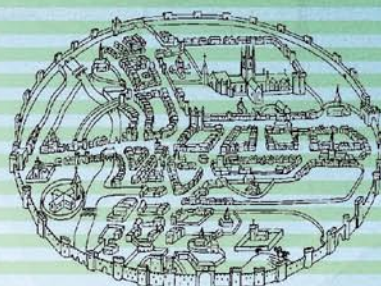


**Report on
Evaluation Trenching in 2010,
off Honeywood Parkway,
White Cliffs Business Park,
Dover
(proposed development for,
Holdingmaatschappij Hulssems BV)**



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Evaluation Trenching in 2010,
off Honeywood Parkway,
White Cliffs Business Park, Dover
(proposed development for,
Holdingmaatschappij Hulssems BV)**

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Proposed development for, Holdingmaatschappij Hulssems BV, Honeywood Parkway, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, near Dover

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Evaluation Trenching off Honeywood Parkwood, Whitfield (proposed development for, Holdingmaatschappij Hulssems BV)

1. Summary

1.1 In January 2010 the Canterbury Archaeological Trust undertook evaluation trenching ahead of the proposed construction of new industrial units off Honeywood Parkway on the White Cliffs Business Park at Whitfield near Dover, NGR 631291 144243, centred. A total of 45 trenches was dug. The work revealed a number of features and finds of archaeological interest and indicated the presence of both prehistoric and Roman remains on the site.

1.2 Twelve of the excavated trenches exposed a total of 22 archaeological features. One of these appeared to be of prehistoric date, whilst two were certainly post-medieval. Several others were datable to the Roman period. This included two second century cremation burials found along the western edge of the site. A setting of flint-packed post-holes close-by may relate to a contemporary timber building here. In an adjacent trench a broad ditch (**F. 84**) produced second century pottery, including decorated samian ware. Two more early Roman pits (**Fs 139 & 141**) were recorded further to the south, in Trench 21. The remaining features excavated produced no firm evidence and their date must remain uncertain. Some are likely to be Roman but others could be prehistoric.

1.3 Inspection of the field surface allowed the collection of significant quantities of prehistoric flintwork contained within the ploughsoil. Further flint material was recovered during the excavations. Typically, the bulk of the flints appear to be of Neolithic–Bronze Age date (*c.* 2500–1500 BC), with a few pieces that could be Mesolithic (*c.* 8000–4000 BC). Rather more ancient, however, is a small collection of heavily patinated pieces which belong to the Palaeolithic period (*c.* 500,000–250,000 years BP). These include a typical pointed handaxe of Acheulian type and part of another, broken handaxe, probably an ovate. Similar flint material has been previously found on other sites in the area. As is frequently found to be the case, few sub-surface prehistoric features that could be contemporary with the surface flint scatter were identified, although pit **F. 135** and one or two of the undated features could be examples of such.

1.4 From the information recorded, the intensity of ancient occupation on the site does not appear to have been particularly great but sufficient archaeological evidence has been exposed to warrant some further work. Any additional Roman burials present ought to be removed before development takes place, whilst more details concerning the nature of the Roman settlement here would be of considerable interest. The opportunity to collect more prehistoric flint material, particularly Palaeolithic pieces, would further advance our understanding of ancient activity on the high ground above the Dour valley. Associated sub-surface features relating to the prehistoric activity could help characterise something of general nature of habitation in the area, although the Palaeolithic finds are most unlikely to be associated with any sort of structural remains.

2. Introduction

2.1 In connection with plans for the construction of further new industrial units on the White Cliffs Business Park at Whitfield near Dover, the Canterbury Archaeological Trust was engaged to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation by means of machine-cut trenching. The work was commissioned on behalf of clients, Holdingmaatschappij Hulssems BV.

2.2 The investigated site lay in a large field to the west of the Richborough-Dover Roman road, on the southern side of Honeywood Parkway, some 225 metres to the west of the new B&Q superstore. Fieldwork was conducted in an eight-day operation during January 2010 and continued on from evaluation work previously undertaken on a number of other building sites in the immediate area, including the adjacent B&Q site (Holman and Lane 2007).

2.3 The area of the proposed new development covers an almost rectangular piece of ground, just over 3 hectares in extent, which has maximum dimensions of 140 metres (east-west) by 270 metres (north-south). This was examined by means of a network of 45 machine-cut evaluation trenches, mostly 20 metres in length.

2.4 The archaeological investigations were undertaken between the 14th and 25th January 2010, Although not ideal, the ground conditions are considered to have been entirely adequate for the identification of significant archaeological deposits and clay-cut features. The open trenches were inspected by Mr Ben Found from K.C.C.'s Heritage Conservation Group on two separate occasions (15th & 20th January).

2.5 The area examined lies in a region of some archaeological potential, with a number of prehistoric and Roman discoveries previously made on nearby sites. The investigations undertaken are regarded as having provided good coverage of the new development area and have provided further clear evidence for prehistoric and Roman occupation.

3. Local Topography

3.1 In topographical terms, the site (NGR 631291 144243, centred) lies on the outskirts of Dover, formerly within the historic parish of River but now in the modern civil parish of Whitfield. It presently occupies an area of arable farmland belonging to Frith Farm at Guston. This area lies upon the so-called '400 foot plateau' of the North Downs dip-slope, above the Dour valley, on a very gentle north-east facing slope at an elevation of between 125 and 120 metres above Ordnance Datum (Fig. 1). This slope, at least in part, relates to the beginning of a dry chalkland valley running north-eastwards towards the present coastline near Walmer.

3.2 The base geology across the site is Upper Chalk but the entire area is covered with superficial deposits of clay. On the highest part of the site at the south end, this consisted of a stiff layer of Clay-with-flints. This heavy, poorly drained deposit gave way to a lighter clay on

the lower part of the site, which bore some resemblance to brickearth. This deposit appeared to be quite thin and at several points could be shown to overlie the heavier Clay-with-flints.

3.3 A number of trenches at the northern end of the site revealed that the natural clay was quite deeply buried below deposits of largely sterile down-washed soil (colluvium) that had collected within the hollow formed by the dry valley (see above). Clearly in the past, this valley had been a rather more prominent feature in the local landscape. Further traces of it as it continued to the north-east were recorded on the adjacent B&Q site (Holman and Lane 2007, fig. 18).

3.4 The southern edge of the present building plot is bounded by a long-established hedge-line. In detail, this hedge (two predominant species, hawthorn and ash) is set on a low bank flanked by a shallow (wet) ditch on either side. The boundary can be traced on nineteenth century O.S. maps and originally joined with another hedge at an approximate right-angle, heading north-east. This second hedge was grubbed out and levelled sometime after April 2007, its line now running diagonally across the new plot. Shallow, root filled hollows located in evaluation Trenches 6 and 24 appeared to represent its line.

4. Archaeology of the Area

4.1 The site investigated in 2010 lies between 200 and 400 metres west of the Richborough to Dover Roman road (Margary route 100; here marked by a public footpath), which was probably first laid out during the late first or early second century when the new port at Dover (*Portus Dubris*) was established.

4.2 There has now been a quite significant amount of archaeological investigation in the area of the developing White Cliffs Business Park (e.g. Corke 1995; Gollop 1998; Parfitt 2000a; Parfitt 2000b; 2001; 2002a; 2002b; 2003; 2004; Williams 2006; Holman 2007; Holman and Lane 2007). Collectively, this earlier work has demonstrated the presence of a light scatter of archaeological features across the area.

4.3 Many of the features previously located are not well-dated but they include a number of certain or probable prehistoric pits, one radio-carbon dated to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age period. There are also a number of certain or probable features of Roman date. A spread of prehistoric flint material has been found within the upper soil deposits. Most of this flintwork is of Neolithic – Bronze Age date but some Palaeolithic pieces, including several handaxes, are also known (Gaunt, Parfitt and Halliwell 1977; Parfitt 1999; 2003).

4.4 The first hints that Roman occupation may be present in the area was provided when the writer discovered half-a-dozen pot-sherds (including samian) as surface finds in the gardens of Archer's Court School, some 350 metres to the west of the 2010 site in the early 1970s (finds in store at Dover Museum, code DOVRM 02; Kent HER ref. TR 34 SW 250). More definite evidence for Roman occupation in the region came on the 1990s when pits, ditches and burials were located 300–600 metres west of the School, on the Dover Ship's Stores and Old Park Barracks sites (Pratt 1998; Parfitt 1999; Simon Mason *pers comm.*).

5. Methodology

5.1 A total of 45 trenches was dug under close archaeological control, using an 18 tonne tracked excavator with a 360 degree slew. The machine was equipped with a broad, toothless ditching bucket. The machine work was carried out by skilled operators under the supervision of Keith Parfitt, M.I.f.A.

5.2 The trench array employed (Fig. 2) conformed to a standard short trench grid (Hey and Lacey 2001, Array 2), approximately aligned on the Cardinal points. The total length of the trenches excavated amounted to 866 metres. This constitutes 1862 square metres of ground, which is just over 6 percent of the area covered by the site overall.

5.3 The majority of the trenches were 20 metres in length and 2.15 m. in width. Three (Trenches 1, 10 & 29) were extended by a metre or two in order to further investigate potential features and three others (Trenches 14, 22 & 38) were made shorter to fit into the available spaces around the boundaries of the site (Table 1).

5.4 The trenches were excavated to variable depths depending on the thickness of deposits sealing the natural clay. The shallowest trenches were at the southern (highest) end of the site and these were between 0.40 and 0.60 m. deep. The deepest trenches, in area of the infilled dry valley, were taken to a depth of up to 2 metres before the natural clay was reached.

5.5 The information revealed was documented in accordance with the general conventions set out in the Canterbury Archaeological Trust's *Site Recording Manual*. Details of the exposed stratification were noted on standardised context recording sheets, an overall site plan (Fig. 2), block sections, measured sections and by digital photographs.

6. The Evaluation Trenching

6.1 A total of 45 evaluation trenches was excavated across the proposed area of new development (Fig. 2; Table 1). Virtually all these trenches were excavated in dull, wet weather with melting snow on the ground. This is judged to have been adequate for the purpose of accurate archaeological observation of soil deposits and cut-features.

6.2 The trenches were excavated to varying depths depending on the amount of covering soil present. Overall, the investigations undertaken are regarded as having provided good coverage of the new development area and to have sufficiently established the nature of the deposits present. The density of archaeological remains appears to be fairly light, with features being located in twelve of the excavated trenches (Trenches 3, 10, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 33, 36, 41, 43 & 45; Table 1).

6.3 In all, the fieldwork generated a total of 149 recorded contexts, illustrated by a trench location plan (Fig. 2), 13 individual trench plans (1:50), 83 block sections, 13 measured sections across archaeological features and 90 digital photographs.

6.4 A moderate assemblage of finds was also recovered. The material consists mainly of prehistoric flintwork but there is also a significant quantity of Roman pottery and other items together with a few post-medieval finds. No animal bone had survived in the acidic soil conditions but the undisturbed fillings of several Roman pits provided the opportunity to undertake some sampling for palaeo-environmental evidence, with some useful results.

6.5 All the field records have been checked and indexed; they are currently held by C.A.T. but will shortly be transferred to Dover Museum. The archive produced by the project has been prepared in accordance with the *United Kingdom Institute for Conservation Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990).

7. Description of the Excavated Trenches (Figs 2-5)

7.1 Trench 1

7.1.1 This was cut at the north-west corner of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Parkway (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum length of 22.50 m., being extended at the eastern end to investigate a possible archaeological feature. Upon examination, this possible feature was found to be a backfilled modern soil test-pit.

7.1.2 The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench and apart from the modern pit, no archaeological features were revealed. In the base of the trench, natural flinty clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.33 m. (west end) and 0.74 m. (east end) below present ground-level. It was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **89**), between 0.08 and 0.45 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.1.3 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **1**) 0.24–0.32 m. thick. This yielded eight prehistoric struck flints.

7.2 Trench 2

7.2.1 This was cut towards the north-west corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north- south and was 19.80 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.63 m. below present ground-level.

7.2.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **90**), between 0.22 and 0.33 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.2.3 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **2**) between 0.30 and 0.37 m. thick. This produced eight prehistoric struck flints.

7.3 Trench 3

7.3.1 This was cut on western edge of the site (Fig. 4). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20 metres in length. The exposed soil sequence appeared to be the same for the full length of the trench, although only the western half was taken down into the natural clay. A series of high-level archaeological features was located in the eastern half of the trench (see below).

7.3.2 In the western half of the trench, the natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.60 m. below present ground-level. This was overlain by a subsoil deposit about 0.25 m. thick (Context **52**) consisting of an orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and some flints. Four prehistoric struck flints were contained within this layer, together with a grog-tempered pot-herd, broadly datable to the late Iron Age–early Roman period.

7.3.3 The top of the subsoil deposit (**52**) was cut by a series of Roman features, unexpectedly including two cremation burials (**Fs 145 & 147**) together with a number of post-holes. All these features had suffered previous plough damage and unfortunately, further damage to the cremations occurred during the initial machine trenching.

7.3.4 *Cremation Burial, F. 145* (Cremation A)

A shallow pit (**F. 145**) containing a Roman pottery vessel holding cremated human bone was located midway along the trench, cutting into the subsoil layer (**52**). Significant machine damage occurred before this feature was spotted. As recorded (Plate II), the burial was represented by a sub-circular pit about 0.37 m. in diameter and 0.05 m. deep. The upper 0.12 m. of the cremation pit was lost to the machine but the surviving pit contained the base of a jar in Upchurch ware (A1). This had served as the cinerary urn. A single sherd from another Upchurch ware vessel (A2) also survived on the base of the pit and this appears to be the same vessels as sherds recovered from the adjacent spoil heap. These come from a bowl of similar form to a smaller one (B2) found in the adjacent cremation (**F. 147**).



Plate II Cremation burial, **F. 145**. Scale 50 cm

7.3.5 *Cremation Burial, F. 147* (Cremation B)

This was located some 2 metres to the north-east of **F. 145**. It survived as an oval pit measuring 0.90 m. (NE-SW) by 0.75 m. (NW-SE), containing three pottery vessels (B1, B2 & B3). These consisted of the base of a large jar in native coarse ware (B1) which had served as the cinerary urn. The accompanying vessels were, a shallow bowl of Upchurch ware (B2) and the remains of a small jar, also in Upchurch ware (B3). As surviving (Plate III), the pit was 0.21 m. deep but about 0.06 m. had been lost to the machine.



Plate III Cremation burial, **F. 147**. Scale 50 cm

7.3.6 *Post-Hole Alignment, Fs 65, 67, 69, 71, 73 & 75*

7.3.6.1 A short distance to the east of the two cremation burials, six shallow post-holes were located. These appeared to relate to a timber structure, perhaps a fence-line delimiting the burial area or possibly a building. A row of five post-holes (Fs **65, 67, 69, 71 & 73**), aligned north-east by south-west, was readily apparent. These were spaced at intervals of between 0.75 and 1.00 m. and each contained one or more packing stones, generally large flint nodules (Plate IV). Fragments of a broken Mayen lavastone quern had been used as packing in **F. 67**. To the north-west of **F. 73** another flint packed post-hole (**F. 75**) must somehow be related to the main line.

7.3.6.2 Feature **67**, containing the lava stone, was the only post-hole to be fully excavated and this produced a single, small Roman sandy ware pot-herd. Odd sherds of Roman pottery were

also recovered from the tops of unexcavated **Fs 71** and **75** and there seems little doubt that all these features are more or less contemporary with the adjacent Roman burials.

7.3.6.3 The subsoil deposit (**52**) and the Roman features were sealed by a layer of modern plough soil about 0.37 m. in thickness. This produced seven prehistoric struck flints and a single calcined flint.



Plate IV Detail of post-hole, **F. 71** showing massive flint packing stone. Scale, 50 cm

7.4 Trench 4

7.4.1 This was cut on the western side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.40 and 0.60 m. below present ground level. No archaeological features were exposed.

7.4.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **94**), between 0.12 and 0.33 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.4.3 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **4**) some 0.30 m. thick, which produced a single calcined flint.

7.5 Trench 5

7.5.1 This was cut on the western side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural flinty clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.50 m. below present ground level. No archaeological features were exposed.

7.5.2 The natural clay (Context **50**) was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **95**), about 0.20 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.5.3 The subsoil layer (**95**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **5**) some 0.30 m. thick. This produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.6 Trench 6

7.6.1 This was cut on the western side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base, the natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was exposed at a depth of about 0.36 m. below present ground level.

7.6.2 The natural clay was partially sealed by a very thin subsoil layer (Context **78**), consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks, occasional flint lumps. This was just 0.02 m. thick and was confined to the northern part of the trench. It produced three prehistoric struck flints.

7.6.3 Cutting the subsoil (**78**) and natural clay layers at the northern end of the trench was a shallow, ill-defined ditch, filled with dark soil and numerous recent tree roots. This appeared to fall on the line of a recently grubbed out hedge-line (see above).

7.6.4 The filling of the ditch and the subsoil layer were overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **6**) about 0.34 m. thick. This yielded three prehistoric struck flints and a single calcined flint.

7.7 Trench 7

7.7.1 This was cut at the south-west corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.37 and 0.40 m. below present ground-level.

7.7.2 No archaeological features were exposed. The natural clay was sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **7**) which produced no finds.

7.8 Trench 8

7.8.1 This trench was cut along the northern side of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Parkway (Fig. 2). It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.75 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.37 and 0.67 m. below present ground-level.

7.8.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **86**), between 0.15 m. (north end) and 0.42 m. (south end) in thickness. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.8.3 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **8**) between 0.18 and 0.28 m. thick, which again produced no finds.

7.9 Trench 9

7.9.1 This trench was cut towards the north-western corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.70 m. No archaeological features were exposed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.57 and 0.63 m. below present ground-level.

7.9.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **54**), between 0.25 and 0.35 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.9.3 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **9**) about 0.30 m. thick, which yielded five prehistoric struck flints and four calcined flints.

7.10 Trench 10

7.10.1 This was cut towards the western side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 22.50 m. in length. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench (Fig. 12). In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.48 and 0.55 m. below present ground-level.

7.10.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **85**), up to 0.20 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It contained early Roman pottery.

7.10.3 Towards the northern end of the trench, the subsoil layer (**85**) was cut by what appeared to be a broad ditch (**F. 84**). This produced a significant quantity of Roman pottery. No continuation of this ditch was noted in the adjacent trenches.

7.10.4 Ditch, F. 84

This ran across the trench on an east-west axis and continued beyond the excavation limits in both directions. It was about 3 metres wide across the top and a slot cut through it showed it to be 0.60 m. deep with sloping sides and a dished, slightly undulating base (Fig. 7). The filling was in several layers (Contexts **80**, **81**, **82** & **83**). Primary silt on the south side (**83**) consisted of compact grey-brown clay containing no datable finds.

The main lower filling of the ditch (**82**) consisted of a dark grey-black clay containing moderate carbon specks and occasional specks of burnt red clay. This layer produced a significant amount of Roman pottery, including a large piece of decorated samian ware (Dr 37), together with two pieces of highly corroded iron. There were also two calcined flints and wet sieving of a sample yielded charred cereal grain and chaff, seeds of arable weeds, a small quantity of charcoal, and occasional fragmentary hazelnut shell.

The middle filling of the ditch (**81**) consisted of a compact cream-brown clay containing very occasional carbon specks and flint nodules. It yielded xx more sherds of Roman pottery, including samian, four fragments of Roman tile, five pieces of corroded iron, probably nails and a residual prehistoric struck flint. The upper-most, final filling of the ditch (**80**) consisted of a brown clay loam containing occasional very carbon specks and flint nodules but no finds.

7.10.5 The subsoil layer (**85**) and the upper filling of **F. 84** were sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **10**) between 0.30 and 38 m. in thickness. This produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.11 Trench 11

7.11.1 This was cut towards the western side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20.00 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.48 and 0.60 m. below present ground-level.

7.11.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **77**), between 0.18 and 0.20 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.11.3 The subsoil deposit was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil between 0.30 and 0.40 m. in thickness (Context **11**). This produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.12 Trench 12

7.12.1 This was cut towards the western side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 20.00 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.45 and 0.51 m. below present ground-level.

7.12.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **76**), between 0.12 and 0.21 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps, which yielded a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.12.3 The subsoil deposit was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil (Context **12**) between 0.30 and 0.35 m. in thickness. This produced five more prehistoric struck flints.

7.13 Trench 13

7.13.1 This was cut towards the south-west corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20.00 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.41 and 0.52 m. below present ground-level.

7.13.2 The natural clay was sealed by a thin subsoil layer (Context **79**), between 0.07 and 0.17 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. This produced a few sherds of Roman pottery.

7.13.3 The subsoil deposit (**79**) was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil (Context **13**) between 0.32 and 35 m. in thickness, which yielded no finds.

7.14 Trench 14

7.14.1 This was cut on the southern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 16.50 metres in length. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.30 and 0.35 m. below present ground-level.

7.14.2 The natural clay was sealed only by modern ploughsoil, which yielded no finds.

7.15 Trench 15

7.15.1 This was cut along the northern side of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Park (Fig. 4). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.70 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench.

7.15.2 In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.45 and 0.60 m. below present ground-level.

7.15.3 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **53**), between 0.16 and 0.36 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.15.4 The subsoil deposit (**53**) was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil between 0.24 and 0.30 m. in thickness (Context **15**). This produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.16 Trench 16

7.16.1 This was cut towards the northern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.40 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.53 and 1.34 m. below present ground-level. It was overlain by a subsoil deposit representing colluvium accumulated in the shallow dry valley which begins on the site (see above).

7.16.2 The subsoil deposit (Context **63**) was between 0.45 and 0.60 m. in thickness and consisted of a compact layer of brown clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.16.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**63**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **62**). This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.24 to 0.36 m. in thickness and produced a single pot-shoulder of early Roman date.

7.16.4 The upper subsoil layer (**62**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **16**) between 0.30 and 0.40 m. thick, which produced four prehistoric struck flints.

7.17 Trench 17

7.17.1 This was cut towards the centre of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.50 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. At the base, it was uncertain whether the exposed deposit of clean light grey-brown silty clay (Context **57**) represented true natural or the lowest subsoil horizon. Either way, it contained no archaeological material.

7.17.2 Context **57** was overlain by a subsoil deposit certainly representing colluvium accumulated in the shallow dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This deposit (Context **56**) was between 0.30 and 0.78 m. in thickness and comprised a grey-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.17.3 The lower subsoil deposit was sealed by an upper subsoil layer (Context **55**), which consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. This was about 0.33 m. in thickness and it produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.17.4 The upper subsoil layer (55) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **17**) around 0.30 m. thick, which yielded no finds.

7.18 Trench 18

7.18.1 This was cut near the centre of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.80 m. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base, the natural clay (Context **50**) was exposed at a depth of between 0.50 and 0.80 m. below present ground-level, dipping gently down to the north.

7.18.2 In the northern half of the trench the deeper natural clay was overlain by a subsoil deposit certainly representing colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This deposit (Context **102**) was about 0.25 m. in thickness. It comprised a grey-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.18.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**102**) was sealed by an upper subsoil layer (Context **101**), which extended along the full length of the trench. It consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps, between 0.20 and 0.25 m. thick. It yielded no datable finds.

7.18.4 The upper subsoil layer (**101**) was sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **18**) some 0.30 m. thick, which again yielded no finds.

7.19 Trench 19

7.19.1 This was cut towards the centre of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20 metres in length. It was cut to a maximum depth of 0.50 m. but no archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench.

7.19.2 In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.40 and 0.43 m. below present ground-level.

7.19.3 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **114**), between 0.10 and 0.20 m. thick. This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.19.4 The subsoil deposit (**114**) was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil (Context **19**) about 0.28 m. in thickness. This yielded no finds.

7.20 Trench 20

7.20.1 This was cut towards the southern of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 20 metres in length. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.70 m. but no archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.46 and 0.69 m. below present ground-level.

7.20.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **122**), between 0.15 and 0.35 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It produced three pot-sherds of early Roman date.

7.20.3 The subsoil deposit (**122**) was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil (Context **20**) about 0.33 m. in thickness, which yielded no finds.

7.21 Trench 21

7.21.1 This was cut on the south side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20 metres in length. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context 50) was revealed at a depth of about 0.30 m. below present ground-level.

7.21.2 Towards the western end of the trench the natural clay was cut by two circular pits (Fs 100 & 133) set some 2.20 m. apart. Both of these features produced significant amounts of Roman pottery, indicating that they had been backfilled sometime during the second century AD.

7.21.3 Pit, F. 100 (Plate V)

This was located on the north side of the trench and its northern edge fell outside the excavated area (Plate V). Within the trench, the exposed feature was fully excavated. This suggested that it was oval in plan, measuring a minimum of 1.80 m (NW-SE) by 1.70 m. (NE-SW). It was 0.25 m. deep with sloping sides and a dished base. There were several layers of fill (Contexts 96, 97, 98 & 99). The primary silt on the sides of the pit (99) consisted of brown clay containing occasional carbon specks but no datable finds. On the base of the pit, a thin layer of light grey clay with carbon specks (98) produced early Roman pot-sherds.

The main lower filling of the pit (97) consisted of dark grey-black clay loam containing frequent carbon specks and occasional flints. It produced some sherds of Roman pottery, together with an interesting slickstone (or linen smoother, see below) made of non-local rock. The upper filling of the pit (96) consisted of brown clay containing occasional carbon specks. It yielded sherds of Roman pottery, a fragment from a rotary quern in non-local sandstone and two residual prehistoric struck flints.



Plate V General view of pit, **F. 100** looking north. Scale, 50 cm

7.21.4 Pit, F. 133

This was located on the south side of the trench a short distance to the south-east of **F. 100**. Its southern half fell outside the excavated area. Within the trench, the exposed feature was fully excavated. This indicated that the pit was probably oval in plan, measuring 1.32 m (E-W) by at least 0.75 m. (N-S). It was 0.27 m. deep with sloping sides and a dished base. There were two layers of fill (Contexts **131** & **132**). The lower filling (**132**) consisted of a light brown clay containing medium to large flint lumps and occasional carbon specks. It produced Roman potsherds and fragment of Roman tile. The upper filling (**131**) consisted of a brown clay containing occasional flint lumps and carbon specks. It yielded early Roman pot-sherds, seven calcined flints and a flint hammer-stone/pounder.

7.21.5 The natural clay and the filling of **Fs 100** and **133** were overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **21**) about 0.30 m. in thickness. This layer produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.22 Trench 22

7.22.1 This short trench was cut along the northern side of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Parkway (Fig. 2). The trench was 10 metres in length and was aligned almost north-south. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.72 m. No archaeological features were revealed, although the natural clay was not reached.

7.22.2 At the base of the exposed sequence, a lower subsoil deposit (Context **148**) represented colluvium that had accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). It was at least 0.10 m. thick and consisted of a fairly compact layer of orange-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.22.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**148**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **87**). This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.32 to 0.40 m. in thickness but produced no finds.

7.22.4 The upper subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **22**) between 0.25 and 0.28 m. thick, which produced three prehistoric struck flints.

7.23 Trench 23

7.23.1 This was cut towards the northern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.00 m. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench. A single archaeological feature was revealed (**F. 61**).

7.23.2 In the base of the trench, natural flinty clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 1.00 m. below present ground-level. It was overlain by a subsoil deposit representing colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). The subsoil deposit (Context **59**) was about 0.29 m. in thickness and consisted of an orange/grey-brown silty clay containing

very occasional carbon specks and occasional small flint lumps. It produced three pot-sherds of **xx** date, together with two prehistoric struck flints and a single calcined flint.

7.23.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**59**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **58**). This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.39 to 0.43 m. in thickness and produced a single early Roman pot-herd, a fragment of Roman tile, two prehistoric struck flints and two calcined flints. It was cut by single archaeological feature in the form of a pit (**F. 61**).

7.23.4 *Pit, F. 61*

Only about one quarter of this probably circular pit fell inside the excavated area. As seen, it was 1.50 m. across (E-W) and 0.31 m. deep with sloping sides and a dished base. The filling (Context **60**) consisted of a single deposit of compact grey-brown clay containing frequent small fragments of burnt daub and a moderate amount of carbon specks. The only find was single unworked, prehistoric struck flint, which may well be probably residual.

7.23.5 The upper subsoil (**58**) and the filling of the pit were sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil between 0.26 and 0.32 m. in thickness (Context **23**). This produced two prehistoric struck flints and a single sherd of early Roman pottery.

7.24 *Trench 24*

7.24.1 This was cut towards the centre of the site (Fig.2). It was aligned almost east-west and was taken to a maximum depth of 0.90 m. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench, although natural clay was not reached. A single feature of passing archaeological interest was revealed (**F. 143**).

7.24.2 At the base of the exposed sequence, a lower subsoil deposit (Context **149**) represented colluvium that had accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). It was at least 0.20 m. thick and consisted of a fairly compact layer of orange/grey-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.24.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**149**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **88**). This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was between 0.35 and 0.46 m. in thickness but produced no finds. Cutting in from the top of this layer, a length of broad ditch (**F. 143**) was exposed, running diagonally across the trench.

7.24.4 *Recent field boundary ditch, F. 143*

This ran south-west by north-east across the northern end of the trench and continued beyond the excavation limits in both directions. As recorded, it was about 2.70 m. wide across the top and at least 0.90 m. deep (its base was not reached). The feature was filled with a fairly loose dark brown clay loam containing numerous recent tree roots. There can be no doubt that this ditch is associated with the line of an old field boundary hedge, grubbed-out within the last year or two (see above). Traces of this same ditch were also located in Trench 6.

7.24.5 The upper subsoil layer (**88**) and the filling of the old ditch were sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **24**) about 0.27 m. thick. This produced a single, worked prehistoric flint.

7.25 Trench 25

7.25.1 This was cut near the centre of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.65 m. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the excavation. A single archaeological feature, in the form of a small pit, was revealed midway along the trench (**F. 110**).

7.25.2 In the base of the trench, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.60 m. below present ground-level. It was cut by a small pit (**F. 110**), although it was not entirely clear if this feature had originally been cut in from higher up, through the overlying subsoil deposit (Context **93**, see below).

7.25.3 Pit, F. 110

This small pit lay in the centre of the trench and was fully excavated. It was oval in plan, measuring 0.70 m (NW-SE) by 0.62 m. (NE-SW). The top of the pit was truncated during the initial machine clearance but its surviving depth was 0.20 m. Originally, it could have been twice this figure. The pit had steep-sloping sides and a dished base. Its filling (Context **109**) consisted of a single deposit of light grey silty clay containing moderate quantities of carbon specks (especially in the lower half) but there were no datable finds.

7.25.4 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **93**), between 0.10 and 0.30 m. thick, consisting of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It yielded two prehistoric struck flints.

7.25.5 The subsoil layer (**93**) was sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **25**) between 0.32 and 0.36 m. in thickness. This yielded no finds.

7.26 Trench 26

7.26.1 This was cut towards the centre of the site (Fig. 2). It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.68 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.55 m. below present ground-level.

7.26.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **112**), between 0.22 and 0.28 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.26.3 The subsoil layer (**112**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **26**) about 0.30 m. thick, which produced no finds.

7.27 Trench 27

7.27.1 This was cut towards the southern end of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20 metres in length. In the base of the trench, the junction between the natural Clay-with-flints and the lighter, brickearth-like natural clay (Context **50**) was exposed towards the eastern end. The surface of the natural lay at a depth of between 0.38 and 0.40 m. below present ground-level.

7.27.2 Near the eastern end of the trench, the natural clay was cut by two irregular pits (**Fs 139 & 141**) set some 1.50 m. apart. Neither of these features produced any datable finds and they could be of natural origin.

7.27.3 Pit, F. 139

This was located on the south side of the trench and its southern end lay outside the excavated area. Within the trench, the north-western end of the exposed feature was excavated. Overall, the feature appeared as roughly oval in plan, measuring a minimum of 2.30 m (NW-SE) by 0.95–1.10 m. (NE-SW). It was 0.29 m. deep with steep-sloping sides and a dished base. The filling (Contexts **138**) consisted of a single deposit of brown clay containing carbon specks and occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.27.4 Pit, F. 141

This was located on the north side of the trench a short distance to the north-east of **F. 139**. Its northern end fell outside the excavated area (Plate VI). Within the trench, the south-western end of the exposed feature was excavated. The pit appeared to be oval in plan, measuring a minimum of 1.52 m (NW-SE) by 0.75 m. (NE-SW). It was 0.50 m. deep with steep sides and a rounded base. The filling (Contexts **140**) consisted of a single deposit of brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and occasional small flint lumps but no datable finds.



Plate VI Pit, **F. 141**, looking north. Scale, 50 cm

7.27.5 The natural clay and the fillings of **Fs 139** and **141** were overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **27**) about 0.40 m. in thickness, which produced no finds.

7.28 Trench 28

7.28.1 This was cut towards the southern end of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 20 metres in length. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was exposed at a depth of about 0.34 m. below present ground-level.

7.28.2 The natural clay was sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **28**), which yielded no finds.

7.29 Trench 29

7.29.1 This was cut at the southern end of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20.50 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was exposed at a depth of about 0.38 m. below present ground-level.

7.29.2 The natural clay was sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **29**), which yielded no finds.

7.30 Trench 30

7.30.1 This was cut along the northern side of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Park (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 2.00 m. below present ground level. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench.

7.30.2 In the base of the trench, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 1.90 and 2.00 m.

7.30.3 The natural clay was overlain by a subsoil deposit representing colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This subsoil deposit (Context **116**) was up to 1.23 m. in thick and consisted of a fairly compact buff-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and occasional small flint lumps devoid of finds.

7.30.4 The lower subsoil deposit (**116**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **115**). This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.35 to 0.45 m. in thickness but produced no finds.

7.30.5 The upper subsoil layer (**115**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **30**) about 0.33 m. thick, which yielded no finds.

7.31 Trench 31

7.31.1 This trench was cut towards the north-eastern corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.80 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench.

7.31.2 In the base of the trench, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 1.25 and 1.74 m. below present ground-level. It was overlain by a subsoil deposit representing colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This subsoil deposit (Context **124**) was between 0.60 and 0.95 m. in thickness and consisted of a fairly compact orange-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and occasional small flint lumps devoid of finds.

7.31.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**124**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **123**). This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.35 to 0.45 m. in thickness and produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.31.4 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **31**) between 0.30 and 0.35 m. thick, which yielded no finds.

7.32 Trench 32

7.32.1 This trench was cut towards the north-eastern corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.85 m. No archaeological features were revealed.

7.32.2 In the base, the natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.60 and 1.82 m. below present ground-level, dipping down to the west.

7.32.3 In the western part of the trench the natural clay was sealed by a deposit of clean light grey-brown clay about 0.33 m. thick (Context **105**) representing the lowest subsoil horizon. It contained no archaeological material.

7.32.4 Context **105** was overlain by a rather thicker subsoil deposit (Context **104**) which extended further along the length of the trench and represented a subsequent deposit of colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This deposit was about 0.68 m. in thickness and comprised a brown clay containing very occasional carbon specks and very occasional large flint lumps. Again, it was devoid of any archaeological finds.

7.32.5 This lower subsoil deposits were sealed by an upper subsoil layer (Context **103**), which consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. This was between 0.27 and 0.44 m. in thickness but failed to produce any finds.

7.32.6 The upper subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **32**) between 0.34 and 0.38 m. thick, which yielded no finds.

7.33 Trench 33

7.33.1 This was cut towards the eastern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south, 20 metres in length and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.82 m. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. A single archaeological feature was revealed (Ditch, **F. 107**). In the base, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.50 and 0.62 m. below present ground-level.

7.33.2 The natural clay was sealed by a thin layer of subsoil (Context **108**), between 0.15 and 0.20 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks, flint lumps and a single prehistoric struck flint. Towards the southern end of the trench, the top of the subsoil layer (**108**) was cut by an un-dated ditch (**F. 107**). No continuation of this ditch was noted in adjacent trenches.



Plate VII Ditch, **F. 107**, looking south-east. Scale, 50 cm

7.33.3 *Ditch, F. 107*

This ran diagonally across the trench, aligned north-west by south-east axis and continued beyond the excavation limits in both directions (Plate VII). It was 1.56 m. wide across the top and a single slot cut across it showed that it was 0.61 m. deep, with sloping sides and a dished base. The filling consisted of a single deposit of grey-brown clay loam containing occasional small flint lumps and occasional carbon specks (Context **106**). This failed to produce any datable finds.

7.33.4 The subsoil deposit (**108**) and the filling of **F. 107** were sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **33**) about 0.33 m. in thickness. This also failed to produce any finds.

7.34 *Trench 34*

7.34.1 This was cut towards the eastern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west, 20.00 m. in length and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.50 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench.

7.34.2 In the base of the trench, the junction between the natural Clay-with-flints and lighter, brickearth-like natural clay (Context **50**) was exposed towards the eastern end. It lay at a depth of about 0.45 m. below present ground-level.

7.34.3 The natural clay was sealed by a thin layer of subsoil (Context **111**), between 0.22 and 0.28 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.34.4 The subsoil deposit (**111**) was sealed by modern ploughsoil (Context **34**) about 0.32 m. in thickness. This failed to produce any finds.

7.35 Trench 35

7.35.1 This was cut towards the eastern side of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 20.00 m. in length. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base of the trench, the junction between the natural Clay-with-flints and the lighter, brickearth-like natural clay (Context **50**) was exposed at the northern end.

7.35.2 The surface of the natural clay lay at a depth of between 0.34 and 0.38 m. below present ground-level. It was sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **35**), which yielded no finds.

7.36 Trench 36

7.36.1 This was cut towards the south-eastern corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost east-west and was 20.00 m. in length. In the base of the trench, the natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.34 m. below present ground-level. This was found to be cut a large irregular pit (**F. 135**) containing fresh prehistoric flintwork.

7.36.2 Pit, F. 135

This large, ill-defined pit was located in the central sector of the trench. It was roughly oval in shape, filled by a stiff brown clay containing flint lumps and very occasional carbon specks (Context **134**). Three slots cut across the filling showed that the pit varied in depth from 0.24 to 0.40 m., with sloping sides and an undulating base. It seems possible that this feature represents a natural tree throw pit; however, the excavated filling produced five very fresh struck flints, including a core and an axe-sharpening flake of possible Mesolithic type, together with a single small fragment of calcined flint.

7.36.3 The natural clay and the filling of **F. 135** were overlain only by the modern ploughsoil (Context **36**), which produced three prehistoric struck flints.

7.37 Trench 37

7.37.1 This was cut at the southern end of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned almost north-south and was 20 metres in length. No archaeological features were revealed. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was exposed at a depth of between 0.34 and 0.38 m. below present ground-level.

7.37.2 The natural clay was sealed only by the modern ploughsoil (Context **37**), which failed to produce any finds.

7.38 Trench 38

7.38.1 This short trench was cut in the north-east corner of the site, adjacent to Honeywood Parkway (Fig. 2). It was just 3.00 metres in length and was aligned north-east by south-west. It was cut to a maximum depth of 1.50 m. No archaeological features were revealed, although the top of the natural clay was not reached.

7.38.2 At the base of the exposed sequence, a lower subsoil deposit (Context **126**) represented colluvium that had accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). It was at least 0.80 m. thick and consisted of an orange-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and occasional flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.38.3 The lower subsoil deposit (**126**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **125**). This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was about 0.40 m. thick but produced no finds.

7.38.4 The upper subsoil (**125**) was sealed by modern ploughsoil, about 0.30 m. in thickness (Context **38**). This failed to produce any finds.

7.39 Trench 39

7.39.1 This was cut towards the north-eastern corner of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.50 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same for the full length of the trench.

7.39.2 In the base of the trench, natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.93 and 1.45 m., dipping down towards the west end of the trench.

7.39.3 The natural clay was overlain by a subsoil deposit representing colluvium accumulated in the dry valley which begins on the site (see above). This subsoil deposit (Context **128**) was between 0.36 and 0.80 m. thick and consisted of a fairly compact orange-brown silty clay containing very occasional carbon specks and occasional flint lumps devoid of finds.

7.39.4 The lower subsoil deposit (**128**) was sealed by an upper layer of subsoil (Context **127**). This consisted of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It was 0.28 to 0.33 m. in thickness but produced no finds.

7.39.5 The upper subsoil deposit (**127**) was sealed by a layer of modern ploughsoil 0.30 m. in thickness (Context **39**). This produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.40 Trench 40

7.40.1 This was cut on the eastern side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.80 m. No archaeological features were revealed. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. In the base, natural

clay (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.52 and 0.62 m. below present ground-level.

7.40.2 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **113**), between 0.25 and 0.37 m. thick, consisting of mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. This produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.40.3 The subsoil layer (**113**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **40**) between 0.32 and 0.38 m. thick, which yielded five prehistoric struck flints.

7.41 Trench 41

7.41.1 This was cut on the eastern side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west and was cut to a maximum depth of 0.55 m. The exposed soil sequence was the same along the full length of the trench. Two archaeological features were revealed (**Fs 118 & 120**).

7.41.2 In the base of the trench, the junction between the natural Clay-with-flints and lighter, brickearth-like natural clay (Context **50**) was revealed towards the western end. The surface of the clay lay at a depth of about 0.53 m. below present ground level.

7.41.3 Cut into the natural clay at the west end of the trench were two small undated features (**Fs 118 & 120**), positioned about one metre apart (Plate VIII). It remains unclear whether these features are contemporary.

7.41.4 Pit/post-hole, F. 118 (Plate VIII)

This small pit/hole was located near the north-western corner of the trench, cutting the natural clay. It was not entirely clear if it had originally been cut in from higher up, through the overlying subsoil deposit (Context **121**, see below). As recorded, the feature was oval in plan, measuring a minimum of 0.44 m. (NW-SE) by 0.40 m. (NE-SW). It was at least 0.15 m. deep with sloping sides and a dished base. The filling (Contexts **117**) consisted of a single deposit of brown clay containing moderate quantities of carbon specks, which produced no datable finds.

7.41.5 Pit/post-hole, F. 120 (Plate VIII)

This small pit lay about one metre to the east of **F. 118**. Again, it was first noted cutting into the natural clay (**50**) but may have originally been dug in from higher up, through the overlying subsoil deposit (Context **121**, see below). As recorded, the feature was circular in plan, with a diameter of 0.72 m. It was at least 0.60 m. deep with very steep sides and a dished base. The filling (Contexts **119**) consisted of a single deposit of brown clay containing frequent small chalk lumps. This produced no datable finds. The presence of chalk within the filling stood out as being unusual as natural chalk outcrops at the surface nowhere on the site or in the immediate area.



Plate VIII Pit, **F. 118** and pit, **F. 120**, looking east. Scale, 50 cm

7.41.6 The natural clay was sealed by a subsoil layer (Context **121**), between 0.18 and 0.23 m. thick, consisting of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. This produced a single prehistoric struck flint.

7.41.7 The subsoil layer was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **41**) about 0.32 m. thick, which failed to yield any finds.

7.42 Trench 42

7.42.1 This was cut on the eastern side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of about 0.48 m. below present ground-level. No archaeological features were exposed.

7.42.2 The natural clay was sealed by a thin subsoil layer (Context **93**), between 0.10 and 0.25 m. thick. This consisted of a mottled orange-brown clay containing occasional carbon specks and flint lumps. It produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.42.3 The subsoil layer (**93**) was overlain by modern ploughsoil (Context **42**) about 0.38 m. thick, which failed to yield any finds.

7.43 Trench 43

7.43.1 This was cut on the eastern side of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost east-west. In the base of the trench, the natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.32 and 0.38 m. below present ground-level. Midway along the trench the natural clay was found to be cut by a small pit (**F. 137**).

7.43.2 Pit, F. 137

This small, ill-defined pit was located on the south side of the trench. Its southern side lay outside the excavated area. Within the trench, the exposed feature was only partially excavated. It appeared to be sub-oval in plan, measuring a minimum of 0.85 m (N-S) by 0.95 m. (E-W). It was 0.34 m. deep with steep sides and a rounded base. The filling (Context **136**) consisted of a brown clay containing moderate quantities of carbon specks, occasional angular flint lumps but no datable finds.

7.43.3 The natural clay and the filling of **F. 137** were overlain only by modern ploughsoil which (Context **43**) which yielded no finds.

7.44 Trench 44

7.44.1 This was cut towards the south-eastern corner of the site. It was 20 metres long, aligned almost north-south. In the base of the trench, the natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.35 and 0.38 m. below present ground-level. No archaeological features were exposed.

7.44.2 The natural clay was sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **44**), which produced two prehistoric struck flints.

7.45 Trench 45

7.45.1 This was cut at the extreme south-eastern corner of the site (Fig. 2). It was aligned north-west by south-east and was cut to a maximum length of 21.10 m. In the base of the trench, natural Clay-with-flints (Context **50**) was revealed at a depth of between 0.32 and 0.36 m. below present ground-level. This was found to be cut by a large pit (**F. 130**) containing post-medieval material.

7.45.2 Pit, F. 130

This large pit was located in the central sector of the trench. About half of it was exposed in the excavation and it clearly continued outside the trench to the south-east. From what was revealed, it would seem that the feature was either oval or circular in shape, at least 3.80 m. across. A single slot cut across the widest part showed the pit to be 0.49 m. in depth, with a sloping side and rounded base. The filling of dark grey-brown clay loam produced a small

collection of later post-medieval chinaware, vessel glass, clay tobacco pipe stem fragments and an interesting military button.

7.45.3 The natural clay (**50**) and the filling of **F. 130** were sealed only by modern ploughsoil (Context **45**) which produced two prehistoric struck flints.

8. Finds

8.1 A moderate quantity of finds was recovered during the course of the evaluation trenching. The bulk of the material found is prehistoric flintwork but there is also significant assemblage of Roman pottery and a few small finds.

8.2 The material has been processed and catalogued according to standard Canterbury Archaeological Trust procedures. It currently remains in the possession of the Trust but, subject to agreement, will be transferred to Dover Museum in due course. Brief notes on the various categories of find made in 2010 are set out below.

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8.3 Small Finds

8.3.1 *Slickstone* (Plate IX)

The filling of early Roman pit, **F. 100** in Trench 21 (Context **97**) yielded a dark red stone disc (Plate IX). This is finely smoothed and polished all over, and has clearly been used in some sort of smoothing or rubbing process. The object is oval in cross-section with symmetrical, convex faces. It has a diameter of about 57 mm and a thickness of 20 mm. The rock type has yet to be identified but it is certainly not flint and does not appear to be of local origin.

The object has been identified as a slickstone (also referred to as a smoothing stone or a linen-smoother). These were laundering tools, used to straighten out seams and flatten hems as clothing dried. As such, they should be regarded as domestic debris and do not provide evidence for any craft process. They were often made of glass and several medieval examples have been discovered in Dover (Parfitt, Corke and Cotter 2006, 284–6). Glass slickstones of Roman date have also been recorded but examples in stone appear to be extremely rare. The piece from Whitfield may thus represent one of the first specimens in stone to be recorded from a Romano-British context (Penelope Walton Rogers *pers comm.*).



Plate IX Slickstone from early Roman pit, **F. 100**. Dia. 57 mm (HPW-10-97; KF 1)

8.3.2 *Glass bead*

A small cylindrical bead of green glass was recovered during wet-sieving of the soil sample taken from Context **82**, the lower filling of Roman ditch **F. 84**. This find (KF 3) is clearly consistent with the domestic character of the other material dumped into the ditch.



Plate X Lozenge-shaped military button from pit, **F. 130**; height 27 mm (HPW-10-129, KF 2)

8.3.3 *Military button* (Plate X)

Post-medieval pit **F. 130** (Trench 45) produced a metal button of military type (KF 2). This is lozenge-shaped, with a height of 27 mm and a width of 26 mm (Plate X). On the front of the button, below the Royal crown, the number '42' indicates that this button came from the uniform of a soldier belonging to the 42nd Regiment of Foot (Royal Highlanders, The Black Watch). David Holman has examined the item and suggests that it is datable to somewhere between 1767 and 1855 (Holman *pers comm.*). The associated pottery (see below) would indicate that the piece dates towards the later end of this suggested range.

8.4 Pottery

8.4.1 *Prehistoric*

A few small sherds of flint-tempered pottery were recovered from the excavated trenches. These are all likely to be broadly datable to the Iron Age (say 700–50 BC) but there are no diagnostic pieces, only plain wall sherds.

8.4.2 *Roman*

A total of *c.*945 sherds, weighing approximately 6082 gms were recovered from the evaluation. Of this amount around 424 sherds, weighing approximately 3110 gms represent vessels associated with two cremation burials (A and B).

The material is likely to be largely or entirely of later first century AD date.

The condition of the pottery is poor. All sherds are significantly weathered due to adverse soil conditions; many have lost all trace of their original surface finish.

The site-assemblage includes an exceptionally high proportion of post-conquest fine reduced Upchurch-type fineware (*c.*25% by sherd count), which reflects the presence of a number of complete or substantially complete vessels associated with cremation burials A and B. If one excludes these from consideration the most striking feature of the pottery from other features is that it overwhelmingly comprises 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware and hand-made sandywares of probable East Kent manufacture and 'Belgic'/early Roman date. An absence of distinctively pre-conquest material and the presence in many of the context-assemblages of clearly later first century sherds suggests that it derives from post-conquest activity. Among the coarsewares there are few forms other than jars, and with the exception of a small number of sherds which show some light combing or comb-stabbing (the latter on sandywares) most are undecorated. One cross-join was noted between sherds in (96) and (97).

A single sherd of flint tempered ware of possible late Iron Age date was recovered (58). The only recognisable traded wares present comprise just three types. The first and by far the most abundant of these (see above) is Upchurch-type fineware, manufactured in north Kent. All of the identified forms (bead-rim bowls, carinated beakers and cordoned beakers or bowls) are types which span the later first and early second centuries AD. Of similar date are fragments of at least two necked jars in Canterbury sandyware (97), of which there are around 20-25 sherds in total. The third traded ware present on the site is south Gaulish samian, of which there are 7 sherds from (81) and (82). This is likely to be of mid or later first century date. One sherd (82) displays a possible partial graffito

Nothing in the assemblage need necessarily post-date the first century. The small quantities of wheel-thrown Romanized sandyware found, plus the presence only of first century samian suggests that it may all derive from mid-late first century occupation.

A few fragments of mid-first century 'chaff-tempered ware' (usually associated with the manufacture or transportation of salt) and/or daub, were recovered from (82), (97) and (132).

The pottery from cremations A and B reflects the general pattern. They yielded only 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware and Upchurch-type reduced fineware. The identifiable Upchurch forms represented (see context summary, below) might be either late first or early second century AD in date. Only shallower forms survive substantially intact – taller vessels have been significantly truncated subsequent to deposition.

The pottery, summarized by context.

Cremations A and B are followed by the remaining contexts.

Cremation A. Later first or possibly early second century AD.

(51) 191 sherds, weighing approximately 560 gms. All grey Upchurch-type fineware, representing at least 3 vessels. These include a complete or substantially complete bead-rim bowl, a carinated beaker and a cordoned closed form. All are characteristic of the later first or early second century AD.

This material was recovered from the spoil-heap and is considered by the excavator to almost certainly be derived from cremation burial A.

(144) vessel A1. 18 sherds weighing approximately 86 gms. Grey Upchurch-type fineware, representing the base of a closed form, probably a beaker or flask.

(144) vessel A2. 1 sherd weighing approximately 2 gms. Grey Upchurch-type fineware. The excavator reports this as being almost certainly from one of the vessels recovered from the spoil-heap (51).

Cremation B. Later first or possibly early second century AD.

(146) vessel B1. 150 sherds weighing approximately 1096 gms. 'Belgic' coarse grog-tempered ware representing an everted-rim, comb-decorated jar. Much of the rim is missing.

(146) vessel B2. 31 sherds, weighing approximately 289 gms. Grey Upchurch-type fineware, representing a complete or substantially complete bead-rim bowl of later first or early second century date.

(146) vessel B3. 33 sherds, weighing approximately 897 gms. Grey Upchurch-type fineware, representing the base of a closed form, probably a beaker or flask.

The other pottery:

(2) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 4 gms. Hand-made sandyware of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date.

(23) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 5 gms. Hand-made sandyware of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date.

(54) 4 sherds, weighing approximately 15 gms. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware.

(58) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 2 gms. Flint-tempered ware of possible late Iron Age date.

(59) 3 sherds, weighing approximately 10 gms. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware, probably representing a jar; probably the same vessel as (61).

(62) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 3 gms. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware; probably the same vessel as (59).

(70) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 1 gms. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware.

(74) 2 sherds, weighing approximately 12 gms. One of 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware and one of hand-made sandyware of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date.

(79) 13 sherds, weighing approximately 11 gms. These all represent the same vessel, a small closed form in fine Upchurch-typed fineware.

(81) 37 sherds, weighing approximately 343 gms. There is much 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware, some hand-made sandyware of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date and 2 or 3 sherds which may represent wheel-thrown romanized sandywares. There are also 4 sherds of south Gaulish samian, representing at least 3 vessels and 7 sherds of Upchurch-type fineware.

(82) 41 sherds, weighing approximately 537 gms. Mostly 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware. Other pottery includes 8 sherds of fine Upchurch-type fineware, and 1 which may represent a Canterbury sandyware pink-buff flagon. There are 3 of south Gaulish samian of probable mid- or later first century date. They all represent bowls or dishes, one of probable Drag. 18 type. One sherd displays a possible partial graffito.

(96) 35 sherds, weighing approximately 427 gms. This pottery largely comprises hand-made sandywares of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date and 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware, but included a few sherds of Canterbury sandyware and 2 of fine reduced Upchurch-type fineware. Note that one of the 'Belgic' grog-tempered sherds joins another from (97).

(97) 177 sherds, weighing approximately 1570 gms. This pottery largely comprises hand-made sandywares of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date and 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware. There were also 2 sherds of fine reduced Upchurch-type fineware and 18 of Canterbury sandyware, the latter possibly representing only 2 necked jars of probable late first or second century date. Note that one of the 'Belgic' grog-tempered sherds joins another from (96).

(98) 1 sherd, weighing approximately 14 gms. Hand-made sandyware of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date.

(122) 3 sherds, weighing approximately 19gms. 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware.

(131) 128 sherds, weighing approximately 681 gms. Of these 64 represent a complete or substantially complete necked jar in 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware. The remainder comprise a mixture of grog-tempered ware and hand-made sandywares of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date.

(132) 70 sherds, weighing c.308 gms. Mostly hand-made sandywares of probable 'Belgic'/early Roman date. These include a few everted rim-sherds. A single sherd of Upchurch-type may represent a cordoned bowl of later first or early second century AD date.

8.4.3 *Post-Medieval*

Apart from a few surface finds of nineteenth–early twentieth century date (not retained), the only excavated context to produce post-medieval pottery was the filling of pit **F. 130** in Trench 45. This yielded just four sherds of white chinaware, two showing traces of an applied floral pattern. These fragments are probably datable to the second half of the nineteenth century and

were associated with a piece of dark green bottle glass, two pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem, a chip of peg-tile and a military button (see above).

8.5 Roman Tile

The investigations produced total of six pieces of Roman flat tile. Four of these fragments came from the filling of Roman ditch, **F. 84** in Trench 10, with another small piece from the filling of Roman pit, **F. 133** in Trench 21. The final fragment came from the subsoil layer in Trench 23 (Context **58**), towards the northern (lower) end of the site. The tile fragments occur in a range of typical orange-red fabrics. None can be positively identified to type but most, if not all, of the fragments probably derive from roofing *tegulae*.

8.6 Quernstone fragments

8.6.1 The filling of Roman pit **F. 100**, in Trench 21 (Context **96**) produced a single fragment from a rotary quernstone (weight, 487g). This is rectangular in cross-section and the stone probably had an original diameter of around 330 mm. Traces of rough tooling occur on the underside but the grinding surface has been worn smooth. Although the rock-type has yet to be positively identified, it is certainly foreign to the immediate area and does not appear to be of Folkestone Greensand. The coarse quartz grains within the rock could suggest a Millstone Grit-type stone from northern Britain – but this will require confirmation by a geologist. Querns of such north-country stone have been previously found in Kent.

8.6.2 The filling of post-hole **F. 67**, in Trench 3 (Context **66**) produced fifteen small, shapeless fragments of grey lavastone (108g). There can be no doubt that these stone fragments derive from a quern made of German Mayen lavastone. Such querns were imported into Britain during the Roman and medieval periods and in the present context a Roman date seems certain. A number of Roman rural sites in the Dover area have produced similar imports, despite the existence of a more local quern production site at East Wear Bay, Folkestone.

8.7 Prehistoric flintwork

Keith Parfitt and Geoff Halliwell

8.7.1 A total of 326 pieces of prehistoric flintwork was recovered during the evaluation work, of which 224 were collected as surface finds from areas between the evaluation trenches (Context **49**). There were no obvious concentrations of this surface material.

8.7.2 The ploughsoil layer within the various excavated trenches produced 69 struck flints, the maximum number recovered from the area of any one trench being eight (Trenches 1 & 2). The various subsoil deposits examined yielded 21 more flints, whilst the excavated features yielded another 12 pieces.

8.7.3 In six instances, the flints recovered from features were associated with later, Roman material, indicating that they must be residual in their excavated context. Only one pit, **F. 135**, produced sufficient lithic material to suggest that it could be of prehistoric date.

8.7.4 It has been found over the years that freshly excavated clayey soil, such as occurs across the area of the White Cliffs Business Park, is not particularly conducive to the recognition and

collection of prehistoric struck flints. The well-weathered field surface (as existed in the areas between the growing crop of young rape – the field had about 50% vegetation cover) provided much better opportunities than the machine excavated ploughsoil for the recovery of such lithic material as was present on the site. Very similar scatters of flintwork have been recovered from the adjacent sites investigated and it seems clear that the present material forms part of a much more extensive spread occurring across this region (Gaunt, Parfitt and Halliwell 1977; Parfitt 1999b; Parfitt 2000b, Parfitt 2002, etc.).

8.7.5 As is often found with surface material, a proportion of the flints recovered shows evidence of post-depositional (plough) damage, although other pieces are quite fresh. The difference between such plough damage and original retouching is not always easily determined. Table 2 provides a breakdown of the composition of the overall assemblage recovered.

8.7.6 With only a very few exceptions, almost all the struck flints recovered are unpatinated, produced from the immediately available local downland flint. Only a small number of pieces show any evidence of patination. This generally ranges in colour from dark blue through to pale blue but there are five pieces, all from the field surface, that have a thick cream-white or orange coloured patina. Two of these pieces are characteristic Acheulian handaxes and the entire group is fairly certainly of Palaeolithic date (see below).

8.7.7 More than half the flints found are crude waste flakes, although a significant proportion of show some evidence of working. Two waste flakes (from Contexts 6 and 49) had subsequently been calcined (see below).

8.7.8 *Worked material*

Palaeolithic material (Plates XI & XII)

Five heavily patinated flints were recovered from the field surface between the excavated trenches at the southern (highest) end of the site. The colour of their patinas ranges from ivory-white to mid orange-brown, whilst subsequent damage on several shows this patina to be a millimetre or more in thickness. This is consistent with these struck pieces being of considerable antiquity and the point is confirmed the presence within the group of no-less than two bifacially worked handaxes of classic Lower Palaeolithic (Acheulian) form (see below). The remaining three pieces appear to be unworked flakes of varying size.

Description of Handaxes

KF 4 Small pointed handaxe of Acheulian type, with a length of 98 mm (weight, 199g). Complete and largely undamaged, with an even, cream-white patina (Plate XI). Some original cortex surviving on one side, indicates that the implement was produced from locally collected downland flint. The piece has generally been fairly crudely chipped, with some large flake detached from either side, but the pointed tip is quite finely worked.

KF 5 Broken lower half of an Acheulian handaxe of ovate form. Max. width, 84 mm (weight, 147g). Mottled cream-white patina (Plate XII), which extends over the break, suggesting that the implement was broken during use. A small area of original cortex remains on one side, again showing that the implement was produced from locally collected downland flint. Some recent

plough damage reveals the raw flint as being an even brown-black colour. The piece has been quite carefully manufactured with generally shallow flakes detached from either side. Had this implement been complete it would probably have presented as fine specimen of its type.



Plate XI Pointed Acheulian handaxe found at south-east corner of site (KF 4). Length, 98 mm



Plate XII Broken Acheulian handaxe from south-east corner of site (KF 5). Max. width, 84 mm. It is now well established that flint implements of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic date are to be found contained in the top of the natural Clay-with-flints capping the hills above the Dour valley (Halliwell and Parfitt 1993; Parfitt and Halliwell 1996; Scott-Jackson 2000). The two Acheulian handaxes recovered from the present site, together with the other probable Palaeolithic flakes, thus follow an established local pattern. No fewer than five more Palaeolithic handaxes have been found within 800 metres of the site (Gaunt, Parfitt and Halliwell 1977; Parfitt 1999; 2003) with further significant discoveries no more 2 km distant.

8.8 Calcined Flint

8.8.1 A total of 101 fragments of calcined flints (5,178g) were recovered during the investigations. Eighty of these pieces came as surface finds made on the field between the excavated trenches (Context 49). Seven more were recovered from the ploughsoil within the trenches, with another three from the excavated subsoil. Eleven calcined flints came from excavated features, mostly of Roman date, with seven large specimens in the upper filling of Roman pit F. 133.

8.8.2 Much of the calcined flint is likely to be of prehistoric date (the by-product of cooking) and is probably broadly contemporary with the struck flint assemblage. Some of the pieces recovered from the Roman features are thus likely to be residual in their excavated context but the large specimens from pit F. 133, at least, are more probably contemporary with the second century filling of this feature.

8.8.3 The calcined flints mainly fall within a medium to large size range. The largest specimen comes from the upper filling of Roman pit F. 133 and measures 85 x 65 x 60 mm. The smallest pieces are about 10 mm across but these are probably fragments that have become detached from

larger heated stones. Surviving cortex on several stones indicates that they were formed from locally collected downland flint.

8.8.4 The vast majority of the flints are calcined throughout but a few pieces occur showing signs of only moderate heat exposure. Two struck flakes had subsequently been calcined (see above).

8.9 Environmental samples from Roman features

by Enid Allison

8.9.1 Two sediment samples (bulk (BS)/general biological analysis (GBA) samples *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) were taken from a ditch and a pit revealed during an archaeological evaluation. The samples were processed by Alex Vokes. Both features have been provisionally dated to the second century AD and are presumed to be related to Roman occupation on the site.

8.9.2 Methods

The samples had volumes of 10-18 litres. Each was soaked overnight in water containing washing soda (sodium carbonate) before carrying out flotation onto 0.5 mm mesh. The residues were washed onto nested 2 mm and 1 mm meshes for ease of examination. The resulting flots and residues were air-dried. Residues >2 mm were sorted for animal and plant remains and artefacts. The >1 mm residues were scanned and the contents recorded, using a magnet to check for the presence of hammerstone. Flots were examined briefly using a low-power binocular microscope (x10) and the contents recorded.

8.9.3 Results

Lower filling of ditch F. 84, Context 82

The sample had a volume of 18 litres. The flot produced had a volume of 50 ml and it contained common charred cereal grain and chaff, seeds of arable weeds, a small quantity of charcoal, and occasional fragmentary hazelnut shell. The abundance of chaff and weed seeds suggests that crop processing residues may be represented and examination by an archaeobotanical specialist would be desirable to ascertain whether this might be the case. The charred plant remains were in a moderate state of preservation with chaff and weed seeds being in a rather better condition than the grain. NB: Pot-sherds were common in the residue (total weight 55g). Fragments of burnt flint (25g), a cylindrical green glass bead (KF 3) and several fragments of corroded iron were also recovered.

Filling of pit F. 100, Context 97

The sample volume was 10 litres. The flot had a volume of 40 ml and consisted predominantly of charred cereal grain and chaff. The grain was generally only moderately well preserved with occasional better preserved grains. The chaff was well preserved. Weed seeds were quite common and included small legumes and goosegrass. Again, these remains may represent disposal of crop processing residues. NB: Pot sherds with a total weight of 107g, burnt flint (32g), a hob nail and another possible nail fragments were also present in the residue.

8.9.4 Conclusions and recommendations

Plant remains preserved by charring were common in both of the samples examined, probably representing the disposal of crop processing waste, although this would require confirmation from an archaeobotanical specialist. If this interpretation is correct it would imply that processing activities were being carried out close by. Both charred plant assemblages are worthy of further assessment/analysis to provide data on local agriculture and crop processing techniques. The recovery of this material demonstrates the potential of features associated with human occupation in the area to produce environmental and economic data. If further archaeological work is undertaken in the area an environmental sampling program should be implemented to recover charred plant remains and any other biological remains from archaeological features excavated.

9. Conclusions

9.1 The 45 evaluation trenches cut across the present site have provided an opportunity to archaeologically examine another substantial area of clay-capped downland on the White Cliffs Business Park, off Honeywood Parkway above Dover. This work follows on from a number of previous investigations in the immediate area. Sufficient archaeological evidence has been exposed on the present site to warrant some further work ahead of the new development.

9.2 Clear evidence for early Roman occupation on the site was provided by two cremation burials (Trench 3), at least one ditch (Trench 10) and two pits (Trench 21), all containing significant quantities of pottery. Much of this pottery was found in deposits of dark ashy soil, apparently representing the rake-out from domestic fires. These same dark layers also produced charred cereal grain and chaff. A row of probable Roman post-holes discovered adjacent to the cremations might relate to a contemporary timber building.

9.3 Further evidence for Roman habitation in the area has been previously recorded on the Dover Ship's Stores and Old Park Barracks sites a short distance to the west. Whether the remains discovered on the present site should be seen as an eastward continuation of these to form a single, somewhat dispersed habitation site extending for almost a kilometre along the plateau, or whether the sites represent two separate but adjacent Roman settlements, each provided with its own burial area, requires more consideration.

9.4 Beyond the Old Park–White Cliffs Business Park settlement area, the next recorded settlement site of this period lies just over 1 km further to the north-west, off Green Lane, Whitfield (Parfitt 2002c), with evidence of another Roman habitation area below the medieval preceptory of the Knights Templar above Ewell, just another kilometre north-west of this. Taken together, this evidence indicates that the high, clay-capped plateau land above the Dour valley was regularly, if not intensively, occupied during the earlier Roman period, whilst the site at Green Lane was certainly established during the pre-Conquest period (Parfitt 2002c).

9.5 About 100 metres to the south-west of the Roman occupation discovered on the present site, a recorded crop-mark shows the outline of a substantial, probably prehistoric, ditched enclosure (?Bronze Age or Iron Age), which could perhaps represent the predecessor of the Roman settlement.

9.6 That there was occupation in the general area well before the Roman period is clearly indicated by the widespread scatter of prehistoric struck flints and calcined flints extensively recovered from this and many other local sites. Some of the uncertainly dated features, notably **F. 135** on the present plot could be associated.

9.7 The Palaeolithic finds made on the present site follow a now well-established local pattern but are nevertheless of considerable interest because of their great antiquity.

10. Impact Assessment

10.1 The evaluation has provided sufficient archaeological data to assess the likely impact of the proposed development. The investigations have provided clear evidence for activity and occupation on the site during the prehistoric and Roman periods.

10.2 From the provisional drawing of the proposed site formation-levels provided by the developer (Fig. 10), it would seem that most of the southern (uphill) two-thirds of the site will require reduction of the existing levels by up to 2.10 m.

10.3 The base of the deepest archaeological feature encountered on the site lay little more than one metre below present ground-level and it was well-established that much of the evidence for prehistoric activity was represented by flintwork contained as loose material within the modern ploughsoil layer covering the site.

10.4 Overall, the evaluation fieldwork makes it quite clear that the great bulk of the archaeological remains present on the site are contained within the first one metre of soil, with the tops of a number of features, including the Roman cremation burials, being located directly under the of the modern ploughsoil (generally 0.30 to 0.40 m. in thickness).

10.5 In terms of level, the main exception to the shallow depth of the buried archaeological remains is on the lower (northern) part of the site, where the infilled dry valley runs. Here, the natural clay is buried at a depth of up to two metres. Although no early features were encountered at the lowest levels during the evaluation trenching, the possibility of deeply buried prehistoric remains being present cannot be discounted. From the site formation-levels drawing, however, it would seem that much of this dry valley area will be left unexcavated and raised by the dumping of spoil here.

10.6 There can be little doubt that the soil stripping and initial excavation work associated with the new development programme will reveal further archaeological remains. An opportunity for the collection of a much larger sample of the prehistoric flintwork contained within the ploughsoil will certainly be provided. Any additional Roman burials containing human remains present ought to be removed before development takes place.

10.7 Further cut-features relating to the prehistoric and Roman occupation site are likely to be exposed and removed during the course of the deeper terracing and these should be archaeologically investigated and recorded before they are lost.

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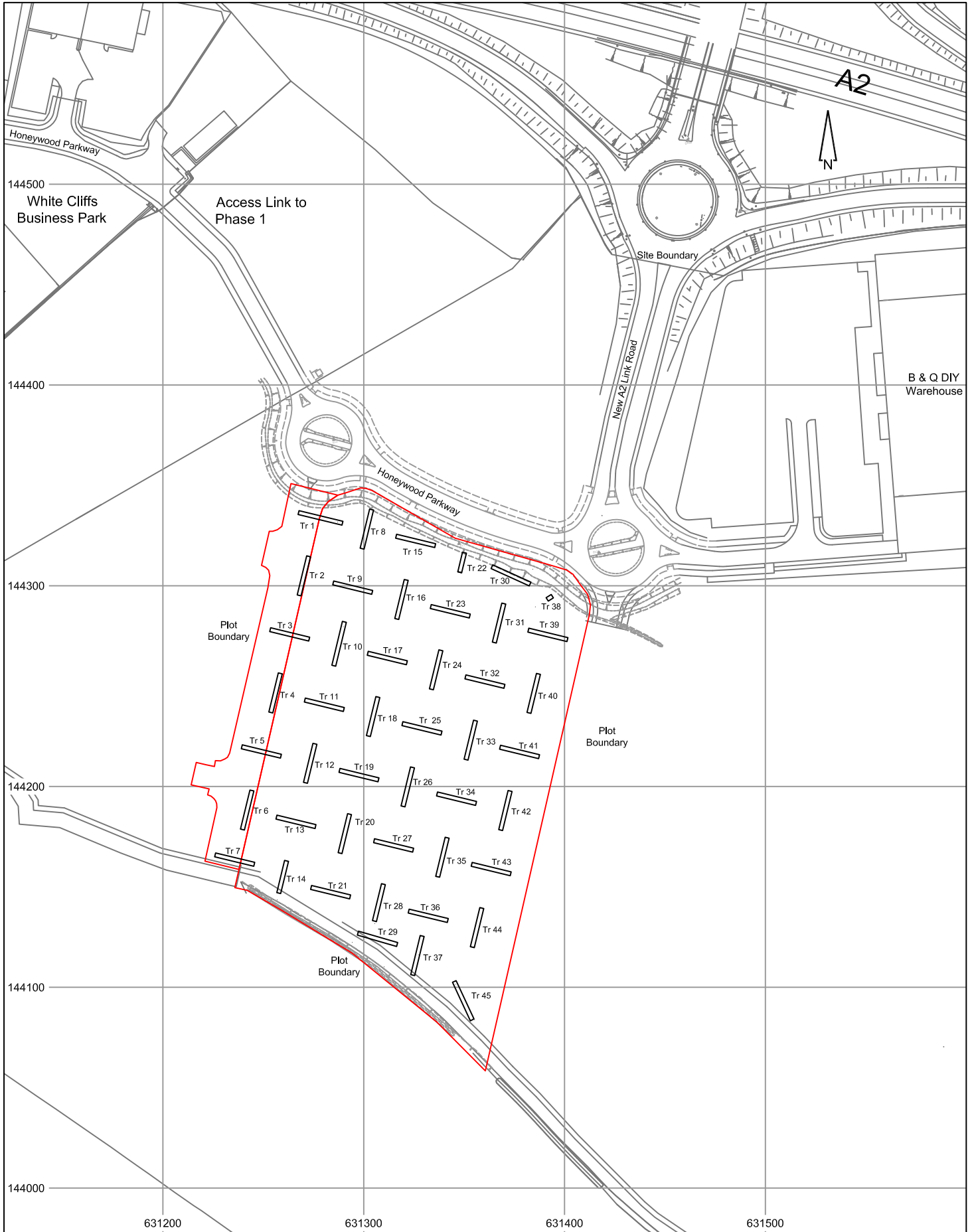
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Trench No.	Length (m.)	Section Nos	Plan No.	Subsoil	Lower subsoil	Subsoil thickness (m.)	Lower subsoil thickness (m.)	Features
1	22.50	26, 27	3	89		0.08 – 0.45	-	
2	20.00	80, 81		90		0.22 – 0.33	-	
3	20.00	54	4	52		0.25	-	Fs 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 145, 147
4	20.00	52, 53		94		0.12 – 0.33	-	
5	20.00	55, 56		95		0.12 – 0.33	-	
6	20.00	90, 91		78		0.02	-	
7	20.00	84, 85		-		-	-	
8	20.00	15, 16		86		0.15 – 0.42	-	
9	20.00	82, 83		54		0.25 – 0.35	-	
10	22.50	1 , 14	11	85		0.20	-	F.84
11	20.00	88, 89		77		0.18 – 0.20	-	
12	20.00	86, 87		76		0.12 – 0.21	-	
13	20.00	50, 51		79		0.07 – 0.17	-	
14	16.50	92, 93		-		-	-	
15	20.00	19, 20		53		0.16 – 0.36	-	
16	20.00	94, 95, 96		62	63	0.24 – 0.36	0.45 – 0.60	
17	20.00	21, 25		55	56, 57	0.78	0.85 (min.)	
18	20.00	70, 71		101	102	0.20 – 0.25	0.25	
19	20.00	78, 79		114		0.10 – 0.20	-	
20	20.00	28, 29		122		0.15 – 0.35	-	
21	20.00	3, 11, 32	5	-		-	-	F.100, F.133
22	10.00	17, 18		87	148	0.32 – 0.40	0.10 (min.)	
23	20.00	10 , 22	6	58	59	0.39 – 0.43	0.29	F.61
24	20.00	23, 24	12	88	149	0.35 – 0.46	0.20 (min.)	F.143
25	20.00	65, 66	8	93		0.10 – 0.23	-	F.110
26	20.00	67, 68		112		0.22 – 0.28	-	
27	20.00	7, 8 , 40	7	-		-	-	F.139, F.141
28	20.00	35, 36		-		-	-	
29	20.50	59, 64		-		-	-	
30	20.00	41, 42		115	116	0.35 – 0.45	1.23	
31	20.00	43, 44		123	124	0.35 – 0.45	0.60 – 0.95	
32	20.00	72, 73		103	104, 105	0.27 – 0.44	1.01	
33	20.00	6 , 69	13	108		0.15 – 0.20	-	F.107
34	20.00	74, 75		111		0.22 – 0.28	-	
35	20.00	33, 34		-		-	-	
36	20.00	2, 4 , 37	9	-		-	-	F.135
37	20.00	57, 58		-		-	-	
38	3.00	45		125	126	0.40	0.80 (min.)	
39	20.00	48, 49		127	128	0.28 – 0.33	0.36 – 0.80	
40	20.00	76, 77		113		0.25 – 0.37	-	
41	20.00	12, 13 , 46, 47	14	121		0.18 – 0.23	-	F.118, F.120
42	20.00	60, 61		92		0.10	-	
43	20.00	9 , 62, 63	10	-		-	-	F.137
44	20.00	38, 39		-		-	-	
45	21.10	5 , 30, 31	15	-		-	-	F.130

Table 1 Details of excavated trenches. Section Nos in bold (1–13) indicate measured sections across features

Context	Description	Struck flints	Calcined Flints
1	Ploughsoil, Trench 1	8 (350g)	0
2	Ploughsoil, Trench 2	8 (416g)	0
3	Ploughsoil, Trench 3	7 (133g)	1 (113g)
4	Ploughsoil, Trench 4	0	1 (49g)
5	Ploughsoil, Trench 5	2 (171g)	0
6	Ploughsoil, Trench 6	3 (57 g)	1(65g)
9	Ploughsoil, Trench 9	5 (816g)	4 (100g)
10	Ploughsoil, Trench 10	1 (64g)	0
11	Ploughsoil, Trench 11	2 (38g)	0
12	Ploughsoil, Trench 12	5 (135g)	0
15	Ploughsoil, Trench 15	2 (368g)	0
16	Ploughsoil, Trench 16	4 (227g)	0
21	Ploughsoil, Trench 21	2 (16g)	0
22	Ploughsoil, Trench 22	3 (170g)	0
23	Ploughsoil, Trench 23	2 (10g)	0
24	Ploughsoil, Trench 24	1 (21g)	0
36	Ploughsoil, Trench 36	3 (94g)	0
39	Ploughsoil, Trench 39	2 (239g)	0
40	Ploughsoil, Trench 40	5 (144g)	0
44	Ploughsoil, Trench 44	2 (28g)	0
45	Ploughsoil, Trench 45	2 (9g)	0
49	Field surface, outside trenches	179 (7804g)	80 (3544g)
50	Natural Clay-with-Flints	0	0
51	Derived from Roman cremations	1 (4g)	0
52	Subsoil, Trench 3	4 (751g)	0
53	Subsoil, Trench 15	1 (146g)	0
55	Upper subsoil, Trench 17	1 (37g)	0
58	Upper subsoil, Trench 23	2 (28g)	2 (46g)
59	Lower subsoil, Trench 23	2 (20g)	1 (26g)
60	Filling of pit, F. 61	1 (6g)	0
70	Filling of post-hole, F. 71	0	1 (12g)
74	Filling of post-hole, F. 75	1(3g)	0
76	Subsoil, Trench 12	1 (81g)	0
77	Subsoil, Trench 11	1 (40g)	0
78	Subsoil, Trench 6	3 (204g)	0
81	Middle filling of Roman ditch, F. 84	1 (23g)	0
82	Lower filling of Roman ditch, F. 84	0	2 (13g)
93	Subsoil, Trench 25	2 (120g)	0
96	Upper filling of Roman pit, F. 100	2 (90g)	0
108	Subsoil, Trench 33	1 (31g)	0
113	Subsoil, Trench 40	1(14g)	0
121	Subsoil, Trench 41	1 (15g)	0
123	Upper subsoil, Trench 31	1 (8g)	0
131	Upper filling of Roman pit, F. 133	1 (706g)	7 (1196g)
134	Filling of ?prehistoric pit, F. 135	5 (237g)	1 (14g)
Total		326 (g)	101 (g)

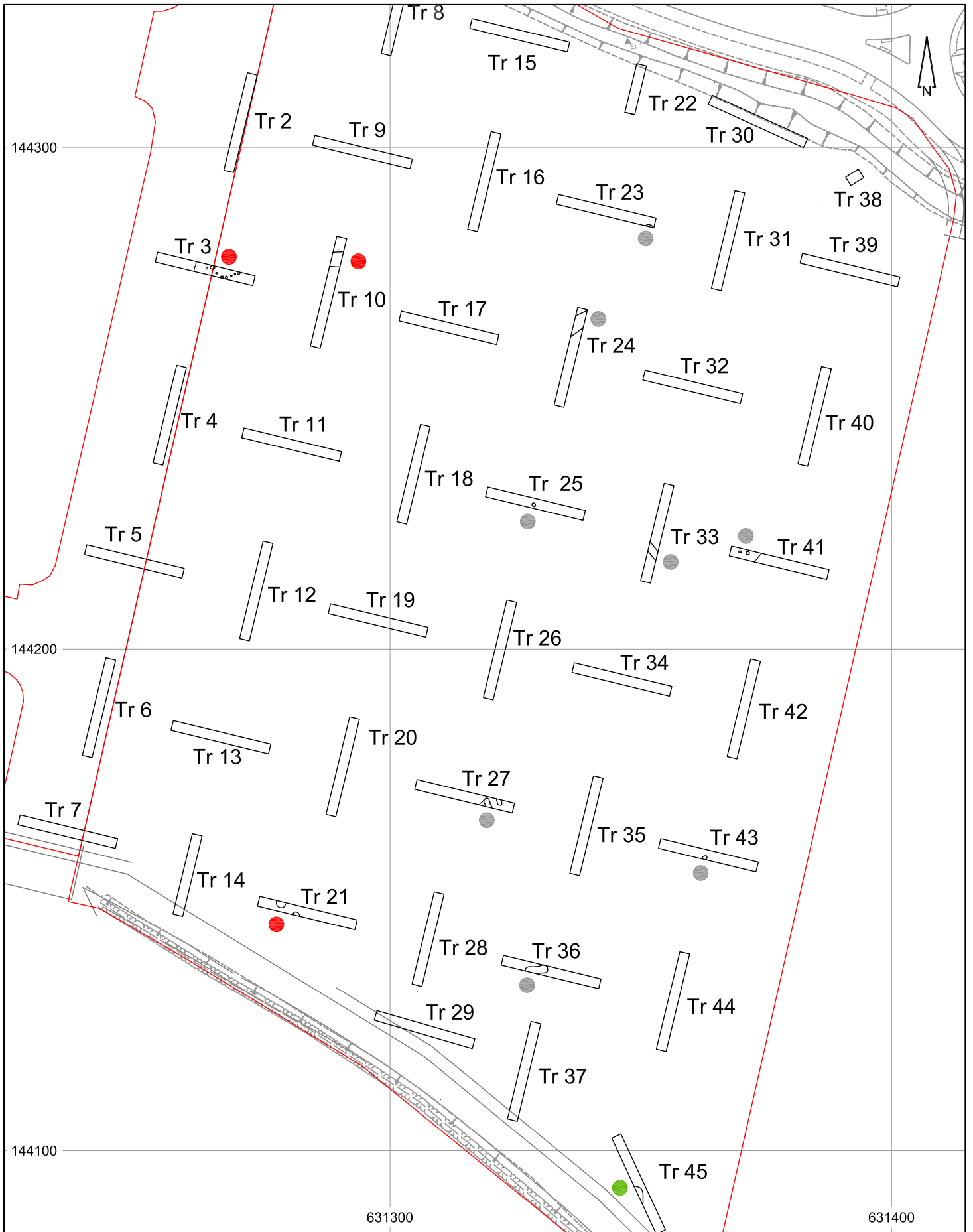
Table 2 Distribution of prehistoric flintwork by context



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	PROJECT CODE HPW-EV-10	DATE 10/02/10	LAST REVISION --	
	SITE ADDRESS Honeywood Parkway, Whitfield, Near Dover	CHECKED —		
		REF/DRG NO. HPW-EV-10/Rep/Flg 1		

Fig 1: Site location and trench plan

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	Honeywood Parkway	CJ	1:1000
	PROJECT CODE	DATE	LAST REVISION
	HPW-EV-10	10/02/10	--
SITE ADDRESS	CHECKED		
Honeywood Parkway, Whitfield, Near Dover	--		
	REF/DRG NO.		
	HPW-EV-10/Rep/Flg 2		

Fig 2: Trench plan, showing archaeological features

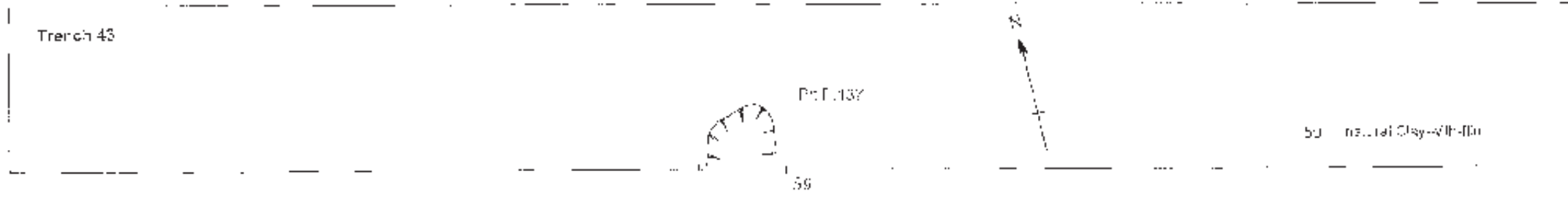
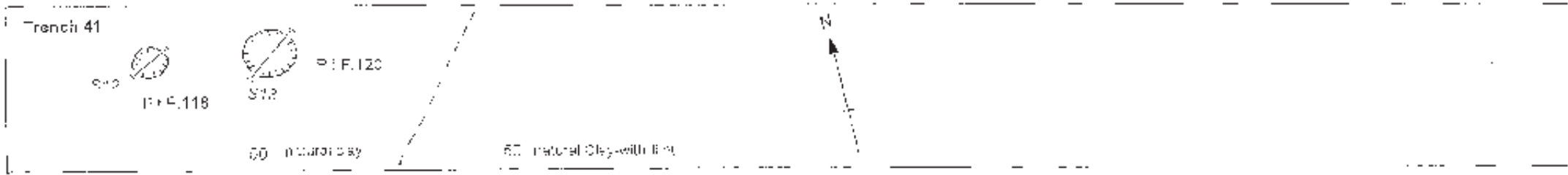
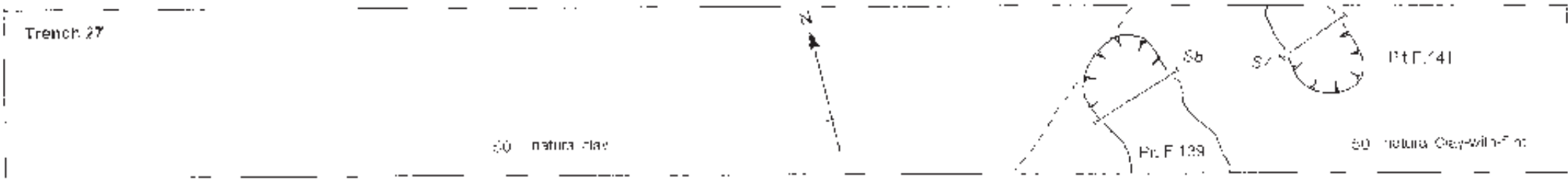
- Roman
- Post-medieval
- Uncertain

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Fig. 3. Individual trench plans showing features revealed in Trenches 3, 21, 23 & 25



Fig. 43. Individual trench plans showing features revealed in Trenches 27, 36, 41 & 43



0 10 Meters

Fig. 5. Individual trench plans showing features revealed in Trenches 10, 33, 45 & 24

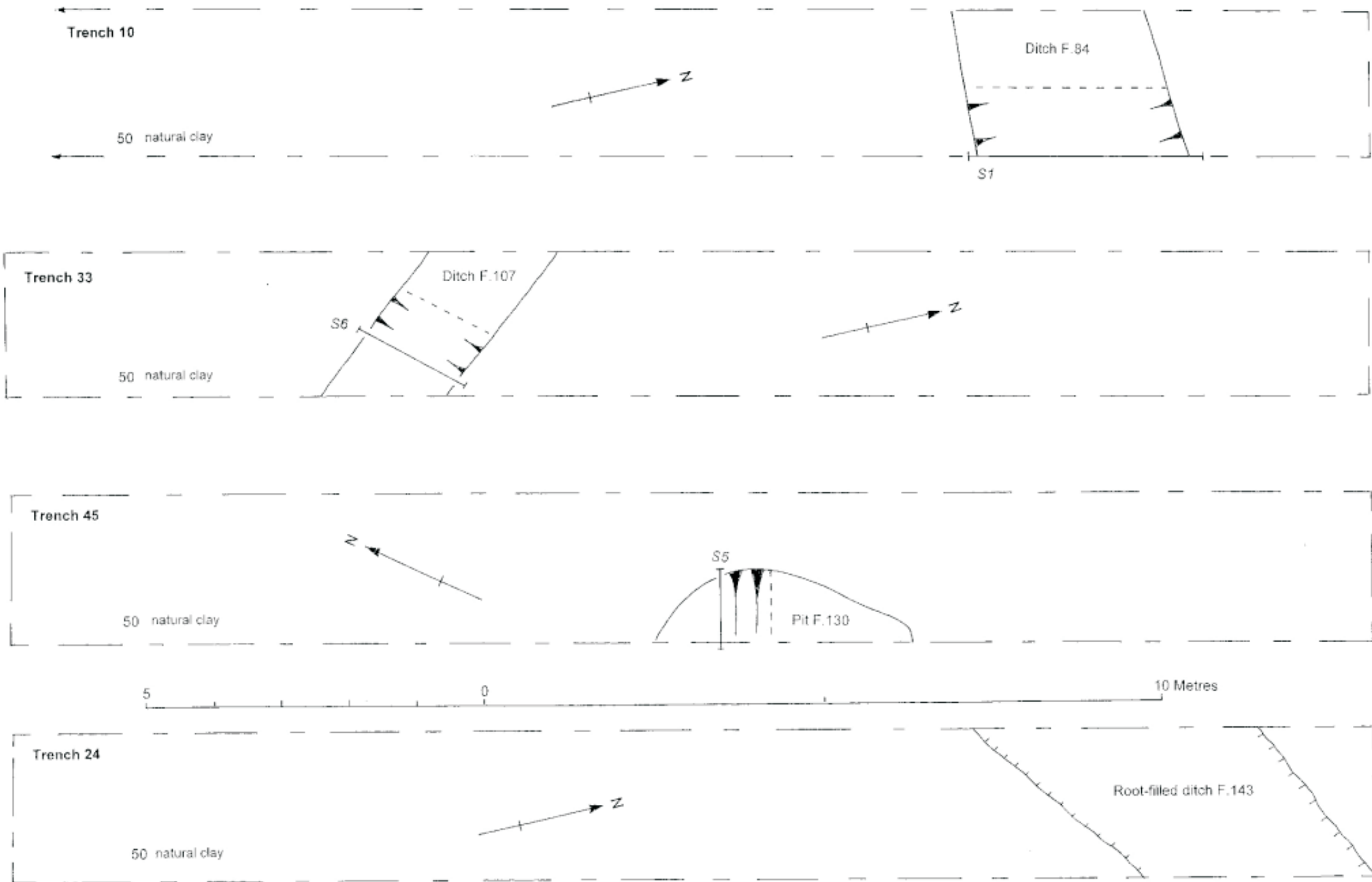


Fig. 7. Sections across excavated features in Trenches 33, 21 & 10

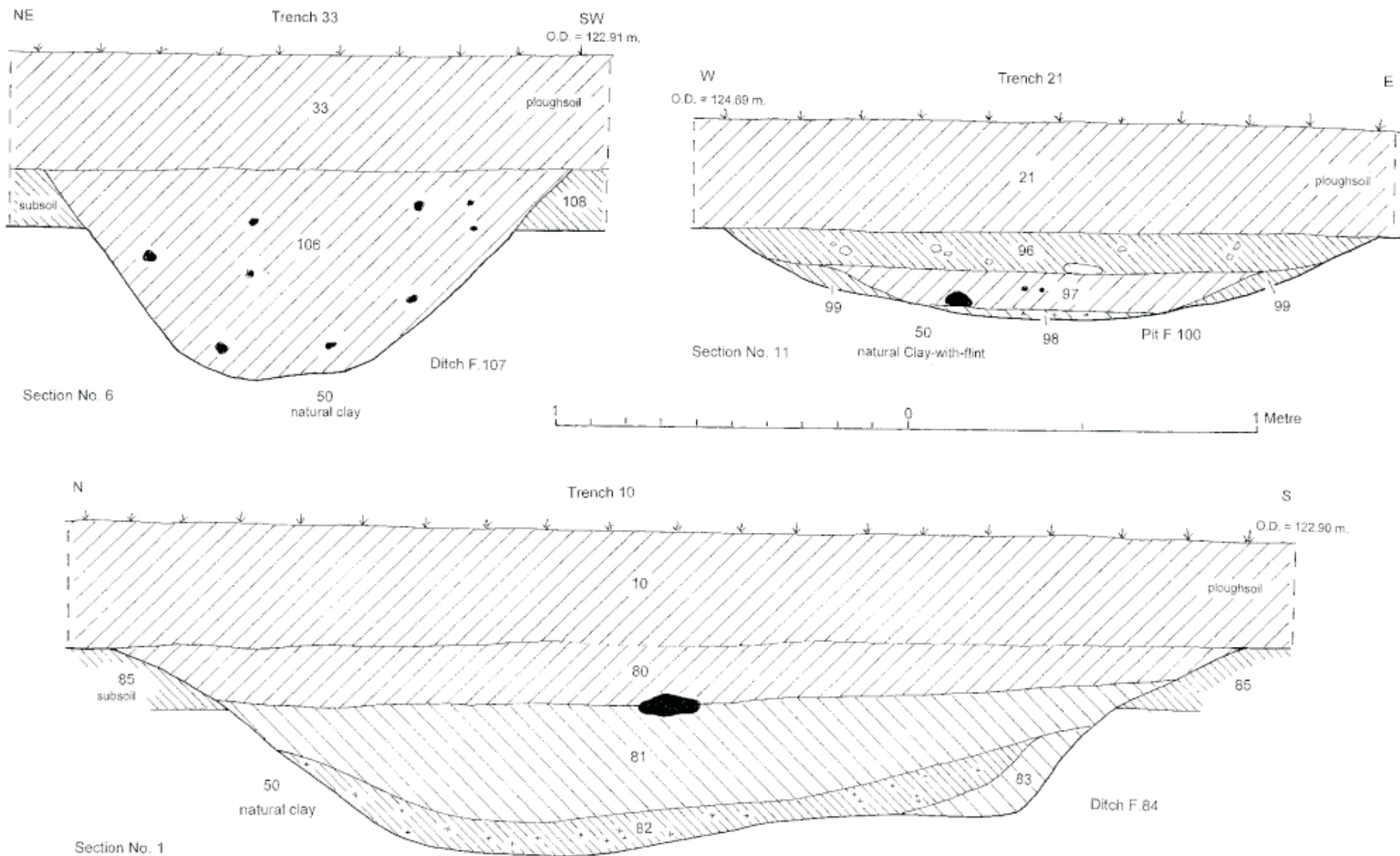


Fig. 8. Sections across excavated features in Trenches 41, 27, 43 & 23

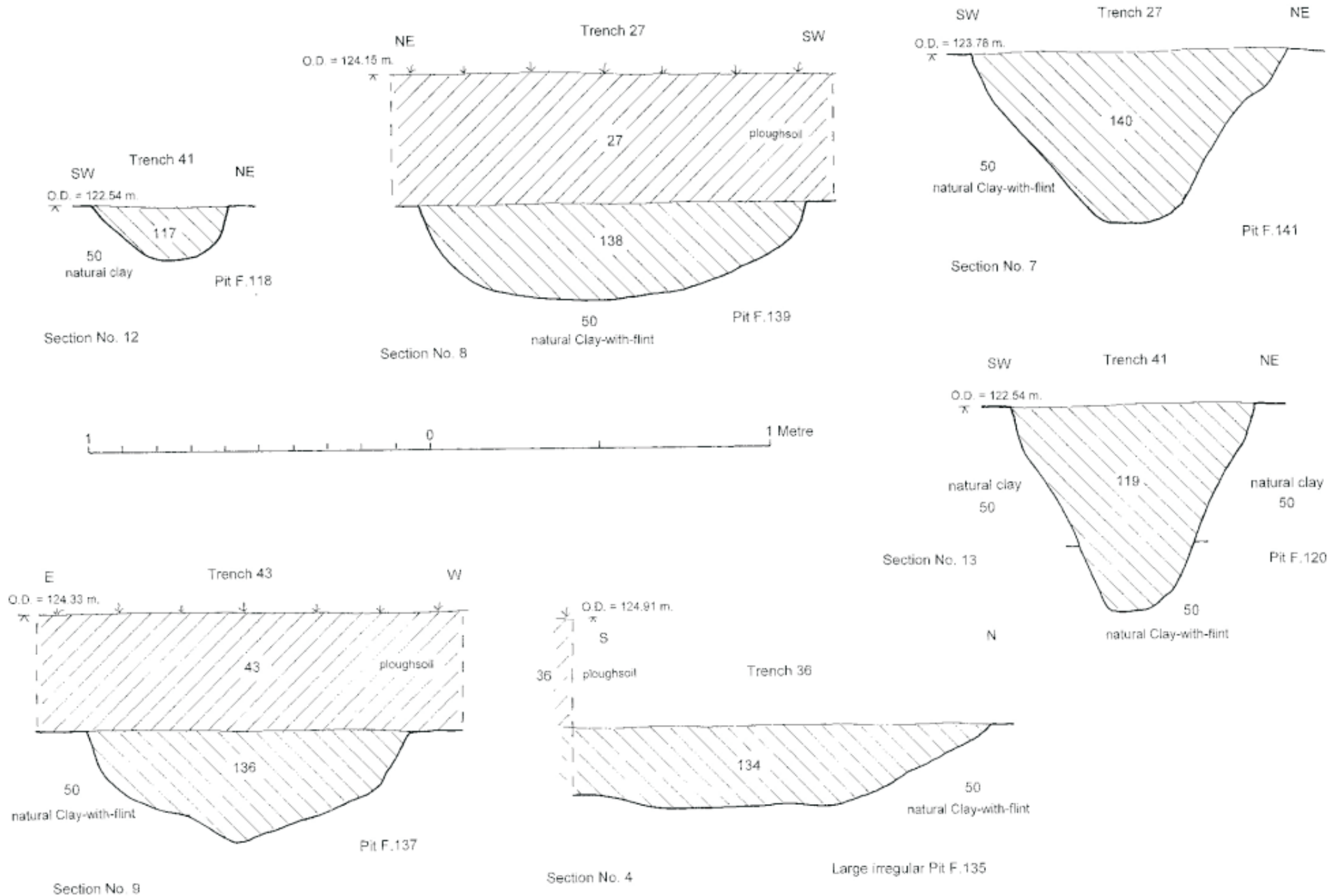
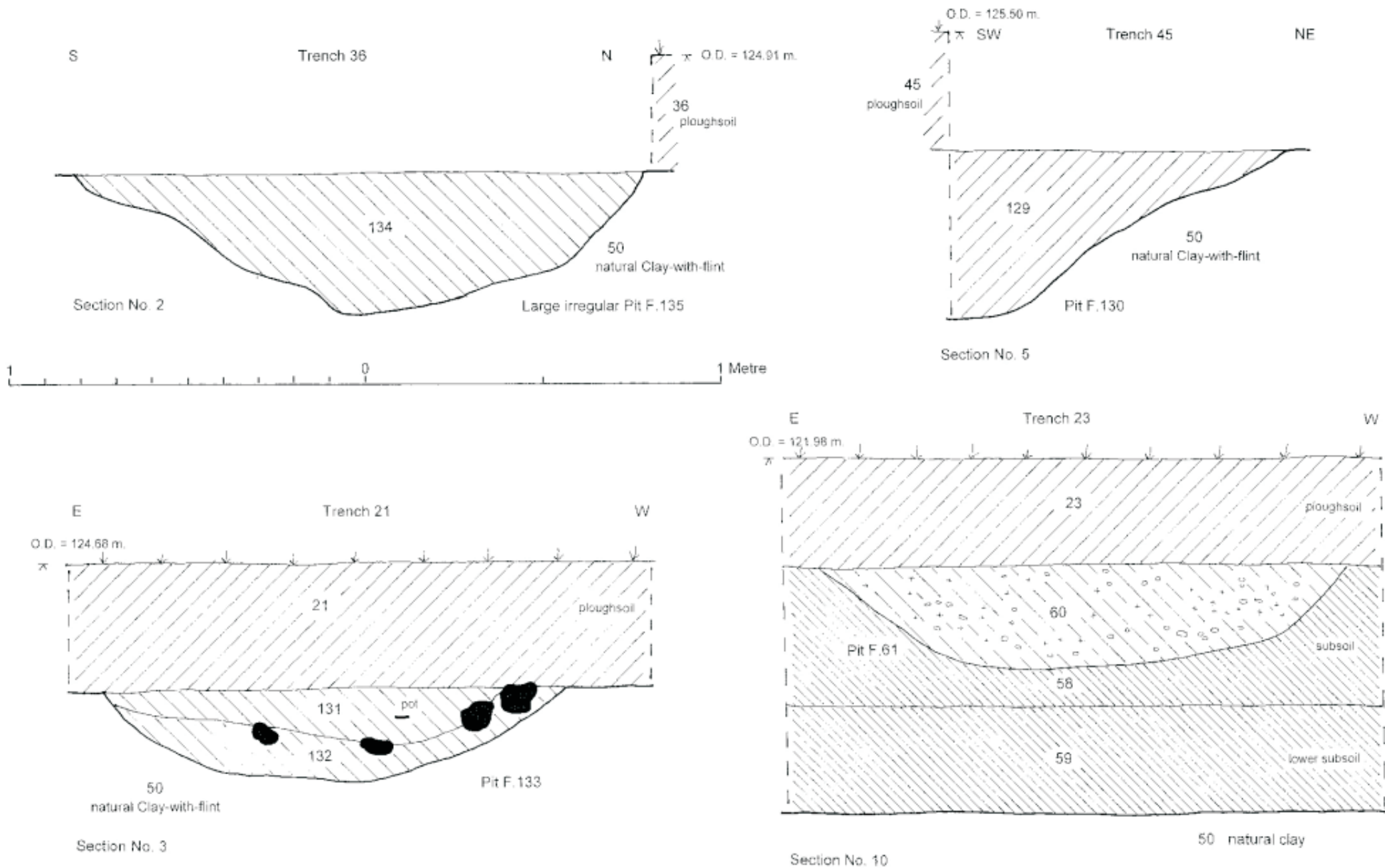







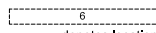
Fig. 9. Sections across excavated features in Trenches 36, 45, 21 & 23

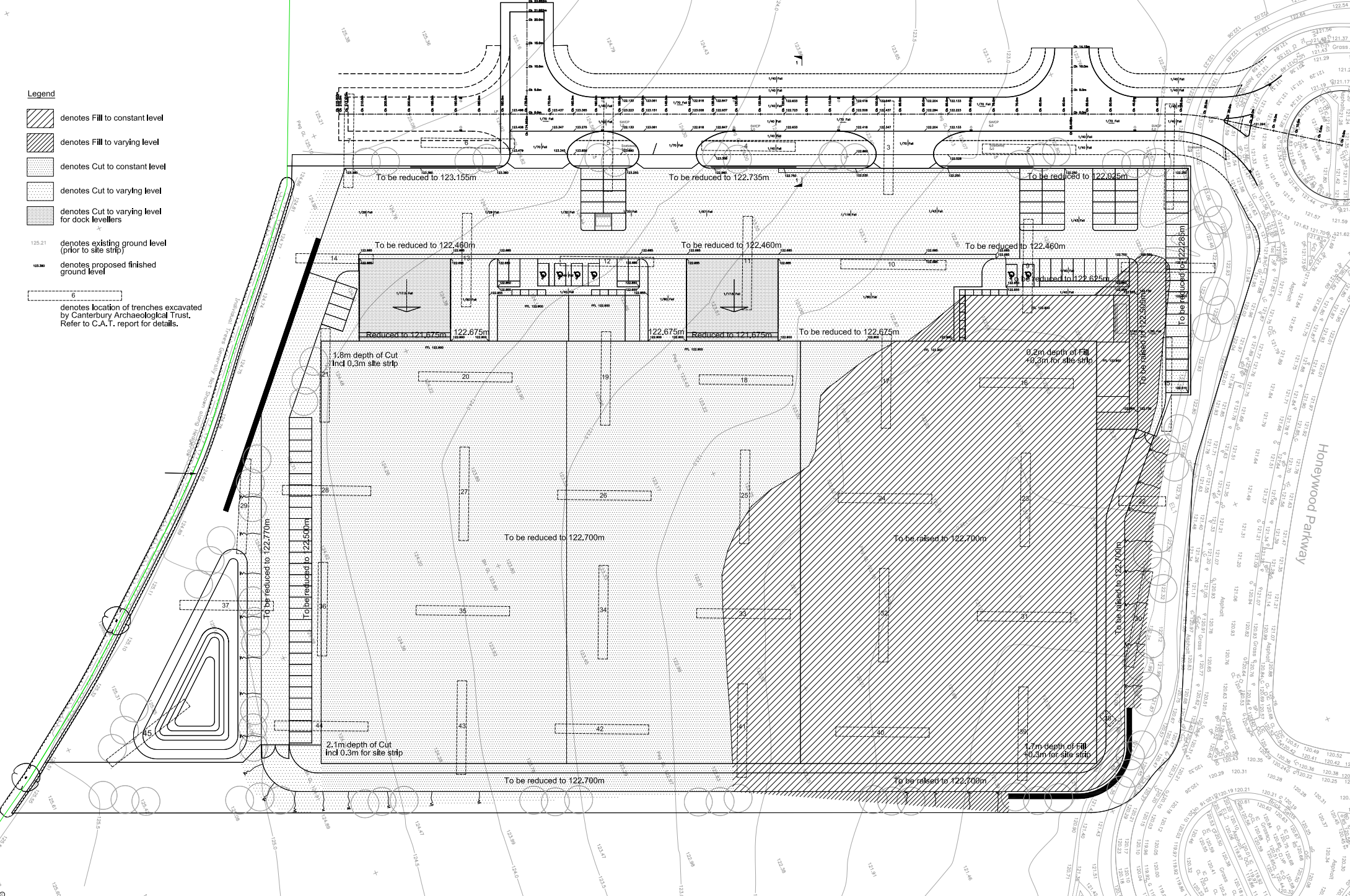


Legend

-  denotes Fill to constant level
-  denotes Fill to varying level
-  denotes Cut to constant level
-  denotes Cut to varying level
-  denotes Cut to varying level for dock levelers

- 125.21 denotes existing ground level (prior to site strip)
- 123.300 denotes proposed finished ground level

 denotes location of trenches excavated by Canterbury Archaeological Trust. Refer to C.A.T. report for details.



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Revis	Revised	Checked	Date	Revis	Revised	Checked	Date	Revis	Revised	Checked	Date
A	Location of Canterbury Archaeological Trust trenches added.	NW	02.02.19								

Scale: 1:250
 AD

PRF
 Date: Jun 10
 Checked:
 Date:
 Approved:
 Date:

Holdingmaatschappij Hulssens B.V.
 New Industrial Units
 Dover
 External Works
 Proposed Formation Level Plan


 Drawing No. 11121/08A