



Archaeological Field Unit

**Land East of St Neots  
Cambridgeshire**

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**Cambridgeshire County Council**

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**Evaluation on Land East of St Neots  
Cambridgeshire**

**TL 520100/260600**

**Mark Hinman**

**2004**

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## **SUMMARY**

*Between the 27th of October and the 8th of December 2003 the Archaeological Field Unit (AFU) of Cambridgeshire County Council undertook the evaluation of seven fields of ploughed arable land covering 51ha, to the east of St Neots. The work was commissioned by CPM Environmental Planning and Design on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd. This investigation was carried out following a desk-based assessment (CPM 1998), geophysical survey (WYAS 2002) and fieldwalking (AFU 2002) in order to add to the current level of information available relating to the character, date and possible extent of those archaeological remains present within the proposed development area.*

*Trial trenching revealed both a greater intensity and more extensive survival of archaeological remains than indicated by the results of either geophysical survey or fieldwalking providing, evidence of a human presence in this area from the Neolithic to modern times.*

*The southern limit of the site was located on roughly level low lying ground at 20m OD rising gently through the central portion of the area to a level plateau at 40m OD to the north. The natural topography provides a relatively sheltered, well drained, south-facing location, the physical characteristics of which seem to have informed successive periods of land use, both for settlement and agriculture, from at least as early as the Iron Age to the present day.*

*By far the most intensive area of activity was concentrated within the south-western quadrant of the proposed development, around the extant farm. It primarily consisted of evidence for late pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) and Roman occupation. In addition traces of a Bronze Age presence (redeposited pottery) and hand made ceramics that may be Early Saxon in date were recovered from within the core of this settlement related activity.*

*Further evidence for Bronze Age and earlier Iron Age agricultural activity was present within the northern and eastern portions of the development. Mid to Late Iron Age settlement related activity was identified towards the southern boundary of the site. Iron Age and Romano-British activity was revealed along the crest of the south-facing slope which consisted of a series of substantial enclosures, possibly associated with the settlement core down-slope to the south-west.*

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**Evaluation of Trenches on Land East of St Neots**  
**TL 520100/260600**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

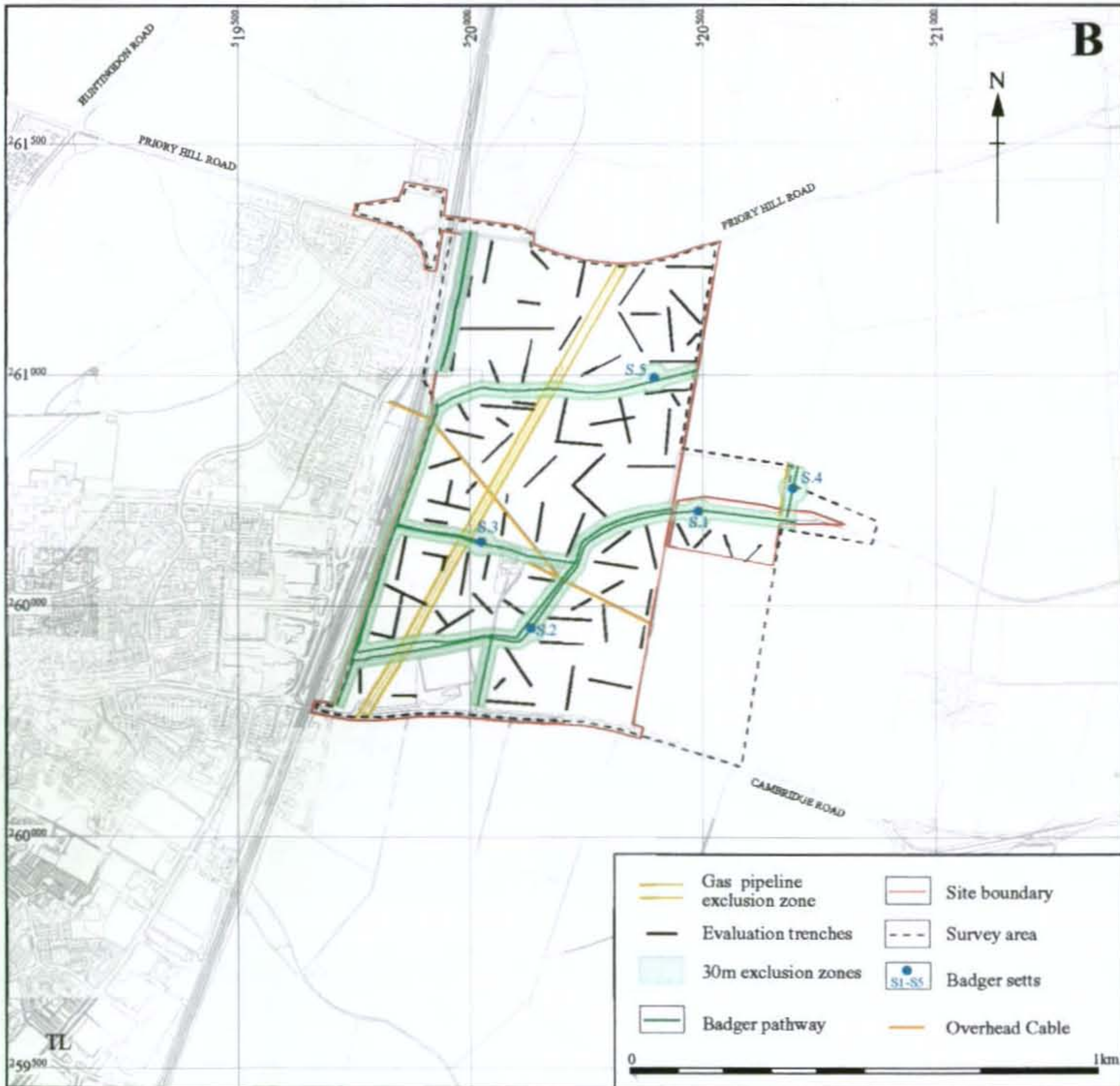
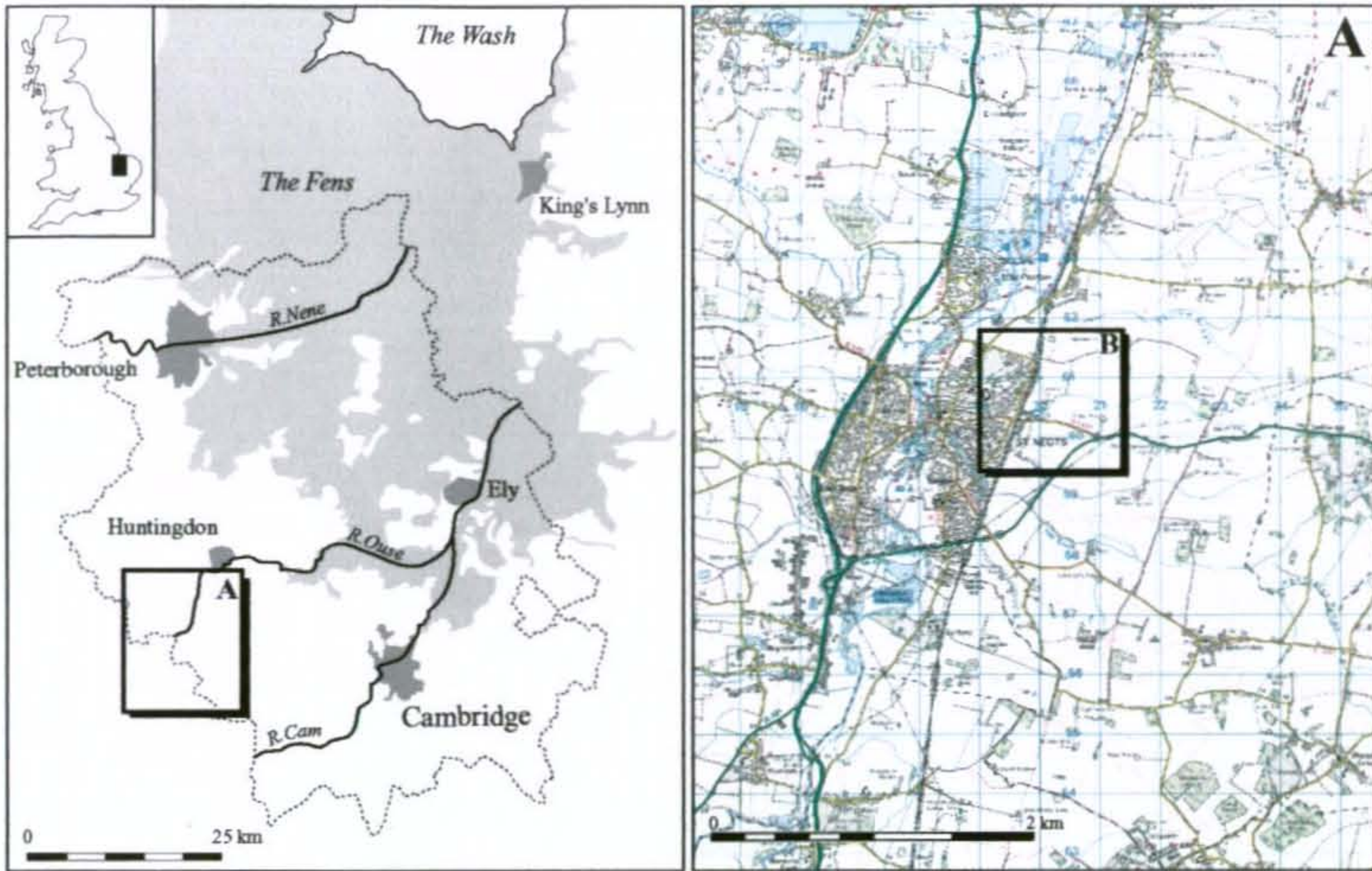
The Archaeological Field Unit (AFU) of Cambridgeshire County Council was commissioned by CPM Environmental Planning and Design (CPM) on behalf of JJ Gallagher Ltd to carry out a programme of evaluation by trial trenching on land to the east of St Neots (Fig. 1). The total area of investigation was 50.4ha encompassing a total of seven separate fields (Fig. 2). All fields (Nos 1-7) were evaluated identifying a range of sites from different periods, with different characteristics and states of preservation. No significant archaeological remains were encountered within Fields 1 or 6.

Prior to evaluation an archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out, (CPM 1998) followed by a geophysical (fluxgate gradiometer) survey (WYAS 2002) and fieldwalking (Whitehead 2003, fig. 19), within the current area of investigation. The geophysical survey comprised magnetic scanning of the whole site followed by detailed sample survey totalling 8ha. Two typologically different archaeological sites were identified within the western half of the site. Evidence for ridge and furrow activity was identified in other parts of the site. Fieldwalking (Whitehead 2003) identified finds and sites dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods with evidence for Romano-British settlement concentrated within the south-western quadrant of the proposed development, reflecting the results of the geophysical survey.

**2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The geology of the site consists of Oxford Clay and Kellaway Beds overlain by Chalky Till of the Hanslope Association. River terrace gravels are present within the north-western corner of the site.

The southern limit of the site was located on roughly level low lying ground at 20 m OD rising gently through the central portion of the area to a level plateau at 40m OD to the north. The natural topography provides a relatively sheltered, well drained, south-facing location.



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**Figure 1** Location of trenches.

### 3 THE SITE IN CONTEXT

A detailed archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out prior to evaluation (CPM 1998) and should be consulted in conjunction with this report. In order to place the results of this evaluation more fully into context it is necessary to consider the nature and range of past archaeological findings within the area in terms of their landscape setting.

The study area centred on Love's Farm is close to the eastern edge of the Great Ouse valley with its light gravel/sandy soils and the western edge of the heavier chalky till of west Cambridgeshire. As noted above, the natural topography of the site provides a relatively sheltered, well drained, south-facing location, the physical characteristics of which seem to have informed successive periods of land use both for settlement and agriculture from at least as early as the Iron Age to the present day. The dominant position of this ridge with respect to known concentrations of earlier prehistoric activity such as the ritual complex at Eynesbury, visible from the high ground of the development to the south west, is also likely to have had a significant influence on the nature and range of activities on the higher ground at this location.

#### 3.1 Early Prehistoric

Evidence for very early prehistoric activity in the study area has thus far been limited to a small number of residual Mesolithic and Neolithic flints.

##### *Neolithic to Bronze Age*

The role of the Ouse corridor in the development of trade and continental contact is noted by Malim (1998) with many examples of surviving evidence of Neolithic occupation, mainly in the form of a developing ritual landscape. There is also an increase in finds along the Ouse corridor dateable to this period suggesting the development of riverside activity. It has also been suggested that an early fording point just north-west of the study site at Little Paxton was in use at this time (Alexander 1992). This would have supported both communication and movement of goods along the valley corridor as well as east-west trade from the Midlands and East Anglia.

A number of ritual complexes were located on the light sandy soils of the Ouse valley including one of the largest and most important in the region at Eynesbury (Kemp 1993, 1996, 1997; Ellis 2002). This important site is seen as an integral part of the ritual landscape of the Neolithic and Bronze Age along the Ouse valley (Malim 2000). Other examples of this form of landscape are found at the Buckden/Diddington complex (Jones & Ferris 1994; Jones 1995, 1998; Evans 1997) and at Brampton, where the complex included ceremonial monuments such as mortuary enclosures, cursus, hengiform monuments and ring ditches spanning several hundred years (White 1969; Malim 1990; Macaulay 1993). Further activity



has been noted at Huntingdon Race Course where boundary ditches and a Bronze Age co-axial fieldsystem were recorded (Macaulay 1994a) and more recently at Bob's Wood where occasional flints, a Neolithic pit and several Bronze age features were excavated (Hinman 2000).

Although early prehistoric finds are rare on the heavier clay soils, a number of Bronze Age finds in the surrounding area have revealed evidence for settlement occupation at Cambourne (Wessex 2003). Closer to the study area, excavation in and around Papworth has revealed evidence of Bronze Age into Iron Age settlement occupation (Casa Hatton 2002; Hatton & Kemp 2002; Kenney 2000; SMR 13049). This evidence had previously gone undetected through earlier air reconnaissance or chance discoveries and offers an opportunity to throw new light on the presence of activity on the clays in West Cambridgeshire, traditionally interpreted as unsuitable for prehistoric occupation.

### 3.2 Iron Age

Many of the earlier prehistoric sites along the Ouse valley continued to be used in the Iron Age period and include a Late Iron Age settlement enclosure in Miller Way, Brampton (White 1969) and another adjacent settlement enclosure (Malim & Mitchell 1992). At Eynesbury (Kemp 1996; Wessex Archaeology 2002) and Brampton (Malim & Mitchell 1993) this continuity of activity developed from a ritual/ceremonial use of the landscape into what is currently interpreted as a more agricultural one.

At Papworth Everard (Kenny 2000; Hatton & Kemp 2002) there was evidence for Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity on the marginal heavy clay soils with an organized landscape of field boundaries incorporating possible mortuary enclosures and stockades.

North of Love's Farm, is the Middle to Late Iron Age settlement site at Bob's Wood, Hinchingsbrooke (Hinman 2000 and forthcoming) which was established on a hilltop on the heavier soils overlooking Alconbury Brook, a tributary of the Ouse.

This apparent trend to move onto the heavier soils is observed elsewhere in Britain, and may point to increased pressure on land from the later Neolithic period onwards. With the use of land for agriculture increasing it is not surprising that the heavy soils show increasing evidence for multiphase use with many Iron Age farmstead complexes continuing well into the Romano-British period, as found east of Love's Farm at Cambourne (Wessex Archaeology 2003); here earlier settlement and field systems seem to have been part of an organized landscape of economically specialized settlements. These were located at regular intervals of *c.*400m, along possible track-ways, on the south-east facing slope of a plateau.

### 3.3 Romano-British

Although the use of the Ouse corridor during the Roman period continued with road and river communications, so too did the development and land re-organisation on the heavier soils where there is also a degree of consistency of settlement from the Late Iron Age into Roman period settlement.

Excavations in the area have confirmed the presence of many Iron Age sites continuing into the Roman period. Excavations along the Ouse valley have recorded occupation sites stretching from Huntingdon (Malim 1990; Hinman 1997, 2000) to Brampton (Malim & Mitchell 1993), to Paxton (Greenfield 1968; Alexander 1992) and Eynesbury (Alexander 1993; Kemp 1993, 1997; Macaulay 1994b).

The scale of Romano-British infrastructure and wealth found in the area is also evidenced by the number of find spots recorded in the SMR records and sites excavated.

Evidence from sites to the east of the Ouse such as the multi-period site at Bob's Wood (Hinman 2000 and forthcoming) suggests that there was a mixed agricultural system operating within the area during the period. Stock enclosures for cattle and possibly sheep, lying adjacent to Ermine Street would suggest animals were an important part of the agricultural system and that a service industry based on this had developed, perhaps to support the Roman town of Godmanchester.

A similar situation applies to recent excavations on the Boulder Clay at Cambourne (Wessex Archaeology 2003) where it was only in the later part of the Roman period that re-organisation brought about a change in the landscape, with a round cellular arrangement of fieldsystems and enclosures being replaced by a rectilinear one. Excavations at Caldecote (Abrams 2000; Kenney 2001) also produced evidence for a multiphase Iron Age farmstead complex, which continued in use into the Roman period. These remains again seem to have been part of an organised landscape of economically specialised settlements.

Closer to the study site and east of St Neots is the Roman road that runs between Sandy and Godmanchester (Margary 1967). The nearest east-west crossing point of the river is thought to be a few hundred metres north of the medieval bridge in the area of Islands Common.

### 3.4 Anglo-Saxon

Overall, artefactual remains dateable to the Anglo-Saxon period in the vicinity of the site remain fairly elusive. There is evidence of Early Saxon occupation in the St Neots area and burials at Brampton (Herne 1984). There is increasing evidence for the development of St Neots during Middle and Late Saxon period. Certainly by the medieval period St Neots was well established within the parish of Eynesbury (Addyman 1973).

Although finds of Anglo-Saxon date are not extensive there is every reason to believe that the light soils of the Ouse valley were still exploited. A similar assertion for the use of the heavier clay soils during this period is more difficult to support, with little evidence from excavations at Papworth Everard (Alexander 1998; Kenny 2000; Casa Hatton 2002; Hatton & Kemp 2002), Caldecote (Abrams 2000; Kenny 2001) and Cambourne (Wessex Archaeology 2003). Indeed at Caldecote (Wessex Archaeology 2003) it would appear that the area was abandoned during this period and reverted to open fields systems during medieval times. Limited agricultural activity of the period is tentatively suggested due to the presence of stratigraphically late but currently undated features recorded during the recent excavations at Bob's Wood, Hinchinbrooke (Hinman forthcoming). The relative paucity of Anglo-Saxon artefactual remains at that site again serves to highlight the difficulties in recovering conclusive proof of activity during the early part of the period.

### **3.5 Medieval**

During the Middle Ages most of the land in the area was open fields subdivided into furlongs. Ridge and furrow still survives as discrete earthwork remains and cropmarks visible on aerial photographs.

The surrounding landscape including the study area preserved evidence of an extensive ridge and furrow system which dominated the medieval landscape. This was shown by traces of furrows plotted from aerial photographs, geophysical survey and evidence within the evaluation trenches. In common with many of the ridge and furrow systems of the East Midlands, the furrows run with the slope and helped to drain the clay soils. It is clear from the evidence that the study area formed part of a medieval field system.

### **3.6 Post-Medieval and Modern**

During the post-medieval and modern periods the area of investigation has continued to be used for agriculture. Interestingly the land use during this period reflects that of the earlier Iron Age and Romano-British populations.

#### 4 METHODOLOGY

The total area of investigation was 50.4 ha. A total of 76 trial trenches (total length 5770m) were excavated by machine to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever was encountered first (Fig. 2). A 360° tracked excavator with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket was used under constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

The positioning of the trenches was designed to provide a uniform level of cover across the area and to test, where relevant, the validity of geophysics. Constraints on the placement of trenches included underground pipes (water and gas) overhead cables and badger runs identified as part of the CPM study.

Trench locations were surveyed using a Leica TCR 705 Total Station Theodolite using n4ce and Leica Survey Office software. The individual trench plans showing feature locations were hand drawn, at a scale of 1:100 prior to incorporation with the surveying data. The trenches were cleaned by hand, planned and photographed, and the features recorded using the AFU's single context recording system. Targeted excavation of surviving deposits and features was conducted to characterise the nature and extent of the surviving archaeological remains.

A range of features did not contain diagnostic artefactual assemblages despite excavation. In certain cases it is possible to suggest links to other dateable features, phases or periods by virtue of stratigraphic relationships, feature/fill type, morphology or alignment. A reliance on fill types and/or alignments to attempt to obtain a fuller picture of this landscape, whilst fraught with potential pitfalls, gains a degree of validity only as a result of the large scale of this particular evaluation. A range of features planned, recorded and excavated were interpreted as having been formed by 'natural' processes by virtue of their irregular shape in plan and sterile, artefact free fills. Geological features were not specifically highlighted but tree root bowls, watercourses (paleochannels) and depressions within the underlying geology of the site were recorded when present and are presented under the heading natural features within the main body of the report. Should further excavation take place it may be possible to gain a greater understanding of the significance of such features but to date no evidence of human intervention whether in the form of tree clearance or exploitation of watercourses has been identified. The lack of dateable artefactual assemblages means that it was not possible to ascribe these features to specific periods in the development of the site at this stage.

Relative artefact densities across the area were examined through controlled scanning of the spoil heaps generated through trenching.

All site records and artefacts are held currently at the AFU headquarters at Fulbourn and stored under the site code STR LF 03.

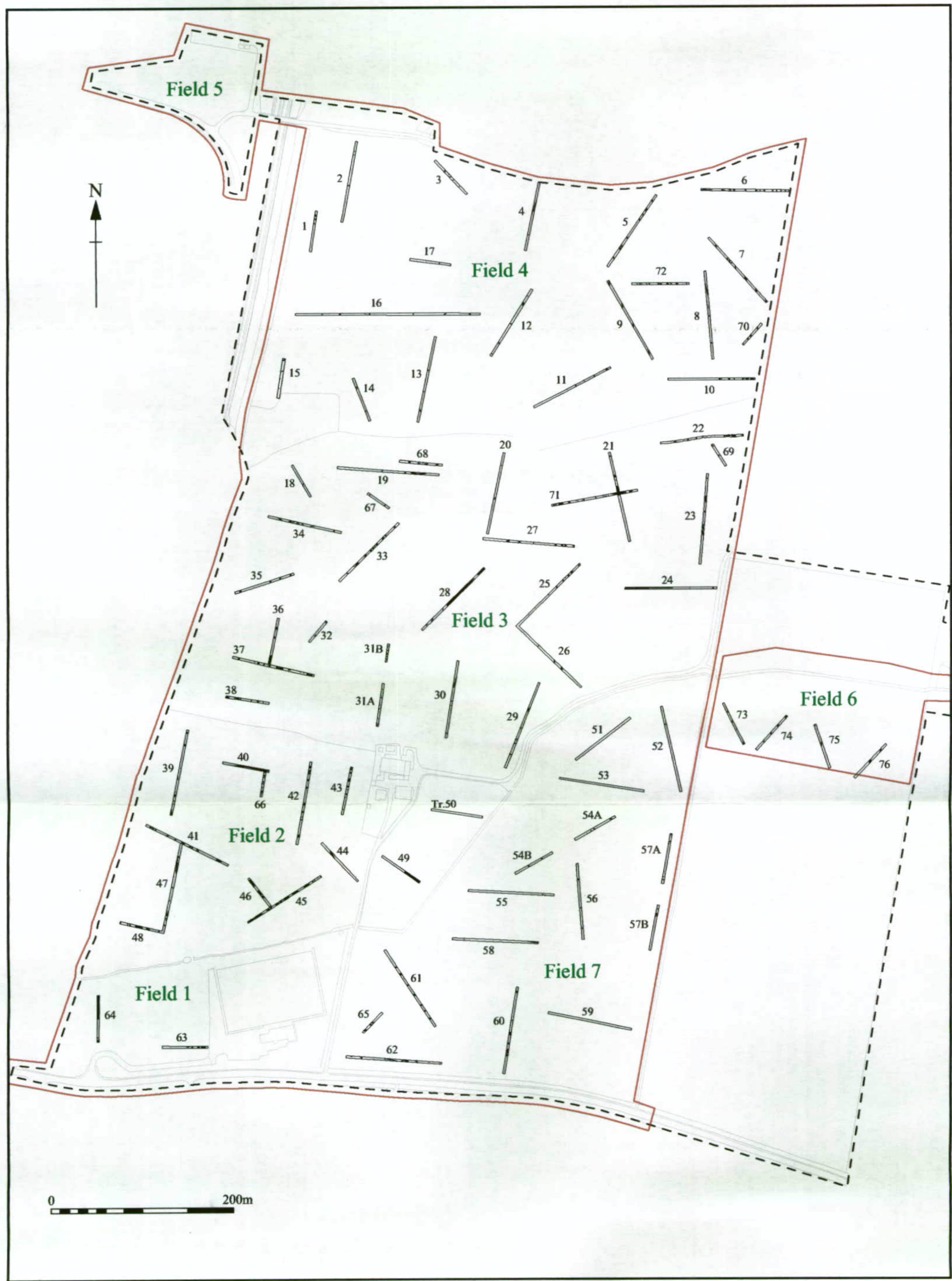


Figure 2 Trench locations

## 5 RESULTS

The results of the fieldwork are listed below and have been grouped by field and archaeological period. A summary of the overall results is illustrated and incorporated into the discussion section (Fig. 3-4). Detailed trench plans (Fig. 11-18) are included within Appendix 8 and a representative selection of section drawings (Fig 6-10) are included within Appendix 7. Ceramic dates have been included in the descriptions below, in which C = century, E = Early, M = Middle and L = Late.

Features recorded consisted predominantly of ditches of which 70 were excavated in addition to at least 30 post-holes, 40 pits and a range of naturally formed hollows, tree root bowls and paleochannels. The majority of the surviving remains consisted of negative cut features truncated as a result of medieval and post medieval agricultural practices. The notable exception was the remains of a gravelled surface dateable to the Late Iron Age / Early Romano-British period which survived within a slight depression at the western end of Trench 45 in Field 3 (context 258).

### **Field 1: Trenches (63, 64)**

Field 1 was the lowest lying of the fields and was located in the south-west corner of the study area, with a total size of 1.32ha and measuring a maximum of 225m north-south by 340m west-east. Field 1 was located immediately east and adjacent to the Peterborough to London railway line and north of the B1428 the Cambridge-St Neots road.

Two separate trenches (63, 64) were opened, both of which contained naturally formed archaeological features. Trench 63 contained three tree-bowls and a palaeo-channel aligned north-south. A number of modern field drains were also found in the two trenches. The trenches produced no ceramics or other artefacts. The absence of activity within this field is due to the low lying location which, combined with the local topography, suggests that this area would have been prone to flooding and consequently was not deemed suitable to settlement (Fig. 4).

### *Natural features*

#### **Trench 63**

**Tree bowl 1401** was sub-circular in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 1.5m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 1400, a mid brown silty clay with occasional flint.

**Natural 1403** was sub-circular in plan with shallow sides and a flat base, measuring 2m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 1402, a mid yellowish brown clay with rare sand inclusions.

**Palco-channel 1405** measured 4.5m wide. Filled by 1404, a clay.

**Tree bowl 1407.** Filled by 1406.

#### **Trench 64**

**Paleo-channel 1409.** Filled by 1408, a silty clay.

**Tree bowl 1411.** Filled by 1410.

**Paleo-channel 1413** measured 0.26m wide. Filled by 1412, a mid grey clayey silt.

#### **Field 2: Trenches 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 & 66**

Field 2 was located to the north of Field 1 and east and adjacent to the Peterborough to London railway line with a total size of 6.04ha, measuring a maximum of 290m north-south by 500m west-east. Several trenches produced small finds (Trenches 38, 40, 41, 43, 45, 46, 47 and 48), while some produced dateable ceramics (Trenches 40, 41, 45, 46, 47 and 48).

This field produced the highest density of Small Finds and ceramics as well as a considerable density of archaeologically significant features. The geophysical survey (WYAS 2002) also revealed a number of potentially archaeologically significant responses in the south-east of this field which appear to constitute an enclosure system (Fig. 4).

Combining all currently available data indicates the presence of what appears to be activity relating to agricultural settlement dateable to the LPRIA and Roman periods. The core of this activity is located within the central and western areas of the field and extends further north into Field 3. Notable finds include a hoard of 23 coins (see Payne, Appendix 2) found within the heavily truncated remains of a Roman pot in Trench 47.

Earlier prehistoric activity was indicated by the presence of residual ceramics dateable to the Bronze Age. A tentative Early Saxon presence has also been noted but this again is based on the recovery of a small ceramic assemblage. Given that this material was recovered from contexts containing transitional LPRIA material this presence is not yet proven and serves to highlight the difficulties in distinguishing Iron Age and Early Saxon wares.

#### ***Natural features***

Natural features (See section 4, p.8) were recorded in Trenches 39, 42 and 48.

#### **Trench 39**

**Natural 118** was linear in plan with irregular sides, a sharp break of slope and an irregular base, measuring 1.55m long, 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep. Filled by 117, a yellowish brown silty clay with rare chalk inclusions.

**Natural 122.** Filled by 121.

**Natural 124.** Filled by 123.

**Natural 116** was linear in plan, with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.9 m long, 1.2m wide and 0.12 m deep. Filled by 115, a grey silty clay with frequent small pieces of chalk.

**Natural 126** was sub-circular in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.17m deep. Filled by 125, a dark grey silty clay with occasional stones.

**Natural 128** was sub-circular in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.63m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 127, a dark grey silty clay with occasional stones.

**Trench 42**

**Natural 146.** Filled by 145.

**Natural 148.** Filled by 147.

**Trench 47**

**Natural 10.** Filled by 9.

**Natural 16.** Filled by 15.

**Natural depression 193** was circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 192, a light greyish brown silty clay.

**Tree bowl 195.** Filled by 194.

**Tree bowl 197.** Filled by 196.

**Tree bowl 199.** Filled by 198.

**Tree bowl 201.** Filled by 200.

**Trench 48**

**Natural 104.** Filled by 103.

**Natural 205.** Filled by 204.

**Trench 49**

**Paleo-channel 316.** Filled by 315, a greyish brown clayey silt.

***Neolithic***

The field produced no Neolithic finds.

***Bronze Age***

**Trench 40**

Two features, ditch **158** and pit **166**, containing residual material from the period were identified. Both were stratigraphically dateable to the Iron Age but it seems likely that this later activity has disturbed an earlier feature or features. Ditch **158** (fill 157) contained a fragment of a collared urn although it is unclear whether this was from a domestic or funerary context (Percival, Appendix 3).

***Iron Age***

With the exception of ditch **238** in Trench 45 (Middle Iron Age), all the features in Trenches 40 and 45 were attributable to the Late Iron Age or the transitional period.



#### **Trench 40**

**Ditch 309** measured 7.2m long and 0.76m wide. Filled by 308, a dark brown silty clay with occasional stone and flint. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 158** was linear in plan with unexcavated sides, unexcavated break of slope and unexcavated base, measuring 0.65m long and 0.92m wide. Filled by 157, a dark grey silty clay with frequent stone pebbles. Spot date: Early Bronze Age. Residual, indicating a Bronze Age presence in the immediate area.

**Pit 166** was sub-circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 1.54m long and 1m wide. Filled by 165, a dark greenish grey silty clay with occasional stones and occasional flint and chalk inclusions. Spot date: Bronze Age. Residual, indicating a Bronze Age presence in the immediate area.

#### **Trench 45**

**Ditch 18** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.73m wide and 0.19m deep. Filled by 17, a dark brown clayey silt with rare charcoal, occasional stone, rare burnt clay and rare small burnt stones. Spot date: Late Iron Age.

**Ditch 22** was curvilinear in plan with concave sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.31m wide and 0.07 m deep. Filled by 21, a dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent chalk inclusions and frequent medium stones. Spot date: Late Iron Age.

**Ditch 28** was linear in plan with a flat base. Filled by 214, a light grey silty clay with frequent small pieces of chalk and occasional flint pebbles. Spot date: Transitional.

**Ditch 42** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep. Ditch 42 contained two fills:

Fill 257 was a mid brown clayey silt with occasional small pieces of chalk and rare small pieces of fired clay.

Fill 41 was a mid brown clayey silt with moderate inclusions of small pieces of chalk. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 92** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.73m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 91, a dark brown silty clay with occasional large flint fragments and occasional medium cobbles and rare pebbles. Spot date: Transitional.

**Ditch 234** was curvilinear in plan with a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.82m wide and 0.34m deep. Filled by 233, a dark black clayey silt with occasional large stones, rare small stone and flint, rare burnt stone and charcoal. Spot date: Transitional.

**Ditch 236** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 0.99m wide and 0.54m deep. Filled by 235, a light brownish yellow silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions, frequent small and large stones and occasional flint.

**Ditch 238** measured 1m long, 0.9m wide and 0.28m deep. Filled by 237, a dark grayish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones and occasional flint. Spot date: Mid- Iron Age.

**Ditch 241** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 1.02m wide and 0.33m deep. Ditch 241 contained three fills:

Fill 239 was a dark greenish grey silty clay with frequent small chalk inclusions and occasional medium stones. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 240 was a yellowish green silty clay with frequent medium chalk inclusions, occasional charcoal and rare large flint nodules. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

Fill 255 was a dark greyish green silty clay with frequent large chalk inclusions, occasional large flint, occasional burnt stone, rare charcoal, occasional ironstone and some redeposited cassy material. There was also evidence for bits of mortar.

**Ditch 254** was curvilinear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.21m long, 0.57m wide and 0.27m deep. Filled by 253, a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones and occasional flint.

**Surface 258** was irregular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and unexcavated base, measuring 1m long. Floor 258 contained four fills:

Fill 259 was a yellowish grey silty clay with frequent small flecks of chalk. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

Fill 230 was a light brown silt with rare small pieces of chalk. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 256 was a mid brown clayey silt with rare small pieces of chalk and rare small pieces of fired clay.

Fill 231 was a greenish grey silty clay with frequent chalk pebbles and occasional small pieces of charcoal. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 296** was linear in plan with sloping but irregular sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.3m long, 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 295, a mid brown silty clay with occasional small angular and sub-angular stones. Spot date: Transitional.

### ***Romano-British***

Features dating to the Romano-British period were located in Trenches 39, 41, 45, 46, 47?, 48? and 66. Only one ditch (54, Trench 46) could indicate an early Saxon phase.

#### **Trench 39**

**Ditch 132** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and unexcavated base, measuring 2m long, 0.8m wide and 0.5m deep. Filled by 314, a mid brown silty clay with occasional small flint pebbles and 131, a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small flint pebbles. Spot date: C1-C3.

#### **Trench 41**

**Ditch 66** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 7.5m long, 0.9m wide and 0.31m deep. Filled by 65, a mid brown silty clay with occasional angular pieces of flint, occasional chalky specks and occasional charcoal flecks. (See also Furrow 64.)

**Ditch 76** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2.3m long, 1m wide and 0.26m deep. Ditch 76 contained three fills:

Fill 75 was a dark grey silty clay with occasional angular flint nodules, occasional chalk pebbles and frequent charcoal flecks. Small Finds: Glass Vessel SF149, Fe (iron) artefact SF172, Fe (iron) artefact SF170, Fe (iron) artefact SF171, Fe (iron) nails, two bags SF169, Cua (copper alloy) coin SF150. Spot date: C4 - LC3-C4.

Fill 251 was a mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints, occasional rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

Fill 252 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional angular flints, occasional chalky stones and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 84** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides and an unexcavated base, measuring 2.2m long, 6.3m wide and 1.45m deep. Ditch 84 contained three fills:

Fill 266 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional angular flints, occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional chalky stones and occasional charcoal flecks.

Fill 191 was a dark grey silty clay with moderate chalky stones, moderate chalk flecks, rare burnt stone fragments, rare snail shells and occasional charcoal flecks.

Fill 83 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles, frequent chalk pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and rare burnt stone fragments. Spot date: C3-C4.

#### **Trench 45**

**Ditch 20** was linear in plan with shallow sides and a flat base, measuring 0.75m long, 0.82m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 19, a dark brown clayey silt with occasional small and medium stones, rare burnt stones and rare charcoal. Spot date: C3.

**Pit 26** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m wide and 0.1m deep. Pit 26 contained two fills:

Fill 25 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub angular stones. Small Finds: Fe (iron) nail SF164. Spot date: C1-C2.

Fill 27 was a grey silty clay with occasional small pieces of chalk, occasional flint pebbles and occasional small pieces of shell.

**Ditch 30** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.88m wide and 0.46m deep. Ditch 30 contained three fills:

Fill 212 was a light yellowish grey silty clay with frequent medium chalk inclusions and frequent small and medium flint. Spot date: C4.

Fill 29 was a dark brown clayey silt with occasional small stones. Spot date: C2.

Fill 213 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions and occasional small flint.

**Ditch 32** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.9m long, 1.21m wide and 0.26m deep. Filled by 31, a dark grayish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones and rare chalk inclusions. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin reduced Follis of Constantine (the Great), AD 307-337, reverse shows Sol advancing left, SF127. Spot date: possibly Roman.

**Ditch 40** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.55m long, 1.5m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 39, a dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate medium pebbles and cobbles. Small Finds: Fe (iron) nail, probably Roman, SF130. Spot date: C3.

**Pit 46** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 1.2m long, 1.8m wide and 0.24m deep. Pit 46 contained four fills:

Fill 45 was a dark greenish grey clayey silt with frequent chalk inclusions, frequent medium and large burnt stones and occasional flint nodules. Spot date: three separate dates were given; one was E-MC2, another was post-medieval (intrusive) and the last was C3-C4.

Fill 291 was a light greyish yellow silty clay with frequent chalk, frequent medium stones and occasional small and medium burnt stones. Spot date: LC1-EMC2.

Filled by 290, a dark grey silty clay with frequent large burnt stones, occasional medium flint nodules, occasional charcoal and rare burnt clay. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 292 was a light brownish green clayey silt with occasional medium stones, rare chalk inclusions and rare small and medium flint.

**Pit 48** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 0.54 m long, 0.82m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 47, a light yellowish grey clayey silt with rare large stones and occasional tiny chalk flecks. Spot date: C4.

**Ditch 88** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat and irregular base, measuring 0.72m long, 1.35m wide and 0.25m deep. Ditch 88 contained two fills:

Fill 87 was a dark grey clayey silt with frequent chalk flecks and frequent small stones. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin, 4th century. Barbarous copy, probably copying a Valentinianic bronze roughly AD 340-360, SF138. Spot date: Transitional+late Roman.

Fill 289 was a light grey clayey silt with occasional chalk inclusions, rare small flint pebbles and rare small stones.

**Ditch 90** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a slightly concave base, measuring 0.72m long, 0.68m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 89, a light grey clayey silt with rare chalk inclusions and rare sandy inclusions. Spot date: LC1 - EMC2.

**Ditch 94** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.3m wide and 0.43m deep. Ditch 94 contained two fills:

Fill 220 was an olive brown silty clay.

Fill 93 was a light olive brown silty clay. Spot date: C2-C4.

**Ditch 216** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m wide and 0.46m deep. Ditch 216 contained two fills:

Fill 215 was a light brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 244 was a light olive brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk flecks. Spot date: C2.

**Ditch 218** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.2m wide and 0.6m deep. Ditch 218 contained two fills :

Fill 219 was an olive grey silty clay with moderate sub-angular flints.

Fill 217 was a light greyish brown silty clay with moderate chalk inclusions. Spot date: C2-C3.

#### **Trench 46**

**Ditch 52** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 0.55m long and 0.5m deep. Filled by 51, a mid brown clayey silt with occasional pieces of flint and chalk of mixed sizes. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin late 3rd century. Barbarous radiate depicting one of the gallic emperors SF131. Spot date: C2-C4.

**Ditch 54** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 3m wide and 0.7m deep. Ditch 54 contained four fills:

Fill 225 was a mid brownish yellow clay with occasional chalk fragments.

Fill 223 was a greyish brown clayey silt with occasional sub-angular chalk and flint pebbles, occasional charcoal and occasional burnt clay fragments.

Fill 53 was a dark brownish grey silt with occasional chalk pebbles. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) artefact, appears Roman, SF132. Fe (iron) artefact, shape suggests it may be a foot off a small cauldron, SF133. Spot date: Transitional-early Saxon?

Fill 224 was a greyish brown clayey silt with moderate sub-angular chalk and flint pebbles, occasional charcoal and occasional burnt clay fragments.

**Ditch 56** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.65m long, 0.65m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 55, a dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate medium cobbles and moderate flint fragments. Spot date: LC2-C3.

**Ditch 60** measured 1.5m wide. Filled by 59. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin Allectus AD 293-296 Quinarius R Laetitia Aug SF136. Spot date: LC1- EMC2.

**Ditch 62.** Filled by 61. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin, Gratian AD 367-383, reverse Gloria novi saeculi, SF134. Pb (lead) artefact musket ball, small caliber, 18th century, SF135. Musket ball may be later contamination.

**Ditch 86** measured 2m wide. Filled by 85. Small Finds: Fe (iron) nail, probably Roman, SF137. Spot date: LC1 - C2.

**Ditch 229** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides and a narrow base, measuring 0.8m long, 3.5m wide and 1.3m deep. Although the spot dates suggest this is an Iron Age ditch, in plan it was cut by ditch 56 which has a LC2-C3 spot date. Ditch 229 contained three fills:

Fill 227 was a yellow clay with moderate chalk pebbles and occasional flint of all shapes and sizes. Spot date: Mid-Later Iron Age.

Fill 226 was a yellowish grey silty clay with occasional charcoal, chalk and burnt clay flecks. Spot date: Transitional.  
Fill 228 was a yellow clay with occasional chalk and sand inclusions.

**Ditch 247** was possibly linear in plan with steep sides and a narrow, flat base, measuring 0.55m long, 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep. This ditch is a re-cut of ditch 52. Ditch 247 contained two fills: Fill 246 was a dark greyish brown silt with occasional charcoal and chalk fragments. Spot date: Transitional.  
Fill 245 was a dark greyish brown silt.

**Ditch 250** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides and a concave base, measuring 0.55m long, 1m wide and 0.4m deep. Ditch 250 contained two fills:  
Fill 249 was a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk and rounded flint inclusions. Spot date: two separate spot dates were given, one was Transitional and the other was C2-C3.  
Fill 248 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional flint and chalk inclusions.

#### **Trench 47**

**Ditch 8** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 18.6m long, 1m wide and 0.23m deep. Filled by 7, a mid greyish brown silty clay with rare small semi angular stones and rare small chalk nodules. Small Finds: Fe (iron) artefact SF163, Cua (copper alloy) artefact SF173. Spot date: possibly Roman.

**Pit 261** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides and a gradual break of slope, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 260, a greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions. Small finds: it was in this pit that a Roman coin hoard was found, SF102-120 and 122-125 (see Payne, Appendix 2). The hoard is unlikely to be fully represented due to the high degree of truncation due to plough damage. The coins had been deposited in a small pot although due to the high degree of truncation only about one third of the vessel survived.

#### **Trench 48**

**Ditch 209** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 208, a mid brown silty clay with occasional rounded chalk inclusions and occasional sub-angular flint. Spot date: possibly Roman.

#### **Trench 66**

**Pit 270.** Filled by 269.

**Pit 272.** Filled by 271, dark greyish brown.

#### ***Undated features of Iron Age and Roman origin***

These features, located in Trenches 40, 45, 46, 47, 48, are dateable to the late pre-Roman Iron Age or Roman period by association.

#### **Trench 40**

**Pit 160** was sub-circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 2.3m long, 1.54m wide. Filled by 159, a light grey clayey silt with occasional flint and chalk pebbles.

**Pit 162** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.5m long. Filled by 161, a mid grey silty clay with occasional stones and occasional flint and chalk inclusions.

**Ditch 164** was a ditch butt end with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 1.52m long, 0.62m wide. Filled by 163, a mid grey clayey silt with occasional chalk and stones.

**Posthole 299** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.49m wide. Filled by 298, a dark grey clayey silt with occasional chalk and stone.

**Posthole 301** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.6m wide. Filled by 300, a mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional stone and chalk and rare flint.

**Ditch 303** was linear in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.54m long and 0.71m wide. Filled by 302, a mid grey silty clay with frequent chalk, stone and flint.

**Posthole 305** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.5m wide. Filled by 304, a dark grey clayey silt with frequent stone and occasional chalk and flint.

**Pit 307** measured 0.4m wide. Filled by 306, a dark grey silty clay with occasional chalk and stone.

**Pit 311.** Filled by 310, a dark grey clayey silt with occasional stone and chalk.

#### **Trench 45**

**Ditch 24** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.05m long, 0.9m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 23, a brown silty clay with occasional medium flint nodules and rare small pebbles.

**Ditch 38.** Filled by 37. Small Finds: Fe (iron) artefact with a projection midway along its shank, use unknown, SF128.

**Ditch 50** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides and a concave base, measuring 0.54m long, 0.55m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 49, a light grey clayey silt with occasional chalk inclusions.

**Posthole 222** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.3m wide and 0.08m deep. Filled by 221, a light olive brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

**Ditch 265.** Filled by 264, dark greyish brown.

#### **Trench 46**

**Ditch 58** measured 3m wide. Filled by 57, a dark greyish brown silty clay

#### **Trench 47**

**Ditch 6** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.09m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 5, a light yellowish brown sandy clay with chalk nodules and moderate sub-angular stones.

**Ditch 12** was linear in plan with steep sides and a flat and irregular base, measuring 1m long, 0.75m wide and 0.35m deep. Ditch 12 contained three fills:

Fill 262 was a mid yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional angular flint.

Fill 11 was a mid yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional angular flint nodules and occasional charcoal flecks.

Fill 263 was a yellow sandy clay.

**Ditch 203** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 2.1m long, 0.8m wide and 0.37m deep. Filled by 202, a light greyish brown sandy clay with rare semi angular stones.

#### **Trench 48**

**Ditch 286** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.4m wide and 0.03m deep. Filled by 285, a light brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions.

**Ditch 288** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base. Filled by 287, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions.

### ***Anglo-Saxon***

A single feature containing pottery of possible Anglo-Saxon date was located in Trench 45.

#### **Trench 45**

**Ditch 243** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.2m wide and 0.54m deep. Filled by 242, a light grey silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions, occasional burnt stone, occasional burnt clay and charcoal. Spot date: one piece was dated as mid- Later Iron Age and another was possibly early Saxon.

### ***Medieval***

Trenches 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 and 66 contained medieval ridge and furrow, although it may have been of post-medieval date.

#### **Trench 39**

**Furrow 114.** Filled by 113, dark brown.

**Furrow 120.** Filled by 119.

**Furrow 130.** Filled by 129, dark brown.

#### **Trench 41**

**Furrow 64.** Filled by 63, dark brown. Spot date: MC1-C3. This feature has been recorded as a furrow and runs on the same NNE-SSW alignment as other furrows in the trench such as 68, 70 and 72. However, it also nearly comes into contact with ditch 66 which is on a NW-SE alignment and this spot date could relate to the ditch.

**Furrow 68.** Filled by 67.

**Furrow 70.** Filled by 69.

**Furrow 72.** Filled by 71.

**Furrow 74.** Filled by 73.

**Furrow 78.** Filled by 77.

**Furrow 80.** Filled by 79.

**Furrow 82.** Filled by 81.

#### **Trench 42**

**Furrow 134.** Filled by 133.

**Furrow 136.** Filled by 135.

**Furrow 138.** Filled by 137.

**Furrow 140.** Filled by 139.

**Furrow 142.** Filled by 141.

**Furrow 144.** Filled by 143.

**Furrow 150.** Filled by 149.

**Furrow 152.** Filled by 151.

**Furrow 154.** Filled by 153.

**Furrow 156.** Filled by 155.

**Trench 43**

**Furrow 174.** Filled by 173.

**Furrow 176.** Filled by 175.

**Furrow 178.** Filled by 177.

**Furrow 182.** Filled by 181.

**Furrow 184.** Filled by 183.

**Furrow 188.** Filled by 187.

**Trench 44**

**Furrow 190.** Filled by 189.

**Trench 45**

**Furrow 44.** Filled by 43. Small Finds: Fe (iron) artefact, possibly Roman SF129.

**Trench 47**

**Furrow 14.** Filled by 13.

**Trench 48**

**Furrow 96.** Filled by 95.

**Furrow 100.** Filled by 99.

**Furrow 112.** Filled by 111.

**Furrow 207** was linear in plan in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m wide and 0.05m deep. Furrow 207 contained two fills:

Fill 297 was a light olive grey silty clay with occasional large sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions.

Fill 206 was a light brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

**Furrow 211.** Filled by 210.

**Ditch 294** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.26m deep. Filled by 293, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions.

**Trench 66**

**Furrow 274.** Filled by 273.

**Furrow 276.** Filled by 275.

**Furrow 278.** Filled by 277.

**Furrow 280.** Filled by 279.

**Furrow 282.** Filled by 281.

**Furrow 284.** Filled by 283.

***Post-Medieval***

Post-medieval features were located in Trenches 45 and 48.

**Trench 45**

**Furrow 36** was linear in plan with shallow sides and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 1.91m wide and 0.16m deep. Filled by 35, a dark brown clayey silt with frequent medium stones. Small Finds: Fe (iron) nail SF148. Spot date: post-medieval.

**Trench 48**

**Field drain 98.** Filled by 97. Spot date: post-medieval.



**Furrow 102** was linear with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2.5m wide and 0.3m deep. Filled by 101, a light olive brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones and occasional sub-angular flints. Spot date: post-medieval.

### ***Modern***

Modern features were found in Trenches 45 and 48.

#### **Trench 45**

**Field drain 34.** Filled by 33.

#### **Trench 48**

**Modern 108.** Filled by 107.

**Modern 110.** Filled by 109.

### ***Other Trenches***

Trench 49 was part of a palaeo-channel and although it may have contained potential archaeological features it was flooded throughout the study period. Trench 50 contained no features other than a small undateable shallow pit with evidence of burning.

### **Field 3: Trenches 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31A, 31B, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 67, 68, 69 and 71**

Field 3 was located to the north of Field 2 and 7 and east and adjacent to the Peterborough to London railway line, with a total size of 17.4ha. The field measures a maximum of 450m north-south by 675m west-east and the land rises steadily from south to north.

Several trenches produced Small Finds (Trenches 18, 27, 31, 35 and 37), while others produced dateable ceramics (Trenches 19, 21, 35, 37, 38 and 71).

Evaluation trenching revealed the continuation of LPRIA/Roman settlement related activity previously noted within Field 2, concentrated within the south-western portion of the field. Furthermore a series of enclosures of similar date were present along the crest of the hill near to the boundary with Field 4. The function of these enclosures is unclear and attention to their position with relation to the local topography may aid interpretation should the project proceed to excavation. Of particular note was a large 'quarry' pit located on a gravel promontory at the intersection of trenches 21 and 71 (see quarry 570, Trench 21).

### **Natural features**

#### **Trench 19**

**Natural 560** was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides and a irregular base. Filled by 559, a mid orangey brown clayey silt with occasional rounded flint pebbles and cobbles.

#### **Trench 22**

**Natural 614** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.45m wide, 0.16m deep. Filled by 613, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional angular stones.

**Natural 616.** Filled by 615.

**Natural 618** was circular in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.3m wide, 0.07m deep. Filled by 617, a light orange brown silty clay.

**Trench 23**

**Natural 596.** Filled by 595.

**Trench 24**

**Natural 406.** Filled by 405.

**Natural 408.** Filled by 407.

**Trench 25**

**Natural 428.** Filled by 427.

**Trench 26**

**Natural 430** was sub-circular in plan with moderately steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.7m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 429, a dark brown silty sand with rare small semi-angular stone.

**Trench 27**

**Natural 578** was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides, imperceptible break of slope and a concave base. Filled by 577, mid orange brown with some yellowish red silty clay with occasional angular flints, occasional chalk fragments and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Trench 28**

**Gravel spread 651,** a mid reddish brown silty clay with frequent angular flints and frequent sub-rounded pebbles.

**Hollow 436** was irregular in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.75m wide, 0.9m long, 0.2m deep. Filled by 435, mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular rounded-rounded pebbles and rare charcoal flecks.

**Trench 29**

**Natural 448.** Filled by 447.

**Trench 32**

**Natural 636** was 1.02m wide. Filled by 635.

**Natural 638** was 0.6m wide. Filled by 637, a light brown silty clay.

**Trench 33**

**Natural 546.** Filled by 545, light brown silty clay.

**Trench 67**

**Natural 640** was irregular in plan with sides and a base, measuring 0.6m wide. Filled by 639, a silty sand.

**Natural 642** was 1.2m wide. Filled by 641, a sandy silt.

**Trench 68**

**Natural 650** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides and a base, measuring 1.2m long, 2.5m wide, 0.3m deep. Natural 650 contained two fills:

Fill 649, an orange with reddened patches clay with occasional flint and chalk and occasional charcoal fragments.

Fill 658, a yellow clay with occasional flint pebbles and occasional chalk inclusions.

**Trench 71**

**Natural 791** was 0.5m wide. Filled by 790.

**Tree bowl 797** was irregular in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a irregular base, measuring 0.75m long, 0.6m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 796, a mid brown silty clay with organic material.

### ***Neolithic – Bronze Age***

In Trench 71, residual finds came from fills 1504 and 1506 (see ditch 783 in Iron Age section).

### ***Iron Age***

Iron Age remains were encountered in Trenches 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 68 and 71. With the exception of ditch 783 in Trench 71, which contained residual Neolithic/Early Bronze Age materials, all features were dateable to the Iron Age or Late Iron Age/Transitional period.

#### **Trench 21**

**Ditch 566** was linear in plan with concave sides, an unexcavated break of slope and unexcavated base, measuring 2.4m wide and 0.38m deep. Ditch 566 contained two fills:

Fill 565 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 708 was a light orange brown silty clay with occasional large stones and flint and moderate chalk pieces.

**Quarry 570** had steep sides and a gradual break of slope and was 12m wide and contained at least 15 fills:

Fill 569 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate medium and large stones. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 707 was a mid grey clayey silt with occasional small pebbles.

Fill 571 was a mid grey clayey silt with frequent medium and large pieces of chalk and flint. Spot date: Transitional.

Fill 572 was an orangey yellow sandy gravel with occasional medium and large stones.

Fill 1513 was a silty clay.

Fill 1514 was a gravelly silt.

Fill 1515 was a silty gravel.

Fill 1516 was a silty gravel.

Fill 1517 was a chalky grit.

Fill 1518 was a clay gravel.

Fill 1519 was a chalky grit.

Fill 1520 was a clay.

Fill 1521 was a silty chalky gravel.

Fill 1522 was a chalky grit.

Fill 1523 was a clayey silt.

This cut was interpreted as a quarry due primarily to the large size in plan and depth of the cut. The feature is positioned within an outcrop of natural gravels which forms a subtle promontory on the crest of the slope at the northern end of the field. Gravel extraction would be the most likely functional interpretation but this does not fit easily with the secure Iron Age date for backfilling. This pit is located within a noticeable concentration of iron rich mineralization so opportunistic or even some kind of ceremonial iron extraction may explain the presence of this unusual feature.

#### **Trench 22**

**Pit 624** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 3m long, 1.1m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 623, a dark orange

brown silty clay with frequent semi-angular stones and frequent broken flint. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Pit 628** was sub-circular with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 2.2m wide and 0.08m deep. Filled by 627, a light orange brown silty clay with frequent small and medium stones and moderate chalk nodules. Spot date: Iron Age.

**Ditch 630** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.45m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 629, a dark orange brown silty clay with rare medium angular stones. Spot date: two pieces, both dating to Mid-Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 661** was linear in plan with a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.4m long, 1.18m wide and 0.09m deep. Filled by 660, a light orange brown silty clay with moderate small semi-angular stones. Spot date: Prehistoric.

#### **Trench 27**

**Furrow 576.** Filled by 575. Spot date: Transitional.

#### **Trench 28**

**Ditch 444** was irregular in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and concave base, measuring 1.8m long, 0.65m wide and 0.37m deep. Filled by 443, a dark brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and moderate charcoal flecks. Spot date: Iron Age.

#### **Trench 33**

**Ditch 663** was curvilinear with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a sloping base, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 662, a mid brown silty clay with occasional stone. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

#### **Trench 34**

**Ditch 472** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.56m wide and 0.19m deep. Filled by 471, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

#### **Trench 37**

**Ditch 518** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 2m wide and 0.32m deep. Filled by 517, a dark greyish brown silty clay with rare small round stones. Spot date: three separate pieces were dated, one as Mid-Later Iron Age, one as possibly Roman and one as Transitional. Therefore this ditch probably belongs to the conquest period.

**Ditch 743** had an uncertain shape in plan with steep, slightly irregular sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2.6m long, 2.6m wide and 0.6m deep. Ditch 743 contained two fills, one of which was dated to this period:

Fill 741 was a brownish grey silty clay with moderate angular and sub-angular pebbles and cobbles. Spot date: Transitional.

#### **Trench 38**

**Ditch 496** was linear in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 2.1m long and 2.7m wide. Ditch 496 contained two fills:

Fill 709 was a greyish yellow silty clay with occasional medium cobbles and occasional flint fragments. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

Fill 495 was a dark grey silty clay with frequent large cobbles, occasional large flint stones and occasional flint fragments. Spot date: two pieces, both dated as Transitional.

**Ditch 681** was curvilinear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 680, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Pit 713** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides and a gradual break of slope, measuring 1m wide and 0.06m deep. Filled by 712, a light grey silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

#### **Trench 69**

**Pit 1525** measured 1.5m long and 1.2m wide. Filled by 1524, reddish brown. Spot date: Iron Age.

#### **Trench 71**

**Ditch 783** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 2m long, 2.22m wide and 1.2m deep. Fills 1504 and 1506 contained later Neolithic-early Bronze Age pottery and a Neolithic flint blade respectively. This may represent material washed in when the ditch went out of use. While it may point to earlier activity nearby the ditch is dateable to the Iron Age. In total there were six fills:

Fill 782 was a mid greyish brown silt with occasional small sub-angular chalk and stones.

Fill 1508 was a mid greyish brown gravelly silt with frequent small gravel, moderate large angular stones and some rare, burnt charcoal flecks.

Fill 1507 was a mid yellowish brown gravelly silt with frequent small gravel, frequent small chalk, frequent large angular stones, some of which were burnt and rare charcoal flecks. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

Fill 1506 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent gravel, frequent large angular stones and rare charcoal. Small Finds: flint blade (Neolithic scraper with retouched edge), SF160.

Fill 1505 was a yellowish brown silty gravel with frequent small chalk and flint fragments and rare charcoal flecks.

Fill 1504 was a yellowish brown silty gravel with frequent small chalk and flint fragments and rare charcoal flecks. Spot date: Later Neolithic- Early Bronze Age.

### ***Romano-British***

Features dating to the Romano-British period were located in Trenches 19, 22?, 24, 29?, 34?, 35?, 36, 37, 38? and 71.

#### **Trench 19**

**Ditch 562** was curvilinear in plan with gently sloping then steep sides and a flat base, measuring 0.7m long, 1.9m wide and 0.82m deep. Ditch 562 contained nine fills:

Fill 561 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: Roman?

Fill 692 was a mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

Fill 694 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt.

Fill 693 was a yellow silty clay.

Fill 695 was a mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal and occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: C2.

Fill 696 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: M-LC2.

Fill 697 was a mid yellowish brown silty clay.

Fill 698 was a yellow clay.

Fill 699 was a greyish/yellowish brown clay with moderate chalk inclusions. Small Finds: Glass vessel, SF175.

#### **Trench 22**

**Pit 622** was sub-circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.5m long, 1m wide and 0.16m deep. Filled by 621, a light orange brown silty clay with moderate small semi-angular stones. Spot date: Roman?

#### **Trench 24**

**Ditch 402** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.1m wide and 0.31m deep. Filled by 401, a light brown silty clay with moderate small and medium stones. Spot date: LC1-EMC2.

#### **Trench 29**

**Ditch 450** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep. Ditch 450 contained three fills:

Fill 691 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint fragments and moderate charcoal flecks. Spot date: Roman?

Fill 449 was a mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional rounded stones.

Fill 690 was a light brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded flint pebbles and moderate chalk flecks.

#### **Trench 34**

**Ditch 478** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.78m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 477, a light brown silty clay with occasional stones. Spot date: Roman?

#### **Trench 35**

**Ditch 468** was 1.4m wide. Filled by 467, a greyish brown silty clay. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 736** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2m wide and 0.74m deep. Ditch 736 contained four fills:

Fill 733 was a mid yellowish brown clay with rare small sub-angular stones. Spot date: LC2-C4.

Fill 734 was a dark grey clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks, occasional small and large sub-angular stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Small Finds: Cua (copper alloy) coin dating from Valentinian II (AD375) - Honorius (AD423). Reverse shows Victory running left carrying a trophy, SF157. Spot date: four separate pieces were dated, one as C3-C4, one as Later Iron Age- C3, another as LC2-C3 and the other to LC3-C4.

Fill 735 was a mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay with moderate small sub-angular stones, occasional large stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: two separate pieces were dated as possibly Roman.

Fill 773 was a mid brown clay with moderate chalk fragments, occasional small sub-angular stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: Middle Iron Age. This may represent intrusive material.

#### **Trench 36**

**Ditch 522** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 1.8m wide and 0.3m deep. Ditch 522 contained two fills:

Fill 754 was a light grey silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal. Spot date: one piece was dated to C1-C3 and another to LC3-C4 with residual sherds.

Fill 521 was a light blackish grey silty clay with occasional flint pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: LC3-C4.

**Ditch 524** was possibly linear in plan with not fully excavated sides, a not fully excavated break of slope and a not fully excavated base, measuring 0.6m long, 2.2m wide and 0.55m deep. Filled by 523, a blackish grey clayey silt with occasional flecks of fired clay and occasional flecks of charcoal. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 775** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.7m wide and 0.58m deep. Filled by 774, a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional angular flint nodules, occasional chalky pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: C2.

### **Trench 37**

**Ditch 504** was linear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.48m wide and 0.55m deep. Ditch 504 contained three fills:

Fill 503 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional medium rounded chalk inclusions, rare medium sub-angular flint inclusions, frequent burnt clay fragments and very rare cobbles. Spot date: C2-C3.

Fill 726 was a mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional chalk flecks, rare medium rounded chalk and sub-angular flint inclusions, rare charcoal fragments and flecks and rare fragments of burnt clay. Spot date: M-LC2.

Fill 725 was a mid grey silty clay with occasional chalk flecks, rare medium rounded chalk and sub-angular flint inclusions. Spot date: LC2-C3.

**Ditch 508** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.86m wide and 0.3m deep. Ditch 508 contained three fills:

Fill 714 was a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional medium semi-angular stones. Spot date: C4.

Fill 507 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with rare round small stones. Spot date: C2.

Fill 715 was a light orange brown silty clay with moderate small rounded stones. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 514** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.45m long, 0.8m wide and 0.28m deep. Ditch 514 contained two fills:

Fill 513 was a dark grey silty clay with occasional pebbles and cobbles. Spot date: C2-C3.

Fill 722 was a grey silty clay with occasional pebbles, cobbles and flint fragments.

**Ditch 724** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.1m long, 2.14m wide and 0.64m deep. Filled by 723, a dark blueish grey silty clay with occasional medium and large stones and rare charcoal flecks. Small Finds: Bone artefact with visible cut marks SF155. Spot date: two pieces were dated as possibly Roman and another piece was dated to C3.

**Ditch 728** was linear in plan with concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.68m wide and 0.32m deep. Filled by 727, a mid-dark brownish grey silty clay with occasional fine rounded chalk inclusions, rare medium sub-angular flint, rare charcoal flecks and rare burnt clay. Small Finds: a ceramic vessel with visible graffiti on one sherd in the form of "MX", SF158. Spot date: one piece was dated to C2 and another to EC2.

**Ditch 743** had an uncertain shape in plan with steep, slightly irregular sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2.6m long, 2.6m wide and 0.6m deep. Filled by 742, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular pebbles. Spot date: C4.

**Ditch 751** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.1m long, 2.1m wide and 1.18m deep. Ditch 751 contained three fills:

Fill 748 was a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional large stones and rare mixed chalk. Spot date: Roman?

Fill 749 was a light brownish yellow silty clay with frequent stone and chalk inclusions. Spot date: C4.

Fill 750 was a mid blueish grey clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks and rare small stones. Spot date: C4.

**Ditch 753** had an uncertain shape in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.1m long, 0.84m wide and 0.56m deep. Filled by 752, a light brownish grey clayey silt with occasional chalk and flint fragments and occasional small stones. Spot date: LC1-C2.

**Ditch 764** was linear in plan with steep sides, an unexcavated break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.78m deep. Ditch 764 contained three fills:

Fill 763 was a light orange brown silty clay with moderate round and semi-angular pebbles and cobbles.

Fill 755 was a light greenish brown silty clay with rare small round stones. Spot date: one piece was dated to ERB and another to C3-C4.

Fill 756 was a light orange brown silty clay with frequent small stones and frequent medium stones. Spot date: C2.

### **Trench 38**

**Surface (external) 488** measured 1.7m wide and 0.03m deep. Filled by 487, a silt found between cobbles, with frequent chalk and frequent rounded and sub-angular cobbles. Spot date: C3.

**Posthole 492** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.03m deep. Filled by 491, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 498** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 0.8m wide and 0.29m deep. Filled by 497, a mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent fine rounded chalk inclusions, occasional medium rounded chalk sub-angular flint inclusions, rare flint cobbles and very rare burnt clay fragments. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 500** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.98m wide and 0.26m deep. Ditch 500 contained two fills:

Fill 499 was a pale greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded chalk inclusions and rare cobble sized angular and sub-angular flint inclusions. Spot date: EMC2.

Fill 704 was a dark brownish grey silty clay with frequent rounded chalk inclusions and occasional medium sized flint and chalk inclusions. Spot date: Roman?

**Ditch 703** was linear in plan with concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.09m deep. Filled by 702, a light brownish grey silty clay with frequent rounded chalk inclusions. Spot date: Roman?

**Pit 711** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.3m wide and 0.03m deep. Pit 711 contained two fills:

Fill 710 was a light grey silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint. Spot date: one piece was dated as Roman and another to LC1-EMC2.

**Surface 716** was a light yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: LC2-C3.

### **Trench 68**

**Ditch 648** was curvilinear in plan with shallow sides and an unexcavated base, measuring 1.7m long, 2.4m wide, 0.2m deep. Ditch 648 contained two fills:

Fill 647, a brownish yellow clay with moderate chalk inclusions. Spot date: LC1-EMC2.

Fill 655, a yellowish orange clay with occasional chalk pebbles.

**Ditch 657** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides and a narrow and rounded base, measuring 1.2m long, 1.3m wide, 0.8m deep. Ditch 657 has four fills:

Fill 653, a mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare orange sand mottling and very occasional chalk. Spot date: Later Iron Age- C3.

Fill 654, a mid greyish brown silty clay with rare orange sand mottling and very occasional chalk.

Fill 656, a yellow clay with moderate chalk pebbles.

Fill 652, brownish yellow clay with moderate chalk and occasional flint pebbles.



### **Trench 71**

**Ditch 789** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.75m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 788, a dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional angular rounded stones. Spot date: C1-C3.

### ***Features of probable Iron Age and Roman origin***

Features of Iron Age or Roman association, dateable by association, were located in Trenches 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 67, 68 and 71.

### **Trench 18**

**Ditch 556** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.6m long, 0.59m wide and 0.25m deep. Ditch 556 contained two fills:  
Fill 555 was a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small flint pebbles.  
Fill 772 was a greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint pebbles.

### **Trench 19**

**Ditch 558** was linear in plan with steep sides and a narrow base, measuring 0.6m long, 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep. Filled by 557, a mid yellowish brown silty clay with occasional angular flint pebbles.

### **Trench 21**

**Ditch 564** was linear in plan with shallow sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 563, a light brown silty clay with occasional chalk pieces.

**Posthole 568** was circular in plan with vertical sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.2m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 567, a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small chalk pieces.

**Pit 721** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.85m wide and 0.15m deep. Pit 721 contained two fills:  
Fill 719 was a light brown silty clay with occasional chalk pieces.  
Fill 720 was a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk pieces.

### **Trench 22**

**Ditch 620** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.21m deep. Filled by 619, a light orange brown silty clay with occasional semi-angular stones and rare charcoal.

**Ditch 626** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.44m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 625, a light orange brown silty clay with frequent large semi-angular stones.

**Pit 673** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m wide and 0.07m deep. Filled by 672, a dark orange brown silty clay with angular stones.

### **Trench 23**

**Ditch 590** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.58m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 589, a light greyish brown silty clay with moderate stones and occasional charcoal.

**Ditch 592** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 591, a light orange brown sandy clay with occasional semi-angular stones and occasional possible charcoal.

**Posthole 602** was circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.3m wide and 0.16m deep. Filled by 601, a dark orange brown silty clay.

#### **Trench 24**

**Ditch 404** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.25m deep. Filled by 403, a light greyish brown silty clay with moderate small semi round and angular stones.

**Ditch 718** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 717, a dark orange brown silty clay with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal flecks.

#### **Trench 29**

**Ditch 446** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 445, a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 452** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.85m wide and 0.34m deep. Filled by 451, a mid brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles, moderate chalky flecks and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 683** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.3m wide and 0.14m deep. Filled by 682, a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 685** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.4m wide and 0.06m deep. Filled by 684, a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 687** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.12m deep. Filled by 686, a dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Pit 689** was irregular in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.5m wide and 0.22m deep. Filled by 688, a dark greyish brown sandy clay silt with occasional sub-rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

#### **Trench 30**

**Ditch 456** measured 1m long, 1.15m wide and 0.34m deep. Filled by 455, a dark brown silty clay with occasional small flint fragments and rare medium cobbles.

#### **Trench 31**

**Pit 669** was sub-circular in plan with moderately steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m long, 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep. Pit 669 contained three fills:  
Fill 671 was a mid brown silty clay with frequent flint pebbles.  
Fill 670 was a brown silty clay with occasional pebbles.  
Fill 668 was a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

#### **Trench 33**

**Ditch 530** was linear in plan with concave sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.43m wide and 0.29m deep. Filled by 529, a dark brown silty clay with occasional stones.

**Ditch 665** was curvilinear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.52m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 664, a light brown silty clay with occasional stone.

**Ditch 667** was curvilinear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.52m wide and 0.17m deep. Filled by 666, a light brown silty clay with occasional stones.

#### **Trench 34**

**Pit 474** measured 2.5m wide. Filled by 473, a silty clay with occasional stones.

**Ditch 476** measured 0.5m wide. Filled by 475.

**Ditch 480** measured 0.5m wide. Filled by 479, a light brown silty clay.

**Ditch 482** was linear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 481, a dark brown silty clay with occasional stones.

**Ditch 484** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.48m wide and 0.16m deep. Filled by 483, a light brown silty sand with occasional stones.

**Ditch 486** measured 1.24m wide. Filled by 485, a mid brown silty clay.

#### **Trench 35**

**Ditch 470** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.4m wide and 0.38m deep. Filled by 469, a light brown silty clay with occasional stones.

**Ditch 777** was linear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a sloping base, measuring 0.8m wide and 0.38m deep. Filled by 776, a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional stones.

**Pit 779** measured 0.8m wide and 0.38m deep. Filled by 778, a dark grey silty clay with occasional stones.

#### **Trench 36**

**Ditch 520** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 2.1m long, 1.4m wide and 0.35m deep. Filled by 519, a greyish brown clayey silt.

**Ditch 526** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m long, 0.75m wide and 0.35m deep. Filled by 525, a dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional angular flint nodules, occasional chalky pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

#### **Trench 37**

**Ditch 506** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.4m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 505, a greyish brown silty clay with occasional pebbles and flints.

**Pit 516** was circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m wide and 0.06m deep. Pit 516 contained two fills:

Fill 515 was a light greyish brown silty clay with rare small stones.

Fill 771 was a dark red brown silty clay.

**Ditch 738** was curvilinear in plan with concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a sloping base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 737, a mid brownish grey silty clay with rare chalk and flint inclusions.

**Posthole 740** was circular in plan with almost vertical sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat and sloping base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.31m wide and 0.24m deep. Filled by 739, a mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk and flint inclusions.

**Ditch 745** was curvilinear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.63m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 744, a mid brownish grey silty clay with rare rounded chalk inclusions and rare medium sub-angular flint.

**Posthole 747** was circular in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.46m wide and 0.16m deep. Filled by 746, a mid grey silty clay with rare rounded chalk inclusions and rare medium sub-angular flint.

**Posthole 758** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.6m wide. Filled by 757, a light grey brown silty clay with rare small round stones.

**Posthole 760** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 759, a dark greyish brown very silty clay with very rare small round stones and very rare chalk flecks.

**Posthole 762** was circular in plan with unexcavated sides, an unexcavated break of slope and an unexcavated base, measuring 0.4m wide. Filled by 761, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional small round stones.

**Ditch 767** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m wide and 0.46m deep. Ditch 767 contained two fills:  
Fill 766 was a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones.  
Fill 765 was a mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional small stones.

**Beam slot 770** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.51m long, 0.26m wide and 0.42m deep. Beam slot 770 contained two fills:  
Fill 769 was a dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk and small stones.  
Fill 768 was a light whitish yellow silty clay with frequent chalk fragments, occasional medium angular flint and rare stones.

### **Trench 38**

**Ditch 490** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.2m wide and 0.5m deep. Filled by 489, a light grey silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone and quartzite pebbles and occasional chalk angular flints. Small Finds: Fe (iron) Nail SF162.

**Posthole 494** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.65m wide and 0.09m deep. Filled by 493, a light grey silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions.

**Ditch 502** was linear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.07m deep. Filled by 501, a mid grey silty clay with rare large sub-angular and rounded flint inclusions.

**Posthole 675** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.25m wide and 0.05m deep. Filled by 674, a light grey silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

**Posthole 677** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.3m wide and 0.05m deep. Filled by 676, a light grey silty clay.

**Posthole 679** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep. Filled by 678, a light grey silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

**Ditch 701** was linear in plan with concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 0.35m wide and 0.18m deep. Filled by 700, a light brownish grey silty clay with frequent rounded chalk inclusions and occasional medium rounded inclusions.

**Ditch 706** was linear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.35m wide and 0.09m deep. Filled by 705, a mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent rounded chalk inclusions and occasional medium sized flint and chalk inclusions.

#### **Trench 67**

**Ditch 646** was linear in plan with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a sloping base, measuring 0.65m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 645, a mid brown silty clay with occasional angular flint.

#### **Trench 68**

**Ditch 1510.** Filled by 1509,

**Pit 1512.** Filled by 1511, a black clayey silt with occasional flint inclusions.

#### **Trench 71**

**Ditch 785** was linear in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.7m long, 0.63m wide, 0.25m deep. Filled by 784, a mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional angular flint, moderate chalky stones.

### ***Medieval***

Trenches 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 35 and 71 contained evidence for medieval ridge and furrow.

#### **Trench 20**

**Furrow 550.** Filled by 549.

#### **Trench 22**

**Furrow 610.** Filled by 609.

**Furrow 612.** Filled by 611.

**Furrow 632.** Filled by 631.

#### **Trench 23**

**Furrow 594.** Filled by 593.

**Furrow 600.** Filled by 599.

#### **Trench 24**

**Furrow 410.** Filled by 409.

#### **Trench 25**

**Furrow 412.** Filled by 411.

**Furrow 414.** Filled by 413.

**Furrow 416.** Filled by 415.

#### **Trench 26**

**Furrow 432.** Filled by 431.

**Furrow 434.** Filled by 433.

#### **Trench 27**

**Furrow 574.** Filled by 573.

**Furrow 580.** Filled by 579, dark brown.  
**Furrow 582.** Filled by 581.  
**Furrow 584.** Filled by 583.  
**Furrow 586.** Filled by 585.  
**Furrow 588.** Filled by 587.

**Trench 28**

**Furrow 438** measured 1.7m wide. Filled by 437, dark brown.  
**Furrow 440** measured 0.9m wide. Filled by 439, dark brown.  
**Furrow 442** measured 2.2m wide. Filled by 441, dark brown.  
**Furrow 604.** Filled by 603.

**Trench 29**

**Furrow 454** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base. Filled by 453, dark brown.

**Trench 30**

**Furrow 458.** Filled by 457, dark brown.  
**Furrow 460.** Filled by 459.  
**Furrow 462.** Filled by 461.

**Trench 33**

**Furrow 528.** Filled by 527, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 534.** Filled by 533, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 536.** Filled by 535, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 538.** Filled by 537.  
**Furrow 540.** Filled by 539, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 542.** Filled by 541, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 544.** Filled by 543, a light brown silty clay.  
**Furrow 548.** Filled by 547, a light brown sand.

**Trench 35**

**Furrow 466** measured 1.2m wide. Filled by 465.

**Trench 71**

**Furrow 793** measured 1.7m wide. Filled by 792, light brown.  
**Furrow 795** measured 5m wide. Filled by 794, light brown.

***Post-Medieval***

The ridge and furrow recorded in Trench 33 and assigned to the medieval period may also be of this date.

**Furrow 532.** Filled by 531, a light brown silty clay. Spot date: post-medieval.

***Modern***

Modern features were located in Trenches 23, 25 and 71.

**Trench 23**

**Field drain 598.** Filled by 597.

**Trench 25**

**Field drain 420.** Filled by 419.  
**Field drain 422.** Filled by 421.

**Field drain 424** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.45m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 423, a light brown silty clay with rare small round and semi-angular stones and rare chalk nodules.

**Field drain 426** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.45m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 425, light brown silty clay with moderate small round and semi-angular stones.

**Trench 71**

**Field Drain 799**, measuring 0.5m long, 0.9m wide. Filled by 798.

***Undated features***

Undated features were found in Trenches 20, 22 and 25.

**Trench 20**

**Ditch 552** was linear in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base. Filled by 551, a mid brown silty clay with moderate gravel, occasional sub-rounded chalk pebbles, occasional angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Ditch 554** was linear in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m long, 0.45m wide, 0.14m deep. Filled by 553, a mid orange brown silty clay with moderate gravel, occasional sub-rounded chalk pebbles, occasional angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Trench 22**

**Ditch 608** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m wide, 0.4m deep. Filled by 607, a light orange brown silty clay with occasional small and medium stones.

**Pit 634** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.65m wide, 0.08m deep. Filled by 633, a dark orange brown silty clay with moderate small semi-round and angular stones.

**Trench 25**

**Ditch 418** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 417, a light brown silty clay with rare small round and angular stones and rare chalk nodules.

**Field 4: Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 70 & 72**

Field 4 lies adjacent and to the south of the northern boundary of the study area, to the north of Field 3. Field 4 measures a maximum of 425m north-south by 550m west-east with a total size of 15.4ha. The land rises gradually from the south and the east to a flat ridge beginning at the northern boundary of the study area.

Trenches 5, 6, 8 and 9 produced Small Finds, while Trenches 3, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 70 produced datable ceramics.

The results of the geophysical survey of this field were negative except for the possibility of a NNE-SSW field boundary to the west of this field as indicated on

the 1890 ordnance survey map of this area. It was, however, noted that the southern boundary of this field is approximately 1.5m higher than the northern boundary of Field 3 and the ditch that separates the two fields is banked 1m higher on the north side; this seems likely to be a lynchet formed by a long standing field boundary.

Prehistoric features within the north-west and east of Field 4 comprised a series of regular linear features possibly representing surviving evidence for a previously unparalleled form of agriculture. Excavation has provided ambiguous dating evidence including Bronze Age flintwork and an Iron Age glass bead. The most substantial remains were located within the south-eastern corner of the field and form part of a Mid to Late Iron Age enclosure that spans the current boundaries of Fields 3 and 4.

### *Natural features*

Natural features were located in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 72.

#### Trench 1

Tree throw 802. Filled by 801.

#### Trench 2

Tree throw 808. Filled by 807.

Tree throw 810. Filled by 809.

Tree throw 814. Filled by 813.

#### Trench 4

Natural 832. Filled by 831.

Natural 834. Filled by 833.

Pit 836 was circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.15m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 835, a dark blueish grey silty clay.

Tree bowl 838 was 0.7m wide. Filled by 837.

Natural 840 was 0.3m wide. Filled by 839.

#### Trench 6

Tree bowl 862. Filled by 861.

Tree bowl 866. Filled by 865.

#### Trench 7

Tree bowl 876 was with an irregular base. Filled by 875.

#### Trench 8

Natural 906 was sub-rectangular in plan with steep sides, not fully excavated break of slope and a not fully excavated base. Filled by 905, a mid orange brown clayey silt with occasional small and medium flint, small fragment of burnt flint.

Natural 908 was sub-rectangular in plan with almost vertical sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 0.6m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 907, a mid orange brown clayey silt with occasional small and medium flint.



**Natural 910.** Filled by 909.

**Trench 10**

**Ditch 1010** was linear in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.95m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 1009, a greyish brown silty clay with small angular stones.

**Tree throw 930.** Filled by 929.

**Tree throw 932.** Filled by 931.

**Natural 934.** Filled by 933.

**Posthole 1022** was sub-circular in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.3m long, 0.2m wide, 0.04m deep. Filled by 1021, a light greyish brown silty clay.

**Trench 11**

**Natural 944.** Filled by 943.

**Trench 12**

**Natural 956.** Filled by 955.

**Trench 14**

**Tree bowl 964.** Filled by 963.

**Tree bowl 966.** Filled by 965.

**Tree bowl 968.** Filled by 967.

**Trench 15**

**Natural 972.** Filled by 971.

**Tree throw 976.** Filled by 975.

**Trench 16**

**Tree throw 978.** Filled by 977.

**Natural 980.** Filled by 979.

**Natural 990.** Filled by 989.

**Natural 992.** Filled by 991.

**Trench 72**

**Natural 1040** was linear in plan with imperceptible sides, imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.4m wide, 0.08m deep. Filled by 1039, a yellowish brown silty clay.

**Tree bowl 1046** was irregular in plan with sides and an irregular base, measuring 2.2m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 1045, a light brown silty clay.

**Natural 1050** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.6m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 1049, a yellowish brown with a greyish black lump of organic material silty clay.

**Natural 1054** was 1m wide. Filled by 1053.

***Neolithic***

No dateable finds were recovered.

***Bronze Age***

No dateable finds were recovered.

## *Iron Age*

Iron Age features were found in Trenches 5, 6 and 10.

### Trench 5

**Ditch 848** was curvilinear in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.45m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 847, a light brown silty clay with occasional sandstone and quartzite pebbles, occasional sub-angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

### Trench 6

**Ditch 874**. Filled by 873. Spot date: Prehistoric.

### Trench 10

**Ditch 922** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.65m long, 1.8m wide and 0.45m deep. Filled by 921, a greenish brown silty clay with chalk nodules. Spot date: Iron Age?

**Ditch 928** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.56m long, 0.84m wide and 0.27m deep. Filled by 927, a light grey clayey silt with frequent small flint and stones and occasional charcoal. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

**Posthole 1012** was circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.25m wide and 0.17m deep. Filled by 1011, a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones. Spot date: Prehistoric?

**Ditch 1016** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.81m long, 0.33m wide and 0.07m deep. Filled by 1015, a light grey clayey silt with occasional chalk flecks and occasional small stones. Spot date: Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 1020** was curvilinear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.58m wide and 0.12m deep. Ditch 1020 contained three fills:

Fill 1019 was a mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional small stones.

Fill 1018 was a greenish yellow silty clay with frequent chalk and flint inclusions and rare burnt clay.

Fill 1017 was a light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent chalk and small stones and rare charcoal. Spot date: one piece was dated as Mid- Later Iron Age and another as Later Iron Age.

**Ditch 1030** had an uncertain shape in plan with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.55m long, 1.35m wide and 0.46m deep. Filled by 1029, a light orange brown clayey silt with frequent small stones and flint, occasional charcoal and rare chalk inclusions. Spot date: one piece of pottery was dated as Middle Iron Age.

**Ditch 1032** was linear in plan with steep sides, a not fully excavated break of slope and a not fully excavated base, measuring 0.55m long, 1.35m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 1031, a dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent chalk, stone and flint and occasional charcoal. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

## *Romano-British*

Possible Romano-British features were located in Trenches 3?, 5?, 6? and 7?.

### Trench 3

**Ditch 816** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.4m wide and 0.32m deep. Filled by 815, a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stones and occasional chalk nodules. Spot date: Roman?

### Trench 5

**Ditch 842** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.25m wide and 0.02m deep. Filled by 841, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: Roman?

**Furrow 844** was linear with moderately steep sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 843, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles and occasional angular chalk flecks. Spot date: EC2. This feature was recorded as a furrow and runs on a similar NW-SE alignment to other furrows in the trench such as 850 (spot dated to C13-C15), 852, 854 and 856. Either the spot date from this feature represents contamination or the interpretation needs to be re-assessed.

### Trench 6

**Ditch 860** was linear in plan with steep sides, a moderate break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m long, 0.6m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 859, a dark orange brown silty clay with moderate rounded cobbles, occasional angular flints, occasional rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Spot date: Roman?

### Trench 70

**Furrow 1002.** Filled by 1001. Spot date: C1-C3. This feature was recorded as a furrow and runs on a similar NW-SE alignment as other furrows in the trench such as 1004, 1006 and 1008. Either the spot date from this feature represents contamination or the interpretation needs to be re-assessed.

**Pit 1014** was circular in plan with gently sloping sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep. Filled by 1013, a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints, occasional angular flints and occasional chalk inclusions. Spot date: possibly Roman.

## *Undated features of Iron Age and Roman origin*

Undated features were located in Trenches 3 and 5.

### Trench 3

**Pit 818** was sub-circular in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.6m wide and 0.32m deep. Filled by 817, a dark greyish brown silty.

### Trench 5

**Ditch 846** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.1m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 845, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints. Small Finds: Fe (iron) Nail SF166.

**Ditch 1036** was curvilinear in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.4m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 1035, a light greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles and occasional chalk inclusions.

## *Medieval*

Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 70, 72 contained medieval ridge and furrow.

#### Trench 1

**Furrow 804.** Filled by 803.

#### Trench 4

**Furrow 826.** Filled by 825.

**Furrow 828.** Filled by 827.

**Furrow 830.** Filled by 829.

#### Trench 5

**Furrow 850.** Filled by 849. Spot date: C13-C15.

**Furrow 852** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.49m long, 1.1m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 851, a mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional stone, gravel and chalk inclusions.

**Furrow 854** was linear in plan with concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.55m long, 1.25m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by 853, a mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional stone, gravel and chalk inclusions.

**Furrow 856** was linear in plan with steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.35m long, 1.55m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 855, a mid brown silty clay with occasional stone, gravel, flint and chalk inclusions.

#### Trench 6

**Furrow 864.** Filled by 863.

**Furrow 870.** Filled by 869.

**Furrow 872.** Filled by 871.

**Furrow 880.** Filled by 879.

**Furrow 882.** Filled by 881.

**Furrow 884.** Filled by 883.

**Furrow 886.** Filled by 885.

**Furrow 888.** Filled by 887.

**Furrow 890** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m long, 0.67m wide, 0.15m deep. Filled by 889, a dark orange brown silty clay with occasional angular flints, occasional rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.

**Furrow 892.** Filled by 891.

#### Trench 7

**Furrow 878.** Filled by 877.

**Furrow 898** was linear in plan with almost vertical sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1m long, 0.6m wide, 0.25m deep. Filled by 897, a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional flint inclusions.

#### Trench 8

**Furrow 900** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.95m long, 0.6m wide, 0.15m deep. Filled by 899, a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional angular flints, occasional charcoal flecks.

**Furrow 902** was linear in plan with steep sides, moderate break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.68m wide, 1.95m long, 0.5m deep. Filled by 901, a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional angular flints and occasional charcoal flecks.

#### Trench 9

**Furrow 916.** Filled by 915.

**Furrow 918.** Filled by 917.

**Furrow 920.** Filled by 919.

#### **Trench 10**

**Furrow 1024** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.85m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 1023, light greenish brown silty clay with moderate small stones and chalk nodules.

**Furrow 1026** was linear in plan with concave sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.65m long, 1.15m wide, 0.27m deep. Filled by 1025, a greenish brown silty clay with occasional small stones and flint nodules.

**Furrow 1028** was linear in plan with irregular sides, a gradual break of slope and a flat and irregular base, measuring 0.55m long, 0.9m wide and 0.13m deep. Filled by 1027, an orangey brown clayey silt with occasional flint and stone.

#### **Trench 11**

**Furrow 936.** Filled by 935.

**Furrow 938.** Filled by 937.

**Furrow 942.** Filled by 941.

#### **Trench 12**

**Furrow 948.** Filled by 947.

**Furrow 950.** Filled by 949.

**Furrow 954.** Filled by 953.

#### **Trench 13**

**Furrow 958.** Filled by 957.

**Furrow 962.** Filled by 961.

#### **Trench 15**

**Furrow 970.** Filled by 969.

**Furrow 974.** Filled by 973.

#### **Trench 16**

**Furrow 982.** Filled by 981.

#### **Trench 70**

**Furrow 1004.** Filled by 1003.

**Furrow 1006.** Filled by 1005.

**Furrow 1008.** Filled by 1007.

#### **Trench 72**

**Furrow 1044** measured 1.2m wide. Filled by 1043.

**Furrow 1048** measured 1.8m wide. Filled by 1047.

**Furrow 1052** measured 2.2m wide. Filled by 1051.

**Furrow 1056** measured 0.7m wide. Filled by 1055.

### **Post-Medieval**

Post-medieval features were found in Trenches 9 and 10.

#### **Trench 9**

**Furrow 914.** Filled by 913. Spot date: post-medieval.

#### **Trench 10**

**Posthole 924** was circular in plan with gently sloping then steep sides, a sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.65m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 923, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk nodules. Spot date: post-medieval.

#### **Modern features**

Modern features were encountered in Trenches 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 72.

#### **Trench 2**

**Field drain 812.** Filled by 811.

#### **Trench 3**

**Field drain 820.** Filled by 819.

**Field drain 822.** Filled by 821.

**Field drain 824.** Filled by 823.

#### **Trench 5**

**Field drain 858** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.35m long, 1.05m wide, 0.14m deep. Filled by 857, a dark brown silty clay with occasional flint and stones

#### **Trench 6**

**Field drain 868.** Filled by 867.

#### **Trench 11**

**Field drain 940.** Filled by 939.

#### **Trench 12**

**Field drain 946.** Filled by 945.

**Field drain 952.** Filled by 951.

#### **Trench 13**

**Field drain 960.** Filled by 959.

#### **Trench 16**

**Field drain 984.** Filled by 983.

**Field drain 986.** Filled by 985.

**Field drain 988.** Filled by 987.

#### **Trench 17**

**Field drain 994.** Filled by 993.

**Field drain 996.** Filled by 995.

#### **Trench 72**

**Field Drain 1042** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.5m wide, 0.19m deep. Filled by 1041, a light brown silty clay.

#### ***Undated features***

Undated features were located in Trenches 1 and 8.

#### **Trench 1**

**Ditch 806** was a butt end with concave sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1m long, 0.8 wide, 0.15m deep. Filled by 805, a dark greyish black clayey silt with frequent medium stone and flint, occasional charcoal.

#### **Trench 8**

**Ditch 912** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.1m long, 1.15m wide, 0.35m deep. Filled by 911, a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles, occasional angular flints, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-rounded chalk fragments.

**Pit 1034** was circular in plan with steep sides, moderate break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.6m wide, 0.12m deep. Filled by 1033, a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional angular flints, moderate chalk flecks.

#### **Trench 10**

**Posthole 926** was sub-circular in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.61m long, 0.5m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 925, a dark brownish grey clayey silt with frequent large stones, frequent charcoal, occasional gravel and occasional burnt stone.

#### **Field 5**

No trenches were opened in Field 5, as it lies outside the development area.

#### **Field 6 : Trenches 73, 74, 75 and 76**

Field 6, which lies east and adjacent of Field 3 measures a maximum of 100mm north-south by 240m west-east. Every trench contained at least one medieval furrow with Trench 74 containing five furrows. No small finds or dateable ceramics were found in any of the trenches.

#### **Trench 73**

**Furrow 1601.** Filled by 1600.

#### **Trench 74**

**Furrow 1603.** Filled by 1602.

**Furrow 1605.** Filled by 1604.

**Furrow 1607.** Filled by 1606.

**Furrow 1609.** Filled by 1608.

**Furrow 1611.** Filled by 1610.

#### **Trench 75**

**Furrow 1613.** Filled by 1612.

**Furrow 1615.** Filled by 1614.

#### **Trench 76**

**Furrow 1617.** Filled by 1616.

**Furrow 1619.** Filled by 1618.

### **Field 7: Trenches 51, 52, 53, 54A, 54B, 55, 56, 57A, 57B, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 65**

Field 7 lies east of Field 1 and 3 and adjacent to the B1428, Cambridge-St Neots road in the south-east corner of the study area, measuring a maximum of 590m north-south by 360m west-east with a total size of 10.52ha. The land is low lying and gently slopes from the south-west to the north and east.

The geophysical survey revealed traces of ridge and furrow in the centre of Field 7 slightly to the east and other possible ridge and furrow in the south-west corner of this field the presence of which was confirmed by trial trenching.

Trenches 59 and 61 produced Small Finds. Only trenches 54 and 62 produced dateable ceramics.

### **Natural Features**

Features of natural origin were located in Trenches 50, 54, 56, 57, 59, 60 and 61.

#### **Trench 50**

**Depression 1202** was sub-circular in plan with sides, break of slope and a base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.8m wide, 0.1m deep. Filled by 1201, a dark brownish grey silt with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles and occasional charcoal.

#### **Trench 54**

**Natural 1212.** Filled by 1211.

**Natural 1216** was sub-circular in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.7m wide, 0.1m deep. Filled by 1215, a yellowish brown slightly silty clay.

**Natural 1218.** Filled by 1217.

#### **Trench 56**

**Natural 1226** was irregular in plan with irregular sides and a not fully excavated base, measuring 1.05m long 1.05m wide, 0.15m deep. Natural 1226 contained two fills:

Fill 1337, a yellowish pale brown clay with occasional chalk and flint inclusions.

Fill 1225, a dark greyish brown silt with occasional flint pebbles.

#### **Trench 57**

**Tree bowl 1234** was irregular in plan with sides, break of slope and a base, measuring 0.6m wide, 1.2m long, 0.1m deep. Filled by 1233.

**Tree bowl 1236** was circular in plan with some gently sloping sides, break of slope and a concave base, 0.8m wide, 0.13m deep. Tree bowl 1236 contained two fills:

Fill 1235, a dark brown clay with occasional stones.

Fill 1335, a mid brown clay with occasional medium stones.

**Natural 1238** was with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.34m wide, 0.1m deep. Filled by 1237.

**Natural 1242** was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides, imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring , 0.5m long, 0.5m wide, 0.05m deep. Filled by 1241, a yellowish brown clayey silt.



**Natural 1244** was circular in plan with steep sides and a pointed base, measuring 0.34m long, 0.75m wide, 0.2m deep. Natural 1244 contained two fills:

Fill 1243, a dark brown clay with occasional flint and occasional big stones on side of cut.

Fill 1334, a mid brown sandy clay with occasional medium stones.

**Natural 1246** was with gently sloping sides, imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.6m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 1245, mid brown clay.

**Natural 1248** was irregular in plan with irregular sides, break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.7m wide, 0.03m deep. Filled by 1247, a mid brown clay with occasional stones.

**Natural 1250** was concave in plan with imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.58m long, 0.64m wide, 0.09m deep. Filled by 1249, a mid brown clay with occasional big stones and medium sized flints.

**Tree bowl 1252** was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and an irregular base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.7m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 1251, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional flecks of chalk.

#### **Trench 59**

**Natural 1262** was circular in plan with steep sides, break of slope and a pointed base, measuring 0.45m wide, 0.2m deep. Natural 1262 contained two fills:

Fill 1261, a mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional fine flint inclusions.

Fill 1338, a mid yellowish brown silty clay with occasional sand inclusions and occasional flint pebbles.

#### **Trench 60**

**Natural 1268** was circular in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.15m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 1267, mid brown silty clay.

#### **Trench 61**

**Tree bowl 1222.** Filled by 1221.

**Tree bowl 1304** was 0.5m wide. Filled by 1303.

### ***Neolithic***

No Neolithic finds were found.

### ***Bronze Age***

No Bronze Age finds were recovered.

### ***Iron Age***

An Iron Age feature was recorded in Trench 62. Trench 59 contained an Iron Age coin attributable to Cunobelin Iron Age (SF 159); see Appendix 2.

#### **Trench 62**

**Ditch 1294** had concave sides, an imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.12m wide and 0.43m deep. Ditch 1294 contained two fills:

Fill 1293 was a dark brown clay. Spot date: Mid- Later Iron Age.

Fill 1326 was a mid brown clay with occasional stones, rare big stones and occasional charcoal. Spot date: Middle Iron Age.

### ***Romano-British***

Trench 59 contained a 4th century coin (SF153); see Appendix 2.

### ***Undated features of Iron Age and Roman origin***

Undated features of probable Iron Age or Roman origin were located in Trenches 62 and 65.

#### **Trench 62**

**Ditch 1272** was linear in plan with eastern edge vertical, western edge gently sloping sides, break of slope and a base, measuring 0.9m wide, 0.3m deep. Ditch 1272 contained two fills:

Fill 1271, a dark brown silty clay with rare pebbles and occasional large stones.

Fill 1331, a mid brown silty clay with rare pebbles.

**Ditch 1274** was with concave sides, break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.6m long, 0.7m wide, 0.1m deep. Ditch 1274 contained two fills:

Fill 1332, a mid brown clay with occasional stones.

Fill 1273, a dark blackish brown clay with frequent charcoal and occasional small stones.

**Pit 1278** was irregular in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.5m wide, 0.3m deep. Pit 1278 contained two fills:

Fill 1277, an orange brown silty clay with rare pebbles.

Fill 1336, a mid brown silty clay with rare pebbles and chalk fragments.

**Pit 1280** was rectangular in plan with steep sides, imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.9m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 1279, a mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk fragments and rare pebbles.

**Ditch 1282** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.9m long, 0.5m wide, 0.09m deep. Filled by 1281, a mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay.

**Ditch 1286** was linear in plan with concave sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.9m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 1285, a mid brownish grey silty clay with rare fine rounded chalk, rare medium flint, very rare cobble sized flint.

**Pit 1288** was circular in plan with concave sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.65m wide, 0.14m deep. Pit 1288 contained two fills:

Fill 1287, a mid dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal, frequent burnt clay, occasional fine rounded chalk and rare medium rounded chalk

Fill 1319, a mid dark brown silty clay with rare fine rounded chalk inclusions and very rare medium sub-angular flint.

**Posthole 1290** was sub-circular in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.5m long, 0.3m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 1289, a dark blueish brown very silty clay.

**Ditch 1321** was linear in plan with steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring , 0.8m long, 0.48m wide 0.25m deep. Filled by 1320, a dark orange brown silty clay with small and medium semi-angular stones .

**Posthole 1323** was irregular in plan with steep sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.8m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 1322, a mid brown silty clay with rare pebbles and rare chalk fragments.

**Posthole 1325** was circular in plan with shallow sides, gradual break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.5m wide, 0.12m deep. Filled by 1324, mid brown silty clay with rare pebbles.

**Ditch 1328** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, sharp break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.6m long, 1.1m wide, 0.33m deep. Ditch 1328 contained two fills:

Fill 1333, an orangey brown silty clay.

Fill 1327, a grey clayey silt.

**Posthole 1330** was rectangular in plan with vertical sides, sharp break of slope and a flat base, measuring 0.4m wide, 0.3m deep. Filled by 1329, a mid brown silty clay.

#### **Trench 65**

**Ditch 1314** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 1.4m wide, 0.45m deep. Filled by 1313, a mid brown silty clay with rare flint pebbles.

### ***Medieval***

Trenches 52, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 62 and 65 contained medieval ridge and furrow.

#### **Trench 52**

**Furrow 1204** was linear in plan with steep sides and an irregular base, measuring 1m long, 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 1203, a brown silt with occasional flint inclusions.

#### **Trench 54**

**Furrow 1206** measured 0.8m wide. Filled by 1205.

**Furrow 1208** measured 0.8m wide. Filled by 1207.

**Ditch 1214** was linear in plan with moderately steep sides, imperceptible break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.8m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 1213, a mid orange brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles, occasional chalky stones and rare charcoal flecks.

#### **Trench 56**

**Furrow 1224** measured 1.1m wide. Filled by 1223.

#### **Trench 57**

**Furrow 1254** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep. Filled by 1253, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk pebbles.

**Furrow 1256** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, a gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep. Filled by 1255, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk pebbles.

**Ditch 1260** was linear in plan with concave sides, imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 1.8m long, 0.6m wide, 0.04m deep. Filled by 1259, a mid brown clay with occasional stones.

#### **Trench 60**

**Furrow 1264** was linear in plan with shallow sides and a flat base, measuring 1.9m long, 2.8m wide and 0.22m deep. Filled by 1263, a light yellowish brown clay.

**Furrow 1270** measured 1.8m wide. Filled by 1269.

#### **Trench 61**

**Furrow 1296** measured 1.9m wide. Filled by 1295.  
**Furrow 1298** measured 1.4m wide. Filled by 1297.  
**Furrow 1300** measured 2m wide. Filled by 1299.  
**Furrow 1302** measured 1.8m wide. Filled by 1301.  
**Furrow 1306** measured 2m wide. Filled by 1305.  
**Furrow 1308** measured 1.2m wide. Filled by 1307.  
**Furrow 1310** measured 1.3m wide. Filled by 1309.

#### **Trench 62**

**Furrow 1284** measured 1.4m wide and 0.24m deep. Filled by 1283.  
**Furrow 1292** measured 1.7m wide. Filled by 1291.

#### **Trench 65**

**Furrow 1312.** Filled by 1311.  
**Furrow 1316.** Filled by 1315.

### ***Post-Medieval***

A post-medieval feature was located in Trench 54. A Charles I farthing dating to the mid 17th century (SF151) was recovered from Trench 61.

#### **Trench 54**

**Furrow 1210** measured 1.2m wide. Filled by 1209. Spot date: post-medieval.

### ***Modern features***

Modern features were recorded in Trenches 55, 56, 57, 58 and 60.

#### **Trench 55**

**Modern 1220.** Filled by 1219.

#### **Trench 56**

**Field drain 1228** was 0.45m wide. Filled by 1227.

#### **Trench 57**

**Ditch 1240** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, gradual break of slope and a concave base, measuring 0.9m long, 1m wide, 0.15m deep. Filled by 1239, a yellowish brown silty clay with occasional flecks of chalk.

**Surface (external) 1258** was linear in plan with gently sloping sides, imperceptible break of slope and a flat base, measuring 2.75m wide, 0.09m deep. Filled by 1257, a mid brown clay with very frequent stones of all sizes.

#### **Trench 58**

**Field drain 1230.** Filled by 1229.  
**Field drain 1232.** Filled by 1231.

#### **Trench 60**

**Field drain 1266.** Filled by 1265.

## 6 DISCUSSION

Trial trenching revealed both a greater intensity and more extensive survival of archaeological remains than indicated by the results of either geophysical survey or fieldwalking, providing evidence of a human presence in this area from the Neolithic to modern times. The approximate extents of the main clusters of activity are shown in Figure 3.

The depth of modern ploughsoil across the study area as a whole varied on occasion although in general the average depth remained consistent at between 0.30m and 0.40m. The underlying sub-soil was more subject to variation. This is primarily attributable to ploughing practices associated with medieval field systems. The majority of trial trenches were cut to an average depth of 0.40m. Trenches occasionally increased in depth to between 0.50m and 1.00m (see Appendix 1). The current depth of topsoil cover is generally quite shallow which has ensured the truncation of archaeological deposits as a result of medieval and later ploughing across the development area. Despite this fact the state of preservation of those surviving negative cut features is good. Evidence of a cobbled surface recorded within Field 3 is an indicator that the degree of truncation is variable.

Mesolithic/Neolithic activity is inferred by the residual presence of occasional flint artefacts characteristic of the period surviving within later feature fills. The relative paucity of evidence from earlier prehistoric periods is perhaps surprising given the known and relatively intensive levels of activity in the local area.

By far the most intensive area of activity was the anticipated late pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) and Roman occupation within Field 2 and the south-western quadrant of Field 3. The presence of activity within this area had been successfully identified as the result of geophysical survey (WYAS 2002) and tentatively dated as the result of fieldwalking (Whitehead 2003). In addition, trial trenching revealed residual traces of a Bronze Age presence (redeposited pottery) and hand made ceramics that may be Early Saxon in date were recovered from within the core of this activity in Field 2. Within Field 3 a substantial Iron Age presence has been identified. This seems to consist of one or more large settlement related enclosures which were partially masked on the geophysical survey by later Roman activity (Fig 20).

Additional archaeological remains that were not identified through geophysical survey or fieldwalking included:

- prehistoric features within the north west and east of Field 4 (Fig 20) comprising a series of regular linear features possibly representing surviving evidence for a previously unparalleled form of agriculture. Excavation has provided ambiguous dating evidence including Bronze Age flintwork and an Iron Age glass bead;
- evidence of an earlier prehistoric (Bronze Age?) presence within the north eastern corner of Field 3 which extends into the southeast corner of Field 4;

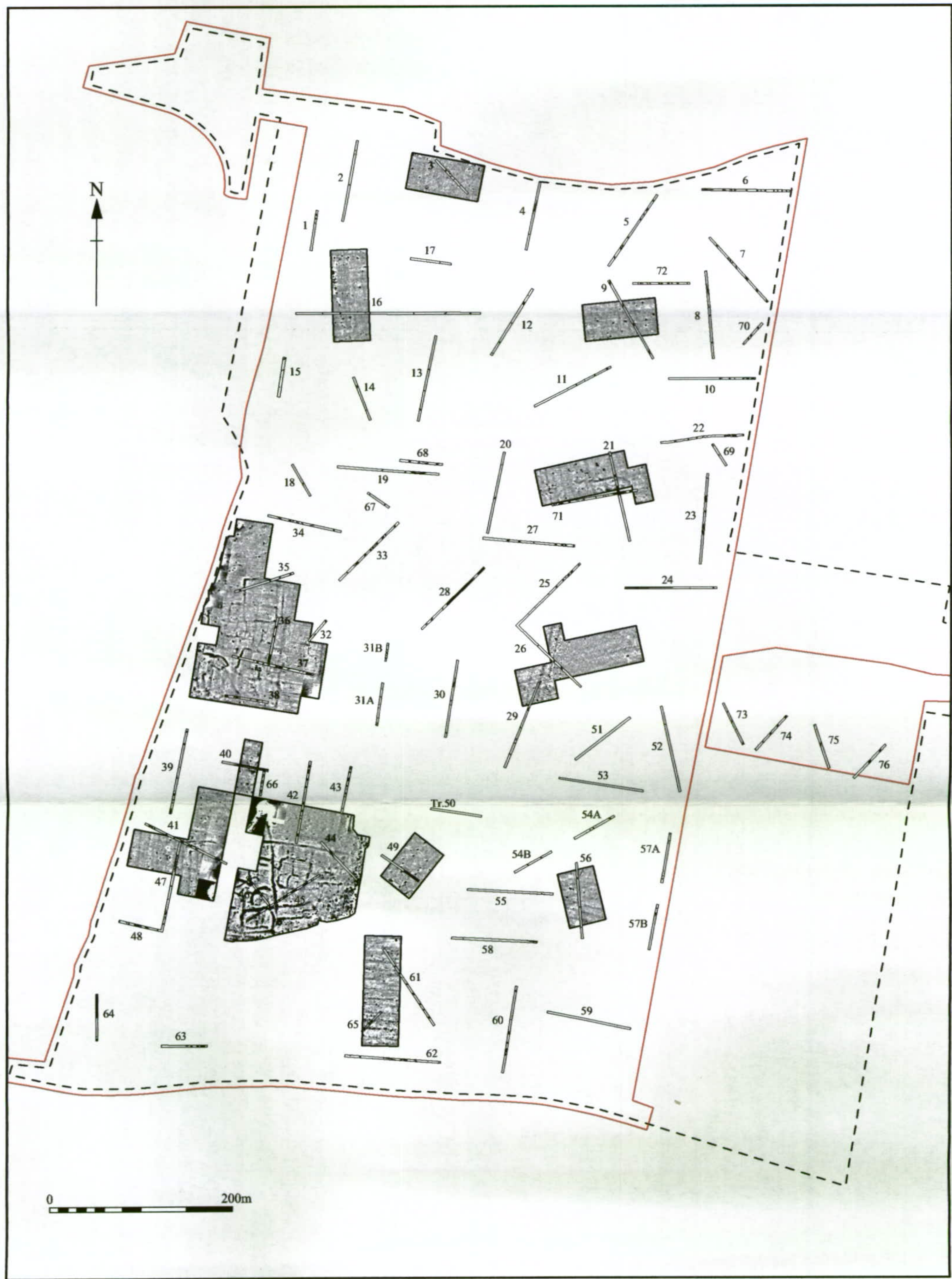


Figure 3 Trench locations with geophysical survey

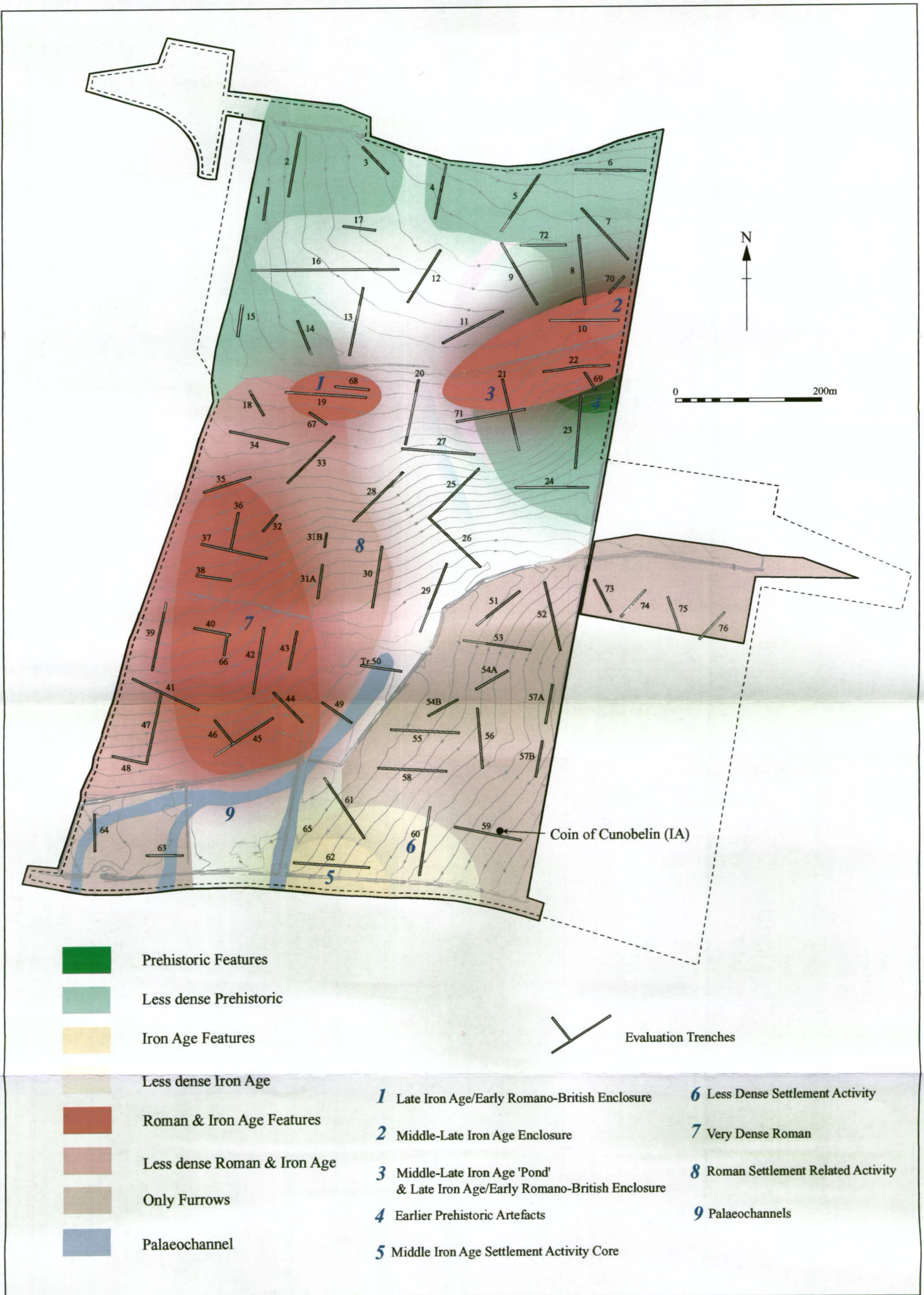
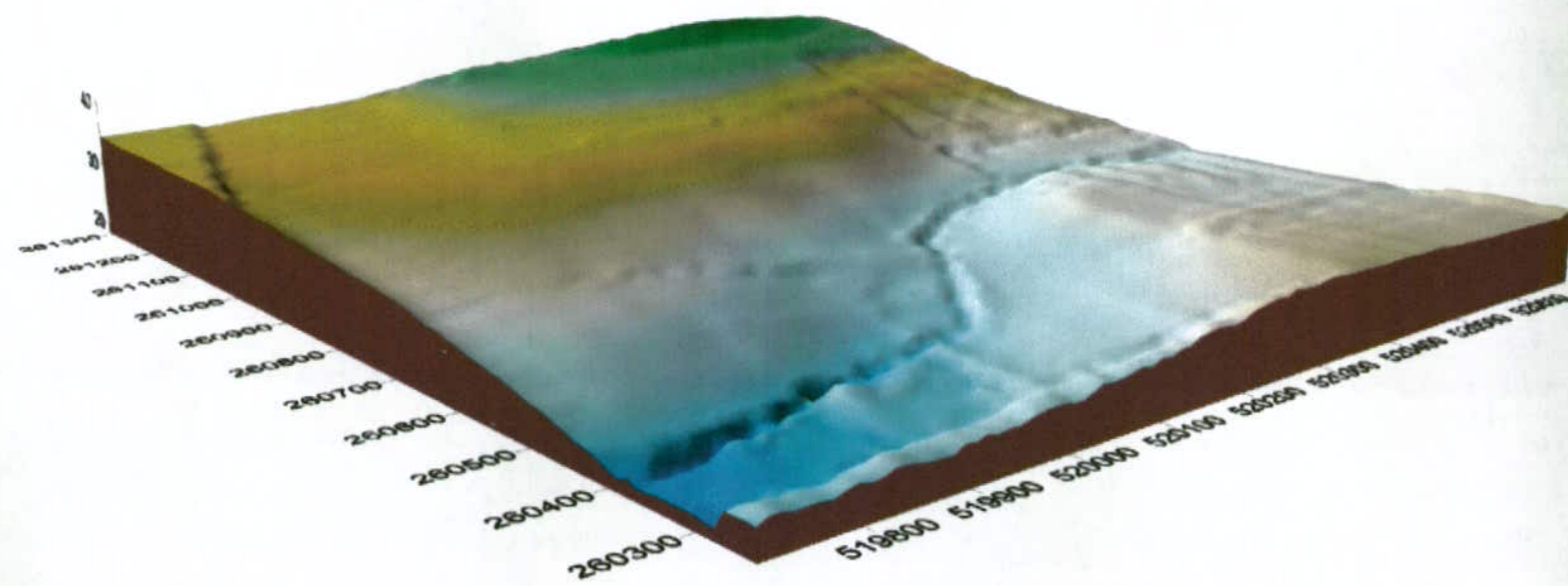
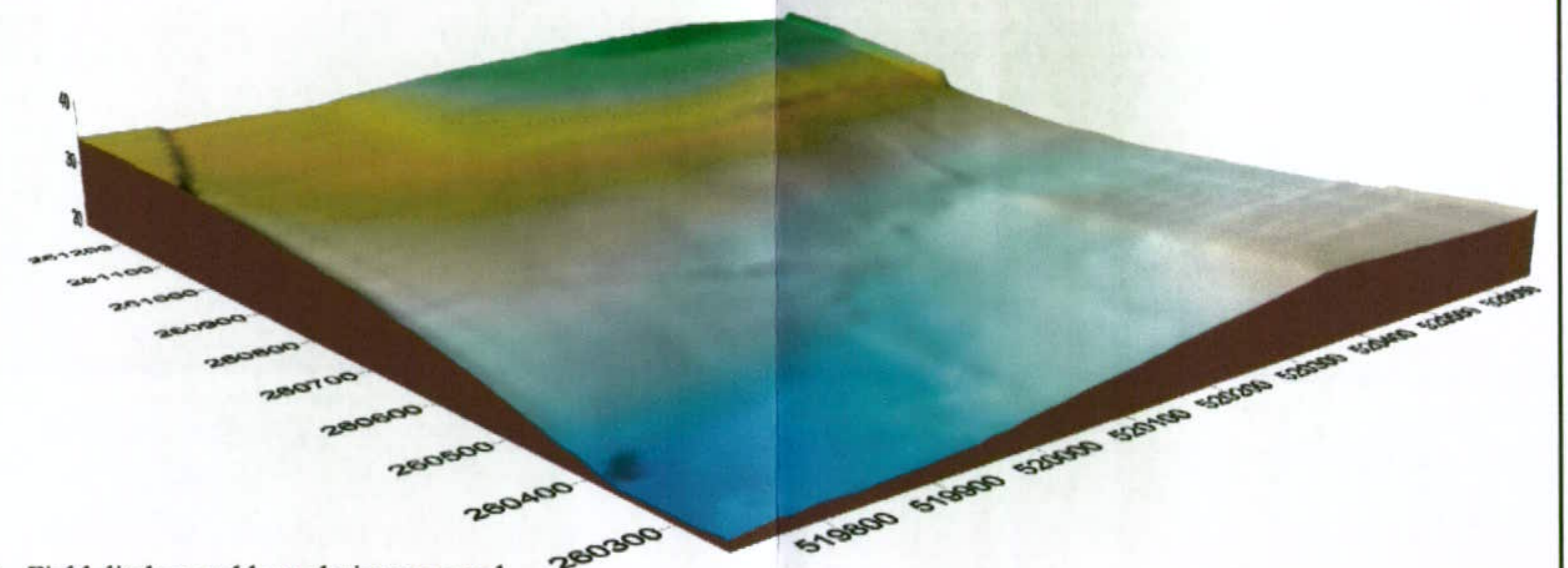


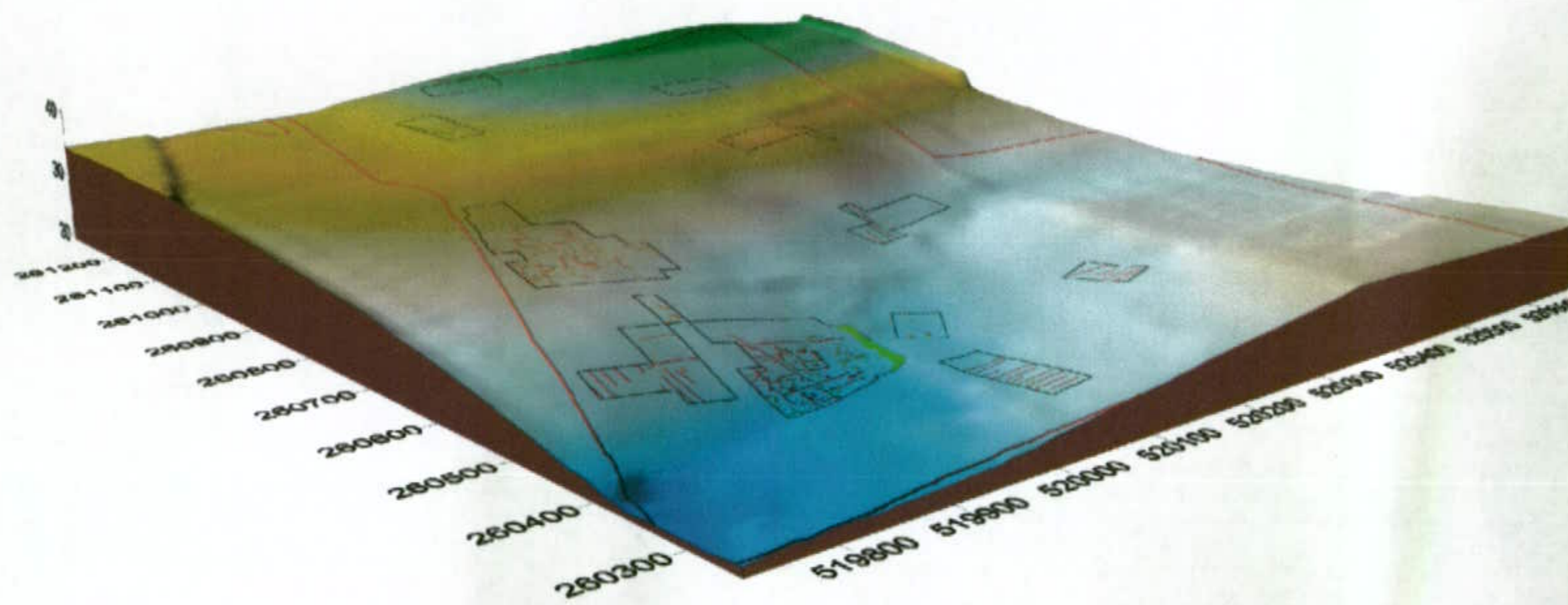
Figure 4 Zones of activity



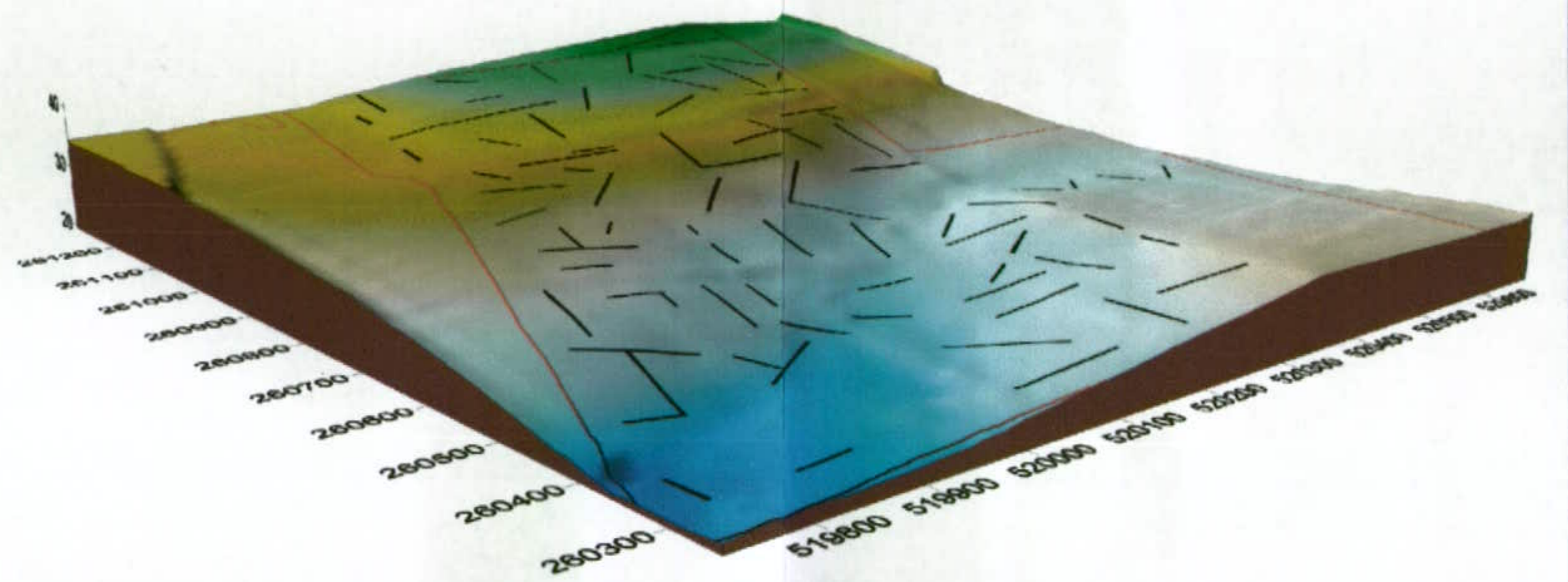
1. Present Landscape



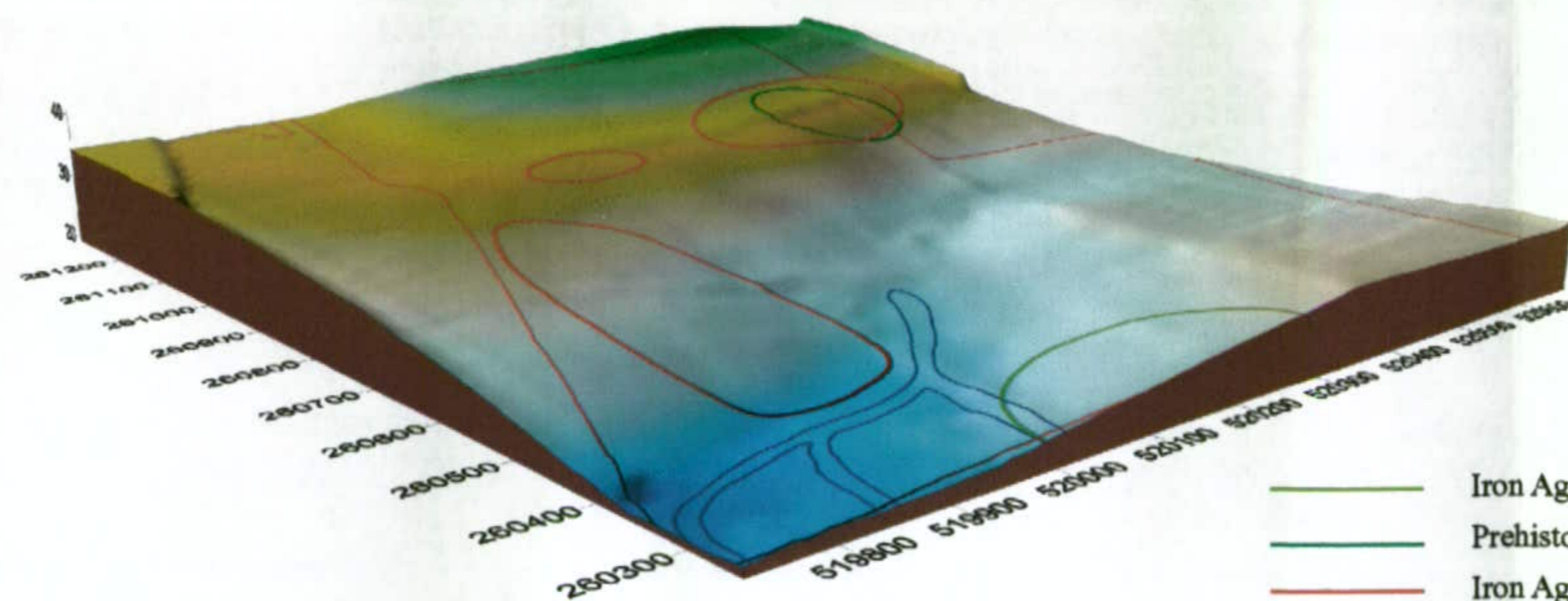
2. Field ditches and boundaries removed



3. Geophysical survey overlay



4. Trench plan overlay



5. Archaeological zones overlay

- Iron Age
- Prehistoric
- Iron Age-Roman
- Palaeochannel

Height

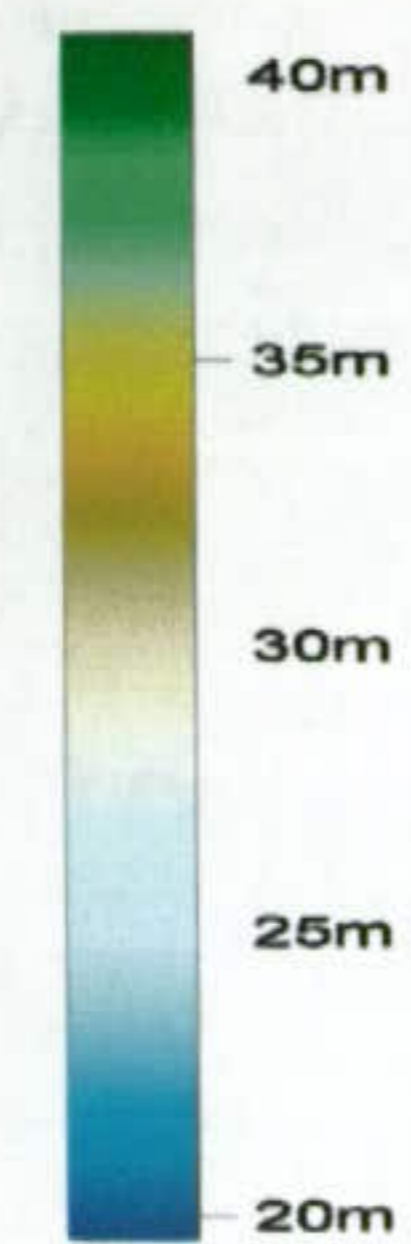


Figure 5 Terrain models



- settlement related activity is also present along the southern boundary of Field 7 of Middle Iron Age (MIA) date. This evidence consists of relatively shallow ditches and pits containing occupational debris;
- a series of paleochannels within the eastern portion of Field 2 may have been contemporary and could help define the eastern limit of settlement during the LPRIA and Roman periods. It is highly likely that paleochannels identified within Field 1 in the south western corner of the development are part of the same drainage system, their position having been dictated by the micro-topography of the immediate area (see Fig. 3-4);
- a substantial enclosure of LPRIA/Roman transitional date has been identified towards the northern limits of Field 3. Substantial ditches of the same period are present further to the east within the same field. The function of these enclosures is unknown at present although their positioning along the crest of the hill may be significant. A substantial Iron Age feature thought to be a possible quarry for opportunistic iron extraction was also located on a slight promontory at the eastern end of the ridge.

A broad range of artefactual and environmental evidence was recovered during the course of the evaluation which has added significant detail to our understanding of the site, particularly in the later Iron Age and Roman periods (see Appendices 2-5).

The ceramic assemblage is detailed in Appendices 3a and 3b. The earlier prehistoric ceramic assemblage was small, consisting of a few sherds from a possible later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker, a sherd from an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn as well as a number of non diagnostic Grog-tempered sherds.

The later prehistoric assemblage was dated to three spot-dating phases, mid-late Iron Age, later Iron Age and transitional. The mid-to-late Iron Age assemblage was characterised by a range of small sherds of handmade sand-tempered fabrics. The assemblage was tentatively dated to the period 500-300BC and was found in eighteen contexts.

The later Iron Age assemblage (300-100BC) was also mostly spot-dated by fabric suggesting that there may be some degree of uncertainty between the mid-to-late and later Iron Age material. Overall however the assemblage is small with only a few sherds being recovered from each feature. Later Iron Age pottery was found in fifteen contexts.

A transitional date (100BC-100AD) was assigned to contexts that contained a mix of handmade and wheelmade forms or very early Romanised forms. During rapid scan and spot-dating it was noted that the transitional pottery formed a major component of the assemblage suggesting increased activity at the site during the Later Iron Age and earlier Roman period.

The Roman assemblage is generally in poor condition with small sherds and a high degree of abrasion, which has removed much evidence for use. The assemblage shows a marked concentration of forms dating to the earlier Roman period with a possible hiatus in the 2nd and 3rd centuries before increasing again by the 4th century. The assemblage is of interest as, although the site lies near major Roman supply routes and other sites in the vicinity are well supplied with fine wares and samian, they are lacking from this group. Whether this is a real 2nd century hiatus in settlement or an indicator of exceptionally low status (or function) remains to be explored by further excavation.

The metalwork assemblage is varied and generally in good condition (Appendix 2). The coins include a single Iron Age coin of Cunobelin, a hoard of 23 late 1st to mid 2nd century bronze issues and seven 3rd to late 4th century coins. The overall assemblage is broadly atypical of Romano-British settlements of the area.

Examination of the animal bone (Appendix 4) highlights the presence of all the main domesticates (cattle, sheep/goat and pig). Horse was relatively well represented in some contexts and deer was represented by antler fragments. Dog (mainly teeth) and bird remains were also present. Preservation was generally good, although there were some contexts in which preservation was variable and evidence of weathering, root markings and in some cases burning, was observed.

A good cross section of bone elements was recorded, particularly skull fragments in cattle, and tibia and related bones in sheep/goat. There was a good range of elements, which were fused indicating good potential for establishing a mortality/kill off pattern for the species present.

An assessment of the bulk soil samples taken to establish the potential of surviving environmental evidence on the site show that preservation was generally good (Appendix 5). Preservation of macrobotanical material was by charring. Charcoal fragments are present in varying densities in all the samples. Many of the samples contain moderate densities of wheat chaff (glume bases, spikelet forks and rachis fragments), probably of *Triticum spelta* (Spelt wheat), with a few grains of barley and possibly oats being tentatively identified. Crop processing is an activity indicated by the preliminary environmental results which accords well with the general picture of rural agricultural settlement that has emerged from this evaluation.

## 7 RESEARCH POTENTIAL

The results of the recent evaluation suggest that, should the site be excavated at some stage in the future, it may have the potential to address a broad range of research criteria.

Evaluation has shown that the site may have been utilised in the earlier prehistoric period (Neolithic and Bronze Age) as evidenced by occasional finds of worked flint or pottery in later contexts. The evaluation results suggest at least two phases of Iron Age settlement on the site. There is evidence that occupation continued during the Late Iron Age/Romano-British transition and during the Romano-British period (1st to 4th centuries AD), although finds seem to indicate a hiatus of activity during the later 2nd to 3rd centuries AD.

### 7.1 Potential of the Site to Contribute to National Research Aims

The Love's Farm project has the potential to make a meaningful contribution towards some of the national research priorities identified by English Heritage (1997) and some of the regional priorities for East Anglia (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

#### *The Meaning of Change*

The subject site offers the potential to examine aspects of continuity and change over a broad time period.

#### *Communal monuments into settlement and field landscapes (2000–300 BC)*

English Heritage (1997, 44) cites that the change from a monument-dominated landscape to a settlement-dominated landscape is one that is poorly understood both regionally and nationally. The Love's Farm site has the potential to contribute to elucidation of this issue by:

- placing any Neolithic and Bronze Age activity within the context of the extensive monumental landscape of the Great Ouse valley;
- contributing to an understanding of Neolithic/Bronze Age land use in the Ouse Valley, its tributaries and immediate hinterland.

The presence of occasional Neolithic flintwork and Bronze Age ceramics on the site, combined with its location on the side of a low hill overlooking the Ouse Valley and the ritual complex at Eynesbury (Kemp 1993, 1996, 1997; Ellis 2002) to the south-west, indicate that study of features of this date may contribute towards a greater understanding of this period at a local and regional level. Evaluation has highlighted the presence of a range of undated and/or 'naturally formed features' (See section 4, p.8) certain of which may be attributable to the earlier prehistoric

period but which are currently undateable due to the artefactually sterile nature of those features investigated during evaluation. Should any further investigative work be carried out within this area it would be important to identify features dating to these periods and to gather sufficient evidence to ensure that their broad nature can be determined. It would be especially important to attempt to distinguish between settlement and ritual related features. Excavation of these features and retrieval of artefacts and ecofacts would be a priority. It will be also be necessary to characterise clearly these features and place them within their landscape context. Evidence from other excavated sites and cropmark sites of known or suspected Neolithic or Bronze Age date in the Ouse Valley could then be used for comparison.

#### *Briton into Roman (300BC – AD 200)*

The national research agenda has indicated that the transition between the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods demonstrates a high degree of continuity and complexity with the potential for study of complex data-sets (English Heritage 1997, 44). The following research objectives contribute towards this aim:

- to increase understanding of the spatial/temporal relationship of the Iron Age and Roman settlement and agricultural use of areas with heavy clay soils on the clay hinterlands of the River Great Ouse;
- to contribute to the understanding of the processes of settlement shift and nucleation;
- to examine evidence for the initial impact of the Roman occupation on the area, with particular reference to the siting of the Roman road of Ermine Street, located 7km to the east and the development of the Roman town of *Durovigutum* at Godmanchester;
- to investigate the evidence for the presence of settlement remains dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British transition on part of the site, which indicate the potential for study of this important period. It is possible that the location of settlement between the Middle Iron Age to the south and later Iron Age and Romano-British activity to the north and west is evidence for a shift northwards in the settlement.

#### *Settlement hierarchies and interaction*

The collection of artefacts, ecofacts and structural evidence from sites with well understood depositional processes and with good and consistent sampling techniques has been identified as a critical factor in the study of settlement hierarchies and interaction (English Heritage 1997, 51). The site presents the opportunity to collect data from a large area which may be temporally associated, but which relates to different activities and may therefore have the potential to contribute towards this research aim. Of particular relevance in this context will be study of the Iron Age and Romano-British remains. It is currently thought that two

phases of Iron Age activity can be identified on the site, but as these are spatially separated it is possible that they relate to different elements of the same settlement. It will be essential to characterise and date the features related to the Middle Iron Age so that they can fulfil their potential in contributing towards this research aim. The collection of artefacts and ecofacts from securely stratified deposits will form a key feature of this research objective.

#### *Rural settlement*

Settlement patterns have been identified as being key to the understanding of the economic, social and political structures of rural England. The following research objectives may contribute towards this aim:

- to examine any paleo-environmental evidence for the impact of human activity on the landscape and contribute to an understanding of this impact on the heavy clay soils of the Great Ouse hinterland;
- to contribute to an understanding of the spatial/temporal relationship of the Iron Age and Roman settlement and agricultural use of areas with heavy clay soils on the clay hinterlands of the River Great Ouse;
- to contribute to an understanding of Roman settlement on and exploitation of the heavy clay soils of the Great Ouse hinterland.

This site is likely to provide valuable information about the exploitation of heavy clay soils given its location and the length of time the settlement was apparently occupied. It has the potential to provide data regarding the development of the site over time: particularly significant for the achievement of this aim are the faunal and botanical assemblages both of which will contribute to knowledge about the types of animals and plants being exploited and how these may have changed over time. It will also be important to establish whether any evidence for patterning within the settlement or settlements can be discerned both spatially and temporally. It will be necessary to gather evidence relating to the types of activities carried out across the settlement area supported by a secure chronological framework.

#### *Patterns of craftsmanship and industry (including agriculture)*

The study of industry and crafts has been identified as a continuing area of research (English Heritage 1997, 54). Investigation into past agriculture has often been ignored and has therefore been picked out as a key national research priority. Research aims which can be related to the national research agenda include have been given in the preceding section on rural settlement.

The site has, to date, provided tentative evidence for craftworking in the form of occasional finds of iron slag dated to the Roman period which may indicate the presence of metalworking. The main body of evidence relates to agricultural activity and includes evidence for land division, field patterns and crop processing. It will be

especially important to retrieve environmental data by stringent sampling for botanical remains and for metalworking debris in particular.

### **Landscapes**

The need to place archaeological sites within a better understanding of the landscape as a whole has been stated (English Heritage 1997, 55). As such it should be an objective of any future excavation to place the site within its local and regional context by comparison with other excavated sites and study of historic landscape features. The two areas of research that are of particular relevance to this project are cognitive landscapes and regional chronologies.

#### *Cognitive landscapes*

English Heritage (1997, 55) notes the development in the theory of exploring landscapes from perceptions based around belief-systems and social/ceremonial action. In terms of the subject site, the related research objective is:

- to contribute to an understanding of the possible ritual and political landscapes of this part of the Huntingdonshire historic environment from the Neolithic to the end of the Roman period.

The position of the site in relation to the local landscape overlooking a river valley is likely to be significant, and study of its relationship to landscape features and other nearby sites may throw light upon the political, cultural, physical or belief systems that have determined the location, activity and longevity of the land-use on this site. This research is particularly relevant to Iron Age activity but may also be related to a longer continuity of practice possibly beginning in earlier prehistory and perhaps continuing into the Romano-British period. Any human remains recovered from the excavations will be especially pertinent to these research aims, since the disposal and burial of the dead has particular relevance to belief systems and ritual practices. Later evidence of Roman settlement activity will be studied with reference to Roman Godmanchester and other related sites of the period including Bob's Wood, Hinchinbrooke and Cambourne. It will be very important to gain a clear understanding of the date, phasing and longevity of use of any boundary features on the site in order to achieve these aims.

#### *Regional chronologies*

English Heritage (1997, 55) states the need to refine regional chronologies in order to better aid in the understanding of temporal landscapes. The refinement of a regional chronology is also a major regional research aim towards which the site has a potential valuable contribution (see below).

## 7.2 The Potential of the Site to Contribute to Regional Research Aims

The project has the potential to contribute towards several of the research priorities highlighted within the regional research agenda and strategy for the Eastern Counties (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

### *Iron Age*

#### *Contribute Towards a Better Iron Age chronology*

There is potential for the recovery of a well preserved and stratified Iron Age pottery assemblage which may contribute to research into the chronological sequence for this period.

The regional research agenda has cited chronology as a gap in knowledge for the region during the Iron Age and has recommended that several techniques should be applied in order to establish a chronology (Bryant in Brown and Glazebrook 2000). These include scientific dating techniques, establishing regional pottery sequences and investigation of datable pottery assemblages. Relevant research objectives are:

- to produce stratified pottery assemblages of Iron Age material to assist in the development of local type series;
- to contribute to the development of a reliable local chronological framework for the Iron Age;
- to help in establishing regional pottery sequences and fine dating for the problematic period of the Middle Iron Age (see Bryant in Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 16).

The East Anglian research agenda has identified the increase in agricultural production as being the most important development in the Iron Age of the region: evidence for the nature of the contemporary Iron Age agrarian economy has been cited as very high priority. Environmental assessment of soil samples from the evaluation suggest good potential for the recovery of evidence relating to crop production and processing. Faunal remains indicate equivalent potential for the study of animal husbandry. A related research objective is:

- to contribute towards an understanding of the development of the agrarian economy in the Iron Age.

Collection of artefacts and ecofacts from well dated, secure and uncontaminated contexts will be important in determining a chronological sequence that can be used to contribute towards this aim. At an individual site level, the collection of charred grain deposits and animal bones from well dated settlement deposits will be a high priority, as will the identification of well dated buried soils.

It will also be necessary to study the landscape within which the site sits in order to give it context and assess its importance beyond a purely local level.

*Contribute Towards an Understanding of Artefact Production and Distribution in the Iron Age*

The mechanisms involved in the production and distribution of fine-ware pottery has been cited as a particular research aim for the region (Bryant in Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 17). The site has already produced a good assemblage of Late Iron Age/transitional ceramics: it is likely, therefore, that a valuable assemblage of pottery can be obtained from well stratified deposits. Any such assemblage will be assessed for its potential to provide information concerning production and exchange. It is essential that chronological information is provided to support this and the collection of pottery from clearly stratified deposits should therefore be a priority.

**Roman**

The site is located roughly equidistantly between the Roman small towns of Godmanchester (Cambs.) and Sandy (Beds.) which were linked by a side branch of Ermine Street. The hinterland between these two small towns supported a network of villas and smaller settlements.

*The impact of the development of towns on the surrounding countryside*

The eastern region is seen as a key area for the study of the relationship between town and countryside due to the sparsity of urban centres.

The site is ideally situated to address this issue due to its proximity to Roman Godmanchester and the substantial body of related work from the adjacent county of Bedfordshire. This theme has been reflected in the following research aims:

- to place the evidence for Roman activity on the site within the context of the wider landscape, including Ermine Street (A14) and *Durovigutum* (Godmanchester, Cambs.); and the related small towns of Bedfordshire including Sandy, Beds. and *Durocibrivis* (Dunstable, Beds.) both of which were, like Godmanchester, believed to have grown up around the *Mansio*'s of the *cursus publicus*.
- to examine evidence for the initial impact of the Roman occupation on the area, with particular reference to the above;
- to address issues of food consumption and production for the Romano-British period and the interaction of a large estate centre with a nearby Roman town (Murphy in Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 21).



These aims would be addressed by ensuring that excavation recovers well dated and stratified assemblages of material from properly understood and characterised features and their associations. It should be a particular objective to ensure that the data collected will provide enough evidence to ensure that the character of the site and its development over time is fully understood throughout the Roman period. Comparison with evidence from Roman Godmanchester and equivalent rural sites such as Bob's Wood, Hinchinbrooke (Cambs.) or sites like Ruxox, Beds., (Dawson 2002) and Eastcotts Beds., (BCAS 1995/14 and forthcoming) and comprises a series of enclosures in a linear alignment or farmsteads of the period such as Peartree Farm Beds., (BCAS 1994/11) or Odell, Beds., (Dix 1982) will be especially pertinent to this research objective, in an attempt to establish whether the fortunes of this settlement relied on those of the nearby town. It may be possible to discern whether the relative proximity of a major Roman thoroughfare had any real impact on the settlement by study of the pottery and other finds in terms of their production centres and status.

### **7.3 The Potential to Contribute to Local Research Aims**

The site provides an ideal opportunity to study a multi-period settlement site encompassing agricultural, domestic and potentially ritual activities within the context of the Ouse Valley.

The main aim of any future excavation should be to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site. The following objectives are specifically site related, and would form the basis of the site's contribution to the regional and national research aims cited above:

#### **Prehistoric**

- to investigate the nature of Neolithic and Bronze Age activity on the site.

#### **Iron Age**

- to investigate the nature, morphology and development of Iron Age settlement on the site and its relationship to the Iron Age activity investigated in 1997;
- to contribute to an understanding of the domestic economy of the Iron Age settlement;
- to investigate the processes of deposition of domestic debris within differing contexts within the core and periphery of the settlement with a view to understanding the nature of depositional practices in the domestic context.

#### **Roman**

- to investigate the nature and morphology of Roman settlement on the site;

- to investigate the apparent hiatus in activity on the site during the later 2nd to 3rd centuries AD.

**Saxon**

- to investigate the potential for continuity of occupation or land use from the Late Roman to Early Saxon transitional period.

The objective of the evaluation was to establish the character, date, and state of preservation and extent of any archaeological remains and deposits within the proposed development. The project was successful in achieving its objectives, providing a good understanding of the surviving archaeological resource within the area under investigation.

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**APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DETAILS**

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
4	1	50m	0	0.50m	0.18m
			25	0.50m	0.20m
			50	0.50m	0.25m
4	2	100m	0	0.53m	0.13m
			50	0.50m	0.20m
			75m	0.42m	0.16m
			100	0.46m	0.14m
4	3	51m	0	0.60m	0.17m
			25m	0.60m	0.29m
			50m	0.60m	0.30m
4	4	80m	0	0.80m	0.50m
			25m	0.36m	0.42m
			50m	0.42m	0.14m
			75m	0.60m	0.34m
4	5	94.5m	0	0.36m	0.10m
			25m	0.34m	0.10m
			50m	0.29m	0.14m
			75m	0.25m	0.19m
			94.5m	0.41m	0.10m
4	6	95.8m	0	0.32m	0.20m
			25m	0.32m	0.11m
			50m	0.4.m	0.12m
			75m	0.42m	0.12m
			95.8m	0.37m	0.08m
4	7	95m	0	0.46m	0.09m
			25m	0.34m	0.06m
			50m	0.30m	0.05m
			75m	0.32m	0.14m
			95m	0.36m	0.08m
4	8	96.1m	0	0.38m	0.14m
			25m	0.24m	0.14m
			50m	0.30m	0.14m
			75m	0.26m	0.15m
			96.1m	0.32m	0.15m
4	9	98.4m	0	0.29m	0.10m
			25m	0.32m	0.12m
			50m	0.36m	0.1m
			75m	0.31m	0.06m
			98.4m	0.38m	0.10m
4	10	94.6m	0	0.31m	0.12m
			25m	0.25m	0.18m
			50m	0.32m	0.16m
			75m	0.32m	0.12m
			94.6	0.30m	0.19m
4	11	93.9m	0	0.30m	0.10.m
			25m	0.26m	0.10.m
			50m	0.32m	0.12m
			75m	0.34m	0.07m
			93.9	0.34m	0.12m
4	12	85m	0	0.55m	0.20m



Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
			25m	0.38m	0.15m
			50m	0.52m	0.23m
			75m	0.42m	0.20m
			85m	0.60m	0.20m
4	13	95m	0	0.50m	0.20m
			25m	0.30m	0.14m
			50m	0.44m	0.2m
			75m	0.46m	0.16m
			95m	0.60m	0.24m
4	14	50m	0	0.50m	0.20m
			25m	0.45m	0.20m
			50m	0.38m	0.16m
4	15	32m	0	0.50m	0.20m
			25m	0.45m	0.20m
4	16	220m	0	0.56m	0.20m
			25m	0.40m	0.18m
			50m	0.56m	0.28m
			75m	0.48m	0.15m
			100m	0.52m	0.32m
			125m	0.36m	0.12m
			150m	0.30m	0.11m
			175m	0.40m	0.20m
			200	0.46m	0.12m
4	17	45m	0	0.55m	0.30m
			25m	0.55m	0.28m
			45m	0.55m	0.20m
3	18	38m	0	0.34m	0.10m
			25m	0.35m	0.11m
			38m	0.34m	0.09m
3	19	110.2m	0	0.48m	0.23m
			25m	0.49m	0.20m
			50m	0.41m	0.17m
			75m	0.36m	0.12m
			100m	0.28m	0.11m
			110m	0.35m	0.09m
3	20	90.2m	0	0.36m	0.08m
			25m	0.41m	0.13m
			50m	0.50m	0.20m
			75m	0.48m	0.12m
			90.2	0.44m	0.22m
3	21	94m	0	0.32m	0.08m
			25m	0.41m	0.09m
			50m	0.31m	0.08m
			75m	0.30m	0.10m
			94m	0.40m	0.09m
3	22	91m	0	0.40m	0.10m
			25m	0.42m	0.16m
			50m	0.36m	0.10m
			75m	0.40m	0.20m
			91m	0.46m	0.15m
3	23	99m	0	0.32m	0.15m
			25m	0.30m	0.05m

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
			50m	0.38m	0.10m
			75m	0.20m	0.07m
			99m	0.24m	0.05m
3	24	100m	0	0.44m	0.05m
			25m	0.35m	0.15m
			50m	0.39m	0.15m
			75m	0.36m	0.10m
			100m	0.38m	0.12m
3	25	97.5m	0	0.36m	0.15m
			25m	0.35m	0.19m
			50m	0.35m	0.15m
			75m	0.40m	0.08m
			97.5	0.48m	0.10m
3	26	98.2m	0	0.36m	0.08m
			25m	0.34m	0.20m
			50m	0.30m	0.24m
			75m	0.37m	0.24m
			98.2	0.39m	0.23m
3	27	105m	0	0.54m	0.22m
			25m	0.42m	0.10m
			50m	0.40m	0.10m
			75m	0.35m	0.14m
			100m	0.36m	0.10m
3	28	95m	0	0.49m	0.22m
			25m	0.32m	0.13m
			50m	0.46m	0.13m
			75m	0.52m	0.17m
			95m	0.55m	0.16m
3	29	97.4m	0	0.60m	0.45m
			25m	0.40m	0.40m
			50m	0.38m	0.25m
			75m	0.32m	0.28m
			97.4m	0.47m	0.20m
3	30	90m	0	0.60m	0.25m
			25m	0.35m	0.11m
			50m	0.41m	0.13m
			75m	0.43m	0.19m
			90m	0.43m	0.20m
3	31	50m	0	0.54m	0.19m
			25m	0.49m	0.21m
			50m	0.52m	0.20m
3	32	29.5m	0	0.25m	0.05m
			25m	0.30m	0.10m
			29.5	0.30m	0.10m
3	33	94.5m	0	0.39m	0.19m
			25m	0.68m	0.30m
			50m	0.33m	0.14m
			75m	0.42m	0.21m
			94.5m	0.35m	0.20m
3	34	82.1m	0	0.48m	0.19m
			25m	0.60m	0.20m
			50m	0.60m	0.21m

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
			75m	0.50m	0.20m
			82.1	0.48m	0.16m
3	35	66.4m	0	0.34m	0.05m
			25m	0.29m	0.06m
			50m	0.3m	0.08m
			66.4m	0.32m	0.06m
3	36	53m	0	0.40m	0.04m
			25m	0.30m	0.08m
			50m	0.43m	0.07m
3	37	110m	0	0.36m	0.08m
			25m	0.38m	0.09m
			50m	0.34m	0.08m
			75m	0.30m	0.08m
			110m	0.46m	0.10m
3	38	48m	0	0.52m	0.30m
			25m	0.42m	0.10m
			48m	0.38m	0.12m
2	39	94m	0	0.39m	0.08m
			25m	0.36m	0.10m
			50m	0.36m	0.18m
			75m	0.37m	0.10m
			94m	0.35m	0.16m
2	40	51m	0	0.25m	0.02m
			25m	0.32m	0.07m
			50m	0.32m	0.06m
2	41	92.6m	0	0.55m	0.20m
			25m	0.40m	0.12m
			50m	0.36m	0.10m
			75m	0.36m	0.10m
			92.6m	0.30m	0.06m
2	42	92m	0	0.27m	0.02m
			25m	0.33m	0.03m
			50m	0.32m	0.04m
			75m	0.26m	0.04m
			92m	0.30m	0.04m
2	43	53m	0	0.18m	0.02m
			25m	0.26m	0.05m
			50m	0.27m	0.05m
2	44	58m	0	0.20m	0.02m
			25m	0.22m	0.01m
			50m	0.23m	0.03m
			58m	0.23m	0.04m
2	45	94.5m	0	0.30m	0.10m
			25m	0.43m	0.10m
			50m	0.37m	0.02m
			75m	0.37m	0.02m
			94.5m	0.37m	0.10m
			0	0.34m	0.05m
			25m	0.21m	0.06m
			46m	0.40m	0.10m
2	47	100m	0	0.30m	0.18m
			25m	0.34m	0.10m

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
			50m	0.36m	0.14m
			75m	0.39m	0.10m
			100m	0.42m	0.20m
2	48	47m	0	0.48m	0.08m
			25m	0.30m	0.23m
			47m	0.38m	0.20m
7	49	45m	0	0.35m	0.35m
			25m	0.35m	0.35m
			45m	0.35m	0.35m
7	50	56.5m	0	0.35m	0.30m
			25m	0.30m	0.30m
			56.5m	0.40m	0.30m
7	51	75m	0	0.21m	0.22m
			25m	0.30m	0.15m
			50m	0.25m	0.15m
			75m	0.25m	0.15m
7	52	95.5m	0	0.30m	0.15m
			25m	0.35m	0.10m
			50m	0.25m	0.10m
			75m	0.25m	0.20m
			95.5m	0.25m	0.25m
7	53	100m	0	0.30m	0.10m
			25m	0.25m	0.10m
			50m	0.25m	0.15m
			75m	0.25m	0.20m
			100m	0.15m	0.10m
7	54A	50m	0	0.15m	0.10m
			25m	0.30m	0.15m
			50m	0.30m	0.12m
7	54B	50m	0	0.25m	0.20m
			25m	0.35m	0.15m
			50m	0.15m	0.10m
7	55	94m	0	0.20m	0.20m
			25m	0.25m	0.05m
			50m	0.30m	0.10m
			75m	0.30m	0.25m
7	56	83m	0	0.30m	-
			25m	0.30m	-
			50m	0.30m	-
			75m	0.30m	-
			83m	0.30m	-
7	57A	55m	0	0.10m	0.15m
			25m	0.25m	0.10m
			50m	0.20m	0.20m
	57B	50m	0	0.15m	0.10m
			25m	0.25m	0.20m
			50m	0.30m	0.20m
7	58	94m	0	0.25m	0.10m
			25m	0.25m	-
			50m	0.25m	-
			75m	0.28m	0.05m
			94m	0.30m	0.15m

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
7	59	93m	0	0.30m	0.10m
			25m	0.30m	0.10m
			50m	0.25m	0.03m
			75m	0.25m	0.05m
			93m	0.25m	0.05m
7	60	95.5	0	0.20m	0.20m
			25m	0.31m	0.12m
			50m	0.25m	0.08m
			75m	0.25m	0.05m
			95.5m	0.18m	0.07m
7	61	100	0	0.30m	0.10m
			25m	0.20m	0.17m
			50m	0.30m	-
			75m	0.28m	0.12m
			100m	0.25m	0.20m
7	62	104.4m	0	0.15m	0.05m
			25m	0.20m	0.05m
			50m	0.25m	0.10m
			75m	0.25m	0.10m
			100m	0.25m	0.05m
7	63	50m	0	0.25m	0.35m
			25m	0.36m	0.28m
			50m	0.45m	0.25m
7	64	51m	0	0.15m 0.25m 0.40m 0.25m	
			25m	0.27m 0.30m 0.45m 0.12m	
			50m	0.30m	0.18m
			75m	0.25m	0.10m
			100m	0.25m	0.10m
7	65	30m	0	0.25m	0.15m
			25m	0.25m	0.10m
			30m	0.25m	0.10m
2	66	27.8m	0		
			25m		
			50m		
3	67	27.5m	0	0.30m	0.10m
			25m	0.30m	0.10m
3	68	19m	0	0.30m	0.10m
			19m	0.30m	0.10m
4	69	28m	0	0.25m	0.15m
			25m	0.25m	-
4	70	31m	0	0.30m	0.15m
			25m	0.30m	0.10m
3	71	100m	0	0.30m	-
			25m	0.15m	0.45m
			50m	0.30m	0.2m
			75m	0.30m	0.45m
			100m	0.30m	-
4	72	62.5m	0	0.30m	0.50m
			25m	0.3m	0.50m

Field	Trench	Length	Interval	Depth of Topsoil	Depth of Subsoil
			50m	0.35m	0.40m
			62.5	0.25m	0.40m
6	73	50m	0	0.40m	0.25m
			25m	-	-
			50m	0.25m	0.10m
6	74	50m	0	0.25m	0.16m
			25m	-	-
			50m	0.30m	0.07m
6	75	50m	0	0.30m	-
			25m	-	-
			50m	0.30m	-
6	76	50m	0	0.30m	-
			25m	-	-
			50m	0.40m	-

## APPENDIX 2: SMALL FINDS

by Dennis Payne

### 1 Introduction

The majority of the metalwork was recovered using metal detectors and the size of the assemblage is due to this methodology, although a significant number of objects were also recovered by hand. A rapid scan and spot dating of the assemblage was conducted at the AFU offices. The range and variety of the assemblage suggests the presence of Romano-British settlement within the area of investigation. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from Field 2 and despite the recovery of a coin hoard from Trench 47 would seem to indicate a focus of activity at this location. This accords well with the other findings of the evaluation.

### 2 Coins

A total of 37 coins was recovered during the evaluation consisting of one Iron Age, 32 Roman and four post-medieval issues. The Iron Age coin was a copper-alloy coin of Cunobelin and was found in Field 7, Trench 59. All but 2 of the Roman coins were recovered from Field 2 (Trenches 41,45, 46 and 47).

The majority of Roman assemblage came from a hoard consisting of 23 coins dating from the end of 1st century AD (Nero or Domitian) up to a sesterius of Faustina Senior which is dated no later than AD141. The later coins are less worn perhaps indicating that the hoard was deposited relatively soon after the acquisition of the latest issues and is therefore no later than the mid 2nd century AD. The remaining seven coins were all 3rd to 4th century in date. The latest was either a coin Gratian (AD367-383) (SF 134) from Trench 46 or a Valentinian II or Honorius (AD375 to early 5th century) from Field 3, Trench 35.

### 3 Small Finds

Small Finds from the site are summarised by field and trench in Table App.2.1 and by context in Table App.2.2.

Field Number	Trench Number	Number of small Finds	Approx Percentage of small finds	
1	-	No small finds	-	
2	38	1	1%	78%
	40	1	1%	
	41	6	8%	
	43	2	3%	
	45	6	8%	
	46	9	12%	
	47	31	42%	
	48	2	3%	
3	18	1	1%	9%
	27	1	1%	
	31	1	1%	
	35	1	1%	
	37	3	4%	
4	5	1	1%	7%
	6	1	1%	
	8	2	3%	
	9	1	1%	
	70	1	1%	
5	-	No small finds	-	-
6	-	No small finds	-	-
7	59	2	3%	4%
	61	1	1%	
Total	-	74	98%	98%

*Table App.2.1: Distribution of Small Finds by field and trench*

Trench Number	Context No	Small Find No	Material	Object Name	Description	Comments
	3	101	Ceramic	Vessel	pottery associated with coin hoard	Pottery sherds found in association with the coin hoard
47	260	102	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, early - mid 2nd century
47	260	103	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, 1st century possibly Nero or Domitian
47	260	104	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, possibly Hadrian AD 117-138
47	260	105	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, illegible, possibly 2nd century
47	260	106	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, possibly Antoninus Pius AD 138-161. Reverse appears to be victory

Trench Number	Context No	Small Find No	Material	Object Name	Description	Comments
						slg (vict) aug in field
47	260	107	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as or dupondius, illegible possibly 2nd century
47	260	108	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, illegible, typical of 2nd century
47	260	109	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, appears to be (early) 2nd century
47	260	110	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, appears to be (early) 2nd century
47	260	111	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as or dupondius, not identifiable appears 2nd century
47	260	112	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, illegible, appears to be 2nd century
47	260	113	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as, either Hadrian/Pius early 2nd century
47	260	114	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, illegible, appears to be 2nd century
47	260	115	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as of Hadrian AD117-138
47	260	116	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, illegible, appears to be 2nd century
47	260	117	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius of Faustina Senior, reverse shows Ceres with corn ears and torch. No later than AD141
47	260	118	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as or dupondius, not identifiable, appears to be 2nd century
47	260	119	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius of Hadrian (early bust style), date of AD117-120. Reverse illegible
47	260	120	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	as or dupondius, illegible, looks 2nd century
47	99999	121	Bone,fe	Knife	bone knife handle & part of fe knife	appears to be medieval in date
47	260	122	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius of Domitian AD 81-96



Trench Number	Context No	Small Find No	Material	Object Name	Description	Comments
47	260	123	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius of Trajan AD 98-117
47	260	124	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius of Trajan AD 98-117
47	260	125	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	sestertius, possibly Trajan AD 98-117
45	260	126				Missing. According to the register it was 4th century
45	31	127	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	reduced Follis of Constantine (the Great) AD307-337, reverse shows Sol advancing left
45	37	128	Fe (iron)	Artefact	artefact	artefact with a projection midway along its shank, use unknown
45	43	129	Fe (iron)	Artefact	nail fiddle key type?	possibly Roman
45	39	130	Fe (iron)	Nail	nail	nail, probably Roman
46	51	131	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	late 3rd century Barbarous radiate depicting one of the gallic emperors
46	53	132	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	artefact	appears Roman
46	53	133	Fe (iron)	Artefact	artefact	shape suggests it may be a foot off a small cauldron
46	61	134	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	Gratian AD367-383, reverse Gloria novi saeculi, gratian slg facing
46	61	135	Pb (lead)	Artefact	artefact	musket ball, small calibre 18th century
46	59	136	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	Allectus AD293-296 Quinarius R Laetitia Aug
46	85	137	Fe (iron)	Artefact	artefact	nail, probably Roman
45	87	138	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin 4th cent	4th century Barbarous copy probably copying a Valentinianic bronze roughly AD340-360
40	0	139	Cua (copper alloy)	Buckle plate	Buckle Plate	hinge plate from small casket, style suggests post-medieval in date
46	0	140	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	copper rose farthing from the reign of Charles I, mid 17th century
47	0	141	Cua (copper alloy)	Bell	croatal bell	small bell, missing clanger of the type to decorate horse harnesses, similar to those

Trench Number	Context No	Small Find No	Material	Object Name	Description	Comments
						used in the Roman period
43	0	142	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	half penny of Victorian or Georgian date
43	0	143	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact	artefact	circular plate of convex form, function can be only guessed at, probably Roman
31	0	144	Cua (copper alloy)	Stud		
27	0	145	Pb (lead)	Musket ball		musket ball
37	0	146	Pb (lead)	Staple		
46	0	147	Cua (copper alloy)	slag		
45	35	148	Fe (iron)	Nail		
41	75	149	Glass	Vessel		
41	75	150	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin		
61	0	151	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	Charles 1st rose farthing, mid 17th century
59	0	152	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin	coin	Iron age: Cunobelin
59	0	153	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	4th century barbarous
9	0	154	Cua (copper alloy)	coin	coin	18th century farthing
37	723	155	Bone	Artefact		Visible cut marks
6	890	156	Glass	Bead		pottery bead, ring shaped probably late iron age. Applied blue paint gives a spiral decoration
35	734	157	Cua (copper alloy)	Coin		dating from Valentinian II (AD375) - Honorius (AD423), reverse shows Victory running left carrying trophy
37	727	158	Ceramic	Vessel		Visible graffiti on one sherd in the form of "MX"
48	98	159	Cua (copper alloy)	Stud		base for a small handle, date unknown
71	1506	160	Flint	Blade		Neolithic scraper with retouched edge
47	0	161	Pb (lead)	Artefact		
38	489	162	Fe (iron)	Nail		

Trench Number	Context No	Small Find No	Material	Object Name	Description	Comments
47	7	163	Fe (iron)	Artefact		
25	25	164	Fe (iron)	Nail		
9	912	165	Fe (iron)	Artefact		
5	845	166	Fe (iron)	Nail		
48	102	167	Fe (iron)	Nail		
71	32	168	Fe (iron)	Nail		
41/2	75	169	Fe (iron)	Nail		x two bags
41/2	75	170	Fe (iron)	Artefact		
41/2	75	171	Fe (iron)	Artefact		
41/2	75	172	Fe (iron)	Artefact		
47	7	173	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact		
70	1008	174	Cua (copper alloy)	Artefact		
18	699	175	Glass	Vessel		
8	912	176	Glass	Vessel		

*Table App.2.2: Small Finds by context (ordered by Small Find number)*

## **APPENDIX 3a: THE PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN POTTERY**

by Sarah Percival and Alice Lyons

### **1 Earlier Prehistoric**

The earlier prehistoric assemblage was small. A few sherds of from a possible Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age Beaker were found in context 1504. The sherds are of grog tempered fabric and are decorated with incised decoration but are too small to assign a definite form or date.

A sherd from the collar of an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn was found in context 157. The grog-tempered sherd is in good condition and is decorated with a random pattern of cord-impressed maggots. The context in which the sherd was found overlies one containing Iron Age pottery suggesting that the sherd is redeposited: however, it is not clear if the original context of deposition was associated with burial or domestic activity. Grog-tempered sherds were also found in context 165, which may also be of prehistoric date.

### **2 Later Prehistoric and Transitional**

The later prehistoric assemblage was dated to three spot-dating phases, mid-late Iron Age, later Iron Age and transitional.

The mid-to-late Iron Age assemblage was characterised by a range of handmade sand-tempered fabrics, some containing small quantities of flint, others small chalky inclusions. The sherds were mostly small and undecorated with few diagnostic rim or base sherds. The assemblage was tentatively dated to the period 500-300BC and was found in eighteen contexts.

The later Iron Age assemblage (300-100BC) was also mostly spot-dated by fabric suggesting that there may be some degree of uncertainty between the mid-to-late and later Iron Age material. The Later Iron Age sherds are found in a range of handmade fabrics tempered with sandy, shell, iron ore and organic material perhaps chopped grass or chaff and show an increased range of forms including carinated jars and small comb decorated cups (context 41). Overall however the assemblage is small with only a few sherds being recovered from each feature. Later Iron Age pottery was found in fifteen contexts.

A transitional date (100BC-100AD) was assigned to contexts that contained a mix of handmade and wheelmade forms or very early Romanised forms. The handmade fabrics are dominated by shell-tempered wares though organic tempering is still present and sand tempered sherds occur occasionally. The wheelmade fabrics are characterised by sandy greywares (SGW), sandy whitewares or parchment wares (SWW) and more rarely sandy oxidised wares (SOW). Forms present include a

pedestal base from a bowl probably made in Colchester (239), several rolled rim storage jars with combed decoration (*cf.* 214) and a parchment ware lid-seated jar rim (246). During rapid scan and spot-dating it was noted that the transitional pottery formed a major component of the assemblage suggesting increased activity at the site during the Later Iron Age earlier Roman period.

### 3 Roman

The Roman assemblage is generally in poor condition with small sherds and a high degree of abrasion, which has removed much evidence for use. The assemblage shows a marked concentration of forms dating to the earlier Roman period with a possible hiatus in the 2nd and 3rd centuries before increasing again by the 4th century. Early and mid-Roman fine wares are rare (there is a noticeable lack of Samian) so close dating of many of the contexts is problematic. The majority of fine wares present (Nene Valley and Oxfordshire red, colour coats) date to the late 3rd and 4th century AD. The nature of the assemblage suggests lower status domestic occupation with no evidence for military or industrial activity at the site. Sources for the pottery are concentrated on the lower Nene Valley (which may have provided the earlier Roman shell-tempered wares) and the shelly clay beds around near-by St Neots.

The assemblage is of interest as, despite the fact that the site is near major Roman supply routes and other sites in the vicinity are well supplied with fine wares and samian, these types are lacking from this group. Whether this is a real 2nd century hiatus in settlement or an indicator of exceptionally low status (or function) can only be ascertained by the recovery of a larger assemblage from further excavation.

## APPENDIX 3b: POTTERY SPOTDATES

Trench number	Context	Pottery Spotdate	Comment
	3	LC1-C3	Shell-tempered ware, 'soapy WW v. abraded, found with C2 coins.
47	7	Not closely datable	CBM, slag, Roman pot v. abraded.
45	17	Later Iron Age	x1 handmade shell tempered rim.
45	19	C3	Shell-tempered ware, NV mortarium, NVCC with red paint added post-production. Suggest analysis.
45	21	?	Burnt. Is this pottery?
45	21	Later Iron Age	Handmade organic tempered.
45	25	C1-C2	X1 HM shell tempered Iron Age base. X1 Samian C1-C2
45	29	C2	x1 handmade shell tempered, x1 mortarium base with slag trituration grits.
45	31	Not closely datable	SGW base and bodysherds. V.abraded.
45	35	Post-medieval	Post medieval pottery plus CBM. SGW rim ?transitional fabric,
45	39	C3	NVCC, SGW, shell-tempered ware.
45	41	Later Iron Age	All handmade sherds. Sandy and ?iron ore tempered sherds. Jar with incised decoration to the neck. Small closed cup with combed swirls all over. X1 transitional fine rim.
45	45	E-MC2	x1 Later Iron Age shell tempered, x1 burnished cross hatch, x1 rim.
45	45	Post-medieval	Findings from the spoilheap including post medieval, NVCC C4, shell tempered. CBM.
45	45	C3-C4	Spoilheap. Possible local CC, x1 NVCC.
45	47	C4	x1 SGW, NVCC jar.
46	51	C2-C4	SRW straight-sided burnished dish.
46	53	Transitional	x1 handmade iron ore fabric, x1 scored ware, x1 sandy carinated body sherd.
46	53	?early Saxon	
46	55	LC2-C3	SGW, NVCC, x1 undatable misc.
46	59	LC1-EMC2	SGW carinated bodysherd.
41	63	MCI-C3	Samian chip.
41	75	C4	Flanged shell tempered dish, SOW 'cheese strainer' OxCC flanged bowl, NVCC jar. Nice assemblage.
41	75	LC3-C4	NVCC V. abraded, OxRCC, shell-tempered ware.
41	83	C3-C4	NVCC v. abraded. Large sherds.
46	85	LC1-C2	SOW, x1 handmade sandy, SWW parchment. All burnt.
45	87	Transitional	handmade shell tempered ware combed, misc SGW, SGW straight-sided dish (C2), SWW parchment ware.
45	89	LC1-EMC2	SGW one sherd with possible black paint.
45	91	Transitional	x1 handmade shell-tempered, x1 SWW parchment ware.
45	93	C2-C4	Handmade shell tempered misc SOW.
48	98	Post-medieval	
48	102	Post-medieval	PM slipware. CBM.
39	131	C1-C3	SOW
40	157	Early Bronze Age	Fragment from collar from Collared Urn with cord maggot impressions.
40	165	Bronze Age	Grog tempered.
41	191	LC3-C4	Ox RCC mortarium, SGW rim.
48	209	Not closely datable	SGW. V abraded.
45	212	C4	NVCC flanged dish/ bowl
45	214	Transitional	Organic tempered rim and bodysherds, handmade shell tempered rolled rim storage jar.
45	215	Transitional	x1 handmade shell tempered Iron Age, x1 handmade iron ore

	<b>Context</b>	<b>Pottery Spotdate</b>	<b>Comment</b>
45	217	C2-C3	tempered with wavy incised decoration, SGW base, SOW. SGW medium mouth jar.
46	223	Transitional	x1 handmade with combed dec, x2 wheelmade.
46	226	Transitional	Scored sandy.
46	227	Mid -Later Iron Age	Handmade sandy scored ware, x1 fine carinated bodysherd from small jar or bowl.
45	230	Transitional	x2 handmade shell tempered, x1 sandy carinated jar, x1 SGW.
45	231	Later Iron Age	Handmade
45	233	Transitional	x1 SGW, x1 fine handmade sandy sherds with incised decoration, x2 handmade with iron ore inclusions, x1 handmade shelly.
45	237	Mid-Iron Age	Handmade flint tempered.
45	239	Transitional	x4 handmade shell-tempered, x1 pedestal base Colchester type.
45	240	Mid -Later Iron Age	x1 organic tempered, x1 sand with chalk.
45	242	Mid -Later Iron Age	Handmade shell tempered base.
45	242	?early Saxon	x1 rim exterior sooting rounded rim jar. X1 stony inclusions.
45	244	C2	SGW simple everted rim. V. abraded.
46	246	Transitional	SWW parchment ware hooked rim jar, shell tempered lid-seated jar. LC1-EMC2.
46	249	Transitional	Handmade shell-tempered storage jar Later Iron Age-C3, SGW wheelmade jar LC1-MC2.
46	249	C2-C3	Shell-tempered ware, SGW rim.
45	259	Later Iron Age	x4 Iron Age sandy, x1 shell tempered, x1 organic tempered. Good condition.
45	290	Transitional	x1 handmade shell tempered Iron Age, x1 handmade shell tempered storage jar with combed decoration Later Iron Age -C3. SGW (fine), SWW parchment ware (C3)
45	291	LC1-EMC2	SGW jar.
45	295	Transitional	x1 handmade sandy, x2 SGW, x1 SWW.
40	308	Later Iron Age	Handmade sandy.
24	401	LC1-EMC2	X1 widemouth jar rim, carinated bodysherd.
28	443	Iron Age	Sandy. V abraded. Laminated texture.
35	468	Not closely datable	?Roman shell-tempered.
34	471	Later Iron Age	Shell and sandy fabrics. No diagnostic sherds. V. abraded.
34	477	Not closely datable	x1 sandy coarseware. CBM.
38	487	C3	x1 handmade sandy, x2 SGW, x1 shell-tempered ware. NVCC mortarium plus NVCC.
38	492	Not closely datable	SGW. Abraded.
38	495	Transitional	x1 shell tempered Later Iron Age, SWW (parchment ware) SOW, SGW
38	495	Transitional	Shell-tempered ware, SGW, x1 vegetable ware, x4 daub, SOW fineware v abraded, modern intrusive ware.
38	497	Not closely datable	SGW, x1 handmade sandy.
38	499	EMC2	SGW, handmade shell-tempered storage jar, SOW.
37	503	C2-C3	SGW, NVCC.
36	507	C2	x2 shell tempered, NVCC, SGW
37	513	C2-C3	Shell-tempered, SOW, SRW.
37	517	Mid -Later Iron Age	sand and flint tempered. Sample <9>.
37	518	Not closely datable	scrap
37	518	Transitional	SGW (early), handmade and wheelmade sandy fabrics.
36	521	LC3-C4	SGW, handmade and wheelmade shell-tempered ware.
36	523	Not closely datable	Shell-tempered ware (?St Neots), SOW (fine), OxRCC. ? Later Roman.
	<b>Context</b>	<b>Pottery Spotdate</b>	<b>Comment</b>
33	531	Post-medieval	various PM pottery. CBM.
19	561	Not closely datable	Roman. Sand-tempered.

21	565	Transitional	misc SOW
21	569	Transitional	Handmade shell-tempered, Carinated.
21	571	Transitional	organic tempered rim and bodysherds, x3 handmade shell tempered ware
27	575	Transitional	Handmade shell-tempered rolled rim storage jar, x1 handmade Iron Age sandy, x1 Samian v. abraded.
22	621	Not closely datable	Prehistoric. V. abraded.
22	623	Later Iron Age	x3 sandy. X1 shell tempered.
22	627	Iron Age	Sandy. V abraded.
22	629	Mid -Later Iron Age	Base chalky inclusions.
22	630	Mid -Later Iron Age	Sand and chalk lumps.
68	647	LC1-EMC2	SWW parchment ware flagon.
68	653	Later Iron Age -C3	Shell tempered ware storage jar.
22	660	Not closely datable	Prehistoric
33	662	Later Iron Age	x1 sandy fabric.
38	681	Later Iron Age	X 2 shell tempered HM Iron Age. Good condition.
29	691	Not closely datable	scrap
19	692	Later Iron Age	Handmade shell-tempered ware.
19	695	C2	Rough cast bag-shaped beaker perhaps from Colchester.
19	696	M-LC2	Rough cast bag-shaped beaker perhaps from Colchester.
38	702	Not closely datable	SRW probably early Roman
38	704	Not closely datable	SGW
38	709	Later Iron Age	Handmade shell-tempered lid-seated rim. LOOK UP.
38	710	Not closely datable	X 1 RB SGW. X1 shell tempered HM Iron Age.
38	710	LC1-EMC2	SGW
38	712	Mid -Later Iron Age	x 1 handmade sandy.
36	714	C4	Ox RCC =C4, SGW not closely datable, shell tempered storage jar Iron Age-C3.
36	715	Not closely datable	SGW could have been glazed once perhaps Med.
38	716	LC2-C3	SWW burnt, daub.
37	723	Not closely datable	SGW. Sample <8>.
37	723	C3	SOW, shell-tempered ware, NV mortarium worn trituration grits possibly St Albans type. Look-up.
37	723	Not closely datable	NVCC (C3), SGW, shell-tempered ware, daub. V. abraded.
37	725	LC2-C3	x1 handmade sandy Iron Age, x 5 shell tempered storage jar, x 6 SGW, x1 SGW dish, misc sandy CC ? local copy, x1 NVCC. NB possible evidence for local production site for sandy CC.
37	726	M-LC2	Shell-tempered storage jar, NVCC (MLC2-C3), SGW bodysherds plus straight-sided dish (M-LC2)
37	727	C2	Sample <5>. SGW straight-sided burnished dish
37	727	EC2	Small find 158. Sandy dish with graffiti.
35	733	LC2-C4	Shell-tempered ware undercut rim.
35	734	C3-C4	Handmade shell tempered NVCC.
35	734	Later Iron Age -C3	Handmade shell-tempered storage jar.
35	734	LC2-C3	NVCC rouletted bodysherd, SGW bowl rim.
35	734	LC3-C4	Shell-tempered ware, SGW, WW, NVCC (late) pedestal base, dish base.
35	735	Not closely datable	scrap
35	735	Not closely datable	Shell-tempered ware.
37	741	Transitional	Handmade shell-tempered fabric fingertip-impressed on rim top, x2 SGW including 1 painted.
37	742	C4	SGW medium mouth jar, NV dish, OxRCC.
		<b>Context</b>	<b>Pottery Spotdate</b>
37	748	Not closely datable	<b>Comment</b> SGW v. abraded.
37	748	C2	Shell-tempered ware, SGW.
37	749	C4	OxRCC.
37	750	C4	OxRCC, SOW, x2 SGW.



37	751	LC1-C2		SGW widemouth jar. Abraded.
36	754	C1-C3		SRW base.
36	754	LC3-C4	with residual	EC2 bowl, SGW, shell-tempered wares, C3-C4 NV, possible sherds Ox ware.
37	755	ERB		Shell-tempered ware, SGW.
37	755	C3-C4		NVCC rouletted bodysherd, OxRCC plus one unidentifiable scrap.
37	756	C2		X2 SGW abraded.
35	773	middle Iron Age		Handmade shell-tempered, handmade sand plus chalk.
36	774	C2		Shell-tempered ware, SOW. V.abraded.
71	788	C1-C3		Handmade shelly. SOW burnt.
3	815	Not closely datable		Roman
5	841	Not closely datable		SGW, SOW, shell-tempered ware, all scraps.
5	843	EC2		SOW, shell tempered ware
5	847	Mid -Later Iron Age		Handmade sandy.
5	849	C13-C15		?Grimston Green Glazed.
6	859	Not closely datable		Not pottery?
6	874	Not closely datable		Prehistoric. V. abraded.
8	912	Post-medieval		Stoneware and various PM slipware. Clay-pipe. CBM.
10	921	Not closely datable		x1 abraded Ox. Ware v.abraded. X2 Iron Age.
10	923	Post-medieval		CBM
10	928	Mid -Later Iron Age		Scored sandy handmade fabrics.
70	1002	C1-C3		SOW.
10	1011	Not closely datable		Prehistoric
70	1013	Not closely datable		Shell tempered ware.
10	1015	Later Iron Age		x2 fine sandy fabric. X1 coarse. V abraded.
10	1017	Mid -Later Iron Age		Iron Age sandy fabric with chalk inclusions. CBM.
10	1017	Later Iron Age		Shell and sandy fabrics. No diagnostic sherds.
10	1029	middle Iron Age		Sand and flint-tempered.
10	1029	Not closely datable		scrap
10	1031	Mid -Later Iron Age		Handmade shell-tempered.
	1109	Post-medieval		Various PM pottery. CBM.
62	1293	Mid -Later Iron Age		Handmade sand and chalk tempered, handmade organic-tempered, handmade shell-tempered.
	1317	Not closely datable		Roman. Sand and shell tempered.
62	1326	middle Iron Age		Sand and flint-tempered.
71	1504	Later Neolithic Bronze Age	Early	Possible Beaker with incised decoration.
71	1507	Later Iron Age		x1 v. abraded handmade shell-tempered ware, x1 combed/scored. Very light-weight.
69	1524	Iron Age		Handmade shell-tempered.
	2052	C4		NVSTW hooked rim jar.
	99999	Not closely datable		SGW.
	U/S	Post-medieval		

#### Key to pottery codes:

Pottery code	Pottery type
SGW	Sandy grey ware
SOW	Sandy oxidised ware
SRW	Sandy reduced ware
WW	White ware
HM	Handmade
NVCC	Nene Valley colour coat
OxRCC	Oxfordshire red colour coat
NVSTW	Nene Valley shell-tempered ware
SWW	Sandy white ware
CBM	Ceramic building material

## **APPENDIX 4: ANIMAL BONE**

by Jeni Keen

An assessment on the preservation, species representation by visual identification of the main taxa, and a rapid visual scan of the potential for butchery and aging analysis was carried out on the animal bone material recovered from the Love's Farm evaluation. The weight (g) of each context was also taken (Table App.4.1).

Preservation was generally good, although there were some contexts in which the preservation was variable and evidence of weathering, root markings and in some cases burning, although not cremated, was observed. Preservation was recorded on a three-tier basis (1-3); level 1 being excellent condition with minimal taphonomic modification, level 2 being reasonably well preserved with intact elements and moderate weathering and level 3 being poor preservation both in terms of fragmentation, weathering and taphonomic factors.

All the main domesticates (cattle, sheep/goat and pig) were present. Cattle bones predominated, sheep/goat bones were of a reasonable number. Pig remains are probably under-represented due to the rapid nature of the assessment and the small size of the evaluation assemblage. Horse was relatively well represented in some contexts and deer was represented by antler fragments. Finally dog (mainly teeth) and bird remains were observed.

A good cross section of bone elements was recorded, particularly skull fragments in cattle, and tibia and related bones in sheep/goat. There was a good range of elements, which were fused indicating good potential for establishing a mortality/kill off pattern for the species present.

Examples of butchery such as knife marks and cleaver chops were observed. As with butchery, aging of the animal assemblage was not actively recorded.

The assessment indicates that with further excavation a significant faunal assemblage should be expected.





TRENCH NUMBER	CONTEXT	WEIGHT (g)	PRESERVATION	COW	S/G	HORSE	PIG	HORSE	DOG	BIRD	DEER	UNI	BUTCHERY	AGEING
36	774	254	2	teeth, scap, m/cal										
71	782	307	1			tib, astra							x	
5	843	13	3	phal										
8	911	40	2	astra										
10	921	14	2									x		
10	925	24	2	teeth										
10	927	16	2	x										
10	928	6	3		astra									
10	1015	9	2									x		
10	1017	8	2									x		
10	1019	7	2		cal									
10	1021	13	3									x		
10	1029	13	2				tooth							
10	1031	110	2	x										
57	1257	40	2	tib										
62	1293	32	2, burnt	Mand	teeth							x		
62	1326	15	2	fem										
71	1506	43	2	astra										
71	1507	117	2	teeth, vert	tib					tar/mcl/tar				
	Spoil Heap	163	2	vert, humerus	tib, pel, hum								x	

*Table App.4.1: The faunal assemblage*

**Key:**

*X = present*

*Preservation 1-3, 1=good, 2=fine,*

*3=poor*

*UNI= unidentified*

## APPENDIX 5: ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

by Rachel Fosberry

### 1 Method

Sixteen bulk samples of between 10 and 30 litres were taken from a variety of features across the site and submitted for assessment. The samples were subjected to bucket flotation; the flot collected in a 0.5mm mesh and the residue washed through a 1mm sieve.

The residues were air-dried and scanned by eye. Any artefacts recovered were re-integrated with the hand-excavated finds. The flots were also air-dried and scanned under a binocular microscope at x14 magnification.

### 2 Results

Most of the residues contain quite large fragments of animal bone and, in the case of Samples 2 (927), 13 (53), and 16 (1511), some of that bone is burnt. Samples 5 (727) and 9 (517) both contain small amounts of mussel shell. Sample 7 (1287) contains a substantial amount of orange-coloured burnt clay and the flot is comprised solely of charcoal.

Preservation of macrobotanical material was by charring and was mainly quite good. Charcoal fragments are present in varying densities in all the samples. Many of the samples contain moderate densities of wheat chaff (glume bases, spikelet forks and rachis fragments), probably of *Triticum spelta* (Spelt wheat), with a few grains of barley and possibly oats being tentatively identified.

Only two samples (14 (41) and 16 (1511) contain weed seeds.

### 3 Conclusion

The flots of Samples 1 (925), 3 (1019), 4 (1031), 7 (1287) and 12 (159) consist entirely of charcoal, which can only be interpreted as evidence of burning. The burnt clay in Sample 7 (1287) suggests burning *in situ*. Sample 1 (925) came from a post-hole, which suggests that the post may also have burnt *in situ*. Sample 3 (1019) was from a ditch fill and probably represents dumping of refuse. Sample 4 (1031) contains a single glume base, probably a windblown contaminant or intrusive.

Sample 15 (233) is the only sample to contain grain and not chaff. There are a few possible legumes in this sample, which indicates domestic refuse. Although legumes are a cultivated crop, the low occurrence at this site suggests that it is probably present as a crop contaminant.

The other samples all contain evidence of crop processing in the form of chaff elements and cereal grains. The glume bases and spikelet forks probably represent the fraction that is discarded when partially cleaned crops (stored as sheaves) are sorted at a more domestic level. The larger cereal grains may be present as a result of accidental spillage during processing. The general uniformity in the chaff elements present in these samples suggests that this area could be a specialised area for fine cleaning of cereals.

Apart from Samples 14 (41) and 16 (233), the flots are devoid of weed seeds. This also suggests that the crops are being stored in a semi-cleaned state as sheaves or as partially threshed ears (Wilkinson & Stevens 2003). The seeds recovered are mainly species that may have been growing around the site or brought in as crop contaminants (docks,ampions, fat-hen). A few were identified as wetland species e.g. sedges.

#### **4 Potential for Further Work**

Although densities of macrobotanical material are generally low, preservation is reasonably good. The samples evaluated have provided considerable information on agricultural practices at the site that can only be enhanced by further sampling. Analysis of the snails recovered would also provide substantial environmental information. There is therefore a good potential for further work.

## APPENDIX 6: DRAWING CONVENTIONS

Sections	Plans
Limit of Excavation	Limit of Excavation
Cut	Deposit - Conjectured
Cut - Conjectured	Natural Features
Soil Horizon	Intrusion/Truncation
Soil Horizon - Conjectured	Sondages/Machine Strip
Intrusion/Truncation	Drawn Section
Top of Natural	Cut Number <b>118</b>
Top Surface	Excavated Slot
Break in Section	Ridge & Furrow
Cut Number <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">118</span>	Natural feature
Deposit Number 117	Archaeological feature
Ordnance Datum $\frac{18.45\text{m ODN}}{\times}$	Modern feature



# APPENDIX 7: SECTIONS

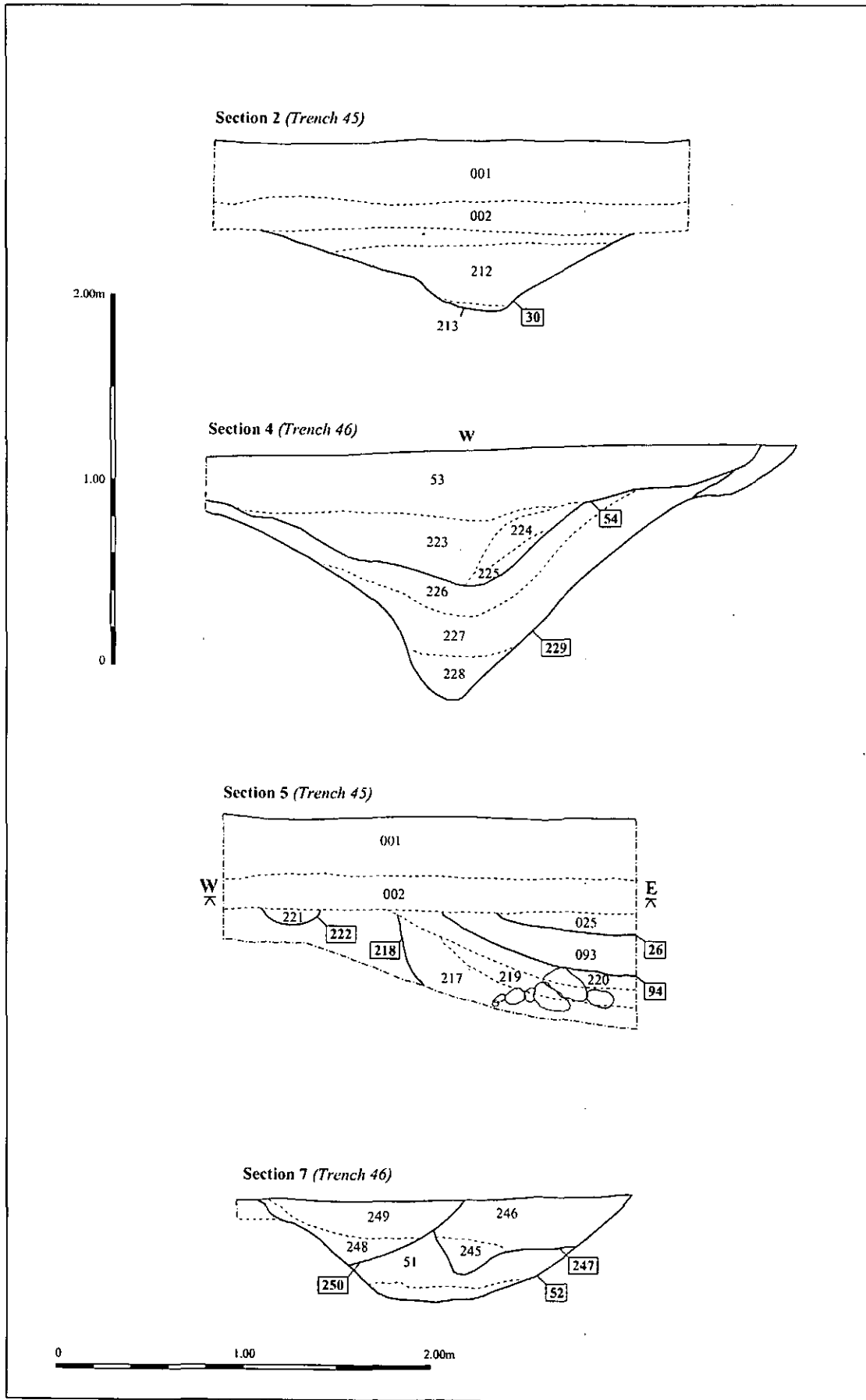


Figure 6 Sections 2, 4, 5 and 7

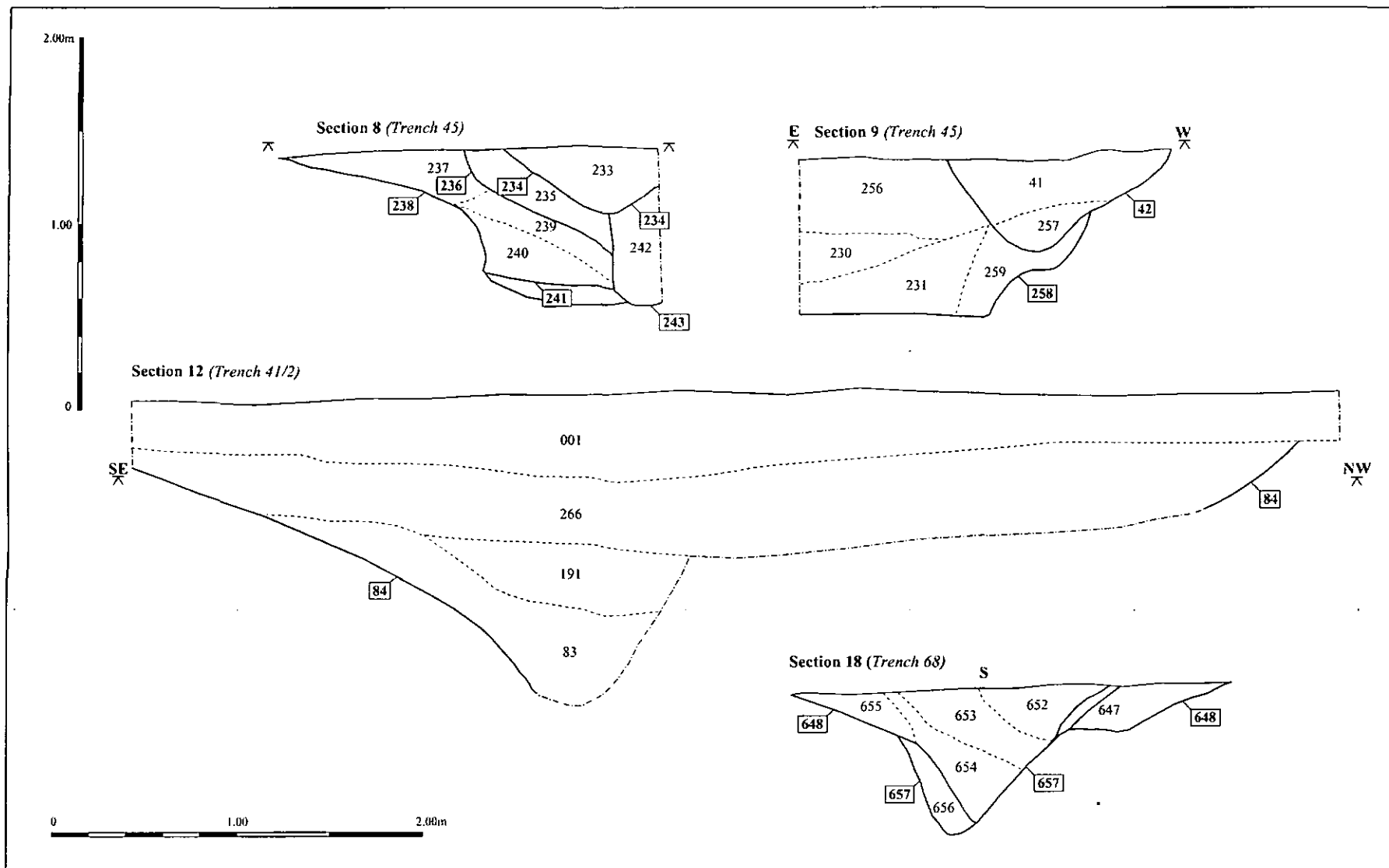


Figure 7 Sections 8, 9, 12 and 18

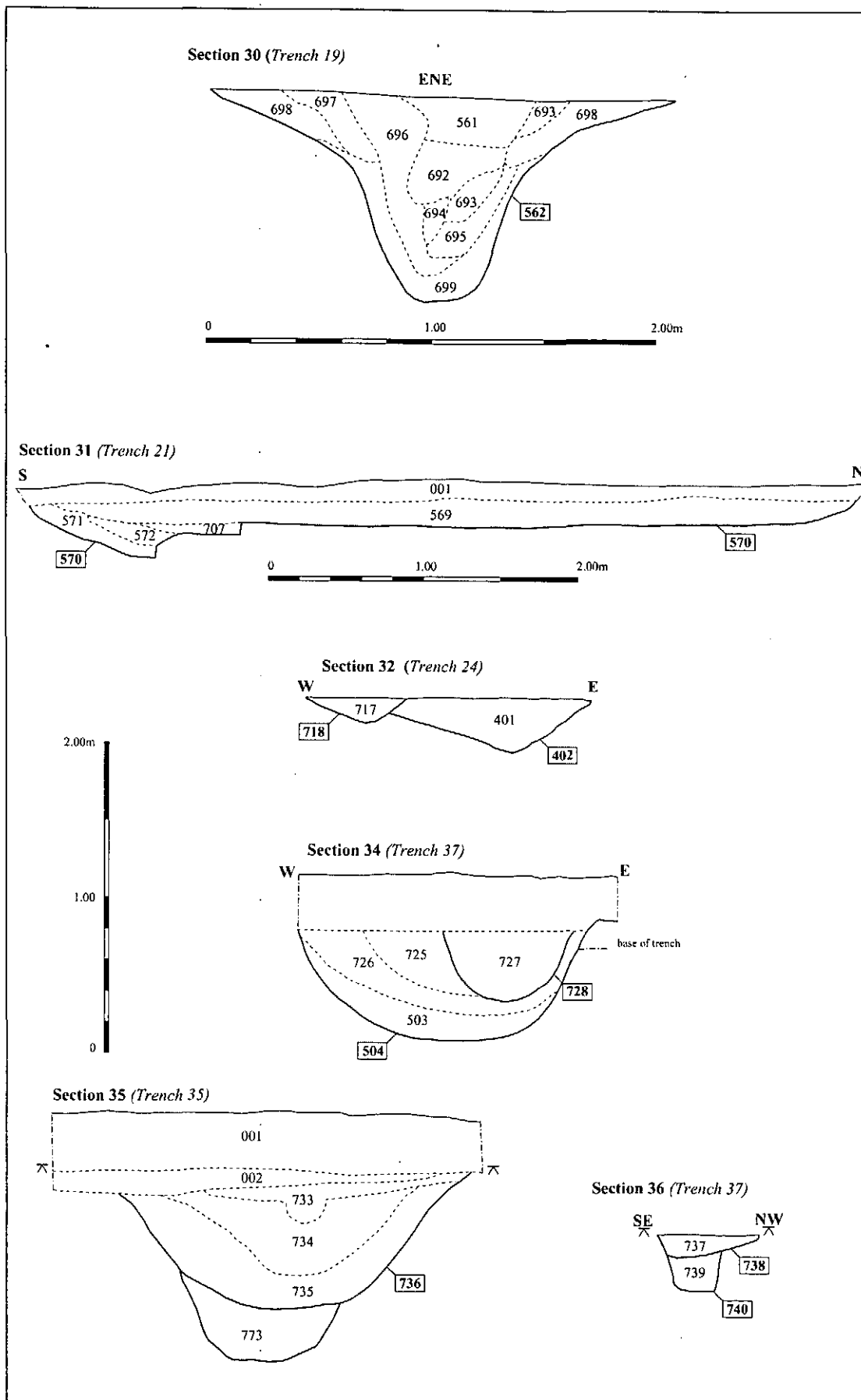


Figure 8 Sections 30, 31, 32, 34, 35 and 36

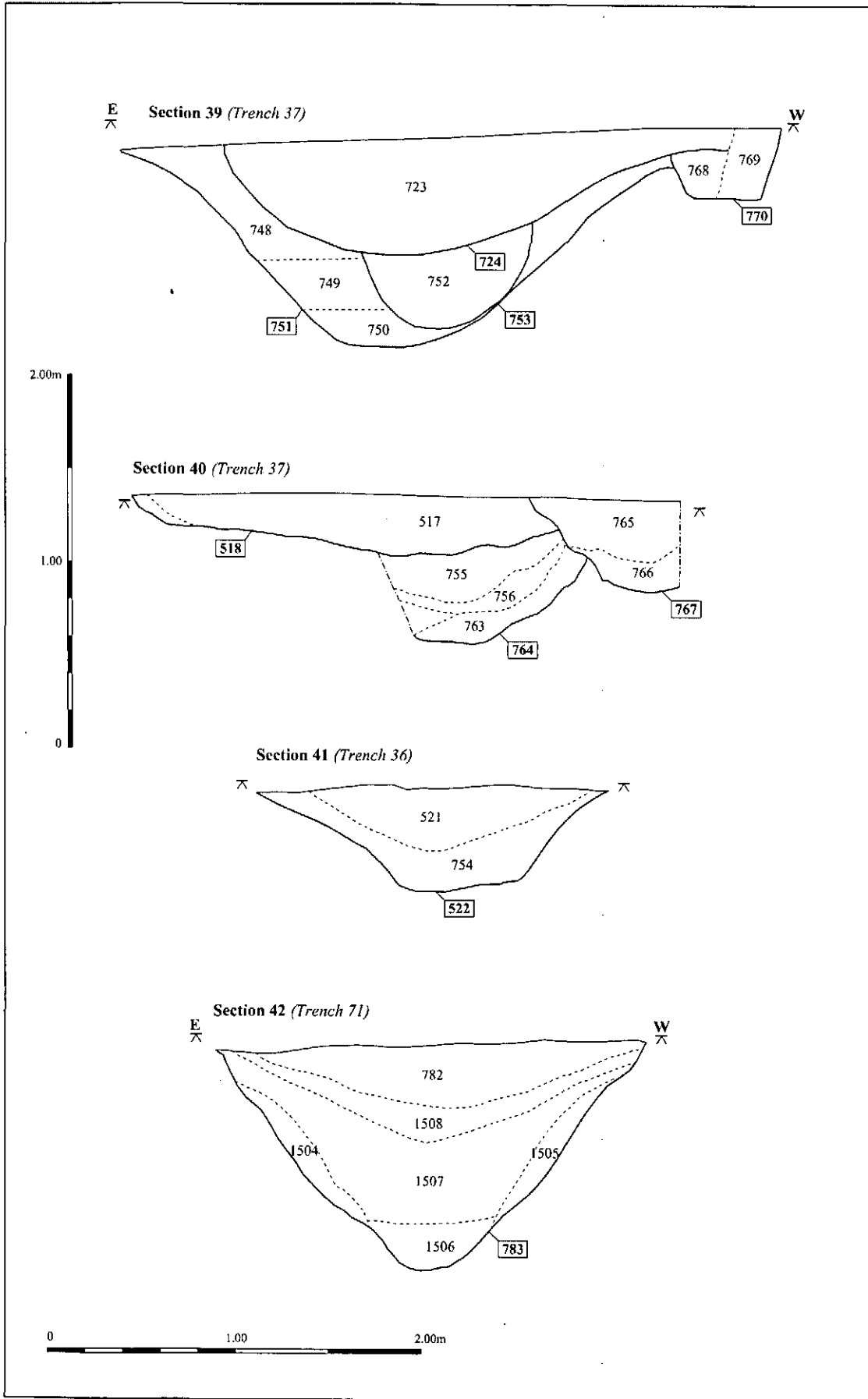


Figure 9 Sections 39, 40, 41 and 42

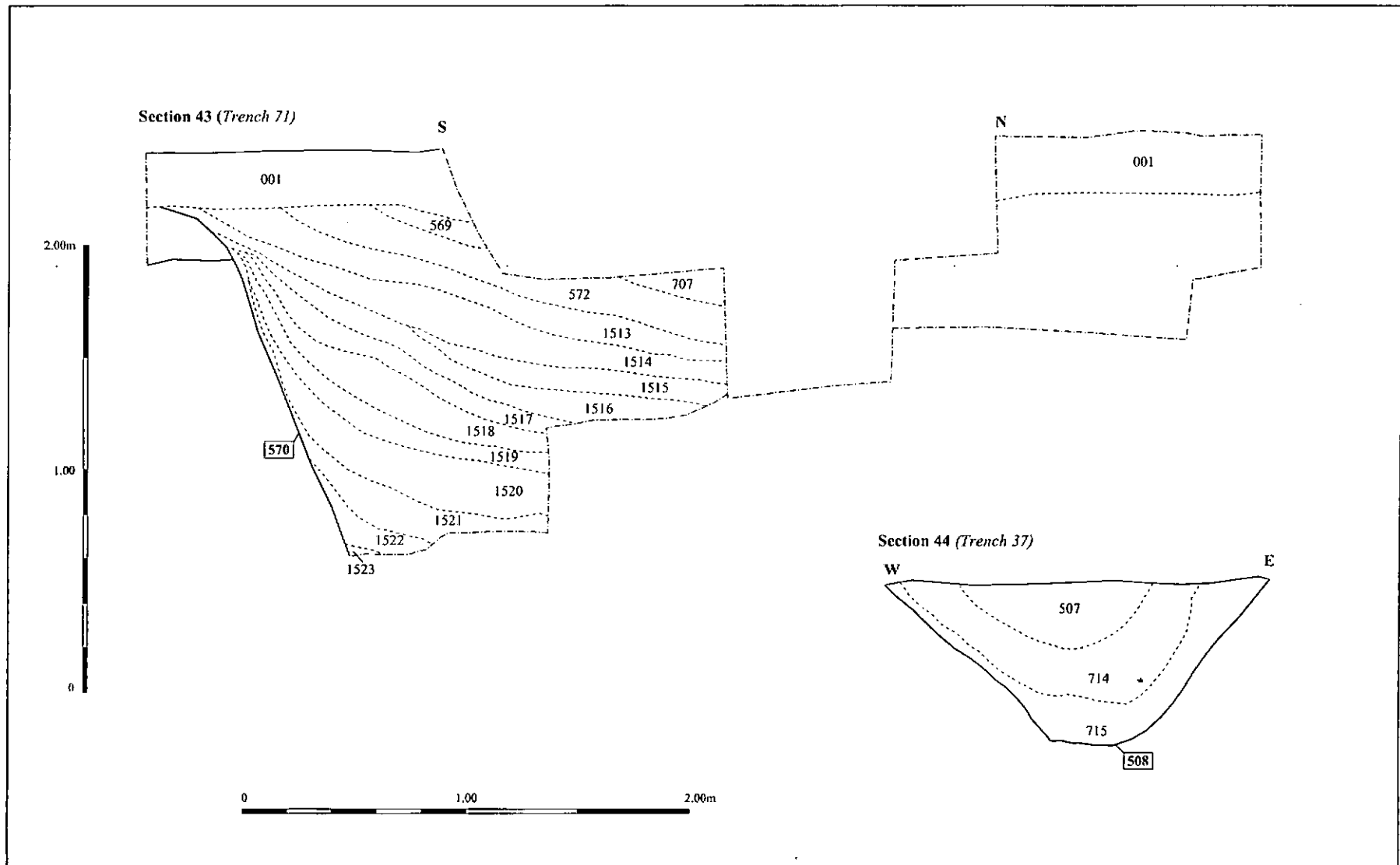


Figure 10 Sections 43 and 44

APPENDIX 8: TRENCH PLANS

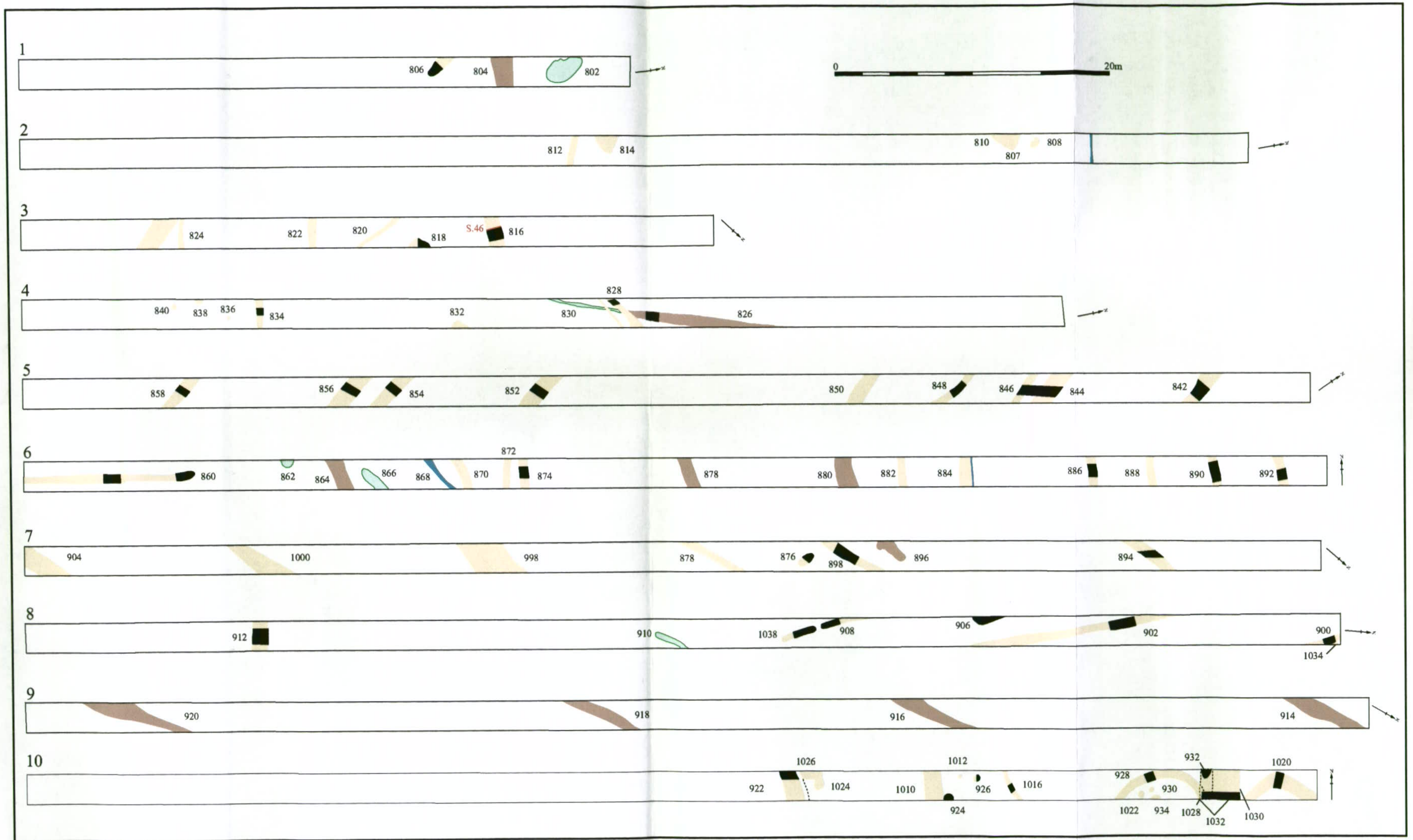


Figure 11 Plan of trenches 1-10

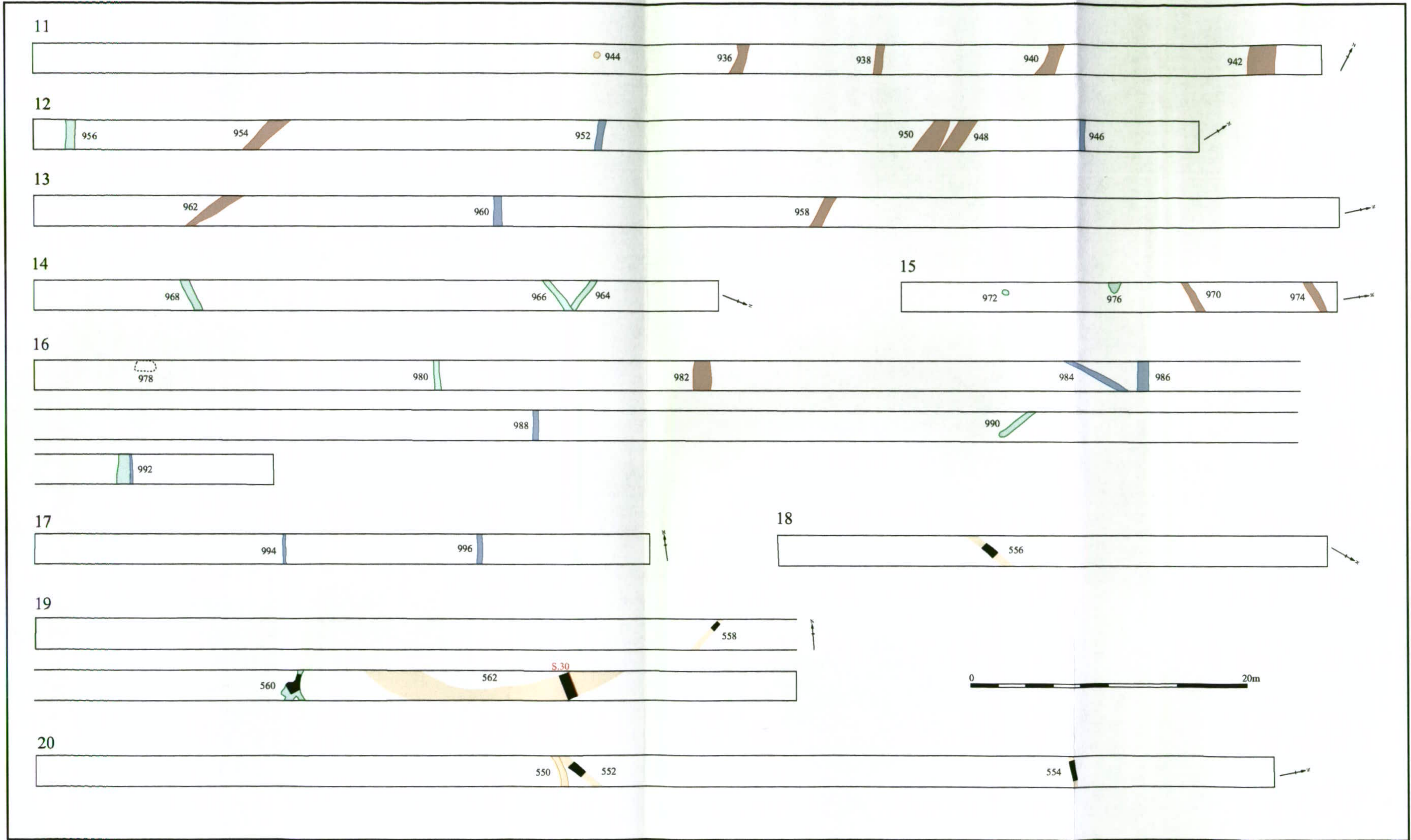


Figure 12 Plan of trenches 11-20

Trench 21 showed in relation to trench 71 in figure 10

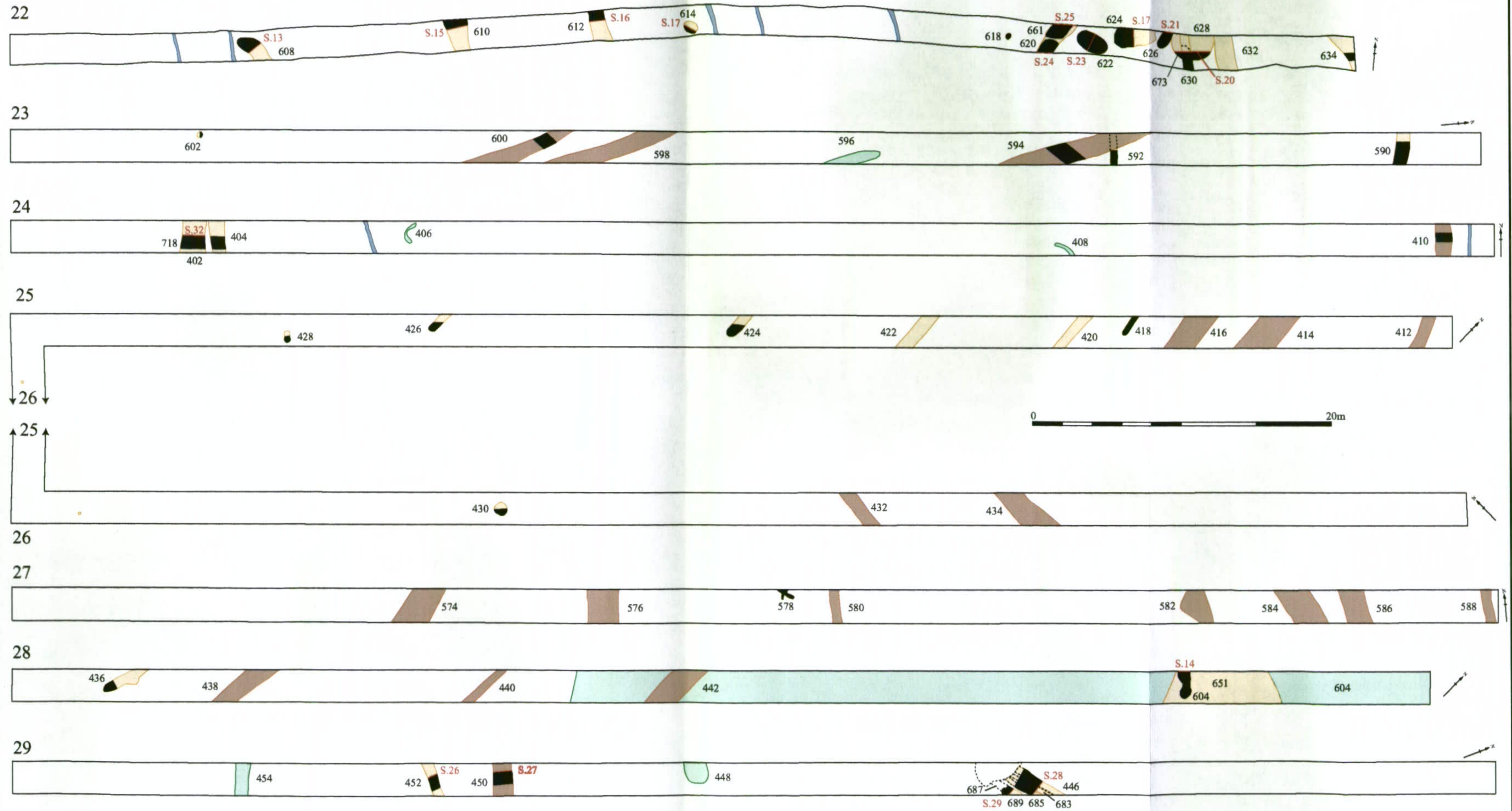


Figure 13 Plan of trenches 22-29



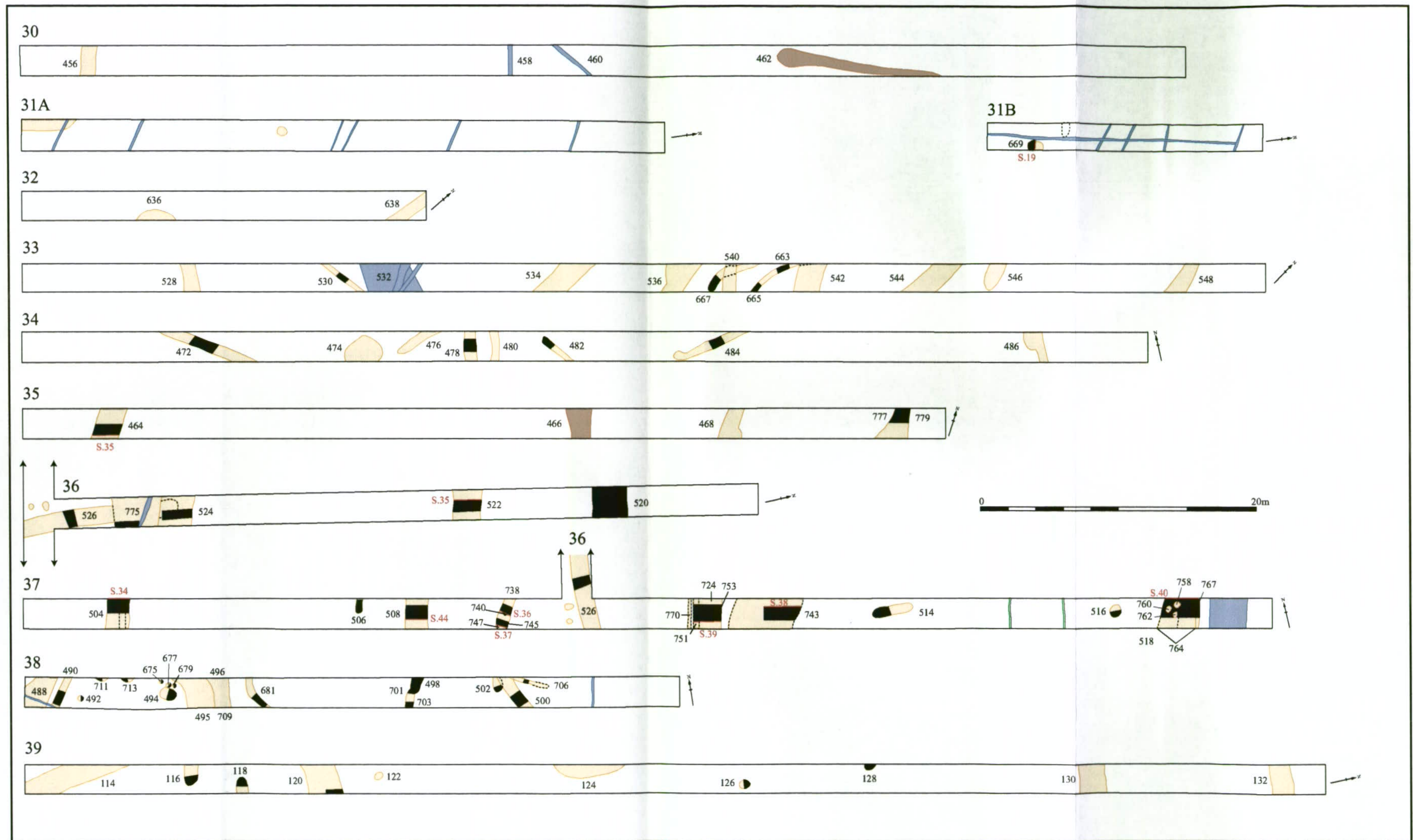


Figure 14 Plan of trenches 30-39

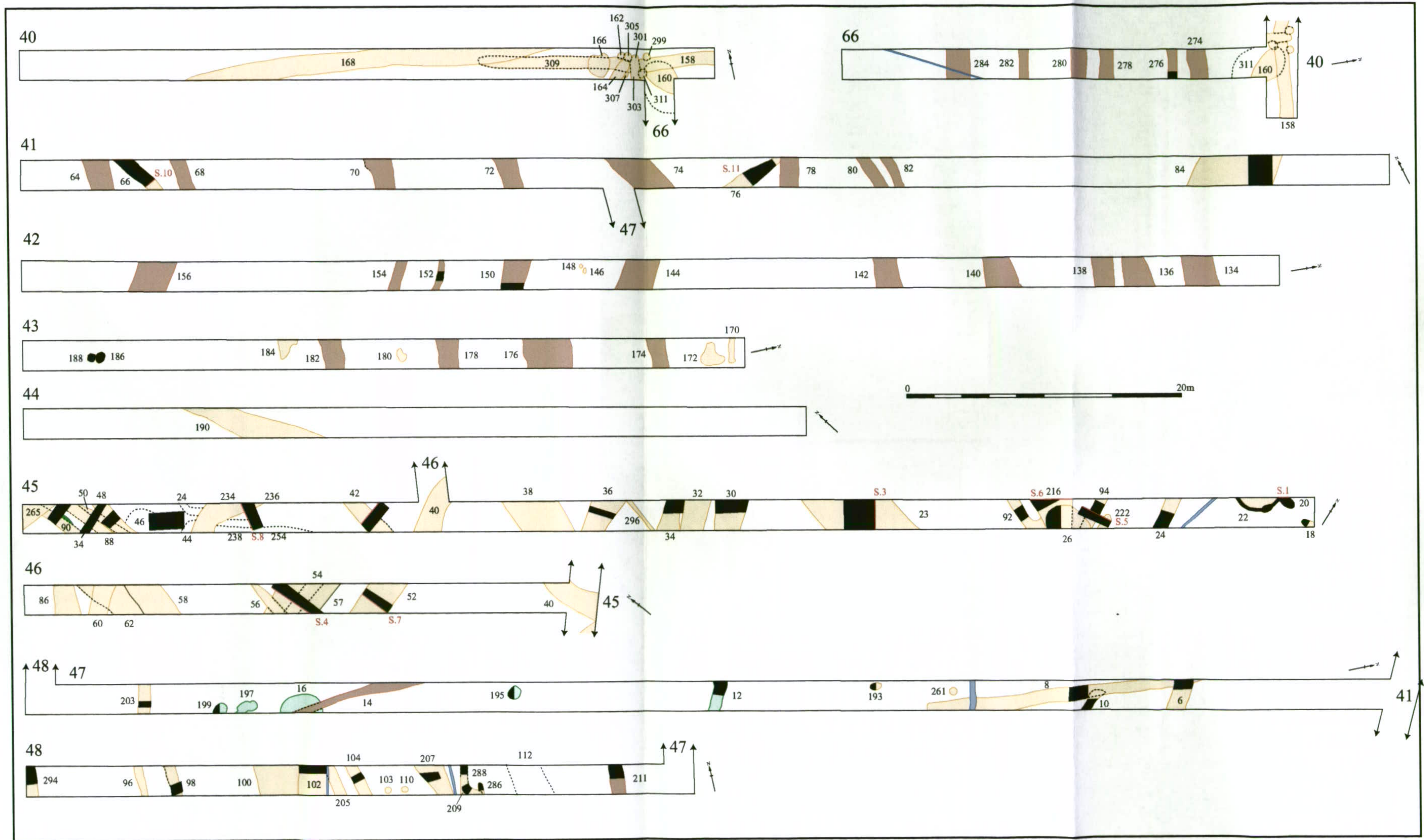


Figure 15 Plan of trenches 40-48

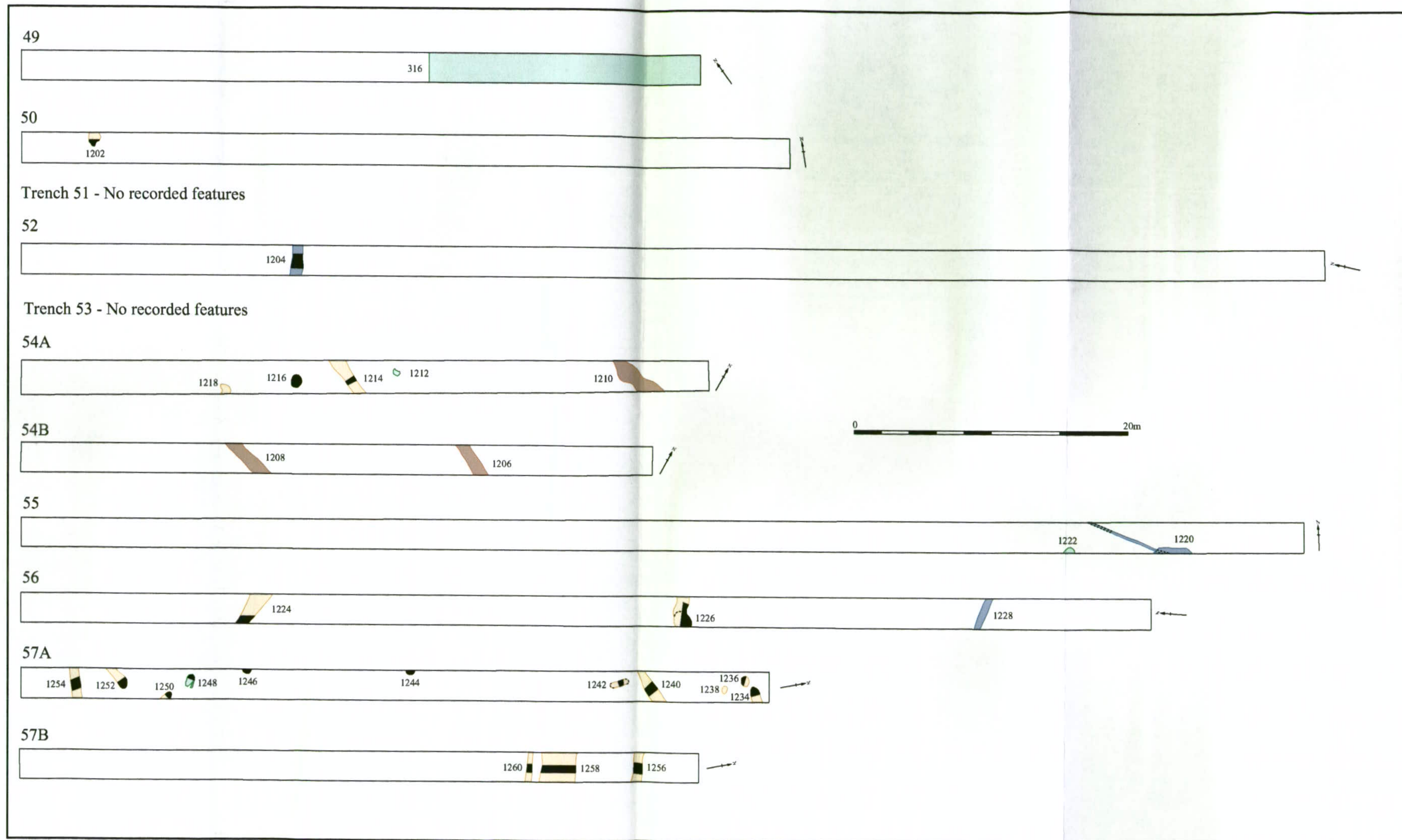


Figure 16 Plan of trenches 49-57B

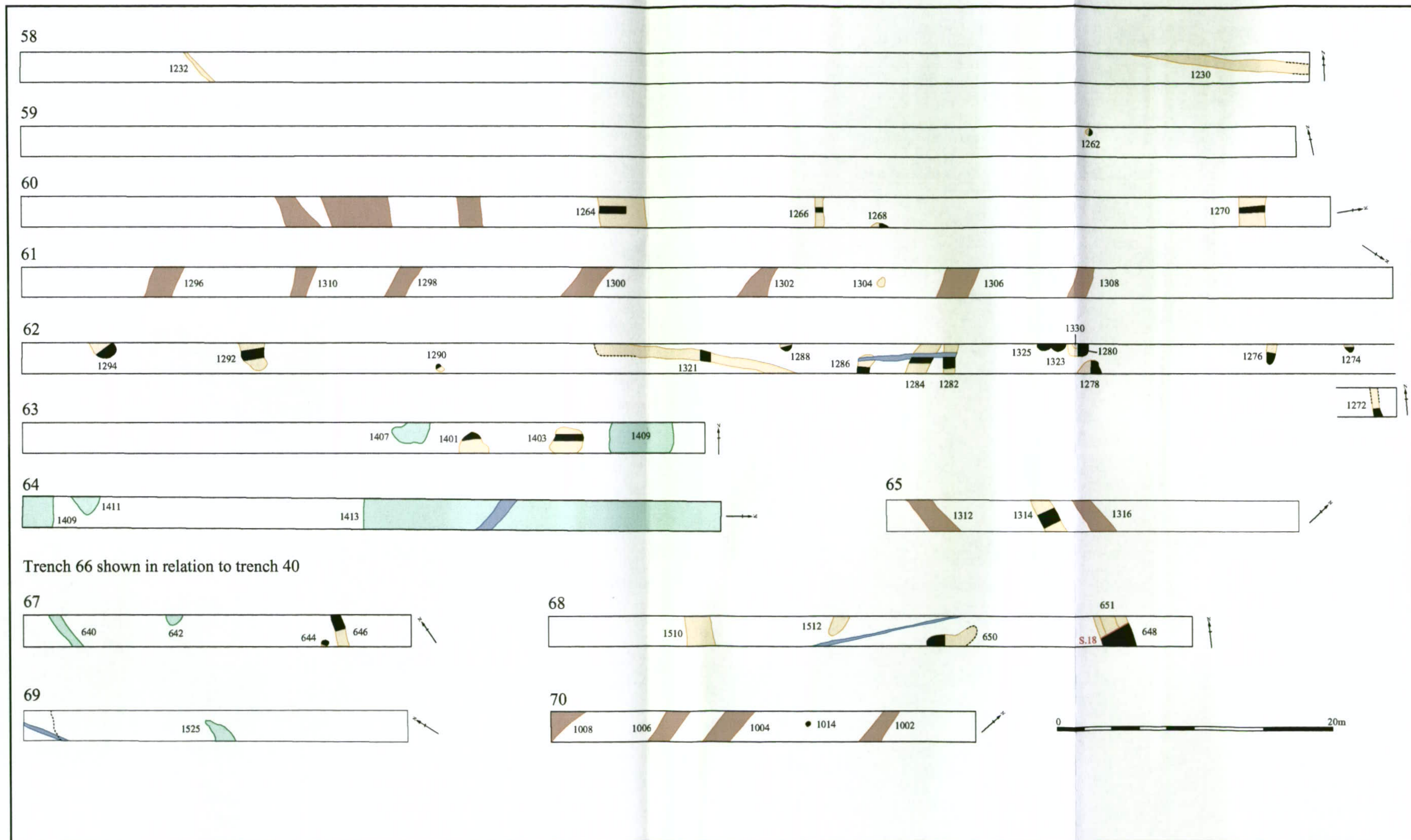


Figure 17 Plan of trenches 58-70

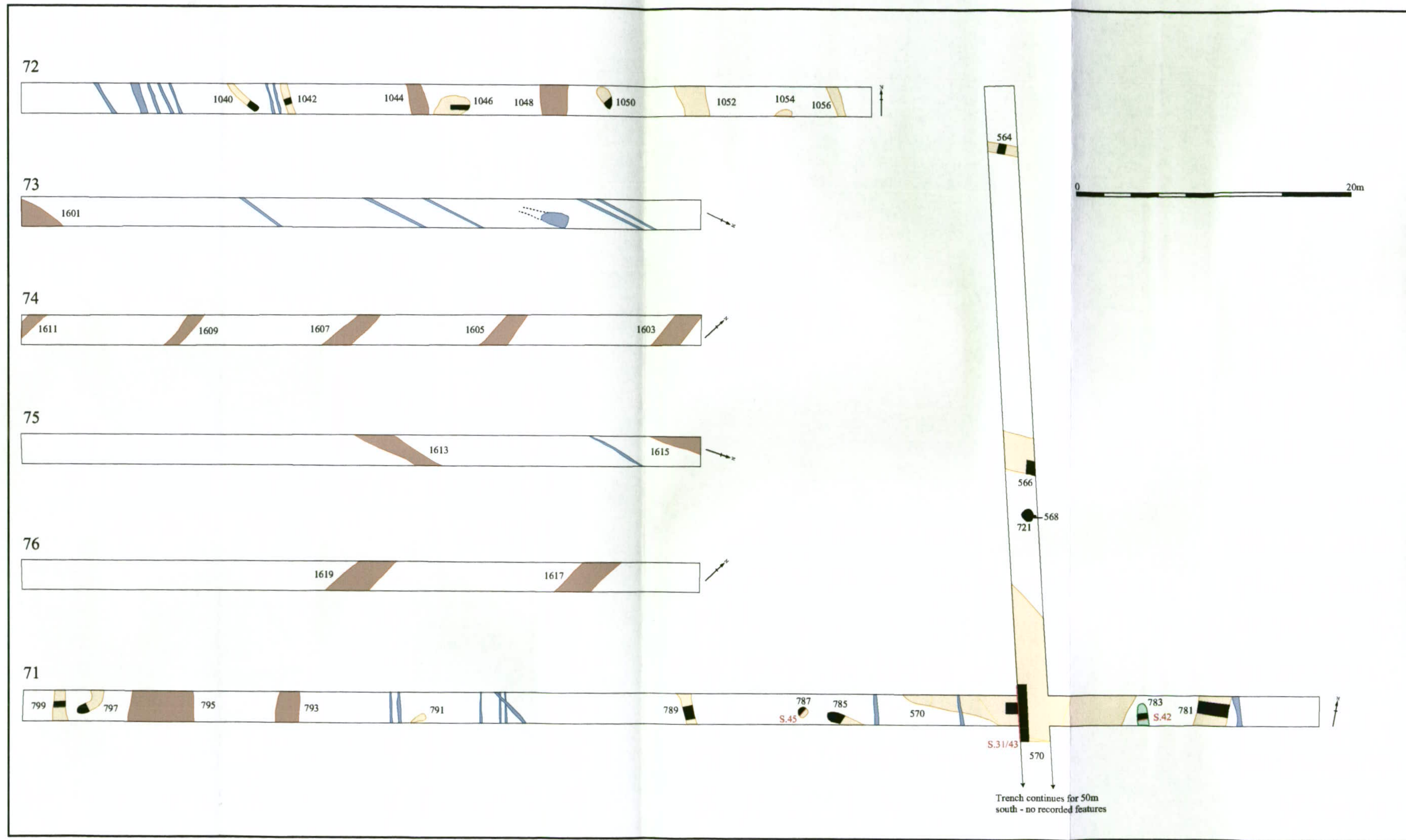


Figure 18 Plan of trenches 71-76



Figure 19 Trench locations with geophysical survey and fieldwalking results

APPENDIX 10: TRENCH DETAIL AND GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

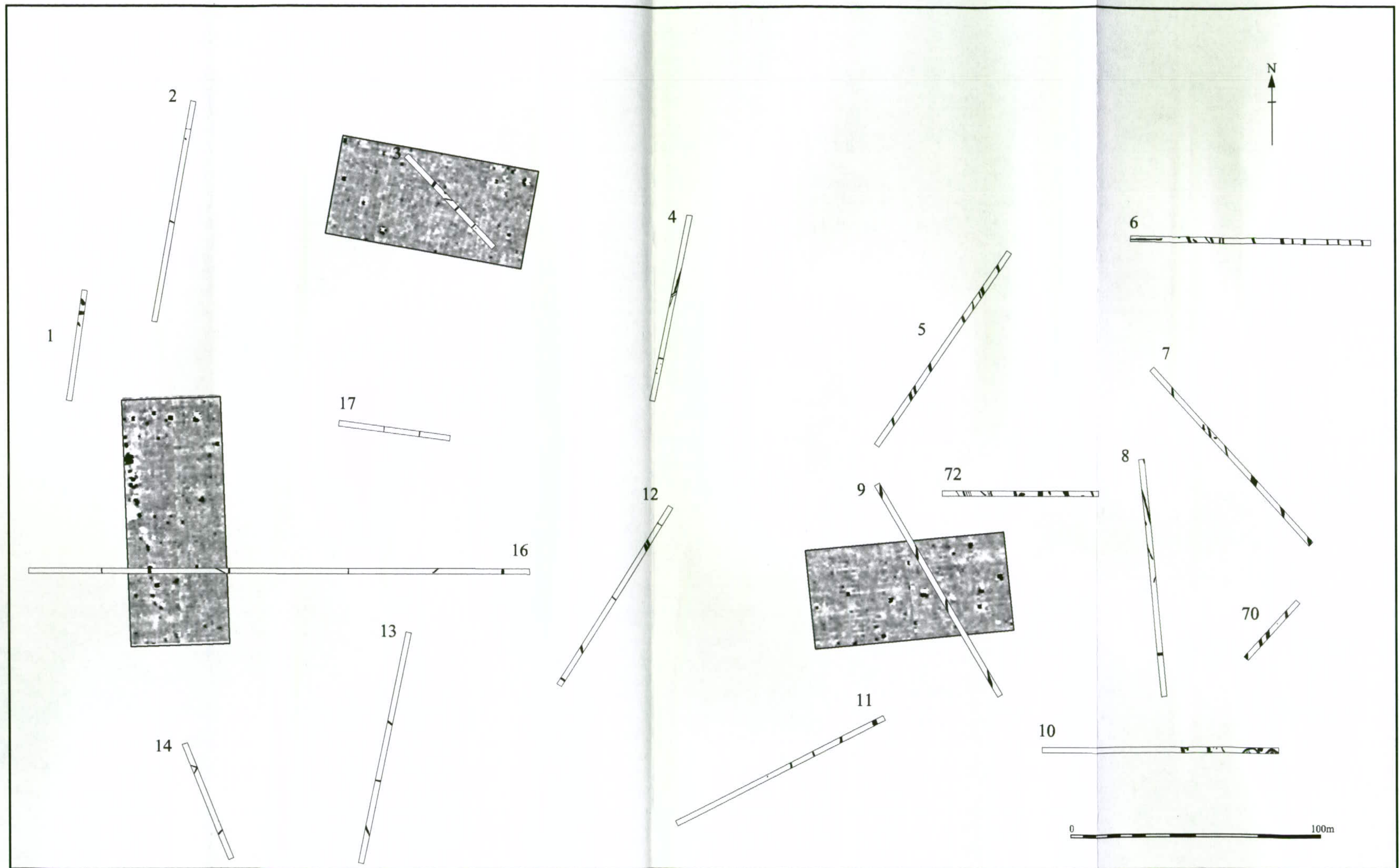


Figure 20 Detail of northern development area showing trench details and geophysical survey

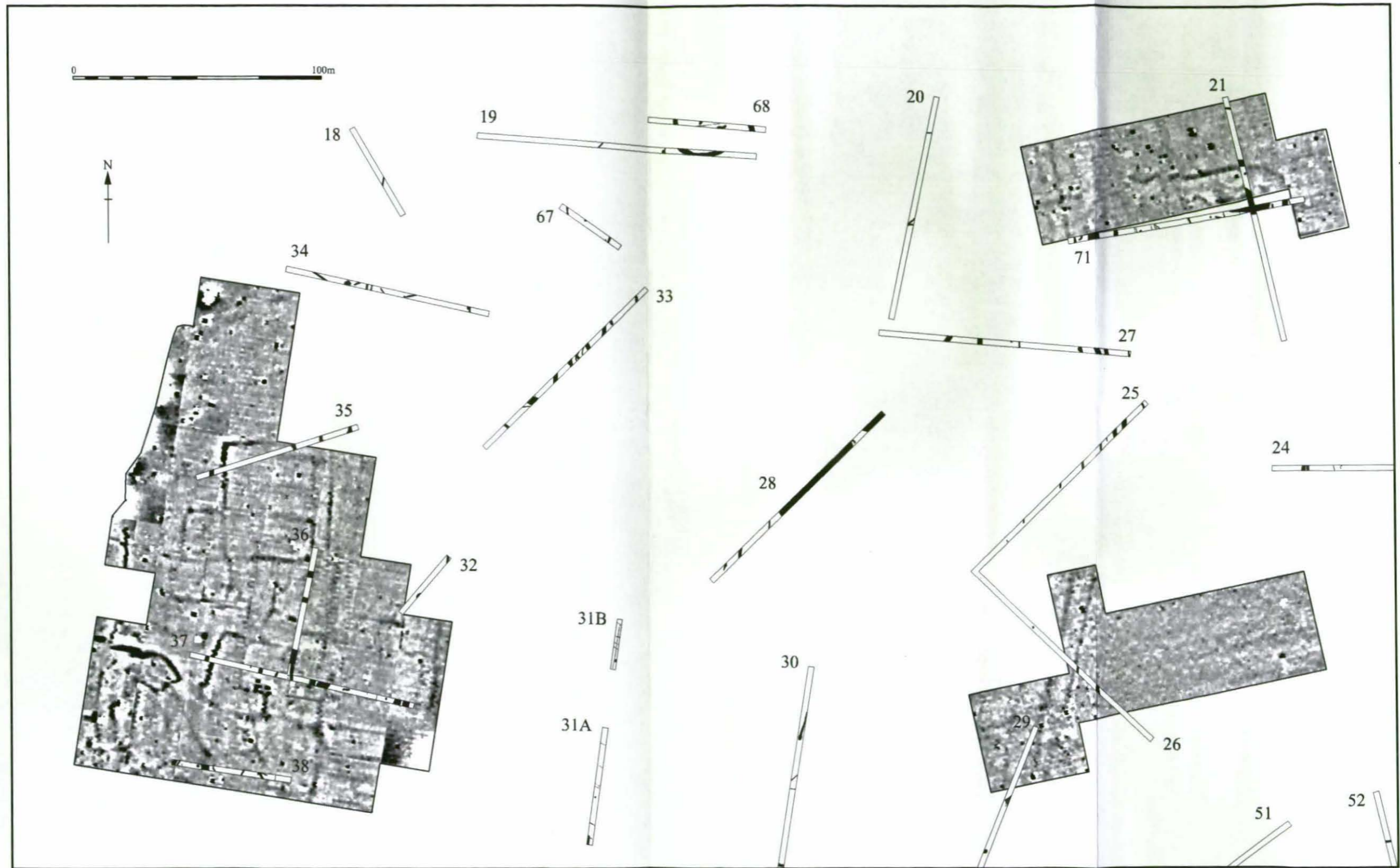


Figure 21 Detail of mid development area showing trench details and geophysical survey



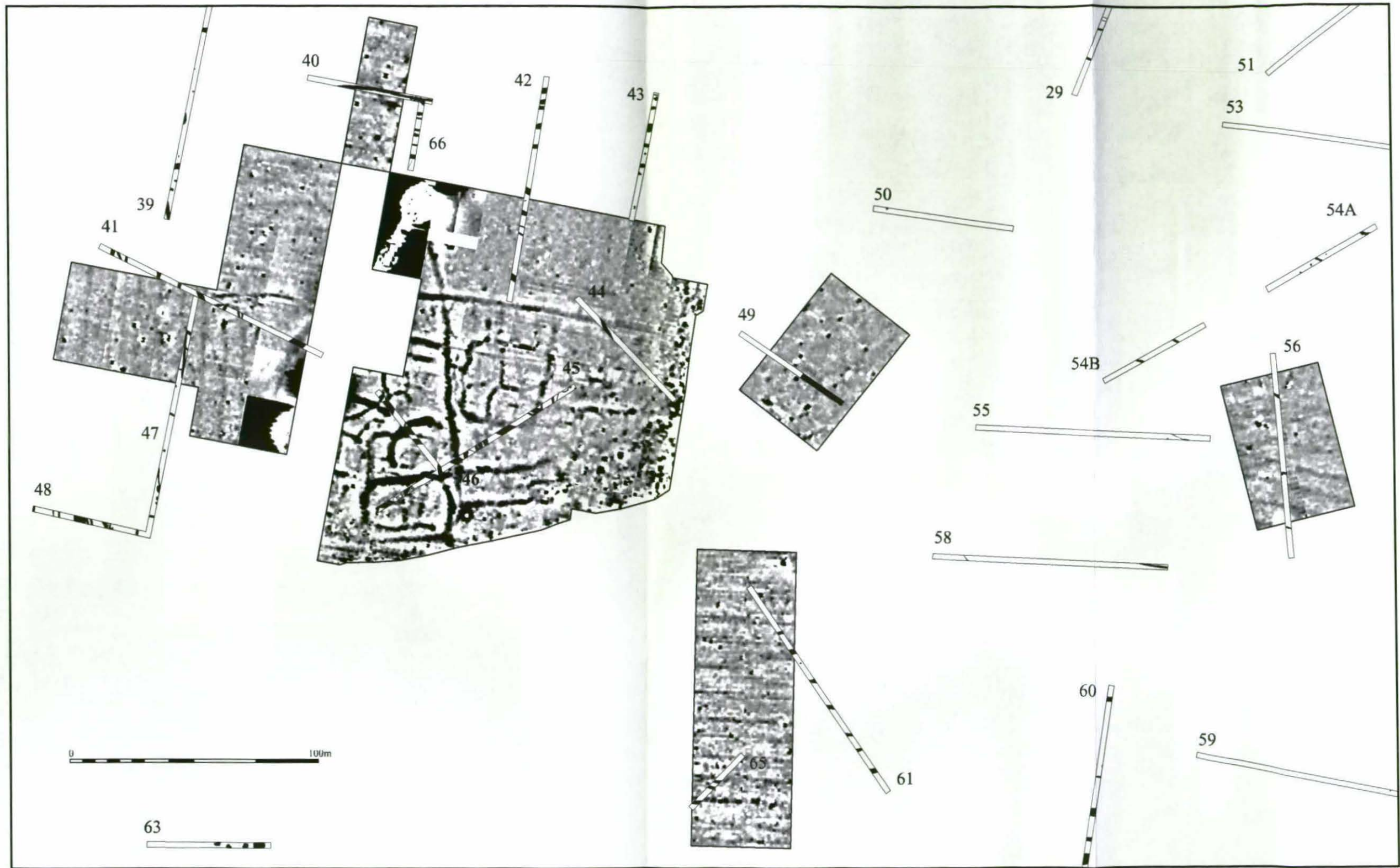


Figure 22 Detail of southern development area showing trench details and geophysical survey



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