

# **A14 CAMBRIDGE TO HUNTINGDON IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

## **Mitigation Trial Trenches**

*MOLA Headland Infrastructure | Version 1*

**Client:** A14 IDT

**Grid Reference:** TL 189 747 – TL 409 612

**Address:** Cambridge to Huntingdon

**Council:** Cambridgeshire County Council

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## **Schedule**

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# A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme: Mitigation Trial Trenches

MOLA – Headland Infrastructure (MHI) undertook the archaeological mitigation work for the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme. This report details the results of the trial trenches which were carried out during the mitigation phase of work.

69 trenches, across 5 different areas, were excavated. The areas were:

- 1) Section 6 (TEA 47).
- 2) TEA 16 New Pond
- 3) Crematorium Access Road
- 4) Girton
- 5) Section 5

This trial trenching revealed few archaeological remains across all of the areas.

Evidence for medieval and post-medieval agricultural activities was identified in a few places, e.g. ridge-and-furrow cultivation in Section 6, TEA 16, Girton, and Section 5; and field boundary ditches in Section 6, TEA 16, the Crematorium, Girton, and Section 5.

Modern disturbance was identified in trenches in Sections 6 and at Girton. The disturbance was related to ground levelling for work compounds for previous road improvements in the area.

Floodplain deposits, including palaeochannels, flood events and attempts to reclaim the land, were identified within the TEA 16 new pond area. This area is positioned within the floodplain of the River Great Ouse. It has been recommended that this area is subject to archaeological mitigation when the pond is excavated, to fully record the floodplain deposits present.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

MOLA – Headland Infrastructure (MHI) were commissioned by the A14 IDT to undertake the archaeological mitigation work for the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme. This project, run by Highways England, aims to improve the A14 trunk road in Cambridgeshire between Ellington (on the western outskirts of Huntingdon) and Milton Junction (on the Cambridge Northern Bypass).

This report details the results of the trial trenches which were carried out during the mitigation phase of work. These were excavated in areas which would be impacted on by the A14 development, and so the potential impact on the archaeological resource needed to be assessed.

This involved the excavation of 69 trenches, across 5 different areas:

Area	No. of trenches	Grid ref	Geology	Topography	Land Use
Section 6 (TEA 47)	16	TL 2321 7204 (Northern field); TL 2303 7199 (Southern field); TL 2288 7159 (Slip Road Loop)	Oxford Clay, overlain by Oadby member (diamicton) in southern part.	Flat land, at around 20m AOD.	Common (Views Common). A14 crosses the centre of the site.
TEA 16 new pond	4	TL 2118 6858	Oxford Clay, overlain by River Terrace Deposits (southern part) and Alluvium (northern and eastern parts).	Land gently sloping down to the southeast (from 20m AOD to 15m AOD).	Pasture. Edge of floodplain.
Crematorium Access Road	2	TL 4015 6247	Gault Formation (mudstone).	Flat land, at around 15m AOD.	Edge of arable field.
Girton	30	TL 4148 6145 (Southern area); TL 4156 6161 (Northern area).	Gault Formation (mudstone).	Flat land, at around 15m AOD.	Arable fields. Southern area comprises two fields (in triangle between A428, M11, and Huntingdon Road), with slip road dividing them. Northern area comprises parts of four fields.
Section 5	17	TL 4391 6177 (Area 2); TL 4545 6204	Gault Formation, overlain by River	Flat land, at around 10m AOD.	Arable fields (Areas 2, 4, and 5) (Area 4 comprises

		(Area 4); TL 4596 6210 (Area 5); TL 4647 6218 (Area 6).	Terrace Deposits in Areas 2-4).		parts of 2 fields). Small wooded area (Area 6). A14 to the south.
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## 2. OBJECTIVES

The methodology followed was outlined in the five WSIs for trial trenching (Neustadt 2015a-d).

The general aim of the trial trenching was to gather additional information on the extent, condition, depth, character, quality and date of archaeological deposits at locations which have not been previously investigated by trial trenching.

This was to identify the presence of any archaeological remains within areas that may be impacted upon by the proposed scheme, to provide data to inform the requirements for further archaeological investigations.

The objectives for the trial trenching were:

- To identify the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains along sections of the scheme in order to determine the limits of targeted excavation areas;
- To identify, investigate and record any such archaeological remains;
- To establish the preservation of any buried remains and provide a chronology of the archaeological phasing; and
- To disseminate the results through reporting that will inform the requirement for further work.

The resulting archive will be organised and deposited in the Cambridgeshire Store to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit (ClfA 2014a).

## 3. METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching was carried out between June 2017 and August 2018, whilst the main phase of archaeological mitigation work was being undertaken. In total, 69 trenches were excavated in 5 areas. The majority of the trenches were 50m in length by 1.8–2m in width (see Appendix I for details on individual trenches).

The trenches were set out in accordance with the agreed trench layout plan in the WSI using a Trimble GPS device. The trenches were kept to their proposed position wherever possible and

agreed with the curator when they had to be moved (due to utilities or ecological issues). Figure 1 shows the final position of all of the trenches.

A mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket was used to remove the overburden under direct archaeological supervision. Potential archaeological features were excavated by hand.

Investigation of archaeological remains was undertaken by hand excavation. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified archaeological or potentially archaeological remains were investigated and recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

All trenches, spoil heaps, and features were metal detected.

Bulk environmental samples were taken of features, in line with the overarching sampling strategy. Other environmental sampling methods, including pollen samples, cores, and kubiena tins, were taken where appropriate.

All recording followed the guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014b) and was in line with the approved WSI (Neustadt 2015a-d). All trenches and contexts were given a unique number consistent with the A14 archive. All recording was undertaken on pro forma recording sheets which conform to archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

A plan of the trenches and features was recorded digitally using a Trimble GPS device.

A full photographic record was taken using digital photography. A metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

## **4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **4.1 TRENCH RESULTS**

#### **4.1.1 Section 6 (TEA 47) (Figure 2)**

16 trenches were excavated within three areas in Section 6 (TEA 47). These were located within Views Common in Huntingdon – the northern field was to the northeast of the A14; the southern



field to the southwest of the A14; and a single trench to the west within a slip road loop just off Brampton road (see Figure 2).

#### *Northern field*

Six trenches were excavated in the northern field. The stratigraphy of the trenches in this area comprised a dark grey black silt topsoil (0.10-0.28m thick), over a dark grey brown clayey silt subsoil (0.17m-0.28m thick), over the natural geological deposit (bands of grey brown sandy silt and silty clay).

Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 all contained evidence for modern disturbance and backfill (0.2-0.85m deep), which had removed the archaeological horizon in most of the trenches. This was associated with a compound which was used for the construction of the A14 viaduct and subsequently demolished.

A single medieval furrow [0807] and a modern ditch [0805] were uncovered towards the western end of Trench 8.

#### *Southern field*

Eight trenches were excavated in the southern field. The stratigraphy of the trenches comprised a dark grey black silt topsoil (0.16-0.36m thick), over a mid brown grey clayey silt (0.05m-0.26m thick), over the natural geological deposit (a red brown silt in the eastern and western parts, and a light brown grey clay with chalk in the middle).

Ridge and furrow cultivation was present in Trenches 12 – 17. One of the furrows, [1409], was excavated. Pottery, tile and animal bone was recovered from the surface of the stripped furrows.

Two modern fence-posts were identified in Trench 10 [1005] and [1007].

#### *Slip Road Loop*

A single trench, Trench 18, was excavated in the third field (the 'Slip Road Loop'). The stratigraphy of this trench comprised a thin layer of topsoil (0.06m thick), directly overlying the natural geology (grey-blue and grey-yellow clay). No archaeology was present in the trench. This area was likely planed on a steep gradient down to the modern slip road that surrounds it, removing the archaeological horizon.

#### 4.1.2 TEA 16 New Pond (Figure 3)

Four trenches were excavated in a field to the northeast of TEA 16, oriented in a cross-shape, in the area of a proposed new pond (Figure 3). The trenches were located within the floodplain of the River Great Ouse and recorded alluvial and floodplain deposits.

The stratigraphy in these trenches comprised topsoil (0.16-0.26m thick), over relatively modern made-ground deposits of gravel and stone (c.0.4m thick), over the floodplain deposits. These modern deposits may have derived from activity associated with the nearby landfill or been attempts to consolidate the land.

In Trench 3, one modern ditch [1620056] and three 'furrows' [1620060], [1620062] and [1620064], were identified cutting through the made-ground deposits. These represent relatively recent agricultural activity in the area. A series of smaller ditches were also identified aligned NW-SE across the northern end of Trench 1.

Various alluvial floodplain deposits were observed, representing different flood events. For example, in Trench 4, (1620067) was a grey clay (0.15m thick), which overlay (1620068), an orange clay (0.15m thick). In Trench 1 there were two clear episodes of flooding, with a period of peat formation (suggesting a marginal landscape with vegetation separating the flooding episodes).

There was also evidence for previous attempts to reclaim the land, represented by deposits of made-ground (e.g. (1620069). This was observed at 0.9m beneath the present ground-surface and was a brown grey clayey gravel deposit.

Parts of eight palaeochannels were identified within this area (although some of these may have formed part of the same meandering channel). Four individual channels were identified aligned east-west within the northern part of Trench 1; two north-south aligned channels in Trench 2; one north-south channel in Trench 3; and one east-west channel in Trench 4. As an example, the palaeochannel in Trench 4 (1620066) was located in the central part of Trench 4, at a depth of 1m, and was 95m wide and 0.7m deep. This was filled with a loose brown grey peaty clay (1620066) (0.17-0.24m thick); over an alluvial orange clayey silty sand deposit (1620070) (0.2m thick); over a grey blue clay deposit (1620071) (0.5m thick). The natural gravels were observed beneath this, at a depth of 1.7m beneath the present ground-surface.

Between these palaeochannels were a series of alluvial floodplain deposits. In some places, particularly in Trench 2, this comprised alluvial gravels, essentially gravel islands. These would have been deposited through fluvial activity (i.e. high energy rivers).

The far southern part of this field (c.30m at the southern end of Trench 4) did not reveal any floodplain deposits – just the topsoil over the natural geological deposit (gravels). No archaeological features were identified in this area.

#### 4.1.3 Crematorium Access Road (Figure 4)

Two trenches were excavated over the footprint of the new access road to Cambridge Crematorium (Figure 4).

The stratigraphy of these trenches comprised a dark grey brown silty clay topsoil (0.3m deep) over a light red brown silty clay subsoil (0.1-0.2m deep), over the natural geology – an orange gravel and grey clay.

A post-medieval boundary ditch was present at the western end of Trench 2 and contained 20<sup>th</sup> century tile and glass. The ditch can be seen on OS maps, as a field boundary from 1880 until the 1970s.

#### 4.1.4 Girton (Figure 5)

30 trenches were excavated on land to the southwest of Girton. This work was undertaken in two stages – Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 in Phase 1 (in two fields in the triangle between the A428, M11, and Huntingdon Road); and Trenches 20-44 in Phase 2 (comprising parts of four fields) (Figure 5).

##### *Phase 1 (Southern Area)*

The trenches in the Phase 1 work was spread across two fields – Trenches 1-9 in the western field, and Trenches 15-19 in the eastern field.

Archaeological features were present in three trenches. A narrow gully was identified in Trenches 6 and 9 (0.31-0.36m wide and 0.1m deep, with a silty clay fill and no finds). This was likely associated with field drainage. A wide and shallow ditch, aligned northeast-southwest, was present within Trench 16. This was likely a former field boundary or headland. Both of these features are undated.

Modern disturbed ground was identified in Trenches 6, 15, 18, and 19, where deposits of waste building material, tarmac, glass, brick, concrete, and metal rebar was uncovered underneath the topsoil. In Trench 15, this was observed to depths of at least 2m; whereas in Trenches 18 and 19 it was only 0.24m thick and overlay colluvium and natural geology (and therefore did not impact on

any existing archaeology). This modern disturbance was likely derived from a process of levelling of the area for a compound, when the surrounding roads and bridges were constructed in the 1980's.

#### *Phase 2 (Northern Area)*

The trenches in Phase 2 were divided between four fields, to the north of the A14.

Agricultural furrows were identified in 9 trenches and were aligned northeast – southwest. A selection of these were excavated [290005], [300005], [330005], [380005]. Finds recovered from the furrows included a piece of slag and an iron nail.

A tree-bole [300007] was excavated in Trench 30.

An area of modern disturbance, comprising gravel, terram, concrete, and metal girders, was identified in Trench 28. This was likely associated with a previous construction compound.

### **4.1.5 Section 5 (Figure 6)**

17 trenches were excavated within 4 areas in Section 5 (Area 2, 4, 5, and 6). These were located along the northern side of the A14, between the Girton Interchange and Milton roundabout (Figure 6).

Five trenches were excavated in Area 2. The stratigraphy of these trenches comprised a dark brown silty clay topsoil (0.2-0.35m deep), over a light grey silty subsoil (0.15-0.44m thick), over the natural geological deposit (a light orange silty gravel). Agricultural furrows were identified in Trenches 18 and 19, on a WNW-ESE alignment, 1.5m wide and 0.25m deep. A small undated pit was excavated in Trench 16 [160005].

Six trenches were excavated in Area 4. The stratigraphy of these trenches comprised a dark brown sandy silt topsoil (0.25-0.3m thick), over a mid-brown sandy silt subsoil (0.1-0.25m thick), over the natural geology (an orange silty sand). In Trenches 5 and 6, towards the eastern end of the site, there was no subsoil. Agricultural furrows were identified in Trenches 5 and 6, on a WNW-ESE alignment. The very base of a NNE-SSW ditch was identified in Trench 1 [50105], measuring 0.62m wide by 0.05m deep and filled with a grey brown sandy silt with pottery, animal bone, and CBM. A pit was also identified in Trench 2 [50206], measuring 2.4m in diameter by 0.42m+ deep, and with two sandy silt / gravel fills with pottery, animal bone, and charcoal.

Four trenches were excavated in Area 5. No archaeological features or finds were recorded in any of these trenches.

Two trenches were excavated in Area 6. The stratigraphy of these trenches comprised a layer of loose woodchips and roots from vegetation clearance, over the grey sandy silt topsoil (0.12-0.24m thick), over a grey silty sand subsoil (c.0.1m thick), over the natural geology (silty sandy gravel). In Trench 13, modern bricks, CBM, and gravel were recorded in the topsoil. Towards the northern end of Trench 11 were three intercutting ditches [110006/110008/110010], aligned northeast – southwest. The central ditch [110008], was the earliest and measured 2.3m wide by at least 0.65m deep. This was cut by [110006] to the south and [110010] to the north. This may be a ‘migrating’ field boundary.

## 4.2 FINDS SUMMARY

### 4.2.1 Section 6 (TEA 47)

Bulk Finds	Weight
Pottery	76 gms
Animal bone	10 gms
CBM	176 gms
Shell	4 gms
<b>Total Weight</b>	<b>266 gms</b>
Small Finds	Quantity
Iron	1 (x5 nails)
Stone	1 (tile)
<b>Total Finds</b>	<b>2</b>

Context	Material	Weight
471306	Bone	9
471406	CBM	56
471503	CBM	110
470804	Pottery	2
471304	Pottery	19
471306	Pottery	9
471404	Pottery	18
471406	Pottery	16
471504	Pottery	2

471404	Shell	2
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#### 4.2.2 Girton

Bulk Finds	Weight
Pottery	138 gms
Slag	10 gms
<b>Total Weight</b>	<b>148 gms</b>
Small Finds	Quantity
Flint	7
Stone	1
<b>Total Finds</b>	<b>8</b>

Context	Context	Material	Weight out
TT-33	300004	Slag	9
TT-37	370001	Pottery	104
TT-42	420002	Pottery	11
TT-43	430002	Pottery	8

#### 4.2.3 Section 5

Trial Trench	Bulk Finds	Weight
TT-1 Area 4	Pottery	14 gms
TT-1 Area 4	Animal bone	12 gms
TT-1 Area 4	CBM	4 gms
TT-2 Area 4	Pottery	14 gms
TT-2 Area 4	Bone	32 gms
TT-2 Area 4	CBM	18 gms
	<b>Total Weight</b>	<b>94 gms</b>

Context	Context	Material	Weight
TT-1	50104	Pottery	10
TT-1	50104	Bone	8
TT-1	50104	CBM	3
TT-2	50204	Pottery	2
TT-2	50204	CBM	22
TT-2	50204	Bone	9

## 5. CONCLUSION

The trial trenching revealed a low density of archaeological remains in the areas investigated.

Evidence for medieval and post-medieval agricultural activities was identified in a few places, e.g. ridge-and-furrow cultivation in Section 6, TEA 16, Girton, and Section 5; and field boundary ditches in Section 6, TEA 16, the Crematorium, Girton, and Section 5.

Modern disturbance was identified in trenches in Sections 6 and at Girton, likely related to previous compounds in the area.

Floodplain deposits, including palaeochannels, flood events and attempts to reclaim the land, were identified within the TEA 16 new pond area. This area is positioned within the floodplain of the River Great Ouse. It has been recommended that this area is subject to archaeological mitigation when the pond is excavated, to fully record the floodplain deposits.

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# APPENDIX 1 - TRENCH AND CONTEXT SUMMARY

## Section 6 (TEA 47)

### Northern field

<b>Trench 003</b> 30m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology: 0.39-0.43m		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
301	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.15m thick	
302	Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay	0.26m thick	
303	Natural	Mid white grey clay		

<b>Trench 004</b> 40m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology: 0.45-0.58m		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
401	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.26m thick	
402	Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay	0.32m thick	
403	Natural	Mid white grey clay		

<b>Trench 005</b> 50m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology: 0.28-0.59m		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
501	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.20m thick	
502	Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay with occasional small stones/flint	0.39m thick	
503	Natural	Mid white grey clay		

<b>Trench 006</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.72-0.74m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
601	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.13m thick	
602	Colluvium	Mid grey brown clay with very occasional small stones	0.30m thick	
603	Interface/colluvium	Light yellow brown clay. Interface onto natural.	0.30m thick	
604	Natural	Mid white grey clay with chalk inclusions	0.26m thick	
605	Deposit	Mid yellow brown clay	0.40m thick	
606	Fill	Mid red brown clay with occasional small chalk	0.12m thick	
607	Natural	Cut of ditch	0.12m thick	

<b>Trench 009</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.72-0.74m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
901	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.29m thick	
902	Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay with occasional small stones	0.29m thick	
903	Natural	Mid white grey clay	x	
904	Fill	Mid red brown clay	0.10m thick	
905	Cut	Cut of gully	0.10m thick	

## Southern Field

<b>Trench 015</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.85m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1501	Topsoil	Dark brown grey sandy silt with occasional small stones	0.20m thick	
1502	Subsoil	Mid grey sandy silt with small flint pebbles	0.11m thick	

1503	Deposit	Mixed grey clay, sand and dark brown silt with modern metal glass and CBM	0.69m thick
1504	Natural	Mixed light grey clay and orange grey sandy gravel	x

<b>Trench 016</b> 100m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.53-0.62m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1601	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.13m thick	
1602	Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay with very occasional small stones	0.30m thick	
1603	Natural	Light yellow brown clay. Interface onto natural.	x	
1604	Cut	Mid white grey clay with chalk inclusions	0.40m thick	
1605	Fill	Mid yellow brown clay	0.40m thick	
1606	Natural	Mid red brown clay with occasional small chalk	0.30m thick	
1607	Natural	Cut of ditch	0.30m thick	

<b>Trench 017</b> 40m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.45-0.54m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1701	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.19m thick	
1702	Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay	0.35m thick	
1703	Natural	Murky brown grey clay	x	

<b>Trench 018</b> 50m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.89-1.01m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1801	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.15m thick	

1802	Deposit	Modern waste and building material	0.25m thick
1803	Colluvium	Mid yellow brown silty clay. Wash layer.	0.50m thick
1804	Natural	White grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x

<b>Trench 019</b> 50m x 2m		Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.80-1.12m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1901	Topsoil	Dark grey black silt	0.14m thick	
1902	Deposit	Mixed grey silt, tarmac, concrete and metal	0.38m thick	
1903	Colluvium	Mid grey brown silty clay	0.60m thick	
1904	Natural	White grey clay with occasional small stones and chalk	x	

## TEA 16 New Pond

<b>Trench 001</b>	1.5m x 47m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.59m thick	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1620001	Topsoil	Light grey brown sandy silt	0.12m thick	
1620002	Deposit	Mixed material comprising of sandy gravel and clay. Likely from the landfill	0.17m thick	
1620003	Colluvium	Light grey layer of clay overlying (1620004)	0.36m thick	
1620004	Alluvium	Peaty humic soil with frequent gravel and sand. Part of the channel or flood plain	0.16m thick	
1620005	Deposit	Cut for channel	0.50m thick	
1620006	Cut	Laminated clay deposit.	0.50m thick	
1620007	Deposit	Gravelly deposit with clay. Infilling of channel	0.60m thick	
1620008	Deposit	Gravel levee or bank	0.20m thick	

<b>Trench 002</b>	126m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.20-0.65m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1620009	Topsoil	Light grey brown sandy silt. Same as (1620001)	0.12m thick	
1620010	Deposit	Yellow well sorted gravel. Possibly modern backfill	0.40m thick	
1620011	Colluvium	Mid brown grey clay with modern pebbles	0.18m thick	
1620012	Deposit	Dark brown peaty deposit with clay. Start of palaeochannel	0.28m thick	
1620013	Alluvium	Well-sorted orange gravels forming a levee or island	0.30m thick	

1620014	Deposit	Dark brown peaty deposit with clay. Start of palaeochannel	0.31m thick
1620015	Alluvium	Mid brown grey clay with modern pebbles (?). Possible under machined. Same as (1620011)	0.22m thick
1620016	Deposit	Dark peaty deposit with green clay. Channel uncertain size	0.27m thick
1620017	Alluvium	Mid brown grey clay with modern pebbles (?). Same as (1620011)	0.12m thick
1620018	Alluvium	Well-sorted orange gravels forming a levee or island. Same as (1620013)	0.54m thick
1620019	Deposit	Dark peaty deposit with clay. Channel uncertain size	0.26m thick
1620020	Alluvium	Mid brown grey clay with modern pebbles (?). Same as (1620011)	0.26m thick
1620021	Deposit	Dark peaty deposit with green clay. Channel uncertain size. Same as (1620013)	0.26m thick
1620022	Alluvium	Grey clay flood plain deposit	0.51m thick
1620023	Deposit	Dark brown peat with gravel and sand	0.09m thick
1620024	Deposit	Band of peat indicating drying out of waterlogged deposits	0.04m thick
1620025	Alluvium	Grey clay flood plain deposit	0.55m thick

<b>Trench 003</b>	108m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.65-0.70m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>

1620072	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay silt with small stones. Very thin layer. Same as (1620001)	
1620073	Subsoil	Mixed sandy silt with frequent stones. Evidence of standing water. Same as (1620002)	
1620048	Alluvium	Yellow clay deposit	
1620049	Deposit	Brown peat deposit with iron inclusions	
1620050	Deposit	Brown silty clay flood plain deposit	0.18m thick
1620051	Alluvium	Grey brown clay	0.18m thick
1620052	Deposit	Blue clay. Thin layer	0.12m thick
1620053	Deposit	Black brown peat deposit	
1620054	Deposit	Yellow clay gravel with white (chalk?) inclusions	0.07m thick
1620055	Alluvium	Mid brown clay	
1620056	Cut	Cut of pit or ditch	0.50m thick
1620057	Fill	Dark brown silty clay with small stone inclusions. Fill of pit or ditch.	0.50m thick
1620058	Cut	Cut of modern land drain	
1620059	Fill	Dark brown fill of furrow	
1620060	Cut	Cut of furrow	0.40m thick
1620061	Fill	Dark brown fill of furrow	0.40m thick
1620062	Cut	Cut of furrow	0.50m thick
1620063	Fill	Dark brown fill of furrow	0.50m thick
1620064	Cut	Cut of furrow	0.45m thick
1620065	Fill	Dark brown fill of furrow	0.45m thick

<b>Trench 004</b>	129m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
1620074	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay silt with small stones. Same as (1620001) and (1620072)		

1620075	Deposit	Yellow gravel with frequent stones inclusions. Same as (1620010)
1620066	Deposit	Peat clay deposit
1620067	Alluvium	Alluvial deposit
1620068	Alluvium	Alluvial deposit
1620069	Deposit	Older made ground
1620070	Deposit	Orange silty sand
1620071	Deposit	Blue clay



## Crematorium Access Road

<b>Trench 002</b>	30m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.4-0.5m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
201	Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay	0.3m thick	
202	Subsoil	Light red brown silty clay	0.16m thick	
203	Natural	Orange gravel and grey clay		
204	Fill	Brown grey silty clay.		
205	Cut of ditch	Post-medieval boundary ditch.		20 <sup>th</sup> century tile and glass

<b>Trench 003</b>	30m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.4-0.5m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
301	Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay	0.3m thick	
302	Subsoil	Light red brown silty clay	0.16m thick	
303	Natural	Orange gravel and grey clay		

## Girton

<b>Trench 020</b>	41m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.31-0.45m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2001	Topsoil	Dark brown/ black silty clay	0.03m thick	
2002	Deposit	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.10m thick	
2004	Natural	Light grey clay with moderate stone and frequent chalk	0.32m thick	

<b>Trench 021</b>	51m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.31-0.45m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2101	Topsoil	Dark brown/ black silty clay	0.03m thick	
2102	Deposit	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.10m thick	
2104	Natural	Light grey clay with moderate stone and frequent chalk	0.32m thick	

<b>Trench 022</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.19-0.35m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2201	Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.05m thick	
2202	Natural	Light blueish grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 023</b>	41m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.11-0.30m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2301	Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.02m thick	
2302	Natural	Light blueish grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 024</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.24-0.32m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2401	Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.02m thick	
2402	Natural	Light blueish grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 025</b>	70m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.10-0.30m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2501	Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.10m thick	
2502	Natural	Light blueish grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 026</b>	51m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.50m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2601	Topsoil	Mid brownish grey sandy silt	0.14m thick	
2602	Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay	0.08m thick	
2603	Natural	Light blueish grey clay with occasional chalk inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 028</b>	34m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.50cm	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2801	Topsoil	Very dark brown/ black silty sand	0.25m thick	
2802	Deposit	Light yellow gravel	0.12m thick	
2803	Subsoil	Mid grey blue clay	0.22m thick	
2804	Natural	Dark grey clay	x	

<b>Trench 029</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.46-0.85m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
2901	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.25m thick	
2902	Subsoil	Light orange brown silty clay	0.09m thick	
2903	Aluvium	Light orange brown clay	0.26m thick	
2904	Natural	Mottled orange gravel and blue grey clay		
2905	Fill	Fill of furrow		
2906	Cut	Cut of furrow		

<b>Trench 030</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.25-0.58m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3001	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.16m thick	
3002	Subsoil	Light orange brown silty clay with occasional gravel	0.20m thick	
3003	Natural	Mottled orange gravel and blue grey clay	x	
3004	Fill	Fill of furrow		
3005	Cut	Cut of furrow		
3006	Fill	Fill of tree bole		
3007	Cut	Cut of tree bole		

<b>Trench 031</b>	100m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.31-0.50m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3101	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.25m thick	
3102	Subsoil	Light yellow brown silty clay	0.13m thick	
3103	Natural	Mottled light orange brown silty gravel and blue grey clay with chalk and gravel inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 032</b>	100m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.31-0.36m	
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<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3101	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.21m thick	
3102	Subsoil	Light yellow brown silty clay	0.15m thick	
3103	Natural	Mottled light orange brown silty gravel and blue grey clay with chalk and gravel inclusions	x	
3104	Fill	Light grey silty clay	x	

<b>Trench 033</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3301	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.26m thick	
3302	Subsoil	Light yellowish grey silty clay	0.17m thick	
3303	Natural	Mottled light yellowish grey silty clay with occasional gravel and light orange sandy gravel	x	
3304	Fill	Fill of furrow		
3305	Cut	Cut of furrow		

<b>Trench 034</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.56m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3401	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.16m thick	
3402	Subsoil	Light yellow brown silty clay with oyster shell	0.40m thick	
3403	Natural	Light blue grey clay with chalk and gravel inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 035</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.36-0.44m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3501	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.22m thick	

3502	Subsoil	Light yellow brown silty clay	0.14m thick
3503	Natural	Light orange sandy clay with gravel inclusions	x

<b>Trench 037</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.27-0.36m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3701	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.25m thick	
3702	Subsoil	Light grey clay	0.07m thick	
3703	Natural	Light yellow sandy clay	x	

<b>Trench 038</b>	75m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3801	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.10m thick	
3802	Subsoil	Light yellowish grey silty clay	0.22m thick	
3803	Natural	Mottled blue grey clay with and light orange sandy gravel	x	
3804	Fill	Light grey brown silty clay with stones		
3805	Cut	Cut of furrow		

<b>Trench 039</b>	51m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
3901	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.20m thick	
3902	Subsoil	Light yellow grey silty clay	0.18m thick	
3903	Natural	Mottled blue grey clay and light orange sandy gravel	x	

<b>Trench 040</b>	51m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
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<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
4001	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.20m thick	
4002	Subsoil	Light yellow grey silty clay	0.18m thick	
4003	Natural	Mottled blue grey clay with chalk and light yellow silty clay with gravel inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 041</b>	25m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
4101	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.22m thick	
4102	Subsoil	Light yellow grey silty clay	0.18m thick	
4103	Natural	Mottled yellow clay with stone inclusions and light orange sandy gravel	x	

<b>Trench 042</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.36-0.50m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
4201	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.30m thick	
4202	Subsoil	Light yellow grey silty clay	0.14m thick	
4203	Natural	Light yellow clay with orange gravel and stone inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 043</b>	25m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.28-0.46m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
4301	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay	0.20m thick	
4302	Subsoil	Light yellow grey silty clay	0.18m thick	
4303	Natural	Mottled blue grey clay with chalk and light yellow silty clay with gravel inclusions	x	

<b>Trench 044</b>		51m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.32-0.34m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>		<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
4401	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay		0.06m thick	
4402	Subsoil	Light grey clay		0.20m thick	
4403	Natural	Light yellow clay		x	



## Section 5

### Area 2

<b>Trench 015</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.59-0.70m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
150601	Topsoil	Dark brown silt	0.30m thick	
150602	Subsoil	Light grey silt	0.29m thick	
150603	Natural	Light orange silty gravel	x	

<b>Trench 016</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.35-0.42m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
160101	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay	0.22m thick	
160102	Subsoil	Light grey silty clay	0.20m thick	
160103	Natural	Light orange silty gravel	x	
160104	Fill	Mottled brown/ orange yellow silty clay	0.05m thick	
160105	Cut	Cut of pit	0.05m thick	

<b>Trench 017</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.47-0.57m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
170601	Topsoil	Dark brown silt	0.25m thick	
170602	Subsoil	Light grey silt	0.22m thick	
170603	Natural	Light orange silty gravel	x	

<b>Trench 018</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.35-0.52m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>

180101	Topsoil	Dark brown silt	0.30m thick
180102	Subsoil	Light grey silt	0.22m thick
180103	Natural	Light orange silty gravel	x
180104	Fill	Light grey silt with occasional stones	0.25m thick
180105	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.25m thick

<b>Trench 019</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.37-0.49m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
190601	Topsoil	Dark brown silt	0.30m thick	
190602	Subsoil	Light grey silt	0.19m thick	
190603	Natural	Light orange silty gravel	x	

#### Area 4

<b>Trench 001</b>	50m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.45m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50101	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.30m thick	
50102	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy silt	0.15m thick	
50103	Natural	Orange silty sand	x	
50104	Fill	Mid brown sandy silt	0.05m thick	
50105	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.05m thick	

<b>Trench 002</b>	42m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.50-0.60m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50201	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.25m thick	
50202	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand	0.25m thick	
50203	Natural	Orange brown silty sand	x	
50204	Fill	Brownish grey sandy gravel	0.36m thick	
50205	Fill	Brownish grey sandy gravel	0.08m thick	

50206	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.42m thick
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<b>Trench 003</b>	44.5m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.32-0.40m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50301	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.30m thick	
50302	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand	0.10m thick	
50303	Natural	Orange silty sand	x	

<b>Trench 004</b>	61m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.30-0.45m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50401	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.30m thick	
50402	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand	0.20m thick	
50403	Natural	Orange silty sand	x	

<b>Trench 005</b>	47m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.15-0.35m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50401	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.30m thick	
50403	Natural	Orange silty sand	x	

<b>Trench 006</b>	61m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.34-0.40m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
50601	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	0.30m thick	
50602	Natural	Orange silty sand	0.20m thick	
50603	Fill	Orange gravel and blue clay	0.07m thick	

## Area 6

<b>Trench 011</b>	55m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.40-0.52m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
110001	Deposit	Layer of loose woodchips and roots	0.24m thick	
110002	Topsoil	Mid grey sandy silt	0.12m thick	
110003	Subsoil	Light orange grey sandy silt	0.16m thick	
110004	Natural	Light orange sandy gravel	0.26m thick	
110005	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.60m thick	
110006	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.60m thick	
110007	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.65m thick	
110008	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.65m thick	
110009	Fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.50m thick	
110010	Cut	Cut of ditch	0.50m thick	

## S5-006

<b>Trench 011</b>	55m x 2m	Depth to geology/archaeology:	0.21-0.58m	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Spot Date</i>
130001	Deposit	Layer of loose woodchips and roots	0.26m thick	
130002	Topsoil	Bricks, various CBM and gravel backfill	0.24m thick	
130003	Subsoil	Light grey silty sand	0.08m thick	
130004	Natural	Mottled light yellow/ orangey white silty sandy gravel	0.20m thick	

# LIST OF FIGURES

**FIG 1** LOCATION PLAN OF ALL MITIGATION TRENCHING AREAS

**FIG 2** PLAN OF TRENCHES IN SECTION 6 (TEA 47), SHOWING ALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

**FIG 3** PLAN OF TRENCHES IN TEA 16 NEW POND, SHOWING ALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

**FIG 4** PLAN OF TRENCHES IN CREMATORIUM, SHOWING ALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

**FIG 5** PLAN OF TRENCHES IN GIRTON, SHOWING ALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

**FIG 6** PLAN OF TRENCHES IN SECTION 5, SHOWING ALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES



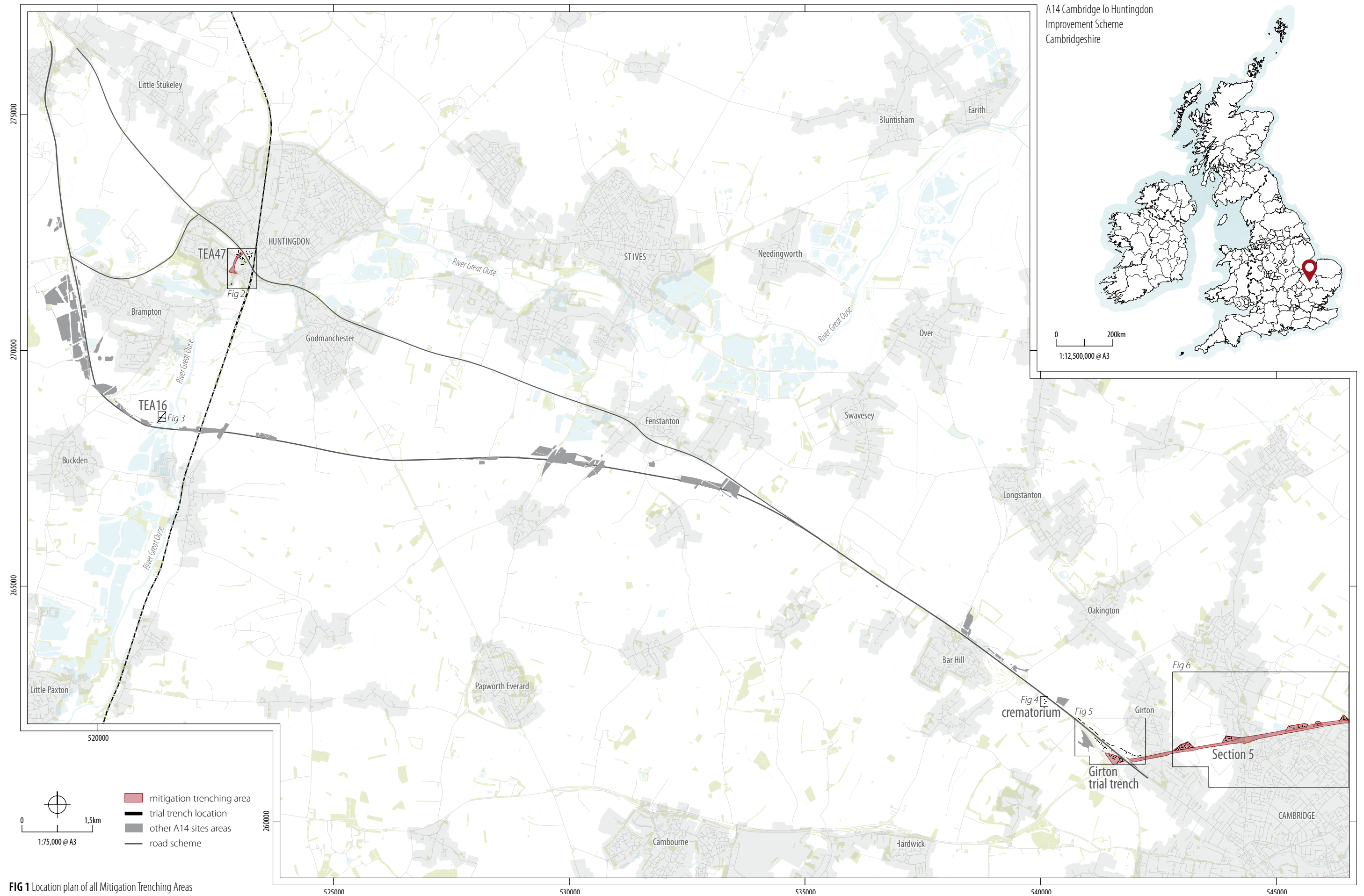
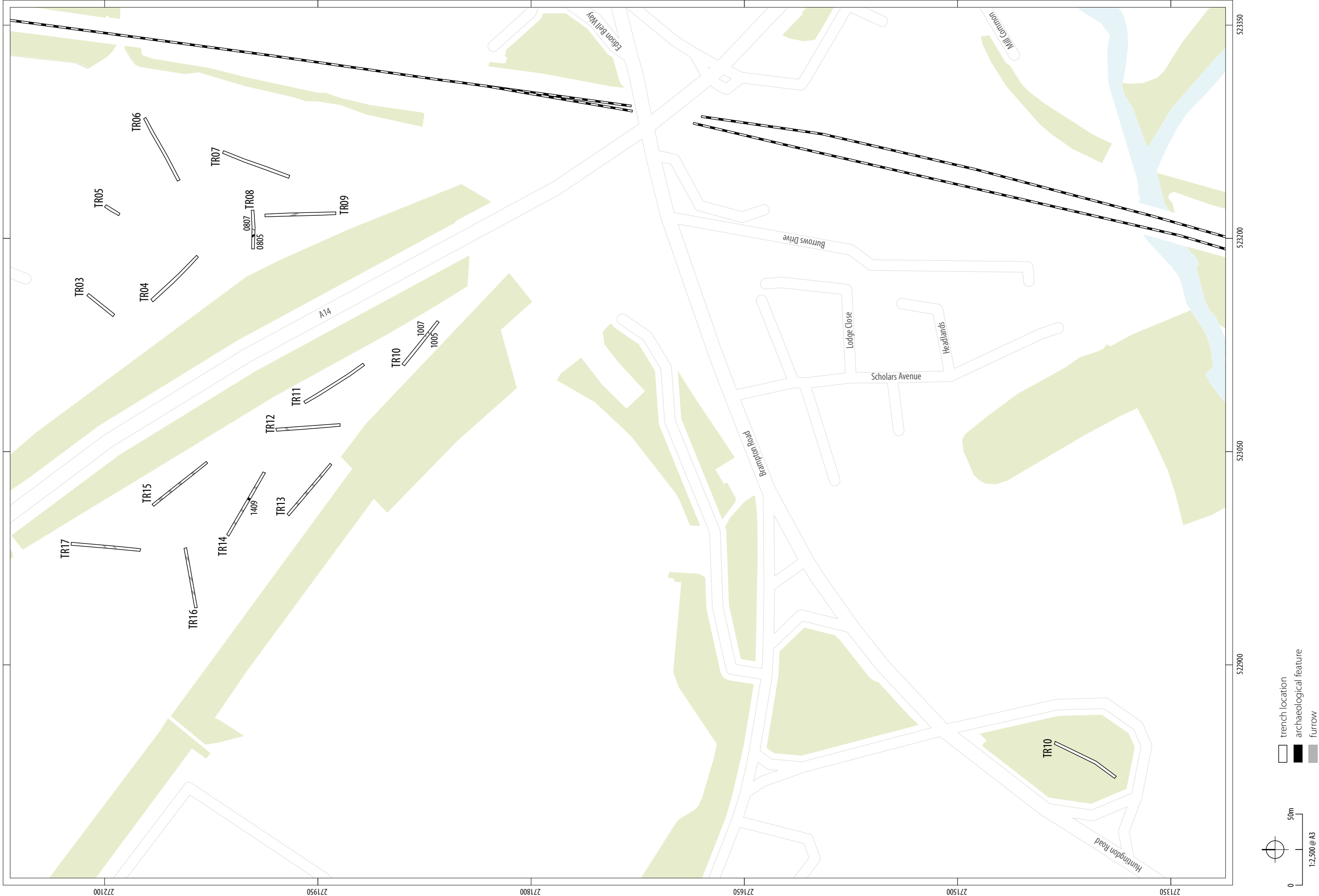


FIG1 Location plan of all Mitigation Trenching Areas

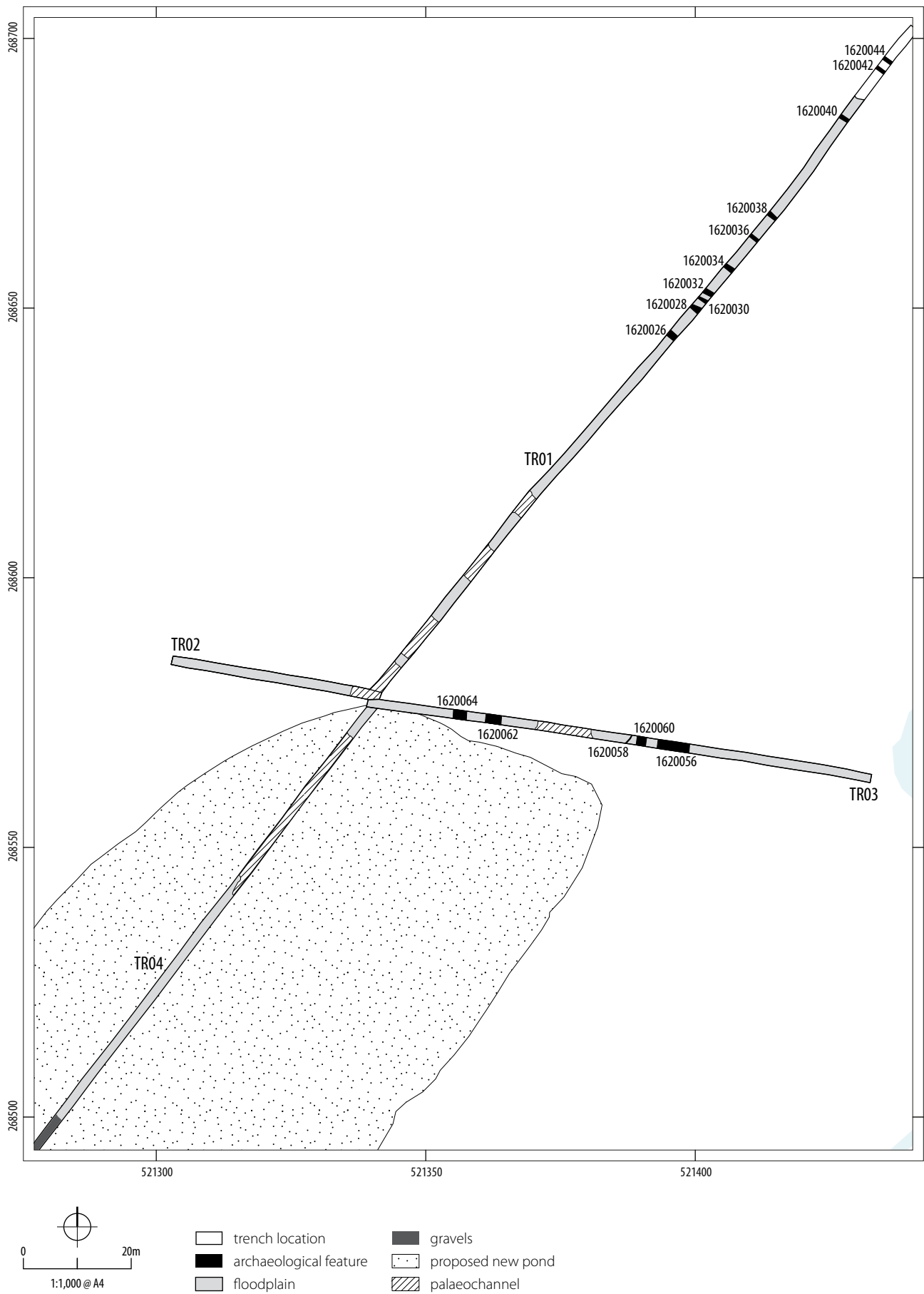






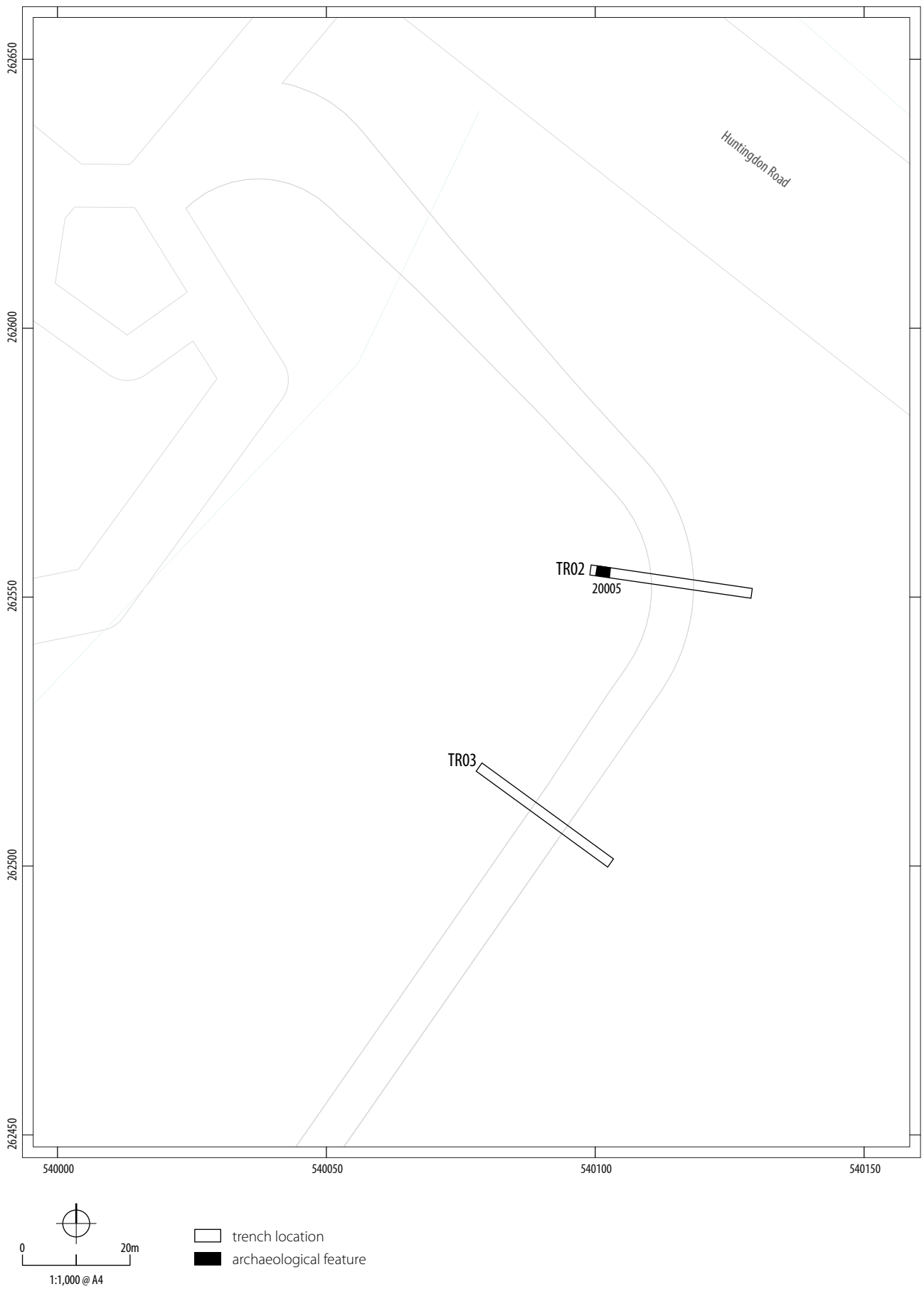
**FIG2** Plan of Trenches in Section 6 (TEA 47), showing all archaeological features





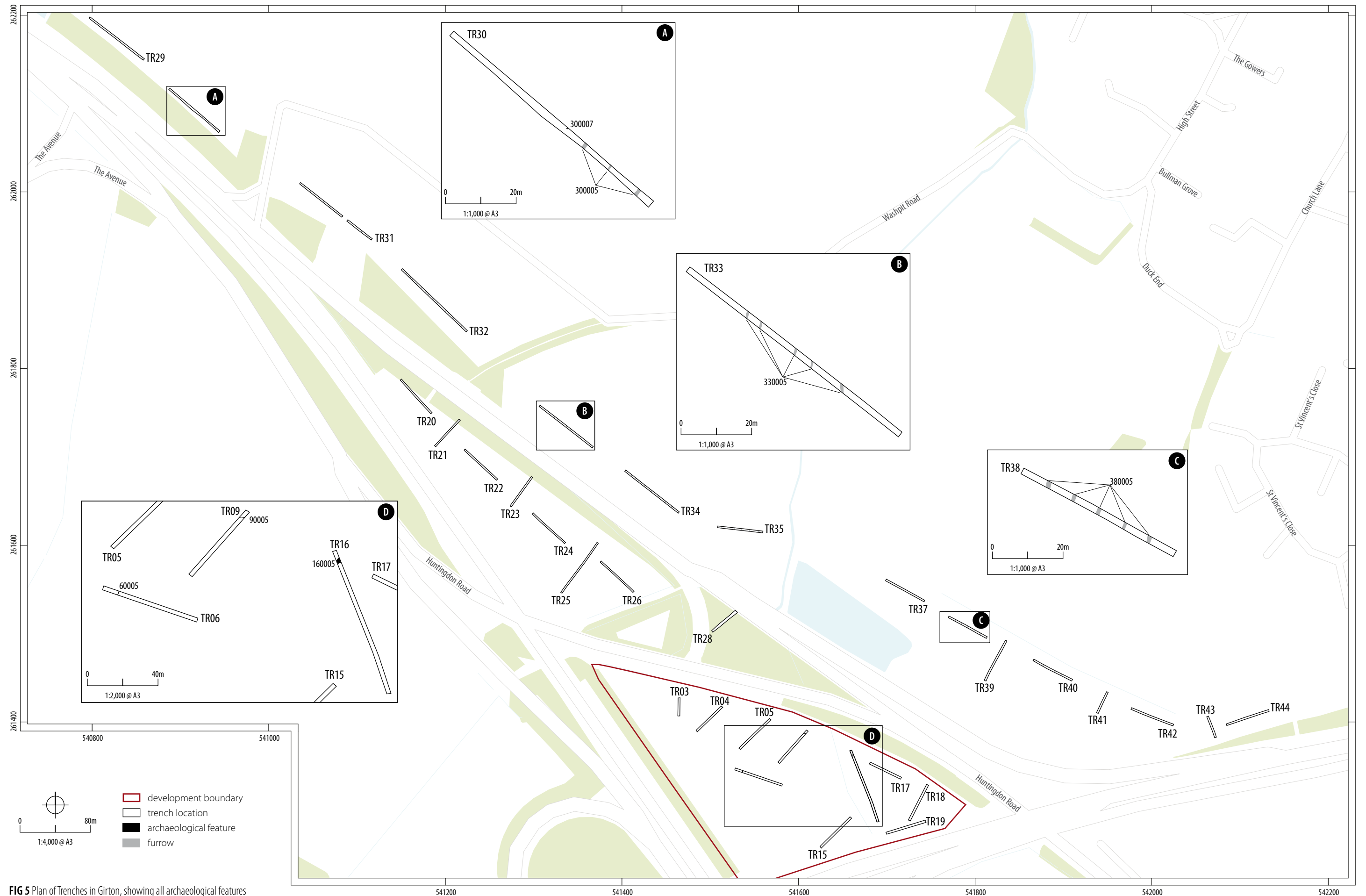
**FIG 3** Plan of Trenches in TEA 16 New Pond, showing all archaeological features





**FIG 4** Plan of Trenches in Crematorium, showing all archaeological features





**FIG5** Plan of Trenches in Girton, showing all archaeological features





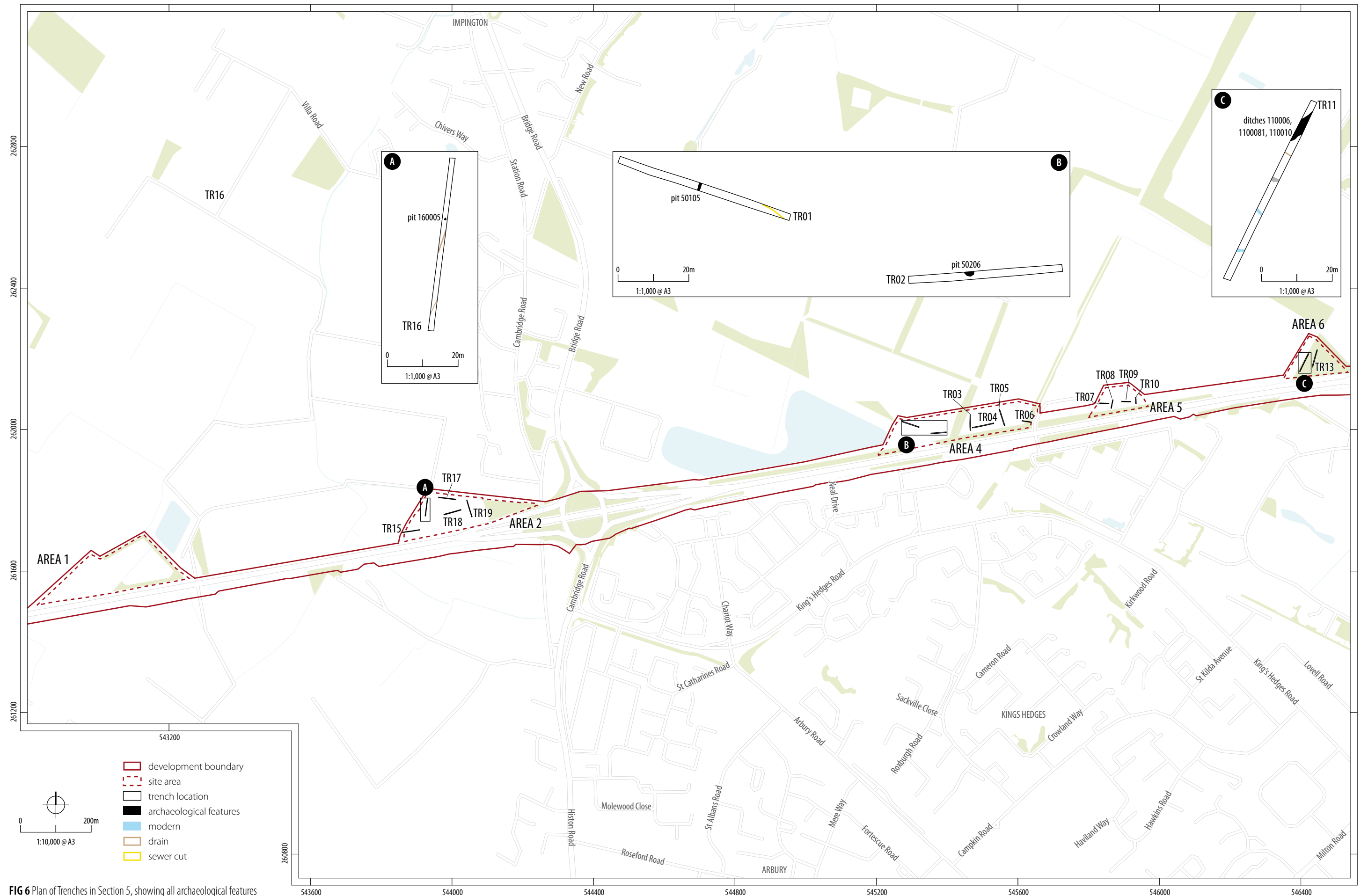


FIG 6 Plan of Trenches in Section 5, showing all archaeological features

