

EVALUATION
AT
TOP BARN FARM, HOLT,
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Evaluation at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcestershire

**Anna Deeks with contributions by Jeremy Bretherton, Laura Griffin
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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcestershire (National Grid reference SO 8300 6135), on behalf of Tarmac Western Limited. The work was undertaken to assess the condition of known archaeological remains at a site covering two fields, the northern one of which is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument on the basis of cropmark evidence. A narrow strip to the east was also included in the evaluation.

The site lies within a series of cropmarks, which have been systematically removed by quarrying over the past thirty years, and constitutes the largest surviving concentration of the original complex. Consequently the current evaluation provides a vital opportunity to examine the nature, extent and level of survival of any archaeological remains and inform future management of the site.

The evaluation indicated that the cropmark complex principally survived in the form of deep cut features such as enclosure ditches, however a substantial percentage of the lesser cropmark features were no longer extant. Limited evidence for both Bronze Age and Iron Age activity was revealed and appeared to be domestic in origin. However, the most commonly surviving features were enclosure ditches dating to the Romano-British period, which largely correlated to features plotted from both aerial photographic and geophysical evidence. These appeared to relate to stock control as well as domestic occupation in one part of the site. However the results of factors such as ploughing and soil erosion were plainly evident and no associated internal surfaces or structures had survived.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Planning Background

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcester (SO 8300 6135; Fig 1) at the request of Entec UK (Consultants) on behalf of Tarmac Western Ltd (The Client). This evaluation comprised sample trenching and the excavation of hand excavated test pits and constituted Stages 1.3 and 1.4 of an ongoing staged evaluation, for which Stages 1.1 and 1.2 were completed in 2002 (GSB 2002) and 2003 (Miller 2003) respectively. The Client wished to assess the condition of archaeological deposits in two adjacent fields (the Evaluation Area) adjacent to their quarry at Church Farm. Both fields were known to contain archaeological remains (WCM 4507 and 4511), and the northern field (WCM 4507) is presently a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM HERE & WORCS 209).

1.2 Previous archaeological work (after Miller 2003 and Edwards 1997)

The Evaluation Area is located within an extensive series of cropmarks, which run along the lower terrace of the River Severn to the west of Holt. These cropmarks were first observed in the 1950s and were later mapped between 1969 and 1970 (Bond 1973) and subsequently plotted by the RCHME. On the basis of these cropmarks, believed to indicate a focus of prehistoric and Romano-British activity, the northern field of the evaluation area was designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument in 1977 (English Heritage 1994, 14; County Monuments number Here & Worc 209).

Since their initial mapping, a substantial percentage of the cropmark series has been systematically removed by quarrying, leading to a number of rescue excavations carried out between 1970 and 1975, facilitated by a combination of private, voluntary and government bodies (namely the quarry companies, Avon-Severn Valleys Research Committee, Department of the Environment and English Heritage). The results of these excavations, published in 1986 (Hunt *et al* 1986) provided evidence that elements of the cropmarks were representative of the remains of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age funerary monuments as well as Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and field systems.

The cropmarks within the Evaluation Area now represent the largest surviving element of the original complex. The area has already been subject to a number of archaeological investigations in the past 20 years. The first of these was a site visit by the County Archaeologist in 1973 in response to a report from the farmer of cropmarks visible at root crop level. Subsequently in 1991 salvage recording was carried out in accordance with Scheduled Monument Consent given for the construction of an access road, which now runs between the north and south fields of the site (Edwards 1991). The work identified a number of features of late Iron Age and Romano-British date.

In 1997 the then quarry owners Nash Rocks Ltd began to explore the possibility of extending the quarry at Church Farm into the Evaluation Area and, in order to determine the implications of such a proposal, commissioned a desk-based assessment (Edwards 1997). The assessment comprised the collation and analysis of all known information pertaining to the site and its immediate environs, encompassing its archaeological background, modern and historic land use and a detailed transcription of the cropmarks (Cox 1997), the results of which can be seen in Figure 2. No further action was taken until Nash Rocks Ltd became part of Tarmac Western Ltd, at which point a project design for a staged archaeological evaluation was commissioned from the Service with the overall aim of assessing the condition of archaeological deposits at the site (AS 2001)

Latterly Stages 1.1 and 1.2 of the evaluation have been completed. Stage 1.1 comprised a geophysical survey (GSB 2002), sampling almost the entire Evaluation Area for anomalies using gradiometers in scanning mode followed by a more detailed survey of three rectangular blocks totalling an area of 2 hectares. The resultant interpretative plot of the main anomalies is shown in Figure 3. Stage 1.2 comprised fieldwalking and metal-detecting, which produced slight evidence for early prehistoric activity, namely two worked flints, and rather clearer evidence of Romano-British activity in the form of 160 sherds (642g) of pottery mainly concentrated within the area of greatest cropmark activity (Miller 2003).

1.3 **Project parameters**

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999). The project also conforms to an assessment and updated project design prepared by the Archaeology Service (AS 2003).

This report concerns the results of evaluation sample trenching and hand excavated test pits, which comprise Stages 1.3 and 1.4 in an ongoing archaeological evaluation of the area. The previous two phases of assessment have consisted of geophysical survey (GSB 2002) and transect fieldwalking, metal detecting and an element of topographical survey (Miller 2003) and are taken into account in this report.

1.4 **Aims**

This element of the staged evaluation constitutes the only intrusive element of the project and has been designed to have a minimum impact on deposits whilst enabling the aims and objectives of the project to be fulfilled. These specific aims and objectives are as follows:

- to locate surviving archaeological deposits within the Evaluation Area and determine their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation;
- to compare the extent and character of surviving deposits within the Evaluation Area with those indicated by cropmark evidence, fieldwalking and geophysical survey;
- to assess the impact of former landuse on buried remains within the Evaluation Area and consider the potential impact of continued arable cultivation upon surviving deposits;
- to assess the potential significance of any surviving deposits within the Evaluation Area using the Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments (DoE 1990, Annex 4;). In particular aspects of group value, rarity, survival/condition, fragility/vulnerability and diversity are liable to be of particular relevance;
- to assess the state of the monument;
- in the light of the above to inform appropriate decisions regarding the scheduled status and long-term management of the monument and the area to its south, and to allow decisions to be made on future landuse;
- to contribute as appropriate to local, regional and national research frameworks for former occupation and landuse. In particular, the site has been identified as having the potential to include deposits of Iron Age and Romano-British date and would illuminate the relationship between the site and the impact on its economy made by the development of the nearby 'small town' at Worcester (Edwards 1997, 10).

2. **Methods**

2.1 **Documentary search**

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition the following sources were also consulted at the Worcestershire HER reference library:

Cartographic sources

- Map of glebe lands in the parish of Holt, 1777 (BA 10819/1 850)
- Holt tithe map 1839 (BA 1572 8760/356)
- Ordnance Survey County Series map 1:10560
- Beard *et al* 1986
- British Geological Survey 1976
- British Geological Survey 1990

Documentary sources

- A terrier of all the houses, gardens, orchards, lands and tythes belonging to the Rectory of Holt taken September 16: 1714 (BA 10819/2 850)
- Bond 1973
- Cox 1997
- Edwards 1991
- Edwards 1997
- English Heritage 1994
- Fagan 1992
- GSB Prospection 2002
- Hurst 1995
- Miller 2003
- Nash 1781
- Wilson 1982
- VCH 1913

2.2 **Fieldwork**

2.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (AS 2003).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 6th October and 11th November 2003. A total of 44 trenches (Fig 4), amounting to 3676m² in area, were excavated over the site area of c 175,000m², representing a sample of just over 2%. The excavation of the trenches was carried out in two Stages, (1.3.1, 1.3.2). The initial Stage (1.3.1) was located to assess the greatest

density of the cropmark and geophysical anomalies within the scheduled area (SAM 209), whilst the second Stage (1.3.2) was located to assess areas to the south and east as well as the outlying extents of the cropmarks within the scheduled area. Trench locations were targeted closely to the major elements of the feature complex as indicated by cropmarks and geophysics. However, during the course of the initial phase of trenching (Stage 1.3.1) features which clearly correlated to those mapped on the aerial assessment were identified and indicated that there was some discrepancy between the plotted location of the features and their actual location on the ground. This discrepancy was also noted when comparing the results of the geophysical interpretation and the aerial photographic plot, again although several enclosures were present on both plots their location in relation to the field boundaries differed. Adjustments were made to the trench locations in light of these discrepancies. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 4.

Topsoil and subsoil layers were removed using a 360° tracked/wheeled excavator, employing a 1.8 metre wide toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). All spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to ensure the retrieval of any finds which had been disturbed from their original context. On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

In addition to the machine excavated trenches, a total of 4 hand excavated test pits each measuring 2x2m were excavated adjacent to Trenches 1, 4, 5 and 33. Ploughsoil and subsoil were removed in 100mm spits down to the interface with natural and/or stratified archaeological deposits (as identified within the machine excavated trenches), with a further 100mm spit excavated into the deposit. These hand excavated test pits were aimed to compare the date range, composition and condition of the material assemblages retrieved through the sieving of each spit. This element of the project was designed to aid in the investigation of the impact of ploughing on the archaeological deposits on the site. In addition a 10 litre sub-sample was sieved to record the amount natural gravel present as a percentage within the ploughsoil/subsoil. The aim of this was to assess the level of erosion of natural into the extant ploughsoil/subsoil thus assisting with the investigation of the level of natural erosion across the site and how this may have affected any extant archaeological remains.

Due to minimal differences in feature type and overlying topsoil and subsoil profiles, allied to the fact that only restricted areas produced artefacts, only 4 hand-excavated pits were carried out.

2.2.2 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced and are summarised in Appendix 1. Analysis was effected through a combination of artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. All artefacts were recovered from stratified deposits and a small quantity of further material was recovered from environmental samples which were taken (see below).

2.3.1 Method of analysis

All hand retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period (Tables 1–4). Where possible, a *terminus post quem* was produced for each stratified context,

which was used for determining the broad date of structural phases. All information was recorded on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts from environmental samples were examined, but none were worthy of comment and were not quantified.

Prehistoric pottery was recorded according to the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group guidelines (PCRG 1995). Fabrics were identified and separately numbered for the purposes of this project, however, where possible have been correlated to a fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeological Service (Hurst and Rees 1992)

Roman and later pottery was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form. All fabrics were referenced to the fabric reference series maintained by Worcestershire Archaeological Service (Hurst and Rees 1992). Sherds that could not be identified or were too small to be identified accurately by fabric were grouped within miscellaneous Roman fabric category 98.

All flint was examined and recorded following standard Service practice (CAS 1995 as amended; pro forma AS20, flint finds record). Terminology used broadly follows that provided in Inizan *et al* (1992).

2.4 **Environment**

2.4.1 **Fieldwork and sampling policy**

The environmental sampling policy was as defined in the County Archaeological Service Recording System (1995 as amended). Large animal bone was hand-collected during excavation and samples of 10 litres taken from 20 contexts of Romano-British date (See Table 5, Section 7). All samples were processed, and all residues sorted, although on account of the poor preservation of remains, only 11 samples were selected for full analysis (Table 6, Section 7).

2.4.2 **Processing and analysis**

The samples were processed by flotation followed by wet-sieving using a Siraf tank. The flots were collected on a 300µm sieve and the residues retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were fully sorted using a low power EMT stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by the Service, and seed identification manual (Beijerinck 1947). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the Flora of the British Isles, 3rd edition (Clapham, Tutin and Moore 1989).

Animal bone was identified with the aid of modern reference material maintained by the Service, and reference guides Schmid (1972) and Hillson (1992).

2.5 **The methods in retrospect**

The correlation between the location of features on the ground and those plotted from aerial photographs proved somewhat problematic. However with the help of the geophysical plot and ongoing adjustments made in light of features identified within the machine excavated trenches, the methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

3. **Topographical context and modern land use**

3.1 **Topographical context**

The Evaluation Area comprises three elements, to the north the scheduled monument, to the south an area of arable land and, to the east, a narrow strip of arable land running parallel to the scheduled area. The monument consists of a field, bounded to the west by the A443, to the north and west by tracks leading to Top Barn Farm, and by a road to Church Farm Quarry on the south. The strip to the east is bordered by the monument and to the west by an already quarried area (Fig 1).

The three fields comprising the Evaluation Area lie at *c* 30m OD, on the western river terrace of the Severn, on a small plateau in a bend of the Grimley Brook, and to the south-west of a small eminence upon which Top Barn Farm lies. The field (measuring *c* 10.7 ha) covered by the monument is essentially level ground, sloping down to the east-south-east in the south-eastern corner. The strip to the east covers about 2ha and has similar topography to the monument. The field to the south (measuring *c* 5.3 ha) continues the general downward trend in slope towards the Grimley Brook.

The soils are typical brown earths of the Hall and Wick series (Beard *et al* 1986). Brown earths of this subgroup (541) are permeable, well-drained, non-calcareous loams or clays.

The underlying geology consists of Pleistocene and recent drift deposits of glacial origin forming the third terrace of the River Severn, overlying Upper/Middle Triassic Mercia Mudstone (British Geological Survey 1976 and 1990).

3.2 **Modern landuse**

The site is known to have been in arable use for the last 55 years (Mr David Harper pers comm). Mr Harper indicated his present cultivation regime was a mixed vegetable and arable cropping regime, all spring planted with a cereal break crop. Vegetables such as onions, beet and sunflowers usually required inversion ploughing to a depth of 0.15 to 0.18m, while potatoes required a depth of 0.18 to 0.21m. A more detailed report on the landuse over the previous 60 years is included in Appendix 2 below.

4. **Archaeological context (after Edwards 1997)**

4.1 **Prehistoric and Romano-British activity**

A substantial amount of work carried out within the immediate vicinity of the Evaluation Area has provided evidence of both prehistoric and Romano-British activity. The earliest published work dates to the period of rescue excavation carried out to the north-west of the current evaluation area between 1970 and 1975, prior to quarrying. The results (Hunt *et al* 1986) showed some evidence for late Neolithic and Beaker period activity as well as four Bronze Age ring-ditches, two of which produced cremations and a range of Early Bronze Age pottery, including a group of collared urns. Iron Age activity was also represented by a rectilinear ditched enclosure containing two rectilinear structures of indeterminate function, together with a number of pits and postholes. Romano-British pottery was recovered, but this consisted of worn and abraded material, and it was not possible to determine whether it resulted from manuring or from disturbed archaeological features

Subsequent work in the area carried out in the late 1980s and the 1990s concentrated on establishing whether cropmarks plotted by the RCHME survived as buried features (Edwards 1991, HWCM 4511; and Shelley 1989, WSM 29769). Excavations conducted to the north-west of Holt demonstrated that truncated cut features did survive in these areas, the majority

of which dated to the post-medieval period with the exception of one enclosure ditch which was assigned to the Iron Age period. Work carried out to the east of the scheduled area (Fagan 1992; WSM 29176), again concentrated on an area of cropmarks. This evaluation revealed two field boundary ditches, interpreted as Neolithic in date, and a scatter of worked flint recovered from fieldwalking.

A watching brief along the line of a proposed quarry conveyor belt, to the west of Grimley village, revealed a considerable number of features of prehistoric and Romano-British date (Jackson 1991; WSM 29807), two of which correlated with features showing as cropmarks. Other features included ditches, pits, and postholes, and were interpreted as agricultural, including a four-post structure. There were few finds, despite the number of features. In addition, at the north end of the village of Grimley, a watching brief was carried out on two pipe trenches through the cropmark of a Romano-British fort (Hurst 1995; WSM 22791), producing evidence that dated the site to the 2nd century, and indicated the survival of some internal features.

Within the Evaluation Area itself a watching brief was carried out in 1991 along the line of an access road to the quarry (Edwards 1991; WSM 29806). This revealed ditches of Romano-British and prehistoric date, a number of pits identified as tree-holes, and some undated and natural features. The ditches, interpreted as enclosures, corresponded with features recorded on the aerial photographic plot.

In addition to the sites identified by archaeological investigations a number of spot finds and cropmarks within a 1.5km radius of the site are recorded on the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record; a full list of these is provided in Appendix 3 (also see Fig 5).

4.2 **Post-Romano-British/Anglo-Saxon activity**

No evidence for post-Roman or Anglo-Saxon activity has been identified, however this may be a reflection of the material culture of this period, which is virtually aceramic, rather than a true absence of human activity.

4.3 **Medieval and post-medieval activity**

Evidence for medieval ridge and furrow, showing both as cropmarks and as buried features, has been recorded to the north-west of the Evaluation Area, notably within the excavations carried out during the mid to late 1970's (Hunt *et al* 1986, 19 and pl 2). However, no sign of ridge and furrow has been observed within the Evaluation Area itself.

There is no primary evidence for the post-medieval landuse of the site. The only known documents relate to land immediate to the west. A terrier dating to 1714 (BA 10819/2 850) notes that fields, which have been tentatively identified as those to the west of the site on the basis of fieldnames, are under arable cultivation. Furthermore, a subsequent map dating to 1777 (BA 108119/1 850) clearly depicts the land adjacent to the site under arable cultivation. Although these documents do not relate to the site itself it can reasonably be assumed that they reflect localised landuse at this time.

The site itself is first mapped on the Holt tithe dating to 1839 (BA 1572 8760/356; see Fig 5). The map clearly shows a pronounced reversed-S shape curve in the field boundaries at the northern and eastern extents of the evaluation area. Such a landscape feature is characteristic of medieval strip fields and may reflect the remains of medieval field systems and ridge and furrow, although as noted above there is no indication of this in the aerial photographic records of the site.

The tithe apportionment also provides the field names, which comprise 'Gorsty Park', 'Big Park', 'Upper Mill Perry' and 'Lower Mill Perry'. The latter two may indicate that the landuse at this time was a pear orchard. Equally 'Big Park' and 'Gorsty Park' may reflect the location

of the park attached to the manor of Holt known from a documentary reference of 1420 (VCH 1913, 405). Alternatively, the names may refer to a later park, perhaps dating from the 18th century, when Holt Castle was enlarged and is shown surrounded by parkland in a print of 1781 (Nash 1781, 49). However, by the time of the tithe map, the area was clearly enclosed and any such function must have ceased. By the time the Ordnance Survey surveyed the area in 1883, the area is shown as an open field and the reversed-S boundaries have gone (see Fig 5).

5. Structural Analysis

The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1, with Tables 1-4 summarising the artefacts recovered and Tables 5-7 summarising the results of environmental analysis. The trench locations overlaid onto the plan of cropmarks (after Cox 1997) are shown in Figure 8 and the features recorded are shown in Figures 9-25.

5.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits were observed in all trenches. These comprised a combination of loose mid red/orange/pink sand with 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 55-60%) and larger gravels (*c* 5-10%), becoming increasingly sandy towards the eastern extent of the evaluation area (Trenches 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23 and 24). There was also a notable build up of colluvial material within the easternmost field within Trenches 12, 13, 14, and 15, comprising heavy mid red/brown and mid yellow/brown silty sand with rare manganese and 'peagrit' gravels present to a thickness of between 0.20 and 1.20m.

5.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits

Four features have been dated to this phase on the basis of artefactual evidence. These features were revealed in Trenches 4, 6, 17 and 22. The first of these was a sub-circular pit (439; see Fig 14) filled by three deposits (436, 437, 438), of which 436 and 438 contained a small assemblage of Middle Bronze Age pottery (Section 6.2.1; Fig 15). The secondary fill (437) contained a high percentage of fire-cracked stones and charcoal indicating that it had been intentionally in-filled. The pit also contained a conglomerate quartz rubber from a saddle quern (SF 2) within the primary fill (438; Fig 29). The rubber, which measured 100 x 300mm, was positioned with the concave face uppermost, 80mm above the base of the cut.

The second prehistoric deposit comprised the remains of a Mid to Late Iron Age vessel, probably used in a domestic function such as storage or cooking (612; see Figs 18 and 19; Plates 6-8), the lower 0.15m of which survived within its original cut (614). The vessel was located at a depth of 0.61m (32.84m AOD) below the current ground surface and contained a deposit with a high percentage of fire-cracked stones. The cut was circular in plan measuring 0.50m in diameter, and had clearly been intentionally made for the vessel. The southern side of the cut was truncated with a scar, containing sherds of the vessel, extending to the south beyond the extent of the original cut. This truncation was evidently the result of plough damage, which also accounts for the truncation of the upper extent of the vessel.

Although no anomalies or features were identified which could be firmly dated to the same period as the vessel, a small curvilinear cropmark feature was plotted immediately to the west. This may represent the ploughed out remains of a roundhouse with an approximate diameter of 7 metres. However, as the evaluation trenches did not cover this feature, no absolute interpretation can be given. Furthermore such circular features are an extremely common form of cropmark and have a multitude of alternative interpretations, ranging from small medieval mottes to ground markers for wartime bombing ranges, thus making their interpretation somewhat problematic (Wilson 1982, 86).

Further to these features, two linears, one in Trench 17 (cut 1705) and one in Trench 22 (cut 2214) were dated to the Mid to Late Iron Age on the basis of artefactual evidence. An east-west aligned linear feature (1705) located 6.60m from the south end of Trench 17, contained three fills (1708, 1707, 1706). The secondary fill has been interpreted as the result of slumping of a bank located to the north of the ditch. These two discreet features probably represent the remains of field systems or enclosures associated with the Mid to Late Iron Age domestic activity indicated by features in Trench 6.

In addition, a linear feature identified in Trench 1 (105) can be tentatively assigned to the prehistoric phase on the basis of its stratigraphic relationship to a Romano-British linear (103).

5.3 Phase 3 Romano-British deposits

A substantial number of Romano-British cut features were identified within the Evaluation Area, mainly comprising various forms of boundary and enclosure ditches. Many of these features can be correlated to both the aerial photographic plot and the geophysical interpretative plot (see Section 8; and Figs 2, 3 and 8).

No structural remains such as metalled surfaces, stone or timber foundations or posthole groups were identified. Given the overall nature of the site it would seem highly probable that any such features had been removed by factors such as cultivation and soil erosion

5.3.1 Trench 1 (Figures 9 and 10)

A total of three distinct linear features in Trench 1 were dated to the Romano-British period on the basis of artefactual evidence. The first of these, located approximately 12m from the southern end of the trench, was aligned north-south and ran north for a distance of 33 metres. The feature, Context Group 1000, was investigated in a series of hand-excavated slots (recorded as cuts 103, 107, 109, 118, 141 and 143; Fig 9), which showed the profile to be fairly broad and shallow with gently sloped sides. The feature was filled by a single fill (104, 108, 110, 142, 144), which contained a notably high concentration of Romano-British pottery, possibly indicative of a rapid backfilling or intentional dumping of domestic refuse. The assemblage produced a *terminus post quem* (*tpq*) of 3-4th century AD (see Section 6). On the basis of correlations to the aerial photographic plot, the feature was originally believed to be turning to run east at its southern extent, however further excavation revealed a terminus at the east end (141: Fig 9). This feature truncated, two earlier linear features 145 and 105, of which 145 has been dated by artefactual evidence to the 2nd century AD.

The finds rich linear feature (CG1000) was truncated approximately 2.50m south of its northern terminus by a substantial east-west aligned linear (111; Fig 9), measuring 3.00m in width. This had a fairly steep sided profile falling to a flat base at a depth of 1.48m. The location and dimensions of this feature appear to correlate to a distinctive rectilinear enclosure plotted on both aerial photographic and geophysical interpretations (Enclosure A; Figs 2 and 3). The feature contained six fills, all indicative of a gradual and naturally occurring backfilling, with the small quantity of associated finds confined to two fills (113, 116). The artefactual assemblage provided a broad *tpq* ranging from mid 1st to 4th century AD. To the north (of ditch 111), CG 1000 continued for approximately 2.5 metres and beyond this another north-south aligned linear CG 1001 (132,128,120) was revealed (Fig 9). The alignment and location of this feature suggested that it was a continuation of CG 1000, whilst excavation revealed a substantially shallower profile and an almost sterile fill. Nevertheless the alignment strongly indicates that the two features form elements of a contemporary boundary, which is supported by the evidence of both the aerial photographic and geophysical plot of this area (Enclosure D; Fig 2). Truncating CG 1001 was a fourth feature (126; Fig 9), which has also been assigned to the Romano-British period on the basis of artefactual evidence with a *tpq* of between mid 1st and 4th century AD. This feature was curvilinear in plan with its curved 'corner' truncating the earlier enclosure ditch (CG 1001). This continued

beyond the limits of the trench in two arms, one running approximately east and the other running north-east. As with the other Romano-British features revealed in this trench, this (126) also appears to correlate with a feature plotted from both aerial photographic and geophysical evidence (Enclosure D; Fig 2).

5.3.2 Trench 2 (Figures 11, 12 and 13)

A total of four linear features dating to the Romano-British period were revealed in Trench 2. The first of these, (feature 206), had the strongest correlation to the interpretation of aerial photographic and geophysical evidence (Enclosure A; Fig 2). This was located 15.50m from the western end of the trench and ran at a sharp 45° to the trench edge. It measured 3m in width and excavation revealed a 'V' shaped profile falling to a stepped base at 1.10m. The ditch was filled by three deposits, all of which contained a high percentage of redeposited natural pea-grit gravels, possibly indicative of the partial or complete slumping of the original upcast. An environmental sample from the upper fill produced three iron studs, which have been interpreted as the remains of boot hobnails (see Section 6). Other artefactual evidence provided *tpq* of between mid 1st and 4th century AD. At its western edge, the ditch truncated a small gully (210) which produced no dating evidence. A second gully was also present at the western edge (208); however, stratigraphically this appears to post-date the Romano-British activity.

Further to the east, three north-south aligned linears were revealed (229, 232, 237; Fig 11). All of these could be dated to the Romano-British period on the basis of artefactual evidence. Of these, one (232) was the most substantial and notably similar in dimensions and profile to one of the features described above (206). This was also given a *tpq* of mid 1st to 4th century AD and appears to correlate with the eastern extent of Enclosure A. A correlation was also apparent between the two remaining features in Trench 2; both the alignment and location of 229 indicate it to be the western extent of Enclosure D, whilst 237 appears to be associated with a linear running south from Enclosure B (Fig 2).

5.3.3 Trench 4 (Figures 14 and 15)

Further Romano-British linear features were observed within Trench 4 (Figs 14 and 15). Two east-west aligned linears were located adjacently at the southern end of the trench (403, 411). Both of these features produced a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery providing a *tpq* of 2nd century AD. A copper alloy fibula brooch (SF 1; Fig 28.2), dating to the 1st century AD, was recovered from a secondary fill (409). The terminus of one of these ditches (403) was revealed within a hand excavated test pit to the west of the trench. The location of these ditches correlates to two parallel ditches forming a curvilinear enclosure (Enclosure B; Fig 2), which is clearly depicted on both aerial and geophysical plots.

Further to the north, three additional linears were present (421, 422, 423; Fig 14), aligned approximately north-north-east to south-south-west. The earliest of these ditches (421) produced no dating material and may pre-date the Romano-British phase of activity. However, to the north of this, the second ditch (422) produced a small Romano-British assemblage as did the latest phase in the sequence, (423), both of which provided a *tpq* of 2nd century AD. The orientation and location of these linears indicates a correlation with the curvilinear enclosure (Enclosure B). In addition, a possible pit (434), measuring approximately 1.76m in width and 0.44m in depth was recorded to the south of 421. The primary fill contained a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery providing a *tpq* of mid 1st to 4th century AD, but the edges of the feature were notably diffuse with the natural and there was a high level of tree root disturbance, which made the form and extent of the feature unclear.

5.3.4 Trench 5 (Figures 16 and 17)

A number of linears in Trench 5 were also assigned to the Romano-British phase (Figs 16 and 17). Running west from the intersection with Trench 4, a linear feature aligned approximately

east-west was apparently a continuation of ditches 422 and 423. Excavation revealed that two features were present, a steep sided ditch (525) the southern extent of which continued beyond the limit of excavation, truncated by a small shallow 'U' profile gully (548). The features were both dated on the basis of a small pottery assemblage, with *tpqs* of 2nd century AD (for 525) and 2nd to 3rd century AD (for 522). In addition two small finds were present in a primary fill (fill, 524, cut, 525); a small copper-alloy ligula (SF 3; Fig 28.1) and a shaped stone bead/counter (SF 4). Both linears continued for 24.60m along Trench 5 before either terminating or turning south to continue beyond the trench edge. Almost immediately to the west of this, another linear (531) was revealed also running east-west. The feature was investigated in two slots and shown to have a shallow 'U' shaped profile, similar to that of 548 but far less defined with a diffuse edge to natural. The profile and orientation of this linear strongly indicates that it forms part of or respects the same boundary. The western end was disturbed by a plough furrow (504) and immediately beyond the furrow another linear was apparent (552). The orientation of this feature does not indicate that it is a continuation of 531. However, unfortunately the furrow masked the relationship between these two features.

In addition, a substantial pit was observed in the eastern extent of Trench 5. In plan the feature was sub-oval measuring 2.90m in width, 4.20m in length. Excavation revealed a steep sided almost vertical profile, falling to a flat base at a depth of 2.24m below the current ground level. During excavation only a single sherd of abraded Romano-British pottery was recovered. There was no evidence of any form of lining, as might be expected of a watering hole, thus ruling out any form of water storage given the form of natural on the site. The fills comprised variations of dirty natural and subsoil, which had evidently been rapidly deposited. An alternative interpretation may be that the pit was excavated for quarrying purposes, although the location of the feature within Enclosure B would make this function less likely unless the two were open at different times within the Roman period of activity at the site. Similar features have been observed at the site of Ryall also in Worcestershire, however, in contrast the pits were in clusters often intercutting to form a trefoil shape in plan and showed signs of having been extended at the sides in order to access more material (Mary Alexander *pers comm*). Given these factors it does appear less likely that the pit was intended for quarrying and at present its function remains indeterminate.

5.3.5 Trench 6 (Figures 18 and 19)

Romano-British features were observed in the northern end of this trench (Figs 18 and 19), comprising two linears, (606, 609) both aligned east-west. Two further features (621, 623) were identified at the southern extent of the trench, however they did not produce any dating evidence and as such cannot be firmly assigned to this phase.

5.3.6 Trench 22 (Figures 22 and 23)

Trench 22 contained a number of linears, which clearly related to those observed in Trench 4. At the western end of the trench, two linears running approximately north to south (2211, 2220; Figs 22 and 23) showed similar profiles to those observed at the southern end of Trench 4. These appear to correlate to the same curvilinear enclosure (Enclosure B; Fig 2). Only one of these ditches (2211) produced any finds, these comprising a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery providing a *terminus post quem* (*tpq*) of 3-4th century AD. However, the other ditch (2220) can also be assigned to the Romano-British phase on the basis of its profile, stratigraphic relationship and correlation to the curvilinear enclosure (Enclosure B; Fig 2). Both linears were truncated by an east-west aligned feature (2209), which also contained a high percentage of Romano-British pottery providing a *tpq* of late 3rd century AD. To the west, two further features were identified also aligned north to south (2205, 2214), of which only one (2214) produced any artefactual evidence, which provided a prehistoric *tpq*. The other feature (2205) remains undated, however, the orientation and profile strongly indicate that it also forms part of the Romano-British phase on this site.

5.3.7 Trenches 37 and 38 (Figures 24 and 25)

Several Romano-British features were also recorded outside of the scheduled area and to its south, in Trenches 37 and 38 (Fig 24 and 25). In Trench 37, a linear was recorded near to the northern end of the trench, running north-east to south-west (3703). Excavation revealed a 'V' shaped profile containing two fills (3705, 3704), which produced a small assemblage of Romano-British pottery. A continuation of this feature was observed in Trench 38 where a linear (3808) had a similar profile. This correlates well to the aerial photographic plot and would appear to represent the western boundary of a rectilinear enclosure (Enclosure E; Fig 2). Artefactual evidence from these features provided a *tpq* of late 3rd century AD. Three other features in Trench 38 were also assigned to the Romano-British phase. To the west, another linear was recorded running north-east to south-west (3820); its orientation indicating that it respects the same alignment as the enclosure (Enclosure E; Fig 2) represented by 3808 and 3703. To the east, another broad Romano-British linear (3812, filled by 3826 and 3824), produced an assemblage of Romano-British pottery. The western edge of the feature was truncated by modern disturbance associated with a water hydrant to the north of the trench, as such the upper extent of the profile was no longer distinguishable. The linear, a ditch, was also truncated at its eastern edge by a small sub-oval pit (3813). The primary fill of the pit (3803) contained a notably high percentage of Romano-British pottery (a total of 849 sherds), clearly indicative of an intentional dumping into the pit.

5.4 Phase 4 Medieval

No features were dated to the medieval period on the basis of artefactual evidence, however, a number of broad shallow linear features may represent the otherwise truncated base of ridge and furrow cultivation. These features were observed in several trenches but were most pronounced in Trenches 1 (147), 2 (216, 218, 222, 224, 226, 234) and 5 (504, 506, 510, 512, 514, 527, 529, 537). Although no sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from stratified deposits, a number of unstratified sherds were recovered from the hand excavated test pit adjacent to Trench 33 (3302)

5.5 Phase 5 Post-medieval and modern deposits

No features were dated to the post-medieval period and only a small assemblage of pottery dating to these periods was retrieved during machining. In addition, a dog skull was recovered from the western end of Trench 5 (context 508). The burial has been interpreted as a modern intervention due to the quality of bone preservation as well as the high level of plough damage and disturbance with this part of the trench. The cut for this was unclear but appeared to continue beyond the southern limits of the trench.

5.6 Phase 6 Undated deposits

A number of periglacial features were observed within the evaluation trenches (contexts 136, 238, 239, 624, 803 and 908). These were mainly amorphous in plan and contained a well compacted light yellow silty fill. Excavation was carried out on a small percentage of these features in order to confirm their natural formation.

Several features were interpreted as the result of tree root and tree bowl activity. Such features were typically filled by a compact silty sand with a small percentage of humic content. Their shape in plan varied but excavation revealed evidence of fills running under well established natural, as a result of root action, and highly diffuse edges which did not look anthropogenic in formation.

Several linears (features 132, 220, 620, 623, 3816) did not produce any dating evidence. However, their form and orientation indicates that they are elements of either the late prehistoric or Romano-British phase of occupation on the site. In addition to those features within the scheduled area, two pits (1703, 1709) were excavated in Trench 17, however

neither produced any dating evidence and it is not possible to assign them to a phase with any certainty.

5.7 Results from hand excavated test pits

5.7.1 Test pit 1 – Trench 4

A total of four spits (450, 451, 452, 453) were hand excavated and sieved for artefactual material; the first three of these were within topsoil/ ploughsoil and subsoil layers whilst the fourth was the upper 100mm of stratified archaeological deposits (equivalent to fill 405). The upper three spits were all given a *tpq* of 21st century however they did contain small amounts of highly abraded Romano-British pottery with an average weight of 3.5g. In contrast, the final spit into the upper 100mm of a stratified archaeological deposit contained fragments, which were also abraded but to a lesser degree with an average weight of 8g – double that of the material recovered from within the ploughsoil. Samples of 10 litres were sieved from each spit to assess the percentage of gravel present, the percentages were consistently 25% in the upper three spits and 30% in the stratified deposit, indicating high levels of natural gravel and sand had been incorporated into both the ploughsoil and upper fill of the feature.

5.7.2 Test pit 2 – Trench 1

A total of four spits (138, 139, 140, 142) were hand excavated and sieved for artefactual material, the first three of these were within topsoil/ ploughsoil and subsoil layers whilst the last was the upper 100mm of stratified archaeological deposits (equivalent to fill 104). As with Test pit 1, the upper three spits were all given a *tpq* of 21st century, and contained fragments of highly abraded Romano-British pottery with an average weight of 3g. In contrast the final spit into the upper 100mm of a stratified archaeological deposit contained fragments, which were only moderately abraded with an average weight of 45g and therefore notably more intact than the material retrieved from the ploughsoil. Samples of 10 litres were sieved from each spit to assess the percentage of gravel present; the percentages were 30% in 138, 20% in 139, 15% in 140 and 35% in 142, again indicating high levels of natural gravel and sand had been incorporated into the ploughsoil and upper fill of the feature.

5.7.3 Test pit 3 – Trench 5

A total of four spits (553, 554, 555, 556) were hand excavated and sieved for artefactual material, the first three of these were within topsoil/ ploughsoil and subsoil layers whilst the last was the upper 100mm of stratified archaeological deposits (Equivalent to fill 524). As with Test pits 1 and 2, the upper three spits were all given a *tpq* of 21st century, but all contained rare fragments of Romano-British pottery. The latter was highly abraded in only the uppermost spit (553) and only abraded or slightly abraded in the lower three spits (554 and 555 being within the ploughsoil/ subsoil). This may indicate the any deposits containing artefactual material within the feature have only been relatively recently disturbed. Samples of 10 litres were sieved from each spit to assess the percentage of gravel present; the percentages were 20% in 553, 15% in 554, 25% in 555 and 15% in 556, again indicating high levels of natural gravel and sand had been incorporated into the ploughsoil and upper fill of the feature.

5.7.4 Test pit 4 – Trench 33

A total of two spits (3302, 3303) were hand excavated and sieved for artefactual material, both of these were within ploughsoil/ subsoil layers as no stratified deposits were present within the trench. This test pit was used as a control to monitor the level, date and condition of artefactual material within areas of the site where features were either no longer extant or had never been present. Both spits were given a *tpq* of 21st century and all material was highly abraded with an average weight of 4g. Notably no Roman pottery was present, the earliest material being one small fragment of medieval 13th – 15th century pot. Samples of 10 litres

were sieved from each spit to assess the percentage of gravel present; the percentages were 15% in each spit which indicates that a lesser degree of erosion is taking place. This may be due to the location of the trench on the plateau of land at the top of the slope; as such factors such as hill wash would present a lesser impact.

5.8 Agricultural and soil erosion impact

Evidence of the agricultural impact on the site was evident in several trenches across the evaluation area, most notably in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 27. Most frequently these comprised narrow, regularly spaced plough/subsoiling scars approximately 8 mm in width and between 8 and 12mm in depth. In certain cases such damage had occurred over a more extensive area such as in Trench 2 (234). Broader ploughed scars or possible furrow bases were also extant in several trenches as noted in Section 5.4. Their impact was most noticeable in Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5 where the upper fills of earlier features had been disturbed, such as CG 1000 in Trench 1, 235 in Trench 2, and 531 and 552 in Trench 5. In addition, broad straight marks were observed running along Trench 38. Initially it was assumed that these resulted from plough damage, however, following discussion with the farmers (Messers Harper) another explanation is that the marks may have been caused by root action creating differential drying of ground. Nevertheless, given that these marks were present at a depth of 0.63m below ground surface, such deep rooting would still be viewed as a potential cause of disturbance and truncation to any extant archaeological remains. Furthermore, agricultural impact was well testified in Trench 6 where a substantial percentage of the Iron Age jar had been truncated. A linear plough scar (or subsoiler scar), containing sherds of pot, running south-east from the remaining vessel clearly demonstrated the truncation to be resultant of agricultural activity; the sherds having been broken from a vessel and dragged from their original position along the scar.

The evidence provided by this evaluation trenching concurs with the preliminary indications of the initial field walking survey (Stage 1.2). This produced a high level of heavily abraded material leading to the conclusion that a considerable amount of plough truncation was likely to be present. This conclusion is certainly testified, not only by the presence of plough scars, but also, by the heavily abraded nature of the pottery recovered from the ploughsoil layers in Tests pits 1, 2 and 4. In general the high level of abrasion noted on the material from the test pits appears to indicate that the artefactual material has been within the ploughsoil for a considerable length of time. The only notable exception to this is the material from Test pit 3 which contained only slightly abraded sherds in the lower three spits, of which 554 and 555 were within the ploughsoil/ subsoil, whilst 556 was within a stratified archaeological deposit. This does present the likelihood that a certain degree of agricultural disturbance to the extant archaeological features is still taking place. Notably this test pit was located on the shoulder of the site where it has been hypothesised (AS 2001; Miller 2003) that a greater level of erosion and plough damage is likely to occur.

Across the site the effects of soil erosion (as opposed to plough damage) were less pronounced and were less easy to link directly to any specific archaeological damage. However, a substantial build up of colluvium within the trenches located at the lower lying eastern extents of the evaluation area (Trenches 12, 13, 14 and 15) clearly indicated that such factors had indeed impacted on the site. In Trench 14 a sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the colluvium at a depth of approximately 1.10m below the present ground level, providing a *terminus post quem* of Romano-British for the colluvial build up (ie deposition has occurred from and since the Romano-British period). This colluvial build up on the downslope areas concurs with the postulations of the original proposal (AS 2001, 28). In addition, high levels of gravel noted in samples taken from hand excavated Test pits (see 5.7), also indicates that high levels of natural gravel and sand have been incorporated into the ploughsoil. As such it is a reasonable assumption that soil erosion has also had a substantial, incremental impact on the level of preservation of any archaeological remains through the steady but widespread reduction of the protective ploughsoil/subsoil. Further detailed discussion of the agricultural impact on the site is provided in Appendix 2.

6. Artefactual analysis

6.1 Results of analysis

The artefact assemblage retrieved from the Evaluation Area consisted primarily of material of Roman date (Table 2), with both prehistoric material (Table 1 and 4) and later material (medieval, post-medieval and modern; Table 3) present in very small quantities.

6.2 Pottery

A total of 67 sherds weighing 2.915kg of prehistoric pottery were recovered (Table 1). Most of the pottery derived from two pits, one in Trench 4 (fills 436 and 438; cut 439) the other in Trench 6 (fill 612; cut 614). Other material was recovered from a range of deposits including from ditches in Trench 17 (fill 1708; cut 1705) and Trench 22 (fill 2213; cut 2214), as well as residual material in Roman dated deposits (contexts 146 and 2210).

The Roman and later pottery assemblage consisted of 2130 sherds weighing 21.09kg and accounting for 91% of artefacts recovered. The overall preservation of stratified sherds was generally good with moderate levels of abrasion, suggesting that there was relatively little redeposition of material although a degree of residuality was noted within some contexts. A total of 116 diagnostic rim forms were present and could be dated accordingly, the remaining undiagnostic sherds were datable by fabric type to the general period or production span. The assemblage displayed a standard range of form and fabric types for a site in this location.

6.2.1 Prehistoric fabrics (Robin Jackson and Derek Hurst)

Six fabrics have been identified and are described below, although it should be noted that fabrics 1, 4, 5 and 6 were only represented by single sherds within the assemblage.

The fabric numbers used have been established for the purposes of this project and where possible they have been equated with existing fabrics in the Service's fabric reference series (eg WCC fabric type 5.8; Hurst and Rees 1992). In the case of three of the fabrics, it has not been possible to firmly identify a parallel in the existing reference collection (Project fabrics 2, 4 and 6). Although individually numbered for the project, these have consequently been accessioned under a general WCC fabric reference number (WCC fabric type 97), which is maintained for use with fabrics whose type cannot be, or has not previously been, determined. In one case, Fabric 2, this clearly represents a new and definable fabric type, which will in due course be accessioned onto the overall WCC series.

Fabric 1 Quartzite tempered ware (WCC fabric type 5.8 - formerly regarded as late Neolithic, but under revision to cover 'earlier prehistoric' in the light of recent finds)

The fabric is hard, dense and well fired with a dark grey core and inner surface and a reddish brown outer surface. Moderate, angular quartzite and quartz sand inclusions up to 4mm across are present. These occasionally slightly break through the outer surface of the fabric giving a rough sandy feel (though some surface abrasion accentuates this). The inclusions break more readily through the inner surface and are prominently visible against the dark fabric.

Fabric 2 Quartz, organic and pebble tempered ware (WCC fabric type 97)

The fabric is hard and variably fired with some sherds exhibiting a grey to dark grey core and inner surface and a reddish brown outer surface but others being grey to dark grey throughout. The fabric has a sandy texture with common sub-angular quartz sand inclusions, moderate linear voids indicative of use of an organic temper and rare rounded pebbles up to 10mm across. Some sherds have a smooth well-finished exterior surface.

Fabric 3 Malvernian tempered ware (WCC fabric type 3)

The fabric is hard and well fired with red brown exterior and dark grey core and interior surfaces. Although surfaces are well smoothed it has a fine sandy texture. Moderate sub-

angular Malvernian inclusions are present up to 4mm across. Rare mica and rock inclusions up to 8mm across are also occasionally present.

Fabric 4 Vesicular sandy ware (WCC fabric type 97)

The fabric is hard and well fired being dark grey throughout. It has a soapy texture with rare quartz sand and voids.

Fabric 5 Mudstone tempered ware (WCC fabric type 9)

The fabric is soft with a soapy texture. The external surface is heavily abraded. It has red brown internal and external surfaces and a grey core. The fabric is vesicular with rare red brown (?mudstone) inclusions also visible in fresh breaks.

Fabric 6 Indeterminate rock tempered ware (WCC fabric type 97)

Hard, well-fired sandy textured fabric. Finely finished, burnished grey exterior with dark grey core and grey internal surface. Sparse to moderate, dark rock (indeterminate) inclusions.

Temporary fabric	WCC fabric	Fabric name/temper	Sum of total	Sum of weight
1	5.8	Quartzite ware	1	7
2	97	Quartz, organic and pebble tempered ware	6	194
3	3	Malvernian metamorphic	57	2677
4	97	Vesicular sandy ware	1	23
5	9	Mudstone tempered ware	1	8
6	97	Indeterminate rock	1	6

Table 1: Quantification of prehistoric pottery by fabric

6.2.2 Prehistoric pottery catalogue (Robin Jackson)

P1 (Fabric 1; context 146)

Single body sherd.

P2 (Fabric 2; context 436; Figure 26.1)

Three sherds from a fine walled vessel with a simple rim. The rim has diagonal incised linear decoration with a row of vertical fingernail impressions below. Probably Middle Bronze Age date and related to Deverel-Rimbury tradition.

P3 (Fabric 2; context 436)

Single body sherd.

P4 (Fabric 2; context 438; Figure 26.2)

Two large fragments from a simple rimmed vessel with a rim diameter of c260mm. The fairly upright profile and rim form suggest that these derive from a bucket shaped urn. The sherd is undecorated. Probably of Middle Bronze Age date and related to the Deverel-Rimbury tradition.

P5 (Fabric 6; context 528)

Single body sherd from a well finished vessel with a burnished (?) exterior surface.

P6 (Fabric 3; context 612; Figure 26.3)

Forty-six sherds from a large flat based vessel recovered from a pit. The complete base and lower part of vessel wall was recovered as single piece (although damaged and fragmenting as lifted). Several sherds were also recovered from a plough or subsoiler furrow, which ran across the top of the complete circumference of the pot as revealed after machining and which had clearly recently truncated the vessel. Further sherds were recovered from the base of the vessel and tipped into its inside, also indicating truncation and damage of a vessel which had almost certainly been buried complete. The vessel base had a diameter of 234mm and was simple and flat in form, breaking to a vessel wall, which flared outwards (to a maximum

surviving circumference of 320mm). The external surface of the vessel was undecorated apart from horizontal finger wiping, which had produced a fine external surface finish. Although the full profile was not present and no rim sherds were present, the vessel appears likely to have been a large storage jar of Mid to Late Iron Age date. Small sherds from a similarly dated fine bowl (P7) were present within the vessel fill.

P7 (Fabric 3; context 615)

Part of fine small shouldered bowl of Mid (or possibly Late) Iron Age form. Well finished though slightly abraded on exterior.

P8 (Fabric 4; context 1708)

Single body sherd from a fine walled, small globular cup or bowl with vertical finger wiping on interior surface.

P9 (Fabric 5; context 2210)

Single body sherd.

P10 (Fabric 3; context 2213)

Single body sherd.

6.2.3 Roman pottery (Laura Griffin)

The Roman pottery assemblage comprised 2081 sherds, weighing 20.91kg (Table 2; 98% of all pottery recovered; Tables 2 and 3). The dating of diagnostic sherds indicated occupation of the site throughout the period, peaking in the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

Although the assemblage comprised a standard range of fabrics for a rural site in this region, the composition was highly unusual with oxidised Severn Valley wares (fabrics 12 and 12.2) completely dominating, totalling 87% of all Roman pottery retrieved. The range of forms within this group was narrow, consisting of commonly identified vessel types including jars, wide-mouthed jars, tankards and flange rimmed bowls (Fig 27). The most distinctive form identified was a large handled jar/flagon (fabric 12.2; context 453; Fig 27.4) that could be paralleled with examples from the Newland Hopfields kiln site in Malvern (cf. Flagon type 2: Evans *et al* 2000, 28, fig 19: F11) and dated between the early 2nd and early 3rd centuries.

Reduced Severn Valley wares (fabrics 12.1 and 12.3) were significantly smaller in number, totalling just 14 sherds but consisted of the same range of forms as seen amongst the oxidised fabrics. In both cases, the organically tempered variants (fabrics 12.2 and 12.3) are thought to have been produced during the earlier Roman period.

Other locally produced sherds identified within the assemblage included 143 sherds of Malvernian origin (fabrics 3 and 19). Forms identified in the handmade fabric (fabric 3) consisted of tubby cooking pots, large storage jars and a plain-rimmed bowl. One everted rim jar was identified as being of the wheelmade fabric (fabric 19). Both the everted rim jar and the plain rimmed bowl appear to be imitating popular Black-burnished ware I vessel forms. Such imitations are commonly seen on sites within the region and may indicate local potters attempting to compete with the successful large-scale marketing of the south-western product. It has been suggested that the absence of Black-burnished ware lids may also have reflected such competition (Darlington and Evans 1992, 50). The most notable sherd of this fabric was that of a well-preserved, finely burnished bead rimmed tubby cooking pot (Bryant and Evans 2001, 22; fig 6, type 3.8) of 1st-2nd century date from context 2206 (Fig 27.9).

Other regionally produced wares were also present in very small quantities. Three sherds of sandy oxidised ware (fabric 13) were identified as coming from two jar forms. Sherds of this fabric occur in a similar range of forms as those of Severn Valley ware and are thought to have been produced in Gloucester from the mid 1st to 2nd century (Bryant and Evans 2001, 32).

Reduced wares consisted of five sherds fine sandy greyware (fabric 14) and eight of coarse sandy greyware (fabric 15), all from jar forms. The sources for both fabrics are not clear and evidence that exists appears to suggest a number of different production sites with forms having affinities with both Gloucestershire and Warwickshire products (Bryant and Evans 2001, 33).

Two large undiagnostic sherds of grog-tempered ware were also identified. At present, a source for this fabric is not known, although it is thought to have been produced within the Worcestershire region. Likewise, a date range for production is not known, although evidence from Deansway, Worcester may suggest that production had ceased by the early 2nd century (Bryant and Evans 2001, 34).

Fabric no.	Fabric name	Sherd count	Weight (g)
3	Malvernian Metamorphic ware	129	1315
12	Severn Valley ware	1715	17030
12.1	Reduced Severn Valley ware	14	170
12.2	Oxidised organic tempered Severn Valley ware	77	1037
12.3	Reduced organic tempered Severn Valley ware	2	122
13	Sandy oxidised ware	3	69
14	Fine sandy grey ware	5	56
15	Coarse sandy grey ware	8	70
16.2	Handmade grog tempered ware	2	63
19	Wheelthrown Malvernian ware	3	43
22	Black Burnished ware type I	63	400
43	Samian ware	9	131
98	Miscellaneous Roman wares	1	5

Table 2: Quantification of Roman pottery by fabric

Fabric no.	Fabric name	Sherd count	Weight (g)	Period
69	Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware	1	1	Medieval
99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	1	9	Medieval
78	Post-medieval red sandy ware	6	35	Post-medieval
81.3	Nottingham stoneware	2	13	Post-medieval
83	Porcelain	1	1	Post-medieval
91	Post-medieval buff ware	1	1	Post-medieval
100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	1	1	Post-medieval
81.4	Miscellaneous late stoneware	2	13	Modern
85	Modern stone china	21	31	Modern
101	Miscellaneous modern wares	2	2	Modern

Table 3: Quantification of medieval and later pottery by fabric

Black-burnished ware 1 vessels heavily dominated the non-local assemblage, with 63 sherds in total. The vast majority were undiagnostic and only datable from AD 120 onwards, the established date for the occurrence of this ware in the Midlands region. The diagnostic sherds that were present were almost entirely from typologically later forms including jars with moderately and highly everted rims (Wessex Archaeology (*WA*) types 2 and 3; Seager-Smith and Davies 1993), plain-rimmed dishes (*WA* type 20) and flange rimmed dishes (*WA* type 22) all dating from the 2nd century onwards. Numerous sherds display sooting and/or evidence of burning attesting to use of the vessels over a fire, presumably for cooking purposes.

Samian ware (fabric 43) was present in small quantities with bowl and dish forms identified. The first was a Dragendorff 38 flanged bowl with a partial stamp saying 'ACR[...]' on the

internal surface of the base (context 100; Fig 27.10) and the second a Dragendorff 18/31 carinated dish (context 144; Fig 27.11). No sherds were decorated.

6.2.4 Medieval and later (Laura Griffin)

A total of 38 sherds of pottery were identified as dating from the medieval period and later (Table 3). All were small, abraded undiagnostic fragments of fabrics commonly identified from sites within the region.

Catalogue of the illustrated pottery (Fig 27)

- 1 Narrow-mouthed jar in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no.3 (mid 1st-2nd century, possibly lasting into the mid 3rd century), context 104
- 2 Wide-mouthed jar in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no 22 (2nd-late 3rd century), context 3808
- 3 Wide-mouthed jar in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no 24 (2nd-late 3rd century), context 3803
- 4 Handled jar/flagon in oxidised organically tempered Severn Valley ware (fabric 12.2), cf Evans *et al* 2000 Newland Hopfields, flagon type 2, no F11 (early 2nd-early 3rd century), context 453
- 5 Tankard in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no 44 (4th century), context 3803
- 6 Flanged bowl in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no 47 (2nd-3rd century), context 3803
- 7 Flanged bowl in oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), cf Webster 1976, no 51 (3rd century), context 3803
- 8 Large storage jar in handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3), cf Peacock 1965-7, no 12 (1st century), context 142
- 9 Tubby cooking pot with bead rim in handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3), cf Bryant and Evans 2001, type 3.8 (1st-2nd century), context 2206
- 10 Flanged bowl in samian ware (fabric 43), cf Dragendorff 38 (mid 2nd-mid 3rd century), context 100
- 11 Carinated dish in samian ware (fabric 43), cf Dragendorff 18/31 (mid 2nd-mid 3rd century), context 144

6.3 Ceramic building material (Laura Griffin)

6.3.1 Tile

A total of 57 fragments of tile ranging from Roman to modern in date were retrieved from the site. Of these, 17 were identified as Roman by fabric or from contexts of Roman date. All were undiagnostic and highly abraded. Remaining tile was late post-medieval or modern in date and once more in the form of highly abraded fragments.

6.3.2 **Fired clay**

A total of 72 pieces of fired clay of unknown function were recovered, all from a Romano-British context (3806 in Trench 38. All displayed grass and twig-like impressions in the surfaces and appeared to have been tempered with organic material. It would not be unreasonable to suggest that these fragments were of daub, which had become unintentionally fired, possibly as the result of a building fire.

6.4 **Copper alloy (Laura Griffin)**

Copper alloy objects of note consisted of a Roman brooch from context 409 (Fig 28.2) and part of *ligula* from context 524 (Fig 28.1).

The brooch was identified as being of an Aucissa type dating to the 1st century AD (Hattatt 2000, 317; fig 176.833), and therefore residual within a 2nd century context.

The *ligula* was also retrieved from a context with a *terminus post quem* of 2nd century. Such objects are identified as cosmetic spoons and thought to have been used for extracting ointments from jars, although they are sometimes also called 'earscoops'. Locally a complete example was retrieved from the site of the New Police Station, Castle Street, Worcester (Edwards, Griffin and Dalwood 2002, 122; fig 11.21).

6.5 **Iron objects (Laura Griffin)**

A total of three iron studs were retrieved during sieving of an environmental sample taken from context 203 (upper fill of ditch 206). The studs have been provisionally identified as hobnail studs which are commonly associated with Romano-British footwear.

6.6 **Stone (Laura Griffin)**

A quartz conglomerate rubber from a saddle quern was recovered from a pit fill (fill 438, pit 439; Fig 29). The rubber measured 300 x 100 x 60mm and was well smoothed on its underside. Saddle querns and their associated rubbers date from the Neolithic period in Britain with use throughout the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age when they were replaced by rotary querns (Watts 2002). In this case, associated ceramics indicate a Middle Bronze Age date (see Section 6.2.2, Vessels P2 and P4), making this the first such example of this date recovered from a Worcestershire site.

Burnt and heat shattered pebbles identifiable as pot boilers were present in many contexts across the site most notably from within the fill of the large Iron Age storage jar set into a pit in Trench 6 (fill 612, pit 614). Their presence indicates the use of hot stone technology and probably relates to the heating of liquids for cooking or possibly the undertaking of some form of craft/industry.

6.7 **Flint (Robin Jackson)**

A total of 6 fragments of worked flint, 1 burnt pebble and 13 pieces of unutilised gravel (which have been discarded) were recovered during the course of the evaluation.

The small quantity of worked material (6 items) included four tools, two of which were scrapers, one a notched flake and the fourth a tool of indeterminate character (from 451). The latter may have been intended to function as a projectile or was only partially finished (having been worked on a fine flake with low invasive retouch along both sides of its upper face but not having been finished to a point). Overall the quality of the raw material was relatively good with all three items recorded in Trench 22 utilising a mid brown grey to dark grey flint (with fine heavily abraded cortex where present).

Only one of these flint items was recovered from a prehistoric context (that from context 2212), a probable Iron Age ditch (context 2214), the lower fill of which (context 2213) was dated ceramically. This may reflect utilization of flint during the Iron Age or may be residual. Of the remaining flint, two items were residual in Roman contexts (from 2215 and 3803) and the others residual in modern ploughsoil/subsoil being recovered either during machining or test pit excavation (Tr 22 u/s; contexts 451 and 553). Previous work at the site including salvage recording (Edwards 1997) and fieldwalking (Miller 2003) recorded similarly small quantities of worked flint, comprising a leaf shaped arrowhead of probable Neolithic date and four flakes, again also recovered from the ploughsoil. Taken as a whole, these small quantities of residual worked flint provide limited information and could readily be dismissed as background noise or stray finds. However, caution should be exercised since the absence of local flint resources means that flint is rarely recovered in significant quantities from sites in the area while the recovery of Bronze Age pottery from the site indicates that some level of earlier prehistoric activity is present albeit truncated by Iron Age, Roman and later activity.

Context	Flakes	Snapped blades	Tools	Total	Tool Type
451			1	1	Indeterminate
451			1	1	Indeterminate
Tr22 u/s	1*			1	
2212		1		1	
2215			1	1	Notched flake
3803			1*	1	Scraper (?thumbnail)
Totals	1	1	4	6	

Table 4: The flint (*denotes broken or damaged)

6.8 **Other finds (Laura Griffin)**

Remaining finds were all of post-medieval or modern date and consisted of three clay pipe stems (contexts 139, 450 and 3302), nineteen fragments of vessel glass (contexts 138, 139, 450, 452, 553 and unstratified) and nine iron objects (contexts 138, 450, 451 and 3302).

6.9 **Artefactual discussion**

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by phase. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated based on the evidence recorded and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

6.9.1 **Prehistoric (Robin Jackson)**

Pit 439; fills 436, 437, 438

The fills within this apparently isolated pit included a rubber from a saddle quern and sherds representing three vessels (P2, P3 and P4). Fabric, form and decoration of the pottery all indicate a prehistoric date for the deposit.

In terms of fabric, all three vessels are in a previously unidentified fabric from this area, one tempered using quartz, organic material and pebbles. This does not resemble any of the fabrics in use at the nearby Holt site (Hunt *et al* 1986, 36), which were mostly associated with Early Bronze Age funerary activity. Similarly the fabric does not match any of the relatively well studied Iron Age fabrics in use in the region or those in the substantial Late Bronze Age assemblage from Kemerton in south Worcestershire. Although an Early Bronze Age or Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date should not be excluded (the fabric could be of very local and thus previously unrecognised manufacture), a Middle Bronze Age date (mid second millennium BC) appears likely on the basis of fabric.

The character of small vessel (Vessel P2; Fig 26.1) also supports a Middle Bronze Age date, in both its simple rim form with incised linear decoration and row of fingernail impressions just below the rim and accentuating the upper part of the vessel (Gibson and Woods 1997, 73-

4; Woodward 2002, 114). Similarly the simple rim and plain upper profile of the other vessel (Vessel P3; Fig 26.2) would be consistent with a bucket urn of a type related to the Deverel-Rimbury tradition of this period.

The presence of a rubber quern is also supportive of a Bronze Age, although their use extends from the Neolithic through into the Iron Age and in conclusion a Middle Bronze Age date for this feature seems highly probable.

Pit 614 Fills 612, 613 and 615

This pit had clearly been excavated to contain the large vessel recorded as fill 612 (Vessel P6; Fig 26.3), fill 613 being a thin deposit around the outside of the vessel and fill 615 filling it. Only the base of this pot survived, however, it almost certainly represents a large storage jar of a type commonly found on Middle to Late Iron sites, a date with which its Malvernian fabric is entirely consistent with.

The fine bowl fragment recovered from within the fill of the vessel (Vessel P7) finds ready parallels within local Iron Age assemblages such as that at Beckford (Derek Hurst pers comm).

The fill of the large vessel also included a quantity (1.10kg) of heat shattered and heat cracked pebbles (pot boilers). It is suggested that this vessel may have been used for boiling or heating liquids (through the addition of fire heated pebbles) and that it may possibly have been associated with the preparation of foods or an industrial/craft process.

Other finds

For the remainder of the prehistoric assemblage, dating is problematic. Although almost certainly of Bronze Age or Iron Age date, in the absence of diagnostic forms or fabrics, more refined dating is not possible.

6.9.2 Roman (Laura Griffin)

Roman material formed the vast majority of the artefact assemblage retrieved from the site. The largest single group of material (including 849 sherds of pottery) came from a section of ditch within Trench 38 (context 3803). The other main groups of interest came from contexts from ditches within Enclosures A-E and the material from these is discussed below.

Enclosure A: 4th century (contexts 113, 116, 117, 203, 204, 230 and 231)

A total of 41 sherds weighing 916g were retrieved from the above contexts. The enclosure has been dated to the 4th century on the basis of its stratigraphic relationship to Enclosure D, which has been dated to the 3rd to 4th century (see below). The majority of sherds from contexts within this enclosure were abraded or highly abraded fragments suggesting a high level of residuality with the only firmly datable sherd of mid 1st to 2nd century date supporting this. Oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12) dominated the assemblage from this feature with 8 sherds of coarse sandy greyware (fabric 15, context 116) being the other fabric type present. Very little material was diagnostic with all identifiable sherds being from jar forms. In addition, a base sherd that appeared to have been deliberately chipped from another vessel was also present (context 116). The sherd was of a coarser than usual Severn Valley ware fabric (fabric 12) and displayed a high degree of burning and blackening on the underside. It is likely that this sherd was removed from its original vessel following discard and possibly re-used as a lid for other cooking vessels.

Enclosure B: 2nd-3rd century (contexts 403, 411, 422, 522, 523, 555, 556 and 2221)

A total of 40 sherds weighing 350g were recorded from the contexts within this enclosure ditch. Once more, Severn Valley wares dominated the group with just two sherds of handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3) and one of Black-burnished ware I (fabric 22) being the only other fabric types present. Vessel forms identified primarily of narrow-mouthed jars with the only other firmly identified vessel being a bowl (Webster 1976, 34-35; fig 9.60).

A total of 14 sherds could be identified as being of the earlier oxidised Severn Valley ware fabric (fabric 12.2), with two diagnostic fragments from a 'Belgic' type jar form of mid 1st to 2nd century date (Webster 1976, 25-26; fig 4.19).

All material appeared contemporary with little or no residuality identifiable within the group and was reflected in the moderate to low levels of abrasion observed amongst the sherds.

In addition three fragments of Roman tile were identified within the enclosure (context 522).

Enclosure C: 1st-2nd century (context 610)

Just 14 abraded fragments of handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3) were identified from this enclosure and could be dated to between the 1st and 2nd centuries.

Enclosure D: 3rd-4th century (contexts 104, 108, 110, 142, 144, 228)

A total of 276 sherds weighing 4436g were retrieved from contexts within this enclosure. Low levels of residuality could be observed with the majority of sherds displaying only light abrasion. Once more, oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12) dominated with 259 sherds present. Forms consisted primarily of wide- and narrow- mouthed jars dating between the 2nd and 4th centuries, with a single 4th century tankard being the only other form present within this fabric group.

Other fabric types consisted of a single sherd of sandy oxidised ware (fabric 13), one sherd of handmade grog tempered ware (fabric 16.2), four sherds of handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3) and one of the wheelmade version (fabric 19), six sherds of Black-burnished ware type I and four of samian ware (fabric 43), including three from a Dragendorf 18/31 dish (Webster 1996, 33; fig 21).

Enclosure E: Late 3rd century (contexts 3704, 3705 and 3808)

Just 12 sherds of pottery were retrieved from contexts within this enclosure. Seven of these sherds were of oxidised Severn Valley ware (fabric 12), four of Black-burnished ware type I (fabric 22) and one of handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3). Three forms could be identified, all jars with the latest being of a wide-mouthed form dating between the 2nd and late 3rd century (Webster 1976, 27; fig. 5, no.23), from which the *terminus post quem* was taken. Residuality amongst the remaining sherds appeared high with moderate-high levels of abrasion observed.

Within Enclosure E pit fill 3803 contained a substantial assemblage of 849 sherds of pottery and 62 fragments of fired clay. The *terminus post quem* date for this pit, as indicated by the pottery was of late 3rd-4th century. However the presence of a substantial number of earlier forms and level of abrasion amongst some sherds would indicate a high occurrence of residuality within the group. A high number of adjoining sherds from individual vessels were identified.

Oxidised Severn Valley ware dominated the assemblage amounting to 829 sherds in total. Wide-mouthed jars (Webster 1976, 26-29; figs 4-6 nos 22-29) ranging in date from the 2nd to 4th century were the most common form present. Remaining forms consisted of four flanged bowls of 2nd-3rd century date (*ibid*, 31-34; figs 8-9 nos 47 and 51), one 4th century tankard (*ibid*, 30-31; fig 7.44) and six narrow-mouthed jars dating between the 2nd and 4th century (*ibid*, 25-26; fig 4, nos 17, 18 and 19). In addition, a single undiagnostic sherd of the earlier Severn Valley ware variant (fabric 12.2) was also identified.

Remaining fabrics identified within the context consisted of five sherds of handmade Malvernian ware (fabric 3), four sherds of fine sandy greyware (fabric 14), eight sherds of Black-burnished ware type I (fabric 22) and 2 sherds of samian ware (fabric 43).

The fired clay cannot be dated to any greater degree than the general date range indicated by the pottery assemblage.

6.9.3 Medieval and later

No material of medieval or later date was worthy of further comment.

6.10 Conclusions of Romano-British pottery analysis (Laura Griffin)

The Romano-British pottery assemblage can be considered exceptionally large for the actual size of area excavated on a rural site. Although Severn Valley wares commonly outnumber vessels of other fabric types within rural assemblages in this region, the total dominance in this case is of particular note. In general, vessels of this fabric are not associated with cooking due to the fine nature of the fabric and commonly this role is fulfilled by vessels of Malvernian and Black-burnished ware fabrics of which there are very few from this site. It is possible that the necessarily selective nature of this evaluation has caused a skew in the figures for fabric quantification, however it would still be expected that the large amount material excavated from across the excavated area would have provided a fairly representative sample of the assemblage, particularly in the case of pit fill 3803 which produced a substantial assemblage from a single context.

The quantity and preservation of material within this evaluation assemblage highlights the site as one of much importance. Although extensive rural assemblages of Roman have been excavated from sites in South Worcestershire during recent years (Griffin a, b and c, forthcoming), equivalent material from the north of the county is lacking and therefore further excavation of this site would contribute considerably to the understanding of Roman pottery and distribution from this region.

7. Environmental analysis (Elizabeth Pearson)

7.1 Hand-collected animal bone

Animal bone was poorly preserved and only a small quantity (160g) was hand-collected. A small number of fragments of cattle molar (one of which was worn almost to the root, and therefore of a relatively old animal) were recovered from ditch fill 419. Part of a dog skull (including part of the upper jaw with molars) was recovered from context 508. However, as this was relatively well preserved, and found in an area where the plough scarring truncated many of the features, it is likely to be a modern intrusion.

7.2 Wet-sieved samples

Environmental remains from the bulk samples were poorly preserved (Tables 5 and 6). Charred plant remains (Table 7) survived in only 4 contexts (116, 409, 433 and 539) and in only context 116, were these moderately abundant. In this ditch, cereals grains were very abraded or fragmented and only occasional grains of emmer or spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) and possible barley (cf *Hordeum vulgare*) could be identified. Brome (*Bromus* sp), other unidentified grasses and weeds such as dock (*Rumex* sp), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp) and sedge (*Carex* sp), for example are likely to have been growing as weeds within the crop or at the edges of fields. This material is likely to represent waste from crop processing which has been accidentally charred during parching in a corn-drier or on a hearth, or because crop waste has been used as tinder for fires.

Uncharred seeds such as cleavers (*Galium aparine*), fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) and violet (*Viola* sp), for example were present in most of the samples, but are unlikely to have survived in the well drained, sandy soils since the Roman period and are considered to be modern intrusive remains. Worm action, drainage and subsoiling would probably explain the movement of these seeds from the surface into the truncated features at shallow depth below modern ground surface.

Occasional unidentifiable fragments of large mammal bone were recovered from residues, and insect remains which, like the uncharred seeds are probably modern and intrusive.

7.3 Environmental discussion

The poor preservation of both charred remains and animal bone is likely to be mostly a result of the local acid sandy soils and the location of the site on a gravel terrace where fluctuations on the water table cause constant wetting and drying of these remains. Both animal bone and charred cereal crop remains have generally been found in only low quantities on sites in this area, for example at Church Farm, Holt (de Rouffignac 1991a), Retreat Farm, Holt (de Rouffignac 1991b) and at Linacres Farm near Grimley (Dalwood *et al* 1998). The scarcity of charred crop remains may, nevertheless, be a sign that cereal crops were not processed in large quantities at this site, or that the land was dominated by pastoral agriculture. The author has noted similarly poor preservation of environmental remains on the Avon gravel terrace along the Wyre Piddle Bypass, although these sites contrast with Romano-British settlements south of Worcester at Strensham and Norton-Juxta-Kempsey (Jackson *et al* 1996a) and Norton Lenchwick (Jackson *et al* 1996b).

Context	Sample	Sample type	Context type	Description	Period	Phase	Sample vol	Vol processed	Res assessed	Flot assessed
409	1	General	ditch fill	secondary	RBR	2ndC	10	10	Y	Y
418	2	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
419	3	General	ditch fill	secondary	RBR	2ndC	10	10	Y	N
203	4	General	ditch fill	secondary	RBR	4thC	10	10	Y	N
204	5	General	ditch fill	secondary	RBR	4thC	10	10	Y	N
116	6	General	ditch fill	secondary	RBR	4thC	10	10	Y	Y
104	7	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR	3rd-4thC	10	10	Y	Y
508	8	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
539	9	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
542	10	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
543	11	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
228	12	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR	3rd-4thC	10	0	N	N
433	13	General	pit fill	primary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
613	15	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
613	16	General	pit fill	secondary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
2213	17	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR		10	10	Y	Y
2210	18	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR		10	10	Y	N
2208	19	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR		10	0	N	N
2221	20	General	ditch fill	primary	RBR		10	0	Y	Y

Table 5: List of environmental samples

Context	Sample	large mammal	small mammal	insect	charred plant	waterlogged plant
409	1		occ			
116	6				mod-abt	occ
104	7				occ	occ
508	8			occ		occ
539	9				occ	occ
542	10				occ	abt
543	11					occ
433	13	occ			occ-mod	mod
613	15					occ
2213	17	occ				occ
438	14					occ

Table 6: Summary of environmental remains from selected samples

Latin name	Family	Common name	Habitat	104	116	2213	409	433	438	508	539	542	543	613
Charred plant remains														
<i>Triticum spelta</i> glume base	Gramineae	emmer/spelt wheat			5			+						
<i>Triticum spelta</i> type grain	Gramineae	spelt wheat			5									
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> grain	Gramineae	emmer/spelt wheat	F				5							
<i>Triticum</i> sp grain	Gramineae	Wheat	F		1			+						
cf <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain	Gramineae	Barley	F		1									
Cereal sp indet grain	Gramineae	Cereal	F		3		4							
Cereal sp indet grain (fragments)	Gramineae	Cereal	F		+			+				+		
<i>Bromus</i> sp grain	Gramineae	Brome grass	AF		5									
cf <i>Bromus</i> sp grain	Gramineae	brome grass	AF		1									
Gramineae sp indet grain	Gramineae	Grass	AF		7		1							
Gramineae sp indet grain (fragments)	Gramineae	Grass	AF		+									
<i>Chenopodium/Atriplex</i> sp	Chenopodiaceae		ABCDE		4									
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> agg	Polygonaceae	Knotgrass	AB		1									
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	Polygonaceae	black bindweed	AB		9									
cf <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	Polygonaceae	black bindweed	AB					+						
<i>Rumex</i> sp	Polygonaceae	Dock	ABCD		12			+					+	
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp	Cyperaceae	spike-rush	E		1									
<i>Carex</i> sp	Cyperaceae	Sedge	CDE		9									
cf <i>Carex</i> sp	Cyperaceae	Sedge	CDE		3									
unidentified seed	unidentified				4		2						+	
Uncharred plant remains														
Gramineae sp indet grain	Gramineae	Grass	AF	+										
<i>Viola</i> sp	Violaceae	Violet	CDE				+						+	
Cf <i>Viola</i> sp	Violaceae	Violet									++			
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Chenopodiaceae	fat hen	AB	+			+	+	+	+	++	+++	+	+
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> agg	Polygonaceae	Knotgrass	AB	+									+	
cf <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	Polygonaceae	black bindweed	AB				+				+			
<i>Solanum dulcemara</i>	Solanaceae	woody nighshade	BC	+										
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Rubiaceae	goosefoot/cleavers	CD	+	+	+	+	++	+	+			+	+
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Caprifoliaceae	Elder	BC										+	
<i>Carex</i> sp	Cyperaceae	Sedge	CDE										+	
unidentified seed	unidentified										+			

Key:

Category of remains	A= cultivated ground	B= disturbed ground	C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc	D = grasslands, meadows and heathland	E = aquatic/wet habitats	F = cultivar
Quantity	+ = 1 - 10	++ = 11 - 50	+++ = 51 - 100	++++ = 101+		

Table 7: Plant remains from selected samples

8. Discussion

8.1 Prehistoric

Prehistoric remains within the Evaluation Area were restricted to only two features which provide evidence of domestic activity occurring within and around the site in both the Middle Bronze Age and Mid to Late Iron Age. These activities range from cultivation, food production and processing represented by a Middle Bronze Age rubber from a saddle quern (SF2), to hot stone technology represented by fire cracked stones contained within the Bronze Age pit (Feature 439, which also contained SF2) as well as within the Mid to Late Iron Age vessel (612).

The interpretation of the Mid to Late Iron Age vessel remains unclear at present, due largely to the considerable level of truncation which has occurred. However, it would appear likely that it represents domestic settlement activity, especially in light of the presence of fire cracked stones within the upper surviving fill of the vessel. The presence of these stones provides evidence of some form of hot stone technology, potentially either domestic (for cooking) or industrial in form. To the west of this vessel, a circular feature is evident from cropmark plots. The dimensions of this feature, 7 metres in diameter, would appear to be somewhat smaller than similar features to the north-west of the site identified as round barrows (Hunt *et al* 1986) and would in fact be far more typical of those dimensions of a roundhouse. Such an interpretation would lend even greater credence to the domestic interpretation of the vessel and may represent the remains of a small Mid to Late Iron Age settlement, antecedent to later Romano-British occupation.

8.2 Romano-British

The results of artefactual analysis indicate that some form of activity occurred throughout the period, represented by finds dating from the 1st to 4th centuries, with an apparent peak of activity taking place during the 2nd and 3rd centuries. The majority of surviving archaeological remains were confined to the plateau lying at 34m AOD and it would appear that this represents the focus of the Romano-British activity within the Evaluation Area (see Fig 30). The topography would certainly make this the most suitable area for occupation and possibly stock penning, with the eastern extents of the site, on lower lying grounds sloping towards the Severn, more suited to grazing and seasonal cultivation.

Correlations between the evaluation results and the features plotted from both aerial photographic and geophysical evidence have enabled the broad phasing of the palimpsest of features, as well as a consideration of their individual functions.

The earliest enclosure appears to be Enclosure C (Fig 30) with a *tpq* of 1st–2nd century. The function of this enclosure is unclear but the relatively low level of associated material culture would tend to indicate that it performed some manner of livestock control rather than human habitation.

Artefactual analysis indicates that both the double ditched curvilinear enclosure, located within the northern extent of the site (Enclosure B; Fig 30), and the rectilinear enclosure immediately south of the scheduled area (Enclosure E; Fig 30) date to the peak of Romano-British activity on the site. This occurred between the 2nd and 3rd centuries, with Enclosure E given a *tpq* of late 3rd century placing it at the latter end of this range. The form of Enclosure B, with double ditches of substantial dimensions, would seem indicative of a stock enclosure; double ditches to the east and west extents acting as drove ways used to channel stock into an entrance at the southern extent. The copper alloy brooch within the western terminus of the internal ditch appears to be residual as its type dates to the 1st century AD.

To the south of Enclosure B is a palimpsest of features which have proved to represent at least two phases of Romano-British activity in the form of Enclosures A and D. The earliest of these is Enclosure D, represented by curvilinear arm running approximately north to south with a number of smaller arms running east forming several subdivisions. The eastern boundary of the enclosure is not apparent on either cropmark or geophysical plots, and may have been wholly truncated by long term erosion and recent cultivation factors. Excavation of this feature produced a notably high concentration of finds, especially within the main western boundary, providing a *tpq* of 3rd to 4th century for the enclosure. Such high levels of artefactual material suggest that it is unlikely these ditches acted as field boundaries and the layout, with numerous internal divisions, appears more indicative of the remains of a settlement. Unfortunately due to the high levels of truncation across the site, no associated structures, surfaces or occupation layers were extant.

Overlying this, Enclosure A has a distinctive sub-rectilinear form with the north-west corner forming a distinctive shape running at 45° to the west and north boundaries. Those features correlated to this enclosure (cuts 111, 206 and 232) measured between 3.00 and 3.40m wide and consistently exhibited a sharp-sided profile, falling to a depth of between 1.48 and 1.02m. These dimensions suggest that the enclosure was used as a stock enclosure, probably used for holding cattle. Artefactual material provided a *tpq* of 4th century AD, indicating that the enclosure represents an element of the final phase of the Romano-British activity. The angled north-west corner of the enclosure is unusual and may be indicative of an earlier boundary or track, which the layout of the enclosure is respecting. This is certainly feasible given the evidence of earlier activity observed across the site.

Given the absence of any archaeological features in those trenches within the colluviated area (Trench 12-15), it would appear that these cropmarks and features discussed above provide an accurate reflection of the focus of activity within the Evaluation Area. However, a slight degree of caution should be taken when assessing the main focus of Romano-British occupation, due to the presence of a substantial accumulation of colluvium. The colluvium, which has a *tpq* of 1st to 2nd century AD, has been well established at the eastern extent of the evaluation area and may be partly responsible for the apparent focus of activity rather than an actual differentiation in the use of upper and lower lying land. Such a bias could be created in two ways. Firstly, substantial amounts of earlier Romano-British activity (1st to 2nd century AD) may have been removed through erosion thus creating a bias in the extant archaeological remains. Secondly, any activity on the downslope areas of the site will have been heavily masked and therefore would not be discerned through either cropmark or geophysical survey, again distorting the apparent foci of activity. This is, however, considered unlikely for the reasons outlined above.

8.3 Medieval

No substantial evidence of medieval activity was identified by the evaluation. This probably reflects landuse, which appears to have been largely confined to parkland and orchards until the early 20th century (see Section 4.3 and Appendix 3), although ridge and furrow cultivation may potentially have affected the area. In either case the evidence suggests that the Evaluation Area was under cultivation at this period.

8.4 Post-medieval and modern

No substantial evidence of post-medieval or modern activity was identified within the Evaluation Area, with artefactual evidence indicating any finds were the result of recent cultivation.

8.5 Plough damage and soil erosion impact

The results of plough damage were well attested across the Evaluation Area, with most pronounced examples occurring in those trenches located either on the top of slope (at 34m AOD) or on the plateau above. The results of the hand excavated test pits clearly demonstrated that Roman dated artefacts were widely present in the ploughsoil but were highly abraded and fragmented, supporting the evidence of truncation revealed within the main evaluation trenches. The fragmentary and highly abraded nature of these artefacts contrasts sharply with the condition of those from the underlying stratified archaeological deposits, importantly including where the test pits were excavated into the upper parts of feature fills. This contrast indicates that the majority of significant truncation, and the incorporation of material into the ploughsoil, has not taken place recently but rather that the sherds have been within the ploughsoil for an extended period of time. This is also supported by the absence of metalwork finds during metal detecting survey and the paucity and condition of material recovered through fieldwalking (during Stage 1.2).

The test pits also strongly indicated a high level of incorporation of the natural gravels into the ploughsoil and subsoil layers, supporting the evidence from the eastern extent of the site that a substantial level of soil erosion and hill wash had impacted on parts of the site. These conclusions certainly echo the results of previous work within the Evaluation Area (Edwards 1991), which also noted the effects of ploughing and erosion on extant archaeological remains. Furthermore, they support and confirm the expectations of the impact assessment, which formed part of the initial proposal for this project (AS 2001; appendix 1). This concluded that ongoing landuse (intensive arable cultivation) posed a threat to the preservation of any extant archaeological remains (see Appendix 2), although, as stated above, significant truncation may have occurred some time ago and the current position be relatively stable.

The impact of agricultural landuse and erosion has been the subject of a relatively recent study *The Monuments at Risk Survey of England* (MARS; Darvill and Fulton 1998), which collated and analysed data on the impact caused by numerous damaging factors on a wide range of archaeological sites across England. The results enabled the production of a theoretical framework for examining the effects of ongoing erosion and decay and also presented a model of a 'life-cycle' of a monument. This cycle comprises the following stages "construction, use, re-use, adapted use, desertion, dereliction, (?monumental status), decomposition, deterioration and disappearance. In considering the survival and condition of deposits at any site and the agents affecting them, it is later stages of this 'life-cycle' which are of most relevance" (Darvill and Fulton 1998, 16-18). The process of decay described by MARS can be summarised as three main stages; an initial rapid rate of decay as remains are first affected by use, then a post-desertion process of weathering and collapse and finally a stabilisation of the rate of decay which will gradually continue.

The resultant natural profile of decay should theoretically be "of smooth inverse exponential form" (Darvill and Fulton 1998, 18), however, this is often interrupted by periods of human intervention resulting in an acceleration in the natural rate, thus creating pronounced steps in the profile. In examining the level of erosion on a site it is therefore useful if some of these periods of human intervention can be identified, thus indicating when the accelerated periods of decay have occurred. At Top Barn Farm, one such intervention has been identified as the period of intensive ploughing immediately post-1945 as part of the post-war Ministry effort to increase food production (see Appendix 2). This would certainly have interrupted the natural profile and caused a steep increase in the rate of decay. The heavily abraded nature of most finds from topsoil and subsoil layers would strongly indicate that after this period of truncation, the site has again stabilised thus correlating with the hypothesis presented by the MARS report. Despite the relatively stable state of the site, some slow incremental damage may be continuing across the break of slope as a result of soil erosion gradually reducing the depth of plough soil and thus bringing undisturbed deposits into reach of the plough. The practice of subsoiling is also liable to be having some impact deposits due to the greater depth to which this cuts (in comparison to ploughing).

It is therefore concluded that plough damage and subsoiling allied to some soil erosion has considerably truncated deposits at this site. This has resulted in the destruction of smaller linear features shown on the cropmark plot and any smaller structural features or horizontal deposits (hearths or surfaces) which may have been present. The current arable regime is probably not significantly impacting on extant deposits, however, soil erosion on the break of slope itself allied to subsoiling may still be leading to some impact on already considerably truncated deposits.

9. Significance

In considering significance, the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments (DoE 1990, annex 4), have been used as a guide.

These nationally accepted criteria are used to assess the importance of an ancient monument and they form an appropriate and consistent framework for the assessment of any archaeological site. The criteria should not, however, be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on individual circumstances.

9.1 Prehistoric deposits

Despite the fact that only a single Bronze Age feature was recorded this should be regarded as potentially having a high *rarity* and *period* value. This period was the first in which permanent agricultural settlements were widely established across England and such sites have rarely been encountered in this region.

In contrast, whilst of local interest, Mid to Late Iron Age domestic sites and activity are relatively common and as such has a low to moderate value for its *period* and *rarity*.

9.2 Romano-British deposits

Romano-British farmstead enclosures and their associated field systems constitute a characteristic Romano-British monument, representing the fundamental cornerstone of the agricultural socio-economic system during this period (English Heritage 1989). However, such sites are a commonly represented in the archaeological record with over 1000 recorded examples throughout England in 1989 (*ibid* 1989). Numerous examples have since been, and continue to be, discovered with farmsteads frequently found to cluster at as little as 1km intervals. Consequently the *rarity* value of such sites is low, although they typify this *period* and are *diverse* in form with considerable regional variation.

Despite the heavily truncated nature of the site, it does still represent a palimpsest of Romano-British enclosures and in restricted areas these are associated with a well-preserved and substantial ceramic assemblage. Consequently, deposits and associated assemblages within the Evaluation Area have considerable *potential* on a local basis for extending the current understanding of Romano-British rural settlement and economic activity in Worcestershire.

9.3 Overall

The *survival/condition* of deposits and their research *potential* is greatest in an area on the top of the hill as shown on Figure 30, however, the *survival/condition* of the deposits of all periods is poor across the whole Evaluation Area. As a result, even in the area of highest potential, only the larger cut features survive, whilst any associated surfaces, hearths, relict soil layers and small cut features, such as postholes or gullies, have been entirely truncated away.

The evidence for plough damage across the site, as well as the lack of smaller features and surfaces, indicates that *vulnerability/fragility* of deposits is high, with only a relatively thin

ploughsoil/subsoil (generally 0.30-0.40m deep) overlying archaeological deposits. As discussed above (Section 8.5), the high levels of abrasion on those artefacts recovered from topsoil and subsoil layers, along with the current land management regime, indicate that a certain level of stability is present and that only limited erosion/damage is currently occurring. Pottery and other associated finds are relatively well preserved although they appear to be concentrated in certain elements of the site (Enclosures D and E). However, ecofactual remains were notably sparse and poorly preserved, especially in the case of bone.

In the light of the extensive complex of cropmarks, of which the Evaluation Area only forms a small part, the *group value* for the site was originally high, with a wide range of site types of varying dates concentrated along the gravel terraces. These were also *diverse* in nature with funerary monuments, field systems, trackways and enclosures all present. However, few of these have been investigated and the extensive quarrying of surrounding land has left only an isolated fragment of the cropmarks extant, thus reducing *group value* to only moderately high. Further to this, in light of the results of the evaluation, which has proven a substantial percentage of the site to be heavily truncated, this *group value* is considered further reduced to moderate to low.

10. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcestershire (National Grid reference SO 8300 6135), on behalf of Tarmac Western Ltd. The project was carried out in order to assess the condition of archaeological remains in two fields, of which the northern field is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument on the basis of cropmark evidence. A narrow strip of land to the east was also included.

The site lies within a series of cropmarks, which have been systematically removed by quarrying over the past thirty years, and within which it constitutes the largest surviving cropmark concentration. Consequently the evaluation provided a vital opportunity to examine the nature, extent, level of survival of any archaeological remains and inform future management of the site.

The evaluation indicated that the cropmark complex principally survived in the form of deep cut features such as the enclosure ditches, however, a substantial percentage of lesser cropmark features were no longer extant. Limited evidence for both Bronze Age and Iron Age activity was revealed which appeared to be domestic in origin. However, the most commonly surviving features were enclosure ditches dating to the Romano-British period, which largely correlated to features plotted from both aerial photographic and geophysical evidence. These appeared to relate to stock control as well as domestic occupation in one part of the site. However the results of factors such as ploughing and soil erosion were plainly evident and no associated internal surfaces or structures had survived.

11. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

25	Fieldwork progress records AS2
27	Photographic records AS3
1	Sample records AS17
1	Small finds register
17	Levels records AS19
321	Abbreviated context records AS40

63	Scale drawings
4	Boxes of finds
1	Report

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

12. Acknowledgements

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13. Personnel

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Anna Deeks. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Robin Jackson. Fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Brown, Christine Elgy, Rosemary Jones, Alvaro Ottomano, Marc Steinmetzer and Simon Sworn. Finds analysis was undertaken by Laura Griffin, with the assistance of Robin Jackson (early prehistoric pottery and flint) and Derek Hurst (prehistoric pottery fabrics). Environmental analysis was undertaken by Elizabeth Pearson and illustration by Carolyn Hunt. Tabular information in Appendix 1 was produced by Rosemary Jones and Simon Sworn. The plough damage assessment was completed by Jez Bretherton with the assistance of Vanda Bartoszuk.

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15.

Abbreviations

WSM	Numbers prefixed with 'WSM' are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.
WCRO	Worcestershire County Records Office.
NMR	National Monuments Record.
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record.



Plate 1 Section through Enclosure B -Trench 1 Section 3



Plate 2 Plough marks/ furrow, trench 2



Plate 3 *Plough scars, trench 17*



Plate 4 *Plough scars, trench 27*



Plate 5 Pottery dump, Trench 38 (context 3803)



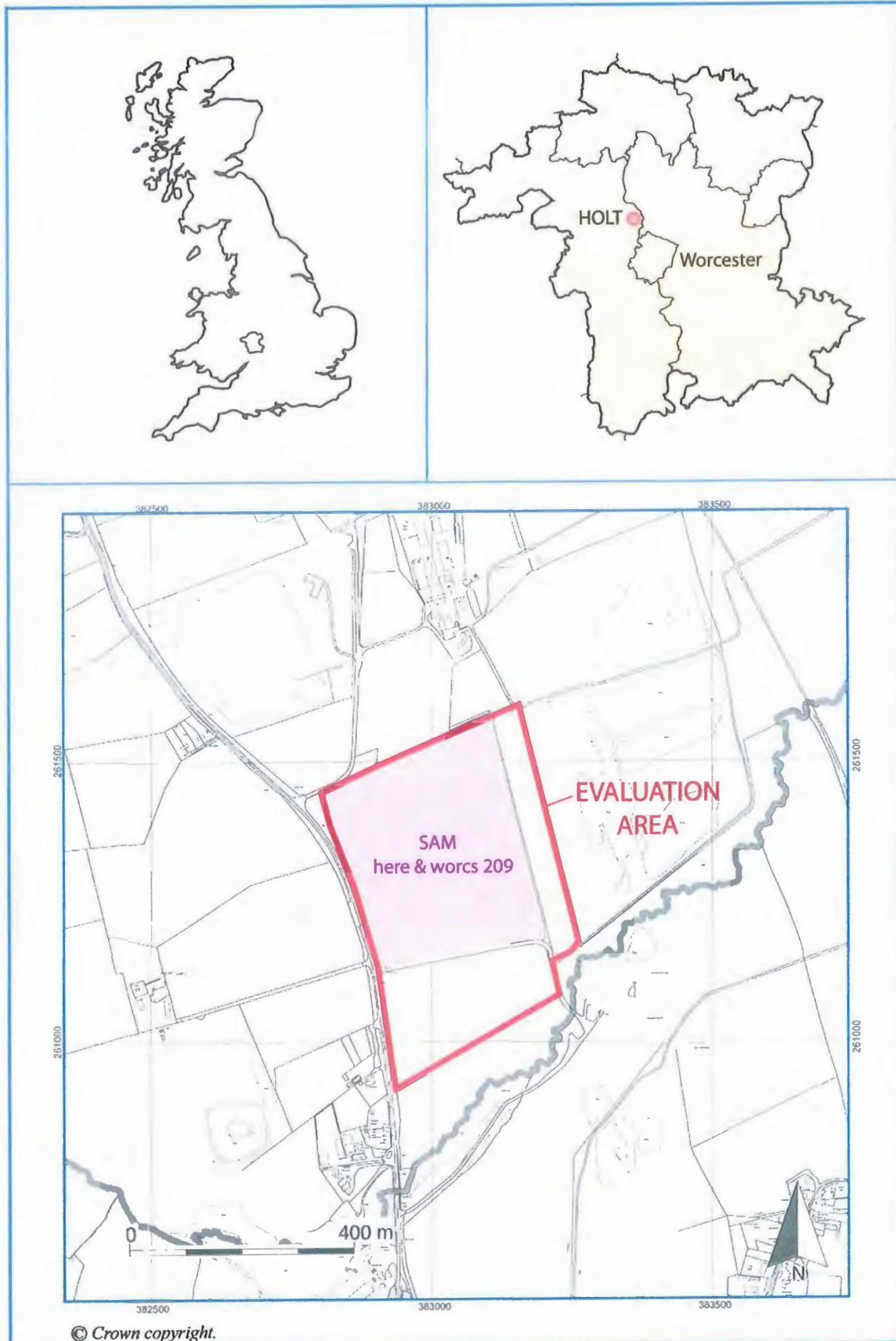
Plate 6 Partially excavated vessel 612 (trench 6) Trench 6



Plate 7 *Detail of vessel 612 showing fire-cracked stones*

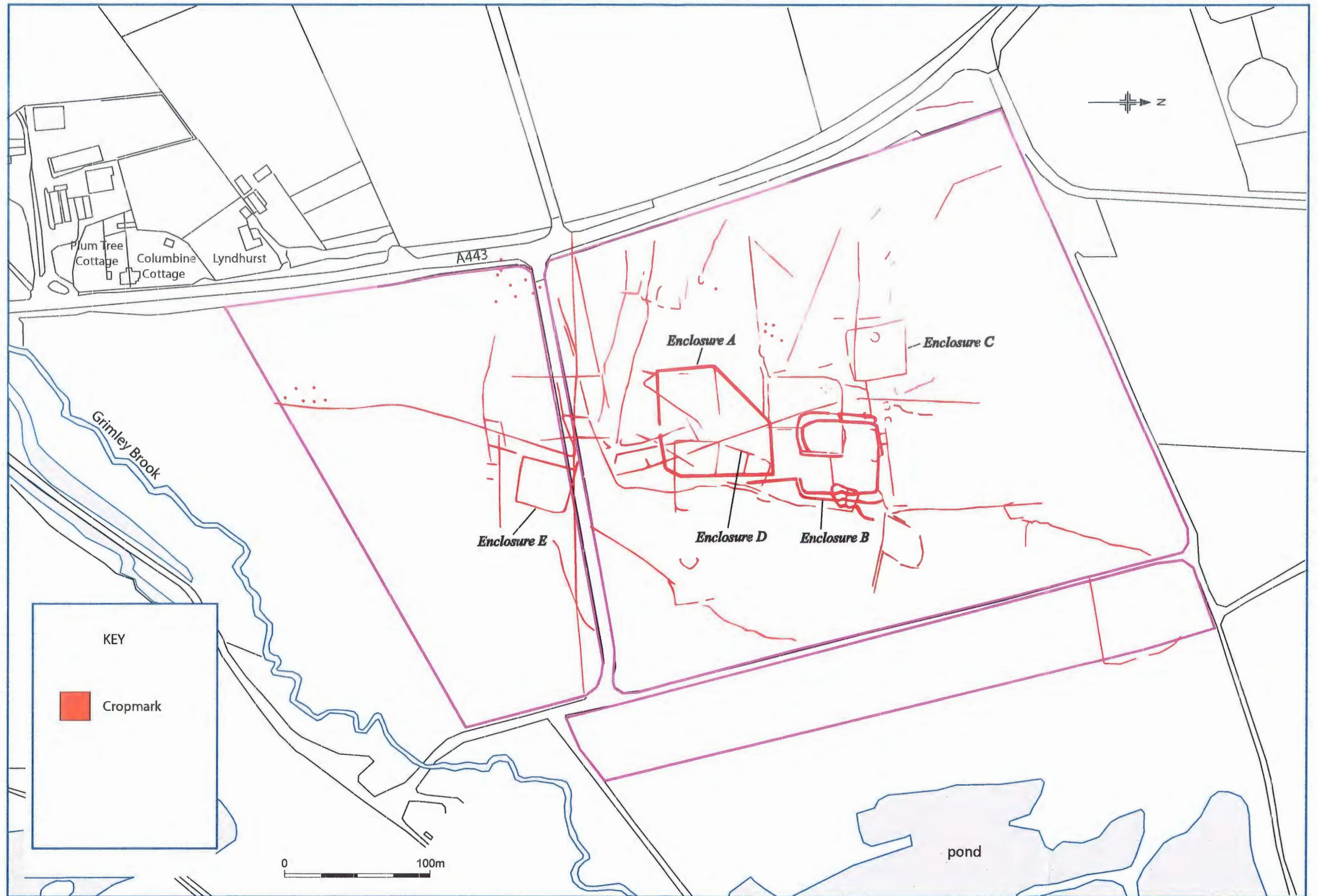


Plate 8 *Lifting vessel 612*



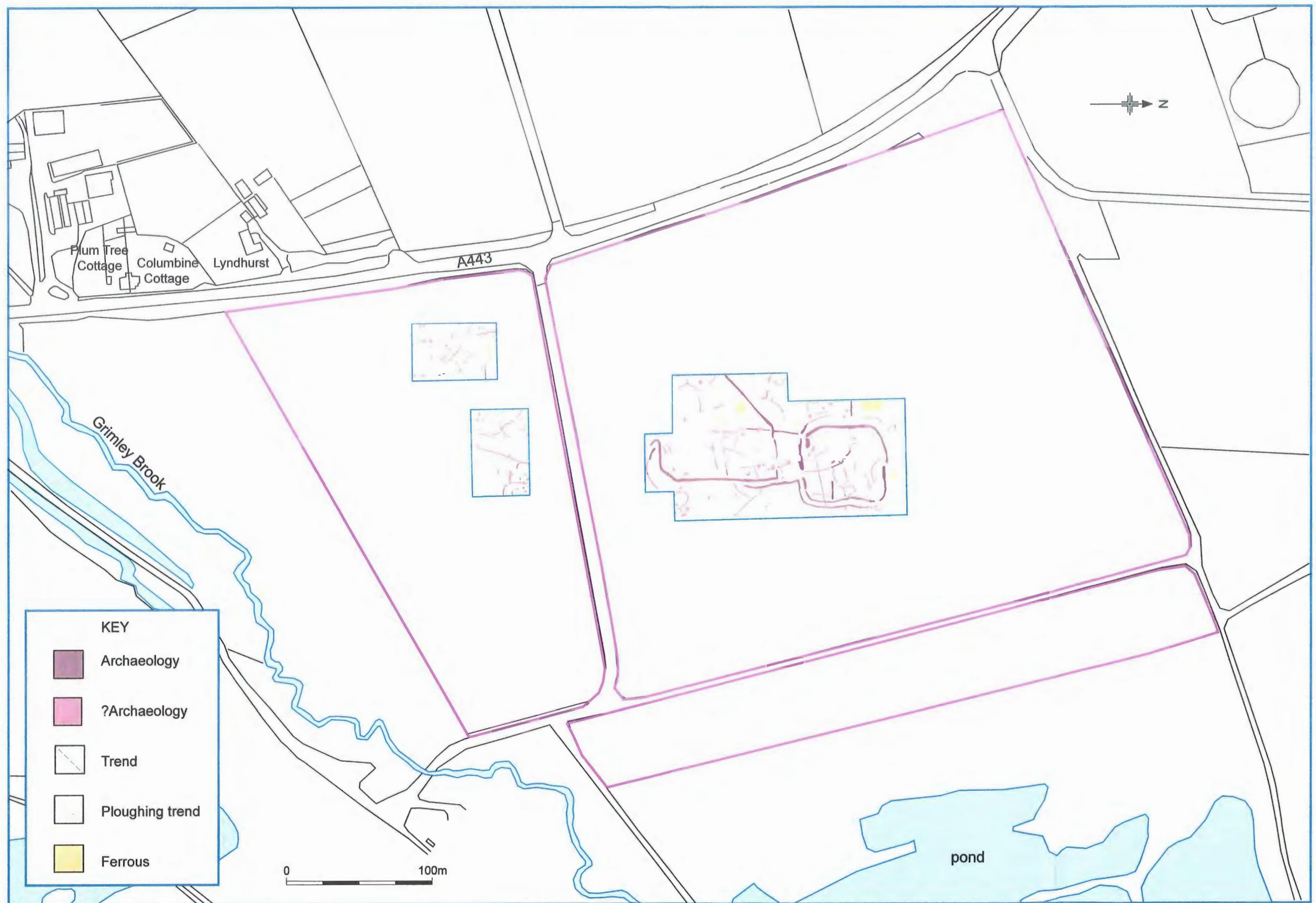
Location of Evaluation Area.

Figure 1



Plan of cropmarks (after Cox 1997).

Figure 2



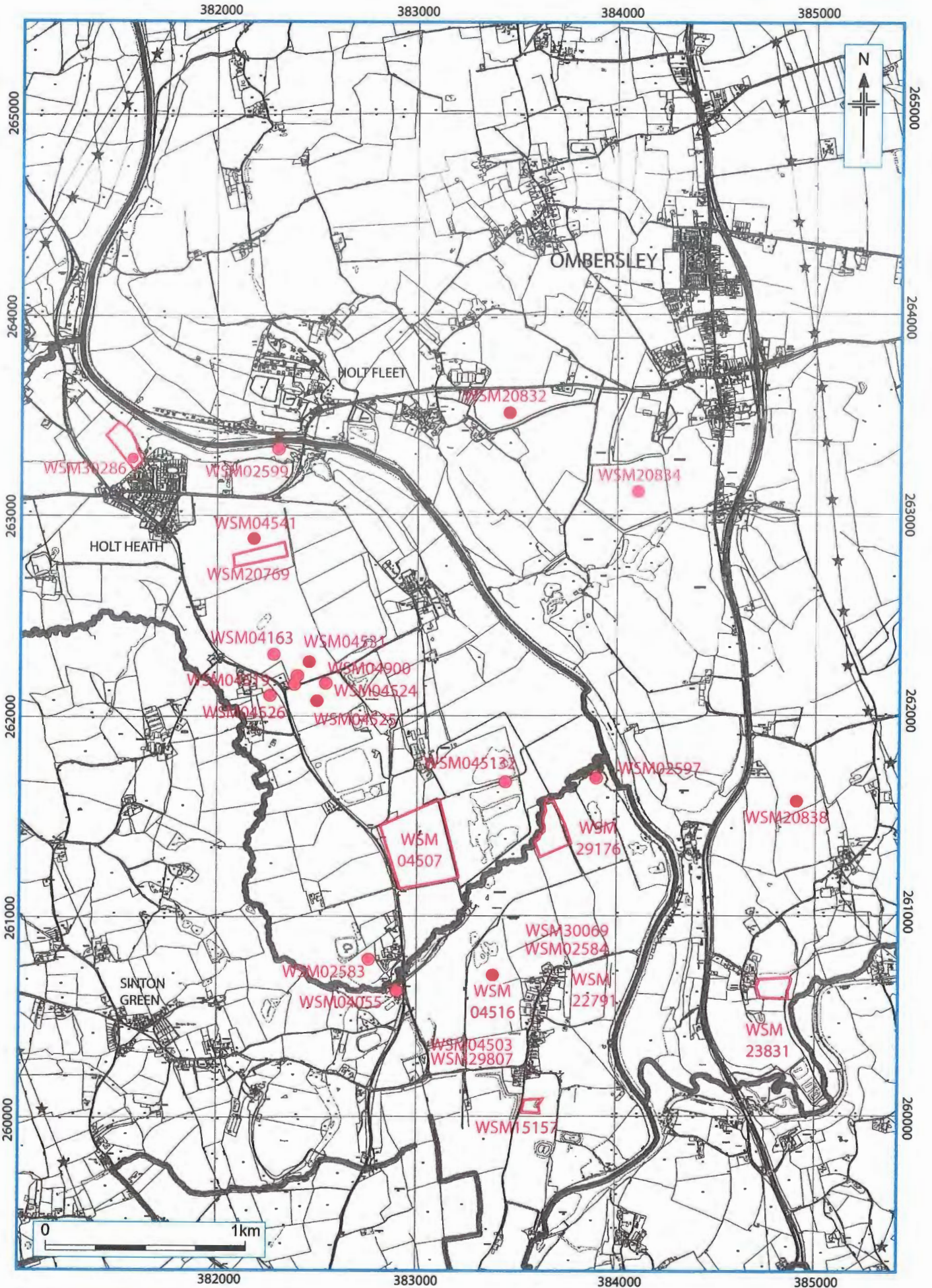
Interpretative plot of geophysical anomalies (after GSB 2002).

Figure 3



Trench location plan

Figure 4



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Sites in the vicinity.

Figure 5

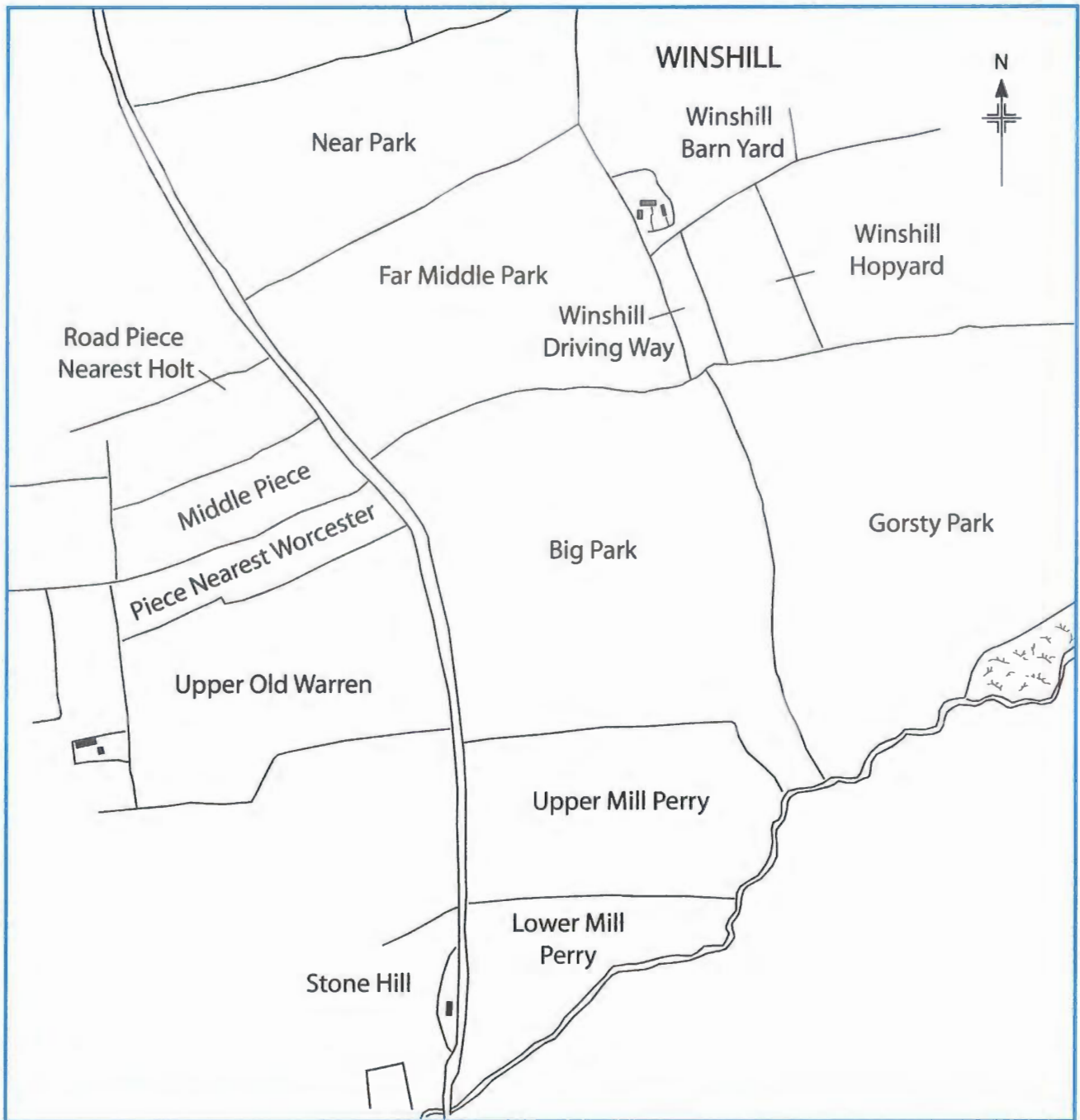


Figure 6

Extract from the Holt tithe map and apportionment, 1839 (after Edwards 1997)



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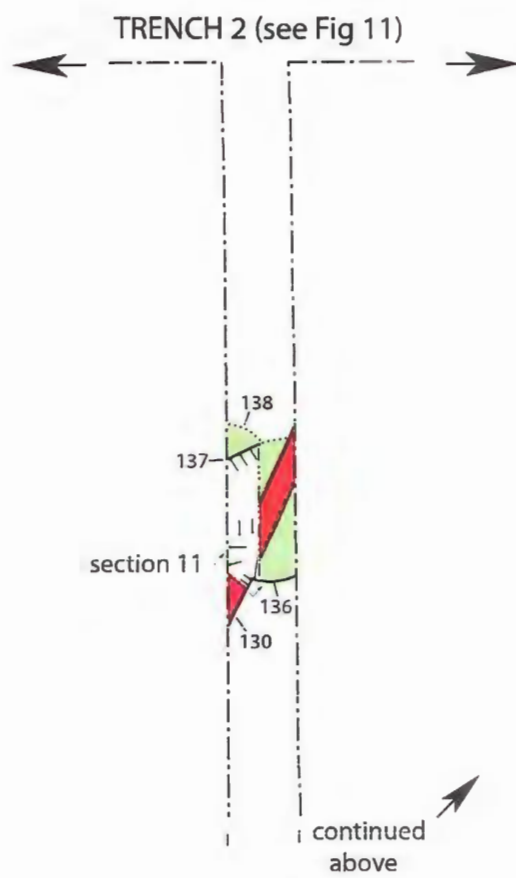
Extract from the Ordnance Survey County Series map (Worcestershire sheet XXVIII NE) surveyed in 1883 and published in 1888 (reproduced at 1:10,000).

Figure 7



Trench location overlaid onto plan of cropmarks (after Cox 1997)

Figure 8



TRENCH 1



Scale 1:200
0 10m

KEY

- unexcavated ditch/cut feature
- plough scar
- tree throw/root activity

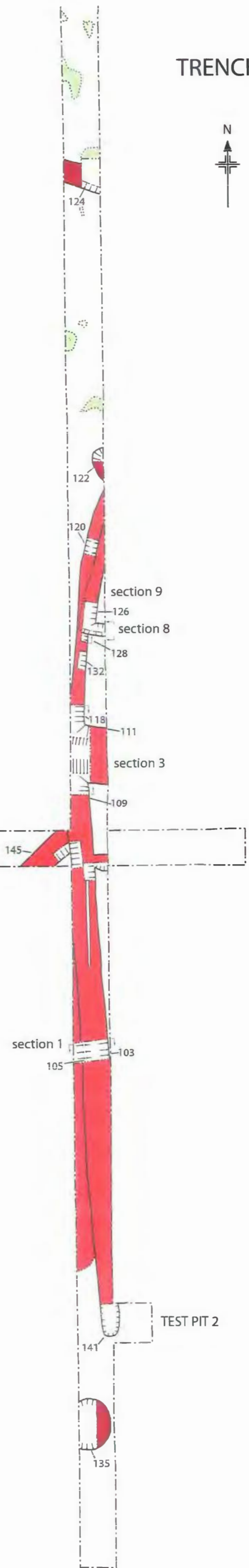
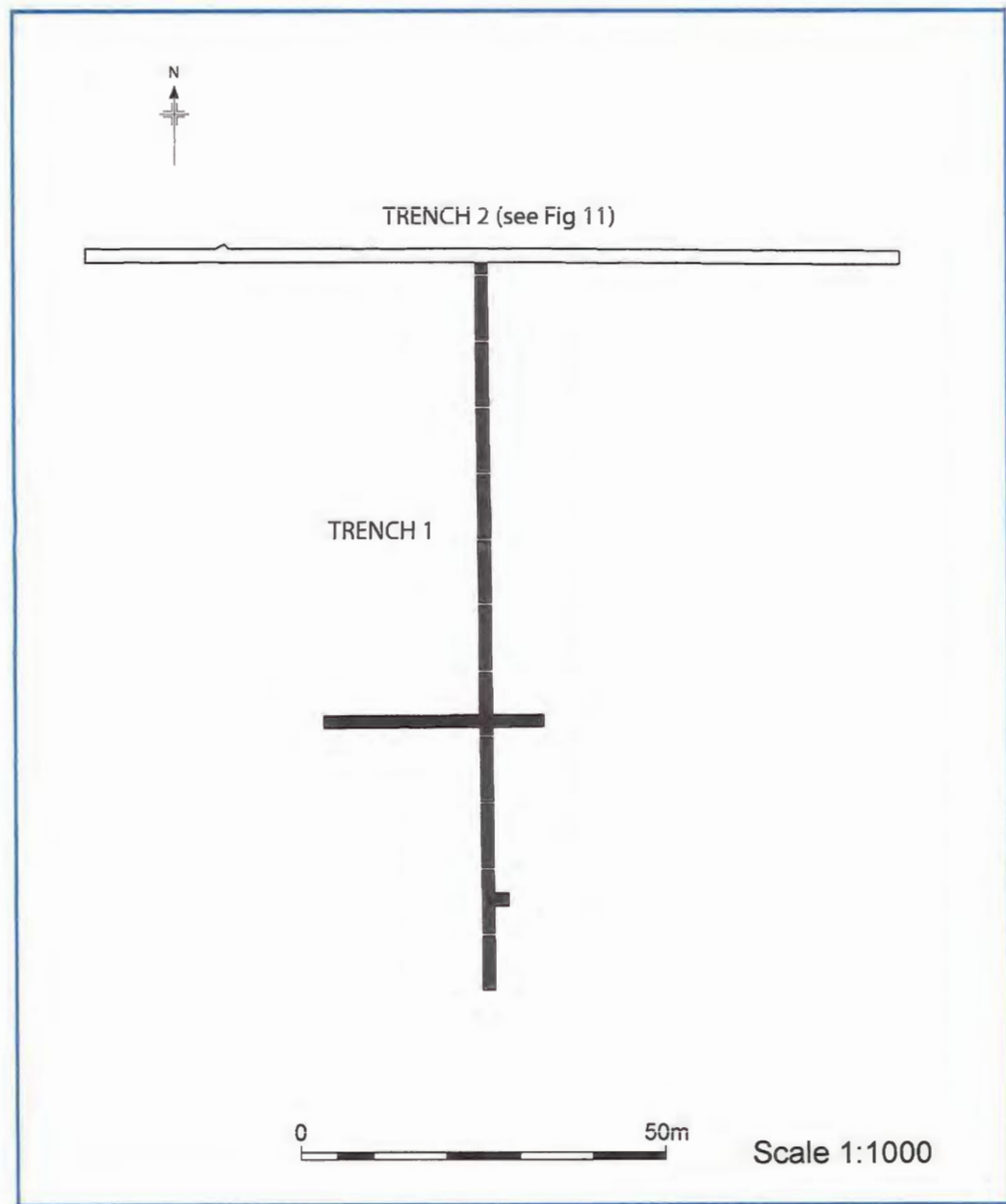
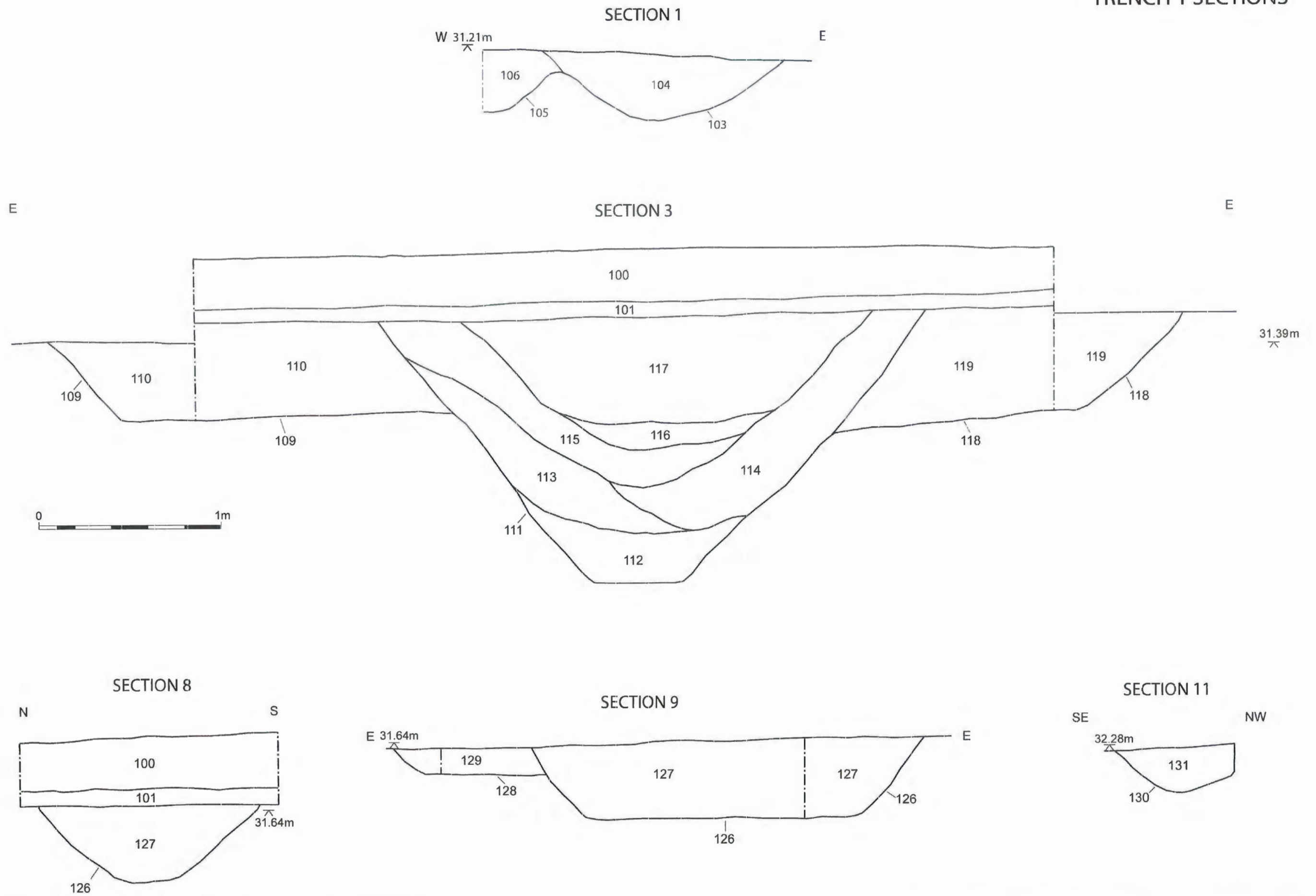


Figure 9

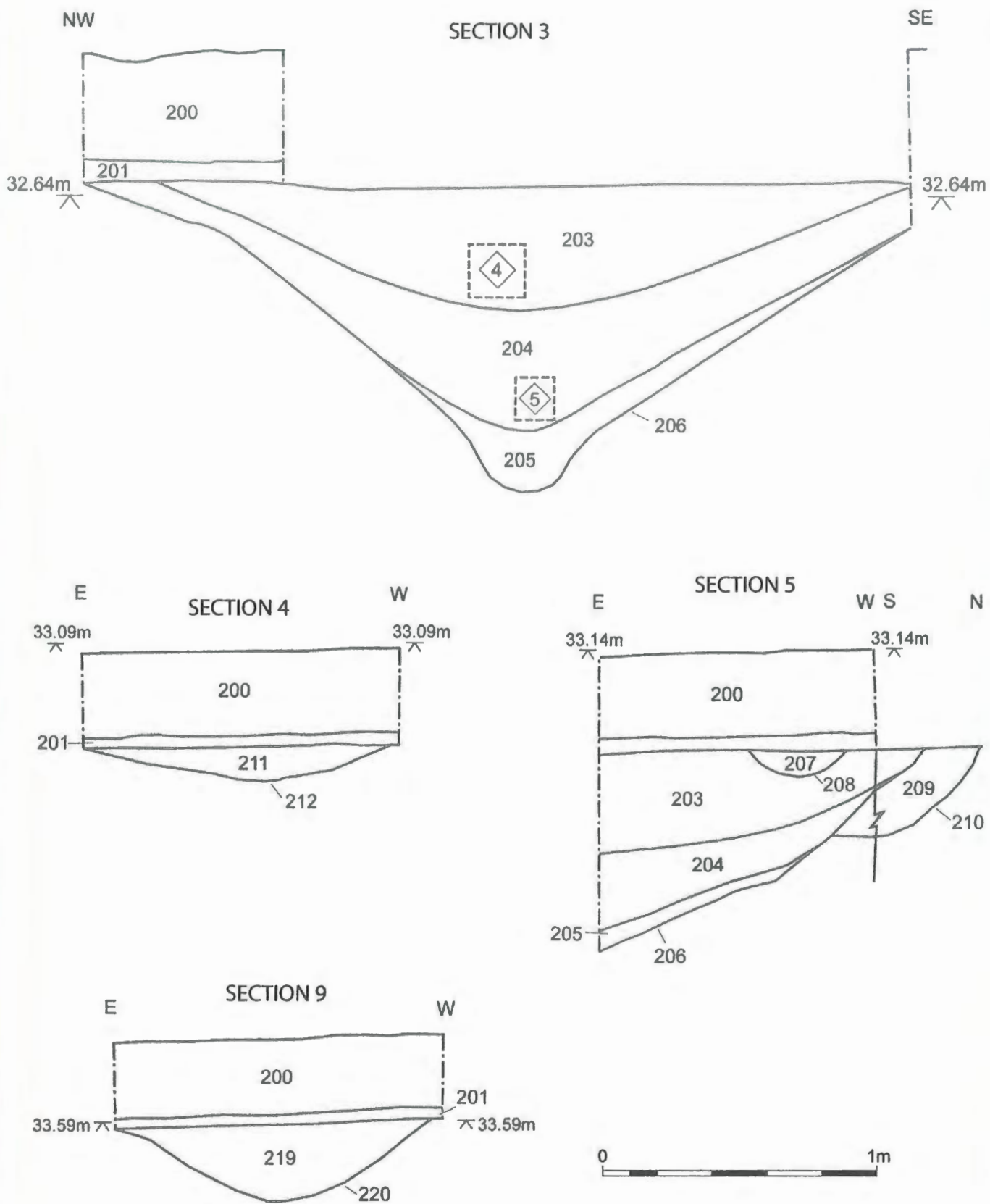
TRENCH 1 SECTIONS



Trench 1, sections.

Figure 10

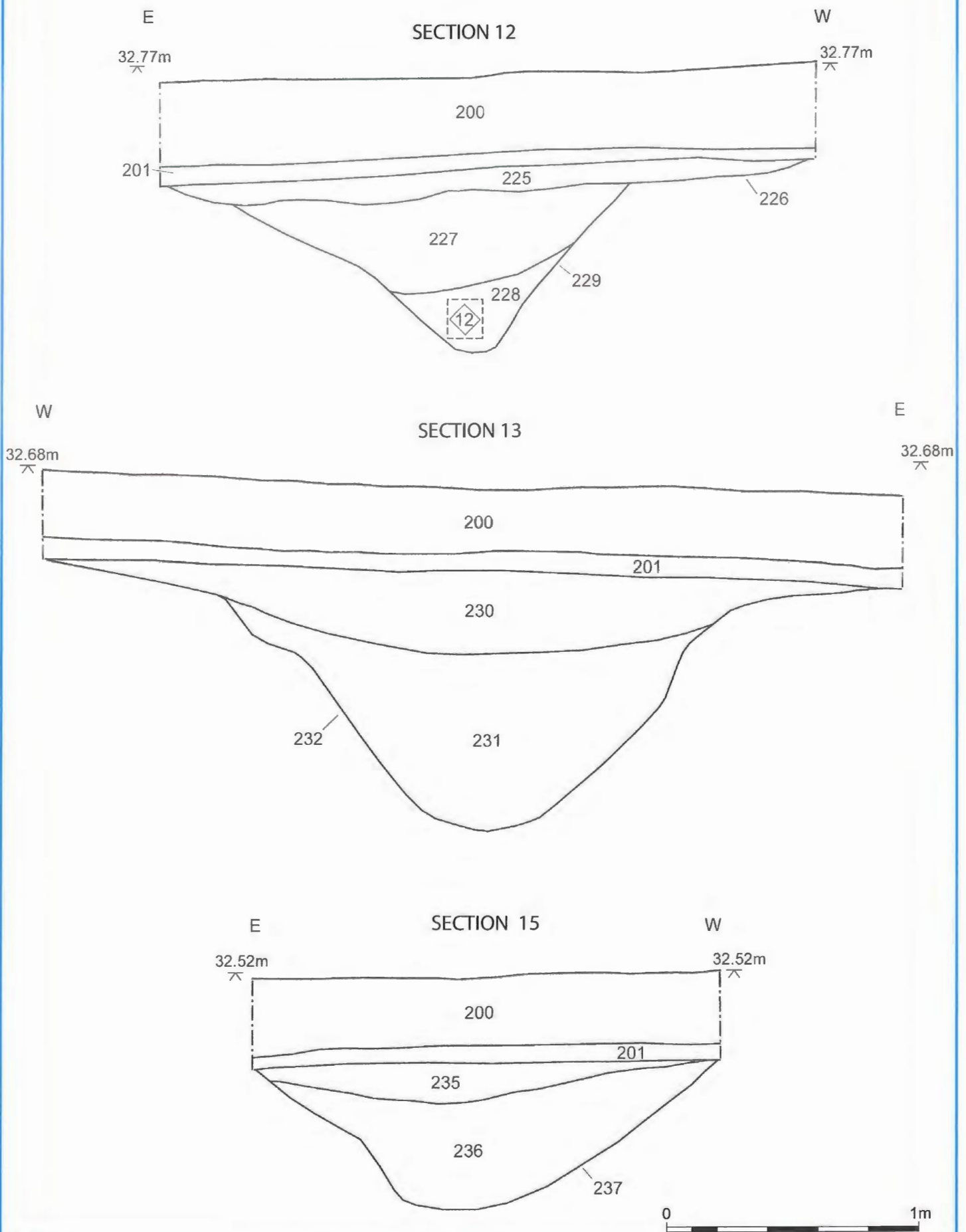
TRENCH 2 SECTIONS



Trench 2, sections 3, 4, 5 and 9.

Figure 12

TRENCH 2 SECTIONS



Trench 2, sections 12, 13 and 15.

Figure 13

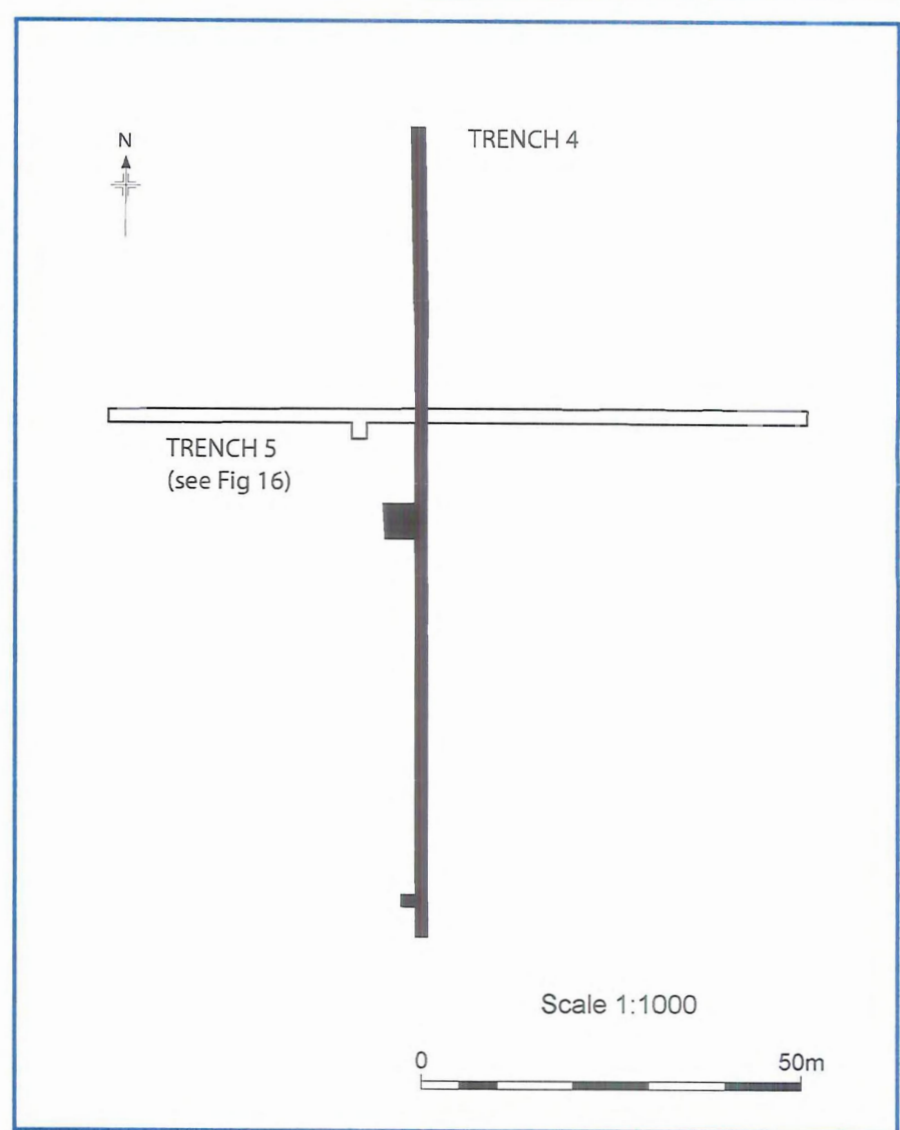
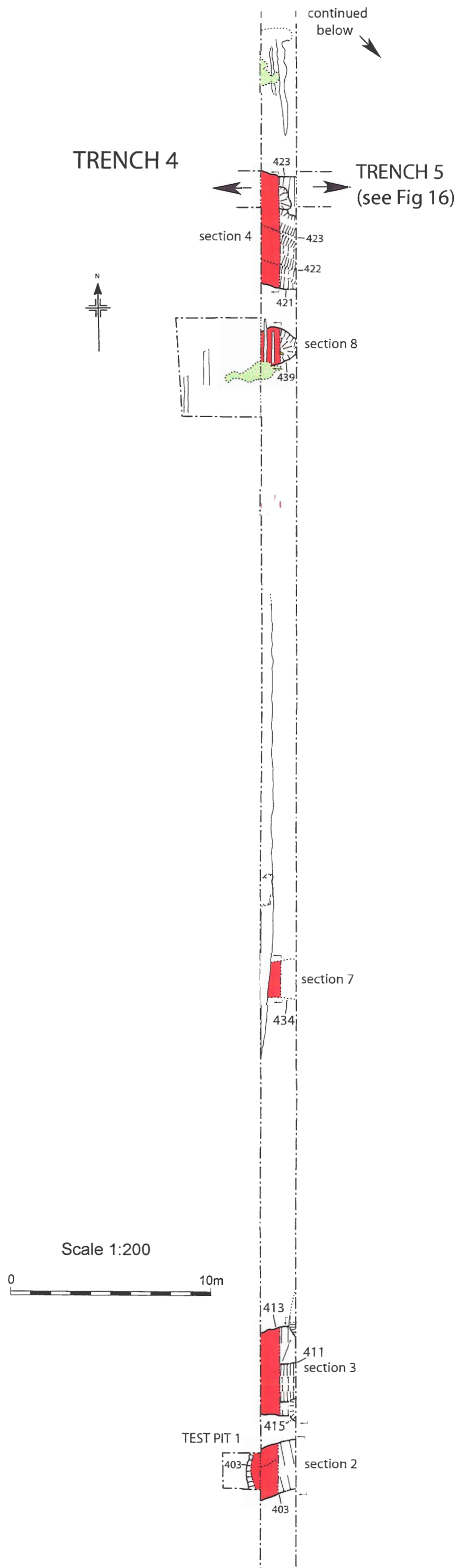
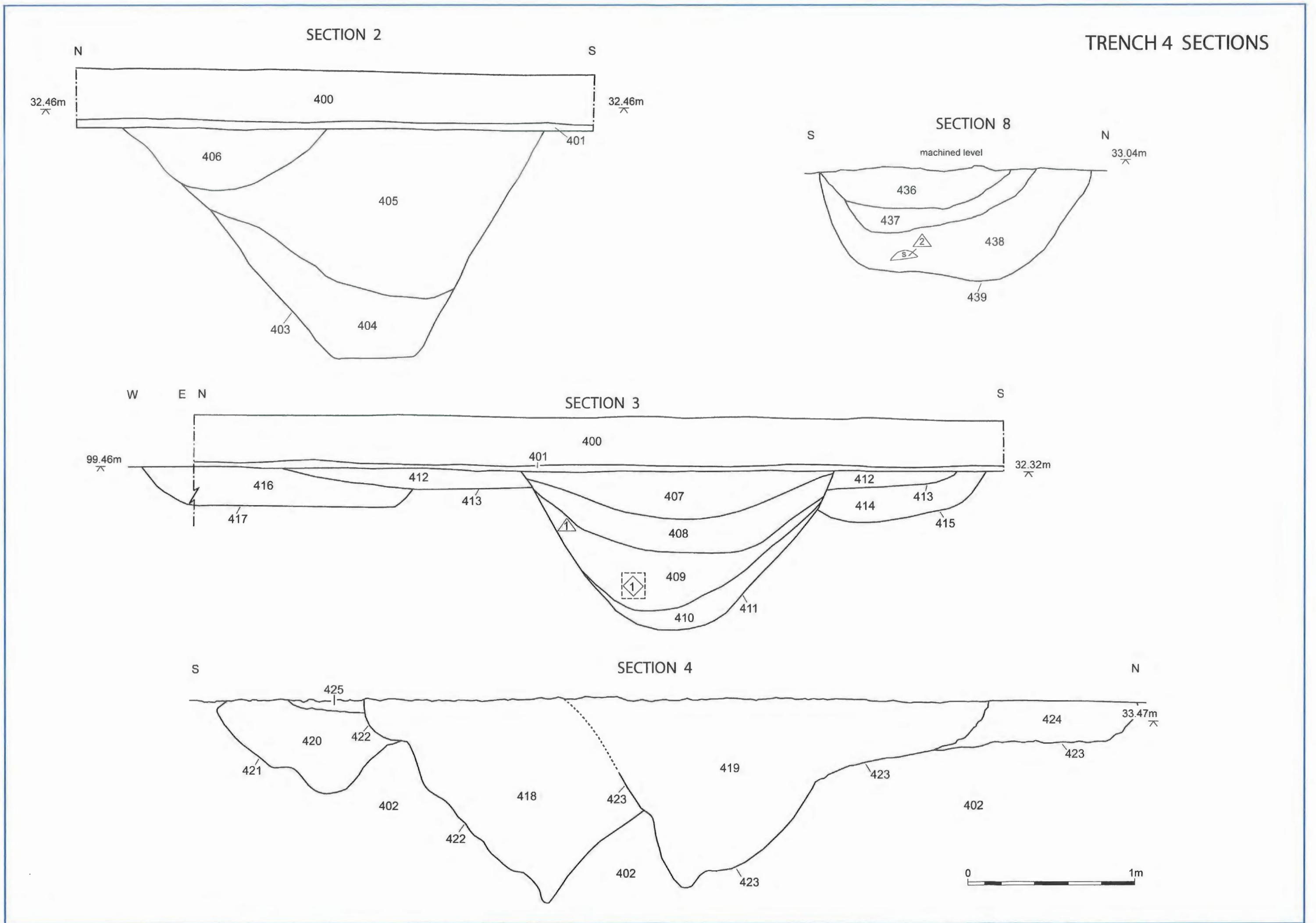
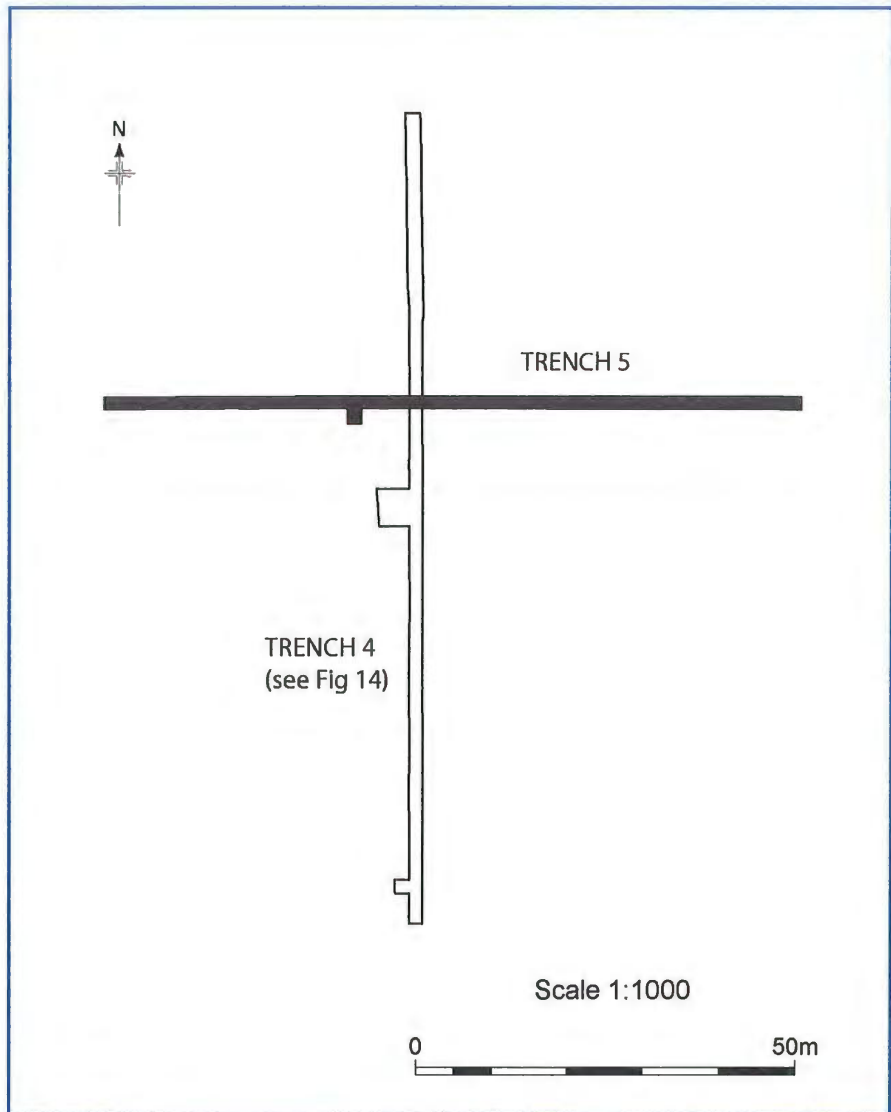
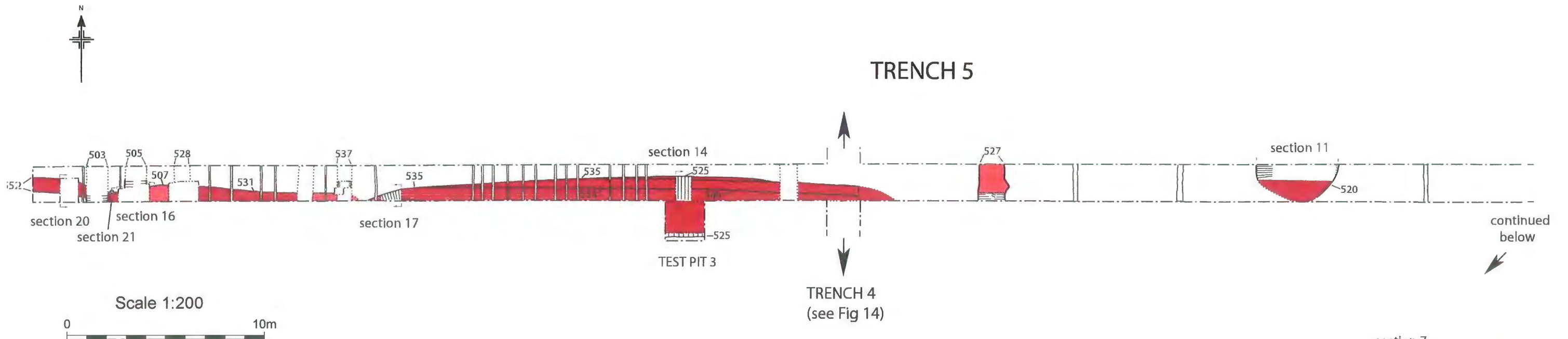


Figure 14



Trench 4, sections.

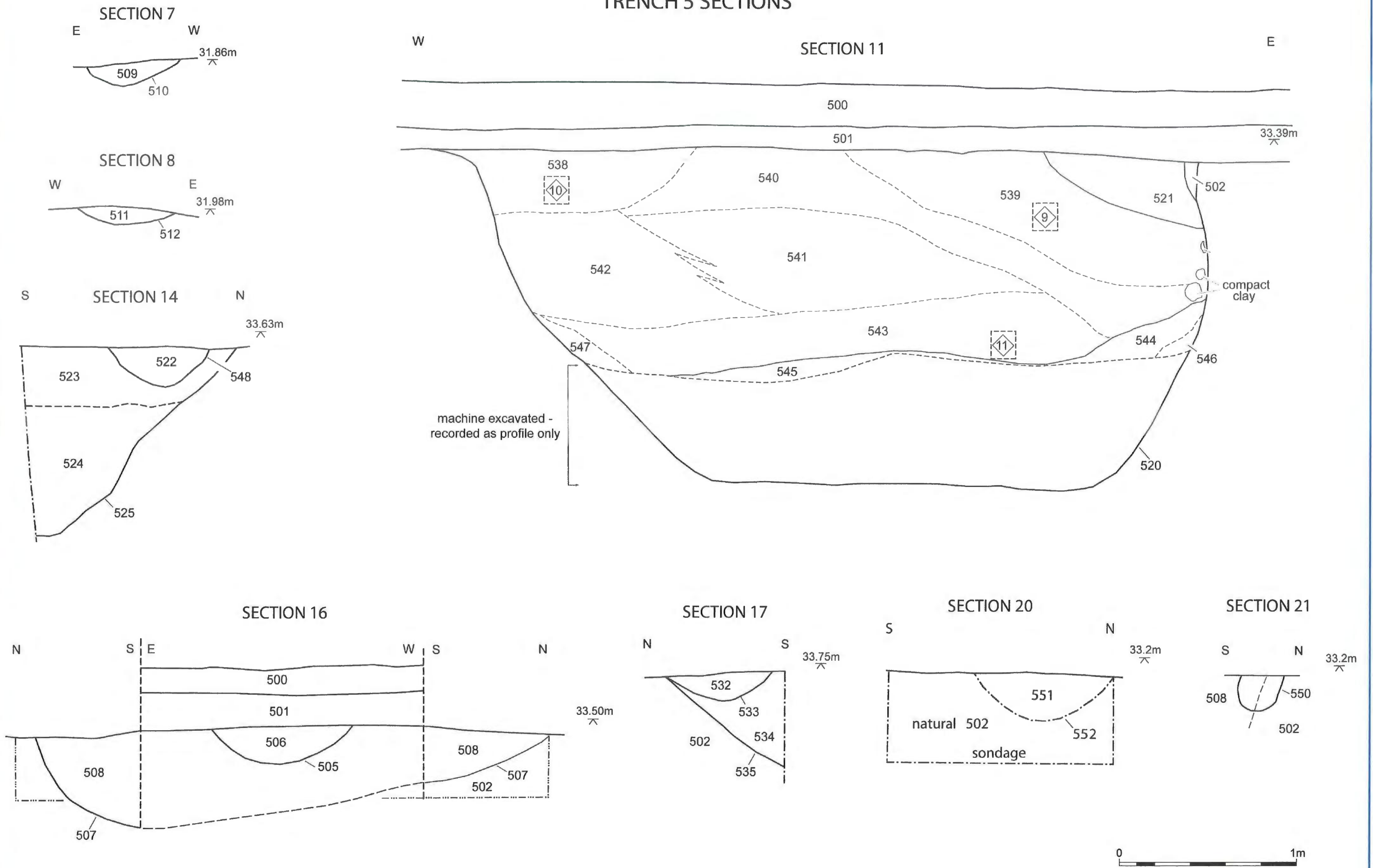
Figure 15



- KEY**
- unexcavated ditch/cut feature
 - furrow
 - plough scar
 - periglacial feature
 - tree throw/root activity

Figure 16

TRENCH 5 SECTIONS



Trench 5, sections.

Figure 17

TRENCH 6



Scale 1:200



KEY	
	unexcavated ditch/cut feature
	plough scar
	periglacial feature
	manganese patches
	tree throw/root activity

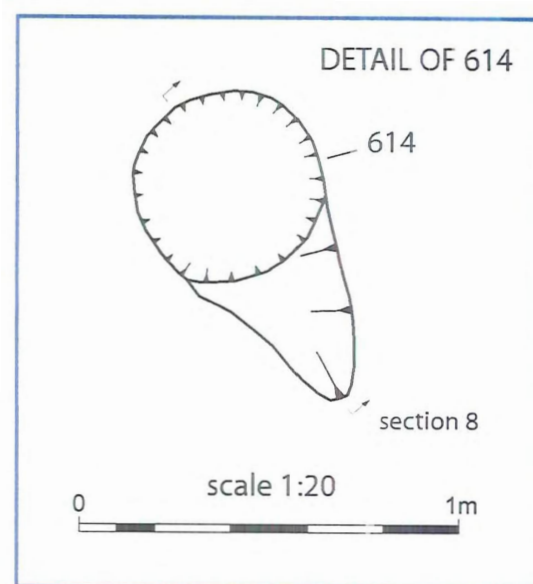
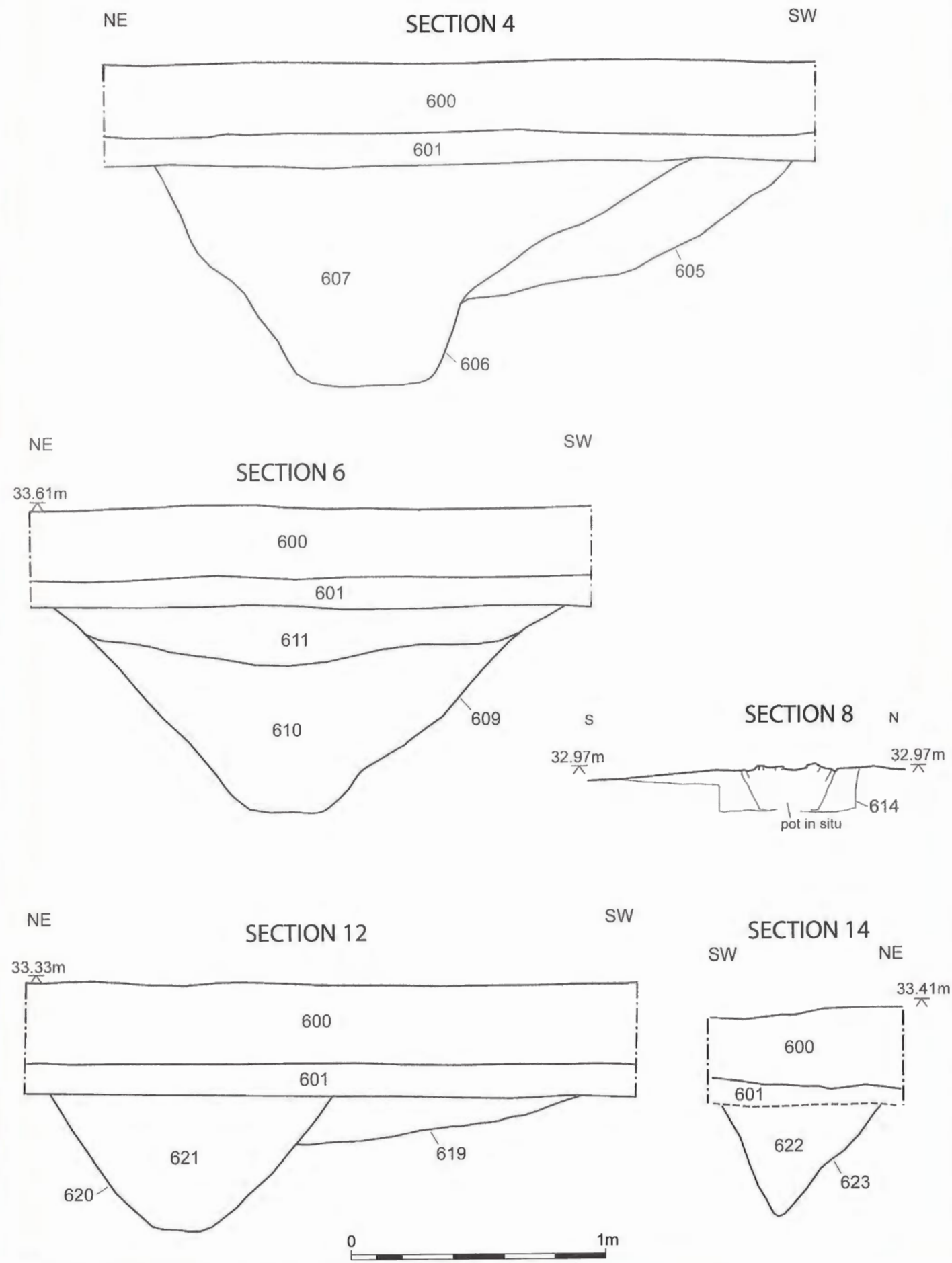


Figure 18

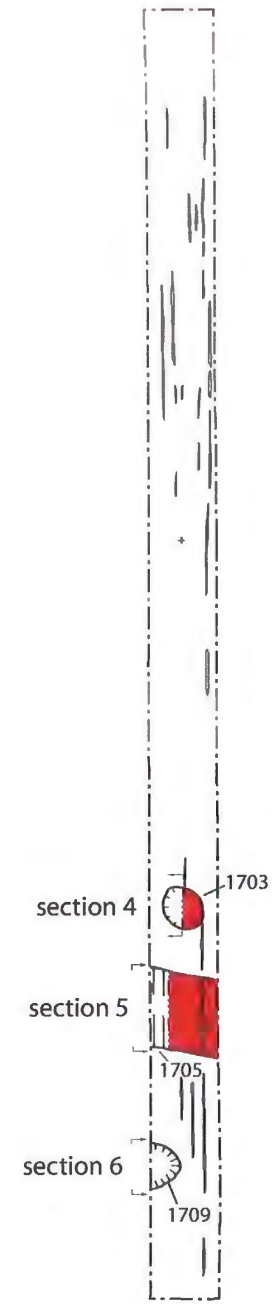
TRENCH 6 SECTIONS





Trench 6, sections.

Figure 19

TRENCH 17



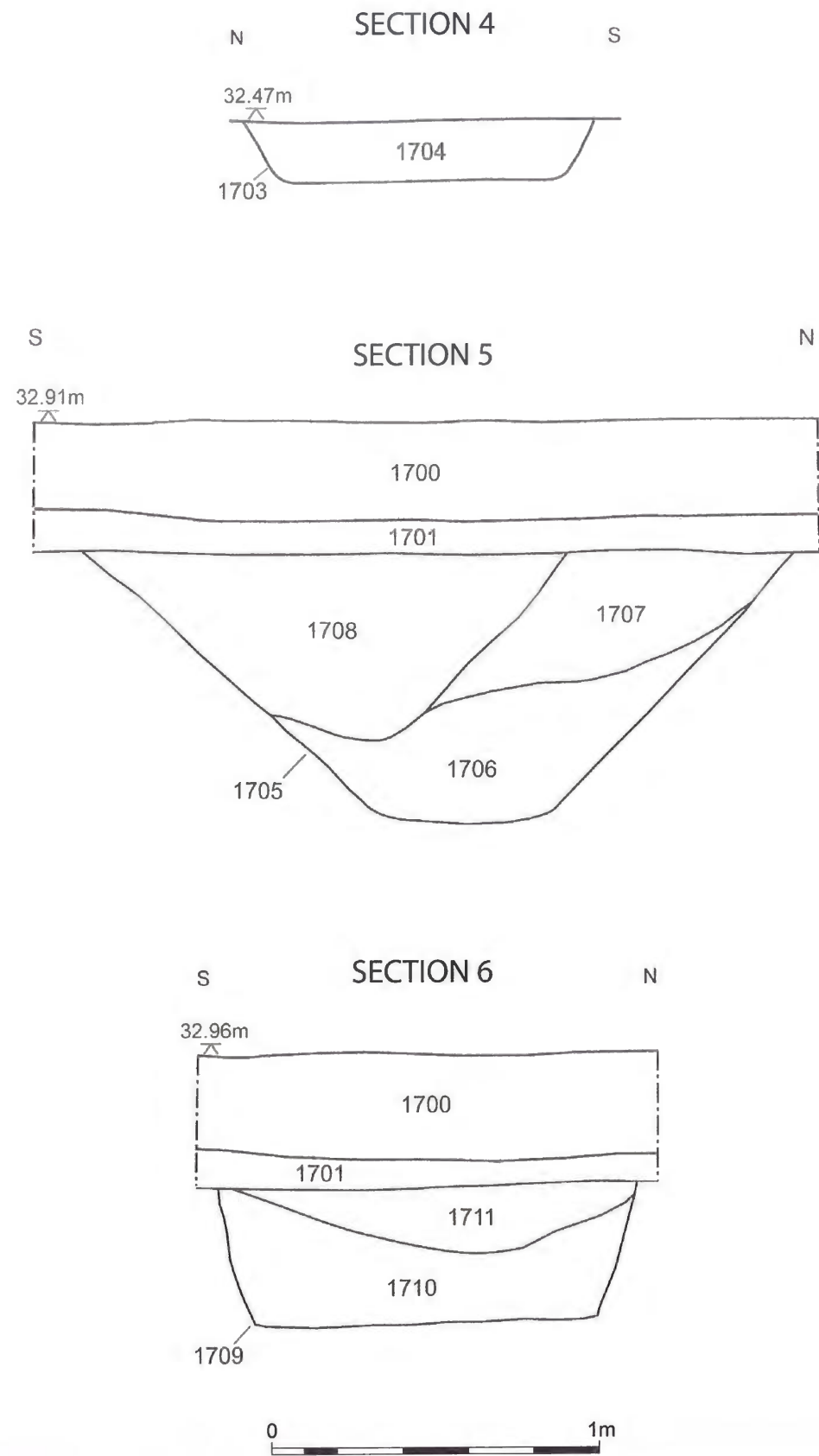
KEY

-  unexcavated ditch/cut feature
-  plough scar

Plan of Trench 17

Figure 20

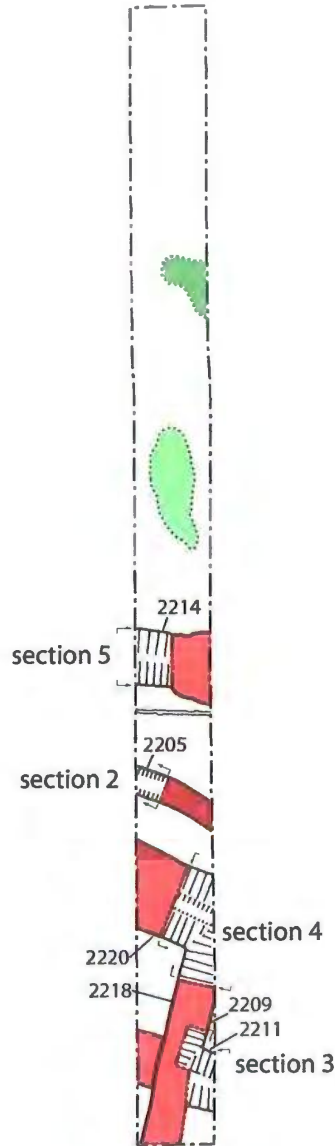
TRENCH 17 SECTIONS






Trench 17, sections.

Figure 21

TRENCH 22



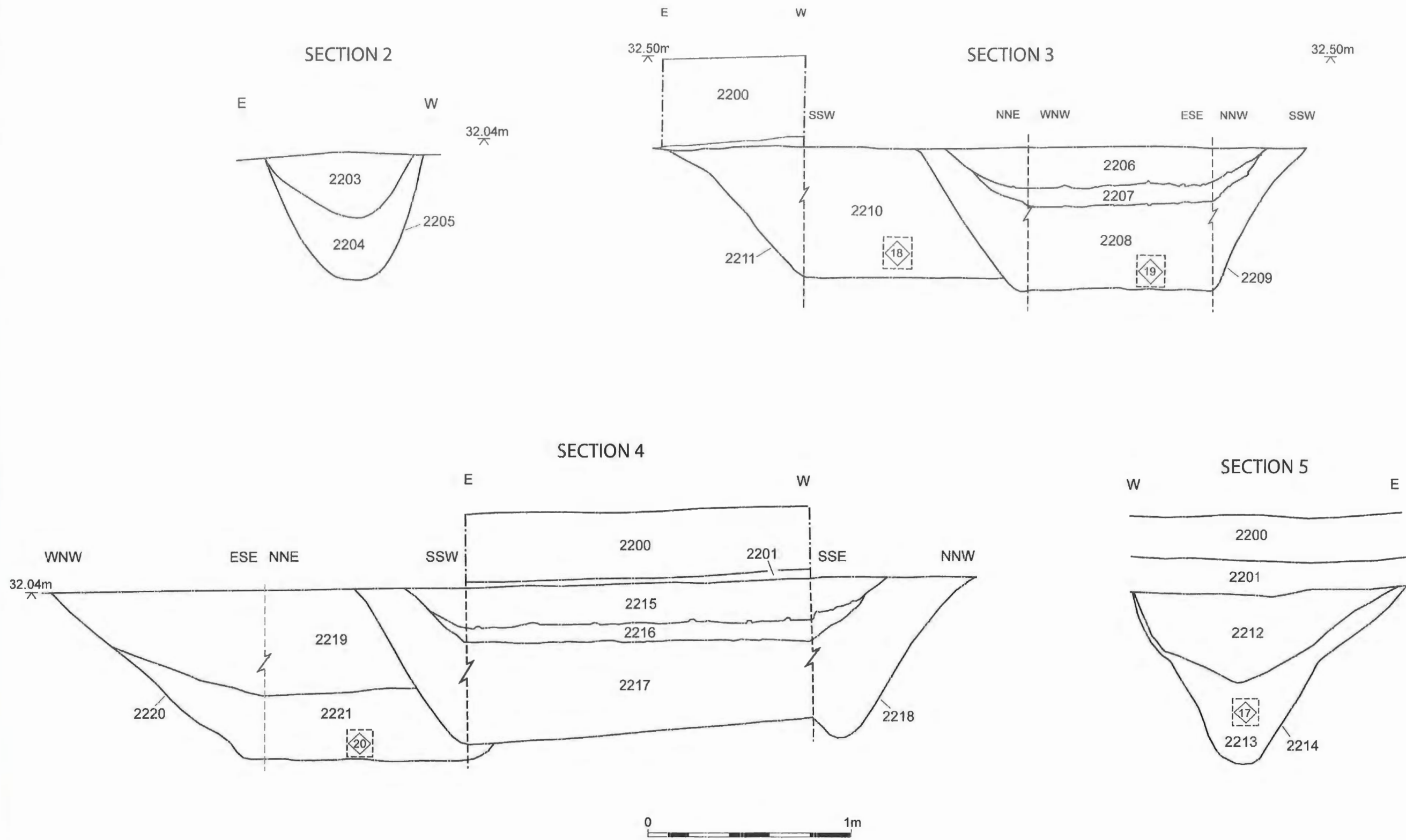
Scale 1:200
0 10m

KEY	
	unexcavated ditch/cut feature
	plough scar
	tree throw/root activity

Plan of Trench 22

Figure 22

TRENCH 22 SECTIONS



Trench 22, sections.

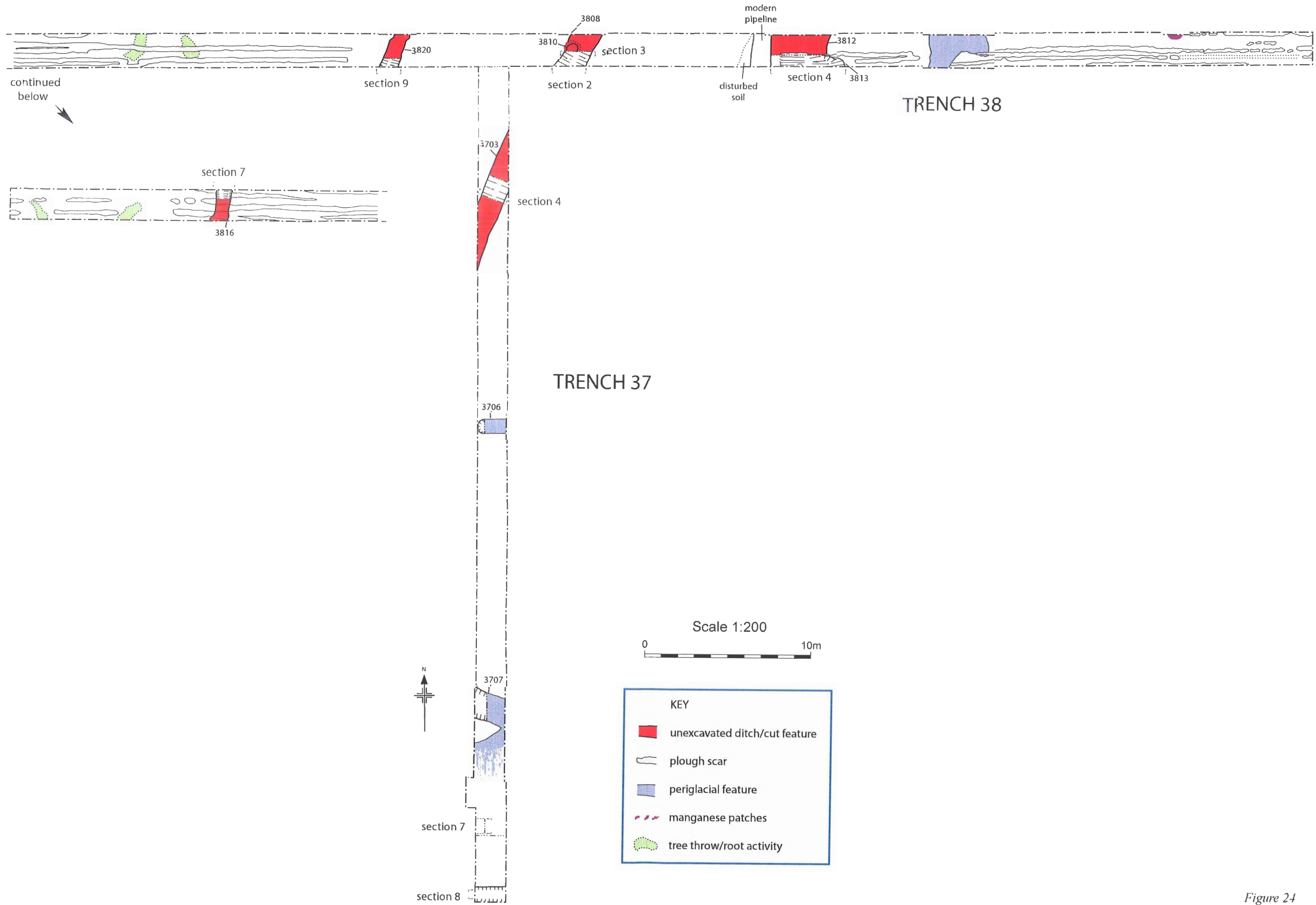
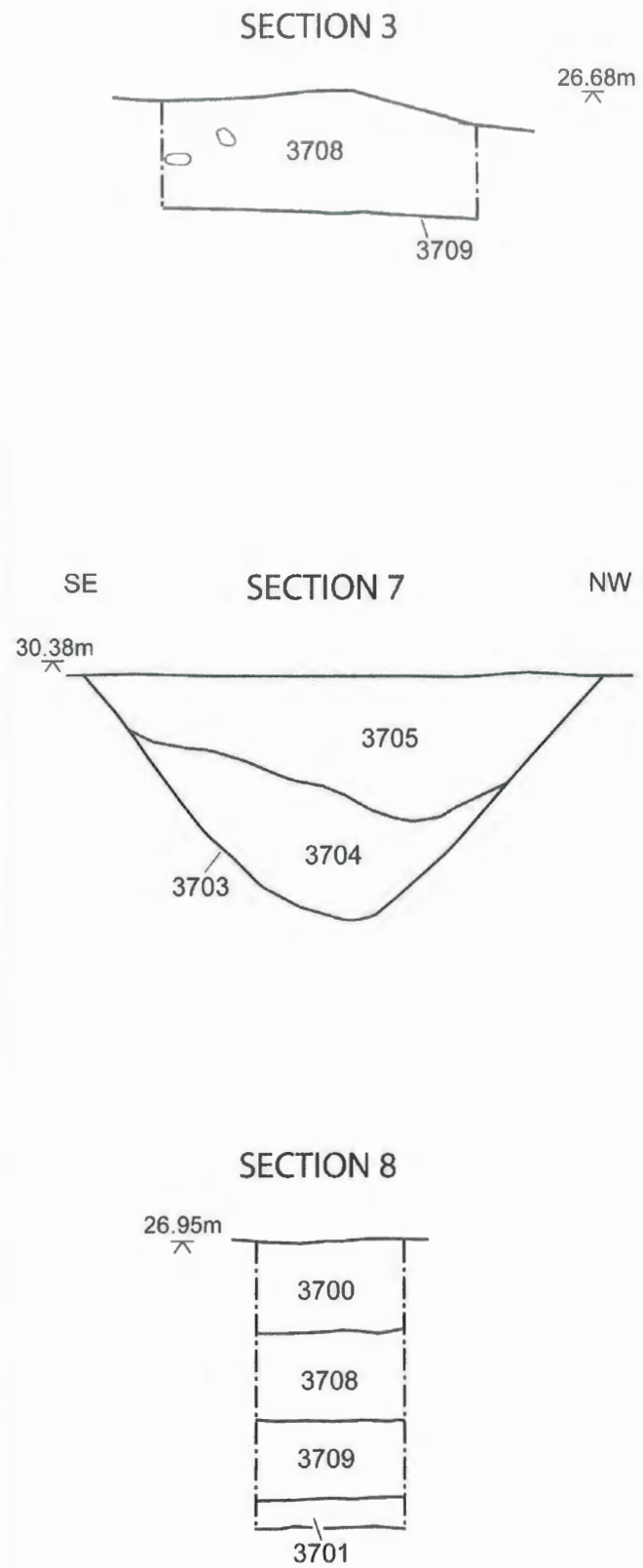
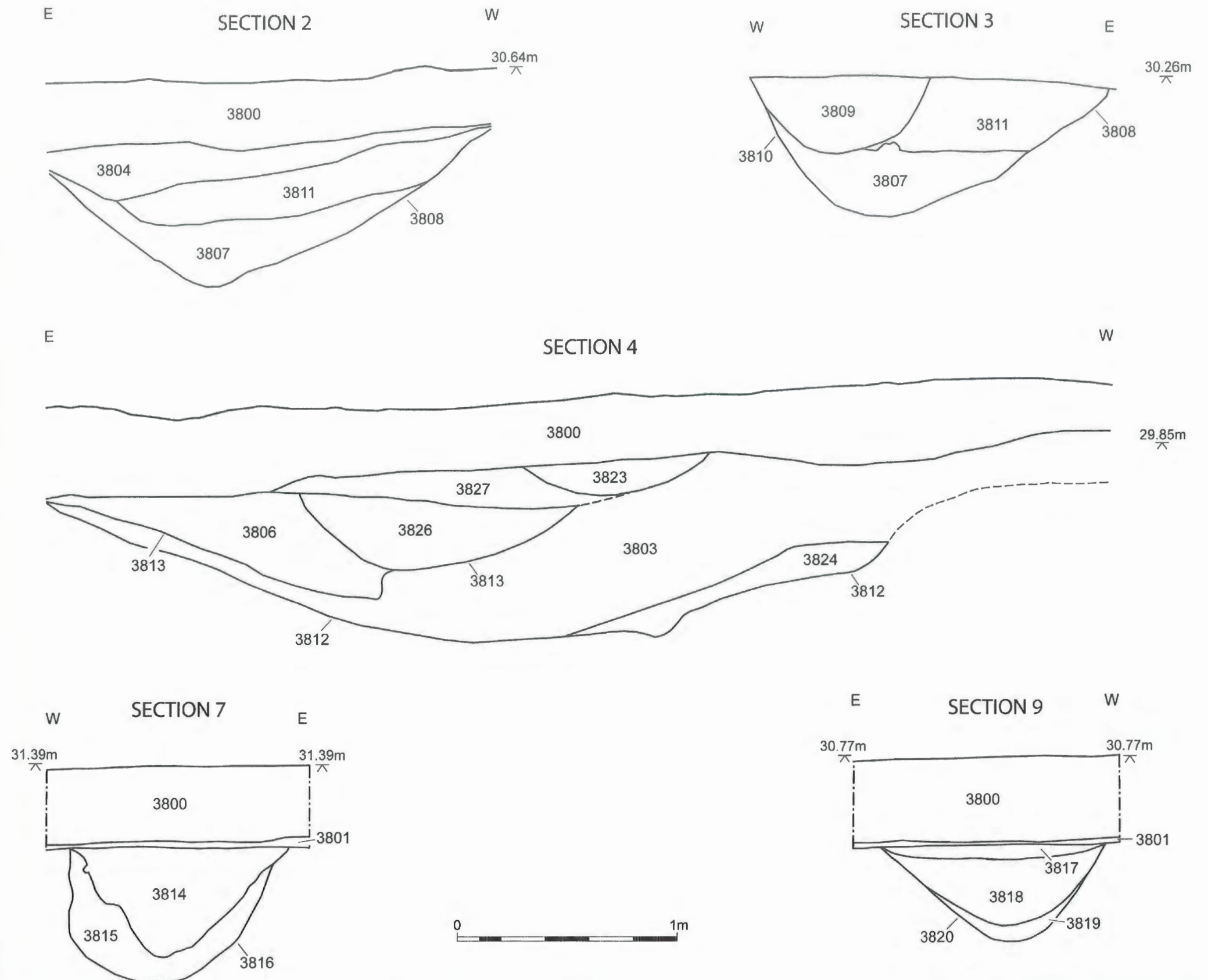


Figure 24

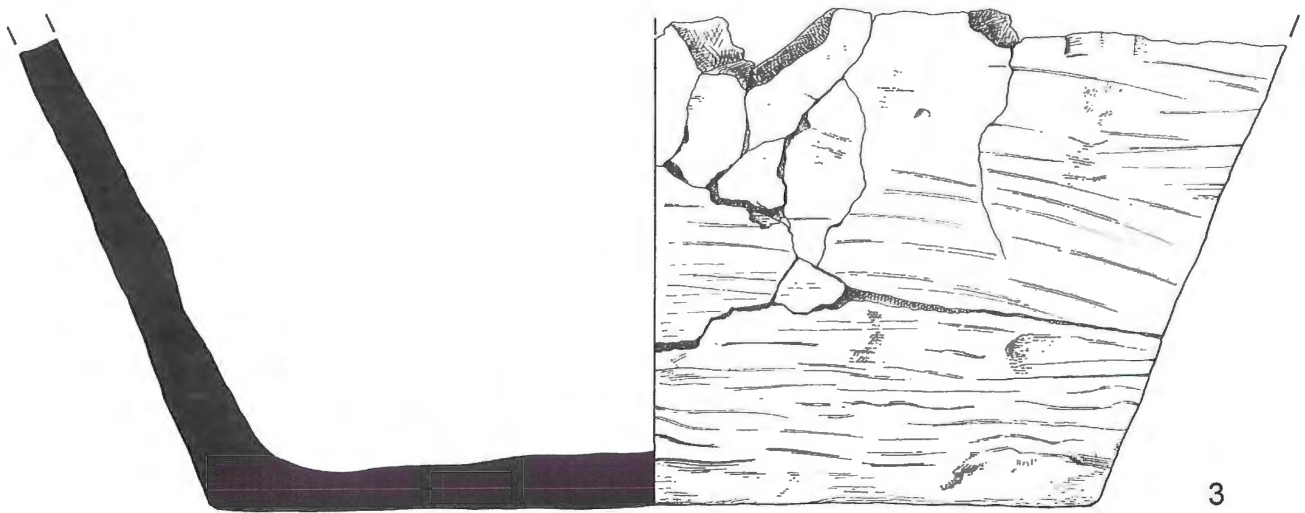
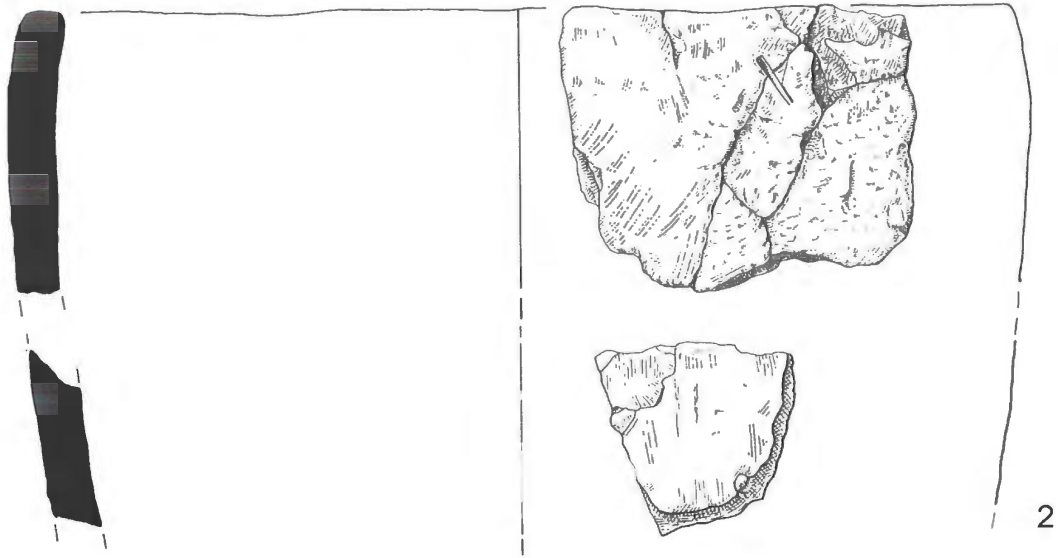
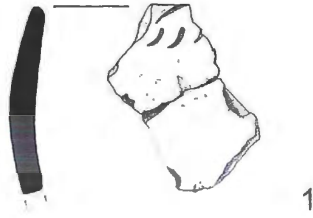
TRENCH 37 SECTIONS



TRENCH 38 SECTIONS

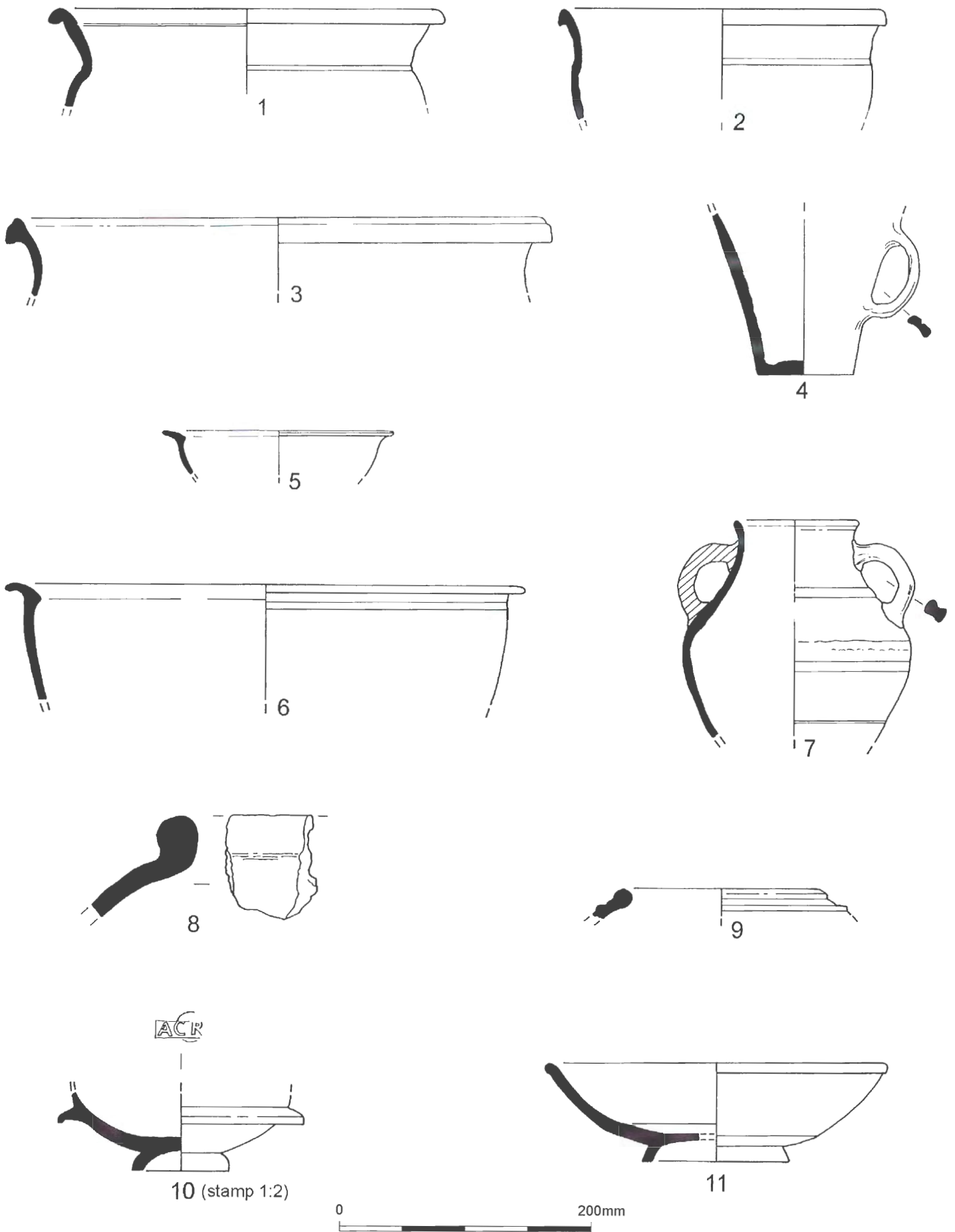


Trenches 37 and 38, sections.



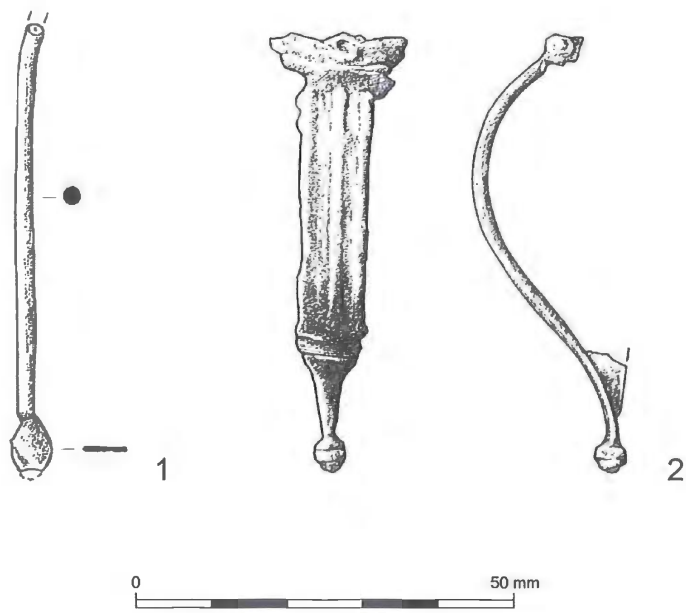
Prehistoric pottery

Figure 26



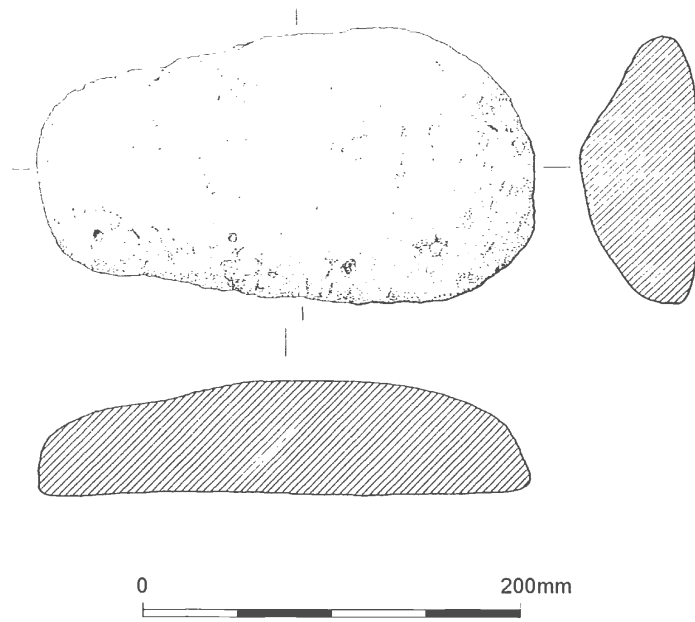
Roman pottery

Figure 27



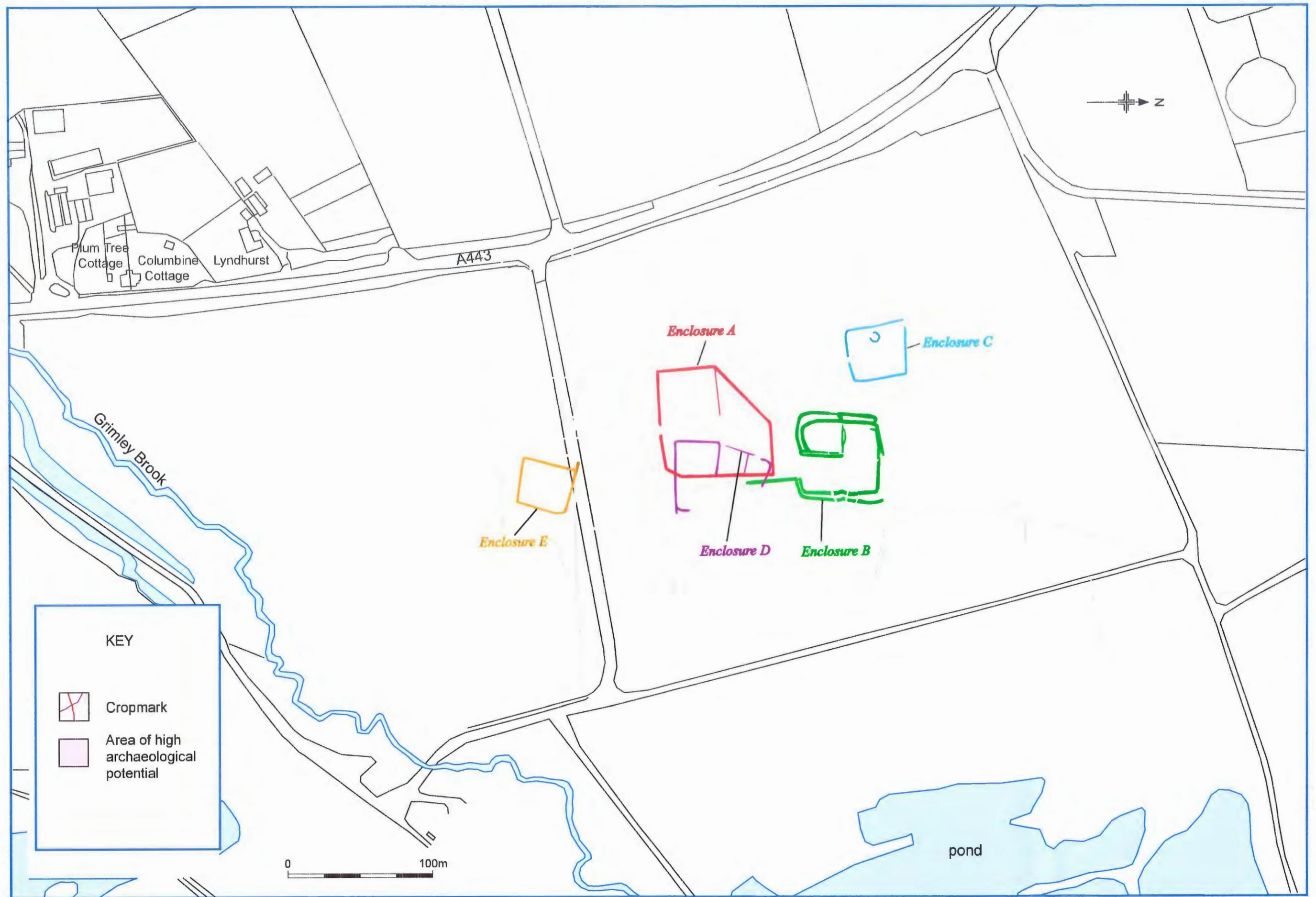
Copper alloy objects

Figure 28



Rubber from a saddle quern

Figure 29



Interpretative plan of cropmarks (after Cox 1997).

Figure 30

Appendix 1

Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 100m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.45m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
101	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
102	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.40+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 103:** Cut for a roughly north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncates ditch **105**. Same as **141** and **143**. 1.33m wide and 0.37m deep. Filled by **104**.
- 104:** Single fill of ditch **103**. Compact light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 1.33m wide and 0.37m deep. Same as **142** and **144**.
- 105:** Cut for a north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncated by ditch **103**. 0.4m wide and 0.36m deep. Filled by **106**.
- 106:** Single fill of ditch **105**. Compact light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.4m wide and 0.36m deep.
- 107:** Cut for roughly north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. 0.5m wide and 0.38m deep. Same as **103**
- 108:** Single fill of ditch **107**. Compact light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.5m wide and 0.38m deep. Same as **104**.
- 109:** Cut for roughly north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. 0.8m wide and 0.43m deep. Same as **103**.
- 110:** Single fill of ditch **110**. Compact light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.8m wide and 0.43m deep. Same as **104**.
- 111:** Cut for large east-west ditch. Sharply breaking sides and with a flat base. Truncates ditches **109** and **118**. 3.00m wide and 1.48m deep. Filled by **112**, **113**, **114**, **115**, **116** and **117**.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 112:** Primary fill of ditch **111**. Friable mid brown/grey silty sand. Contains some gravels (c 5%). 1.34m wide and 0.26m deep.
- 113:** Secondary fill of ditch **111**. Friable mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%). 1.56m wide and 0.38m deep.
- 114:** Secondary fill of ditch **111**. Friable mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 2-3%). 1.76m wide and 0.45m deep.
- 115:** Secondary fill of ditch **111**. Friable mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 55-60%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 2.00m wide and 0.32m deep.
- 116:** Friable mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 2-3%) and charcoal flecks (c 5%). 1.18m wide and 0.16m deep. Deliberate backfill of ditch **111**.
- 117:** Secondary fill of ditch **111**. Friable mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).
- 118:** Cut of probable linear ditch, running roughly north-south. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncated by ditch **111**. 0.7m wide and 0.55m deep. Filled by **119**.
- 119:** Single fill of ditch **118**. Friable mid brown/orange silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.7m wide and 0.55m deep.
- 120:** Cut for small northeast-southwest linear gully. Gently breaking sides and with a concave base. Same as **128** and **132**. 0.69m wide and 0.24m deep. Filled by **121**.
- 121:** Single fill of gully **120**. Compact light-mid yellow/brown silt sand. Contains gravels (c 5%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.69m wide and 0.29m deep. Same as **129** and **133**.
- 122:** Cut for roughly oval pit. Gently breaking sides and with a concave base. 1.00m wide and 0.30m deep. Filled by **123**.
- 123:** Single fill of pit **122**. Friable mid brown/orange silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 1.00m wide and 0.30m deep.
- 124:** Cut for small east-west linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a flat base. Truncated by a later tree throw. 0.9m wide and 0.26m deep. Filled by **125**.
- 125:** Single fill of **124**. Friable light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 0.9m wide 0.26m deep.
- 126:** Cut for 'L' shaped east-west then north-south ditch. Gradually breaking sides with a concave base. Truncates ditch **128**. 1.20m wide and 0.43m deep. Filled by **127**.
- 127:** Single fill of ditch **126**. Friable mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%). 1.20m wide and 0.43m deep.
- 128:** Cut for small northeast-southwest linear gully. Gently breaking sides and with a concave base. Same as **120** and **132**. Truncated by **126**. 0.26m wide and 0.14m deep. Filled by **129**.
- 129:** Single fill of ditch **128**. Compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). Same as **121** and **133**. Truncated by **126**. 0.26m wide and 0.14m deep.
-

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 130:** Cut for northeast-southwest linear ditch. Gently breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncates **135** and **136**. 0.64m wide and 0.24m deep. Filled by **131**.
- 131:** Single fill of ditch **130**. Friable light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 2-3%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5-10%). 0.64m wide and 0.24m deep.
- 132:** Cut for small northeast-southwest linear gully. Gently breaking sides and with a concave base. Same as **120** and **128**. 0.48m wide and 0.24m deep. Filled by **133**.
- 133:** Single fill of ditch **132**. Compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5-10%). Same as **121** and **129**. 0.48m wide and 0.24m deep.
- 134:** Semi-circular tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides and with a flat base. Contains a single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand with gravel (*c* 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5-10%). 2.00m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 135:** Circular tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides and with a flat base. Contains a single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand with gravel (*c* 1%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-3%). Truncated by ditch **130**. 1.50m wide and 0.30m deep.
- 136:** Linear periglacial feature. Sharply breaking sides. Contains a single fill of friable light-mid yellow/brown silty sand with gravels (*c* 2-3%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). Truncated by ditch **130**. 2.20m wide and 0.60m deep.
- 137:** Irregular tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides. Contains a single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand with gravels (*c* 2-3%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 1.00m wide and 0.30m deep.
- Test Pit 2:** 10cm spits of soil removed from a 2m by 2m area adjoining Trench 1 and sieved for finds retrieval and percentage of natural gravels.
- 138 – Spit 1.** Gravel = 30% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Post-med glass and pottery, CBM fragments
- 139 – Spit 2.** Gravel = 20% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Post-med pottery, CBM fragments.
- 140 – Spit 3.** Gravel = 15% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Post-med pottery, CBM fragments
- 142 – Spit 4.** Gravel = 35% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British pottery (same as **104**)
- 141:** Cut for north-south linear ditch terminus. Not fully excavated. Same as **103**. Filled by **142**.
- 143:** Cut for north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncates ditch **145**. 1.10m wide and 0.43m deep. Filled by **144**.
- 144:** Single fill of ditch **143**. Compact light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5-10%). 1.33m wide and 0.37m deep.
- 145:** Cut for northeast-southwest linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. Truncated by **143**. 1.20m wide and 0.30m deep. Filled by **146**.
- 146:** Single fill of ditch **145**. Sticky light-mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 1%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 1%). 1.20m wide and 0.30m deep.
- 147:** Cut for roughly north-south linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a concave base. 0.54m wide and 0.17m deep. Filled by **148**.

-
- 148:** Single fill of ditch **147**. Sticky mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels(10-15% and smaller 'peagrit' gravels(5-10%). 0.54m wide and 0.17m deep.
- 149:** Roughly circular tree-throw. Gently breaking side and with an irregular base. Contains a single fill of sticky light-mid yellow/brown silt sand with gravels (*c* 1%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 1%). 0.82m wide and 0.15m deep.

Context groups:

- 1001: Assigned to north-south linear inclusive of cuts 103, 107, 109, 118, 141 and 143 and their respective fills
- 1002: Assigned to north-south linear to north of CG1000, inclusive of cuts 132,128,120 and their respective fills

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 111.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.40m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Topsoil	Firm mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 30-40%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 10-15%).	0-0.25m
201	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.25-0.35m
202	Natural	Loose mid red/orange/pink sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.35+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 203:** Secondary fill of ditch **206**. Compact dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 20-30%) and occasional flecks of charcoal (c 2%). 2.70m wide and 0.45m deep.
- 204:** Secondary fill of ditch **206**. Loose light brown/orange silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5-10%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (c 1%). 3.00m wide and 0.45m deep.
- 205:** Primary fill of ditch **206**. Very loose orange/brown sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 30%). 1.85m wide and 0.25m deep.
- 206:** Cut for northeast-southwest linear 'V' shaped ditch. Moderate sides with stepped base. Truncated by gully **208** and truncates ditch **210**. 3.00m wide and 1.10m deep. Filled by **203**, **204** and **205**.
- 207:** Single fill of **208**. Firm light brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 10-20%). 0.30m wide and 0.08m deep.
- 208:** Cut for shallow north-south linear gully. Gentle breaking concave sides and base. 0.30m wide and 0.08m deep. Filled by **207**.
- 209:** Single fill of partially exposed ditch **210**. Firm mid brown silty sand. Contains small 'peagrit' gravels (c 30%) and larger gravels (c 2-5%). 0.38m wide and 0.35m deep.
- 210:** Cut for partially exposed east-west linear. Moderate, concave sides and gently breaking base. 0.38m wide and 0.35m deep. Filled by **209**.
- 211:** Single fill of plough furrow **212**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 15-20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). 1.10m wide and 0.12m deep.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 212:** Cut for north-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking concave sides and moderate base. 1.10m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by **211**.
- 213:** Single fill of plough furrow **214**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 15-20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 1.65m wide and 0.06m deep.
- 214:** Cut of north-south plough furrow. Gently breaking irregular sides and with a shallow base. 1.65m wide and 0.06m deep. Filled by **213**.
- 215:** Single fill of plough furrow **216**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 10-15%). 1.35m wide and 0.14m deep.
- 216:** Cut for north-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking regular, concave side and base. 1.35m wide and 0.14m deep. Filled by **215**.
- 217:** Single fill of plough furrow **218**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 10-15%). 0.65m wide and 0.08m deep.
- 218:** Cut for north-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking irregular sides and base. 0.65m wide and 0.08m deep. Filled by **217**.
- 219:** Single fill of ditch **220**. Compact mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-5%) and some occasional flecks of charcoal (*c* 1-2%). 1.15m wide and 0.27m deep.
- 220:** Cut for north-south linear ditch. Moderately breaking concave edges and gently breaking base. 1.15m wide and 0.27m deep. Filled by **219**.
- 221:** Defuse fill of a series of three indistinguishable plough furrows **222**. Firm light mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 2.40m wide and 0.11m deep.
- 222:** Cuts of at least three homogenous north-south linear plough furrows. Gently breaking concave sides with an uneven, undulating base. 2.40m wide and 0.11m deep. Filled by **221**.
- 223:** Single fill of plough furrow **224**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 15-20%). 0.85m wide and 0.10m deep.
- 224:** Cut for north-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking irregular sides and with an uneven, concave base. 0.85m wide and 0.10m deep. Filled by **223**.
- 225:** Single fill of plough furrow **226**. Firm light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 2.70m wide and 0.12m deep.
- 226:** Cut for north-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking irregular concave sides with a level, irregular base. Truncates ditch **229**. 2.70m wide and 0.12m deep. Filled by **225**.
- 227:** Secondary fill of ditch **229**. Firm mid-dark brown silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 1.55m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 228:** Primary (eroded up cast) fill of ditch **229**. Loose mid brown/orange silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 15-20%). 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep.
- 229:** Cut for north-south linear ditch. Sharply breaking convex sides with a moderately breaking base. Truncated by plough furrow **226**. 1.55m wide and 0.65m deep. Filled by **227** and **228**.

Features/Other Deposits (cont).

- 230:** Secondary fill of ditch **232**. Hard, almost concreted mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 1%). 3.40m wide and 0.35m deep.
- 231:** Main fill of ditch **232**. Very compacted light-mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 15-20%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 1%). 1.90m wide and 0.70m deep.
- 232:** Cut for substantial north-south linear ditch. Sharply breaking, concave, slightly stepped sides with a gently breaking base. 3.40m wide and 1.02m deep. Filled by **230** and **231**.
- 233:** Defuse fill of a series of indistinguishable modern plough furrows **234**. Firm light mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 20%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 6.90m wide and 0.20m deep.
- 234:** Cuts of a number of modern homogenous north-south linear plough furrows. Gently breaking concave sides with an uneven, undulating base. 6.90m wide and 0.20m deep. Filled by **233**.
- 235:** Plough disturbed upper fill of ditch **237**. Firm mid-dark silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 1.80m wide and 0.15m deep.
- 236:** Primary fill of ditch **237**. Compact mid-dark silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 10-15%). 1.75m wide and 0.44m deep.
- 237:** Cut for roughly north-south linear ditch. Sharply breaking concave sides with a gently breaking concave base. 1.80m wide and 0.60m deep. Filled by **235** and **236**.
- 238:** Single fill of probable periglacial or tree-throw feature **239**. Very compacted beige-yellow silty sand. Contains occasional gravels (*c* 2-5%). 2.15m wide and 0.50m deep.
- 289:** Cut of irregular feature. Probable natural feature such as periglacial or tree-throw, but not clear. Sharply breaking irregular sides and with a flat base. 2.15m wide and 0.05m deep. Filled by **238**.

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: Northeast-Southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Topsoil	Firm mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c5-10%).	0-0.25m
301	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c2-3%).	0.25-0.35m
302	Natural	Loose mid red/orange/pink sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c5-10%).	0.35+m

Features/Other deposits.

303: Semi-circular tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides. Contains a single fill of compact light-mid orange/brown silty sand with gravels (c 2-3%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 10-15%). 1.20m wide and 0.10m deep.

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 107m Width: 2m Depth: 0.30-0.40m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt. Friable but solid – compacted. Small sub-rounded stones, occasional. Small gravels, rare, sub-rounded. Rooty.	0.00-0.30m
401	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt. Compact. Frequent gravel, sub-rounded and sub-angular. More densely packed than 400. Small stones, rare.	0.20-0.30m
402	Natural	Mid orange-pink. Sandy gravel. Loose, though can hold shape, i.e. the edge of the cut. Frequent pea grit, sub-rounded. Rare, small gravels, sub-rounded. Becomes pink sand below 0.60m and contains bands of manganese at approximately 1.20m below the surface of the natural.	0.30-0.40m

Features/Other deposits.

- 403:** Curved in plan. Sharply breaking sides and a flat base. Measures approximately 2.49m wide by 1.35m deep. Truncates natural **402**. Filled by **404**, **405** and **406**.
- 404:** Loose consistency, Mid to dark brown silty sand with pea gravel (approximately 20-25%), gravel (approximately 5-10%) and natural coal (approximately 2-3%). Measures approximately 1.27m wide by 0.49m thick). Excavated by mattock and trowel in dry conditions.
- 405:** Loose consistency. Dark brown silty sand with gravel (approximately 20-25%), pea gravel (approximately 30-35%) and natural coal (approximately 1%). Measures approximately 1.20m wide by 0.27m thick.
- 406:** Loose consistency. Mid brownish-yellow silty sand with gravel (approximately 15-20%) and pea gravel (approximately 30-35%). Measures approximately 2.45m wide by 1m thick.
- 407:** A loose, light greyish-brown silty sand containing a high percentage of small (10-30mm) sub-rounded pebbles. It has gentle concave edges and a clear edge with **401** and a diffuse, mixed edge with **408**. Finds: Roman pottery.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 408:** A loose mid brown silty sand with a high percentage of small (approximately 10-20%) sub-angular gravels. Some flecks of charcoal and small patches of burnt clay. It has a diffuse edge with **407** and a clear edge with **409**. Finds: Roman pottery.
- 409:** A compact dark brown (black in places) sandy silt, containing a small percentage of small (approximately 10mm) gravels, a high percentage of charcoal flecks and burnt clay fragments. The fill has clear edges. Note: a higher percentage of this context is to the northern side of the ditch, with a higher concentration of low action organic deposit to the north. This may suggest a bank eroding into the ditch from the south though this is by no means clear. Finds: Roman pottery and (Small Find 1) a Roman copper alloy fibula brooch (32.00mOD).
- 410:** A very loose orangey-pink sand, containing a small amount of silt, a few small (approximately 50mm diameter) sub-rounded pebbles/gravels and occasional charcoal flecks. There is a clear edge with **409** yet a diffuse edge with the underlying naturals (**402**). There is a slightly thicker band of these redeposited on the southern side suggesting a possible erosion of the original upcast.
- 411:** An E-W orientated, V-shaped linear feature. The sides slope moderately at 45° and are slightly concave. The base is shallow and concave with a shallow break of slope. The feature truncates pit **415**, shallow feature **413** and natural **402**. It is filled by **407**, **408**, **409** and **410**.
- 412:** A compact light grey silty sand with a high percentage of poorly sorted sub-angular pebbles (approximately 10-40mm). The edges are clear. It is truncated by ditch **411**. Finds: Roman pottery.
- 413:** An unusual shallow feature, only partially exposed in Trench 4. Wide but very shallow – 4m by 0.1m - with a flat base, moderate sides and a gradual break of slope. This feature truncates pit **415** and gully **417** and is itself truncated by ditch **411**.
- 414:** A firm/compact light brown sandy silt containing very few small sub-rounded pebbles. It has clear edges. It has been only partially exposed in Trench 4.
- 415:** A partially exposed cut at the southern end of Trench 4. It has concave/steep sides, a shallow concave base and a sharp to moderate break of slope. It is unclear in plan.
- 416:** A firm, compact silty sand consisting of an unsorted small percentage of small sub-angular gravels. It has clear edges. Finds: one sherd of Roman pottery.
- 417:** A partially exposed N-S aligned gully truncated by **413**. It possibly shows a point of termination or turning. Only the west side is visible; it is concave and slopes moderately to a regular concave base.
- 418:** Medium pinkish-brown compact but loose sandy silt with 40% pea grit and 1% gravel (sub-rounded). Pea grit spread throughout fill but also found occasionally in small clumps. All particles within the deposit have an alignment, i.e. a trend. On the south side they lie diagonally, highest at the south and lowest towards the middle of the feature. This effect is mirrored on the north side until truncated by ditch **423**. The fill also contains 10% charcoal flecks and <1% pottery: Severn Valley Ware from the upper part of the fill, 0.20m down from the surface and grey pottery from approximately 0.40m below the surface. Most pottery marked as **418** is a mix from **418** and **419** prior to noticing there were actually two ditches. Most came from the top 0.50m of both fills.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 419:** Dark pinkish-brown silty sand. Compact but loose. NW-SE orientation. The fill contains pea grit dispersed throughout at 5%, gravel 1%, small stones <1% and scattered charcoal flecks 15%. Pottery mixed with **418** came mainly from the upper 0.50m. At the base of the fill are elements of sand and silt – no stones – which probably represent the settling of the sediments over time.
- 420:** Light yellowish-brown silty sand. Compact but loose. Contains gravel 1% sub-rounded, pockets of pea grit (20-40mm) 1% sub-rounded and 5% charcoal flecks. There are also well-mixed smaller particles following the contour/shape of the cut. A cluster of gravel around the middle of the fill shows tumble as backfilling occurred from the south edge. There is a general slope of particles to the north. This is the primary fill of cut **421**. Recorded primarily from section. Aligned NW-SE. No finds.
- 421:** Aligned NW-SE and linear in plan, visible in Trench 4 and Trench 5. In section this feature has a curved and stepped profile, with an overhang at the south edge due to slumping of the loose sandy natural. The south edge curves gradually to a flat step approximately two thirds down, then breaks again to form a U-shaped base which flows into the north edge without further breaks of slope. It is truncated on this north side by ditch **422** and truncates the natural **402**. It is filled by **425** and **420**.
- 422:** Linear in plan and aligned NW-SE. The south edge is concave and slopes gradually, being initially vertical then curving to flat. It breaks gradually to a steep slope about 0.30m down then breaks gradually again to slope unevenly at 45° to the limit of excavation at 0.95m. The north edge is over 50% truncated but slopes at a 55° angle. Filled by **418**. Truncated by **423** (N) and truncates **425**, **420** (S) and **421**.
- 423:** A linear feature, aligned NW-SE and also seen in Trench 5. A deep, wide cut, truncating ditch **422** (north side) and the natural **402**. The slightly concave cut breaks sharply from ground level on the north edge and slopes unevenly until becoming a step. This then slopes obliquely to the south and is slightly convex. Another gradual concave break turns into the bottom edge. This is also concave and approximately 0.50m deep. This then curves slightly upwards then drops sharply (45°) and has a small step approximately 0.70m from the top [i.e. ground surface]. The higher part of the south edge is uncertain, but based on the alignment of particles within the fill. See also **525**.
- 424:** Light orange-yellow silty sand with pea grit and small stones 1% and charcoal flecks <1%. Compact but loose. The colour is similar to the natural and to **420**. This is a primary fill of **423** and lies on the extreme north of the three ditch sequence. There is no pottery.
- 425:** Light yellowish-brown sandy silt with sub-angular gravel 1%, sub-rounded pea grit 10% and charcoal 1%. Well compacted with a loose consistency. A well-mixed deposit. Recorded primarily from section. The shape in profile is shallow and relatively long/wide. This is an upper fill aligned approximately NW-SE. There are no finds.
- 426:** Compact light yellow sandy silt containing pea grit 5% and small gravel, rare. No pottery, animal or human bone, or charcoal. A clean deposit. Pre excavation plan: sub-rounded. The extent of the deposit is unclear but spreads eastward in a linear fashion then expands (see plan). It is filling a concave depression on the north east (excavated side).
- 427:** Shape in plan is very irregular but the slot is excavated where most circular. This is a shallow feature. The north and east sides have a gradual concave slope and are quite open. They break sharply from the surface. There is no real break to the concave base. Filled by **426** and truncates **402**. The extent of this feature is blurred by ploughing scars (N-S).

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 428:** Light brownish-yellow sandy silt with rare pea grit and small gravels. Charcoal is very rare, almost non-existent. There are no other finds. The majority of these 'inclusions' are in the upper part of the fill. The particles are banded horizontally at the southern edge but curve upwards to the north edge. Fill of 429. Not truncated.
- 429:** Linear feature running NE-SW, thinning or tapering to the SW. Filled by **428** and truncating **402**. The surface of the fill is uneven. The north edge breaks sharply from the surface and slopes almost vertically (10°). It breaks again to a 45° angle of slope, which gradually meets a flat base. The edge slopes back up at the south at 55° and curves over itself quite sharply to form an overhang.
- 430:** Void.
- 431:** Void.
- 432:** Quite a wide, open feature and irregular in plan. The fill is light in colour and silty with an element of pea grit and some larger rounded gravel and pebbles. Very clean. To the north is an 'arm' indicating a plough scar, or root extension about 0.40m wide (tapering into the section) and up to 1m long. The main body of the feature has sloping upper sides, quite gentle, which then break sharply, in a circular fashion, and vertically to a concave open base. Again, a lack of pottery or charcoal indicates a natural feature, as does the very irregular shape.
- 433:** A primary fill. Black in colour with a silty texture (charcoal or manganese?) containing gravel 1%, burnt clay <1% and pottery sherds <1%. Sample number **13**. Quite uniform though affected by root action that is shown by thin, vaguely vertical streaks of **435**. See section. Becomes more patchy at the south side. Fill of **434**. Not truncated.
- 434:** Irregular circle in plan. The surface slopes downwards from north to south. Truncates **402** but is itself not truncated. Filled by **433** and **435**. Both edges break sharply from the surface and slope at approximately 40-45° before breaking to form a concave and oblique step or shelf. Another gradual break (40-45°) slopes down and breaks again to form a shallow concave base. The profile is quite symmetrical.
- 435:** Light orange-grey silty sand with occasional pea grit, rare gravel (0.04-0.08m) and very rare charcoal flecks. Compact but loose with a gritty texture. The surface of the deposit sloped downward from north to south. All the larger gravels are on the surface of the deposit. Fill of **434**. Not truncated.
- 436:** Fill of **439**. Very light yellowish-brown compact but crumbly silty sand, with occasional flecks and small chunks charcoal, very rare small (middle Bronze Age?) pottery, common throughout pea grit, rare sub-rounded gravel and very rare, rounded fire-cracked stones (river worn?). Deposit is dry and particles do not bind well. Aligned NE-SW. Not truncated.
- 437:** A mid fill of **439**. Light yellowish-brown silty sand. Containing occasional flecks of charcoal, rare sub-rounded, small gravel and occasional medium sub-rounded fire-cracked stones. The latter cluster at the mid-south edge but are well-mixed elsewhere. They tend to follow the shape of the deposit. Not truncated.
- 438:** Fill of **439**. Mid yellowish-brown silty sand with few inclusions -charcoal flecks, very rare; gravel very rare, small and small clusters of pea grit. Also one large worked conglomerate stone (Small Find **2**) a stone rubber approximately 0.25-0.30m by 0.10m. It was located near the base of the fill, resting on its flat side, probably dropped in. This deposit lies thickly as the primary fill from edge to edge [of the cut] at a thickness varying from 0.20m to 0.50m.

- 439:** Sub-circular in plan, or severely slumped and distorted linear. Not truncated but truncates **402**. Filled by **436**, **437** and **438**. All the remaining edges break sharply from the surface and are mainly initially vertical or near vertical. All start to slope as they near the base. The west edge is different, it slopes unevenly at 55° and breaks gradually to a near vertical edge which breaks again to a flat base. The top of the cut is within the width of the trench – 2m diameter. South to north the pit measures 1.75m and it's depth is 0.74m.
- 440:** Light yellowish-grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks 1%, sub-rounded gravel <1% (mainly lying at the base of the deposit) and pea grit <1%, well dispersed throughout the fill but not an obvious component. Smooth, friable, solid texture and consistency. No finds. The south side shows evidence of the slumping of the natural **402**.
- 441:** Linear, shouldered V-shaped feature tapering to the east. Filled by **440**. Not truncated but possibly truncates **436** to the north, a fill of pit **439**, but this depends on the extent of said pit. The flat north side breaks obliquely from the surface then breaks gradually to the base at 45°. The south side breaks more sharply from the surface and slopes at 40° to a step. This then breaks gradually to form an uneven concave slope to a pointed base. All sides are fairly uneven.

Test Pit 1: 10cm spits of soil removed from a 2m by 2m area adjoining Trench 4 and sieved for finds retrieval.

450 – Spit 1. Gravel = 25% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British pottery, CBM, Fe objects and modern transfer print pottery.

451 – Spit 2. Gravel = 25% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British abraded pottery sherds, Fe objects, modern/post industrial pottery, partial flint tool and other flint pieces.

452 – Spit 3. Gravel = 25% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British abraded pottery, Fe objects and small pieces of glass.

453 – Spit 4. Gravel = 30% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British pottery and possible paint base. Note: this spit is the same as **406**, upper fill of ditch **403**.

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 91.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.42m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Topsoil	Loose, light brown silty sand with small roots visible.	0.00-0.17m
501	Subsoil	Compact, light greyish-brown silty sand, with 2% gravel and small stones (20-40mm).	0.17-.34m
502	Natural	Orange gravelly sand, with frequent poorly sorted gravel (10-50mm) and brown pea grit gravels.	0.36m

Features/Other deposits.

- 503:** The shallow cut of a linear feature orientated N-S at the west end of Trench 5. The east side has a gradual break of slope; the west side has a sharp break of slope at the surface and at the base. The base itself is smooth and slopes to the west.
- 504:** Firm, brownish-orange silty sand with 5% pea gravel. Unclear edges.
- 505:** A shallow U-shaped linear feature aligned N-S and running parallel to cut **503**. All edges break gradually from the ground surface and fall vertically before forming a concave base.
- 506:** A loose, brownish-orange silty sand with 5% pea grit and 1% gravel (20-40mm). Unclear edges. See **530**.
- 507:** E-W aligned gully. Filled by **508**. See **531** and **505**.
- 508:** A loose mid brown silty sand with 1% pea grit and 5% gravel (10-20mm). Unclear edges. Feature extends beyond the south edge of Trench 5.
- 509:** Compact, yellowish-brown silty sand/gravel with occasional pea grit gravel (10%) and sub-rounded stones. No finds. Single fill of **510**.
- 510:** Linear feature aligned N-S at the east end of Trench 5. It is a shallow feature with a sharp break of slope to the east and a more gradual break of slope to the west. There are gently sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled by **509**.
- 511:** Compact, light yellowish-grey/brown silty sand with 5% gravel and 3% sub-rounded stones.
- 512:** A shallow linear feature aligned N-S at the east end of Trench 5. The uneven shallow sides break gently from the surface. Filled by **511**.
- 513:** Very compact, pale yellowish-brown silty sand with 10% rounded gravel. Fill of tree throw **514**.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 514:** Amorphous shaped feature with irregular sides and base. A natural feature. Filled by **513**.
- 515:** Not used.
- 516:** Compact, light yellowish-brown silty sand with 10% rounded stones and rare charcoal flecks. No finds. Single fill of **517**.
- 517:** Shallow linear terminus aligned SE-NW with irregular shallow sides and base and unclear break from the surface. Filled by **516**.
- 518:** Compact, light brown silty sand with >5% small rounded stones and pea grit gravel. No finds. Fill of **519**.
- 519:** Shallow linear feature aligned N-S with gently sloping sides and a gradual break of slope from the surface. The base is fairly flat and 0.20m in depth. Filled by **518**.
- 520:** A large sub-oval pit with sharp breaks of slope, an almost vertical west edge and a slumped (concave) east edge. The north and south sides angle steeply to the base, which is fairly flat. It measures 2.90m in width, 4.20m in length and 2.24m in depth (below the current ground level). Filled by sandy gravel deposits: **521, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546** and **547**. This feature truncates the natural **502**.
- 521:** Compact, orange-brown silty sand with occasional bands of pea grit gravel and larger rounded stones (300mm). Present in, and sloping to the eastern corner of the feature.
- 522:** Compact, orange-brown sandy silt with fine gravel, rounded, broken stones (50mm), pebbles (60%) and a few abraded pottery sherds. Thickness of the deposit varies from 0.18m (N) to 0.14m (S). Hand excavated in very dry conditions.
- 523:** Loose, orange-brown silty sand with fine gravel and rounded and angular stones (50mm). High loading of pebbles. Hand excavated in very dry conditions.
- 524:** Soft, orange-brown silty sand with fine gravel, rounded and 2% broken stones (70mm), clay lenses, sand lenses, pottery sherds throughout and some black specks. Up to 0.67m thick. Hand excavated in dry conditions. Contained Small Finds **3** and **4**.
- 525:** Linear feature with a sharp break of slope and steep sides. Base not exposed. See **535**.
- 526:** Compact, mid yellowish-brown silty sand with occasional rounded stones and pea gravel concentrated in the western extent of the deposit. Larger stones (15-30mm) are concentrated in the upper part of the fill. Fills linear **527**. No finds.
- 527:** N-S aligned linear feature. The east edge breaks gradually from the surface and has a gradual slope; the west edge breaks and slopes sharply to an uneven base, which slopes to the north. Filled by **526**.
- 528:** Compact, mid reddish-brown silty sand with frequent fairly sorted small gravel and one pottery sherd. Excavated in sondage.
- 529:** N-S aligned linear furrow ditch with gradual sides (40°) and a concave base.
- 530:** Compact, dark reddish-brown silty sand with frequent poorly sorted medium round pebbles and occasional unsorted small gravel. Contained a piece of leather – perhaps a modern intrusion caused by ploughing action.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 531:** E-W aligned gully. See **507**.
- 532:** Compact, dark greyish-brown sandy silt with frequent fairly sorted medium round pebbles and frequent fairly sorted small gravels. No finds.
- 533:** E-W aligned shallow gully with gradual concave sides (30°-40°) and a concave base.
- 534:** Compact, mid reddish-brown silty sand with frequent poorly sorted small gravel and small rounded pebbles. Note: dimensions are taken from the section because only the northern edge of this feature was exposed and hence excavated. No finds.
- 535:** E-W aligned ditch with a V-shaped profile (65°). Excavated partially due to running parallel with the trench edge.
- 536:** Compact, mid reddish-brown sandy silt with frequent unsorted medium round pebbles and gravels. No finds.
- 537:** N-S aligned furrow ditch with gradual, slightly concave, sides (20-30°) and a concave base. Truncates E-W ditch **531**.
- 538:** Compact, reddish-brown silty gravel with manganese flecks. Present in west end only of pit **520**.
- 539:** Compact, dark reddish-brown silty sand and gravel with rare flecks of manganese and charcoal and occasional flecks of white clay. Present in east half only of pit **520**. Upper fill sealed by **521** and sealed by **540**. No finds.
- 540:** Compact, brown silty sand with lenses/pockets of brown clay, a sherd of Romano-British pottery and CBM fragments. Extends almost completely across pit **520** as a layer 0.30m thick. It has a diffuse boundary with **541** below and **539** above.
- 541:** Compact, dark reddish-brown sand and gravel with a little silt in the matrix. No finds but occasional flecks of manganese. Located centrally within **520**, it has a diffuse boundary with **543** below and **540** above.
- 542:** Compact, brownish-yellow silty sand with pockets of clay in the western extent and evidence of slumping into **541**, a much softer, sandier deposit. Clear definition against the natural **502**. No finds.
- 543:** Compact, orange-brown coarse sand and gravel with 5% manganese flecks and fragments. It has a diffuse boundary with **541** above and almost extends the length of **520** from the western edge. The deposit is fairly flat with no obvious direction of fill shown by the gradient of stones.
- 544:** An area of slumped gravel lying at the east of section **11**. It is sealed by **543** and **540**.
- 545:** Compact, brown silty sand lying towards the base of **520** and sealed by **543**. Hand dug. No finds.
- 546:** Compact, brown silty sand with <5-10% gravel. A clean deposit at the east edge of the feature comprising slumped natural and fill, it lies directly over the natural **502**.
- 547:** Compact silty clay lying at the west edge of **520** directly over the natural **502**.
- 548:** Same as **533**.

- 549:** Loose, dark brownish-grey sandy silt with occasional medium rounded pebbles. No finds.
- 550:** Circular in plan with fairly straight, vertical sides and a concave base. The south end is slightly undercut. Truncates **507**.
- 551:** Compact, dark reddish brown silty sand with occasional unsorted medium sub-rounded pebbles and rare small gravels.
- 552:** E-W aligned ditch with concave sides (50°) and concave base. The eastern end of this feature could turn E-SE, or could be a continuation of ditch **507**. Although their sections are similar, different alignments and a truncation by **503** make resolving any relationship difficult.

Test Pit 3: 10cm spits of soil removed from a 2m by 2m area adjoining Trench 5 and sieved for finds retrieval.

553 – Spit 1. Topsoil. Gravel = 20% of a ten litre sample. Finds = pottery, metal objects and various modern objects.

554 – Spit 2. Topsoil. Gravel = 15% of a ten litre sample. Finds = various metal and modern objects.

555 – Spit 3. Topsoil. Gravel = 25% of a ten litre sample. Finds = pottery.

556 – Spit 4. Note: this spit is the same as **523**, upper fill of ditch **525**. Gravel = 30% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Romano-British pottery fragments.

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 74m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.50m

Orientation: Northeast-Southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
601	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.30m
602	Natural	Same as 102	0.40-0.50m

Features/Other deposits.

- 603:** An irregular shaped feature with gradually breaking sides. It is a friable, light to mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with approximately 2-3% pea gravel. It measures approximately 0.66m in width and approximately 0.22m in depth. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 604:** An irregular shaped feature with gently breaking sides and a concave base. It is a loose, light to mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with approximately 1% gravel and approximately 1% pea gravel. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 605:** An irregular shaped feature with gradually breaking sides and a concave base. It is a loose, light to mid brown silty sand with no inclusions. It measures approximately 1m in width and is approximately 0.30m thick. It is truncated by ditch terminus/pit **606**. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 606:** Semi-circular in plan with sharply breaking sides and a flat base. It measures approximately 1m⁸³ in width and is approximately 0.82m thick. Fill number **607**. This feature truncates natural feature **605**.
- 607:** A loose to sticky, mid brown-orange silty sand with approximately 1% gravel and approximately 2-3% pea gravel. It measures approximately 1.83m in width and is approximately 0.82m thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 608:** Oval in plan with gradually breaking sides and a concave base. It is a loose to sticky light to mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with approximately 1% gravel and approximately 2-3% pea gravel. It measures approximately 1.55m in length, 0.85m in width and approximately 0.32m in depth. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on dry day.
- 609:** A linear feature with gradually to sharply breaking sides and a flat base, measuring approximately 1.90m in width and approximately 0.74m in depth. It is filled by **610** and **611**.
- 610:** A loose, mid to dark brown silty sand with approximately 2-3% gravel and pea gravel. It measures approximately 1.60m in with and is approximately 0.56m thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 611:** A loose, light to mid yellowish brown silty sand with approximately 2-3% gravel and pea gravel. It measures 1.90m in width and is approximately 0.20m thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.

- 612:** The base of an Iron Age pot set within a small circular cut. This pot is heavily truncated by modern ploughing, leaving roughly only 0.15m in depth. It appears that it is the true base at the bottom, rather than being inverted, though it was not fully exposed during excavation as very fragile. The internal deposit has not been investigated, but lifted intact. It is possible to see some burnt (fire-cracked) stones on the surface, and although there is no sign of any burnt bone/cremation material here it may well still be present within the pot. It may have been used for a domestic purpose, but again there is no sign of any charcoal or surrounding burning or scorching.
- 613:** A loose, orange-brown silty sand containing occasional small (approximately 10-50mm) sub-rounded pebbles and pea grit gravels. There are clear well-defined edges despite some plough scar damage to the south. This deposit is packed around pot **612**.
- 614:** A circular, clear cut for pit containing pot **612**, with vertical sides and a flat base. The plough truncates the top, with visible scarring extending to the south. This deposit was excavated and recorded in two halves (SW/NE) to allow the pot (**612**) to be lifted whole.
- 615:** This is the unexcavated fill of pot **612**. It is visible in plan only and is a compact silty sand with a high percentage of fire-cracked stones. There is no evidence of burnt bone indicative of a cremation – its usage is as yet undetermined therefore.
- 616:** Oval in plan with gradually breaking sides and an irregular base. It is a sticky, light to mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with approximately 5% gravel and approximately 2-3% pea gravel. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 617:** Same as **616**.
- 618:** Same as **616**.
- 619:** Same as **616**.
- 620:** Semi-circular in plan with gradually breaking sides and a flat base. It measures approximately 1.10m in width and pp 0.54m in depth. Truncates root activity **619**. Filled by **621**.
- 621:** A sticky, mid yellowish-brown silty sand with approximately 5% gravel and approximately 2-3% pea gravel. It measures approximately 1.10m in width and is approximately 0.54 thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 622:** Slightly compact orange-brown silty sand, with 2% sub-rounded stones (approximately 10-40mm) and gravel (4mm). The stones are not graded. Maximum depth 480mm. The top of this layer is hard to distinguish from the subsoil, whilst the bottom half shows fine roots and root damage.
- 623:** A linear, V-shaped feature with steep sides and a poorly defined base due to root damage. The west side of this feature is 0.60m in width, whereas the east side is 1.20m in width. The west side is also less steep. Aligned NW-SE.
- 624:** Periglacial feature

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.60m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
701	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.30-0.48m
702	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.48+m

Features/Other deposits.

703: North-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking sides and with a flat base. Contains a single fill of loose mid brown silty sand with 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%). 0.75m wide and 0.06m deep.

704: North-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking sides and with a flat base. Contains a single fill of loose mid brown silty sand with 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%). 0.45m wide and 0.12m deep.

705: North-south linear plough furrow. Gently breaking sides and with a flat base. Contains a single fill of loose mid brown silty sand with 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%). 0.98m wide and 0.12m deep.

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 99m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
801	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.30-0.45m
802	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.45+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 803:** Curvilinear periglacial feature, running roughly north-south. Gradually breaking sides and with an irregular base. Contains single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown sandy silt with 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%). 0.82m wide and 0.28m deep.
- 804:** East-west linear tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides and with an irregular base. Contains single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown sandy silt with 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%). 0.90m wide and 0.25m deep.

Trench 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 71.08m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.43m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
900	Topsoil	Loose light to mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
901	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
902	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%), with areas of light beige silty sand.	0.40+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 903:** Single fill of **904**. Compact light beige silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 5%). 2.00m long, 1.10m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 904:** Cut for irregular oval tree-throw. Sharply breaking steep sides and with gently breaking uneven base. 2.00m long, 1.10m wide and 0.40m deep. Filled by **903**.
- 905:** Single fill of **906**. Compact light beige silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 5%). 0.70m wide and 0.56m deep.
- 906:** Cut for a partially exposed tree-throw. Gradually breaking slope and with an uneven base. 0.70m wide and 0.56m deep. Filled by **905**.
- 907:** Single fill of **908**. Compact light beige silty sand. Containing gravels (*c* 5-10%). 5.25m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 908:** Cut for partially exposed and partially excavated northeast-southwest linear feature. Probably a periglacial or tree-throw feature. Gently breaking diffuse sides and with an uneven base. 5.25m wide and 0.40m deep. Filled by **907**

Trench 10

Maximum dimensions: Length: 47m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.6m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.20m
1001	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.20-0.30m
1002	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Trench 11

Maximum dimensions: Length: 7m Width: 6.75m Depth: 0.45m

Orientation: n/a

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1100	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1101	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
1102	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.40+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 1103:** Oval tree-throw. Gradually breaking sides with an irregular base. Contains a single fill of compact light-mid yellow/brown sandy silt with 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%). 0.8m wide and 0.22m deep.
- 1104:** Unexcavated irregular shaped tree-throw. Contains dark orange/brown silty sand with occasional gravels, 'peagrit' gravels and manganese flecks. 2.00m long and 0.95m wide.
- 1105:** Unexcavated irregular shaped tree-throw. Contains dark orange/brown silty sand with occasional gravels, 'peagrit' gravels and manganese flecks. 1.20m long and 0.80m wide.

Trench 12

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 1.50m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1200	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1201	Colluvium	Sticky mid red/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 5%).	0.30-0.95m
1202	Colluvium	Sticky light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains manganese (c 10-15%).	0.95-1.60m
1203	Natural	Light beige/brown silty sand, containing 55-60% sub-angular pebbles (20-50mm) and 5-10% 'peagrit' gravels. Rare patches of manganese.	1.60+m

Trench 13

Maximum dimensions: Length: 26.10m Width: 1.80m Depth: 1.40m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1300	Topsoil	Loose mid to dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.40m
1301	Colluvium	Sticky light to mid reddish/brown silty sand. Contains manganese flecks (<i>c</i> 2-5%) and gravels (<i>c</i> 5%).	0.40-1.40m
1302	Natural	Light beige/brown silty sand, containing 55-60% sub-angular pebbles (20-50mm) and 5-10% 'peagrit' gravels. Rare patches of manganese.	1.40+m

Trench 14

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 1.20m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1400	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1401	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
1402	Colluvium	Sticky light to mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains manganese (<i>c</i> 10-15%).	0.40-0.80m
1403	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0.80+m

Trench 15

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.70m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.70m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1500	Topsoil	Loose mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1501	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%)	0.30-0.40m
1502	Colluvium	Sticky light to mid brown silty sand.	0.40-0.60m
1503	Natural	Beige/brown loose sands, contains a higher percentage of mottled silty sand to northern end of trench	0.60+m

Trench 16

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.45m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1600	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1601	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.45m
1602	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0.45+m

Trench 17

Maximum dimensions: Length: 34m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1700	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
1701	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
1702	Natural	Beige/brown loose sands, contains a higher percentage of mottled silty sand to northern end of trench	0.40+m

Features/Other deposits.

- 1703:** Cut of regular circular pit or post hole. Sharply breaking sides with a regular, level, flat base. 1.00m diameter and 0.20m deep. Filled by **1704**.
- 1704:** Single fill of **1703**. Sticky mid brown/grey silty sand. Contains some loose 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 15%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 2%). 1.00m diameter and 0.20m deep.
- 1705:** Cut for east-west linear ditch. Gradually breaking sides and with a flat base. 2.18m wide and 0.80m deep. Filled by **1706**, **1707** and **1708**.
- 1706:** Primary fill of ditch **1705**. Friable mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5%). Re-deposited natural. 1.38m wide and 0.38m deep.
- 1707:** Secondary fill of ditch **1705**. Friable mid brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-3%). Probable slumping of original up-cast/bank. 1.10m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 1708:** Secondary fill of ditch **1705**. Friable mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-3%). 1.49m wide and 0.57m deep.
- 1709:** Cut for partially exposed semi-circular pit, post hole or ditch terminus. Sharply breaking sides and with a regular, level, flat base. Possibly associated with feature **1703**. 1.28m wide and 0.42m deep. Filled by **1710** and **1711**.
- 1710:** Primary fill of feature **1709**. Friable mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5-10%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5-10%). Initial erosion of edges and up-cast. 1.28m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 1711:** Secondary fill of feature **1709**. Friable mid yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (*c* 5%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 2-3%). 1.22m wide and 0.21m deep.

Trench 18

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.35-0.70m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1800	Topsoil	Loose dark orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%). Occasional flecks of manganese.	0-0.24m
1801	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.24-0.31m
1802	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%). Occasional flecks of manganese.	0.31+m

Trench 19

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.30m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.46m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1900	Topsoil	Loose light to mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.25m
1901	Subsoil	Compact light orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.25-0.33m
1902	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0.33+m

Trench 20

Maximum dimensions: Length: 28.40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.65m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2000	Topsoil	Loose light to mid orange/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
2001	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/brown silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.60m
2002	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0.60+m

Trench 21

Maximum dimensions: Length: 28.90m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2100	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0-0.30m
2101	Subsoil	Compact light yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (<i>c</i> 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 2-3%).	0.30-0.50m
2102	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (<i>c</i> 55-60%) and larger gravels (<i>c</i> 5-10%).	0.50+m

Trench 22

Maximum dimensions: Length: 30m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30-0.45m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2200	Topsoil	Firm mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
2201	Subsoil	Compact light beige silty sand. Contains gravels (c 10-15%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 2-3%).	0.30-0.40m
2202	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%). Manganese patches.	0.40+m

Features/Other deposits.

2203: Secondary fill of ditch **2205**. Friable dark grey/brown sandy silt. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles. 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep.

2204: Primary fill of ditch **2205**. Friable mid red/grey sandy silt. Contains frequent 'peagrit' gravels and larger sub-rounded pebbles. 0.70m wide and 0.30m deep.

2205: Cut of north-south linear 'U' ditch. Sharply breaking steep sides with gently breaking flat base. 0.8m wide and 0.06m deep. Filled by **2203** and **2204**.

2206: Secondary fill of ditch **2209**. Sticky mid brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (c1%). 0.75m wide and 0.2m deep. Same as **2215**.

2207: Secondary fill of ditch **2209**. Sticky mid brown silty sand. Contains sub-rounded pebbles and gravels (c 30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%). 0.45m wide and 0.12m deep. Same as **2216**.

2208: Primary fill of ditch **2209**. Loose mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains sub-rounded pebbles and gravels (c 30%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (c 1%). 1.00m wide and 0.40m deep. Same as **2217**.

2209: Cut for roughly east-west linear 'V' shaped ditch. Sharply breaking steep sides with regular 'V' shaped base. Truncates ditch **2211**. 1.00m wide and 0.70m deep. Filled by **2206**, **2207** and **2208**.

2210: Single fill of ditch **2211**. Loose mid brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 15%). 1.40m wide and 1.00m deep.

2211: Cut for roughly north-south linear 'V' shaped ditch. Steep, slightly convex sides and sharp 'V' shaped base. Truncated by ditch **2209**. 1.40m wide and 1.00m deep.

Features/Other deposits (cont.).

- 2212:** Secondary fill of ditch **2214**. Compacted yellow/brown silt. Contains gravels, pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and burnt clay. Low action deposit. 1.30m wide and 0.45m deep.
- 2213:** Primary fill of ditch **2214**. Compacted red/brown silty sand. Contains frequent sub-rounded pebbles and gravels. Also occasional charcoal flecks. 1.20m wide and 0.40m deep.
- 2214:** Cut for north-south linear 'V' shaped ditch. Steep, slightly convex sides with clear, sharply breaking base. 1.30m wide and 0.85m deep. Filled by **2212** and **2213**.
- 2215:** Secondary fill of ditch **2218**. Sticky mid brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 1%). 0.5m wide and 0.20m deep. Same as **2206**.
- 2216:** Secondary fill of ditch **2218**. Sticky mid brown silty sand. Contains sub-rounded pebbles and gravels (*c* 30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%). 0.30m wide and 0.10m deep. Same as **2207**.
- 2217:** Primary fill of ditch **2218**. Loose mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains sub-rounded pebbles and gravels (*c* 30%), smaller 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 1%). 1.10m wide and 0.75m deep. Same as **2208**.
- 2218:** Cut for roughly east-west linear 'V' shaped ditch. Sharply breaking steep sides with regular 'V' shaped base. Truncates ditch **2220**. 1.10m wide and 0.75m deep. Filled by **2215**, **2216** and **2217**.
- 2219:** Secondary fill of ditch **2220**. Loose mid brown silty sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 30%) and small sub-rounded pebbles (*c* 5%). 2.00m wide and 0.55m deep.
- 2220:** Cut for roughly north-south, substantial linear ditch. Gently breaking, moderate sides with a sharply breaking gully in the base. Truncated by ditch **2218**. 2.00m wide and 0.85m deep. Filled by **2219** and **2221**.
- 2221:** Primary fill of ditch **2220**. Friable mid-dark brown silty sand. Contains small sub-rounded pebbles (*c* 15%), 'peagrit' gravels (*c* 5%) and occasional charcoal flecks (*c* 15%). Not fully excavated, 0.70m wide and 0.35m deep.

Trench 23

Maximum dimensions: Length: 30m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.32-0.40m

Orientation: Northwest-Southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2300	Topsoil	Compact, dark brown sandy loam with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles and gravels (15-40mm), charcoal flecks and frequent root action. Clear interface with 2301.	0.00m
2301	Subsoil	Very compact, mid-brown silty sand with occasional small pea grit gravel (2-10mm).	0.22m
2302	Natural	Loose orange-brown sand with occasional gravels throughout. Concentration and size increases towards the north west end of the trench from 15-40mm to 60-120mm.	0.30-0.32m

Trench 24

Maximum dimensions: Length: 28m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40-0.42m

Orientation: Northwest-Southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2400	Topsoil	Compact, friable, dark brown sandy loam with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular gravel (15-40mm), rare charcoal flecks and root action. Clear interface with 2401.	0.00m
2401	Subsoil	Compact, dark red brown to yellow silty sand with rare lenses of pea gravel, rare manganese flecks. Very diffuse interface with natural 2404.	0.16-0.22m
2402	Natural	Loose, orange-brown mottled sand with rare pea grit gravel throughout and a small pocket of pure gravel at the north end of the trench.	0.40-0.42m

Trench 25

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.31m-0.51m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2500	Topsoil	Compact, friable, dark brown sandy loam with occasional sub-rounded and angular gravel and pebbles (15-35mm) and rare sub-rounded cobbles (60-100mm) Diffuse boundary to subsoil. Unsorted stones.	0.00m
2501	Subsoil	Compact, mid orange-brown silty sand increasing to the east where the boundary with the natural is more diffuse and the natural is almost pure sand. This deposit is clean over the sandy natural and with rare gravel when over the gravel natural.	0.22m
2502	Natural	Loose, banded sand and gravel. West and east end of trench is sand with rare pea grit whilst an 8m band in the centre is gravel.	0.30-0.52m

Trench 26

Maximum dimensions: Length: 48.40m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.27-0.46m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2600	Topsoil	Compact, friable, dark brown silty sand/loam with frequent root action, occasional sub-rounded and angular gravels and pebbles (15-35mm) and rare large rounded cobbles (60-70mm). Diffuse boundary with subsoil.	0.00m
2601	Subsoil	Compact, orange-brown silty sand with rare sub-rounded stones (200-350mm).	0.20-0.22m
2602	Natural	Loose, orange-brown sands and gravels becoming increasingly gravel-rich towards the north end of the trench.	0.27-0.46m

Trench 27

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5m Width: 5m Depth: 0.35-0.40m

Orientation: n/a

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2701	Topsoil	Loose, dark greyish-brown sandy silt with frequent fairly sorted small sub-rounded gravel and medium sub-rounded pebbles.	0.00m
2702	Subsoil	Compact, dark greyish-brown sandy silt with frequent small and medium sub-rounded poorly sorted pebbles. Poor horizon clarity with topsoil.	0.25m
2703	Natural	Very loose, mid-pinkish-brown to light greyish-brown gravel and sand.	0.35m

Trench 28

Maximum dimensions: Length: 43.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.65m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2800	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
2801	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.30m
2802	Natural	Same as 102	0.65m

Trench 29

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.60m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
2900	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
2901	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.38m
2902	Natural	Same as 102	0.60m

Trench 30

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.70m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.40m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3000	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
3001	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.30m
3002	Natural	Same as 102	0.40m

Trench 31

Maximum dimensions: Length: 30.90m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.65m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3100	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
3101	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.30m
3102	Natural	Same as 102	0.40-0.65m

Trench 32

Maximum dimensions: Length: 27.90m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.65m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3200	Topsoil	Loose, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small stones (10-40mm)	0.00m
3201	Subsoil	Compact, mid brown sandy silt with occasional small stones (10-60mm)	0.35m
3202	Natural	Loose, mid reddish-brown sand and pea gravel (15-20%) with mottling from root activity.	0.45m

Trench 33

Maximum dimensions: Length: 28.80m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3300	Topsoil	Loose, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small stones (10-40mm)	0.00m
N/A	Subsoil	No subsoil present	N/A
3301	Natural	Mid reddish-brown sandy gravel. Seen to have thinner gravel and be more yellowish-brown at the southern end of the trench with frequent root disturbance.	0.30m

Features/Other deposits.

Test Pit 4: 10cm spits of soil removed from a 2m by 2m area adjoining Trench 33 and sieved for finds retrieval.

3302 – Spit 1. Gravel = 15% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Post medieval and medieval pot, clay pipe, Fe object, tile fragment.

3303 – Spit 2. Gravel = 15% of a ten litre sample. Finds = Medieval pot, tile fragment, a cu alloy button

Trench 34

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29.25m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.305m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3400	Topsoil	Loose, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small cobbles (10-40mm)	0.00m
N/A	Subsoil	No subsoil present	N/A
3401	Natural	Loose, mid reddish-brown sand.	0.30m

Trench 35

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3500	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
N/A	Subsoil	No subsoil present	N/A
3501	Natural	Same as 102	0.30m

Trench 36

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3600	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
N/A	Subsoil	No subsoil present	N/A
3601	Natural	Same as 102	0.30m

Trench 37

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.35m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3700	Topsoil	Same as 100	0.00m
3701	Subsoil	Same as 101	0.30m
3702	Natural	Same as 102	0.35m

Features/Other deposits.

- 3703:** A linear feature with gradually breaking sides and a concave base. It measures approximately 1.40m in width and is 0.68m thick. Filled by **3704** and **3705**.
- 3704:** Compact, mid brown silty sand with gravel (10-15%), pea gravel (15-20%) and pottery. It measures approximately 1m in width and is approximately 0.34m thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 3705:** Sticky, mid reddish-brown silty sand with gravel (5-10%), pea gravel (approximately 5%) and pottery. It measures approximately 1.40m in width and is approximately 0.40m thick. Excavated with a mattock and trowel on a dry day.
- 3706:** A linear (natural) feature with gradually to sharply breaking sides and an irregular base. It is filled by sticky, light yellowish-brown silt with no inclusions. It measures approximately 0.90m in width and 0.35m in depth.
- 3707:** A roughly linear natural feature with gradual diffuse sides. It is filled by sticky light yellowish-brown silt with no inclusions. It measures approximately 1.60m in width and 0.40m in depth. Not fully excavated. Dry conditions.
- 3708:** Compact, silty clay with frequent sand with occasional large sherds of Romano-British pottery. A mottled dark brown/ grey/ orange-brown colour with very frequent root action in large amorphous patches and frequent manganese flecks. Present in the southern 10m of the trench and is similar to a disturbed layer seen in Trench 40. A sondage through this deposit indicates a depth of 0.28-0.40m. It lies above **3709**.
- 3709:** Compact, yellowish-orange silty sand at the south west end of the trench, sealed by **3708**. Its full extent is unknown.
- 3710:** Compact, greyish-black silty sand, reminiscent of sitting water in colour. Containing rare sub-rounded and angular unsorted stones and manganese flecks. Present at the south west of the trench in the sondage.

Trench 38

Maximum dimensions: Length: 100m Width: 1m80 Depth: 0.50m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3800	Topsoil	Friable, dark orange-brown sandy silt with common rounded, sub-rounded, sub-angular gravel and pebbles	0.00m
N/A	Subsoil	No subsoil present	N/A
3802	Natural	Loose but cohesive, light pinkish-brown gravel and pebbles with a silty sand matrix	0.40m

Features/Other deposits.

- 3803:** Dry, compact, very light yellowish-brown sandy silt with 80-95% gravel, 30% pottery sherds charcoal flecks and pebbles (1%). All stones are sub-rounded. The pottery is located in a band through the deposit, sloping down from east to west at an oblique angle, approximately 0.1-0.15m thick. The highest concentration can be found at the west of the fill. Fill of **3813**
- 3804:** Compact dark reddish-brown silty sand with frequent poorly sorted sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles (15mm) and a pottery sherd. The deposit is up to 0.30m thick with no clear sedimentation lines. Fill of **3808**
- 3805:** Loose mid brown silty sand. A plough furrow fill.
- 3806:** The same as 3803, except it is 80% gravel with very rare, small pottery and no charcoal. Most of the pottery was located at the top of the fill. Fill of **3813**.
- 3807:** Compact, light yellowish-brown gravelly silt with frequent sub-rounded pebbles (130mm), very rare pottery and a patch of charcoal. The pebbles indicate direction of backfill. A pebbles with sooty residue was also found in this fill. Fill of **3808**
- 3808:** A V-shaped ditch aligned NNE-SSW truncated by **3810** (W).
- 3809:** Compact, dark reddish-brown silty sand with sub-rounded stones (average 15mm). No grading of pebbles and no indication of direction of backfill. A clear interface between **3809** and **3807/3811**. Similar to **3804**. Fill of **3810**
- 3810:** Irregular shape in plan, U-shaped in profile. Truncates **3808**.
- 3811:** Compact, yellowish-brown silty sand and gravel with manganese flecks. No finds. Upper fill of **3808**.
- 3812:** Linear feature with a concave profile and slightly uneven, shallow, concave base. The east edge is oblique and concave, and has been partially truncated by pit cut **3813**, therefore top of profile is no longer extant; the west edge is lost due to truncation and distortion associated with modern hydrant.

Features/Other deposits (cont).

- 3813:** Shape in plan is unseen. The west edge is distorted due to the slump of **3826**, but is shallow and concave, breaking openly. At the base it breaks again sharply to horizontal. The east edge is initially concave but then becomes obliquely convex as it meets the base, which is fairly even. Truncates **3803** and is filled by **3806** and **3826**.
- 3814:** Very compact, fine, beige silty sand with rare sub-rounded pebbles. Interface is diffuse with **3815**, and clear with **3801**. No finds or charcoal – a clean deposit.
- 3815:** Compact, beige silty sand with abundant sub-angular pebbles (approximately 50mm). No finds or charcoal – a clean deposit. Very similar to **3814**.
- 3816:** Linear feature aligned N-S with irregular edges and some surface plough damage. Initially the sides are vertical then break at 40° becoming concave and regular. The base is also concave. Filled by **3814** and **3815**.
- 3817:** Loose, dark brown silty sand with common small (50mm) sub-angular pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and Roman pottery. It has a clear interface with **3801** and **3818**.
- 3818:** Very compact, light brown silty sand with abundant small (approximately 30-60mm) sub-rounded pebbles. No finds or charcoal present. A clear interface with **3817** and **3802**, diffuse with **3819**.
- 3819:** Loose, orange-brown sand with abundant redeposited natural pea grit gravel and small (approximately 10-30mm) sub-rounded pebbles. The interface with **3818** and **3802** is diffuse. Its position within the cut suggests this is slump of the sides rather than backfill of the upcast.
- 3820:** A regular, N-S concave feature with the east side at 45° after a gentle break of slope and the west side sloping much more steeply. The surface is possibly damaged by later ploughing activity. Filled by **3817**, **3818**, **3819**.
- 3821:** Very compact, pale yellowish-brown silt with rare sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (15-40mm) and sherds of Romano-British pottery. Fill of **3822**.
- 3822:** A shallow, N-S aligned feature with an irregular break of slope from the surface and an irregular but flat base. The interface with **3802** is very clear on the west side, but diffuse and amorphous on the east, indicating that it has been subject to root activity Filled by **3821**.
- 3823:** Compact, dark orange-brown sandy silt with very rare, small to medium pottery, very rare charcoal flecks and rounded, sub-rounded and sub-angular gravels. Poorly sorted.
- 3824:** Compact, mid orange-red clay silt with rare, very small to large pebbles and cobbles. No pottery or charcoal present. Fill of **3812**.
- 3825:** Compact, mid yellowish-brown silty sand with occasional sub-rounded gravel (15-35mm), 5% pea grit, rare to occasional pot at the base of the fill and rare flecks of charcoal and manganese. A higher percentage of stone in this deposit than in **3803**. A clear interface with **3800** and **3803**. Visible in the south-facing section only. A localised infill of ditch **3812**.
- 3826:** Compact, light orange-brown sandy silt. Containing rare, small to large pottery sherds, very rare charcoal flecks and very rare pea grit (mainly at the base of the fill). Fill of **3812**.
- 3827:** Compact, mid orange-brown sandy silt with 1% gravel, 1% Severn Valley Ware and 1% charcoal flecks. Lies in a thin band. Excavated with a mattock.

Trench 39

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
3900	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
3901	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Trench 40

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.50m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4000	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
4001	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%). In this trench the natural is mixed with topsoil by substantial root action as observed in southern end of Trench 37.	0.30+m

Trench 41

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4100	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
4101	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Trench 42

Maximum dimensions: Length: 74m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: North-South

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4200	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
4201	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Trench 43

Maximum dimensions: Length: 29m Width: 1.80m Depth: 0.30m

Orientation: East-West

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4300	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
4301	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Trench 44

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5m Width: 5m Depth: 0.30-0.45m

Orientation: n/a

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
4400	Topsoil	Loose light to mid yellow/grey silty sand. Contains gravels (c 25-30%) and smaller 'peagrit' gravels (c 5-10%).	0-0.30m
4401	Natural	Loose mid red/orange sand. Contains 'peagrit' gravels (c 55-60%) and larger gravels (c 5-10%).	0.30+m

Appendix 2

The impact of plough damage on archaeological sites at Top Barn Farm, Grimley

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2nd December 2003

Summary

An assessment of plough damage to a Scheduled Ancient Monument at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcestershire concluded the majority of the site had been damaged significantly by cultivation in the past, while some limited damage to the remaining features is likely to continue.

The aim was to identify the past, present and likely future risk to the site from continued cultivation. The assessment was carried out as part of an archaeological evaluation to assess the state of the monument.

Extensive archaeological features indicated by aerial photographs and geophysical survey were found to have been severely eroded by past cultivation when excavated. The bases of some large enclosure ditches were observed, while the evidence suggests occupation layers, surfaces and smaller cut features (such as postholes and lesser ditches) had been destroyed.

The postulated medieval ridge and furrow cultivation is liable to have considerably impacted on the site, however, much of the damage might be attributed to the move from pasture to intensive cultivation in the Post-WWII period. The impact of a spring-sown vegetable-cropping regime on a five-year rotation can be seen in recent plough damage 'cuts' in the subsoil and in archaeological features.

The risk assessment confirmed that natural factors, such as water erosion on the light soils of the river terraces has also had an impact and caused a necessary lowering of the plough depth into subsoil deposits as topsoil gradually eroded.

Introduction

A plough damage assessment was undertaken at Top Barn Farm, Holt, Worcestershire as part of an archaeological evaluation to assess the state of a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The site lies on typical brown earth soils of the Wick association (soil association 541r). These permeable, well-drained soils are classified as at Moderate Risk to erosion by water and wind (Evans 1990). Classification of soils of England and Wales by their susceptibility to soil erosion is based on monitoring of erosion in the 1980's and takes into account land use.

The impact of plough damage on the site was identified as a contributory factor on the level of survival during previous excavation on the site and a subsequent assessment stage (Edwards 1991, Edwards 1997). Assessing this impact was defined as a goal of this further stage of evaluation in the proposal (AS 2001) and updated project design (AS 2003).

The assessment aimed to identify the likely impacts of past, present and future cultivation on the site and followed a risk assessment procedure developed by Oxford Archaeology (Spandl 2002).

The evaluation aimed to determine the presence of archaeological remains across a site that is deemed to be of national importance. The assessment has provided information enabling detailed management prescriptions to be presented to ensure the short to mid-term conservation of the site. These are based on the objectives and economics of current and emerging agri-environment schemes.

Field investigation

Methodology

The background to the risk assessment method is detailed within Spandl (2002) full details of which (including methodology) are included on the DEFRA website (www.2.defra.gov.uk/research/project_data/default.asp; Project reference BD1701). The assessment procedure involved information gathering on intrinsic site factors and management factors:

- background information on slope, topography, archaeological background, soil characteristics and cultivation history,
- a site visit to determine excavated evidence for plough damage, survival of deposits and likely formation processes.

Spandl (2002) developed two models for testing whether an archaeological site is being damaged and whether the site may warrant management change, based on different site characteristics and farming regime factors:

- Risk Flow Diagram method,
- Risk Scoring Model.

Both models were used for site testing, each one completed for pre-excavation and post-excavation stages of the project.

The Risk Flow Diagram model uses a matrix of different site factors to reach a classification of risk as Minimal, Low, Moderate, High or Serious, and proposes management considerations for each risk level.

The Risk Scoring Model aims to more explicitly determine 'Risk' as the scale of hazard x the likelihood of occurrence (see attached Tables). The model scores various factors to a threshold (15). A score over the threshold determines that the archaeological site may be undergoing damage, and informs a further strategy for information gathering or adopting management change.

Defining areas for risk assessment

Spandl (2002) identifies that the intrinsic and management factors that determine risk are affected mostly by topography, and proposes carrying out assessment on different areas of a site based on its topographic location. For this reason, three areas of the evaluation area were defined as having substantially different topographic characteristics (Appendix 2; Fig 1):

- Area 1: Flat/top of slope
- Area 2: Break of slope to Mid slope
- Area 3: Flat/base of slope

It was noted that the intensity of archaeological features visible on aerial photographs and through geophysical survey present in Areas 1 and 2, were not replicated in Area 3. This area has always been considered as potentially featuring built up hillwash (colluvium) from the higher parts of the site, perhaps masking (and protecting) deeply buried archaeological features. However, in the event a post-excavation assessment was not carried out for Area 3,

as evaluation trenching revealed there was no evidence for former occupation deposits masked by colluvium.

Recent agricultural history

A site visit was carried out to gather information on the cultivation history of the site. Previous work on the site (Edwards 1997) identified that particular crops were grown in the past, although the overall regime had not been clarified with the farm management.

Land at Top Barn is owned and managed alongside a variety of business enterprises, by David Harper and son John. Father and son were interviewed on site prior to looking at the suspected evidence for plough damage in evaluation trenches.

The interview revealed knowledge of the cultivation history of the site from around 1945 to present day. Details of cropping regime within a 5-year rotation were provided.

19th century map evidence and fieldnames suggest the land was under cultivation as a pear orchard (Section 4.3)

Prior to 1945, the land was utilised as haymeadow, but was later ploughed between 1945 and 1955 by the farmer's grandfather as part of a concerted post-war effort to bring productive land into arable cultivation. The land has been under annual cultivation since. The farmer indicated established grass leys were not a feature of the past rotation on this land.

The farmer indicated his present cultivation regime was a mixed vegetable and arable cropping regime, all spring planted with a cereal break crop. Vegetables such as onions, beet and sunflowers usually required inversion ploughing to a depth of 0.15 to 0.18m, while potatoes required a depth of 0.18 to 0.21m.

The problems caused by a firm 'pan' deposit, probably resulting from compaction caused by farm machinery during cropping, are addressed by breaking up the 'pan' every two years using a three-legged subsoiler with 'lift and drop' wings to a depth of 0.20 to 0.26m. Subsoiling was not confined to tramlines, but carried out in both directions across the field. Cultivation was noted as running down the slope (which would contribute to soil movement) rather than across the slope.

Observation of the trenches with the farmer stimulated a discussion of the evidence for plough damage identified by the excavation.

Analysis

Evidence of plough damage from excavation trenches

Evaluation trenching revealed severely truncated archaeological features in Areas 1 and 2, whilst no features were revealed in Area 3. The survival of deeper features rather than horizontal stratigraphy was anticipated at earlier stages in the investigation of the site (Edwards 1997, Edwards 1991).

The base of a Mid to Late Iron Age vessel was recovered from Trench 6, located at the top of the slope in Area 1. The vessel survived to a height of 150mm. The feature survived at the base of the ploughsoil, and was evidently damaged by plough or subsoiler scarring. A linear plough scar, containing sherds of pot, running south-east from the remaining vessel strongly supported this interpretation.

Other areas indicated agricultural activity across the site at varying depths and excavation revealed numerous examples of plough or subsoiler scarring.

Area 1

Trench 1

Topography:	Top of slope
Context:	CG 1
Depth:	0.40m b.g.s
Description:	Ditch observed in section with ploughsoil interface present within upper 0.10m of fill.

Trench 2

Topography:	Top of slope
Context:	226
Depth:	0.38m b.g.s
Description:	Broad shallow area of plough scarring (0.12m deep) truncating upper fill (227) of Romano-British linear (228)

Trench 2

Topography:	Top of slope
Context:	235-237
Depth:	0.40m b.g.s
Description:	Romano-British linear observed in section with ploughsoil interface present within upper 0.10m of fill and truncation at upper extents of cut

Trench 38

Topography:	Top of slope to break of slope
Depth:	0.63m b.g.s
Description:	Linear scars in subsoil, containing a higher organic content than surrounding soil. Initially interpreted as subsoiling, but may reflect the result of root activity, itself a useful indicator of cultivation depth. No direct impact on archaeological features.

Area 2

Trench 40

Topography:	Mid part of moderate slope
Context:	4002
Depth:	0.30m b.g.s
Description:	Spread/ area of disturbed subsoil and intense root action identified on slope. Interpreted as result of cultivation damage (possibly orchard – field labelled as Upper Mill Perry on Tithe suggesting cultivation of pears)

Area 3

Trench 13

Topography:	Base of slope
Context:	Colluvium
Depth:	0.40-1.40m b.g.s.
Description:	Containing one sherd of Roman pottery at depth of 1.10, indicating colluviation since site fell out of use.

Evidence of plough damage from artefacts

Artefacts recovered from within the ploughsoil displayed a notably high level of abrasion. This was especially notable in comparisons between the material recovered from hand excavated test pits (and fieldwalking) and those recovered from the upper 100mm stratified archaeological deposits which were relatively unfragmented and unabraded. The levels of abrasion indicate that the material may well have been in the ploughsoil for a considerable time.

Spandl (2002) identifies the 'shoulder' of a slope as being particularly vulnerable to damage from cultivation. The fieldwalking stage of the evaluation identified a particular concentration of pottery finds at the break of slope across the site (Miller 2002). At pre-excavation stage this was thought to represent either dumping outside the main enclosures or exposure of disturbed artefacts, due to specific erosion of features at break of slope. The results of the evaluation indicate that the break of slope in conjunction with the focus of occupation is responsible for the distribution of finds recovered during fieldwalking. One particular factor may be the occasional "biting" deeper of the ploughshares and subsoiler as they operate across the break of slope.

Results of plough damage risk assessment

The completed sheets used in the scoring model assessment are provided as tables at the end of this report.

Area 1

	<i>Flow diagram Method: Risk</i>	<i>Flow Diagram: Management</i>	<i>Scoring Model: Risk</i>	<i>Scoring model: Management</i>
<i>Pre-excavation</i>	High-Serious	Consider direct drilling, no subsoiling or drainage, to reversion	27	Very likely to warrant specific management prescriptions
<i>Post-excavation</i>	Moderate – High	Consider minimum tillage, no subsoiling or drainage, to direct drilling	20.8	Very likely to warrant specific management prescriptions

Area 2

	<i>Flow diagram Method: Risk</i>	<i>Flow Diagram: Management</i>	<i>Scoring Model: Risk</i>	<i>Scoring model: Management</i>
<i>Pre-excavation</i>	Moderate – High	Consider minimum tillage, no subsoiling or drainage, to direct drilling	24	Very likely to warrant specific management prescriptions
<i>Post-excavation</i>	Moderate – High	Consider minimum tillage, no subsoiling or drainage, to direct drilling	19.5	May warrant specific management prescriptions

Area 3

	<i>Flow diagram Method: Risk</i>	<i>Flow Diagram: Management</i>	<i>Scoring Model: Risk</i>	<i>Scoring model: Management</i>
<i>Pre-excavation</i>	Low	Consider no deeper cultivation, subsoiling or drainage	36	Very likely to warrant specific management prescriptions
<i>Post-excavation</i>	Not undertaken as evaluation determined no features present	N/a	N/a	N/a

Notable conclusions:

- The perceived threat from ploughing in Area 1 was reduced at post-excavation assessment stage following observation that only deep negative features were likely to survive.
- Area 2 is at fairly high risk and would benefit from a change in management.
- Area 3 deposits (where no features were present) appear to be at Low Risk. Needs a more minor change in management than Areas 1 & 2.

Discussion

The excavation revealed few features surviving in comparison to those identified through aerial photographs and geophysical survey. This loss appears to have been caused by continued cultivation over the last sixty years.

Evaluation results suggest this high level of damage across the site has been the result of changing agricultural regimes, allied in places to a general reduction in ground level caused by the erosion of cultivated soils by wind and water. While a stable grass sward would protect such a susceptible soil in most conditions, inversion, cultivation and power harrowing to create a fine till has almost certainly accelerated the rate of erosion and damage to the monument.

A full chronology of events that have contributed to plough damage on the site is beyond the scope of this report and has not been established. It is evident that the ploughing up of permanent pasture on the site immediately post-WWII will have contributed greatly to the rate of erosion.

The farmer provided information that suggested his present-day cultivation regime was less intensive than before, but gave few details of past cultivation depths. It is perhaps due to this recent change in practise that the effects of continuing cultivation on archaeological features was not strongly evidenced in the excavation trenches and that both damage and erosion may have largely stabilised.

A pre-excavation and post-excavation assessment of plough damage risk was carried out using models developed by Oxford Archaeology. The assessment revealed differences between the perceived threat from cultivation and the demonstrated threat. Some differences were noted in results from the two models. The results for Area 3 are not considered relevant due to the nature of archaeological remains in this area.

At post-excavation stage, the Scoring model revealed plough damage in Areas 1 and 2, on the top, shoulder and slopes of the site. This has created the likely or very likely need to warrant specific management recommendations. The Flow diagram method considered appropriate management might be for either direct drilling or minimum tillage, with no (or reduced) subsoiling or drainage in order to minimise impacts, especially on the break in slope.

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Appendix G: Site-Specific Assessment and Monitoring (Issue 2), Oxford Archaeology

Tables: Plough damage risk assessment scoring models

Area 1 Pre-excavation assessment

Scoring Model Site Code: NS1393 Ref no. Letter (x-ref to which part of site tested) ARCA: 1 Pre-excavation or Post-excavation testing?

Site Intrinsic Factors						
LIKELIHOOD OF IMPACT	Serious Score 4	High Score 3	Medium Score 2	Low Score 1	Minimum Score 0	Score*
Buffer zones: previous cultivation depth/ extent in relation to archaeology	Cultivation of areas or encroachment on parts of sites not previously in cultivation Evidence of new disturbance	Present cultivation likely to be at interface with archaeology	Shallow buffer (eg 10-20cms); previous cultivation has left differential cut and fill	Consistent moderate undisturbed buffer (eg 20-75cm) of old colluvium or alluvium	Deeply buried (eg > 75cm)	A B 3 C
Soils		Light soils subject to rapid erosion; heavy clay soils subject to deep cultivations, compaction, drainage	Medium soils with some difficulties	Medium, well drained, well structured soils with no difficulties		A B 3 C
Micro-topography and Slopes		Top of slope; Steep to moderate slopes	Mid slope; variable slope; Moderate to shallow slopes	Slope bottom; Flat ground		A 3 B C
Site Management Factors						
Cultivation method and depth (see appendix 2)	New significantly deeper ploughing with clear fresh disturbance	Regular deep ploughing, deep rotavating, stone cleaning etc	Normal ploughing, chisel ploughing	Shallow minimum cultivation methods	Continuous direct drilling with no subsoiling	A B 3 C
Cropping regime		Cropping includes sugar beet, potatoes, etc needing deep soils	Cropping includes cereals, non-root crops	Cropping includes long term grass ley (or set-aside) > 5yrs;		A B 3 C
Compaction & Drainage	New regular subsoiling < 3yrs old	Regular or occasional subsoiling required; Wetland water table lowering	Rare subsoiling required; Moling and drains	Subsoiling unlikely; Irrigation [No risk scores 0]		A B 3 C
Initial score (In box to Right)						12
Initial (site intrinsic factors) Weighting	Any of above = Total score x 3 <u>n/a</u>				Any of above = Total score x 0.5	<u>n/a</u>
Total Weighted Score:				Score above x Weightings:		Final Score A 3 B 15 C
Initial Score multiplied by any weighting derived from "Serious" and/or "Minimum" columns as applicable (Sites not weighted at this stage if no "serious" or "minimum" risk issues raised)			 X		

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WEIGHTING FACTORS						
SCALE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HAZARD	Serious Hazard Score 4	High Hazard Score 3	Medium Hazard Score 2	Low Hazard Score 1	Minimum Hazard Score 0	Score*
Archaeological survival and vulnerability	- Clear upstanding earthworks - Diminished earthworks etc where there is specific risk of significant "threshold" vulnerability (eg for buried ground surface, floor & occupation surfaces)	- Low earthworks; - "Soft" horizontal stratigraphy; - Occupation horizons and structures; - Shallow negative features with important contents (eg shallow graves)	- Very incomplete and damaged upstanding archaeology or stratigraphy; - Shallow negative features; - Surface scatters likely to represent evidence not reflected in underlying archaeology	- Site already substantially damaged; - Only deep negative features likely to survive.	- Site largely destroyed leaving very little potential	A B 1 C
Archaeological significance	SAM/ national significance	Regional or county significance	County or regional significance	Clear local significance	No obvious significance	A 4 B C
Archaeological Hazard score						5
Weighting	For score of 7-8 use weighting factor = 3; For score of 6 use weighting factor = 1.5; For score of 5 use weighting factor = 1.3; For score of 4 use weighting factor = 1; For score of 2-3 use weighting factor = 0.5.				Any of above = weighting x 0.5	13
TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE: Initial Score (from Intrinsic Site and Management Factors, multiplied by overall weighting)				Score from page 1 x Final Archaeological Weighting: <u>16</u> x <u>1.3</u>		Final Score <u>20.8</u>

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

* = put final risk score in this box against whichever letter (either A, B or C) represents the best overall assessment of reliability of the assessment. Final Scores over 15 may warrant specific management prescriptions, and over 20 will very likely do so. B and C scores under (or over) 15 may warrant further investigation to confirm or clarify any critical assumptions (especially if these affect the weighting used)

Area 1 Post-excavation assessment

Scoring Model

Site Code: 2023

Ref no./letter (x-ref to which part of site tested) 2023/1

Pre-excavation or Post-excavation testing? 2

Site Intrinsic Factors						
LIKELIHOOD OF IMPACT	Serious Score 4	High Score 3	Medium Score 2	Low Score 1	Minimum Score 0	Score*
Buffer zones: previous cultivation depth/ extent in relation to archaeology	Cultivation of areas or encroachment on parts of sites not previously in cultivation Evidence of new disturbance	Present cultivation likely to be at interface with archaeology	Shallow buffer (eg 10-20cms); previous cultivation has left differential cut and fill	Consistent moderate undisturbed buffer (eg 20-75cm) of old colluvium or alluvium	Deeply buried (eg > 75cm)	A B <u>2</u> C
Soils		Light soils subject to rapid erosion; heavy clay soils subject to deep cultivations, compaction, drainage	Medium soils with some difficulties	Medium, well drained, well structured soils with no difficulties		A B <u>3</u> C
Micro-topography and Slopes		Top of slope; Steep to moderate slopes	Mid slope; variable slope; Moderate to shallow slopes	Slope bottom; Flat ground		A B <u>3</u> C
Site Management Factors						
Cultivation method and depth (see appendix 2)	New significantly deeper ploughing with clear fresh disturbance	Regular deep ploughing, deep rotavating, stone cleaning etc	Normal ploughing, chisel ploughing	Shallow minimum cultivation methods	Continuous direct drilling with no subsoiling	A B <u>2</u> C
Cropping regime		Cropping includes sugar beet, potatoes, etc needing deep soils	Cropping includes cereals, non-root crops	Cropping includes long term grass ley (or set-aside) > 5yrs;		A B <u>3</u> C
Compaction & Drainage	New regular subsoiling < 1yrs old	Regular or occasional subsoiling required; Wetland water table lowering	Rare subsoiling required; Moling and drains	Subsoiling unlikely; Irrigation [No risk scores 0]		A B <u>3</u> C
Initial score (In box to Right)						
Initial (site intrinsic factors) Weighting	Any of above = Total score x 3				Any of above = Total score x 0.5	<u>16</u>
Total Weighted Score:				Score above x Weightings:		Final Score
Initial Score multiplied by any weighting derived from "Serious" and/or "Minimum" columns as applicable (Sites not weighted at this stage if no 'serious' or 'minimum' risk issues raised)						A B C

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WEIGHING FACTORS						
SCALE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HAZARD	Serious Hazard Score 4	High Hazard Score 3	Medium Hazard Score 2	Low Hazard Score 1	Minimum Hazard Score 0	Score*
Archaeological survival and vulnerability	- Clear upstanding earthworks - Diminished earthworks etc where there is specific risk of significant "threshold" vulnerability (eg for buried ground surface, floor & occupation surfaces)	- Low earthworks; - 'Soft' horizontal stratigraphy; - Occupation horizons and structures; - Shallow negative features with important contents (eg shallow graves)	- Very incomplete and damaged upstanding archaeology or stratigraphy; - Shallow negative features; - Surface scatters likely to represent evidence not reflected in underlying archaeology	- Site already substantially damaged; - Only deep negative features likely to survive.	- Site largely destroyed leaving very little potential	A B <u>1</u> C
Archaeological significance	SAM/ national significance	Regional or county significance	County or regional significance	Clear local significance	No obvious significance	A B <u>4</u> C
Archaeological Hazard score						
Weighting	For score of 7-8 use weighting factor = 3; For score of 6 use weighting factor = 1.5; For score of 5 use weighting factor = 1.3; For score of 4 use weighting factor = 1; For score of 2-3 use weighting factor = 0.5.				Any of above = weighting x 0.5	<u>13</u>
TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE:				Score from page 1 x Final Archaeological Weighting:		Final Score
Initial Score (from Intrinsic Site and Management Factors, multiplied by overall weighting)				<u>16</u> x <u>1.3</u>		A B <u>20.8</u> C

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

* = put final risk score in this box against whichever letter (either A, B or C) represents the best overall assessment of reliability of the assessment. Final Scores over 15 may warrant specific management prescriptions, and over 20 will very likely do so. B and C scores under (or over) 15 may warrant further investigation to confirm or clarify any critical assumptions (especially if these affect the weighting used)

Area 2 Pre-excavation assessment

Scoring Model Site Code: W313283 Ref no. letter (x-ref to which part of site tested) W313283 (Pre-excavation) or Post-excavation testing?

Site Intrinsic Factors						
LIKELIHOOD OF IMPACT	Serious Score 4	High Score 3	Medium Score 2	Low Score 1	Minimum Score 0	Score*
Buffer zones: previous cultivation depth/ extent in relation to archaeology	Cultivation of areas or encroachment on parts of sites not previously in cultivation Evidence of new disturbance	Present cultivation likely to be at interface with archaeology	Shallow buffer (eg 10-20cms); previous cultivation has left differential cut and fill	Consistent moderate undisturbed buffer (eg 20-75cm) of old colluvium or alluvium	Deeply buried (eg > 75cm)	A B 3 C
Soils		Light soils subject to rapid erosion; heavy clay soils subject to deep cultivations, compaction, drainage	Medium soils with some difficulties	Medium, well drained, well structured soils with no difficulties		A B 3 C
Micro-topography and Slopes		Top of slope; Steep to moderate slopes	Mild slope; variable slope; Moderate to shallow slopes	Slope bottom; Flat ground		A B 2 C
Site Management Factors						
Cultivation method and depth (see appendix 2)	New significantly deeper ploughing with clear fresh disturbance	Regular deep ploughing, deep rotavating, stone cleaning etc	Normal ploughing, chisel ploughing	Shallow minimum cultivation methods	Continuous direct drilling with no subsoiling	A B 2 C
Cropping regime		Cropping includes sugar beet, potatoes, etc needing deep soils	Cropping includes cereals, non-root crops	Cropping includes long term grass ley (or set-aside) > 5yrs;		A B 3 C
Compaction & Drainage	New regular subsoiling < 3yrs old	Regular or occasional subsoiling required; Wetland water table lowering	Rare subsoiling required; Mowing and drains	Subsoiling unlikely; Irrigation [No risk scores 0]		A B 3 C
Initial score (In box to Right)						16
Initial (site intrinsic factors) Weighting	Any of above = Total score x 3 <u>n/a</u>				Any of above = Total score x 0.5 <u>n/a</u>	
Total Weighted Score:			Score above x Weightings:		Final Score	
Initial Score multiplied by any weighting derived from "Serious" and/or "Minimum" columns as applicable (Sites not weighted at this stage if no 'serious' or 'minimum' risk issues raised)		 X		A B 16 C	

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WEIGHTING FACTORS						
SCALE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HAZARD	Serious Hazard Score 4	High Hazard Score 3	Medium Hazard Score 2	Low Hazard Score 1	Minimum Hazard Score 0	Score*
Archaeological survival and vulnerability	- Clear upstanding earthworks - Diminished earthworks etc where there is specific risk of significant "threshold" vulnerability (eg for buried ground surface, floor & occupation surfaces)	- Low earthworks; - 'Soft' horizontal stratigraphy; - Occupation horizons and structures; - Shallow negative features with important contents (eg shallow graves)	- Very incomplete and damaged upstanding archaeology or stratigraphy; - Shallow negative features; - Surface scatters likely to represent evidence not reflected in underlying archaeology	- Site already substantially damaged; - Only deep negative features likely to survive.	- Site largely destroyed leaving very little potential	A B 2 C
Archaeological significance	SAM/ national significance	Regional or county significance	County or regional significance	Clear local significance	No obvious significance	A B 4 C
Archaeological Hazard score						6
Weighting	For score of 7-8 use weighting factor = 3; For score of 6 use weighting factor = 1.5; For score of 5 use weighting factor = 1; For score of 4 use weighting factor = 0.5.				Any of above = weighting x 0.5	1.5
TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE:			Score from page 1 x Final Archaeological Weighting:		Final Score	
Initial Score (from Intrinsic Site and Management Factors, multiplied by overall weighting)		 x <u>16</u> x <u>1.5</u>		A B 24 C	

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

* = put final risk score in this box against whichever letter (either A, B or C) represents the best overall assessment of reliability of the assessment. Final Scores over 15 may warrant specific management prescriptions, and over 20 will very likely do so. B and C scores under (or over) 15 may warrant further investigation to confirm or clarify any critical assumptions (especially if these affect the weighting used)

Area 2 Post-excavation assessment

Scoring Model

Site Code: 2913

Ref no. letter (x-ref to which part of site tested) A2

Pre-excavation or Post-excavation testing? Pre-excavation

Site Intrinsic Factors						
Likelihood of Impact	Serious Score 4	High Score 3	Medium Score 2	Low Score 1	Minimum Score 0	Score*
Buffer zones: previous cultivation depth/ extent in relation to archaeology	Cultivation of areas or encroachment on parts of sites not previously in cultivation. Evidence of new disturbance	Present cultivation likely to be at interface with archaeology	Shallow buffer (eg 10-20cms); previous cultivation has left differential cut and fill	Consistent moderate undisturbed buffer (eg 20-75cm) of old colluvium or alluvium	Deeply buried (eg > 75cm)	A B C 2
Soils		Light soils subject to rapid erosion; heavy clay soils subject to deep cultivations, compaction, drainage	Medium soils with some difficulties	Medium, well drained, well structured soils with no difficulties		A B C 3
Micro-topography and Slopes		Top of slope; Steep to moderate slopes	Mid slope; variable slope; Moderate to shallow slopes	Slope bottom; Flat ground		A B C 2
Site Management Factors						
Cultivation method and depth (see appendix 2)	New significantly deeper ploughing with clear fresh disturbance	Regular deep ploughing, deep rotavating, stone cleaning etc	Normal ploughing, chisel ploughing	Shallow minimum cultivation methods	Continuous direct drilling with no subsoiling	A B C 2
Cropping regime		Cropping includes sugar beet, potatoes, etc needing deep soils	Cropping includes cereals, non-root crops	Cropping includes long term grass ley (or set-aside) > 5yrs;		A B C 3
Compaction & Drainage	New regular subsoiling < 3yrs old	Regular or occasional subsoiling required; Wetland water table lowering	Rare subsoiling required; Muling and drains	Subsoiling unlikely; Irrigation [No risk scores 0]		A B C 3
Initial score (In box to Right)						15
Initial (site intrinsic factors) Weighting	Any of above = Total score x 3 <i>n/a</i>				Any of above = Total score x 0.5	<i>n/a</i>
Total Weighted Score:				Score above x Weightings:		Final Score
<i>Initial Score multiplied by any weighting derived from "Serious" and/or "Minimum" columns as applicable (Sites not weighted at this stage if no "serious" or "minimum" risk issues raised)</i>						A B 15 C

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WEIGHTING FACTORS						
Scale of Archaeological Hazard	Serious Hazard Score 4	High Hazard Score 3	Medium Hazard Score 2	Low Hazard Score 1	Minimum Hazard Score 0	Score*
Archaeological survival and vulnerability	- Clear upstanding earthworks - Diminished earthworks etc where there is specific risk of significant "threshold" vulnerability (eg for buried ground surface, floor & occupation surfaces)	- Low earthworks; - "Soft" horizontal stratigraphy; - Occupation horizons and structures; - Shallow negative features with important contents (eg shallow graves)	- Very incomplete and damaged upstanding archaeology or stratigraphy; - Shallow negative features; - Surface scatters likely to represent evidence not reflected in underlying archaeology	- Site already substantially damaged; - Only deep negative features likely to survive.	- Site largely destroyed leaving very little potential	A B C 1
Archaeological significance	SAM/ national significance	Regional or county significance	County or regional significance	Clear local significance	No obvious significance	A B C 4
Archaeological Hazard score						5
Weighting	For score of 7-8 use weighting factor = 3; For score of 6 use weighting factor = 1.5; For score of 5 use weighting factor = 1.3; For score of 4 use weighting factor = 1; For score of 2-3 use weighting factor = 0.5.				Any of above = weighting x 0.5	13
TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE:				Score from page 1 x Final Archaeological Weighting:		Final Score
<i>Initial Score (from Intrinsic Site and Management Factors, multiplied by overall weighting)</i>				<i>15 x 1.3</i>		A B 19.5 C

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

* = put final risk score in this box against whichever letter (either A, B or C) represents the best overall assessment of reliability of the assessment.
Final Scores over 15 may warrant specific management prescriptions, and over 20 will very likely do so. B and C scores under (or over) 15 may warrant further investigation to confirm or clarify any critical assumptions (especially if these affect the weighting used)

Area 3 Pre-excitation assessment

Scoring Model Site Code: 2023 Ref no./letter (x-ref to which part of site tested): Area 3 Pre-excitation or Post-excitation testing? Pre

Site Intrinsic Factors						
LIKELIHOOD OF IMPACT	Serious Score 4	High Score 3	Medium Score 2	Low Score 1	Minimum Score 0	Score*
Buffer zones: previous cultivation depth/ extent in relation to archaeology	Cultivation of areas or encroachment on parts of sites not previously in cultivation Evidence of new disturbance	Present cultivation likely to be at interface with archaeology	Shallow buffer (eg 10-20cms); previous cultivation has left differential cut and fill	Consistent moderate undisturbed buffer (eg 20-75cm) of old colluvium or alluvium	Deeply buried (eg > 75cm)	A B 1 C
Soils		Light soils subject to rapid erosion; heavy clay soils subject to deep cultivations, compaction, drainage	Medium soils with some difficulties	Medium, well drained, well structured soils with no difficulties		A B 3 C
Micro-topography and Slopes		Top of slope; Steep to moderate slopes	Mid slope; variable slope; Moderate to shallow slopes	Slope bottom; Flat ground		A 1 B C
Site Management Factors						
Cultivation method and depth (see appendix 2)	New significantly deeper ploughing with clear fresh disturbance	Regular deep ploughing, deep rotavating, stone cleaning etc	Normal ploughing, chisel ploughing	Shallow minimum cultivation methods	Continuous direct drilling with no subsoiling	A B 2 C
Cropping regime		Cropping includes sugar beet, potatoes, etc needing deep soils	Cropping includes cereals, non-root crops	Cropping includes long term grass ley (or set-aside) > 5yrs;		A B 3 C
Compaction & Drainage	New regular subsoiling < 3yrs old	Regular or occasional subsoiling required; Wetland water table lowering	Rare subsoiling required; Moling and drains	Subsoiling unlikely; Irrigation [No risk scores 0]		A B 3 C
Initial score (In box to Right)						13
Initial (site intrinsic factors) Weighting	Any of above = Total score x 3 <u>n/a</u>				Any of above = Total score x 0.5	<u>n/a</u>
Total Weighted Score:				Score above x Weightings:	Final Score	
Initial Score multiplied by any weighting derived from "Serious" and/or "Minimum" columns as applicable (Sites not weighted at this stage if no 'serious' or 'minimum' risk issues raised)				<u>n/a</u> x <u>n/a</u>	A B 2 C	

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WEIGHTING FACTORS						
SCALE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HAZARD	Serious Hazard Score 4	High Hazard Score 3	Medium Hazard Score 2	Low Hazard Score 1	Minimum Hazard Score 0	Score*
Archaeological survival and vulnerability	- Clear unstanding earthworks - Diminished earthworks etc where there is specific risk of significant "threshold" vulnerability (eg for buried ground surface, floor & occupation surfaces)	- Low earthworks; - 'Soft' horizontal stratigraphy; - Occupation horizons and structures; - Shallow negative features with important contents (eg shallow graves)	- Very incomplete and damaged unstanding archaeology or stratigraphy; - Shallow negative features; - Surface scatters likely to represent evidence not reflected in underlying archaeology	- Site already substantially damaged; - Only deep negative features likely to survive.	- Site largely destroyed leaving very little potential	A B C 3
Archaeological significance	SAM/ national significance	Regional or county significance	County or regional significance	Clear local significance	No obvious significance	A 4 B C
Archaeological Hazard score						7
Weighting	For score of 7-8 use weighting factor = 3; For score of 6 use weighting factor = 1.5; For score of 5 use weighting factor = 1.3; For score of 4 use weighting factor = 1; For score of 2-3 use weighting factor = 0.5.				Any of above = weighting x 0.5 <u>n/a</u>	<u>x 3</u>
TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE: Initial Score (from Intrinsic Site and Management Factors, multiplied by overall weighting)				Score from page 1 x Final Archaeological Weighting:	Final Score	
				<u>13</u> x <u>3</u>	A B 36 C	

*Scores to be given by quality of supporting evidence: A = Good evidence; B = Some evidence; C = Poor evidence, mainly assumption

* = put final risk score in this box against whichever letter (either A, B or C) represents the best overall assessment of reliability of the assessment. Final Scores over 15 may warrant specific management prescriptions, and over 20 will very likely do so. B and C scores under (or over) 15 may warrant further investigation to confirm or clarify any critical assumptions (especially if these affect the weighting used)



Plan of Evaluation Area showing different topographic zones.

Appendix 3

Prehistoric and Romano-British sites in the vicinity

WSM Number	Site name	Site type	Period	NGR
02583	Stone axe hammer, Ball Mill Gravel pit, Holt	Findspot	Bronze Age	SO 82746078
02584/SAM 243	Enclosure, 100m N of St Bartholomews Church, Grimley	Enclosure	Roman	SO 83546077
02597	Stone axe hammer, Grimley Ham, West bank of River Severn	Findspot	Bronze Age	SO 83906170
02599	BA axe, Holt Fleet	Findspot	Bronze Age	SO 82326333
04531	Burial, E of Naunton Farm, Holt	Cremation	Bronze Age	SO 82526216
04055	Statue, nr Ball Mill, Grimley	Findspot	Early Iron Age - Roman	SO 82856060
04163	Enclosure, NE of Naunton Farm, Holt	Enclosure, building, findspot	Iron Age	SO 82306230
04503	Cropmarks, Grimley	Filed system, pit	Bronze age - Roman	SO 83256029
04507/ SAM 209	Cropmarks, Holt	Occupation	Iron Age- Roman	SO 83016117
04512	Enclosure, Holt	Enclosure Findspot	Roman Bronze Age	SO 83446166
04516	Ring ditch, W of church, Grimley	Ring Ditch	Bronze Age	SO83346068
04519	Ring ditch, SE of Naunton Farm, Holt	Ring ditch	Bronze Age	SO 82236211
04524	Double ring ditch, SE of Naunton Farm, Holt	Round barrow Cremation Findspot	Bronze Age Bronze Age Bronze Age	SO 82506210
04525	Ring ditch,?Henge E of Naunton Farm, Holt	Ring ditch, Henge, Findspot	Neolithic	SO 82376217
04526/ SAM 333	Ring ditch, E of Naunton Farm, Holt	Round barrow, findspot, bead	Bronze Age	SO 82396219
04534	Romano-British Fort, Grimley	Fort	Roman	SO 83636078
04541	Cropmarks, SW of Holtfleet Bridge	Enclosure, Findspot	Iron Age	SO 82176287
04900	Enclosures, Holt	Enclosure Findspot, Building	Early Iron Age – Roman Iron Age	SO 82456226
08022	Possible Roman road, Grimley	Fortlet?	Roman	SO 83586015
15157	Enclosures, S of Ivy House, Grimley	Enclosure	Iron Age	SO 83586006

WSM Number	Site name	Site type	Period	NGR
20832	Prehistoric finds	Findspot	Early Mesolithic – Late Iron Age	SO 83506350
20838	Prehistoric and Medieval finds, Roman Boundary	Findspot Boundary Findspot	Early mesolithic – Late Iron Age Roman Medieval	SO 84806180
22791	Salvage recording at The Wagon Wheel, Grimley	Fort, Pit	Roman	SO83666079
30069	Watching brief at Grimley Sewage Works	Linear features	Roman- Post medieval	SO 83716083
23831	Evaluation at Church Farm East, Grimley	Boundary Ditch	Neolithic	SO 83676143
29769	Evaluation at Top Barns Quarry, Holt	Boundary Ditch	Early Iron Age-Roman	SO 82226280
29806	Salvage recording at Church Farm Quarry, Holt	Boundary Ditch Enclosure Findspot	Early Iron Age-Roman Roman Neolithic	SO 83066115
29807	Salvage Recording at Retreat Farm Grimley	N/A	Early Bronze Age – Post Medieval	SO 83246032
29927	Neolithic Field Boundary, Church Farm, Grimley	Boundary Ditch	Neolithic	SO 83626136
30286	Evaluation at the Millenium Green, Holt	Settlement Ditch	Early Iron Age – Roman Roman	SO 81626335