

Romany Road, West Durrington, West Sussex

Phase 1 Archaeological Evaluation Report

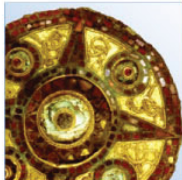
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ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Romany Road, West Durrington, West Sussex Phase 1 Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Non-Technical Summary

A nineteen-trench archaeological evaluation of a field adjacent to Romany Road in West Durrington was carried out to determine the presence or absence of archaeological material. All but two of the trenches contained archaeological features. Most of these features are the remnants of boundary ditches that have been affected by centuries of ploughing. There were very few finds collected during the excavations: four flints and fifteen sherds of Roman pottery. However, the lack of any modern material in the features, and finds of prehistoric and Roman date in the immediate vicinity, suggests that many of the ditches are field boundaries of prehistoric or Roman date.

One ditch was proved to be of Roman date by thirteen fragments of a single Roman pottery bowl within its fill: this was located in the northwest of the site, and may indicate limited settlement in close vicinity. In three locations on the site two narrow linear features and two post-holes may be evidence for buildings, but repeated ploughing has resulted in these features surviving in much truncated form.

1. Introduction

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The site is located on the western side of Romany Road, West Durrington, approximately four miles to the north-west of Worthing town centre, National Grid Reference TQ 1110 0480 (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The development site is sub-rectangular in shape, measuring a total area of c. 5.1ha (12.6 acres). It is bounded to the north by residential properties; to the south by an industrial site and residential properties; to the east by Romany Road; and to the west by agricultural farmland (Figure 2).
- 1.1.3 The Evaluation was carried out in February 2009 and comprised the excavation of 19 trenches. A second programme of evaluation is expected to be carried out in the adjoining car park.

1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 The local planning authority is Worthing Borough Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Mark Taylor of West Sussex County Council (WSSCC). The development site is not located within a designated Conservation Area or within a designated Area of Archaeological Priority, as defined by the Worthing Borough Council Local Plan (2007).
- 1.2.2 A planning application has been approved to develop the site (Application No WB/05/0245/OUT). The proposed scheme will comprise the demolition of the existing shopping centre in the eastern section of the site, to be replaced by the construction of a new Tesco retail store and associated service yard in the western section. Durrington Community Centre will be relocated, possibly within the western section of the site, while the site of the community centre and the former shopping centre will be converted to open-air car parking. The scheme will also include the development of an access route along the northern boundary of the western section of the site, linking the car park and new retail store to a new roundabout to the west of the site, which will link to Fulbeck Avenue to the south.
- 1.2.3 West Sussex County Council recommended that an archaeology condition be placed on planning permission to secure a programme of archaeological work. The initial work was the creation of a Desk-Based Assessment (AOC 2008a), and this was followed by excavation of evaluation trenches, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2008b). This document presents the results of the first 19 trenches excavated in land to the west of the existing car park.

1.3 Geology and Topography

- 1.3.1 The site is situated on a gentle southwest slope between the South Downs to the north and the coastal plain to the south. The wider area of Durrington lies between c.11mOD and c.20mOD with the land rising towards the downs to the north. Worthing lies to the east and the area of Highdown Hill to the west. The site itself is relatively flat, sloping gently between c.11mOD and 13mOD.
- 1.3.2 The 1:50,000 scale British Geological Survey map (Sheet 318) shows the development site is underlain by a superficial geology of Coombe Deposits over Reading Formation Clay, which in turn underlain by a bedrock of the Cretaceous Upper Chalk formation (Geotechnics Ltd, 2001 & 2006).

2. Historical and Archaeological Background

The following information is drawn from the Desk-Based Assessment (AOC 2008a)

2.1 Prehistoric (before cAD 43)

- 2.1.1 There are a number of known prehistoric sites and finds from within the wider area, which indicate prehistoric land use and activity within this part of West Sussex. The nearest prominent feature in the landscape is Highdown Hill, which lies approximately 1.5km to the west of the site. That site has revealed evidence of early prehistoric activity, Bronze Age settlement and an Iron Age hillfort. Further large and important prehistoric sites are known at Cissbury Hill, over 4km to the northeast of the site, while numerous finds of prehistoric date have been recovered from Worthing, Durrington, Goring and the surrounding areas.
- 2.1.2 Fourteen sites of prehistoric date lie within 1km of the site. A possible cremation, a pit and a pair of parallel ditches has been noted in evaluation works immediately north of the site, while Bronze Age cremation pits and probable field system were noted immediately to the northwest section of the site.
- 2.1.3 Further prehistoric activity has been noted north-northwest of the site during field-walking survey, over an area totalling approximately 28 hectares, which identified assemblages of Mesolithic and Neolithic flints. Evaluation works based on these field-walking surveys has revealed prehistoric activity in three areas, tentatively dated to the Mesolithic. Mesolithic material has also been recorded in an evaluation 650m to the north of the site.
- 2.1.4 Finally, Bronze Age occupation evidence has been recorded in evaluation works, 500m to the south-west of the development site, and Bronze Age and Iron Age activity has been recorded during archaeological investigations 650m to the south of the site.

2.2 Roman (cAD 43 - 410)

- 2.2.1 There is considerable evidence of Roman activity in West Sussex, with the coastal plain and its fertile brickearth being an attractive location for Romano-British settlement. Numerous stray finds have been found within Goring, Durrington and Worthing; a Roman Villa, bathhouse and occupation evidence recorded c.900m to the south-west of the site, at Northbrook College. The Roman road from Chichester to Brighton is also located approximately c.900m to the northeast of the site along the route of present day Arundel Road.
- 2.2.2 Evaluation works to the north of the site were undertaken in 2004 to test the hypothesis that Roman Roads crossed this area, presumably linking the villa and settlement at Northbrook College with the Chichester and Brighton road to the north. No evidence to support the Road alignments was discovered. Some Romano-British pottery, interpreted as suggesting agricultural activities, was noted in other evaluation works to the north-west of the site.

2.3 Early Medieval (AD 410-1066) and Medieval Periods (AD 1066-1550)

- 2.3.1 Place-name evidence and early medieval grants and charters indicate that the modern day settlements in the wider area around the site (e.g. Goring, Durrington and Worthing) originated in the early medieval period. Some 6th century Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds were discovered in the topsoil during evaluation works to the immediate north of the western section of the development site, though no associated archaeological deposits or features were recorded.
- 2.3.2 There is further archaeological evidence of early medieval activity in the wider area of West Sussex, including a 5th and 6th century Anglo-Saxon cemetery discovered on Highdown Hill, 1.5km to the west.

- 2.3.3 The site straddles the border of the historic parishes of Goring and Durrington, with the majority of the site lying within Goring. Durrington is first documented in AD 934 but Goring is not recorded until the Domesday Survey of 1086. However, the place name evidence suggests an early medieval origin of Goring; the meaning of which is likely to be 'the homestead of Gara's.
- 2.3.4 During the early medieval and first half of the medieval period, Sussex was divided into six territorial divisions (Hastings, Pevensey, Lewes, Bramber, Arundel, and Chichester) called Rapes. Durrington and Worthing lay within the Rape of Bramber, which was held at the time of Domesday Survey in 1086 by William de Braiose, while Goring was located on the border of Bramber within the Rape of Arundel, held by Roger, Earl of Arundel.
- 2.3.5 Both Goring and Durrington are recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086. Durrington was held by Robert le Savage, part of the Manor of Broadwater to the north. For Goring there are entries for four distinct manors, and these indicate a population of just under 100 (Fox-Wilson, 1987, P.16), which would make it one of the larger settlements in the area. Durrington was a smaller settlement, with only thirty-one people recorded in 1086.
- 2.3.6 The Victoria County Histories record Durrington parish as c.2 miles long by c.2/3 mile wide, with virtually straight eastern and western boundaries which are not thought to correspond with those of the early medieval estate of recorded in 934 (VCH, 1980, P.81). The site lays straddling Durrington and Goring along one of these very straight boundaries, and therefore may have lain fully within one or another of the parishes in the early medieval and medieval periods.
- 2.3.7 Ten sites of medieval date lie within 1km of the site. These including a possible road surface, and evidence of medieval (12th and 13th century) occupation evidence c.300m to the south-west and medieval settlement noted at Gateway House 750m to the southeast of the site. St. Symphorian's Church 750m to the northeast dates to the 12th century, and was probably the focus of the primary medieval settlement in Durrington, this site being peripheral.

2.4 Post-Medieval (c. AD 1550 – 1900)

- 2.4.1 Few changes in the settlement pattern of Durrington and Goring occur until the latter half of the post-medieval period. Until the late 18th / early 19th century, Goring continued to be the largest of the three settlements of Goring, Durrington and Worthing. The popularity of nearby Worthing as a seaside town began to grow from the late 18th century onwards, with notable persons moving to the area. Visits by royalty, including Princess Amelia in 1798, Princess Charlotte in 1807 and Princess Augusta in 1829 helped increase its popularity. The expansion of Worthing came at the expense of Durrington and Goring, which were soon overshadowed by their now larger neighbour.
- 2.4.2 As with many villages during this period, Goring and Durrington did start to expand and grow, though not in the same rate as Worthing. In 1881, the civil parish of Durrington comprised 900 acres and was enlarged in 1902, when it was augmented by parts of Broadwater and West Tarring (VCH, 1980, P.81).
- 2.4.3 By 1908, the small hamlet of Salvington was incorporated in to Durrington and then in 1929 both became part of Worthing. Today Durrington is a suburb of Worthing with West Durrington defined as a separate sub-area within the suburb with its own clinic, community centre and commercial shopping centre (Ellery, 1998, P.66). Goring was also augmented by land from Tarring in 1902 and became part of Worthing in 1929. In 1933-35, it was announced that Goring was to be the site of a 'garden town' of c.25,000 at a cost of approximately £8 million. The project was stunted by the Second World War and abandoned, with Goring eventually being incorporated by the urban expansion of Worthing (Ellery, 1998, P.78).

3. Strategy

3.1 Aims of the Investigation

- 3.1.1 The aims of the investigation were defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable West Sussex County Council to make an informed decision on the status of the archaeology condition and any requirement for further mitigation work.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.
- 3.1.2 The specific aims of the Evaluation were:
- To determine the presence of any remains of prehistoric date on site.
 - To determine the presence of any remains of Saxon and medieval date on site.
 - To make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1 A site code **WMAG: 2009/1** was obtained from Worthing Museum in advance of commencing the fieldwork.
- 3.2.2 The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of nineteen trenches, 30m by 2m at base. All of the trenches were located as specified in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2008b).
- 3.2.3 The entire site was visually inspected before the commencement of machine excavation.
- 3.2.4 A 13 ton 360 excavator fitted with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket was used to excavate to the potential archaeological horizon. All machining was carried out under direct control of an experienced archaeologist.
- 3.2.5 On completion of the machine excavation, all trench faces that required examination or recording were cleaned and recorded to the standards set out within the MoLAS Archaeological Field Manual (1994), and in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation. Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements were recorded on standardized pro-forma recording sheets. Plans were drawn of each trench at a scale of 1:20. Short representative sample sections of trenches were drawn at 1:10. A digital photographic and black and white photographic record was made.
- 3.2.6 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of spatial distribution.
- 3.2.7 A Temporary Bench Mark was set up on the site transferred from a previously surveyed point within the southeast of the site and levels were recorded for each deposit.
- 3.2.8 The evaluation work was undertaken over 2 weeks by Paulo Guarino, Project Supervisor, under the overall project management of Andy Leonard, Project Manager.

4 Results

4.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

4.1.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.64m to 12.95m	0.40m	(101)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.41m to 12.63m	0.10m	(102)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.31m to 12.53m	N/A	(103)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.1.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.53mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping westwards to 12.31mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (102), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (101), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.40m thick.

4.1.3 The archaeological features in the trench were sealed by the reworked subsoil. These comprise two different ditches oriented north-south. One of the ditches [104], towards the western end of the trench, was 1m wide, 0.30m deep, and had sloping sides with a rounded base. The ditch had a terminus within the trench, which was rounded. There were two fills; the primary fill was pale yellowish brown silty clay (106), and similar to the natural brickearth, and was up to 0.20m deep. The secondary fill was pale grey silty clay (105). Neither of the fills contained dating evidence, although fire-cracked flint in the upper fill may be indicative of a prehistoric date.

4.1.4 The second ditch was in the west of the trench and was characterised by having a flat base and steep sides [109]. The ditch had a primary fill of grey gravelly clay (108), and a secondary fill that was darker, being brownish grey sandy clay (107). This upper fill contained sherds of Roman pottery, 13 pieces from a semi-complete Lezoux Samian beaker, with decoration on the upper shoulder (Appendix B). This dates to the late 2nd century; Lezoux is in central Gaul. Its semi-completeness may suggest deliberate deposition in the ditch rather than accidental discard.



Plate 1: Ditch 109 looking north

4.2 Trench 2 (Figure 3)

4.2.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.43m to 12.71m	0.25m	(201)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.18m to 12.49m	0.06m	(202)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.12m to 12.43m	N/A	(203)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.2.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.43mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 12.121mOD. This was sealed by 0.06m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (202), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (201), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.25m thick.

4.2.3 Several cut features in the trench were investigated following removal of the subsoil. These were three areas of tree-root activity and one pit. The pit [205] continued beyond the limit of excavation, but appeared to be roughly circular, with a diameter of 0.88m and 0.18m deep. The sides sloped gently to a flat base. A single fill in the pit was light greyish orange silty clay with frequent flint gravel. No finds were present to date the feature.

4.3 Trench 3 (Figure 4)

4.3.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.75m to 13.24m	0.27m	(301)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.45m to 12.90m	0.10m	(302)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.35m to 12.80m	N/A	(303)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.3.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.80mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 12.33mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (302), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (301), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.27m thick.

4.3.3 A ditch [305] was present at the northern end of the trench, running east-west, and only visible after excavation of the subsoil. The ditch was 1.00m wide and just 0.27m deep, with near-vertical sides. The fill of light greyish brown silty clay (304) contained no finds. The alignment of the ditch could suggest it is a continuation of that seen in Trenches 4, 7, and 13, and it has a similar profile.



Plate 2: Ditch 305 looking east

4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 4)

4.4.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
13.08m to 13.23m	0.32m	(401)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.76m to 12.91m	0.15m	(402)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.61m to 12.76m	N/A	(403)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.4.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.776mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping westwards to 12.61mOD. This was sealed by 0.15m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (402), which may have been reworked. Land-drains of 19th century date had been laid within this. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (401), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.32m thick.
- 4.4.3 One feature in the trench was a shallow irregular circular depression up to 0.20m deep [414] that may be a natural depression in the underlying geology, or the remnant of a feature heavily truncated by reworking of the soils above through agriculture. It was filled with soft clayey silt similar to the subsoil (415).
- 4.4.4 The other archaeology revealed beneath the subsoil in this trench is dominated by a ditch [410] running almost east-west that was visible for 19.4m and continued beyond the trench. The ditch was 1.00m wide and just 0.20m deep, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base: it cut the shallow depression. A single fill was present (411), light grey silty clay. Three slots were excavated into the ditch to confirm its character; no finds were collected that can prove its date, although one microlith and a burnt flint may indicate that this is prehistoric. The flint microlith may be waste from other microlith production.
- 4.4.5 Three other features were present in the trench, each a small pit. Towards the west end of the Trench was an oval pit [405] 0.90m wide and over 1.09m long. This was shallow, just 0.20m deep, and it had near-vertical sides. The fill was greyish brown silty clay (404). A lack of finds or variations in the fill reduces the potential for interpretation. A second pit 3m east of this was less regular in

plan, but still roughly circular [407]. This was 1.00m wide and 0.29m deep, with a generally concave profile. The fill was mottled greyish brown clay (406) that contained no finds or evidence for date or function.

- 4.4.6 The third pit cut the fill of the ditch and therefore post-dates it. This was also circular [412] with a diameter of 1.00m and 0.40m deep. The sides of the cut were steep and the base concave, and the pit was filled with hard and sticky greyish brown clay (413). Pebbles up to 0.10m across in the fill marked this as of different character to all the other features on site. A single flake of struck flint may suggest a prehistoric date. Also cutting the ditch fill was an irregular, sub-circular pit [408] against the northern section. This pit was filled with lenses of ploughsoil, subsoil and patches of burnt clay (409); this was most likely a tree-pit of fairly recent date. These two pits may represent trees that grew up along the line of the ditch. Root action was apparent to the east of these two cuts [417].

4.5 Trench 5 (Figure 4)

4.5.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.63m to 12.75m	0.30m	(501)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.33m to 12.45m	0.10m	(502)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.21m to 12.35m	N/A	(503)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.5.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.35mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping westwards to 12.21mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (502), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (501), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.

- 4.5.3 Two ditches were revealed in the trench, one running roughly north-south, the other roughly east-west. In the eastern part of the trench was the east-west ditch [504], seen for 11.0m before continuing beyond the limit of excavation. This was a straight feature 1.00m wide with sloping sides and a flat base, which was up to 0.30m deep. The fill (505) was very similar in colour to the underlying gravelly brickearth. This similarity may suggest gradual silting from the immediate landscape.

- 4.5.4 The second ditch was in the western end of the trench [507] and ran roughly north-south. This was 1.10m wide, 0.41m deep, and had sloping sides. The base was flat. The fill (506) was similar to the subsoil on the site, but greyer. This ditch may be of Roman date: a small, very abraded piece of Roman pottery typical of local Arun Valley coarse wares was collected. Its very worn character may suggest secondary deposition. A second find may be a piece of daub or burnt clay. The fill was cut by a land drain of much later date.

4.6 Trench 6 (Figure 4)

4.6.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.18m to 12.57m	0.27m	(601)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
11.91m to 12.30m	0.10m	(602)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.81m to 12.20m	N/A	(603)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.6.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.20mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 11.81mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable

brown silty subsoil (602), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (601), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.27m thick. No archaeological features were present in this trench.

4.7 Trench 7 (Figure 5)

4.7.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.95m to 13.81m	0.35m	(701)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.60m to 13.46m	0.15m	(702)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.45m to 13.30m	N/A	(705)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.7.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 13.30mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping westwards to 12.45mOD. This was sealed by 0.15m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (702), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (701), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.35m thick.

4.7.3 A ditch [704] was the only feature seen in this trench, oriented east-west in alignment with ditches in Trenches 3 and 4. It was of similar dimensions and form, being 0.9m wide, 0.30m deep, and having steep sides and a flat base 0.55m wide. The fill (703) was brownish grey clayey silt. A single find was collected, a small piece of daub or very eroded pottery. This is not enough evidence on its own to confirm a date for the feature, but a general lack of finds suggests it is not a modern feature.

4.8 Trench 8 (Figure 4)

4.8.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.58m to 12.96m	0.30m	(801)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.28m to 12.66m	0.10m	(802)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.18m to 12.56m	N/A	(803)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.8.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.56mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping southwards to 12.18mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (802), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (801), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.

4.8.3 This trench contains several features sealed by the subsoil. The largest of these was a ditch oriented southwest-northeast [805]. This ran straight, and a length of 5m was in the trench. It was 1.00m wide and 0.40m deep, and has a V-shaped profile, considerably different to the ditch present in Trenches 3, 4, 7 and 13. The fill was greyish yellowish brown silt (804).

4.8.4 A second linear may also be a ditch [807], but suggests something smaller than a field boundary. It runs northwest-southeast before appearing to curve eastwards. This was just 0.35m wide and 0.18m deep. The profile showed steep sides and a flat base, and it is much smaller than the features that are obviously ditches. Its function is unproven.

4.8.5 A third feature in the trench was small, and continued beyond the limit of excavation. This could be the terminus of a small ditch [809], or part of a small pit, perhaps even a tree-pit. The feature was 0.40m wide, 0.18m deep, with a rounded eastern end. As with many of the features, its shallow depth and lack of finds limit interpretation. The fill was soft grey silt, with very few stones (808).

- 4.8.6 A fourth feature may be a tree pit [811]. It was 2.3m wide and continued beyond the limit of excavation. That part of the pit within the Trench had steep sides and an irregular base, so is most likely a tree pit. The fill (810) was pale grey silt.

4.9 Trench 9 (Figure 4)

4.9.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.33m to 12.44m	0.30m	(901)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.03m to 12.14m	0.10m	(902)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.93m to 12.04m	N/A	(903)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.9.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 1204mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping imperceptibly westwards to 11.93mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (902), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (901), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.
- 4.9.3 The major feature in Trench 9 was a ditch oriented southwest-northeast [909]. This was 1.30m wide and 0.56m deep, with a V-shaped profile. This was clearly a continuation of the same ditch recorded in Trench 8. No finds were present to help date the feature.
- 4.9.4 Two other features in Trench 9 are smaller. One is a ditch terminus [905] 1.00m wide and 0.35m deep: the terminal is rounded. The base was flat and 0.70m wide. The fill (904) was greyish brown clayey silt. The second feature was only 0.08m deep, and was a narrow linear cut [907] running from the northeast to the west with a suggestion of a slight curve. The fill was grey silt (906) with no finds. It is tempting to ascribe a different function of this shallow feature to the more obvious ditches.

4.10 Trench 10 (Figure 4)

4.10.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.01m to 12.15m	0.30m	(1001)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
11.71m to 11.85m	0.10m	(1002)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.61m to 11.75m	N/A	(1003)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.10.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 11.75mOD at the east end of the trench, dropping slightly westwards to 11.61mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1002), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1001), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.
- 4.10.3 No archaeological features could be excavated in this trench due to high ground water: the monitoring archaeologist suggested that features be planned only. The features are two ditches oriented roughly north-south. Both are around 1.5m wide and are filled with pale grey silty clay. The date and profile is unproven.

4.11 Trench 11 (Figure 5)

4.11.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.38m to 12.64m	0.35m	(1101)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.03m to 12.29m	0.10m	(1102)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.93m to 12.19m	N/A	(1103)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.11.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.19mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 11.93mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1102), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1101), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.35m thick.

4.11.3 One feature was present, either the terminus of a ditch, or part of a pit [1105]. This was in the western side of the trench, at 12.25mOD. The feature had two parallel sides and a squared eastern end with rounded corners, very different in character to the other features on site. The sides were steep and the base flat. The pit was 0.5m deep, so seems most likely to be a ditch. The fill was light greyish yellowish brown (1104).

4.12 Trench 12 (Figure 4)

4.12.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.80m to 12.83m	0.35m	(1201)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.44m to 12.48m	0.10m	(1202)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.33m to 12.38m	N/A	(1203)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.12.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.35mOD and was virtually level along the trench. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1202), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1201), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.35m thick.

4.12.3 A single feature was present in this trench, a ditch [1205] running east west with a slight curve northwards. This is different from the other ditches recorded during the evaluation, due to the curve. The ditch was 1.3m wide, 0.60m deep, and had 45° sides falling to a rounded base. The fill (1204) was hard greyish brown gravelly clay, similar in compaction to the fill of pit [412]. This ditch contained two finds: a small piece of pottery that may be prehistoric, and a struck flint.

4.13 Trench 13 (Figure 5)

4.13.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
13.11m to 13.16m	0.40m	(1301)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.71m to 12.76m	0.30m	(1302)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.41m to 12.71m	N/A	(1309)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.13.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.71mOD at the west end of the trench, dropping eastwards to 12.41mOD. This was sealed by 0.30m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1302), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1301), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.40m thick.
- 4.13.3 Three features were investigated; one ditch and two postholes. The ditch [1304] was oriented roughly east-west, and had the same profile as that in Trenches 3, 4 and 7. At this point, the ditch was 0.30m deep, 0.8m wide at the top, and the flat base was 0.35m wide. The fill was similar to that seen in the other parts of the ditch in the other trenches, being pale brown clayey silt (1303). Two flint flakes were collected, one of which has diagnostic platform preparation, and indicates either a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.
- 4.13.4 The two post-holes [1306 and 1308] were towards the eastern end of the trench, and were of the same dimensions, with the same character of fill (1305 and 1307). The post-holes were both 0.40m wide, with generally flat bases, but they survived for just 0.09m. It is presumed that these were once deeper, but later ploughing had disturbed the upper parts of the features. The fill of both was brownish grey clayey silt and contained occasional pieces of flint, none of which was struck. The fills were paler than the subsoil above.

4.14 Trench 14 (Figure 5)

4.14.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.82m to 13.10m	0.30m	(1401)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.52m to 12.80m	0.15m	(1402)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.41m to 12.72m	N/A	(1403)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.14.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.72mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 12.41mOD. This was sealed by 0.15m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1402), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1401), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.
- 4.14.3 Three ditches were within the trench, each running east-west, and two of which ran along a similar line, one cutting into the fill of the other. The southernmost ditch in the trench [1407] was 1.00m wide and only 0.20m deep, and had a rounded base. The fill (1406) was light greyish brown silty clay, firm and sticky, and contained occasional pieces of flint, which were generally concentrated at the base of the fill. The fill was sampled to determine the presence of finds and environmental evidence <7>. Struck flint was collected, suggesting a prehistoric date for this boundary.
- 4.14.4 Farther north, two ditches intersected. The earlier of these two [1409] was 0.60m wide, 0.22m deep, and had a curved profile and base. The fill (1408) was mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. Occasional charcoal flakes but no other finds were collected from the fill. The later ditch [1405] was considerably larger, being 1.30m wide and 0.40m deep. It had 45° sides and a rounded base. The fill (1404) was light greyish brown silty clay with moderate gravel inclusions, likely to derive from general erosion and silting products. Finds were limited to very sparse burnt flint and one struck flint. These suggest a prehistoric date, but the flint flake is undiagnostic.

4.15 Trench 15 (Figure 5)

4.15.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.66m to 13.04m	0.30m	(1501)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.40m to 12.68m	0.12m	(1502)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.32m to 12.56m	N/A	(1503)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.15.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.56mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 12.32mOD. This was sealed by 0.12m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1502), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1501), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick. A small piece of Roman pottery dating from AD50-300, Rowlands Castle ware, was recovered from the ploughsoil. This was abraded, probably worn by ploughing.

4.15.3 A single ditch was present in the trench, oriented east-west. The cut [1504] had sides at around 35° and a rounded base. The ditch was 0.31m deep and was filled with mid greyish brown silty clay. No finds were present that suggest a date for the ditch.



Plate 3: Ditch 1505 looking west

4.16 Trench 16 (Figure 5)

4.16.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.43m to 12.50m	0.30m	(1601)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.13m to 12.20m	0.10m	(1602)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.03m to 12.10m	N/A	(1603)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.16.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.07mOD and lay virtually level along the trench. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1602), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1601), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.

- 4.16.3 There was one area of disturbance to the natural deposit that may be no more than tree disturbance. There was a small, narrow linear cut [1605] running southwest –northeast and terminating 1.30m from the southern edge of the trench. The end was rounded, and the feature itself only 0.60m wide and 0.11m deep. The base was irregular. The fill (1604) was brown silty clay, very similar to the subsoil, so root disturbance seems the most likely cause of this feature.

4.17 Trench 17 (Figure 5)

4.17.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
11.92m to 12.47m	0.30m	(1701)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.73m to 12.17m	0.15m	(1702)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.63m to 12.02m	N/A	(1703)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.17.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.02mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 11.63mOD. This was sealed by 0.15m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1702), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1701), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.

- 4.17.3 No finds or features were present in this trench.

4.18 Trench 18 (Figure 5)

4.18.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.26m to 12.65m	0.30m	(1801)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
11.97m to 12.35m	0.10m	(1802)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
11.93m to 12.25m	N/A	(1803)	Brickearth and gravel.

- 4.18.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.25mOD at the north end of the trench, dropping southwards to 11.93mOD. This was sealed by 0.10m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1802), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1801), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.30m thick.

- 4.18.3 A pit [1806] was excavated in the northern end of the trench; it continued beyond the limit of excavation. The pit was 0.33m deep and appeared to be roughly circular, with shallowly sloping sides and an irregular base. The pit was 1.50m across and had two fills. The lower fill (1805) was dark grey clayey-silt and contained sparse gravel and occasional charcoal flecks, and had no regularity of depth; a maximum of 0.20m. The upper fill (1804) was pale grey silty clay. The irregular character of the fills suggests that this may be a tree-throw: the lower dark fill being topsoil that had filled the pit, the upper fill being turned-up natural clay and gravel.

4.19 Trench 19 (Figure 5)

4.19.1 Table of stratigraphy

Level (OD) of Top of Context	Thickness	Context	Description
12.72m to 12.91m	0.20m	(1901)	Ploughsoil. Greyish brown clayey silt.
12.52m to 12.71m	0.11m	(1902)	Subsoil. Brown silty clay.
12.41m to 12.50m	N/A	(1903)	Brickearth and gravel.

4.19.2 The naturally-lain superficial geology of brickearth and gravel was present at 12.50mOD at the west end of the trench, dropping only slightly eastwards to 12.41mOD. This was sealed by 0.11m depth of friable brown silty subsoil (1902), which may have been reworked. The uppermost soil horizon in the trench was ploughsoil (1901), which was greyish brown clayey silt up to 0.20m thick.

4.19.3 Two ditches were present in the trench, of different profile, and probably of different date. Towards the east of the trench was a ditch oriented north-south [1915] that was 0.80m wide and only 0.15m deep. It had 45° sides and a flat base 0.34m wide. The fill (1914) was light yellowish brown with occasional gravel, but no finds were present. The second ditch [1905] was oriented northeast-southwest, at the western end of the trench and was 1.10m wide. Its profile was notably different to all other ditches recorded on the site, having near-vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (1904) was light greyish brown, and the edges of the feature had mineral deposits – probably manganese – along the edges. This ditch contained two pieces of slate and a small fragment of brick or tile, showing that this feature was of post-medieval date.



Plate 4: Ditch 1905 looking southwest

4.19.4 One pit of possible archaeological origin was present in the trench: a roughly oval cut into the natural clay and gravel 1.30m long, 0.61m wide and 0.18m deep [1907]. The sides were near-vertical and curved to a flat base. The fill (1906) of very light grey silty clay contained no finds or evidence of function.

4.19.5 Two other pits appear to be tree pits [1909 and 1913]. Both were irregular, sub-circular pits 0.84m across and 0.15m deep, typified by having one near-vertical edge and irregular bases. The fills (1908 and 1912) were identical in character, being light grey silty clay containing frequent flint gravel.

- 4.19.6 One other feature was present, a shallow irregular depression up to 0.16m deep [1911] was filled by pale brown silty clay (1910) similar to the subsoil. This may be a natural depression, or the remnant of a feature heavily truncated by reworking of the soils above through agriculture.

5. Finds

- 5.1 The finds from the site were few in number. The finds assemblage consists of struck flint, pottery, burnt clay, and building materials.
- 5.2 The flint all shows evidence of being struck, but none of the pieces has been retouched, so these are waste flakes. These may be the result of tool production on or near the site, and would suggest a prehistoric date for the fills of several features where found (411, 1303, and 1404). Only one flake has diagnostic features: that from (1303) may be either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date.
- 5.3 Burnt flint was also collected from the site, which can also be an indicator of prehistoric presence. Burnt flint is found in five contexts (105, 107, 304, 411 and 1404), although one of these contexts (107) contained Roman pottery.
- 5.4 The main pottery finds are 13 sherds from the same Samian beaker, a domestic vessel common on most Roman sites. This is from the fill of a ditch in Trench 1 [109]. The rest of the pottery assemblage consists of mostly small fragments of heavily abraded pottery, which shows so little evidence of form that it may be burnt daub rather than pottery, which is indicative of a generally prehistoric date.
- 5.5 The building material is of post-medieval date, and this derives from one ditch, in Trench 19

6. Discussion

- 6.1 The natural slope of the hill drops away southwestward 13.3mOD at the north of Trench 7 to 11.60mOD in the south. This represents a drop of 1.70m over a distance of 100m, less than 1:50. Although a virtually negligible slope, the southern edge of site was generally damper during the excavation.
- 6.2 The archaeological features appear to be of mostly prehistoric and Roman date, where datable, but the lack of any modern finds may indicate that undated features are also prehistoric. Most of these features are ditches, probably representing field boundaries. One boundary ditch appears in Trenches 3, 4, 7 and 13, and runs east-west, virtually level at 12.70mOD near the northern edge of site. This ditch has steep sides and a flat base. The only finds within this were a piece of daub, struck flint and burnt flint. The struck flint is of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. The ditch in Trench 1 runs at a right angle to this ditch, and is slightly shallower but has the same basic profile. The fill is of proven Roman date, but further fieldwork would be required to prove a relationship.
- 6.3 A second ditch has a different profile, seen in Trenches 8 and 9, being V-shaped, and not on the same alignment as that at the north end of site. This ditch had no finds or dating material, and remains undated.
- 6.4 Trench 5 had two sections of ditch within it, at right angles to one another, and of similar profile with flat bases, so may be part of the same feature. One of these had a very worn piece of Roman pottery, so dates to no earlier than AD50.
- 6.5 Trenches 1 and 15 contained the round-ended termini of ditches with a rounded profile. They are not part of the same feature, being 100m apart, but they do have a similar form. At over 1m wide, this probably represents another field boundary. Trench 11 had a square-ended terminus, very different in character.
- 6.6 One ditch, in Trench 12, runs mostly east west before turning northwards, and is undated.
- 6.7 Two small cut features in Trench 9 seem unlikely to be ditches, but may be remnants of more subtle features, such as hut circles. However, the lack of associated finds or definite post-holes limits full interpretation. Trench 13 does contain two definite post-holes, but subject to such truncation that little can be proven from their form.
- 6.8 The pottery in the ditch in Trench 1 indicates Roman or Romano-British occupation very near, or upon the site. No Roman building materials have been collected in this evaluation, so it is unlikely that any Roman masonry building is in the vicinity, but the presence of pottery suggests direct habitation of a lesser nature. The semi-complete form of the Samian beaker has been suggested by the pottery specialist to represent deliberate deposition, perhaps of once-whole vessel rather than discard of household debris.
- 6.9 The majority of the features are undated, but many of the fills of the undated pits and ditches are of similar colour and density as those with prehistoric or Roman pottery within, so seem likely to also be of early date. The notable lack of large assemblages of finds may be an indication that the site was predominantly rural: these boundaries represent field systems rather than dense habitation. Eight tree pits were identified during the excavations: two in Trenches 4, 8 and 19, and one each in Trenches 2 and 18. These are undated, and could relate to prehistoric land clearance or equally elements of the more recent landscape.
- 6.10 The latest feature on site is the ditch in Trench 19, which is probably a field boundary, and shows the agricultural use of the site in the post-medieval period. A continuation of the feature may be

represented by the insubstantial ditch recorded in Trench 16. This use of the site as farmland is the most recent activity on the site. The subsoil and 'ploughsoil' above are heavily disturbed by frequent ploughing, and it seems likely that the shallowness of many of the features is the result of this agricultural use. This seems likely to have removed any direct occupation horizons.

7. Publication

- 7.1 The results of the evaluation will be published as a summary in the local archaeological journal and through the OASIS project. If further work is required in the light of these results, the suitable level of publication will be dependent on the significance of the further archaeological results, but as a minimum the basic requirements of Appendix 7.1 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) will be met.

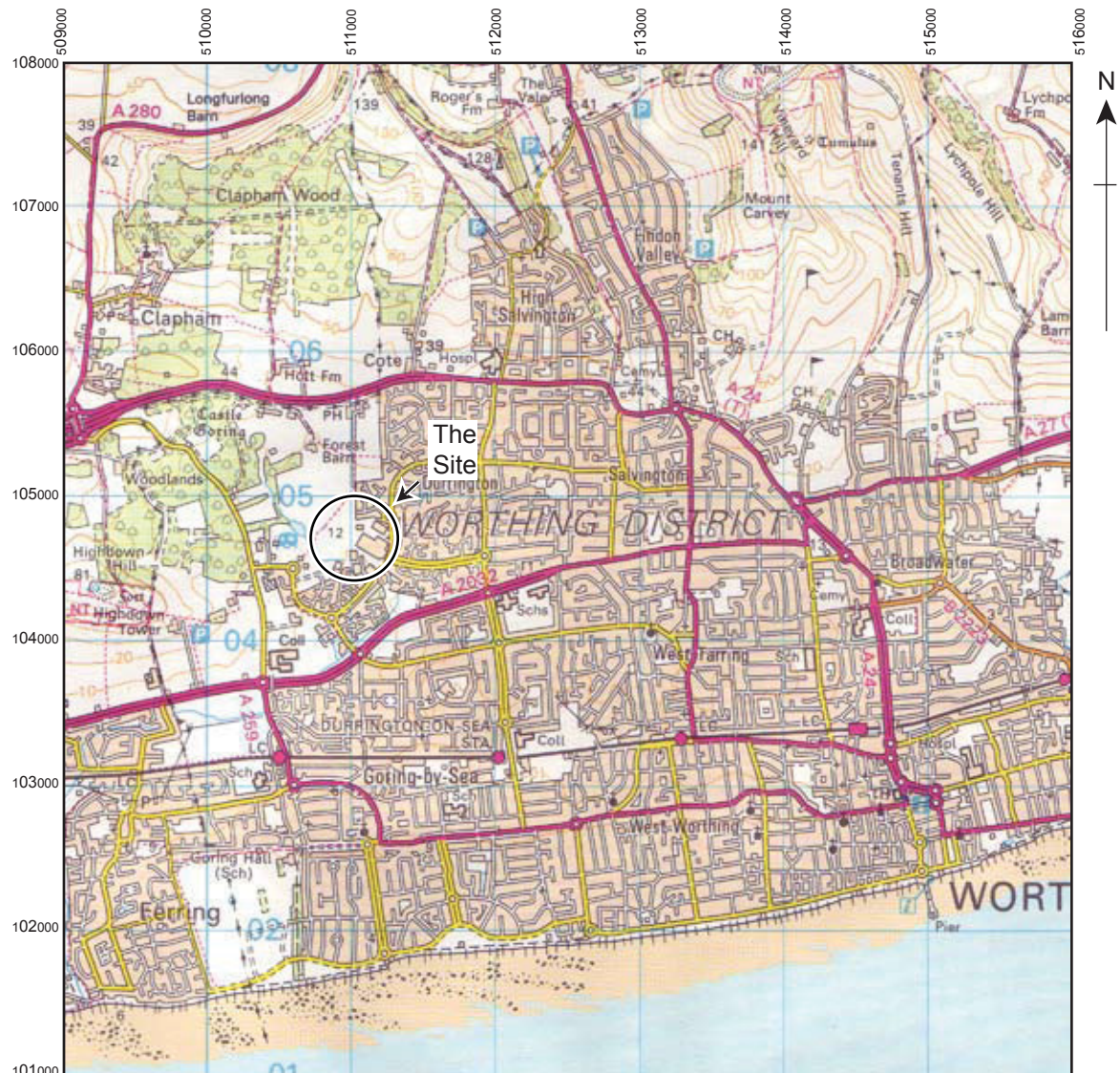
8. Archive Deposition

- 8.1 Following completion of each stage or the full extent of the fieldwork (as appropriate) the site archive will be prepared in the format agreed with the recipient museum. The excavation archive will be security copied and a copy deposited with the National Archaeological Record (NAR) before post-excavation analysis begins or as soon after as can be arranged.
- 8.2 The site archive will comprise all artefacts, environmental samples and written and drawn records. It will be consolidated after completion of the whole project, with records and finds collated and ordered as a permanent record. The archive will be prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990) and Archaeological Archives; A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and Curation (Brown & AAF 2007). On completion of the project the Developer/Landowner will discuss arrangements for the archive to be deposited with Worthing Museum.

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Figure 1: Site Location

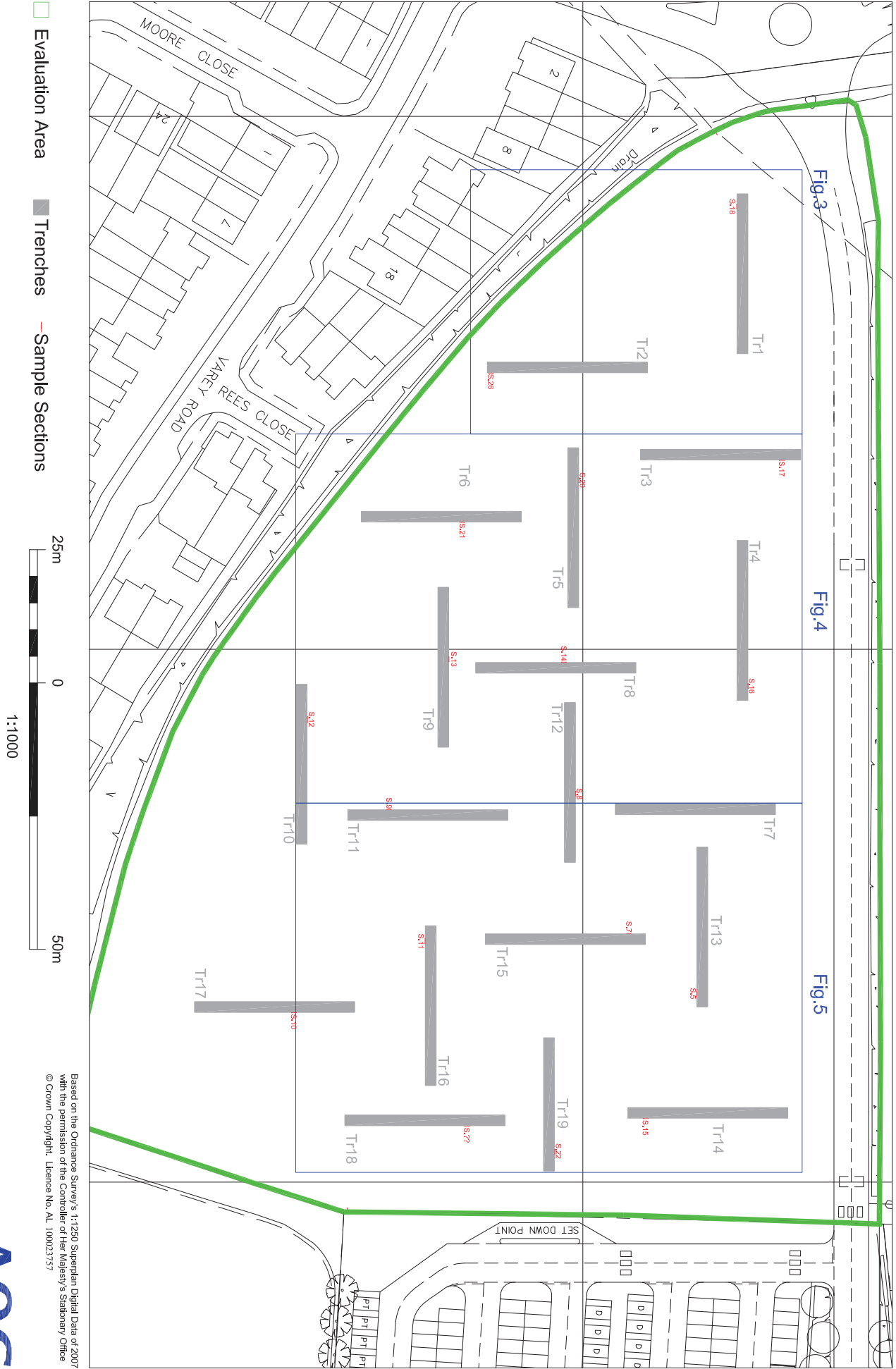


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan

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■ Natural Features



Figure 3: Trench Plan A

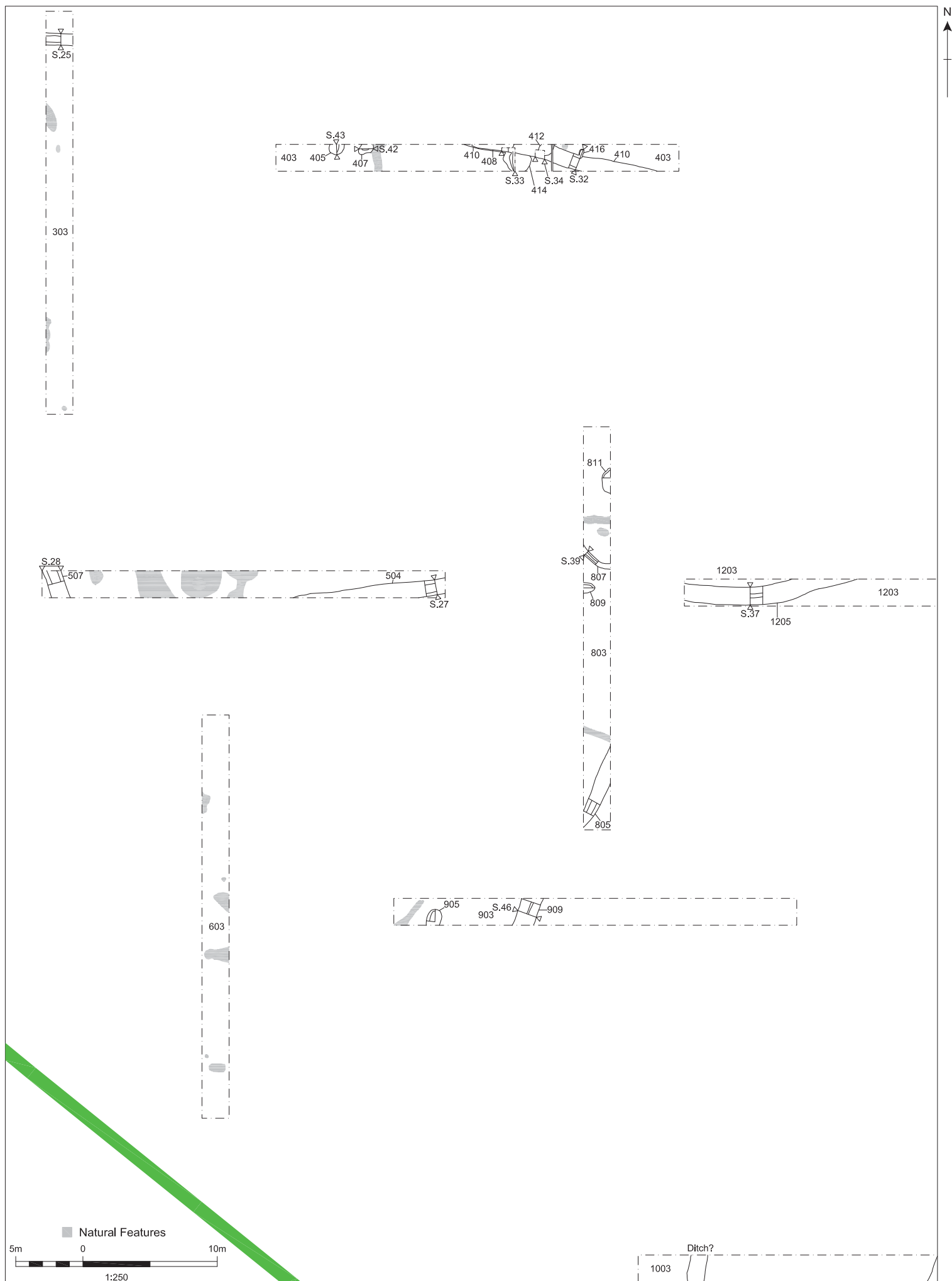


Figure 4: Trench Plan B

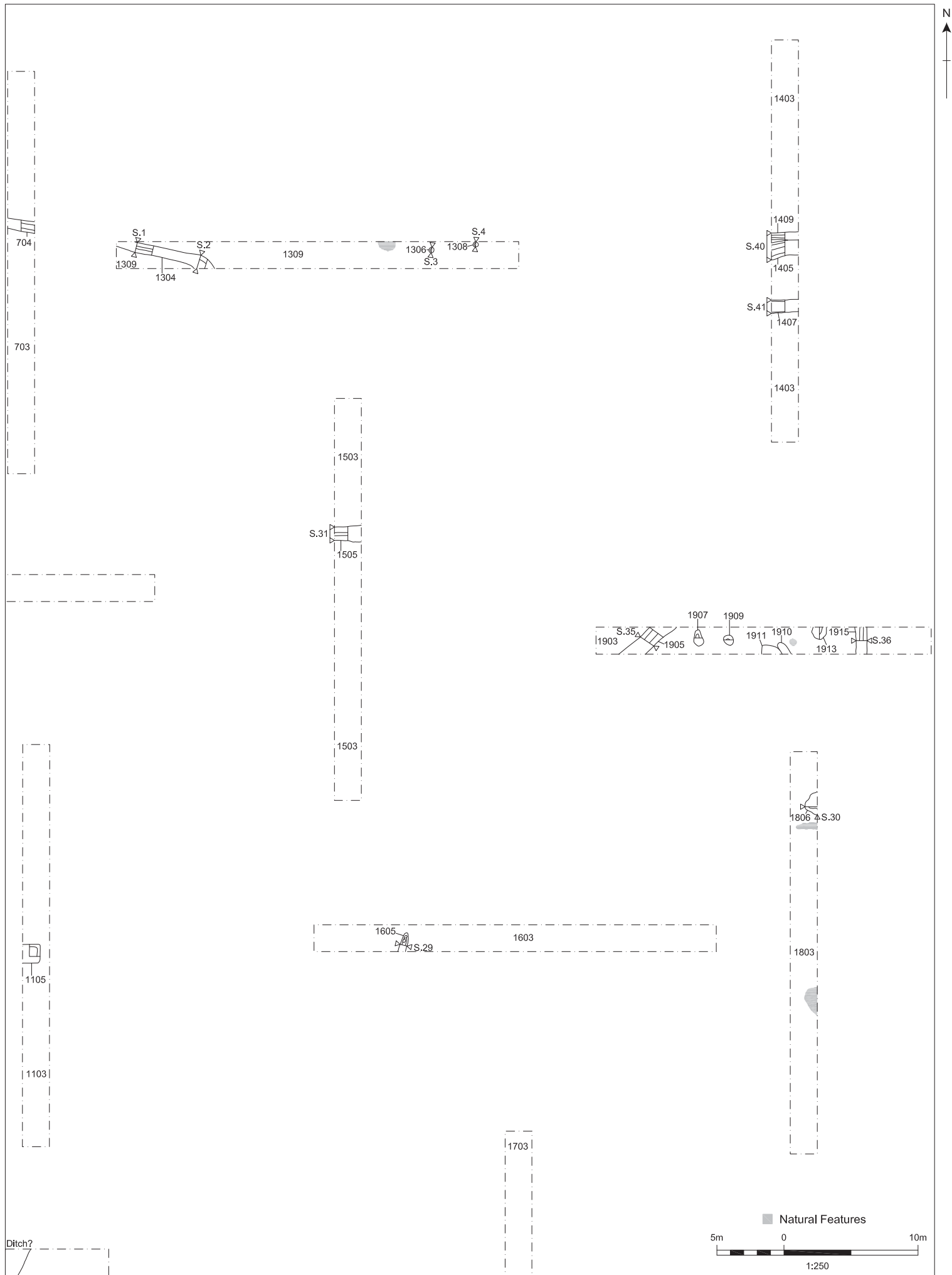


Figure 5: Trench Plan C

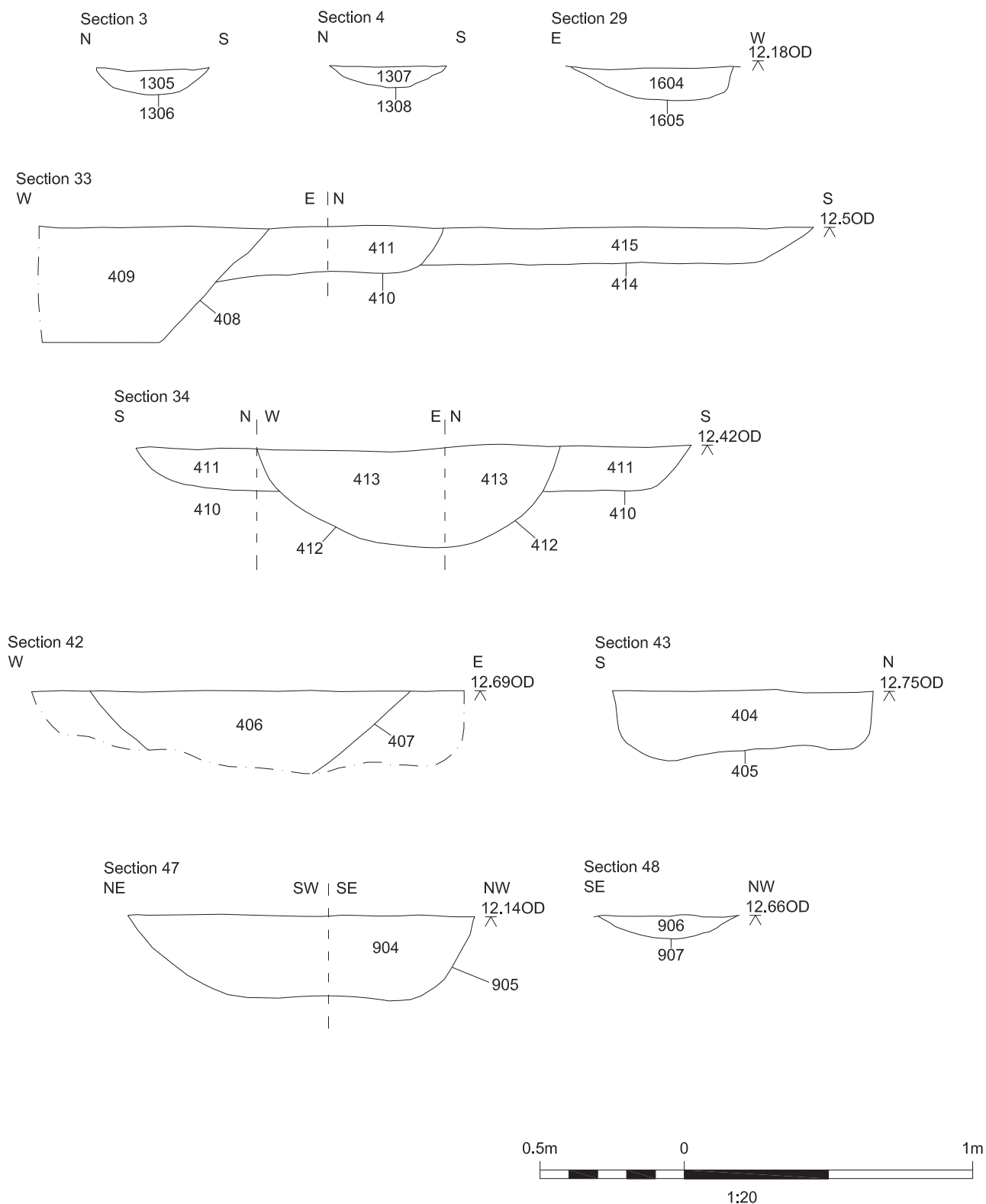


Figure 6: Pit Sections

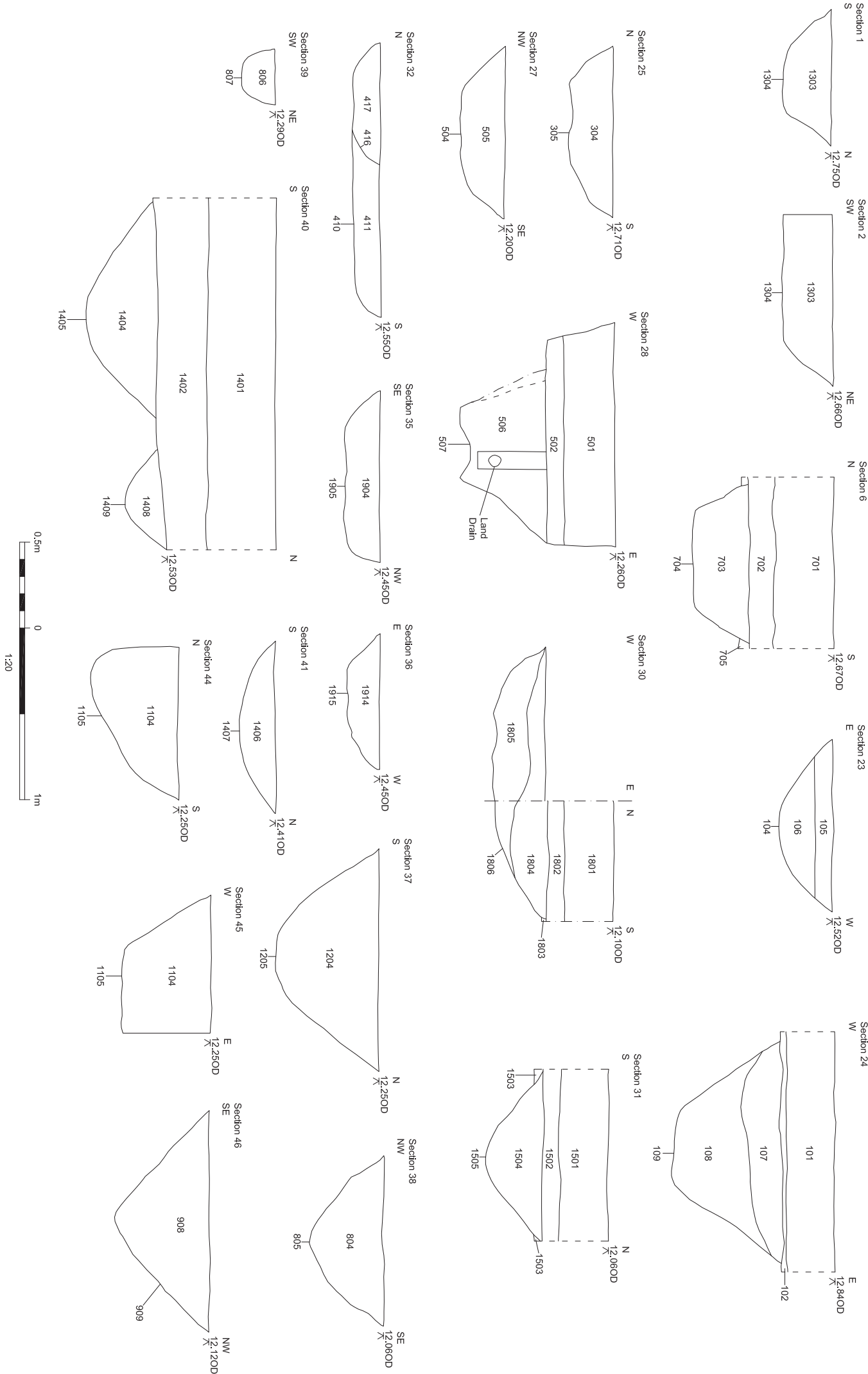


Figure 7: Ditch Sections

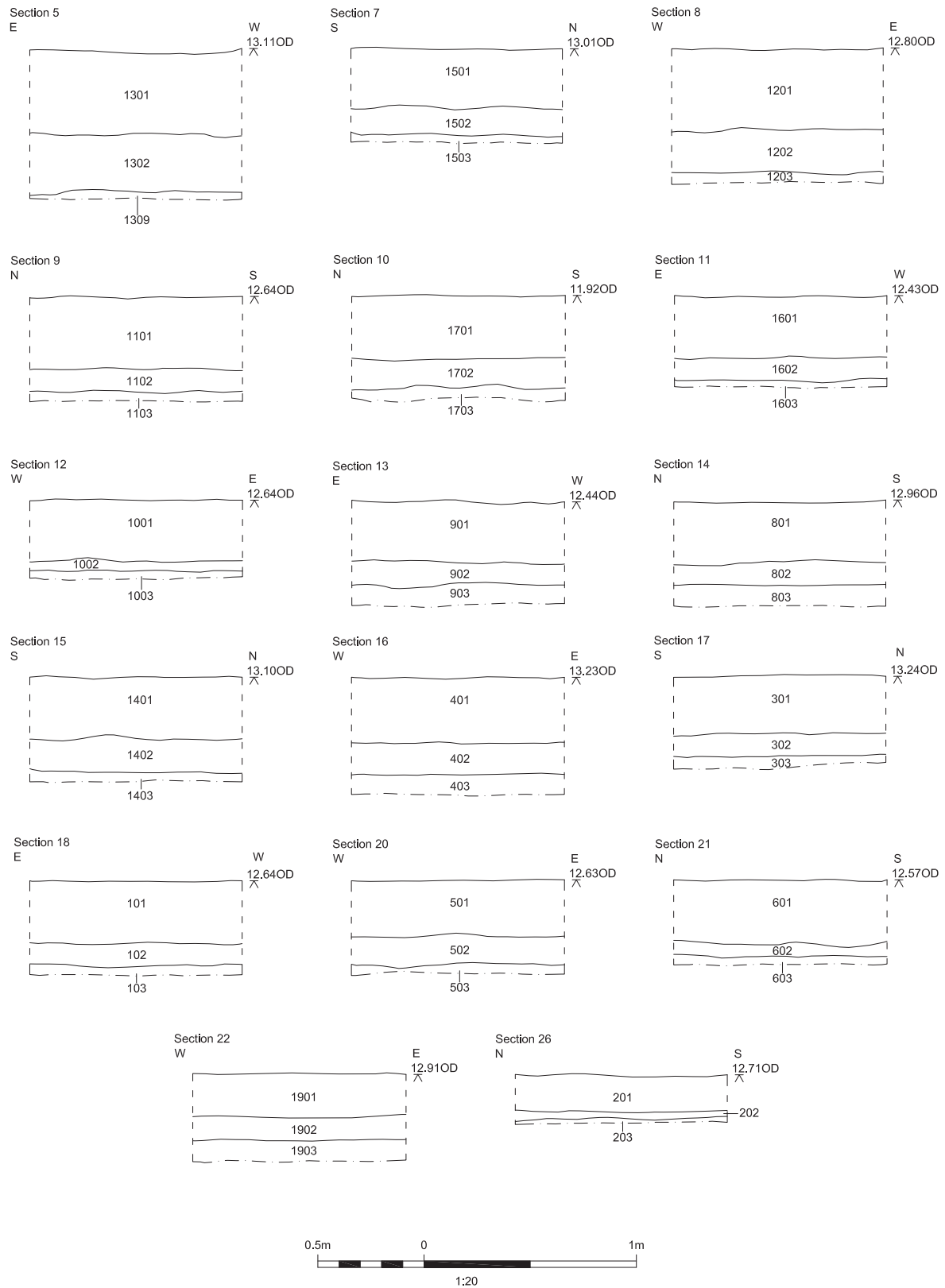


Figure 8: Sample Sections

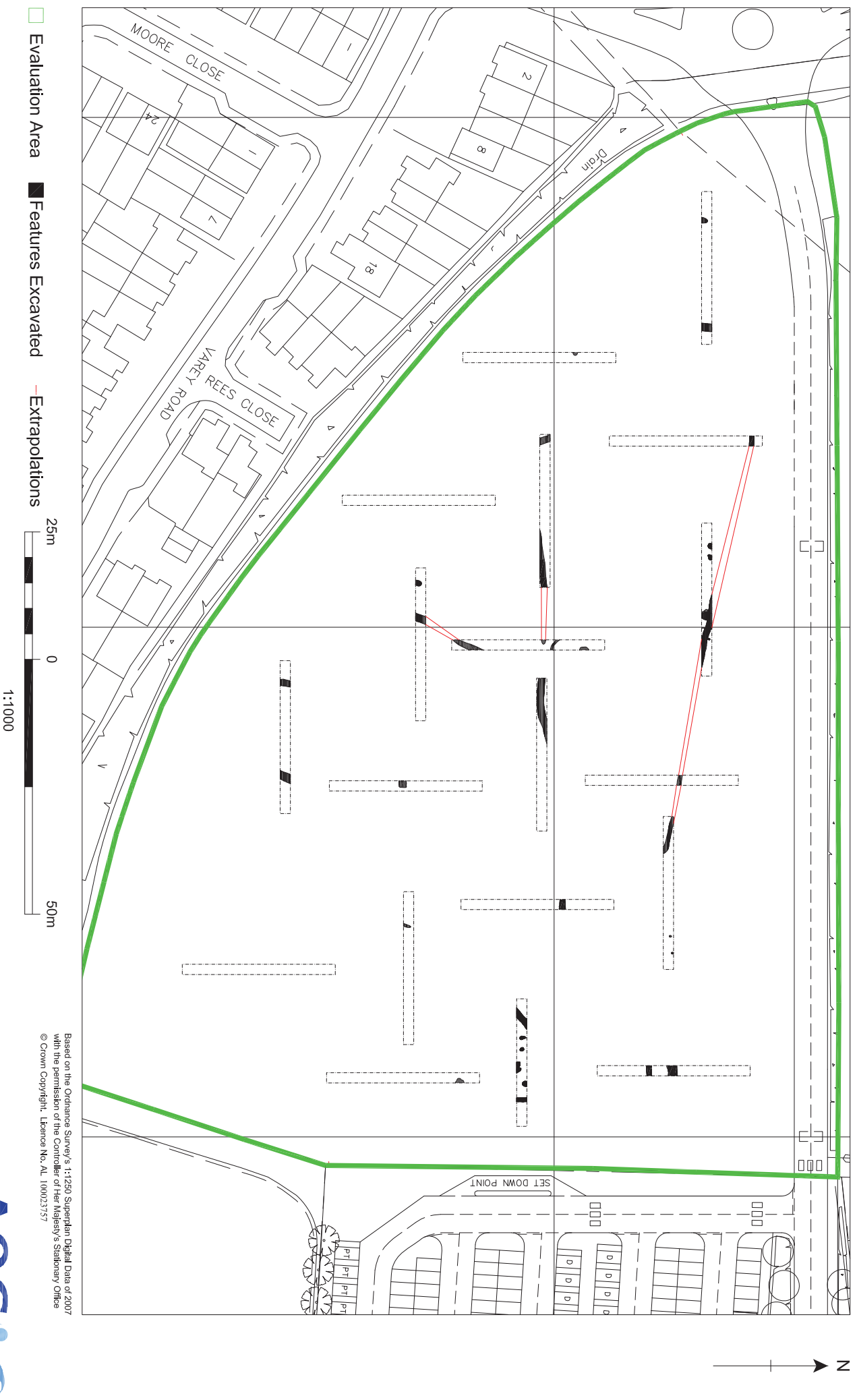


Figure 9: Feature Extrapolations

Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
101	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.40
102	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
103	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
104	Round profile ditch terminus	1.20	1.10	0.30
105	Secondary fill of 105	1.20	1.10	0.10
106	Primary fill of 105	1.00	0.80	0.20
107	Secondary fill of 109	2.00	1.30	0.20
108	Primary fill of 109	2.00	1.30	0.40
109	Flat-based ditch	2.00	1.30	0.60
201	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.25
202	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.06
203	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
204	Fill of 205	0.78	0.50	0.18
205	Tree Pit	0.78	0.50	0.18
301	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.27
302	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
303	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
304	Fill of 305	2.00	1.00	0.27
305	Flat-based ditch	2.00	1.00	0.27
401	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.32
402	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.15
403	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
404	Fill of 405	1.04	0.90	0.20
405	Pit	1.04	0.90	0.20
406	Fill of 407	0.70	1.00	0.29
407	Pit	0.70	1.00	0.29
408	Modern truncation	3.70	1.50	>0.40
409	Fill of 408	3.70	1.50	>0.40
410	Pit	19.40	1.00	0.20
411	Fill of 410	19.40	1.00	0.20
412	Pit	1.00	1.00	0.40
413	Fill of 412	1.00	1.00	0.40
414	Shallow hollow	2.00	2.00	0.20
415	Fill of 414	2.00	2.00	0.20
416	Shallow hollow	0.70	0.30	0.15
417	Fill of 416	0.70	0.30	0.15
501	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.40
502	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
503	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
504	Flat-based Ditch	11.00	1.00	0.25
505	Fill of 504	11.00	1.00	0.25
506	Fill of 507	2.00	1.10	0.41
507	V-shaped with flat base, Ditch	2.00	1.10	0.41

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
601	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.27
602	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
603	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
701	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.40
702	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
703	Fill of 704	2.00	0.90	0.30
704	Ditch with flat base	2.00	0.90	0.30
705	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
801	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
802	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
803	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
804	Fill of 805	5.00	1.00	0.40
805	V-shaped Ditch	5.00	1.00	0.40
806	Fill of 807	2.00	0.35	0.18
807	Flat-based Ditch	2.00	0.35	0.18
808	Fill of 809	0.80	0.40	0.18
809	Tree pit	0.80	0.40	0.18
810	Fill of 811	2.30	0.90	0.30
811	Tree pit	2.30	0.90	0.30
901	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
902	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
903	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
904	Fill of 905	2.20	0.40	0.08
905	Shallow linear	2.20	0.40	0.08
906	Fill of 907	1.20	1.10	0.30
907	Ditch terminus	1.20	1.10	0.30
908	Fill of 909	2.00	1.30	0.56
909	V-shaped Ditch	2.00	1.30	0.56
1001	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1002	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.05
1003	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1101	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.35
1102	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
1103	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1104	Fill of 1105	1.45	1.45	0.50
1105	Squared Ditch terminal or pit	1.45	1.45	0.50
1201	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.40
1202	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.20
1203	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1204	Fill of 1205	12.80	1.30	0.60
1205	Round-profile ditch	12.80	1.30	0.60

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
1301	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.40
1302	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1303	Fill of 1304	6.50	0.80	0.30
1304	Flat-based ditch	6.50	0.80	0.30
1305	Fill of 1306	0.40	0.40	0.09
1306	Post-hole	0.40	0.40	0.09
1307	Fill of 1308	0.40	0.40	0.08
1308	Post-hole	0.40	0.40	0.08
1309	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1401	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1402	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.15
1403	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1404	Fill of 1405	2.00	1.30	0.40
1405	Round-based ditch, cuts 1408	2.00	1.30	0.40
1406	Fill of 1407	2.00	1.00	0.20
1407	Flat-based ditch	2.00	1.00	0.20
1408	Fill of 1409	2.00	0.50	0.18
1409	Round-based ditch	2.00	0.50	0.18
1501	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1502	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.12
1503	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1504	Fill of 1505	2.00	1.00	0.38
1505	V-shaped ditch	2.00	1.00	0.38
1601	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1602	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
1603	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1604	Fill of 1605	1.30	0.60	0.11
1605	Root disturbance	1.30	0.60	0.11
1701	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1702	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.15
1703	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1801	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.30
1802	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.10
1803	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1804	Upper fill of 1806	1.50	0.90	0.20
1805	Primary fill of 1806	1.30	0.90	0.20
1806	Tree Pit	1.50	0.90	0.30
1901	Dark greyish brown Ploughsoil	30.00	2.00	0.20
1902	Mid yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	30.00	2.00	0.11
1903	Brickearth and gravel	30.00	2.00	NFE
1904	Fill of 1905	3.20	1.10	0.24
1905	Flat-based ditch	3.20	1.10	0.24

Context	Description	Length/m	Width/m	Depth/m
1906	Fill of 1907	1.30	0.61	0.18
1907	Irregular hollow	1.30	0.61	0.18
1908	Fill of 1909	0.84	0.84	0.14
1909	Tree Pit	0.84	0.84	0.14
1910	Fill of 1911	0.85	0.45	0.06
1911	Shallow Hollow	0.85	0.45	0.06
1912	Fill of 1913	0.82	0.80	0.16
1913	Tree pit	0.82	0.80	0.16
1914	Fill of 1915	2.00	0.80	0.15
1915	Flat-based ditch	2.00	0.80	0.15

Appendix B – Finds Reports

Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

A small assemblage of 15 sherds weighing 86 grams, was recovered from the evaluation. The majority of these are from one semi-complete Lezoux samian beaker, recovered from ditch fill 107. Virtually no slip remains but the relief on the abraded surfaces suggests it was decorated on the upper shoulder. This indicates that it is almost certainly a Déchelette form 72, produced in the latter half of the 2nd century. Given the semi-complete state of the vessel, it seems likely that the heavy abrasion may have been caused after the feature was sealed by, for example, a changing water-table. This vessel may suggest that some form of structured deposition was practiced, therefore indicating some potential for further interesting groups to be recovered in the event of further work. Only two other sherds are present; one is an undiagnostic oxidised sherd typical of local Arun Valley coarse wares (context 506), and the other is a bodysherd of Rowlands Castle ware which was produced from the later 1st century but which is most commonly found in 3rd century assemblages (context 1501).

Prehistoric Flintwork by Chris Butler

A small assemblage of six pieces of worked flint weighing 35g was recovered during the work, and is summarised in Table 1.

The assessment comprised a visual inspection of each bag, counting the number of pieces of each type of worked flint present, noting details of the range and variety of pieces, general condition, and the potential for further detailed analysis. A hand written archive of the assemblage was produced at this stage. Classification follows Butler (2005).

Context	Number
411	1 Possible microlith
1303	2 Hard hammer-struck flakes
1404	2 Fragments 1 Shattered piece

Table 1. The Flintwork

All of the debitage was a mid to light grey coloured flint, and comprised two hard hammer-struck flakes, two fragments and a shattered piece. One flake had some evidence for platform preparation, and is likely to be either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date, whilst the remaining pieces are undiagnostic.

A possible obliquely blunted microlith was found in Context 411. This is in a reddish-brown flint and is a fragment of a small bladelet which has been obliquely retouched at the proximal end. No other retouch is evident, and as the retouch resembles a notch, this may be a bi-product of microlith production rather than a microlith itself.

This small assemblage has no potential for further study. It is recommended that no further work be undertaken on this assemblage, although the worked flintwork could be retained for possible further study in the future. The natural flint can be discarded. A short summary paragraph should be included in the report and the handwritten assessment summary retained in the archive.

The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

The archaeological work recovered three tiny pieces (5g) of material labelled as slag from three individually numbered contexts. All were recovered from environmental residues. Two of the pieces (from [1504] and [1904]) consist of natural ferruginous concretions: numerous other examples of these were discarded during residue sorting as the material is natural to the Brickearth. The only piece of human origin is a tiny piece of 19th- century clinker, probably intrusive into context [1904]. No further work is required and the material has been discarded.

The Geological Material by Luke Barber

Three tiny pieces of stone were recovered from the environmental residues. All pieces are under 1g each and could quite easily be intrusive in their contexts. Two of the pieces consist of slivers of medieval West Country slate [1904] while context [107] contained a single piece of coal, probably from the 18th or 19th centuries. No further work is required and the material has been discarded.

Environmental Samples and Charcoal by Lucy Allott

A total of nine flots from bulk sediment samples were submitted for assessment. The flots were viewed under a stereozoom microscope at magnifications of x7-45 and scanned for environmental and archaeological remains. Two further charcoal fragments were submitted from two samples, <8> and <13>. The contents of each sample are noted in Table 2.

These flots were dominated by sediment and uncharred vegetation and two samples (<1> and <4>) produced no environmental remains at all. Occasional flecks of charcoal (<2mm) were evident in samples <2>, <3>, <5>, <6>, <9>, <10> and <12> and a single charred weed seed was noted in sample <12>. Several natural ferruginous concretions (Barber pers. comm.) were also present and although these have the appearance of being charred they are natural deposits common within the Wealden clays.

These samples have not produced significant environmental remains and have no potential for further work.

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Uncharred seeds	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charred Plant Remains	Identifications	Preservation	notes
Flots													
1	107	2	<5	5	95	Y							
2	105	<1	<2		98				*				
3	106	2	<5		98				*				flint frags. not worked
4	505	<2	<5	40	60								
5	506	4	5		90				**				flint frags. not worked
6	1404	4	5		98				*				
9	1914	<2	<5	10	80	Y							natural iron rich concretions
10	1504	<2	<5	18	80				*				
12	304	4	5	5	95				*	1	Poss.seed (indet.)	*	
Charcoal Samples													
4	505				N/A		1 twig frag.						N/A
13	411				N/A		1						N/A

Table 2. Flots and charcoal sample quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50).

References

Butler, C. 2005 *Prehistoric Flintwork*, Stroud, Tempus Publishing Ltd.

Appendix C– OASIS Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-58970

Project details

Project name ROMANY ROAD, WEST DURRINGTON, WEST SUSSEX

Short description of the project All but two of the trenches contained archaeological features. Most of these features are the remnants of boundary ditches that have been affected by centuries of ploughing. There were very few finds collected during the excavations: four flints and 15 sherds of Roman pottery. However, the lack of any modern material in the features, and frequent finds of prehistoric and Roman date in the immediate vicinity, suggests that many of the ditches are field boundaries of prehistoric or Roman date.

Project dates Start: 17-02-2009 End: 27-02-2009

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any project codes associated reference WMAG:2009/1 - Museum accession ID

Any project codes associated reference 30319 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m

Monument type BOUNDARY Neolithic

Monument type BOUNDARY Roman

Significant Finds BEAKER Roman

Significant Finds FLAKE Early Neolithic

Methods & 'Sample Trenches'
techniques

Development type Extensive green field commercial development (e.g. shopping centre, business park, science park, etc.)

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location WEST SUSSEX WORTHING WORTHING Romany Road, West Durrington

Postcode BN13

Study area 5.10 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 1110 0480 50.8314908424 -0.422208820488 50 49 53 N 000 25 19 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 11.60m Max: 13.30m

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief West Sussex County council
originator

Project design AOC Archaeology
originator

Project Andy Leonard
director/manager

Project supervisor Paolo Guarino

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive Worthing museum
recipient

Physical Archive ID WMAG:2009/1

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'

Physical Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Digital Archive Worthing Museum
recipient

Digital Archive ID WMAG:2009/1

Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Survey','Text'
available

Digital Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Paper Archive Worthing Museum
recipient

Paper Archive ID WMAG:2009?1

Paper Contents 'Ceramics','Worked stone/lithics'

Paper Media 'Context sheet','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey'
available '; 'Unpublished Text'

Paper Archive held at AOC until transfer
notes

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title ROMANY ROAD, WEST DURRINGTON, WEST SUSSEX PHASE 1
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Author(s)/Editor(s) Capon, L.

Date 2009

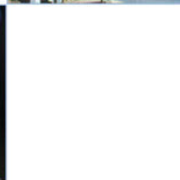
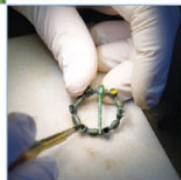
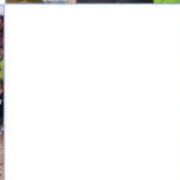
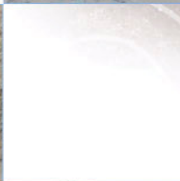
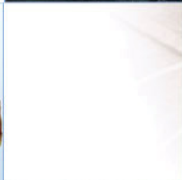
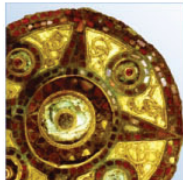
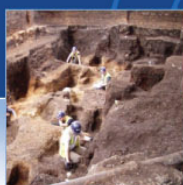
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