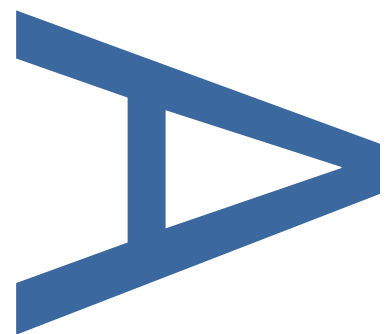
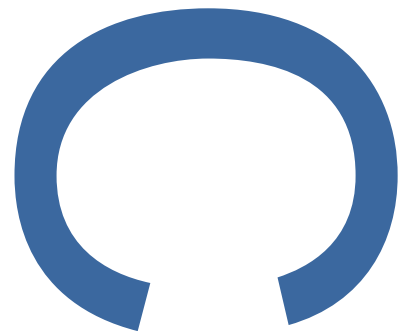


**LAND AT
COTMOOR SOLAR FARM,
HALLOUGHTON,
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE:**

**REPORT ON AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

PCA Report Number: R14340

December 2020



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

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Quality Control

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Report on an Archaeological Evaluation

Site Code:	CSHN20
Local Planning Authority:	Newark & Sherwood District Council
Planning Application:	20/01242/FULM
Central National Grid Reference:	SK 680 522
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December 2020



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PCA: R14340

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SUMMARY

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Cotmoor Solar Farm, Halloughton, Nottinghamshire. Pegasus Group commissioned the archaeological work on behalf of JBM Solar and the evaluation took place from 23rd November – 4th December 2020. The aim of the work was to identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

Geophysical survey of the site had detected remains of ridges and furrows as well as several linear anomalies. During the archaeological evaluation, fifteen furrows, a gully terminus and a pit were identified. No dating evidence was recovered from the four furrows investigated, but their layout indicates a post-medieval date, demonstrating agricultural usage of the land during this period. In the north of the site was a gully terminus of uncertain origin and date, and in the centre of the site was a modern pit; these are of limited archaeological significance.

A sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil in the centre of the site, possibly indicating settlement activity of this period in the vicinity, although no convincing evidence for such has been recorded within the site.

1 Introduction

1.1 General Background

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Cotmoor Solar Farm, Halloughton, from 23rd November to 4th December 2020. Halloughton is situated 2.7km southwest of Southwell and 11km west of Newark on Trent in the Newark and Sherwood District of Nottinghamshire. Located to the north and northwest of Halloughton, the site comprises two parcels of land totalling c. 102.5 hectares, centred on NGR SK 680 522. The larger, northwestern, parcel comprises c. 55.75 hectares, 47.1 hectares of which has been identified for development. The smaller parcel to the southeast is c. 46.75 hectares in extent, with 37.65 hectares identified for development (**Figure 1**). The two parcels are accessed separately from tracks.

1.1.2 With the results of the geophysical survey being available, trial trenching was deemed the most appropriate method to further characterise the archaeology of the proposed development area. Sixteen trenches were excavated, all of which were 50m long and 2m wide.

1.1.3 The aim of the archaeological work was to identify and record the location, date, extent, character, and condition of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, and to evaluate the impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology. This report describes the results of the archaeological evaluation. It is intended to deposit the site archive with Newark Museums, when that repository resumes accepting archives.

1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 A planning application (**20/01242/FULM**) for the construction of a solar farm has been submitted to Newark and Sherwood District Council. Consultation with Matthew Adams, Archaeological Advisor to Newark and Sherwood District Council, recommended that an archaeological trial trench evaluation be undertaken to provide further information in advance of the determination of this planning permission. The archaeological works were carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA 2020) and approved by the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority.

1.2.2 National Planning Policy on archaeology and built heritage is set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Revised in February 2019, National Planning Framework: Planning for the Historic Environment (NPPF) provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the investigation and preservation of archaeological remains. In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority will be guided by the policy framework set by government guidance, in

this instance NPPF, by local policy and by other material considerations (DCLG 2019).

1.3 Geology and Topography

1.3.1 The solid geology of the site is mostly Gunthorpe Member Mudstone, with Gunthorpe Member Siltstone, both formed in the Triassic period. There is also some Radcliffe Member Mudstone and Siltstone, also of the Triassic period, in the valley of Westhorpe Dumble. Superficial deposits are restricted to the valley of Westhorpe Dumble and comprise alluvium of clay, silt, sand and gravel laid down up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary period when the local environment was dominated by rivers (BGS viewer 2020).

1.3.2 The site is on land declining from c. 95m OD in the northwest to c. 58m OD in the southeast. The northern parcel of the site is crossed by the valley of Westhorpe Dumble. Another minor stream valley is located near the southeastern corner of the site.

1.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.4.1 The site has been the subject of a previous desk-based assessment (Pegasus Group 2020) and a geophysical survey (Magnitude Surveys 2019). The following briefly summarises the results of those studies.

Prehistoric to Roman

1.4.2 Evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is limited to two artefacts. An Iron Age coin was found about c. 130m south of the site, though the location is imprecise. A Neolithic flint axehead was also found c. 350m west of the site.

1.4.3 No evidence of Roman activity has been identified at the site or nearby. However, in the wider vicinity Roman settlement has been identified at Southwell, a Roman fort c. 2.9km north of the site, and three Romano-British camps to the west and northwest.

Saxon to Medieval

1.4.4 No Saxon or medieval remains have been recorded within the site. Earthworks of ridge and furrow are present to the south and north of the site, but not within the site itself. The medieval parish church lies about 90m south of the site. Opposite the church, approximately 110m south of the site, is Halloughton Manor Farm House which has an attached 13th century tower.

Post-medieval to Modern

1.4.5 No post-medieval to recent heritage assets are recorded within the site in the Historic Environment Record, though New Radley Farm is depicted on the 1841 Southwell Tithe Map. By 1885 a brickyard had been established by the south-eastern corner of the site.

1.4.6 Geophysical survey has been undertaken on the site. This revealed evidence of ridge and furrow and field drains. A few linear features were also identified.

2 Project Aims and Research Objectives

2.1 Project Aims

2.1.1 The project was 'threat-led' with potential to disturb or destroy important sub-surface archaeological remains, if present. Therefore, the broad aim of the archaeological project was to inform the local planning authority and the client regarding the character, date, extent and degree of survival of archaeological remains at the site. Archaeological trial trenching was selected as the most appropriate investigative tool to test the archaeological potential of the site.

2.1.2 Additional aims of the project were:

- To compile a site archive consisting of all site and project documentary and photographic records, as well as all artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material recovered;
- To compile a report that contains an assessment of the nature and significance of all data categories (e.g. stratigraphic, artefactual etc.).

2.2 Research Objectives

2.2.1 The online *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework, Interactive Digital Resource* will be referenced for specific research criteria. In addition, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands, An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, ed. N Cooper (2006), along with *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, ed. D. Knight, B. Vyner & C. Allen (2012) will be referenced for specific research criteria. The archaeological evaluation addressed the following objectives:

- To record the nature, extent, date, character, quality, significance and state of preservation any archaeological remains affected by the investigation;
- To assess, where appropriate, any ecofactual and palaeo-environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features from within the site;
- To investigate, where appropriate, the anomalies identified on the geophysical survey.

2.2.2 In addition, the evaluation addressed the following research objectives:

- To identify and investigate any evidence of prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval settlement or agricultural activity on the site.

3 Methodology

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 The evaluation took place in accordance with the relevant guidance document of the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists (CIfA 2020a); PCA is a CIfA registered organisation (number 23) and operates within the Institute's 'Code of Conduct' (CIfA 2019). The evaluation trenches were laid out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation, as accepted by Newark and Sherwood District Council.

3.1.2 All trial trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision using a 360 mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Deposits were removed in spits to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the clearly defined top of the natural substratum, whichever was reached first. All potential archaeological features were identified and marked at the time of machine clearance of overburden.

3.1.3 All exposed deposits were cleaned using hand tools and recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). Contexts were recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual approved for use in Nottinghamshire, including written, photographic and drawn records.

3.2 Recording Methodology

3.2.1 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded utilising PCA's printed pro forma.

3.2.2 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better. Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:100). High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits.

3.2.3 All finds encountered were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site.

3.3 Post-Fieldwork Methodology

3.3.1 Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide* (HE 2015) was used as the framework for post-excavation work.

- 3.3.2 The stratigraphic data for the project comprises written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 52 archaeological contexts were defined within the sixteen trenches. Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records and phasing the stratigraphic data (**Appendix 2**). A written summary of the archaeological finds was then compiled, as described in **Section 4** with a discussion and chronological sequencing of the site in **Section 5**.
- 3.3.3 Artefactual material from the evaluation consisted of one sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery and three sherds of 19th – 20th century pottery. Specialist examination of these finds was undertaken and relevant comments integrated into **Section 4**, with a report in **Appendix 3**. The Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was retained as part of the site archive, while the 19th – 20th century pottery was of no archaeological significance or use to further research and was consequently discarded.
- 3.3.4 No other categories of organic or inorganic artefactual material were represented. None of the material recovered during the evaluation required specialist stabilisation or an assessment of its potential for conservation research.
- 3.3.5 The complete site archive will be packaged for long-term storage and curation. In preparing the site archive for deposition, all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document (Brown 2011), the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document (Walker 1990), and the relevant ClfA publication (ClfA 2020b) will be adhered to. The depositional requirements of the body to which the site archive will be ultimately transferred will be met in full.

4 Results

4.1 Natural Deposits

4.1.1 Natural deposits across the site consisted of firm, silty clay; this was generally mid reddish brown with frequent light bluish grey patches (contexts **101, 201, 301, 401, 501, 601, 701, 801, 901, 1001, 1101, 1201, 1301, 1401, 1501** and **1601**).

4.2 Additional Deposits

4.2.1 Topsoil across the site consisted of a friable, mid greyish brown silty clay (contexts **103, 203, 302, 403, 503, 602, 702, 802, 903, 1002, 1102, 1202, 1302, 1403, 1503** and **1602**). The topsoil was 0.16m – 0.4m thick. One sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 7 and three sherds of 19th – 20th century pottery were retrieved from the topsoil in Trench 5 (**Appendix 3**). A layer of subsoil was present in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 14 and 15 (contexts **102, 202, 402, 502, 902, 1402, 1502**); this was mid to light brown sandy clay.

4.2.2 Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 did not contain any archaeological features or deposits; these trenches contained natural deposits directly overlain by topsoil, and in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 9 and 14 a layer of subsoil overlain by topsoil. Trenches 3, 8, 10 and 15 contained archaeological features or deposits; these trenches are discussed below.

4.3 Trench 3

4.3.1 Cutting the natural deposits at the northern end of Trench 3 was a linear feature [**304**] on an east-northeast to west-southwest alignment. This had moderately steep, slightly concave sides and a concave base, was at least 1m long, 0.47m wide and 0.17m deep (**Section 21; Plate 3**), and probably represents a gully terminus. Within this feature was a deposit of friable, mid yellowish brown slightly silty sandy clay (**305**); no dating evidence was recovered from this deposit. Feature [**304**] was sealed by a 0.33m thick layer of topsoil (**302**). The feature appeared to align with a linear feature detected by the geophysical survey and tentatively identified as a plough furrow.

4.4 Trench 8

4.4.1 Ten furrows running on east to west alignments were observed in Trench 10; three of these were examined and recorded. Furrow [**803**], at the northern end of the trench, was 1m wide and 0.16m deep, with steep, concave sides and a flat base (**Section 10; Plate 4**). In the middle of Trench 8 was furrow [**805**]; this measured at least 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep, with shallow, slightly concave sides and a concave base (**Section 12**). The furrow was truncated on its southern side by a plough scar. At the southern end of the trench was a furrow [**807**] with shallow, flat sides and concave base (**Section 13**) measuring 1.5m

wide and 0.15m deep. Furrows [803], [805] and [807] contained single fills of friable, light yellowish brown silty clay with sparse stone and charcoal inclusions; these were (804), (806) and (808) respectively. None of the furrows investigated in Trench 8 contained any dating evidence. Sealing the furrows in Trench 8 was a layer of topsoil (802) of 0.35m thickness. The furrows in Trench 8 aligned with anomalies detected during the geophysical survey and assumed to be of agricultural origin.

4.5 Trench 10

4.5.1 In the centre of Trench 10 was a pit [1003] of oval shape in plan and with gently sloping, irregular sides, and measuring at least 1m in diameter and at least 0.28m in depth (**Plate 6**). This pit was not fully excavated as the presence of barbed wire indicated a modern date. Two fills were observed in pit [1003]: the lowest of these was a 0.15m thick deposit (1004) of firm, brownish black silty clay with occasional charcoal and rooting. Overlying (1004) was a deposit of firm, mid brown silty clay with sparse charcoal inclusions (1005). Topsoil measuring 0.3m thick sealed this pit and formed the uppermost layer in Trench 10.

4.6 Trench 15

4.6.1 Five furrows were observed on northeast to southwest orientations in Trench 15; four of these were seen in section only. One furrow in the south-eastern part of the trench was seen in plan; this was investigated and recorded. This furrow [1504] was at least 2m long, 1.6m wide and 0.08m deep, with shallow, irregular sides and an irregular base (**Section 11; Plate 5**). Furrow [1504] contained a deposit of firm, light yellowish brown silty clay (1505) with sparse inclusions of stone and charcoal. No dating evidence was recovered from this fill. Furrow [1504] was sealed by a 0.08m thick layer of subsoil (1502).

5 Discussion and Conclusion

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 The archaeological sequence is described by placing stratigraphic sequences within broad phases, assigned on a site-wide basis in this case. Interpretation has been added to the data, and these phases have been correlated with recognised historical and geological periods. The following describes the archaeological sequence as determined by the relative dates of the finds.

5.1.2 Four furrows, one gully terminus and one pit were examined during the evaluation; all of these were undated apart from the pit, which was modern. A further eleven furrows were identified but not investigated. One sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery and three sherds of modern pottery were recovered from the topsoil in the centre of the site. None of the remains corresponded to field boundaries or other features shown on historical maps of the area.

5.2 Phase 1: Natural Sub-Stratum

5.2.1 Phase 1 represents the natural geological material exposed within all sixteen trenches. This geological material is represented by deposits of Gunthorpe Member mudstone and siltstone and Radcliffe Member Mudstone and Siltstone.

5.3 Phase 2: Modern

5.3.1 The pit in Trench 10 contained barbed wire and was therefore recent in date, and is likely to relate to modern agricultural usage of the site.

5.4 Phase 3: Undated

5.4.1 The gully terminus in Trench 3 did not contain any dating evidence and its origin is unclear. Although it appears to align with a furrow detected on the geophysical survey, suggesting a medieval or post-medieval date, its profile and dimensions are not typical of a furrow.

5.5 Phase 4: Undated (Post-Medieval)

5.5.1 Although no artefactual evidence was recovered from any of the four furrows investigated, the furrows are likely to be post-medieval rather than medieval in date. The furrows observed in Trench 8 were spaced at c. 5m apart, but furrows of the medieval period were typically spaced at wider intervals. There were larger distances between the furrows observed in section in Trench 15, but given that these furrows were not very substantial, this could have been a result of truncation rather than a wider spacing of the furrows.

5.5.2 Medieval ridge and furrow earthworks are visible to the north and south of the site, and there is evidence from the geophysical survey within the site of both medieval (curved) and post-medieval (straight) ridge and furrow. No evidence for medieval ridge and furrow was discovered during the evaluation, but this was probably due to the earlier earthworks being erased by agricultural activity in the post-medieval and modern periods. Given the site's

proximity to the settlement of Halloughton, which was established by the medieval period, it is likely that the site would have been used for agriculture at this time.

5.6 Discussion

5.6.1 There is no clear evidence for previous settlement activity on the site, although the presence of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery in the topsoil hints at possible occupation in the area during this period. However, no remains of structural elements dating to this period were revealed either during the geophysical survey or the archaeological evaluation, and it is possible that the pottery entered the area through an imported soil as manuring scatter. The evidence suggests that the land was not utilised for occupation activities but served an agricultural function.

5.7 Conclusion

5.7.1 The main aim of the evaluation was to inform the Local Planning Authority, as advised by their archaeological advisor, and the client regarding the location, nature and extent of archaeological remains within the location of the proposed development.

5.7.2 In summary, fifteen furrows, four of which were investigated and recorded, one gully terminus and one pit were discovered during the evaluation. None of the features apart from the pit, which was modern, contained any dating evidence, but the furrows probably date to the post-medieval period. A gully terminus in the north of the site was of uncertain, but possibly medieval or later, date. One sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery and three sherds of modern pottery were recovered from the topsoil.

5.7.3 It is the professional opinion of PCA that, based on the results of the archaeological evaluation, further archaeological works are not required.

6 Personnel

The evaluation was managed by Gary Taylor of PCA Newark and was carried out by the fieldwork team at PCA Newark. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Diana Valk of PCA's CAD department. Alex Beeby reported on the finds.

7 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Pegasus Group, on behalf of JBM Solar, for commissioning the work.

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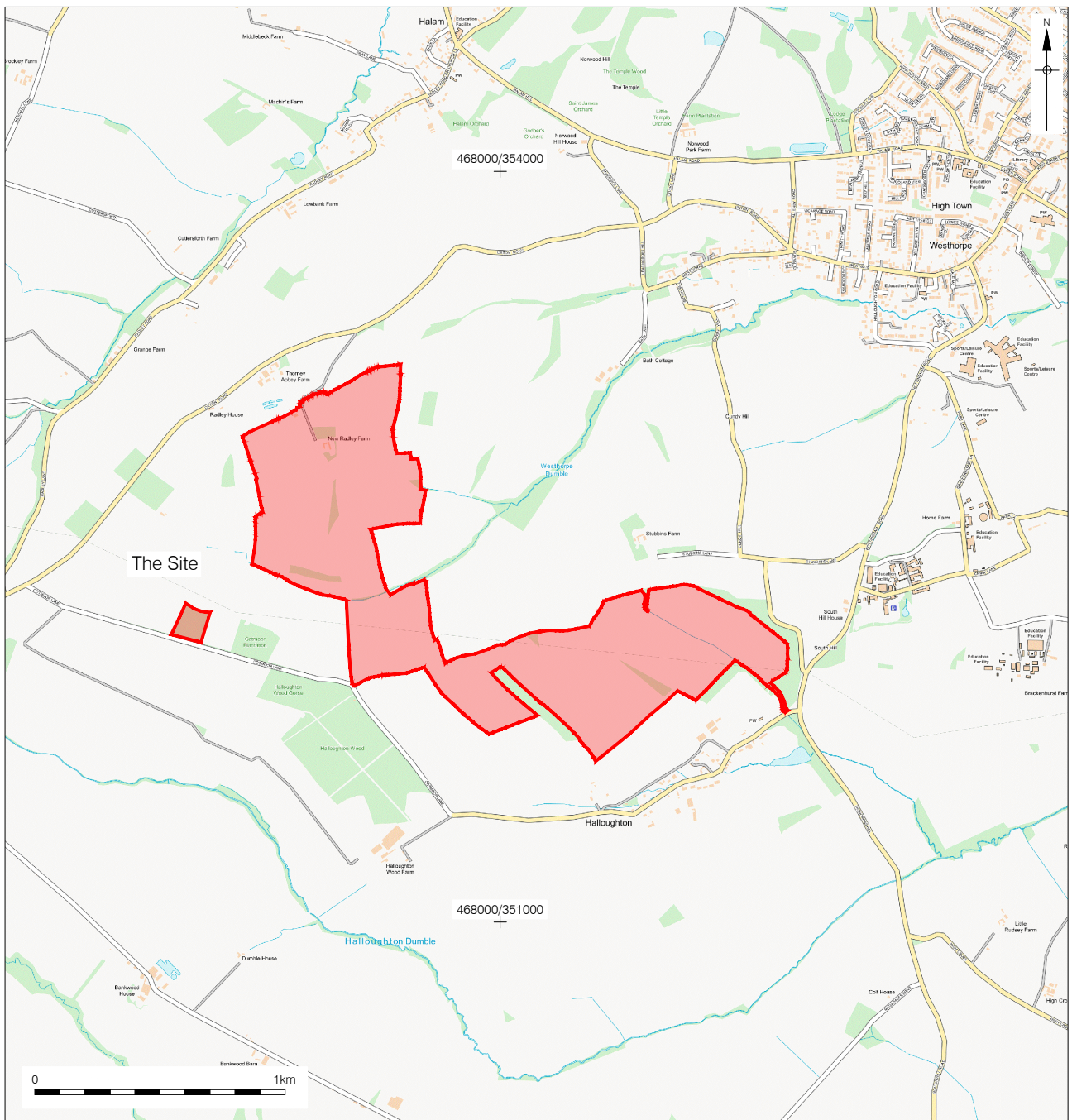
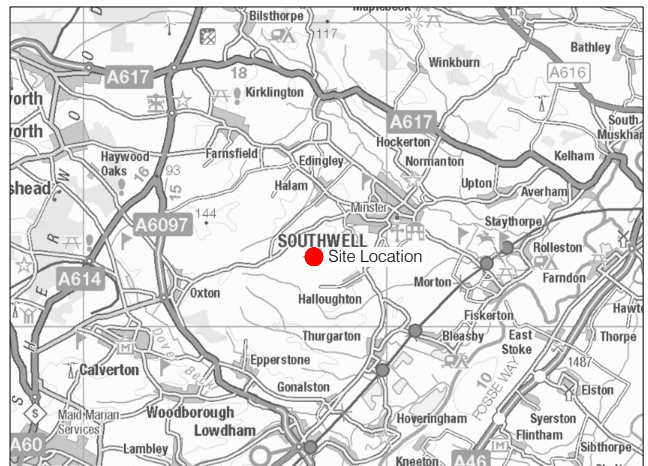
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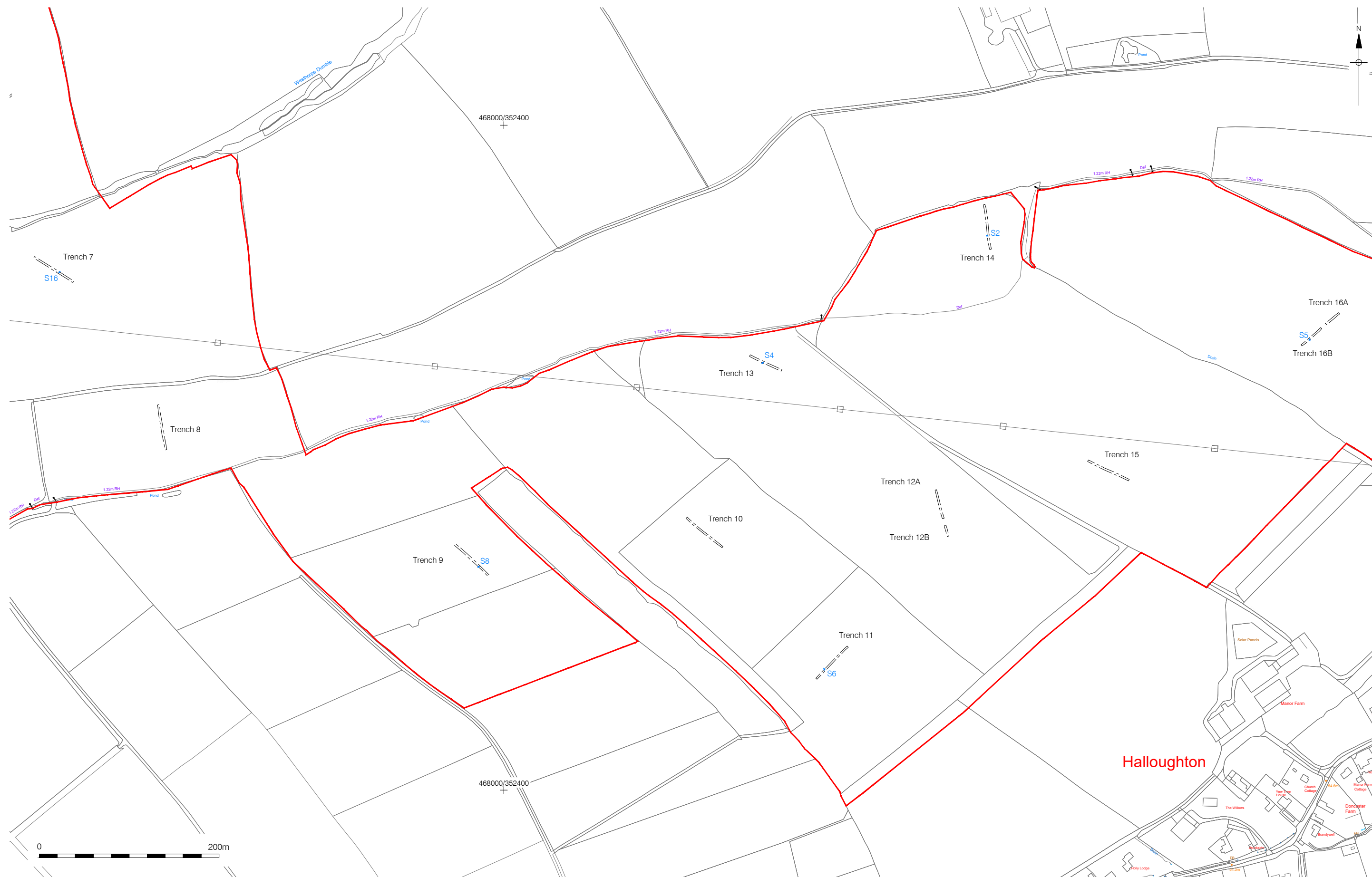
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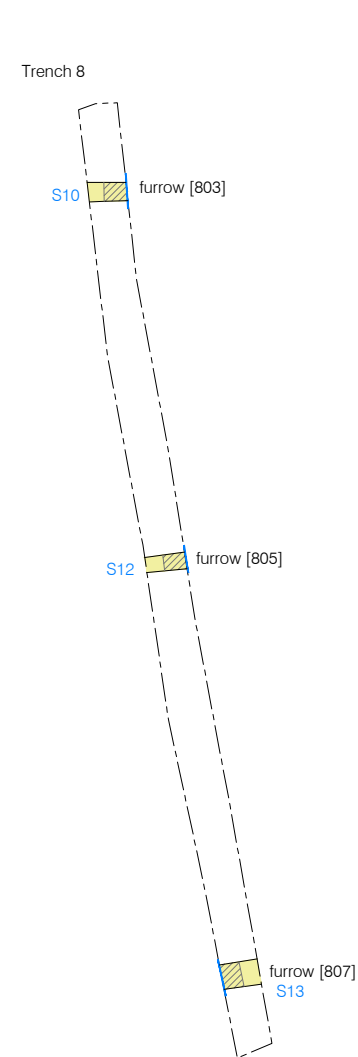
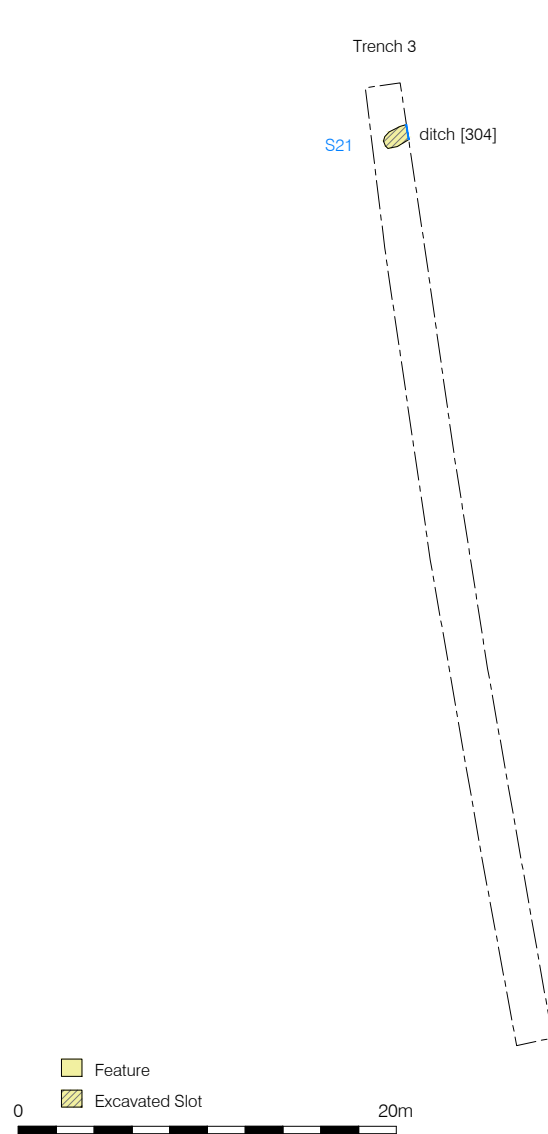
Old Maps website: <https://www.old-maps.co.uk>

Accessed on 11/12/2020









Trench 10



modern pit [1003]

Trench 15



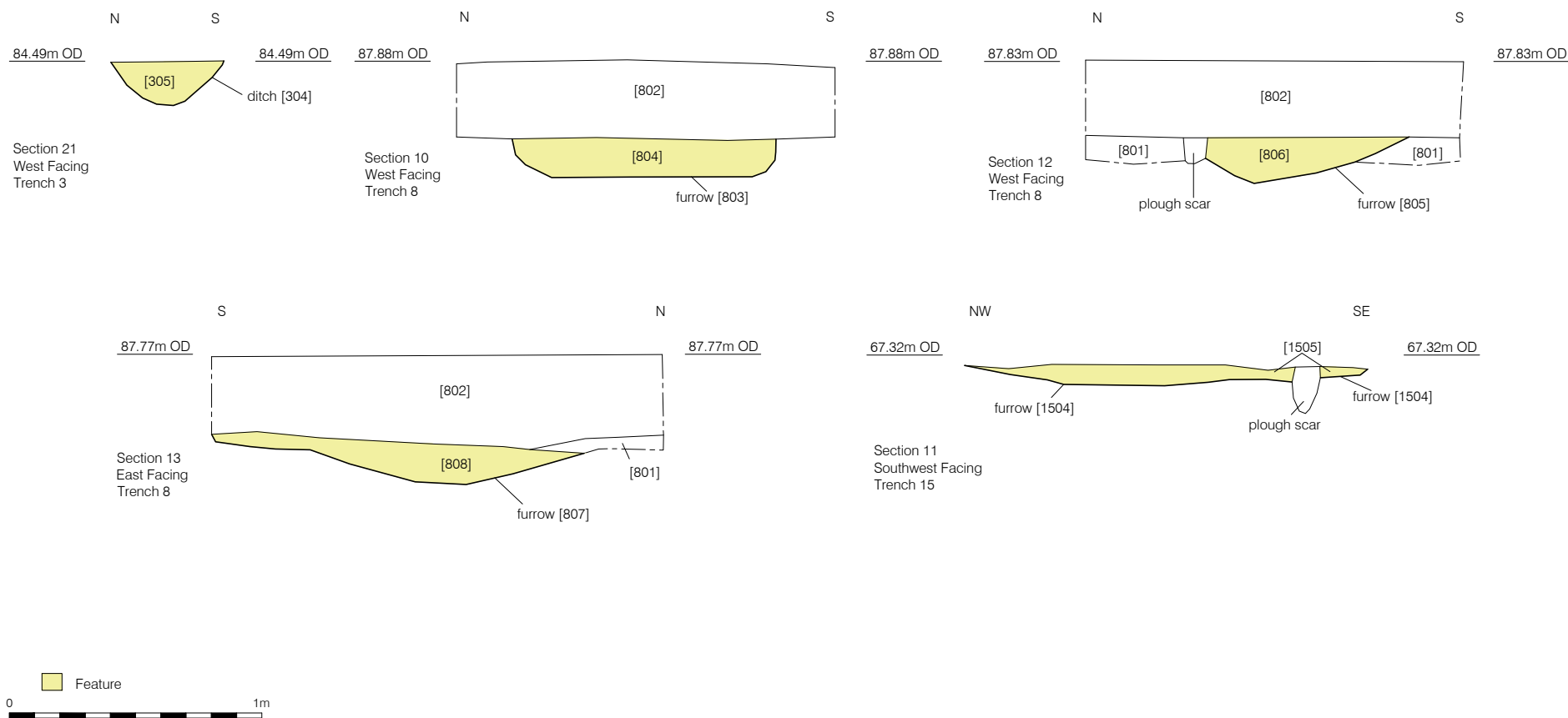
furrow [1504]

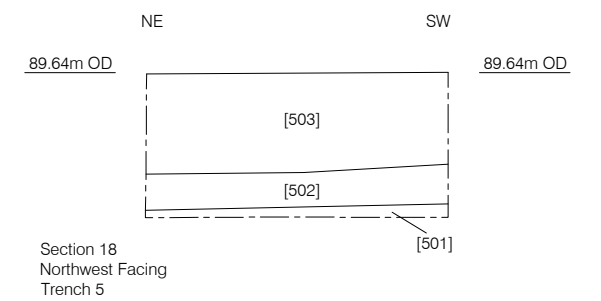
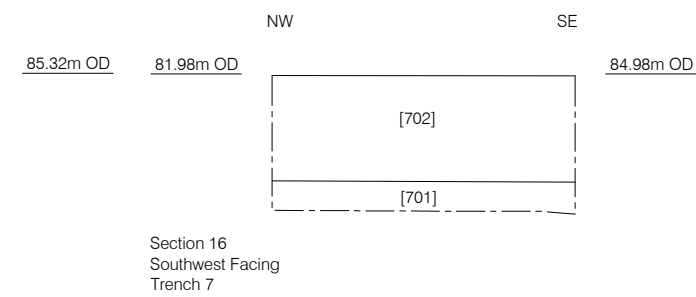
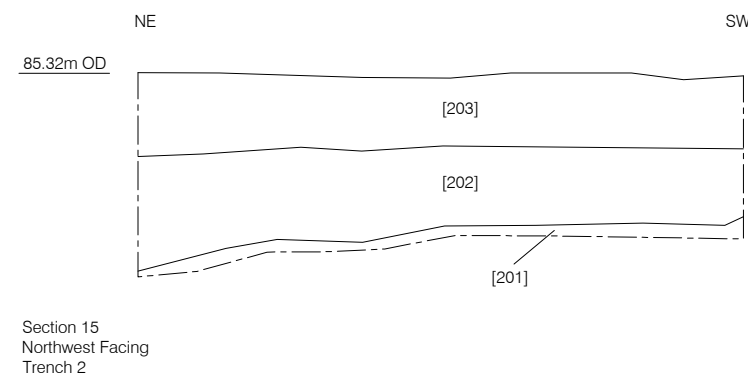
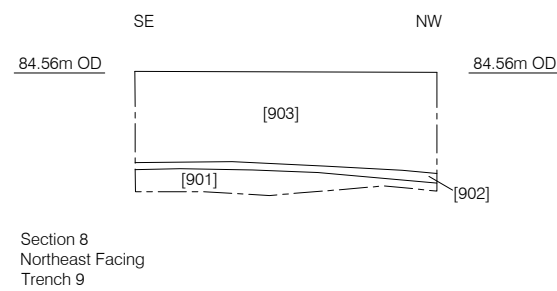
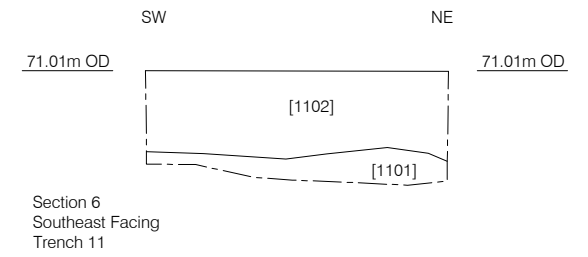
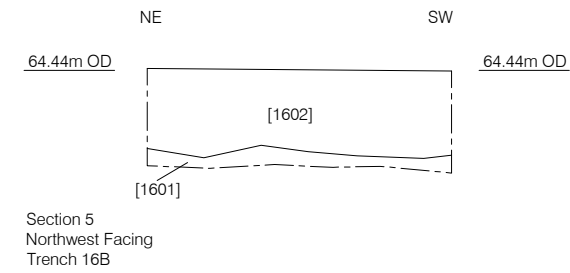
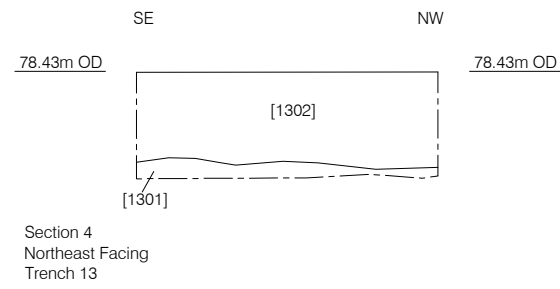
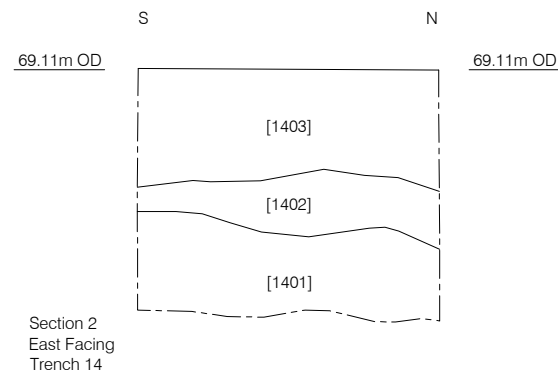
S11

Feature

Excavated Slot

0 20m





Appendix 1: Site Photographs



Plate 1: Trench 15, showing natural deposits and furrow [1504], looking northwest. Scales: 2 x 2m.



Plate 2: Trench 8, showing the group of furrows, looking north-northeast. Scales: 2 x 2m.



Plate 3: Gully terminus [304] in Trench 3, looking east-northeast. Scale: 1m.



Plate 4: Furrow [803] in Trench 8, looking east. Scale: 1m.

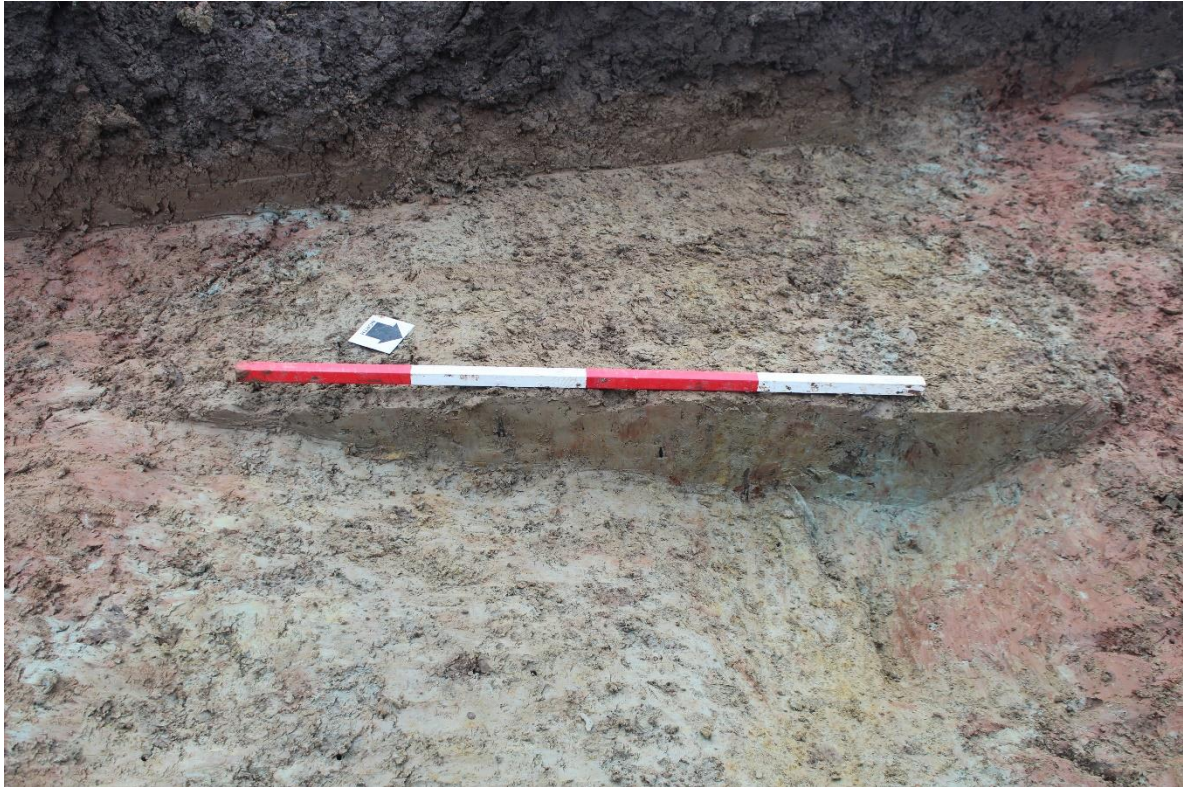


Plate 5: Furrow [1504] in Trench 6, looking southwest. Scale: 1m.



Plate 6: Modern pit [1003] in Trench 10, looking southwest. Scale: 1m.



Plate 7: Representative section of Trench 16, looking southeast, showing the topsoil and natural deposits. Scale: 1m.

Appendix 2: Context Index

Abbreviations: UE means 'unexcavated'; N/A means 'not applicable'; > means 'greater than'; < means 'up to'; Context numbers are followed by a brief description and interpretation; their dimensions in metres (in the order length x width x depth; or diameter x depth); and their critical stratigraphic relationships.

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
1	101	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Occasional mudstone	Natural	>0.05 thick	-	102
	102	Layer	Mid yellowish brown	Friable slightly sandy silty clay	Frequent manganese flecks	Subsoil	0.04 thick	101	103
	103	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.32 thick	102	-
2	201	Deposit	Mid reddish brown with patches of light blueish grey	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Occasional mudstone	Natural	>0.04 thick	-	202
	202	Layer	Mid orangey Brown	Friable sandy silt	Frequent manganese flecks and occasional charcoal	Subsoil	0.38 thick	201	203
	203	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.28 thick	202	-

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
3	301	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Occasional mudstone	Natural	>0.20 thick	-	302
	302	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.34 thick	301	-
	303	VOID							
	304	Cut	NE – SW aligned Linear with moderately sloped, concaved sides and a concave base			Cut of gully terminus	1.00 x 0.47 x 0.17	301	305
	305	Fill	Mid yellowish brown	Friable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent manganese flecks and occasional charcoal	Single fill of [304]	1.00 x 0.47 x 0.17	304	302
4	401	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent mudstone	Natural	>0.04 thick	-	402
	402	Layer	Mid greyish brown	Firm silty clay	Frequent manganese flecks and frequent mudstone inclusions	Subsoil	0.10 thick	401	403
	403	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.36 thick	402	-
5	501	Deposit	Mid pinkish red	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent mudstone	Natural	>0.04 thick	-	502

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
5	502	Layer	Mid Brown	Firm silty clay	Frequent manganese	Subsoil	0.12 thick	501	503
	503	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.34 thick	502	-
6	601	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent mudstone	Natural	>0.18 thick	-	602
	602	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.26 thick	601	-
7	701	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent mudstone	Natural	>0.12 thick	-	702
	702	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.36 thick	701	-
8	801	Deposit	Mid reddish brown and light bluish grey	Firm slightly sandy clay	-	Natural	>0.1 thick	-	802
	802	Layer	Dark grey	Clayey silt	-	Topsoil	0.34 thick	801	-
	803	Cut	E – W aligned linear with moderately sloped, concave sides and a flat base.			Cut of furrow	>1.8 x 1.04 x 0.16	801	804

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
8	804	Fill	Mid yellowish brown	Firm silty clay	Occasional stone and charcoal	Single fill of [803]	>1 x 1.04 x 0.16	803	802
	805	Cut	E – W aligned linear with shallow, slightly concave sides and a concave base.			Cut of furrow	>1.8 x 0.9 x 0.2	801	806
	806	Fill	Light orangey grey	Firm silty clay	Moderate charcoal flecks	Single fill of [805]	>1 x 0.9 x 0.2	805	802
	807	Cut	E-W aligned linear with shallow, slightly concave sides and a concave base.			Cut of furrow	>1.8 x 1.5 x 0.15	801	808
	808	Fill	Light yellowish brown	Firm silty clay	Occasional stone and charcoal	Single fill of [807]	>1 x 1.5 x 0.15	807	802
9	901	Deposit	Reddish brown	Firm slightly sandy clay	Occasional sub-angular stones	Natural	>0.08 thick	-	902
	902	Layer	Mid yellowish brown	Firm slightly sandy clay	Occasional manganese	Subsoil	0.02 thick	901	903
	903	Layer	Mid brown	Slightly clayey silt	-	Topsoil	0.34 thick	902	-
10	1001	Deposit	Reddish brown	Firm sandy clay	Occasional sub-angular stones	Natural	>0.1 thick	-	1002

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
10	1002	Topsoil	Dark grey	Silty clay	-	Topsoil	0.3 thick	1001	-
	1003	Cut	Oval in plan with gentle sloping sides and an irregular base.			Cut of modern pit	>1 x >0.75 x 0.28	1001	1004
	1004	Fill	Blackish brown	Firm silty clay	Occasional charcoal and rooting	Lower fill of [1003]	>1 x >0.75 x 0.15	1003	1005
	1005	Fill	Mid brown	Firm silty clay	Occasional charcoal	Upper fill of [1003]	>1 x >0.75 x 0.2	1004	-
11	1101	Deposit	Reddish brown	Firm slightly sandy clay	Occasional sub-angular stone	Natural	>0.12 thick	-	1102
	1102	Layer	Dark grey	Firm silty clay	-	Topsoil	0.3 thick	1101	-
12	1201	Deposit	Light bluish grey	Firm slightly sandy clay	Occasional stones	Natural	>0.1 thick	-	1202
	1202	Layer	Dark grey	Firm silty clay	-	Topsoil	0.37 thick	1201	-
13	1301	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Slightly sandy clay	Occasional stones	Natural	>0.05 thick	-	1302

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
13	1302	Layer	Dark grey	Firm silty clay	-	Topsoil	0.32 thick	1301	-
14	1401	Deposit	Mottled mid yellowish brown and bluish grey	Firm slightly sandy clay	Occasional stones	Natural	>0.32 thick	-	1402
	1402	Layer	Light brown	Slightly sandy clay	Occasional stones	Subsoil	0.2 thick	1401	1403
	1403	Layer	Dark grey	Firm silty clay	-	Topsoil	0.4 thick	1402	-
15	1501	Deposit	Mid pinkish grey	Firm slightly sandy clay	-	Natural	>0.18 thick	-	1502
	1502	Layer	Mid grey	Firm silty clay	-	Subsoil	0.07 thick	1501	1503
	1503	Layer	Dark grey	Firm silty clay	Occasional stones	Topsoil	0.22 thick	1502	-
	1504	Cut	NE – SW aligned linear feature with shallow, irregular sides and irregular flattish base.			Furrow	>1.8 x 1.33 x 0.08	1501	1505
	1505	Fill	Light yellowish brown	Silty clay	Occasional stone and charcoal	Single fill of [1504]	>1 x 1.33 x 0.08	1504	1502

Trench	Context	Category	Description			Interpretation	Dimensions (m)	Above	Below
			Colour	Texture	Inclusions				
16	1601	Deposit	Mid reddish brown	Firm and mouldable slightly silty sandy clay	Frequent mudstone	Natural	>0.06 thick	-	1602
	1602	Layer	Dark brownish grey	Sticky and firm silty clay	Sparse stone	Topsoil	0.30 thick	1601	-

Appendix 3: The Finds

The Iron Age and Roman Pottery

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004). The pottery was recorded using the system and recording codes developed for the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (CLAU) (Darling and Precious 2014).

Methodology

The pottery was viewed and then weighed. Estimated (minimum) vessel number (NoV) follows the methodology outlined in Orton, Vince and Tyers, 1993, 171. The material was recorded in December 2020. A single sherd from a single vessel, weighing six grams was recovered from the site.

Condition

There is a single sherd weighing six grams; the item is not abraded.

Results

Table 1 below shows the archive catalogue.

Table 1, summary of the Roman pottery

Trench	Context	Full Name	Cname	Form	NoV	Comments	Sherds	Weight
7	702	Native tradition fine-grogged ware	IAGROGF	Unknown	1	Body sherd; fine grog and shell; oxidised surfaces and reduced core	1	6
7	702	Date				VLIA to early Roman		

Provenance

The pottery was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 7 (702).

Range

There is a single fragment in a fine-grogged ware fabric (IAGROGF). The fabric has abundant rounded to subrounded clay pellets or grog pieces and moderately common subrounded to well rounded quartz sand inclusions. The item is likely to be of very late Iron Age to very early Roman date (most likely 1st century AD), probably deriving from a wheelmade or wheel-finished vessel.

Potential

The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long-term storage. There is no potential for further work.

Abbreviations

NoV Number of vessels

Tr Trench

References

Darling, M.J., & Precious, B.J., 2014, *A Corpus of Roman pottery from Lincoln*, Oxbow Books

Orton, C., Vince, A. and Tyers P., 1993, *Pottery in Archaeology*. Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology

The Post Roman Pottery

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

The material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) using the system and period definitions devised for the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit (Young *et al.* 2005). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire (as published in Young *et al.* 2005), which can be used for surrounding counties.

Methodology

The material was laid out and weighed. The pottery was then examined visually. This information was

then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below. The pottery dates to the early modern to modern period.

Condition

The pottery is in a fragmentary but unabraded state.

Results

Table 1, the Pottery Archive

Tr	Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Form	Decor	Part	Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
5	503	WHITE	Modern whiteware	Flat	Blue transfer print -Willow Pattern	BS	M19th-20th	1	1	2
5	503	PEARL	Pearlware	Flat	Blue transfer print - floral design	BS	19th	1	1	2
5	503	WHITE	Modern whiteware	Dish or bowl		Rim	M19th-E20th	1	1	6
Total								3	3	10

Provenance

All of the post Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 5 (503).

Range

There are three fragments of domestic-type factory-made whiteware pottery. The pieces are of early modern to modern date (19th-20th century).

Potential

There is no potential for further work on the assemblage. The pottery is not worthy of retention and should be discarded.

References

Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Young, J., Vince, A.G. and Nailor, V., 2005, *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln*
(Oxford)

Abbreviations

BS Body sherd

Cxt Context

Decor Decoration

NoS Number of sherds

NoV Number of vessels

Tr Trench

W(g) Weight (grams)

Appendix 4: OASIS Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: preconst1-410748

Project details

Project name	Cotmoor Solar Farm, Halloughton evaluation
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Cotmoor Solar farm, Halloughton, Nottinghamshire. Pegasus Group commissioned the archaeological work on behalf of JBM Solar and the evaluation took place from 23rd November - 4th December 2020. The aim of the work was to identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains within the proposed development area. Geophysical survey of the site had detected remains of ridges and furrows as well as several linear anomalies. During the archaeological evaluation, fifteen furrows, a gully terminus and a pit were identified. No dating evidence was recovered from the four furrows investigated, but their layout indicates a post-medieval date, demonstrating agricultural usage of the land during this period. In the north of the site was a gully terminus of uncertain origin and date, and in the centre of the study area was a pit of modern origin; these are of limited archaeological significance. A sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil in the centre of the site, possibly indicating settlement activity of this period in the vicinity.
Project dates	Start: 23-11-2020 End: 04-12-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CSHN20 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	20/01242/FULM - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	FURROW Post Medieval
Monument type	GULLY TERMINUS Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NEWARK AND SHERWOOD HALLOUGHTON Cotmoor Solar Farm
Postcode	NG25 0QZ
Study area	102.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 680 522 53.062411110207 -0.985167424791 53 03 44 N 000 59 06 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 58m Max: 95m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA Newark
Project brief originator	PCA
Project design originator	Gary Taylor
Project director/manager	Gary Taylor
Project supervisor	Iain Pringle
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	JBM Solar

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Newark Museum; Newark Civil War Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Newark Museum, Newark Civil War Museum
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Newark Museum; Newark Civil War Museum
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Map", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Cotmoor Solar Farm, Halloughton: Report on an Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Koumplis, M.
Other bibliographic details	R14340
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Place of issue or publication	Newark
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