



# Highstead Park (South) Sittingbourne, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation



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## Contents

Summary .....	iv
Acknowledgements.....	iv
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Project and planning background.....	1
1.2 Scope of the report .....	2
1.3 Location, topography and geology .....	2
<b>2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Introduction.....	4
2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development.....	4
2.3 Archaeological and historical context.....	5
<b>3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 General aims .....	7
3.2 General objectives .....	7
3.3 Site-specific objectives.....	7
<b>4 METHODS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1 Introduction.....	8
4.2 Fieldwork methods.....	8
4.3 Finds and environmental strategies .....	9
4.4 Monitoring.....	9
<b>5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE .....</b>	<b>9</b>
5.1 Introduction.....	9
5.2 Area 1.....	10
5.3 Area 2.....	12
5.4 Area 3.....	13
5.5 Area 4.....	16
5.6 Area 5.....	19
5.7 Area 6.....	20
5.8 Area 7.....	22
<b>6 FINDS EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>22</b>
6.1 Introduction.....	22
6.2 Flint.....	23
6.3 Pottery .....	24
6.4 Ceramic building material .....	28
6.5 Glass .....	28
6.6 Stone.....	29
6.7 Iron .....	29
6.8 Metalworking debris.....	29
6.9 Fired clay.....	30
6.10 Burnt flint .....	31
6.11 Human bone.....	31
6.12 Animal bone.....	32
6.13 Marine shell .....	33
<b>7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>33</b>
7.1 Introduction.....	33
7.3 Results .....	34
7.4 Environmental Assessment Conclusions .....	34
<b>8 CONCLUSIONS .....</b>	<b>35</b>
8.1 Summary and discussion.....	35



8.2	Area 1.....	36
8.3	Area 2.....	36
8.4	Area 3.....	36
8.5	Area 4.....	36
8.6	Area 5.....	36
8.7	Area 6.....	37
8.8	Area 7.....	37
<b>9</b>	<b>ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION.....</b>	<b>37</b>
9.1	Museum.....	37
9.2	Preparation of the archive.....	38
9.3	Selection strategy.....	38
9.4	Security copy.....	41
9.5	OASIS.....	41
<b>10</b>	<b>COPYRIGHT.....</b>	<b>41</b>
10.1	Archive and report copyright.....	41
10.2	Third party data copyright.....	41
	<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>42</b>
	<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>47</b>
	Appendix 1 Trench summaries.....	47
	Appendix 2 Environmental Data.....	90
	Appendix 3 OASIS summary.....	91

### List of Figures

<b>Cover</b>	Ditch 1906 viewed from the west and wider landscape setting, scale: 1 m
<b>Figure 1</b>	Site and area location
<b>Figure 2</b>	Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 44, 45, 46
<b>Figure 3</b>	Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 47–64
<b>Figure 4</b>	Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 65–68
<b>Figure 5</b>	Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 69–82
<b>Figure 6</b>	Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 83–98, 100–103, 106, 108
<b>Figure 7</b>	Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 99, 104–105, 107, 109–112
<b>Figure 8</b>	Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 112–115
<b>Figure 9</b>	Archaeological results in Area 3: Trench 116–120
<b>Figure 10</b>	Archaeological results in Area 3: Trench 121–135, 137, 141
<b>Figure 11</b>	Archaeological results in Area 3: Trench 136–147
<b>Figure 12</b>	Archaeological results in Area 4: Trench 10–22
<b>Figure 13</b>	Archaeological results in Area 4: Trench 25, 26, 29, 32, 33
<b>Figure 14</b>	Archaeological results in Area 5: Trench 34–37
<b>Figure 15</b>	Archaeological results in Area 6: Trench 1–9
<b>Figure 16</b>	Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 148 and 149
<b>Figure 17</b>	Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 39, 40, 42, 43
<b>Figure 18</b>	Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 38 and 41
<b>Figure 19</b>	Section 1
<b>Figure 20</b>	Sections 2 and 3
<b>Figure 21</b>	Sections 4 and 5
<b>Figure 22</b>	West facing section of ditch 5103, scale: 1 m
<b>Figure 23</b>	North-west facing section of ditches 5305 and 5308, scale: 2 m
<b>Figure 24</b>	West facing section of ditch 5003, scale: 0.5 m
<b>Figure 25</b>	South-east facing section of ditch 5403, scale: 1 m
<b>Figure 26</b>	Furnace 5405 viewed from the south-east, scale: 0.5 m
<b>Figure 27</b>	Furnace 5405 viewed from the west, scale: 1 m



- Figure 28** South-east facing section of pit 5703, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 29** West facing section of quarry pit 6108, scale: 1m  
**Figure 30** North-east facing section of ditch 8303, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 31** North-east facing section of ditch 11403, scale: 0.2 m  
**Figure 32** South-east facing section of ditch 11503, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 33** WSW facing section of pit 9703, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 34** West facing section of ditch 13203, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 35** North facing section of ditch 14514 and pit 14516, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 36** South-east facing section of ditch 14506, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 37** Ditch 14524, and pits 14525 and 14526, viewed from the west, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 38** South facing section of ditch 14603, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 39** South facing section of posthole 14308, scale: 0.2 m  
**Figure 40** North-east facing section of pit 14709, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 41** North facing section of pit 14503, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 42** South-east facing section of ditch 1204, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 43** South-east facing section of ditch 1304, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 44** North-east facing section of ditches 2003 and 2007, scale: 2 m  
**Figure 45** East facing section of ditch 1906, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 46** Robber trench 1613, viewed from the north-east, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 47** Hearth 1804 viewed from the north, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 48** East facing section of pit 3305, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 49** Ditches 2206 and 2208 viewed from the west, scales: 0.5 and 1 m  
**Figure 50** South-east facing section of ditch 3503, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 51** East facing section of ditch 3703, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 52** East facing section of ditch 3706, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 53** North facing section of pit 3403, scales 1 and 2 m  
**Figure 54** North-east facing section of trench 1 with deposits 101, 102, 103 and 106 and structure 104, scale: 1 m  
**Figure 55** Plan of structure 104, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 56** SSW facing section of trench 3 with all the deposits and structures 304 and 306, scales: 1 m  
**Figure 57** NNE facing section of trench 2 with all the deposits and structure 208, scales: 0.5 and 1 m  
**Figure 58** South-west facing section of trench 4 showing all the deposits, scales: 0.5 and 1 m  
**Figure 59** North-west facing section of quarry pit 903, scale: 2 m  
**Figure 60** North-east facing section of ditch 14804, scale: 0.5 m  
**Figure 61** South-west facing section of ditch 4203, scale: 0.5 m

#### List of Tables

- Table 1** Details of trenches by area  
**Table 2** Quantification of finds by material type  
**Table 3** Summary of flint assemblage by object type  
**Table 4** Pottery by period and ware type  
**Table 5** Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP)  
**Table 6** Assessment of the environmental evidence



## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Quinn Estates Ltd to conduct an archaeological evaluation comprising 142 trial trenches measuring between 30–50 m in length and targeted on geophysical anomalies in areas with high archaeological potential within a 577-hectare parcel of land to the south and east of Sittingbourne, Kent, centred on NGR 591420 161400. A planning application (21/503914/EIOUT) was submitted to Swale Borough Council for the phased construction of up to 7,150 residential dwellings across the Highsted Park site. The proposed development includes commercial, business and service/employment floorspace, a household waste recycling centre. A mixed-use local centre and neighbourhood facilities are proposed, as well as educational facilities including primary and secondary schools. The scheme also includes provision for open space, green infrastructure, woodland, and community and sports facilities. Significant infrastructure works are planned, including the construction of a new motorway junction to the M2, a Highsted Park Sustainable Movement Corridor, new vehicular access points, and associated groundworks, engineering, utilities and demolition works. The planning application has been referred to the Independent Review of Planning Appeal Inquiries. The limited evaluation was divided into seven areas with between four and 47 trenches in each area. The evaluation was undertaken 17 February 2025–28 March 2025.

Overall, the targeted evaluation successfully recorded archaeological remains comprising ditches, pits, furnaces, roads, postholes, and a robbed wall foundation; areas with no archaeology, so-called sterile zones, were also recorded. The archaeological features predominantly date from the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British periods. The correlation between the geophysical survey and the archaeological features varied across the site, although some discrete features did correlate with substantial dipolar anomalies. The correlation between the LiDAR results and archaeological features was more tentative.

This investigation has demonstrated areas of probable settlement, areas of probable industrial activity, and areas of agricultural activity. The evaluation successfully recorded evidence for multiple phases of Watling Street in Area 6, stratified dark soil deposits indicative of complex activity, and substantial ditches likely forming a defended enclosure in Area 4. Evidence of more industrial activity, in the form of possible furnaces, was recorded in Areas 1 and 3.

The finds recovered from the evaluation predominantly date from the Late Iron Age to the early Romano-British period, with a smaller quantity of post-medieval artefacts reflecting later quarrying and land use. The earliest artefactual evidence comes from Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flint, the earliest pottery dating is more tentative, with some sherds broadly dating from the Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. The majority of the pottery along with the glass and stone artefacts date from the Late Iron Age to the early Romano-British period, with none from any later period. Ceramic building material dates from the early Romano-British and post-medieval periods. Less intrinsically dated finds include a disarticulated human arm bone, animal bone, slag, fired clay, iron objects and bunt flint. Charred plant remains, including seeds from barley, wheat (with spelt and emmer varieties present), and oak derived charcoal were recovered from the environmental samples

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# Highsted Park (South), Sittingbourne, Kent

## Archaeological Evaluation

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Quinn Estates Ltd (the client), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 577.48 ha parcel of land located in Land South and East of Sittingbourne, Kent centred on NGR 591420 161400 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the phased construction of up to 7,150 residential dwellings, including sheltered and extra care accommodation (Use Classes C2 and C3), across the Highsted Park site. It also includes up to 170,000 sq m (34 ha) of commercial, business and service/employment floorspace (Use Classes B2, B8 and E), up to 2,800 sq m of hotel floorspace (Use Class C1), and 15,000 sq m (1.5 ha) for a household waste recycling centre. A mixed-use local centre and neighbourhood facilities are proposed, incorporating commercial, business and community uses (Use Classes E, F1 and F2), public houses (Sui Generis), and educational facilities including primary and secondary schools (Use Class F1(a)). The scheme also includes provision for open space, green infrastructure, woodland, and community and sports facilities (Use Class F2(c)). Significant infrastructure works are planned, including the construction of a new motorway junction to the M2, a Highsted Park Sustainable Movement Corridor (including the Sittingbourne Southern Relief Road), new vehicular access points, and associated groundworks, engineering, utilities and demolition works.
- 1.1.3 A planning application (21/503914/EIOUT) was submitted to Swale Borough Council and has since been referred to the Independent Review of Planning Appeal Inquiries. In response, Historic England and the archaeological advisor for Kent County Council requested further archaeological work to provide sufficient understanding of the archaeological remains and their significance (Jenkinson and Reade 2024; Mason 2024a).
- 1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2025a). The WSI was approved by the Principal Archaeological Officer for Kent County Council (PAO for KCC), on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 1.1.5 Seven areas within the proposed development were highlighted as having high archaeological potential based on previous investigations. These earlier works included a archaeological desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2022a), a geophysical survey (2022b) and the creation of a geoarchaeological deposit model (2021a). A Statement of Common Ground (SCoG: Quinn et al. 2025) has been prepared based on the interim statements issued to date (Wessex Archaeology 2025 b-d), with the aim of the current evaluation being to provide more detailed information on the archaeological potential of areas of specific interest within the site.



- 1.1.6 The evaluation, comprised the excavation of 142 trial trenches, targeted to investigate areas of archaeological potential identified through prior assessment. The fieldwork remains was carried out between 17 February 2025 and 28 March 2025.

## **1.2 Scope of the report**

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.
- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

## **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The evaluation comprised seven areas dispersed across the proposed development area (Fig.1)

### *Area 1*

- 1.3.2 This area lies within the northern agricultural parcels of Highsted Village West, situated in the southern part of the proposed development site, to the east of Grove End Farm. It is centred on NGR 589616 161071 (Figs 2–4). Topographically, the area is flanked by valleys to the south, west and north, with existing ground levels ranging from approximately 61 m to 71 m Ordnance Datum (OD), sloping downwards towards the north and south.

- 1.3.3 The underlying bedrock geology consists of the Seaford Chalk Formation, overlain by Clay-with-Flints Formation (clay, silt, sand, and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded Head deposits—specifically brickearth comprising silty sands and silty clays—within this area (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

### *Area 2*

- 1.3.4 Area 2 is one of the largest land parcels and is divided centrally by Ruins Barn Road, located at the southern end of the scheme at the foot of the North Downs, and is centred on NGR 589290 160487 (Figs 5–8). The central part of the site (West of Ruins Barn Road) occupies a relatively high promontory of land dropping into a valley to the north, which separates it from Area 1. The land to the east of Ruins Barn Road is characterised by another prominent north-south valley which runs south from Kent Science Park.

- 1.3.5 The area comprises agricultural field parcels with ground levels ranging from 74m to 83m Ordnance Datum (OD).

- 1.3.6 The bedrock geology is again the Seaford Chalk Formation, overlain by Clay-with-Flints Formation (clay, silt, sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded the presence of Clay with Flints in interventions within this area (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

### *Area 3*

- 1.3.7 Area 3 is situated broadly east of Area 2, lying south of the Kent Science Park and north of Bexon. The area is split centrally by Broad Oak Road and a number of large equestrian properties. It is centred on NGR 589885 159903 (Figs 9–11). The western half of the area is bounded to the west by the dry valley separating it from Area 2, the eastern half of the area is bounded to the east by a pronounced valley that follows the course of Bottom Pond Road. Ground levels range from 78 m OD in the west to 83 m OD in the east.



- 1.3.8 The bedrock geology is Seaford Chalk Formation, which is overlain by Clay-with-Flints Formation (clay, silt, sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded Clay-with-Flints in interventions within this area (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

#### *Area 4*

- 1.3.9 Area 4 is located in the northern part of the proposed development, west of Church Street within a large agricultural field centred on NGR 592547 162311 (Figs 12 and 13). The topography is complex, to the east adjacent church street is an area of relatively level high ground with far reaching 360 degree views, to the west the ground level drops dramatically into a dry valley before rising more gradually into a rolling valley, with ground levels varying between 26 and 43 m OD.

- 1.3.10 The bedrock geology is Thanet Formation (silt, sand and clay), which is overlain by Clay-with-Flints formation (clay, silt, sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded nearby deposits of Head-Brickearth, consisting of silty sands and silty clays (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

#### *Area 5*

- 1.3.11 Area 5 is located east of Church Street and north-west of Dully House, centred on NGR 593206 161726 (Fig. 14). The area consists of agricultural fields, with ground level ranging between 24 and 33 m OD, sloping westwards into a fairly steep valley.

- 1.3.12 The bedrock geology is Seaford Chalk Formation, which is overlain by head deposits (clay, silt, sand and gravel) at the bottom of the valley (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded chalk gravel in interventions within the area (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

#### *Area 6*

- 1.3.13 Area 6 is located in the northern part of the proposed development, west of Radfield, bounded to the north by the A2 and is centred on NGR 593722 162880 (Fig. 15). The area comprises a grass-covered field which looks to have been broadly levelled, situated within a north-south-aligned valley, with a ground level recorded at approximately 12 m OD with a slight rise still visible to the east.

- 1.3.14 The bedrock geology is mapped as both the Seaford Chalk Formation and the Thanet Formation (sand, silt and clay). These are overlain by Head Deposits (clay, silt, sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded Head Deposits of brickearth or Thanet Formation in interventions near this area (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).

#### *Area 7*

- 1.3.15 Area 7 occupies elevated land surrounding Highsted Wood, bounded by valleys to the west and east, and by the Kent Science Park to the south. It is centred on NGR 590558 161235 (Figs 16–18) and includes agricultural fields, grassland, and woodland. Ground levels rise from 48 m OD in the north to 61 m OD in the south.

- 1.3.16 The bedrock geology comprises the Thanet Formation (silt, sand and clay) and Seaford Chalk Formation, overlain by Head Deposits (clay, silt, sand and gravel) (British Geological Survey 2024). The geoarchaeological deposit model recorded Head Deposits of brickearth or Thanet Formation in interventions within Area 7 (Wessex Archaeology 2021a).



## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the proposed development area was assessed in a previous desk-based assessment (DBA; Wessex Archaeology 2022a), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area. A summary of the results relevant to the evaluation is presented below, including reference numbers from the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), along with additional sources where appropriate.

### 2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

#### *Geophysical survey (2021a)*

2.2.1 The geophysical survey was carried out in five phases of detailed gradiometer survey, covering a total of 380 ha. These included numerous land parcels to the south-east of Sittingbourne and an additional area north of the A2 on the eastern edge of the town. Across all phases, magnetic anomalies were recorded. Many of these are likely to relate to archaeological features, alongside evidence of agricultural and modern activity. Evaluation trench locations were selected to target key anomalies identified by the survey.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 1

2.2.2 The geophysical survey in this area identified a substantial concentration of potential archaeological anomalies, notably rectilinear enclosures located near the present track to Grove End Farm and Ruins Barn Road. These may form part of a later prehistoric landscape, possibly linked to activity to the south or at Highsted Wood. Alternatively, they may represent Romano-British or medieval enclosures associated with settlement and industry along historic routes. A scatter of large pit-like features was also identified and could relate to sunken structures of medieval date. Ridge and furrow cultivation marks were also detected.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 2

2.2.3 In Area 2, a large enclosure was identified in the southern portion of the area. It contains a smaller internal enclosure overlooking the valley and is bounded to the east by a secondary valley.

2.2.4 second enclosure was recorded in the northern part of the area. Within it, a segmented rectangular feature and a U-shaped anomaly, possibly structural, were recorded, alongside numerous pit-like features. To the west, an open-sided rectangular enclosure was noted. In the eastern corner, ring ditches, possibly denoting later prehistoric or Roman roundhouses, were recorded. While not included in the interpretative plot, areas of higher magnetic response and weaker linear trends were noted in the raw data. These may indicate wider activity. Two parallel anomalies in the dry valley on the edge of this area were interpreted as colluvial deposits but may alternatively represent remnants of an ancient trackway.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 3

2.2.5 The survey from Area 3 revealed a rectilinear arrangement of ditches, pits, and other linear features in the southwest, including two dense archaeological clusters. In the northern part of the area, a complex of linear and curvilinear ditches, enclosures, pits, and magnetic features suggesting burning indicates multi-period activity. These may include industrial processes such as kilning.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 4

- 2.2.6 An enclosure was recorded west of Church Street, along with a small curvilinear enclosure. A significant feature identified from LiDAR and aerial imagery comprises two concentric semi-circular ditches partially enclosing a large area. This feature is intersected by the main spine road. It was not recorded in the geophysical survey and was not visible during site visits. Located on high ground, it may represent a double-ditched defensive enclosure. The ditches do not form a complete circuit and appear to include a break, possibly an entrance, on the north side. The feature is visible in aerial photographs and was discussed during initial stages of the project. Geological processes may account for its appearance, although this remains unconfirmed.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 5

- 2.2.7 Fewer more dispersed anomalies were recorded in Area 5. However, the survey did identify several undated enclosures and associated features that may be of archaeological significance.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 6

- 2.2.8 No geophysical survey was undertaken in Area 6.

#### Geophysical Survey Area 7

- 2.2.9 In Area 7, anomalies were recorded that include possible ditch sections, although their interpretation remains uncertain. Some features may correspond with LiDAR data, but this is inconclusive. Clusters of strong magnetic signals were identified. Previous investigations noted slag in the topsoil, which may suggest later prehistoric or Romano-British industrial activity. LiDAR data also suggests a substantial enclosure northwest of the Science Park, visible across two land parcels but with an incomplete circuit. Additional earthworks possibly indicating enclosures were noted on the eastern side. These were not identified in the geophysical or cropmark data but are faintly visible on satellite imagery such as Google Earth.

#### *Geoarchaeological Deposit Model (2022b)*

- 2.2.10 The geoarchaeological deposit model identified the potential for Palaeolithic remains and geoarchaeological deposits of moderate to high significance across the site. The development area was divided into ten Geoarchaeological Character Zones. The potential for Palaeolithic remains will be addressed through a dedicated Palaeolithic Evaluation WSI.

### **2.3 Archaeological and historical context**

#### *Prehistoric (10,000–700 BC)*

- 2.3.1 Investigations at the Kent Science Park in 2021 found a number of pits and ditches, most of which were undated. One pit was broadly dated to the prehistoric period. The remaining features may represent land management activities and sparse domestic use, but remain undated (Wessex Archaeology 2021b).
- 2.3.2 A number of prehistoric finds and features have been recorded both within the site and in the surrounding area, indicating activity during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. It is likely that the landscape at this time was predominantly wooded, making it attractive to early settlers for hunting. The proximity to freshwater sources in the creeks south of the Swale would also have been favourable. It is therefore possible that the northern parts of the site were particularly suited to prehistoric activity.

2.3.3 Archaeological investigations along the western boundaries of the proposed development area and within its northern and western parts have revealed a series of largely linear features associated with Bronze Age land management. The conclusions of these investigations suggest that these features were part of the agricultural hinterland close to a settlement, the precise location of which remains unknown. Linear features and a possible boundary marker identified during excavations at Swanstree and Fulston Manor were interpreted as lying at the edge of a settlement.

*Iron Age (700 BC–AD 43)*

2.3.4 The Iron Age saw the continued presence of settled agricultural communities in the landscape, alongside burial sites and enclosures. Iron Age inhumations have been recovered from within the proposed development area, and Iron Age field boundaries have been recorded immediately to the north.

2.3.5 A Late Iron Age to early Romano-British site located approximately 780 m east of the proposed development area contained structural remains. An Iron Age site has also been suggested at Highsted Wood. In addition, a relatively high number of coins and brooches recovered from the surrounding area support the likelihood of local settlement during this period. The evidence to date largely comprises burial and agricultural features, but it is plausible that settlement activity associated with this use may also be present. Further field systems, settlement remains, or additional burials associated with the known cemetery may yet be uncovered within the site.

2.3.6 The results of the geophysical survey for the proposed development area (2022b) further suggest that prehistoric or Romano-British settlement was located within the proposed development area although these features are yet to be dated.

*Romano-British (AD 43–410)*

2.3.7 Archaeological evidence from the wider area indicates the presence of a network of villas and Romano-British settlement sites to the north of the A2, close to the creek system. A bathhouse and possible villa have been identified at Tonge. The A2 (Roman Watling Street) was a significant transport route, with higher-status properties situated north of the road benefiting from proximity to both river and road connections. This facilitated access to marshlands for water and fishing, as well as the downland for hunting and communication. South of the road, it has been suggested that a network of trackways passed through the river valleys towards sites such as Bredgar and Newnham, where Roman remains have been identified. Villa sites are also known from Hartlip, Borden, and Sheldwich. Recent investigations at Junction 5 of the M25 have revealed possible Iron Age and Romano-British metalworking, suggesting a broader industrial landscape across the North Downs. Geophysical survey within the proposed development area also identified potential industrial activity, possibly of Iron Age or Roman date, in its south-eastern corner.

2.3.8 Much of the known Romano-British evidence in the surrounding area relates to burials and cemeteries. In Roman Britain, it was customary for burials to be situated outside of settlement boundaries, often alongside principal roads. The frequency of Roman burials near Watling Street reflects this practice. Such burials have also been recorded within the proposed development area, and there is potential for further remains of this type to exist.

2.3.9 Additional Romano-British remains, including settlement features, field boundaries, and evidence of animal husbandry, have been found adjacent to the proposed development area and along the Roman road at Radfield. This includes wells, pits, and a road surface. The full extent of the associated settlement was not established during previous investigations, suggesting that the settlement may have been more extensive. The wider

Romano-British landscape also included a well-developed road network, villa sites, and emerging urban centres.

*Post-medieval and modern (AD1500–present)*

- 2.3.10 In the 19th century, brickearth quarrying at Bapchild and chalk quarrying at Highsted altered the landscape and industrial use of the area. During the post-medieval period, lime burning became increasingly common due to a rising demand for lime mortar in housebuilding, as well as its use as fertiliser and in tanning. Lime kilns were constructed in limestone quarries and chalk pits, and the occupation of limeburner appears more frequently in records from this period. Until the mid-18th century, lime kilns were typically temporary structures built to meet immediate local needs. The agrarian revolution of the 18th century led to the enclosure of large tracts of farmland and increased demand for lime, with some farmers maintaining their own lime kilns. By the 20th century, lime production had become concentrated in larger quarries and chalk pits, and the development of railway infrastructure allowed for regional and national distribution.
- 2.3.11 The Highsted Chalk Quarry was located in the western part of the proposed development area. The first record of quarrying at this location appears on the 1898 Ordnance Survey map, which shows a wash mill and a chalk pit labelled to the east of Highsted Road.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General aims**

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025a), were to:
- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
  - inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

#### **3.2 General objectives**

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:
- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
  - establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
  - place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
  - make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results.

#### **3.3 Site-specific objectives**

- 3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the site-specific objectives are to:
- test the results of the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2022b); and



- determine the nature of possible large enclosure visible in LiDAR but not within the geophysical survey.

## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025), Kent County Council's *Manual of specification part B: trial trenching requirements* and in general compliance with ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2023a–b). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

#### *General*

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, although trenches 8, 70, 83, 91, 98, 121, 128, 132, 133 had to be shortened because of obstacles such as trees and located services (Figs 2–18). Contingency trenches contingency trenches 23, 24, 27, 28, 30 and 31 were not excavated.

4.2.2 138 trial trenches, with four additional contingency trenches, (133 measuring up to 30 m by 2 m, 1 measuring 40 m by 2 m, and 8 measuring 50 m by 2 m) were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed. The trenches were targeted to test the result of the geophysical survey; details of the number of trenches and a summary of the rationale for each area is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1** Details of trenches by area

Area	Trenches	Trench sizes	Rationale
1	44–68	15 – 30 x 2 m	Confirm presence of archaeological anomalies in the geophysical survey
2	69–108	47 – 30 x 2 m 1 – 25 x 2 m 2 – 20 x 2 m	Confirm presence of archaeological anomalies in the geophysical survey
3	109–147	4 – 20 x 2 m 32 – 30 x 2 m 3 – 50 x 2 m	Confirm presence of possible archaeological, geological anomalies and linear trends in the geophysical survey
4	10–33	19 – 30 x 2 m 1 – 40 x 2 m 4 – 50 x 2 m	Targeted on geophysical anomalies and LiDAR analysis, includes 10 contingency trenches
5	34–37	4 – 30 x 2 m	Confirm presence of archaeological anomalies in the geophysical survey
6	1–9	8 - 30 x 2 m 1 - 20 x 2 m	To determine the absence or presence of archaeology
7	38–43, 148-9	7 – 30 x 2 m 1 – 50 x 2 m	Confirm presence of archaeological anomalies in the geophysical survey, test LiDAR analysis.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the project aims.



- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the PAO for KCC were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### *Recording*

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### **4.3 Finds and environmental strategies**

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014a), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's (n.d. a) *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

### **4.4 Monitoring**

- 4.4.1 The PAO for KCC monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the PAO for KCC.

## **5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 The results are presented by area, with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period where appropriate.
- 5.1.2 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figures 2–18 show all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the results of the preceding geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2022b).

## 5.2 Area 1

### *Introduction*

- 5.2.1 Area 1, located in the western part of the site, comprised trenches 44–68 (Figs 2–4). Of these, 17 of the 25 trenches contained archaeological features or deposits, while the remaining eight trenches were archaeologically sterile. The features recorded included 18 linear features (17 ditches and one terminal), as well as discrete features including six pits, two quarry pits, one posthole, one pit or posthole, and a clay-lined furnace.

### *Soil Sequence and Natural Deposits*

- 5.2.2 The overburden comprised a mid-greyish brown silty clay topsoil (0.25–0.40 m thick), overlying a light yellowish grey chalk with patches of Clay-with-Flints. A possible subsoil horizon (0.05 m thick) was recorded in trench 64, likely representing a diffuse transition between topsoil and natural. In trenches 44–46, a deposit interpreted as disturbance (greyish yellow silty clay with brick and chalk fragments, 0.52–1.32 m thick) was recorded and interpreted as backfill or levelling of a former pond.
- 5.2.3 Natural deposits varied across the area. In trenches 44–46, degraded chalk was observed. In other trenches, the natural comprised a Head Deposit of Clay-with-Flints, recorded as a light yellowish red silty clay with common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints and rare chalk

### *Late Iron Age–Romano-British (100 BC – AD 410)*

#### Linear features

- 5.2.4 Trenches 48–53, 56, 57, 59, 60, and 62–64 targeted a series of geophysical anomalies (feature 1000), interpreted as a rectilinear field boundary system. This coaxial system was broadly aligned WNW–ESE and NNE–SSW, with variations to east–west and NW–SE orientations. Ditches comprising this system included 4803, 4903, 5009, 5011, 5103, 5205, 5207, 5305, 5308, 5713, 5903, 6003, 6203, 6204, and 6303 (Fig. 3). No evidence was found in trenches 56 or 64. Ditches exhibited steep, concave sides with flat or V-shaped bases, measuring 0.4–1.4 m wide and 0.23–0.86 m deep, and containing one to three fills (Fig. 22). Recutting was evident in trenches 52 and 63 where two parallel ditches were recorded (Fig. 23). Datable artefacts were recovered from twelve slots.
- 5.2.5 Ditch 5003, following the same WNW–ESE alignment, did not correspond to a geophysical anomaly. It measured 0.80 m wide and 0.25 m deep with shallow concave sides and a concave base (Fig. 24). Pottery, slag, and animal bone were recovered from the single fill.
- 5.2.6 Ditch terminus 5005 in trench 50 was more substantial, measuring 1.2 m long, 1 m wide, and 0.7 m deep, with three fills. The uppermost fill contained pottery, fired clay, and slag. It had concave sides and a concave base. As it did not correspond with a geophysical anomaly and differed in alignment, this may represent a pit rather than a ditch terminus.
- 5.2.7 Ditch 5303 in trench 53, located 6 m SSW of ditch 5305, followed an ENE–WSW alignment. It was 0.75 m wide, 0.18 m deep, with concave sides and a flat base. It did not correspond to any geophysical anomalies.
- 5.2.8 Ditch 5403 aligned NW–SE and did correspond with a geophysical anomaly. It had steep, straight sides with a V-shaped profile and flat base (1.20 m wide, 0.78 m deep; Fig. 25). Finds included small quantities of pottery, fired clay, and 10 pieces of slag (260 grammes). This ditch was located just 1 m northeast of furnace 5405, and the presence of slag suggests the ditch post-dated the furnace.

### Discrete features

- 5.2.9 The only structure recorded in Area 1 was probable iron smelting furnace 5405 (Figs 26 and 27). The sub-oval feature was aligned north-west to south-east, with the clay-built shaft furnace itself located at the south-east end and a stoke pit/slag tapping pit extending to the north-west. Together, the furnace and associated stoke pit (cut 5406) had overall measurable dimensions of 2.7 m by >1.0 m, the stoke pit being at least 0.56 m deep. The full extent of the feature was not exposed within the evaluation trench and the base of the stoke pit was not established; the furnace complex was subject to preliminary investigation only before being covered and reburied. The basal part of the shaft furnace was circular, with an internal diameter of approximately 0.3 m, and it survived to a height of around 0.35 m. The structure showed extensive evidence of having been affected by heat, with the outer part of the clay furnace wall burnt red, while the interior face was grey (from the reducing atmosphere within), this surface being noticeably harder and showing evidence of vitrification as a result of the high temperature achieved during smelting. No clear evidence for the location of the blowing hole for the bellows was identified, but it is possible that this (if it existed at this level) had been obscured by collapsed furnace wall which lay around parts of the edge of the *in-situ* furnace remains. The only finds recovered comprised four pieces of slag (132 g), 12 pieces of fired clay (234 g) and five sherds of pottery (114 g), a very low quantity of metallurgical debris from such a feature, but it is likely that further material lies in the base of the stoke pit/tapping pit as well as in the surrounding area.
- 5.2.10 In the centre of trench 48 was an isolated pit 4806 that did not correspond with any geophysical anomaly. Circular pit 4708 measured 1.22 m diameter, 0.7 m deep and had irregular sides and an undulating/ irregular base. This feature contained two fills interpreted as deliberate backfills, with an iron object (Object 1) recovered from the lower fill.
- 5.2.11 Towards the south-eastern end of trench 52 was an isolated posthole 5209. This sub-oval feature measured 0.55 m long, 0.40 m wide, 0.45 m deep. The postpipe was clearly visible within the centre of the posthole, with packing surrounding the postpipe. Four sherds of pottery were recovered from the postpipe.
- 5.2.12 Trench 57 contained three pits. Pits 5703 and 5706 were excavated whilst; pit 5711 was not. Pit 5703 was 2.15 m in diameter and extended beyond the trench baulk, with a depth of 0.45 m (Fig. 28). Pit 5706 measured 0.94 m in diameter. Both had concave sides and bases. Four sherds of pottery (43 g) and charcoal flecking were noted in fill 5708. Pit 5711, approximately 1.50 m in diameter, also extended beyond the trench edge.
- 5.2.13 Quarry pit 6108 measured 6 m long, 3.9 m wide, 0.64 m deep and contained three fills. This quarry pit had irregular concave sides and a concave base and was only partially exposed within the trench (Fig. 29).

### *Post-medieval–modern (1500–present)*

- 5.2.14 Trenches 44 and 46 recorded evidence of probable pond infilling associated with formal landscaping as part of the Broad Oak or Home Park estates land.
- 5.2.15 Two quarry pits, likely related to post-medieval brickearth extraction, were identified in trenches 56 and 58.
- 5.2.16 A spread of very late post-medieval/ modern material was recorded in trench 65. This material, which included charcoal and fired clay is believed to have been laid in rows before being spread across the fields to improve the soil quality. The spread matched geophysical anomaly 1008. A similar spread, also correlating with anomaly 1008, was mapped but not excavated in trench 66.

*Uncertain date*

Linear features

- 5.2.17 Ditch 4703, aligned north-west to south-east, was located to the east of the field boundary system discussed above and approximately 5.8 m east of a geophysical trend, the line of which it appears to follow. It is measured 0.61 m in width and 0.31 m in depth, with moderate, straight sides and a U-shaped base. A single secondary fill was recorded.
- 5.2.18 Curvilinear ditch 5203, 5.5 m southwest of ditch 5207, was aligned NE–SW and measured 0.98 m wide, 0.40 m deep with concave sides and base. The ditch contained a single fill, from which two pieces of slag were recovered.
- 5.2.19 A very shallow ditch terminus 5709 in trench 57 measured 0.78 m wide and 0.07 m deep, aligned NNE–SSW.

Discrete features

- 5.2.20 Pit 5106 was square with vertical sides and a flat base, measuring 2.10 m x 0.80 m x 0.35 m. It extended beyond the trench and contained five pieces of fired clay.
- 5.2.21 Similar undated pits were recorded in trench 61 (pits 6103 and 6105) and trench 63 (pit 6306, unexcavated). Pits in trench 61 were circular to sub-oval. Pit 6103 measured 0.91 m in diameter and 0.20 m deep. Pit 6105, partially beyond the trench, was 2.10 m in diameter and 0.62 m deep.

**5.3 Area 2**

*Introduction*

- 5.3.1 The evaluation of Area 2 comprised 47 trenches, of which 11 contained archaeological features or deposits (Figs 5–8). The recorded features included five ditches, one gully, two pits, one hedgerow and one tree-throw hole. Trenches 69–82 targeted a possible enclosure identified in the north of Area 2, but no archaeological features or deposits were encountered in these trenches. Trenches 83–105 focused on a second possible enclosure to the south, while trenches 106–115 were dispersed across the eastern extent of the Area 2 evaluation.

*Soil sequence and natural deposits*

- 5.3.2 The topsoil in the field where trenches 69–82 were located consisted of a mid-greyish brown silty clay with rare angular flint inclusions, between 0.2–0.3 m thick. The underlying natural deposits comprised a mid-brownish red sandy clay with rare angular flints. A 0.1 m thick deposit of made ground was recorded in trench 72.
- 5.3.3 In the field containing trenches 83–105, the topsoil consisted of a dark greyish brown silty clay, 0.2–0.3 m thick, overlying a mid-yellowish red silty clay with moderate flints. An oval tree-throw hole (8403) was recorded in trench 84, measuring 1.04 m long, 0.56 m wide, 0.30 m deep.
- 5.3.4 The topsoil in trenches 106–115, dispersed across the eastern part of Area 2, consisted of a 0.2–0.3 m thick mid-greyish brown silty clay. Colluvial deposits, comprising a mid-yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk flecking and up to 0.5 m thick, were recorded in trenches 110, 112, and 113. The natural substrate in trenches 106–115 consisted of a mid-reddish yellow silty clay.

### *Late Iron Age–Romano-British (100 BC–AD 410)*

#### Linear features

- 5.3.5 Ditch 8303, aligned north-east to south-west, corresponded closely with geophysical anomaly 2007. Measuring 2.15 m wide, 0.60 m deep, it had moderate, stepped sides and a flat base, a typical form for Late Iron Age/Romano-British period field boundaries used for livestock control (Fig. 30). A single sherd of abraded Samian ware was recovered from the upper of the two fills.
- 5.3.6 Shallow ditch 9203 measured 2.3 m wide, but just 0.3 m deep, corresponding with an eastern segment of anomaly 2007. Its artefact rich single fill appears to represent a deliberate dump of material, possibly associated with nearby iron manufacturing waste.
- 5.3.7 V-shaped ditch 9503 measured 1.1 m wide, 0.4 m deep. Small quantities of pottery and slag recovered from its single fill. This north–south aligned ditch also corresponded with geophysical anomaly 2007.
- 5.3.8 Substantial ditch 11403, aligned north-east to south-west, measured 2.5 m wide and 0.6 m deep (Fig. 31). It had moderate, concave sides and a concave base and corresponded with geophysical anomaly 2016. Small quantities of pottery were recovered from the basal fill.
- 5.3.9 Ditch 11503 corresponded with the possible enclosure represented by anomaly 2017. Aligned north-west to south-east, it measured 1.13 m wide and 0.3 m deep, with a similar concave profile to ditch 11403 (Fig. 32). Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery was recovered from its upper fill.

#### Discrete feature

- 5.3.10 Only partially revealed within the trench, pit 9703 had measurable dimensions of 1.7 m diameter, 0.6 m depth. This sub-oval feature had moderate, concave sides and a concave base (Fig. 33). Interpreted as a refuge pit, artefacts including pottery, animal bone, slag and fired clay were recovered from all three flint packed fills. The pottery was dated to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.

#### *Uncertain date*

- 5.3.11 Gully 8603, aligned north-south, had shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Measuring 0.53 m wide and 0.17 m deep, this feature did not correspond with any geophysical anomaly, and no datable material was recovered.
- 5.3.12 Possibly representing a recently removed hedgerow, feature 10003 measured 0.80 m wide and 0.32 m deep, with abundant rooting noted. Aligned north-west to south-east this concave shaped feature corresponded with geophysical anomaly 2006.
- 5.3.13 Curvilinear ditch 11103, not corresponding with any geophysical anomaly, measured 0.90 m wide and 0.22 m deep. This undated feature had moderate, straight sides and a U-shaped base.

## **5.4 Area 3**

### *Introduction*

- 5.4.1 Area 3 is in the south-eastern corner of the development area (Figs 9–11). Trenches in Area 3 were numbered 117–147 and targeted two concentrations of probable archaeology identified by the geophysical survey. Of the 31 trenches excavated, 15 contained archaeological features or deposits. These comprised 16 linear features (ditches or terminals) and 13 discrete features (12 pits and 3 postholes), as well as the edge of a

possible kiln or furnace. Only a small portion (less than 20 cm) of this feature was exposed; however, the geophysical survey results strongly suggest the presence of kilns or furnaces in this area. This interpretation is further supported by the recovery of substantial quantities of large slag fragments. All dated features are attributed to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.

#### *Soil sequence and natural deposits*

- 5.4.2 The topsoil comprised a mid-greyish brown silty clay 0.3–0.4 m thick, overlying natural head deposits of light reddish brown sandy clay with rare flints. Colluvial deposits were recorded in trenches 121, 122, 128 and 133, located in the north-west corner of the area. The colluvium consisted of a dark grey sandy silty clay with chalk flecking, up to 0.3 m thick.
- 5.4.3 Two natural features were recorded, a paleochannel or solifluction hollow (12604) measuring at least 17m long over 2.5m deep, and an irregular geological feature (13906) with irregular sides and an undulating base measuring 1.20 x 1.18 x 0.42 m in trench 139.

#### *Late Iron Age–Romano-British (100 BC–AD 43)*

##### Linear features

- 5.4.4 Trenches 121–123, 127–129, 132, and 133 focused on two rectilinear enclosures and internal features in the northern part of Area 3 (anomalies 2001, I–N). Enclosure ditches were recorded as 12107, 12804, and 13203, with a further unexcavated ditch corresponding to the mapped enclosure ditch in trench 122. These enclosure ditches ranged between 0.84 m (ditch 12107) and 1.70 m (ditch 13203) in width, and 0.16 m (ditch 12107) and 0.87 m (ditch 13203) in depth. The ditches all had concave sides, with bases varying between flat and U-shaped; the most substantial (ditch 13203) had two fills (Fig. 34).
- 5.4.5 Two phases were identified: a smaller northern enclosure (ditch 12107) and a larger southern enclosure (ditch 12804), which follow WNW–ENE and NNE–SSW alignments, appearing to respect one another. Ditch 13203, however, aligned north-east to south-west, turning to the north-west, with a spur aligning to the east-southeast recorded as ditch 12703. Ditch 12703 had a similar profile to ditch 13203 and measured 1.17 m wide and 0.52 m deep with two fills. Artefacts from this area date broadly to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period.
- 5.4.6 The second concentration of archaeological features were recorded in trenches 139, 142, 143, and 145–147. The geophysical survey had noted fragmented linear anomalies and discrete features (anomalies 2000 and A–F), while LIDAR data suggested a possible road. The features, although of Late Iron Age/Romano-British date, could not be securely phased during the evaluation. However, the evidence suggests that the landscape boundaries evolved during this period. Ditch 14203 was partially excavated; it had been cut by pit 14206.
- 5.4.7 Ditch 14303 measured 1.94 m wide, 0.85 m deep, with two fills. A possible continuation of this ditch was recorded as ditch 14514, where it was smaller at 1.20 m wide, 0.36 m deep with 38 sherds of Roman pottery (461 grammes) recovered from the single fill (Fig. 35). These two ditches correlated with the eastern most linear of anomalies 2000 which appears to mark the eastern boundary.
- 5.4.8 Following the same broadly north–south alignment as ditches 14303 and 14514, some 2.75 m to the west of ditch 14514 ditch 14522 had an almost identical concave profile as those ditches. This ditch measured 0.98 m wide, 0.47 m deep. This ditch was cut by ditch 14518 (also recorded as ditch 14506). Ditch 14506/14518 aligned north-west to south-east and

corresponded with a short (11 m) linear anomaly. Ditch 14506/14518 measured 1.20 m wide, 0.55 m deep and had a slightly steeper profile than the earlier ditches (Fig. 36).

- 5.4.9 A possible east–west aligned ditch was recorded as part of an amorphous blob in the centre of trench 145. Ditch 14524 was substantial in size (2.8 m wide, 0.8 m deep) with steep, concave sides and a concave base, with four fills recorded (Fig. 37). This ditch was cut by pit 14525, which in turn was cut by pit 14526.
- 5.4.10 Within trench 146 two of the ditches (14603 and 14606) corresponded with geophysical anomalies and appear to be part of the enclosure system. Ditch 14603, the eastern most ditch aligned broadly north–south and measured 1.20 m wide, 0.45 m deep (Fig. 38). This ditch had a V-shaped profile with two fills recorded. Ditch 14606 was significantly wider (2.42 m wide), but not much deeper (0.50 m deep). This ENE–WSW aligned ditch had shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Located between the two ditches curvilinear ditch terminal 14808 measured 0.72 m wide, 0.30 m deep, with shallow, concave sides and a concave base.
- 5.4.11 Curvilinear ditch terminus 14608 measured 0.27 m wide, 0.30 m deep, with pottery and burnt flint recovered from the single fill.

#### Discrete features

- 5.4.12 Posthole 14308 was rectangular in shape, measuring 0.60 m long, 0.50 m wide, 0.51 m deep. A distinctive postpipe was identified, from which the majority of the artefacts were recovered (Fig. 39).
- 5.4.13 Pit 14709, measuring 6 m in diameter, corresponded with geophysical anomaly 2000 D. A machine-excavated slot revealed the feature to be 0.66 m deep with an undulating base. Finds recovered from this feature are indicative of iron smelting activity in the vicinity and included slag (with fragments of furnace lining and tap slag), burnt flint, fired clay, and worked flint flakes (Fig. 40).

#### *Uncertain date*

#### Linear features

- 5.4.14 Undated ditch 12206 lay to the west of the main enclosure, this ditch was smaller than the enclosure ditches (0.45 m wide, 0.28 m deep), although it followed a similar NNE–SSW alignment. The ditch was cut by undated pit 12203.
- 5.4.15 Three north-east to south-west aligned linear features were recorded but not excavated in trench 139.

#### Discrete features

- 5.4.16 Within the northern enclosures, three excavated discrete features comprised pits; none were securely dated. The only artefact recovered was a single sherd of pottery weighing (1 gramme) from pit 12104. These discrete features were circular (12104 and 12203) in shape. Pit diameters ranged between 0.66–1.00 m. Pit depths varied between 0.18–0.82 m.
- 5.4.17 A feature only partially exposed in the south-east facing section of trench 129, has been tentatively interpreted as the southern edge of a large kiln or furnace type feature (12903). Where visible, the feature exhibits a flat base and concave sides and measures at least 1.29 m diameter and corresponds to a significant circular geophysical anomaly (one of three identified within the enclosure), the natural geology surrounding the feature exhibits

evidence of heat scorching but no dateable evidence was retrieved as so little of the feature was exposed this interpretation remains tentative.

- 5.4.18 The single posthole 13902 measured 0.50 m in diameter and 0.31 m deep, with a visible post pipe and packing material recorded within the fill.
- 5.4.19 No datable material was recovered from pit 14206, although a stratigraphic relationship with Late Iron Age/ Romano-British ditch 14203 was established, with the pit cutting the ditch. This circular pit had measurable dimensions of 0.55 m diameter, 0.55 m depth, charcoal flecks were noted in the single fill.
- 5.4.20 Pit 14306 was a small, shallow oval feature measuring 0.50 m × 0.40 m, with a depth of 0.12 m. It had shallow, concave sides and a concave base, and was located 1.45 m east of ditch 14303.
- 5.4.21 Trench 145 contained a number of undated pits. Of the six pits within this trench, none could be securely dated, although small quantities of pottery were recovered from pits 14503 and 14509. Several intercutting relationships were observed: pit 14509 was cut by pit 14512, and pit 14525 cut ditch 14524 but was itself cut by pit 14526. Pit 14503 was isolated in the eastern part of the trench, while pit 14516 was located adjacent to ditch 14514; however, no clear stratigraphic relationship between this pit and the ditch could be established. The pits varied in size and shape. Where measurable dimensions were recorded, they measured up to 1 m in diameter and between 0.17–0.79 m deep (Fig. 41).
- 5.4.22 Pit 14703 measured 0.70 m diameter, 0.17 m deep. A single undated fill was recorded in this shallow circular, concave feature.
- 5.4.23 Posthole 14705 had steep, concave sides, a flat base. This circular feature measured 0.40 m diameter, 0.21 m deep with a post pipe and post packing noted.

## 5.5 Area 4

### *Introduction*

- 5.5.1 The trenches in Area 4 were numbered 10–33, contingency trenches 23, 24, 27, 28, 30 and 31 were not excavated. 12 of the 18 trenches contained archaeological features or deposits (Figs 12 and 13). Area 4 was characterised by a series of ditches and pits, likely to represent a Late Iron Age hilltop settlement in the east of the area, a deep natural valley divided Area 4, with no archaeological features or deposits recorded within the valley. On the western side of the valley ditches and pits, also from the Late Iron Age/Romano-British periods were recorded in trench 33. The lacuna of cut archaeological features in the centre of the area is likely to be caused by the steep topographic changes.

### *Soil sequence and natural deposits*

- 5.5.2 The overburden comprised a mid-greyish brown silty clay between 0.25–0.38 m thick, in trenches 13, 16, 19, 21, 22 and 32 this overlay a mid-brown silty sand subsoil 0.15–0.32 m thick. Colluvial deposits were recorded in trenches 25, 26 and 32, these three trenches lay within a former river valley with head deposits mapped by the BGS. The colluvium was recorded as varying between a light reddish brown silty clay to a mid-greyish yellow silty clay with chalk and flint inclusions. The thickness of the colluvium varied between 0.1–0.5 m thick. The natural was recorded as being a light reddish yellow silty clay across the area.

### *Late Iron Age–Romano-British (100 BC – AD 410)*

#### Linear features

- 5.5.3 Ditches 1105 and 1204 did not show as anomalies in the geophysical survey, however, the similarity in their north-west to south-east alignment and morphology mean that it is probable that these are part of the same feature. Both ditches had a steep north-east sides and stepped south-west sides, typical of Late Iron Age stock boundary ditches. Ditch 1105 was slightly narrower (1.60 m wide, compared to 2.06 m wide for ditch 1204), and shallower (0.38 m deep, with ditch 1204 measuring 0.56 m deep) with similar fill patterns (Fig. 42).
- 5.5.4 With a similar morphology ditch 1608 measured 1.7 m wide, 0.4 m deep, with the step on the south-western side, of the ditch. It is plausible that this ditch is part of the same field boundary system as ditches 1105 and 1204. A possible posthole (1611) was recorded as cutting this feature, although a modern land drain cutting through obscured this relationship.
- 5.5.5 Another ditch with a distinctive step on one side was ditch 1910. Aligned north-east to south-west with the step on the south-east side artefacts including pottery, worked and burnt flint and animal bone were recovered from the upper fill of this 1.98 m wide, 0.44 m deep ditch.
- 5.5.6 Parallel north-west to south-east aligned ditches 1304 and 1318 were substantial features that correlated with geophysical anomalies 3001 and 3000 accordingly. Both ditches had steep, straight sides and measured 2.1 m wide, 0.8 m deep. The fill patterns of both ditches suggest that they were open for a prolonged period of time, with occasional deliberate dumps of material within the ditches (Fig. 43).
- 5.5.7 Anomaly 3000 appeared from the geophysical survey to turn to the south-west. Two ditches 2003 and 2007 were excavated in the approximate location of anomaly 3000 and on the edge of a steep north-west facing ridge. Ditch 2003, the earlier of the two ditches, had a steep south-east side, flat or gentle concave base with a moderate slope to the north-west, this ditch was broad (3.50 m wide) and deep (0.87 m deep). Ditch 2007, on the north-west side of the two ditches, cut through the upper fill of ditch 2003. This ditch had a steep, straight north-west edge with a concave base and measured 1.13 m wide, 0.87 m deep (Fig. 44). Sherds of Late Iron Age/ Romano-British pottery were retrieved from the uppermost fills of both ditches.
- 5.5.8 Another ditch located along the edge of the escarpment ditch 2210 aligned NNE–SSW. This ditch did not show on the geophysical survey, and had a slightly shallower profile to ditch 2007. Measuring 2.34 m wide, 0.64 m deep, although limited artefacts were retrieved the location of this ditch makes a Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British date very probable.
- 5.5.9 Also within trench 13 were a series of smaller ditches (ditches 1310, 1312, 1314, 1316 and 1319). Ditches 1310 and 1314 aligned broadly north-east to south-west, whilst the remaining ditches aligned broadly north-west to south-east. These ditches were varied in width (between 0.27–0.98 m wide) and depth (0.18–0.37 m deep), but with similar shallow, concave profiles. Where stratigraphic relationships could be established, for example ditches 1310 and 1312, the north-east to south-west aligned ditches cut through the north-west to south-east aligned ditches.
- 5.5.10 On a slightly different alignment to the stepped ditches discussed above ditch 1906 aligned east–west and measured 1.44 m wide, 0.69 m deep. The profile of this ditch was closer to an “ankle breaker” profile with a U-shaped base (Fig. 45). Ditch 1916 also had a suggestion of an “ankle breaker” in the base. With four fills this 2 m wide, 0.78 m deep ditch aligned ESE–WNW, located 18.8 m to the south of ditch 1906 these ditches may be part of the same field boundary system.



- 5.5.11 Located on a plateau in the west of Area 4 north-east to south-west aligned ditch 3310 was cut by ditch 3312. Both ditches had concave sides and flat bases. Ditch 3310 was narrower (1.22 m wide) than ditch 3312 (2.60 m wide), although both had similar depths (0.37 and 0.31 m deep respectively). Iron Age/ Romano-British pottery was recovered from both ditches.

#### Discrete features

- 5.5.12 A robbed wall foundation (1613) with a 90° turn was recorded in trench 16. The presence of Roman pottery within the fill of the robber trench makes an early Romano-British date for this structure a possibility. The L-shaped robber trench measured 2.66 m long, 0.55 m wide, 0.15 m deep with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Large flints, possibly representing the remains of the foundation were recorded within the trench (Fig. 46).
- 5.5.13 Further evidence for occupation came from trench 18 where a key shaped hearth (1804) was recorded. This shallow (0.16 m deep) feature had evidence of burning on the natural. Aligned north-east to south-west, the hearth had a maximum length of 1.46 m and width of 0.64 m (Fig. 47).
- 5.5.14 Adjacent to hearth 1804 was subcircular pit 1806, irregularly cut this feature is tentatively dated based on a single sherd of pottery and proximity to the hearth. With slightly larger dimensions (0.87 m diameter, 0.31 depth) at the south-western end of trench 18 pit 1814 was sub oval in shape with steep, concave sides and a concave base, four sherds of Roman greyware were retrieved from this pit.
- 5.5.15 Two pits were recorded in trench 33, whilst pit 3303 was a small, shallow (0.12 m deep) feature, pit 3305 was more substantial (measuring 1.05 m wide, 0.32 m deep), with clear fill patterns, including a dump of burnt material (Fig. 48). Both pits continued beneath the baulk of the trench.

#### *Uncertain date*

#### Linear features

- 5.5.16 Ditch 1103 was a wide (0.90 m wide) very shallow (0.12 m deep) concave ditch which followed the north-west to south-east alignment of the field boundary enclosure 1105/1204. Former field boundary (geophysical anomaly 3032) was 1.16 m to the north of this feature. The former field boundary was not excavated during the evaluation.
- 5.5.17 No stratigraphic relationship was established between ditches 1318 and 1319. Ditch 1319 appeared to run parallel to ditch 18 following the north-west to south-east alignment, but was smaller (0.50 m wide, 0.18 m deep). No artefacts were retrieved from this ditch so it remains undated.
- 5.5.18 Two undated gullies (1503 and 1505) were recorded in trench 15 with a third north-west to south-east aligned gully mapped in the north-east corner of the trench. These two narrow <0.66 m wide, shallow (0.30 m deep) were filled with secondary fills, north-west to south east aligned gully 1505 cut through north-east to south-west aligned gully 1503.
- 5.5.19 Parallel ditches 1604 and 1606 aligned NNE–SSW with an 11 m gap between the ditches. These ditches had very similar dimensions, 0.64 m wide, 0.26 m deep, with shallow, concave sides and bases. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery, weighing 1 gramme was recovered from ditch 1606.
- 5.5.20 Just 0.8 m from the north-west edge of ditch 2007, which lay at 41.8 m OD, was the start of a steep slope that appeared to have been cut to form an escarpment (2011), possibly for

defensive purposes. Here the ground dropped significantly from 41.4 m OD in the south-west to 39.7 m in just 7.5 m, the section (Fig.19, Section 1) demonstrates how the escarpment appears to have been done as a steep, nearly vertical step of approximately 2 m depth, when the escarpment fell out of use colluvial deposits, presumably from bank material and post-medieval agricultural practices appear to have created the current slope.

- 5.5.21 Ditch terminal 2104 aligned east-west, this very shallow (0.07 m deep), concave feature was filled with a single fill from which three sherds of pottery and two pieces of burnt flint were retrieved. Located 0.5 m to the north of terminal 2104 was gully 2106, this north-south aligned linear measured 0.48 m wide, 0.11 m deep.
- 5.5.22 An ENE–WSW aligned ditch was recorded as 2204 and 2206 which formed part of a small field boundary system with contemporary ditch 2208 (aligned north–south). These ditches were smaller than the enclosure ditches at 0.9–1.3 m wide, and shallow (0.14–0.20 m deep) with neat, concave profiles (Fig. 49).

#### Discrete features

- 5.5.23 Undated pit 1403 was recorded in the southern part of trench 14, this feature continued beneath the baulk of the trench. Two fills were noted, with a lens of charcoal noted in the lower fill.
- 5.5.24 In trench 18 two undated postholes were 5.25 m apart. Circular posthole 1808 was slightly smaller (0.21 m diameter, 0.05 m deep) than subcircular posthole 1812 (0.36 m diameter, 0.14 m deep). Between these two postholes was possible pit or posthole was recorded (1810).
- 5.5.25 Oval pit or posthole 1914 was a small shallow scoop (0.46 m diameter, 0.08 m deep), with no discernible purpose or function.

## **5.6 Area 5**

### *Introduction*

- 5.6.1 Area 5 is located towards the east of the overall site, in a parcel of land slightly separate from the main development area. All four trenches (trenches 34–37) contained archaeological features, comprising three ditches and four pits (Fig. 14).

### *Soil sequence and natural deposits*

- 5.6.2 The overburden comprised a mid-greyish brown sand with abundant flint inclusions, approximately 0.3 m thick. This overlay a mid-yellowish white sand with orange patches and abundant flint inclusions.

### *Late Iron Age–Romano-British (100 BC – AD 410)*

#### Linear features

- 5.6.3 Ditch 3503, aligned north-east to south-west, had moderate, concave sides and a V-shaped base (Fig. 50). It measured 0.84 m wide and 0.42 m deep, and had a single secondary fill from which 18 sherds of pottery (287 grammes) were recovered. This ditch corresponds with geophysical anomaly 3003, a 36 m long NNE–SSW aligned weak anomaly.
- 5.6.4 Ditch 3703 was larger, measuring 1.32 m wide but shallower at 0.32 m deep. This east–west aligned ditch had moderate, concave sides and a concave base (Fig. 51). A 0.15 m thick primary fill likely slumped from the northern side, was recorded at the base. 52 sherds of pottery (1215 grammes) and a single piece of fired clay were recovered from the secondary fill (3704).

- 5.6.5 Approximately 3 m south of ditch 3703, ditch 3706 ran parallel. It was similar in width (1.38 m) but slightly deeper (0.60 m) and had moderate, concave sides and a concave base (Fig. 52). Five sherds of pottery (720 grammes) were recovered from fill 3709, the earliest fill of ditch 3706. Ditch 3706 corresponds with anomaly 3002, interpreted as an enclosure ditch by the geophysical survey; however, no geophysical anomaly was associated with ditch 3705, the smaller of the two features.

#### Discrete feature

- 5.6.6 The only discrete feature in Area 5 containing datable material was substantial pit 3403. This feature was not fully revealed within the evaluation trench, with measurable dimensions of 3.80 x 1.60 x 1.20 m; excavation ceased within this feature at 1.20 m without reaching the base (Fig. 53). The steep, concave sides suggest it may have been a waterhole rather than a waste pit. Artefacts were recovered from two of the three fills (3405 and 3406). This feature corresponded with discrete positive anomaly 3020 G.

#### *Uncertain date*

#### Discrete features

- 5.6.7 In trench 36 two closely related pits (3603 and 3605) were recorded, although any stratigraphic relationship between them was obscured by bioturbation. Pit 3603 was a small, subcircular feature which measured 0.36 x 0.16 x 0.11. The fill of this shallow, concave feature was recorded as a dump deposit due to the amount of fired clay, with slag and pottery also present. Pit 3605 was larger measuring 0.70 m long, 0.58 m wide, 0.30 m deep, however no artefacts were recovered from this feature. These two features were targeted as they appeared to be part of a NNE–SSW return of anomaly 3002, however the evaluation demonstrated that no extension of that ditch existed within trench 36.
- 5.6.8 A single undated feature, circular pit 3710, measured 0.50 m × 0.43 m × 0.28 m. It had steep, concave sides and a concave base, and contained a single fill. A larger geophysical anomaly was recorded in this location as 3002 H.

## **5.7 Area 6**

### *Introduction*

- 5.7.1 All nine trenches excavated in Area 6 contained archaeological features or deposits. Located adjacent to the A2, the features and deposits included remains of a Roman Road, dark earth occupation layers, Romano-British field boundary ditches, and undated quarrying in the southern part of the area (Fig. 15). Due to the complexity of archaeological features and deposits, particularly in the northern part of Area 6, the evaluation was limited to characterising the type and nature of the deposits.

### *Soil sequence and natural deposits*

- 5.7.2 The topsoil comprised a mid to dark-greyish brown silty clay, between 0.20–0.38 m thick. In the western trenches (trenches 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8), a subsoil of mid-reddish brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks was recorded. Beneath the subsoil (where present) recorded as deposit 103, 203, 303, 402, 502, 603, 703, 803 and 902 a dark deposit varying between 0.17 and 0.86 thick was recorded sealing the archaeological features and deposits. This appears to represent the closure in the area with deposit 103, 203, 303, 403, 603 and 703 likely to date from the Romano-British period, in these trenches the deposit only contained Roman artefacts and appears to mark the end of Romano-British activity in the area. However, an almost identical deposit was recorded in trenches 5, 8 and 9, here the deposit sealed undated quarrying. Given the extent of Romano-British activity in the area with a hiatus in the archaeological record until the present it is possible that this deposit was

spread by the later agricultural activity resulting in the similarity of dark deposits across Area 6.

- 5.7.3 Natural deposits were recorded in eight of the nine trenches (all except trench 6) and varied across the area. Head deposits of brickearth were recorded in trenches 1–4 and 7, overlying sands and gravels recorded in trenches 4, 5, 8, and 9. Chalk bedrock was recorded beneath the sands and gravels in trench 5.

#### *Romano-British (43–410AD)*

##### Linear features

- 5.7.4 Ditches 705 and 707/709 were both wide (2.40 and 0.75+ m wide respectively) and shallow (0.29 and 0.10 m), with ditch 705 following the east–west alignment of Watling Street, whilst ditch 707/709 followed the north–south alignment of a spur road (see structure 104 below). Both ditches contained single homogenised fills and were sealed by dark earth deposit 703.

##### Discrete features and structures

- 5.7.5 Posthole (107), interpreted as a marker post for the construction of a Roman road, is the earliest feature in trench 1. The circular posthole measured 0.4 m diameter and 0.3 m deep was sealed by structure 104 (Fig. 20, Section 2).
- 5.7.6 Structure 104 (construction cut 105) aligned north–south and interpreted as a spur of Watling Street, consisted of a 0.4 m thick deposit of deliberately placed cobbles bonded with clay to form a metallated surface (Figs 54 and 55). At the northern end of trench 3, a short section of east–west aligned Watling Street was recorded (Fig. 20, Section 3). The Roman road was constructed in visible lenses: two layers of cobbles (structures 304 and 306) separated by a 0.2 m thick layer of light yellowish grey silty clay (305). The foundations comprised a series of three deposits (307, 308 and 309) that gradually built up the road surface (Fig. 56). Both roads were sealed by dark earth deposits (103 and 303).
- 5.7.7 A series of made ground deposits were recorded in trench 2 (deposits 205, 206 and 207). These deposits were predominantly dark in colour (varying between light blackish brown to dark blackish brown) silty clays and appeared to have been compacted. The deposits were between 0.10–0.20 m thick (Fig. 21, Section 4).
- 5.7.8 Adjacent to the two roads in trench 2 a further cobbled surface, less densely packed than the two road surfaces, structure 208 comprised a thin (0.08 m thick) sub-rectangular surface (Fig. 57). This cobbled surface was set into deposit 207 and sealed by deposit 203.
- 5.7.9 Within the sondage excavated in trench 4 the deposit sequence showed a series of lenticular deposits, with the only artefactual evidence coming from the uppermost deposit (408: Figs 21, Section 5 and 58). The lenses within the sondage varied between yellowish grey silty gravels (403), through dark reddish brown silty clay (407) to greyish red silty clay (408) with inclusions of fired clay, daub and charcoal flecking noted within most of the deposits (only deposit 406 appeared sterile). Here the limitations of the evaluation preclude any conclusions being made about nature of the deposits, however, it is plausible that these relate to roadside settlement or occupation given their proximity to Watling Street and the archaeological features recorded in the remaining trenches in Area 6.

##### *Undated*

- 5.7.10 Trench 9 was characterised by extensive quarrying up to 1.6 m deep (Fig. 59). The backfill of the quarrying was sealed by dark earth deposit 902. The quarrying appeared to have steep, stepped cuts and a flat base. Further evidence for quarrying may be recorded in

trench 5, where made ground deposits up to 1.1 m thick were recorded. The limitations of the evaluation precluded more extensive investigation into this feature, with machine excavation ceasing at 2.6 m bgl, a depth which health and safety considerations make unsafe to enter.

## 5.8 Area 7

### *Introduction*

5.8.1 The trenches in Area 7 (trenches 38–43, 148 and 149) were dispersed across a central part of the site to the north-east of Area 1 (Figs 16–18). Just two of the eight trenches contained archaeological features or deposits (trenches 42 and 148). The archaeological features comprised two ditches, one of which is Romano-British in date.

### *Soil sequence and natural deposits*

5.8.2 The overburden comprised a mid-greyish or mid yellowish brown silty clay with flint gravels throughout between 0.2–0.3 m thick, in trenches 40 and 148 a 0.1–0.2 m thick subsoil which varied in colour and texture was noted. A lens of dark reddish brown silty clay colluvium was noted in the centre of trench 38. The natural geology was recorded as being a silty clay which varied in colour and hue from a mid-greyish yellow to a reddish yellow or reddish-brown silty clay.

5.8.3 Undated tree-throw hole (4205) was irregular in size and shape, this 1.40 x 1.25 x 0.32 m feature was located close to ditch 4203.

### *Romano-British (43–410AD)*

5.8.4 Ditch 14804 measured 1 m wide, 0.3 m deep, with shallow, concave sides and a concave base and aligned north-west to south-east. A deliberate dump of material was recovered from the single fill (Fig. 60).

### *Uncertain date*

5.8.5 Undated ditch 4203 had steep, sides and a concave base. Aligned east–west this ditch measured 0.75 m wide, 0.45 m deep (Fig. 61).

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Approximately 58 kg of finds were recovered. This includes material collected by hand during the normal course of excavation and finds extracted from the residues of the bulk sediment samples. The assemblage spans a wide date range, extending from the Neolithic to the post-medieval period, although its main focus lies within the Late Iron Age or early Romano-British period.

6.1.2 With the exception of the metalwork, the finds have been washed in water to remove soil and mis-identified natural stones etc. and then all were air dried, bagged and boxed by material type within each context. the finds were quantified (number of pieces and weight in grammes) by material type within each context and rapidly scanned to assess the nature, condition and broad chronological range of each material type Reporting conforms to CIFA's Toolkit for Specialist Reporting (CIFA 2022) Type 2, Appraisal level, which aims to characterise the finds assemblage with specific reference to dating, where possible.

6.1.3 Table 2 provides a summary of the overall quantity of finds by material type. The materials survive in moderately good condition, but the small amount of animal bone recovered

suggests that preservation conditions across the site are not particularly favourable to this material. Only pottery and metalworking debris (slag) occur in any appreciable quantity.

**Table 2** Quantification of finds by material type

Material type	Number of pieces	Weight (g)
Animal bone	78	1018
Burnt flint	113	534
Ceramic building material	27	4088
<i>Romano-British</i>	19	2273
<i>Post-medieval</i>	8	1815
Fired clay	184	1939
Flint	84	433
Glass – <i>Romano-British</i>	2	2
Human bone	1	50
Iron	11	171
Pottery	1685	26562
<i>Later prehistoric</i>	58	677
<i>Late Iron Age or Romano-British</i>	1627	25885
Shell	57	779
Metalworking debris (slag)	243	22645
Stone	1	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>2486</b>	<b>58287</b>

## 6.2 Flint

6.2.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric worked flint (84 pieces, 433 g) was found redeposited in 14 features in 11 trenches. The assemblage is summarised by object type in Table 3.

**Table 3** Summary of flint assemblage by object type

Flake core	Core fragment	Flake	Broken flake	Broken blade	Chips	Shatter	Total
2	2	11	31	2	28	8	<b>84</b>

### *Condition and raw material*

6.2.2 Despite its residuality, most of the material is in a reasonably fresh condition which suggests it has not suffered much disturbance since initial deposition, and that the high degree of breakage reflects accidents of knapping rather than post-depositional damage. The bulk utilises raw material procured directly from the local chalkland and includes three pieces of Bullhead flint, a material with a cortex stained green by the overlying Thanet Sand found in the region. However, a small number of pieces clearly derive from gravel flint which is locally present within superficial Quaternary deposits.

### *The assemblage*

6.2.3 The assemblage consists entirely of debitage and is dominated by undiagnostic flakes. Most of these have been detached with a hard (stone) hammer and show no signs of any prior preparation of the striking platform, but some of the smaller core-trimming examples may be the product of a soft (probably antler) hammer. All cores/core fragments represent the

generation of flake blanks; one is itself made on a thick flake, and the other is a multi-platform example. The latter is peppered with miss-hits and each platform is crushed and worked beyond the angle for viable flake removal, all features particularly characteristic of the more ad-hoc approach to core reduction seen during the Middle/Late Bronze Age. Microdebitage was found in environmental sample residues from six features but occurred in very low numbers (1–8 pieces). Its presence may indicate episodes of knapping proximate to these features, but such small amounts could result from incidental concussions.

- 6.2.4 Evidence for blade production is also present, though minimal. One rather thick example of probable Neolithic date from ditch 1204 has parallel sides and a series of regular, laminar dorsal scars that clearly indicate a purposeful blade technology, but another from ditch 1304 could simply be the inadvertent result of core-trimming.

#### *Distribution*

- 6.2.5 The assemblage was widely and thinly distributed across the site with no *in situ* material identified, and little indication for centres of activity. The greater amounts derive from Area 4 (23 pieces) and Area 1 (30 pieces) but only trench 19 within the former provides any possible focus for activity. Four features in this trench together produced 15 pieces including all four of the cores/core fragments, but the chronological ambiguity of this material mirrors that for the overall assemblage. This group includes the proposed later Bronze Age core and, while this stands out for its crudeness, none of the associated material strongly contradicts this date.

### **6.3 Pottery**

- 6.3.1 The pottery was recovered from 85 features/deposits. The assemblage is predominantly of Late Iron Age or earlier Romano-British date with a smaller number of late prehistoric sherds belonging within the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC (Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age). The assemblage is in fairly good condition although some sherds, particularly those from ditches, exhibit moderate to high levels of surface abrasion and edge damage. Overall, the mean sherd weight is 15.7 g.
- 6.3.2 Sherds from each context have been sub-divided into broad ware types (e.g., grog-tempered ware, greyware) and quantified by number and weight. Where possible, details of vessel form and other diagnostic features have been noted and a spot date for each context has been assigned. A breakdown of sherds by chronological period and ware type is presented in Table 4, with reference to standard corpora (e.g. Thompson 1982; Monaghan 1987) where appropriate. The level of recording is consistent with the 'basic record; advocated for the rapid characterisation of pottery assemblages (Barclay *et al.* 2016, section 2.4.5), although Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) have not been calculated at this stage.

**Table 4** Pottery by period and ware type

Period	Ware type	Number of pieces	Weight	Number of vessels (from rims)
Later prehistoric:	Flint-tempered ware	55	634	3
	Sand and flint-tempered ware	3	43	-
	<i>subtotal</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>677</i>	<i>3</i>
Late Iron Age or Romano-British:	Grog-tempered ware	543	11717	30
	Flint-tempered ware	525	7662	34
	Glauconitic sandy ware	180	1369	6
	Greyware	169	1203	14
	Grog and flint tempered ware	74	1629	4
	Fine greyware	39	337	7
	Sand and flint-tempered ware	31	302	3
	Oxidised ware	25	222	5
	Sandy ware	16	208	1
	Samian	14	214	3
	Amphora	6	949	-
	Shell-tempered ware	3	62	-
	North Gaulish whiteware	1	7	-
	Central Gaulish colour coated ware	1	4	-
	<i>subtotal</i>	<i>1627</i>	<i>25885</i>	<i>107</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1685</b>	<b>26562</b>	<b>110</b>	

6.3.3 Overall, the assemblage is dominated by fabrics containing calcined flint, both alone and in combination with other inclusion types, such as quartz sand, grog and/or occasional burnt-out organic material, and encompassing the entire textural range. Similarities between these fabrics used over considerable periods of time from the Neolithic into the early Romano-British period in this area has complicated the dating of pottery groups, especially when of mixed date or comprised of wholly of undiagnostic sherds as was often the case at this site. It should be noted, then, that the later prehistoric group is potentially under-represented at this stage and more detailed fabric analysis may well increase the size of this group.

*Late prehistoric*

6.3.4 The fabrics of those sherds currently assigned a later prehistoric date predominantly contain relatively coarse, poorly sorted calcined flint. Only three rims are present; one of simple rounded form (ditch 1906), one flat-topped (ditch 3310), while the third, from ditch 1916, has finger-nail impressions or incised slashes on its (damaged) upper surface. These might derive from weakly shouldered jar forms, but all are too small to ascertain their angle in relation to the rest of the vessel.

6.3.5 One angled sherd, perhaps from the shoulder of a jar came from ditch 1906. A base angle sherd was also recovered from pit 3305, while a tiny piece (1 g) from ditch 1916 appears to have extra flint grits on one surface and may therefore derive from the base of a vessel which was stood on a flint-rich surface during its manufacture. This technological trait is commonly associated with Late Bronze Age (post-Deverel-Rimbury) practices with local examples from Iwade (Hamilton and Seager Thomas 2005, 33) but is now known to extend back into the Middle Bronze Age (Brook 2023, 95). The rest are all undiagnostic body

sherds, many exhibiting the surface roughening (light rustication or finger-smearing) typical of early/mid first millennium BC pottery styles in the region and comparable with the post-Deverel-Rimbury through to the Middle/Late Iron Age assemblages from Iwade (Hamilton and Seager Thomas 2005; Lyne 2005) and Kemsley (Doherty, 2019).

#### *Late Iron Age and Romano-British*

- 6.3.6 The range and proportions of the fabrics making up this part of the assemblage (Table 4) are broadly comparable with those from Iwade (Lyne 2005) and Kemsley (Doherty 2019). The flint- and grog- tempered wares are almost equally represented by sherd count; evidence from the High Speed 1 sites indicates that grog was first re-introduced as a tempering agent during the Middle Iron Age (Morris 2006, 69-70), and by the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC, these Belgic' style grog-tempered wares had outstripped the flint-tempered fabrics in importance, although the use of flint did not cease completely until c. AD 70/80, by which time the grog-tempered wares were themselves being gradually eclipsed by ever increasing quantities of unoxidized sandy wares. At least some of the flint-tempered wares, usually in a variety of shades of orange, brown, grey and black were probably made on the Upchurch marshes and small amounts of grog-tempered wares may have been made here too (Monaghan 1987, 215, fabrics F1/1h and G1/1). The glauconitic sandy wares, from the Maidstone area of the Medway valley, also had their origins in the Early/Middle Iron Age (Morris 2006, 69; Jones 2012). These, together with those containing mixed temper, also continued into the third quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, the Roman conquest having little immediate effect on the range of fabrics and forms used.
- 6.3.7 The site lies within the 'overlap' area of Thompson's (1982, 11-14, fig. 2) Medway and East Kent style zones. Bead rim (Thompson 1982, 217, type C1-2; Monaghan 1987, 84 and 86, classes 3E1, 3E4 and 3E0) and faceted jars with and without bead rims (Thompson 1982, 239, type C4; Monaghan 1987, 91, classes 3G1 and 3G2) predominate, along with a variety of everted rim jars (*ibid.*, 97, 101, 117 and 127, types B1-1, B102, B1-3, B2-1), necked, cordoned bowl forms (Monaghan 1987, 124, classes 4F1 and 4F2), large necked and bead rimmed storage jars (Thompson 1982, 257, type C6-1) and imitation butt beakers, occurring in all three of the main Late Iron Age or early Roman fabrics. Cups (*ibid.*, types E1-1 and E1-2) and lids (types L1 and L4) are each represented by two grog-tempered examples, while two small sherds from a girth beaker (Thompson 1982, 501, type G4) were found in quarry 6108. Fragments from the bases of two flat-footed pedestal urns (*ibid.*, 75, type A8) were also found in layer 1406 and construction cut 5406. Surface treatments on the grog- and flint- tempered vessels continued to include scratched or scored exterior surfaces; the mixed tempered fabrics and the glauconitic sandy wares tended to be better finished with the latter often burnished and sometimes exhibiting burnished line decorative motifs, often lattice.
- 6.3.8 Evidence for use, re-use and repair were also apparent within this group. Sherds from the base of a large grog-tempered storage jar from ditch 5305 show considerable wear around circumference of underside of the base, probably from frequent movement during use. At least four coarseware vessels have one or more post-firing perforations drilled through their bases. These include a grog and flint-tempered faceted bead rim jar (Monaghan 1987, 91, class 3G3) from ditch 14514 and base only sherds from ditches 3703, 6303 (both flint-tempered) and 11403 (grog-tempered). Alterations such as these are generally interpreted as indicative of a deliberate change of use; the practice is well-known in Late Iron Age and Romano-British contexts across southern England. While traditionally associated with the production of cheese (Harding 1974, 88), these vessels could have been used to drain liquids from solids in a wide variety of industrial and domestic contexts, as timepieces or flowerpots, while others may form elements of more ritualistic acts (Fulford and Timby 2001, 294-6).

- 6.3.9 Sherds from a sand and flint-tempered necked bowl form from ditch 3706 have a perforation made through the vessel wall, while a tall, grog-tempered everted rim jar (Thompson 1982, 97, type B1-2 ) from ditch 5305 has been perforated through the neck, both perhaps indicative of repair. Three grog-tempered vessels - two butt beakers (ditches 5305 and 14608) and a large, necked storage jar with an everted rim (Thompson 1987, 257, type C6-1) from ditch 3706 – had been repaired using an adhesive derived from birch bark tar. This practice was comparatively common in Kent during the Late Iron Age and Romano-British periods (Marter Brown and Seager Smith 2012, 5-6).
- 6.3.10 The sherds belonging within this period (totalling 1316, 21325 g) were found in all Areas in 60 features and deposits. Most, however, occurred in very small groups, with fewer than 10 sherds being recovered from 41 of the features/deposits and only five features containing more than 30 sherds. Almost two-thirds of these sherds were collected (818 sherds, 13735 g) from Area 1, with the largest groups from ditches 5305 (538 sherds, 8944 g), 5903 (77 sherds, 1444 g) and ditch 6303 (93, 1032 g). Ditch 14603 in Area 3 contained 88 sherds (weighing 615 g), while ditches 3703 and 3706 in Area 5 also produced significant amounts (45 sherds, 1091 g and 37 sherds, 1069 g respectively).
- 6.3.11 By the third quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, a small number of imported vessels reached the site. The samian includes two sherds from the base of a form 18 dish (layer 402) stamped by SCOTNUS who worked at La Graufesenque between AD 36-65 (Hartley and Dickinson 2011, 124-6, die 5a) as well as a body sherd from a South Gaulish mould decorated bowl (form 37; ditch 14804). The other pieces are from Central Gaulish sources and include sherds from dishes/bowls in the form 18/31 series as well as mould decorated (form 37) bowls. A single piece from a Central Gaulish, roughcast colour-coated ware beaker (posthole 14308) is of Flavian to Trajanic date. The amphora sherds comprise pieces from the ubiquitous Dressel 20 form which carried olive oil from southern Spain (layers 103 and 203, ditch 5305) and Gallic wine amphora (layer 402); both types were imported from the mid-1<sup>st</sup> to at least the mid-3<sup>rd</sup> century AD and may highlight the use of 'exotic' commodities although the empty vessels were also widely traded in their own right. A single scrap from a North Gaulish whiteware vessel, probably a flagon (ditch 5305), came from the Oise/Somme area of northern France (Hartley 1998, 203) and is of mid-1<sup>st</sup> to mid-2<sup>nd</sup> century AD date.
- 6.3.12 The period AD 70–120/30 also witnessed the development of local fineware production, particularly along the north Kent coast (Monaghan 1987), here represented by the fine greyware and many of the oxidised ware sherds. This grouping has been used to describe all the pale firing (white, orange, buff) fabrics, some white slipped, from a variety of sources. The earliest is probably a piece of unsourced fine, white, sand-tempered butt beaker (ditch 3703), belonging within the middle decades of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, while north Kent vessels are represented by sherds from a necked, cordoned bowl of similar date (Monaghan 1987, 122, class 4C3) from quarry 6108, fragments from a second necked vessel, a 2<sup>nd</sup> century cup-mouthed ring-necked flagon and a plain, bag-shaped beaker with a simple, unelaborated rim (*ibid.*, 68, class 2E0.1; dated AD 180 – 230), all from layer 103, and a scrap from a bead rim form (ditch 14308). The fine greyware sherds too were also bowl and beaker forms and were especially prolific in ditch 14804 (16 sherds, 167 g), where pieces from a poppyhead beaker, a bag-shaped beaker with a cornice rim, a S-profiled bowl, a plain, bag-shaped beaker with a simple, unelaborated rim (*ibid.*, classes 2A, 2I0.2, 2E0.1 and 4A1, spanning the period from c. AD 43/70 – 230), were found. Two sherds from a 3<sup>rd</sup> century funnel-necked beaker (*ibid.*, 63, class 2C) came from ditch 5308.
- 6.3.13 As noted above, the same range of forms in the grog- and mixed tempered fabrics continued to be used into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, when the early 'Belgic' inspired forms were gradually

replaced by wide-mouthed, everted rim bowls, often in oxidised fabric variants, while storage jars (Thompson 1982, 257, type C6) continued until the end of the century if not beyond. The sandy greywares, mostly from the north Kent 'Thameside' industry (Monaghan 1987, 244-48, fabrics S1-3) increased in importance at this time, with bead rimmed (robber trench 1613, ditch 14506) and faceted jar forms (ditch 12804) likely to be of late 1st century AD date (Monaghan 1987, 84 and 94, classes 3E1 and 3G6). Later forms represented here include necked jars with D-shaped rims (class 3H0.9; layer 207 and trench 1613), an everted rim jar (class 3J1), a necked jar with a hooked, everted rim (class 3H7), plain, roll-rim pie-dishes (class 5C1) and shallow, straight-sided dishes with plain (class 5E1) or grooved rims (class 5F) spanning the period from AD 100 – 250/300.

- 6.3.14 No evidence for use or repair was apparent on the Romano-British sherds, although the poorly represented shell-tempered wares include one piece from a 'specialist', salt-related (briquetage) vessel from hearth 1804. This was found alongside a single, small, abraded flint-tempered sherd, so both remain largely undated. No mortaria were recovered.
- 6.3.15 The sherds assigned Romano-British, as opposed to Late Iron Age or early Romano-British, dates amount to 310 pieces, 4553 g, with rims from just 34 vessels. These came from 40 contexts in 37 features/deposits in all Areas; most contained negligible quantities but slight concentrations are apparent in Area 3 (146 sherds, 845 g) and 6 (61 sherds, 2342) with the largest groups recovered from ditches 12804 and 14506 in Area 3 (55 sherds, 112 g and 42 sherds, 374 g respectively), ditch 707 in Area 6 (21 sherds, 976, and ditch 14804 in Area 7 (37 sherds, 410 g), with just seven other features/deposits (trench 1613 and ditches 5305 and 1910 in Area 1, ditch 3703 in Area 5 and layers 103 and 402 and ditch 705 in Area 6) containing more than ten sherds or 100 g. Although the date range of the sherds forming these groups potentially extends through into the 3rd century AD, overall, the ceramics indicate much reduced activity on the site by c. AD 120/30, if not before.

## 6.4 Ceramic building material

- 6.4.1 The small assemblage (27 pieces, 4088 g) was recovered from trenches 46 and 65 in Area 1, trench 21 in Area 4, trench 37 in Area 5 and trenches 1-4 in Area 6. Most of the pieces (19, weighing 2273 g) are of Romano-British date and with the exception of one featureless scrap (40 g) from the surface of the natural (2103) in trench 21 in Area 4, all comprise fragments from *tegula* and *imbrex* roof tiles found in Area 6. These include two pieces of *tegulae* with lower cut-aways of Warry's (2006) type D1 which date to AD 240–380 (layers 303 and 402). A flat fragment probably from a *tegula* in a pale-firing, creamy yellow fabric was also found in layer 402. This fabric, possibly made at Eccles before AD 60, has also been found in London (MOL fabric 2454), Colchester and, more locally, at Kemsley (Porteus 2019, 36). All the other pieces are made in clean, slightly sandy, fully oxidised wares. However, the quantities recovered are too small to indicate that a substantial Romanised structure with a tiled roof once stood in the immediate vicinity of Area 6, and it is possible that the tiles were brought to this area for re-use, perhaps as hardcore.
- 6.4.2 The post-medieval pieces comprise fragments from flat, peg-hole type roof/wall tiles (layer 6505, ditch 3706 and the surface of the natural (4603) in trench 46) and parts of two unfrosted bricks (layer 6505 and the surface of the natural (4603) in trench 46) probably of 18th or 19th century date.

## 6.5 Glass

- 6.5.1 The two pieces of glass are both from Romano-British vessels. One is from a folded form in pale blue/green metal (layer 402) and the other is plain and green in colour (posthole

14308). Glass was an expensive commodity at this time, so the presence of these two shards provides evidence of some level of gracious living within the vicinity.

## 6.6 Stone

- 6.6.1 Just one piece of stone was collected, a weathered fragment of lava from the Mayen/Eiffle region of Germany (layer 408). This probably derives from a quern or millstone which were commonly used in the north Kent during the Late Iron Age (e.g. Riddler and Vince 2005, 80) and Romano-British periods (Shaffrey 2011, 365)

## 6.7 Iron

- 6.7.1 Metal objects are surprisingly poorly represented in this assemblage, with just 11 items, all of iron, recovered. Seven are corroded nails/nail fragments, with flat, damaged heads and rectangular-sectioned, tapering shanks (layer 303, hearth 1804, posthole 14308 and ditch 14804). Handmade nails of this common form are difficult to date, having been introduced during the Roman period and continuing with little typological change until industrialisation in the late 17th and 18th centuries. Two dome-headed iron hobnails (ditch 5305 and pit 5703) probably represent casual losses from nailed boots/shoes.
- 6.7.2 An iron ring (55 mm in diameter) was found in made ground deposit 305, while a handle with a looped head, probably from a key or other tool, was the only find in pit 4806.

## 6.8 Metalworking debris

- 6.8.1 An assemblage of ironworking slag totalling 243 pieces and weighing approximately 22.5 kg was recovered from 19 features in 17 trenches in Areas 1–5, with the largest groups deriving from Areas 2 and 3. The assemblage is generally in good condition and therefore appears to have been deposited close to the point of its production and suffered little subsequent disturbance, but only one feature associated with metalworking has currently been identified, a probable furnace (5406) in Area 1. All of the features containing slag are dated to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period.
- 6.8.2 The slag has been subject to visual examination, with reference to current guidelines (English Heritage 2016).

### *Area 1*

- 6.8.3 Material from Area 1 was collected from nine features in trenches 50, 52, 53, 54 and 61, but only two located in trench 54 contained more than three pieces. A total of eight pieces (261 g) was found directly associated with probable furnace 5406, a feature likely to be of Romano-British date, and 10 pieces (260 g) were found in an adjacent ditch (5403). All of the material from these features, and in fact the entire assemblage from Area 1, is iron smelting slag and many pieces have furnace lining adhering to their surface. The furnace has been truncated, but the relative dearth of metalworking debris found in association with it may nevertheless suggest both the maintenance of the furnace and the removal of waste for deposition elsewhere.

### *Area 2*

- 6.8.4 The assemblage from Area 2 derives from just three features in three trenches (92, 95 and 97), one of which contained only a single piece (ditch 9503). The greatest amount came from two contexts in pit 9703 (42 pieces weighing approximately 4.5 kg) where it forms the dominant component in dumped deposits of waste. Most material is again the product of iron smelting, with numerous pieces retaining part of the furnace lining, some heavily vitrified, and two large fragments that have convex surfaces produced by contact with the

base of the furnace ('furnace slag cakes'). The only exception is a small (217 g) fragment of ironstone ore; this is commonly scarce on ironworking sites as only the poorest quality ore would be discarded, particularly if relatively little was available.

- 6.8.5 Pit 9203 contained a similar assemblage (29 pieces weighing 3.25 kg); this is also characterised by material resulting from iron smelting, including eight pieces of tap slag, but four fragments may be the product of primary bloom smithing, a suggestion supported by the recovery of 25 g of plate hammerscale from a sample residue. The assemblage from pit 9203 also included a fragment of probable 'tuyere' hole, the small, circular aperture through which air is blown into the furnace. Fragments of these sometimes survive due to their tendency to become heavily vitrified by the very high temperatures they are subjected to. Also present was a piece with furnace lining on each surface which provides evidence for the probable re-lining of the furnace.

### Area 3

- 6.8.6 Material from Area 3 was recovered from five features in five trenches (121, 132, 142, 145 and 147). Only small, residual amounts ranging between one to five pieces were found in three ditches in trenches 121, 142 and 145, but two features in this area produced the largest groups on the site, in each case forming the primary component of dumped waste deposits. Ditch 13203 contained 81 pieces (weighing approximately 8 kg) of iron smelting slag including 48 large fragments of tap slag, 10 of which retain furnace lining, and several with the lower surface shaped by the rounded base of the furnace. Pit 14709 contained 44 pieces (approximately 3.5 kg) that are also the product of iron smelting and include 21 pieces of tap slag, six of which retain furnace lining, and another possible fragment of tuyere. No smithing slag was identified in this feature, but 37g of plate hammerscale (from a sample residue) suggests at least some primary bloom smithing was undertaken. The notable amount of material in these two trenches (132 and 147), combined with its fresh condition, very probably implies the proximity of another furnace.

### Areas 4 and 5

- 6.8.7 Only three small, residual scraps of undiagnostic ironworking slag were recovered from Area 4. Ditch 1310 contained two pieces weighing 33 g, and two tiny scraps weighing just 1 g were found in hearth 1805. One feature in Area 5 (pit 3603) contained two fragments of iron smelting slag weighing 70 g.

### Summary

- 6.8.8 Metalworking sites of Late Iron Age/Romano-British date are not common in the area; the site lies approximately 35 km from the central part of the Weald, a region known as a major centre for ironworking during the Roman period, and as such, it is of some considerable local significance. Given the relative proximity of the Weald and its ready supply of ore, the position of the site clearly indicates that a local source of raw material was available, a proposition supported by the discovery of two groups of Late Iron Age furnaces discovered during the installation of a water pipeline at Stockbury, 6 km to the west of the site. These features were interpreted as representative of a transitional phase between the slag pit furnaces typical of the Iron Age and the tapping furnaces of the Romano-British period (Allen *et al* 2013). The frequency with which tap slag appears amongst the assemblage from Highsted Park suggests a Romano-British date for the activity here, but it is possible they fall broadly within this period of transition.

## 6.9 Fired clay

- 6.9.1 The fired clay was found widely across the site, occurring in 18 ditches, five pits, probable furnace 5406, hearth 1804, foundation cut for road 105 and posthole 14308, but only ditches

707 and 5305, pits 5106, 9203, 14709 and probable furnace 5406 contained more than 100 g.

- 6.9.2 Most of the fragments from ditch 5305 in Area 1 (33 pieces, 267 g, out of a total of 35 pieces, 288 g) are from one incomplete perforated triangular object. Such items are common in Iron Age contexts across the whole of southern Britain, remaining current well into the 2nd century AD (Wild 2002, 10). While traditionally interpreted as loomweights used in textile weaving, it is now considered more likely that they were associated with ovens, hearths and/or kilns, perhaps used as linings, supports, spacers or pedestals (Lowther 1935; Poole 1995). Examples have been found forming part of the final load of an early to middle 2nd century AD pottery kiln at Newton-on-Trent, Lincolnshire (Field and Palmer-Brown 1991, 49, fig. 14, 4) for example, while more locally, a single unperforated example came from a Late Iron Age enclosure ditch at Iwade (Riddler and Vince 2005, 80, fig.87, 1).
- 6.9.3 The rest of the assemblage comprises abraded, featureless fragments and pieces with one flat surface surviving in fine, often oxidised, slightly sandy fabrics, sometimes with rare larger inclusions such as calcined flint, grog and iron oxides. This material is likely to be of structural origin, used in the linings of domestic ovens/hearth or more industrial furnaces or kilns. Pieces from ditch 5305 (1 piece), pits 9203 (12), 9703 (2) and all 39 fragments from 14709 (243 g; which also contained iron smelting and tap slag) have one noticeably vitrified surface indicating their association with metalworking on this site.

## 6.10 Burnt flint

- 6.10.1 A total of 113 pieces (weighing 534 g) of burnt unworked flint was recovered from nine features, one in each of nine trenches, but only three of these contained more than one or two pieces. The largest amounts came from ditch 1304 (57 pieces, 314 g) and pit 14709 (34 pieces, 97g); in both cases the burnt flint forms part of a dump of waste material, and in the latter, the flint appears likely to have been generated during an episode/s of iron working and then collected with slag and fired clay from the furnace. A group of 14 pieces (20 g) was collected from hearth 1804 where it almost certainly results from the effect of the fire on flint occurring naturally on the ground surface.

## 6.11 Human bone

- 6.11.1 A fragment of human bone was recovered from the single fill of ditch 6203 in trench 62 in Area 1 (Figure 3). The bone was found together with numerous fragments of animal bone, Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery and shell, apparently distributed throughout the 0.55 m deep silty clay soil matrix (6205). As it was not recognized as human bone at the time of excavation, its precise location within the feature is unknown.
- 6.11.2 The bone comprises most of the shaft of a gracile right humerus, probably adult (>18 yr) and most likely female. There is marked surface erosion due to root etching (Grade 3–4; McKinley 2004). The proximal end demonstrates angular old dry bone breaks; the distal end also exhibits old breaks but worn patches along – particularly – the dorsal side show crenellations indicative of canid gnawing.
- 6.11.3 The location of the bone in ditch 6203 – midway along the northeast-southwest line of a possible enclosure ditch forming part of system of co-axial field boundaries (Figure 3) – together with its mixing amongst other archaeological components including animal bone (amongst which it may not have been distinguished at time of deposition) does not suggest this comprised a deliberately ‘placed’ deposit. However, the absence of canid gnawing to the animal bone from this deposit (and most others) suggests the human bone derived from

a different environment, one in which it was in an exposed location for some time and possibly subject to some form of above ground curation.

- 6.11.4 That the ‘... majority of Iron Age populations were disposed of in archaeologically untraceable ways ...’ (Hill 1995, 106) is a widely accepted premise. Excarnation, in its various forms, has long been considered to represent one of – if not the – predominant mortuary rites undertaken in the Iron Age, supported by the relatively common recovery of disarticulated redeposited skeletal elements or parts thereof from what are deemed non-mortuary context (Carr and Knüsel 1997; Harding 2016, 108–126; Hill 1995, 13–18; Walker 1984, 455; Whimster 1981).
- 6.11.5 Such finds are commonly linked with settlements or enclosures in the Iron Age (Harding 2016, 269) and frequently feature specific skeletal elements or parts thereof, the skull predominating, as, for example, in Zones 6 and 13 of the East Kent Access Road project (McKinley and Egging Dinwiddy 2015). Although the humerus is not one of the ‘common’ elements to feature in such deposits, a formerly ‘curated’ Romano-British humerus forming a ‘placed deposit’ in a ditch, was recently found in Lincolnshire (McKinley 2024).

## 6.12 Animal bone

- 6.12.1 The animal bone is quantified in Table 2, but once refits are accounted for the raw count is reduced to 41 fragments (Table 5). The hand-recovered assemblage includes bones from contexts of Late Iron Age and Romano-British date. The bones are in generally good condition, although a few poorly preserved residual elements were recovered from ditches. Canid gnaw marks were observed on a single element.
- 6.12.2 The bones were rapidly scanned and assessed following current guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019) and are further described below.

**Table 5** Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP)

Taxa	Late Iron Age/early Romano-British	Romano-British	Uncertain	Total
Cattle	7	4	-	11
Sheep/goat	5	-	1	6
Pig	1	-	-	1
Horse	-	1	-	1
Fox	1	-	-	1
<b>Total identified</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Total unidentifiable</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Overall total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>

### *Late Iron Age*

- 6.12.3 Most of the animal bones came from broadly dated pits and ditches in Areas 1–2 and 4–6. No large concentrations of bones were found. Cattle and sheep/goat bones dominate the small assemblage, and both are represented by mandibles and a few post-cranial elements. Pit 9703 contained a pair of mandibles from a subadult cow. This articulated group represents a viable candidate for future radiocarbon dating. Single elements from a pig (incisor tooth) and fox (metapodial) were also recovered.

### *Romano-British*

- 6.12.4 A few bones came from layers and two ditches (1910 and 14804) in Areas 4, 6 and 7. These comprises four cattle bones (mandible, pelvis, tibia and metacarpal) and part of a horse

mandible. Butchery marks are evident on both the cattle pelvis and tibia, which derive from layers 103 and 402.

#### *Uncertain*

- 6.12.5 The distal end of a sheep/goat humerus came from ditch 1103 in Area 4.

### **6.13 Marine shell**

- 6.13.1 This small assemblage (57 shells, 779 g) was collected from ditch 6203 in Area 1 (6 shells, 86 g), pit 3403 and ditch 3706 in Area 5 (6 and 19 shells, 76 g and 203 g respectively) and ditch 14804 in Area 7 (26 shells, 414 g).
- 6.13.2 The assemblage is dominated by oysters (*Ostrea edulis*), with both left (28) and right (23) valves present. At this stage, the shells were not measured or examined for the parasitic infestations used to characterise different ecological zones and thus to identify potential source areas, but the presence of such evidence was noted on some of the shells from ditch 3706. One or two dead shells were also noted amongst those from this deposit, probably collected accidentally while harvesting live oysters for consumption. The only other species represented, whelks (*Buccinum undatum*; 5 shells), came from ditch 14807. Both species could have been collected locally from the shores of the river Swale.

## **7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 Seven bulk environmental (flotation) samples were taken from a range of ditches and pits. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence.

### **7.2 Aims and methods**

- 7.2.1 The aim of this assessment is to determine the nature and significance of the environmental remains preserved at the site, and their potential to address the project aims. This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Historic England's guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

#### *Sample processing*

- 7.2.2 The samples varied between 13 and 40 litres in volume, with an average volume of approximately 25 litres. The samples were processed by standard methods on a Siraf-type tank (0.25 mm flot mesh). A 0.5 mm mesh was used for the residues for three of the samples (<1>, <3> and <5>) since they contained industrial material. For the remaining samples, a 1 mm residue mesh was used. Once processed the residues were dried in a low temperature oven and the flots were air dried. The coarse residue fractions (>4 mm) were sorted by eye for artefactual and environmental remains before being discarded. Any environmental material extracted from the coarse residue fractions was added to the flots (e.g., charcoal). The fine residue fractions (1–4 mm) were retained for examination alongside the flots. A magnet was used to extract hammerscale from the sample residues.

#### *Assessment methods*

- 7.2.3 A stereomicroscope (up to x40 magnification) was used to examine the flots for charred and uncharred plant macrofossils, charcoal, molluscs and other environmental remains. The fine residue fractions were examined alongside the flots. The presence of other material in the samples was noted where appropriate (e.g., modern rootlets, modern seeds, earthworm eggs, *Cenococcum geophilum* sclerotia, coal, clinker/cinder). Shells of the blind snail

(*Cecilioides acicula*) were considered a potential indicator of recent contamination in the deposits sampled since this burrowing species is thought to have been introduced in the medieval period (Pelling *et al.* 2015).

- 7.2.4 Plant remains were identified through comparison with modern reference material held by Wessex Archaeology and relevant literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006). Preliminary identifications of the charcoal fragments were undertaken through examination of the transverse sections.
- 7.2.5 Nomenclature follows Stace (2021) for wild taxa and Zohary *et al.* (2012) for cereal remains (using traditional names). For simplicity, the term 'seed' is used to refer to different types of plant macrofossil (e.g., achene, fruit etc.), unless otherwise specified.
- 7.2.6 All remains were recorded semi-quantitatively on an abundance scale: C = <5 ('Trace'), B = 5–10 ('Rare'), A = 10–30 ('Occasional'), A\* = 30–100 ('Frequent'), A\*\* = 100–500 ('Common'), A\*\*\* = >500 ('Abundant'). The abundance scale is based on an estimation of the of minimum numbers of individuals (MNI) for each plant part, except where counts of fragments are explicitly stated.

### 7.3 Results

- 7.3.1 The results are presented in Appendix 2, Table 6.
- 7.3.2 The samples produced small to moderate-sized flots which contain varying quantities of charcoal fragments and charred plant remains. Other material recovered in the samples includes terrestrial molluscs, coal, clinker/cinder, hammerstone and other finds. Terrestrial molluscs are abundant in the sample from 14804. Most of the flots contain modern roots and seeds, as well as shells of *Cecilioides acicula*. These lines of evidence suggest that small quantities of later intrusive material may have been re-worked through the soil profiles, although the impact of later contamination appears to be minimal in most cases.
- 7.3.3 Four of the features sampled contain low to moderate concentrations of charred cereal remains (ditch 1304, hearth 1804, pit 5703, ditch 14804). The cereal types identified include barley (*Hordeum vulgare/distichon*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.), with evidence for both spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) and emmer wheat (*T. dicoccum*). Some of the wheat grains could derive from either spelt wheat or emmer wheat (*T. spelta/dicoccum*). In most cases, seeds of wild taxa occur alongside the cereal remains, and these include grasses (Poaceae), docks (*Rumex* sp.), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) and vetches/peas (*Vicia/Pisum* sp.). It is possible that some of the vetch/pea seeds derive from a cultivated species (e.g., garden pea, *P. sativum*). Charred plant remains occur in highest concentrations in the sample from ditch 1304. The charcoal in the samples from these features includes fragments of stemwood, roundwood and twigs from a range of taxa.
- 7.3.4 The three remaining features sampled (ditch 5305, pit 9204, pit 14709) produced flots which are primarily composed of charcoal fragments. Charcoal is common in the samples from pits 9204 and 14709, whereas the sample from ditch 5305 contains a small number of charcoal fragments (>2 mm in size). In all of these features, the charcoal fragments appear to mainly derive from oak (*Quercus* sp.). A single charred grass seed is present in the sample from ditch 5305.

### 7.4 Environmental Assessment Conclusions

- 7.4.1 The environmental assessment indicates that a mitigation within the proposed development area would have the potential to produce a large assemblage of charred plant remains and

charcoal. In addition, molluscs are present in most of the features sampled, although they only occur in high concentrations in the sample from ditch 14804.

- 7.4.2 The general character of the samples from ditch 1304, hearth 1804, pit 5703 and ditch 14804 suggests that these features contain mixtures of settlement refuse, including crop-processing debris and fuel waste. Based on the range of crops recorded (spelt wheat, emmer wheat, barley), these features are likely to date to the late prehistoric and/or Romano-British periods (de Vareilles *et al.* 2023)
- 7.4.3 The samples from ditch 5305, pit 9204 and pit 14709 probably contain fuel waste associated with metalworking. Oak was widely used as a fuel (either as wood or charcoal) in metalworking from the Iron Age onwards (Gale 2003).

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

### 8.1 Summary and discussion

- 8.1.1 Overall, the very limited and targeted evaluation successfully recorded archaeological remains, comprising ditches, pits, furnaces, roads, postholes, and a robbed wall foundation. Areas with no archaeology ("sterile zones") were also recorded. Summaries of the individual areas are discussed in more detail below.
- 8.1.2 The correlation between the geophysical survey and the archaeological features varied across the site. Some discrete features, such as furnace 5405, did correlate with substantial dipolar anomalies. However, these anomalies had not been interpreted as archaeology due to their similarity in signature to strong ferrous responses caused by modern rubbish (e.g., broken farm machinery) within the ploughsoil.
- 8.1.3 The evaluation demonstrated areas of probable settlement, such as the hilltop enclosure in Area 4 and the roadside structure in Area 6; areas of probable industrial activity, for example the probable furnaces noted in Areas 1 and 3; and areas of agricultural activity, such as the field boundary systems identified in Area 2.
- 8.1.4 Nearly all datable features and deposits belong to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period. The paucity of evidence from other periods — with the only other substantial traces being post-medieval and early modern quarrying activity—indicates a gap in the archaeological record from the 2nd century AD through until the 1800s. Similarly, the absence of earlier material prior to around 100 BCE may reflect the limited scope of the evaluation. Nevertheless, the results clearly indicate a brief period during which parts of the landscape within the evaluation area were actively and intensively used.
- 8.1.5 The South East Research Framework (SERF) highlights the renewed phase of landscape division in the Late Iron Age (Champion *et al.* 2019). However, there is a lack of detailed study of iron production within the region (Champion *et al.* 2019) so the possible furnaces recorded by the evaluation provide valuable evidence for iron working. With nearly all of the dated archaeological remains falling within the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period the evaluation shows significant archaeological remains that have the potential to further our understanding of this pivotal transitional period. With a small section of Watling Street noted in Area 6 and dark soil deposits in an adjacent trench (trench 4) there is potential for an early roadside settlement, these have not been well studied and this whole period is one that needs to be better understood (Allen *et al.* 2019).



## 8.2 Area 1

8.2.1 The evaluation in Area 1 successfully dated and characterised a Late Iron Age/Romano-British field boundary system, broadly corresponding with the preceding geophysical survey results. Possible interior features were industrial in nature, comprising a Late Iron Age/Romano-British iron smelting furnace and a similarly dated brickearth quarry pit. Later industrial activity, although limited, was represented by two post-medieval brickearth quarry pits.

## 8.3 Area 2

8.3.1 The correlation between geophysical survey results and archaeological findings was less clear in Area 2. The northern cluster of trenches (trenches 69–82) were archaeologically sterile. In contrast, the central cluster (trenches 83–108) showed better correlation, with recorded features comprising Late Iron Age/Romano-British field boundary ditches and a possible rubbish pit. The dispersed south-eastern trenches (trenches 109–115) also demonstrated good correlation, again recording Late Iron Age/Romano-British and undated field boundary ditches.

## 8.4 Area 3

8.4.1 In Area 3, most trenches targeted dense concentrations of features suggested by the geophysical survey. Here, the geophysical survey proved broadly accurate, identifying enclosure systems and probable industrial activity in two main trench clusters (northern: trenches 121–123, 127–129, 132, and 133; southern: trenches 139, 142–143, and 145–147). Archaeological features were predominantly Late Iron Age/Romano-British, with at least two phases noted in the northern cluster. Discrete features again suggest high potential for industrial activity, including a possible kiln or furnace recorded in trench 129.

## 8.5 Area 4

8.5.1 Topography dominated the results in Area 4. Evaluation revealed a possible Late Iron Age defended hilltop settlement in the western portion, associated with a steep, man-made escarpment recorded in trenches 20 and 22. LiDAR and geological mapping reflected the topography, with colluvial deposits filling the valley between the western and eastern portions of Area 4 and resulting in the Lidar interpretation following the valley floor. The eastern area showed evidence of low-level agricultural activity, with field boundary ditches recorded in trench 33.

8.5.2 Evidence for possible settlement in the west included a robbed wall foundation in trench 16, likely of Romano-British date, along with a key-shaped hearth, pits, and postholes nearby in trench 18. Enclosing ditches appeared to have multiple phases, demonstrated by variations in ditch morphology: steep-sided ditches with stepped profiles, "ankle breaker" U-shaped bases, and broader, concave forms. The ditches adjacent to the escarpment were the most substantial recorded in this area.

8.5.3 The substantial ditches recorded in trenches 20, 22, and 33, including ditches 2003 and 2007, are interpreted as forming part of a multi-phase enclosure system surrounding the hilltop settlement. Their alignment along the escarpment edge and considerable size support the interpretation of a defensive boundary.

## 8.6 Area 5

8.6.1 Only four trenches were excavated in Area 5, targeting possible and probable geophysical anomalies. The geophysical survey proved accurate, with enclosure ditches and pits recorded, all dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.



## **8.7 Area 6**

- 8.7.1 Located near the known line of the Roman road Watling Street, the evaluation in Area 6 recorded elements of the road itself, a north–south aligned spur road, and a cobbled surface possibly relating to a building or roadside feature. Other features included a posthole interpreted as a stake from the original laying out of the spur road, undated quarry pits (possibly relating to road construction), and a complex sequence of lenticular deposits over 0.8 m thick in trench 4.
- 8.7.2 Detailed recording of the west and north facing sections in trench 3 demonstrated that Watling Street survives in at least two clear construction phases. The earlier phase is represented by the basal gravels and the lower cobbled surface (structure 304), which was subsequently overlain by a silty clay deposit (305) and a second cobbled surface (structure 306) with a visible camber.
- 8.7.3 Structure 208 represents a lightly constructed cobbled surface aligned perpendicular to the main Roman road. Its alignment, immediately adjacent to the north–south spur road (structure 104), suggests it functioned as a minor track or entrance feature. The cobbled surface was plotted during the evaluation and extrapolates towards the eastern edge of Area 6. Cleaning of the adjacent section revealed an earlier feature beneath the track comprising a dark reddish brown silty clay deposit, likely associated with earlier industrial or roadside activity.
- 8.7.4 The confinement of the evaluation and the complexity of these deposits precluded definitive interpretation. However, they likely represent occupation-related deposits, either as deliberate backfill of rubbish pits or gradual accumulation of settlement debris. Alternatively, they may represent the backfill of a quarry pit, such as those recorded in trench 6.
- 8.7.5 The dark soils in trench 4 were revealed to comprise multiple stratified horizons, including layers rich in industrial material such as charcoal, fired clay, and daub. These deposits indicate stratigraphic complexity consistent with repeated dumping or gradual accumulation associated with nearby industrial or settlement activity.

## **8.8 Area 7**

- 8.8.1 Limited archaeological remains were recorded in Area 7. Here the correlation between the geophysical survey and the archaeology was limited. The dated features, following the rest of the site, were early Romano-British in date and demonstrated further evidence of land division with just two field boundary ditches recorded in this area.
- 8.8.2 The targeted evaluation has successfully identified significant Late Iron Age and early Romano-British activity across several areas, as well as zones of archaeological sterility. While the limited nature of the works means some complexity remains unresolved, the results provide a robust framework for informing future archaeological management of the site, as directed by the relevant curatorial authorities.

## **9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Museum**

- 9.1.1 The archive is currently held in the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Meopham. The site falls within the collecting area of Sittingbourne Heritage Museum. The museum is not currently accepting archaeological archive. Every effort will be made to identify a suitable repository for the archive resulting from the fieldwork, and if this is not possible, Wessex Archaeology will initiate discussions with the local planning authority in an attempt to resolve

the issue. If no suitable repository is identified, Wessex Archaeology will continue to store the archive, but may institute a charge to the client for ongoing storage beyond a set period.

## 9.2 Preparation of the archive

### *Physical archive*

9.2.1 The physical archive will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Sittingbourne Heritage Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).

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

- 7 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

### *Digital archive*

9.2.3 The digital archive, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

### *Conservation*

9.2.4 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field but as potentially unstable material types, the iron objects are all stored with supportive packaging and a desiccant (silica gel) to ensure a dry environment below 35% relative humidity. The condition of these items is frequently monitored. They have been X-radiographed as part of this assessment to provide a basic record and as an aid to identification, but no further conservation treatment (stabilisation or investigative cleaning) is considered necessary.

## 9.3 Selection strategy

9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected for retention are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities (i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving museum).

9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's (n.d. b) *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (e.g., Wessex Archaeology's specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.3 Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. The proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (e.g., museum, local authority), prior to deposition

of the archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

### *Finds*

- 9.3.4 The assessment results indicate that preservation conditions are moderately good across the proposed development area. The more chronologically diagnostic material types, particularly the pottery, indicate that the main phase of activity occurred during the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British periods. The range of material culture is, however, limited with only the pottery and metalworking debris occurring in any quantity. This material survives in good condition and clearly corroborates the local ironworking activity indicated by the identification of a probable smelting furnace (5406) in Area 1. The concentrations found in Areas 2 and 3 are very likely to indicate additional furnaces, and it is possible that any further mitigation will not only locate these structures but also generate a much larger assemblage of iron working debris. There is therefore considerable potential for the slag assemblage to suggest the presence of a Late Iron Age/early Romano-British iron production site of some local, and even regional, importance.

### Finds evidence – recommendations for analysis

- 9.3.5 Failure to securely date redeposited human bone – which cannot necessarily be presumed to match that of the feature from which it is recovered – can lead to an incorrect assumption regarding the temporal context of the bone and a corresponding mis-interpretation of the reflected mortuary rite. Consequently, it is recommended that a sample of the humerus from ditch 6203 be submitted for radiocarbon analysis so the mortuary activity to which it relates can be set in its appropriate temporal context.
- 9.3.6 No further analysis is recommended for any of the material types at this stage, but as a minimum the comments made in this report should be adapted for inclusion in any future dissemination of the results. The significance of all the finds should also be reviewed in the light of any additional material that may be recovered from any potential future mitigation work.

### Find evidence– selection strategy

- 9.3.7 All finds have been recorded to an appropriate archive level prior to any selection proposals being implemented, and the selection process will be fully documented in the project archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.
- 9.3.8 Note that human remains are not included in this selection strategy; their recovery and subsequent treatment and curation are governed by a Ministry of Justice licence(s).
- Animal bone (78 fragments): small, well-preserved assemblage of Late Iron Age and Romano-British date. No potential beyond scope of current project but retain and review at next stage.
  - Flint (84 pieces): small assemblage with no diagnostic retouched examples but provides only evidence for activity pre-dating the Iron Age; retain and review following any further work.
  - Burnt flint (113 pieces): intrinsically undatable material; already discarded.



- Metalworking debris (243 pieces): a relatively small assemblage but directly associated with ironworking on the site; retain and review following any further mitigation.
- Fired clay (184 fragments): pieces from one perforated triangular object and fragments of oven/hearth/furnace lining associated with ironworking. Of some further research potential in the context of this industry; retain and review at next stage when selective discard is considered likely
- Ceramic building material (27 pieces): 19 pieces of Romano-British roofing material. Of some further research potential which will increase if larger quantities are recovered during any additional fieldwork within the proposed development area. Retain and review at next stage. Eight pieces of post-medieval date; no further research potential; discard
- Glass (2 pieces): of Romano-British date; limited archaeological significance; retain
- Pottery (1685 sherds): of late prehistoric and Late Iron Age or Romano-British date; of local significance with considerable further research potential. Retain all
- Shell (57 fragment): common, locally available species (oysters and welks) in quantities too small to permit detailed statistical analysis, so of limited research potential although this may increase if larger, more informative quantities are recovered during any further fieldwork. Retain and review at next stage

#### *Palaeoenvironmental material*

##### Potential and recommendations for future sampling

- 9.3.9 There is potential to undertake analysis of the charred plant remains from ditch 1304 and hearth 1804 to examine the nature of arable agricultural practices in more detail. In addition, the wood charcoal recovered from pits 92014 and 14709 could be analysed to provide further information on the types of fuels used in metalworking. The data generated from the evaluation should be considered for analysis alongside any further evidence generated during subsequent archaeological mitigation.
- 9.3.10 If further fieldwork is undertaken, sampling should continue to follow Wessex Archaeology's in-house guidance. Bulk samples should be 40–60 litres where possible, and they should be taken from well-sealed features and deposits, covering as wide a range of phases as possible. If areas with *in situ* metalworking are identified, sampling should be undertaken with direct input from finds and environmental specialists.
- 9.3.11 The assessment indicates that local soil conditions are favourable for the preservation of molluscs (or snails). No further analysis is recommended on the molluscs recovered in the samples during the evaluation, however, consideration should be given to collecting samples for molluscan analysis during any further mitigation work. Molluscs should be recovered by collecting a column of samples (series of small bulk samples) from buried land-surfaces and deep features such as enclosure ditches or waterholes.
- 9.3.12 All of the flots (and extracted remains) should be retained with the project archive. However, the significance of the whole assemblage should be reconsidered following further archaeological mitigation within the proposed development area. If no further mitigation is undertaken, recommendations for retention or discard should be established on a case-by-case basis.



#### *Documentary records*

- 9.3.13 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

#### *Digital data*

- 9.3.14 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others that are not directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

### **9.4 Security copy**

- 9.4.1 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.

### **9.5 OASIS**

- 9.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 3). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the PAO for KCC on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

## **10 COPYRIGHT**

### **10.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

- 10.1.2 Digital copies of the final report will be made available to the Historic Environment Record (HER) through OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations). Geospatial/survey data forming part of the digital archive will be supplied, on request, to the HER.

### **10.2 Third party data copyright**

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 Trench summaries

#### Area 1

Trench No 44		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
4402		Disturbance	Dirty greyish yellow silty clay, contained fragments of brick and chalk.	0.28–1m
4403		Natural	Degraded chalk.	

Trench No 45		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4501		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
4502		Disturbance	Area of backfill, probably former pond filled in with dark silty clay and broken bricks.	0.28–0.8
4503		Natural	Light yellowish white chalk with clay patches and flints.	0.28–1m+

Trench No 46		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown, silty clay.	0.00–0.28
4602		Disturbance	Area of backfill, probably former pond filled in with dark silty clay and broken bricks.	0.28–1.6m
4603		Natural	Creamy white chalk with red clay patches and flint.	0.28–1.6m+

Trench No 47		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4701		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.28
4702		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.28–0.38
4703	4704	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, straight sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.61 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	0.38–68
4704	4703	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare chalk. small to large well rounded and nodular flints	0.38–0.68

Trench No 48		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4801		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints. Common rooting.	0–0.26
4802		Natural	Light yellowish red. Silty clay. Common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints. Common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.26–0.34
4803	4804, 4805	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.74 m. Depth: 0.23 m.	0.34–
4804	4803	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common chalk. rare medium well-rounded flints	
4805	4803	Secondary fill	mid greyish brown with moderate small to medium well-rounded and sub-angular flints. rare chalk	
4806	4807, 4808	Pit	Sub-circular pit with irregular, irregular sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.22 m. Width: 1.21 m. Depth: 0.17 m.	0.34–
4807	4806	Deliberate backfill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common well-rounded and nodular flints. common chalk	
4808	4806	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with common medium flints	

Trench No 49		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4901		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.38
4902		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay. common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.38–0.43+
4903	4904, 4905, 4906	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned East-West with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.40 m. Depth: 0.65 m.	
4904	4903	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty clay with sparse flint inclusions	
4905	4903	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare flint inclusions	
4906	4903	Tertiary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint inclusions	

Trench No 50		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL



5001		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.30
5002		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.30–0.36
5003	5004	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E to W with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.80 m. Depth: 0.25 m.	
5004	5003	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint	
5005	5006, 5007, 5008	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned NW to SE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.20 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.70 m.	
5006	5005	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish black silty clay	
5007	5005	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint	
5008	5005	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint	
5009	5010	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with steep, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.00 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	
5010	5009	Secondary fill	Dark reddish brown, with a yellowish hue silty clay with moderate flint, medium, sub angular	
5011		Ditch	Unexcavated north-east to south-west aligned linear that corresponds with a geophysical survey anomaly, 0.9 m wide.	

Trench No 51		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5101		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.34
5102		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.34–0.40
5103	5104, 5105	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E to W with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 1.06 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	
5104	5103	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty clay	
5105	5103	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint	
5106	5107	Pit	Square pit with vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 2.10 m. Width: >0.80 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	



5107	5106	Secondary fill	Dark blackish brown silty clay with common, mid sub-angular flint	
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Trench No 52		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5201		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.40
5202		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.40–0.42+
5203	5204	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >5.00 m. Width: 0.98 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	0.42–0.82
5204	5203	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common flint	0.42–0.82
5205	5206	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.70 m. Depth: 0.48 m.	
5206	5205	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common flint	
5207	5208	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 2.00 m. Width: 0.70 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
5208	5207	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common flint	
5209	5210, 5211	Posthole	Linear posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.55 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.45 m.	
5210	5209	Post pipe	Dark blackish grey silty clay with rare flint	
5211	5209	Post packing	Mid greyish brown compact silty clay with common small-moderate flint	
5212	5209	Post packing	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common flint	

Trench No 53		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5301		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.27
5302		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0.27–0.34+



5303	5304	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SE- NW with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.18 m.	0.34 – 0.54
5304	5303	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	034 –054
5305	5306, 5307	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW- SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.26 m.	
5306	5305	Secondary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty clay with moderate flint	
5307	5305	Deliberate backfill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
5308	5309, 5310, 5311	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW- SW with steep, concave sides and a V-shaped base. Depth: 0.86 m.	
5309	5308	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
5310	5308	Secondary fill	Mid brown silty clay with flint	
5311	5308	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown with yellowy hue silty clay with moderate flint	

Trench No 54		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5401		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–30
5402		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.30–0.35+
5403	5404	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.20 m. Depth: 0.78 m.	
5404	5403	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with common flint	
5405	5406	Furnace	Sub-oval furnace aligned NW to SE with irregular sides and a flat base. Constructed from clay and stone. Maximum height: 0.35 m.	
5406	5405, 5407, 5408, 5409, 5410	Construction cut	Linear construction cut aligned N to S with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 2.70 m. Depth: 0.56 m.	
5407	5406	Deliberate backfill	Mid reddish brown silty clay	
5408	5406	Deliberate backfill	Mid greyish yellow sand	
5409	5406	Primary fill	Light reddish brown silty clay with common flint	
5410	5406	Deliberate backfill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint	

Trench No 55		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 33 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5501		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.25
5502		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.25–0.33+

Trench No 56		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5601		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.29
5602		Natural	Light yellowish red, silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.29–0.40+

Trench No 57		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.32 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5701		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.27
5702		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.27–0.32+
5703	5704, 5705	Pit	Circular pit with steep, concave sides and a sloping base. Length: >0.80 m. Width: >0.80 m. Depth: 0.45 m.	
5704	5703	Primary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty clay with moderate flint	
5705	5703	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
5706	5707, 5708	Pit	Circular pit aligned WSW- ESE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.94 m. Width: 0.45 m. Depth: 0.22 m.	
5707	5706	Primary fill	Mid greyish brown with yellow hue silty clay	
5708	5706	Deliberate backfill	Dark blackish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
5709	5710	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned NNE-SSW with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.07 m.	
5710	5709	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
5711	5712	Pit	Oval pit and an unknown base.	



5712	5711	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish black silty clay with common flint	
5713	5714	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 2.20 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	
5714	5713	Secondary fill	Dark brownish brown silty clay with very common flint	

Trench No 58		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5801		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0-0.34
5802		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.34-0.38+
5803	5804	Quarry	Quarry pit.	
5804	5803	Deliberate backfill	Unexcavated	

Trench No 59		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
5901		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0-0.25
5902		Natural	Light yellowish red, silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.25-0.34+
5903	5904	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned WNW to ESE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.88 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
5904	5903	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint and common chalk inclusions	

Trench No 60		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6001		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0-0.30
6002		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.30-0.43+



6003		Ditch	NNE to SSW aligned linear 1.25 m wide that corresponds with a geophysical anomaly. Excavated in adjacent trench 62.	
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Trench No 61		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.31 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6101		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.28
6102		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk flecks.	0.28–0.31+
6103	6104	Pit	Circular pit with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.20 m.	
6104	6103	Secondary fill	Dark grey silty clay with chalk flecks. moderate flint	
6105	6106, 6107	Pit	Sub-oval pit with steep, concave sides and a V-shaped base. Length: >0.80 m. Depth: 0.62 m.	
6106	6105	Primary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty clay with abundant flint	
6107	6105	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with abundant flint	
6108	6109, 6110, 6111	Quarry	Irregular quarry with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >6.00 m. Width: >3.90 m. Depth: 0.64 m.	
6109	6108	Deliberate backfill	Dark blackish grey silty clay with common flint	
6110	6108	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with common flint	
6111	6108	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with sparse flint	

Trench No 62		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.44 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6201		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.35
6202		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flint, common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.35–0.44+
6203	6205	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW to SE with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.98 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	



6204	6206, 6207	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE to SW with moderate, convex sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 1.15 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	
6205	6203	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with common flint	
6206	6204	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with common flint	
6207	6204	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint	

Trench No 63		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6301		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.30
6302		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk flecks.	0.30–0.36+
6303	6304, 6305	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.97 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	
6304	6303	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish orange silty clay with 3% flint, 0.01-15cm+, rare. <1% chalk, 0.01cm - 4cm, poorly sorted	
6305	6303	Secondary fill	Mid orangish brown silty clay with 3% flint, 0.01-15cm+, rare. <1% chalk, 0.01cm - 4cm, poorly sorted	
6306	6307	Pit	Circular pit.	
6307	6306	Deliberate backfill?	Dark greyish brown silty clay with flint	

Trench No 64		Length 30 m	Width Unknown	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6401		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0.0.33
6402		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, common mid to large sub-angular flints, moderate chalk flecks.	0.33–0.38
6403		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.38–0.40+

Trench No 65		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.46 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL



6501		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.36
6502		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay, common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk flecks.	0.36–0.46+
6503		Spread	Dark reddish grey, silty clay with numerous modern fire debris inclusions and the occasional brick. This dump of fired clay, charcoal and ash has been spread across the field to improve soil quality historically. The deposit has concentrated in patches (appearing linear on geophysics) as this is likely how it was stored prior to spreading. It appears to be waste materials from the adjacent Oast houses. also seen in adjacent trenches.	0.36–0.46

Trench No 66		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.71 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6601		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.20
6602		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	0.20–0.54
6603		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay. Common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common chalk mottling and patches of chalk.	0.54–0.71+

Trench No 67		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.55 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6701		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints, common rooting.	0–0.38
6702		Natural	Light yellowish red silty clay common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints, rare chalk.	0.38–0.55
6703		Natural	Dark greyish brown silty clay, rare small flints.	0.36–0.53+

Trench No 68		Length 30 m	Width 20 m	Depth 0.47 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6801		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown. Silty clay. Moderate small to medium sub-angular and well-rounded flints. Common rooting.	0–0.35



6802		Natural	Light yellowish red. Silty clay. Common medium to large sub-angular and well-rounded flints. Rare chalk.	0.35–0.47+
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Area 2

Trench No 69		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
6901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting	0.00–0.30
6902		Natural	Mid brownish red sandy clay with rare angular flints.	0.30–0.50+

Trench No 70		Length 27 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.53 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting	0.00–0.33
7002		Natural	Mid brownish red sandy clay	0.33–0.53+

Trench No 71		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.26
7102		Natural	Mid brownish red sandy clay, rare angular flints.	0.26–0.36+

Trench No 72		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.20
7202		Made ground	Mid brownish grey silty clay with rare to moderate post-med material.	0.20–0.30
7203		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant patches angular flint.	0.30–0.60+

Trench No 73		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.26
7302		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare angular flints.	0.26–0.34+

Trench No 74		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting	0.00–0.27
7402		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common angular flints.	0.27–0.37+



Trench No 75		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.25
7502		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare patches of angular flints.	0.25–0.35+

Trench No 76		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.30
7602		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare angular flints.	0.30–0.36+

Trench No 77		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.25
7702		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, moderate angular flints.	0.25–0.30

Trench No 78		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.25
7802		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, common angular flint patches.	0.25–0.30+

Trench No 79		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
7901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.25
7902		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare angular flints.	0.25–0.30+

Trench No 80		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.27
8002		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, rare angular flints.	0.27–0.34+

Trench No 81		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.20
8102		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare angular flints.	0.20–0.30+



Trench No 82		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare angular flint, rare rooting.	0.00–0.20
8202		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common angular flints.	0.20–0.30+

Trench No 83		Length 22 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8301		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.25
8302		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, moderate flint.	0.25– 0.34+
8303	8304, 8305	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE- SW with moderate, stepped sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.60 m.	
8304	8303	Primary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty clay with moderate flint	
8305	8303	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	

Trench No 84		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8401		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.28
8402		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant large flints.	0.28– 0.4+
8403	8404	Tree Throw	Oval tree-throw hole with shallow, convex sides and a concave base. Length: 1.04 m. Width: 0.56 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
8404	8403	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint	

Trench No 85		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth Unknown
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0– 0.3
8502		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant angular flint.	0.30+

Trench No 86		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.45 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8601		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.36
8602		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, abundant flint.	0.36–0.45+



8603	8604	Gully	Linear gully aligned N to S with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.53 m. Depth: 0.17 m.	
8604	8603	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with abundant flint	

Trench No 87		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8701		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.3
8702		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common flint.	0.3– 0.4+

Trench No 88		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.23
8802		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, rare angular flint.	0.23–0.33

Trench No 89		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
8901		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.3
8902		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common large flint.	0.3– 0.4+

Trench No 90		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.20
9002		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.20–0.33

Trench No 91		Length 17 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.20
9102		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common angular flint	0.20–0.33

Trench No 92		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9201		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.20
9202		Natural	Reddish yellow silty clay, rare flints.	0.20–0.40



9203	9204	Pit	Irregular pit with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 2.30 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	
9204	9203	Deliberate backfill	Mixed red, greyish brown and black silty clay with sparse flint	

Trench No 93		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth Unknown
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	
9302		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	

Trench No 94		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare small flints, rare rooting.	0.00–0.20
9402		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, common angular flints.	0.20–0.40

Trench No 95		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9501		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.26
9502		Natural	Reddish yellow, silty clay.	0.26–0.36+
9503	9504	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N to S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 1.10 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	
9504	9503	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty clay with rare flint	

Trench No 96		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.20
9602		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, rare angular flint.	0.20–0.40+

Trench No 97		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9701		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.3
9702		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.3–0.4+
9703	9704, 9705, 9706	Pit	Sub-oval pit aligned WSW to ENE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.60 m.	



9704	9703	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with abundant sub-angular flint	
9705	9703	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with abundant sub-angular flint	
9706	9703	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint	

Trench No 98		Length 24 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.43 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9801		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.24
9802		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.24–0.43

Trench No 99		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
9901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.15
9902		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.15–0.20+

Trench No 100		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.20
10002		Natural	Mid brownish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.20–0.30+
10003	10004	Hedgerow	Linear hedgerow aligned NE-Sw with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.80 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	
10004	10003	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with abundant flint, common rooting	

Trench No 101		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10101		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.3
10102		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.3–0.4

Trench No 102		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flints.	0.00–0.20
10202		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant angular flints.	0.20–0.30+

Trench No 103		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.48 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10301		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.27
10302		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.27–0.48+

Trench No 104		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10401		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.3
10402		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.3– 0.4+

Trench No 105		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10501		Topsoil	Mid brownish grey silty clay, common gravel.	0.00–0.20
10502		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.20–0.40+

Trench No 106		Length 26 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10601		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0– 0.3
10602		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.3– 0.5+

Trench No 107		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10701		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0.20
10702		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.38+

Trench No 108		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10801		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, moderate rooting.	0–0.24
10802		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, abundant flint.	0.24–0.36+

Trench No 109		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.32 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
10901		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
10902		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy clay with sub-angular flint well dispersed throughout.	0.28–0.32+



Trench No 110		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11001		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
11002		Colluvium	Mid yellow brown silty clay with chalk flecks. Recorded at centre of trench only.	0.28–0.75
11003		Natural	Light yellowish white sandy clay with red clay and flint pockets	0.28m+

Trench No 111		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.32 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11101		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
11102		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy clay with frequent sub-angular flint throughout.	0.28–0.32
11103	11104	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, straight sides and an u-shaped base. Length: 2.00 m. Width: 0.90 m. Depth: 0.22 m.	0.32–0.55
11104	11103	Secondary fill	Light orange brown sandy clay with medium - large abundant sub-angular flint inclusions, poorly sorted	

Trench No 112		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11201		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
11202		Colluvium	Light yellowish brown silty clay with chalk flecking throughout.	0.28–0.48
11203		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy silty clay, frequent sub-angular flint throughout.	0.48–0.50+

Trench No 113		Length 50 m	Width Unknown	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11301		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
11302		Colluvium	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with common chalk flecking.	0.28–0.38
11303		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy clay with frequent sub-angular flint throughout.	0.38–0.40+

Trench No 114		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.32 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11401		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28



11402		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy silty clay, frequent sub-angular flint throughout.	0.28–0.32+
11403	11404, 11405	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 2.50 m. Depth: 0.60 m.	
11404	11403	Primary fill	Mid yellowish reddish brown silty clay with abundant flint	
11405	11403	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint and sparse ironstone	

Trench No 115		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.36 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.29
11502		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, abundant flint throughout.	0.29–0.36m+
11503	11504, 11505	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE- SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Depth: 0.30 m.	
11504	11503	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint	
11505	11503	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate flint	

### Area 3

Trench No 117		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11701		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, common flints.	0.0–0.37
11702		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, common flints.	0.37+

Trench No 118		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11801		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, common flints.	0.0–0.36
11802		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, common flints.	0.36+

Trench No 119		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
11901		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, common flints.	0.0–0.28
11902		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, common flints.	0.28+

Trench No 120		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL



12001		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty clay, common flints.	0.0–0.28
12002		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, common flints.	0.28+

Trench No 121		Length 20 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.32
12102		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown sandy silt clay, chalk flecks.	0.32–0.60
12103		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay, rare flint inclusions.	0.60+
12104	12105, 12106	Pit	Circular pit with moderate, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >0.46 m. Width: >0.88 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
12105	12104	Deliberate backfill	Dark brownish grey silty clay.	
12106	12104	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare flint.	
12107	12108	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 2.00 m. Width: 0.84 m. Depth: 0.16 m.	
12108	12107	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown sandy clay with moderate sub-angular flints.	

Trench No 122		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.37 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.20
12202		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay, rare flint inclusions.	0.37+
12203	12204, 12205	Pit	Circular pit with steep, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >1.60 m. Width: >1.50 m. Depth: 0.82 m.	
12204	12203	Primary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint.	
12205	12203	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint.	
12206	12207	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SW-NE with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.45 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.28 m.	
12207	12206	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with flint.	
12208		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown sandy silt clay, chalk flecks.	0.20–0.37

Trench No 123		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.44 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.44



12302		Natural	Light reddish brown sandy clay, rare flint.	0.44+
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Trench No 124		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.35
12402		Natural	Light reddish yellow sandy clay, common flint.	0.35+

Trench No 125		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.35
12502		Natural	Light reddish yellow sandy clay, common flint.	0.35+

Trench No 126		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.28
12602	12604	Fill	Upper fill. Light reddish brown silty clay with rounded flints.	0.28–1.2m
12603	12604	Fill	Lower fill. Dark reddish brown silty clay, common chalk flecking throughout, some charcoal flecking, large nodule flint from 2.3+.	1.2–2.5m+
12604	12602, 12603	Palaeochannel or solifluction hollow		0.28–2.5m+
12605		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay with frequent small flint throughout.	

Trench No 127		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.41 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.41
12702		Natural	Light reddish brown sandy clay, rare flint.	0.41+
12703	12704, 12705	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SE-NW with concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >1.17 m. Depth: 0.52 m.	0.41–0.92
12704	12703	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with moderate sub-angular flints.	
12705	12703	Primary fill	Light reddish brown sandy clay with moderate sub-angular flints.	

Trench No 128		Length 20 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.28
12802		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown sandy silt clay, chalk flecks.	0.28–0.36



12803		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay, rare flint inclusions.	0.36–0.42+
12804	12805	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.44 m.	
12805	12804	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown sandy loam with sparse flint.	

Trench No 129		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
12901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.40
12902		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay, rare flint inclusions.	0.40+
12903	12904, 12905	Pit	Sub-circular pit with moderate, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >1.28 m. Width: >1.28 m. Depth: 0.15 m.	
12904	12903	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish black silty clay with orange hue.	
12905	12903	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare flint.	

Trench No 130		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.44 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.44
13002		Natural	Light reddish brown sandy clay, common flint.	0.44+

Trench No 131		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.40
13102		Natural	Light reddish brown sandy clay, common flint.	0.40+

Trench No 132		Length 20 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.40
13202		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay with common flint inclusions.	0.40+
13203	13204, 13205	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.87 m.	0.40–1.23
13204	13203	Primary fill	Mid yellowish reddish brown silty clay with rare flint.	0.40–0.68
13205	13203	Secondary fill	Dark blackish grey silty clay with sparse flint.	0.68–1.23

Trench No 133		Length 20 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.47 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL



13301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.28
13302		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown sandy silt clay with chalk flecks.	0.28–0.47
13303		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy silt clay with common flint inclusions.	0.47+

Trench No 134		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.35
13402		Natural	Light reddish brown sandy clay with common flint.	0.35+

Trench No 135		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.34
13502		Natural	Light reddish yellow sandy clay with common flint.	0.34+

Trench No 136		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.45 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate flint throughout.	0.00–0.29
13602		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty sandy clay with flint throughout.	0.29–0.45+

Trench No 137		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.45 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.29
13702		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty sandy clay, common flint.	0.29–0.48m+

Trench No 138		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.29
13802		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty sandy clay, common flint throughout.	0.29–0.42+

Trench No 139		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
13901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
13902		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, common flint throughout.	0.28–0.40+
13903	13904, 13905	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: 0.50 m. Width: 0.27 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	
13904	13903	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare flint.	



13905	13903	Primary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with rare flint.	
13906	13907	Geological feature.	Irregular geological feature with moderate, straight sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.20 m. Width: 1.18 m. Depth: 0.42 m.	0.40–0.82
13907	13906	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown sandy silt clay with abundant flint inclusions, poorly sorted.	

Trench No 140		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.35
14002		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy clay.	0.35+

Trench No 141		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0–0.38
14102		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy clay.	0.38+

Trench No 142		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay.	0–0.40
14202		Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy clay.	0.40+
14203	14204, 14205	Ditch	Linear ditch with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: >1.75 m. Depth: 0.74 m.	
14204	14203	Primary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with abundant flint.	
14205	14203	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with abundant flint.	
14206	14207	Pit	Circular pit with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.22 m. Width: 0.55 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	
14207	14206	Secondary fill	Dark greyish black silty clay with common flint.	

Trench No 143		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.46 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
14302		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty sandy clay, flint patches.	0.28–0.46m+
14303	14304, 14305	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.94 m. Depth: 0.85 m.	
14304	14303	Primary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with common small flint.	



14305	14303	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant flint.	
14306	14307	Pit	Oval pit with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.50 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	
14307	14306	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay.	
14308	14309, 14310	Posthole	Sub-square posthole with vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 0.60 m. Width: 0.50 m. Depth: 0.51 m.	
14309	14308	Post pipe	Dark greyish black silty clay with sparse flint.	
14310	14308	Post packing	Mid yellowish-brown clay with abundant flint.	

Trench No 144		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0-0.40
14402		Natural	Mid reddish yellow sandy clay.	0.40+

Trench No 145		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.29 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate rooting.	0-0.22
14502		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay, abundant flint.	0.22- 0.26+
14503	14504, 14505	Pit	Sub-circular pit with irregular, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >0.56 m. Depth: 0.37 m.	
14504	14503	Primary fill	Light greyish yellow silty clay with manganese.	
14505	14503	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint.	
14506	14507, 14508	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: 4.00 m. Width: 1.20 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	
14507	14506	Primary fill	Light greyish brown silty clay with common poorly sorted sub-angular flint inclusions.	
14508	14506	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with orange hue, common poorly sorted sub-angular flint inclusions.	
14509	14510, 14511	Pit	Circular pit with steep, concave sides and a convex base. Length: >1.86 m. Width: >0.88 m. Depth: 0.79 m.	
14510	14509	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint.	
14511	14509	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare flint.	



14512	14513	Pit	Linear pit aligned E-W with vertical, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >1.22 m. Width: >0.70 m. Depth: 0.50 m.	
14513	14512	Deliberate backfill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare flint.	
14514	14515	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.12 m. Width: 1.15 m. Depth: 0.36 m.	
14515	14514	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with sparse flint.	
14516	14517	Pit	Circular pit with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.60 m. Width: >0.42 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
14517	14516	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare flint.	
14518	14519, 14520, 14521	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.65 m. Width: >0.55 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
14519	14518	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	
14520	14518	Deliberate backfill	Light greyish yellow silty clay.	
14521	14518	Deliberate backfill	Mid blackish grey silty clay.	
14522	14523	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.98 m. Depth: 0.47 m.	
14523	14522	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-angular flint.	
14524	14527, 14528, 14529, 14530	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >1.20 m. Depth: 0.80 m.	
14525	14531	Pit	Linear pit with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.33 m. Width: >1.74 m. Depth: 0.50 m.	
14526	14532, 14533	Pit	Sub-oval pit with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.60 m. Width: >0.75 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	
14527	14524	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty clay.	
14528	14524	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint.	
14529	14524	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay.	
14530	14524	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint.	
14531	14525	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	
14532	14526	Primary fill	Light brownish yellow silty clay.	
14533	14526	Deliberate backfill	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	

<b>Trench No 146</b>	<b>Length 30 m</b>	<b>Width 2.40 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.45 m</b>
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14601		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, common rooting.	0–0.30
14602		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay, abundant sub-angular flint.	0.3–0.45+
14603	14604, 14605	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 1.20 m. Depth: 0.45 m.	0.40–0.90
14604	14603	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown sandy clay with abundant angular flint.	
14605	14603	Primary fill	Light reddish brown silty clay with abundant angular flint.	
14606	14607	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned WSW-ENE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 2.42 m. Depth: 0.50 m.	
14607	14606	Secondary fill	Dark reddish brown silty clay with abundant large sub-angular flint.	
14608	14609	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned SE-NW with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.72 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
14609	14608	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant sub-angular flint.	

Trench No 147		Length 30 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
14702		Natural	Mid yellowish red silty clay with large flint patches.	0.28–0.35+
14703	14704	Pit	Circular pit with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.70 m. Depth: 0.17 m.	0.35–0.52
14704	14703	Primary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with abundant sub-angular flints, rare charcoal / burnt plant remains.	
14705	14706, 14707, 14708	Posthole	Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: >0.22 m. Depth: 0.21 m.	0.35–0.57
14706	14705	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with moderate small sub-angular stones.	
14707	14705	Post packing	Light reddish brown silty clay with abundant sub-angular stones.	
14708	14705	Post pipe	Light greyish brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular stones.	
14709	14710	Pit	Circular pit with moderate, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: >6.00 m. Width: >2.00 m. Depth: 0.66 m.	
14710	14709	Deliberate dump	Dark greyish black silty clay with sparse flint.	



Area 4

Trench No 10		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.3
1002		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay.	0.3–0.5+

Trench No 11		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate flint inclusions.	0– 0.36
1102		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy silt, moderate flint inclusions.	0.36– 0.42+
1103	1104	Ditch	Rectangular ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 0.90 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	0.42+
1104	1103	Primary fill	Medium greyish yellow soft loose silty clay with 25% small angular flint, small chalk inclusions.	0.42+
1105	1106, 1107	Ditch	Rectangular ditch with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth: 0.38 m.	
1106	1105	Secondary fill	Light greyish yellow soft loose silty clay with 30% medium to large angular flint; chalk and charcoal inclusions present.	
1107	1105	Primary fill	Pale grey loose sandy clay with 40% iron stone; charcoal and chalk inclusions present.	

Trench No 12		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.47 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate flint.	0– 0.3
1202		Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand, moderate flint.	0.3– 0.47+
1203		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy silt, moderate flint.	
1204	1205	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with irregular, stepped sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 2.07 m. Depth: 0.56 m.	
1205	1204	Secondary fill	Mid brownish-grey silty clay with occasional small to medium irregular / sub-angular flints.	

Trench No 13		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.55 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.35



1302		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty sand, moderate chalk flecks, rare flint.	0.35–0.5
1303		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand.	0.5–0.55+
1304	1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1320	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, concave sides and a convex base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 2.10 m. Depth: 0.80 m.	
1305	1304	Primary fill	Mid reddish yellow silty sand with rare sub-angular flint	
1306	1304	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with rare sub-angular flint.	
1307	1304	Deliberate backfill	Dark blackish brown silty sand.	
1308	1304	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish brown silty sand with common sub-angular flint.	
1309	1304	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with patches of yellow sand.	
1310	1311	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a sloping base. Length: >1.12 m. Width: >0.47 m. Depth: 0.29 m.	0.55–0.84
1311	1310	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate sub-angular stones.	
1312	1313	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.43 m. Width: >0.34 m. Depth: 0.29 m.	0.55–0.77
1313	1312	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate sub-angular stone.	
1314	1315	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.88 m. Width: 0.98 m. Depth: 0.37 m.	0.55–0.92
1315	1314	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate sub-angular stones.	
1316	1317	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.20 m. Width: >0.27 m. Depth: 0.37 m.	0.55–0.72
1317	1316	Secondary fill	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones.	
1318	1321, 1322, 1323	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.04 m. Width: >1.00 m. Depth: 0.80 m.	
1319	1324	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.10 m. Width: >0.50 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
1320	1304	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand with common sub-angular flint.	
1321	1318	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand with abundant sub-angular flint.	
1322	1318	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand with common sub-angular flint.	



1323	1318	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand with common sub-angular flint.	
1324	1319	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand.	

Trench No 14		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.3
1402		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay, rare flecks of chalk.	0.3–0.4+
1403	1404, 1405	Pit	Sub-oval pit with shallow, convex sides and a flat base. Length: >0.36 m. Width: >0.92 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
1404	1403	Deliberate backfill	Dark blackish grey silty sand.	
1405	1403	Secondary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty clay.	
1406		Layer	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with rare sub-angular stone.	
1407		Uncategorised context	Pale reddish grey silty clay, abundant burnt flint. Same as 1406.	

Trench No 15		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate flint.	0– 0.32
1502		Natural	Mid yellowish red sandy silt, moderate flint.	0.32– 0.4+
1503	1504	Gully	Linear gully aligned NW-SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.92 m. Width: 0.56 m. Depth: 0.16 m.	
1504	1503	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown clayey silt with frequent small chalk flecks, occasional small to large sub-angular flint.	
1505	1506	Gully	Linear gully aligned SW-NE with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 0.66 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
1506	1505	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown clay silt with occasional small to med sub-rounded flint.	

Trench No 16		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.26
1602		Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty sand, rare flint.	0.26– 0.42
1603		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay, rare flint.	0.42– 0.48 +



1604	1605	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >2.10 m. Width: 0.61 m. Depth: 0.14 m.
1605	1604	Secondary fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay with 25% small-medium angular flint, 15% small manganese, 2% small chalk flecks.
1606	1607	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >2.31 m. Width: 0.64 m. Depth: 0.26 m.
1607	1606	Primary fill	Medium brown-grey-orange soft silty clay with 25% small -medium angular flint, 10% small manganese, 10% chalk.
1608	1609, 1610	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with irregular sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.41 m.
1609	1608	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional medium-large flint.
1610	1608	Primary fill	Light bluish grey silty clay with occasional small-medium flint.
1611	1612	Posthole	Circular posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.20 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.14 m.
1612	1611	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional small flint.
1613	1614	Foundation trench (robbed)	Linear foundation trench (robbed) aligned N-S + E-W with vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >2.66 m. Width: 0.56 m. Depth: 0.15 m.
1614	1613	Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish black soft silty clay with 75% small to medium angular flint, 10% large flint, manganese, charcoal and chalk inclusions.

Trench No 17		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.48 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate flint, moderate rooting.	0–0.38
1702		Natural	Mid brownish red sandy silt, abundant gravel patches throughout trench.	0.38–0.48+

Trench No 18		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint, rare flecks of chalk.	0–0.2
1802		Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty sand, rare flint, rare flecks of chalk.	0.2–0.4



1803		Natural	Light reddish yellow silty clay, degraded sandstone, rare flecks of chalk.	0.4– 0.46+
1804	1805	Hearth	Sub-oval hearth NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 1.46 m. Width: 0.64 m. Depth: 0.16 m.	
1805	1804	Fill	Mid brownish-grey silty clay with common charcoal, occasional small flint.	
1806	1807	Pit	Sub-circular pit with irregular sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.62 m. Depth: 0.17 m.	
1807	1806	Secondary fill	Light brownish grey silty clay with occasional small irregular flint.	
1808	1809	Posthole	Circular posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.21 m. Depth: 0.05 m.	
1809	1808	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional small flint.	
1810	1811	Possible pit/terminus	Sub-circular possible pit / ditch terminus with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.35 m. Depth: 0.15 m.	
1811	1810	Secondary fill	Light grey silty clay with common irregular flint.	
1812	1813	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole with moderate, straight sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.14 m.	
1813	1812	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional small irregular flint.	
1814	1815	Pit	Sub-oval pit with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.87 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	
1815	1814	Secondary fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay with occasional small irregular flints and occasional small chalk inclusions.	

Trench No 19		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.70 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.28
1902		Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand, rare flint.	0.28–0.6
1903		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand, rare flint.	0.6– 0.7+
1904		Voided number	Voided.	
1905		Voided number	Voided.	
1906	1907, 1908, 1909	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned W-E with moderate, convex sides and a concave base. Length: >3.10 m. Width: 1.44 m. Depth: 0.69 m.	
1907	1906	Primary fill	Yellowish mid grey firm silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded flint.	



1908	1906	Secondary fill	Yellowish pale grey silty sand with rare very small sub-angular flint, rare small grit.
1909	1906	Secondary fill	Pale brownish mid grey soft silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular flint, occasional small grit, rare small root bioturbation.
1910	1911, 1912, 1913	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, convex sides and a flat base. Length: >2.10 m. Width: 1.98 m. Depth: 0.44 m.
1911	1910	Primary fill	Light grey sandy silt.
1912	1910	Primary fill	Light grey sandy silt.
1913	1910	Secondary fill	Dark grey clayey silt with frequent small to medium angular flint, rare small round pebbles.
1914	1915	Pit or posthole	Oval pit or posthole aligned NE-SW with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Diameter: 0.46 m. Depth: 0.08 m.
1915	1914	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium angular flint.
1916	1917, 1918, 1919, 1920	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, convex sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: >2.00 m. Depth: 0.78 m.
1917	1916	Primary fill	Pale yellowish mid grey moist firm clayey sand
1918	1916	Secondary fill	Dark bluish grey clayey sand with common small to medium sub-angular flint.
1919	1916	Secondary fill	Bluish dark grey firm silty sand with occasional small sub-angular flint, 2x large sub-rounded nodules of flint.
1920	1916	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty sandy clay with occasional small sub-angular flint.

Trench No 20		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.3
2002		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand, rare flint.	0.3–0.4+
2003	2004, 2005, 2006	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, convex sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 3.50 m. Depth: 0.87 m.	
2004	2003	Primary fill	Light greyish yellow silty loam.	
2005	2003	Secondary fill	Mid greyish yellow loamy sand.	
2006	2003	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with sparse flint.	



2007	2008, 2009, 2010	Ditch	Linear ditch with steep, convex sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 1.13 m. Depth: 0.87 m.	
2008	2007	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish grey sand.	
2009	2007	Secondary fill	Light yellowish grey sandy clay loam.	
2010	2007	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with sparse flint.	
2011	2012, 2014, 2913	Terrace	Cut feature on edge of escarpment, using natural landscape to create a stepped boundary.	
2012	2011	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty sand, sparse coarse fired clay, sparse charcoal, moderate compaction, clear fill boundary.	
2013	2011	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand, Rare Small-Medium sub-angular flint, charcoal, chalk, friable.	
2014	2011	Tertiary fill?	Mid greyish brown silty sand, moderate sub-angular flints.	
2015		Natural	Light reddish yellow, silty clay.	

Trench No 21		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.24
2102		Subsoil	Mid brownish grey silty sand, rare flint.	0.24– 0.38
2103		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand.	0.38 – 0.44+
2104	2105	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned E-W with shallow, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.52 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.07 m.	
2105	2104	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small angular flint.	
2106	2107	Gully	Linear gully aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.48 m. Depth: 0.11 m.	
2107	2106	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small angular flint.	

Trench No 22		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.2
2202		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty sand, rare flint.	0.2–0.5
2203		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand.	0.5–0.6+
2204		Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate concave sides and a concave base. Length: > 1.0 m. Width: 1.16 m. Depth: 0.34 m.	



2205		Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand, rare flint, moderate compaction, clear fill boundary.
2206	2207	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >0.40 m. Width: >0.90 m. Depth: 0.14 m.
2207	2206	Secondary fill	Mid greyish yellow silty sand.
2208	2209	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >0.50 m. Width: >1.30 m. Depth: 0.20 m.
2209	2208	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with moderate flint.
2210	2211, 2212, 2213, 2214	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NNE-SSW with steep stepped sides and a concave base. Length: >2.0 m Width: 2.34 m. Depth: 0.64 m.
2211	2210	Primary fill	Light brownish grey silty sandy clay, rare small sub-rounded flint.
2212	2210	Primary fill	Light brownish grey silty sandy clay, rare small sub rounded flint. Similar/contemporary with deposit 2211.
2213	2210	Secondary fill	Mid reddish grey silty sandy clay, common small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular flint, rare charcoal flecks.
2214	2210	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty sandy clay, common small sub-rounded flint, rare charcoal and fired clay flecks, rare pottery.

Trench No 25		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.35
2502		Colluvium	Light reddish brown silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions, not seen in REPSEC, only in centre of trench.	
2503		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, rare sub-angular flint, well dispersed.	0.35–0.50+

Trench No 26		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.4
2602		Colluvium	Mid greyish yellow silty clay, sparse chalk and flint. Significant slope of site means at the eastern end of the trench the colluvium is up to 1.5m below ground level. A post-med brick was the only artefact in the layer.	0.4–0.5



2603		Natural	Brickearth. Light reddish yellow silty clay, rare flint.	0.5–0.6+
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Trench No 29		Length 40 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2901		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0–0.3
2902		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand.	0.30–0.4+

Trench No 32		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.90 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0.00–0.25
3202		Subsoil	Mid greyish yellow sand, common chalk and flint.	0.25–0.40
3203		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand, flint patches throughout.	0.40–0.55+
3204		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown silty sand, common flint, pottery found.	0.40–0.90

Trench No 33		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, rare flint.	0.–0.3
3302		Natural	Light reddish yellow sand.	0.3–0.4+
3303	3304	Pit	Sub-circular pit with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >0.48 m. Width: >1.15 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	
3304	3303	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand.	
3305	3306, 3307, 3308, 3309	Pit	Sub-circular pit with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Depth: 0.32 m.	
3306	3305	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown silty sand.	
3307	3305	Secondary fill	Dark grey silty sand.	
3308	3305	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish red silty sand.	
3309	3305	Secondary fill	Mid reddish yellow silty sand.	
3310	3311	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >0.60 m. Width: >1.22 m. Depth: 0.37 m.	
3311	3310	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with moderate flint.	
3312	3313	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SE-NW with moderate, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >0.60 m. Width: >2.60 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	
3313	3312	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with moderate flint.	

Area 5

Trench No 34		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.40 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sand, abundant flint.	0– 0.3
3402		Natural	Mid yellowish white sand with orange patches, abundant flint.	0.3– 0.4+
3403	3404, 3405, 3406	Pit	Sub-circular pit with steep, concave sides and an unknown base. Length: >1.60 m. Width: >3.80 m. Depth: 1.20 m.	
3404	3403	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint.	
3405	3403	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with moderate flint.	
3406	3403	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate flint.	

Trench No 35		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.38 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sand, abundant flint.	0– 0.29
3502		Natural	Mid yellowish white sand with orange patches, abundant flint.	0.29– 0.38+
3503	3504	Ditch	Linear ditch with moderate, concave sides and a V-shaped base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.84 m. Depth: 0.42 m.	
3504	3503	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with moderate flint and chalk.	

Trench No 36		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sand, abundant flint.	0– 0.33
3602		Natural	Mid yellowish white sand with orange patches, abundant flint.	0.33– 0.42+
3603	3604	Pit	Sub-circular pit with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >0.16 m. Width: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.11 m.	
3604	3603	Deliberate dump	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with rare flint.	
3605	3606	Pit	Sub-oval pit with moderate irregular sides and a flat base. Length: >0.70 m. Width: 0.58 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
3606	3605	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with rare flint.	

Trench No 37		Length 30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.42 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3701		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sand, abundant flint.	0–0.31



3702		Natural	Mid yellowish white sand with orange patches, abundant flint.	0.31–0.42
3703	3704, 3705	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >1.32 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	0.42–0.77
3704	3703	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown loamy sand with rare chalk fragments, moderate sub-angular flint.	
3705	3703	Primary fill	Light greyish brown sandy silt with common chalk fragments, rare sub-angular flint.	
3706	3707, 3708, 3709	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >1.38 m. Depth: 0.60 m.	0.42–1.02
3707	3706	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular flints.	
3708	3706	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular flints, rare chalk fragments.	
3709	3706	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with common sub-angular flints, moderate chalk fragments.	
3710	3711	Pit	Circular pit with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.43 m. Width: 0.50 m. Depth: 0.28 m.	0.42–0.68
3711	3710	Secondary fill	Light reddish brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular flints.	

#### Area 6

Trench No 1		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.45 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
101		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.22
102		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	0.22–0.45+
103		Disuse layer	Dark blackish grey silty clay with occasional well dispersed small sub-rounded flint, rare small chalk.	
104	105	Spur Road	Linear spur road aligned N-S with unknown sides and a flat base. Constructed from flint and bonded with clay. Maximum height: 0.40 m.	
105	104	Foundation cut for road	Linear foundation cut with a flat base. Length: 1.00 m. Width: >1.00 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	
106		Natural	Brickearth. Bright reddish yellow silty clay.	0.70+
107	108	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: >0.40 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	
108	107	Deliberate backfill	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	



Trench No 2		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
201		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.20
202		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	0.20–0.35
203		Post-occupation layer	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare flint.	0.35+
204		Natural	Brickearth. Light reddish yellow silty clay.	1.16+
205		Made ground	Mid blackish brown silty clay.	
206		Made ground	Light blackish brown silty clay with rare small flint.	
207		Made ground	Dark blackish brown silty clay with rare small flint.	
208		Surface	Sub-rectangular surface aligned E-W with straight sides and a flat base. Constructed from flint and bonded with silty clay. Maximum height: 0.08 m.	

Trench No 3		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
301		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.34
302		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	
303		Post-occupation layer	Very dark blackish brown clayey silt with moderate medium to large sub-rounded flint, moderate small sub-rounded flint.	0.34–0.80+
304		Metalled road surface	Linear metalled road surface. aligned E-W with convex sides and a convex base. Maximum height: 0.10 m.	
305		Made ground	Light yellowish grey silty clay with moderate small to medium sized flint.	
306		Metalled road surface	Linear metalled road surface aligned E-W with convex sides and a flat base. Constructed from flint and bonded with roughly bedded larger flint. Maximum height: 0.06 m.	
307		Road foundations	Light yellowish brown silty clay with common flint of all sizes.	
308		Made ground	Dark brownish grey silty clay with common larger flint, rare small chalk flecks.	
309		Made ground	Mid grey silty clay with rare small flints.	
310		Natural	Brickearth. Mid reddish yellow silty clay. Truncated.	>1.70+

Trench No 4		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
401		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.3



402		Occupation area	Dark brownish grey silty clay.	0.3–1.4
403		Made ground	Yellowish grey silty gravel with 70% rounded flint gravel.	
404		Occupation layer or dump	Dark brownish grey silty clay with rare small sub-rounded flint.	
405		Probable dump deposit	Stark yellow and brown mix silty, slightly sandy clay with rare small to medium sub-rounded flint, occasional tiny flint'	
406		Deposit	Light greenish grey fine sandy silt.	
407		Dump/layer	Dark reddish brown silty clay with green patches.	
408		Dump layer	Greyish red silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded flint.	
409		Natural	Brickearth?	1.7–2.3+
410		Natural	Sand and silty gravel beds.	0.3–1.7

Trench No 5		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.90 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
501		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.3
502		Made ground	Mid yellowish brown silty clay.	0.3–0.6
503		Deliberate backfill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional flint, common charcoal, CBM, pottery, occasional oyster shell.	0.6–1.7
504		Natural	Gravels.	1.7–2.6
505		Natural	Chalk bedrock.	2.6m+

Trench No 6		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.26
602		Subsoil	Mid reddish grey silty clay.	0.26–0.48
603		Made ground	Dark brownish black silty clay, charcoal and fired clay flecks throughout. Same as other trenches where it was investigated further, see Tr 9 for example.	0.48–0.6+

Trench No 7		Length 30 m	Width Unknown	Depth 0.98 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
701		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay, common rooting.	0–0.38
702		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay, abundant chalk inclusions.	0.38–0.80
703		Layer	Black layer.	0.80–0.98
704		Natural	Mid reddish brown silty clay.	0.98+
705	706	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: >2.40 m. Depth: 0.29 m.	0.98–1.27
706	705	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown sandy clay with moderate sub-angular stones.	



707	708	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.75 m. Depth: 0.10 m.	0.98–1.2m
708	707	Secondary fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay.	
709	710	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NNE-SSW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.60 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
710	709	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	

Trench No 8		Length 20 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1.10 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
801		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.26
802		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay, occasional chalk flecks.	0.26–0.48
803		Made ground	Dark greyish black silty clay, moderate charcoal and fired clay flecking throughout.	0.48–0.98
804		Natural	Mid brownish yellow sand and gravel.	0.98–1.10+

Trench No 9		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
901		Topsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.31
902		Made ground	Dark brownish black silty clay, charcoal and fired clay flecks throughout.	0.31–0.59
903	904	Quarry	Quarry pit. Stepped cut.	
904	903	Deliberate backfill	Mid greyish brown sandy gravel.	
905		Natural	Sand and gravel.	1.10-2.10+

### Area 7

Trench No 38		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.65 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3801		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional small gravel.	0.00–0.28
3802		Colluvium	Dark reddish brown silty clay with frequent small chalk flecks. Recorded at centre of trench only.	0.28–0.6
3803		Natural	Brickearth. Mid reddish yellow silty clay.	0.28–0.65+

Trench No 39		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3901		Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay, flint throughout.	0–0.2
3902		Natural	Mid greyish brown silty clay, extensive flint.	0.2–0.3+



Trench No 40		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4001		Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay, flint throughout.	0.03
4002		Subsoil	Colluvium. Light greyish brown sandy silt, chalk flecks.	0.3–0.4
4003		Natural	Light greyish yellow sandy silt, flint throughout.	0.4–0.5+

Trench No 41		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4101		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.28
4102		Natural	Brickearth. Mid reddish yellow silty clay.	0.28–0.6+

Trench No 42		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4201		Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay.	0–0.25
4202		Natural	Mid greyish yellow silty clay.	0.25–0.35
4203	4204	Ditch	Linear ditch with steep, concave sides and a V-shaped base. Length: 1.80 m. Width: 0.75 m. Depth: 0.45 m.	
4204	4203	Secondary fill	Light greyish yellow silty clay.	
4205	4206	Tree-throw hole	Irregular cut with moderate, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.25 m. Width: 1.40 m. Depth: 0.32 m.	
4206	4205	Secondary fill	Light greyish yellow silty clay.	

Trench No 43		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.52 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
4301		Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay.	0.00–0.29
4302		Natural	Mid reddish yellow silty clay, almost brickearth.	0.29–0.52+

Trench No 148		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.55 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
14801		Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay, flint throughout.	0–0.2
14802		Subsoil	Light yellowish brown alluvium.	0.2–0.4
14803		Natural	Light reddish brown silty clay with common flint.	0.4–0.55+
14804	14805, 14806	Ditch	Linear ditch with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >13.00 m. Width: 1.00 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	



14805	14804	Deliberate dump	Dark greyish black silty clay with common flint, common chalk.	
14806	14804	Primary fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with abundant chalk, common flint.	



## Appendix 2 Environmental Data

**Table 6** Assessment of the environmental evidence

Abundance scale: C = <5 ('Trace'), B = 5–10 ('Rare'), A = 10–30 ('Occasional'), A\* = 30–100 ('Frequent'), A\*\* = 100–500 ('Common'), A\*\*\* = >500 ('Abundant'). Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, sab = small animal bone, stw = stemwood, rw = roundwood.

Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample Code	Sample vol. (l)	Flot vol. (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Wild/other	Charred plant macro notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal notes	Other
Ditch	5305	5307	218394_1	16	50	5% roots, modern seeds (C)	-	-	C	Poaceae (large) fragment	10	<i>Quercus</i> sp. dominant	Moll-t (C), coal (C)
Pit	5703	5704	218394_2	40	20	50% roots, modern seeds and chaff (B)	A	C	-	<i>Triticum spelta</i> , <i>T. spelta/dicoccum</i> , <i>Hordeum vulgare/distichon</i>	2	Mix of taxa	Moll-t (A - inc. <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> )
Pit	9204	9205	218394_3	24	100	25% roots, modern seeds and chaff (B)	-	-	-	-	50	<i>Quercus</i> sp. and other taxa	Moll-t (A - inc. <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> )
Ditch	14804	14805	218394_4	17	4	25% roots, modern seeds and chaff (A)	B	C	C	<i>Triticum spelta</i> , Poaceae (large)	2	Mix of taxa	Moll-t (A*** - inc. <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> )
Pit	14709	14710	218394_5	40	150	25% roots, modern seeds and chaff (B)	-	-	-	-	60	<i>Quercus</i> sp. dominant	Coal (C), clinker/cinder (C)
Ditch	1304	1308	218394_6	23	40	5%, modern seeds (C), insects	A*	A**	A	<i>Triticum spelta</i> , <i>T. dicoccum</i> , <i>Hordeum vulgare/distichon</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> nutshell fragments, Poaceae (inc. twisted awns), <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Vicia/Pisum</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	5	Mix of taxa, inc. stw, rw and twigs	Coal (C), clinker/cinder (C), sab (B)
Hearth	1804	1805	218394_7	13	50	5%, modern seeds (B)	A*	C	B	<i>Triticum spelta</i> , <i>T. spelta/dicoccum</i> (inc. shrivelled grain), <i>Hordeum vulgare/distichon</i> , <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Vicia/Pisum</i> sp.	5	Mix of taxa, inc. stw, rw and twigs	Coal (C), clinker/cinder (C), moll-t (B - inc. <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> )



### Appendix 3 OASIS summary

#### OASIS Summary

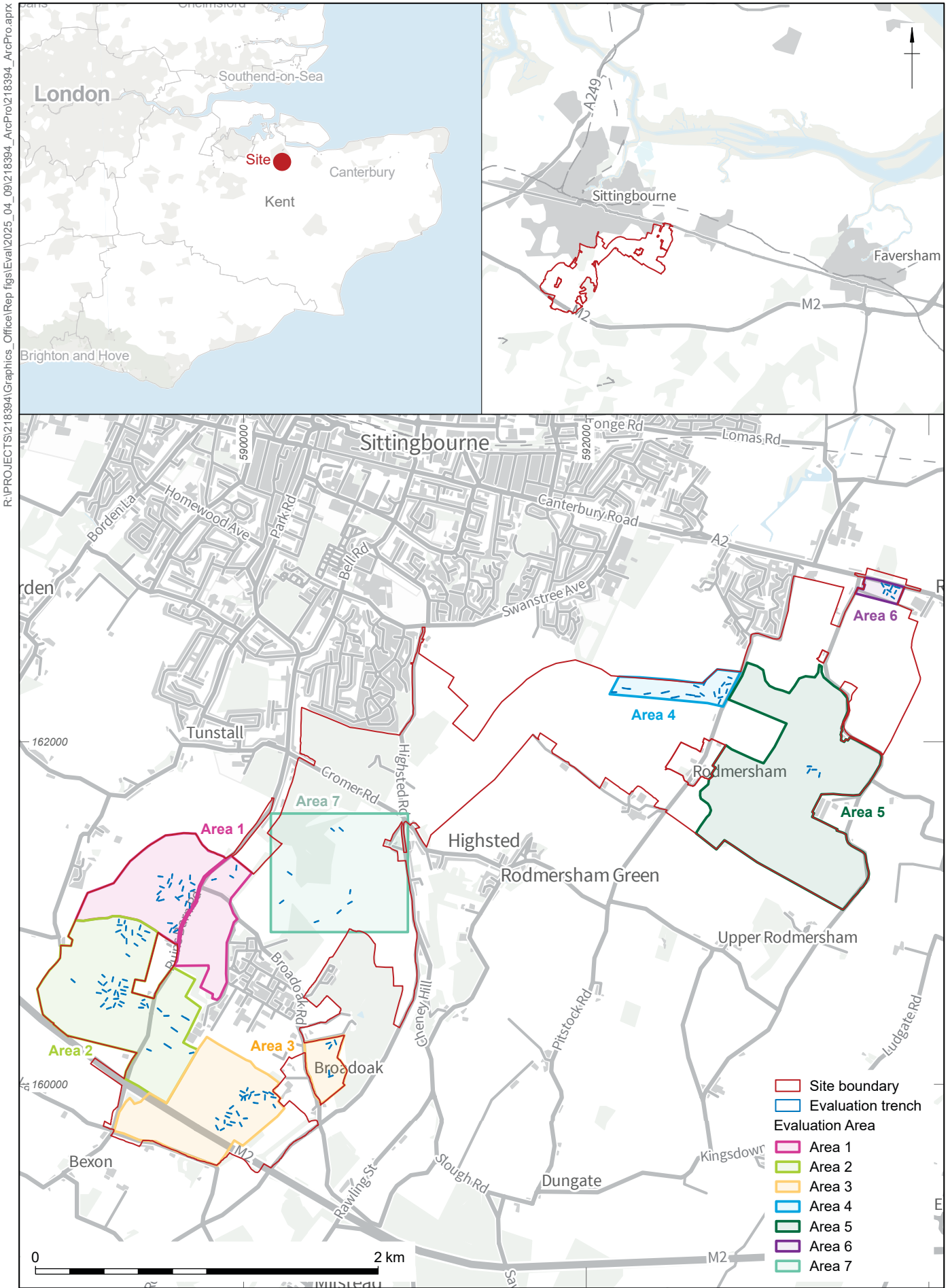
<b>OASIS ID (UID)</b>	wessexar1-533380
<b>Project Name</b>	Highsted Park (South), Sittingbourne, Kent
<b>Sitename</b>	Evaluation Area 1, Evaluation Area 2, Evaluation Area 3, Evaluation Area 4, Evaluation Area 5, Evaluation Area 6, Evaluation Area 7
<b>Sitecode</b>	
<b>Project Identifier(s)</b>	218394 Wessex Archaeology Project Number
<b>Activity type</b>	Evaluation
<b>Planning Id</b>	21/503914/EIOUT
<b>Reason For Investigation</b>	Planning: Between application and determination
<b>Organisation Responsible for work</b>	Wessex Archaeology
<b>Project Dates</b>	17-Feb-2025 - 28-Mar-2025
<b>Location</b>	<b>Evaluation Area 1</b> NGR: TQ 89616 61071 LL: 51.31714471788218, 0.719605902714808 12 Fig: 589616,161071 <b>Evaluation Area 2</b> NGR: TQ 89291 60487 LL: 51.312008229299245, 0.714630311482304 12 Fig: 589291,160487 <b>Evaluation Area 3</b> NGR: TQ 89886 59903 LL: 51.30656623070868, 0.722846960558651 12 Fig: 589886,159903 <b>Evaluation Area 4</b> NGR: TQ 92548 62312 LL: 51.327305122360734, 0.762292668916151 12 Fig: 592548,162312 <b>Evaluation Area 5</b> NGR: TQ 93206 61727 LL: 51.321825223811125, 0.771409629059774 12 Fig: 593206,161727 <b>Evaluation Area 6</b> NGR: TQ 93722 62881 LL: 51.33201700680803, 0.779436931620917 12 Fig: 593722,162881 <b>Evaluation Area 7</b> NGR: TQ 90559 61235 LL: 51.31830566401934, 0.733199177697464 12 Fig: 590559,161235
<b>Administrative Areas</b>	Country: England County/Local Authority: Kent Local Authority District: Swale Parish: Tunstall Parish: Milstead Parish: Bapchild



	Parish: Tonge
<b>Project Methodology</b>	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Quinn Estates Ltd to conduct an archaeological evaluation comprising 142 trial trenches measuring between 30–50 m in length and targeted on geophysical anomalies in areas with high archaeological potential within a 577-hectare parcel of land to the south and east of Sittingbourne, Kent, centred on NGR 591420 161400. A planning application (21/503914/EIOUT) was submitted to Swale Borough Council for the phased construction of up to 7,150 residential dwellings across the Highsted Park site. The proposed development includes commercial, business and service/employment floorspace, a household waste recycling centre. A mixed-use local centre and neighbourhood facilities are proposed, as well as educational facilities including primary and secondary schools. The scheme also includes provision for open space, green infrastructure, woodland, and community and sports facilities. Significant infrastructure works are planned, including the construction of a new motorway junction to the M2, a Highsted Park Sustainable Movement Corridor, new vehicular access points, and associated groundworks, engineering, utilities and demolition works. The planning application has been referred to the Independent Review of Planning Appeal Inquiries. The limited evaluation was divided into seven areas with between four and 47 trenches in each area. The evaluation was undertaken 17 February 2025–28 March 2025.</p>
<b>Project Results</b>	<p>Overall, the very limited and targeted evaluation successfully recorded archaeological remains comprising ditches, pits, furnaces, roads, postholes, and a robbed wall foundation; areas with no archaeology, so-called sterile zones, were also recorded. The archaeological features predominantly date from the Late Iron Age and early Romano-British periods. The correlation between the geophysical survey and the archaeological features varied across the site, although some discrete features did correlate with substantial dipolar anomalies. The correlation between the LiDAR results and archaeological features was more tentative. Although a very macroscopic evaluation, this investigation has demonstrated areas of probable settlement, areas of probable industrial activity, and areas of agricultural activity. The evaluation successfully recorded evidence for multiple phases of Watling Street in Area 6, stratified dark soil deposits indicative of complex activity, and substantial ditches likely forming a defended enclosure in Area 4. Evidence of more industrial activity, in the form of possible furnaces, was recorded in Areas 1 and 3. The finds recovered from the evaluation predominantly date from the Late Iron Age to the early Romano-British period, with a smaller quantity of post-medieval artefacts reflecting later quarrying and land use. The earliest artefactual evidence comes from Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flint, the earliest pottery dating is more tentative, with some sherds broadly dating from the Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. The majority of the pottery along with the glass and stone artefacts date from the Late Iron Age to the early Romano-British period, with none from any later period. Ceramic building material dates from the early Romano-British and post-medieval periods. Less intrinsically dated finds include a disarticulated human arm bone, animal bone, slag, fired clay, iron objects and bunt flint. Charred plant remains, including seeds from barley, wheat (with spelt and emmer varieties present), and oak derived charcoal were recovered from the environmental samples</p>
<b>Keywords</b>	<p>Iron Furnace - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditched Enclosure - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Iron Furnace - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p>



	Multiple Ditch System - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Hearth - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Robber Trench - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Clay Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Post Hole - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Boundary Ditch - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditched Enclosure - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditched Enclosure - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Road - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Feature - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Gravel Pit - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditch - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditch - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
<b>Funder</b>	Private or public corporation Quinn Estates
<b>HER</b>	Kent HER - unRev - STANDARD
<b>Person Responsible for work</b>	Bianca Williams-San Martin
<b>HER Identifiers</b>	
<b>Archives</b>	Physical Archive - to be deposited with Archives: no repository; Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;



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Figure 1. Site and area location





- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 1
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- - - Ridge & Furrow
- - - Ploughing



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Figure 2. Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 44, 45, 46.



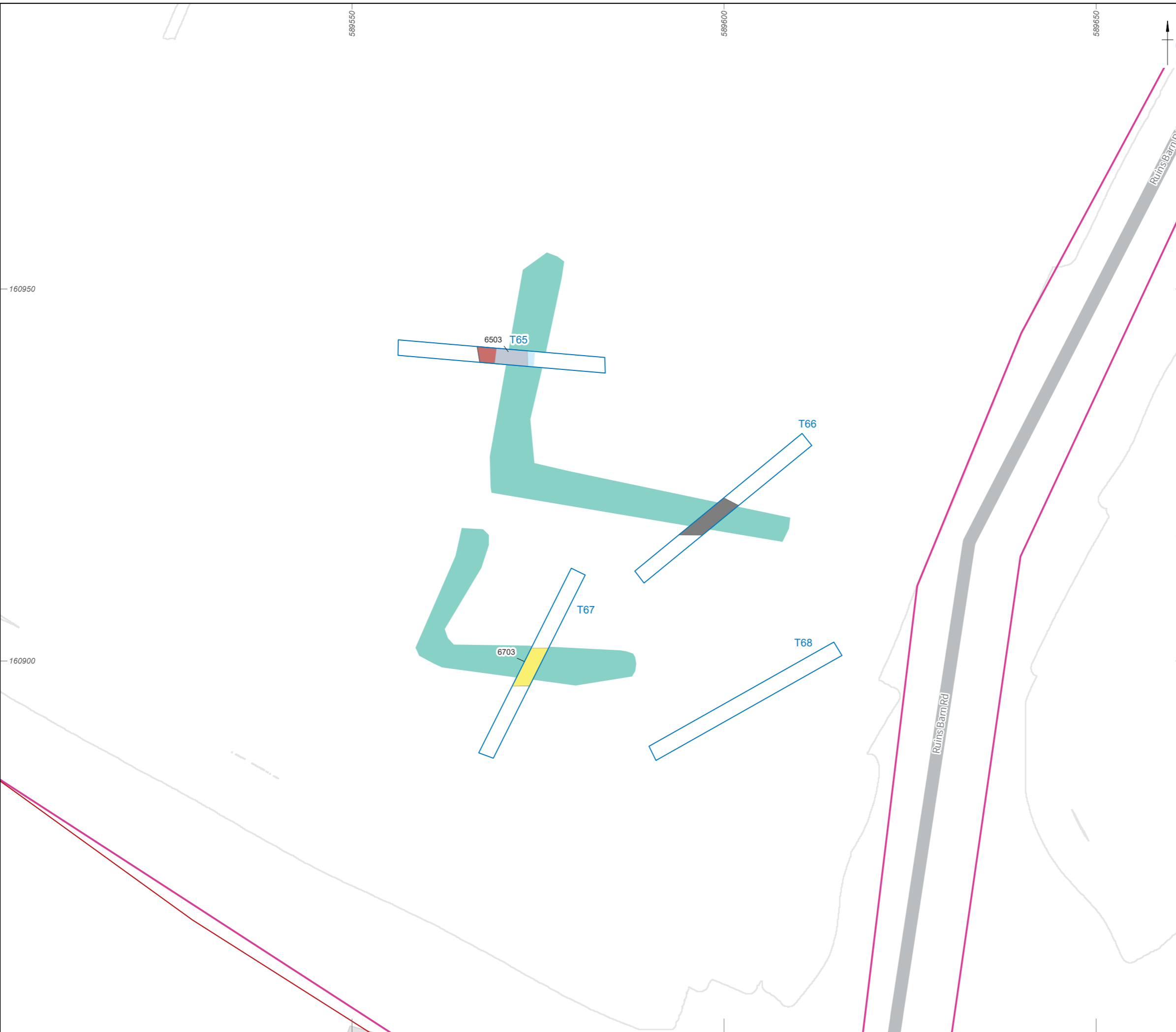
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 1
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- Detailed Survey Extent
- ▬ Archaeology
- ▬ Possible Archaeology
- ▬ Superficial Geology
- ▬ Trend
- ▬ Ridge & Furrow
- ▬ Ploughing
- ▬ Drainage



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Figure 3. Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 47-64



- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Post-Medieval
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 1
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Possible Archaeology



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Figure 4. Archaeological results in Area 1: Trench 65-68

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- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 1
- ▭ Area 2
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- Trend



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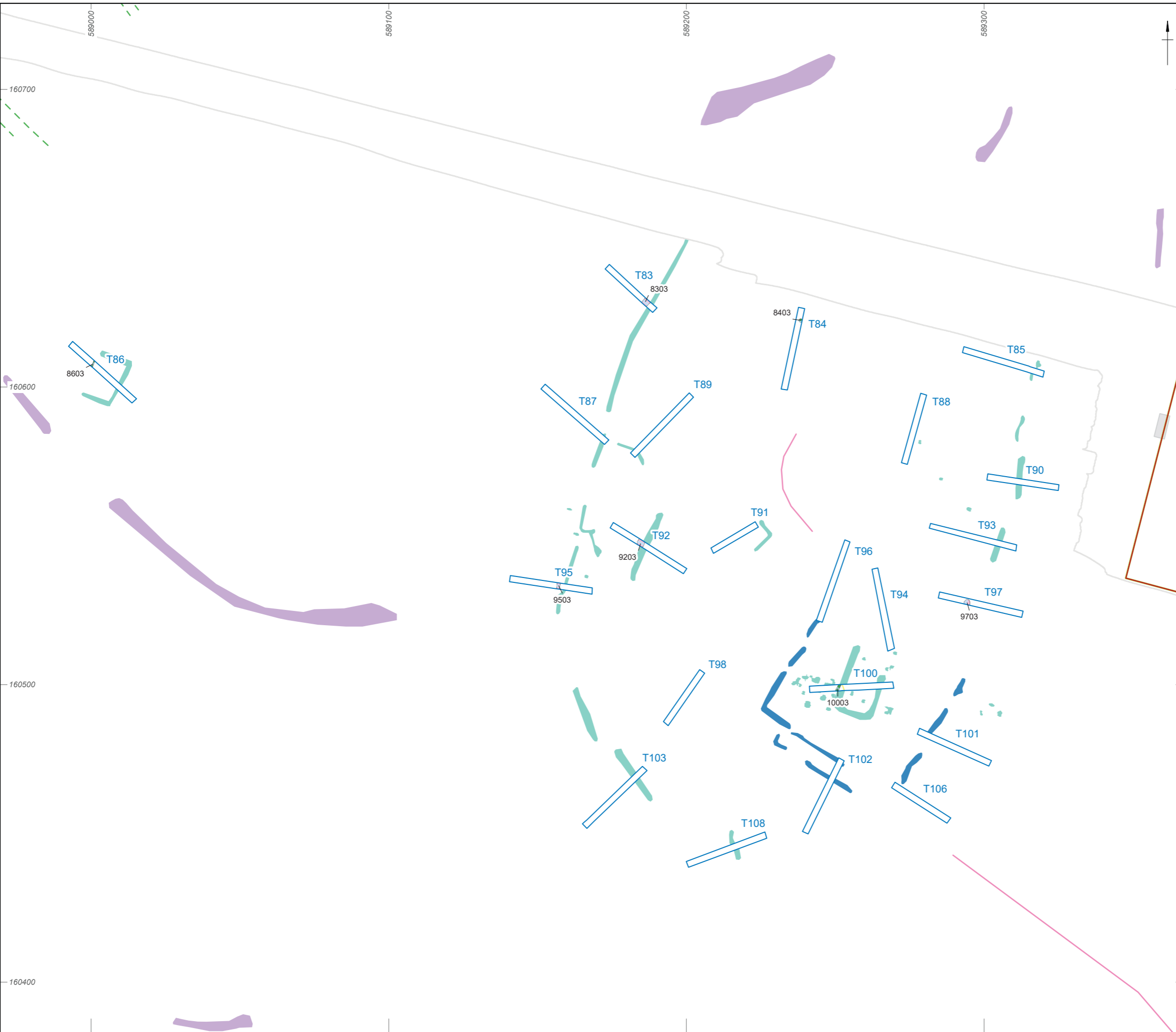
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Scale: 1:1,000 at A3	Revision: 0	

Figure 5. Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 69-82

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- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 2
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation
- Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- Trend
- - - Ridge & Furrow

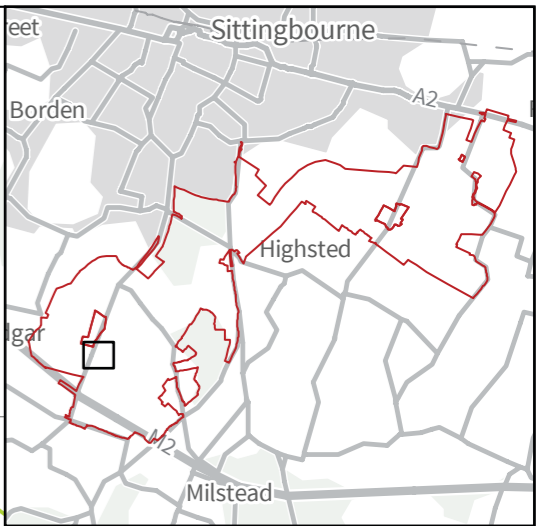


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Figure 6. Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 83-98, 100-103, 106, 108

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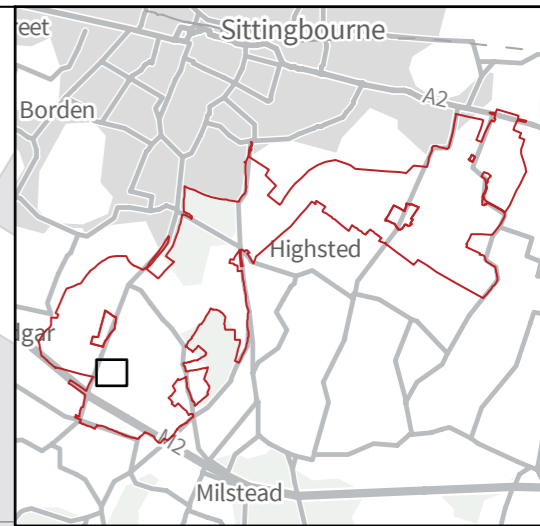
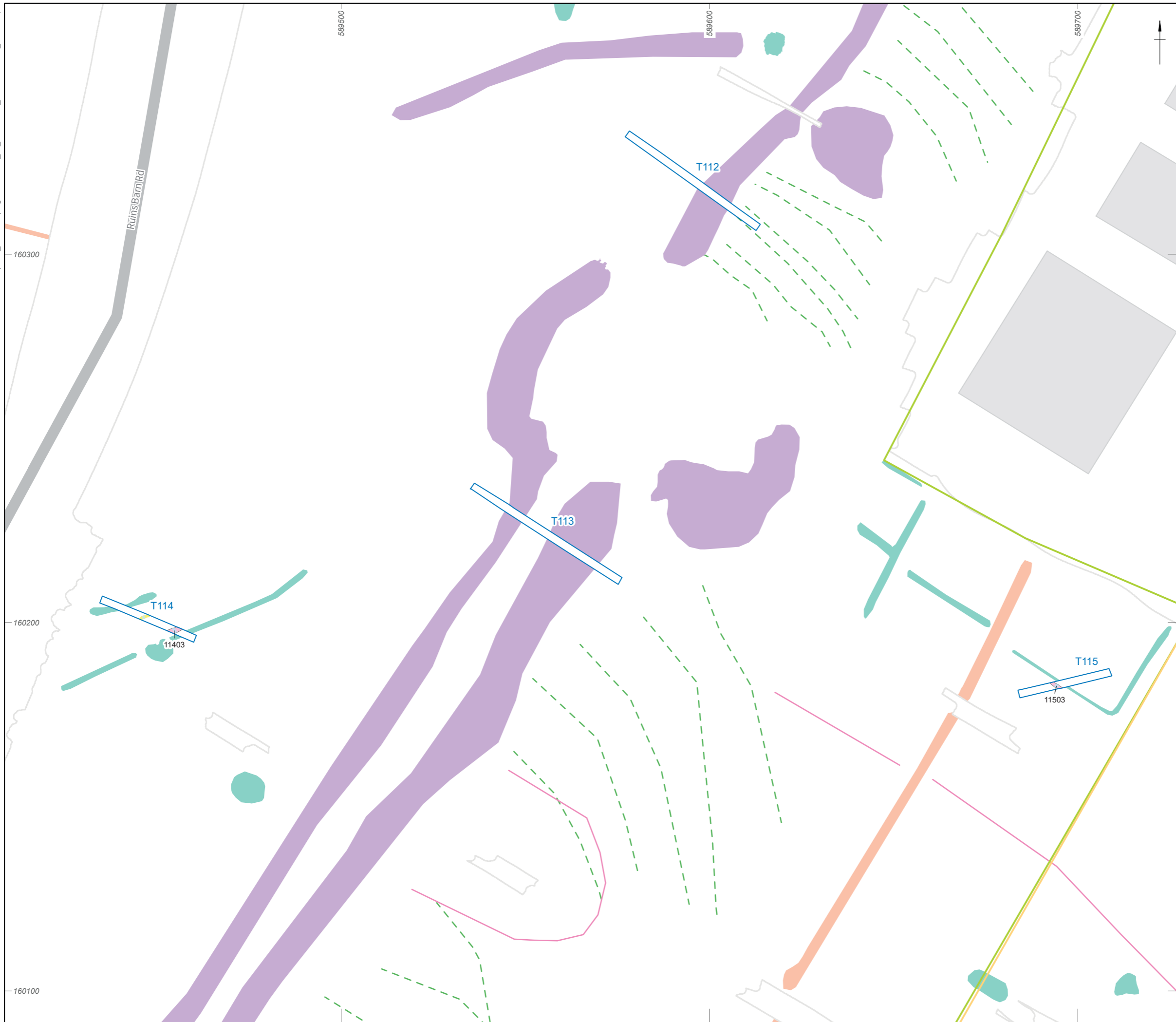
- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 2
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- ▭ Trend
- - - Ridge & Furrow



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Figure 7. Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 99, 104-105, 107, 109-112



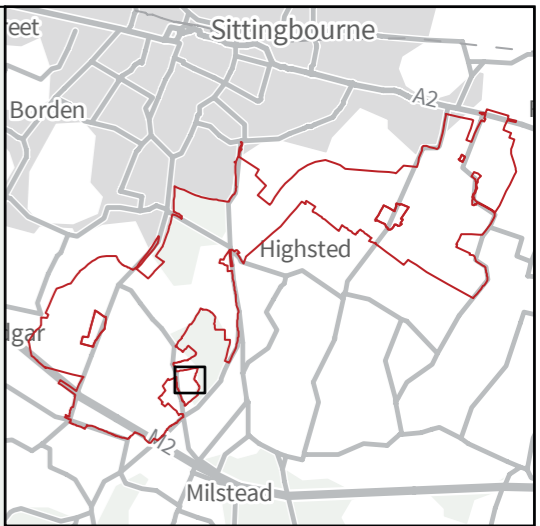
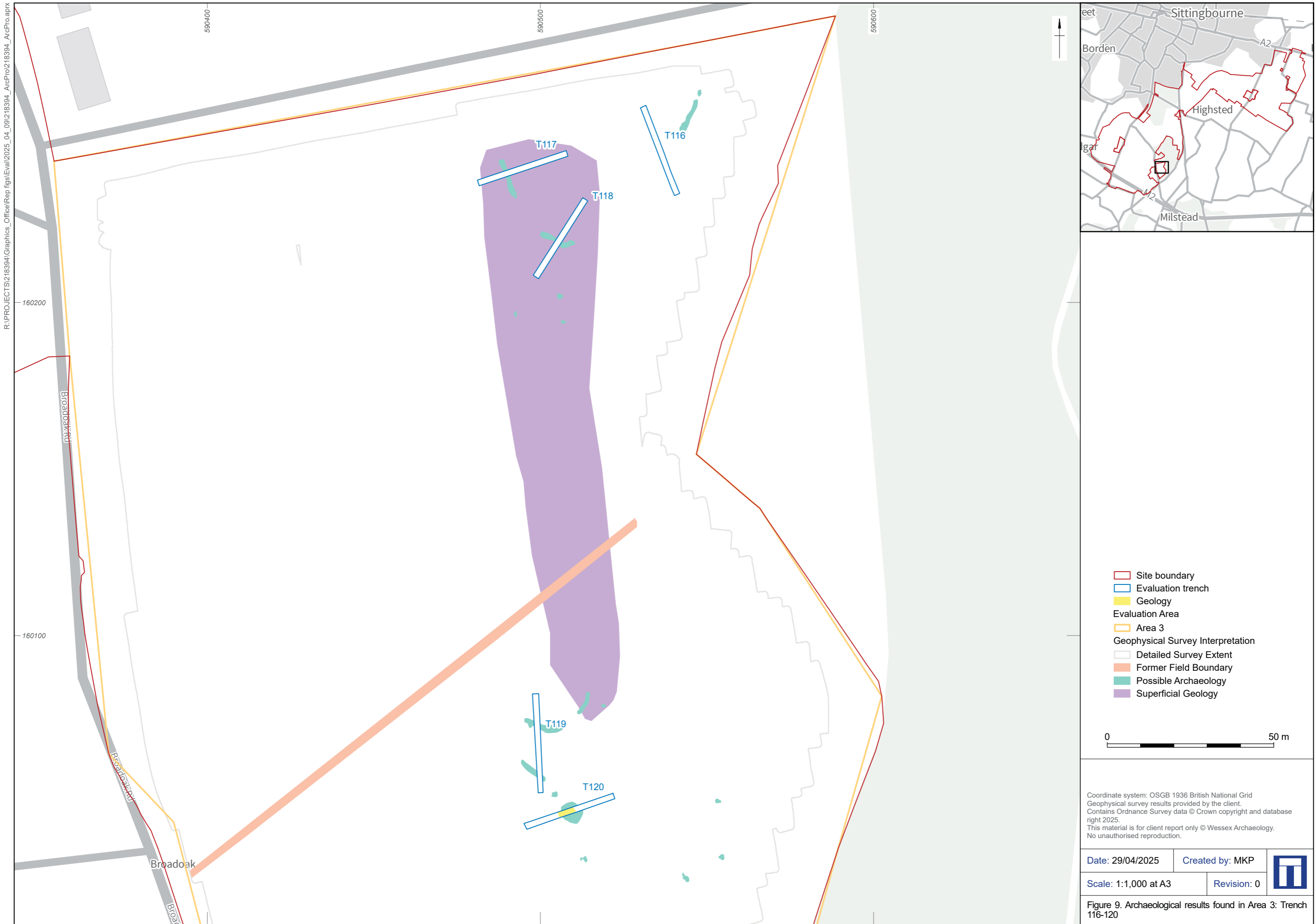
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 2
- ▭ Area 3
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- ▭ Trend
- - - Ridge & Furrow



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Figure 8. Archaeological results in Area 2: Trench 112-115



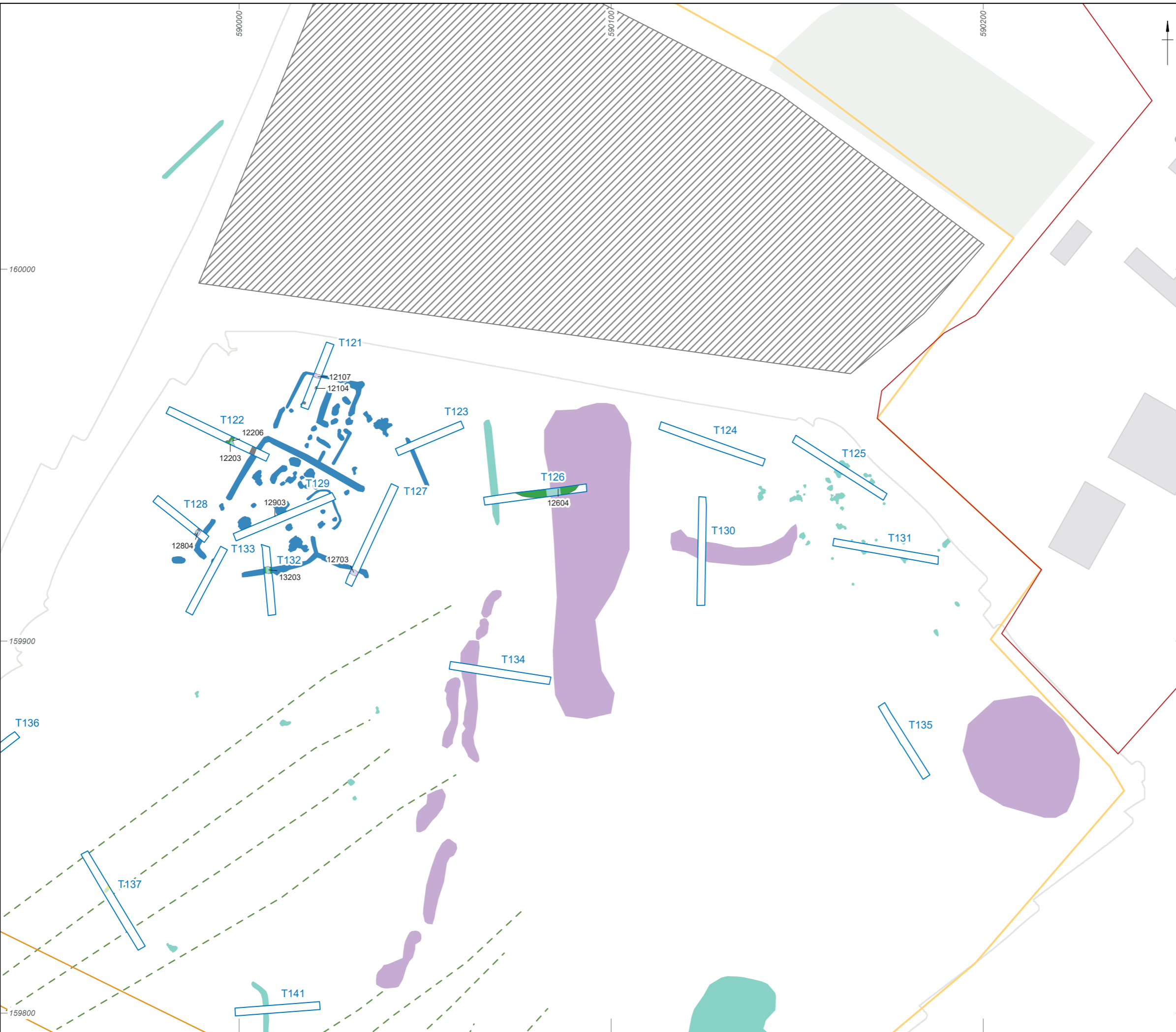
- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 3
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology



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Figure 9. Archaeological results found in Area 3: Trench 116-120



- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 3
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- ▭ Unsurveyed
- - - Ploughing



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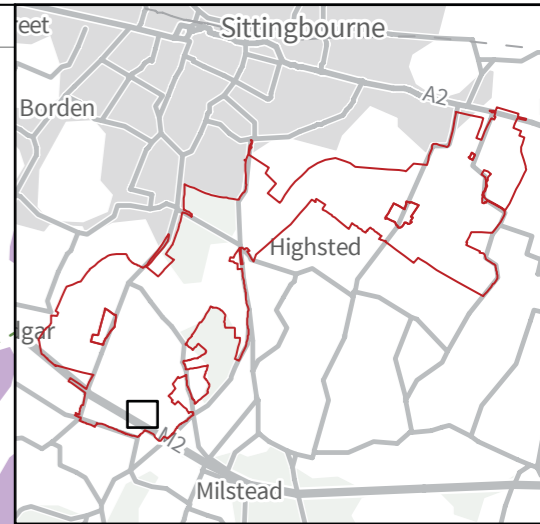
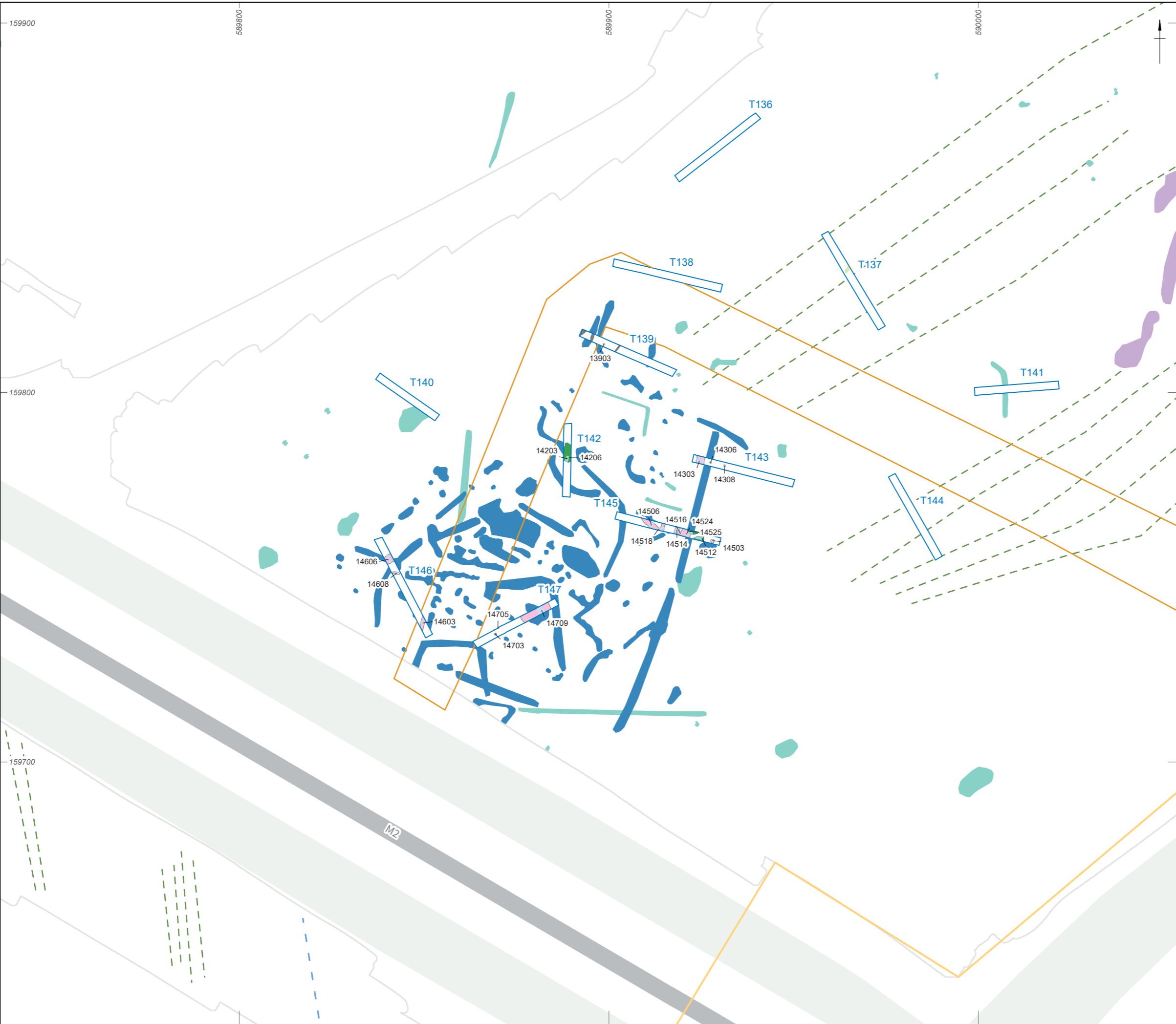
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Figure 10. Archaeological results in Area 3: Trench 121-135, 137, 141



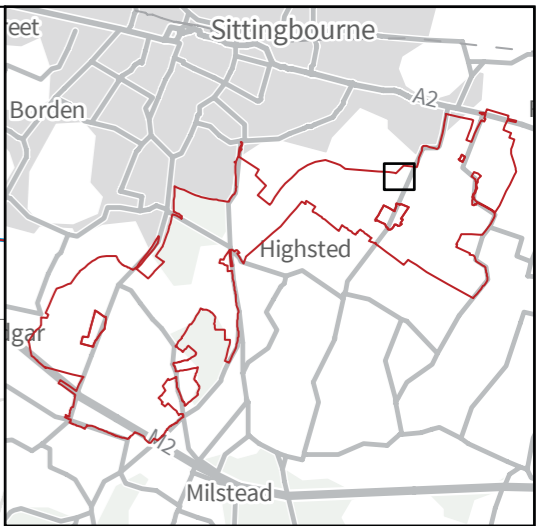
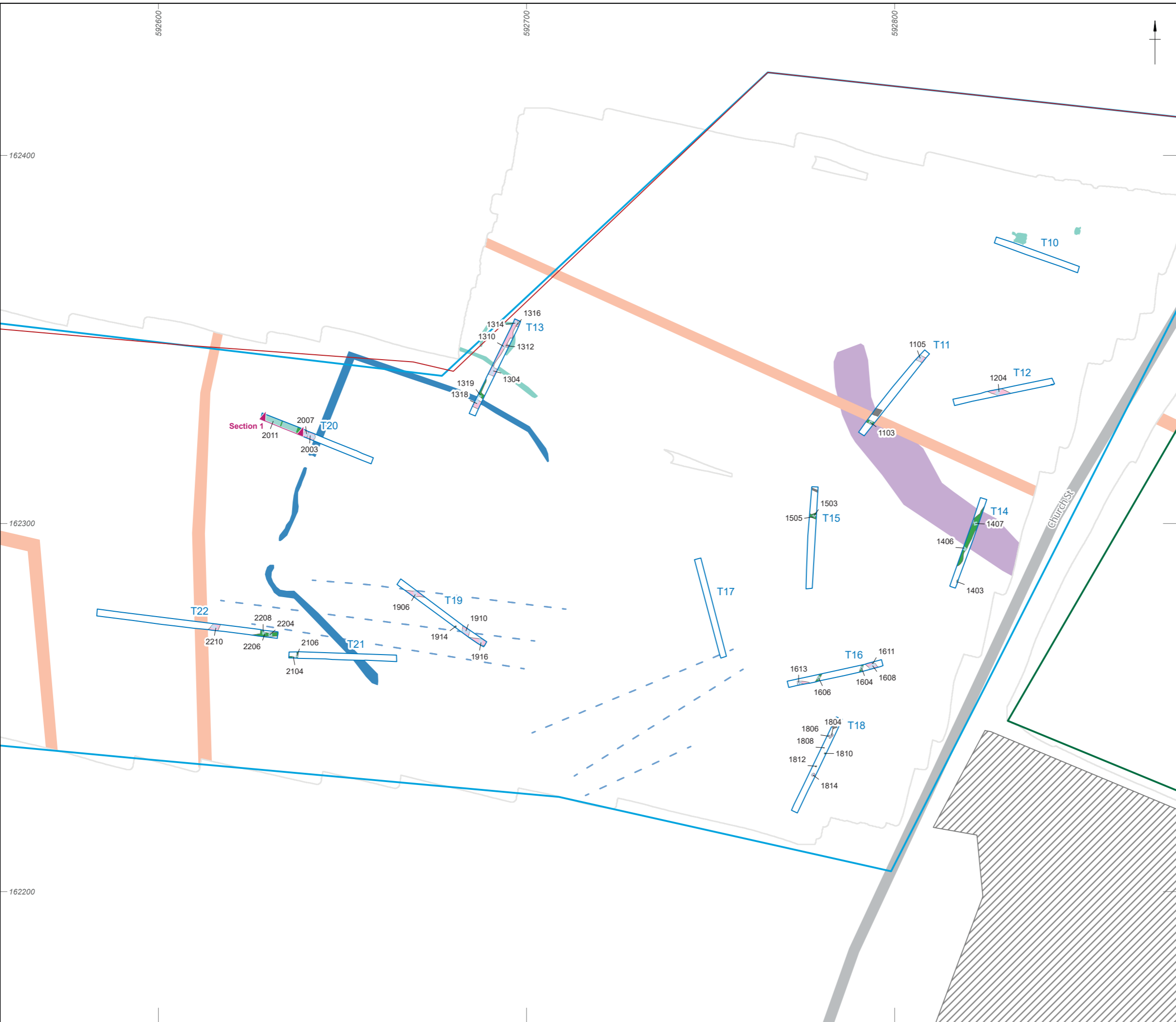
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 3
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- - - Ploughing
- - - Drainage



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Figure 11. Archaeological results in Area 3: Trench 136-147



- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 4
- ▭ Area 5
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- Unsurveyed
- - - Drainage

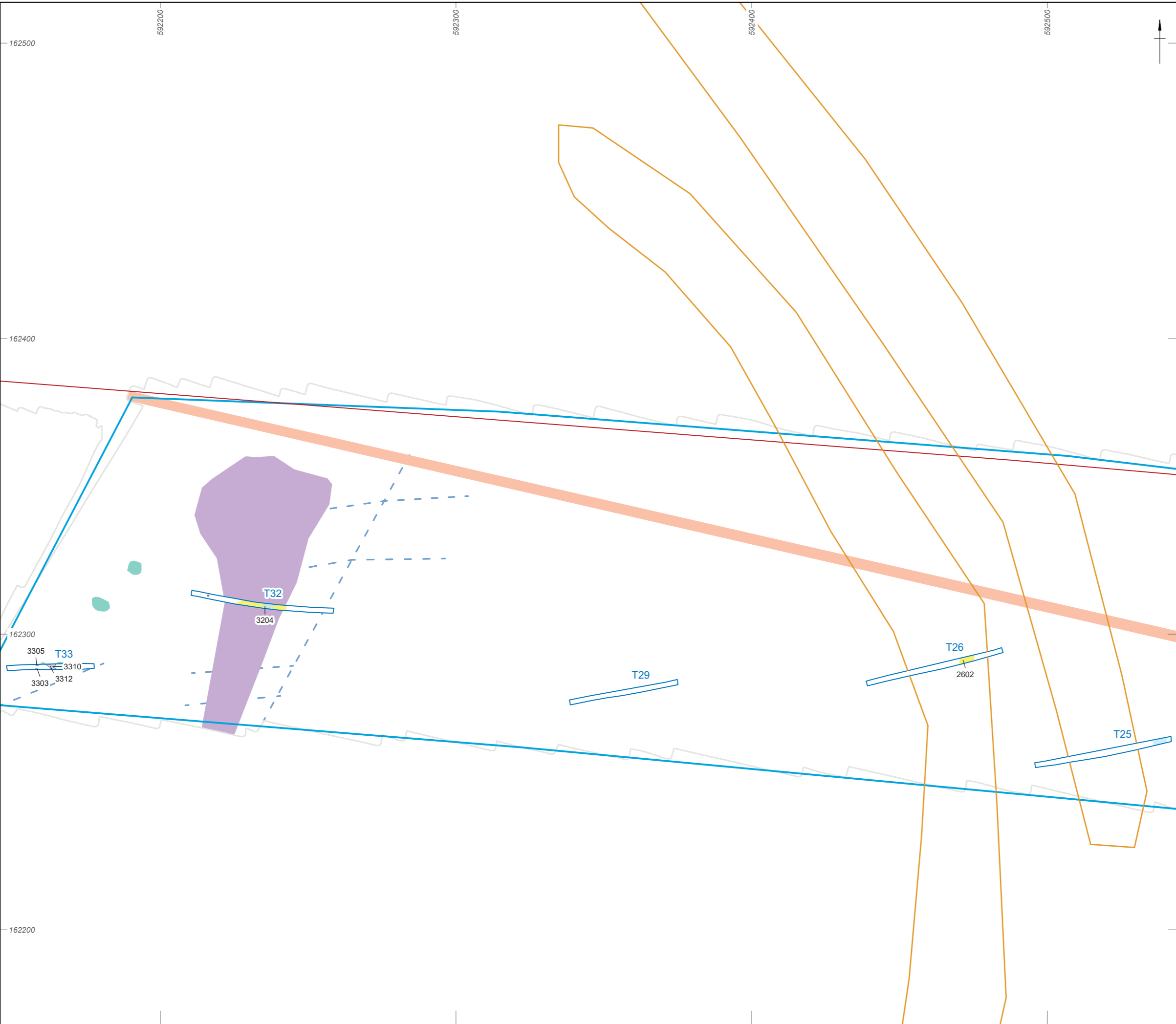


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Figure 12. Archaeological results in Area 4: Trench 10-22

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- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- ▭ Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 4
- ▭ Geophysical Survey Interpretation
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- - - Drainage



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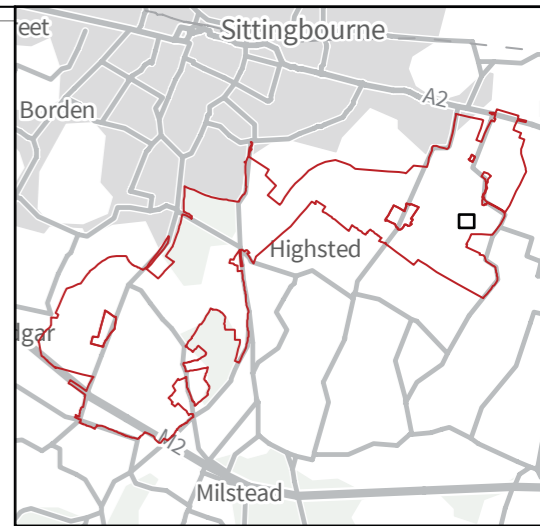
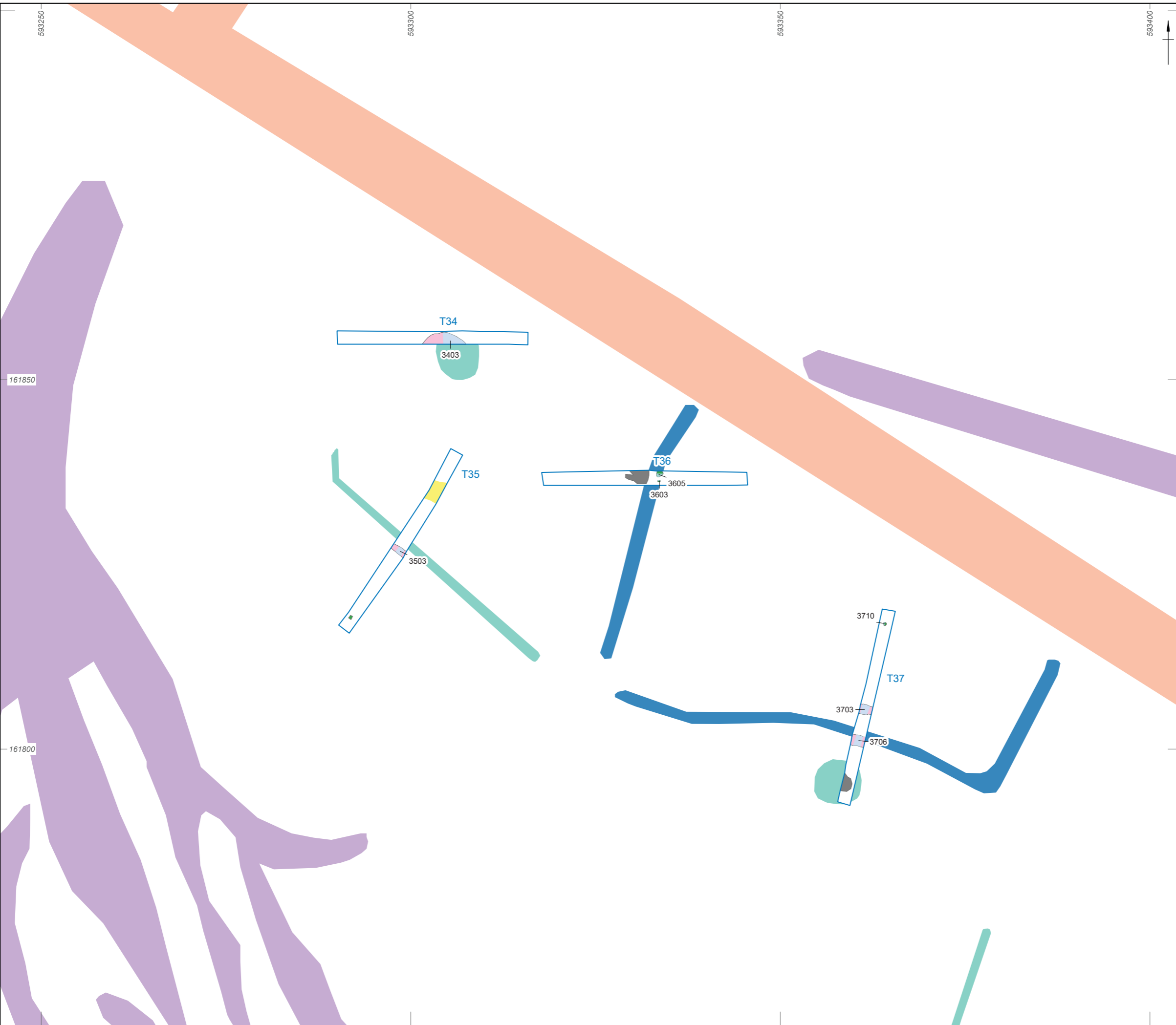
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Figure 13. Archaeological results in Area 4: Trench 25, 26, 29, 32, 33



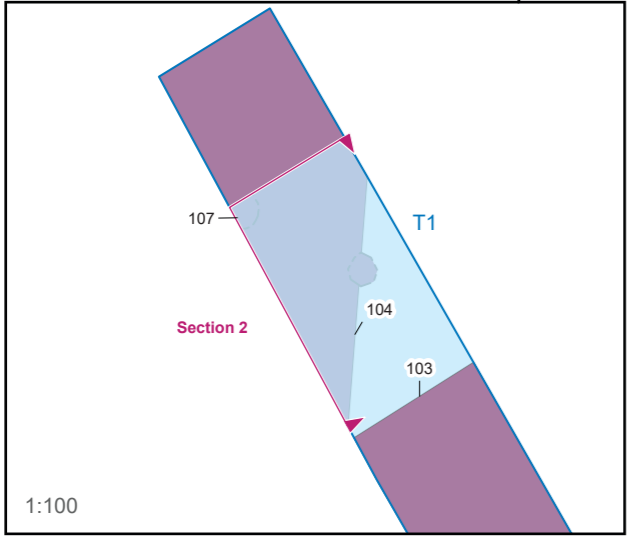
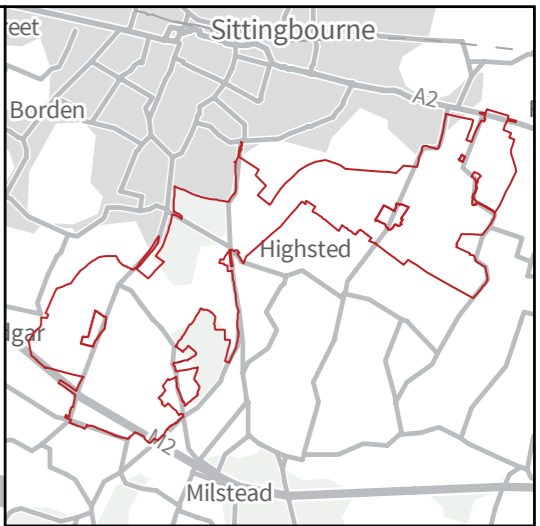
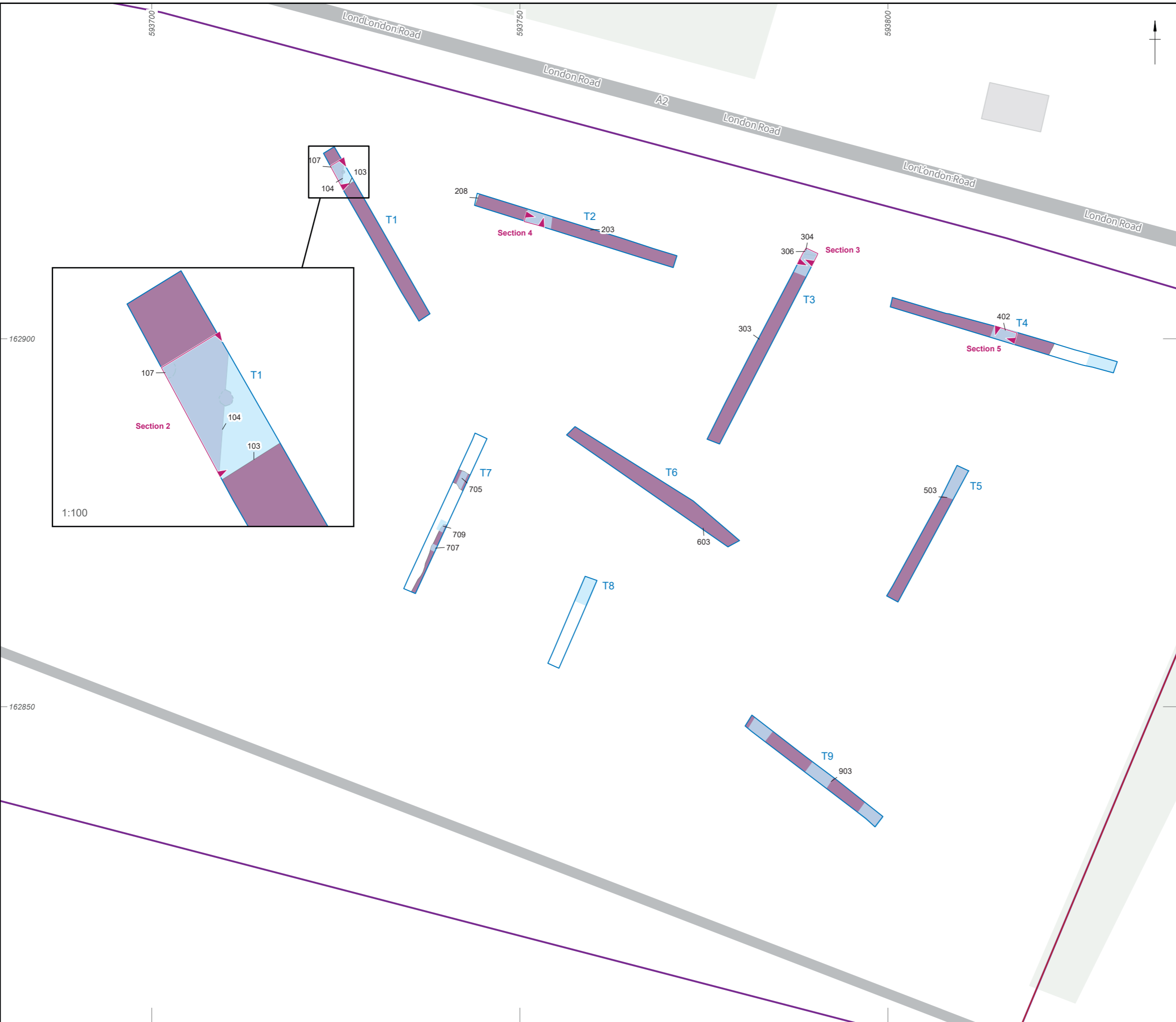
- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Unexcavated
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 5
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology



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Figure 14. Archaeological results in Area 5: Trench 34-37



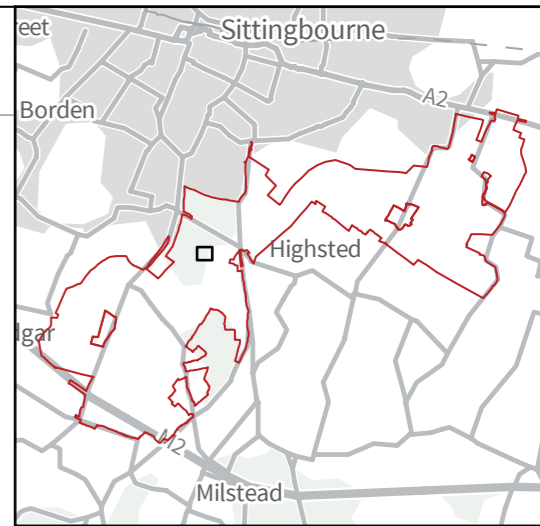
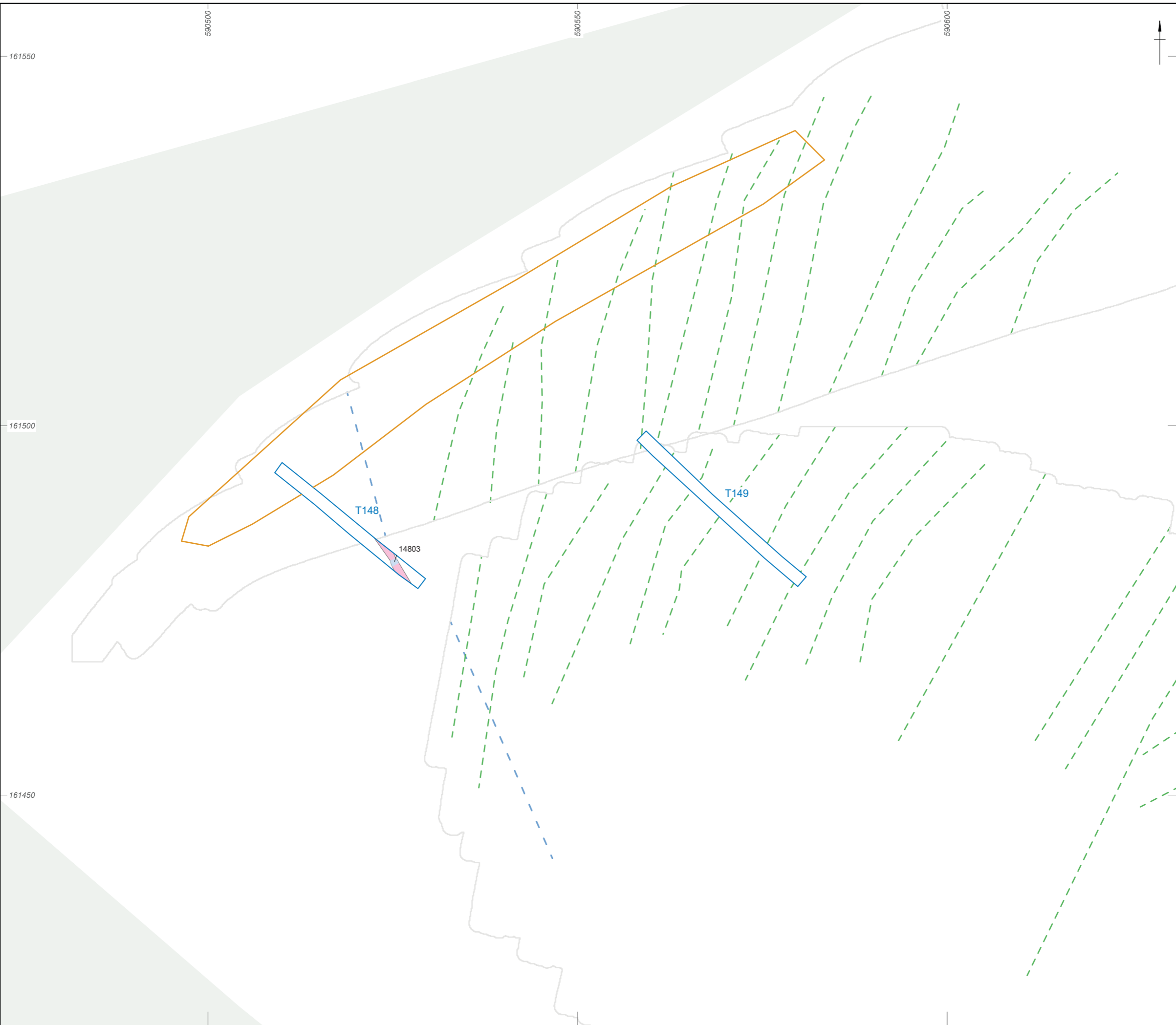
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Romano-British
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area
- Area 6



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Figure 15. Archaeological results in Area 6: Trench 1-9



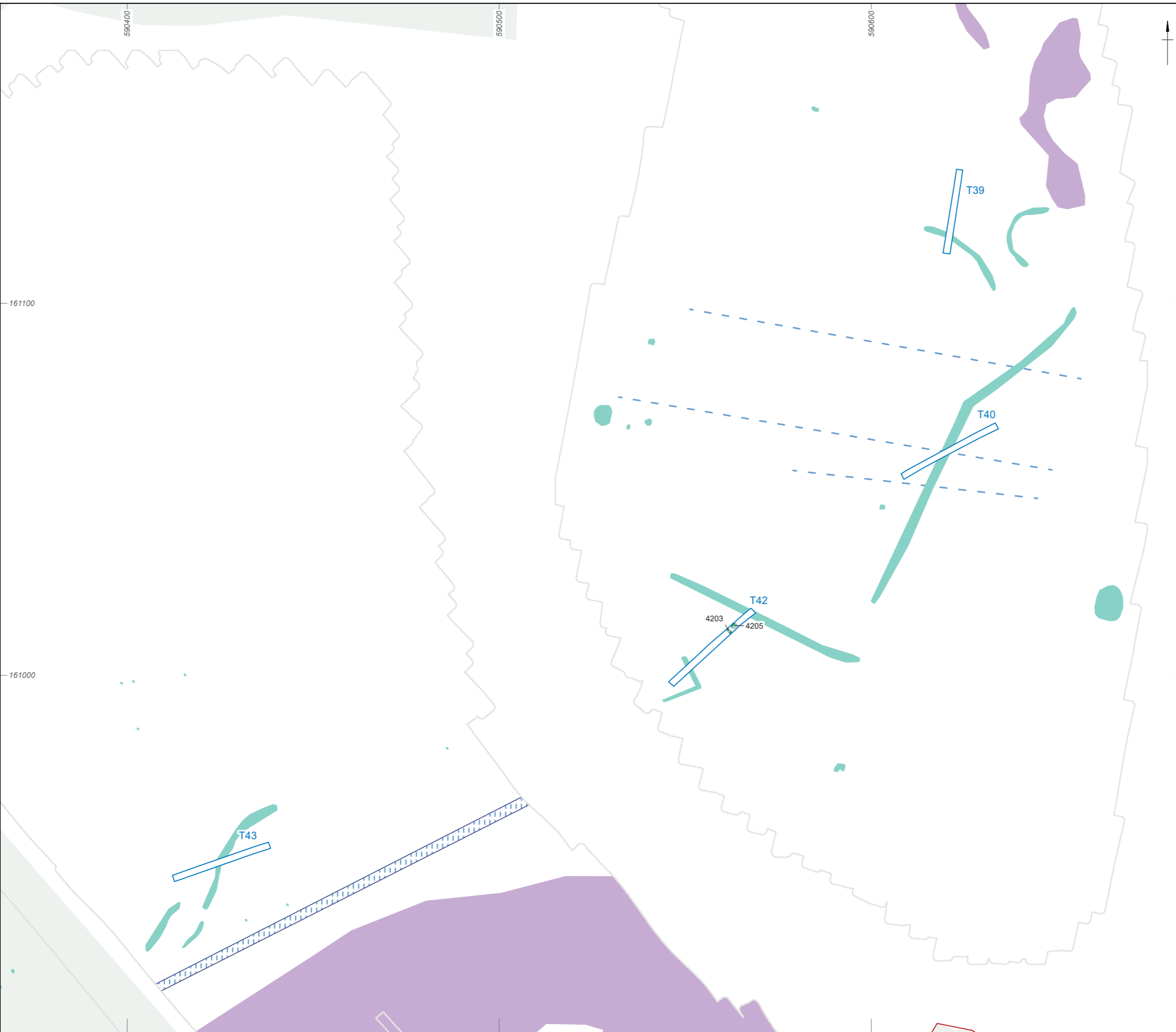
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- ▭ Late Iron Age/Romano-British
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 7
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- Ridge & Furrow
- Drainage



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Figure 16. Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 148 and 149



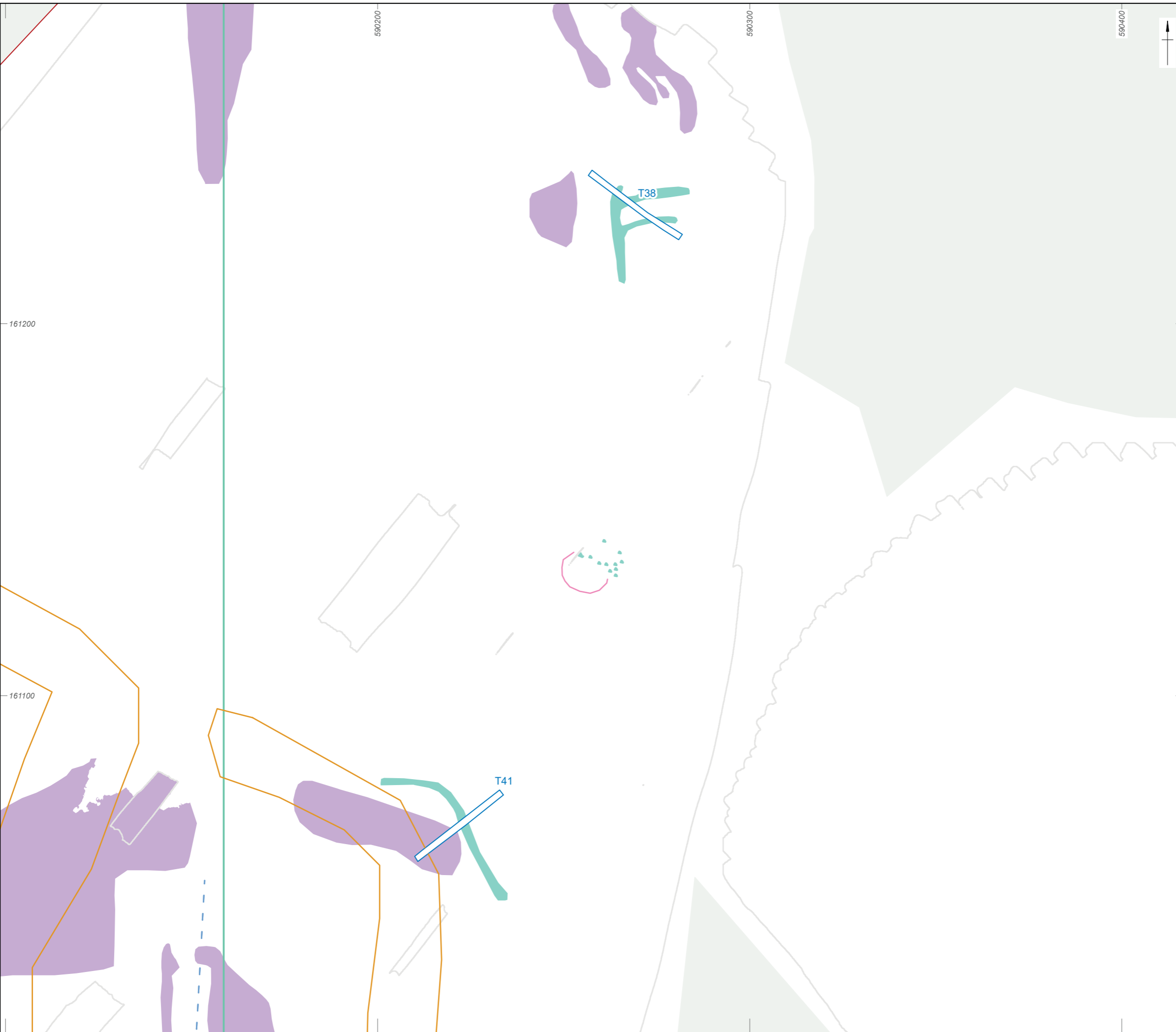
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- ▭ Evaluation trench
- Phase
- ▭ Undated
- ▭ Intervention
- Evaluation Area
- ▭ Area 7
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Former Footpath
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- - Drainage



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Figure 17. Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 39, 40, 42, 43



- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Potential Features (LiDAR)
- Evaluation Area**
- ▭ Area 7
- Geophysical Survey Interpretation**
- ▭ Detailed Survey Extent
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Superficial Geology
- Trend
- - - Drainage



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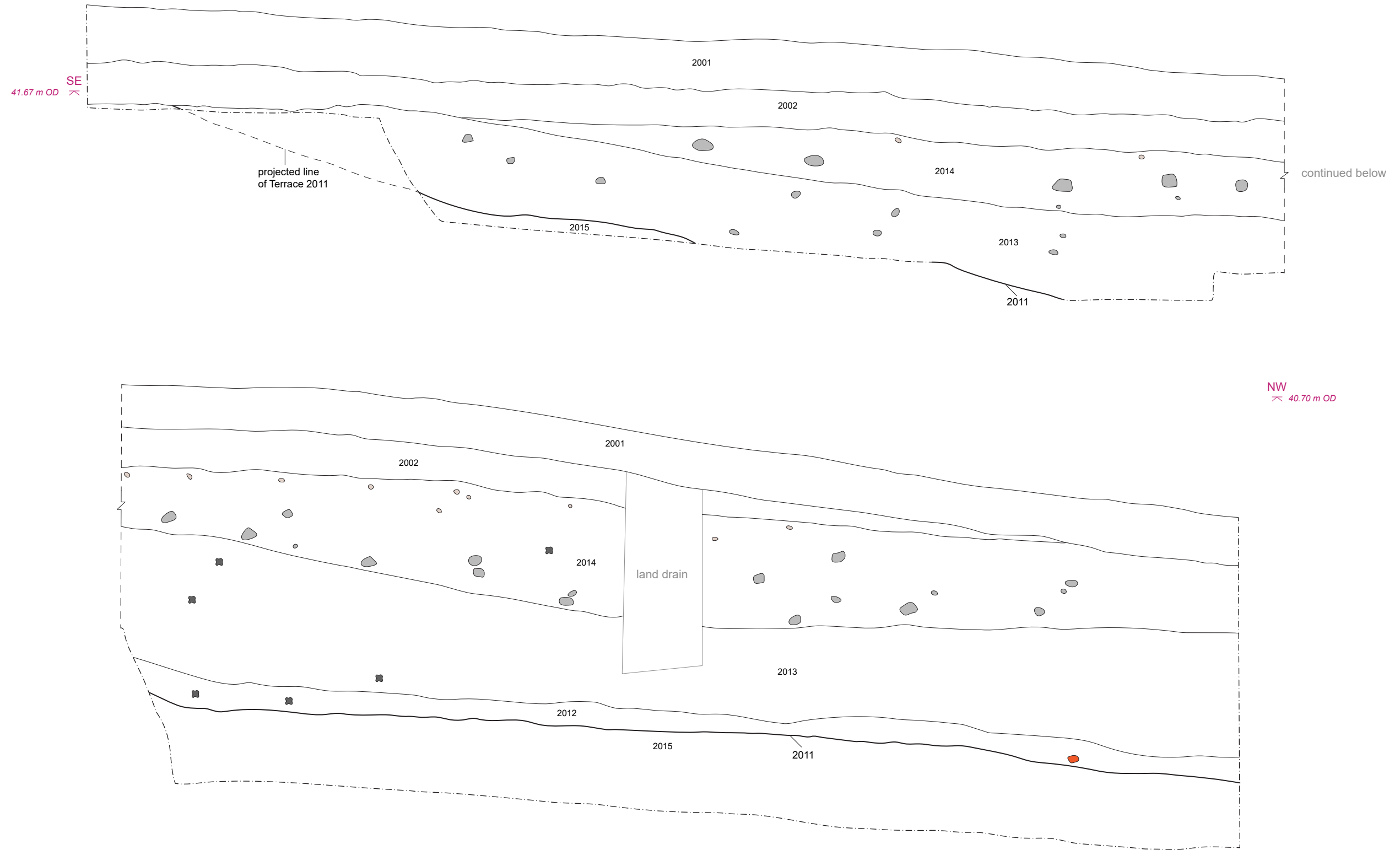
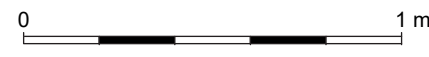
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Scale: 1:1,000 at A3	Revision: 0	

Figure 18. Archaeological results in Area 7: Trench 38 and 41

Section 1: North-east facing section of terrace 2011



- Stone
- Chalk
- Fired clay
- Charcoal



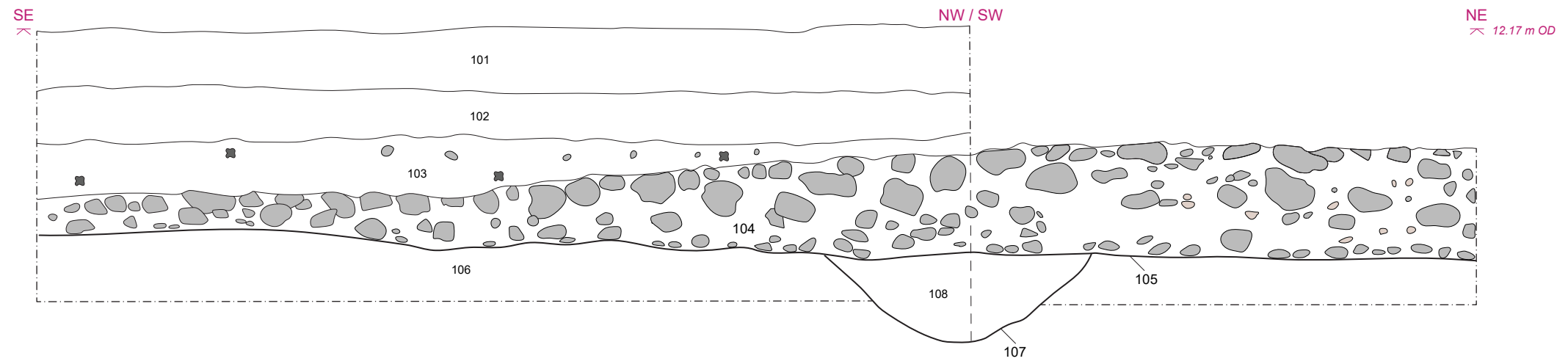
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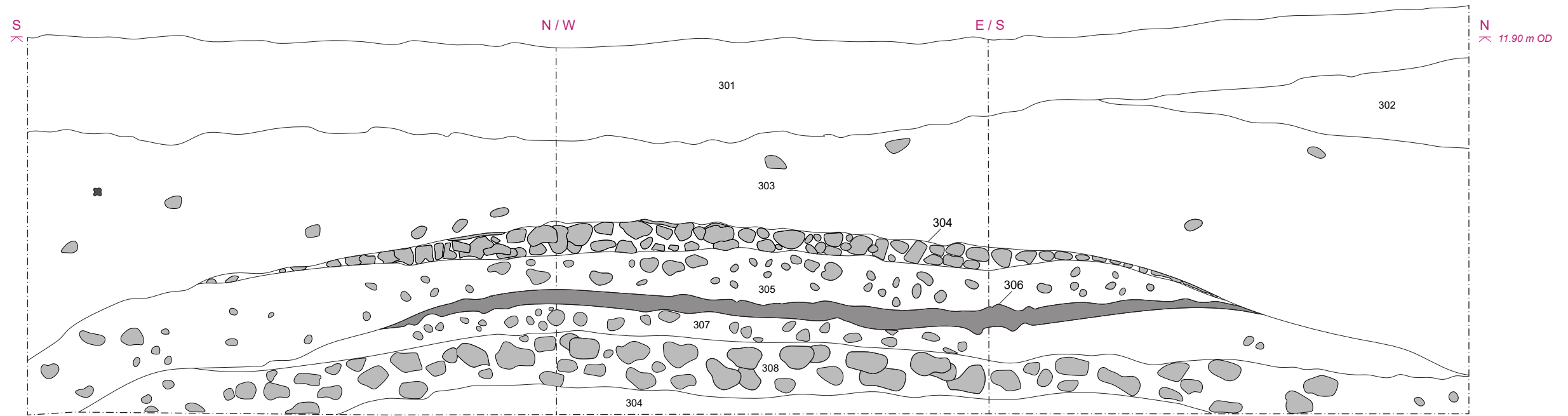
Figure 19. Section 1



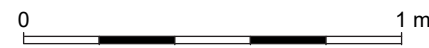
Section 2: Wrap around section showing the north-east and south-east facing sections through road 104



Section 3: Wrap around section showing the south-east, south-west and north-west facing sections through road 304 and 306



- Stone
- Chalk
- Charcoal



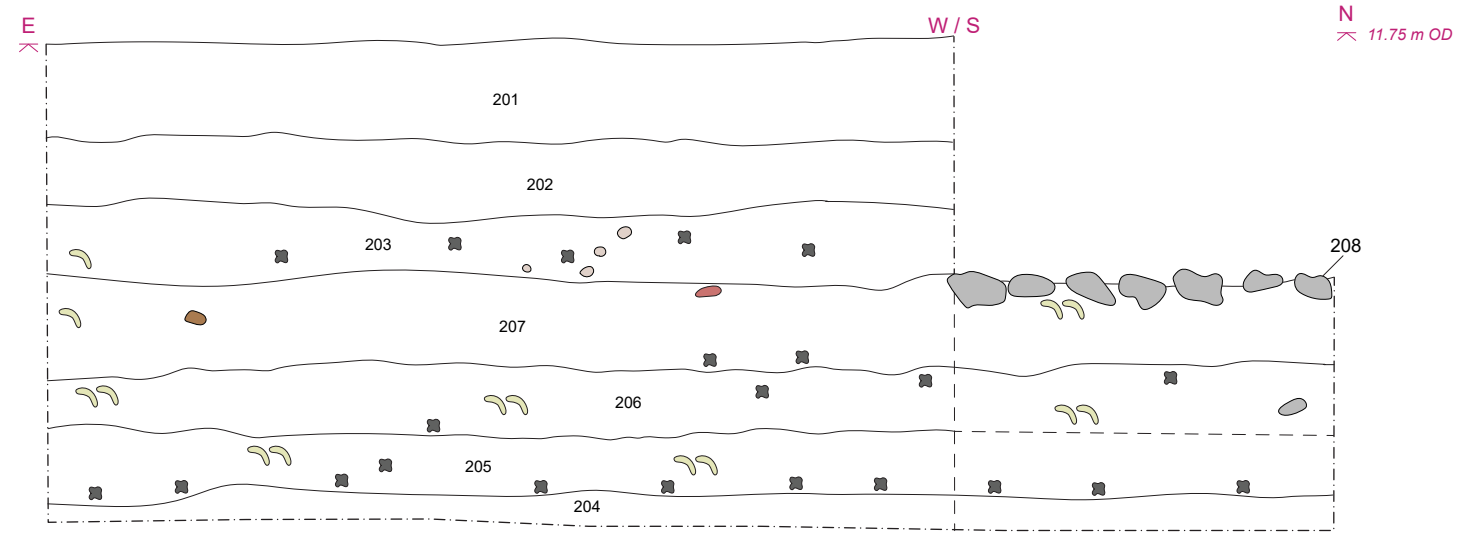
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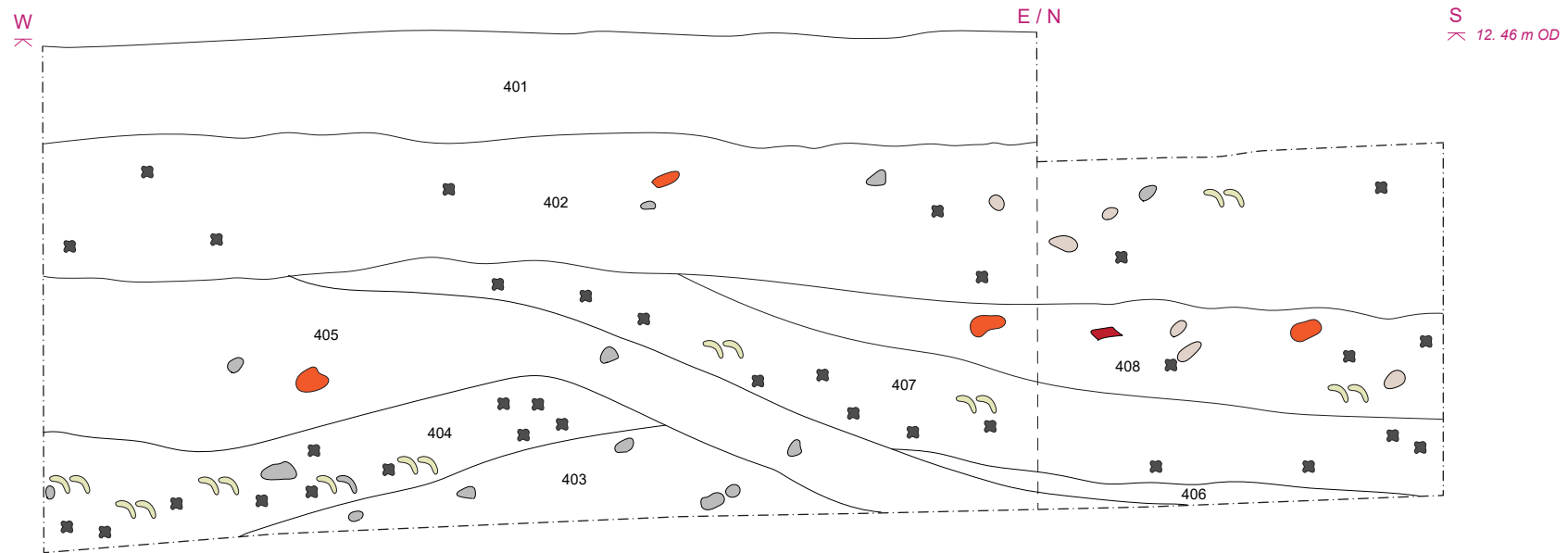
Figure 20. Section 2 and 3



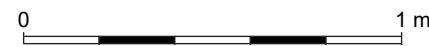
Section 4: Wrap around section showing the NNE and ESE facing sections through deposits 205, 206, 207 and structure 208



Section 5: Wrap around section showing the south-east and north-west facing sections through deposits 403, 404, 405, 406, 407 and 408



- Stone
- Chalk
- Fired clay
- Tile
- Oyster shell
- Pottery
- Iron object
- Charcoal



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Figure 21. Section 4 and 5





Figure 22. West facing section of ditch 5103, scale: 1 m



Figure 23. North-west facing section of ditches 5305 and 5308, scale: 2 m



Figure 24. West facing section of ditch 5003, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 25. South-east facing section of ditch 5403, scale: 1 m



Figure 26. Furnace 5405 viewed from the south-east, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 27. Furnace 5405 viewed from the west, scale: 1 m



Figure 28. South-east facing section of pit 5703, scale: 1 m



Figure 29. West facing section of quarry pit 6108, scale: 1 m



Figure 30. North-east facing section of ditch 8303, scale: 1 m



Figure 31. North-east facing section of ditch 11403, scale: 0.2 m



Figure 32. South-east facing section of ditch 11503, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 33. WSW facing section of pit 9703, scale: 1 m



Figure 34. West facing section of ditch 13203, scale: 1 m



Figure 35. North facing section of ditch 14514 and pit 14516, scale: 1 m



Figure 36. South-east facing section of ditch 14506, scale: 1 m



Figure 37. Ditch 14524, and pits 14525 and 14526, viewed from the west, scale: 1 m



Figure 38. South facing section of ditch 14603, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 39. South facing section of posthole 14308, scale: 0.2 m



Figure 40. North-east facing section of pit 14709, scale: 1 m



Figure 41. North facing section of pit 14503, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 42. South-east facing section of ditch 1204, scale: 1 m



Figure 43. South-east facing section of ditch 1304, scale: 1 m



Figure 44. North-east facing section of ditches 2003 and 2007, scale: 2 m



Figure 45. East facing section of ditch 1906, scale: 1 m



Figure 46. Robber trench 1613, viewed from the north-east, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 47. Hearth 1804 viewed from the north, scale: 1 m



Figure 48. East facing section of pit 3305, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 49. Ditches 2206 and 2208 viewed from the west, scales: 0.5 and 1 m



Figure 50. South-east facing section of ditch 3503, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 51. East facing section of ditch 3703, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 52. East facing section of ditch 3706, scale: 1 m



Figure 53. North facing section of pit 3403, scales 1 and 2 m



Figure 54. North-east facing section of trench 1 with deposits 101, 102, 103 and 106 and structure 104, scale: 1 m



Figure 55. Plan of structure 104, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 56. SSW facing section of trench 3 with all the deposits and structures 304 and 306, scales: 1 m



Figure 57. NNE facing section of trench 2 with all the deposits and structure 208, scales: 0.5 and 1 m



Figure 58. South-west facing section of trench 4 showing all the deposits, scales: 0.5 and 1 m



Figure 59. North-west facing section of quarry pit 903, scale: 2 m

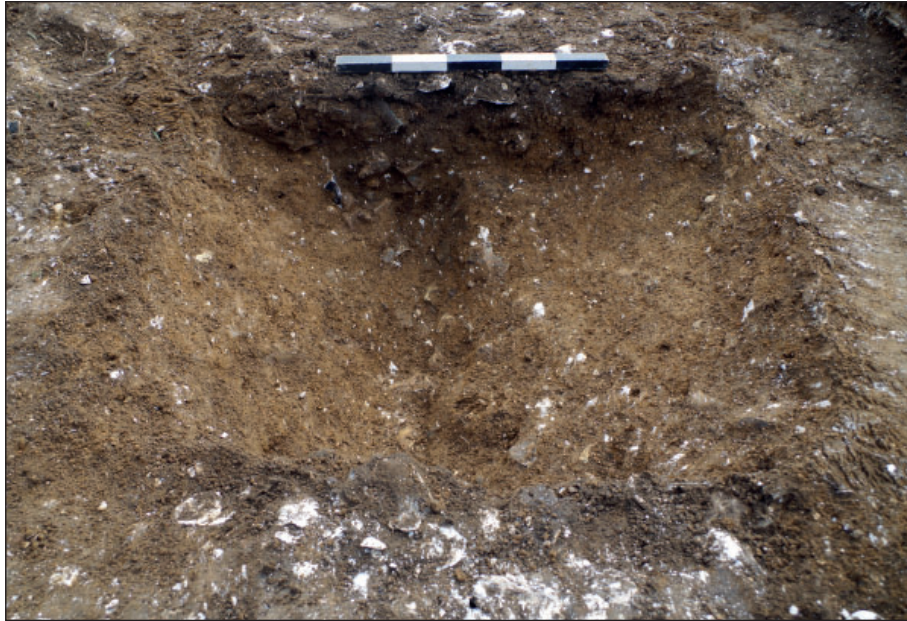


Figure 60. North-east facing section of ditch 14804, scale: 0.5 m



Figure 61. South-west facing section of ditch 4203, scale: 0.5 m



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