

Interval from SW	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To NE end 30m
Ground (OD)	115.41m									
Topsoil depth	0.23m	0.23m	0.25m	0.28m	0.25m	0.28m	0.25m	flood	flood	0.30m
Subsoil depth	0.17m	0.19m	0.18m	feature	0.23m	0.25m	0.26m	flood	flood	flood
Top of Natural substratum	0.40m	0.42m	0.43m	feature	0.48m	0.53m	0.51m	flood	flood	flood
Base of trench	0.48m	0.59m	0.58m	0.68m	0.65m	0.59m	0.55m	0.46m	0.44m	0.54m



Figure 7: Trench 01, post excavation, looking north-east



Figure 8: Modern feature in Trench 01, south-east facing section, looking north-west

Trench 02

Trench 02 contained a wide silty feature (1), which was initially machined across in order to assess its depth, but was not fully excavated. The trench was extended in width for the length of the feature in order to clarify its nature.

The feature was around 4.3m in width and approximately 0.44m deep and consisted of a greyish brown silty clay with a large segment of broken field drain within the fill. It had no obvious cut. A field drain extended from the eastern side of the feature running north-west to south-east. When the trench was extended the feature was not seen to any depth, although further pieces of drain were recovered from the area. The trench later became partially flooded in this area and at the north-eastern end.

Interval from SW	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To NE end 30m
Ground (OD)	114.69m									
Topsoil depth	0.24m	0.26m	0.23m	0.23m	0.23m	0.22m	flood	flood	flood	flood
Subsoil depth	0.20m	0.18m	0.20m	0.20m	0.18m	0.18m	flood	flood	flood	flood
Top of Natural substratum	0.44m	0.44m	0.43m	feature	0.41m	0.40m	flood	flood	flood	flood
Base of trench	0.51m	0.53m	0.51m	0.87m	0.44m	0.45m	0.40m	0.44m	0.41m	0.51m



Figure 9: Trench 02, post-excavation but before extension, looking north-east



Figure 10: Trench 02, after extension, before becoming flooded, showing silty feature (1)

Trench 03

No features were revealed within this trench.

Interval from SW	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To NE end 30m
Ground (OD)	114.49m									
Topsoil depth	0.27m	0.26m	0.24m	0.27m	0.28m	0.23m	0.27m	0.30m	0.30m	0.28m
Subsoil depth	0.13m	0.19m	0.15m	0.12m	0.11m	0.17m	0.14m	0.10m	flood	flood
Top of Natural substratum	0.40m	0.45m	0.39m	0.39m	0.39m	0.40m	0.41m	0.40m	flood	flood
Base of trench	0.42m	0.48m	0.48m	0.41m	0.42m	0.45m	0.50m	0.49m	0.52m	0.44m

Trench 04

A feature was revealed running north-west to south-east across the width of the trench. Feature (2) was 1.75m wide and around 0.18m deep. It consisted of light yellow brown silty clay with rare small stones, similar to the subsoil.

Interval from SW	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To NE end 30m
Ground (OD)	112.81m									
Topsoil depth	0.24m	0.25m	0.24m	0.30m	0.24m	0.22m	0.26m	0.27m	0.24m	0.23m
Subsoil depth	0.18m	0.15m	0.17m	0.19m	0.17m	0.25m	0.22m	0.21m	0.22m	0.20m
Top of Natural substratum	0.42m	0.40m	0.41m	0.49m	0.41m	0.47m	0.48m	0.48m	0.46m	0.43m
Base of trench	0.54m	0.45m	0.57m	0.62m	0.58m	0.61m	0.58m	0.62m	0.58m	0.56m



Figure 11: Feature (2) south-east facing section, looking north-west

Trench 05

No features were revealed within this trench.

Interval from W	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To E end 30m
Ground (OD)	112.15m									
Topsoil depth	0.25m	0.22m	0.25m	0.22m	0.25m	0.22m	0.20m	0.23m	0.25m	0.23m
Subsoil depth	0.16m	0.20m	0.18m	0.21m	0.22m	0.22m	0.23m	0.13m	flood	flood
Top of Natural substratum	0.41m	0.42m	0.43m	0.43m	0.47m	0.44m	0.43m	0.36m	flood	flood
Base of trench	0.48m	0.50m	0.52m	0.52m	0.56m	0.57m	0.53m	0.49m	0.48m	0.49m

Trench 06

No features were revealed within this trench.

Interval from SE	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To NW end 30m
Ground (OD)	111.27m									
Topsoil depth	0.27m	0.22m	0.23m	0.21m	0.22m	0.26m	0.25m	0.21m	0.25m	0.25m
Subsoil depth	0.23m	0.22m	0.22m	0.22m	0.23m	0.26m	0.27m	0.28m	0.25m	0.16m
Top of Natural substratum	0.50m	0.44m	0.45m	0.43m	0.45m	0.52m	0.52m	0.49m	0.50m	0.41m
Base of trench	0.64m	0.60m	0.50m	0.52m	0.51m	0.59m	0.64m	0.62m	0.55m	0.52m

Trench 07

A single field drain ran across the trench from north-west to south-east.

Interval from S	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To N end 30m
Ground (OD)	110.07m									
Topsoil depth	0.21m	0.20m	0.22m	0.23m	0.24m	0.20m	0.20m	0.24m	0.26m	0.20m
Subsoil depth	0.15m	0.21m	0.22m	0.22m	0.17m	0.13m	0.19m	0.13m	0.12m	0.13m
Top of Natural substratum	0.36m	0.41m	0.44m	0.45m	0.41m	0.33m	0.39m	0.37m	0.38m	0.33m
Base of trench	0.42m	0.50m	0.56m	0.50m	0.49m	0.40m	0.42m	0.39m	0.45m	0.48m

Trench 08

A single field drain ran across the trench from north-west to south-east.

Interval from E	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To W end 30m
Ground (OD)	108.10m									
Topsoil depth	0.23m	0.23m	0.22m	0.25m	0.25m	0.24m	0.30m	0.24m	0.23m	0.30m
Subsoil depth	0.19m	0.22m	0.23m	0.18m	0.22m	0.28m	0.15m	0.30m	0.29m	0.34m
Top of Natural substratum	0.42m	0.45m	0.45m	0.43m	0.47m	0.52m	0.45m	0.54m	0.52m	0.64m
Base of trench	0.50m	0.53m	0.56m	0.52m	0.59m	0.69m	0.50m	0.69m	0.69m	0.80m



Figure 12: Trench 08, post-excavation, looking west

Trench 09

No features were revealed within this trench.

Interval from NW	0-3m	6m	9m	12m	15m	18m	21m	24m	27m	To SE end 30m
Ground (OD)	106.85m									
Topsoil depth	0.22m	0.19m	0.19m	0.25m	0.20m	0.24m	0.27m	0.22m	0.23m	0.25m
Subsoil depth	0.18m	0.20m	0.19m	0.24m	0.30m	flood	flood	flood	flood	flood
Top of Natural substratum	0.40m	0.39m	0.38m	0.49m	0.50m	flood	flood	flood	flood	flood
Base of trench	0.50m	0.48m	0.49m	0.58m	0.60m	0.63m	0.70m	0.71m	0.64m	0.60m

Discussion and Conclusion

The site at Lutterworth Road, Burbage had some potential for archaeological remains, lying 400m-500m east of Iron Age and Roman field systems; with a Bronze Age cremation cemetery and several findspots for prehistoric artefacts in the general vicinity of the town.

However, the geophysical survey carried out in advance of the trial trench evaluation was largely negative with only a few possible anomalies highlighted during the survey, as well as ridge and furrow earthworks, still visible in parts of the site, including Field 1.

Two trenches; Trench 02 and Trench 08 were placed across possible features, a linear and a possible ring ditch respectively, with others placed across other areas to provide coverage of the site. Most of the nine trenches were negative, revealing a rich topsoil and a surprisingly deep subsoil despite the land being mainly put over to pasture, with some field drains and a sub-stratum mainly consisting of poorly drained clay mixed with patches of gravel. Recording and backfilling of the trenches was somewhat hindered by the poor drainage, exacerbated by heavy rain.

Only three trenches (Trenches 01, 02 and 04) contained features, with the feature in Trench 01 clearly modern in origin, being cut from virtually the top of the trench and containing modern brick and building rubble. This feature corresponds with a small enclosure, with a pair of small outhouses, shown on the early editions of the Ordnance Survey maps dating from 1888-1970 but not on the later editions. The presence of the field boundary here and the outhouse would explain the modern cut and the brick infill within this feature.

A wide feature (1) in Trench 02, over 4m wide, and 0.44m deep was difficult to define; a widening of the trench around the same area did not reveal more of the feature, although pieces of field drain were found in the deposit as well as a section at the eastern end of the trench. This suggests the feature is likely to be associated with the field drain; possibly a large furrow with a drain cut along the eastern side. The position of the feature does correspond with a short linear anomaly picked up by the geophysical survey.

A further feature (2) was revealed in Trench 04 along a similar alignment to feature (2) (see Fig. 13). This was fairly shallow (0.18m deep) and very diffuse similar to the subsoil suggesting that it was most likely a furrow. It certainly follows the alignment of the furrows as recorded by the geophysical survey.

Trench 08 excavated over the ring shaped anomaly, highlighted on the geophysical survey, was negative but for two field drains; it is possible that the survey had picked up part of the drain system in the field, which had then been interpreted as a more discreet feature.

As only part of the area was evaluated is likely that further work will be necessary. Further evaluation trenches may reveal archaeological features that were not picked up in the geophysical survey as well as clarifying the extent and nature of the undated linear features revealed during this evaluation.

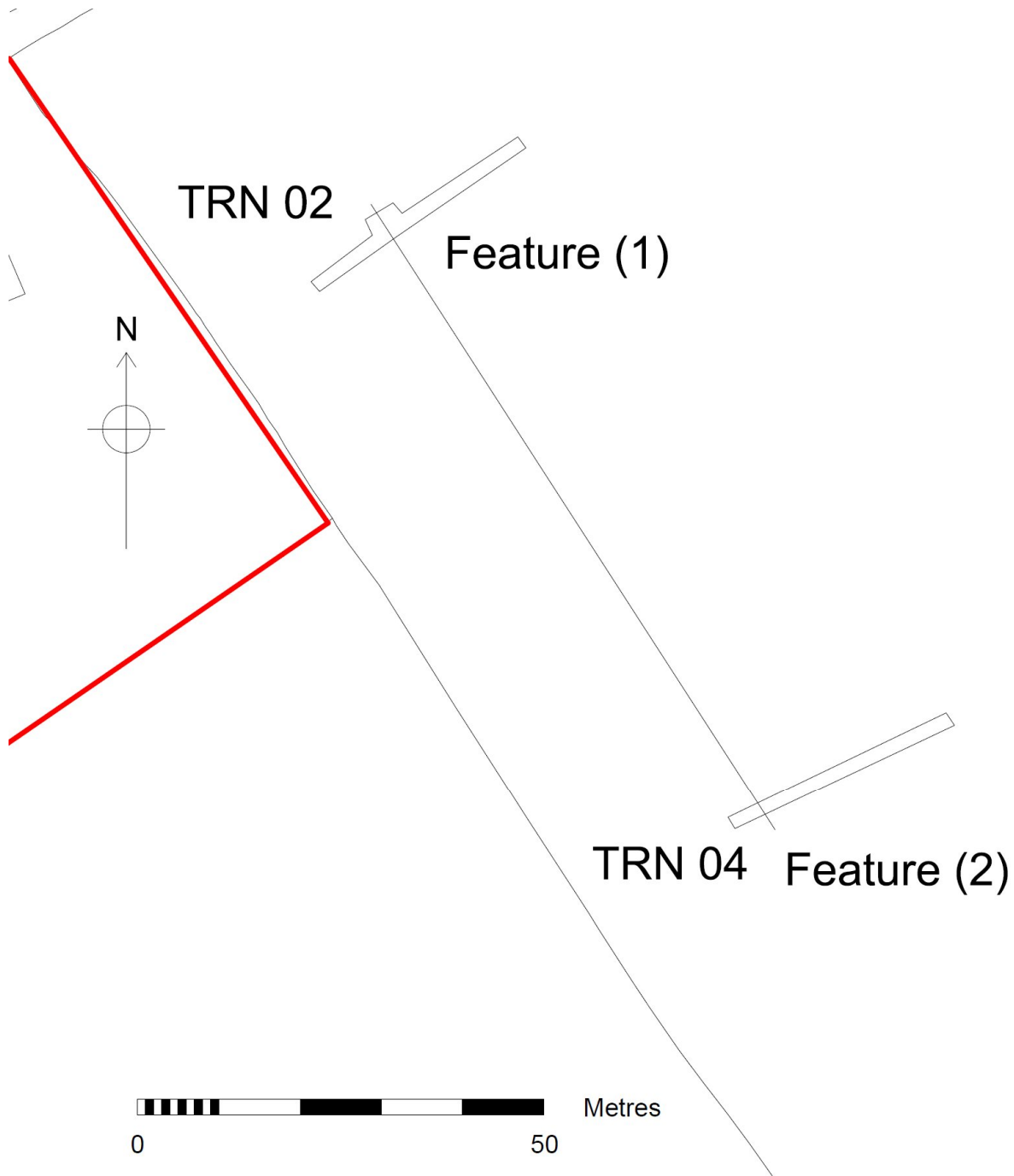


Figure 13: Plan of Trenches 02 and 04 showing alignment of features

Archive and publication

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A73.2019 and consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of this report (ULAS Report No. 2019-149)
- 9 Trench recording sheets
- 1 Photo Record Sheet
- 1 Contact Sheet of digital photographs
- 1 CD of digital photographs
- 2 Context Sheets

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

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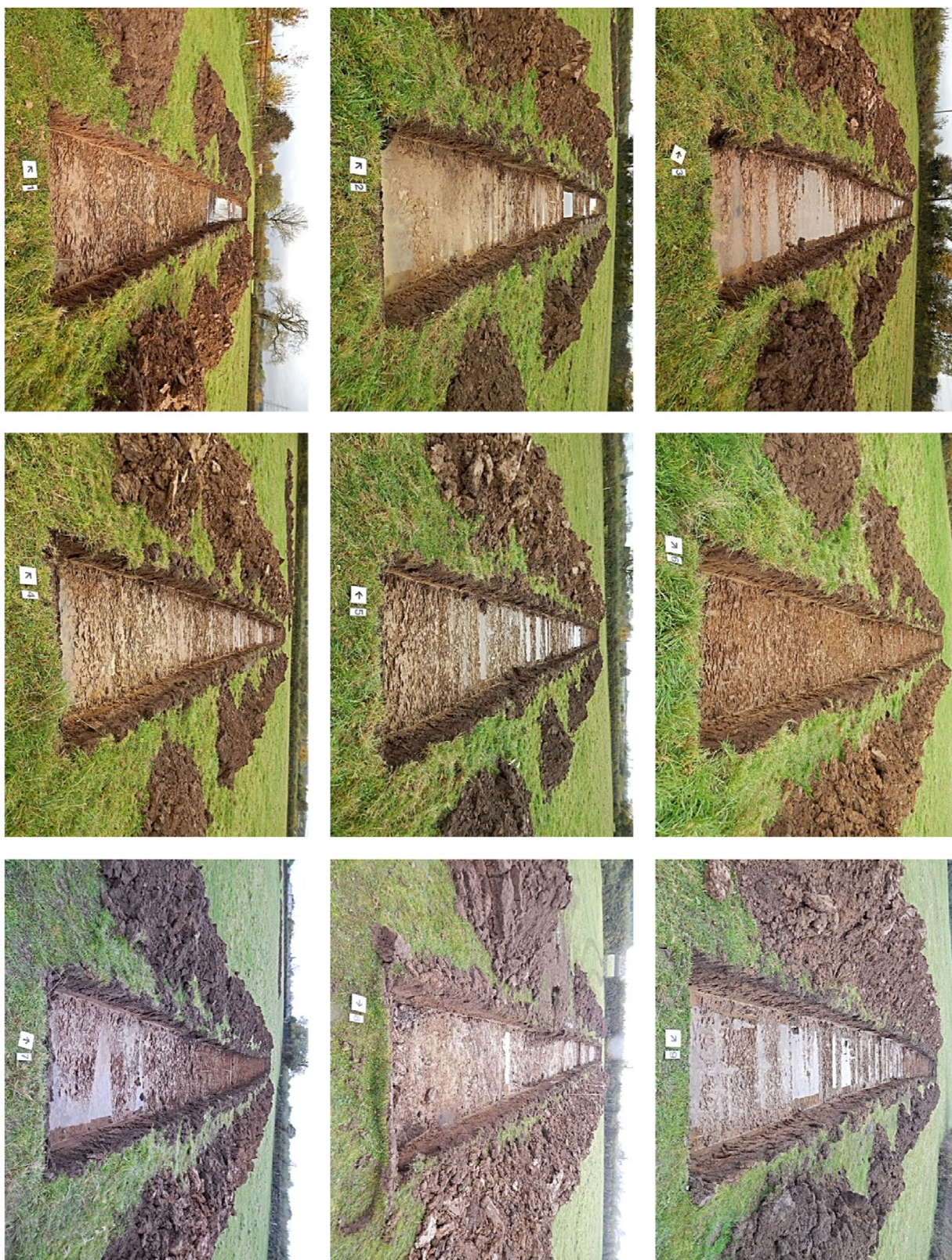
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Appendix 1: Post excavation photographs of trenches





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