

**Woolfox Golf and Country Club
Phase 1
Great North Road
Stamford
Rutland**

Archaeological Evaluation



for:
Woolfox Golf

CA Project: MK0800
CA Report: MK0800_1

September 2022



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SUMMARY

Project name:	Woolfox Golf and Country Club Phase 1
Location:	Great North Road, Stamford, Rutland
NGR:	496896 312226
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	12-15 September 2022
Planning reference:	2020/1480/MAF
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Rutland County Museum
Accession Number:	OAKRM: 2022.50
Site Code:	WFOX22

In September 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out the first phase of an archaeological evaluation of land at Woolfox Golf, Great North Road, near Stamford, in the county of Rutland, in connection with plans for the construction of 60 leisure lodges and changes to the existing golf course including the construction of lakes for leisure and ecological purposes. The redevelopment works will be undertaken in two phases in order to allow that part of the site/ golf course in phase 2 to continue to operate while the first phase is undertaken. Consequently, a total of 11 trenches were excavated in this first phase of work, targeting areas suggested by historic mapping, aerial photographs and LiDAR data as less likely to have been impacted by the original construction of the golf course.

Despite the trenches targeting areas predicted to have been less disturbed by the golf course construction, widespread evidence for truncation of the natural substrate was encountered in all trenches, with no surviving in-situ original topsoil or subsoil identified in any of the trenches. Evidence of heavy plant and drainage impacts affecting the surface of the substrate was noted throughout and in all trenches the geological horizon was sealed by a layer of modern made ground comprising a yellow brown clay silt, varying in thickness depending on the surface landscaping treatment/ contours.

Trench 10 was the only feature to contain surviving archaeological remains, in the form of an undated ditch crossing the north end of the trench and a pit or possible ditch terminus from which a small quantity of Iron Age pottery was recovered. No other finds or features were recorded in any of the other phase 1 trenches.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In September 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land at Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Stamford, Rutland (centred at NGR: 496896 312226; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Woolfox Golf. The redevelopment works will be undertaken in two phases, in order to allow that part of the site/ golf course in the phase 2 area to continue to operate while the first phase of redevelopment is undertaken. This report concerns the 11 trenches which comprise the first phase of an evaluation, which will total an eventual 25 trenches.
- 1.2. Rutland County Council (RCC) has granted planning permission for the erection of 60 leisure lodges for occupation on a non-continuous basis; renovation and conversion of existing barns to form a leisure suite including gym, swimming pool and ancillary spaces including staff accommodation; renovation and alteration of the existing Clubhouse; the erection of a new maintenance facility; alterations to the grounds, including changes to the golf course and construction of lakes for leisure and ecological purposes; and ancillary works (including alterations to the access drive, provision of a visitor check-in kiosk, alterations to car parking, creation of a circular walk, the alteration and extension of the noise bund, and consequential landscape works). (planning ref: 2020/1480/MAF). Condition 7 of this planning permission requires the implementation of a staged programme of archaeological work, each stage to be completed in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 1.3. The scope of this evaluation was defined through consultation with the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA) at Leicestershire County Council, the archaeological advisor to RCC. The first stage of this programme of works was defined as a trial trench evaluation with metal detector survey of the trench locations. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by the SPA.
- 1.4. The evaluation was also in line with the Generic Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Trial Trenching) - Post-determination archaeological investigation (LCC 2020), *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and

Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England 2015).

The site

- 1.5. The site is located northeast of the A1 Great North Road, c.7.5km northwest of the town of Stamford and c.2.3km south of the village of Pickworth. Presently the c.39.5ha site is in use as a golf course and a driving range with associated structures present, including the former farmhouse and ancillary buildings that now host the club house and facilities. The surrounding land is in use either as part of the golf course or farmland, while the eastern boundary of the site is bordered by a single-track road leading to Pickworth. The nearest water source, North Brook, runs c. 1.5km to the south-west of the site. Ground levels in the north of the site sit at c.80m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) rising to c.90m aOD in the south of the site.
- 1.6. The bedrock geology within the Site is characterised as Upper Lincolnshire Limestone Member, a sedimentary bedrock which formed c.168 to 170 million years ago in the Jurassic period when the local environment was dominated by shallow carbonate seas. There is no superficial geology recorded within the site. The soil within the site is characterised as a shallow lime-rich loamy soil with moderate fertility (British Geological Survey 2022).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The development area was the subject of an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (ADBA) prepared in 2021 to support the planning application (CA 2021). This document included an assessment of LiDAR data and historic aerial photographs and was supported by a walkover survey. The following section is taken from that source.

Prehistoric

- 2.2. No prehistoric remains have been recorded within the site. While there is evidence of prehistoric activity within the study area utilised for the ADBA a lack of intrusive archaeological investigation makes the dating of many of the features identified below provisional.
- 2.3. A fieldwalking exercise undertaken in 2015 by Headland Archaeology to the north of the site (Jeffery 2015) identified a Neolithic flint core c.1.1km to the northwest of the site. Other lithics were also identified but were not dateable.

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- 2.4. A geophysical survey undertaken following the fieldwalking exercise identified anomalies that may be indicative of prehistoric activity. An area of probable settlement activity was observed c.430m north of the site including anomalies that may represent ring ditches enclosed by boundary ditches and pit-like features. Further evidence of possible prehistoric settlement was identified c.600m north of the site, comprising possible ditch features forming a corner of a possible enclosure (Boucher and Bartlett 2015).
- 2.5. A possible ring ditch feature visible on aerial photographs (CUCAP: ZP18) has been identified c.260m southwest of the site. If confirmed to be of prehistoric date then the ring ditch is likely to represent the ploughed out remains of a barrow (burial mound) or the remains of a round house.
- 2.6. Further evidence of possible prehistoric activity within the ADBA study area has been identified through cropmark evidence. A linear cropmark on a north/south alignment was identified c.600m northeast of the site, branching to the east towards another L-shaped cropmark feature located c.830m to the northeast of the site. Their form is indicative of later prehistoric enclosure ditches, possibly Late Iron Age to early Roman field boundaries.

Roman

- 2.7. There is no recorded Roman period activity within the site. Ermine Street, Roman road from London to Lincoln, runs northwest to southeast along the southwestern boundary of the site, now followed by the course of the Great North Road (A1). However, while this is the extent of known Roman period activity within the ADBA study area, this may be a reflection of a lack of archaeological investigations within the study area to date rather than a true representation of the level of Roman activity taking place in the area.

Early medieval and medieval

- 2.8. The nearest settlement recorded in the Domesday Book is that of Hardwick, after which the converted farm buildings (now the Club house etc) within the site take their name. The settlement is recorded as having 51 households in 1086 (Powell-Smith 2021) and this sizeable population indicates a large/well-established Late Saxon settlement, which continued into the medieval period, before becoming deserted.

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- 2.9. The site of the deserted medieval village, is recorded directly to the north of the site. The village is recorded as having a pond and dovecote in 1295, the latter suggesting a degree of prosperity, but by 1315, of the 39 tenants 14 held half a virgate (6ha) with another 14 sustained on a quarter of a virgate (3ha). The Black Death significantly reduced the population of Hardwick, and it is believed that the village was deserted by 1445. The desertion may also have been due to poor land conditions as in 1716 Hardwick was described as 'extremely poor and [containing] land that could never be let' (Ryder 2006).
- 2.10. Elements of the medieval settlement potentially extend into the northern edge of the site, with an RAF aerial photograph appearing to show a small area of earthwork remains. However, while it is possible that the mapped extent of the deserted village is accurate in placing it within the site boundary no extant evidence of settlement is evident within the Site. The walkover survey of the site undertaken in 2021 did not identify any earthwork remains within the area that is thought to have been the location of the deserted settlement despite this land being in use as pasture and no longer subject to ploughing. While lidar data of the study area indicates that there may be some surviving features to the north these do not appear to extend into the site. These appear to comprise a trackway running north/south with possible house platforms and enclosure boundaries to the west, which are also faintly visible on satellite imagery (CA 2021). In contrast, historic maps indicate that the location of Hardwick village may have been within the site, to the southwest, this location being mapped on the 1952 Rutland 10" map and the 1958 and 1974 Ordnance Survey 10" plans. However, it is thought that this was a misinterpretation of the disturbance caused by quarrying recorded to have occurred within the site on the 1884 Rutland 10" map (CA 2021).
- 2.11. The 'site of' the Battle of Losecoat Field, also known as The Battle of Empingham, is recorded c.25m southeast of the site. However, the location mapped is an Ordnance Survey marker for the estimated location of the battle and does not necessarily represent the full or confirmed extent of the battlefield. The battle was fought on 12th March 1470 as part of the Wars of the Roses, and was between the Yorkists commanded by Edward IV and the Lancastrians commanded by Sir Robert Welles. It is one of the least documented battles of the saga, though sources appear to suggest that this was the first time that guns were utilised as an attacking weapon rather than a defensive one. It appears that Edward IV attacked quickly, forcing a

retreat of the Lincolnshire rebels who quickly disbanded and fled (Flint 2014). The woodland to the south of Great North Road c.270m south of the site named 'bloody oaks' possibly refers to the battle.

- 2.12. The possible location of a rabbit warren has been identified c.800m southeast of the site; this is within Warren Plantation and indicates a utilisation of the land which does not rely on the soils, which have been recorded as poorly performing.

Post-medieval and modern

- 2.13. The site is situated in the historic parish of Empingham for which there is no Tithe Map. It appears that the site was not built upon until the construction of the farmhouse and associated buildings first shown on the 1884 Rutland 10" map. Earlier maps of the area show Stamford and the Great North Road (A1), running past the site; however, with the exception of the farm buildings no other evidence of settlement is observed on any early maps. Documentary sources suggest that the land within the site was of poor value and this may in part account for the limited extent of settlement in the immediate area during this period. There is evidence on historic maps that an area within the site may have been utilised for quarrying during the post-medieval period. This is recorded on the 1884 and 1904-1905 Rutland 10" maps. The quarry had clearly fallen out of use by 1884 but was likely to have been utilised for the extraction of limestone, possibly to repair the adjacent road.
- 2.14. The boundary indicating the limits of Woolfox Lodge Airfield is located c.20m north of the site. This opened as a reserve landing ground for RAF Cottesmore in 1940 and became a satellite to RAF North Luffenham in 1941; full station status was granted by 1943. The airfield closed in 1945 and was sold in 1966.
- 2.15. The 1974 Ordnance survey map shows the upgrading of the Great North Road to a dual carriageway. The earthwork remains of quarrying within the site are by this date labelled as Hardwick Village; however, as previously stated, this is likely to be an error in labelling. No new buildings had been introduced into the site and at this point the majority of the site remains in agricultural use, as it had been depicted since the 1884 First Edition Ordnance Survey map.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character,

extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable RCC as advised by the SPA to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021). A further objective of the project was to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

- 3.2. Had significant archaeological remains been identified then this report would have sought to make reference to appropriate themes and objectives in the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (2020) so that the remains could, if possible, be placed within their local and regional contexts. However, the limited results obtained during this phase of investigation will not contribute to any research themes of objectives.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. This first phase of evaluation comprised the excavation of 11 trenches, each measuring 30m by 2m, in the locations shown on figure 2. The trenches were located to provide a representative sample of those parts of the site thought likely from aerial photographs and LiDAR data not to have been subject to significant ground disturbance during the creation of the golf course. Trenches 1, 3, 4, 10 and 11 were each moved between 4m-10m from their original location in order to avoid trees. None of these trenches were targeting specific features in their original location.
- 4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

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- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with Rutland County Museum for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. The archives will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. The stratigraphy within each trench remained constant throughout the site. The natural geology was encountered at its deepest within Trenches 4 and 6 at a depth of approximately 0.8m and shallowed away from these trenches to an average depth of 0.37m. The natural substrate comprised light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt with patches of mid orange brown clay. This was overlain by made ground, comprising mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions, deposited to contour the landscape during the construction of the golf course. This was then sealed by a sandy loam topsoil/turf layer averaging 0.08m thick.
- 5.3. Trenches 1-9 and Trench 11 were devoid of archaeology and are not described further. A selection of photographs of the site prior to excavation and the open trenches are presented as figures 4 to 6.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2, 3 & 7)

- 5.4. Ditch 1003 traversed the northern end of Trench 10 on a northwest/southeast alignment. It measured 0.9m wide by 0.35m deep, with moderate straight sides and a flat base. It was filled by secondary silting (1004), comprising mid orange brown

clay silt with frequent limestone inclusions. A small quantity of animal bone was recovered from this.

- 5.5. Pit 1005 was partially exposed in the northern half of Trench 10 and was sub-ovoid as seen with steep to undercutting sides and an undulating base. It measured 1.75m wide by over 1.4m long and had a maximum depth of 0.5m. It contained three fills; an initial silting, 1006, comprising yellow brown sandy silt; followed by 1007, a possible deliberate deposition of loose brown grey ashy silt; and finally a deliberate backfill, 1008, consisting of yellow brown clay with moderate limestone inclusions. An assemblage of Iron Age pottery sherds and animal bone was recovered from fills 1006 and 1008. An environmental sample (Sample 1) was taken from ashy layer 1007 from which a very small number of cereal grains including those of hulled wheat and wheat were recovered, along with a small number of charred weed seeds and nut/stone fragments including blackthorn, hazelnut, bedstraw, red bartsia, cabbage and pale persicaria/redshank. The majority of these species are food types, which may indicate that this deposit was a small dump of domestic food waste material.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. The artefactual material was recorded from two deposits: both are fills of pit 1005 (Appendix B). The material was recovered by hand and recorded in accordance with the ClfA finds Toolkit (ClfA 2021).

Pottery

- 6.2. The pottery from the evaluation has been recorded direct to an Excel spreadsheet from which Appendix B (Table 1) is derived. This forms part of the project archive. The assemblage was examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabric is described in summary in Appendix B in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016).
- 6.3. The assemblage comprises 15 sherds, weighing 225g. It is in moderate condition; the fractures and surfaces exhibit only minor signs of wear. The mean sherd weight is high for a late prehistoric pottery assemblage at 15g.

Late Prehistoric

- 6.4. The assemblage of handmade pottery consists of sherds made in shell-tempered fabrics (SH) likely to date to the Middle to Late Iron Age. Surface treatments noted

include scored marks (5 sherds, 70g) and burnishing (1 sherd, 22g). The scored surface treatment may represent examples of pottery from the East Midlands Scored ware tradition (known as Ancaster-Breedon ware) which date from the 5th/4th century BC to 1st century AD (Knight 2002). The site is located approximately 30km north-west of Peterborough in the heartlands of the East Midlands Scored ware distribution. The five scored sherds represent at least three separate vessels, with one sherd exhibiting traces of sooting. A single, simple upright rim was recorded, in a comparably finer fabric than the rest of the site's assemblage; it was not possible to ascertain the profile of the vessel.

Summary

- 6.5. The pottery provides evidence for activity during the Middle to Late Iron Age. The assemblage described above is very small, with limited diagnostic sherds; as such it is difficult to draw any further meaningful conclusions.

Fired Clay

- 6.6. A single fragment (15g) of fired clay was recorded from pit 1005. It is made in an oxidised fine sandy fabric with calcareous inclusions (fsc) and exhibits a finger or thumb impression. It is probably contemporary with the 13 sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery which were also recovered from the same deposit.

Further work and selection strategy

- 6.7. The finds have been recorded in sufficient detail at this stage and no further work is required. The assemblage has some limited potential for further analysis and the pottery is recommended for long-term curation. The late prehistoric fired clay should be retained in the short-term and a decision made on its retention in light of any further works that may be carried out at the site.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Plant macrofossils by Emma Aitken

- 7.1. A single environmental sample (7 litres of soil) was processed from pit 1005 in Trench 10. The sample was taken to evaluate the preservation of environmental remains in the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

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- 7.2. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded, following nomenclature according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney and (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.3. The flot contained a high volume of rooty material and the intrusive snail species *Cecilioides acicula*, which may be an indication of post-depositional movement of the deposit and modern intrusive material.
- 7.4. Any dates discussed within this report have been obtained through the dating of finds (see section 6 above).

Trench 10

- 7.5. Sample 1 was recovered from deposit 1007, which is the middle deposit between lower fill 1006 and upper fill 1008. Both 1006 and 1008 have a spot date of Middle-Late Iron Age whilst deposit 1007 remains undated. Sample 1 contained a very small number of cereal grains including those of hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*)) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.). A small number of charred weed seeds and nut/stone fragments were also noted and included those of blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), cabbage (*Brassica* sp.), and pale persicaria/redshank (*Persicaria lapathifolia/maculosa*). The majority of these species are food types, which may indicate that this deposit was a small dump of domestic food waste material.
- 7.6. A moderate number of terrestrial snail shells were noted, including those of the open country species *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia* sp., and *Pupilla muscorum*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa* sp., and the shade-loving species *Aegopinella* sp. These species suggest that the area was made up of a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass.

Summary

- 7.7. The environmental remains recovered from deposit 1007 (sample 1) indicate that low levels of domestic settlement activity were taking place in the nearby vicinity. Due to the surrounding deposits producing dateable material it can be stated that this deposit has a Middle-Late Iron Age date, which is consistent with the hulled wheat grains identified in the assemblage.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. Despite the trenches targeting areas predicted to have been less disturbed by the golf course construction, widespread evidence for truncation of the natural substrate was encountered in all trenches, with no surviving in-situ original topsoil or subsoil identified in any of the trenches. Evidence of heavy plant and drainage impacts affecting the surface of the substrate was noted throughout and in all trenches the geological horizon was sealed by a layer of modern made ground comprising a yellow brown clay silt, varying in thickness depending on the surface landscaping treatment/ contours.
- 8.2. Trench 10 was the only feature to contain surviving archaeological remains, in the form of an undated ditch crossing the north end of the trench and a pit or possible ditch terminus from which a small quantity of Iron Age pottery was recovered. No other finds or features were recorded in any of the other phase 1 trenches.
- 8.3. Pending the results of the phase 2 trenching, the results of the phase 1 trenching have little potential to contribute to any research themes or objectives set out in the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework, nor understanding of the Battle of Losecoat Field/ The Battle of Empingham.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Ralph Brown. This report was written by Ralph Brown. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Laura Pearson and Emma Aitken respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Krissy Moore. The project archive has been compiled by and prepared for deposition by Molly Agnew-Henshaw. The project was managed for CA by Adrian Scruby.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context	Context type	Fill of	Interpretive Category	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.08
1	101	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.3
1	102	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.08
2	201	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.42
2	202	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.08
3	301	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.36
3	302	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.1
4	401	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.7
4	402	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.08
5	501	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.67
5	502	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.09
6	601	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.67
6	602	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.07

7	701	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.25
7	702	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.07
8	801	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.25
8	802	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.07
9	901	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.19
9	902	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.1
10	1001	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.22
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-
10	1003	Cut		Ditch	NW-SE linear with moderate straight sides and a flat base	>1.8	0.9	0.35
10	1004	Fill	1003	Secondary Fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt with frequent sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-70mm	>1	0.9	0.35
10	1005	Cut		Pit	Sub ovoid as seen with steep to undercutting straight sides and an undulating base	>1.4	1.75	0.5
10	1006	Fill	1005	Secondary Fill	Soft mid yellow brown sandy silt with frequent sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-50mm	>0.84	>0.91	0.33
10	1007	Fill	1005	Deliberate Backfill	Loose light brown grey ashy silt with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions 10-30mm	>0.34	>0.77	0.07
10	1008	Fill	1005	Deliberate Backfill	Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-70mm	>0.96	>0.95	0.3
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown sandy loam	>30	>1.8	0.08
11	1101	Layer		Made ground	Made ground Firm mid yellow brown clay silt with moderate sub-angular limestone inclusions 10-80mm	>30	>1.8	0.32
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Firm light yellow white sub-angular limestone 10-150mm surrounded by mid yellow brown clay silt. Patches of mid orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	-

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Find Concordance

Context	Class	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
1006	Late Prehistoric Pottery	Shell-tempered fabric	SH	2	20	M-LIA
1008	Late Prehistoric Pottery	Shell-tempered fabric	SH	13	205	M-LIA
	Fired/burnt clay		fsc	1	15	

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

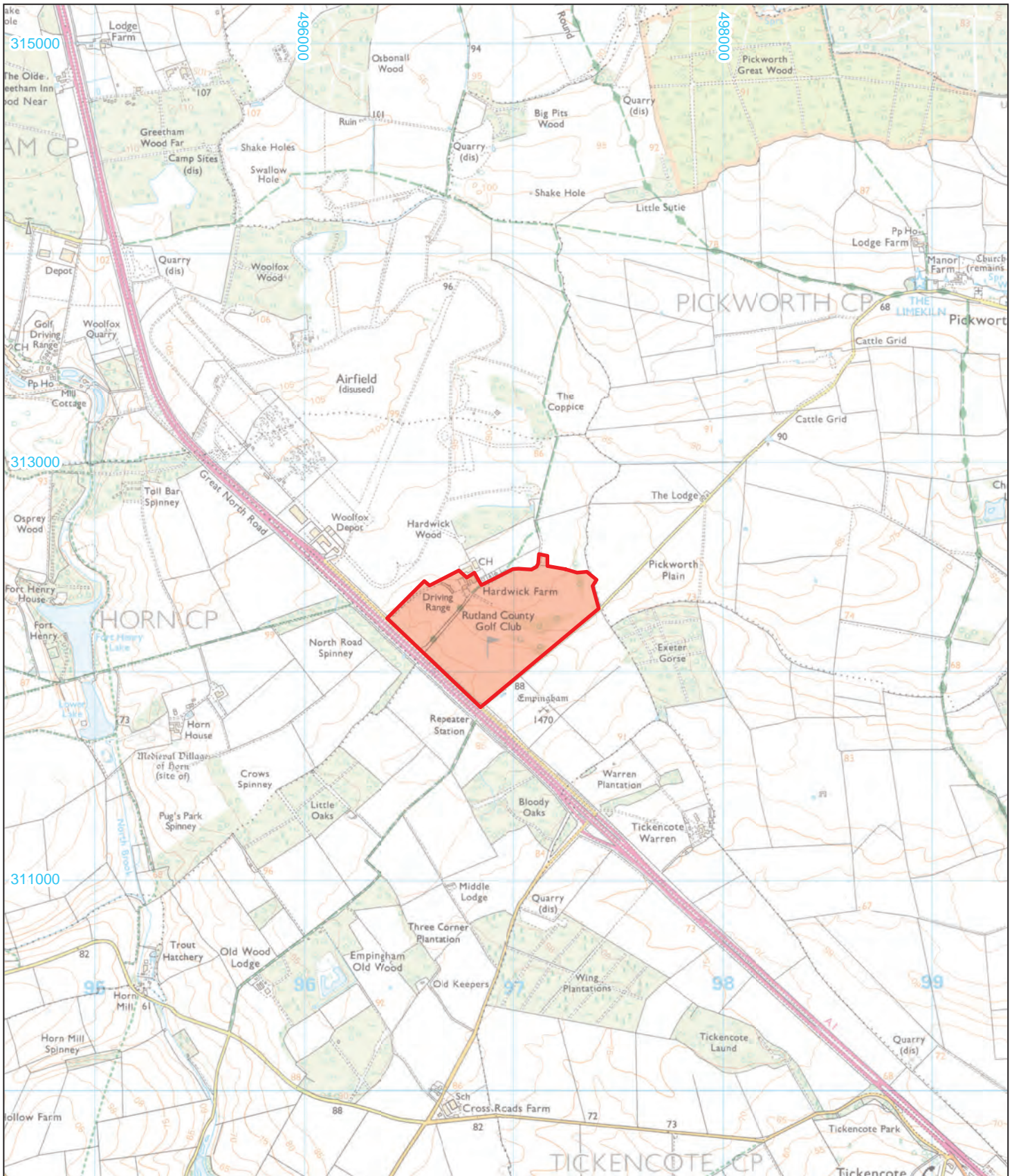
Table 1 Assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 10												
Pit 1005	1007	1	7	30	95	*	*	hulled wheat grain; wheat grain; coleoptile	**	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> ; <i>Corylus avellana</i> ; <i>Galium</i> sp.; <i>Persciaria lapathifolia/maculosa</i> ; <i>Odontites vernus</i> ; <i>Brassica</i> sp.	**/**	moll-t (***)

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items; moll-t = terrestrial mollusc

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Stamford Rutland: Archaeological Evaluation	
Short description	<p>A total of 11 trenches were excavated in this first phase of work, targeting areas suggested by historic mapping, aerial photographs and LiDAR data as less likely to have been impacted by the original construction of the golf course.</p> <p>Despite the trenches targeting areas predicted to have been less disturbed by the golf course construction, widespread evidence for truncation of the natural substrate was encountered in all trenches, with no surviving in-situ original topsoil or subsoil identified in any of the trenches. Evidence of heavy plant and drainage impacts affecting the surface of the substrate was noted throughout and in all trenches the geological horizon was sealed by a layer of modern made ground comprising a yellow brown clay silt, varying in thickness depending on the surface landscaping treatment/ contours.</p> <p>Trench 10 was the only feature to contain surviving archaeological remains, in the form of an undated ditch crossing the north end of the trench and a pit or possible ditch terminus from which a small quantity of Iron Age pottery was recovered. No other finds or features were recorded in any of the other phase 1 trenches.</p>	
Project dates	12/09/22 – 15/19/22	
Project type	evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2021)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Stamford, Rutland	
Study area (m ² /ha)	39.5ha	
Site co-ordinates	496896 312226	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Leicestershire County Council	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby	
Project Supervisor	Ralph Brown	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Rutland County Museum	ceramics, animal bone
Paper	Rutland County Museum	Trench sheet, sections, report
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Digital photos, digital records, report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2022 <i>Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Stamford, Rutland: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report MK0800_1		



 Site boundary



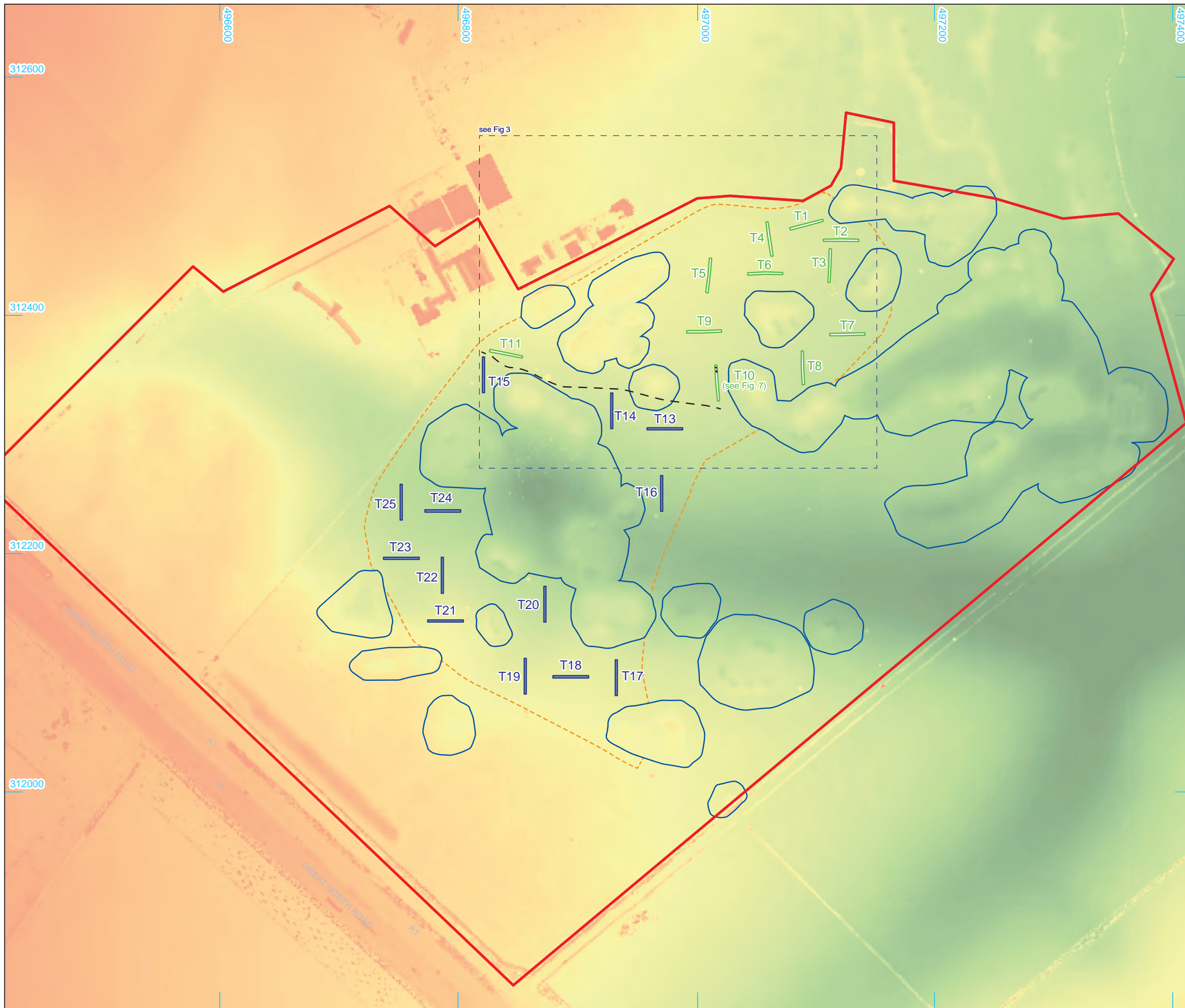
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PROJECT TITLE
 Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Nr Stamford, Rutland

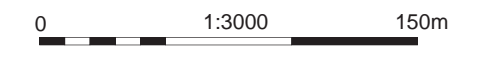
FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	18.01.2023	1
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

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- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench - Phase 1
- Evaluation trench - Phase 2
- Division between Phase areas
- Destroyed surface
- Trenching area
- Archaeological feature



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PROJECT TITLE
 Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Nr Stamford, Rutland

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, including LiDAR data

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24.01.2023	2
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE@A3	1:3000	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench - Phase 1
- Evaluation trench - Phase 2
- Division between Phase areas
- Destroyed surface
- Trenching area
- Archaeological feature
(excavated/unexcavated)
- A ↑ ↓ A Section location



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PROJECT TITLE
 Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Nr Stamford, Rutland

FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan – Phase 1, including LiDAR data

DRAWN BY KM CHECKED BY DJB APPROVED BY AS	PROJECT NO. MK0800 DATE 24.01.2023 SCALE@A3 1:1000	FIGURE NO. 3
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General view of site, looking west, prior to evaluation



General view of site, looking south, prior to evaluation



General view of site, looking north, during evaluation



Trench 1, looking southwest (1m scales)


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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Selection of site and trench photographs

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	18.01.2023	4
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE	@A3	



Trench 3, looking south (1m scales)



Trench 4, looking north, illustrating depth of made ground and previous truncation of natural substrate (1m scales)



Trench 4, looking east, illustrating depth of made ground (1m scale)



Trench 6, looking east, showing depth of made ground and previous drainage impacts (1m scales)


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PROJECT TITLE
Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Nr Stamford, Rutland

FIGURE TITLE
Selection of trench photographs

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	18.01.2023	5
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE	@A3	



Trench 9, looking east (1m scales)



Trench 11, prior to excavation, looking southeast



Trench 11, looking west (1m scales)



Trench 11, looking north, illustrating made ground/absence of original topsoil (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
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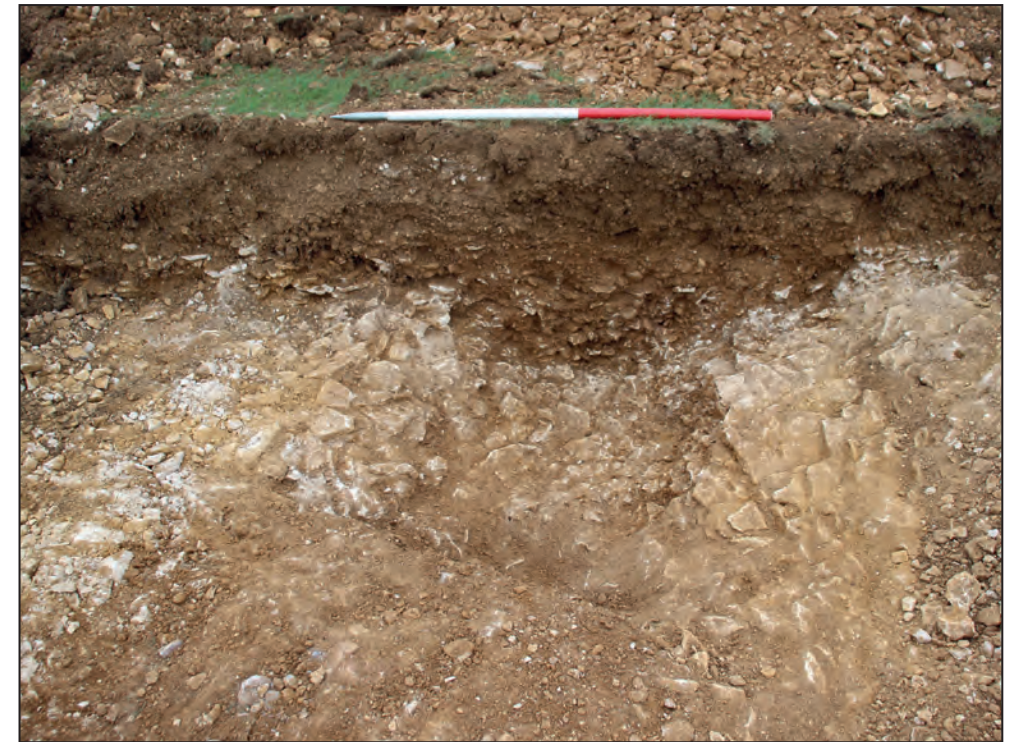
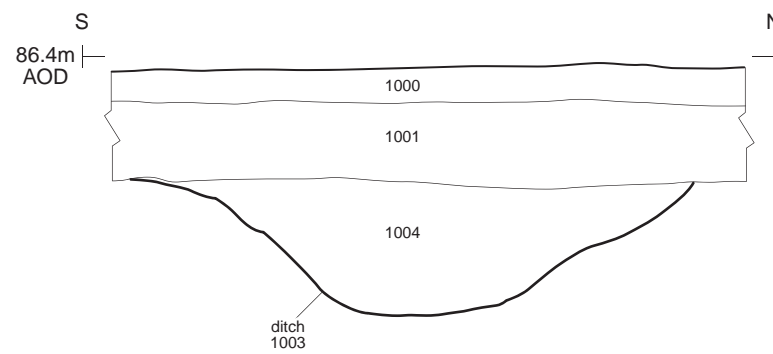
FIGURE TITLE
Selection of trench photographs

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	18.01.2023	6
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE	@A3	

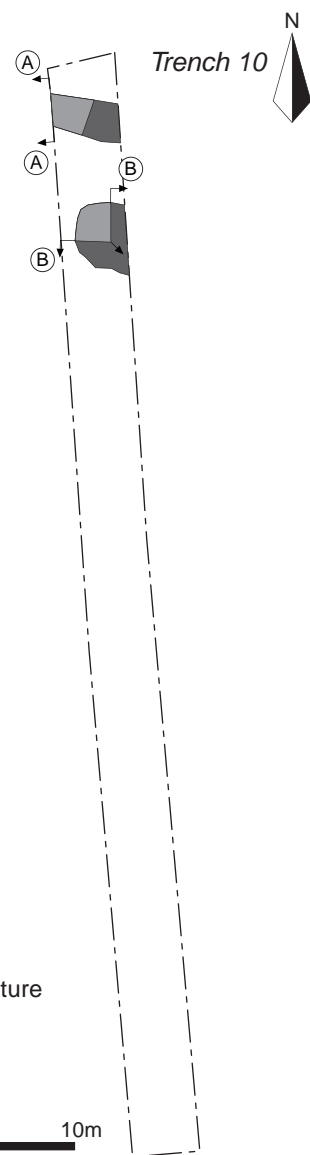


Trench 10, looking south (1m scales)

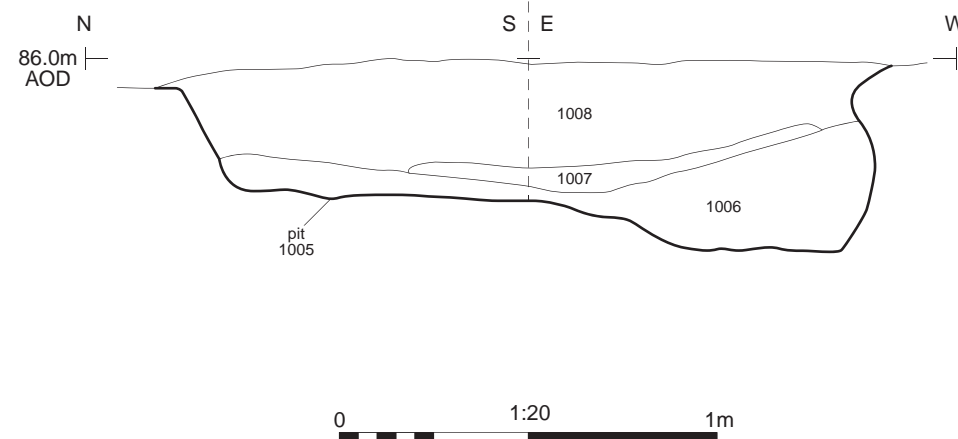
Section AA



Ditch 1003, looking west (1m scale)



Section BB



Pit 1005, looking south-east (1m scale)

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location

0 1:200 10m

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PROJECT TITLE
 Woolfox Golf and Country Club, Great North Road, Nr Stamford, Rutland

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 10: plan, photographs and sections

DRAWN BY	KM	PROJECT NO.	MK0800	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	18.01.2023	7
APPROVED BY	AS	SCALE @ A3	1:20 & 1:200	

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