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Wessex Archaeology



Eastern Infrastructure,
Salisbury Plain Training Area,
Wiltshire

Archaeological Field Evaluation

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**EASTERN INFRASTRUCTURE,
SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA,
WILTSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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**EASTERN INFRASTRUCTURE,
SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA,
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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SUMMARY

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Enviros Consulting Ltd on behalf of Debut Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation in respect of land along the proposed eastern access track within Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA), Wiltshire. The proposed project entails the construction of some 37.4km of road linking the Northern Transit Route, south of Casterley Camp, with the existing Southern Transit Route, near the Cross Country Driving Area, west of Tidworth Garrison. Even though much of the Route will follow existing or informal tracks, the proposed road will be constructed to the increased width and dimensions required by the current and projected volumes of military traffic using the SPTA.

The evaluation trenching, totalling 59 machine excavated trenches between 10m and 50m in length, was undertaken in eight areas along the proposed route.

- Area 1 lay to the south of Upavon Airfield, centred on NGR 415700 154000;
- Area 2 lay to the east of Upavon Camp, centred on NGR 416700 155250;
- Area 3 lay immediately to the east of Grants Firs, centred on NGR 417600 155100;
- Area 4 lay to the south-west of Everleigh Ashes, centred on NGR 419600 155950;
- Area 5 lay to the north-west of CC crossing, centred on NGR 423350 151600;
- Area 6 lay to the east of Somme Road, centred on NGR 426200 149450;
- Area 7 lay to the south-east of Somme Road, centred on NGR 426190 149070; and
- Area 8 lay to the east of Bulford Ranges, centred on NGR 422400 146300.

The trenches were targeted on anomalies and blank areas detected by the geophysical surveys carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd in January/February 2007. The evaluation trenching was undertaken between 27th February and 15th March 2007.

Possible archaeological features were sample excavated. The majority of these were proven to be either of geological origin or the result of tree root action; modern agricultural features, mostly plough scars, were also noted in many of the trenches. With regards to Area 1 the most significant find was that

of a Romano-British burial in Trench 4. Prehistoric worked flint was recovered from the upper fill of a large ditch or elongated pit in Trench 12, along with possible Romano-British pottery. An undated linear feature, possibly a field boundary, was also excavated in the same trench. Romano-British or later and undated lynchets were encountered in Trenches 1, 3 and 6 and undated colluvial deposits were recorded in Trenches 8 and 9.

A small and apparently isolated prehistoric pit was encountered in Trench 13 which was the only datable prehistoric feature recorded in Area 2. Undated ditches/linear features, possibly representing former field boundaries, were encountered in Trenches 15, 19, 23 and 24. A group of three military practice trenches of probable early 20th century date were also excavated in Trench 24.

The only possible archaeological features encountered in Area 3 were large numbers of possible post-holes and stake-holes found in Trench 25.

The only archaeologically significant feature encountered in Area 4 comprised an undated ditch, possibly a former field boundary, in Trench 31.

Significant archaeological features were encountered in two trenches in Area 5. A large undated pit was excavated in Trench 34 and three ditches, all aligned approximately east-west, were recorded in Trench 35. It is suggested that these features are of prehistoric origin not only due to their form but also the datable evidence (a single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery) and the close proximity of a known Bronze Age barrow cemetery.

No significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered in Area 6; the only features recorded comprise undated tree throws and modern agricultural features.

The only significant feature encountered in Area 7 comprised a possible early modern military, trackway or railbed in Trench 46.

Only one significant archaeological feature was encountered in Area 8. This comprised a moderately sized pit of prehistoric date which was excavated in Trench 52.

**EASTERN INFRASTRUCTURE,
SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA,
WILTSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The excavation was commissioned by Enviros Consulting Ltd on behalf of Debut Services Ltd and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Austin Jones, David Sellwood and Rebecca Thompson-Lawrence of Enviros for their help and advice. Ian Barnes, Bob McAlister, Rowan Watts and Martin Brown of Defence Estates are also thanked for their help and advice. The fieldwork was monitored by Sue Farr, of Wiltshire County Council and Martin Brown of Defence Estates. Thanks are also due to W/O Les French (MoD Range Safety Officer), Mike Edwards (MoD Land Warden) and the EOC munitions clearance team that cleared the areas around Trenches 10, 11 and 12 (Area 1). Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank the tenant farmers, Mr. Wookey, Mr May, Mr. Carter, Mr. Gordon and Mr. Savidge, for facilitating access to the Schedule 1 areas.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Charlotte Matthews and Paul White. The fieldwork was directed by Vaughan Birbeck, assisted by Gemma White. The field team comprised Tristan Adfield, Darren Baker, Ágústa Edwald, Zolt Magyar and Paul Squires and their contribution to the successful completion of the project is gratefully acknowledged, as is that of the JCB drivers Nigel Mogg and Justin Barclay.

EASTERN INFRASTRUCTURE, SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA, WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was invited by Enviros Consulting Ltd on behalf of Debut Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation in respect of land along a proposed eastern access track within Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA), Wiltshire. The evaluation was preceded by a desk-based assessment in July 2006 (Wessex Archaeology 2006a), a walkover survey in November 2006 (Wessex Archaeology 2006b), a geophysical survey in January/February 2007 (Archaeological Surveys 2007) and an earthwork survey in March 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007a). It was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (**Appendix 2**, Wessex Archaeology 2007b). The evaluation was required in order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy for the proposed track.

1.1.2 The proposed project entails the construction of some 37.4km of road linking the Northern Transit Route, south of Casterley Camp, with the existing Southern Transit Route, near the Cross Country Driving Area, west of Tidworth Garrison (hereafter 'the Route'- **Figure 1**). Although much of the Route will follow existing or informal tracks, the proposed road will be constructed to the increased width and dimensions required by the current and projected volumes of military traffic using the SPTA.

1.1.3 The evaluation trenching, totalling 59 machine excavated trenches between 10m and 50m in length, was undertaken in eight areas (**Figure 1**) along the proposed route. The trenches were targeted on anomalies and blank areas detected by the geophysical surveys carried out in January/February 2007. The fieldwork was undertaken between 27th February and 15th March 2007.

1.2 The Site, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Salisbury Plain Training Area lies within the centre and east of Wiltshire and covers 38,000ha. Eight lengths of the track were evaluated with trial trenching (see **Figure 1**). These sections will be impacted by the proposed track and have been numbered Areas 1 to 8 starting in the west and continuing clockwise.

- Area 1 is located in a large dry valley and adjacent ridge top to the south-east of Upavon Airfield and is centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 415700 154000.
- Areas 2 and 3 are located on gently undulating chalk downland to the east of Upavon Camp. Area 2 is centred on NGR 416700 155250, while Area 3 lay immediately to the east of Grants Firs, centred on NGR 417600 155100.
- Area 4 is located on a gentle south-west facing slope south-west of Everleigh Ashes and is centred on NGR 419600 155950.
- Area 5 is located to the north-west of CC crossing, across a low hill north of Tidworth close to Barrow Plantation and is centred on NGR 423350 151600.
- Areas 6 and 7 are located lie to the east of Somme Road on a gentle south facing slope in Perham Down and are centred on NGR 426200 149450 and NGR 426190 149070 respectively.
- Area 8 lies to the east of Bulford Ranges on a gentle south facing slope to the north of the Cross Belt and south of Tidworth and is centred on NGR 422400 146300.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1959, Sheet 282, Devizes) shows that the proposed track mainly lies on Upper Chalk.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Salisbury Plain Training Area is well known for its prehistoric archaeology including round and long barrows, field systems and enclosures and contains over 2,300 archaeological sites and monuments from all ages. The area has been in military use for over 100 years and contains features associated with the development of warfare over this period.
- 2.2 Recent geophysical survey located a number of anomalies within the eight sections of the proposed track (Archaeological Surveys 2007). The survey area with the most potential for features of archaeological significance was Area 5 to the north of Tidworth which contained positive curvilinear anomalies that may relate to cut features associated with at least on ring ditch. Area 1 to the south of Upavon Airfield contained evidence for at least two possible former field boundaries and also a zone of magnetic debris that relates to a spread of buried munitions.
- 2.3 The geophysical survey found that most of the survey areas contain discrete low magnitude positive responses, that although they appeared pit-like, could not be accurately characterised as such. It is possible that these are a response to geological/pedological features. Areas 2, 3 and 9 contained positive curvilinear anomalies of an uncertain origin and which may represent archaeological features.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the evaluation was to establish within the constraints of the evaluation sampling strategy the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the eight areas.
- 3.2 The evaluation also aimed to enhance the existing archaeological data for the proposed track to enable informed decisions to be made on the archaeological potential of the proposed route, its likely impact and the mitigation measures required to remove, reduce or ameliorate those impacts. This would be accomplished by taking into account the quality and importance of the archaeology and the engineering requirements of the engineer responsible for the construction of the track.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. In order to inform any further archaeological mitigation, the evaluation trenches were targeted on geophysical anomalies, especially those which have a potential for having some archaeological significance. The evaluation also aimed to investigate geophysical blank areas to confirm that these areas were devoid of archaeological features and deposits. The trench layout was agreed at a meeting with Sue Farr, Assistant Archaeologist at Wiltshire County Council, and Martin Brown, Environmental Adviser (Archaeology) of the Environmental Support Team for Defence Estates (hereafter the Curators).
- 4.2 The final positions of a few of the trenches required some minor relocation subject to Health and Safety considerations, and access. The final location and extent of all trenches was agreed prior to commencement with the Curators.
- 4.3 All trenches were excavated by machine (JCB excavator) using a wide toothless bucket, under the constant supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist. Mechanical excavation proceeded to the surface of any archaeological deposits or, in their absence, the natural geological substrata (Upper Chalk).
- 4.4 Trenches were hand cleaned and archaeological deposits recorded and sample excavated as appropriate. All trenches were located in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid using dGPS, with all archaeological features related to Ordnance Survey Datum and recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.5 Excavation of archaeological features and deposits was kept to the minimum necessary to achieve the project objectives and was not unduly damaging to the integrity of deposits where their preservation *in situ* is desirable. Decisions on the sampling of features and deposits

during the course of the evaluation were undertaken in consultation with the Curators. The human burial encountered in Trench 4 was not excavated or otherwise removed, but was sufficiently exposed and recorded to allow observation of grave cut, possible burial position and coffin fittings.

- 4.6 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts were retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit.
- 4.7 All artefacts were, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted and identified. The X-raying of objects has been undertaken by the staff of the Wiltshire Museums and Library Service Conservation Consortium, Chippenham.
- 4.8 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, charcoal, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated archaeological deposits.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Trench descriptions, giving brief soil and feature descriptions is given in **Appendix 1**. More detailed descriptions are available in the site archive. The locations of the eight separate areas are shown on **Figure 1** and the trench locations are shown on **Figures 2-6**. Those trenches containing significant archaeological remains are shown in more detail on **Figures 7-13**. Possible archaeological features were sample excavated. The majority of these were proven to be either of geological origin or the result of tree root action; modern features of agricultural origin, mostly plough scars, were also noted in many of the trenches.
- 5.1.2 The most significant find in Area 1 was that of a Romano-British burial in Trench 4. Prehistoric worked flint was recovered from the upper fill of a large ditch or elongated pit in Trench 12, along with possible Romano-British pottery. An undated linear feature, possibly a field boundary, was also excavated in the same trench. Romano-British or later and undated lynchets were encountered in Trenches 1, 3 and 6 and undated colluvial deposits were recorded in Trenches 8 and 9. The nature of the thick clay and flint deposits encountered in Trenches 2 and 5 is uncertain; these could be purely geological in origin.
- 5.1.3 A small and apparently isolated prehistoric pit encountered in Trench 13 was the only datable prehistoric feature recorded in Area 2. Undated ditches/linear features, possibly representing former field boundaries, were encountered in Trenches 15, 19, 23 and 24. A group of three military practice trenches of probable early 20th century date, or

perhaps three parts of the same trench system, were also excavated in Trench 24.

- 5.1.4 The only possible archaeological features encountered in Area 3 were large numbers of possible post-holes and stake-holes found in Trench 25.
- 5.1.5 The only archaeologically significant feature encountered in Area 4 comprised an undated ditch, possibly a former field boundary, in Trench 31.
- 5.1.6 Significant archaeological features were encountered in two trenches in Area 5. A large undated pit was excavated in Trench 34 and three ditches, all aligned approximately east-west, were recorded in Trench 35. It is suggested that these features are of prehistoric origin not only due to their form but also the dating evidence (a single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery) and the close proximity of a known Bronze Age barrow cemetery.
- 5.1.7 No significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered in Area 6; the only features recorded comprise undated tree throws and modern agricultural features.
- 5.1.8 The only significant feature encountered in Area 7 comprised a possible modern, early military, trackway or railbed in Trench 46.
- 5.1.9 Only one significant archaeological feature was encountered in Area 8. This comprised a moderately sized pit of prehistoric date which was excavated in Trench 52.

5.2 Probable Geological Deposits

- 5.2.1 The thick deposits of clay and flint and redeposited chalk recorded in Trenches 2 and 5 (**Figure 7**) appear to be filling wide gullies in the western side of the large coomb or dry valley in the southern end of Area 1. The very irregular form of these gullies, their alignment down the prevailing slope and the very mixed and contorted fills suggest a geological origin, possibly periglacial. It is, however, possible that these deposits represent fluvial erosion caused by woodland clearance and/or tillage, similar to deposits recorded at Strawberry Hill, Wiltshire (Allen 1992). The only datable material recovered from these deposits comprised two small sherds of Romano-British pottery from the upper clay and flint fill from Trench 5 (**0504**), which could indicate that such erosion may be the result of agricultural intensification and excessive ploughing in the area during this period.

5.3 Prehistoric

- 5.3.1 Only a small number of prehistoric features were encountered during the course of the evaluation; these comprised two apparently isolated

pits in Areas 2 and 8 and a group of three ditches and a large pit in Area 5 (**Figure 11**). Residual worked flint of probable prehistoric date was recovered from the topsoil and from the fills of later features in Area 1, indicating prehistoric activity in the general vicinity, but no definite features of this date were identified. A single small sub-circular pit (**1305 – Figure 8**), approximately 1.1m in diameter and 0.25m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a slightly irregular concave base was recorded in Trench 13 (Area 2). This was dated to the Middle-Late Bronze Age on the basis of three small sherds of pottery recovered from its single fill (**1304**) along with a small assemblage of burnt flint. The bulk environmental sample taken from this feature was devoid of charred plant remains with only a few fragments of wood charcoal, suggesting that this was probably remote from any contemporary settlement. A similar, apparently isolated sub-circular pit (**5203 – Figure 13**), 1.07m long, 0.8m wide and 0.26m deep with near vertical, straight sides and a flat base, was recorded in Trench 52 (Area 8). This was also dated to the Middle-Late Bronze Age, on the basis of a single sherd of pottery recovered from its single fill (**5202**).

- 5.3.2 Although only one of the three approximately east-west aligned ditches encountered in Trench 35 (Area 5) (**3509 – Figure 11**) produced any datable material, a single small sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery, the other ditches are assumed to be broadly contemporary. Ditch **3509** is a possible re-cut of an earlier ditch, **3502**. However, it is possible that the calcareous primary fill of ditch **3502** represents material eroded from a bank to the south of the ditch and the fills of the putative re-cut **3509** are in fact merely secondary fills of ditch **3502**; which was 1.5m wide and 0.5m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a flat base. The other two ditches encountered in Trench 35 (**3503** and **3512 – Figure 11**) were also aligned east-west; both were approximately 1.4m wide and between 0.55m and 0.68m deep. Ditch **3512** had moderately steep, straight sides and a flat base with a regular symmetrical profile whereas ditch **3503** had steeply sloping, irregular sides and an irregular base and an asymmetric profile. No datable finds were recovered from either of these two ditches although on the basis of their alignment, parallel to the Late Bronze Age ditch **3502/3509** and their proximity to known funerary monuments of this date, approximately 200m to the west, they are assumed to be of prehistoric date.
- 5.3.3 The large sub-circular pit (**3407 – Figure 11**) excavated in Trench 34 (Area 5) was 1.95m long, 1.86m wide and 1.13m deep with vertical-undercutting sides and a flat base. Although no finds were recovered from any of the five fills identified within this feature, its size and form are very similar to those of dated examples of Bronze Age and Iron Age pits excavated elsewhere on Salisbury Plain (Powell forthcoming, site SRR 085 - East of Quebec Barn: Ellis forthcoming) and this feature is assumed to be of broadly later prehistoric date.

5.3.4 The only other dated feature encountered in Area 5 comprised a sub-circular probable tree throw (**3602 – Figure 11**) over 1.3m long, 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep with irregular sides and base. A single small sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery and a flint flake of probable prehistoric date were recovered from its single fill.

5.4 Romano-British

5.4.1 Evidence of Romano-British activity is confined to Area 1; features and deposits of probable Romano-British date were encountered in Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5 and 12 whilst a sherd of Romano-British coarseware pottery was recovered from a later deposit in Trench 6.

5.4.2 The most significant feature was a single rectangular grave (**0401 – Figure 7**) found in Trench 4 (Area 1), this was aligned approximately south-west to north-east and was over 2m long, 0.75m wide and over 0.1m deep with vertical sides. Excavation was curtailed when the skull of skeleton **0403 (Figure 7)** and possible coffin nails and fittings were recognised within fill **0402 (Figure 7)**. Two small sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the backfill of the grave before excavation was halted. Only a part of the skull of skeleton **0403** was exposed, however, from the position of this and the arrangement of coffin nails recognised within the fill, it is assumed to have been in a supine, extended position, with the head to the south-west. Although the whole of Trench 4 was carefully hand cleaned, no further graves were recognised. Whilst this may be an isolated burial it is also possible that it represents part of a larger cemetery that has not been identified by the evaluation.

5.4.3 A further feature, dated to the Romano-British period on the basis of a single sherd of pottery recovered from the uppermost fill, was encountered in Trench 12 (Area 1) (**1201 – Figure 7**). This was a large linear feature or an elongated pit and Trench 12 was positioned to investigate a linear magnetic anomaly. However, hand excavation indicated that if it is a ditch, Trench 12 lies very close to its north-eastern terminal. Feature **1201** was approximately 2.8m wide, over 1.5m long and 1m deep with steep, irregular sides and a fairly flat base. The basal fills of this feature comprised redeposited chalk rubble (**1205 – Figure 7**) overlain by a reddish brown silty clay (**1204 – Figure 7**) with sparse flint inclusions. This was in turn overlain by a dark greyish brown, slightly humic, silty clay loam with common flint inclusions (**1203 – Figure 7**). A bulk environmental sample taken from this deposit contained little other than finer wood charcoal and unidentifiable fragments of conglomerated charred material. This material had no visible structure and is possibly from wood sap, but could be from plant stems or some other organic material. No diagnostic material was recovered and there is no indication as to the presence of settlement or domestic activities in the immediate area, suggesting that this feature was remote from any associated settlement.

5.4.4 The uppermost fill (1202 – **Figure 7**) of feature 1201 comprised a reddish brown silty clay with abundant large flint inclusions and was the only fill that contained any datable material. A single rim sherd of colour coated ware from the New Forest production centre, datable to the later 3rd or 4th century, was recovered along with a small assemblage of worked flint, including several which are similar in colouring and presence of cortex which suggests derivation from a single nodule in a single knapping episode (although none refit); these pieces are in relatively fresh condition, and are unpatinated but must be residual within this feature.

5.4.5 Romano-British pottery was recovered in small quantities from the lynchets encountered in Trenches 1 and 3, along with small quantities of prehistoric worked flint and from a probable tree throw (0606) in Trench 6, although post-medieval pottery was also recovered from this deposit. The lynchets encountered in Trenches 1, 3 and 6 (**Figure 7**) appear to represent parts of a larger system of strip lynchets along the lower slopes of the large coomb or dry valley in the south of Area 1. These lynchets appear to have been between 4.5m and 7m wide and appear to have followed the contours of the coomb. It is possible that these features were formed over an extended period of time and may even have started to form in the late prehistoric period. They could also represent the intensification of arable agriculture in the Romano-British period that has been noted elsewhere on Salisbury Plain (McOmish et al 2002, 87-88). The two small fragments of medieval roof tile were recovered from the upper fill (0102) of negative lynchet 0101 in Trench 1 (**Figure 7**). They were found in the upper surface of the deposit and may not necessarily indicate the actual date of the deposit; they do however call into question the Romano-British date assigned to this lynchet system. The dating of such large and extensive features as lynchets on the basis of so few finds and very limited excavations is fraught with difficulties and this dating should be viewed with due caution.

5.5 Post Romano-British

5.5.1 A probable tree throw (0606 – **Figure 7**), an irregular sub-oval feature over 1m long, 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep with irregular sides and base, in Trench 6 (Area 1) produced a single sherd of post-medieval pottery along with a small sherd of Romano-British pottery.

5.5.2 Three of the linear features encountered in Trench 24 (2404, 2408 and 2410) in Area 2 (**Figure 8**) which were approximately 0.9m wide and between 0.98 and 1.08m deep with vertical sides and flat bases. Small quantities of early 20th century material, including fragments of a tea mug, part of a tin can and large quantities of iron slag were recovered from the fills of these features but were not retained. The only find to be retained was a complete small bottle of similar date from the fill of feature 2410. The form and date of these features identify them as military practice trenches, probably small slit trenches. The early 20th

century date suggests that these may have been constructed during the period 1914-18 although military practice trenches have been excavated on Salisbury Plain from as early as 1902 (McOmish et al 2002, 139).

- 5.5.3 Another probable military structure, possibly a railbed or trackway, comprising two parallel stone filled trenches, approximately 2.4m apart was traced on its approximately north-south alignment for over 3.6m within Trench 46 (Area 7) (**Figure 12**).
- 5.5.4 Although not investigated, a number of small, irregular features were noted in Trench 11 (Area 1); one of these was found to contain at least 2 "practice bombs" and no further excavation was undertaken for health and safety reasons. A total of 18 of these "practice bombs" were removed from the immediate vicinity of Trench 11 prior to machine excavation and it appears that there was probably a bombing target in the immediate vicinity in the 1920s or 1930s (EOC team pers. comm.).

5.6 Undated

- 5.6.1 In addition to the two probable tree throws that produced pottery of Late Bronze Age (feature **3602** in Trench 36 (Area 5 – **Figure 11**)) and post-medieval (feature **0606** in Trench 6 (Area 1 – **Figure 7**)) date, six further probable tree throws, all undated, were sample excavated in Trenches 18 (**1803**), 22 (**2204** and **2206**) (Area 2 – **Figure 8**), 27 (**2704**) (Area 3 - **Figure 9**), 41 (**4104**) and 45 (**4504**) (Area 6 – **Figure 12**). The colluvial deposits recorded in the steeper sided northern end of the large coomb or dry valley in Area 1 (Trenches 8 and 9) were undated, but are likely to have formed over an extended period and are the result of soil movement downslope due to ploughing.
- 5.6.2 An undated ditch (**0604** – **Figure 7**), aligned approximately north-east to south-west, along the prevailing slope, was excavated in Trench 6 (Area 1). This was 0.65m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a concave base and may possibly represent a former field boundary. No datable finds were recovered from the rather irregular linear feature (**1206**) encountered in Trench 12 (**Figure 12**). This was aligned approximately north-south and was over 6.5m long, over 0.9m wide and 0.5m deep with steep, irregular edges and a flat base. The nature and date of this feature are uncertain although it may be significant that the upper fill of this feature (**1207**) was very similar in colour, texture and appearance to the upper fill of the Romano-British feature (**1201**) just 6.5m to the south.
- 5.6.3 In Area 2, undated linear features were encountered in Trenches 15, 19, 23 and 24. The small ditch excavated in Trench 15 (**1501** – **Figure 8**) was aligned approximately east-west and was 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately steep sides and a flat base. This probably represents a former field boundary of unknown date. Two shallow, irregular linear features (**1901** and **1903** – **Figure 8**) were excavated in

Trench 19. These were between 0.6m and 1m wide and between 0.05m and 0.09m deep with irregular sides and bases and both were filled with very similar light brown silty clay deposits. Whilst these features could represent a very heavily truncated field boundary their very irregular form could suggest a recent agricultural origin.

- 5.6.4 The date and function of the broad linear feature (**2304 – Figure 8**) encountered in Trench 23 (Area 2) is uncertain. This feature was aligned approximately east-west and was 3.6m wide and 0.25m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base. This could represent a former field boundary, although its excessive width in comparison to its depth suggests otherwise. Trench 23 was targeted to investigate a curvilinear anomaly detected by the geophysical survey and it appears that this feature with its curving form and shallow profile, could be a small track or hollow way. No datable finds were recovered from the fills of this feature but the small quantity of iron slag recovered from the upper fill, (**2305**) could indicate that this feature was broadly contemporary with the military practice trenches encountered in Trench 24, which also contained quantities of iron slag.
- 5.6.5 The small undated linear feature (**2406 – Figure 8**) excavated in Trench 24 was aligned approximately north-south and was 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep with irregular, concave sides and an irregular base. This was sealed below the subsoil encountered in this trench (**2402**), which was cut by the military practice trenches, indicating that this feature pre-dates the early 20th century. The function of this feature is uncertain; it appears too shallow and irregular to represent a former field boundary, although no alternative interpretation is suggested.
- 5.6.6 A concentration of 55 possible post-hole and stake-holes and a single small pit, all undated, were encountered in Trench 25 (Area 3) (**Figure 9**). Although only a few of these features were sample excavated, careful hand cleaning of the trench allowed them to be distinguished from other, probably geological features, in the same trench. The fills of the possible features were either mid brown silty clay loams or yellowish brown silty clay, suggesting that they may represent at least two phases of construction. No coherent structures could be discerned and the absence of any datable material means that the activity represented by these features is uncertain.
- 5.6.7 An undated ditch, aligned approximately north-east to south-west (**3104 – Figure 10**) was recorded in Trench 31 in Area 4. This was 1.45m wide and 0.59m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base and probably represents a former field boundary.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the evaluation, deriving from 14 separate contexts in 12 trenches. This small assemblage includes material of prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval date. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

| Tr | Context | Burnt Flint | Worked Flint | Prehist Pottery | Roman Pottery | P-Med Pottery | Other Finds |
|----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 0100 | | 1/5 | | | | |
| 1 | 0102 | | | | | | 2 ceramic roof tile |
| 1 | 0104 | | | | 5/3 | | 1 iron |
| 3 | 0307 | 1/52 | 2/1 | | 1/4 | | |
| 4 | 0402 | 2/29 | | | 2/5 | | 4 iron |
| 5 | 0504 | | | | 2/2 | | |
| 6 | 0607 | | | | | 1/11 | |
| 12 | 1202 | 5/133 | 14/145 | | 1/4 | | |
| 13 | 1304 | 10/171 | | 3/2 | | | |
| 23 | 2305 | | | | | | 11g slag |
| 24 | 2411 | | | | | | 1 glass bottle |
| 35 | 3511 | | | 1/2 | | | |
| 36 | 3601 | | 1/1 | 1/2 | | | |
| 52 | 5202 | | | 1/2 | | | |
| | TOTAL | 18/385 | 18/152 | 6/8 | 11/18 | 1/11 | |

6.2 Prehistoric

6.2.1 Prehistoric material comprises the worked flint, six small sherds of pottery, and possibly the burnt, unworked flint, a material type often (although not invariably) associated with prehistoric activity.

6.2.2 All six pottery sherds are in flint-tempered fabrics. All are small and undiagnostic, and have been dated solely on fabric grounds. Sherds from Trenches 13 and 52 are coarsely tempered and have been broadly dated on that basis as Middle/Late Bronze Age, while sherds from Trenches 35 and 36 are more sparsely tempered and are more specifically characteristic of the Late Bronze Age. The pottery did not in general coincide in distribution with the worked flint.

6.2.3 The worked flint consists entirely of waste flakes, with no tools or other diagnostic pieces. These are mostly broad, squat flakes struck using hard hammer technique, and on these technological grounds are likely to be Bronze Age. The group from Trench 12 includes several which are similar in colouring and presence of cortex as to suggest derivation from a single nodule in a single knapping episode (although none refit); these pieces are in relatively fresh condition, and are unpatinated. There are, however, some smaller, bladelike pieces, which are patinated (the pieces from Trenches 3 and 36, and a few within the

group from Trench 12) and which suggest the presence of an earlier, Neolithic component.

6.3 Romano-British

6.3.1 Evidence for Romano-British activity is in the form of 11 sherds of pottery, of which ten are coarsewares and one a colour coated ware from the New Forest production centre (Trench 12). The latter is of late Roman date (later 3rd/4th century AD); the other sherds cannot be dated more closely within the period. The iron objects (nails and sheet fragments) recovered from grave **0401** are undatable.

6.4 Post-Roman

6.4.1 Two pieces of medieval roof tile came from Trench 1 (upper lynchet fill), one sherd of post-medieval coarse earthenware from Trench 6, and one small, modern glass bottle from Trench 24.

7 THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Two bulk samples were taken from a Bronze Age pit in Trench 13 (Area 2) and a Romano-British probable pit within Trench 12 (Area 1) to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. This information can contribute to the archaeological significance of sampled features, thus providing an indication of the significance of the archaeological area as a whole.

7.1.2 Neither of the two samples produced any evidence for cereal remains and as such can not contribute to our understanding of settlement or domestic activities. The Bronze Age pit produced almost no charred material at all. The sample from the undated, possible Romano-British pit or ditch terminal contained some highly fragmented wood charcoal as well as some unidentifiable charred conglomerated matter (a mass of burnt cells/matter of unknown origin).

7.2 Methods

7.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh, residues divided into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereobinocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 2**). Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

7.2.2 Both flots were relatively small. That from the Bronze Age pit had high amounts of roots and modern seeds, and both had fragments of modern straw that taken together may be indicative of reworking or a degree of contamination by later intrusive elements.

7.3 Charred Plant Remains and Charcoal

- 7.3.1 Charred plant remains and charcoal as noted from the flots are recorded in **Table 2**. Neither of the samples produced any evidence for cereal remains and both had relatively little wood charcoal over 2mm in size.
- 7.3.2 The sample from Bronze Age pit **1301** in Trench 13 was devoid of charred plant remains with only a few fragments of wood charcoal. Given the amount of roots within the feature, these could be intrusive.
- 7.3.3 The sample from the possible pit **1201** within Trench 12 contained little other than finer wood charcoal and unidentifiable fragments of conglomerated charred material. This material had no visible structure and is possibly from wood sap, but could be from plant stems or some other organic material.
- 7.3.4 As neither sample produced identifiable diagnostic material there is no indication of date or the presence of possible settlement or domestic activities.

Table 2. Charred plant remains and charcoal

| Feature type/no | Context | Sample | size litre | flot ml | size | Grain | Chaff | seeds charred | Charcoal | Other | Residue |
|--|---------|--------|------------|------------------|------|-------|-------|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | Charcoal >5.6mm |
| Area 1: Trench 12 Romano-British ditch terminal/Pit | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pit/ditch 1201 | 1203 | 2 | 8 | 40 ⁹⁰ | - | - | - | - | 0.3/0.1ml | - | - |
| Area 2: Trench 13 Bronze Age Pit | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pit 1301 | 1304 | 1 | 10 | 40 ³⁰ | - | - | - | - | 5/15ml | - | - |

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, (h) = hazelnuts, smb = small mammal bones; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs Moll-f = freshwater molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon suggestions
NOTE: ¹flot is total, but flot in superscript = % of rooty material.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Despite the relatively high potential for the presence of archaeological features and deposits in the evaluated areas and the targeting of the trenches on geophysical anomalies; the evaluation encountered quite low levels of archaeologically significant features and deposits. The most significant features encountered were the small group of prehistoric and possibly prehistoric features encountered in Area 5 and the Romano-British grave and ditch or elongated pit encountered in Area 1. Elsewhere the prehistoric period is represented by two apparently isolated small pits of Bronze Age date (Areas 2 and 8) and by residual flintwork in Area 1. Romano-British features and deposits were confined to Area 1. Post-Roman features were confined to a

- group of three early 20th century military practice trenches in Area 2 and a military railbed or trackway in Area 7. Undated linear features, possibly representing former field boundaries were recorded in Areas 1, 2 and 4. A dense cluster of possible post and stake-holes were encountered in Area 3, though the date of these and the nature of the activity they represent is unknown.
- 8.2 The nature of the clay and flint deposits in Trenches 2 and 5 is uncertain, but is perhaps most likely to represent a fairly large-scale erosion event. The two small, abraded sherds of Romano-British pottery recovered from these deposits (**0504**) could indicate that this event took place during the Romano-British period. There appears to have been a general intensification of occupation and arable farming in the Salisbury Plain area during this period (McOmish et al 2002, 100-103; Bradley et al 1994, 108-120) and it is possible that this was the cause of the fluvial erosion that created these deposits (Allen 1992).
- 8.3 The small group of features in Trenches 34 and 35 (Area 5) are assumed to be of broadly Bronze Age date, mainly on the basis of their form and their proximity to a known Bronze Age barrow cemetery. One of these (ditch **3503**) did produce one sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery. A single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery and a flint flake were also recovered from a probable tree throw in Trench 36 (Area 5), attesting to Bronze Age activity in the area.
- 8.4 Romano-British features and finds were confined to Area 1, and are probably related to increased settlement and agricultural intensification during this period. The lynchets encountered in the southern end of Area 1 appear to be of Romano-British or later date and appear to represent a strip lynchet system on the lower slopes of a large coomb or dry valley. Environmental evidence suggests that the large ditch or pit excavated in the northern end of Area 1 was remote from, or at least peripheral to, any contemporary Romano-British settlement and this is also likely to be the case with the Romano-British grave in Trench 4. The nearest known remains of a Romano-British settlement to Area 1 are the well-preserved earthworks of a strip village, Chisenbury Warren, which lies approximately 1.75km to the east (McOmish 2002, 98), although there are several possible village and villa sites in the general area. It may be significant that finds of Romano-British material, including an enamelled brooch and coins, were recovered during the construction of Upavon Airfield, approximately 500m to the north-west of Trench 12 and 700m to the north of Trench 4 (Wilts SMR 1639; NMR_NATINV-220254). Although the nature of the activity represented by the finds recovered during the construction of the airfield is unknown, it is possible that this was the location of a small settlement associated with the Romano-British features encountered in Area 1.

- 8.5 The Salisbury Plain Training Area contains some of the most extensive and well-preserved military practice trenches in the country. These range from small slit trenches to fully developed systems, such as those at Perham Down and Shrewton Folly, which extend over a considerable area (McOmish et al 2002, 139-142). The exact form and arrangement of the trenches, or trench system, represented by the features excavated in Area 2 (Trench 24) is uncertain, but given their lack of internal features and their narrow width it appears most likely that these are of the simple slit trench variety.
- 8.6 A number of railways were constructed on the Salisbury Plain Training Area in the early 20th century, connecting the major garrisons to the main civilian lines in order to transport troops and supplies. One of the earliest, a line between Tidworth and Ludgershall was completed in 1901 (McOmish et al 2002, 145). From the location and alignment of the possible railbed recorded in Area 7, it appears that this is likely to represent a small spur or branch-line associated with the Tidworth-Ludgershall line.

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APPENDIX 1: Catalogue of Trench Descriptions
Area 1

| TRENCH - 1 | | NGR: 415476 153601 |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 22.5m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 129.04-132.3m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0100 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 0101 | Negative lynchet, aligned approximately north-east south-west, along the prevailing slope; approximately 2.5m wide, over 1.5m long and up to 0.3m deep with a moderately steep north-west (up slope) side and a very shallow-horizontal south-eastern side. Filled with 0102 and 0107. | 0.25-0.55m |
| 0102 | Mid brown silty loam with common chalk inclusions. Upper fill of negative lynchet 0101. Medieval tile fragments recovered. | 0.25-0.5m |
| 0103 | Negative lynchet, aligned approximately north-east south-west, along the prevailing slope; over 2m wide and up to 0.25m deep with a moderately steep north-west (up slope) side and a very shallow-horizontal south-eastern side. Located approximately 6m to the south-east of lynchet 0101. Filled with 0104. | 0.25-0.5m |
| 0104 | Mid brown silty loam with common chalk inclusions. Upper fill of negative lynchet 0103. Romano-British pottery recovered. | 0.25-0.5m |
| 0105 | Very pale grey degraded chalk within a brown silty clay matrix, up to 0.1m thick. This deposit appears to represent the remains of a positive lynchet, approximately 6m wide, aligned along the north-west (up slope) side of negative lynchet 0101. | 0.25-0.35m |
| 0106 | Very pale grey degraded chalk within a brown silty clay matrix, up to 0.08m thick. This deposit appears to represent the remains of a positive lynchet, approximately 6m wide, between negative lynchets 0101 and 0103. | 0.25-0.33m |
| 0107 | Very pale grey degraded chalk within a brown silty clay matrix. Basal fill of negative lynchet 0101. | 0.5-0.55m |
| 0108 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 2 | | NGR: 415498 153641 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 130.49-132.4m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0200 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.37m |
| 0201 | Mid-light yellowish brown silty clay loam with common flint and chalk inclusions. Colluvial subsoil. | 0.37-0.5m |
| 0202 | Mid-dark brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk inclusions. | 0.5-0.8m |
| 0203 | Pale brown silty clay subsoil with abundant flint and chalk inclusions. | 0.8-1.15m |
| 0204 | Very large erosion channel aligned down the prevailing slope, over 19m wide and up to 0.65m deep with irregular sides and base. The very irregular sides and base and contorted stratigraphy within the fills, suggest a geological origin, possibly periglacial or perhaps fluvial erosion associated with deforestation and/or tillage. | 0.5-1.15m |
| 0205 | Weathered chalk natural. | 1.15m+ |

| TRENCH - 3 | | NGR: 415516 153667 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 131.85-134.39m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0301 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 0302 | Mid greyish brown silty clay colluvial subsoil. | 0.25-0.36m |
| 0303 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.36m+ |
| 0304 | Cut of negative lynchet, aligned approximately north-east to south-west (along the prevailing slope), in the south-east end of the trench, 2.1m wide and 0.16m deep with a gently sloping north-west side and a flat base. Filled with 0305. | 0.36-0.52m |
| 0305 | Pale brown silty clay fill of lynchet 0304. | 0.36-0.52m |
| 0306 | Cut of negative lynchet, aligned approximately north-east to south-west (along the prevailing slope), 3.7m wide and 0.2m deep with a gently sloping north-west side and a flat base. Filled with 0307. | 0.36-0.56m |
| 0307 | Mid brown silty clay fill of lynchet 0306. Burnt flint, worked flint and Romano-British pottery recovered. | 0.36-0.56m |

| TRENCH - 4 | | NGR: 415580 153775 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 138.16-139.8m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0400 | Light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 0401 | Sub-rectangular grave cut, aligned approximately south-west to north-east, over 2m long, 0.75m wide and over 0.1m deep with vertical sides. Excavation was curtailed when the skull of skeleton 0403 and possible coffin nails and fittings were recognised within fill 0402. | 0.25-0.35m+ |
| 0402 | Very pale yellowish brown silty clay backfill of grave 0401 with approximately 75% redeposited chalk and flint inclusions. Small quantities of burnt flint, Romano-British pottery and possible coffin nails/fittings recovered before excavation was curtailed. | 0.25-0.35m+ |
| 0403 | Skeleton within grave 0401. Assumed to be in a supine, extended position, with the head to the south-west; although only the front of the skull was clearly seen. Once the skeleton was recognised excavation was confined to defining the limits of the grave. | 0.35m+ |
| 404 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 5 | | NGR: 415617 153836 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 138.20-138.82m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0500 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 0501 | Mid-light yellowish brown silty clay loam with common flint and chalk inclusions. Colluvial subsoil. | 0.3-0.75m |
| 0502 | Possible cut of large channel of gully, over 4m wide, aligned approximately west to east, down the prevailing east facing slope. Very irregular sides and base and contorted stratigraphy within the fills, suggest a geological origin, possibly periglacial or perhaps fluvial erosion associated with deforestation and/or tillage. | 0.75-1.1m |

| TRENCH - 5 (cont.) | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0503 | Pale greyish brown silty clay with abundant chalk inclusions. Lower fill of feature 0502. | 0.80-1.1m |
| 0504 | Mid brown silty clay loam with abundant flint inclusions, upper fill of feature 0502. Two small sherds of Romano-British pottery recovered from surface of deposit. | 0.75-1.1m |
| 0505 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.75m+ |

| TRENCH - 6 | | NGR: 415654 153895 |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 22.3m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –137.75-140.33m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0601 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 0602 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay loam with common flint and chalk inclusions. Colluvial subsoil. | 0.25-0.33m |
| 0603 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.33m+ |
| 0604 | Small ditch aligned approximately north-east to south-west, along the prevailing slope, 0.65m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a concave base. Possible former field boundary. Filled with 0605. | 0.33-0.48m |
| 0605 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of ditch 0604. | 0.33-0.48m |
| 0606 | Irregular, sub-oval feature approximately 1m+ long, 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep with irregular sides and base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 0607. | 0.33-0.53m |
| 0607 | Mid yellowish brown silty clay with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. Fill of probable tree throw 0606. Romano-British and post-medieval pottery recovered. | 0.33-0.53m |
| 0608 | Negative lynchet aligned along the prevailing slope (approximately north-east to south-west), 3.3m wide and 0.2m deep with a moderately steep, concave north-west side and a flat base. Filled with 0609. | 0.33-0.53m |
| 0609 | Mid brown silty clay with sparse flint and chalk inclusions, fill of negative lynchet 0608. | 0.33-0.53m |

| TRENCH - 7 | | NGR: 415697 153980 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –140.36-141.24m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0700 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 0701 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 8 | | NGR: 415748 154053 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 142.72-144.46m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 0800 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 0801 | Pale brown silty clay loam with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. Becomes thicker to the east (downslope) from 0.1m in the west of the trench to 0.5m in the east. Colluvial deposit. | 0.3-0.8m (max) |
| 0802 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.4m+ |

| TRENCH - 9 | | NGR: 415812 154149 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions - 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 146.49-148.99m OD |
| Context | Description | Depth |
| 0900 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.32m |
| 0901 | Light brown silty clay loam with moderate chalk inclusions. Probable colluvial deposit. | 0.32-0.66m |
| 0902 | Mid yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk and flint inclusions. Probable colluvial deposit. | 0.66-0.97m |
| 0903 | Dark yellowish brown silty clay with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. Probable colluvial deposit. | 0.97-0.13m |
| 0904 | Heavily weathered chalk natural. | 0.13m+ |

| TRENCH - 10 | | NGR: 415891 154209 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions - 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 157.28-158.65m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1000 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.27m |
| 1001 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.27m+ |

| TRENCH - 11 | | NGR: 416027 154301 |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions - 16.5m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 166.32-168.68m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1100 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 1101 | Possible feature, approximately 1.5m wide and 1.5m+ long. Filled with 1102. Not excavated due to the presence of possible munitions. | 0.25m+ |
| 1102 | Mid greyish brown silty clay fills of possible feature 1101. Possible munitions noted during machining. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 1103 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 12 | | NGR: 416138 154395 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions - 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 168.67-169.16m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1200 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 1201 | Large feature, possibly a linear feature or an elongated pit; approximately 2.8m wide, over 1.5m long and 1m deep with steep, irregular sides and a fairly flat base. Filled with 1202, 1203, 1204 and 1205. If this is a linear feature, the shape of the sides suggests that the trench is very close to the eastern terminal. | 0.3-1.3m |
| 1202 | Mid reddish brown silty clay with abundant large flint inclusions; upper fill of feature 1201. Small quantities of burnt flint, worked flint and a single sherd of Romano-British pottery recovered. | 0.3-0.5m |
| 1203 | Dark greyish brown, slightly humic, silty clay loam with common flint inclusions; fill of feature 1201. Sample 2 taken for plant macrofossils and charcoal. | 0.5-0.6m |
| 1204 | Mid reddish brown silty clay with sparse flint inclusions. Fill of feature 1201. | 0.6-1.2m |

| TRENCH - 12 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1205 | Pale yellowish brown silty clay with c. 80% chalk inclusions. Primary fill of feature 1201. | 0.5-1.3m |
| 1206 | Rather irregular linear feature aligned approximately north-south; over 6.5m long, over 0.9m wide and 0.5m deep with steep, irregular edges and a flat base. Filled with 1207 and 1208. Possible ditch. | 0.3-0.8m |
| 1207 | Dark reddish brown silty clay with abundant large flint inclusions. Top fill of feature 1206. | 0.3-0.75m |
| 1208 | Pale yellowish brown silty clay with c. 70% degraded chalk inclusions. Primary fill of feature 1206. | 0.4-0.8m |
| 1209 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

Area 2

| TRENCH - 13 | | NGR: 416242 154931 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 50m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –180.32-182.14m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1301 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 1302 | Mid brown silty clay loam subsoil with abundant small chalk inclusions. | 0.25-0.3m |
| 1303 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |
| 1304 | Dark brown silty clay with common flint inclusions, fill of pit 1305. Poorly sorted, indicating a possible dump deposit. Sparse burnt flint and prehistoric, possibly Middle-Late Bronze Age pottery recovered. Sample 1 taken for plant macrofossils and charcoal. | 0.3-0.55m |
| 1305 | Small sub-circular pit, approximately 1.1m in diameter and 0.25m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a slightly irregular concave base. Filled with 1304. | 0.3-0.55m |

| TRENCH - 14 | | NGR: 416222 154990 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –183.37-183.62m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1400 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 1401 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 15 | | NGR: 416201 155067 |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions –30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 185.35-186.18m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1500 | Mid-pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 1501 | Narrow ditch, aligned approximately east-west, 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately steep sides and a flat base. Filled with 1502. Probable field boundary. | 0.3-0.55m |
| 1502 | Mid brown silty clay loam with common chalk inclusions. Fill of ditch 1502. | 0.3-0.55m |
| 1503 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH -16 | | NGR: 416234 155144 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 187.84-188.7m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1600 | Mid-pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 1601 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 17 | | NGR: 416324 155242 |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5mm | | Ground Level –190.92m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1701 | Mid-pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 1702 | Pale grey calcareous silty clay loam subsoil with c. 80% chalk inclusions. | 0.25-0.3m |
| 1703 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 18 | | NGR: 416426 155325 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 189.64-190.19m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1801 | Mid-pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 1802 | Mid brown silty clay loam with common chalk inclusions. Fill of probable tree throw 1803. | 0.25-0.85m |
| 1803 | Irregular, sub oval feature approximately 2m wide, over 1.5m long and 0.6m deep with moderately steep, irregular sides and an irregular concave base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 1802. | 0.25-0.85m |
| 1804 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 19 | | NGR: 416578 155306 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 189.79-190.07m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 1900 | Pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 1901 | Shallow, irregular linear feature, aligned approximately east-west, 0.6m wide and 0.05m deep with irregular sides and a concave base. Located approximately 1.2m to the south of, and parallel with, 1903. Could represent a heavily truncated former field boundary. Filled with 1902. | 0.3-0.35m |
| 1902 | Light brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Single fill of 1901. | 0.3-0.35m |
| 1903 | Shallow, irregular linear feature, aligned approximately east-west, 1m wide and 0.09m deep with irregular sides and base. Located approximately 1.2m to the north of, and parallel with, 1901. Could represent a heavily truncated former field boundary. Filled with 1902. | 0.3-0.39m |
| 1904 | Light brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Single fill of 1903. | 0.3-0.39m |
| 1905 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 20 | | NGR: 416677 155284 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –189.63-189.81m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2000 | Pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 2001 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 21 | | NGR: 416835 155236 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5mm | | Ground Level –187.63-188.46m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2100 | Pale greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 2101 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 22 | | NGR: 416905 155205 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 185.64-186.38m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2201 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.17m |
| 2202 | Mid-dark brown silty clay loam subsoil with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.17-0.2m |
| 2203 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.2m+ |
| 2204 | Shallow, irregular sub-oval feature, 1.2m long, over 0.3m wide and 0.09m deep with steep, irregular sides and an irregular base. Probably represents a small tree throw or other root disturbance. Filled with 2205. | 0.2-0.29m |
| 2205 | Dark brown silty clay fill of tree throw 2204 with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.29m |
| 2206 | Irregular sub-oval feature, 1.45m long, 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep with very irregular sides and base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 2207. | 0.2-0.5m |
| 2207 | Dark brown silty clay fill of tree throw 2206 with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.5m |

| TRENCH –23 | | NGR: 417027 155174 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 189.16-189.9m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2301 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 2302 | Mid-dark brown silty clay loam subsoil with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.3-0.4m |
| 2303 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.4m+ |
| 2304 | Wide, shallow linear feature aligned approximately east-west. Over 1.5m long, 3.6m wide and 0.25m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base. Possibly represents a former field boundary. Filled with 2305 and 2306. | 0.4-0.65m |
| 2305 | Dark brown silty clay top fill of 2304 with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.4-0.5m |
| 2306 | Light brown silty clay with c 80% chalk inclusions. Basal fill of feature 2304 | 0.4-0.65m |

| TRENCH -24 | | NGR: 417197 155120 |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5mm | | Ground Level –193.78-194.03m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2401 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.2m |
| 2402 | Mid-dark brown silty clay loam subsoil with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.28m |
| 2403 | Weathered chalk natural. Occasional plough scars noted. | 0.28m+ |
| 2404 | Linear feature aligned approximately north-south, approximately 0.9m wide and 1.08m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Probable First World War practice trench. Filled with 2405. Cuts subsoil 2402. | 0.2-1.28m |
| 2405 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with c 50% chalk inclusions. Deliberate, dumped backfill of practice trench 2404. Large quantities of iron slag and modern pottery (tea mug) noted but not retained. | 0.2-1.28m |
| 2406 | Shallow, irregular linear feature, aligned approximately north-south, 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep with irregular, concave sides and an irregular base. This could represent a heavily truncated former field boundary, though this is uncertain. Sealed below subsoil 2402 and filled with 2407. | 0.28-0.39m |
| 2407 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay with abundant chalk inclusions. Fill of linear feature 2406. | 0.28-0.39m |
| 2408 | Linear or rectangular feature continuing beyond the southern limit of excavation, 2.5m long, over 0.75m wide and 0.98m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Probable First World War practice trench. Filled with 2409. Cuts subsoil 2402. | 0.2-1.18m |
| 2409 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with c 50% chalk inclusions. Deliberate, dumped backfill of practice trench 2408. Large quantities of iron slag and modern metalwork (tin can) noted but not retained. | 0.2-1.18m |
| 2410 | Linear feature aligned approximately east-west for approximately 3m before turning towards the south and beyond the limits of excavation. This was approximately 0.9m wide and 1m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Probable First World War practice trench. Filled with 2411 and 2412. Cuts through subsoil 2402. | 0.2-1.2m |
| 2411 | Redeposited basal chalk fill of practice trench 2410, probably the result of deliberate backfilling. Moulded glass bottle recovered. | 0.6-1.2m |
| 2412 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with c 50% chalk inclusions upper fill of practice trench 2410. Deliberate, dumped backfill. Large quantities of iron slag noted but not retained. | 0.2-0.6m |

Area 3

| TRENCH - 25 | | NGR: 417543 155103 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 194.12-194.21m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2501 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 2502 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.25m+ |
| 2503 | Circular stake-hole, 0.06m in diameter and 0.09m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with 2504. | 0.25-0.34m |

| TRENCH - 25 | | NGR: 417543 155103 |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 194.12-194.21m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2504 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of stake-hole 2503. | 0.25-0.34m |
| 2505 | Circular post-hole 0.21m in diameter and 0.21m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with 2506. | 0.25-0.46m |
| 2506 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of post-hole 2505. | 0.25-0.46m |
| 2507 | Circular stake-hole, 0.08m in diameter and 0.08m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with 2508. | 0.25-0.33m |
| 2508 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of stake-hole 2507. | 0.25-0.33m |
| 2509 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2510. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2510 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2509. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2511 | Possible circular post-hole 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 2512. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2512 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of post-hole 2511. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2513 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2514. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2514 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2513. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2515 | Possible circular post-hole 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 2516. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2516 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2515. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2517 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2518. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2518 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of post-hole 2517. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2519 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.07m in diameter. Filled with 2520. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2520 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of stake-hole 2519. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2521 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.05m in diameter. Filled with 2522. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2522 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of stake-hole 2521. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2523 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2524. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2524 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of stake-hole 2523. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2525 | Possible circular post-hole 0.14m in diameter. Filled with 2526. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2526 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2525. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2527 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2528. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2528 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible stake-hole 2527. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2529 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2530. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2530 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible stake-hole 2529. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2531 | Possible circular post-hole 0.14m in diameter. Filled with 2532. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 25 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2532 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible stake-hole 2531. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2533 | Possible circular post-hole 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 2534. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2534 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2533. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2535 | Possible circular post-hole 0.14m in diameter. Filled with 2536. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2536 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2535. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2537 | Sub-circular possible post-hole 0.12m x 0.2m. Filled with 2538. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2538 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2537. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2539 | Possible circular post-hole 0.15m in diameter. Filled with 2540. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2540 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2539. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2541 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2542. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2542 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2541. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2543 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2544. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2544 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2543. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2545 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.06m in diameter. Filled with 2546. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2546 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2545. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2547 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2548. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2548 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2547. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2549 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.06m in diameter. Filled with 2550. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2550 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2549. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2551 | Possible circular post-hole 0.21m in diameter. Filled with 2552. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2552 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2551. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2553 | Possible circular post-hole 0.19m in diameter. Filled with 2554. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2554 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2553. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2555 | Possible circular post-hole 0.16m in diameter. Filled with 2556. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2556 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2555. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2557 | Possible circular post-hole 0.19m in diameter. Filled with 2558. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2558 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2557. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 25 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2559 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2560. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2560 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2559. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2561 | Possible circular post-hole 0.25m in diameter. Filled with 2562. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2562 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2561. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2563 | Possible circular post-hole 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 2564. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2564 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2563. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2565 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.2m x 0.12m. Filled with 2566. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2566 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2565. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2567 | Possible small pit or large post-hole 0.5m x 0.2m+. Filled with 2568. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2568 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible feature 2567. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2569 | Possible small pit or large post-hole 0.5m x 0.18m+. Filled with 2570. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2570 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible feature 2569. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2571 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.23m x 0.18m. Filled with 2572. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2572 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2571. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2573 | Possible circular post-hole 0.18m in diameter. Filled with 2574. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2574 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2573. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2575 | Possible circular post-hole 0.12m in diameter. Filled with 2576. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2576 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2575. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2577 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2578. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2578 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2577. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2579 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2580. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2580 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2579. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2581 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.08m in diameter. Filled with 2582. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2582 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2581. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2583 | Sub-circular pit, approximately 1.2m in diameter and 0.2m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. | 0.25-0.45m |
| 2584 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of pit 2583. | 0.25-0.45m |

| TRENCH - 25 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2585 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2586. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2586 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2585. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2587 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.16m x 0.2m. Filled with 2588. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2588 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2587. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2589 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2590. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2590 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2589. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2591 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2592. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2592 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2591. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2593 | Possible circular stake-hole 0.1m in diameter. Filled with 2594. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2594 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible stake-hole 2593. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2595 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.34m x 0.24m. Filled with 2596. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2596 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2595. | 0.25m+ |
| 2597 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.36m x 0.3m. Filled with 2598. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2598 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2597. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 2599 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.23m x 0.16m. Filled with 6000. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6000 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 2599. | 0.25m+ |
| 6001 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.26m x 0.18m. Filled with 6002. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6002 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 2597. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6003 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.27m x 0.24m. Filled with 6004. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6004 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 6003. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6005 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.26m x 0.17m. Filled with 6006. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6006 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 6005. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6007 | Post-hole 0.2m in diameter and 0.08m deep with moderately steep, straight sides and a concave base. Filled with 6008 | 0.25-0.33m |
| 6008 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of post-hole 6007. | 0.25-0.33m |
| 6009 | Possible sub-circular post-hole 0.29m x 0.22m. Filled with 6010. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6010 | Mid brown silty clay loam fill of possible post-hole 6009. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |

| TRENCH - 25 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 6011 | Possible circular post-hole 0.22m in diameter. Filled with 6012. Not excavated. | 0.25m+ |
| 6012 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of possible post-hole 6011. | 0.25m+ |
| 6013 | Post-hole 0.24m in diameter and 0.11m deep with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Filled with 6014 | 0.25-0.36m |
| 6014 | Yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of post-hole 6013. | 0.25-0.36m |

| TRENCH - 26 | | NGR: 417586 155108 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 193.67-193.89m OD |
| Context No. | Description602 | Depth |
| 2601 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.25m |
| 2602 | Dark brown silty clay subsoil with abundant chalk inclusions. | 0-0.28m |
| 2603 | Weathered chalk natural, occasional plough scars noted. | 0.28m+ |

| TRENCH - 27 | | NGR: 417673 155095 |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –191.21-192m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2701 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.2m |
| 2702 | Dark brown silty clay subsoil with abundant chalk inclusions. | 0.2-0.25m |
| 2703 | Weathered chalk natural, occasional plough scars noted. | 0.25m+ |
| 2704 | Large sub-oval feature, 2.9m long, over 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep with steep irregular sides and irregular base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 2705. | 0.25-0.45m |
| 2705 | Dark-mid brown silty clay with abundant chalk and flint inclusions. Fill of probable tree throw 2704. | 0.25-0.45m |

Area 4

| TRENCH - 28 | | NGR:419468 155844 |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –188.6-188.74m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2800 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.24m |
| 2801 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.24m+ |

| TRENCH - 29 | | NGR: 419522 155893 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 190.13-190.54m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 2900 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.28m |
| 2901 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.28m+ |

| TRENCH -30 | | NGR: 419604 155955 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 191.66-192.21m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3000 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.35m |
| 3001 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.35m+ |

| TRENCH - 31 | | NGR: 419664 155997 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 23m x 1.5mm | | Ground Level –192.09-192.56m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3100 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.26m |
| 3101 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.26m+ |
| 3102 | Dark brown silty clay loam, upper fill of ditch 3104. | 0.26-0.47m |
| 3103 | Mid-light greyish brown silty clay, secondary fill of ditch 3104. | 0.40-0.85m |
| 3104 | Ditch aligned approximately north-east to south-west, 1.45m wide and 0.59m deep with steep-moderate sides and a flat base. Possible former field boundary. | 0.26-0.85m |
| 3105 | Very pale grey degraded chalk, primary fill of ditch 3104. | 0.26-0.85m |

| TRENCH - 32 | | NGR: 419703 156023 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 10m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 192.30-192.55m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3200 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 3201 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.3m+ |

Area 5

| TRENCH - 33 | | NGR: 423300 151889 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 25m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 122.75-125.19m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3300 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 3301 | Weathered chalk natural. Common plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 34 | | NGR: 423333 151778 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 22m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –128.46-128.57m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3400 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.29m |
| 3401 | Weathered chalk natural. Common plough scars noted. | 0.29m+ |
| 3402 | Dark brown silty clay loam with common chalk and flint inclusions. Top fill of pit 3407. | 0.29-0.91m |
| 3403 | Light reddish brown silty clay with common chalk and flint inclusions. Secondary fill of pit 3407. | 0.33-1.32m |
| 3404 | Light greyish brown silty clay with abundant chalk inclusions. Secondary fill of pit 3407. | 0.33-1.35m |
| 3405 | Light reddish brown silty clay with common chalk and flint inclusions. Secondary fill of pit 3407. | 0.76-1.48m |
| 3406 | Very pale grey degraded chalk. Primary fill of pit 3407. | 0.93-1.48m |

| TRENCH - 34 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3407 | Sub-circular pit, 1.95m long, 1.86m wide and 1.13m deep with vertical-undercutting sides and a flat base. Filled with 3402-3406. | 0.29-1.48m |

| TRENCH - 35 | | NGR: 423347 151663 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 50m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 131.19-131.75m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3500 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 3501 | Weathered chalk natural. Common plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |
| 3502 | Approximately east-west aligned ditch, possibly slightly curving, 1.5m wide and 0.5m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a flat base. Filled with 3508. Possible recut/maintenance (2509) noted. | 0.3-0.8m |
| 3503 | Possible east-west aligned ditch, 1.4m wide and 0.55m deep with steeply sloping, irregular sides and a flat, irregular base. Filled with 3504 and 3505. | 0.3-0.85m |
| 3504 | Pale grey degraded chalk, primary fill of ditch 3503. | 0.35-0.85m |
| 3505 | Mid-light brown silty clay, secondary fill of ditch 3503. | 0.3-0.45m |
| 3506 | Small irregular possible feature within 3504, the fill of ditch 3503. This appeared to be approximately 0.28m in diameter and 0.12m deep with very irregular sides and an irregular base. Filled with 3507. Most probably the result of root disturbance than a man-made feature. | 0.35-0.47m |
| 3507 | Pale greyish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Fill of feature 3506. | 0.35-0.47m |
| 3508 | Pale grey degraded chalk, primary fill of ditch 3502. Cut by possible recut 3509. | 0.3-0.8m |
| 3509 | Possible recut of ditch 3502, although this could also be the result of erosion from a bank or mound to the south providing the material for the primary fill of ditch 3502 followed by more gradual erosion which formed the later fills of the possible recut. This was 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately steep concave sides and a flat base. Filled with 3510 and 3511. | 0.3-0.65m |
| 3510 | Light brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions, fill of possible recut 3509. | 0.3-0.65m |
| 3511 | Mid-dark brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. Upper fill of possible recut 3509. A single sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery recovered. | 0.3-0.55m |
| 3512 | Approximately east-west aligned ditch, 1.4m wide and 0.68m deep with moderately steep, straight sides and a flat base. Filled with 3513 and 3514. | 0.3-0.98m |
| 3513 | Light greyish brown silty clay. Secondary fill of ditch 3512. | 0.3-0.42m |
| 3514 | Pale grey degraded chalk, primary fill of ditch 3512. | 0.35-0.98m |

| TRENCH - 36 | | NGR: 423355 151589 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 131.77-132.33m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3600 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 3601 | Mid-dark brown silty clay with common chalk and flint inclusions. Fill of 3602. Late Bronze Age pottery recovered. | 0.3-0.7m |

| TRENCH - 36 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3602 | Sub-circular probable tree throw, 1.3m+ long, 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep with irregular sides and base. Filled with 3601. | 0.3-0.7m |
| 3603 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH -37 | | NGR: 423356 151510 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions - 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 130.90-131.4m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3700 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 3701 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay loam subsoil. Very few inclusions. | 0.3-0.35m |
| 3702 | Mid reddish brown clay loam subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.35-0.55m |
| 3703 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.55m+ |

| TRENCH - 38 | | NGR: 423360 151456 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions - 20m x 1.5mm | | Ground Level -129.97-130.09m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3800 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.35m |
| 3801 | Mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil with abundant flint inclusions. | 0.35-0.92m |
| 3802 | Mid grey silty clay subsoil with sparse flint inclusions. | 0.92-1.01m |
| 3803 | Weathered chalk natural. | 1.01m+ |

| TRENCH - 39 | | NGR: 423361 151440 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions - 21m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 129.31-129.78m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 3900 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.22m |
| 3901 | Mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil with common chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.22-0.36m |
| 3902 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with common flint inclusions. | 0.36-0.97m |
| 3903 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.97m+ |

| TRENCH - 40 | | NGR: 423368 151417 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions - 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level - 128.10-128.97m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4000 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 4001 | Dark reddish brown silty clay subsoil with common chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.3-0.4m |
| 4002 | Mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil with common flint inclusions. | 0.4-0.7m |
| 4003 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.7m+ |

Area 6

| TRENCH - 41 | | NGR: 426060 149588 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –123.05-123.26m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4100 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.32m |
| 4101 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.32-0.45m |
| 4102 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.45m+ |
| 4103 | Dark yellowish brown silty clay loam fill of probable tree throw 4104. | 0.45-0.7m |
| 4104 | Irregular, sub-circular feature, 1.05m long, 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with shallow, irregular sides and a concave base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 4103. | 0.45-0.7m |

| TRENCH - 42 | | NGR: 426140 149504 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –122.12-122.82m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4200 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.24m |
| 4201 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.24-0.38m |
| 4202 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.38m+ |

| TRENCH - 43 | | NGR: 426126 149431 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 120.43-121.35m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4300 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.2m |
| 4301 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.35m |
| 4302 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.35m+ |

| TRENCH –44 | | NGR: 426219 149391 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 118.90-119.87m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4400 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.2m |
| 4401 | Mid-dark reddish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.3m |
| 4402 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 45 | | NGR: 426224 149327 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 22m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –115.78-116.68m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4500 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.17m |
| 4501 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.17-0.27m |
| 4502 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.27m+ |

| TRENCH - 45 (cont.) | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4503 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk and flint inclusions. Fill of tree throw 4504. | 0.27-0.48m |
| 4504 | Sub-circular feature 1.6m+ long, 0.85m wide and 0.21m deep with moderately steep, irregular sides and an irregular base. Probable tree throw. Filled with 4503. | 0.27-0.48m |

Area 7

| TRENCH - 46 | | NGR: 426220 149091 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 27m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 109.31-110.79m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4600 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.2m |
| 4601 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.2-0.4m |
| 4602/4603 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.4m+ |
| 4604/4605 | Construction cut for probable railway bed or trackway aligned approximately north-south, 2.4m wide and traced for over 3.6m within the trench. Probably represents a mid 20 th century military railway. Filled with 4606/4607. Not excavated. | 0.4m+ |
| 4606/4607 | Pale grey silty clay with common chalk and abundant Mendip stone inclusions. Fill of 4604/4605. Not excavated. | 0.4m+ |

| TRENCH - 47 | | NGR: 426175 149038 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 111.75-112.32m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4700 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 4701 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.3-0.5m |
| 4702 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.5m+ |

Area 8

| TRENCH - 48 | | NGR: 422815 146392 |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 103.7-103.9m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4800 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.32m |
| 4801 | Mid-dark yellowish brown silty clay loam subsoil with sparse chalk and flint inclusions. | 0.32-0.47m |
| 4802 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.47m+ |

| TRENCH - 49 | | NGR: 422739 146375 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 106.9-108.49m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 4900 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.26m |
| 4901 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.26m+ |

| TRENCH - 50 | | NGR: 422657 146359 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 112.35-112.6m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5000 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.28m |
| 5001 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.28m+ |

| TRENCH - 51 | | NGR: 422567 146336 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 114.54-114.93m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5100 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.35m |
| 5101 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.35m+ |

| TRENCH - 52 | | NGR: 422486 146332 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 115.39-115.92m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5200 | Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.38m |
| 5201 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.38m+ |
| 5202 | Dark yellowish brown silty clay loam with moderate chalk and flint inclusions. Fill of pit 5203. One sherd of Middle-Late Bronze Age pottery recovered. | 0.38-0.64m |
| 5203 | Sub-circular pit, 1.07m long, 0.8m wide and 0.26m deep with near vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Filled with 5202. | 0.38-0.64m |

| TRENCH - 53 | | NGR: 422406 146314 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 114.60-115.21m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5300 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 5301 | Weathered chalk natural, common plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 54 | | NGR: 422325 146304 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 112.76-113.23m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5400 | Mid greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 5401 | Weathered chalk natural, common plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH -55 | | NGR: 422247 146289 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –111.63-112.48m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5501 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 5502 | Weathered chalk natural, sparse plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

| TRENCH - 56 | | NGR: 422160 146303 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions – 20m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –113.92-114.46m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5600 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.33m |
| 5601 | Weathered chalk natural, sparse plough scars noted. | 0.33m+ |

| TRENCH - 57 | | NGR: 422086 146305 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 115.10-115.73m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5700 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.22m |
| 5701 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.22m+ |

| TRENCH – 58 | | NGR: 422038 146324 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Dimensions –30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level – 116.26-117.54m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5800 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.35m |
| 5801 | Weathered chalk natural. | 0.35m+ |

| TRENCH - 59 | | NGR: 421919 146296 |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Dimensions –30m x 1.5m | | Ground Level –117.56-118.25m OD |
| Context No. | Description | Depth |
| 5900 | Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil with common small chalk and flint inclusions. | 0-0.3m |
| 5901 | Weathered chalk natural, sparse plough scars noted. | 0.3m+ |

APPENDIX 2: Written Scheme of Investigation

**EASTERN TANK TRACK,
SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA,
WILTSHIRE**

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION**

Prepared for:
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On behalf of:
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WA Ref: 63213.01

21st February 2007

**EASTERN TANK TRACK,
SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA,
WILTSHIRE**

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION**

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EASTERN TANK TRACK, SALISBURY PLAIN TRAINING AREA, WILTSHIRE

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology has been invited by Enviros Consulting Ltd on behalf of Defence Estates to prepare an archaeological evaluation strategy in respect of land along a proposed eastern tank track within Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA), Wiltshire. The evaluation strategy is required in order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy for the proposed track.

1.1.4 This document presents a strategy and Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological field evaluation of the proposed track, including a programme of work and proposed trench locations, for the approval of the Assistant Archaeological Officer at Wiltshire County Council.

1.2 The Site, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The SPTA lies within the centre and east of Wiltshire and covers 38,000ha. Eight lengths of the track will be evaluated with trial trenching (see AutoCAD drawing *spta tr layout.dwg*). These sections will be impacted by the proposed track and have been numbered Areas 1 to 8 starting in the west and continuing clockwise. Area 1 is located to the south-east of Upavon Airfield, Areas 2 and 3 are located to the east of Trenchard Lines, Area 4 is located south-west of Everleigh Ashes, Area 5 is located north of Tidworth close to Barrow Plantation, Areas 6 and 7 are located to the south of the sports field and sewage works in Perham Down respectively, Area 8 is located to the north of the Cross Belt and south of Tidworth.

1.2.3 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1959, Sheet 282, Devizes) shows that the proposed tank track mainly lies on Upper Chalk.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1.1 The SPTA is well known for its prehistoric archaeology including round and long barrows, field systems and enclosures and contains over 2,300 archaeological sites and monuments from all ages. The area has been in military use for over 100 years and contains features associated with the development of warfare over this period.

2.1.2 Recent geophysical survey located a number of geophysical anomalies within the eight sections of the proposed eastern tank track (Archaeological Surveys 2007). The survey area with the most potential for containing features with some archaeological significance is Area 5 to the north of Tidworth which

contains positive curvilinear anomalies that may relate to cut features associated with at least one ring ditch. Area 1 to the south of Upavon Airfield contains evidence for at least two possible former field boundaries and also a zone of magnetic debris that relates to a spread of buried munitions.

- 2.1.3 The geophysical survey found that most of the survey areas contain discrete low magnitude positive responses, that although may appear pit-like, cannot be accurately characterised as so. It is possible that these are a response to geological/pedological features. Areas 2, 3 and 9 contain positive curvilinear anomalies of an uncertain origin and archaeological features should be considered as a potential cause.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objective of the evaluation is to establish within the constraints of the evaluation sampling strategy the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site.
- 3.2 The evaluation will also aim to enhance the existing archaeological data for the proposed tank track to enable informed decisions to be made on the archaeological potential of the proposed tank track, the likely impact of the proposed scheme and the mitigation measures required to remove, reduce or ameliorate those impacts, taking account the quality and importance of the archaeology and the engineering requirements of the engineer responsible for the construction of the track.

4 METHODS

4.1 Field Evaluation

- 4.1.1 In order to inform any further archaeological mitigation, the evaluation trenches have been targeted on geophysical anomalies, especially those which have a potential for having some archaeological significance as well as in geophysical blank areas to confirm that there are definitely no features in these areas (see AutoCAD drawing *spta tr layout.dwg*). This layout was agreed at a meeting with Sue Farr, Assistant Archaeologist at Wiltshire County Council, and Martin Brown, Environmental Adviser (Archaeology) of the Environmental Support Team for Defence Estates (hereafter the Curators).
- 4.1.2 The final positions of the trenches may require some minor relocation subject to Health and Safety considerations, information on service locations and access. The final location and extent of all trenches will be agreed prior to commencement with the Curators and Defence Estates.
- 4.1.6 Prior to excavation, the trench locations will be scanned for the presence of services.
- 4.1.7 All trenches will be excavated by machine (JCB excavator) using a wide toothless bucket, under the direction of the archaeologist. Mechanical excavation will proceed until archaeological remains or, in their absence, the natural geological deposit (Upper Chalk or other) is revealed, whichever is

- encountered first. All mechanical excavation will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision.
- 4.1.8 Trenches will be hand cleaned and archaeological deposits recorded and sample excavated as appropriate. All trenches will be located in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid using dGPS, with all archaeological features related to Ordnance Survey Datum and recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.1.9 Excavation of archaeological features and deposits will be the minimum necessary to achieve the project objectives and will not be unduly damaging to the integrity of deposits where their preservation *in situ* is desirable. Decisions on the sampling of features and deposits during the course of the evaluation will be undertaken in consultation with the Curators.
- 4.1.10 Human burials will not, in the first instance, be excavated or otherwise removed, but will be sufficiently exposed and recorded to allow observation of grave cut, burial position and stratigraphic relationships. The Curators and Defence Estates will be informed, and, should excavation of remains be undertaken at this stage, a Department for Constitutional Affairs licence will be sought. Upon receipt of this licence, Home Office procedures will be strictly followed at all times in regard to removal of burials.
- 4.1.11 Wessex Archaeology will notify the Curators immediately if material is recovered considered to be covered by the *Treasure Act* of 1996. All necessary information required by the *Treasure Act* (i.e. finder, location, material, date, associated items etc.) will be reported to the County Coroner within 24 hours.
- 4.1.12 The spoil from all trenches will be scanned for artefacts and this may include the use of a metal detector.
- 4.1.13 At the satisfactory conclusion of the evaluation, trenches will be backfilled with the arisings.
- 4.2 Finds and Environmental Sampling**
- 4.2.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples will be devised and implemented by the Project Manager in association with Wessex Archaeology's Finds and Environmental Managers.
- 4.2.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts will be retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date observed on the spoil-heap of each excavation area will not be noted or retained.
- 4.2.3 All artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 1998). Ironwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by the staff of the

Wiltshire Museums and Library Service Conservation Consortium, Salisbury. Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork, will be assessed, the results of which will form part of the assessment report.

- 4.2.4 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits.
- 4.2.5 The residues and sieved fractions of the bulk environmental soil samples will be recorded and retained with the project archive.
- 4.2.6 Samples for charred plant remains (charcoal and charred seeds etc) will be taken from well dated and sealed deposits to define presence and preservation to enable comments on any further sampling strategy to be made.
- 4.2.7 On the advice of Wessex Archaeology's Environmental Manager, sampling for charred material will comprise bulk samples of at least 10 litres, which will be taken for processing by flotation (using Wessex Archaeology double tank internal weir flotation system and double processing methods).
- 4.2.8 Should additional fieldwork be undertaken, samples from the evaluation will be retained by Wessex Archaeology and may be further examined to inform later stages of work.

5 MONITORING

- 5.1 An appropriate programme of monitoring visits will be agreed with the Curators in advance of the commencement of fieldwork.

6 REPORTING

- 6.1 All reporting requirements will be undertaken in accordance with those stipulated in the Scheme of Investigation.
- 6.2 Within six weeks of the conclusion of the fieldwork, a report on the results of the evaluation will be submitted to the Curators.
- 6.3 The report will present the results of the trial trenching, and will contain as a minimum:
 - a concise non-technical summary of the results
 - a site and trench location plans at appropriate scales
 - the date of works
 - a site-centred grid reference
 - detailed description of archaeological features and deposits
 - specialist reporting on finds and environmental samples

- survey and technical illustrations as appropriate

6.5 Electronic copies of the report will also be disseminated as set out in this Written Scheme of Investigation.

7 TIMETABLE

7.1 The duration of the evaluation will be subject to arrangements over access. At this stage it is anticipated that the fieldwork would be completed in 3 weeks.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1 Preparation and deposition

8.1.1 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the standards set out in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

8.1.2 The Site Archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (Walker 1990) and *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994). It is proposed that the entire archive, including all finds will be deposited with Salisbury Museum, with whom arrangements will be made agreed in advance to accept it.

8.1.3 Where necessary, the paper records of the site archive will be security microfilmed prior to deposition.

9 QUALITY STANDARDS

9.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a Project Management system. Projects are assigned to individual managers who monitor their progress and quality, and control budgets from inception to completion, in all aspects including Health and Safety etc. Projects are managed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines outlined in the document *Management of archaeological projects* (English Heritage 1991). At all stages the manager will carefully assess and monitor performance of staff and adherence to objectives, timetables, and budgets. The manager's performance is monitored in turn by the Section Head who will ensure that the project meets Wessex Archaeology's quality standards and is adequately programmed and resourced within Wessex Archaeology's portfolio of project commitments. A formal written report is made to the Senior Management Group once a month by the Section Head.

9.2 A Project Officer, who will normally be a member of The Institute of Field Archaeologists at an appropriate level and a core member of Wessex Archaeology staff, will direct the fieldwork in the field. He/she will normally be assisted by Project Supervisors and Archaeological Assistants. Overall project supervision and monitoring will be undertaken by a Project Manager based in Salisbury, who will make monitoring visits as necessary. Monitoring visits may also be undertaken by Wessex Archaeology's Health and Safety Co-ordinator.

9.3 Wessex Archaeology is registered with The Institute of Field Archaeologists as an archaeological organisation; and fully endorses the *Code of Conduct* and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual*

Arrangements in Field Archaeology of The Institute of Field Archaeologists. All staff would be of a standard approved by Wessex Archaeology, be employed in line with The Institute of Field Archaeologists Codes of Practice, and be members of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

10 PERSONNEL

10.1 Key Staff

10.1.1 In all cases, the project will be supervised and monitored by the following key staff, under the overall direction of the Project Manager;

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Role</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Roland Smith BA MIFA | Section Head | Project Director |
| Paul White BA, MPhil | Project Manager | Project Manager |
| Vaughan Birbeck BA PIFA | Project Officer | Fieldwork Supervisor |
| Gemma White BSc AIFA | Project Officer | Fieldwork Supervisor |
| Lorraine Mepham, BA MIFA | Finds Manager | Finds Co-ordination |
| Dr Michael Allen, BSc MIFA | Environmental Manager | Environmental overview |

10.1.2 Wessex Archaeology reserves the right to replace members of the nominated core team at its discretion. In such instances the CVs of substituted staff with comparable qualifications/experience will be provided where appropriate and on request.

10.2 Specialist Staff

10.2.1 Wessex Archaeology would normally use its in-house specialist team for evaluation work, with input from external specialists as appropriate. The team will comprise the following specialists:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Role</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Dr. Jessica Grimm | Project Officer | Faunal remains |
| Dr. Mike Allen | Environmental Manager | Molluscs, sedimentology |
| Dr. Cathie Chisham | Senior Project Officer | Geoarchaeology |
| Dr. Chris Stevens | Senior Project Officer | Charred plant remains, waterlogged remains |
| Dr. Matt Leivers | Project Officer | Flintwork |
| Rachael Seager Smith | Deputy finds Manager | Romano-British ceramics & small finds |
| Grace Jones | Project Officer | Roman small finds |
| Lorraine Mepham | Finds Manager | Medieval/post-medieval ceramics & small finds |
| Dr. Jacqueline McKinley | Senior Project Officer | Human Remains |
| Dr. Nick Cooke | Senior Project Officer | Coins |

11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

11.1 Wessex Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its Company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual

Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1997). A copy of Wessex Archaeology's Company Health and Safety Policy is available on request.

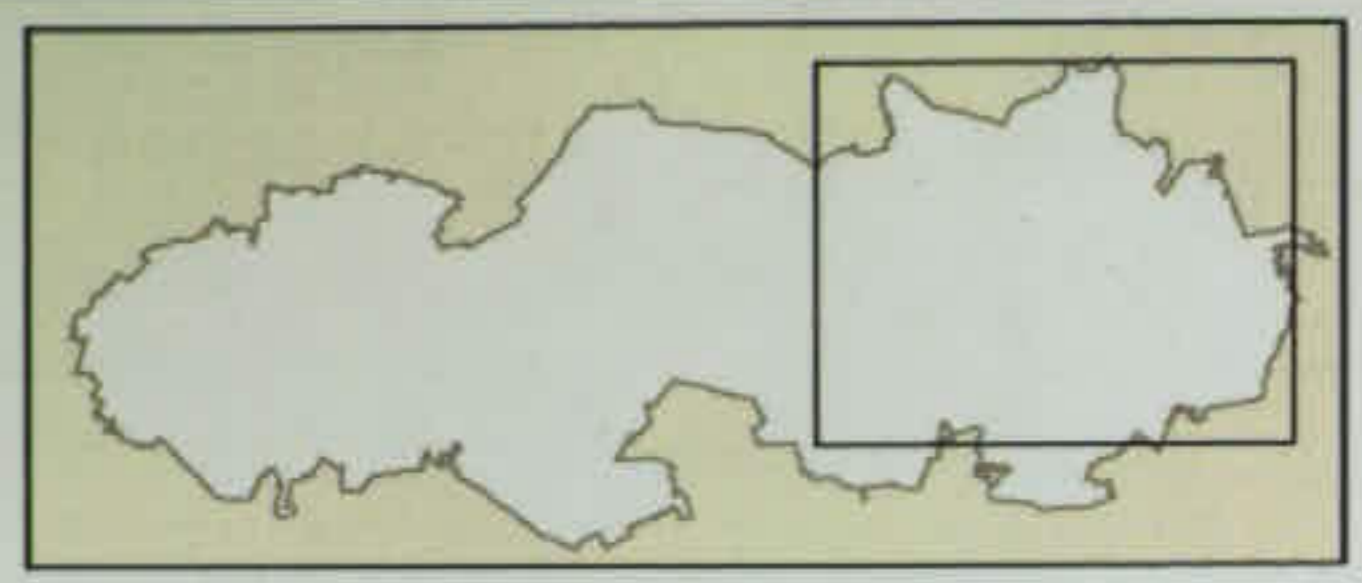
- 11.2 Prior to commencement of this phase of fieldwork, a Risk Assessment will be issued by the Project Manager to ensure that potential hazards have been identified and mitigation or control measures will be implemented.

12 COPYRIGHT

- 12.1 Wessex Archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the reports by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this Programme of Work.

13 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Surveys 2006 *SPTA Proposed Eastern Tank Track: Magnetometer Survey* Ref no. 171



— Proposed route/hardstanding
 — Area of evaluation

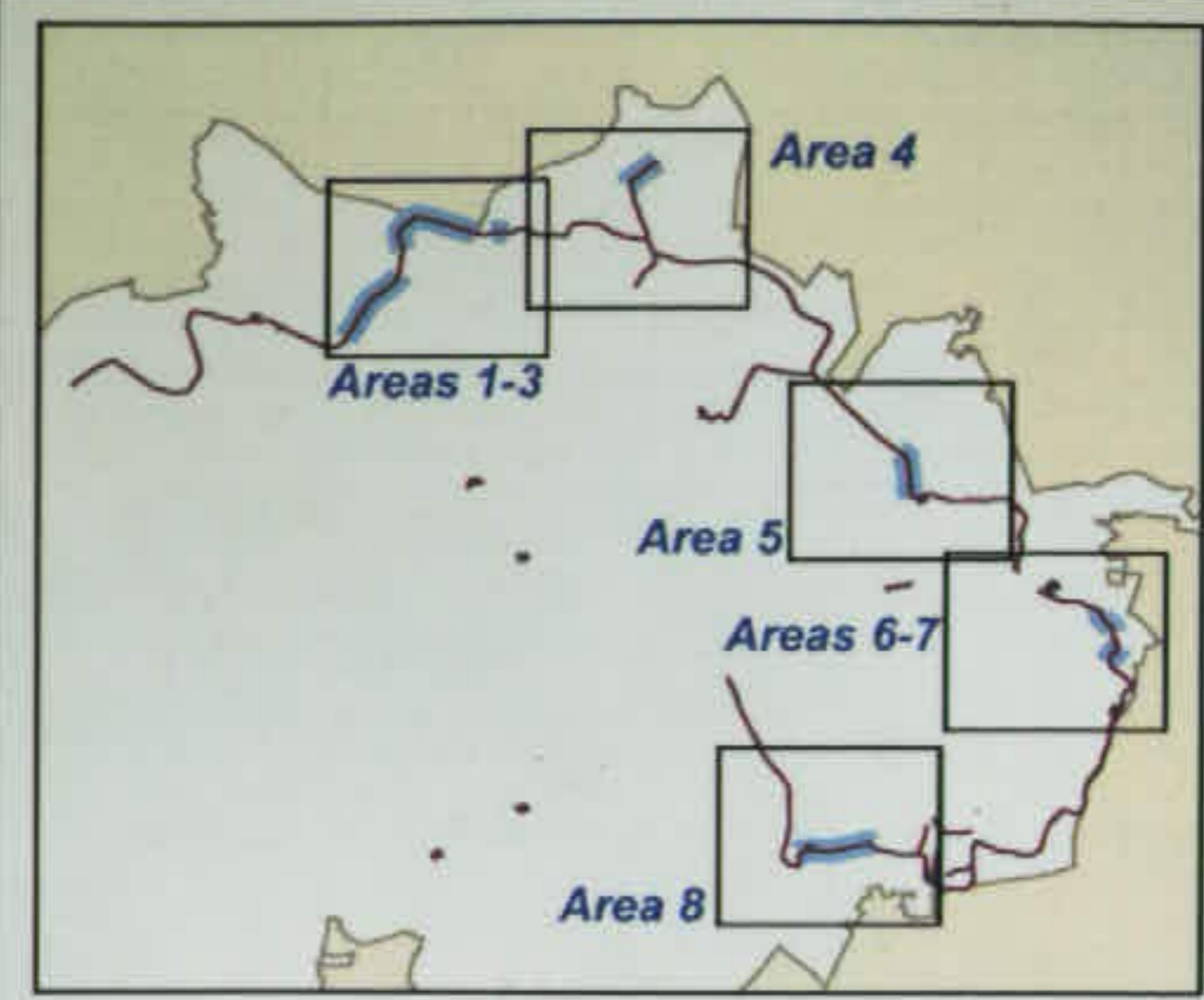
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Location of Evaluation Areas along the proposed track

Figure 1



— Proposed route/hardstanding
 — Area of evaluation

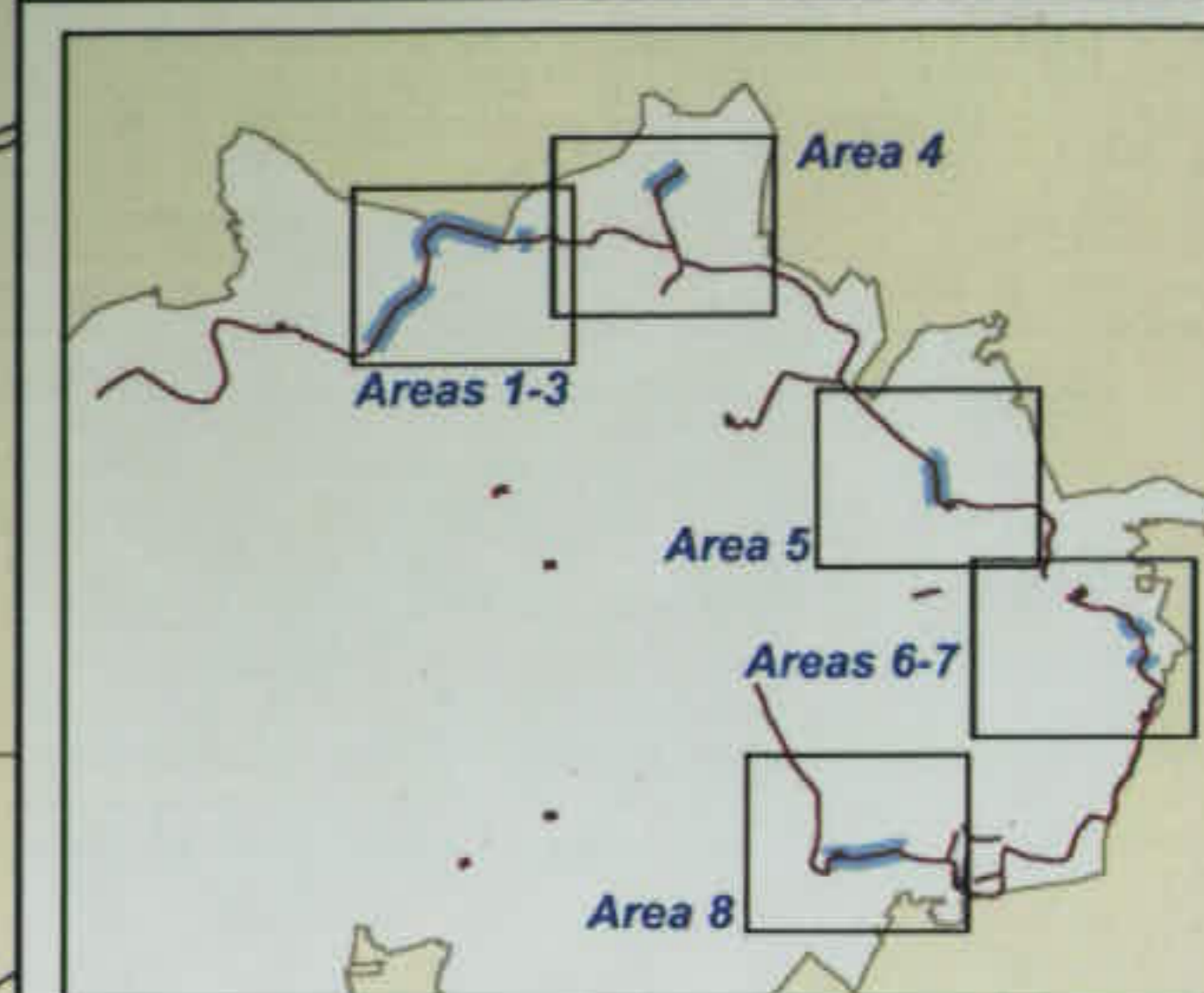
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Area 1, 2 and 3 Trench locations

Figure 2

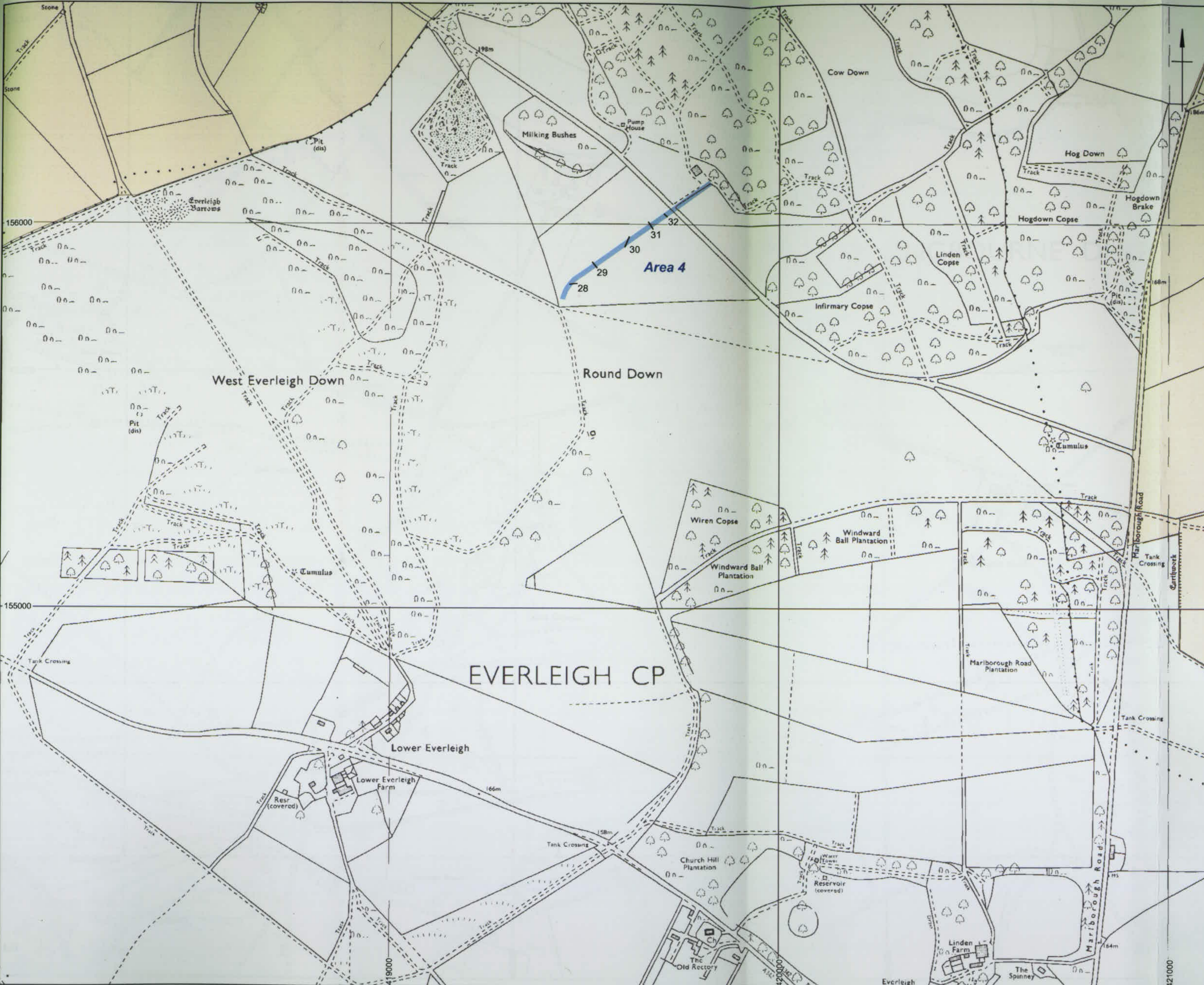


Proposed route/hardstanding
 Area of evaluation

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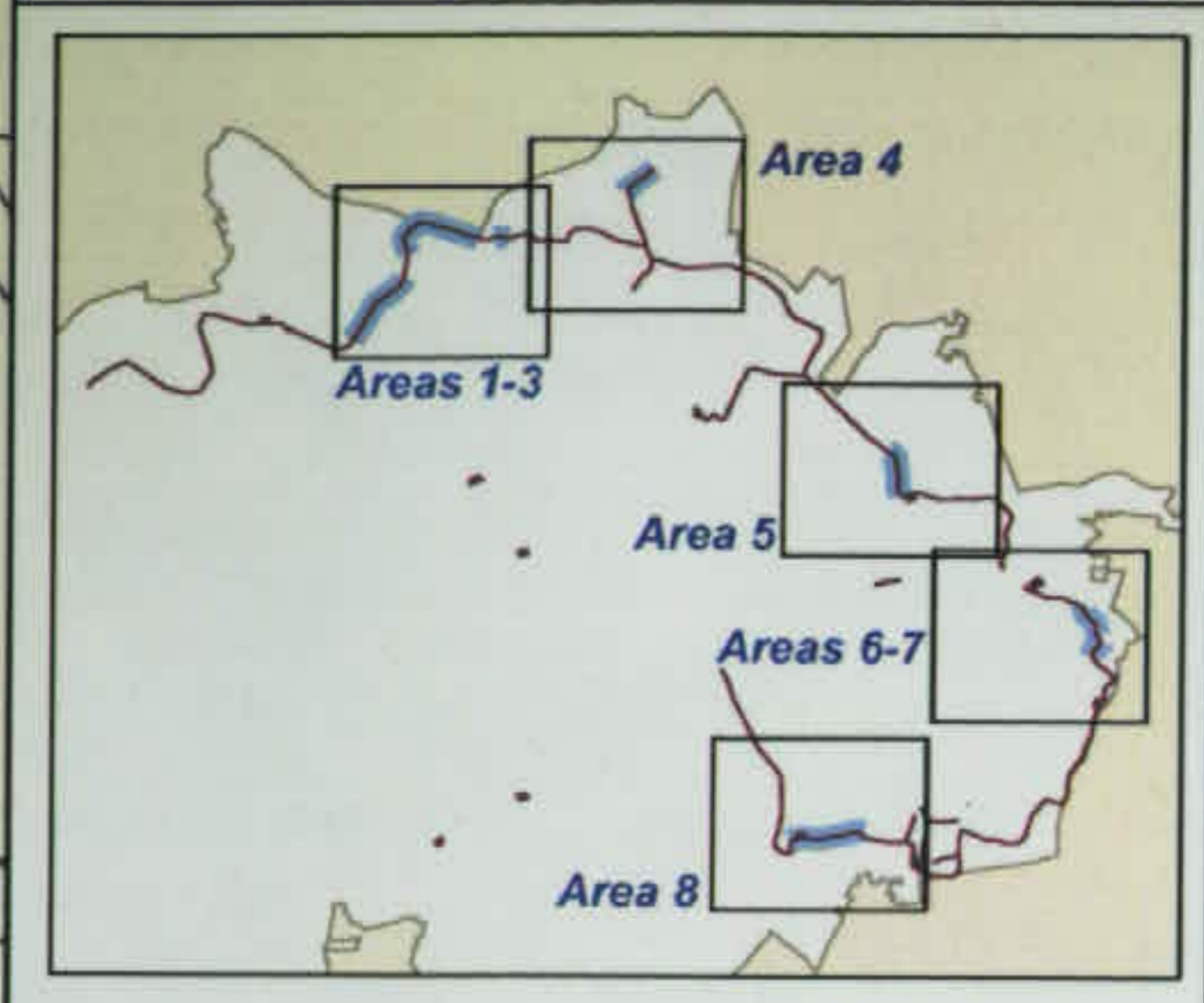
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Area 4 Trench locations

Figure 3



— Proposed route/hardstanding
 — Area of evaluation

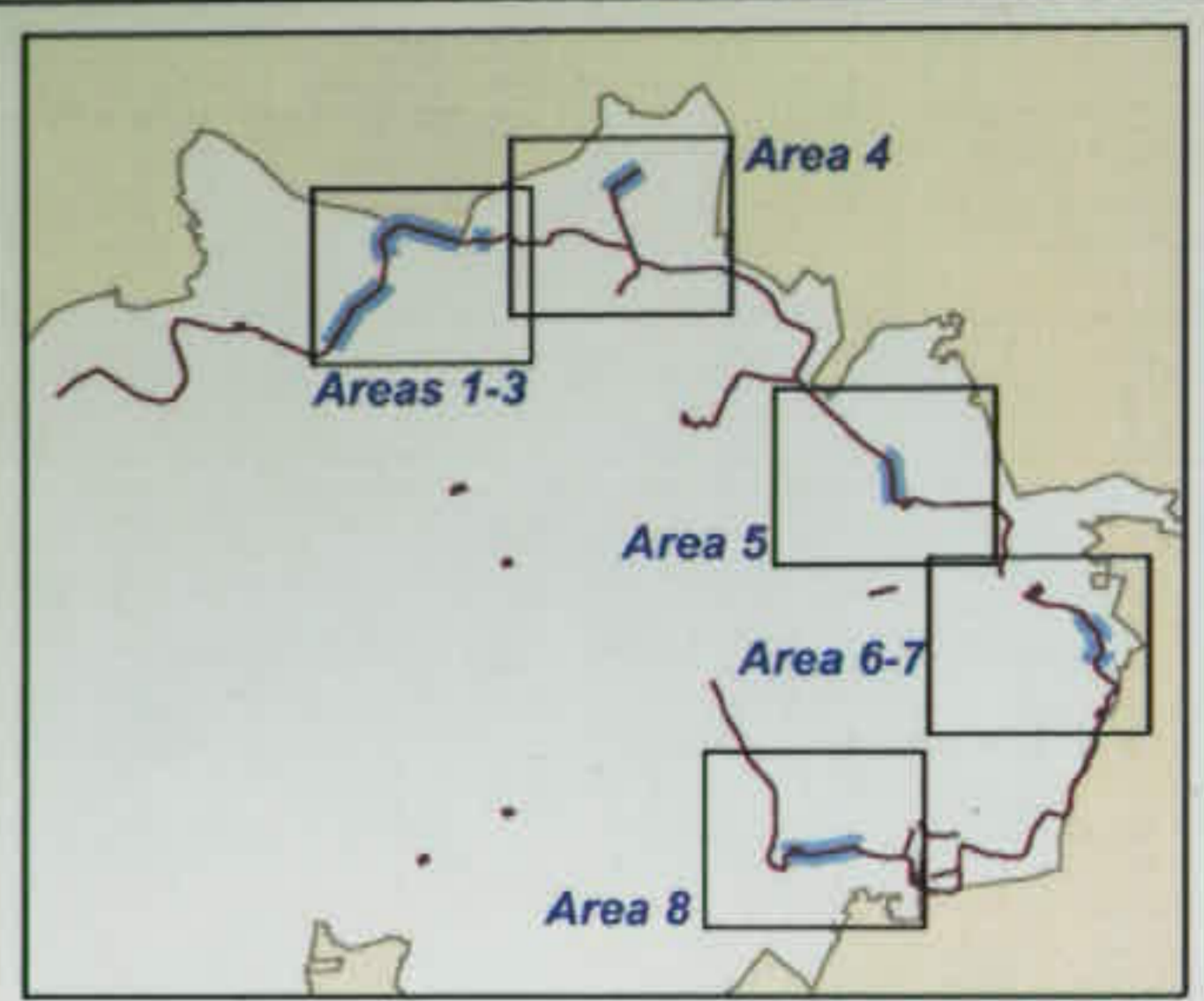
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Area 5 Trench locations

Figure 4



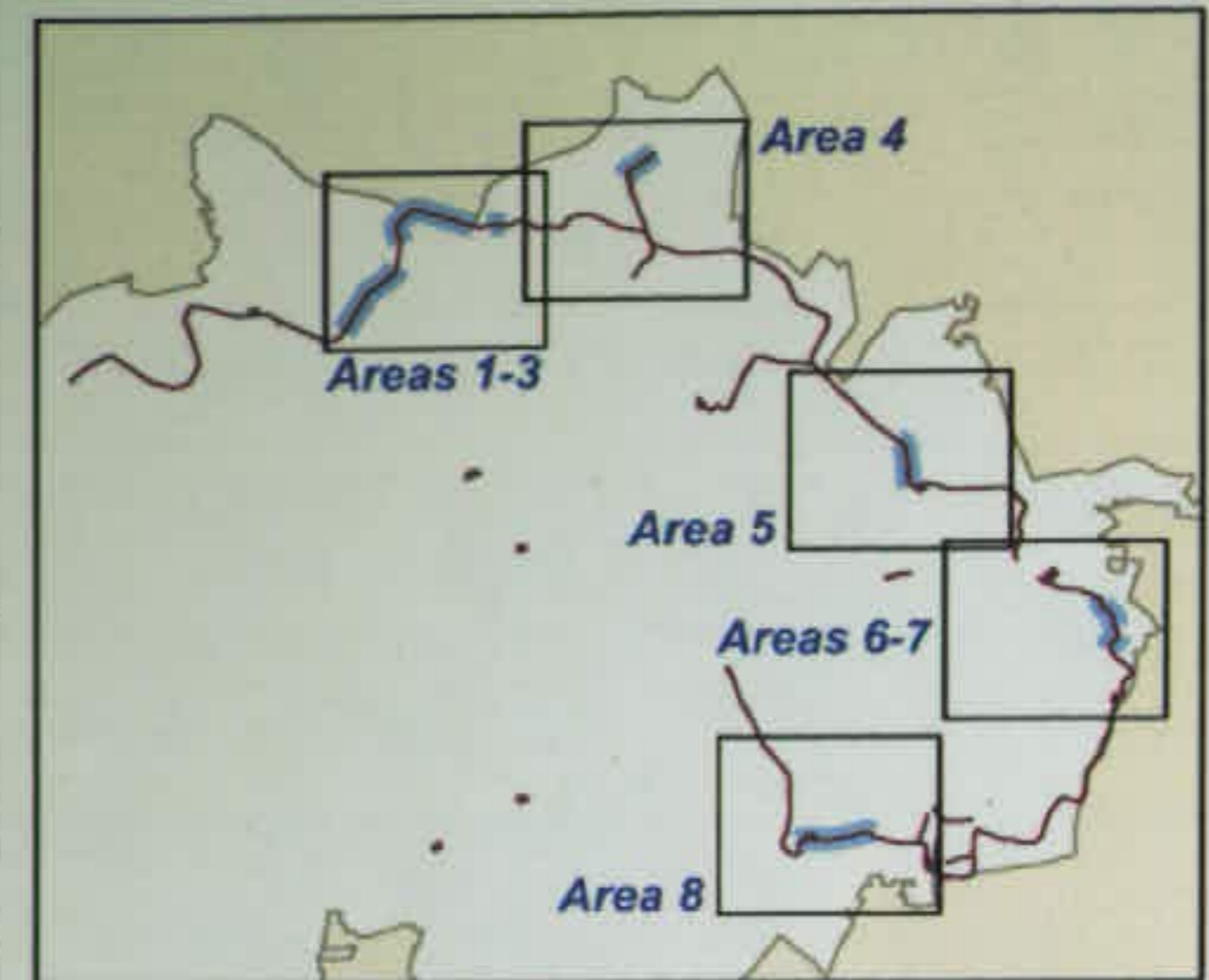
— Proposed route/hardstanding
 Area of evaluation

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Area 6 and 7 Trench locations



— Proposed route/hardstanding
 — Area of evaluation

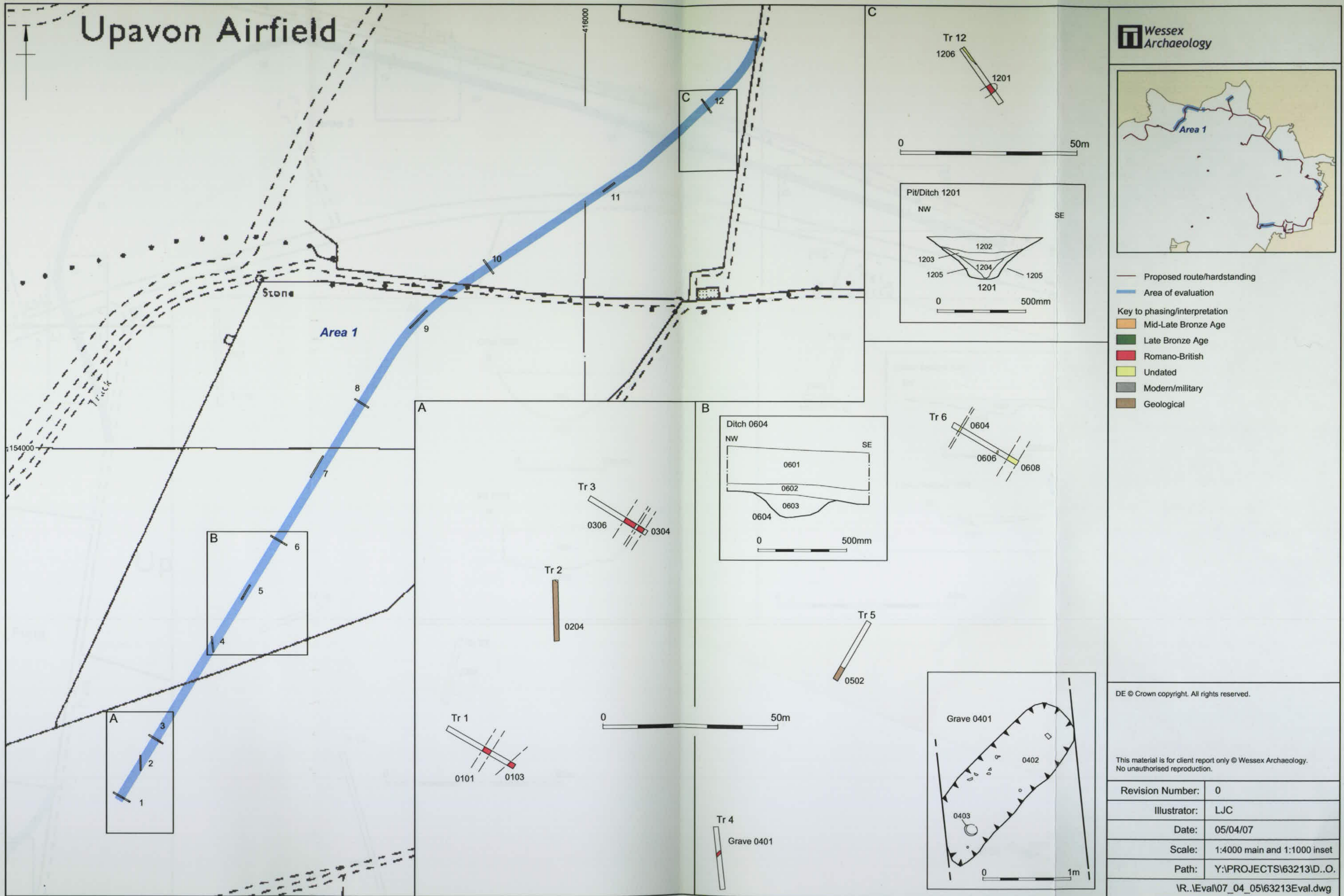
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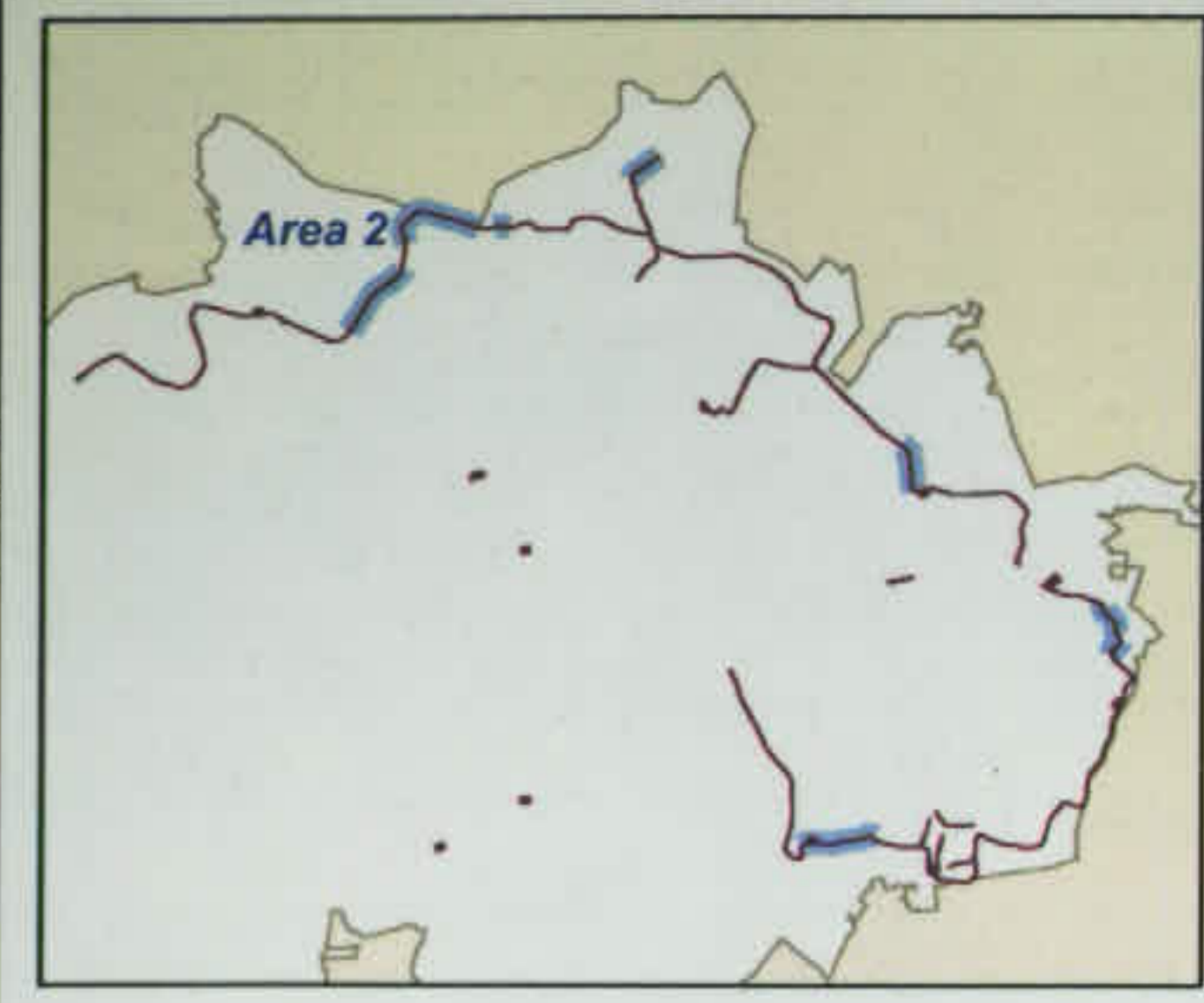
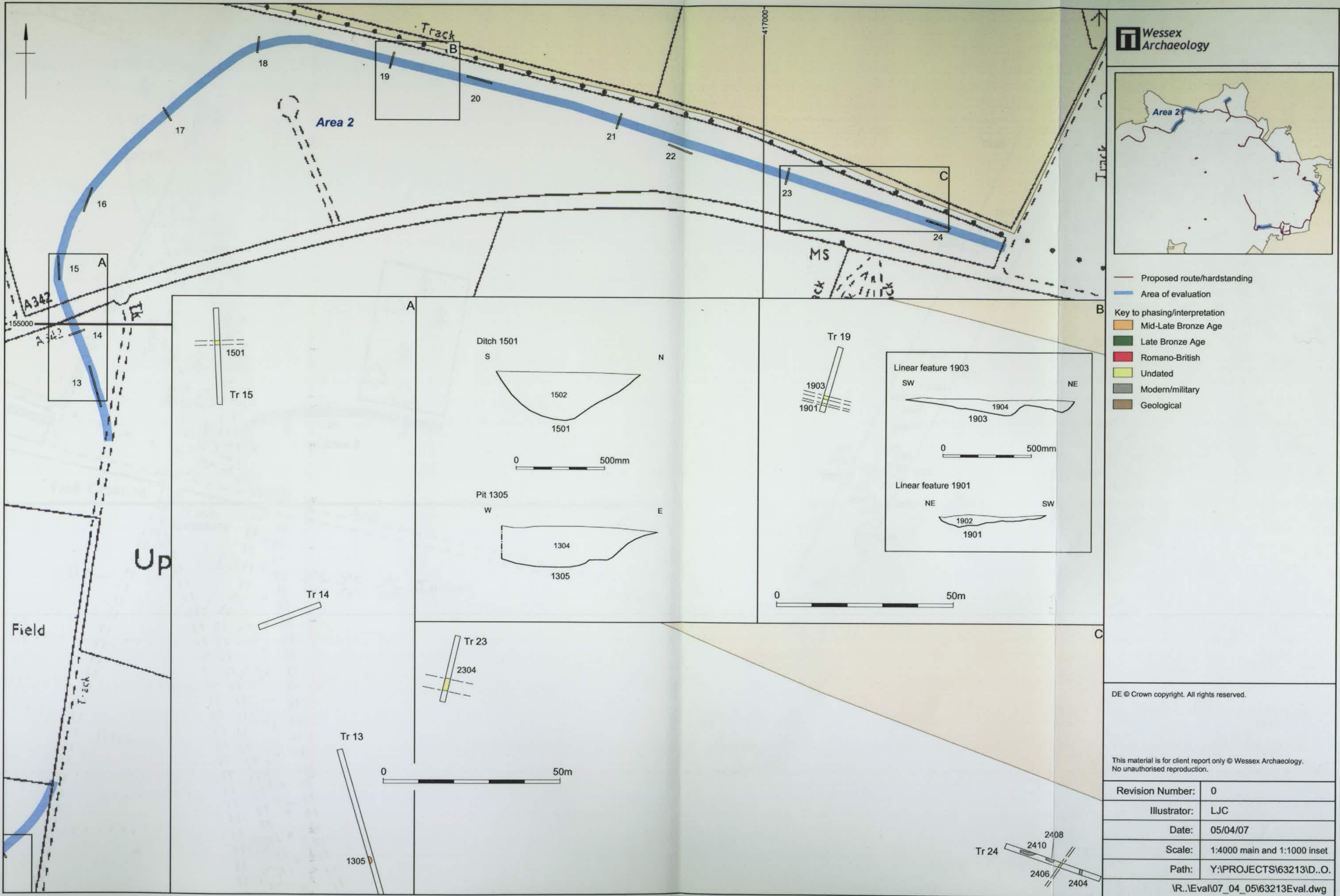
Area 8 Trench locations

Figure 6



Area 1 and details of Trenches 1-6 and 12

Figure 7



- Proposed route/hardstanding
 - Area of evaluation
- Key to phasing/interpretation
- Mid-Late Bronze Age
 - Late Bronze Age
 - Romano-British
 - Undated
 - Modern/military
 - Geological

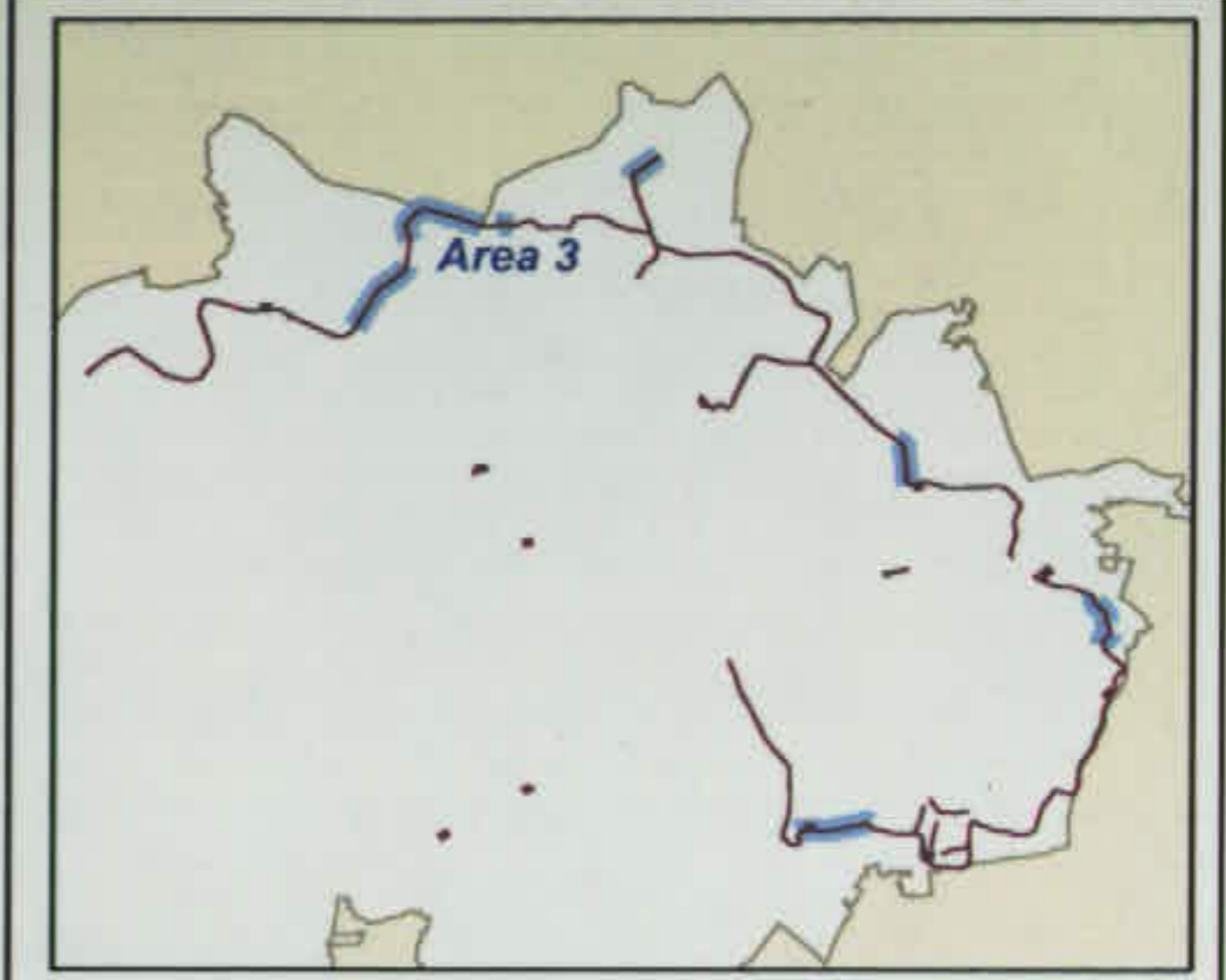
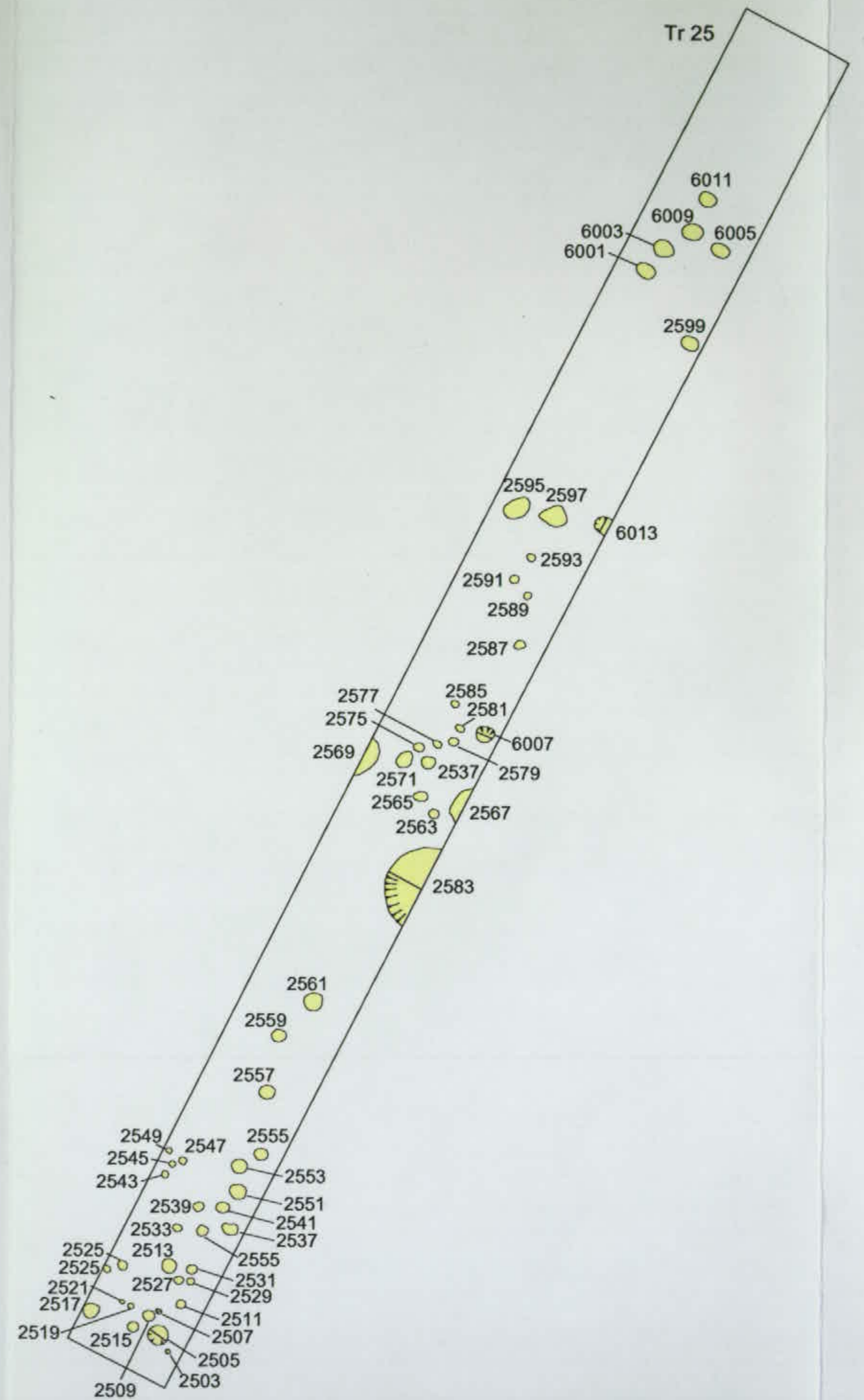
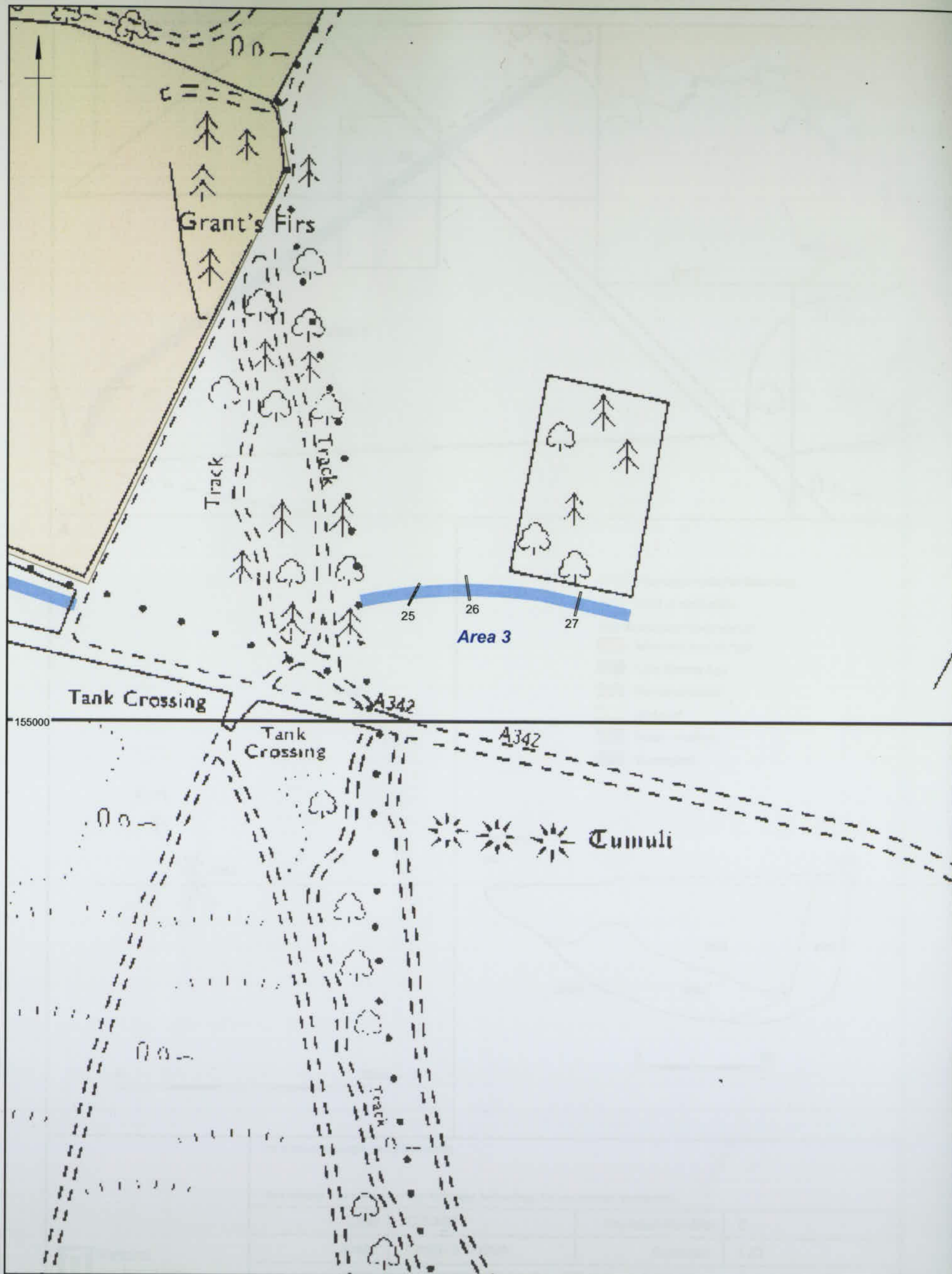
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Area 2 and details of Trenches 13-15, 19, 23 and 24

Figure 8



- Proposed route/hardstanding
- Area of evaluation
- Key to phasing/interpretation
- Mid-Late Bronze Age
- Late Bronze Age
- Romano-British
- Undated
- Modern/military
- Geological

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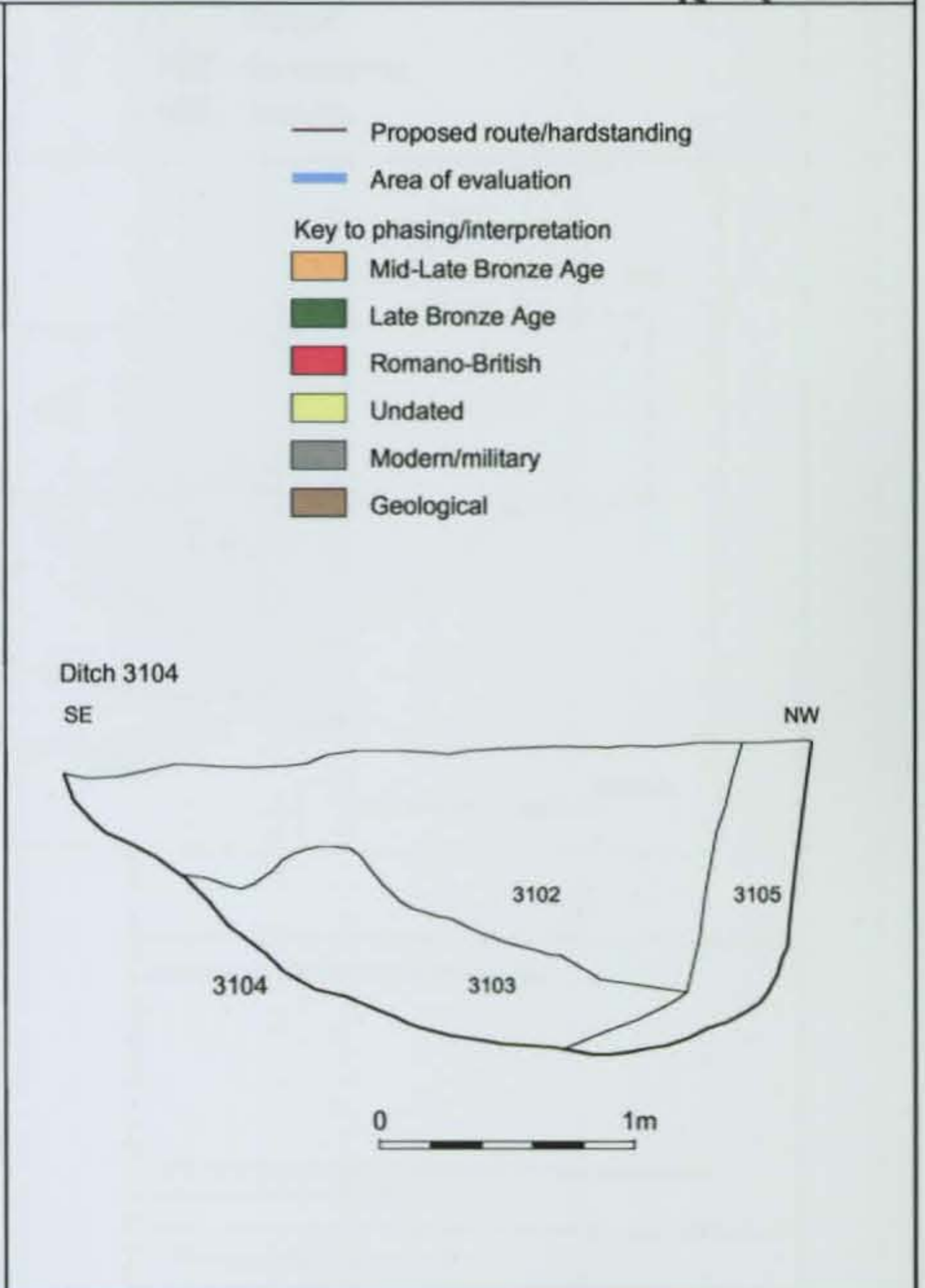
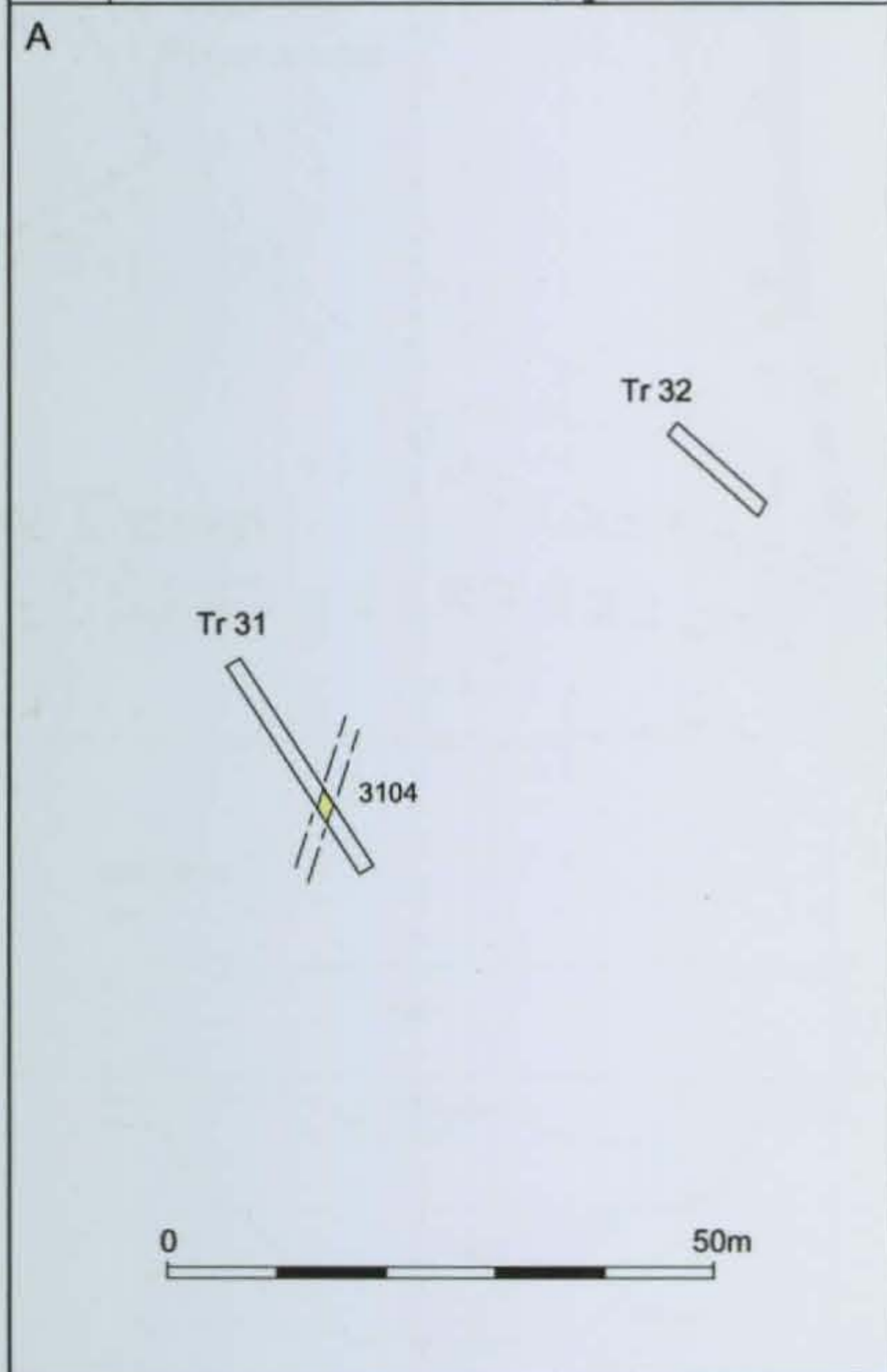
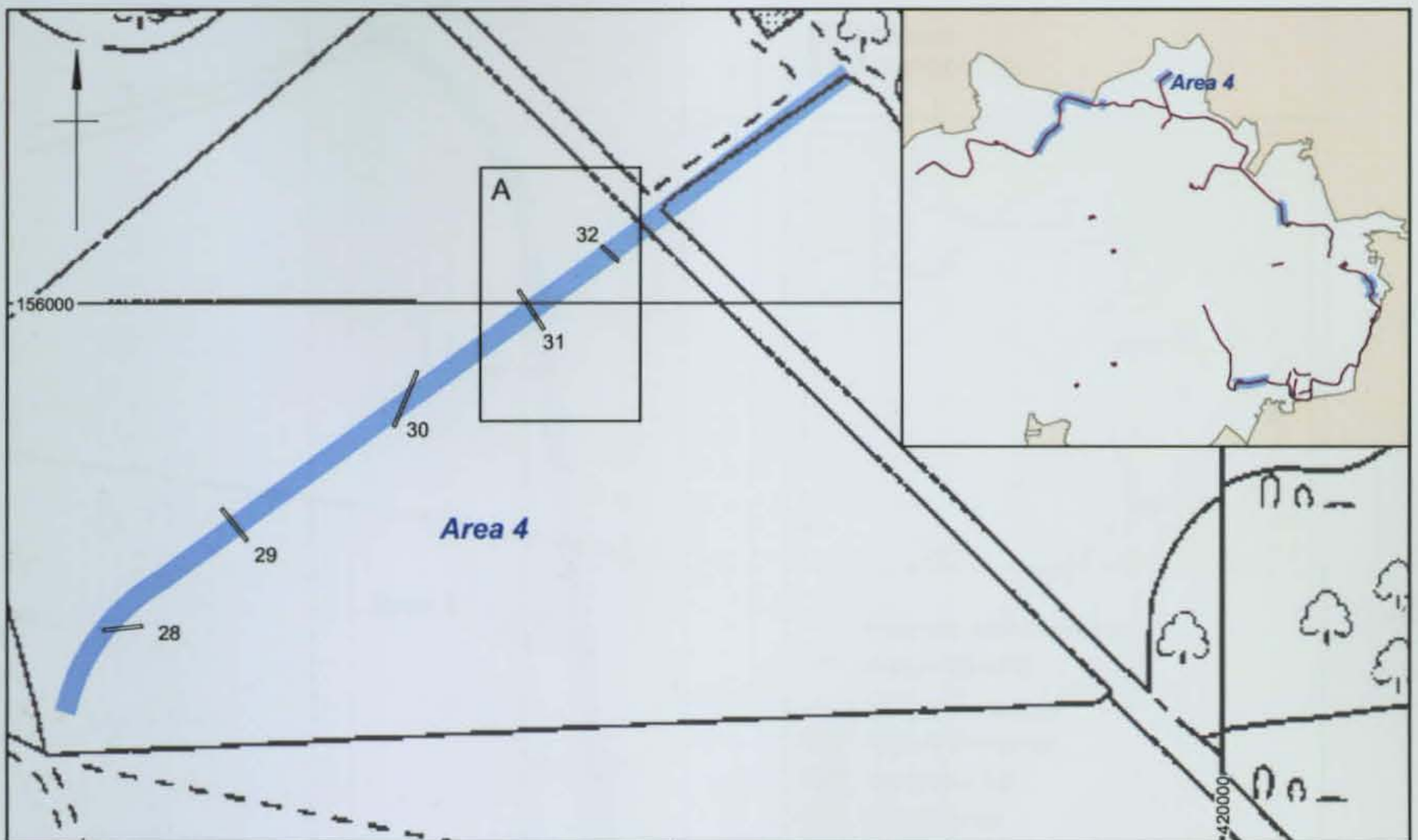
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Area 3 and plan of Trench 25

Figure 9



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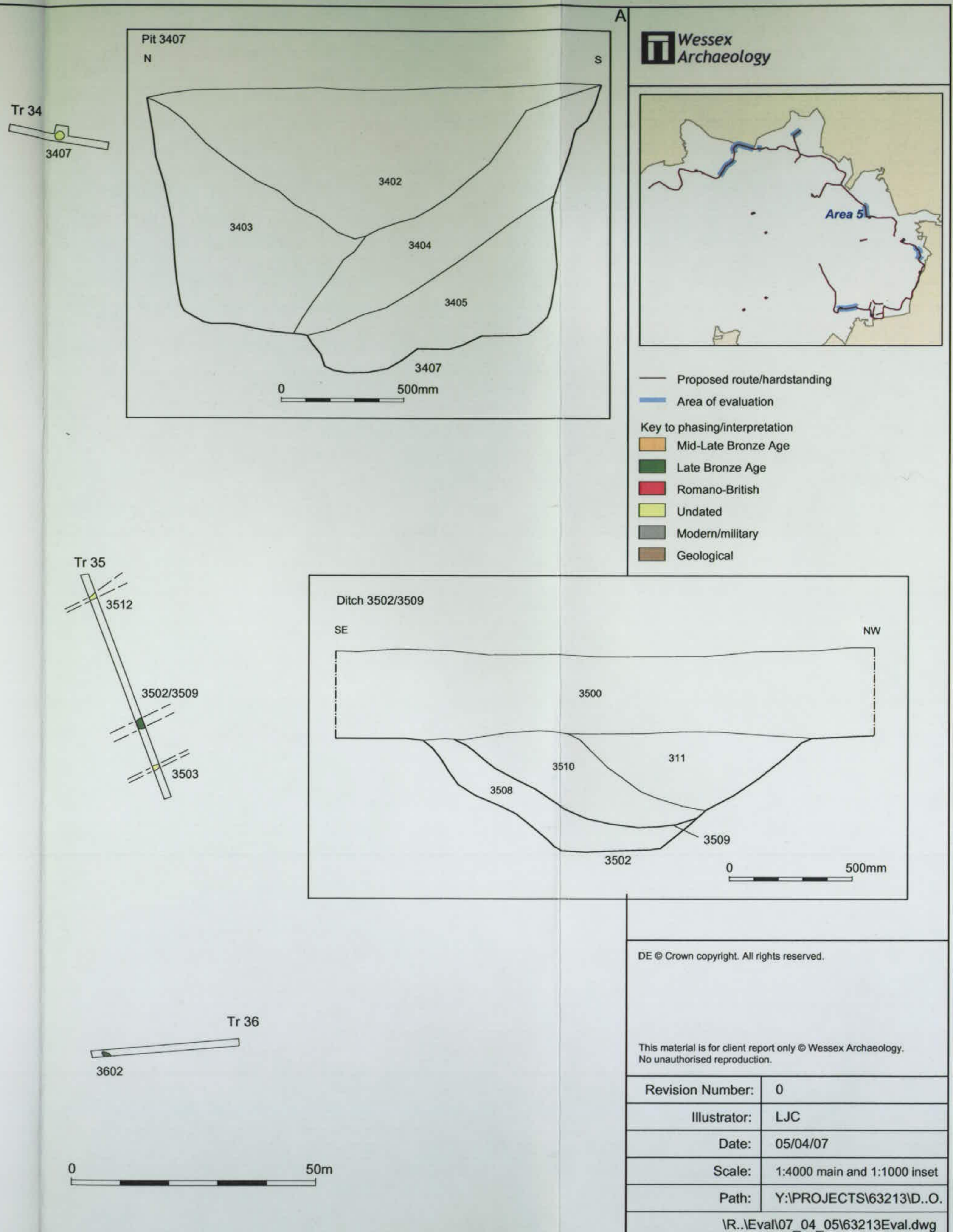
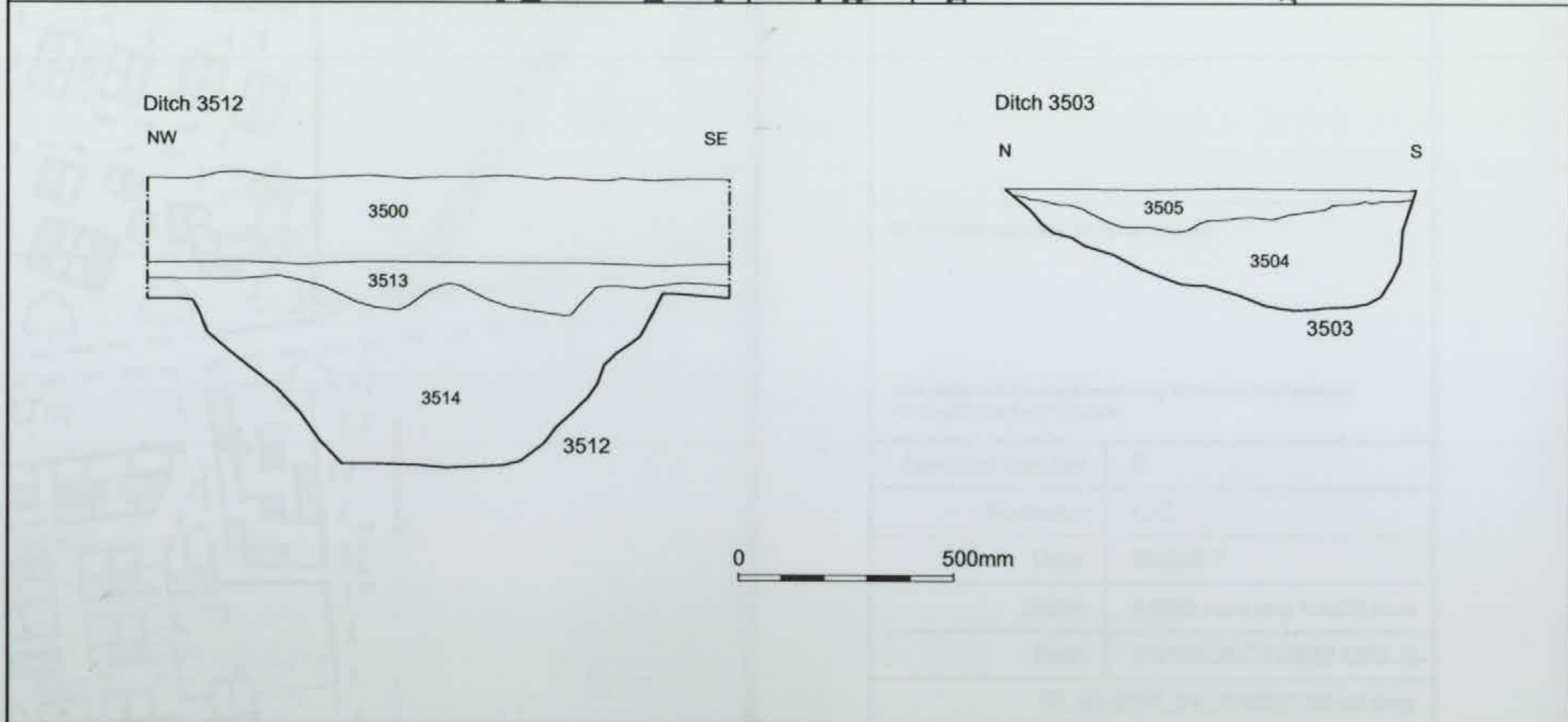
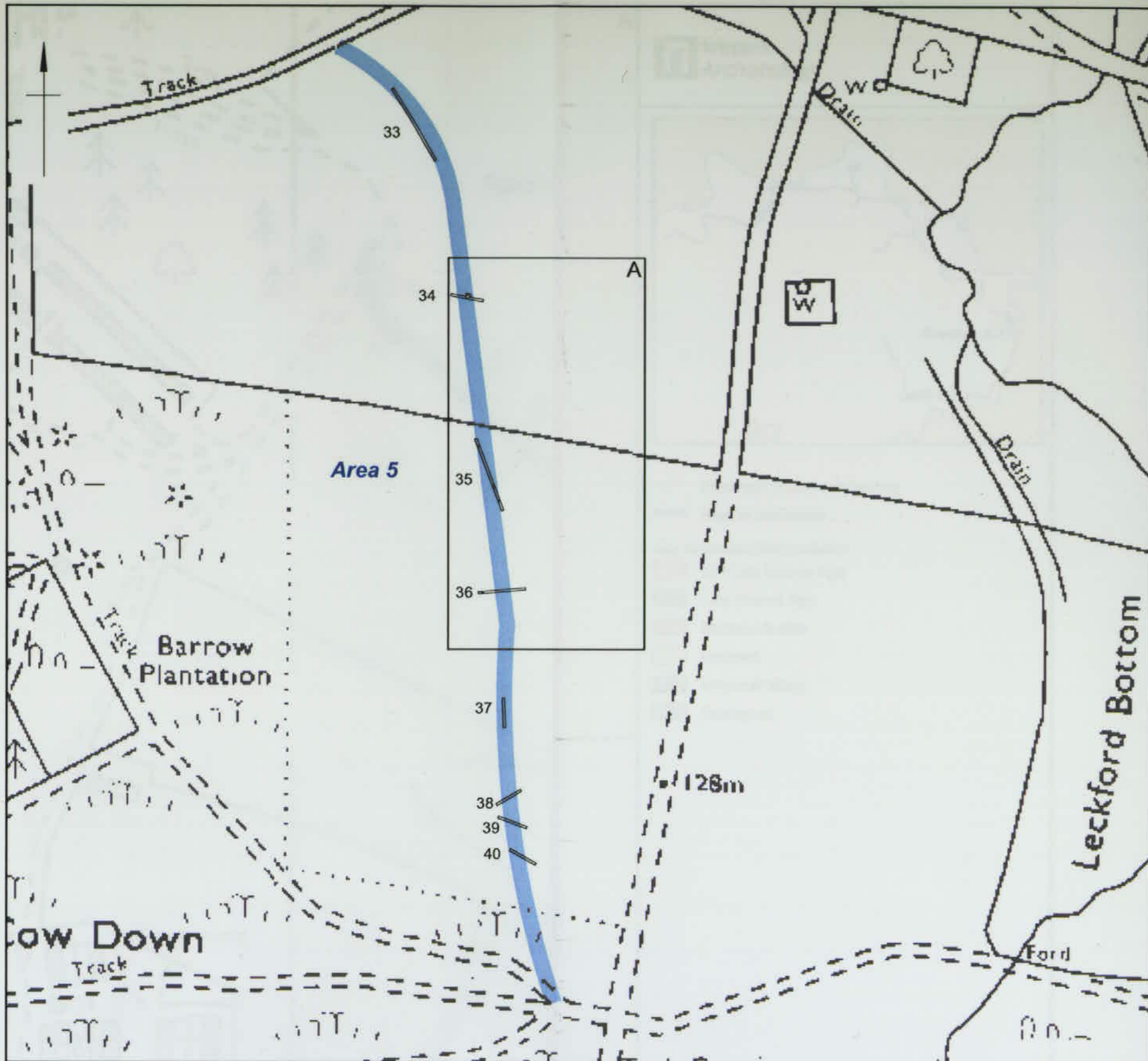
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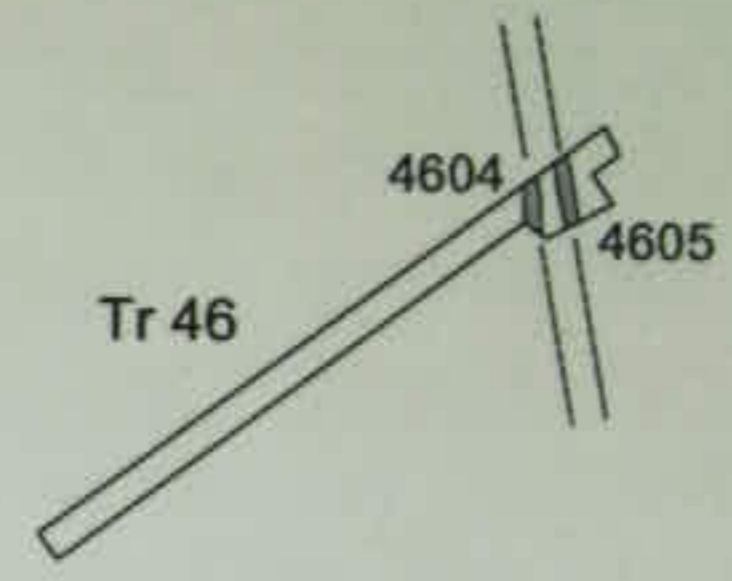
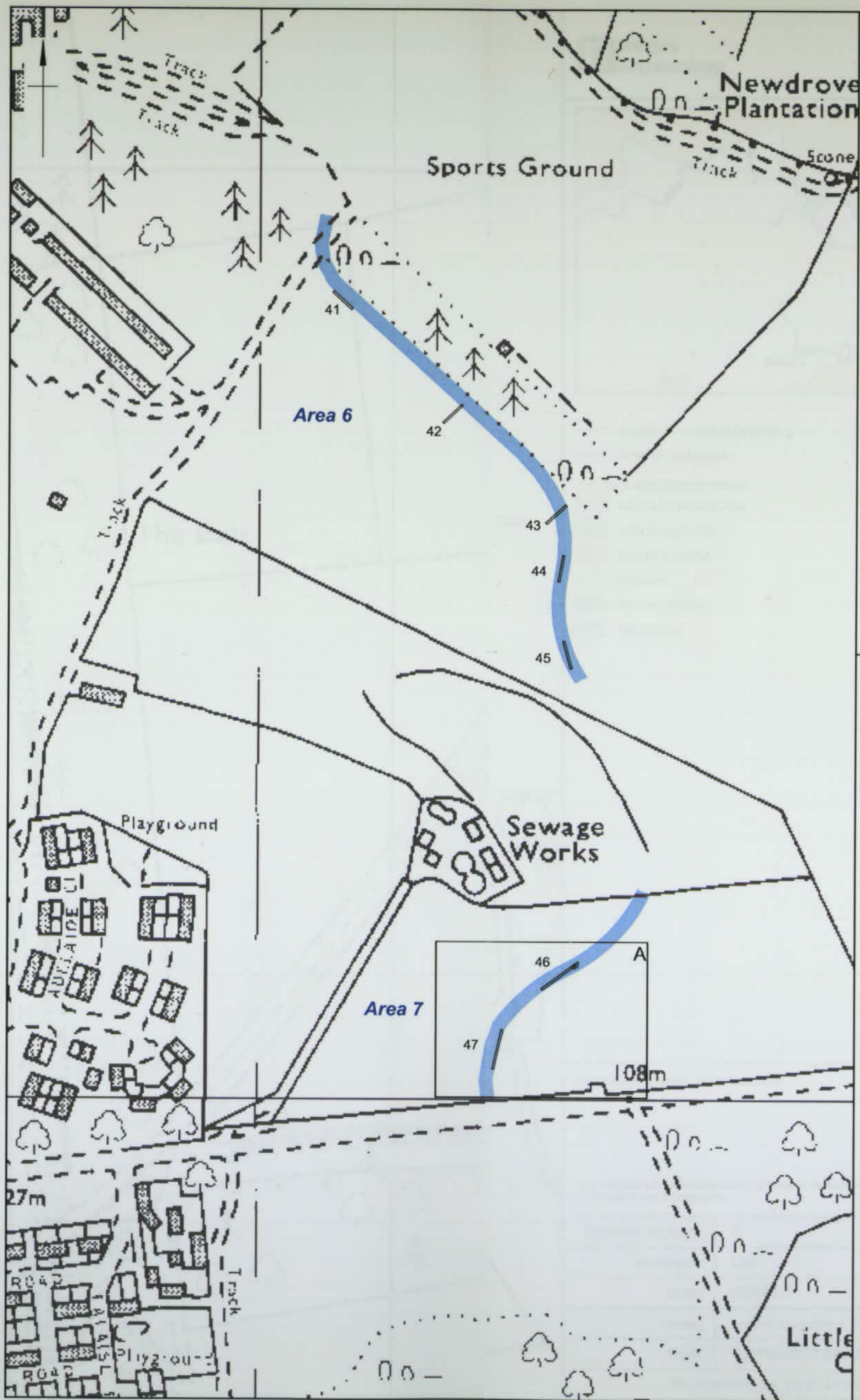
Area 4 and detail of Trenches 31 and 32

Figure 10

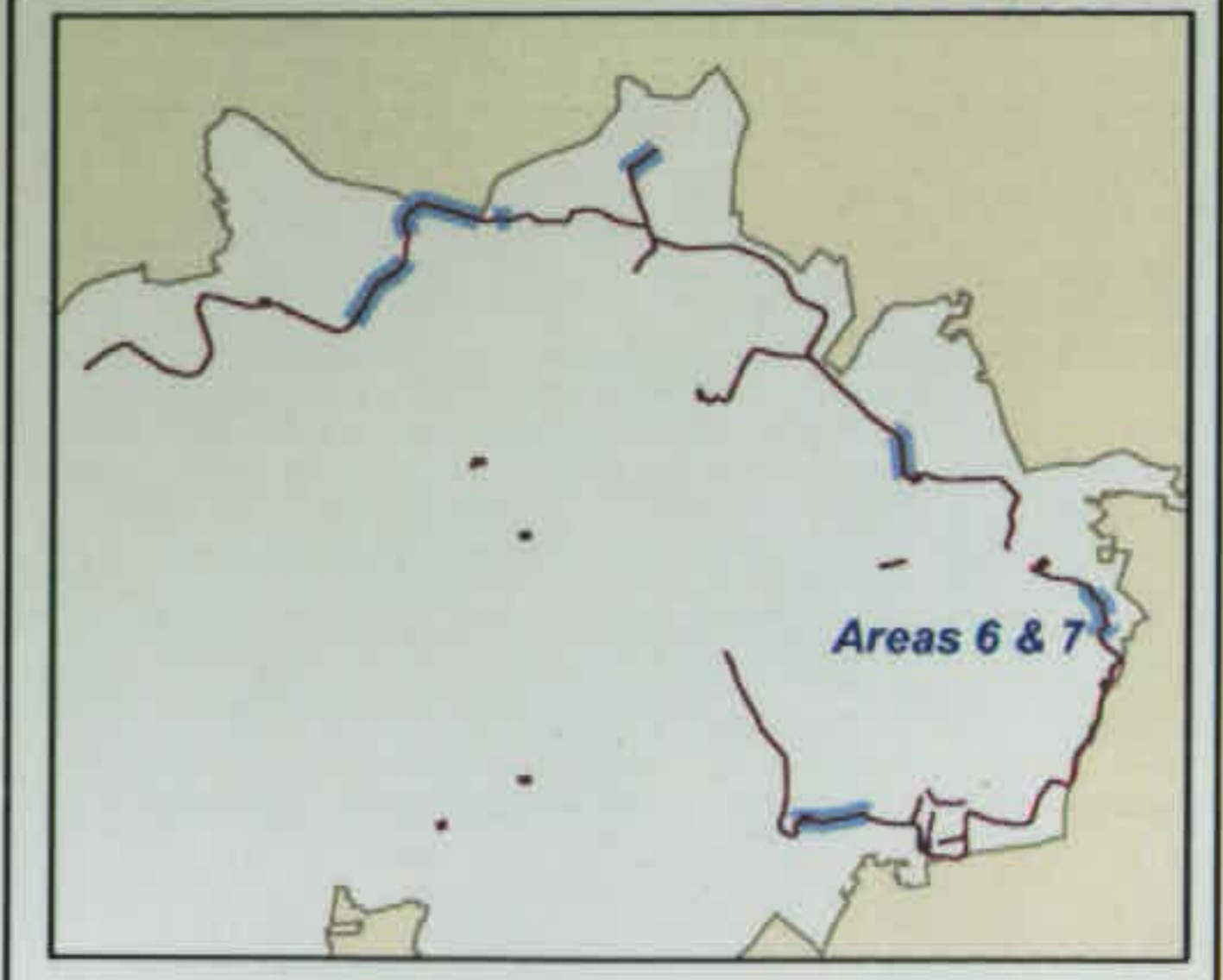


Area 5 and details of Trenches 34-36

Figure 11



Wessex Archaeology



- Proposed route/hardstanding
- Area of evaluation
- Key to phasing/interpretation
- Mid-Late Bronze Age
- Late Bronze Age
- Romano-British
- Undated
- Modern/military
- Geological

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Areas 6 and 7 and detail of Trenches 46 and 47

Figure 12



- Proposed route/hardstanding
- Area of evaluation
- Key to phasing/interpretation
- Mid-Late Bronze Age
- Late Bronze Age
- Romano-British
- Undated
- Modern/military
- Geological

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Area 8 and detail of Trenches 51 and 52



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