

CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY – CIA24 (NWW16)

Interim report of excavations at Nine Wells, Whittlesford in 2016

Additional report for trenches Tr22-27



Beginning for the bottom of this picture, you can see Tr22, Tr20, Tr21, Tr23, Tr24, Tr25, Tr26 and Tr27. Note that Trenches Tr20 and Tr21 each have reports written on them. This report covers the remaining Trenches.

Trench Tr22

Tr22 was located 2 m south of Tr20 aligned with the wall found in Tr20 in order to see if the wall continued in that direction.

A simple Trench was excavated and then an additional end was chased towards the Tr20. See photo 1 and closer photo 2

As you can see in photo 2 there are chunks of chalk seeming to surround a dip in the soil. This was close to the south westernmost extent of Tr20.

In 2017 continued investigation of the wall in a southerly direction revealed a 90 ° return to the west and adjacent to it was a post hole with semi-circular packing by chunks of chalk. We can confidently say that the chalk packing found in 2016 Tr22 was therefore the same packing found in the southern most area of the wall excavation in Tr28 in 2017.



Photo 1: In very bright light, no wall seems to be present. See below for the contents of the right hand area.



Photo 2: Tr22 seems to have no wall but this evidence of chalk around the edge of a dip.

Trench Tr23

This Trench was located 3.25m from the North West edge of Tr21. It revealed a compact wall of around 73-77cm width, in keeping with the other complete wall found in Tr21. See photo 3



Photo 3: Tr23 Wall found

Trench Tr24

This Trench was located 6.25 m from the edge of Tr23. The wall appears to be here if a little degraded.



Photo 4: Tr24, wall found.

Trench Tr25

Tr25 was located a further 10m away from Tr24. No evidence was found of a wall.

Trench Tr26

Just in case we had perhaps encountered a Trench with a robbed-out wall we Tried a further 5m away and again revealed nothing. On referring back to our data we were reminded that the magnetometry and geofiz may suggest the wall changes its direction very slightly and we believe may have missed any further evidence due to that reason.

Trench Tr27

Tr27 was location approximately 25m further along a straight line from the trenches 23 to 26. Nothing was found and no evidence of a wall foundation.

J Nelson June 2018