

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT  
THE FORMER RIDDINGS ALLOTMENT GARDENS,  
BURRINGHAM ROAD, SCUNTHORPE,  
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

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**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY**

**An Archaeological Evaluation at the Former Riddings Allotment Gardens,  
Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire**

**Central National Grid Reference: SE 8860 0850**

**Site Code: ASAT**

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# CONTENTS

## List of Figures and Plates

	<i>page</i>
1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	1
2. INTRODUCTION	4
3. PROJECT AIMS AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES	12
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY	13
5. RESULTS: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE	15
6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	39
7. REFERENCES	41
8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS	42

## APPENDICES

- Appendix A Stratigraphic Matrices
- Appendix B Context Index
- Appendix C Assessment of Pottery and Other Artefactual Material
- Appendix D Plates

## **List of Figures and Plates (Plates form Appendix D)**

<b>Figure 1</b>	<b>Site Location</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Figure 2</b>	<b>Trench Locations</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Figure 3</b>	<b>Trench 1: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Figure 4</b>	<b>Trench 2: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Figure 5</b>	<b>Trench 3: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Figure 6</b>	<b>Trench 4: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Figure 7</b>	<b>Trench 5; Plan and Sections</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Figure 8</b>	<b>Trench 6: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Figure 9</b>	<b>Trench 7: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Figure 10</b>	<b>Trench 8: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Figure 11</b>	<b>Trench 9: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Figure 12</b>	<b>Trench 10: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Figure 13</b>	<b>Trench 11: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Figure 14</b>	<b>Trench 12: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Figure 15</b>	<b>Trench 13: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Figure 16</b>	<b>Trench 14: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Figure 17</b>	<b>Trench 15: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Figure 18</b>	<b>Trench 16: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Figure 19</b>	<b>Trench 17: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Figure 20</b>	<b>Trench 18::Plan and Sections</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Figure 21</b>	<b>Trench 19: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Figure 22</b>	<b>Trench 20: Plan and Sections</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Plate 1</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 2, showing features [06], [08], [010] and [012]</b>	
<b>Plate 2</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 3</b>	
<b>Plate 3</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 10</b>	
<b>Plate 4</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 11, showing root disturbance</b>	
<b>Plate 5</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 12</b>	
<b>Plate 6</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 14</b>	
<b>Plate 7</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 16</b>	
<b>Plate 8</b>	<b>Overview of Trench 18</b>	

## **1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at the former Riddings Allotment Gardens, Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, as part of the planning process in respect of a proposed development of the site for residential purposes. The former allotment gardens are located to the south of housing along the southern side of Nos. 72-116 Burringham Road and the central National Grid Reference of the site is SE 8860 0850. The fieldwork, undertaken between 21 October and 4 November 2010, was commissioned by RSK Environment Limited.
- 1.2 The site is located immediately to the west of Roman Way, a modern residential development covering the area of the former house and gardens of 66 Burringham Road. Archaeological investigation of this site in 2002, prior to the development, revealed extensive features of Late Iron Age and Romano-British date, which appeared likely to extend westwards onto the former allotment gardens.
- 1.3 The evaluation comprised twenty machine-excavated trenches (Trenches 1-20), each measuring c. 30m by 2.0m, located across the area formerly occupied by the allotment gardens. In broad terms, the evaluation aimed to establish the archaeological potential of the proposed development site. More specifically, it targeted areas of proposed building footprints and also the eastern limit of the site where the continuation of archaeological activity recorded during the work at the site to the east was thought likely.
- 1.4 Limestone bedrock was encountered within Trenches 2, 6, 8 and 10, all located within the western half of the site, and also within Trench 18, located within the south-eastern corner of the site. The recorded surface elevation of the bedrock reflected the downward slope from east to west of the limestone scarp on which the site is situated. Bedrock was recorded at a maximum elevation of 48.86m OD in Trench 18 and at a minimum elevation of 42.14m OD in Trench 2, located in the south-western corner of the site, thus dropping by a height of 6.70m over a distance of 230m. It was encountered at varying depths below present ground level, ranging from a minimum depth of 0.45m below ground level in Trenches 6 and 10 to a maximum depth of 0.65m in Trench 8.
- 1.5 The bedrock was overlain by natural clay, which also formed the basal deposit in the trenches where bedrock was not exposed. Where this clay deposit overlay bedrock it ranged in thickness from a minimum of 80mm in Trench 18, located in the south-eastern corner of the site, to over 0.50m in Trench 6, located towards the northwestern corner of the site. As with the bedrock, the elevation of the natural clay also dropped down from east to west, being recorded at a maximum elevation of 49.10m OD in Trench 19, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site, and a minimum elevation of 42.17m OD in Trench 2, located in the south-western corner of the site, thus dropping by a height of 6.90m. The depth at which the clay was encountered below present ground level also varied within each trench and across the site, ranging from a minimum of 0.22m below ground level in Trenches 5 and 8 to a maximum of 0.63m in Trench 20. The average depth at which natural clay was encountered was 0.45m below present ground level.

- 1.6 The natural clay sub-stratum was overlain by a sub-soil deposit in Trenches 1, 2, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18 and 20. This was presumably a natural formation of some longevity, although no datable material was recovered from it. In trenches where the sub-soil was absent, it may have been truncated by ploughing; plough scars were observed within the sub-soil in some trenches. The maximum thickness of the surviving sub-soil was 0.30m and the depth at which it was encountered below present ground level ranged from a minimum of 0.20m in Trench 18 to a maximum of 0.44m in Trenches 11 and 17.
- 1.7 A small number of features were recorded cutting into the sub-soil in Trenches 2 and 13, and into the natural clay in Trench 14. Although poorly dated in terms of artefactual evidence, these are likely to have been of later post-medieval date, but pre-dating the allotment gardens. In Trench 2, a group of fragmentary linear features running on the same alignment along the centre of the trench may have originally formed part of the same NNE-SSW aligned linear feature which had been truncated by ploughing, perhaps an earlier field boundary or post-medieval agricultural feature. In Trench 13, several features interpreted as root disturbances were recorded and the presence of rotted plant material within these is indicative of a relatively recent date of origin. Three fragments of Romano-British pottery were recovered from two of these features, although these were small, abraded sherds. A gully recorded at the northern end of Trench 13 is also likely to have been of post-medieval agricultural origin. In Trench 14, two very shallow, parallel NE-SW aligned linear features situated 10m apart probably represent the bases of plough furrows dating to the earlier agricultural utilization of the site. A single sherd of pottery, of probable 18th-century date, was recovered from one of these.
- 1.7 Numerous features of modern date were recorded across the site, with land drains being particularly ubiquitous. Features directly associated with allotment activity were also present, including root disturbance and those representing two main west-east aligned access footways which serviced the former allotment gardens, as depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping. The remains of the northernmost of these footways were recorded in Trenches 1, 6, 9, 12, 17 and 20, with a shallow ditch directly underlying the footway recorded in Trenches 6, 9 and 12. In Trenches 9 and 12, a narrow trench containing a plastic water pipe was recorded below the southern edge of the footway and in Trench 9 a land drain was recorded below the northern edge. Two linear features of modern date were noted immediately below the footway in Trench 17.
- 1.8 The southern footway was recorded in Trenches 2, 5, 13, 14 and 19 and in Trench 13 this feature was directly underlain by a shallow ditch. A plastic pipe and land drain were also present, the former below the northern edge of the track and the latter below the southern edge. A further parallel feature was also recorded some distance to the south, this cut from a high level and therefore likely of a similarly modern date
- 1.9 Extending across the whole site was a layer of modern era topsoil, capped with turf, which sealed all underlying deposits and was recorded in all trenches. This was generally a very clean deposit containing little artefactual material. The topsoil was of relatively substantial thickness, rather unsurprisingly given the use of the site as allotment gardens, particularly in the western half of the site where it was up c. 0.50m thick, this in Trench 4.

- 1.10 Only a very small assemblage of artefactual material was recovered from the evaluation. The only Roman material comprised three small, abraded sherds of greyware pottery which presumably represent residual material within relatively recent root disturbance. The topsoil produced a small assemblage of pottery, clay tobacco pipe, glass and ceramic building material. Apart from a single sherd of medieval pottery probably of 12th to 15th-century date recovered from topsoil in Trench 4 and a few sherds of 18th-century material, the remainder of the material is of 19th to 20th-century date and presumably relates to the use of the site as allotment gardens.
- 1.11 In summary, no archaeological features, deposits or structures proven as predating the later post-medieval period were encountered during the evaluation. Indeed most features encountered were of modern date and only in Trenches 2, 13 and 14 were features pre-dating the modern era encountered. These appear to have been associated with tree rooting and cultivation practices. It is concluded that the results of the evaluation indicate that the archaeological activity recorded immediately to the east did not continue westwards onto the former allotment gardens.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 General Background**

- 2.1.1 This report details the methodology and results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) between 21 October and 4 November 2010 at the former Riddings Allotment Gardens, Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by RSK Environment Limited.
- 2.1.2 It is proposed to develop the former allotment gardens site for residential use. The site was considered to have particular archaeological potential for remains of Late Iron Age and Romano-British date due to its proximity to remains of these periods recorded immediately to the east. This potential was established by archaeological investigations undertaken in the area of the former house and gardens at No. 66 Burringham Road in 2002<sup>1</sup> and highlighted in an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) prepared by RSK Environment Limited (RSK).<sup>2</sup> It was thought likely that this archaeological activity extended westwards into the former allotment gardens site.
- 2.1.3 A Project Design for the current evaluation was prepared by PCA to comprise the 'written scheme of investigation' required as part of the planning process.<sup>3</sup> The Project Design followed the format set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*.<sup>4</sup>
- 2.1.4 The evaluation comprised twenty machine-excavated archaeological trial trenches located across the site in order to assess the archaeological potential of the entire development area (Figure 2). Approximately 5% of the site area was sampled by trial trenching.
- 2.1.5 The Site Archive (site code ASAT) is currently held at the Northern Office of PCA and the retained element, comprising the written, drawn and photographic records, as well as a small assemblage of artefactual material, will be deposited with North Lincolnshire Museum, Oswald Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. The Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) reference number for the project is: preconst1-86070.

### **2.2 Site Location**

- 2.2.1 The former Riddings Allotment Gardens are located on the southern side of the B1450, Burringham Road, in Ashby, a southern suburb of Scunthorpe. The site is located to the south of gardens fronting the southern side of Nos. 72-116 Burringham Road, centred on National Grid Reference SE 8860 0850 (Figures 1 and 2).
- 2.2.2 The site comprises a rectangular plot of land measuring approximately 260m ENE by 95m SSW, with a total area of c. 2.5 hectares, which was formerly utilised as allotment gardens. It is bounded to the north by the gardens of houses fronting the southern side of Nos. 72-116 Burringham Road, to the south by the gardens of houses fronting the northern side of Asterby Road, and to the west by the gardens of houses fronting the eastern side of Willoughby Road (Figure 2).

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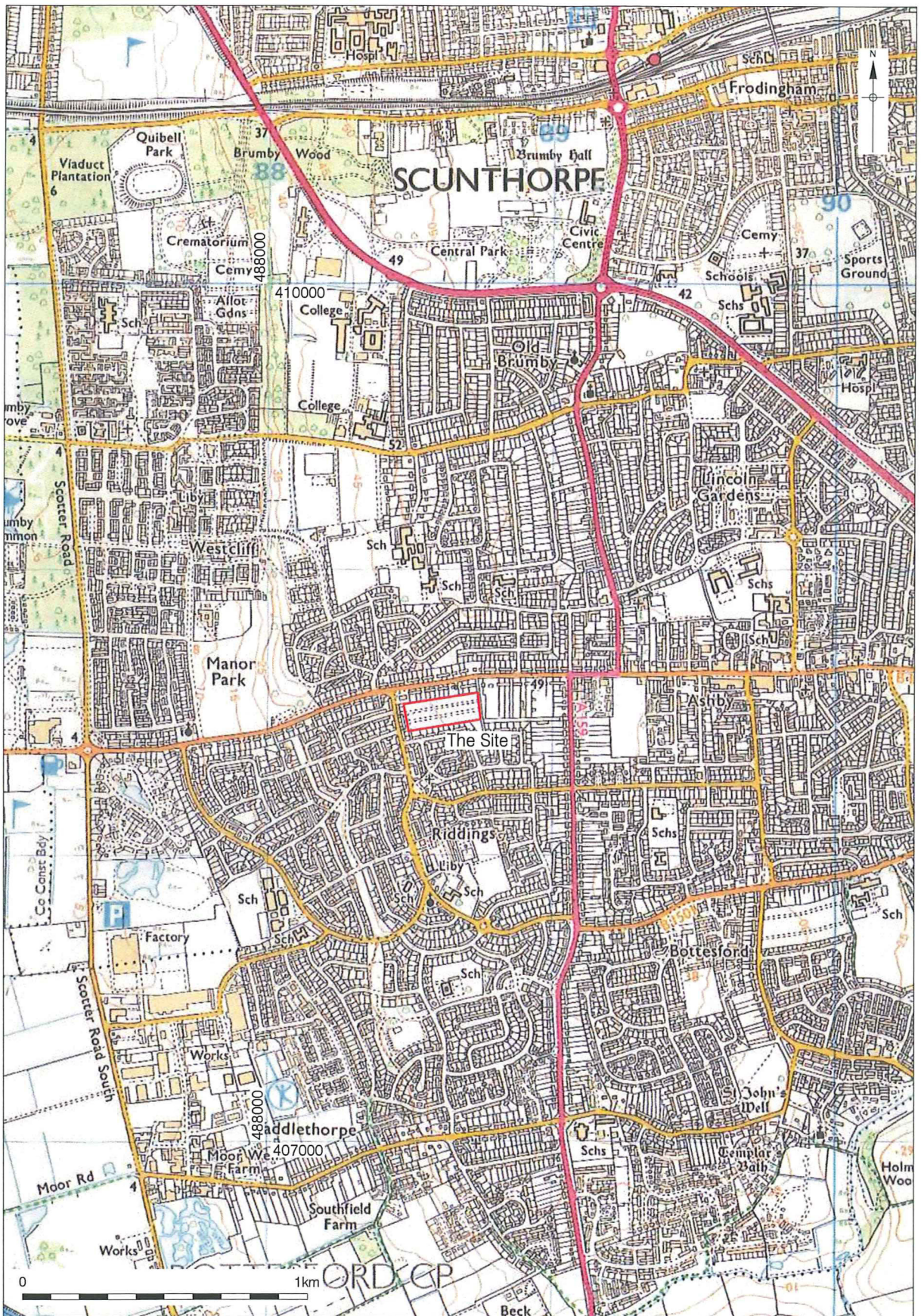
<sup>1</sup> Boyer *et al.* 2009.

<sup>2</sup> RSK 2010.

<sup>3</sup> PCA 2010.

<sup>4</sup> English Heritage 2006.





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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:20,000 at A4



Figure 2  
Trench Location  
1:1,250 at A4

2.2.3 To the east, the site is bounded by a lane running NNW-SSE to Burringham Road and beyond this lane, to the east, is the recently built Roman Way housing development, formerly the gardens of No. 66 Burringham Road, which was subject to an extensive programme of archaeological investigation in 2002.

2.2.4 The allotment gardens at the site were in use from the 1960s until the early 21st century and at the time of the investigation herein described the site was under grass.

## **2.3 Geology and Topography**

2.3.1 Extending some 18km southwards from the Humber is a limestone ridge, located between the Jurassic limestone scarp of the Lincoln Edge to the east and the Trent valley to the west. Scunthorpe is located on this ridge, with the former allotment gardens site positioned towards the southern edge of the ridge above the valley of the Bottesford Beck, which is a minor tributary of the Trent.

2.3.2 Scunthorpe is located on the Lower Lias and the 'solid' geology of the area is the Scunthorpe mudstone formation; this comprises grey, calcareous and silty, mudstone interbedded with thin beds of limestone.<sup>5</sup> This is overlain by glacial deposits, the most common of which in this area comprise tills, heterogeneous accumulations of erratic rock fragments commonly transported a considerable distance and including large boulders, set in a clayey, silty or, more rarely, sandy matrix.<sup>6</sup>

2.3.3 The site is located on the crest of the limestone ridge and prior to modern development would have commanded views to the west, south and east. The ridge occurs at an elevation of c. 50m OD, and to the west slopes down to a level of c. 5m OD over a distance of c. 1.5km, with a slightly less pronounced drop in other directions. Present ground level at the site reflects the downward slope to the west, occurring at 49.77m OD at the eastern edge of the site, dropping down to 43.00m OD in the west.

## **2.4 Planning Background**

2.4.1 A residential development comprising 82 no. units is proposed at the site. The archaeological evaluation was undertaken ahead of submission of a planning application for the proposed development and comprised evaluation by trial trenching across the full extent of the proposed development area.

2.4.2 The requirement to undertake the archaeological investigation is in line with planning policy at a national and local level. At a national level, 'Policy HE6' of *Planning Policy Statement 5 'Planning for the Historic Environment'*<sup>7</sup> (PPS5) advises local planning authorities to require applicants to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected by their proposals. Where desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation may be required.

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<sup>5</sup> The *British Geological Survey* website.

<sup>6</sup> Kent 1980.

<sup>7</sup> Department of Communities and Local Government 2010.

- 2.4.3 A raft of policies in North Lincolnshire Council's Local Development Plan deal with the historic environment. These policies reinforce national guidance on heritage assets; 'Policy HE9', sections 14.39 to 14.42, deals specifically with archaeological evaluation, stating that nationally important archaeological remains should be physically preserved *in situ*. All sites likely to contain archaeological remains should be appraised and evaluated to ascertain their importance and degree of preservation. While preservation of archaeological remains is the preferred solution other appropriate forms of mitigation including archaeological recording are acceptable. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible, evidence will be required to demonstrate that the developer has made appropriate and satisfactory provision for the recording of the remains, in consultation with officers of the County Site and Monuments Record (SMR) who will advise the planning authority. Preservation by record can take place either in advance of or during development and may involve full excavation followed by post-excavation analysis and publication of results.
- 2.4.4 In sum, therefore, the archaeological evaluation was required, as part of the planning process, to inform the Local Planning Authority, North Lincolnshire Council, regarding the character, date, extent and degree of survival of archaeological remains, in particular those likely to be associated with the archaeological 'site' located immediately to the east of the proposed development site. The results should inform a decision by North Lincolnshire Council regarding further archaeological mitigation measures.

## **2.5 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 2.5.1 A desk-based assessment (DBA) of the archaeological and historical potential of the proposed development site was undertaken by RSK.<sup>8</sup> This identified that there were few archaeological records within 500m of the study site record on the County SMR but that the most significant nearby archaeological intervention was an excavation undertaken by PCA on land immediately adjacent to and east of the allotment gardens (the area now occupied by the residential development Roman Way). This revealed significant evidence for substantial activity dating from the Late Iron Age through to the late Roman period.
- 2.5.2 There are no scheduled monuments or other designated heritage assets on the development site or in its immediate vicinity.
- 2.5.3 There is scant evidence for early prehistoric activity in this part of Lincolnshire; Palaeolithic struck flint has been found at Risby Warren, to the north-east of Scunthorpe, and at Flixborough Warren to the north-west.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> RSK 2010.

<sup>9</sup> Van der Noort *et al* 1998, 125.

- 2.5.4 Mesolithic and Neolithic activity is more widespread in the general area and scatters of flint artefacts demonstrate that the limestone and chalk ridges of the Edge and Wolds were exploited during these periods.<sup>10</sup> In the vicinity of the site, Mesolithic flintwork has been discovered to the north-east at Brumby.<sup>11</sup> A few struck flints were also recovered either as residual or unstratified finds from the work at No. 66 Burringham Road to the immediate east of the site. Although most of the assemblage was not closely datable, a flint blade of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date was identified and the condition and composition of the assemblage as a whole suggested short term visitation of the site by mobile communities.<sup>12</sup>
- 2.5.5 By the Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods the transitory exploitation patterns of the Mesolithic had been replaced by more permanent settlement. Around Scunthorpe, the villages of Ashby and Brumby have produced a small number of finds of Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date and the valley of the Bottesford Beck is likely to have been a focus for activity of this period. An Early Bronze Age Beaker was found c. 0.4km to the east of the site<sup>13</sup> and two Bronze Age cremations along have recently been identified during an evaluation on land off Phoenix Parkway, Scunthorpe.<sup>14</sup> Lithics and ceramic material from these periods have been found at Manton Warren and Risby Warren, both on the margins of Scunthorpe, and there is some evidence for occupation of this period at Dragonby, located c. 5km to the north of the site.<sup>15</sup>
- 2.5.6 There are significant remains of Iron Age and Roman date in North Lincolnshire. Extensive excavations at Dragonby, one of the most important archaeological sites in the region, revealed ditched enclosures, roundhouses and networks of tracks with occupation commencing before 100 BC and continuing throughout the Roman period.<sup>16</sup> The site occupied a strategic position between the headwaters of the Winterton and Bottesford Becks, just below the limestone scarp which is presumed to have carried the Jurassic Way, an important prehistoric route. During the Middle to Late Iron Age periods, the affluent settlement seems to have controlled a wide hinterland.
- 2.5.7 The archaeological excavation undertaken at No. 66 Burringham Road, immediately adjacent to the proposed development site, recorded activity dating to the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period.<sup>17</sup> A substantial ditch aligned approximately east-west, located in the northern part of the site adjacent to the Burringham Road frontage, was interpreted as a boundary ditch enclosing the southern side of a settlement that was largely located beyond the limits of excavation. In its earliest stages this may have been a palisaded ditch and the reinstatement of the ditch produced a number of Iron Age pottery sherds.

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<sup>10</sup> Membro 2006.

<sup>11</sup> North Lincolnshire SMR 4081.

<sup>12</sup> Boyer *et al.* 2009, 8.

<sup>13</sup> SMR 1950.

<sup>14</sup> Baker 2008

<sup>15</sup> Van der Noort *et al.* 1998, 125.

<sup>16</sup> May 1996.

<sup>17</sup> Boyer *et al.* 2009.

- 2.5.8 The boundary ditch was subsequently replaced by another ditch, which produced pottery of Late Iron Age to early Roman date. To the south of the boundary ditch, less substantial north-south aligned ditches, which also produced pottery of Late Iron Age to early Roman date, were recorded. These are assumed to represent parts of an extensive field system situated beyond the habitation area. Without excavation of the habitation area it is not possible to be certain about the nature of settlement. However, taking into account settlement patterns in the region, it is likely that this was an enclosed farmstead settlement which exploited its surrounding land but was controlled by the large regional centre at Dragonby.
- 2.5.9 Following the Roman Conquest, a legionary fort was established at Lincoln and Ermine Street, which led from London through York and Lincoln, was constructed along the eastern side of the Edge, continuing northwards to the Humber. Rural settlements were established along the road and occupation of many Iron Age sites continued unabated into the Roman period with a gradual process of 'Romanisation' occurring. Numerous farmstead settlements also seem to have been established along the upper valley sides of the Bottesford Beck. Scunthorpe lay midway between Ermine Street and the River Trent, both major communication routes in the Roman period.
- 2.5.10 At No. 66 Burringham Road features of 2nd to early 3rd-century AD date associated with agricultural use of the land, such as stock enclosures, driveways and a corn-drier, were recorded in the southern half of the excavation area. The mid-3rd century AD saw an intensification in activity at the site with a more regular rectilinear system of plots established some of which contained a group of corn-driers. The pottery assemblage recovered from the 3rd-century activity also suggests that Dales ware pottery was manufactured within the near vicinity, although no kilns were located within the excavated area. The line of the Iron Age boundary ditch was also recut in the 3rd century AD and large quantities of domestic refuse deposited within the ditch attest to the presence of nearby habitation. As with the Iron Age period activity, no habitation area was located within the area of excavation and the Roman settlement area also seems to have been situated to the north with the site itself utilised for agricultural, processing and manufacturing activities. From the mid-3rd century onwards, the site appeared to go into rapid decline, being largely abandoned by the later 4th century. There was no evidence for activity on the site from the late Roman period until the post-medieval period.
- 2.5.11 The Roman period activity at No. 66 Burringham Road extended beyond all limits of excavation seemingly an indication that an extensive area of land was exploited; Roman pottery was discovered in 1949 over a wide area in the back gardens of Nos. 40-52 Burringham Road, this to the east of the site at No. 66.
- 2.5.12 Few finds of Anglo-Saxon date are known from the vicinity of Scunthorpe and medieval finds are also rare. The name of the former village of Frodingham in Scunthorpe is thought to date from the Pagan Saxon period and the names Ashby and Scunthorpe probably derive from the period of Danish settlement from the 870s onwards. The place name evidence indicates that the area now occupied by the modern conurbation of Scunthorpe originally comprised several distinct settlements and a network of tracks would have linked these villages.

- 2.5.13 The village of 'Escumetorp', the original name for Scunthorpe, is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1085-8. The development site seems to have been utilised as agricultural land throughout the medieval period until the later part of the post-medieval period.
- 2.5.14 Land in the Scunthorpe area was enclosed from the 1790s and although this would have altered the appearance of the landscape, it remained an essentially rural area. A copy of the Ashby enclosure map from 1801-1802 shows the development site pre-enclosure comprising an open field with one 'old' enclosure, a small rectangular field. After enclosure the site is shown as two plots, the original enclosure and a larger rectangular enclosure fronting Burringham Road, which was in place by the early 19th century. The Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map of 1887 shows the development site as five separate fields. The houses to the north and east of the development site were constructed by the mid 1940s, although the land to the south and west remained as fields at this time. The development site was utilised as allotment gardens from the 1960s until the early 21st century.

### **3. PROJECT AIMS AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Project Aims**

- 3.1.1 The project is threat-led with potential to disturb or destroy important sub-surface archaeological remains of the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods in particular. Therefore, the broad aim of the project was to inform RSK and North Lincolnshire Council, as the LPA, regarding the character, date, extent and degree of survival of archaeological deposits, particularly within the footprints of proposed buildings and at the eastern edge of the site in the near vicinity of the previously excavated site to the east.
- 3.1.2 Archaeological trial trenching was selected as the most appropriate investigative tool to test the archaeological potential of the site. Twenty trenches (Trenches 1-20), each measuring c. 30m by 2m were located across the proposed development area on variable alignments to investigate the archaeological potential of the entire development area, a c. 5% sample of the total site area being evaluated.
- 3.1.3 The evaluation comprised an initial Execution Stage of the project, as described in the aforementioned MoRPHE document.

#### **3.2 Research Objectives**

- 3.2.1 The project was considered to have good potential to make a significant contribution to existing archaeological knowledge of the Scunthorpe area of North Lincolnshire in general and specifically the Burringham Road area of southern Scunthorpe.
- 3.2.2 Specific research objectives to be addressed by the project were formulated with reference to existing archaeological research frameworks: *The Draft Archaeological Resource Assessment for the East Midlands* (2006), states that, with regard to Lincolnshire, 'Basic surveys are still needed to record information in some areas which can then be incorporated into existing databases and placed in the public domain. Data to help support or to refute theories are vital, some are now available and future work will increasingly come to depend on this data.'
- 3.2.3 The East Midlands Archaeological Framework Research Agenda (Draft), The Roman Period, sections 5.1, 5.4 and 5.5 are relevant to this project. In particular, section 5.4.3, which asks, 'Can we chart more closely the processes of agricultural intensification and expansion (most notably on the heavier clays) and the functions and date of the extensive field systems that developed in some areas?'. This is of direct relevance to the evaluation at the former allotment gardens site, particularly given the findings at the adjacent site in 2002. A broad suite of aims therefore was to investigate the potential for the continuation of the Roman agricultural features into the development site and, if possible, define the westward extent of the known archaeological 'site' recorded at No. 66 Burringham Road. Further investigation of these features would also hopefully permit an increased understanding of the nature and function of the overall archaeological 'site'.



## 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 Fieldwork

4.1.1 The evaluation fieldwork was undertaken between 21 October and 4 November 2010. All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the relevant standard and guidance document of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).<sup>18</sup> PCA is an IfA-Registered Organisation. The evaluation was undertaken according to the aforementioned Project Design compiled by PCA which should be consulted for full details of methodologies employed regarding archaeological excavation, recording and sampling.

4.1.2 Twenty trial trenches were investigated across the entire former allotment gardens site to give a c. 5% sample, with the majority of these positioned within the footprints of proposed buildings within the propose development scheme (Figure 2). Trenches were also positioned adjacent to the eastern limit of the site to determine whether archaeological features identified during the work to the east in 2002 continued into the site.

4.1.3 The twenty trenches were positioned on variable alignments and their dimensions at ground level were:

- Trench 1 – 30.00m x 1.90m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 2 – 29.50m x 1.88m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 3 – 30.00m x 1.82m (NW-SE aligned);
- Trench 4 – 30.00m x 1.92m (ENE-WSW aligned);
- Trench 5 – 30.00m x 1.83m (NE-SW aligned);
- Trench 6 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 7 – 29.70m x 1.95m (NW-SE aligned);
- Trench 8 – 30.00m x 1.92m (ENE-WSW aligned);
- Trench 9 – 29.35m x 2.00m (NNE-SSW aligned);
- Trench 10 – 30.00m x 1.92m (ENE-WSW aligned);
- Trench 11 – 30.00m x 1.92m (WNW-ESE aligned);
- Trench 12 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NW-SE aligned);
- Trench 13 – 29.22m x 1.88m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 14 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NNE-SSW aligned);
- Trench 15 – 30.00m x 1.92m (ENE-WSW aligned);
- Trench 16 – 30.00m x 1.92m (ENE-WSW aligned);
- Trench 17 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 18 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NW-SE aligned);
- Trench 19 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NNW-SSE aligned);
- Trench 20 – 30.00m x 1.92m (NNW-SSE aligned).

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<sup>18</sup> IfA 2008.

- 4.1.4 All trenches were mechanically-excavated by a 7 tonne 360° tracked machine with toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The trenches were excavated to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon, or the clearly defined top of the natural sub-stratum, whichever was reached first. All trenches were hand cleaned and then photographed and archaeologically recorded, with partial excavation of features where necessary. Photographs of a sample of the trenches are included as Appendix D to this report.
- 4.1.5 Three Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs 1- 3) were established on the site using existing survey data: TBM 1 - used for Trenches 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 - had a value of 49.42m OD; TBM 2 - used for Trenches 8, 12 and 13 - had a value of 46.63m OD and TBM 3 - used for Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10 - had a value of 43.00m OD. The existing survey data was checked using an Ordnance Survey Bench Mark (value 50.12m OD) on the south-east corner of the residential building at No. 111 Burringham Road. The height of all principal strata and features were calculated relative to Ordnance Datum and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

## **4.2 Post-excavation**

- 4.2.1 The stratigraphic data generated by the project is represented by the written, drawn and photographic records. A total of 84 archaeological contexts were defined in the twenty trenches (Appendix B). Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records, grouping contexts and phasing the stratigraphic data (Appendix A). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described below in Section 5.
- 4.2.2 The artefactual material from the evaluation comprised a small assemblage of pottery, ceramic building material, glass, clay tobacco pipe and animal bone. Specialist examination of the artefactual material was undertaken and relevant comments integrated into Section 5. As the animal bone was all recovered from features of late post-medieval or modern origin, specialist analysis of this material was not undertaken. No other categories of organic or inorganic artefactual material were represented. None of the material recovered during the evaluation required specialist stabilisation or an assessment of its potential for conservation research.
- 4.2.3 The palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy of the project was to recover bulk samples where appropriate, from well-dated (where possible), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation and the range of feature types represented, with specific reference to the objectives of the evaluation. To this end, few appropriate deposits were encountered and therefore limited bulk samples were recovered. No other biological material was recovered.
- 4.2.4 The complete Site Archive will be packaged for long term curation. In preparing the Site Archive for deposition, all relevant standards and guidelines documents referenced in the Archaeological Archives Forum guidelines document<sup>19</sup> will be adhered to, in particular a well-established United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) document<sup>20</sup> and a recent IfA publication.<sup>21</sup> The depositional requirements of the body to which the Site Archive will be ultimately transferred will be met in full. At the time of writing this will be North Lincolnshire Museum, Oswald Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire.

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<sup>19</sup> Brown 2007.

<sup>20</sup> Walker, UKIC 1990.

<sup>21</sup> IfA 2008.

## 5. RESULTS: THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

*During the evaluation, separate stratigraphic entities were assigned unique and individual 'context' numbers, which are indicated in the following text as, for example [123]. The archaeological sequence is described by placing stratigraphic sequences within broad phases, assigned on a site-wide basis in this case. An attempt has been made to add interpretation to the data, and correlate these phases with recognised historical and geological periods.*

### 5.1 Phase 1: Natural Sub-stratum

- 5.1.1 Phase 1 represents natural geological material, with two distinct types of natural material recorded, at least one of which was exposed within the bases of all twenty trenches. In Trenches 2 [004], 6 [021], 8 [033], 10 [018] and 18 [042] the abraded surface of Jurassic limestone bedrock was exposed, which typically comprised regularly fractured, laminated limestone blocks and invariably contained quantities of *Gryphaea* (Devil's Toenail) fossils.
- 5.1.2 The recorded surface elevations of the bedrock reflected the downward slope of the limestone scarp from east to west: in Trench 18, located in the south-eastern corner of the site, bedrock was recorded at a maximum elevation of 48.86 m OD, in Trench 8 this dropped to 44.93m OD and in Trench 2, located in the south-western corner of the site, it was recorded at a minimum elevation of 42.14m OD. The bedrock was encountered at varying depths below present ground level; 0.55m in Trench 2, 0.45m in Trench 6, 0.65m in Trench 8, 0.45m in Trench 10 and 0.50m in Trench 18.
- 5.1.3 The limestone bedrock was overlain by clay, also of Jurassic era, which was recorded in all twenty trenches. This generally comprised very stiff clay with few inclusions, ranging in colour from light greyish brown ([003] Trench 2; [025] Trench 4; [032] Trench 7, [029] Trench 8; [039] Trench 9; [017] Trench 10; [050] Trench 13; [045] Trench 19; [036] Trench 20) through mid greyish brown ([015] Trench 1; [023] Trench 3; [027] Trench 5; [020] Trench 6; [052] Trench 11; [066] Trench 14; [081] Trench 17), mid yellowish brown ([084] Trench 12; [056] Trench 16), to a dark greyish yellow ([041] Trench 18) and light greyish yellow ([047] Trench 15).
- 5.1.4 Where the full depth of this clay deposit was recorded overlying the bedrock, it ranged in thickness from a minimum of c. 50mm in Trench 18 to c. 0.50m at the southern end of Trench 6.
- 5.1.5 The maximum elevation of the natural clay again reflected the natural downward slope of the site, being recorded as high as 49.10m OD in Trench 19 adjacent to the eastern limit of the site and as low as 42.17m OD in Trench 2, adjacent to the western limit, thus dropping by a height of c. 6.90m across the site. The depth at which the clay was encountered below present ground level varied across the length of each trench, but ranged from a minimum depth of 0.22m below ground level in Trenches 5 and 8, to a maximum of 0.63m in Trench 20, with the average depth being c. 0.45m below present ground level.
- 5.1.6 In Trenches 11, 14 and 17, sinuous and sometimes extensive sand-filled 'features' were noted cut into the natural clay. Following closer examination, these proved to be of natural origin, probably cryoturbation (ice-wedge) features of Pleistocene date.

## **5.2 Phase 2: Sub-soil**

- 5.2.1 Phase 2 represents a naturally formed sub-soil, recorded intermittently across the site. The representative layers generally comprised firm, light greyish or yellowish brown material ranging in composition from a silty clay ([002] Trench 2; [053] Trench 11; [043] Trench 18; [035] Trench 20), through clayey silt ([031] Trench 7; [049] Trench 13; [055] Trench 16; [080] Trench 17), silt ([038] Trench 9) to a sandy clay ([014] Trench 1; [083] Trench 12). It was generally sterile in composition.
- 5.2.2 Sub-soil was not recorded in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 15 and 19. It is thought likely that in these areas, deep ploughing, probably of late post-medieval or early modern era date, had truncated the deposit; indeed during machining of Trench 11, plough marks were observed extending deep into the sub-soil, so that in some areas only a few millimetres of the deposit remained. It therefore appears likely that in the trenches where the sub-soil was absent, it had been removed by ploughing.
- 5.2.3 Where the sub-soil did survive more substantially it was typically up to 0.30m thick and the height of its upper interface again reflected the natural westward fall of the ground. In Trench 18, towards the easternmost limit of the site, it was recorded at a maximum height of 49.18m OD; in Trench 9, towards the centre of the site, it was recorded at a maximum height 45.34m OD; in Trench 2, towards the easternmost limit of the site, its upper interface was recorded at a minimum elevation of 42.47m OD in Trench 2.
- 5.2.4 No artefactual material was recovered from the sub-soil at any location and its period of origin is uncertain; it likely developed over a considerable period of time and had evidently experience little or no alteration through anthropogenic activity.

## **5.3 Phase 3: Later Post-medieval**

- 5.3.1 There was negligible evidence for activity on the site between sub-soil formation and the later post-medieval period, apart from a handful of stray finds appearing residually in later deposits (see Appendix C). A number of features were recorded cut into the sub-soil, or where this was absent, into the natural clay, but these were generally poorly dated because of a lack of artefactual evidence. Phase 3 therefore represents activity broadly dating to the later post-medieval period but pre-dating the modern era, *i.e.* usage of the site as the allotment gardens and any subsequent activity.
- 5.3.2 In Trench 2 a series of four ditch segments ([006], [008], [010] and [012]) was recorded, running approximately NNE-SSW along the centre of the trench (Figure 4). The segments were between *c.* 1.15m and *c.* 4.45m long, between 0.40m and *c.* 0.75m wide and all very shallow; the deepest being just 140mm deep. Each had a broadly concave profile but despite extensive excavation no finds were recovered from any of the features. All of the segments appeared to have been cut into the surface of the sub-soil and may originally have been part of a continuous linear feature, which may have been truncated by 20th century ploughing. Although undated by artefactual means, it is considered that the features probably pre-date modern era activity and are likely to have been associated with earlier – possibly later post-medieval – agricultural activity and/or land division.

- 5.3.3 In Trench 13, a small number of features appear to pre-date the 20th century allotment activity. Towards the southern end of the trench, four features, [074], [058], [060] and [078] (Figure 15), represent disturbance by tree rooting, the latter three being very sinuous and irregular in nature. Their relatively recent origin was shown by the presence still of decayed root material within the fills. The fill, [57], of feature [058] and the fill, [59], of feature [060] yielded three small fragments of heavily abraded pottery. This was identified as one base and two body sherds of Romano-British greyware, though this pottery was not closely datable (see Appendix C). Feature [074] initially appeared quite regular in plan but when excavated this too exhibited a sinuous and irregular nature.
- 5.3.4 Towards the northern end of Trench 13, a NW-SE aligned linear gully, [068], was recorded, which was in excess of 4.80m long, 0.42m wide and up to 0.16m deep. It had steeply sloping slides breaking to a concave base. The feature was cut into the sub-soil a short distance below the top of modern topsoil but it was truncated towards the south-east by modern features associated with the allotment gardens footway. It has therefore been assigned to this pre-modern phase, though no finds were recovered during its excavation. The nature of the feature suggested that it may have performed a land drainage function and may formerly have held drainage pipes, since removed.
- 5.3.5 In Trench 14, two parallel linear features, [062] and [064], were recorded on NE-SW alignments a little more than 10m apart (Figure 16). They were between c. 0.70m and c. 0.85m wide but just 100mm deep, each with gently sloping concave profiles. Each cut directly into the natural clay as no sub-soil was recorded in this trench. A single tiny sherd of pottery of probable 18th-century date was recovered from feature [062] (see Appendix C). The features appeared to pre-date the allotment garden activity and were most likely the bases of plough furrows dating to earlier agricultural utilization of the site.
- 5.3.6 No features or deposits dating to this phase were encountered within Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20.

## **5.4 Phase 4: Modern**

- 5.4.1 The most obvious and extensive modern features on the site related to two parallel footways that serviced the former allotment gardens and extended across the full west-east length of the site. They are shown on modern maps (Figure 2) and are visible on recent aerial photographs of the site.<sup>22</sup> The northernmost of the two footways passed through Trenches 1, 6, 9, 12, 17 and 20. In Trenches 6, 9 and 12, a ditch was recorded directly underlying the footway (Figures 8, 11 and 14, respectively). In Trenches 9 and 12, a narrow trench containing a plastic water pipe was recorded below the southern edge of the footway and in Trench 9 a land drain was recorded below the northern edge. Two modern linear features were noted immediately below the footway in Trench 17 (Figure 19).

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<sup>22</sup> Boyer *et al.* 2009, Figs. 5 & 6

- 5.4.2 The southern footway passed through Trenches 2, 5, 13, 14 and 19. Excavation in Trench 13 (Figure 15) showed that this feature was also directly underlain by a ditch, [072], though the base of a possible posthole, [070], was also present. A plastic pipe and land drain were also present, the former below the northern edge of the footway and the latter below the southern edge. A further parallel feature, [076], recorded some distance to the south, was also cut from a high level and appears to have been of a similarly modern date.
- 5.4.3 A number of other modern features were recorded, the most common of which were further land drains, mostly on approximate east-west alignments, following the natural slope of the ground, and recorded in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19 and 20. Whilst the land drains below the footways appeared to have been laid during the use of the site as the allotments, it was not clear whether those elsewhere were laid for the allotments or associated with previous agricultural usage, or a combination of both.
- 5.4.4 A number of further features appeared to have been directly associated with allotment activity. Root disturbance in Trenches 5, 11 and 18 (Figures 7, 13 and 20) appears to have been related to allotment cultivation rather than earlier trees and a dog burial at the southern end of Trench 12 (Figure 14) appears to have been interred during the lifespan of the allotments.
- 5.4.5 Extending across the whole site was a layer of modern topsoil capped with turf, which sealed all underlying deposits and was recorded in all trenches. This was generally a sterile deposit with few inclusions noted and was of relatively substantial thickness, particularly in the western half of the site where the layer, [016], was up to c. 0.45m thick in Trench 10 and in Trench 4 where the layer, [024], was up to c. 0.50m thick. Although generally lacking in artefactual material, this was the deposit in most trenches that produced *the only* artefactual evidence. This mostly comprised small quantities of pottery, ceramic building material, glass and clay tobacco pipe stems of 19th or 20th century date (see Appendix C). One exception was a sherd of medieval pottery recovered from topsoil, [024], in Trench 4.
- 5.4.6 That the modern topsoil has continued to develop since the abandonment of the allotment gardens was demonstrated by its encroachment across the north and south footways and also the inclusion of artefacts related to modern era leisure pursuits, such as golf balls and ash trays, within the topsoil matrix rather than just lying on the ground surface.

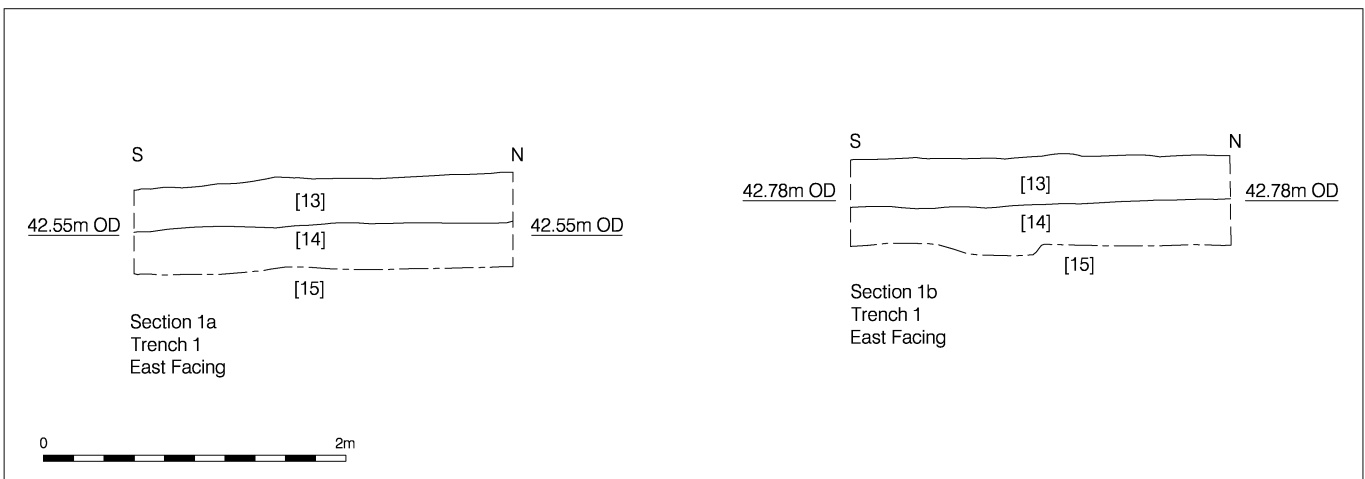
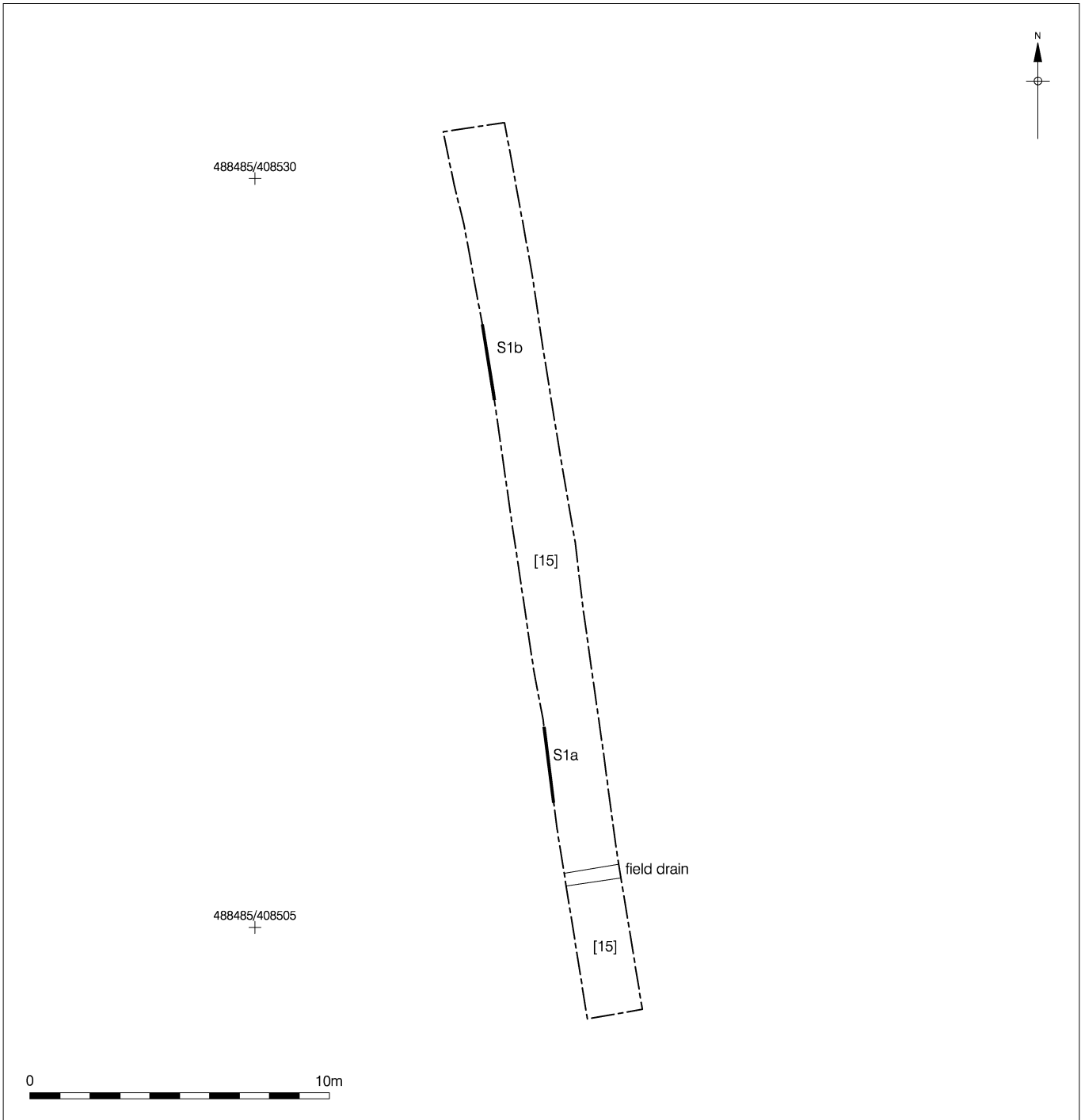


Figure 3  
Trench 1: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

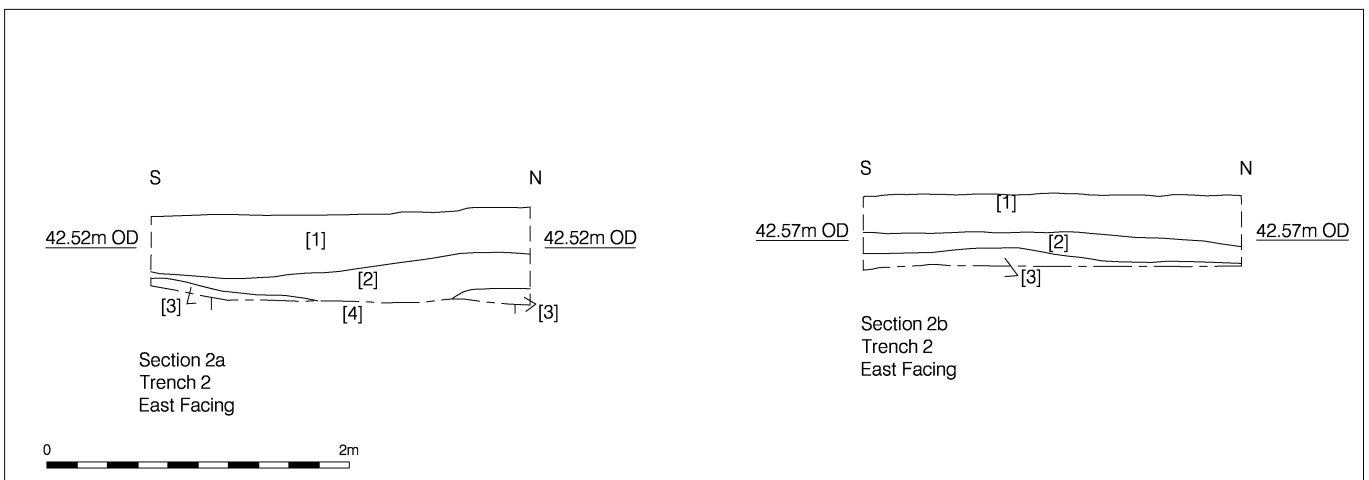
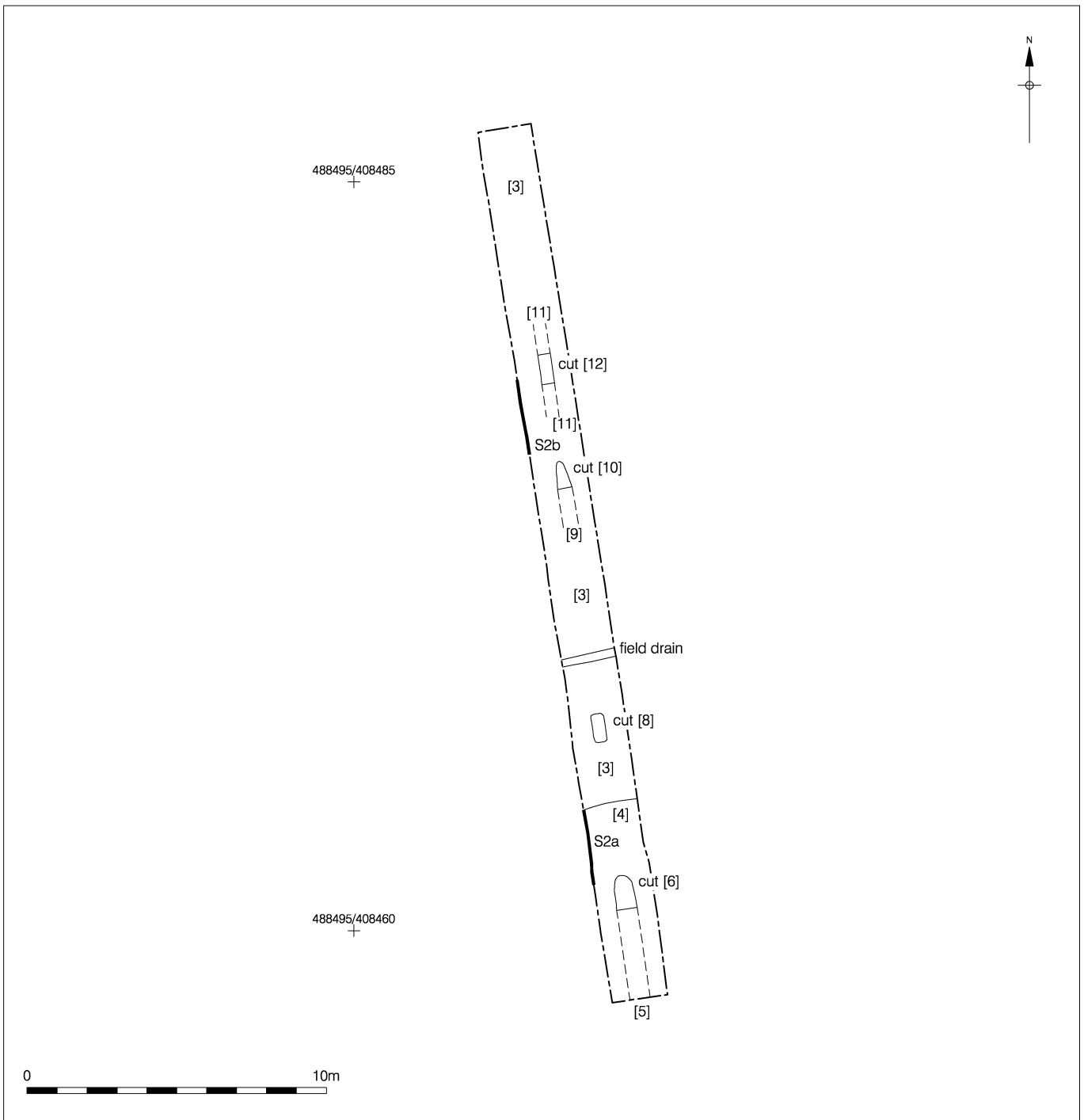


Figure 4  
Trench 2: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4



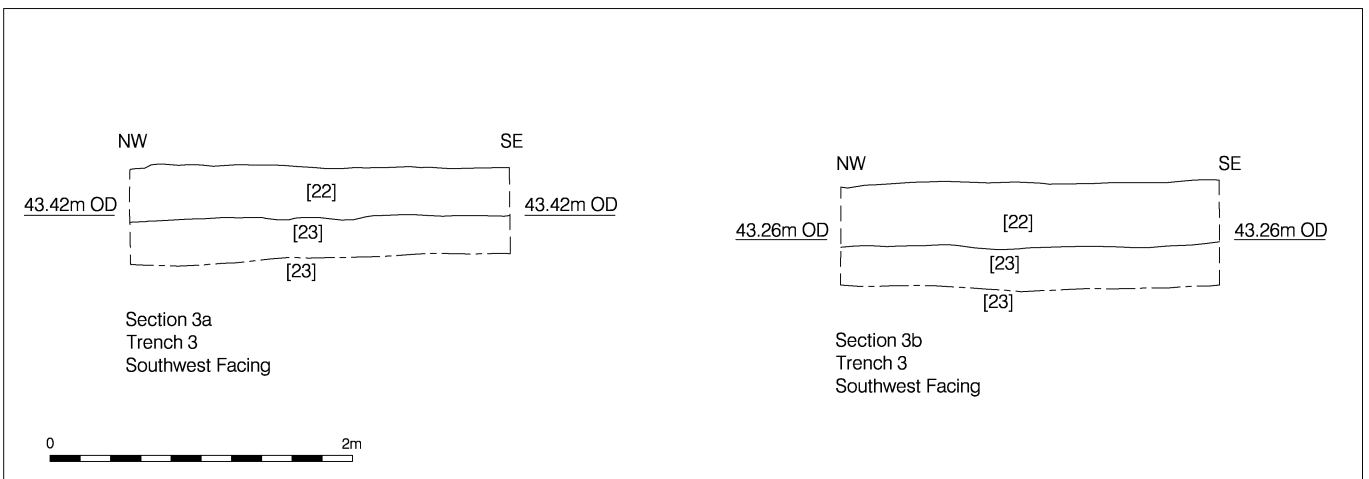
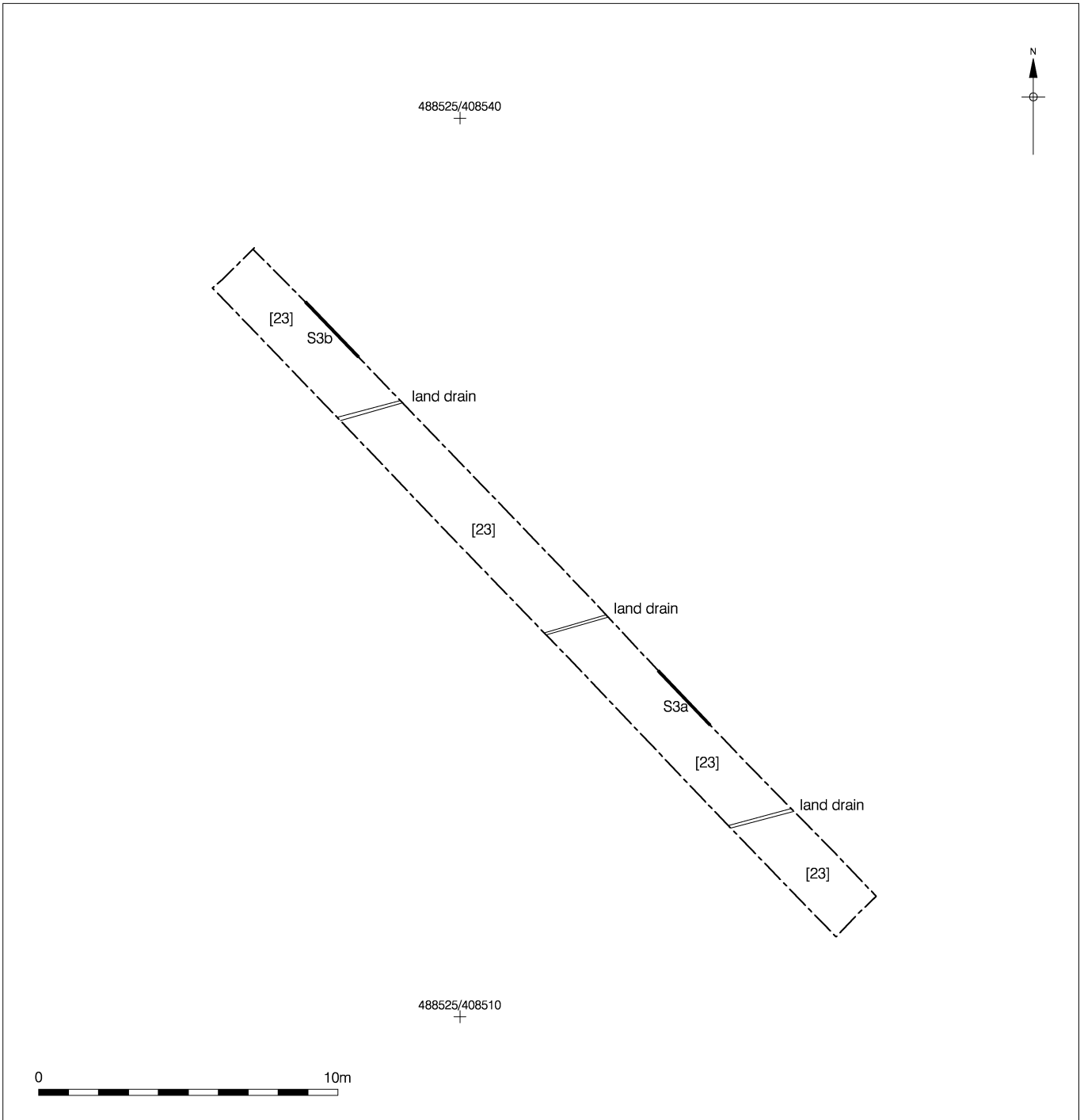


Figure 5  
Trench 3: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

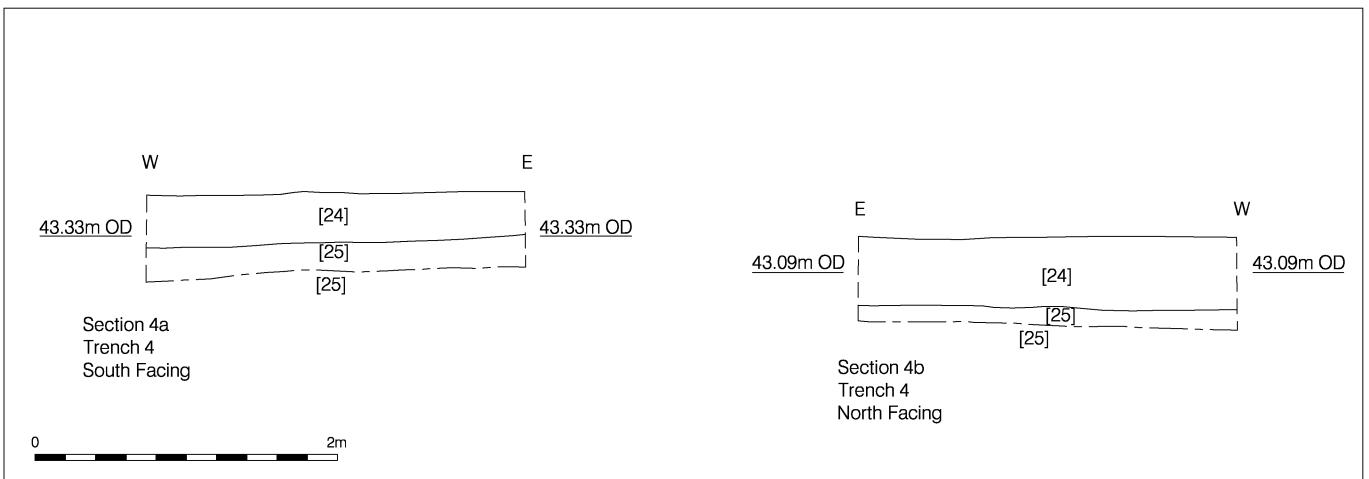
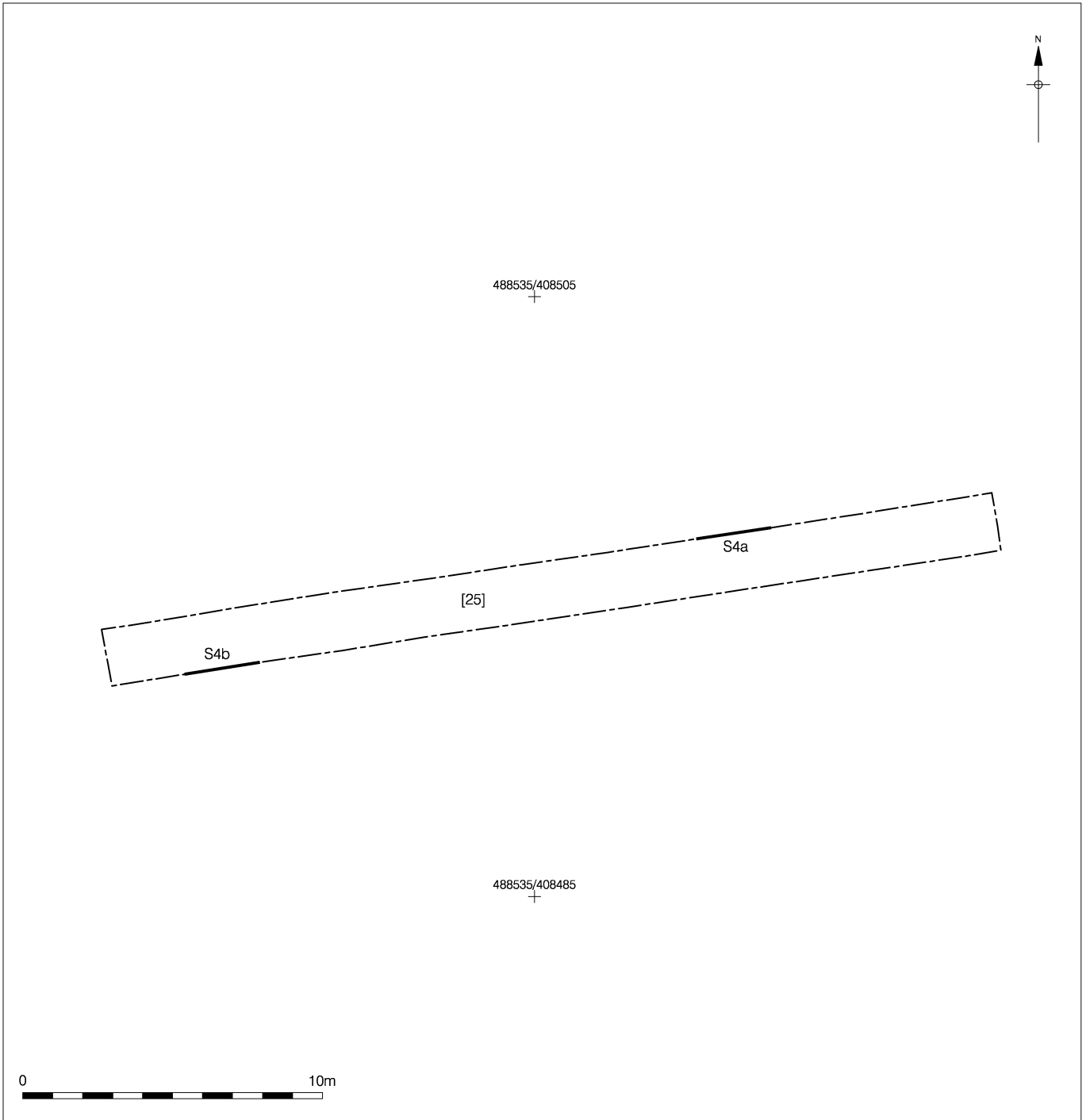


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Trench 4: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

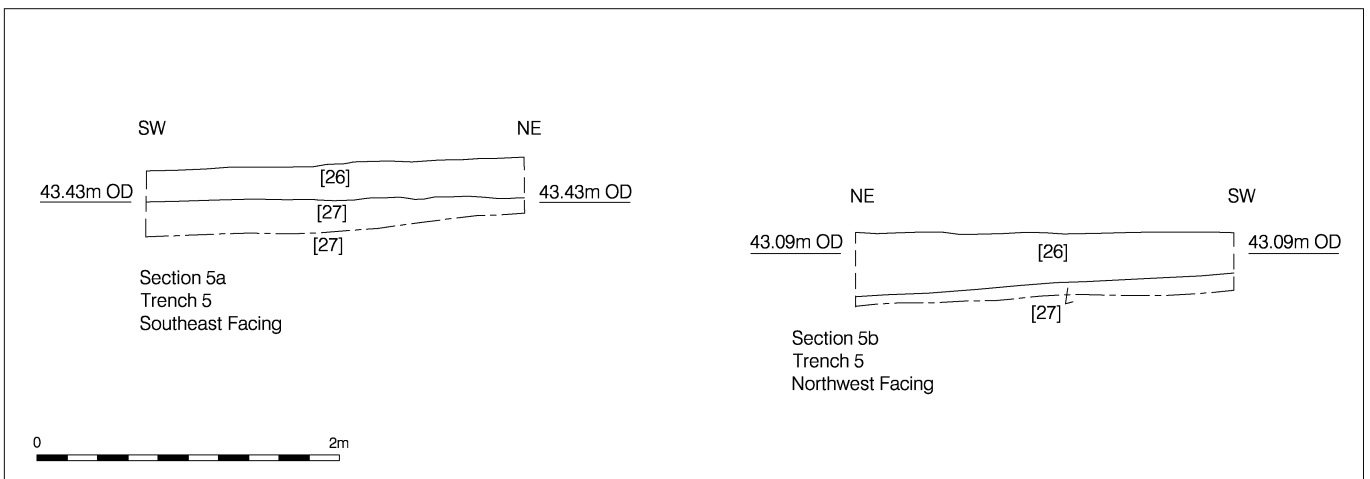
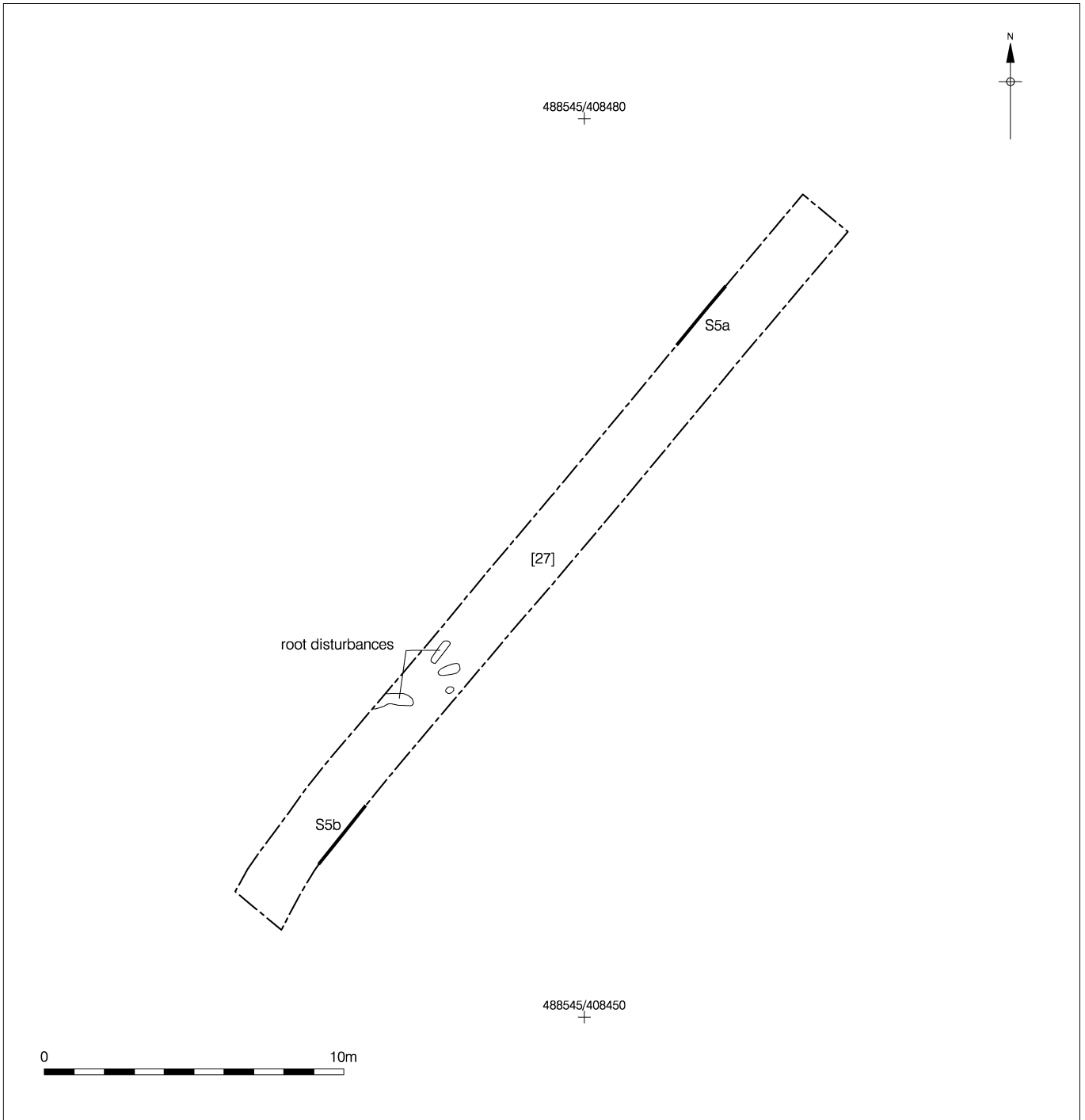


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Trench 5: Plan and Sections  
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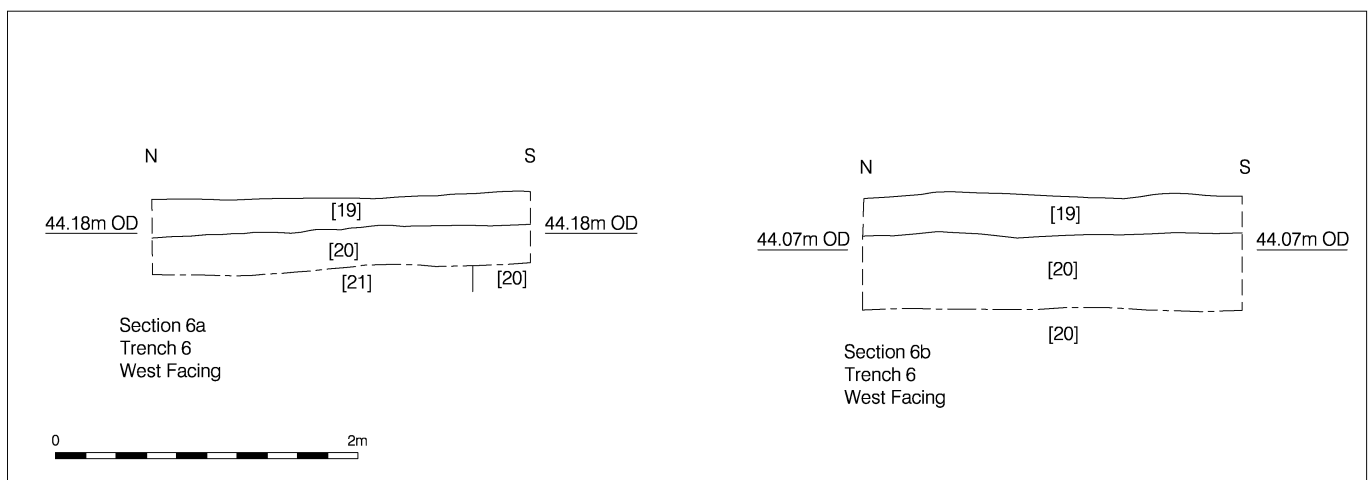
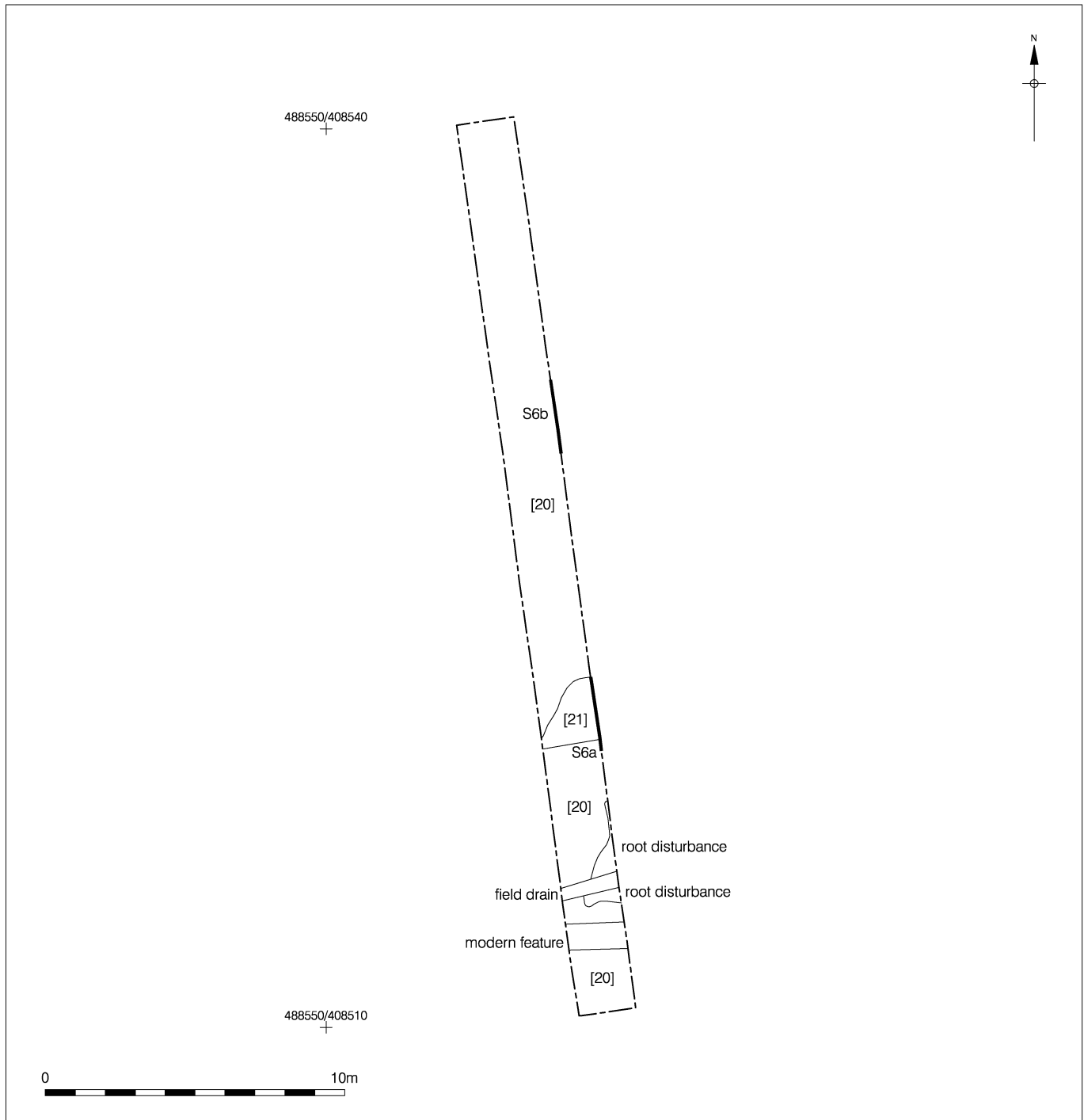


Figure 8  
Trench 6: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

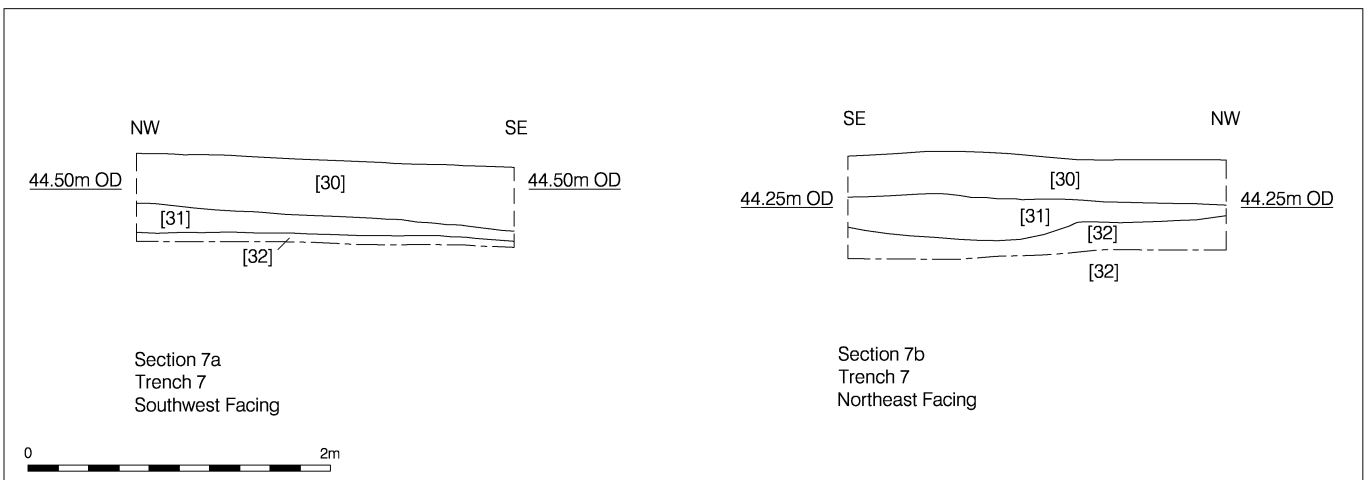
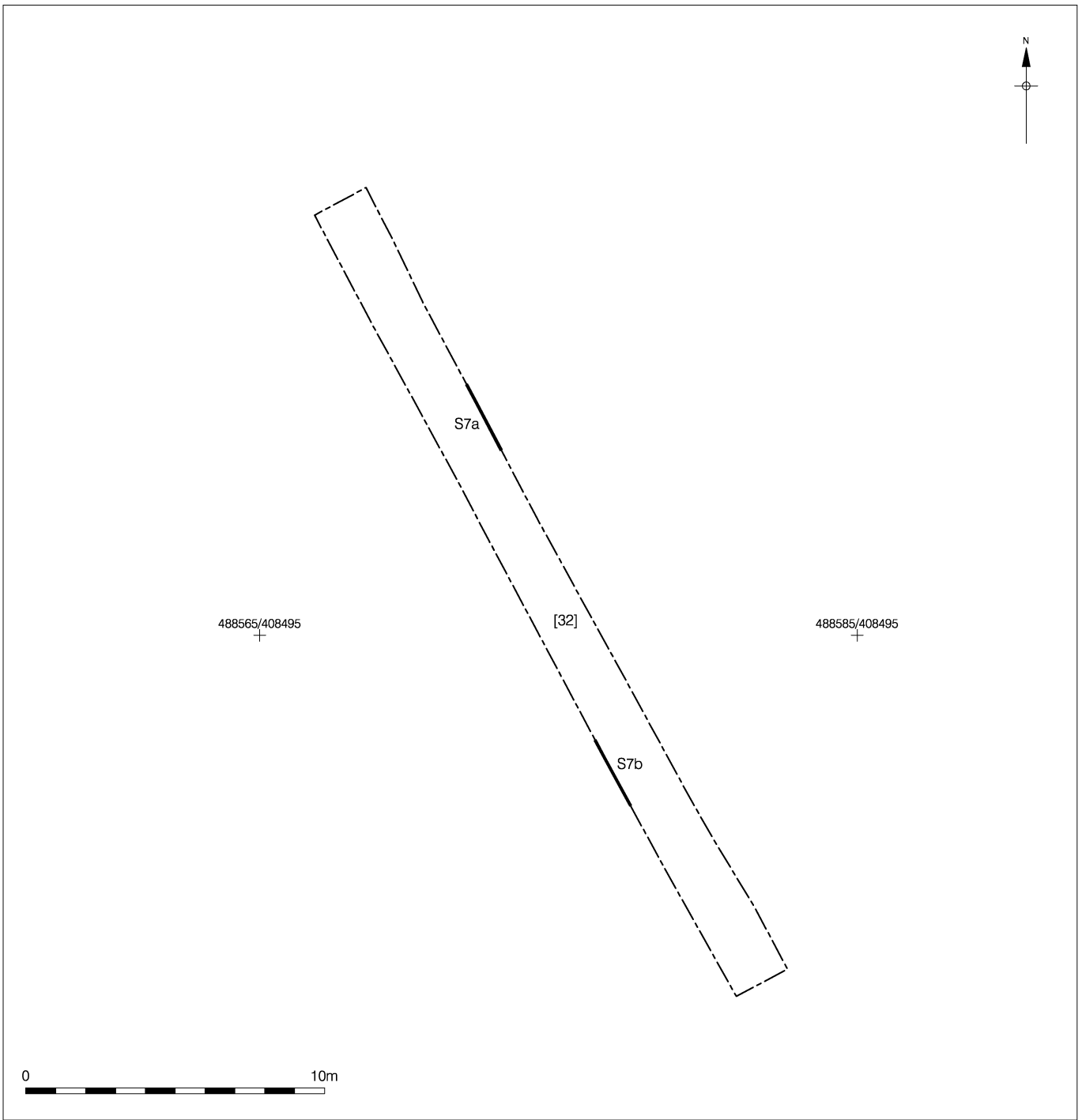


Figure 9  
Trench 7: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

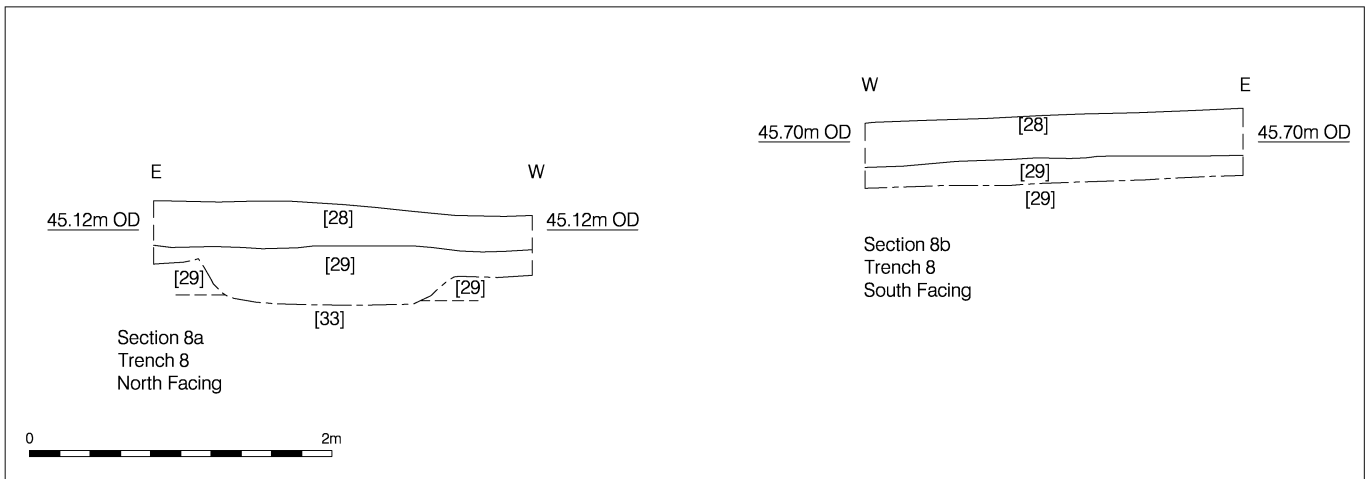
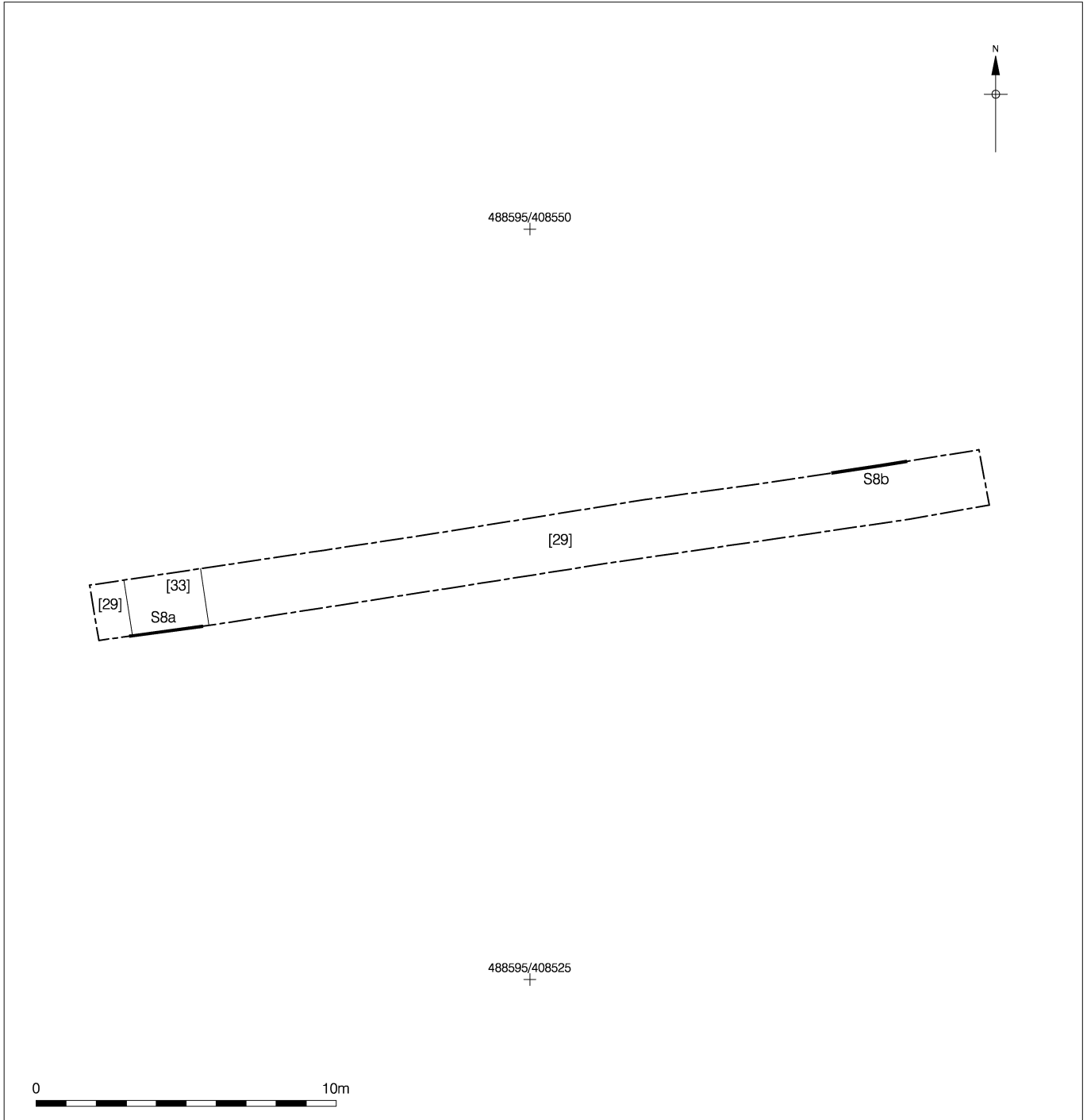


Figure 10  
Trench 8: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

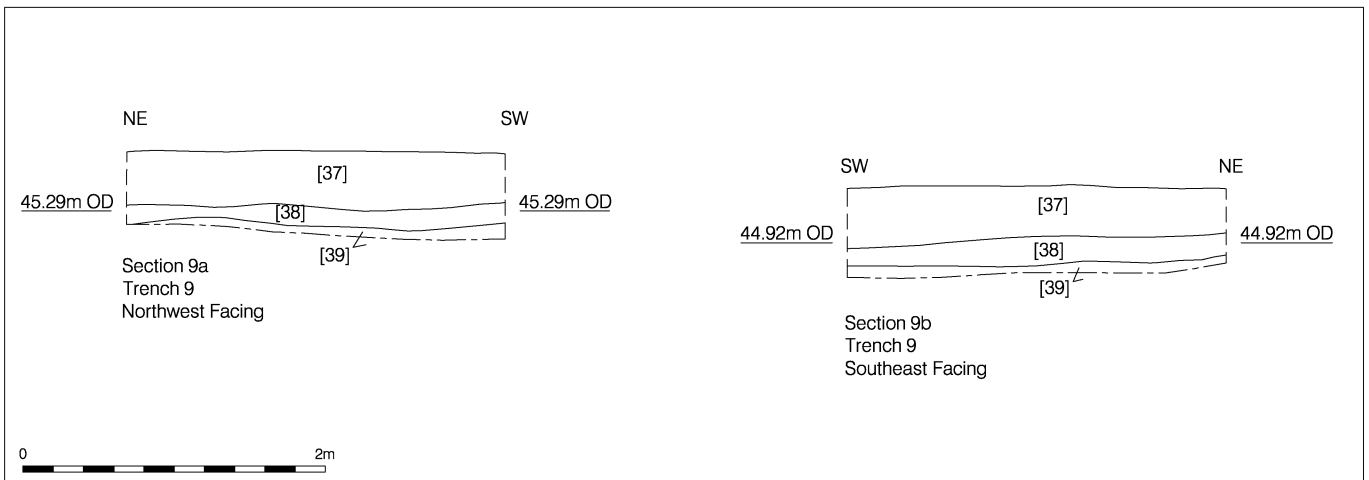
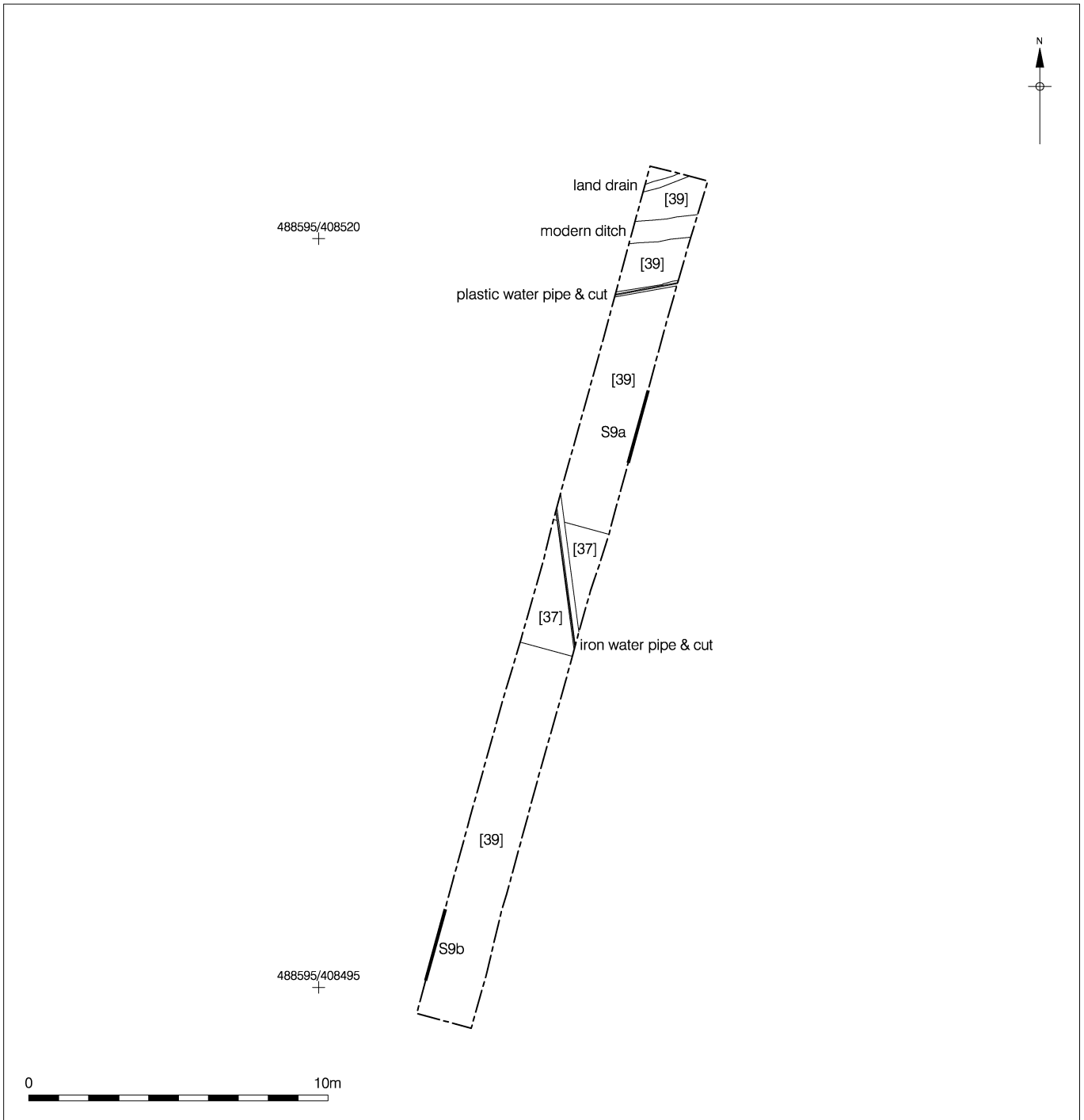


Figure 11  
Trench 9: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

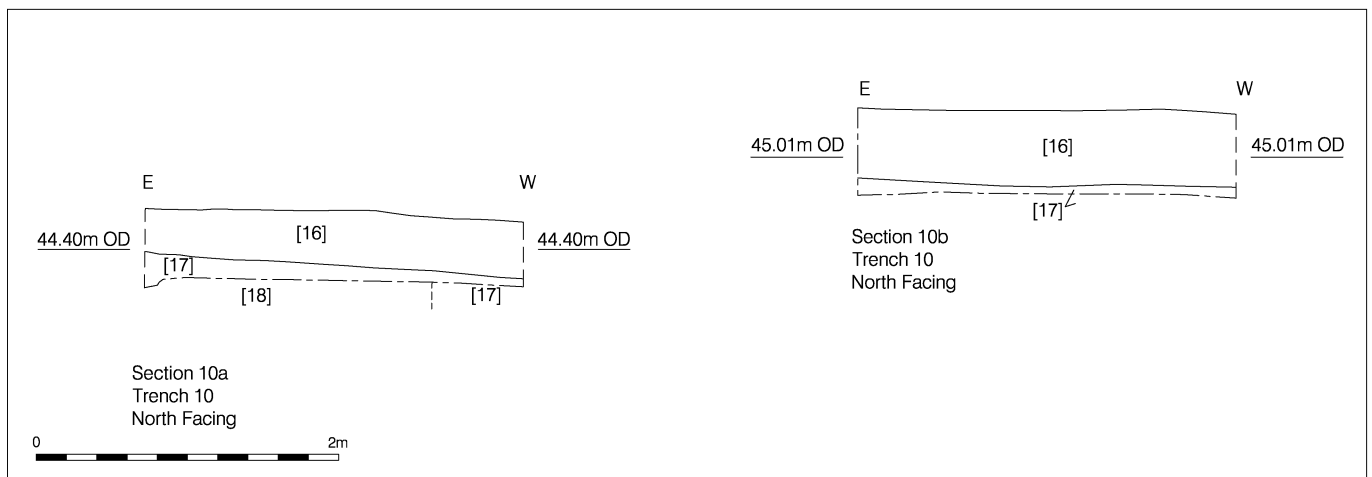
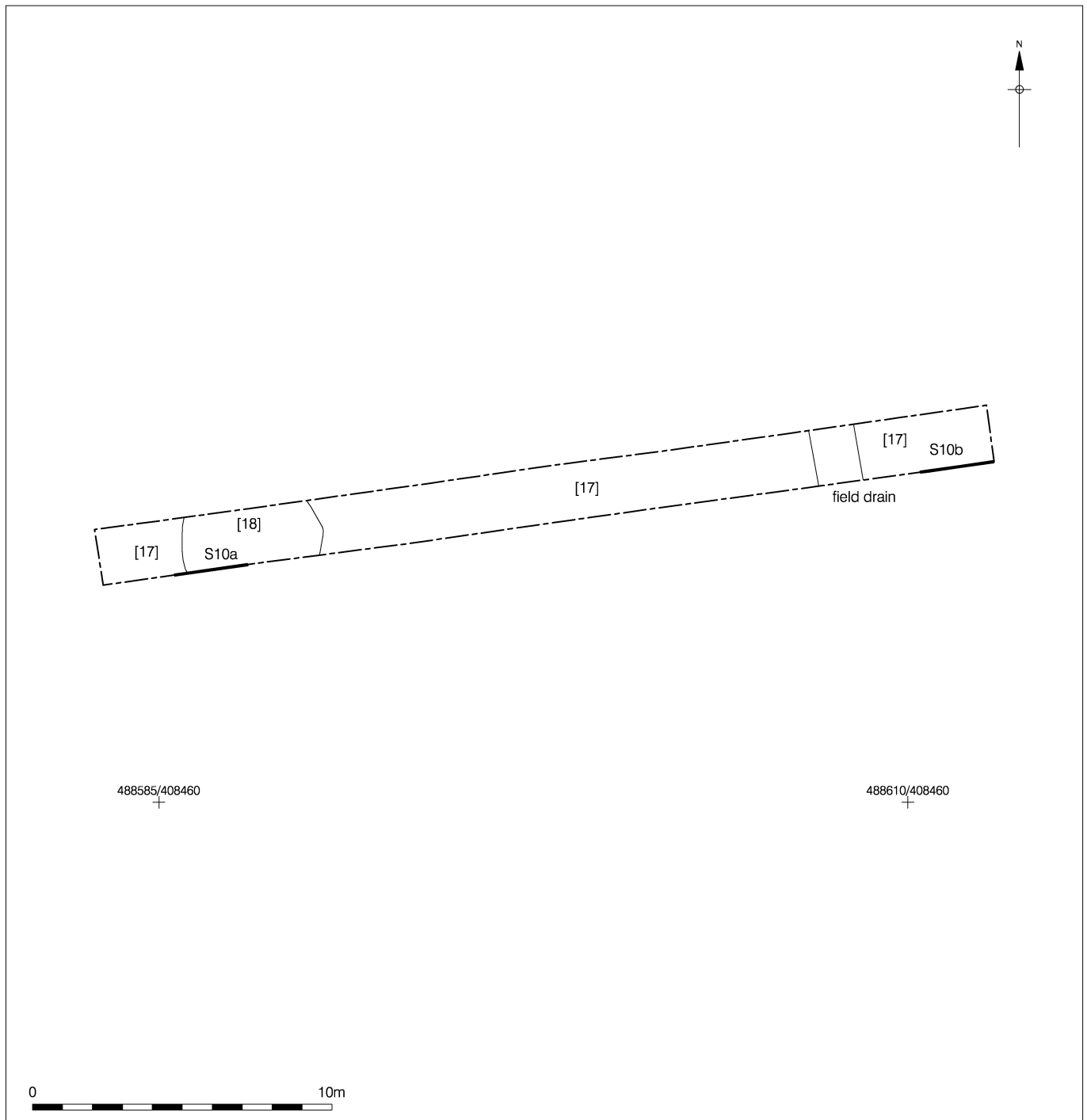


Figure 12  
Trench 10: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4



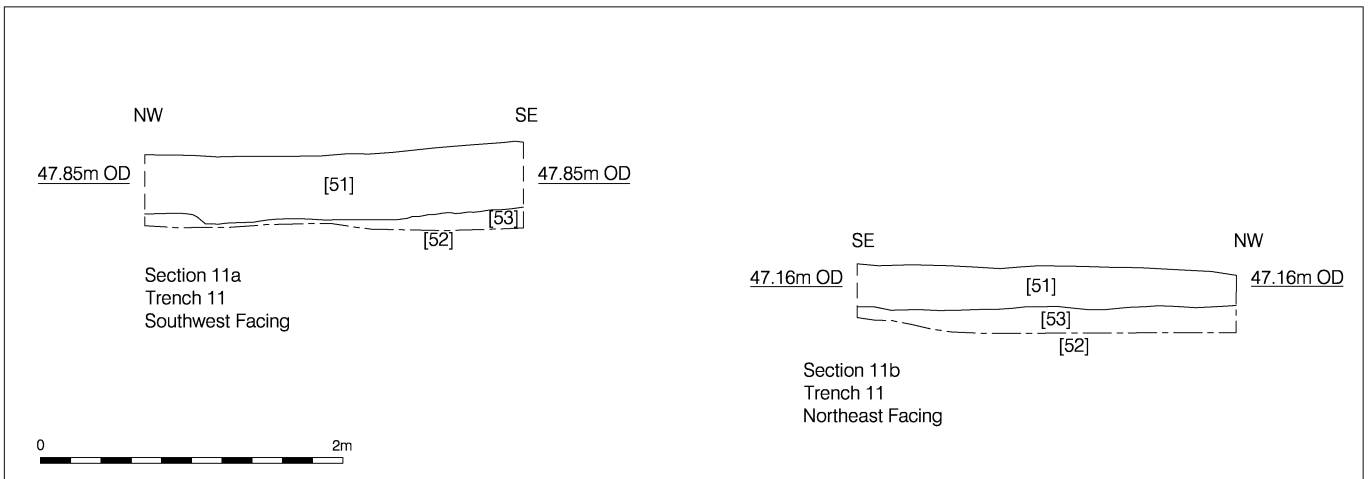
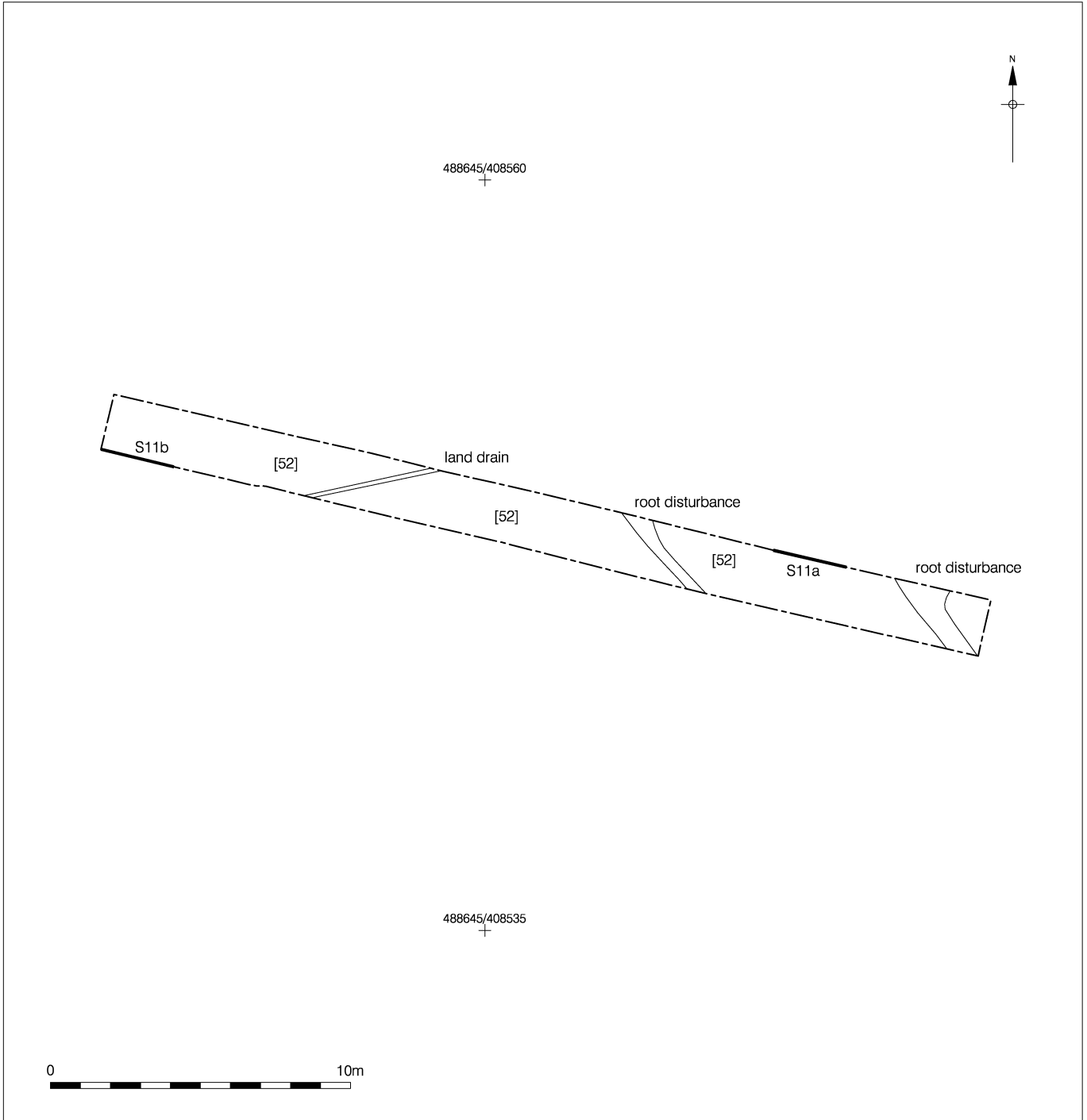


Figure 13  
Trench 11: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

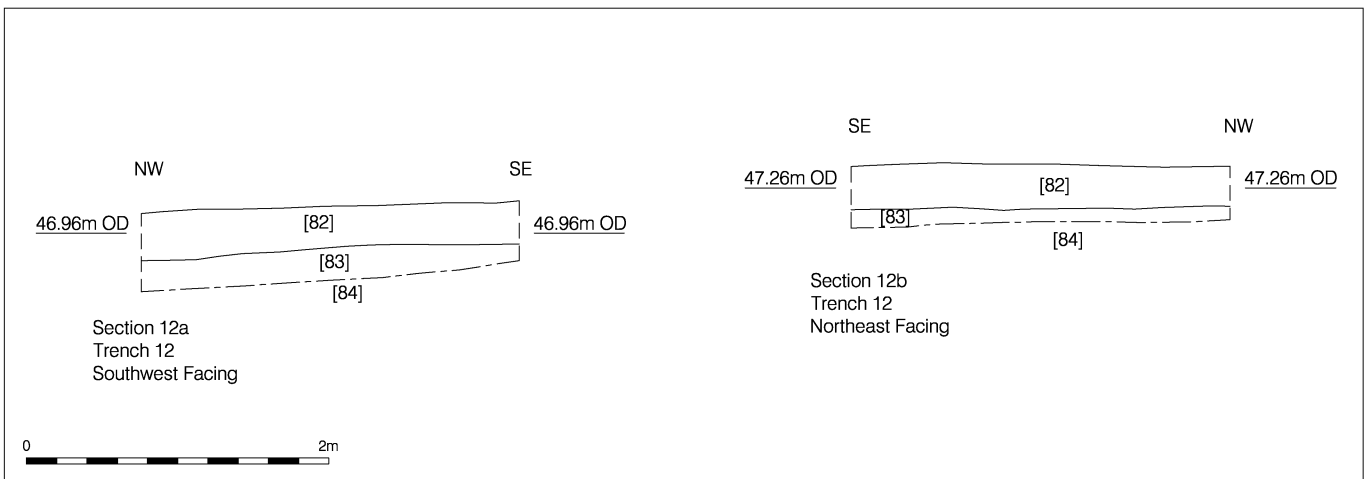
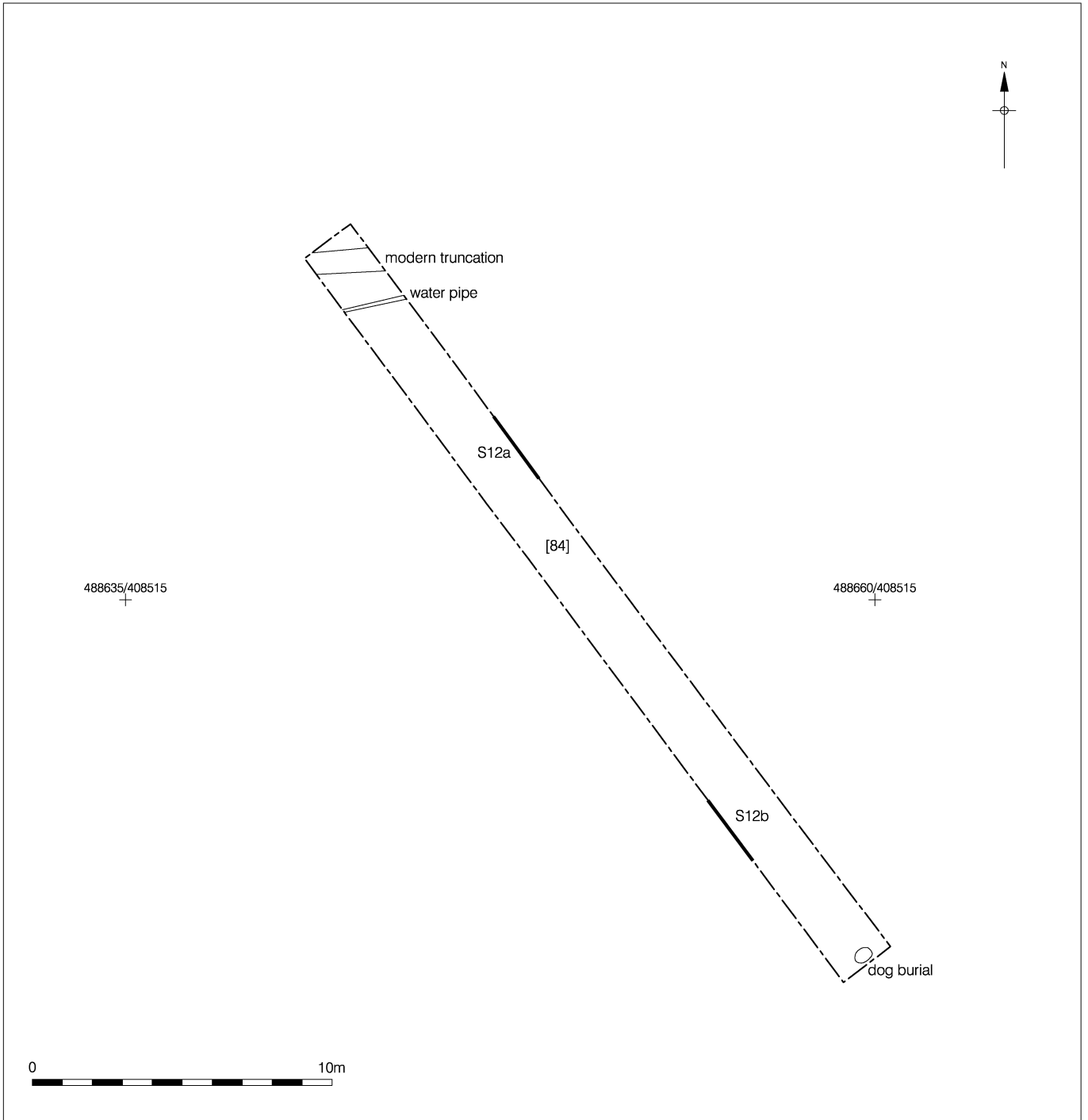


Figure 14  
Trench 12: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

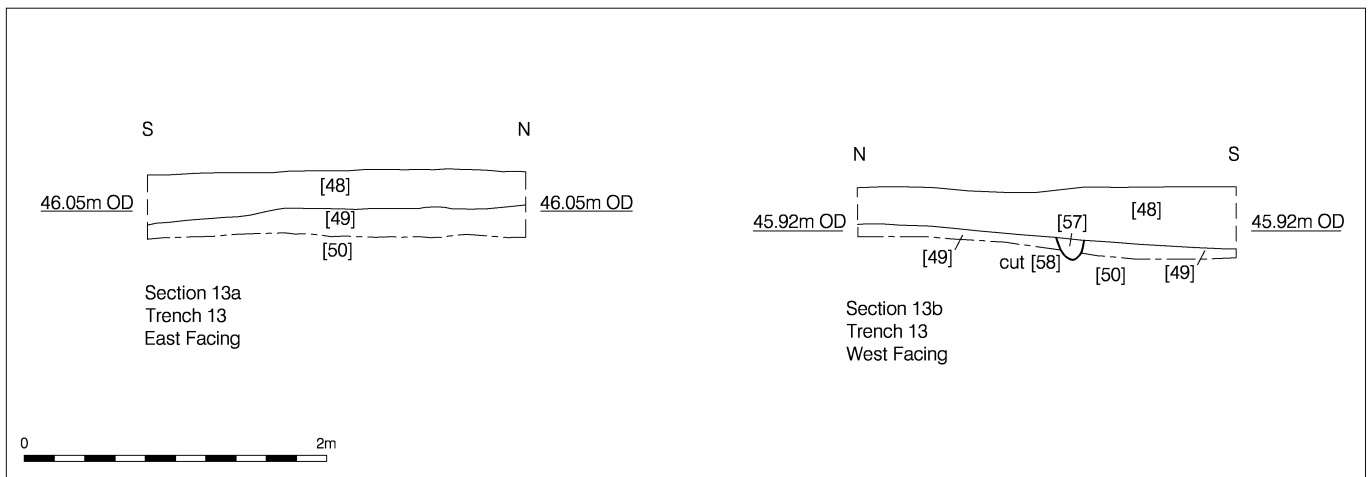
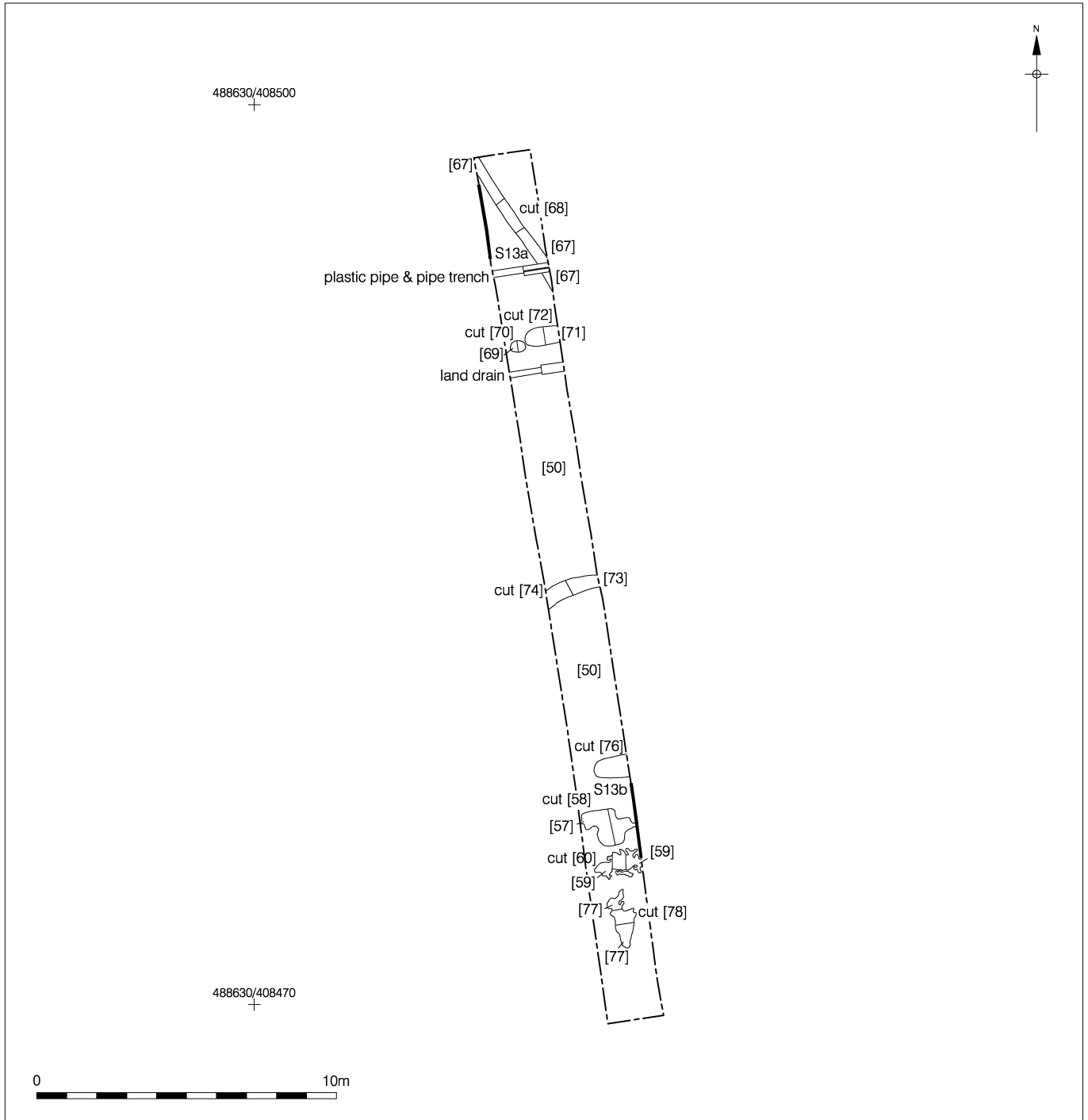


Figure 15  
Trench 13: Plan and Sections  
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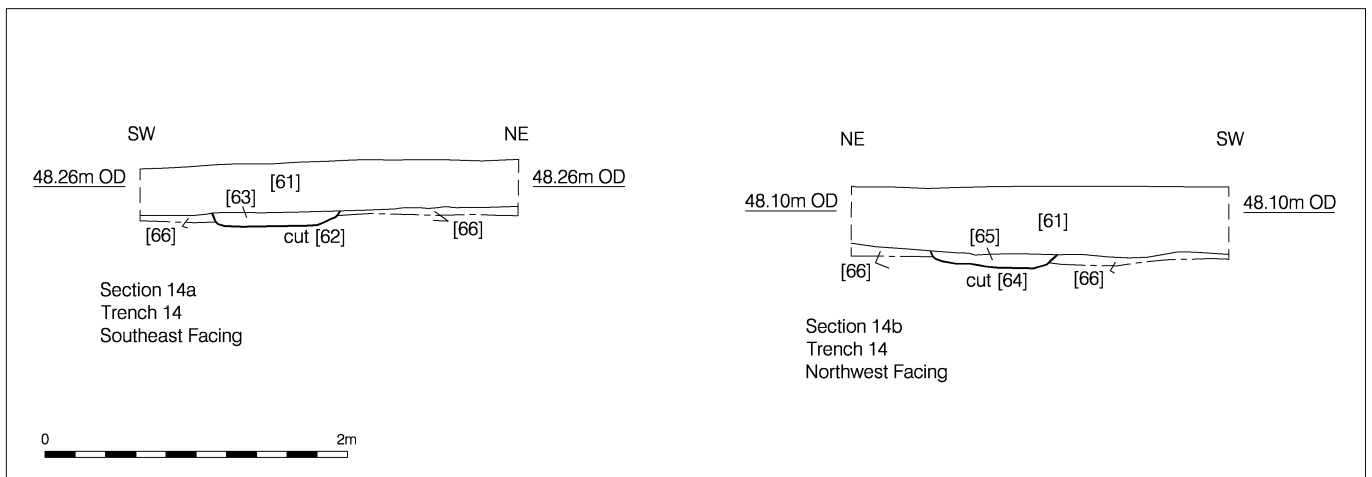
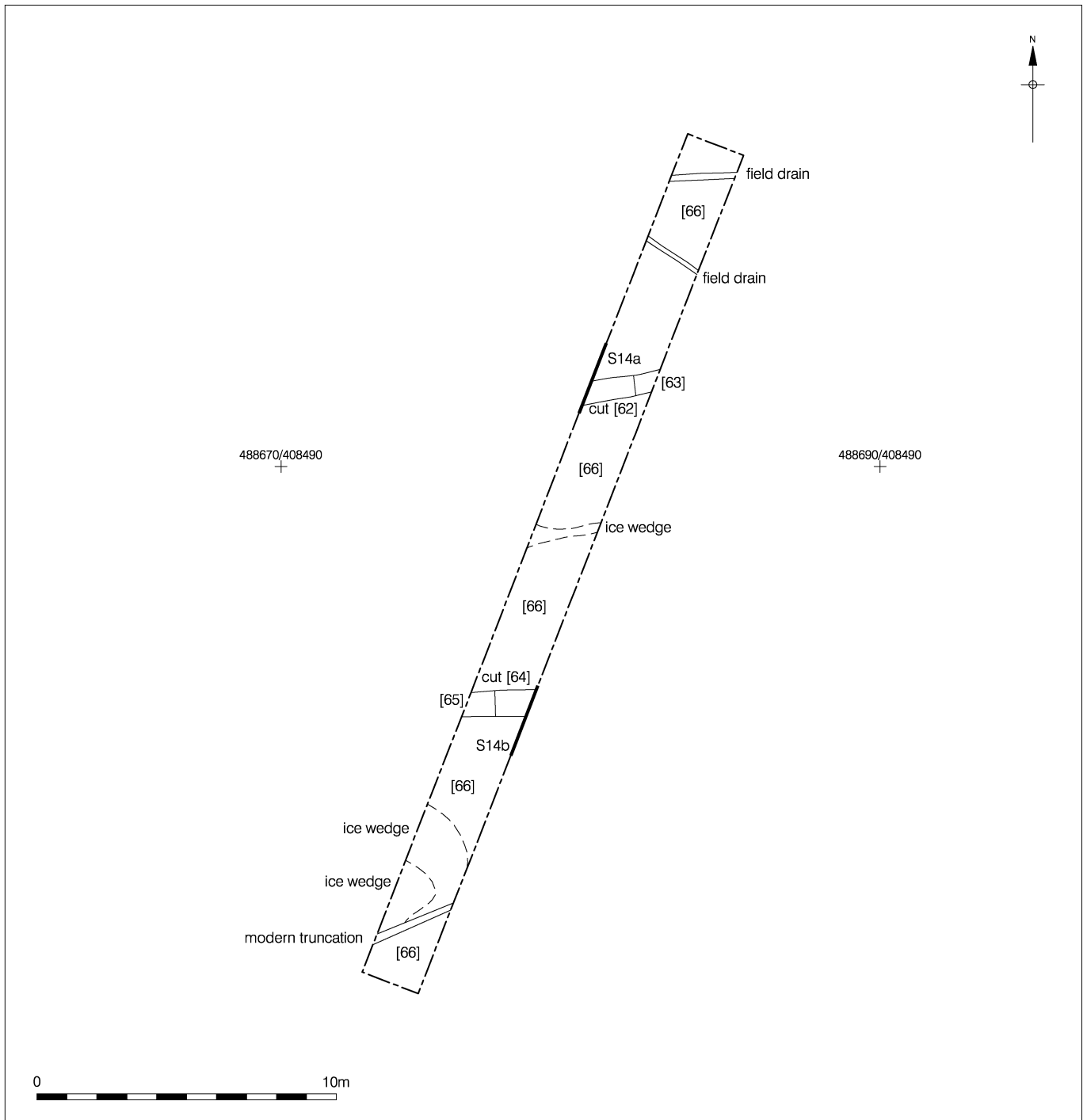


Figure 16  
Trench 14: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

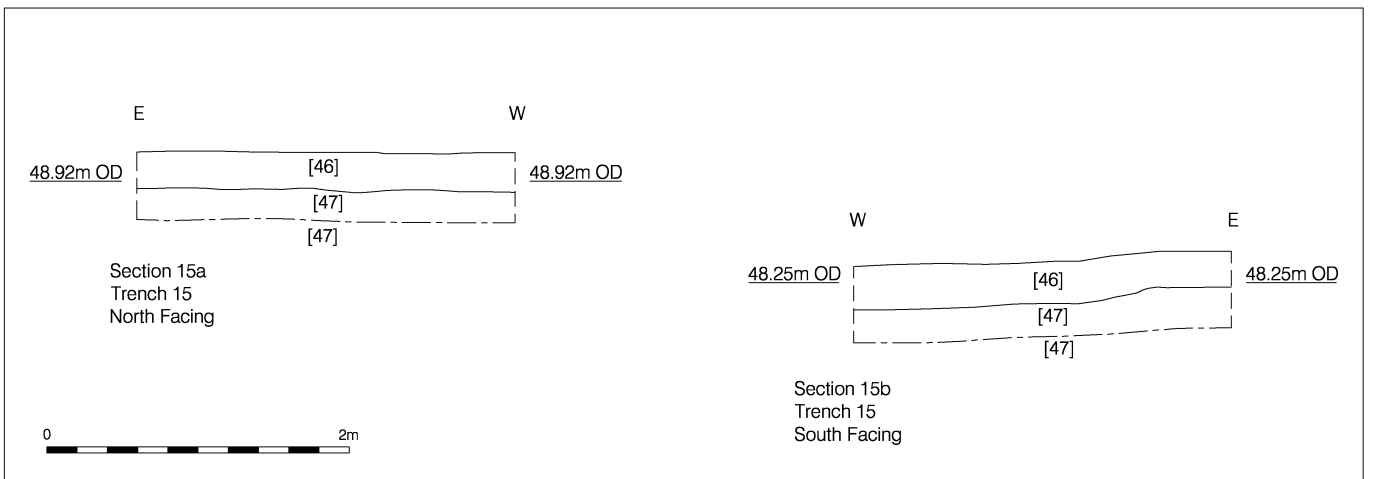
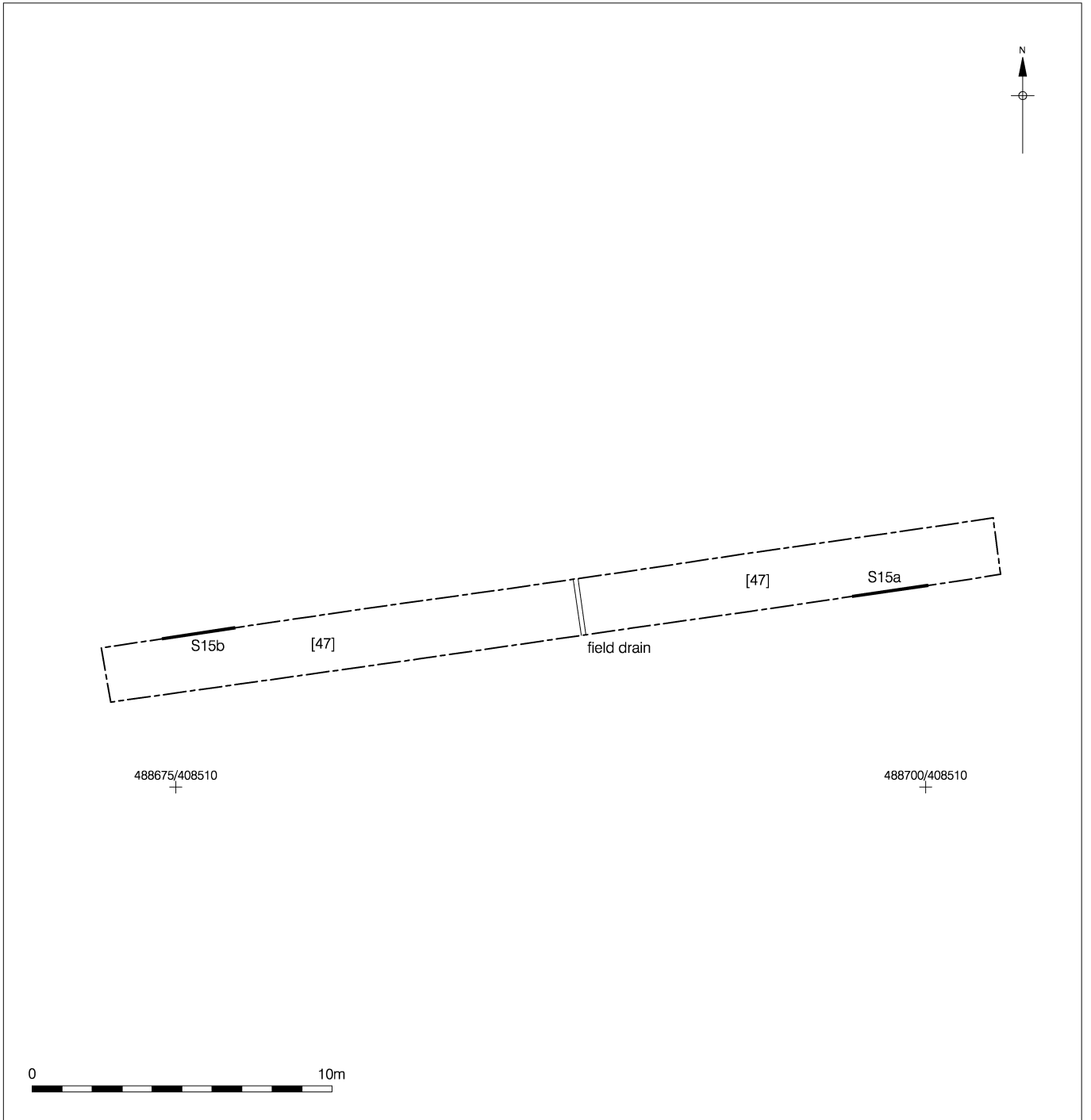
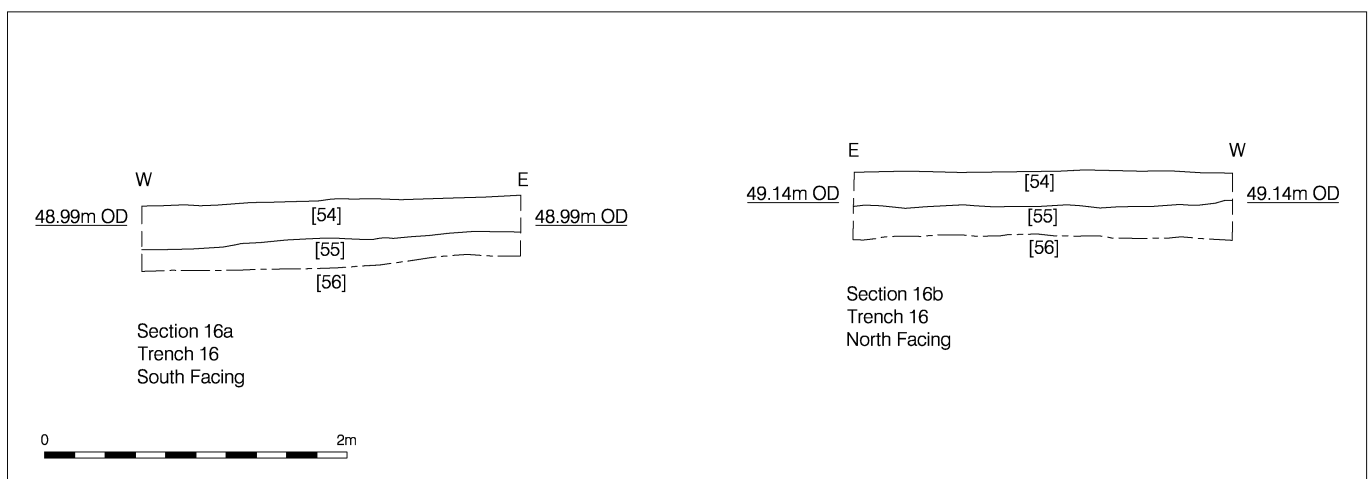
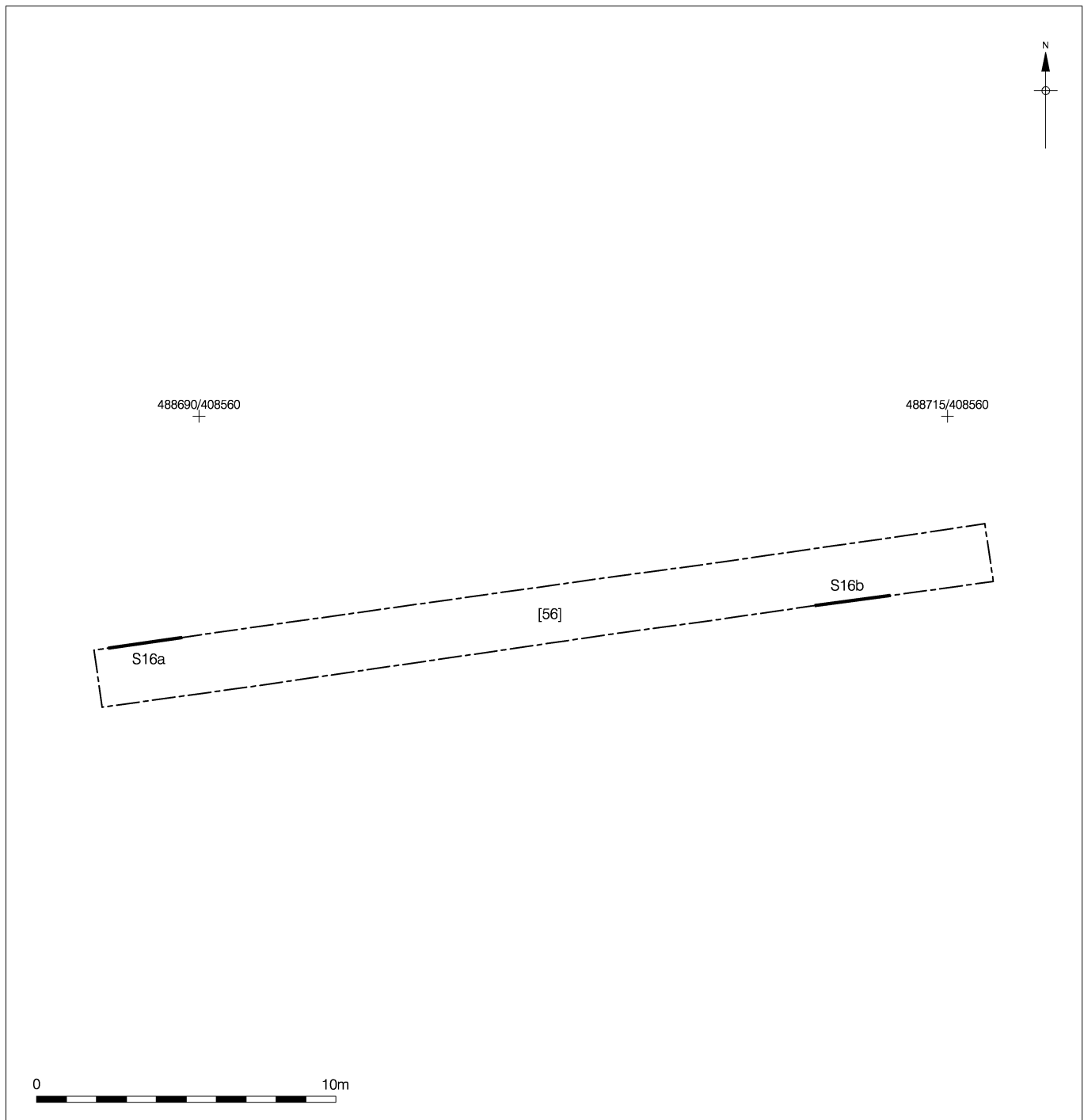


Figure 17  
Trench 15: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4



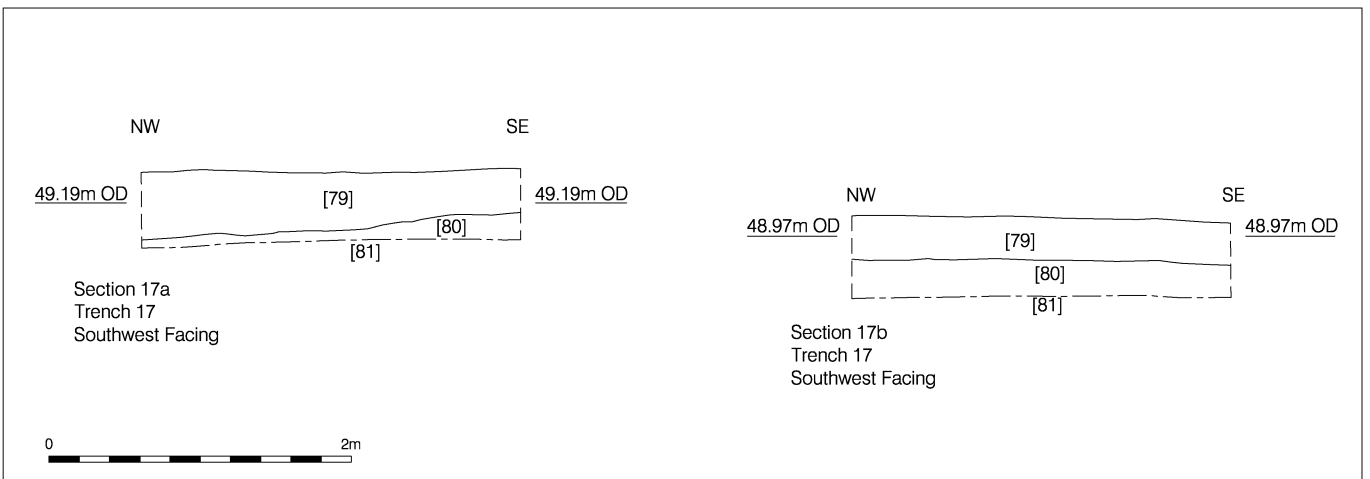
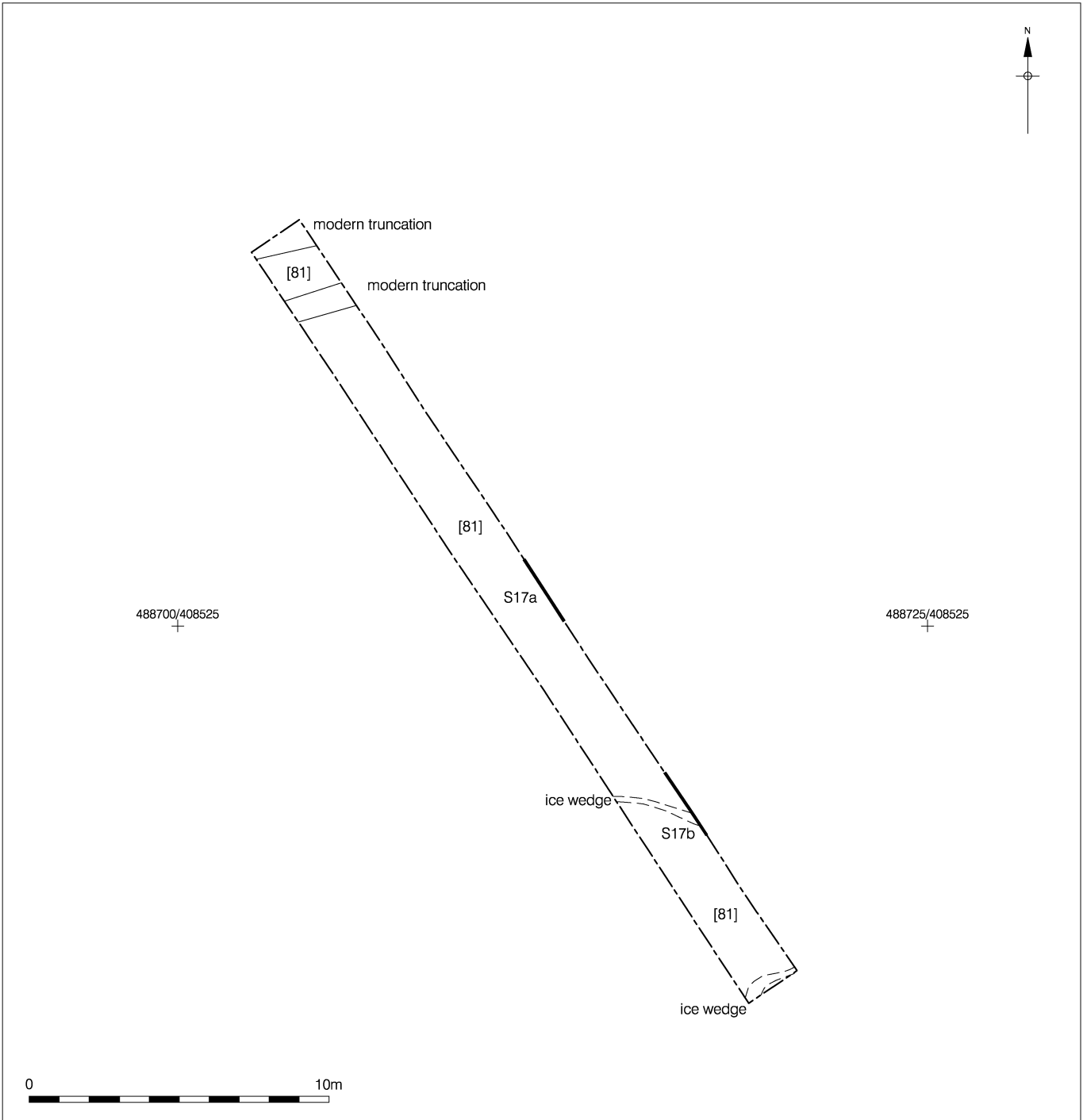


Figure 19  
Trench 17: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

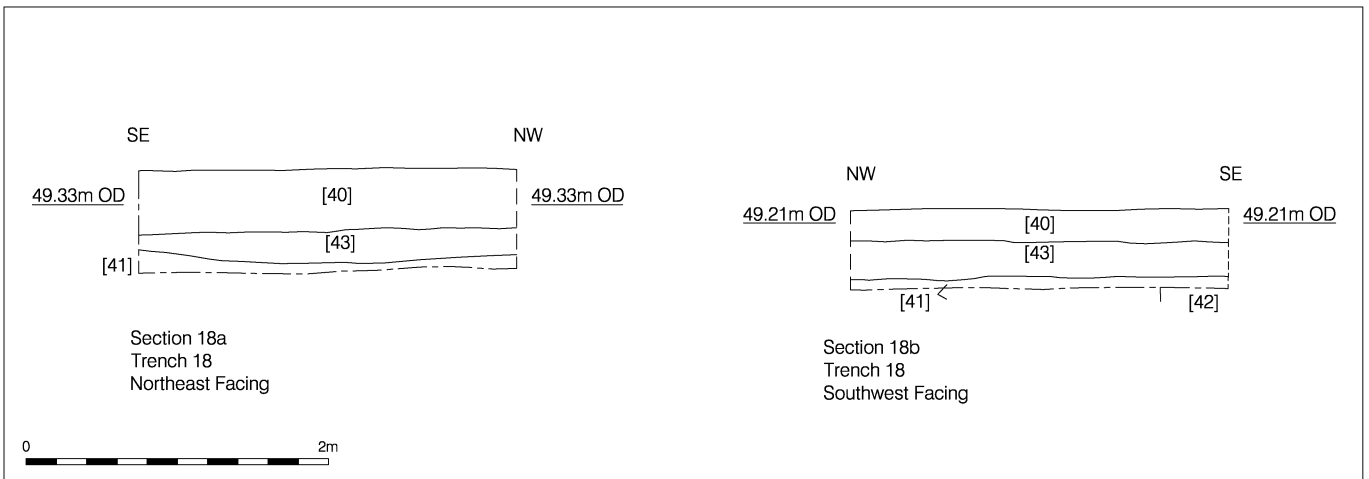
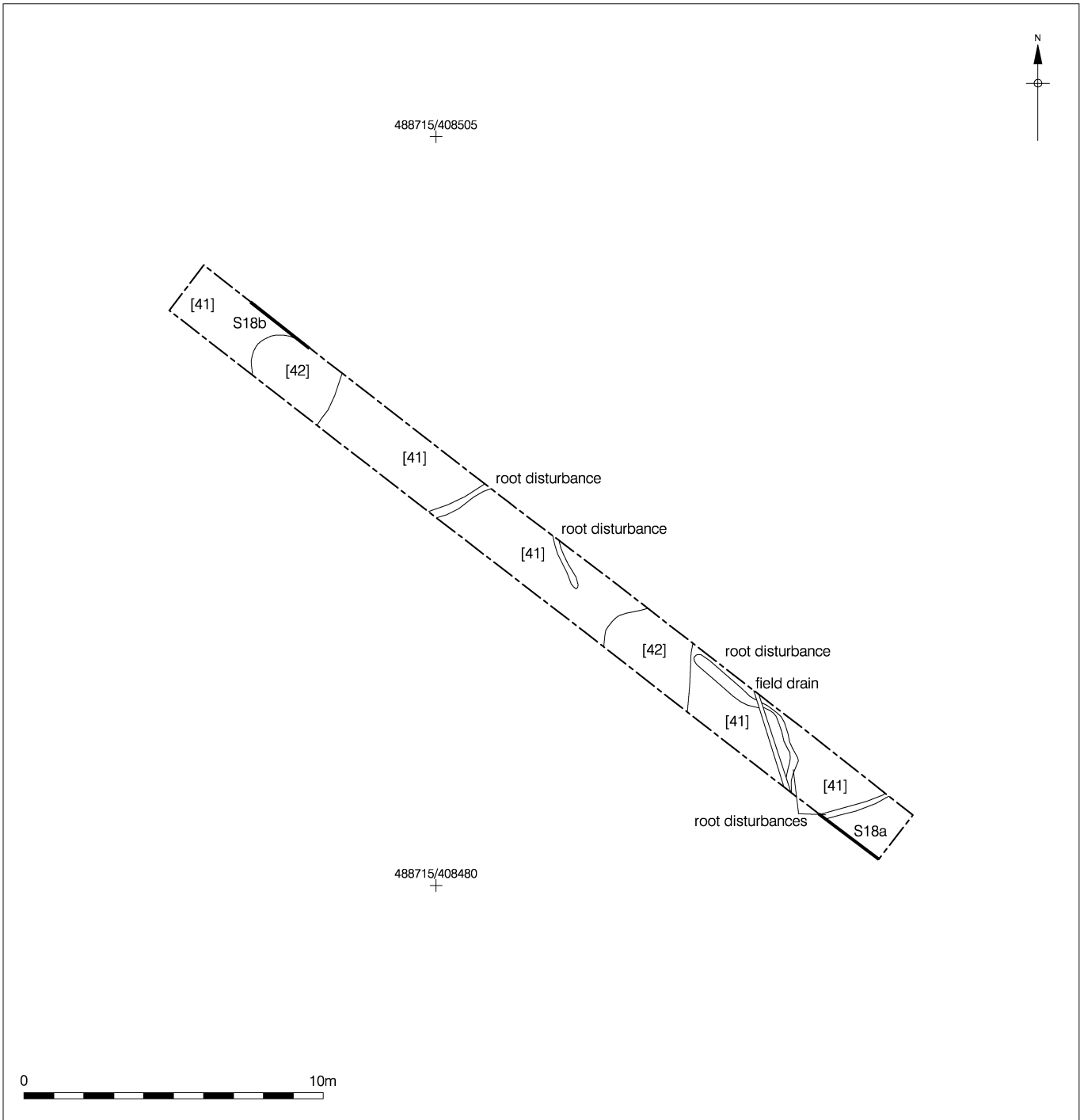
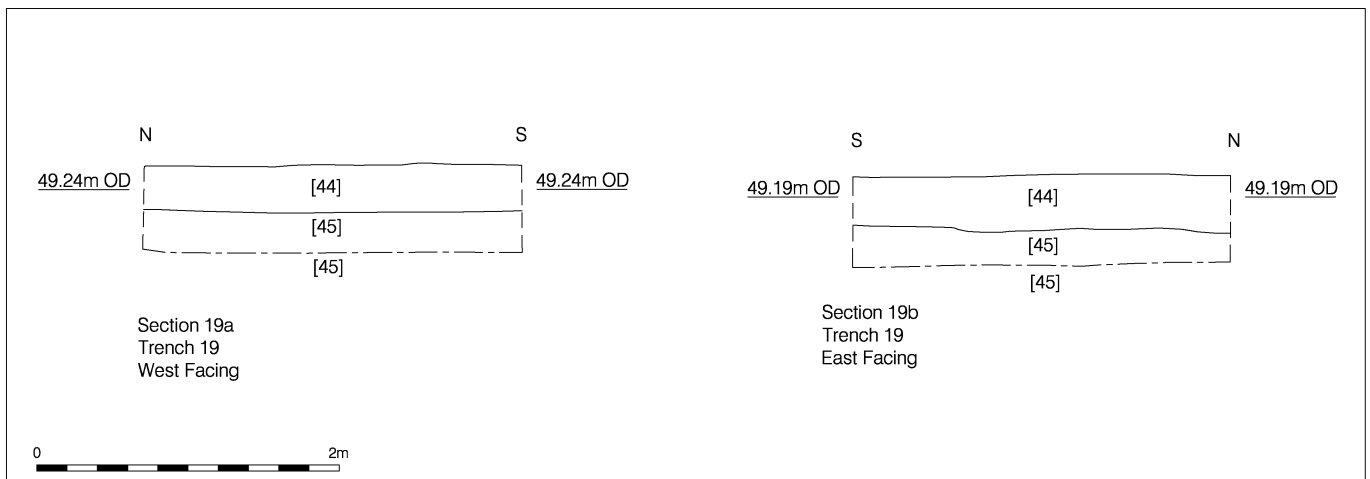
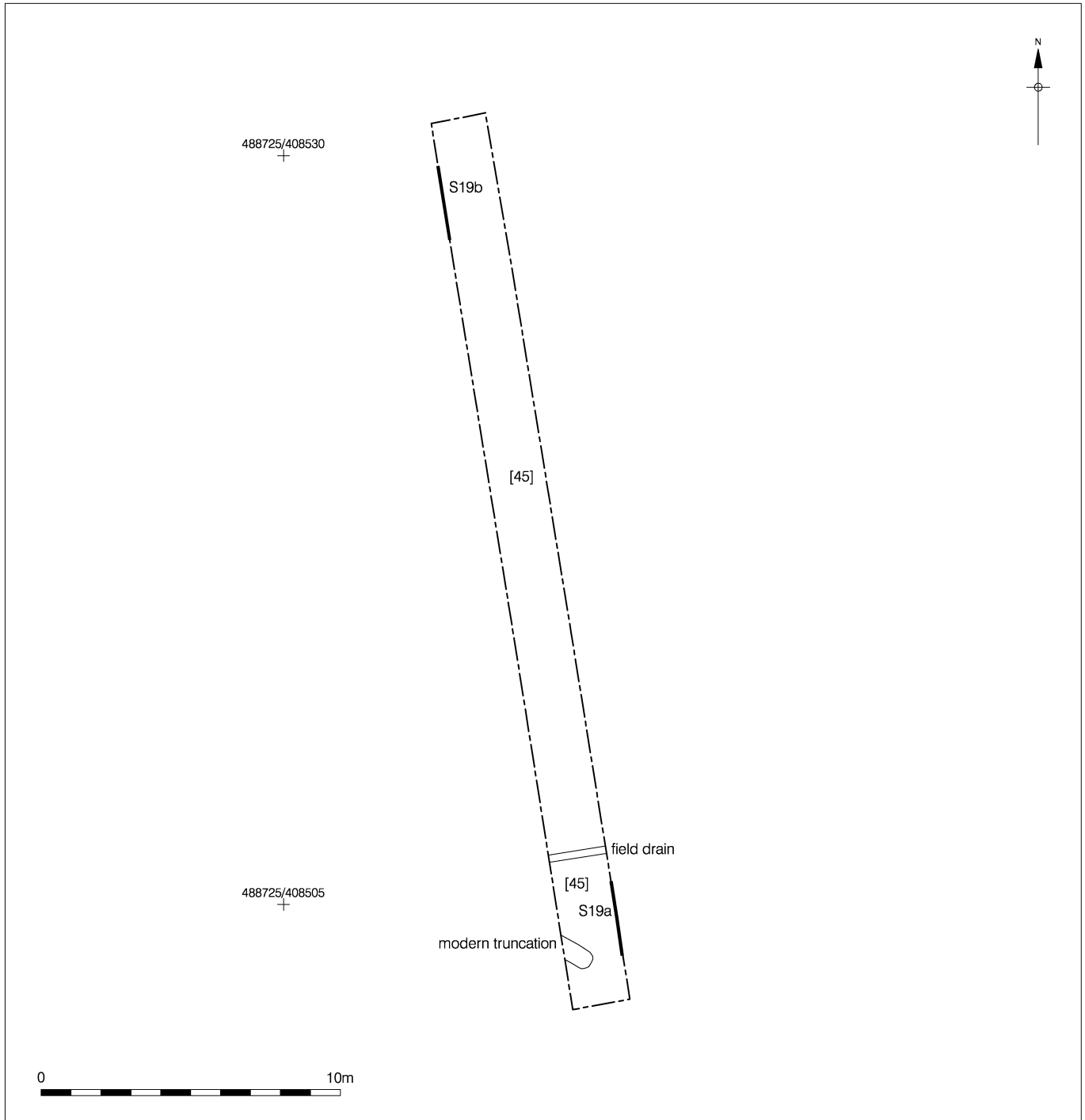


Figure 20  
Trench 18: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4





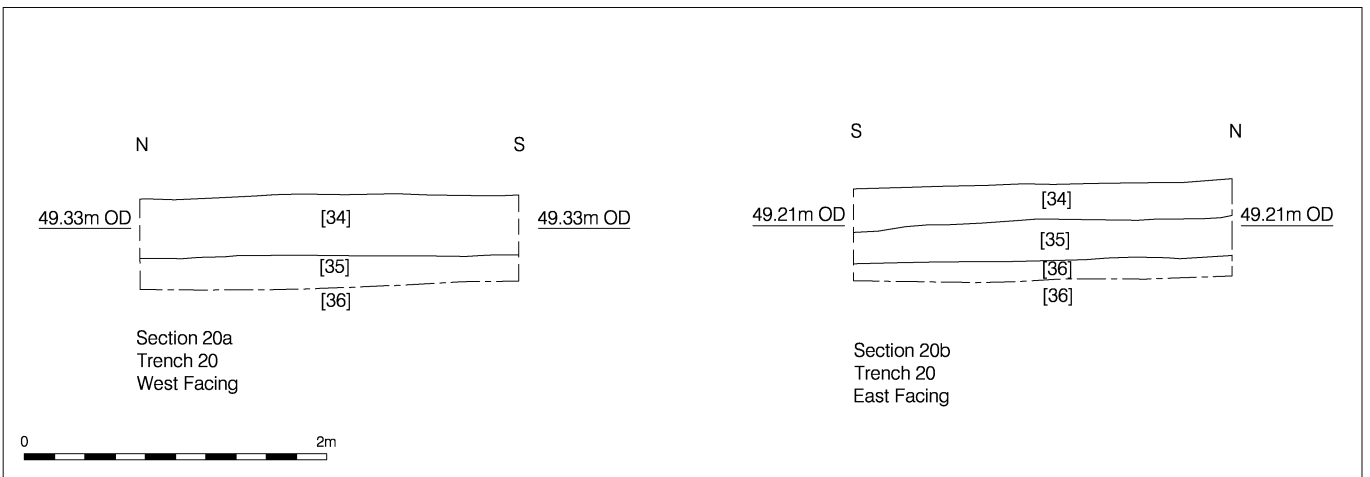
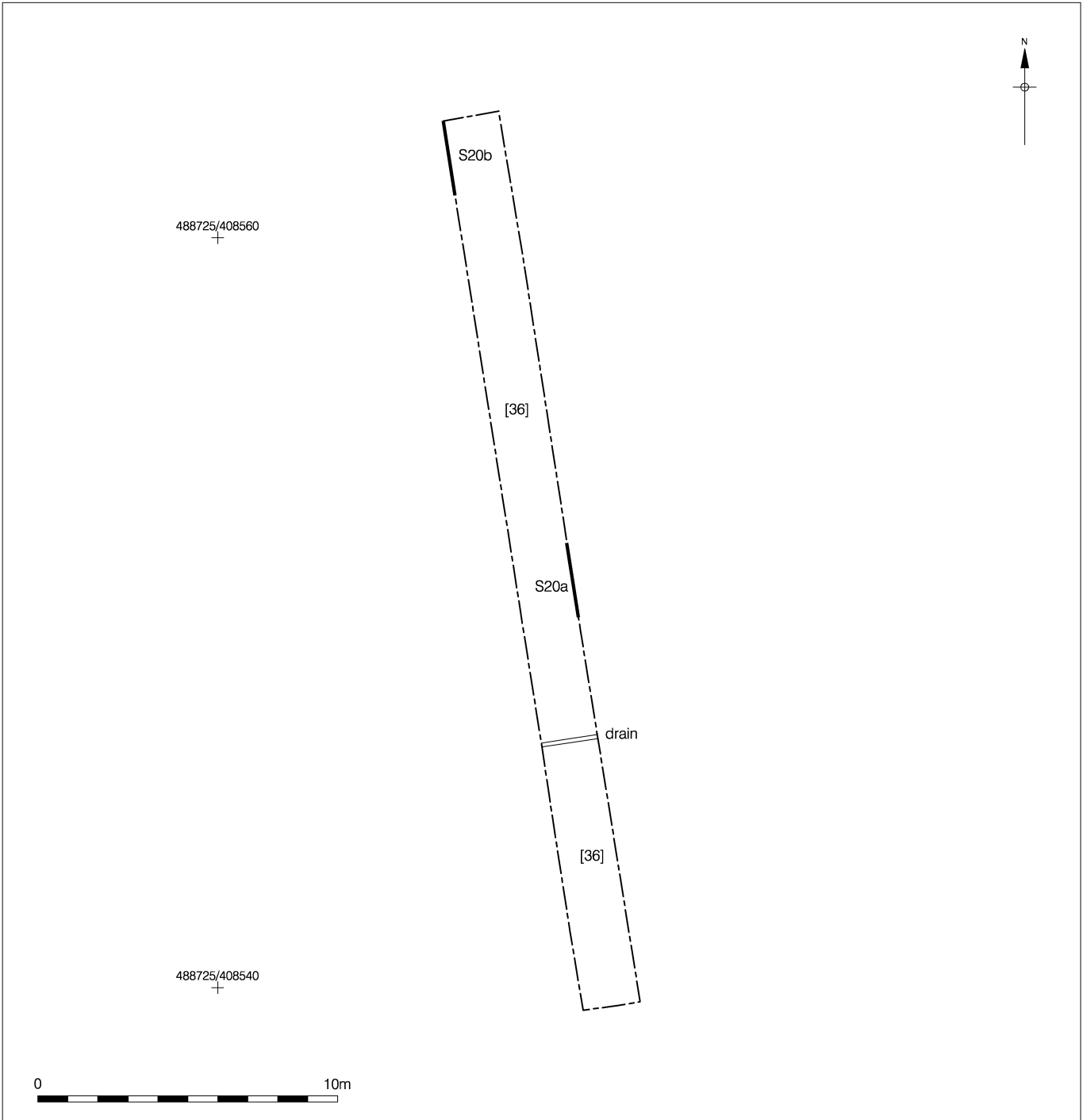


Figure 22  
Trench 20: Plan and Sections  
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:50 at A4

## 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 6.1 Conclusions

6.1.1 Geological deposits and archaeological deposits and features encountered during the evaluation have been assigned to four phases of activity:

- Phase 1. The limestone bedrock was recorded in the western half of the site within Trenches 2, 6, 8, and 10 and in the south-eastern corner of the site within Trench 18. The height at which bedrock was encountered dropped down by c. 6.70m over a distance of 230m from east to west, reflecting the natural topography of the limestone scarp in this area. Bedrock was encountered at varying depths below present ground surface ranging from 0.65m in Trench 8, located adjacent to the central northern boundary, to 0.45m in Trenches 6 and 10. The bedrock was overlain by clay, also of geological origin, which formed the basal deposit in all other trenches where bedrock was not revealed. Where this clay deposit overlay bedrock it ranged in thickness from 80mm in Trench 18 in the southeastern corner of the site to over 0.50m in Trench 6, located towards the north-western corner of the site. As with the bedrock, the elevation of this natural deposit also dropped down from east to west by a height of 6.90m. The depth at which the clay was encountered below present ground level also varied within each trench and across the development site, ranging from 0.22m below ground level in Trenches 5 and 8 to a maximum of 0.63m in Trench 20. The average depth at which it was encountered was 0.45m below present ground level.
- Phase 2. A sub-soil deposit was present in Trenches 1, 2, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18 and 20. No datable material was recovered from this deposit, but it may have been of considerable age and likely developed over a considerable length of time. Where the sub-soil was absent, it had probably been truncated by ploughing. The maximum thickness of surviving sub-soil was 0.30m and the depth at which it was encountered below present ground level ranged from a minimum of 0.20m in Trench 18 to a maximum of c. 0.45m in Trenches 11 and 17.
- Phase 3. A small number of features were recorded cutting into the sub-soil in Trenches 2 and 13 and into the natural clay in Trench 14. Although poorly dated in terms of artefactual evidence, these are likely to have been of later post-medieval date but pre-dating the usage of the site as allotment gardens in the modern era.
- Phase 4. Numerous features of modern date were recorded in many of the trenches, with land drains being particularly ubiquitous. Features directly associated with the allotment gardens were also present, including root disturbance and those associated with the construction of footways across the site. The sequence was capped by a still-developing modern topsoil which ranged in thickness from 0.20m to c. 0.45m.

- 6.1.2 The evaluation demonstrated that the important archaeological activity recorded to the east, on what is now the Roman Way housing development, did not extend westwards into the current site, the former allotment gardens. The site had evidently been ploughed prior to the establishment of the allotments, however deeper archaeological features, had they been present, would still have been expected to survive at least in part. Furthermore, given the amount of artefactual material recovered from the site to the east, even after extensive ploughing of the current site, artefactual material would likely still appear residually in the overburden if archaeological features had ever been present, but this was not the case.
- 6.1.3 The reason for the absence of Iron Age or Romano-British activity at the site may perhaps lie in the presence of the narrow lane that separates the site from what is now Roman Way, to the east. This lane may represent a much earlier boundary, fossilized in what is now a sub-urban modern landscape. Prior to post-World War Two residential development of the area, the lane, which is clearly shown on 19th century Ordnance Survey mapping, would have had no obvious function, other than as a field or property boundary. On the 1887 Ordnance Survey map, the land division west of the boundary, *i.e.* on the former allotment gardens, is markedly different to that to the east, indicating that the boundary delimited areas of differential land use at that time and this had possibly been the case for a considerable period of time before this. It is therefore suggested that the lane marked the line of a much earlier boundary and one which potentially defined the western edge of the archaeological 'site' recorded at the former No. 66 Burringham Road, thus explaining the lack of features of Late Iron Age and Romano-British date recorded on the current site. If such a boundary had been delineated by a large bank and/or ditch in the Late Iron Age and Romano-British period, this could explain the lack of finds 'movement' onto the current site.
- 6.1.4 In sum, therefore, the work recorded no evidence for Late Iron Age or Romano-British activity on the site and demonstrated that the archaeological activity recorded at the former No. 66 Burringham Road, immediately to the east, did not extend westwards onto the former allotment gardens. Finds evidence was particularly sparse and apart from a handful of pottery sherds of Roman and medieval date, all recovered as residual material, no evidence of activity pre-dating the 19th century was evident.
- 6.1.5 It is concluded that the results of the evaluation indicate that groundworks and any excavations for buildings and services associated with the proposed development will not impact upon any archaeological remains of significance across the site of the former allotment gardens. However, if access to the site is to be via Roman Way there may be some impact upon buried archaeological remains located beneath the lane that separates the site from Roman Way, for the reason postulated above.

## **6.2 Recommendations**

- 6.2.1 No further work is required on the information recovered during the evaluation, with the Site Archive, including this report, forming the permanent record of the strata encountered.

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### Online Sources

The *British Geological Survey* website:

[http://www.bgs.ac.uk/education/geology\\_of\\_britain/home.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/education/geology_of_britain/home.html)

## **8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS**

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The role of Alison Williams, North Lincolnshire County Council SMR Officer, is acknowledged.

Thanks to Peter Didsbury for co-ordinating the specialist finds reports.

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*Fieldwork:* Peter Boyer (Site Supervisor), Scott Vance and Neal Lythe

*Report:* Peter Boyer

*Survey:* Ailsa Westgarth

*Illustrations:* Jennifer Simonson

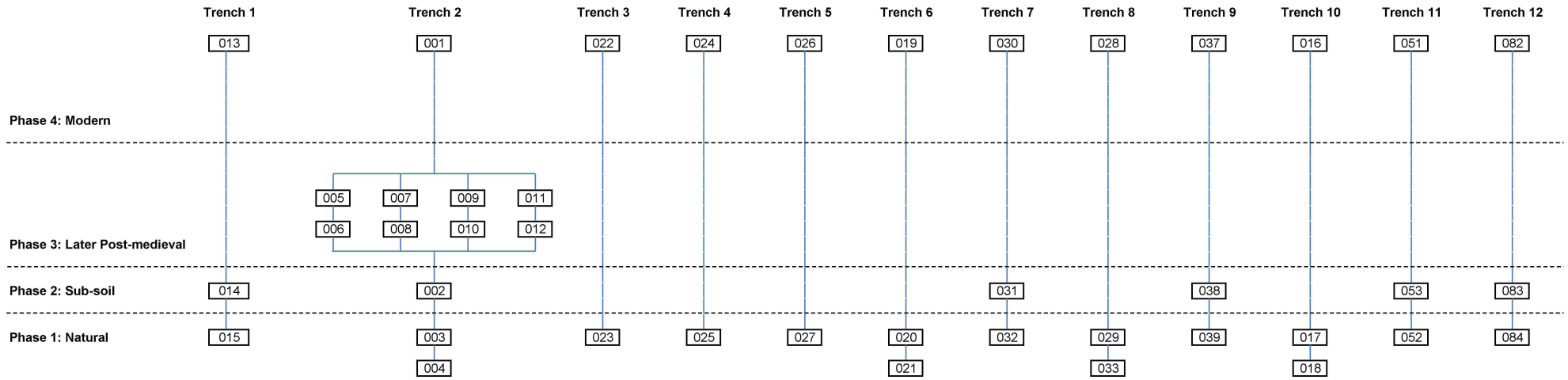
### **Other Credits**

*Ceramic Building Material:* Sophie Tibbles

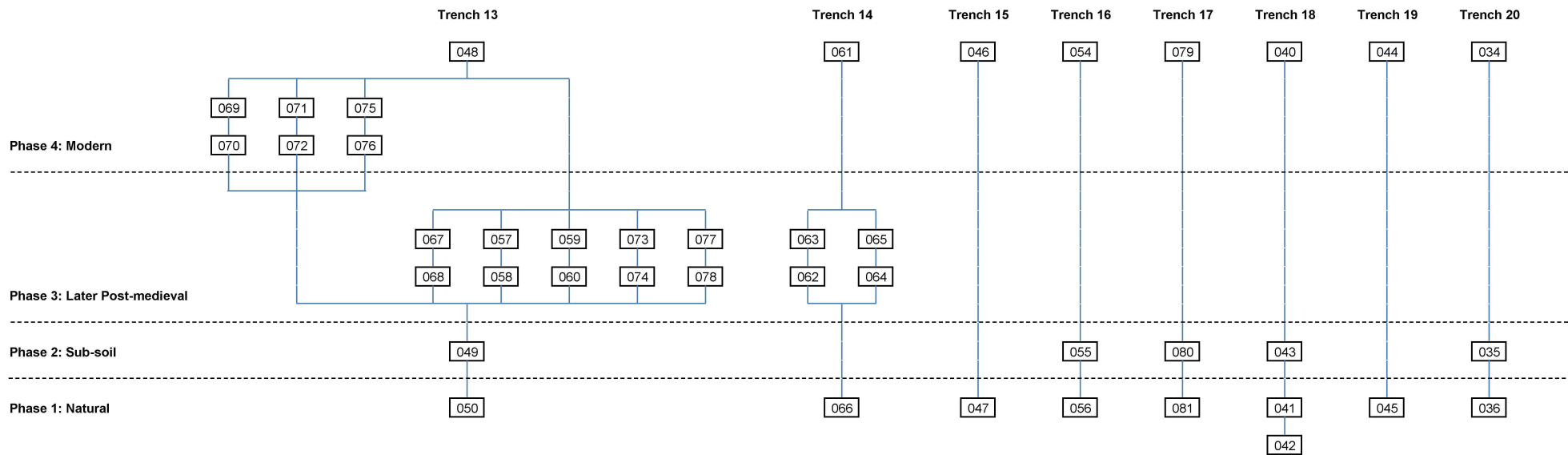
*Glass:* Lisa Wastling

*Pottery:* Peter Didsbury

**APPENDIX A**  
**STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES**







**APPENDIX B**  
**CONTEXT INDEX**

## ASAT: CONTEXT INDEX

<i>Context</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Phase</i>	<i>Type 1</i>	<i>Type 2</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
001	2	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
002	2	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
003	2	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
004	2	1	Deposit	Layer	Limestone bedrock
005	2	3	Deposit	Fill	Sandy silt fill of [6]
006	2	3	Cut	Linear	Ditch segment
007	2	3	Deposit	Fill	Sandy silt fill of [8]
008	2	3	Cut	Linear	Ditch segment
009	2	3	Deposit	Fill	Sandy silt fill of [10]
010	2	3	Cut	Linear	Ditch segment
011	2	3	Deposit	Fill	Sandy silt fill of [12]
012	2	3	Cut	Linear	Ditch segment
013	1	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
014	1	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
015	1	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
016	10	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
017	10	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
018	10	1	Deposit	Layer	Limestone bedrock
019	6	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
020	6	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
021	6	1	Deposit	Layer	Limestone bedrock
022	3	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
023	3	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
024	4	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
025	4	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
026	5	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
027	5	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
028	8	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
029	8	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
030	7	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
031	7	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
032	7	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
033	8	1	Deposit	Layer	Limestone bedrock
034	20	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
035	20	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
036	20	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
037	9	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
038	9	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
039	9	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
040	18	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
041	18	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
042	18	1	Deposit	Layer	Limestone bedrock
043	18	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
044	19	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
045	19	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
046	15	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
047	15	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
048	13	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
049	13	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
050	13	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
051	11	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
052	11	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
053	11	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
054	16	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
055	16	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
056	16	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
057	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Clayey silt fill of [58]
058	13	3	Cut	Roots	Tree rooting

**ASAT: CONTEXT INDEX**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Trench</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Type 1</b>	<b>Type 2</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
059	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Clayey silt fill of [060]
060	13	3	Cut	Roots	Tree rooting
061	14	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
062	14	3	Cut	Linear	NE-SW ditch
063	14	3	Deposit	Fill	Clayey silt fill of [62]
064	14	3	Cut	Linear	NE-SW ditch
065	14	3	Deposit	Fill	Clayey silt fill of [64]
066	14	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
067	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Silty clay fill of [68]
068	13	3	Cut	Linear	NW-SE gully
069	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Silt fill of [70]
070	13	3	Cut	Posthole	Oval posthole base
071	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Silt fill of [72]
072	13	3	Cut	Linear	E-W ditch
073	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Silt fill of [74]
074	13	3	Cut	Curvilinear	Tree rooting
075	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Silt fill of [76]
076	13	3	Cut	Linear	E-W ditch
077	13	3	Deposit	Fill	Clayey silt fill of [78]
078	13	3	Cut	Roots	Tree rooting
079	17	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
080	17	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
081	17	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay
082	12	4	Deposit	Layer	Topsoil
083	12	2	Deposit	Layer	Sub-soil
084	12	1	Deposit	Layer	Natural clay

**APPENDIX C**  
**ASSESSMENT OF POTTERY AND OTHER ARTEFACTUAL MATERIAL**

# ASSESSMENT OF THE POTTERY AND OTHER ARTEFACTUAL MATERIAL

By: Peter Didsbury MPhil FSA

## Introduction and Methodology

The assemblage submitted for examination amounted to 47 items, weighing 630 grams. It was distributed among the material categories as follows:

<i>Material</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Wt (grams)</i>
CBM	12	260
CTP	6	14
Glass	8	73
Pottery	21	283

[CBM = Ceramic building material, CTP = clay tobacco pipe].

All material was laid out, examined, and then quantified according to material category or pottery fabric/ware within archaeological context. The resulting data was entered onto an Access database, which is supplied as an integral part of this report, and which should be consulted on matters of detail where appropriate.

Codes employed in the database are presented in Appendix 1. The pottery fabric series is based on that constructed for the post-medieval pottery from Wharram Percy (Didsbury 2010).

## General Observations on the Site Assemblage

The vast majority of the material in all of the above categories appears to belong to the later 19th and/or earlier 20th century. A small amount of Roman, post-medieval and medieval pottery constitutes the only exception. Much of the pottery assemblage consists of the nationally distributed Late Factory Products (LFP) of the Staffordshire and Yorkshire potteries, and of utilitarian stonewares.

The degree of dating precision possible varies between categories, and is in general constrained by the poor evidential quality of the assemblages. For example, the CTP consists entirely of stem fragments, which are not essentially chronologically diagnostic. The author is grateful to Lisa Wastling and Sophie Tibbles for their examination of, respectively, the glass and the CBM.

## The Context Assemblages

The material under discussion came from the topsoil in sixteen of the twenty trenches, viz. Trenches 1-10, 12-14 and 18-20. In the case of Trench 13, the relevant contexts were tree-root disturbances, and in the case of Trench 14, material was also submitted from fill [063] of plough furrow [062]. Only items of intrinsic significance are individually noted below. For the rest, detail may be consulted in the database.

### Trench 4

Topsoil 24 in Trench 4 produced a medieval coarseware sherd with handle thumbing. It has not been attributed to a named fabric, but its general characteristics suggest a place in the regional coarse sandy tempering tradition of c. the 12th to 15th century. A full description is given in the database. Also present was an internally glazed flake from a Glazed Red Earthenware open form. It cannot be dated closely within the 17th to 19th century.

### Trench 9

Topsoil [037] contained a small curved rim fragment of plain white tin-glazed earthenware, most likely of 18th-century date.

### Trench 13

Tree-root disturbances [057] and [059] produced between them 3 sherds of Romano-British greyware, consisting of one base and two bodies. The fabrics are similar though not in themselves datable. All the sherds are rather worn.

### Trench 14

Fill [063] of plough furrow [062] contained a small fragment tentatively identified as 18th-century Staffordshire Slipware.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Most of the site assemblage seems to derive from later 19th- or early 20th-century deposition, and probably results from the use of the site as allotment gardens. Exceptions are noted above. Most interesting, perhaps, is the Roman greyware, presumably deriving from the known settlement features of this age to the east.

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### **Pottery fabric codes employed in the database**

As already noted, the fabric series employed for this report is that constructed by the author for analyzing the post-medieval wares at Wharram Percy (Didsbury 2010). A modified version of the relevant portion of that fabric series is given below:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Common name, remarks</i>
BLAK2	Late Blackware. 18th- and 19th-century coarsewares in red fabrics with iron-rich glazes, manufactured at a large number of locations in Yorkshire and elsewhere.
ES0	General English stoneware. Assorted 'modern' stoneware, including bottles, kitchen wares, preserve jars, etc.
GRE	Glazed Red Earthenwares. This is the staple category of post-medieval coarseware made from the iron-rich clays which cover much of eastern and northern England. The wares were widely produced from the first half of the 16th century until the early 20th.
GREB	GRE with brown glaze.
LFP	Late factory products. These are the industrial products of the later 19th and 20th centuries, principally white earthenwares from manufactories in both Yorkshire and Staffordshire. All may be considered as belonging to a 'post-Pearlware' phase of industrial production, and may therefore be dated after c. 1830-1850. Three varieties are recognised on the present site:
LFP1	Transfer-printed white earthenwares. Coysh and Henrywood 1982 (rep. 1993); Griffin 2001.
LFP2	Plain white earthenwares with little or no decoration or ornament. Fragments from the undecorated areas of otherwise decorated (e.g. transfer-printed) vessels will clearly have been included.

LFP6 Banded slipware. Utilitarian wares, often bowls and mugs, with coloured (blue, brown, white, green) slip bands, often on a yellow ground, in which case they are banded variants of LFP5. They were produced at many centres, e.g. the Don Pottery under Barker ownership (Griffin 2001, who refers to 'banded' decoration).

PORC All porcellanous bodies. Much here is bone china.

STAFS1 General Staffordshire-type Slipwares.

TIN Tin-glazed earthenwares ('Delftware'). English and Netherlandish, 17th- and 18th-century.

UGRE Unglazed red earthenwares. The category is restricted to flowerpots and occasional other forms in similar fabrics.

UNAT CO Medieval coarseware, unattributed to fabric.



ASAT: ARETEFACT CATALOGUE

TR	CTXT	FABRIC	NO	WT	REMARKS
01	013	GLASS	1	7	Clear shard of ?window glass.
02	001	CTP	1	1	Stem fragment of 19th- to 20th-century appearance.
03	022	CTP	1	4	Stem. 19th century?
04	024	GREB	1	11	Open form, internally glazed. 17th century onwards.
04	024	UNATCO	1	59	Very worn sherd of rather soapy sand- and grit-tempered medieval coarseware. Reddish with grey core. Part of handle thumbing. See text.
05	026	PORC	1	12	Base, plain white bone china.
06	019	ES0	1	12	Plain white body.
06	019	LFP2	1	3	Simple rim fragment.
07	030	BLAK2	2	27	Bodies.
07	030	CBM	4	62	2 ?brick fragments and 2 flat tile fragments. Latter probably post-medieval.
07	030	CTP	1	3	Stem fragment, from near mouthpiece. Late 19th- or 20th-century appearance.
08	028	BLAK2	1	18	Internal flake.
08	028	ES0	1	77	Sherd from large vessel such as spirit flask, partly brown dipped.
09	037	CBM	4	109	Includes brick and pantile fragments. Pantiles generally from c. 1675 in the region.
09	037	GLASS	1	15	Grey metal.
09	037	TIN	1	2	Simple plain white rim fragment, tin both sides. 18th century?
09	037	UGRE	1	14	Flowerpot base.
10	016	CTP	1	1	Thin mouthpiece fragment.
12	082	GLASS	4	13	Shards of two bottles, beverage/wine.
12	082	LFP6	1	2	Flake. Blue and brown bands.
12	082	PORC	1	3	Simple fluted saucer, white bone china. Late 19th century or later.
13	048	CBM	3	86	All brick? Includes machine brick (sharp arrises) with parts of one face and two sides extant.
13	048	CTP	1	2	Stem, 18th century or later.
13	048	LFP1	1	3	Flow Blue. Curved rim fragment with stylized ?floral print.
13	057	RG	1	2	Small worn body sherd. Similar fabric to that in 59.
13	059	RG	2	13	Base and body from two vessels, worn greyware, similar fabric to that in 57.
14	061	PORC	1	7	Plain white bone china, ?cup base.
14	063	STAFS1?	1	2	Tiny fragment.
18	040	GLASS	1	32	Bottle top, short neck, moulded, brown metal.
19	044	CBM	1	3	Printed flat tile fragment, 'modern'.
19	044	GLASS	1	6	Clear shard of ?bottle glass.
19	044	PORC	1	12	Flatware.
20	034	CTP	1	3	Stem, late appearance.
20	034	ES0	1	4	Body of preserve jar (closely grooved variety)

**APPENDIX D  
PLATES**



Plate 1: Overview of Trench 2, showing features [06], [08], [010] & [012], looking south, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 2: Overview of Trench 3, looking north-west, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 3: Overview of Trench 10, looking east,  
(scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 4: Overview of Trench 11, showing root  
disturbance, looking north-west, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 5: Overview of Trench 12, looking north-west, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 6: Overview of Trench 14, looking south-west, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 7: Overview of Trench 16, looking east, (scale 2 x 2m)



Plate 8: Overview of Trench 18, looking south-east, (scale 2 x 2m)

# PCA

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