



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Trial trench evaluation at
Shropham Quarry
Shropham, Norfolk
December 2010



Northamptonshire Archaeology
2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822
e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council

Simon Carlyle

Report 10/215

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STAFF

Project manager: Adam Yates BA MIFA

Text: Simon Carlyle BSc MSc MIFA

Fieldwork: Simon Carlyle

Anthony Maull Cert Arch

Nathan Flavell BA PGDip

Peter Townend BA

Elizabeth Harris BA

Dan Riley BA

Flint: Yvonne Wolframm-Murray PhD

Pottery: Andy Chapman BSc MIFA FSA

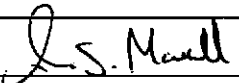


Slag: Andy Chapman

Animal bone and

charred plant remains: Karen Deighton MSc

Illustrations: James Ladocha BA and Richard Watts

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Verified by	Anthony Maull		10/1/12
Checked by	Pat Chapman		10/1/12
Approved by	Andy Chapman		10/1/12

SHROPHAM QUARRY, NORFOLK

OASIS report form

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project name	Shropham Quarry, Norfolk
Short description	In Area 1, to the east of Rocklands Road, two distinct area of settlement were identified. The earliest of these dates to the middle Iron Age, probably to the 4th century BC, and is situated within the eastern half of the area, on the east-facing slope. It appears to have been an unenclosed settlement, its remains comprising a dispersed arrangement of small, shallow gullies, small ditches and a number of pits; three of the pits are of a type that were probably used for storage. The later settlement, which dates to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (1st century AD), is situated on the top of the hill and on its western flank and comprises three successive enclosures and a droveway that leads over the hill from east to west. In Area 2, to the west of Rocklands Road, there was a possible droveway and several small ditches and gullies, probably associated with the agricultural use of the land, dating to the 1st century AD. Modern land drains and plough scars were noted in both areas.
Project type	Trial trench evaluation
Site status	None
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (Doyle 2008), geophysical survey (Hadrell 2008), field walking and metal detecting survey (Adams and Brogan 2009)
Current land use	Arable
Future work	Unknown
Monument type/ period	Middle and late Iron Age settlement
Significant finds	Middle and late Iron Age pottery
PROJECT LOCATION	
County	Norfolk
Site address	Rocklands Road, Shropham
OS Easting & Northing	5990 2942
Area	17.9ha
Height aOD	34-40m
PROJECT CREATORS	
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)
Project brief originator	Ken Hamilton, Norfolk County Council
Project Design originator	Adam Yates (NA)
Director/Supervisor	Anthony Maull/Simon Carlyle (NA)
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA), Tom Rees (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)
Sponsor or funding body	Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
PROJECT DATE	
Start date	22/11/10
End date	3/12/10
ARCHIVES	
Archive location: Norfolk Museums	Accession number: tba
Archive contents	Pottery, animal bone, flint, slag and fired clay (1 box); site records and related documents (2 large archive boxes); digital photographs, digital report copies (1 CD)
BIBLIOGRAPHY	
Title	Trial trench evaluation at Shropham Quarry, Norfolk
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Back cover: Middle Iron Age jar from pit 1003, Trench 10

**TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AT
SHROPHAM QUARRY
SHROPHAM, NORFOLK
DECEMBER 2010**

Abstract

In November and December 2010, an archaeological trial trench evaluation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology on two blocks of farmland off Rocklands Road, Shropham, Norfolk. The work was commissioned by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, acting on behalf of Breedon Aggregates, and was carried out in support of a planning application for the extension of Shropham Quarry. In Area 1, to the east of Rocklands Road, two distinct areas of settlement were identified. The earliest of these dates to the middle Iron Age, probably to the 4th century BC, and is situated within the eastern half of the area, on the east-facing slope. It appears to have been an unenclosed settlement, its remains comprising a dispersed arrangement of small, shallow gullies, small ditches and a number of pits; three of the pits are of a type that were probably used for storage. The later settlement, which dates to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (1st century AD), is situated on the top of the hill and on its western flank and comprises three successive enclosures and a droveway that leads over the hill from east to west. In Area 2, to the west of Rocklands Road, there was a possible droveway and several small ditches and gullies, probably associated with the agricultural use of the land, dating to the 1st century AD. Modern land drains and plough scars were noted in both areas.

1 INTRODUCTION

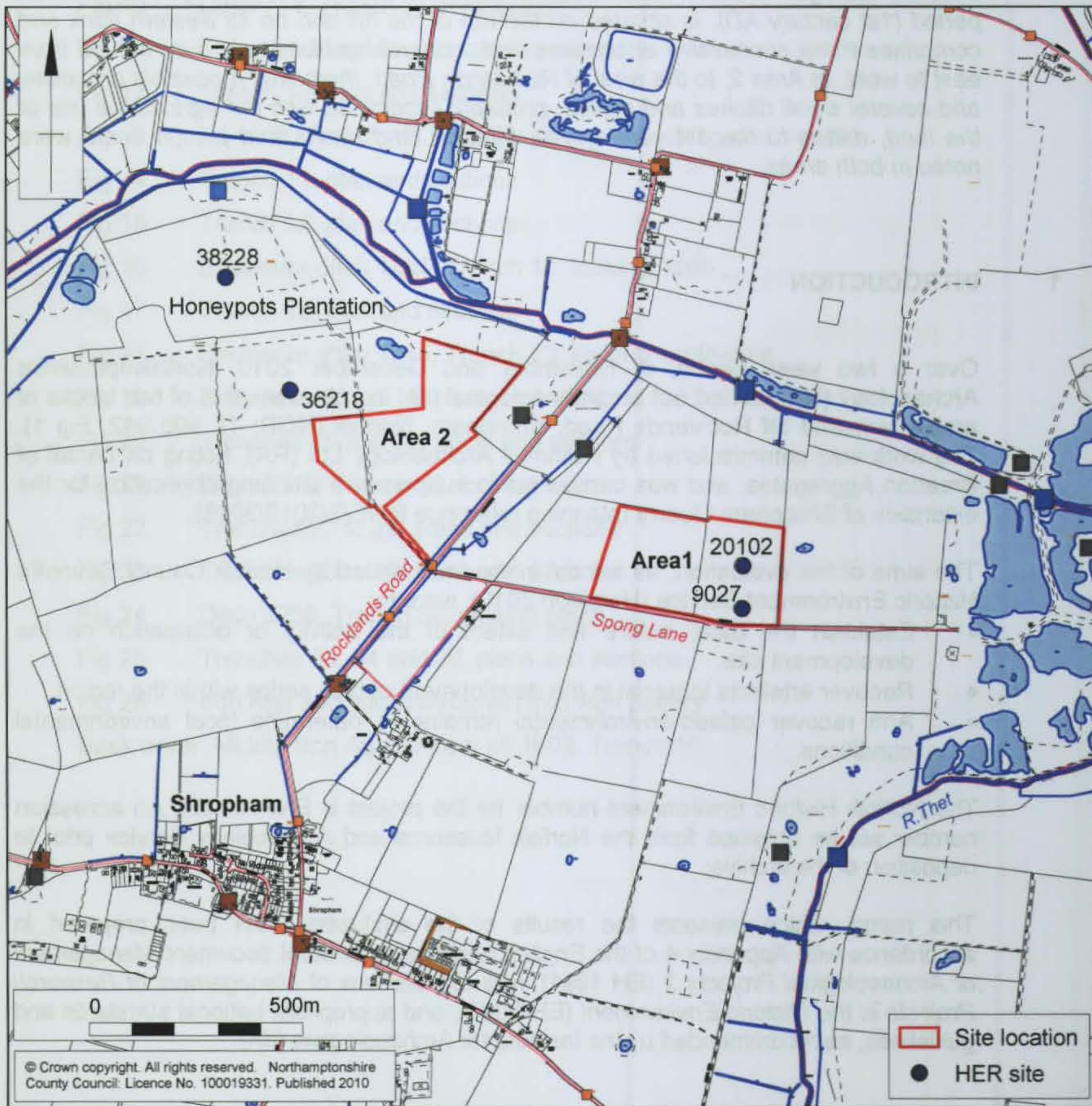
Over a two week period, in November and December 2010, Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) carried out an archaeological trial trench evaluation of two blocks of arable farmland off Rocklands Road, Shropham, Norfolk (NGR: TL 990 942; Fig 1). The work was commissioned by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd (RA), acting on behalf of Breedon Aggregates, and was carried out in support of a planning application for the extension of Shropham Quarry (planning reference PP/C/3/2010/3016).

The aims of the evaluation, as set out in the brief issued by Norfolk County Council's Historic Environment Service (Hamilton 2010), were to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation on the development site,
- Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region,
- And recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

The Norfolk Historic Environment number for the project is ENF125461. An accession number will be obtained from the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service prior to deposition of the archive.

This report, which presents the results of the evaluation, has been prepared in accordance with Appendix 4 of the English Heritage procedural document *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (EH 1991), relevant sections of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (EH 2006), and appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).



Scale 1:15,000

Site location and Historic Environment Record (HER) sites Fig 1

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and geology

The site, in its entirety, covers an area of c 17.9ha and comprises two roughly equal blocks of arable farmland situated either side of Rocklands Road (Areas 1 and 2), approximately 1km to the north and north-east of Shropham (Fig 1).

Area 1 is a roughly rectangular block of land, 9.4ha in extent, which lies to the east of Rocklands Road and to the north of Spong Lane (site centred on NGR: TL 9935 9400; Fig 2). It consists of parts of two adjacent fields, separated by a hedgerow, at the top of a low hill that overlooks the confluence of two small streams that form the headwaters of the River Thet to the east. One of the streams skirts the northern flank of the hill, the other feeds in from the north-east. Ground level descends from c 41m aOD at the top of the hill to c 34m aODm at the north-western corner of the site.

Area 2 lies 0.6km to the west of Area 1, on the opposite side of Rocklands Road, and comprises an irregular block of land with an area of 8.5ha (site centred on NGR: TL 9872 9428; Fig 3). It incorporates parts of two fields separated by a farm track that leads to Honeydots Plantation to the north; the area to the west of the farm track was dropped from the current scheme of evaluation following discussions with the farmer and the client. The part of the site that was available for evaluation straddled a low-relief spur that sloped gradually to the south and east, and more steeply to the north-north-east where the ground dipped down towards the small tributary stream that skirted Area 1 to the north before joining the River Thet.

The underlying bedrock belongs to the Upper Cretaceous White Chalk Subgroup, locally overlain by sands and gravels infilling glacial outwash channels that were cut by the meltwaters of the East Anglian ice-sheets (BGS 1961). The soils belong to the Worlington Soil Association (554b), which comprise deep well drained sandy soils, in places acidic with sub-surface pan (SSEW 1983).

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

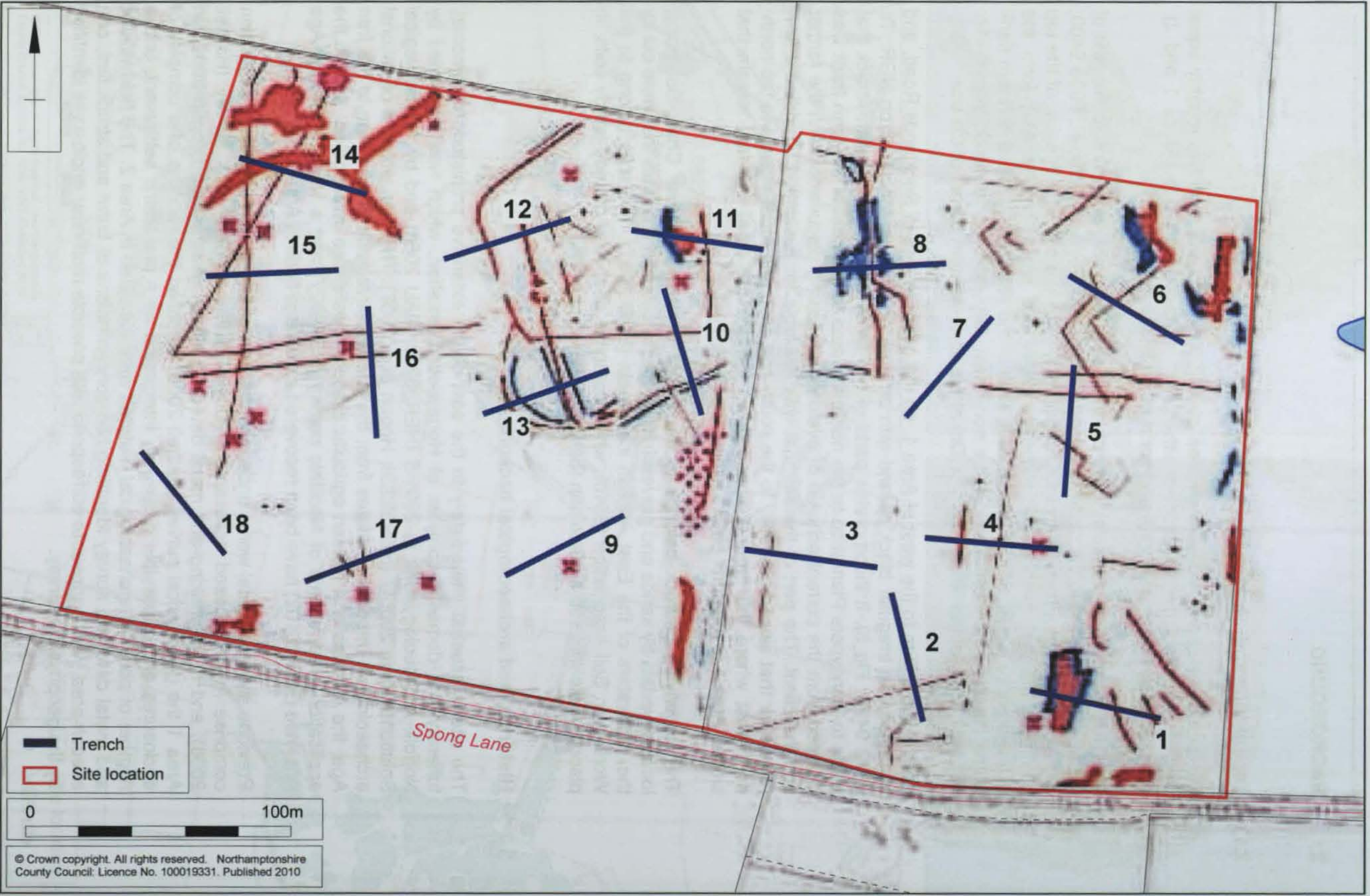
The site is situated immediately to the east of the extensive prehistoric ceremonial, funerary and domestic complex at Honeydots Plantation, which was excavated by Norfolk Archaeology Unit in 2001-3 (HER36218; NAU 2005) and by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2006-7 (HER38228; Hogan *et al* 2007). This site, which is of national archaeological importance, dates from the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age to the Iron Age; the remains of a Roman agricultural system were also investigated. Within the application area, sherds of Neolithic pottery (HER9027) and a Neolithic/Bronze Age flint knife (HER20102) have been recovered as surface finds in Area 1.

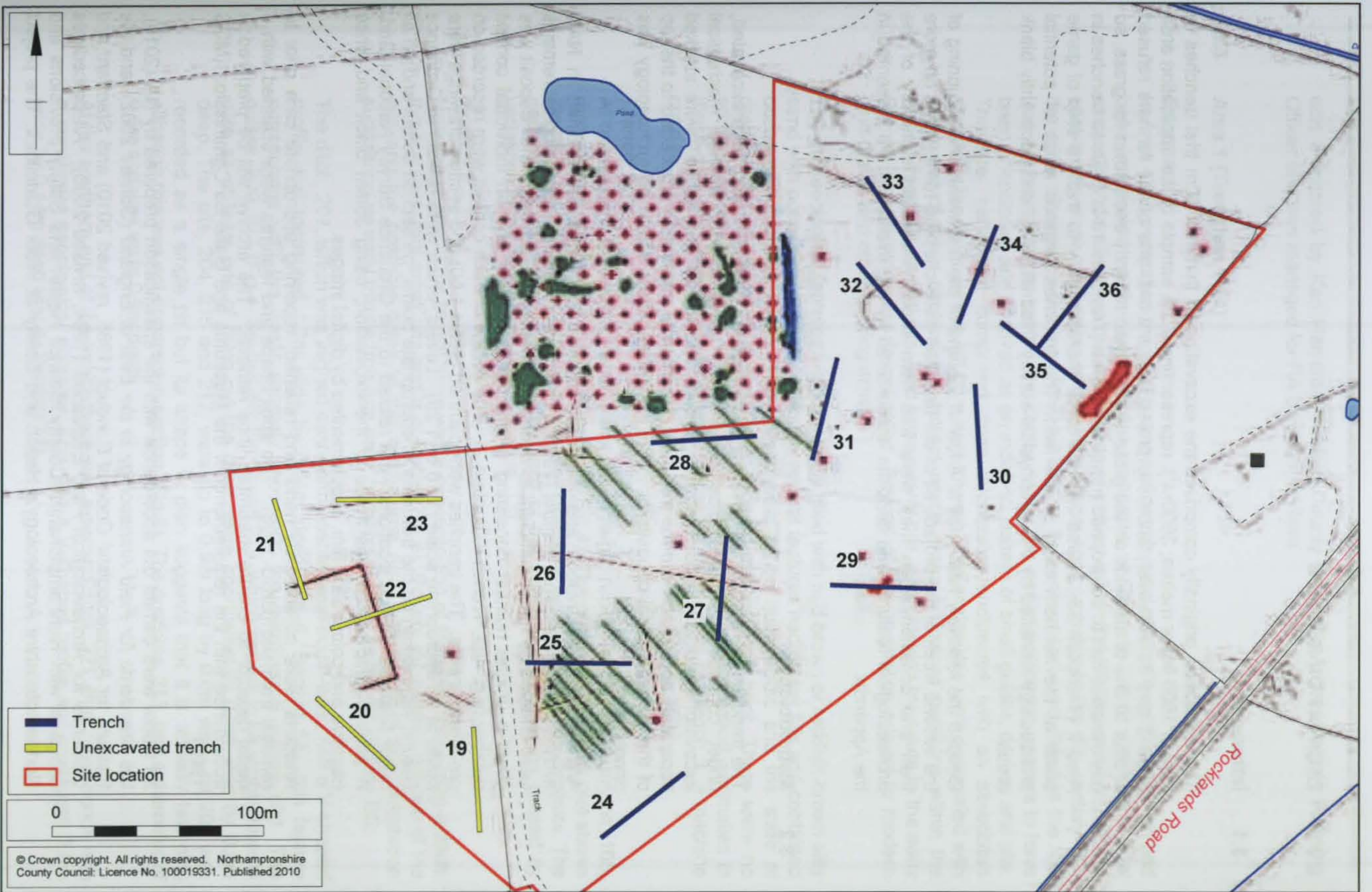
Previous archaeological works undertaken as part of the current scheme of evaluation comprise: a desk-based assessment (Doyle 2008); a geophysical survey (Hadrell 2008); and a fieldwalking and metal detecting survey (Adams and Brogan 2009). In Area 1 the geophysical survey (Hadrell 2008) identified the remains of a complex of enclosures and a possible droveway, interpreted as a prehistoric settlement, and a number of possible archaeological features were identified in Area 2. The fieldwalking and metal detecting survey identified two concentrations of burnt and struck flint, one in each area, which appear to correspond with possible rectilinear enclosures identified by the geophysical survey.

1:2000

Area 1, trench locations and geophysical survey results

Fig 2





3 EXCAVATION RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

The evaluation originally comprised the excavation of thirty-six 50m trial trenches (a total of 1800 linear metres; 3600m²), representing a 2% sample of the application area (Figs 2 and 3). However, once the project had started, one of the farmers refused access to one of his fields on the grounds that it had recently been sown for grass, so five trenches had to be dropped from the scheme (Trenches 19-23). Three trenches in Area 2 (Trenches 33, 34 and 36) had to be moved slightly to avoid a strip of game cover at the northern edge of the field. The trenches targeted areas of potential archaeology identified by the geophysical survey (Hadrell 2008) and apparently blank areas.

Despite the relatively heavy fall of snow at the end of the first week and beginning of the second week of the project, all of the trenches were checked for features on more than one occasion when they were free from snow. A detailed summary of the archaeological features and deposits encountered by the evaluation are presented in the Appendix.

3.2 Methodology

The trenches were positioned using a Leica System 1200 GPS and were excavated, under continuous archaeological supervision, using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a flat toothless bucket. The topsoil and subsoil were stacked separately and adjacent to the trenches. Mechanical excavation proceeded to the top of the archaeological deposits or to the natural substrate where no archaeology was encountered.

Archaeological excavation and recording followed the guidelines outlined in NA's *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual* (2006). Trenches containing archaeological remains were cleaned by hand, sufficient to define the features. Each feature or deposit was given a unique number consisting of the trench number and an individual context number (e.g. 402, Trench 4, context 2). The details of each context were recorded on *pro-forma* sheets. The trenches were planned (scale 1:50) and section drawings were made at an appropriate scale (1:10 or 1:20). Levels, which were related to Ordnance Datum, were taken on the trenches at appropriate points, on section datum and on all major features. Trench locations were related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. A photographic record was made of the excavation, using 35mm black and white negative and colour slide film, supplemented by digital images.

Artefacts were collected by hand and retained, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from site (UKIC 1998). The spoil heaps and features were scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval. The archive will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Museums and Galleries Commission (MGS 1992).

All works were carried out in accordance with the specification prepared by NA (2010), the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2002), and the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (1985, revised 2010) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (1994, revised 2008). All procedures complied with Northamptonshire County Council Health and Safety provisions and Northamptonshire Archaeology's Health and Safety at Work Guidelines. The project

was monitored by Ken Hamilton, Norfolk County Council's Archaeological Planning Officer and was managed for RA by Thomas Rees.

3.3 Area 1 (Trenches 1-18)

Summary

In Area 1 the evaluation targeted a range of geophysical anomalies, most of which had been interpreted as the remains of a prehistoric or Romano-British settlement. Trial excavation identified two distinct periods of settlement on the hill-top, one lying on the east-facing slope and dating to the middle Iron Age, probably to the 4th century BC, the other situated on the top of the hill and on its western flank and dated to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (1st century AD). The earlier settlement appears to have been unenclosed and survived as an indistinct pattern of small gullies, ditches and pits. The later settlement comprised three successive enclosures with an associated driveway leading over the hill from east to west. The enclosures were associated with a number of other ditches and gullies, which probably formed partitions within the enclosures, and several pits. Two large quarry pits, one of which may date to the early Roman period, were also investigated. Several of the anomalies related to modern land drains and other farming activity.

The archaeological features were generally filled with mid brown or reddish-brown silty sand with occasional pebbles, although several features had darker fills and contained occasional charcoal flecks. The soils appear to be quite acidic and the state of preservation of animal bone and other organic material was poor. There were no archaeological features in Trenches 3, 14, 15 and 17; the geophysical anomalies in these trenches were shown to be land drains or, in the case of Trench 3, a machine cut trench.

Trench 1

At the western end of the trench there was a large, relatively shallow quarry pit, 105, measuring c 9m wide by up to 0.55m deep (Fig 4). The geophysical survey plot shows the pit to be c 20m long north to south. The quarry pit was filled with two deposits. The geophysical anomalies at the eastern end of the trench appeared to be caused by variations in the natural sands and gravels.

Trench 2

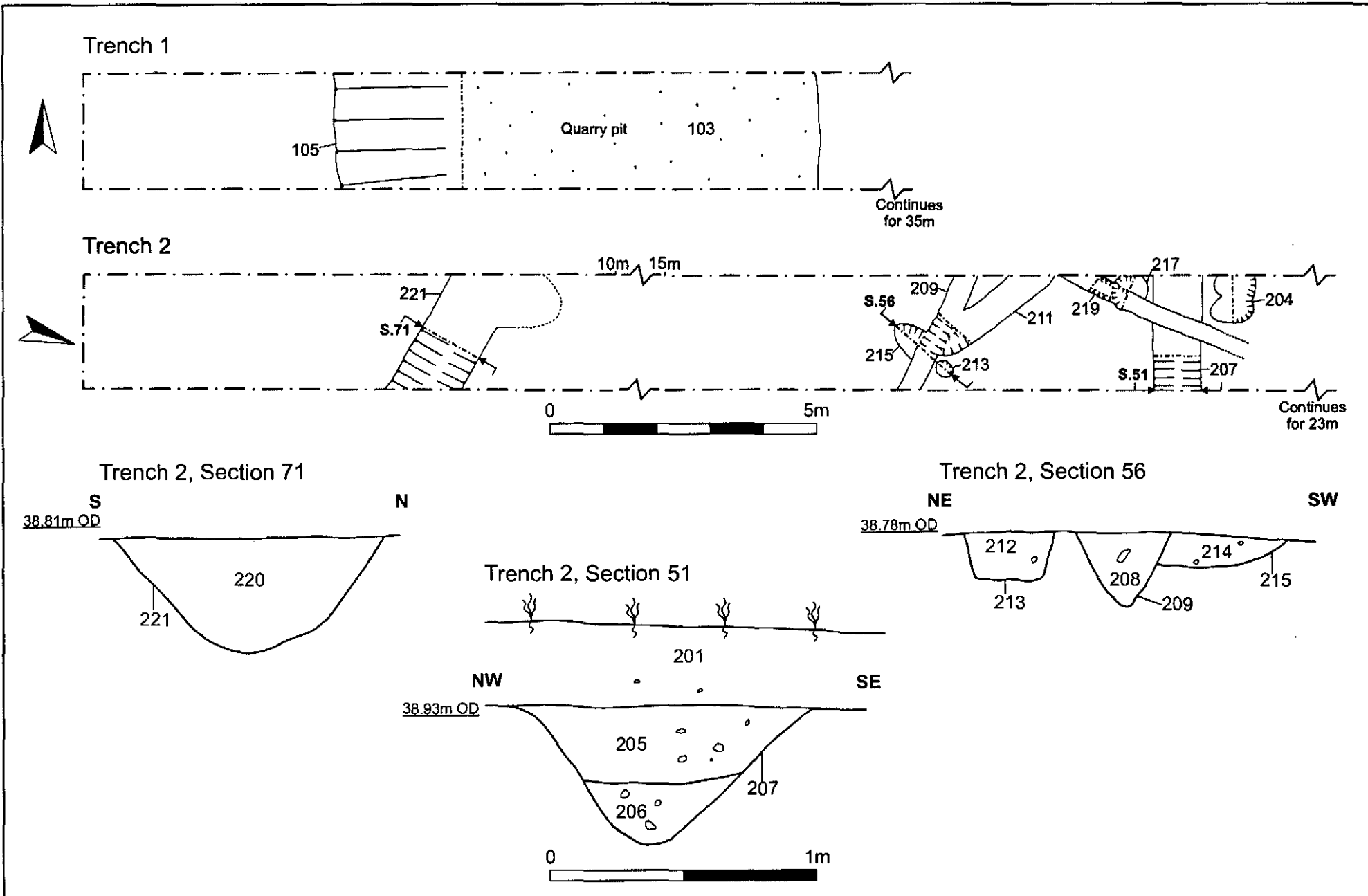
Near the centre of the trench there was a concentration of features, comprising a ditch, three gullies, four small pits and a posthole (Fig 4). Pottery recovered from two of the pits and the posthole dates to the middle Iron Age, with the form and decoration suggesting an early middle Iron Age date, perhaps as early as the 4th century BC.

The ditch, 207, which was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west, had a V-shaped profile and measured 1.2m wide by 0.54m deep (Fig 4, Section 51); this feature corresponds with the linear anomaly shown on the geophysical survey plot. The gullies, 209, 211 (Fig 4, Section 56; Fig 5) and 219, which appear to be slightly later in date as at least one of them cut the ditch, were approximately 0.5m wide by 0.3m deep. The pits, 204, 215 and 217, were up to 0.9m long by 0.6m wide; pit 204 was recorded as a single pit but its shape in plan suggests that it is actually two pits, although this was not apparent in section (Fig 6). The posthole, 213, had a diameter of 0.3m and was up to 0.2m deep.

At the southern end of the trench there was a second ditch, 221, that corresponds with a curvilinear geophysical anomaly. This had a V-shaped profile and measured 1.0m wide by 0.44m deep (Fig 4, Section 71).

Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trenches 1 and 2, plans and sections Fig 4





Gullies 209 and 211, Trench 2, looking east Fig 5



Pit 204, Trench 2, looking south-east Fig 6

Trench 4

Two parallel ditches, 405 and 409, were encountered near the centre of Trench 4 (Fig 7). They were aligned north to south and correspond with the linear anomalies detected by the geophysical survey. Ditch 405 was broad and shallow, measuring c 3m wide by 0.38m deep, and had short concave sides and a wide, flat base (Fig 7, Section 57). Ditch 409 lay 6.5m to the west of ditch 405 and measured 1.0m wide by

0.2m deep; it had been recut along its eastern edge by ditch 407, which was slightly larger than the original ditch (Fig 7, Section 59). To the west of ditch 409 was the terminal of a small gully, 419, and several small pits and postholes. One of the larger pits, 411, which had a diameter of 0.9m and a depth of 0.72m, had vertical sides and a flat base and may have been used as a storage pit (Fig 7, Section 52). A small quantity of sherds recovered from the pit, which probably come from two vessels, date to the early middle Iron Age. A single sherd of pottery of the same date was also recovered from ditch 407.

Trench 5

Trench 5 was positioned to investigate the ditches of a possible droveway and a separate linear feature to the south that were detected by the geophysical survey. The droveway, which appears to cross the field from east to west and may continue into the adjacent field, had a width of c 16m (Fig 8). The ditch on its northern side, 519, was 1.7m wide by 0.41m deep, and along its inside (southern) edge there was a smaller ditch, 517, which was 0.85m wide by 0.39m deep (Fig 8, Section 62). The ditch forming the southern side of the droveway, 511, had a width of 3.3m; it was not excavated in this trench as it had already been investigated in Trench 7.

Within the droveway were two features that followed its alignment: one was the terminal of a small gully, 513, that ran parallel and c 3m to the north of ditch 511; the other was a broad feature, c 3.3m wide, with diffuse edges. The latter was not detected by the geophysical survey, so it is likely to be a shallow hollow, worn into the surface of the droveway by frequent past use.

To the south of the droveway were conterminous ditches 507 and 509, which correspond with the linear geophysical anomaly in the southern half of the trench. As they both terminated within the trench, it suggests that the linear anomaly is discontinuous. They had shallow concave profiles, with ditch 507 measuring 1.5m wide by 0.26m deep and ditch 509, 0.74m wide by 0.14m deep (Fig 8, Section 64).

At the southern end of the trench there was a small ditch, 504, which had a U-shaped profile and measured 0.68m wide by 0.44m deep. Its alignment and position suggests that it is probably a continuation of the linear anomaly situated to the east.

Trench 6

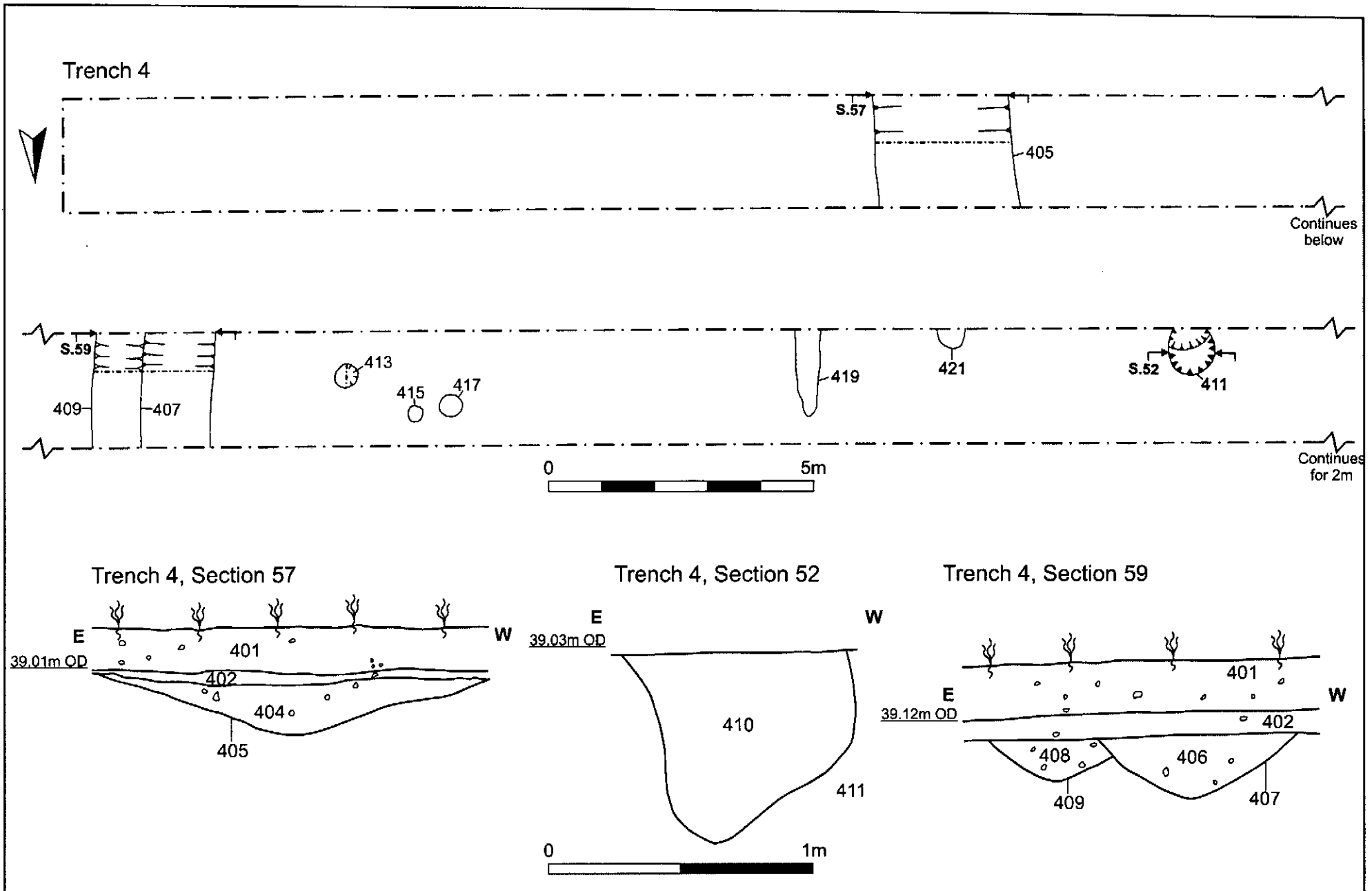
At the western end of the trench there were two small, roughly parallel ditches, 604 and 606, spaced c 4m apart (Fig 9). They measured up to 0.9m wide by 0.3m deep and were aligned north-east to south-west (Fig 9, Section 33). They correspond with the L-shaped geophysical anomalies shown in Figure 2. The fill of the westernmost ditch, 606, was somewhat mixed and may have been backfilled with excavated sand and soil shortly after it was cut.

Trench 7

Although not clear from the geophysical survey results, excavation has shown that the droveway investigated in Trench 5 continues further to the west, at least as far as Trench 7, and that it narrows at this point to c 8m wide (Fig 9). The ditch, 714, on the southern side of the droveway had a V-shaped profile and measured 1.9m wide by 0.63m deep (Fig 9, Section 58; Fig 10); the northern ditch, 710, measured 0.85m wide by 0.44m deep (Fig 9, Section 69). The small ditch on the inside edge of the northern droveway ditch in Trench 5 (ditch 517) continued into Trench 7 (ditch 712) and terminated within the trench.

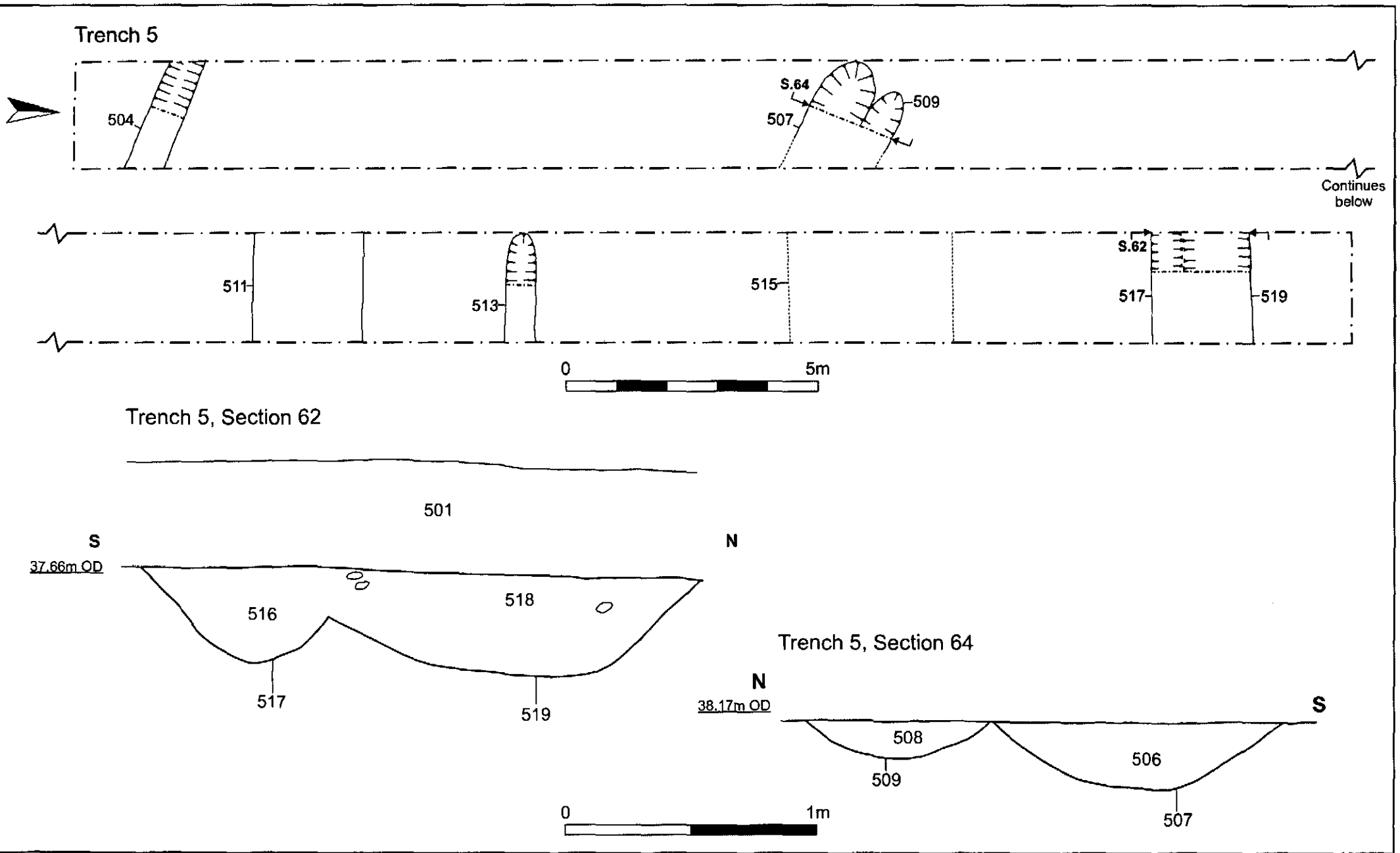
Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trench 4, plan and sections Fig 7

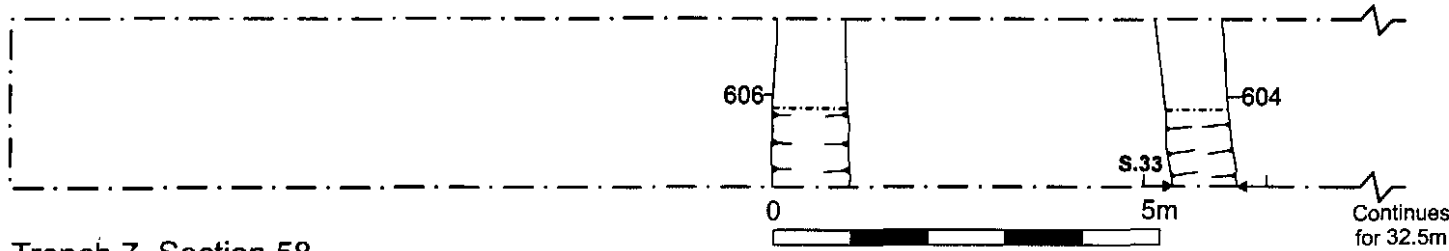


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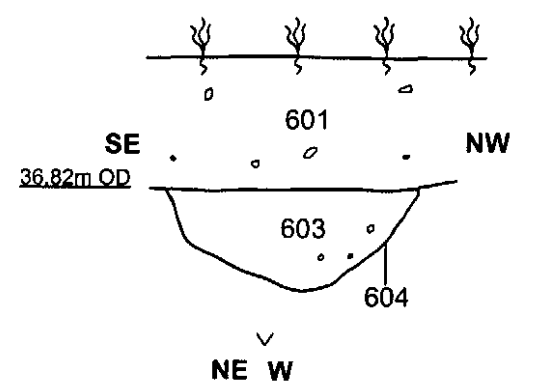
Trench 5, plan and sections Fig 8



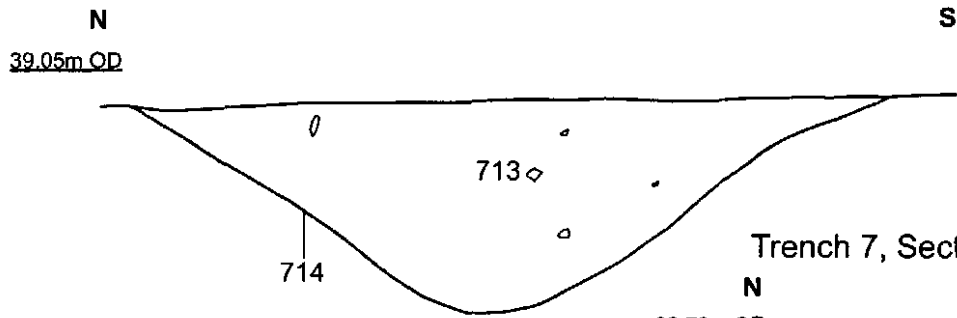
Trench 6



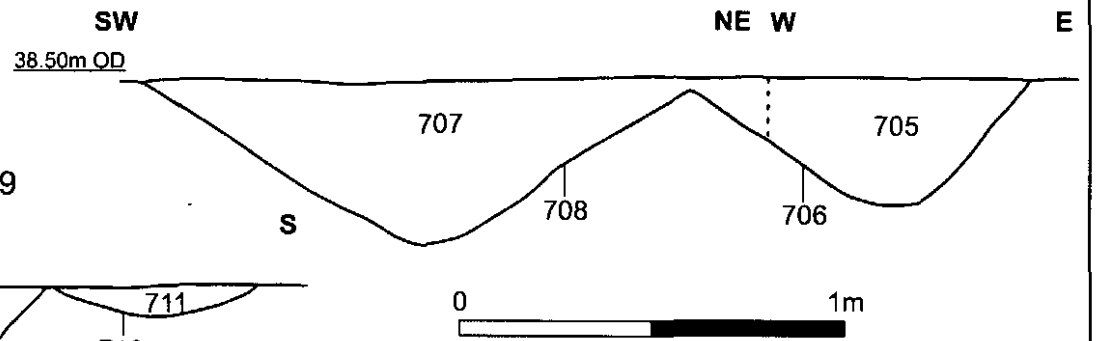
Trench 6, Section 33



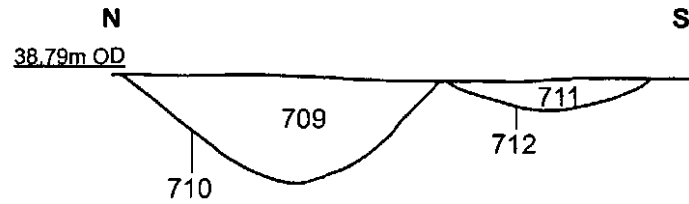
Trench 7, Section 58



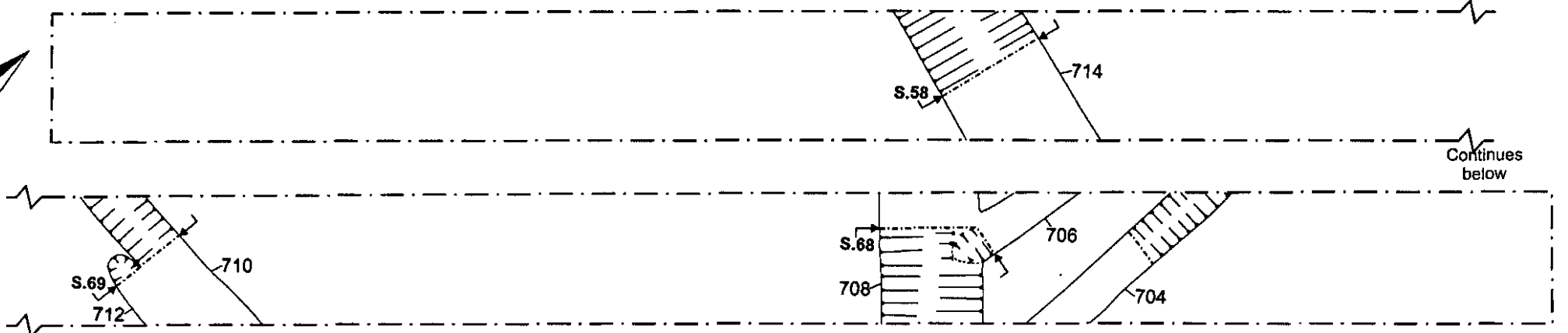
Trench 7, Section 68



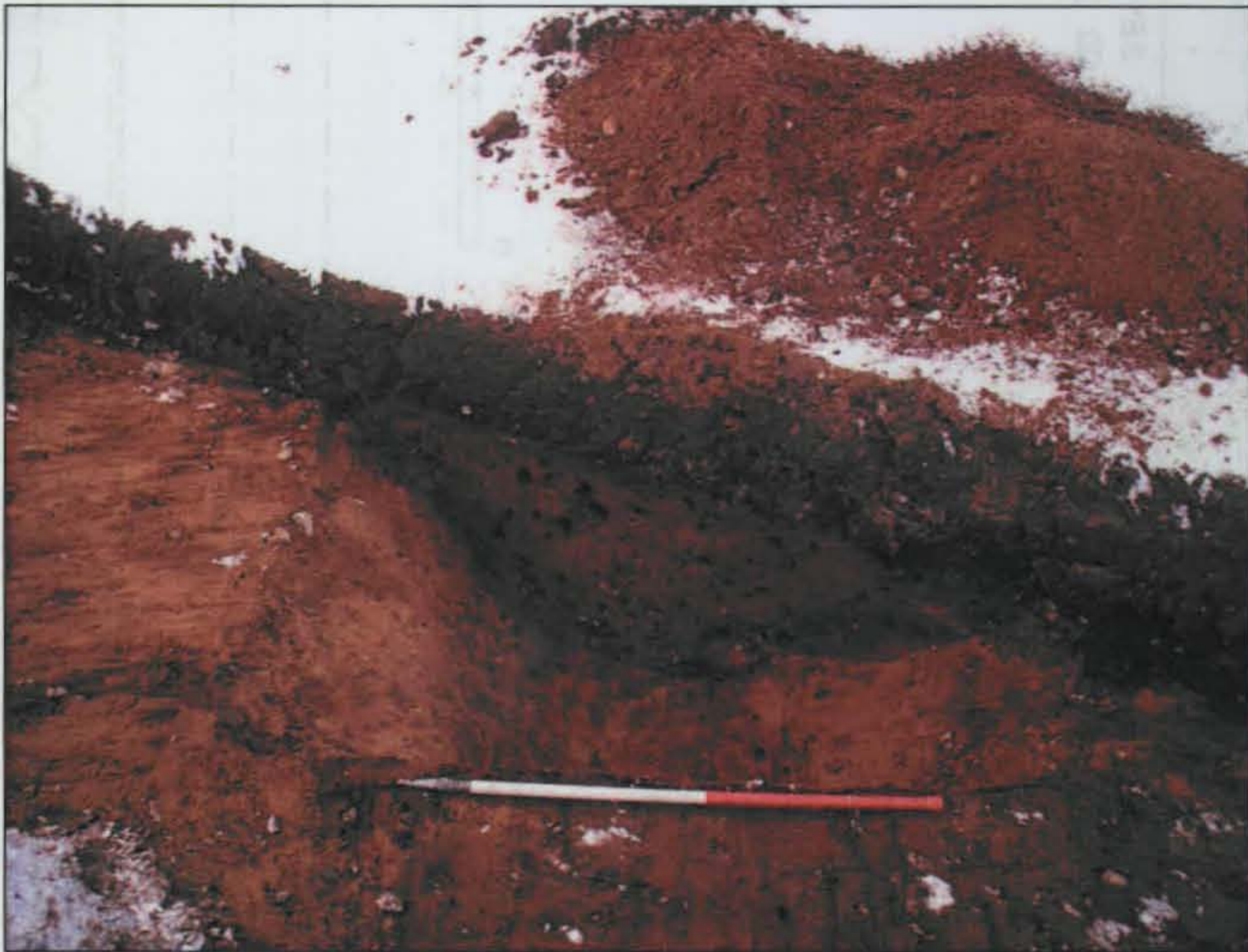
Trench 7, Section 69



Trench 7



Towards the northern end of the trench there was a small ditch, 708, on a north-west to south-east alignment, corresponding with the linear geophysical anomaly identified at this location. It had a V-shaped profile and measured 1.4m wide by 0.43m deep; a second small ditch, 706, which was aligned roughly north to south, intersected with ditch 708 within the trench (Fig 9, Section 68). Parallel with this off-shoot and c 1.0m to the east was a further small ditch, 704, which was 0.7m wide by 0.24m deep. Several small sherds of middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from the driveway ditch, 714, and ditches 704 and 706.



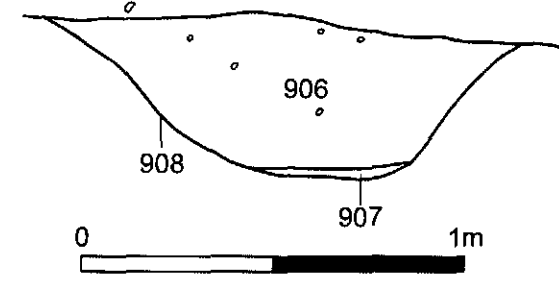
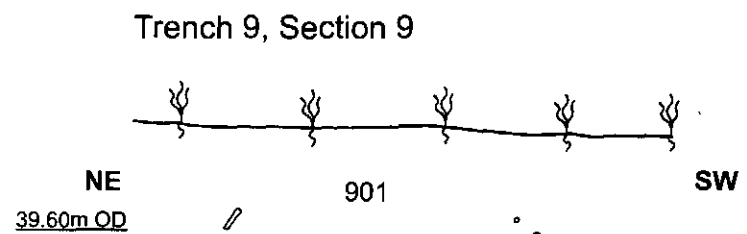
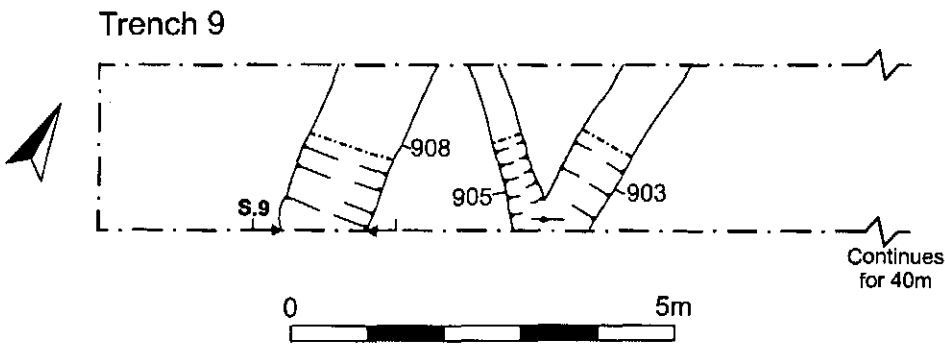
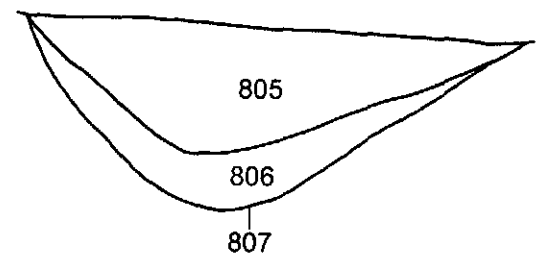
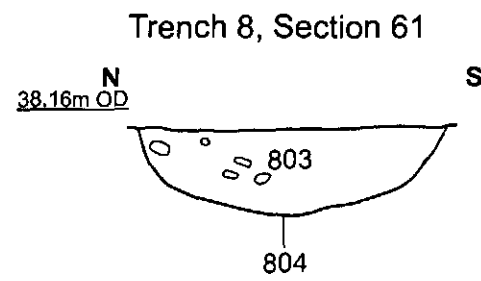
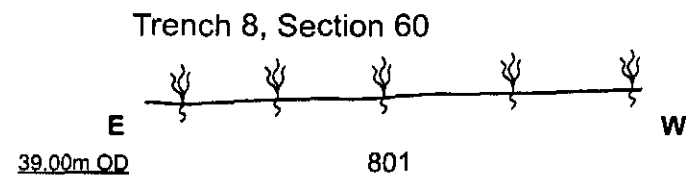
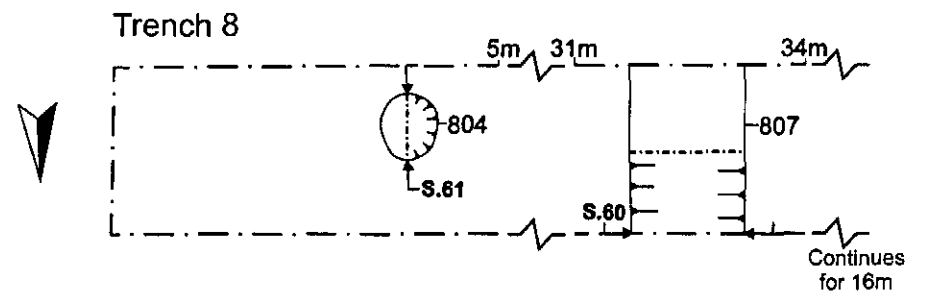
Ditch 714, Trench 7, looking west Fig 10

Trench 8

Near the centre of the trench and aligned north to south was a small ditch, 807. It had a V-shaped profile, measured 1.3m wide by 0.5m deep and was filled with two deposits (Fig 11, Section 60). To the east of the ditch there was a small, steep-sided pit, 804, which had a diameter of 0.8m and a depth of 0.24m (Fig 11, Section 61). Sherds of early middle Iron Age pottery from at least eight vessels were recovered from the fill of the pit, along with a several charred cereal grains. An indeterminate feature at the western end of the trench was investigated and was found to be an animal burrow.

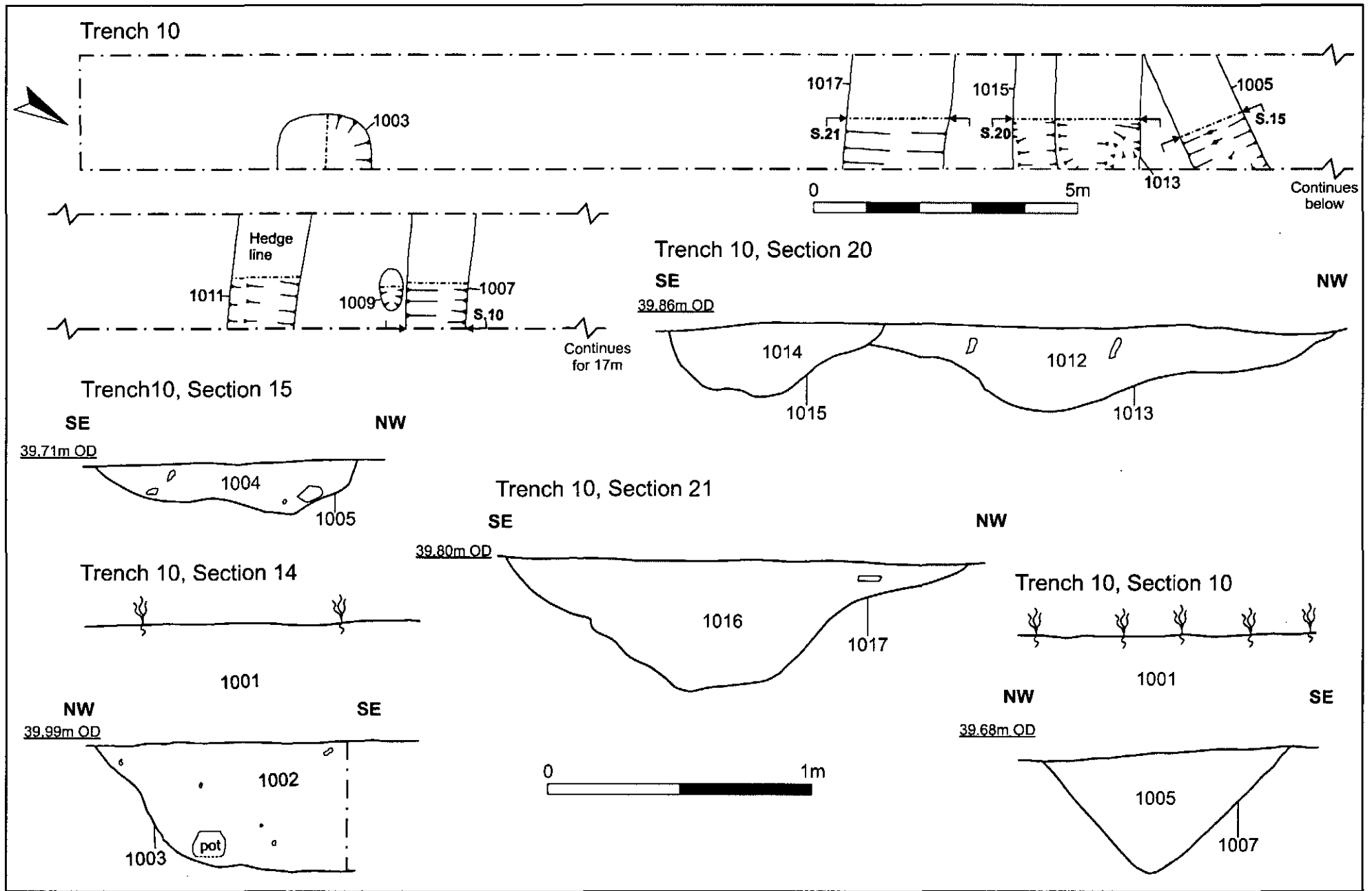
Trench 9

Towards the south-west end of the trench there was a ditch and two gullies. The ditch, 908, which was aligned north to south and measured 1.35m wide by 0.45m deep, corresponds with the geophysical anomaly at this end of the trench (Fig 11, Section 9). One of the gullies, 903, ran parallel and c 2m to the east of the ditch and there was a small gully, 905, on a north-west to south-east alignment, appearing to link the two. The cause of the geophysical anomaly at the north-eastern end of the trench could not be determined and may be related to changes in the natural substrate.



Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trench 10, plan and sections Fig 12



Trench 10

The earliest feature in this trench was a relatively large pit, 1003, with a diameter of 2.0m and depth of 0.5m that dates to the early middle Iron Age. It was located at the southern end of the trench and contained several sherds of pottery and a near-complete jar (Fig 12, Section 14; Fig 13).



Pit 1003, Trench 10, Iron Age jar *in situ*, looking north-east Fig 13

Towards the southern end of the trench there were two ditches, 1015 and 1017, spaced c 1.3m apart and aligned east to west; one of these had either been recut or there may be a third ditch, 1013 (Fig 12, Sections 20 and 21). It is likely that they form parts of successive enclosures, but due to their proximity it has not been possible to relate them to specific enclosures shown on the geophysical survey plot. The ditches were up to 1.8m wide and between 0.3m and 0.5m deep. Converging with ditch 1013 was a shallow ditch 1005, which was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 1.0m wide by 0.1m deep (Fig 12, Section 15). Pottery from these ditches dates to the late pre-Roman Iron Age.

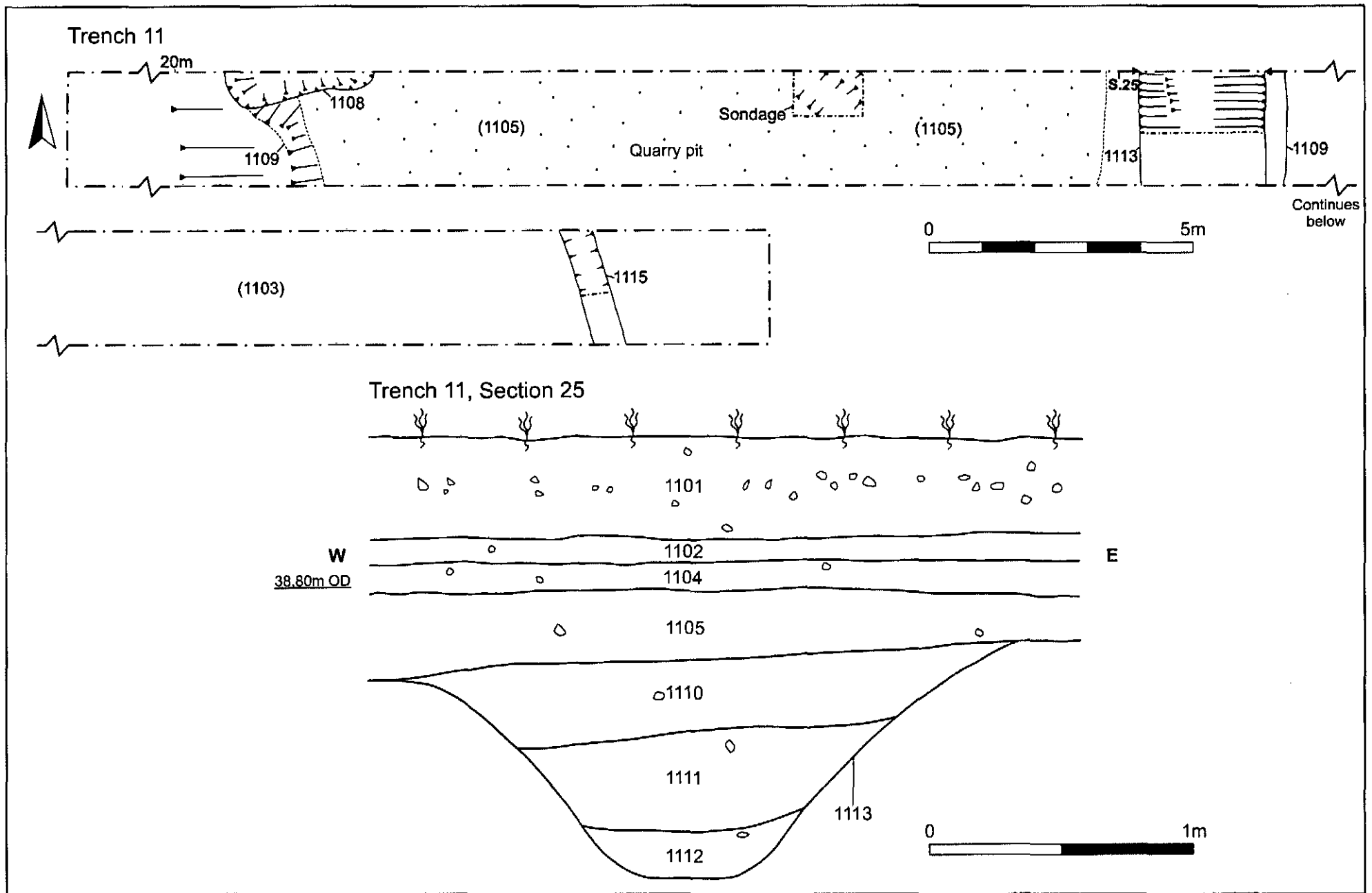
Approximately 10m to the north of these ditches was ditch 1007, which may form the southern boundary of the sub-rectangular enclosure or part of the driveway shown on the geophysical survey plot. It measured 1.0m wide by 0.44m deep and had a broad V-shaped profile (Fig 12, Section 10). A parallel, shallow linear feature, 1011, situated c 2m to the south of this ditch, is probably the line of an old hedgerow and there was a possible tree bowl, 1009, the fill of which contained a considerable amount of charcoal, between the two.

Trench 11

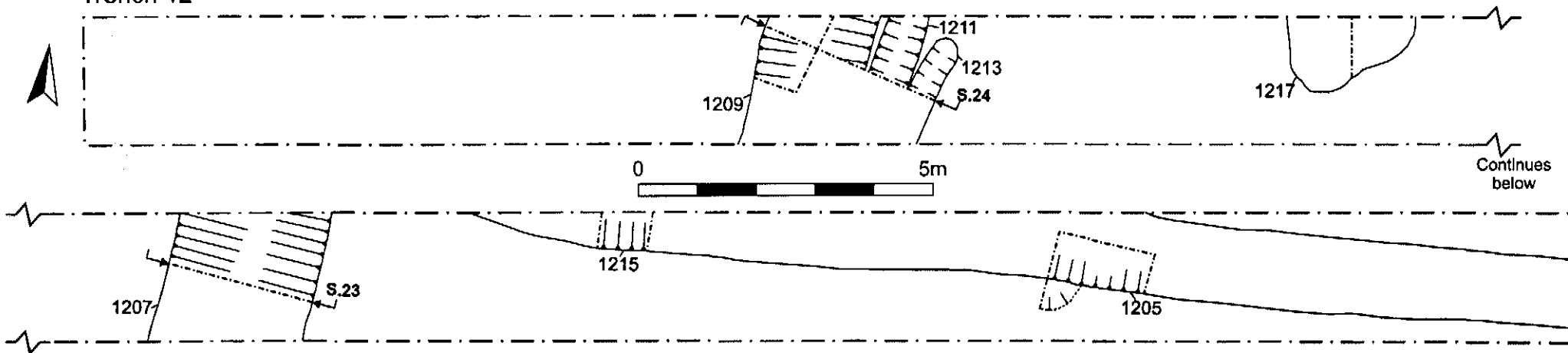
The earliest features in the trench appear to be two roughly parallel ditches, aligned north to south, one of which may be the boundary on the eastern side of one of the late Iron Age enclosures. The probable enclosure ditch, 1113, had been truncated by the eastern edge of a later quarry pit, but it had a surviving width of 2.3m and depth of 0.84m (Fig 14, Section 25).

Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

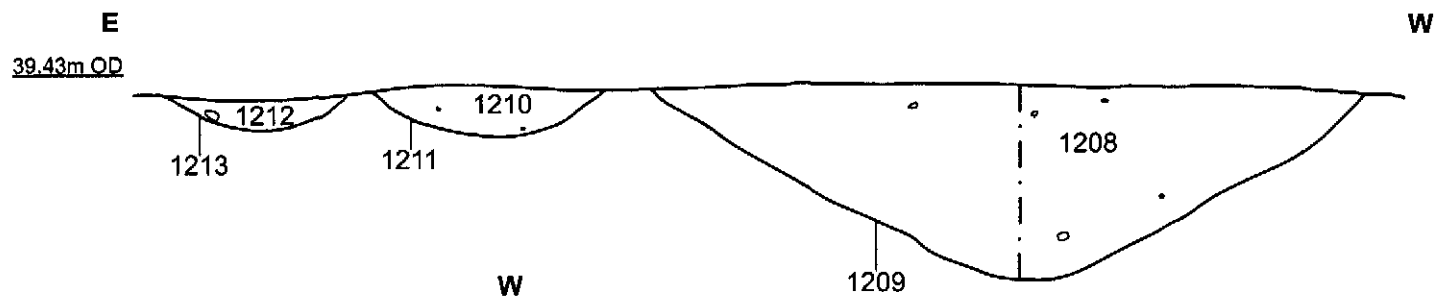
Trench 11, plan and section Fig 14



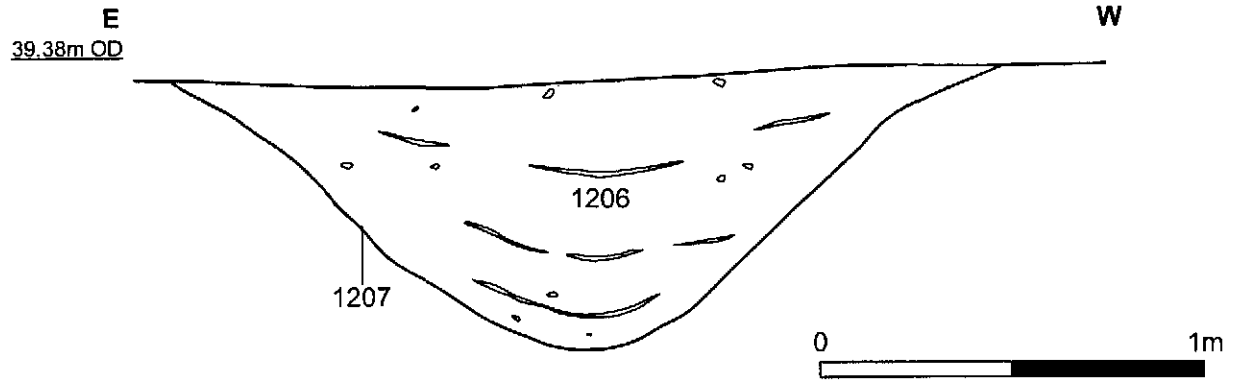
Trench 12



Trench 12, Section 24



Trench 12, Section 23



The second ditch, 1115, lay c 10m to the east and had a V-shaped profile and measured 0.8m wide by 0.22m deep. The pottery recovered from both ditches dates to the middle Iron Age, but it is possible, given its abraded condition, that it is residual.

Towards the western end of the trench were the remains of a large pit, 1108, which was at least 3.0m long and up to 0.95m deep. Like the enclosure ditch, it had been truncated by the quarry pit. The date of the pit is uncertain, but it is likely to be contemporary with the late Iron Age settlement.

The quarry pit, 1109, was approximately 21m wide by up to 0.6m deep, and from the geophysical survey plot, it appears to be at least 25m long from north to south. Several abraded sherds of late Iron Age pre-Roman pottery were recovered from deposits within the pit.

Trench 12

Towards the western end of the trench was enclosure ditch 1209, which was aligned north to south, had a steep-sided, V-shaped profile and measured 1.8m wide by 0.51m deep (Fig 15, Section 24). There were two small, parallel gullies, 1211 and 1213, running along its inside (eastern) edge, one of which terminated within the trench.

A larger enclosure ditch, 1207, lay near the centre of the trench; this was on roughly the same alignment as ditch 1209 and measured 2.5m wide by 0.74m deep (Fig 15, Section 23; Fig 16). Apparently extending off the latter to the east was a broad, shallow ditch, 1205, which was up to 1.3m wide by 0.29m deep; a single piece of metal-working slag was recovered from the fill of this ditch.

Lying between the two enclosure ditches was an irregular burnt patch, 1217, which was interpreted as the burnt out roots of a tree.

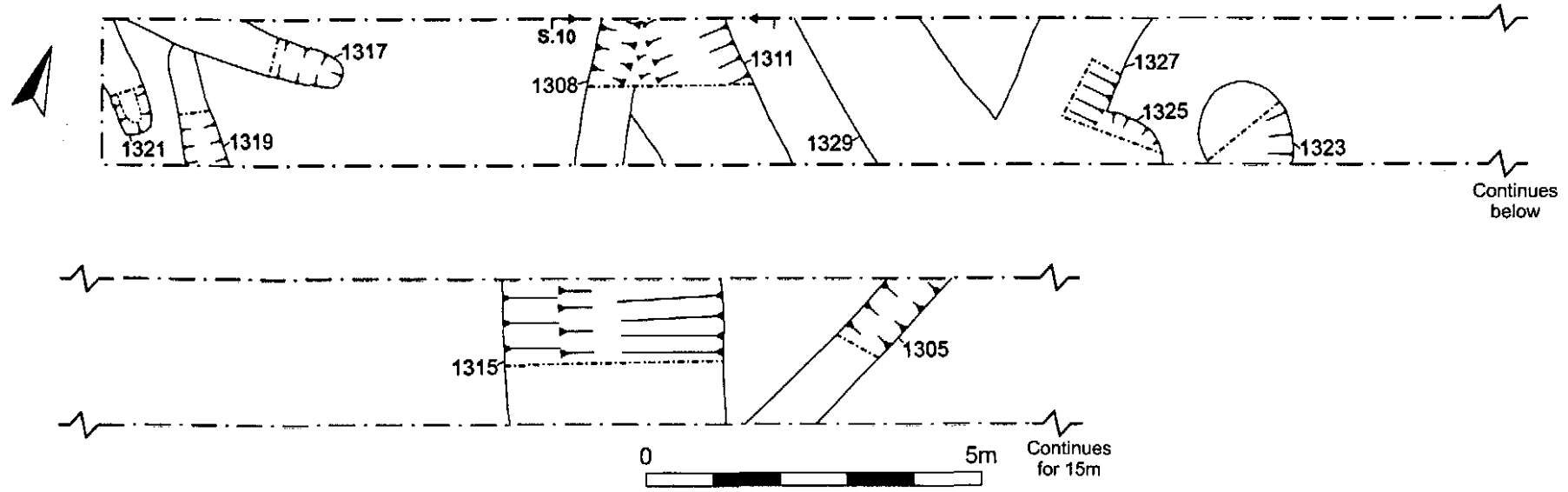


Ditch 1207, Trench 12, looking north Fig 16

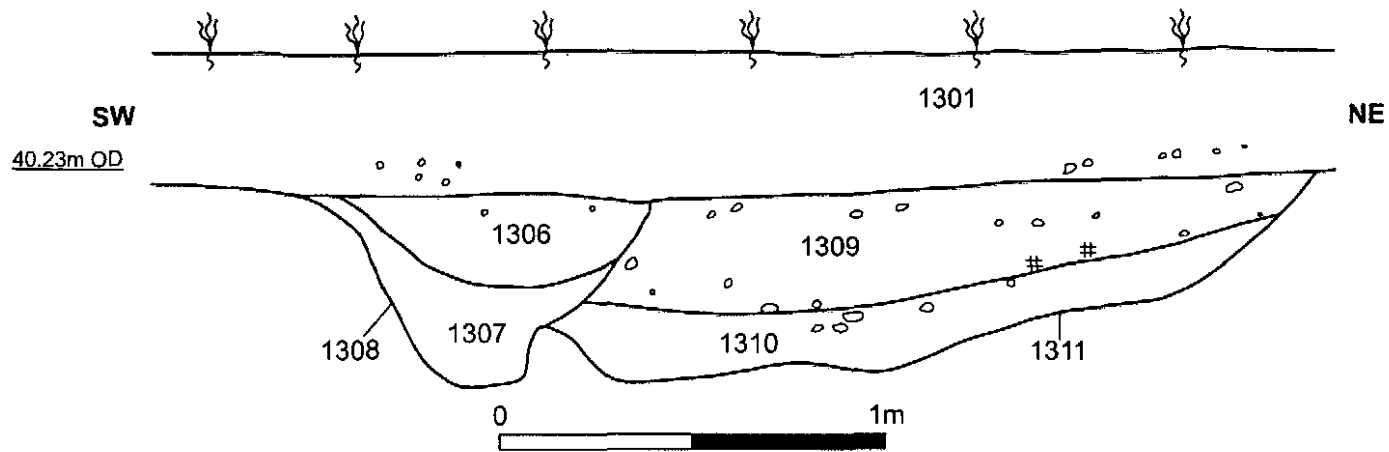
Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trench 13, plan and section Fig 17

Trench 13



Trench 13, Section 10

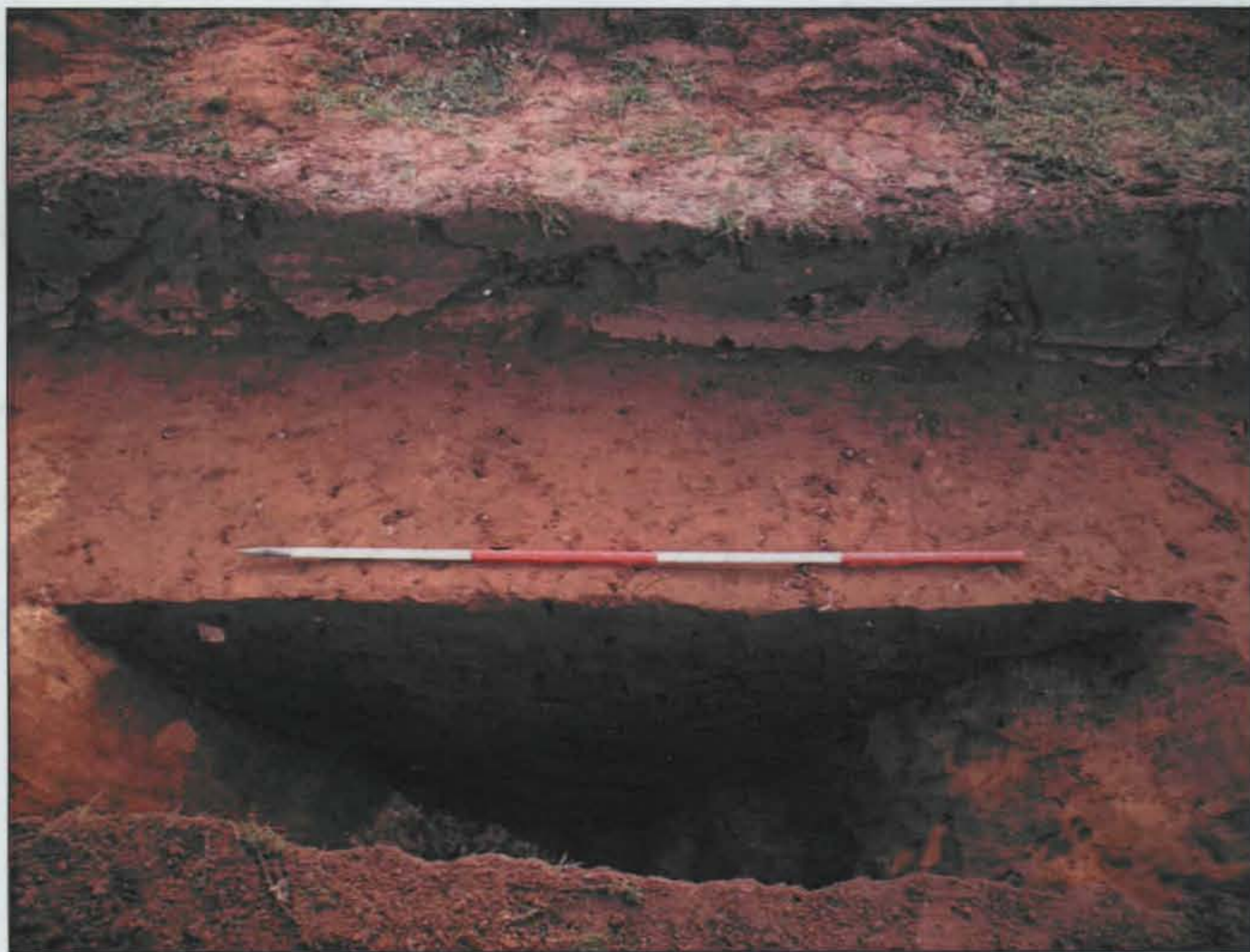


Trench 13

Trench 13 examined a number of linear and curvilinear geophysical anomalies, the larger ones of which had been interpreted as likely enclosure ditches. The largest ditch, 1315, which lay near the centre of the trench, was aligned north to south, had a V-shaped profile and measured 3.2m wide by 1.2m deep (Fig 17, Section 17). A small gully, 1305, appeared to branch off the enclosure ditch to the north-east.

In the western half of the trench there were two ditches, 1311 and 1329, on an apparent north-west to south-east alignment, which correspond with the curvilinear anomalies detected by the geophysical survey. It seems likely that the enclosure, of which these form a part, has a concentric arrangement of ditches along much of its periphery (also seen in Trench 10). The ditches were spaced c 1.0m apart and measured c 1.7m wide by up to 0.6m deep (Fig 17, Section 10). Ditch 1329 converged with a ditch, 1327, which was on a north-east to south-west alignment and measured 1.45m wide by 0.8m deep; the junction between these two ditches is clearly shown on the geophysical survey plot. A small ditch, 1308, cut ditch 1311 on the same alignment.

Other features in this trench comprise the terminals of three small gullies, 1317, 1319 and 1321, at the western end of the trench and two similar and adjacent pits, 1323 and 1325, which had diameters of 1.1m and depths of up to 0.28m.

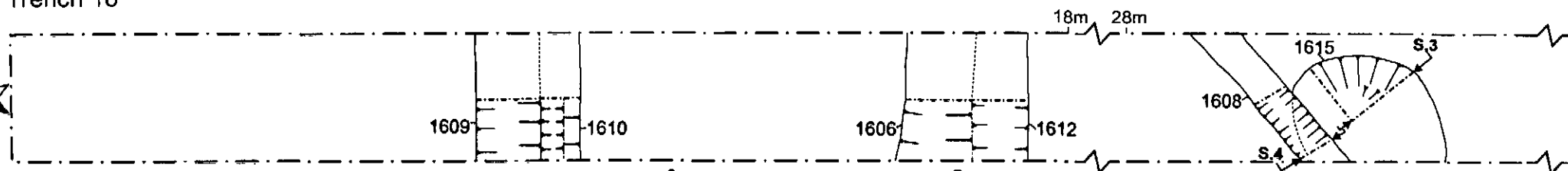


Ditch 1315, Trench 13, looking south-east Fig 18

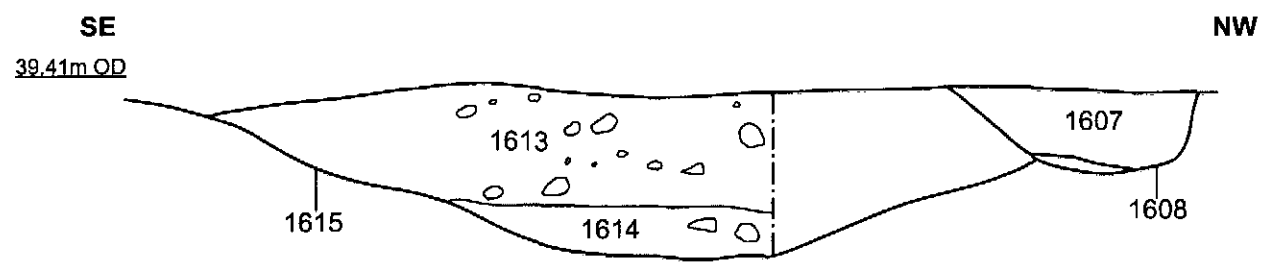
Trench 16

Trench 16 was positioned to investigate a droveway leading down the west-facing slope from the settlement. The droveway was formed by two recut ditches, spaced c 5.5m apart, that were encountered at the northern end of the trench (Fig 19). The northern ditch, 1610, was approximately 1.0m wide by up to 0.25m deep and had been recut along its northern edge by a slightly wider ditch, 1604. The opposing ditch, 1606, was of a similar size and had been recut along its northern edge by ditch 1612.

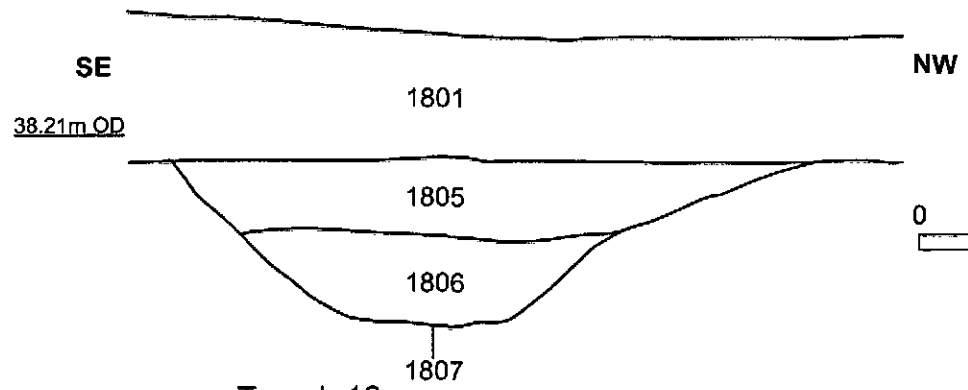
Trench 16



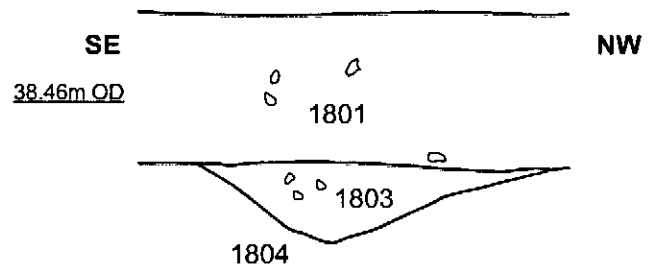
Trench 16, Section 3



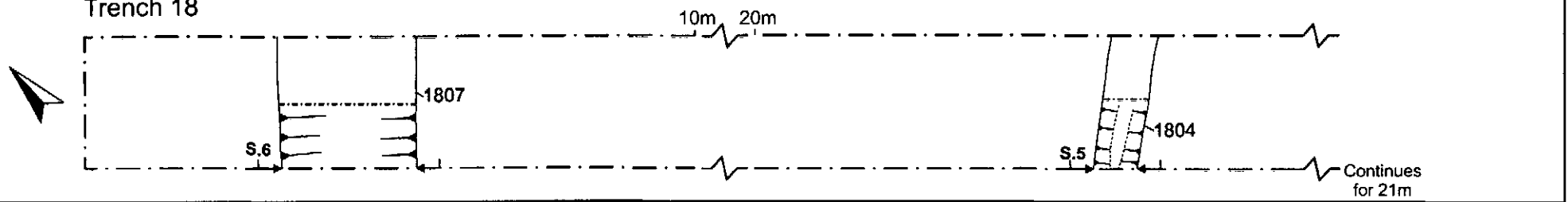
Trench 18, Section 6



Trench 18, Section 5



Trench 18



Near the centre of the trench there was a small gully, 1608, which is shown on the geophysical survey plot crossing the field on a north-east to south-west alignment and appearing to peter out near the top of the hill; the extreme linearity of this feature suggests that it is probably of modern origin. The gully cut a relatively large, undated pit, 1615, that had a diameter of 1.5m and depth of 0.42m (Fig 19, Section 3).

Trench 18

Two features were encountered in Trench 18 that had been identified by the geophysical survey. The first was an undated ditch, 1807, which was located at the north-west end of the trench (Fig 19). It was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 1.9m wide by 0.45m deep. The second feature was a small gully, 1804, which was also investigated in Trench 16; it is likely that this is a modern feature.

3.4 Area 2 (Trenches 19-36)

Summary

Interpretation of the geophysical survey results had identified a number of potential archaeological features in Area 2, and of particular interest was a rectilinear enclosure to the west of the farm track. However, following discussions with the farmer and the client, the five trenches proposed in this area had to be dropped from the evaluation scheme (Trenches 19-23). Three trenches at the northern edge of the field had to be moved to avoid game cover strips (Trenches 33, 34 and 36).

In the remaining area, trial trenching encountered a dispersed pattern of mostly undated archaeological features, the majority of which are probably the remains of a field system and associated agricultural activity dating to the late Iron Age/early Roman period (1st century AD). It probably forms part of the same agricultural landscape investigated at the Honeypots Plantation site. Damage to the archaeological surface by ploughing was noted in many of the trenches; the striations caused by deep ploughing are visible on the geophysical survey plot, running at right angles to the current furrow direction. There was no archaeology, or any other features, in Trenches 24 and 35.

Trench 25

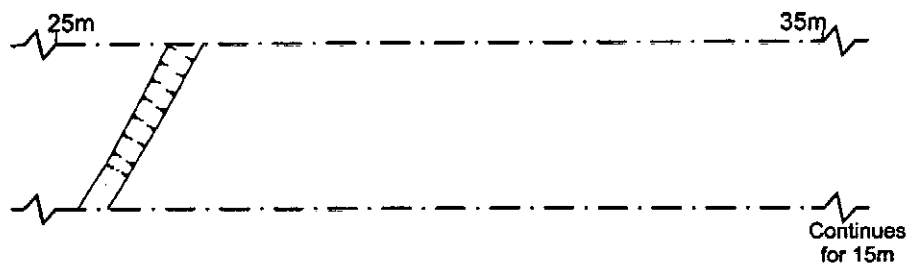
Near the centre of the trench there was a small, shallow, undated gully, 2505 (Fig 20). It was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 0.4m wide by 0.18m deep. The pattern of parallel linear anomalies shown on the geophysical survey plot were confirmed as being of modern agricultural origin, having been caused by the practice of deep ploughing leaving striations in the underlying substrate.

Trench 26

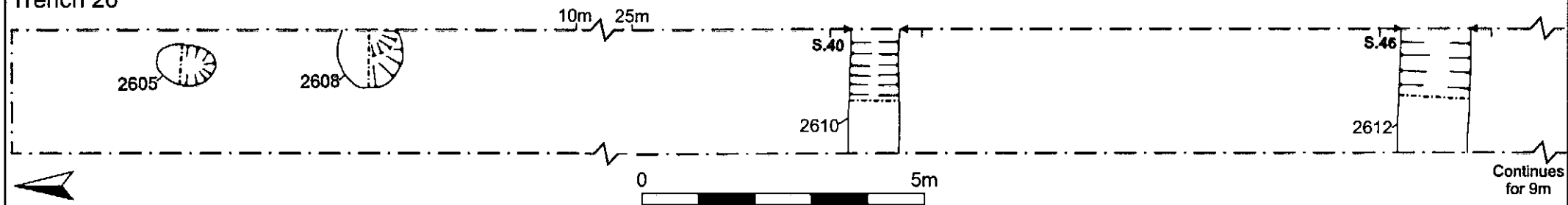
Corresponding with a linear geophysical anomaly, ditch 2610 crossed the trench from east to west, c 20m from its southern end. It measured 0.8m wide by 0.28m deep and had a relatively steep-sided, concave profile (Fig 20, Section 40; Fig 21). A second ditch, 2612, of a similar size and profile, ran parallel with this ditch c 9m to the south (Fig 20, Section 46); this ditch had not been detected by the geophysical survey, but it may be a continuation of a ditch detected further to the east, near Trench 27.

At the northern end of the trench there were two undated pits, 2605 and 2608, spaced c 2m apart. The smaller of the two, pit 2605, was oval in plan and measured 0.93m long by 0.61m wide by 0.16m deep. Pit 2608 had a diameter of 1.0m and depth of 0.33m.

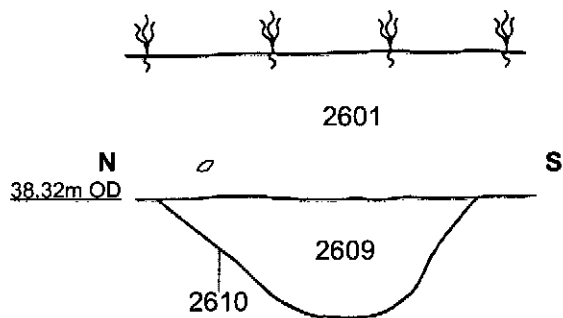
Trench 25



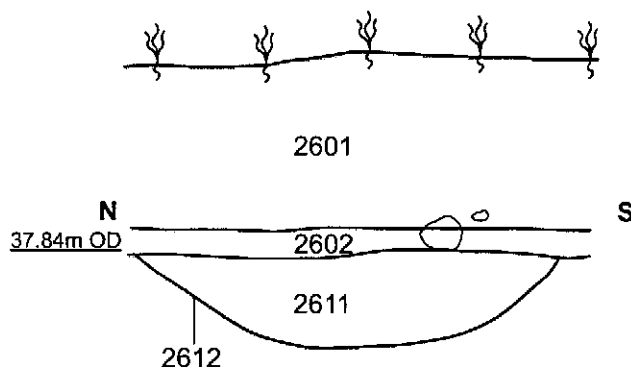
Trench 26



Trench 26, Section 40



Trench 26, Section 46





Ditch 2610, Trench 26, looking east Fig 21

Trench 27

Within this trench was the greatest concentration of archaeological features in Area 2, although they are all undated. Near its centre it was crossed from east to west by two parallel ditches, 2714 and 2718 (Fig 22); these continued to the west and were also investigated in Trench 26. They measured between 0.8m and 1.2m wide and were up to 0.3m deep. Ditch 2718 was cut, almost at right-angles, by a smaller ditch, 2716. Approximately 6m to the north of ditch 2714 was another ditch, 2712, which was on a slightly different alignment, veering more towards north-west to south-east (Fig 22, Section 35).

At the northern end of the trench there was a small ditch, 2710, aligned east to west, which was cut at right-angles by a short length of ditch, 2707. The latter measured c 8m long by 0.8m wide by 0.22m deep. The rounded terminal of another ditch of a similar size, 2705, extended into the northern end of the trench on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment

Trench 28

Approximately 14m from the western end of the trench there was a possible pit, 2805, although the fill was extremely sterile and uniform, suggesting that the feature may be of natural origin (Fig 22). It had relatively steep sides and measured 1.6m long by 0.31m deep; its full extent could not be determined as it extended beyond the limits of the trench.

Trench 29

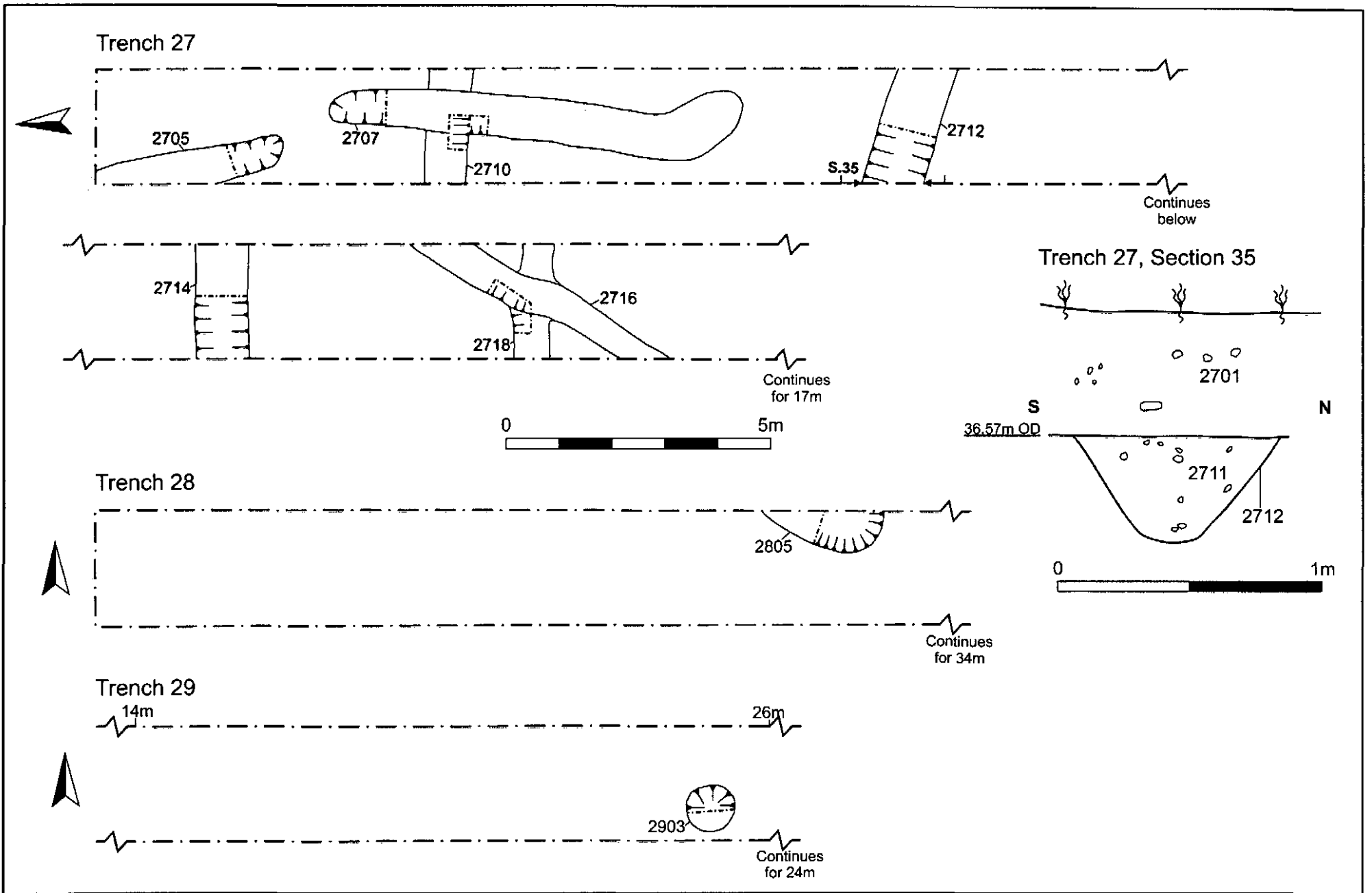
Near the centre of the trench there was a small, undated pit, 2904, with a diameter of 0.9m and depth of 0.20m (Fig 22).

Trench 30

At the northern end of the trench there was a small, shallow, undated ditch, 3004, which was aligned east to west and measured 1.0m wide by 0.28m deep (Fig 23).

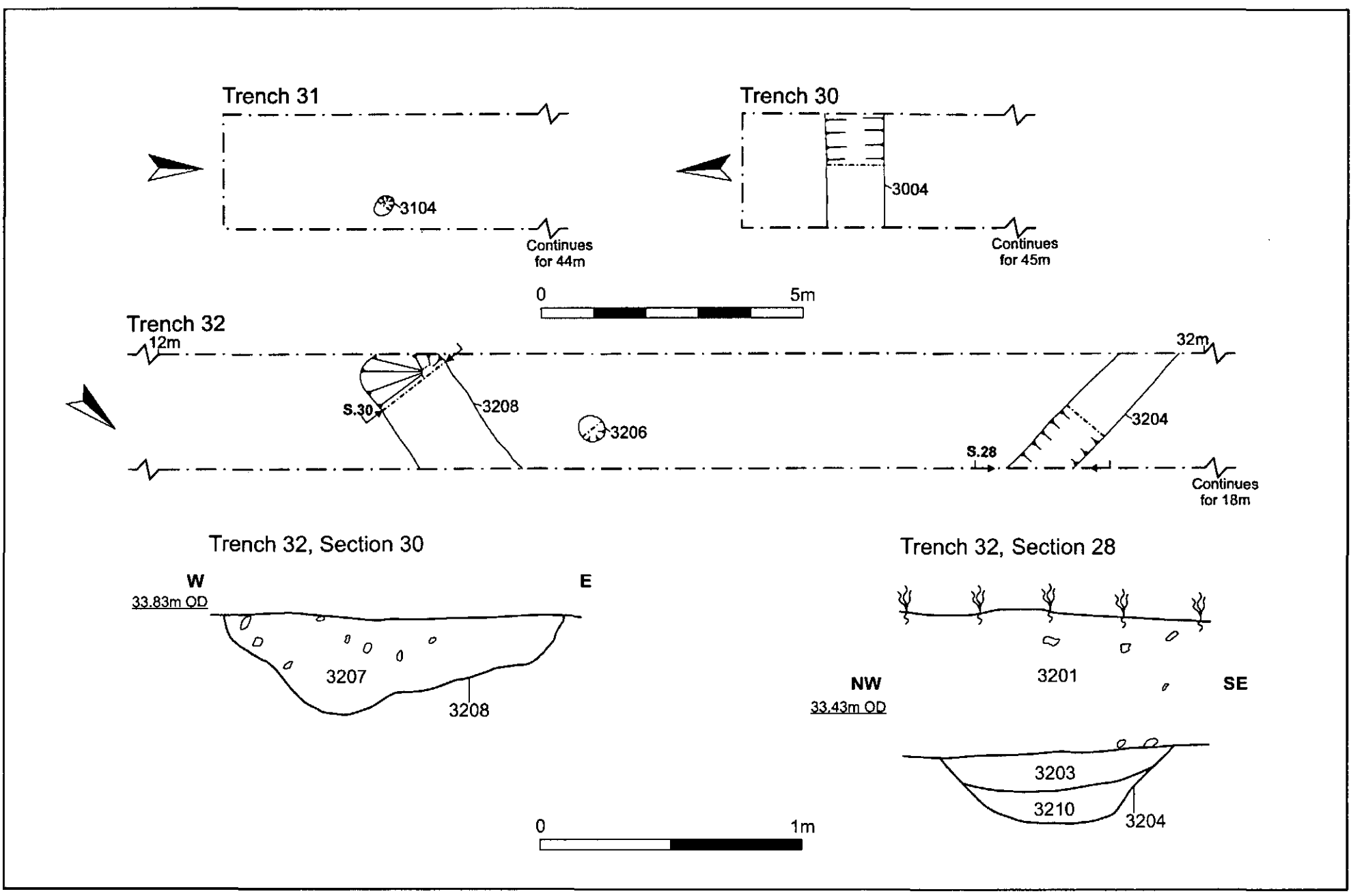
Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trenches 27, 28 and 29, plans and section Fig 22



Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trenches 30 to 32, plans and sections Fig 23



Trench 31

A small, undated feature, 3104, possibly a posthole, was encountered c 3m from the southern end of the trench. It had a diameter of 0.3m, depth of 0.2m and was filled with dark grey silty sand (Fig 23).

Trench 32

Trench 32 was positioned to investigate a C-shaped geophysical anomaly; this was encountered near the centre of the trench and was shown by excavation to be a small ditch, 3204, measuring 0.8m wide by 0.28m deep (Fig 23, Section 28).

Approximately 10m to the south of this ditch was the southern terminal of a larger ditch, 3208, which was c 1.3m wide by 0.38m deep (Fig 23, Section 30; Fig 24). There was a small posthole, 3206, c 1.5m to the north of the terminal, the fill of which contained several abraded sherds of early Roman grog-tempered pottery.



Ditch terminal 3208, Trench 32, looking south Fig 24

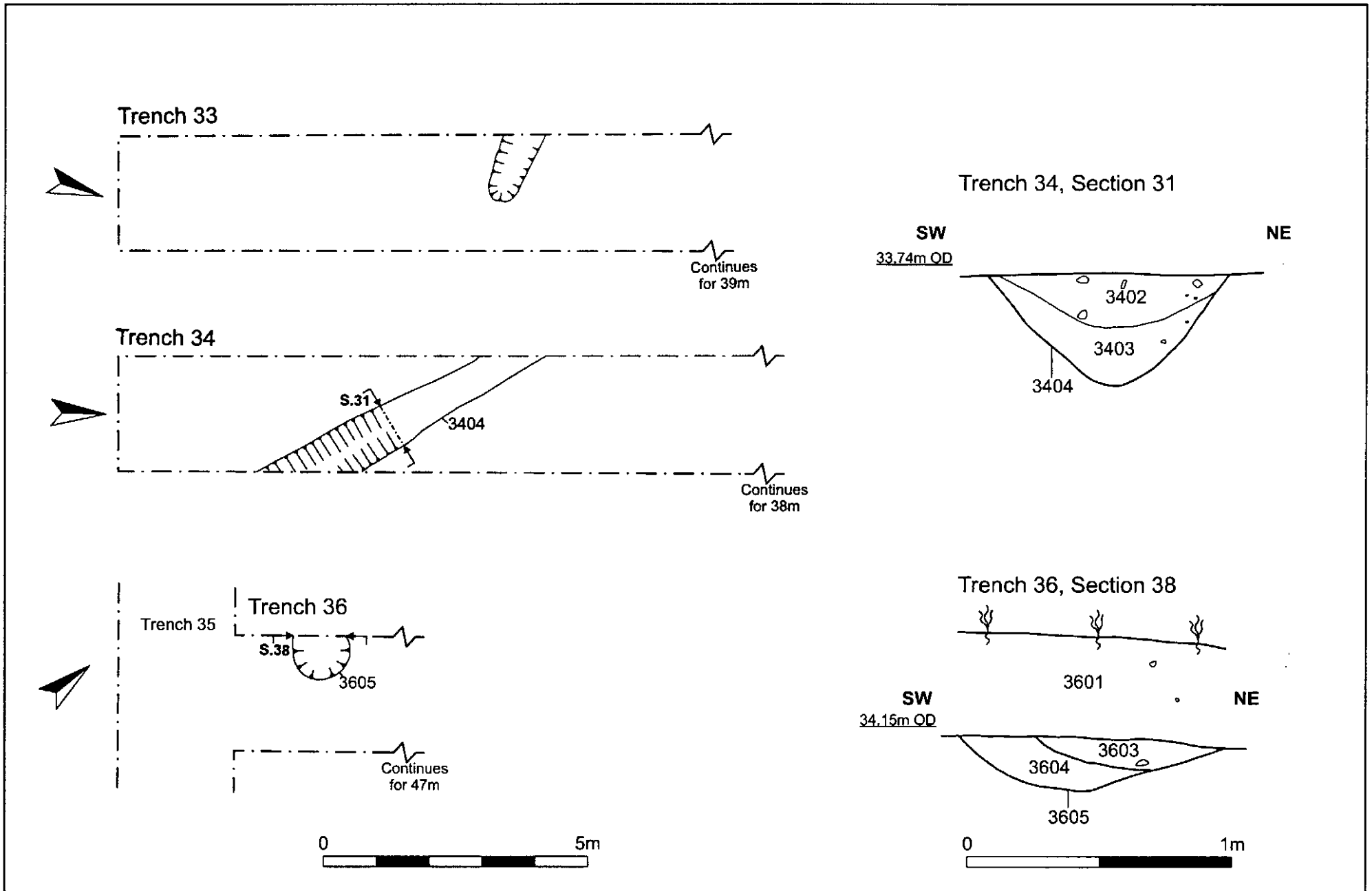
Trench 33

The terminal of a small, undated ditch, 3305, was identified at the southern end of the trench. It was aligned east to west, had a V-shaped profile and measured 0.8m wide by 0.46m deep (Fig 25). The linear geophysical anomaly shown crossing the field from west-north-west to east-south-east and passing through Trenches 33, 34 and 36 (Fig 3) was caused by a distinct change in the nature and composition of the drift deposits at the edge of the floodplain of the small stream to the north of the area.

Scale: trenches 1:100, sections 1:20

Trenches 33, 34 and 36, plans and sections

Fig 25



Trench 34

At the southern end of the trench there was a small, undated ditch, 3404, which was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 0.9m wide by 0.44m deep (Fig 25).

Trench 36

At the southern end of the trench, c 1m from the junction with Trench 35, there was a small, shallow pit, 3605, with a diameter of 1.0m and depth of 0.21m (Fig 25). A single abraded sherd of early Roman grog-tempered pottery was recovered from the surface of the feature.

4 FINDS

4.1 Flint by Yvonne Wolfram-Murray

Twenty-six pieces of worked flint were recovered as residual finds from Iron Age, undated and topsoil deposits. The assemblage comprises one core rejuvenation flake, 21 flakes, three flake fragments and one blade.

The condition of the assemblage is good. The flint shows very little post-depositional edge damage in the form of occasional nicks. Patination is present on only one flake.

The raw material comprises light grey-brown to dark grey coloured vitreous and the occasional granular flint. The quality of the raw material is mixed, with the flint displaying frequently hackly fractures. Cortex is typically light to mid brown in colour with a generally smooth, rolled and weathered surface. The raw material was likely to have been sourced from local gravel deposits.

The technological characteristics of the assemblage suggest a broad Neolithic to early Bronze Age date, with the core rejuvenation flake comprising a possible early Neolithic component.

4.2 Iron Age and early Roman pottery by Andy Chapman

There is a total of 241 sherds of pottery weighing 2565g, an average sherd weight of 10.6g. The material is in good condition, but the majority of the 32 context groups are small, an average of 7.5 sherds/80g per context, and only five contexts contained more than 10 sherds and/or a weight of more than 100g. The sherds themselves are typically small, with very limited potential for determining vessel profiles, with the exception of a near complete small jar from pit 1003 in Trench 10 (Fig 26, d) and a rim and neck profile and the separate base of a burnished shouldered jar from pit 411 in Trench 4 (Fig 26, b).

The assemblage falls into two quite distinct groups:

Features in Trenches 2, 4, 7, 8, and pit 1003 in Trench 10 comprise hand-built vessels in flint-gritted and coarse sandy fabrics, which can be dated to the early middle/middle Iron Age, broadly, the 4th to 1st centuries BC, although the frequent occurrence of decorated rims and burnished vessels might suggest that the material largely belongs to the earlier part of this period, perhaps the 4th century BC. This group also contains the only five context groups that exceed 100g in weight.

The ditches in Trench 10 and features in Trenches 11, 12, 13 and 16 contained some hand-built vessels, but the majority of the pottery is wheel-finished or wheel-turned (Fig 26, e), and can be dated to the late pre-Roman Iron and the early Roman period, broadly, the 1st century AD. These context groups are all small, less than 10 sherds and less than 100g, and the early Roman material in particular comprises small abraded sherds in soft fabrics. Thick-walled body sherds from features in Trenches 32 and 36, the only vessels containing grog, may also date to the 1st century AD.

Early middle to middle Iron Age pottery

Fabrics

Fabric 1, flint: containing crushed burnt flint, 0.5-4.0mm diameter, with the surfaces often speckled white where the flint protrudes through. 124 sherds, 51.5%

Fabric 2, fine flint: containing sparse finely-crushed burnt flint, typically 0.5-1.0mm, but also with sparse larger inclusions, up to 4mm. 28 sherds, 11.6%

Fabric 3, sandy: containing quartz grains giving a coarse surface texture when not burnished; typically also contains crushed flint. 48 sherds, 19.9 %

Fabrics 1 and 3 represent a continuum of a fabric range rather than distinctly separate fabrics. The sherds containing coarse burnt flint typically also contain fine to coarse sand, and the distinction between Fabrics 1 and 3 has been drawn where coarse sand, giving a harsh surface texture, becomes a more dominant attribute than the flint inclusions, which are present but at a sparser density in Fabric 3 than in Fabric 1.

Fabric 2 is the most distinctive, appearing in thin-walled vessels with heavily burnished surfaces, indicating that the clay for these finer vessels was specially prepared by the addition of more finely-ground flint, although occasional larger flint grits are still present. However, while particularly thin-walled burnished vessels are in Fabric 2, there are vessels in the coarser fabrics with thicker walls that have also been burnished.

The vessels have grey to dull red-brown cores, with surfaces that are typically dark grey, but vessels with oxidised inner and outer surfaces, red-brown in colour, are present. Many of the thin-walled burnished vessels have light orange-brown surfaces over light grey to orange-brown cores, indicating more controlled firing conditions in addition to the greater care in the preparation of the clay.

Vessel form and decoration

The degree of fragmentation means that few vessel profiles can be determined, but the overall impression is that the majority of the material comes from smaller jars and bowls, which are relatively thin-walled. The thin-walled and often burnished vessels are around 5mm thick, while the coarser fabrics are typically around 8-9mm thick, while a sherd at 10-13mm thick from the large group from pit 411 is one of the few that may have come from a large, thick-walled storage jar.

A single burnished jar has a full upper body and rim profile, showing a pronounced, rounded shoulder and a deeply concave neck below an everted rim (Fig 26, b). A near complete small irregular hand-built jar, from pit 1003, stands 100mm high and has a flat base 75mm in diameter (Fig 26, d). The body has a rounded shoulder, with a diameter of 115mm. A short neck and a simple rounded rim, with a diameter of 95mm, is quite roughly finished and of variable profile from upright to slightly everted.

The surviving rims are almost all from smaller jars, and they are usually simple and direct. Rounded rims are most common but flattened rims, externally expanded, are also present. A majority of the rounded rims are decorated with oblique fingernail impressions on the top or outer edge (Fig 26, a & c), but a single rounded rim from pit

804 also has a shallow groove beneath it on the external surface, helping to create the impression that it is beaded (Fig 26, c bottom left). A single body sherd, from pit 217, has been decorated with a row of shallow fingertip/fingernail impressions (Fig 26, a bottom), and a small sherd from pit 804 has been decorated with two shallowly incised grooves (Fig 26, c bottom left). Other vessels are either highly burnished or have rough surfaces, sometimes showing dragged finger marks from rough hand finishing.

Context groups

The fill (216) of pit 217 produced a group of 33 sherds from at least six separate vessels, largely in coarse fabrics but including a sherd from a vessel, presumably an open bowl, with both the inner and outer surfaces heavily burnished. This group also includes a body sherd decorated with a row of shallow fingertip/fingernail impressions (Fig 26, a bottom). There are also three sherds from the rim of a thin-walled vessel, with the outer edge of the simple rounded rim decorated with oblique fingernail impressions (Fig 26, a top).

The fill (410) of pit 411 contained a group of 25 sherds that appear to come from only two vessels. There are body sherds from a thick walled jar in a coarse flint gritted fabric, and there are also base, body and rim sherds from vessel in a sandy fabric with the external surface highly burnished all over, with a pronounced shoulder and a deeply concave neck (Fig 26, b). The flat base is 85mm in diameter.

The fill (803) of pit 804 produced 78 sherds from at least six separate vessels. This group is dominated by body sherds from both plain and burnished vessels, including one with a pronounced rounded shoulder. Of particular interest are the flattened, decorated and beaded rim sherds, and a decorated body sherd, all from small thin-walled vessels (Fig 26, c).

Late pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman pottery

Fabric groups

Fabric 4, late pre-Roman Iron Age: fine sand with grey to grey-black cores and surfaces, hard and burnished. 30 sherds, 12.4%

Fabric 5, fine sandy: fine sand, soft with abraded surfaces and edges, in varying colours; white, cream and greys. 14 sherds, 5.8%

Fabric 6, grog: containing rounded pellets of pink grog, 1-4mm.

Vessel form

The material from Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 comprises numerous small context groups, all of less than 10 sherds and less than 100g. These groups contain a few sherds in flint-gritted fabrics, suggesting an Iron Age origin for activity in this area, but the groups are dominated by sherds in other fabric types. These are mainly body sherds but a few contexts contained diagnostic material.

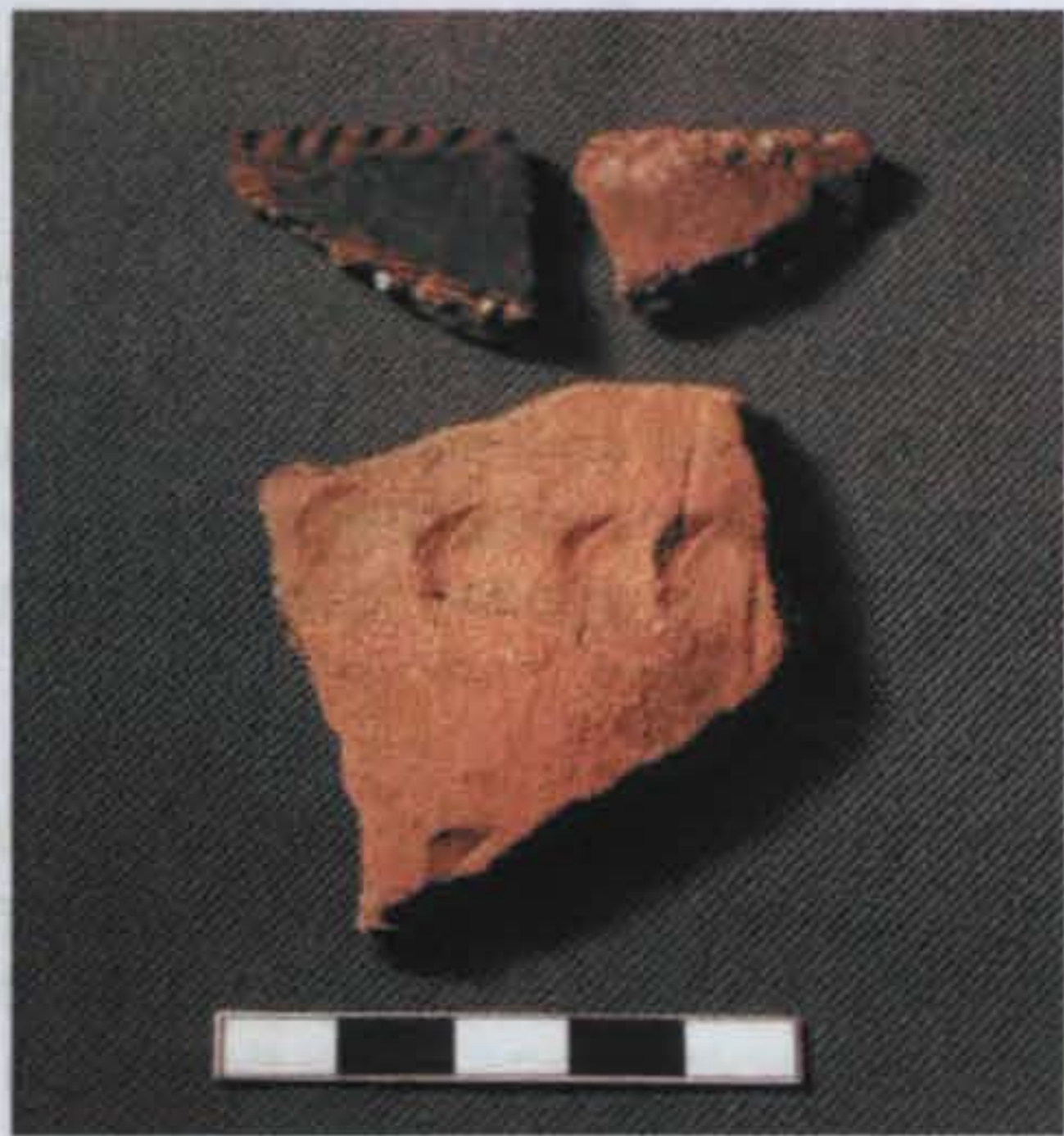
In Trench 10, the fill (1004) of ditch 1005 contains three sherds from the rim of a bowl that is wheel-finished and perhaps wheel-turned, in a distinctive fine sandy fabric, uniformly grey-black throughout, with burnished surfaces (Fig 26, e). The fill (1012) of ditch 1013 contains a further two sherds from two similar vessels. In Trench 13, the fill (1312) of ditch 1315 contains part of a wheel-turned footring base in a uniformly grey, hard sandy fabric. All of these vessels, along with body sherds in similar fabrics, can be dated to the late pre-Roman Iron Age, the early decades of the 1st century AD.

Other features in Trenches 12, 13, and 16 contain a total of 14 sherds in a range of fabrics dating to the early Roman period, the mid to late 1st century AD. The fabrics have not been individually identified, but generically are all fine sandy fabrics, soft and

in varying colours, white, cream and greys, grouped together as fabric 5. The sherds are all small abraded body sherds, so the vessels forms cannot be determined. The fill (3205) of posthole 3206 in Trench 32, and the fill (3603) of pit 3605 in Trench 36, both contained thick-walled sherds, 9-12mm thick, in a fabric with a grey core and orange-brown oxidised surfaces containing pellets of grog, perhaps from coarse storage jars dating to the 1st century AD.

Table 1: Quantification of the Iron Age and early Roman pottery

Fabric (sherds)	F1 flint	F 2 fine flint	F 3 sandy	F4 LPRIA	F5 fine sandy	F6 grog	Sherds	weight (g)
Context/feature								
202/unstratified	17	9	2	0	0	0	28	210
212/213 posthole	3	1	3	0	0	0	7	53
214/215 pit	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	10
216/217 pit	28	1	4	0	0	0	33	175
406/407 ditch	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
410/411 pit	15	0	10	0	0	0	25	556
703/704 ditch	1	0	3	0	0	0	4	15
705/706 ditch	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5
713/714 ditch	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
803/804 pit	54	14	10	0	0	0	78	478
1002/1003 pit	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	501
1002/1003 pit	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	20
1004/1005 ditch	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	20
1012/1013 ditch	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	12
1105/1109 quarry	1	0	0	3	0	0	4	10
1106/1109 quarry	0	0	1	4	0	0	5	10
1110/1113 ditch	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	11
1114/1115 gully	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	23
1204/1205 ditch	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	9
1206/1207 ditch	0	0	0	3	4	0	7	80
1208/1209 ditch	0	0	0	9	1	0	1	8
1214/1215 ditch	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5
1309/1311 ditch	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	34
1312/1315 ditch	0	0	0	4	1	0	5	67
1316/1317 gully	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	7
1322/1323 pit	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4
1326/1327 ditch	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	6
1603/1604 ditch	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	29
1607/1608 gully	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	12
1613/1615 pit	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	82
3205/3206 posthole	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	90
3603/3605 pit	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	10
Totals	124	28	48	30	14	6	241	2565
Percentages	51.5	11.6	19.9	12.4	5.8	2.5		



a) decorated rim and body sherds, pit 217 b) burnished bowl, pit 411



c) decorated rim and body sherds, pit 804



d) near complete coarse jar, pit 1003 e) Rim from wheel-finished jar, ditch 1005

4.3 Fired clay by Pat Chapman

Just four fragments of fired clay, weighing 20g, come from three contexts. A small fragment from the fill (410) of pit 411, is pale orange in colour, irregular, soft and friable with calcareous material and a sub-rounded piece of gravel 12mm long. The sub-rectangular fragment from the fill (1012) of ditch 1013 is also soft and ranges in colour from orange to black and has a slight cindery feel from being heated. The two tiny fragments from the fill (1309) of ditch 1311 are very similar to the two fragments described above.

One sherd from context (1014), the fill of gully 1015, weighs 16g. It is 15mm thick with a smooth orange-brown surface and a rough orange surface, with a white and grey core. This could be a fragment of tile or a sherd from some oven-type structure.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Animal bone by Karen Deighton

Introduction and methodology

A small assemblage of animal bone, weighing 318g, was recovered from six Iron Age features. These were scanned to determine the species present, the state of preservation and to assess the potential for future work and to inform of future collection strategies.

Where possible, bone fragments were identified to taxa and ageable and measurable bones (after von Den Driesch 1976) were noted. Ageable elements included cheek tooth rows where tooth eruption and wear can be observed (Bull and Payne 1982 for pigs), bones where the state of epiphyseal fusion is apparent (Silver 1969) and neonatal bones. Animal bone from wet sieving (3.4mm and 1mm residues) was also included; sample sizes varied with context but were typically between 20 and 40 litres. Hand collected bones had previously been washed.

Results

Fragmentation and bone surface abrasion were particularly high due to the nature of the soil matrix, which was sandy and acidic. This poor preservation is demonstrated by the fact that 50% of the elements identifiable to taxa were teeth, which are particularly durable. No evidence for canid gnawing or butchery was noted; however, this was most likely obscured by the heavy abrasion of bone surfaces. Burning was noted on bones from contexts 1012 and 1314. The assemblage is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Animal bone identified to taxa by context

Context	410	803	805	906	1012	
Feature	Pit 411	Pit 804	Ditch 807	Ditch 908	Ditch 1013	Total
Cattle (<i>Bos</i>)	1	1	1	-	1	4
Pig (<i>Sus</i>)	1	-	-	-	-	1
Deer (<i>Cervid/capreolus</i>)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Large ungulate	1	-	-	-	-	1
Small ungulate	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	4	1	1	1	1	8

A small quantity (13g) of animal bone fragments were recovered from soil samples taken from a range of features. The fragments, which came from contexts 410, 1208, 1206 and 1314, were too small to permit identification.

Ageing and metrical data

Evidence for ageing was limited to the epiphyseal fusion of a cattle long bone and wear on pig teeth from the fill (410) of pit 411. No metrical data was available due to the high level of fragmentation.

Discussion

Due to the small size of the animal bone assemblage and its poor state of preservation, little can be said of the animal economy of the site, other than that a limited range of both domesticated and wild taxa are associated with it. Deer was represented by antler fragments only, which were too poorly preserved to speciate.

5.2 Charred plant remains by Karen Deighton

Introduction and methodology

Twelve soil samples were collected from a range of features associated with Iron Age and late Iron Age/early Roman settlement. This material was assessed to determine the presence, nature and preservation of ecofacts and to inform on future sampling strategies. The contribution to the understanding of the site was also considered.

The samples were processed using a modified siraf tank fitted with a 250 μ mesh and flot sieve. The resulting flots and residues were air-dried. Flots were examined with a microscope (10X magnification) and residues were dry sieved (3.4mm, 1mm). The retents were sorted by eye to 1mm and the fine residues were scanned with a microscope. Charred seeds and grains were identified with the aid of the author's small reference collection, Jacomet (2006) and the Scottish Crop Research Institute website (<http://asis.scri.ac.uk>).

Results

Preservation was solely by charring. Both fragmentation and surface abrasion were at a high level, which was most likely due to the acidic and abrasive nature of the soil matrix. The poor preservation adversely affected identification. Only two samples produced charcoal fragments which would be large enough (i.e. over 2mm in any direction) to permit identification. The assemblage is quantified in Table 3 and identifications to taxa are presented in Table 4 (see over).

Discussion

The small quantities of charred plant remains recovered from the majority of the samples (3, 5, 7, 10, 11 and 12) probably represents 'background' material that was washed or blown into features from activities taking place elsewhere. Sample 2, which contains charcoal only, was collected from an undated tree bowl and is possibly the remains of *in situ* burning. It could be suggested that in the remaining samples (1, 4, 8 and 9) the presence of charred ecofacts is the result of waste disposal, due to the high ratio of charcoal to seeds and grains. Alternatively the presence of a few seeds and grains could suggest the use of straw and other dried plant matter as kindling.

The cereal taxa present are not uncommon for the Iron Age. The wild/weed taxa present are all common crop weeds or weeds of disturbed ground. Indeed Fat Hen (*Chenopodium album*) is ubiquitous on archaeological sites of all periods. All the wild taxa present were annuals, however, with only 16 examples present, little significance

can be attached to this fact. Little can be added to the understanding of the economy or function of the site due to the paucity and poor condition of the material available.

Table 3: Quantification of charred plant remains by sample and context

Sample (litres)	Cut/fill	Feature	Charcoal	Cereal (grains)	Cereal (chaff)	Wild/ weed	Nutshell
1 (40)	1315/1314	Ditch	500	3	-	1	-
2 (20)	1009/1008	Tree bowl	300	-	-	-	-
3 (40)	1207/1206	Enclosure ditch	20*	6	-	-	-
4 (40)	1209/1208	Enclosure ditch	500	8	-	2	-
5 (40)	2713/2714	Ditch	50	2	1	1	-
6 (20)	204/203	Pit	600*	-	-	1	-
7 (20)	215/214	Pit	50	5	-	3	-
8 (20)	213/212	Posthole	100	9	-	-	1
9 (30)	411/410	Pit	100	-	-	1	-
10 (30)	804/803	Pit	50	7	-	3	-
11 (40)	713/714	Droeway ditch	20	-	-	3	-
12 (20)	221/220	Ditch	20	2	-	1	-
Total				42	1	16	1

Table 4: Identification of plant remains to taxa by sample and context

Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cut	1315	1009	1201	1209	2713	204
Fill	1314	1008	1206	1208	2714	203
Identification						
Spelt (<i>T. spelta</i>)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Wheat (chaff) (<i>Triticum</i> sp)	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hulled barley (<i>H. vulgare</i>)	-	-	1	-	-	-
Naked barley (<i>H. vulgare</i> var. <i>nudum</i>)	-	-	1	1	-	-
Wheat/ barley (<i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i>)	-	-	-	4	-	-
Cereal indet	3	-	4	2	1	-
Fat hen (<i>C. album</i>)	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dock type (<i>Rumex</i>)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Speedwell (<i>V. hederifolia</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild radish (<i>R. raphanistrum</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild/weed indet	-	-	-	2	-	1
<hr/>						
Sample	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cut	215	213	411	804	713	221
Fill	214	212	410	803	714	220
Identification						
Spelt (<i>T. spelta</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wheat (chaff) (<i>Triticum</i> sp)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hulled barley (<i>H. vulgare</i>)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Naked barley (<i>H. vulgare</i> var. <i>nudum</i>)	-	1	-	1	-	-
Wheat/ barley (<i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i>)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cereal indet	5	8	-	5	-	2
Fat hen (<i>C. album</i>)	-	-	-	-	3	1
Dock type (<i>Rumex</i>)	-	-	-	1	-	-
Speedwell (<i>V. hederifolia</i>)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Wild radish (<i>R. raphanistrum</i>)	-	-	1	-	-	-
Wild/weed indet	2	-	-	2	-	-

6 DISCUSSION

The evaluation broadly confirmed the results of the geophysical survey and succeeded in identifying almost all of the features interpreted as being of archaeological interest. However, there were some areas, particularly in the eastern half of Area 1, where the geophysical survey had not detected all of the features subsequently revealed by the trial trenching, including several large ditches in Trench 7 and a network of gullies and small pits in Trench 2. The reason for these features not being detected is unclear as the soil cover was no thicker than elsewhere and there was no apparent variation in the nature of the drift deposits in these areas.

In Area 1 there was evidence for two separate periods of settlement on the hill-top north of Spong Lane. The earliest settlement, which lies on the east-facing slope of the hill, dates to the middle Iron Age, with indications, based on the form and decoration of the pottery, that it was established and occupied in the early part of this period, probably in the 4th century BC.

The settlement appears to have been unenclosed and survived as a fairly dispersed network of small, shallow gullies and ditches, interspersed with a number of pits and isolated postholes. Three of the pits had vertical sides and flat bases, of a type that are typically interpreted as storage pits; two of the pits contained a small number of charred cereal grains, as well as sherds from a number of pottery vessels, and a near-complete jar was recovered from the third. The storage pits probably lay close to areas of habitation, although there was no associated evidence to determine this. Given the more-or-less complete absence of subsoil on the site to offer protection to buried remains, it is likely that any evidence for structures, in the form of ring ditches, beam slots or circuits of postholes, has been destroyed by ploughing.

The later settlement was established in the late Iron Age, probably towards the very end of the 1st century BC, and was occupied until the second half of the 1st century AD. It was situated a little further to the west, on the top of the hill and on its western flank, and it appears to have comprised three successive enclosures with an associated droveway leading over the hill from east to west. The chronology of the sequence of enclosures and their relationship with the droveway is unclear, but the geophysical survey results suggest that the enclosures are not contemporaneous and that the droveway may not be associated with all phases. Pottery from the enclosure ditches covers a relatively narrow time-span, with all of the material dating to the 1st century AD.

Within the enclosures there were a number of other smaller ditches and gullies, which probably formed internal partitions, and several shallow pits. Recognisable evidence for houses or any other structures within the enclosures was lacking, probably due to the impact of ploughing on the archaeological horizon. Due to the acidic soil conditions there was little surviving animal bone and much of what was recovered was poorly preserved, so it has not been possible to make any comment on the animal husbandry practices employed at the settlement, other than that the normal domesticated species were present. The occurrence and preservation of charred plant remains was similarly poor, with the bulk of the charcoal and charred seeds recovered representing 'background' material; only three of the samples from dated deposits produced significant quantities of charcoal. A single piece of slag recovered from one of the ditches suggests that metal-working may have been undertaken at the settlement.

Two large quarry pits were also investigated; one of these, in Trench 11, appears to have truncated the eastern ditch of one of the enclosures and it is possible that it may date to the early Roman period. The other quarry pit, in Trench 1, is undated.

To the west of Rocklands Road, in Area 2, there was a dispersed pattern of mostly undated archaeological features, the majority of which are probably the remains of a late Iron Age/early Roman field system and associated agricultural activity. These remains probably form part of the same agricultural landscape that was investigated by the excavations at Honeypots Plantation in the 2000s (NAU 2005; Hogan *et al* 2007). Part of this ditch system may include a trackway that leads across the southern part of the field in the general direction of the unevaluated rectilinear enclosure at the western edge of the area. Dating evidence was limited to six sherds of early Roman grog-tempered ware from a small pit and an isolated posthole.

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APPENDIX , summary of contexts and features

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
1	50m x 2.2m ENE-WSW		36.7-38.4m aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
101	Topsoil	Mid grey-dark brown silt with high sand content	0.28m-0.30m thick	-
102	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand with occasional pebbles		-
103	Fill Pit [105]	Dark brown-grey silty-sand with few stone inclusions	0.2m thick	-
104	Fill Pit [105]	Mid brown orange silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.35m thick	SF 13 (flint)
[105]	Quarry pit Fills 103, 104	Quarry pit	9.1m wide 0.55m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
2	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
201	Topsoil	Mid brown silt with high sand content	0.27m-0.3m thick	-
202	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand with pebbles		-
203	Fill Pit [204]	Dark orange-brown silty-sand	0.24m thick	Sample 6
[204]	Pit Fills 203	Elongated semi-circular pit	0.9m wide 0.24m deep	-
205	Fill Ditch [207]	Orange-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.3m thick	-
206	Fill Ditch [207]	Dark yellow-brown silty-sand	0.2mm thick	-
[207]	Ditch Fills 205, 206	NE-SW linear V-shaped	1.2m wide 0.54m deep	-
208	Fill Gully [209]	Mid brown silty-sand with infrequent flint inclusions	0.3m thick	-
[209]	Gully Fill 208	E-W linear V-shaped	0.4-0.5m wide 0.3m deep	-
210	Fill Ditch [211]	Dark yellow-brown silty-sand with infrequent charcoal flecking	0.1m thick	-

[211]	Ditch Fill 210	E-W linear, shallow profile	0.3m wide 0.1m deep	-
212	Fill Post hole [213]	Dark blue-brown silty-sand with charcoal in flint inclusions	0.2m thick	Pottery SF 21 Flint Sample 8
[213]	Post hole Fill 212	Circular, U-shaped profile with flat base	0.3m diameter 0.2m deep	-
214	Fill Pit [215]	Dark brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.12m thick	Pottery Sample 7
[215]	Pit Fill 214	Oval, N-S aligned, shallow flat profile	0.5m length 0.65m width 0.12m deep	-
216	Fill Pit [217]	Dark brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.27m thick	Pottery SF 15-20 flints
[217]	Pit Fill 216	Circular, U-shaped profile with flat base	0.6m diameter 0.27m deep	-
218	Fill Gully [219]	Dark brown silty-sand	0.07m thick	-
[219]	Gully Fill 218	N-S linear, shallow concave profile	0.4m wide 0.07m deep	-
220	Fill Gully [221]	Red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.44m thick	-
[221]	Gully Fill 220	E-W linear, V-shaped profile with concave base	1m wide 0.44m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
3	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
301	Topsoil	Mid brown silt with high sand content and pebbles	0.3m thick	-
302	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand and gravel		-
303	Fill [304]	Mid brown silt with high sand content and pebbles		-
[304]	Modern trench Fill 303	N-S linear		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
4	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples

401	Topsoil	Mid grey-dark brown sandy silt with stones	0.26m-0.28m thick	
402	Subsoil	Mottled red-brown sandy-silt	0m-0.12m thick	
403	Natural	Mixed sands and gravels		
404	Fill Ditch [405]	Orange-brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.38m thick	SF 22 flint
405	Ditch Fill 404	N-S linear, shallow concave profile	3m wide 0.38m deep	
406	Fill Ditch [407]	Mid-light brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.5m thick	Pottery
407	Ditch Fill 406	N-S linear, V-shaped profile	1.5m wide 0.5m thick	
408	Fill Ditch [409]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.98m thick	
409	Ditch Fill 408	N-S linear, V-shaped profile	0.32m wide 0.98m deep	
410	Fill Pit [411]	Mixed black-grey and brown-grey patches	0.72m thick	Pottery, bone, fired clay, SF 23 flint Sample 9
411	Pit Fill 410	Circular, steep sided	0.9m diameter 0.72m deep	
412	Fill Post hole [413]	Dark orange-brown silty-sand	0.31m thick	
413	Post hole Fill 412	Circular, U-shaped profile	0.4m diameter 0.31m deep	
414	Fill Post hole [415]	Orange-brown silty-sand		
415	Post hole Fill 414	Circular	0.3m diameter	
416	Fill Post hole [417]	Orange-brown silty-sand		
417	Post hole Fill 416	Circular	0.4m diameter	
418	Fill Gully [419]	Orange-brown silty-sand		
419	Gully Fill 418	N-S linear	0.5m wide	
420	Fill Pit [421]	Orange-brown silty-sand		
421	Pit Fill 420	Circular	0.5m diameter	
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
5	50m x 2.2m		aOD	aOD

	NNE-SSW			
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
501	Topsoil	Mid grey-dark brown sandy silt with pebbles	0.3m thick	-
502	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand and gravel		-
503	Fill Ditch [504]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.44m thick	-
504	Ditch Fill 503	NW-SE linear, U-shaped profile	0.68m wide 0.44m deep	-
505	Fill Ditch [507]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.26m thick	-
506	Fill Ditch [507]	Dark brown silty-sand	0.03m thick	-
507	Ditch Fills 505, 506	NW-SE linear, concave profile	1.5m wide 0.26m deep	-
508	Fill Gully [509]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.14m thick	-
509	Gully Fill 508	NW-SE linear, concave profile	0.74m wide 0.14m deep	-
510	Fill Ditch [511]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles		-
511	Ditch Fill 510	E-W linear	3.3m wide	-
512	Fill Gully [513]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.19m thick	-
513	Gully Fill 512	E-W linear, concave profile	0.55m wide 0.19m deep	-
514	Fill Ditch [515]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles		-
515	Ditch Fill 514	E-W linear	3.2m wide	-
516	Fill Gully [517]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.39m thick	-
517	Gully Fill 516	E-W linear, U-shaped profile	0.85m wide 0.39m deep	-
518	Fill Ditch [519]	Mid red-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.41m thick	-
519	Ditch Fill 518	E-W linear, concave profile with flat base	1.7m wide 0.41m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
6	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples

601	Topsoil	Mid grey-dark brown sandy silt with stones	0.3m thick	-
602	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand and gravel		-
603	Fill Gully [604]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.26m thick	-
604	Gully Fill 603	NE-SW linear, U-shaped profile	0.65m wide 0.26m deep	-
605	Fill Gully [606]	Light brown silty-sand	0.3m thick	-
606	Gully Fill 605	NE-SW linear, U shaped profile	0.9m wide 0.3m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
7	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
701	Topsoil	Mid grey-dark brown sandy silt with stones	0.34m-0.37m thick	-
702	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand and gravel		-
703	Fill Ditch [704]	Brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.24m thick	Pottery
704	Ditch Fill 703	NW-SE linear, concave profile	0.67m wide 0.24m deep	-
705	Fill Ditch [706]	Brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.34m thick	Pottery
706	Ditch Fill 705	NW-SE linear, V-shaped profile	0.75m wide 0.34m deep	-
707	Fill Ditch [708]	Brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.48m thick	-
708	Ditch Fill 707	NW-SE linear, V-shaped profile	1.38m wide 0.43m deep	-
709	Fill Ditch [710]	Brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.44m thick	-
710	Ditch Fill 709	E-W linear, concave profile	0.85m wide 0.44m deep	-
711	Fill Gully [712]	Brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.08m thick	-
712	Gully Fill 711	E-W linear, shallow profile	0.52m wide 0.08m deep	-
713	Fill Ditch [714]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.63m thick	Pottery Sample 11
714	Ditch Fill 713	E-W linear, V-shaped profile with concave base	1.9m wide 0.63m deep	-
Trench	Length, width &	NGR	Surface	Depth & height

No	alignment		height	of natural
8	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
801	Topsoil	Mid-dark grey-brown silty-clay	0.33m-0.36m thick	-
802	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand and gravel		-
803	Fill Pit [804]	Brown-grey silty-sand with some stones	1.1m thick	Pottery, bone SF 24 flint Sample 10
[804]	Pit Fill 803	Circular, U shaped profile	0.4m diameter 1.1m deep	-
805	Fill Ditch [807]	Brown-grey silty-sand with flint inclusions	1.3m wide 0.35m thick	Bone
806	Fill Ditch [807]	Mixed brown and tallow sand with occasional stones	1.2m wide 0.15m thick	-
[807]	Ditch Fills 805, 806	N-S linear, V-shaped profile	1.3m wide 0.5m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
9	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
901	Topsoil	Mid-drak brown silty-sand	0.28m-0.33m thick	-
902	Fill Ditch [903]	Light to mid- brown silty-sand	0.3m thick	-
903	Ditch Fill 902	N-S linear, shallow profile	1.02m wide 0.3m deep	-
904	Fill Gully [905]	Light to mid- brown silty-sand	0.31m thick	-
905	Gully Fill 904	NW-SE linear	0.6m wide 0.31m deep	-
906	Fill Ditch [908]	Light to mid- brown silty-sand with occasional flint	1.35m wide 0.42m thick	Bone SF 1 flint
907	Fill Ditch [908]	Mid brown with orange mottling	0.42m wide 0.03m thick	-
908	Ditch Fills 906, 907	NW-SE linear, U-shaped profile	1.35m wide 0.45m deep	-
909	Natural	Orange sand-pale yellow sand		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural

10	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1001	Topsoil	Dark brown silty-sand with flint	0.32m-0.54m thick	-
1002	Fill Pit [1003]	Light-mid grey-brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.5m thick	Pottery SF 10 flint
1003	Pit Fill 1002	Sub-circular U-shaped with flat base	2m diameter 0.5m deep	-
1004	Fill Ditch [1005]	Mixed dark brown and pale yellow silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.1m thick	Pottery
1005	Ditch Fill 1004	NE-SW linear, broad U-shaped profile	1m wide 0.1m deep	-
1006	Fill Gully [1007]	Mid yellow-brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.38m thick	-
1007	Gully Fill 1006	NE-SW linear, V-shaped profile	1.05m wide 0.38m deep	-
1008	Fill Tree bowl [1009]	Blue-black sand with charcoal inclusions	0.3m thick	-
1009	Tree bowl Fill 1008	Circular	0.3m diameter 0.3m deep	-
1010	Fill Hedgerow [1011]	Dark orange-brown silty-clay	0.15m thick	-
1011	Hedgerow Fill 1010	E-W linear	1.6m wide 0.15m deep	-
1012	Fill Ditch [1013]	Mid brown silty-sand with some flint inclusions	0.32m thick	Pottery, bone
1013	Ditch Fill 1012	E-W linear, wide shallow profile with narrow cut base	1.8m wide 0.32m deep	-
1014	Fill Gully [1015]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.3m thick	-
1015	Gully Fill 1014	E-W linear, U-shaped profile	0.8m wide 0.3m deep	-
1016	Fill Ditch [1017]	Mid brown with yellow mottling silty-sand	0.5m thick	SF 25 flint
1017	Ditch Fill 1016	E-W linear, U shaped profile with flat base	1.76m wide 0.5m deep	-
1018	Natural	Orange-yellow sand		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
11	50m x 2.2m WNW-ESE		aOD	aOD

Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1101	Topsoil	Mid brown sandy-silt	0.32m thick	-
1102	Subsoil	Mottled orange-brown sandy-silt		-
1103	Natural	Yellow to orange sands and clay		-
1104	Lower subsoil	Mid orange-brown sandy-silt		-
1105	Fill Quarry pit 1109]	Dark orange-brown silty-sand with occasional flint	20m wide 0.4m thick	Pottery
1106	Fill Quarry pit 1109]	Yellow mottled mid brown silty-sand with frequent pebbles	1.5m wide 0.46m thick	Pottery
1107	Fill Pit [1108]	Mid-dark brown silty-sand	0.21m thick	-
1108	Pit Fill 1107	Sub-circular, straight sided with rounded base	1.2m diameter 0.5m deep	-
1109	Quarry pit Fills 1105, 1106		2.2m wide 0.4m deep	-
1110	Fill Ditch 1113]	Brown mottled light yellow-orange silty-sand	1.9m wide 0.36m thick	Pottery
1111	Fill Ditch 1113]	Dark yellow-grey silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.9m wide 0.26m thick	-
1112	Fill Ditch 1113]	Light orange-brown sandy-loam	0.75 wide 0.17m thick	-
1113	Ditch Fills 1111, 1112	N-S linear, U shaped profile with flat base	1.9m wide 0.95m deep	-
1114	Fill Gully [1115]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.2m thick	Pottery
1115	Gully Fill 1114	NW-SE linear, V-shaped profile	0.8m wide 0.2m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
12	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1201	Topsoil	Mid brown sandy-silt	0.35m-0.38m thick	-
1202	Subsoil	Mottled orange-brown sandy-silt	0m-0.14m thick	-
1203	Natural	Yellow to orange sands		-
1204	Fill Ditch [1205]	Mid grey-brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.29m thick	Pottery
[1205]	Ditch	E-W linear, shallow	1.3m wide	-

	Fill 1204	concave profile	0.29m deep	
1206	Fill Ditch [1207]	Mid grey-brown silty-sand with occasional flint and charcoal	0.74m thick	Pottery Sample 3
[1207]	Ditch Fill 1206	N-S linear, concave profile	2.5m wide 0.74m deep	-
1208	Fill Ditch [1209]	Dark brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.51m thick	Pottery Sample 4
[1209]	Ditch Fill 1208	N-S linear, V-shaped profile	1.8m wide, 0.51m deep	-
1210	Fill Gully [1211]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.14m thick	-
[1211]	Gully Fill 1210	N-S linear, shallow concave profile	0.61m wide 0.14m deep	-
1212	Fill Gully [1213]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.11m thick	-
[1213]	Gully Fill 1212	N-S linear, shallow concave profile	0.48m wide 0.11m deep	-
1214	Fill Ditch [1215]	Mid grey-brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.21m thick	Pottery, slag
[1215]	Ditch Fill 1214	E-W linear, shallow concave profile	0.75m wide 0.21m deep	-
1216	Fill Tree bowl	Mid-dark brown silty-sand with charcoal and pebble inclusions	0.16m thick	-
[1217]	Tree bowl Fill 1216	Sub-circular		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
13	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1301	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay-silt with flint inclusions	0.33m thick	-
1302	Subsoil	Mid orange-brown sand	0m-0.04m thick	-
1303	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown sand with gravel		-
1304	Fill Gully [1305]	Mottled orange-brown silty-sand	0.28m thick	Bone
[1305]	Gully Fill 1304	NNE-SSW linear, concave profile	0.8m wide 0.28m deep	-
1306	Fill Gully[1308]	Mid brown silty-sand with frequent flint	0.8m wide 0.24m thick	SF 4 flint
1307	Fill Gully[1308]	Mid brown-grey sand	0.8m wide 0.5m thick	-
[1308]	Gully	N-S linear, V-shaped	0.9m wide	-

	Fills 1306, 1307	profile	0.5m deep	
1309	Fill Ditch [1311]	Mid brown silty-sand with frequent flint	1.98m wide 0.4m thick	Pottery SF 3 flint
1310	Fill Ditch [1311]	Light brown sand with frequent flint	1.5m wide 0.32m thick	-
[1311]	Ditch Fills 1309, 1310	NW-SE linear, concave shaped profile	21.m wide 0.58m deep	-
1312	Fill Ditch [1315]	Dark orange-brown silty- sand with infrequent flint	2.8m wide 0.45m thick	Pottery SF 11-12 flints
1313	Fill Ditch [1315]	Very dark orange-brown silty-clay	2.6m wide 0.2m thick	-
1314	Fill Ditch [1315]	Dark brown with black mottling silty sand with infrequent flint	2.5m wide 0.51m thick	Sample 1
[1315]	Ditch Fills 1312, 1313, 1314	NW-SE linear, V-shaped profile	3.2m wide 1.2m deep	-
1316	Fill Gully [1317]	Mottled brown with orange flecking, sandy- silt	0.24m thick	Pottery
[1317]	Gully Fill 1316	NW-SE linear, concave profile	0.46m wide 0.24m deep	-
1318	Fill Gully [1319]	Light-mid brown sandy- silt with some flint	0.18m thick	-
[1319]	Gully Fill 1318	NW-SE linear, shallow concave profile	0.7m wide 0.18m deep	-
1320	Fill Tree throw [1321]	Mottled mid brown sandy-silt	0.2m thick	-
[1321]	Tree throw Fill 1320	NW-SE linear, concave profile	0.74m wide 0.2m deep	-
1322	Fill Pit [1323]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.24m thick	Pottery
[1323]	Pit Fill 1322	Circular, steep sides with a flat base	1.1m diameter 0.21m deep	-
1324	Fill Pit [1325]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.28m thick	-
[1325]	Pit Fill 1324	Circular, concave profile	1.1m wide 0.28m deep	-
1326	Fill Ditch [1327]	Mid grey-brown silty- sand	0.8m thick	Pottery
[1327]	Ditch Fill 1326	N-S linear	1.2m wide 0.8m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
14	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD

Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1401	Topsoil	Mid to dark brown silty-clay	0.32m-0.35m thick	-
1402	Subsoil	Mottled red-brown silty-sand	0m-0.3m thick	-
1403	Natural	Mixed yellow and orange sands with pebbles		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
15	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty-loam	0.33m thick	-
1502	Natural	Yellow-orange sands with gravel		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
16	50m x 2.2m NNW-SSE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1601	Topsoil	Mid to dark brown silty-sand with small pebbles	0.32m-0.35m thick	-
1602	Natural	Yellow-orange sands		-
1603	Fill Ditch [1604]	Mid brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.25m thick	Pottery
[1604]	Ditch Fill 1603	E-W linear, wide concave profile	0.25m deep	-
1605	Fill Ditch [1606]	Light yellow-brown silty-sand with flint inclusions	0.2m thick	-
[1606]	Ditch Fill 1605	E-W linear, moderate slopes with a flat base	1.2m wide 0.2m deep	-
1607	Fill Gully [1608]	Mid brown silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.65m wide 0.23m thick	Pottery SF 2 flint
[1608]	Gully Fill 1607	NE-SW linear,	0.65m wide 0.23m deep	-
1609	Fill Gully [1610]	Mid brown with yellow mottling silty-sand	0.25m thick	-
[1610]	Gully Fill 1609	E-W linear, concave profile with ledge	0.75m wide 0.25m deep	-
1611	Fill Ditch [1612]	Light yellow-brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.31m thick	-
[1612]	Ditch Fill 1611	E-W linear, U-shaped profile	1.08m wide 0.31m deep	-

1613	Fill Pit [1615]	Mid brown silty-sand with frequent flint	0.31m thick	Pottery SF 6-9, 31 flints
1614	Fill Pit [1615]	Light brown sand with frequent flint	0.13m thick	
[1615]	Pit Fills 1613, 1614	Circular, concave shaped profile	1.5m diameter 0.42m deep	
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
17	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1701	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown silty- loam	0.27m-0.31m thick	-
1702	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown- orange sands		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
18	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1801	Topsoil	Grey-brown silty-sand	0.3m thick	-
1802	Natural	Mottled yellow-brown- orange sands		-
1803	Fill Gully [1804]	Dark yellow-brown silty- clay with occasional flint	0.19m thick	-
[1804]	Gully Fill 1803	N-S linear, V-shaped profile	0.85m wide 0.19m deep	-
1805	Fill Ditch [1807]	Light yellow-brown silty- sand with occasional flint	1.9m wide 0.2m thick	-
1806	Fill Ditch [1807]	Dark yellow-brown silty- clay	1.3m wide 0.25m thick	-
[1807]	Ditch Fills 1805, 1806	N-S linear, eroded V- shaped profile	1.9m wide 0.45m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
24	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
2401	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.3m-0.4m thick	-
2402	Subsoil	Orange-red silty-sand	0m-0.1m thick	-
2403	Natural	Orange-yellow sand with flint inclusions		-

Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
25	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
2501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.38m-0.42m thick	-
2502	Subsoil	Orange-red silty-sand		-
2503	Natural	Orange-yellow sand with flint inclusions		-
2504	Fill Gully [2505]	Mid red-0brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.18m thick	-
[2505]	Gully Fill 2504	NE-SW linear, concave profile	0.4m wide 0.18m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
26	50m x 2.2m N-S		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
2601	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.35m-0.45m thick	-
2602	Subsoil	Orange-red silty-sand	0.05m-0.1m thick	-
2603	Natural	Mixed yellow and orange sandy gravel		-
2604	Fill Pit [2605]	Mid grey-brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.16m thick	-
[2605]	Pit Fill 2604	Oval, concave profile	0.93 long 0.61m wide 0.16m deep	-
2606	Fill Pit [2608]	Dark grey silty-sand	0.18m thick	-
2607	Fill Pit [2608]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.15m thick	-
[2608]	Pit Fills 2606, 2607	Circular, concave profile with dip in the middle	1m diameter 0.33m deep	-
2609	Fill Ditch [2610]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.28m thick	-
[2610]	Ditch Fill 2609	E-W linear, concave profile	0.8m wide 0.28m deep	-
2611	Fill Ditch [2612]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional flint	0.22m thick	-
[2612]	Ditch Fill 2611	E-W linear, concave profile	1.1m wide 0.22m deep	-
Trench	Length, width &	NGR	Surface	Depth & height

No	alignment		height	of natural
27	50m x 2.2m N-S		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
2701	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.4m thick	-
2702	Subsoil	Brown-orange silty-sand with flint inclusions	0m-0.15m thick	-
2703	Natural	Yellow-orange mottled sandy gravel		-
2704	Fill Ditch [2705]	Light brown silty-sand	0.1m thick	-
[2705]	Ditch Fill 2704	N-S linear, shallow profile	0.9m wide, 0.1m deep	-
2706	Fill Ditch [2707]	Light brown silty-sand	0.22m thick	SF 26 flint
[2707]	Ditch Fill 2706	N-S linear, shallow profile	0.8m wide 0.22m thick	-
2708	Fill Ditch [2710]	Light brown silty-sand	0.8m wide 0.2m thick	SF 27 flint
2709	Fill Ditch [2710]	Mid brown silty-sand	0.8m wide 0.16m thick	-
[2710]	Ditch Fills 2708, 2709	E-W linear, steep sides with concave base	0.8m wide 0.36m deep	-
2711	Fill Ditch [2712]	Dark orange-brown silty-clay	0.4m thick	SF 28 flint
[2712]	Ditch Fill 2711	E-W linear, gentle slopes and flat base	0.4m deep	-
2713	Fill Ditch [2714]	Dark orange-brown silty-sand	0.3m thick	Sample 5
[2714]	Ditch Fill 2713	E-W linear, shallow profile	0.8m wide 0.3m deep	-
2715	Fill Ditch [2716]	Dark red-brown silty-sand	0.16m thick	SF 29 flint
[2716]	Ditch Fill 2715	NE-SW linear, shallow U-shape profile	1.1m wide 0.16m deep	-
2717	Fill Ditch [2718]	Dark yellow-brown silty-sand	0.16m thick	-
[2718]	Ditch Fill 2717	E-W linear, U-shaped profile	1.2m wide 0.16m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
28	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples

2801	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.4m-0.45m thick	-
2802	Subsoil	Brown-orange silty-sand with flint inclusions	0m-0.1m thick	-
2803	Natural	Mixed yellow and orange sandy gravels		-
2804	Fill Pit [2805]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.31m thick	-
[2805]	Pit Fill 2804	Oval, concave profile	1.6m long 0.6m wide 0.31m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
29	50m x 2.2m E-W		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
2901	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.35m-0.4m thick	-
2902	Natural	Light yellow silty-sand with gravel		-
2903	Fill Pit [2904]	Dark brown silty-sand	0.2m thick	-
[2904]	Pit Fill 2903	Sub-circular, concave profile	0.9m diameter 0.2m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
30	50m x 2.2m N-S		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3001	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.3m thick	-
3002	Natural	Yellow-orange sand with patches of orange gravel		-
3003	Fill Ditch [3004]	Light brown silty-sand with frequent inclusions	0.28m thick	-
[3004]	Ditch Fill 3003	E-W linear, U-shaped profile	1m wide 0.28m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
31	50m x 2.2m NNE-SSW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3101	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.35m-0.4m thick	-

3102	Natural	Orange-yellow sandy-gravel		-
3103	Fill Post hole [3104]	Dark bluish-black sand	0.2m thick	-
[3104]	Post hole Fill 3103	Sub-circular, steep sides with concave base	0.3m diameter 0.2m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
32	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3201	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.4m thick	-
3202	Natural	Orange-yellow sands and gravels		-
3203	Fill Ditch [3204]	Grey-brown silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.8m wide 0.16m thick	-
[3204]	[Ditch] Fills 3203, 3210	E-W linear, concave profile	0.28m wide 0.8m deep	-
3205	Fill Post hole [3506]	Light brown-grey silty-sand	0.24m wide 0.16m thick	Pottery
[3206]	Post hole Fills 3205, 3209	Circular, almost U-shaped profile	0.44m diameter 0.16m deep	-
3207	Fill Ditch [3208]	Light brown silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.38m deep	-
[3208]	Ditch Fill 3207	NE-SSW linear, V-shaped with concave base	1.3m wide 0.38m deep	-
3209	Post pipe Post hole [3206]	Brown-grey silty-sand with frequent flint inclusions	0.2m wide 0.16m thick	-
3210	Fill Ditch [3204]	Brown-orange silty-sand with frequent pebbles	0.7m wide 0.12m thick	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
33	50m x 2.2m NNW-SSE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3301	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.35m-0.5m thick	-
3302	Natural	Orange-yellow sands and gravels, grey sand at North end		-
3303	Fill Ditch [3305]	Brown-orange silty-sand	0.8m wide 0.36m thick	SF 30 flint

3304	Fill Ditch [3305]	Grey-brown silty-sand	0.4m wide 0.41m thick	-
[3305]	Ditch Fill 3303, 3304	E-W linear, V-shaped profile	0.8m wide 0.46m deep	-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
34	50m x 2.2m NNE-SSW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3401	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.4m thick	-
3402	Fill Ditch [3404]	Dark grey-silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.18m thick	-
3403	Fill Ditch [3404]	Mid brown silty-sand with occasional pebbles	0.23m thick	-
[3404]	Ditch Fills 3403, 3404	NW-SE linear, V-shaped profile	0.65m-1.05m wide 0.41m deep	-
3405	Natural	Mixed orange sand and gravels		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
35	50m x 2.2m NW-SE		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.34m-0.4m thick	-
3502	Natural	Orange sand		-
Trench No	Length, width & alignment	NGR	Surface height	Depth & height of natural
36	50m x 2.2m NE-SW		aOD	aOD
Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
3601	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy loam with frequent flint	0.3m-0.4m thick	-
3602	Natural	Mixed orange and yellow sands and gravels		-
3603	Fill Pit [3605]	Dark brown silty-sand	0.8m wide 0.11m thick	Pottery
3604	Fill Pit [3605]	Grey-brown silty-sand	0.7m wide 0.18m thick	-
[3605]	Pit Fills 3603, 3604	Circular, concave profile	1m diameter 0.2m deep	-



Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology



Middle Iron Age jar from pit 1003, Trench 10

Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE

T 01604 700493 | 01604 702822
E sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
W www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council