

## *Results*

### Trench 1 (50m long orientated NE-SW)

Within Trench 1 eight archaeological features were revealed and excavated. Four of these features were postholes (**F.5005**, **5006**, **5007** and **5008**), one was a pit (**F.5009**), one a possible linear (**F.5023**), and the remaining features were probably the terminal ends of ditches (**F.5013** and **5014**).

The postholes were of varying sizes with F.5007 being the most substantial at 0.90m by 0.70 and 0.26m deep. The other three postholes were of similar dimensions varying from 0.35m to 0.40m in diameter and 0.16m to 0.32m deep. All were located within a cluster at the southwest end of the trench. Amongst this cluster was also recorded a small oval pit F.5009 into which was cut posthole F.5008. Although there was no discernable pattern to the cluster it is not always possible to envisage one in a two meter wide trench and it is probable that they may form some type of structure.

The linears were more enigmatic. The two terminals were very shallow and located at separate ends of the trench. F.5013 was located near to the cluster of postholes and pit and could possibly have been associated. F.5023 was a potentially large linear 1.80m wide and 1.50m deep orientated northwest - southeast. It consisted of a number of different depositional episodes including natural silting. One fill (11052), a brown grey sandy silt, contained preserved roots alluding to the possibility of organic remains. However, the sides of the feature were almost vertical and the feature was barely visible on the surface suggesting that it may have been an ice crack that silted up at a later date in a manner similar to open ditches (see discussion).

### Trench 2 (50m long orientated NW-SE)

Excavation of Trench 2 revealed four features. The terminal end of an east-west orientated gully or ditch **F.5015** was recorded extending 1.10m from the trench edge, and located towards the northwest end. Towards the centre of the trench were **F.5016**, a posthole, **F.5017** a small pit extending from the edge of the trench, and **F.5018** a pit. None of the features excavated produced any archaeological material.

### Trench 3 (50m long orientated NE-SW)

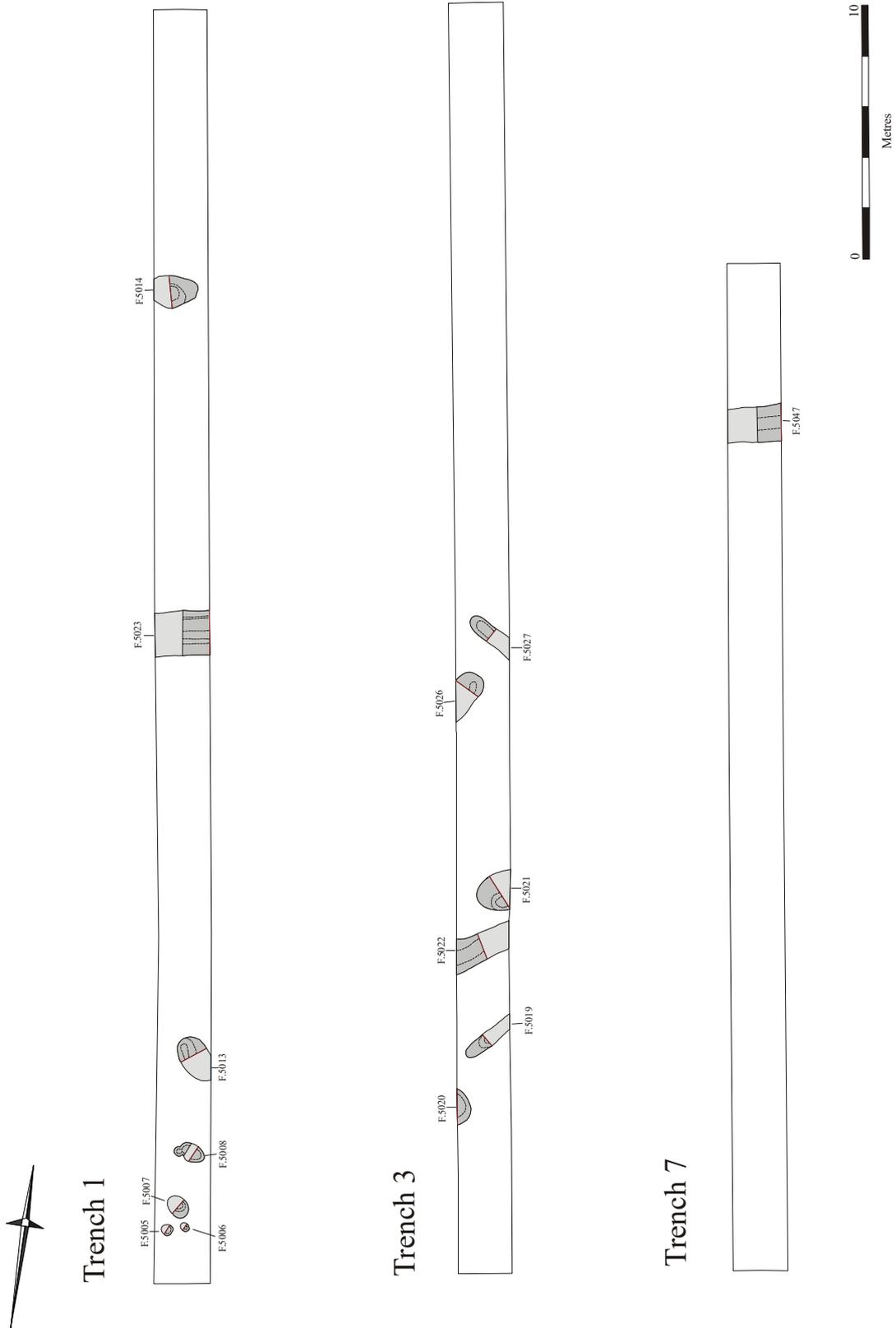


Figure 4 Trenches 1, 3 and 7 features

Six features were recorded within trench 3 all of which were located in the southwest portion of the trench. Five of these were linears (**F.5019, 5021, 5022, 5026 and 5027**) and the sixth a pit (**F.5020**).

Of the five linears only one extended across the full width of the trench, F.5022, on an east-west orientation. F.5019 was orientated east-west and extended from the edge of the trench for 2.0m where it terminated. It is likely to have been a ditch or gully 0.65m wide. F.5021 was orientated east-west and extended 1.80m from the edge of the trench, this feature was wider, 1.48m, and may represent a portion of an oval shaped pit rather than a linear. These three linears were all located in close association with F.5019 and 5021, both extending from the southeast edge of the trench, possibly representing successive phases. F.5026 was orientated east-west and extended from the northwest edge of the trench for 1.80m before terminating. In close proximity F.5027 was orientated north-south and extended from the southeast edge of the trench for 2.00m before terminating. These two linears may represent an entrance to an enclosure, probably an entrance between fields or into a field.

The pit, F.5020, was 0.24m deep and had a potential diameter of 1.41m, as with the majority of the linears the feature protruded from the edge of the trench section. No archaeological material was recovered from this or any of the other features within the trench to enable dating.

#### Trench 4 (47m long orientated NW-SE)

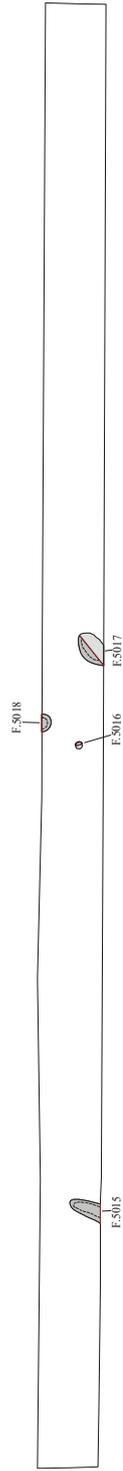
Trench 4 revealed six features throughout its length. Five of these were linears (**F.5024, 5025, 5028, 5030 and 5031**) and the sixth a small pit (**F.5029**).

Four of the linears were orientated northeast-southwest and extended the width of the trench. Their morphology enables them to be seen as two distinct types of linear. F.5024 and 5025 were 1.50m and 1.60m wide and 0.20m and 0.36m deep respectively with flat bases, their dimensions and morphology suggest they may be medieval furrows, the existence of which has been noted in previous phases of excavation. The other two linears, F.5028 and 5030, were on the same alignment but had very different profiles that were much more U-shaped and narrower at 1.10m and 0.74m wide respectively. These were not furrows but may instead represent boundaries of a similar date associated with the furrows or they may have been Romano-British linears that represent an enclosure pattern continuing through the periods.

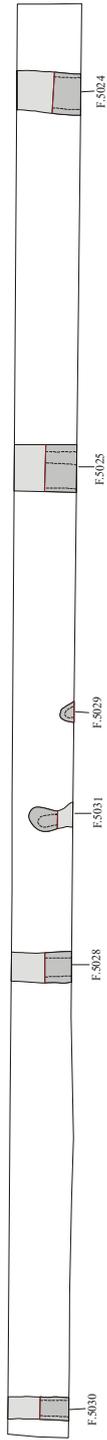
The fifth linear F.5031 may have been associated with F.5029 a small pit. Both features extended from the trench edge within a few meters of each other. F.5031 was a curvilinear orientated northeast-southwest and extended from the southern edge of the trench for 1.40m. F.5029 also extended from the southern edge and probably represented a small pit 0.65m wide and 0.20m deep, alternatively it may have been the terminal end of a small gully, possibly even the return of F.5031.



### Trench 2



### Trench 4



### Trench 6

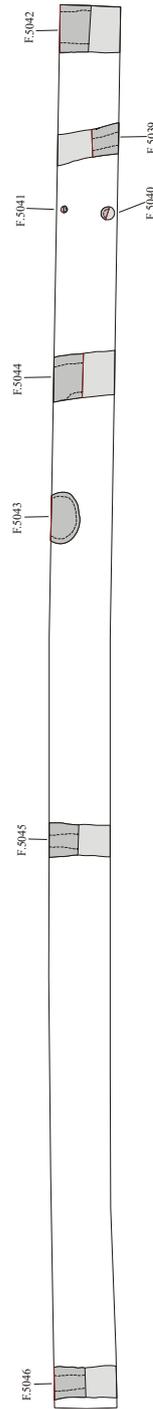


Figure 5 Trenches 2, 4 and 6 features

### Trench 5 (61m long orientated NE-SW)

Upon excavation Trench 5 revealed ten features. Two of these features were northwest-southeast orientated linears (**F.5010** and **5036**), one was a posthole (**F.5011**), one a pit (**F.5032**), and six were associated with a potential structure consisting of postholes (**F.5012**, **5034**, **5035** and **5037**), a pit (**F.5038**) and a gully (**F.5033**).

The pit, F.5032, and posthole, F.5011, were located towards the centre of the trench within 3m of each other. It was not possible to ascertain whether these two features were related although their close proximity suggests they probably were.

The two linears F.5010 and 5036 were located at opposing ends of the trench. They both contained a similar fill, mid slightly orange brown clayey silt (11023), suggesting they had been open at the same time and most likely were associated with the same system of field enclosures.

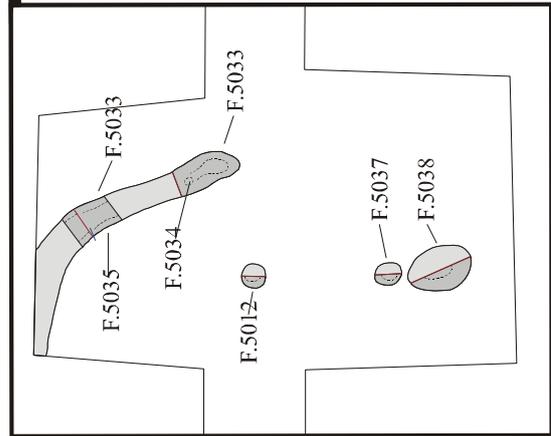
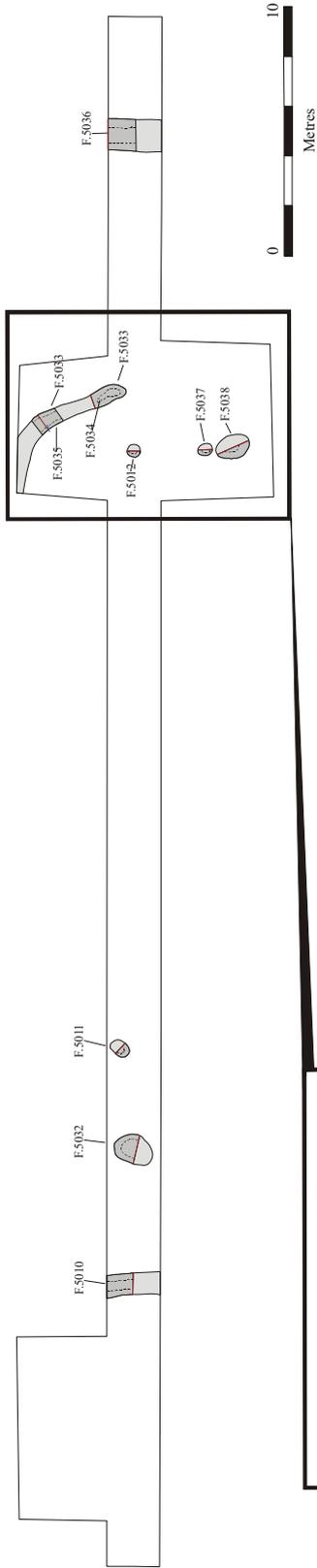
Initial trenching revealed a single posthole (F.5012) and the terminal of a gully (F.5033) within close proximity and so a 6m by 10m area was machine around them to further reveal the gully and any related postholes. Two postholes, F.5012 and 5037, were recorded 2.30m apart on a northwest-southeast alignment and with very similar fills. Just southeast of F.5037 was a small pit F.5038 with a very similar fill to the two postholes. Alone these features suggested a grouping but not a structure, however, within the northeast portion of the excavated area and north of the grouping was a gully (F.5033) 0.55m wide and 0.11m deep, again with a very similar fill. Upon excavation of the gully two postholes were revealed in different sections, F.5034 and 5035. These postholes were of slightly different dimensions but contained the same fill as the gully suggesting that they were contemporary. These postholes did not represent a post trench but potentially a series of posts at set intervals within the gully. Against the northeast edge of the trench were recorded slight traces of another potential gully but little was revealed making excavation impractical.

### Trench 6 (50m long orientated NW-SE)

Within Trench 6 were recorded eight features, five linears (**F.5039**, **5042**, **5044**, **5045** and **5046**), two postholes (**F.5040** and **5041**) and a pit (**F.5043**).

Four of the linears, F.5042, 5044, 5045 and 5046, were orientated northeast-southwest at varying intervals along the length of the trench while the fifth, F.5039, was orientated slightly more north northeast-south southwest. F.5042 and 5044 were more substantial than any of the others with widths of 2.10m and 1.60m respectively and a depth of 0.48m and 0.35m. They were similar to other features recorded elsewhere as furrows except their sides were steeper and more suggestive of a ditch. F.5045 and 5046 were 1.10m and 1.02m wide and 0.26m and 0.23m deep with U-shaped ditch profiles, they were similar to those found within a number of other trenches. F.5039 was different with a slight shift in orientation and a width of 0.95m and a depth of 0.13m, the fill of this linear was much paler than any of the others within the trench which along with the slightly different orientation potentially suggests an earlier date for this feature than the others.

# Trench 5



# Trench 10

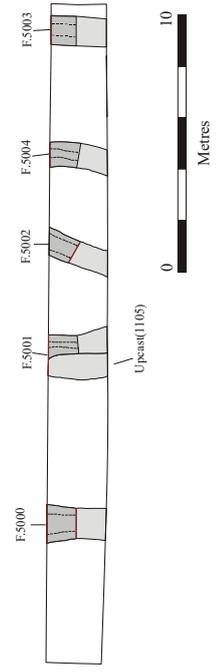


Figure 6 Trenches 5 and 10 features

The two postholes were 1.50m apart, F.5040 was 0.40m in diameter and 0.22m deep while F.5041 was much smaller at 0.17m in diameter and 0.03m deep. two postholes do not make a structure and it is difficult to envisage one from the two recorded. The dimensions of F.5041 would suggest that it only represented the very base of a post and that the two features may not necessarily have been apart of the same structure.

The pit recorded within this trench, F.5043, extended from the northeast edge of the trench. Its dimensions were 1.73m wide and 0.50m deep with very steep sides suggesting a substantial feature.

#### Trench 7 (39.50m long orientated NE-SW)

Only one feature was recorded in this trench, **F.5047**, a 1.50m wide linear orientated northwest-southeast and 0.27m deep. No finds were recovered from the feature.

#### Trench 8 (58.50m long orientated NW-SE)

Ten features were recorded in this trench, **F.5049, 5050, 5051, 5052, 5053, 5054, 5055, 5056, 5057** and **5058**. Within two areas of this trench potential relationships were noted between three linears at different points, as a result two small areas were opened (one 4.50m by 4.00m and another 5.50m by 5.50m) surrounding these.

F.5052 was a northwest-southeast orientated linear 1.00m wide and 0.22m deep with a pale brown grey sandy silt fill (11118), at two points this linear was truncated by later ditches F.5051 and 5055. F.5051 and 5055 were orientated northeast-southwest with a mid brown fill, (11114) and (11130), and were 1.05m wide and 0.20m deep and 0.91m wide and 0.21m deep respectively. Although none of the features produced any datable material, the alignment, morphology and fill of F.5052 would suggest a possible Romano-British date based upon earlier excavations, while F.5051 and 5055 were most likely medieval or later in origin. F.5050 and 5054 were northeast-southwest linears 1.20m wide and 0.23m deep and 1.40m wide and 0.37m deep respectively, their character was very similar to those recorded within other trenches and the lack of material makes it difficult to date them securely.

F.5049 and 5058 were two intercutting pits with identical fills making a distinction or clear relationship difficult, the two pits had been truncated by F.5052 suggesting a prehistoric date for the features. Close to these pits F.5056 and 5057 were an intercutting small pit and posthole. The pit (F.5056) appeared to truncate the posthole (F.5057) with the primary fill of the pit (11133) and the only fill of the posthole (11135) being similar, an orange brown clayey silt, possibly a result of the truncation. F.5053 was a small pit or the terminal of a gully that extended 0.50m from the trench section at a width of 0.75m and a depth of 0.25m. None of these features produced any datable material.

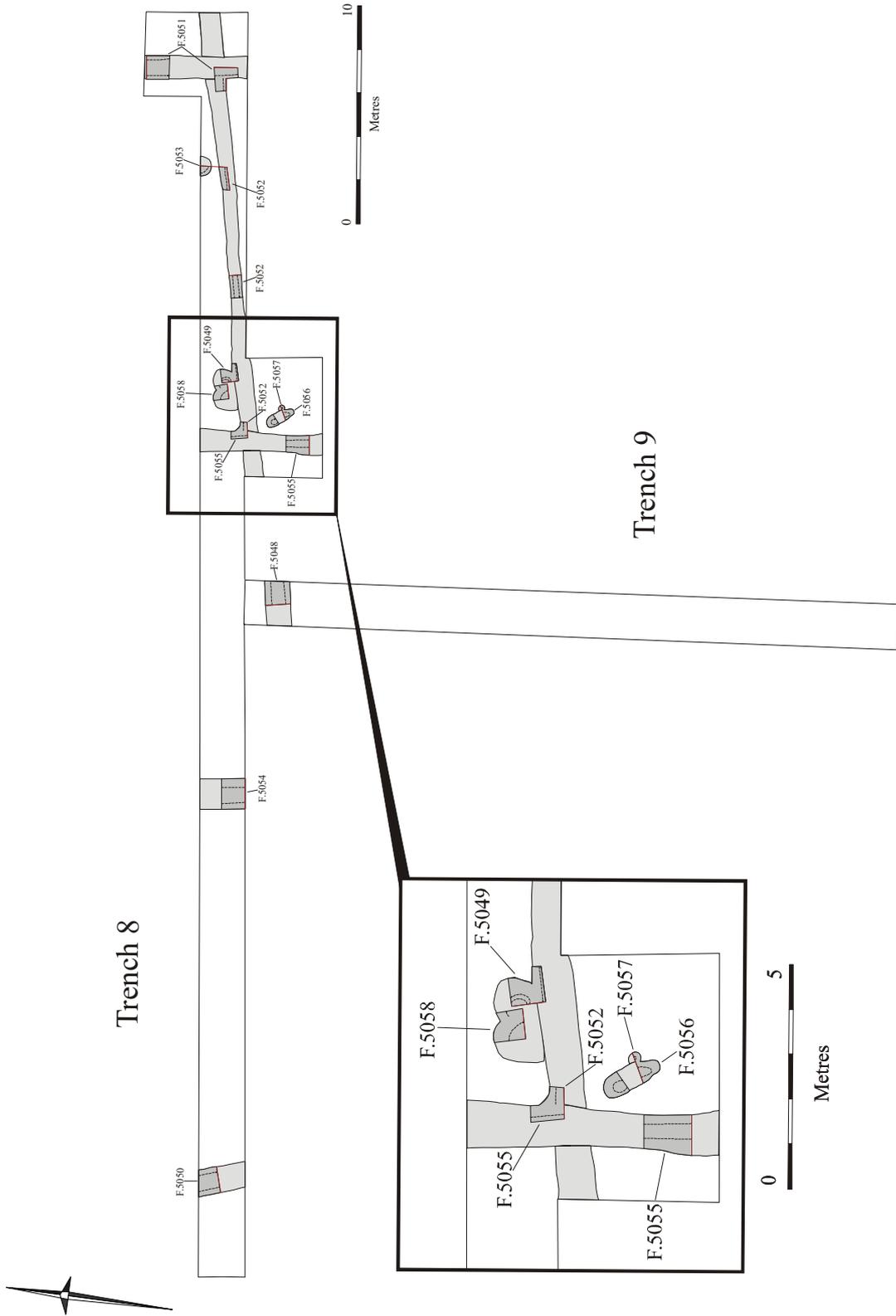


Figure 7 Trenches 8 and 9 features

#### Trench 9 (29m long orientated NE-SW)

Trench 9 extended at right angles from trench 8 at about its mid point. The trench contained one feature **F.5048** located at the northeastern end of the trench and orientated northwest-southeast. This feature is probably the same as F.5052 recorded in trench 8 with the same characteristics evident in both. A fragment of bone was the only material recovered from this feature.

#### Trench 10 (25m long orientated NE-SW)

Five features were recorded in this trench **F.5000, 5001, 5002, 5003** and **5004**, all of which were linears. F.5000 was a northwest-southeast orientated linear 1.50m wide and 0.37m deep with a pale brown sandy silt. F.5001 was a northwest-southeast orientated linear 1.34m wide and 0.45m deep, along the southwest edge of the feature traces of upcast bank material was evident. Within the fill of the ditch fragments of a Nene Valley Colour Coated Ware bowl were recovered enabling the feature to be securely dated to the late Romano-British period, the only datable feature on site. F.5002 and 5003 were orientated north-south with a width of 0.76m and a depth of 0.18m and 0.90m wide and 0.11m deep respectively, they were very slight and could have been prehistoric in origin. F.5003 was orientated northwest-southeast, 0.26m deep and 1.60m wide, it contained a grey silt fill (11008) and produced no finds.

#### Trench 11 (13.50m long orientated NE-SW)

Trench 11 was excavated to attempt to ascertain where the linears recorded in Trench 10 went, as they were not visible in Trench 1. Although this trench produced evidence for silty hollows there were no cut archaeological features.

### **Discussion**

As with the previous excavations evidence for past activity was evident throughout the area evaluated. Although it was not possible to securely date all but one of the features encountered, comparison with those in previous phases of excavation suggests that the majority of the linears were of a Romano-British or Medieval date.

#### *Prehistory*

Prehistory within a Fenland context can be difficult to recognise with faint traces being all that remain. In areas of sparse occupation artefact recovery is poor and in areas of seasonal activity almost non-existent. Previous excavations within the quarry have highlighted this activity in the form of large pits and ponds. Within Area B the presence of a medieval headland helped preserve a number of post-built structures and ring gullies that would otherwise have been lost. Unfortunately, within the area evaluated, no such preservation was evident and it is probable that similar features may have been lost over time.

Although the preservation was not as good some Prehistoric features were recorded. No artefactual material was recovered from any of the features making a secure date for any of them difficult. Alignment changes, morphology, feature type and fill did suggest some probable features that were in use during prehistory. The linears were much shallower, more slight, and harder to see than the later ditches of the Romano-British or Medieval period. These linears lacked the definition of the later linears and were all on different alignments. They were:

- Trench 1 F.5013, 5014 and 5023
- Trench 3 F.5019, 5022, 5026 and 5027
- Trench 6 F.5039
- Trench 10 F.5002 and F.5004

The large ditch, F.5023, was probably prehistoric and may represent a significant boundary within the landscape on a scale seen only within the pits and ponds recorded in previous phases. However, the lack of anything similar from previous excavations and the difference in any potential alignment so far noted for this period (based more upon pit alignments than linears for which few have been recorded) suggests this feature was more likely an ice crack or similar geological feature. Within previous phases of excavation similar features were observed, one was recorded in Area A and two were recorded in Area C, although first thought to have been ditches they have since been proven to have been ice cracks with one of those from Area C appearing in deep cross section in the quarry face.

Previous phases of excavation within the quarry have provided evidence for settlement and agricultural structures dating to the Bronze Age and the Iron Age but none for the historical periods. The evidence suggested that the area was enclosed fields with little if any settlement. This would suggest that the majority of postholes and pits, in particular those in clusters or groups, are more likely to be prehistoric in origin. These features were:

- Trench 1 postholes F.5005, 5006, 5007 and 5008, and pit F.5009
- Trench 5 postholes F.5011, 5012, 5034, 5035 and 5037, pits F.5038 and 5032, and gully F.5033
- Trench 6 postholes F.5040 and 5041, and pit F.5043
- Trench 8 posthole F.5057, pit F.5056, and intercutting pits F.5049 and 5058

The gully and postholes recorded within Trench 5, although lacking datable material, are potentially prehistoric. Whether they represent settlement features was difficult to ascertain from the small portion revealed, but it is unlikely that they formed part of a structure or roundhouse. The gully was not continuous and no evidence for it was found elsewhere in the trench despite the definite curve noted. It may be that the gully was interrupted with the trench cutting through the gaps within its length, or that its preservation was intermittent.

Unlike previous phases of excavation no large pits or wells were encountered within any of the trenches. This was not necessarily indicative of the surroundings, the assessment of Area C revealed only three such pits, however, upon full excavation significantly more were recorded.

## *Romano-British*

Romano-British activity was evidenced in the form of linear ditches. Based upon previous excavations and the nearby location of a Romano-British roadway it was thought that some traces of field systems or enclosures would be encountered. Only two linears can be dated with any degree of confidence to this period:

- F.5001 recorded in Trench 10 from which Romano-British pottery was recovered
- F.5048 and 5052 in Trenches 8 and 9 which are probably the same linear and truncate earlier pits and are truncated by two later linears

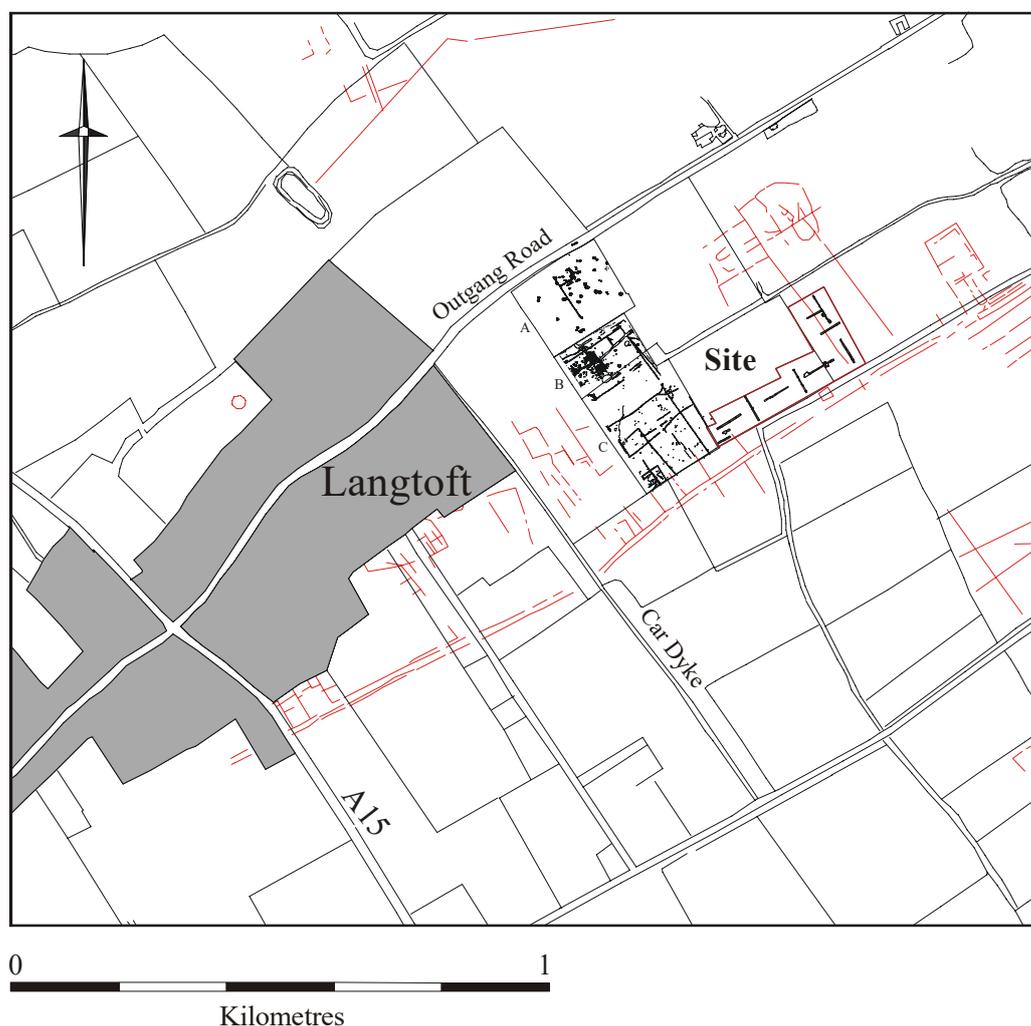


Figure 8 Evidence from previous excavations and aerial photographs

Based on these features assumptions can be made regarding a number of other linears on the same alignment (to both these and those from the previous excavations) and with similar fills and morphologies. These features were:

- Trench 4 F.5028 and 5030
- Trench 5 F.5010 and 5036
- Trench 6 F.5045 and 5046
- Trench 7 F.5047
- Trench 8 F.5050 and 5054

The alignments were very similar between the Romano-British and the medieval linears making it difficult to ascertain which features belong to which period. As a result some of these linears may turn out to be Medieval and not Romano-British but are included here because of their morphological similarities to other known Romano-British features.

The lack of definite settlement evidence for this period was unsurprising. Previous studies in the locale have failed to provide any evidence for settlement and trench based assessments are much more likely to reveal features which span large areas than discrete ones. Romano-British settlement should not be ruled out but it does seem unlikely based on existing evidence.

### *Medieval*

There was a strong medieval presence on site with a number of linears potentially belonging to this period. These features were:

- Trench 4 F.5024 and 5025 which were potentially furrows
- Trench 6 F.5042 and 5044
- Trench 8 F.5051 and 5055

More of the linears recorded during the investigation may have originated in the medieval period and not the Romano-British, but the lack of any datable material or relationships makes it difficult to be certain at this stage. As with the Romano-British material no evidence for settlement was encountered.

### **Conclusion**

On its own this evaluation offers only a limited glimpse at the landscape. It lacks the material culture of any large-scale settlement or industrial activity and instead suggests small-scale prehistoric activity overlain by later field systems. It is when the area is viewed in relationship to the previous phases of excavation that it becomes more important.

The prehistoric activity encountered in the form of large pits and roundhouses continued on a smaller more ephemeral nature. The linears recorded could be parts of a prehistoric field system not seen previously within any of the excavations. The area evaluated may represent the fringes of the settlement recorded in the 2001 excavation of Area B, explaining the lack of material culture and large pits, with the landscape being divided into slightly more enclosed fields as it moves towards the fen edge.

The Romano-British field system recorded in Areas B and C appears to continue into Areas D and E, with traces of the system being evident in both fields. The evidence suggests that during this period the road and the Car Dyke dominated the landscape with field systems coming off them. The aerial photographs (APs) for this area show traces of linears coming away from the road but no clear enclosures within the areas investigated by the CAU. To the north of Area D the APs show a potential enclosure which existed within an area which has since been lost to quarrying and it is possible that similar features may be located within the current area of investigation.

The nature of the trench-based evaluation has left more questions than answers. Although no large pits were recorded in any of the trenches, (significantly more were excavated in Area C than were evident in the evaluation), they may have been missed by the trenches. If there were no large pits then the question arises as to what was happening within this area of land in prehistory that was different to that elsewhere. The slight traces of prehistoric linears may evidence this difference. The excavation of several cattle burials within Area C attests to livestock being present, and these slight linears may form their associated field systems. Further sensitive excavation is required to expose these linears on a larger scale to better understand them.

This is also true of the other linears recorded for the Romano-British and Medieval period. The similar alignment of the majority of these features within a two-meter wide trench makes distinction difficult. They need to be viewed on a much larger scale for any clear distinction to be made and to ascertain the relationship of any Romano-British features to the known road to the south. The enclosure recorded in southern corner of Area C with an associated human inhumation suggests that the linears coming away from the road may be more than just field systems.

Although there was no headland survival within the area evaluated a significant number of archaeological features were encountered. This lack of protection has had an obvious detrimental affect on the archaeology, especially the potential prehistoric remains. While ring-gullies and discrete features were well protected under the headland within Area B, the shallow gully and postholes recorded in Area D and the nature of the more subtle linears were not as well preserved. Few of the features penetrated deep into the clean gavel with their existence limited to just below the current topsoil making them more susceptible to damage and destruction. With the exception of the Romano-British and Medieval linears the archaeology recorded during the evaluation was of a sensitive nature, and all of the features are important to providing a more complete picture of the Langtoft landscape.

#### ***Acknowledgements***

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## Appendix 1.

### Feature Description

#### *Trench 1*

**F.5005** A circular posthole (0.40m x 0.32m) with vertical sides and a concave base [11014]. It contained two fills; a mid brown grey slightly sandy silt (11012), and a light brown grey coarse silty sand as the primary fill (11013).

**F.5006** A circular posthole (0.35m x 0.16m) with vertical sides and a concave base [11016]. It contained one fill a mid orange brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11015).

**F.5007** A sub-circular posthole (0.90m x 0.70m x 0.26m) with vertical sides and a concave base [11018]. It contained one fill a mid orange brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11017).

**F.5008** A circular posthole (0.40m x 0.24m) with vertical sides and a concave base [11020]. It contained one fill a mid brownish grey sandy silt (11019).

**F.5009** An oval pit (0.95m x 0.65m x 0.21m) with steep sides and a concave base [11022]. It contained one fill a mid brownish grey sandy silt (11021).

**F.5013** A N-S orientated curvilinear (1.12m x 0.17m) with gradual sides and an undulating base that terminated within the trench [11030]. It contained one fill a pale brownish mid grey slightly clayey silt (11029).

**F.5014** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.24m x 0.36m) with steep sides and a concave base that terminated within the trench [11032]. It contained only one fill a greyish pale orange slightly clayey silt (11031).

**F.5023** A potential NW-SE linear (1.80m x 1.50m) with vertical-steep sides and a concave base [11057]. It contained eight separate fills which were (from the surface); a pale slight orange brown sandy silt with occasional stone and moderate manganese inclusions (11049); a mid-dark grey sandy silt with occasional stone and moderate manganese inclusions (11050); an orange brown sandy silt with occasional stone and manganese inclusions (11051); a mixed orange brown and grey sandy silt with preserved root inclusions (11052); a mixed orange and grey sandy silt with frequent stone inclusions (11053); a pale grey sand (11054); a mixed orange and grey silty gravel (11055); and a pale grey sandy silt (11056) as the primary fill.

#### *Trench 2*

**F.5015** A NE-SW orientated linear (0.60m x 0.24m) with steep sides and a flat base that terminated within the trench [11034]. It contained only one fill an orange grey sandy silt (11033).

**F.5016** A circular posthole (0.23m x 0.22m) with vertical sides and a flat base [11036]. It contained one fill a mid brownish grey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11035).

**F.5017** An oval pit (1.35m x 0.80m x 0.21m) with steep sides and a flat base [11038]. It contained one fill a greyish pale orange sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions (11037).

**F.5018** A possible circular pit (0.61m x 0.30m) extending from the trench edge with steep sides and a flat base [11040]. It contained one fill a grey silt with occasional gravel inclusions (11039).

### *Trench 3*

**F.5019** A N-S orientated linear (0.65m x 0.21m) with steep sides and a flat base that terminated within the trench [11042]. It contained one fill an orange grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11041).

**F.5020** A pit protruding from the edge of the trench (1.41m x 0.24m) with gradual sides and a flat base [11044]. It contained one fill a brownish mid orange clayey silt (11043).

**F.5021** An E-W orientated linear (1.48m x 0.27m) with gradual sides and a concave base [11046]. It contained a greyish pale orange slightly clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11045).

**F.5022** An E-W orientated linear (0.95m x 0.19m) with gradual sides and a flat base [11048]. It contained a greyish orange slightly clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11047).

**F.5026** An E-W orientated linear (2.00m x 0.28m) with steep sides and a concave base that terminated within the trench [11063]. It contained one fill a pale orange grey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11062).

**F.5027** A N-S orientated linear (0.72m x 0.12m) with gradual sides and a flat base that terminated within the trench [11065]. It contained one fill a pale orange sandy silt (11064).

### *Trench 4*

**F.5024** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.50m x 0.20m) with steep sides and a flat base [11059]. It contained a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11058) and produced a fragment of tile.

**F.5025** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.60m x 0.36m) with steep sides and a flattish base [11061]. It contained one fill a mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions and manganese flecks (11060).

**F.5028** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.10m x 0.20m) with steep sides and a concave base [11067]. It contained a grey-orange sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions (11066).

**F.5029** A small pit or the terminal of a gully (0.65m x 0.20m) extending from the trench edge with steep sides and a concave base [11069]. It contained one fill a brownish grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11068).

**F.5030** A NE-SW orientated linear (0.74m x 0.30m) with steep sides and a concave base [11071]. It contained one fill a mid, slightly greyish, brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11070).

**F.5031** A NE-SW orientated linear (0.60m x 0.15m) gradual sides and a flat base [11073]. It contained one fill a grey orange silty sand with occasional stone inclusions (11072).

### *Trench 5*

**F.5010** A NW-SE orientated linear (0.91m x 0.26m) with steep sides and a flat base [11024]. It contained only one fill a pale orange brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11023).

**F.5011** An oval posthole (0.75m x 0.50m x 0.22m) with steep sides and a flat base [11026]. It contained one fill a pale grey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11025).

**F.5012** A circular posthole (0.36m x 0.17m) with steep sides and a concave base [11028]. It contained one fill a pale grey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11027).

**F.5032** A sub-circular pit (1.40m x 1.15m x 0.30m) with steep sides and a concave base [11075]. It contained one fill a mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11074).

**F.5033** A curvilinear gully (0.55m x 0.10m) with gradual sides and a concave base which terminated within the trench [11077]. It contained one fill a pale orange grey slightly clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11076).

**F.5034** An oval posthole (0.29m x 0.27m x 0.23m) with vertical sides and concave base [11079]. It contained one fill a pale orange grey slightly clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11078).

**F.5035** A circular posthole (0.37m x 0.22m) with vertical sides and a flat base [11083]. It contained one fill a pale orange grey slightly clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11082).

**F.5036** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.30m x 0.40m) with steep sides and concave base [11085]. It contained one fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11084).

**F.5037** An oval posthole (0.49m x 0.45m x 0.08m) with gradual sides and a flat base [11087]. It contained one fill a greyish pale orange sandy silt (11086).

**F.5038** An oval pit (1.38m x 1.00m x 0.18m) with steep sides and a concave base [11089]. It contained one fill a greyish pale orange sandy silt (11088).

#### *Trench 6*

**F.5039** A NE-SW orientated linear (0.95m x 0.13m) with steep sides and a flat base [11091]. It contained one fill a grey brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11090).

**F.5040** A circular posthole (0.40m x 0.22m) with steep sides and a concave base [11093]. It contained one fill a grey orange silty sand (11092).

**F.5041** A circular posthole (0.17m x 0.03m) with gradual sides and a slightly concave base [11095]. It contained one fill a grey orange silty sand (11094).

**F.5042** A NE-SW orientated linear (2.10m x 0.48m) with steep sides and a flat base [11097]. It contained one fill a mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11096).

**F.5043** A probable pit extending from the trench edge (1.72m x 0.50m) with steep sides and a concave base [11099]. It contained one fill a mid grey sandy silt with very few inclusions (11098).

**F.5044** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.60m x 0.35m) with steep sides and a flat base [11101]. It contained one fill a greyish brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11100).

**F.5045** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.10m x 0.26m) with steep sides and a concave base [11103]. It contained one fill a brownish mid orange clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11102).

**F.5046** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.02m x 0.23m) with steep sides and a flat base [11105]. It contained one fill a brownish dark orange clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11104).

#### *Trench 7*

**F.5047** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.50m x 0.27m) with gradual sides and a flat base [11107]. It contained one fill an orange brown silty sand with frequent stone inclusions (11106).

### *Trench 8*

**F.5049** One of two intercutting circular pits (the other being F.5058) (1.00m x 0.21m) with steep sides and a concave base [11141]. It contained two separate fills; a pale brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11139) which filled the two intercutting pits, and a pale grey silty gravel (11140) as the primary fill.

**F.5050** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.20m x 0.23m) with steep sides and a flat base [11113]. It contained one fill an orange brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11112).

**F.5051** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.05m x 0.20m) with steep sides and a flat base [11115]. It contained one fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11114).

**F.5052** A NW-SE orientated linear (0.70m x 0.13m) with steep sides and a flat base [11119]. It contained one fill a pale-mid brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions (11118).

**F.5053** A possible circular pit extending from the edge of the trench (0.75m x 0.25m) with steep sides and a flat base [11123]. It contained one fill a pale brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11122).

**F.5054** A NE-SW orientated linear (1.40m x 0.37m) with steep sides and a concave base [11125]. It contained one fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11124).

**F.5055** A NE-SW orientated linear (0.95m x 0.21m) with steep sides and a concave base [11127]. It contained one fill a mid brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11126).

**F.5056** An oval pit (1.40m x 0.50m x 0.11m) with steep sides and a concave base [11134]. It contained two separate fills; a brownish mid orange sandy silt (11132), and an orangey mid brown clayey silt (11133) as the primary fill.

**F.5057** A circular posthole (0.28m x 0.15m) with steep sides and a flat base [11136]. It contained one fill an orange mid brown clayey silt (11135).

**F.5058** One of two intercutting circular pits (the other being F.5049) (1.15m x 0.28m) with steep sides and a concave base [11142]. It contained two fills; a pale brown grey sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11139) which filled the two intercutting pits, and a pale grey silty gravel (11143) as the primary fill.

### *Trench 9*

**F.5048** A NW-SE orientated linear (0.85m x 0.30m) with steep sides and a flat base [11109]. It contained one fill an orange mid brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions (11108) and produced one fragment of animal bone.

### *Trench 10*

**F.5000** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.50m x 0.37m) with steep sides and a concave base [11002]. It contained two fills; mid-pale brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions (11000), and a mid slightly orange brown sandy silt with moderate stone inclusions as the primary fill (11001).

**F.5001** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.34m x 0.45m) with steep sides and a concave base [11004]. It contained only one fill an orange pale brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions (11003). This feature produced eight sherds of Romano-British pottery and along its NE side were traces of upcast material from a bank (11005).

**F.5002** A N-S orientated linear (0.90m x 0.11m) with gradual sides and a flat base [11007]. It contained only one fill a pale grey brown sandy silt with no inclusions (11006).

**F.5003** A NW-SE orientated linear (1.60m x 0.26m) with steep sides and a flat base [11009]. It contained only one fill a mid orange grey sandy silt (11008).

**F.5004** A NW-SE orientated linear (0.88m x 0.18m) with gradual sides and a concave base [11010]. It contained only one fill a brownish mid orange clayey silt (11011).

## **Trench 11**

No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.