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Sherford New Community – Phase 1.1 Plymouth, Devon

(RMA 1.1 and NEVS Areas 1–10)

Archaeological Evaluation Report



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South Hams District Council – 7_49/2426/06/O



**Sherford New Community – Phase 1.1
Plymouth, Devon**

RMA 1.1 and NEVS Areas 1 – 10

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:

AECOM
The Crescent Centre
Temple Black
Bristol
BS1 6EZ

On Behalf of:

The Sherford Consortium
12 Forest Gate
Pewsham
Chippenham
Wiltshire
SN15 3RS

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AECOM, on behalf of the Sherford Consortium, to undertake a targeted trial trench evaluation on land within the Phase 1 area of the proposed new community at Sherford, Plymouth, Devon, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 253961, 53689. This report documents the results of two phases of evaluation, RMA1.1 and NEVS Areas 1-10 advanced planting phases.

The evaluation was part of the wider archaeological mitigation strategy for Phase 1 of the Sherford New Community development. The works consisted of 56 trenches, ranging from 10 m to 80 m in length and 1.60 m to 1.90 m in width. All trenches were positioned either in areas of advanced planting or targeted on geophysical anomalies identified by previous works. The programme of work was carried out in four phases from 12th to 16th January 2015, 12th to 27th February 2015, 18th March 2015, 23rd to 24th March and 30th to 31st March 2015.

The RMA1.1 archaeological evaluation revealed a low concentration of archaeological features in the southern areas of the site, with the majority of the features encountered forming old field boundaries and drainage ditches which had been removed in order to create larger fields. A metalled surface located to the south-east of the site could be post-medieval in date and related to the Sherford Kilns or the now demolished Gore Farm immediately to the east and north respectively.

The results of the NEVS Areas 1-10 evaluation in the northern areas of the site revealed a number of field and paddock boundaries which had been removed after the construction of the modern A38 dual carriageway. The truncated remains of a Middle Bronze Age roundhouse were identified in a single trench on the southern edge of the Site, whilst a number of Romano-British features were identified in one of the trenches to the extreme north of the Site which could represent a possible settlement activity. Artefacts recovered from the features indicated a date of early to mid-Romano-British with fine and coarsewares represented.

Due to the land use of the site and the depth of the soils above the natural geology, little truncation of the archaeological features was noted. A good correlation was seen between the geophysical survey and the results of the fieldwork, whilst changes in the natural geology and variations in the soil sequence accounted for some of the geophysical responses thought to be archaeology, particularly in the west and north of the site.



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Acknowledgements

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The archaeological evaluation was directed in the field by Matt Kendall and John Powell, with the assistance of Mark Bagwell, Kerry Birnie, Pete Capps, Darryl Freer, Frances Ward, Stewart Wareing, Owen Watts, Andy Sole, Phil Breach, Ed Grenier, Bill Moffatt, Steve Winterton, Luke Jarvis, and Steven Cole. The finds were assessed by Grace Jones and Phil Harding. The report was compiled by Matt Kendall and the graphics were prepared by Rob Goller. The overall project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Gareth Chaffey, who also edited this report.



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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by AECOM, on behalf of the Sherford Constorium, to carry out a targeted archaeological trial trench evaluation on land within the Phase 1 area of the proposed new community at Sherford, Plymouth, Devon, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 253961 53689 (hereafter 'the Site') (**Figure 1**). The evaluation was part of the wider archaeological mitigation strategy for Phase 1 of the Sherford New Community development required as conditions 52, 54, 56, and 93 in the outline planning application conditions (Plymouth City Council - 06/02036/OUT and the South Hams District Council - 7_49/2426/06/O).

1.1.2 The evaluation was positioned over areas of low archaeological potential identified in an earlier geophysical survey (Bartlett-Clarke Consulting 2014) and in areas of proposed new planting prior to any development taking place.

1.1.3 The fieldwork strategy and methodology was documented in Method Statements (URS 2014a, URS 2015) and was submitted to and approved by the County Archaeologist at Devon County Council (DCC) prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.4 The programme of work was carried out in four phases between 12th to the 16th January 2015, 12th to the 27th February 2015, 23rd to 24th March and 30th to 31st March 2015.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The Site comprises of land located in the western and northern edges of the overall site and is composed of 44 pasture and arable fields, as well as disused greenhouses belonging to Elburton Vineries. The Site is positioned immediately north-east of the town of Elburton, approximately 6.3 km east of the centre of Plymouth and 2.3 km south of Plympton. The Site is bounded to the north by Ridge Road, fields and Deep Lane to the east, fields and Sherford Road to the south, and Vinery Lane to the west (**Figure 1**).

1.2.2 The overall Site is approximately 660.30 hectares in size and comprises of mostly pasture and arable fields. The Site is located on the hilly land ranging from around 32 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the middle of the Site around Bridge Stream, and rising up to 100 m aOD in the north-eastern corner of the Site. The solid geology of the Site is comprised of Mid Devonian Slates and Mid Devonian Limestone (British Geological Survey Website).

1.3 Scope of document

1.3.1 This report documents the results of the targeted evaluation trenches associated with both the RMA1.1 and NEVS Areas 1-10 planting phases.



2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the Site has been detailed in an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) (URS 2014b) the results of which are briefly summarised below. A 0.5 km Study Area around the Site was established in order to provide the context for the discussion and interpretation.

2.2 Known sites

2.2.1 Within the Phase 1 area there are a number of Grade II listed buildings located at West Sherford dating from the 16th to 18th century and which are located on the south-eastern edge of the Site. Of local significance are the Sherford Kilns, located at the eastern of the Site, which seem to date back to the early 18th century.

2.2.2 The only scheduled monument identified is the Iron Age hillfort known as Wasteberrey Camp (NHL no.33794) which is located to the east of the wider development area. In addition, the Plympton St Maurice conservation area is located 370 m to the north of the wider development area.

2.3 The Site

2.3.1 There is very little evidence for early prehistoric activity area with only a single Mesolithic microlith being recovered from an area immediately south of the King George Playing Field, to the south west of the Site. Neolithic evidence is similarly scarce with a flint scatter and possible settlement activity being uncovered in the north-east of Elburton. Bronze Age activity seems to have increased in line with the wider area. Two circular earthwork features which appear to be barrows, have been identified to the north of the Site, and have been confirmed by later geophysical surveys (Bartlett-Clarke Consultancy 2014). In addition, an enclosure tentatively dated to the Bronze Age has been identified nearby to the barrow features.

2.3.2 Romano-British activity within the Site is mainly seen through coin find spots which from the 2nd to 4th centuries and are predominately located in the centre of the Site. A trial trench evaluation in 2006 (Exeter Archaeology 2006) identified settlement activity close to the find spots and denoted by an enclosure ditch, a hearth and a scatter of pits which were dated from the mid-Iron Age to the 4th century, suggesting a continued occupation presence on the Site.

2.3.3 Medieval activity within the Site seems to be predominantly made up of the remains of enclosures based on strip fields and which can still be seen in the south-west corner of the Site. The more interesting post-medieval activity within the Site are identified by Sherford Kilns, discussed above, and the now demolished Gore Farm which is located to the east of the Site and immediately north-west of Sherford Kilns. Shown on an 18th century plan and comprising of at least two substantial buildings, it was demolished by 1869.

2.4 Geophysical survey

2.4.1 A recent geophysical survey of the Site was undertaken in 2014 and 2015 (Bartlett-Clarke Consultancy 2014; 2015) and which has provided the targets for the trial trench evaluation in both the RMA1.1 and NEVS Areas 1-10 areas. The survey recorded anomalies suggestive of numerous significant archaeological features, which appear to suggest the presence of a prehistoric/Romano-British landscape (including barrows, possible settlement/stock enclosures and field systems) beneath the existing medieval and post-

medieval field systems. The majority of these features are located to the north of the Site on the lower ground near Bridge Stream.

2.5 Other investigations in the locality

2.5.1 A field-walking and trial trench evaluation was undertaken in 2006 (Exeter Archaeology 2006). The field-walking survey, which was located in a number of the fields within the Site, recovered a large number of flint artefacts, clustered in the area of the barrows, and a small number of pottery sherds which dated from the Iron Age through to the post-medieval period. Three of the trial trenches were located within the Site and identified settlement-type features which were dated to the Iron Age–Romano-British period. These features were mostly identified by an earlier geophysical survey (Stratascan 2006) although some were not visible in the survey results.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The overall aim of the programme of archaeological evaluation prior to planting was to provide further information regarding the potential location and nature of archaeological remains within the Site. If remains were present, the evaluation was to seek to establish sufficient details such that informed decisions could be made regarding the need and scope of any further mitigation that may be required before or during the development of the Site.

3.1.2 Consequently, the following general objectives have been identified (URS 2014a; 2015):

- *To ‘test’ the reliability of the results of the geophysical survey, via a small number of trenches in areas where no archaeological anomalies have been recorded;*
- *To establish the presence of archaeological remains, targeting the geophysical anomalies;*
- *To assess archaeological deposits or features encountered;*
- *To provide further information on the extent of modern disturbance; and*
- *if significant archaeological remains are identified, to inform the preparation of a strategy to mitigate the impact of the development.*

3.1.3 Specific objectives were identified for both phases of evaluation:

RMA 1.1

- *To establish the potential for and characterise deposits and features relating to the former prehistoric and Roman settlements and funerary activity within the site;*
- *To establish the potential for and characterise deposits and features relating to later archaeological activity within the site;*
- *In the RMA 1.1 planting areas, to characterise the nature of the geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin, by limited archaeological evaluation; and*
- *In the RMA 1.1 housing areas, to establish the presence and nature of archaeological remains, and to inform the preparation of a mitigation strategy.*

NEVS Areas 1-10



- To 'test' the reliability of the results of the geophysical survey, via a number of trenches in areas where no archaeological anomalies have been recorded;
- To provide further information on the extent of modern disturbance.

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the Method Statements (URS 2014a, URS 2015). In format and content it conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006). All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014).
- 3.2.2 All the trenches were laid out using a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30 mm or below and in general accordance with the pattern given in the Method Statement (**Figure 1**). The investigation areas were scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT) by operatives experienced in the use of such equipment prior to machining, and minor adjustments to the layout of trenches was required to take account of buried services.
- 3.2.3 Trench excavation was carried out using either a wheeled backhoe excavator or a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, measuring 1.60 m and 1.90 m wide respectively, and was supervised by a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times. The topsoil and subsoil were removed by machine in a series of level spits to the top of the archaeology or natural geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The machine excavated arisings were stored at the side of the trench and were scanned for artefacts at regular intervals from both the topsoil and subsoil.
- 3.2.4 Areas of investigation completed to the satisfaction of the County Archaeologist were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which they were excavated and left level on completion.

3.3 Recording

- 3.3.1 All features of an archaeological nature were investigated. Where applicable, small discrete features were fully excavated, larger discrete features were half sectioned and linear features were sample excavated along their length.
- 3.3.2 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using WA's *pro forma* recording system.
- 3.3.3 A complete drawn record of archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels was calculated and plans/sections annotated with OD heights.
- 3.3.4 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images were subject to managed quality control and curation processes which embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.



4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of 56 trenches ranging from 10 m to 80 m, and their subsequent archaeological recording and backfilling (**Figure 1**). The works consisted of two phases of works; **RMA 1.1 (Trenches 1–31)** and **NEVS Areas 1–10 (Trenches 32–56)**. **Trench 17** was not excavated due to access issues.

4.1.2 A total of six trenches had to be shortened from their original length. **Trench 1** was shortened from 50 m to 40 m due to the fact that new trees had been planted; **Trench 2** was shortened from 35 m to 22 m due to water logged conditions; **Trench 26** was moved and shortened from 50 m to 30 m due to the original position of the trench was located in an area of slurry; **Trench 45** was shortened from 60 m to 50 m due to space limitations; **Trench 47** was shortened from 50 m to 40 m due to fencing; and **Trench 54** was shortened from 50 m to 35 m due to a buried service. In addition, three trenches (**Trenches 37, 46, and 52**) had to be moved due to their locations near existing fencing or utilities.

4.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

4.2.1 All the trenches were situated within pasture or arable fields. To the north of the RMA 1.1 area (**Trenches 1–8 and 29**) the underlying geology was made up of a predominantly mid-greyish clay silt which contained frequent to sparse flecks of abraded slate (**Plate 1**) although patches of angular to sub-rounded limestone cobbles were encountered in **Trenches 6, 7, and 8**. To the south of the RMA 1.1 area (**Trenches 9–16, 18–31**) the underlying geology was comprised of Mid Devonian Limestone boulders (<0.50 m) which were within a mid-reddish brown silty clay matrix (**Plate 2**).

4.2.2 To the east of NEVS Areas 1–10 (**Trenches 43–56**) the underlying geology was Mid Devonian Slates (**Plate 3**) while to the west (**Trenches 32–42**), the underlying geology was made up of a mix of silty clays, Mid-Devonian Slates and Shillets (**Plate 4**).

4.2.3 The geology across the Site was overlain by topsoil, subsoil, and in some places colluvium which varied in depth across the Site from 0.96 m below ground level (bgl) in the lower parts of the Site to 0.24 m bgl in the higher areas (**Plates 3 and 4**).

4.2.4 Full details of the stratigraphic sequence can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.3 Summary of evaluation results

4.3.1 The evaluation trenches were either targeted on a number of geophysical anomalies which had been classed as *archaeological* or *historic field boundaries* and which were going to be affected by the proposed new planning, or areas of low archaeological potential to test the results of the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**).

4.4 RMA 1.1 (Trenches 1 to 31)

4.4.1 **Trenches 1, 2, 3, and 29** were located along the north-eastern edge of the Site and were targeted on a number of linear anomalies defined by the geophysical survey as being either *archaeological* in origin or as being *historic field boundaries* (**Figure 2**). **Trench 1** was excavated but no archaeological features were identified. **Trench 2** revealed ditch **205**, roughly aligned east to west and in the same position as a geophysical anomaly defined as a *historic field boundary*. Ditch **205** was recorded as measuring 0.81 m in width and 0.25 m deep with moderate to steep straight sides with a flat base, but no artefacts were encountered to provide a date. Excavation of **Trench 3** identified linear feature **304** aligned

on an approximate north to south alignment and in the same position as an *archaeological* classed geophysical anomaly. Measuring 1.12 m in width by 0.18 m deep and recorded as having moderate concave sides which ran into a concave base, this feature was also undated. Another linear feature was identified within **Trench 3** but investigation determined that it was natural in origin. **Trench 29** revealed no archaeological features.

- 4.4.2 **Trenches 4–8** were located along the western edge of the Site and were similarly targeted on results of the geophysical survey defined as either being *archaeological* in origin or a result of *cultivation* (**Figure 2**). Excavation of **Trenches 4, 5, 6, and 8** revealed no archaeological features although outcrops of limestone cobbles and boulders were noted and could have produced some of the geophysical results. Excavation of **Trench 7** identified a north-west to south-east aligned ditch, **704**, which was in the same location as a geophysical anomaly and which is defined as *archaeological*. Recorded as measuring 0.93 m wide and 0.26 m deep with moderate concave sides and a concave base, no dating was recovered from this feature.
- 4.4.3 **Trench 9** was located on the western edge of the Site and was located in a field which was not part of the geophysical survey but was within the footprint of one of the areas for the proposed planting. No archaeological features were encountered.
- 4.4.4 **Trenches 10–16 and 18–23** were located in fields of low archaeological potential north of Sherford Road and were targeted on anomalies defined as *archaeological, historic field boundaries, cultivation and ferrous* (**Figure 2**). The depth of the trenches varied with **Trenches 10, 15 and 16** reaching approximately 1.20 m bgl in depth before reaching the geological horizon (**Plates 1 and 2**). Further to the east, Mid Devonian Limestone bedrock was encountered at between 0.25 m bgl to 0.60 m bgl. Fissures encountered in a number of these trenches were investigated to determine whether they were natural in origin. The only archaeological feature encountered within these trenches was metallised surface **2205**, possibly representing a trackway which was running on aligned north-west to south-east through **Trench 22** and measured 2.38 m in width and 0.30 m in depth. The metallised surface of the trackway (**2206**) was formed from a layer of limestone and stone cobbles and pebbles which were embedded into a concretion mixed of lime and clay. At either edge of the trackway and sparsely spread over the top, continued re-use of the trackway resulted in wheel ruts forming which then infilled with a dark brown secondary fill (**2207**). A fragment of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from within the metallised surface whilst a post-medieval iron rod was recovered from its surface. It is possible that this track was also picked up at the eastern end of **Trench 21** (but was misinterpreted for limestone geology at this location).
- 4.4.5 **Trenches 24, 25, 30 and 31** were located in fields immediately to the east of the Elburton Vineries greenhouses and were targeted on anomalies defined as *cultivation and magnetic disturbance* (**Figure 2**). The trenches varied in depth from 0.72 m bgl to 1.31 m bgl before reaching the geological horizon (**Plates 3 and 4**) which was degraded Mid Devonian Limestone bedrock. No archaeological features were encountered within the trenches although the topsoil within **Trenches 30 and 31** did contain modern industrial artefacts which could account for the magnetic disturbance encountered during the geophysical survey. The significant depth of the trenches could be a result of modern landscaping associated with the construction of the greenhouses and their adjoining buildings.
- 4.4.6 **Trenches 26–28** were located on the eastern edge of the Site in fields either side of Sherford Road which were not part of the geophysical survey but were within the footprint of one of the areas for the proposed planting (**Figure 2**). The geological horizon was

reached between 0.3 m bgl and 0.5 m bgl and was identified as Mid Devonian Limestone in all three trenches. No archaeological features were encountered.

4.5 NEVS Areas 1–10 (Trenches 32 to 56)

- 4.5.1 **Trenches 32–34** were located on the southern edge of the Site, positioned in an areas associated with the proposed community area. Trench 32 contained no archaeological remains, whilst a single ditch **3304**, probably representing a field boundary was recorded in Trench 33. The ditch is aligned with a feature identified from the geophysical survey and the 18th and 19th century tithe maps (URS 2014b). The feature measured 1.4m in width and 0.50m in depth and contained no anthropogenic material.
- 4.5.2 **Trench 34** revealed the truncated remains of a drystone wall **3408** which represents the foundations of a circular roundhouse (**Plate 5 and 6**). The structure, which measured approximately 8m in diameter, featured sections of remnant wall which were curved with faced stones within the interior. The walls were only present on the north-eastern half of the exposed feature with other areas possibly affected by robbing and later truncation. Up to two courses of stone survived in places, with the majority of the wall only being one course high. It is likely that the stones acted as a foundation platform for a wooden structure. A construction cut **3415** for the wall was recorded in a limited number of locations but it appears that the cut was excavated into the slope of the hillside in order to make a level platform for the construction of the roundhouse. A possible entranceway was noted on the south-eastern side. Several rubble deposits were noted upon cleaning which appear to represent activity once the roundhouse had gone out of use.
- 4.5.3 Occupation spread **3409**, seemingly collected in a shallow hollow, was located in the centre of roundhouse **3408** which showed variations in colour with bands of charcoal and ash. A large quantity of Middle Bronze Age Trevisker pottery was recovered from the spread which was cleaned and recorded but not excavated.
- 4.5.4 **Trench 34** also contained a north-south aligned boundary ditch **3404** in its northern end. The feature, which matches well with the geophysical survey which suggests at a rectilinear enclosure in the area, measured 1.46m in width and 0.21m in depth. The ditch truncated east-west aligned gully **3406**. Pottery recovered from ditch **3404** suggests a prehistoric date and may relate to roundhouse **3404**.
- 4.5.5 **Trenches 35–37** were located on the western edge of the Site and targeted on a number on linear geophysical anomalies which had been defined as either being *cultivation*, *historic field boundaries* or *archaeological* in origin (**Figure 3**). Excavation of **Trench 35 (Plate 7)** revealed a north-west to south-east aligned gully **3506** which was recorded as measuring 0.7 m in width and 0.15 m deep with shallow concave sides with a concave base. Immediately to the north of **3506**, two parallel ditches (**3507** and **3509**) were encountered with an east to west alignment. These were investigated and were determined to be wheel ruts associated with an east to west aligned farm track. No dating was recovered from any of these features but they correspond to a geophysical anomaly which has been interpreted as an old field boundary. Excavation of **Trenches 36** and **37** revealed no archaeological features or deposits and an investigative slot into a possible feature identified it as a geological anomaly.
- 4.5.6 **Trench 38** was targeted on the western edge of the Site in a field which contained heavy *magnetic disturbances* (**Figure 3**). Excavation of the trench revealed a 0.13 m thick band of colluvium present in the north-eastern half of the trench and a liner feature which was identified as a land drain upon investigation.

- 4.5.7 **Trenches 39–41** were located in a field in the north-west corner of the Site and targeted on a number of linear and discrete anomalies that were defined by the geophysical survey as either being *historic field boundaries* or *archaeological* (**Figure 3**). Excavation of **Trench 39** identified a terminus of linear **3905** north-west to south-east aligned ditch located in the northern half of the trench, and was recorded as measuring 1.75 m in length by 0.76 m wide and 0.50 m deep with moderate straight sides with a 'V'-shaped base (**Plate 8**). No finds were recovered from **3905** and it does not seem to correspond to any of the targeted geophysical anomalies. While charcoal was present, there was not enough to warrant sampling for environmental analysis.
- 4.5.8 The excavation of **Trench 40** revealed three linear features, **4008**, **4009**, and **4013**, all of which were undated (**Figure 3**). Ditch **4008** was aligned north to south and was located at the south-western end of the trench (**Plate 9**). Recorded as measuring 1.73 m in width and 0.48 m deep with moderate concave sides with a concave base, it doesn't correspond with the geophysical results. Ditch **4009** was located at the north-eastern end of the trench and orientated on a north-west to south-east direction (**Plate 10**). Recorded as measuring 1.43 m in width and 0.56 m deep with moderate straight sides with a concave base, it matches up with a geophysical anomaly and could be an enclosure ditch which circles an area of higher ground. Gully **4013** is located at the south-western end of the trench and was north-west to south-east aligned and corresponds to another linear geophysical anomaly. Recorded as measuring 0.75 m in width and 0.45 m deep with steep concave sides with a concave base; **4013** is most likely some kind of drainage gully.
- 4.5.9 **Trench 41** encountered a single ditch **4104** aligned on a north to south orientation and located at the eastern end of the trench (**Figure 3**). Recorded as measuring 0.47 m in width and 0.30 m deep with moderate to steep straight sides with a concave base, it corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly and could be the truncated remains of an agricultural boundary or a drainage gully. No dating evidence was recovered from the feature.
- 4.5.10 **Trench 42** was located in a field in the north-western corner of the Site, south-west of the junction between Ridge Road and Vinery Road, and targeted on a concentration of geophysical results which were categorised as *archaeological* in origin (**Figure 3**). Excavation of the trench revealed seven features; three ditches/gullies, three pits, and a possible posthole. Artefacts recovered from the features indicate an early to mid-Romano-British date for six of the features. The concentration of these features which correspond to the geophysical results, suggests that there is a Romano-British settlement in the immediate area.
- 4.5.11 Pit **4206** was sub-oval in shape and located at the south-eastern end of the trench, measuring 0.9 m by 0.44 m and 0.10 m deep; it had shallow concave sides with a concave base. Gully **4207**, located in the middle of the trench, was north-west to south-east aligned and was recorded as measuring 0.48 m in width and 0.17 m deep with moderate concave sides and a flat base. Just to the south of **4207** were a pit and posthole. Pit **4209** was sub-circular in shape, measuring 1.05 m by 1.48 m and 0.24 m deep, with moderate concave sides with a concave base (**Plate 11**). Posthole **4212** was sub-circular in shape, measuring 0.35 m by 0.44 m and 0.08 m deep, with moderate concave sides and a concave base.
- 4.5.12 In the south-eastern half of **Trench 42**, ditch **4214** was recorded running on an east to west alignment and recorded as measuring 0.90 m in width and 0.40 m deep with steep concave sides with a concave base. Immediately to the south-east, ditch **4216** was orientated broadly north to south, and measured 0.70 m in width and 0.32 m deep with steep concave sides with a flat base. At the northern end of the trench, pit **4219** was recorded as sub-

circular in shape and measuring 3.80 m by 1.70 m and 0.40 m deep with moderate concave sides and an irregular concave base.

- 4.5.13 **Trenches 43–48** were located along the northern edge of the Site (**Figure 3**), in fields to the south of Ridge Road, and targeted on geophysical anomalies which have been defined as being either *geological*, *archaeological*, or *historic field boundaries*. A number of linear ditches as gullies were identified within these trenches and have been identified as being part of the old field system that was removed after the construction of the A38 dual carriageway. **Trench 43** encountered four linear features which were aligned either north to south or east to west. Ditch **4305** was located to the north-east of the trench and corresponded to a *historical field boundary anomaly* but was not excavated as it lined up with a section of extant field boundary. Ditch **4307** measured 1.39 m in width and 0.26 m deep with moderate concave sides with a flat base (**Plate 12**), and gully **4309** measured 0.46 m in width and 0.16 m deep and had moderate concave sides and a concave base. Ditch **4311** was not excavated due to flooding of the trench. A small number of pottery sherds were recovered from gully **4309** and after conversations with the tenant farmer these features seem to be part of an old paddock system which were removed when the field was enlarged (J. Rogers *pers. comm.*).
- 4.5.14 Excavation of **Trench 44** identified two undated linear features (**Figure 3**). Ditch terminus **4404** was aligned on an east to west orientation at the eastern end of the trench and was recorded as measuring 11 m in length by 0.78 m wide 0.34 m deep with steep straight sides with a flat base. To the east of terminus **4404**, ditch **4406** was north-south aligned and measured 1.45 m in width by 0.40 m deep with moderate to steep sides and a flat base. Both these features seem to be part of the old paddock system that was discussed in paragraph 4.3.18. **Trench 45** encountered one small gully, **4507**, which was located at the north-eastern end of the trench, running on a north to south alignment, and which corresponded to an *archaeological* geophysical anomaly (**Figure 3**). Measuring 0.9 m in width and 0.19 m deep with moderate concave sides with an undulating base; the gully was undated but it is probably a drainage gully associated with an old field system.
- 4.5.15 **Trenches 46, 47** and **48** were targeted on areas of geophysical activity which had been interpreted as *geological* in origin (**Figures 3** and **4**). A linear ditch, **4605**, and gully, **4608**, were identified in **Trench 46** and seem to be associated with old field boundaries. The only feature encountered in **Trench 47** was a small pit which contained burnt stone and was subsequently identified as being of modern date. No archaeological features were found with **Trench 48**.
- 4.5.16 Bands of colluvium and changes in the natural geology were seen in **Trenches 43–48** and seem to correspond to the *geological* anomalies in the geophysical survey and may also be part of the anomaly that was categorised as an *historic field boundary*.
- 4.5.17 **Trenches 49–52** were located on the north-eastern edge of the Site in fields south of Ridge Road and targeted on *archaeological*, *geological*, and *historic field boundaries* (**Figure 3**). **Trench 49** identified two undated linear features and a natural feature. Ditch **4904** measured 3.7 m in width and 0.2 m deep with shallow straight sides with a flattish base. Given the sloping topography of the surrounding ground, and that **4904** corresponds to a north-west to south-east *archaeological* anomaly, it is possible that this could be an old lynchet or the truncated remains of a field boundary. Ditch **4906** was located immediately to the north-east and was parallel to ditch **4904**. Measuring 0.73 m wide and 0.15 m deep with moderate concave sides which run into a flat base, this ditch could be associated with **4904** with both acting as part of an older field system.



- 4.5.18 **Trench 50** identified one undated linear feature **5004** which corresponded to the geophysical survey (**Figure 3**), located at the south-eastern end on the trench and north-east to south-west aligned. It measured 3.5 m in width and 0.3 m deep, and had shallow straight sides with a flat base. This ditch is similar to **4904**, suggesting that they could be part of the same feature; this theory is supported by the geophysical survey, which does seem to suggest that they are contemporary. **Trench 51**, while targeted solely on *geological* anomalies, encountered an undated linear ditch, **5103** (**Figure 3**). Recorded as measuring 1.72 m in width and 0.35 m deep with moderate concave sides with a concave base, **5103** is on the same alignment as **4906** and could be part of the same field system.
- 4.5.19 **Trench 52** identified one undated linear ditch **5203** at the eastern end of the trench and which was north to south aligned (**Figure 3** and **Plate 13**). Recorded as measuring 1.45 m in width and 0.49 m deep with moderate to steep straight side with a flat base, **5203** corresponded to a geophysical anomaly which was classed as an *historic field boundary*. This was confirmed as the ditch followed the same route as an undulation in the topography which traversed the field and joined up with an existing hedgerow.
- 4.5.20 **Trenches 53–56** were located in the north-eastern corner of the Site, in fields west of Deep Lane (**Figure 3**). **Trench 53** was targeted on geophysical anomalies classed as *geological* in origin and encountered no archaeological features. **Trench 54** was targeted on two linear anomalies. The stronger of these readings was identified as a live service through non-intrusive scanning and the weaker reading was identified during the excavation of the trench as a small water pipe. No archaeological features were identified.
- 4.5.21 **Trench 55** was targeted on a number of geophysical anomalies which had been classed as *historic field boundaries*, *archaeology*, or *geology* (**Figure 3**). Two undated linear features were identified in the trench. Ditch **5503**, located at the northern end of the trench, was recorded as measuring 1.6 m in width and 0.36 m deep with a moderate concave northern edge with a flat base (**Plate 14**). This indicates that **5503** is an old lynchet which had been constructed to create terracing. Ditch **5505**, located at the southern end of the trench, was 1.45 m in width by 0.20 m deep with moderate concave sides with a flat base. Corresponding to an archaeological geophysical anomaly, ditch **5505** probably represented an old field boundary which ran along the southern edge of the field.
- 4.5.22 **Trench 56** (**Plate 15**) was targeted on a sequence of linear geophysical results which were interpreted as being *archaeological* in origin (**Figure 3**). Two undated linear features were identified during the excavation of the trench and correspond to some of the geophysical results. Ditch **5604**, located at the southern end of the trench, measured 2.2 m in width and 0.34 m deep with shallow concave sides with a flat base. Ditch **5606**, located to the north of **5604**, measured 2.15 m in width and 0.30 m deep with shallow straight sides and a flat base. Both of these features seem to be part of a sequence of ditches which run into **Trench 49** and **Trench 55**, most likely being part of an old sequence of field boundaries.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered, ranging in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type are presented in **Table 1**. All finds have been at least briefly scanned, and this report summarises the range of material recovered, its nature, condition and potential date range.

Table 1. Finds total by material type

Material	Number	Weight (g)
Pottery	173	3452
Ceramic building material	6	429
Fired clay	4	67
Flint	3	17
Stone	2	202
Iron	2	160
Slag	1	400
Total	191	4727

5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 A total of 173 sherds of pottery, weighing 3452 g, was recovered from 11 contexts across eight features and layers of topsoil and subsoil. Middle Bronze Age activity was identified in **Trench 34**, with a large group of pottery from a rubble layer overlying roundhouse **3408** (141 sherds, 2683 g), representing a number of vessels. The grog-tempered wares included a vessel with a row of fingertip/fingernail impressions and a rounded, slightly out-turned rim. Another had at least two applied round bosses (50 mm diameter). It was not possible to ascertain if a body sherd with a curved handle/cordon was from the same vessel as that with the bosses or another vessel. Other vessels were represented by a rolled rim and a sherd with a very deeply incised V-shaped motif. The bases are flat and it has not been possible to reconstruct any of the profiles at this stage. This feature also contained body and base sherds from a vessel in a rock-gritted fabric. Hollow **3413**, a feature associated with the roundhouse, contained four sherds (85 g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, again in a rock-gritted fabric, including an internally bevelled and externally expanded rim, similar to a number of Trevisker Ware vessels from Trethellan Farm, Newquay (Woodward and Cane 1991). A single small and undiagnostic sherd came from ditch **3404**, probably of the same period.
- 5.2.2 Small quantities of Roman pottery were recovered from pits **4209** and **4219**, ditches **4207**, **4216** and **4311**, and the subsoil of **Trench 15 (Table 2)**. The pottery derived from eight contexts across five features and layers of topsoil and subsoil. Each feature produced between one and seven sherds of Roman pottery. The imported wares included three sherds of decorated Central Gaulish samian ware (form 37 bowls) from ditch **4216**. A mould stamp of BVTRIO (die 1a) (**Plate 16**), indicated an origin in the Lezoux centre of Central Gaul, AD 115–145 for one of the vessels (Hartley and Dickinson 2008, 133). The amphora comprised two sherds of Dressel 20 from ditch **4207** and five sherds from a Pélisset 47/Gauloise 4 amphora from pit **4209**. The Dressel 20 form was common in Britain from the late 1st century AD to the early 3rd century and was used to transport olive oil from the Roman province of Baetia in southern Spain (Peacock and Williams 1991, 136, class 25). The Pélisset 47/Gauloise 4 has a similar length currency, and carried wine from southern France (Peacock and Williams 1991, 142–143, class 27). A late Roman beaker base in an Oxford colour-coated fabric from pit **4209** was the only British fineware. The oxidised wares included a base with post-firing perforation from pit **4209** and an early Roman Severn Valley carinated bowl with an out-turned rim, from pit **4219**. The coarsewares comprised two sherds of the local South Devon ware, ‘a highly distinctive fabric with frequent black mica plates’, of 1st to late 4th century AD date (Bidwell and Silvester 1988, 43–4). A 2nd century bowl with pulled bead rim, flattened on top, in a sandy greyware fabric, came from pit **4219**.
- 5.2.3 The post-Roman wares included a small rim fragment in a granite-derived fabric from ditch **4207** may have come from a medieval cooking pot, but is too small to be dated. Post-

medieval redware and refined whiteware sherds came from the topsoil in **Trench 24** and subsoil in **Trench 9**.

Table 2. Quantification of pottery, by ware

Ware	Number	Weight (g)
<i>Roman</i>		
Samian	3	47
Dressel 20	2	368
Pélichet 47	5	40
Oxford colour-coated ware	1	4
Oxidised ware	1	111
Severn Valley ware	1	45
Fine oxidised ware	2	1
Greyware	1	13
South Devon ware	2	34
<i>?Medieval</i>		
Granite-derived ware	1	2
<i>Post-medieval</i>		
Redware	3	9
Refined whiteware	5	7
Total	27	681

5.3 Fired clay and ceramic building material

- 5.3.1 Six plain fragments of tile, all of probable Roman date, came from ditches **4207** and **4311**. Four amphorous and very soft pieces of a poorly wedged white and red clay were recovered from pit **4209**.

5.4 Worked flint

- 5.4.1 A bladelet of probable Mesolithic date was recovered from the topsoil in **Trench 32**. Part of a flint knife came from the rubble deposit overlying roundhouse **3408**, however it was not possible to ascertain if it was contemporary with the pottery from this feature. A flint flake was recorded from pit **4209**. The cortex was pitted and indicates it was collected from the beach gravels.

5.5 Stone

- 5.6 A fine-grained stone fragment from a bar-shaped object of oval cross-section came from ditch **3404**. It was highly polished and may be part of a whetstone or other polishing stone. An igneous rock fragment from hollow **3413** showed no obvious signs of working. **Iron**
- 5.6.1 An iron rod, 360 mm, with a round, flat head at one end and square nut at the other, came from trackway **2205** but is of post-medieval or modern date. A slightly curved rod fragment was also recovered from the same context.

5.7 Slag

- 5.7.1 A noticeably dense hearth bottom came from pit **4219**, and is indicative of iron smithing in this area.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No material suitable for environmental sampling was present within the monitored areas and accordingly no samples were taken.



7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Overview

- 7.1.1 The archaeological evaluation revealed that there is a low concentration of archaeological features in the areas evaluated. Due to the depths of the soils above the natural geology, particularly in the northern part of the Site, there seems to be little truncation of the archaeological features. Given the shallow nature and the toughness of the bedrock in the south of the Site, it seems likely that these areas may not have been ploughed and that any archaeological features that are present should have a good potential for survival.
- 7.1.2 A good correlation was seen between the geophysical survey and the results of the fieldwork, however changes in the natural geology and variations in the soil sequence accounted for some of the geophysical responses that had been classed as archaeology, particularly in the west and north of the Site. The areas of low archaeological potential identified by the geophysical survey, mainly in the south of the Site, have been confirmed by the evaluation results where only the metalled surface in **Trench 22** was encountered.

7.2 Archaeological Potential

- 7.2.1 The Middle Bronze Age roundhouse **3408** identified within Trench 34 suggesting further archaeological potential in the area. Although the structure was revealed, cleaned, recorded but not excavated, a good quantity of datable material was recovered. The structure will now be covered and preserved *in situ*, with alterations made to the advance planting in area to aid the conservation of the structure further. Such a structure may indicate that further such settlement evidence is located in the immediate vicinity.
- 7.2.2 The concentration of Romano-British features within **Trench 42**, coupled with the results of the geophysical survey, suggests that there is the potential for settlement activity within this area. While it is possible that this could be a 'Romanised' Iron Age settlement, the quality and un-abraded nature of the sherds suggests that the artefacts have not travelled far and are indicative of relatively high status occupation. The identification of this settlement, along with the features found in the previous trial trench evaluation in 2006, suggests that there were multiple sites of Romano-British occupation within the Site. Given that there is not much known about the Romano-British occupation of Devon, there is significant archaeological potential for this period.
- 7.2.3 The vast majority of the other features encountered during the investigations were either seen to be part of a post-medieval field system, or were undated. It is likely that the majority of these are part of the old field system that was still present in the 1869 Ordnance Survey map and which was removed during the construction of the A38 dual carriageway, and enlargement of the fields which are present today.
- 7.2.4 The track identified in **Trench 22** could possibly be a trackway which led away from the Sherford Kilns and was used as a transportation route for the export of the quarried Limestone. As it seems to correspond to a geophysical anomaly, it is possible that this could be present across the western section of the Site. The wheel ruts and track way encountered within **Trench 35** is most likely the access route to the now demolished Gore farmstead which is located immediately to the west of the Sherford Kilns. However, this theory is unproven as the full alignment and length of the track is unknown. While these are not particularly significant in the wider setting, they do have some local historical significance.



8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

8.1.1 It is recommended that the finds and archive be deposited with Plymouth City Museum on completion of the project under accession code **PLYMG:2015.6**, however the museum is currently not accepting archaeological archives. The archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's Salisbury office under the site code **107560**.

8.2 Archive

8.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Plymouth City Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following.

- 1 cardboard box of artefacts, ordered by material type.
- 1 file of paper records and A3/A4 graphics.

8.3 Discard policy

8.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant further analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995).

8.4 Security copy

8.4.1 In line with current best practice, (e.g. Brown 2011); on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

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10 APPENDIX 1: TRENCH TABLES

RMA 1.1: Trenches 1 – 31

TRENCH 1		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 40.00 m x 1.60 m		Max. depth: 0.45 m	Ground level: 38.69–39.42 m
Co-ordinates: E 254382.35 N 54074.29 and E 254258.10 N 54042.45			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Layer	Topsoil: mid-dark reddish brown, sandy clay loam with common root (grass) disturbance and sparse small angular stones	0–0.20 m
102	Layer	Subsoil: mid reddish brown, sandy clay loam with sparse small angular stones <0.17 m	0.20–0.37 m
103	Layer	Natural: mid reddish brown with variable patches of grey material throughout, sandy silty clay containing abundant fragments of degraded slate/stone and moderate small pieces of angular natural slate >0.10 m	0.37 m+

TRENCH 2		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 22 m x 1.60 m		Max. depth: 0.46 m	Ground level: 38.50–39.18 m
Co-ordinates: E 254357.41 N 54090.16 and E 254376.31 N 54077.05			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid brown sandy clay, abundant grass roots occ. Degraded subangular lias gravel <0.002 m	0–0.22 m
202	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay with occ subangular lias gravel <0.005 m	0.22–0.40 m
203	Layer	Colluvium: mid greyish brown, sandy clay with occ angular lias gravel <0.005 m	0.40–0.46 m
204	Layer	Natural: mid grey sandy clay with limestone pebbles <0.08 m	0.46 m+
205	Cut	Ditch	0.30 m deep
206	Fill	Secondary fill	0.30 m thick

TRENCH 3		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 26.50 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.4 m	Ground level: 39.50–40.06 m
Co-ordinates: E 254306.60 N 54175.61 and E 254280.38 N 54172.57			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	Layer	Topsoil: mid yellowish brown, slightly clayey silty sand loam with sparse (grass) roots and sparse small angular stones	0–0.13 m
302	Layer	Subsoil: greyish yellowish brown clayey silty sand loam with sparse small angular stones <0.15 m	0.13–0.28 m
303	Layer	Natural: yellow brown sandy clay and degraded slate or sandstone	0.2 m+
304	Cut	Ditch	0.18 m deep
305	Fill	Secondary fill	0.18 m thick
306	Cut	Natural feature	0.2 m deep
307	Fill	Secondary fill	0.2 m thick

TRENCH 4		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.59 m	Ground level: 43.32–43.60 m
Co-ordinates: E 254044.25 N 54256.28 and E 254033.23 N 54232.41			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	Layer	Topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy loam with in frequent roots. Soft and uncompacted with gritty texture. Rare inclusions of fine angular gravel and decayed plant matter	0–0.18 m



402	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown with reddish hue, sticky gritty sandy loam with occ rootlets and rare fine angular gravel. More compacted	0.18–0.51 m
403	Layer	Natural: mid brown sandy loam, malleable but friable with a gritty texture, fine gravel inclusions throughout, decayed plant matter	0.51 m+

TRENCH 5		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.51 m	Ground level:39.11–40.50 m
Co-ordinates: E 253976.59 N 54098.57 and E 253964.66 N 54051.59			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
501	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown, silty clay	0–0.12 m
502	Layer	Subsoil: mid greyish brown silty loam, friable, rare manganese flecks, rare fine gravel, rare white glazed modern pottery (disgarded), occ rounded lias pebbles <0.005 m rare glass (modern)	0.12–0.33 m
503	Layer	Natural: mid yellowish brown silty clay frequent large rounded lias pebbles <0.20m	0.33 m+
504	Layer	Natural undulation	0.59 m

TRENCH 6		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:25.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.72 m	Ground level:35.90–37.43 m
Co-ordinates: E 253941.08 N 54000.36 and E 253929.30 N 53977.36			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay with occ angular lias stone pebbles <0.02 m	0–0.26 m
602	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay with occ angular lias pebbles <0.06 m	0.26–0.69 m
603	Layer	Natural: mixed: mainly mid greyish brown sandy clay with small rounded lias gravel <0.01 m, there are also patches of dark silty clay containing abundant sandstone blocks <0.30 m	0.69 m+

TRENCH 7		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:10.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.72 m	Ground level:33.26–33.37 m
Co-ordinates: E 253897.56 N 53926.00 and E 253890.69 N 53918.28			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay. Frequent small lias gravel <0.10 m	0–0.36 m
702	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay, frequent lias gravel	0.31–0.76 m
703	Layer	Natural: mid greyish brown with occ small lias pebbles <0.02 m	0.70+
704	Cut	Ditch	0.28 m deep
705	Fill	Secondary fill	0.28 m thick

TRENCH 8		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:30.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.73 m	Ground level:32.1–32.29 m
Co-ordinates: E 253851.53 N 53892.45 and E 253827.08 N 53873.73			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
801	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay with abundant lias gravel and occ small rounded lias pebbles <0.01 m	0–0.23 m
802	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay with occ sub rounded lias pebbles <0.05 m	0.23–0.46 m
803	Layer	Natural: mid reddish brown silty clay with abundant gravel and occ sub rounded lias pebbles <0.05 m	0.46 m+

TRENCH 9		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.87 m	Ground level:34.9–35.22 m
Co-ordinates: E 253797.54 N 53572.19 and E 253816.28 N 53526.27			



Context	Description	Depth (m)
901	Layer Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay with abundant coarse gravel and occ angular lias gravel <0.0 m	0–0.34 m
902	Layer Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay, occ large gravel <0.05 m, rare glazed pottery found at the far N extent only	0.34–0.56 m
903	Layer Natural: variable- mostly reddish brown sandy clay with occ ridges of bedrock, at the northern edge there is a significant hump of natural material and the level fluctuates frequently, some fragments of bedrock are significantly large =0.70 m, the rocky patches are associated with areas of greyer silty clay	0.56 m+

TRENCH 10		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.2 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 1.2 m	Ground level:38.63–40.36 m
Co-ordinates: E 254100.86 N 53545.97 and E 254063.67 N 53512.74			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1001	Layer Turf-topsoil: mid brownish pink silty clay, quite firm, frequent fragments of degraded slate/shale <0.005 m, infrequent subangular limestone 0.005–0.0010 m	0–0.35 m	
1002	Layer Subsoil: mid-dark pinkish brown, silty clay, frequent fragments of degraded shale 0.005–0.010 m, infrequent- moderate subangular limestone 0.02–0.07 m, rare subrounded quartz 0.03–0.05 m, diffuse horizons above and below	0.35–0.7 m	
1003	Layer Colluvium: mid pinkish brown, silty clay, same inclusions as (1001), dense	0.70–0.80 m	
1004	Layer Natural: mid-pale brownish pink clay with frequent flecks of shale throughout. At the NE end patches of angular limestone 0.10–0.50 m, infrequent patches of manganese throughout and angular limestone 0.20–0.50 m	0.80 m+	
1005	Layer Undulation in natural- see (1003)		
1006	Layer Undulation in natural- see (1003)		

TRENCH 11		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:49.9 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.88 m	Ground level:40.46–42.65 m
Co-ordinates: E 254149.19 N 53573.58 and E 254115.84 N 53536.79			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1101	Layer Turf-topsoil: mid brown clayey silt, friable, infrequent fragments of limestone and slate 0.001–0.006 m, moderate grass roots	0–0.33 m	
1102	Layer Subsoil: mid brown clayey silt, friable, infrequent sub angular limestone 0.0010–0.0050 m	0.33–0.58 m	
1103	Layer Natural: mid brownish pink clayey silt, friable, frequent angular limestone 0.05–0.50 m	0.58–0.8 m	
1104	Layer Natural: mid-pale silty clay, abundant fragments of degraded shale 0.001–0.003 m, infrequent subangular limestone 0.20–0.4 m,	0.80+	

TRENCH 12		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.2 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.96 m	Ground level:44.06–45.44 m
Co-ordinates: E 254177.72 N 53581.01 and E 254228.57 N 53574.17			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1201	Layer Topsoil: mid reddish brown, silty sandy clay loam with sparse fragments of angular shale and stone, rooting on surface (turf)	0–0.25 m	
1202	Layer Subsoil: mid-dark reddish brown, sandy clay loam with sparse fragments of angular stone, degraded shale/slate and limestone, diffuse horizon with (1201)	0.25–0.65 m	
1203	Layer Natural: mid reddish brown sandy clay with 50% poorly sorted very angular small-large limestone fragments upto boulders running along base of the trench. Clear horizon with (1202)	0.65 m+	



1204	Layer	Geological anomaly: curvilinear natural gully possible water eroded, irregular base and sides, filled with red brown sandy clay with no inclusions	0.85 m
1205	Layer	Geological anomaly: shallow curvilinear, probable water eroded channel, undulating sides and base filled with dark red brown sterile sandy clay	0.85 m

TRENCH 13		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:29.05 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.6 m	Ground level:47.55–47.90 m
Co-ordinates: E 254274.37 N 53601.11 and E 254264.93 N 53573.51			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1301	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid pinkish brown clayey silt, quite firm, frequent fragments of shale and limestone 0.001–0.015 m, moderate grass roots, diffuse horizon to (1302)	0–0.33 m
1302	Layer	Subsoil: mid pinkish brown clayey silt, quite loose, moderate fragments of shale and subangular limestone 0.005–0.015 m, infrequent subangular limestone towards base of layer 0.025–0.60 m	0.33–0.6 m
1303	Layer	Natural: mid brownish pink silty clay, quite firm but loosened by abundance of large stones, abundant degraded shale fragments 0.001–0.003 m and frequent angular limestone 0.10–0.60 m. at the south end of the trench limestone gives way to moderate angular slate 0.10–0.30 m, at the very southern end there is a pocket of manganese natural which doesn't contain inclusions	0.6 m+

TRENCH 14		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 1.03 m	Ground level:48.81–52.69 m
Co-ordinates: E 254280.37 N 53564.78 and E 254301.97 N 53517.75			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1401	Layer	Topsoil: dark reddish brown, sandy clay loam with surface rooting (turf) and common small limestone and shale angular fragments	0–0.22 m
1402	Layer	Subsoil: mid-dark reddish brown sandy clay loam with randomly distributed sparse to common small limestone and slate angular fragments, very thick subsoil deposit becoming deeper at the base of slope in N of trench representing hillwash or Colluvial deposit	0.22–0.98 m
1403	Layer	Natural: outcropping in S extent of trench on highest point comprising yellow fractured sedimentary sandstone sloping northwards towards S extent becoming loose dark red-brown sandy clay with abundant 50% angular stone fragments	0.18 -0.98 1 mm+

TRENCH 15		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:30.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.96 m	Ground level:40.85–41.80 m
Co-ordinates: E 254162.14 N 53526.27 and E 254139.33 N 53504.43			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1501	Layer	Topsoil: reddish dark brown sandy clay loam with common small angular subangular stones and common root disturbance from grass	0–0.20 m
1502	Layer	Subsoil: pinkish red mid brown silty clay loam with sparse small and more medium subangular angular stones and rare pottery (one sherd recovered in section) thickness of subsoil suggests it represents hillwash material from higher ground to north suggesting a fairly dynamic environment in the past responsible for its formation	0.20–0.80 m
1503	Layer	Natural: brownish dark red silty sandy clay with abundant small angular stones, (absence of bedrock in this trench may again represent soils formed by hillwash)	0.80+

TRENCH 16		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:30.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 1.2 m	Ground level:44.36–45.87 m
Co-ordinates: E 254239.29 N 53559.39 and E 254212.58 N 53541.63			



Context	Description	Depth (m)
1601	Layer Slightly reddish mid brown silty sandy clay loam with common root disturbance (grass roots) and sparse small sub angular-angular stones	0–0.22 m
1602	Layer Subsoil: reddish mid brown sandy clay loam with common small rare medium angular-subangular stones randomly distributed-poorly sorted, thickness of subsoil suggests it represents hillwash material from the north suggesting a fairly dynamic environment in the past	0.22–0.92 m
1603	Layer Natural: pinkish reddish mid brown, fairly compact sandy clay silt with sparse small subangular-angular stones, absence of bedrock in this trench may again represent hillwash material from the north part of the same process of soil development as the formation of (1602)	0.92 m+

TRENCH 18		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.7 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.55 m	Ground level: 45.27– 48.45 m
Co-ordinates: E 254252.34 N 53652.84 and E 254302.03 N 53650.06			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1801	Layer Turf-topsoil: mid-dark pinkish brown silty clay, dense but not compact material, frequent fragments of shale and limestone 0.002-0.005 m and moderate grass roots, diffuse horizon with (1802)	0–0.27 m	
1802	Layer Subsoil: mid red brown, silty clay, dense and quite compact, moderate fragments of slate and limestone 0.003-0.02 m, infrequent angular limestone 0.05-0.20 m, clear horizon with (1803)	0.27–0.55 m	
1803	Layer Natural: mid-pale brownish pink, silty clay, abundant degraded slate/shale 0.001-0.003 m frequent angular limestone 0.05-0.40 m and infrequent patches of dense irregular manganese	0.55 m+	

TRENCH 19		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.7 m	Ground level: 50.94– 1.31 m
Co-ordinates: E 254401.62 N 53681.00 and E 254378.14 N 53662.67			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1901	Layer Topsoil: dark reddish brown, sandy clay loam with surface (turf) rooting and common small angular slate and limestone fragments	0–0.20 m	
1902	Layer Subsoil: dark reddish brown, sandy clay loam with randomly distributed poorly sorted small-medium angular slate and limestone fragments	0.20–0.50 m	
1903	Layer Natural: dark reddish brown sandy clay with abundant -50% small to large pieces of very angular limestone or slate fragments, comprises displaced/eroded sedimentary stone randomly deposited possibly by very high energy activity such as runoff from glacial melt	0.50 m+	
1904	Layer Natural feature: area of black slightly organic deposit noted in NE extent, sterile sandy clay relating to a treethrow	0.50–0.70 m	

TRENCH 20		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.8 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.75 m	Ground level: 42.85–44.56 m
Co-ordinates: E 254346.96 N 53762.42 and E 254302.85 N 53738.93			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2001	Layer Topsoil: mid pinkish brown, sandy clay, dense but not compact, frequent fragments of slate and limestone 0.002-0.025 m moderate rooting	0–0.35 m	
2002	Layer Subsoil: mid-pale pinkish brown sandy clay, dense but not compact material, infrequent fragments of slate and limestone 0.006-0.030 m	0.35–0.60 m	
2003	Layer Colluvium: mid-pale pinkish brown sandy clay, quite compact frequent fragments of shale and limestone 0.001-0.003 m, patches of manganese	0.60–0.75 m	



2004	Layer	Natural: mid-pale brownish pink clay with abundant slate and limestone fragments 0.001-0.005 m, infrequent angular limestone 0.04-0.25 m in concentrated pockets	0.75 m+
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TRENCH 21		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.6 m	Ground level: 45.33–48.69 m
Co-ordinates: E 254365.05 N 53781.56 and E 254416.78 N 53780.53			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2101	Layer	Topsoil: mid-slightly reddish brown soft sandy clay loam with abundant rooting on surface from grass and abundant small angular-subangular stones	0–0.20 m
2102	Layer	Subsoil: mid reddish brown, sandy clay loam with sparse small angular and subrounded stones, rare medium angular slate and limestone	0.20–0.50 m
2103	Layer	Natural: reddish brown sandy clay loam with sparse small-medium angular- subangular stones	0.50 m+
2104	Layer	Outcrop of stone- this could be a continuation of the trackway in Trench 22	0.50 m+

TRENCH 22		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.3 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.32 m	Ground level: 50.23–50.47 m
Co-ordinates: E 254442.90 N 53804.62 and E 254428.62 N 53757.38			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2201	Layer	Topsoil: mid brown sandy clay with pinkish hue, frequent fragments of slate and limestone <0.01m, well established turf and heavily rooted	0–0.15 m
2202	Layer	Subsoil: yellowish mid brown sandy clay, some rooting, occasional small to medium angular slate <0.03 m	0.15–0.28 m
2203	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock	0.28 m+
2204	Layer	Geological feature	-
2205	Cut	Cut of trackway	0.45 m deep
2206	Fill	Backfill of trackway	0.26 m thick
2207	Layer	Colluvial layer	0.45 m thick

TRENCH 23		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 48.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.65 m	Ground level: 51.80–53.30 m
Co-ordinates: E 254445.66 N 53721.37 and E 254461.22 N 53674.77			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2301	Layer	Topsoil: dark slightly reddish brown, loose and crumbly, silty sandy clay loam with abundant (grass) roots and common small angular-subangular and angular slate fragments	0–0.18 m
2302	Layer	Subsoil: mid reddish brown slightly silty sandy clay loam with sparse small angular-subangular stones	0.18–0.48 m
2303	Layer	Natural: comprises very random rubbly loose small-medium angular-subangular limestone with common large boulder limestone running along the base, this is within red brown sandy clay soils, a patch of stone free red sandy clay was located along the east side of the trench, this was examined and found to be natural	0.48 m+

TRENCH 24		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.93 m	Ground level: 34.89– 5.21 m
Co-ordinates: E 253991.69 N 53778.40 and E 253968.47 N 53735.26			
Context	Description		Depth (m)



2401	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent gravel, occasional very dense concentrations of gravel, occasional modern pottery (small sample kept) occasional angular lias stones <0.08 m	0–0.24 m
2402	Layer	Subsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional patches of gravel and rare subrounded lias pebbles <0.06 m	0.24–0.42 m
2403	Layer	Colluvium: mid brown sandy clay, occasional slate fragments <0.05 m occasional large lias bedrock fragments <0.20 m	0.42–0.76 m
2404	Layer	Natural: in northern end of trench-dark grey silty clay, occasional large lias slabs <0.40 m- in the rest of the trench mid brown sandy clay, regular patches of bedrock (angular limestone <0.40 m)	0.76 m+

TRENCH 25		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.72 m	Ground level:34.76–35.69 m
Co-ordinates: E 254044.55 N 53805.69 and E 254091.35 N 53790.09			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2501	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay, regular gravel, occasional fragments of glass and white glazed pottery, occasional subangular lias pebbles <0.05 m	0–0.31 m
2502	Layer	Subsoil:mid brown sandy clay with infrequent large angular limestone <0.30 m	0.31–0.65 m
2503	Layer	Natural: variable light brownish grey sandy clay to dark grey silty clay, frequent bedrock concentrations <0.30 m	0.65+
2504	Layer	Made ground: mid greyish brown sandy clay, abundant gravel, occasional very small slate fragments, thin layer of modern disturbance visible after extension to repsec	0.20–0.44 m

TRENCH 26		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:30.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.3 m	Ground level:56.12–56.38 m
Co-ordinates: E 254662.51 N 53886.43 and E 254693.16 N 53887.82			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2601	Layer	Topsoil: mid brown with reddish hue, sandy loam, soft and loose texture with frequent root inclusions no stone inclusions	0–0.15 m
2602	Layer	Subsoil: mid red brown soft and loose sandy loam with infrequent roots, no stone inclusions	0.15–0.29 m
2603	Layer	Natural: light reddish brown sandy loam with high concentration 70-80% of small <0.10 m to large 0.40 m angular rocks possible shale or limestone with quartz veins	0.29 m+

TRENCH 27		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.5 m	Ground level:54.61–55.50 m
Co-ordinates: E 254748.69 N 53879.25 and E 254715.28 N 53838.91			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2701	Layer	Topsoil: mid brown with reddish hue soft and loose sandy loam with frequent root inclusions, no stone inclusions	0–0.28 m
2702	Layer	Subsoil: mid red brown soft and loose sandy loam with in frequent roots, no stone inclusions	0.28–0.47 m
2703	Layer	Natural: light reddish brown sandy loam with high concentration of small <0.01 m to large 0.40 m angular rocks- either shale or limestone with quartz veins	0.47 m+

TRENCH 28		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions:50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.34 m	Ground level:52.41–52.49 m
Co-ordinates: E 254806.95 N 53832.99 and E 254845.13 N 53801.03			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2801	Layer	Topsoil: Slightly reddish dark brown silty sandy clay loam with sparse roots and sparse limestone fragments (<0.05 m).	0 – 0.24 m



2802	Layer	Natural – Limestone bedrock formed of mainly small to medium angular limestone and rare to sparse large limestone bolders in a dark reddish brown clay sand deposit.	0.24 m+
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TRENCH 29		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.6 m		Max. depth: 0.6 m	Ground level: 38.17–39.05 m
Co-ordinates: E 254328.40 N 54044.70 and E 254358.31 N 54004.79			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2901	Layer	Topsoil: dark slightly reddish brown, sandy silty clay loam with sparse roots on surface and sparse angular stones	0–0.18 m
2902	Layer	Subsoil: mid reddish brown silty sandy clay loam with sparse small angular stones, diffuse interface with (2903)	0.18–0.50 m
2903	Layer	Natural: dark reddish brown sandy clay loam and fragmented shale	0.50 m+

TRENCH 30		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.4 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 1.07 m	Ground level: 33.73–33.92 m
Co-ordinates: E 354052.50 N 53861.28 and E 254019.11 N 53823.51			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3001	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid-pale grey brown sandy clay, frequent-moderate fragments of angular gravels, infrequent subrounded degraded limestone 0.02-0.03 m angular coke 0.005 m fragments of charcoal, dense	0–0.40 m
3002	Layer	Subsoil: mid grey brown sandy clay, dense, moderate-infrequent fragments of angular gravels and subrounded limestone 0.02-0.03 m, rare fragments of charcoal, coke, glass and concrete 0.30-0.50 m	0.40–0.78 m
3003	Layer	Natural: NE end – pale pinkish grey degraded slabby bedrock clay, very granular and dense, rare subangular limestone <0.40 m, SW end dark brown silty clay with frequent-abundant angular-subangular limestone 0.05-0.50 m dense but not compact	0.78 m+

TRENCH 31		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 51.3 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 1.31 m	Ground level: 32.73–33.49 m
Co-ordinates: E 253956.56 N 53841.80 and E 254000.23 N 53815.27			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3101	Layer	Turf-topsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay, occasional large degraded concrete slabs, frequent small degraded glass fragments, occasional very small subrounded lias gravel, rare charcoal flecks and large roots	0–0.40 m
3102	Layer	Subsoil: mid greyish brown sandy clay, same inclusions as (3101)	0.40–0.56 m
3103	Layer	Colluvium: naturally formed slump of silty clay only present in NW end of trench occasional small rounded lias pebbles <0.005 m mid grey brown	0.56–0.96 m
3104	Layer	Natural: at NW end of trench- mid brown silty clay, small rounded lias stones, at SE end- dark greyish brown silty clay, abundant large angular limestone slabs up to 0.80 m down to small limestone fragments.	0.96 m+

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TRENCH 32		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.35 m	Ground level: 54.90–56.44 m
Co-ordinates: E 2541123.516 N 53191.3665 and E 254117.961 N 53166.374			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3201	Layer	Topsoil: Dark reddish brown silty clay loam, frequent hale fragments and pea grit. Diffuse horizon with 3202 below, roots throughout	0-0.25 m



3202	Layer	Subsoil: Dark reddish brown sandy, silty clay loam. Increasingly dry and unconsolidated along basal boundary. Very common shale fragments.	0.25-0.35 m
3203	Layer	Natural: Unconsolidated slate in matrix of dry yellow brown sandy clay.	0.35 m +

TRENCH 33		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 25.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.34 m	Ground level: 63.62–64.57 m
Co-ordinates: E 254265.798 N 53213.04 and E 254289.55 N 53222.098			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3301	Layer	Topsoil: Dark reddish brown silty clay loam, frequent shale fragments and pea grit. Roots throughout. No subsoil in eastern half of trench	0-0.29 m
3302	Layer	Subsoil: Dark reddish brown coarse sandy silt loam, predominantly made up of slate fragments and a thin soil matrix.	0.29-0.34 m
3303	Cut	Ditch	0.50 m deep
3304	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [3303]	0.50 m deep
3305	Layer	Natural: Unconsolidated slate in matrix of dry yellow brown sandy clay.	0.34 m+

TRENCH 34		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.9 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.60 m	Ground level: 64.71–66.48 m
Co-ordinates: E 254508.925 N 53308.956 and E 254482.574 N 53266.757			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3401	Layer	Topsoil: Dark reddish brown clay-loam, friable, thin turfline/organic horizon for top 0.10m, common angular slate inclusions.	0-0.26 m
3402	Layer	Subsoil: Dark reddish brown clay loam. Thin layer comprised of weathered slates and base of topsoil. Common angular slates.	0.26-0.33 m
3403	Layer	Natural: Slate with seams/lenses of reddish brown clay within base of trench	0.33 m+
3404	Cut	Ditch	0.21 m deep
3405	Fill	Primary fill of [3404]	0.21 m thick
3406	Cut	Gully	0.16 m deep
3407	Fill	Primary fill of [3406]	0.16 m thick
3408	Wall	Drystone wall/roundhouse	-
3409	Layer	Occupation spread	-
3410	Cut	Pit	-
3411	Fill	Fill of [3410]	-
3412	Fill	Rubble fill of [3413]	-
3413	Cut	Hollow	-
3414	Fill	Rubble fill associated with [3408]	-
3415	Cut	Construction cut	-
3416	Fill	Natural deposit within interior of [3408]	-

TRENCH 35		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 70.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.45 m	Ground level: 48.42–52.13 m
Co-ordinates: E 254256.30, N 54363.29 and E 254245.03, N 54295.72			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3501	Layer	Topsoil: mid reddish brown, silty clay, sparse rounded/angular stones <0.0005 m, loose, common rooting	0.00–0.15 m
3502	Layer	Subsoil: mid/pale brown, silty clay, sub rounded/angular stones <0.01 m, sparse rooting	0.15–0.35 m
3503	Layer	Colluvium: brownish yellow, silty clay, no visible cc's, soft and fluffy, clear horizon with below	0.35–0.45 m



3504	Layer	Natural: changeable reddish brown- red, silty clay, onto slate bedrock	0.45 m+
3505	Fill	Secondary fill of [3506]	0.15 m thick
3506	Cut	Ditch/gully	0.15 m deep
3507	Cut	Track-side ditch (S.side)	0.17 m deep
3508	Fill	Secondary fill of [3507]	0.17 m thick
3509	Cut	Track-side ditch (N.side)	0.10 m deep
3510	Fill	Secondary fill of [3509]	0.10 m thick
3511	Cut	Natural feature	0.35 m deep
3512	Fill	Secondary fill of [3511]	0.35 m thick

TRENCH 36		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.2 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.55 m	Ground level:53.40–56.60 m
Co-ordinates: E 254245.44, N 54449.42 and E 254259.87, N 54401.21			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3601	Layer	Topsoil: mid reddish brown, silty clay, sparse rounded/angular stones <0.0005 m, loose, commopn rooting	0.00–0.36 m
3602	Layer	Subsoil: mid/pale brown, silty clay, sub rounded/angular stones <0.01 m, sparse rooting	0.22–0.50 m
3603	Layer	Colluvium: yellow, silty clay, no visible cc's, clear horizon with below	0.22–0.55 m
3604	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock	0.33 m+

TRENCH 37		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 40.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.42 m	Ground level:65.54–65.83 m
Co-ordinates: E 254219.89, N 54601.86 and E 254255.32, N 54582.26			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3701	Layer	Topsoil: mid reddish brown, silty clay, frequent sub angular stones 0.005–0.020 m, common rooting as turfed	0.00–0.35 m
3702	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock	0.42 m+
3703	Layer	Colluvium	0.20–0.45 m
3704	Cut	Geological depression filled with with (3703)	0.06 m deep

TRENCH 38		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 59.1 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.54 m	Ground level:68.08–68.69 m
Co-ordinates: E 254286.18, N 54722.79 and E 254257.63, N 54671.79			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3801	Layer	Topsoil: dark brown reddy grey, silty clay, turfed, common rooting, common sub angular stones 0.005–0.01 m	0.00–0.26 m
3802	Layer	Subsoil: mid greyish purply brown, silty clay, abundant sub angular stones 0.005–0.05 m	0.18–0.31 m
3803	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock with patches grey/ green/ yellow natural shillet	0.35 m+
3804	Layer	Colluvium: mid brown, silty clay, abundant angular slate stones	0.28–0.41 m

TRENCH 39		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 59.0 x 1.85 m		Max. depth: 0.76 m	Ground level:68.59–69.05 m
Co-ordinates: E 254339.96, N 54840.13 and E 254322.08, N 54782.79			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
3901	Layer	Topsoil: mid-dark greyish brown, silty clay, turfed, rooted, occasional subangular stones 0.005-0.01 m diam, diffuse horizon with below	0.00–0.27 m
3902	Layer	Subsoil: brownish grey, silty clay, rooting, occasional subangular stones 0.005-0.01 m diam, clear horizon with (3904)	0.14–0.60 m
3903	Layer	Colluvium: light brownish yellow, silty clay, rare subangular stones 0.005-0.01 m diam	0.50–0.76 m



3904	Layer	Natural: variable- yellow sily clay on slate bedrock, greenish blue patches of shillet, mid yellow reddish brown silty clay	0.76 m+
3905	Cut	Linear	0.50 m deep
3906	Fill	Secondary fill of [3905]	0.50 m thick

TRENCH 40			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 80.0 x 1.85 m		Max. depth: 0.9 m	Ground level:69.87–76.47 m	
Co-ordinates: E 254416.54, N 54910.02 and E 254348.27, N 54868.31				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
4001	Layer	Topsoil: mid dark greyish brown, silty clay, occasional small stones, subangular 0.005-0.01 m diam, rooting, turfed		0.00–0.51 m
4002	Layer	Subsoil: greyish brown, silty clay, occasional small stones subangular 0.005-0.06 m diam		0.17–0.81 m
4003	Layer	Colluvium: mid dark bluey brownish grey, silty clay, abundant stones subangular 0.005-0.01 m diam		0.40–0.90 m
4004	Layer	Natural: variable- slate bedrock-yellow clay, occasional manganese flecking		0.90 m+
4005	Fill	Secondary fill of [4008]		0.30 m thick
4006	Fill	Secondary fill of [4008]		0.22 m thick
4007	Fill	Primary fill of [4008]		0.55 m thick
4008	Cut	Ditch		0.56 m deep
4009	Cut	Ditch		0.58 m deep
4010	Fill	Primary fill of [4009]		0.12 m thick
4011	Fill	Secondary fill of [4009]		0.48 thick
4012	Fill	Secondary fill of [4013]		0.45 m deep
4013	Cut	Ditch		0.45 m thick

TRENCH 41			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 48.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.45 m	Ground level:76.30–76.53m	
Co-ordinates: E 254431.57, N 54893.47 and E 254481.32, N 54888.74				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
4101	Layer	Topsoil: mid brown, silty clay, mildly root-turbated, sparse subangular- angular gravel and slate, in some areas topsoil comes down onto colluvium(4102) in other areas straight down onto natural (4103)		0.00–0.45 m
4102	Layer	Colluvium: intermittant along trench, pale brownish grey, mixing along its lower horizon with (4103)		0.39–0.49 m
4103	Layer	Natural: slate beds and quartzite		0.45 m+
4104	Cut	Linear		0.30 m deep
4105	Fill	Secondary fill of [4104]		0.30 m thick

TRENCH 42			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 47.8 x 1.85 m		Max. depth: 0.6 m	Ground level:72.06–75.39 m	
Co-ordinates: E 254512.52, N 54891.31 and E 254537.33, N 54847.86				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
4201	Layer	Topsoil: turfed, rooted, dark brownish grey, silty clay, occasional stone, subangular 0.005-0.02 m diam		0.00–0.28 m
4202	Layer	Subsoil: mid dark greyish brown, silty clay, occasional stone, subangular 0.005-0.02 m diam		0.20–0.55 m
4203	Layer	Colluvium: mid dark bluey brownish grey, silty clay, frequent stone subangular 0.005-0.1 m diam		0.40–0.64 m
4204	Layer	Natural: variable-slate bedrock, patches of shillet, mid brownish greeny grey silty clay, abundantsubangular stone 0.01-0.2 m diam		0.60 m+
4205	Fill	Secondary fill of [4206]		0.10 m thick



4206	Cut	Pit	0.10 m deep
4207	Cut	Ditch/gully	0.17 m deep
4208	Fill	Secondary fill of [4207]	0.17 m thick
4209	Cut	Pit	0.24 m deep
4210	Fill	Secondary fill of [4209]	0.24 m thick
4211	Layer	In situ burning	0.05 m thick
4212	Cut	Post hole	0.08 m deep
4213	Fill	Secondary fill of [4212]	0.08 m thick
4214	Cut	Ditch	0.40 m deep
4215	Fill	Secondary fill of [4214]	0.40 m thick
4216	Cut	Ditch	0.32 m deep
4217	Fill	Secondary fill of [4216]	0.32 m thick
4218	Fill	Secondary fill of [4219]	0.40 m thick
4219	Cut	Pit	0.40 m deep

TRENCH 43		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.53 m	Ground level:78.85–80.89 m
Co-ordinates: E 254799.47, N 54914.67 and E 254753.41, N 54900.39			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
4301	Layer	Topsoil: mid greyish brown, silty clay loam, moderate rooting, sparse slate flecks <0.04 m	0.00–0.39 m
4302	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown, silty clay, sparse-occasional slate fragments, angular-subrounded <0.05 m	0.26 -0.53 m
4303	Layer	Natural: mid yellow brown, clay silt, moderate manganese inclusions, NE half of trench	0.43 m+
4304	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock, SW half of trench	0.53 m+
4305	Cut	Field boundary	n/a
4306	Fill	Backfill of [4305]	n/a
4307	Cut	Ditch	0.26 m deep
4308	Fill	Secondary fill of [4307]	0.26 m thick
4309	Cut	Gully	0.16 m deep
4310	Fill	Secondary fill of [4309]	0.16 m thick
4311	Cut	Ditch	n/a
4312	Fill	Secondary fill of [4311]	n/a

TRENCH 44		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.9 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.65 m	Ground level:81.35–81.54 m
Co-ordinates: E 254882.04, N 54913.43 and E 254833.75, N 54910.25			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
4401	Layer	Topsoil: mid reddish brown silty clay, occasional sub angular/rounded stones <0.05 m, moderate slate inclusions <0.07 m	0.00–0.34 m
4402	Layer	Subsoil: as above but with more slate inclusions and is more compact	0.23–0.50 m
4403	Layer	Natural: becomes more consistently slate natural with some patches of mid brown clay	0.50 m+
4404	Cut	Ditch	0.34 m deep
4405	Fill	Secondary fill of [4404]	0.34 m thick
4406	Cut	Ditch	0.40 m deep
4407	Fill	Secondary fill of [4406]	0.40 m thick

TRENCH 45		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 49.9 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.73 m	Ground level:79.94–81.43 m



Co-ordinates: E 254942.15, N 54911.45 and E 254895.15, N 54894.05			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
4501	Layer	Topsoil: mid-light grey brown, silty clay, occasional slate <0.03 m	0.00–0.12 m
4502	Layer	Subsoil: mid grey brown silty clay, occasional subangular/ rounded stones <0.04 m and moderate slate fragments <0.03 m	0.12–0.35 m
4503	Layer	Colluvium: only in S. half of trench, mid red brown silty clay, moderate slate fragments <0.03 m	0.35–0.73 m
4504	Layer	Natural: light yellow brown clay silt, frequent slate fragments and manganese (some large lumps suggesting frequent immersion in water) N. end of trench	0.28 m+
4505	Layer	natural: mottled mid brown red and light blue grey- slate natural with clay silt plough scars cut through it, Centre of trench	0.22 m+
4506	Layer	Natural: very mottled- light yellow brown clay silt and light grey clay, frequent slate fragments throughout, much deeper here sealed by (4503)	0.73 m+
4507	Cut	Ditch	0.19 m deep
4508	Fill	Backfill of [4507]	0.19 m thick

TRENCH 46			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 37.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 1.0 m	Ground level: 79.38–81.15 m	
Co-ordinates: E 254977.38, N 54908.84 and E 255021.96, N 54897.58				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
4601	Layer	Topsoil: mid dark greyish brown, silty clay, occasional subangular stones 0.005-0.01 m diam, turfed with rooting		0.00–0.30 m
4602	Layer	Subsoil: mid-light greyish brown, silty clay, occasional subangular stones 0.005 m diam		0.30–0.65 m
4603	Layer	Colluvium: mid-light brownish grey, silty clay, rare stones 0.005 m diam, occasional charcoal flecking		0.65–1.00 m
4604	Layer	Natural: variable, light yellowy brown silty clay, light orangy greyish brown silty clay, abundant stone/shillet 0.005-0.02 m diam, patches of natural slate bedrock		1.00 m+
4605	Cut	Ditch		0.16 m deep
4606	Fill	Secondary fill of [4605]		0.16 m thick
4607	Fill	Secondary fill of [4608]		0.30 m thick
4608	Cut	Ditch		0.30 m deep

TRENCH 47			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 40.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.95 m	Ground level: 77.79–79.65 m	
Co-ordinates: E 255052.93, N 54908.43 and E 255083.64, N 54893.34				
Context	Description			Depth (m)
4701	Layer	Topsoil: mid grey silty clay, moderate rooting, sparse subangular/rounded stones <0.04 m		0.00–0.20 m
4702	Layer	Subsoil: mid brownish grey, silty clay, occasional subrounded/angular stone and slate <0.05 m		0.20–0.41 m
4703	Layer	Colluvium: mid brown grey silty clay, occasional-moderate slate fragments <0.04 m		0.41–0.57 m
4704	Layer	Colluvium: mid brown grey, silty clay, occasional subrounded/angular stone and slate <0.04 m		0.57–0.80 m
4705	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock, NW end of trench		0.69 m+
4706	Layer	Natural: mid brown, silty clay, occasional manganese and sparse slate flaecks		0.80 m+

TRENCH 48			Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.8 m		Max. depth: 0.92 m	Ground level: 78.39–80.25 m	
Co-ordinates: E 255216.22, N 54911.379 and E 255170.41, N 54893.374				



Context	Description	Depth (m)
4801	Layer	Topsoil: reddish brown silty clay, moderate sub-angular stones
4802	Layer	Subsoil: Dark brown silty clay, sub-angular stone inclusions
4803	Layer	Colluvium: Brownish silty clay, sub-angular stone inclusions
4804	Layer	Colluvium: Mid/dark reddish brown silty clay, rare/moderate stone inclusions
4805	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock

TRENCH 49		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 2.0 m		Max. depth: 0.48 m	Ground level:87.19–90.45 m
Co-ordinates: E 255552.01, N 54932.37 and E 255507.35, N 54914.53			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
4901	Layer	Topsoil: mid greyish brown, silty clay, well established turf, moderate rooting, occasional slate fragments <0.04 m	
4902	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown silty clay, occasional-moderate angular/subangular slate fragments <0.04 m	
4903	Layer	Natural: degraded slate bedrock within a mid brown clay matrix	
4904	Cut	Ditch/lynchett	
4905	Fill	Secondary fill of [4904]	
4906	Cut	Ditch	
4907	Fill	Secondary fill of [4906]	
4908	Cut	Natural feature	
4909	Fill	Secondary fill of [4908]	

TRENCH 50		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 2.0 m		Max. depth: 0.52 m	Ground level:93.49–95.00 m
Co-ordinates: E 255645.65, N 54931.77 and E 255692.92, N 54920.41			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
5001	Layer	Topsoil: turf/topsoil, mid brownish grey, silty clay loam with well established turfline, occasional slate flecks and moderate rooting	
5002	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown silty clay, moderate slate fragments <0.05 m	
5003	Layer	Natural: degraded slate bedrock with mid brown silty clay matrix with patched of yellow silty clay	
5004	Cut	Ditch	
5005	Fill	Secondary fill of [5004]	

TRENCH 51		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30.0 m x 2.00 m		Max. depth: 0.40 m	Ground level:99.45–99.48 m
Co-ordinates: E 255750.68, N 54939.69 and E 255774.49, N 54926.40			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
5101	Layer	Topsoil: mid reddish brown, silty clay, with occasional slate fragments	
5102	Layer	Natural: degraded slate stone amongst mid-dark brown silty clay	
5103	Cut	Ditch	
5104	Fill	Secondary fill of [5103]	

TRENCH 52		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 2.0 m		Max. depth: 0.25 m	Ground level:100.28–101.05 m
Co-ordinates: E 255874.13, N 54944.71 and E 255825.30, N 54939.54			
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
5201	Layer	Topsoil: reddish brown silty clay loam	



5202	Layer	Natural: reddish brown silty clay with degraded light grey slate fragments <0.05 m, occasional medium fragments <0.10 m	0.25 m+
5203	Cut	Ditch	0.56 m deep
5204	Fill	Secondary fill of [5203]	0.56 m thick

TRENCH 53		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 50.0 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.45 m	Ground level:100.85–100.97 m
Co-ordinates: E 256086.22, N 54967.14 and E 256091.96, N 54919.50			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
5301	Layer	Topsoil: mid grey silty clay, moderate rooting, occasional slate flecks <0.03 m	0.00–0.21 m
5302	Layer	Subsoil: mid greyish brown, silty clay, occasional/moderate slate fragments <0.05 m, material present at either end of trench, not in the middle	0.21–0.37 m
5303	Layer	Natural: mixed, at either end being light brown silty clay, common-abundant slate fragments, in the middle of the trench being mid brown silty clay, abundant angular/subangular limestone fragments <0.01 m	0.21 m+

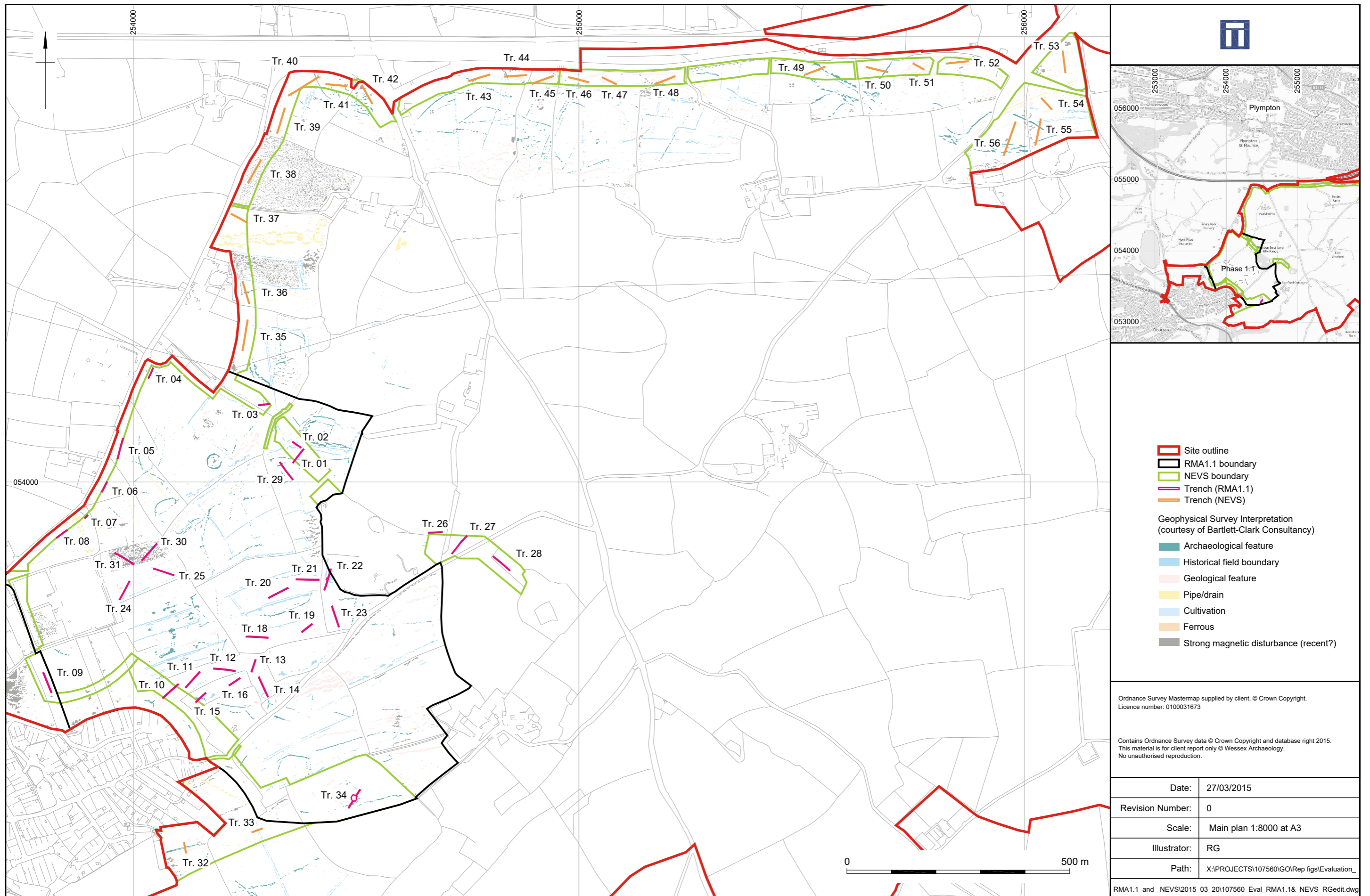
TRENCH 54		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 33.5 m x 1.9 m		Max. depth: 0.46 m	Ground level:93.96–96.41 m
Co-ordinates: E 256038.56, N 54861.68 and E 256060.85, N 54837.29			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
5401	Layer	Topsoil: mid brownish grey silty clay, sparse rooting and rare slate flecks <0.03 m	0.00–0.18 m
5402	Layer	Subsoil: mid brown silty clay, occasional-common slate flecks, rare subrounded/subangular stones <0.04 m	0.18–0.40 m
5403	Layer	Natural: slate bedrock with patches of mid brown silty clay (subsoil or colluvial material) within natural hollows and fissures	0.40 m+

TRENCH 55		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 61.0 m x 2.0 m		Max. depth: 0.8 m	Ground level:83.95–91.66 m
Co-ordinates: E 256036.78, N 54814.74 and E 256024.68, N 54756.93			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
5501	Layer	Topsoil: mid-dark brown, silty clay loam, rare slate fragments	0.00–0.50 m
5502	Layer	Natural: degraded slate within pale reddish brown silty clay	0.80+
5503	Cut	Ditch	0.34 m deep
5504	Fill	Secondary fill of [5503]	0.34 m thick
5505	Cut	Ditch	0.34 m deep
5506	Fill	Secondary fill of [5505]	0.34 m thick
5507	Layer	Colluvium: reddish brown silty clay	0.50–0.80 m

TRENCH 56		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 80.0 m x 2.0 m		Max. depth: 0.76 m	Ground level:82.36–90.87 m
Co-ordinates: E 255979.97, N 54808.18 and E 255953.80, N 54733.65			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
5601	Layer	Topsoil: mid greyish brown, silty clay loam, common rooting, loose	0.00–0.12 m
5602	Layer	Subsoil: mid orangey brown silty clay, sparse rooting, common (20%) subangular/rounded fine grained gravel	0.12–0.47 m
5603	Layer	Natural: pale grey slate with patches of reddish brown silty clay	0.47 m+
5604	Cut	Ditch	0.34 m deep
5605	Fill	Secondary fill of [5604]	0.34 m thick
5606	Cut	Ditch	0.30 m deep



5607	Fill	Secondary fill of [5606]	0.30 m thick
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Site and trench location

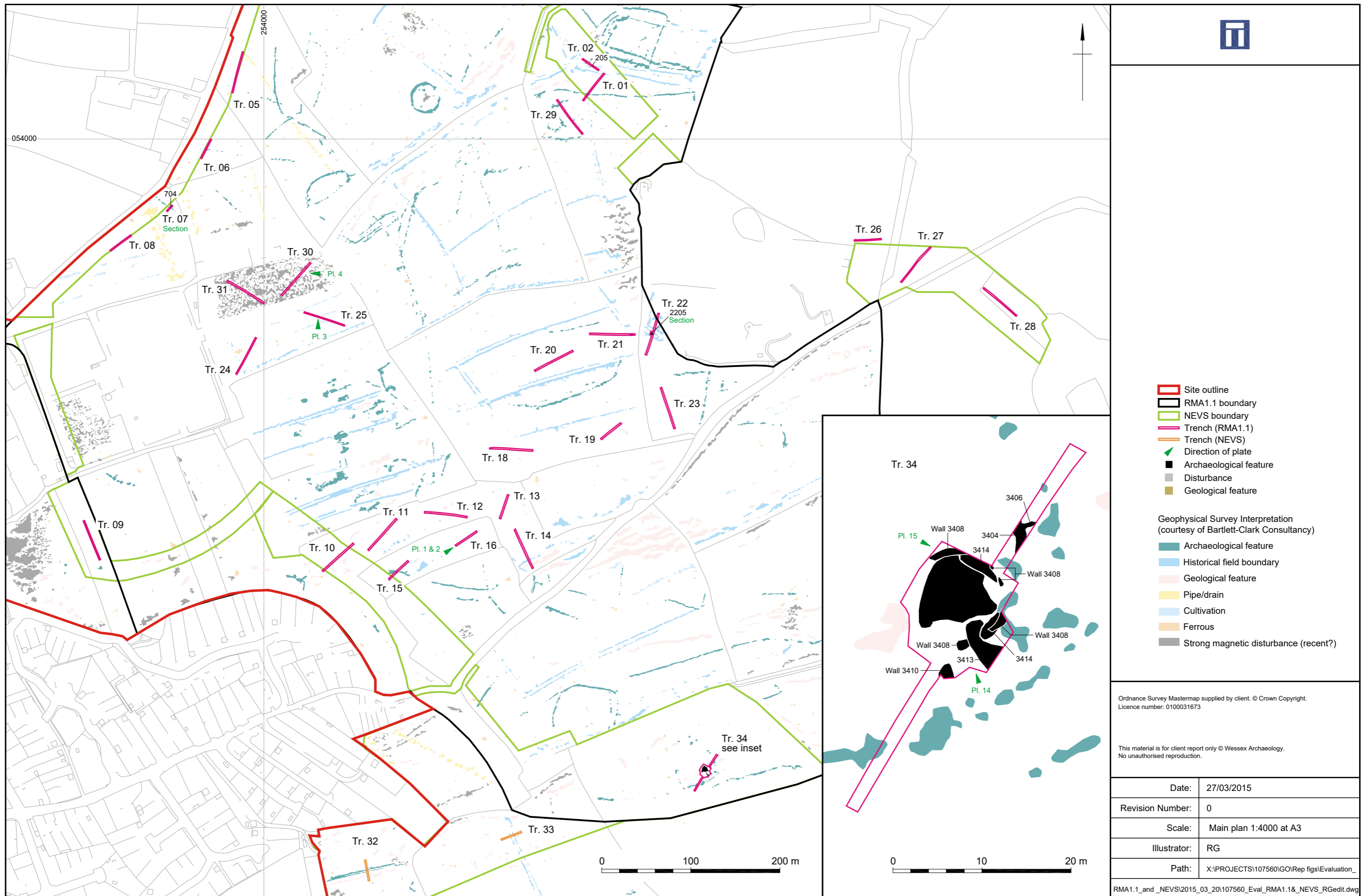
Figure 1

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- ▬ Site outline
 - ▬ RMA1.1 boundary
 - ▬ NEVS boundary
 - ▬ Trench (RMA1.1)
 - ▬ Trench (NEVS)
 - ▴ Direction of plate
 - Archaeological feature
 - Disturbance
 - Geological feature
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation
(courtesy of Bartlett-Clark Consultancy)
- Archaeological feature
 - ▬ Historical field boundary
 - Geological feature
 - ▬ Pipe/drain
 - ▬ Cultivation
 - Ferrous
 - Strong magnetic disturbance (recent?)

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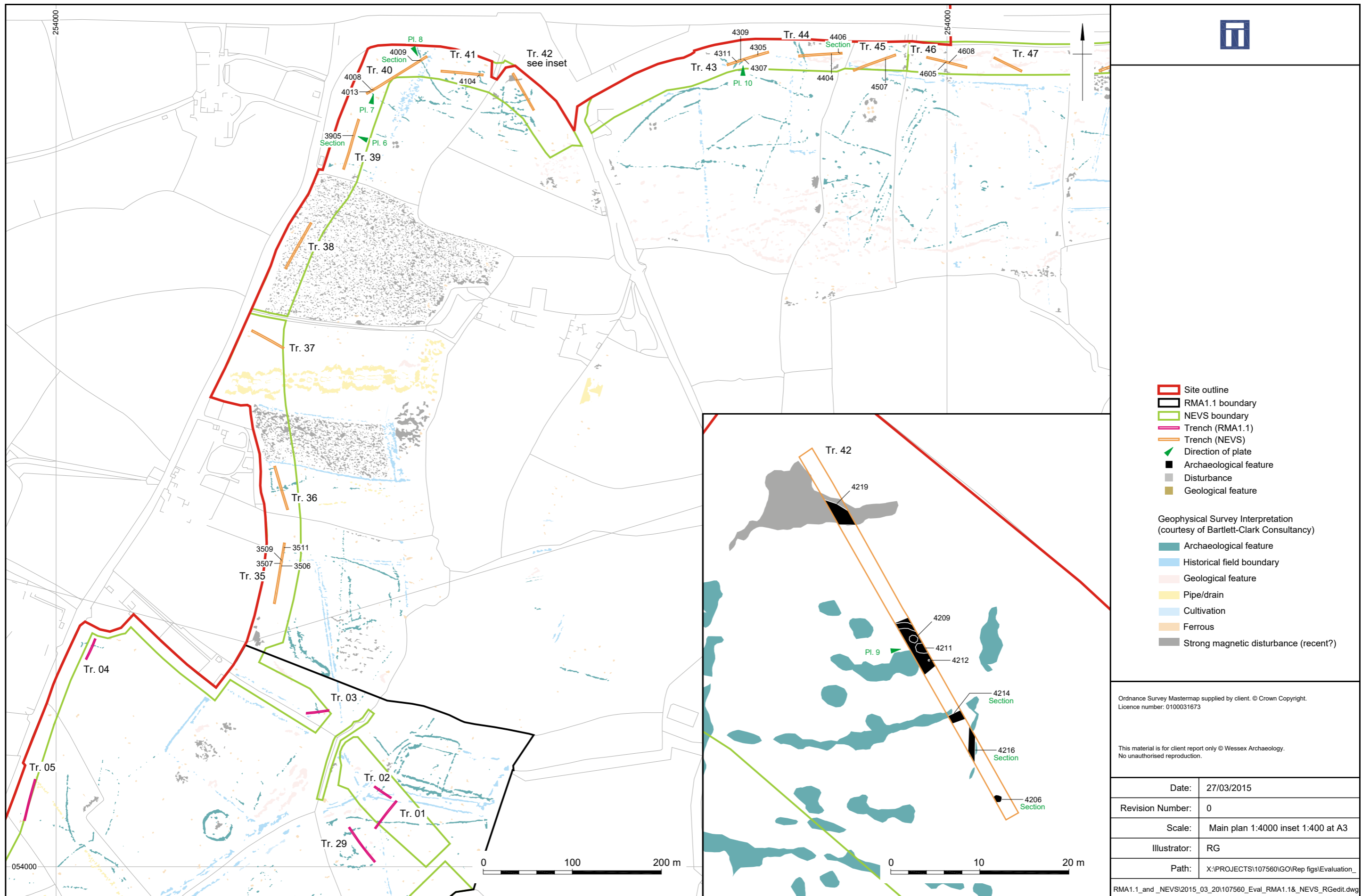
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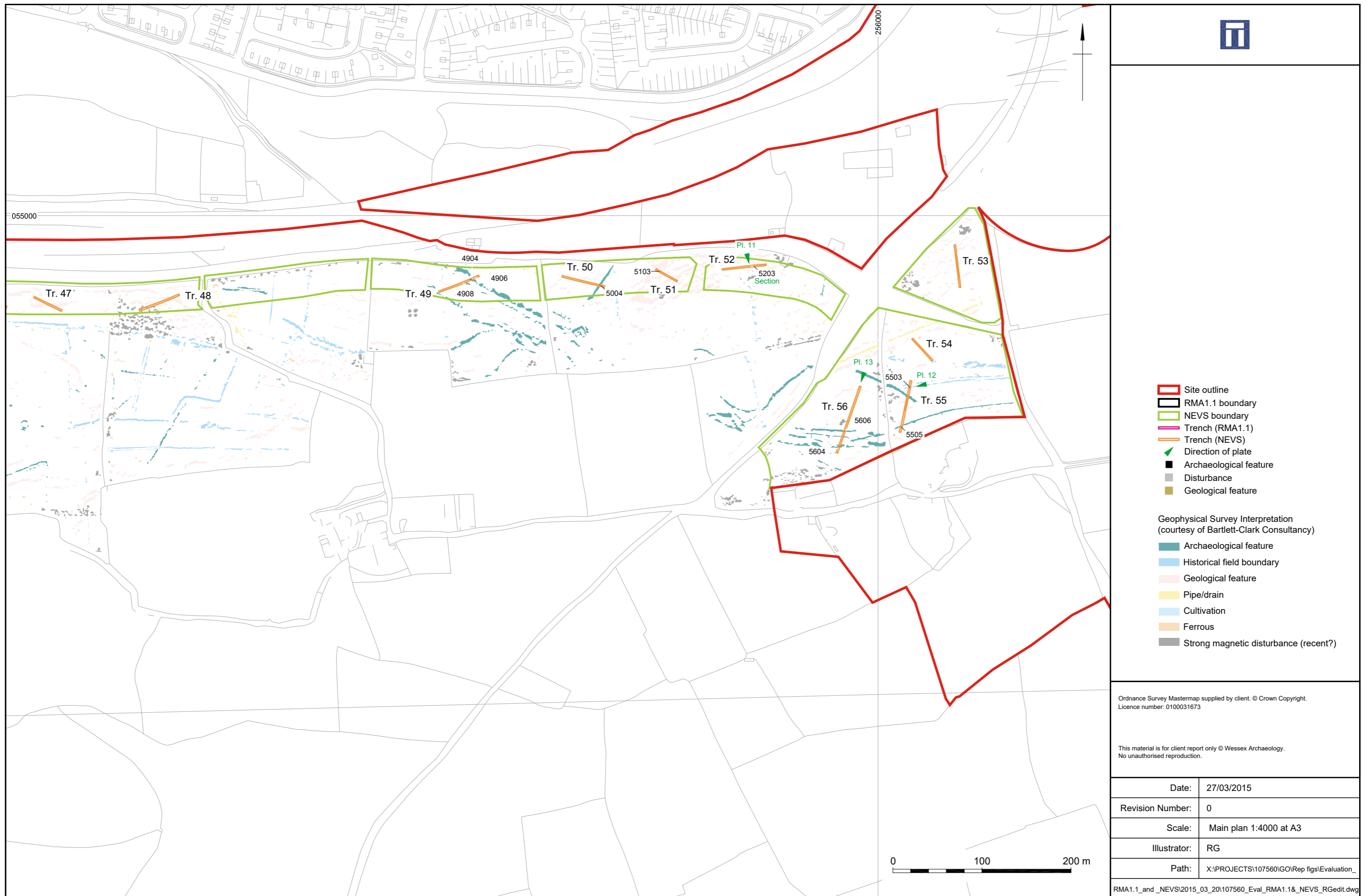
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Trench location and archaeological features (southern part of site) and detail of trench 34

Figure 2



Trench location and archaeological features (north-western part of site) and detail of trench 42



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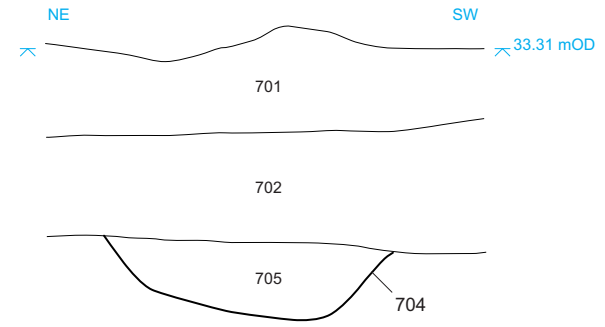
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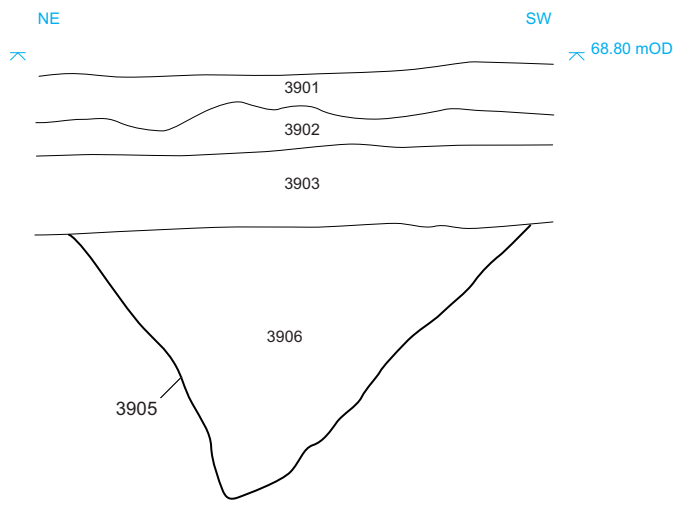
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Trench location and archaeological features (north-eastern part of site)

Figure 4



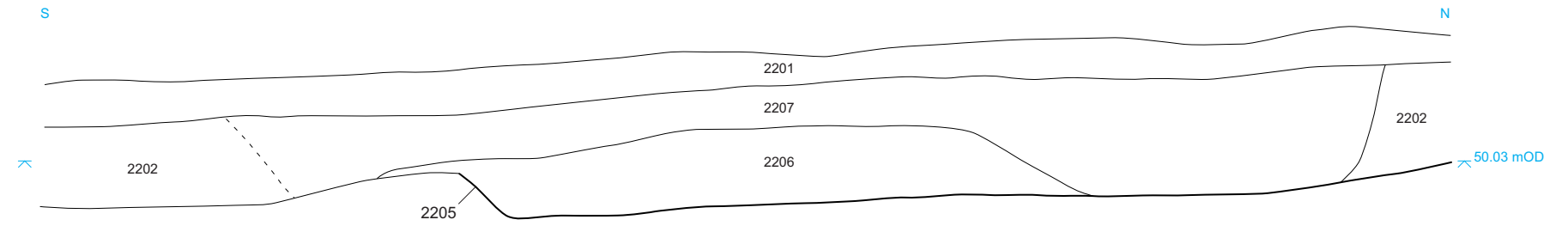
South-west facing section of 10013



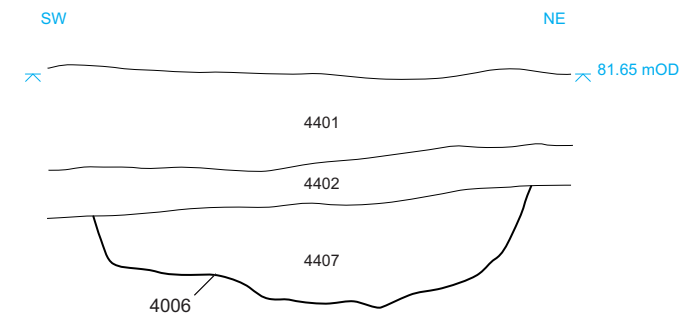
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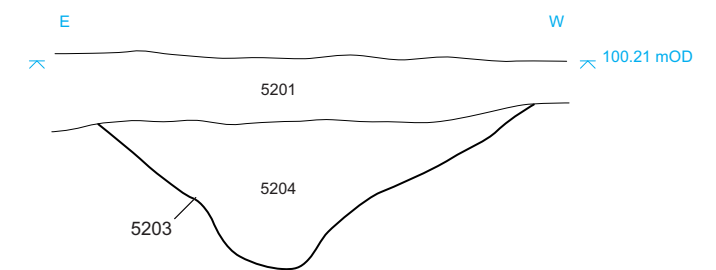
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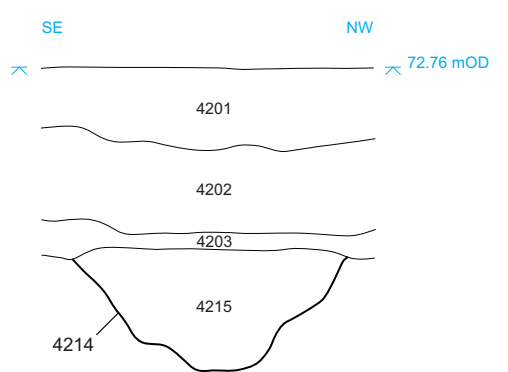
South-west facing section of 10013



South-west facing section of 10013



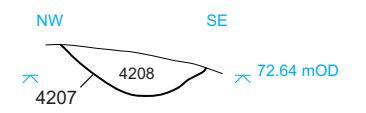
South-west facing section of 10013



South-west facing section of 10013



South-west facing section of 10013



Caption

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Figure 5



Plate 1: General view of Trench 16



Plate 2: South-east facing representative section of Trench 16


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Plate 3: South facing representative section of Trench 25



Plate 4: General view of Trench 30


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Plate 5: General view of Trench 35



Plate 6: North-west facing section of ditch 3905


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Plate 7: South-east facing section of ditch 4008



Plate 8: North-west facing section of ditch 4009


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Plate 9: South facing section of pit 4209



Plate 10: South-east facing section of ditch 4307


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Plate 13: General view of Trench 56



Plate 14: General view of roundhouse 3408, with drystone wall remnants



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Plate 15: General view of Trench 56



Plate 16: Samian ware

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



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