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Archaeological Evaluation Report

MFM98

Framework Archaeology

REF: 45388.04

November 1998

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BAA Archaeology Framework
Heathrow Airports Limited

**Mayfield Farm Reservoir, Mayfield Farm
London Borough of Hounslow**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR TQ 0770 7360

REF 45388.04

Prepared by: <i>Hardy / Nash</i> Date: <i>15/3/99</i>
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Executive Summary

Mayfield Farm (the Site) is an area of significant archaeological potential straddling two of the Thames gravel terraces, with known archaeological remains including settlement and ritual activity/monuments dating from the Neolithic period (4,000 – 2,400 BC) onwards. Two areas at Mayfield Farm have been designated as Scheduled Monuments (Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979). Mayfield Farm has also been designated as an Archaeological Priority Area as defined in the London Borough of Hounslow's Unitary Development Plan (Deposit Stage).

Prior to evaluation an auger survey was carried out to determine the geo-topography of the underlying gravel surface and the overlying sequence of deposits. The results concluded that the geo-topography was more complex than originally thought, with the lower terrace gravels covered in a mantle of brickearth and the probable existence of two east-west in filled ancient river channels (palaeo-channels), one at the junction between the two terraces and one at the southern edge of the main scheme footprint.

The masking effect of brickearth on formation of crop marks was thought to explain their absence from the lower terrace, as recorded in RCHME's review of aerial photographic evidence for crop marks in the area. The survey also identified a number of previously unrecorded cropmarks specifically on the upper terrace within the northern part of Scheme Option 1.

At this stage further assessment was limited to evaluation of the main footprint of Scheme Option 1, the preferred option, as the need for and extent of any ancillary or temporary works beyond the main footprint had not been determined.

Evaluation comprised machine excavation of four groups of trenches, one targeted on the cropmarks, one each on the northern and southern infilled river channel, one on the remainder of the site, with provision for additional trenches to further investigate any recorded concentrations of archaeology. Investigation of the southern part of the site, including excavation of a fifth group of trenches targeted on the southern palaeo-channel, was prevented by the presence of standing crops.

Evaluation showed that within the Scheme Option 1 footprint, there were four principal results:

- I. Aerial photographic evidence for previously unrecorded crop marks on the upper terrace was not substantiated by excavation – as no related archaeological features were recorded.
- II. On the eastern part of the upper terrace the south western corner of a Romano British settlement was identified, this covered an area of some 45m by 30m. The recorded features included ditches, post holes, pits and a possible kiln/oven. These features are on average between 0.2m and 0.5m deep – the oven /kiln was significantly deeper - and lie immediately beneath the topsoil.

- III. Palaeo-channels, such as those suggested by the auger survey, contain the potential for evidence, e.g. flint scatters from the creation and use of tools, of early – pre last glacial – human activity. Their potential results from providing both conditions that attracted early humans and an environment which could protect and preserve the ephemeral evidence *in situ*. These conditions are rare, making any such remains highly significant. The northern 'palaeo-channel' proved to be of more complex origin than originally thought, forming in an apparently fluctuating environment this feature is probably more akin to a series of scoured depressions. Evaluation suggested an environment perhaps less conducive to human occupation and subsequent preservation. Though not investigated the southern palaeo-channel is considered to be of similar potential.
- IV. The remainder of the evaluated area (the majority of the footprint) was remarkably void of archaeological features and therefore would appear to have little archaeological potential.

It is suggested that the proposed construction impact is mitigated, subject to approval of the Local Planning Authority, in the following manner:

Within the Scheme Footprint the Romano-British features are particularly vulnerable even to the most superficial groundworks, and would therefore be subject to detailed archaeological excavation prior to any construction works.

The nature and depth of deposits within the palaeo-channels make them less vulnerable to superficial impact, these areas would therefore be stripped of topsoil and their extent planned. The channels would then be preserved *in situ* by protecting them (e.g. by laying down geotextile) with all construction taking place above this level.

It is envisaged that archaeological mitigation would not be required within the remainder of the main footprint.

The areas outside the scheme footprint have not been evaluated, however the following mitigation procedures may be anticipated.

The archaeological potential of the area to the east of the footprint, where works compounds and spoil storage are proposed, is, by extrapolation from the evaluated area, thought to be low, but despite this any ground disturbance should be minimised. It is therefore suggested that the compound and storage areas should be built up from existing levels, leaving the topsoil in place and protecting further with geotextile.

Construction of the east to west pipeline will require detailed archaeological monitoring with excavation of any exposed features.

The cycle path runs across Scheduled Monument LO61, an area of significant archaeological potential. Scheduled Monument Consent would almost certainly be required for any works in this area. Here the nature of archaeological deposits will be similar to the Romano-British settlement to the west i.e. very shallow and vulnerable to even superficial groundworks. It should be assumed that impact would need to be

avoided with all construction (including service runs, lamp posts etc) built up above existing levels, which should be left intact.

Construction of the main north south pipeline would be between the two Scheduled Monuments where significant and superficial archaeological deposits could be found. If this cannot be constructed within the existing pipeline corridor i.e. where archaeology has already been removed, detailed excavation may be required in advance of construction.

Before any groundworks commence a detailed project design for the archaeological mitigation will be required. This design will need to include detailed construction methodologies where preservation of the archaeological deposits is proposed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Project

- 1.1.1 During September and October 1998 Framework Archaeology (FA) carried out an archaeological field evaluation at Mayfield Farm on behalf of Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL), in respect of the proposed submission of a planning application for construction of a balancing pond, designed to intercept winter storm water run-off from the southern and eastern outfalls from Heathrow.
- 1.1.2 A specification and project design for the evaluation was prepared (Framework Archaeology 45388.03) in the light of consultations with English Heritage London Region (EHLR), who act as archaeological advisers to the Local Planning Authority (The London Borough of Hounslow), and English Heritage (EH) acting as advisers to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) who implement the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

1.2 Site Location

- 1.2.1 The application site at Mayfield Farm covers an area of some 45ha and lies to the south of Heathrow Airport centred on Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid Ref TQ 0770 7360 (Fig. 1). It is bounded to the south and east by the A30, to the north by Stanwell Road and the west by the ESSO Oil Terminal. Mayfield Farm is currently arable land of varying agricultural grades.

1.3 Local Authority and Statutory designations.

- 1.3.1 The London Borough of Hounslow's Unitary Development Plan – Deposit Stage, Nov 1991 (UDP) designates the whole of Mayfield Farm, including the scheme area, as an Archaeological Priority Area.
- 1.3.2 Within Mayfield Farm there are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments, as defined within the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Both Monuments are located on the northern side of the farm, LO61 - a complex of ditched field systems and ring 'ditches' - to the west and LO62 - a large double ditched enclosure - to the east. At present it is anticipated that scheme proposals would require only very limited works within LO61. Any such works would be subject to obtaining Scheduled Monument Consent from the Secretary of State.

1.4 Scheme Proposals

- 1.4.1 Current proposals are for the construction of a reservoir, balancing pond, reed beds, ecological buffer zones, bunds, foot paths/cycleways and outfall/transfer pipes between the Airport and the main scheme footprint.
- 1.4.2 Temporary works, including a construction compound and spoil storage area, will also be required during the period of construction.
- 1.4.3 Two options for the scheme have been considered of which Option 1 is preferred.

1.5 Option 1

- 1.5.1 **Main construction footprint.** This covers an area of some 10ha, measuring c.450m north to south and c.240m east to west. Located on the western edge of Mayfield Farm it lies immediately outside and to the south west of Scheduled Monument LO61 (Fig. 2).
- 1.5.2 **Outside main footprint.** To the west of the main footprint a cycle/footpath will run north through Scheduled Monument LO61. In addition the main outfall pipe will run north to south between the two Scheduled Monuments returning westward to feed the reservoir at its centre point. Spoil storage areas and construction compounds will be located immediately west of the main footprint.

1.6 Option 2

- 1.6.1 **Main construction footprint.** This covers an area of some 12ha, measuring c.450m east to west and c.300m north south. Aligned east to west the footprint occupies the central area to the south of LO61 and to the north of the Staines Road.
- 1.6.2 **Outside main footprint.** As with Option 1 a cycle/footpath will run north through Scheduled Monument LO61. Details of the outfall pipe and temporary works have not been prepared.
- 1.6.3 It should be noted that 7.5ha of the main construction footprints, the southern part of Option 1 and the western part of Option 2, are common to both scheme options.

1.7 Project History

- 1.7.1 In July 1997 HAL retained the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) to formulate a programme of archaeological assessment to provide information in support of any planning application for a reservoir at Mayfield Farm.
- 1.7.2 A four stage programme of assessment was recommended which culminated in proposals for field evaluation. The results of which are documented in a MoLAS assessment report (MoLAS August 1998) and summarised below (Sect. 3).
- 1.7.3 In July 1998, before the field evaluation proposals were implemented, FA was retained to review the preceding assessment results and implement all future stages of work.
- 1.7.4 In consultation with HAL, Gill Andrews their archaeological consultant and Framework Archaeology it was determined that at this stage further archaeological assessment/investigation should relate solely to Scheme Option 1, the preferred option. At this stage details of the pipe line and temporary works had not been formulated, evaluation was therefore restricted to the main construction footprint (Fig. 2).
- 1.7.5 A further stage of assessment was recommended comprising a geo-topographical auger survey to inform the evaluation strategy. Once completed the results of this and the preceding stages of assessment were set out in a consultation document (F A 45388.02) in which an outline evaluation strategy was proposed. This document was used as the basis for consultation with the relevant local and statutory authorities.
- 1.7.6 On 19th August 1998 a meeting was held between Framework Archaeology, Gill Andrews, EHLR- archaeological advisers to the Local Planning Authority- and EH - advisers to the DCMS who implement the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.
- 1.7.7 At this meeting EHLR approved, in principle, the general approach to the evaluation as set out in the strategy document.
- 1.7.8 EH advised that the development proposals were not an issue in relation to the setting of Scheduled Monuments LO61 and LO62. However, the proposed cycle/footpath over LO61 would require further consideration in relation to any Scheduled Monument Consent that may be required.

- 1.7.9 A specification and project design for the evaluation was subsequently prepared (FA 4588.03.).

1.8 Scope of Document

- 1.8.1 This document presents the background to and findings of the archaeological field evaluation of Scheme Option 1 undertaken in accordance with the specification. It relates solely to those parts of the scheme which lie outside the limits of Scheduled Monuments LO61 and LO62. Any works within these Monuments will be subject to further consideration which is beyond the scope of this document.

2 GEOLOGICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Geology and Topography

- 2.1.1 Mayfield Farm is located on the north side of the Middle Thames Valley (Fig. 1). This part of the valley side is gently sloping and the drift geology comprises a series of south facing Pleistocene gravel terraces which overlie London Clay. These terraces were formed through a sequence of depositional and erosional episodes of the River Thames, with the most recent terraces closest to the present course of the river.
- 2.1.2 Mayfield Farm straddles the junction between two of these terraces, with the northern third located on the higher Taplow terrace whilst the remainder is founded on the Kempton Park terrace to the south. The boundary between these terraces, which runs from east to west, forms a distinctive break in slope. Within the site boundary the highest point of the Taplow terrace, to the north, is at a level of some 21.5m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), whilst the lowest point of the Kempton Park terrace is at 17.0m aOD
- 2.1.3 The Taplow Terrace was formed between the Hoxnian and Ipswichian interglacials (Gibbard 1985) dated to between c.189,000 BP and c.128,000BP (Bridgland 1994). The Taplow Gravels contain few Lower Palaeolithic (500,000 - 150,000 BC) artefacts and usually these are in poor condition (see below Sect 2.2).
- 2.1.4 The Kempton Park Terrace was formed during the Devensian between c.122,000 BP and c. 80,000 BP (Bridgland 1994). As with the preceding Taplow Gravels these contain few Lower Palaeolithic artefacts.

- 2.1.5 Overlying areas of both the Taplow Gravels and Kempton Park Gravels is a deposit of yellow/brown silty sandy material known as the Langley Silt Complex, more commonly described as a brickearth. This deposit is of complex origin and different facies within in it are likely to have been accumulated through the action of wind, water or colluviation.
- 2.1.6 Various dates for the formation of the deposit have been obtained. The majority of the Langley Silt Complex appears to date to the Late Devensian (19,000 - 13,000 BP.), however samples from basal facies have been dated to in excess of 75,000 BP and 150,000 BP.
- 2.1.7 Modern drainage of the area is dominated by the Thames, lying some 7km to the south of the Site. The site is located approximately mid way between two major tributaries, the River Colne, to the west and The Crane to the east.

2.2 Archaeology

- 2.2.1 The following period descriptions are intended to provide a broad summary of the archaeological background to the site and the surrounding landscape of this part of the Middle Thames Valley.

Palaeolithic (500,000 - 10,000 BC)

- 2.2.2 The English Rivers Palaeolithic Survey (TERPS) (Wessex Archaeology 1996) records a relatively small number of Lower Palaeolithic artefacts having been recovered from the Taplow Gravels. TERPS also records a number of Middle Palaeolithic (150,000-30,000 BC) find spots on the Taplow terrace. Most of these were recovered from the base of the Langley Silt Complex, however it is considered likely that these silts may be of too recent origin to contain *in situ* Middle Palaeolithic material. The potential for *in situ* material of Upper Palaeolithic material on either the Taplow or the more recent Kempton Park Terrace is considered relatively low. Though no other Late Upper Palaeolithic material has been recorded from the area, some potential exists for its survival on either terrace, particularly where early land surfaces have been sealed by deposits laid down in a low energy environment.

Mesolithic (8,500-4000BC)

- 2.2.3 As with the Upper Palaeolithic (30,000-10,000BC), Mesolithic (8,500-4000BC) *in situ* finds have been recorded mainly in association with river valley silts. Exploitation of the gravel terraces almost certainly took place during this period, however little evidence for this has been found, probably because such evidence was so slight and conditions were not favourable to its preservation.

Neolithic (4,000-2,400BC)

- 2.2.4 The most substantial monument in the area is the Late Neolithic Stanwell Cursus, which at 3.5km long is second only in length to the Dorset Cursus. The monument is aligned approximately north to south on the east side of the River Colne Valley, for much of its length delineating the Taplow Terrace/Colne Valley boundary. Such a large monument would have formed part of and dominated the landscape, and tree felling, at least in the immediate environs, probably preceded its construction. Other monuments have been recorded adjacent to the cursus as crop marks, which have been interpreted variously as long barrows or subsidiary cursus.
- 2.2.5 Some 3.5km to the north of the proposal site recent excavations on Sipson Lane (Wessex Archaeology 1998), have revealed a Neolithic enclosure some 35m long by 15m wide. Its function is probably ritual and appears to be associated in later periods with a small Bronze Age cremation cemetery.
- 2.2.6 Although there is substantial evidence for a rich ceremonial/ritual landscape in this part of the Middle Thames Valley which continues into the Bronze Age, true domestic activity is less evident. The strongest evidence comes from the site at Runnymede Bridge, where flint and ceramic material recovered from topsoil is indicative of domestic settlement at this time.

Bronze Age (2,400-700BC)

- 2.2.7 Few definitively dated Early Bronze Age (2,400-1500 BC) features have been found within the area. Of those that have been dated the most notable is a pit containing the 'ritually' dismembered body of an aurochs, associated with six barbed and tanged flint arrow heads. There are also a number of circular crop marks which may be dated to this period and probably represent the remains of barrows. Few have been securely dated and some at least may be of Middle Neolithic date.
- 2.2.8 Along the southern edge of the Taplow Terrace, within and to the west of Mayfield Farm, are a significant concentration of cropmarks, the perceived significance of which is demonstrated by designation of two areas as Scheduled Monuments LO61 and LO62 (see Sect. 1.4). In 1971-2 excavations were carried out (Farrant 1971; Alexander & Farrant 1973) prior to the extension of the ESSO West London Oil Terminal, immediately north of the present site. The excavations revealed a number of features of possible Middle Bronze Age date including field systems and ring ditches from ploughed out barrows. However dating of the ring ditches to the Bronze Age is suspect, as re-excavation in 1997 (WA) recovered a small assemblage of Neolithic

Grooved Ware from the primary fill. Excavations to the south of the Oil Terminal in 1988 (Cotton *et al.*, 1988) identified an apparently similar ring ditch as a Late Neolithic hengiform monument on morphological grounds, though later fills were Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

2.2.9 The 1988 excavations also investigated the large (240m diameter) double ditch enclosure in the north-east corner of Mayfield Farm. Sited on the Taplow Terrace, it is designated as Scheduled Monument LO62. Cropmark evidence originally suggested this monument was a Neolithic Causewayed enclosure, this was supported by the results of fieldwalking in 1987. However trenches excavated across the ditches in 1988 recovered only Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age material from the latest ditch fills.

2.2.10 Unlike the Early Bronze Age, evidence for Middle and Late Bronze Age (1,500-700 BC) activity in the area is far more widespread.

2.2.11 Activity is characterised by the first definitive evidence for settled occupation of the landscape. Settlement evidence is represented by both large defended enclosures, such as the possible late prehistoric enclosure at Mayfield Farm (see above), and the undefended settlements such as those found recently at Cranford Lane, Sipson Lane and Perry Oaks.

Iron Age (700BC- AD 43)

2.2.12 The settlement and development of landscape in the Iron Age (700BC-AD43) appears as a broad continuation of landuse patterns established in the Late Bronze Age (1,100-700BC). Both defended enclosures and undefended settlements have been recorded.

2.2.13 Excavations in 1972 immediately north of Mayfield Farm (centred on TQ 0747 7380) revealed settlement evidence dating to the Iron Age (Farrant 1973, 305-9).

2.2.14 The 1988 excavations at Mayfield Farm recorded eaves drip gullies from a number of Middle Iron Age buildings as well as extensive field systems and pits of Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British date. (Cotton *et al.*, 1988)

Roman (AD 43-410)

2.2.15 There is evidence for two broad categories of Roman (AD 43-410) activity within the area. At Staines and Brentford, roadside settlements have been discovered which are comparable with other occupation centres on the roads radiating from Roman London.

2.2.16 More widespread is the emerging evidence for small scale rural settlements/ farmsteads, their pattern and distribution, in the early Roman period, apparently continuing that of the Late Iron Age (100BC- AD 43) undefended settlements. Evidence until recently has been in the form of field boundaries, pits, droveways and wells, with little evidence, as yet, of buildings or burials. However the excavation at Sipson Lane (Wessex Archaeology 1998) has revealed a Romano-British settlement based on an Iron Age predecessor. Evidence for domestic buildings, stock enclosures, a roadway, wells, gravel quarries, burials, pits and middens were all uncovered.

2.2.17 The 1971-72 excavations at Mayfield Farm also suggested that some of the field systems may well be of Roman date.

Saxon (AD 410-1066)

2.2.18 There is evidence for extensive rural Saxon (AD 410-1066) settlement in the vicinity with particular concentrations around villages such as Sipson and Harmondsworth. Unlike that from the Roman (AD 43-410) period, surviving evidence is mainly of buildings and structures rather than for agricultural activity.

Medieval (AD1066-1499)

2.2.19 Medieval settlement is clearly shown by a number of existing villages in the area of late Saxon and Medieval origin, such as Harlington, Harmondsworth and Sipson. These villages are indicative of an apparently prosperous agricultural settlement of the rural hinterland of medieval London. These villages are generally situated on the roads leading west from the City.

Post-Medieval and Modern (AD 1500-present)

2.2.20 The pattern of settlement and agricultural land use appears to have changed little during the post-medieval period and the area remained very much the rural hinterland of urban London. Even with the onset of the industrial revolution, with the construction of canals and railways and the industrialisation of rivers such as the Crane, the rural character of the area predominated.

3 RECENT INVESTIGATIONS AT MAYFIELD FARM - A SUMMARY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The Mayfield Farm balancing pond proposals have previously been subject to several stages of archaeological assessment, the background, methodologies and results of which have been previously collated (Framework Archaeology, ref 45388.02).
- 3.1.2 In August 1997 MoLAS proposed a four stage programme of assessment to be undertaken in advance of the scheme proposals. The assessment programme comprised a cropmark study, topographical survey, field walking and trial trenching. The first three stages were undertaken and the results presented in a report (MoLAS August 1998).
- 3.1.3 Before the trial trenching programme was designed, HAL retained F A to review earlier works and design and implement all further archaeological assessment work in relation to the scheme proposals. An additional stage of assessment, a geo-topographical auger survey, was recommended and implemented.
- 3.1.4 The following provides a summary of the principal results of each assessment stage.

3.2 Cropmark Study

- 3.2.1 The cropmark study was undertaken by the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments for England (RCHME). The boundary between the Taplow and Kempton Park terrace was assessed between Stanwell and Mayfield Farm, an area of 5km east to west and 2km north to south. Cropmarks were plotted at a scale of 1:10,000. A second plot at a scale of 1:2,500 was also produced as a detailed study of Mayfield Farm and the results presented in a report (RCHME October 1997).
- 3.2.2 An intensively occupied strip of largely prehistoric landscape was recorded along the southern edge of the upper, Taplow gravel, terrace between the Neolithic cursus at Stanwell and the double ditched enclosure at East Bedfont, which forms part of the Scheduled Monument LO62. Cropmarks were identified as indicating the presence of settlement areas, enclosures, field systems and other sites of probable ritual origin.
- 3.2.3 These cropmarks apparently extended within the northern portion of Scheme Option 1 (Fig. 3).

- 3.2.4 Although far less frequent and more dislocated than on the Taplow gravels, cropmarks were also plotted on the lower terrace. Here they were largely concentrated in a narrow band running south along a 'dry valley' cutting southwards down through the terrace margins between Monuments LO61 and LO62.
- 3.2.5 Although limited in extent their form reflects the pattern and layout of those to the north, suggesting that occupation of the landscape may not have been solely confined to the upper terrace.
- 3.2.6 The reduced number of cropmarks on the lower terrace, and complete absence within the scheme footprints, was considered to be a function of geological conditions less favourable to their formation, rather than an indication of reduced levels of occupation.

3.3 Topographical Survey

- 3.3.1 Data from a 1943 Air Ministry level survey were digitised enabling a topographical model of Mayfield Farm and its setting to be produced. The survey located the boundary between the upper and lower terraces and a number of other surface anomalies.
- 3.3.2 It established that the land surface (of 1943) falls from 21.05m aOD in the north to 16.00m aOD in the south, with a shallow 'valley' running through the upper terrace immediately to the west of the double ditched enclosure. A major field boundary of the Iron Age settlement respects the valley edge. To the west of Mayfield Farm is a more substantial north south valley.

3.4 Fieldwalking

- 3.4.1 An area of some 200m x 250m (5ha) was available for systematic surface collection of artefacts. This area was located immediately north of the farm buildings, an area corresponding approximately to the southern part of the scheme Option 1 and the western part of scheme Option 2.
- 3.4.2 Artefacts dating from the Neolithic through to the postmedieval period were recovered. With the exception of one highly abraded sherd of pottery all prehistoric finds comprised worked or burnt flint.
- 3.4.3 Two methods were used to analyse the recovered artefacts; by comparison with the results from fieldwalking on Scheduled Monument LO62 carried out in 1988, and secondly through study of the spatial distribution of the artefacts across the site.

- 3.4.4 Though the 1988 collection area was somewhat smaller than that in 1997, the quantity of struck and worked flint recovered in 1997 was 10% of that in 1988. Quantities of pottery from periods predating the post-medieval were similar from both surveys.
- 3.4.5 Artefact distribution patterns from the 1997 survey were relatively inconclusive, revealing little more than general trends across the site. These may be summarised;
- The weight and quantity of burnt flint was greatest at the northern end of the area.
 - Worked flint was concentrated in a diagonal band (Northwest to Southeast) across the area.
 - Taken as a whole worked and burnt flint was considered to be evenly spread across the area.
 - The 3 sherds of Roman pottery were found in the centre of the site.
 - The 6 sherds of Medieval pottery came from the eastern part of the site.
 - The 402 sherds of Post medieval pottery were concentrated in the north east and north west corners of the area.

3.5 Auger Survey

- 3.5.1 The following provides a brief summary of the 1998 auger survey results describing the main geo-topographical features which may be relevant to the formation of the early landscape and its interrelationship with human occupation (Figs. 2 & 3).
- 3.5.2 The modern day surface topography remains virtually unchanged from that recorded by the 1943 Air Ministry survey, with the land dropping from c.20.5m at the north end of the area to c.16.5m at the southern boundary.
- 3.5.3 Terrain modelling of the gravel surface confirmed the presence and location of the boundary between the upper and lower terraces. The two terraces are also distinguished by the presence of brickearth on the lower terrace and its absence from the upper terrace.
- 3.5.4 Topsoil on the upper terrace is between 0.2m and 0.4m in depth and generally thinner than that on the lower terrace where the brickearths are sealed by between 0.2m to 0.65m of topsoil.
- 3.5.5 The survey did not conclusively identify the presence of early colluviation events in the lee of the upper terrace.
- 3.5.6 A number of topographical anomalies were also recorded, which may have a direct impact on the archaeological potential of the site, particularly on the lower terrace.

- 3.5.7 At the junction between the upper and lower terrace Transect A and C identified (Figs. 2 & 3) significant depressions in the gravels extending approximately 1.5m in depth. On Transect A the depression was only recorded at one survey location whereas in Transect C it was recorded at two adjacent points, suggesting that the 'depression' was between 25m and 50m north to south. In both instances the depression was infilled with brickearth, though the gravel surface immediately to the north and south had no brickearth cover.
- 3.5.8 In Transect B a similar gravel depression was identified in the lee of the upper terrace, however it was shallower than those to the east and west in Transects A and C and was not infilled with brickearth.
- 3.5.9 These depressions were provisionally interpreted as a wide palaeo-channel running approximately east to west, following the line of the foot of the upper terrace.
- 3.5.10 Similar depressions in the gravel were also recorded at the very southern end of Transect A and, more partially, in B, some 250m to the south of the postulated northern 'channel'. These depressions were approximately 1m deep and filled with brickearth and were similarly interpreted as sections through an east to west aligned palaeo-channel.
- 3.5.11 It was concluded from the auger survey that the lower terrace, rather than being a featureless gently sloping south facing plain, may have presented a relatively varied terrain for human occupation during the prehistoric and later periods. The postulated presence of 'islands', paleochannels and varying thicknesses of brickearth was considered significant as they would offer a variety of environments suitable for differential exploitation by humans during the prehistoric and later periods. Such geo-topographical features could usefully be targeted for more detailed assessment during field evaluation.

3.6 Conclusion

- 3.6.1 It was concluded that the principal potential of the Mayfield Farm site was considered to be that it could provide an almost unique opportunity to investigate the formation and exploitation of the terrace margins from the Late Upper Palaeolithic onwards. Consideration of the history of human inhabitation is the focus of BAA's research strategy for this part of the Middle Thames Valley.

4 EVALUATION AIMS

- 4.1.1 The principle aim of the evaluation was to carry out a full assessment of the proposed development area in such a manner as to enable the Local Planning

Authority to make an informed and reasoned decision regarding the extent of any likely archaeological impact, and the most appropriate strategy and methodology for its mitigation.

4.1.2 The aims of the field evaluation were to determine, as far as was reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

4.1.3 More specifically the evaluation of this site represented an opportunity to more fully assess the geo-topography and site formation processes of the upper and lower terrace margins and the interrelationship with the archaeology, particularly:

- The extent, date and significance of any early colluvium on the lower terrace
- The potential for such colluviation to protect buried soils/land surfaces and the archaeological potential of such surfaces
- To further investigate the palaeo-channels suggested by the results of the auger survey, particularly their date and formation process, the manner in which they were infilled, and the potential for survival of Upper Palaeolithic material.
- To further investigate the extent and form of the gravel island suggested by the auger survey
- The archaeological significance of these geo-topographical features and variations across the site in terms of their relationship with occupation/settlement patterns during the periods represented
- The variations in levels of archaeological preservation, e.g. degree of superficial truncation of cut features, presence of occupation/land surfaces and potential for preservation of ecofactual material, across the site in relation to geology and topography

4.1.4 In addition evaluation provided the opportunity to determine the date, form and nature of the archaeological deposits, particularly;

- On the upper terrace the relationship between the archaeological resource as demonstrated by cropmarks and that determined through field investigation
- Comparison of archaeological activity between the upper and lower terrace in terms of both function and period

5 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

5.1 Scope of fieldwork

- 5.1.1 Evaluation objectives were met by the excavation of machine-dug trenches, supplemented by a selective programme of augering, undertaken in general accordance with the Specification.
- 5.1.2 Five groups of trenches were initially proposed (Fig. 4):
- 5.1.3 **Group 1** was targeted to investigate the cropmarks and associated deposits on the upper terrace. Trenches were mostly located and orientated to investigate both individual and groups of cropmarks. A few were sited in apparently 'blank' areas.
- 5.1.4 **Group 2** was targeted to investigate the boundary between the upper and lower terrace, to include investigation of the postulated northern palaeo-channel. These trenches were aligned north to south. All three trenches crossed the line of an existing drain ditch, and were interrupted to preserve the functioning drain intact.
- 5.1.5 **Group 3** was intended to investigate the postulated palaeo-channel and the southern end of the site. However, the southern part of the site was not accessible during the period of the evaluation due to standing crops, consequently these trenches were not excavated.
- 5.1.6 **Group 4** trenches were designed to investigate the central region of the lower terrace and comprised a set pattern of trenches orientated on a northeast-southwest and northwest-southeast alignment so as to intersect linear features at approximately 45degrees, based on the assumption that alignment of major features would be similar to that of the upper terrace. Five of the proposed twenty eight trenches were not excavated as they were located within in the same inaccessible area as the Group 3 trenches.
- 5.1.7 **Group 5** was intended to provide a contingency for additional trenching, up to a total length of 60m, either as separate trenches or extensions to existing ones, to more fully define areas of potential. In the event, and after consultation with Gill Andrews and EHLR, two additional trenches (Nos 45 &46) totalling 65m in length were excavated in the north - east corner of the site, to clarify the extent of the archaeological deposits encountered.

5.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 5.2.1 All trenches in accessible areas were located by Total Station and tied to the OS grid. In a few cases the trenches were relocated slightly to avoid obstacles. In no case did this entail a targeted trench (Group1) being moved off its cropmark.
- 5.2.2 All trenches were machine excavated under direct archaeological supervision to a width of 4.0 m by a 360 degree tracked excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. Machining was undertaken in spits to the top of the upper archaeological horizon or the natural substrata, whichever was encountered first.
- 5.2.3 Topsoil was stored separately from any excavated substrata.
- 5.2.4 In the Group 4 trenches, once the general natural substrata level was established, a machine sondage was excavated through this in each trench to assess the depth and nature of the brickearth subsoil and the nature and topography of the underlying gravel.
- 5.2.5 Where trenches revealed archaeological deposits, all archaeological features were cleaned and sample excavated by hand. Trench plans were drawn at 1:50. Section drawings were made at a scale of 1:10 of all archaeological features/deposits, and at a scale of 1:50 for the palaeo-channel sections.
- 5.2.6 Where trenches contained no archaeological deposits, a soil-profile section was drawn (in that part of the trench which contained the machined sondage in the case of the Group 4 trenches), to clearly record the stratigraphy down to the natural gravel.
- 5.2.7 A full photographic record was kept using colour slide and black and white print film.
- 5.2.8 A unique context numbering system was used, combined with the trench number. Hence context 2304 = context 4 in trench 23.
- 5.2.9 Otherwise recording followed procedures laid down in the Oxford Archaeological Unit Field Manual (Wilkinson 1990).
- 5.2.10 On completion all trenches were reinstated by backfilling with the excavated spoil in its original sequence.

5.3 Material Residues

Artefacts

- 5.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number.

5.3.2 A metal detector was also used to scan machine excavated spoil and *in situ* deposits to enhance identification and recovery of metal objects.

Ecofacts

5.3.3 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures was developed in consultation with FA's environmental managers. From their advice and experience on similar sites, a strategy was established with the aim of characterising the indicators of subsistence and ecology in the archaeological deposits encountered. Bulk samples were taken from a representative number of sealed archaeological deposits and processed for small bone, artefacts and charred plant remains. The samples were also scanned for molluscan remains.

6 EVALUATION RESULTS - DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The results of the field excavation and assessment of the material residues are described in full within Appendices 1 and 2. In the following sections this evidence has been collated and an interpretation of the archaeological resource presented.

6.2 Interpretation and summary of results

The Geo-topography

- 6.2.1 The geo-topography of the site had a more complex form than that suggested by the earlier phases of assessment (Fig. 3-5).
- 6.2.2 From the auger survey undertaken in August the presence of an east-west palaeo-channel along the edge of the upper terrace was suspected. Augering within evaluation Trench 11, and the section revealed by machine in Trench 13 indicate that the southern edge of the upper terrace is defined by a much more gentle break of slope - a 'beach', rather than a sharply contoured palaeo-channel.
- 6.2.3 Evidence of substantial lenses of gravel interleaving with the 'brickearth' deposits - noticed in both Trenches 11 and 13, suggest that the formation of the terrace edge and accumulation of the overlying deposits was a complex process occurring under both high and low energy environments. These interleaving gravel lenses may partly explain the apparent abrupt changes of depth of the natural gravel recorded in the original auger survey.
- 6.2.4 It is perhaps significant that Trench 12, situated between Trenches 11 and 13, did not contain a similar sequence of interleaving brickearths and gravels. This may well be explained by Trench 12's location within the base of a shallow north-south dry valley, a valley not previously recognised from the 1943 topographical survey.
- 6.2.5 A possible mechanism for the formation of the deposit sequence seen in the three trenches is that water running off the upper terrace eroded the north-south valley (Trench 12) spreading out on the lower terrace to scour depressions, up to 3m deep, on either side (Trenches 11 and 13) and subsequently depositing the derived material within the depressions.
- 6.2.6 Indeed, this process may have contributed to the formation of at least some of the cropmarks targeted by the evaluation. There is a concentration of

- cropmarks in the area of the 'dry valley'. Some were revealed as natural silt-filled depressions in the gravel.
- 6.2.7 No artefacts were recovered from the interleaving deposits, therefore within the constraints of the evaluation direct dating was not possible. However it seems likely that by the beginning of the post glacial period the landscape had assumed its present form.
- 6.2.8 The presence of an island on the lower terrace was also suggested by the auger survey. Evidence from the trenches throughout the lower terrace indicate that the gravel surface was uneven, there being many slight undulations giving rise to differing depths of overlying brickearth. However, these undulations appear to be of the order of no more than 0.5 m, arguably insufficient to create significant 'islands'.
- 6.2.9 In conclusion the palaeo-environment may thus have been characterised by a diffuse and transient border between the gravel terrace to the north and a wetter habitat to the south rather than a distinct riverine margin or bank. The evidence from the later phases of activity suggests that settlement was restricted to the upper terrace, and the lower brickearth covered terrace was not seen as attractive land to occupy being left unoccupied and possibly only used (if at all) as open pasture.

Prehistoric Activity

- 6.2.10 Investigation of the brickearth/gravel filled depressions at the terrace edge (see above) recovered no anthropogenic material or direct evidence for human occupation during the late glacial/early postglacial period.
- 6.2.11 Some redeposited prehistoric worked flint was found in the later (Romano-British and Post-medieval) archaeological features of the north-east part of the site, but these are likely to derive from the known prehistoric presence within the Scheduled Area to the north and east.
- 6.2.12 Occasional pieces of burnt flint and sherds of post-Deverel Rimbury ware pottery were noted during the machining of the topsoil and ploughsoil. Whilst the burnt flint is inherently undatable the association with post-Deverel Rimbury ware pottery suggests that it could be of prehistoric origin.
- 6.2.13 However there was no conclusive proof for human occupation of the site prior to the Romano-British period.

Romano-British

- 6.2.14 Evidence for part of a Romano-British settlement was found on the upper terrace in the north-east corner of the site. Although a detailed picture of the nature of occupation could not be attempted within the constraints of the evaluation, certain aspects can be asserted with a reasonable degree of confidence (Fig. 5 & 6).
- 6.2.15 The southern extent of the occupied area, some 45m by 30m in extent (see Sect. 6.2.10) appeared to be defined by the southern margin of the upper terrace, and did not appear to extend further westwards than the line of the north-south ditch located in Trench 45. The ditch corresponded with a cropmark which extended north into the Scheduled Area, and was excavated where it crossed earlier Iron Age and Neolithic features, (see Cotton *et al*, 1988). Significantly the arrangement of Romano-British ditches investigated appeared to have a similar alignment to the earlier Iron Age ones, strongly suggesting a continuity of the main axis of landscape organisation.
- 6.2.16 Trench 46 (Fig. 6) exposed an area of intense activity. The frequent fragments of fired clay in the feature fills suggests the presence of a kiln or oven in the vicinity, and the large sunken feature with the cobbled surround may be associated with it. A deep pit to the north could be interpreted as a clay pit for a kiln, and the presence of a layer of fine clay seen in the section may be significant. The density of deep features in this area could indicate that this 'industrial' activity covers a considerable area to the east of Trench 46.
- 6.2.17 Based on pottery dating, this period of activity extends from the late 1st century to the mid-2nd century AD. The deep features, already partially infilled as rubbish and/or cess pits, were backfilled and the whole site covered with a levelling layer of gravel. The presence of a few sherds of 3rd/4th century pottery, and the armlet fragment suggests that the final infilling of the area may not have taken place until some time after the initial period of activity. Ultimately the levelling of the area may imply a return of the site to cultivation.
- 6.2.18 There were a few indicators as to the status of the associated settlement, namely the bracelet fragment and the vessel glass, and to a lesser extent the fragments of Samian ware, presumably incorporated into rubbish infilling the pits.
- 6.2.19 It is suggested that the Romano-British activity represents the southwest corner of a terrace edge settlement, with a kiln or oven site situated at the settlement's

edge, a little way down the slope on the boundary with the more marginal land of the lower terrace.

Post-Roman Activity

6.2.20 The site as a whole was notable for the lack of evidence of occupation, even low level agricultural activity such as field boundaries. Only the undated (but almost certainly late- or post-medieval) features in Trenches 16 and 18 give any indication of a managed landscape. On the results of the evaluation the conclusion must be that the area appears to have been largely unenclosed open pasture or light woodland until the intensification of agricultural activity in the area in modern times.

7 EVALUATION OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY – A REVIEW

7.1 The Evaluation Objectives

7.1.1 The main aims and objectives of the evaluation (see sect 4) were successfully met by way of furthering our understanding of the geo-topography, site formation processes and the distribution and dating of human activity within the evaluated area.

7.1.2 In terms of distribution of surviving archaeological evidence between the upper gravel terrace and the brickearth of the lower terrace, the evaluation allowed reasonably confident conclusions to be drawn regarding its presence or absence, character, extent and degree of preservation (Fig. 5). It must be stressed that these conclusions cannot, at this stage, be confidently extrapolated to the southern (unevaluated) part of the development footprint, although the results from the most southerly trenches excavated showed no indications of nearby archaeological activity.

7.2 The Evaluation Methodology

7.2.1 Two principal elements of the methodology are worth reconsideration, the use of targeted trenching to investigate specific aspects of the landscape and the use of evaluation trenches wider than those more commonly used in the Heathrow area.

7.2.2 None of the transcribed cropmarks targeted by the Group 1 trial trenches proved to be archaeological features. Some of the cropmarks were however found to correspond with shallow natural silt pockets in the terrace gravel. The excavation of contingency (Group 5) trenches within the upper terrace however proved most successful, recording the majority of archaeological features, justifying the in-built flexibility within the trenching strategy. Only

one of the cropmarks investigated proved to correspond with an identifiable archaeological feature (the ditch in Trench 45). However, even in this case, although the cropmark appeared to extend through Trench 9 to the south, the ditch itself did not.

- 7.2.3 Subsequent consultation with RCHME suggested that the majority of the cropmarks in the evaluated area were, on reflection, considered to be tentative and that they may well have originated from natural variations in the soil and substrata (see sect 6.2.6).
- 7.2.4 The Group 2 trenches, targeted on the northern 'palaeo-channel', successfully recorded the form of this geo-topographical feature.
- 7.2.5 The pattern and distribution of the Group 4 trenches (Fig. 4) were specifically designed to optimise the interception of features within an archaeological landscape, such as might reasonably have been anticipated at Mayfield. By reproducing this trenching pattern over a previously excavated site, with a comparable archaeological landscape and geo-topography (e.g. Sipson Lane, Harlington, see Fig. 7), the efficacy of this method is demonstrable.
- 7.2.6 We can therefore be confident that on the lower terrace the evaluation recorded a true absence of surviving remains, rather than apparent absence due to sampling bias.
- 7.2.7 The use of 4m wide trenches, as opposed to the more commonly used 1.8m width, considerably minimised the risk that indistinct archaeological features, particularly on the brickearth of the lower terrace, might be missed. An additional benefit was that the unevenness of the gravel underlying the brickearth was made more apparent.

8 EXISTING IMPACT

- 8.1.1 The most widespread impact on both terraces results from modern cultivation. The degree of resultant truncation and disturbance appeared fairly consistent across the site, even allowing for the differing substratas on the two terraces, with the upper surface of surviving archaeological deposits at some 0.3m below modern ground level.
- 8.1.2 Where archaeological deposits were identified, these survived mainly as truncated features cutting natural – in the most part stratigraphically isolated from each other and the surfaces from which they had been cut, lost through truncation.

- 8.1.3 The 1st/2nd century deposits in Trench 46 were mostly sealed and preserved by a layer of re-deposited natural gravel, which effectively protected them from later disturbance. Similar preservation of early prehistoric material could occur beneath the interleaving layers of brickearth and gravel at the terrace edge, though evaluation found no direct evidence for any such anthropogenic material at these locations.
- 8.1.4 The archaeological 'sterility' of the lower terrace might be attributable to complete removal of the archaeological record by superficial truncation. However there are a number of factors that would suggest this not to be the case and that it is a true absence of recordable human activity that is represented.
- 8.1.5 The average depth of cut features, excepting wells etc., found within this landscape is between 0.2m and 0.5m, complete removal would necessitate truncation to this depth, resulting in a plough soil of 0.5m to 0.8m, not the 0.2m – 0.3m encountered.
- 8.1.6 The trench excavations and earlier fieldwalking exercise undertaken by MoLAS, recorded very low densities of finds from within the plough soil, in contrast to what might be expected from the complete ploughing out of archaeological deposits.
- 8.1.7 There was no evidence of any other modern activity or disturbance on the lower terrace, other than occasional tree root disturbance or evidence of animal burrowing.
- 8.1.8 In conclusion the degree of existing impact is no greater than that found on many rural sites subject to cultivation.

9 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE /POTENTIAL

- 9.1.1 Prior to evaluation the principal potential of the site at Mayfield Farm was that it provided an almost unique opportunity to investigate the formation and exploitation, of the terrace margins in this part of the Middle Thames Valley from the Late Upper Palaeolithic onwards.
- 9.1.2 The research strategy employed at Mayfield Farm during evaluation, and any future management strategy in relation to this planning application, was formulated within the framework of BAA's research strategy (see Heathrow Terminal 5 Archaeological Research Design, BAA March 1998). Such an approach allows critical comparison of any fieldwork results, at whatever

stage, with those from other sites within the Middle Thames Valley and consideration of the history of human inhabitation is its focus.

- 9.1.3 The significance of the evaluated site is threefold – the potential for Late Upper Palaeolithic material, the definition and form of the Romano-British settlement and the apparent near complete absence of archaeological deposits on the lower terrace.
- 9.1.4 Very high significance, both at a regional and national level, would be attached to any *in situ* Late Upper Palaeolithic material at Mayfield Farm. Such finds are very rare. Anthropogenic material of this date, e.g. flint scatters from the creation and use of tools, of early – pre last glacial – human activity, is most commonly recovered in the form of redeposited material from later contexts.
- 9.1.5 The potential for *in situ* preservation of such early material at any location is determined by two principle factors;
- 9.1.6 Firstly was the location likely to be exploited by early humans for activities resulting in artefacts being deposited e.g. flint knapping? What constitutes an attractive location for early humans is open to debate, but is in part likely to be determined by the presence of exploitable resources e.g. material for toolmaking, water etc.
- 9.1.7 Secondly, did subsequent site formation processes (both natural and human) protect and preserve the artefacts where they were originally deposited? In most cases it is only where early land surfaces and the artefacts are protected by material laid down in a low energy environment – e.g. fine grained alluvium, river silts and brickearth, that *in situ* preservation is successfully achieved.
- 9.1.8 For both conditions to be present at any one location in an open air site is extremely rare.
- 9.1.9 Whilst the evaluation did not seek to determine the presence/absence of *in situ* artefacts, it did suggest that the origin and formation of the terrace boundary was more complex than originally thought. Though difficult to quantify, there remains some potential on the site for anthropogenic material of this date.
- 9.1.10 A high level of potential for Romano-British inhabitation in the north east corner of the area has been demonstrated by the evaluation, which is consistent with the potential previously identified to the north and east within the Scheduled areas.

- 9.1.11 Its significance is that it identifies what is thought to be industrial/craft activity on the periphery of a known settlement and delineates the south west extent of that settlement. The form and function of rural settlements in the 'urban hinterland' during this period has, until very recently, been poorly understood. Evidence for 'economic' activity provides an opportunity to gain further insight into the interrelationship between urban, e.g. Staines, Brentford and London, and rural settlements.
- 9.1.12 The presence of a boundary, (the terrace edge), defining the extent of the settlement raises a number of important questions in relation to the inhabitation of the landscape and the apparent preferential selection of the upper over the lower terrace.
- 9.1.13 Whilst the absence of anthropogenic material on the lower terrace offers little further potential for further investigation, it remains highly significant in regional terms, as to our understanding of human inhabitation of this part of the Middle Thames Valley. Why for example was there such a clear differentiation between inhabitation of the upper and lower terrace and why does this appear to have persisted from at least the Neolithic to post medieval period. Does this represent functional, cultural or ritual separation between the two terraces?

10 POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT (OPTION 1 ONLY)

10.1 Construction Method

Main Footprint

- 10.1.1 Methods of construction within the main footprint seek to minimise removal of spoil from site, by utilising a cut and fill approach. The central reservoir and balancing pond require deep excavation into the natural gravels, whilst the peripheral bunds, buffer zones and reed beds will be largely built up from existing levels, after removal of topsoil.

Outside Main Footprint

- 10.1.2 The outfall pipes will require deep excavation, by cut and cover along a narrow corridor. Cycle paths, construction compounds and spoil storage areas will either require no below ground works or be restricted to the removal of topsoil only.

10.2 Potential Impact

- 10.2.1 The archaeological impact of these works clearly depends on the location and depth of the groundworks (see Table 1 and Fig. 8).
- 10.2.2 It is considered that the greatest potential impact will arise from groundworks, in the north east corner of the main footprint where the Romano-British activity was identified. Archaeological deposits here are shallow, some 0.3m below present ground surface, and will be exposed on removal of top-soil.
- 10.2.3 The next highest impact could arise from the construction of the north south-run of the outfall pipeline between the two Scheduled Monuments, in an area of known potential for multiperiod activity.
- 10.2.4 Construction above the northern scour depressions and the southern palaeo-channel could have some impact, though excavation will be shallow; and any significant *in situ* deposits are likely to remain unaffected.

11 PROPOSED MITIGATION STRATEGY

- 11.1.1 In formulating an appropriate mitigation strategy, consideration must first be given to *in situ* preservation of any potentially significant archaeological remains or sites. This approach is in accordance with the principles of the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 : Archaeology and Planning - Nov 1990 (PPG16). Where *in situ* preservation is not achievable or reasonable then mitigation should be through preservation by record.
- 11.1.2 The nature of the development proposals and the identified archaeology, suggest that the mitigation strategy is likely to combine both preservation *in situ* and preservation by record.
- 11.1.3 There follows (Sect. 11.2-11.4) an outline mitigation strategy in which the development proposals have been divided into zones (see also Table 1 and Fig. 8) based on the potential impact and methods by which the impact will be mitigated.

11.2 Preservation *in situ*

Scheduled Monument LO61 (Zone 1)

11.2.1 The cycle/foot path would be built up above ground level, all ancillary structures (services, lampposts, fencing etc.) would need to be wholly contained within the built up levels. Details of construction would need to be agreed with EH and the requirement for Scheduled Monument Consent agreed.

Northern scour depressions and southern palaeo-channel (Zones 2&3)

11.2.2 Only the surface of these relatively deep natural geotopographical features would be exposed during topsoil stripping for construction of the buffer zones, bunds and reed beds, with no further mass excavation proposed. It is therefore considered, and any contained anthropogenic material, could be successfully preserved by protecting the exposed surface and building up from this level.

11.2.3 It may be appropriate to further investigate the form and extent of these natural features by recording the exposed surface in plan and taking core samples for subsequent dating and sedimentary analysis. Such information could prove useful in understanding the wider landscape.

Construction compound and spoil storage areas (Zone 4)

11.2.4 These would be located on the lower terrace to the east of the main footprint, in areas that have yet to be evaluated, though evaluation to the west suggests that the likelihood of any significant archaeological deposits in this area is low. However it is currently proposed that construction within the compound and storage areas could be undertaken without the need to remove topsoil. Additionally these areas could be protected by laying down suitable geotextile and/ or imported spoil. Any archaeological deposits in these areas could therefore be considered as being preserved *in situ*.

11.3 Preservation by Record

Romano- British Settlement (Zone 5)

11.3.1 topsoil stripping for construction of the buffer zone and reed beds in the north-east corner of the main footprint will expose Romano-British deposits. It is proposed that this area – measuring some 45m by 30m- would be subject to detailed archaeological excavation.

Outfall pipe running north south between monuments (Zone 6)

11.3.2 Although it is anticipated that this pipeline can be constructed within an existing pipeline corridor, the excavation will be subject to archaeological monitoring and detailed excavation of any archaeological deposits.

Outfall pipe running east from main footprint (Zone 7)

11.3.3 This will be constructed in the same area as the temporary works (see para 11.2.4 (Zone 4)), and will necessitate deep cut and fill excavation along a defined corridor. It is proposed that the corridor would be subject to archaeological monitoring and detailed excavation of any archaeological deposits.

11.4 No Mitigation

11.4.1 Within the western part of the upper terrace (Zone 8) and the central area of the lower terrace (Zone 9) where evaluation identified an almost complete absence of archaeological activity, no mitigation works are proposed.

12 DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED STRATEGY

12.1.1 Before any further work is undertaken a detailed project design for the mitigation works will be produced and approved by the Local Planning Authority. This will detail methodologies for both preservation *in situ* and by record, proposals for post excavation assessment analysis and publication will also be put forward.

13 TIMING OF FURTHER WORKS

13.1.1 It is currently proposed that all mitigation works will be implemented as part of the construction programme.

Table 1. Summary of Archaeological potential, construction impact and mitigation proposals.

Zone (Fig. 8)	Location	Construction	Archaeological Potential	Groundworks	Potential Impact	Comments	Mitigation
1	Upper terrace	Cycle Path	High – Within SM LO61 known multi-period activity	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	LOW	Will require Scheduled Monument Consent- before any groundworks take place	Monitoring (subject to consent) Preservation <i>in situ</i>
2	Upper terrace	Reed Beds Buffer Zones/bunds	Low to Moderate – Potential Upper Palaeolithic material in scour depressions	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	LOW	Removal of topsoil will only expose upper surface of infilled depressions which are some 2m- 2.5m deep.	Record and sample Preservation <i>in situ</i>
3	Southern end lower terrace	Buffer Zones / Bunds	Low to Moderate – Potential Upper Palaeolithic material in palaeo-channel	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	LOW	Removal of topsoil will only expose upper surface of infilled depressions which are some 2m- 2.5m deep.	Record and sample Preservation <i>in situ</i>
4	Lower terrace – east of main footprint	Temporary Spoil Storage/ compound	Low –not evaluated but area to west also Low.	Topsoil left <i>in-situ</i> and protected	LOW	Area not evaluated.	Preservation <i>in situ</i>
5	Upper terrace	Reed Beds Buffer Zones / Bunds	High - Romano – British settlement in NE corner.	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	HIGH	Archaeological features exposed on removal of topsoil	Detailed excavation

Zone (Fig.8)	Location	Construction	Archaeological Potential	Groundworks	Potential Impact	Comments	Mitigation
6	N-S run between Scheduled Monuments	Outfall Pipe	Moderate to High Probable multi-period activity	Deep cut and fill along narrow corridor.	MOD TO HIGH	Possibly located in existing pipeline corridor?	Monitor and excavation
7	E-W run on middle of lower terrace	Outfall Pipe	Low – not evaluated but area to west also Low.	Deep cut and fill along narrow corridor	LOW	Area not evaluated.	Monitor and excavation
8	Upper terrace	Reed Beds Buffer Zones / Bunds	Low – no significant archaeological deposits found	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	LOW		None
9	Centre of lower terrace between N'th and S'th palaeo-channel	Central reservoir Balancing Pond	Low – no significant archaeological deposits found	Deep excavation	LOW		None
	Centre of lower terrace between N'th and S'th palaeo-channel	Buffer Zones / Bunds	Low – no significant archaeological deposits found	Removal of topsoil, then construction above this level	LOW		None

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

14 RESULTS:

14.1 Soils and Ground Conditions

- 14.1.1 The site straddles the southern edge of the upper gravel terrace and the brickearth covered lower gravel terrace. The topsoil and ploughsoil were well drained throughout. The exposed brickearth on the lower terrace was prone to temporary flooding after rain showers.
- 14.1.2 The acidity of the subsoil had a detrimental effect on the surface condition of pottery found within features, abrading the surfaces. Bone condition was also poor, except for larger bones and those from late- or post-medieval deposits.

14.2 Archaeology

- 14.2.1 Results of the trial trenching are presented in Group order except the contingency trenches (Group 5), these are detailed after Group 1 and 2, as it was for clarification of these trenches that they were excavated.

Group 1. Trenches 1- 10 (Fig. 4)

- 14.2.2 These trenches were mostly targeted on the plotted crop marks on the upper terrace. The depth of the combined topsoil/ploughsoil was between 0.35 m and 0.40 m. None of the crop marks were identified as archaeological features. Shallow pockets of natural pale sandy silt in the gravel surface were noted in most of the trenches. Some of these had a slight linearity to their form, though none were considered to be archaeological in origin.

Group 2. Trenches 11-13(Fig. 4)

- 14.2.3 These three trenches were intended to investigate the margin between the upper and lower terrace, and the possible west-east palaeo-channel.

Trench 11: (Fig. 9))

- 14.2.4 Machine excavation of the northern part of the trench exposed natural gravel and the upper surface of channel fill at a depth of approximately 0.70 m. The depth of the channel deposits was determined by auger at 2.0 m intervals along the trench. A maximum total depth of approximately 3.0 m (from modern ground level) was noted at auger points 4 and 5, at a distance of

approximately 7.5 m south of the visible break in slope of the upper terrace gravel.

- 14.2.5 The nature of the deposits encountered by auger did not appear to vary, remaining a consistent orange/brown compact fine sandy silt/clay. There was no evidence of waterlogged deposits.

Trench 12

- 14.2.6 The natural gravel subsoil was revealed over the entire trench north of the drain with the exception of a 6.0 m wide west-east band of orange brown silty clay (1202).

Trench 13 (Fig. 6 & 11)

- 14.2.7 Machine excavation of Trench 13 exposed an east west aligned 'channel' cut by a series of Romano-British pits.

- 14.2.8 Machine excavation of a sondage through the 'channel' from its southern point, revealed the palaeo-channel profile. Health & Safety considerations prevented close visual examination of the channel deposits in section, but from what could be seen from the trench side, and examination of excavated spoil, two or three periods of a slow accumulation of material (layers 1326, 1325, 1323) interspersed with gravel lenses, the most obvious of which was 1324, were apparent. A band of gravel and silt was also identified at a depth of approximately 0.70 m (1322). This was overlaid by an intermittent spread of alluvial sandy silt (1321).

- 14.2.9 No evidence was found in the palaeo-channel deposits of waterlogging, or buried ground surfaces, and no dating evidence was recovered.

- 14.2.10 Four pits were identified (1309, 1305, 1314 and 1320), cutting the gravel/silt layer 1322 which formed the latest deposit recorded in the 'channel' (see above). All four pits were broadly similar in profile, being sub-circular and bowl-shaped. Varying between 1.3 m and 1.7 m wide, and 0.5 m to 0.86 m deep. The lower fills of the pits were layers or dumps of medium grey/brown silty clay with 10 - 15% medium/coarse flinty gravel, with frequent inclusions of lumps of fired clay and lenses of sand or fine gravel. The upper fills of the pits tended to be more homogeneous in nature, and had a higher gravel content, suggesting that they represented deliberate backfilling of the features. Late 1st/2nd century AD pottery was recovered from all four pits, predominantly from the upper layers. A bulk environmental sample from the fill (1304) of 1305 contained nothing of note (Sect 15.2).

Group 5 - Contingency trenching (Fig 4)

14.2.11 Given the apparent absence of archaeological features on the upper terrace in the targeted trenches of Group 1, and the identification of Romano-British features in Trench 13, it was thought desirable to further investigate the north east corner of the site. A contingency trench was inserted (Trench 45) along the southern edge of the Scheduled Area of SAM LO61. The objective being to establish the known archaeological activity within the Scheduled Area extended southwards, and to further test the authenticity of the cropmarks emerging from the Area.

14.2.12 Results from Trench 45 and from Trench 13 to the south prompted a second contingency trench (Trench 46) to the east of Trench 13, to further clarify the nature of the activity in the north-eastern corner of the site.

Trench 45 (Fig 6 & 12)

14.2.13 A north-south ditch (4504) was identified 10.5 m from the east end of the trench, corresponding almost exactly with one of the two crop marks running south from the Scheduled Area. The ditch measured 1.64 m wide x 0.36 m deep and contained a single fill (4505), a medium brown compacted sandy silt, which yielded a small number of sherds of 1st/2nd century AD pottery and X flint flakes.

14.2.14 Approximately 6 m east of the ditch were four small sub-circular features (4507, 4509, 4511, 4513). Their dimensions were similar, approximately 0.60m wide x 0.25 - 0.30 m deep. The single fills of each feature were similar - a medium grey/brown sandy silt with gravel lenses. Finds in the form of 1st/2nd century AD pot and flint were recovered from 4510 (fill of 4511) and 4512 (fill of 4513). These four features were interpreted as postholes, although a natural origin for them - either from animal burrows or tree bowls - cannot be ruled out entirely.

Trench 46 (Figure 6 & 13)

14.2.15 Natural subsoil, in the form of silty gravel layer 4602 was exposed by the machining only in the southern 8 m of the trench. The trenches location relative to Trench 13 to the east suggests that 4602 equates to layer 1321. The deposits initially exposed in the rest of Trench 46 were an accumulation of archaeological layers and features with no obvious coherence. Four sondages were therefore hand excavated to ascertain the nature of the deposits. These are described from north to south.

- 14.2.16 At the north end of the trench (Section 1), the gravel subsoil (4629) was overlaid by a 0.27 m deep compact layer of mixed fine/medium gravel medium brown silt (4628). This was cut by a north-south ditch (4627), 1.70 m wide x 0.60 m deep. The ditch was discernible in plan for a maximum of 6 m to the south, where it possibly turned east, or terminated. It did not show in Section 2. The lower fill of 4627 was a mid-greenish grey silty clay with 20-30% gravel inclusions. This was overlaid by 4625, a mid-grey silty clay. The upper fill (4623) was a dark grey sandy silt with a high ash or charcoal content and numerous fragments of fired clay. A bulk sample from this context also indicated a significant quantity of charred cereal grain (see XX below). A sizeable assemblage of pottery was recovered from all three fills of 4627.
- 14.2.17 A small slot or gully (4633) was also identified in Section 1, and traced indistinctly into the eastern baulk of the trench. Its relationship to ditch 4627 was not established.
- 14.2.18 In Section 2 the natural gravel 4602 was overlaid by a compact layer of mixed fine medium gravel and silt (4617 / 4618) averaging 0.10 m in depth. A few sherds of pottery were recovered from 4618. The layer 4617/4618 was cut by a steep sided feature, (4611) measuring 2.1 m west-east. The feature was excavated to a depth of 0.80 m - the lower deposits were investigated by auger. Total depth of the feature was estimated to be 1.6 m. The lowest exposed fill was 4631, a dark grey silty clay with flinty gravel inclusions. The natural at this level was noted as being a fine pale grey clay. Layer 4631 was sealed by a dumped deposit (4615/4616) of fine gravel and greenish brown silt, apparently tipped in from the west. This was overlaid by two further fills, 4614 and 4613, both of compact dark grey silty clay with gravel inclusions. Both layers yielded pot, fired clay fragments, and some very decayed animal bone.
- 14.2.19 A layer of medium/coarse slightly silty gravel (4612) sealed the filled pit. This appeared to be the same levelling deposit as was recorded in Section 3 and the plan as 4610. The deposit was darker over the centre and eastern part of the trench, presumably as a result of bio-turbation from the feature fills below. Sealing layer 4612 was the ploughsoil (4601) and the topsoil (4600)
- 14.2.20 In Section 3 a large irregular feature (4603) was partly revealed against the east side of the trench. This was cut into the natural subsoil (at this point the brickearth material of the paleochannel) to a general depth of approximately 0.50 m. At the western edge of the feature, the surface of the subsoil was covered with a layer of flint gravel cobbles (4605), which dipped slightly into the baulk on the west side. The primary fill (4606) of the feature was an accumulated layer of dark grey silty clay with lenses of green/yellow sandy

silt. This was overlaid by a more friable dark grey silty clay (4607) which also overlaid the cobbled surface 4605. A sizeable assemblage of pottery, fired clay, burnt flint, along with decayed animal bone was recovered from these two fills. A small piece of bluish green vessel glass was recovered from layer 4607.

14.2.21 A layer of mottled mid grey/brown and greenish/yellow sandy silt (4608) overlay fill 4607, and may represent an accumulated infilling/levelling deposit, the greenish yellow colouring possibly indicating the inclusion of cessy material. Layer 4608 was sealed by a further levelling layer of dark grey sandy silt 4609, within which was found a fragment a silver (?) bracelet (SF 2). The final layer recorded in the section was the silt and gravel levelling layer (4610), recorded as 4612 in Section 2.

14.2.22 In Section 4, The natural subsoil was cut by a shallow sloping feature (4622), excavated to a depth of 1.10 m, possibly the south edge of the pit 4603 partially excavated in Section 3. Near the top of the cut of 4622 was a thin layer of flinty gravel (4630) forming a band 0.35 m wide along the southern edge of the feature. This could well be a continuation of the cobbled surface 4605 seen in Section 3. The single dark grey silt fill (4621) contained inclusions of flinty gravel and a significant proportion of ashy and burnt organic material. A bulk environmental sample revealed both chaff and grains, and a high degree of mineralisation (see XX below). A small gully (4634) was identified, close to the southern edge of 4622, and possibly functionally associated with it. The feature 4622 was sealed by the ploughsoil (4601) and the topsoil (4600) A small west-east linear feature (4620) - probably a post-medieval or modern plough furrow, was cut through layer 4601.

Group 4: Trenches 16-39 (Fig. 4)

14.2.23 These trenches were intended to investigate the brickearth covered lower terrace. None were targeted on specific features. Aside from the two probably post-medieval features described below, there was no archaeological evidence of activity or settlement in any of the trenches excavated. Occasional pieces of burnt flint were noted during the machining, but in no case were they associated with an identifiable archaeological feature or deposit.

Trench 16

14.2.24 A very shallow north-south oriented linear feature (1602) was identified in the south of the trench. It measured 0.84 m wide x 0.14 m deep. The fill (1601) was a dark orange brown silty clay with inclusions of flinty gravel. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature, although, as it was seen in section to

be cutting the ploughsoil, it is reasonable to suggest a post-medieval date. The feature was not identified in Trench 22 to the south.

Trench 18 (Fig 14)

14.2.25A 5.5 m length of field drain was revealed (1805), oriented north-south. The 0.30 m wide x 0.20 m deep channel was packed with horse bones, principally of the legs and head of at least five individual animals. Some of the leg bones were articulated. A small piece of undiagnostic Cu Alloy sheet was recovered from the fill of the drain, but otherwise no dating evidence for the feature was recovered. The drain was sealed by the ploughsoil, but the bone was in reasonable condition. Given the poorer state of bone found in Romano-British contexts elsewhere on the site, it would seem reasonable to assign a probable late- or post-medieval date to this feature. The articulated nature of some of the bones seems to imply that some soft tissue or cartilage was present when the bones were placed in the drain. One might surmise that the bones originated from a local knacker's yard or slaughterhouse.

15 MATERIAL RESIDUES

15.1 Artefacts

15.1.1 All finds recovered during the evaluation have been cleaned (with the exception of the metalwork) and quantified by material type, both by number and by weight. This information is presented in **Table 02**. Spot dates have been recorded for the pottery, and all finds have been briefly scanned in order to provide an assessment of their nature, range and condition. This information is summarised by material type below.

Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

15.1.2 A number of fragments of fired clay were recovered; these are irregular fragments in soft, coarse, friable fabrics, for which a Romano-British date can be proposed on the basis of associated pottery. Most of these fragments came from Trench 46. Some at least could represent fragments of very coarse and abraded ceramic building material, and several do have surviving (albeit irregular) surfaces. Two fragments were more certainly identifiable as ceramic building material, again both from Trench 46, including one possible *tegula* flange fragment.

Worked and Burnt Flint

15.1.3 The worked flint comprises flakes and broken flakes struck from locally available gravel flint (one piece of Bullhead flint is present). These are not

chronologically distinctive, and can only be assigned a broad date range of Neolithic to Bronze Age.

- 15.1.4 A small quantity of burnt, unworked flint was also recovered. This material type is intrinsically undatable, but is often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. In this instance the majority occurred in contexts also containing later prehistoric pottery, and most came from trench 1.

Glass

- 15.1.5 A single piece of Romano-British vessel glass, probably deriving from the neck of a flask or bottle of 1st/2nd century AD date, came from trench 46.

Pottery

- 15.1.6 The small pottery assemblage includes material ranging in date from early prehistoric to medieval. This includes a moderate quantity of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British material from four trenches, in particular Trench 46. This chronological group is in relatively good condition, and sherds are relatively unabraded (mean sherd weight 14 g). The remainder of the assemblage, from various trenches, is in poorer condition; sherds are small with rolled edges and abraded surfaces (mean sherd weight for prehistoric pottery is 4 g).
- 15.1.7 The earliest material is represented by two sherds from the ploughsoil in trench 17, from a thick-walled vessel in a coarse, grog-tempered fabric. Such grog-tempered fabrics are characteristic of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period in the area, but in the absence of diagnostic features (both are plain body sherds) these cannot be attributed to a specific ceramic tradition.
- 15.1.8 A further 26 sherds have been identified as Late Bronze Age, falling within the plainware phase of the post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition; these are mainly in flint-tempered fabrics with a few sandy sherds also present. There are no diagnostic sherds amongst this small group. More than half of these sherds were found unstratified in trench 1; other sherds were found in small quantities in four other trenches (2, 6, 13, 45), but the general condition of these sherds (see above) suggests that few if any were found *in situ*.
- 15.1.9 The Late Iron Age/Romano-British group forms the bulk of the assemblage, recovered mainly from trench 46. The overwhelming majority of sherds are coarsewares, both greywares and oxidised sandy wares, as well as grog-tempered wares which mark a continuation of a native Late Iron Age ceramic tradition. Some of these grog-tempered sherds could in fact be pre-conquest in date, although the general association here with 'Romanised' coarsewares

suggests a post-conquest date. The coarsewares are likely to derive from several sources including the Colne valley, the Verulamium region and the Alice Holt production centre. Vessel forms recognised include bead rim jars, necked (frequently cordoned) jars, 'Surrey/Atrebatian' bowls and flat rim bowls. There is nothing here which need be later than the early 2nd century, and this is supported by the Samian, which all appears to be South Gaulish; one Drag. 18/31 platter (c.AD90-110) is the only diagnostic form recognised. One sherd of a Dressel 20 amphora was also identified.

15.1.10 There is, however, some indication of later Romano-British material (3rd/4th century AD) in the form of two sherds of Oxfordshire colour coated ware (context 4609 and 4621), deriving from a mortarium and an imitation Drag. 38 bowl respectively.

15.1.11 Post-Roman pottery is represented by two sherds, one organic-tempered, of early-mid Saxon date, from trench 2; and one coarse sandy sherd from trench 1, of early medieval date (c.12th century).

Metalwork

15.1.12 Two metal objects were found, comprising one tiny scrap of copper alloy, of uncertain date and function, from trench 18, and a copper alloy armlet with white metal (?silver) plating and simple transverse decoration from trench 46. The latter is likely to be of 3rd or 4th century AD date.

15.2 Ecofacts

15.2.1 In order to characterise the preservation of the indicators of subsistence and ecology, three samples each of 20 litres were collected from Roman pit fills and processed in a modified Siraf machine, with the flot collected on 0.25 mm mesh and the sample held on 0.5 mm mesh. Following flotation the sample residues were sieved through 10, 4 and 2 mm meshes. The resulting residue fractions were scanned for artefact and animal bones, and sorted if these were observed. The flots were scanned at x20 binocular magnification, and their content characterised. In addition, a portion of the 10-0.5 mm fraction was air-dried and scanned under binocular magnification.

15.2.2 The 10-0.5 mm residue portion of the pit fill 1304 contained nothing of note. The sample from deposit 4623 was relatively rich in fragments of fired clay, which may be kiln or oven debris. Deposit 4621 also contained some fired clay fragments. This deposit was highly mineralised, and the concretions were rich in both fully and partly charred plant remains, including glumes and grains. Testing with dilute hydrochloric acid produced a slight effervescence

and a green solution, indicating that the mineralisation is primarily due to complex iron oxides and some carbonates.

15.2.3 Charred remains were preserved in all three flots and context 4621 contained some partially mineralised material (as in the residue fractions). There was little charcoal present. A few identifiable fragments were present in context 4623, which also contained a fair amount of small charred twig fragments. Cereal grain were observed in all flots; in particular, context 4623 contained relatively large quantities of grain (more than 50 estimated). Chaff, mostly glume bases, were preserved in contexts 4621 and 4623. Charred weed seeds were scarce although a couple were present in context 4621. A couple of molluscs (non-burrowing species) were observed in context 4621 but otherwise were absent. No bone was recovered from the samples.

15.2.4 The charred plant content of the samples is that which would be anticipated from a habitation site of the period. Given the quantity of grain and chaff, the evidence is more suggestive of a corn-drier than a pottery kiln, but is more likely from intensive crop processing at the site. Molluscs and bones are too badly preserved to provide good indication of land-use or the use of animals. Any further work, therefore should concentrate on the recovery of herbaceous plant remains.

APPENDIX 2: ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Table 2: Context Inventory

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
1	100	Layer	-	0.25		Topsoil
	101	Layer	-	0.20		Ploughsoil
	102	Layer	-	0.15	-	Natural silts
	103	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
2	200	Layer	-	0.27		Topsoil
	201	Layer	-	0.12		Ploughsoil
	202	Layer	-	0.1	-	Natural silts
	203	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
	204	Fill	1	0.25	Pot	Only fill of 205
	205	Cut	1	0.25	-	Ditch/gully (?)
3	300	Layer	-	0.2		Topsoil
	301	Layer	-	0.14		Ploughsoil
	302	Layer	-	0.22	-	Natural silts
	303	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
4	400	Layer	-	0.22	-	Topsoil
	401	Layer	-	0.15	-	Ploughsoil
	402	Layer	-	0.17	-	Natural silts
	403	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
5	500	Layer	-	0.44	-	Topsoil
	501	not used				
	502	not used				
	503	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
6	600	Layer	-	0.5	-	Topsoil
	601	not used				
	602	not used				
	603	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
	604	Fill	0.9	0.2	Flint	Only fill of 605
	605	Cut	0.9	0.2	-	Possible pit (?)
	606	Cut	0.85	0.27	-	Possible pit/posthole (?)
	607	Fill	0.85	0.27	Pot/flint	Only fill of 606

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
7	700	Layer	-	0.4		Topsoil
	701	Layer	-	-	-	Natural silts
8	800	Layer	-	0.25		Topsoil
	801	Layer	-	0.15		Ploughsoil
	802	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
9	900	Layer	-	0.22		Topsoil
	901	Layer	-	0.15		Ploughsoil
	902	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
10	1000	Layer	-	0.33		Topsoil
	1001	Layer	-	0.34		Ploughsoil
	1002	Layer	-	0.04	-	Natural silts
	1003	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
	1004	Fill				Palaeo-channel fill
11	1100	Layer	-	0.45		Topsoil
	1101	Layer	-	0.55		Ploughsoil
	1102	Layer	-	0.4		Brickearth
	1103	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
12	1201	Layer	-	0.4		Topsoil
	1202	Fill				Palaeo-channel fill
	1203	Cut				Palaeo-channel
	1204	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
13	1300	Layer	-	0.5		Topsoil
	1301	Layer	-	0.15		Ploughsoil
	1302	Fill		0.38	Pot	Upper fill of pit 1305
	1303	Fill		0.08		Secondary fill of pit 1305
	1304	Fill		0.17	Pot	Primary fill of pit 1305
	1305	Cut	1.3	0.5	-	Pit
	1306	Fill		0.26		Upper fill of pit 1309
	1307	Fill		0.14		Secondary fill of pit 1309
	1308	Fill		0.28	Pot	Primary fill of pit 1309
	1309	Cut	1.7	0.6	-	Pit

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
	1310	Fill		0.3	Pot	Upper fill of pit 1314
	1311	Fill		0.3	Pot	Secondary fill of pit 1314
	1312	Fill		0.16		Fill of pit 1314
	1313	Fill		0.18		Primary fill of pit 1314
	1314	Cut	1.6	0.16	-	Pit, truncates 1320
	1315	Fill		0.48	Pot	Upper fill of pit 1320
	1316	Fill		0.26		Secondary fill of pit 1320
	1317	Fill		0.14		Fill of pit 1320
	1318	Fill		0.18		Fill of pit 1320
	1319	Fill		0.28	Pot	Primary fill of pit 1320
	1320	Cut	1.3	0.86	-	Pit, truncated by 1314
	1321	Fill		0.3		Upper fill of palaeo-channel 1328
	1322	Fill		0.4		Fill of 1328
	1323	Fill		1.4		Fill of 1328
	1324	Fill		0.3		Fill of 1328
	1325	Fill		0.7		Fill of 1328
	1326	Fill		0.4		Fill of 1328
	1327	Layer			-	Natural gravels
	1328	Cut	>40		-	Palaeo-channel
16	1600	Layer	-	0.36		Topsoil
	1601	Fill		0.14		Only fill of ditch 1602
	1602	Cut	0.84	0.14		Ditch
	1603	Layer	-	0.18		Ploughsoil
	1604	Layer	-	0.28		Brickearth
	1605	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
17	1700	Layer	-	0.36		Topsoil
	1701	Layer	-	0.16		Ploughsoil
	1702	Layer	-	0.34		Brickearth
	1703	Layer	-	-		Natural silts/gravels
18	1800	Layer		0.37		Topsoil
	1801	not used				
	1802	Layer		0.13	-	Brickearth
	1803	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
	1804	Fill		0.2	Cu alloy obj/bone	Fill of field drain 1805
	1805	Cut	0.3	0.2	-	Field drain

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
	1806	Finds ref.	-	-	Bone	Within fill 1804
19	1900	Layer	-	0.34		Topsoil
	1901	Layer	-	<0.4		Natural silt deposits
	1902	Layer	-	<0.4		Brickearth
	1903	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
20	2000	Layer	-	0.36		Topsoil
	2001	Layer	-	0.32		Brickearth
	2002	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
21	2100	Layer	-	0.36		Topsoil
	2101	Layer	-	0.3		Brickearth
	2102	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
22	2200	Layer	-	0.36		Topsoil
	2201	Layer	-	0.56		Brickearth
	2202	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
23	2300	Layer	-	0.38		Topsoil
	2301	Layer	-	0.34		Brickearth
	2302	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
24	2400	Layer	-	0.38		Topsoil
	2401	Layer	>5	0.26		Modern disturbance
	2402	Layer	-			Brickearth and gravel 'islands'
25	2500	Layer	-	0.4		Topsoil
	2501	Layer	-	0.4		Brickearth
	2502	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
26	2601	Layer	-	0.3		Topsoil
	2602	Layer	-	0.08		Ploughsoil
	2603	Layer	-	0.2		Brickearth
	2604	Layer	-	0.4		Brickearth/gravels
	2605	Fill		0.18		Fill of palaeo-channel
27	2700	Layer	-	0.3		Topsoil

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
	2701	Layer	-	0.73		Brickearth
	2702	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
28	2800	Layer	-	0.38		Topsoil
	2801	Layer	-	0.8		Brickearth
	2802	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
29	2901	Layer	-	0.3		Topsoil
	2902	Layer	-	0.13		Ploughsoil
	2903	Layer	-			Brickearth
	2904	Layer	1.15	0.28		Machine disturbed
30	3001	Layer	-	0.15		Topsoil
	3002	Layer	-	0.25		Ploughsoil
	3003	Layer	-	0.28		Brickearth
	3004	Layer		0.18		Animal disturbance (?)
31	3100	Layer	-	0.38		Topsoil
	3101	Layer	-	0.26		Brickearth
	3102	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
32	3200	Layer	-	0.42		Topsoil
	3201	Layer	-	0.28		Brickearth
	3202	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels/silts
33	3300	Layer	-	0.4		Topsoil
	3301	Layer	-	>0.35		Brickearth
34	3400	Layer	-	0.37		Topsoil
	3401	Layer	-	0.47		Brickearth
	3402	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
35	3501	Layer	-	0.35		Topsoil
	3502	Layer	-	0.05		Ploughsoil
	3503	Layer	-			Brickearth
	3504	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels/silts
36	3601	Layer	-	0.3		Topsoil

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
	3602	Layer	-	0.15		Ploughsoil
	3603	Layer	-	0.25		Brickearth
	3604	Layer	-	0.15		Natural subsoil
	3605	Layer	-	-		Natural silts
	3606	Fill	0.37	0.1		Fill of feature 3607
	3607	Cut	0.37	0.1		Natural feature (?)
37	3700	Layer	-	0.4		Topsoil
	3701	Layer	-	0.36		Brickearth
	3702	Layer	-	-		Natural gravels
38	3800	Layer	-	<0.43	-	Topsoil
	3801	Layer	-	0.20	-	Brickearth
	3802	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
39	3900	Layer	-	<0.42	-	Topsoil
	3901	Layer	-	<0.12	-	Ploughsoil
	3902	Layer	-	0.18	-	Brickearth
	3903	Layer	-	-	-	Natural Gravels
45	4500	Layer	-	<0.45	-	Topsoil
	4501	not used	-	-	-	-
	4502	not used	-	-	-	-
	4503	Layer	-	-	-	Natural Gravels
	4504	Cut	1.64	<0.36	-	N-S ditch
	4505	Fill	1.64	<0.36	Pot/Flint	Fill of 4504
	4506	Fill	0.61	0.28	Pot	Fill of 4507
	4507	Cut	0.61	0.28	-	Posthole?
	4508	Fill	0.68	0.25	-	Fill of 4509
	4509	Cut	0.68	0.25	-	Posthole?
	4510	Fill	0.65	0.22	Pot/Flint	Fill of 4511
	4511	Cut	0.65	0.22	-	Posthole?
	4512	Fill	0.55	0.25	Pot	Fill of 4513
	4513	Cut	0.55	0.25	-	Posthole?
46	4600	Layer		0.25	-	Topsoil
	4601	Layer		<0.20	-	Ploughsoil
	4602	Layer	-	-	-	Natural subsoil (brickearth)

TRENCH	CONTEXT	TYPE	WIDTH	DEPTH	FINDS	COMMENT
	4603	Cut	>1.55 x 5.0	<0.50	-	Irregular pit
	4604	not used	-	-	-	-
	4605	Layer	>2.3 W-E	0.05	-	Cobbled surface
	4606	Fill	1.2 W-E	<0.12	Pot/Burnt Flint/CBM	Primary fill of 4603
	4607	Fill	1.5 W-E	<0.12	Pot/Bone/Glass	Secondary fill of 4603
	4608	Fill	>4.0 W-E	<0.30	Pot/Bone/BurntFlint/CBM	Latest (back)fill of 4603
	4609	Layer	>4.0 W-E	<0.25	Cu/Ag Frag SF2	Levelling accumulation/dump over 4603
	4610	Layer	>4.0 W-E	<0.08	-	Levelling deposit (same as 4612)
	4611	Cut	<2.1 W-E	<1.60	-	Clay/ Quarry pit
	4612	Layer	>4.0 W-E	<0.20	-	Levelling deposit (same as 4610)
	4613	Fill	<2.1 W-E	<0.25	Pot/CBM	Upper fill of 4611
	4614	Fill	<2.0 W-E	<0.37	Pot/CBM	Fill of 4611
	4615	Fill	<1.6 W-E	<0.20	-	Sealing layer within 4611 (same as 4616)
	4616	Fill	<1.6 W-E	<0.15	-	Western & unexcavated part of 4615
	4617	Layer	>0.65 W-E	<0.10	-	Dumped/accumulated ground layer
	4618	Layer	>0.90 W-E	<0.12	Pot	Dumped/accumulated ground layer
	4619	Fill	<0.60 N-S	<0.28	-	Fill of 4620
	4620	Fill	0.60	<0.28	-	W-E furrow or ditch
	4621	Fill	>2.8 N-S	<1.10	Pot/Bone/Flint/CBM	Fill of 4622
	4622	Cut	>2.8 N-S	<1.10	-	Pit (southern edge of 4603?)
	4623	Fill	<0.80 W-E	<0.30	Pot/CBM	Upper fill of 4627
	4624	not used	-	-	-	-
	4625	Fill	<1.7 W-E	<0.30	Pot	Fill of 4627
	4626	Fill	<1.10 W-E	<0.27	Pot	Primary fill of 4627
	4627	Cut	<1.70 W-E	<0.57	-	N-S ditch
	4628	Layer	-	<0.30	-	Accumulated/dumped ground surface or disturbed natural
	4629	Layer	-	-	-	Natural gravels
	4630	Layer	<1.10 N-S	<0.05	-	Cobbled surface at S edge of 4622
	4631	Fill	-	-	-	Lower fill of pit 4611
	4632	Fill	0.16 W-E	<0.08	-	Fill of 4633
	4633	Fill	0.16 W-E	<0.08	-	SE-NW gully
	4634	Feature	0.12	-	-	NW-SE Gully (not excavated)

APPENDIX 3: ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS INVENTORY

Table 3 Finds by Context

TRENCH	CONTEXT	Burnt Flint		CBM		Fired Clay		Worked Flint		Glass		Prehistoric Pot		LIA/RB Pot		Post-Roman Pot		Cu alloy	
		No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)
1	100	13	118					1	6			15	35			1	26		
2	200	2	36									3	10						
2	204											1	1			1	3		
6	604							2	25										
6	607	1	31					4	6			2	4	1	2				
13	1302					7	98	1	15					4	61				
13	1304													5	184				
13	1308											1	1						
13	1311													6	127				
13	1315					3	55							5	42				
13	1319													1	17				
17	ploughsoil											2	13						
18	1804																	1	
45	4505	1	16					1	7					7	47				
45	4506											1	4						
45	4510							1	1			1	7						
45	4512											1	19	1	23				
46	4606					3	10							2	10				
46	4607									1	13			17	115				
46	4608					2	30							11	151				

TRENCH	CONTEXT	Burnt Flint		CBM		Fired Clay		Worked Flint		Glass		Prehistoric Pot		LIA/RB Pot		Post-Roman Pot		Cu alloy	
		No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)	No.	Wt. (gms)
46	4609			1	30	9	47					1	7	2	24			1	
46	4613													16	137				
46	4614					2	57							21	223				
46	4618													4	76				
46	4621													36	368				
46	4623	2	109	1	26	27	607							26	1010				
46	4625									1	10			40	347				
46	4626					2	37							6	123				
46	unstrat													6	45				
	TOTAL	19	310	2	56	55	941	10	60	2	23	28	101	217	3132	2	29	2	

Table 4: Pottery Scan by context

TRENCH	CONTEXT	EN/EBA	LBA	LIA/RB coarse	RB fine	Saxon	Med	Total
1	100	15					1	16
2	200		3					3
2	204		1			1		2
6	607		2	1				3
13	1302			4				4
13	1304			5				5
13	1308		1					1
13	1311			6				6
13	1315			5				5
13	1319			1				1
17	ploughso il	2						2
45	4505			3	4			7
45	4506		1					1
45	4510		1					1
45	4512		1	1				2
46	4606			2				2
46	4607			16	1			17
46	4608			11				11
46	4609		1	1	1			3
46	4613			16				16
46	4614			21				21
46	4618			3	1			4
46	4621			35	1			36
46	4623			42	2			44
46	4625			40				40
46	4626			6				6
46	unstrat			6				6
	TOTAL	17	11	225	10	1	1	265

APPENDIX 4 : THE ARCHIVE

List of Archive Components:

Site data:

1. Catalogue of Contexts
2. Primary Context Records
3. Catalogue of Primary Drawings.
4. Primary Drawings
5. Catalogue of Photographic Record
6. B/W Photographs/Colour Slides

Finds data:

7. Primary Finds data
8. Synthesised Finds Data
9. Specialist Reports
10. Box List

Environmental/Ecofact Data

11. Specialist Report

OS4706-8

APPENDIX 5:GLSMR/RCHME NMR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT FORM

1) TYPE OF RECORDING		
Evaluation: Yes	Excavation: No	Watching Brief: No
Other (please specify)		
2) LOCATION		
Borough: Hounslow		
Site address: Mayfield Farm, West Bedfont		
Site Name: Mayfield Farm		Site code: MFM98
Nat Grid Refs:	centre of site: TQ 0770 07360	
limits of site:	a) TQ0740 07315	b) TQ 0790 07330
	c) TQ0780 0815	d) TQ0755 07395
3) ORGANISATION		
Name of archaeological unit/company/society: Framework Archaeology		
Address: c/o Wessex Archaeology, Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB		
Site director/supervisor: Alan Hardy	Project Manager: Jonathan Nowell	
Funded by: Heathrow Airport Limited		
4) DURATION		
Date fieldwork started: 14 th September 1998	Date finished: 9 th October	
Fieldwork previously notified ?	YES	
Fieldwork will continue ?	NOT KNOWN	
5) PERIODS REPRESENTED		
	Roman	
Bronze Age	Post-Medieval	
Iron Age	Unknown	

6) PERIOD SUMMARIES Use headings for each period (ROMAN; MEDIEVAL; etc.), and additional sheets if necessary.

Bronze Age No features were found of this date, however redeposited BA finds were found in later deposits, these are likely to have derived from known settlement/occupation immediately north of the evaluated area.

Late Iron Age/Roman A clearly defined spread of activity was located in the north-east corner of the evaluation area comprising pits, ditches and a probable kiln/oven. These were dated by contained pottery to 1st/2nd century AD. This spread of activity probably represents the south-west limit of the known R/B rural settlement otherwise contained within Scheduled Monument LO61. ~ 06022*

Post medieval this period was represented by a single land drain densely infilled with partially articulated horse bones (mainly skulls and long-bones. Dating was based on the level of bone preservation.

7) NATURAL (state if not observed; please DO NOT LEAVE BLANK)

Type: Northern third of site- Taplow Terrace Gravel. Southern part of site Kempton Park Gravel capped with Langley Silt.

Height above Ordnance Datum: Taplow Terrace max +19.50m Kempton Park +16.00m

8) LOCATION OF ARCHIVES		
a) Please indicate those categories still in your possession:		
NOtes: Yes	PLans: Yes	PHotos: Yes
NGatives: Yes	SLides: Yes	COrrrespondence: Yes
MScripts (unpub reports, etc): Yes		
b) All/some records have have/will be deposited in the following museum, records office etc: Museum Of London		
c) Approximate year of transfer: unknown		
d) Location of any copies:		
e) Has a security copy of the archive been made?		NO
If not, do you wish RCHME to consider microfilming		NO
9) LOCATION OF FINDS		
a) In your possession (delete as appropriate):		ALL
b) All/some finds have been/will be deposited with the following museum, other body etc: Museum of London		
c) Approximate year of transfer: unknown		
10) BIBLIOGRAPHY		
RCHME (October 1997) -Mayfield Farm Heathrow, Archaeological Survey, Aerial Photographic Transcription and Analysis		
MoLAS (August 1998)- Proposed Balancing Ponds, Mayfield Farm, East Bedfont – Interim Investigation Summary		
Framework Archaeology (August 1998) - Mayfield Farm Reservoir – Evaluation Strategy Consultation Document, ref 45388.02		
Framework Archaeology (August 1998) -Mayfield Farm Reservoir – Specification and Project Design Archaeological Evaluation, ref 45388.03		
Framework Archaeology (October 1998) -Mayfield Farm Reservoir, Mayfield Farm, London Borough of Hounslow, Archaeological Evaluation Report, ref 45388.04		
SIGNED: Jonathan Nowell		DATED: 30 th October 1998
NAME (Block capitals): JONATHAN NOWELL		

Please return the completed form to The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record, Rooms 214 -217 English Heritage, London Region, 23 Saville Row, London W1X 1AB.
 Tel: 0171 973 3731 / 3779 (direct dial) Fax 0171 973 3249

APPENDIX 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

Bridgland, D.R., *Quaternary of the Thames* Geological Conservation Review Series
No. 7 1994

Cotton J, David A & Pathy-Barker C (1988) *An Archaeological Assessment of
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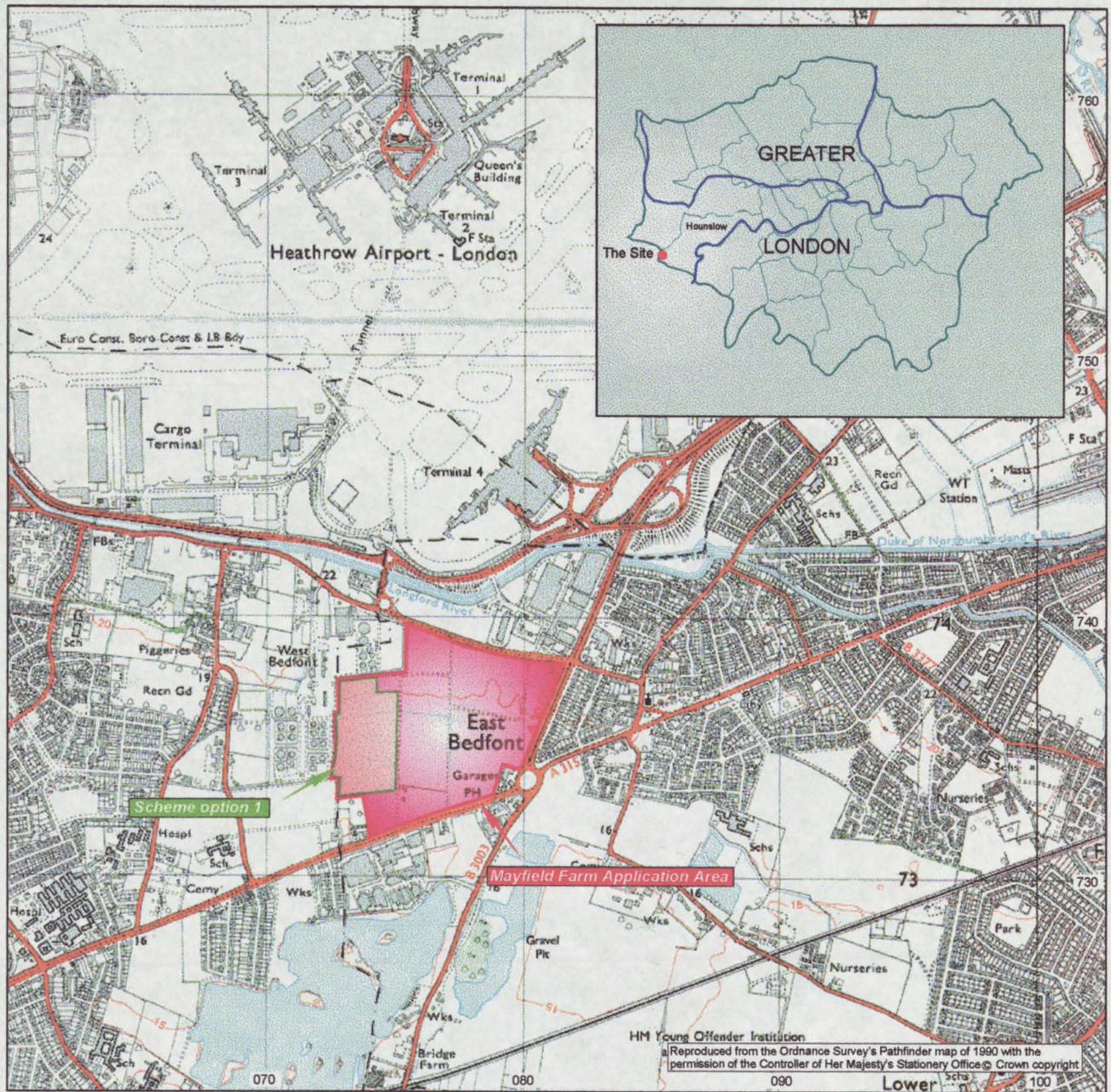


Figure 1: Site location plan

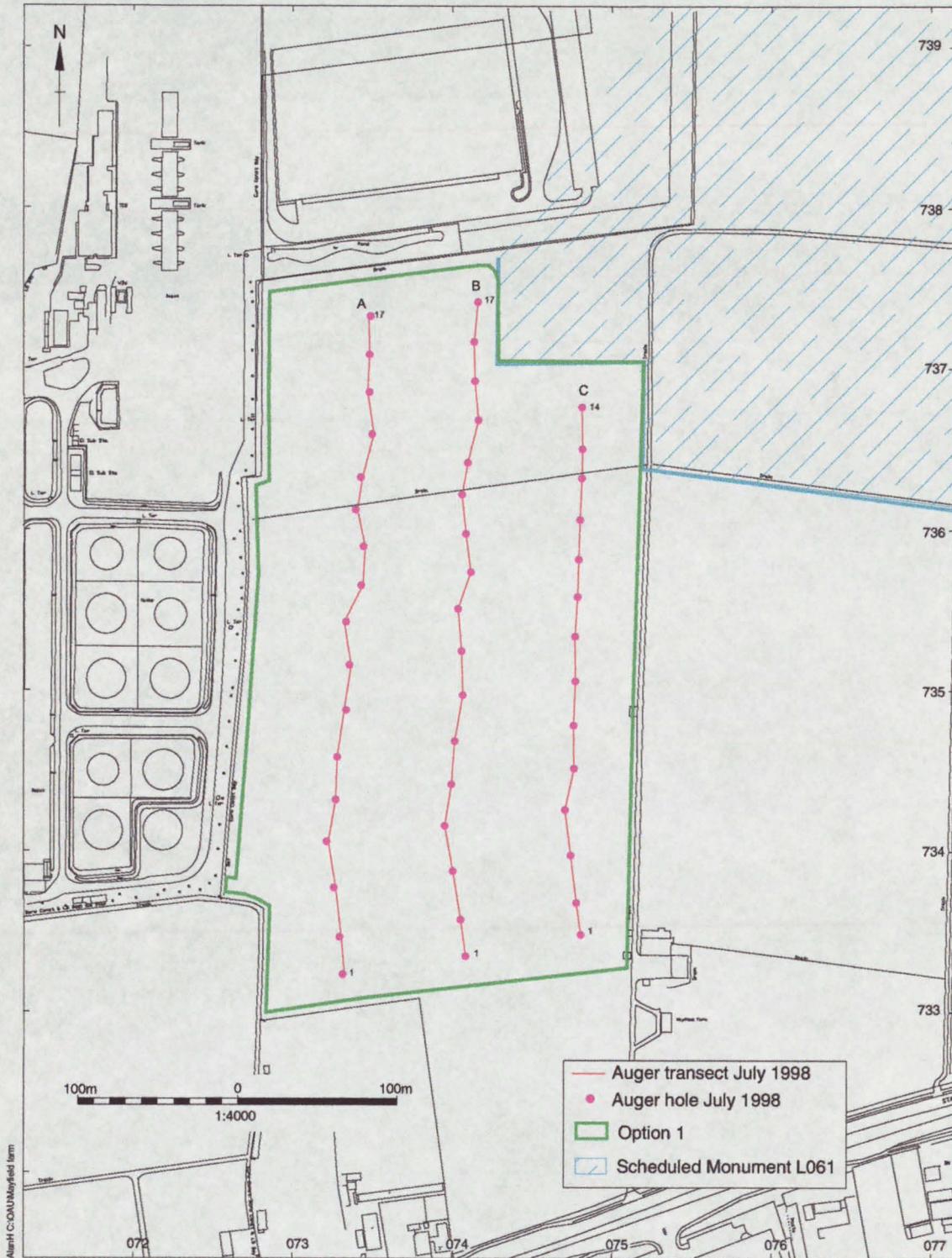
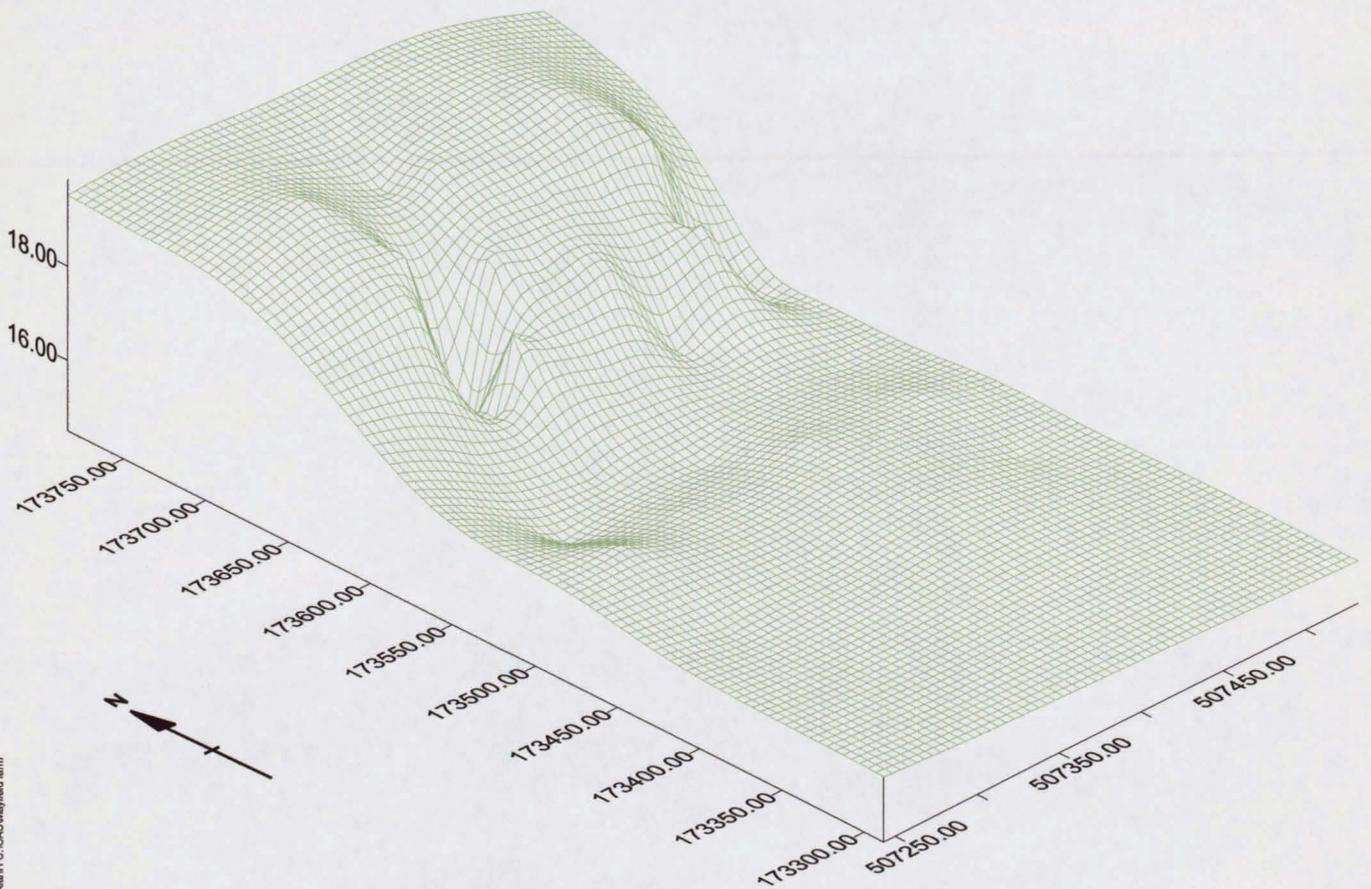


Figure 2: Scheme Option 1 (main footprint) location and auger survey



Alan H. C. O'KUM, Mayfield farm

Figure 3 : Contour plan of RCHME cropmark survey and terrain model of gravel surface

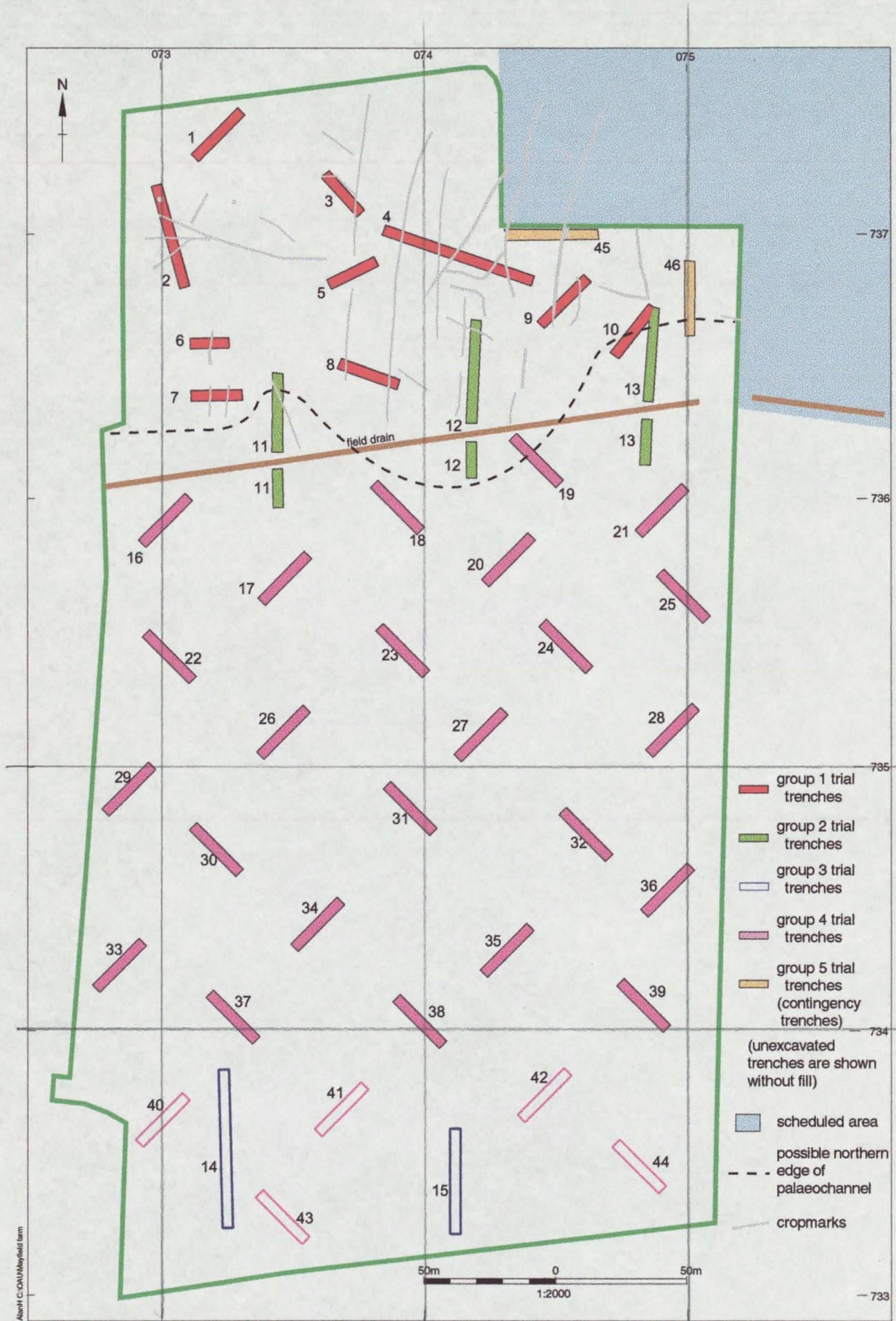


Figure 4 :Trench location plan

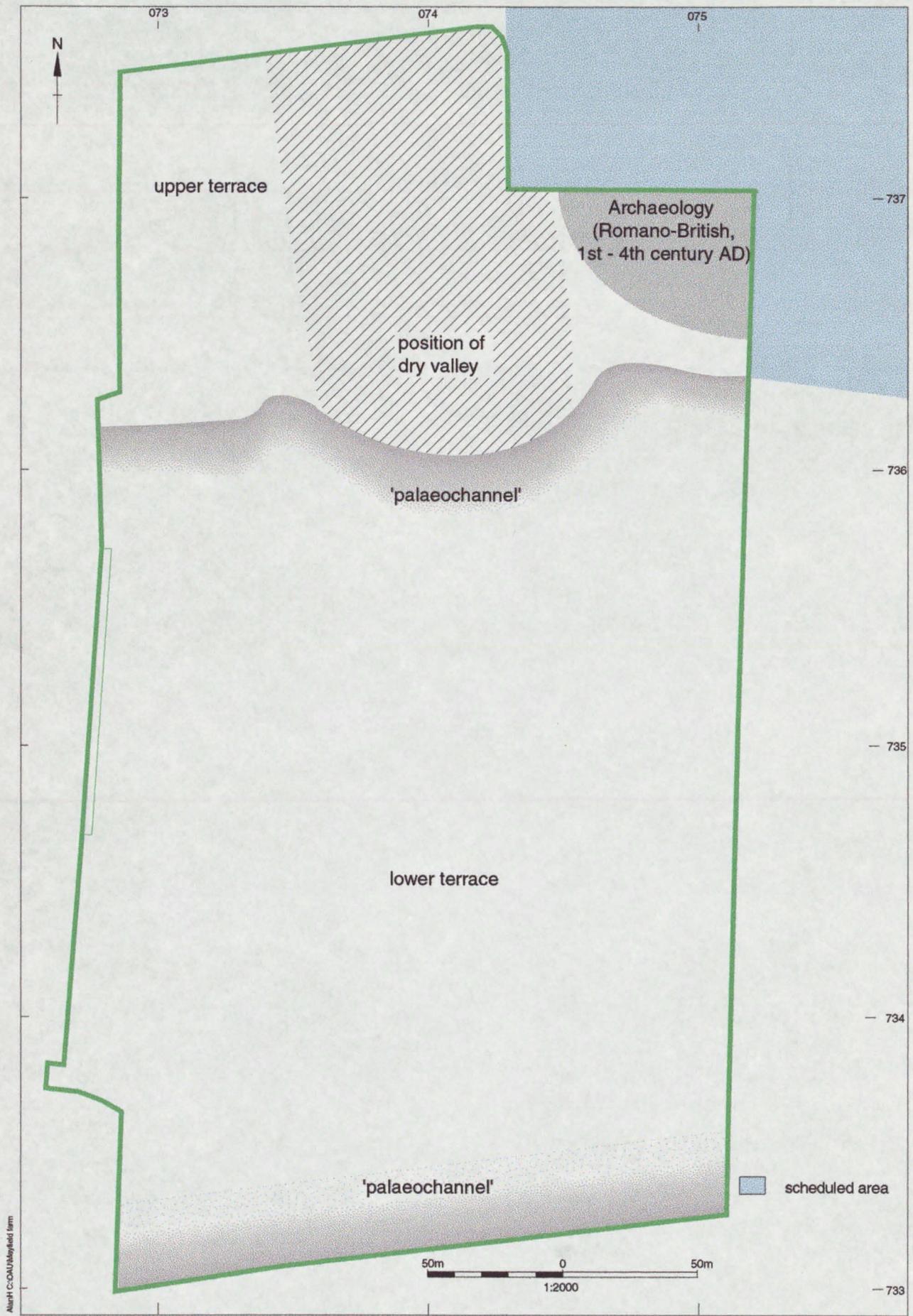


Figure 5 : Scheme Option 1 main footprint; Summary of principal archaeological and geotopographical results (approximate extent and location)

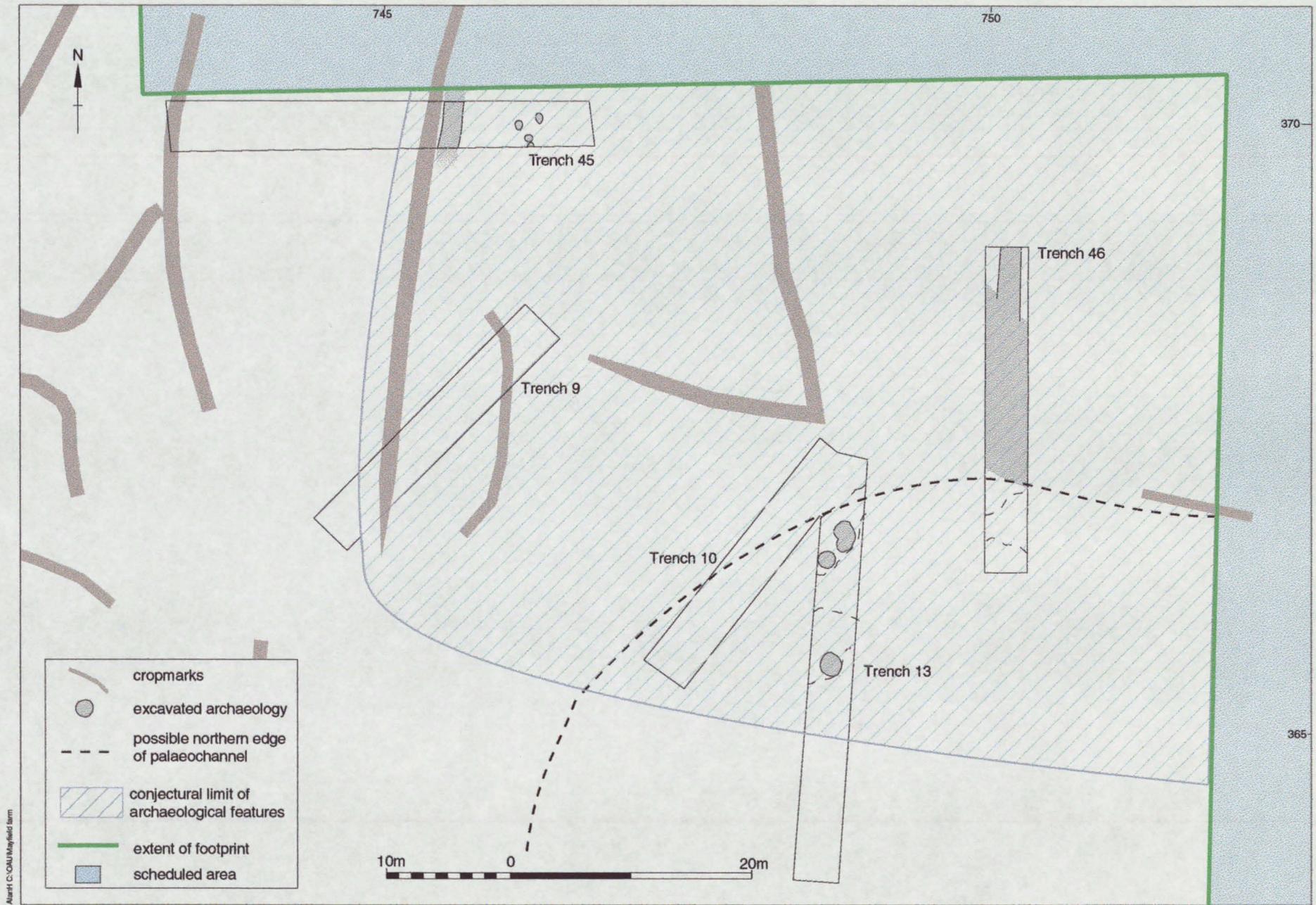


Figure 6: Composite plan of Romano-British features

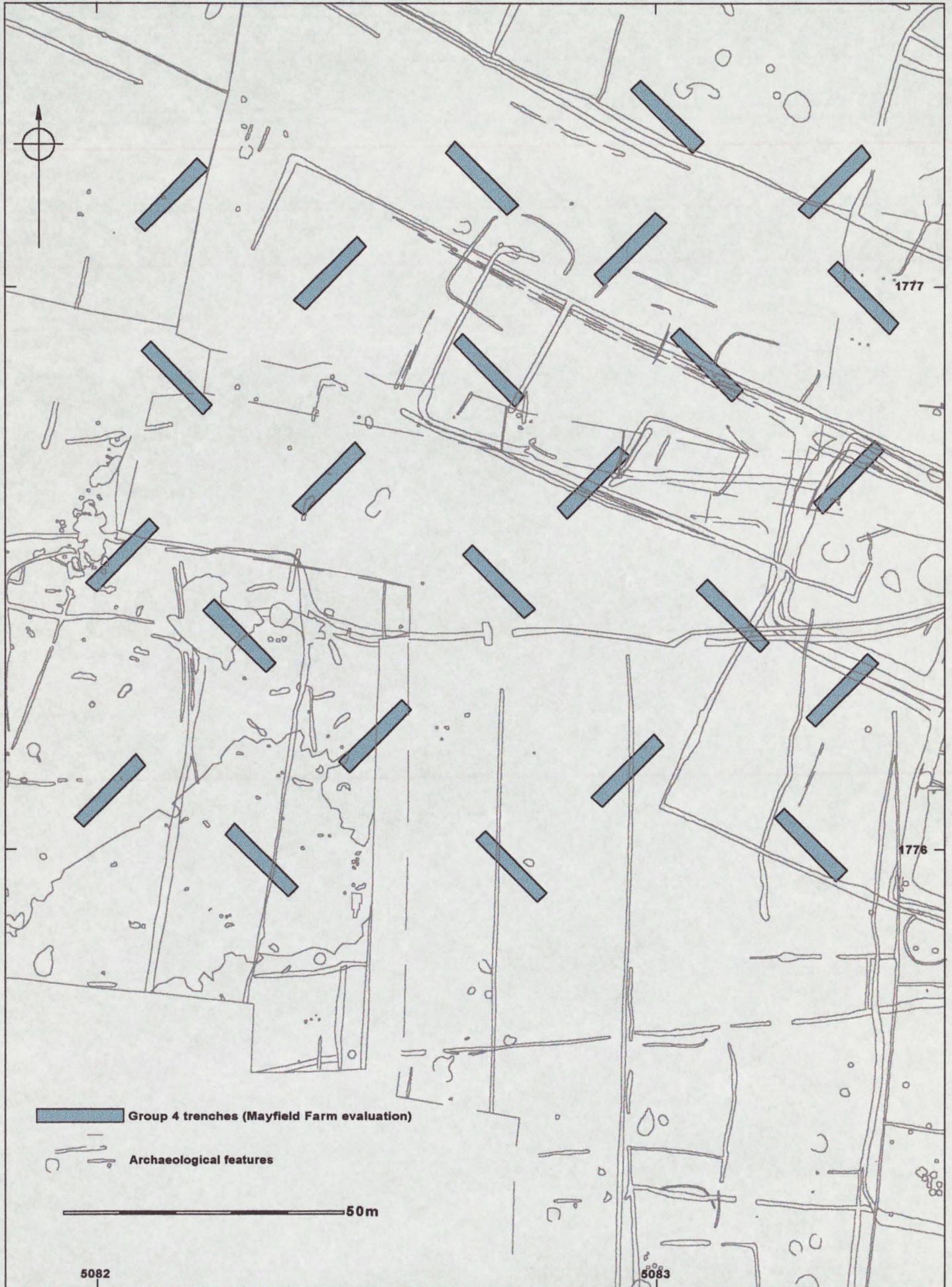


Figure 7: Multiperiod excavation at Sipson Lane overlain by Group 4 trench pattern

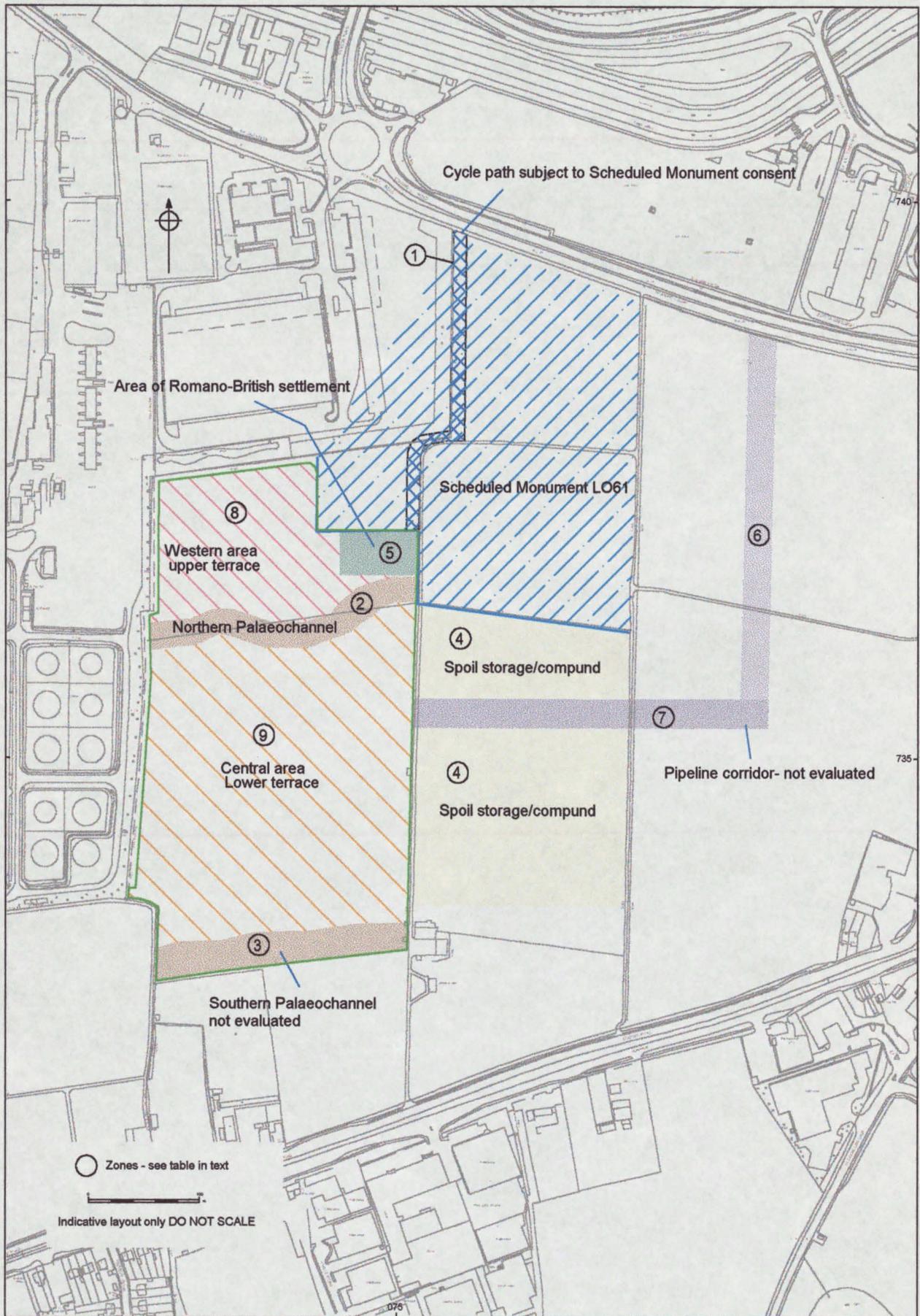
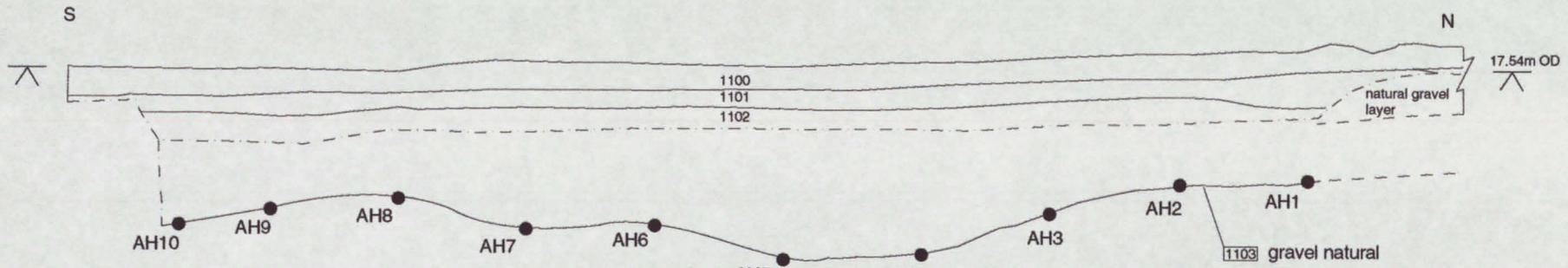


Figure 8: Archaeological mitigation zones; Scheme Option 1



section through trench 11 showing auger survey

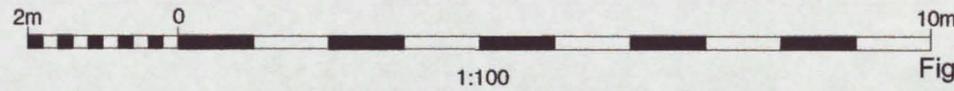
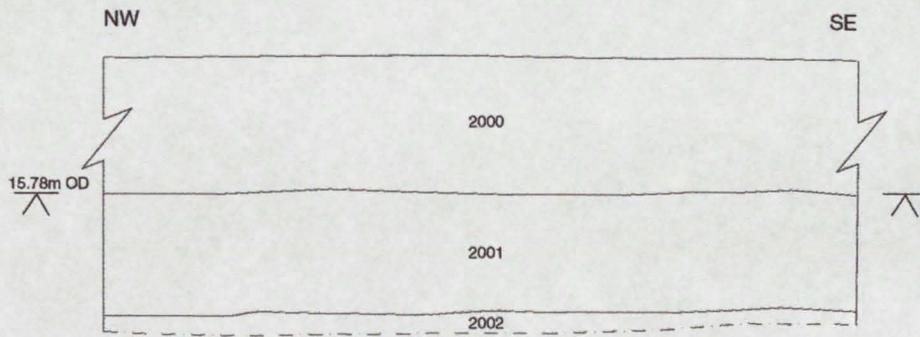
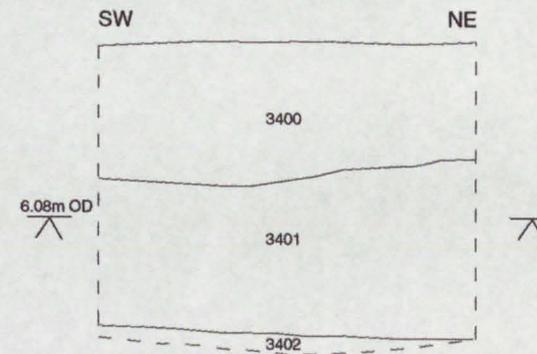


Figure 9: trench 11; Section and auger points



sample section of trench 20



sample section of trench 34

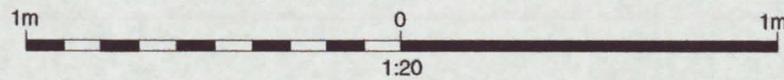


Figure 10: Trench 20 and 34; Sections

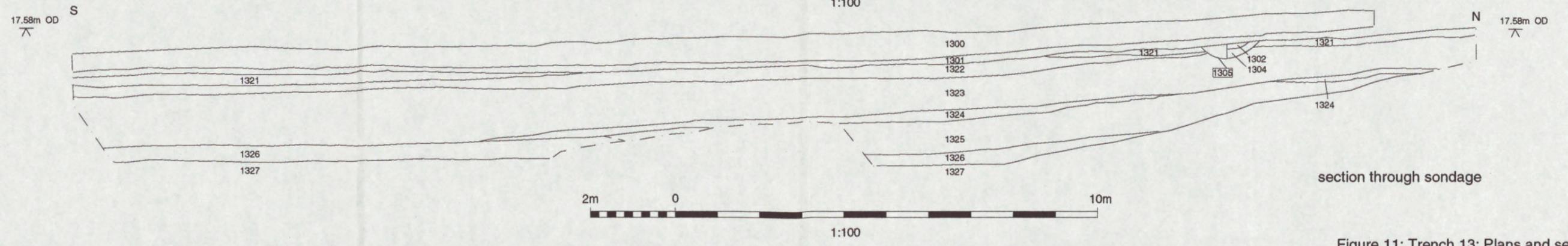
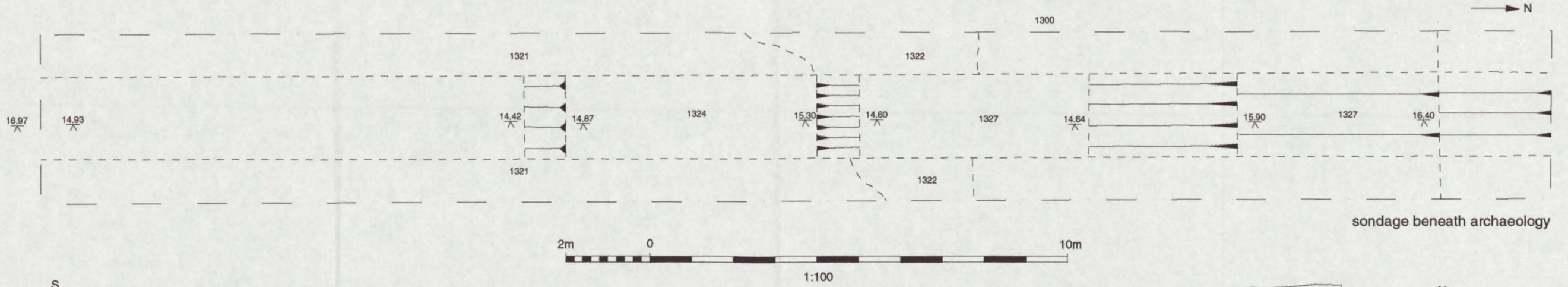
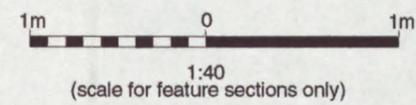
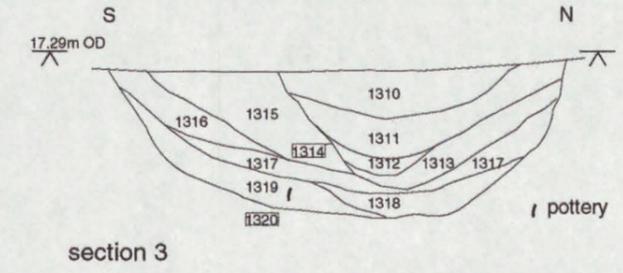
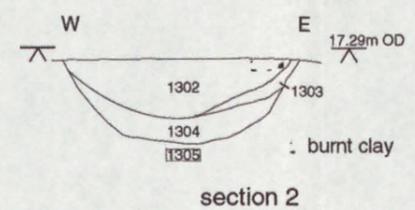
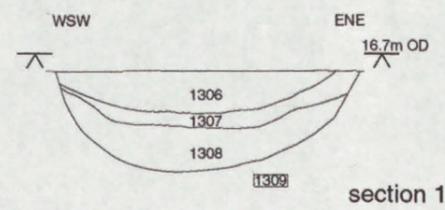
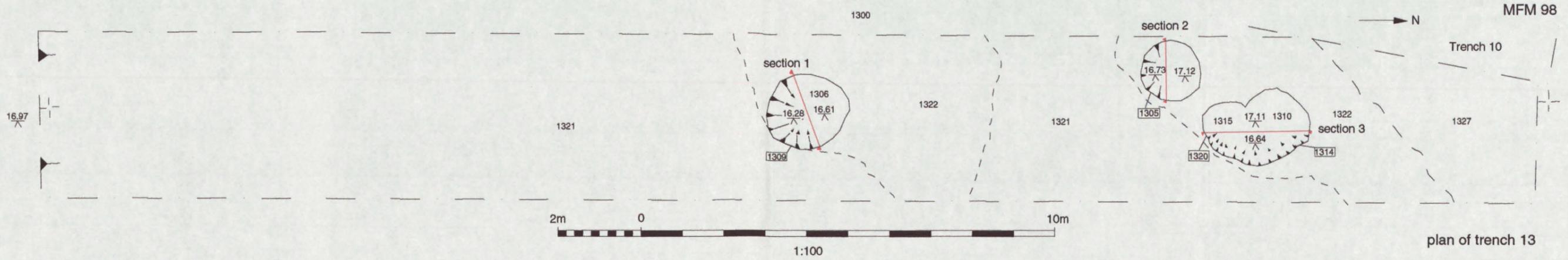
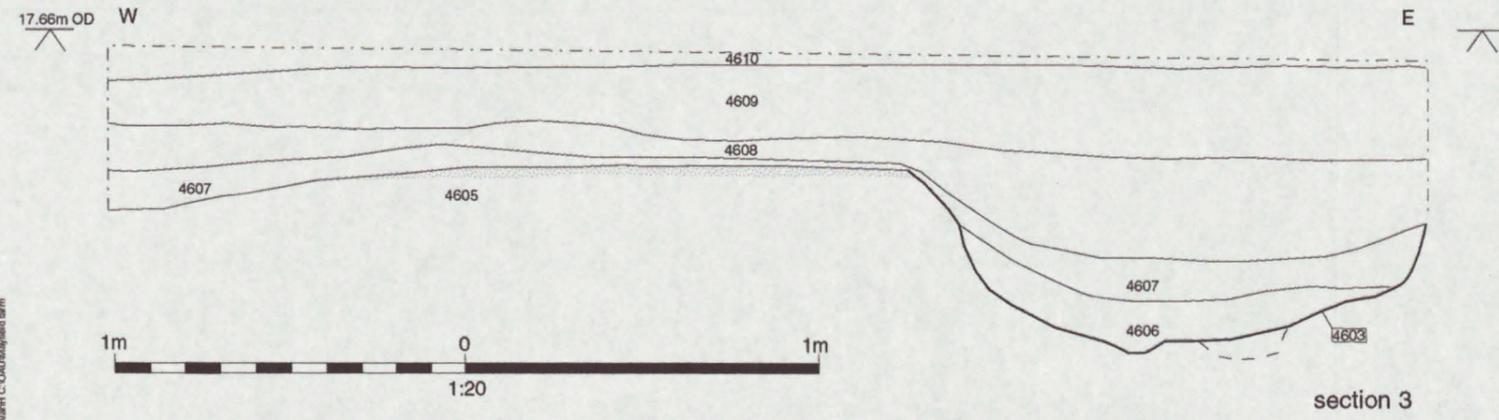
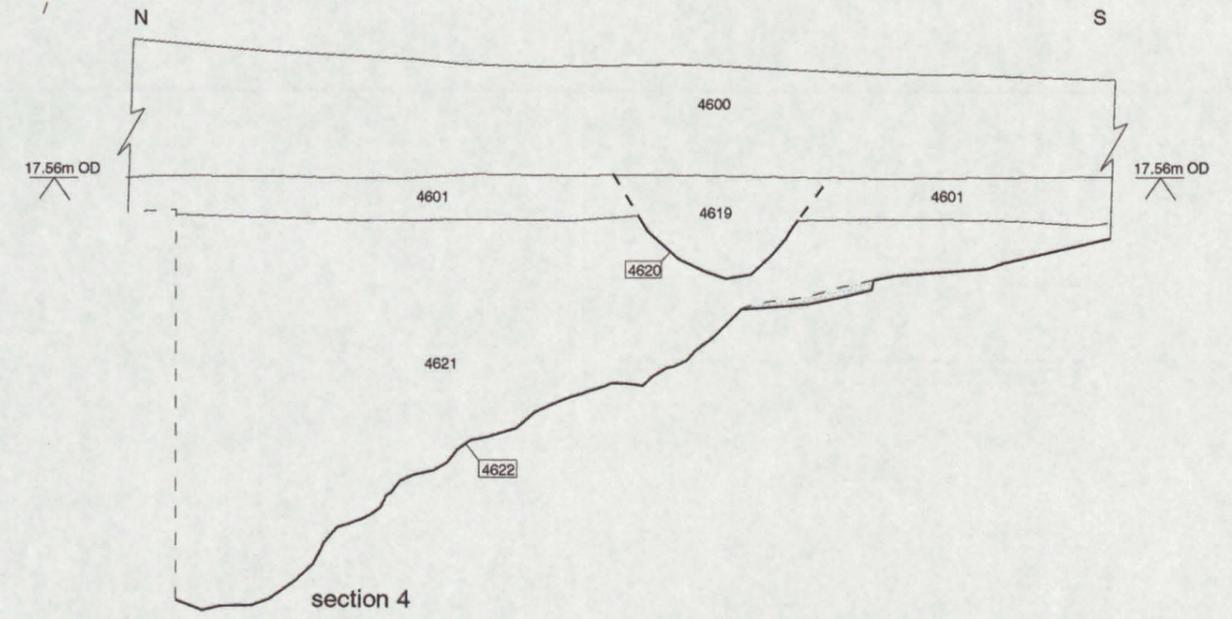
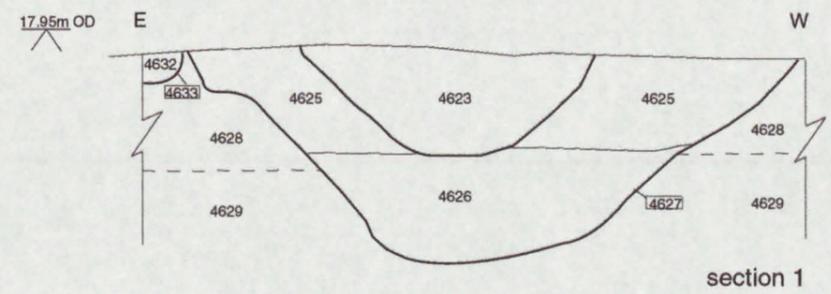
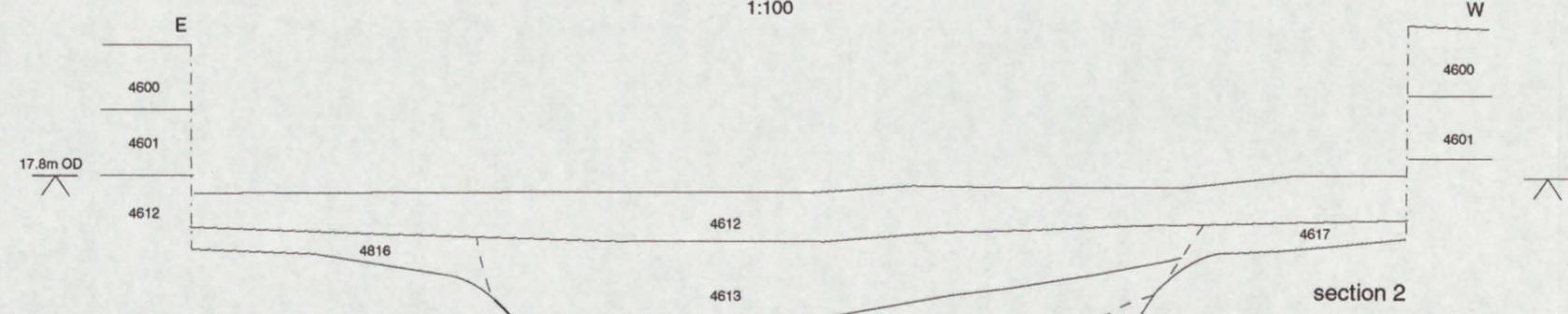
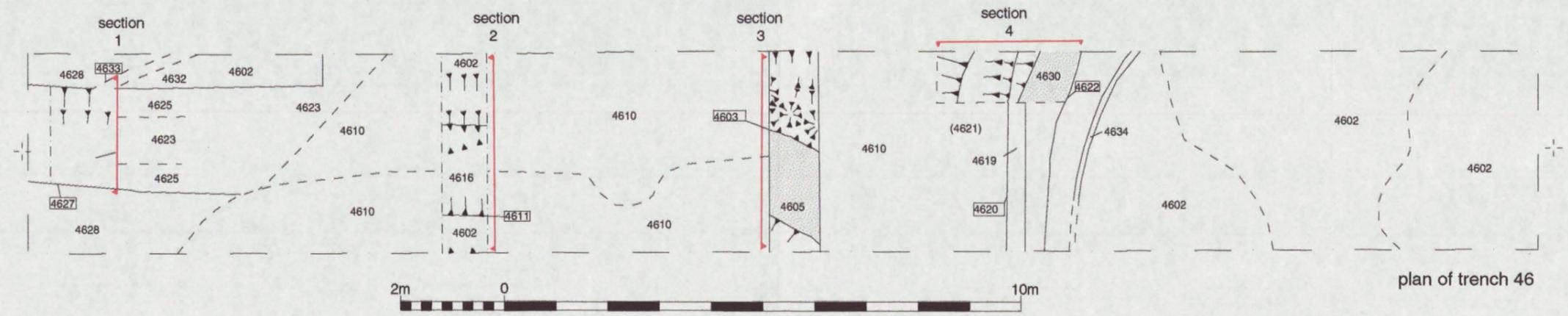
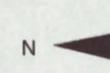


Figure 11: Trench 13; Plans and sections



Alarbi C. OUM/Alarbi/Alarbi

Figure 13 : Trench 46; Plans and sections

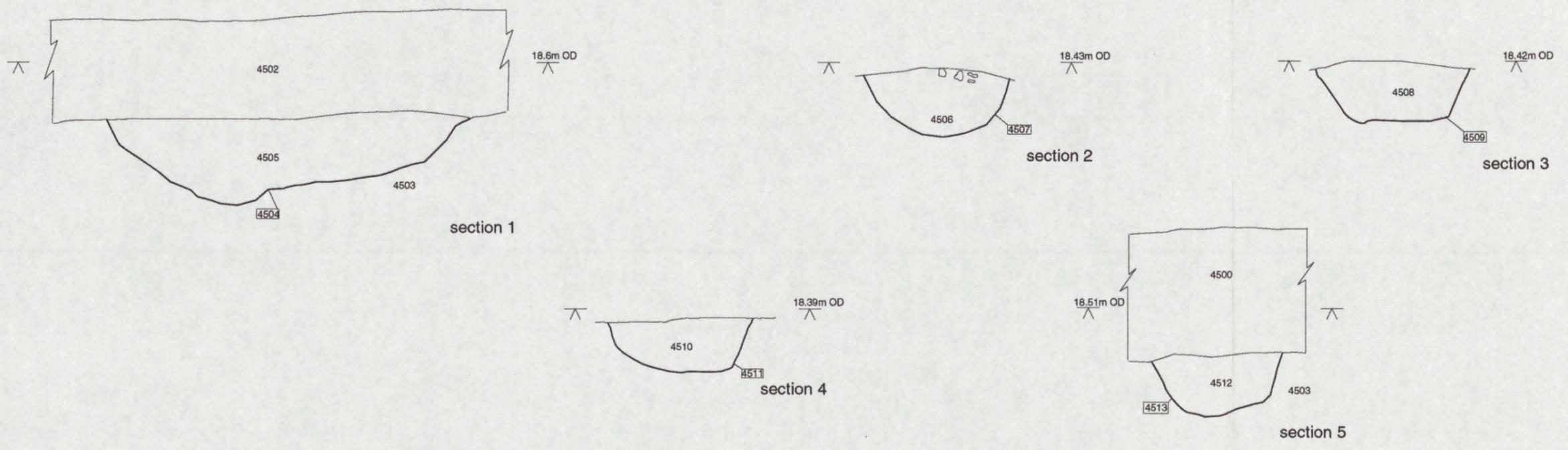
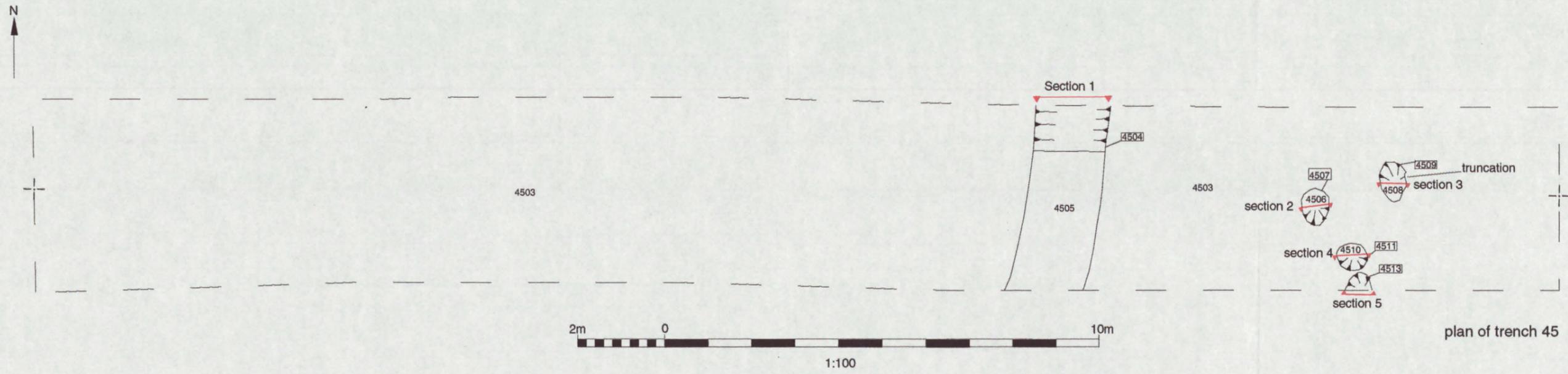
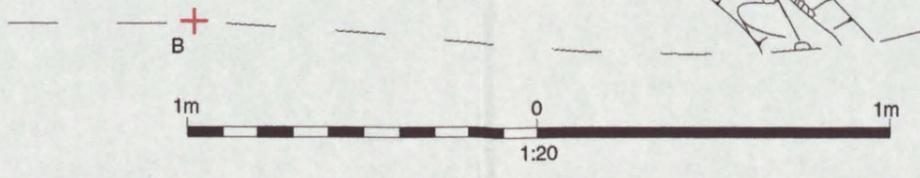
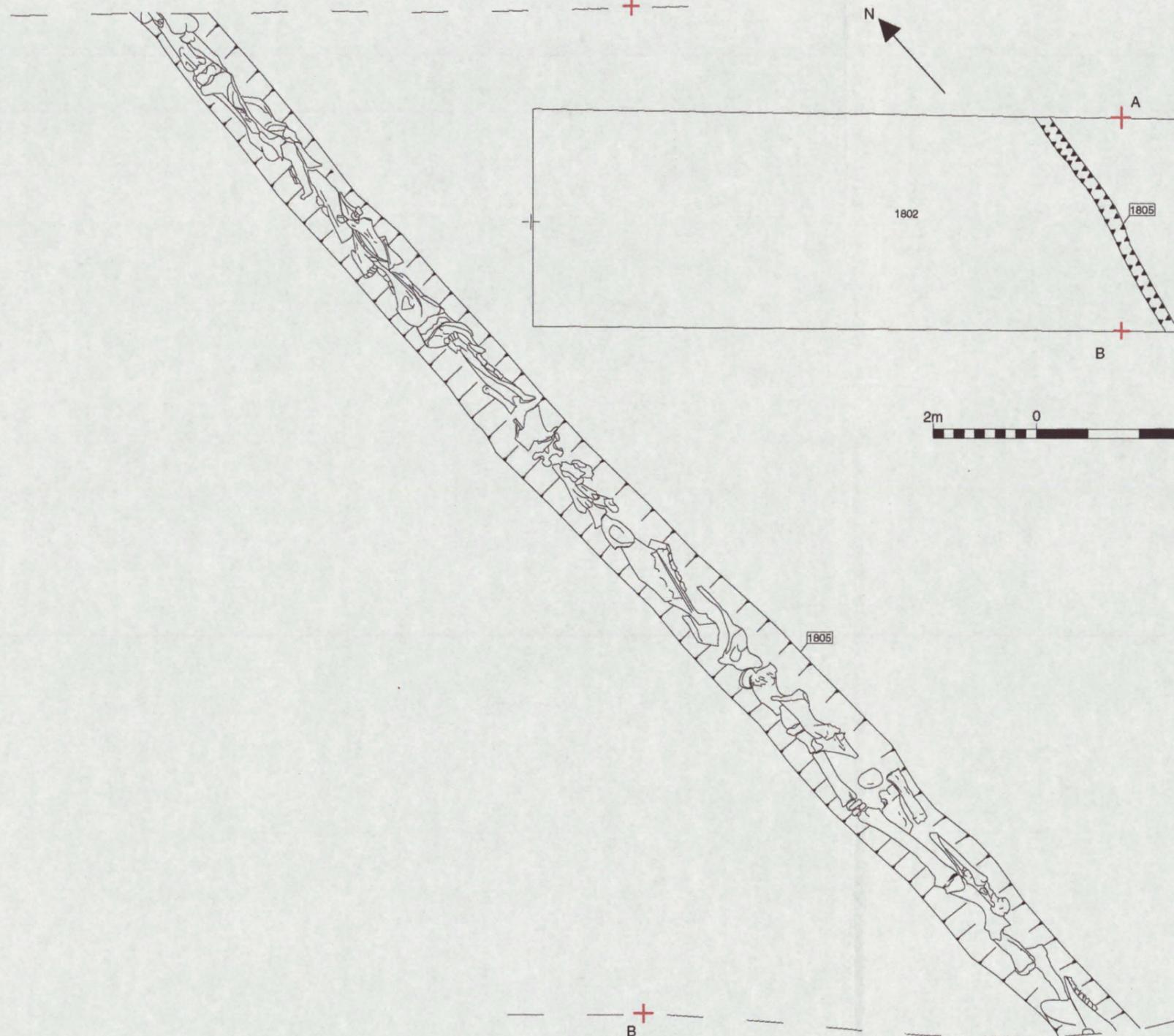
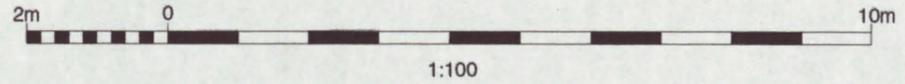
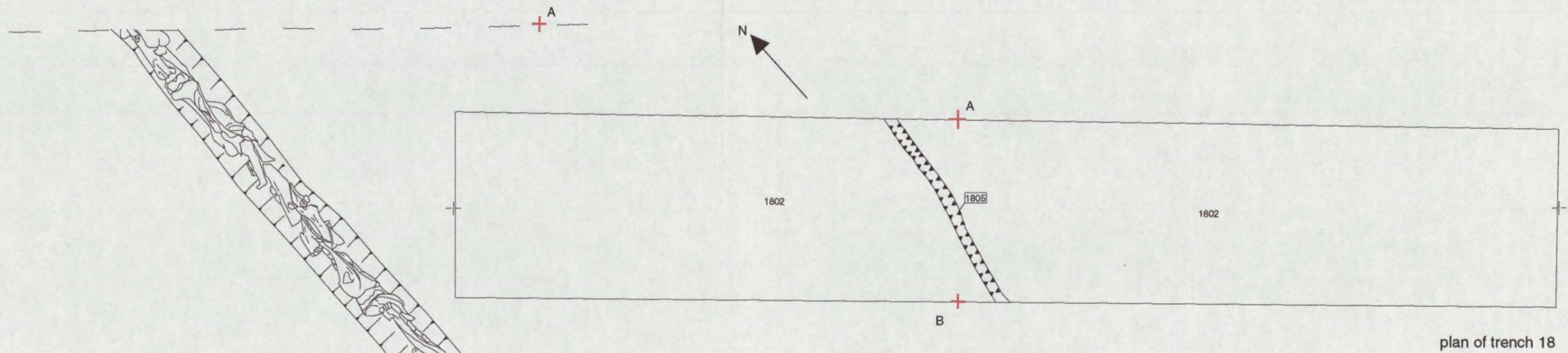


Figure 12 : Trench 45; Plans and sections



Albert C. ODU Mayfield Inn

Figure 14 : Trench 18; Plans

Framework Archaeology is a joint venture by the Oxford Archaeological Unit and Wessex Archaeology

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