LAND OFF BLACKMOORFOOT ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PCA Report Number: R17771

February 2025

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield: An Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
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Land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield: An Archaeological Evaluation

Site Code:	**BMF25**
Local Planning Authority:	**Kirklees Council**
Museum Accession Number:	**TBC**
Planning Application:	**2024/70/92614/W**
Central National Grid Reference:	**SE 11381 14768**
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Commissioning Client:	**BWB Heritage on behalf of Vistry Yorkshire Ltd, Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd & Miller homes Ltd**
Contractor:	**Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd Newark Office 16 London Road Newark Nottinghamshire NG24 1TW**

February 2025

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SUMMARY

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. The work was commissioned by BWB Heritage on behalf of Vistry Yorkshire Ltd, Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd & Miller homes Ltd and took place from 19th to 24th January 2025. The aim of the work was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the proposed development area and to inform possible mitigation measures, as required for the determination of a planning application for a residential development.

A total of 18 evaluation trenches were opened during the evaluation. Archaeological remains of a largely undetermined date were identified within three of the trenches, and remains of a redundant post-medieval field boundary was present in a fourth.

1 Introduction

1.1 General Background

1.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was commissioned by BWB Heritage on behalf of Vistry Yorkshire Ltd, Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd & Miller homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield, hereafter 'the Site'. The evaluation took place from 19th to 24th January 2024.

1.1.2 The Site is located to the southwest and northeast of the former Standard Fireworks Factory, which lies adjacent to Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield (**Figures 1 & 2**). The investigation site lies about 3.5km southwest of the centre of Huddersfield and 0.8km east of the village of Linthwaite and is centred on National Grid Reference SE 11381 14768. A planning application (2024/70/92614/W) for a mixed-use residential development with associated infrastructure has been submitted to Kirklees Council.

1.1.3 During the investigation 18 trenches were excavated, each measuring 50m long and 1.8m wide (**Figure 2**).

1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with the following documents:

- The Trial Trenching Specification/ Written Scheme of Investigation (BWB Heritage 2024);
- Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1990);
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England, 2015);
- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).
- Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited is a Registered Organisation (number 23) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and will operate within the Institute's 'Code of Conduct' (CIfA 2022).

1.1.5 The archaeological works sought to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.1.6 This report describes the results of the archaeological evaluation. The site archive will be deposited with Kirklees Museums. The accession number is forthcoming.

1.2 Planning Background

1.2.1 The site is the subject of a planning application (2024/70/92614/W) that has been submitted to Kirklees Council for the development of up to 770 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), including up to 70 care apartments (Use Classes C2/C3), vehicular and pedestrian access points off Blackmoorfoot Road and Felks Stile Road and associated works. West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service (WYAAS), as archaeological advisor to Kirklees Council, has advised that trial trenching should be carried out so that the results can inform the decision on the application and whether there would need to be any further requirements for archaeological mitigation.

1.2.2 National Planning Policy on archaeology and built heritage is set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Revised in December 2024, 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 (MHCLG 2024).

1.2.3 The archaeological works were carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by BWB Heritage (BWB 2024) following consultation with West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service (WYAAS) the archaeological advisor to Kirklees Council.

2 Geology and Topography

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 Bedrock geology across the Site comprises Rough Rock sandstone. No superficial deposits are recorded (British Geological Survey 2025).

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The Site comprises eight fields which surround buildings associated with the former Standard Fireworks Factory site, including the former office block, factory buildings, stores, sheds and distribution units and former quarries. The evaluation trenching is restricted to fields to the southwest and northeast of the former Standard Fireworks Factory site (**Figure 2**):

2.2.2 The smaller of the two areas, to the northeast of the fireworks factory complex comprises three relatively flat grass fields (Fields 6, 7 & 8) divided by drystone walls with an elevation of between 202m and 215m AOD.

2.2.3 The larger of the two evaluated areas, located to the southwest of the former fireworks factory comprises five grass fields divided by dry stone walls (Fields 1-5), with an elevation of between 223m AOD in the southeast of Field 5 and 251m AOD in the northwest of Field 1.

2.2.4 Within Field 2, a noticeable northwest to southeast aligned linear earthwork is visible.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1.1 An historic environment desk-based assessment was prepared by RPS in 2020. This states that there are no known archaeological sites or assets within the areas either side of the former Standard Fireworks Site which occupies much of the central part of the site. The assessment refers to various 19th century maps including the 1850 South Crosland Tithe Map which shows the area in agricultural use, with small fields to the south and open areas to the north. The aforementioned map also depicts two small quarries roughly within the centre of the site.

3.1.2 The Standard Fireworks Site occupied the centre of the site from the mid-19th century, but the current areas of evaluation, to the northeast and southwest of the factory complex, has been agricultural land from at least the time of enclosure with very little suggestion of medieval agricultural activities commensurate with the surrounding rugged hillsides, where the quality of vegetation is too poor for most types of farming.

3.1.3 Geophysical Survey

3.1.4 In 2023 Phase Site Investigation undertook a geophysical survey of those parts of the Site which had not been disturbed by the former quarries or the fireworks factory. The survey identified a large number of isolated responses which are likely to relate to spread(s) of modern material.

3.1.5 The predominance of the anomalies identified by the survey relate to modern material / objects, agricultural activity and natural variations. There are several anomalies of uncertain origin, some of which may relate to possible archaeological features; however, it is suggested that most of these do not form any clear patterns or relationships that would infer an archaeological origin. It is likely that most of them will be associated with agricultural activity, drainage features or natural features /variations.

4 Project Aims and Research Objectives

4.1 Project Aims

4.1.1 To gain an understanding of some of the anomalies revealed by the geophysical survey. the objectives are detailed below:

- To characterise and date the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey;
- To determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
- To inform the scope of archaeological mitigation works, where necessary;
- To assess apparent blank areas;
- To record all remains to an appropriate level.

The aims of the investigation are in line with The Research Agenda for West Yorkshire produced by the West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service (WYAAS).

5 Methodology

5.1.1 The evaluation consisted of the mechanical excavation of eighteen 50m by 1.8m trenches, which were excavated to the top of the geological natural or to the top of the first archaeological horizon or deposit.

5.1.2 A preliminary assessment of ground conditions was undertaken by the Contractor (PCA) prior to the commencement of the fieldwork and the Consultant notified of any areas that in their opinion were unsuitable for evaluation.

5.1.3 All machine excavation of trial trenches was carried out under constant archaeological direction by a suitably experienced archaeologist familiar with the ground conditions anticipated on the site.

5.1.4 Machine excavation of the trial trenches was undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a flat-bladed bucket. The machine excavation proceeded in level splits of no more than 200mm to allow the monitoring archaeologist an appropriate window of opportunity to assess the horizon for archaeological remains and finds. Exposed surfaces and excavated spoil were scanned by metal detector.

5.1.5 All exposed deposits were cleaned using hand tools to define any archaeological features or deposits and each trench recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). Context units (see below) were recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual approved for use in West Yorkshire including written, digital, photographic and drawn records

5.1.6 Archaeological features were sample excavated sufficiently to characterise them and recover datable material. The fills of anthropogenic features excavated by the archaeological team were sieved using a 3mm mesh to recover possible Mesolithic and Neolithic material.

5.1.7 PCA allowed the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time during or after the evaluation fieldwork, by the client/ developer, the Senior Archaeologist at WYAAS. PCA also liaised closely with the Senior Archaeologist via the client, throughout the course of the evaluation to arrange for on-site meetings at key decision points and determine if further evaluation work at this stage was necessary.

5.1.8 Trenches were backfilled with agreement from the Senior Archaeologist from WYAAS on completion of the fieldwork.

5.2 Excavation and Sampling Methodology

5.2.1 A sufficient sample of any archaeological features and deposits revealed were hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features. Excavation and sampling strategies were proportionate to record and characterise the features.

5.2.2 Archaeological deposits and layers (including buried soils) were sampled sufficiently to enable a confident interpretation of their character, date and relationships with other features.

5.2.3 Hand excavation was undertaken in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to meet the objectives of the evaluation. Care was be taken to excavate stratigraphically and allocate any recovered artefacts to their correct deposit. A sufficient number of deposits or features were investigated through sample excavation in each trench to record the horizontal and vertical extent of the stratigraphic sequence down to the level of undisturbed natural deposits. Excavation was undertaken with a view to minimising damage to any features or deposits which would be better understood during any future stages of work and those which appear to be worthy of preservation in-situ.

5.2.4 Archaeological recording, where not precluded by Health & Safety considerations, consisted of an initial 50% sample from discrete features, which were then 100% excavated to maximise recovery of artefacts and palaeo-environmental samples. A minimum 20% sample was taken of all ditches; and any junctions / intersections and corners of linear features were investigated to determine stratigraphic relationships. Investigation slots through all linear features were at least 1m in width.

5.2.5 All finds recovered will be recorded by context on PCA pro-forma recording sheets. Where assigned, each context will be described in full on a PCA pro-forma context record sheet in accordance with the accepted context record conventions including a ‘Harris’ matrix where stratified deposits are recorded. Artefacts of 19th, 20th and 21st century date were noted and discarded.

5.3 Recording Methodology

5.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Geomax GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

5.3.2 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 PCAs printed pro forma.

5.3.3 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process, including of all archaeological features and deposits.

5.3.4 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).

5.3.5 All finds 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.

5.4 Post-Fieldwork Methodology

5.4.1 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.

5.4.2 The stratigraphic data for the project comprises written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 26 archaeological contexts were defined within the 18 trenches. Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records and phasing the stratigraphic data (**Appendix 2**)

5.4.3 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 were referenced including the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document (Brown 2011), the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document (Walker 1990) and the relevant CIfA publication (CIfA 2020b) will be adhered to.

5.4.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork, the online OASIS V form http://www.oasis.ac.uk/ was completed. A summary of this entry can be found in **Appendix 3.** Once the report of the results has become a public document, following their incorporation into the HER, it will be added to the OASIS V record and uploaded to the Archaeological Data Service website where it may be freely consulted.

6 Results

6.1 Natural Deposits

6.1.1 Natural deposits across the Site (**3**) largely consisted of mid orangish brown sand and sand-clays with frequent sandstone brash. The southern end of Trench 18 contained a natural deposit of loose coarse grained light grey sand, likely associated with a redundant watercourse or frequent area of flooding (**Appendix 1: Plate 18**).

6.1.2 A subsoil (2) was present in Trenches 1 - 10, 13, 14 and 15; whilst subsoil was absent in Trenches 11, 12 and 16 - 18, where the topsoil (1) immediately overlay the natural (3). Subsoil comprised a mid reddish brown firmly compacted silt-clay between 0.05m and 0.3m in thickness. No finds were recovered from the subsoil.

6.1.3 Overlying the subsoil/natural and all archaeological features was a topsoil deposit (1) of very dark grey to black loosely compacted silt-clay, 0.25- 0.4m in thickness. Infrequent 18th -20th century pottery and clay tobacco pipe stems were noted in the topsoil but were not retained.

6.1.4 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 10, 11, 13 and 17; these are discussed below. The remaining trenches contained natural deposits overlain by subsoil and/ or topsoil.

6.2 Trench 10

6.2.1 Trench 10 was located in the sloping eastern area of Field 2, was aligned roughly west to east and was placed to ground truth the presence of a northwest to southeast aligned

linear feature identified in the previous geophysics survey.

6.2.2 Trench 10 was a maximum of 0.48m in depth, with topsoil (1) immediately overlying the natural geology (3) within the majority of the trench. The only archaeology present within Trench 10 was a raised earthwork corresponding to the linear feature identified during the geophysical survey within the eastern end of the trench (**Figure 4 & 6**). This consisted of a thick deposit of subsoil (2) measuring 9.8m in width and a maximum of 0.3m in thickness that appeared to in part be contra-positional to the natural eastward downward slope of the field, being horizontal at the central 6m of its upper horizon. No finds were present within this deposit of subsoil.

6.2.3 Topsoil (1) was present throughout the trench being 0.2m in thickness in the western and eastern ends of the trench and a maximum of 0.37m in thickness overlying the subsoil 'bank' (2).

6.3 Trench 11

6.3.1 Trench 11 was located in the west of Field 2, was aligned northwest to southeast and was located to ground-truth possible agricultural and drainage features highlighted in the geophysical survey.

6.3.2 The north-western and south-eastern ends of the trench were between 0.22 and 0.25m in depth with a gradual deepening towards the centre at 0.6m in depth. Two features, representing the bases of shallow linear ditches, both aligned northeast to southwest, were located centrally within Trench 11; 2.3m apart and appearing to correspond with the deepest part of the trench (**Figure 4 & 6**).

6.3.3 The north-western of the two [25] was a maximum of 1.67m in width with irregular sides in plan, shallow irregular concaved sides to a wide concaved base a maximum of 0.1m in depth. A single fill (26) of dark brownish grey firmly compacted sand-silt was devoid of finds (**Plate 19**).

6.3.4 The south-eastern of the two linear features, [22] was 1.07m in maximum width, had roughly parallel generally straight sides in plan, moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to a gradually concave base a maximum of 0.43m in depth. A primary lense (23) of firmly compact, mid brownish grey sand-silt likely represented a primary silting fill, overlain by a firmly compacted light brown-grey sand-silt (24) representing a period of accumulative silting.

6.3.5 The upper fills of linear features [22] and [25] were sealed by subsoil deposit (2).

6.4 Trench 13

6.4.1 Trench 13 was located in the centre of Field 3, aligned east to west and was placed to ground-truth the presence of several possible linear and curvilinear features identified on the geophysical survey.

6.4.2 Trench 13 was a maximum of 0.36m in depth with 0.07m thick subsoil (2), only present in the western half of the trench overlain by topsoil (1). The only archaeology present was a single posthole or small pit [4] located centrally within the trench (**Figure 5 & 6**). Posthole/pit [4] was sub-circular in plan with moderately steeply sloping concave sides to a wide concave base a maximum of 0.13m in depth. A single fill (5) of friable, mid grey-brown sand silt with occasional small angular stones contained no finds. No obvious post pipe was present (**Plate 20**).

6.5 Trench 17

6.5.1 Trench 17 was located at the western edge of Field 4, was aligned northwest to southeast

and was placed to investigate possible east to west aligned linear features identified on the geophysical survey.

6.5.2 Trench 17 was a maximum of 0.5m in depth, with irregular patches of highly disturbed subsoil present in the centre of the trench overlain by thick topsoil (1). Six roughly west to east aligned parallel linear features were present within the trench (**Figure 5 & 7**): The north-westernmost of these, [6], was only part exposed in the end of the trench, was a maximum of 1.2m in excavated width, the exposed south-eastern side was moderately steeply sloping and generally straight to a flat base a maximum of 0.35m in dept and contained two fills. The lower fill (7) was friable, light yellow-brown silt-sand with occasional small angular stones. This was overlain by a secondary fill of friable, mid brown-grey silt sand (8).

6.5.3 A second linear, [9], was located 1.83m southeast of [6] was 1.1.4m in width with straight parallel sides in plan, and moderately steeply concaved sides to a concave base a maximum of 0.35m in depth. A primary fill (10) of friable mid brown-grey sandy-silt with frequent angular stone inclusions was overlain ion the northwest side by a secondary fill (11) of friable mid yellow-grey sand-silt. Both fills are suggestive of a silting/ slumping primarily from the north-west and may be suggestive of a bank on the north-western side of the ditch, between it and ditch [6] (**Plate 21**).

6.5.4 Fill (11) was truncated on the north-western side by a narrow linear [12], aligned parallel with it. [12] was 0.78m in width with straight, parallel sides in plan, gradually sloping irregular/ complex sides to a narrow, concaved base and was a maximum of 0.12m in depth. A single fill (13) of friable mid grey silt-sand did not contain any finds.

6.5.5 Ditch [14] was located 5.57m south-east of [9], was parrel with the previously excavated ditches, aligned NE-SW, with generally straight parallel sides in plan, 1.16m in maximum width, moderately steeply sloping concave sides to a concave base a maximum of 0.15m in depth. A single fill (15) of friable dark brown-grey sandy silt with frequent angular and sub angular stones (max 0.05m) was devoid of finds.

6.5.6 Ditch [16] was located 4.27m southeast of ditch [14], it was less clearly defined with irregular, possibly curvilinear, sides in plan, but with a general alignment of northeast-southwest and a width between 0.53m and 0.73m. Ditch [16] had moderately concave sides to an irregular base, a maximum of 0.14m in depth. A single fill of friable mid greyish brown sandy silt (17) was devoid of finds.

6.5.7 Ditch [18] was located 14m to the southeast of ditch [16], was similarly irregular in plan and generally aligned NE-SW, between 0.49m and 0.72m in width and very shallow concave sides and base with a maximum surviving depth of 0.05m.A single fill (19) of friable, mid brown-grey sandy gravel was devoid of finds.

6.5.8 Immediately adjacent to [18], aligned NE-SW was ditch [20]. It had straight, parallel sides in plan, a maximum of 0.78m in width, with shallow concave sides and base a maximum of 0.1m in depth. A single fill (21) of friable, mid grey-brown sandy gravel was similar to that within adjacent [18] was also devoid of any finds.

6.5.9 The natural substrate of the central part of the trench was heavily disturbed by rooting, with one large irregular sub-oval area and a smaller sub-rounded area of disturbance filled with subsoil (2). The irregularity of the ‘cuts’ of these features and the nature of the fills identifies them as probable tree holes or root boles.

7 Discussion and Conclusion

7.1 Summary

7.1.1 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 features.

7.2 Phase 1: Natural Sub-Stratum

7.2.1 Phase 1 represents the natural geological material exposed within the trenches. This geological material is represented by sandstone brash, with sand and clays.

7.3 Phase 2: Undated

7.3.1 The lack of datable material culture within any of the excavated features made specific dating impossible and the absence of physical relationships between features made relative dating impossible. It is unlikely that any of the features are related to anything other than agriculture.

7.3.2 It is possible that the parallel ditches, [9]/[12], [14], [16] and [18] represented remnants of agricultural furrows, relatively evenly spaced at 5-6m apart. Ditch [6] would appear to be a field boundary contemporary with these, running parallel to both the possible furrows and to the present dry stone wall field divisions. These were utilised during the medieval to post-medieval period and demonstrate the fossilisation of boundaries of medieval origin into 19th century enclosure boundaries.

7.3.3 The location and orientation of the raised area of subsoil and topsoil within Trench 10 corresponds to a field boundary depicted on the 1892 Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 8**), the bank possibly forming due to downslope colluvial movement of plough soils building up against a wall perpendicular to the slope. It is likely that this was originally constructed as part of the Parliamentary Enclosures of the mid-19th century. This would seem to be supported by the absence of a similar bank/ accumulation of colluvial material in Trench 6 at the location of a field wall shown on the 1892 Ordnance Survey as running downslope. The absence of any remnants of a stone wall suggests deliberate removal of the masonry likely associated with the mid-20th century expansion of the Standard Fireworks Factory complex and the amalgamation of the remainder of the fields within the current evaluation area.

7.3.4 The two parallel linear ditch bases within the centre of Trench 11 may represent attempts at draining an area of deeper topsoil accumulated within a natural hollow.

7.4 Conclusion

7.4.1 The main aim of the evaluation was to inform the Local Planning Authority, as advised by West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service (WYAAS) and the client regarding the extent, depth and nature of archaeological deposits within the location of the proposed development.

7.4.2 In summary, archaeological features were present in four of the 18 trenches, with two main concentrations of archaeological features, in the northwest of the site and in the southwestern corner, all associated with agricultural land use from the medieval to modern periods.

8 Personnel

Rebecca Nichols of PCA Newark managed the evaluation. The evaluation was supervised by Adam Slater, with the assistance of Rob Otter, Josef Myska and Katie Cooper, all of PCA Newark. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Mark Roughley of PCA's CAD department.

9 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank BWB Heritage for commissioning the work on behalf of Vistry Yorkshire Ltd, Countryside Properties Ltd and Miller Homes Ltd. Thanks are also due to West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service who monitored the investigation on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

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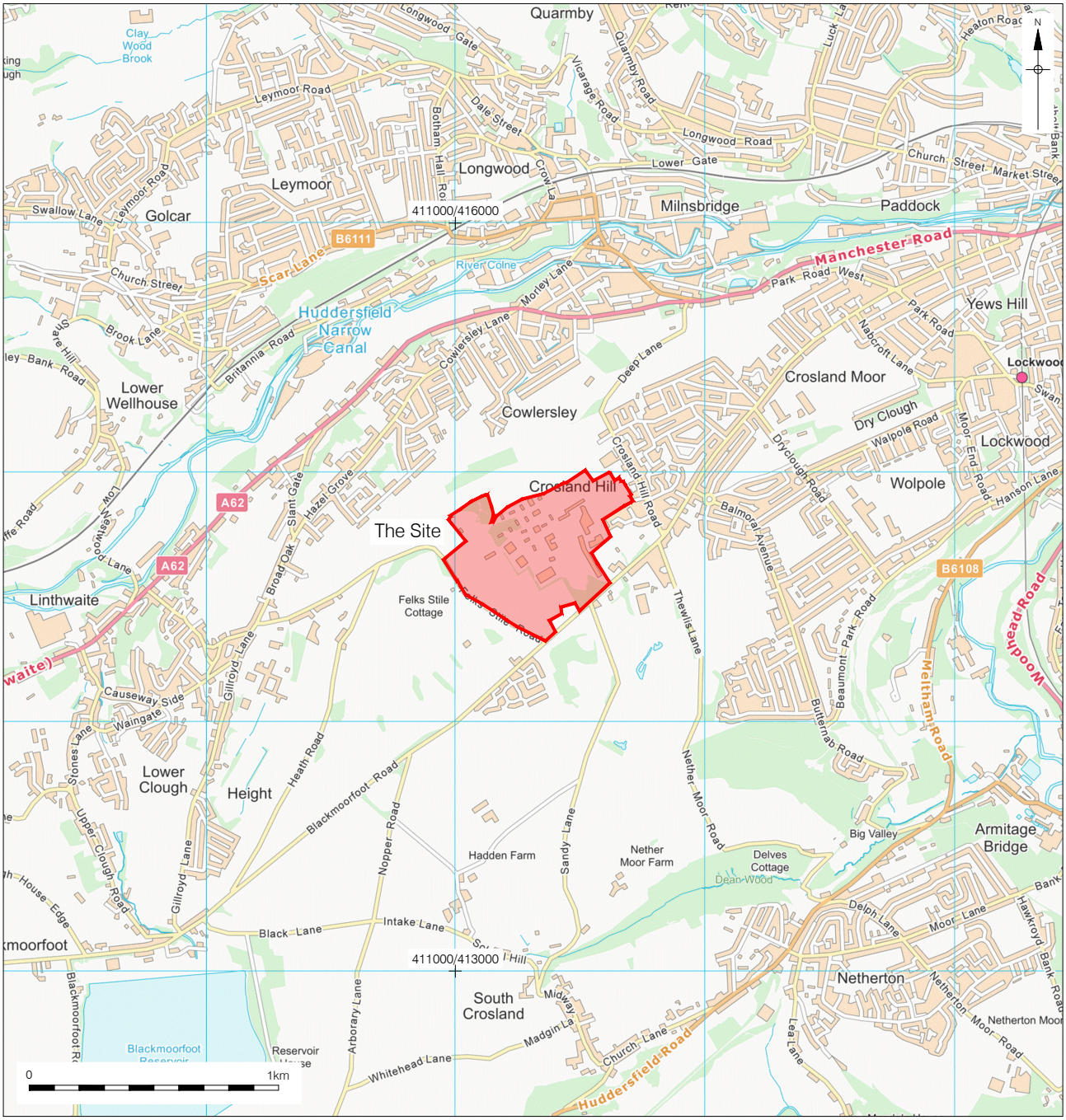

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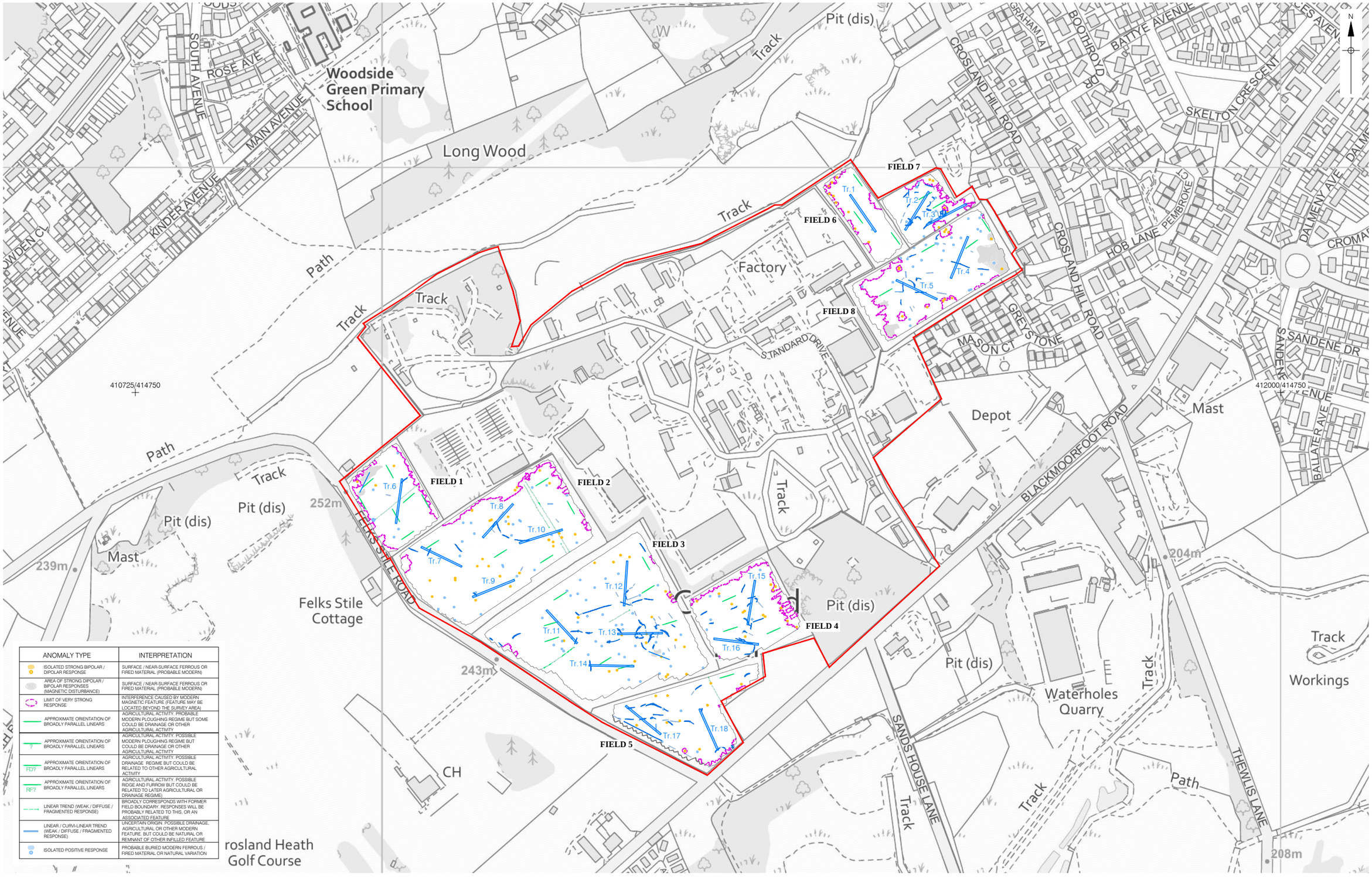
Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000, 1:25,000 at A4

P:\PROJECT DATA\Out of London\West Yorkshire\Blackmoorfoot, Huddersfield\CAD\EVAL\Fig 02_Detailed Site Location_REV.dwg

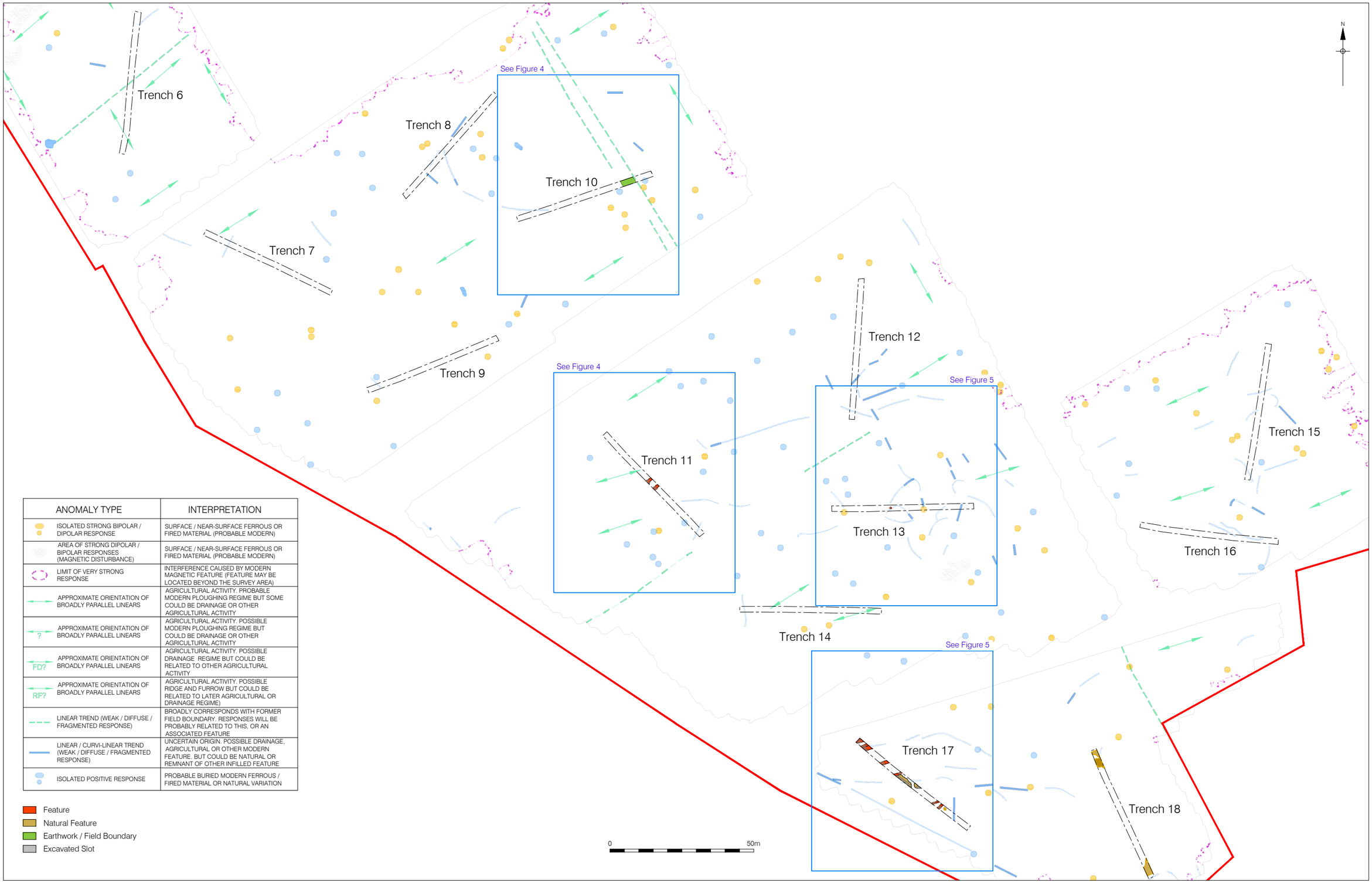


ANOMALY TYPE	INTERPRETATION
ISOLATED STRONG BIPOLAR / DIPOLAR RESPONSE	SURFACE / NEAR-SURFACE FERROUS OR FIRED MATERIAL (PROBABLE MODERN)
AREA OF STRONG DIPOLAR / BIPOLAR RESPONSES (MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE)	SURFACE / NEAR-SURFACE FERROUS OR FIRED MATERIAL (PROBABLE MODERN)
LIMIT OF VERY STRONG RESPONSE	INTERFERENCE CAUSED BY MODERN MAGNETIC FEATURE (FEATURE MAY BE LOCATED BEYOND THE SURVEY AREA)
APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. PROBABLE MODERN PLOUGHING REGIME BUT SOME COULD BE DRAINAGE OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE MODERN PLOUGHING REGIME BUT COULD BE DRAINAGE OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE DRAINAGE REGIME BUT COULD BE RELATED TO OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE RIDGE AND FURROW BUT COULD BE RELATED TO LATER AGRICULTURAL OR DRAINAGE REGIME)
LINEAR TREND (WEAK / DIFFUSE / FRAGMENTED RESPONSE)	BROADLY CORRESPONDS WITH FORMER FIELD BOUNDARY. RESPONSES WILL BE PROBABLY RELATED TO THIS, OR AN ASSOCIATED FEATURE
LINEAR / CURVI-LINEAR TREND (WEAK / DIFFUSE / FRAGMENTED RESPONSE)	UNCERTAIN ORIGIN. POSSIBLE DRAINAGE, AGRICULTURAL OR OTHER MODERN FEATURE. BUT COULD BE NATURAL OR REMNANT OF OTHER INFILLED FEATURE
ISOLATED POSITIVE RESPONSE	PROBABLE BURIED MODERN FERROUS / FIRED MATERIAL OR NATURAL VARIATION

0 100m

16/01/2025 MR

Figure 2
Proposed Trenches (southwest area) overlain on Geophysical Survey Results
1:4,000 at A3



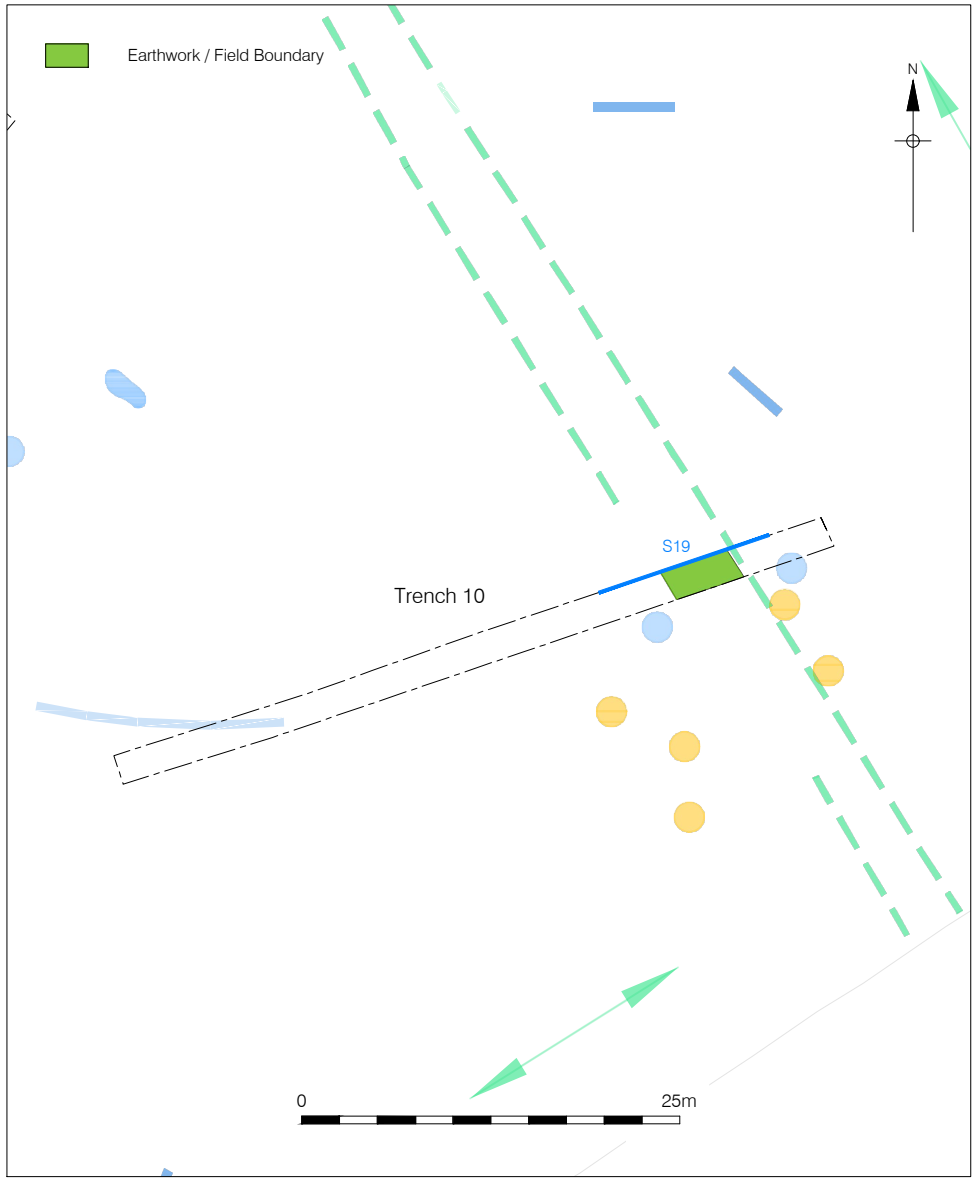
ANOMALY TYPE	INTERPRETATION
ISOLATED STRONG BIPOLAR / DIPOLAR RESPONSE	SURFACE / NEAR-SURFACE FERROUS OR FIRED MATERIAL (PROBABLE MODERN)
AREA OF STRONG DIPOLAR / BIPOLAR RESPONSES (MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE)	SURFACE / NEAR-SURFACE FERROUS OR FIRED MATERIAL (PROBABLE MODERN)
LIMIT OF VERY STRONG RESPONSE	INTERFERENCE CAUSED BY MODERN MAGNETIC FEATURE (FEATURE MAY BE LOCATED BEYOND THE SURVEY AREA)
APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. PROBABLE MODERN PLOUGHING REGIME BUT SOME COULD BE DRAINAGE OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
? APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE MODERN PLOUGHING REGIME BUT COULD BE DRAINAGE OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
FD? APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE DRAINAGE REGIME BUT COULD BE RELATED TO OTHER AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY
RF? APPROXIMATE ORIENTATION OF BROADLY PARALLEL LINEARS	AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY. POSSIBLE RIDGE AND FURROW BUT COULD BE RELATED TO LATER AGRICULTURAL OR DRAINAGE REGIME)
LINEAR TREND (WEAK / DIFFUSE / FRAGMENTED RESPONSE)	BROADLY CORRESPONDS WITH FORMER FIELD BOUNDARY. RESPONSES WILL BE PROBABLY RELATED TO THIS, OR AN ASSOCIATED FEATURE
LINEAR / CURVI-LINEAR TREND (WEAK / DIFFUSE / FRAGMENTED RESPONSE)	UNCERTAIN ORIGIN. POSSIBLE DRAINAGE, AGRICULTURAL OR OTHER MODERN FEATURE. BUT COULD BE NATURAL OR REMNANT OF OTHER INFILLED FEATURE
ISOLATED POSITIVE RESPONSE	PROBABLE BURIED MODERN FERROUS / FIRED MATERIAL OR NATURAL VARIATION

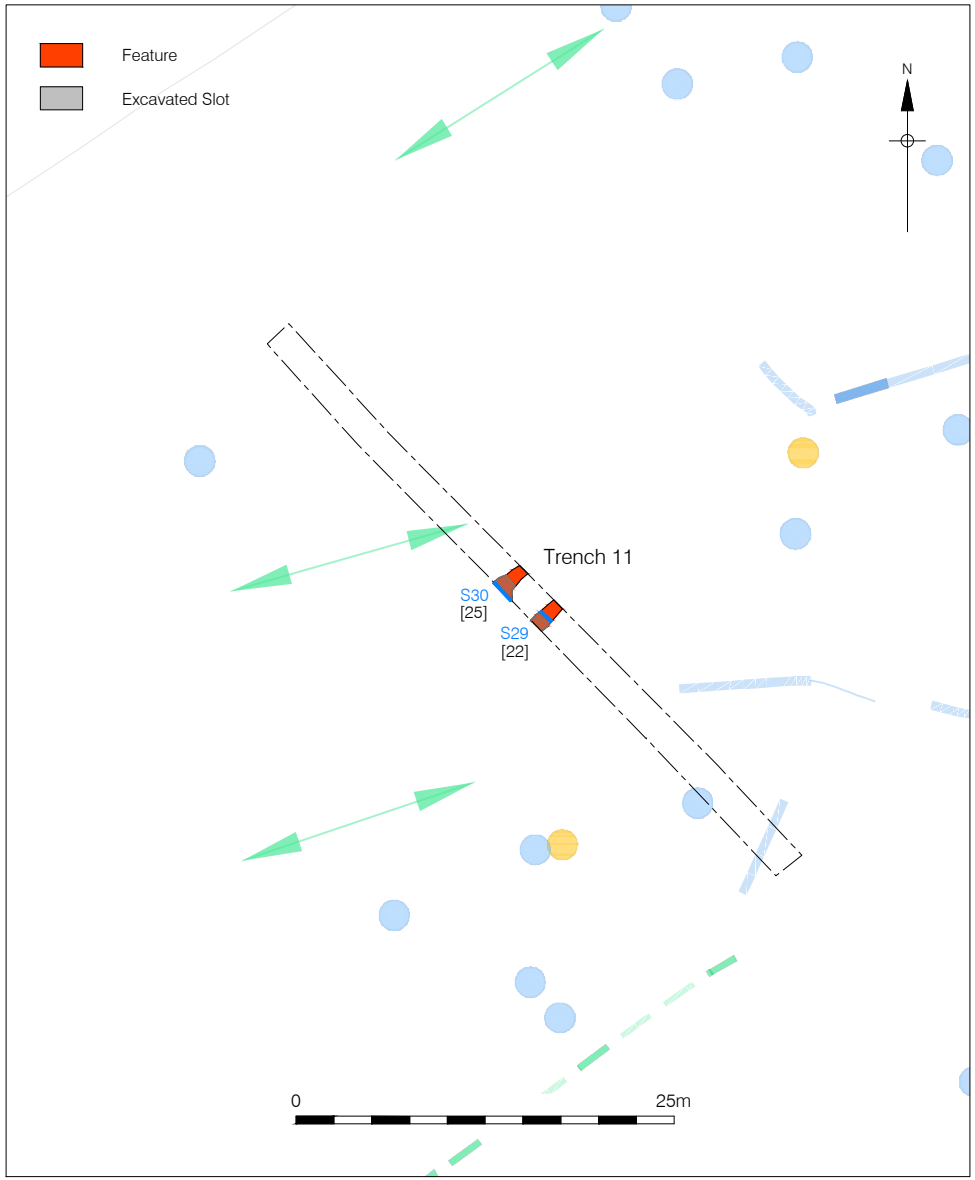
- Feature
- Natural Feature
- Earthwork / Field Boundary
- Excavated Slot

Geophysical survey results reproduced from drawings by Phase Site Investigations Ltd. (August 2023)

17/02/2025 PJ

Figure 3
Trenches with Archaeology overlain on Geophysical Survey Results
1:1,250 at A3





Geophysical survey results reproduced from drawings by Phase Site Investigations Ltd. (August 2023)

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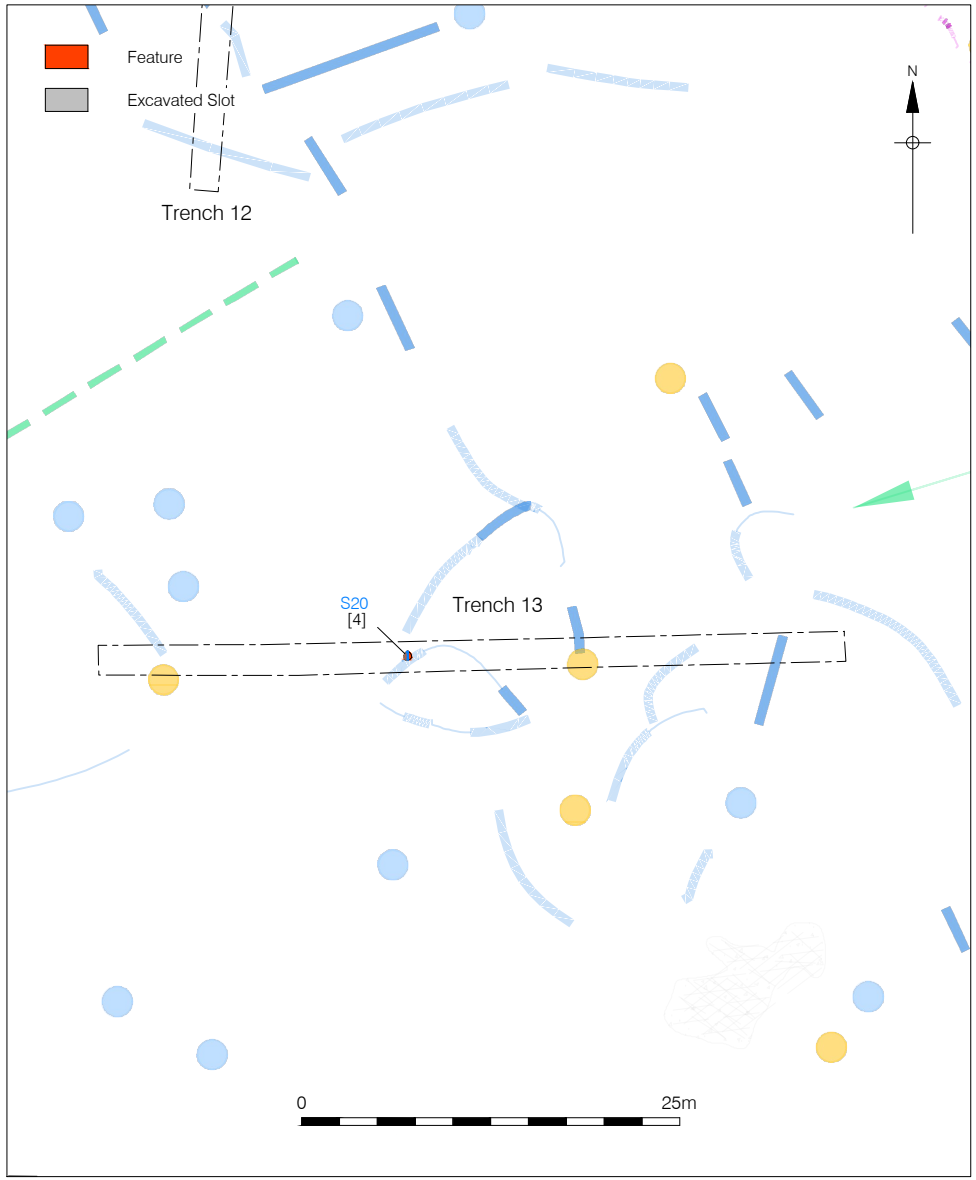
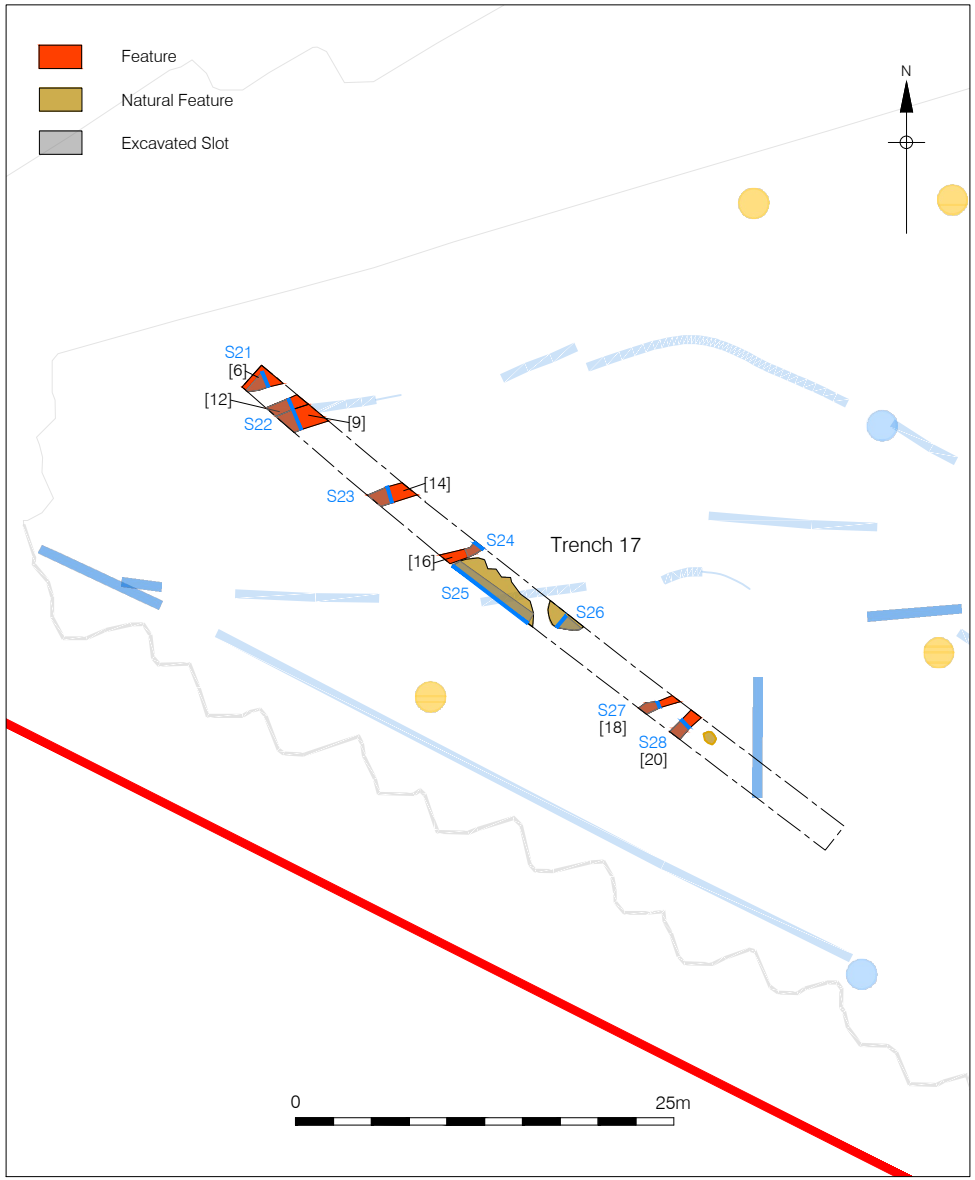
Figure 4
Trench 10 and Trench 11 overlain on Geophysical Survey Results
1:500 at A4





Geophysical survey results reproduced from drawings by Phase Site Investigations Ltd. (August 2023)

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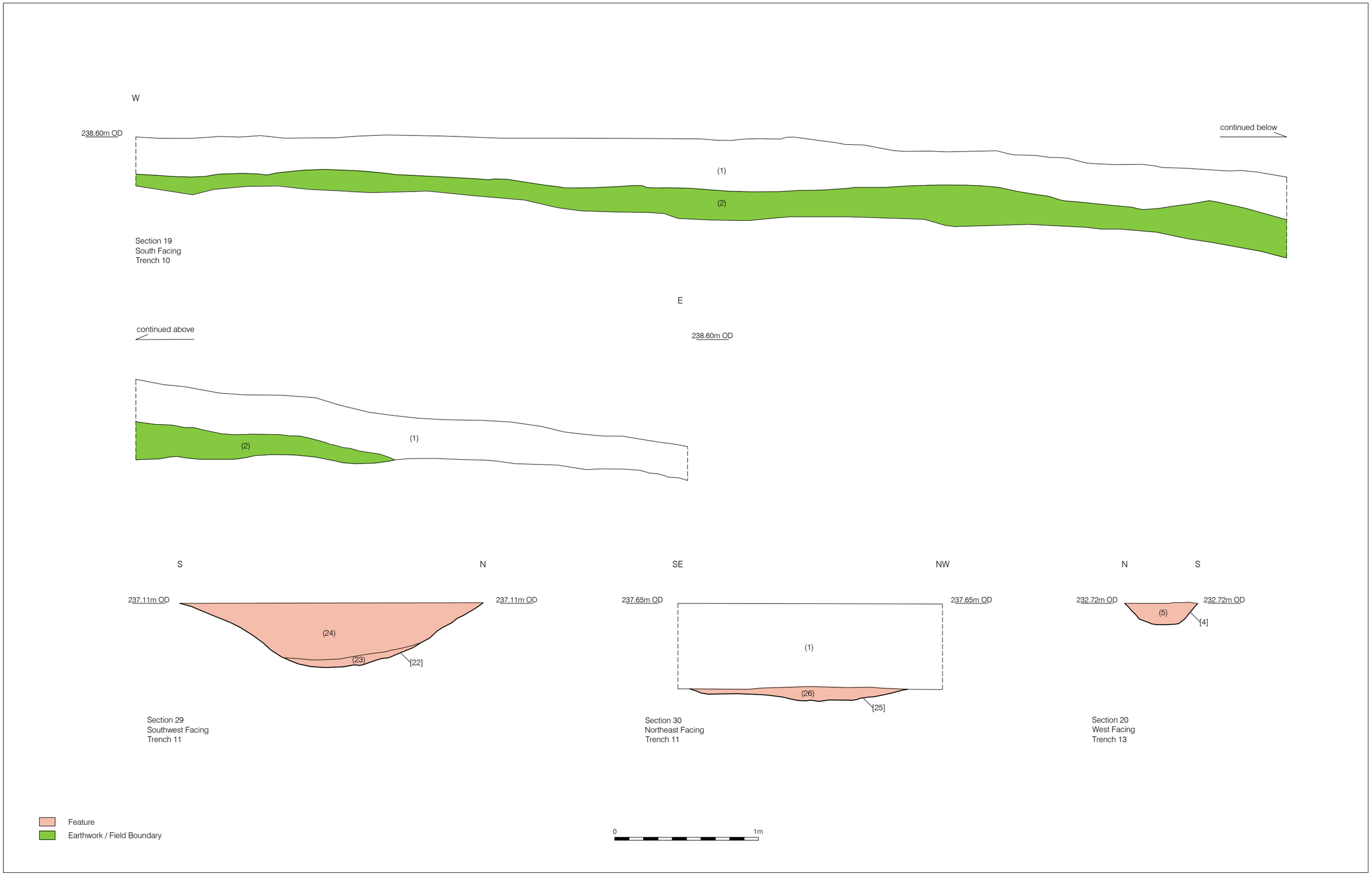
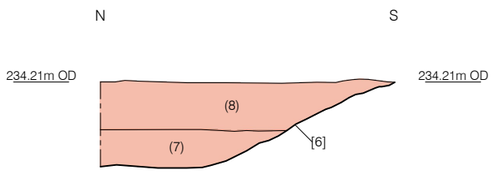
Figure 5
Trench 13 and Trench 17 overlain on Geophysical Survey Results
1:500 at A4

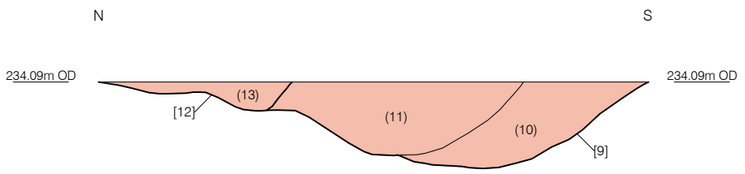


17/02/2025 PJ

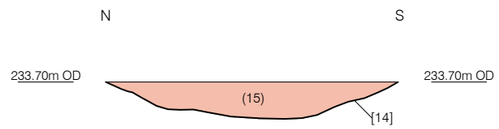
Figure 6
Sections Trenches 10, 11 and 13
1:25 at A3



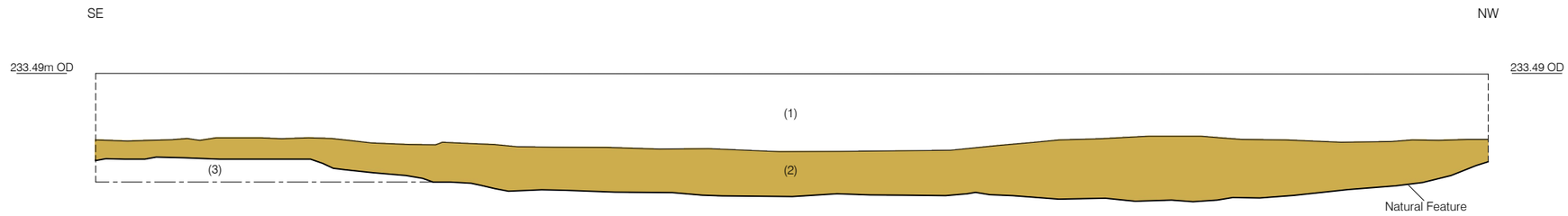
Section 21
West Facing
Trench 17



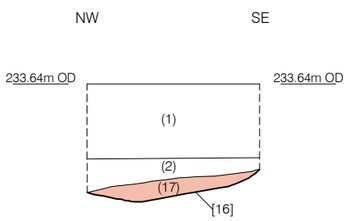
Section 22
West Facing
Trench 17



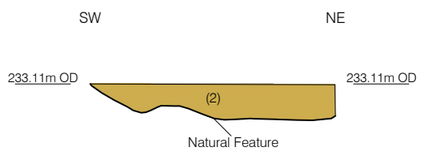
Section 23
West Facing
Trench 17



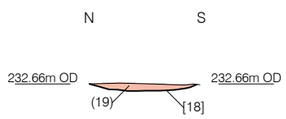
Section 25
Northeast Facing
Trench 17



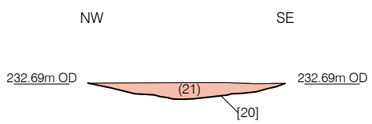
Section 24
Southwest Facing
Trench 17



Section 26
Southeast Facing
Trench 17



Section 27
West Facing
Trench 17



Section 28
Southwest Facing
Trench 17

Feature
Natural Feature

0 1m

17/02/2025 PJ

Figure 7
Sections Trench 17
1:25 at A3

\\Lon-file\projects\PROJECT DATA\Out of London\West Yorkshire\Blackmoorfoot, Huddersfield\CAD\EVAL\Fig 08_Overlay on OS 1892.dwg

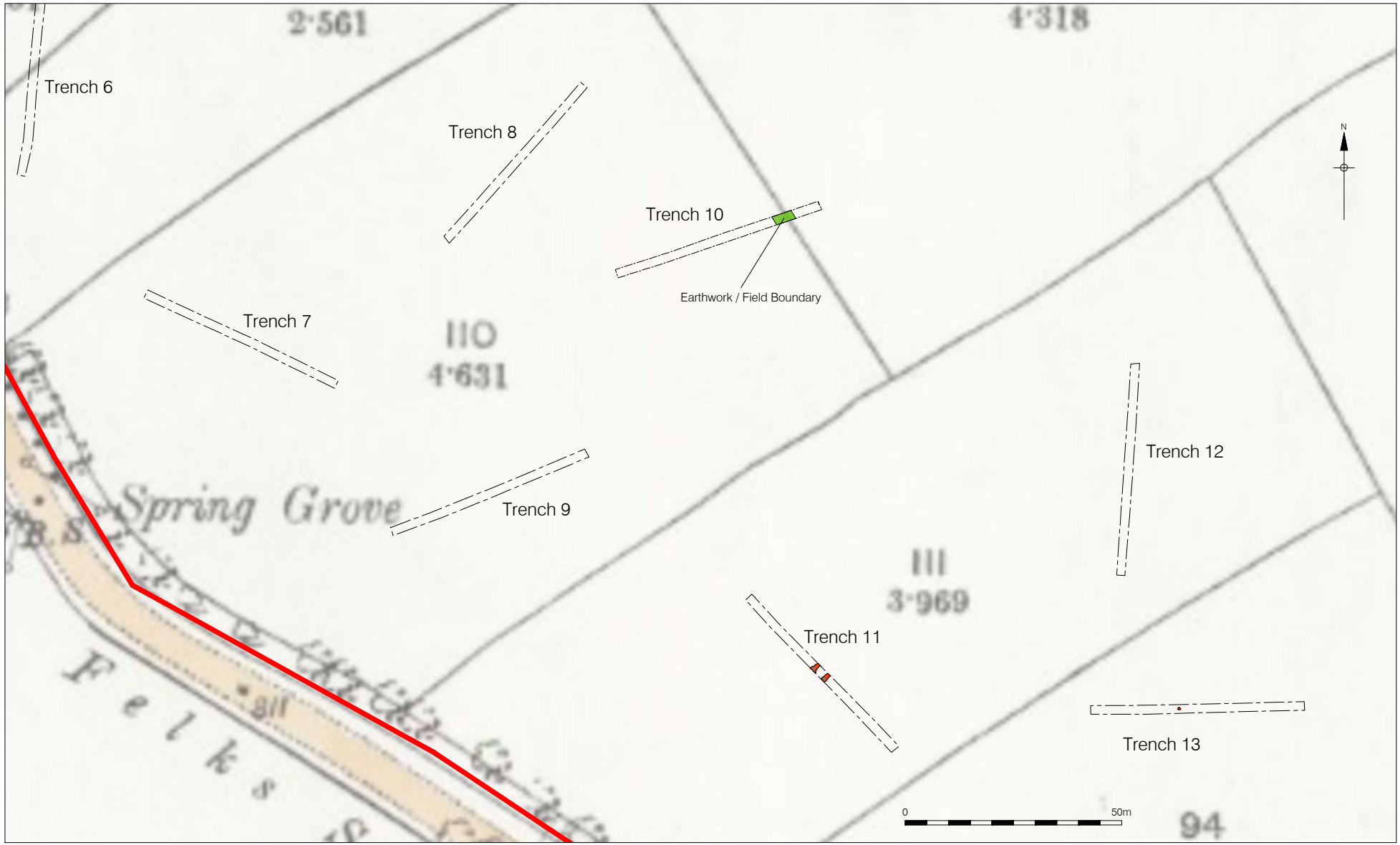


Figure 8
Trenches 6 - 13 overlain on Ordnance Survey 1892
showing Earthwork / Field Boundary detected in Trench 10
1:1,250 at A4

17/02/2025 MR/PJ

Appendix 1: Site Photographs

Plate 1: Trench 1 looking northwest, showing the natural deposits on the site. Scale: 2 x 1m.

Plate 2: Trench 15, looking south. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 3: Trench 3, looking north-east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 4: Trench 4, looking south. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m

Plate 5: Trench 5, looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 6: Trench 6, looking northeast. Scale: 1 x 2 & 1 x 1m.

Plate 7: Trench 7, looking north west. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 8: Trench 8, looking northeast. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 9: Trench 9, looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 10: Trench 10 looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m, 1 x 2m.

Plate 11: Trench 11, looking southeast. Scale: 1 x 2m, 1 x 1m.

Plate 12: Trench 12, looking north. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 13: Trench 13, looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 14: Trench 14, looking west. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 15: Trench 15, looking south. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 16: Trench 16, looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 17: Trench 17, looking east. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 18: Trench 18, looking southeast. Scale: 1 x 2m & 1 x 1m.

Plate 19: Shallow ditch base [25] Trench 11 looking south west showing depth of overlying topsoil (1) Scale: 1m.

Plate 20: Pit/ Posthole [4], Trench 13 looking east. Scale: 0.5m.

Plate 21: Ditches [6] and [9] Trench 17, looking northeast. Scale: 1m (left) & 2m (right).

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.

Context No	Trench	Fill of	Filled By	Type	Description (soil colour and texture/ cut description)	Interpretation	Depth/ Thickness (m)	Max Width/ Diameter (m)**
1	All			layer	Loose, dark Blackish Black silt Clay	Topsoil	0.13	
2	All			layer	Firm, mid reddish-brown silt-clay	Subsoil	0.13	
3	All			layer	Firm, Mid Orange-brown clay sand	Geological substrate	0.36	
4	13		4	Cut	Sub-circular in plan, Moderate (31° to 60°) sloping sides, Concave base	Pit	0.16	0.46
5	13	4		Fill	Friable, mid Greyish- Brown Sandy silt	Pit	0.2	0.49
6	17		7, 8	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Moderate (31° to 60°) sloping sides, flat base	Ditch	0.36	1.2
7	17	6		Fill	Friable, Light Yellowish Brown Silty sand	Ditch	0.16	0.74
8	17	6		Fill	Friable, Mid Brownish Grey Silty sand	Ditch	0.3	1.2
9	17		10, 11	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Moderate (31° to 60°) sloping sides, Concave base.	Ditch	0.12	1.52
10	17	9		Fill	Friable, Mid Brownish Grey Sandy silt	Ditch	0.12	1.06
11	17	9		Fill	Friable, Mid Yellowish Grey Sandy silt	Ditch	0.14	1.02
12	17		13	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°) sloping sides, Concave base.	Ditch	0.14	0.8
13	17	12		Fill	Friable, Mid Grey Silty sand	Ditch	0.14	0.8
14	17		15	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°) sloping sides, Concave base.	Ditch	0.7	1.2
15	17	14		Fill	Friable, Dark Brownish Grey Sandy silt	Ditch	0.03	1.2
16	17		17	Cut	NE-SW aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°) sloping sides, Concave base.	Ditch	0.08	1.4

17	17	16		Fill	Friable, Mid Greyish Brown Sandy silt	Ditch	0.13	0
18	17		19	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°)sloping sides , Concave base	Ditch	0.13	0.45
19	17	18		Fill	Friable, Mid Brownish Grey Sandy gravel	Ditch	0.25	0.45
20	17		21	Cut	E-W aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°) sides, Concave base.	Ditch	0.04	0.8
21	17	20		Fill	Friable, Mid Greyish Brown Sandy gravel	Ditch	0.2	0.8
22	11		23, 24	Cut	NE-SW aligned Linear, Moderate (31° to 60°) sloping sides, Concave base.	ditch	0.1	1.05
23	11	22		Fill	Firm Mid Brownish Grey Sandy silt	ditch	0.1	0.45
24	11	22		Fill	Firm Light Brownish Grey Sandy silt	ditch	0.13	1.05
25	11		26	Cut	NE-SW aligned Linear, Gradual (up to 30°) sloping sides, Concave base	ditch	0.13	1.5
26	11	25		Fill	Firm Dark Brownish Grey Sandy silt	ditch	0.36	1.5

OASIS Summary for preconst1-531750

OASIS ID (UID)	preconst1-531750
Project Name	Evaluation at Land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield, West-Yorkshire
Sitename	Land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield, West-Yorkshire
Sitecode	BMF25
Project Identifier(s)	BMF25
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	2024/70/92614/W, 2024/70/92614/W
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	19-Jan-2025 - 24-Jan-2025
Location	Land off Blackmoorfoot Road, Huddersfield, West-Yorkshire NGR : SE 11381 14768 LL : 53.629319887598555, -1.829380101568807 12 Fig : 411381,414768
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Kirklees Local Authority District : Kirklees Parish : Kirklees, unparished area
Project Methodology	The evaluation consisted of the mechanical excavation of eighteen 50m by 1.8m trenches, which were excavated to the top of the geological natural or to the top of the first archaeological horizon or deposit. A preliminary assessment of ground conditions was undertaken by the Contractor (PCA) prior to the commencement of the fieldwork and the Consultant notified of any areas that in their opinion were unsuitable for evaluation. All machine excavation of trial trenches was carried out under constant archaeological direction by a suitably experienced archaeologist familiar with the ground conditions anticipated on the site. Machine excavation of the trial trenches was undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a flat-bladed bucket. The machine excavation proceeded in level splits of no more than 200mm to allow the monitoring archaeologist an appropriate window of opportunity to assess the horizon for archaeological remains and finds. Exposed surfaces and excavated spoil were scanned by metal detector. All exposed deposits were cleaned using hand tools to define any archaeological features or deposits and each trench recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). Context units (see below) were recorded as set out in the PCA fieldwork manual approved for use in West-Yorkshire including written, digital, photographic and drawn records Archaeological features were sample excavated sufficiently to characterize them and recover datable material. The fills of anthropogenic features excavated by the archaeological team were sieved using a 3mm mesh to recover possible Mesolithic and Neolithic material.

Project Results	It is possible that the parallel ditches, [9]/[12], [14], [16] and [18] represented remnants of agricultural furrows, relatively evenly spaced 5-6m apart. Ditch [6] would appear to be a contemporary field boundary to these, running parallel to both the possible furrows and to the present dry stone wall field divisions. These were utilised between Medieval and 17th centuries and demonstrate the fossilisation of existing boundaries/ divisions from medieval into the 19th century enclosures. The location and orientation of the raised area of subsoil and topsoil within Trench 10 corresponds with a field boundary depicted on the 1830-1860 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8), the bank possibly forming due to downslope colluvial movement of plough soils building up against a wall perpendicular to the slope.it is likely that this was originally constructed as part of the Parliamentary Enclosures of the mid-19th century. This would seem to be supported by the absence of a similar bank/ accumulation of colluvial material in Trench 6 at the location of a field wall shown on the First Edition O/S as running downslope. The absence of any remnants of a stone wall suggests deliberate removal of the masonry likely associated with the mid-20th century expansion of the Standard Fireworks complex and the amalgamation of the remainder of the fields within the current evaluation area. The two parallel linear ditch bases within the centre of Trench 11 may represent attempts at draining an area of deeper topsoil accumulated within a natural hollow.
Keywords	Field Boundary - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ridge And Furrow - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private individual
HER	West Yorkshire HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Rebecca Nichols
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Kirklees Museums and Galleries (most of the collections are at Tolson Memorial Museum);

Report generated on: 20 Feb 2025, 08:36

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