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Wessex Archaeology



Watchkeeper UAV,
Upavon Airfield,
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



**Watchkeeper UAV
Upavon Airfield, Wiltshire
Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Enviros Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land within Upavon Airfield (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was prepared by Wessex Archaeology which was submitted to, and approved by, the Wiltshire County Council Assistant Archaeologist in advance of the commencement of fieldwork.

The proposed construction of the runway will involve cut/fill groundworks to balance topography and areas of fill which will be stripped of topsoil prior to construction. Any other associated works, such as drainage, may also have an impact on archaeological remains. The main area of cut groundworks is located on the eastern half of the proposed runway, with a smaller proposed cut area at its western end.

In total, 23 50m x 2m² trenches represents 5% of the development area, were targeted in the proposed areas of cut groundwork. These were located to target geophysical anomalies identified by a GPR survey undertaken by White Young Green in August/September this year and possible features in the eastern part of the Site relating to those noted in the desk-based assessment produced by Wessex Archaeology in August this year. The rest are spread over the remaining areas to be affected by levelling down. Trench 3 was located to assess the survival of a cropmark linear recorded on RCHME transcriptions for Salisbury Plain, held by the Wiltshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). *In-situ* archaeological deposits were recorded in 9 trenches ranging in date from Neolithic – Bronze Age to Late Roman, the remaining trenches contained no archaeological features or finds.

The main focus of activity is at the western end of the site, and centres on a large sub-circular enclosure that dates to the Early to Middle Iron Age, and continued in use until the Late Roman period. The subsequent geophysics carried out by Wessex Archaeology in September/October this year has revealed that the enclosure has a large concentration of internal features, and is respected by three later sub-rectangular enclosures that may be Roman in date. The evaluation and geophysical survey (September/October 2007) of the Upavon Site has revealed a range of well preserved features suggesting continuity of occupation over a period of 750 years or more. This compares well with other similar sites in the Salisbury Plain area, suggesting the site may be considered to be of regional if not national significance.

Policy HH1 of the Kennet District Local Plan 2011 (Adopted April 2004), states that such sites should 'be protected from inappropriate development'. It is recommended, therefore, the potential for preservation of these remains in-situ through design alteration should be explored as the preferred option. This may be achieved by:

- Shortening the length of the proposed runway to avoid the enclosures; or,
- Re-aligning the proposed runway away from the enclosures (this would require further archaeological evaluation if the new runway footprint has not been adequately surveyed in the archaeological investigations which have been carried out to date); or,

- Raising the profile of the proposed runway and sealing archaeological remains beneath an appropriate engineered structure. This would need to retain existing ground levels.

If these options are not possible, preservation by record of the affected parts of the enclosures may be considered. However, due to the significance of the archaeological features identified this would not be an acceptable option. With regards to the other archaeological evidence found in the eastern area of the proposed runway this method - preservation by record may be suitable.

Issues regarding the construction techniques are currently being considered so that a preferred option can be selected which sympathises with the archaeological sensitivity of the site.

The eastern area of the runway, especially around Trenches 9 and 10, may require further investigation, which could be secured as a planning condition for strip, map and record. Trenches containing undated material (i.e. Trenches 3, 6, 12, 13 and 14) as well as the areas not evaluated beneath the iron Sommerfield Tracking at the eastern end of the runway may be investigated through a watching brief, secured as a planning condition. This should be discussed in the first instance with the Wiltshire County Council Planning Archaeologist.

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The evaluation was directed by David Reay, with assistance from James Box, Dave Godden, Daniel Hart and Megan Stoakley.

This report was compiled by David Reay, illustrations were prepared by Will Foster. The finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram and Jessica Grimm. The environmental assessment was undertaken by Dr. Chris Stevens. The project was managed by Paul White for Wessex Archaeology.

**Watchkeeper UAV
Upavon Airfield, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Enviro Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land within Upavon Airfield (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'), east of Upavon village in the Defence Training Estate Salisbury Plain (DTE SP). It is proposed to construct a hardened runway, approximately 1000m by 30m and groundworks associated with the runway construction are likely to affect potential buried archaeological deposits.

1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation was prepared by Wessex Archaeology (2007a). The WSI was submitted to, and approved by, Wiltshire County Council Assistant Archaeologist in advance of the commencement of fieldwork.

1.1.3 The purpose of the evaluation is to characterise any archaeological deposits which might be affected by the runway construction and provide information which can be used to determine if any further mitigation might be required. This report details the results of the evaluation which was carried out between 17th and 28th September 2007.

1.2 Site description, topography and geology

1.2.1 The Site (NGR 415000 154000) is located within the irregular parcel of land comprising the airfield which covers c. 60 hectares of chalk downland east of the River Avon, which flows south through Salisbury Plain. The airfield lies within Upavon and Enford parishes and the parish boundary (formerly between Upavon and East Chisenbury parishes) passes through it (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 Within the perimeter track the airfield is presently under grass, including the existing landing strip aligned north-east to south-west. To the north, there are three hangars on the south side of the road. The proposed runway will be aligned east to west and will cross the current runway at its eastern end.

1.2.3 The airfield is on a south-west sloping plateau, between c. 152m and 176m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), on the upper part of a ridge between two dry valleys. Beyond the airfield the ground drops sharply to the south-east and north-west, and within the western half of the airfield there is a dry valley which extends to the south-west towards West Chisenbury.

1.2.4 The underlying geology is Cretaceous Upper Chalk (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1959 1:50,000 Sheet 282, Devizes). Soils are generally thin brown rendzina soils.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Desk-based assessment

- 1.3.1 A desk-based assessment of the airfield, carried out by Wessex Archaeology in August 2007 (Wessex Archaeology 2007b), identified 34 sites and findspots of archaeological and historical interest have been identified within a Study Area extending 500m from the airfield boundary. These included Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age burial sites, one of them a Scheduled round barrow.
- 1.3.2 There is evidence of settlement, field systems and enclosures dating to the later prehistoric period (Middle-Late Bronze Age and Iron Age), with most of Chisenbury Camp Iron Age hillfort lying within the Site, although its ramparts were mostly levelled in 1931. There is also evidence for Romano-British activity, including a burial within the Site, although this can not be securely located from historic records.
- 1.3.3 Historic activity predating the establishment of the airfield consists mainly of features indicating periodic cultivation of the downland, including possibly medieval ridge-and-furrow and 19th century field barns. The land was purchased for military training in 1897, and Upavon Airfield was established in 1912 as the home for the Central Flying School, the oldest flying training school in the world, and was an important World War I airfield. Within the airfield, sections of the grass runway are strengthened with iron Sommerfield Tracking during World War II. The airfield is still used for grass-landing practice and continues to be the flying base for RAF No 622 Volunteer Gliding Squadron and the Army Gliding Club.

Geophysical survey

- 1.3.4 A ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the Site was implemented out by White Young Green. The survey was to identify the extent of the Sommerfield Tracking across the Site and any variation in underlying geologies which may affect the proposed construction. The survey was undertaken for engineering rather than archaeological purposes and the results are not reproduced in this report. However, a number of these anomalies identified by the GPR survey could relate to buried archaeological surfaces or features but it is not possible to be certain.
- 1.3.5 Subsequent to the evaluation a further phase of geophysics survey was undertaken to determine the wider archaeological potential along the entire proposed runway. This comprised of a magnetometry survey undertaken in September/ October 2007 for Wessex Archaeology by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The results of this survey are presented on Figure 2.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The trenches were located within the development area relating to the proposed cut groundworks for the runway construction. The evaluation strategy was developed from the results of the GPR survey (August/September 2007) and desk based assessment. It was intended to target geophysical anomalies to establish the presence, absence, nature and extent of any archaeological deposits which may survive within the boundaries of the Site.

2.1.2 The investigations aimed to clarify the potential impact upon the archaeological resource of the proposed development and seek to aid in the establishment of a mitigation strategy which would take into account the quality, extent and survival of the archaeology as well as the nature of the development.

2.2 Evaluation investigation

2.2.1 In total, 23 trenches, each measuring 50m x 2m were excavated, representing 5% of the development area. These were located to target geophysical anomalies identified by the GPR survey and possible features in the eastern part of the Site relating to those noted in the desk-based assessment. The rest were spread over the remaining areas to be affected by levelling down (**Figure 1 and 2**). Trench 3 was located to assess the survival of a cropmark linear recorded on RCHME transcriptions for Salisbury Plain, held by the Wiltshire Sites and Monuments Record.

2.2.2 The trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision using a tracked 360-degree excavator with a 2m wide bladed ditching bucket. The excavation proceeded until the topsoil and subsoil (and any made ground) had been removed and the underlying geological or archaeological deposits, if present, had been revealed. Trenches were cleaned by hand to ensure the machine-stripped surface was as clear as possible to allow confident identification of archaeological remains.

2.3 Recording

2.3.1 Archaeological recording was undertaken in accordance with Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation as approved by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA 1999, revised 2001), which seek to define best practice for the execution of an archaeological evaluation.

2.3.2 Written recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology *pro-forma* recording sheets. Representative sections of trial trenches were recorded at a scale of 1:10. Any archaeological features were recorded at 1:10 in section and 1:20 in plan. During the evaluation, the Site was surveyed using a GPS. The spot height of all principal features and levels were calculated in metres relative to Ordnance Datum, correct to two decimal places. Plans, sections and elevations were annotated with spot heights as appropriate.

2.3.3 A unique number was issued for each feature and deposit, relating to the trench in which it was found. For instance the second recorded deposit in Trench 3 would be numbered 302.

2.3.4 A photographic record in colour, monochrome and digital format was also produced for the evaluation.

2.4 Finds collection

2.4.1 Objects relating to human exploitation of the area that were exposed in the course of the evaluation were recovered or, where recovery was impracticable, recorded. All finds were recorded by context and significant objects recorded in three dimensions.

2.4.2 All recovered objects were retained unless they were undoubtedly of modern or recent origin. The presence of modern objects was, however, noted on context records.

2.5 Environmental sampling

2.5.1 Environmental sampling strategy followed the guidance set out in English Heritage's *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (2002)*. Bulk environmental soil samples were taken only from sealed archaeological features for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and small artefacts.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation trenches are presented below by trench (see **Fig. 1** for trench location), with further details of the features and deposits contained in **Appendix 1**. Full cross-referenced site records are contained in the archive.

3.1.2 In total, twenty three evaluation trenches were excavated. *In-situ* archaeological deposits were recorded in 9 trenches, the remaining trenches contained no archaeological features or finds, with the exception of Trenches **7, 9, 21** and **22** which contained modern material associated with the airfield (see section 3.2.5 below).

3.2 Soils and geology

3.2.1 The topsoil ranges in depth across the site from 0.10m to 0.40m, with a greater depth generally down slope to the west, becoming thinner on the higher ground to the east.

3.2.2 Subsoil was present in the majority of the trenches, varying in thickness from 0.22m to 0.05m. Trenches **4 – 6, 11 – 13** and **21** being the exceptions.

- 3.2.3 The solid geological deposits encountered were broken, Upper Chalk bedrock, with frequent periglacial solifluction scarring, and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay-with-flints, the latter more prevalent on the higher ground to the east.
- 3.2.4 The water table was not encountered within any of the excavated trenches or features.
- 3.2.5 Modern redeposited chalk make up layers were present between the topsoil and subsoil in Trenches **7** and **19**, which probably relate to airfield activity on the site, possibly infilling depressions on the grass runway. To the east of Trench **10**, there was a modern horizon of cinder or slag-like material below the turf within the topsoil. Its extent across the area was patchy, and presumably relates to airfield surface improvement works. This modern material also appears on the magnetometry survey results as spreads of magnetic debris (see **Fig. 2**). A heavy reinforcing mesh of steel rods and bars was encountered in Trenches **21** and **22**, which the GPR results had previously highlighted. These two trenches were not extended to their full 50m length as a result of this.

3.3 Trial trenching results

- 3.3.1 Trench **1** contained the most significant archaeology of the evaluation, with numerous features of Iron Age and Roman date, and one possible earlier prehistoric feature.
- 3.3.2 A substantial ditch **117** (see **Figs. 2** and **3, Plate 1**) aligned NE-SW, measuring 2.87m wide and 1.68m deep, with moderate to steep convex sides and flat base, was encountered in the middle of Trench **1**. The fill sequence and dating evidence suggests that this feature would have been open for a considerable period of time, possibly being re-cut twice. From the results of the geophysics, this ditch is probably part of a large sub-circular enclosure, measuring 100m in diameter.
- 3.3.3 Primary fill **134** derived from the initial weathering of the feature, which was overlain by two secondary fills **133** and **132** that appear to have slumped in from the NW side. Fill **132** was overlain by secondary fill **125**, which was probably slumped bank material, deriving from an internal bank on the SE side of the feature. Six sherds of Early Iron Age pottery dating to 5th - 4th centuries BC were recovered from fill **125**, and Early to Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from fill **123** that seals **125**. Secondary fill **123** probably derived from topsoil or subsoil slumping into the feature from the NW side. Upper tertiary fill **118** contained substantial quantities of artefactual material, with a distinct concentration of artefacts against the SE side, suggestive of refuse being discarded from the internal bank into the feature. The pottery from this deposit is of Late Roman date (3rd - 4th century AD).
- 3.3.4 It is possible that ditch **117** has two re-cuts, the earlier containing fill **125**, and cutting fill **132**, the later containing fill **118** and cutting fill **123**. It was not possible to definitively prove the presence / absence of these re-cuts on the basis of a single intervention, as the sections were ambiguous, consequentially only a single cut was recorded.

- 3.3.5 On the external (NW) side of enclosure ditch 117, was a steep V shaped ditch 128 (Fig 3, Plate 1), also aligned NE-SW. The fill sequence of 128 comprises of two dumped deposits 129 and 131, separated by slumped deposit 130. The pottery from 129 and 131 is of Roman date (2nd century AD or later) with residual Iron Age present also. The relationship between 117 and 128 was unclear in section, but the dating evidence suggests that 128 is a later addition to the enclosure earthwork, perhaps with tertiary fill 118 forming over both features.
- 3.3.6 To the south of enclosure ditch 117, were a series of 9 probable pits, the northern 6 of which were overlain by layer 113. This layer is a plough disturbance layer between the subsoil and the top of the broken chalk natural, 0.15m thick, and was left *in-situ* when the trench was machined due to localised concentrations of coarse ceramics. No cuts were visible when the layer was repeatedly hand cleaned, but once the layer was removed by hand, the cuts of six pits were identified. The broad date range of the pottery recovered from 113 (Early / Middle Iron Age to 2nd century AD or later) is probably indicative of a range of dates for these pits. Due to time constraints, these pits were not excavated, but pit 126 containing 127 was allocated contexts for finds retrieval, the pottery from 127 was dated to Early to Middle Iron Age.
- 3.3.7 Two of the three probable pits to the south of this area were excavated. Circular pit 109 was 0.84m in diameter, with concave moderately sloping sides and concave base. It contained a single sterile fill 110, which produced four blade-like flint waste flakes, and is probably Neolithic - Bronze Age in date. Bell shaped pit 111 measuring 1.2m wide and 0.55m deep appears to be a rubbish pit, as it contained single fill 112 that was rich in cultural material (burnt flint, pottery, animal bone), including the partial skeleton of a dog. The pottery from this feature is Early to Middle Iron Age, with one small abraded Roman sherd that is probably intrusive, given the evidence of root action seen in section, and environmental sample 101. Immediately to the south of this pit was a similar feature that was unexcavated due to time constraints, but its fill seemed identical to 112. The concentrations of probable pits in this area of the trench are consistent with the results of the magnetometry survey, showing substantial amounts of negative features within the interior of the enclosure.
- 3.3.8 To the north of enclosure ditch 117, was a stepped profiled ditch 105 aligned ENE-WSW, measuring 2.1m wide and 0.9m deep (Fig. 3, Plate 2). The fills of this feature indicate that the ditch was filled by natural processes over a prolonged time period. The feature probably had a bank on the SSE side, as fill 107 appears to be slumped bank material. Ditch 105 is of Roman date, with initial fill 108 producing pot of 1st - 2nd century AD, and upper fill 104 producing pot of 3rd - 4th century AD.
- 3.3.9 A large flue 114 was encountered at the northern end of Trench 1 (Fig. 3, Plate 3), aligned NE-SW, which is probably the flue to a Roman corn drier. Cut 114 measured 2.2m wide and 0.95m deep, was stepped in profile, with very steep sides, with smaller steps near the base occupied by walls 121 and 122. Walls 121 and 122 were single faced, constructed of randomly coursed chalk and limestone blocks and chalk mortar, with cores of chalk rubble and mortar. It is likely that the two walls originally formed an arch, covered by chalk backfill material 124, which is present only behind the better preserved NW wall 121. Both walls were butted by heat affected chalk

mortar floor **120**, which was overlain by a very dark grey, highly friable clayey silt soot-rich material **119**. This deposit was sampled and contained exceptionally rich charred plant remains of hulled emmer or spelt wheat and hulled barley (see 5.2 below). Sealing **119** and butting walls **121** and **122**, was deposit **116** which derived from collapsed backfill and walling material from collapse of the flue structure. Upper fill **115** appears to be buried topsoil / subsoil that subsided into the hollow left when the structure collapsed.

- 3.3.10 The pottery within flue **114** appears to suggest a 2nd century AD date for the construction and use of this feature. Soot rich deposit **119** was dated to 1st - 2nd century AD, whilst collapsed deposit **116** dates to 2nd century AD or later, whilst upper fill **115** produced dates of 3rd - 4th century AD. Interestingly, three fragments of a burnt rotary quern were found in **116**, which may have been re-used as building material for the flue structure. Also, at the base of fill **115**, were fragments of limestone roofing material.
- 3.3.11 Trench **2** (Fig. 4, Plates 4 and 5) contained a pit **206**, a probable pit **204** and a small, undated pit or post hole **208**. Pit **206** was circular in plan, with steep, concave sides and a flat base, and measured 1.2m diameter and 0.38m deep. It contained a single fill **207** that appeared to be a refuse deposit, with abundant 1st - 2nd century AD pottery. To the west of this feature was possible pit **204**, which extended beyond the southern edge of the trench, and measured 1.7m by 0.9m, and 0.43 deep. It contained single homogenous fill **205**, with pottery dating to 2nd century AD or later. The function of **204** is uncertain; it could be a ditch terminus or pit, fill **205** and environmental sample **102** also leave interpretation inconclusive. The eastern-most feature was a small oval undated pit or post-hole containing single fill **209**, which appears to be anthropogenic in origin.
- 3.3.12 Trench **3** was targeted on a known linear crop mark, which seems to correspond to NW-SE ditch **306** (Figs. 2 and 4). This feature was 0.79m wide and 0.17m deep with shallow concave sides and concave base. It contained single secondary fill **307**, which produced no dating evidence. This feature as well as ditch **603** was not visible on the magnetometry survey, which is probably due to the fills not containing enough magnetically enhanced material to provide a distinct contrast (both fills were very similar).
- 3.3.13 NE-SW ditch **603** (Trench **6**), had a moderately sloping concave, slightly irregular profile, and measured 0.75m wide by 0.27m deep, and contained single secondary fill **604**. This ditch is also undated, and must terminate or change alignment to the NE, as it was not present in Trench **7**.
- 3.3.14 Trench **9** contained N-S aligned ditch **904** (Fig. 5), measuring 1.84m wide and 0.80m deep, with slightly concave moderately sloping sides and a narrow, flat base. The fill sequence indicates that this feature remained open, and filled naturally over a prolonged time period. Secondary fills **905**, **906** and **907** were deposited under stable, low energy depositional conditions, deriving from in-wash of material from the surrounding land surface, feature sides, and natural silting. Primary fill **908** derived from the weathering of the feature sides and initial silting. Fill **906** had a pottery rich horizon in the middle of the deposit, with at least two vessels represented of Late Iron Age or possibly early post-conquest grog-tempered wares.

- 3.3.15 A continuation of this N-S ditch was encountered at the western end of Trench **10** (ditch **1004**), where it appears to turn to the east (**Fig. 5, Plate 6**). The profile of **1004** was slightly different to **904**, with convex moderately sloping sides and flat base; it measured 2.62m wide and 0.80m deep. The fill sequence was identical to **904**, apart from slumped fill **1007** that may indicate the presence of a bank on the east side. The magnetometry survey showed the N-S ditch clearly, but also shows a linear feature appearing to intersect on an E-W alignment from the west. This feature does not extend east of **1004**, but this may be due to disturbance from modern magnetic debris. However, the extreme western edge of **1004** widens in the north of the intervention, and hints at a possible intersection with the E-W feature.
- 3.3.16 A NE-SW ditch was recorded in Trenches **12, 13 (Fig. 6)** and **14**, only one intervention **1307** was excavated through this feature due to time constraints. Ditch **1307** had moderately sloping straight sides with a concave base, was 0.90m wide and 0.30m deep. It contained single sterile secondary fill **1308**. No dating evidence was present in the fill, but a prehistoric date is tentatively suggested for this feature due to surface finds of struck flint from fill **1405**.
- 3.3.17 Two small sub-circular pits **1303** and **1305 (Fig. 6)** were excavated in the northern end of Trench **13**. Pit **1303** had concave, shallow sides and a concave base, was 0.83m wide and 0.16m deep. It contained single dumped fill **1304** which contained frequent burnt flint. Pit **1305** had irregular moderately sloping sides and an irregular base, and measured 0.69m wide and 0.26m deep. It contained dumped burnt flint rich fill **1306** and slumped fill **1309**. Both pits are undated, their close proximity and the similarity of fills **1304** and **1306** could indicate that they are contemporary. The presence of burnt flint in these fills is suggestive of a prehistoric date for these pits.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The evaluation produced a finds assemblage of moderate size, consisting largely of pottery and animal bone; other material types are represented far more sparsely. The date range spans the Iron Age and Roman periods.
- 4.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context; the results are presented in **Table 1**. Further to this, spot dates have been recorded for the pottery, based on the subdivision of the ceramic assemblage into broad ware types and the recording of diagnostic vessel forms.

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

Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	Flint	Pottery	Stone	Other finds
0104	25/159		9/58	35/305		1 Cu; 1 glass; 3 Fe
0106	3/2		2/3			
0107	2/6			3/3		
0108	4/12			3/37		
0110			4/62			
0112	82/411			7/28		
0113	60/165	1/70		70/1276		1 Fe; 6 fired clay
0115	17/130			4/75	8/12,377	1 Fe; 8 stone
0116	65/74			3/39	3/11,065	
0118	200/2072		6/84	259/4712		8 CBM
0119				1/290		
0123	12/229			1/18		
0125	9/91			3/20		
0127				23/166		
0129	9/90			7/41		
0131				8/104		
0132			1/9			
0205				3/34		
0207				25/1365	2/1162	
0906				138/1050		
0907	9/72					
1001				2/20		
1301			1/2			
1304		59/1136				
1306		67/1457				
1405			2/3			
TOTAL	497/3513	127/2663	25/221	595/9583	13/24,604	

CBM = ceramic building material; Cu = copper alloy; Fe = iron

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the site, and the assemblage ranges in date from Early Iron Age to Romano-British. The assemblage has been quantified by broad ware group (e.g. sandy wares) or by known type (e.g. Oxfordshire colour coated ware) within each context; totals are given in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type

Ware type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
Black Burnished ware	129	1437
Flint-tempered wares	2	27
Greyware	31	481
Grog-tempered wares	347	6830
Misc mortaria	1	68
Oxfordshire colour coat	17	252
Oxidised ware	12	31
Samian	3	26
Sandy wares	53	431
TOTAL	595	9583

- 4.2.2 The earliest material comprises three sherds from context **125**, which include the rim from a 'red-finished', fineware bowl of Early Iron Age type – this form falls within Cunliffe's All Cannings Cross style, for which a date range of 5th to 4th centuries BC is suggested (Cunliffe 1991, fig. A:6; 1995, 17-18).
- 4.2.3 Other sandy wares from contexts **107**, **112**, **113**, **123** and **127** could be of similar date, or could fall slightly later within the Iron Age – there are no other diagnostic sherds in these contexts. Two sandy sherds from context **118** are certainly later – these are bead rims of Late Iron Age type.
- 4.2.4 Two flint-tempered sherds (contexts **113**, **129**) are of Late Iron Age date; these both occurred residually in Romano-British contexts.
- 4.2.5 The grog-tempered wares also represent a ceramic tradition of Late Iron Age origin, with a known production centre in the Savernake Forest, but in this case the tradition continued well into the Romano-British period, and most if not all of the sherds seen here are post-conquest in date. One exception could be the large group of sherds from context **906**, which consists entirely of sherds from grog-tempered vessels (bead rim and everted rim jars) with no accompanying 'Romanised' wares, and the same could also be true of sherds from a single large, handmade storage jar in context **207**.
- 4.2.6 The majority of contexts, however, produced a mix of wares, including grog-tempered, together with 'Romanised' sandy coarsewares and some finewares. There are a handful of sherds of samian, including the rim from a 2nd century AD form 33 cup (context **113**), and a small group of Oxfordshire colour coated wares, which are likely to be of late Roman date (contexts **104**, **113**, **115**, **118**). Black Burnished ware (BB1) from south Dorset is present in some quantity, although mainly from context **118**, where it probably represents just one or two everted rim jars. Mortaria sherds, all probably of Oxfordshire manufacture, were seen in two contexts (**113**, **118**).
- 4.2.7 The dating evidence derived from the pottery suggests that the larger groups, from contexts **104**, **113** and **118**, are of late Roman date (3rd/4th century AD), although there is clearly a degree of residuality, represented by samian and grog-tempered sherds.

4.3 Worked flint

- 4.3.1 A small amount of worked flint was recovered, consisting entirely of waste flakes, utilising the locally accessible chalk flint. In the absence of diagnostic tool types these can only be broadly dated as Neolithic/Bronze Age.

4.4 Burnt flint

- 4.4.1 A small collection of burnt, unworked flint was recovered from Trench 13 (context 1304, 1306). This material type is intrinsically undatable, although often associated with prehistoric activity. In this instance, the only other find recovered from this trench was a single worked flint flake.

4.5 Stone

- 4.5.1 Stone was recovered from three contexts. Fragments of limestone roofing tiles came from context 115 (with surviving nail holes). Three sandstone fragments from context 116 derive from a single rotary quern stone, the upper surface of which shows pecking marks, and has been burnt. Two joining fragments from context 207 are of sarsen, and have wear grooves from use as a whetstone.

4.6 Animal bone

- 4.6.1 The faunal assemblage consists of 332 hand collected mammal bone fragments. On the basis of associated pottery, the material is mainly Roman in date with small quantities of material dating to the Iron Age. Contexts 106 and 907 are undated. As the assemblage is only small, it might not be representative.

Condition and preservation

- 4.6.2 The overall condition of the bone is fair with some contexts in good or poor condition. Many bones showed signs of extensive root etching. 8% of the bones showed signs of gnawing and canid scavenging might thus have been a biasing factor. None of the bones showed signs of contact with fire. At 6%, the proportion of loose teeth is normal and indicates that the assemblages were probably not extensively re-worked. Context 118 contains a horse metacarpus and articulating splint bone. In addition, context 112 contains a partial adult dog skeleton. Both contexts are thus likely to be primary deposits.

Species proportions

- 4.6.3 The Roman assemblage is dominated by sheep/goat and cattle, and supplemented by horse and pig (Table 3). The high number of dog bones can be partly explained by the presence of a partial skeleton.

Table 3: Animal bone species list and percentages (NISP)

Species	Iron Age		Roman	
	NISP	%	NISP	%
Horse	1	6	10	3
Cattle	3	18	58	20
Sheep/Goat	1	6	77	26
Pig			8	3
Dog			33	11
Frog			1	0
Unidentified	12	70	106	37
Total	17	100	293	100

4.6.4 Besides the remains of the usual domesticates, the assemblage contained the remains of frog (context **118**) and dog (contexts **104, 108, 112, 115** and **118**). The high number of dog bones is consistent with the many instances of gnawing seen on the bones.

Population characteristics

4.6.5 Of the bones identified to species (n=193), 22% can inform on the age at death of the animal and 12% can inform on the phenotype of the animals. The material contained bones from both juvenile and adult animals. The presence of a foetal sheep/goat bone in context **112** indicates the keeping of these animals nearby.

4.6.6 Several complete long bones permit the calculation of a height at the withers. A complete horse metacarpus belonged to a quite small animal with a height at the withers of c. 129 cm. The many dog bones belonged to at least two different types of dog with a height at the withers of c. 42 and c. 54 cm. A complete sheep/goat calcaneus belonged to an animal with a height at the withers of c. 56 cm. All values are common in the Iron Age/Roman period.

Butchery

4.6.7 Only 2% of the fragments showed signs of butchery. The material was not characterised by a particular type of waste and it is thus likely that animals were kept, butchered and processed on the spot.

Pathology

4.6.8 Roman context **118** contained two pathological cattle bones. The mandibula showed signs of inflammation and subsequent bone resorption around the roots of the teeth, whereas an epistropheus showed signs of inflammation on the proximal articular surface. The epistropheus was unfused and thus belonged to an animal of less than 48-60 months when it died.

4.7 Other finds

4.7.1 Other finds comprise small quantities of ceramic building material (all Romano-British, including one tegula fragment), fired clay (undiagnostic and undatable), glass (single small fragment from a thin-walled Romano-British drinking vessel), and metalwork (iron nails, shank from a Romano-British copper alloy toilet instrument).

5 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Three bulk samples were taken from the excavations. Two came from Trench 1; a possible bell-shaped Iron Age pit **111** and flue **114** associated with a possible Roman corndrier. From Trench 2 a further pit **204** of Roman date was sampled. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains, charcoals and any other palaeo-environmental evidence.

5.2 Charred plant remains and charcoals

Methods

5.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flots retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereobinocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table E1**). Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

Charred plant remains

5.2.2 The sample from the flue **114** was exceptionally rich in well preserved charred plant remains, reflecting that the deposit was well sealed and there was also possible burning *in-situ* or close proximity. The sample contained large quantities of grains of hulled wheats emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) and hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl), as well as high quantities of chaff, predominately glume bases of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*), but also with numerous rachises of 6-row barley. Several of the grains of both wheat and barley could be seen to have germinated and the sample also contained several elongated coleoptiles.

5.2.3 Seeds of weeds were also exceptionally numerous, mainly cleavers (*Galium aparine*), but also black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), oats (*Avena* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), campion (*Silene* sp.), cat's-tail (*Phleum* sp.), downy hemp-nettle (*Galeopsis* cf. *segetum*), knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.) and several large Apiaceae. There was also a single seed of flax (*Linum usitatissimum*) and a few tubers of false-oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius* var. *bulbosum*).

5.2.4 The assemblage is broadly comparable to the material examined from previous sites in the general area, in particular the Late Romano-British corndrier at Beach's Barn, located 4.5km southeast of the Site (Stevens 2006), as well as other archaeological sites along the Avon Valley (Ede 1993; Hinton 1999).

5.2.5 The sample from pit **111** was generally more sparse and contained mainly cereal grains, seeds of cleavers and tubers of false oat grass. Preservation was less good and the deposit appears less well sealed, reflected by the higher number of roots in the samples. In some respects it was similar in broad composition to the sample above, but contained very little chaff, although this may be attributable to the high number of roots destroying the

more fragile glumes and weed seeds. It might be noted that tubers of false-oat grass were common in Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British features from Coombe Down (Stevens 2006).

- 5.2.6 Pit **204** contained very little material, bar the occasional glume base, a single fragment of grain and a single seed of clover (*Trifolium* sp.). The sample was very rooty and it may be that this affected preservation.
- 5.2.7 The two samples from Trench **1** show a high potential for the recovery of activities relating to Roman and possibly Iron Age settlement.

Charcoal

- 5.2.8 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in Table E1. The sample from pit **111** had reasonable quantities of charcoal, including some roundwood material. The flue (**114**) had low quantities of wood charcoal, while that from pit **204** had little to no wood charcoal. Again this may be a reflection of the degree of rooting, as wood charcoal is very susceptible to breakdown within active soils. It is notable that within previous studies in the region wood charcoal was seen to be low in features that were subject to modern disturbance (Kaminski 2006).

5.3 Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

- 5.3.1 Land snails were noted in all three flots and the dominant species are recorded below following the nomenclature of Kerney (1999).
- 5.3.2 All the features showed good preservation of molluscs and were broadly similar in composition, containing a mixture of molluscs indicative of open country; *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia* sp.; shaded *Carychium* sp., *Discus rotundatus*, *Oxychilus* sp., *Aegopinella* sp. *Vitrea* sp. and catholic species *Cochlicopa* spp.
- 5.3.3 The two rooty samples also contained high numbers of *Cecilioides acicula* and it is possible that within these less well-sealed features some of the shells may be intrusive.
- 5.3.4 In comparison with previous studies in the area (Allen and Entwistle 2006) the assemblage here has a higher proportion of molluscs of shaded conditions, although this is likely to be reflective of the different types of features examined.

5.4 Small animal bones

- 5.4.1 During the processing of bulk soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoals, small animal bones were noted, and recorded (Table 4) in the flots. These included those of possible birds/small mammals.

Table 4. Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature type/no	Context	Sample	size litres	flot size ml	Grain	Chaff	seeds charred	Charcoal 4/2 mm	Other	Residue	
										Charcoal >5.6mm	analysis
Trench 1											
Pit 111	112	101	40	110 ⁴⁵	A	C	A	8/3ml	smb (C) Moll-t (A)	-	
Flue 114	119	103	10	200 ⁰	A**	A**	A**	0.2/	Moll-t (B) smb (C)	-	
Trench 2											
Pit 204	205	102	40	90 ⁶⁰	C	C	C	0.1/0.1ml	Moll-t (A)	-	

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. NOTE: ¹flot is total, but flot in superscript = % of rooty material.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The evaluation has identified a high potential for archaeological remains within the site, particularly in the western area.

6.1.2 The archaeological features and deposits have been assigned to the Prehistoric, Iron Age and Late Iron Age / Roman periods respectively, with some features remaining undated.

6.2 Prehistoric

6.2.1 A single feature, pit **109** has been tentatively dated to the prehistoric period, which is probably Neolithic (4000 – 2400BC) or Bronze Age (2400 – 700BC) in date.

6.3 Iron Age

6.3.1 The Iron Age activity on the site is centred on a large, sub-circular enclosure measuring approximately 100m in diameter. Large enclosure ditch **117** clearly dates to the Early to Middle Iron Age, and continued to be a focus of activity well into the Roman period. The subsequent geophysics (September/October 2007) has revealed that it is part of a large sub-circular enclosure approximately 100m in diameter. It is probable that this enclosure had a large internal bank, with fill **125** being derived from this material. The absence of internal pitting on the geophysics in the zone immediately internal to the enclosure ditch also supports this interpretation. The geophysics shows a substantial amount of internal pitting within the enclosure interior, which is supported by the series of 9 pits in the south of Trench 1. Bell shaped pit **111** and unexcavated pit **126** are Early to Middle Iron Age in date, but later dates are also suggested for some of the unexcavated examples (see below).

6.3.2 The enclosure is situated at the head of a dry valley leading to the River Avon and West Chisenbury. It is located on the opposite side of a dry valley

approximately 400m to the NW of a known univallate hillfort of Chisenbury Camp (also known as Chisenbury Trendle) which was levelled in 1931 (Wessex Archaeology 2007b).

- 6.3.3 The size and form of the enclosure appears to make it comparable to a number of similar downland enclosure sites of this date in the region, which have been classified as enclosed settlements (McOmish et al 2002: 81ff) or farmstead enclosures (Cunliffe 1984: 24). Recent research has identified a number of similar sites in the vicinity of the River Avon, often with sites being in close proximity to each other within the landscape (Fulford et al 2006). Limited excavation on these comparable sites has suggested that many of these sites have a prolonged period of use, with evidence of intensive occupation (Cunliffe 1984: 18ff). Cunliffe has further suggested that these sites may represent a single or extended family unit and the centre of a mixed agricultural regime (1984: 18).

6.4 Late Iron Age / Roman

- 6.4.1 There appears to be a continued focus of activity during this period in the western end of the site, centred on the large sub-circular enclosure, which seems to demonstrate continuity of use and identified by the magnetometry survey (September/ October 2007) The enclosure ditch appears to have been modified with the addition of the smaller, outer ditch **128** which has been dated to 2nd century AD or later, indicating that the enclosure earthwork was still in use. The dating for disturbance layer **113** also suggests that some of the internal pits may be of later date, given the quantities of Roman pottery present. The final, tertiary fill **118** of enclosure ditch **117** showed evidence of refuse being dumped from the presumed internal bank into the partially filled feature, and dates to the 3rd - 4th century AD.
- 6.4.2 External to the sub-circular enclosure, the geophysics (September/October 2007) has revealed three sub-rectangular enclosures to the east, and a curvilinear ditch to the north (ditch **105**). These enclosures respect the sub-circular enclosure and are presumed to be later in date, but were not within the evaluation area itself. Curvilinear ditch **105** produced 1st - 2nd century AD dates for the lower fill, and 3rd - 4th century AD dates for the upper fill. Trench **2** had two pits of Roman date, and with the geophysics appears to show peripheral activity in this area.
- 6.4.3 At the northern end of Trench **1**, flue **114** is likely to be associated with a corn drier of Early Roman date, probably 1st - 2nd century AD. From other known examples in the area, this example seems comparatively early and may therefore be significant. Late Roman examples are known from Beach's Barn and Chisenbury Warren (Fulford et al 2006: 51/60). Limestone roofing material was recovered from the final fill of this feature, and Roman tegula was found in tertiary fill **118** of enclosure ditch **117**, which may indicate a Roman structure in the vicinity of the site.
- 6.4.4 Further to the east, ditch **904 / 1004** has been dated to the Late Iron Age, or immediately post-conquest Roman. It may be a N-S field boundary, with corresponding E-W boundary, or alternatively may be an enclosure feature. Of interest, was the pot rich horizon present in fill **906** indicative of potential settlement activity in the area.

6.5 Undated

6.5.1 Several features did not produce any secure dating evidence, and consequentially have been phased as undated. These include pit **208**, NW-SE ditch **306**, NE-SW ditch **603**, NE-SW ditch **1203 / 1307 / 1404** and pits **1303** and **1305**. It is possible that ditch **1203 / 1307 / 1404** may be prehistoric, as struck flint was found on the surface of fill **1405**, and a prehistoric date has been suggested for pits **1303** and **1305** due to the quantities of burnt flint from the fills. Further work would be needed to firmly establish dates for these features, but this investigation has contributed to our wider understanding of the former landscape of the site.

6.6 Geophysical data

6.6.1 The magnetometry survey (September/October 2007) commissioned on the basis of the archaeological evaluation has confirmed the presence of substantial archaeological remains to the west of the site, and more limited features elsewhere. The most significant is the 100m diameter sub-circular enclosure, with a large density of internal features. It revealed the presumed later sub-rectangular enclosures contain internal features may be Roman in date, although this has not been confirmed through archaeological evaluation.

6.6.2 The geophysics (September/October 2007) over the rest of the site has produced variable results when analysed in conjunction with the evaluation trenches. Ditches **306** and **603** were not picked up by the geophysics (September/October 2007), this may be due to the lack of magnetically enhanced material within the fills of these features. A number of NE-SW and NW-SE linear features were suggested by the geophysics, which were not evident in any of the trenches that intersected them, however, ditches **904 / 1004** and **1203 / 1307 / 1404** correspond well to the geophysics. The results of the magnetometry survey were disturbed in the east of the site by spreads of modern magnetic debris observed below the turf in the evaluation trenches.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The evaluation has revealed well preserved archaeological remains dating from the Prehistoric to Late Roman periods. The construction and operation of the present airfield has had little impact on the preservation of the archaeological remains within the evaluation area.

7.1.2 The main focus of activity is at the western end of the site, and centres on a large sub-circular enclosure that dates to the Early to Middle Iron Age, and continued in use until the Late Roman period. The subsequent geophysics (September/October 2007) has revealed that the enclosure has a large concentration of internal features, and is respected by three later sub-rectangular enclosures that may be Roman in date. The evaluation and

geophysical survey of the Upavon Site has revealed a range of well preserved features suggesting continuity of occupation over a period of 750 years or more. This compares well with other similar sites in the Salisbury Plain area, suggesting the site may be considered to be of regional if not national significance.

7.2 Likely impact of proposed construction

- 7.2.1 The proposed construction of the runway will require cut/fill construction. The main area of cut groundworks is located in the eastern half of the runway where there is a low level of archaeological activity, indicated by various ditches and pits recorded during the evaluation and from the subsequent geophysical survey. The investigated deposits of those features suggest the potential for settlement activity around Trenches 9 and 10. Any archaeological remains in this area would be adversely impacted by the proposals.
- 7.2.2 A smaller area of cut groundwork is proposed at the western end of the proposed runway and coincides with the Iron Age sub-circular enclosure, Romano-British flue and pits within Trenches 1 and 2. This will have a direct adverse impact on these archaeological remains.
- 7.2.3 Beyond the evaluated areas, the geophysical survey has revealed the presence of further enclosures to the east of the sub-circular enclosure. Although these are located within the proposed fill areas of the scheme, the removal of topsoil would expose archaeological remains to damage during construction. In addition, buried archaeological remains may be damaged by compaction during operation of the runway.

7.3 Recommendations

- 7.3.1 The enclosures at the western end of the proposed scheme may be considered to be of regional, if not national importance. Policy HH1 of the Kennet District Local Plan 2011 (Adopted April 2004), states that such sites should 'be protected from inappropriate development'. It is recommended, therefore, the potential for preservation of these remains in-situ through design alteration should be explored as the preferred option. This may be achieved by:
- Shortening the length of the proposed runway to avoid the enclosures; or,
 - Re-aligning the proposed runway away from the enclosures (this would require further archaeological evaluation if the new runway footprint has not been adequately surveyed in the archaeological investigations which have been carried out to date); or,
 - Raising the profile of the proposed runway and sealing archaeological remains beneath an appropriate engineered structure. This would need to retain existing ground levels.

- 7.3.2 If these options are not possible, preservation by record of the affected parts of the enclosures may be considered. However, due to the significance of the archaeological features identified is considered not to be an acceptable option. With regards to the other archaeological evidence found in the eastern area of the proposed runway this method - preservation by record may be suitable.
- 7.3.3 Preliminary considerations of these conclusions has lead to the Upavon Project Team to consider alternative options (including those specified above) for the runway in order to, as far as practicable, protect the archaeological resource. Furthermore, issues regarding the construction techniques are currently being considered so that a preferred construction option can be selected which sympathises with the archaeological sensitivity of the site.
- 7.3.4 The eastern area of the runway, especially around Trenches 9 and 10, may require further investigation, which could be secured as a planning condition for strip, map and record. Trenches containing undated material (i.e. Trenches 3, 6, 12, 13 and 14) as well as the areas not evaluated beneath the iron Sommerfield Tracking at the eastern end of the runway may be investigated through a watching brief, secured as a planning condition. This should be discussed in the first instance with the Wiltshire County Council Planning Archaeologist.

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9 APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Evaluation Trench 1	Max depth: 0.56m	Length: 47.97m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
101	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional small poorly sorted sub-angular flint.	0.25
102	Subsoil	Mid orangey brown, moderate compaction clayey silt, with moderately sorted sub-angular flint.	0.15
103	Natural	Natural chalk bedrock, with periglacial solifluction scars, diffuse interface with 102.	0.16 +
104	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 105. Mid brown clayey silt, frequent small to medium sub-angular chalk, moderate small to medium angular to sub-angular flint.	0.45
105	Cut	Cut of ENE-WSW ditch. NNW side steep, straight with sharp break of slope at top and base, SSW side sharp break of slope at top, to moderate straight slope, to flat step, then steep concave slope to shallow concave base.	0.90
106	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 105. Mid orangey brown silty clay, rare small angular flint, rare small sub-angular chalk.	0.22
107	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 105. Light brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium angular to sub-angular flint, and frequent small to medium sub-angular chalk.	0.45
108	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 105. Mid orangey brown silty clay with very rare small angular flint, and very rare small sub-angular chalk. First fill in sequence, but not a true primary fill.	0.20
109	Cut	Cut of subcircular pit. Sides moderately steep, concave with shallow concave slightly irregular base.	0.24
110	Fill	Single fill of pit 109. Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate small angular to sub-angular flint.	0.24
111	Cut	Cut of presumably circular pit, feature extends beyond E limit of trench, sides vertical, convex, to concave undercut sides with flat base (bell – shaped profile). Feature probably a rubbish pit.	0.55
112	Fill	Single fill of pit 111. Dark brown friable silty clay, occasional medium angular to sub-angular flint and chalk, frequent medium sub-angular burnt flint. Deposit probably a refuse deposit.	0.55
113	Layer	Mid brown sandy clay with occasional medium sub-angular to angular flint and frequent medium sub-angular chalk. Layer is interface between subsoil and broken chalk natural covering area of 6 unexcavated pits in S of trench. Area machined high due to concentrations of coarse ceramics visible.	0.15
114	Cut	Cut of flue aligned NE – SW at northern end of trench. NW side very steep, convex, slightly shallower towards top, SE side straight, moderately steep, vertical further down. Both sides have small step towards base for walls 121 and 122, with flat	0.95

		base.	
115	Fill	Uppermost fill of flue 114. Mid yellowish brown silty clay, frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded small to medium chalk, occasional sub-angular flint.	0.50
116	Fill	Fill of flue 114. 70% small – large sub-angular chalk within a light greyish brown friable clayey silt matrix. Deposit derived from collapsed chalk blocks from walls 121 and 122, chalk mortar and chalk backfill material.	0.60
117	Cut	Cut of large enclosure ditch aligned NE-SW, sharp break of slope at top, sides moderate to steep convex, with small step 0.15m from base on both sides, base narrow, flat, slightly concave.	1.68
118	Fill	Tertiary fill of enclosure ditch 117. Dark greyish brown friable clayey silt with frequent small sub-angular chalk, and occasional sub-angular flint	0.77
119	Fill	Fill of flue 114. Very dark grey with brown mottles, very friable clayey silt with abundant charred remains	0.05
120	Structure	Heat affected chalk mortar floor of flue 114. Butts walls 121 and 122	0.10
121	Structure	Northern single faced wall of flue 114, constructed of randomly coursed chalk and limestone blocks, chalk mortar bonding, with chalk rubble and chalk mortar core behind wall face.	0.60
122	Structure	Southern single faced wall of flue 114, constructed of randomly coursed chalk blocks, chalk mortar bonding, with chalk rubble and chalk mortar core behind wall face.	0.40
123	Fill	Fill of enclosure ditch 117. Mid to light yellowish brown clayey silt, frequent sub-angular small chalk, occasional small to medium sub-angular flint.	0.15
124	Fill	Fill of flue 114. 70% well sorted angular sub-angular medium to large chalk within a friable chalk mortar and very light brownish grey clayey silt matrix. Occupies area to N of wall 121 and is packing or backfill material for flue construction.	0.45
125	Fill	Fill of enclosure ditch 117. Light orangey brown clayey silt, frequent small sub-angular chalk, and occasional medium sub-angular flint. Deposit probably derived from slumped bank material.	1.08
126	Cut	Cut of unexcavated 1 x 0.80m sub-circular pit in S. of trench, allocated context for finds retrieval.	U/X
127	Fill	Unexcavated fill of sub-circular pit 126, allocated context for finds retrieval.	U/X
128	Cut	Cut of NE – SW aligned ditch, respects and follows NW external edge of large enclosure ditch 117, linear, steep convex sides, with flat, narrow base. V shaped profile	0.76
129	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 128. Mid yellowy brown clayey silt, rare sub-angular small chalk and flint, frequent charcoal flecks. Possibly a dumped deposit	0.45
130	Fill	Fill of ditch 128. Mid orangey brown silty clay, rare sub-angular small chalk and flint, deposit quite sterile in character, slumps in from SE.	0.15

131	Fill	Lower fill of ditch 128. Dark greyish brown clayey silt, occasional small sub-angular flint and chalk, possibly a dumped deposit.	0.44
132	Fill	Fill of enclosure ditch 117. Mid orangey brown silty clay, frequent small angular flint, rare small sub-angular chalk, slumps in from NW.	0.25
133	Fill	Fill of enclosure ditch 117. Mid orangey brown, silty clay, occasional small sub-angular chalk, rare small angular flint, slumps in from NW.	0.18
134	Fill	Primary fill of enclosure ditch 117. 60% small to large sub-angular to sub-rounded poorly sorted chalk within a light yellowish brown clayey silt matrix, occasional small to large flints	0.75

Evaluation Trench 2	Max depth: 0.53m	Length: 46.36m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
201	Topsoil	Dark brown soft silty sandy loam, sparse small sub-rounded chalk inclusions	0.27
202	Subsoil	Mid brown soft silty sandy loam, frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular small chalk inclusions	0.11
203	Natural	Natural chalk bedrock. Diffuse boundary with 202, with periglacial solifluction scars.	0.15 +
204	Cut	Cut of presumably subcircular pit, with steep concave sides and shallow concave base. Alternatively, feature could be a ditch terminus, as extends beyond southern edge of trench.	0.43
205	Fill	Single fill of pit(?) 204. Dark greyish brown moderately compact silty clay, with frequent angular to subangular small flints.	0.43
206	Cut	Cut of small, circular pit with steep concave sides, gradual break of slope to flat base	0.38
207	Fill	Fill of circular pit feature 206. Mid brown moderately compact sandy loam, with abundant sub-angular to sub-rounded, moderately sorted small flint and chalk fragments, frequent charcoal flecking. Possible refuse deposit.	0.38
208	Cut	Cut of small oval pit or post-hole, steep concave sides with very narrow concave base.	0.28
209	Fill	Fill of small oval pit or post-hole 207. Mid yellowy greyish brown moderately compact sandy clay, with moderate angular to sub-angular flints and chalk. Occasional charcoal fragments and flecking, with small lense of heat affected clay (not <i>in-situ</i>).	0.28
210	Cut	Cut of natural periglacial feature, irregular in plan with shallow, irregular concave sides and irregular base.	0.28
211	Fill	Fill of natural periglacial feature 210. Mid reddish brown firm silty clay with frequent medium poorly sorted angular flints.	0.28

Evaluation Trench 3	Max depth: 0.48m	Length: 47.80	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
301	Topsoil	Dark brown soft sandy loam, common small chalk, and rare small sub-angular flint.	0.22
302	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy loam with abundant small to medium sub-angular chalk.	0.15
303	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars.	U/X
304	Cut	Cut of tree-throw, oval in plan, irregular shallow sides and irregular undulating base	0.20
305	Fill	Fill of tree-throw 304. Mid brown sandy clay with abundant small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk and flint.	0.20
306	Cut	Cut of linear, shallow concave sides with concave base aligned NW-SE, probably a boundary ditch.	0.17
307	Fill	Single fill of ditch 306. Mid brown sandy clay, frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk and flint.	0.17

Evaluation Trench 4	Max depth: 0.47m	Length: 48.18m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
401	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy clay, frequent moderately sorted small sub-angular flints	0.31
402	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars.	0.16 +

Evaluation Trench 5	Max depth: 0.39m	Length: 47.53m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
501	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy clay with abundant sub-angular to sub-rounded small to medium chalk and flint.	0.31
502	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars.	0.08 +
503	Cut	Cut of irregular shaped tree-throw, with shallow, irregular sides and irregular base	0.16
504	Fill	Fill of tree- throw 503. Mid brown sandy clay with abundant small to medium sub-angular chalk and flint.	0.16

Evaluation Trench 6	Max depth: 0.48m	Length: 47.37m	Width: 2m
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Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
601	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular small flint and chalk inclusions.	0.27
602	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars.	0.11 +
603	Cut	Cut of NW-SE linear, concave moderately sloping sides, with concave slightly irregular base, probably a boundary ditch.	0.27
604	Fill	Single fill of ditch 603. Light to mid brown sandy clay, with frequent sub-angular to sub-rounded small to medium flint and chalk.	0.27

Evaluation Trench 7	Max depth: 0.55m	Length: 47.67m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
701	Topsoil	Dark brown soft sandy clay with sparse sub-angular small flint inclusions and moderate small chalk fragments.	0.25
702	Layer	Modern make-up layer in western 6m of trench, comprising of small to medium sub-angular broken chalk, with occasional sub-angular medium flint.	0.15
703	Subsoil	Mid brown firm sandy clay, abundant sub-angular to sub-rounded small to medium chalk and flint.	0.15
704	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	U/X

Evaluation Trench 8	Max depth: 0.41m	Length: 48.21m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
801	Topsoil	Dark brown soft sandy clay with occasional small sub-angular flint.	0.14
802	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy clay with abundant small sub-angular flint.	0.15
803	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.12 +

Evaluation Trench 9	Max depth: 0.52m	Length: 48.30m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
901	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.22
902	Subsoil	Mid brown clayey silt with abundant sub-angular small to medium chalk, and frequent angular to sub-angular medium flint	0.20

903	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +
904	Cut	Cut of N-S aligned linear, sides straight, moderately steep, base flat, slightly concave. Enclosure / boundary ditch?	0.80
905	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 904. Mid greyish brown, clayey silt, occasional sub-rounded small chalk, rare small to large angular flint.	0.20
906	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 904. Mid orangey brown silty clay, rare small sub-rounded chalk and angular flint.	0.22
907	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 904. Mid greyish brown clayey silt, abundant small sub-rounded to sub-angular chalk, occasional small angular flint.	0.30
908	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 904. 50% small to medium sub-angular chalk within a light yellowy brown clayey silt matrix, frequent small to medium angular to sub-rounded flint.	0.10

Evaluation Trench 10	Max depth: 0.60m	Length: 50.20m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1001	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.22
1002	Subsoil	Mid brown clayey silt with abundant sub-angular small to medium chalk, and frequent angular to sub-angular medium flint.	0.22
1003	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.16 +
1004	Cut	Cut of N-S aligned ditch, curves off to NE, probably corner of feature, sides convex, moderately steep, flat base. Continuation of ditch 904.	0.80
1005	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1004. Mid greyish brown clayey silt, occasional small sub-angular chalk, rare small to medium angular flint.	0.30
1006	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1004. Mid orangey brown silty clay, with rare small sub-rounded chalk and angular flint.	0.27
1007	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1004. Mid orangey brown silty clay with very abundant small to medium sub-angular chalk. Deposit slumps in from E/SE side, and may derive from bank material.	0.18
1008	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1004. Mid greyish brown clayey silt with abundant small to medium angular to sub-rounded chalk, occasional small to medium angular flint.	0.28
1009	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 1004. Light yellowy brown, clayey silt, very abundant small to medium sub-angular chalk, occasional medium angular flint.	0.14

Evaluation Trench 11	Max depth: 0.53m	Length: 47.30m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1101	Topsoil	Dark brown soft sandy clay, frequent small sub-angular to sub-rounded flint.	0.24
1102	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.19 +

Evaluation Trench 12	Max depth: 0.60m	Length: 47.74m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1201	Topsoil	Mid brown clayey silt, beneath turf in places is thin layer of modern black clinker/ slag like material.	0.40
1202	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.20 +
1203	Cut	Cut of unexcavated linear aligned NE-SW.	U/X
1204	Fill	Fill of linear 1203. Mid orangey brown silty clay.	U/X

Evaluation Trench 13	Max depth: 0.41m	Length: 46.99m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1301	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy clay with rare small sub-angular flint and chalk.	0.20
1302	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.21 +
1303	Cut	Cut of circular pit, shallow concave sides, and concave base.	0.16
1304	Fill	Fill of pit 1303. Very dark brown sandy clay, frequent sub-angular small to medium flint and burnt flint, frequent chalk flecks.	0.16
1305	Cut	Cut of sub-circular pit, moderately sloping slightly irregular sides, and irregular base.	0.26
1306	Fill	Fill of pit 1305. Very dark brown silty clay, frequent small to medium, sub-angular to sub-rounded flint and burnt flint.	0.26
1307	Cut	Cut of NE-SW linear, straight, moderately sloping sides, shallow concave base. Same feature visible in trenches 12 and 14, possibly a boundary ditch?	0.30
1308	Fill	Single fill of ditch 1307. Mid orangey brown firm silty clay, occasional small to large sub-angular flint.	0.30

1309	Fill	Fill of pit 1305. Mid orangey brown silty clay, occasional medium sub-angular flint, rare flecks of burnt flint.	0.19
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Evaluation Trench 14	Max depth: 0.40m	Length: 48.03m	Width: 2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1401	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.15
1402	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.15
1403	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +
1404	Cut	Cut of unexcavated linear aligned NE-SW, same feature seen in trenches 12 and 13.	U/X
1405	Fill	Fill of unexcavated linear 1404. Mid brown silt with occasional flints.	U/X

Evaluation Trench 15	Max depth: 0.40m	Length: 47.84m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1501	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.10
1502	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.20
1503	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +

Evaluation Trench 16	Max depth: 0.40m	Length: 47.07	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1601	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.15
1602	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.15
1603	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +

Evaluation Trench 17	Max depth: 0.35m	Length: 48.32m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1701	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.10
1702	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.10
1703	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.15 +

Evaluation Trench 18	Max depth: 0.30m	Length: 48.61m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1801	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.10
1802	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.10
1803	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +

Evaluation Trench 19	Max depth: 0.30m	Length: 46.75m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
1901	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.10
1902	Layer	Modern chalk and silt make-up layer.	0.05
1903	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.08
1904	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.07 +

Evaluation Trench 20	Max depth: 0.25m	Length: 48.19m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
2001	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.10
2002	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.10
2003	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.05 +

Evaluation Trench 21	Max depth: 0.25m	Length: 25.84m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
2101	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint. Heavy steel mesh reinforcing present at S. end of trench.	0.10
2102	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.05
2103	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.10 +

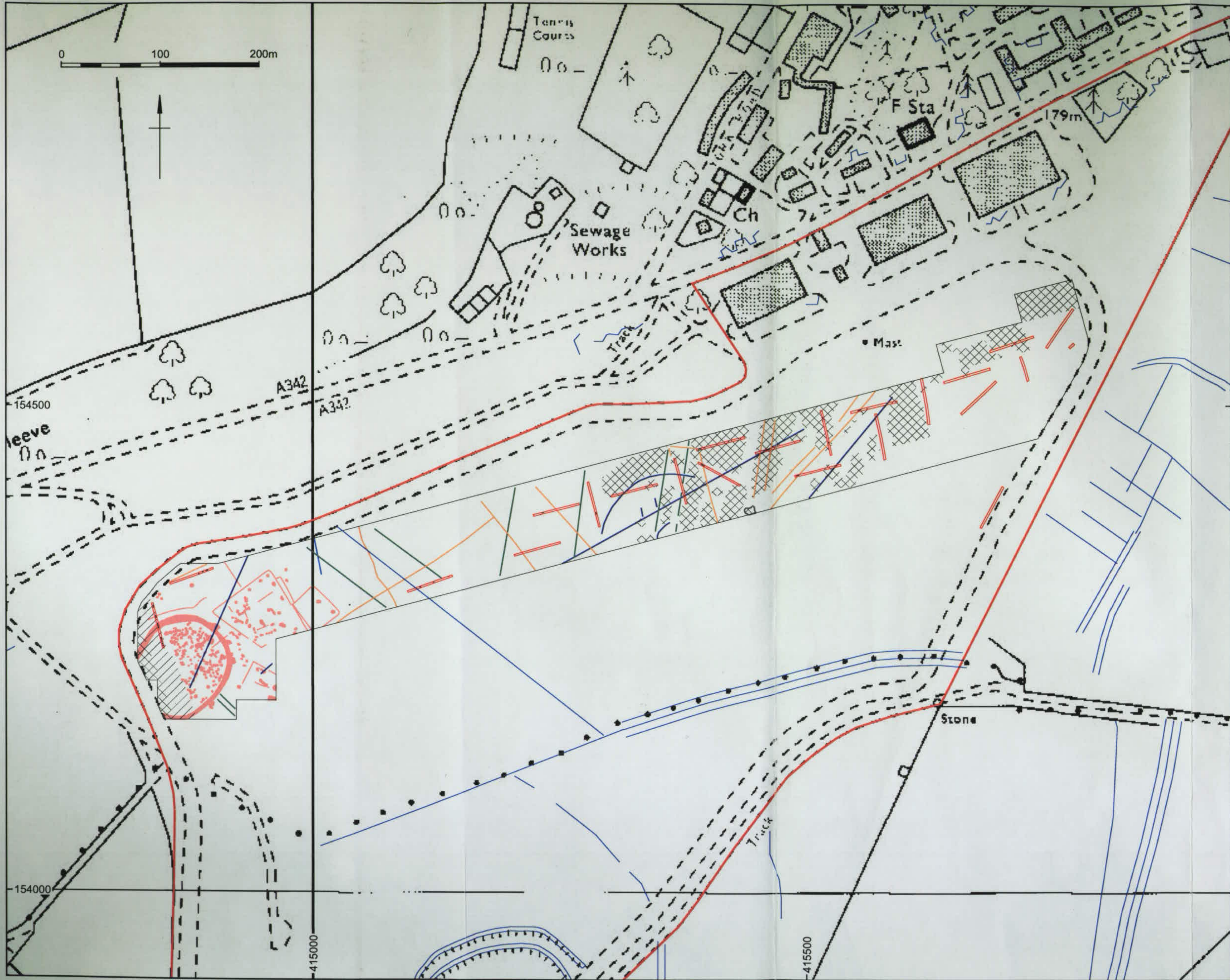
Evaluation Trench 22	Max depth: 0.25m	Length: 6.06m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
2201	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint. Heavy steel mesh reinforcing present throughout trench.	0.17
2202	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.08 +

Evaluation Trench 23	Max depth: 0.30m	Length: 47.60m	Width: 2.2m
Context No.	Type	Description:	Depth: m
2301	Topsoil	Dark brown soft clayey silt loam, occasional sub-angular small chalk and rare sub-angular flint.	0.15
2302	Subsoil	Mid brown silt including frequent flints and moderate chalk fragments.	0.12
2303	Natural	Natural broken chalk bedrock with periglacial solifluction scars and geological hollows filled with firm reddish brown clay.	0.13 +



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- Positive linear anomaly - cut feature of possible archaeological origin
- Positive linear anomaly - of uncertain origin
- Linear anomaly - of agricultural origin (trend only)
- Linear anomaly - possible former field boundary
- Negative linear anomaly - of uncertain origin
- Negative linear anomaly - airfield feature
- Discrete positive response - cut feature of possible archaeological origin
- Discrete positive response - of uncertain origin
- Positive anomaly - possible pit-like feature
- Magnetic debris - spread of magnetically thermoremanent/ferrous material
- Magnetic disturbance from ferrous material
- Strong multiple dipolar linear anomaly - pipeline/cable/service
- Strong dipolar anomaly - ferrous object in topsoil

- Evaluation Trenches
- Site Boundary
- Crop Marks

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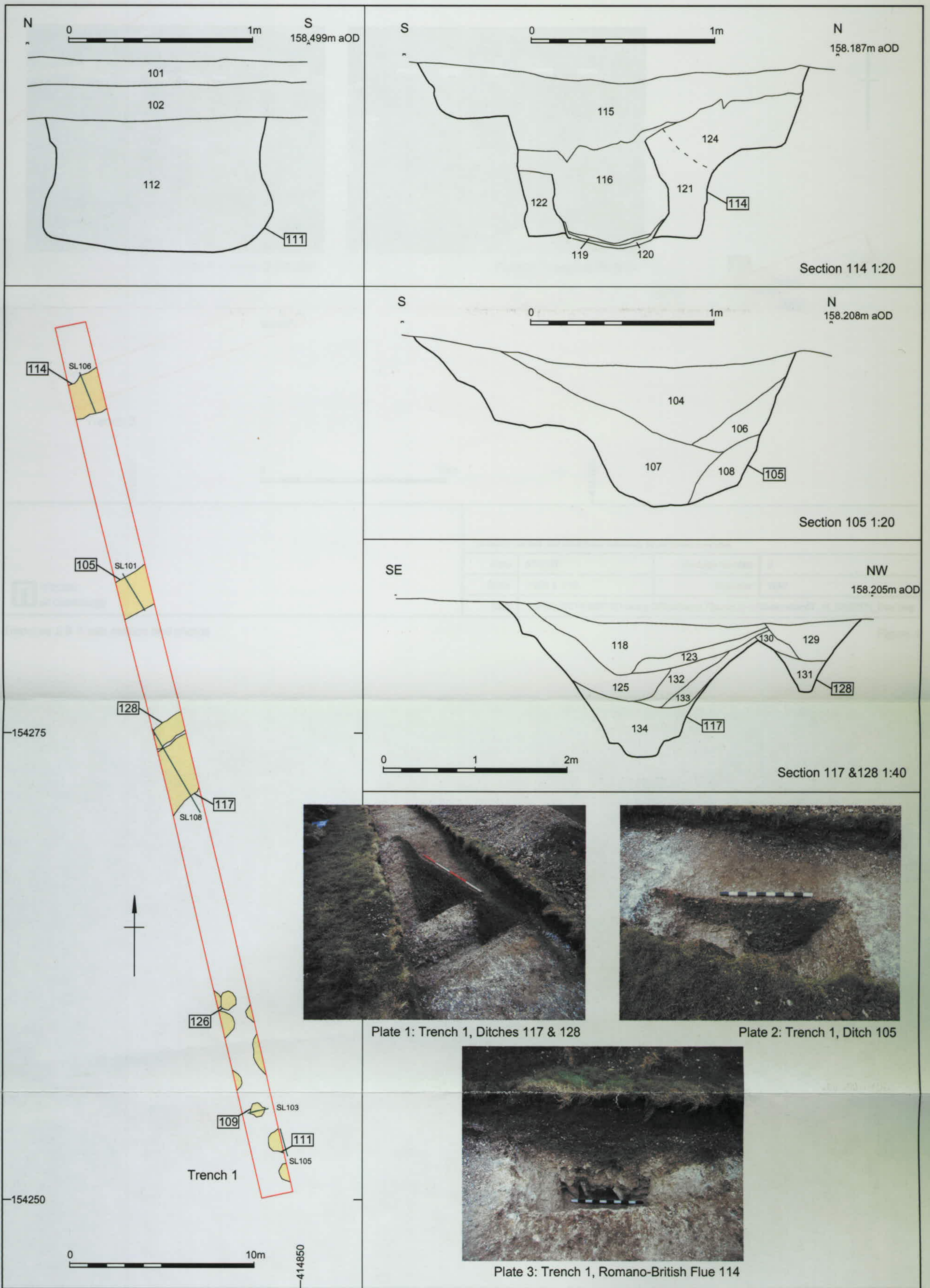
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Geophysical data overlaid with positions of Trenches and crop marks

Figure 2



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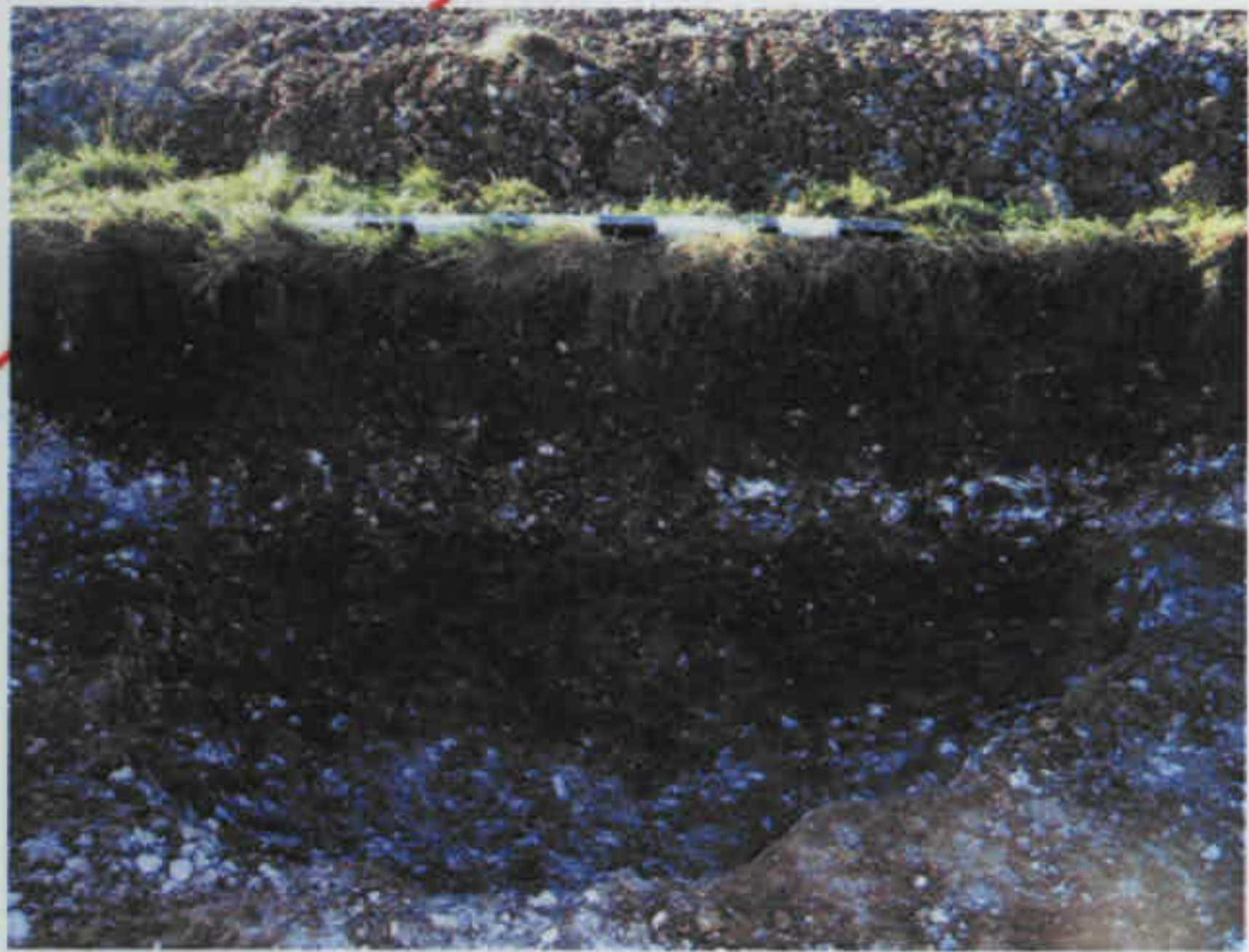


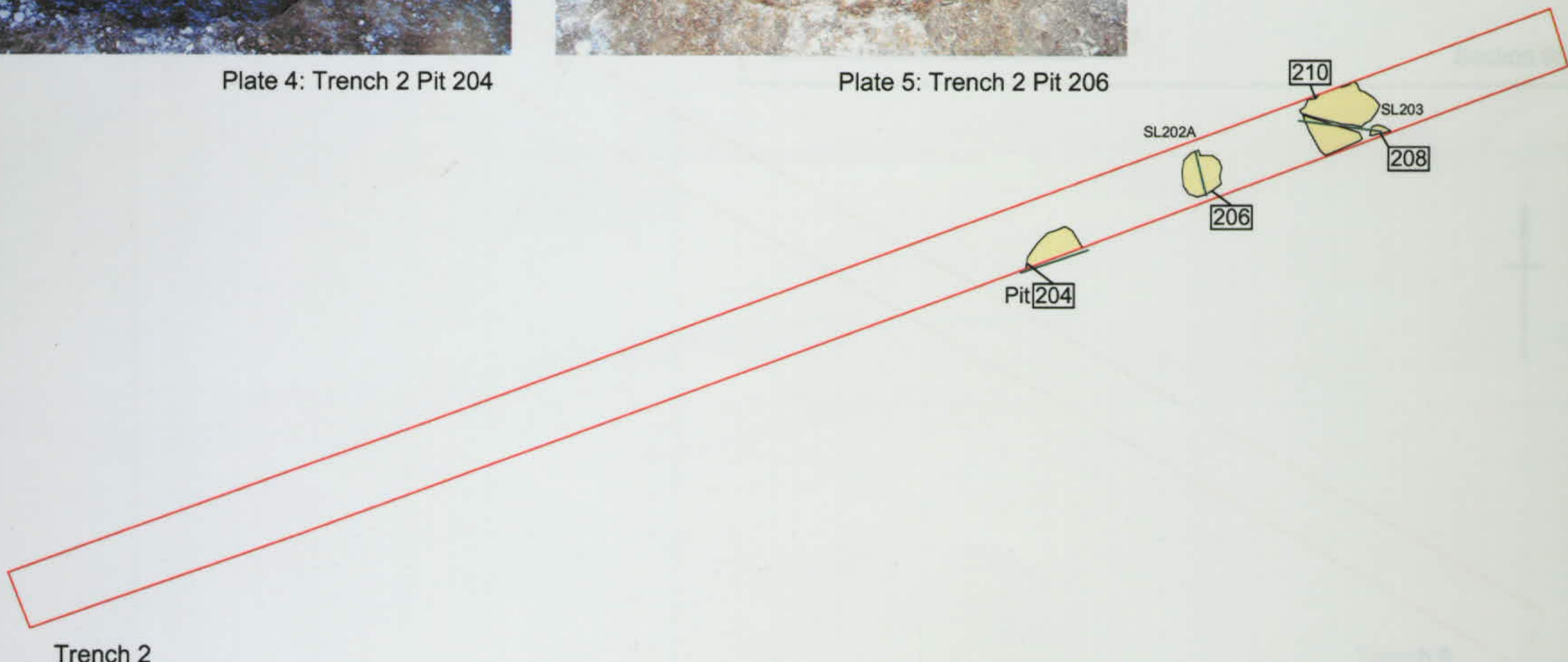
Plate 4: Trench 2 Pit 204



Plate 5: Trench 2 Pit 206



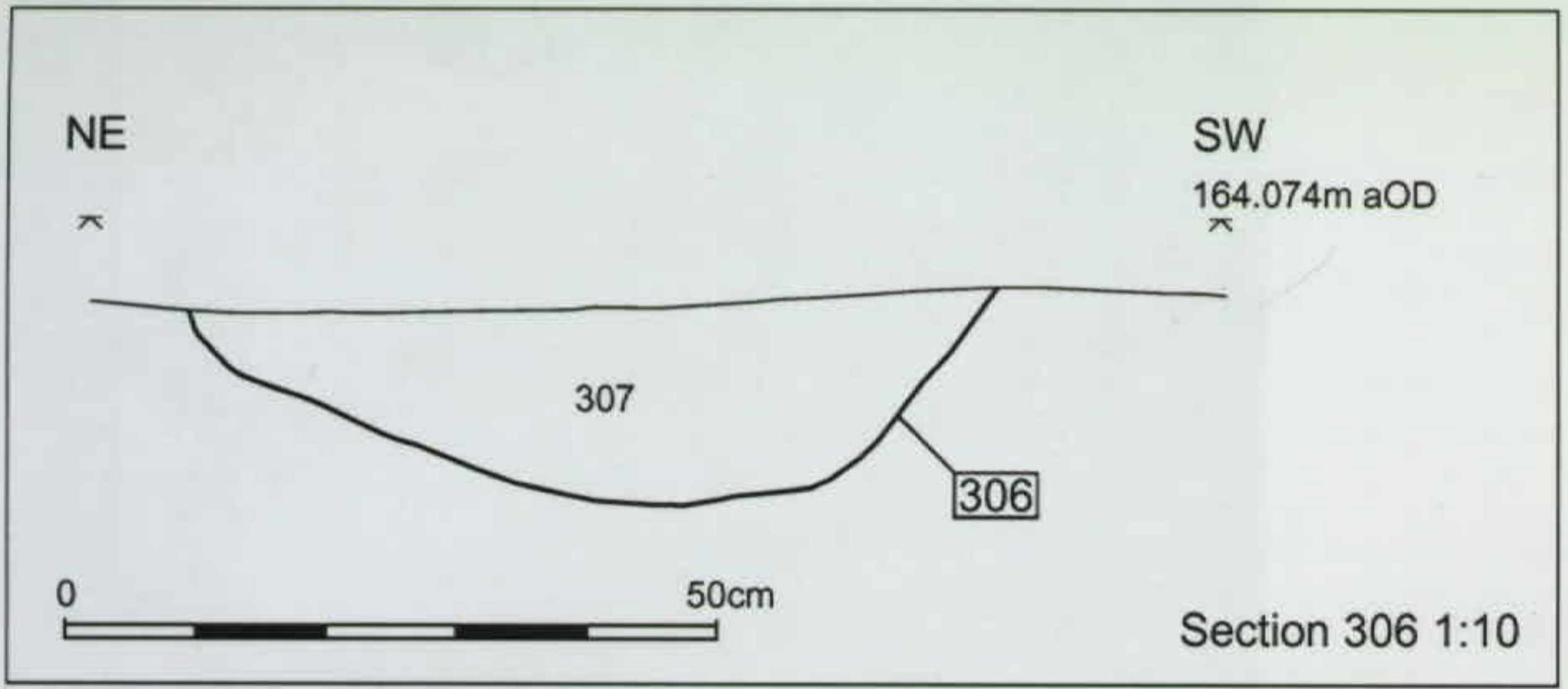
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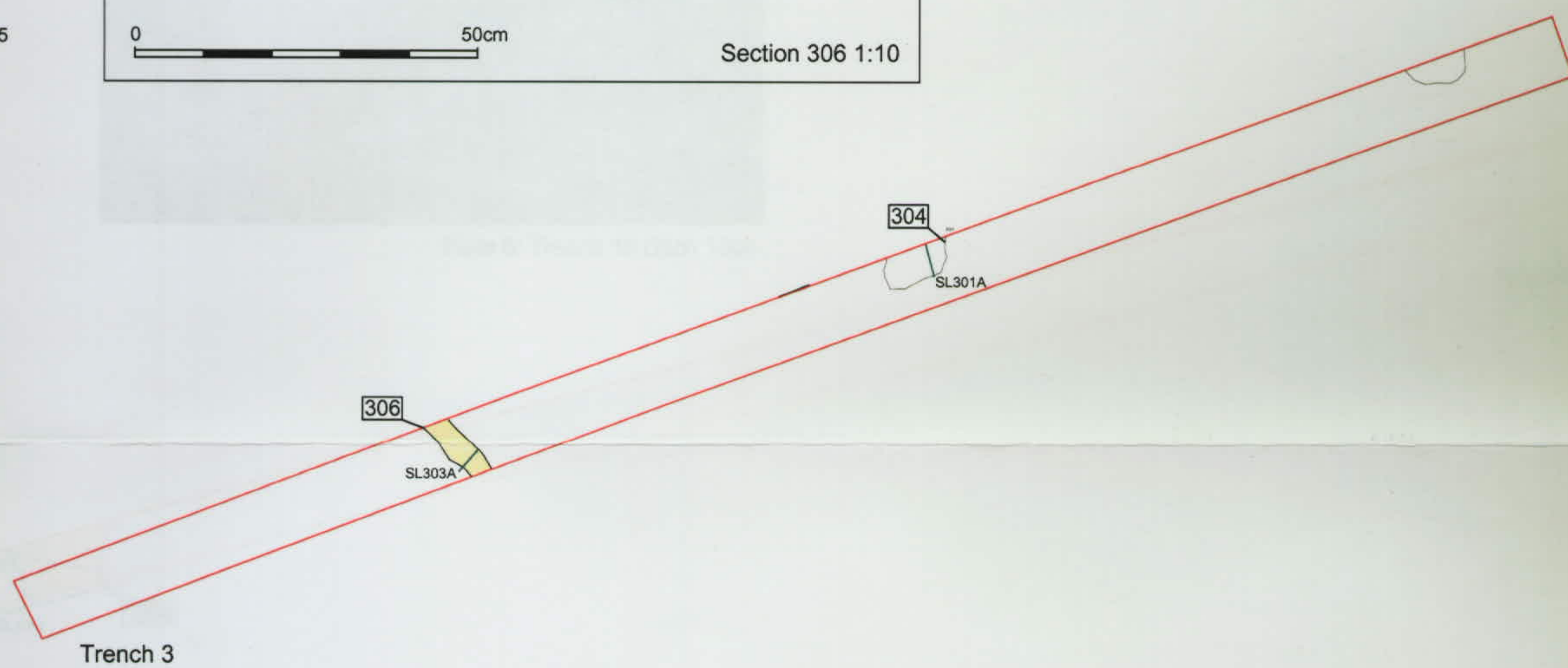
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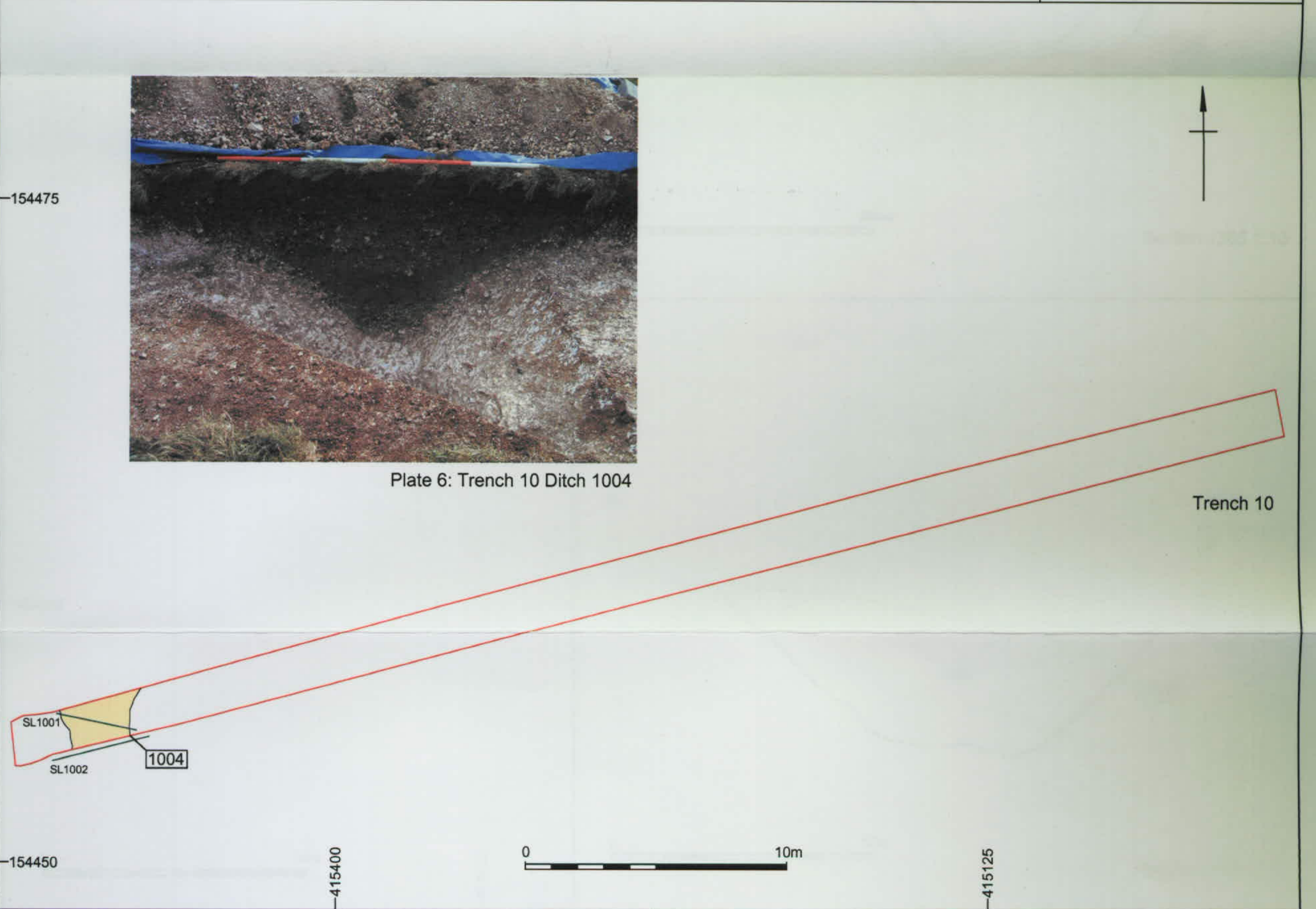
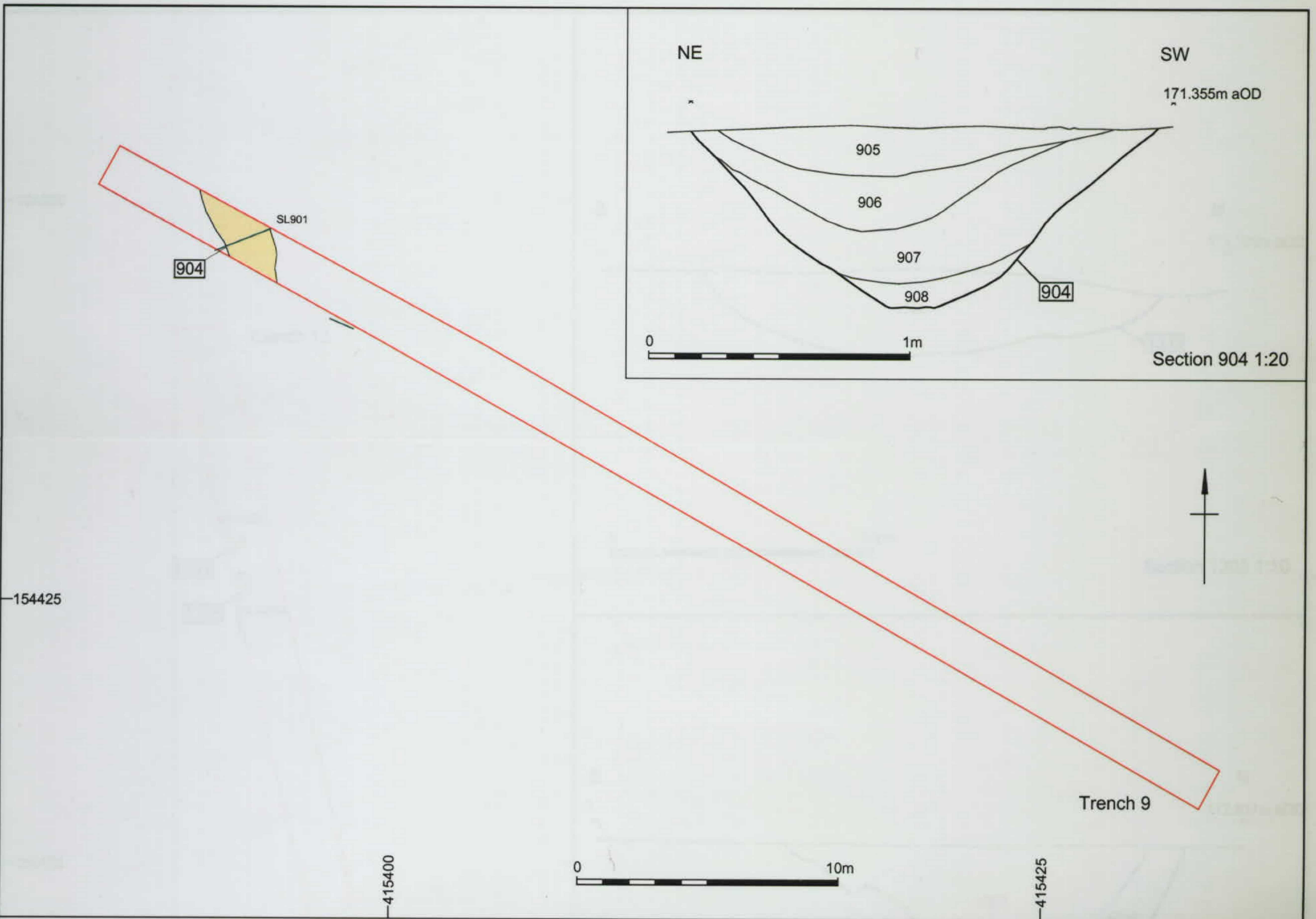


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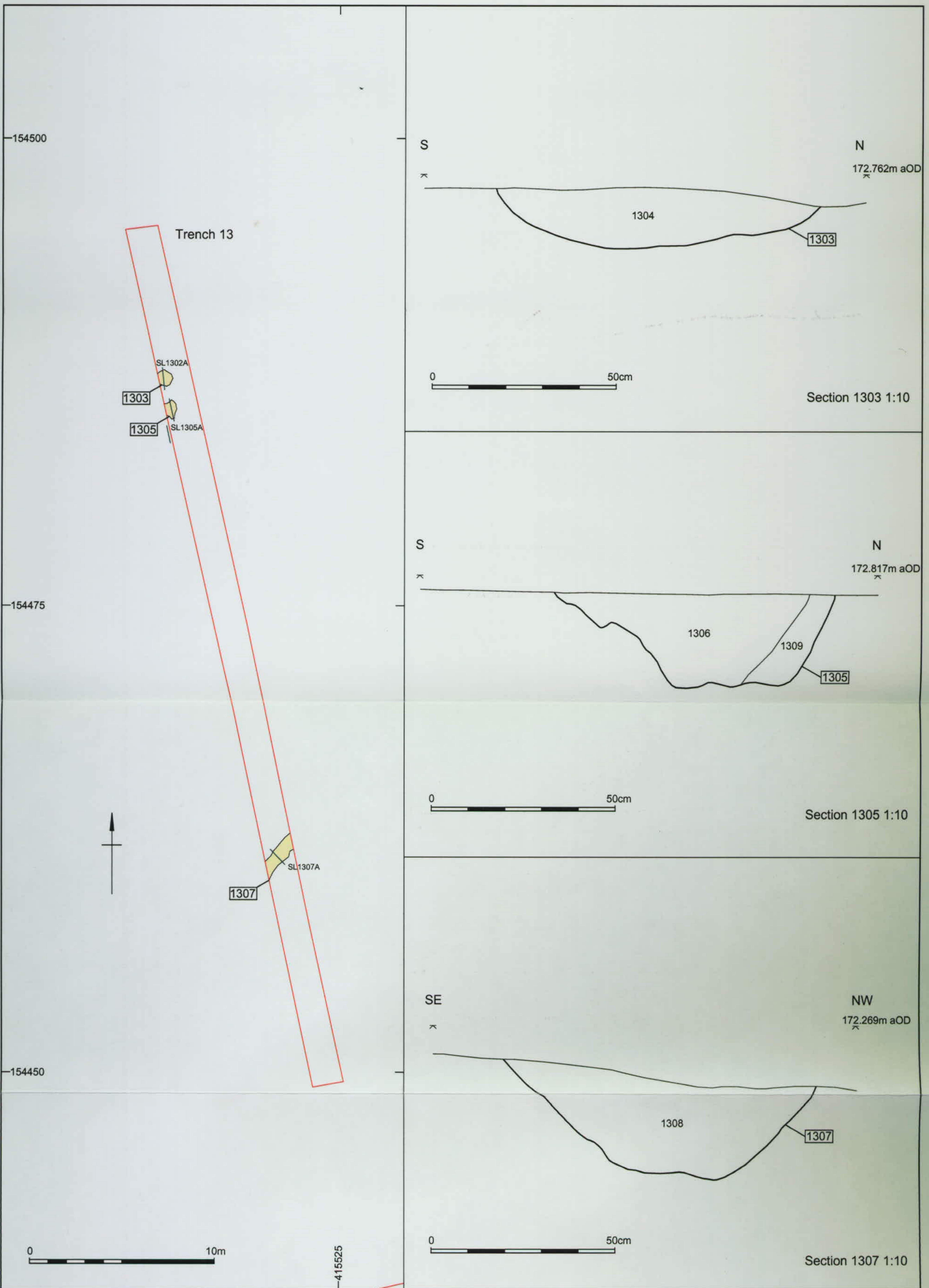
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