

**LAND OFF EVEREST WAY  
HEYBRIDGE  
ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**



**Essex County Council  
Field Archaeology Unit**

**MAY 2011**



# LAND OFF EVEREST WAY

## HEYBRIDGE

### ESSEX

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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# LAND OFF EVEREST WAY

## HEYBRIDGE

### ESSEX

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Client: Gipping Construction

NGR: TL 8559 0847

Site Code: HYEW 11

Planning Ref: MAL/00099/10

Oasis No: essexcou1- 100483

Dates of Fieldwork: 18th to 26th April 2011

### SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land off Everest Way, Heybridge in advance of housing development. Six evaluation trenches, each measuring 30m long by 1.6m wide, were excavated across the 0.6 hectare site.*

*Scattered remains of possible Prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern date were identified, along with a number of undated features, many of which may have been of natural origin. Very few finds of any antiquity were recovered, with the dating evidence for the prehistoric features consisting of one small fragment of pottery and a fire-cracked flint, whilst the Roman period was only represented by two fragments of roof tile.*

*Possible prehistoric features comprised a pit in Trench 4 and a gully and adjacent post-hole in Trench 5. A ditch of probable Roman date was excavated in Trench 2. Two post-holes in Trench 1 were probably of post-medieval or later date, while in Trenches 2 and 6 were the remains of a north-east/south-west aligned late 19th century field boundary ditch containing a variety of post-medieval and modern finds.*

*Overall feature definition was poor and although there is undoubtedly a scattering of archaeological features across the site many other features appear to be of geological or natural origin, collectively suggesting that the overall potential of the site is low and the development will have little impact upon the archaeological record.*



## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This report describes the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out on land off Everest Way, Heybridge in advance of the construction of 30 residential units and associated infrastructure. The archaeological work was undertaken by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Gipping Construction.

As the site is located within an area of archaeological potential, a condition was placed on planning consent (planning application ref: MAL/00099/10) requiring that a programme of archaeological works be undertaken in advance of development, following advice given to Maldon District Council by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM), based on guidance contained in PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment.

The investigation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Design Brief issued by ECC HEM (2010) and a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by the ECC FAU (2011).

Copies of this report will be supplied to Gipping Construction, ECC HEM and the Essex Historic Environment Record. A digital version of this report will be submitted, along with a project summary, to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>). The site archive and copies of the report will be deposited at Colchester Museum.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Topography and Geology (Fig. 1)**

Everest Way is located close to the centre of Heybridge, just over 1km to the north of the River Blackwater and some 400m north of the Blackwater/ Chelmer canal. The development site lies at the western end of Everest Road and is currently used as an arable field (NGR: TL 8559 0847). The site is bounded to the south by Springfield Cottages, to the west and north by fields and to the east by the property boundaries along Everest Way.

The development area is low-lying, at an approximate OD of between 4 to 5m. The underlying superficial geology consists of sand and gravel river terrace deposits associated with the rivers Chelmer and Blackwater, overlying London clay.

## **2.2 Archaeology and History (Fig. 1)**

This archaeological and historical background is based on the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER) held by Essex County Council at County Hall, Chelmsford.

Heybridge parish has a long and complex archaeological history with evidence of occupation from the prehistoric period onwards. There are extensive cropmark landscapes of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon date, comprising, fields, farmsteads, burial sites and trackways, to the north and west (EHER 16411 and 7977). A small Roman town at Elms Farm was located just 750m to the south-west of the site. A c. 20ha area of this settlement was exposed. This included a road network, temple complex, occupation plots, processing and rubbish disposal areas and communal open spaces. Field systems and funerary areas were also encountered on the settlement peripheries (Atkinson and Preston 1998). Further parts of this settlement were investigated along Crescent Road in the 1970s (Wickenden 1986) and in 2002 (Roy 2003). Further prehistoric, Late Iron Age, Roman and Saxon remains were found at Holloway Road (EHER 14650), Heybridge Hall and Heybridge Hall Chalet Site.

The modern settlement of Heybridge developed during the post-medieval period, primarily along the major roads. The canal was constructed in the 1790s, as part of the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation (EHER 15085). Historic cartographic evidence indicates that the site has been arable farmland since the mid to late 19th century, and a field boundary is shown on the 1st and 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey maps running roughly through the centre of the site on a north-east to south-west alignment and continuing beneath Springfield Cottages which constructed in the early 20th century (EHER 40622).

## **3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 Aims**

The specific aim of the evaluation was to determine the presence or absence, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological deposits that may be present and the likely impact of development upon them. Information provided by the evaluation will be used to determine the necessity for any further archaeological work to mitigate the impact of development, based on recommendations from the ECC HEM monitoring officer.



### **3.2 Objectives**

In the event that significant archaeological remains were encountered this report would have aimed to place the results in context with the research objectives laid out in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000). As so few features of significance were identified the project has little potential to contribute to any of the research agendas.

### **4.0 METHOD (Fig. 1)**

Six 30m long by 1.6m wide evaluation trenches were excavated under archaeological supervision by a machine fitted with a flat-bladed bucket. Trenches 1, 3 and 5 were aligned north-east/south-west and trenches 2, 4 and 6 were aligned north-west/south-east.

Potential archaeological features were cleaned and hand excavated. Standard ECC FAU excavation, artefact collection and recording methodologies were employed throughout. ECC FAU is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and all work was carried out in accordance with IfA by-laws and guidelines (IfA 2010; 2008) and complied with Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

### **5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS (Figs 2 - 8)**

Archaeological features were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. No archaeological features were identified in Trench 3. Trench location data is recorded in Appendix 1 and detailed context information is presented in Appendix 2.

Trench depths ranged from 0.53m to 0.68m. The overburden was fairly consistent across the site and consisted of 0.25-0.30m of mid to dark greyish brown clay silt topsoil, above a marginally thicker subsoil deposit of mid brown to mid greyish brown clay silt.

The underlying natural strata generally comprised light brown, pale orange to bright orange/brown clayey silt interspersed with occasional patches of brown gravel which became more extensive in the north-east of the site (Trenches 2 and 3). Speckles of dark brown iron pan were noted in most of the trenches.

### **5.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 2)**

At the north-east end of Trench 1 was a vaguely lozenge-shaped pit (12) with c. 25° sides and a concave base (Fig. 8, Section 1). It was filled with grey-brown silty clay fill (13) that was stained with iron pan. No finds were recovered. Towards the centre of the trench were two probable post-holes (1 and 5/7). Post-hole 1 was 0.28m long, 0.18m wide and 0.11m deep (Fig. 8, Section 2), and was filled with dark grey to black silty clay which contained one fragment of modern tile. Post-hole 5/7 consisted of an irregular pit (5) over 0.79m long and 0.20m deep within which was a deeper circular post-hole (7) (Fig. 8, Section 3). Post-hole 7 was 0.35m deep and filled with very dark brown silty clay (8) which contained two tiny fragments of possible decayed pottery unfortunately too small to recover. To the south-west of the post-holes was a third feature (3), 1.0m long and 0.12m deep with irregular sides and base, believed to be a natural hollow rather than a pit. Five further disturbances were investigated in the south-western half of the trench and all deemed to be natural. The largest of these was an irregular hollow (9) located at the end of the trench containing two mottled and iron pan-stained silty clay fills (10 and 11).

### **5.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 3)**

In the centre of Trench 2 were two dated linear features (31 and 54) that were aligned north-east/south-west. Both of the ditches were cut from beneath the subsoil into natural sandy gravel and consequently had a high gravel content in their lower fills (32 and 55). The earlier of the two features, ditch 54, was 2.33m wide by 0.75m deep, with slightly irregular sides and a flattish base, and contained three mottled grey-brown fills (55, 56 and 57 – Fig. 8, Section 4, Plate 1) and was tentatively dated to the Roman period on the presence of a single fragment of Imbrix (curved roof tile) in the upper fill (57), although this may have been residual. Ditch 31, which was 2.22m wide by 0.66m deep (Fig. 8, Section 5, Plate 2) and contained two dark grey fills (32 and 33), was clearly of later date and contained a variety of modern finds (brick, glass, slate) as well as more general residual post-medieval material including roof tile and a few sherds of 16th to 18th century pottery. A single fragment of Roman Tegula (flat roof tile) was also recovered.

To the south-east of the ditches were two smaller features (27 and 14). Feature 14 was a relatively well-defined small pit or post-hole containing a single grey-brown silty-clay fill (15) that had a concentration of gravel in its base. Feature 27 appeared as a brown, iron pan stained, silty patch located between two areas of natural gravel. Excavation revealed it to be up to 0.26m deep and to have a concave profile. However, definition was poor, particularly

to the north-east, and the feature is deemed more likely to be a naturally in-filled hollow rather than a pit or gully.

### **5.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 4)**

Two probable natural features were investigated in Trench 3. In the north was a poorly-defined shallow pit (17) containing grey clay silt with frequent flecks of iron pan (16). In the south of the trench was a curving linear feature (20) containing two fills (18 & 19) which was probably the remains of a former root-run.

### **5.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 5)**

At the north-west end of Trench 4 was a well-defined circular pit (34) with near-vertical sides and a flat base (Fig. 8, Section 6). The pit was 0.18m deep and filled with iron pan stained grey-brown sandy clay (35). Towards the centre of the trench were two large inter-cutting features (36 and 38) that were both disturbed by root-action (40) at their northern edge. Pit 36, the best defined of the features, measured 1.10m by 1.06m by 0.38m deep (Fig. 8, Section 7, Plate 3), and its fill (37) contained a single sherd of abraded prehistoric pottery. The adjacent feature (38) was probably also a pit, but continued beyond the edge of the trench and could alternatively be the rounded terminus of a linear feature. No finds were recovered from its dark greyish brown silty clay fill (38). The relationship between the two pits was not entirely clear but possibly pit 38 was the later feature.

In the south-eastern half of the trench two grey, iron pan-stained patches that had the potential to be archaeological features were investigated. One was shallow and irregular and appeared to be entirely of natural origin while the other (42) gently sloped downwards to a depth of 0.14m at the edge of the trench and conceivably may have been part of a pit or the end of a linear feature.

### **5.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 6)**

Numerous disturbances were investigated at the south-west end of Trench 5, some appeared to be genuine archaeological features and others disturbances of a natural origin (Plate 4). At the end of the trench was a relatively well-defined, north-west/south-east aligned, gully (30) filled with mottled mid to dark grey/brown clay silt (29). The gully was 0.23m deep and had a concave profile with 40-60° sloping sides (Fig. 8, Section 8) and appeared to gradually widen-out towards the north-west.

Just over 1m distant from gully 30 were a group of four inter-connecting features (45, 47, 49 and 51). The most convincing of these was a second north-west/south-east aligned gully

(47) whose mottled mid to light grey clay-silt fill (46) contained a single fragment of fire-cracked flint. The gully had a broadly concave profile with slightly irregular base and sides. It was widest (0.95m) and deepest (0.34m) at the drawn section (Fig. 8, Section 10) and appeared to become slightly narrower and shallower to the north-west. Partly exposed to the south of gully 47 was the edge of a shallow pit or hollow (45) with gradually sloping sides and base. To the north of the gully was a possible post-hole (49), 0.88m wide by 0.28m deep with a concave base and sloping sides, which broadened out towards the top (Fig. 8, Section 9). The relationship between gully 47 and post-hole 49 was unclear with both features having similar mottled and iron pan flecked fills. To investigate further the area between the two illustrated sections was excavated. This revealed more of post-hole 49 and suggested that the two features may be contemporary. To the north-east of post-hole 49 was a sinuous linear feature with an irregular base (51) believed to be the remains of a large root-run or animal burrow and a shallow irregular depression (53). The depression was most probably of natural origin as were a number of other shallow poorly-defined disturbances in the vicinity.

#### **5.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 7)**

In the east of the trench was a possible oval post-hole (24), 0.48m long by 0.45m wide and 0.22m deep, with 45° sides and a concave base (Fig. 8, Section 11). It was filled with mottled mid to light grey and brown clay silt with occasional flecks of iron pan. No finds were recovered. Adjacent to post-hole 24 were three shallow (0.08m - 0.12m deep), irregular disturbances that appeared to be of natural origin. Further west was a slightly curving, irregular pit (22) filled by brownish grey clay silt with common flecks of charcoal (21). A few tiny traces of possible burnt bone were noted but nothing to suggest that this was anything more than a deposit of domestic waste. The pit was cut from directly below the topsoil and as such is likely to be of later date than the majority of the features investigated within the development area.

In the west end of the trench was a well-defined pit (26), in excess of 1m long and 0.19m deep (Fig. 8. Section 12), with a mottled and iron pan-flecked, clay silt fill (25). A large dark grey silt-filled feature exposed at the western limit of the trench represented the south-western continuation of post-medieval ditch 31 from Trench 2.

#### **6.0 FINDS** by Alan J Jacobs

A total of 18 fragments of brick, tile, glass, burnt flint, slate and pottery weighing a total of 649 grams, were recovered from five stratified contexts. All of the material has been sorted into

context and recorded by count and weight. The finds are described below and tabulated in Appendix 2.

### **6.1 Prehistoric pottery**

Only a single sherd of much abraded prehistoric pottery was recovered from context 37, this weighed just 2 grams. The sherd was in an oxidised fabric containing flint, sand and organic temper defined as fabric w in the Essex CC FAU prehistoric pottery recording system. The sherd is of a general prehistoric date, being too abraded to define more closely.

### **6.2 Post-medieval pottery** by Helen Walker

A total of four sherds weighing 35g were recovered from a single context, 33, the upper fill of pit 31. Finds include two sherds of unglazed post-medieval red earthenware, one of which although fragmented appears to be from an upright jug rim showing a bead around the neck. Such jugs occur in a late 16th century pit group from Moulsham Street, Chelmsford (Cunningham 1985, fig. 45.28-30, 33), so this example may be of a similar date.

Also found was a sherd of Westerwald stoneware showing moulded decoration, possibly in the form of a lion's mane or a long (royal) wig. The shape of the sherd suggests a wide curved vessel possibly a chamber pot (*cf.* Noël Hume 1969, fig. 27 centre). Westerwald stoneware, made in the German Rhineland, was imported over a long period of time, and this sherd dates from the mid 17th to later 18th centuries. There is one further unidentified sherd, in an unglazed sandy orange fabric with extremely abraded surfaces. It may actually be a fragment of unusually thin roof tile and is almost certainly post-medieval in date.

### **6.3 Brick and tile**

Two fragments of Roman tile were recovered, one a fragment of the edge of a Tegula (context 33), the other a larger unabraded fragment of Imbrex (context 57). These two pieces are the only indications of very peripheral Roman activity in this area.

A single fragment of modern tile was recovered (context 2) this was in a red sandy fabric with occasional white inclusions and no edges surviving. The tile fragment was 10mm in thickness and dated to the 19th to 20th century. A total of five post medieval tile fragments were recovered (context 33), these were in a sandy oxidised fabric with some examples displaying a grey core and few edges surviving. The tile fragments were between 12mm and 13mm in thickness and dated from the 16th to 18th century. The only other ceramic find consisted of an extremely abraded modern brick fragment (context 33) dating to the late 18th to 19th century.

#### **6.4 Other finds**

Non ceramic finds consisted of a small fragment of slate and fragments of a modern brown beer or wine bottle (context 33), and a single fragment of fire cracked flint (context 46) that in the absence of other material cannot be clearly dated. The slate is probably a fragment of roof tile; this material was not used extensively in house building until after 1830.

#### **6.5 Conclusion**

The features produced a limited finds assemblage that does however suggest some limited form of prehistoric and Roman activity in the area. The bulk of the material is clearly deposited within modern contexts, with the post medieval pottery most likely representing residual agricultural manuring or general waste disposal.

No further work is required on any of the finds, all materials could be discarded.

### **7.0 DISCUSSION (Fig. 9)**

The earliest archaeological remains identified consist of a pit in Trench 4 and a gully and adjacent post-hole in Trench 5. These are tentatively dated on the presence of a single sherd of prehistoric pottery and a fire-cracked flint. It is possible that a few other features such as pit 26 in Trench 6 date to the prehistoric period but without dating evidence this is impossible to confirm.

No Late Iron Age remains were identified and the only probable Roman feature was a north-east/south-west aligned ditch containing a single fragment of roof tile in Trench 2. A second residual fragment of Roman roof tile was recovered from a near-by later ditch. Medieval and Saxon remains were also completely absent.

Two post-holes were excavated in Trench 1, one contained a fragment of post-medieval roof tile and the other is likely to be contemporary given its proximity and similarity in fill. Further post-medieval finds, along with more modern material, were recovered from a north-east/south-west aligned field boundary ditch present in Trenches 2 and 6. This ditch is depicted on late 19th century editions of the Ordnance Survey and was presumably in-filled in the early 20th century prior to the construction of Springfield Cottages, to the immediate south-east of the site.

The majority of investigated features were undated and many were deemed to be of natural origin. Some disturbances were clearly of root or animal origin whilst others were probably localised variations of a geological nature. Iron pan was commonplace with most deposits containing flecks or stains. Overall feature definition was poor with even the more convincing features having an element of uncertainty about them.

## **8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS**

Although there is a substantial body of evidence for widespread multi-period activity in the Heybridge area only a small number of genuine archaeological features were identified at Everest Way, along with a scatter of more ephemeral or undated features, many of which may have been of natural origin. Furthermore, few finds of any antiquity were recovered, with the dating evidence for the prehistoric features consisting of one small fragment of pottery and a fire-cracked flint, whilst the Roman period was only represented by two fragments of roof tile.

Overall, feature definition was poor and while there is undoubtedly a scattering of archaeological remains across the site the results of the evaluation collectively suggests that the overall potential of the site is low and the development will have little impact upon the archaeological record. Accordingly, the no further work will be required.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ECC FAU would like to thank Gipping Construction for commissioning the work. The archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Trevor Ennis and James Alexander, Natalia Hunt and Andrew Lewsey of the ECC Field Archaeology Unit. Finds were analysed by Alan Jacobs and Helen Walker. The report was prepared by Trevor Ennis with illustrations by Andrew Lewsey. The project was managed by Adrian Scruby and monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Maria Medlycott of ECC HEM.



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## APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DATA

All dimensions given in metres

<b>Trench</b>	<b>Measurements</b>	<b>Co-ordinates (end, centre)</b>
1	30m x 1.6m x 0.53m, orientated NE/SW	NE - 585584.4, 208504.5 SW - 585568.8, 208478.9
2	30m x 1.6m x 0.60m, orientated NW/SE	NW - 585599.5, 208492.1 SE - 585625.1, 208476.6
3	30m x 1.6m x 0.68m, orientated NE/SW	NE - 585644.4, 208491.7 SW - 585628.8, 208466.0
4	30m x 1.6m x 0.55m, orientated NW/SE	NW - 585555.6, 208475.8 SE - 585581.3, 208460.2
5	30m x 1.6m x 0.66m, orientated NE/SW	NE - 585600.2, 208474.1 SW - 585584.6, 208448.4
6	30m x 1.6m x 0.56m, orientated NW/SE	NW - 585596.8, 208454.4 SE - 585622.5, 208438.8

## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT DATA

All dimensions given in metres

Context	Type	Description	Period
1	Post-hole	Oval, 0.28m x 0.18m x 0.11m deep	Post-medieval
2	Fill of 1	Dark grey/black silty clay	Post-medieval
3	Hollow	Irregular, 1.05m x 1.0m x 0.12m deep	Natural
4	Fill of 3	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Natural
5	Pit	Irregular, 0.79m+ x 0.90m x 0.20m deep	Post-medieval
6	Fill of 5	Brown silty clay	Post-medieval
7	Post-hole	Circular?, 0.25m x 0.21m+ x 0.35m deep	Post-medieval
8	Fill of 7	Dark brown silty clay	Post-medieval
9	Pit	Irregular, 2.7m x 0.85m+ x 0.43m deep	Natural
10	Fill of 9	Mottled mid brown & grey to dark grey silty clay, 0.34m thick	Natural
11	Fill of 9	Light brown to light grey silty clay, 0.09m thick	Natural
12	Pit	Lozenge-shaped, 0.94m x 0.76m x 0.19m deep	Undated
13	Fill of 12	Grey-brown silty clay with iron pan staining	Undated
14	Pit	Oval, 0.33m x 0.24m x 0.18m deep	Undated
15	Fill of 14	Grey-brown silty clay	Undated
16	Fill of 17	Mid grey to greyish brown clay silt	Natural
17	Pit	Vaguely pear-shaped, 0.68m x 0.56m x 0.10m deep	Natural
18	Fill of 20	Dark grey clay silt	Natural
19	Fill of 20	Mid brown to greyish brown clay silt	Natural
20	Root Run?	Curving, c. 2m x 0.60m x 0.12m deep	Natural
21	Fill of 22	Brownish grey clay silt with charcoal flecks	Post-medieval+
22	Pit	Irregular, 1.10m+ x 0.52m x 0.10m deep	Post-medieval+
23	Fill of 24	Mottled mid to light grey & brown clay silt	Undated
24	Post-hole	Oval, 0.48m x 0.45m x 0.22m deep	Undated
25	Fill of 26	Mottled mid to dark grey & brown clay silt	Undated
26	Pit	Oval?, 1.07m+ x 0.75m x 0.19m deep	Undated
27	Hollow	Linear, 0.90m+ x 0.70m x 0.26m deep	Natural
28	Fill of 27	Brown-orange silty clay with iron pan staining	Natural
29	Fill of 30	Mottled mid to dark grey & brown clay silt	Undated
30	Gully	1.6m+ x 0.80m x 0.23m deep	Undated
31	Ditch	1.6m+ x 2.22m x 0.66m deep	Post-medieval
32	Fill of 31	Dark grey gravel, 0.16m thick	Post-medieval
33	Fill of 31	Dark grey/brown silty clay, 0.66m thick	Post-medieval
34	Pit	Circular, 0.46m diameter x 0.18m deep	Undated
35	Fill of 34	Grey-brown sandy clay with iron pan staining	Undated

<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Period</b>
36	Pit	Oval, 1.10m x 1.06m x 0.38m deep	Prehistoric
37	Fill of 36	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Prehistoric
38	Pit	Linear, 1.35m+ x 1.0m x 0.24m deep	Undated
39	Fill of 38	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Undated
40	Root Action	Two irregular linear disturbances, 0.75m+ x 0.20m x 0.15m deep	Natural
41	Fill of 40	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Natural
42	Pit	Irregular, 0.81m+ x 1.2m x 0.18m deep.	Undated
43	Fill of 42	Greyish brown-orange sandy clay	Undated
44	Fill of 45	Mottled mid to light grey clay silt with brown flecks	Undated
45	Pit	Part exposed, c. 0.80m x 0.30m+ x 0.16m deep	Undated
46	Fill of 47	Mottled mid to light grey clay silt, occasional brown	Prehistoric?
47	Gully	Irregular, 1.6m+ x 0.95m x 0.34m deep	Prehistoric?
48	Fill of 49	Mottled mid & light greyish brown clay silt	Prehistoric?
49	Post-hole/pit?	0.88m x 0.50m+ x 0.28m deep	Prehistoric?
50	Fill of 51	Mottled mid to dark grey clay silt	Natural
51	Burrow/ Root run	Curving, irregular, 2.3m+ x 0.30m x 0.15m deep	Natural
52	Fill of 53	Mottled greyish brown & brown clay silt	Natural
53	Depression	Irregular, 1.2m x 0.90m+ x 0.09m deep	Natural
54	Ditch	1.6m+ x 2.33m x 0.75m deep	Roman
55	Fill of 54	Mottled light grey & mid brown gravelly clay silt, 0.18m thick	Roman
56	Fill of 54	Mottled mid grey and mid brown silty clay, 0.33m thick	Roman
57	Fill of 54	Mottled mid greyish brown with mid brown clay silt, 0.44m thick	Roman

### APPENDIX 3: FINDS DATA

All weights in grams

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
2	Fill of Post-Hole 1	1	16	Modern tile fragment, red sandy fabric occasional white inclusions 10mm in thickness.	19th to 20th century
33	Top Fill of ditch 31	1	234	Post medieval brick fragment, softly fired orange/red fabric with occasional large inclusions abraded top, bottom and side surfaces surviving and rounded arrises, creased faces and 66mm in height.	Late 18th to 19th century
		1	2	Modern slate fragment, most probably from a roof tile.	1830 to 2000
		2	10	Modern glass, fragments of brown beer or wine bottle.	19th to 20th century
		5	156	Post medieval roof tile fragments, oxidised sandy fabric, some slightly misfired with grey cores, between 12mm and 13mm in thickness.	1500 to 1800
		1	52	Roman, fragment of Tegula, smoothed top or bottom edge 18mm thick.	Roman
		1	8	Westerwald stoneware showing moulded decoration, possibly in the form of a lion's mane or a long wig, irregular blue background, shape of sherd suggests a wide curved vessel perhaps a chamber pot.	Mid 17th to later 18th century
		2	19	Post-medieval red earthenware, unglazed, comprising an upright jug rim with a bead around the neck, and a body sherd with a reduced external skin.	?late 16th Century
		1	8	Unidentified, sandy orange fabric with extremely abraded surfaces, could be roof tile.	Post-medieval
37	Fill of pit 36	1	2	Prehistoric pottery fragment, oxidised fabric with occasional large flint inclusions, extremely abraded, fabric W.	Prehistoric
46	Fill of Gully 47	1	6	Fire Cracked Flint fragment.	Prehistoric?
57	Fill of Ditch 54	1	136	Roman Imbrex fragment, vesicular lower surface, fairly softly fired, organic and occasional larger grog and flint inclusions, much abraded.	Roman
<i>Total</i>		<b>18</b>	<b>649</b>		

## **APPENDIX 4: CONTENTS OF ARCHIVE**

**Site Name: Land off Everest Way, Heybridge**  
**Site Code: HYEW11**

### **Index to Archive:**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Brief
- 1.2 Written Scheme of Investigation

#### **2. Research Archive**

- 2.1 Client Report
- 2.2 Finds Reports

#### **3. Site Archive**

- 3.1 Context Record Register
- 3.2 Context Records (1 to 57)
- 3.3 Plan Register
- 3.4 3 A4 plan/section sheets
- 3.5 Section Register
- 3.6 Trench location plan
- 3.7 Photographic Register
- 3.8 Site Photographic Record (1 set of B/W and colour prints + 1 set of digital images on disk)
- 3.9 Miscellaneous notes/plans

#### **Not in File**

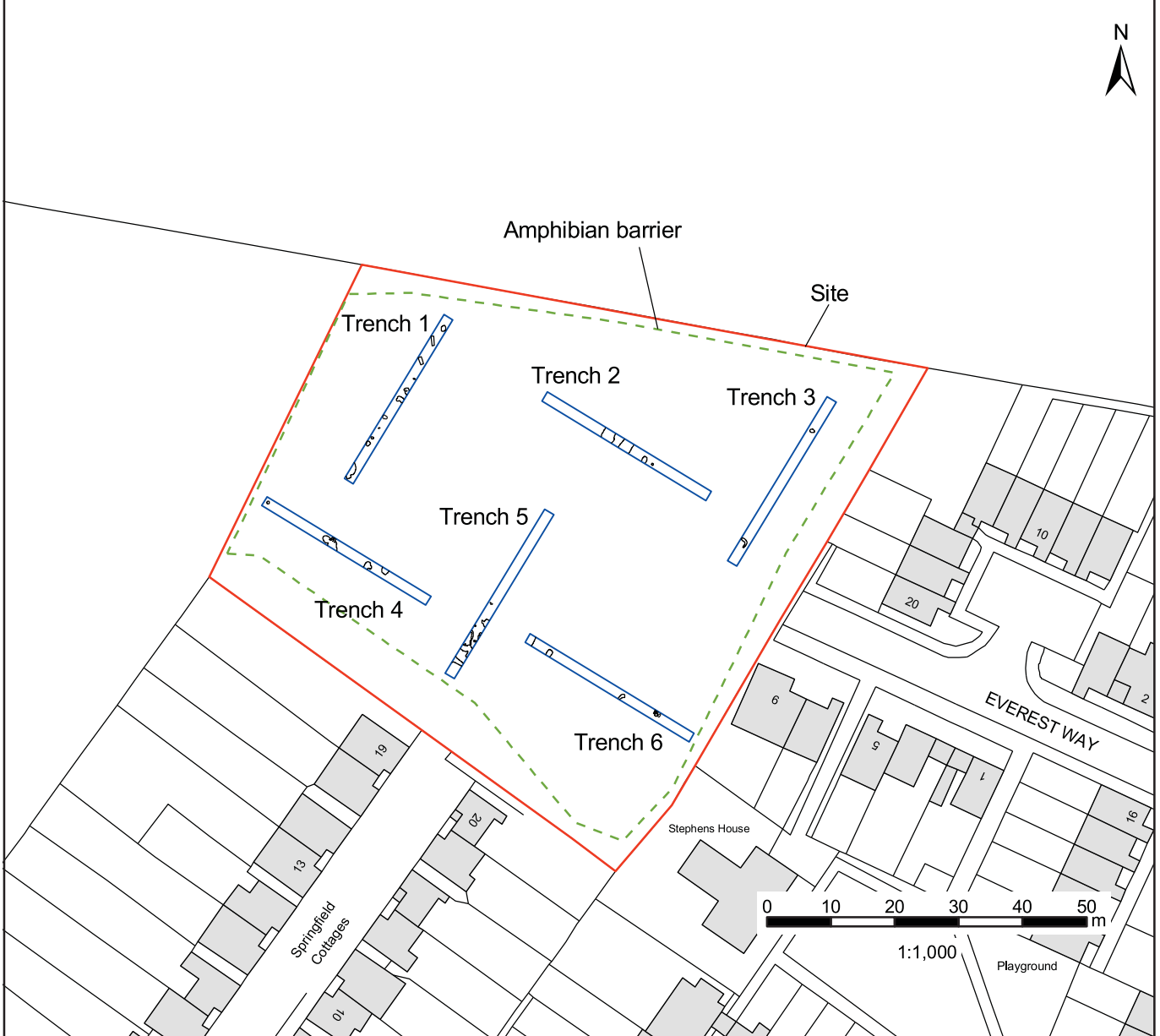
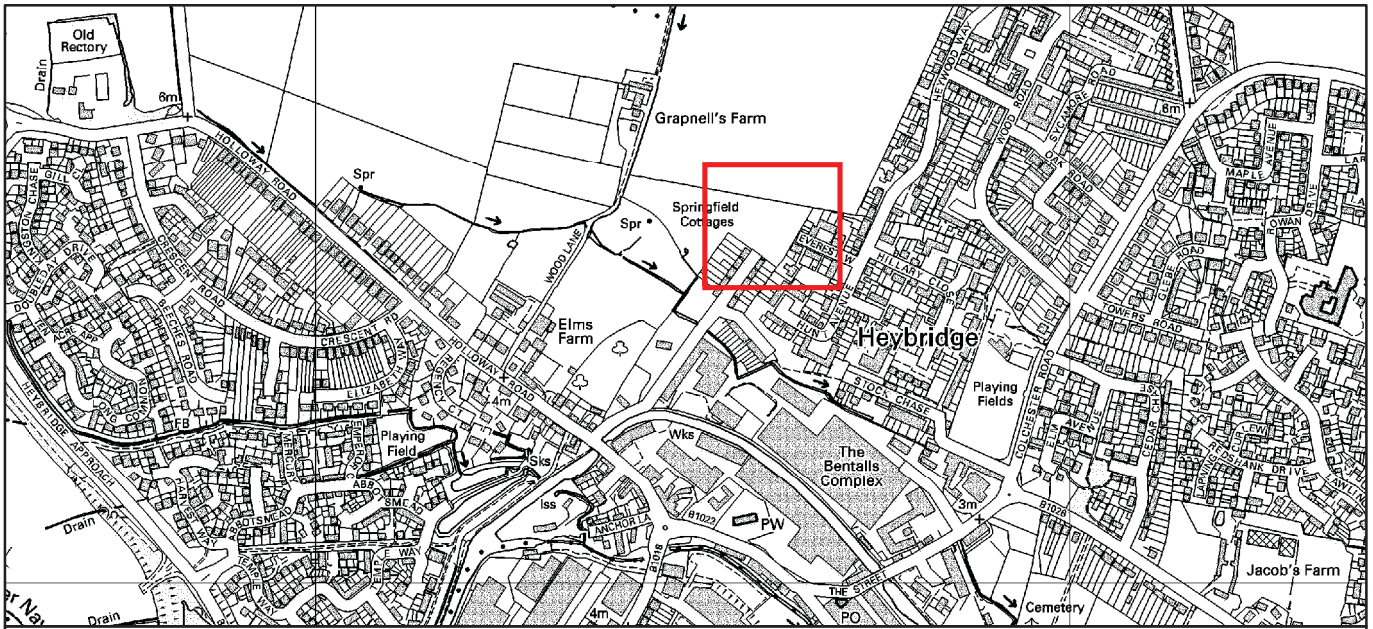
6 large plan/section sheets

#### **Finds**

The retained finds occupy less than 1 box.

## APPENDIX 5: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Site name/Address:</b> Land off Everest Way, Heybridge, Essex	
<b>Parishes:</b> Heybridge	<b>District:</b> Maldon
<b>NGR:</b> TL 8559 0847	<b>Site Code:</b> HYEW11
<b>Type of Work:</b> Archaeological Evaluation	<b>Site Director/Group:</b> T. Ennis, ECC Field Archaeology Unit
<b>Dates of Work:</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	<b>Size of Area Investigated:</b> Site area 0.6ha - 324 sq.m. of trenching
<b>Location of Finds/Curating Museum:</b> Colchester	<b>Funding source:</b> Client
<b>Further Seasons Anticipated?:</b> No	<b>Related HER Nos.:</b> None
<b>Final Report:</b> EAH summary	<b>Oasis No.:</b> essexcou1- 100483
<b>Periods Represented:</b> Prehistoric, Roman, Post-Medieval, Modern	
<p><b>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</b>  An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land off Everest Way, Heybridge in advance of housing development. Six evaluation trenches, each measuring 30m long by 1.6m wide, were excavated across the 0.6 hectare site.</p> <p>Scattered remains of possible Prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval/modern date were identified, along with a number of undated features, many of which may have been of natural origin. Very few finds of any antiquity were recovered, with the dating evidence for the prehistoric features consisting of one small fragment of pottery and a fire-cracked flint, whilst the Roman period was only represented by two fragments of roof tile.</p> <p>Possible prehistoric features comprised a pit in Trench 4 and a gully and adjacent post-hole in Trench 5. A ditch of probable Roman date was excavated in Trench 2. Two post-holes in Trench 1 were probably of post-medieval or later date, while in Trenches 2 and 6 were the remains of a north-east/south-west aligned late 19th century field boundary ditch containing a variety of post-medieval and modern finds.</p> <p>Overall feature definition was poor and although there is undoubtedly a scattering of archaeological features across the site many other features appear to be of geological or natural origin, collectively suggesting that the overall potential of the site is low and the development will have little impact upon the archaeological record.</p>	
<b>Previous Summaries/Reports:</b> none	
<b>Author of Summary:</b> T. Ennis	<b>Date of Summary:</b> May 2011



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Fig.1. Trench location plan



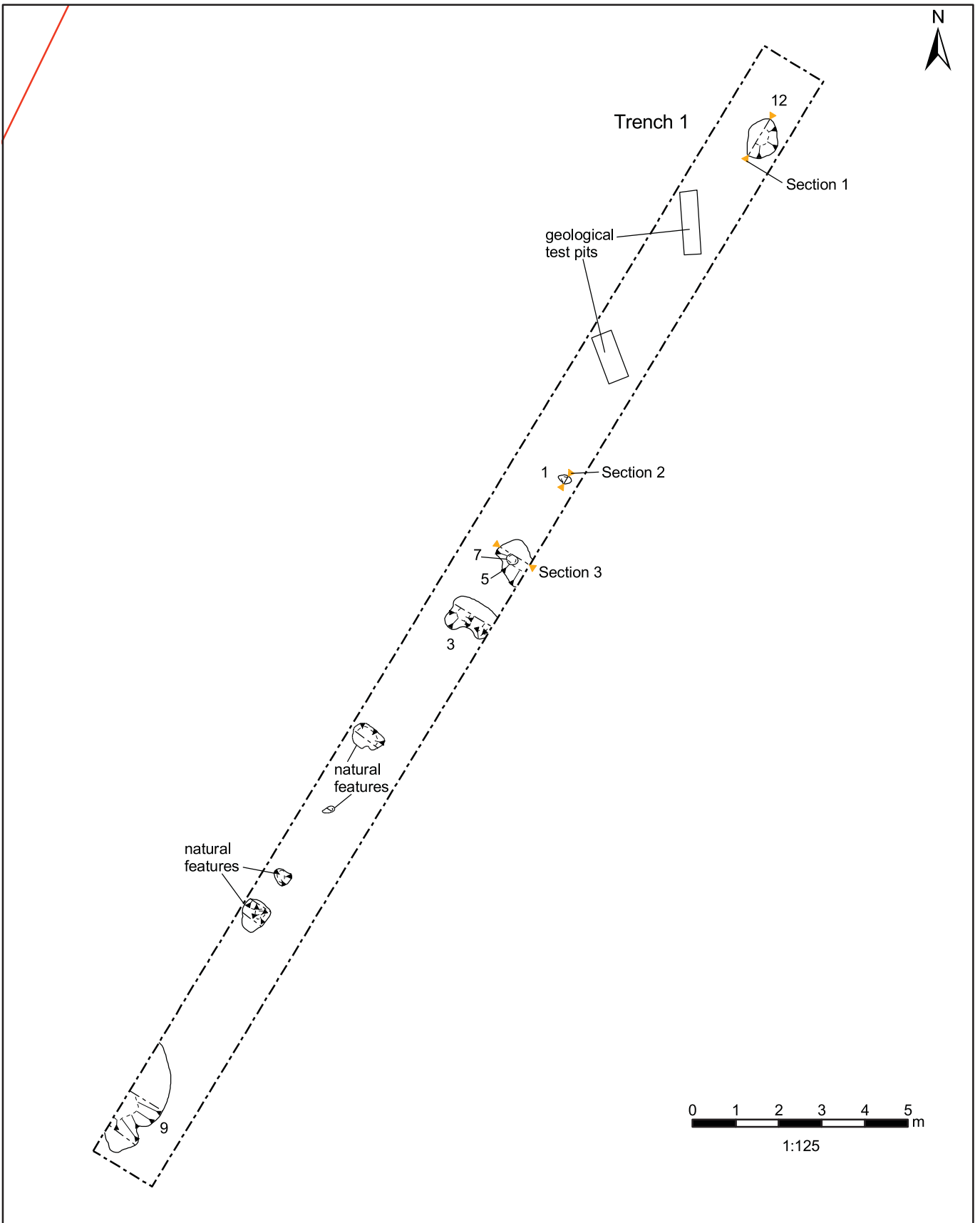


Fig.2. Trench 1 plan

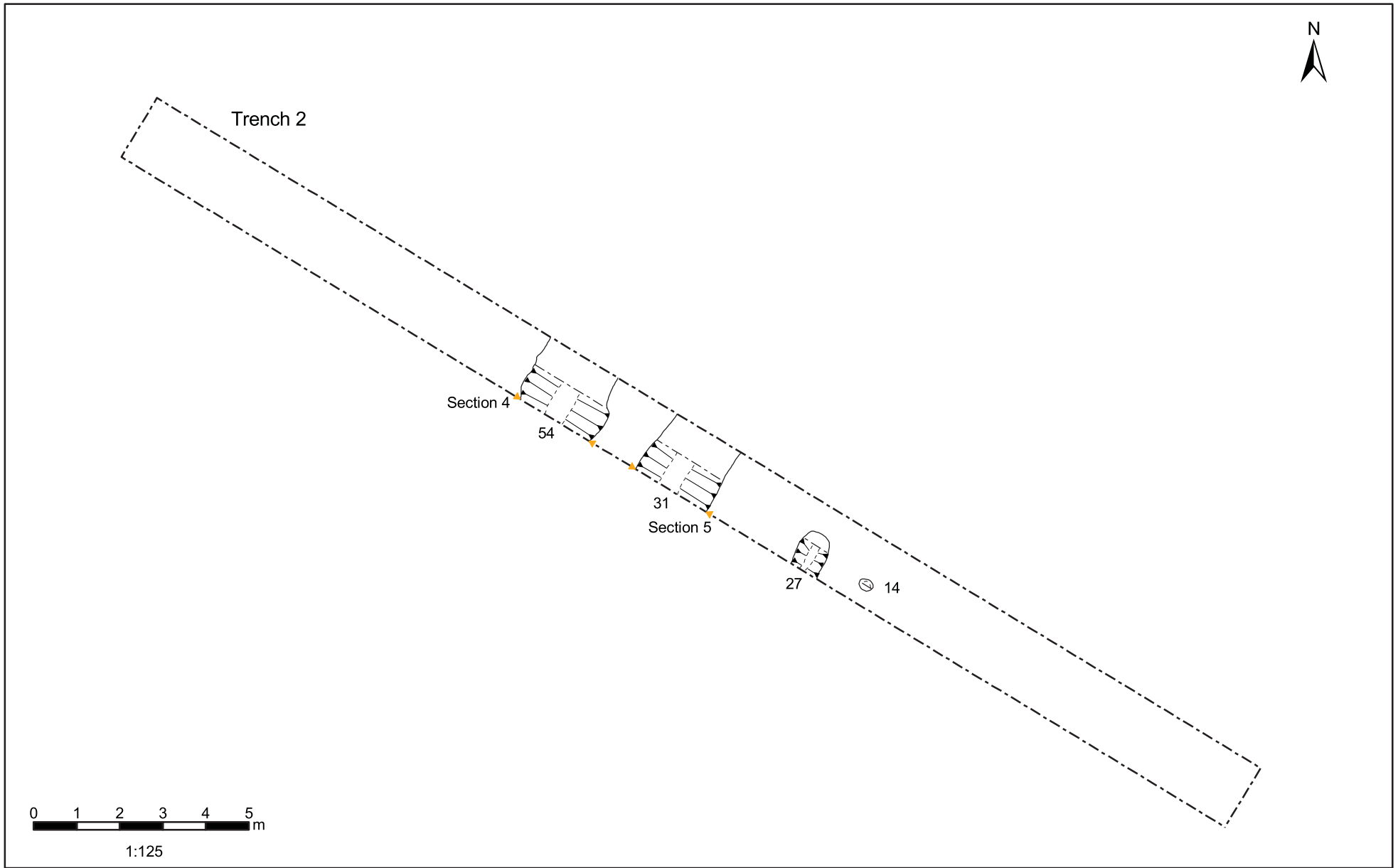


Fig.3. Trench 2 plan

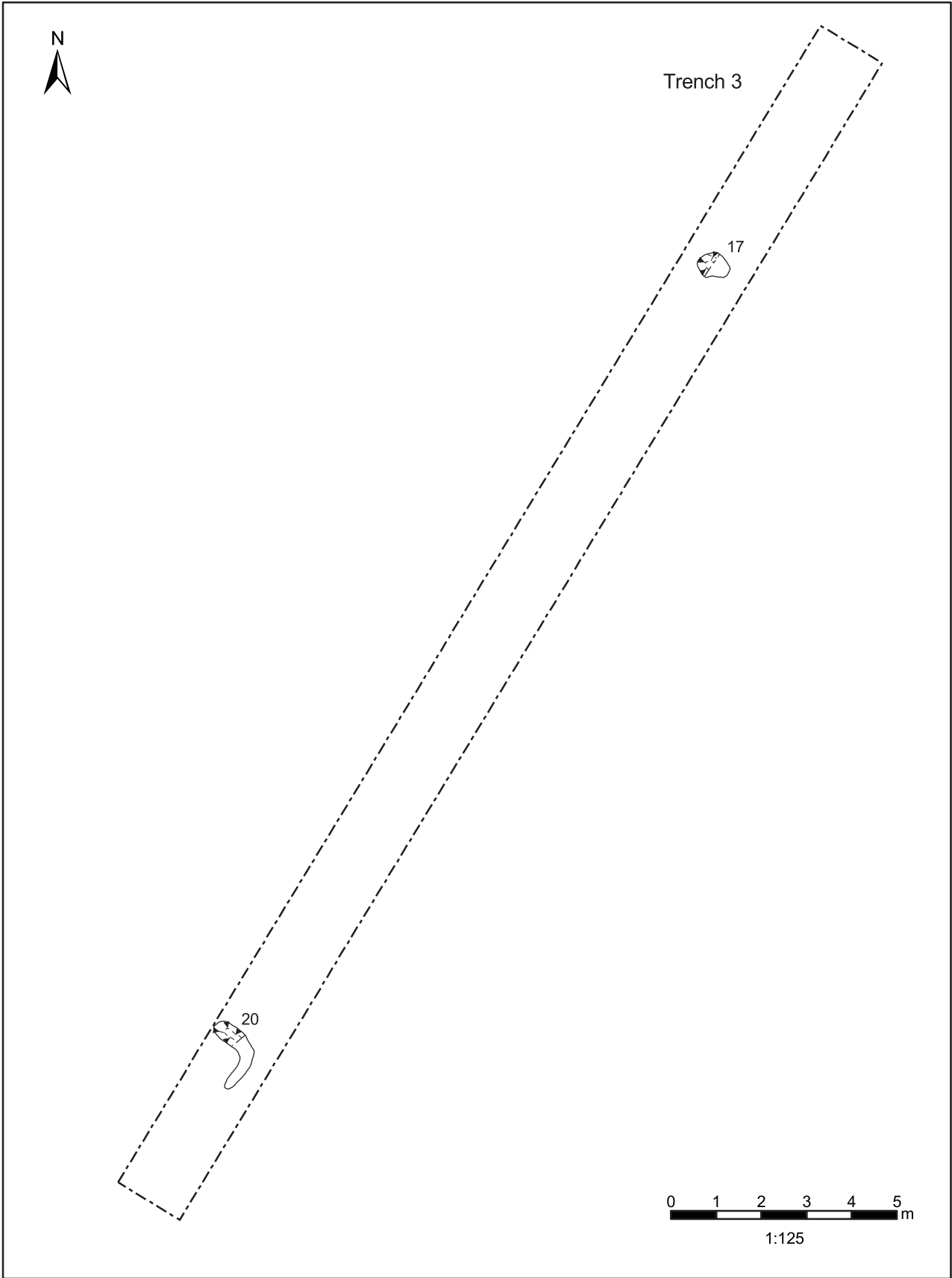


Fig.4. Trench 3 plan

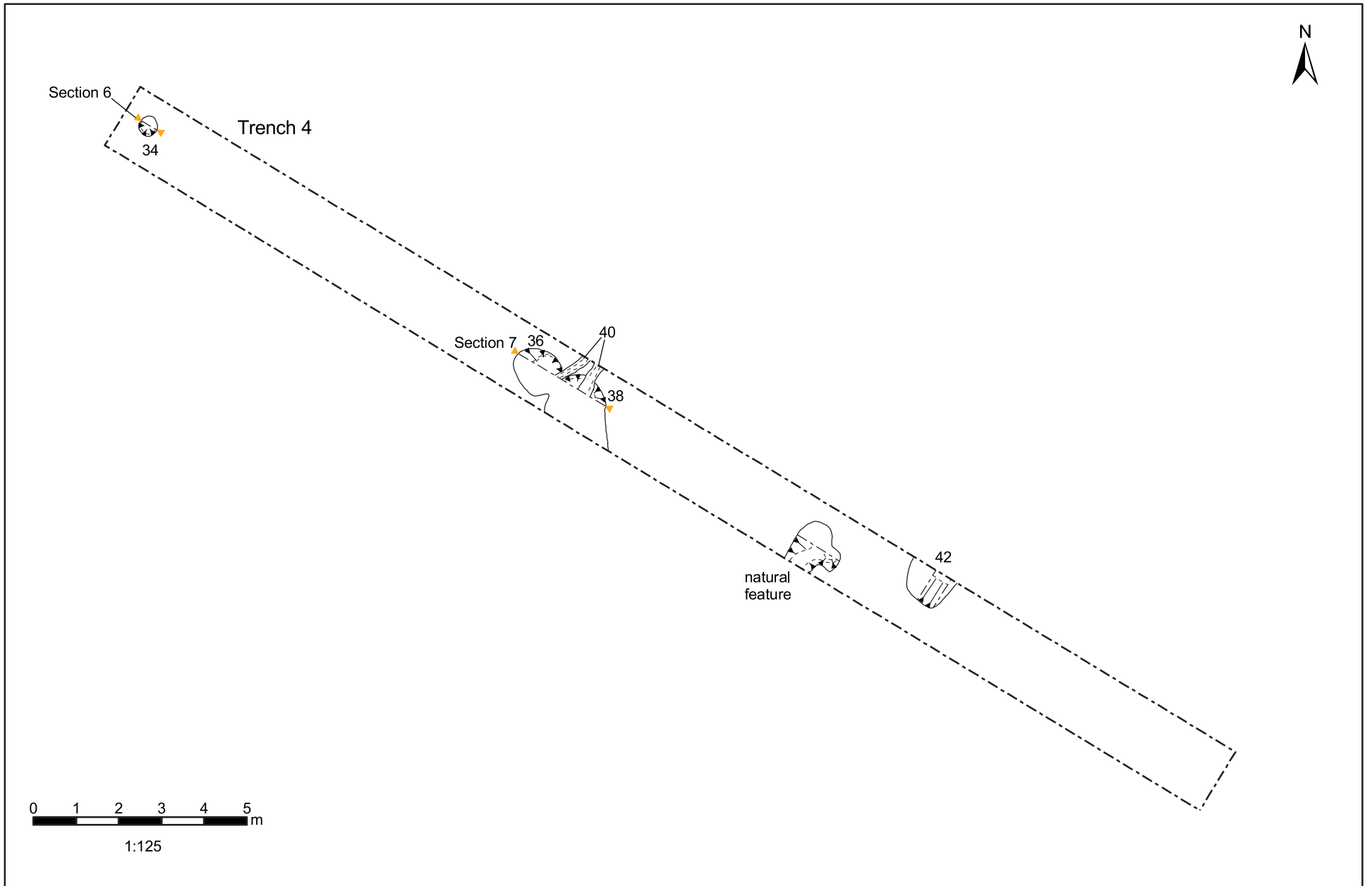


Fig.5. Trench 4 plan

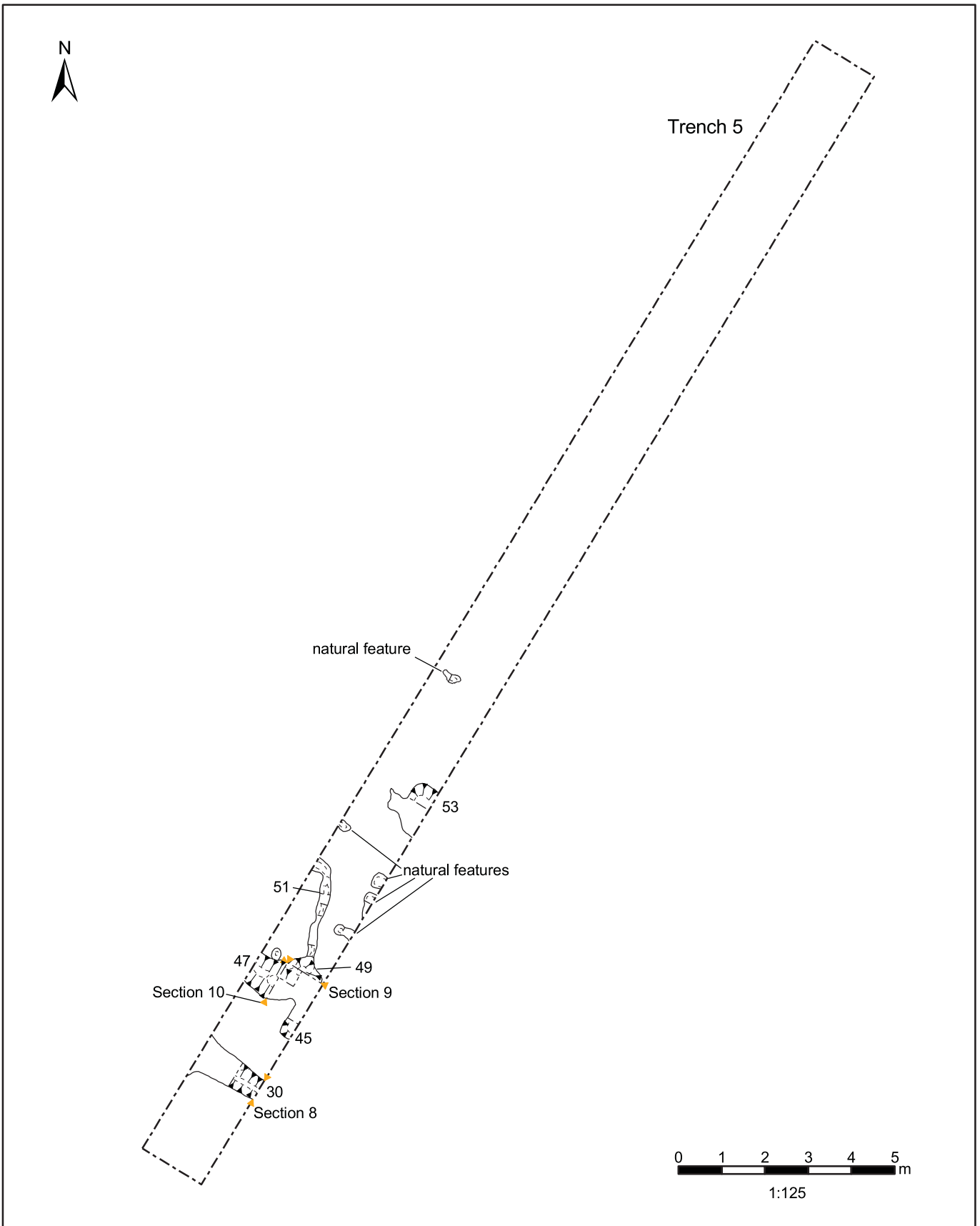


Fig.6. Trench 5 plan

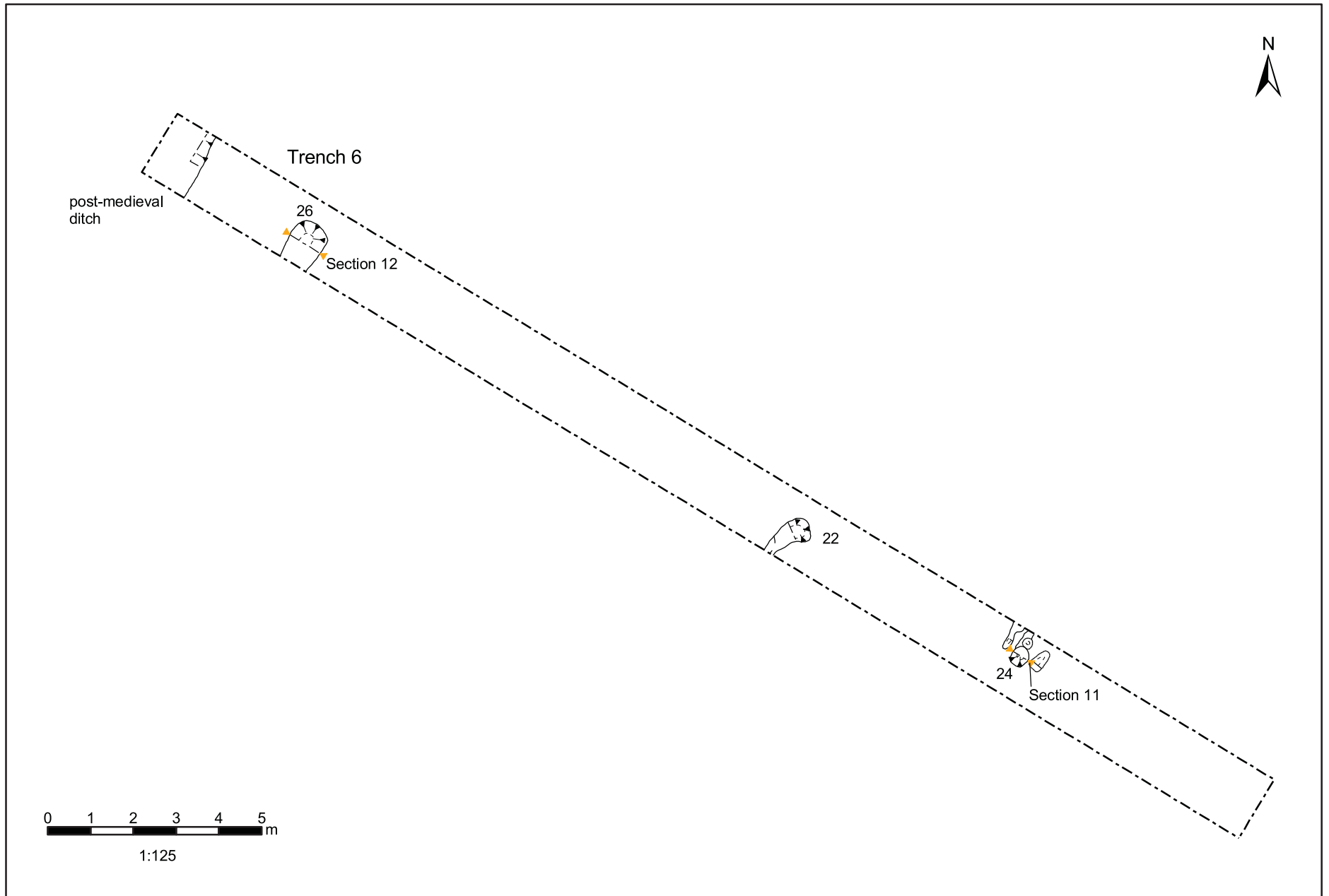


Fig.7. Trench 6 plan

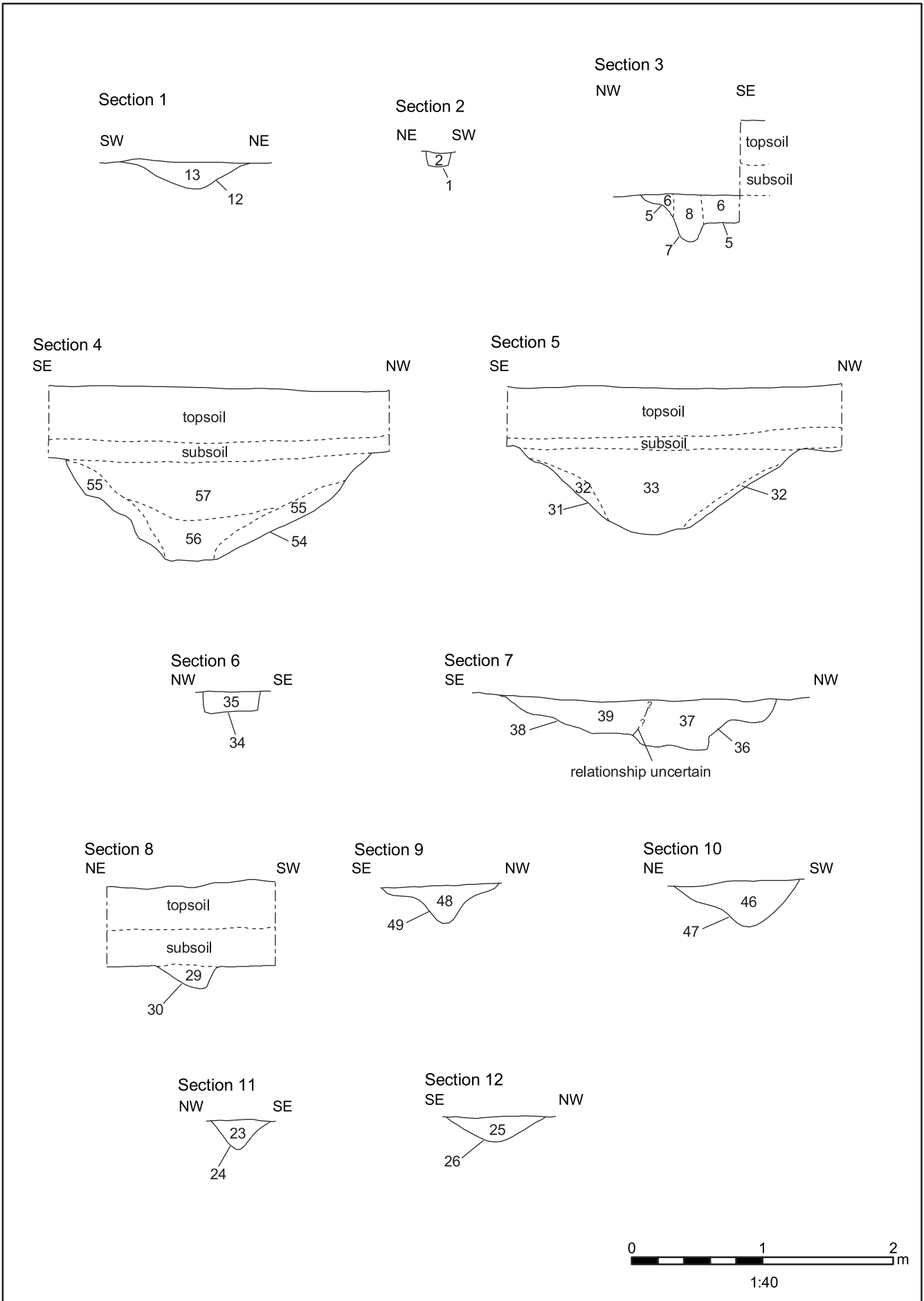


Fig.8. Sections 1 - 12

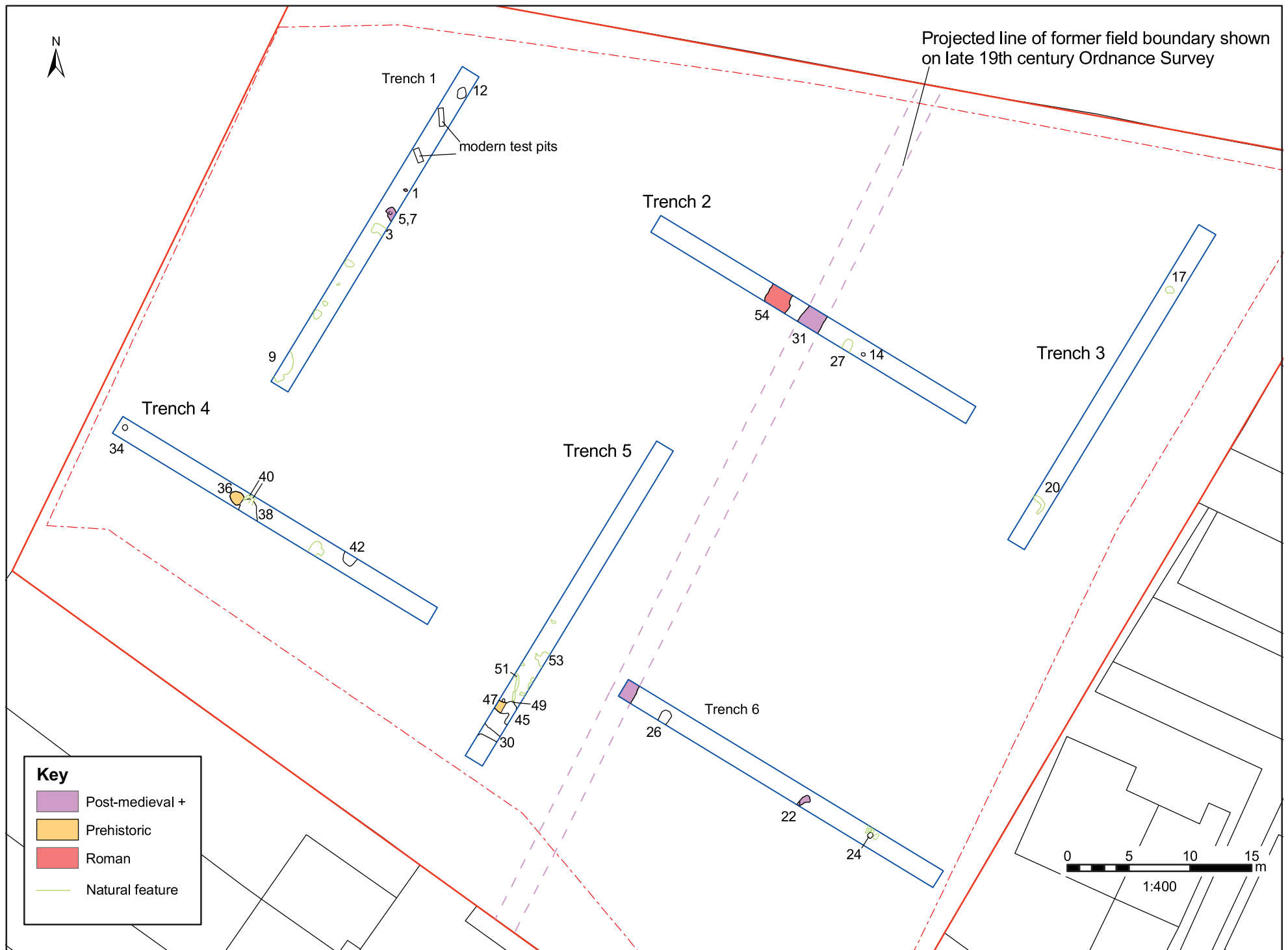


Fig.9. Phased site plan





Plate 1: Ditch 54 – Trench 2 (1m scale)



Plate 2: Ditch 31 – Trench 2 (2m scale)



Plate 3: Pit 36 – Trench 4 (1m scale)



Plate 4: Features at south-west end of Trench 5 (1m scale)