An archaeological evaluation of land adjoining the former Brockworth Airfield, Brockworth, Gloucestershire

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Site Code: BWG 01

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1.0 Summary

Ninety two archaeological trial trenches were excavated within an area of 58 hectares of agricultural land and disused runway, proposed for development, adjoining the former Brockworth Airfield, Brockworth, Gloucestershire, near Gloucester (centred on NGR SO 875 160, *Figs. 1 & 2). The purpose of the trial-trenching was to test for the survival of significant archaeological remains within the area, and to provide an indication of the importance, date and extent of such remains. Previous archaeological work on the site - which comprised a desk-top assessment of existing archaeological knowledge and geophysical survey - suggested that the remains of a settlement of Roman date, marked by rectangular geophysical anomalies, survived within the site. Other parts of the site contained weaker geophysical anomalies that were thought to indicate the possible presence of archaeological or natural features.*

These conclusions were borne out by the trial trenching. Fifteen of the trial trenches were excavated within the suspected settlement. The remainder, were targeted on the weaker geophysical anomalies and on apparently archaeologically 'blank' areas throughout the site, to test for the survival of hitherto-unsuspected remains. The existence of the settlement was confirmed, and information was gained on its character, date, likely extent, quality of survival, significance and archaeological potential. In the other areas of the site most of the trenches proved to be archaeologically sterile. With the exception of a single shallow pit of Roman date, the remainder of the site did not appear to contain significant archaeological remains.

The settlement is probably a Romano-British farmstead dating from the 2nd -4th centuries A.D. and appears to have relatively well-defined boundaries. The settlement (Fig. 3) comprised several phases of rectilinear enclosures, containing possible construction trenches, beam slots, pits, postholes and gullies. These features indicated the enclosures contained structures. The finds suggest that these would have had tiled roofs and some of the structures may have been built, wholly or partly, of stone. The settlement may have been surrounded by a boundary ditch, although only the probable south side of the boundary ditch was located during the evaluation.

It is concluded that the settlement is of local and regional archaeological importance and, as such, an archaeological mitigation strategy of the kind suggested in paragraph 30 of PPG16 (DoE 1990) may be applicable in this situation. This could involve preservation in situ or excavation and a watching brief during any proposed development, or a mixture of both these strategies, though the final decision on any mitigation strategy must rest with Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service. The evaluation and earlier investigations now provide sufficient information for a well-informed and focused programme of any further archaeological investigations to be designed.

2.0 Introduction

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation by means of trial trenching of land adjoining the former Brockworth Airfield, Brockworth, Gloucestershire. The work followed a desk-based assessment (Entec 2001) and geophysical survey of the site (Archaeophysica 2001, Geoquest 2001 and Bartlett Clark 2001). The evaluation was commissioned by Entec UK Ltd, archaeological Consultants on behalf of Bovis Homes Ltd and Westbury Homes Ltd. It was undertaken in May and June 2001 by Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit (BUFAU), in accordance with a method statement prepared by BUFAU (BUFAU 2001).

The method statement was approved by Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service and regular weekly site visits were made by Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service, for the purpose of monitoring the fieldwork.

The paper archive consists of one box of A4 files and the finds archive comprises four boxes (including one dry box), currently held at BUFAU. It will be deposited with the appropriate repository, within a reasonable time of the completion of the evaluation, and subject to the approval of the landowner.

2.1 Planning background

The evaluation and the preceding desk-based assessment and geophysical survey were carried out in advance of proposed development of the site, all archaeological work being carried out on behalf of Bovis Homes Ltd and Westbury Homes Ltd. The work was undertaken prior to the determination of a planning application.

2.2 Site location and description

The site (Fig. 1, centred on NGR SO 875 160) comprises several fields of agricultural land adjoining the former Brockworth Airfield and includes part of the former runway. It is located to the east of the M5 motorway, beyond the southeastern fringe of Gloucester. Much of the former airfield is now occupied by the Gloucester Business Park. The Wotton Brook crosses the site and the Gloucester suburb of Hucclecote lies to the north. The site covers an area of approximately 58 hectares (Fig. 2). The land is relatively low lying, at 38-50m above Ordnance Datum and is liable to flooding.

The underlying geology is silty clay with limestone inclusions. The soils are largely silty clays, with more sandy silty clays in the fields to the south.

3.0 Archaeological background

Prior to the evaluation which is the subject of this report, a desk-based assessment of the site was carried out (Entec 2001), followed by geophysical survey of virtually the entire site (Archaeophysica 2001, Geoquest 2001 and Bartlett Clark 2001).

3.1 Desk-based assessment

The desk-based assessment, carried out by Entec, highlighted a number of archaeological features and findspots recorded on the Gloucestershire County Council Sites and Monuments Record within, and close to, the site. These include Hucclecote Roman villa (Fig. 1, SMR 468), 1 km to the north; a prehistoric and Romano-British settlement site excavated in 1998 (Fig. 1, SMR 20087), 1 km to the northeast; Ermine Street Roman Road (SMR 7542), 0.5 km to the north; and the possible site of the Medieval Brockworth Park (SMR 7478).

Examination of aerial photographs revealed ridge and furrow earthworks within the site. Extensive ground disturbance caused by the construction of the airfield, in use between 1915 and the 1960s, and later land use as a golf course and subsequent intensification of cultivation were also visible.

3.2 Geophysical survey

A geophysical survey of virtually the entire site was carried out. The site was split into three areas (Fig. 2, A-C) and surveyed by three separate contractors, in order to complete the work in as short a time as possible. In Area A (Fig. 3, Zone 1) a complex of rectilinear anomalies interpreted as a Romano-British settlement, possibly a villa or farmstead, was identified. Some of these anomalies indicated the possible presence of buried walls. Also in Area A, four possible ring ditches, ridge and furrow cultivation, and later field boundaries were identified. In Area B several possible ring ditches and possible linear ditches were recorded. Area C contained a number of pit-like anomalies and linear anomalies which may be natural features, but could be interpreted as archaeological.

4.0 Aims and methods

4.1 Aims

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to:

- establish the likely presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and features within the proposed development site.
- define the nature, extent and significance of surviving deposits and features.
- provide information to allow the formulation of a mitigation scheme for further excavation in advance of development, where appropriate, or for other mitigation through scheme design etc.

These aims were achieved through the excavation of 92 archaeological trial-trenches, totalling 7,587 square metres. The trenches were located to test features found by the geophysical survey and to randomly sample blank areas. The number of trenches and their locations were agreed with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service.

4.2 Methods

The positions of the trenches were surveyed in using a Total Station EDM. The trenches were then mechanically opened using a 360-degree excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and operating under constant archaeological supervision. The topsoil and/ or subsoil was removed to the depth at which archaeological features first appeared (generally the interface with the underlying natural subsoil). In trenches where alluvial or colluvial deposits underlay the topsoil, the surface of the alluvium or colluvium was first mechanically cleaned in order to test for the presence of archaeological features, before all, or a sample, of the alluvium/colluvium was carefully removed to test for archaeological features within or beneath these deposits.

Immediately following the machine cleaning of the surfaces within each trench (when feature visibility is frequently best), a record was made of all potential archaeological features and deposits within the trench using a 'Trench Record' *proforma*. These cards enable a systematic pre-excavation record of all relevant details to be made, together with a measured sketch of all features and deposits at 1:100. Visible archaeological features are numbered and tagged on the ground and a decision is made on the strategy for sampling features and potential features within the trench.

Subsequent sample excavation was carried out by hand. Discrete archaeological features, such as pits, were half sectioned. A sufficient length of linear features, such as ditches, was excavated to determine their nature, profile and, where possible, date and function. All deposits encountered were described fully on individual *pro-forma* context and feature recording cards. A drawn record was made of all features, at scales of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 in plan and 1:20 or 1:10 in section and profile, as appropriate. A full monochrome print and colour slide photographic record was maintained throughout. Soil samples of 10, 15 and 20 litres were taken from appropriate contexts for subsequent flotation to recover charred plant remains. Finds, including animal bone, were retained by individual context.

5.0 Summary of results

The results are summarised in three areas A-C (Fig. 2), which correspond to the three separate geophysical zones. All areas showed evidence of recent ploughing and are now overgrown with grass and weeds. The topsoil varied in depth between 0.25m and 0.35m. The underlying natural subsoil was mainly clay. The subsoil in the lower lying areas within the floodplain of the Wotton Brook, mainly in areas A and B, comprised mainly alluvial silty clays, between 0.25m and 0.70m thick, overlying the natural clay. Some colluvial deposits overlay the natural in Area C. Evidence of former stream channels (palaeochannels) was identified in Area A, near the now-culverted Wotton Brook and in the west field running parallel with the M5. All areas were crossed by networks of land drains, some of which are depicted on the geophysical surveys. Much of this network of land drains, particularly those in Areas A and B was laid at the time of the construction of the airfield.

5.1 The Romano-British settlement (Area A, Zone 1)

The geophysical survey (Archaeophysica 2001) of this settlement (Fig. 3) indicated that it comprised of a complex of conjoined small rectilinear enclosures, with internal features, possibly including a substantial walled building. Fifteen trenches (Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 40, 41, 91 and 92) were excavated within the area of the Romano-British settlement. The area corresponding to the complex of rectilinear anomalies was situated on slightly raised ground, approximately 1m higher than the other parts of Area A. Alluvial deposits were present, sealing the natural clay in trenches 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 40, 41 and 91. These alluvial deposits also sealed features of Romano-British date. Trench 17 (Fig. 10) was positioned across a geophysical anomaly indicative of an enclosure in the southern part of the settlement area. Towards the centre of the trench were two parallel ditches (F1700 and F1701), one cutting the other and running E-W, which appear to represent redefinition of a southern boundary or enclosure. The latter of the two ditches produced Roman pottery.

Trenches 13, 15, and 91 were positioned across geophysical anomalies which could be interpreted as representing a large enclosure or field boundary on the south and east side of the settlement. Trenches 40 and 41 were speculative, but coincided with the geophysical anomaly interpreted as a field boundary. No archaeological features were visible in these trenches. Trench 92 was designed to investigate a strongly magnetic anomaly, possibly a kiln, within a possible enclosure. No features were recorded here and the anomaly appeared to be caused by ferrous disturbance. Trench 16 was located to intersect two parallel linear anomalies. No archaeological features were visible here.

Trench 14 (Fig. 10) was positioned across two parallel linear anomalies aligned NE-SW. No features on this orientation were recorded. A wide shallow ditch (F1402), orientated NW-SE, was identified and this corresponded with a weak linear anomaly. This feature contained Roman pottery and fragments of limestone rubble. Two shallow sub-circular pits (F1400 and F1401) were present to the east of F1402, one of which produced Roman pottery.

Trench 12 (Fig. 9) was located across three linear anomalies. A series of five shallow linear negative features was revealed, all containing Roman pottery. Three of these linear negative features (F1201, F1203 and F1204) were 0.50-0.80m wide and 0.06-0.22m deep. F1203, which contained limestone fragments, is the only feature that corresponds well with a geophysical anomaly. It could be interpreted as a narrow truncated beam slot or construction trench, as could F1201 and F1204, which was 'L'- shaped. The other two linear features (F1200 and F1202) in this trench were much wider ditches, but just as shallow. Two small pits were also present in this trench, one of which (F1205) contained Roman pottery.

Trench 11 (Fig. 8) was positioned to investigate a number of linear and rectilinear anomalies. All the features in the wider, west part of this trench corresponded well with geophysical anomalies and most produced Roman pottery. These features represented at least three phases of activity. The earliest features were a linear ditch (F1110) and a sub-circular pit. These features were cut by ditch F1108, one of two parallel, shallow linear ditches. Both these ditches (F1108 and F1109) contained fragments of limestone rubble and ditch F1109 contained fragments of Roman *tegulae*. Both F1108 and F1109 were cut by a linear ditch (F1114). A small posthole (F1112) was situated to the north of F1110.

In the narrower part of Trench 11 were several features that were not detected by the geophysical survey. Linear ditch or trench (F1101) was cut by linear ditch or trench (F1100), which contained fragments of limestone rubble. At the east end of the trench was another linear ditch (F1113).All these features contained Roman pottery. A small posthole (F1103) and a pit (F1115) were also present.

Trench 10 (Fig. 7) was located across rectilinear anomalies and a linear anomaly interpreted as a boundary feature. Two shallow, flat-based linear ditches or trenches (F1000 and F1003), one of which terminated within the trench, corresponded with these anomalies. Another linear trench or ditch running parallel with F1003 was not detected by the geophysical survey. All these features contained Roman pottery. Two pits (F1004 and F1001) were too small to register on the geophysical survey. No archaeological feature corresponded with the linear anomaly interpreted as a boundary feature.

Trench 9 (Fig. 6) was positioned to intersect several linear or rectilinear anomalies. At the north end of the trench a linear negative feature containing modern finds (9/008) corresponded with a curvilinear geophysical anomaly interpreted in the geophysical report as a later field boundary ditch. The same feature was excavated in Trench 8 (F810) and contained a modern drain.

Two shallow linear ditches or trenches (F900 (containing Roman *tegula*) and F904) corresponded exactly with a rectilinear anomaly. F900 cut an earlier pit. A linear feature (F809) in Trench 8 also corresponded with this anomaly. Returning to Trench 9, a shallow linear slot (F905) corresponded with another rectilinear anomaly. At the centre of the trench a relatively deep ditch with a 'V'- shaped profile (F902) had been recut by a shallow ditch (F903). This feature was not detected by the geophysical survey. All these features, with the exception of slot F905, contained Roman pottery.

Trench 8 (Fig. 5) was located across linear and rectilinear anomalies, including an anomaly interpreted as a possible rectilinear stone structure. All features excavated contained Roman pottery. Linear ditch F810 contained a modern pipe and corresponded with an anomaly interpreted as a later field boundary ditch also identified in Trench 9 (9/008).

Linear ditch F811 corresponded with a linear anomaly and cut two earlier pits (F814 and F816), too small to register on the geophysical survey. Pit F816 was also cut by the terminal of a linear ditch (F817), was not detected by the geophysical survey. Another narrower trench or ditch running parallel with ditch F811 did not correspond with any geophysical anomaly. Ditch F813, 3.75m wide and 0.62m deep, corresponds with a NW-SE aligned geophysical anomaly and is almost certainly the same feature recorded in the other arm of the trench as F807 and in Trench 7 as F700/ F701. This feature contained limestone rubble and *tegula*, and is the most substantial ditch excavated within Zone 1.

Linear trench F815 corresponds with the geophysical anomaly interpreted as a rectilinear stone structure. It contained limestone rubble and blocks, one of which showed signs of being dressed and also *tegula*, stone tile, iron nails and vessel glass. F815 appeared to be contemporary with a narrow curvilinear ditch (F800). Another narrow linear ditch (F806) cut wide ditch F807. The NE-SW aligned unexcavated context 8/009 would appear to be the same fill as that of the NE-SW orientated feature recorded in Trench 9 as F900.

Feature F900 is also probably the same feature as F904, and corresponds to a rectilinear geophysical anomaly. In Trench 8 two small pits (F803 and F821) and two pits or ditch/ gully terminals (F804 and F805) were to small too register on the geophysical survey. Pit F821 cut ditch F807.

Trench 7 (Fig. 4) was located across several linear and rectilinear anomalies. An earlier negative feature (F708), containing two fragments of an iron key, was cut by two linear negative features (F700 and F707). Ditch F707 also cut another linear ditch (F706) on the same alignment, both of which corresponded with a rectilinear geophysical anomaly. F707 was cut by a pit or ditch terminal (F710). Ditch F700 corresponded with a NW-SE aligned geophysical anomaly. This anomaly is almost certainly the same substantial linear feature recorded in Trench 8 as F813/ F807. Ditch F700 had also been redefined by a wider ditch (F701). Linear negative feature F705 corresponded approximately with a rectilinear anomaly and contained a pair of copper alloy tweezers. It was cut by a similarly-aligned linear ditch (F704).

Three linear negative features (F702, F703 and F709) at the west end of Trench 7 were not detected by the geophysical survey. F702 was a narrow slot, and F703 and F709 were wide, shallow, flat-based ditches or trenches. All features in Trench 7, with the exception of F706 and F710, contained Roman pottery.

Trenches 5 and 6 were positioned across two circular annular and penannular ring ditch - type anomalies, but no archaeological features were identified.

5.2 Area A, Zone 2 (Fig. 2)

Trenches 1 and 2 were positioned to investigate a linear and 'L'- shaped geophysical anomaly in the west field, but no archaeological features were identified. Trenches 3 and 4 were located across two circular geophysical ring ditch-type anomalies, but no archaeological features which corresponded with the anomalies were identified, although a single flint flake was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 3.

Shallow linear furrows aligned E-W, spaced 5-6m apart and 1.6-2.5m wide, were identified in Trenches 3 and 4. One of these furrows was sample excavated and contained Post-Medieval pottery and residual Roman pottery. These features correspond with the anomalies identified in the geophysical report as probable ridge and furrow, associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods.

Further traces of shallow furrows, probably relating to ridge and furrow, associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods, were identified in the west field in Trench 38. These features were orientated NE-SW and spaced 5-6m apart. The furrows were 1.5-2.35m wide and contained Post-Medieval and residual Roman pottery. These features were not visible on the geophysical survey, probably because they were situated at the edge of the geophysical survey coverage. A Medieval hammered coin was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 37.

No further evidence of ridge and furrow was identified in Area A, despite suggestions of more extensive areas of ridge and furrow in the geophysical survey.

Several linear features were excavated in Trenches 47 and 49, probably representing Post-Medieval drainage ditches.

5.3 Area B (Fig. 2)

In Area B several anomalies, possibly ring ditches and linear ditches, were recorded during the geophysical survey (Geoquest Associates 2001). Trenches 18-28 were positioned to intersect these anomalies. In Trench 18 a small, shallow, truncated pit or scoop (F1800), which did not correspond with a curvilinear anomaly, contained a sherd of Roman pottery. A linear gully, which did coincide with this anomaly, was of Post-Medieval date, and probably represented a drainage ditch.
An undated linear ditch in Trench 24 did not correspond with the possible, sub-circular ring ditch-type anomaly. This feature may be a former drainage ditch or field boundary. Probable linear Post-Medieval drainage ditches in Trench 27 may relate to the curvilinear geophysical anomaly, although they did not correspond exactly.

In Trench 69 traces of shallow furrows probably relating to ridge and furrow, associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods, was identified. These features were orientated NE-SW and spaced 5-6m apart. The furrows were 1.1-1.8m wide and no finds were recovered from them. Anomalies corresponding with these features were identified by the geophysical survey.

In Trench 58 a small pit or posthole was identified, but no finds were recovered. All other features investigated in Area B were either of natural origin (such as tree boles), were associated with Post-Medieval agricultural activities, or were of recent date.

5.4 Area C (Fig. 2)

The geophysical survey (Bartlett Clark 2001) in Area C revealed a number of pit-like anomalies, raised areas of magnetic susceptibility and linear anomalies all of which could have been natural features, but could also have been interpreted as of archaeological origin.

Trenches 29-35 were located to investigate geophysical anomalies. In only one trench, Trench 33, was an archaeological feature identified. This was a Post-Medieval linear ditch (F3300), probably a drainage ditch. Two other archaeological features were identified in the speculative trenches in Area C. In Trench 78, a Post-Medieval ditch (F7800), probably for drainage and similar to the ditch in Trench 33, was uncovered. In Trench 84, an undated linear ditch (F8400) was revealed.

6.0 The finds

6.1 The Romano-British pottery (by Annette Hancocks)

The pottery was quantified by count and weight only (Table 1). It was primarily concentrated in evaluation trenches 7, 8, 11 and 12. The material was rapidly scanned, assigned to a ceramic period and spot-dated to provide a *terminus post quem*.

A total of 984 sherds (8293g) was recovered from the evaluation. Overall, the Roman assemblage demonstrated little abrasion, although some weathering was evident. At least 20 diagnostic, decorated and dateable rim forms were recognised. The material principally dated to the 2nd-4th century A.D., although there are indications of a late 3rd/4th century concentration. The range and variety of this material comprised typically oxidised and reduced Severn Valley wares of the regionally traded local tradition, as well as Black-Burnished Ware 1 and Oxfordshire wares traded from further afield. A lot of the Severn Valley greyware forms were copies of traditional Black-Burnished Ware vessels, such as dog dishes and bead. and flange bowls. There is very little in the way of imported wares, samian and amphorae. Twelve sherds of samian were recovered, including a stamped sherd, a DR. 18R sherd and a DR. 31 sherd.

The national research framework for the study of Romano-British pottery identifies pottery from rural sites as being ' highly significant for our understanding of the Romano-British economy and 'Romanization'' (Willis 1997, 15) and indicates the potential academic significance of the recovered assemblage and material from any further work on the site.

Table 1: Spot-dating of Romano-British pottery and other finds

Area	Feature	Context	Description	Date range
Trench 3	Topsoil	3/000	1 x flint flake	
Trench 3	F300	3/003	1x Post-medieval and 4x Roman (5g)	Post-medieval with residual Roman
Trench 6	Topsoil	6/000	1 x Mortaria (27g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 7	F709	7/002	15x Severn Valley ware, greyware (122g), animal bone (17g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 7	F702	7/003	3x Severn Valley ware (4g), 1x tile (105g), 1x fired clay (1g), animal bone (3g)	Roman
Trench 7	F703	7/004	5x Severn Valley ware (11g), 1x tile (30g), 2 x fired clay (5g)	Roman
Trench 7	F704	7/005	5x Fired clay (11g), 14x Severn Valley ware (incl. Mortaria), BB1 (97g), animal bone (195g)	Roman
Trench 7	F707	7/006	17x Oxford mortaria with spout, greywares (bead. And flange copies), Severn Valley ware, shell tempered ware, colour-coat (432g), 2x tile (278g), animal bone (21g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 7	F700	7/007	10x Severn Valley ware, BB1 (43g), animal bone (103g)	Roman
Trench 7	F701	7/008	27x Severn Valley ware, BB1 (145g), 3x fired clay (10g), animal bone (6g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 7	F700	7/009	4x Roman (24g), animal bone (2g)	
Trench 7	F701	7/010	4x shell tempered ware, greyware (12g)	Roman
Trench 7	F704	7/011	8x Severn Valley ware, greyware (59g), 1x brick (79g), animal bone (23g)	Roman
Trench 7	F705	7/012	7x Severn Valley ware (incl. mortaria 109g), 1x copper alloy tweezers (SF 1)	Roman
Trench 7	F708	7/015	15x oxidised ware (including 2 rims); BB1, greyware, mortaria with spout edge (Young M22) (706g), animal bone (278g), 2x frags of iron key	3rd –4th century A.D.
Trench 8	Topsoil	8/000	1x *tegula* (448g)	
Trench 8	F800	8/001	7x Grey ware dog dish copy (44g), animal bone (4g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 8	Topsoil	8/002	2x Severn Valley ware, samian (27g)	Roman
Trench 8	F803	8/004	7x Severn Valley ware, BB1 (11g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F804	8/005	11x Severn Valley ware, Malvernian group A reduced ware, greyware (69g), 1x stone (64g), 6x fired clay (11g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F805	8/006	2x Greyware (3g)	Roman

Trench 8	F806	8/007	8x Severn Valley ware, greyware (56g), animal bone (11g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F807	8/008	1x Severn Valley ware (8g)	Roman
Trench 8	F821	8/013	2x Severn Valley ware (21g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F810	8/014	1x Greyware (9g), 1x fired clay (3g)	Roman
Trench 8	F811	8/015	6x stone tile (1722g), animal bone (329g), 5x tile (193g), 11x fired clay (86g), 97x Severn Valley ware, OXCC, BB1, Greyware BB1 copies (dog dish, bead, and flange bowls) (736g), 1x Fe object	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F812	8/016	16x Severn Valley ware; BB1, greyware; Oxford mortaria (42g), 1x fired clay (2g), animal bone (6g), 1x fe object, 1x tile (34g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F813	8/017	104x Severn Valley ware (incl. colander frag.), greyware, BB1 bead and flange bowl, samian (623g), 5x fired clay (32g), 2x stone (96g), animal bone (59g), 29x tile, incl. *Tegula* (1270g)	3rd -4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F815	8/018	88x Severn Valley ware, Malvernian group A reduced ware, BB1, greyware, samian with rivet (Drag 18R) (528g), 6x fired clay (23g), animal bone (52g), 3x Fe nails, 6x stone tile (328g), 1x vessel glass, 1x ceramic spindlewhorl, 5x tile incl. *tegula* (377g), 1x misc. stone	2nd-4th century A.D. with residual mid-late 1st century samian
Trench 8	F814	8/020	9x Severn Valley ware, greyware, BB1 (28g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F816	8/021	27x Severn Valley ware, greyware, OXCC ware (118g), animal bone (2g), 4x tile (128g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F817	8/022	Animal bone (18g), 8x tile, incl. Box flue (168g), 2x fired clay (4g), 28x greyware (including BB1 copies and bead and flange bowls and dog dish), Severn Valley ware, incl. Bowl forms, amphorae(109g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 8	F811	8/023	20x Severn Valley ware, BB1; Greywares (77g), animal bone (35g), 1x stone	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 9	F902	9/004	7x Greyware, Severn Valley ware, whiteware (40g), animal bone (16g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 9	F904	9/003	4x Severn Valley ware (7g), animal bone (6g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 9	F900	9/005	9x Severn Valley ware, greyware, OXCC ware (111g), 3x *tegula* tile (137g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 9	F901	9/006	1x Severn Valley ware (6g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 9	F903	9/007	1x Severn Valley ware (6g), 1x stone tile (85g)	Roman
Trench 10	F1000	10/003	11x Fired clay (28g), 5x Severn Valley ware (16g)	Roman
Trench 10	F1002	10/005	2x Severn Valley ware (2g), animal bone (<1g)	Roman
Trench 10	F1003	10/006	12x Greyware and oxidised ware (24g), 8x fired clay (10g), 2x stone tile (152g), animal bone (17g)	Roman
Trench 11	F1101	11/003	13x Severn Valley ware, greyware (107g), 2x fired clay (34g), animal bone (4g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1100	11/004	15x Severn Valley ware, greyware, samian (197g), 5x tile (535g), 2x brick (244g), 1x stone tile (187g), 1x Fe nail, animal bone (20g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1100	11/005	29x Severn Valley ware, samian (Drag. 31R) (298g), 1x tile (73g), 2x Fe, 3x stone tile (68g), 2x stone, animal bone (13g)	Late 2nd century A.D.
Trench 11	Topsoil	11/006	2x unidentified Roman pot sherds (18g)	Roman
Trench 11	F1108	11/010	15x Black-Burnished ware, Severn Valley ware (incl. Mortaria) (224g), 1x Fe lump, 2x fired clay (5g), 2x tile (27g), animal bone (3g)	2nd –4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1108	11/011	14x Severn Valley ware, greyware; oxidised ware (294g), 3x tile (161g), 1x brick (902g), 2x fired clay (10g)	2nd – 4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1109	11/012	6x Greyware, oxidised ware, BB1 (141g), 1x tile (241g), animal bone (4g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1109	11/013	11x Severn Valley ware 107g), 2x *tegula* tile (166g), animal bone (31g)	
Trench 11	F1109	11/014	23x Severn Valley ware (incl colander), greyware, BB1 (185g), 1x Fe brooch/nail, 1x tile (23g), 1x fired clay (13g), animal bone (95g)	3rd/4th century A.D.

Trench 11	F1110	11/015	2x Severn Valley ware, greyware (11g), 1x Fe nail, animal bone (98g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1110	11/016	21x Severn Valley ware (inc. 4 rims from 3 vessels), greyware (inc bead. and flange rim bowl), samian (371g), animal bone (12g), 1x vessel glass, 2x stone	3rd/4th century A.D. with residual Drag..37
Trench 11	F1111	11/017	3x Severn Valley ware, greyware, Oxfordshire ware bowl (49g), 3x tile (124g), 1x misc Fe	3rd century A.D.
Trench 11	F1114	11/019	3x Severn Valley ware, greyware (29g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 11	F1113	11/021	4x Severn Valley ware (18g), 1x flint	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 12	Subsoil	12/001	14x Severn Valley ware (hemispherical bowl/bead. and flange bowl), BB1, samian (139g), 1x tile (14g), 1x fired clay (4g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 12	F1201	12/003	24x greyware, mortaria (106g), 1x tile (16g), animal bone (10g)	Roman
Trench 12	F1200	12/004	8x Severn Valley ware, samian (with stamp), 5x fired clay (49g), 1x tile (204g), animal bone (12g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 12	F1202	12/006	72x Greyware copy of BB1 dog dish, Severn Valley ware (incl mortaria) (591g), 3x tile (576g), animal bone (21g)	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 12	F1203	12/007	54x Severn Valley ware, BB1 (241g), 1x tile (74g), animal bone (40g)	2nd-4th century A.D.
Trench 12	F1204	12/008	14x Severn Valley ware, BB1, Colour-coat (29g), animal bone (41g)	2nd/3rd century A.D.
Trench 14	F1402	14/003	8x Severn Valley ware, Greyware dog dish copy (205g), 5x tile (1294g), animal bone (373g), 1x lead weight	3rd/4th century A.D.
Trench 14	F1400	14/004	2x Greyware (33g)	Roman
Trench 14	F1401	14/005	2x Severn Valley ware (7g), 1x tile (26g), animal bone (79g)	Roman
Trench 15	Topsoil	15/000	1x Severn Valley ware (5g)	Roman
Trench 17	Topsoil	17/000	3x Severn Valley, BB1 (13g), 1x tile (7g), 1x slag	Roman
Trench 17	F1700	17/003	Animal bone (57g)	
Trench 17	F1701	17/005	10x Severn Valley ware, greyware (54g), 1x *tegula* (607g), animal bone (143g), 1x oyster shell	Roman
Trench 18	Topsoil	18/000	1x Sandy greyware (10g)	Roman
Trench 18	F1800	18/002	1x Sandy greyware (1g), 1x slag	Roman
Trench 18	F1801	18/004	1x Post-medieval pottery (<1g), 1x tile (<1g), 3x fired clay (17g), 1x glass	Post-medieval
Trench 27	F2700	27/002	2x Stoneware (19g), 1x slag, 1x brick (513g), 2x window glass	Post-medieval
Trench 27	F2701	27/003	3x fired clay (<1g)	
Trench 33	F3300	33/002	1x Clay pipe stem	Post-medieval
Trench 37	Topsoil	37/000	1x Post-medieval tile (63g), 1x coin	Post-medieval with residual 12th century coin
Trench 38	furrow	38/003	1x Post-medieval pottery (46g)	Post-medieval
Trench 38	furrow	38/004	1x Post-medieval pottery (2g)	Post-medieval
Trench 38	F3800 (furrow)	38/006	1x Severn Valley ware (8g)	Roman
Trench 41	Subsoil	41/001	1x medieval pottery (1g)	12th-14th century *A.D.*
Trench 47	F4700	47/002	3x post-medieval pottery (43g), 1 x slag	18th/19th century A.D.
Trench 48	Subsoil	48/001	1x post-medieval pottery (49g)	18th/19th century A.D.
Trench 49	F4901	49/005	1x tile (4g)	
Trench 66	F6600	66/002	1x copper alloy item, 2x clay pipe, 5x window glass	Post-medieval
Trench 67	F6700	67/002	1x Post-medieval pottery(2g)	Post-medieval
Trench 92	Topsoil	92/000	1x tile (22g)	

Table 2: Quantification of material by find type

Material Type	Quantity	Weight (g)
Ceramic: Tile	96	7443g
Ceramic: Brick	3	1494g
Fired clay/daub	86	374g
Romano-British pottery	984	8293g
Post-medieval pottery	10	-
Clay pipe	3	-
Coins	1	-
Copper alloy	2	
Lead	1	-
Industrial waste	4	-
Bottle glass	10	-
Flint	2	-
Other stone: tile	19	2542g
Animal bone	-	2249g
Iron nails	15	-

6.2 The plant remains (by Marina Ciaraldi)

Soil samples taken from five datable features were processed and assessed, to establish if biological remains were preserved and their potential for the reconstruction of the past environment and economy of the site.

The soil samples were processed at the Environmental Processing Room, BUFAU. The samples were all very clayey and had to be soaked in a solution of sodium hydrogen carbonate and warm water before being floated with a York flotation machine. The flots (light fraction) were recovered on a 0.5 sieve and the residue (heavy fraction) on a 1mm mesh. The residue was sorted by eye, while the flots were scanned under a low-power stereomicroscope. None of the samples examined contained charred or waterlogged plant remains, though a few bones were found in the residue (Table 3).

No further analysis or processing is appropriate at this stage. It is suggested that, should there be any future excavations in the area, sampling is limited exclusively to those features that clearly indicate a good preservation of plant remains by charring or water-logging.

Table 3: assessed soil samples

No.	Area	Feature/ Context	Volume processed (L.)	Type of context
1	Trench 12	F1202 (12/006)	10	Ditch (Bone present)
2	Trench 12	F1201 (12/003)	10	Ditch (Bone present)
3	Trench 8	F811/ (8/016)	10	Ditch
4	Trench 8	F812 (8/016)	10	Ditch
5	Trench 8	F813 (8/017)	10	Ditch

6.3 The animal bone (by Emily Murray)

The preliminary spot dating of the pottery indicates that all of the faunal material derived from contexts dating to Roman activities (2^{nd} -4^{th} century A.D.). A small assemblage, *c.* 23kgs, of animal bone was recovered by hand-collection. The bones were all recovered from Area A and from various pit, ditch and gully features in Trenches 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 17. A number of soil samples was also collected and these were processed by wet sieving. The residues (recovered on a 1mm mesh) were not fully sorted, but a cursory examination indicates that samples from trench 12 (12/003 & 12/006) include a small number of large mammal bone fragments and caprine teeth, while the very clayey samples from Trench 8 are devoid of bone.

The range of species represented in the hand-collected assemblage is cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse, and one oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) valve was found in Trench 17. Signs of carnivore gnawing were also noted on a couple of bones, providing indirect evidence for the presence of dogs.

Although fragmented, the preservation of the mammal bones (cortical surface) was good and a number of elements showed signs of having been exposed to waterlogged conditions. The range of elements represented, however, was dominated by teeth. These are small and structurally dense which make them less susceptible to both chemical and mechanical attrition (Lyman 1994). This would suggest that any faunal assemblage that may be recovered by any further archaeological investigations in this immediate area may be biased towards certain elements and species. There is however, good potential for the recovery of age/slaughter data for the main domesticates and, should further excavations take place, it is recommended that care is taken when recovering mandibles and that they are bagged separately. Also, given the dense clayey conditions of the soil and its susceptibility to drying-out or becoming waterlogged, the detection of animal bones in the field may be comprised. It is therefore recommended that full-earth samples continue to be taken throughout any further work and that these are coarse sieved to recover any animal bones that may be present.

6.4 The small finds (by Lynne Bevan)

The earliest item among the finds was a light brown flint end scraper of probable Neolithic to Bronze Age date (3/000).An undiagnostic waste flake was also recovered (11/021). Roman metal finds consisted of a small iron key (7/015), a broken pair of tweezers (7/012), and a large conical lead weight (14/003). Although the style and form of the key is more typical of a Medieval date, a Roman date is still likely in view of its context. Eight nails were recovered (7/006 x 1, 8/018 x 3, 11/012 x 1, 11/004 x 1, 11/005 x 1, 11/015 x 1), two fragments of plate (8/016, 11/017) and three unidentified corroded lumps (8/015, 11/010, 11/014). In addition, a small fragment of slag or hearth lining was found (17/000).

Other Roman finds consisted of half of a crude spindlewhorl made from a greyware pottery sherd (8/018), part of a ribbon handle from a blue-green glass vessel (11/016) and a small body fragment of blue-green vessel glass (8/018). Small quantities of fired clay, most probably representing hearth lining or daub, were recovered from Trenches 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12. The majority occurred in Trench 8, along with some of the largest groups of pottery and other finds.

The latest datable item was half of a late 12th-century silver coin, a clipped coin from the short cross coinage of Henry II, dated to 1180-1189 (37/000).

While this small collection does not represent a high level of material culture, some of the Roman items, particularly the metal small finds, the glass handle and the spindlewhorl, are interesting finds in a rural context.

6.5 The Brick and Tile (by Erica Macey)

A total of 96 sherds of ceramic tile, weighing 7443g, was noted. These were mainly small fragments of undiagnostic tile, although partial examples of the known Roman forms of *tegula* (8/000, 8/017, 8/018, 17/005) and *tubulus* (8/022) were also recovered. Small quantities of ceramic brick (3 fragments, weighing 1494g) and stone tile (19 fragments, weighing 2542g) were also noted. The assemblage was fragmentary and quite abraded; no complete examples were noted. The concentration of identifiable Roman tile forms in Trench 8 may point to the existence of a high status building, such as a villa, in the vicinity, but the assemblage is too small to prove or disprove this.

7.0 Discussion

The evaluation, together with the preceding geophysical survey provides a clear picture of the nature, significance and quality of the archaeological remains within the proposed development site.

7.1 The spatial extent of archaeological occupation

The spatial extent of the Romano-British archaeology is relatively well defined. Both the geophysical survey and trial trenching indicate that the boundaries of the Romano-British settlement have been established. The west limit of the settlement appears to correspond with the present field boundary. To the north and south the settlement extends as far as Trench 6 and Trench 17. To the east the edge of the settlement appears to coincide with a line between Trench 15 and 15m west of the east end of Trench 10. This defines an area of approximately 90m x 130m.

The small truncated pit identified in , 18, Area B, and the residual Roman finds in Trenches 3 and 38, Area A, may indicate that possible field boundaries and slighter more peripheral features associated with the Romano-British settlement have been removed by modern ploughing. With the exception of the small pit in Trench 18, none of the trenches excavated outside the area of the Romano-British settlement produced results of archaeological significance. Whilst this does not completely rule out the possibility of other archaeological remains surviving within the area of the proposed development, it is unlikely.

7.2 Quality of preservation of the archaeological remains

The trial trenching has indicated that the geophysical survey results provide a good guide to the overall plans of the settlement. The correlation between geophysical anomalies and archaeological features excavated in the trial trenches was frequently very good.

However, several weaker linear enclosure-type anomalies to the south and east of the settlement were not visible as archaeological features. The trial trenching indicated that a few fairly wide linear features, as well as slighter features such as insubstantial gullies, small pits and post holes were not registered by the magnetometer survey. Furthermore, major linear anomalies such as the enclosure boundaries were frequently revealed by excavation to be relatively complex, sometimes involving several phases of activity. Therefore, it can be concluded that the density and complexity of the features comprising the settlement is greater than is suggested by the geophysical survey alone.

In addition, the trial-trenching has shown that the shallow nature of the archaeological features, particularly pits and postholes, suggests heavy truncation of features by modern ploughing has occurred. Although no stone walls, suggested by the geophysical survey, were encountered during the trial-trenching, limestone rubble was present in some features, indicating that walls may have been levelled or robbed out.

The evaluation has indicated charred plant remains are absent from the samples taken. However, preservation of animal bone was fairly good, although affected by exposure to water-logged conditions. Preservation of pottery, tile and other 'small finds' was good.

7.3 Nature of the settlement, archaeological potential and recommendations

The Romano-British settlement at Brockworth appears to consist of several phases of rectilinear enclosures containing possible construction trenches, beam slots, pits, postholes and gullies. These features indicate that the enclosures contained structures. The finds suggest that they would have had. tiled roofs and that some of the structures may have been built, wholly or partly, of stone. The settlement may have been surrounded by a boundary ditch, although only the probable south boundary ditch was located during the evaluation. The settlement appears to be a small farmstead. dating from the 2nd -4th centuries A.D., possibly associated with the villa to the north. No direct evidence of surrounding field systems was found, although these may have been destroyed by modern ploughing. There was no evidence of any trackways linking the settlement with Ermine Street to the north.

The Romano-British settlement at Brockworth, appears to be similar in plan to a Romano-British settlement excavated prior to the construction of the Gloucester Buisness Park Link Road., less than 1km to the northeast in 1998 (Bateman and Leah 1999). The settlement was characterised by a series of recti-linear enclosures containing pits, gullies, postholes and possible beam slots dated to the 1st –4th centuries A.D. A small, 1st century Romano-British inhumation cemetery and a track-way linking the site with Ermin Street were also revealed. The villa at Hucklecote (Clifford 1933), excavated in the 1930's, is only 1km to the north. An important question is: what was the relationship of the settlement to the villa and the Link Road site ?

Despite the fact that the archaeology has apparently been severely truncated, there is good potential for any possible future excavation to reconstruct the plan of the settlement. The environmental potential of the site appears to be fairly limited, due to the lack of charred plant remains. There is reasonably good stratigraphic preservation, despite later truncation, which offers a good opportunity for understanding the development of the site through time. Its excavation would offer the opportunity, primarily through comparisons

of material culture, to explore the relationship between such a farmstead and other nearby sites, in a local and regional context.

The settlement is of local and regional archaeological importance and, as such, an archaeological mitigation strategy of the kind suggested in paragraph 30 of PPG16 (DoE 1990) may be applicable in this situation. This could involve preservation *in situ* or excavation and a watching brief, or a combination of these strategies during any proposed development, though any mitigation strategy would be decided by Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service, in discussion with Entec on behalf of the clients. The evaluation and earlier geophysical survey provide sufficient information for a well-informed and focused programme of archaeological investigations to be designed, should this option be taken.

8.0 Acknowledgements

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Appendix: Detailed results of trial trenching

Trench 1 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly.

Method: 'L'-shaped (20m north-south long axis, 30m east-west axis) machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide, designed to avoid modern services.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (1/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.30m of greyish brown silty clay (1/001), 0.20-0.60m deep, becoming deeper at the west end of the trench. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (1000). Only topsoil was removed from the north 'arm' of the trench. At the east 'arm' of the trench, 1/001 was removed by machine to expose the surface of 1/002.

Features:

No archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 1/001 appears to be of alluvial origin.

Trench 2 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an 'L'- shaped geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (2/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.10-0.45m of greyish brown silty clay (2/001), 0.20-0.60m deep, becoming deeper at the west end of the trench. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (2/000).

Features:

No archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 2/001 appears to be of alluvial origin.

Trench 3 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a circular penannular geophysical anomaly, approx. 8m in diameter.

Method: machine excavated trench, 3.6m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (3002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. Above this was 0.20-0.40m of brown silty clay (3001), cut by several linear furrows. This was sealed by 0.30m of topsoil (3000). Layer 3001 was removed by machine in a 1.8m strip along all of the east side of the trench to reveal the natural subsoil (3002).

Features:

F300 - linear furrow, 2.0m wide and 0.12m deep, aligned east-west with gently-sloping sides and an irregular base. Filled with a reddish brown silty clay (3/003) containing Roman and Post-Medieval pottery.

Unexcavated contexts:

3/004 - reddish brown silty clay, 1.6m wide, orientated east-west.

3/005 - reddish brown silty clay, 2m wide, orientated east-west.

3/006 - reddish brown silty clay, 2m wide, orientated east-west.

3/007 - reddish brown silty clay, 2.5m wide, orientated east-west.

3/008 - reddish brown silty clay, 2m wide, orientated east-west.

Interpretation: layer 3/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. All east-west aligned contexts within this trench are spaced 5-6m apart. The spacing, alignment and fill of F300 and contexts 3/004-3/008 suggest that these linear furrows may be associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods. Similar features were identified in Trench 4, to the east. These features correspond with the anomalies identified in the geophysical report as probable ridge and furrow. The Roman pottery from F300 is residual.

Trench 4 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a circular annular geophysical anomaly, approx. 8m in diameter.

Method: machine excavated trench, 3.60m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (4/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. Above this was 0.40-0.80m of brown silty clay (4/001), cut by several linear furrows. This was sealed by 0.30m of topsoil (4/000). Layer 4/001 was removed by machine in a 1.8m strip along all of the east side of the trench, to reveal the natural subsoil (4/002).

Unexcavated contexts:

4/003- reddish brown silty clay, 2.2m wide, orientated east-west.

4/004 - reddish brown silty clay, 2m wide, orientated east-west.

4/005 - reddish brown silty clay, 1.9m wide, orientated east-west.

4/006 - reddish brown silty clay, 1.40m wide, orientated east-west.

4/007 - reddish brown silty clay, 1.9m wide, orientated east-west.

Interpretation: layer 4/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. All the east-west aligned contexts within this trench are spaced 5-6m apart. The spacing, alignment, width and composition of contexts 4/003-4/007 suggest that they fill linear furrows, as in trench 3, and may be associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods. These features correspond with the anomalies identified in the geophysical report as probable ridge and furrow.

Trench 5 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a circular penannular geophysical anomaly, approx. 8m in diameter.

Method: machine excavated trench, 3.60m wide and 20m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (5/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (5/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 6 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a circular annular geophysical anomaly, approx. 8m in diameter.

Method: machine excavated trench, 3.60m wide and 20m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (6/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (6/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 7 (Fig. 4)

Aim: to investigate several linear and recti-linear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 20m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (7/001) consisted of a yellow clay. This was cut by archaeological features. Above this was 0.35m of topsoil (7/000).

Features:

F700 - linear ditch, at least 1.20m wide and 0.50m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a rounded base, probably cutting F708. Filled with a primary fill of brown silty clay (7/009) and a grey silty clay (7/007), containing Roman pottery.

F701 - linear ditch, at least 1.70m wide and 0.60m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a flat base and cutting F700. Filled with a primary fill of grey silty clay (7/010) containing Roman pottery and a brown silty clay (7/008) containing Roman pottery.

F702 - linear gully or slot, at 0.50m wide and 0.15m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a flat base. Filled with a fill of grey silty clay (7/003) containing Roman pottery and tile.

F703 - shallow linear ditch or trench, 1.40 wide and 0.08m deep, aligned NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a grey silty clay (7/004) containing Roman pottery.

F704 - linear ditch, 1.75m wide and 0.35m deep, orientated NE-SW, with steep sides and a rounded base and cutting F705. Filled with a primary fill of brown silty clay (7/011) containing Roman pottery and a grey silty clay (7/005) containing Roman pottery.

F705 - linear negative feature, at least 0.90m wide and 0.20m deep, orientated NE-SW. Filled with a brown silty clay (7/012) containing Roman pottery and copper alloy tweezers.

F706 - shallow linear ditch or trench, at least 1.75m wide and 0.18m deep, aligned NW-SE with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (7/013).

F707 - linear ditch, 1.86m wide and 0.50m deep, aligned NW-SE and cuts F706 and F708, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a grey silty clay (7/006) containing Roman pottery and tile.

F708 - negative feature, at least 1.2m wide and 0.42m deep, with a steep-stepped south side, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a brown silty clay (7/015) containing Roman pottery and an iron object.

F709 - linear negative feature, at least 1.35m wide and 0.25m deep, orientated north-south, with a gently-sloping east side, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a grey silty clay (7/002) containing Roman pottery.

F710 -pit or ditch terminal, at least 2.20m wide and 0.50m deep, with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base, cutting F707, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a brown silty clay (7/016).

Interpretation: All the features recorded here date to the Romano-British period. Ditch F700 and recut F701, probably represent the same ditch recorded in Trench 8 as F807/ F813, which coincides with a geophysical anomaly. Negative features F706/F707 and F704/F705 correspond with rectilinear geophysical anomalies, which may form recti-linear plots or enclosures containing structures. Narrow linear feature F702 may be beam slot for one such structure. Linear negative features F703 and F709 may be structural, associated with structures within plots.

Trench 8 (Fig. 5)

Aim: to investigate several linear and rectilinear geophysical anomalies.

Method: 'L'- shaped machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long..

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (8/010) consisted of a yellow clay. This was cut by archaeological features. Above this was 0.35m of topsoil (8/000).

Features:

F800 - shallow curvilinear ditch, 0.70m wide and 0.08m deep, with gently-sloping sides and slightly rounded base, contemporary with F815. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (8/001) containing Roman pottery.

F803 - shallow sub-circular pit, 0.80m in diameter and 0.05m deep with an irregular profile. Filled with a grey silty clay (8/004) containing Roman pottery.

F804 - ditch terminal or pit, 1.55m wide and 0.15m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a brown silty clay (8/005) containing Roman pottery.

F805 - gully terminal or pit, 0.45m wide and 0.12m deep, with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a grey silty clay (8/006) containing Roman pottery.

F806 - linear ditch or trench, 0.65 wide and 0.08m deep, aligned NW-SE and cutting F807, with gently-sloping sides and flat base. Filled with a grey silty clay (8/007) containing Roman pottery.

F807 - linear ditch, at least 3m wide and 0.40m deep, aligned NW-SE and not fully excavated. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (8/008) containing Roman pottery.

F810 - linear trench, 2.68m wide and at least 0.55m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steep sides. Within this trench was a white ceramic drain pipe. Over this was a dark brown silty clay mixed with redeposited natural yellow clay (8/019). Above this was a brown silty clay (8/014) with lenses of charcoal, containing Roman pottery.

F811 - linear ditch, 2.36m wide and 0.50m deep, aligned NE-SW and cutting F814 and F816, with steeply-sloping sides and flat base. Filled with a primary fill of brown silty clay (8/023), containing Roman pottery and a grey silty clay (8/015) containing Roman pottery and tile.

F812 - linear ditch or trench, 0.90m wide and 0.50m deep, aligned NE-SW, with a 'U'-shaped profile. Filled with a primary fill of brown silty clay (8/023) containing Roman pottery and a grey silty clay (8/015) containing Roman pottery.

F813 - linear ditch, 3.75m wide and 0.62m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steep sides and a rounded base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (8/017) containing Roman pottery, *tegula* and limestone fragments.

F814 - sub-circular pit, at least 1.20m wide and 0.13m deep, with steeply-sloping sides and a rounded base, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a brown silty clay (8/020) containing Roman pottery.

F815 - linear trench, 2.05m wide and 0.25m deep, becoming wider to the west, with steep sides and a flat base, orientated NW-SE. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (8/018) containing a large amount of

limestone rubble and blocks, up to 0.30m x 0.20m x 0.20m, one of which showed evidence of being dressed. It also contained Roman pottery, *tegula*, vessel glass and iron nails.

F816 - sub-circular pit, at least 0.70m wide and 0.13m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a brown silty clay (8/020) containing Roman pottery.

F817 - linear ditch terminal, at least 1.10m wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides, aligned NW-SE and cutting F816. Filled with brown silty clay (8/022) containing Roman pottery and tile.

F821 - shallow circular pit, 0.65m in diameter and 0.06m deep, with an irregular profile, cutting F807. Filled with a grey silty clay (8/013) containing Roman pottery.

Interpretation: - linear trench F810 appears to be modern, probably the same feature as recorded in Trench 9 as 9/008. Both features coincide with a geophysical anomaly mentioned in the geophysical report as being a probable Medieval or Post-Medieval field boundary. All other features in this trench date to the Romano-British period. Linear negative features F811, F807/ F813, F815 and context 8/009 all correspond with linear or rectilinear geophysical anomalies. Ditch F807/F813 appears to form a major boundary, corresponding with a geophysical anomaly and probably recorded in Trench 7 as F700/ F701. The NE-SW aligned context 8/009 is the same as the fill of the feature recorded in Trench 9 as F900 and probably the same as F904.

Other narrower linear negative features and pits are probably too small to have been recorded by the geophysical survey. The wider linear features may relate to rectilinear plots or enclosures containing structures suggested by the narrower linear features, which may be beam slots. Rubble-filled feature F815 corresponds with a possible stone built structure identified by the geophysical survey.

Unexcavated contexts:

8/003 - grey silty clay, 0.25m in diameter, possible posthole.

8/009 - grey silty clay, 1m wide aligned NE-SW.

Trench 9 (Fig. 6)

Aim: to investigate several linear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 25m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (9/001) consisted of a yellow clay. This was cut by archaeological features. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (9/000).

Features:

F900 - linear ditch, 1.54m wide and 0.35m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steeply-sloping sides and a rounded base, cutting F901. Filled with a grey silty clay (9/005) containing Roman pottery, *tegula* and tile.

F901 - sub-circular pit, at least 0.66m in diameter and 0.22m deep, with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a brown silty clay (9/006) containing Roman pottery.

F902 - linear ditch, at least 1.45m wide and 0.72m deep, orientated NW-SE, with a 'V'- shaped profile. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (9/004) containing Roman pottery.

F903 - linear ditch, 1.88m wide and 0.38m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steep sides and a rounded base, cutting F902. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (9/007) containing Roman pottery.

F904 - shallow linear ditch, 1.50m wide and 0.15m deep, orientated NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a slightly rounded base. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (9/004) containing Roman pottery.

F905 - shallow linear slot, 0.44m wide and 0.10m deep, orientated NW-SE, with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with brown silty clay (9/002).

Unexcavated context:

9/008 - grey silty clay, 2.60m wide, extending beyond the end of the trench, containing modern finds.

Interpretation: context 9/008 is probably the fill of the same modern trench (F810) excavated in Trench 8. All other features here date to the Romano-British period. The linear negative features correspond well with geophysical anomalies. Some of these features may enclose rectangular plots which may contain structures. Slot F905 may be a beam slot for one of these structures. Ditch F900 is the same rectilinear feature as unexcavated feature F809 in Trench 8 and probably the same as ditch F904.

Trench 10 (Fig. 7)

Aim: to investigate several linear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (10/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay, through which was cut archaeological features. Above this was 0.10-0.20m of light greyish brown silty clay (10/001), sealed by 0.30m of topsoil (10/000).

Features:

F1000 - terminal of linear trench or ditch at least 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, aligned east-west and extending beyond the end of the trench. Filled with light yellowish brown silty clay (10/003) containing Roman pottery and fired clay.

F1001 - circular pit, 0.63m wide and 0.20m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with light yellowish brown silty clay (10/004).

F1002 - linear trench or shallow ditch, 1.28m wide and 0.20m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, orientated NW-SE. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (10/005) containing Roman pottery.

F1003 - linear trench or shallow ditch, 1.10m wide and 0.24m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, aligned NW-SE. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (10/006) containing Roman pottery.

F1004 - circular pit, 0.85m wide and 0.10m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (10/007).

Interpretation: layer 10/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. Trenches or shallow ditches F1000, F1002 and F1003 appear to correspond with linear or rectilinear geophysical anomalies. Other pit-type features recorded here, but not identified on the geophysical survey, are too small to register as anomalies. All features here date to the Romano-British period. F1000 and F1002 may enclose rectangular plots and F1003 may be a construction trench for a structure within one of these plots.

Trench 11 (Fig. 8)

Aim: to investigate several linear and rectilinear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated 'L'- shaped trench 25m long, east 'arm' 1.8m wide south 'arm' 6m wide.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (11/001) consisted of a yellow clay, through which was cut archaeological features. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (11/000and 11/006).

Features:

F1100 - linear ditch or trench, 2.50m wide and 0.30m deep, orientated NE-SW and cutting F1101, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a primary fill of blue grey clay (11/004) containing Roman pottery, tile and limestone fragments and a grey silty clay (11/005) containing Roman pottery, tile and limestone fragments.

F1101 - linear ditch or trench, 1.20m wide and 0.20m deep, orientated N-S with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a primary fill of blue grey clay (11/002) and a grey silty clay (11/003) containing Roman pottery.

F1102 - circular posthole, 0.24m in diameter and 0.06m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with grey silty clay (11/007).

F1103 - circular posthole, 0.28m in diameter and 0.06m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with grey silty clay (11/008).

F1108 - linear ditch, 1.30m wide and 0.36m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a rounded base, cutting F1110 and F1111. Filled with a primary fill of grey silty clay (11/009), a dark grey silty clay (11/010) containing Roman pottery and a brown silty clay (11/011) containing Roman pottery, tile and fragments of limestone.

F1109 - linear ditch, 1.30m wide and 0.36m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a rounded base. Filled with a primary fill of grey silty clay (11/012) containing Roman pottery and an iron nail, a grey silty clay (11/013) containing Roman pottery, tile and limestone fragments and a dark grey silty clay (11/014) containing Roman pottery and fragments of limestone. The stratigraphic relationship between F1109 and F1108 was unclear.

F1110 - linear ditch, 1.65m wide and 0.26m deep, orientated NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with a primary fill of brown silty clay (11/015) containing Roman pottery and an iron nail and a dark grey silty clay (11/016) containing Roman pottery and vessel glass.

F1111 - sub-circular pit, at least 0.80m in diameter and 0.10m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with dark grey silty clay (11/017) containing Roman pottery and tile.

F1112 - circular posthole, 0.26m in diameter and 0.08m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with grey silty clay (11/018).

F1113 - linear negative feature, at least 1.1m wide and 0.10m deep, orientated NW-SE, with a steep side and a flat base, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a grey silty clay (11/021) containing Roman pottery and flint flake.

F1114 - linear negative feature, 1.50m wide and at least 0.18m deep, aligned NW-SE, cutting F1108 and F1109. Filled with a grey silty clay (11/019) containing Roman pottery.

F1115 - oval pit, 1.14m x 0.43m and 0.08m deep. Filled with a grey silty clay (11/020).

Interpretation: all features here date to the Romano-British period and appear to belong to at least three phases of activity. Linear negative features F1100, F1101, F1108, F1110 and F1114 appear to correspond well with linear geophysical anomalies. Some of these features may enclose rectangular plots which may contain structures or could, in some cases, be robbed out construction trenches themselves. Finds of limestone rubble fragments and *tegula* suggest these structures may have been, at least partially, stone-built and of high status. Linear feature F1113 may be the same feature as F1002 in Trench 10.

Pit and posthole type features recorded here, but not identified on the geophysical survey, are too small to register as anomalies. These features may be evidence of internal features within structures.

Trench 12 (Fig. 9)

Aim: to investigate several linear and rectilinear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 20m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (12/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay, through which was cut archaeological features. Above this was 0.15m of light greyish brown silty clay (12/001), sealed by 0.30m of topsoil (12/000).

Features:

F1200 - curvilinear ditch, 1.20m wide and 0.24m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with a primary fill of grey clay (12/009) and a greyish brown silty clay (12/004) containing Roman pottery.

F1201 - linear ditch, 0.50m wide and 0.18m deep, with gently-sloping NE side and steeply-sloping SW side and a narrow rounded base, orientated NE-SW, possibly contemporary with pit F1205. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (12/003) containing Roman pottery.

F1202 - linear ditch or trench, 2.22m wide and 0.20m deep, with gently-sloping 'V'- shaped profile, aligned N-S. Filled with grey silty clay (12/006) containing Roman pottery, tile and limestone fragments.

F1203 - linear trench or beam slot, 0.80m wide and 0.22m deep, with gently-sloping NW side and a steeply-sloping SE side with a flat base, orientated NE-SW. Filled with grey silty clay (12/007) containing Roman pottery and limestone fragments.

F1204 - shallow 'L'-shaped linear trench or beam slot, 0.50m wide and 0.06m deep, aligned on a NW-SE-NE-SW axis. Filled with a grey silty clay (12/008) containing Roman pottery.

F1205 - shallow pit, 0.65m wide x 1.1m long x 0.08m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base, possibly contemporary with ditch F1201. Filled with greyish brown silty clay (12/003) containing Roman pottery.

Unexcavated context:

12/005 - grey silty clay, 1.10m long x 0.3m wide, possible oval pit.

Interpretation: layer 12/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. All features in this trench date to the Romano-British period. Linear negative feature F1203 is the only feature that corresponds well with a geophysical anomaly. It could be interpreted as a narrow truncated beam slot or construction trench, as could F1201 and F1204. The other linear ditches in this trench may define enclosures or plots which may contain structures, as in Trench 11.

Trench 13 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an east-west aligned linear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 15m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (13/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25-0.35m of topsoil (13/000).

Features: No archaeological features recorded.

Trench 14 (Fig. 10)

Aim: to investigate two NE-SW orientated geophysical anomalies and a weaker, NW-SE orientated, ditch-type anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 13.5m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (14/002) consisted of a yellow clay, through which was cut archaeological features. This was overlain by 0.15m of greyish brown silty clay (14/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (14/000).

Features:

F1400 - sub-circular pit, 1.40m x 1.20m and 0.10m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. Filled with grey silty clay (14/004) containing Roman pottery.

F1401 - sub-circular pit, 1.00m in diameter and 0.10m deep, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with grey silty clay (14/005).

F1402 - linear ditch, 1.90m wide and 0.20m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steep NE side and a gently-sloping SW, side with a slight ridge in the flat base. The feature appeared to terminate within the trench. Filled with a primary fill of bluish grey clay (14/006) and a grey silty clay (14/003) containing Roman pottery and large fragments of limestone rubble.

Interpretation: layer 14/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. All features in this trench date to the Romano-British period. The NW-SE linear ditch F1402 corresponded with a weak geophysical anomaly, on a similar alignment. Some large fragments of rubble in the fill of this ditch may be derived from nearby stone-built structures. No features corresponding with either of the two NE-SW orientated geophysical anomalies were identified.

Two pit- type features recorded here, but not identified on the geophysical survey, are too small to register as anomalies.

Trench 15 (not illustrated)

Aim: to examine two linear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 15m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (15/002) consisted of yellow clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by a brown silty clay (15/001), 0.20m deep. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (15/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified, although a modern land drain cut 15/002.

Interpretation: layer 15/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook. A modern land drain corresponded with the position of the geophysical anomaly.

Trench 16 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate two linear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 15m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (16/002) consisted of a yellow sandy clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by a brown silty clay (16/001), 0.15-0.30m thick. Above this was 0.30m of ploughsoil (16/000).

Interpretation: layer 16/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the adjacent Wotton Brook.

Trench 17 (Fig. 10)

Aim: to examine a linear geophysical anomaly.
Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 20m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (17/002) consisted of a yellow clay, through which was cut archaeological features. This was overlain by a brown silty clay (17/001), 0.20m thick. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (17/000).

Features:

F1700 - linear ditch, at least 1.20m wide and 0.20m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steep sides and a flat base. Filled with a primary fill of blueish grey clay (17/003) and grey silty clay (17/004).

F1701 - linear ditch , 0.90m wide and 0.30m deep, orientated NW-SE, cutting F1700. It had steep sides and a flat base and was filled with a grey silty clay (17/005) containing Roman pottery and *tegula*.

Interpretation: layer 17/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches. Linear ditches F1700 and F1700 correspond with a linear geophysical anomaly. These ditches date to the Romano-British period and the re-cutting of ditch F1700 may indicate the redefinition of a boundary over a relatively long period of time.

Trench 18 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a curvilinear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (18/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of ploughsoil (18/000).

F1800 - shallow oval pit or scoop, 0.40m x 0.48m x 0.05m deep. Filled with a grey silty clay (18/002) containing a sherd of Roman pottery.

F1801 - linear gully, 0.30m wide and 0.10m deep, orientated NW-SE with vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with a dark brown silty clay with redeposited natural clay (18/004) containing Post-Medieval pottery.

Interpretation: feature F1800 may be a badly-plough-truncated pit of Romano-British date. Gully F1800 is probably a Post-Medieval drainage feature. Gully F1801 coincided approximately with the geophysical anomaly, but F1801 may have been too narrow to account for the anomaly.

Trench 19 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate two curvilinear geophysical anomalies.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (19/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by a greyish brown silty clay (19/001), 0.30m thick. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (19/000).

Features:

No archaeological features were recorded.

Interpretation: layer 19/001 appeared to be an alluvial deposit as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 20 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.
Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (20/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by a greyish brown silty clay (20/001), 0.15-0.40m thick, deepest at the north end of the trench. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (20/000).

Features: no archaeological features were recorded. Although a shallow irregular possible feature was investigated, it was found to be caused by tree root disturbance.

Interpretation: layer 20/001 appeared to be an alluvial deposit, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 21 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a curvilinear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

the natural subsoil (21/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by a greyish brown silty clay (21/001), 0.20m thick. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (21/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 21/001 appeared to be an alluvial deposit, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 22 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a curvilinear geophysical anomaly

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (22/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by a greyish brown silty clay (22/001), 0.20-0.50m thick, deepest at the centre of the trench. Layer 22/001 was cut by a modern feature. Above this was 0.35m of topsoil (22/000).

Features:

F2200 - circular pit, 1.2m in diameter, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a yellowish brown sandy clay (22/003) containing modern pottery, brick and coal.

Interpretation: layer 21/001 appeared to be an alluvial deposit as recorded in other trenches. Pit F2200 is a modern feature, probably associated with the former airfield.

Trench 23 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate two weak, curving geophysical anomalies, possibly ring ditches.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (23/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (23/000).

Features: No archaeological features were recorded.

Trench 24 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a weak, curving geophysical anomaly, possibly a ring ditch.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (24/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (24/000).

Features:

F2400 - linear ditch, 1.50m wide and 0.30m deep, orientated NE-SW, with gently-sloping sides and a rounded base. Filled with a brown clay-silt (18/004). No finds were recovered.

Interpretation: ditch F2400 does not correspond with the position of the geophysical anomaly and its function is uncertain. It is possibly a drainage ditch.

Trench 25 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil consisted of a yellow clay (25/001). Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (25/000).

Features: No archaeological features were recorded.

Trench 26 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an amorphous geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (26/001) consisted of a yellow clay which was disturbed by tree roots. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (26/000).

Features:

F2600 - shallow sub-circular pit or scoop, 0.40m in diameter and 0.04m deep, with gently-sloping sides and an irregular base. Filled with a yellowish brown silty clay (18/002). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Interpretation: F2600 is probably caused by tree root disturbance.

Trench 27 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a weak, curving geophysical anomaly, possibly a ring ditch.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (27/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (27/000).

Features:
F2700 - shallow linear ditch, 0.85m wide and 0.08m deep, orientated NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a brown silty clay (27/002) containing Post-Medieval pottery, brick, slag and glass.

F2701 - shallow linear ditch, 0.70m wide and 0.09m deep, orientated NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (27/002) containing fired clay.

Interpretation: F2700 dates to the Post-Medieval period and it is probable that F2701 also dates to this period, F2700 and F2701 do not correspond exactly with the position of the geophysical anomaly. Their function is uncertain, and possibly they are drainage ditches.

Trench 28 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a weak, curving geophysical anomaly, possibly a ring ditch.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (28/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (28/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 29 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (29/001) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.30m of topsoil (29/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified

Trench 30 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (30/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (30/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 31 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (31/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by 0.30m of brown clay-silt (31/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (31/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 31/001 appears to be an alluvial deposit as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 32 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (32/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by 0.30m of brown silty clay (32/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (32/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 32/001 appears to be an alluvial deposit, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 33 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (33/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (33/000).

Features:

F3300 - shallow linear ditch, 0.60m wide and 0.08m deep, orientated NW-SE, with gently-sloping sides and a flat base. Filled with a dark brown silty clay (33/004) containing a clay tobacco pipe fragment.

Interpretation: the ditch F2400 is of Post-Medieval date. It corresponds approximately with the position of the area of raised magnetic susceptibility. Its function is uncertain, and it is probably a drainage ditch.

Trench 34 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate an area of raised magnetic susceptibility recorded in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (34/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by 0.10-0.40m of brown silty clay (34/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (34/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 34/001 appears to be a colluvial deposit derived from high ground to the south.

Trench 35 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (35/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. This was overlain by 0.10-0.20m of brown silty clay (35/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (35/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 35/001 appears to be a colluvial deposit derived from high ground to the south, as recorded in Trench 34.

Trench 36 (not illustrated)

Aim: speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (36/001) consisted of a yellow clay which was cut by a modern land drain. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (36/000).

Unexcavated context:

36/004 - dark brown silty clay containing modern pottery and glass , representing the fill of an east-west aligned feature, 0.7m wide.

Trench 37 (not illustrated)

Aim: speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (37/002) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was a greyish brown silty clay (37/001), 0.20m thick at the east end of the trench and filling a natural channel at the east end of the trench. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (37/000) from which was recovered a Medieval hammered coin.

Features:
F3700 - natural palaeochannel, at least 9m wide and 1.8m deep, aligned north-south, with a gently-sloping east side. The palaeochannel extended beyond the end of the trench and was filled with layer 37/001.

Interpretation: palaeochannel F3700 appears to correspond approximately with a stream course depicted on recent OS maps, but not visible on the ground.

Trench 38 (not illustrated)

Aim:speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (38/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay. Above this was a brown silty clay (38/001), up to 0.30m deep, present only in the west end of the trench. Contexts 38/001 and 38/002 were cut by several linear furrows and modern land drains. Contexts 38/001 and 38/002 were sealed by 0.30m of topsoil (38/000).

Features:

F3800 - linear furrow, 1.5m wide and 0.05m deep, aligned NE-SW, with gently-sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (38/006) containing Roman pottery.

Unexcavated contexts:

38/003 - greyish brown silty clay, 2.1m wide, orientated NE-SW, containing Post-Medieval pottery.

38/004 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.8m wide, orientated NE-SW, containing Post-Medieval pottery.

38/005 - greyish brown silty clay, 2.15m wide, orientated NE-SW.

38/007 - greyish brown silty clay, 2.35m wide, orientated NE-SW.

Interpretation: layer 38/001 appears to be of alluvial origin. The greyish brown silty clay NE-SW aligned contexts within this trench are spaced 5-6m apart. The spacing, alignment and fill of F3800 and contexts 38/003- 38/005 and 38/007 indicate that these linear furrows may be associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods. The Roman pottery from F3800 is residual.

Trench 39 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (39/001) consisted of a yellow clay, which showed signs of recent disturbance at the north end of the trench. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (39/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 40 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (40/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.20-0.70m of brown silty clay (40/001) Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (40/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 40/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook.

Trench 41 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (41/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.25m of brown silty clay (41/001) which contained a sherd of Medieval pottery. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (41/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 41/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 42 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (42/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.50m of brown silty clay (42/001), which was cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (42/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 42/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 43 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (43/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.45m of brown silty clay (43/001), cut by four modern ceramic land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (43/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 43/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 44 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (44/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.30-0.55m of brown silty clay (44/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (44/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 44/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 45 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (45/002) consisted of a yellow clay, which was cut by two possible archaeological features. This was overlain by 0.20-0.45m of brown silty clay (45/001) which was cut by five modern ceramic land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (45/000).

Features:

F4500 - negative feature, at least 1.0m wide and 0.35m deep, extending beyond end of trench, with gently-sloping sides and an irregular base. Filled with a grey silty clay (45/003).

F4501 - sub-circular pit, 1.30m wide and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a rounded, slightly irregular base cut by a land drain. Filled with a primary fill of greenish brown silty clay (47/005) and a grey silty clay (45/004).

Interpretation: layer 45/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches. Features F4500 and F4501 are undated and their function is uncertain. The lack of anything anthropogenic in the fills of these features and the slightly irregular nature of their profiles could suggest they may be tree boles.

Trench 46 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (46/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain, in the west part of the trench, by up to 0.25m of brown silty clay (46/001). Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (46/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 46/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 47 (not illustrated)

Aim: speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (47/001) consisted of a yellow clay, which was cut by an archaeological feature. This was overlain by 0.25m of topsoil (47/000).

Features:

F4700: shallow linear ditch, 0.80m wide and 0.12m deep, aligned NE-SW, with steep sides and a rounded base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (47/002) containing Post-Medieval pottery.

The function of the Post-Medieval ditch F4700 is unclear, although it may have functioned as a drainage ditch.

Trench 48 (not illustrated)

Aim: speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (48/004 and 48/003) consisted of a sandy yellow clay. Above this was a yellowish brown silty clay (48/002), 0.40m thick in most of the trench and deeper where it filled a natural palaeochannel. Overlying this was a grey silty clay (48/001), 0.20m thick, containing Post-Medieval pottery and brick rubble. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (48/000).

Features:
F4800 - natural palaeochannel, 16m wide and at least 1.5m deep, aligned NW-SE, with steeply-sloping sides. Filled with layer 48/002, which was not fully excavated here.

Interpretation: palaeochannel F4800 could be interpreted as a former stream course, perhaps the original course of the Wotton Brook which now runs through a culvert. Layer 48/001 is probably alluvial, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 49 (not illustrated)

Aim:speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (49/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by up to 0.40m of brown silty clay (49/001), through which was cut archaeological features and modern land drains. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (49/000).

Features:

F4900 - shallow curvilinear ditch, 0.85m wide and 0.15m deep, with a 'U'- shaped profile. Filled with a brown silty clay (49/004).

F4901 - terminal of shallow curvilinear ditch, 0.58m wide and 0.20m deep, with a 'V'- shaped profile. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (49/005) containing Post-Medieval tile.

F4902 - shallow curvilinear ditch, 1.06m wide and 0.25m deep, aligned NW-SE, with a 'U'- shaped profile. Filled with a brown silty clay (49/003).

Interpretation: layer 49/001 is probably alluvial as recorded in other trenches. F4901 dates to the Post-Medieval period and it is probable that F4900 and F4902, which contain similar fills, also date to this period. Their function is uncertain, and they are possibly drainage ditches.

Trench 50 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (50/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by up to 0.45m of brown silty clay (50/001), which was cut by several land drains. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (50/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 50/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 51 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (51/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by up to 0.50m of brown silty clay (51/001), deepest at the west end of the trench, where it was cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (51/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 51/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 52 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (52/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.20m of brown silty clay (52/001), cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (52/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 52/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 53 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (53/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (53/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 54 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (54/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.40-0.90m of mixed redeposited natural clay, reddish brown sand and brick rubble (54/001), deepest at the south end of the trench, where it was cut by land drains and a trench containing a concrete pipe. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (54/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 54/001 appears to be modern dumping, probably infilling of the former course of the Wotton Brook, prior to the construction of the airstrip and culverting of the brook.

Trench 55 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (55/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.20-0.50m of brown silty clay (55/001), cut by land drains Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (55/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 55/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 56 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (56/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.50m of brown silty clay (56/001), cut by land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (56/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 56/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 57 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (56/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.50m of brown silty clay (56/001), cut by land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (56/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 56/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 58 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (58/002) consisted of a yellow clay with bands of blue clay, and was cut by a single possible archaeological feature. This was overlain by up to 0.40m of brown silty clay (58/001), deepest at the east end of the trench, where it was cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (58/000).

Features:

F5800: possible small circular pit or posthole, 0.20m in diameter and 0.11m deep, with a 'V'- shaped profile. Filled with a brown silty clay (58/003) containing charcoal.

Interpretation: The date and function of F5800 are uncertain. Although F5800 is sealed by alluvial layer 58/001, this was also undated. Similar alluvial layers in other trenches have contained pottery dating from the Romano-British period and from the Post-Medieval period.

Trench 59 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (59/003) consisted of a yellow clay which had an undulating surface. These natural hollows were filled with a greyish brown silty clay (59/002). This was overlain by 0.20-0.45m of brown silty clay (59/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (59/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 59/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 60 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (60/001) consisted of a yellow clay, which was cut by land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (60/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 61 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (61/001) consisted of a yellow clay, which was cut by land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (61/000).

Features:

F6100 - sub-circular pit, 1.5m in diameter and 0.30m deep, extending beyond the edge of the trench. Filled with a grey clay silt (61/002) containing clay tobacco pipe.

Interpretation: pit F6100 is probably a Post-Medieval rubbish pit.

Trench 62 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (62/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.30m of brown silty clay (62/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (62/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 62/001 appears to be of alluvial origin, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 63 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (63/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (63/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 64 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (64/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (64/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 65 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (65/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.25m of brown silty clay (65/001), cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (65/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 66 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (66/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (66/000).

Features:

F6600 - shallow linear negative feature, 1.5m wide and 0.10m deep, orientated NE-SW, with an irregular profile. Filled with a brown silty clay (66/002) containing Post-Medieval pottery..

Interpretation: feature F6600 appears to be of Post-Medieval date.

Trench 67 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (67/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (67/000).

Features:

F6700 - shallow linear gully, 0.45m wide and 0.13m deep, orientated NE-SW, with an irregular profile. Filled with a brown silty clay (67/002) containing Post-Medieval pottery.

Interpretation: feature F6700 appears to be of Post-Medieval date, and is probably a drainage gully.

Trench 68 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (68/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (68/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 69 (not illustrated)

Aim:speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (69/001) consisted of a yellow clay. This was cut by several linear furrows. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (69/000).

Features:

F6900 - linear furrow, 1.2m wide and 0.05m deep, aligned NE-SW, with gently-sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Filled with a greyish brown silty clay (38/006).

Unexcavated contexts:
69/003 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.1m wide, orientated NE-SW.

69/004 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.4m wide, orientated NE-SW.

69/005 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.6m wide, orientated NE-SW.

69/006 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.8m wide, orientated NE-SW.

69/007 - greyish brown silty clay, 1.7m wide, orientated NE-SW.

Interpretation: All NE-SW aligned contexts within this trench are spaced 5-6m apart and are probably fills of linear furrows. The spacing, alignment and fill of F6900 and contexts 69/003-69/007 indicates that these linear furrows may be associated with ridge and furrow cultivation dating from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval periods.

Trench 70 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (70/001) consisted of a yellow clay, which was cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (70/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 71 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (71/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (71/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 72(not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (72/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (72/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 73(not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (73/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (73/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 74(not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (74/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (74/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 75 (not illustrated)

Aim: speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (75/002) consisted of a yellow clay. This was overlain by 0.25m of brown silty clay (75/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (75/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 75/001 appears to be an alluvial deposit, as recorded in other trenches.

Trench 76 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (76/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by two land drains. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (76/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 77 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (77/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (77/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 78 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (78/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by an archaeological feature. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (78/000).

Features:

F7800 - 'T'- shaped linear gully, 0.50m wide and 0.10m deep, aligned north-south/ east-west, with vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with a grey silty clay (78/002) containing a fragment of clay pipe.

Interpretation: feature F7800 appears to be of Post-Medieval date, probably a drainage gully.

Trench 79 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (79/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (79/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 80 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (80/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by a land drain. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (80/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 81 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (81/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (81/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 82 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (82/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.25m of topsoil (82/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 83 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (83/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (83/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 84 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (84/002) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by an archaeological feature. This was overlain by 0.20m of brown clay-silt (84/001) Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (84/000).

Features:

F8400 - linear ditch, 1.0 m wide and 0.40m deep, aligned north-south with vertical sides and a flat base. Filled with a grey clay-silt (84/003).

Interpretation: feature F8400 contained no dating evidence, but is probably a drainage gully. Layer 84/001 appears to be a colluvial deposit derived from high ground to the south.

Trench 85 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (85/002) consisted of a yellow clay, disturbed by a tree bole. This was overlain by 0.20m of brown clay-silt (85/001). Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (85/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: Layer 85/001 appears to be a colluvial deposit derived from high ground to the south.

Trench 86 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (86/001) consisted of a yellow clay, disturbed by two tree boles and cut by several land drains, aligned parallel with the former runway to the north. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (86/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 87 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (88/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by several land drains, aligned parallel with the former runway to the north. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (88/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 89 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (89/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by a land drain, aligned parallel with the former runway to the north. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (89/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 90 (not illustrated)

Aim speculative.

Method: machine excavated trench 1.8m wide and 50m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (90/001) consisted of a yellow clay, cut by several land drains, aligned parallel with the former runway to the north. Above this was 0.30m of topsoil (90/000).

Features: no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 91 (not illustrated)

Aim: to investigate a linear geophysical anomaly, interpreted as a possible field boundary in the geophysical survey.

Method: machine excavated trench, 1.8m wide and 25m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (91/002) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.15m of brown silty clay (92/001), sealed by 0.30m of topsoil.

Features:
No archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: layer 91/001 appears to be of alluvial origin as recorded in other trenches. Probably deposited as a result of flooding from the nearby Wotton Brook.

Trench 92 (not illustrated)

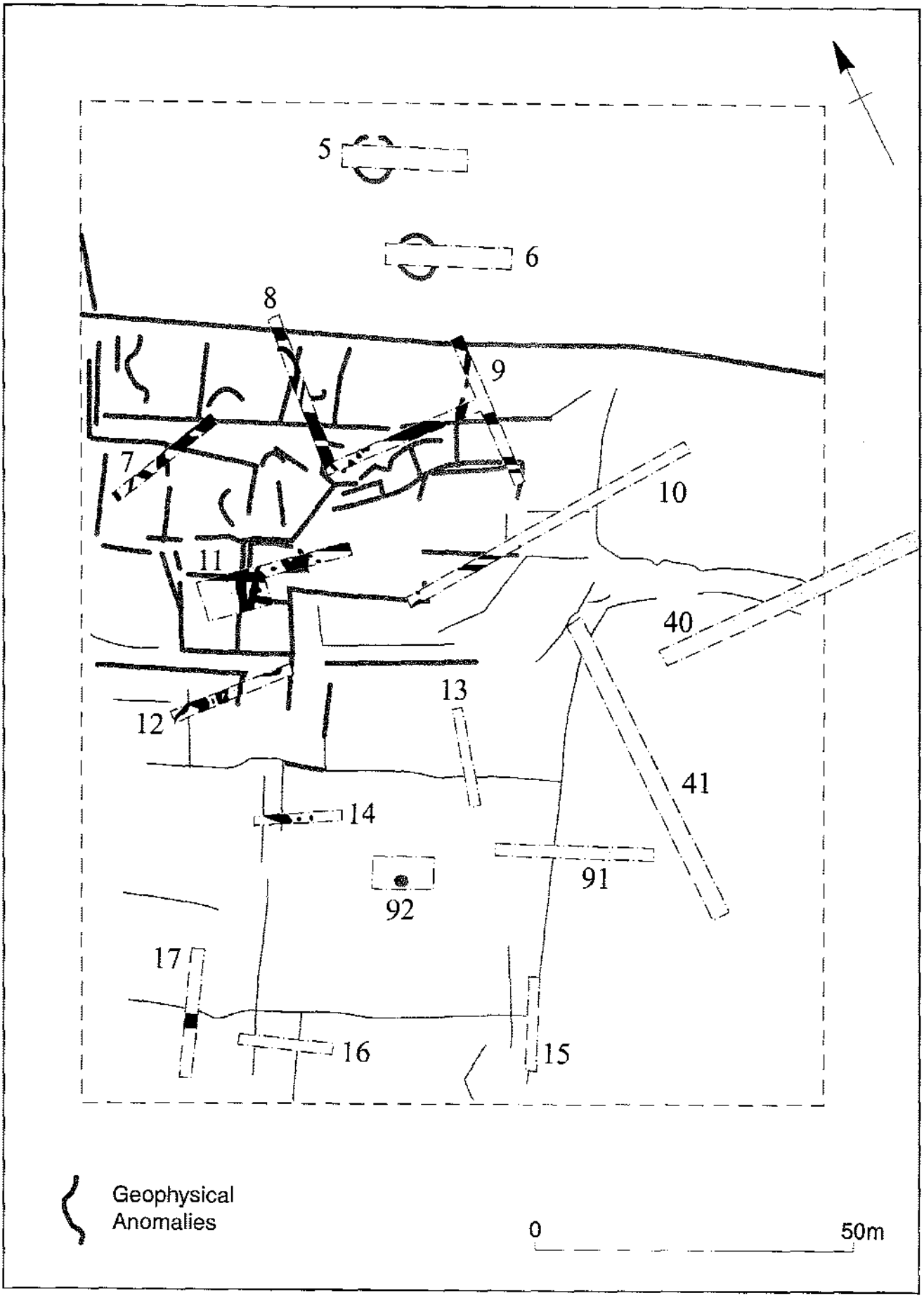
Aim: to investigate a strongly magnetic geophysical anomaly, interpreted as a possible kiln.

Method: machine excavated trench, 5m wide and 10m long.

Stratigraphy: the natural subsoil (92/001) consisted of a yellow clay. Above this was 0.35m of topsoil (92/000).

Features:
No archaeological features were identified.

Interpretation: the geophysical anomaly appears to have been caused by a surveyor's steel earth anchor found in the topsoil at this location.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Geophysical
Anomalies
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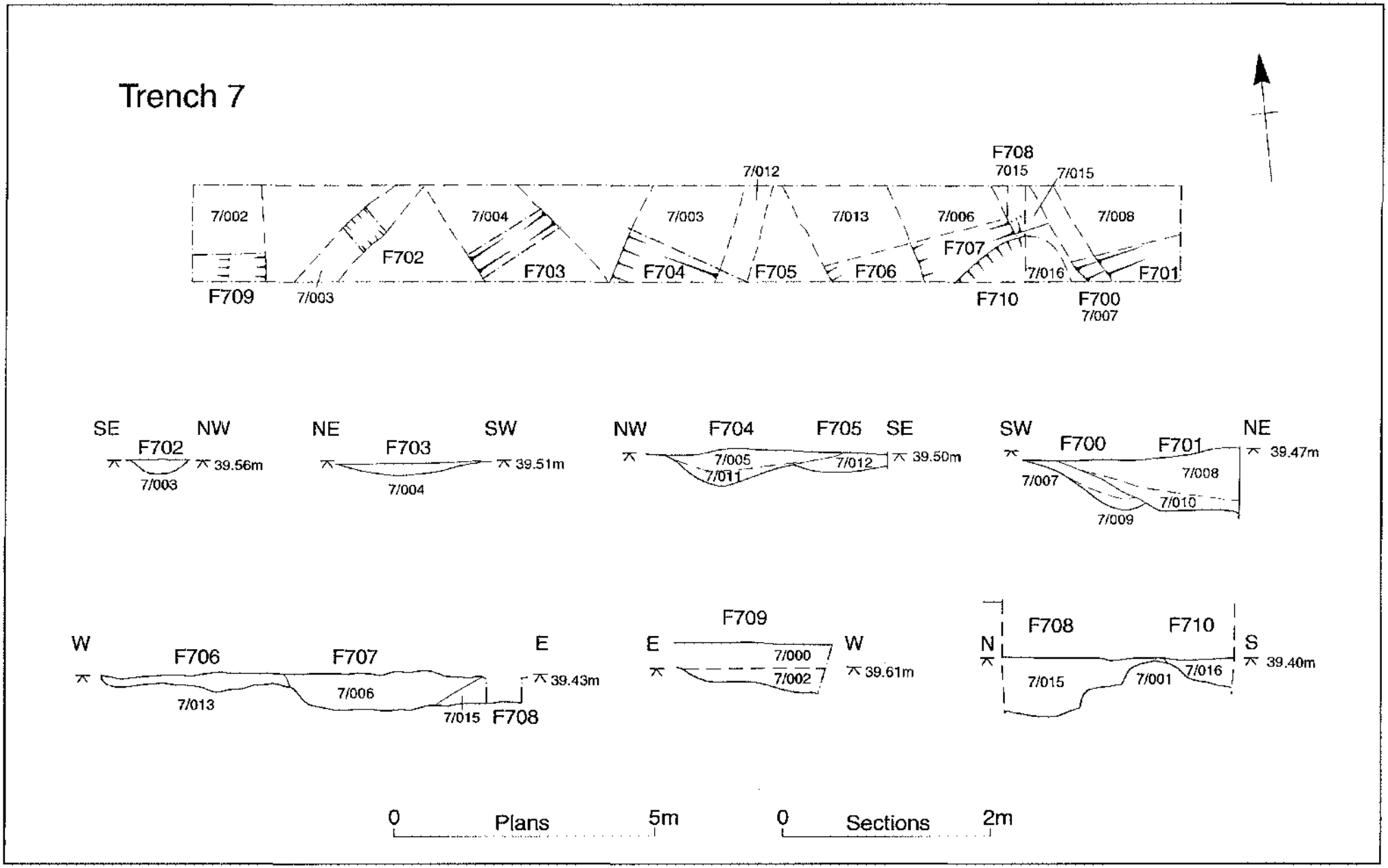
Fig.3


Trench 7
F708
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7/000
7/002
W
39.61m
N
F708
F710
S
39.40m
7/015
7/001
7/016
0
Plans
5m
0
Sections
2m

Fig.4

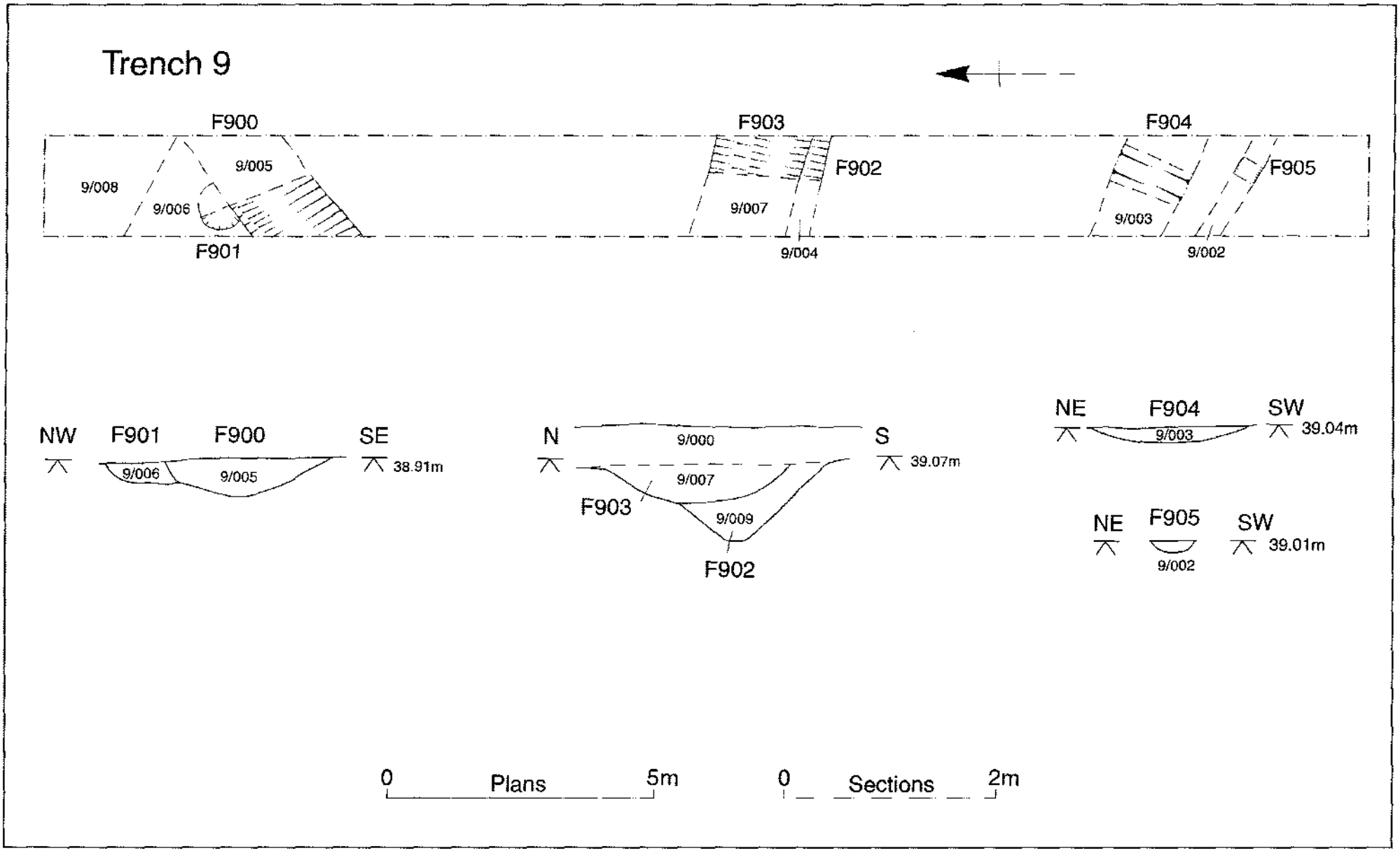
Trench 9
F900
F903
F904
9/008
9/005
9/006
F902
F905
9/007
9/003
F901
9/004
9/002
NW
F901
F900
SE
9/006
9/005
38.91m
N
9/000
S
39.07m
9/007
F903
9/009
F902
NE
F904
SW
9/003
39.04m
NE
F905
SW
39.01m
9/002
0
Plans
5m
0
Sections
2m

Fig.6

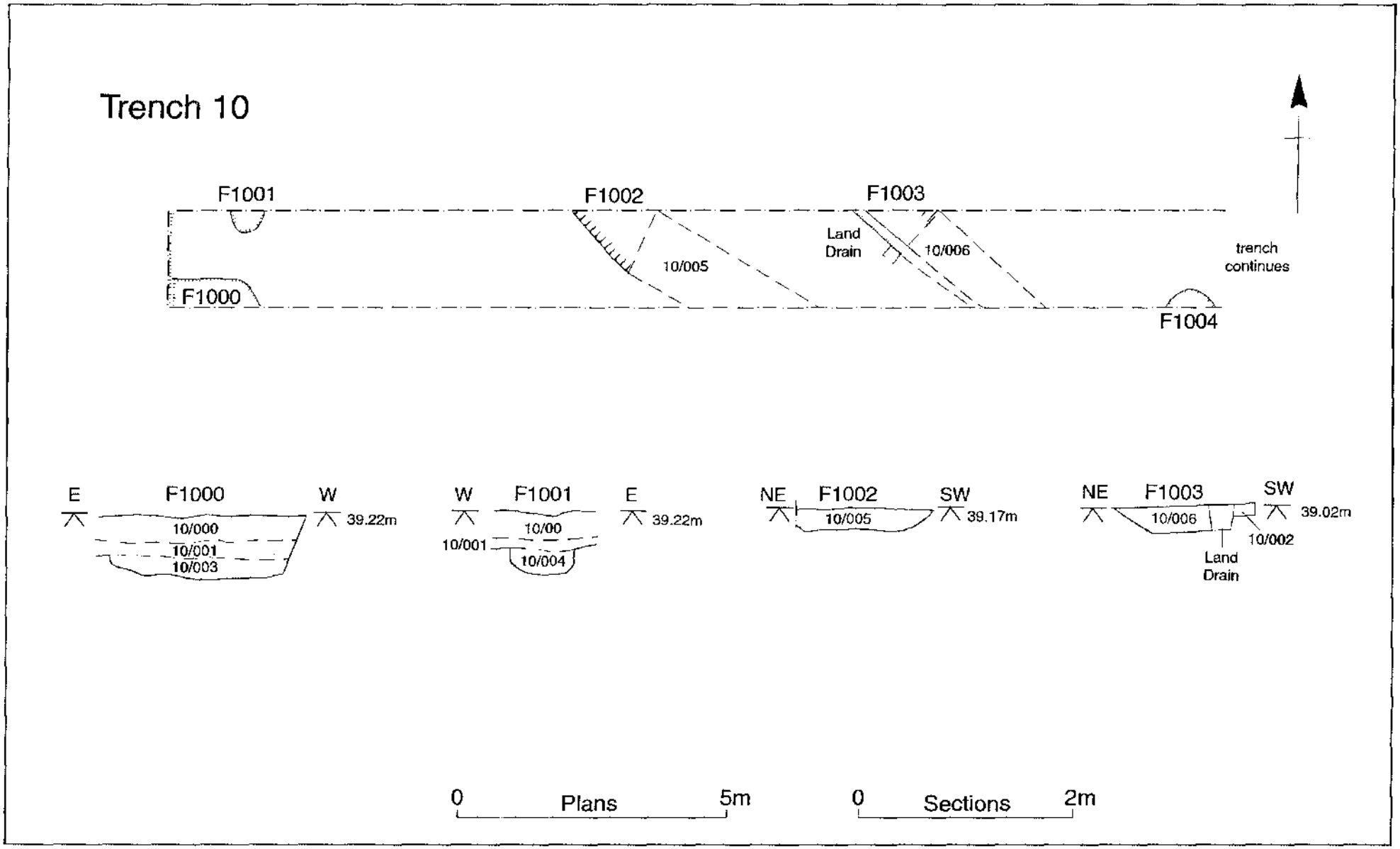
Trench 10
F1001
F1002
F1003
F1000
F1004
10/005
Land Drain
10/006
trench continues
E
F1000
W
39.22m
10/000
10/001
10/003
W
F1001
E
39.22m
10/00
10/001
10/004
NE
F1002
SW
39.17m
10/005
NE
F1003
SW
39.02m
10/006
10/002
Land Drain
0
Plans
5m
0
Sections
2m

Fig.7

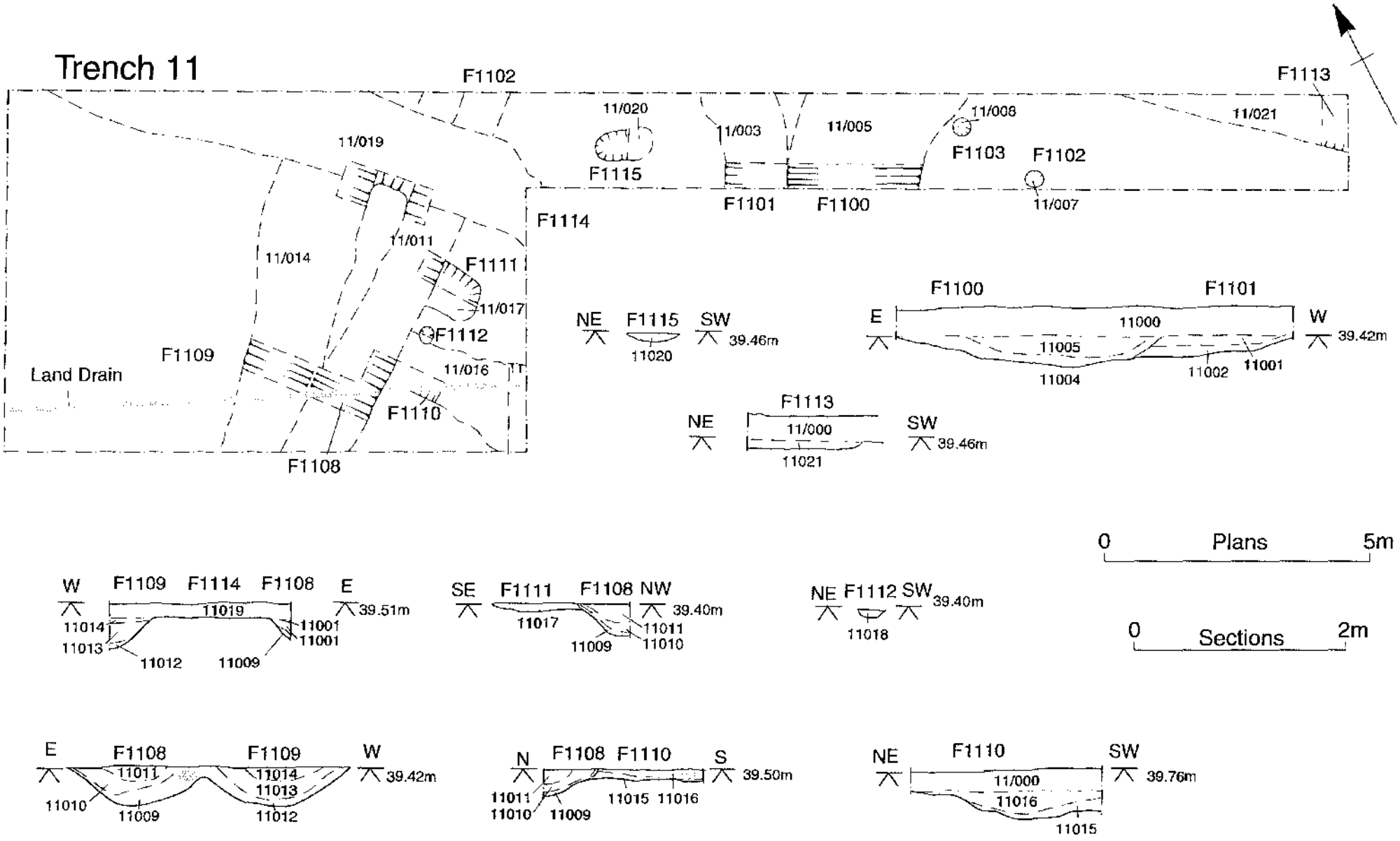
Trench 11
F1102
F1113
11/020
11/003
11/005
11/008
11/021
11/019
F1115
F1103
F1102
F1101
F1100
11/007
F1114
11/011
11/014
F1111
11/017
F1112
F1109
Land Drain
11/016
F1110
F1108
NE F1115 SW
39.46m
11020
F1100 F1101
E
11000
W
39.42m
11005
11004
11002
11001
NE F1113 SW
11/000
39.46m
11021
0 Plans 5m
W F1109 F1114 F1108 E
39.51m
11019
11014
11013
11001
11001
11012
11009
SE F1111 F1108 NW
39.40m
11017
11011
11010
11009
NE F1112 SW
39.40m
11018
0 Sections 2m
E F1108 F1109 W
39.42m
11011
11014
11013
11010
11009
11012
N F1108 F1110 S
39.50m
11011
11010
11009
11015
11016
NE F1110 SW
39.76m
11/000
11016
11015

Fig.8

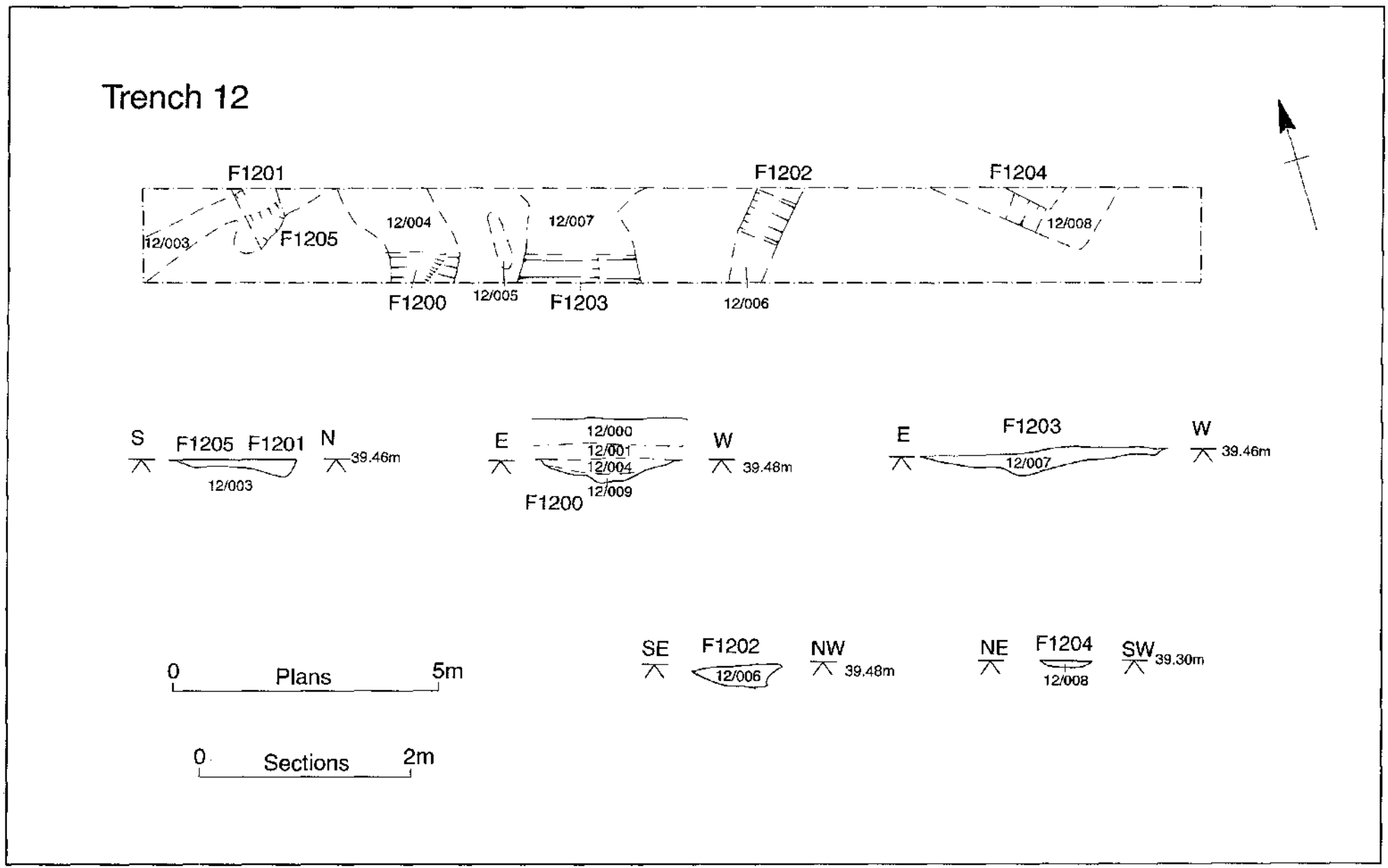
Trench 12
F1201
F1202
F1204
12/003
F1205
12/004
12/007
12/008
F1200
12/005
F1203
12/006
S
F1205 F1201
N
39.46m
12/003
E
12/000
12/001
12/004
12/009
F1200
W
39.48m
E
F1203
12/007
W
39.46m
0
Plans
5m
0
Sections
2m
SE
F1202
12/006
NW
39.48m
NE
F1204
12/008
SW
39.30m

Fig.9

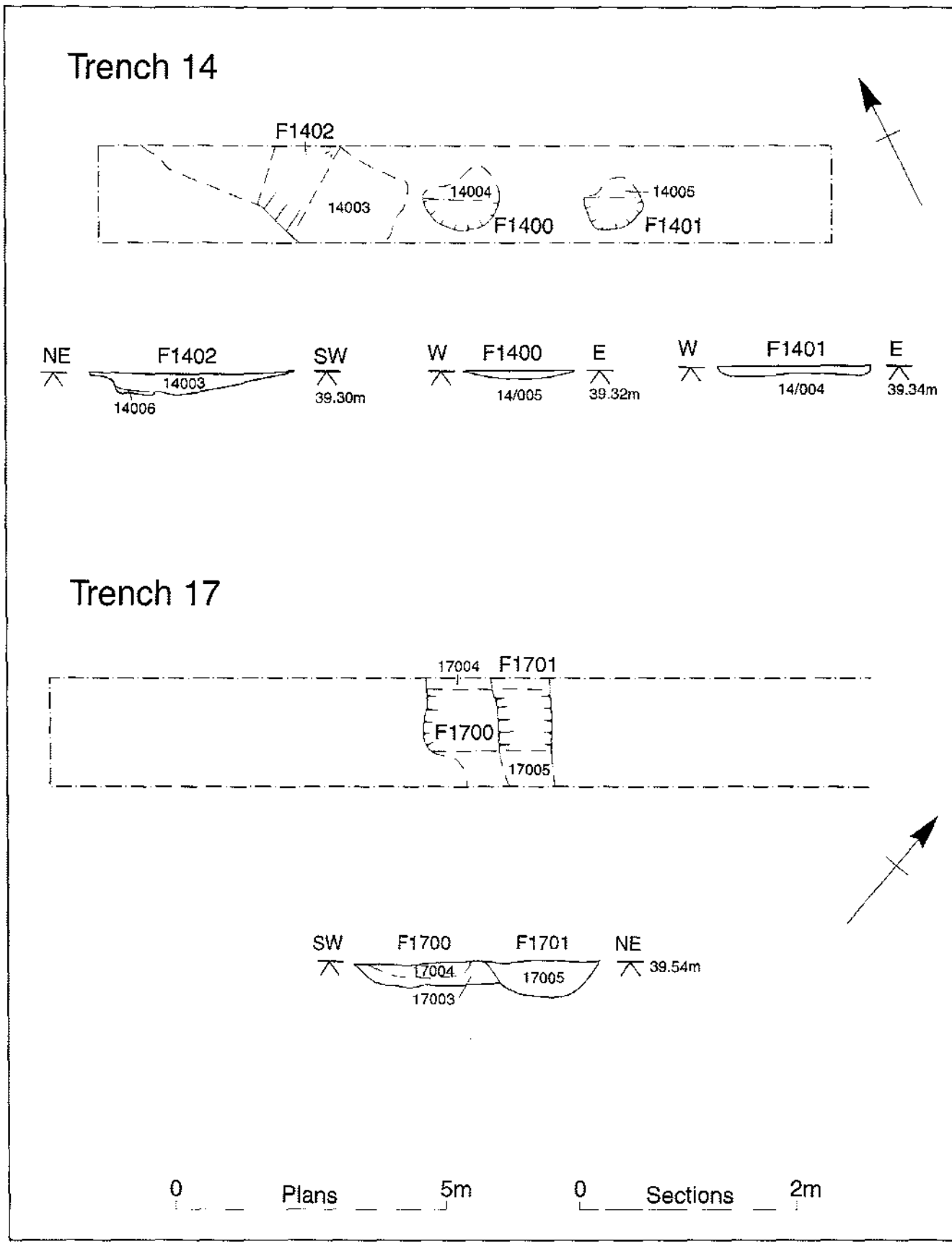
Trench 14
F1402
14003
14004
F1400
14005
F1401
NE
F1402
SW
14003
14006
39.30m
W
F1400
E
14/005
39.32m
W
F1401
E
14/004
39.34m
Trench 17
17004
F1701
F1700
17005
SW
F1700
F1701
NE
17004
17005
17003
39.54m
0
Plans
5m
0
Sections
2m

Fig.10