Chapelfield, St Mabyn, Cornwall
Archaeological evaluation trenching

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Report No: 2016R035

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Client	**Mr Simon Clark**
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Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by Mr Simon Clark and carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council.

The archive lists, mapping and on-site organisation was carried out by Ryan Smith.

The site was excavated by Graham (Benj) Britton, Anna Lawson-Jones and Ryan Smith.

Artefact identification was provided by Carl Thorpe.

The Project Manager was Andy Jones.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Cornwall Archaeological Unit and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

Freedom of Information Act

As Cornwall Council is a public authority it is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into effect from 1st January 2005.

Cornwall Archaeological Unit is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Cover illustration:

Pre-excavation photograph looking south-west along Trench 12, showing the northern ditch of the northern enclosure running diagonally across the base of the trench in the foreground, and St Mabyn Church).

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Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey

1 Summary

Cornwall Archaeological Unit, County Council was commissioned by Mr Jason Jarvis of Lipscomb Jones Architects, on behalf of the landowner, to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at Chapelfield, St Mabyn, in advance of the proposed construction of 14 houses.

The site lies within an area identified as Anciently Enclosed Land on the periphery of St Mabyn, identified in the HER as being a settlement of medieval origin.

Geophysical survey by AB Heritage (2016) identified a number of clearly defined linear features, pit-like anomalies and two adjoining enclosures. A programme of evaluative trenching was carried out by CAU, which largely confirmed the survey results. Artefacts recovered show that most of the activity was associated with two enclosures of Romano-British date, and that it is broadly domestic in character. Finds included imported pottery, slate game pieces and a copper alloy brooch. Slightly earlier prehistoric activity is indicated by the presence of occasional worked flint and later (medieval) activity includes a number of the linear field boundaries.

This report suggests three different approaches to mitigate for the archaeology and makes recommendations accordingly, including a watching brief and partial or fuller excavation according to the preferred option.

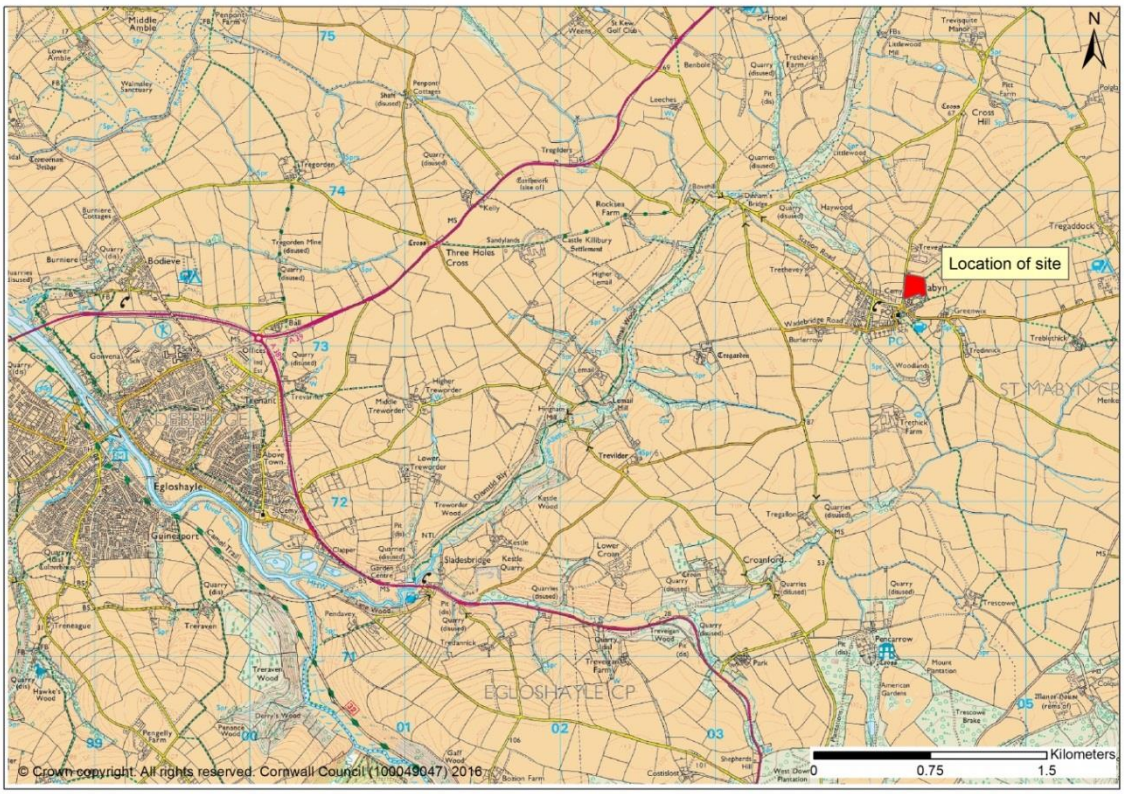


Fig 1 Location map, showing Wadebridge to the west and St Mabyn and the site to the east.

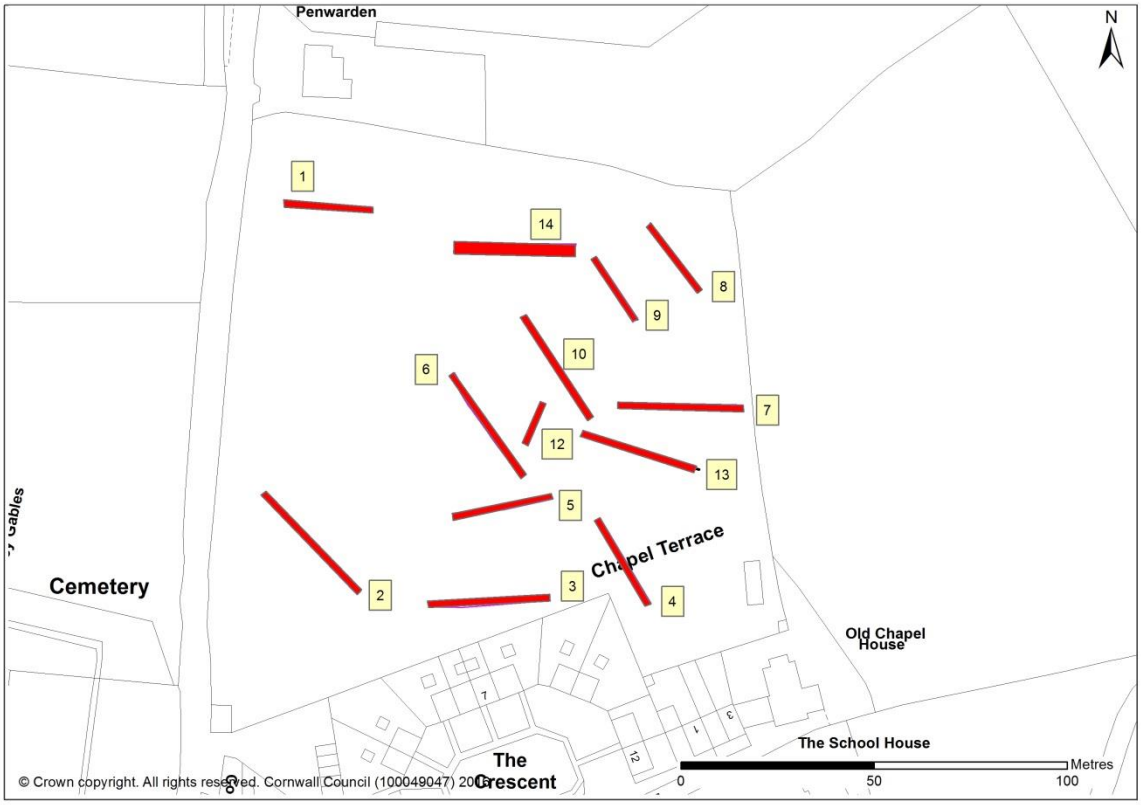


Fig 2 Ordnance Survey digital mapping showing the site area and the location and number of all mechanically opened trenches. Note - trench 11 was not opened.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was contacted by Mr Jason Jarvis of Lipscomb Jones Architects, on behalf of the landowner, to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at Chapelfield, St Mabyn, in advance of the proposed construction of 14 houses (Planning Application number - PA16/00181). The proposed development is centred at SX 04281 73383, and located to the east of Wadebridge, on the northern edge of St Mabyn village (see Fig 1, 2 and 3).

An archaeological assessment and a geophysical magnetometer survey were undertaken by AB Heritage (2016). This report makes reference to the assessment and the magnetometer survey results, which guided the fieldwork programme.

The evaluation took the form of 13 machine excavated trenches which were positioned across anomalies identified as being of significance (see Fig 14) by the magnetometer survey.

The geophysical survey had identified a number of clearly defined features with archaeological potential, including a double enclosure, a series of short, long and parallel linear anomalies, plus a number of amorphous and pit-like anomalies (AB Heritage 2016).

A written scheme of investigation detailing the scope and methods for the archaeological recording was produced by CAU (Appendix 1). The proposed trenching strategy was agreed by the Local Planning Authority.

The archaeological evaluation will inform future mitigation strategies associated with the impact of the proposed development and recommendations are made at the end of the report.

2.2 Aims

The principal aim of this evaluation has been to gain a better understanding of the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits within the proposed development area, to consider the likely impacts of the development on the archaeological features and to guide potential methods by which any negative impacts resulting from the development might be mitigated.

Key objectives were:

- To establish if areas of archaeological deposits survive within the development boundary which will require further stages of archaeological recording.
- To locate evidence for prehistoric and medieval settlement activity within the area of the proposed development.
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the site at Chapelfield and its environs from any archaeological remains encountered.

2.3 Methods

All recording work was undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording. Staff followed the CIfA Code of Conduct and Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Archaeology. The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

Fieldwork: archaeological evaluation trenching

Thirteen trenches, varying in length from 35.3m to 11.7m long were mechanically excavated down to the top of the archaeology (or the top of natural) by a machine with a toothless bucket. All the trenches had a 1.6m width, with the exception of Trench 14 (which was 3m wide).

The trenches were designed to target specific geophysical anomalies and to test blank areas (see Fig 14):

- Trench 1 was located over a number of linear anomalies in the northwest part of the survey area.
- Trenches 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10 targeted the main linear anomalies which run across the central part of the site, plus adjacent features along its length.
- Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7, 12 and 13 investigated the enclosures in the southern part of the survey area plus a representative number of the identified features within it.
- Trench 11 had been planned for, but was not opened due to sheep being corralled over the selected area, in the south-east corner of the field.
- Trench 14 was located in a 'blank area' on the western side of the surveyed field to test whether it was actually blank.

Recording

All excavation and recording was carried out according to the Written Scheme of Investigation included at the end of the report (Appendix 1).

Finds

All finds of post 1800 date were noted as present. All pre-1800 finds were collected, bagged and labelled. The brooch was boxed with the soil in which it was found and recorded and labelled with context details in preparation for transport to the RIC.

Photographs

Digital colour photographs were taken of all excavated features, plus working and full trench shots. Black and white archive photographs were taken of all significant features.

Site archive

An ordered and cross-referenced site archive has been produced. Site plans, photographs and other records have been completed and indexed, and retrieved artefacts have been processed and catalogued.

OASIS

A Historic England /ADS OASIS online archive index has been created for this stage of the project.

Archive report

The results of the evaluation trenching are presented in this report.

3 Location and setting

The site of the proposed development lies on gently sloping pasture land, which drops down towards the village of St Mabyn to the immediate southwest and allows wide views out to the west.

The settlement of St Mabyn was first recorded in 1234 when it was spelt *Sancto Malbano* (although it may have early medieval origins. The *ma…* prefix meaning 'place' or 'plain, open country' is often followed by a river name or personal name (Padel 1985, 155). The village is built around the Parish church, a Grade I Listed Building, with an early medieval font and a Scheduled Cross in the churchyard, located approximately 100m to the southwest of the site (see Fig 3), while figures 4 and 5 show the

nineteenth century layout of the village. The core of the village includes a small square, the village primary school, the village shop and the local pub.

Along the southern edge of the field are a number of modern houses; while at the south-eastern corner lies a post-medieval chapel. Beyond the eastern edge of the site is the brow of the hill, over which there are long views out towards Bodmin Moor. To the north lie farms and their associated farmland, including Treveglos (located approximately 100m to the north of the site, which has a medieval origin), while to the west is the narrow lane linking St Mabyn to Cross Hill and beyond, flanked by the gradual modern expansion of St Mabyn.

The site covers an approximate 1.8 hectare area and lies within a sub-square field (see Figs 2 and 3) defined by Cornish hedges and wire fencing. The underlying solid geology consists of the Trevose Slate Formation and Rosenum Formation – Slate and Siltstone, with some basaltic intrusion (AB Heritage 2016, 3). Topographically the site drops from northeast to southwest, with the field height varying from 114m to 109m above sea level.

In terms of Historic Landscape Characterisation the site lies within Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL), that is, the agricultural heartland, with farming settlements documented before the seventeenth century, whose field patterns are morphologically distinct from the generally straight-sided fields of later enclosure. AEL is often found to have medieval or prehistoric origins (Cornwall County Council 1996), and often contains buried archaeological features and deposits of medieval and earlier date. The current field system and the field under evaluation are likely to be of medieval origin, in keeping with the medieval or early medieval origin of St Mabyn as a settlement. Given its landscape characterisation and topographical setting earlier activity was not unexpected.

The desk-based assessment (AB Heritage 2016), did not identify any known sites within the immediate area of the site. However, the geophysical survey did reveal quite a dense scattering of anomalies, which included a double enclosure, potential trackways and field boundaries and a number of pits and curvilinear features of variable size, shape and clarity (see Fig 14).

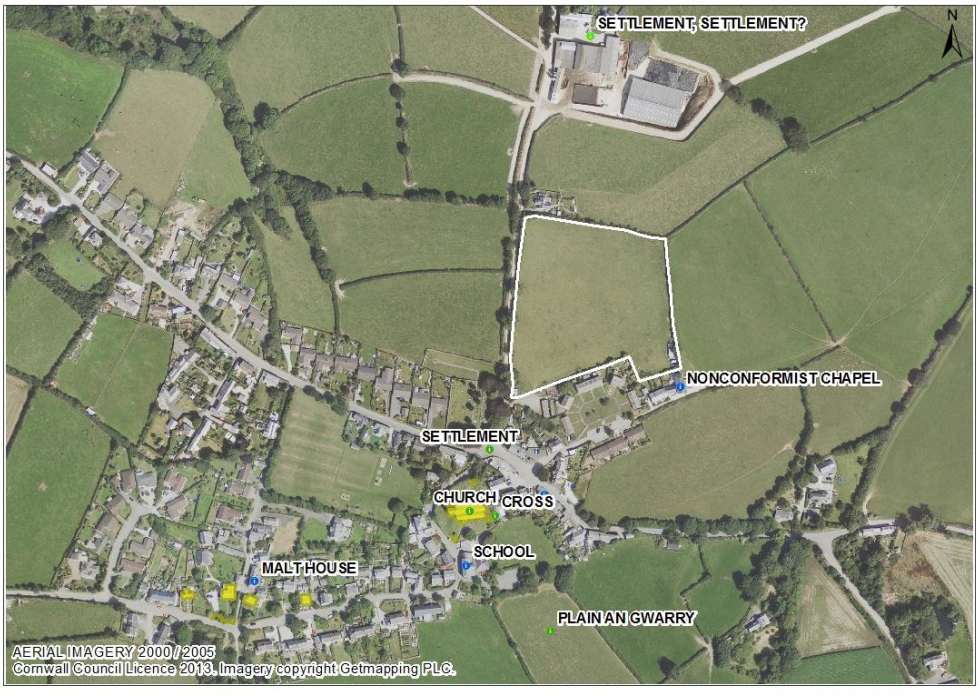


Fig 3 Aerial photograph showing the study area (2005) defined in white, plus main HER identified sites. Those coloured yellow are Listed Buildings.

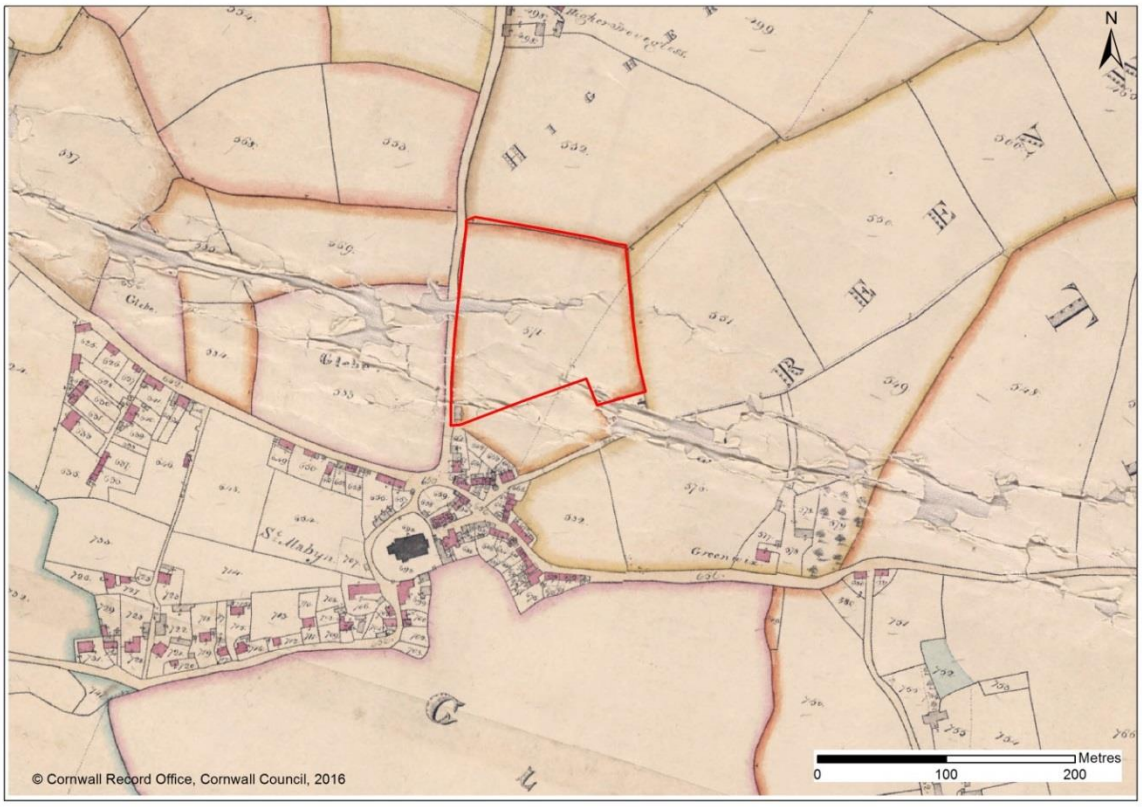


Fig 4 Tithe Map extract c1840. The project area has been outlined in red. Note the Glebe (or productive church owned land) to the west of the site.

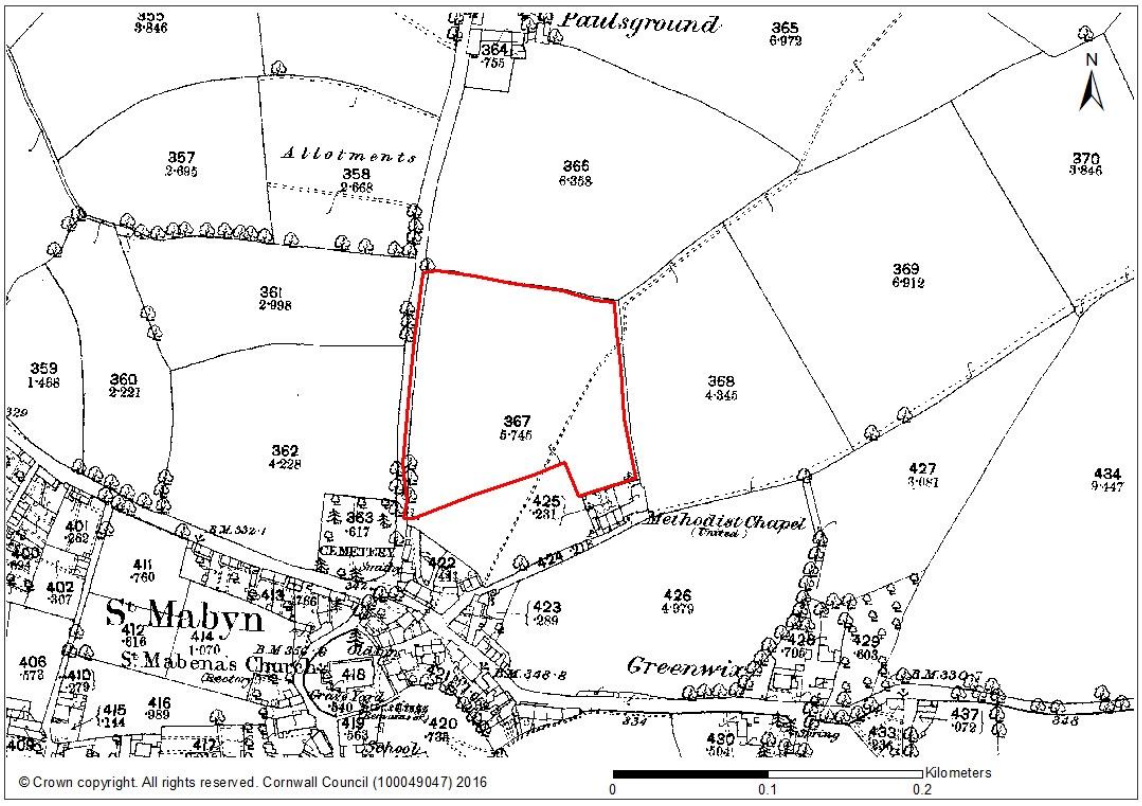


Fig 5 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1880, showing the project area outlined in red. Note the continuance of the footpath across the site. Today the footpath runs up from the extreme southwestern corner of the field.

4 Archaeological results

The geophysical survey identified two enclosures ((Fig 14) – an east-north-eastern rounded enclosure and an adjoining, more angular west-south-western enclosure. These are described in the following text as the eastern and the western enclosure. Trenches 4, 6, 7, 10 and 12 investigated at the northern enclosure ditches. Trenches 3 and 5 evaluated at the intervening /shared ditch, and Trench 2 examined the southern enclosure ditch. Other trenches look at the internal areas of the enclosures, as well as the outer area.

To the northwest of each enclosure runs a long, diagonal running north-east to south-west aligned boundary (also shown in orange on the survey). This, for ease, is described as the main diagonal boundary in the following text. It is flanked by a parallel running southern causewayed feature (possibly defined by lozenge shaped pits), which are shown in red on the survey. Trenches 6, 8, 9 and 10 look at these features. Trench 1 looks at features defined by red in the north-western part of the field, while Trench 14 looked at one of the blank geophysical survey areas.

4.1 The results by trench

All trench locations are shown on Figures 2 and 14. All trenches are listed below, with each feature and the fills briefly described. Further detail can be found in the Site Indices (Section 8). Selected photographs accompany this section, while selected drawings (from Trenches 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 10) can be found at the back of the report.

4.1.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was 22.8m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (1101). Combined these were up to 0.3m deep. The mixed dark brown loam topsoil contained occasional stones (probable plough up-cast) and very occasional sherds of modern/post-medieval pottery (not retained). It overlay pockets of probable old land surface at its junction with natural (1107).

Two parallel ditches were located in the eastern half of the trench. Each ran diagonally from north-west to south-east across the trench and cut through (1107). The westernmost, **ditch [1105]** was 0.65m wide, 0.2m deep, and extended north and south beyond the edges of the trench. It had an uneven, slightly stepped profile and a rounded base. It was filled with single fill (1104), which was a dark reddish brown, friable loam and much like the old land surface layer (2117) identified in Trench 2 (see below). This feature is probably that shown on the geophysical survey as a narrow, dark red linear feature (see Fig 14).

The second **ditch [1103]** was located 7.2m to the east of [1105]. This measured 0.55m wide and 0.35m deep. It contained two fills. Upper fill (1102) was a dark reddish brown friable loam (see above) with occasional quartz stones. It was 0.2m thick and overlay basal fill (1106). Fill (1106) was 0.15m thick, dark reddish brown loose silt. The silt suggests that the ditch had been left open to weathering for a while. This is probably the amorphous feature shown on the geophysical survey crossed by the trench (Fig 14).

4.1.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was 35.4m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (2101), with a combined 0.3m thickness. Below was the mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (2102), above patchy residual old land surface (2117), which overlay natural (2118). The trench was approximately 0.65m deep. Cutting across the old land surface and natural, and sealed by the overlying former ploughsoil was a range of different features.

A 6m long concentration of features, relating to two red curved anomalies identified on the geophysical survey at the southern end of the trench (Fig 14), were excavated. It is

considered likely that these relate to two separate structures. The individual features are described below, from southeast to northwest.

Shallow probable pit [2116] measured 0.4m wide, and was 0.15m deep. In profile it had a steeply concave western side and a straight, slightly sloped base. Fill (2115) was mid reddish brown, fine, loose, silty clay loam. Its eastern side was cut through by later ditch [2106] (see Fig 15 and 16).

Ditch terminal [2106] was a steep, sharp sided cut with a narrow flat base, which ran on a north to south alignment. It was 0.55m deep and 0.7m wide at top, 0.25m wide at base. The top fill (2103) was a dark brown, firm silty loam, 0.2m thick and contained a small slate disc rough-out and two adjoining pieces of pottery incised with a line. This is likely to be from a fine Iron Age or Romano-British cup or bowl. The western edge of the cut was defined by a number of semi-upright stones which abutted the cut edge of [2661]/(2115), and extended down in to lower fill (2104). The middle ditch fill (2104) was a 0.3m thick, dark greyish brown, soft, loose burnt silty/ashy loam. Finds included an Iron Age or Romano-British body sherd with an incised external line, and a lump of dense iron slag (possibly from a nearby furnace). Below this was basal fill (2105), which was 0.1m to 0.15m thick, mid yellowish brown, compact silty clay with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. Lying on the base of the feature was a large, thick base sherd from a probable storage vessel. The compact clay-rich content suggests that the initial fill consisted of weathered natural from the ditch edges or possibly a flanking bank, prior to more rapid infilling (see upper Figs 6, 15 and 16).

To the immediate west of ditch [2106] were three shallow, possible truncated postholes [2108], [2110] and [2137] (see Figs 15 and 17). **Posthole [2108]** had an approximate diameter of 0.4m and was 0.19m deep. It contained a single fill (2107), a compact mid brown silty clay loam. Posthole [2137] measured 0.5m wide in section and 0.1m deep. It contained single fill (2119), a dark brown compact silty clay loam. To the west was **posthole [2110]**, which measured approximately 0.5m in diameter and was 0.2m deep. Its southern edge was much shallower, and suggestive of a post having been pulled out. It contained single fill (2109), a mid-yellowish brown, friable silty clay loam with occasional small stones and charcoal. This fill merged with old land surface (2117). The profiles for postholes [2108] and [2110] each had at least one near vertical edge and a flat base (Fig 17). **Feature [2137]** had much more sloping edges, but was only partly located within the trench. All three postholes were shallow, appeared truncated and are likely to have been contemporary. It is also possible that pit [2116] was contemporary, suggesting that all four features supported a structure and pre-dated ditch [2106].

Positioned to the immediate west of [2110] and projecting beyond the southern edge of the trench was **burnt pit [2112]** (see upper Fig 7 and Figs 15 and 16). This measured in excess of 0.7m wide and was 0.22m deep. Upper fill (2111) was 0.14m thick, dark greyish red, soft, ashy silt with a high charcoal fleck and lump content. Contained within the fill was a lump of dense probable iron slag. Basal fill (2120) consisted of a 0.08m thick ash deposit overlying heavily burnt *in situ* natural. This feature appears to be a hearth pit, possibly associated with smithing. To the immediate west were two areas of disturbance (possibly caused by animals); shallow features, which extended to the north and south of the trench (see Fig 15). It is probable that this burnt pit, the two potential disturbed features to its west, and the three postholes and shallow pit cut by ditch [2106] to the east are all contemporary, and predate [2106].

Fig 6 Trench 2: Top – north facing section through ditch [2106]. Bottom – north facing section through ditch [2121].

Fig 7 Trench 2, Top – north facing section showing burnt pit [2112]. Bottom – north facing section showing ditch enclosure ditch [2122].

On the western edge of this group of features was a narrow, linear **ditch terminal [2114]**. This had a southwest to northeast alignment, steep 0.2m deep sides and near flat base, with an upper width of 0.4m. It contained single fill (2113), a mid-grey brown silty clay loam with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. This feature extended south from the trench and was clearly visible cutting down through old land surface (2117) (see Figs 15 and 16).

Old land surface (2117) was an approximately 0.1m thick, compact, mid pale yellowish brown silty clay with many small stones. It was not fully excavated, but during machining produced a large fire reddened quartzite pebble and a sherd of pottery from close to [2112], with a possible raised cordon. This has been loosely dated to the Romano-British period. Occasional very large stones were noted, sitting on top of, or slightly embedded in to the top of the natural, projecting up through (2117). From the eastern end of the trench two particular alignments were noted at 12m, and at 17m (2138) (see Fig 15) - where a particularly large 0.5m quartz block, plus other smaller stones were noted. These stones had clearly been moved and were not *in situ* geology. They had been collected and placed, forming one of two southwest to northeast aligned probable stone boundaries of medieval or probably earlier date. This layer was quite difficult to distinguish in the section, particularly where animal/root disturbance had occurred (as was noted between ditches [2122] and [2123]), but was quite clearly visible in plan along parts of the base of the trench (Fig 16).

Located roughly within the centre of the trench, and just to the east of the large stone (2138) alignment was **ditch [2121]** (lower Fig 6 and 15). This was not identified by the geophysical survey, despite being 1.15m deep. It had steep sides, which sloped from 1.2m wide at top to 0.5m wide at base (Fig 16). The upper fill (2128) was 0.8m wide and 0.12m thick, dark yellowish brown, stony silty clay loam. It projected up in to subsoil/former ploughsoil layer (2102), possibly suggestive of a remnant flanking bank having been plough-shifted over the ditch. The middle fill (2109) was up to 0.4m thick and tipped in from the east. It was a mid-brown loose loam with large pieces of charcoal and frequent flecks and small stones, with occasional larger ones away from the section. The main basal fill was (2130). As with fill (2109), this fill tipped in from the east, suggestive of a flanking eastern bank running along the edge of the ditch. The uniformity of fill implies fairly rapid pushing in or ploughing in of the bank material in to the ditch. The fill was 0.85m thick and consisted of dark yellowish brown plastic clay with occasional stone and charcoal, and a single body sherd of Romano-British pottery.

Just over 1.5m to the west of ditch [2121] was **ditch [2122]** (lower Fig 7 and 15). Ditch [2122] is shown on the geophysical survey as the north-western corner of the western enclosure ditch. It was 2m wide and 1.1m deep. This ditch was mechanically excavated in order to reveal a full section. It contained five fills (Fig 16). Upper fill (2131) was a 0.2m thick dark brown, loose silty loam with moderately frequent small stones. The second fill (2132) was 0.45m thick, dark greyish brown with a slight greenish hue. It was plastic silty clay with charcoal flecks, and formed the infill above collapsed bank deposits below. Third fill (2133) was 0.3m thick, mid-pinkish brown, plastic silty clay with stones and occasional charcoal flecks. It tipped in from the east side of the ditch and may have been associated with a collapsed bank. Below this was fill (2134), a 0.3m thick, dark-pinkish brown, plastic silty clay loam with frequent small stones, which again tipped in from the east. The basal fill (2135) was 0.12m thick, mid-light grey, plastic clay with frequent small stone fragments. Its pale colour and clay-rich matrix suggests weathered material washing in from the sides of the ditch and a flanking bank. This ditch clearly showed that the enclosure had an external bank around its perimeter. It also showed that the ditch appeared to fill up relatively gradually from the collapsing bank until the more rapid, deliberate infilling of the upper part of the ditch by (2132).

At the extreme western end of the trench was **double ditch [2123] and [2124]**, shown on the geophysical survey as a major field boundary. The larger eastern ditch [2123] measured 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep, and the smaller western ditch [2124] was

0.7m wide and 0.25m deep. Both contained an identical fill (2136), which was dark-pinkish brown, loose silty loam with occasional small stones and charcoal (upper Fig 17).

4.1.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was 31.4m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (3101), with a combined 0.3m thickness. Below was the 0.1m deep mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (3102), overlying the natural (3113). Cutting across the natural and sealed by the overlying former ploughsoil were three ditches, a gully and an uncertain (possible pit) feature.

From west to east, **ditch [3105]** (located 5.8m from the western end of the trench) was found (Figs 14 and upper 18). It had steep, near straight sides and a sharp 'U' shaped base and measured 1.9m across at top and was 0.65m deep. It is shown on the geophysical survey as the northern tip of the pale pink north to south aligned anomaly at the western end of the trench. The upper fill (3103) was a 0.4m thick, charcoal flecked, loose dark brown silty loam. The basal fill (3104) was a 0.25m thick, dark reddish brown plastic clay with stones. The eastern upper edge of [3105] cut across earlier gully-like feature [3107], located 7.3m to 8.3m along the trench.

Gully [3107] had a gentle concave base and a concave eastern side (upper Fig 18). It had a maximum surviving upper width of 0.5m, and was 0.2m deep. It contained a single fill (3106), a dark brown loose loam, which included three small undated (possibly Bronze Age) sherds of pottery, and a heated (possibly used) cobble.

Located 12.4m to 14m along the trench was **ditch [3112]** (Figs 14 and middle 18). This had steep, straight sides and a steep 'U' shaped base, a 1.6m upper width and a 0.8m depth. It is shown on the geophysical survey as a north to south aligned red linear anomaly, which mirrors the dividing ditch between the western and eastern enclosure. It contained four different fills. From top to bottom these were, (3108), (3109), (3110) and (3111). Upper fill (3108) was a 0.25m thick loose dark brown loam with occasional stone, charcoal flecks and six sherds of Romano-British pottery (see section 8.2, below). Fill (3109) was a 0.1m thick, mid-yellowish brown plastic clay silt with occasional stone and charcoal flecks. Fill (3110) was 0.2m thick dark brown loose loam with occasional stone and charcoal flecks. It also contained a single possible sherd of Samian ware pottery which may date to *c* AD 150-230. The basal fill (3111) was 0.15m thick, mid-yellowish brown plastic clay with frequent stones, probably representing slumped, weathered material.

Located between 16m to 17.6m along the trench was **ditch [3116]** (Figs 14 and lower 18). It is shown on the geophysical survey as the southern end of the dividing anomaly between the eastern and western enclosures. This contained two fills and measured 2m across and 0.8m deep. Again it had steeply sloped straight sides and a concave base. Upper fill (3114) was 0.4m thick mid-yellowish brown, loose silty loam with frequent stone inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks. It produced several sherds of pottery, which included a black burnished body sherd, which are all of probable Romano-British date (see section 8.2). The basal fill (3115) was 0.4m thick and was a dark brown silty clay containing occasional stones and charcoal flecks. The western side of the ditch cut across earlier **feature [3118]/(3117)** (see lower Fig 18). The full extent of this feature was not seen, but it was interpreted as a potential pit, which was in excess of 0.5m deep and had a slightly concave profiled eastern edge. This feature did not produce any finds, and was not identified by the geophysical survey. It clearly predated ditch [3116], but time did not permit further excavation.

Fig 8 Trench 4, Top – close up of brooch in (4106)/[4105]. Middle – west facing section through ditch [4105]. Bottom – Pit [4108] from the south, showing in situ stones.

4.1.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was 25.8m long and 1.6m wide. A ditch and a pit were identified. These were archaeologically excavated and recorded. From top to bottom the trench contained 0.3m thick turf and topsoil (4101), overlying up to 0.2m thick, mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (4102). The ploughsoil overlay the natural, plus a pit [4108] (clearly shown as a dark red geophysical anomaly) and part of the southernmost ditch [4105] of the eastern enclosure (again clearly shown on the geophysical survey).

Pit [4108] (lower Fig 8 and lower Fig 19), was located in the eastern trench section and extended 1m into the trench on a north-east to south-west alignment, suggestive of an oval plan. The south-western part was excavated down to the base, showing concave heat-reddened edges and a flattish base. It measured 1.8m wide and was 0.2m deep, but was originally at least a 0.3m deep given the height of some of the surviving large stones. The single fill (4103) was undisturbed, patchy dark reddish brown plastic clay with occasional charcoal flecks. It produced 11 Romano-British jar sherds (see section 8.2) and stones which were given a context number (4104). The stony deposit included part of a Greisen rotary quern – found on the eastern side of the excavated slot. The stones appeared largely jumbled across the exposed area. They were of mixed geology (including quartz and granite blocks), and were in some cases burnt. A break in slope on the eastern side of the excavated slot may suggest re-cutting, although no clear evidence for different fills was recorded.

Ditch [4105] (middle Fig 8 and upper Fig 19), was recorded in section as a 1.6m wide, 0.8m deep, uneven but steeply sloped ditch with a 'U' shaped base. It contained two fills. The upper fill (4106) was a 0.45m thick, dark brown loose silty loam with common small stones. Included within this fill were a number of Romano-British ceramic finds (see 8.2), including two conjoining sherds from a lid and a body sherd from the same vessel. Most significantly a nearly complete copper alloy penannular brooch of Romano-British or possible post-Roman date was recovered (see upper Fig 8). The lower fill (4107) was 0.35m thick, mid-yellowish brown plastic clay, representing slumped weathered edges (and possible weathered bank material).

The brooch is a rare and significant find, suggestive of a reasonably 'well-healed' Romano-British farmstead settlement enclosed within the two enclosures. Its location within the upper fill of the eastern enclosure ditch suggests that the piece represents accidental loss (perhaps as a result of it having been broken in antiquity), which subsequently became incorporated as a residual find within the upper, fill of ditch [4105]. It is currently undergoing recording and conservation at the Royal Cornwall Museum.

4.1.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was 26.2m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (5101), with a combined 0.3m thickness. Below was the 0.15m to 0.25m deep mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (5102), overlying the natural. A single eighteenth century glazed red earthenware sherd (North Devon) came from the former ploughsoil. From east to west, and cutting across the natural and sealed by the overlying former ploughsoil were a pit and two ditches.

Pit [5104] (located between 12.5m and 14.7m from the western end of the trench – see upper Figs 5, 20 and upper 21) extended south beyond the trench. The pit is shown on the geophysical survey as a near circular dark red feature.

In plan it appeared as a half oval, up to 2.2m long, 0.7m wide and up to 0.78m deep. It had steep, slightly stepped sides and a concave base. The fill (5103) was uniformly dark reddish brown, loose silty clay with a moderate small stone content. Included within the fill was a dense piece of slag (suggestive of nearby, contemporary metal working), a very fine flat near circular cobble rubbing stone with roughened handling edges, and three sherds of pottery of Iron Age to Romano-British date.

Fig 9 Trench 5, Top – north facing section through pit [5104]. Bottom – Looking east along the trench showing ditch [5110] with enclosure ditch [5107] in the background.

Ditch [5107] was located 4.3m to the west of the pit (Figs 20 and 21). This north to south aligned ditch formed the divide between the western and the eastern enclosures (shown on the geophysical survey). It was 2.2m wide, 1.2m deep and clearly defined, with a steep slightly uneven eastern side and a slightly longer shallower straight western side. At the base was a clearly visible, angular break of slope 0.18m wide and 0.1m deep. This probably resulted from ditch clearance and maintenance while the enclosures were still occupied. Upper fill (5105) was a 0.4m thick dark brown loose silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Basal fill (5106) was a 0.6m thick dark yellowish brown plastic clay with frequent stone inclusions.

Running 1.35m parallel to the western side of ditch [5107] was shallower **ditch [5110]**. Ditch [5110] was 1.5m wide with even, undulating gently sloping sides and a rounded base. The upper fill (5108) was 0.3m thick, dark reddish brown friable loam with frequent small stones. The basal fill (5109) was a 0.3m thick dark brown friable loam, with frequent small stone inclusions. This ditch is shown on the survey as a narrow disjointed linear red anomaly running across the western end of the trench. This feature appears to flank or mirror a more substantial, similarly aligned ditch (shown on the geophysical survey) to its west. In Trench 3 this ditch produced a small number of sherds of Romano-British pottery (see 8.2, below). It is likely that the two ditches are broadly contemporary.

4.1.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was 32.1m long and 1.6m wide. The topsoil produced a heat damaged greenstone cobble with a linear gash possibly indicative of a plough or possibly an ard strike during cultivation. The following features are shown on Figure 14.

A large **pit [6104]/(6103)** (or possible ditch terminal) was located between 3.5m and 5.5m from the southern end of the trench. It extended for 0.75m into the trench, forming a half circle. This was not identified on the geophysical survey, possibly because it was very shallow.

Between 12m and approximately 14.5m along the trench was **ditch [6106]/(6105)**. The western side of which was indistinct. This feature has been interpreted as the upper fill of the northern enclosure ditch (at a point close to its junction with the western enclosure ditch), as shown on the geophysical survey (see Fig 14).

Between 21m and 22.5m along the trench was **ditch [6108]/(6107)**. This is probably the top of the main diagonal boundary. A small slate disk was recovered, which was found to have had one face incised with a simple cross. This piece is likely to be a gaming counter, and is probably a residual chance find. The ditch also produced a lump of iron slag, suggestive of nearby industrial activity. A further **probable pit [6110]/(6109)** was identified between 23.75m and 25m along the trench. It extended 0.65m in to the trench and had a slightly uneven half circular plan. As with [6104], [6110] extended northeast from the trench section. This feature was not identified on the geophysical survey.

4.1.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was 32m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (7101), with a combined 0.3m thickness. Below was the 0.2m to 0.3m deep mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (7102), overlying the natural (7116). From west to east, cutting through the natural and sealed by the overlying former ploughsoil was a tightly curved shallow gully, which extended across the trench and then curved back in to the section, containing a pit and a posthole. Further east was a further curved ditch and a less clearly visible linear ditch at the far eastern end of the trench (see Fig 22).

Note: The curvilinear gully was initially recorded as three separate cut and fill numbers. From west to east these were [7104]/(7103) in the southern section, [7109]/(7108) in the northern section and [7112]/(7111) as the return in the southern section. The south-eastern half of the structure extended beyond the edge of the trench. The fills

and cut profiles appeared identical, and as such only [7104]/(7103) will be described. Gully [7104] is shown on the geophysical survey as part of a busy, difficult to disentangle or interpret group of anomalies. Excavation suggests that it is a focal point of activity, of probable domestic character, which was centred upon the highest north-eastern corner of the eastern enclosure. Its position would have allowed clear views across both enclosures, the surrounding area, and out to the west.

Gully [7104] measured 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep (Figs 11, 22 and 23), forming an arc with an outer diameter of 7m diameter and an enclosed inner space of 4m diameter. The gully had steeply concave edges and a broad, near flat base. Its fill (7103) was a 0.25m thick mid reddish brown friable silty clay with small variably sized stones. No obvious structural elements or internal surfacing, floor compaction or finds were recorded within the investigated area, which accounted for approximately 25 percent of the space enclosed by the gully.

Pit [7106] lay within the western side of the structure (upper Fig 10 and Figs 22 and 23). It was roughly circular in plan, extending just beyond the northern edge of the trench, with straight sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (7105) which was 0.4m deep mid greyish brown friable silty clay with frequent small stones.

Posthole [7108] had a 0.45m diameter at top, a 0.4m depth, near vertical sides and a well-defined flat base, (lower Fig 10, and Figs 22 and 23). Its fill (7107) was mid grey brown friable silty clay, with occasional small stones and small charcoal flecks. No evidence for *in situ* packing or the shadow of a residual post pipe was visible, suggesting that the post was removed prior to abandonment – perhaps part of a final closure and sealing off of the site.

Given the apparent mounding of subsoil (7102) over the top of structure defined by gully [7104]; it would seem likely that an infill deposit sealed the structure hollow following abandonment. The drawn section which runs along the northern side of the trench clearly shows that the internal area was slightly lower (by approximately 5cm) than the external area, with the tops of the internal pit and posthole being flush with the floor level, while the top of the gully fill was domed, implying that walling of some form had originally projected up from it.

Located 8m to the east was **ditch [7115]** (lower Fig 23 and Fig 22). This is shown on the geophysical survey as marking the eastern side of the eastern enclosure. It was 2m wide, just over 0.6m deep and ran diagonally across the trench on a slightly north-west to south-easterly alignment. Upper fill (7113) was 0.2m thick, mid/dark greyish brown friable silty clay, with a moderate small stone content and occasional charcoal flecks. This fill produced the only finds from this trench (see 8,.2) All are of Roman date and they include a small circular slate disc with ground edges which was probably a token or counter and a black burnished sherd of pottery. In addition a locally made rim sherd from a jar or drinking cup (2nd century AD) and a foot-ring from a probable Oxfordshire red/brown slipware beaker-like vessel (230 to 300 AD) were recovered. A later, residual early 1800s sherd of china was found in the vicinity of the upper ditch fill, probably from ploughsoil horizon (7102).

Located at the eastern end of the trench, and equating with the red linear anomaly shown on the geophysical survey was a further north to south running linear ditch. This had an approximate 0.85m width, but was not excavated.

Fig 10 Trench 7, Top – Looking southeast over pit [7106]. Note the clearly defined, overlying topsoil and lower subsoil/former ploughsoil. Right – Looking south-east across posthole [7108].

Fig 11 Trench 7, Top – Looking southeast at ditch / gully [7104]. Bottom – Looking north-west across the length-ways section of [7109].

4.1.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was 21.4m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom the trench revealed a thin turf line over topsoil (8101). Combined these were 0.32m thick. Below was the mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (8102), overlying the natural. Cutting across the natural and sealed by the overlying former ploughsoil were three linear features. Each was shown on the geophysical survey (see Fig 14).

From northwest to southeast the following features were recorded. **Ditch [8108]** was 1.9m wide and 0.5m deep. It had steeply concave edges and a sloped base with a narrow basal indent on the eastern side. The main fill (8107) was a compact, dark reddish brown, 0.4m thick clay loam. It overlay the basal fill (8110), dark reddish brown silty clay which was contained within the gully-like eastern indent.

Located 1.4m further west was **ditch [8106]** (upper Fig 12). This was 1.7m wide and 0.3m deep, with a steep western and a shallow eastern edge and a concave base. It was filled with (8105), a dark reddish grey brown, compact clay loam. Ditches [8106] and [8108] shared a parallel north-east to south-west alignment and form the main diagonal boundary shown on the geophysical survey. The intervening space probably supported a hedge bank (all sign of which has long been ploughed away). The abutting ditch edges are steeper against the boundary and shallower on the exterior, which is typical of historic Cornish hedge boundaries.

Positioned at the eastern end of the trench was a further narrow linear feature, which appeared to represent the red anomaly, shown on the geophysical survey as flanking the southern edge of the main diagonal boundary (see Fig 14). **Feature [8104]** again ran straight across the trench. It measured 0.5m wide and was 0.22m deep. It was filled with (8103), a dark grey brown, compact clay loam. Its northwestern edge was vertical, and its southeastern edge was sloped. It had a flat base. There were no finds associated with any of these ditches.

4.1.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was 19.3m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom this trench contained 0.3 to 0.4m thick turf and topsoil (9101), over mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (9102). The ploughsoil ran across the top of all features identified and lay over the natural (9109) light yellowish brown friable silty, stony clay. No finds were found in this trench. From south-east to north-west the following features were recorded and are shown on Figure 14.

Shallow ditch [9104] had a north-east to south-west orientation and is shown on the geophysical survey as a red anomaly flanking the southern side of the main diagonal field boundary ditch. It measured 2m wide and was 0.2m deep. Its fill (9103) was mid-yellowish brown plastic silty clay with frequent small stones.

Ditch [9106] is part of the main diagonal field boundary recorded in Trench 2 and 8 (see lower Fig 12 and above). It measured 1.2m wide at top and was 0.4m deep along its southern side. The profile suggests a possible recut at this point, since the remaining two thirds of the ditch base was flat and 0.3m deep. Both sides of the ditch were steep, and no difference could be seen between the gully-like southern basal fill and the main ditch fill. Fill (9105) was mid-greyish brown friable silty clay, with frequent small stones.

The rounded terminal end of what may have been a **ditch [9108]** (or possibly an elongated pit?), is not shown on the geophysical survey. It extended 1.3m into the trench from its eastern side. The cut measured 1.6m wide and 0.3m deep. The south-eastern side was short and steep, while the north-western side was more gently sloping. The base was 0.5m wide and near flat. The single fill (9107) was mid-reddish brown friable, silty clay with frequent small angular stones. The red north-east to south-west aligned anomaly shown on the geophysical survey towards the northern end of the trench could not be seen.

4.1.10 Trench 10

Trench 10 was 31.7m long and 1.6m wide. From top to bottom this trench contained 0.15m to 0.3m thick turf and topsoil (10101), over mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil (10102). The ploughsoil ran across the top of all features identified and lay over the natural. From south-east to north-west the following features were recorded.

Pit [10104] measured1.35m long in section, extended 0.55m into the trench and was 0.3m deep (see Fig 24 and 25). In profile it had concave sides and a flattish base. The pit contained a single fill (10103), a mid-reddish brown loose silt with occasional small stone and charcoal inclusions. It also contained a single small undiagnostic flint flake. This pit was shown as a small red anomaly on the edge of the enclosure ditch on the geophysical survey. Excavation also revealed two conjoining narrow ditches (visible on the survey as the northern ditch of the eastern enclosure). The northern side of pit [10104] cut through layer (10110), the fill of gully [10105].

Ditch/gully [10105] (lower Fig 13), was filled with (10110), a 0.2m thick dark reddish brown, loose loam with occasional small stones. It is possible that (10110) filled a secondary recut, resulting in the broader feature [10105]/[10106] seen in the west facing trench section, and as recorded on the survey.

In the western trench section [10105] and [10106] are clearly separate features (lower Figs 13, 24 and 25). Ditch [10105] was 0.55m wide and 0.2m deep with short steep sides and a 'U' shaped base. It contained fill (10113), dark reddish brown, loose silty clay with occasional small stones. Positioned approximately 0.8m to the northwest was **ditch [10106].** This was 0.7m wide and up to 0.45m deep. It contained an upper fill (10111), which was 0.22m thick dark brown friable silty clay; and a lower fill (10112), which was near identical, 0.25m thick and possibly the result of animal disturbance.

Pit [10107] and ditch [10108] (lower Fig 25), were sealed by remnant layer (10114) and underlying spread (10115). Layer (10114) may represent part of the early land surface. It was recorded as a compacted dark brown friable loam, up to 0.25m thick. Below this was spread (10115). It had a variable 0.2m thickness and was dark reddish brown friable silt. The high silt content is suggestive of gradual weathering and silting up of the possibly eroded shallow depression in which pit [10107] and ditch [10108] were located.

Pit [10107] was visible (upper Fig 13, 24 and 25), as a half circular feature protruding into the trench from the western side. It had a steep southern side and a wider, shallower northern edge, which combined with the base to form a broad concave profile. The lower fill of pit [10107] was (10116). This was a dark brown loose silty clay up to 0.4m thick, with frequent small stone inclusions. This pit was identified on the geophysical survey and shown as a large red circular anomaly, forming what appears to be a disjointed feature flanking the southern side of the main diagonal field boundary.

Approximately 1.4m to the northwest was **ditch [10108]** (Figs 24 and 25). This was also sealed by spread (10115) and filled by main basal fill (10117), which was mid-yellowish brown, compact and granular, suggestive of water sorting. The ditch was 0.8m wide and 0.17m deep, with a gently concave profile. Closely associated with this was ditch [10109]. Combined they form the main diagonal ditched field boundary, which was also encountered in Trenches 2, 6, 8 and 9. It was 0.9m wide and 0.55m deep, and followed an identical alignment to that of [10108]. Ditch [10109] contained fill (10118). This was loose, dark brown loam and contained many small stones.

4.1.11 Trench 11

This trench was not opened because sheep were penned in the immediate area.

Fig 12 Trench 8 and 9 (top and right) sections through main diagonal field boundary [8106] and [9106].

Fig 13 Trench 10, Top – Looking west at pit / ditch terminal [10107]. Bottom – Looking east across the enclosure ditch [10105] / [10106], showing a central island of natural.

4.1.12 Trench 12

Trench 12 was 11.7m long and 1.6m wide. This trench did not produce any finds. The topsoil and mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil layers were present.

A single **ditch [1204]/(1203)** was identified running diagonally across the trench from east-north-east to west-south-west (at the northern end of the trench). This feature represented the top of the northern enclosure ditch.

One metre to the south [1204] was a near 2m wide rounded feature, which was traceable for a length of 1.25m. It extended south from the trench and has been interpreted as the northern terminal end of the north-south running ditch shown on the geophysical survey as a narrow red linear feature (see Fig 14).

4.1.13 Trench 13

Trench 13 was 30.8m long and 1.6m wide. There were no finds.

From top to bottom the trench section showed an approximately 0.3m thick topsoil (including turf), overlying an up to 0.2m thick mixed subsoil/former ploughsoil.

At the western end of the trench a 0.96m wide by 0.22m deep feature was identified (see Fig 14). **Probable linear feature [13105]** was visible for a length of 1m before running north from the trench. It appeared to be the terminal end of a linear feature the extent of which is unknown. The single fill (13104) was compact, dark grey-brown silty clay with small stone inclusions. This feature was not visible on the geophysical survey.

At the eastern end of the trench a further, very shallow spread or possibly a very truncated shallow feature ran across the trench. It was 2.25m wide and 0.05m thick. The matrix was dark reddish grey brown, friable silty clay. It has been interpreted as a probable surviving pocket of old land surface.

Intervening anomalies between the eastern and western ends of the trench (as shown on the geophysical survey) were not visible within the trench.

4.1.14 Trench 14

Trench 14 was 31.2m long and 3m wide. No archaeological deposits or cut features could be identified within the very stony natural and no finds were recovered.

5 Chronology

The geophysical survey clearly identified two or three differently phased periods of activity, largely denoted via colour coding on the survey plan (see Fig 14). Excavation has confirmed this and has further divided the orange enclosure ditches from the main diagonal field boundary into two separate phases of which the enclosures are the earlier, and the field boundary later.

During the course of the evaluation a small number of finds were retrieved from some of the features (see section 8.2). These range in date from the prehistoric period through to the modern day. Modern artefacts were noted in the field but not retained.

- The earliest were two undiagnostic worked flints indicative of the prehistoric period and three small sherds of pottery. These are possibly Bronze Age in date (broadly spanning 2500 to 800 BC).
- There are also a number of potential Iron Age (800 BC to 43 AD), or Iron Age/Romano-British (AD 43-410) sherds of pottery. If correctly identified, these might suggest some time depth associated with the emergence of the main enclosure activity.
- The vast majority of the finds are Romano-British in date (broadly 43 to 410 AD). These would be closely datable by a Romano-British specialist, and indicate a clear period of domestic and agricultural activity.

- In addition a small number of slag deposits were collected, which are not possible to date, but which would seem most likely to be Iron Age and/or Romano-British in date. They suggest small scale industrial activity, probably servicing the needs of the enclosure's occupants, and perhaps other communities in the vicinity.
- Later dated finds span the early post-medieval and early modern period (seventeenth to nineteenth century).

6 Concluding discussion

This evaluation, in conjunction with the geophysical survey, has revealed an apparently tightly focussed area of Romano-British activity located within parts of two adjoining, ditch and bank-defined enclosures. Given the range of pottery vessels, including some imported wares, the slate tokens or games pieces and the copper alloy brooch, it is likely that this activity was domestic in character.

The evaluation trenches have shown that the vast majority of the anomalies highlighted by the geophysical survey are archaeological, but that other features also exist. The survey implies that the most intense activity occurred in the north-eastern portion of the eastern enclosure, but that it also extended around the inner periphery of the enclosure, possibly reflecting a blank or open space within its central area. This enclosure produced evidence for a small gully-defined, probable house structure in Trench 7.

The western enclosure appears to show a different pattern of activity, including probable field divisions in the eastern half (reflecting a different phase of activity – of uncertain earlier or later date) and according to Trench 2 a focus of small features in the north-western corner, which probably equates with at least one structure (and possibly two given the geophysical survey results for this area).

It would seem most likely that the Romano-British activity was associated with a small-scale, possibly extended family farming unit of moderately comfortable means. This is suggested by the unusual brooch find and the imported fine ware pottery, including a piece of Samian ware from Gaul. Given the suggestion of a slightly earlier (possibly Iron Age) date for some of the pottery, it is possible that the site was remodelled over a period of time, rather than being abandoned and reused by a different group of people. This could account for some of the apparent multi-phased activity shown on the survey.

The apparent mirroring of some of the linear alignments would suggest that traces of previous activity were still evident, in the form of banks and perhaps ditches. For example, the general north-east to south-west pattern of alignment is reflected in the lines of the northern and southern sides of the enclosures (Romano-British); the main, often double-ditched, diagonal, field boundary is probably of medieval date, but may follow an earlier alignment. Similarly, some mirroring can be seen on a broadly north to south alignment: note the east, west and central dividing boundaries of the two enclosures, and the flanking parallel (red) ditch lines shown on the survey in the eastern half of the western enclosure. It is uncertain whether the ditches evaluated by Trench 1 relate to this north to south patterning or not. They appear to be slightly differently aligned, suggesting a potential different phase of activity.

Subsequent activity on the site appears to have been more agricultural in character. Extensive soil movement down slope, along with the remnant subsoil/former ploughsoil recorded in all trenches across the site reflects probable generations of ploughing through the medieval period and later. This has resulted in the formation of a distinctive, mixed, but well-sealed layer, which seals all features identified on site, and which will in some cases be linked to the final infilling of abandoned ditches and the flattening of associated flanking banks, as seen in Trenches 2 and 3 etc. Despite this apparent long-term activity, tiny pockets of old land surface were identified, sealed

beneath this early plough horizon. Where present, it is cut by all features. It is probable that this layer represents the last remnants of the Romano-British and earlier contemporary land surface.

To summarise, the evaluation trenching has confirmed the geophysical survey results, and has in addition successfully achieved all four of the aims (as set out in section 2.2 of this report and the WSI (attached as an appendices at the end of this report).

7 Recommendations

The following takes into account the results of the keyhole evaluation trenching carried out in May 2016, and is designed to plan for a predicted site character, date, and range of features likely to be present on the site if developed.

The following section provides recommendations for further archaeological recording.

The area affected by each option is sketched out on a plan of the proposed development at the back of this report – see Fig 26.

The recommendations are of a guideline nature and any further stages of archaeological recording will need to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority, in consultation with the Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment Archaeologist).

7.1 Recommended focus for development

It is suggested that in order to minimize the impact on buried archaeological features the development could be focussed in the area to the north and west of the main diagonal field boundary for the following reasons:

1. The geophysical survey identified anomalies are much less dense in this area. Excavation has shown that most of the anomalies are archaeological.
2. The features where present (and looked at by evaluation) appeared shallower, less complex, and to contain fewer artefacts or deposits suitable for sampling, conservation or dating.

- If the development was restricted to this least sensitive area of the field it is likely that a **watching brief** would be required to monitor, plan, record and partially excavate, sample and collect any artefacts as required.

This suggested option is designed to minimise disturbance to known and potential remains in the area. An approximate 0.8 hectare area would then be available for development.

7.2 Slightly extended focus for development

If the development was extended up to the periphery of the two enclosures, this could potentially open up further pockets of ground for development to the:

1. South and south-east of the eastern enclosure.
2. North-eastern corner of the field, beyond the north east of the eastern enclosure ditch.
3. South-western corner of the field to the south-west of the western enclosure. This area is less easy to predict in terms of likely density or significance of remains.

- If the development included the whole of the field to the north and west of the main diagonal field boundary, and the two (or three) most obvious pockets of available ground outside the enclosures (listed above), a **watching brief with**

scope for small-scale excavation if significant remains were encountered is likely to be required.

This option is designed to maximise the area available to development, while minimising the potential for more complex archaeological remains to be disturbed. This option would free-up an approximate 1 hectare area for development.

7.3 Full development of the field and enclosures

This scenario covers any and all areas within the field, including:

1. The area north and west of the main diagonal field boundary.
2. The two or three small areas to the north-east, south-east and south-west of the enclosures.
3. The internal area of both enclosures. These features are so clearly conjoined that it is not recommended to treat them separately.

- A combination of **watching brief** across less sensitive areas **and full excavation across known sensitive and/or significant areas** would therefore be likely.

This option allows for the development of all the area (1.8 hectares) but is likely to require a fuller programme of recording to mitigate the loss of the archaeological resource.

Note: Any of these three recommended options would require a full programme of agreed works and costs (including post-excavation publication as required).

It should be stated that in advance of excavation it is impossible to predict the exact character or significance of features or deposits on site.

8 Site indices

8.1 Context details

Trench no.	**Context no.**	**Cut no.**	**Feature**	**Type-C**ut / **D**eposit / **B**uild	**Description**
T1	1101	NA	Topsoil	D	Topsoil: Dark brown loose loam, common to sparse stone inclusions, quartz, granite and shillet. Some pieces of post medieval pottery scattered around the site. Varies in depth between 0.15-0.3m.
T1	1102	1103	Fill	D	Upper fill of ditch [1103], a dark reddish brown friable loam, 0.2m deep. Contains some larger pieces of quartz.
T1	1103	1103	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steep sides, U shaped base, SE-NW orientation, moderate to poor definition, 0.55m wide, 0.35m deep. Filled by (1102) and (1106).
T1	1104	1105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [1105], a dark reddish brown friable loam, 0.2m deep, containing some small stone inclusions.
T1	1105	1105	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steep sided on the west and shallower to the east, uneven base, SE-NW orientation, moderate edge definition, 0.63m wide (max) and 0.2m deep.
T1	1106	1103	Fill	D	Basal fill of ditch [1103], dark reddish brown loose silt, 0.1m deep, containing some small stone inclusions. Similar to (1102) but finer.
T1	1107	NA	OLS	D	A mixture of dark brown and reddish soil, containing broken shillet with smaller granite pieces. Probably part of the OLS mixed with the underlying natural.
T2	2101	NA	Topsoil	D	Topsoil - dark reddish brown, loose/friable loam with small stones, occasional charcoal. Mixed. Up to 0.4m thick.
T2	2102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil - mid reddish brown compact but friable silty clay loam with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. Mixed, approximately 0.15m thick.
T2	2103	2106	Ditch	D	Upper fill of [2106], dark brown, firm silty loam, contained small piece of pot. No. of larger stones on eastern edge. Fill looked quite mixed. 0.20m thick.
T2	2104	2106	Fill	D	Middle fill of [2106], dark greyish brown soft and loose burnt silty/ashy loam. Includes charcoal flecks and base of smithing pit. Larger stone on southern edge. 0.3m thick.
T2	2105	2106	Fill	D	Basal fill of ditch terminal. Mid yellowish brown, compact silty clay with occasional small stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Not disturbed and clearly defined against edges. 0.1 - 0.15m thick.
T2	2106	2106	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. Linear north to south aligned steep, straight sided edges with narrow flat base. 1m wide at top, 0.55m deep.
T2	2107	2108	Fill	D	Fill of post hole [2108]. 0.19m thick. Mid brown compact silty clay loam.
T2	2108	2108	Posthole	C	Cut of near round posthole. 0.4m diameter, 0.19m deep. Moderately steep, straight sides and flat base.
T2	2109	2110	Fill	D	Fill of posthole [2110]. Mid yellowish brown friable silty clay loam. Small occasional stones and charcoal. 0.2m thick.

T2	2110	2110	Posthole	C	Cut of posthole. Oval, flat base with steep N side and shallower sloped S side suggestive of post pulling. 0.5m diameter and 0.14m deep.
T2	2111	2112	Fill	D	Fill of burnt pit [2112]. Dark greyish red, soft, ashy silt. No stone but much charcoal flecks and lumps. In situ burning. 0.14m deep.
T2	2112	2112	Pit	C	Cut of burnt pit. Heat reddened edges. 0.7m diameter and 0.22m deep. Feature only partly seen. Extends S of trench.
T2	2113	2114	Fill	D	Fill of gully [2114]. Mid grey brown silty clay loam. Occasional stones and charcoal flecks. 0.2m thick
T2	2114	2114	Gully	C	Cut of gully. Extends S from trench. 0.4m wide, 0.2m deep. 'U' shaped profile, with flat base and steep rounded sides. Well defined.
T2	2115	2116	Fill	D	Fill of pit [2116]. Mid reddish brown fine, loose silty clay loam with stones on W side from top of ditch [2106]. 0.15m deep and 0.4m visible width. Cut by [2106] on western side.
T2	2116	2116	Pit	C	Cut of pit. 0.15m deep and 0.4m width visible before being cut by [2106]. Extends S beyond trench. Concave edge and flat base. Probably truncated and related to other small features in immediate vicinity.
T2	2117	NA	OLS	D	Old Land Surface. Visible as remnant patches across the trench, beneath sub/ploughsoil (2102). Up to 0.1m thick. Dense, mid pale yellowish brown silty clay with occasional stones (some very large) and patchy past animal/root disturbance.
T2	2118	NA	Natural	D	Natural. Light yellowish brown plastic clay, natural decayed shillet. With patches of high stone content. Paler than the natural recorded elsewhere on the site.
T2	2119	NA	Pit	D	Fill of [2137]. Possible truncated posthole visible in the S trench section. Dark brown compact silty clay loam, very similar to overlying (2102). 0.1m deep and 0.5m wide.
T2	2120	2112	Pit	D	Basal fill of [2112]. Very soft silty ash. 0.08m thick. Lies on heat reddened edges of pit [2112].
T2	2121	2121	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch 1.2m wide at top, c0.5m wide at base and 1.15m deep. Linear, sheer straight sides and narrower flat base.
T2	2122	2122	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. 2m wide and 1.1m deep. Steep slightly convex edges and a narrow flat base.
T2	2123	2123	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. Eastern one of two located at far W end of trench. 0.5m deep and 1.1m wide. Steep concave edges and rounded base.
T2	2124	2124	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. Western one of two located at W end of trench. 0.25m deep and 0.7m wide. Concave base, steeply rounded W edge and steep straight E edge.
	2125				See 2136
	2126				See 2136
T2	2127	NA	Layer	D	Layer of possible bank material. Dark brownish, loose small quartz stony, silty clay. 0.04m thick Contained a flint. Located near W end of trench. Possible bank material associated with ditches?
T2	2128	2121	Fill	D	Upper fill of ditch [2121]. Dark yellowish brown plastic stony (silty clay loam) material. Possible plough shifted remnant bank material. 0.2m thick.

T2	2129	2121	Fill	D	Middle fill of ditch [2121]. Mid brown loose loam with large pieces of charcoal. 0.4m thick. Tipping in to ditch from the east, suggesting a former flanking eastern bank. Some larger stones not shown in section.
T2	2130	2121	Fill	D	Lower fill of ditch [2121] Mid/dark yellowish brown plastic clay. Occasional stone and charcoal. 0.8m thick. Tipped in from east.
T2	2131	2122	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [2122]. Upper fill. Dark brown loose silty loam. 0.2m thick.
T2	2132	2122	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [2122]. Dark greyish brown plastic silty clay with charcoal flecks. Slight greenish hue. Forms infill over collapsed bank material (2133). 0.45m thick.
T2	2133	2122	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [2122]. Mid pinkish brown plastic silty clay with stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Seems to represent collapsed bank flanking SE side of ditch [2133]. 0.3m thick.
T2	2134	2122	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [2122]. Dark pinkish brown plastic silty clay loam with frequent small stones. Tips in from SE probable bank. 0.3m thick.
T2	2135	2122	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [2122]. Mid light greyish plastic clay with frequent stone fragments. 0.12m thick. Appears to represent weathered natural sides of ditch and bank?
T2	2136	2123 2124	Fill	D	Fill of double ditch. 1.9m long, 0.5m deep. Occasional charcoal and small stones. Dark pinkish brown loose silty loam.
T2	2137	2137	Posthole	C	Cut of probable truncated posthole/pit. 0.5m diameter. 0.1m deep. Circular, partially seen. Extended S of the trench.
T2	2138		Stone alignment	B	Sw to NE alignment of very large and smaller quartz and killas stones forming a former division. The stones were embedded in the top of the natural and projected up through OLS (2117).
T3	3101	NA	Topsoil	D	As (1101)
T3	3102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Ploughsoil, this trench soil depth reached 0.3m variable. Same as (2102).
T3	3103	3105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3105], a dark brown loose silty loam, 0.4m deep, contained flecks of charcoal.
T3	3104	3105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3105], a dark reddish brown plastic clay, 0.25m deep, containing common stone inclusions and flecks of charcoal.
T3	3105	3105	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, with steep 45 degree angle sides, U shaped base, N-S orientation, good edge definition, cut into the natural shillet/clay. 1.4m wide, 0.65m deep.
T3	3106	3107	Fill	D	Fill of gully [3107], a dark brown loose loam, 0.2m deep, pottery found within the deposit.
T3	3107	3107	Gully	C	Cut of gully, linear, shallow sloping sides, U shaped base, N-S orientation, moderate edge definition, 0.3m wide, 0.2m deep. The gully follows the alignment of [3105] a much wider and deep ditch. Filled by (3106).
T3	3108	3112	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3112], a dark brown loose loam, 0.25m deep, occasional stone inclusions, and occasional flecks of charcoal. On top of (3109).
T3	3109	3112	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3112], a mid yellowish brown plastic clay silt, 0.1m deep, occasional stone inclusions and occasional flecks of charcoal. Possible deposit of material from the bank.

T3	3110	3112	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3112], a dark brown loose loam, 0.2m deep, containing sparse stone inclusions, and occasional flecks of charcoal.
T3	3111	3112	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3112], mid yellowish brown plastic clay, 0.15m deep, common stone inclusions, could be attributed to slumped bank material.
T3	3112	3112	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear steep sides 45 degree, U shaped base, N-S orientation, Good edge definition, 0.9m deep and 1.6m wide.
T3	3113		Natural	D	Natural layer, mid yellowish blue, plastic clay, natural decayed shillet, depth in excess of 0.5m.
T3	3114	3116	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3116], a mid yellowish brown, loose silty loam, 0.4m deep, common stone inclusions, and occasional flecks of charcoal.
T3	3115	3116	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [3116], a dark brown plastic silty clay, 0.4m deep, containing sparse stone inclusions and occasional flecks of charcoal.
T3	3116	3116	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steeps sides 45 degree, U shaped base, N-S orientation, Very good edge definition, 0.8m deep and 2m wide. Cut into the natural (3113).
T3	3117	3118	Fill	D	Fill of pit [3118], dark yellowish brown loose silty clay. 0.5m deep, sparse stone inclusions. The pit is to the east of the ditch and appears to have been cut by the ditch. The fill appears to be a mixture of the OLS and soil.
T3	3118	3118	Pit	C	Cut of ?pit. Very little of the pit was revealed, a good edge definition, at least 0.5m wide and 0.4m deep. The cut appears to have been cut through by the ditch [3116].
T4	4101		Topsoil	D	Same as (1101)
T4	4102		Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil / former ploughsoil, a dark brown loose loam, 0.2m deep variable, common stone inclusions.
T4	4103	4108	Fill	D	Fill of pit [4108], dark brown loose silt, 0.2m deep, with sparse stone inclusions, and occasional flecks of charcoal. The deposit contained large stones of various types, granite and quartz 4104. A single piece of the granite was identified as a piece of broken rotary quern.
T4	4104	4108	Stones	B	Stones within pit [4108], the stones comprised of quartz and granite. Some had evidently been subjected to intense heat. The stones were in excess of 0.3m in size and some appeared to have been faced or had been used before being recycled, these were left *in situ*.
T4	4105	4105	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steep sides, 45 degree angle, U shaped base, NE-SW orientation, and moderate edge definition. 1.6m wide, 0.8m deep. Enclosure ditch.
T4	4106	4105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [4105], dark brown loose silty loam, 0.45-0.47m deep, common stone inclusions.
T4	4107	4105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [4105], mid yellowish brown plastic clay, 0.23m deep. Possible bank material.
T4	4108	4108	Pit	C	Cut of burnt pit, Oval shape, <45 angle on the sides, U shaped base, moderate to good edge definition, 0.8m wide, 0.2m deep. This could be at least two pits but due to the layout of the trench and time constraints could not be followed up. Edges of the pit were reddish in colour signifying intense heat having been applied.

T4	4109	4108	Fill	D	Fill east side of burnt pit [4108], a dark reddish plastic clay, 0.18m deep, very compacted but easy to trowel, clay like material, the reddish colour was patchy, sparse stone inclusions, with occasional flecks of charcoal.
T5	5101	NA		D	Same as (1101)
T5	5102	NA		D	Ploughsoil. Same as (2102).
T5	5103	5104	Fill	D	Fill of pit [5104], a dark reddish brown, loose, silty clay, 0.78m deep, sparse to common stone inclusions, no finds. The pit was within the baulk, material was consistent in type all the way to the base, as if a single fill event. The reddish material was similar in appearance to the OLS.
T5	5104	5104	Pit	C	Cut of pit, an oval shape with steep sides, U shaped base and moderate to good edge definition, 2m long, 0.7-0.55m wide from the baulk, and 0.78m deep. Cut into the shillet.
T5	5105	5107	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [5107], dark brown loose, silt, 0.4m deep, containing occasional flecks of charcoal.
T5	5106	5107	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [5107], dark yellowish brown plastic clay, with common stone inclusions, 0.6m deep.
T5	5107	5107	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steeps sides, V shaped base, N-S orientation, very good edge definition, 2.2m wide, 1.2m deep.
T5	5108	51110	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [5110], a dark reddish brown friable loam, 0.3m deep with sparse stone inclusions.
T5	5109	5110	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [5110], a dark brown friable loam, 0.3m deep with common stone inclusions.
T5	5110	5110	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steep sides, 45 degree angle, flattish U shaped base, N-S orientation, moderate to good edge definition, 1.5m wide, 0.5m deep.
T6	6101	NA	Topsoil	D	Same as (2101).
T6	6102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil. Same as (2102).
T6	6103	6104	Fill	D	Fill of Pit [6104]. Dark.
T6	6104	6104	Pit	C	Cut of pit. Visible as a semi-circle, extending north beyond the edge of the trench. This feature is part of the pink elongate anomaly shown on the survey. It is suggestive of this feature being made up of a series of short pits, rather than a single series of short linear features.
T6	6105	6106	Fill	D	Fill of ditch/gully [6106]. Dark.
T6	6106	6106	Ditch/gully	C	Cut of ditch/gully. The eastern edge was clearly defined. It ran north-north-east to south-south-west across the trench, and equates with the main diagonal field boundary.
T6	6107	6108	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [6108]. Dark.
T6	6108	6108	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. Again, the eastern edge was clearly defined. It ran north-north-east to south-south-west across the trench, and is the north-eastern part of the eastern enclosure ditch.
T6	6109	6110	Fill	D	Fill of pit [6110].
T6	6110	6110	Pit	C	Cut of pit. An internal eastern enclosure feature, not identified on the geophysical survey. It appears to be the southern side of a pit, which extended north beyond the edge of the trench.
T7	7101	NA	Topsoil	D	Same as (1101)
T7	7102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil. Same as (2102).

T7	7103	7104	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [7104], mid reddish brown friable silty clay, 0.25m deep, frequent random sizes, and sub-angular stones. Possible curvilinear gully for a structure.
T7	7104	7104	Gully	C	Curvilinear gully ?, moderate curved sides, flattish base, good edge definition, 1.2m wide, 0.25m deep, 7m in diameter.
T7	7105	7106	Fill	D	Fill of pit [7106], mid greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.4m deep, frequent random sized sub angular stones.
T7	7106	7106	Pit	C	Cut of pit, roughly circular, straight/ moderate sloping sides, flat base, good edge definition, 0.4m deep, <1m in diameter.
T7	7107	7108	Fill	D	Fill of posthole [7108], mid greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.4m deep, random sub angular stones, occasional flecks of charcoal.
T7	7108	7108	Posthole	C	Cut of posthole, circular, straight sides, 80 degree angle, flat base, good edge definition, 0.4m diameter, 0.4m deep.
T7	7109	7109	Ditch	C	Same as [7104]
T7	7110	7109		D	Same as (7103)
T7	7111	7112		D	Same as (7103)
T7	7112	7112	Ditch	C	Same as [7104]
T7	7113	7115	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [7115], mid/dark greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.2m deep, moderate random sub angular stone inclusions, and occasional flecks of charcoal.
T7	7114	7115	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [7115], mid greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.35m deep, frequent random sub angular killas, and occasional flecks of charcoal.
T7	7115	7115	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, curvilinear straight sides moderate slope, flattish base, W-SE orientation, good edge definition, 1.5m long, 2m wide, 0.6m deep.
T7	7116		Natural	D	Natural, a mid greyish brown friable silty clay, frequent random sub angular stones.
T8	8101	NA	Topsoil	D	Topsoil. Mid reddish brown, friable silty loam with occasional small stones. It was up to 0.32m thick, mixed and rooty (including the turf line).
T8	8102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil. Mid/reddish grey-brown, compact, clay-loam, with moderate stone inclusions. Mixed and 0.26m deep.
T8	8103	8104	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [8104]. Dark grey brown compact clay-loam. 0.2m thick. Near stone free and undisturbed.
T8	8104	8104	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. ENE to WSW aligned, with moderate definition, linear plan, steep/near vertical edges and a flattish base. Visible for 1.6m across trench, 0.5m wide and 0.22m deep.
T8	8105	8106	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [8106]. Dark reddish grey-brown, compact clay loam. Very occasional small stones. 0.3m thick. Undisturbed.
T8	8106	8106	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. ENE to WSW aligned, with moderate definition, linear plan, concave base and edges. Visible for 1.6m across trench, 1.7m wide and 0.3m deep. One of two parallel ditches - see [8108]. Steepest on NW side. Possibly a Cornish hedge boundary - as suggested by field boundary to the NE of the field.
T8	8107	8108	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [8108]. Dark reddish grey brown, compact clay loam with occasional stone. 0.4m deep. Undisturbed.

T8	8108	8108	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch. ENE to WSW aligned. Linear, concave base and sides with a moderate edge definition. Steepest on SE side. 0.5m deep, visible for 1.6m across trench and 1.9m wide. One of two parallel running probable Cornish hedge ditches.
T8	8109	NA	Natural	D	Natural. Dark red/brown, compact stony clay. Frequent angular stone, becoming increasingly compact, orange/yellow silty clay at the S end of the trench.
T8	8110	8108	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [8108]. Dark reddish brown, friable silty clay basal fill with pea-grit against base and edges. 0.1m thick, below (8107).
T9	9101	NA	Topsoil	D	Same as (1101)
T9	9102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil. Same as (2102).
T9	9103	9104	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [9104], mid yellowish brown plastic silty clay, 0.15m deep, frequent sub angular stone inclusions.
T9	9104	9104	Ditch	C	Cut of shallow ditch, linear, curved sides, and concave base N-E orientation, good edge definition, <2m wide, 0.15m deep.
T9	9105	9106	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [9106], mid greyish brown friable silty clay, 0.4m deep, frequent sub angular stone inclusions.
T9	9106	9106	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear steep sides, flat base, NE-SW orientation, good edge definition, 1.2m wide, 0.4m deep, shelf and gully associated within this feature.
T9	9107	9108	Fill	D	Fill of possible ditch [9108], a mid reddish brown friable, silty clay, 0.3m deep, frequent sub angular stone inclusions.
T9	9108	9108	Ditch	C	Cut of possible ditch, irregular shape, with sloped steep sides, irregular sides, irregular uneven base, moderate edge definition, 1.6m wide, and 0.3m deep.
T9	9109	NA	Natural	D	Natural, a light yellowish brown friable silty clay, frequent sub angular stones.
T10	10101	NA	Topsoil	D	Same as (1101)
T10	10102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil, a dark brown loose loam, 0.3m deep, irregular unsorted common stone inclusions.
T10	10103	10104	Fill	D	Fill of pit [10104], mid reddish brown loose silt, few stone inclusions, occasional flecks of charcoal, piece of flint in the SE corner at the base.
T10	10104	10104	Pit	C	Cut of pit, truncated oval shaped pit, steep sides, U shaped base, NW-SE orientation, moderate edge definition, 1.35m long, 0.55m wide, and 0.3m deep. Cut through by adjoining ditch [10105].
T10	10105	10105	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear steep sided; U shaped base, SWW-NEE orientation, good edge definition, 0.55m wide, 0.2m deep.
T10	10106	10106	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, irregular sides, uneven base, SW-NE orientation, moderate to poor edge definition, 0.7m wide (max), 0.45m deep (max). [10105] and [10106] were divided by an island of yellowish brown natural.
T10	10107	10107	Pit	C	Cut of pit, oval shaped pit, steep sides, U shaped base, NW-SE orientation, moderate to good edge definition, 1.6m long, 0.5m deep.
T10	10108	10108	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, shallow sides, flat base, NE-SW orientation, good edge definition, 0.8m wide, 0.17m deep.

T10	10109	10109	Ditch	C	Cut of ditch, linear, steep sides, flat base, NW-SE orientation, good edge definition, 0.9m wide, 0.55m deep.
T10	10110	10104	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10105], a dark reddish brown loose loam, sparse stone inclusions, 0.2m deep.
T10	10111	10106	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10106], dark brown friable silt clay, 0.22m deep, sparse stone inclusions.
T10	10112	10106	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10106], a dark reddish brown friable silty clay, and 0.1m deep.
T10	10113	10105	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10105], a dark reddish brown loose silty clay, and 0.25m deep, small stone inclusions.
T10	10114		OLS	D	Layer, a dark brown friable loam with common stone inclusions, 0.25m deep.
T10	10115	10107	Spread	D	A dark reddish brown friable silt, 0.2m deep. Sealed (10116) and (10117).
T10	10116	10107	Fill	D	Fill of pit [10107], a dark brown loose silty clay, 0.4m deep, with common stone inclusions.
T10	10117	10108	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10108], a mid yellowish brown compact grainy, 0.05m,
T10	10118	10109	Fill	D	Fill of ditch [10109], a dark brown loose loam, 0.55m deep, very common stone inclusions.
T11	Trench 11	NA			Not opened.
T12	Trench 12	NA			Opened, but not hand excavated.
T13	13101	NA	Topsoil	D	Topsoil. Mid reddish brown, firm, silty loam with occasional small stone inclusions. Mixed and 0.32m deep max.
T13	13102	NA	Ploughsoil	D	Subsoil/former ploughsoil. Mid/dark, reddish brown, compact, silty clay/loam, with moderate stone inclusions. A large quartz stone found at the W end of trench was probably uprooted by ploughing from a feature. Mixed and 0.15m deep.
T13	13103	NA	Spread/OLS?	D	Spread? Dark reddish grey/brown, friable silty clay. Frequent small stones. Possibly a pocket of surviving Old Land Surface? Or the base of a broad, shallow truncated feature. 0.05m deep, 2.25m wide.
T13	13104	13105	Fill	D	Fill of [13105]. Mid/dark greyish brown, compact, silty clay with occasional small stones. Up to 0.22m deep.
T13	13105	13105	Pit / Ditch	C	Cut of pit/ditch. Linear with concave base and sides. NNE to SSW orientation with clear definition. 1m long, 0.96m wide and 0.22m deep. Possibly a ditch terminal - extends N beyond trench.
T13	13106		Natural	D	Natural. Mid/dark red brown, friable clay. Varies along the length of the trench, but frequently very stony.
T14	Trench 14	NA			No features present.

8.2 Finds details

Trench no.	Context no.	Cut no.	Feature type	Material	No. of items	Description	Period
T2	2101		Topsoil	Pottery	1	Basal sherd - North Devon - glazed red earthenware.	C18th/19th AD
T2	2101		Topsoil	Pottery	1	Glazed rim sherd - North Devon - glazed red earthenware.	C17th/18th AD
T2	2103	2106	Ditch fill	Stone	1	Slate disc rough-out - partial peripheral compass mark.	?RB
T2	2103	2106	Ditch fill	Pottery	2	Conjoining body sherds - decorative groove (fine cup/bowl?).	IA/RB
T2	2104	2106	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	Decorated body sherd - incised external groove.	IA/RB
T2	2104	2106	Ditch fill	Slag	1	Lump of iron slag - smithing or furnace.	?RB
T2	2105	2106	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	Flat basal sherd (part of large storage vessel).	IA/RB
T2	2111	2112	Pit fill	Slag	1	Piece of iron slag - possible tap slag.	?RB
T2	2117		OLS	Pottery	1	Body sherd (close to pit [2112]) - possible raised cordon.	RB
T2	2117		OLS	Stone	1	Heated quartzite-like cobble.	?
T2	2127		Spread ?	Flint	1	Broken blade.	Prehistoric
T2	2130	2121	Ditch	Pottery	1	Body sherd.	IA-RB
T3	3106	3107	Ditch fill	Pottery	3	Small body sherds.	?BA
T3	3106	3107	Ditch fill	Stone	1	Heated, possibly modified cobble.	?
T3	3108	3112	Ditch fill	Pottery	6	3 red body sherds and 3 black burnished (2 neck /1 shoulder).	RB
T3	3110	3112	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	?Samian neck sherd fragment.	RB - ?AD150-230
T3	3114	3116	Ditch fill	Pottery	4	1 black burnished body sherd, 2 crumbly pieces, 1 body sherd.	RB
T4	4103	4108	Pit fill	Stone	1	Lower part of rotary quern - Greisen stone.	RB
T4	4103	4108	Pit fill	Pottery	11	Jar sherds, inc. 4 rim sherds and 2 neck sherds	RB
T4	4106	4105	Ditch fill	Pottery	3	2 conjoining (casserole-like) lid sherds, 1 body sherd with residue	RB
T4	4106	4105	Ditch fill	Pottery	4	2 conjoining sherds, a body sherd and a small inverted rim sherd	RB
T4	4106	4105	Ditch fill	Metal	1	Part of broken penannular copper alloy brooch.	RB?
T5	5103	5104	Ditch fill	Pottery	3	2 body sherds and a basal angle sherd.	IA/RB
T5	5103	5104	Ditch fill	Slag	1	Base of a furnace / smelter.	?RB
T5	5103	5104	Ditch fill	Stone	1	Fine polished cobble rubbing stone with roughened faces.	?
T5	U/S		Plough soil?	Pottery	1	Glazed red earthenware basal sherd - North Devon.	*C*18th AD
T6	6101		Topsoil	Stone	1	Heat damaged greenstone cobble with possible plough/ard strike.	?
T6	6107	6108	Ditch fill	Stone	1	Small slate disc/counter with finely incised central cross.	?RB
T6	6107	6108	Ditch fill	Slag	1	Iron slag - possible smelting waste.	?
T7	7102		Above ditch	Pottery	1	1 early 1800s decorated china.	*C*19th AD
T7	7113	7115	Ditch fill	Stone	1	Small slate disc with ground edges.	?RB
T7	7113	7115	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	Black burnished body sherd - ?from Poole, Dorset.	RB
T7	7113	7115	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	Rim sherd from top of jar/drinking cup – local.	*C*2nd AD
T7	7113	7115	Ditch fill	Pottery	1	Footring from a beaker - Oxfordshire red/brown slipped ware.	230-300AD
T10	10103	10104	Pit fill	Flint	1	Piece of flint.	Prehistoric

9 References

9.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, *c*1880. 25 Inch Map First Edition (licensed digital copy at CAU)

Ordnance Survey, *c*1907. 25 Inch Map Second Edition (licensed digital copy at CAU)

Ordnance Survey, 2007. Mastermap Digital Mapping

Tithe Map and Apportionment, *c*1840. Parish of St Mabyn (licensed digital copy)

9.2 Publications

AB Heritage, 2016. Chapelfield, St Mabyn, Cornwall. Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment.

Padel, O.J., 1985. Cornish place-name elements. English Place-Name Society, Cambridge.

9.3 Websites

http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/ English Heritage's online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings

10 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146591**

The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit.

- Field drawing folder - GRE: 859
- Black and white photograph film numbers – GBP: 2384 and GBP: 2385

Electronic data is stored in the following locations:

- Project admin: G;\Waste & Env\Strat Waste & Land\Historic Environment\Projects\Sites\Sites S\St Mabyn Chapelfield evaluation
- Digital photographs: R:\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.Q-T\St Mabyn Chapelfield Evaluation
- Electronic drawings: R:\Historic Environment (CAD)\CAD Archive\Sites S\St Mabyn Chapelfield Evaluation
- Historic England/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-253037

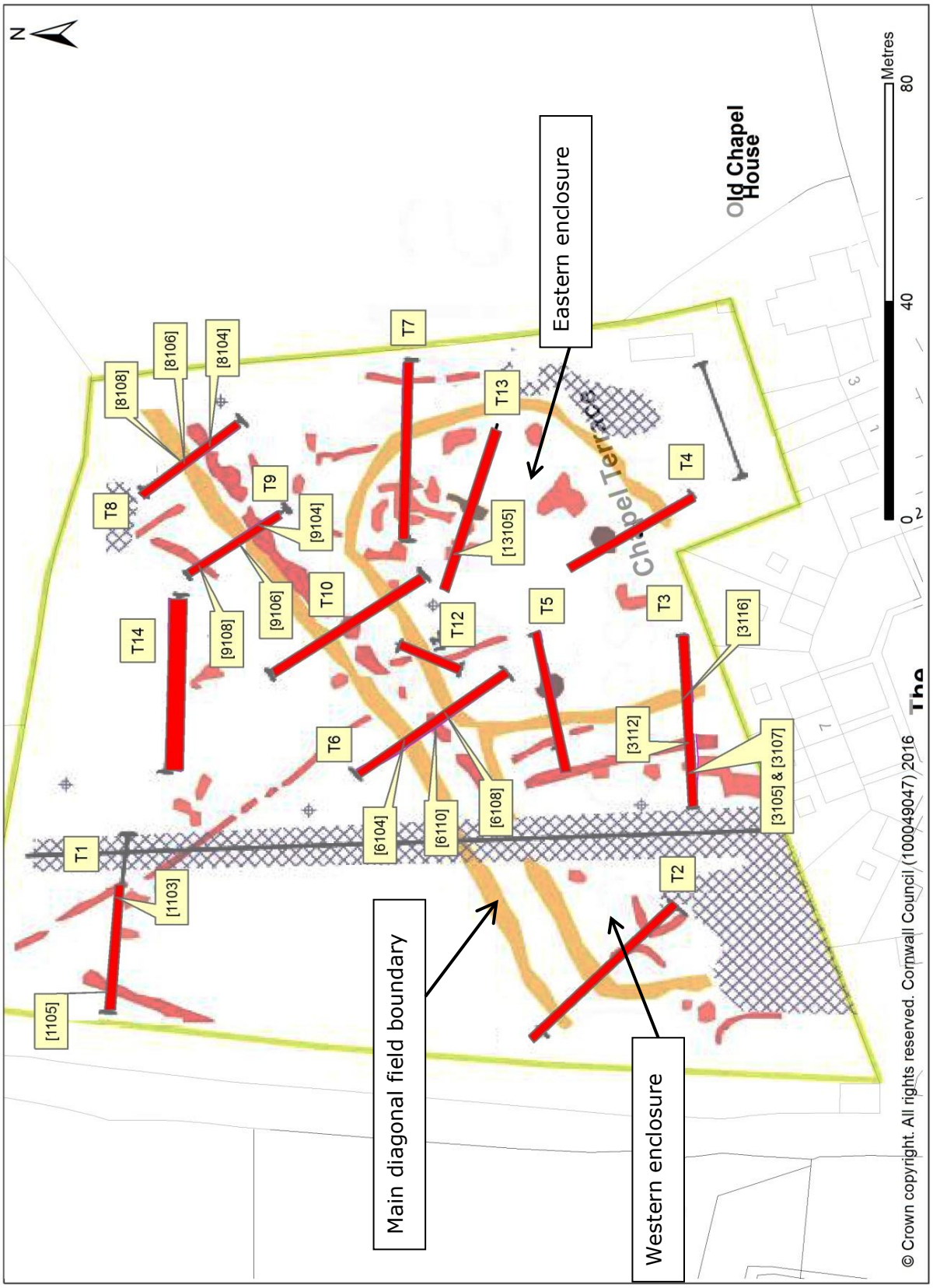


Fig 14 Site plan showing modern digital mapping with the geophysical survey used as an underlay, superimposed with the numbered evaluation trenches, plus numbered features for all trenches (with the exception of trenches 2, 4, 5 7 and 10, which have detailed plans and sections overleaf).

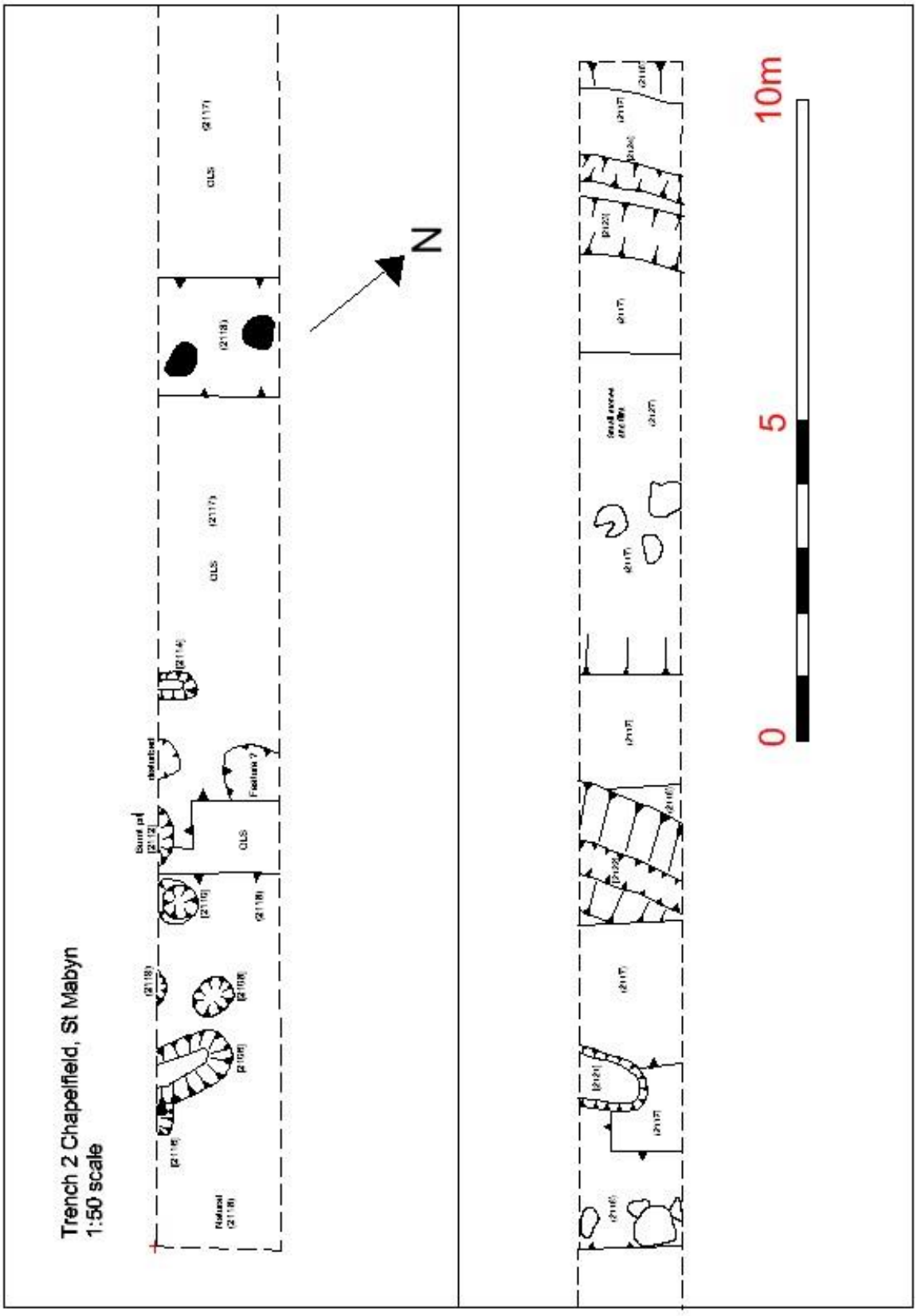


Fig 15 Plan of trench 2, showing all features excavated.

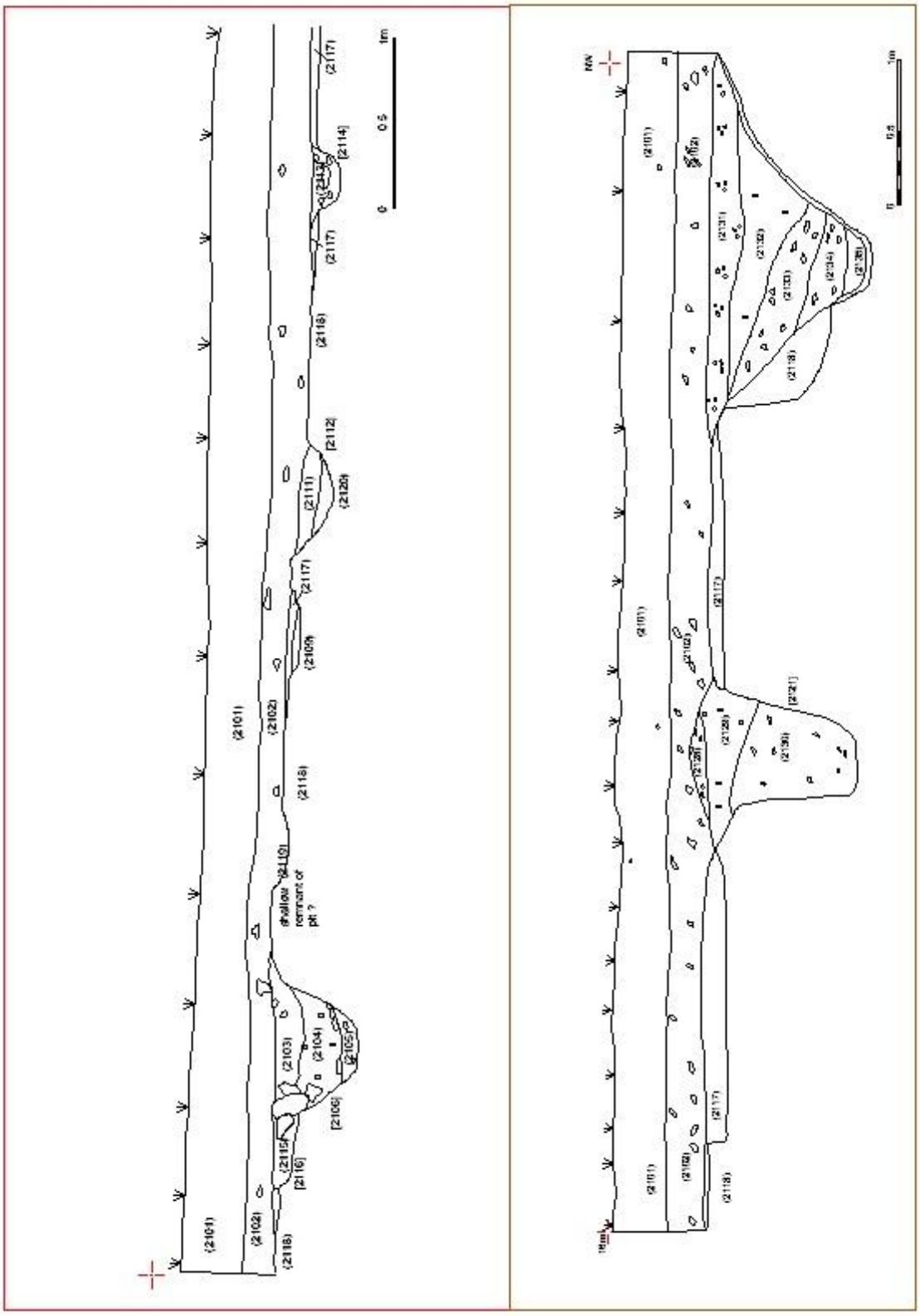


Fig 16 Running sections along the southern side of Trench 2, showing structure related features between [2116] and [2121], and enclosure ditch [2122].

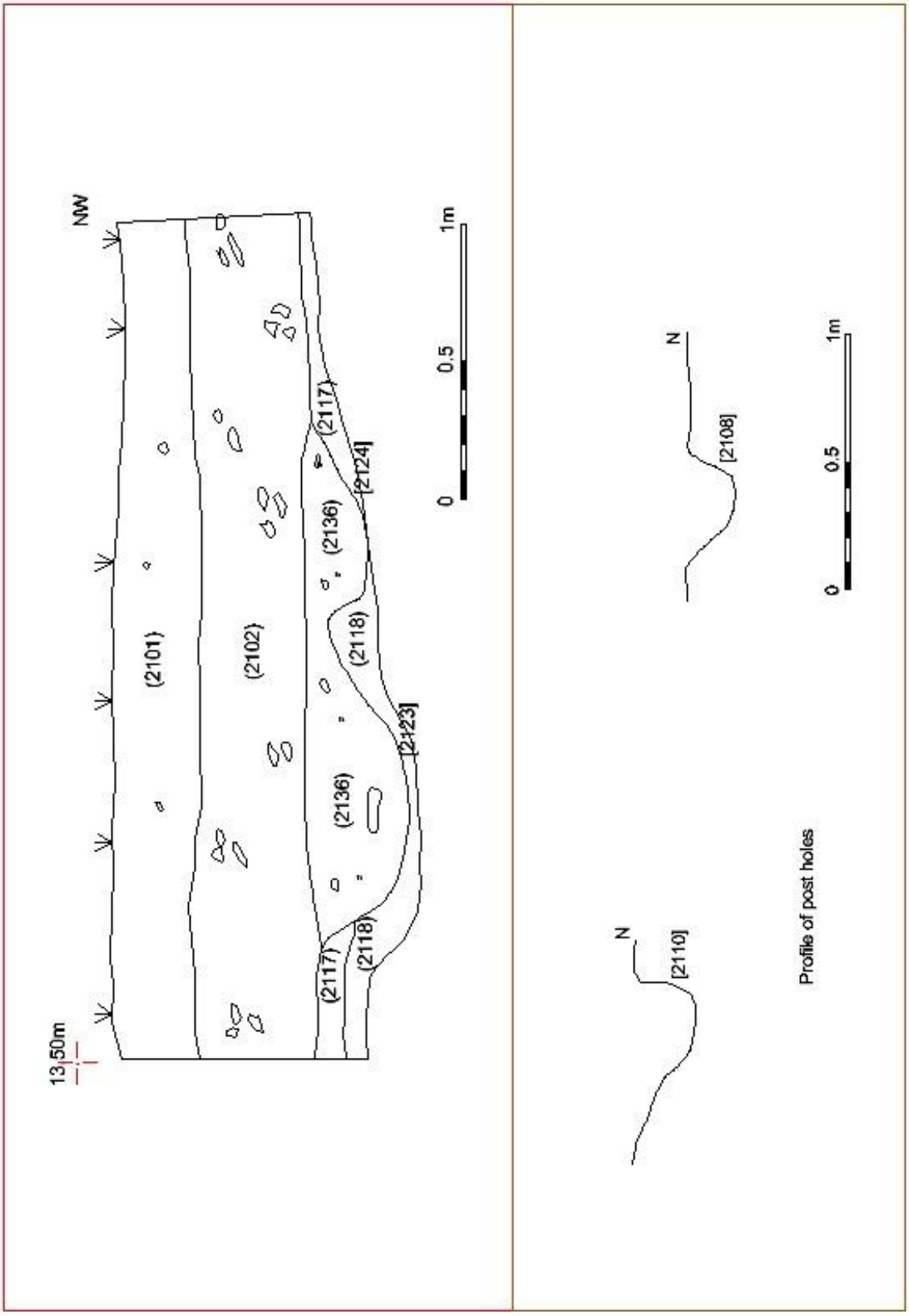


Fig 17 Trench 2, Top - Showing the north-east facing section through the southern end of the main diagonal field boundary [2123] and [2124]. Bottom – profiles through two postholes [2108] and [2110].

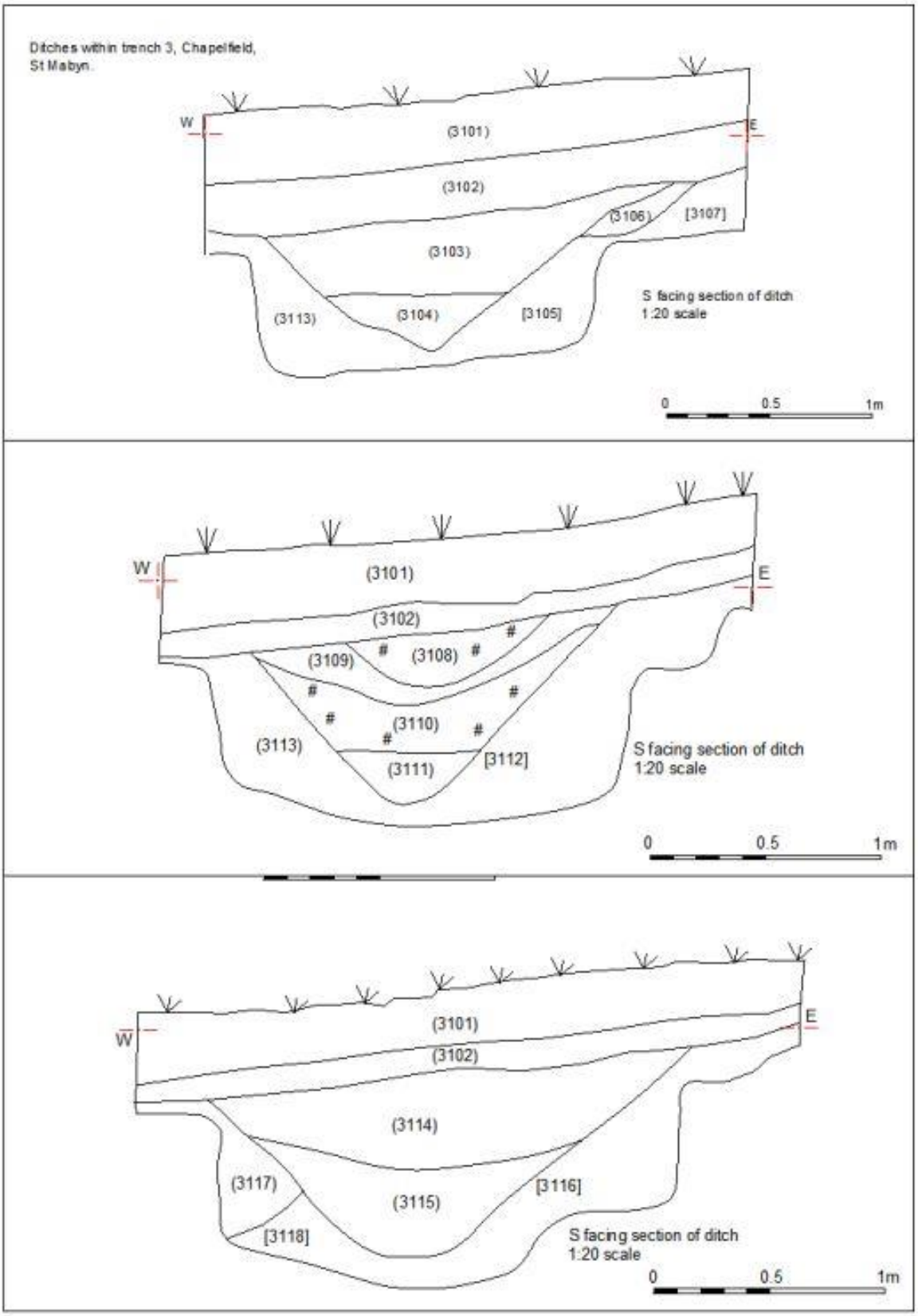


Fig 18 Three Trench 3 machine excavated slots cut through, Top – pink geophysical survey anomaly [3105], Middle – red geophysical survey anomaly [3112], and Bottom – enclosure ditch [3116].

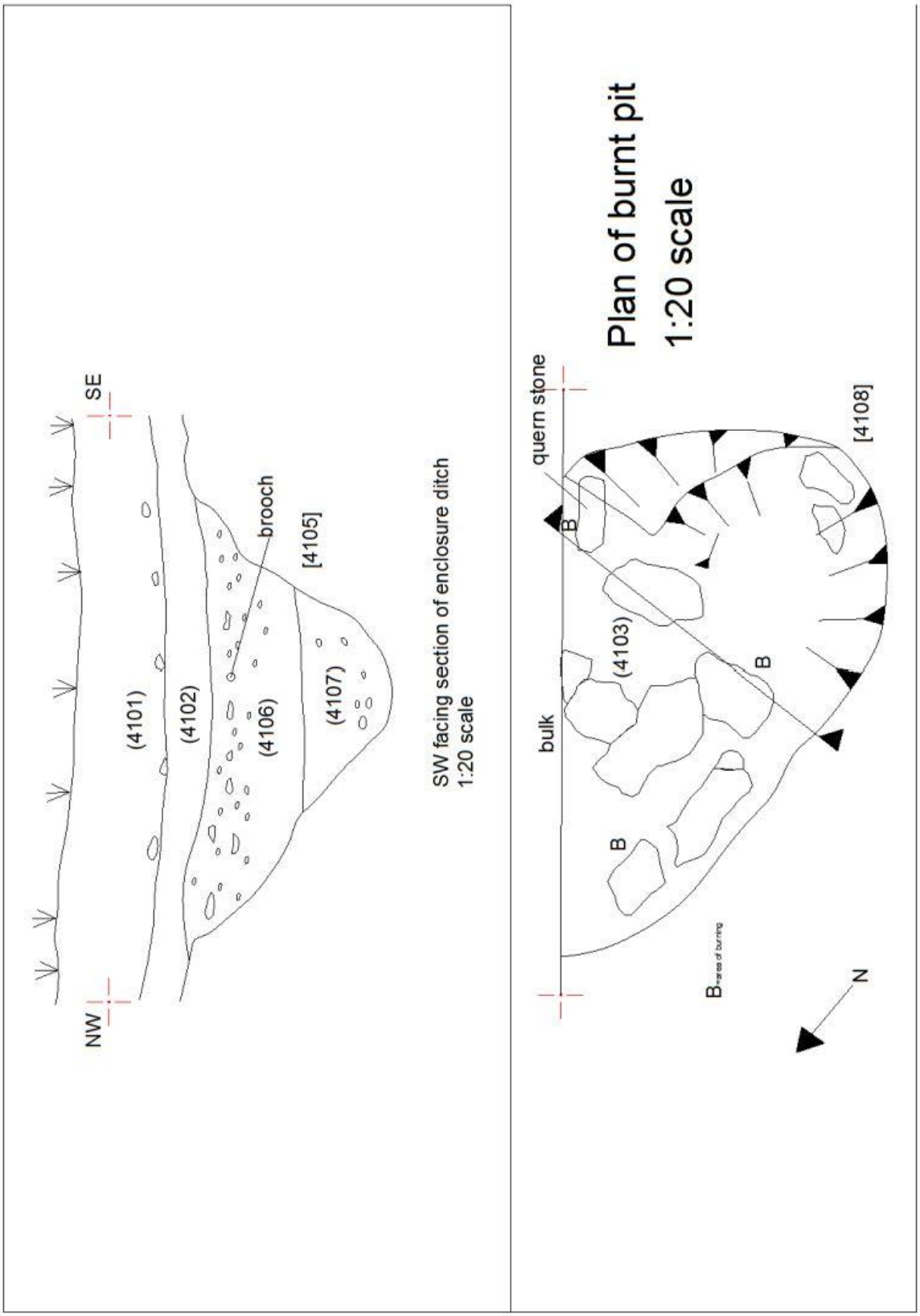


Fig 19 Trench 4, Top – showing the section through enclosure ditch [4105] plus the position of the brooch prior to excavation. Bottom – Partially excavated pit [4108], showing the position of the rotary quern fragment.

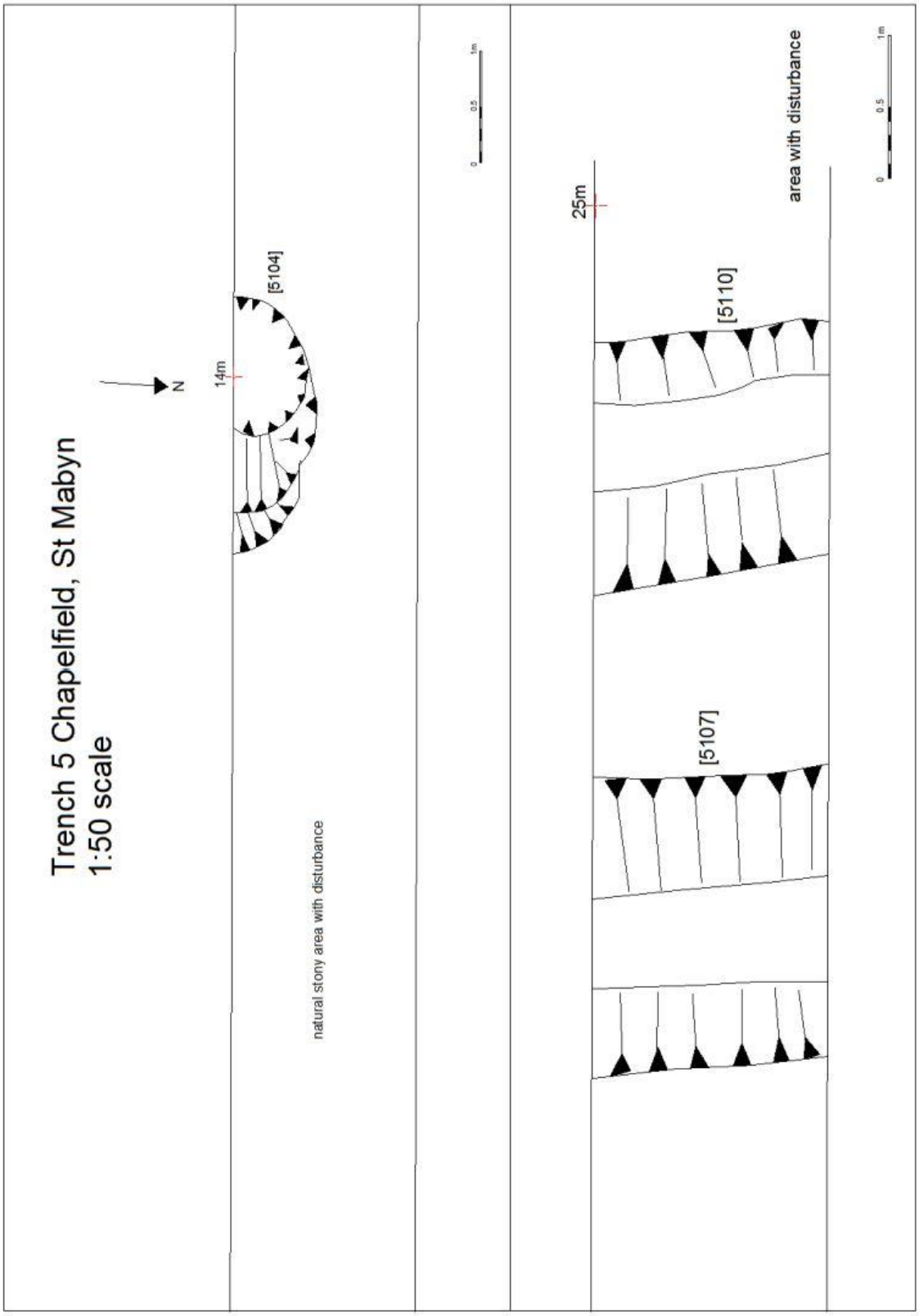


Fig 20 Trench 5 plan showing geophysical survey identified large pit [5104] and ditches [5107] and [5110].

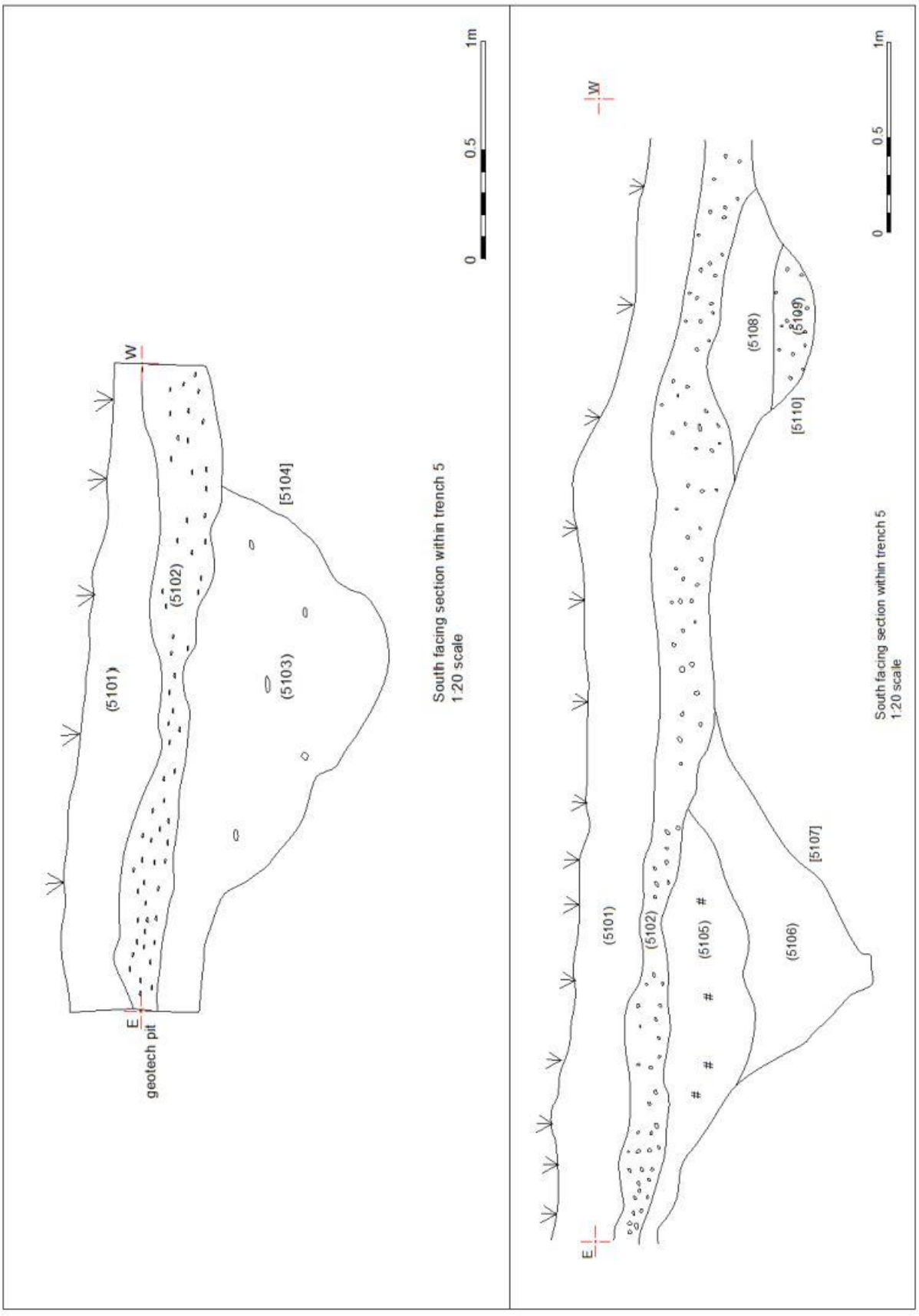


Fig 21 Trench 5 sections through pit [5104] and ditches [5107] and [5110].

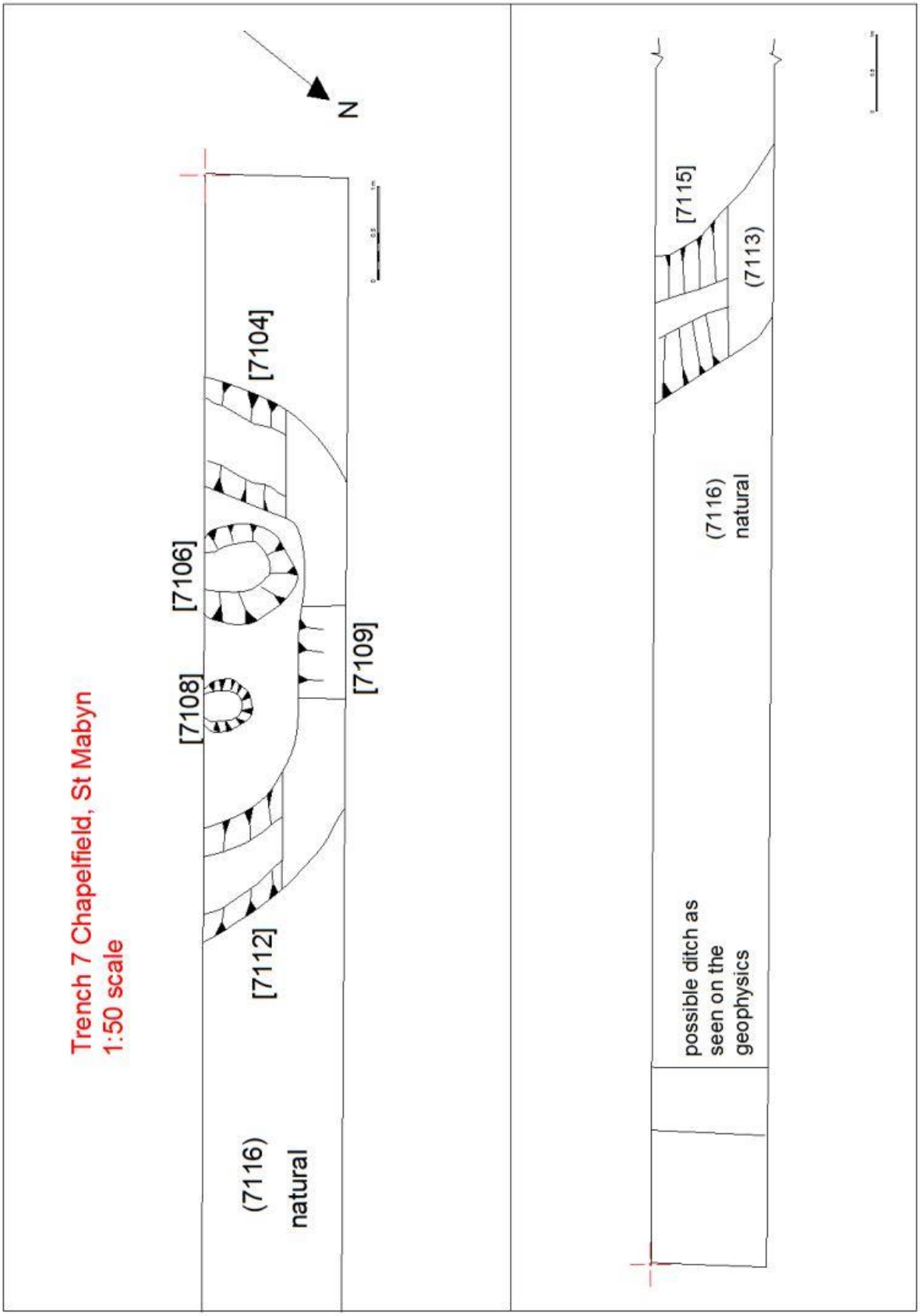


Fig 22 Trench 7 plan showing structure related semi-circular ditch/gully [7104] / [7109] and [7112] with internal pit and posthole [7106] and [7108], plus enclosure ditch [7115].

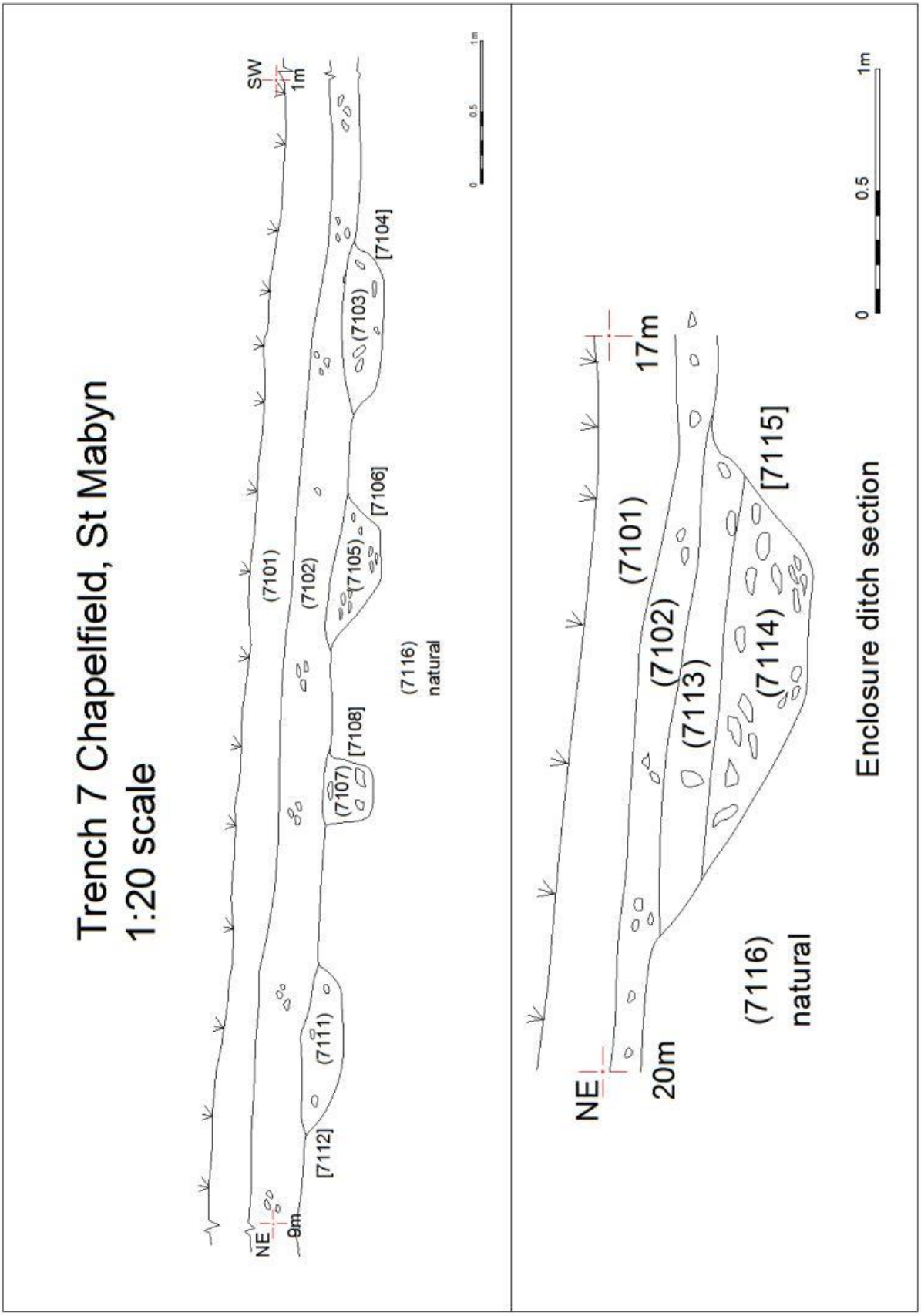


Fig 23 Trench 7, Top - running south facing section through structure related gully/ditch, pit and postholes. Bottom – north facing section through enclosure ditch [7115].

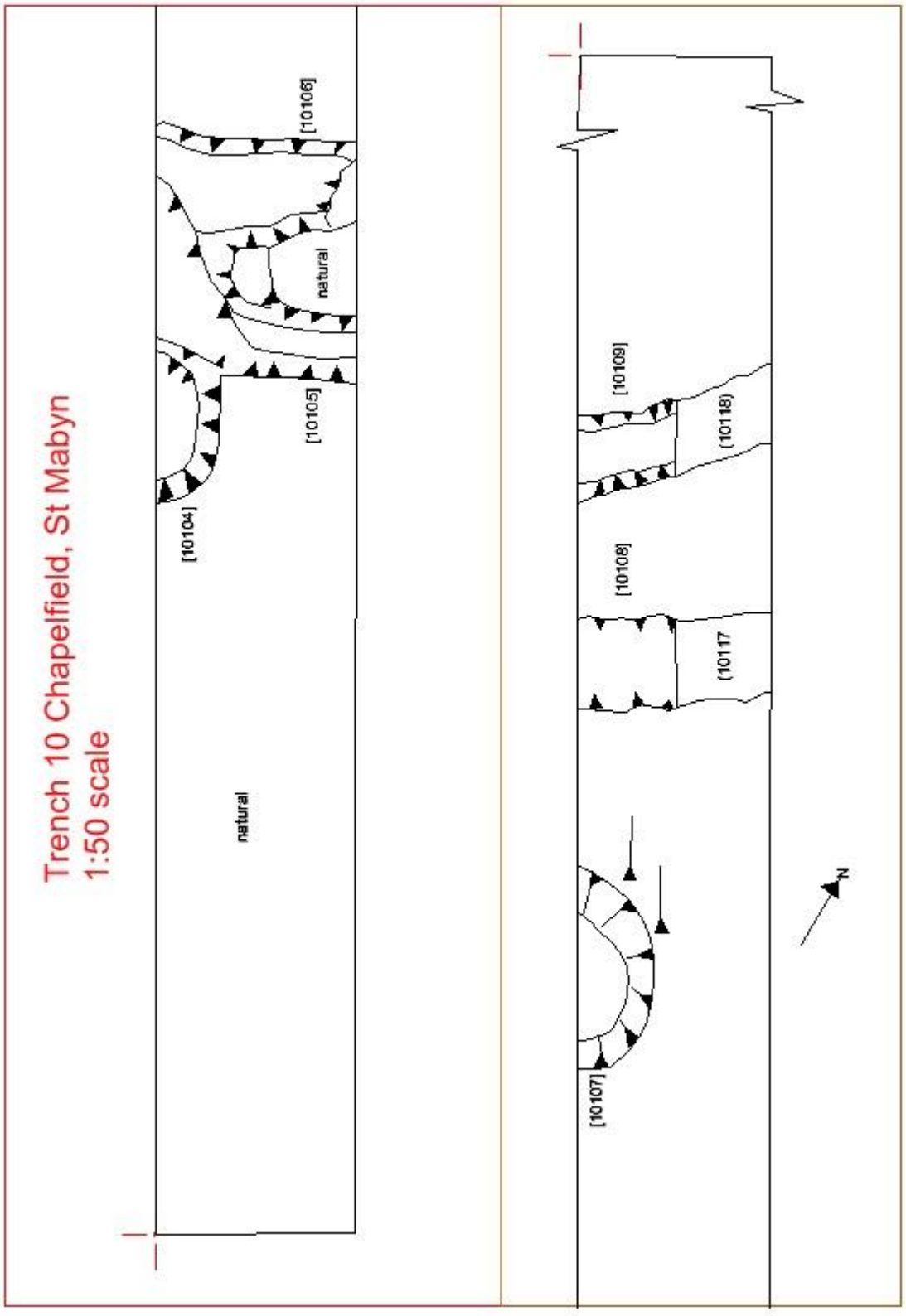


Fig 24 Trench 10 plan showing enclosure related ditch [10105] / [10106] and linked pit [10104], and main diagonal field boundary and southern flanking anomaly [[10108] / [10109] and [10107].

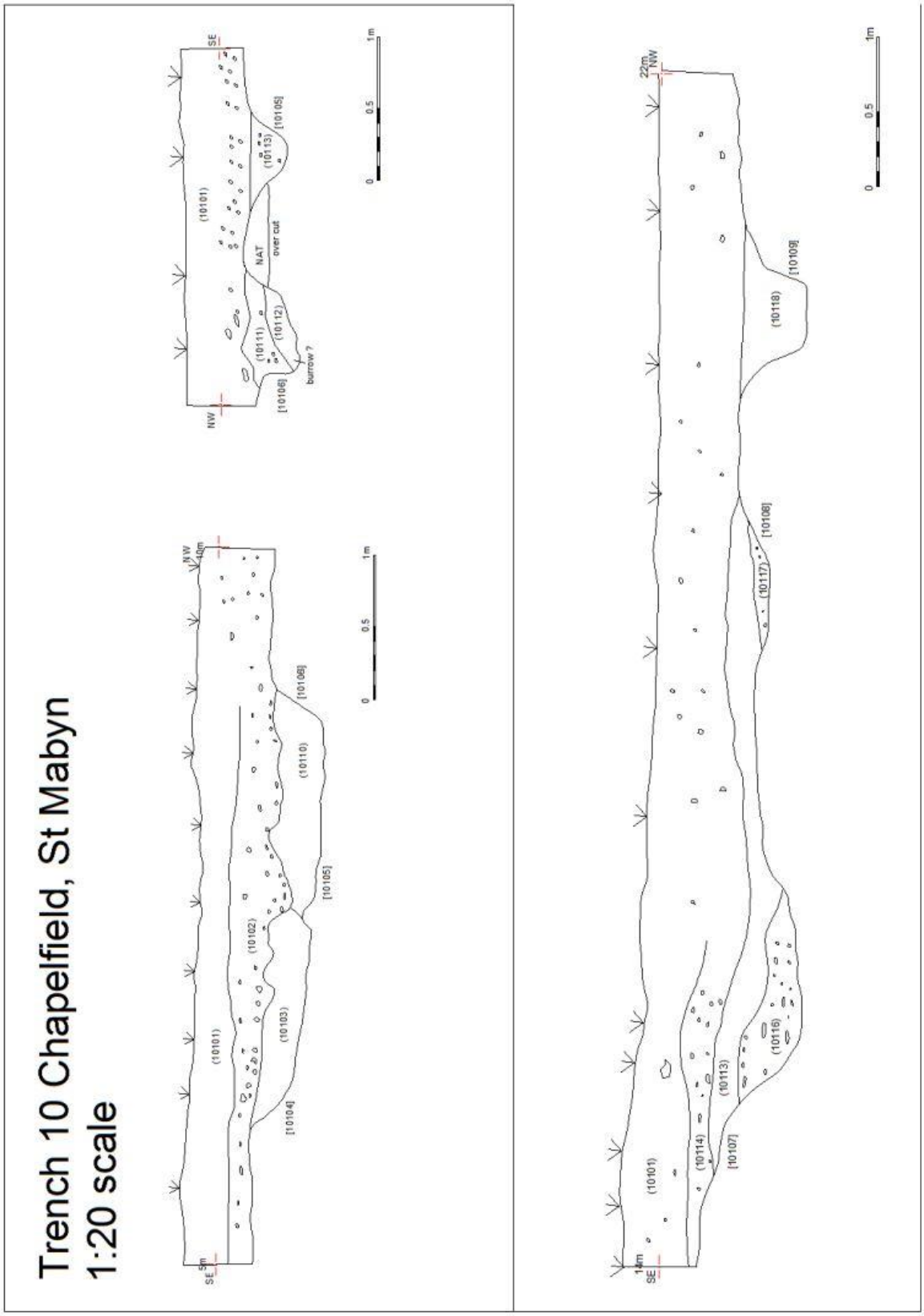


Fig 25 Trench 10, Top left and right – sections through enclosure ditch [10105] / [10106] and pit [10104]. Bottom – running section through pit/ditch terminal [10107] and main filed boundary ditches [10108] and [10109].

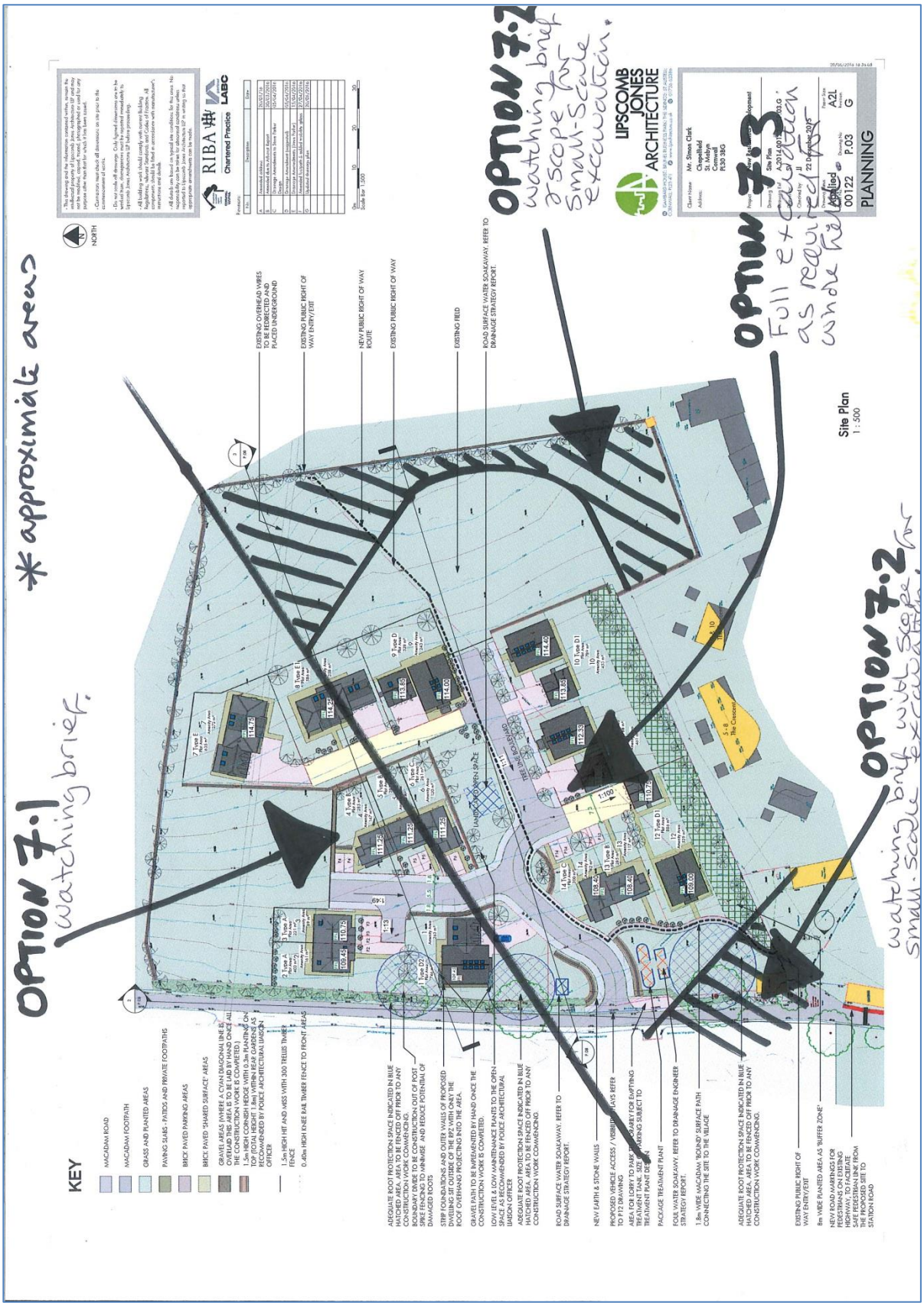


Fig 26 Plan showing the proposed development with the approximate areas affected by the three different options laid out in section 7 of this report.

11 Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological evaluation trenching

Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit were contacted by Mr Jason Jarvis of Lipscomb Jones Architects with a request to submit costs for excavating 14 evaluation trenches across anomalies of potential archaeological significance which had been revealed by a magnetometer survey (see below) at Chapelfield St Mabyn (SX 0428173383). The work is being undertaken ahead of a proposal to construct 14 dwellings (PA16/00181).

A geophysical survey undertaken by AB Heritage 2016 revealed that the field contained a large number of geophysical anomalies with archaeological potential (see plan below), including an enclosure which may be of prehistoric date. The development is likely to be the subject of a Planning Conditions and evaluation trenching will inform the character of the archaeology and future mitigation strategies. The client has identified areas for archaeological trenching and the positions of these trenches are shown on the plan at the end of this project design.

Dependent upon the results from the evaluative fieldwork, further stages of archaeological recording may be needed to mitigate the impact of development.

The trenching strategy will need to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

This might include one or more of the following elements:

- Controlled soil stripping of the remainder of the development.
- Excavation of significant features.
- Collation of archive and production of archive report.
- Assessment, analysis (and archive deposition).
- Final publication (in an academic journal).

Archaeological Potential

An archaeological assessment of the site was undertaken by AB Heritage in tandem with a magnetometry survey of the site. The settlement of St Mabyn is first recorded in 1234 when it is spelt *Sancto Malbano*, though may have early medieval origins. No archaeological sites were identified within the study area, although the land has been characterised as Anciently Enclosed Land (Cornwall Council 1996), which means that there is the potential for buried archaeology to survive within the project area.

This potential was confirmed by the geophysical survey, which revealed what appeared to be an enclosure in the southern part of the area, as well as linear ditch and smaller pit type anomalies. Many of these anomalies have the potential to be associated with significant archaeological features, some of which may be of prehistoric date.

Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the nature and significance of any archaeological deposits within the proposed development area, the likely impacts of the development on them and potential methods by which any negative impacts resulting from the development might be mitigated.

Key objectives are:

- To establish if areas of archaeological deposits survive within the development boundary which will require further stages of archaeological recording.
- To locate evidence for prehistoric and medieval settlement activity within the area of the proposed development.
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.

- To provide further information on the archaeology of the site at Chapelfield and its environs from any archaeological remains encountered.

Working methods

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording.* Staff will follow the CIfA *Code of Conduct* and *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Archaeology.* The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

Fieldwork: archaeological evaluation

Evaluation trenching

Evaluation trenching will be carried out, in order to adequately assess the archaeological potential of the area of the development and test the results from the geophysical surveys.

In order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the development area, fourteen 10m to 30m long trenches will be excavated across the site at locations supplied by AB Heritage (see plan below for the locations of these trenches). The trenches will be 1m wide except for the two which are in the blank areas, which will be 3m wide.

Trenches 4 and 12 will measure 10m long, trenches 5, 8, 9, and 11 will be 20m long and trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 13 and 14 will be 30m long.

- Trench 1 will be located over linear anomalies in the northwest part of the survey area (note: it will stop short of the power cable).
- Trenches 2, 6, 8 and 9and 10 will target the linear anomaly which runs across the central part of the site and they will also investigate adjacent features along its length.
- Trenches 3, 4, 5, 7, 12 and 13 will investigate the enclosure in the southern part of the survey area and a representative number of the identified features within it.
- Trench 11 and 14 will be located in 'blank areas' to test whether they are truly empty.

Taken jointly, the evaluation trenches will not only sample specific features identified through geophysical survey but will also provide a general overview of the archaeology of the project area.

In advance of the evaluation trenching CAU will discuss with the client:

- Working methods and programme.
- Health and Safety arrangements.
- Treatment of artefacts.

Recording – general

- Excavation of archaeological features will be restricted to the minimum necessary to assess their likely potential. In the event that very deep ditches are encountered they will be excavated down to a safe working depth.
- The positions of the trenches will be marked onto a scaled base map (linked to the National Grid). Prior to the start of the evaluation, the positions of the trenches will be marked out on the ground.
- The trenches will be excavated down to the level of the archaeology or the top of the natural subsoil by mechanical excavator/swing shovel fitted with a toothless (grading bucket. The trench will then be hand-cleaned, any archaeological features sampled to recommended levels and recorded.
- Site drawings (plans and sections) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point.

- All features and finds will be accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Finds will be collected in sealable plastic bags, which will be labelled immediately with the context number or other identifier.
- Difficulties of back-lighting will be dealt with where necessary by balancing the lighting by the use of flash.
- If human remains are discovered on the site they will be treated with respect and the Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council and Public Health will be informed. All recording will conform to best practice and legal requirements.

Treatment of finds

The fieldwork is likely to produce artefactual material.

All finds in significant stratified contexts predating 1800 AD (eg, settlement features) should be plotted on a scaled base plan and described. Post-medieval or modern finds may be disposed of at the cataloguing stage. This process will be reviewed ahead of its implementation.

All finds predating 1800 AD will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the context number or other identifier.

Fieldwork: photographic recording

Photographic recording will include colour photography using a digital SLR camera (with a resolution of 10 million pixels or higher) and black and white photography.

CAU follows Historic England guidance on digital image capture and file storage (2014).

The photo record will comprise:

- General views of the site/trenches.
- Archaeological detail.

General

- Monochrome photography (prints and negatives) will be used as a primary archive record medium, with colour digital images also used to supplement this record and for illustrative purposes.
- Photography will include both general and feature specific photographs.
- Detailed photographs will include a metric scale. A north arrow will also be included where the subject is shown in plan.
- The archive standard photographs will be accompanied by a register detailing as a minimum the feature number, location, and direction of shot.
- Photographs of details will be taken with lenses of appropriate focal length.
- A tripod will be used to take advantage of slower exposures.

Creation of site archive

An ordered and cross-referenced site archive will be produced. Site plans, photographs and other records will be completed and indexed, and any artefacts retrieved will be washed and marked (where appropriate) and catalogued.

A Historic England /ADS OASIS online archive index will be created at this stage of the project.

Archive report

The results from the evaluation trenching will be presented in a concise report. Copies of the report will be distributed to the Client, the Development Officer (Historic

Environment) and the local and main archaeological record libraries. A PDF copy of the report will be produced.

This will involve:

- producing a descriptive text;
- producing maps and line drawings;
- selecting photographs;
- report design;
- report editing;
- dissemination of the finished report
- Deposition of archive and finds in the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro.

The report will have the following contents:

- Summary - Concise non-technical summary.
- Introduction - Background, objectives, aims and methods.
- Results - Factual description of the results of the various aspects of the project, with separate sections as necessary for discussion/interpretation and potential for further analysis.
- Discussion - Discussion of the interpretation of the results, highlighting information gained on a chronological or thematic basis.
  Recommendations for further archaeological recording.
  Recommendations for further analysis and publication.
- Archive - A brief summary and index to the project archive.
- References - Sources referred to in text.
- Appendix - A copy of the WSI.
  -
- Illustrations - General location plan.
  - Geophysical survey plan.
  - Detailed location plans to link fieldwork results to OS map.
  - Selected plans and section drawings (as appropriate).
  - Finds drawings (if appropriate).
  Photographs (if appropriate).

Report deposition

A digital (PDF) copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER. Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, to local archives and national archaeological record centres.

Analyses and Dissemination

- Where no further archaeological recording takes place provision should be made in agreement with the Development Officer (Historic Environment) for the deposition of the project archive/finds in an accredited museum. Where significant remains are recovered publication of the results may be required within an academic journal. Costs for final publication are not included within the attached estimate.
- A summary of the results/Events Record will be presented to the Senior Archaeologist (HER).
- An OASIS record will be made for the project.

Monitoring

- This written scheme of investigation will need to be approved by the planning

authority.

- The recording exercise will be monitored. Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council should be informed 1 week in advance of the intention to start the recording.
- CAU will liaise with the Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council to advise on the programme and progress of work, and agree site meetings as required.
- A summary of the results will be presented to the Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council within 1 month of the completion of the fieldwork.
- In the event that significant remains are encountered an updated project design will be agreed with the Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council.

Project Staff

Archaeologists employed by CAU, who are members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), and are experienced in this type of project, will carry out the archaeological fieldwork.

The report will be compiled by experienced archaeologist(s) employed by CAU.

Relevant experienced and qualified specialists will be employed to undertake appropriate tasks during the assessment and analysis stages of the project.

The project will be managed by CAU Principal Archaeologist Andy Jones who is a Member of the CIfA, Andy will:

- Take responsibility for the overall direction of the project.
- Discuss and agree the objectives and programme of each stage of the project with project staff, including arrangements for Health and Safety.
- Monitor progress and results for each stage.
- Edit the project report.

Timetable

CAU will require a minimum of one full week's notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

The archive report will be completed within 3 months of the end of the fieldwork. The deposition of the archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the archive report.

Health and safety during the fieldwork

Health and safety statement

As part of Cornwall Council, CAU follows the Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*.

Prior to carrying out any fieldwork CAU will carry out a risk assessment.

Insurance

As part of Cornwall Council, CAU is covered by Public Liability and Employers Liability Insurance.

Standards

CAU is a Registered Archaeological Organization and follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Code of Conduct.

Copyright

Freedom of Information

All information gathered during the implementation of the project will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Notes

- It is assumed that the client will supply the mechanical excavator. The cost is not included in the attached estimate.
- The client will be responsible for the Health and Safety arrangements on site (including fencing, etc.), and it is assumed that welfare facilities will be made available.
- The post excavation programme (assessment, analysis and reporting) will need to be reviewed in the light of the fieldwork and agreed with the Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council.

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Archaeological Unit is part of Cornwall Council. CAU employs 20 project staff with a broad range of expertise, undertaking around 120 projects each year.

CAU is committed to conserving and enhancing the distinctiveness of the historic environment and heritage of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly by providing clients with a number of services including:

- Conservation works to sites and monuments
- Conservation surveys and management plans
- Historic landscape characterisation
- Town surveys for conservation and regeneration
- Historic building surveys and analysis
- Maritime and coastal zone assessments
- Air photo mapping
- Excavations and watching briefs
- Assessments and evaluations
- Post-excavation analysis and publication
- Outreach: exhibitions, publication, presentations

Standards

CAU is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and follows their Standards and Code of Conduct.

http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa

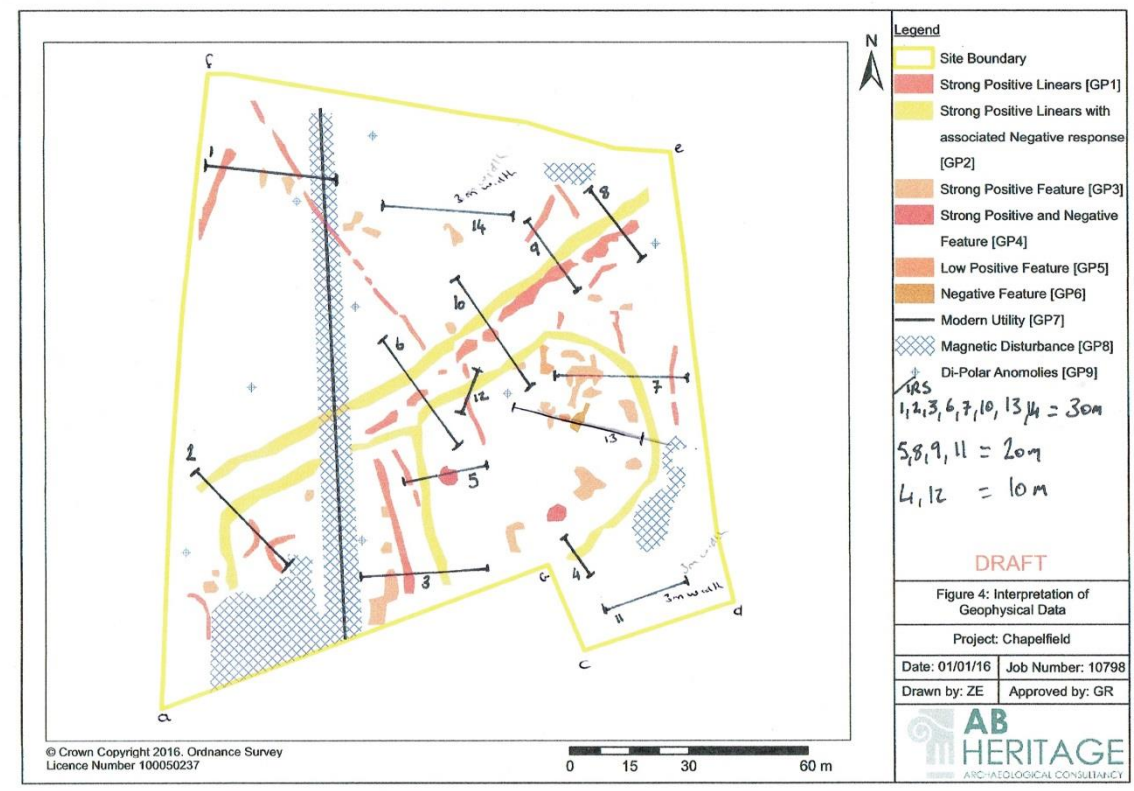
Terms and conditions

Contract

CAU is part of Cornwall Council. If accepted, the contract for this work will be between the client and Cornwall Council.

The views and recommendations expressed will be those of CAU and will be presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

Dr Andy Jones 10/5/16
Cornwall Archaeological unit
Fal Building
County Hall
Treyew Road
Truro
TR1 3AY
Tel: 01872 323691



Chapelfield, St Mabyn, Trench location plan

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

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