



Griffin Park, Desford:

Report on an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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SUMMARY

- York Archaeology (Nottingham) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of their clients A&H Construction to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Griffin Park, Desford (Leicestershire). The works were undertaken in advance of commercial development and investigated the archaeological potential of a c.1.5Ha area of land located in the southwestern part of the Site.
- Five trial trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m were excavated across the site to a maximum depth of 0.63m below ground level.
- A single north-east to south-west aligned modern ditch containing glass, pottery and brick fragments, was recorded towards the north-east corner of the Site. No features of archaeological significance were recorded during the evaluation.
- It is considered therefore that no further archaeological investigation and recording should be necessary.

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 York Archaeology (Nottingham) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of their clients, A&H Construction, to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Griffin Park, Desford, Leicestershire (centred on National Grid reference SK 4767 0227 (Figure 1), henceforth referred to as 'the Site'). The works were carried out ahead of Phase 2 works comprising new buildings of B2/B8 use, a gatehouse, service yard, parking and circulation route across a 14ha area of land (ref: SW/SM/21213/01). T
- 1.1.2 This evaluation, comprising five 30m by 1.8m trenches, formed the second part of a phased evaluation and investigated the archaeological potential of a c. 1.5ha area of land located in the southwestern part of the Site.

2 SITE BACKGROUND

2.1 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.1.1 The Site is located to the south of Desford, Leicestershire, comprising a c 1.5Ha parcel of roughly triangular-shaped land centred on the National Grid reference SK 4767 0227 (Figure 01). It is bounded to the east by Peckleton Lane, to the south by extensive industrial buildings, and to the north and west by a bridleway, beyond which is open farmland.
- 2.1.2 Ground levels within the Site are generally flat and are recorded at just below 130m AOD (above ordnance datum).
- 2.1.3 The underlying geology of the Site, as mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS) comprises Edwalton Member Formation mudstone formed 237-228.4 million years ago during the Triassic period (BGS 2023). This was overlain by glaciofluvial deposit of sand and gravel that formed 860-116 thousand years ago during the Mid Pleistocene (*.ibid*).
- 2.1.4 The overlying soils are recorded as belonging to the Salop Association (711m), which are slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged reddish fine loamy over clayey soils, associated with similar clayey soils (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 The following historical and archaeological background has been derived from a Desk-Based Assessment produced for this Site (CgMs 2016) as well as the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for this evaluation (Clark 2021).

Mesolithic, Neolithic, and Bronze Age (c. 10,000 BC – 700 BC)

- 2.2.2 Eight pieces of worked flint, a Mesolithic flint blade and a probable Neolithic arrowhead were found during a field walking evaluation of the wider 14Ha development in 2000, of which four were found specifically within the boundaries of the Site (ULAS 2000).
- 2.2.3 A Neolithic flint axe was found at Forest View Farm, c 800m south-east of the Site, and undated prehistoric worked flint was also found in the vicinity of two probable cropmark enclosures located c 570m south-east of Site. A Bronze Age flint was also recovered during excavations off Leicester Road some 750m north-east of the Site.
- 2.2.4 These artefacts represent a low 'background noise' of Mesolithic to Bronze Age activity within and around the immediate vicinity of the Site.

Iron Age and Romano-British (c. 700 BC – AD 410)

- 2.2.5 No finds or features of Iron Age and Romano-British date have been recorded within the boundaries of the Site. Features dating to these periods have predominantly been recorded northeast of the Site within Desford and east/southeast of the Site along Peckleton Lane.
- 2.2.6 Within Desford, two Roman pottery Kilns were uncovered during building works undertaken in the 1960s along Main Street, west of Desford Church Hall, c 1.12km north of the Site (Department of Antiquities Leicester Museum 1961). Subsequent trial trenching of this site undertaken in 2013 revealed three sherds of Roman pottery, but no evidence of Roman industrial activity (Trott and Kevin 2013).

- 2.2.7 Southeast of Main Street, and south of Leicester Lane c 1.2km northeast of Site, evidence of Late Iron Age and Romano-British activity was recorded (Thomas 1999, 2000). The earliest phase of activity was represented by a series of intercutting pits, ditches and structures which included a corn drying oven and a large enclosure. Finds included Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery as well as evidence of metal working indicating both domestic and industrial activity on the site. By the 2nd – 4th centuries AD the enclosure had fallen out of use.
- 2.2.8 Evidence of Iron Age activity was recorded c 810m southeast of the Site at the Caterpillar works along Peckleton Lane. Iron Age pottery was recovered from one feature recorded on this site, with three large loom weights recovered from a smaller feature identified on this site.

Medieval Period (AD 410 – 1540)

- 2.2.9 The settlement of Desford, located c 640m north-east of the Site, is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as being located within the Hundred of Guthlaxton, with a population of one household with four ploughlands (Palmer 2023).
- 2.2.10 There are four records of medieval activity within the vicinity of the Site, all related to the medieval settlement of Desford. This include St. Martin's Church and its burial ground, features of medieval date at 23 Main Street found during trial trenching (Trott and Kevin 2013), and a medieval well off Main Street found in the 1960s.

Post-medieval and Modern (AD 1540 – Present)

- 2.2.11 The first map to clearly show the site is the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:2500 scale map of 1885-1886. The Site is shown as consisting of agricultural fields and a small wooded enclosure. A house and outbuildings, called Bolus Lodge, is depicted adjacent to the wooded enclosure at the western end of the Site. The road which runs directly south from Desford, east of the Site, is called Peckleton Lane. A routeway is shown on this map, running in a south-westerly direction through the Site, from Peckleton Lane towards the village of Peckleton itself. At this point in time the lane has a distinctive 'dog-leg' bend in it. The section of the lane to the north of this point, northwards from the 'dog-leg' to meet the Peckleton Lane, is the point at which the current bridleway meets this lane.
- 2.2.12 The Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) entry MLE15965 relates to Desford Airfield, and partially includes the Site. The airfield was first established as an emergency landing site for Home Defence squadrons which were set up in 1916 in response to Zeppelin raids on England at this time. The Desford site was only used briefly for this purpose, before being returned to agriculture. In 1929 however, a flying club took over the site and extended the airfield from 8.5 acres to 21 acres. In the mid-1930s the site was acquired by the RAF and developed as a facility for training pilots. Its reported that parts of the original airfield were levelled at this stage, and a house called Hallfields, which was at the southern end of the site, was demolished. Accommodation for the trainee pilots was built along with a large aircraft hangar and ancillary buildings. Further buildings were added to the complex in 1937. Desford continued to be used by the RAF after the war had ended, until 1952 when the facility was closed. Caterpillar purchased the land shortly after this and began to develop it immediately.
- 2.2.13 The 1955 1:10 560 OS map shows the airfield, with the pre-existing field boundaries both north and south of the lane removed and the Peckleton/Desford Lane slightly re-aligned and the 'dog-leg' removed. The 1:2500 scale map covering the period 1962-63 shows the beginning of industrial development which is focused in the north and former airfield. A complex of

bungalows is shown immediately to the east of the Site, which are presumably those built to accommodate trainee RAF pilots in the 1930s. A clubhouse which may date from this period is also depicted. A disused rifle range is also shown within a land parcel c 240m to the north-west of the Site. The next available mapping to show significant changes to the Site is the 1978-84 1:2500 OS map. This shows that much of the area of the former airfield to the south of Peckleton Lane has been developed for industrial use. Two large factory buildings are shown along with a range of ancillary buildings and a networks of access roads and enclosures. The Bolus lodge complex has been removed, but some of the RAF bungalows and clubhouse remain. The rifle range is also still shown in this map.

Archaeological Investigation

- 2.2.14 This site was the subject of an archaeological evaluation in January 2000. The field walking element of this evaluation focused on areas in the western sector of the Site, which were under plough. This work picked up a low density of finds spread across the area, the majority of which was post-medieval/modern pottery and tile fragments. A small amount of flint was recovered, but there were no clusters of material which might indicate possible prehistoric sites (ULAS 2000).

- 2.2.15 Geophysical survey was undertaken at suitable locations across the 14Ha development site (i.e. grassland or ploughed areas). It involved magnetic susceptibility in the north, west and east of the development, with smaller areas of gradiometry being undertaken within areas in which the magnetic susceptibility had indicated enhancement. The evaluation report concluded that responses were based on spreads of brick and tile debris in areas on, or close to, the sites of demolished buildings in the north and east of the Site. Linear anomalies which occurred east of the Site corresponded to an area of factory buildings located to the south of Peckleton Lane, which appear on maps of the Site from the 1960s and 1970s. They were considered to reflect ferrous pipelines.

- 2.2.16 Eighteen trial trenches were opened in three main areas across the 14Ha development site during an earlier phase of evaluation works undertaken by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) as part of this programme of archaeological works. These focussed on the ploughed land in the south and west, rough grassland in the north-eastern sector of the Site and a grassed area immediately to the south of Peckleton Lane. This element of the scheme revealed a handful of features in trenches in the south-west corner of the development site, and evidence for modern buildings in trenches in the east and south. Trenches 02, 04 and 05 contained a range of irregular features, including pits and linear gullies, which were cut into subsoil and natural. No dating material was recovered from these features. Trenches 03 and 10 were located within the defined area of archaeological potential investigated during this phase of evaluation works – no features were identified in these trenches, which demonstrated a sequence of 0.3m of topsoil overlaying clayey-sand subsoils, which sealed the natural geology comprising an orange sand with patches of gravel.

- 2.2.17 Subsequent archaeological monitoring was undertaken during the construction of a bridleway and temporary haul road around the northern and western edge of the development. This resulted in a find of a sub-circular pit feature which was packed with fire-cracked river cobbles and quartzite stones.

3 RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

3.1 Planning conditions

- 3.1.1 The following planning conditions were proposed for this programme of archaeological evaluation works:

“24) No development shall commence within the area of archaeological potential (orange area within Figure 13 of the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, document reference: SW/SM/21213/01, submitted to the LPA on 28 September 2020, until a staged programme of archaeological works, commencing with an initial phase of trial trenching has been undertaken. Each will be completed in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which has been [submitted to and] approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include the statement of significance and research objectives, and

- The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organised to undertake the agreed works.*
- The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.*

Reason: To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation, recording, dissemination and archiving in accordance with DM13 of the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies DPD.”

- 3.1.2 The results of the trial trench evaluation will inform the need for any further archaeological mitigation, which will then be subject to a separate WSI.

3.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 3.2.1 Developments of this nature, and their impact upon the historic environment, are addressed by the revised 2021 *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) published by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), formally known as the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and the revised (2019) *NPPF Planning Practice Guide Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2014).

- 3.2.2 Section 16 of NPPF, PARAGRAPH 192 STATES:

“Local planning authorities should maintain or have access to a historic environment record. This should contain up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and be used to:

- a) Assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and*
- b) Predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and interests, will be discovered in the future.”*

- 3.2.3 In addition, paragraph 194 states that:

“In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.”

3.2.4 Furthermore, paragraphs 199 and 205 of the NPPF state:

“When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss than substantial harm to its significance.

Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.”

3.3 Local Plan

3.3.1 The township and parish of Desford is located within the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. DM13 of the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Councils Local Plan 2006-2026 (adopted in 2016) state the following with regards to preserving the borough’s Archaeological heritage:

“DM13: Preserving the Borough’s Archaeology

Where a proposal has the potential to impact a site of archaeological interest, developers should set out in their application an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where applicable, the results of a field evaluation detailing the significance of any affected asset.

Where applicable, justified and feasible the local planning authority will require remains to be reserved in situ ensuring appropriate design, layout, ground levels, foundations and site work methods to avoid any adverse impacts on the remains.

Where preservation of archaeological remains in situ is not feasible and/or justified the local planning authority will require full archaeological investigation and recording by an approved archaeological organisation before development commences.”

4 AIMS

4.1.1 The Aims of this evaluation were as follows:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site.
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits encountered
- To provide further information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of the proposed development to be assessed
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site.
- To inform the formulation of a strategy to mitigate the impacts of the proposed development on surviving significant archaeological remains, if they are present.
- To produce a site archive for deposition with appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Leicestershire and Rutland HER.

4.2 Regional Research Objectives

4.2.1 This archaeological evaluation provides the opportunity to contribute to Research Themes and Objectives outlined in the East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment for the East Midlands (Interactive Digital Platform available at: www.researchframeworks.org/emherf).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 General Conditions

- 5.1.1 All works were undertaken in compliance with the methodology prescribed in the WSI (Clark 2021) approved by the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council and the standards defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Code of Conduct (2021) and the Standards and Guidance: For an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation (CIfA 2020).

5.2 Machine Excavation

- 5.2.1 The trenches were located prior to excavation, with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid, through the use of a Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS Rover. Once the trenches were located they were scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to locate any buried services that may not have been recorded on the Site plans provided by the client. Heras fencing was then erected around the trench locations to separate and secure the archaeological evaluations from the other works being undertaken as part of the development.
- 5.2.2 The trenches were opened under constant archaeological supervision using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoils were stored separately at a safe distance adjacent to the trench edge.
- 5.2.3 Trenches were excavated to either the first significant archaeological horizon or in the absence of archaeological deposits, the geological horizon.

5.3 Hand excavation and Recording

- 5.3.1 Once opened, a photographic record was made of each trench using an Olympus TG-6 digital camera. Digital images of the trenches and each context were taken with general views illustrating the principal features of the excavation.
- 5.3.2 When archaeological features were identified within the trench they were hand-cleaned, recorded in-section by hand at a scale of 1:20, and recorded in plan through the use of a Leica GNSS Rover.
- 5.3.3 Features were excavated in such a way as to determine the stratigraphic sequence within each trench.
- 5.3.4 Section drawings of all archaeological features and their associated contexts were drawn on permatrace drafting film in pencil at a scale of 1:20 and show at least, context numbers, all colour and textural changes, principal slopes represented by hachures, and levelling information given in the form of a datum line with arbitrary value recorded by the GNSS with all section locations being shown on the Site plan.
- 5.3.5 Written records and digital records were maintained as laid down in the York Archaeology recording manual (2015).
- 5.3.6 Once trenches were fully recorded and signed off by the Local Authority Planning Archaeologist the trenches were backfilled and lightly compacted by machine.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 Five 30m x 1.8m evaluation trenches were excavated four of which, Trenches 20-23, yielded no archaeological features. A single north-east to south-west aligned ditch was recorded within Trench 19, which was located towards the north-west corner of the Site.
- 6.1.2 The geological horizon consisted of a light brownish-orange fine sand and gravel which was encountered at depths between 0.37-0.63m BGL. This was overlain by a topsoil layer, 0.24-0.38m thick, of loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand, which contained frequent inclusions of small rounded and sub-rounded stones. Unlike the earlier phase of archaeological works no subsoils were identified during this evaluation.
- 6.1.3 Whilst no services were recorded within the trenches the presence of disused electrical services were identified during walk-overs of the site as well as by the radio setting of the CAT scanner around the immediate vicinity (<1m) of trenches 20-22 prior to excavation. The presence of these services indicates that the Site has been subject to modern ground-intrusive works, associated with either the former airfield or the subsequent industrial development following its closure. These modern ground intrusions may have impacted the preservation of older features within the Site.

6.2 Trench 19: 30m x 1.8m x 0.44m (Figure 02-03: Plates 03-04)

- 6.2.1 Trench 19 was located towards the north-east corner of the Site and aligned north-west to south-east. A single north-east to south-west aligned U-shaped ditch, [1902], measuring 1.55m in width and 0.86m in depth, was recorded truncating the natural sand and gravel towards the centre of the trench. The fill (1903) comprised a compacted, very-dark greyish-brown sandy-silt fill, which contained frequent rounded gravels towards its base. Sherds of post-medieval glass, pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) (see section 7.1 below) were recovered from this context.

7 THE FINDS

7.1 The Finds by Rosemary Hughes

- 7.1.1 The finds recovered from the Site consisted of: eight unidentified fragments of CBM, weighing 182g; two sherds of post-medieval pottery, weighing 46g; and a single fragment of clear glass, weighing 3g. These were all retrieved from context (1903).
- 7.1.2 The post-medieval pottery consisted of two sherds of coarse earthenware bowl, with A glazed interior surface, dating from the 17th to the 19th century. The glass bears no identifiable features and is too small to inform on vessel shape. It is likely 19th century bottle glass. The assemblage is post-medieval in date and requires no further study. Discard is recommended upon completion of reporting.

8 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

8.1 Discussion

- 8.1.1 A single north-east to south-west aligned ditch was identified during this evaluation located towards the north-eastern corner of the Site which yielded post-medieval (17th-19th century) finds of pottery, CBM and glass. This feature represents a late post-medieval field boundary which was recorded on the 1886 Ordnance Survey map north of Bolus Lodge.

8.2 Conclusion

- 8.2.1 The only feature identified in the trenches was a probable late post-medieval/modern field boundary recorded on the historic mapping north of Bolus Lodge which had been backfilled by a deposit contacting modern material. Modern services were also observed and identified throughout the southern half of the site which encompassed the northern-most extension of Desford airfield.
- 8.2.2 The results do not contribute to any of the research questions posed by the *East Midlands Historic Environment Framework* (2012). However, the aims and objectives of the evaluation have been met. It is considered therefore that no further archaeological investigation and recording should be necessary.

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10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1.1 York Archaeology thanks A&H construction for commissioning the work, the archaeological consultant Sean Steadman (RPS group) and William Kelly the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council. The project was managed by Edmund Taylor (YA Nottingham) with fieldwork undertaken by Ioan Huw Espley (Project Officer) and Kelsey Holtslander (Project Archaeologist).
- 10.1.2 Further thanks are extended to Marius Ilie (YA Nottingham) for producing the figures and Rosemary Hughes (YA Nottingham) for the finds' analysis. The post-excavation process was managed by Kris Poole (YA Nottingham).

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH RECORDS

Trench 19							
Length	30m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.44m	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description				Measurements (m)	
1900	Layer	Topsoil: Loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand. Frequent small rounded stones and Frequent rooting. Overlays (1903). Same as (2000; 2100; 2200; 2300). Modern.				>30 x >1.8 x 0.24	
1901	Layer	Natural: Light brownish-orange (with pink) fine sand and gravels. Frequent rooting. Truncated by [1902]. Undated				>30 x >1.8 x > 0.2	
1902	Cut	Cut of a north-east to south-west aligned U-shaped ditch. Filled by (1903). Truncates (1901). Provisionally Modern.				>1.8 x 1.55 x 0.86	
1903	Fill	Fill of [1902]. Very-dark greyish-brown sandy-silt. Frequent rounded stone inclusions and frequent rooting. Modern glass, pottery and CBM recovered from this context. Overlain by (1900). Modern.				>1.8 x 1.55 x 0.86	

Trench 20							
Length	30m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.37m	Orientation	NW-SE
Context	Type	Description				Measurements (m)	
2000	Layer	Topsoil: Loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand. Frequent small rounded stones and Frequent rooting. Overlays (2001). Modern.				>30 X >1.8 X 0.31	
2001	Layer	Natural: Light brownish-orange (with pink) fine sand and gravels. Frequent rooting. Overlain by (2000). Undated.				>30 x >1.8 x >0.06	

Trench 21							
Length	30m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.5m	Orientation	E-W
Context		Type	Description			Measurements (m)	
2100		Layer	Topsoil: Loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand. Frequent small rounded stones and Frequent rooting. Overlay (2101). Modern.			>30 x >1.8 x 0.38	
2101		Layer	Natural: Light brownish-orange (with pink) fine sand and gravels. Frequent rooting. Overlain by (2100). Undated.			>30 x >1.8 x >0.12	

Trench 22							
Length	30m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.63m	Orientation	E-W
Context		Type	Description			Measurements (m)	
2200		Layer	Topsoil: Loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand. Frequent small rounded stones and Frequent rooting. Overlays (2201). Modern.			>30 x >1.8 x 0.29	
2201		Layer	Natural: Light brownish-orange (with pink) fine sand and gravels. Frequent rooting. Overlain by (2200). Undated.			>30 x >1.8 x 0.34	

Trench 23							
Length	30m	Width	1.8m	Depth	0.6m	Orientation	NW-SE
Context		Type	Description			Measurements (m)	
2300		Layer	Topsoil: Loose greyish-brown fine silty-sand. Frequent small rounded stones and Frequent rooting. Overlays (2301). Modern.			>30 x >1.8 x 0.35	
2301		Layer	Natural: Light brownish-orange (with pink) fine sand and gravels. Frequent rooting. Overlain by (2300). Undated			>30 x >1.8 x >0.25	

APPENDIX 2: INDEX OF ARCHIVE AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEPOSITION

Accession Number: X.A55.2023

Field Records	Description	Number
Digital Trench Records	Record and register of all contexts, drawings and photographs taken within a single trench excavation	5
Context Sheets	Record of features and deposits	4
Digital photo record	Record of photographs taken	1
Digital photographs	All views	225
Digital Drawing Record Sheet	Record of all sections, plans, and elevation drawings	1
Drawing Sheet	Plan, Sections and elevations of site.	1
Documents	Description	Number
Written Scheme of Investigation	Statement of the aims, objectives and methodology for the project	1
Health & Safety	Safe working statement and risk assessment	1
Report to client	Report of finds of the evaluation.	1

APPENDIX 3: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID (UID)	yorkarch3-516750
Project Name	Trial Trench Evaluation at Griffin Park, Desford
Sitename	Griffin Park, Desford
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	DGP
Planning Id	SW/SM/21213/01
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	York Archaeology
Project Dates	22-May-2023 - 24-May-2023
Location	Griffin Park, Desford NGR : SK 47670 02270 LL : 52.616117057644345, -1.297356602630056 12 Fig : 447670.302270
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Leicestershire District : Hinckley and Bosworth Parish : Desford
Project Methodology	York Archaeology (Nottingham) was commissioned by H&S Construction to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Griffin Park, Desford, Leicestershire (centred on National Grid reference SK 4767 0227 (Figure 1), henceforth referred to as 'the Site'). This programme of archaeological works was undertaken to ascertain the nature, date and extent of any subsurface archaeological remains present ahead of groundworks associated with the construction of four new buildings of B2/B8 use, a gatehouse, service yard, parking and circulation route across a 14Ha area of land. This evaluation investigated the archaeological potential of a c. 1.5Ha area of land located in the southwestern part of the Site. The evaluation works were conducted as directed by a condition of planning approval (ref: SW/SM/21213/01) and the methodology prescribed within the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Clark 2021). Works comprised the excavation of five 30m x 1.8m trial trenches excavated to a maximum depth of 0.63m below ground level (BGL). This programme of works was conducted as part of a series of archaeological evaluations undertaken as part of this development, the results of which will inform the decision by the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council as to whether further mitigation works may be required. This phase of evaluation works was conducted between 22nd—24th May 2023.
Project Results	A single north-east to south-west aligned ditch, representing a modern field boundary, containing modern glass, pottery and CBM, was recorded towards the north-east corner of the Site. No other features of archaeological significance were recorded during this evaluation.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Leicestershire HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Ioan Huw, Espley

PLATES



Plate 01: Pre-excavation general site view, facing south.



Plate 02: Pre-excavation general site view, facing north-east.



Plate 03: Trench 19 Overview, facing north-west. Scale: 2x1m



Plate 04: Trench 19 [1902] south-west facing section. Scale 1x1m



Plate 05: Trench 20 Overview, facing north-west. Scale: 2x1m



Plate 06: Trench 21 Overview, facing west. Scale: 2x1m



Plate 07: Trench 22 Overview, facing west. Scale: 2x1m



Plate 08: Trench 22, south facing Representative Section. Scale: 1x1m



Plate 09: Trench 23 Overview, facing south-east. Scale: 2x1m



Plate 10: Trench 23 tree-bowl, facing north-east. Scale: 1x1m



Plate 11: Trench 23 south-west facing representative section. Scale: 1x1m

FIGURES

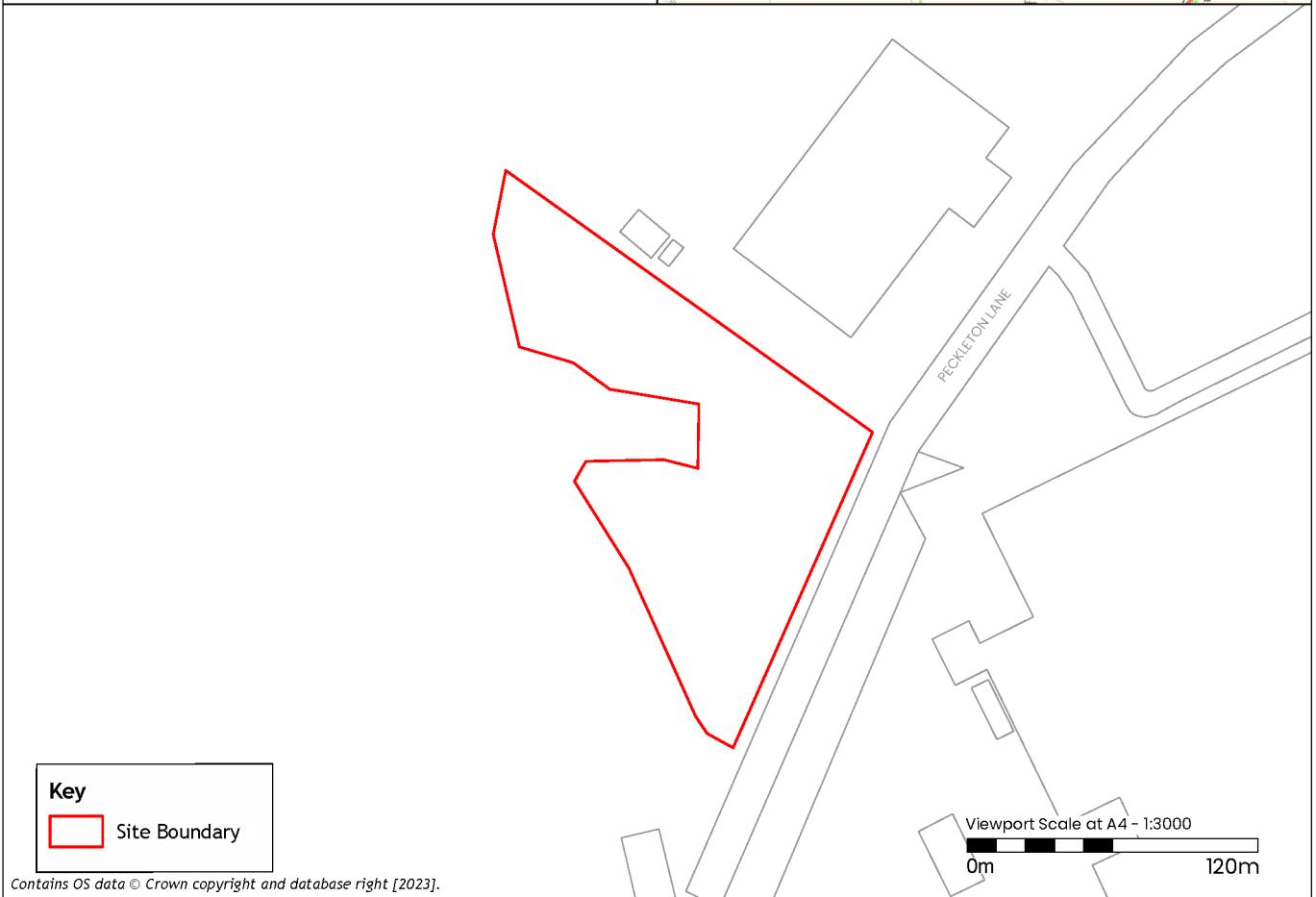
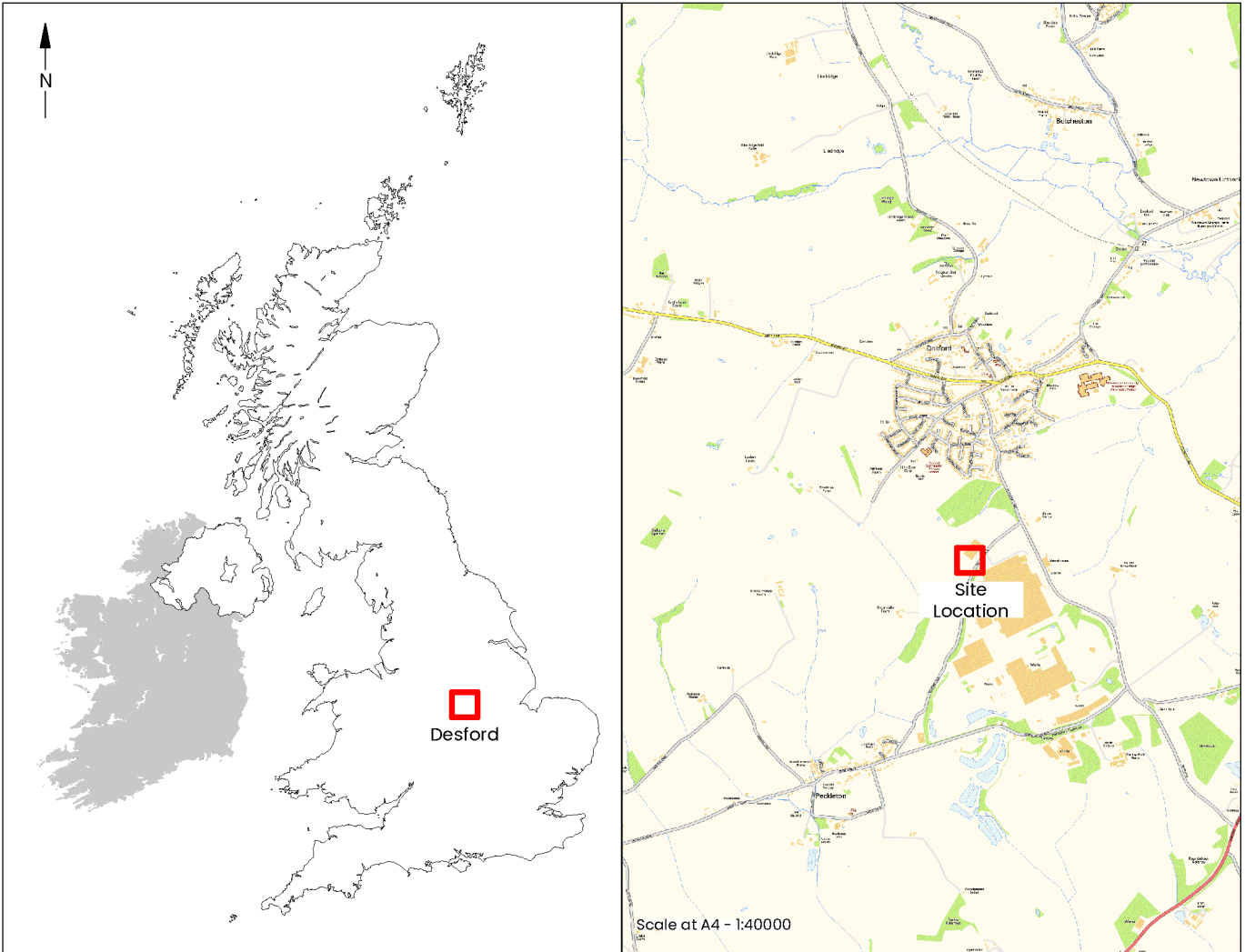
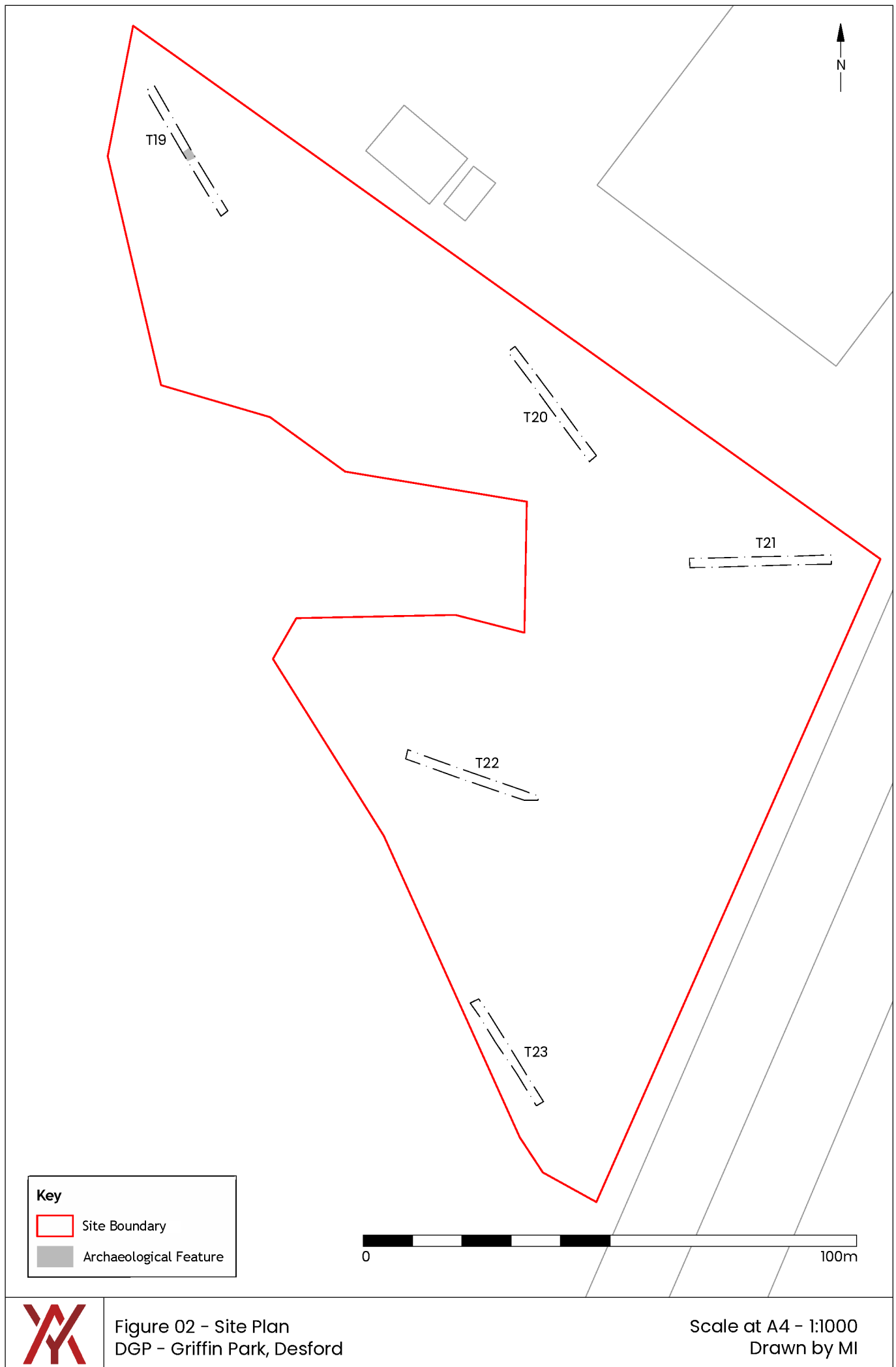


Figure 01 - Location Map
 DGP - Griffin Park, Desford

Scale at A4 - varies
 Drawn by MI



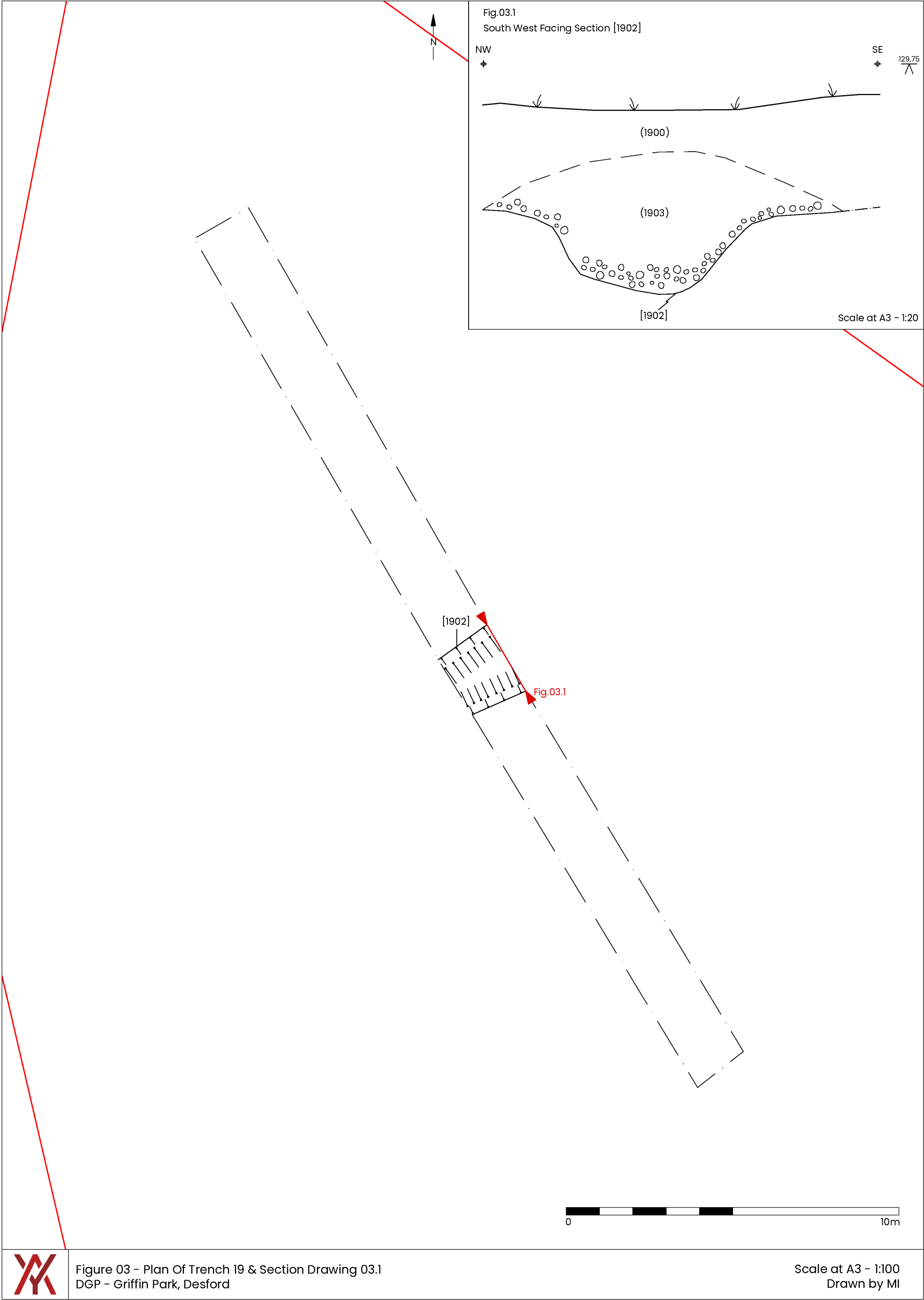


Figure 03 – Plan Of Trench 19 & Section Drawing 03.1
DGP – Griffin Park, Desford

Scale at A3 – 1:100
Drawn by MI

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