

HER/BL

M6/21

# A1 Peterborough to Blyth Separated Junctions Scheme

## A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Lincolnshire



### Archaeological Evaluation Report



**Oxford Archaeology**

November 2006

**Client: Interserve Atkins JV**

Issue N<sup>o</sup>: 1

OA Job N<sup>o</sup>: 3357

NGR: SK 4885 3398

Postbook Ref:	
Officer Dealing:	Berni L/Mark
Date Reply Required:	
Date Replied Via:	acknowledged receipt rpt 25/3/10 jao
CRM Transaction No.	

Lincolnshire County Council  
25 MAR 2010  
Support Services

EU 10274-6  
SU 12962/3  
PRN 39022 - 39028

**Client Name:** Interserve Atkins JV

**Client Ref No:**

**Document Title:** A1 Peterborough to Blyth Separated Junctions Scheme -  
A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Lincolnshire

**Document Type:** Evaluation

**Issue Number:** 1

National Grid Reference: SK 885 398

Planning Reference:

OA Job Number: 3357  
Site Code: A1GMT06  
Invoice Code: A1GMTEV  
Receiving Museum:  
Museum Accession No:

Prepared by: Bryan Matthews  
Position: Project Officer  
Date: 17th October 2006

Checked by: William Bedford  
Position: Contracts Officer  
Date: 13th November 2006

Approved by: Jon Hiller  
Position: Senior Project Manager  
Date: 14th November 2006

Signed:  N. SHEPHERD,  
HEAD OF FIELDWORK.

Document File Location X:\A1 Blyth to Peterborough 2006\A1GMTEV trenching  
at the A1 at Gonerby Moor Junction\Sept 06 Report\2006  
Report\to QA\Gonerby QA 14.11.06.doc

Graphics File Location  
Illustrated by Julia Moxham

**Disclaimer:**

*This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.*

**Oxford Archaeology**  
**© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd 2006**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES  
t: (0044) 01865 263800  
f: (0044) 01865 793496

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk  
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

## A1 PETERBOROUGH TO BLYTH GRADE SEPARATED JUNCTIONS SCHEME

## A1/B1174 GONERBY MOOR INTERCHANGE, LINCOLNSHIRE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

## CONTENTS

Summary.....	1
1 Introduction .....	2
1.1 Location and scope of work .....	2
1.2 Geology and topography .....	2
1.3 Archaeological and historical background.....	2
2 Evaluation Aims .....	3
3 Evaluation Methodology .....	4
3.1 Scope of fieldwork .....	4
3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording.....	4
3.3 Finds .....	4
3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence.....	4
4 Results: General .....	5
4.1 Soils and ground conditions .....	5
4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits.....	5
5 Results: Descriptions.....	5
5.1 2004 Evaluation Results.....	5
5.2 Geophysical Survey Results .....	6
5.3 Trenching Results.....	8
5.4 2006 Evaluation Results.....	10
5.5 Finds .....	12
6 Discussion and Interpretation.....	14
6.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	14
6.2 Overall interpretation .....	14
Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory .....	16
Appendix 2 Finds Reports.....	24
Appendix 3 Bibliography and References .....	27
Appendix 4 Summary of Site Details.....	28

### LIST OF FIGURES

- Fig 1. Site location
- Fig 2. Trench layout of the main evaluation area
- Fig 3. Trench layout west of Foston Beck
- Fig 4. Geophysical Survey at Gonerby Moor North
- Fig 5. Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor North
- Fig 6. Geophysical Surveys at Gonerby Moor South
- Fig 7. Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor South
- Fig 8. Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor South, Site 3g
- Fig 9. Trench 1, Plan and Section
- Fig 10. Trench 49, Plan and Sections
- Fig 11. Trench 17, Plan and Section
- Fig 12. Trench 28, Plan and Sections
- Fig 13. Trench 29, Plan and Sections
- Fig 14. Trench 30, Plan and Sections
- Fig 15. Plan of Trenches 102 and 104
- Fig 16. Sections of Trenches 102 and 104

## SUMMARY

*During May 2004 and September 2006 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out two field evaluations to the west of the A1 Gonerby Moor roundabout, Grantham (NGR SK 4885 3398), on behalf of Interserve Atkins JV.*

*The 2004 field evaluation was carried out in two phases; a geophysical survey of the development area and a phase of targeted trial trenching. The geophysical survey at Gonerby Moor North revealed a large anomaly that may represent a former course of the Foston Beck, which now lies to the east of the survey area, and several ditched enclosures. The Gonerby Moor South survey revealed rectilinear enclosures and the remains of a possible Roman settlement.*

*The trial trenches were located only within the impact areas of the proposed route development, although settlement at Gonerby Moor South was confirmed and dated to the Roman Period. Further to the west, an undated series of postholes and a ditch were found next to the Foston Beck watercourse.*

*The 2006 evaluation consisted of further trial trenching within the site. The trenching in this phase was also targeted to test the results of the geophysical survey. This phase of evaluation revealed an area of Prehistoric activity to the north-west of the site.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 In May 2004 and September 2006 OA carried out two field evaluations to the west of Gonerby Moor roundabout, Grantham, Lincolnshire (NGR SK 4885 3398) on behalf of Interserve Atkins JV. The work was carried out in respect of a proposal to improve the roundabout junction and a subsequent Written Scheme of Investigation (OA 2004a and 2006) was prepared in response to this commission. The site lays across four fields which lie to the west of the Gonerby Moor roundabout and a separate area to the west of the Foston Beck watercourse. A total of 57 Trenches were excavated across 5 separate fields (Figs 2 and 3).

### 1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The solid geology of the area around Gonerby Moor is of Jurassic Middle Lias strata. The land is predominantly flat at a level of c 40 m above OD.

1.2.2 The area is predominantly agricultural in nature with large fields bounded by hedges. At the time of the first phase of the evaluation the fields were either under winter wheat or fallow. At the time of the second phase of evaluation the western field had been recently harvested for beans and the eastern field was fallow.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological background to the evaluation has been the subject of a survey carried out as part of the Stage 2 Cultural Heritage Report (Pell Frischmann, 2002) as well as two geophysical surveys (*ASUD, 2003 & 2004*).

1.3.2 East of the A1, ridge and furrow earthworks centred on SK 8899 4006 have been noted. The Geophysical surveys also identified remains of ridge and furrow, aligned broadly north-west/south-east and regularly spaced at 7-8 m intervals.

1.3.3 A number of probable soil filled ditches were also suggested by the results of the geophysics. Three of these are broadly aligned with the existing field pattern and are likely to reflect former field boundaries. Smaller ditch features were also detected, one of which may have formed part of an oval enclosure with a maximum diameter of 22 m. This feature was at the southern limit of the surveyed area and so its extent may not have been fully mapped.

1.3.4 To the north-east of the junction of the A1 with the B1174 a series of cropmarks of conjoined enclosures have been identified from aerial photographs (SK 882 426), which are likely to represent Iron Age or Romano-British field systems and perhaps settlement enclosures.

1.3.5 Further south, but also east of the A1, adjacent to the eastern side of the B1174 (SK 8899 4006) a pit or ditch was noted during pipeline construction in 1998. The feature

contained Romano-British pottery of 3rd century date, together with fired clay fragments and animal bone (Lincs SMR 35459).

- 1.3.6 There is a slight rise in the ground surface east of the present roundabout, with the land falling gently away to the south and west. This may have been a topographical location favoured by Iron Age and Romano-British farmstead settlements.
- 1.3.7 Grantham Archaeological Society have conducted a fieldwalking exercise in the western field of the southern site which identified a dense scatter of Romano-British pottery.
- 1.3.8 In May 2004 OA carried out a first stage of field evaluation, on behalf of Interserve Atkins JV. These consisted of geophysical survey followed by trial trenching (OA 2004b). The geophysical Survey revealed a large anomaly that is thought to be a former course of the Foston Beck, and several ditched enclosures to the north of the site with rectilinear enclosures and the remains of a possible Roman settlement laying to the south of the site. However most of the features identified by the survey were outside main road corridor and therefore many were not specifically targeted by the subsequent evaluations.
- 1.3.9 The earlier evaluation is the subject of a separate report (OA 2004b, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange). The present report amalgamates the results of both 2004 and 2006 evaluations.

## 2 EVALUATION AIMS

- 2.1.1 To determine the location, extent, date, character and state of preservation of any archaeological remains surviving in the study area. Attention was given to remains of all periods, including evidence for past environments, with provision for environmental sampling included.
- 2.1.2 To clarify the full extent of the potential Romano-British settlement activity identified in the first phase of the evaluation.
- 2.1.3 To make available the results of the investigation.



### 3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Scope of fieldwork

3.1.1 The 2004 evaluation consisted of a geophysical survey followed by the excavation of 35 trenches across 4 fields. The 2006 evaluation consisted of 25 trenches arranged across two fields (Figs 2 and 3).

#### 3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

##### *Geophysical Survey*

3.2.1 The geophysical survey was carried out in two stages. Initially, magnetic susceptibility survey was undertaken throughout the Study Area. This was followed by a targeted detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey of 30% of the Study Area in the areas of proposed impact (8.3 ha) (Figs. 4 and 6). The results of the geophysics were used to identify areas of archaeological potential and inform the subsequent programme of trial trenching (Figs. 5, 7 and 8).

3.2.2 The survey was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (OA 2004).

##### *Trial Trenching*

3.2.3 Trench locations were informed by the results of the geophysical survey, positioned to define areas of possible archaeological sensitivity and also to confirm the absence of features where no positive results were obtained.

3.2.4 The trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision by 360° tracked mechanical excavators equipped with a toothless ditching/grading buckets. Trenches were excavated to the top of the first archaeological horizon, or if these were absent, to the underlying natural geology.

3.2.5 The trenches were cleaned by hand as appropriate and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20 or 1:10. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

#### 3.3 Finds

3.3.1 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.

#### 3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

3.4.1 No environmental samples were taken.

## 4 RESULTS: GENERAL

### 4.1 Soils and ground conditions

4.1.1 The underlying natural horizons were fairly consistent across the site and consisted of lower blue-grey clays which were mostly overlain by a variable layer of orange-brown clay. The features all cut from this level or above. Apart from within Trench 28, where the natural was overlain by an alluvial deposit, the clays were overlain by an orange-brown silty clay subsoil that varied in depth between 0.2 m - 0.5 m. The subsoil was typically overlain by between 0.2 - 0.3 m of brown silty clay topsoil.

4.1.2 During both evaluations the weather was mostly dry and conditions were good.

### 4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

4.2.1 Two ditches and a pit were found in the extreme south of the site, within Trenches 1 and 49 (see Figs 9 and 10).

4.2.2 A probable hedgerow was found within Trench 17 (Fig. 11), running NW-SE across the centre of the main evaluation area.

4.2.3 Four ditches were found within Trenches 28 and 29 (see Figs 12 and 13), in the north of the main evaluation area. Small amounts of Roman pottery was also recovered from these features.

4.2.4 A number of ditches or gullies and two possible pits were found at the north-west of the main evaluation area, within Trenches 102 and 104 (Figs 15 and 16). Quantities of Iron Age (IA) pottery were also recovered from these features, particularly from Trench 102 (context 10212).

4.2.5 Approximately 1,500 m to the north-west of the main evaluation area, Trench 30 (Fig. 14) revealed two small gullies and a series of undated postholes or shallow pits, as well as a larger modern pit, close to the course of the present Foston Beck.

## 5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

### 5.1 2004 Evaluation Results

5.1.1 The 2004 evaluation consisted of a geophysical survey followed by a programme of targeted trial trenching.

5.1.2 A fully illustrated report of the Geophysical Survey results, with complete findings for all sites concerned has been published by Archaeological Services University of Durham and should be read in conjunction with this document (ASUD, 2004).

5.1.3 The results of the Geophysical Survey are outlined below, which will be followed by the detailed descriptions of the results of the subsequent phase of targeted trial trenching.

## 5.2 Geophysical Survey Results

*By Archaeological Services University of Durham*

- 5.2.1 The works were commissioned by Oxford Archaeology and conducted by Archaeological Services University of Durham (ASUD) in accordance with supplied instructions and an agreed method statement.
- 5.2.2 Geophysical surveys were undertaken at locations alongside the A1 in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, prior to proposed development. Magnetic susceptibility and fluxgate gradiometer surveys were undertaken at Gonerby Moor North and South as indicated below:
- Gonerby Moor North (Site 2) NGR centre: 487450 341750: two areas surveyed 7 ha detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey
  - Gonerby Moor South (Site 3) NGR centre: 488600 340000: seven areas surveyed 27.6 ha magnetic susceptibility survey 30% (8.3 ha) detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey

### ***Gonerby Moor North (Site 2a, b) (Fig. 4 & Fig. 5)***

- 5.2.3 A number of ditched features were detected at Gonerby Moor North, some of which form enclosures. Ridge and furrow remains were also detected, and a possible palaeochannel.
- 5.2.4 Magnetic susceptibility surveys were not undertaken at this site. Detailed gradiometer surveys were conducted across the site. Alternate weak/positive magnetic lineations were detected across much of these surveys. The anomalies were regularly spaced at *c* 5 m intervals and were typical of former ridge and furrow cultivation, a common practice during the medieval period.
- 5.2.5 A number of linear positive magnetic anomalies were detected either side of an open drain at site 2a, north of the A1 road. These anomalies reflected materials with enhanced magnetic susceptibility, almost certainly representing soil-filled ditch features which in this case appeared to form enclosures and additional features. Miscellaneous possible ditch features were also detected elsewhere in site 2a and in site 2b.
- 5.2.6 Strong curvilinear positive magnetic anomalies were detected in the eastern part of both survey areas. These large anomalies were irregular in form and intensity, particularly in site 2a, and were interpreted as representing palaeochannels, perhaps former courses of Foston Beck which currently lies to the east of the surveys.
- 5.2.7 A linear concentration of intense magnetic anomalies in site 2b corresponded to the location of an existing track.

### ***Gonerby Moor South (Site 3a-g) (Figs. 6, 7 & 8)***

- 5.2.8 Magnetic susceptibility surveys were undertaken in five fields here, followed by gradiometer survey of seven areas targeted on proposed impact areas. Several areas of enhanced magnetic susceptibility were detected across this site. Where these

surveys overlapped with the detailed gradiometer surveys there was generally good correspondence between the areas of enhanced magnetic susceptibility and concentrations of probable archaeological features.

- 5.2.9 No features of likely archaeological interest were detected at site 3a.
- 5.2.10 The only anomalies of likely archaeological origin detected at site 3b comprised very weak, alternate, positive and negative magnetic lineations in the south of the field, aligned north-west/south-east and regularly spaced at 7-8 m intervals. These almost certainly reflect the remains of ridge and furrow cultivation.
- 5.2.11 The ridge and furrow remains were also detected further west in site 3c and more faintly in site 3d. Other anomalies detected in site 3c comprised a chain of discrete, intense dipolar magnetic anomalies likely to reflect a former fence line or ferrous litter which has collected along a former boundary and linear positive magnetic anomalies which almost certainly reflect soil-filled ditch features. The ditch feature at the south of the survey was known from previous work (ASUD 2003) to continue across this field and on into the next field, and was identified as a field boundary. Other more intense ditch anomalies were similar in character to ditch features detected further north (site 3e) and are likely to be associated with those features.
- 5.2.12 Gradiometer survey at site 3d detected a complex of ditched and other features covering at least 0.6 ha. The complex extends beyond the survey area and is therefore of unknown extent. The principal features comprised part of a large rectilinear ditched enclosure, within which other ditches define smaller plots. A number of these plots contained concentrations of intense dipolar magnetic anomalies, which are likely to reflect building materials such as fired brick/tile or possibly small-scale industrial activity. Additional, weaker positive magnetic anomalies to the north and east of this complex may also reflect the remains of ditches.
- 5.2.13 The gradiometer survey of site 3e also detected a concentration of probable archaeological ditches, likely to be associated with some of the features in site 3c. Some of the anomalies are considerably stronger than others, indicating the deposition of different, or burnt, materials in different parts of the site. The ditches again formed a number of small enclosures, though not as regular in form as those detected in site 3d.
- 5.2.14 In contrast to the above, the gradiometer data from site 3f was relatively smooth with the only potential archaeological feature being a short length of ditch in the north-west corner of the site. Very weak anomalies representing ridge and furrow remains were detected in the northern part of 3f.
- 5.2.15 To the north of this, the survey of site 3g again produced a concentration of likely archaeological features, largely ditches forming parts of sub-rectangular enclosures but also intense magnetic anomalies, possibly indicative of building remains or craft/industrial activities. Ridge and furrow remains were again detected in this area.

### 5.3 Trenching Results

#### *Trench 1*

- 5.3.1 Trench 1 was located in the extreme south of the site, to the south of Gonerby Lane (Figs 2 and 9).
- 5.3.2 The general stratigraphic sequence was similar to that across the rest of the site, with a lower blue grey clay (104), overlain by brown grey or orange brown clay (101), a orange brown silty clay subsoil and the topsoil (100).
- 5.3.3 A east-west aligned ditch (102) cut from the top of the subsoil. The ditch was 'V' shaped in profile and measured 1.4 m wide by 0.92 m deep. It was filled by a brownish orange silty clay (103).

#### *Trench 49*

- 5.3.4 Trench 49 was located within the south of the site, approximately 50 m north of Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 10).
- 5.3.5 A very broad, shallow, depression (4907), was investigated within the east of the trench. The sides of this feature were uneven and its base was mostly flat. It measured 0.22 m deep, by over 19 m wide, and was filled by grey brown silty clay (4909) and dark grey silty clay (4908).
- 5.3.6 A NE-SW aligned ditch (4904) lay just to the west of feature 4707.
- 5.3.7 The ditch had steep evenly sloping sides and a flat base and measured 1.6 m wide by 0.72 m deep. It contained three fills: a dark grey clay primary fill (4910), a grey silty clay mid fill (4905), and a dark grey silty clay upper fill (4906). The upper fill contained cattle bone and fragments of ceramic building material.
- 5.3.8 The fills of both features were overlain by the 'subsoil' (type of ploughsoil)(4901) and topsoil (4900).

#### *Trench 17*

- 5.3.9 An irregularly shaped, NW-SE aligned feature (1703) was seen within the middle of Trench 17 (Figs 2 and 11). It cut from the level of the upper clay natural, measured up to 0.9 m wide by 0.23 m deep and was filled by a orange brown silty clay (1704) containing small rounded gravel and patches of orange sand. The shape of this feature and its fill suggests this was a hedge-line, and possibly part of a former boundary.

#### *Trench 28*

- 5.3.10 Trenches 28 and 29 were located within the north of the main evaluation area, close to a farm entrance and the northbound A1 (Figs 2, 12 and 13).

- 5.3.11 A large curvilinear ditch (2803) was found within the SE end of Trench 28. The full extent of the ditch was not revealed within the trench, but it measured at least 2 m wide by 0.5 m deep. It was filled by a stoney orange grey silt clay (2707), which contained several sherds of Roman pottery.
- 5.3.12 Ditch 2805 ran east-west across the NW end of the trench. It measured 1.9 m wide by 0.5 m deep, with sides that sloped at 45° to meet a broad, flat base. It was filled by a pale grey silty clay (2806), which also contained fragmentary Roman pottery.
- 5.3.13 Both ditches cut from the level of the upper clay natural and their fills were overlain by up to 0.5 m of brownish grey alluvial silt (2808), beneath the subsoil (2801) and topsoil (2800). Roman pottery was also recovered from the topsoil.

### ***Trench 29***

- 5.3.14 The SE end of the trench was machined down in order to investigate a very large feature (2909) that was seen cutting from beneath the topsoil. The revealed feature was filled by a series of silty clays (2910, 2911, 2912). The lowest of these fills, a pale grey silty clay (2910), contained fragments of cattle bone. This was overlain by a brown grey silty clay (2911) that contained a small fragment of Roman pottery, and a reddish brown silty clay (2912).
- 5.3.15 A modern vertically sided pit (2903) cut through the middle of these fills. This feature was 1.1 m wide by at least 0.86 m deep. It was filled by an orange brown silt clay containing frequent patches of dark grey clay, as well as fresh grass and disturbed weeds. It was not bottomed because of health and safety considerations.
- 5.3.16 A north-south aligned ditch (2906) was also seen cutting from beneath the topsoil within the NW end of the trench. It was roughly 'V' shaped in profile, and measured 1.64 m wide by 0.67 m deep. It contained three fills: a very clean orange clay primary fill (2913), a greyish orange sandy clay mid-fill (2908), and a pale orange clayey sand upper fill (2907).
- 5.3.17 The general stratigraphic sequence within this trench was slightly unusual, in that an intermediary subsoil between the topsoil and the underlying natural was absent and the fills of both features were directly overlain by topsoil. This may suggest that these features are of relatively recent origin.

### ***Trench 30***

- 5.3.18 Trench 30 was part of a 6 trench evaluation to the west of Foston Beck watercourse, and lay approximately 1,500 m to the north-west of the main evaluation. Trench 30 lay just to the west of the existing watercourse (Figs 3 and 14).
- 5.3.19 Two gullies (3005 and 3021) were found within the eastern end of Trench 30. They were aligned ESE-WNW and ENE-WSW respectively and it is possible that they are part of the same feature. Both gullies were roughly 'U' shaped in profile and were

approximately 0.56 m wide by between 0.22 m to 0.3 deep. They were filled by a similar orange brown silty clay.

- 5.3.20 Eleven postholes or shallow pits were found within the western end of the trench. Three of these features were excavated and found to be relatively shallow, measuring an average of 0.5 m in diameter and 0.2 m deep. All of these excavated features contained two fills; a primary fill of yellowish brown clay and an overlying reddish brown silty clay. No finds were recovered and none of the features are dated.
- 5.3.21 A modern pit was also seen within the eastern end of the trench. This cut from beneath the topsoil and measured 2.1 m in diameter by 0.4 m deep. It was filled by brown silty clay that contained much modern brick and tile.

#### 5.4 2006 Evaluation Results

##### *Trenches 102 and 104*

- 5.4.1 Trenches 102 and 104 were excavated in the form of a 'T' shape within the north west of the site to investigate a number of archaeological features (Figs. 2, 15 and 16). These trenches lay within the southern end of a proposed balancing pond area.
- 5.4.2 As elsewhere, the underlying natural consisted of blue grey clay (10203), which was overlain by up to 0.35 m of orange brown clay (10202/10402). The revealed features all cut from this level.
- 5.4.3 Within the middle of Trench 102, a section was excavated across what appeared to be a NW-SE aligned ditch (10210). The ditch was roughly 'U' shaped in profile, and had a broad, but relatively shallow step on its south eastern side. It measured 4 m wide by 0.69 m deep, and contained two fills (10211 and 10212).
- 5.4.4 The primary fill of the ditch was a 0.38 m thick yellowish grey silty clay (10211). Although this fill was similar to the underlying natural, it contained fragments of bone, burnt stone and a small hammer-stone that is thought to be Iron Age (IA) in date based on association with the pottery found in context 10212.
- 5.4.5 The upper fill of the ditch was a dark grey silty clay (10212). It was up to 0.38 m thick and contained substantial amounts of IA pottery as well as occasional burnt stone and fragmentary bone. The pottery appears to be from two separate vessels, and forms the bulk of the pottery found within this area.
- 5.4.6 To the south west of ditch 10210, two separate inter-cutting features were also excavated. The earlier of the two features was a large rounded, shallow pit (10204). The pit was only partly visible and ran to the south eastern side of the trench. As such it was rounded in shape, with a gently concaved base and short, steep sides, and measured 3 m long by 0.68 m wide by 0.32 m deep. It was filled by a grey-brown silty clay (10205) that was undated.

- 5.4.7 The fill of pit 10204 was cut by a shallower and more irregular feature (10206) to the north-west. This appeared to be either a root disturbance or a shallow, irregular pit. It was filled by a greyish brown clay (10207) and as seen measured 2 m long by 0.96 m wide by 0.12 m deep and is undated.
- 5.4.8 Within the south eastern end of Trench 104, a broad, NE - SW aligned ditch (10403) and two smaller east-west aligned ditches or gullies (10405 & 10407) were found.
- 5.4.9 Ditch 10403 was broad, but relatively shallow, with a slightly undulating, mostly flat base and short, steep sides. It measured 2.75 m wide by 0.2 m deep, and was filled by a firm blue-grey silty clay (10404) containing five small sherds of abraded IA pottery.
- 5.4.10 A smaller shallow ditch or gully (10405) ran east-west close to the centre of trench. This feature measured 0.45 m wide by 0.1 m deep and had a gently rounded profile. It was filled by a dark orange-grey silty clay (10406), containing fragmentary bone and a single abraded sherd of IA pottery.
- 5.4.11 Another shallow east-west aligned linear feature (10407) lay just to the south-east of ditch 10403. This feature measured 0.94 m wide by 0.24 m deep and was poorly defined. It had shallow sides and a flat base. It was filled by a orange mottled grey silty clay (10408). It contained frequent fragmentary charcoal.
- 5.4.12 All of these features were overlain by subsoil and the present topsoil.

### ***Trench 103***

- 5.4.13 Trench 103 lay to the east of Trenches 102 and 104. It was empty apart from a small irregular root disturbance (10304) at the northern end of the trench. This feature was seen cutting from the level of the upper orange brown clay natural (10302) and measured 0.55 m long by 0.3 m wide by only 0.06 m deep. Its sides and base were uneven and partially undercutting. It was filled by a blackish brown clay (10303).

### ***Trench 206***

- 5.4.14 Trench 206 was located close the A1 and the eastern edge of site (Fig. 2). A probable root disturbance (20603) was excavated against the south eastern baulk. This feature appeared to cut from the level of the underlying clays. It was uneven and undulating, measuring 2.4 m long by 0.14 m deep, and was filled by a dark brown silty clay (20604). No finds were recovered.

### ***Trench 212***

- 5.4.15 Trench 212 was placed within the south eastern corner of the evaluation area, and was close to an existing lay-by at the southern corner of the site. It revealed a very large modern rubbish pit which cut from beneath a partially disturbed topsoil. The pit measured at least 8.4 m wide by over 0.5 m deep and is likely to be associated with the construction of the lay-by as it contained pieces of tarmac as well as occasional concrete blocks and other modern debris. No other features were seen.



## 5.5 Finds

### *Prehistoric Pottery*

- 5.5.1 A total of 117 sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered from within Trenches 102 and 104.
- 5.5.2 All but eight of these sherds were recovered from context 10212. The deposit contained fragments from at least two vessels. One of these was a tall, handmade jar with combed or scored decoration in a gritty, calcareous fabric. No rim survived, but the body sherds resemble a vessel found at Dragonby, Lincolnshire, that belonged to the later part of the middle Iron Age, dating up to the mid 1st century BC (Gregory and Elsdon 1996, fig. 19.21. no. 27). No exact parallel was found for the second vessel - a curving-sided bowl in a similarly handmade, gritty fabric - but the type is consistent with a middle Iron Age date. Four rim sherds were recovered, each with diagonally scored lines in the top of the rim. None of the other sherds join, though may belong to a single vessel.
- 5.5.3 The remaining eight sherds were undiagnostic; those from 10205, 10404 and 10406 were especially small and abraded, though in fabrics not out of place within an Iron Age date range.

### *Romano-British Pottery*

- 5.5.4 A total of 25 sherds, weighing 427g, were recovered during the 2004 evaluation of which 24 were Romano-British in date. This material was rapidly scanned to determine context dates and to assess the character of the pottery.
- 5.5.5 The Roman assemblage is dominated by sandy grey ware (R20), in which there is a jar, a narrow necked jar and a plain-rimmed dish. These are supplemented by a sherds of shelly fabric (C10), including a single sherd from a dish, a body sherd of Nene Valley white-ware mortarium (M24), body sherds of Nene Valley colour-coated ware, a fragment of a flange from an unsourced oxidised mortarium (M50), a single sherd of oxidised sandy ware (O20) and a body sherd of central Gaulish samian. The bulk of this material is likely to date to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD.
- 5.5.6 The assemblage is small and offers little potential for further study. However, the evidence indicates some kind of occupation during the 2nd and 3rd centuries, with pottery largely supplied from relatively local sources, such as the Nene Valley industry.

### *Other pottery*

- 5.5.7 A single moderate sandy and shelly sherd of pottery was recovered from fill 4905 of a potentially late pre-historic date.

- 5.5.8 A single hard, sandy sherd was recovered from topsoil within Trench 204. This is thought to be medieval, although this dating is uncertain, as the piece is relatively undiagnostic.

## 6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

### 6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 The field evaluation was carried out under controlled conditions and the results are considered reliable. Ground conditions were good, and features, where present, were clearly visible in both the 2004 and the 2006 evaluations.
- 6.1.2 The results of the geophysical survey were substantiated by the field evaluation. Both indicated that archaeological deposits within the study area were generally scarce, and that positive anomalies identified by the geophysical survey were successfully targeted and characterised by the field evaluation, for example within Trenches 28 and 29, and also within Trenches 102 and 104.

### 6.2 Overall interpretation

#### *Summary of results*

- 6.2.1 The evaluation largely confirms the results of the geophysical survey. Within the main evaluation area, the eastern-most field contained no archaeological features of note and elsewhere features were found only on the periphery of the evaluation area.
- 6.2.2 Two ditches and a broad shallow cut were found within Trenches 1 and 49, at the extreme south of the site. The only material recovered from within these features was cattle bone and fragmentary ceramic building material, which came from the upper fill of ditch 4904. These finds are relatively undiagnostic, so the dating of these features remains doubtful. It is possible that they are of Roman date but it is perhaps more likely that they are much more recent date, and may be associated with previous works close to the modern A1.
- 6.2.3 Trenches 102 and 104 targeted features within the north-west of the main evaluation area. The geophysics survey suggests the presence of a long NNE-SSW aligned field boundary, which runs along the western side of the site, with possible smaller enclosures to the northwest. Two ditches and two other probable gullies or small ditches were found, together with at least one pit. The ditches and gullies produced Iron Age pottery, including substantial amounts of pottery from the fills of ditch 10203, as well as a hammerstone from its lower fill. It is difficult to ascertain from the limited scope of the evaluation whether this represents a single localised finds 'hot-spot' with a low level of surrounding scattered finds, or a more generalised spread of finds within the more extensive layout of field or plot boundaries. However, it does indicate that there is some significant prehistoric activity within this area.
- 6.2.4 At the northern edge of the site, Trenches 28 and 29 identified ditches and larger features, which may be ditches or pits. There is some modern disturbance within Trench 29, but most of the features found here are likely to be Roman or possibly earlier in date, as small amounts of Roman pottery was found within the fills of very

large curvilinear feature 2803, large pit 2909 and ditch 2805. The purpose of these features is unknown, but likely to be part of a broader pattern of activity, as shown by the geophysical survey.

- 6.2.5 Further to the north-west, a number of features were found within Trench 30, which was placed immediately to the west of the Foston Beck. It seems likely that two gullies found within the east of the trench are part of the same curvilinear feature as they are very similar in size, shape and fills. Further to the east a group of eleven postholes were also investigated. These were found to be relatively shallow and their purpose is uncertain, although one possibility is that they were created by works associated with the nearby Beck. A modern pit containing much modern brick and tile was also found, but the other features are essentially undated.
- 6.2.6 The evaluation also seems to confirm the general layout of the archaeology of the site shown in the geophysical survey results. These results indicate that no Romano-British or pre-historic archaeology would be present beyond the north - south linear feature which seems to terminate near trenches 101 and 104 (see Figure 4).

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

*2004 Evaluation*

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
<b>Trench 1</b>						
100	Layer	Topsoil	0.33			
101	Layer	Subsoil	0.2			
102	Cut	Ditch	0.92	1.4		
103	Fill	Fill of Ditch	0.92			
104	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 2</b>						
201	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
202	Layer	Subsoil	0.55			
203	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 3</b>						
301	Layer	Topsoil	0.4			
302	Layer	Subsoil	0.5			
303	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 4</b>						
400	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
401	Layer	Subsoil	0.2			
402	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 5</b>						
500	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
501	Layer	Subsoil	0.28			
502	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 6</b>						
600	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
601	Layer	Subsoil	0.2			
602	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 7</b>						
700	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
701	Layer	Subsoil	0.2			
702	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 8</b>						
800	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
801	Layer	Subsoil	0.21			
802	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 9</b>						
900	Layer	Topsoil	0.4			
901	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
902	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 10</b>						
1000	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
1001	Layer	Subsoil	0.24			
1002	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 11</b>						

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
1100	Layer	Topsoil	0.4			
1101	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
1102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 12</b>						
1200	Layer	Topsoil	0.36			
1201	Layer	Subsoil	0.34			
1202	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 13</b>						
1300	Layer	Topsoil	0.34			
1301	Layer	Subsoil	0.26			
1302	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 14</b>						
1400	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
1401	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
1402	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 15</b>						
1500	Layer	Topsoil	0.38			
1501	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
1502	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 16</b>						
1600	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
1601	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
1602	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 17</b>						
1700	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
1701	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
1702	Layer	Natural				
1703	Cut	Hedgerow	0.23	0.9		
1704	Fill	Fill of Hedgerow	0.23			
<b>Trench 18</b>						
1800	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
1801	Layer	Subsoil	0.1			
1802	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 19</b>						
1900	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
1901	Layer	Subsoil	0.24			
1902	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 20</b>						
2000	Layer	Topsoil	0.4			
2001	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
2002	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 21</b>						
2100	Layer	Topsoil	0.28			
2101	Layer	Subsoil	0.18			
2102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 22</b>						
2200	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
2201	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
2202	Layer	Natural				

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
<b>Trench 23</b>						
2300	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
2301	Layer	Subsoil	0.36			
2302	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 24</b>						
2401	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
2402	Layer	Subsoil	0.4			
2403	Layer	Natural				
2404	Layer	Alluvium	0.3			
<b>Trench 25</b>						
2500	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
2501	Layer	Subsoil	0.4			
2502	Layer	Natural				
2503	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 26</b>						
2600	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
2601	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
2602	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 27</b>						
2701	Layer	Topsoil	0.35			
2702	Layer	Subsoil	0.4			
2703	Layer	Alluvium	0.1			
2704	Layer	Alluvium	0.2			
2705	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 28</b>						
2800	Layer	Topsoil	0.3		Pottery	Roman
2801	Layer	Subsoil	0.3			
2802	Layer	Alluvium	0.18			
2803	Cut	Ditch	0.5	0.9		
2804	Layer	Natural				
2805	Cut	Ditch	0.5	1.9		
2806	Fill	Fill of Ditch 2805	0.5		Pottery	Roman
2807	Fill	Fill of Ditch 2803	0.5		Pottery	Roman
2808	Layer	Alluvium			Pottery	Roman
<b>Trench 29</b>						
2901	Layer	Topsoil	0.48			
2902	Layer	Natural				
2903	Cut	Ditch	0.86	1.1		
2904	Fill	Fill of 2903	0.86			
2906	Cut	Ditch	0.67	1.64		
2907	Fill	Fill of 2906	0.1			
2908	Fill	Fill of 2906	0.38			
2909	Cut	Ditch	0.94	2.2		
2910	Fill	Fill of 2909	0.28			
2911	Fill	Fill of 2909	0.3		Pottery	Roman
<b>Trench 30</b>						
3001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
3002	Layer	Subsoil	0.23			
3003	Layer	Natural				

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
3004	Layer	Natural				
3005	Cut	Ditch	0.3	0.56		
3006	Fill	Fill of Ditch 3005	0.3			
3007	Cut	Posthole	0.2	0.48		
3008	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.06			
3009	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.14			
3010	Cut	Posthole	0.2	0.5		
3011	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.08			
3012	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.12			
3013	Cut	Posthole	0.18	0.5		
3014	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.04			
3015	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.14			
3016	Cut	Pit	0.4	2.1		
3017	Fill	Pit Fill	0.4			
3018	Layer	Alluvium	0.1			
3019	Layer	Natural				
3020	Group	Posthole Group				
3021	Cut	Ditch	0.22	0.56		
3022	Fill	Fill of Ditch 3021	0.22			
3023	Layer	Natural				
3024	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3025	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3026	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3027	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3028	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3029	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3030	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
3031	Cut	Posthole not excavated		0.5		
<b>Trench 31</b>						
3100	Layer	Topsoil	0.4			
3101	Layer	Subsoil	0.23			
3102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 32</b>						
3200	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
3201	Layer	Subsoil	0.27			
3202	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 33</b>						
3300	Layer	Topsoil	0.32			
3301	Layer	Subsoil	0.1			
3302	Layer	Natural				
3303	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 34</b>						
3400	Layer	Topsoil	0.32			
3401	Layer	Subsoil	0.24			
3402	Layer	Natural				
3403	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 35</b>						
3500	Layer	Topsoil	0.32			
3501	Layer	Subsoil	0.26			



Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
3502	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 49</b>						
4900	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
4901	Layer	Subsoil	0.28			
4902	Layer	Natural				
4903	Layer	Natural				
4904	Cut	Ditch	0.72	1.06		
4905	Fill	Fill of Ditch 4904	0.24		Animal Bone, pottery	Later pre-historic?
4906	Fill	Fill of Ditch 4904	0.32		CBM	Modern
4907	Cut	Pit	0.22	1.6		
4908	Fill	Fill of Pit 4907	0.22			
4909	Fill	Fill of Pit 4907	0.2			
4910	Fill	Fill of Ditch 4904	0.16			

**2006 Evaluation**

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
<b>Trench 101</b>						
100	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
101	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
102	Layer	The Upper natural	0.16			
103	Layer	Blue-brown clay natural				
<b>Trench 102</b>						
10200	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
10201	Layer	Subsoil	0.32			
10202	Layer	The Upper natural	0.35			
10203	Layer	Blue-brown clay natural				
10204	Cut	Shallow pit?	0.32	0.68		
10205	Fill	Fill of 10204	0.32		Pottery	IA
10206	Cut	Shallow depression/ pit?	0.12	0.95		
10207	Fill	Fill of 10206	0.12			
10208	Cut	Field-drain				
10209	Fill	Field-drain fill				
10210	Cut	Ditch	0.69	4.00		
10211	Fill	Primary fill of 10210	0.38		Bone Hammer-stone	
10212	Fill	Fill of 10210	0.38		Pottery Bone Burnt Stone	IA
10213	Fill	Upper fill of 10210	0.3			
<b>Trench 103</b>						
10300	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
10301	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
10302	Layer	Natural				

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Findings	Date
10303	Fill	Fill of root disturbance	0.06			
10304	Cut	Root disturbance	0.06			
<b>Trench 104</b>						
10400	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
10401	Layer	Subsoil	0.36			
10402	Layer	Natural				
10403	Cut	Ditch	0.2	2.75		
10404	fill	Ditch fill	0.2		Pottery	IA
10405	Cut	Ditch	0.1	0.45		
10406	fill	Ditch fill	0.1		Pottery Bone	IA
10407	Cut	Ditch	0.24	0.94		
10408	fill	Ditch fill	0.24			
<b>Trench 201</b>						
20100	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
20101	Layer	Subsoil	0.12			
20102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 202</b>						
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Findings	Date
20200	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
20201	Layer	Subsoil	0.28			
20202	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 203</b>						
20300	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
20301	Layer	Subsoil	0.13			
20302	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 204</b>						
20400	Layer	Topsoil	0.18		Pottery	Medieval?
20401	Layer	Subsoil	0.26			
20402	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 205</b>						
20500	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
20501	Layer	Subsoil	0.16			
20502	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 206</b>						
20600	Layer	Topsoil	0.24			
20601	Layer	Subsoil	0.14			
20602	Layer	Natural				
20603	Cut	Root disturbance	0.14	2.40		
20604	Fill	Root disturbance fill	0.14			
<b>Trench 207</b>						
20700	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
20701	Layer	Subsoil	0.5			
20702	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 208</b>						
20800	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
20801	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
20802	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 209</b>						

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
20900	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
20901	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
20902	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 210</b>						
21000	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
21001	Layer	Subsoil	0.2			
21002	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 211</b>						
21100	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
21101	Layer	Subsoil	0.25			
21102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 212</b>						
21200	Layer	Topsoil	0.25			
21201	Layer	Subsoil	0.15			
21202	Layer	Natural				
21203	Fill	Fill of rubbish pit	0.5+			
21204	Cut	Modern rubbish pit	0.5+	8.4		
<b>Trench 301</b>						
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
30100	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
30101	Layer	Subsoil	0.13			
30102	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 302</b>						
30200	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
30201	Layer	Subsoil	0.22			
30202	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 303</b>						
30300	Layer	Topsoil	0.12			
30301	Layer	Subsoil	0.22			
30302	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 304</b>						
30400	Layer	Topsoil	0.28			
30401	Layer	Subsoil	0.08			
30402	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 305</b>						
30500	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
30501	Layer	Subsoil	0.22			
30502	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 306</b>						
30600	Layer	Topsoil	0.3			
30601	Layer	Subsoil	0.22			
30602	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 307</b>						
30700	Layer	Topsoil	0.26			
30701	Layer	Subsoil	0.14			
30702	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 308</b>						
30800	Layer	Topsoil	0.2			
30801	Layer	Subsoil	0.4			

Trench no. and Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Width (m)	Finds	Date
30802	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 309</b>						
30900	Layer	Topsoil	0.29			
30901	Layer	Subsoil	0.17			
30902	Layer	Natural				
<b>Trench 310</b>						
31000	Layer	Topsoil	0.18			
31001	Layer	Subsoil	0.28			
31002	Layer	Natural				

## APPENDIX 2 FINDS REPORTS

## Pottery from the 2006 evaluation

*Edward Biddulph*

Table 1: A1GMTEV Pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot-date
10205	1	1	Very abraded sherd in ?sandy fabric	IA
10212	110	1500	1. Tall jar with combed or scored decoration on body. Coarse fabric with gritty shell/calcareous and clay pellet filler. 2. Curving-sided bowl(s) with incised decoration on top of rim; maximum of four vessels, though probably from a single bowl. Gritty shell/calcareous fabric	MIA
10404	5	11	Body sherds in calcareous fabric	IA
10406	1	2	Abraded body sherd in calcareous fabric	IA
20400	1	34	Body sherd in a very hard sandy fabric	?Medieval
TOTAL	118	1548		

A total of 118 sherds (1548 g) was recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage was rapidly assessed to identify diagnostic forms and fabrics and allow context-groups to be spot-dated.

All but eight sherds were recovered from context 10212. The deposit contained fragments from at least two vessels. One of these was a tall, handmade jar with combed or scored decoration in a gritty, calcareous fabric. No rim survived, but the body sherds resemble a vessel found at Dragonby, Lincolnshire, that belonged to the later part of the middle Iron Age, dating up to the mid 1st century BC (Gregory and Elsdon 1996, fig. 19.21, no. 27). No exact parallel was found for the second vessel - a curving-sided bowl in a similarly handmade, gritty fabric - but the type is consistent with a middle Iron Age date. Four rim sherds were recovered, each with diagonally scored lines in the top of the rim. None of the sherds joins, though may belong to a single vessel.

The remaining eight sherds were undiagnostic; those from 10205, 10404 and 10406 were especially small and abraded, though in fabrics not out of place within an Iron Age date range. A very hard, sandy sherd from context 20400 could well be later, possibly medieval, but the piece is otherwise undiagnostic and dating is very uncertain.

## Pottery from the 2004 evaluation

*Daniel Stansbie*

## Introduction and Methodology

A total of 25 sherds, weighing 427g, were recovered during the evaluation. This material was rapidly scanned to determine context dates and to assess the character of the pottery. Where necessary the pottery was examined under a binocular microscope at x20 magnification to aid

in identification of the fabric. A note was made of the most diagnostic pottery using OA's later prehistoric and Roman pottery recording system (Booth unpublished).

### Condition

With an average sherd weight of 17.8 g the condition of the pottery is generally good. The surfaces of the sherds are well preserved and little abrasion is evident.

### Description

The assemblage is small and largely Roman in date, with one sherd in a moderate sandy and shelly fabric (AS3) which is likely to be late prehistoric. The Roman assemblage is dominated by sandy grey ware (R20), in which there is a jar, a narrow necked jar and a plain-rimmed dish. These are supplemented by a sherds of shelly fabric (C10), including a single sherd from a dish, a body sherd of Nene Valley white-ware mortarium (M24), body sherds of Nene Valley colour-coated ware, a fragment of a flange from an unsourced oxidised mortarium (M50), a single sherd of oxidised sandy ware (O20) and a body sherd of central Gaulish samian. The bulk of this material is likely to date to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD.

### Potential

The assemblage is small and offers little potential for further study. However, the evidence indicates some kind of occupation during the 2nd and 3rd centuries, with pottery largely supplied from relatively local sources, such as the Nene Valley industry.

Table 2: PBGD04 Pottery

Ctx	Sherd no.	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot Dates
2800	5	121	R20 sandy grey ware, C10 shell-tempered fabric, M24 Nene valley white ware mortaria	EC2-MC3
2806	1	1	R20 sandy grey ware	MC1-LC4
2807	4	144	R20 sandy grey ware (1 narrow necked jar), C10 shelly fabric, O20 sandy oxidised ware, M50 oxidised mortaria (1 sherd from a flange, probably local), S30 central Gaulish samian ware	C2
2808	13	150	R20 sandy grey ware (1jar, 1 plain-rimmed dish), C10 shelly fabric (1 dish), F52 Nene Valley colour-coated ware	LC2-LC4
2911	1	4	C10 shelly fabric	ROM?
4905	1	7	AS3 moderate sandy and shelly fabric	Later PREHIST?

### Worked Stone from the 2006 evaluation

#### Ruth Shaffrey

Eight pieces of stone were retained; these are all pebbles. All the pebbles are either burnt or fire-cracked, that is, they have been exposed to extremes of heat and were probably used for

cooking. One of the pebbles from 10212 may have also been a hammerstone as may another pebble from 12011; both have some wear at one end of the stone consistent with use in this way.

Table 3: Stone finds

Context	Description	Lithology
12011	Possible hammerstone with evidence of wear at one end	Fine grained red sandstone
10212	Seven fragments of 'fire-cracked' pebbles. One of these may also have been used as a hammerstone	Fine grained quartzitic sandstone pebbles

### Animal bones from the 2004 evaluation

#### Lena Strid

A total of 40 animal bones were recovered from this site (see table 4). The bones were in a good condition: 95% being grade 1 and 5% being grade 2 (see Lyman 1994:355 for definitions). Burnt and gnawed bones were absent.

The predominance of cattle and sheep/goat in the assemblage (see table 5) is to be considered normal, regardless of time period.

The cattle scapula and metapodial were fused, indicating they derived from sub-adult/adult animals.

No further information can be gained from such a small sample of bones.

Table 4: Bone assemblage from PBGD04

	Cattle	Sheep /goat	Horse	Medium mammal	Large mammal	Indet.
Loose teeth	5	2	1			
Vertebra					1	
Scapula	1					
Metapodial	1					
Longbone				2		
Indeterminate						27
<b>TOTAL</b>	7	2	1	2	1	27
Weight (g)	91	11	26	2	9	74

Table 5: Weight by species

Context	Species	No. of bones (refitted)	Sum of weight (g)
10212	Cattle	3	191
	Sheep/goat	1	
	Horse	1	
	Medium mammal	2	
	Large mammal	1	
	Indeterminate	27	
10211	Sheep/goat	1	5
10406	Cattle	4	17

## APPENDIX 3 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- ASUD 2003 A1(M) Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions at Gonerby Moor, Colsterworth and Carpenters Lodge, Report 968, 2003
- ASUD 2004 A1(M) Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions at Apleyhead, Gonerby Moor and Colsterworth, Report 1103
- Booth, P, to 2004 unpublished Oxford Archaeology Roman pottery recording system: an introduction, Oxford Archaeology, with regular revisions/updates
- English Heritage 1995 Geophysical survey in archaeological field evaluation (1995).
- Gregory, A. K. and Elsdon, S. M. 1996 Pottery descriptions: catalogue and drawings, in Dragonby: report on excavations at an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement in north Lincolnshire (J May), Oxbow Monogram 61, Oxford, 444-512
- IFA 1999 Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (1999)
- Pell Frischmann Consultants Ltd 2002 A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Stage 2 Cultural Heritage Report
- OA 1992 Fieldwork Manual (ed. D. Wilkinson, first edition, 1992)
- OA 2000 Environmental Sampling Guidelines and Instruction Manual, Oxford Archaeology (First edition, July 2000)
- OA 2004a A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation
- OA 2004b A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Archaeological evaluation report, Oxford Archaeology, June 2004
- OA 2006 A1 Peterborough to Blyth Grade Separated Junctions Scheme, A1/B1174 Gonerby Moor Interchange, Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation



---

**APPENDIX 4 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Site name:** A1 Gonerby Moor

**Site code:** A1GMT 06

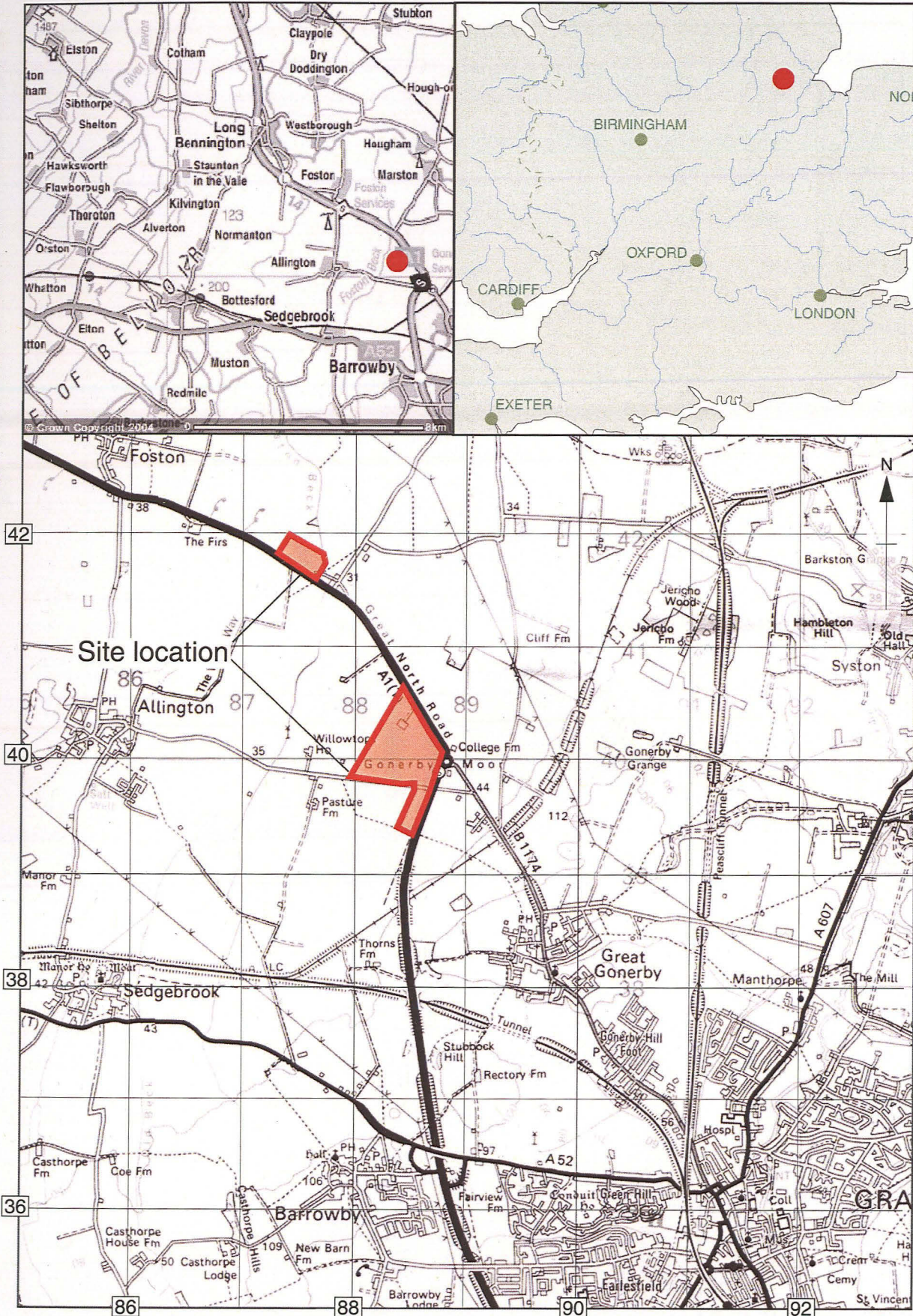
**Grid reference:** SK 4885 3398

**Type of evaluation:** 57 trench evaluation and Geophysical Survey

**Date and duration of project:** June 2004 and October 2006

**Summary of results:** Iron Age activity (ditches with finds and possible pits) within trenches on the western edge of the site. Roman ditches and pits within the north of the site, close to the A1. A undated curvilinear ditch and possible postholes next to the Foston beck. A ditch and broad cutting at the southern end of the site are possibly Roman in date although the dating here is uncertain. The eastern field contained no archaeological features.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the appropriate Museum in due course.



Scale 1:50,000

Reproduced from the Landranger 1:50,000 scale by permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office  
© Crown Copyright 1990. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 100005569

Figure 1: Site Location

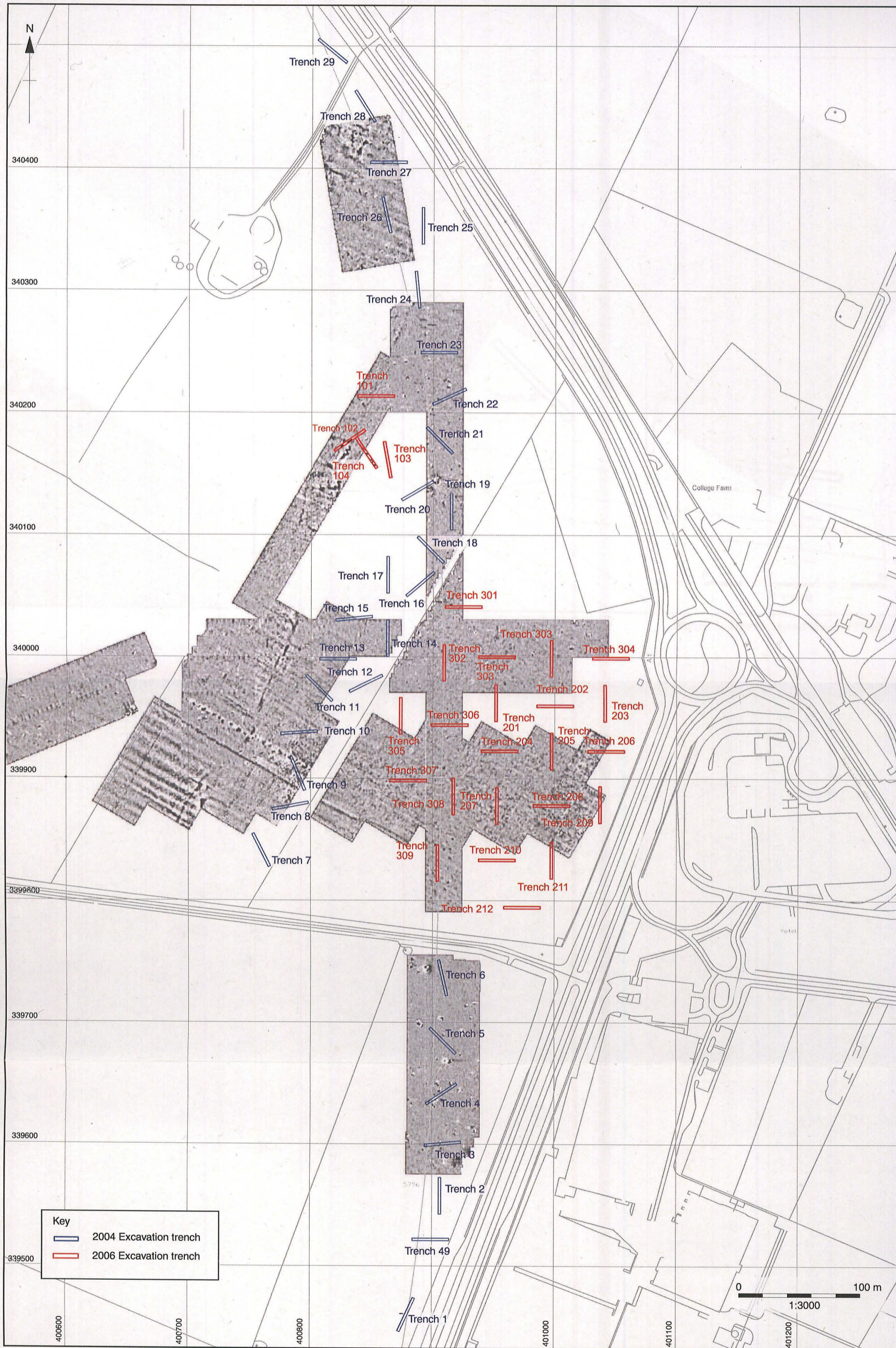


Figure 2: Trench layout of the main evaluation area

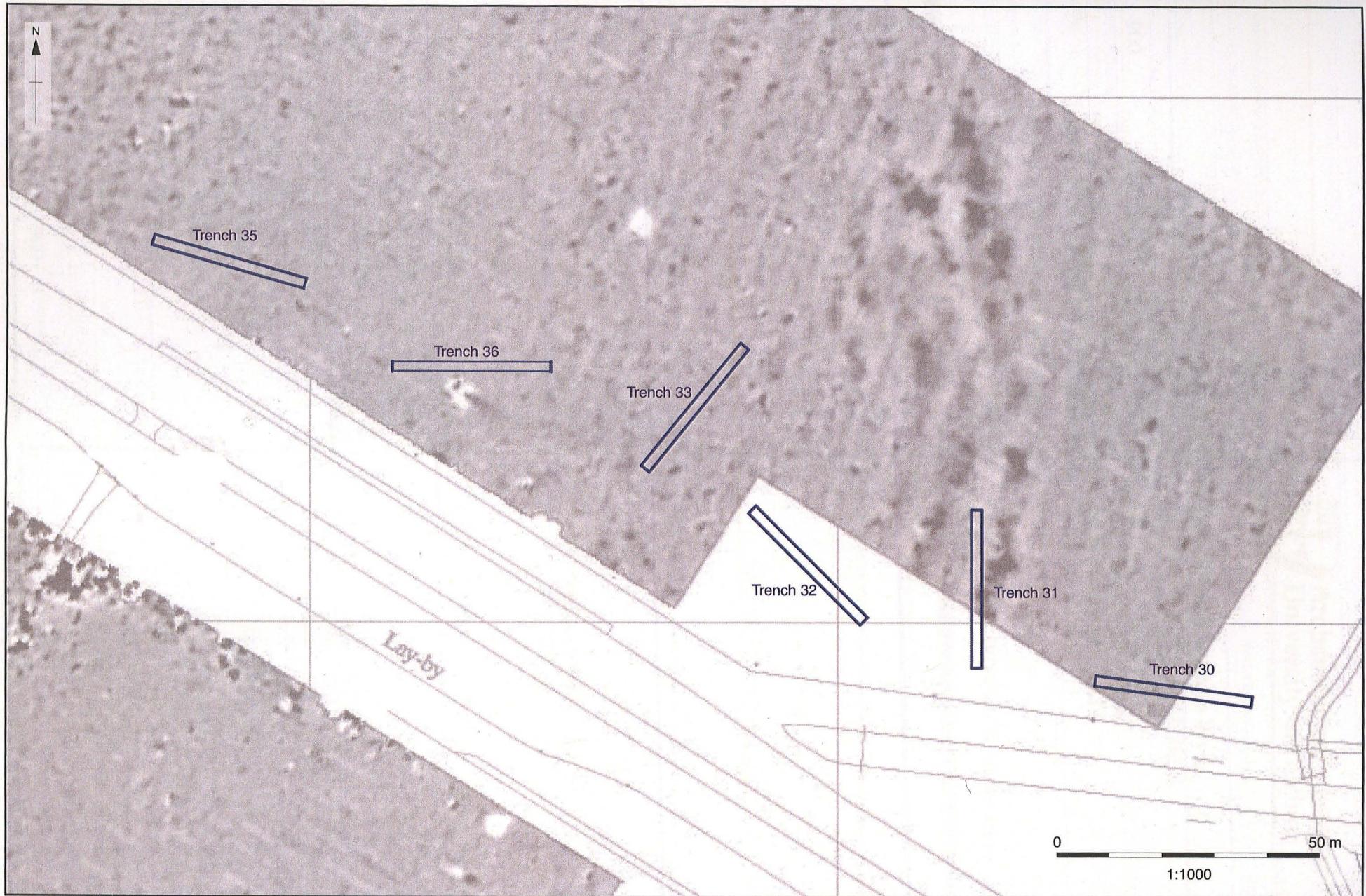
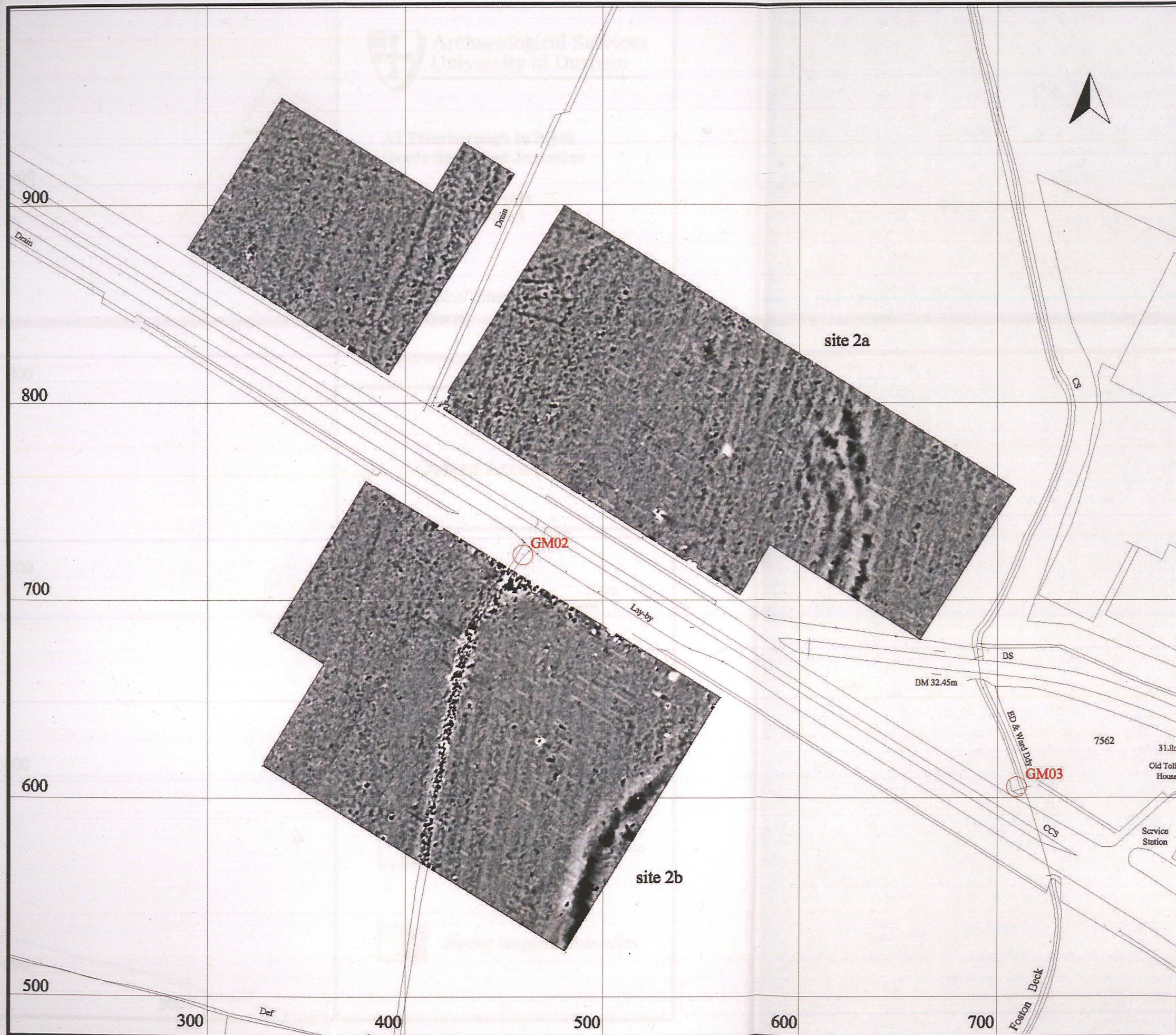


Figure 3: Trench layout west of Foston Beck



**A1 Peterborough to Blyth  
 Grade Separated Junctions**

**Geophysical surveys  
 ASUD Report 1103**

*Geophysical survey of Gonerby Moor  
 North*

*basemap courtesy of Oxford Archaeology*

on behalf of  
**Oxford Archaeology**

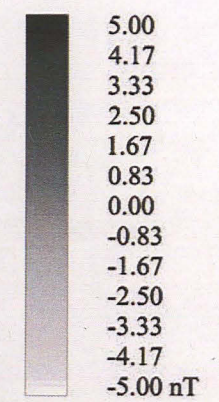
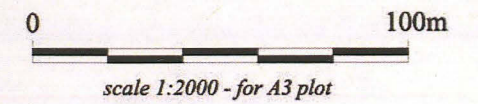


Figure 4: Geophysical Survey at Gonerby Moor North



**A1 Peterborough to Blyth  
Grade Separated Junctions**

**Geophysical surveys  
ASUD Report 1103**

*Geophysical interpretation at Gonerby  
Moor North*

*basemap courtesy of Oxford Archaeology*

on behalf of  
**Oxford Archaeology**






-  outline of survey area
-  positive magnetic anomalies
-  dipolar magnetic anomalies

Figure 5: Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor North

**A1 Peterborough to Blyth  
 Grade Separated Junctions**

**Geophysical surveys  
 ASUD Report 1103**

*Geophysical surveys at Gonerby Moor  
 South*

*basemap courtesy of Oxford Archaeology*

on behalf of

**Oxford Archaeology**

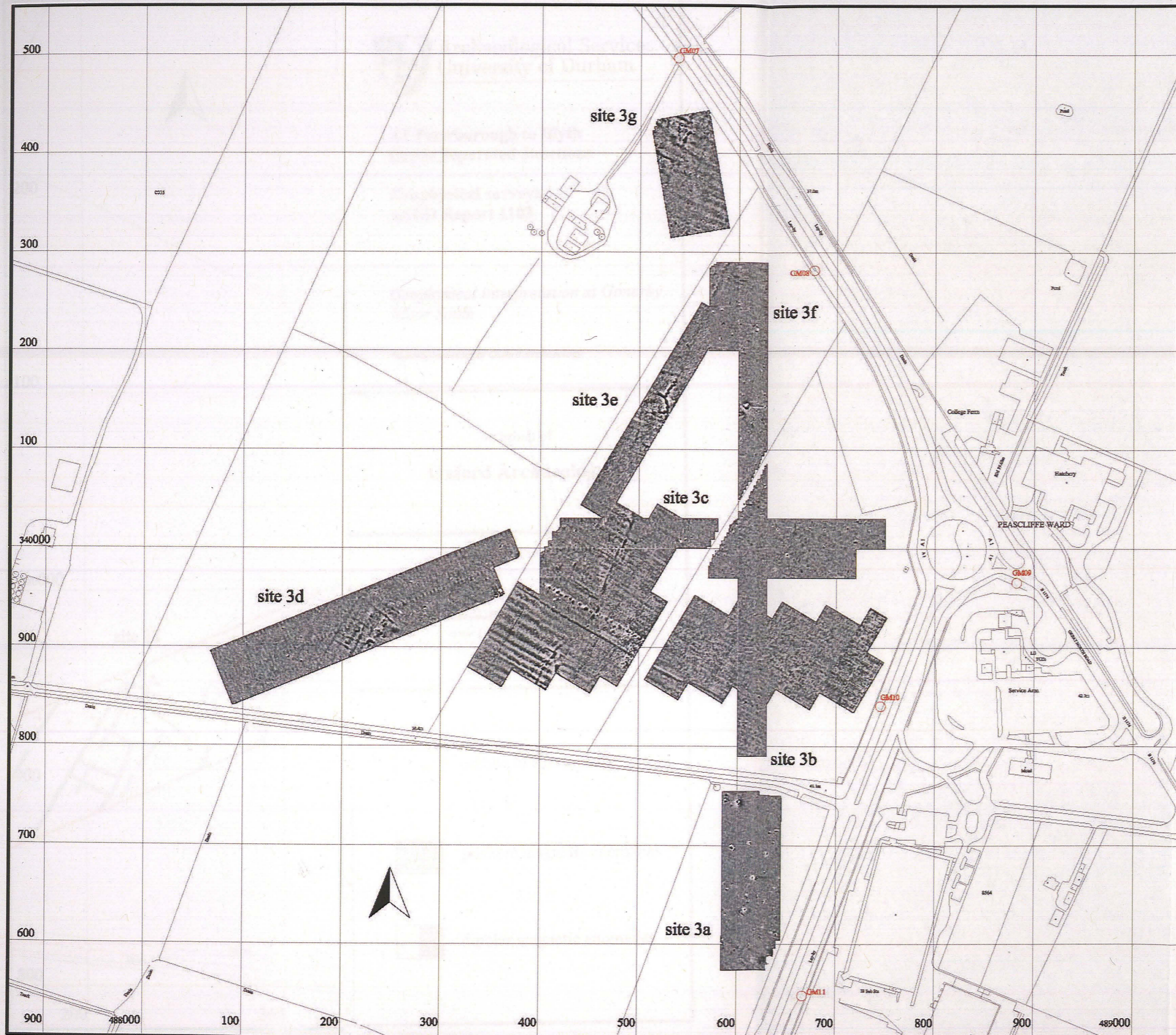
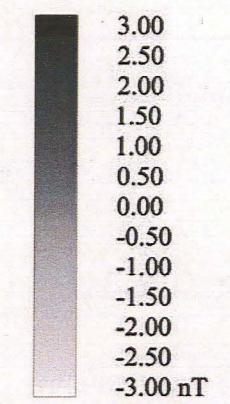
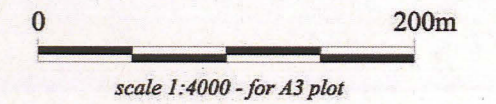
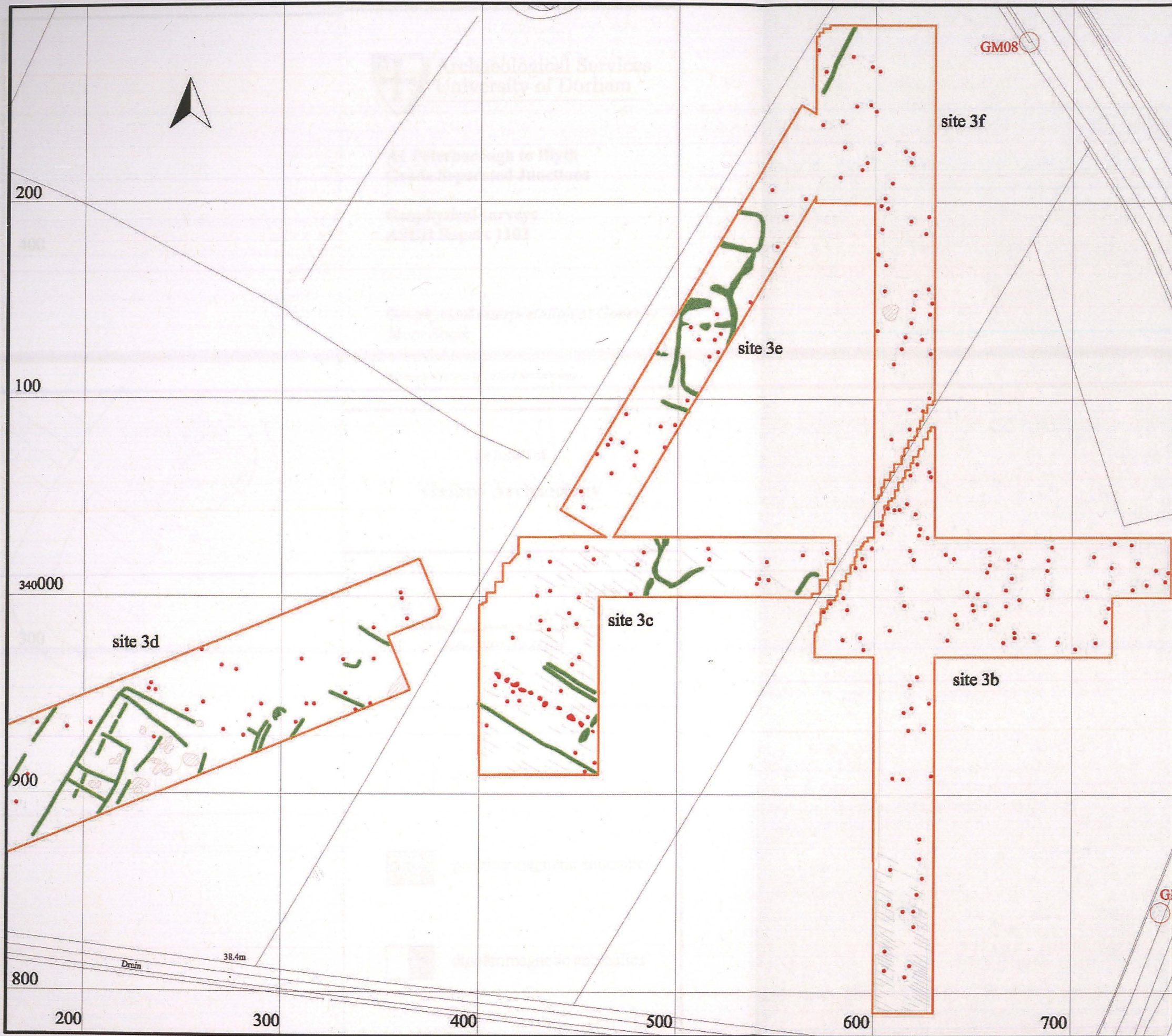


Figure 6: Geophysical Surveys at Gonerby Moor South



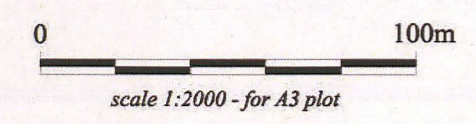
**A1 Peterborough to Blyth  
 Grade Separated Junctions**

**Geophysical surveys  
 ASUD Report 1103**

*Geophysical interpretation at Gonerby  
 Moor South*

*basemap courtesy of Oxford Archaeology*

on behalf of  
**Oxford Archaeology**






- 
 outline of survey area
- 
 positive magnetic anomalies
- 
 dipolar magnetic anomalies

Figure 7: Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor South



**A1 Peterborough to Blyth  
 Grade Separated Junctions**

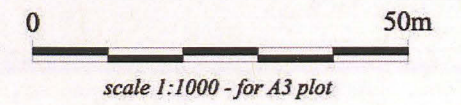
**Geophysical surveys  
 ASUD Report 1103**

*Geophysical interpretation at Gonerby  
 Moor South*

*basemap courtesy of Oxford Archaeology*

on behalf of

**Oxford Archaeology**






-  outline of survey area
-  positive magnetic anomalies
-  dipolar magnetic anomalies



Figure 8: Geophysical Interpretation at Gonerby Moor South, Site 3g

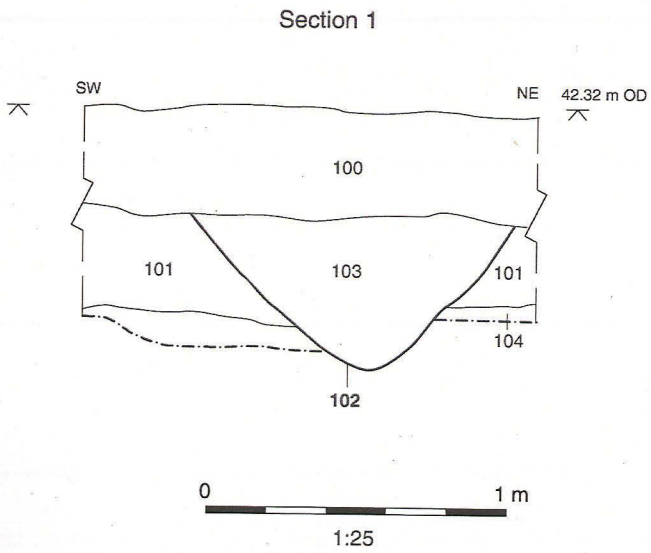
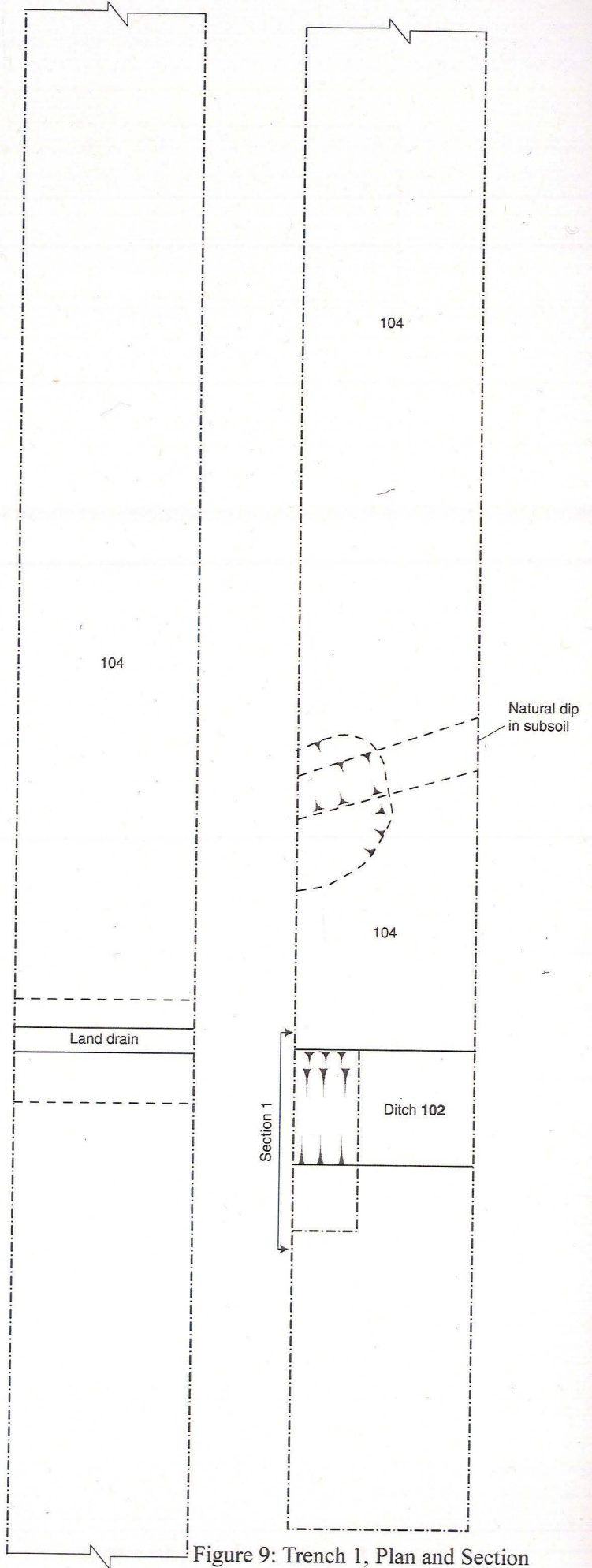
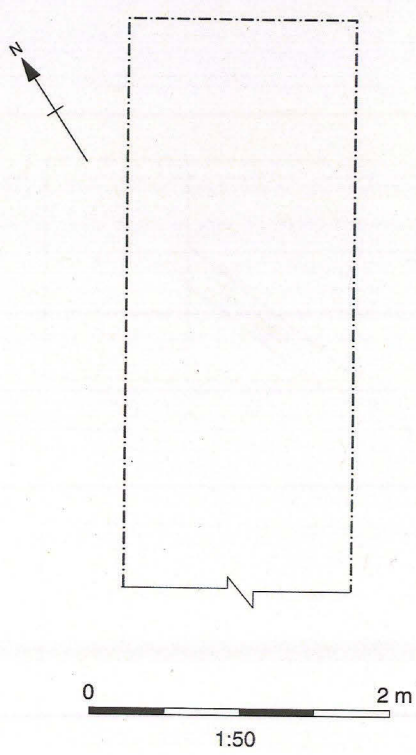


Figure 9: Trench 1, Plan and Section

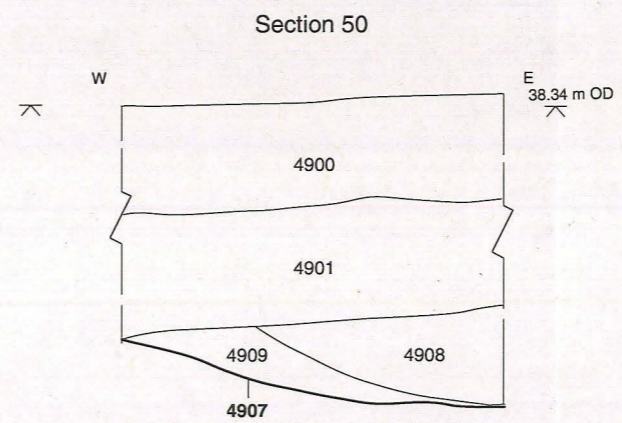
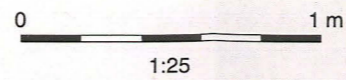
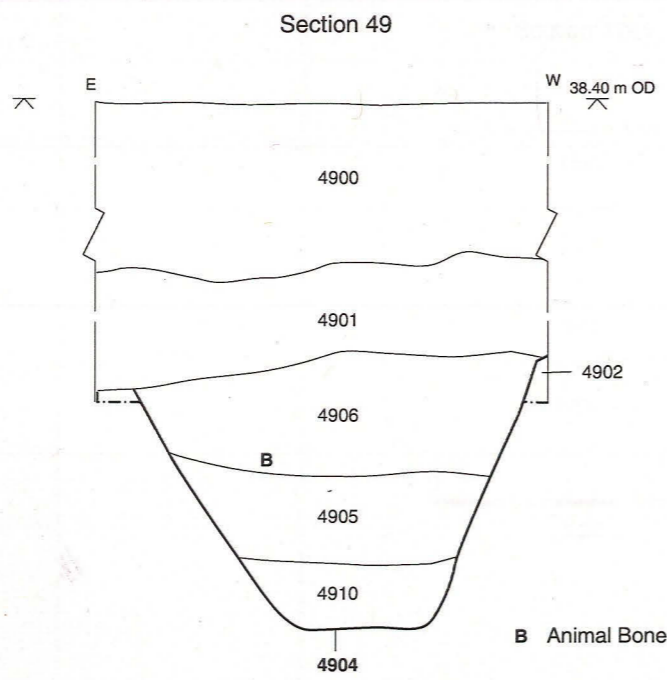
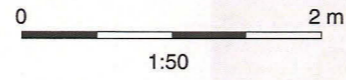
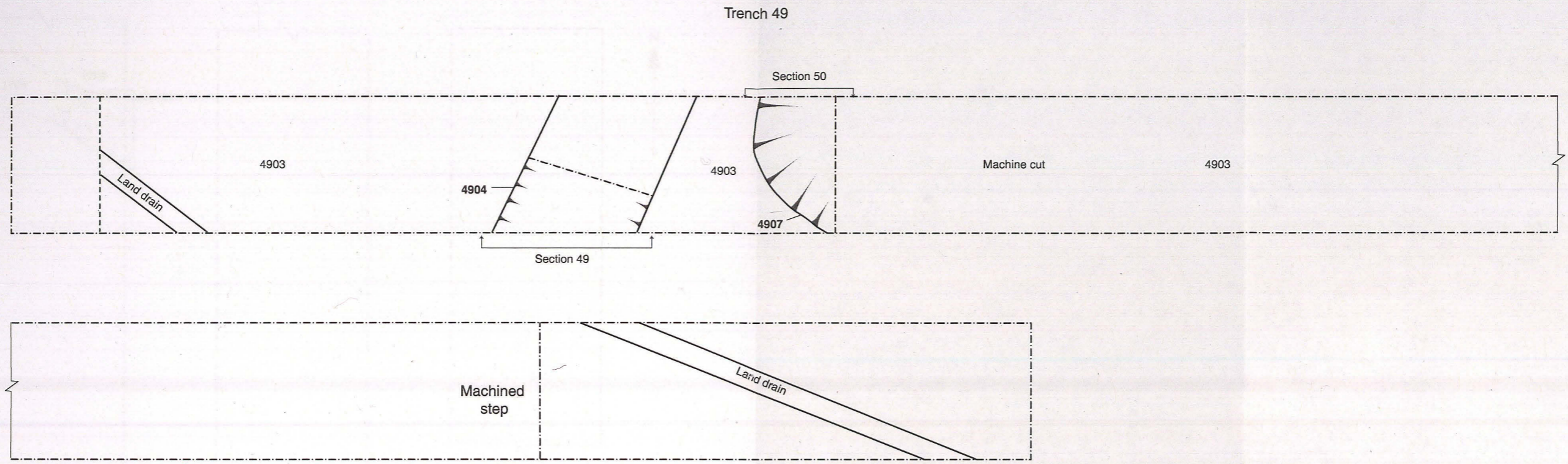
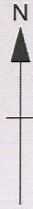


Figure 10: Trench 49, Plan and Sections

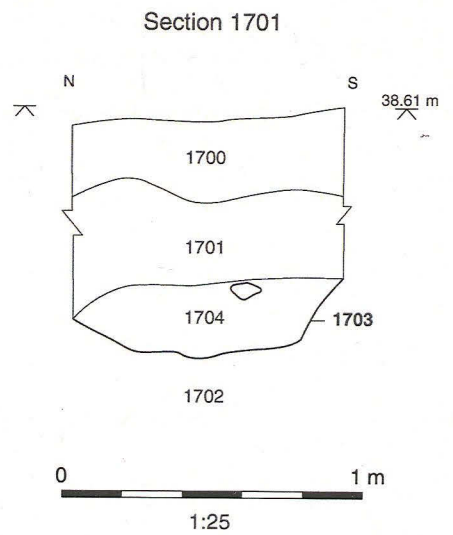
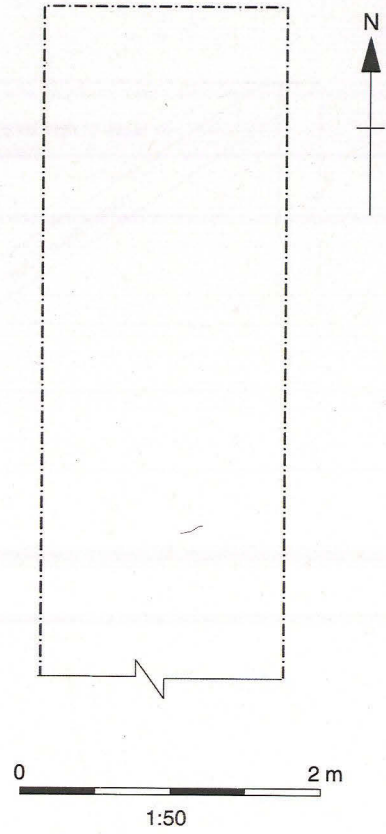
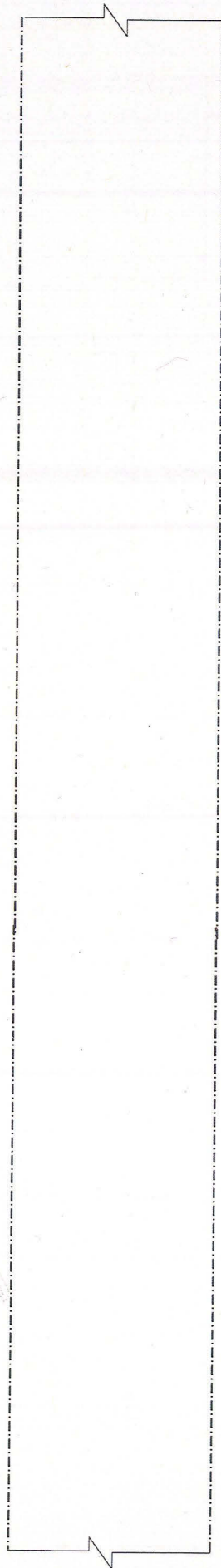
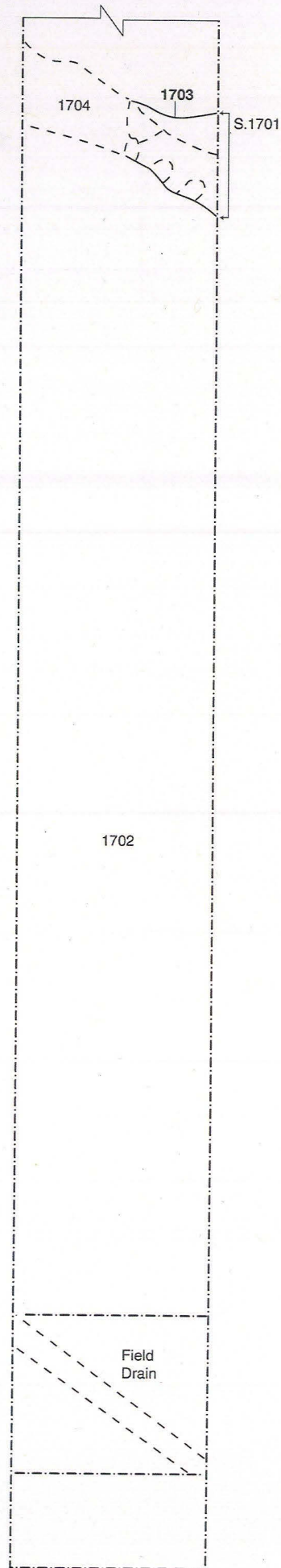


Figure 11: Trench 17, Plan and Section

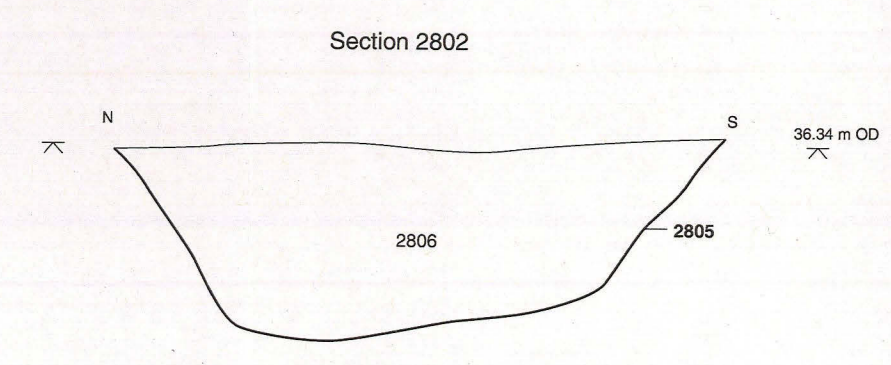
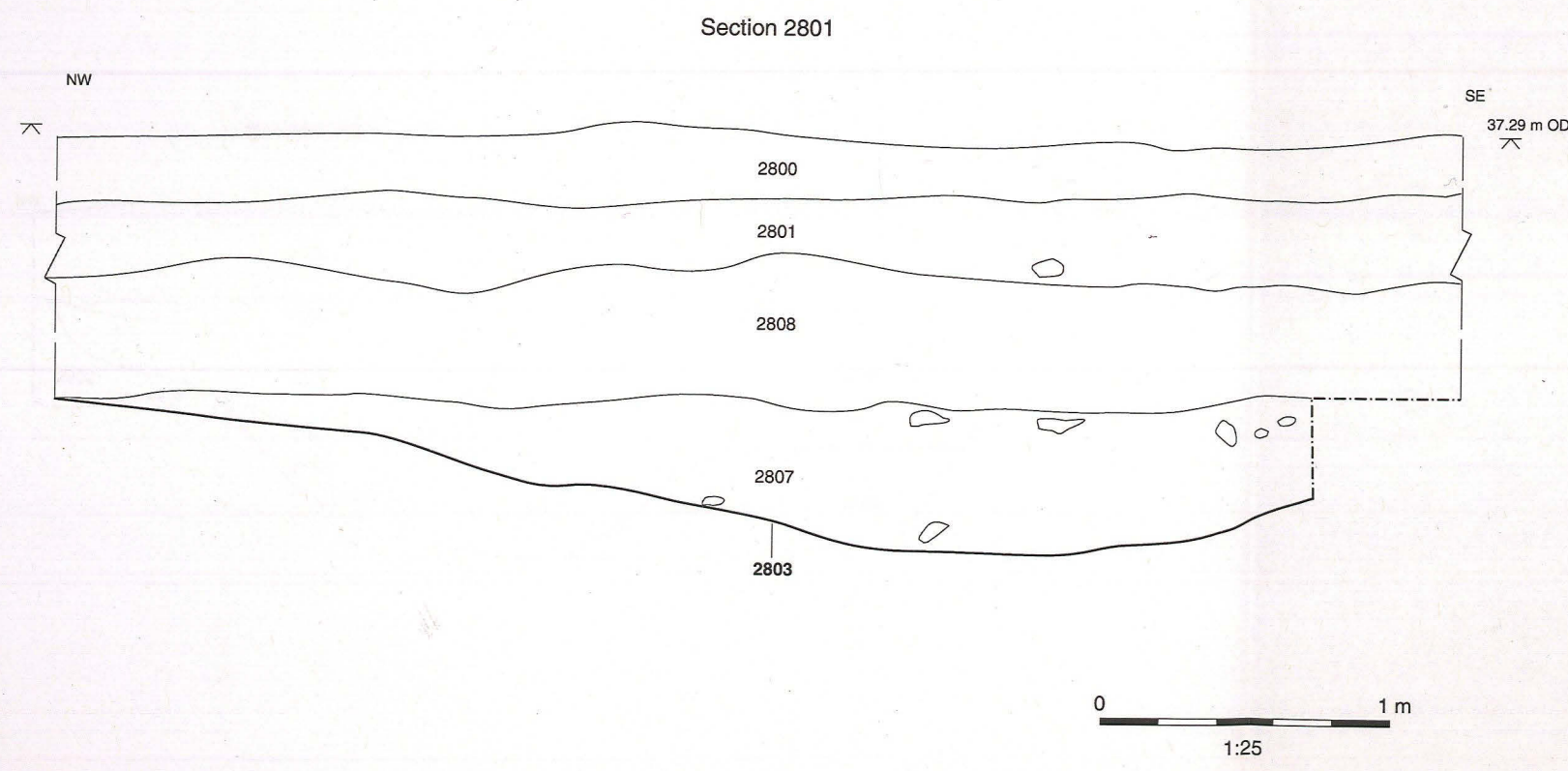
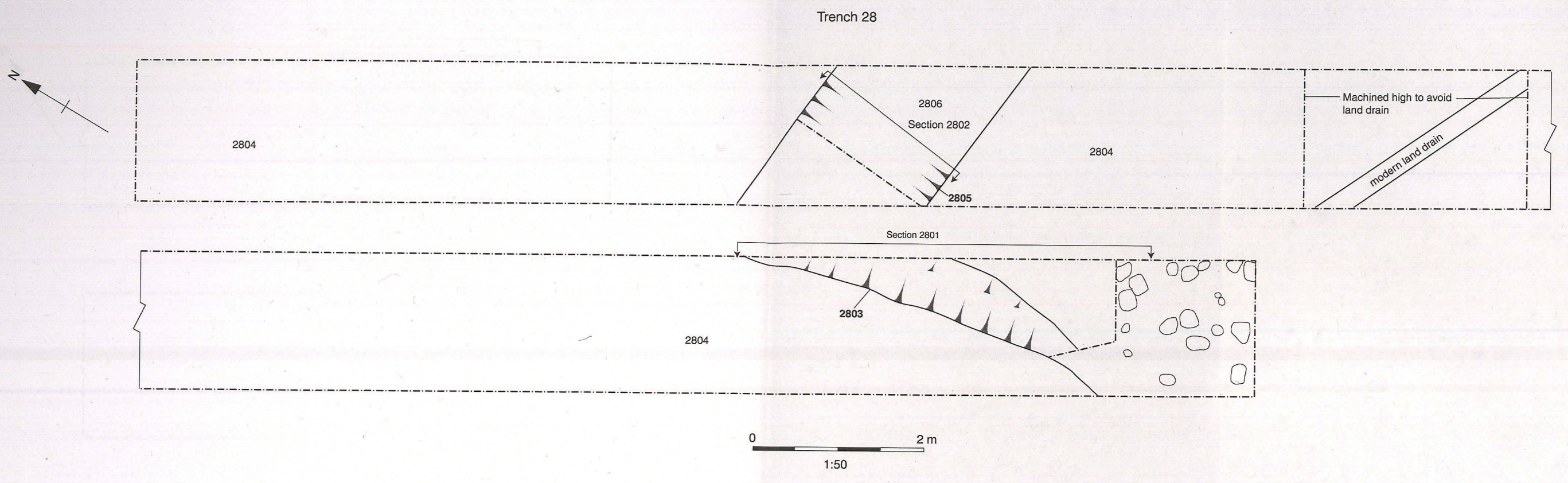


Figure 12: Trench 28, Plan and Sections

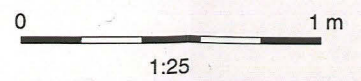
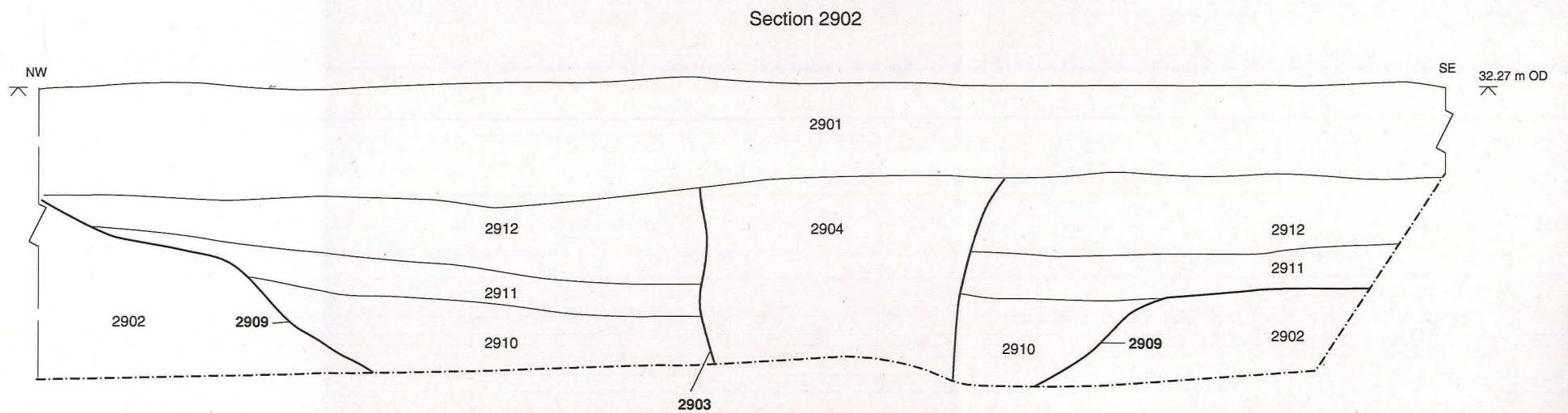
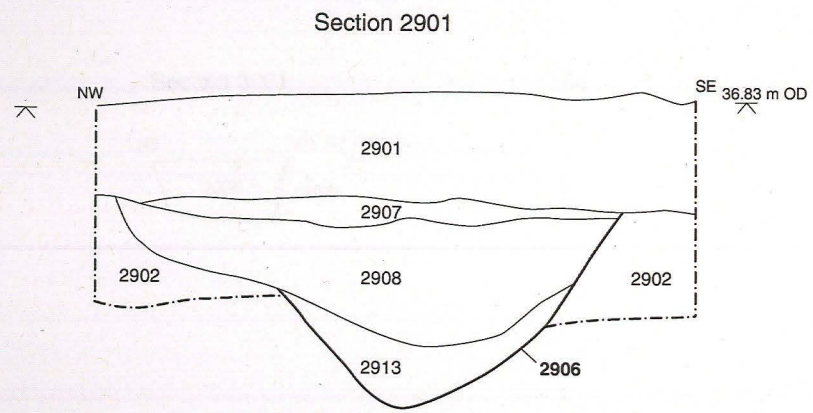
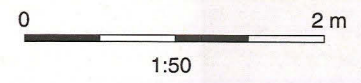
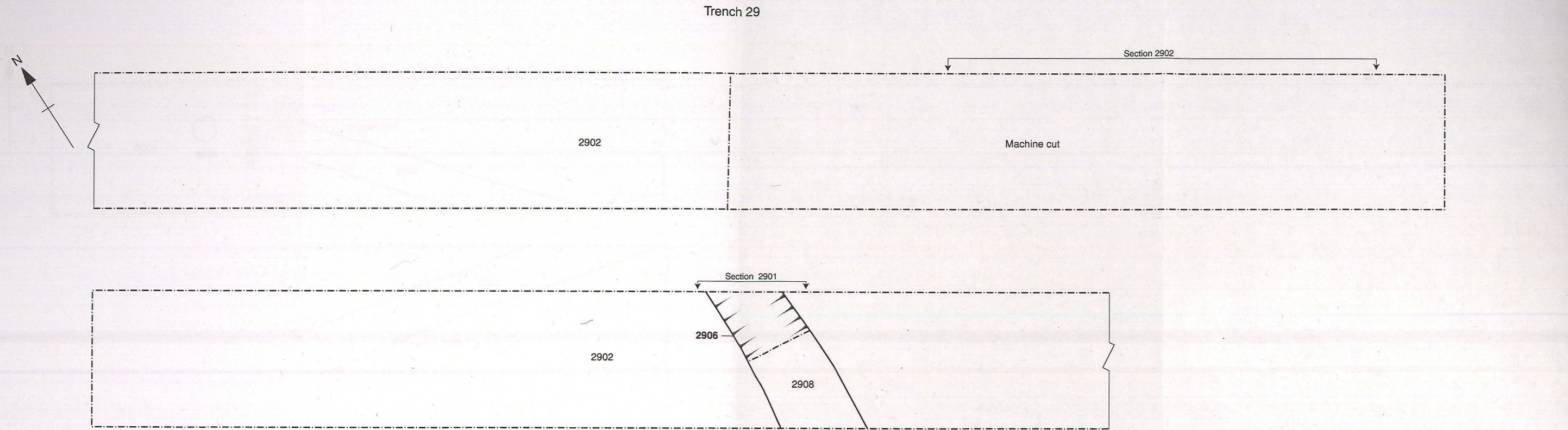


Figure 13: Trench 29, Plan and Sections

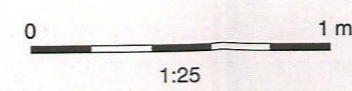
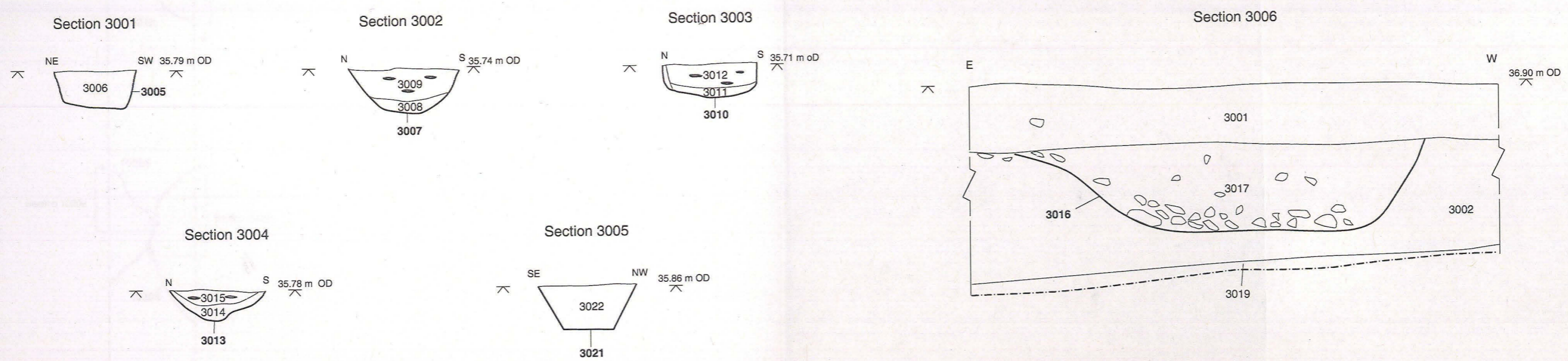
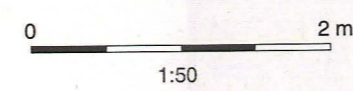
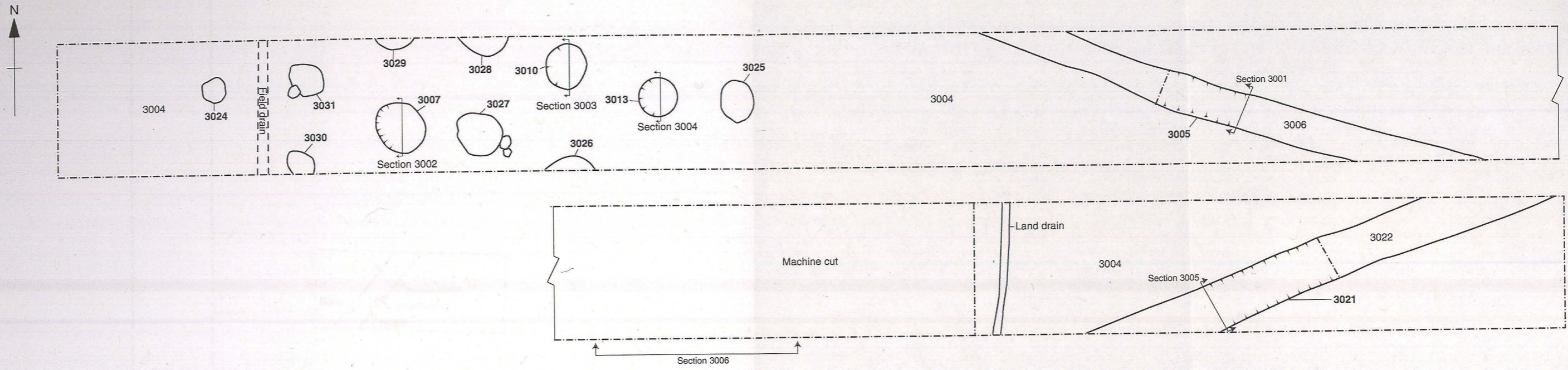


Figure 14: Trench 30, Plan and Sections

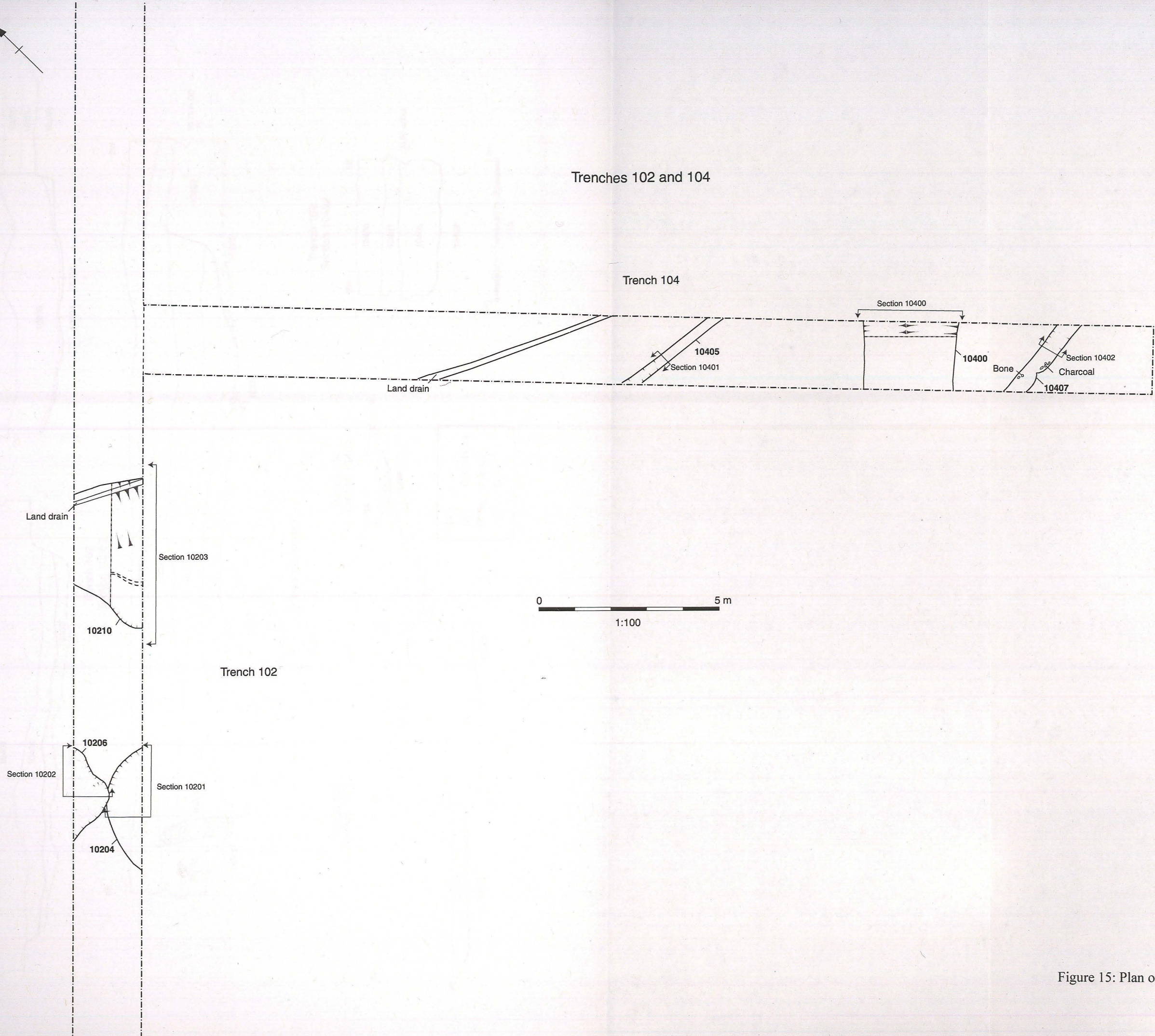
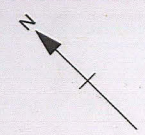


Figure 15: Plan of Trenches 102 and 104



