

**An Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Peter's Pit,  
Wouldham and the Proposed Medway Crossing, Kent**

**TQ 714 629**

**Project No. 1540**

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### ***Summary***

*Following a desk-based assessment, walkover survey and geophysical survey, a trial trench evaluation was carried out on the site in May and June 2002 in order to establish the extent and character of any archaeological remains that may be present. A total of 75 trenches were located across six separate areas. Area 1 produced two features, one of which was of Late Iron Age to Romano British date. Area 2 revealed a possible early field boundary and a dense area of ancient activity, ditches and a marling pit or waterhole, of Romano-British date that indicates a probable wider extent of surviving remains in the vicinity. Area 3 revealed the remains of a Roman building and limited evidence of industrial features associated with 19th- century cement manufacture. Area 4 exposed an Iron Age post hole and a possible gully. Area 5 had evidence of a moderate amount of archaeological remains, mostly ditches/gullies but also three possible posts and a pit, all of potentially prehistoric origin. Area 6 revealed fairly limited remains of a gully, a possible trackway and pits of uncertain date, and a post-medieval ditch.*

## **CONTENTS**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>GENERAL METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>AREA 1: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>AREA 1: RESULTS</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>AREA 1: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>AREA 2: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>AREA 2: RESULTS</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>AREA 2: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>AREA 3: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>AREA 3: RESULTS</b>
<b>11.0</b>	<b>AREA 3: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>12.0</b>	<b>AREA 4: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>13.0</b>	<b>AREA 4: RESULTS</b>
<b>14.0</b>	<b>AREA 4: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>15.0</b>	<b>AREA 5: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>16.0</b>	<b>AREA 5: RESULTS</b>
<b>17.0</b>	<b>AREA 5: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>18.0</b>	<b>AREA 6: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY</b>
<b>19.0</b>	<b>AREA 6: RESULTS</b>
<b>20.0</b>	<b>AREA 6: DISCUSSION</b>
<b>21.0</b>	<b>THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES</b>
<b>22.0</b>	<b>REFERENCES</b>

## **23.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

### **SMR SUMMARY SHEET**

#### **Figures**

1. Site Location Plan
2. Site Plan showing Areas 1-6 and the Proposed Development
3. Ordnance Survey 6" map, 1870. (Areas 1-5). Showing walkover survey features.
4. Ordnance Survey 6" map, 1898. (Areas 1-5). Showing walkover survey features.
5. Ordnance Survey 6" map, 1933. (Areas 1-5). Showing walkover survey features.
6. Area 1: Trench Location Plan.
7. Area 2: Trench Location Plan.
8. Area 3: Trench Location Plan.
9. Area 4: Trench Location Plan.
10. Area 5: Trench Location Plan.
11. Area 6: Trench Location Plan.
12. Area 1: Trenches 2 and 3: Plans and Sections.
13. Area 2: Trenches 10, 12 and 13: Plans and Sections.
14. Area 2: Trenches A, B and 15: Plans and Sections.
15. Area 3: Trenches 28 and 30-32: Plans and Sections.
16. Area 3: Trenches 34, 35 and 38: Plans.
17. Area 4: Trench 44: Plan and Sections.
18. Area 5: Trenches 49-52, 54 and 56: Plans and Sections.
19. Area 6: Trenches 64, 67, 69 and 70-71: Plans and Sections.

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation of various land parcels around Wouldham, Kent (approximately centred around NGR TQ 714 629) which form part of the proposed site of Peter's Village, the new Medway Crossing and the route of a new road to the south. The areas of the evaluation were as outlined in the CgMs Specification, Figure 5 (Chadwick 2002) with the addition of two areas as highlighted in correspondence dated 2nd May 2002. The location of the site is shown in Figs 1 and 2.
- 1.2** A Specification for Field Evaluation was produced by Paul Chadwick of CgMs Consulting (Chadwick 2002) which identified the need for a three phase approach to the evaluation of the site: geophysical survey, walkover survey and evaluation trenching. This report concerns only the evaluation trenching aspect of the work. The walkover survey was also carried out by ASE and is dealt with in an earlier report (Barber 2002)
- 1.3** The archaeological and planning background has already been discussed in the CgMs Specification (Chadwick 2002) and the walkover survey report by ASE (Barber 2002) and as such will not be repeated here in any detail. The archaeological background is only briefly outlined in **1.5**, below.
- 1.4** The evaluation area is part of a wide river valley formed by the River Medway. The Geological Survey (Sheet 272 Chatham) shows the geology as predominately Upper and Lower Chalk overlain by Alluvium and Head deposits.
- 1.5** The walkover survey suggested that there is sufficient evidence to indicate that the evaluation area (which has been divided into Areas 1-6 see **2.1** below) has significant archaeological potential for numerous periods. The association of prehistoric activity with river valleys is well known, indeed, there is cropmark evidence for a Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure near to Area 5. Evaluation Areas 3 and 6 include, or are near to the potential sites of two Roman buildings and the geophysical survey has shown potential archaeological remains in Areas 2 and 3. There is also evidence of more recent activity. Area 3, immediately to the east of the River Medway has been shown to have formerly contained extensive 19th- century cement works which were identified in the walkover survey report (Barber 2002) (Figs 3-5).
- 1.6** A Method Statement was produced by Ian Greig of ASE (Greig 2002) which outlined the specific techniques to be used during the trial trench evaluation. This statement also specified the position of the evaluation trenches which was agreed by CgMs and the Kent County Council Archaeological Officer.

- 1.7 The aim of the evaluation survey, as outlined in the CgMs Specification, was to clarify the extent, date, character and condition of the archaeological evidence. Specific aims, where applicable, are outlined under the Specific Methodology for each area.
- 1.8 The evaluation was carried out by Jim Stevenson, Dan Lee, Paul Riccoboni, Chris Derham and Justin Russell between 15th May to 11th June 2002.

## **2.0 GENERAL METHODOLOGY**

- 2.1 The evaluation was divided into six areas. Area 1 was the only area located on the west bank of the River Medway and encompassed the junction of the proposed Medway Crossing with the existing A228. Areas 2 and 4 were located at the site of the new village and Areas 3, 5 and 6 were situated along the line of a new road link to the A229.
- 2.2 All areas had been subjected to geophysical scanning (magnetometry) and Areas 2 and 3 were the subject of a detailed geophysical survey and trenches located accordingly to investigate anomalies.
- 2.3 The locations of all of the trenches were checked with a CAT scanner for the presence of buried services and photographed prior to excavation. The trenches were then excavated by a JCB Back-Hoe Loader with a 1.20m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of staff from Archaeology South-East. All trenches were backfilled to as high a standard as was possible given local conditions and were again photographed.
- 2.4 The excavation was taken down to the top of the underlying chalk, geological features cut into it or to any significant archaeological deposit, whichever was the higher. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation. Revealed surfaces of the deposit were then manually cleaned (where safety allowed) in an attempt to identify individual archaeological features or layers. The sections of the trenches were selectively cleaned to observe and record their stratigraphy. The removed spoil was scanned for the presence of any stray, unstratified, artefacts.
- 2.5 All encountered archaeological deposits, features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards, using context record sheets based upon the Central Excavation Unit recording system as modified for use by Archaeology South-East. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 2.6 A full photographic record of the work was kept and will form part of the site

archive. The archive is presently held at the Archaeology South-East office in Ditchling and will be offered to a suitable local museum in due course.

### **3.0 AREA 1: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY (Fig. 6)**

- 3.1** Area 1 was the only area evaluated that lay to the west of the River Medway and consisted of rough grassland. Four 20m trenches (T1-T4) were excavated to test the site of the proposed junction of the new road and the existing A228 (see Fig. 6 for a location plan). The underlying 'natural' deposits were deliberately overmachined by approximately 0.10m in all the trenches (except where features of archaeological interest were obviously present) in order to be certain that the correct level was reached.
- 3.2** The position of the trenches was accurately surveyed using tapes offset from the existing field boundaries.
- 3.3** All archaeological features were levelled with reference to a Temporary Bench Mark set up on a fence post at the western boundary of the site (value 20.00m SD). It was not possible at this stage to level the TBM to the Ordnance Datum.

### **4.0 AREA 1: RESULTS (Figs 6 and 12)**

- 4.1** Trench **T1** was excavated to a depth of 0.65m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.30m of dark brown sandy silt clay topsoil (context **100**), overlying 0.15-0.25m of mid orange brown silty clay with a moderate amount of flint nodules, context **101**, overlying the natural mid orange brown clay with flints (probable 'Head' deposits). No archaeological features were present in this trench.
- 4.2** Trench **T2** was excavated to a depth of 0.50m and revealed a similar stratigraphy to **T1**: 0.25-0.30m of context **100**, overlying 0.10-0.15m of context **101**, overlying the natural 'Head' deposits. One feature, context **102**, was identified and sampled.
- 4.2.1** Context **102** was a roughly circular pit 1.65m in diameter and 0.64m deep that ran under the western edge of the trial trench and was sealed by **101** (Fig. 12). It had fairly regular, steeply sloping, sides and a very slightly rounded base. Seven fills were identified. The upper fill, context **109**, was a mid orange brown friable sandy silt with a moderate amount of small to medium sized flint fragments and nodules. Contexts **107** and **108** were a similar mid to dark orange brown friable sand silt with occasional flint fragments and probably represented slumped material from the side of the pit. Context **107** produced late Iron Age to early Romano-British pottery. Context **106** underlay **107** and **108** and was a

dark orange brown sandy silt that produced pottery dated between 50-170AD. Underlying this was **105**, a mid brown orange sandy silt which overlay context **104**, a dark orange brown sandy silt with frequent flint fragments and late Iron Age to early Romano British pottery. Context **103** was a mid brown orange sandy silt. Fills **104** and **103** probably represent the initial silting and slumped material of the pit.

**4.3** Trench **T3** was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m and showed a similar stratigraphy to the other trenches. At the north-east end context **100** was 0.30m thick and overlay **101** which had a thickness of 0.40m. The thickness of layer **101** increased throughout the trench to a maximum of 0.90m at the south-western end. The proximity of the existing field boundary suggests that this may be the result of the formation of a lynchet on the downslope side of the field. Context **101** overlay the natural orange brown clay with flints. One feature, **110**, was identified and sampled (Fig. 12).

**4.3.1** Context **110** was a small, sub-oval feature 0.52m x 0.44m in size and 0.13m deep, sealed by **101** with moderately steeply sloping sides onto a slightly rounded base. It possessed a single homogenous light brown grey silty sandy clay fill, context **111**. No finds were located in this feature.

**4.4** Trench **T4** was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m and revealed a similar stratigraphy to the previous trial trenches. Context **100** was uniformly 0.30m thick throughout the trench and overlay **101** which ranged from 0.25m at the north-west end to 0.15m at the south-east and overlay the natural orange brown silt clay with flints. No ancient features were identified.

## **5.0 AREA 1: DISCUSSION**

**5.1** Of the two features sampled in Area 1, context **110** is perhaps the least interesting. Although sealed by the subsoil and therefore of some antiquity no dating evidence was produced. Little can be said of its function other than it appears to be a shallow pit.

**5.2** Context **102** produced a reasonable amount of pottery and its multi filled nature suggests that it may have been utilised over a period of time as a rubbish pit, although it is difficult to be certain. The fills potentially represent different episodes of deliberate backfilling (**106**), slumping and silting. The pottery recovered suggests a late Iron Age to early Romano-British date for this feature.

**5.3** Area 1 has not produced a large amount of archaeological evidence. However, the two features identified and sampled in trial trenches **T3** and **T4** show archaeological remains to be present. Of particular relevance is feature **102**



which could indicate, by the amount of pottery present, that there are further, undetected remains in the vicinity, potentially associated with a settlement.

## **6.0 AREA 2: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY (Fig. 7)**

- 6.1** Area 2 consisted of agricultural land under cereal cultivation with a gentle through to moderate slope down towards the River Medway to the west / south-west.
- 6.2** The trial trenches were located over anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Trenches T5-T7, T10, T12, T13, T14-T18) or in the vicinity of the proposed development (Trenches T8, T9, T11, T19-T23). All were 20m in length and 1.5m wide unless otherwise stated.
- 6.3** All the trenches in this area were set out using a Sokkia Set 5a total station, based on the tie-in information from the geophysical survey.
- 6.4** All archaeological features were levelled to the Ordnance Datum with reference to a Temporary Bench Mark set up with the use of an Ordnance Survey Bench Mark at the north-east corner of a residential property on Hall Road (value 5.45mOD).
- 6.5** Two contingency trenches TA and TB were excavated at the request of the KCC Archaeological Officer to clarify the alignment and continuation of what was thought at the time to be a linear feature in T12 and to try to ascertain the extent of further remains identified in the vicinity. The features uncovered in these two contingency trenches were of a similar nature to those identified and sampled in T10, T12 and T13; their location was planned and they were all tested to gather dating evidence. Further sampling of the remains in Trenches A and B was not thought to be necessary at this stage.
- 6.6** Where possible, the JCB kept to the line of existing machine tracks in the cereal crop so as to cause as little damage as possible.
- 6.7** Where necessary, the underlying natural was slightly over machined in order to be certain that the correct level had been reached.

## **7.0 AREA 2: RESULTS (Figs 7 and 13 - 14)**

- 7.1** Trench T5 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.30m of dark grey brown silty clay ploughsoil, context **200**, overlying 0.15-0.25m of mid grey brown silty clay subsoil, context **201**,

overlying the natural weathered chalk. A palaeo-channel/ periglacial feature comprising of a sterile orange brown silty sandy clay aligned north-south and 8m wide was identified - it was also present in T6. This feature may account for the geophysical anomaly present in this area. No archaeological features were identified.

- 7.2** Trench T6 which formed a 'T' junction with T5 also exhibited a similar stratigraphy. The palaeo-channel continued across this trench. No archaeological features were present.
- 7.3** Trench T7 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.30m-0.40m of context **200**, overlying, 0.30m of context **201**, overlying 0.30-0.40m of a mid red brown silty clay loam with frequent flint nodules (context **202**) which may represent an earlier soil formation. The presence of layer **202** may account for the geophysical anomaly in this area. No archaeological features were identified.
- 7.4** Trench T8 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.30m of context **200**, overlying a thin band, 0.05m thick, of context **201**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. No archaeological remains were identified.
- 7.5** Trench T9 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.90m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.35m of ploughsoil, context **200**, overlying 0.45m of light-mid yellow brown silty clay loam, context **201**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. No archaeological remains were identified.
- 7.6** Trench T10 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of ploughsoil, context **200**, overlying 0.25-0.35m of context **201**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. Several features were identified and sampled (Fig. 13, contexts **222**, **225**, **227**, **229**, **234**).
- 7.6.1** Context **222** was a north-south aligned ditch 1.60m wide and 0.70m deep, sealed by **201**, which intercut with **225** and **227**, also north-south aligned ditches/gullies. These three linear features were sampled by a 0.70m wide section being hand-excavated through them. Ditch **222** had a slightly flattened 'U' shaped profile. It possessed two fills: **224** a light brown grey silty clay with a moderate amount of small chalk fragments and **223** a light orange brown silty clay basal deposit. Due to the similarity of the fills, it was impossible to discern a relationship between **222** and **225** (Fig. 13, Section 4). Iron Age pottery was recovered from context **224**.
- 7.6.2** Context **225** was a north-south aligned, slightly rounded 'V' shaped ditch/gully, sealed by **201**. It was 0.40m wide and 0.65m deep. It had a single light brown

grey silty clay fill, **226**, with a moderate amount of chalk flecking throughout. Due to the similarity of the fills, it was impossible to discern a relationship between this and contexts **227** and **228**.

- 7.6.3** Context **227** was a north-south aligned gully with a moderately steeply sloping eastern side and a wide, flat, slightly irregular base. It was sealed by **201** and had a width of 1.00m and was 0.40m deep. It had a single light brown grey silty clay fill, **228**. Due to the similarity of the fills, it was impossible to discern a relationship between this and ditch/gully **225**. Pottery dating to between 120-200 AD was recovered from **228**.
- 7.6.4** Context **229** was a linear, north-south aligned feature, 1.2m wide and little more than 0.05m in depth. It was sealed by **201**. This feature, which although probably genuine, was little more than a shallow, irregular, linear depression. It was filled with a mixed light to mid grey brown chalky clay which also contained large patches of crushed, compacted chalk and flint, context **230**.
- 7.6.5** Context **231** was a general number given to several small, vertical sided circular and irregularly shaped possible features in the vicinity of **229** and sealed by context **201**. They were all filled with a similar light to mid grey brown chalky clay. It is unclear whether these features are the product of natural processes (such as solution hollows) or are the bases of stakeholes or postholes which may be associated with **229**.
- 7.6.6** Context **234** was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch/gully with a very wide, gently sloping, flattened 'U' shaped profile (Fig. 13, Section 3). It was sealed by **201** and had a width of 3.40m and was 0.38m deep. The feature had a single mid grey brown clay silt fill, **235**. Although **234** was not parallel to contexts **222**, **225** and **227**, it seems likely that it converges with them just to the north of the trench. This feature was possibly also exposed in Trench B where it was numbered as context **233**.
- 7.6.7** Context **236** was a convincing, narrow, vertical sided linear feature 0.12m wide and 0.15m deep, that terminated immediately to the north-west of **229**. It was filled with context **237**, a mid brown silty clay.
- 7.6.8** Context **238** was very similar to **236** only narrower and shallower. It was filled with a mid brown silty clay, context **239**.
- 7.7** Trench T11 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **200**, overlying 0.15m of a slightly orange brown silty clay with flint inclusions, context **201**, overlying the natural clay with flints (head deposits). No archaeological features were identified in this

trench.

- 7.8** Trench T12 formed a '+' shape with T13 and was positioned to investigate geophysical anomalies. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.15m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.40-0.70m of context **200**, overlying 0.30-0.50m of context **201**, overlying the degraded chalk natural. One large archaeological feature was identified in this trench, **207** (Fig. 13). This large area of fill accounts for the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey of this area.

- 7.8.1** Context **207** is the overall cut number given to a large area of fill identified at the western end of Trench 12. Due to the size of this area, it was decided to initially sample the feature by machine under close archaeological supervision. It soon became apparent that **207** had considerable depth and that the only efficient and safe way to proceed was to continue removing the fill with the JCB excavator. Even so, excavation had to be halted before all of the basal fill was removed due to the threat of the trench sides collapsing. The feature had a total exposed width of c. 6.00m and an exposed depth of 1.75m (2.35m below ground surface). It exhibited a moderately steeply sloping eastern side, the western edge was not fully excavated but did reveal what appeared to be steps cut into the natural, underlying chalk (see Fig. 13, Section 5). Six fills were identified. Context **209**, was a mixed grey brown silty clay with frequent patches of chalk and flint and probable represents the initial slumping of material from the west side of the feature. The upper fill, context **208**, sealed by **201**, was a mid, slightly grey, brown, friable silty clay with rare chalk flecks and flint fragments. Context **210** was a mid brown, friable silty clay with a moderate amount of small flint fragments and chalk flecking. Fill **211** was a chalk lens in a matrix of light-mid brown silty clay. Context **212** was a mid, slightly red brown silty clay with a moderate amount flint fragments. This fill was not fully excavated. Context **213** was a red brown, silty clay with very few inclusions. Although not bottomed, this fill may well represent the initial basal silting of the feature. Early to mid Iron Age pottery, Roman box flue tile and pottery dated from 30-60 AD was recovered from contexts **208**, **210**, and from **207**, (general cut number).

- 7.9** Trench T13 formed a '+' shape with T12 and was positioned to investigate geophysical anomalies. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.30-0.40m of context **200**, overlying 0.20-0.30m of context **201**, overlying the degraded chalk natural. Two archaeological features were identified in this trench, **214** and **216** (Fig. 13). These features account for the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey of this area.

- 7.9.1** Context **214** was an irregularly shaped feature sealed by context **201**, and running under the western edge of the trench. It had an exposed width of 2.75m and a depth of 0.32m. The feature had irregularly sloping sides and flat, but

irregular in places, base. It had a single, homogenous, mid grey brown silty clay loam fill that contained rare chalk flecks and flint fragments (**215**). The irregular nature of this feature suggests that it may have been formed by tree clearance activity.

- 7.9.2** Context **216** was very similar to **214**. An irregularly shaped feature sealed by context **201**, running under the eastern and western edges of the trench. It had an exposed width of 1.75m and a depth of 0.22m. The feature had irregularly sloping sides and an irregular base. It had a single, homogenous, mid grey brown silty clay loam fill that contained rare chalk flecks and flint fragments (**217**). The irregular nature of this feature suggests that it may also have been formed by tree clearance activity.
- 7.10** Trench A (Fig. 14) was a 20m long contingency trench excavated to clarify whether any of the features identified in T12 and T10 continued to the south-east. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20-0.30m of context **200**, overlying 0.10m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. One feature, **218**, was present which did not align with any previously identified. This feature was tested to retrieve dating evidence but not fully sampled (see **6.5** above). No finds were recovered.
- 7.10.1** Context **218**, was an unexcavated north-east to south-west aligned ditch, 1.35m in width. It had a red brown silty clay loam fill and was sealed by context **201**.
- 7.11** Trench B (Fig. 14) was a 25m long contingency trench excavated to clarify whether any of the features identified in T12 and T10 continued to the south-west. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20-0.30m of context **200**, overlying 0.10m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. Four features, **219**, **220**, **221** and **233**, were present cutting the chalk. Context **233** was aligned approximately with context **234** in T10 and may be a continuation of this feature. Feature **220** appeared to be heading towards **207** in T12. These features were tested to retrieve dating evidence but not fully sampled (see **6.5** above). All the features were sealed by context **201**.
- 7.11.1** Context **219** was a clear continuation of **218**, above.
- 7.11.2** Context **220** was a large north-east south-west aligned ditch, 4.0m in width. It had a mid grey brown silty clay fill. A small sherd of Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from its upper surface.
- 7.11.3** Context **221** appeared to be a pit, 1.50m in diameter. It had a mid red brown silty clay fill and visibly cut **233**. A small sherd of Late Iron Age to early Romano British pottery was recovered from its upper surface.

- 7.11.4** Context **233** was a north south aligned ditch, 1.20m in width. It had a pale grey brown silty clay fill with frequent chalk flecking. It was cut by **221**.
- 7.12** Trench T14 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **200** overlying the natural degraded chalk. This trench was positioned to investigate a geophysical anomaly. No archaeological features were located and there was no evidence as to what may have caused this anomaly.
- 7.13** Trench T15 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.90m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.40m of context **200**, overlying 0.45m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. This trench was positioned to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly which corresponded to ditch **203** (Fig. 14).
- 7.13.1** Context **203** was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch, sealed by layer **201**, and having a slightly flattened 'U' shaped profile. It was 1.5m wide and had a depth of 0.50m. It was filled with a single light to mid brown silty clay with chalk lenses, context **204**. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.14** Trench T16 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.90m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **200**, overlying 0.35m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. This trench was positioned to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly which corresponded to the only feature present in the trench, ditch **205** (Fig. 14).
- 7.14.1** Context **205** was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch, partially sealed by layer **201**, and having a slightly flattened 'U' shaped profile. It was 1.4m wide and had a depth of 0.58m. It was filled with a single light to mid brown silty clay with a chalk lens, context **206**. No dating evidence was recovered.
- 7.15** Trench T17 formed a '+' shape with T18 and was positioned to investigate a geophysical anomaly. It had a maximum depth of 1.00m and showed, at the south-west end, a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying 0.15m of context **201**, overlying degraded chalk / head deposits. At the north-east end there was a sequence of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying 0.35m of context **201**, overlying degraded chalk / head deposits. Towards the intersection of the two trenches, there was a thick (0.60-0.70m) build up of the orange red, sterile, flint rich clay Head deposits which filled a probable solution hollow in the chalk. This may account for the geophysical anomaly. No archaeological features were identified.
- 7.16** Trench T18 had a maximum depth of 0.85m and showed a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.35m of context **200**, overlying 0.20-0.35m of context **201**, overlying the

natural degraded chalk / head deposits. No archaeological features were revealed. See also T17.

- 7.17** Trench T19 had a maximum depth of 0.85m and showed a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **200**, overlying 0.45m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were revealed.
- 7.18** Trench T20 had a maximum depth of 0.90m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying 0.60m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. Layer **201** was thicker in this trench than most of the others which may be a product of ploughing near to the western most boundary of the field. No archaeological features were revealed.
- 7.19** Trench T21 had a maximum depth of 1.05m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying 0.50m of context **201**, overlying 0.20m of 'head' deposits (natural) overlying degraded chalk. As in T20, Layer **201** was thicker here which may be a product of ploughing near to the western most boundary of the field. No archaeological features were revealed.
- 7.20** Trench T22 had a maximum depth of 0.45m and showed a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying 0.15m of context **201**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were revealed.
- 7.21** Trench T23 had a maximum depth of 0.35m and showed a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **200**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were revealed.

## **8.0 AREA 2: DISCUSSION**

- 8.1** To a large extent the evaluation of Area 2 has accounted for the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. Trench T5 and T6 were located over a palaeo-channel, a layer, **202**, possible the result of ancient ploughing activity was present in T7 and Trenches T10, T12 and T13, as highlighted above, revealed a dense concentration of archaeological remains.
- 8.2** Similarly, Trenches T15 and T16 were located over a linear anomaly which is also probably of ancient origin (contexts **203** and **205**). This feature is not present on any of the maps consulted (6" 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1870, 6" 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 1898 and 6" Provisional Edition 1933, Figs 3-5) and may represent an ancient, agricultural feature such as a field boundary.
- 8.3** Nothing was detected in Trench 14 that would explain the anomalies initially identified in this vicinity. Trenches 17 and 18 were located over a

topographic/solution hollow which contained an isolated area of thick 'head' deposits overlying the natural chalk. It is possible that this variation in the natural geology caused the anomaly picked up in the geophysical survey.

- 8.4** The most significant evidence revealed in the evaluation of this area were the features uncovered in Trenches 10, 12, 13 and contingency trenches A and B.
- 8.5** Context **229** in T10 appears to represent a narrow trackway possibly with an associated drainage gully, **236**. However, without a large area exposed it is difficult to make any definite judgement about its function. It is unclear whether it is associated with the other ancient remains or not.
- 8.6** Of these, perhaps the most interesting is context **207**. It is difficult to be certain of its function given the sampling approach of field evaluation, however, its size and depth (especially given that it was not bottomed) suggests that it is a large discrete feature rather than a ditch as was originally speculated on site. Trench A which was positioned to account for the possibility that this context might be linear showed no evidence that it continued in this direction. It is possibly **207** is a marling pit used to extract chalk to spread on more acidic areas of clay with flints/ Head deposits. The probable steps cut into the chalk at the eastern end to provide access back this suggestion up. Alternatively the feature may represent a watering hole for stock. The finds collected suggest a Romano-British date for this feature.
- 8.7** It is possible that one or all of ditches **222**, **225** and **227** run into **207**. They appear to be heading in its general direction as does context **220**. If this were the case then it would suggest **207** to be a watering hole.
- 8.8** Ditches **222**, **225** and **227** are obviously all on a similar alignment and although no relationship was detectable between them, it seems possible that they represent the successive recutting of a field boundary or, potentially an enclosure ditch. The finds recovered suggest an Iron Age or later date for ditch **222** and a potential Roman date for **227**.
- 8.9** The ditches/gullies uncovered in Trenches 10, A and B (**222**, **225**, **227**, **234**, **218**, **219**, **220** and **234**) seem to be associated with agricultural activity (such as exposed parts of a field system and droveways), as does the potential marling pit or waterhole **207**. However, it is also possible that one or more of these ditches/gullies forms part of an enclosure to a settlement. The dating evidence collected indicates a late Iron Age to early Romano-British date for at least some of these features .
- 8.10** Although there was no direct settlement evidence (such as a ring gully), the sampled features were not completely devoid of finds. A moderate amount of



bone and pottery was recovered which may suggest that there is at least some domestic activity in the vicinity. Although the sampled features have produced dating evidence that is mostly Late Iron Age to early Romano-British in character there are some earlier and later finds present.

- 8.11** The evaluation has shown that in the vicinity of Trenches 10, 12, 14 , A and B there is a dense area of intact archaeological features, generally sealed by the subsoil (**201**) and surviving at a depth of 0.50-0.80m below the present ground surface. Without further evaluation or excavation it is impossible to make a definitive judgement of its extent or nature.

## **9.0 AREA 3: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY (Fig. 8)**

- 9.1** Area 3 can be divided into two parts for ease of topographic description. To the east of Old Church Road it consisted of rough pasture, overgrown in places. To the west of Old Church Road, it ran immediately next to the River Medway in an area of known industrial workings (now destroyed) and consisted of cleared woodland / undergrowth.
- 9.2** A total of 13 trenches were excavated in Area 3 (T26-T38) all of which were 20m in length apart from T31 which was extended to 25m for archaeological reasons.
- 9.3** Trenches 24 and 25, located between Areas 2 and 3, which were initially located to investigate the former site of Wouldham Hall, were unable to be excavated for stock control reasons. These were abandoned with the permission of the Kent County Council's Archaeological Officer.
- 9.4** Trenches 26 to 31 were located in order to investigate geophysical anomalies identified in the earlier survey of the site.
- 9.5** Trenches 32 to 38 were located to examine the condition of industrial remains, including a line of limekilns that are known to have existed in this area (see Figs 3-5).
- 9.6** The main aim of the evaluation of this area was to try to locate the site of the remains of a Roman building identified during the construction of an extension to the West Kent Portland Cement Works in 1895 and marked on the 6" 2nd Edition OS map of 1898 (Victoria County History of Kent III, 1932 p109-10. Also see Figs 4 and 5).
- 9.7** The archaeological remains consisted of an underground chamber dug into a small cliff facing the river, robbed foundation trenches and a timber fronted

wharf. Originally thought to be a Mithraic temple, the evidence has been reinterpreted as a cellar used for storing wine landed at the wharf (Jessup 1956).

- 9.8** All archaeological features were levelled to the Ordnance Datum with reference to a Temporary Bench Mark set up with the use of an Ordnance Survey Spot Height on Hall Road (value 11.00mOD).
- 9.9** All the trenches in this area were set out using a Sokkia Set 5a total station, based on the tie-in information from the geophysical survey.
- 10.0 AREA 3: RESULTS** (Figs 8, 15 and 16)
- 10.1** Trench 24 was not excavated (see Fig. 7 for proposed location).
- 10.2** Trench 25 was not excavated (see Fig. 7 for proposed location).
- 10.3** Trench 26 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.30m of dark grey brown humic topsoil, context **300**, overlying 0.10m of mid grey brown chalk flecked subsoil, context **301**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. Several irregularly shaped features were sampled which proved to be definite natural formations. No archaeological features were present. Nothing was noted that could account for the geophysical anomaly located in the initial survey.
- 10.4** Trench 27 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.30m of context **300**, overlying 0.15m of context **301**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. No archaeological features were present. A live electric cable was detected 1.5m from the east end of the trench.
- 10.5** Trench 28 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.0m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.50m of context **300**, overlying 0.30-45m of context **301**, overlying the natural weathered chalk. One feature of archaeological interest, context **305**, was detected (Fig. 15, Section 10).
- 10.5.1** Context **305** was sealed by **300** but cut through **301**. This was a single number given to several layers of compacted chalk and clay that formed a ridge that was visible running east-west across the field. This context was recorded in section only. Although no dating material was recovered from this feature it was not considered to be of any particular antiquity during fieldwork.
- 10.6** Trench 29 was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.40m. The south-west end was disturbed for 10m by a large modern pit that was filled with layers of burnt material and ash (**303**), this cut into a palaeo-channel (**304**) which consisted of a

sterile sandy fill and was sealed by **301**. No features of archaeological note were identified. Context **303** accounts for the geophysical anomaly located in this area.

**10.7** Trench T30 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.40m (Fig. 15, Section 11) and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20-0.30m of context **300**, overlying 0.20-0.25m of a mid grey silty clay loam with occasional flint fragments and chalk flecking, context **306** (subsoil, although slightly different to **301** identified in T26-T29). Context **308** was sealed by **306** and consisted of a light orange brown silty, sandy clay with occasional chalk flecking and flint fragments with 2nd- to 3rd- century finds, overlying context **309** (0.30-0.35m), a dark grey brown silty clay loam with flint and chalk fragments which produced 1st- to 4th- century finds. This layer started 1.8m from the northern end of the trench. One layer, **310**, had particular significance.

**10.7.1** Context **310** started 4.8m from the northern end of the trench, was 0.10m thick, and was only noted in section. It overlay the natural and was sealed by **309**. This context was a flat, level band of flint and chalk that appeared to be a more ephemeral and degraded version of a similar context, **331**, in T31 and would seem to represent a Romano-British surface.

**10.8** Trench 31 was excavated to a length of 25m and a maximum depth of 1.70m (Fig. 15). It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20-0.30m of context **300** which sealed context **303** a large pit filled with burnt, ashy material and of probably 19th-century origin. This pit was cut into the south-eastern most 7m of the trench and extended to a depth of 1.70m (it was not bottomed) and cut through layers **307**, **333**, **308**, **309** and **316**. Context **307** was underlying **300** and was 0.15-0.20m of grey, ash rich silty clay which overlay 0.10-0.15m of light brown silty clay truncated subsoil, overlying 0.40-0.50m of context **308** (same as in T30), overlying 0.15-0.40m of context **309** (same as in T30). The layers below are examined stratigraphically and are of considerable archaeological interest being associated with the remains of a Roman building.

**10.8.1** Context **316** lay underneath **309** and extended for 5.25m approximately in the middle of T31, and beginning to peter out at 8.75m from the north-east end of the trench. It was cut by context **303**. Layer **316** formed a convincing, although fairly rough, surface composed of flint fragments and nodules (generally <0.08m in size) that were moderately densely packed. This layer was sampled by a single, hand excavated, 1m wide segment (**329**) which showed that **316** was composed of a single course of flints about 0.10m in thickness and overlay the natural clay with flints 'head' deposit.

**10.8.2** Context **330** lay under **309** and varied in thickness from 0.10m to 0.20m. It consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay soil with frequent Roman floor and

roof tile and chalk fragments, a moderate amount of flint fragments and nodules and patches of opus signinum. This layer seemed to increase in thickness to the north-west of wall **332** (see below). Context **330** seems to clearly represent an episode of demolition. Pottery dating to between the 3rd to 4th century was recovered from this layer.

- 10.8.3** Context **334** was a thin (0.02-0.05m) layer of a dark grey brown silty clay loam with occasional small flint fragments and flecks of chalk and produced 2nd- to 3rd- century finds. It lay under **330** and sealed contexts **323**, **332** and **331**.
- 10.8.4** Context **331** lay under **334**, sealed **323** and seemed to butt against **332**. It was only present to the north-west of wall **332** where it was 0.02m thick and consisted of a level layer of chalk which became thicker (0.10m) at the end of the trial trench. This appears to be a chalk surface which continues in a less substantial form in T30 (context **310**).
- 10.8.5** Context **332** was a chalk and flint nodule wall foundation sealed by **334**. It ended 0.90m from the north-eastern side of the trial trench. It was impossible to ascertain its relationship to **323** although the downward slope of **323** immediately to the south-east of **332** may be due to the construction trench of **332**. This would suggest that the wall was built and the floor surface butted to it. This evidence is tenuous and the wall may equally have been a later addition cutting through the existing floor surfaces.
- 10.8.6** Context **323** was sealed by **334** and **331** and may have butted against **332** (see above). It consisted of a tightly packed flint surface that started sharply 6.6m from the north-east end of the trial trench and stopped 1.5m from the end of the trench. The flints were small, generally > 0.07m, in size and were mostly only one course deep, overlaying the natural clay with flints. This surface was in noticeably far better condition than **316** and produced finds of 2nd- century date.
- 10.9** Trench 32 had a maximum depth of 1.85m. At its eastern end, the trench exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil/ leaf litter onto the natural underlying chalk. At 4.25m from the east end there was a sharp terrace, originally to accommodate a kiln, that was backfilled with rubble, ash and other demolition material (context **313/312**). The western end showed a stratigraphy of topsoil / leaf litter over a thin band of made ground (**315**) overlying the natural chalk. One feature of archaeological interest was recorded, **311**.
- 10.9.1** Context **311** was the only *in situ* remains of the original kiln structure and consisted of a small amount of walling 7.5m from the east end of the trench. Presumably the rest of the kiln structure was demolished and forms the demolition / backfill material **312** / **313**.

- 10.10** Trench 33 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.40m and had a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter, overlying 1.30m of compacted made ground, context **315**, overlying the natural chalk. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 10.11** Trench 34 had a maximum depth of 1.80m and a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter overlying 0.30-1.00m of context **315** (made ground), the natural chalk was only visible in places. Several features of archaeological/ industrial interest were identified, all sealed by **315** (Fig. 16).
- 10.11.1** Context **317** was a partially disturbed area of concrete hardstanding at the north-eastern end of the trench.
- 10.11.2** Context **319** was the brick built base of a chimney, presumably associated with the kilns. Next to this was some partial walling, context **321**. Another partial brick wall foundation, **322**, butted up against an area of concrete hardstanding (context **320**) at the western end of the trench.
- 10.12** Trench 35 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.70m and had a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter, overlying context **335**, a sterile orange to yellow sand with clear striations which was not bottomed (a naturally laid deposit). An area of concrete hardstanding **317**, with a brick wall foundation butted to it, **318**, was present at the northern end of the trench.
- 10.13** Trench 36 revealed a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter overlying 2.00-2.60m of made ground (**315**). Natural deposits were not exposed in any part of the trench. Nothing of archaeological interest was identified.
- 10.14** Trench 37 was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.90m and had a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter overlying 2.5 to 2.8m of made ground, (**315**). The underlying natural was not exposed and no features were identified.
- 10.15** Trench 38 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.30m and had a stratigraphy of 0.10m of thin topsoil / leaf litter overlying 1.20m of made ground, **315**. The entire length of the trench was made up of *in-situ* industrial remains listed by context number below (Fig. 16).
- 10.15.1** Context **315** was a general number given to made / disturbed ground.
- 10.15.2** Context **324** was a brick surface.
- 10.15.3** Context **325** appeared to be two concrete post settings.

**10.15.4** Context **326** was a brick built linear 'vault like' structure (possibly a drain)

**10.15.5** Context **327** was an area of concrete hardstanding.

**10.15.6** Context **328** was a brick surface.

## **11.0 AREA 3: DISCUSSION**

**11.1** The evidence of Roman occupation uncovered in T30 and T31 is obviously the most significant evidence uncovered during the evaluation of Area 2.

**11.2** Layers **308/309** produced a wide date range of material from the late 2nd century to the late 4th century AD. These contexts would appear to represent the ancient soil formation since the Roman period and the abandonment of the building identified in T31.

**11.3** Layer **310** in T30 (sealed by **308** and **309**) appears to be the remains of a surface, potential of the same phase as **334** identified in T30, and therefore probably of later Roman origin.

**11.4** Although the confines of a trial trench renders it difficult to give a definitive interpretation of the Roman remains identified in T31, some conclusions can still be drawn.

**11.5** Layer **316** appears to be a rough flint surface, presumably an external yard.

**11.6** It is probable the location of the Roman building corresponds with context **323**. This layer of tightly packed flint, is clearly of a better quality (or has survived to a greater extent) and would seem to be associated with the building itself. Finds from within this flint layer date to the 2nd century AD.

**11.7** As highlighted in **10.6.5** above, the relationship of wall foundation **332** to the flint surface **323** is unclear. It is difficult to say, therefore, whether this is an exterior or interior wall. As it stops 0.60m from the south-western edge of the trial trench, it is possible that there is a break for a doorway at this point.

**11.8** Although the demolition material, **330**, lies directly above the entirety of context **323**, it is markedly thicker to the north-west of wall foundation **332**. Whether this is because the majority of the building lay in this direction (**332**, therefore being an exterior wall) or a greater amount of demolition material was dumped this way, it is difficult to tell. This layer seems to date from the 3rd to 4th century AD.

- 11.9** Layer **331**, a chalk surface, was only present to the north-west of **332** and seals **323**. It therefore represents a different phase of occupation of the building. It is interesting that this context butts against **332** and supports the suggestion that, at least at one time, the main emphasis of the building could have been to the north-west of this wall.
- 11.10** Layer **334** probably represents an episode of domestic build up, from which one pottery sherd was recovered dating from 170-250 AD. It seals wall **332** and is sealed by demolition layer **330**. Therefore **332** must have been removed some time before the dumping of the demolition material or the destruction of the rest of the building.
- 11.11** The evaluation has shown that there exists the remains of at least part of a Roman building in the vicinity of T31. The main phase, represented by the floor surfaces and wall seems to date from mid 1st to mid 3rd centuries AD. It seems to have gone out of use by the 3rd to 4th centuries. It is interesting to note that there appears to be remains, although quite ephemeral (in T30) that are associated with activity to the exterior of the building. The building is, at present protected by a substantial depth of soil (1.25m to the top of the demolition layer).
- 11.12** It seems unlikely that the remains identified in T31 were those recorded on the 1898 6" OS map. There is no sign of industrial disturbance above the easily recognisably Roman building to the north-west of the trench. Where there is disturbance, to the south-east of the trench, the Roman remains (context **316**) are more ephemeral and less likely to be identified by the casual observer. The remains found are also slightly different in character to the cellar described in 9.7 (Jessup 1956).
- 11.13** It is possible to give an estimate as to the extent of the Roman remains in the area. It is likely that no evidence remains to the south-east which has been truncated by a large area of 19th- century disturbance. Equally to the north, Trench 29, also showed such disturbance and no archaeological evidence so that it seems unlikely that there are extensive remains in this direction. Trenches 36 and 37 to the west of Hall Road also revealed deep industrial backfill that would have destroyed any remains in the vicinity.
- 11.14** An earlier evaluation of land immediately to the east of Area 3 in 1998 proved archaeologically negative apart from a single east west aligned ditch of 2nd- to 3rd- century date located approximately 70m to the north-east. It was suggested that the amount of building material present in this ditch was indicative of a nearby structure (Stevens 1998).
- 11.15** This may suggest that further parts of this Romano-British complex survive to

the east of T30 and T31, toward the 1998 evaluation trench (Trench 3 - see Fig. 8).

- 11.16** Of the geophysical anomalies identified in the initial survey, those in Trenches 30 and 31 represent the Roman remains outlined above, and also the 19th-century disturbance at the southern end of T31. The anomaly, and excavated feature, in T28 related to the path of an old tramway shown aligned north-east south-west on the 6" 2nd edition OS map of 1898 (Fig. 4). The anomaly in T29 was of 19th- century origin.
- 11.17** The evaluation to the west of Hall Road has shown that there is only very limited survival of small parts of the foundations for the kilns, (in T32, T34 and T35) which have for the most part been completely destroyed.
- 11.18** Only T38 showed extensive industrial remains consisting of walling and brick surfaces though their exact function is uncertain. This has destroyed any Roman remains that may have been identified and located on the 6" OS 2nd Edition map of 1898.

**12.0 AREA 4: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY (Fig. 9)**

- 12.1** Area 4 was located on a field of rough pasture that was very overgrown in places and sloped fairly steeply down to the north-west.
- 12.2** It was originally intended to excavate eight trenches in Area 4 (T39-T46), however, the north-west area of the site was covered with dense, mostly impenetrable undergrowth. Therefore, Trenches 39 and 41 were moved to a more accessible location and T40 was abandoned.
- 12.3** The trial trenches were slightly over excavated into the natural deposits to make sure the correct level was reached, unless archaeological features were encountered at a higher level.
- 12.4** The position of the trenches was accurately surveyed using tapes offset from the existing field boundaries.
- 12.5** All archaeological features were levelled with reference to a Temporary Bench Mark set up on the site on a post next to the field entrance (value 20.00mSD). It was not possible at this stage to level the TBM to the Ordnance Datum.

**13.0 AREA 4: RESULTS (Figs 9 and 17)**



- 13.1** Trench 39 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of mid to dark grey brown silty clay topsoil, context **400**, overlying 0.15m of light-mid brown silty clay subsoil, context **401**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were identified.
- 13.2** Trench 40 was not excavated.
- 13.3** Trench 41 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **400**, overlying 0.12m of context **401** at the south-west end and 0.30m of context **401** at the north-east end, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were identified.
- 13.4** Trench 42 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **400**, overlying 0.10m of context **401** at the east end and 0.25m at the west end, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were identified.
- 13.5** Trench 43 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **400**, overlying 0.15m of context **401**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were identified.
- 13.6** Trench 44 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.15-0.20m of context **400**, overlying 0.15m of context **401**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. Two archaeological features, **402** and **404**, were identified (Fig. 17).
- 13.6.1** Context **402** was a vertical sided circular feature, probably a post hole, 0.40m in diameter and 0.32m deep. It had a single, homogenous light brown grey silty clay fill with chalk fragments throughout, context **403**. A sherd of probable Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill.
- 13.6.2** Context **404** was an east to west aligned possible gully terminal located immediately to the north of 402, 0.40m wide and 0.08m deep. It had a single, homogenous light brown grey silty clay fill, context **405**, that was similar to **403**. However, in this case the fill appeared more 'sterile' suggesting this feature could be of natural origin.
- 13.7** Trench 45 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m and revealed a stratigraphy of 0.15m of context **400**, overlying 0.10m of context **401**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No features of archaeological significance were identified.
- 13.8** Trench 46 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a sequence of 0.20m of context **400**, overlying 0.30m of context **401**, overlying

the natural degraded chalk. No features of archaeological significance were identified.

#### **14.0 AREA 4: DISCUSSION**

**14.1** The evaluation of Area 4 was largely archaeologically negative. Only Trench 44 revealed any ancient features.

**14.2** The probable post hole, **402**, was a convincing feature most likely of Iron Age date, but did not produce a vast amount of pottery or any other type of finds. The possible gully, **404**, was far less convincing as a product of human activity and may have been of natural formation.

**14.3** The evaluation has shown that there is not a strong likelihood of a dense pattern of archaeological remains being present in Area 4. The few finds recovered from context **402** suggest that there is unlikely to be dense occupation evidence in the immediate vicinity.

#### **15.0 AREA 5: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY (Fig. 10)**

**15.1** Area 5 was located on arable land, at the base of a west facing slope, along the line of the proposed road.

**15.2** At the time of the evaluation, the field was under a rape crop that was nearing maturity. This crop was 1.50-1.80m high and almost impenetrable. Following consultation between Archaeology South-East, CgMs Consulting and the tenant farmer, it was decided that the most efficient way to proceed with the evaluation was to survey in the line of the road using a total station and use an agricultural topper to remove the crop along this line.

**15.3** A 10m wide strip was cleared, the minimum possible, and the trial trenches were aligned along one edge of this strip to facilitate backfilling of the trenches. This pattern differed slightly from the initial specification. The area around trenches 47 and 48 was not cleared of crop so they were unable to be excavated. However, Trench 49 was increased to 40m in length to balance the sample.

**15.4** Of potential archaeological interest was a possible Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure located at the top of the slope to the east that had been identified by cropmark evidence (Chadwick 2002. 5.4.1).

**15.5** A total of 11 trenches were excavated (T49-T59), all save T49, 20m in length.

- 15.6** The trenches were located using tapes offset from known points surveyed in using the total station.
- 15.7** All archaeological features were levelled to the Ordnance Datum with reference to a Temporary Bench Mark set up with the use of an Ordnance Survey Bench Mark at St Mary's Church (value 6.83mOD).
- 15.8** The trenches were over excavated deliberately into the natural deposits, unless archaeological evidence was encountered, in order to clarify that the correct level had been reached.
- 16.0 AREA 5: RESULTS** (Figs 10 and 18)
- 16.1** Trench 47 was not excavated.
- 16.2** Trench 48 was not excavated.
- 16.3** Trench 49 was excavated to a length of 40m and to a maximum depth of 1.10m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.35m of dark grey brown silty clay ploughsoil, context **500**, overlying 0.25-0.35m of light grey brown silty clay remnant subsoil, context **501**, overlying 0.10m of natural clay with flint 'Head' deposits, overlying degraded chalk. Three linear features were sampled, **503**, **505** and **507**.
- 16.3.1** Context **503** was a north-east south-west aligned gully located at the western end of the trench. It had moderately steeply sloping sides and a curved base (Fig. 18, Section 16). It had a single homogenous fill of mid-dark brown silty clay with occasional flint nodules, context **504**. Several struck flint flakes were recovered from this feature suggesting a potentially prehistoric date. This feature was sealed by context **501**.
- 16.3.2** Context **505** was a north-east to south-west aligned gully. It had moderately steeply sloping sides and a gently curving base (Fig. 18, Section 17). It had a single homogenous fill of mid-light brown silty clay with occasional flint nodules, context **506**. A single struck flint flake was produced which suggests that this feature may also be prehistoric in date. This feature was sealed by context **501**.
- 16.3.3** Context **507** was a north-east south-west aligned gully that terminated 0.75m from the north edge of the trench. It had irregular sides and a gently curving base (Fig. 18, Section 18). It had a single homogenous fill of light brown silty sandy clay with occasional flint nodules, context **508**. No finds were recovered from this context. This feature was sealed by context **501**.

- 16.4** Trench 50 was excavated to a length of 20m and to a maximum depth of 1.00m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of dark grey brown silty clay ploughsoil, context **500**, overlying 0.10m of light grey brown silty clay remnant subsoil, context **501**, overlying 0.50-0.65m of a mid orange brown silty clay with rare flint nodules, context **523** (possible ancient ploughsoil built up near the Old Church Road boundary to the field), overlying degraded chalk. One linear feature was sampled, context **517**.
- 16.4.1** Context **517** was a north-west to south-east aligned ditch 1.30m wide and 0.55m deep, located at the north end of T50. It had a splayed 'U' shaped profile (Fig. 18, Section 19) and was filled with a dark brown silty clay with chalk flecks and rare flint nodules, context **518**. The presence of some worked flint in context **518** suggest it may be of prehistoric date. This feature was sealed by context **523**.
- 16.5** Trench 51 was excavated to a length of 20m and to a maximum depth of 1.00m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.28m of context **500**, overlying 0.25m of context **501**, overlying 0.40m of context **523**, overlying degraded chalk. One linear feature was sampled, context **519** and one pit, **521** (Fig. 18).
- 16.5.1** Context **519** was a east to west aligned ditch, 1.82m wide and 0.82m deep. It had steep sides and a broad 'U' shaped base (Fig. 18, Sections 20-21) and was filled with a mid orange brown clay silt with occasional small flint nodules, rare charcoal flecks and very rare fired clay flecks, context **520**. It was cut by **521** and sealed by **523**. Flint flakes from **520** suggest a prehistoric origin for this feature.
- 16.5.2** Context **521** was a circular feature 0.50m in diameter and 0.60m deep, located on the south side of **519**. It had vertical sides and a slightly concave base and was filled with a dark reddish brown silty sandy clay with occasional small flint fragments (**522**). It clearly cut the fill of **519** (**520**). Potentially this feature represents a posthole or small pit of unknown function. The presence of a single flint flake suggest a prehistoric date. Context **521** was sealed by **523**.
- 16.6** Trench 52 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **500**, overlying 0.35m of context **501**, overlying, 0.30m of sterile mid orange brown silty clay hillwash, context **502**, overlying degraded chalk. One feature, **509**, was identified cut into context **502** and subsequently sampled (excavation ceased at **502** in this area of the trench: context **502** was removed elsewhere in case it sealed further archaeological features.)
- 16.6.1** Context **509** was an irregular shaped pit, 0.73m x 0.63m and 0.14m deep with

moderately steeply sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 18, Section 22). It had a single dark brown silty clay fill with charcoal and burnt clay throughout that produced no finds, context **510**. This feature was sealed by **501**.

- 16.7** Trench 53 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **500**, overlying 0.25m of context **501**, overlying, 0.30m of context **502**, overlying the degraded chalk. No features were identified.
- 16.8** Trench 54 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m. It exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **500**, overlying 0.30m of context **501**, overlying, 0.40m context **502**, overlying degraded chalk. Two features, **513** and **515**, were identified cut into context **502** and subsequently sampled (excavation ceased at **502** in this area of the trench: context **502** was removed elsewhere in case it sealed further archaeological features.) The features were sealed by **501**.
- 16.8.1** Context **513** was a circular feature, 0.34m x 0.26m and 0.37m deep with vertical sides and a slightly rounded base (Fig. 18, Section 24). It had a single dark orange brown silty clay fill with charcoal flecks, context **514**, which produced struck flint flakes. This context was sealed by **501** and was potentially a post hole. It was probably prehistoric in date.
- 16.8.2** Context **515** was a circular feature 1m to the south of **513**. It was 0.25m x 0.23m in size and 0.15m deep with steep sides and a slightly rounded base (Fig. 18, Section 23). It had a single dark orange brown silty clay fill with charcoal flecks, context **516**, which did not produce any finds. This context was sealed by **501** and was potentially a post hole associated with **513**. It was probably prehistoric in date.
- 16.9** Trench 55 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.85m and revealed a stratigraphy at the western end of 0.25m of context **500**, overlying 0.20m of context **501**, overlying 0.20-0.30m of context **502**, overlying the natural chalk and 'head' material. Layer **502** disappeared 8m from the western end. The sequence at the eastern end was 0.35m of context **500**, overlying 0.30m of context **501**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were present.
- 16.10** Trench 56 had a maximum depth of 0.70m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.35m of context **500**, overlying 0.30m of context **501**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. One feature, context **511**, was exposed and sampled.
- 16.10.1** Context **511** was a north to south aligned gully with a slightly flattened 'U' shaped profile and a width of 0.52m and a depth of 0.22m (Fig. 18, Section 25). It had a single, homogenous fill of a mid grey brown silty clay with frequent flint fragments that produced struck flint and fire-cracked flint (**512**). Potentially this

is of prehistoric date.

- 16.11** Trench 57 had a maximum depth of 0.80m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **500**, overlying 0.30m of context **501**, overlying 0.15-0.20m of natural clay with flints 'head' deposit, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No features of archaeological interest were uncovered.
- 16.12** Trench 58 had a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **500**, overlying 0.25m of context **501**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were uncovered.
- 16.13** Trench 59 had a maximum depth of 0.55m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.30m of context **500**, overlying 0.20m of context **501**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were uncovered.

## **17.0 AREA 5: DISCUSSION**

- 17.1** Two of the three gullies sampled in Trench 49 (**503**, **505**, **507**) may continue into Trenches 50 and 51 (**517** and **519**) as they are on broadly the same alignment, however, they exhibit a larger profile in the latter trenches. In plan, these gullies (T49) do not appear parallel, so would not seem to represent a trackway. It is difficult to be certain of their exact function although an agricultural use, potentially field boundaries, would be the obvious suggestion.
- 17.2** Within the confines of an evaluation it is difficult to establish the relevance of the post hole (**521**) cut into the upper fill of **520** in Trench 51. This may be a coincidental placement; if not, it may represent a boundary or enclosure replaced by a later fence line. This is, however, very speculative.
- 17.3** The linear feature in T56 is isolated but may form part of a larger ditch system with the other linear features or could be entirely unconnected and of a different phase or period.
- 17.4** The features in Trench 54 (**515** and **513**) are possibly post holes and could well be associated with each other. Context **509** in T52 does not seem to be a post hole, rather a pit of unclear function.
- 17.5** There is clearly evidence of archaeological activity in Area 5. The dating evidence, although fairly minimal and not specific (mostly waste flakes), does seem to suggest a prehistoric date for the majority of these remains. Although it should also be pointed out that there was a fairly large amount of unstratified worked flint collected from the subsoil / ploughsoil so there is a possibility that some of these finds are residual.

- 17.6** The nature of the remains (fairly sparse with few finds) suggests that the evaluation area may be on the periphery of an area of denser archaeological activity. This perhaps ties in with the possibility of a Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure being present approximately 3-400m away. Although the remains could be unconnected with this site and, similarly may be of different phases or periods themselves.
- 18.0 AREA 6: SPECIFIC METHODOLOGY** (Fig. 11)
- 18.1** Area 6 was located on arable land rising up steadily to the east.
- 18.2** Similar to Area 5, at the time of the evaluation, most of Area 6 was under a rape crop that was nearing maturity. This crop was 1.5-1.8m high and almost impenetrable. Trenches 60-63 were located in a field of cereal crop to the north-west of the rape field. Following consultation between Archaeology South-East, CgMs Consulting and the tenant farmer, it was decided that the most efficient way to proceed with the evaluation was to survey in the line of the road using tapes offset from the northern field boundary along Court Road and use an agricultural topper to remove all crops along this line.
- 18.3** A 10m wide strip was cleared, and the trial trenches were aligned along one edge of this strip to facilitate storage of topsoil and backfilling of the trenches. This pattern differed slightly from the initial specification.
- 18.4** One trench, T63, was unable to be excavated as it was located across a footpath and drainage ditch at the north-eastern edge of the field of rape. However, an extra trench, T75 was excavated at the far eastern end of Area 6 to balance the sample.
- 18.5** A total of 15 trenches were excavated (not including T63) all of 20m length.
- 18.6** Of particular note was the possibility that a Roman building may have been present in the vicinity. It was discovered in 1896-97 and its approximate position is marked on the OS 6" map of 1933, just to the south-west of the western most end of Area 6.
- 18.7** The trenches were located by tape offset from known points along the line of the roadway.
- 18.8** The trenches were over excavated deliberately into the natural deposits, unless archaeological evidence was encountered, in order to clarify that the correct level had been reached.

- 18.9** Due to an oversight no level information for this area was collected.
- 19.0 AREA 6: RESULTS** (Figs 11 and 19)
- 19.1** Trench 60 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of dark brown silty clay ploughsoil, context **600** overlying the natural degraded chalk. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.2** Trench 61 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.3** Trench 62 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying the natural yellow/ orange sandy clay with flints. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.4** Trench 63 was not excavated.
- 19.5** Trench 64 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **600**, overlying 0.35m of mid grey brown silty clay subsoil, context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. One feature, **602** was sampled.
- 19.5.1** Context **602** was a rectangular feature running under the southern edge of the trial trench. It had an exposed width of 1.50m and a depth of 0.25m with vertical sides and a flat base (Fig. 19, Section 26) and was filled with a uniform light grey brown silty, sandy clay, context **603**. No finds were recovered but this context was sealed by layer **601**.
- 19.6** Trench 65 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **600**, overlying 0.20m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. No archaeological features were present.
- 19.7** Trench 66 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.30m of context **600**, overlying 0.20m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. No archaeological features were present.
- 19.8** Trench 67 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **600**, overlying 0.20m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. One linear feature, **604** was sampled.



- 19.8.1** Context **604** was a north-east to south-west aligned ditch, 1.0m wide and 0.45m deep, with moderately steeply sloping sides and a slightly rounded base (Fig. 19, Section 27). It had a single light brown grey silty clay fill with a moderate amount of flint nodules, context **605**, that produced no finds. This context was sealed by layer **601**.
- 19.9** Trench 68 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **600**, overlying 0.10m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. No archaeological features were present.
- 19.10** Trench 69 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.20m of context **600**, overlying 0.1-0.15m of the natural sterile clay with flints, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. A water pipe was present 7m from the western end of the trench. One archaeological feature was located, context **608**.
- 19.10.1** Context **608** was a north to south aligned ditch 1.15m wide and 0.20m deep. It had a single fill of a mid-dark brown silty clay soil that produced glass, clay pipe fragments and brick (**609**). The ditch alignment was clearly visible as a cropmark in the oilseed rape that showed it to continue in a southerly direction for 80-120m.
- 19.11** Trench 70 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying 0.25-0.35m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk and flints. Two linear features, **610** and **613** were excavated.
- 19.11.1** Context **610** was a north-east to south-west aligned linear feature 2.85m in width and 0.40m deep. It had two fills, **611** which was an upper fill of light grey silty clay with charcoal flecking and occasional flint fragments and context **612** which was sealed by **611**, a compacted flint and limestone surface 0.05-0.10m in thickness that produced a sherd of late Bronze Age pottery (Fig. 19, Section 29). It seems possible that this context is a deliberately laid trackway. This context was sealed by **601**.
- 19.11.2** Context **613** was another linear feature 0.47m deep and on the same alignment and cut by **610**. It had fairly steeply sloping sides and an irregular base and was filled by a light grey silty clay with chalk flecks, context **614**. No finds were recovered from this feature. This context was sealed by **601**.
- 19.12** Trench 71 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.65m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25-0.35m of context **600**, overlying 0.25m of context **601**, overlying the natural degraded chalk. One feature, **606** was sampled.

- 19.12.1** Context **606** was a rectangular, possibly linear, feature running under the northern trench edge. It measured 1.0m in width and 0.70m deep. It had vertical sides and a flat base and possessed a single mottled light brown chalky clay that produced no finds (**607**) (Fig. 19, Section 30).
- 19.13** Trench 72 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying 0.30-0.40m of context **601**, overlying the natural orange brown sterile clay with flint and chalk patches. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.14** Trench 73 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.80m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying 0.30m of context **601**, overlying the natural light brown sterile clay with flint and chalk patches. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.15** Trench 74 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70m and exhibited a stratigraphy of 0.25m of context **600**, overlying 0.40m of mid brown grey silt clay, context **601**, overlying the natural light brown sterile clay with flint and chalk patches. No features of archaeological interest were identified.
- 19.16** Trench 75 was located on the top of the slope and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m. It possessed a stratigraphy of 0.15-0.20m of context **600** overlying the natural degraded chalk. No archaeological features were identified.

## **20.0 AREA 6: DISCUSSION**

- 20.1** The evaluation of Area 6 did not produce any evidence of Roman remains that may be associated with a building. There was even a noticeable lack of unstratified Roman material from the area. This scarcity of Romano-British remains suggests that archaeological remains associated with the previously discovered building may be limited to a smaller area around the building itself and thus be outside the evaluated area.
- 20.2** Contexts **602** and **606** both appear to be pits but further than that are of unclear function and date; although the fact they are sealed by layer **601** suggests they are of some antiquity.
- 20.3** Similarly, gully **604** is undated but sealed by **601** and of some antiquity and may represent an earlier field boundary. Ditch **608** is of late post-medieval or modern origin and again may represent an earlier field boundary.
- 20.4** Contexts **610** seems to represent the course of an ancient trackway with **612**

being the track base itself. Context **611** could have developed due to its silting through use. Context **613**, which is earlier than **610** may represent a previous field boundary ditch which the track respected or the drainage ditch for an earlier phase of the track. Although one sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from **612**, there was no further dating evidence forthcoming so a positive Bronze Age date for these features would be presumptive.

- 20.5** Area 6 has produced sparse and inconclusively dated archaeological evidence that probably represents former field boundaries and a track (linear). There was no evidence of substantial ancient remains or a dense area of ancient activity.

## 21.0 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Luke Barber (incorporating comments by Malcolm Lyne)

21.1 The evaluation produced a relatively small assemblage of finds. These are tabulated in Table 1.

Context	Pottery	Tile	Worked Flint	Fire-cracked flint	Bone	Other	Provisional Spot-date
104	3/8g						Iron Age (IA)
106	5/102g					Burnt clay 1/2g	50-70AD
107	1/145g						LIA-ERB
108	2/9g						30-60AD
109	6/67g		1/47g			?Brick 3/191g	LIA-ERB
111	5/29g		1/54g	3/236g	1/19g	1/107g	150-225AD
207	3/9g						30-60AD
208/210	3/9g				30/222g	Slag 1/9g	EIA-MIA
210		Box flue 1/52g			8/212g		RB
220	1/2g		1/1g				LIA
221	1/8g						LIA-ERB
224	2/10g						IA
228	1/2g						120-200AD
308	8/42g	8/105g			3/11g	Iron 3/13g	175-225AD
308/309		44/4176g				Coin (alloy) 1/1g	
309	17/82g	25/2307g			11/183g	Iron 1/4g; shell 1/6g	300-400AD much residual pot
311						Brick 1/3500g	1850-1925AD
323	10/47g	14/988g			3/78g	Shell 4/50g; Iron 2/57g	120-225AD
329	1/12g	10/552g				Iron 1/16g	EIA?
330	47/489g	141/ 17,675g			11/288g	F. stone 1/319g; Iron 3/51g; non- Fe 1/3g	200-400AD
331		3/406g					RB
334	1/3g	2/8g				Shell 3/43g	170-250AD
403	1/18g						IA?
501	2/2g						IA
504			2/7g				-
506			1/2g				-
512			1/3g	17/194g	1/11g	Shell 6/42g	-
514			5/33g			Burnt clay 12/31g	-
518			3/51g	3/41g	1/1g		-
520			5/47g				-
522			1/6g				-
612	1/6g		1/7g				LBA
U/S Tr. 30						Iron 12/168g	-
U/S Tr. 31	8/40g				2/14g	Iron 3/20g; Shell 1/5g	100-300AD
U/S Tr. 52			4/40g	1/46g			-
U/S Tr. 58			1/3g	2/26g		Shell 4/8g	-
U/S Tr. 59			5/29g	2/33g		Shell 3/29g	-

**Table 1:** Finds Quantification (No./weight in grams). (IA - Iron Age; LBA - Late Bronze Age; RB - Romano-British; L - Late; E - Early).

- 21.2** The pottery from the evaluation falls within three main chronological periods. The earliest of these is the Late Bronze Age, represented by one small moderately abraded sherd from Context 612 in a coarse flint tempered fabric. Although a few finer flint tempered sherds may be of Early to Mid Iron Age date the next main chronological span represented appears to be the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period. The pottery of this period is represented by Belgic grogged and shelly wares as well as sand and rare flint and fine flint tempered wares. The pottery of this period is dominated by coarsewares and storage vessels most of which have moderate signs of abrasion. The remaining group consists of mid to late Romano-British material. This material, which all shows some signs of abrasion (few fresh large sherds are present), is dominated by Thameside sand tempered products (ie BB2) but also contains later grog tempered wares and Oxfordshire products.
- 21.3** The tile from the evaluation is, where discernible, all of Romano-British date. Most pieces are relatively small suggesting they have been redeposited/ subjected to abrasion. Roof tile dominates the assemblage; both tegula and imbrex tiles are well represented. Floor tiles are also present, but in smaller quantities though definite box flue tiles are scarce in the recovered sample. A single shaped brick sample from Context 311 measures 230 x 110 x 60mm and is of later 19th- to early 20th- century date.
- 21.4** The worked flint from the site all uses downland flint as a raw material and most pieces have cortex remaining. The assemblage is dominated by hard hammer struck waste flakes of probable Mid/Late Bronze Age or Early iron Age date. Few tools are present though an end scraper was located in Trench 52 (unstratified). No definite earlier material is present although a blade from Context 514 may be of Neolithic date.
- 21.5** Other artefact categories are only represented by small quantities of material (Table 1). The metalwork from the site is dominated by iron nails in poor to moderate condition. A single bronze coin of late 4th- century date was recovered from Contexts 308/309.
- 21.6** The bone from the evaluation is in poor to moderate condition. Few large fragments are present but cow and sheep are represented. The shell from the evaluation is all from oysters.

- 21.7** Seven environmental samples were taken during the evaluation. These are listed below in Table 2.

Context No.	Sample Size (litres)	Sub-Sample Size
210	14	14
212	14	14
224	14	14
235	14	14
510	14	14
514	7	7
516	5	5

**Table 2** : Environmental Samples

- 21.8** Due to the size of the samples no sub-sampling policy was adopted for the purposes of assessment: all samples were processed in full. All samples were processed using bucket flotation. The flot from each sample was caught on a 500 micron sieve with the residue being retained on a 1mm mesh. Once the residues were dry they were sorted by eye to extract material of archaeological/environmental interest with the remaining stones etc being discarded. The results of this sorting are given in Table 3 below. The dried flots were also scanned by eye, and with the help of a microscope (x20 magnification) where necessary, to assess the presence/absence and quality of archaeobotanical remains (seeds) and charcoal (Table 3) and thus the potential of the current site for addressing important environmental and economic questions.
- 21.9** With one exception, the flots from the samples (Table 3) do not contain large amounts of charcoal and that which is present is generally of a small size and in poor condition. Three samples contained no charred material. Only one flot was seen to contain seeds from the initial inspection - a badly degraded cereal grain from Context 516. Shells from land molluscs are common, particularly in samples with low concentrations of charred material. Modern contamination on site from roots etc appears to be low.

Context	Modern Roots	Molluscs	Charcoal	Seeds	Residue (*retained)
210	*	****	-	- Cereal - Wild	FCF 1/5g *W. Flint 1/35g
212	*	***/*	-	- Cereal - Wild	FCF 3/25g *W. Flint 1/15g-
224	**	****	-	- Cereal - Wild	
235	**	****	* to 2mm	- Cereal - Wild	-
510	*/**	*/**	***/* to 5mm	- Cereal - Wild	FCF 5/10g *W. Flint 1/35g-
514	*/**	**	*/** to 4mm	- Cereal - Wild	*Shell 2/1g
516	*/**	*	*/** to 4mm	* Cereal - Wild	-

Key : - : None \* : Very Low \*\* : Low \*\*\* : Moderate \*\*\*\* : High (frequency)  
(Wild - non-cultivated plants)

**Table 3** : Results of Environmental Samples : Flots and Residues

**21.10** The residues from the samples contain very little of interest. Worked and fire-cracked flint is present but no bone material was noted.

**21.11** All in all the environmental assessment has shown that the contexts sampled have low contamination from modern roots etc but contain little of environmental interest. However, they demonstrate that the conditions for the survival of certain types of environmental material is good at the site and as a result environmental data of significance may be obtained from 'richer' contexts at the site.

## 22.0 REFERENCES

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## **23.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 23.1** The assistance of Paul Chadwick of CgMs Consulting and Wendy Rogers of Kent County Council during this evaluation is gratefully acknowledged.

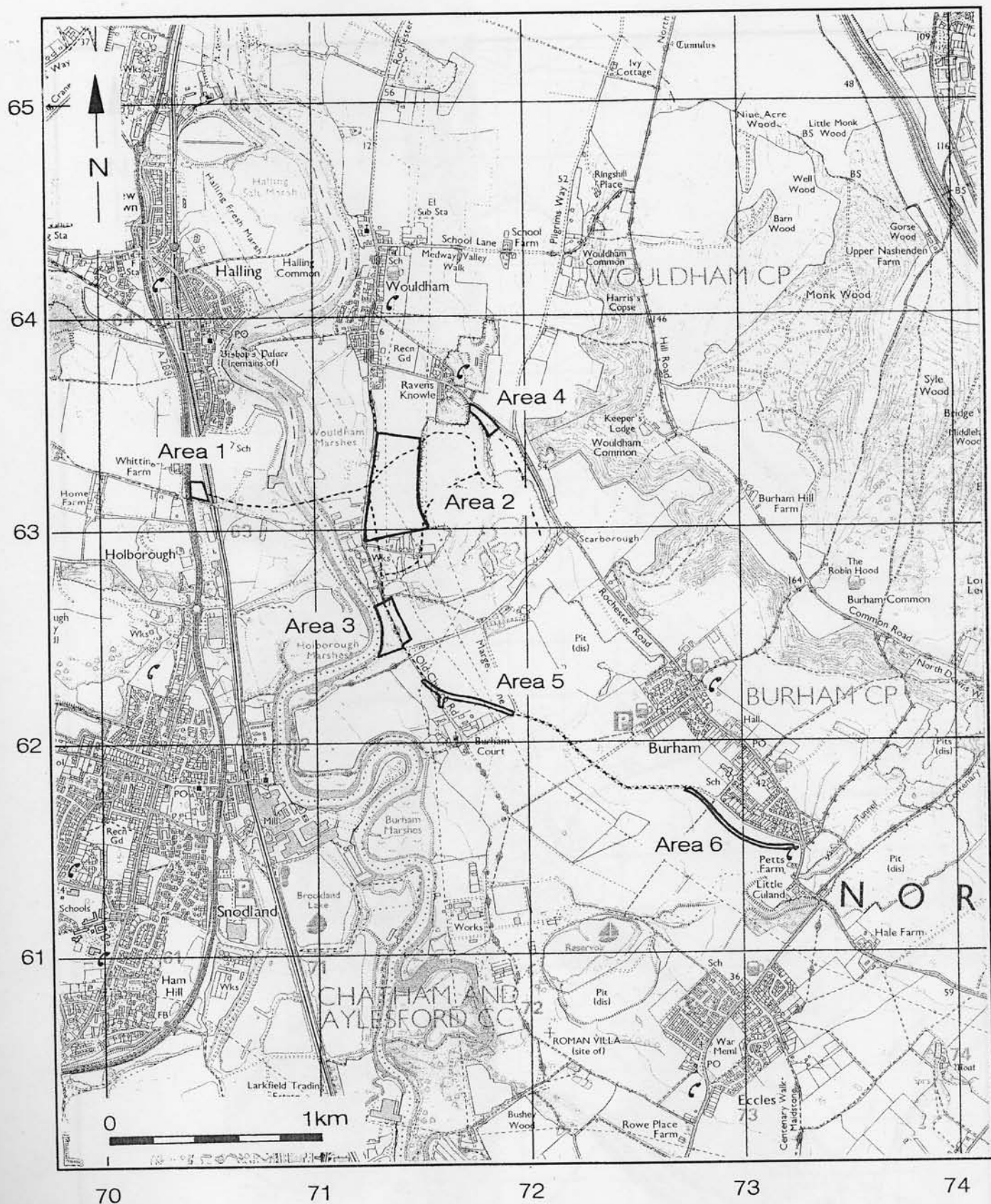


**SMR Summary Form**

Site Code	PPV02					
Identification Name and Address	Peter's Pit and Medway Crossing Nr Wouldham					
County, District &/or Borough	Tonbridge and Malling District, Kent					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 714 629					
Geology	Upper and Lower Chalk overlain by Alluvium and Head deposits					
Arch. South-East Project Number	1540					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. ✓	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field✓	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 15.5.02- 11.6.02	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	CgMs Consulting					
Project Manager	Luke Barber / Ian Greig					
Project Supervisor	Jim Stevenson					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA✓	IA✓	RB✓
	AS	MED	PM✓	Other		

**100 Word Summary.**

A trial trench evaluation was carried out on the site in May to June 2002 in order to establish the extent and character of any archaeological remains that may be present. A total of 75 trenches were located across six separate areas. Area 1 produced two features, one of late Iron Age - Romano British date. Area 2 revealed a possible early field boundary and a dense area of ancient activity, ditches and a marling pit or waterhole, of Romano British date that indicates a probable wider extent of surviving remains in the vicinity. Area 3 revealed the remains of a Roman building and limited evidence of industrial features associated with 19th- century cement manufacturing. Area 4 exposed an Iron Age post hole and a possible gully. Area 5 had evidence of a moderate amount of archaeological remains, mostly ditches/gullies but also three possible post hole and a pit, all of potentially prehistoric origin. Area 6 revealed fairly limited remains of a gully, a possible trackway and pits of uncertain date, and a post-medieval ditch.

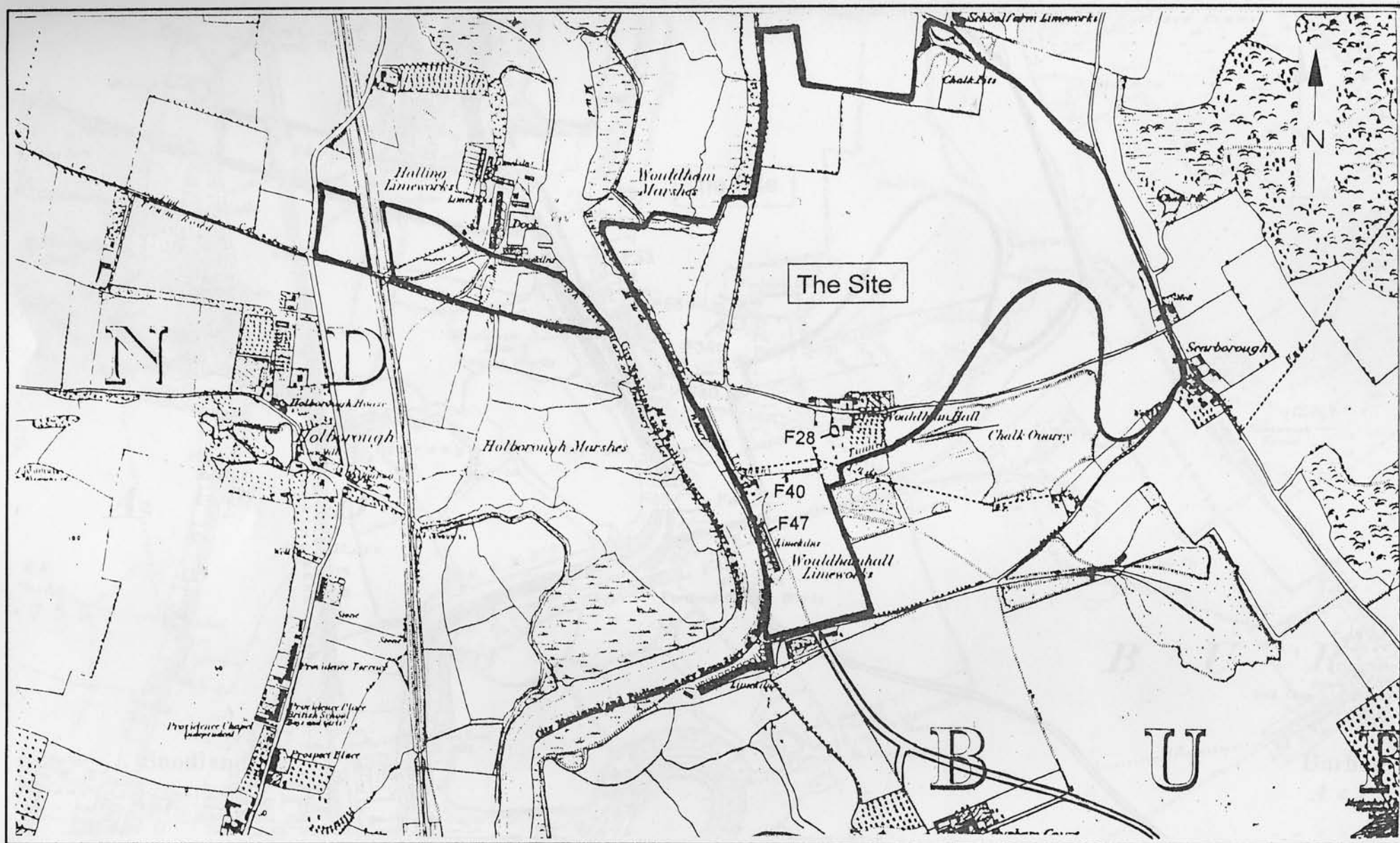


<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE		Peter's Pit, Wouldham	
	TITLE		Site Location Plan	
	DATE	REF.	DRAWING NO.	
	July 2002	1540	Fig. 1	

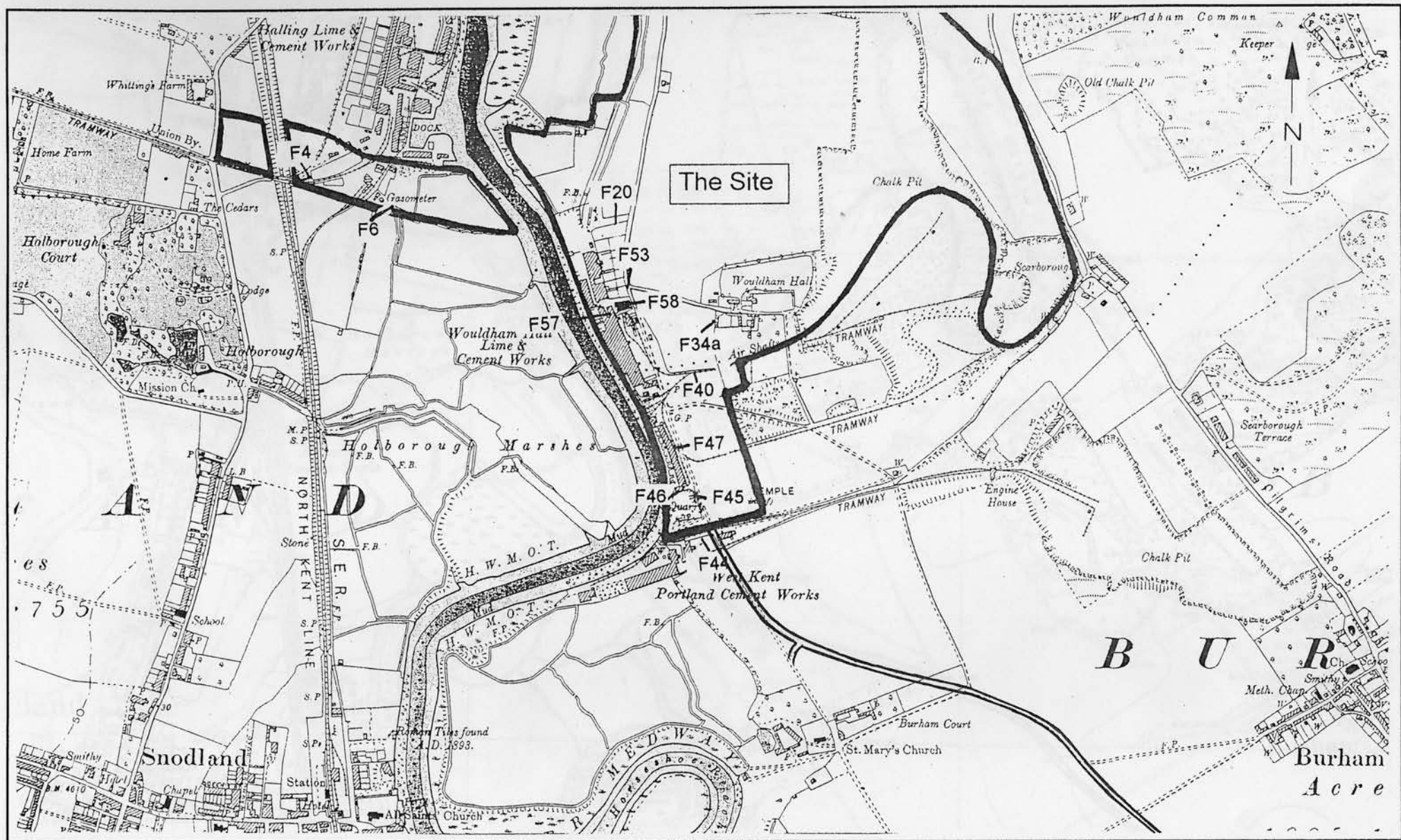
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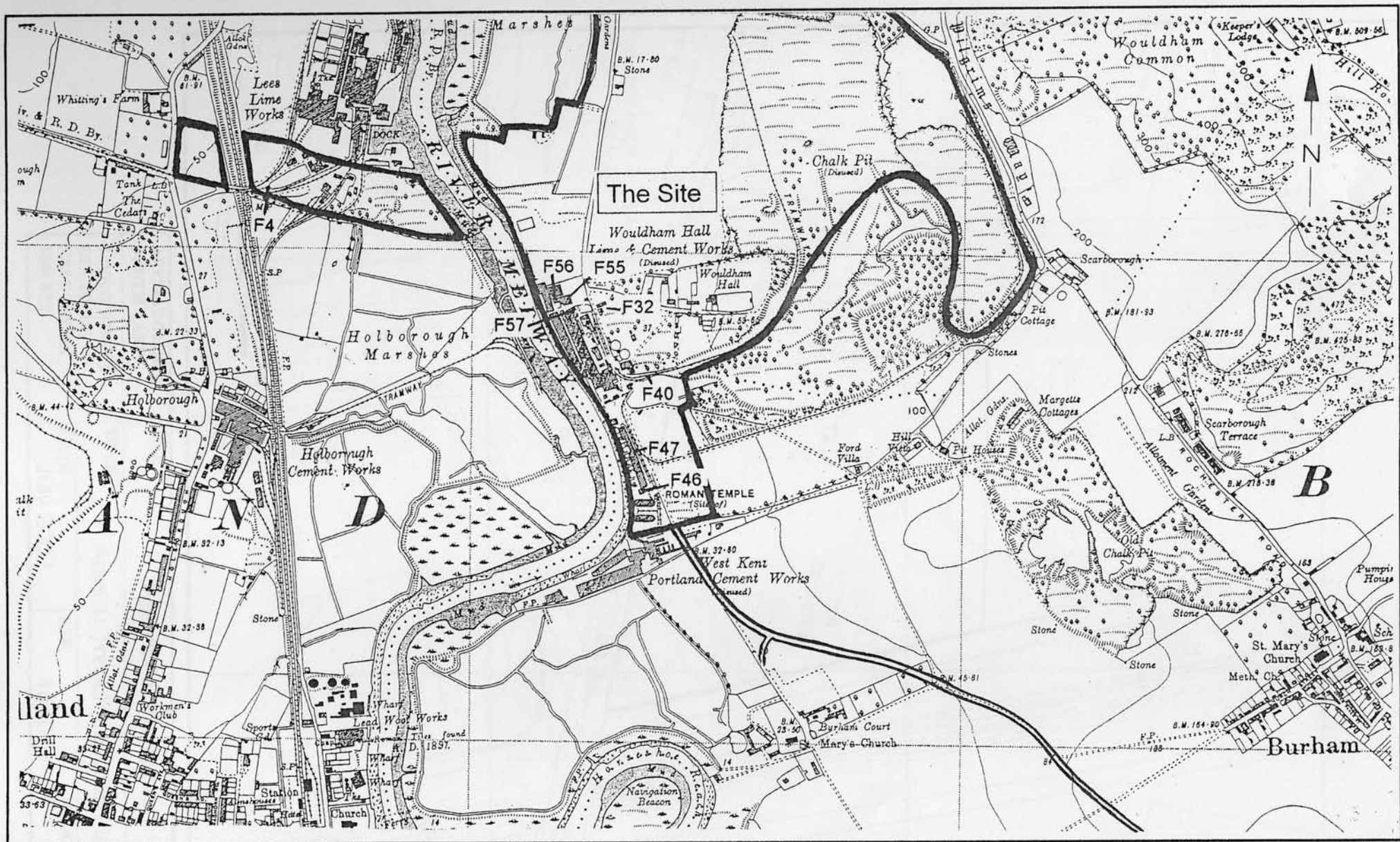




<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	TITLE 6" OS 1st edition sheet 31, c.1870 (Areas 1-5 showing walkover survey features)		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 3



<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE 6" OS 2nd edition sheet 31, 1898 (Areas 1-5 showing walkover survey features)		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 4



# **ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST**

1 WEST STREET  
DITCHLING  
EAST SUSSEX  
BN6 8TS

SITE

Peter's Pit, Wouldham

TITLE

6" OS provisional edition, 1933 (Areas 1-5  
showing walkover survey features)

DATE

July 2002

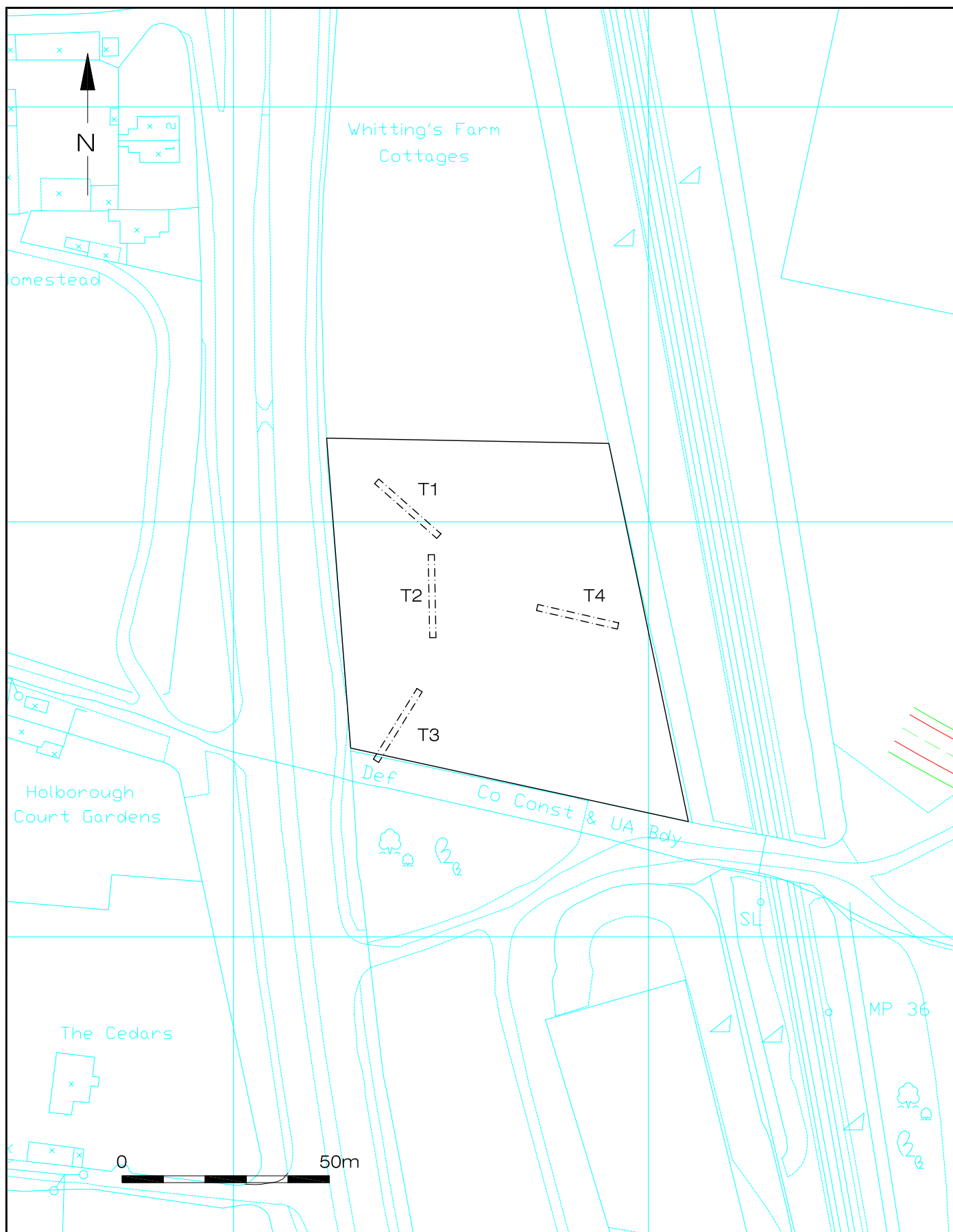
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1540

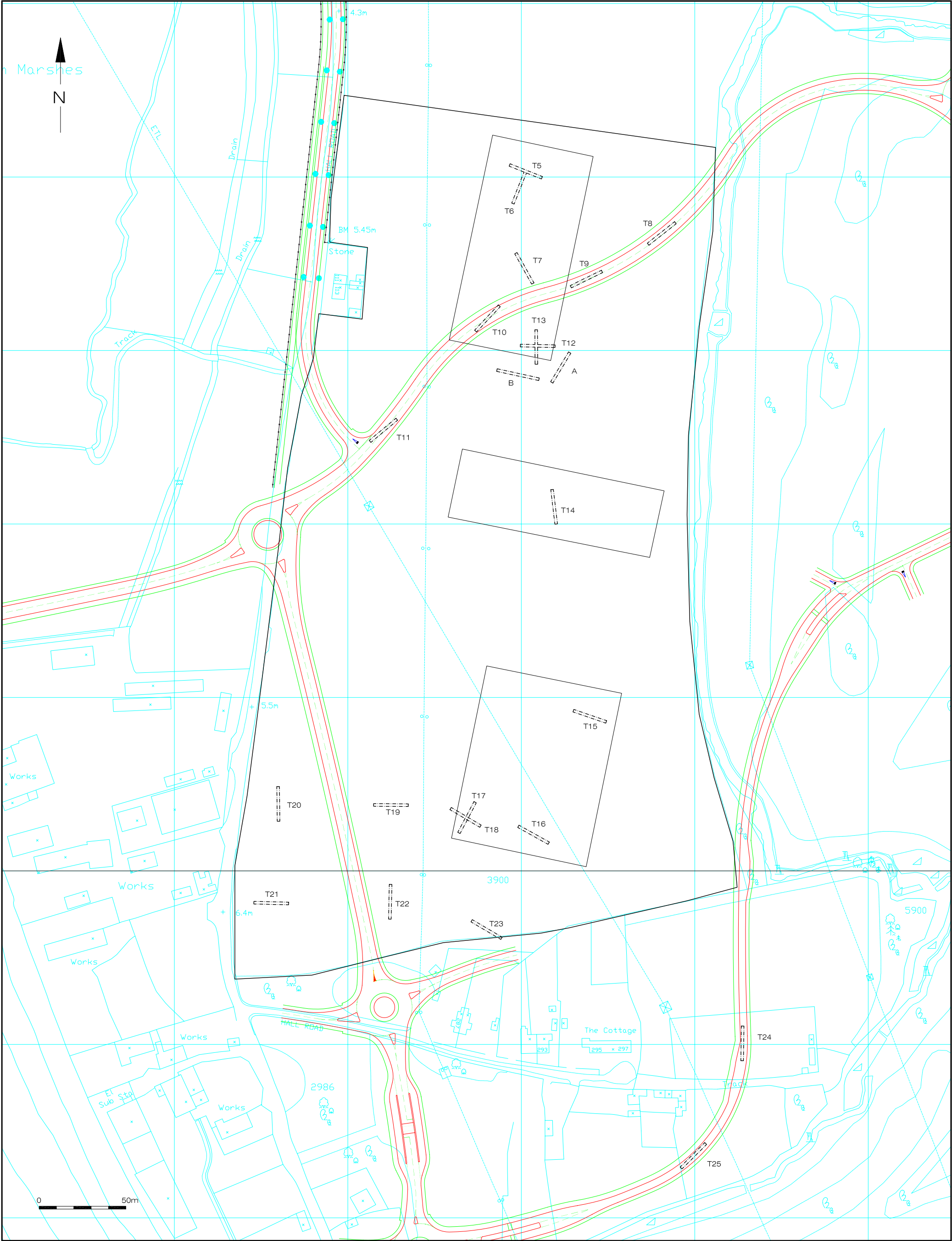
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Fig. 5



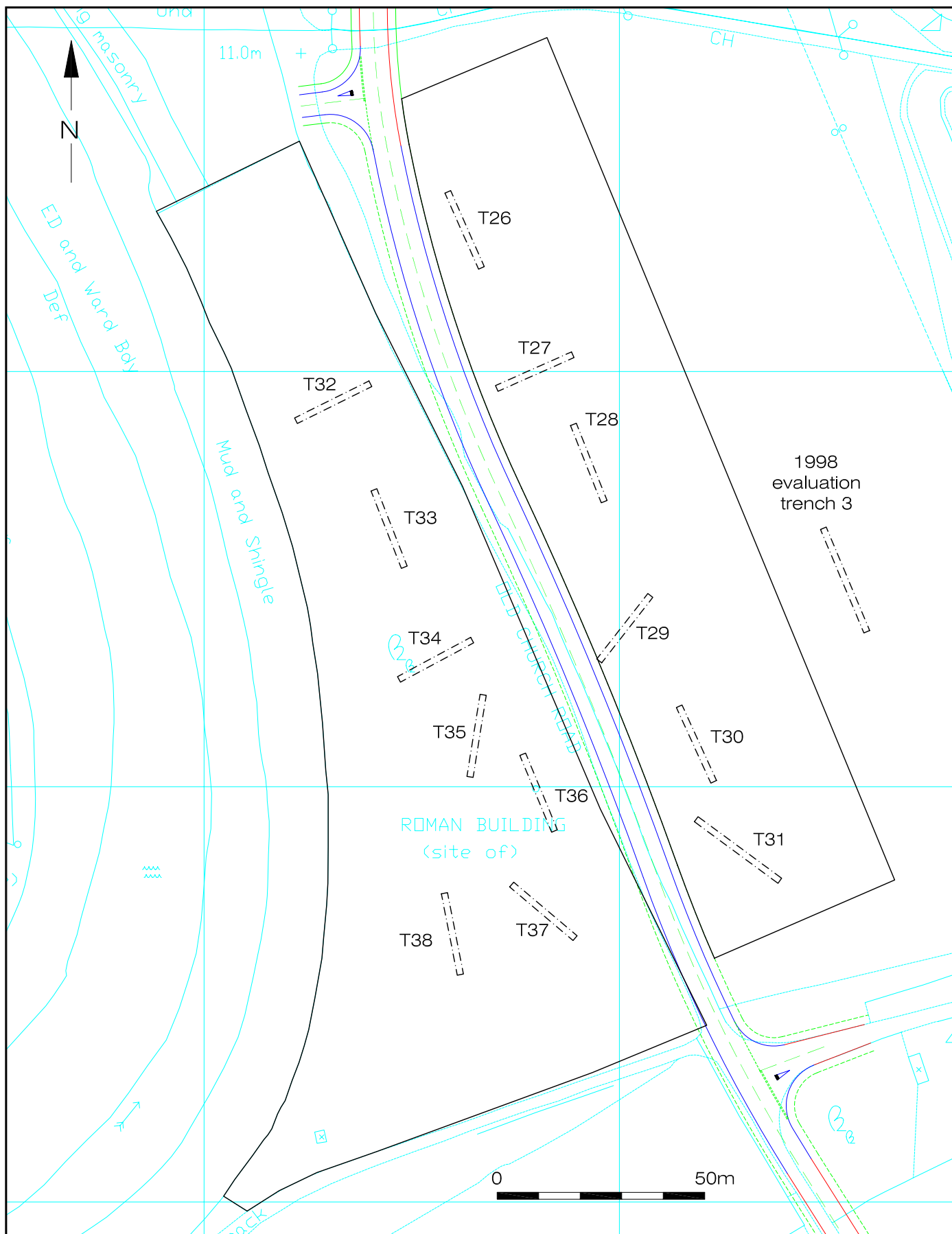


<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 1: Trench Location Plan		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 6

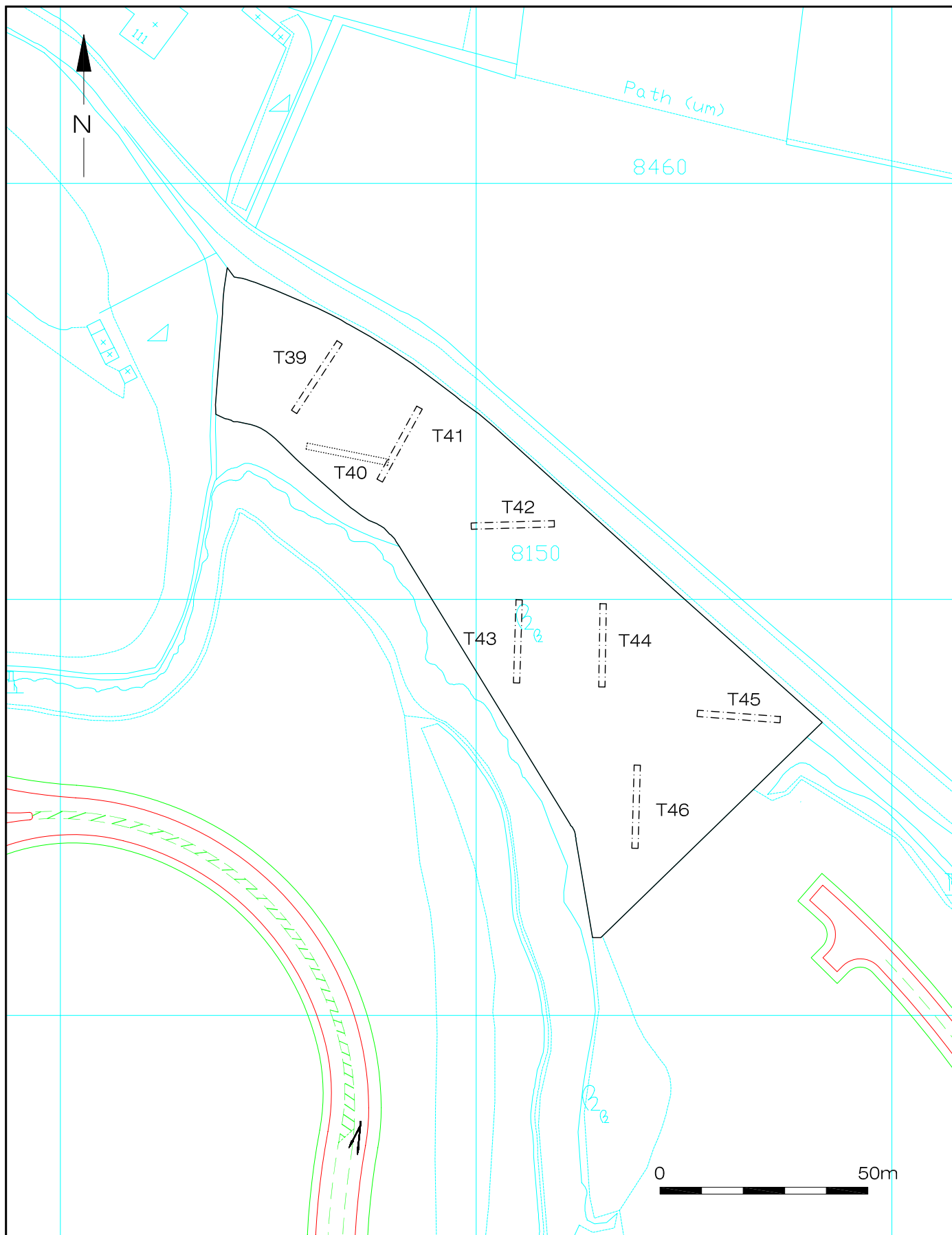


ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 2: Trench Location Plan		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 7

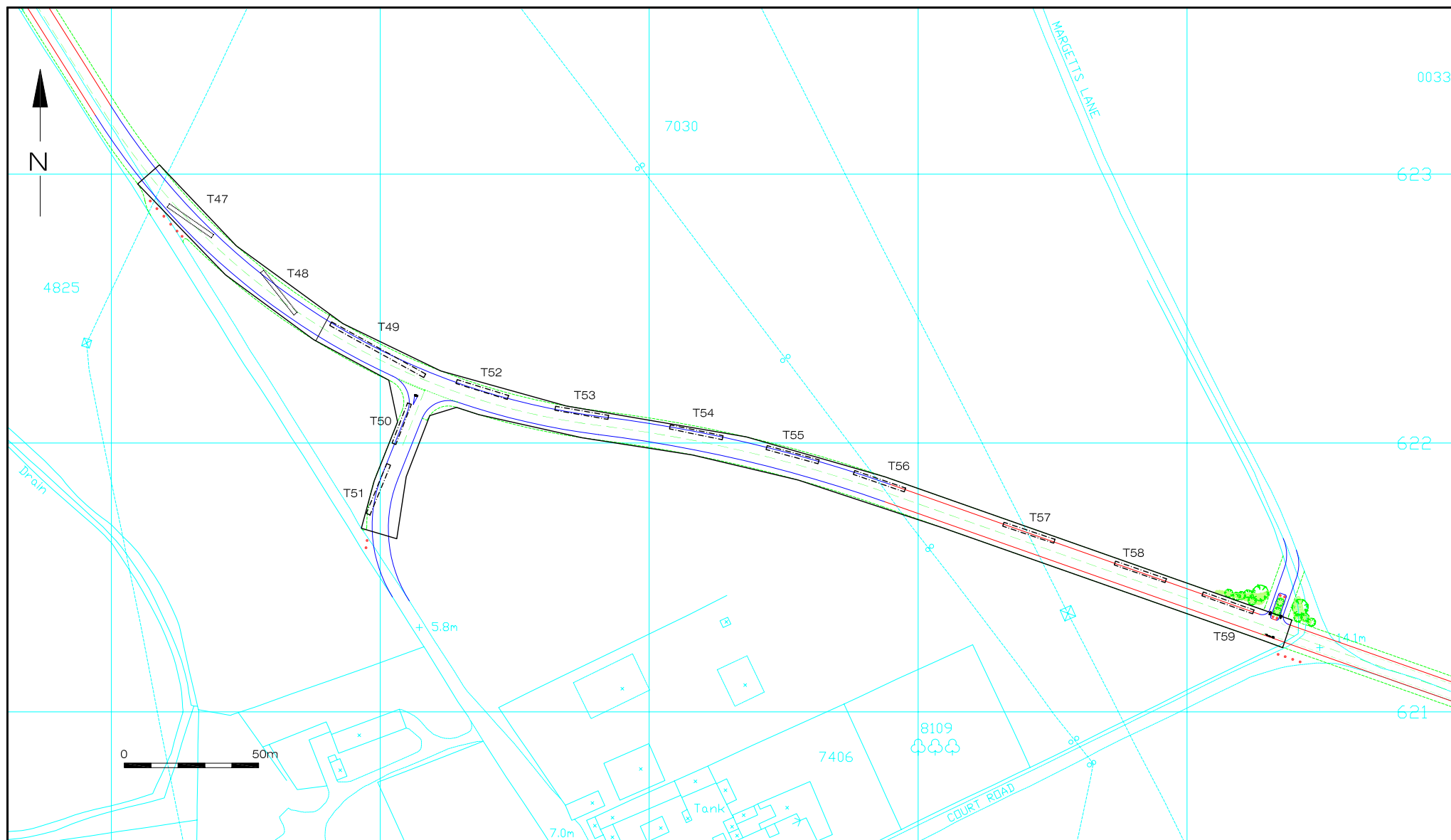




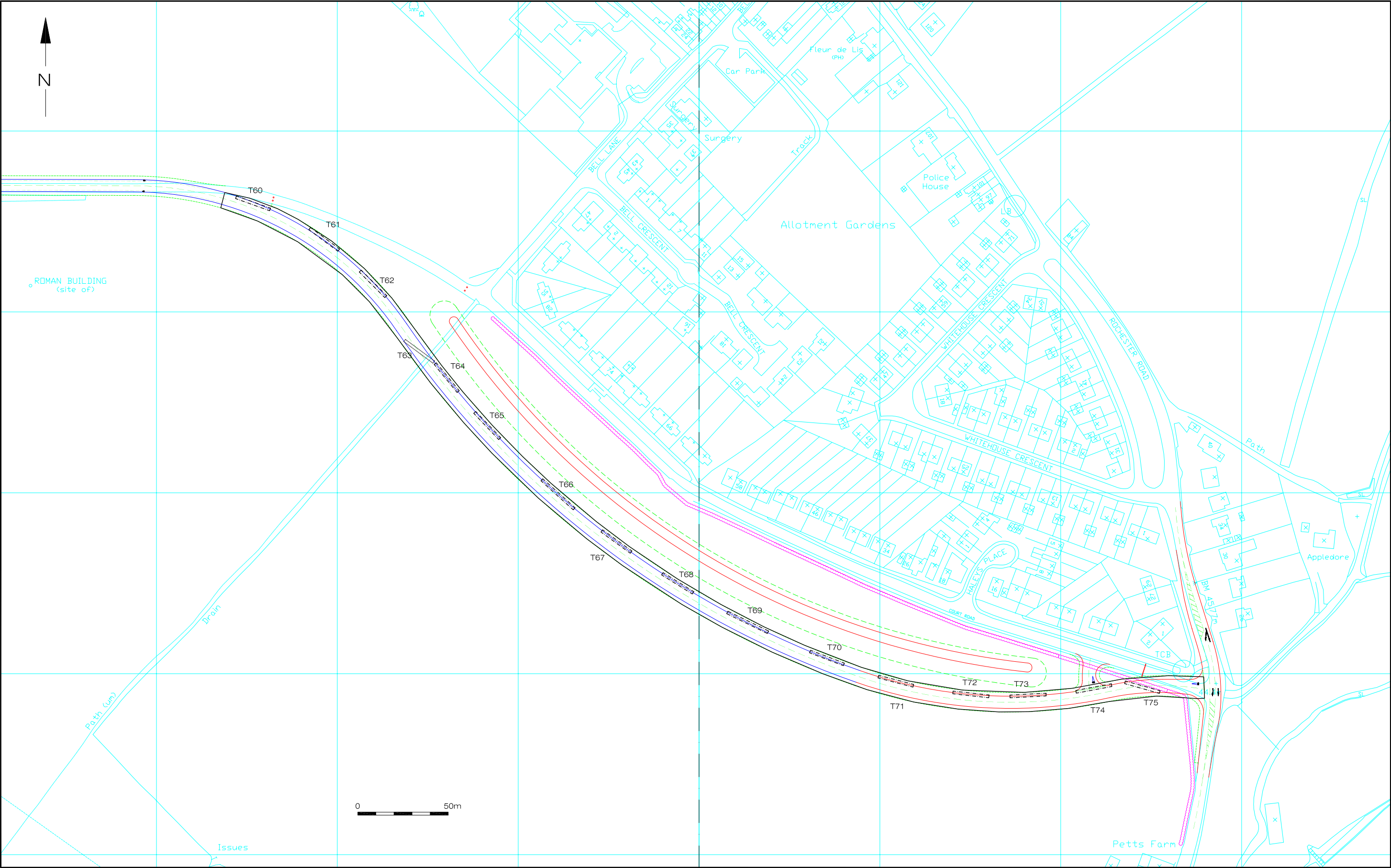
<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 3: Trench Location Plan		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 8



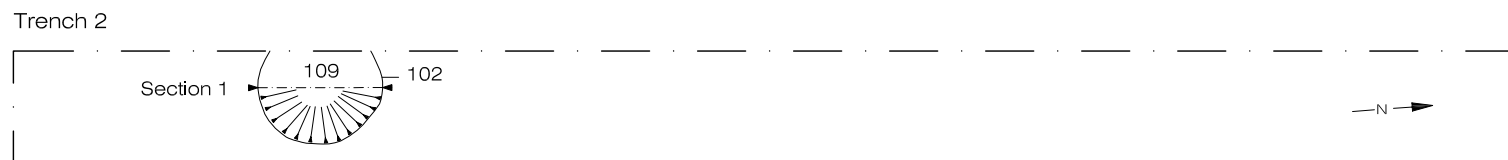
<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 4: Trench Location Plan		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 9



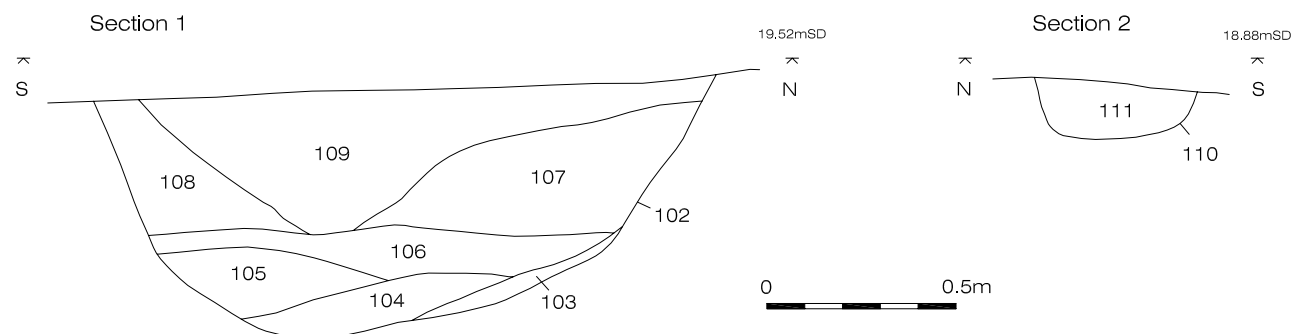
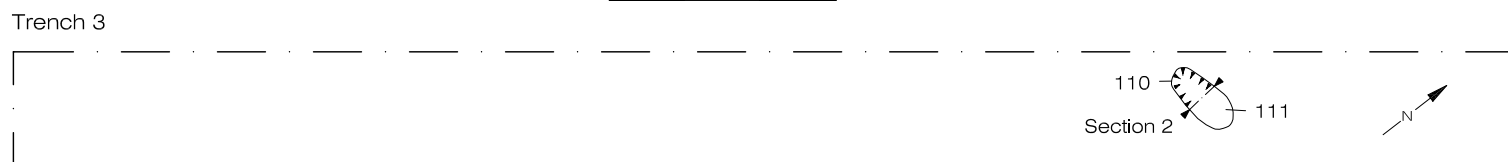
<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham	
	TITLE Area 5: Trench Location Plan	
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540 DRAWING NO. Fig. 10



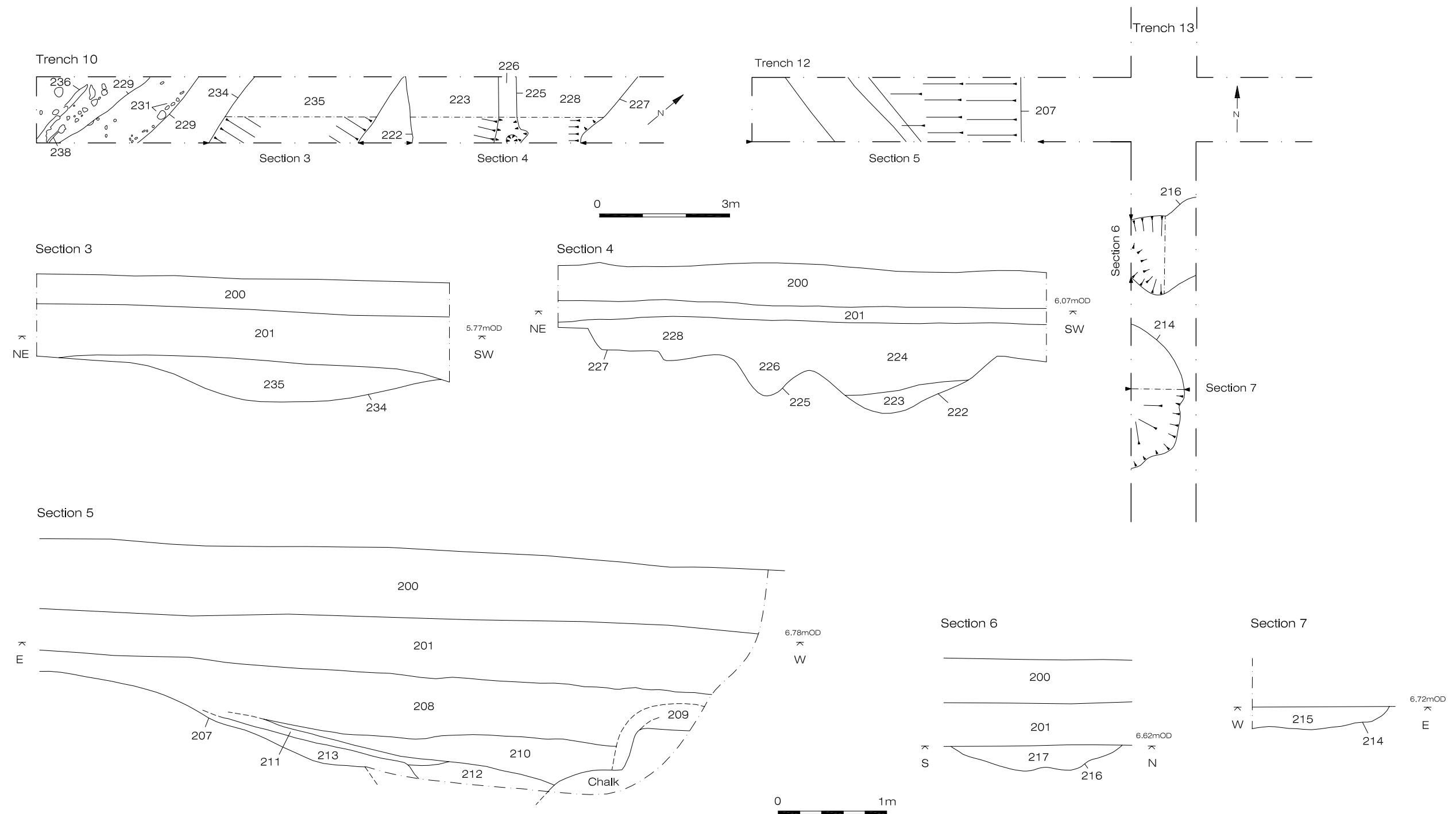
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	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 11



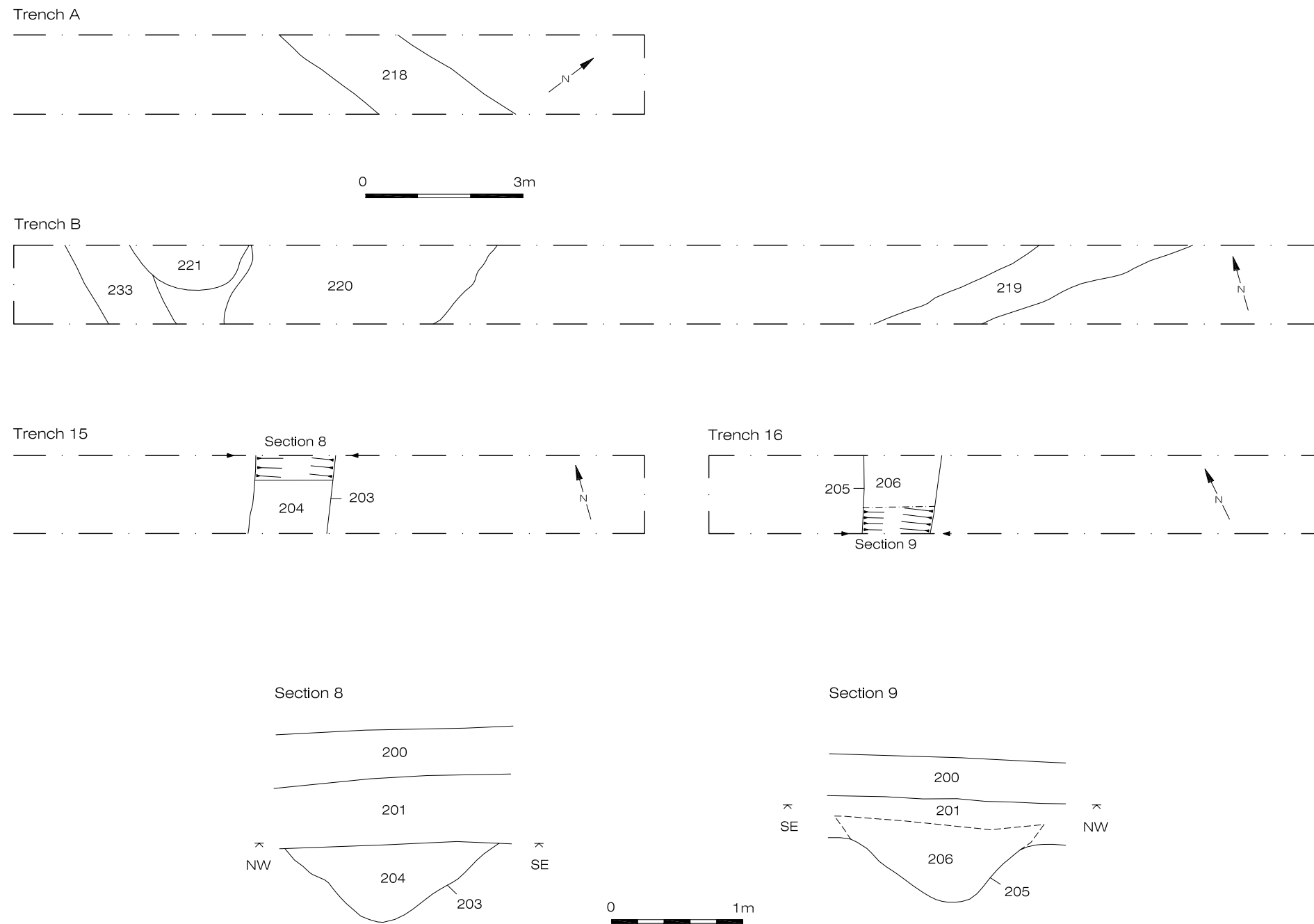
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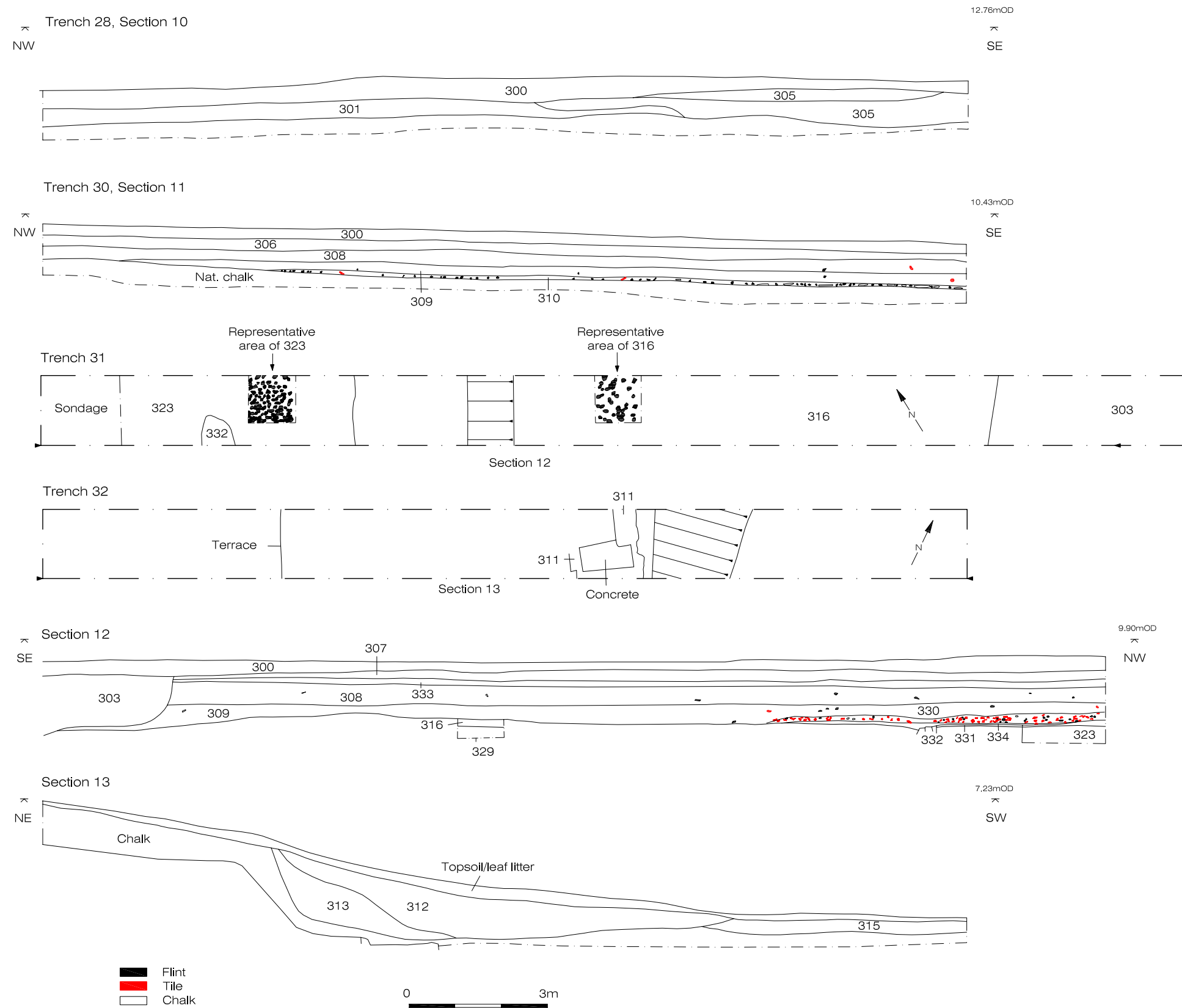
<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 1: Trenches 2 and 3: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 12



<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 2: Trenches 10, 12 and 13: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 13



<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 2: Trenches A, B and 15: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 14



<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 3: Trenches 28 and 30-32: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 15



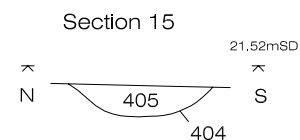
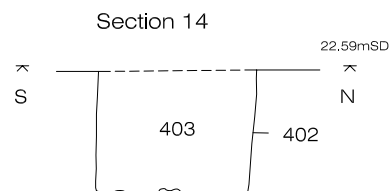
The map shows a study area (317) located within a larger area (318). A north arrow is present in the upper left corner, and a scale bar is located in the upper right corner.

Plan view of Trench 38. The diagram shows a series of features along a horizontal axis. From left to right: a large area labeled 315; a feature labeled 324; a feature labeled 315 with a circular symbol below it labeled 325; a feature labeled 315 with a circular symbol below it labeled 325; a feature labeled 326 with a dashed line below it labeled 315; a feature labeled 327; a feature labeled 328; and a feature labeled 328. A north arrow is located on the right side of the plan.



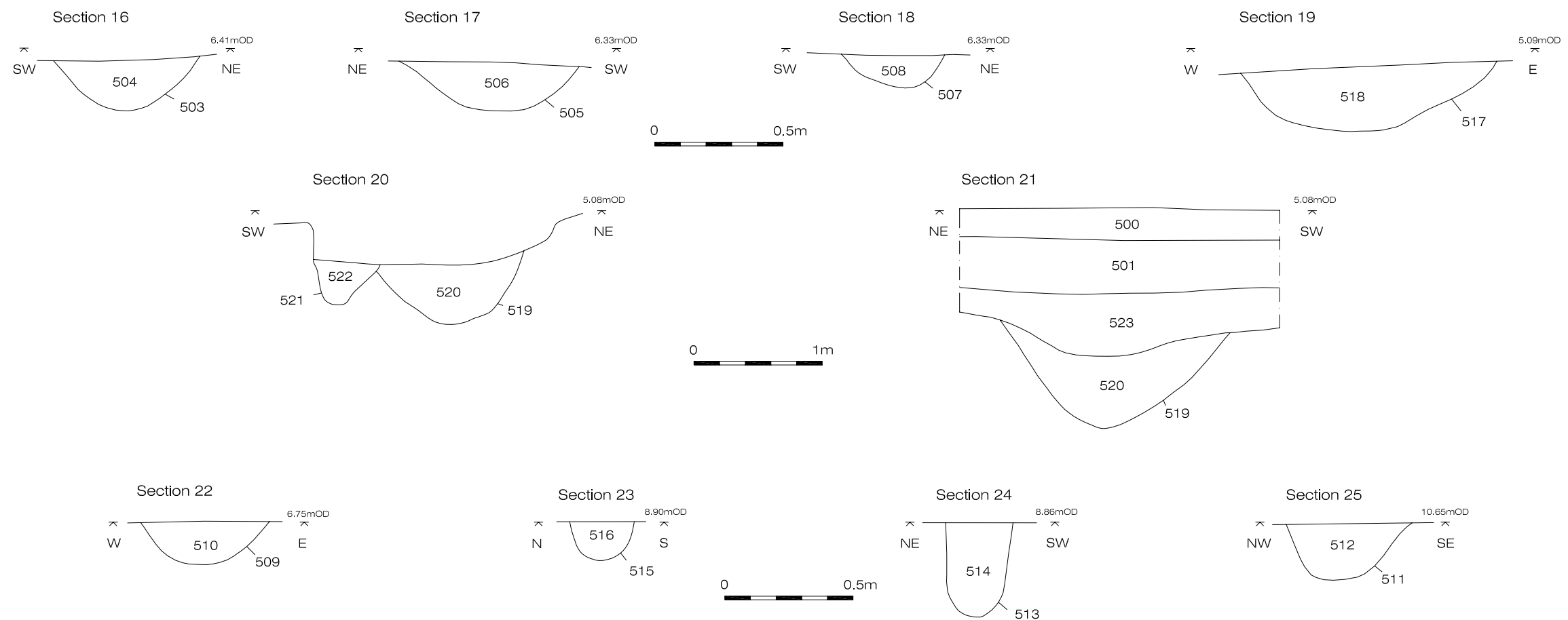
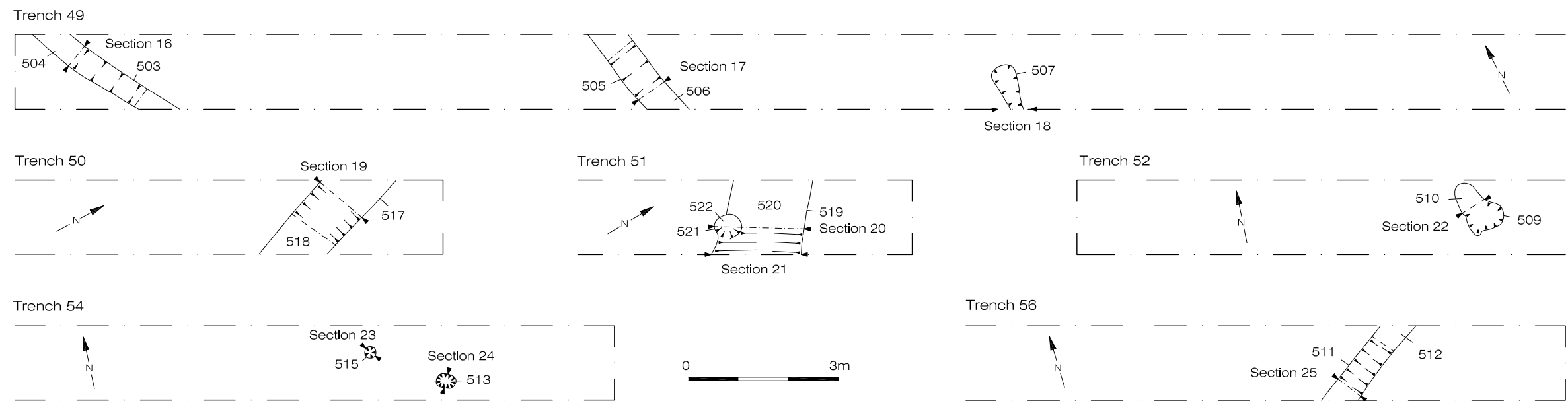
ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	TITLE Area 3: Trenches 34, 35 and 38: Plans		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 16

Trench 44

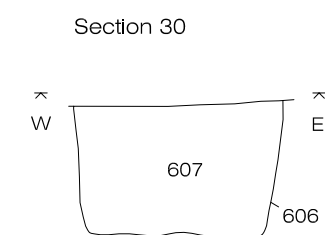
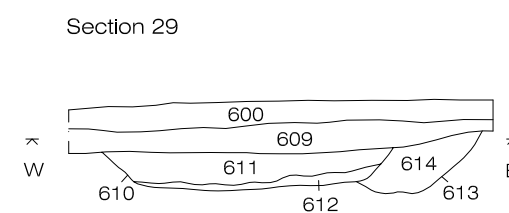
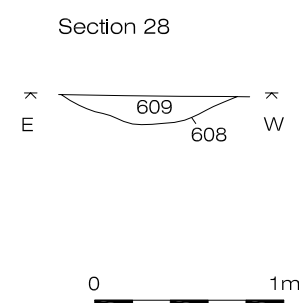
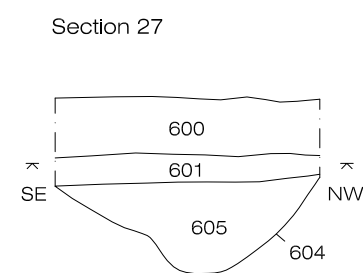
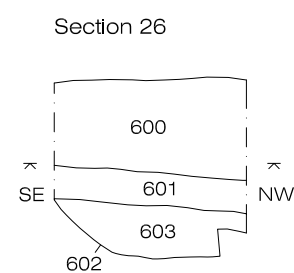
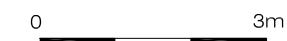
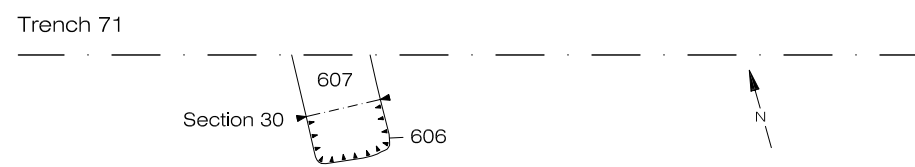
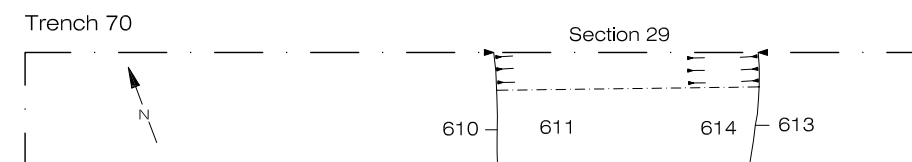
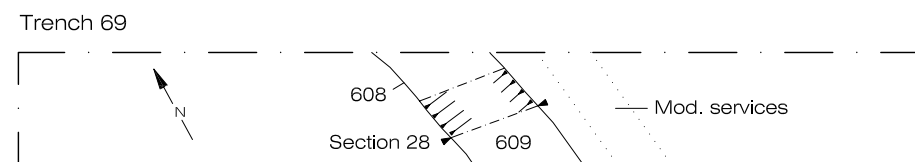
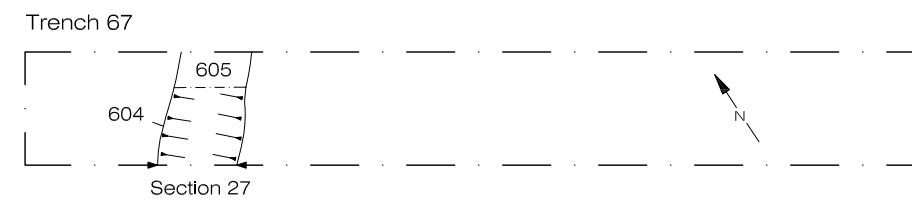
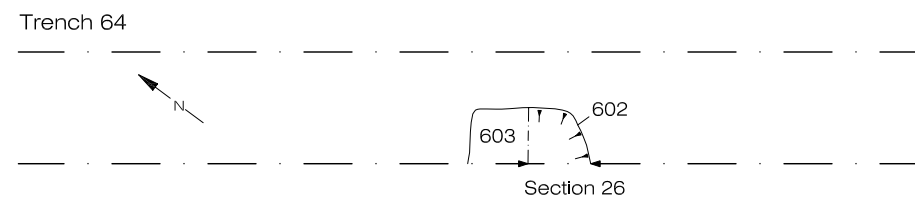


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<b>ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST</b>  1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 4: Trench 44: Plan and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 17



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 5: Trenches 49-52, 54 and 56: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 18
	1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS		



ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH EAST	SITE Peter's Pit, Wouldham		
	TITLE Area 6: Trenches 64, 67, 69, 70 and 71: Plans and Sections		
	DATE July 2002	REF. 1540	DRAWING NO. Fig. 19
	1 WEST STREET DITCHLING EAST SUSSEX BN6 8TS		