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**TAYLOR WIMPEY**

**LAND AT RIVERTON ROAD, PURITON, SOMERSET**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

**November 2014**

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**DATE ISSUED:** November 2014  
**JOB NUMBER:** CP11036/14  
**SITE CODE:** LRR-A  
**OASIS REFERENCE:** Wardella2-194491  
**GRID REFERENCE:** Centres on ST 3176 4166

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NOVEMBER 2014

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DESK BASED ASSESSMENTS  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY  
TOPOGRAPHIC AND LANDSCAPE SURVEY  
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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## SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey PLC to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Riverton Road, Puriton, Somerset (Centred on ST 3176 4166). This work was required to provide information in support of a planning application for a proposed residential development at the site.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken over 8 days from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014. The evaluation involved the excavation of 16 trenches, totalling 880.5m<sup>2</sup>, 3.16% of the c.2.8ha development area.

Archaeological remains were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 12 and 13, in the form of ditches and gullies. In Area 1, there were two ditches were observed in trench 1 and one ditch was partially visible in trench 2. In trench 3 there was a possible ditch terminus or large pit. In Area 2, there was four ditches of which two appeared to be terminals in trench 8. In Area 3 there were two ditches in trench 12 of which one continued across the area and was visible in trench 13.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) thanks Taylor Wimpey PLC for commissioning the project, and for all their assistance throughout the work. Thanks also to Steve Membury, County Archaeologist, Somerset County Council, for all his assistance throughout the project.

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology also thanks Dave Ford of TJB Plant Hire for his help during this project.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Mike McElligott, assisted by Karen Duignan and Rob Barnett. The report was written by Mike McElligott and the drawings were produced by Adrian Bailey and Helen Phillips. The finds assessment was compiled by Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds Officer. The environmental assessment was undertaken by Don O'Meara, WAA Environmental Officer.

The project was managed by Nick Daffern, Project Manager for WAA. The report was edited by Richard Newman, Post excavation Manager for WAA.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Circumstances of the Project**

- 1.1.1 In October 2014, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was invited by Taylor Wimpey PLC to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Riverton Road, Puriton, Somerset (Centred on ST 3176 4166; Figure 1), prior to the development of residential buildings. A geophysical survey (WAA 2013) demonstrated that the area had potential for the presence of archaeological remains. As a result, Steve Membury, County Archaeologist, Somerset County Council requested a programme of archaeological investigation, prior to the development taking place. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following approved standards and guidance (IfA 2008), and was consistent with the specification provided by Frank Giecco (2014).
- 1.1.3 This report outlines the evaluation works undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Project Design**

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in response to a request by Taylor Wimpey PLC, for an archaeological evaluation of the study area. Following acceptance of the project design by Steve Membury, County Archaeologist, Somerset County Council, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned by the client to undertake the work. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) (2008).

### **2.2 The Field Evaluation**

2.2.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 16 trenches covering 880.5m<sup>2</sup> of the proposed c.2.8ha development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity, the evaluation trenches being located to target both geophysical anomalies and apparently 'sterile' areas.

2.2.2 In summary, the main objectives of the field evaluation were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.2.3 Turf and topsoil was removed by mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The trial trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features were investigated and recording according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (Giecco 2013).

2.2.4 All finds encountered were retained, including those from excavated topsoil, and were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines, and recorded under the supervision of Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds Officer.

2.2.5 The 16 evaluation trenches were backfilled following excavation and recording.



2.2.6 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Edition, 1991).

## 2.3 The Archive

2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled following the specifications according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with Somerset County Museums Service, with copies of the report sent to the County Historic Environment Record at Taunton, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier WAA14 LRR-A, CP 11036/14.

2.3.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology and Lancashire County Council, support the **Online Access** to the **Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, as a part of this national project. The unique OASIS identification number for this project comprises **wardella2-194491**.

### 3 BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Location and Geological Context

- 3.1.1 Puriton is a village and parish at the westerly end of the Polden Hills, in the Sedgemoor district of Somerset. The Polden Hills are a long, low ridge, extending for 10 miles, and separated from the Mendip Hills, to which they are nearly parallel, by a marshy tract, known as the Somerset Levels. The village is approximately 6km north of Bridgwater, and lies east of the River Parrett and the M5 Motorway (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 The proposed development area occupies a slightly sloping piece of land on the northwest side of the village, with elevations rising from c.13.5m OD at the northeast corner to c.16.5m OD in the southeast corner of the site (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 The underlying geology at the site comprises mudstone of the Langport Member, Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated). This sedimentary bedrock was formed approximately 183 to 204 million years ago in the Jurassic and Triassic Periods (BGS 2001).

#### 3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** this background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and the records consulted during the desk-based assessment. It is intended only as a summary of historical developments around the study area, in order to assess the archaeological potential.
- 3.2.2 **Iron Age (up to c.AD 72) and Roman (c.AD 72 – c.410):** located to the north-west of Church Field Lane is the site of an Iron Age and Roman settlement at Crockland. A Tithe Map shows three contiguous fields, each with the name “Crockland”. These have since been bisected by a railway cutting, the names are no longer in use, and the fields are under permanent pasture. Investigations along the faces of the cutting produced a quantity of pot sherds and baked clay, spread intermittently at about 3-4ft from the top, also part of an iron knife with some silver wire inlay. The material is in Taunton Museum and has been classified as Roman except for two 1st century rim sherds of Durotrigian type; the baked clay has been suggested to represent a hearth or hearths. The evidence would seem to suggest an Iron Age/Romano-British settlement site in the area (HER No. 10702).
- 3.2.3 **Medieval (c.AD1066 – 1540):** areas of medieval and/or post medieval ridge and furrow have been identified as earthworks on aerial photographs on land to the north and south of the present study site. The area is centred at ST 3081 4259 within

the parishes of Pawlett and Puriton, and covers an area that measures 3.65km by 1.97km at its widest points. Most blocks show straight narrow furrows but some show typical medieval S-shaped furrows. The blocks of ridge and furrow may have been used for arable cultivation but may also have been used as early improvement drainage, especially in meadow. The ridge and furrow underlies a more modern post medieval/20th century drainage pattern.

3.2.4 St Michael's Church at Puriton contains within its fabric an early 13th century tower, indicating that there has been a church at the site since at least that period. The HER entry also refers to the graveyard having been in use since the medieval period. This information indicates that there would have been a settlement associated within the church from the medieval period onwards (HER No. 10709).

3.2.5 ***Post-medieval and Modern (c.1540 – present):*** settlement within the area in the early post medieval period is represented by sites such as Manor Farmhouse, located to the east of the present study site. This farmhouse dates from the 16th century with 18th and 19th century alterations (Scheduled Monument No. 269497).

3.2.6 A consultation of historical Ordnance Survey maps indicates that the present study site formed part of three fields, with boundaries orientated roughly north south between Church Field Lane and Riverton Road. By the early 1960s housing had been constructed along the north side of Riverton Road, immediately to the south of the study area, and by 1979 the M5 motorway had been constructed to the west ([www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk)).

### 3.3 Previous Archaeological Work

3.3.1 A geophysical survey has previously been undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (2014). This identified strong dipolar magnetic anomalies as a result of the presence of modern structures, deposits and fences. Potential archaeological features have been detected in each of the three areas. These comprised a series of positive linear magnetic anomalies, which may represent former soil-filled boundary ditches. A number of curvilinear features have also been detected, the nature of which is uncertain.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken in a single phase that started on the 15<sup>th</sup> September to the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 2014 and consisted of 16 trenches (Figure 2). The topsoil and subsoil was stripped by a 14 ton 360 excavator in Area 1 and an 8 ton 360 excavator in Areas 2 & 3, with a toothless bucket to the level of the natural substrate. The trenches extended over three fields and were subsequently cleaned by hand and investigated and recorded fully. Trenches 1 – 7 were in Area 1 and measured 30m by 2.2m. Trenches 8 – 11 in Area 2 varied in length, 26m to 34m by 1.52m. Trenches 12 – 16 in Area 3 were 30m by 1.55m. Trenches 4, 6, 7, 9 – 11 and 14 – 16 contained no features of archaeological significance; the summaries of these trenches are included in Appendix 2.

### 4.2 Results

4.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was located in the northwest corner of Area 1 (Figures 2 & 3) and was aligned northwest-southeast. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.52m revealing firm yellow brown silty clay (**102**) below c.0.28m of firm grey brown silty clay subsoil (**101**) and c.0.12m of soft light brown silty sand topsoil (**100**) (Figure 3) (Plate 1).



*Plate 1: Trench 1, looking southeast*

- 4.2.2 A ditch [103] was observed near the northern end of the trench (Figure 3) and was aligned northeast-southwest which had been picked up on the previous geophysical survey (WAA 2013) as a weak soil filled linear feature. It measured 1.34m by 0.24m that had a steep sloping southeast side and gradual sloping northwest side with a slightly uneven and rounded base (Plate 2). The fill (104) was a compact dark grey brown clay that contained occasional small stone. Animal bones and several sherds of pottery were recovered.



*Plate 2: Ditch [103], looking southwest*

- 4.2.3 Ditch [105] was located in the southern half of the trench (Figure 3) and was cut by a modern ceramic land drain. It was aligned east-west that measured 0.45m by 0.07m and had concave sloping sides with a rounded base. The fill (106) was a compact dark grey brown silty clay that contained occasional small stone. Several sherds of pottery and pieces of animal bone were recovered.



*Plate 3: Trench 2, looking east southeast*

- 4.2.4 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 was located in the northwest corner of Area 1 and was to the south of trench 1 (Figures 2 & 4) and was aligned west northwest-east southeast. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m revealing friable mid yellowish brown silty clay (**202**) below c.0.12m of firm dark grey silty clay subsoil (**201**) and c.0.15m of soft mid greyish brown loam topsoil (**200**) (Plate 3).
- 4.2.5 A ditch [**204**] was observed at the western end of the trench (Figure 4). It was roughly aligned east-west that was partially visible with sharp steep sloping south side with a rounded base a narrow rounded base and measured 0.85m by 0.49m (Plate 4). The fill (**203**) was a firm greyish brown silty clay that contained occasional limestone fragments. No finds were recovered. This undated feature corresponds with a curvilinear feature recorded in the geophysical survey (WAA 2013), its exact function remains unclear.





*Plate 4: Ditch [204], looking west*

- 4.2.6 **Trench 3:** Trench 3 was located toward the northeast corner of Area 1 and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figures 2 & 5). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.48m revealing friable mid yellow silty clay (**302**) below c.0.12m of firm mid grey clay subsoil (**301**) and c.0.08m of friable mid greyish brown loam topsoil (**300**) (Plate 5).
- 4.2.7 A large feature [**304**] was observed in the northeast end of the trench (Figure 5). It was partially visible as its northern half continued beyond the limit of excavation. It measured 1.45m by 0.36m with a sharp vertical south side, a steep sloping east side and moderately steep west side that had a flattish base. The fill (**303**) was a firm dark grey clay that contained occasional limestone fragments. Several sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and pieces of animal bone were recovered. It was uncertain what the feature function was as it was only partially visible but it appeared to be either a large pit or a ditch terminus (Plate 6). The feature corresponded to a weak linear geophysical anomaly running broadly east/west across the development site and may represent part of an early field system (WAA 2013). Based on the dateable material this feature could date to the late Iron Age or Romano British period. If the butt-end represents an access point through a field boundary it may have been relatively intensely used and could explain why the feature produced the finds assemblage recovered.



*Plate 5: Trench 3, looking north*



*Plate 6: Possible large pit/ditch terminus [304], looking northwest*

4.2.8 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was located toward the western side of Area 1, to the south of trench 2 and was aligned north-south (Figures 2). Traces of a very shallow east-west aligned ditch were observed in section during the cleaning of the trench but



unfortunately no in plan during initial machining. The feature measured approximately 1.2m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.10m.

- 4.2.9 **Trench 5:** Trench 5 was located toward the eastern side of Area 1, near its centre and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figures 2 & 6). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.36m revealing firm light yellow brown clay (**502**) with bands of light yellow grey bedrock (**506**) below c.0.18m of firm light grey clay subsoil (**501**) and c.0.12m of firm dark brown silty clay topsoil (**500**) (Plate 7).



*Plate 7: Trench 5, looking southwest*



*Plate 8: Ditch [503], looking west*

4.2.10 There was a linear feature [503] located near the northeast end of the trench and was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 6). It measured 2m wide by 0.39m deep that had sharp steep sloping sides with a narrow rounded base and a V-shaped profile (Plate 8). The fill (504)/(505) was a firm mid brownish grey slightly silty clay that contained occasional small stone. Several pieces of animal bone and one piece of CBM were recovered. It appeared to be a wide field boundary ditch that was perpendicular to the existing boundary between Areas 1 and 2 and it was cut by a modern stone filled land drain.

4.2.11 **Trench 8:** Trench 8 was located at the northern end of Area 2 and was aligned northeast-southwest (Figures 2 & 7). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m revealing friable dark yellow silty clay (802) below c.0.14m of firm mid grey clay subsoil (801) and c.0.10m of friable mid grey loam topsoil (800) (Plate 9).



*Plate 9: Trench 8, looking east*



*Plate 10: Linear feature [809], looking west*

4.2.12 There was a linear feature [809] located near the southwest end of the trench (Figure 7) (Plate 10). It was aligned east-west and measured 1.13m by 0.24m. It had steep sloping sides, an uneven base and a rounded eastern terminus. The fill (**810**)



was a compact dark grey brown silty clay that contained occasional small stone and animal tooth was recovered. It is likely to have been part of a undated field system.

4.2.13 Ditch [804] was located to the north of ditch [809] at the southwest end of the trench (Figure 7) (Plate 11) that was aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.7m wide by 0.55m deep. It had sharp steep sloping sides with a wide flat base and a U-shaped profile. The fill (805) was a loose mid grey clay that contained occasional limestone fragments. No finds were recovered. It may have been part of more extensive field system that was noted during a geophysical survey (WAA 2013).



*Plate 11: Ditch [804], looking northwest*

4.2.14 Ditch [806] was located to the north of ditch [804] and near the centre of the trench that was aligned roughly east-west (Figure 7) (Plate 12). It measured 0.85m wide by 0.15m deep with gradual sloping sides, a flat base and a U-shaped profile. The fill (805) was a loose mid grey clay that contained very occasional limestone fragments. No finds were recovered. Again it is likely to have formed part of a larger field system.

4.2.15 Ditch [808] was located near the northeast end of the trench and was aligned east-west (Figure 7) (Plate 13). It measured 0.5m wide by 0.08m deep. It had gradual sloping sides with a slightly concave base and rounded terminus at the west end. The fill (807) was a firm mid brown clay that contained very occasional limestone fragments. No finds were recovered.



*Plate 12: Ditch [806], looking east*



*Plate 13: Ditch [808], looking east*

4.2.16 **Trench 12:** Trench 12 was located in the northwest corner of Area 3 and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figures 2 & 8). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.39m revealing friable mid yellow brown silty clay (**1200**) below c.0.14m of firm

dark brown silty clay subsoil (**1201**) and c.0.16m of soft dark brown loam topsoil (**1200**) (Plate 14).



*Plate 14: Trench 12, looking north*

4.2.17 Ditch [**1206**] located on the northwest half of the trench and was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 1.78m wide by 0.49m deep (Figure 8). It was straight in alignment with a sharp steep sloping sides with a moderately wide concave base and a V-shaped profile. The fill (**1205**) was a very firm mid grey brown silty clay silt that contained occasional stone. No finds were recovered. It is likely to relate to boundary alignment that had been traced in trench 3 and 9 running on a broadly east west alignment.





*Plate 15: Ditch [1206], looking northwest – Trench 12*

4.2.18 Ditch/gully [1203] was located 3m to the north west of ditch [1206] on the western side of the trench (Figure 8). It appeared to be a butt end of a small ditch or gully and measured 0.7m wide by 0.1m deep with sharp steep sloping sides with a flattish slightly uneven base and a U-shaped profile. The fill (1410) was a firm mid grey brown sandy clay silt that contained occasional stones. No finds were recovered.



*Plate 16: Gully [1203], looking north northwest – Trench 12*

4.2.19 **Trench 13:** Trench 13 was located toward the northeast side of the development area, to the east of trench 12 and was aligned northwest-southeast (Figure 9). The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.44m revealing firm light yellow brown clay (**1302**) and bands of light yellow grey seams of bedrock (**1303**) below c.0.21m of firm light to mid brownish grey slightly silty clay subsoil (**1301**) and c.0.18m of moderately loose dark brown silty clay topsoil (**1300**).

4.2.20 A ditch [**1304**] was recorded at the northern end of the trench that was aligned northeast-southwest and measured 1.34m wide by 0.2m deep (Plate 17) (Figure 9). It was had steep sloping sides with a moderately wide concave base and a V-shaped profile. The fill (**1305**) was a very firm mid grey brown sandy clay silt that contained occasional stone. No finds were recovered. It is highly likely that this feature represents a continuations of the ditch alignment recorded in trenches 3, 12 and 13 and the previous geophysical survey (WAA 2013) and may form part of an as yet undated field system.



*Plate 17: Ditch [1304], looking northwest – Trench 12*



## 5 FINDS

### 5.1 Finds Assessment

- 5.1.1 A total of 22 artefacts, weighing 203g, were recovered from five contexts during an archaeological evaluation on land at Riverton Road, Puriton, Somerset.
- 5.1.2 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standard & Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2013b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011).
- 5.1.3 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and further work has been recommended on the potential for the material archive to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.
- 5.1.4 The finds assessment was compiled by Megan Stoakley.
- 5.1.5 Quantification of finds by context is visible in Table 1.

Cxt	Material	Qty	Wgt (g)	Date	Comments
303	CBM	7	67	RB?	Very degraded; 7 indeterminate fragments
504	CBM	1	21	RB?	Indeterminate fragment
501	Clay Pipe	1	3	PM	Undecorated stem fragment
106	Pottery	1	1	RB?	Possibly RB? Very small & in poor condition
303	Pottery	9	73	LIA-ERB	Body sherds - no decoration; flint & sand tempered; 1 rim sherd - grooved lines around rim
501	Pottery	2	10	Med	1 small area of drab olive green glaze on int
1401	Pottery	1	28	Med	Rim fragment - glaze just visible on int
TOTAL		22	203		

Table 1: Quantification of Bulk Finds by Context

### 5.2 Late Iron Age – Early Roman Ceramics

- 5.2.1 Ten sherds of late Iron Age to early Roman-British pottery, weighing 74g, were recovered from deposit (106) in Trench 1 and deposit (303) from ditch terminus [304] (Table 1). The sherds are in poor to good condition.
- 5.2.2 A minimum of two vessels are represented in deposit (303); seven sherds from one vessel comprise a fine, black sand and flint-tempered dense clay matrix. A rim sherd

has grooved lines running horizontally along the exterior and carbonised accretions are evident on one body sherd.

5.2.3 Two sherds comprise a buff and black-coloured, sand-tempered soft clay matrix; due to the poor preservation of the sherds and their small size, it was not possible to discern a vessel type.

5.2.4 A single small sherd of possible Roman pottery, weighing 1g, was recovered from deposit (106). It was not possible to discern vessel form or nature due to the small size of the sherd and its poor condition.

5.2.5 No further analysis is deemed necessary on the pottery at this stage; if further work is commissioned for the project, the sherds may warrant further specialist analysis.

### 5.3 Medieval Ceramics

5.3.1 Three sherds of medieval pottery, weighing 38g, were recovered from subsoil layers in trenches 5 and 14 (Table 1). The sherds are in moderate condition; abrasion is evident on all surfaces of the sherds.

5.3.2 A minimum number of two vessels are represented; a rim sherd of 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date was recovered from deposit (501) with a worn drab olive glaze evident on the interior.

5.3.3 Two sherds of pottery recovered from deposit (1401) likely originate from the same vessel, the fabric comprising a hard, orange-red dense clay fabric. A small patch of drab yellow-olive green glaze is evident on the interior surface. A similar date of 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century has been attributed to these fragments.

5.3.4 No further analysis is deemed necessary on these sherds.

### 5.4 Ceramic Building Material

5.4.1 Eight fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 88g, were recovered from two deposits (Table 1). The fragments are in poor condition and display heavy abrasion.

5.4.2 All eight fragments comprise indeterminate fragments which are undiagnostic in nature and form. The fabric of the fragments appears to match ceramic building material of (potentially early) Roman date.

5.4.3 No further analysis is necessary on these fragments.

## 5.5 **Clay Tobacco Pipe**

5.5.1 A single fragment of undecorated clay tobacco pipe stem, weighing 3g, was recovered from deposit **(501)** (Table 1).

5.5.2 The artefact is of later post-medieval date.

5.5.3 No further analysis is deemed necessary on this artefact.

## 5.6 **Statement of Potential**

5.6.1 The recovery of late Iron Age – early Roman pottery and, to a certain extent, Roman ceramic building material, is significant and should further work be commissioned on this site, further analysis on these sherds may be warranted.

5.6.2 The recovery of medieval pottery and post-medieval clay tobacco pipe from subsoil deposits, although providing evidence of medieval and post-medieval domestic activity on the site or in its environs, is of low archaeological significance.

## **6 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

### **6.1 Introduction**

6.1.1 During the course of the evaluation attention was paid to the potential environmental archaeological remains within the area under investigation. In particular this involved an assessment of the archaeobotanical and archaeozoological material which may be present on the site. Soil samples were taken in order to extract preserved archaeobotanical material, as well as smaller bones. Animal bone was hand collected during the excavations of archaeological features. This report presents an assessment of the recovered material, as well as assessing the potential for further work on this site.

### **6.2 Zooarchaeology Introduction**

6.2.1 During the course of an archaeological evaluation animal bones were collected by the excavation team from seven contexts (**104; 203; 307; 504; 508; 810; 1204**). All bones were collected by hand. The hand collection strategy should be considered when interpreting recovered remains. Measurements are based on standardised methodology (von Dreisch 1976). Identifications were undertaken using reference material held by the analyst as well as standard texts (Schmitt 1972). References to bone orientation follow Hillson 1996.

6.2.2 The purpose of this study is to:

- Quantify the bones collected from the excavation by deducing their anatomical position and the genus of the animal from which they originate (if possible). This is done by comparing the material with reference material held at the Environmental Laboratory at Wardell-Armstrong Archaeology, Carlisle.
- To assess the presence of butchery evidence on all bones.
- To assess evidence which may allow comments to be made regarding the pathology of the original animal population and other factors such as age at death and sex of animals.
- To assess the taphonomic history of the bone from the creation of the death assemblage to their examination for this report.

### **6.3 Assessment Results**

6.3.1 This assessment acknowledges the recommendations set out in recent English Heritage Guidelines (Barker and Worley 2014, 20).

- 6.3.2 Deposit **(104)** from ditch **[103]** produced 56 fragments of animal bone. Many of these consisted of the frontal bone of a shorted horned Bovid. Though fragmentary the greatest tangential distance between the outer horn-cores (von Driesch measurement 43) is estimated at no more than 18cm; this is calculated based on the measurement from the foramen magnum to the edge of the right horn-core. The preservation of the left-horn core (which was slightly better preserved at the base compared to the right) allowed morphometric measurements to be taken as follows (44:104mm; 45:35.7; 46:25.2mm; 47:83mm). Other bones recovered include a fragment of cattle sacrum, a heavily gnawed cattle left metatarsal, a distal fragment of cattle proximal phalange, a heavily gnawed right sheep humerus, a heavily gnawed left sheep metatarsal, 5 loose sheep molars and a fragment of sheep lumbar vertebra centrum. Evidence of root-etching could be seen on many of the surfaces of the bone. The presence of gnawing indirectly provides evidence for the presence of dogs around the site.
- 6.3.3 Deposit **(203)** from ditch **[204]** produced ten fragments of cattle skull, including a fragment of the articular process of the occipital, as well as what appeared to be fragment of the petrous portion of the skull.
- 6.3.4 Deposit **(303)** from ditch terminus **[304]** produced twenty fragments of bone, including bones of cattle, horse and sheep/goat. The horse bones consisted of a fragment of pelvis acetabulum and the distal end of a metapodial (Bd:43.4mm). A fragment of the proximal articulating surface of a tibia was also suggested as being from a horse. A fragment of left sheep metatarsal midshaft was also recovered, as well as three loose molars. The identified cattle bone consisted of two proximal phalanges. Though one was fragmentary the other was in very good condition. It was clearly an older animal with well developed degenerative joint disease on the palmar surface of the bone. Light cutmarks on the midshaft of the bone demonstrate the light pattern of butchery which is often suggested as typical of Iron Age butchery patterns.
- 6.3.5 Deposit **(307)** produced 7 fragments of iliac crest, though little else could be said about this material at this time.
- 6.3.6 Deposit **(504)** and **(505)**, both from ditch fill **[503]** produced 11 bones of largely fragmentary material, though a left cattle distal tibia could be identified from one of the fragments. Deposit **(810)** from ditch terminus **[809]** produced a single loose,

fragmentary cattle molar, while **(1204)**, the fill of ditch **[1203]** produced a fragment of right sheep/goat ulna.

#### **6.4 Zooarchaeology Conclusions and Recommendations**

6.4.1 The remains from this site show generally poor preservation, including root-etching and surface flaking, likely to be a result of the heavy acid clay soils. For southwest England, however, even small amounts of animal bone from rural Iron Age-Roman sites can be important to fill in our knowledge of animal exploitation in this area. The presence of bone preservation at this site should be borne in mind should further work be undertaken in this area, particularly considering the comparative lack of zooarchaeological evidence from Western Somerset as highlighted in the regional zooarchaeology review (Hambleton 2008, 108).

6.4.2 No further work is recommended on the material from this site at this time.

#### **6.5 Archaeobotany Introduction**

6.5.1 Soil samples were taken in order to extract preserved archaeobotanical material, as well as smaller bones. During the course of the evaluation three soil samples were collected by the excavation team. This consisted of c. 60 litres of sediment from three separate contexts, all of which were ditch fills. The results of the analysis is summarised in Table 3.

6.5.2 The pottery recovered has been added to the assemblage assessed above, while the bone recovered is discussed in the archaeozoological section above.

#### **6.6 Archaeobotanical Analysis**

6.6.1 The samples were taken in order to understand the levels of preservation which might be encountered during future excavation at the site (English Heritage 2011). The methodology employed required that the whole earth samples be broken down and split into their various different components: the flot/washover, the retent/residue, the clay-silt and the sand-silt. As all of the samples were heavy clays the samples were soaked in water, then manually flotted and sieved through a 'Siraf' style flotation tank, as recommended by de Moulins (Moulins 1996). In this case the residue and the flot are retained while the sand-silt-clay components are filtered out. The sample was flotted into a 250-micron geological sieve, while the heavy residue was retained within a 1mm plastic mesh. The heavy residue was then air-dried and sorted by eye for any material that may aid our understanding of the

deposit; in particular artefactual and ecofactual material. During the course of the project the heavy residue was examined, material of archaeological interest was collected, and the remaining heavy residue (stones of various lithologies) was discarded. The material which was recovered included charred plant remains, mammal bones, pottery, and charcoal. The residue samples were also scanned with a hand magnet to retrieve forms of magnetic material. This was done to retrieve residues of metallurgical activity, in particular hammer scale, spheroid hammer scale. Processing procedures and nomenclature follows the conventions set out by the Archaeological Datasheets of the Historical Metallurgical Society (Bayley et al. 2008).

- 6.6.2 The washover flot was dried slowly and scanned at x60 magnification for charred and uncharred botanical remains. Identification of these was undertaken by comparison with modern reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Wardell-Armstrong Archaeology and by reference to relevant literature (Cappers et al. 2010) and (Jacomet 2006). Plant taxonomic nomenclature follows Stace (2010).
- 6.6.3 The results of the analysis of individual contexts have been integrated with the main discussion of each context, while the results are also summarised in Table 3.
- 6.6.4 Archaeobotanical material was only recovered by charring. Eight grains were recovered from ditch fill <2> (303), while the other samples produced only one grain each. In the heavy clay soils of this area the difficulties of processing this material may be one factor in the low quantities of remains recovered.
- 6.6.5 Magnetic material was only present as naturally occurring magnetic minerals, rather than anthropogenic hammer scale or other metalworking residues.

## 6.7 Conclusions from the Archaeobotany

- 6.7.1 In general the conclusions from the archaeobotanical analysis point to the presence of a low density of seeds present generally across the site. The low numbers recovered may be seen as typical of the archaeological seed bank present around a settlement, rather than a specific processing or consumption activity (Carruthers and Straker 1996). The presence of hexaploid bread wheat types from sample <2> (303) is consistent with the interpretation that this feature contains material from the later Iron Age-Romano British period.

Sample	1	2	3
Context	104	303	504
Feature Type	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch
Volume processed (litres)	20	20	20
Volume of flot (grams)	>15	>20	>20
<b><u>Residue contents (relative abundance)</u></b>	-	-	
Bone/teeth, burnt bone		1	
Pottery (Total fragments recovered)		3	
Stones/gravel	3	3	3
<b><u>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</u></b>	-	-	
Charcoal	1	1	1
Herbaceous plant material	3	3	3
Woody material			
<b><u>Charred Cereal Remains:</u></b>			
Indeterminate cereal; grain	1	5	1
Hordeum species (Barley; grain)		1	
Triticum species; Hexaploid Bread wheat type grains		2	
<b><u>Plant remains (relative abundance)</u></b>	-	-	
Chenopodioideae (goosefoots) cf. Atriplex sp.?		A	
Bromus species (Broom Grass)		B*	
Potentilla species (Cinquefoils)		A*	
Unidentified sp.			

Table 2: Results of the Archaeobotanical Analysis



## **7 CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Conclusions**

- 7.1.1 During the archaeological field evaluation at land on Riverton Road, Puriton, 16 trenches were excavated over three separate areas. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity, the evaluation trenches being located to target both geophysical anomalies and apparently 'sterile' areas. All trenches were excavated down to the top of the natural substrate.
- 7.1.2 Trenches 6, 7, 9-11, 14-16 were devoid of any archaeological features or deposits and were generally located in the southern half of all three evaluation areas. Archaeological evidence was observed in Trenches 1-5 and 8, 12 and 13. The majority of the features recorded were ditches which from the limited dating evidence recovered, appear related to field systems from the late Iron Age/early Roman period. The feature recorded in trench 2 appears to relate a curvilinear feature currently of unknown date or function. Trenches 12 and 13 confirmed the presence of two parallel ditches first recorded by the earlier geophysical survey (WAA 13), and are likely to represent a trackway leading towards the field systems.
- 7.1.3 The results of the environmental assessment demonstrate the presence of animal bone assemblage that would fit in well with a Iron Age/Roman-British date for the occupation on the site. The results of the zooarchaeological assessment demonstrates generally poor preservation, but with some good preservation in certain deposits. However, as has already been stated for southwest England even small amounts of animal bone from rural Iron Age-Roman sites can be important to fill in our knowledge of animal exploitation in this area.
- 7.1.4 The results of this evaluation taken as a whole point to rural agricultural activity having been practised in the proposed development site during the late Iron Age and early Roman periods. It is highly probable that we have evidence of stock enclosures of the type that are often described as banjo enclosures which always have a distinctive ditched drove way leading to a stock enclosure (see figure 10). There is known evidence (HER No. 10702) of an Iron Age/Romano-British settlement in the general vicinity of the development area to which this site must have been related.

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## **APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE**

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Trench	Area
(100)	Deposit	Topsoil	1	1
(101)	Deposit	Subsoil	1	1
(102)	Deposit	Natural	1	1
[103]	Cut	Ditch	1	1
(104)	Deposit	Fill of [103]	1	1
[105]	Cut	Shallow ditch	1	1
(106)	Deposit	Fill of [105]	1	1
(200)	Deposit	Topsoil	2	1
(201)	Deposit	Subsoil	2	1
(202)	Deposit	Natural	2	1
(203)	Deposit	Fill of [204]	2	1
[204]	Cut	Shallow ditch	2	1
(300)	Deposit	Topsoil	3	1
(301)	Deposit	Subsoil	3	1
(302)	Deposit	Natural	3	1
(303)	Deposit	Fill of [304]	3	1
[304]	Cut	Ditch terminus	3	1
(400)	Deposit	Topsoil	4	1
(401)	Deposit	Subsoil	4	1
(402)	Deposit	Natural	4	1
(403)	Cut	Shallow ditch (only seen in section)	4	1
(404)	Fill	Fill of [403]	4	1
(500)	Deposit	Topsoil	5	1
(501)	Deposit	Subsoil	5	1
(502)	Deposit	Natural	5	1
[503]	Cut	Ditch	5	1
(504)	Deposit	Fill of [503]	5	1
(505)	Deposit	Fill of [503]	5	1
(600)	Deposit	Topsoil	6	1
(601)	Deposit	Subsoil	6	1
(602)	Deposit	Natural – Silty clay	6	1
(603)	Geological	Natural - Bedrock	6	1
(700)	Deposit	Topsoil	7	1
(701)	Deposit	Subsoil	7	1
(702)	Deposit	Natural – Silty clay	7	1
(703)	Geological	Natural – Bedrock	7	1
(800)	Deposit	Topsoil	8	2
(801)	Deposit	Subsoil	8	2
(802)	Deposit	Natural	8	2
(803)	Deposit	Fill of [804]	8	2
[804]	Cut	Large Ditch	8	2
(805)	Deposit	Fill of [806]	8	2
[806]	Cut	Ditch	8	2
(807)	Deposit	Fill of [808]	8	2

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Trench	Area
[808]	Cut	Ditch terminus	8	2
[809]	Cut	Ditch terminus	8	2
(810)	Deposit	Fill of [809]	8	2
(900)	Deposit	Topsoil	9	2
(901)	Deposit	Subsoil	9	2
(902)	Deposit	Natural	9	2
(1000)	Deposit	Topsoil	10	2
(1001)	Deposit	Subsoil	10	2
(1002)	Deposit	Natural – Clay	10	2
(1003)	Geological	Natural – Bedrock	10	2
(1100)	Deposit	Topsoil	11	2
(1101)	Deposit	Subsoil	11	2
(1102)	Deposit	Natural	11	2
(1200)	Deposit	Topsoil	12	3
(1201)	Deposit	Subsoil	12	3
(1202)	Deposit	Natural	12	3
[1203]	Cut	Ditch = [1304]	12	3
(1204)	Deposit	Fill of [1203]	12	3
(1205)	Deposit	Fill of [1206]	12	3
[1206]	Cut	Ditch terminus	12	3
(1300)	Deposit	Topsoil	13	3
(1301)	Deposit	Subsoil	13	3
(1302)	Deposit	Natural - Clay	13	3
(1303)	Geological	Natural – Bedrock	13	3
[1304]	Cut	Ditch = [1203]	13	3
(1305)	Deposit	Fill of [1304]	13	3
[1306]	Cut	Gully	13	3
(1307)	Deposit	Fill of [1306]	13	3
(1400)	Deposit	Topsoil	14	3
(1401)	Deposit	Subsoil	14	3
(1402)	Deposit	Natural	14	3
(1500)	Deposit	Topsoil	15	3
(1501)	Deposit	Subsoil	15	3
(1502)	Deposit	Natural	15	3
(1600)	Deposit	Topsoil	16	3
(1601)	Deposit	Subsoil	16	3
(1602)	Deposit	Natural	16	3

*Table 3: List of Contexts issued during Evaluation*



## **APPENDIX 2: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS**

### Trench 1

**Width:** 2.20m

**Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.52m

**Minimum Depth:** 0.41m

**OS Co-ordinates:**

331659 141734

**(Easting, Northing)**

331675 141707

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	MID GREY BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.28m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT ORANGE	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

#### **Description of any features**

The trench contained two ditches. Ditch [103] was the larger of the two and was located in the northern half of trench while ditch [105] was located near the southern end.

### Trench 2

**Width:** 2.20m

**Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.5m

**Minimum Depth:** 0.4m

**OS Co-ordinates:**

331644 141704

**(Easting, Northing)**

331673 141694

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	MID GREYISH BROWN	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.15m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK GREY	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOWISH BROWN	FRIABLE	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

#### **Description of any features**

A ditch [204]/(203) was partially observed in the northwest end of the trench.

### Trench 3

**Width:** 2.20m

**Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.48m

**Minimum Depth:** 0.28m

**OS Co-ordinates:**

331693 141690

**(Easting, Northing)**

331717 141706

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	MID GREYISH BROWN	FRIABLE	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.08m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	MID GREY	FIRM	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW	FRIABLE	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

**Description of any features**

A possible large pit [304]/(303) was observed in the northeast end of the trench.

**Trench 4**

**Width:** 2.20m      **Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.50m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.45m

**OS Co-ordinates:**      331672 141686

**(Easting, Northing)**

331673 141657

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	MID GREY	FRIABLE	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.14m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK GREYISH BROWN	FRIABLE	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT ORANGE	FIRM	SANDY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

**Description of any features**

No Archaeological features present.

**Trench 5**

**Width:** 2.20m      **Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.36m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.31m

**OS Co-ordinates:**      331694 141655

**(Easting, Northing)**

331719 141671

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	LIGHT GREY	FIRM	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.18m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT YELLOW/BROWN	FIRM	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

**NATURAL:** LIGHT YELLOW/GREY SOLID BEDROCK **Depth:** N/A

**Description of any features**

A large ditch [503]/(504) was observed in the northeast end of the trench.

**Trench 6**

**Width:** 2.20m **Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.50m **Minimum Depth:** 0.45m

**OS Co-ordinates:** 331661 141648

**(Easting, Northing)**

331670 141618

**TOPSOIL:** MID GREYISH BROWN FRIABLE LOAM **Depth:** 0.12m

**SUBSOIL:** MID BROWN FIRM SILTY CLAY **Depth:** 0.12m

**NATURAL:** MID YELLOWISH BROWN FRIABLE SILTY CLAY **Depth:** N/A

**NATURAL:** LIGHT YELLOW/GREY SOLID BEDROCK **Depth:** N/A

**Description of any features**

No Archaeological features present.

**Trench 7**

**Width:** 2.20m **Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.46m **Minimum Depth:** 0.28m

**OS Co-ordinates:** 331702 141638

**(Easting, Northing)**

331733 141649

**TOPSOIL:** MID GREYISH BROWN FRIABLE LOAM **Depth:** 0.10m

**SUBSOIL:** DARK GREY FIRM SILTY CLAY **Depth:** 0.14m

**NATURAL:** MID YELLOW/BROWN FRIABLE SILTY CLAY **Depth:** N/A

**Description of any features**

No Archaeological features present.

### **Trench 8**

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 30m  
**Maximum Depth:** 0.50m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.45m  
**OS Co-ordinates:** 331743 141705  
**(Easting, Northing)**  
331764 141720

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	LIGHT BROWN	FRIABLE	SANDY SILT	<b>Depth:</b>	0.20m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	MID BROWN	COMPACT	SANDY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.20m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID ORANGE	COMPACT	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT YELLOW/GREY	SOLID	BEDROCK	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

#### **Description of any features**

There were four ditches observed within the trench. Ditch terminus [808] was located at the northeast end of the trench. Ditches [806] and [804] were located in the centre and ditch [804] was at the southwest end.

### **Trench 9**

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 33m  
**Maximum Depth:** 0.36m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.30m  
**OS Co-ordinates:** 331748 141701  
**(Easting, Northing)**  
331756 141669

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.06m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.20m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW/BROWN	FRIABLE	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

#### **Description of any features**

No Archaeological features present.

### **Trench 10**

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 26m  
**Maximum Depth:** 0.67m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.30m

**OS Co-ordinates:** 331758 141653

**(Easting, Northing)**

331778 141660

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.18m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.13m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW/BROWN	FIRM	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT YELLOW/GREY	SOLID	BEDROCK	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

No Archaeological features present.

### Trench 11

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 34m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.42m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.38m

**OS Co-ordinates:** 331771 141651

**(Easting, Northing)**

331780 141618

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.18m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.12m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW/BROWN	FRIABLE	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

No Archaeological features present.

### Trench 12

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.39m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.33m

**OS Co-ordinates:** 331792 141703

**(Easting, Northing)**

331802 141676

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.16m
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<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.14m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW/BROWN	FRIABLE	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

There was a ditch [1205]/(1206) and a small ditch terminus [1203]/(1204) located near the northwest end of the trench.

### Trench 13

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 30m  
**Maximum Depth:** 0.44m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.31m

**OS Co-ordinates:**      331810 141700  
**(Easting, Northing)**

331820 141677

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK GREY BROWN	LOOSE	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.18m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	LIGHT/MID BROWNISH GREY	FIRM	SLIGHTLY SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.21m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW/BROWN	FIRM	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT YELLOW/GREY	SOLID	BEDROCK	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

A ditch [1304]/(1305) was observed at the northwest end and a narrow gully [1306]/(1307) near the centre of the trench.

### Trench 14

**Width:** 1.52m      **Length:** 30m  
**Maximum Depth:** 0.40m      **Minimum Depth:** 0.33m

**OS Co-ordinates:**      331797 141669  
**(Easting, Northing)**

331822 141673

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.20m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	LIGHT GREY BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.09m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID BROWN	FRIABLE	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A



### Description of any features

No Archaeological features present.

### Trench 15

**Width:** 1.52m

**Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.49m

**Minimum Depth:** 0.36m

**OS Co-ordinates:**

331816 141659

**(Easting, Northing)**

331826 141630

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.21m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	MID GREY BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.18m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	MID YELLOW BROWN	FRIABLE	CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

No Archaeological features present.

### Trench 16

**Width:** 1.52m

**Length:** 30m

**Maximum Depth:** 0.46m

**Minimum Depth:** 0.35m

**OS Co-ordinates:**

331831 141665

**(Easting, Northing)**

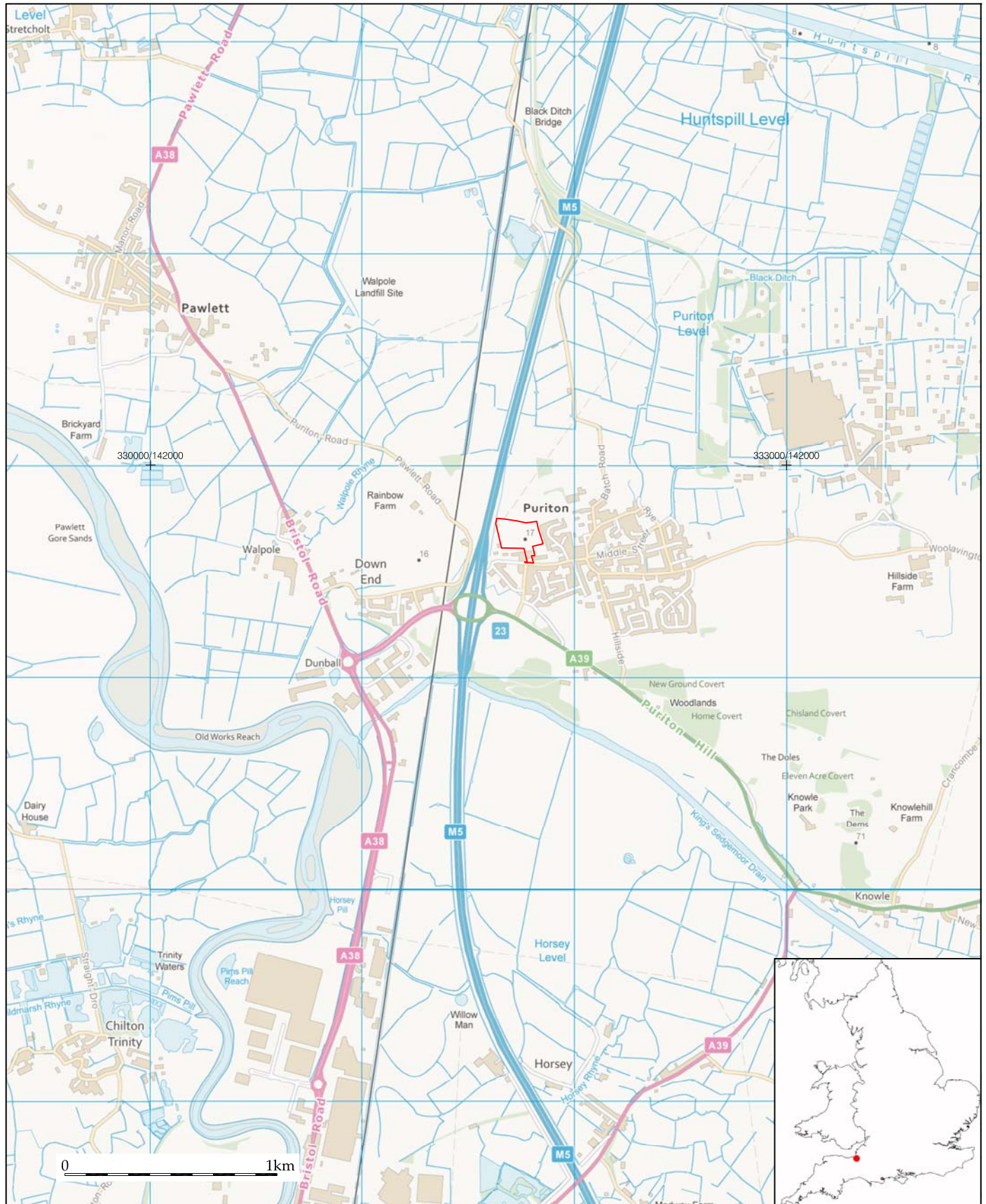
331839 141636

<b>TOPSOIL:</b>	DARK BROWN/BLACK	SOFT	LOAM	<b>Depth:</b>	0.19m
<b>SUBSOIL:</b>	MID GREY BROWN	FIRM	SILTY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	0.16m
<b>NATURAL:</b>	LIGHT ORANGE	FRIABLE	SANDY CLAY	<b>Depth:</b>	N/A

### Description of any features

No Archaeological features present.

## **APPENDIX 3: FIGURES**






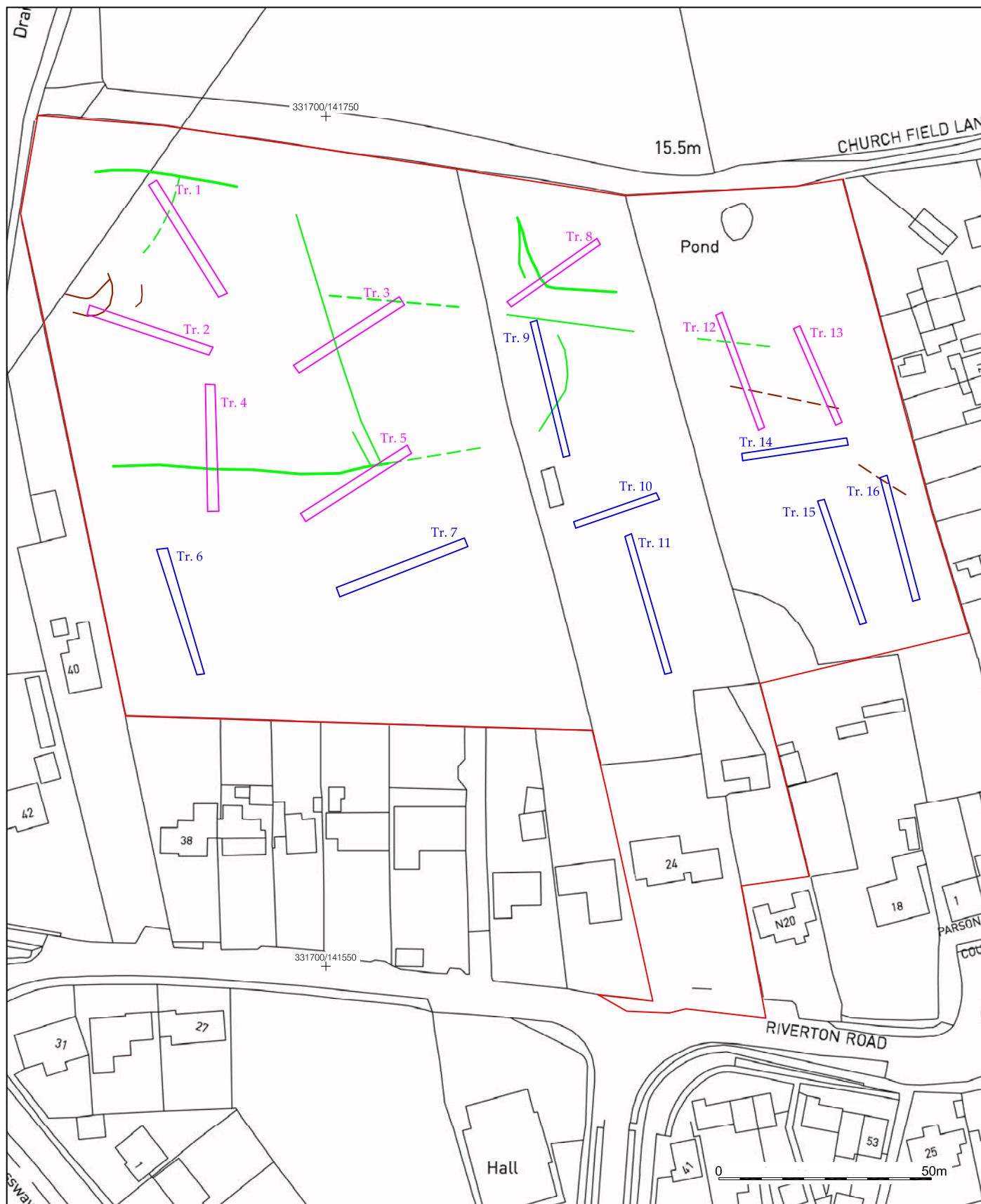
 <p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014</p>	<p>PROJECT: Land at Riverton Road, Puriton, Somerset</p> <p>SCALE: 1:25,000 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP11036</p> <p>CLIENT: Taylor Wimpey &amp; Barton Wilmore</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: November 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 1</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <div data-bbox="938 1899 1125 1960">  Site location </div>	 <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100019512</p>
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Figure 1: Site location.










 <p>Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 2014</p>	<p>PROJECT: Land at Riverton Road, Puriton, Somerset</p> <p>SCALE: 1:1,250 at A4</p> <p>REPORT No: CP11036</p> <p>CLIENT: Taylor Wimpey &amp; Barton Wilmore</p> <p>DRAWN BY: AB</p> <p>DATE: November 2014</p> <p>FIGURE: 2</p>	<p>KEY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Site boundary</li> <li> Trenches containing archaeology</li> <li> Trenches with no archaeology</li> <li> Field boundaries</li> <li> Soil filled features</li> </ul>	 <p>Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100019512</p>
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Figure 2: Location of evaluation trenches showing targeted geophysical anomalies.

PROJECT:  
  
Land at Riverton Road,  
Puriton, Somerset




CLIENT:  
  
Taylor Wimpey &  
Barton Wilmore

SCALE: Plan 1:100/Sections 1:25 at A3

DRAWN BY: HP/AB

DATE: November 2014

KEY:

(101)	Context number
	Height mAOD
	Section location
	Limit of excavation

REPORT No:  
  
CP11036

FIGURE:  
  
3

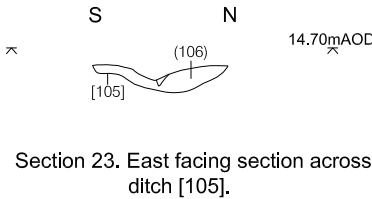
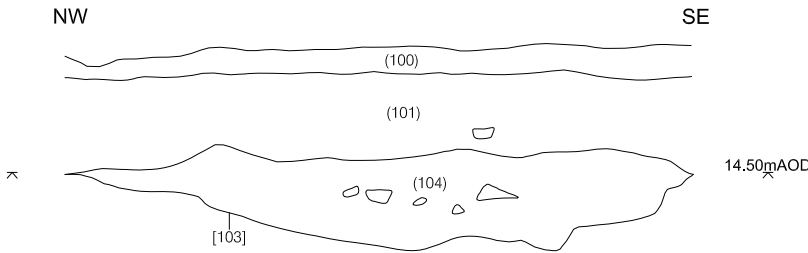
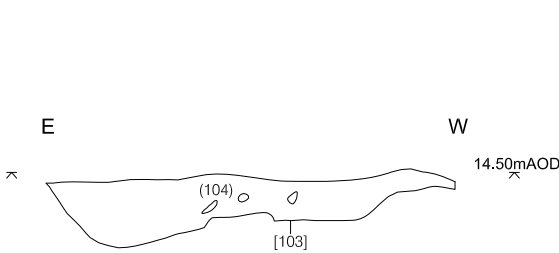
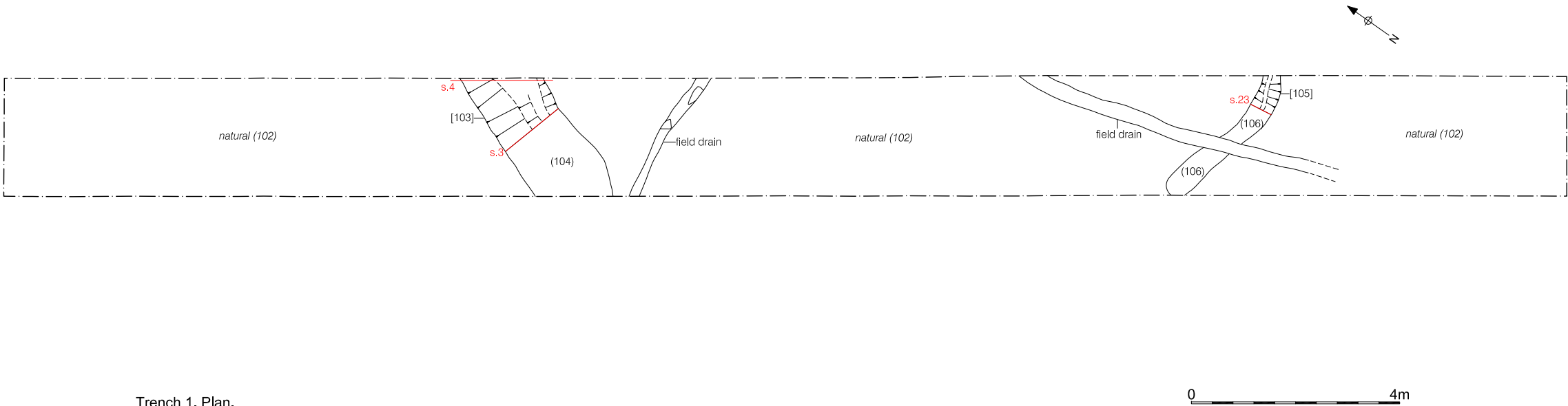


Figure 3: Trench 1; plan and sections.



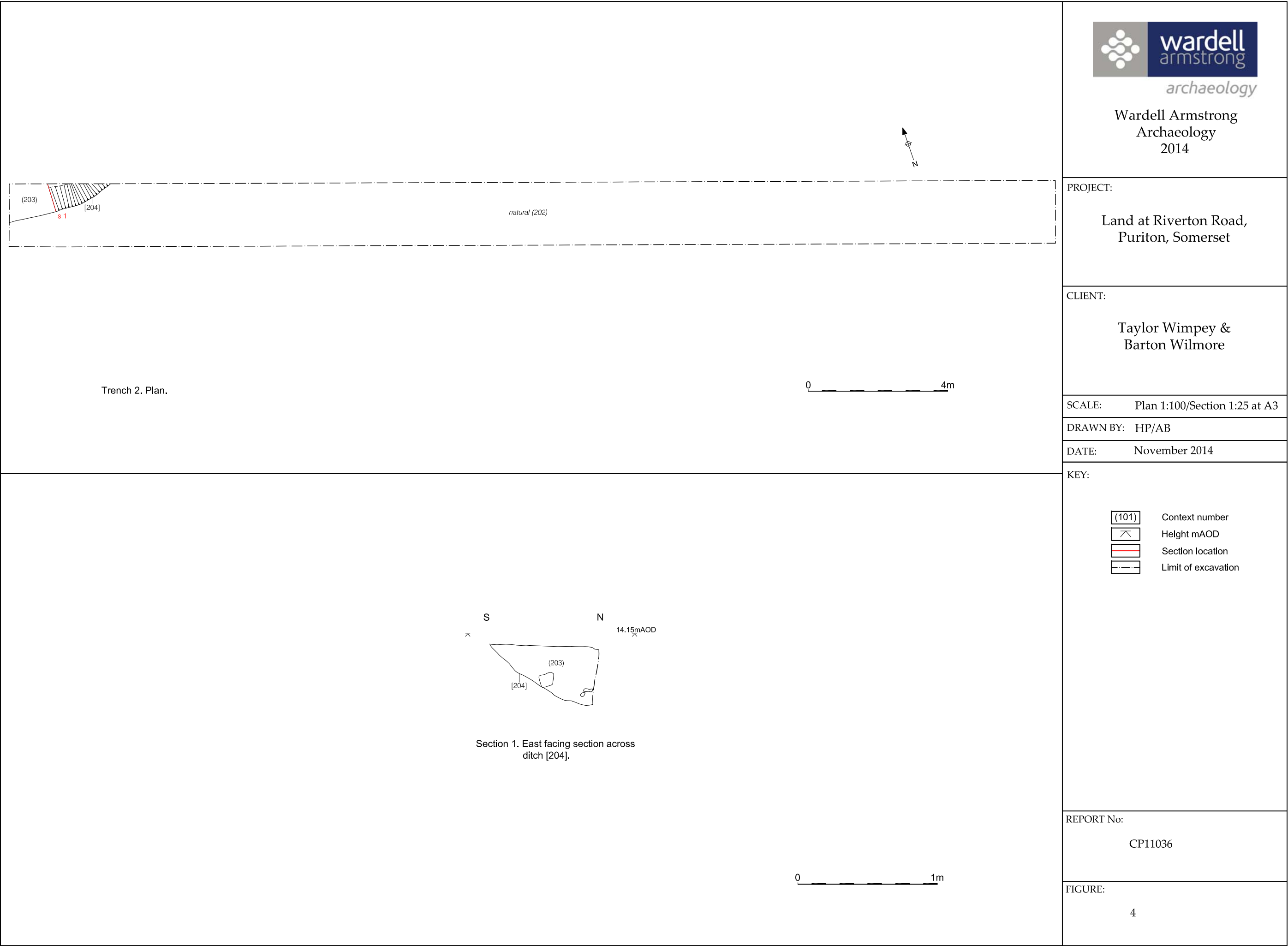


Figure 4: Trench 2; plan and section.

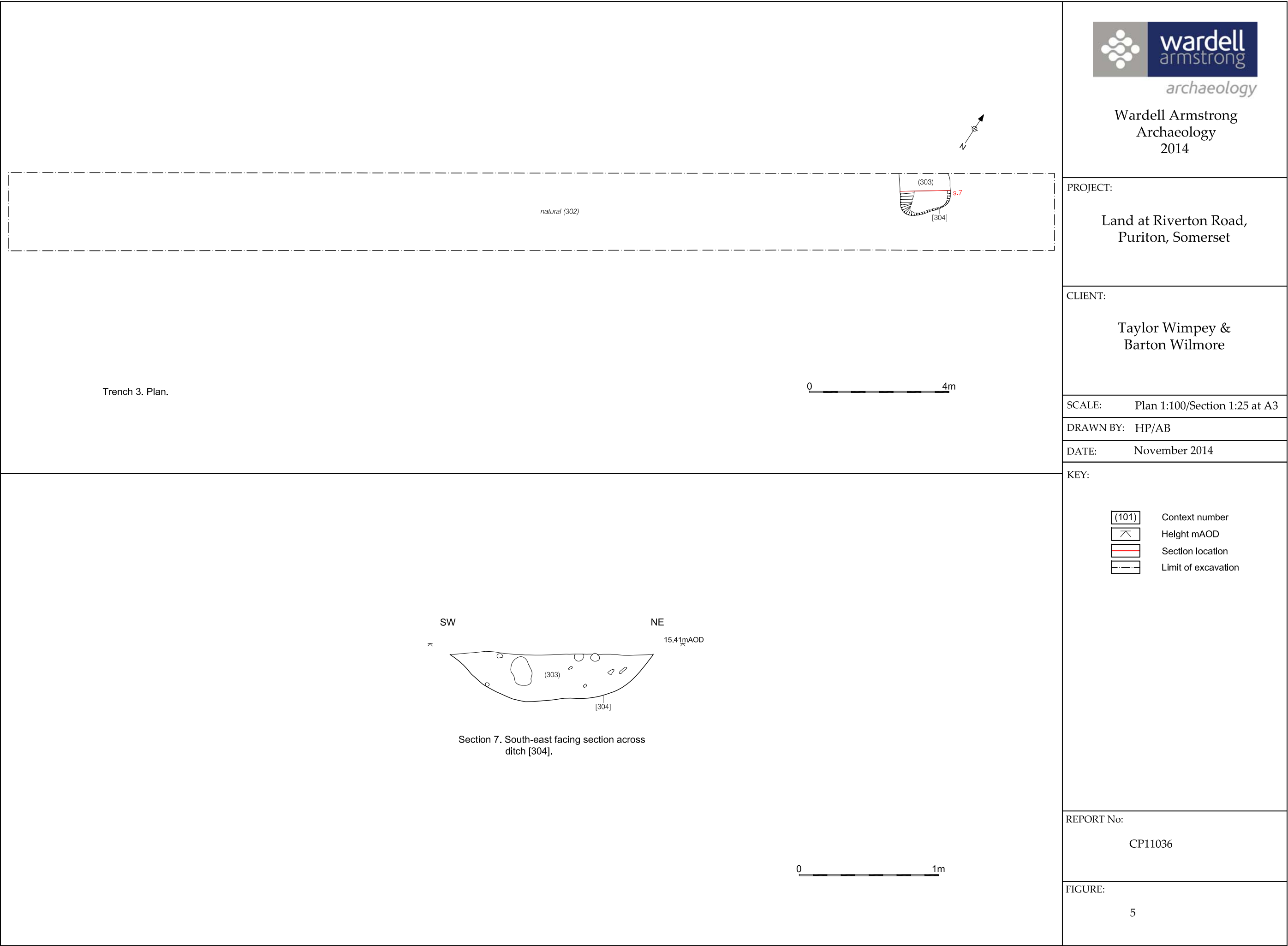


Figure 5: Trench 3; plan and section.

PROJECT:  
  
Land at Riverton Road,  
Puriton, Somerset





CLIENT:  
  
Taylor Wimpey &  
Barton Wilmore

SCALE: Plan 1:100/Sections 1:25 at A3

DRAWN BY: HP/AB

DATE: November 2014

KEY:

	Context number
	Height mAOB
	Section location
	Limit of excavation

REPORT No:  
  
CP11036

FIGURE:  
  
6

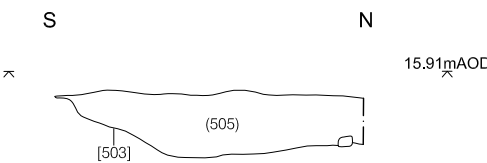
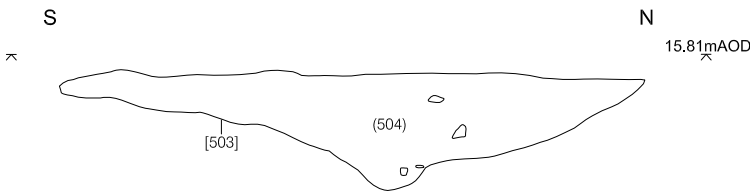
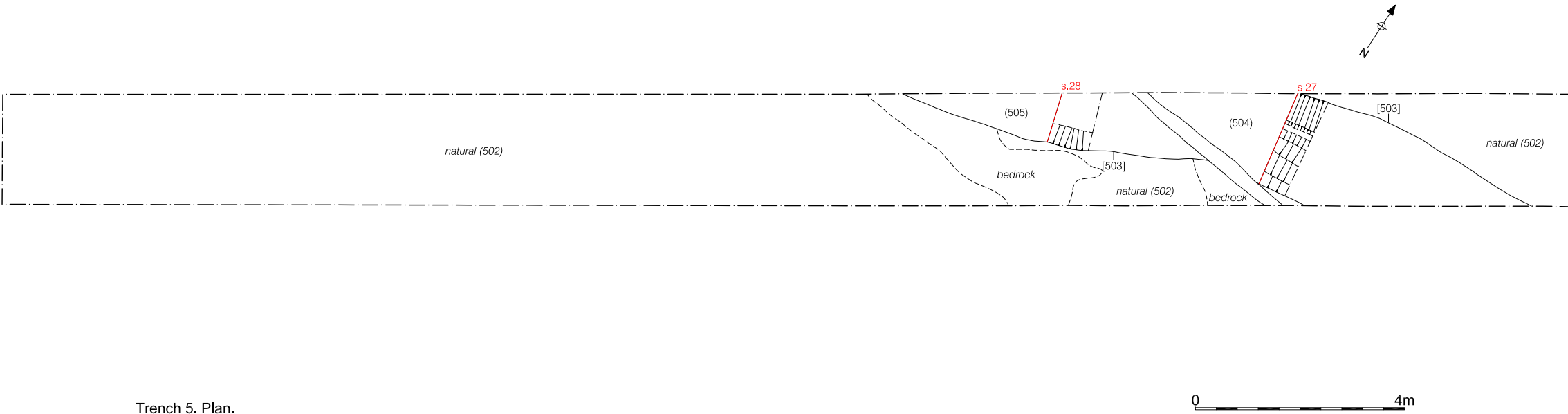


Figure 6: Trench 5; plan and sections.



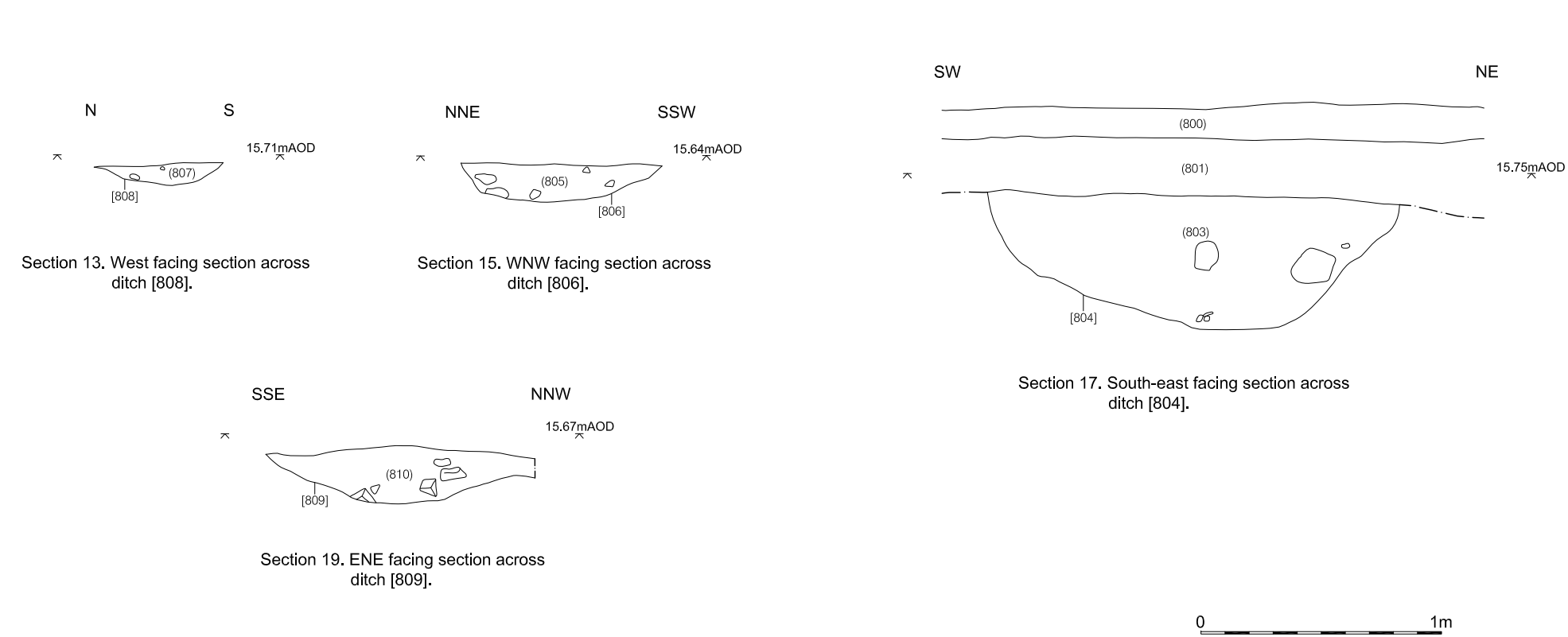
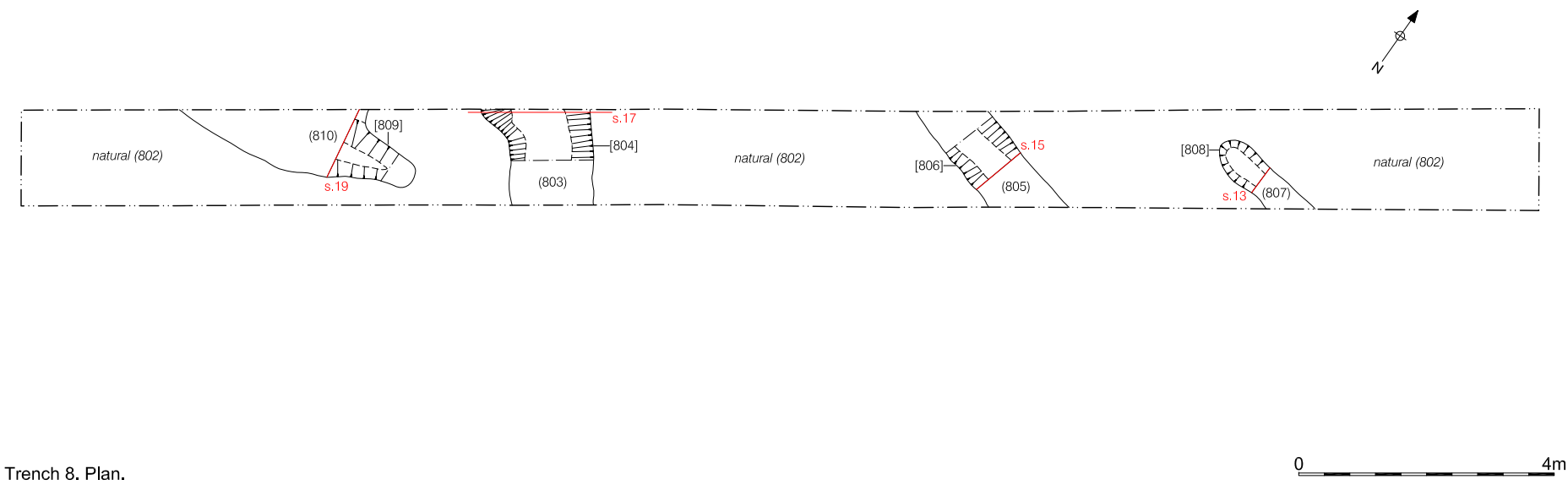
PROJECT:  
  
Land at Riverton Road,  
Puriton, Somerset

CLIENT:  
  
Taylor Wimpey &  
Barton Wilmore




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DRAWN BY: HP/AB

DATE: November 2014



KEY:

(101)	Context number
	Height mAOd
	Section location
	Limit of excavation

REPORT No:  
  
CP11036

FIGURE:  
  
7

Figure 7: Trench 8; plan and sections.

PROJECT:  
  
Land at Riverton Road,  
Puriton, Somerset




CLIENT:  
  
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SCALE: Plan 1:100/Sections 1:25 at A3

DRAWN BY: HP/AB

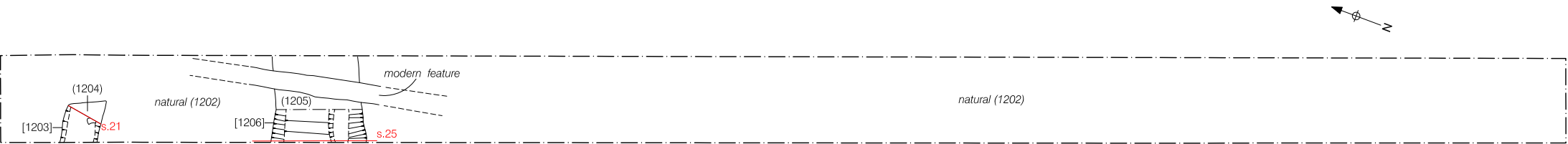
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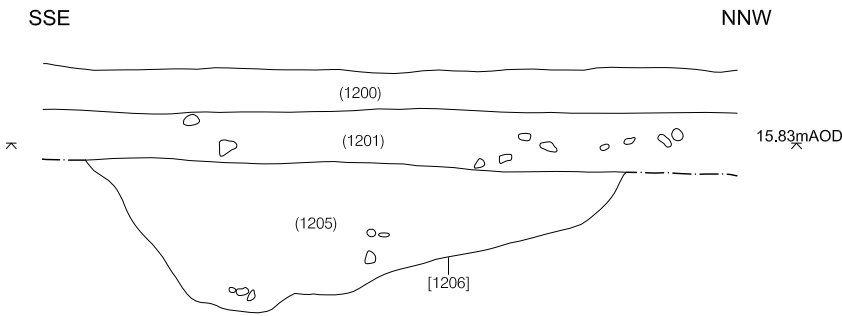
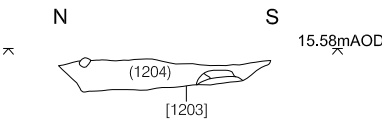
(101)	Context number
	Height mAOd
	Section location
	Limit of excavation

REPORT No:  
  
CP11036

FIGURE:  
  
8



0 4m



0 1m

Figure 8: Trench 12; plan and sections.

PROJECT:  
  
Land at Riverton Road,  
Puriton, Somerset





CLIENT:  
  
Taylor Wimpey &  
Barton Wilmore

SCALE: Plan 1:100/Sections 1:25 at A3

DRAWN BY: HP/AB

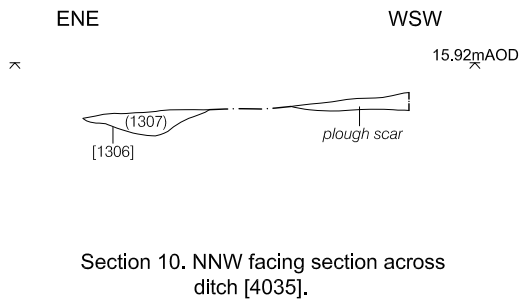
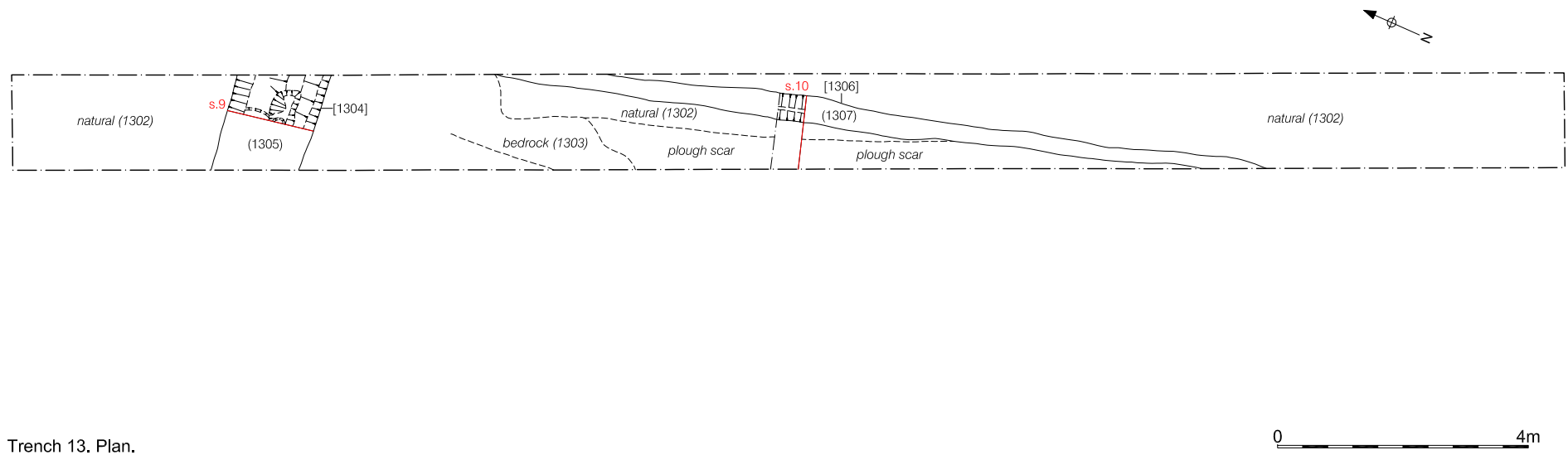
DATE: November 2014

KEY:

	Context number
	Height mAOB
	Section location
	Limit of excavation

REPORT No:  
  
CP11036

FIGURE:  
  
9



0 1m

Figure 9: Trench 13; plan and sections.

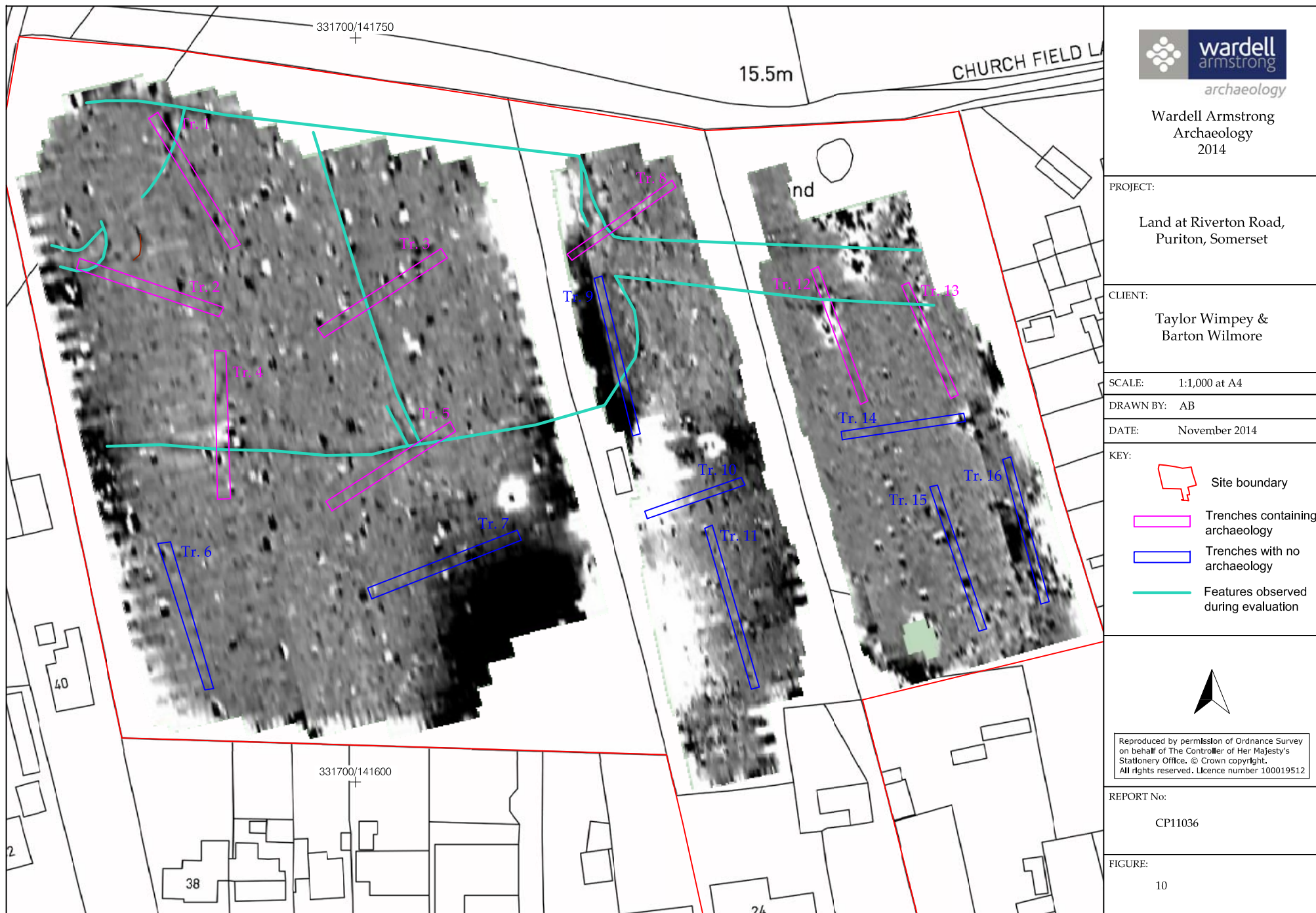


Figure 10: Interpretation of archaeological features.

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