

Report 2029



nau archaeology

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
St John's Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex**

CSSJ09



Prepared for
J S Bloor Homes (Sudbury) Ltd



Peter Crawley

July 2009



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Location:	St John's Road, Clacton-on-Sea
District:	Tendring
Grid Ref.:	TM 1550 1650
HER No.:	CSSJ09
Client:	J S Bloor Homes (Sudbury) Ltd
Dates of Fieldwork:	30 April – 18 May 2009

Summary

Tendring District Council requested that a site proposed for new affordable housing north of St John's Road at the edge of the urban area of Clacton be subject to an archaeological evaluation to identify the nature and extent of the archaeological resource. This evaluation was undertaken on behalf of J S Bloor Ltd to provide enough information to allow the planning decision to fully assess the likely implications of the proposals on the archaeological resource and to determine if a programme of mitigation is required.

A desk-based assessment carried out as part of this evaluation revealed that the site lay at the centre of a series of cropmark complexes of various periods and an Historic Environment Characterisation Project undertaken by English Heritage had previously identified the area as being of potentially high archaeological importance.

The cropmarks in the northern part of the site were regular and on the same alignment as the modern field boundaries; the evaluation confirmed that they were part of the post-medieval field-system and were probably associated with the fairly recently demolished Joy's Farm, the remains of which were also recorded. Former post-medieval field boundaries and drains were by far the most common features encountered and were present in nearly half of the trenches.

Other features recorded included a series of generally small and shallow undated features, some of which may have had contained a fire, and a number of irregular features, possibly elements of medieval settlement, perhaps the forerunner to Joy's Farm.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed development lay to the north of St John's Road and west of Little Clacton Road, on the western side of the urban area of Clacton (Fig. 1). The survey area covered 11.2ha (27.7 acres). Tendring District Council, based on a recommendation from the Historic Environment Management (HEM) Team of the Historic Environment Branch of Essex County Council, requested that a pre-determination archaeological evaluation be carried out to determine the likely archaeological implications of any proposed development (Ref.: Adrian Gascoyne, 28 March 2009). The developers, J. S. Bloor Homes (Sudbury Ltd), commissioned NAU Archaeology to carry out the evaluation.

The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design prepared by NAU Archaeology (Ref: BAU 2029). The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy*

Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by NAU Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with the appropriate Museum Service, or other repository, following the relevant policies on archiving standards.

2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The upper geology of the site consists of sand and gravel. In certain areas of the Tendring peninsula the natural sand has been affected by periglacial scouring which caused the formation of extensive depressions often filled with brickearth.¹ Further details of the upper geology were provided as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation (area HECZ 11.4). The geology comprises Kesgrave sands and gravels in the northern half of the area and river terrace gravels in the southern half, over London Clay which comes to the surface in the southern part of the zone. Below this lay the solid chalk which dips down toward the coast of Essex.²

The site lies in a relatively flat part of the Tendring peninsula at c.15m OD. Drainage, due to the nature of the upper geology and soils, is good and well suited to arable crops. The area lies on the Tendring Plain and falls within the 'Coastal Zone' of the landscape regions of Essex (Hunter 2003, 2). The coastal zone consists mainly of heavy London clays, though the Tendring Plain has lighter Till-like soils similar to those in the western part of the county (Hunter 2003, 4).

The topsoil and natural were initially observed within boreholes sunk by Harrison Geotechnical Engineering in 2008. The topsoil had a thickness which varied between 0.30m and 0.50m across the two fields. It was described as a dark brown, slightly gravelly, clayey silty, fine to medium sand. Gravel is fine to coarse sub-angular to sub-rounded flint. The natural deposits are generally orange-brown gravelly and sandy clay, although there are areas of purer sand (Harrison Geotechnical Engineering 2008). The present evaluation confirmed this analysis and indicated that there were areas of thin light orangey brown clayey silt also present in places across the site.

The more clayey 'natural' probably represents the effects of the periglacial action mentioned above. The area was being used to grow a crop of winter wheat prior to the start of the evaluation.

¹ 'The Geology of Essex', <http://www.essexwt.org.uk/Geology/geology.htm>

² <http://www.maldon.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/69D1B914-D628-497B-BE66-3A5EE0A14678/10411/MaldonHECZ2.pdf>

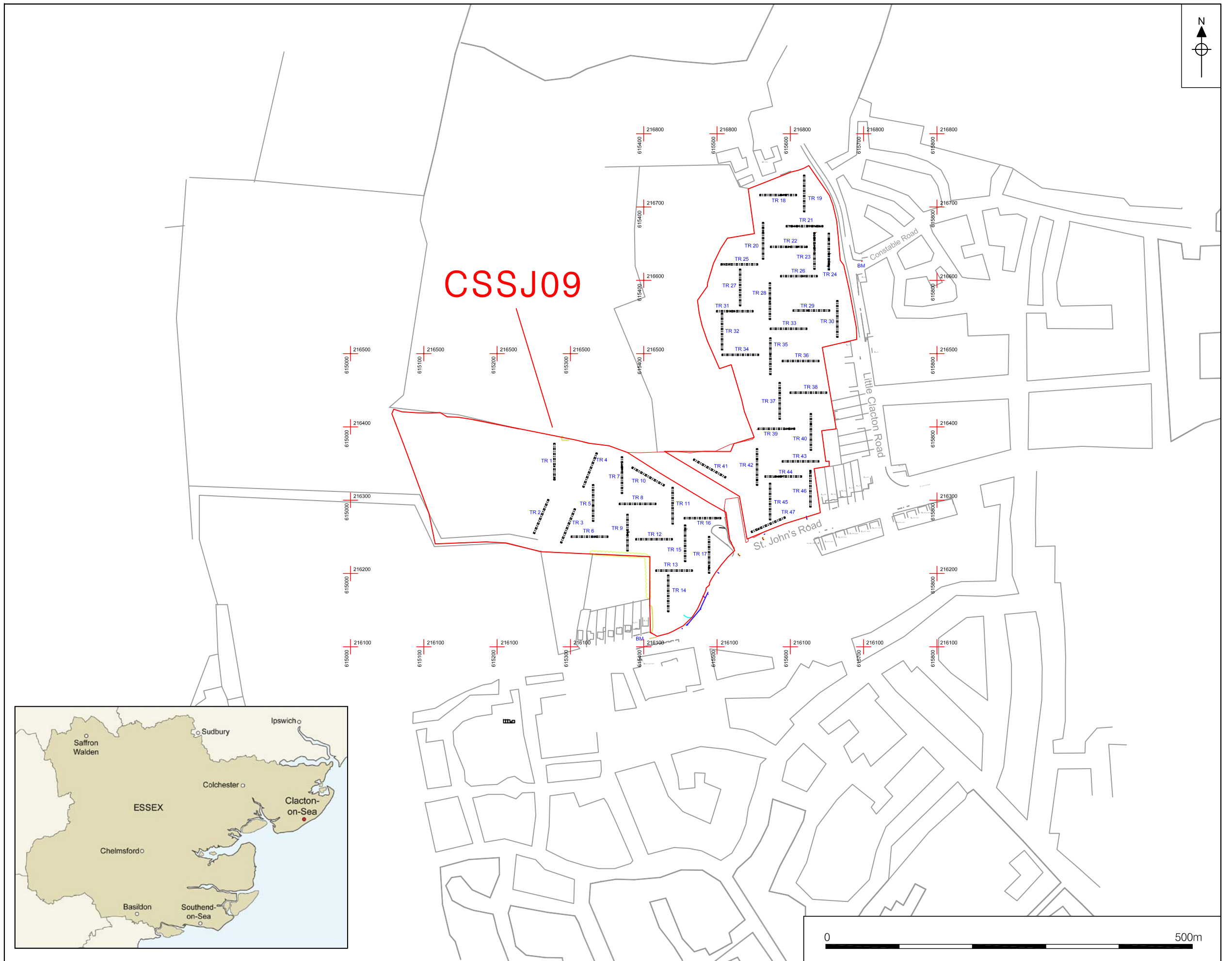


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

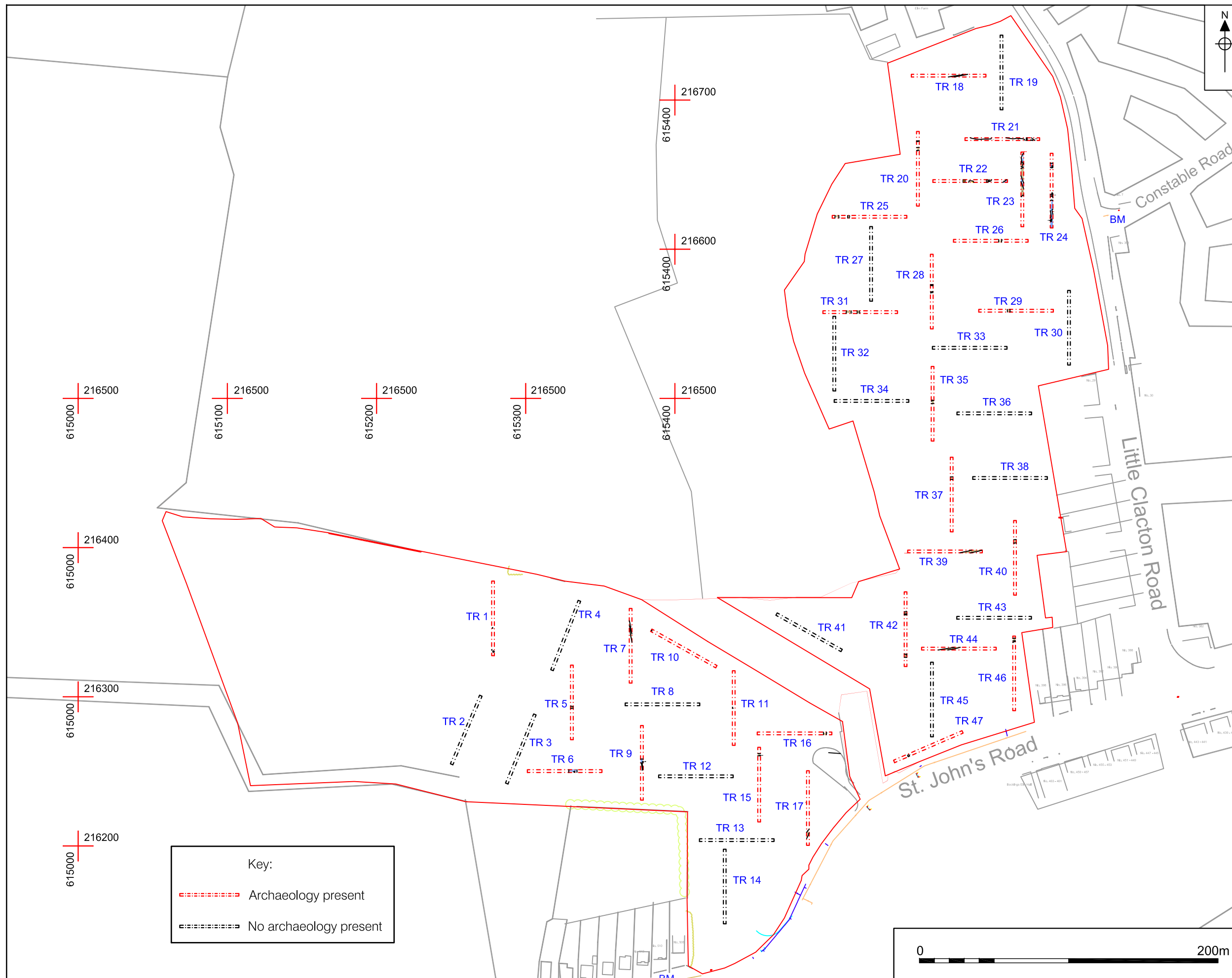


Figure 2. Trench location. Scale 1:2500

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The original name, Claccington, means 'the village of Clacc's people'. In Domesday Book the settlement was known as Clachintuna and it was recorded that there were 45 tenant farmers and 50 small holders. It was part of a manor that belonged to the Bishops of London.

The monastery at St Osyth was important during the middle ages and owned sizeable tracts of land in the area. At the Dissolution, the Abbot of St Osyth's surrendered all lands to Henry VIII, who subsequently handed the land to Thomas Cromwell.

It was considered by the British government in the late 18th–early 19th centuries that the most likely spot for an enemy landing lay between Walton Gap and Clacton Wick (Wash Lane). Consequently this area was heavily fortified with three Martello towers built close together near Clacton Wick.

The area was subject to Luddite activity in the 19th century. On 7 December 1830 a crowd of farm workers were involved in a riot which lasted several days and involved the smashing of machinery. Local farmers and land owners eventually put the revolt down.

Throughout the 19th century Clacton became a popular holiday destination. In 1864 the land next to the sea was purchased as one lot by an engineer called Peter Bruff. He gained permission from parliament to extend the railway to within 50 yards of the cliff and built a new station. After a period of financial difficulty Clacton-on-Sea was finally founded in 1871. The new seaside resort expanded relatively rapidly over the next few decades: the census of 1881 showed a total population of 651 whereas by 1901 this number had reached 7,456. The number of holiday visitors was as high as 327,451 by 1893.³

3.1 HER Search

The results of a 1km radius search of the Essex Historic Environment Record centred on the development area are presented below in tabular form (Table 1). The cartographic data gathered as part of the desk-based assessment phase of this project are also presented here in Table 2.

³ http://www.p-evans.co.uk/clactontour/tour_pages/clacton_history.htm

Table 1. Essex HER entries in numerical order

HER	Grid ref.	Name	Parish	Details
2898	TM 150 150	Near Jaywich Sewerage Treatment works	Clacton-on-Sea	Ring-ditch with large central feature, several small winding trackways, one straight double ditched trackway aligned south-east–north-west, traces of two other double-ditched trackways running parallel to it and probable remains of a field system. Linear features and dark patches – ?pits – also plotted and visible on aerial photographs. Two post-medieval or modern field ditches and a small cut feature of indeterminate date were seen as cropmarks and are thought to be prehistoric.
2943	TM 1576 1549	Rush Green	Clacton-on-Sea	Two ring-ditches, one excavated, together with a further ring-ditch lying north-east of a rectangular enclosure. Part of the excavated ring-ditch was recorded in section during construction of a sewer trench in 1975. The site was further excavated in 1982 when a single un-urned cremation was recovered from a pit in the approximate centre of the c.22m diameter ring-ditch. Finds included flint, pottery and possible remains of a wooden coffin. Dated as late Neolithic to late Bronze Age.
2944	TM 1576 1549	Rush Green	Clacton-on-Sea	Rectangular enclosure. The eastern ditch of this enclosure as revealed in a sewer trench was shallow and V-shaped (0.95 m deep from the modern field surface). The enclosure is one of a series of linked rectangular enclosures, which were visible as cropmarks. Indeterminate date.
2953	TM 1557 1532	Rush Green	Clacton-on-Sea	Rubbish tip in old gravel pit, cut by sewage trench. Thought to be a post-medieval midden.
2968	TM 166 160	Clacton-on-Sea, school grounds	Clacton-on-Sea	Two possible ring-ditches in school playing fields (these could be previous games markings). To the north-east in the grounds of the school is a small sub-rectangular enclosure with antenna ditch extending round to form an outer protected (but not enclosed?) area. This is double ditched. The circle is situated in the angle between the enclosure and the outer compound. Seen as a cropmark. Indeterminate date.
2969	TM 1600 1555	Clacton-on-Sea	Clacton-on-Sea	Surface find from a housing estate. Part of a rim and handle of a jug. Hard fabric sand gritted with possible haematite grits, light orange-buff but reduced in core of handle, covered with decayed glaze. The sherd is probably 13th century.
2995	TM 158 165	South of Elm Farm, Little Clacton Road	Clacton-on-Sea	Cropmark of a trackway 142m long. To the east of the trackway is the cropmark of a possible rectilinear enclosure, with a possible extraction pit. Seen as a cropmark. Indeterminate date.
2996	TM 145 164	East of Earls Hall Farm	Clacton-on-Sea	Two small ring-ditches and linear features. Seen as a cropmark. Indeterminate date
40597	TM 158 162	Waterworks Drive	Clacton-on-Sea	Post World War II water workers' cottages built in the 1950s by the Tendring Hundred Water Co.

HER	Grid ref.	Name	Parish	Details
40799	TM 150 160	Signpost on junction of B1027 and Jaywick Lane, St Osyth	St Osyth	Signpost. 1920s/1930s. Cast iron. Manufactured by Maldon Iron Works.
8928	TM 145 167	Cropmarks east of Earls Hall Farm, St. Osyth	St Osyth	Cropmarks of two or perhaps three trackways and other linear features. Indeterminate date.
16990	TM 166 172	South of Pickers Ditch	Clacton-on-Sea	Cropmarks of field boundaries depicted on OS 6" 1st edition sheet 38.
16992	TM 160 180		Clacton-on-Sea	Cropmarks of field boundaries, one depicted on OS 1st edition 6" sheet 38.
17030	TM 145 163	St Osyth	St Osyth	Cropmarks of various linear features. Indeterminate date.
17033	TM 147 155	Clacton-on-Sea	Clacton-on-Sea	Cropmarks of former field boundaries. Indeterminate date.
21244	TM 1655 1587	Clacton-on-Sea, school grounds	Clacton-on-Sea	Contemporary records state, 'OS No. 311 – Pillbox and 2 weapon pits. Coppins Hall Farm'. Field OS No. 311 lay at the northern end of Upper Branston Road. A low-level aerial photograph taken in July 1948 shows a Type FW3/22 pillbox with its entrance in the south side, overlooking open land to the north, west and east. By the year 2000 the entire area had been built over. The site on which it once stood is now the rear garden of 20 Elthorne Park.
21253	TM 159 158	Pillbox (destroyed), Cloes Lane,	Clacton-on-Sea	Two pillboxes and a weapon pit. Coppins Hall Farm.
2898	TM 150 150	Near Jaywich Sewerage Treatment works	Clacton-on-Sea	Ring-ditch with large central feature, several small winding trackways, one straight double-ditched trackway aligned south-east–north-west, traces of two other double-ditched trackways running parallel to it and probable remains of a field system. Linear features and dark patches – ?pits – plotted from aerial photographs. Two post-medieval or modern field ditches and a small cut feature of indeterminate date and function were discovered during the construction of a new access road and operational area to the west and north-west of the sewage treatment works at Jaywick. No other archaeological features or finds were discovered.

Table 2. Maps listed in chronological order.

Date	Essex Archive	Name and Scope of map	Observations	Scale
1730	D/DE1 P4	Map of Great Clacton	Useful in that it shows the type of field boundaries in the local area. Unfortunately does not directly cover the site.	Unknown
1742	D/DRb P2	Map of Great Clacton	Useful in that it shows the type of field boundaries in the local area. Unfortunately it does not directly cover the site. In particular it shows the land belonging to the Can Hall estate located half a mile to the east of the site.	Unknown
1805	-	Ordnance Survey 1st 1 inch map	Not much detail, though Elm Farm to the north of the site appears to be called Woodrows.	1 inch
c.1840	D/CT 848	Great Clacton Tithe Award	Presents the development area as six smaller fields. Joy's Farm and Bocking's barns are both mentioned on this map.	Unknown
c.1840	D/CT 84 B	Great Clacton Tithe Map	No changes.	Unknown
c.1840	D/P 80/27/1	Tithe Apportionment	No changes.	Unknown
1875	TM 556 OS	1st Edition of Ordnance Survey	By this time the development area is composed of four fields. Bocking's Elm is mentioned at the cross roads of Little Clacton Road and St John's Road. Joy's Farm still exists and essentially there do not appear to have been many changes since the tithe award map, except for the amalgamation of fields. There are numerous trees drawn as part of the field boundaries, though this could be exaggerated. The roads which bordered the site are unnamed at this juncture. A well was marked at Joy's Farm.	1:10,560
1897	TM 556 OS	2nd Edition of Ordnance Survey	No major changes to the area though the southern part of the site had two fields at the south-western end amalgamated together leaving one larger field. A well and a possible pond were noted at Elm Farm north of the site. The field boundaries are presented as treeless, though this may be exaggerated.	1:2,500
1921	D/DU 1300/2	Ordnance Survey	The area of the site little changed. The southern field had been joined to two smaller fields. Joy's Farm still exists at this time and the site is still free from development in its south-eastern corner. The map does show that the fields to the east of Little Clacton Road have been developed as the outskirts of Great Clacton by this time, with the creation of roads like Bocking's Grove for example.	1:10,560
1939	-	Ordnance Survey	There is some residential development to the south-east of the site, along the road marking the southern boundary.	1:2,500

Date	Essex Archive	Name and Scope of map	Observations	Scale
1953	-	Ordnance Survey	By 1953, Joy's Farm was no longer marked and it had presumably been demolished. Bocking's barns were also no longer marked on the map. There had been some further residential development south of the site including a Garden Nursery.	1:10,560
1957	-	Ordnance Survey	The area of the former Joy's Farm is marked as covered by trees and rough grassland. The road bordering the site to the east is marked as Little Clacton road while the road to the south is named St Osyth Main Road.	1:2,500
1967	-	Ordnance Survey	Significant residential development had occurred to the south-west of the site.	1:10,560
1973–8	-	Ordnance Survey	St Osyth Main Road has changed its name to St John's Road.	1:10,560
1981	-	Ordnance Survey	Extensive residential development had occurred south of the site in Clacton. An unspecified depot is noted just east of the site.	1:10,000
2002	-	Ordnance Survey	Residential development had covered most of the area to the east and south of the site.	1:10,000
2007	-	Ordnance Survey	The area where Bocking's Barns previously stood was marked as a Gas Decompression Plant.	1:2,500

4.0 METHODOLOGY

A desk-based assessment was undertaken to identify, if possible, areas of archaeological potential within the development area, which could be targeted for investigation during the trial trenching. It was also intended to aid the interpretation of the evaluation results by providing the local and regional context for the site.

In order to achieve this, a range of source material was examined. Visits were made to the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER), held by the Historic Environment Branch of Essex County Council, and the Essex County Records Office. Copies of the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey maps were obtained in addition to the Tithe map of 1840 and an early estate map for an area of Great Clacton to the east of the site. Full EHER information and map tiles were provided by the Historic Environment Branch of Essex County Council and in addition online versions of the EHER were examined through the English Heritage 'Heritage Gateway'. The list of available maps was also supplemented by information from the Essex County Council website and www.old-maps.com. A variety of other sources, including published works, archaeological reports and web-based resources, were also consulted in order to establish the archaeological and historical context of the site.

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Archaeological Brief required that a total of 4% of the development area be examined initially, with a contingency for a further 1% if the initial round of trenching revealed significant archaeological features or deposits. In the event, HEM decided that due to the limited interest of the archaeological remains found the extra trenching was not required.

Machine excavation was carried out with a tracked hydraulic 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket operated under constant archaeological supervision.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those which were obviously modern were retained for inspection. No environmental samples were taken due to the lack of suitable deposits.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

The temporary benchmarks on site were transferred from two known Ordnance Datum (OD) heights adjacent to the site. For the northern field a level was transferred from the known height on the roadway where Constable Road meets Little Clacton Road with a value of 17.17m OD. For the southern field a level was transferred from the known height on the roadway halfway along St John's Road with a value of 7.03m OD.

Site conditions were good, with the work taking place in generally fine weather, though there were occasional showers.

5.0 RESULTS

All of the trenches were 50m long and 1.80m wide and they were positioned in such a way to encounter features across the area (Figs 1 and 2). The known cropmarks (HER 2995), which were within the northern part of the site, were targeted by specific trenches.

The topsoil and natural were present in all trenches and were as described in Section 2, above.

The following trenches contained no archaeological remains: Trench 2, Trench 3, Trench 4, Trench 8, Trench 12, Trench 13, Trench 14, Trench 19, Trench 27, Trench 30, Trench 32, Trench 33, Trench 34, Trench 36, Trench 38, Trench 41, Trench 43 and Trench 45.

5.1 Trench 1

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Three small features were observed within Trench 1 (Fig. 3). At the southern end was a small circular shallow pit [06], 0.80m in diameter and 0.08m deep, with almost vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single layer of mid-grey silty clay containing frequent burnt clay and charcoal flecks (05).

Immediately to the north-west was a small pit [08] which measured 0.35m north-south and 0.12m deep. It had concave sides and a roughly flat base and extended beyond the limit of excavation. The fill (07) was identical to that filling pit [06].

A possible small post-hole [10] was situated at the centre of the trench. It was roughly circular, 0.4m in diameter, and was 0.1m deep with an irregular profile. Its base sloped from east to west. The feature contained a single mid-grey brown silty clay fill (09).

5.2 Trench 2

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.3 Trench 3

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.4 Trench 4

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.5 Trench 5

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single east to west oriented ditch [14] was observed cutting across this trench (Fig. 4). It was 1.50m wide and 0.14m deep. The length of the ditch was at least 1.80m. The sides and base were concave and it had a gradual break of slope at the top and at the base. The single fill (13) was a mid-orangey-brown silty clay.

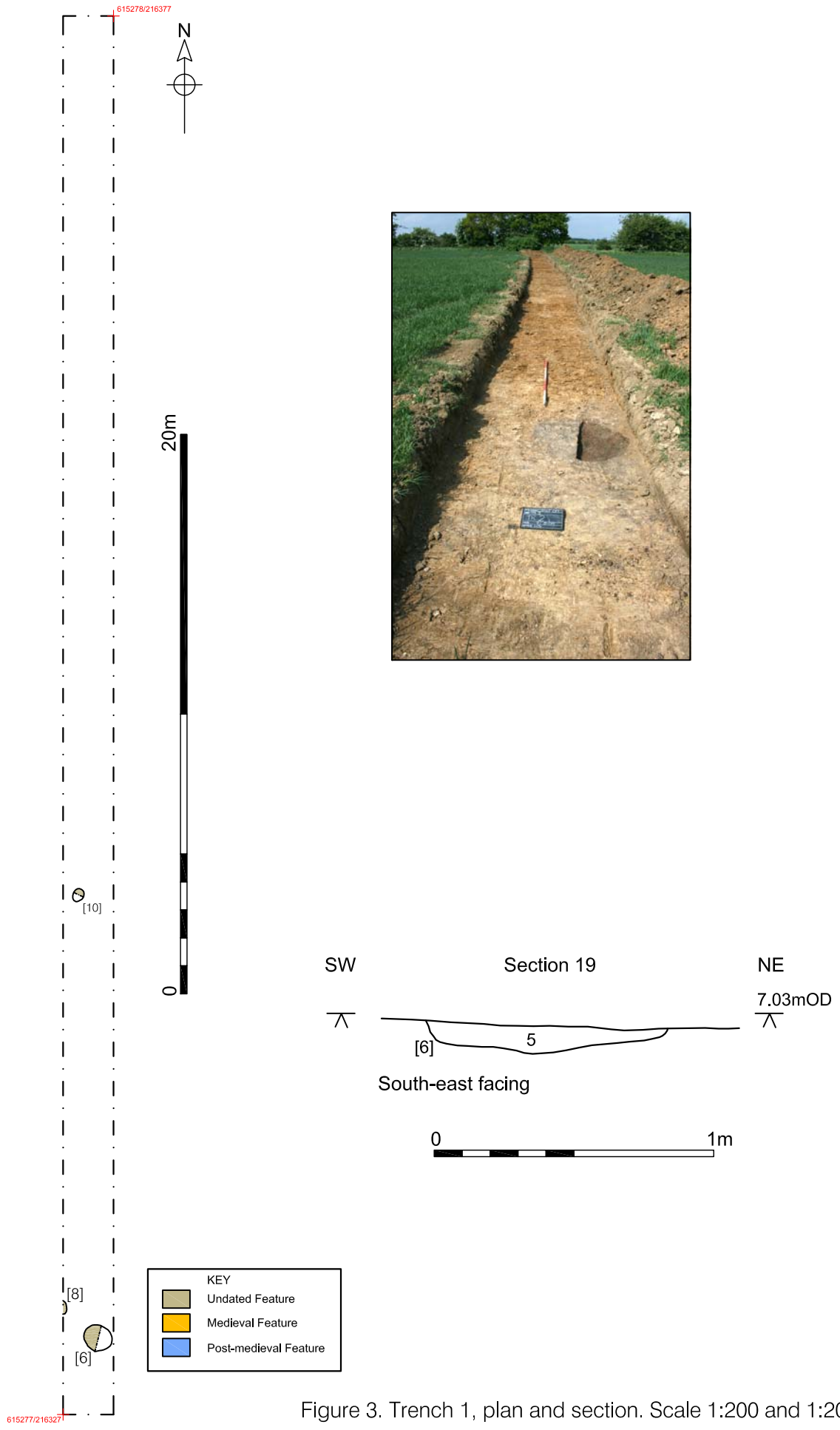


Figure 3. Trench 1, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

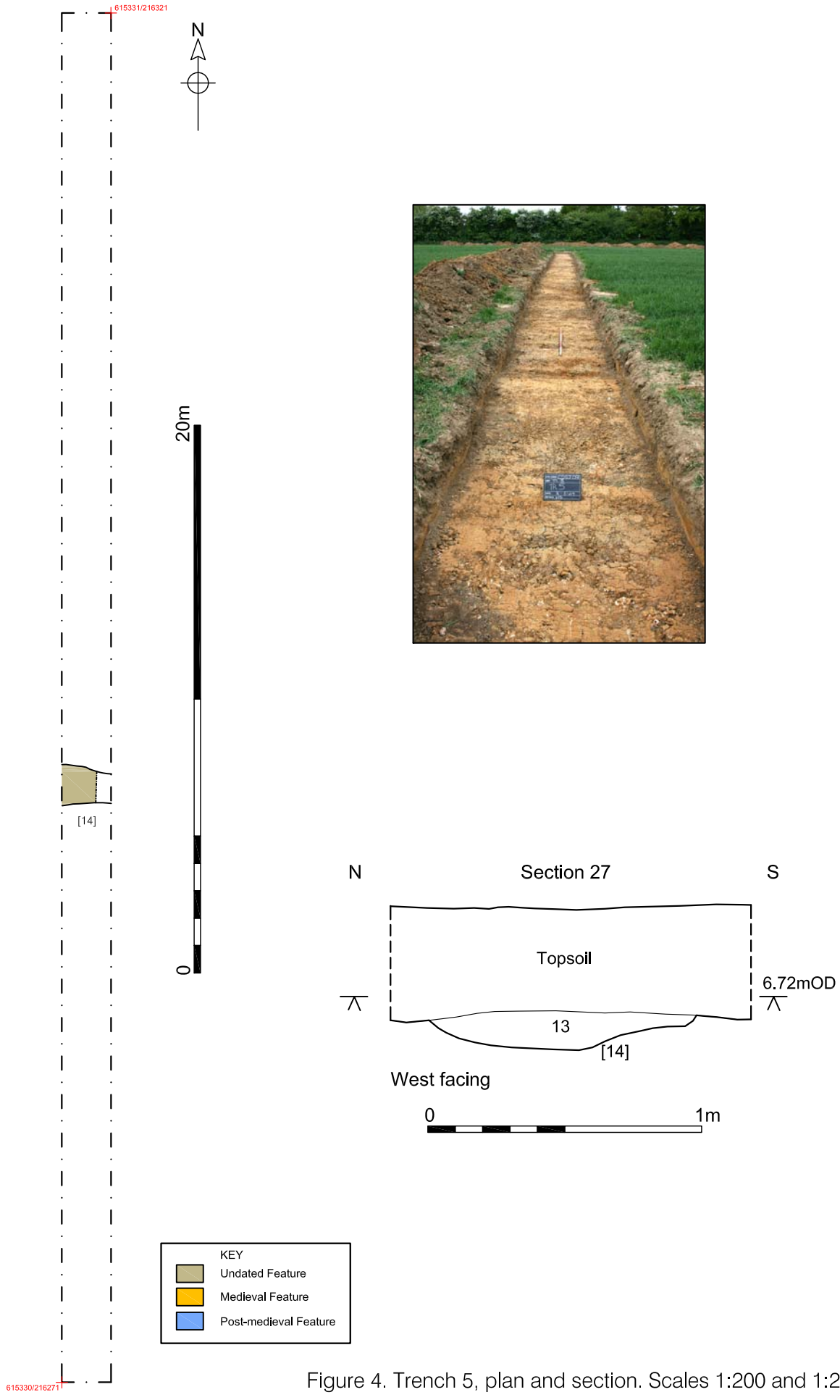


Figure 4. Trench 5, plan and section. Scales 1:200 and 1:20

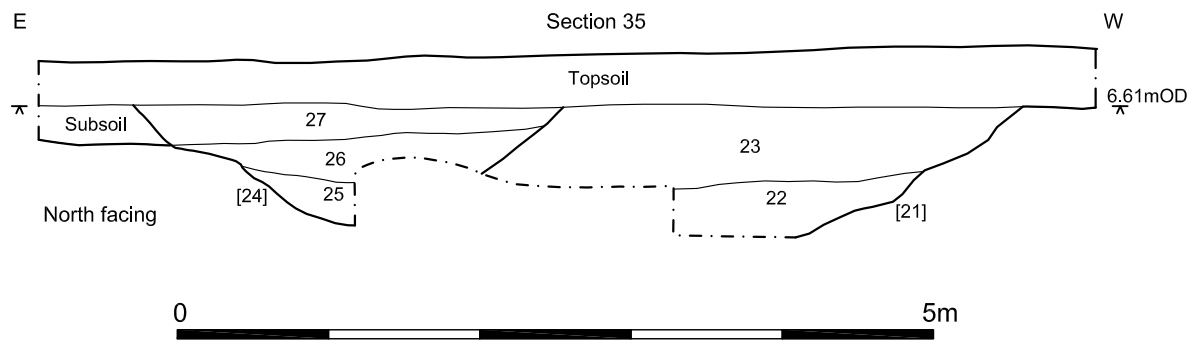
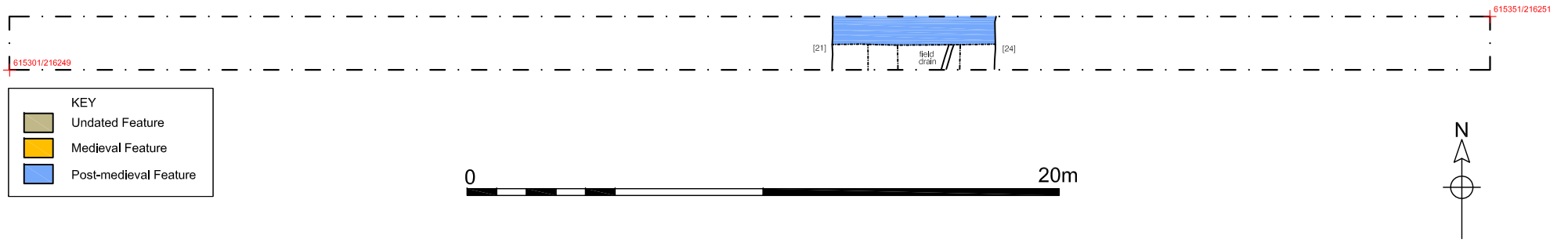


Figure 5. Trench 6, plan and section. Scales 1:200 and 1:50

5.6 Trench 6

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Two features were located towards the east end of the trench (Fig. 5). The features consisted of a possible north to south oriented ditch [21], which may have been an old hedge line and a post-medieval field drain [24].

The possible hedge line [21] was 0.84m deep, 3.50m wide and contained two fills, (22) and (23). The primary fill (22) was dark brownish-grey fine clayey silt that was sealed by a layer of mid-brown fine clayey silt (23). Both layers contained occasional flints and appeared to have accumulated naturally, presumably after the hedge had been removed. Two fragments of post-medieval building material were recovered from the upper fill (23). The eastern side of [21] was cut by a ditch [24], which contained a ceramic field drain.

Ditch [24] was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 2.80m. It was 0.84m deep, though due to its relatively recent date it was not fully excavated. It contained three fills (25), (26) and (27). The primary fill (25) was dark brownish-grey fine silty clay, which lay under (26) a mid-brown fine clayey silt which in turn was covered by a light brown fine clayey silt (27) from which a sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered. All three fills had probably developed naturally as they were free of inclusions except for occasional flints.

5.7 Trench 7

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Trench 7 contained a single narrow ditch [16] which ran in a roughly south-west to north-east through the northern half of the trench (Fig. 6). The ditch was 0.28m deep and had a width of 0.43m at its narrowest point. The width of the ditch for most of its length was 1.0m and it ran for at least 14.50m before it extended beyond the limits of the excavation. The sides were steep and regular. The break of slope at the top was sharp and at the base was gradual. The single fill (15) of the feature was a light bluish-grey silty clay. There was no datable evidence in this trench.

5.8 Trench 8

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.9 Trench 9

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Two features were recorded in this trench, a large east-west ditch [29] and a narrow drainage gully [31] (Fig. 7). Ditch [29] was 2.40m wide and 0.47m deep. The sides were slightly irregular and gradually sloped to an irregular base. The southern side of the ditch contained a ceramic field drain. The fill of the ditch was mid-brownish-grey silty clay (28), which contained three sherds of post-medieval pottery and a broken iron comb tooth.

A short gully [31] fed into, or had been cut by the south side of ditch [29]. The gully measured 4.5m x 0.6m and it was 0.12m deep. It had a fairly steep north side, a gently sloping south side and a slightly rounded base. The single fill (30) was a mid-brownish-orange fine silty clay. A fragment of post-medieval brick or tile was recovered from the fill.

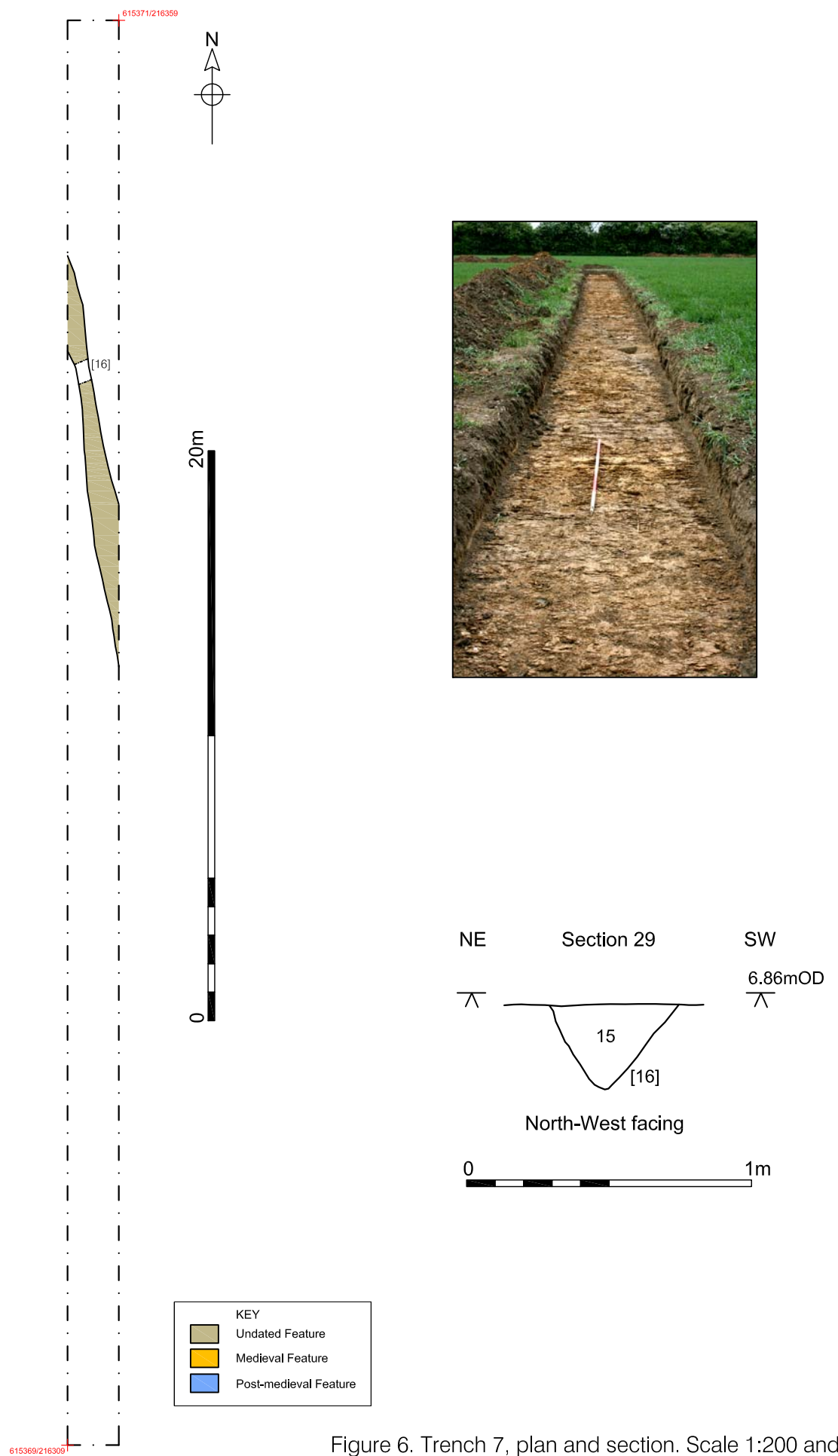
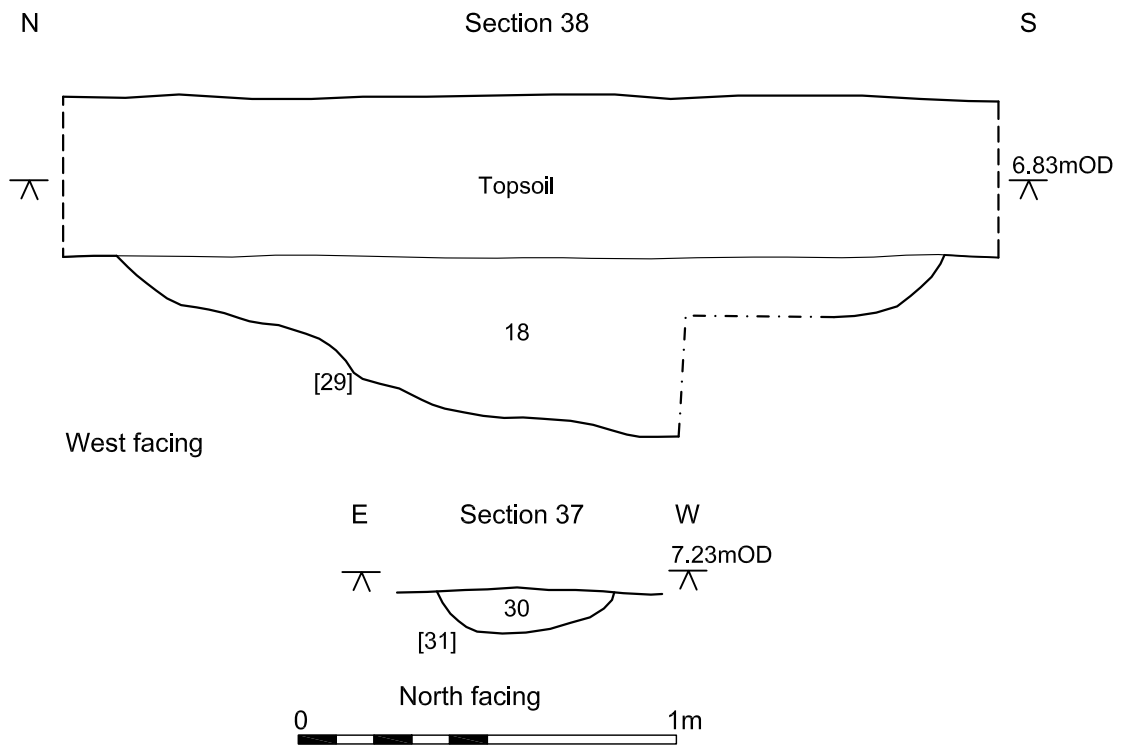
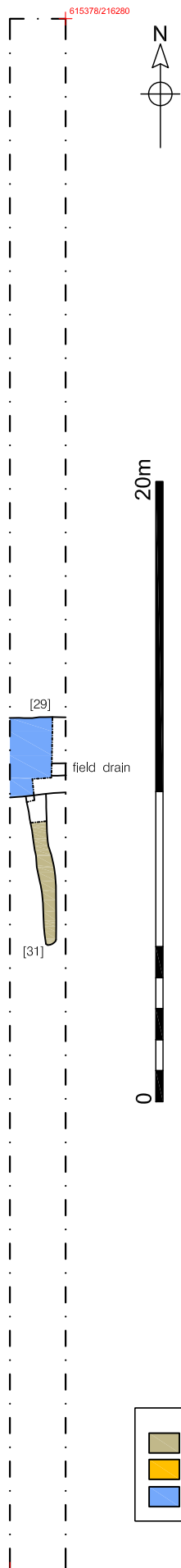


Figure 6. Trench 7, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 7. Trench 9, plan and sections. Scales 1:200 and 1:20

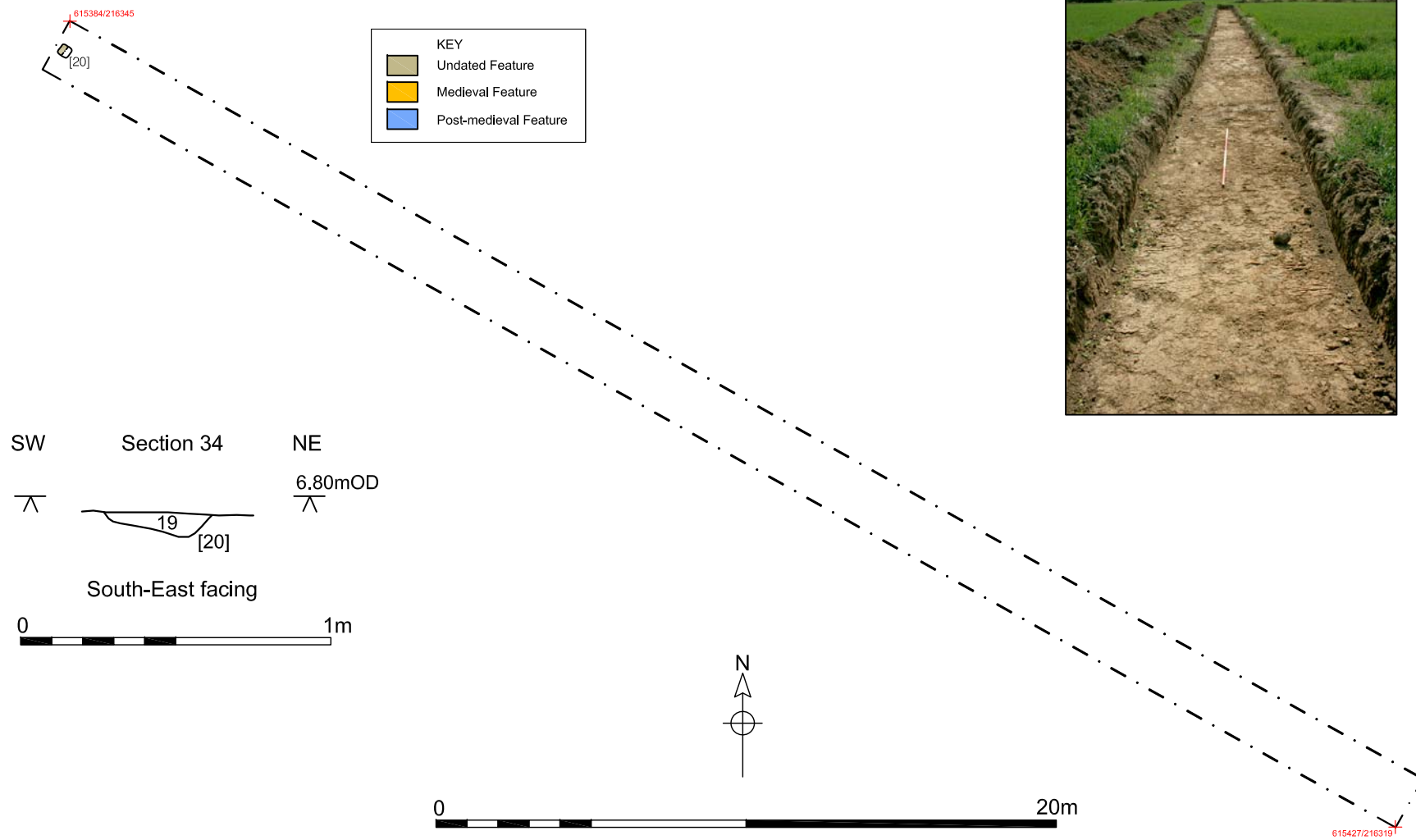


Figure 8. Trench 10, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

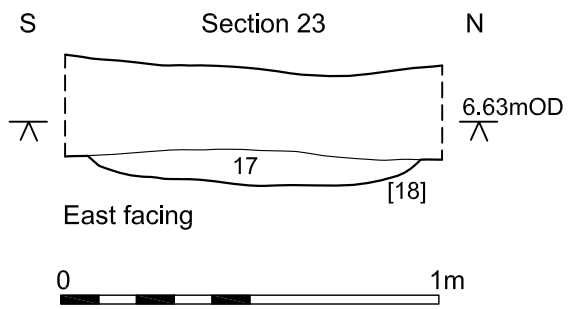
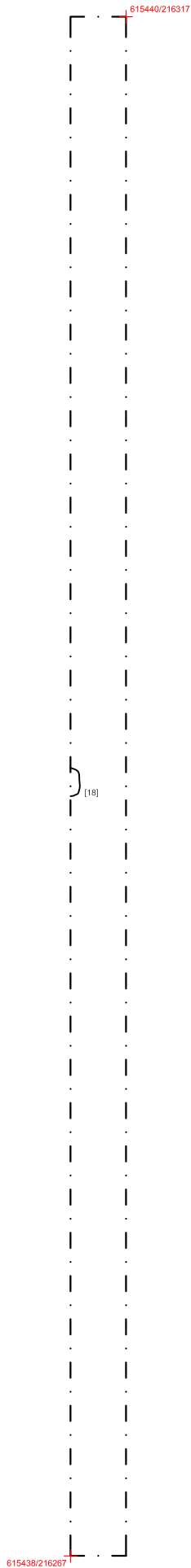


Figure 9. Trench 11, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

5.10 Trench 10

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A small possible post-hole [20] of probable recent date was observed at the northern end of the trench (Fig. 8). It was 0.3m square and was 0.1m deep. The sides were vertical and the base was rounded. It was filled with a mid-greyish-brown silty clay (19). A fragment of post-medieval brick or tile was recovered from the fill.

5.11 Trench 11

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A small roughly circular pit [18] was located half way along the trench (Fig. 9). It was 0.9m across and had a depth of 0.05m. The pit had a flat base and gently curving sides. The base of the pit was reddened and had clearly been heat affected, presumably by a fire set within it. The pit was filled with light grey silty clay (17) which contained frequent charcoal flecks, and it appeared to have been deliberately deposited into the pit, possibly to extinguish the fire.

5.12 Trench 12

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.13 Trench 13

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.14 Trench 14

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.15 Trench 15

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Towards the northern end of the trench an east–west ditch [04] was observed (Fig. 10). It was at least 1.8m long and extended beyond both limits of excavation. The width was 1.3m and its depth 0.44m. It had generally even curving sides and a slightly rounded. The single fill of the ditch (03) was soft dark brownish-grey silty clay. The ditch contained a ceramic field drain. A fragment of post-medieval brick or tile was recovered from the fill.

5.16 Trench 16

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single north–south ditch [129] was observed cutting across the western end of the trench (Fig. 11). The base of the ditch was concave and the sides irregular. It had a length of at least 1.8m and a width of 0.8m with a depth of 0.52m. The single fill (128) was soft dark brownish grey silty clay, which had probably naturally accumulated. Two fragments of post-medieval brick or tile were recovered from the fill.

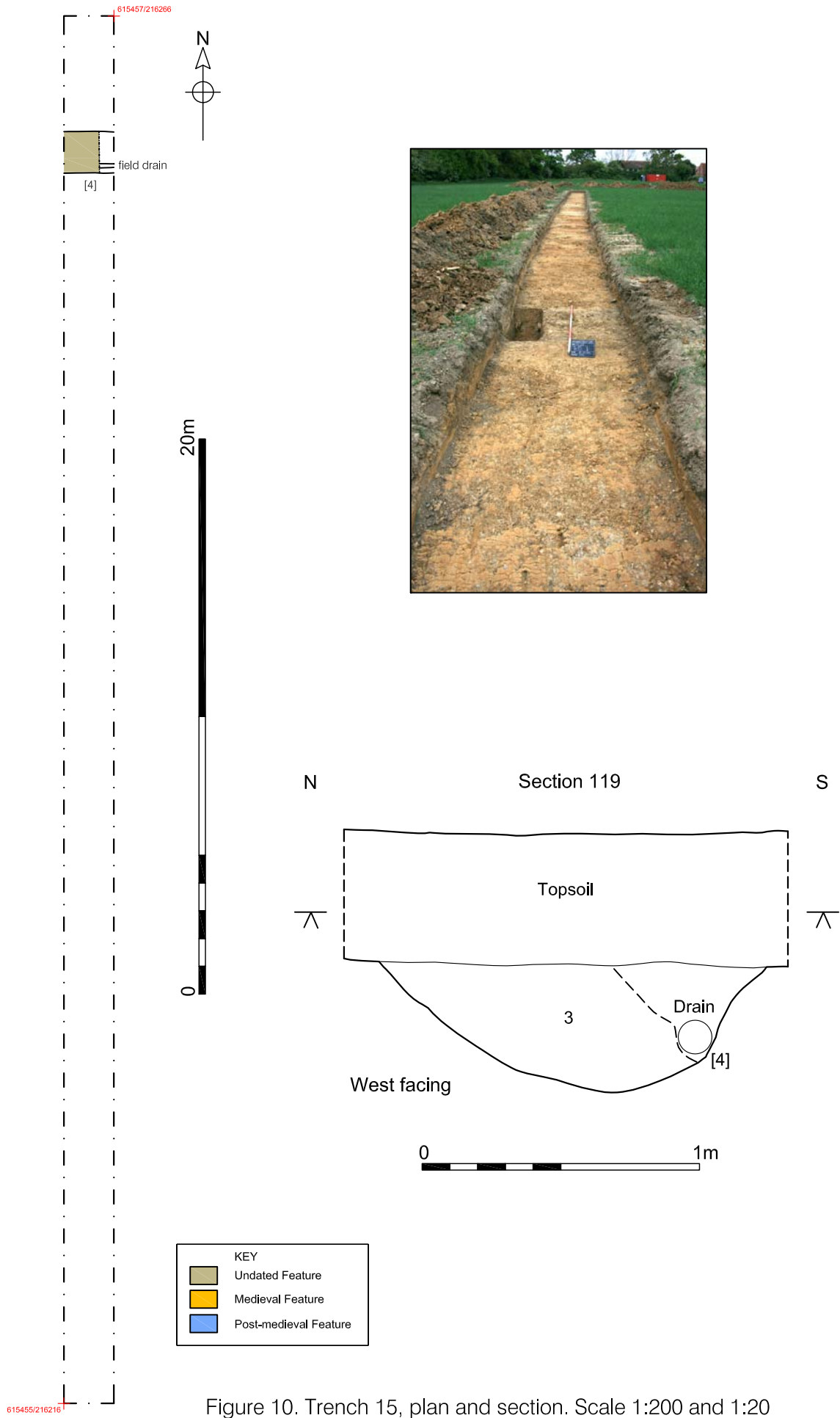


Figure 10. Trench 15, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

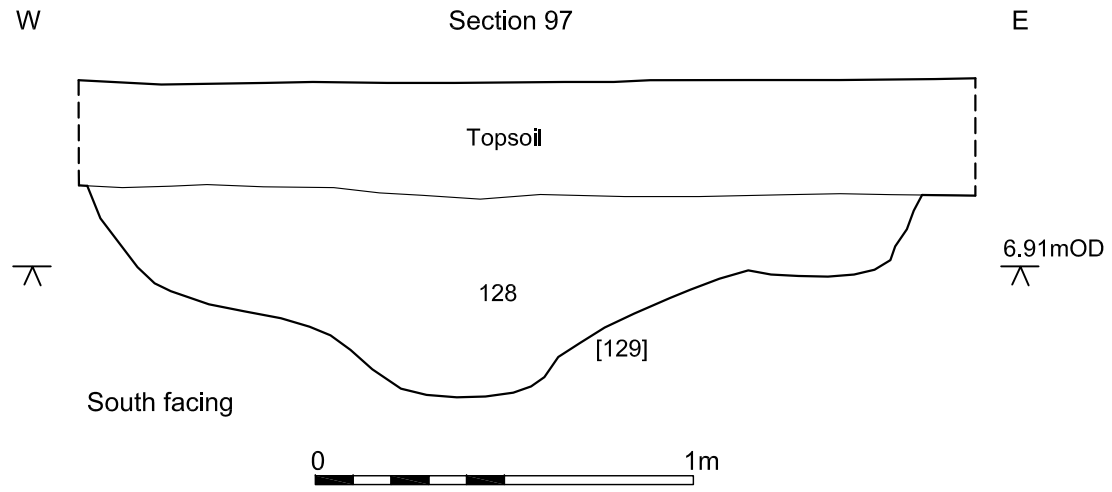
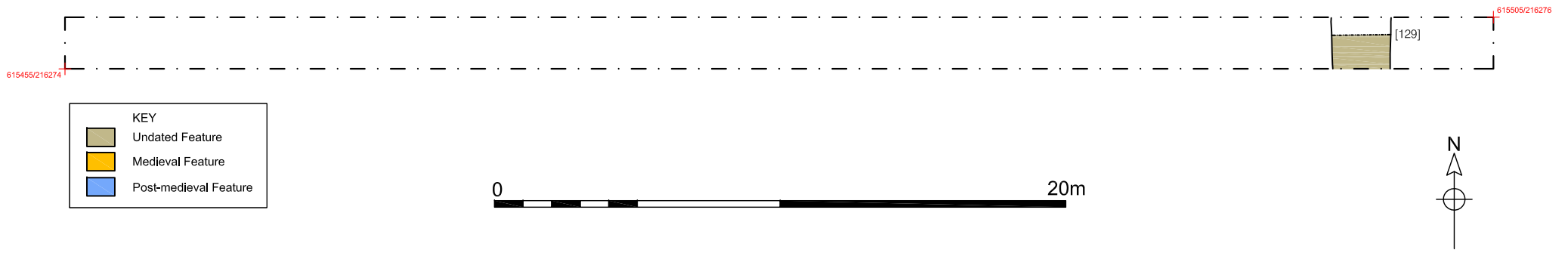
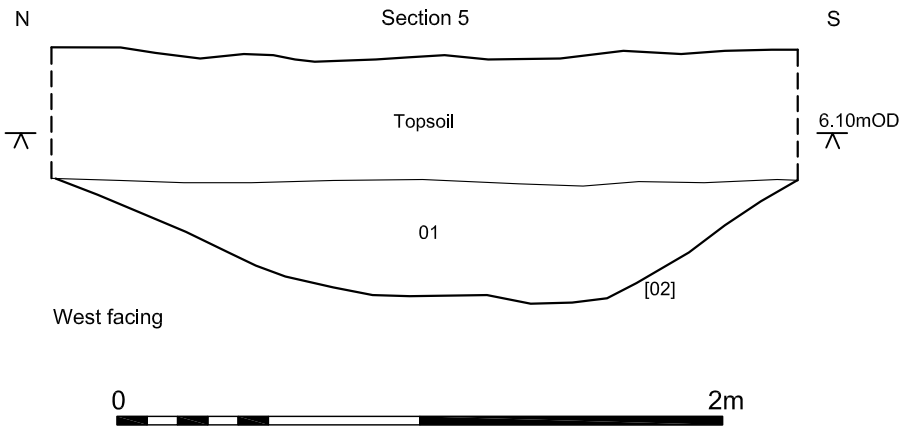
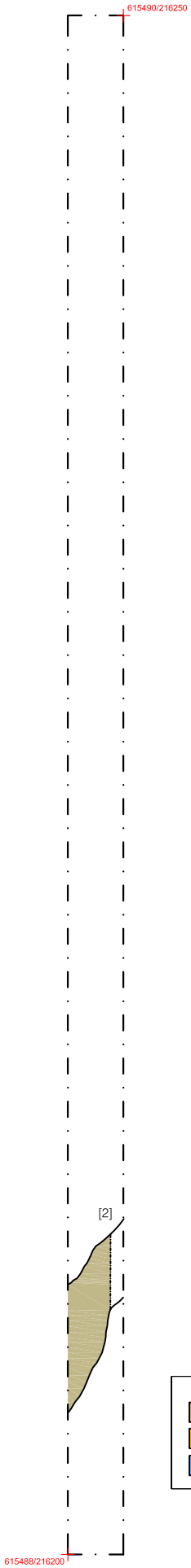


Figure 11. Trench 16, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20






KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 12. Trench 17, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

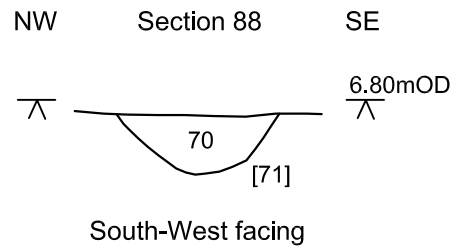
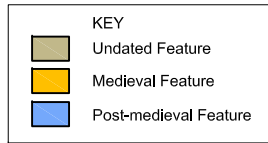
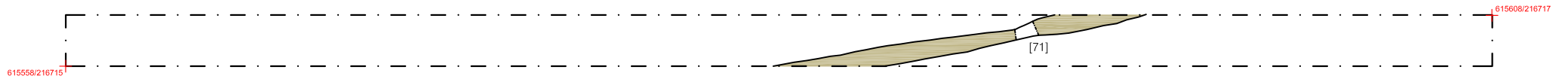


Figure 13. Trench 18, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

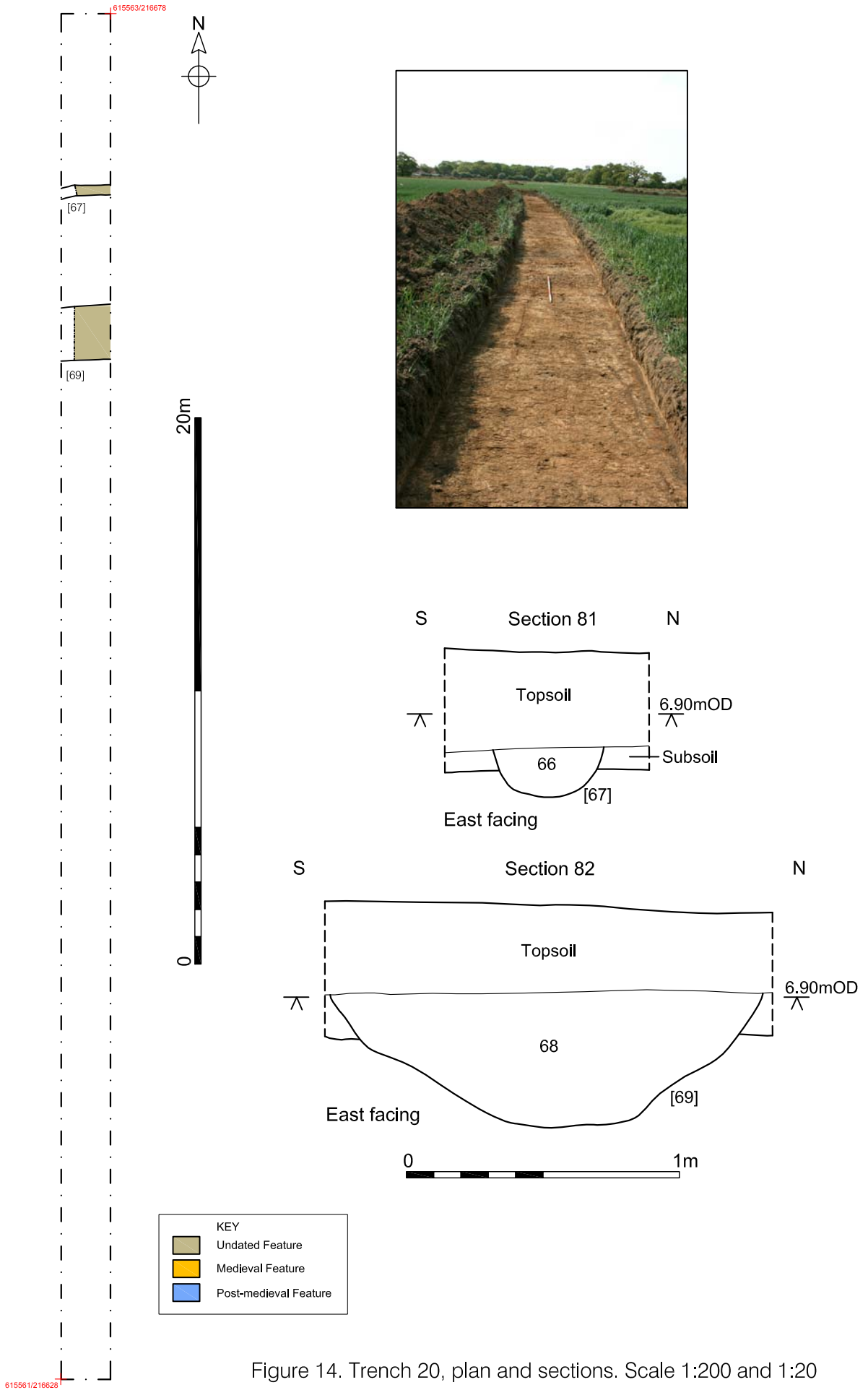


Figure 14. Trench 20, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

5.17 Trench 17

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. An irregular ditch [02] was located at the southern end of the trench (Fig. 12). The ditch was 2.4m across and was at least 1.80m long and had a depth of 0.40m. It had a roughly linear, but irregular shape and appeared to run in a south-west to north-east direction. It was filled with mid-orangey brown silty clay (01).

5.18 Trench 18

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single north-east to south-west ditch [71] was located within this trench (Fig. 13). The width of the ditch ranged between 0.8m and 0.45m. It was 0.16m deep and had curving sides and a rounded base. The ditch was at least 13m long and continued beyond both limits of the excavation. It had a single fill (70) composed of a light orangey grey silty clay with frequent manganese flecks, which appeared to have been the result of natural silting.

5.19 Trench 19

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.20 Trench 20

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Towards the north end of the trench, a ditch [69] and a gully [67] were observed (Fig. 14).

The gully [67] was at least 1.8m long, had a width of 0.37m and a depth of 0.18m. The gully had a fairly consistent rounded profile and it was filled with a single layer of dark bluish-grey silty clay (66), which contained occasional small fragments of post-medieval brick or tile.

The ditch [69] was also at least 1.8m long and it could be seen to extend beyond both limits of excavation. It was 1.6m wide and had a depth of 0.46m. The base was roughly flat and the sides slightly irregular, but generally sloping at an approximate 45° angle. The single fill (68) of the feature was formed from a light orangey-grey silty clay which contained occasional manganese staining. No datable material was recovered from the fill.

5.21 Trench 21

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. There were three features within this east-west trench (Fig. 15). From west to east they were a large irregular ditch [111] through which four slots were dug, a smaller ditch [103] and a post-pit [99].

The large ditch [111] may have comprised separate features, although within the limits of the trench it was impossible to distinguish them and here it is regarded as a single feature. The depth of the feature varied between 0.24m at its shallowest to 0.6m at its deepest. In the deepest part of the feature, the fill became greyer with frequent manganese staining, for example where slot [105] was excavated (fill 106). The upper parts of the deposit were consistent along the length of the feature and consisted of friable light brown gravelly clayey silt. The fill was

assigned different context numbers – (106), (108), (110) and (112) – within the excavated slots, although it has been interpreted as a single fill.

The fill (106) in excavated slot [105] contained four sherds of medieval pottery and a number of fragments of medieval or post-medieval brick or tile. Fills (110) and (112), from slots [109] and [111], also produced fragments of medieval or post-medieval brick or tile.

Ditch [103] was at least 1.8m long and had a width of 0.8m. It had a steep east side, a gently sloping west side and a roughly flat base. It was very shallow, only 0.06m deep, and it contained a single fill (104) of friable mid-brown clayey silt. No datable material was recovered from the fill.

Post-pit [99] was located towards the northern end of the trench. It was 1.2m east–west and had a visible width of 0.2m before it extended beyond the excavated area. The eastern side of the pit was roughly stepped and the western side was fairly steeply sloped until about the mid-way down where it flattened out to become more gradually sloped. A probable, roughly 0.25m square, post-hole had been sunk into the base. The sides of the possible post-hole were fairly steep and the base was rounded. There were three fills within the post-pit – (100), (101) and (102). The primary deposit (100) was orangey-brown sandy gravel, which filled the lower portion of the probable post-hole, second was a dark greyish-brown clayey silt (101) which contained moderate amounts of charcoal, and last was a light brown clayey silt (102). Early medieval pottery was recovered from the feature.

5.22 Trench 22

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. There were five features within this trench (Fig. 16). From west to east they consisted of a ditch [97], a pit [95], a small ditch [93], a small irregular feature [91] and a large feature [89].

Ditch [97] was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 1.60m, with a north–south orientation. The depth was 0.50m. It had concave sides and base. There was a single fill within the ditch (98), a light brown clayey silt.

Pit [95] measured 3.5m east–west and had a depth of 0.40m. The sides and base of the feature were generally concave. There was a single fill (96) within the pit, a light greyish-brown clayey silt with frequent flecks of manganese.

A smaller ditch [93] was observed towards the eastern end of the trench. It was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 1.0m and a depth of 0.24m. The sides and base were concave. There was a single fill (94), a light greyish-brown clayey silt which contained occasional flints and manganese staining.

Immediately to the east was an irregular shallow feature [91] which could have either represented the termination of a ditch or an irregularly shaped pit. It measured 1.60m at its widest part and had an observed length of 2m. The sides and base of the cut were concave. The fill (92) was a light grey-brown clayey silt.

At the eastern end of the trench was a possible linear feature or large square pit [89]. It had an observed length of 3.0m and a width of 2.0m. The depth was 0.60m, and the sides and base of the cut were concave. The single fill (90) was a gritty mid-grey-brown gravelly and sandy silt which contained frequent small fragments of abraded CBM and occasional flecks of charcoal. The fill appeared to have been the result of deliberate dumping.



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

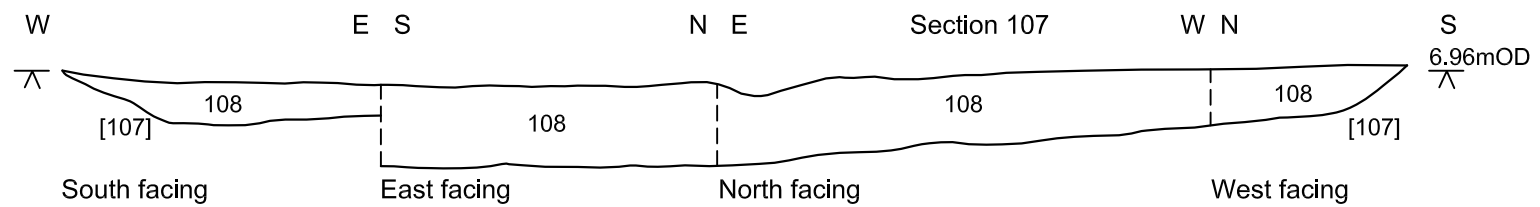
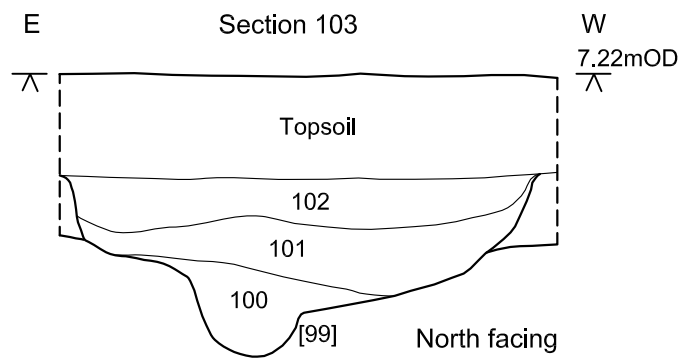
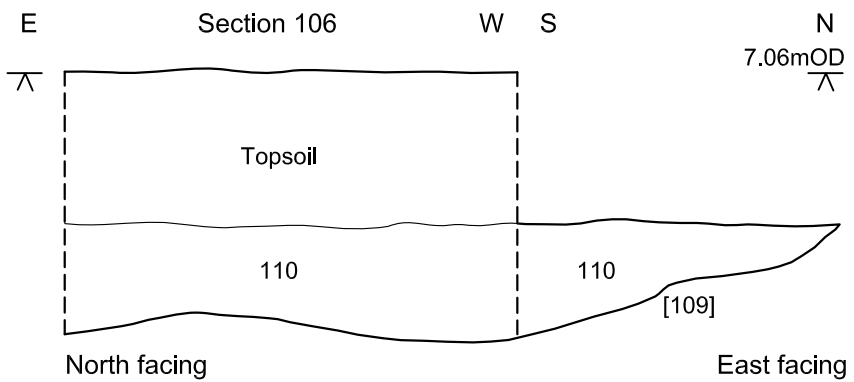
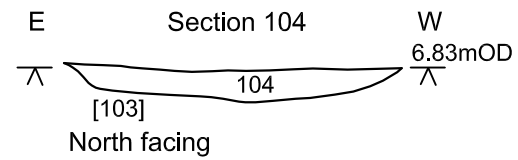
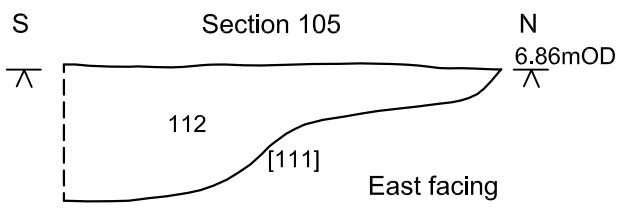


Figure 15. Trench 21, plan and sections.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20

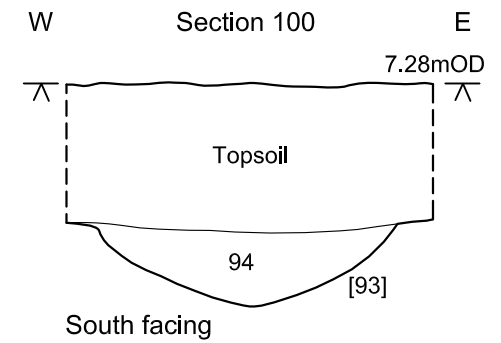
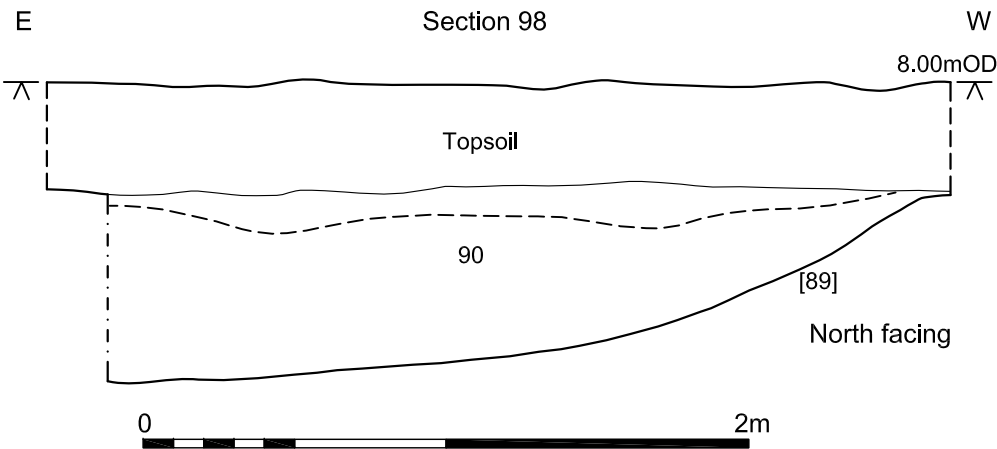
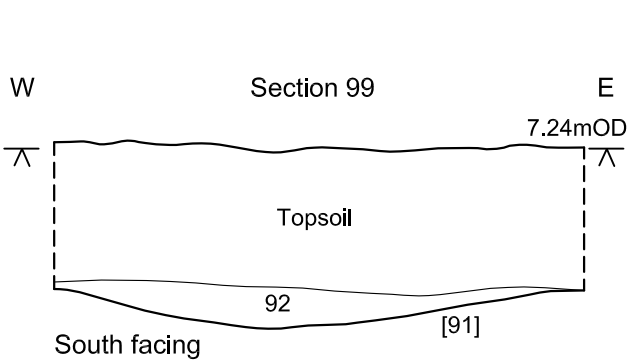
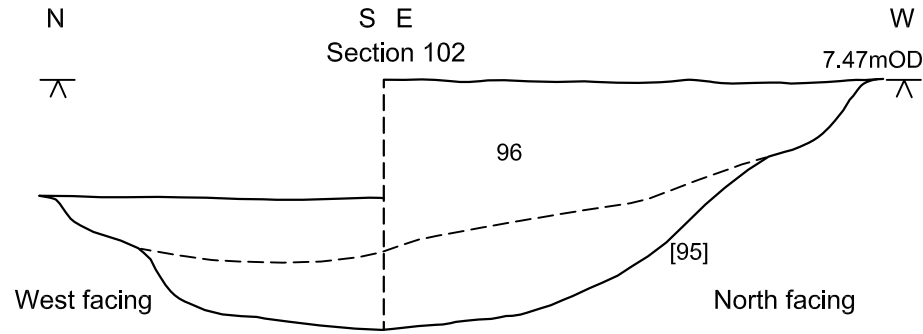
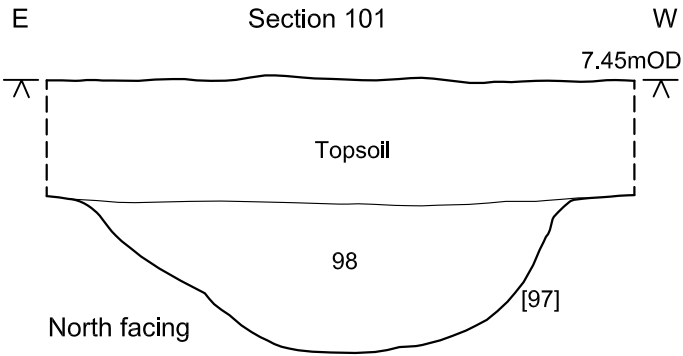
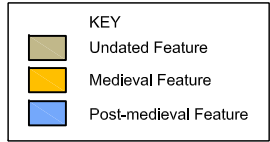
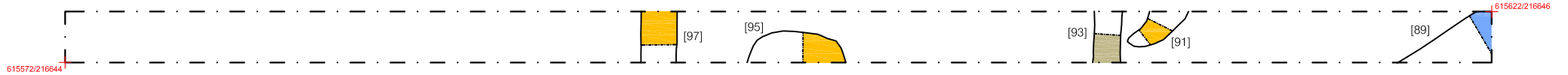
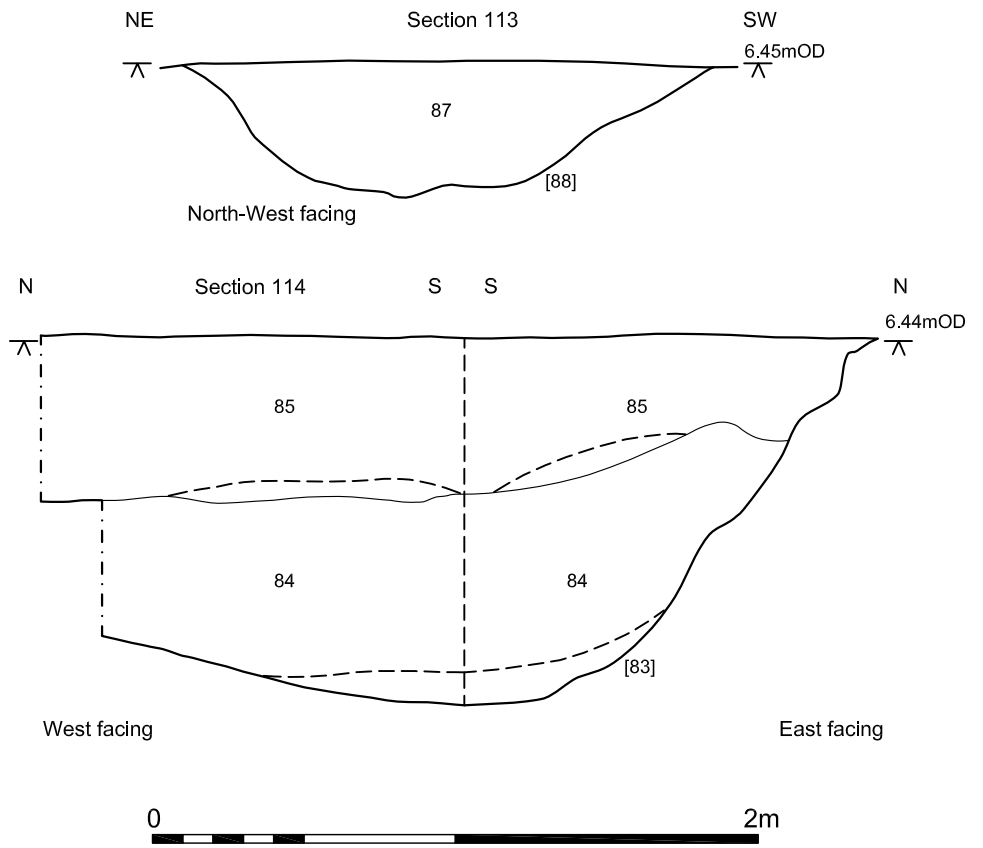
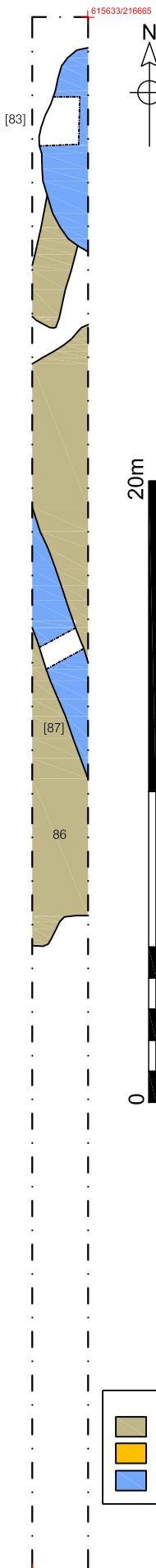


Figure 16. Trench 22, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 17. Trench 23, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

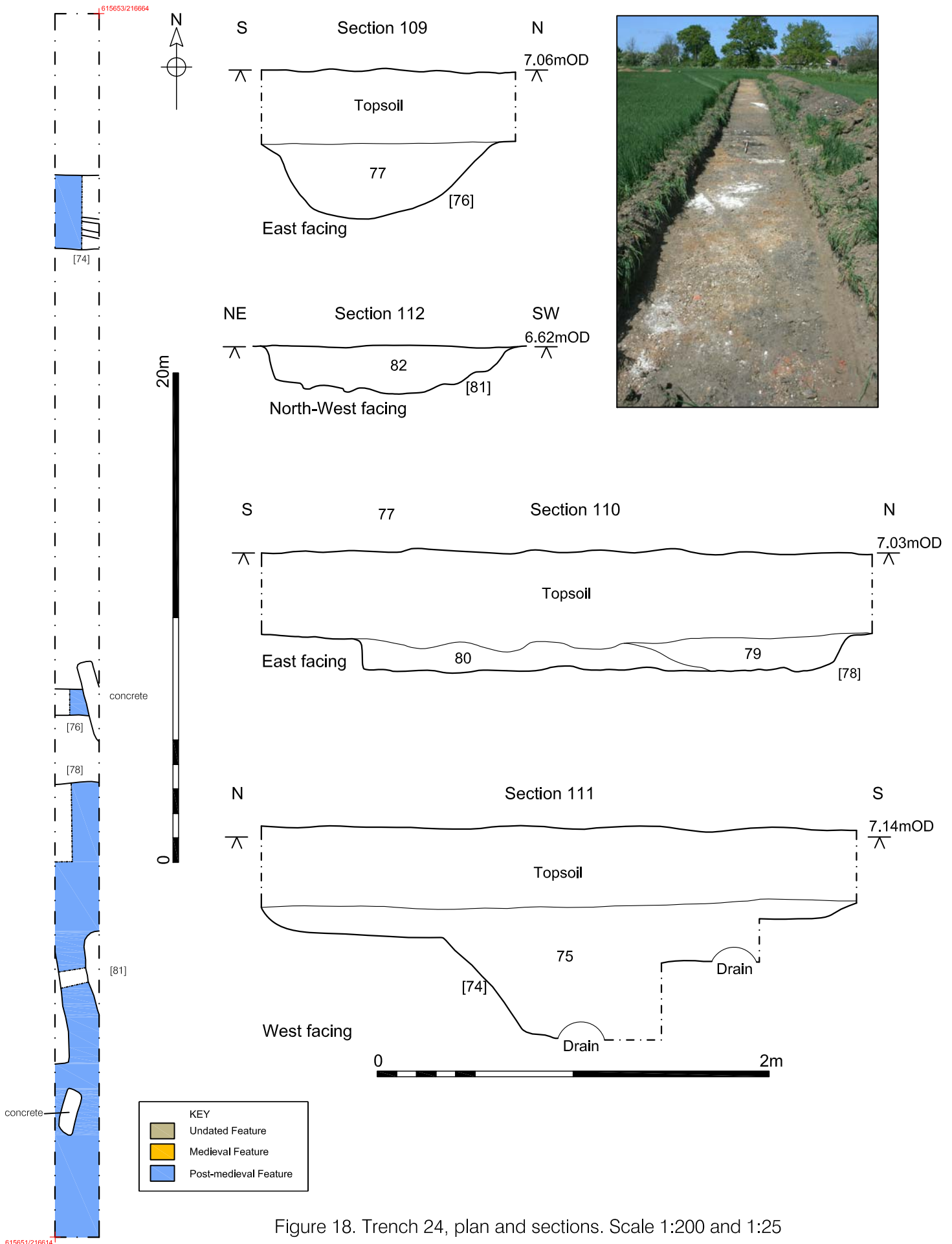


Figure 18. Trench 24, plan and sections. Scale 1:200 and 1:25

5.23 Trench 23

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Trench 23 contained three features (Fig. 17). From north to south they were a large pit [83], a mixed spread [86] and a ditch [87].

The pit [83] extended 3.0m by 0.80m. It had slightly irregular and concave edges. There were two fills within the pit. The lowest was a light grey silty sandy clay (84) which contained frequent manganese and occasional flints. The second fill (85) was a mid-brown clayey silt with occasional flints.

At the centre of the trench was an area of mixed sand, gravel and silt (86) which contained occasional brick, tile, glass and slate fragments. This spread of material may have been influenced by the position of Joy's Farm, which had been demolished mid-way through the 20th century.

The spread (86) was truncated by ditch [87]. The ditch was 4.50m long and had a width of 0.70m. The profile of the ditch was slightly irregular, although the sides were generally concave. There was a single fill within the ditch formed from a mixed dark grey-brown clayey silt with frequent brick and tile fragments. The fill had been deliberately deposited.

5.24 Trench 24

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Trench 24 was situated in the area of Joy's Farm, known to have existed in the field until mid-way through the 20th century. There were four features within the trench (Fig. 18). From north to south they were ditch [74], ditch [76], pit [78] and ditch [81]. All of the features probably represented elements of the farm. In some cases possibly where walls had been removed.

Ditch [74] was at least 1.80m long. It had a width of 3.0m and a depth of 0.70m. The top of the sides were shallow and in the centre there was a steep angle of slope. The base was not exposed due to the presence of two ceramic field drains within the fill. The fill (75) was a friable mid-brown clayey silt which contained occasional fragments of brick, tile, glass and coal. The inclusions suggested that the deposit was deliberate backfill.

A further ditch [76] lay around 10m to the south. It also ran east–west and extended beyond the limits of the trench. It was 1.20m across, had a depth of 0.38m and concave sides and base. A single fill (77) lay within the cut, formed from a friable mid-brown clayey silt. There were occasional fragments of brick, tile and glass within the fill. The eastern part of the visible cut was obscured by a crushed concrete pad which presumably came from the last incarnation of Joy's Farm.

Immediately to the south of this feature was a large irregular cut [78]. This feature was 3.0m across and was at least 1.80m long. Its depth was 0.20m. The base of the cut was flat and formed from clay which contained some brick and tile inclusions. The firm nature of the clay may indicate that there had originally been a farm wall located at this position. Two fills were present within the cut. On the northern side was a black and gritty sand and gravel (79) and below this to the southern end of the cut was a mixed light brown clay (80).

An irregular linear feature [81] was observed on the southern side of feature [78] and was probably contemporary with it. The feature was around 4m long and had a width of 1.20m and depth of 0.24m. The base was uneven with possible small ruts suggestive of a small trolley or vehicle (possibly used when the farm buildings were demolished). The southern end of the feature was very irregular with a patch of crushed concrete. The fill was a black gritty silty sand and gravel which contained frequent small fragments of rubble slate and glass.

5.25 Trench 25

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Two large ditches were observed to run north–south in this trench (Fig. 19). The largest of the two [72] was situated at the western end. It was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 2.70m. Its depth was 0.95. Its sides were slightly irregular, though generally concave and the base roughly concave. The break of slope at the top and at the base was gradual. There were five fills within the ditch, (121)–(125), which represented various similar shades of silty clay.

The narrower ditch [73] was located further east and appeared to run parallel to ditch [72]. It was also at least 1.80m long and had a width of 1.10m. Its depth was 0.45m. The fill of this feature (126) was a light grey-orange silty clay.

5.26 Trench 26

Towards the centre of the trench there was a north–south ditch [65] (Fig. 20). It was at least 1.80m long, 2.0m wide and 0.48m deep. The feature had concave sides and a roughly flat base. The single fill (64) was a mid-greyish-brown silty clay which contained occasional fragments of CBM.

5.27 Trench 27

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.28 Trench 28

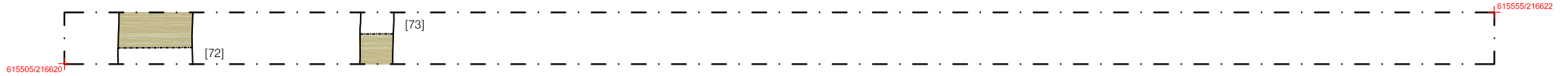
This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. There were two small ditches, [47] and [49], situated towards the centre of this trench (Fig. 21). They extended beyond the limits of the trench, ran east–west and were at least 1.80m long.




Ditch [47] was 0.70m wide and 0.16m deep. It had concave sides and base and a more irregular appearance in plan. It was filled with a mid-brownish-grey silty clay (46) which contained occasional flecks of manganese.

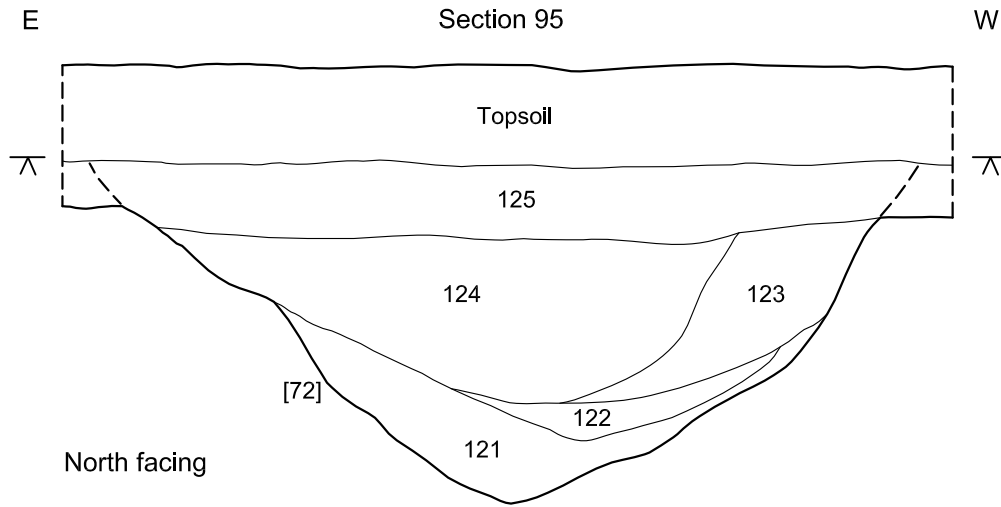
The second ditch [49] was 0.64m wide and had a depth of 0.18m. The ditch had concave sides and base. The single fill (48) was a light brownish-grey silty clay.

5.29 Trench 29

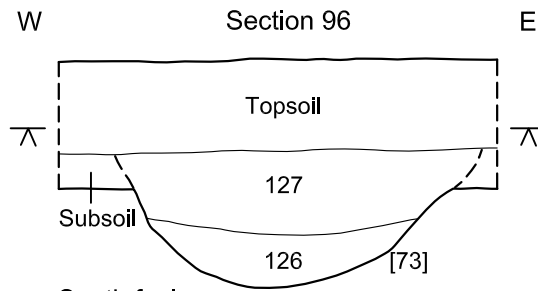
This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single ditch [45] was observed running north–south across the trench for at least 1.80m (Fig. 22). The width was 1.70m and the depth was 0.46m. There was a single fill (44) within the feature formed from a friable light brown clayey silt.



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature



North facing



South facing



Figure 19. Trench 25, plan and sections.
Scale 1:200 and 1:25

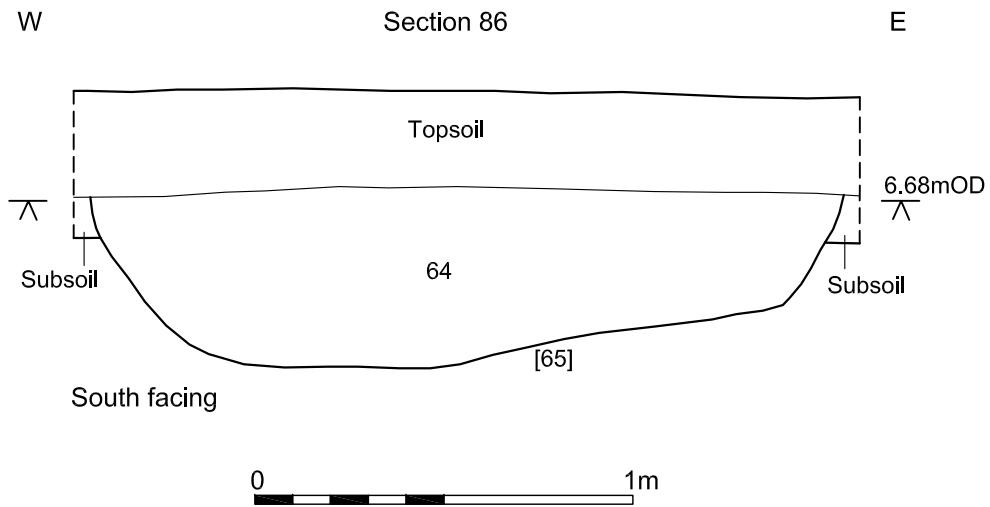
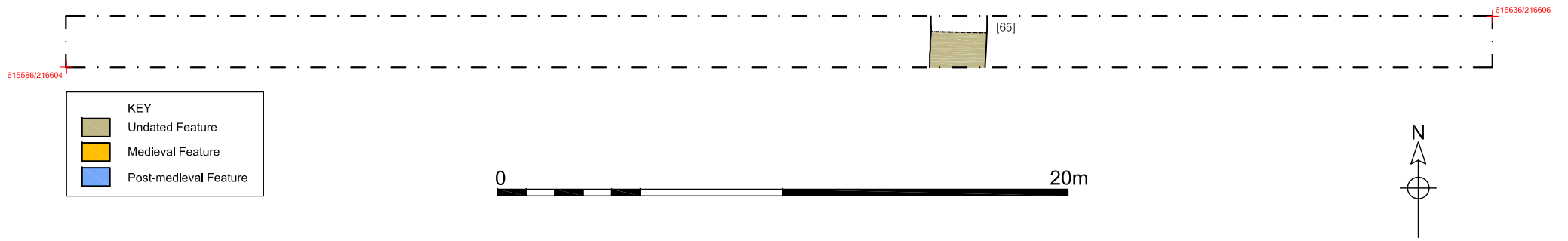


Figure 20. Trench 26, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

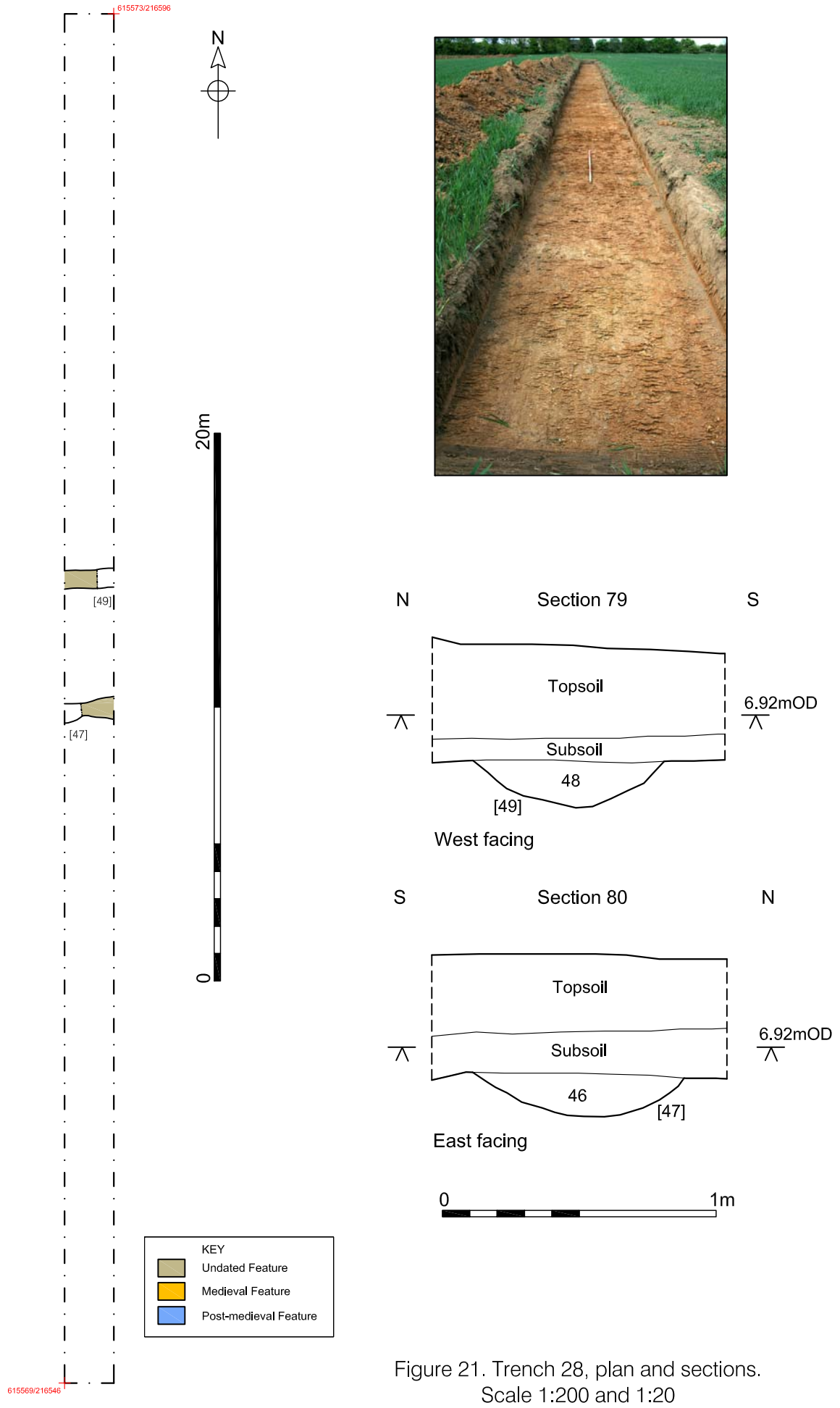


Figure 21. Trench 28, plan and sections.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20

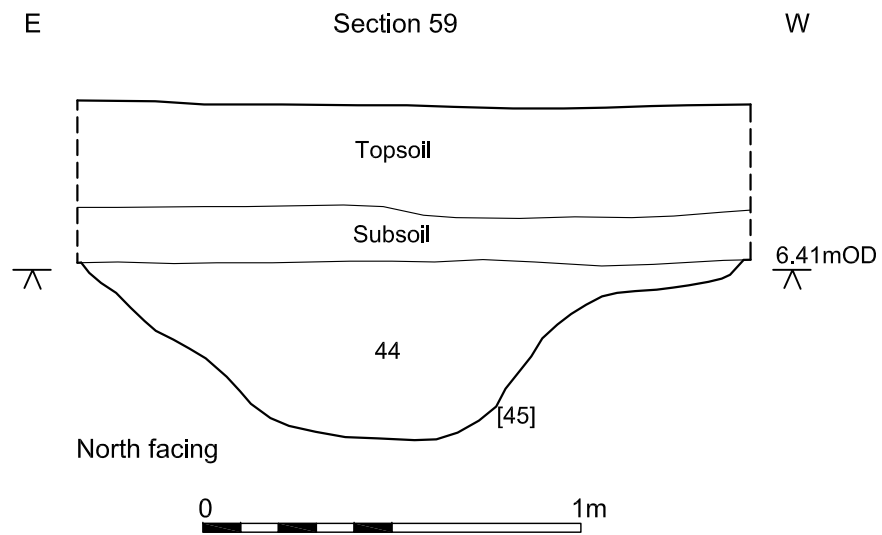
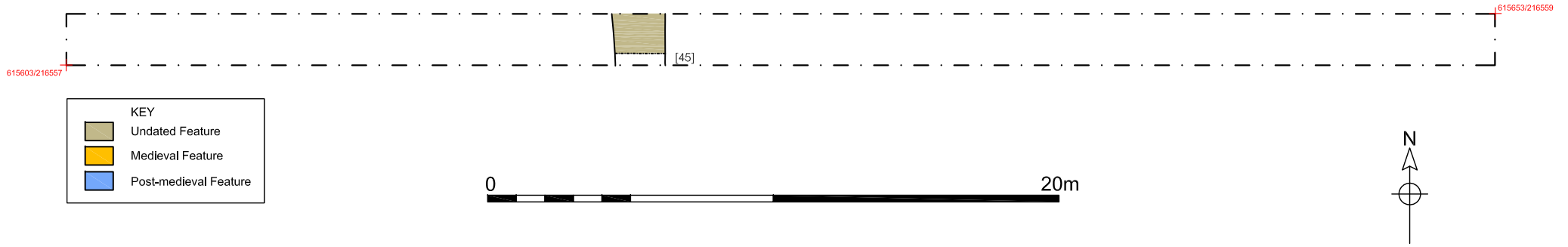


Figure 22. Trench 29, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

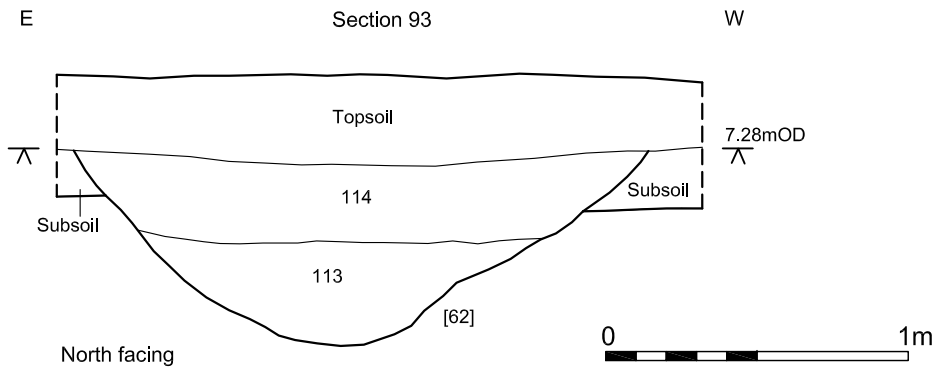
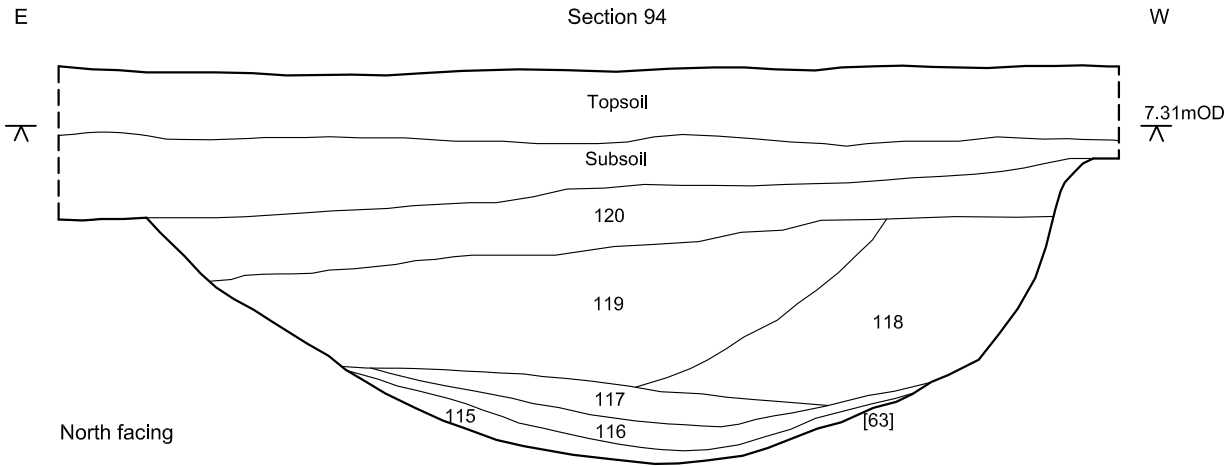
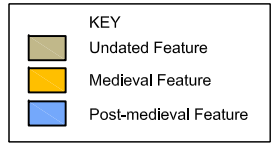
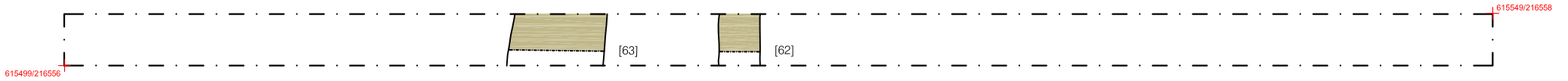
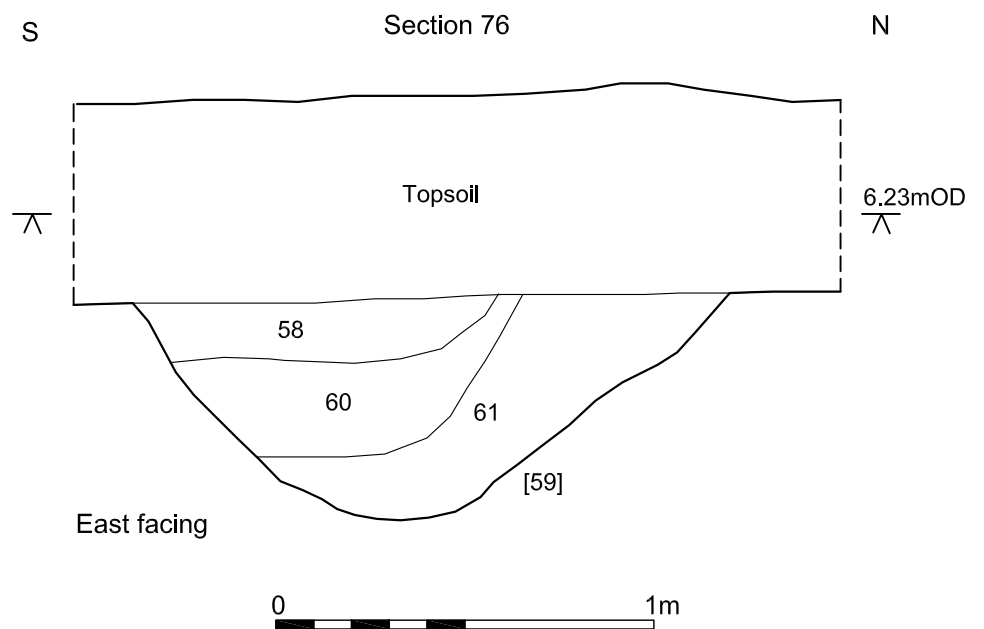
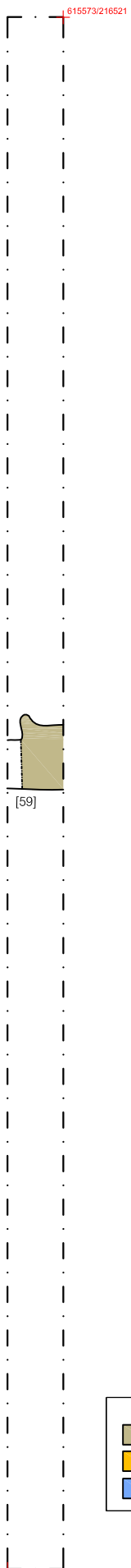


Figure 23. Trench 31, plan and section
Scale 1:200 and 1:25



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 24. Trench 35, plan and section.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20

5.30 Trench 30

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.31 Trench 31

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. This trench contained two ditches [62] and [63] (Fig. 23). They were oriented north–south and were at least 1.80m long.

Ditch [62] was 1.94m wide and had a depth of 0.60m, with concave sides and base. It contained a friable light orangey-grey silty sand fill (113) at the base overlain by mid-greyish-brown fine clayey silt towards the top (114).

The second larger ditch [63] was 3.10m wide and 0.90m deep. There were six fills recorded in the ditch, (115)–(120), and these comprised light grey or orangey-grey silty clays. Only the second fill (116) in the ditch was considerably different, as it was an almost black fine silt.

5.32 Trench 32

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.33 Trench 33

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.34 Trench 34

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.35 Trench 35

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single east–west ditch [59] was located (Fig. 24). It was at least 1.80m long and extended beyond the edges of the trench. It had a slightly irregular shape. The width was 1.50m and it had a depth of 0.60m. The sides and base of the cut were concave. There were three fills within the ditch (61), (60) and (58). From the base to the top of the feature they comprised a dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal fragments (60), a mid-brownish-grey silty clay (61) and a brownish-grey silty clay (58).

5.36 Trench 36

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.37 Trench 37

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide, and contained a single east–west ditch [42] (Fig. 25). It was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 1.60m. Its depth was

0.40m. The sides and base of the ditch were concave and it had a single fill ([43]). The fill was light orange grey clayey silt (with some sand).

5.38 Trench 38

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.39 Trench 39

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A north-east to south-west ditch [40] was observed towards the eastern end of the trench (Fig. 26). It had a visible length of 14.70m and a width of 1.50m. The base of the feature contained a field drain [130] and it was highly likely that the feature was designed to take the drain. It had a maximum depth of 0.37m. The feature had a regular profile with concave base and sides. The single fill (41) was a light mid-brown fine clayey silt.

5.40 Trench 40

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single relatively large ditch [53] was seen towards the northern half of this trench (Fig. 27). It had a visible length of 1.80m and extended beyond the limits of the trench. The southern side of the feature was shallower and the deeper northern side had an observed depth of 0.56m. The sides were stepped in places. The base of the cut contained a field drain. The fill of the ditch was from a mid-greyish-brown silty clay (52).

5.41 Trench 41

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.42 Trench 42

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. Two ditches were recorded in this trench [51] and [57] (Fig. 28).

Ditch [51] was at least 1.80m long and 0.84m wide. The ditch was 0.20m deep and contained a ceramic field drain. The sides and base of the ditch were concave. The single fill of the ditch (50) was a light orangey-grey silty clay.

Ditch [57] was at least 1.80m long and had a similar width of 2.10m. The depth was only 0.10m. The sides and base of the feature were concave and it only contained a single fill (56), a dark greyish-brown silty clay.

5.43 Trench 43

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.44 Trench 44

This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained a north-east to south-west ditch [38] (Fig. 29). The ditch had a visible length of 15.50m, but extended beyond the trench, and had an average width of 1.0m. The base was concave and the

sides of the feature evenly sloping. Its depth was 0.36m. It contained a light grey orangey-brown fine silty clay mix (39).

5.45 Trench 45

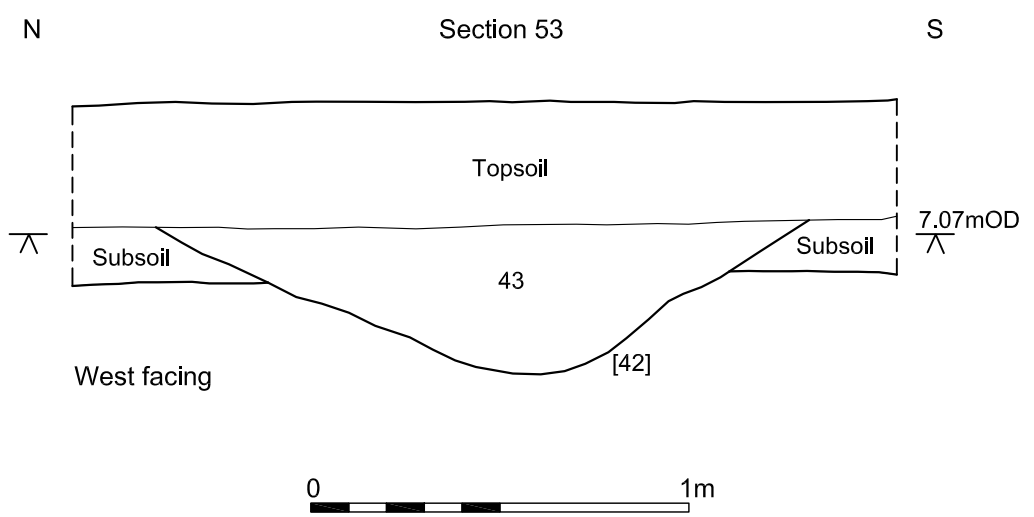
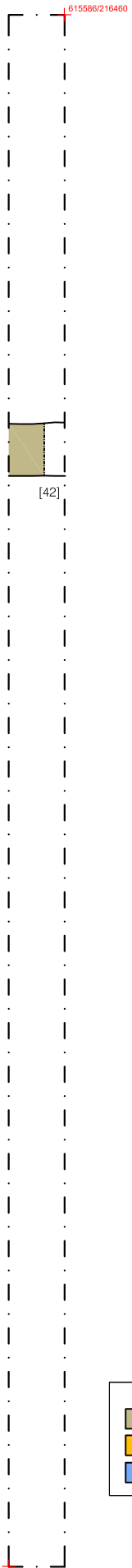
This trench was 50m long, 1.8m wide and contained no archaeological features or deposits.

5.46 Trench 46

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. A single ditch [55] was observed at the northern end of the trench (Fig. 30). It was at least 1.80m long and had a width of 1.70m and depth of 0.36m. The sides were generally concave and the base was irregular. There was only one fill (54), a light brownish-grey silty clay.

5.47 Trench 47

This trench was 50m long and 1.8m wide. There was a single shallow pit [36] located at the western end of this trench (Fig. 31). The pit was 1.10m across and 0.23m deep. The sides were slightly uneven and relatively steep and the natural had been heat-reddened within the pit. The single fill [37] was a compacted mottled reddish and yellowish-brown silty clay. The reddened colour of the fill also appeared to have been an effect of heat.



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 25. Trench 37, plan and section.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20

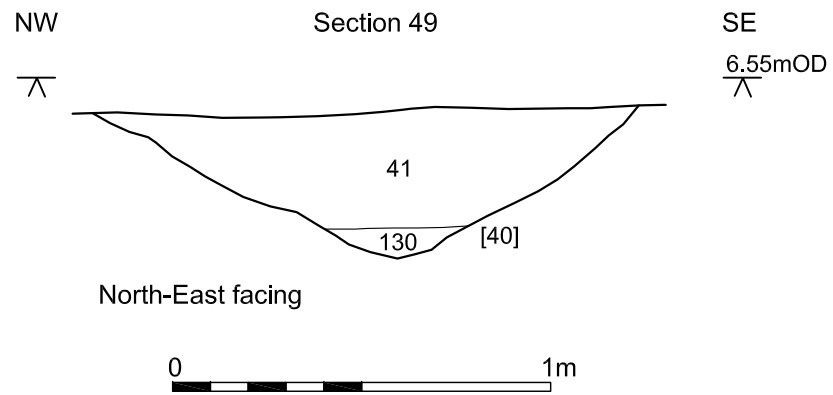
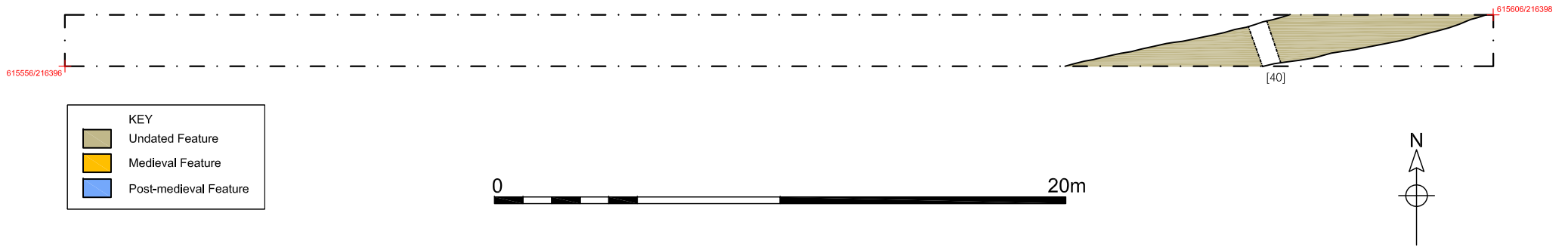
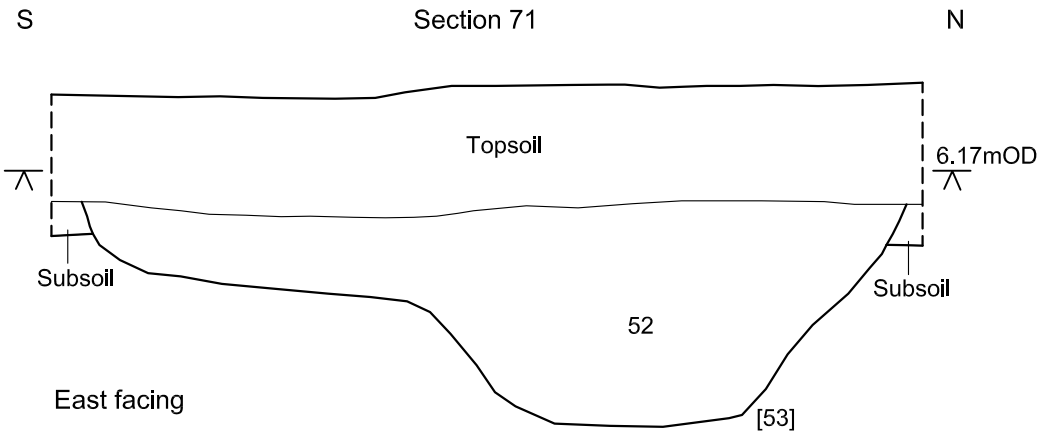
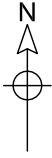
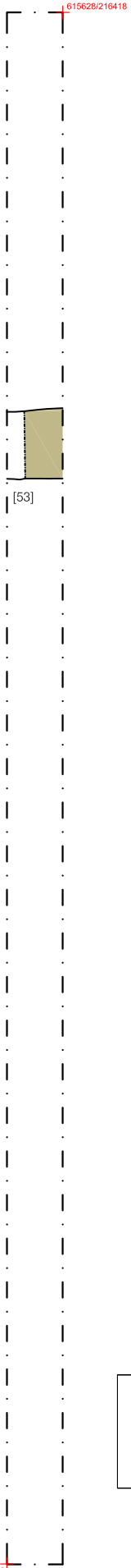
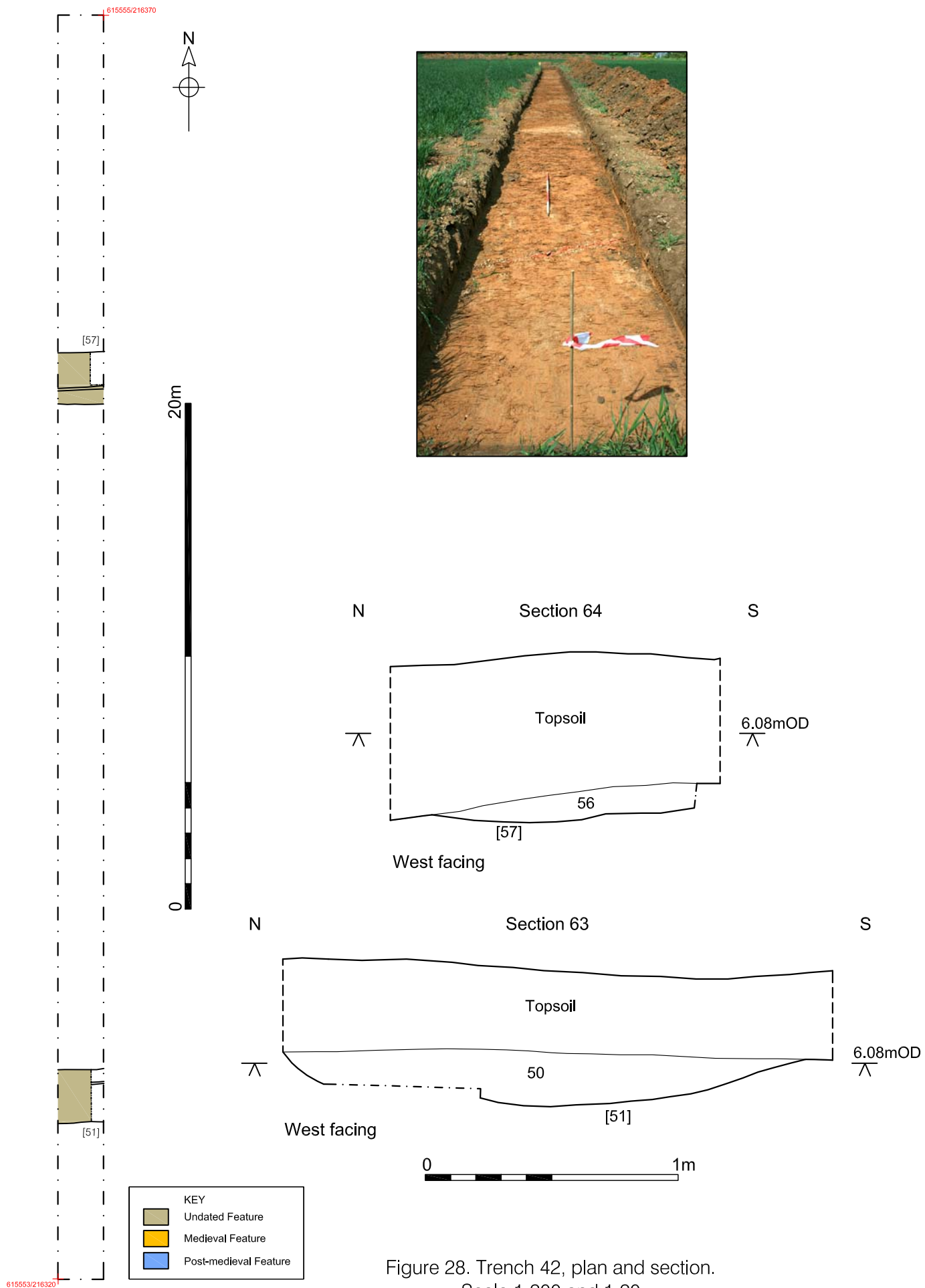


Figure 26. Trench 39, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20



KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 27. Trench 40, plan and section.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20



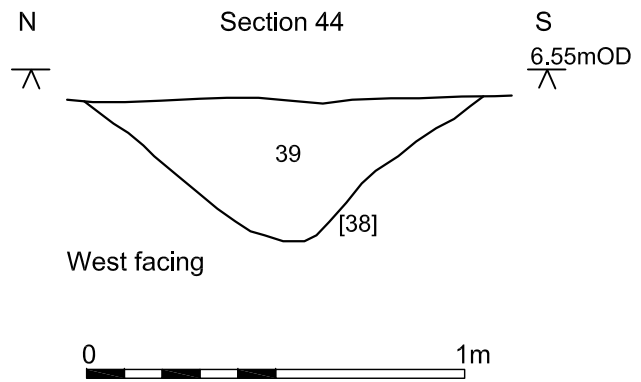
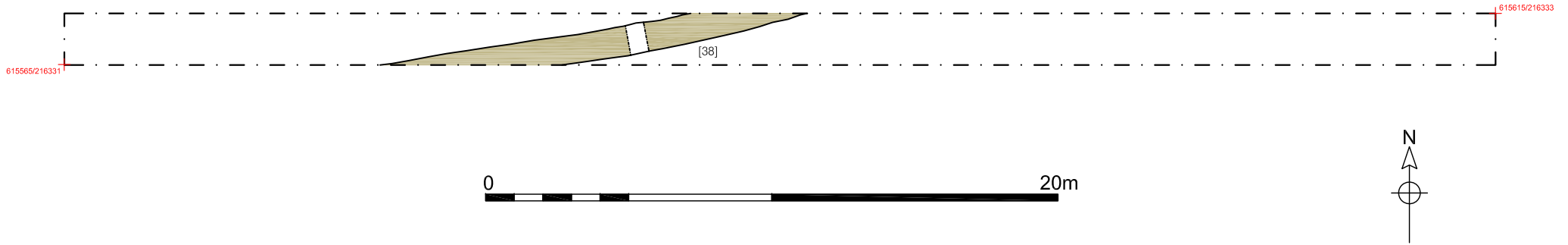
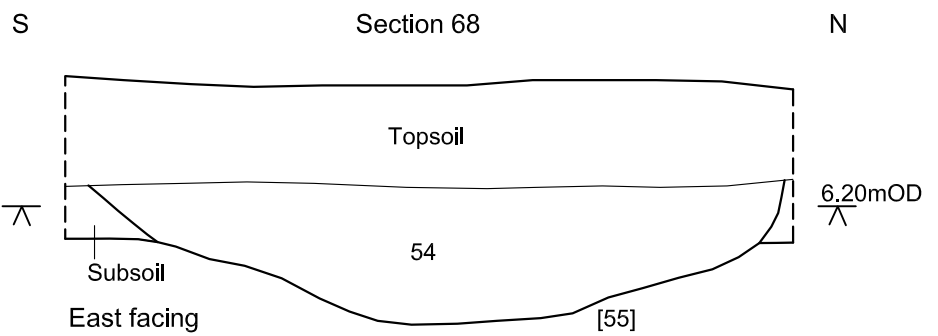
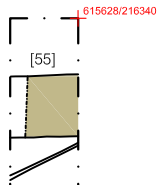


Figure 29. Trench 44, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20






KEY	
	Undated Feature
	Medieval Feature
	Post-medieval Feature

Figure 30. Trench 46, plan and section.
Scale 1:200 and 1:20

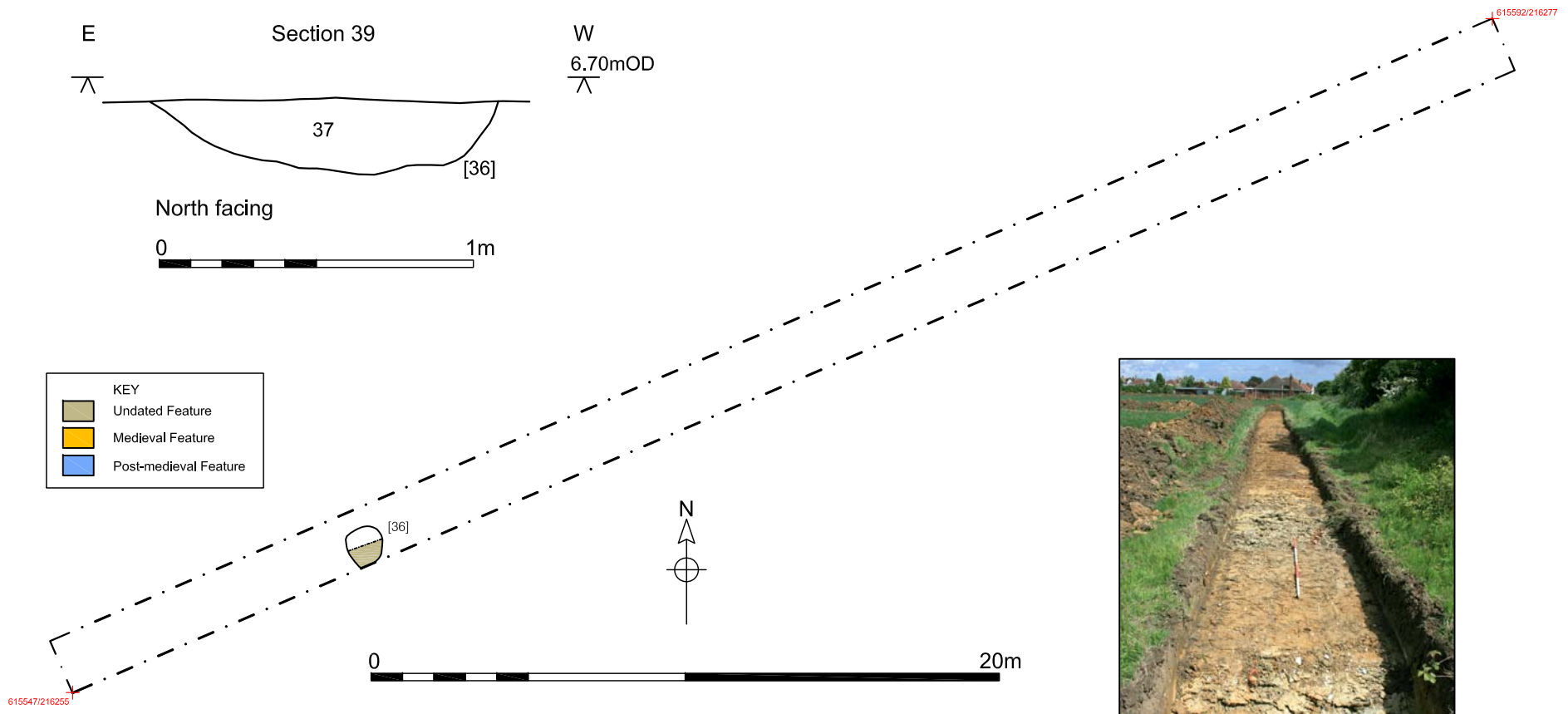


Figure 31. Trench 47, plan and section. Scale 1:200 and 1:20

6.0 THE FINDS

6.1 Pottery

By Sue Anderson (CFA Archaeology)

Fifty-nine sherds of pottery weighing 716g were collected from thirteen contexts. Table 3 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 3.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt (g)	eve	MNV
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	1	5		1
Early medieval sparse shelly ware	EMWSS	3.19	2	21	0.07	1
Medieval coarseware	MCW	3.20	7	52	0.10	5
Medieval coarseware gritty	MCWG	3.21	1	31		1
Colchester Ware	COLC	4.21	17	249	0.06	9
Total Late Saxon to medieval			28	358	0.23	17
Glazed Red Earthenware	GRE	6.12	5	64	0.05	5
Metropolitan Slipware	METS	6.42	1	12	0.04	1
Total post-medieval			6	76	0.09	6
Refined White Earthenwares	REFW	8.03	16	179	0.35	13
Yellow Ware	YELW	8.13	1	19	0.03	1
English Stoneware	ESW	8.20	1	39	0.08	1
English Stoneware London-type	ESWL	8.21	1	4		1
Porcelain	PORC	8.30	1	6	0.07	1
Black stonewares and basaltes	BLSW	8.43	4	32	0.17	2
Late Slipped Redware	LSRW	8.51	1	3		1
Total modern			25	282	0.70	20

Table 3. Pottery quantification by fabric.

6.1.1 Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk post-Roman fabric series, which includes Norfolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an Access database.

6.1.2 Pottery by period

6.1.2.1 Late Saxon and early medieval

One base sherd of possible Thetford-type ware in a fine micaceous fabric was collected from post-pit fill (101). Although there is a possibility that the sherd could be a Roman greyware, it was found in association with two fragments of an early medieval sparse shelly jar, making the Late Saxon identification more likely.

6.1.2.2 Medieval

Sherds of medieval coarseware were generally undiagnostic body fragments, but one jar rim was present (Essex form H1) in pit fill (85). This rim form is dated to the

mid- to late 13th century (Drury 1993). One sherd in a gritty fabric from ditch fill (106) was likely to be 12th/13th-century.

Colchester-type ware was present in several contexts and included two rim sherds from a slip-decorated jug in ditch fill (75) and a large body fragment with curving slip decoration in pit fill (84), both with dark grey surfaces. The jug rim appeared to be from a squat jug with a short neck and is likely to be of late 14th or early 15th-century date (Cotter 2000). A cavetto-type jar rim was found in ditch fill (90) and has a similar date range to the jug. The eight body sherds from a single vessel from feature fill (92) were completely reduced and may be from an earlier cooking pot.

6.1.2.3 Post-medieval and modern

Five sherds of glazed red earthenware included an everted dish rim in ditch fill (75). Another dish or plate rim in 17th-century Metropolitan slipware was found in ditch fill (77) and had a curving slip line on the upper surface.

Modern wares were dominated by refined factory-made white earthenwares, including sherds of a jug, a jar, a saucer, a tankard, a plate and a bowl. Decoration included spongeware, transfer printing in a variety of colours and styles (including 'Asiatic Pheasant' and a floral design), and plain vessels with moulded fluting. One bowl rim in yellow ware was found in ditch fill (77). Stonewares comprised a small body fragment of a ?London copy of Frechen stoneware and a pale grey preserve jar rim. A fragment of moulded porcelain saucer came from ditch fill (75). Three sherds of a dry-bodied black basaltes teapot with a fluted body were also from (77), and this context also produced a rim from a glazed black stoneware mug or tankard with an upright rim and globular body. One small body sherd of late slipped redware was found in drain fill (27).

6.1.3 Pottery by context

A summary of the pottery by feature is provided in Table 4.

Trench	Feature	Ctxt	Identifier	Fabric	Spotdate
6	24	27	Field drain fill	LSRW	18th–19th c.
9	29	28	Ditch fill	REFW	19th–20th c.
21	99	101	Post-pit fill	THET, EMWSS	M–L.11th c.
	105	106	Ditch fill	MCW, MCWG	12th–13th c.*
22	89	90	Ditch fill	MCW, COLC, GRE	16th c.? *
	91	92	Irregular feature	COLC	L.13th–14th c.
	97	98	Ditch fill	MCW	L.12th–14th c.
23	83	84	Pit fill	COLC	L.13th–M.16th c.*
	83	85	Pit fill	MCW, COLC, GRE	16th c.?
	87	88	Ditch fill	COLC, ESWL, REFW	19th–20th c.
24	74	75	Drain/ditch fill	COLC, GRE, PORC, REFW	19th–20th c.
	76	77	Ditch fill	METS, BLSW, YELW, REFW	19th c.
	78	79	Spread	ESW, REFW	19th c.

Table 4. Pottery types present by trench and feature. * contains later CBM.

Based on the pottery evidence, the earliest excavated feature was post-pit [99], which may be of 11th-century date. Also in Trench 21, the fill of ditch [105] contained only medieval pottery. Features of potential medieval date were also

found in Trenches 22 and 23, and some medieval pottery was residual in early post-medieval fills. Features containing pottery in Trenches 6, 9 and 24 were all of recent date.

6.1.4 Discussion

Almost half the pottery produced by the evaluation was late medieval or earlier, including one sherd of probable Late Saxon date and some early to high medieval wares. These were typical Essex sandy and sparse shelly wares and included some Colchester products.

The early post-medieval period was represented by a small quantity of glazed East Anglian redwares, including one sherd of Metropolitan slipware from Harlow. Modern wares were typical of domestic assemblages of the period, although it is likely that they reached the site through the distribution of 'night soil' and resultant incorporation into field drainage features through ploughing action.

6.2 CBM

By Sue Anderson (CFA Archaeology)

Thirty-four fragments of CBM weighing 5,579g were collected from thirteen contexts. The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured where possible, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Forms were identified from work in Norwich (Drury 1993), based on measurements. A full catalogue is included in the Appendix.

6.2.1 The assemblage

Table 5 shows the quantification by fabric and form.

Fabric	Code	RBT	RT	PAN	LB	FB	UN
coarse sandy	cs		5				
medium sandy	ms		4				
fine sandy	fs	2	5	2			1
ms, flint and ferrous inclusions	msffe				4		
fs, flint and ferrous inclusions	fsffe				1		
ms with clay pellets and some Fe	mscp				5		
ms, flint/coarse quartz inclusions	msf		2				
ms, ferrous inclusions	msfe		1		1		
white firing fs, ferrous inclusions, some grog	wfe					1	
Totals		2	17	2	11	1	1

Table 5. CBM by fabric and form.

Two fragments were identified as Roman tile (RBT). One piece from ditch fill (23) was 35mm thick. A smaller, abraded fragment (20mm thick) was partially reduced suggesting exposure to fire, and was found in ditch fill (64).

The majority of fragments comprised plain roof tile (RT) in a variety of fabrics. Colours varied from brown to dark red. Most pieces were handmade and had reduced cores, which may indicate a medieval or late medieval date, particularly for the coarse examples, although most were found in association with later CBM.

A few fragments, particularly the 'msfe' example from ditch fill (64) were certainly post-medieval. Two fragments of post-medieval pantile (PAN) were also present, in pit fill (84) and ditch fill (90).

Fragments of late brick (LB) were generally quite abraded, particularly the 'mscp' examples. One brick in this fabric from ditch fill (64) was burnt. Three fragments from this context were measurable, having thicknesses of 60–62mm, suggesting a 17th/18th-century date. A fragment from ditch fill (110) was 52mm thick and may be earlier (?15th/16th century) and a fragment from ditch fill (112) may also be late medieval.

A half floor brick (FB; 122 x 39+mm) in a white-firing fabric was found in ditch fill (88). This type of paviour was used particularly in the 18th–19th centuries.

One small fragment with a reduced base and core from ditch fill (90) was unidentified (UN), but may be a fragment of Roman tile or floor tile.

6.2.2 Discussion

This small assemblage includes fragments of Roman and possibly medieval date, although most of these were deposited with later material. The late bricks included both late medieval and early post-medieval types, but all fragments were handmade and probably pre-dated the 19th century, with the possible exception of the floor brick. The pantiles were in fine fabrics and may have been machine-pressed, suggesting a 19th-century or later date.

6.3 Small Finds

By Julia Huddle

A single, bent, square sectioned iron shaft was recovered (SF1) from fill (28) of ditch [29] in Trench 9. This artefact, which is undatable, is fashioned to a point at one end, which suggests it may be a heckle tooth, part of a comb type implement used in the manufacture of textiles.

6.4 Clay Pipe

The site produced a single fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem weighing 2g from fill (75) of ditch [74] in Trench 24.

6.5 Faunal Remains

By Julie Curl

All of the bone was examined primarily to determine range of species, elements present and modifications. The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992). A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context examined.

A single piece of bone was recovered from context (101), weighing 0.003kg. The bone is from a mammal. Although it is difficult to fully determine to species as there are no diagnostic areas present, although the shape and size suggest a piece of sheep/goat humerus. The bone has been burnt, leaving a grey-white

colour indicative of burning for a long period or at high temperature; burning has left the bone distorted and cracked.

This is a small and damaged fragment of bone that can provide little information. It is possible that it is from burnt food remains. No further work is needed on this particular assemblage.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

By Val Fryer

Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from two fills within a shallow pit [06], which appeared to contain evidence for *in situ* burning at its base. The rationale for selection and methodology employed for study are based on *Environmental Archaeology* (EH 2002).

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendix 7. All plant remains were charred. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Although relatively large (0.3 and 0.4 litres in volume), both flots were almost entirely composed of small charcoal/charred wood fragments. All ecofacts were lightly coated with fine silt particles and mineralised soil concretions were also present within the assemblage from sample 1 (05). A proportion of the charcoal within both assemblages had a flaked appearance, possibly suggesting high temperatures of combustion and the presence of rare black tarry concretions within sample 1 may also be indicative of high temperature burning.

If further excavation is planned within this area of Clacton, it is recommended that additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 20 – 40 litres in volume are taken from any features which are intrinsically datable. However, if artefactual/stratigraphic dating is not available, samples should be taken from any well-sealed features, which are of probable archaeological significance.

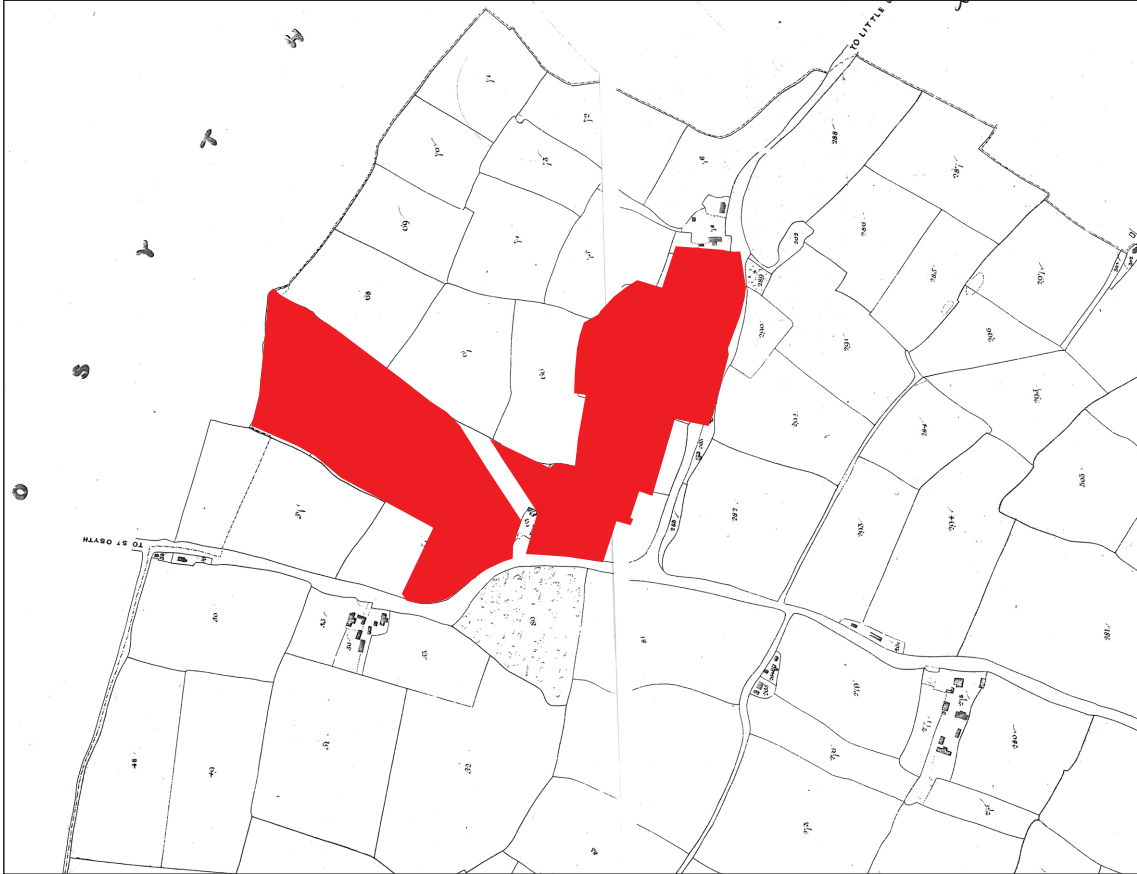


Figure 32. Great Clacton Tithe Award Map c.1840
Site shown in red

8.0 CONCLUSION

This work has revealed evidence from the medieval and post-medieval periods, though overwhelmingly it was characterised by the presence of many redundant east–west and north–south field boundaries taken out of use by the enclosure and field enlargements of the 18th and 19th centuries. The various early modern maps record this process from halfway through the 19th century to the present day (see Table 2). Many of the ditches appeared to have been used as drains, inferred from the presence of ceramic drain pipes in their bases. Some of the field boundaries appear to be on the same alignment as the modern field system, though they are not shown on the early modern maps. This suggests that they were probably earlier field boundaries that had fallen out of use by the time these maps were surveyed. Individual ditches can be compared with the historical maps, for example the field boundary represented by ditches [51], [38] and [55] seems to be the division between fields shown on the Great Clacton Tithe Map of 1840 (Fig. 32). These field boundaries are largely undated, though the ditch [24] contained some pottery dated from the 18th–19th centuries. This indicates the period that the ditches were backfilled and ties in neatly with the historical maps.

Two fragments of probable Roman tile were found in ditch fills (23) and (64), suggesting a Roman presence somewhere in the vicinity.

A number of undated small pits and isolated post-holes were observed in Trenches 1, 10, 11 and 47. They included pits [06], [08], post-hole [10] in Trench 1, post-hole [20] in Trench 10, pit [18] in Trench 11, and pit [36] in Trench 47. Apart from the small post-hole, which appeared to be relatively modern, the other pits generally had a similar form and contained evidence for *in situ* burning.

A series of irregular features within Trenches 21 and 22 were largely of medieval date. They were a ditch [97], pit [95] and irregular feature [91] in Trench 22, and linear feature [111]=[109]=[107]=[105] and post-pit [99] in Trench 21. They indicate that, despite the poor drainage of the ground, the land was used in the medieval period. The larger population in the medieval period probably forced local farmers onto more marginal land. The irregular ditch [111]=[109]=[107]=[105] and smaller ditch [97] may represent an enclosure. A small concentration of medieval bricks was discovered in Trenches 21, 22, 23 and 24; although re-deposited in later features they suggest that there was a later medieval brick building in the vicinity.

A series of features within Trenches 23 and 24 were almost certainly elements of Joy's Farm. Several cropmarks (HER 2995) lay in the northern field as well as an extraction pit (HER 2995) and it is almost certain that the cropmark is connected with the large spread (86) of material and other recent activity in Trenches 23 and 24. An examination of the maps reveals that the farm was removed in the mid-20th century to enlarge the available area for farming.

The north–south cropmark situated along the western side of the site, previously described as a trackway (HER 2995), may also have been an original western field boundary. The two double ditches in Trench 31 ([61] and [62]) and Trench 25 ([72] and [73]) almost certainly caused this cropmark.

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by the Historic Environment Management (HEM) Team of the Historic Environment Branch of Essex County Council.

Acknowledgements

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Description
1	Deposit	Fill of [2]
2	Cut	Cut of Ditch
3	Deposit	Fill of [4]
4	Cut	Cut of Ditch
5	Deposit	Fill of [6]
6	Cut	Cut of Pit
7	Deposit	Fill of [8]
8	Cut	Cut of Pit
9	Deposit	Fill of [10]
10	Cut	Cut of Pit
11	Deposit	Fill of [6]
12	Deposit	Fill of [6]
13	Deposit	Fill of [14]
14	Cut	Cut of Pit
15	Deposit	Fill of [16]
16	Cut	Cut of Ditch
17	Deposit	Fill of [18]
18	Cut	Cut of Pit
19	Deposit	Fill of [20]
20	Cut	Cut of Pit
21	Cut	Cut of Ditch
22	Deposit	Fill of [21]
23	Deposit	Fill of [21]
24	Cut	Cut of Field Drain
25	Deposit	Fill of [24]
26	Deposit	Fill of [24]
27	Deposit	Fill of [24]
28	Deposit	Fill of [29]
29	Cut	Cut of Ditch
30	Deposit	Fill of [31]
31	Cut	Cut of Ditch
32	Deposit	Subsoil
33	Deposit	Topsoil
34	Deposit	Subsoil
35	Deposit	Topsoil
36	Cut	Pit
37	Deposit	Fill of [36]
38	Cut	Cut of Ditch
39	Deposit	Fill of [38]
40	Cut	Cut of Ditch/Flood drain
41	Deposit	Fill of [40]
42	Cut	Cut of Ditch
43	Deposit	Fill of [42]
44	Deposit	Fill of [45]

Context	Category	Description
45	Cut	Cut of Ditch
46	Deposit	Fill of [47]
47	Cut	Cut of Ditch
48	Deposit	Fill of [49]
49	Cut	Cut of Ditch
50	Deposit	Fill of [51]
51	Cut	Cut of Ditch
52	Deposit	Fill of [53]
53	Cut	Cut of Ditch
54	Deposit	Fill of [55]
55	Cut	Cut of Ditch
56	Deposit	Fill of [57]
57	Cut	Cut of Ditch
58	Deposit	Fill of [59]
59	Cut	Cut of Ditch
60	Deposit	Fill of [59]
61	Deposit	Fill of [59]
62	Cut	Cut of Ditch
63	Cut	Cut of Ditch
64	Deposit	Fill of [65]
65	Cut	Cut of Ditch
66	Deposit	Fill of [67]
67	Cut	Cut of Ditch
68	Deposit	Fill of [69]
69	Cut	Cut of Ditch
70	Deposit	Fill of [71]
71	Cut	Cut of Ditch
72	Cut	Cut of Ditch
73	Cut	Cut of Ditch
74	Cut	Cut of Ditch/Drain
75	Deposit	Fill of [74]
76	Cut	Cut of Ditch
77	Deposit	Fill of [76]
78	Cut	Large Spread/Shallow Cut
79	Deposit	Fill of [78]
80	Deposit	Fill of [78]
81	Cut	Linear
82	Deposit	Fill of [81]
83	Cut	Large Pit
84	Deposit	Fill of [83]
85	Deposit	Fill of [83]
86	Deposit	Mixed Natural and Demolition Material
87	Cut	Cut of Ditch
88	Deposit	Fill of [87]
89	Cut	Cut of Ditch
90	Deposit	Fill of [89]

Context	Category	Description
91	Cut	Irregular Feature
92	Deposit	Fill of [91]
93	Cut	Cut of Ditch
94	Deposit	Fill of [93]
95	Cut	Cut of Pit
96	Deposit	Fill of [94]
97	Cut	Cut of Ditch
98	Deposit	Fill of [97]
99	Cut	Post-Pit
100	Deposit	Fill of [99]
101	Deposit	Fill of [99]
102	Deposit	Fill of [99]
103	Cut	Cut of Ditch
104	Deposit	Fill of [103]
105	Cut	Irregular Ditch
106	Deposit	Fill of [105]
107	Cut	Irregular Ditch
108	Deposit	Fill of [107]
109	Cut	Irregular Ditch
110	Deposit	Fill of [109]
111	Cut	Cut of Ditch
112	Deposit	Fill of [111]
113	Deposit	Fill of [62]
114	Deposit	Fill of [62]
115	Deposit	Fill of [63]
116	Deposit	Fill of [63]
117	Deposit	Fill of [63]
118	Deposit	Fill of [63]
119	Deposit	Fill of [63]
120	Deposit	Fill of [63]
121	Deposit	Fill of [72]
122	Deposit	Fill of [72]
123	Deposit	Fill of [72]
124	Deposit	Fill of [72]
125	Deposit	Fill of [72]
126	Deposit	Fill of [73]
127	Deposit	Fill of [73]
128	Deposit	Fill of [129]
129	Cut	Cut of Ditch
130	Deposit	Fill of [40]

Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Unknown	Pit	5
	Post-hole	1
	Ditches and Drainage Ditches	27
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Ditches	2
	Irregular feature	1
	Pit	1
	Post-pit	1
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD) and Modern	Ditches	5
	Pit	1
	Large Spread/Shallow Cut	1
	Linear	1
	Field Drain	1

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Quantity	Weight (g)	Period
03	Ceramic Building Material	2	154	Post-medieval
19	Ceramic Building Material	1	15	Post-medieval
23	Ceramic Building Material	2	238	Post-medieval
27	Pottery	1	3	Post-medieval
28	Pottery	3	70	Post-medieval
31	Ceramic Building Material	1	143	Post-medieval
64	Ceramic Building Material	1	60	Roman
64	Ceramic Building Material	6	1545	Roman/ Post-medieval
75	Pottery	8	61	Post-medieval
75	Clay pipe	1	2	Post-medieval
77	Pottery	7	79	Post-medieval
79	Pottery	8	79	Post-medieval
84	Pottery	1	83	Post-medieval
84	Ceramic Building Material	2	268	Post-medieval
85	Pottery	1	29	Medieval
85	Pottery	3	38	Post-medieval
85	Ceramic Building Material	5	644	Post-medieval
88	Pottery	2	31	Post-medieval
88	Ceramic Building Material	2	943	Post-medieval
90	Pottery	4	24	?Medieval
90	Pottery	3	28	Post-medieval
90	Ceramic Building Material	4	158	Post-medieval
92	Pottery	8	118	Medieval
98	Pottery	1	7	?Medieval
101	Pottery	1	5	Roman
101	Pottery	2	21	Medieval
101	Animal bone	-	3	Undated
106	Pottery	4	34	Medieval
106	Ceramic Building Material	7	281	Post-medieval
110	Ceramic Building Material	1	982	Post-medieval
112	Ceramic Building Material	1	372	Post-medieval
128	Ceramic Building Material	2	200	Post-medieval

Appendix 2b: NHER finds summary table

Period	Material	Quantity
Unknown	Heckle Tooth	1
Roman (42 to 409AD)	CBM	2
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Pottery	17
	CBM	25
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Pottery	6
	CBM	10
Modern (1900 to 2050 AD)	Pottery	20

Appendix 3: Pottery

Notes:

Rim: UP – upright; BD – beaded; PL – plain; FT – flat-topped; CAV – cavetto; LS – lid-seated; EV – everted; H1 – Essex type (Drury 1993).

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/kg	Fabric date range
27	LSRW			1	0.003	18th–19th c.
28	REFW	jug?	UPPL	3	0.069	19th–20th c.
75	COLC	jug	UPFT	2	0.018	L.14th–15th c.
75	GRE	dish	EV	1	0.005	16th–18th c.
75	REFW			1	0.010	L.18th–20th c.
75	REFW			2	0.016	L.18th–20th c.
75	REFW	saucer?	EV	1	0.004	L.18th–20th c.
75	PORC	saucer?	EV	1	0.006	18th–20th c.
77	METS	bowl/plate	THEV	1	0.012	17th c.
77	REFW			1	0.015	L.18th–20th c.
77	YELW	bowl	UPPL	1	0.019	L.18th–19th c.
77	BLSW	teapot?		3	0.015	L.18th–20th c.
77	BLSW	tankard	UPPL	1	0.017	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW			1	0.013	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW	bowl	EV	1	0.009	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW			2	0.005	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW	tankard		1	0.006	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW	plate		1	0.003	L.18th–20th c.
79	REFW			1	0.003	L.18th–20th c.
79	ESW	preserve jar	BD	1	0.039	19th c.
84	COLC			1	0.082	L.13th–M.16th c.
85	MCW	jar	H1	1	0.030	M–L.13th c.
85	COLC			1	0.003	L.13th–M.16th c.
85	GRE			2	0.035	16th–18th c.
88	COLC			1	0.010	L.13th–M.16th c.
88	REFW	jar	LSEV	1	0.026	L.18th–20th c.
88	ESWL			1	0.004	M.17th–E.20th c.
90	MCW			1	0.005	L.12th–14th c.
90	MCW			1	0.007	L.12th–14th c.
90	COLC			3	0.010	L.13th–M.16th c.
90	COLC	jar	CAV	1	0.010	L.14th–15th c.
90	GRE			1	0.015	16th–18th c.
90	GRE			1	0.009	16th–18th c.
92	COLC			8	0.116	L.13th–14th c.
98	MCW			1	0.007	L.12th–14th c.
101	THET			1	0.005	10th–11th c.
101	EMWSS	yar	UPBD	2	0.021	11th–12th c.
106	MCW			3	0.003	L.12th–14th c.
106	MCWG			1	0.031	12th–13th c?

Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material

context	fabric	form	no	wt/g	abr	height	width	peg	comments	date
3	msffe	LB	1	117						pmed
3	msf	RT	1	50					reduced core	med+
19	msf	RT	1	15						pmed?
23	fs	RBT	1	163		35			may be PMed, but not a FT	Rom
23	fs	RT	1	73	+				brown	med?
31	msffe	LB	1	129						pmed
64	msffe	LB	1	331		62				pmed
64	mscp	LB	2	419	+	60			=1 brick, burnt	lmed+
64	fsffe	LB	1	569		61			dense, header vit	pmed
64	fs	RT	1	28				1xR	sooted edge	lmed+
64	msfe	RT	1	74						pmed
64	fs	RBT	1	58	+	20			partially reduced	Rom
84	mscp	LB	1	56	+					pmed
84	fs	PAN	1	196						pmed
85	cs	RT	2	120					1 reduced core	med+
85	fs	RT	2	50					reduced cores	med+
85	msffe	LB	1	435						lmed+
88	wfe	FB	1	857		39+	122		worn	pmed
90	cs	RT	1	51						med+
90	fs	PAN	1	93						pmed
90	fs	UN	1	6					base frag, reduced, poss FT/RBT	?
106	cs	RT	2	33					1 reduced core	med+
106	fs	RT	1	47	+				brown, same as [23]?	med+
106	ms	RT	3	95					reduced cores	med+
106	mscp	LB	1	94					pinkish orange	lmed+
110	mscp	LB	1	878	+	52	114			lmed+
112	msfe	LB	1	350					dark purple, poss sunken margin? may be EB	lmed+
128	ms	RT	1	192					=1 tile, reduced core	med+

Appendix 5: Small Finds

Small Find	Context	Quantity	Material	Description	Object date
01	28	1	Iron	? Heckle Tooth	Undated

Appendix 6: Faunal Remains

Key: NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Ctxt	Ttl ctxt wt (kg)	Ttl ctxt qty	Species	NISP	Comments
101	0.003	1	Mammal	1	?humerus shaft, burnt white, distorted and cracked. Possibly sheep/goat.

Appendix 7: Environmental Evidence

Key to Table: x = 1–10 specimens; xxxx = 100+ specimens

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	5	11
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x
Charred root/stem		x
Black tarry material		x
Mineralised soil concretions	x	
Sample volume (litres)	10	10
Volume of flot (litres)	0.3	0.4
% flot sorted	50%	25%