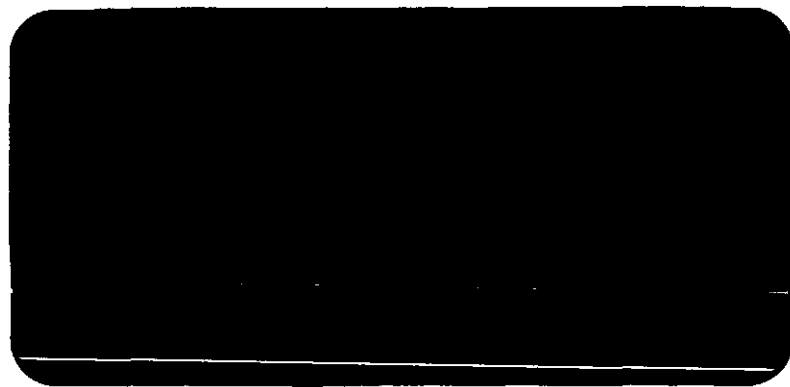


**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
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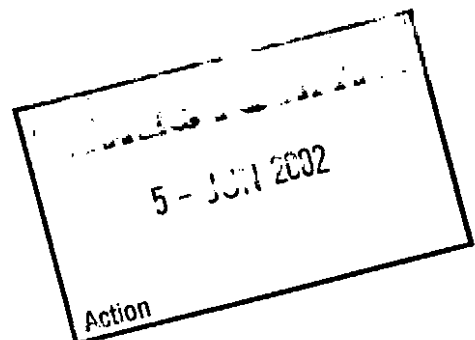
*MAY 2002*

*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION*

*AT*

*MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES*

*MAY 2002*



Parish: Milton Keynes  
Project Title: Monkston Park  
Grid Reference: SP 885 381  
Extent: c 30ha  
Land use: formerly agricultural, proposed for housing  
Client: English Partnerships  
Fieldwork and report date: April-May 2002  
Organisation: Northamptonshire Archaeology



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT**

**MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES, MAY 2002**

**Abstract**

*Following geophysics surveys and a previous phase of trial trenching, a further thirty-two trenches were excavated at Monkston Park, Milton Keynes as part of a continuing evaluation of the archaeological resource.*

*Trial trenches in the vicinity of the Bronze Age find produced no evidence for the presence of a ring ditch that could have defined the presence of a Bronze Age round barrow.*

*Four main areas of Roman archaeology have been identified. A complex system of small ditches and gullies lie in the northern part of the site, Enclosure 1. These have produced Roman material with a broad date range of 1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The overall plan is unclear, but there is no evidence that activity in this area relates to any major contemporary buildings. In the southern part of the site there is a sub-square enclosure of Roman date, producing pottery dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, Enclosure 2, with probable contemporary minor enclosures and boundary ditches to the south and west. In the north-western part of the site a pair of parallel ditches appear to define a trackway running north-south for some 250m. The trackway may have been contemporary with other ditches in the western part of the site that formed no obvious pattern, but produced Belgic and early Roman pottery dated to around the mid-1<sup>st</sup> century AD. Activity of the same date also continued to the east, and underlay Enclosure 2. In addition, both the previous evaluation and the current work have produced a scatter of Iron Age pottery, some coming from pits, suggesting that the Roman activity was a direct continuation from earlier settlement.*

*In conclusion, the study area has produced evidence of activity in the Bronze Age and Iron Age, but with no clear settlement focus. Roman activity spans the 1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> centuries, with two tightly defined areas of settlement, both of which appear to be native domestic settlements of no more than average status.*

**1 INTRODUCTION**

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by English Partnerships to undertake further archaeological evaluation on land located at Monkston Park, Milton Keynes, as part of the mitigation strategy for the development of the site (Fig 1, NGR SP 885 381). This work was aimed at investigating features on the southern part of the site identified by recent geophysical survey (NA 2001) and to further investigate features on the northern part of the site examined by previous evaluation (BCAS 2001a & b). The work was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by the Milton Keynes Archaeological Officer, dated 29 January 2002, and the number and location of the trenches was agreed with the Archaeological Officer prior to the commencement of work.

2 **TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

The development area is bounded on the north by Chaffron Way (H7) and on the east by Brickhill Street (V10) (Fig 1). The area slopes from east to west and from north to south with the River Ouzel, a shallow tributary of the River Great Ouse, on its western side. Recent works have left the site covered with a network of small roads and, at the time of excavation, the areas between comprised very uneven ground that had evidently been subject to widespread surface disturbance from vehicle and plant tracking.

The natural geology of the area is variable consisting of a mix of yellow/orange sands and gravels interspersed with yellow blue clay to the south-east. The surface deposits are underlain by reddish Oxford Clay.

3 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook a desk-based assessment of the site in 2000 (NA 2000). This defined the presence of a possible Roman settlement based on SMR records of finds of pottery, coins and other metalwork. These had all been recorded under a single grid reference, leaving it uncertain as to where and how extensive this settlement was. In September 2000, metal detecting located a hoard of objects dating from the Bronze Age during machine stripping for the provision of access roads. Following this discovery, the northern part of the site was subject to geophysical survey and trial trenching to define the context of this isolated find (BCAS 2001a & b).

Only the northern half of the site was investigated, revealing features dating from the Iron Age and Romano-British periods. These included parts of a rectilinear enclosure system of Roman date with further associated ditch systems and, to the west, a possible trackway running north-south.

In June and October 2001, Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out magnetometer surveys across much of the southern part of the site. This located a sub-square enclosure and other linear ditches of suspected Iron Age/Roman date (NA 2001a & b).



#### 4 *METHODOLOGY*

A total of 32 trenches were opened using a JCB excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under archaeological supervision. The trenches were 2.0m wide by approximately 30m in length, and were positioned in accordance with the agreed trial trench layout (Fig 2). One proposed trench at the extreme north of the site was not excavated as fencing of the plot layout prevented access. A further two proposed trenches to the south were not excavated as information from English Partnerships staff indicated that these areas had been deeply disturbed by previous groundwork. The trenches were excavated either to the archaeological deposits or, where absent, the underlying natural.

The trenches were numbered from 20-51, to avoid repetition from previous work, which comprised trenched 1-18 (Fig 2). Following machining the exposed features were hand excavated and all features were sampled and the spoil metal detected. Recording was undertaken using standard Northamptonshire Archaeology pro-forma record sheets. Each trench was planned and appropriate sections drawn, with plan and features all levelled and related to Ordnance Datum. A photographic record was made comprising black and white negatives and colour transparencies.

#### 5 *THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE*

Of the 32 trenches excavated, sixteen contained archaeological remains, as discussed in detail below. The remaining sixteen trenches were either devoid of archaeological features or contained only recent field drains, or wheel ruts and disturbance created by the recent road construction. All trenches contained a brown/black humic topsoil, which overlaid a layer of subsoil mostly orange brown sandy clay but becoming brown in colour to the south.

All features cut natural geology. In addition to this, areas of modern disturbance and make-up layers were seen throughout the development area. Exceptions to this were trenches 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 46, where all subsoil has been removed and only re-laid topsoil was present over the natural clay. All the trench details are summarised in Appendix A1, with the more detailed archaeological context and feature descriptions in Appendix A2.

### 5.1 *TRENCHES LACKING SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGY*

A total of sixteen trenches (20, 22, 23, 26, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 50 and 51), contained only recent field drains, modern wheel ruts or vegetation damage. For context descriptions see Appendices.

### 5.2 *TRENCHES CONTAINING SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGY*

#### **Trench 21**

Trench 21 was aligned NE-SW and lay in the north-western part of the site across the line of the trackway previously located in trenches 7, 9 and 15 (Fig 3). Two gullies [2106] and [2108] were aligned N-S, and parallel to each other at 8.0m apart, and appear to be part of the trackway system. To the west there was further gully [2104], aligned E-W and terminating to the north. None of the features produced dating evidence.

#### **Trench 24**

Trench 24 was aligned NE-SW (Fig 3). To the east there were two shallow ditches [2403] and [2405] aligned N-S and set only 2.6m apart (Fig 6, Sections 1 and 2). In addition, there was a more substantial ditch to the west, [2411], with a later re-cut [2409]. This cut some earlier gullies [2415] and [2413]. These ditches form a more complex arrangement, but are on the projected line of the trackway seen to the north in trenches 7, 9, 21 and 15.

#### **Trench 25**

Trench 25 was aligned N-S and contained three ditches (Fig 3). The two most northerly ditches, [2511] and [2507], were parallel and 8.0m apart. They may define a right-angled turn to the east at the southern end of the N-S trackway seen in trenches 7, 9, 21, 15, and 24, and as suggested by the geophysics (Fig 2). Ditch [2511] contained an iron nail. To the south, ditch [2505] cut ditch [2507]. It probably runs E-W, as indicated by the geophysics, and may equate with ditch [2706] in Trench 27 to the west. It contained pottery dating to mid-first century AD. An irregular pit [2509] is probably a tree-hole.

### **Trench 27**

Trench 27 was aligned N-S and contained a single ditch [2706] (Fig 3). It was aligned E-W and may equate with ditch [2505] in Trench 25 to the east. It contained mid 1st century AD pottery and a piece of slag.

### **Trench 28**

Trench 28 was aligned N-S and contained two ditches both aligned E-W (Fig 3). Ditch [2804] was relatively shallow with a flat base. Ditch [2808] was of a similar shape and depth and contained mid 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery.

### **Trench 30**

Trench 30 was aligned NE-SW and contained two interlinking linear features (Fig 3). Gully [3004] was aligned E-W and was probably cut by a N-S aligned gully [3006]; the two features meeting at a right-angle at the edge of the trench. In both cases the recovered pottery dated to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. These features relate to the Roman enclosure system in the northern part of the site (Enclosure 1), partly defined by geophysical survey and previously trial trenched. This trench was sited to the immediate SW of the Bronze Age find spot to determine whether there might be a curvilinear ditch defining a round barrow. No such ditch was located.

### **Trench 31**

Trench 31 was aligned N-S and contained an L-shaped length of shallow gully [3105] (Fig 4). It is dated by a small amount of pottery to the 1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD. A pit or gully terminal [3107] lay near to the northern end of gully [3105]. A shallow, gully lay to the north of the trench. As with trench 30, these features were not detected by geophysical survey but appear to relate to the northern enclosure system (Enclosure 1). The southern end of the trench was deeply disturbed by modern road building activity.

### **Trench 36**

Trench 36 was aligned NE-SW and contained three gullies and a pit (Fig 4). Gully [3606] was aligned E-W and was cut by pit [3604], which measured 1.00m by 0.80m by 0.45m deep. It contained 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD pottery and an animal bone assemblage suggesting deliberate waste disposal. Gully [3608] was aligned E-W. It contained 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery and an animal bone assemblage suggesting deliberate waste disposal. Gully [3610] was shallow with a rounded base, and aligned N-S. These features appear to be related to the northern enclosure system identified by previous work (Enclosure 1). This trench was sited to the east of the Bronze Age find spot to test for the presence of a curvilinear ditch defining a possible round barrow. No such ditch was located.

### **Trench 37**

Trench 37 was aligned NW-SE and positioned to examine a large pond shown on a map of 1782 lying within a field called "Great Pasture" (Figs 2 and 4). The pond was excavated to a depth of 2.00m at the SE end of the trench, and the fill at this depth was still a modern backfill. This modern backfill comprised clay containing roadstone, brick and metal objects. The western edge of the pond was located but modern disturbance in this area had removed any evidence of the true silting history of the pond.

### **Trench 38**

Trench 38 was aligned N-S and contained a single enclosure ditch aligned NE-SW [3804] previously identified by the geophysical survey (Figs 2 and 4). The ditch was steep-sided and 0.64m deep. The upper fill was dark grey and very organic, containing 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD pottery. It may be a south-western outlier of the Enclosure 1 complex. This area was heavily stripped during earlier work, which may have removed any shallower features.

### **Trench 43**

Trench 43 was aligned E-W and contained a single shallow pit [4304] (Fig 4). This area was heavily stripped during road building, possibly truncating the archaeology.

#### Trench 45

Trench 45 was aligned NW-SE at the northern side of Enclosure 2 (Fig 5). The earliest feature was a shallow N-S gully [4516], which contained mid 1<sup>st</sup> century AD pottery. It was cut by E-W aligned ditch [4514], which was 0.55m deep and probably formed the northern arm of Enclosure 2, as defined by the geophysical survey. Two small gullies [4512] and [4510] lay to the south. None of these produced good dating evidence

To the south there was a re-cut ditch system, [4504], [4506] and [4508], that relates to a smaller enclosure set within the main enclosure. The pottery suggests that they date to the mid-1<sup>st</sup> to early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD.

#### Trench 46

Trench 46 was aligned E-W across the eastern arm of Enclosure 2 (Fig 5). The ditch [4604] was 0.85m wide by 0.30m deep. To the west there was a shallow pit [4604]. Neither of the features contained any finds, and obvious recent stripping of the area down to and possibly into natural may have removed some shallow features.

#### Trench 47

Trench 47 was aligned E-W across the western arm of Enclosure 2 (Fig 5). The western arm of the enclosure was probably formed by a ditch that had been recut at least twice, [4704], [4706] and [4708], and was up to 0.80m deep. The ditch fills contained pottery dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD.

A second ditch group lay only 2.50m to the west [4714], [4712] and [4710]. These were shallower at up to 0.35m deep, and contained a small amount of mid-1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD pottery, perhaps suggesting that they belong with the earliest phase of activity in this area.

#### Trench 48

Trenches 48 was aligned N-S across the southern arm of Enclosure 2 (Fig 5). The enclosure ditch was aligned E-W, and was up to 0.98m deep and had been recut [4812] and [4808]. The fill contained a range of domestic debris, including part of a tegula and 3<sup>rd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery.

A further two shallower ditches lay to the south on parallel alignments [4806] and [4804]. Of these [4806] contained some fired-clay oven lining and [4804] contained 3<sup>rd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> century pottery. These ditches probably relate to possible annexes to Enclosure 2 or nearby smaller enclosures, as defined by the geophysical survey.

#### **Trench 49**

Trench 49 was aligned E-W and was sited to the SE of Enclosure 2 to examine a series of ditches located by geophysical survey (Fig 5). Both N-S ditches were located. The eastern ditch [4915] was 0.50m deep, while the western ditch had been recut at least twice [4906], [4910] and [4908], and was up to 0.88m deep (Fig 6, Section 5). Ditch [4910] also cut posthole [4914]. The posthole contained pieces of Samian pottery dating to the mid-2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, while the fill of ditch [4908] produced a pottery assemblage typically of 2<sup>nd</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> century date, but perhaps containing some material continuing into the 4<sup>th</sup> century.

The ditch on a NE-SW alignment [4904] at the western end of the trench also relates to a ditch located by geophysical survey.

## **6 FINDS**

### **6.1 THE ROMAN POTTERY**

by Roy Friendship-Taylor

There is a total of 279 sherds of pottery weighing 29.53kg. The general condition of this group was poor. Many of the sherds had lost their external surfaces making it difficult to ascertain whether there had been any external decoration present. But overall there was nothing very remarkable about this assemblage. There was only one sherd of decorated Samian, of Hadrianic or Hadrianic/Antonine date, and only five small scraps of plain samian, all of which was in very poor condition. There was a small amount of evidence of cracked surfaces on the pottery caused by water action on some of the sherds (from trench 25 and trench 45).

The site seems to date from about the mid first century AD with the presence of the ubiquitous 'channel rim' jars and a fragment of a 'girth beaker' together with several sherds of late Iron Age character. There was a small amount of second to third century pottery. The

latter date was somewhat supported by the tile (tegula) fragment in a fabric which occurs at Piddington villa, Northamptonshire only in the third to fourth centuries. A little pottery is suggestive of a fourth century date, such as the Lower Nene Valley colour coat 'funnel neck beaker' (FNBKR) from context 4909 Trench 49.

To sum up, the site produced small amounts of pottery from most of the Roman period, starting with the late Iron Age/early Roman period. However, no primary assemblages were recovered, suggesting that the areas examined are all peripheral to the main focus, of focii, of occupation, although this impression is clearly partly a product of the limited sampling.

### Fabrics

<i>Fabric code</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	Calcite grit	Mid C1st
1A	Calcite grit	C4th type and forms
2	Grog and quartz	(LIA/ER) Late Iron Age/early Roman
3	Grog	Late Iron Age.
4	Grog and ironstone	Late Iron Age
5	Grog with sparse fine sand	?
6	Oxidised silty fabric eith occ. large quartz frags.	Late Iron Age/E Rom.
7	Grog with shaeil particles	Late Iron Age/E. Rom.
8	Grey sandy tempered with much quartz	Second century.
9	Oxford red colour coat	C3rd - C4th.
10	Colour coat - unknown source	C3rd - C4th
11	Grey ware with occ. coarse quartz grains of 1mm dia.	C2nd - C3rd
12	Organically tempered sometimes with a little calcite.	mid C1st
13	Red col. coat - imitation samian - Oxford.	Late C2nd - C3rd.
14	Verlamian region white sandy ware.	C2nd
15	Fine silty with grog - quite hard fired.	?C2nd
15A	Similar to 15 but a more 'open' fabric.	?C2nd
16	Fawn highly sand tempered.	?
17	Oven lining.	?mid C1st.
18	Fine silty with occ. quartz grains c5mm dia. and mica.	C2nd - C3rd.
19	Fine silty grey ware.	?
20	Fine silty oxidised ware.	?
21	SPG - <i>Soft Pink Grog</i>	C3rd - C4th
22	Heavy sand gritting and ironstone - up to 3mm.	?
23	Black Burnished category 1 (BB1)	C2nd - C3rd
24	Oxford (white) mortaria.	C3rd - C4th
25	Samian.	C2nd - C4
26	Black sandy	C2nd - C3rd
27	Hackley/quartz orange/grey fabric.	?

28	Tile with an organic temper.	C3rd - C4th
28A	Grog tempered tile fabric	C3rd - C4th
29	Fine sandy grey ware with a red/brown core.	?
30	Grey slipped fine sandy ware.	C3rd
31	Lower Nene Valley col. coat (LNVCC)	lateC3rd - C4th

**Attributes**

<i>Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
CJAR	Cordoned jar
CRJAR	Channel-rim jar
SQJAR	Square-rim jar
SJAR	Storage jar
HRJAR	Hook-rim jar
TRIRJAR	Triangula-rim jar
BWL	Bowl
FBWL	Imitation samian
RRBWL	Reeded-rim bowl
GBKR	Girth beaker
DISH	Dish
CYBWL	Cylindrical bowl
FNBKR	Funnel-rim beaker



Table 1: Pottery tabulation

Trench/ context	Fabric	Sherd no	Weight (g)	Vessel type	Attrib	Date	Notes
25 (2506)	1	9	61	CRJR	R,BO	mid C1	Channel-rim jar
	3	6	35	vessel	BO	mid C1	Evidence of waterlogging
	3	4	23	vessel	BO, BS	mid C1	
25 (2512)	2	5	7	vessel	BO	mid C1	late IA-early Roman
	2	2	22	CJAR	BO	mid C1	with burnished lattice
	1	1	6	vessel	BO	mid C1	
27 (2707)	3	1	2	vessel	BO	mid C1	
28 (2807)	3	1	2	vessel	BO	mid C1	
28 (2809)	1	27	61	SQJAR	R, BO	mid C1	Friendship-Taylor 1999 Rushden, fig 80, 5
	3	4	44	vessel	BS	mid C1	
	4	1	9	vessel	BS	mid C1	
	5	3	58	SJAR	BS	mid C1	Vertical combing
30 (3005)	6	2	13	HRJAR	R, BO	late C1	hook-rim jar
	1A	3	17	vessel	BO	C4	
	1	1	7	MORT	BWL	C4	Oxford red col.coat mortaria
	10	1	1	vessel	BO	?C3/4	
30 (3007)	1A	2	32	BWL	R	C4	2 joining sherds
31 (3106)	8	2	13	BWL	R, BO	C2	
	7	2	9	vessel	BO	mid C1	
31 (3108)	7	1	5	TRRJ	R	mid C1	Poss. copy continental type flagon
34 (3402)		3	1		BO		Iron Age
36 (3605)		11	1		RIM	?C2/3	
36 (3609)	15	3	3	vessel	B, BO	?C3/4	
	13	1	9	FBWL	BO	C3/4	red col.coat-imitat'n samian
38 (3805)	14	5	86	RRBW L	R, BO	C2	Verulamian region
	4	1	11	vessel	BO	?	may be residual
	1	11	102	vessel	BS, BO	?	
	15	1	1	vessel	BO	?	
	15A	1	8	JAR	R	C2	Possibly early C2
	16	1	7	vessel	BO	mid C1	
38 (3809)	1	3	23	JAR	R, BO	?	
44 (4402)	2	1	2	vessel	BO	mid C1	
	1	1	1	vess	BO	?	oven lining
45 (4505)	8	2	14	vessel	BO	?	
	21	1	26	vessel	BO	?	SPG
	23	1	11	vessel	BO	?	BB1
	20	1	4	vessel	BO	?	
45 (4507)	12	3	11	vessel	BS, BO	mid C1	
	18	1	2	vessel	BO	?	
	19	2	5	vessel	BO	C2	
	20	2	19	vessel	BO	?	
	4	6	98	vessel	BO	?	
	12	6	41	JAR	R, BO	earlyC2	
	11	2	6	vessel	BO	?	
	19	1	1	vessel	BO	?	

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

Trench/ context	Fabric	Sherd no	Weight (g)	Vessel type	Attrib	Date	Notes
45 (4511)	16	2	35	vessel	BO	?	
	3	1	19	vessel	BO	?	
	2	1	2	vessel	BO	?	
45 (4513)	21	1	86	vessel	BO	?	SPG
	22	2	11	vessel	BS	?	joining sherds
	5	3	13	vessel	BO	?	
	2	7	38	vessel	BO	?	
	1	1	1	vessel	BO	?	
45 (4513)	8	4	5	JAR	R,BO	?	
45 (4517)	2	1	24	GBKR	BO	mid C1	girth beaker-heavily scribed-water cracking
	4	2	17	vessel	BO	?midC1	
	5	1	5	vessel	BO	?midC1	
	2	2	9	vessel	BO	?	
47 (4705)	12	5	36	vessel	BO	?	
	16	6	58	vessel	BO, BS	?C2/3	burnished vertical stripes
	8	3	9	vessel	R, BO	?	
	14	1	12	vessel	BO	?	
47 (4706)	12	9	17	vessel	BS, BO	?	
	3	3	16	vessel	BO	?	
	8	2	3	vessel	BO	?	
	2	2	4	vessel	BO	?	
	24	1	126	MORT	BS	C3	White Oxford mortaria
47 (4707)	21	2	64	vessel	BO	?	
47 (4709)	12	7	35	JAR	R,BO	?	
	21	1	15	JAR	R	C3	SPG
	15	1	9	vessel	BO	?	
47 (4711)	2	5	31	JAR	R, BO	earlyC2	
	12	3	21	CRJAR	R,BO	mid C1	channel rim jar
47 (4713)	2	5	12	vessel	BO	?	
48 (4805)	23	1	39	DISH	BS	C3/4	BB1
48 (4807)	17	4	24	OVEN		?	oven lining
48 (4809)	25	2	1	vessel	BO	?	
	12	2	25	vessel	BO	?	
	9	1	12	BWL	R	C3	very badly eroded
	8	2	14	vessel	BO	?	
	3	1	6	vessel	BO	?	
	26	2	15	vessel	BO	?	
	27	1	4	vessel	BO	?	
	28	2	448	TILE		C3/4	tile-tegula
	12	1	4	vessel	BO	?	
	21	1	8	vessel	BO	?	
	29	1	6	vessel	BO	?	
	28	1	3	vessel	BO	?	very small frag
	26	1	2	vessel	BO	?	
6	1	1	vessel	BO	?		
48 (4811)	23	1	14	vessel	BO	?	
	2	1	6	vessel	BO	?	
49 (4904)	21	2	14	vessel	BO	?	
	16	1	13	JAR	R	?	
49 (4907)	28A	1	91	TILE		?	tile - imbrex?

Trench/ context	Fabric	Sherd no	Weight (g)	Vessel type	Attrib	Date	Notes
49 (4909)	25	1	9	BWL	BO	m-l C2	decorated samian Had/Ant-v worn
	30	3	26	CYBW L	R, BO	C2	grooved rim-cylindrical bwl-burnished curvilinear dec
	12	1	8	vessel	BO	?	
	21	1	7	vessel	BO	?	
	21	11	266	vessel	BO, BS	C3	
	26	2	18	DISH	R	C2/3	joining sherds
	23	1	23	DISH	R	C2/3	
	26	2	39	DISH	R	C2/3	
	12	3	12	vessel	BO	?	
	31	1	14	FNBK R	R	?C4	RP Symonds 1992, fig 31, 1447. Howe et al undated, fig5, 52
49 (4913)	12	1	26	?JAR	BS	C3	
49 94915)	25	3	4	vessel	BO	m-l C2	Had/Ant samian, v.scrappy
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>282</b>	<b>2811</b>				

## 6.2 OTHER FINDS

by Tora Hylton

The evaluation produced six iron objects. With the exception of one nail, the entire assemblage comprises undiagnostic fragments that are impossible to identify or date. The nail is complete with a T-shaped head and rectangular-sectioned shank, it displays similarities to Mannings Type 3 (1985, 136) (context 2512, ditch). In addition, a single piece of slag came from the fill of a ditch (2707) [2706].

## 6.3 WORKED FLINT

by Andy Chapman

A total of seven pieces of struck flint was recovered. Six of these are flakes from contexts (2406), (2512), (2809), (3609) and (4904). The other piece is a crude two-platform core (3605). The core is typical of later Neolithic/early Bronze Age technologies based on small flint nodules derived from river valley gravel deposits.

6.4 *ANIMAL BONE*

by Karen Deighton

A total of 1.589kg of animal bone from 12 contexts was rapidly scanned to gain an idea of the species present, evidence for butchery and the state of preservation. No evidence for butchery or burning was observed. Two instances of canid gnawing were noted. Fragmentation and surface abrasion were average.

*Table2: Number of contexts in which each animal species appears*

Equus	Bos	Sus	Ovicaprid	Canid
2	7	1	3	1

Two partial skeletons were noted. An adult ovicaprid was present in the subsoil (context 2703); recovery was only partial due to the poor preservation of the specimen. Limb bone and vertebra fragments from a dog skeleton were noted in context 2506 (ditch).

A typical range of domestic species was noted with an apparent dominance of cattle. The assemblage was too small to make any statement about body part representation other than that a range of body parts was present.

No evidence for neonates was noted. The Sus bone elements observed were unfused suggesting the presence of sub adult pigs.

Relatively large concentrations of bone were noted in two contexts, a pit (3605) and a gully (3609). This is probably indicative of deliberate deposition of domestic waste.

6.5 *ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE*

Two ten litre soil samples were processed using a siraf tank fitted with a 500-micron mesh and flot sieve. The resulting flots were dried and examined with a microscope at 10x magnification. Preservation was fairly poor with most grains exhibiting some fragmentation and abrasion.

*Sample 1 Context 4809*

Five cereal grains of wheat/barley (*Triticum/Hordeum*) type were noted. Two fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) and two indeterminate weed/wild species seeds were also present. The sample also produced occasional small (less than 5mm in any dimension) charcoal fragments.

*Sample 2 Context 4507*

Twelve cereal grains were observed including one possible spelt (*Triticum spelta*), one einkorn /emmer (*Triticum monococum /dicocum*) and five wheat /barley. Four fragments of chaff (1 possible spelt,) were also noted and a small pulse. Very occasional small charcoal fragments were also present.

Too little material was produced to characterise the arable economy of the site. Indeed the low frequency of charred grain and its provenance (i.e. ditch fills) would suggest accidental deposition or casual disposal. The level of identification possible is limited by the poor preservation of the grains. The samples examined were taken from two of the more promising contexts in terms of the presence of carbonised material, and the results suggest that the presence and preservation of carbonised remains is only poor to average.

## 7 DISCUSSION

The evaluation trenches located four areas of broad archaeological interest, as summarised below. These suggest a Roman presence in the area possibly in the form of native farming communities, but not of a particularly high social status. This occupation appears to be pre-dated by Iron Age activity, with the Roman sites possibly representing a direct continuation of settlement. The extents of the principal areas of archaeological interest that require the development of a mitigation strategy are shown on Fig 2.

Trenches in the area around the Bronze Age find did not located any evidence for the presence of a barrow into which this material may have been inserted. The find would therefore appear to have been within an isolated pit with no evident association with any pre-existing structure.

The evidence retrieved suggests that parts of the Roman sites are relatively well preserved, with the usual degree of truncation from previous centuries of ploughing that has left only cut features surviving. In some areas there has also been more recent truncation associated with the provision of the access roads. Previous finds recorded on the SMR and the results of trial excavation indicate that they will produce a range of pottery and metal finds, and perhaps some indication of local industrial activity. Both bone and carbonised seeds were recovered from Roman deposits, although preservation is only poor to average, indicating a limited potential for further defining the agricultural base of the settlements.

### 7.1 ENCLOSURE 1

To the north there is an area of Roman occupation defined by geophysical survey and by both episodes of trial trenching, Enclosure 1 (Fig 2). The ditches and gullies are largely aligned slightly off N-S and E-W alignments. The consistency of alignment suggests a phase of enclosure formation, with subsequent expansion and/or infilling respecting the original alignment. All the ditches and gullies in this area were less than 1.00m wide by less than 0.50m deep (with the exception of ditch [1507] in trench 15). There were no substantial amounts of building materials or artefacts recovered to suggest that any of the ditches and gullies may have been wall foundation trenches.

The form of settlement is unclear, but appears to have comprised a sub-rectangular enclosure or enclosures with numerous minor internal sub-divisions, some of which may relate to minor timber buildings. The confusion of plan may be a result of long-term use of area, with the small amounts of pottery recovered ranging from the first to the fourth centuries AD.

The surviving part of Enclosure 1 therefore contains significant potential to define the nature and chronology of a small settlement apparently in use from the first to fourth centuries. However, it must be noted that much of the eastern side has already been lost during road construction, so a complete plan is not recoverable. A small area at the north-eastern corner of the enclosure system survived to the east of the access road, and produced the only significant animal bone assemblages recovered from the site.

## 7.2 *TRACKWAY*

A probable trackway ran north-south and lay to the west of Enclosure 1. It comprised two parallel ditches, 1.00m wide by 0.30m deep, and set 8m apart. It ran for a length of at least 250m, from trench 7 in the north, to trench 25 in the south, where it turned onto a W-E alignment. Pottery from the ditches at the southern end of the trackway suggests a mid-first century AD date, making it contemporary with the first phase of Roman settlement.

The trackway is a fairly minor feature that has already been well defined in terms of its location and nature, even if its dating is less well defined. Its possible eastward continuation at the southern end has been lost in the access road construction.

## 7.3 *FIRST CENTURY SETTLEMENT*

The trackway ditches and other ditches in the western part of the site (Trenches 24-28 and 44) are dated to the mid first century AD. The ditches form no obvious pattern, and appear to define a system of large plots or fields. However, mid first century AD pottery was also recovered from features pre-dating Enclosure 2, suggesting that this activity was widely spread across the southern half of the site. Some contemporary material was also recovered from around Enclosure 1.

The first century activity, and the evidence for preceding Iron Age occupation, is sparse and widely scattered, with no evident focus of occupation. Defining its nature in any more detail is therefore problematic. However, this could probably be achieved most economically by its investigation within an area of later activity, such as Enclosure 1 and Enclosure 2. In both instances it has been shown that there are underlying first century features, and it is possible that they represent continuity of settlement from the first century onward.

## 7.4 *ENCLOSURE 2*

The southern enclosure has been quite clearly defined by geophysical survey as comprising a sub-square enclosure, c60m in diameter. Both the geophysical survey and the trial trenching also identified the presence of at least one internal enclosure and various smaller enclosures or annexes to the south. These ditches were more substantial than those of Enclosure 1, at from 0.50-1.00m deep. A small amount of building material and fired clay was recovered from the area, suggesting the presence of a timber-framed building with a ceramic tiled roof.

The dating evidence suggests that the use of the enclosure probably spanned the third to fourth centuries AD, but with earlier activity of the first and second centuries also present. This enclosure survives fully intact, with only some limited disturbance to the east from stripping of the topsoil and subsoil during recent groundworks, which have further truncated the natural surface.

Enclosure 2 represents the single most intact element of the earlier landscape, as both the full extent of the enclosure and adjacent elements of associated enclosures and boundary ditches have been largely unaffected by any recent groundworks. The enclosure therefore offers the potential to provide an example of a minor settlement enclosure in use through the late Roman period, and with underlying elements of earlier Roman, and perhaps Iron Age, activity.

The post-medieval pond investigated in Trench 37 did not reveal any information as to its construction and silting, and had been backfilled in the relatively recent past with clay and building debris.



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A1 SUMMARY TRENCH INFORMATION

Table 2: Trench summaries

<i>Trench Number</i>	<i>Dimension (m)</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Depth of natural &amp; archaeology below ground level (m)</i>
20	30 x 2	To examine blank area between previous trial trenches.	0.5-0.6
21	30 x 2	To attempt to locate the set of two gullies found in trench 7	0.5-0.6
22	30 x 2	To investigate blank areas in the geophysical survey	0.4-0.6
23	30 x 2	To investigate blank areas in the geophysical survey	0.6
24	30 x 2	To investigate blank areas in the geophysical survey.	0.8
25	30 x 2	To investigate two possible linear features identified by the geophysical survey.	0.7-0.8
26	30 x 2	To examine a small anomaly seen on geophysical survey.	0.95-1.05
27	30 x 2	To investigate blank areas in the geophysical survey.	0.85-0.9
28	30 x 2	To examine blank areas in the geophysical survey.	0.75
29	30 x 2	To examine the area to the NW of previous trenching for further features.	0.6
30	30 x 2	To investigate the area to NE of previous geophysics and trenching.	0.6
31	30 x 2	To investigate the area to south of previous geophysics and trenching.	0.5
32	30 x 2	To examine the low lying area of the site	0.35-0.55
33	30 x 2	To examine the low lying area of the site	0.7-0.9
34	30 x 2	To examine the low lying area of the site.	0.67-0.7
35	30 x 2	To investigate two small geophysical anomalies and link with previous trenching.	0.5

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<i>Trench Number</i>	<i>Dimension (m)</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Depth of natural &amp; archaeology below ground level (m)</i>
36	30 x 2	To investigate a group of linear features identified by the geophysical survey.	0.6
37	30 x 2	To examine the backfilled pond seen on a map of 1782, determining its construction and dating.	0.6
38	30 x 2	To investigate a linear anomaly identified by the geophysical survey.	0.55-0.6
39	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.25
40	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.4
41	30 x 2	To investigate an anomaly identified by the geophysical survey.	0.4
42	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.4
43	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.6
44	30 x 2	To investigate a linear feature identified by the geophysical survey.	0.6-0.8
45	30 x 2	To investigate a set of two enclosures identified by the geophysical survey.	0.5-0.6
46	30 x 2	To investigate the east side of an enclosure identified by the geophysical survey.	0.31-0.35
47	30 x 2	To investigate the west side of an enclosure identified by the geophysical survey.	0.5-0.6
48	30 x 2	To investigate the south side of an enclosure and smaller exterior enclosures identified by the geophysical survey.	0.5-0.55
49	30 x 2	To investigate a set of two linear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.	0.45-0.5
50	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.6-0.65
51	30 x 2	To examine a blank area in the geophysical survey.	0.5-0.6

A2 *Context Inventory*

*Abbreviations*

Cardinal points e.g. N-S = north to south

Context [...] identifies the cut

*Table 3. Context Inventory*

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
20	Topsoil	2001	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3-0.35m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2002	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.25m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2003	Yellow/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and small stones.	-	-
	Tree feature	[2004] 2005	Irregular sided feature cutting natural with shallow sloping sides and an uneven base (2m x 1.4m x 0.2m deep). Filled by orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of gravel pieces.	Natural vegetation feature	-
21	Topsoil	2101	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2102	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2103	Yellow/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and small stones.	-	-

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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Gully	[2104] 2105	Shallow linear gully cut into natural with sloping sides and a rounded base, extending in a N-S direction (0.7m wide by 0.1m deep). Filled by yellow brown silty clay with small stone inclusions.	- -	- -
	Gully	[2106] 2107	Shallow U-shaped linear gully extending E-W and cutting natural (0.78m wide and 0.26m deep). Filled by mid brown sandy clay with frequent stone inclusions and charcoal flecking.	Connects to gully [903] found in Trench 9 and gully [2405] in Trench 24 -	- -
	Gully	[2108] 2109	Shallow U-shaped linear gully extending E-W and cutting natural (2.4m wide x 0.6m deep). Filled by mid brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions, flint and charcoal flecking.	Connects to gully [906] found in Trench 9 and gully [1504] in Trench 15 -	- -
22	Topsoil	2201	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.2m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2202	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.4m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2203	Yellow/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and small stones.	-	-
23	Topsoil	2301	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-

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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Subsoil	2302	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2303	Yellow/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and small stones.	-	-
24	Topsoil	2401	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.2m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2402	Orange /brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.4m deep).	-	-
	Gully	[2403]	Shallow linear gully cutting natural and extending E-W, with sloping sides and a U-shaped profile (0.8m wide x 0.3m deep).	-	-
		2404	Filled by mid brown compact sandy clay with occasional stones and charcoal flecking.	-	Animal bone
	Gully	[2405]	Steep sided linear gully extending W-E with a V-shaped profile. Cutting natural (0.75m wide x 0.32m deep).	Possibly links to ditch [1504] in Trench 15	Struck flint flake
2406		Filled by mid brown sandy clay with stone and flint inclusions.			
Gully	[2407]	Linear gully cut into natural with steep sides and a shallow flat base. It extends in a NW-SE direction (0.8m wide by 0.1m deep).	-	-	
	2408	Filled by mid brown sandy clay with small stone and flint inclusions as well as charcoal flecking.	Cut by ditch [2411]	-	

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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Ditch	[2409]  2410	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep concave sides and a concave base (1.04m wide x 0.4m deep), it extends in a NW-SE direction.  Filled by dark brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones and flint fragments.	Later re-cut of ditch [2411]  -	-  -
	Ditch	[2411]  2412	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, extending in a NW-SE alignment (0.3m wide x 0.17m deep).  Filled by light brown sandy clay with occasional small stones and flint pieces.	Cut by ditch [2409] and may be the original cut of this ditch. Possibly links to gully [2106] in Trench 21  -	-  -
	Gully	[2413]  2414	Linear gully cut into natural extending in an N-S alignment, with steep sides and a flat base (0.6m wide x 0.2m deep). Butt ends to the west.  Filled by orange brown sandy clay with small stones and flint pieces.	-  -	-  -
	Gully	[2415]  2416	Linear gully cut into natural, aligned N-S, with a U-shaped profile and rounded base (0.5m wide x 0.26m deep).  Filled by orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones.	Appears to feed into ditch [2409] possibly a drainage function  -	-  -

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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
25	Topsoil	2501	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones and topped by rough turf (0.4 -0.5m deep).	Probably stripped and re-spread over builders rubble during road construction	-
	Modern make-up	2502	Orange yellow coarse gritty sand, probably builders sand and gravel (0.01-0.1m deep).	Debris from road construction	
	Subsoil	2503	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.3m deep).	Previously stripped to this level and then recovered	-
	Natural	2504	Yellow/orange/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and gravel pieces included.	-	-
	Ditch	[2505]  2506	Linear ditch cut into natural extending in an E-W alignment, with a steep sided profile and a rounded base (1.9m wide x 0.8m deep).  Filled by dark orange/brown silty clay with occasional small stones and flint as well as charcoal flecks.	Cuts ditch [2507]  May link to ditch [2404] in Trench 24  Relates to linear ditch seen on geophysical results	-  Pottery Animal bone



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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Ditch	[2507]  2508	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep sides and a flat base extending in an E-W alignment (1.2m wide x 0.7m deep).  Filled by orange brown sandy clay with small stones and flint pieces.	Relates to linear ditch seen on geophysical results  Cut by ditch [2505]	-  -
	Tree Feature	[2509]  2510	Cut of irregular feature into natural with shallow sloping sides and uneven base (0.55m wide x 0.3m deep).  Filled by dark orange brown sandy silty clay with inclusions of small stones and flint pieces.	Natural tree feature  -	-  -
	Ditch	[2511]  2512	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep sides, a V-shaped profile and aligned E-W (1.3m wide x 1m deep).  Filled by dark orange brown sandy clay with small stones and flint pieces and occasional flecks of charcoal.	Possibly links to ditch [2706] in Trench 27  Relates to linear ditch seen on geophysical results	Struck flint flake  Pottery Animal bone Fe nail (SF 6)
26	Topsoil	2601	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and lenses of builder's sand and gravel and topped by rough turf (0.3 -0.4m deep).	Probably re-laid topsoil	-
	Overlaid Topsoil	2602	Partially truncated topsoil of uneven depth consisting of dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.3m deep).	-  -	-  -
	Subsoil	2603	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.35-0.45m deep).	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Natural	2604	Yellow/orange/brown mottled sandy clay with flint and gravel pieces included.	-	-
	Tree Feature	[2605]	Irregular cut into natural with shallow, sloping sides and an uneven base (0.45m wide x 0.25m deep).	Natural tree feature	-
		2606	Filled by orange yellow mottled silty clay with small stone and flint inclusions.	-	-
27	Modern make-up	2701	Orange/brown sandy clay with lenses of dark brown sandy silt loam and occasional lumps of compact green/grey clay. It also has inclusions of modern concrete and tarmac (0.2-0.3m deep).	Overlaid rubbish relating to road building	-
	Topsoil	2702	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.15 -0.3m deep).	Truncated by previous topsoil stripping in places	-
	Subsoil	2703	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.1-0.4m deep).	Truncated by previous topsoil stripping in places	Animal bone
	Natural	2704	Pale red brown sandy clay with flint and gravel pieces included.	-	-
	Modern make-up	2705	Dark grey brown silt clay very mixed containing large lumps of dark brown silty loam with inclusions of small stones and flints. Mostly occurring to the south of the trench to a depth of 0.3-0.6m deep.	Disturbance related to recent road building	-
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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Ditch	[2706]  2707	Linear ditch extending E-W with steeply sloping sides and a flat base (1.6m wide x 0.55m deep).  Filled by dark brown sandy clay with inclusions of compact clay, fractured flint pieces and flecks of charcoal.	Possibly links to ditch [2511] in Trench 25.  -	Pottery Slag (SF 2)
28	Topsoil	2801	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.35 -0.4m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2802	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.35-0.45m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2803	Pale red brown sandy clay with flint and gravel pieces included.	-	-
	Ditch	[2804]  2805	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, aligned E-W (2m wide x 0.5m deep).  Filled by dark orange brown sandy clay with mottles of fine firm grey clay and inclusions of small stones and flint pieces.	-  -	-  -
	Field drain	[2806]  2807	Cut of machine trench for field drain aligned E-W (1m wide by 0.4m deep).  Filled by dark orange brown sandy clay mixed modern fill.	-  -	-  -
	Gully	[2808]  2809	Linear gully cut into natural with steep sides and a flat base, aligned E-W (2m wide x 0.45m deep).  Filled by dark orange brown sandy clay with flecks of grey compact clay and small stones and flint pieces.	-  -	Struck flint Pottery

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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
29	Topsoil	2901	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.4m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	2902	Orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2m deep).	-	-
	Natural	2903	Yellow/orange mixed sandy clay with inclusions of chalk, flint and small stones.	-	-
30	Topsoil	3001	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.35m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	3002	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.25m deep).	-	-
	Natural	3003	Yellow/orange mixed sandy clay with inclusions of chalk, flint and small stones interspersed with patches of blue clay.	-	-
	Ditch	[3004]	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (3.2m at least x 0.7m x 0.3m deep).	Cut by gully [3006]	Pottery Animal bone
		3005	Filled by brown/black sandy clay with inclusions of small stones and flint.	-	Fe ob (SF 5) -
Gully	[3006]	Cut of linear into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, aligned N-S (at least 7.5m x 0.5m x 0.15m deep).	Cuts ditch [3005]	Pottery	
	3007	Filled by mid dark brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones, flint pieces and charcoal flecks.	-	Fe nail	
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<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>	
	Modern make-up	3008	Mixed blue grey clay with brick pieces, roots and charcoal flecks. Occurs only to the east end of the trench.	Due to disturbance from road construction	-	
31	Topsoil	3101	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.2-0.4m deep).	-	-	
	Subsoil	3102	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.35m deep).	-	-	
	Modern make-up	3103	Mixed layer of topsoil, subsoil, abundant modern brick and concrete inclusions and dirty blue clay (0.5m deep). (Seen at south end of trench where it has been stripped down to the natural by modern road works).	Layer of material to the south of the trench created by road construction and stripping of area	Modern metal and wood (not retained)	
	Natural	3104	Yellow/orange mixed sandy clay with inclusions of chalk, flint and small stones interspersed with patches of blue clay.	-	-	
	Gully	[3105]	Linear gully cut into natural with shallow, sloping sides and a rounded base becoming almost V-shaped in profile to the south. It extended in an N-S direction (0.4-0.5m wide x 0.13-0.28m deep).	-	-	Pottery
		3106	Filled by mid brown sandy clay with occasional small stones and infrequent charcoal flecks.	-	-	
	Pit/butt end	[3107]	Cut of shallow sub-ovular feature into natural with shallowly sloping sides and a flat base (0.9m wide x 0.13m deep).	-	-	-
3108		Filled by orange/brown sandy clay with occasional small flint inclusions and charcoal flecks.	-	-	Pottery	
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MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Gully butt end	[3109]  3110	Cut into natural with shallowly sloping sides and a rounded base butt ending to the west. It extends N-S (0.4m wide x 0.1m deep).  Filled by orange/brown sandy clay with occasional small flint inclusions and charcoal flecks.	-  -	-  -
32	Topsoil	3201	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.25-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	3202	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.3m deep)	-	-
	Natural	3203	Orange/yellow silt sand with inclusions of flint nodules, gravel and sand patches.	-	-
33	Re-deposited topsoil	3301	Dark brown silty clay loam with mixed pieces of silty clay and coarse gritty sand included, overlain by rough turf (0.05-0.3m deep).	Topsoil was stripped and re-lain during road construction	-
	Modern makeup	3302	Orange/yellow coarse gritty sand with flint pieces (0.2-0.33m deep).	Layer of modern debris from road building	-
	Subsoil	3303	Orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones and flint pieces (0.35-0.45m deep).	Area previously stripped to this level during road construction	-
	Natural	3304	Dark orange/brown sandy silty clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
34	Topsoil	3401	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.25-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	3402	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.4-0.42m deep).	-	Pottery
	Natural	3403	Dark orange/brown sandy silty clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
35	Topsoil	3501	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	3502	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2m deep).	-	-
	Natural	3503	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
	Modern make-up	3504	Modern rubble including clay and chalk with roots 0.8m deep at the SW end changing to 0.1m deep 15m up the trench.	Modern debris from road building	-
36	Topsoil	3601	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	3602	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	3603	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Pit	[3604]  3605	Cut of sub-circular feature into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base (1m x 0.8m x 0.45m deep).  Filled by dark brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and stone pieces.	Cuts gully [3606]	Pottery Animal bone Flint core – possible Neolithic/bronze age
	Gully	[3606]  3607	Linear gully cut into natural with steep sides and a rounded base, extending in an E-W direction (at least 1.3m x 0.35m x 0.1m deep).  Filled by grey/brown/black sandy clay with inclusions of small stones, flints and charcoal flecks.	Cut by [3604]	-
	Gully	[3608]  3609	Linear gully cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, extending in an E-W alignment (at least 2.3m x 0.8m x 0.3m deep).  Filled by mid brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones, flint pieces and charcoal flecks.	Relates to linear gully seen on geophysical survey	Pottery Animal bone Struck flint flake
	Gully	[3610]  3611	Linear gully cut into natural with steep sides and a rounded base, extending in an E-W alignment (at least 2m x 0.9m x 0.35m deep).  Filled by orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones and roots.	Relates to linear feature seen on geophysical survey	-
37	Re-spread topsoil	3701	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, brick pieces and topped by rough turf (0.6m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-



MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Natural	3702	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
	Pond	[3703] 3704 3705	Cut of large sub-circular feature into natural with steeply sloping sides and a base of unknown shape or depth (at least 2m deep). Upper fill - mixed brown /grey clay with inclusions of flint pieces, rocks and bricks (1.2m deep). Lower fill - mixed grey/brown sandy clay with inclusions of road stone and metal objects (at least 0.8m deep).	Pond had been levelled and back filled with modern rubbish including road stone and bricks	- - -
38	Topsoil	3801	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.3-0.35m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Subsoil	3802	Orange/grey/brown stony sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones (0.2-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	3803	Mixed orange/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
	Ditch	[3804] 3805 3806	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat/rounded base, extending NE-SW (3.25m wide x 0.64m deep). Upper fill- grey/black sandy clay with inclusions of flint and small stones and finds of pottery and animal bones (0.35m deep). Lower fill - yellow/blue clay with flint pieces and charcoal flecks.	Previously identified by geophysical survey	Pottery Animal bone

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
39	Topsoil	3901	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.25m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Natural	3902	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
40	Topsoil	4001	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.4m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Natural	4002	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
41	Topsoil	4101	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.2-0.3m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Subsoil	4102	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.1-0.2m deep).	Disturbed by earlier stripping of topsoil	-
	Natural	4103	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-
42	Topsoil	4201	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.25-0.35m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Subsoil	4202	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.05-0.15m deep).	Disturbed by earlier stripping of topsoil	-
	Natural	4203	Mixed orange/yellow sandy clay with inclusions of flint and gravel pieces.	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
43	Topsoil	4301	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones and topped by rough turf (0.0.35-0.4m deep).	Re-spread topsoil disturbed by road construction	-
	Subsoil	4302	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.2-0.25m deep).	Disturbed by earlier stripping of topsoil	-
	Natural	4303	Dark orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of coarse gritty sand.	-	-
	Pit/butt end	[4304] 4305	Cut of sub-circular feature into natural with sloping sides and a rounded shallow base (0.7m x 0.6m x 0.2m deep). Filled by orange brown silty sand with flint pieces.	-	-
44	Topsoil	4401	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	4402	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.3-0.5m deep).	-	Pottery
	Natural	4403	Dark orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of coarse gritty sand.	-	-
45	Topsoil	4501	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	4502	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.2-0.3m deep).	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Natural	4503	Mixed orange sandy clay and clay patches.	-	-
	Ditch	[4504] 4505	Linear ditch cut into natural with shallowly sloping sides and a rounded base, extending in an E-W alignment (1.3m wide x 0.25m deep). Filled by mid brown sandy clay with occasional stone and flint inclusions.	Cut by ditch [4506] Previously identified by geophysical survey	Pottery Tile Fired clay
	Enclosure ditch	[4506] 4507	Linear ditch cut into natural with sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W 1.9m wide x 0.7m deep). Filled by dark brown sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions and frequent charcoal flecking.	Cuts ditches [4504] [4508] Previously identified by geophysical survey Environmental sample 2	Pottery Animal bone Fe Ob (SF 4)
	Ditch	[4508] 4509	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep sides and a flat base, extending E-W (0.75m wide x 0.35m deep). Filled by mid orange/brown sandy clay with occasional stone and flint inclusions.	Cut by [4506] Previously identified by geophysical survey	
	Ditch	[4510] 4511	Cut of linear into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending in an E-W alignment (0.6m wide x 0.2m deep). Filled by light brown/orange mottled sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking.	-	Pottery

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
45	Ditch	[4512] 4513	Linear ditch cut into natural with sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (0.6m wide x 0.2m deep).  Filled by mid brown/orange sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking.	Cuts gully [4516]	Pottery Animal bone Tile
	Enclosure ditch	[4514] 4515	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a U- shaped profile, extending E-W (1.15m wide x 0.55m deep).  Filled by dark brown mottled sandy clay with occasional stone inclusions and charcoal flecking.	Cuts gully [4516]  Previously identified by geophysical survey	
	Gully	[4516] 4517	Linear gully cut into natural with shallow, sloping sides and a rounded base getting shallower to the N, extending in an N-S alignment (0.45m wide x 0.15m deep).  Filled by mottled mid brown/orange/grey sandy clay with small stone inclusions.	Cut by ditches [4512] [4514]	Pottery
	Field drain	[4518] 4519	Cut of shallow U-shaped linear feature into natural, extending E-W (0.4m wide x 0.16m deep).  Dark brown/grey sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions.	Modern field drain	-
46	Topsoil	4601	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	Stripped and re-spread during road construction	-
	Subsoil	4602	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.01-0.05m deep).	Stripped to this layer during road construction – mostly removed	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
47	Natural	4603	Mixed orange sandy clay and blue grey clay patches.	-	-
	Ditch	[4604]	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a U-shaped profile, extending E-W (0.85m wide x 0.3m deep).	-	-
		4605	Filled by brown/ orange sandy clay with inclusions of small stones and flint pieces.		
	Pit	[4606]	Cut of sub-circular feature into natural with shallowly sloping sides and a flat base (0.7m x 0.7m x 0.1m deep).	-	-
		4607	Filled by brown/grey sandy clay with inclusions of small flint and stone pieces.		
	Topsoil	4701	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.25-0.35m deep).	-	Fired clay
	Subsoil	4702	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.15-0.35m deep).	-	-
	Natural	4703	Mixed orange sandy clay and blue grey clay patches.	-	-
Ditch	[4704]	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep/uneven sides and a flat base, extending N-S (1.45m wide x 0.82m deep).	Cut by ditch[4706] Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery Animal bone	
	4705	Filled by blue brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint pieces and pottery.			

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
48	Ditch	[4706] 4707	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending N-S (1.7m at least wide x 0.8m deep). Filled by orange brown clay sand with flint pieces.	Cut by ditch [4708] Cuts ditch [4704] Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery
	Ditch	[4708] 4709	Linear ditch cut cutting natural with steep sides and a flat base, extending N-S (1.1m wide by 0.5m deep). Filled by orange brown sandy clay with flint pieces.	Cuts ditch [4706] Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery
	Ditch	[4710] 4711	Linear ditch cut into natural with shallow, sloping sides and a rounded base, extending NW-SE (1.1m wide x 0.35m deep). Filled by orange brown sandy clay with gravel pieces.	Cut by ditch [4712]	Pottery
	Ditch	[4712] 4713	Linear ditch cut into natural with shallow, sloping sides and a rounded base, extending NW-SE (1.1m wide x 0.25m deep). Filled by orange brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint pieces.	Cuts ditch [4710]	Pottery
	Ditch	[4714] 4715	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep sides and a flat base, extending N-S (0.7m wide x 0.28m deep). Filled by brown /orange sandy clay with flint pieces.	-	-
	Topsoil	4801	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.15-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	4802	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.2-0.4m deep).	-	-

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Natural	4803	Mixed orange sandy clay with gravel and flint inclusions.	-	-
	Enclosure ditch	[4804] 4805	Linear ditch cut into natural with steep sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (0.53m wide x 0.3m deep). Filled by dark brown mottled sandy clay with inclusions of flint and charcoal flecks.	Cuts posthole [4815] Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery
	Ditch	[4806] 4807	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (1.25m wide x 0.58m deep). Filled by dark brown/grey sandy clay with frequent small stone inclusions and charcoal flecking.	Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery
	Ditch	[4808] 4809	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (3m wide x 0.98m deep). Filled by dark grey/brown sandy clay with inclusions of flint pieces and large boulders.	Cuts gully [4813] Previously identified on geophysical survey Environmental sample 1	Pottery Animal bone Tile
	Tree feature	[4810] 4811	Cut of irregular, elongated feature into natural with irregular sides and base (3m x 0.7m x 0.1m deep). Filled by brown/grey sandy clay with small stones and charcoal flecks.	-	Pottery Fired clay
	Gully	[4812] 4813	Linear gully cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending E-W (at least 0.3m wide by 0.28m deep). Filled by brown/grey sandy clay with inclusions of small stones.	Cut by ditch [4808] Previously identified on geophysical survey	-



MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
49	Posthole	[4814]  4815	Cut of sub-circular feature into natural with shallow sloping sides and a flat base (0.3m x 0.3m x 0.1m deep).  Filled by brown/orange sand with inclusions of occasional small stones.	Cut by ditch [4804]	-
	Topsoil	4901	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.2m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	4902	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.25-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	4903	Mixed orange sandy clay with gravel and flint inclusions.	-	-
	Ditch	[4904]  4905	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, extending NE-SW (1.4m at least wide x 0.6m deep).  Filled by brown/orange silty clay with flint pieces.	Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery Tile Struck flint flake
	Ditch	[4906]  4907	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending N-S (1.5m at least wide x 0.8m deep).  Filled by orange/brown silty sand with inclusions of small stone and flint pieces.	Cut by ditch [4908]  Previously identified on geophysical survey	Tile
	Ditch	[4908]  4909	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending N-S (1.3m wide x 0.75m deep).  Filled by brown/black/orange silty clay with inclusions of small flint pieces and small stones.	Cuts ditches [4906] [4910]  Previously identified on geophysical survey	Fired clay Fe objects (SF 1,3,7) Pottery

MONKSTON PARK, MILTON KEYNES

<i>Trench No.</i>	<i>Feature Type</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>Artefact types</i>
	Ditch	[4910] 4911	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, extending N-S (1.7m at least wide x 0.9m deep). Filled by brown/orange silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces.	Cut by ditch [4908] Previously identified on geophysical survey	
	Ditch	[4912] 4913	Linear ditch cut into natural with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, extending N-S (2.5m wide x 0.8m deep). Filled by orange/brown sandy clay with flint pieces.	Previously identified on geophysical survey	Pottery
	Posthole	[4914] 4915	Cut of sub-circular feature into natural with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base (0.7m x 0.7m x 0.5m deep). Filled by brown/orange silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones.	Cut by ditch [4910]	Roman Pottery
50	Topsoil	5001	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.3m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	5002	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.3-0.35m deep).	-	-
	Natural	5003	Mixed orange sandy clay with gravel and flint inclusions.	-	-
51	Topsoil	5101	Dark brown sandy clay loam, with inclusions of flint, small stones, and topped by rough turf (0.3-0.4m deep).	-	-
	Subsoil	5102	Orange brown silty sand with inclusions of flint pieces and small stones (0.1-0.3m deep).	-	-
	Natural	5103	Mixed orange sandy clay with gravel and flint inclusions.	-	-

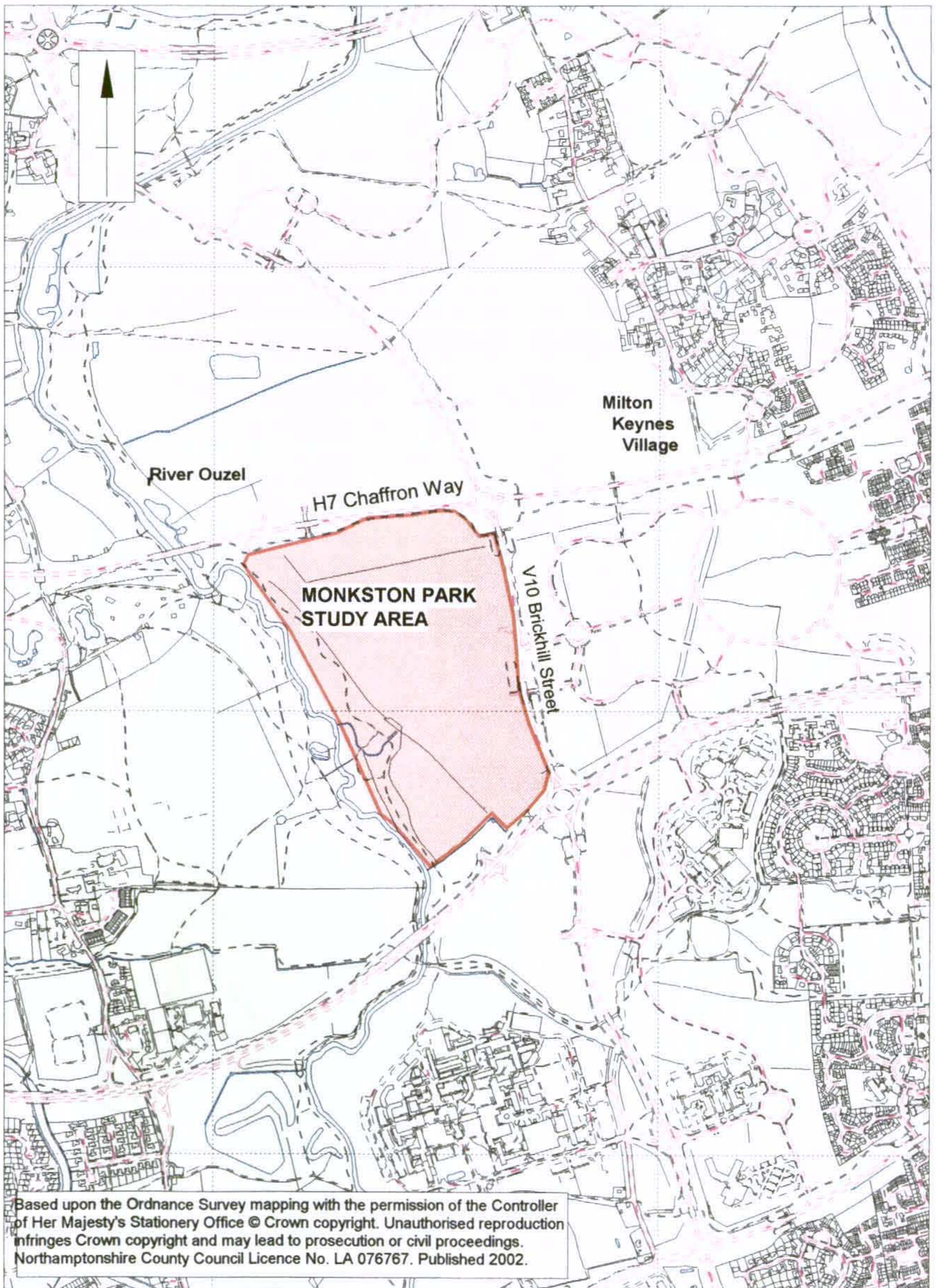
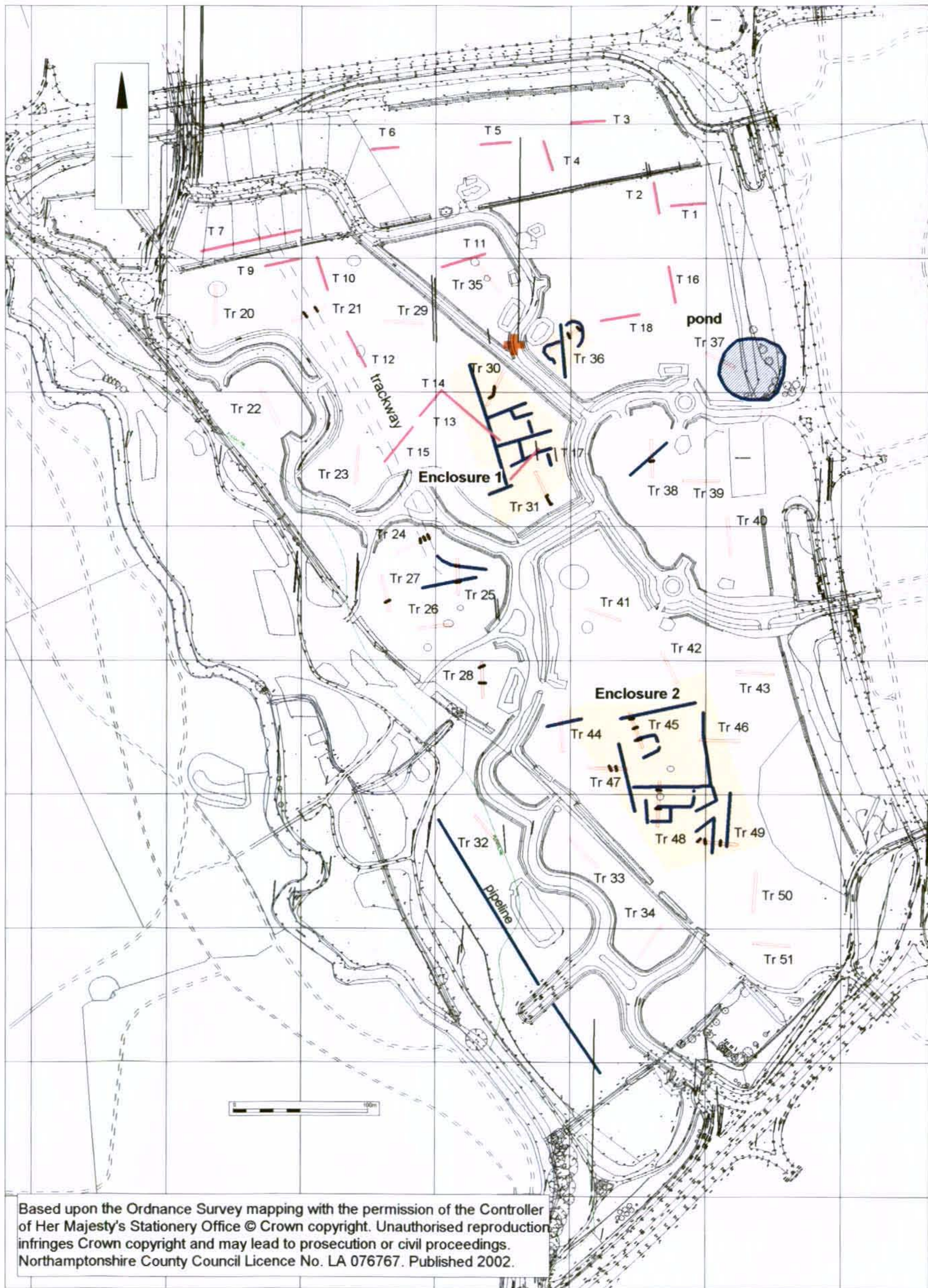


Fig 1: Monkston Park, Milton Keynes



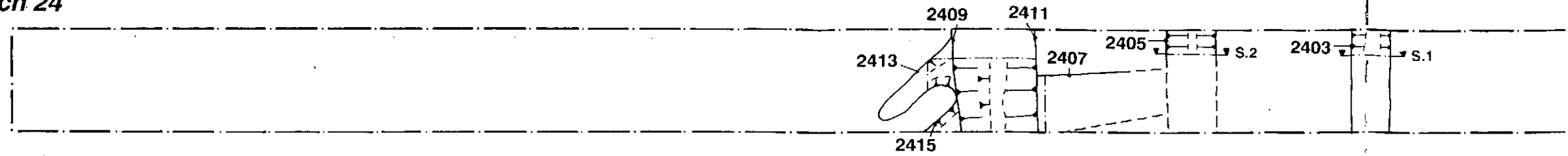
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- geophysics
- areas of archaeological interest
- - - new trenches (Tr 20-Tr 51)
- + bronze age find

Fig 2: Monkston Park, Milton Keynes

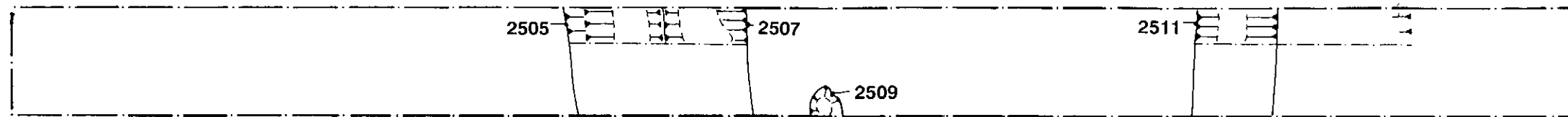
Trench 21



Trench 24



Trench 25



Trench 27



Trench 28



Trench 30

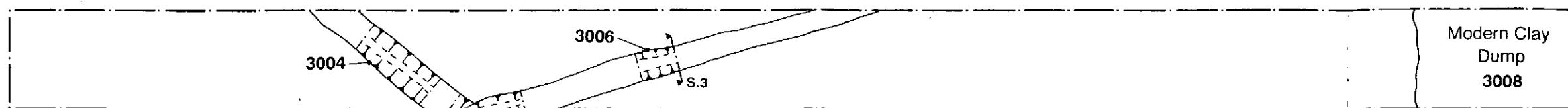
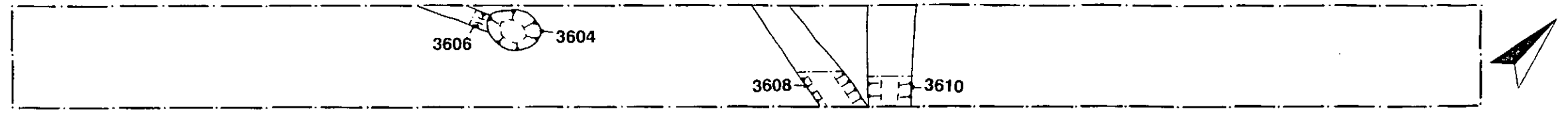


Fig. 3

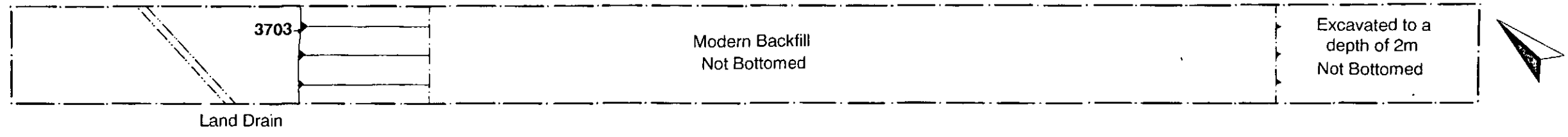
**Trench 31**



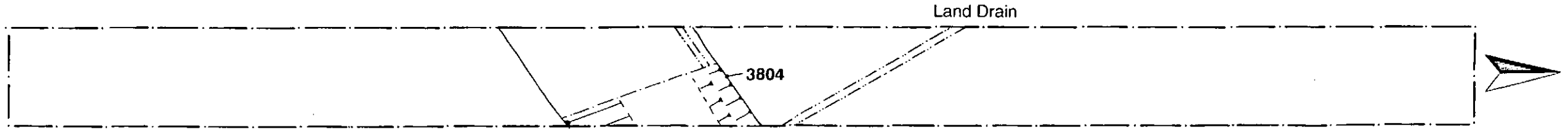
**Trench 36**



**Trench 37**



**Trench 38**



**Trench 43**

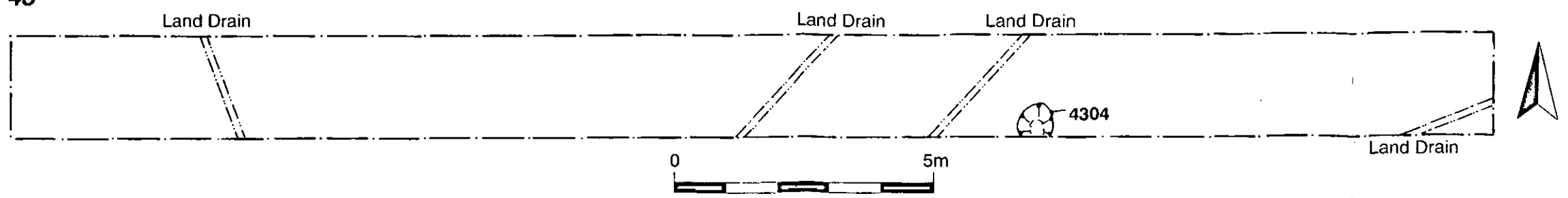
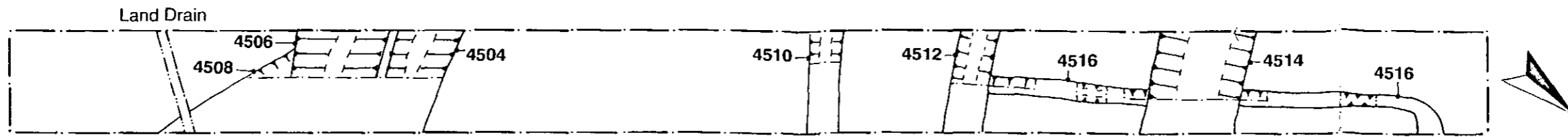
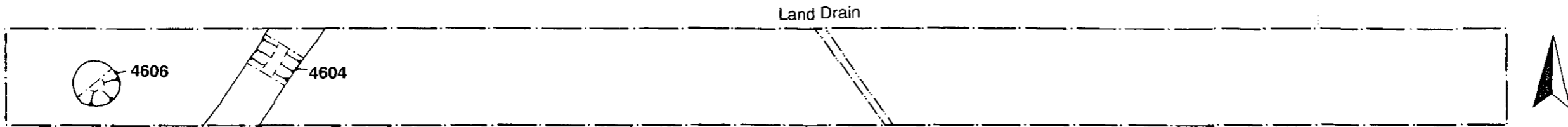


Fig. 4

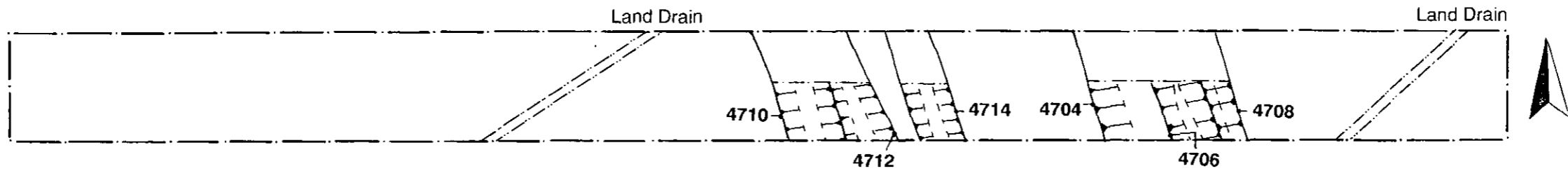
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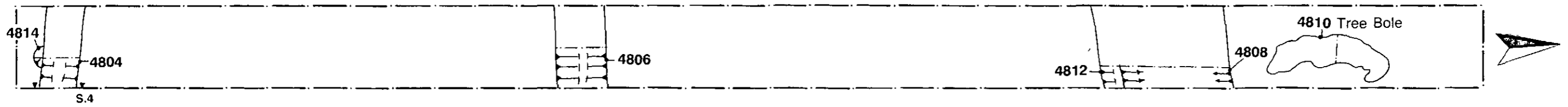
**Trench 46**



**Trench 47**



**Trench 48**



**Trench 49**

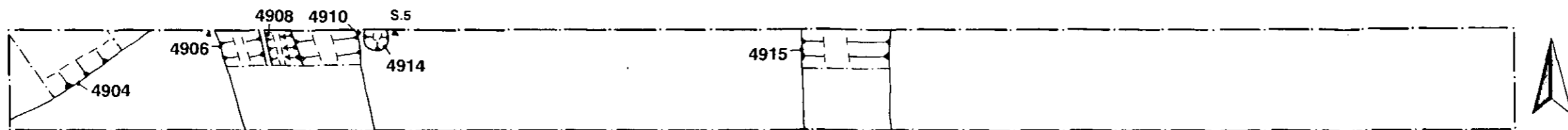
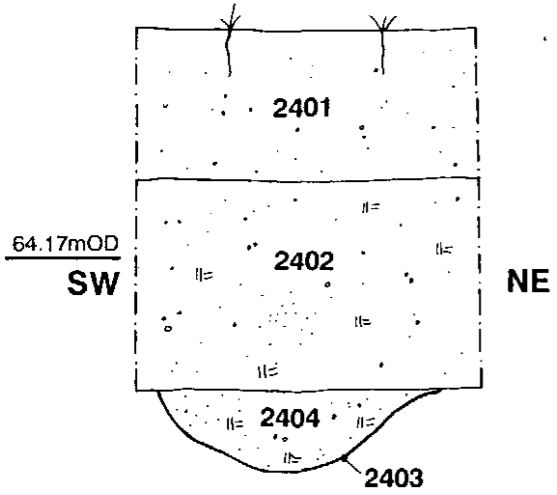
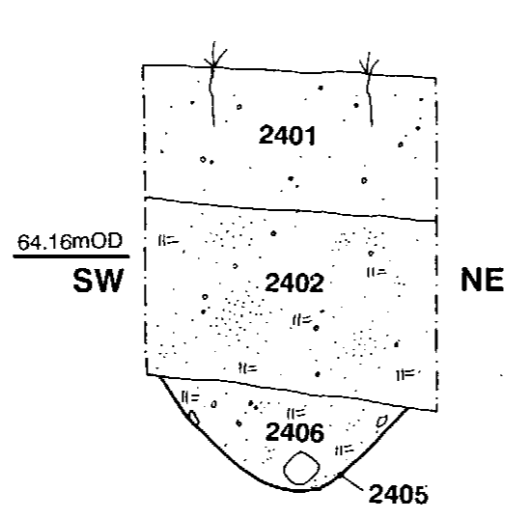


Fig. 5

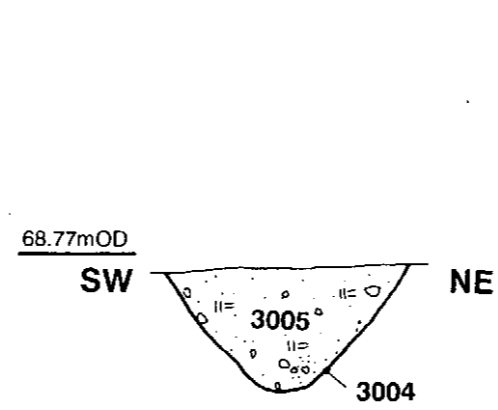
Section 1



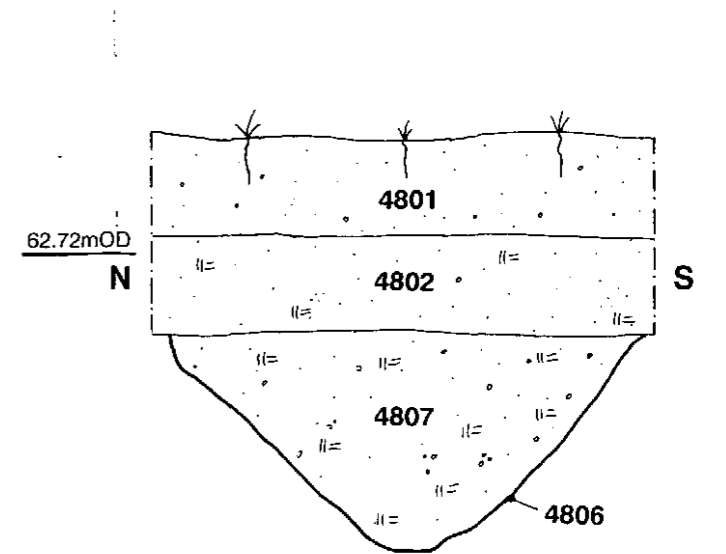
Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Section 5

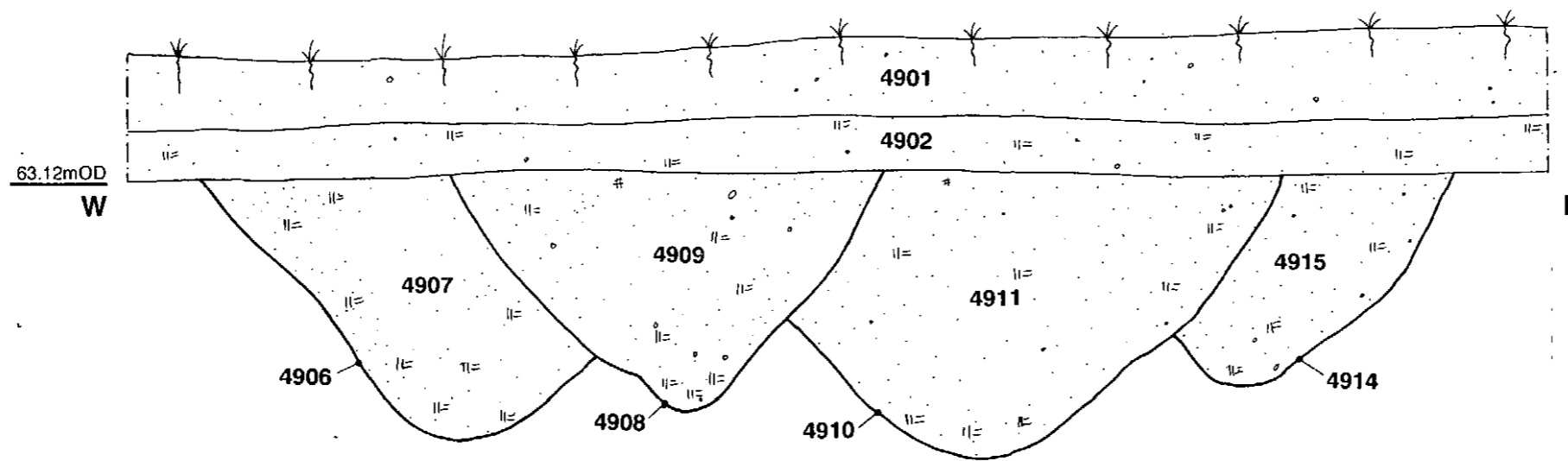


Fig. 6





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