BRADWELL QUARRY

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ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY TRIAL TRENCHING

SITES A2 AND A5

ISSUE 1

Essex County Council

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

May 2011

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING EVALUATION
SITES A2 AND A5
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Client: The Guildhouse Consultancy for Blackwater Aggregates
Grid ref.: TL 582 220
Planning ref: Pre-planning application
Site code: BQME10
ECC FAU project no.: 2293
Dates of fieldwork: 31 August to 13 October 2010

SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation of the south-western area of the former Rivenhall Airfield, consisting of 150 trial trenches, was carried out in advance of a potential planning application (Fig. 1, Sites A2 and A5). The evaluation was undertaken by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of the Guildhouse Consultancy, agent for the developer, Blackwater Aggregates, according to a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM) on behalf of the local planning authority.

The evaluation area has previously been assessed by fieldwalking and geophysical surveys (Medlycott 1991; Johnson 1992), which suggested the presence of only a low level of archaeological remains, with the exception of potentially significant finds concentrations in the south-east of the area (Fig. 2). Previous archaeological investigations to the north, across the northern half of the airfield, recorded Middle Bronze Age pits, a Middle Iron Age settlement (roundhouse), and medieval settlement and agricultural enclosures (Peachey 2003; Allen and Roy 2006; Germany 2006; Ennis 2008). A previous trial-trenching evaluation on a now-consented Recycling and Composting Facility (RCF) site to the east of the evaluation area (Fig. 1) identified a further medieval enclosure (Ennis 2006).

The present evaluation identified archaeological remains in three areas of the site, in the north-west (Area A), south-east (Area B) and south-west (Area C) (Fig. 18).

Area A identified a small number of Middle Iron Age pits at the southern edge of the Middle Iron Age settlement previously recorded to the north. The pits lay over 200m to the south of the roundhouse and ditched enclosure which lie at the probable centre of the settlement site and are thus likely to be peripheral. A group of medieval ditches and pits dated to the 11th-13th/14th centuries was recorded to the north of Sheepcotes Farm, which is documented as having 12th-century or earlier origins. These appear to represent enclosures related to the medieval farm.

Area B identified a Roman settlement site, probably a small farmstead, covering an area of around 1ha, dated to the 1st-late 3rd/early 4th centuries AD. This site corresponds with Roman pottery concentration 7 identified by the fieldwalking survey. The presence of Late Iron Age pottery suggests possible pre-Roman origins, but the main period of settlement is dated to the 2nd-3rd centuries, with the absence of later features suggesting a late Roman decline. The Roman site was well-preserved, with extensive levelling layers cut by enclosure ditches and gullies, and well-defined linear features that could represent timber foundation slots or timber-lined drains. It should be possible to reconstruct the site's plan and development, but the variable quality of the animal bone and plant macrofossil assemblages is unlikely to lead to detailed understanding of its farming economy. The southern edge of the Roman settlement site was cut by a group of intercutting quarry pits dated to the 13th century, corresponding with medieval pottery concentration 9 identified by the fieldwalking survey. These pits extracted clay and flint for building materials at a point at which the natural chalky boulder clay was close to the surface. They were filled with mixed medieval and residual Roman rubbish. Post-medieval clay pits and field boundary ditches were also recorded in this area.

Area C included a single Neolithic (New Stone Age) pit containing an assemblage of worked flint. A small group of pits and post-holes nearby are undated but could represent a small Neolithic settlement area. Occasional Late Iron Age and Roman features in this general area are isolated examples and of low significance.

Overall Evaluation. The evaluation trenching identified three archaeological sites of local importance: a Roman settlement site in Area B, medieval enclosures in Area A, and a Neolithic pit in Area C. Other archaeological remains were scattered and of low significance, and three-quarters of the evaluation trenches contained no archaeological remains at all. No further evidence was recorded of the known medieval remains that had been projected as extending into the north-east of the evaluation area from the existing quarry to the north and the Recycling and Composting Facility site to the east.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of a 47ha area of arable land in the south-western quarter of a former World War II airfield at the north end of Rivenhall parish, 6km east of Braintree, in advance of a planning application (Fig. 1). The archaeological evaluation was carried out by the Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) for the Guildhouse Consultancy, on behalf of Blackwater Aggregates, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by the ECC FAU (2010) and approved by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM). The archaeological work was monitored by Teresa O'Connor of the ECC HEM on behalf of the local planning authority and Adrian Havercroft of the Guildhouse Consultancy on behalf of Blackwater Aggregates.

Copies of this report will be provided to the Guildhouse Consultancy to forward to the developer, the local planning authority, the ECC HEM and the Essex County Council Historic Environment Record (EHER). At the end of the project the site archive and finds will be deposited at Braintree Museum, and a digital copy of the report will be uploaded onto the Oasis Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) at www.oasis.ac.uk/.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and topography

The site lies at the north-eastern limit of Rivenhall parish, 6km east of Braintree and immediately to the north-east of Silver End (Fig. 1). It covers 47ha and is located on a low-lying plateau at 50m OD in the south-western part of a former WWII airfield 2km south of the river Blackwater.

The site lies between Sheepcotes Farm to the west and Woodhouse Farm to the east, and is crossed by concrete runways and taxi-ways of the former WWII airfield (Fig. 1, Sites A2 and A5). A large hangar and dispersal area survives adjacent to each of the farms. The main runway of the WWII airfield has been removed by quarrying across the existing operational areas to the north of the site; however, sections of the former cross-wind runways remain in the south within Sites A2 and A5. Areas between the runways comprise arable fields and wildlife habitat protected as areas of environmental set-aside. The two southernmost fields lie outside the airfield perimeter and have probably seen the least disturbance, although the

land in the east of the eastern-most of these fields undulates slightly and contains several large dips, some of which are likely to be man-made features.

2.2 Planning background

For planning purposes the Waste Management Facility site previously evaluated in 2006 is being considered together with Sites A2 and A5 evaluated in the current report.

By way of planning history, in January 1997 the Essex CC (ECC) Environment Committee agreed the locational criteria for 'major waste management sites' in Essex and Southend. It was intended that these strategically located sites would provide the facilities necessary to comply with the strategy for non-landfill waste in the medium to long term. The committee agreed that the Waste Planning Authority should carry out a site selection process inviting suggestions from landowners, the waste industry and District Councils.

During the public consultation into the Essex Waste Plan process, and the public invitation for waste management sites by the ECC (7 February 1997), Gent Fairhead Environmental Services Ltd (GFES) made three comprehensive submissions to the ECC for inclusion of part of the Rivenhall Airfield site in the Waste Plan, namely:

- July 1996 – Response to Essex Waste Plan Consultation Draft May 1996;
- April 1997 – Response to Invitation (7 February 1997) from Essex County Council with regard to Essex Waste Plan Proposals for Major Waste Management Facilities; and
- February 1998 – Response to Essex Waste Plan Second Consultation Draft December 1997.

The Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan Inquiry were held from 26 October 1999 to 5 January 2000 and the Inspector reported in July 2000. Site WM1 on Rivenhall Airfield was approved for inclusion in the Waste Plan as a preferred location for waste management.

There is a current planning permission on the Rivenhall Airfield. Gent Fairhead Aggregates Limited (GFA), a subsidiary of GFC, was granted planning permission by the ECC (Number ESS/07/98/BTE) on 24 May 1999 for the extraction of 7 million tonnes of sand and gravel from the 65.7 hectares of Bradwell Quarry, and the low-level restoration utilising replaced overburden. The sand and gravel workings were commenced on the airfield in 2002 by Blackwater Aggregates. Subsequent modifications to the planning permission have amended

the original restoration scheme to include a mixture of shallow sloping agricultural fields, steeper woodland side slopes and a large surface water collection lagoon (New Field Lagoon).

Planning permission was originally secured on the Rivenhall Airfield site in February 2009 for a 'Recycling and Composting Facility' (RCF) (ESS/38/06/BTE). This permission was for the following an enclosed recycling and enclosed composting facility for the treatment of 510,000 tonnes per annum residual waste comprising both municipal and commercial & industrial wastes; associated engineering works; extension to existing access road and provision of offices; biogas generators, storage tank, vehicle parking; and visitor/education centre.

In March 2010, following a subsequent planning application and Public Inquiry, the Secretary of State recommended that planning permission be granted subject to conditions for an Integrated Waste Management Facility (ESS/37/08/BTE) to treat 863,500 tonnes per annum of municipal and commercial waste by the following: Anaerobic Digestion Plant treating mixed organic waste, producing biogas converted to electricity through biogas generators; Materials Recovery Facility for mixed dry recyclable waste to recover materials e.g. paper, plastic, metals; Mechanical Biological Treatment facility for the treatment of residual municipal and residual commercial and industrial wastes to produce a solid recovered fuel; De-inking and Pulping Paper Recycling Facility to reclaim paper; Combined Heat and Power Plant (CHP) utilising solid recovered fuel to produce electricity, heat and steam; extraction of minerals to enable buildings to be partially sunken below ground level within the resulting void; visitor/education centre; extension to existing access road; provision of offices and vehicle parking; and associated engineering works and storage tanks.

2.3 Evaluation area

The overall site area (Fig. 1) includes the Recycling and Composting Facility (RCF) to the east of Sites A2 and A5 that has already been archaeologically evaluated by trial trenching (Ennis 2006). This and other areas are excluded from the present evaluation, as follows:

- Consented Recycling and Composting Facility (shaded blue) – already evaluated;
- Woodland (shaded dark green) – inaccessible;
- Areas of no planned impact (shaded pink) – no intrusive works planned;
- World War II cross-wind runways and taxi-ways (shaded dark grey) – disturbed/inaccessible;

- Environmental set aside land (shaded light green) – local agricultural set aside features.

2.4 Geological background

An indication of the regional geology has been obtained from the British Geological Survey (BGS) Map Sheet 223 (scale 1:50,000) covering the Braintree area. The map shows that the site is underlain by Boulder Clay (now defined as the Lowestoft Formation) superficial deposits which in turn overlay the London Clay Formation.

The Lowestoft Formation is characterised by chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays. The basal beds have shown banding and crude laminations. Below the Lowestoft Formation a continuous, or almost continuous, sheet of sand and gravel is present. This is believed to be the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels, which are a sequence of fluvial glacial gravels laid down in a braided river system containing flint, vein quartz, quartzite, sandstone and occasional igneous and metamorphic rock gravel clasts. The deposit is worked extensively for aggregate and building sand and is identified in the Minerals Assessment Reports for the areas of Coggeshall and Witham.

The London Clay Formation underlies the superficial deposits. The London Clay is stiff, blue grey, silty clay, in which the upper surface is often weathered, exhibiting a colour change to brown grey. The geological map indicates that up to 69m of London Clay is present in the area and it is exposed in the river valleys to the north and the south where the drift deposits have been eroded. Below the London Clay, the anticipated geology is the Thanet Sand, Lambeth Group and the Upper Chalk. The surface of the Upper Chalk lies at approximately 90m beneath the Site (40m AOD), dipping to the south.

2.5 Historical background

Two historic farms - Sheepcotes and Woodhouse – lie close to the north-western and north-eastern boundaries of the site (Figs 2 and 3) and are recorded in the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER 28881 and 8697). Documents record that Sheepcotes Farm to the west has been in existence since at least the 12th century. The farm buildings include a late 16th/early 17th-century timber-framed farmhouse with an 18th-century front, and a 16th-century timber framed barn. Woodhouse Farm to the east is a former moated settlement whose first documented reference to the farm dates to the late 15th century. The first three editions of the Ordnance Survey, dated 1872 to 1924, record that the site consisted of numerous small fields before the construction of the World War II airfield (Fig. 3).

The airfield was constructed by the USAAF in 1943 and was used by the RAF from the summer of 1944 until 1946 (Stait 1984). Hardcore from London bomb sites was used as levelling for runways and as infilling of field ditches during the airfield construction. After the war the airfield was used by Marconi Radar to test radar. With the exception of two aircraft hangars, adjacent to Sheepcotes and Woodhouse Farms respectively, the majority of the airfield's buildings no longer survive.

2.6 Previous archaeological work

An archaeological fieldwalking survey of the southern half of the airfield (Medlycott 1991) identified six concentrations of archaeological finds within the evaluation area (Fig. 2), three of prehistoric worked and burnt flint (1-3), and single concentrations of Roman pottery (7), medieval pottery (9) and post-medieval pottery and tile (10). It was uncertain whether these concentrations marked the locations of archaeological sites (i.e. areas of archaeological remains which had been disturbed by ploughing) because in all cases the density of finds per fieldwalking transect was lower than the county-wide average. A possible exception was Roman pottery concentration 7 which appeared to form a well-defined focus. No concentrations were found in the central and northern parts of the site and this suggested that these areas may have been badly disturbed during the construction of the airfield. A subsequent geophysical survey of the artefact concentrations recorded no significant anomalies, suggesting that the site contained few archaeological remains or, that if any were present, they were poorly preserved (Johnson 1992).

Continuous observation of topsoil stripping and selective excavation prior to mineral extraction across the northern half of the airfield between 2001 and 2010 recorded several archaeological sites and intermittent features and finds (Fig. 2; Peachey 2003; Allen and Roy 2006; Germany 2006; Ennis 2008). The main sites identified were a Middle Iron Age settlement, including a roundhouse, in the west of the area, and two medieval enclosures dated to the 12th-13th centuries in the west and north. The western enclosure contained a well, pits and post-holes and may represent a small farmstead, while the second enclosure to the north was associated with evidence of crop-processing. The western enclosure continued in modified form into the late medieval period, finally becoming incorporated in a network of post-medieval field boundaries. Evidence of other periods is sparse. Very small amounts of Neolithic and later worked flint were recovered, although with no identifiable concentrations. Middle Bronze Age pits at both southern and northern limits of the site are much more significant, containing important finds groups, but no other evidence for a related settlement has survived. Evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman activity is very limited, although there is a hint of continued use of Middle Iron Age field boundaries. A disturbed early Saxon

cremation burial also hints at activity that has not survived. Overall, the northern part of the airfield contains evidence for Middle Bronze Age, Middle Iron Age and medieval settlement, although truncated to varying degrees by construction of the airfield. Evidence for the periods is impossible to assess as a result of the patchy survival of the archaeological remains.

In 2006 an archaeological evaluation by trial-trenching in the area of a proposed Recycling and Composting Facility (RCF) immediately to the east of the current evaluation area identified a low density of prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval remains (Fig. 2; Ennis 2006). The most significant of these is a medieval enclosure dated to the late 12th/early 13th century close to the eastern boundary of the current evaluation area. Other features in the east of the RCF site include a single Middle Iron Age pit and a few medieval and post-medieval quarry pits and ditches of low significance.

Previous archaeological work in the airfield to the north of the current evaluation site has recorded patchy evidence of Middle Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age settlement, with the suggestion of other periods of activity of which only minimal evidence has survived. As a result it is not possible to reconstruct any pattern of early landscape development, and the Middle Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age sites represent isolated examples. Evidence of medieval settlement and landscape development is much more coherent however, as the medieval sites recorded by previous archaeological work in the airfield can be related to Sheepcotes and Woodhouse Farms, both of known medieval date, and their field systems. These sites are dated to the 12th-13th centuries and are probably related to a poly-focal settlement pattern with small farm and/or agricultural enclosures interspersed amongst larger settlements. They were short-lived, however, with only one of them surviving into the late medieval period, although there are indications that they formed the basis for the post-medieval and modern pattern of landscape. Sheepcotes and Woodhouse Farms represent the surviving elements of a landscape that has developed and been rationalised over time.

3.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

The main aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area and to establish their character, location, extent, date, quality and significance. Any archaeological remains uncovered by the evaluation were to be assessed against the wider background of previous fieldwork in the area.

3.2 Objectives

The specific objectives of the evaluation were to investigate known potential sites within the development area as suggested by previous survey and fieldwork (Fig. 2):

- The prehistoric worked and burnt flint fieldwalking concentrations 1- 3;
- The Roman pottery fieldwalking concentration 7;
- The medieval pottery fieldwalking concentration 9;
- Potential medieval enclosures and boundaries near the north-east of the site area;
- Any previously unsuspected remains.

4.0 METHOD

The proposed development area was evaluated by 150 trenches (Fig. 2, trenches 1-152), representing a 3% sample of the northern two-thirds of the site and a 4% sample of the southernmost two fields. The northern area lay within the airfield perimeter, which the fieldwalking survey results suggested had previously been disturbed; however, the two fields to the south of the airfield were potentially less disturbed and were felt more likely to contain surviving archaeological remains. Overall, 152 trenches were to be excavated, but trenches 42 and 45 were not cut as they extended across agricultural set aside features. Provision was made for an additional 1% sample if required, and this led to the enlargement of trench 93 at the request of the ECC HEM monitoring officer.

The trenches measured 40m long by 2.1m wide, with two exceptions (Fig. 2). Trench 46 at the northern limit of the site was lengthened to 80m in an attempt to trace the continuation of medieval ditches previously recorded to the north, while trench 23 was shortened from 40m to 34m to stay clear of agricultural set side features. The positions of trenches 14, 26, 39, 51, 90 and 118 were adjusted slightly in order to stay clear of agricultural set aside features or modern obstacles not recorded on existing OS maps. All but two of the trenches were arranged in a regular criss-cross pattern to give even coverage. Trenches 53 and 54 at the north-eastern edge of the evaluation area were deliberately positioned at 45° to intersect the line of medieval boundary ditches previously recorded in the RCF site immediately to the east of the current evaluation area. A list of the trench co-ordinates can found in the site archive. The trenches were positioned by using a directional GPS with on-board map-based

software. The error margin of the GPS varies, but is always less than 0.2m. The stripping of the trenches of their topsoil and subsoil was carried out by a mechanical excavator with a broad toothless bucket under the supervision of an archaeologist.

The ECC FAU is a registered archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IFA 2008) and the Association of Local Government Officers' *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). All features and deposits were excavated and recorded, and all finds were recovered. The ECC FAU uses its own recording system to record all archaeological deposits and features. Further details of the recording strategy and method can be found in the written scheme of investigation (ECC FAU 2010).

5.0 FIELDWORK RESULTS

The trenching evaluation identified concentrations of archaeological remains in three areas of the site (Fig. 2), the north-west (Area A), south-east (Area B) and south-west (Area C). The remains lay beneath ploughsoil and mostly a thin layer of subsoil, and comprised layers, ditches, gullies, post-holes and pits dating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. The density of the remains varied within and between areas, with the densest concentration in Area B in the south-east, where Late Iron Age/Roman and medieval remains correspond with the Roman and medieval fieldwalking concentrations 7 and 9. The remains in Areas A and C were much more widely dispersed. No remains were identified in the areas of prehistoric flint fieldwalking concentrations 1, 2 and 3. Neither were potential medieval remains identified in trenches 46, 53 and 54 at the northern and eastern limits of the evaluation area, which were located to record medieval ditch alignments extending from outside the site. The only pre-modern archaeological evidence found outside Areas A-C was an unstratified piece of worked flint in trench 11.

Many trenches revealed disused post-medieval/modern field ditches recorded on the first three editions of the Ordnance Survey (Fig. 3). Those in the south-eastern field contained soil, while those in the fields to its north contained gravel and/or brick and concrete rubble imported from London bomb sites. There were no post-medieval/modern field ditches in the fields to the west. Other features relating to the WWII airfield included service trenches and underground telephone cables. Patches of modern disturbed ground possibly relating to clearance of airfield infrastructure were present in trenches 10, 15, 27 and 40. A 0.18m thick

layer of undisturbed earlier topsoil containing modern plastic and building materials lay beneath the surface topsoil in trench 86.

The archaeological remains in each of Areas A-C are described below. Fully detailed descriptions of the deposits and features can be found in Appendix 1.

5.1 Area A (Figs 4, 7-8 and 16)

Area A contained prehistoric and Middle Iron Age pits in trenches 1, 3, 19 and 23, Late Iron Age and Roman ditches in trench 19, and medieval pits and ditches in trenches 2, 5 and 19 (Fig. 4). Further features comprised undatable pits 13, 23, 33 and 35 in trenches 1, 5 and 6 and natural feature 19 in trench 5.

Prehistoric and Middle Iron Age

The prehistoric pits (6, 8, 20, 31, 46 and 50) were widely dispersed and all small, apart from pit 20 in trench 3 which was broad and shallow (Figs 4 and 7-8). Pits 6 and 46 in trench 19 contained numerous pieces of burnt flint and are probably earlier prehistoric in date. Pits 6 and 8 in trenches 19 and 23 contained single pieces of undated worked flint. Pits 8, 20, 31 and 50 in trenches 1, 3, 19 and 23 are considered to be of Middle Iron Age date, although they generally contained little pottery. The most securely dated of the features is pit 50 in trench 19, which contained nineteen sherds of diagnostic Middle Iron Age pottery (a single Late Iron Age or Roman sherd is considered to be intrusive from ditch 57). The primary fill of pit 50 was distinctively dark and charcoal-rich.

Late Iron Age and Roman

The Late Iron Age and Roman features comprised pit 58 and parallel ditches 57 and 61 in trench 19 (Figs 4 and 7). Both ditches were broad and shallow, with only one or two fills. Ditch 57 contained Late Iron Age pottery, but ditch 61 contained much later pottery dating to the late 3rd-4th-century. Pit 58 was shallow and dish-like and filled by a single deposit. It produced no finds, but was cut by ditch 57 and therefore must have been in use before or during the Late Iron Age.

Medieval

The medieval ditches (17, 29, 36, 39, 42 and 43) and pits (15 and 24) were all located in trenches 2 and 5, apart from ditch 36 in trench 19 to the south-east (Figs 4 and 7-8). Ditch 43, the largest, cut across ditch 42 at a slight angle and was 3.75m wide and 0.57m deep. Ditch 29 was cut by a recut (28) (Fig. 16, section 1). All but one of the ditches contained up to three fills each and varying amounts of pottery dated to the 12th-13th-centuries. Ditch 42,

however, contained no finds but was probably contemporary with ditches 28/29 because it shared their alignment. Pit 15 in trench 5 contained pottery dated to the 12th to 13th centuries and was therefore contemporary with the ditches, but pit 24, also in trench 5, contained seventy-six sherds of pottery dated to the 11th-12th centuries which, although fragmented, suggests a slightly earlier phase of medieval activity in this area.

5.2 Area B (Figs 5, 9-12, and 16-17)

The remains in Area B consist of a concentration of Late Iron Age/Roman features, probably a small settlement site, and medieval pitting (Fig. 5). Further remains comprise prehistoric worked flint and post-medieval/modern ditches and clay pits. The worked flint, which is mostly not closely-datable, consists of residual items in later Roman and medieval contexts, including a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead in the fill (87) of Roman ditch 86. Undatable features comprise a small, sub-rectangular pit (63) in trench 69, a shallow, charcoal-filled pit (140) in trench 90, and a small post-hole (142) in trench 98. Pit 63 has baked edges and is probably the remains of a small furnace or oven. Trench 93 was one of the few places within the evaluation area where the underlying later of Chalky Boulder Clay came close to the surface.

Late Iron Age and Roman

Trenches 70, 71, 80, 83, 84, 87 and 93 recorded varying amounts of Late Iron Age and Roman remains dated to the 1st century to late 3rd/early 4th-centuries AD (Figs 5, 9-12 and 16-17). The majority of the remains occurred in trenches 80, 83 and 84 and consisted of 1st- to mid 3rd-century layers and features. The features outside this focal point comprised a Late Iron Age or later ditch (66) in trench 70 (Fig. 11), a mid to late 1st-century or later pit (69) in trench 71 (Fig. 9), a mid 3rd to 4th-century cut-feature (83) in trench 87 (Fig. 10), and a Late Iron Age/early Roman or later pit (104) in trench 93 (Fig. 12). Pit 69 in trench 71 contained a large amount of undiagnostic baked clay, possibly remains of an oven.

The Roman features in trench 80 comprised two pits (97 and 99) and a 0.2m-thick layer (85/94) of stony reddish brown soil (Fig. 9). Finds from the layer included seventy sherds of pottery dated to the 1st to 3rd century (a sherd of medieval pottery is intrusive). Pits 97 and 99 contained small amounts of Roman pottery dated to the 1st to 2nd/3rd century. The stratigraphic relationship between pit 99 and layer 85/94 is uncertain, although the pit is likely to have cut the layer.

The largest concentration of Roman features occurred in trench 83 and consisted of layers 81/100 and 84/90/111, pit 76, gullies 102 and 110, and ditches 86 and 134 (Figs 11 and 16-

17). Further Roman deposits and features were probably originally present, truncated by a large post-medieval ditch (106). A modern layer (101) sealed the post-medieval ditch and some of the Roman features at the northern end of the trench. Layers 81/100 and 84/90/111 varied in thickness, ranging from just a few centimetres to a maximum of 0.22m. Layer 81/100 contained quite a large quantity of 2nd/3rd-century pottery, together with smaller amounts of baked clay, animal bone, and Roman brick and tile. Layer 84/90/111 also contained sherds of 2nd/3rd-century pottery and animal bone, although in smaller quantities. The Roman ditches and gullies ran east west (102 and 134) or nearly so (86 and 110). Ditch 86, the largest of them, was 0.55m deep (Fig. 16), with 1st-century pottery in its primary fill (87), but pottery dated to the 2nd/3rd century in its latest fill (89).

The stratigraphic relationships between the Roman ditches and gullies and layer 84/90/111 in the southern half of the trench could not be defined (Fig. 16, section 4). By contrast, gully 102 visibly cut layer 81/100 (Fig. 16, section 3) and was therefore in use during or after the 2nd/3rd century. Ditch 134 and gully 110 contained 1st to 2nd/3rd and 2nd to 3rd-century pottery respectively. Pit 76 at the northern end of the trench was small and shallow and contained two sherds of mid 2nd-mid 3rd-century pottery. Layer 84/90/111 was cut by a broad, shallow undatable pit (78) containing much charcoal.

The features in trench 84 consisted of a 1st to early 2nd-century ditch (127) and recut (143), and mid 2nd/3rd-century gullies (124, 136), pit (122) and layer (139) (Figs 10 and 17, sections 6 and 7). Ditch 127 was 0.8m deep and at least 2.8m wide, considerably larger than recut 143. Gullies 124 and 136 were deep and steep-sided and are conjectured to be the remains of timber-lined drains. Pit 122 was broad and shallow and cut by gully 124. Layer 139 sealed gully 136. The alignment of ditch 127 and gully 124 ran roughly perpendicular to ditches 86 and 110 in trench 83. Gully 136 ran approximately north-south. The finds from the features included varying amounts of pottery, with most of the material occurring in ditch 127. Further finds comprised varying amounts of animal bone, oyster shell and baked clay.

Medieval

The medieval features lay in trench 93 and comprised ditch 115/168, pit complex 236, and pits 112, 159 and 235 (Figs 5, 12 and 17, sections 8 to 11). Pit complex 236 was defined by an irregular-shaped area of soft grey silt. Two large pits (166 and 167) containing 12th to 13th-century pottery (and residual Roman pottery) were identified by hand-excavation of a box-section. Pit 166 had a step-like double profile sharing the same fills. The fills in pits 166 and 167 comprised sequences of dark silt clay (144-146, 153 and 154) and redeposited natural (155, 173-176), representing episodes of natural silting and deliberate backfilling.

Most of the finds occurred in fill 154 in pit 167, apparently representing disposal of domestic rubbish, including animal bone and shell. Pit group 159, to the east of the pit complex, consisted of two pits sharing the same fill, containing a small amount of 11th- to earlier 13th-century pottery and residual Roman pottery. Pit 235 lay immediately south of pit complex 236, but was left unexcavated. Ditch 115/168 cut the north-western edge of the pit complex and was large, measuring 2.27m wide and 0.8m deep (Fig.17), with three fills containing early to mid 13th-century pottery. Pit 112 cut the northern side of the ditch and was a large, mostly steep-sided feature, measuring at least 0.95m deep (Fig. 17). The fill sequence comprised five deposits of dark silt clay and a grey fill consisting mainly of ash (114). Most of the finds occurred in the latest deposits and consisted of 13th-century pottery, animal bone and oyster shell.

Post-Medieval and Modern

Post-medieval/modern ditches (106, 149 and 232) and clay pits (233 and 234) not present on the first four editions of the Ordnance Survey were present in trenches 81, 83, 87, 92, 93 and 94 (Figs 5, 10,-11 and 16-17). The ditches were large and ran south-west/north-east. It is likely that ditch 106 in trench 83 was the same feature as ditch 232 in trench 81, which was not investigated. Both 106 and 149 contained or were cut by mole drains. Ditches 106 and 149 contained 17th- to 19th-century pottery and fragments of post-medieval brick and tile, as well as residual sherds of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery. Clay pit 233 in trench 94 lay within a large depression in the field surface and extended into the eastern arm of trench 93. Clay pit 234 extended into the western half of trench 87. Investigation of the clay pits by using a mechanical excavator to dig box-sections revealed single mixed deposits containing infrequent pieces of clinker, coal, and post-medieval ceramic building material, perhaps indicating that they had been deliberately backfilled. Both features were at least 0.9m deep.

5.3 **Area C** (Figs 6 and 13-15)

Area C contained layers and features of Neolithic and Late Iron Age/Roman date. Other features comprised undatable pits and post-holes. The remains were very thinly dispersed, apart from a small cluster of undatable pits and post-holes in trench 142.

Neolithic

The earliest datable feature was a small bowl-like pit (179) in trench 137 (Fig. 13) containing a single fill with patches of charcoal (180). Finds from the pit comprise forty-one pieces of Neolithic worked flint, mainly scrapers, together with a small quantity of burnt flint and baked clay.

Late Iron Age and Roman

The Late Iron Age and Roman features lay at opposite ends of the area, and consisted of ditch 183 in trench 125 to the north, and layer 185 and pit 186 in trench 152 to the south (Figs 6 and 13). Layer 185 at the northern end of trench 152 consisted of a 0.1m thick layer of light greyish brown soil and gravel, while pit 186 to its south was deep and steep-sided. Both the pit and the layer produced small amounts of Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery. Ditch 183 in trench 125 contained a single fill and was 1.2m wide and 0.37m deep, and contained thirty-two sherds of 1st/early 2nd and mid 2nd- to mid 3rd-century pottery.

Undated Features

The other features in Area C were largely undatable and consisted of thinly dispersed small to medium-sized pits (181, 198, 190, 188, 194, 196 and 192) in trenches 128, 140, 148 and 150, and a cluster of post-holes (219, 221, 223, 225 and 227) and various-sized pits (208, 210 and 214) in trench 142 (Figs 6 and 14-15). Finds from the features comprised pieces of baked clay in pit 210, and single fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material in pits 206 and 192. The edges of the features in trench 142 were poorly defined and the investigation was unable to establish their full extent. Pit 214 is at least 1m deep and is likely to be fairly substantial. The post holes in trench 142 were arranged in a line and represented a barrier or fence. Their relationship with the adjacent pits was unable to be established because of the poor definition.

6.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

Finds were recovered from three areas of the site (Fig. 1): the north-west (Area A), the south-east (Area B) and south-west (Area C). All of the material has been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context, and is summarised in Appendix 2. Samples were also taken for assessment of environmental remains and these are also listed in Appendix 2. Full quantification details can be found in the site archive. The finds and environmental remains are described and assessed by category below.

6.1 **Worked and burnt flint**, by Hazel Martingell

The evaluation recovered fifty-eight worked flints, two unworked flints and fifty-two burnt flints, giving a total of 112 pieces. The worked flint artefacts are small, on average 35mm long by 20mm wide. All of them are less than 50mm long and 35mm wide, probably reflecting the small size of the gravel pebbles from which they are probably derived. Fifteen of the flints

comprise retouched Neolithic artefacts, in the form of one complete leaf-shaped arrowhead, five scrapers, eight side scrapers/retouched flakes and a rough, denticulated flake.

The largest number of artefacts, forty-one or 71%, comes from the fill of pit 179 (180) in Area C in the south-west (Fig. 6, trench 137). The retouched artefacts from this feature are nearly all scrapers and side scrapers/retouched flakes. The leaf-shaped arrowhead is from Roman ditch 86 in Area B further east (Fig. 5, trench 83).

It could be hypothesised that the arrowhead was hafted to an arrow shaft and lost during hunting during the Neolithic period. The scrapers and associated retouched flakes suggest the cleaning of skins, possibly of small wild animals.

6.2 Prehistoric pottery, by Nick Lavender and Steve Benfield

A total of forty-seven sherds (329g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered during the evaluation. This has been recorded to a system devised for prehistoric pottery in Essex (Brown 1988, details in site archive). The pottery was recorded by fabric, class, form, decoration, surface treatment and condition. The assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight.

The bulk of the pottery is of Middle Iron Age date, with eleven sherds being of prehistoric date but not diagnostic, and therefore not closely datable. Some of the sherds are fragmentary and abraded and cannot be dated to the Middle Iron Age with absolute certainty, but are considered to be of that date on balance. The Middle Iron Age pottery consists of sand-, flint- and flint and sand-tempered fabrics, associated with six features in Area A and two features in Area B. Overall it is a small assemblage that makes up less than 3% of the whole Iron Age and Roman assemblage combined.

Most of the Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from features in Area A in the north-west of the evaluation area (Fig. 4). It derives from the single fill of pits 8 (7), 20 (21) and 31 (30) in trenches 1, 5 and 23, and the primary fill of pit 50 (48) in trench 19, but also occurs residually in Late Iron Age ditch 57 (56) in trench 19 and medieval pit 24 (25) in trench 5. Most of the pottery comes from pit 50, which produced nineteen sherds (132g). Three sherds of possible Middle Iron Age pottery were found residually in features in Area B in the south-east: two in Roman ditch 86 (89) and one in medieval pit group 166 (145) (Fig. 5, trenches 83 and 93). The sherd from context 145 has a thin crust of carbonised residue on the interior, and the two from context 89 are slightly burnt.

Only one vessel form could be identified. This is a small jar or bowl with an upright, slightly everted flat-topped rim (pit 50, fill 48). The top of the rim (EVE 0.15) is decorated with fingernail impressions and the body is decorated with faintly scored vertical, close-set lines. The pot can probably be paralleled by Form 11 at Little Waltham (Drury 1978). A part profile of this pot can be reconstructed and should be illustrated. Also present in context 48 was a small burnished rim fragment in a soft sand-tempered fabric, although this was probably intrusive from the Late Iron Age ditch 57.

6.3 **Late Iron Age and Roman pottery**, by Stephen Benfield

The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery consists of 1125 sherds with a total weight of 8452g, mainly recovered from Area B in the south-east of the site (Fig. 5), with smaller quantities from Areas A and C in the north-west and south-west (Figs 4 and 6). The condition of much of the pottery is relatively poor and many sherds are recorded as abraded. However, as this appears to be general to the assemblage it is probably mostly attributable to soil conditions which have degraded surfaces and fabrics, rather than the depositional history of the sherds themselves. The condition of the pottery makes confident identification of some of the sherds to specific fabric types difficult.

Method

The assemblage was quantified by number of sherds, weight and EVE (estimated vessel equivalence) and classified using the Chelmsford fabric type series (Going 1987) supplemented by the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). Where possible the vessel forms refer to the Chelmsford type series (Going 1987), supplemented by reference to the Colchester-Camulodunum (Cam) type series (Hawkes and Hull 1947). For imported vessels the samian forms refer to commonly used samian vessel form types following Webster (1996) and amphorae forms refer to the commonly used type series established by Dressel (Tyers 1996).

The assemblage

Part of the assemblage consists of grog-tempered fabrics of Late Iron Age type (Fabric 53). Overall these grog-tempered sherds make up about 5% of the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery recovered. Grog-tempered wares are generally current in Essex from the mid-late 1st century BC and persist among rural assemblages into the early Roman period. The sherds were mostly recovered from contexts which included pottery dated as post-conquest; although the fill of ditch 57 (56) in Area A (trench 19) produced no later-dated pottery and layer 185 in Area C (trench 152) produced a significant quantity of grog-tempered sherds but with one or two which might be early post-conquest. A number of sherds exhibit cordons or

corrugations but only one form type could be identified, a sherd from a bowl or jar which appears to be of form Cam 229 (185). One shell-tempered pot (Fabric 50), possibly from south Essex and represented by body sherds from which the shell has been dissolved, could also date to the Late Iron Age or early Roman period (56).

No imported fine ware can be securely dated to the Late Iron Age period. A sherd from a *terra-nigra* platter (Fabric GAB TN 1) recovered from a context (81/100) with Roman pottery in Area B (trench 83) could be a pre-conquest import, but *terra-nigra* continued to be current into the early Roman period and this might equally be a post-conquest import. Also, it seems possible that base sherds from ditch 127 (trench 84) might be from a Butt-Beaker in a *terra-rubra* fabric, which would not be current after *c.* AD 50, but this is highly speculative as no surface coating survives on the sherds.

It is assumed that the sherds which can be classified as Romanising grey wares (Fabric 45) are all post-conquest, although this is quite likely. These sherds can be dated to the period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century and account for between 20-25% of the overall Late Iron Age and Roman assemblage. All are likely to be of relatively local origin, one possible source being the Colchester-Ardleigh area. Of the forms recorded in this fabric a platter of form A2 (129, 133) and high shouldered jars of form G23 date to the period of the1st-early 2nd century. The neckless jar forms, G3 & G5, of which there are a number of examples in this fabric, continue in sandy grey ware fabrics (Fabric 47) into the 2nd-3rd century.

As usual a number of large vessels in coarse fabrics can be identified as storage jars. Some of the sherds representing these are grog-tempered and may be of Late Iron Age date, although many probably date to the early-mid Roman period. Forms recorded are Cam 271 (85/94, 101) and Cam 273 (85/94), in Area B (trenches 80 and 83).

A small number of sherds from the Brockley Hill/Verulamium potteries (Fabric 26) can be dated to the period of the late 1st-early/mid 2nd century and represent the only regional imports onto the site during the early Roman period which have been able to be clearly identified and sourced (81/100, trench 83).

There are also a number of continental imports of 1st-early 2nd century date among the assemblage. As well as the *terra nigra* platter there is a small quantity of South Gaulish samian (Fabric SGS) of Roman 1st century date. This includes both plain and decorated wares; forms identified being a Dr 18 platter (101) and a Dr 29 decorated bowl (85/94). A rim sherd, probably from a Dr 37 decorated bowl (81/100), a form datable to the late 1st century,

may also be South Gaulish. One of two amphora represented can also be dated to the 1st-early 2nd century (101). Although only body sherds are present, this amphora (Fabric CAD AM) is almost certainly of Dressel form 7-11, a type which commonly held fish-based products, although some may have also been used for wine or possibly other products. It can be noted that the one other amphora (85/94), represented by an abraded body sherd, is in the rough Spanish fabric (Fabric 56) used for both Dressel 20 oil amphorae and for the form Haltern 70 known to have been used to transport fruit syrups. It is most likely from a Dressel 20, dated 1st-early 3rd century, as these are by far the most common amphorae type recovered from Roman sites in Britain.

The mid-Roman period of the 2nd-3rd century is most clearly represented by a small number of continental and regional imports in Area B. There are small quantities of imported plain samian representing both Central Gaul (Fabric CGS) and East Gaulish production centres (Fabric EGS). One of the pieces (layer 85/94, trench 80) appears to have been overfired and as such might possibly represent a Colchester product, but is probably best regarded as an East Gaulish piece. Forms recorded are a rim which is most probably from the cup form Dr 27 from the latest fill (89) of ditch 86 (trench 83), a form that is not current past the mid-2nd century, and the bowl form Dr 31 from layer 85/94 (trench 80) and the fill (123) of pit 122 (trench 84), which dates to after the mid-2nd century. One of the Dr 31 bowl sherds has an end fragment of a potter's stamp (85).

Regional fine wares brought onto the site which can be dated to the mid-Roman period include Colchester colour-coated ware (Fabric 1) and Hadham white-slipped ware (Fabric 14) of which just a few sherds of each were recovered. There are also a few specialist vessels, represented by mortaria which appear for the first time in the assemblage. Three vessels are represented (surface find 60, trench 19; fill 113 of medieval pit 112, trench 93, and fill 133 of ditch 127/143, trench 84) and all are probably Colchester products (Fabric 27) of form D4 which can be dated mid 2nd-early 3rd century.

The coarse wares (Fabric 47) are dominated by sandy grey wares, which include a large proportion of sherds which can be described as Black surface wares (Martin 2003), although these have not been specifically separated out as a fabric type, but are noted in the catalogue. Most common are sherds from dishes of form B2/B4 dated to the 2nd-3rd century, also dishes of form B1 and oval bodied jars of form G24 some of which could date to the late Roman period.

There are also sherds which can be classified as Black Burnished 2 (Fabric 41), but the condition of the pottery makes the distinction between the Black surface coarse wares and Black Burnished 2 fabrics difficult. All of the forms recorded in this fabric are dishes or bowls of form B2/B4 (81/100, 109, 84/90/111). There is also one example of a jar of form G9 in Black Burnished ware 1 (Fabric 40) of 2nd-3rd century date in Area B (fill 125 of gully 124, trench 84) and a beaker of form H6 in Fabric 32 (85/94, trench 80) which can be dated to the 2nd century.

In terms of the pottery that can be dated to the 1st-3rd centuries, a much smaller quantity of pottery can be securely dated to the late Roman period of the late 3rd-4th century. Of the late regional specialist wares there are only two colour-coated sherds (fill 82 off cut 83, trench 87) which can be attributed to the Nene Valley potteries (Fabric 2). Noticeably absent are late dated fabrics from regional potteries such as Hadham oxidised ware, which should be recognisable even where surfaces or fabrics have degraded. Other identifiable Late Roman wares consist of late dated coarse ware fabrics or vessel forms. There are a few sherds (fill 62 of ditch 61, trench 19; fill 82 of cut 83, trench 87; and fill 113 of medieval ditch 112, trench 93) which contain flint and can be classified as Rettendon ware (Fabric 48) which is of late 3rd-4th century date. There are also examples of the flanged bowl form B6, dated to the late 3rd-4th century, in sandy greyware fabrics (88 and 113) and Black Burnished ware 1 (Fabric 40) (88).

Discussion and potential of the assemblage

The pottery of Late Iron Age and Roman date represents material which appears to be fairly typical for an assemblage from a rural site in Essex. The quantity of grog-tempered wares, although few features of this date could be identified, indicates a Late Iron Age background to the Roman settlement. For the Roman period the fine wares, in the main, consist of samian with some regional colour-coated wares. Roman specialist vessels such as amphorae and mortaria only appear in small quantity and a small number of coarse ware vessels from major regional producers in Britain are also present among the assemblage. The pottery indicates that the main period of occupation extended into the late 3rd-early 4th century, but clearly identifiable late 3rd-4th century pottery fabrics and forms are poorly represented.

Although the pottery appears fairly typical for Essex sites there are some indications of connections to wider networks in the Late Iron Age and early Roman period, represented by the *terra-nigra* vessel, the decorated samian and the Dressel 7-11 amphora. The apparent reduction in the intensity or the abandonment of the settlement in the late Roman period may

also be more clearly understood with a larger assemblage from any future excavation on the site. There is also the potential to more clearly examine the Middle and Late Iron Age background and the continuity into the Roman period.

6.4 **Medieval and later pottery**, by Helen Walker

A total of 328 sherds weighing 1943g was recovered from twenty-six contexts and has been recorded onto Essex County Council's EFASYS database. The pottery has been classified according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16) and some of Cunningham's rim-form codes are quoted in this report. There were two main concentrations of medieval pottery, in Area A in the north-west of the site (trenches 2, 5, 6 and 19), and in Area B in the south-east (trench 93), indicating two *foci* of medieval activity (Fig. 18). Both areas produced similar quantities of pottery.

Area A

Most of the pottery comes from features in the west of Area A, in trenches 2 and 5 (Fig. 4). The pottery comprises mainly Early Medieval Ware with smaller amounts of Shell-and-Sand-Tempered Ware, Medieval Coarse Ware and a single sherd of Shell-Tempered Ware, the assemblage spanning the 12th and 13th centuries. One example of Medieval Coarse Ware is relatively fine and can be identified as Hedingham Coarse Ware.

The most interesting finds, all of Early Medieval Ware, were excavated from pit 24 (fill 25), although are unfortunately very fragmented. There is a sharply inturned rim, thickened internally which may be from a dish and is reminiscent of those produced in Saxo-Norman St Neots-type ware (*cf*. Hurst 1976, fig.7.18.3). It is fire-blackened externally. There is another inturned rim, probably from a type of large globular jar, sometimes known as a ginger jar. It shows a row of neatly executed thumbing around the rim, and is fire-blackened internally. This is also a copy of a Saxo-Norman form, produced in Thetford-type Ware during the 11th century (Anderson 2004, 69, fig.47.55). A couple of thick-walled body sherds are decorated with thumbed applied strips and wavy line combing and may be from storage jars. Also present in the pit are everted, beaded and thumbed rims in Early Medieval Ware and Shell-and-Sand-Tempered Ware, which are most likely to be from cooking-pots or possibly bowls. Unfeatured body sherds of Medieval Coarse Ware also occur in the pit. An 11th to 12th century date can be assigned to this feature.

Diagnostic sherds in the remaining features comprise a variety of thickened everted, flat-topped and bevelled rims, which are too fragmented to determine vessel class, but are most likely to be from cooking-pots, although some have very large rim diameters and may be

from bowls. From gully 17 (fill 16), there is the rim and shoulder from a definite cooking-pot showing a beaded rim and characteristic fire-blackening around the rim and shoulder. These rim types are generally datable to the 11th and 12th centuries, but at several sites, notably Stansted Airport (Walker 2004, 435), they occur with typologically later pottery and may persist into the 13th century. Ditch 28 (which cut ditch 29) and ditch 39, both in trench 2, produced single examples of Medieval Coarse Ware cooking-pots with H1 rims, which were current throughout the 13th century and are the latest vessel types to be found in Area A.

Some sherds of Early Medieval Ware from ditch 43 are very red as if burnt in a fire. It is also notable that many of the sherds, especially those from feature 15, are small and abraded, suggesting an element of residuality. Pit 13 in trench 6 and gully 36 in trench 19, further to the east and south-east, produced single sherds of Early Medieval Ware and Medieval Coarse Ware respectively.

Area B

The pottery from Area B in the east of the site produced a similar range of fabrics to that of Area A, with the addition of Transitional Early Medieval Ware and single examples of fine wares. None of the typologically early thickened, everted, bevelled and beaded rims of the 11th to 12th centuries occur here, and shelly wares, although present are much less common. This assemblage therefore appears to be slightly later than that from Area A. Most of the pottery came from trench 93, where there is a stratified sequence (Fig. 5).

At the bottom of the sequence, pit group 166 produced rather uninformative body sherds of Medieval Coarse Ware. Stratified above this, diagnostic sherds from equivalent ditch 115/168 comprise two Medieval Coarse Ware cooking-pot fragments with H2 rims, datable to the early to mid 13th century. The latest pottery from succeeding pit 112 is an H1 cooking-pot rim in Hedingham Coarse Ware, a type current throughout the 13th century. Also from this feature is the rim of a large bowl in Transitional Early Medieval Ware. Similar bowls were excavated at Stansted Airport, where the more complete examples have drainage holes in the sides and may have been used in dairying (Walker 2004, 408).

Pit 167, also within trench 93, but not part of the stratified sequence, produced two H1 cooking-pot rims and part of a Mill Green Fine Ware strap handle from a jug, showing an olive-green glaze on the upper surface. Its presence precludes a date before the mid 13th century. A second sherd of fine ware, this time Hedingham Fine Ware was collected from surface find context 165, above features 166 and 167. It is an abraded base sherd, probably from a jug, in the typical creamy orange fabric of Hedingham Fine Ware and shows

accidental splashes of plain lead glaze on the underside. This is earlier than the Mill Green Ware, dating from the later 12th to 13th centuries.

Very little pottery was excavated from the other trenches in Area B. Diagnostic sherds comprise a Hedingham Coarse Ware cooking-pot fragment with a very squared H2 rim, from layer 93/101, which also contained Roman and modern finds (trench 83). A few sherds of Post-Medieval Red Earthenware were recovered from ditches 106 and 149 in trenches 83 and 92 respectively. They have an all-over glaze and date between the 17th and 19th centuries, and may be in the ditches as a result of muck-spreading.

Conclusions

Occupation in Area A in the north-west of the site could have begun as early as the 11th or 12th centuries and appears to have ended sometime in the 13th century. Occupation in Area B in the south-east appears to have begun later, perhaps around AD 1200 (as early medieval fabrics are present) but continued at least until the mid 13th century. It is possible that both sites went out of use at the same time. The unusual vessels from pit 24 in Area A hint at some kind of specialised activity. There is no evidence of this in Area B, although the presence of fine wares indicates the pottery is both from living and service areas. The large bowl may have been used for dairying, but this was a common activity.

Comparison with pottery from previous excavations at Bradwell Quarry

Earlier excavations across the northern part of Bradwell Quarry (RHRA01) produced a larger assemblage of 6kg of pottery (Walker 2006a; 2008). Occupation seems to have begun in the late 12th century. Its inception was perhaps later than that of the western focus of the current excavation as there are no early rim types of the 11th to 12th century. However, the start of occupation could be contemporary with that of Area B in the east of the current site. Unlike the current site, occupation did not end sometime in the 13th (or earlier 14th) century but continued through the late medieval period, until the 16th century. Fine wares were much more common, with a relatively large number of Hedingham ware jugs. There is also a preponderance of coarse ware jugs/tripod pitchers, virtually absent at the current excavation, which would imply a different, possibly more domestic, site function. However, both sites produced probable fragments from large storage jars, which may be associated with the transport of grain.

Around 1kg of pottery was recovered from the evaluation trenches of the RCF site immediately to the east of the current site (Walker 2006b). It is very similar to that from Area A in the north-west, with a similar range and ratio of fabrics, and rim types characteristics of

the 11th and 12th centuries, but also with a couple of examples of the more developed H1 rim datable to the 13th century. There was one context that produced one or possibly two late medieval sherds, but unlike the evidence from the north of the airfield (RHRA01) there is no convincing evidence of settlement continuing into the late medieval period.

6.5 **Brick and tile**, by Helen Walker

Brick and tile fragments, amounting to fifty pieces, weighing 1122g, were recovered from ten contexts, mainly from Area B in the south-east of the site. All were extremely fragmented. Finds include fragments of Roman brick and possible tegula from Roman layers 81 and 85 (Fig. 5, trenches 80 and 83). Fragments of late or post-medieval roof tile were also excavated from layer 93, and ditches 106 and 149 (Fig. 5, trenches 83, 92 and 93).

6.6 **Baked clay**, by Helen Walker

Baked clay, amounting to 375 pieces weighing 2703g, was excavated from thirty-three contexts. A significant proportion, all with a chalky fabric, came from undated baked clay feature 63 (64) in Area B in the south-east (Fig. 5, trench 69). Most of this is without surfaces but one shows a striated surface, and another the remains of a rod-shaped impression, perhaps from wattle. Pieces of baked clay with a chalky fabric occurred in other contexts, almost all of which are medieval, and include further examples with surface striations. However, chalky baked clay also occurred in layers 81/85 and ditch 127 containing Roman pottery (Fig. 5, trenches 80, 83 and 84), although most of the baked clay in Roman contexts is without chalk, some examples also containing occasional flint inclusions.

6.7 **Coins and copper-alloy objects**, by Helen Walker

The coins and copper-alloy objects comprise a modern button and a 1933 sixpence modern layer 101 (Fig. 5, trench 83), and a copper-alloy coin (SF1) in medieval ditch 28 (Fig. 4, trench 2). The latter has a diameter of a 15mm and is too corroded to make out any details.

6.8 **Ironwork**, by Helen Walker

Twelve pieces of iron weighing 96g were recovered from seven contexts. Nails were the most common (and the only identifiable) find and these occurred in medieval contexts with one example in a post-medieval context. Two amorphous lumps of iron occurred in fill 62 of Roman ditch 61 (Fig. 4, trench 19).

6.9 Slag, by Helen Walker

Two pieces weighing 369 of similar-looking iron-rich slag were excavated in Area B, from Roman layer 85/94 (Fig. 5, trench 80) and the fill of post-medieval/modern ditch 106 (Fig. 5, trench 83).

6.10 Animal bone, by Mike Feider

The evaluation retrieved 564 fragments weighing 5400g of animal bone from forty-seven contexts. Most of the remains were recovered from pits, ditches and gullies dating to the Roman period, with some features of medieval and prehistoric date. Larger concentrations of bones came from Area B in the south-east of the site (Fig. 5, trenches 83, 84 and 93).

Methodology

The remains from each context were scanned following MAP2 guidelines (Davis 1992; English Heritage 1991), with each element identified to species where possible and as unidentified otherwise. Element information was not recorded. The number of fragments and any associated butchery, ageing, taphonomic and metrical information was recorded in a Microsoft Access database.

Results

Of the 564 fragments recorded, only 138 (24%) were identifiable to species. This is due to the poor condition of the assemblage, with a very high degree of fragmentation and surface weathering present. A large number of identifiable fragments were loose teeth, which tend to survive better than bone.

The majority (59.4%) of identified bones came from cattle, with eighty-two fragments present, followed by sheep/goat with forty fragments (29%), pig with seven fragments (5.1%) and horse with two fragments (1.4%). Seven full or partial bird bones (5.1%) were recovered, with two of these identifiable as domestic fowl remains. These numbers may be skewed towards cattle, with better preservation of the diagnostic regions of these larger bones.

Very little butchery was noted, although this evidence may have been lost due to the poor condition of the remains. A chop mark on a cow calcaneus from medieval pit 24 in Area A Fig. 4, trench 5), and a chop into the spine of a cow scapula from Roman ditch 86 in Area B (trench 83) were the only marks noted on identifiable bones. The latter is a distinguishing characteristic of Roman butchery. Butchery marks were also noted on an unidentifiable large mammal pelvis from Roman ditch 86, and two fragments of large mammal humerus from Roman layer 84/90/111 (trench 83).

Little ageing information is available from the assemblage, mostly derived from partial mandibles and loose teeth. Rough tooth-wear estimates were available from a sheep/goat mandible from medieval pit 24 (trench 5), a cow mandible from recut 143 of Roman ditch 127 (trench 84), and a loose sheep/goat m3 from medieval ditch 28 (trench 2). Epiphyseal fusion data was available from a cow radii from Roman ditch 86 (trench 83) and medieval ditch 115/168 (trench 93), a cow tibia from Roman ditch 127 (trench 84), and a sheep/goat humerus, pig femur and horse radius in medieval features 167, 112 and 166 respectively (all trench 93).

Metrical information was retrievable on a cow radius and tibia from medieval pit 24 (trench 5), a cow tibia and metacarpal from Roman ditch 86 (trench 83), a pig femur from medieval pit 112 (trench 93), a cow tibia from Roman ditch 127 (trench 84), a horse radius from medieval pit group 166 (trench 93), and a sheep/goat humerus from medieval pit 167 (trench 93).

Conclusions

The faunal material is of little significance due to the overall poor preservation and sample size. The numbers and types of species are fairly typical for the periods covered and very little data on butchery techniques or husbandry practices was available. There is little scope for further work involving this assemblage. The surface weathering and severe fragmentation of the remains has limited the available information. Some of the remains could be more closely identified with the use of a comparative collection, the bird bones in particular, but this would be unlikely to significantly increase the ratio of identification. The limited butchery, ageing and metrical data is of little use on its own and no further investigation of these areas is recommended unless the sample size is increased through further excavation.

6.11 **Shell**, by Helen Walker

A total of 381 shells and shell fragments, weighing 4100kg, was excavated from thirty-two contexts. Almost all the shell comprises oyster shell, with a couple of fragments of other bivalve shell (unidentified) and a single whelk. The majority of the material (2.5kg) came from medieval pit 167 in Area B (Fig. 5, trench 93). Oyster shell was also present in Roman features, suggesting that much of the activity of both periods had been domestic in nature.

6.12 **Environmental remains,** by Val Fryer

Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from pits, ditches and other discrete features of prehistoric, Roman and medieval date, and twenty one were submitted for assessment (Appendix 2).

Method

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16. The plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in full in archive. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants including fibrous roots, seeds, chaff and fungal sclerotia were present throughout. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry and any artefacts/ecofacts retained for specialist analysis.

Results

Plant macrofossils were generally quite scarce, with one sample (22) producing nothing other than modern roots. However, a small number of cereal grains and chaff elements were recorded along with seeds of common segetal weeds and/or grassland herbs. Preservation was mostly quite poor, with a number of the grains being severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Few of the grains were identifiable, but those that were all of wheat (*Triticum* sp.). Spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume bases were recorded from samples 13 and 16, and sample 16 also contained a possible bread wheat (*T. aestivum*/*compactum*) type rachis node.

Weed seeds were very scarce, with most occurring as single specimens within an assemblage. Taxa noted included brome (*Bromus* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae) and grasses (Poaceae). A possible onion-couch (*Arrhenatherum* sp.) type tuber was noted within the assemblage from sample 15. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, although most pieces were extremely small and comminuted. Other remains were scarce, but did include fragments of marine mollusc shell (mostly oyster), bone fragments and pieces of black porous material, with most of the latter probably being derived from the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures.

Conclusions

Although remains are scarce within the prehistoric contexts, the Roman assemblages are slightly more diverse, with two (samples 13 and 16) containing grains, chaff and, in the case of sample 13, weed seeds. The medieval assemblages all contain some cereal grains, with most appearing to have been burnt at very high temperatures. The source of the recovered material is currently unclear, and although some may be derived from scattered or wind-

blown refuse, which was accidentally incorporated within the feature fills, other remains may be indicative of nearby domestic and/or agricultural activity.

Although small, the plant macrofossil assemblages do indicate that plant macrofossils, some of which are reasonably well preserved, are present, especially on the Roman settlement site in Area B.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

The trial-trenching evaluation has identified archaeological remains in three separate parts of the proposed development area (Fig. 18, Areas A-C). The remains are mostly of Late Iron Age/Roman and medieval date, quite densely concentrated in Area B in the south-east of the site, but more widely dispersed in Area A to the north-west and Area C to the south-west. Prehistoric remains are also present in small quantities, with a single Neolithic pit in Area C and a small number of Middle Iron Age pits in Area A. The areas of archaeological significance are discussed below by period and site area.

Neolithic

Evidence of Neolithic (New Stone Age) people active within the site area is indicated by the Neolithic worked flint assemblage in Area C (Fig. 18, trench 137, pit 179) and residual pieces of prehistoric flint, including a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead in a Roman feature in Area B (Fig. 18, trench 83, ditch 86). The Neolithic people most likely combined farming with semi-nomadic pastoralist and hunting activities, and the pit may be related to a short-lived settlement site. Use of the area for hunting as well as farming is perhaps implied by the scrapers from pit 179, which were used for the cleaning of animal skins. Further Neolithic features are possibly represented by the undatable pits surrounding pit 179 (Fig. 18, trenches 140 and 142).

Middle Iron Age

Four Middle Iron Age pits were identified in Area A (Fig. 18, trenches 1, 3, 19 and 23), but were quite widely scattered, and only one of them, pit 50 in trench 19, contained more than a small amount of pottery. They are peripheral features on the southern edge of the previously-recorded Middle Iron Age settlement site to the north, whose centre is represented by a roundhouse and enclosure ditch some 200m to the north of the Area A pits (Fig. 2). The pits represent similar activity to that recorded to the north of the previously-found roundhouse

(Fig. 2), and the overall area of the Middle Iron Age settlement appears to have been quite extensive.

Late Iron Age and Roman

Late Iron Age and Roman remains were concentrated in Area B (Fig. 18, trenches 80, 83, 84, 87 and 93), representing a small settlement site, probably a farmstead, whose main period of occupation is dated to the 1st-3rd centuries AD. This site corresponds with Roman pottery concentration 7 identified by the fieldwalking survey (Fig. 2). Late Iron Age/early Roman ditches recorded in the north-west of Area B (Fig. 18, trenches 70-71) may be related to the settlement, but other Late Iron Age and Roman ditches along the western edge of the site (Fig. 18, trenches 19, 125 and 152) represent field boundaries or areas of isolated small-scale activity.

The Late Iron Age and Roman settlement evidence consists of levelling layers cut by more than one phase of enclosure ditches, gullies and possible timber foundation slots or timber-lined drains, with a much higher density of pottery and other finds than elsewhere, especially in trenches 83 and 84 (Fig. 18). The earliest activity is dated to the 1st-early 2nd centuries by relatively large amounts of pottery in the levelling layers and ditches 86 (trench 83) and 127/143 (trench 84). Late Iron Age pottery is present in several features, especially in trenches 70, 71 and 93 around the periphery of the settlement focus, but often residually and in small quantities, and it is not possible to identify a specifically Late Iron Age phase of settlement. It is possible that the Roman settlement had Late Iron Age origins, but on balance more likely that it was founded in the early Roman period, probably in the second half of the 1st century AD. Activity peaked in the 2nd-3rd centuries, with most of the features containing pottery of this date, but declined in the late Roman period. Only a single feature in Area B, cut 83 in trench 87, contained late Roman pottery, dated to the late 3rd-4th centuries.

Most of the Roman linear features lie perpendicular to each other on roughly east-west or north-south alignments and represent more than one phase of enclosures. The potential survival of timber structures is suggested by the extensive levelling layers and the presence of regularly cut features such as gullies 124 and 136 in trench 84, which may be interpreted as timber foundation slots or timber-lined drains. The settlement focus covered an area of around 100m square centred on trenches 83 and 84, and probably extended as far south as trench 93, where high levels of residual Roman pottery in medieval pits suggests that these had disturbed earlier Roman features.

Medieval

The medieval remains formed two separate concentrations, ditches and pits in Area A dated to the 11th/12th to mid 13th century (Fig. 18, trenches 2 and 5), and a pit complex in Area B dated to the 13th century (Fig. 18, trench 93).

The remains in Area A are almost certainly related to Sheepcotes Farm, which is documented from at least as early as the 12th century. They mainly consist of ditches and gullies and probably represent an area of enclosures immediately to the north of the farm. Most of the features contained relatively large amounts of medieval pottery and other finds, with pit 24 (trench 5) producing the largest quantity, a fragmented assemblage of domestic rubbish. The medieval pit complex in Area B, however, probably represents a sequence of quarries, dug to obtain clay and/or large nodules of flint for use in building construction, a notable example of which is the fabric of Rivenhall church to the south. The immediate area of trench 93 is likely to have been deliberately selected for quarrying as it is one the few areas where the Chalky Boulder Clay is close to the surface.

Post-medieval and modern

The majority of the post-medieval/modern features are former field ditches recorded on the first three editions of the Ordnance Survey that were subsequently backfilled in order to make way for the construction of the airfield or for the increasing of field size from 1943 onwards. Post-medieval/modern ditches 149 and 232 in Area B (Fig. 18, trenches 81, 83 and 92) are not present on the first three editions of the Ordnance Survey and were probably backfilled during the first three quarters of the 19th century. Other post-medieval/modern remains largely comprise modern service trenches or areas of disturbed ground and are probably related to the construction of the airfield or to its subsequent break up. Post-medieval/modern quarry pits 233 and 234 indicate reuse and the usefulness of the area immediately surrounding trench 93 for the obtaining of clay and/or flint nodules, as previously carried out during the medieval period.

8.0 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

Conditions for survival of archaeological deposits varied across the proposed development area. The high density of modern hardcore recorded in the topsoil by the fieldwalking survey suggested previous disturbance within the northern two-thirds of the site, and although it is notable that the trenching found no archaeological remains within that area, it remains uncertain to what extent this is an accurate picture of what was originally present (Fig. 18).

The only places where the evaluation has found clear and direct evidence for the airfield having caused severe truncation is in trenches 10, 15, 27 and 40, where concrete runways and aprons have been broken up for hardcore. By contrast, ploughing has very clearly played a major role in damaging the archaeological resource and has resulted in all of the archaeological deposits and features being truncated by up to 0.4m. The remains in Area B are the best preserved and include layers, which seldom survive on Essex rural sites, and it is possible that other instances of stratigraphy, including surfaces, are also present within that area. The large dips which infrequently pockmark Area B are now known to be backfilled post-medieval/modern clay pits, several of which have been partially revealed in trenches 83, 93 and 94.

Archaeological remains of local importance have been identified within the proposed development area, as follows: the Roman settlement in Area B; the medieval enclosures in Area A; and the Neolithic pit in Area C (Figs 2 and 18). Other remains of lesser significance include Middle Iron Age pits in Area A and medieval quarrying in Area B. An absence of remains in trenches 46 and 53 in the north-east of the site indicate that the medieval sites previously found beyond the boundary of the evaluation area in the existing quarry and the RCF site (Figs 2 and 18) are of limited extent.

The Roman and medieval sites in Area B correspond with Roman and medieval fieldwalking concentrations (Fig. 2, concentrations 7 and 9). No archaeological remains, however, have been found beneath prehistoric and post-medieval fieldwalking concentrations 1, 2, 3 and 10, suggesting that the fieldwalking has only been partially successful. The medieval site in Area A was not detected by fieldwalking because it lies outside the original survey area.

The Roman settlement site in Area B (Fig. 18) is of local or possible regional importance, as Roman rural sites other than villas are poorly represented in the archaeological record and their investigation is a regional research priority (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 19). The site is well-preserved, with the survival of features related to levelling layers, which is rare for rural sites in Essex, and is well-dated. There is potential for establishing the form and character of the settlement and its chronological development, thus providing a useful comparison with the previously excavated high-status Roman villa site to the south in the area of Rivenhall church (Rodwell and Rodwell 1993).

The medieval remains in Area A (Fig. 18) have the potential to add to our understanding of the past development of the medieval Sheepcotes Farm, and of the medieval landscape across the airfield as a whole. The definition and origins of medieval settlement patterns and

the dating of each element within them is a regional research priority (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 24).

The Neolithic pit in Area C (Fig. 18) is also of local importance, providing rare, although localised, evidence of the early prehistoric. Further investigation of the surrounding area may provide more information on flint-working or features related to a settlement site.

The other sites identified are of lower significance. The Middle Iron Age pits in Area A (Fig. 18) merely represent the periphery of a settlement almost entirely located to the north of the evaluation area (Fig. 2). The medieval pit complex in Area B (Fig. 18) represents a single cluster of quarry pits, probably distant from any area of settlement, and further investigation of this area is unlikely to add any new information.

The finds and environmental remains are of variable quality, largely due to poor preservation. The wider context of the Roman settlement in Area B can be investigated by comparing its pottery with that from the Rivenhall villa, Cressing and other nearby sites. Most of the sites at Bradwell Quarry are of medieval date and a cross-comparison of their pottery may lead to more information on their chronology and function and on the evolution of the surrounding landscape during the medieval period. The animal bone assemblage is small and poorly preserved, and detailed analysis is unlikely to be productive unless better-quality material is recovered from future excavation. Little information has resulted from the bulk sampling for carbonised plant remains, although more informative macrofossil assemblages occasionally survive at Bradwell Quarry, as indicated by the medieval crop-processing site in the existing quarry to the north. Any future environmental sampling at Bradwell Quarry needs to be more focused and to concentrate on feature types which are likely to be more productive, such as hearths, and storage and rubbish pits.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DATA

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
1	2	41	Fill	Modern building rubble. Single fill of ditch 2	Modern
2	2	41	Ditch	Post-medieval/modern field ditch. More than 0.4m deep. Filled by 1. Contains ceramic drain pipe	Modern
3	4	43	Fill	Orange brown firm sandy clay with occasional flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 4. Contains frags of modern brick	Modern
4	4	43	Pit	Rounded. Moderately-sloping sides, uneven base. 1.5m long, 0.79m+ wide, 0.07m deep. Filled by 3	Modern
5	6	19	Fill	Black/grey/brown friable silt clay with frequent stones and flecks of charcoal. Contains frequent pieces of burnt flint. Single fill of pit 6	?Prehist.
6	6	19	Pit	Circular. Steep sides, uneven base. 0.7m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 5	?Prehist.
7	8	23	Fill	Black/grey plastic silt clay with occasional stones and frequent small pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 8	Middle Iron Age
8	8	23	Pit	Rounded. Steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.43m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 7	Middle Iron Age
9	10	30	Fill	Modern building rubble. Single fill of ditch 10	Modern
10	10	30	Ditch	Post-medieval/modern field ditch. Filled by 9	Modern
11		11	Artefacts	Unstratified surface find	Prehist.
12	13	6	Fill	Greyish brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones. Single fill of pit 13	Undated
13	13	6	Pit	Rounded. Gradually-sloping sides. Slightly concave base. 0.94m long, 0.64m+ wide, 0.10m deep. Filled by 12	Undated
14	15	5	Fill	Dark greyish brown plastic silt clay with pieces of chalk. Single fill of cut-feature 15	Medieval
15	15	5	Cut	Irregular. Gradually to moderately-sloping sides. Flat to concave base. 1.18m+ long, 0.8m+ wide, 0.26m deep. Filled by 14	Medieval
16	17	5	Fill	Brown plastic silt clay with occasional lenses of cream-coloured clay and frequent large flecks of chalk. Single fill of gully 17	Medieval
17	17	5	Gully	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 2.1m+ long, 0.95m wide, 0.16m deep. Filled by 16	Medieval
18	19	5	Fill	Brown firm silty clay with frequent flecks of chalk. Single fill of natural feature 19	Undated
19	19	5	Natural feature	Uncertain shape. Possible tree hole. Filled by 18	Undated
20	20	3	Pit	Oval. Gradually-sloping sides, broad, slightly uneven base. 2.4m long, 0.90m+ wide, 0.15m deep. Filled by 21	Middle Iron Age
21	20	3	Fill	Orange brown, dark grey/black plastic silt clay with occ. stones and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 20	Middle Iron Age
22	23	5	Fill	Dark greyish brown plastic silt clay. Single fill of pit 23	Undated
23	23	5	Pit	Elongated oval. Vertical sides, uneven base. 0.36m long, 0.21m wide, 0.12m deep. Filled by 22	Undated
24	24	5	Pit	Rounded. Near-vertical sides, flat base. 1.24m long, 0.83m+ wide, 0.48m deep. Filled by 25 and 38	Medieval
25	24	5	Fill	Black/dark greyish brown plastic silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk and charcoal. Latest fill of pit 24. Above 38	Medieval
26	28	2	Fill	Brownish grey firm silt clay with frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional flecks and small pieces of chalk and baked clay. Single fill of ditch 28	Medieval
27	29	2	Fill	Brown firm silt clay with infrequent flecks of charcoal and occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. Single fill of ditch 29. Cut by 28	Medieval
28	28	2	Ditch	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 1.1m+ long, 1.85m wide, 0.4m deep. Filled by 26	Medieval
29	29	2	Ditch	Linear. Gradually to moderately-sloping sides, concave base, 0.85m+ long, 1.6m wide and 0.4m deep. Filled by 27	Medieval
30	31	1	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with frequent flecks of chalk and charcoal and occasional flecks of baked clay. Single fill of pit 31	Middle Iron Age

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
31	31	1	Pit	Oval. Gradually-sloping sides, flat base. 0.75m long, 0.5m wide, 0.07m deep. Filled by 30	Middle Iron Age
32	33	1	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with occasional flecks of chalk and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 33	Undated
33	33	1	Post-hole	Oval. Moderately-sloping sides, concave base. 0.35m long, 0.28m wide, 0.08m deep. Filled by 32	Undated
34	35	1	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk and frequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 35	Undated
35	35	1	Post-hole	Circular. Gradually-sloping sides, pointed base. 0.2m long, 0.2m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 34	Undated
36	36	19	Gully	Linear. Steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.31m+ long, 0.45m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 37	Medieval
37	36	19	Fill	Brownish grey firm clay silt with occasional flecks of chalk and charcoal. Single fill of gully 36	Medieval
38	24	5	Fill	Orange yellow friable silt clay with occasional flecks of chalk. Primary fill of pit 24. Below 25	Medieval
39	39	2	Ditch	Linear. Moderately sloping sides, concave base. 4.3m+ long, 1.14m wide, 0.34m deep. Filled by 40 and 41	Medieval
40	39	2	Fill	Light yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal. Primary fill of ditch 39. Below 41	Medieval
41	39	2	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal. Latest fill of ditch 39	Medieval
42	42	2	Ditch	Linear. Gradually to steeply-sloping sides, uneven base. 0.47m+ long 1.2m+ wide, 0.41m deep. Filled by 44 and 45	Medieval
43	43	2	Ditch	Linear. Gradually to steeply-sloping sides, uneven base. 0.47m+ long, 3.75m wide, 0.57m deep. Filled by 51, 52 and 53	Medieval
44	42	2	Fill	Pale yellowish brown firm silt clay with occasional flecks and pieces of chalk and occasional stones. Primary fill of ditch 42	Medieval
45	42	2	Fill	Yellowish brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones. Latest fill of ditch 42	Medieval
46	46	19	Post-hole	Oval. Moderately-sloping sides, concave base. 0.37m long, 0.32m wide, 0.11m deep. Filled by 47. Cut by 57	?Prehist.
47	46	19	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk and frequent flecks and pieces of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 46	?Prehist.
48	50	19	Fill	Black friable silt clay with abundant pieces of charcoal. Primary fill of pit 50. Below 49	Middle Iron Age
49	50	19	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Latest fill of pit 50. Above 49	Middle Iron Age
50	43	19	Pit	Rounded. Steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.71m long, 0.39m+ wide, 0.31m deep. Filled by 48 and 49. Below 48. Above 56	Middle Iron Age
51	43	2	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 43. Below 52	Medieval
52	43	2	Fill	Dark grey loose silt clay with flecks of charcoal and frequent stones. Secondary fill of ditch 43. Above 51. Below 53	Medieval
53	43	2	Fill	Brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones. Latest fill of ditch 43. Above 52	Medieval
54	43	2	Artefacts	Unstratified finds from fills 51, 52 and 53 in ditch 43	Medieval
55	57	19	Fill	Yellow-brown plastic clay. Primary fill of ditch 57. Below 56	Late Iron Age
56	57	19	Fill	Light brown plastic silt clay with red flecks, infrequent stones and frequent flecks of charcoal. Latest fill of ditch 57. Above 55. Below 50	Late Iron Age
57	57	19	Ditch	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 0.63m+ long, 4.3m wide, 0.4m deep. Filled by 55 and 56. Cuts 49 and 59. Below 55	Late Iron Age
58	58	19	Pit	Rounded. Moderately-sloping sides, concave base. 0.63m+ long, 0.86m wide, 0.25m deep. Filled by 59	LIA or earlier

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
59	58	19	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Single fill of pit 58. Cut by 57	LIA or earlier
60	57	19	Artefacts	Surface find. Ditch 57	Roman
61	61	19	Ditch	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, flat base. 2.03m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 62	Roman
62	61	19	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with occ. stones and flecks and pieces of chalk and charcoal. Single fill of ditch 61	Roman
63	63	69	Baked feature	Sub-rectangular. Gradually-sloping sides, slightly uneven base. 0.6m long, 0.4m wide, 0.07m deep. Western end baked by fire. Filled by 64 and 65	Undated
64	63	69	Fill	Large lump of baked clay, western end of baked feature 63. Above 63, below 65	Undated
65	63	69	Fill	Dark brown/black plastic clay. Latest fill of baked feature 63. Above 64	Undated
66	66	70	Ditch	Linear. Moderately-sloping sides, narrow concave base. 0.79m+ long, 1.8m wide, 0.36m deep. Filled by 67 and 68	LIA or later
67	66	70	Fill	Brown plastic clay with orange mottles and infrequent pieces and fragments of baked clay and charcoal. Latest fill of ditch 66	LIA or later
68	66	70	Fill	Dark grey/black plastic clay. Primary fill of ditch 66. Below 67	LIA or later
69	69	71	Pit	Rounded with moderately-sloping sides and a flat base. 1.35m+ long, 2.1m wide, 0.22m deep. Filled by 70 to 75	Roman
70	69	71	Fill	Light orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal. Primary fill of pit 69. Below 71	Roman
71	69	71	Fill	Greyish brown friable silt clay infrequent stones and frequent flecks of charcoal. Secondary fill of pit 69. Above 70. Below 72	Roman
72	69	71	Fill	Light yellow orange friable baked silt clay with infrequent flecks and small pieces of charcoal and burnt stones. Third fill of pit 69. Above 71 and 73. Below 75	Roman
73	69	71	Fill	Dark orange red baked silt clay with occasional flecks and pieces of chalk. Secondary fill of pit 69. Above 74. Below 72	Roman
74	69	71	Fill	Light brownish yellow friable silt clay with occasional pieces of chalk. Primary fill of pit 69. Below 73	Roman
75	69	71	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with grey/blue 'ash' and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Latest fill of pit 69. Above 72	Roman
76	76	83	Pit	Circular. Gradually-sloping sides, flat base. 0.55m long, 0.49m wide, 0.09m deep. Filled by 77	Roman
77	78	83	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones. Single fill of pit 76	Roman
78	78	83	Pit	Oval. Moderately to steeply-sloping sides, uneven base. 1.17m+ long, 0.76m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 79 and 80. Cuts 84	Roman
79	78	83	Fill	Black plastic silt clay with frequent pieces of charcoal. Primary fill of pit 78. Below 80	Roman
80	78	83	Fill	Yellowish brown plastic silt clay. Latest fill of pit 78. Above 79	Roman
81		83	Layer	Greyish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal. 0.10m thick. Same as 100	Roman
82	83	87	Fill	Grey/black/brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of cut-feature 83	Roman
83	83	87	Cut-feature	Uncertain. Gradually-sloping sides, flat base. 1.34m+ long, 1.27m+ wide, 0.39m deep. Filled by 82	Roman
84		83	Layer	Greyish reddish-brown plastic silt clay with frequent stones. 0.08m thick. Cut by 78. Same as 90 and 111	Roman
85		80	Layer	Dark brownish red firm silt clay with occasional stones. 0.12m thick. Same as 94	Roman
86	86	83	Ditch	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, slightly concave base. 1.07m+ long, 1.94m wide, 0.55m deep. Filled by 87 and 89. Cuts 90	Roman
87	86	83	Fill	Yellow/orange brown plastic clay with frequent stones and flecks and pieces of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 86. Below 8	Roman
88		87	Artefacts	Surface finds from cut feature 83	Roman

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
89	86	83	Fill	Dark brownish grey plastic silt clay with flecks of charcoal and occasional stones. Latest fill of ditch 86. Above 87	Roman
90		83	Layer	Orange/yellow brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones. 0.08m thick. Cut by 86. Same as 84 and 111	Roman
91		83	Null feature		
92	106	83	Fill	Same as 95	Post-med.
93		83	Layer	Same as 101	Modern
94		80	Layer	Dark reddish brown firm silt clay. 0.1m thick. Same as 85	Roman
95	106	83	Fill	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Latest fill of ditch 106. Same as 92. Above 107. Below 101	Post-med.
96	97	80	Fill	Brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional stones and flecks of chalk. Single fill of pit 97	Roman
97	97	80	Pit	Oval. Gradually-sloping sides, flat slightly uneven base. 1.5m long, 1.1m wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 96	Roman
98	97	80	Fill	Dark black/grey soft silt clay with frequent pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 99	Roman
99	99	80	Pit	Rounded. Steeply-sloping sides, flat base. 0.58m long, 0.26m+ wide, 0.18m deep. Filled by 98. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with layer 94	Roman
100		83	Layer	Dark brownish grey friable silt clay with infrequent stones. 0.22m thick. Cut by 102 and 106. Same as 81	Roman
101		83	Layer	Orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Overlies 92/95 and 103. Same as 93. 0.22m thick	Modern
102	102	83	Gully	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 1m+ long, 0.86m wide, 0.22m deep. Filled by 103	Roman
103	102	83	Fill	Light yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones. Single fill of gully 102. Below 101	Roman
104	104	93	Pit	Oval. Gradually to moderately-sloping sides, slightly concave base. 3m+ long, 0.77m deep. Base contains square hole, *c*. 0.22m square. Filled by 105	LIA/Roman
105	104	93	Fill	Orange brown soft silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Single fill of pit 104	LIA/Roman
106	106	83	Ditch	Linear. Moderately to steeply-sloping sides. Base not revealed. 1m+ long, 4.82m wide, 0.95m+ deep. Filled by 92/95, 107 and 108. Cuts 100. Below 108	Post-med.
107	106	83	Fill	Dark-yellowish brown firm silt clay with infrequent stones. Secondary fill of ditch 106. Above 108. Below 92/95	Post-med.
108	106	83	Fill	Dark reddish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones. Primary fill of ditch 106. Below 107	Post-med.
109	110	83	Fill	Brown plastic silt clay with frequent stones. Single fill of gully 110	Roman
110	110	83	Gully	Linear. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 0.98m+ long, 1.10m wide, 0.20m deep. Filled by 109. Uncertain relationship with layer 111	Roman
111		83	Layer	Orange brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and pieces of chalk. 0.17m thick. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with 110 and 134. Same as 84 and 90	Roman
112	112	93	Pit	Oval. Steeply-sloping sides. Base not revealed. 3.5m long, 0.95m+ deep. Filled by 113, 114, 119, 120, 169, 170 and 171. Cuts 117	Medieval
113	112	93	Fill	Light brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and occasional pieces of chalk. Fifth fill of pit 112. Above 114, below 119	Medieval
114	112	93	Fill	Light grey friable silt and ash with frequent pieces of charcoal. Fourth fill of pit 112. Above 169 and 170, below 113	Medieval
115	115	93	Ditch	Linear. Moderately-sloping sides, concave base. 2.27m wide, 0.8m deep. Filled by 116, 117 and 172. Same as 168	Medieval
116	115	93	Fill	Yellow/orange brown firm clay silt with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Secondary fill of ditch 115. Above 172, below 117	Medieval
117	115	93	Fill	Yellow/greyish brown friable silt clay. Latest fill of ditch 115. Above 116. Cut by 112	Medieval

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
118	112	93	Fill	Brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Latest fill of pit 112	Medieval
119	112	93	Fill	Light to mid friable silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk. Latest fill of pit 112. Above 113, below 170	Medieval
120	112	93	Fill	Mid to light greyish brown friable silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk. Third fill of pit 112. Above 169, below 114	Medieval
121	112/ 115	93	Artefacts	Surface finds from pit 112 and ditch 115	Medieval
122	122	84	Pit	Oval. Gradually-sloping sides, concave base. 1.2m wide, 0.13m deep. Filled by 123	Roman
123	122	84	Fill	Dark brown soft silt clay with infrequent stones. Single fill of pit 122. Cut by 124	Roman
124	124	84	Gully	Linear, Steeply-sloping sides, flat base. Filled by 125 and 126. Cuts 123	Roman
125	124	84	Fill	Dark brown soft silt clay with infrequent stones. Latest fill of gully 124	Roman
126	124	84	Fill	Light orange/yellow firm clay silt with occasional stones. Primary fill of gully 124. Below 125	Roman
127	127	84	Ditch	Linear. Moderately sloping, stepped sides, concave base. 1m+ long, 2.8m wide, 0.8m deep. Filled by 128, 130, 131 and 132	Roman
128	127	84	Fill	Dark reddish brown firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk. Secondary fill of ditch 127. Above 130, below 131	Roman
129	143	84	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 143. Below 133	Roman
130	127	84	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of charcoal and chalk. Primary fill of ditch 127	Roman
131	127	84	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and infrequent flecks of chalk. Third fill of ditch 127	Roman
132	127	84	Fill	Dark reddish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk. Latest fill of ditch 127. Cut by ditch 143	Roman
133	143	84	Fill	Dark grey friable clay silt with infrequent flecks of chalk and charcoal. Latest fill of ditch 143	Roman
134	134	83	Gully	Linear. Moderately-sloping sides, slightly concave base. 1m+ long, 1.15m wide, 0.28m deep. Filled by 135. Uncertain stratigraphic relationship with layer 111	Roman
135	134	83	Fill	Yellow/grey/brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. Single fill of gully 134	Roman
136	136	84	Gully	Linear. Steeply-sloping sides, flat base. 0.6m wide, 0.55m deep. Filled by 137 and 138	Roman
137	136	84	Fill	Brownish red soft clay silt with occasional stones. Latest fill of gully 136	Roman
138	136	84	Fill	Yellow/orange brown firm clay silt with infrequent stones. Primary fill of gully 136. Below 137	Roman
139		84	Layer	Dark reddish brown soft clay silt with occasional stones. 0.24m thick. Above 137	Roman
140	140	90	Pit	Rounded. Moderately-sloping sides, concave base. 1.2m long, 0.58m+ wide, 0.12m deep. Filled by 141	Undated
141	140	90	Fill	Black silt clay with infrequent stones and abundant pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 140	Undated
142	142	98	Post-hole	Circular. Steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 0.37m long, 0.35m+ wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 147 and 148	Undated
143	143	84	Ditch	Linear. Steeply-sloping sides, concave base. 1m+ long, 1m wide, 0.41m deep. Filled by 129 and 133	Roman
144	166	93	Fill	Grey friable silt clay with infrequent stones. Latest fill of pit group 166. Above 145. Cut by 168	Medieval
145	166	93	Fill	Dark orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Third fill of pit group 166. Above 146, below 144	Medieval
146	166	93	Fill	Brown firm clay with frequent stones and pieces of chalk. Secondary fill of pit group 166. Above 155, below 145	Medieval
147	142	98	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent charcoal. Primary fill of post-holes 142. Below 148	Undated
148	142	98	Fill	Black plastic silt clay with abundant pieces of charcoal. Latest fill of post-hole 142. Above 147	Undated

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
149	149	92	Ditch	Linear. Steeply sloping sides, base not exposed. 0.8m+ long, 3.32m wide, 0.67m+ deep. Filled by 150, 151 and 152. Contains three phases of mole drains	Post-med.
150	149	92	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm clay with infrequent stones and flecks and pieces of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 149. Below 151	Post-med.
151	149	92	Fill	Light brownish yellow firm clay with occasional flecks of chalk. Secondary fill of ditch 149. Above 150, below 152	Post-med.
152	149	92	Fill	Dark brownish grey loose silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk. Latest fill of ditch 149	Post-med.
153	167	93	Fill	Light grey friable silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk and flecks of charcoal. Fifth fill of pit 167. Above 174, below 173	Medieval
154	167	93	Fill	Light grey friable silt clay with occasional pieces of chalk and flecks of charcoal. Secondary fill of pit 167. Above 176, below 175	Medieval
155	167	93	Fill	Brown firm silt with frequent pieces of chalk and occasional stones. Primary fill of pit group 166. Below 146	Medieval
156	168	93	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt clay with occasional pieces of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 168. Below 177	Medieval
157	157	93	Ditch	Linear. Gradually to steeply sloping sides, base not exposed. 0.7m+ long, 2.65m+ wide, 0.82m+ deep. Filled by 158	Modern
158	157	93	Fill	Dark greyish brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and pieces of chalk. Single fill of ditch 157. Contains tree roots and a large slab of concrete	Modern
159	159	93	Pit group	Two adjoining rounded pits sharing the same fill sequence. 0.84m+ long, 1.9m wide, 0.64m deep. Filled by 160, 161 and 162	Medieval
160	159	93	Fill	Light yellowish grey loose silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk and charcoal. Primary fill of pit group 159. Below 161	Medieval
161	159	93	Fill	Dark brownish grey loose silt clay with infrequent stones and occasional flecks of chalk. Secondary fill of pit group 159. Above 160, below 162	Medieval
162	159	93	Fill	Dark reddish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and flecks of chalk. Latest fill of pit group 159. Above 161	Medieval
163	163	93	Post-hole	Circular. Gradually to steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.35m wide, 0.17m deep. Filled by 164	Undated
164	163	93	Fill	Dark brownish grey plastic silt clay infrequent stones and flecks of chalk and abundant pieces of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 163	Undated
165	166/ 167	93	Artefacts	Surface finds, mostly from pits 166 and 167	Medieval
166	166	93	Pit group	Two adjoining pits sharing the same fill sequence. 2.89m+ long, 0.96m deep. Filled by 144, 145, 146 and 155	Medieval
167	167	93	Pit	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, flat base. 1.2m+ long, 2.8m wide, 0.85m deep. Filled by 153, 154, 173, 174, 175 and 176	Medieval
168	168	93	Ditch	Linear. Gradually sloping sides, base not exposed. Filled by 156, 177 and 178. Cuts 144. Same as 115	Medieval
169	112	93	Fill	Grey/orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk. Primary fill of pit 112. Below 120	Medieval
170	112	93	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt clay with occ. small pieces of chalk. Second fill of pit 112. Above 120, below 114	Medieval
171	112	93	Fill	Dark yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent stones and pieces of chalk. Primary fill of pit 112. Below 170	Medieval
172	115	93	Fill	Mid to dark reddish brown firm clay silt with occ. stones and pieces of chalk. Primary fill of ditch 115. Below 116	Medieval
173	167	93	Fill	Brown friable clay with infrequent stones and occasional pieces of chalk. Latest fill of pit 167. Above 153	Medieval
174	167	93	Fill	Light brown friable silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk. Fourth fill of pit 167. Above 175, below 153	Medieval
175	167	93	Fill	Light orange brown firm clay with frequent pieces of chalk. Third fill of pit 167. Above 154, below 174	Medieval
176	167	93	Fill	Light orange brown friable silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk. Primary fill of pit 167. Below 154	Medieval

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
177	168	93	Fill	Dark grey friable silt clay. Secondary fill of ditch 168. Above 156, below 178	Medieval
178	168	93	Fill	Light brown friable clay with occasional small pieces of chalk. Latest fill of ditch 168. Above 177	Medieval
179	179	137	Pit	Sub-circular. Gradually and steeply sloping sides, uneven base. 0.8m wide, 0.28m deep. Filled by 180	Neolithic
180	179	137	Fill	Orange brown and grey black plastic silt clay with occasional stones and occasional pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 179	Neolithic
181	181	128	Pit	Sub-rectangular. Gradually-sloping sides, flat base. 1.15m long, 0.54m+ wide, 0.25m deep. Filled by 182	Undated
182	181	128	Fill	Dark brown grey plastic silt clay with infrequent stones and frequent pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 181	Undated
183	183	125	Ditch	Linear. Moderately sloping sides, concave base. 1m+ long, 1.2m wide, 0.37m deep. Filled by 184	Roman
184	183	125	Fill	Yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk. Single fill of ditch 183	Roman
185		152	Layer	Light greyish brown loose silt clay with occasional stones and pieces of chalk. 0.10m thick	LIA/Roman
186	186	152	Pit	Circular. Vertical sides, flat base. 0.8m long, 0.3m+ wide, 0.4m deep. Filled by 187	LIA/Roman
187	186	152	Fill	Dark grey loose clay silt with infrequent stones and occasional flecks of chalk. Single fill of pit 186	LIA/Roman
188	188	140	Pit	Circular. Variable sloping sides, concave base. 0.74m long, 0.71m wide, 0.24m deep. Filled by 189	Undated
189	188	140	Fill	Brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and occasional flecks and pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 188	Undated
190	190	140	Pit	Circular. Moderately sloping sides, uneven base. 1.04m long, 1m wide, 0.17m deep. Filled by 191	Undated
191	190	140	Fill	Greyish brown plastic silt clay with frequent stones and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 190	Undated
192	192	150	Pit	Oval. Moderately sloping sides, uneven base. 1.79m long, 0.8m wide, 0.2m deep. Filled by 193	Post-med.
193	192	150	Fill	Dark yellowish grey loose silt clay with infrequent pieces of chalk and occasional flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 192	Post-med.
194	194	148	Pit	Circular. Near-vertical sides, sloping base. 0.81m long, 0.34m+ wide, 0.21m deep. Filled by 195	Undated
195	194	148	Fill	Dark brownish grey plastic silt clay with occasional stones and frequent pieces of charcoal. Single fill of pit 194	Undated
196	196	148	Pit	Sub-circular. Vertical sides, uneven base. 1m long, 0.32m+ wide, 0.19m deep. Filled by 197	Undated
197	196	148	Fill	Greyish brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and large bits of charcoal. Single fill of pit 196	Undated
198	198	128	Pit	Oval. Moderately sloping sides, concave base. 1.14m long, 1.3m wide, 0.24m deep. Filled by 199	Undated
199	198	128	Fill	Dark grey/yellow loose silt clay with infrequent stones and occasional flecks of chalk. Single fill of pit 199	Undated
200	200	142	?Post-hole	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.15m wide, 0.12m deep. Filled by 202	Undated
201	201	142	?Post-hole	Circular. Moderately sloping sides, concave base. 0.14m wide, 0.11m deep. Filled by 202	Undated
202	200/ 201	142	Layer	Brown friable silt clay. Overlies and fills post-holes 200 and 201	Undated
203			Not used		
204			Not used		
205			Not used		
206	206	142	Pit	Sub-circular. Moderately sloping sides, slightly concave base. 0.39m+ long, 0.45m wide, 0.14m deep. Filled by 207	Undated
207	206	142	Fill	Yellowish brown plastic silt clay. Single fill of pit 206	Undated
208	208	142	Pit	?Circular. Gradually sloping sides, undulating and flat base. 2m+ wide, 0.5m deep. Filled by 209	Undated
209	208	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with occasional stones and infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 208	Undated
210	210	142	Pit	?Circular. Gradually to moderately sloping sides, flat base. 2m+ wide, 0.4m deep. Filled by 211	Undated

Cont.	Feat.	Trench	Type	Description	Date
211	210	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with occ. stones and pieces of chalk and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 210	Undated
212	212	142	Pit	Oval. Gradually sloping sides, flat base. 0.65m long, 0.6m wide, 0.07m deep. Filled by 213	Undated
213	212	142	Fill	Grey plastic silt clay with frequent streaks and flecks of charcoal. Single fill of pit 212	Undated
214	214	142	Pit	Uncertain plan, not fully excavated. Steeply sloping west side, base not exposed. 1.67m+ long, 0.4m+ wide, 0.98m+ deep. Filled by 215, 216, 217 and 218	Undated
215	214	142	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm silt clay with infrequent stones. Primary fill of pit 214. Below 216	Undated
216	214	142	Fill	Light yellowish grey loose silt clay with occasional flecks of chalk. Secondary fill of pit 214. Above 215. Below 217	Undated
217	214	142	Fill	Light greyish yellow loose silt clay with infrequent stones. Third fill of pit 214. Above 215. Below 217	Undated
218	214	142	Fill	Dark yellowish brown friable silt clay with infrequent flecks of chalk. Latest fill of pit 214. Above 217	Undated
219	219	142	Post-hole	Sub-circular. Steeply sloping sides, pointed base. 0.17m wide, 0.3m long, 0.38m deep. Filled by 220	Undated
220	219	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 219	Undated
221	221	142	Post-hole	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.3m wide, 0.41m deep. Filled by 222	Undated
222	221	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay with infrequent flecks of charcoal. Single fill of post-hole 221	Undated
223	223	142	Post-hole	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.1m wide, 0.36m deep. Filled by 224	Undated
224	223	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay. Single fill of post-hole 223	Undated
225	225	142	Post-hole	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.16m wide, 0.42m deep. Filled by 226	Undated
226	225	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay. Single fill of post-hole 225	Undated
227	227	142	Post-hole	Circular. Steeply sloping sides, concave base. 0.14m wide, 0.34m deep. Filled by 228	Undated
228	227	142	Fill	Orange brown plastic silt clay. Single fill of post-hole 227	Undated
229	229	142	Pit	Same as 214	Undated
230	230	142	Fill	Same as 218	Undated
231		142	Natural	Orange brown friable silt clay	
232	232	81	Ditch	Not investigated. 7.5m wide	Post-med.
233	233	94	Pit	?Clay pit. 0.95m deep	Post-med.
234	234	83	Pit	?Clay pit. 0.95m+ deep	Post-med.
235	235	93	Pit	Not investigated	Undated
236	236	93	Pit group	Includes pits 166 and 167	Medieval

APPENDIX 2: FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Full quantification details can be found in the site archive.

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
5	6		13	Animal bone	-
		1		Worked flint	-
7	8	2	7	Pottery, prehistoric	MIA
		1		Worked flint	-
11	U/S	1		Worked flint	-
12	13	1	3	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
14	15	12	30	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			3	Animal bone	-
		30	58	Baked clay	-
		3		Worked flint	-
		1	8	Burnt flint	-
16	17	18	130	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			7	Animal bone	-
		1	9	Shell	-
18	19		12	Animal bone	-
21	20	14	78	Pottery, prehistoric	MIA
			10	Animal bone	-
		11	157	Burnt flint	-
22	23		1	Animal bone	-
		1	1	Baked clay	-
25	24	7	50	Pottery, prehistoric	MIA
		76	626	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		1	3	Coin, undatable	-
			836	Animal bone	-
		1	27	Iron	-
		60	376	Shell	-
		1		Worked flint	
		9	234	Burnt flint	-
26	28	18	123	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		1	4	Iron	-
			7	Animal bone	-
		1	13	Shell	-
		4	8	Baked clay	-
27	29	1	4	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		3	1	Shell	-
30	31	2	28	Pottery, prehistoric	Prehistoric
		2	16	Baked clay	-
32	33		1	Animal bone	-
37	36	1	1	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		1	12	Shell	-
		2		Worked flint	-
41	39	5	56	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		3	15	Shell	-
		5	20	Baked clay	-
		1		Worked flint	
47	46	25	384	Burnt flint	-
48	50	19	130	Pottery, MIA	MIA
				Pottery, ?Roman	?Roman
			148	Animal bone	-
52	43	18	110	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			5	Animal bone	-
		1	11	Shell	-
		18	46	Baked clay	-
		1		Worked flint	
54	43U/S	9	73	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		1	4	Shell	-
		1	58	Brick and tile	Roman
		4	17	Baked clay	-
56	57	6	58	Pottery, M/LIA	LIA
			157	Animal bone	-
60	57U/S	1	75	Pottery, Roman	Roman
62	61	6	66	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		2	13	Iron	

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
64	63	60	702	Baked clay	-
65	63	8	177	Baked clay	-
68	66	2	9	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			75	Animal bone	-
		19	172	Baked clay	-
		1		Worked flint	
70	69	1	3	Pottery, Roman	Roman
72	69	31	392	Baked clay	-
		2	16	Burnt flint	-
73	69		7	Animal bone	
		32	331	Baked clay	-
		3	36	Burnt flint	-
77	76	2	12	Pottery, Roman	Roman
79	78		1	Animal bone	-
			11	Baked clay	-
81	Layer	29	213	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			16	Animal bone	-
		1	36	Brick and tile	Roman
		7	17	Baked clay	-
82	83	53	399	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1	16	Baked clay	-
84	Layer		229	Animal bone	-
85	Layer	45	593	Pottery Roman	Roman
			89	Animal bone	-
		5	34	Shell	-
		4	376	Brick and tile	Roman
		4	12	Baked clay	-
		1	106	Slag	-
87	86	22	143	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			83	Animal bone	-
		1	4	Shell	-
		1	4	Baked clay	-
		1		Worked flint, arrowhead	
88	83U/S	7	47	Pottery, Roman	Roman
89	86	2	18	Pottery, prehistoric	Prehistoric
		215	1840	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			1309	Animal bone	-
		20	70	Shell	-
		22	34	Baked clay	-
		1		Worked flint	
92	106	1	2	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		2		Worked flint	
93	Layer	3	23	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		21	137	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1	3	Coin	Modern
		1	2	Copper alloy	Modern
		3	10	Iron	-
				Brick and tile	Later med/
		13	160		post-med
94	Layer	10	36	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1	4	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			29	Animal bone	-
		8	84	Shell	-
		1		Worked flint	
95	106	26	95	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1	12	Brick and tile, Roman	Roman
				Brick and tile, later med/post-med	Later med/post-
		7	97		med
		1	6	Baked clay	-
96	97	1	7	Pottery, Roman	Roman
98	99	2	80	Pottery, Roman +IA?	Roman
100	Layer	51	585	Pottery , Roman	Roman
		1	7	Shell	-
101	Layer	18	958	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			9	Animal bone	-
103	102	2	13	Pottery, Roman	Roman

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
		4	97	Shell	-
105	104	3	34	Pottery, LIA/Roman	LIA/Roman
			9	Animal bone	-
		2	6	Baked clay	-
107	106	6	92	Pottery, Roman	Roman
				Pottery, post-medieval	Post-medieval
		1	7		
		2	17	Iron	-
				Brick and tile	Later med/ post-med
		3	16		
108	106	7	52	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1	5	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			13	Animal bone	-
		1	263	Slag	-
109	110	62	585	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			161	Animal bone	-
		3	38	Shell	-
111	Layer	44	264	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			164	Animal bone	-
113	112	32	258	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		42	365	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			330	Animal bone	-
		21	151	Shell	-
		5	10	Baked clay	-
		2	28	Burnt flint	-
114	112	2	15	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			3	Animal bone	-
			48	Shell	-
116	115	1	1	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		9	68	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		4	16	Baked clay	-
117	115	8	11	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		35	567	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			228	Animal bone	-
		13	181	Shell	-
		2	16	Burnt flint	-
119	112	4	13	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		7	28	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			28	Animal bone	-
		4	26	Shell	-
		4	14	Baked clay	-
121	112/115	2	7	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		2	9	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		1	17	Shell	-
		1	18	Baked clay	-
123	122	5	95	Pottery, Roman	Roman
125	124	8	27	Pottery, Roman	Roman
128	124		155	Animal bone	-
		1	3	Baked clay	-
129	143	12	81	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			178	Animal bone	-
		6	133	Shell	-
130	127	11	59	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			62	Animal bone	-
131	127	6	565	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		12	203	Shell	-
		1	10	Baked clay	-
132	127	7	35	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			55	Animal bone	-
			25	Shell	-
133	143	20	175	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			3	Animal bone	-
		1	18	Shell	-
		1	2	Baked clay	-
135	134	10	93	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			145	Animal bone	-
		8	60	Baked clay	-

Context	Feature	Count	Wt (g)	Description	Date
137	136	8	69	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			29	Animal bone	-
139	Layer	2	68	Pottery, Roman	Roman
144	166	33	246	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			7	Animal bone	-
		2	24	Shell	-
145	166			Pottery, Roman + poss Saxon	Roman
		5	42	sherd	
		2	6	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
146	166	1	38	Pottery , Roman	Roman
			82	Animal bone	-
152	149			Pottery, post-medieval	Post-medieval
		2	29		
		1	149	Iron	-
		1	9	Shell	-
				Brick and tile	Later med/post-med
		5	120		
153	167	6	41	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			10	Shell	-
154	167	5	180	Pottery , Roman	Roman
		52	573	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		2	6	Iron	-
			190	Animal bone	-
		193	2422	Shell	-
		5	32	Baked clay	-
		2	25	Burnt flint	-
155	166	1	17	Pottery, Roman	Roman
			41	Animal bone	-
156	168	2	11	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
		2	10	Shell	-
		8	40	Baked clay	-
158	157	10	200	Brick and tile	Modern
160	159		18	Animal bone	-
161	159	3	19	Pottery , Roman	Roman
		1	5	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			7	Animal bone	-
		1	49	Shell	-
164	163	2	4	Baked clay	-
165	166/167	2	30	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		3	18	Pottery, medieval	Medieval
			9	Animal bone	-
169	112	5	18	Pottery, LIA/Roman	LIA/Roman
			1	Animal bone	-
		1	8	Shell	-
172	112	1	17	Pottery , medieval	Medieval
		2	30	Shell	-
180	179	14	43	Baked clay	-
			40	Worked flint, waste	
		2	20	Burnt flint	-
182	181	1		Worked flint	
184	183	35	109	Pottery, Roman	Roman
		1		Worked flint	
185	Layer	17	157	Pottery, LIA/Roman	LIA/Roman
			18	Animal bone	-
187	186	13	57	Pottery, LIA/Roman	LIA/Roman
		3	29	Burnt flint	-
193	192		10	Animal bone	-
				Brick and tile	Later med/post-med
		2	32		
207	206	4	17	Brick and tile	Post-med.
211	210	61	419	Baked clay	-

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

No.	Context	Feature	Trench	Description	Date	Comments
1	21	20	3	Single fill of pit 20	MIA	
2	16	17	5	Single fill of gully 17	Medieval	
3	25	24	5	Latest fill of pit 24	Medieval	
4	53	43	2	Latest fill of ditch 43	Medieval	
5	48	50	19	Primary fill of pit 50	MIA	
6	62	61	19	Single fill of ditch 61	Roman	
7	56	57	19	Latest fill of ditch 57	LIA	
8	65	63	69	Latest fill of oven 63	?Roman	
9	68	66	70	Primary fill of ditch 66	Roman	
10	85		80	Layer	Roman	
11				Discarded		
12				Discarded		
13	100		83	Layer	Roman	
14	109	110	83	Single fill of gully 110	Roman	Spelt wheat glume bases & weed seeds
15	114	112	93	Fourth fill of pit 112	Medieval	Onion couch type tuber
16	129	143	84	Primary fill of ditch 143	Roman	Spelt wheat glume bases & bread wheat ractus node
17	128	127	84	Secondary fill of ditch 127	Roman	
18	135	134	83	Single fill of gully 134	Roman	
19	117	115	93	Latest fill of ditch 115	Medieval	
20	144	116	93	Latest fill of pit group 166	Medieval	
21	184	183	125	Single fill of ditch 183	Roman	
22	180	179	137	Single fill of pit 179	Neolithic	Modern roots
23	187	186	152	Single fill of pit 186	Roman	

APPENDIX 3: CONTENTS OF SITE ARCHIVE

Reports

1 Client report
1 Written Scheme of Investigation
1 Worked and burnt flint report and table
1 Prehistoric pottery report
1 MIA, LIA and Roman pottery report
1 Medieval pottery report
1 Miscellaneous finds report
1 Animal bone report
1 Charred plant macrofossil report
1 Computer disk containing digital photographs and copies of the reports listed above

Site Records

1 List of trench co-ordinates
7 Context register sheets
236 Context sheets
13 Section register sheets
3 Plan register sheets
1 Digital photo register
1 Black and white photo register
139 Digital photographs
37 Black and white photographs
1 Bulk soil sample register sheet
23 Environmental sample register sheets
1 Small find register sheet
13 Large sheets of section drawings
30 Large sheets of site plans
5 Boxes of finds

APPENDIX 4: ESSEX HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY

Site name/Address: Rivenhall Airfield south-western area, Rivenhall	
Parish: Rivenhall	***District:*** Braintree
NGR: TL 582060 220297	***Site Code:*** BQME10
Type of Work: Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching	***Site Director/Group:*** Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 31/8/10 to 13/10/10	***Size of Area Investigated:*** Trenching: 150 trenches, totalling 12600m^2
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree Museum	***Client:*** Guildhouse Consultancy
Further Seasons Anticipated?:	***Related HER Nos.:*** 28881
Final Report: *Essex Archaeology and History* (summary)	
Periods represented: Prehistoric Roman Medieval Post-medieval Modern	

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

The south-western part of Rivenhall Airfield was trial trenched in advance of possible mineral extraction. Previous archaeological investigations at the airfield have revealed prehistoric worked flint, Middle Bronze Age pits, a Middle Iron Age roundhouse, Late Iron Age/Roman ditches and finds, and four concentrations of medieval pits and enclosures (Peachey 2003; Allen 2006; Germany 2006; Ennis 2006, 2008).

The trenching discovered concentrations of archaeological remains in the north-western, south-eastern and south-western parts of the evaluation area (Areas A to C). Area A is situated near Sheepcotes Farm which is documented to have 12th century or earlier origins (EHER 28881).

Area A contains Middle Iron Age pits and Late Iron Age, late Roman and medieval ditches and gullies. The Middle Iron Age features and the previously-found round-house lie not far from each other and are probably part of a fairly extensive area of Middle Iron Age settlement. The Late Iron Age and Roman ditches imply continuing occupation within or close to Area A during those periods. The medieval ditches represent 12th to 13th-century enclosures, possibly associated with Sheepcotes Farm.

The archaeological remains in Area B include Roman layers and linear features and a tight cluster of medieval pits. Further features comprise a post-medieval field ditch and post-medieval/modern clay pits. The Roman features are of 1st to late 3rd/early 4th century date and are probably the remains of a settlement, possibly a farmstead. It is possible that the settlement developed from a Late Iron Age predecessor as some of the Roman layers and features contain residual pieces of Late Iron Age pottery. The medieval pits are mostly large and intercutting and were probably dug during the first half of the 13th century, possibly for the extraction of large nodules of flint for the construction of buildings.

The features in Area C include a Neolithic pit, a Late Iron Age/Early Roman pit and layer, and a mid 2nd to mid 3rd century Roman ditch. The other remains are mostly undatable and comprise post-holes and pits. The Neolithic pit contained a moderate amount of worked flint, including numerous scrapers. The Late Iron Age and Roman remains possibly imply areas of Late Iron Age and Roman settlement to the south and west, outside the area of trenching.

Previous Summaries/Reports:-

Allen, P. 2006 *Former Rivenhall Airfield, Rivenhall, Essex. Continuous archaeological observation and excavation. Phase 1.4. Interim report (Revised)*. ECC FAU report 1368

Ennis, T. 2006 *Recycling and composting facility, Rivenhall Airfield, Woodhouse Lane, Rivenhall, Essex. Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching*. ECC FAU report 1559

Ennis, T. 2008 *Bradwell Quarry, Former Rivenhall Airfield, Rivenhall, Essex. Archaeological observation and excavation. Interim report. Phases 3.1 (east), 3.2, 3.3 and 4.1*. ECC FAU report 1773

Germany, M. 2006 *Former Rivenhall Airfield, Rivenhall, Essex. Continuous archaeological observation and excavation. Phases 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3*. Interim report. ECC FAU report 1422

Peachey, M. 2003 *Former Rivenhall Airfield, Rivenhall, Essex. Continuous archaeological observation and excavation. Access road and phases 1.1 to 1.3 and 3.1 (west). Interim report*. ECC FAU report 807

Author of Summary: Mark Germany	***Date of Summary:*** December 2010

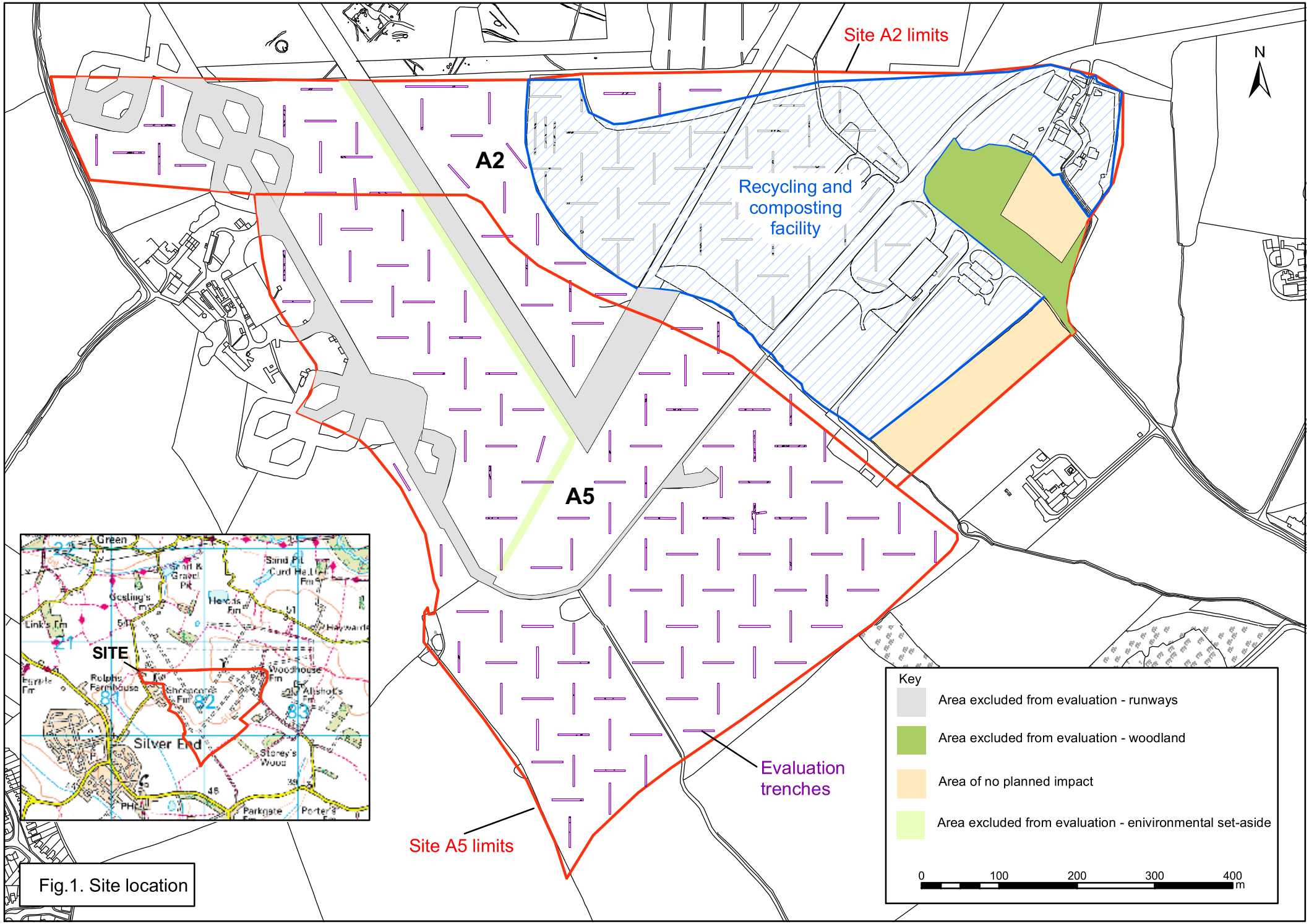


Fig.1. Site location

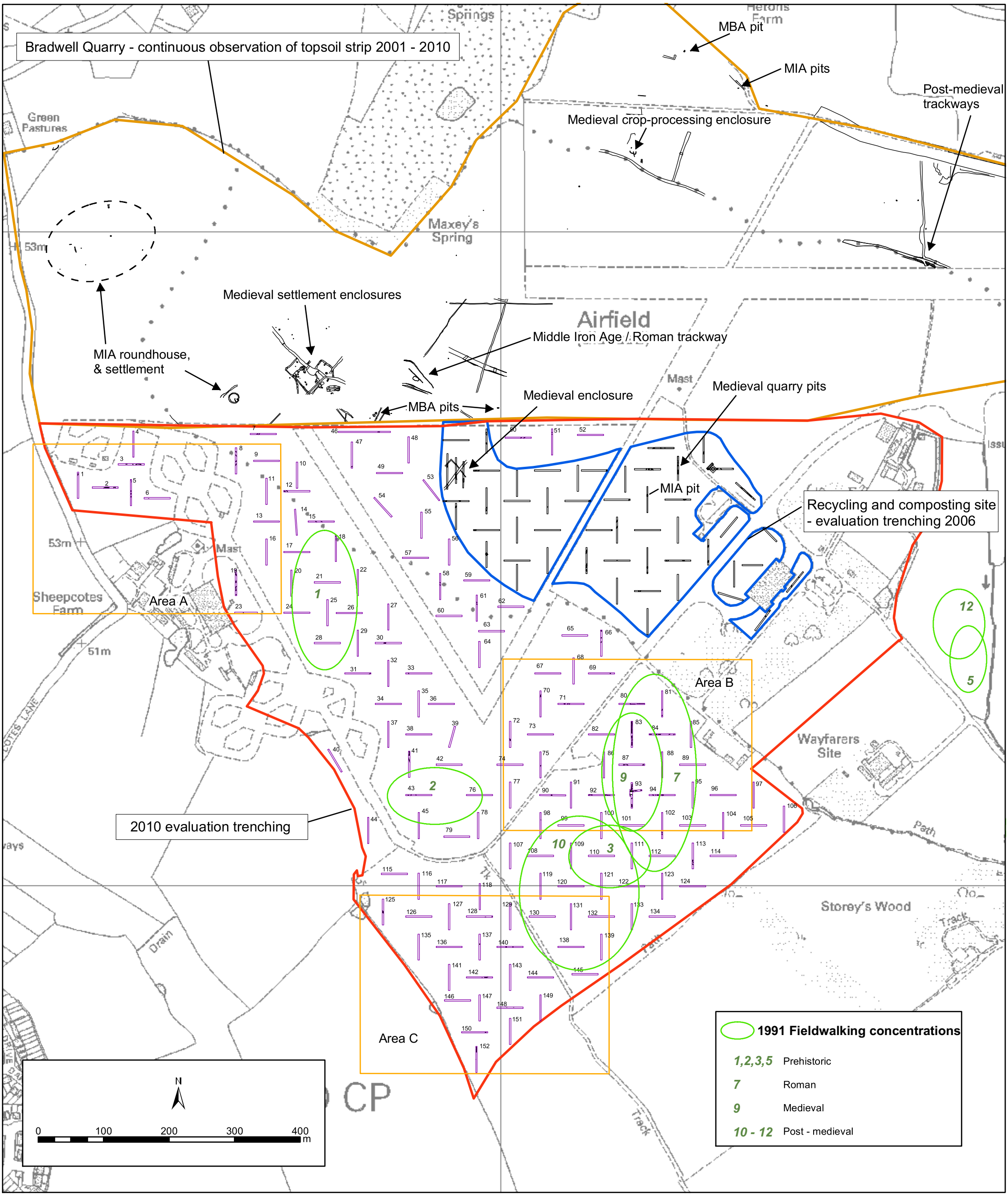


Fig.2. Previous archaeological work

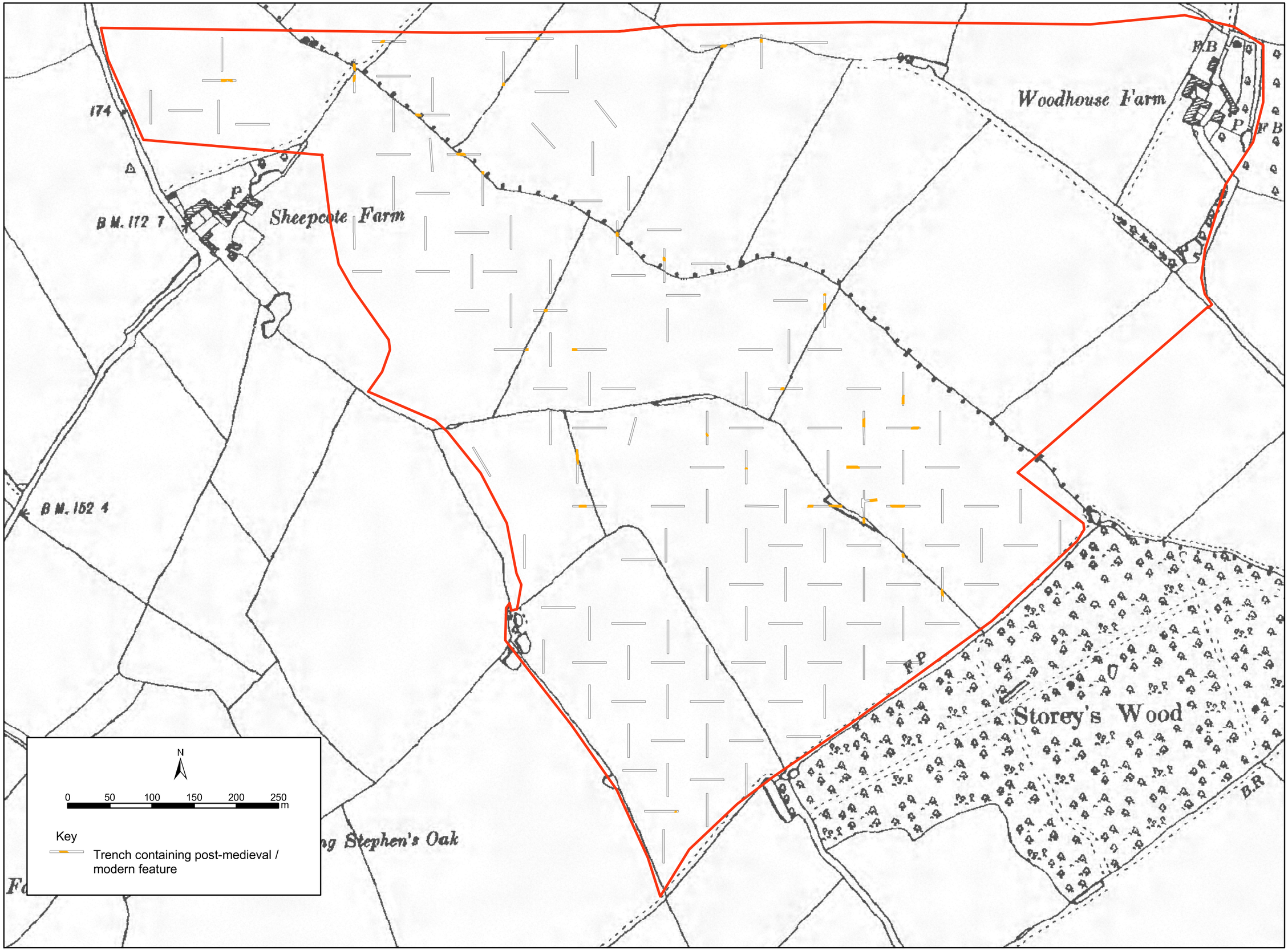
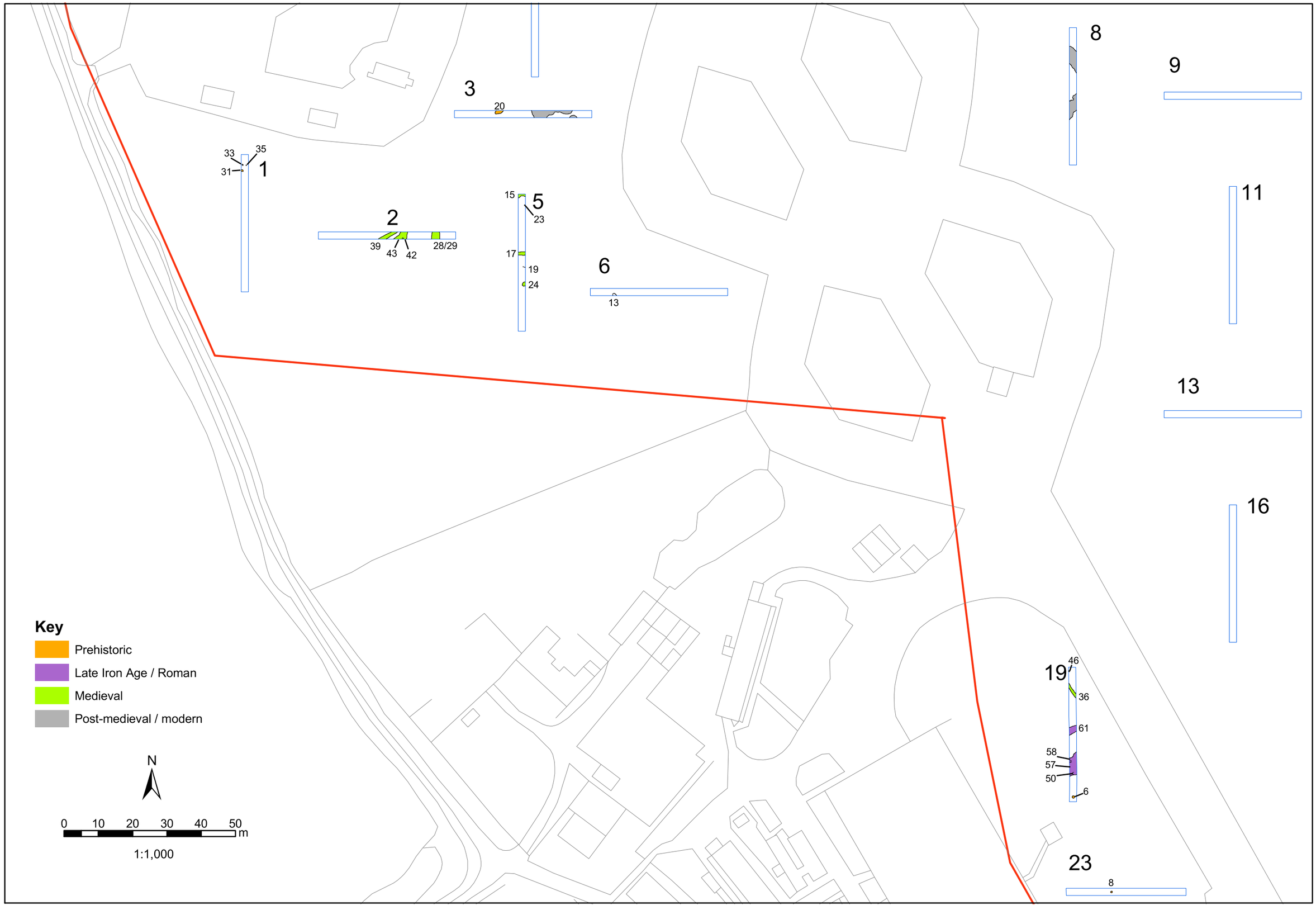


Fig.3. Post-medieval / modern features with third edition Ordnance Survey mapping (1915 - 1924)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Key
Prehistoric
Late Iron Age / Roman
Medieval
Post-medieval / modern
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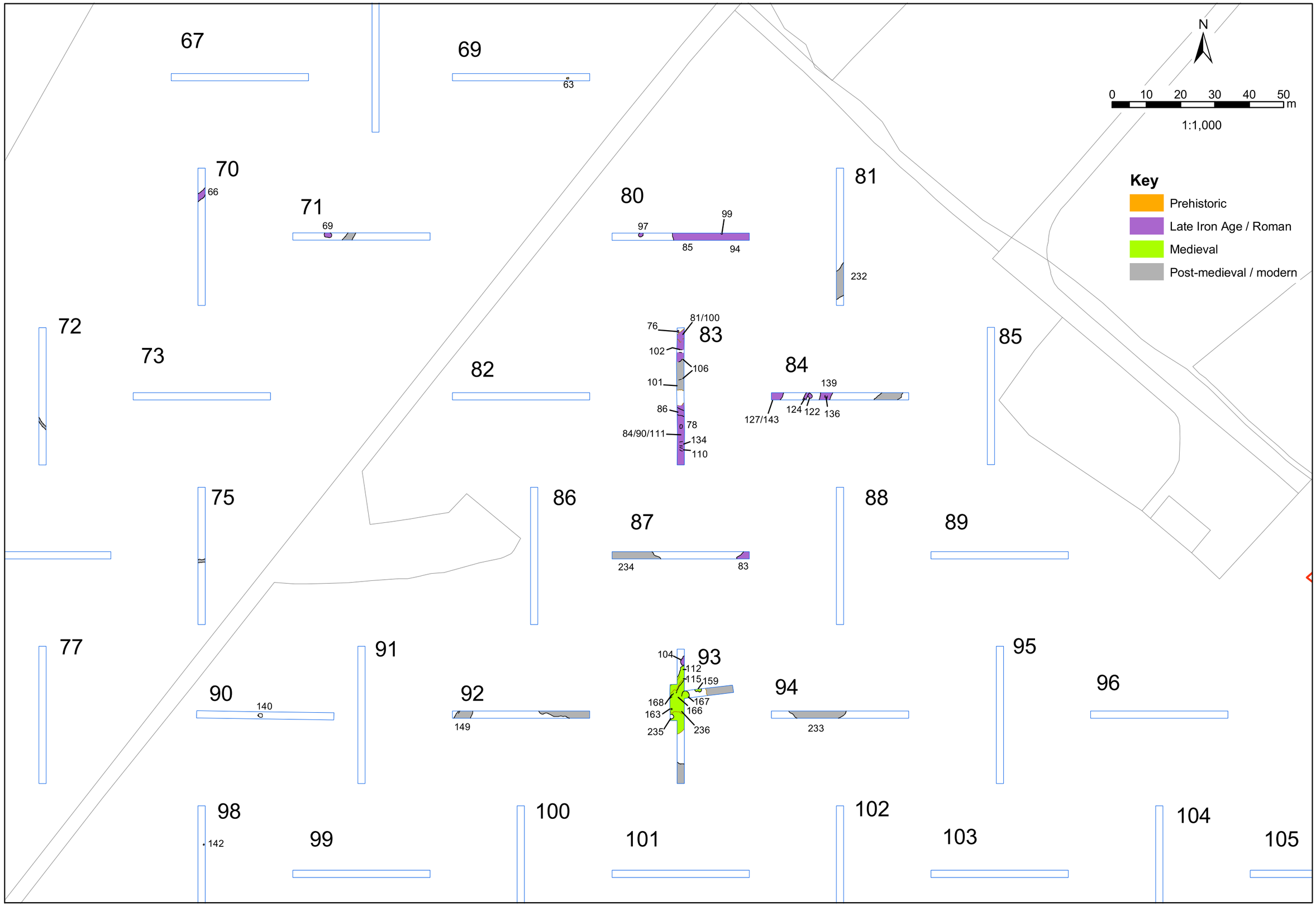
1:1,000

Fig.4. Area A


N
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
1:1,000
Key
Prehistoric
Late Iron Age / Roman
Medieval
Post-medieval / modern
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97
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85
94
81
232
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73
82
83
81/100
76
102
106
101
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84/90/111
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127/143
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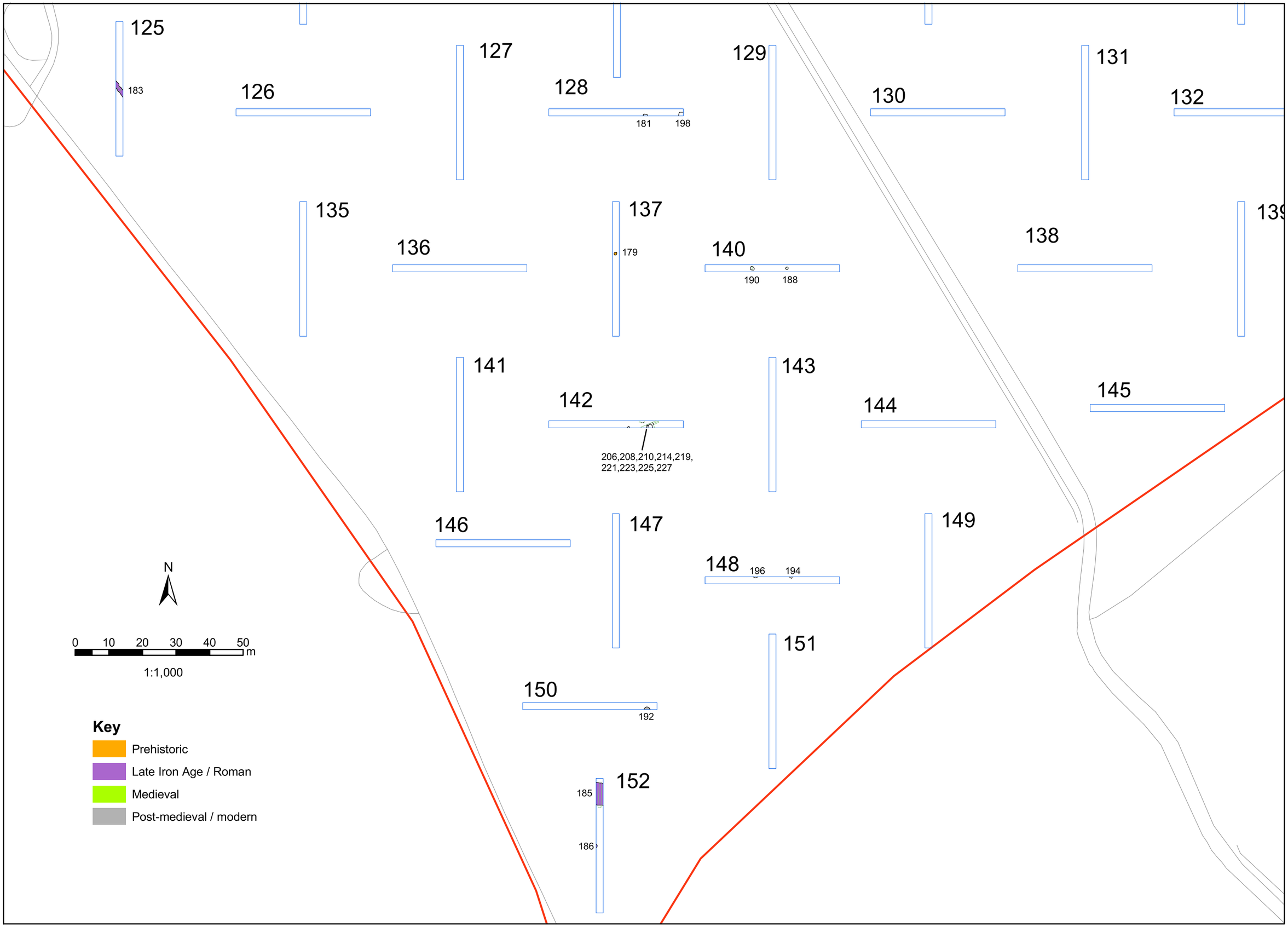
Fig.5. Area B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192
152
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186
N
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m
1:1,000
Key
Prehistoric
Late Iron Age / Roman
Medieval
Post-medieval / modern

Fig.6. Area C

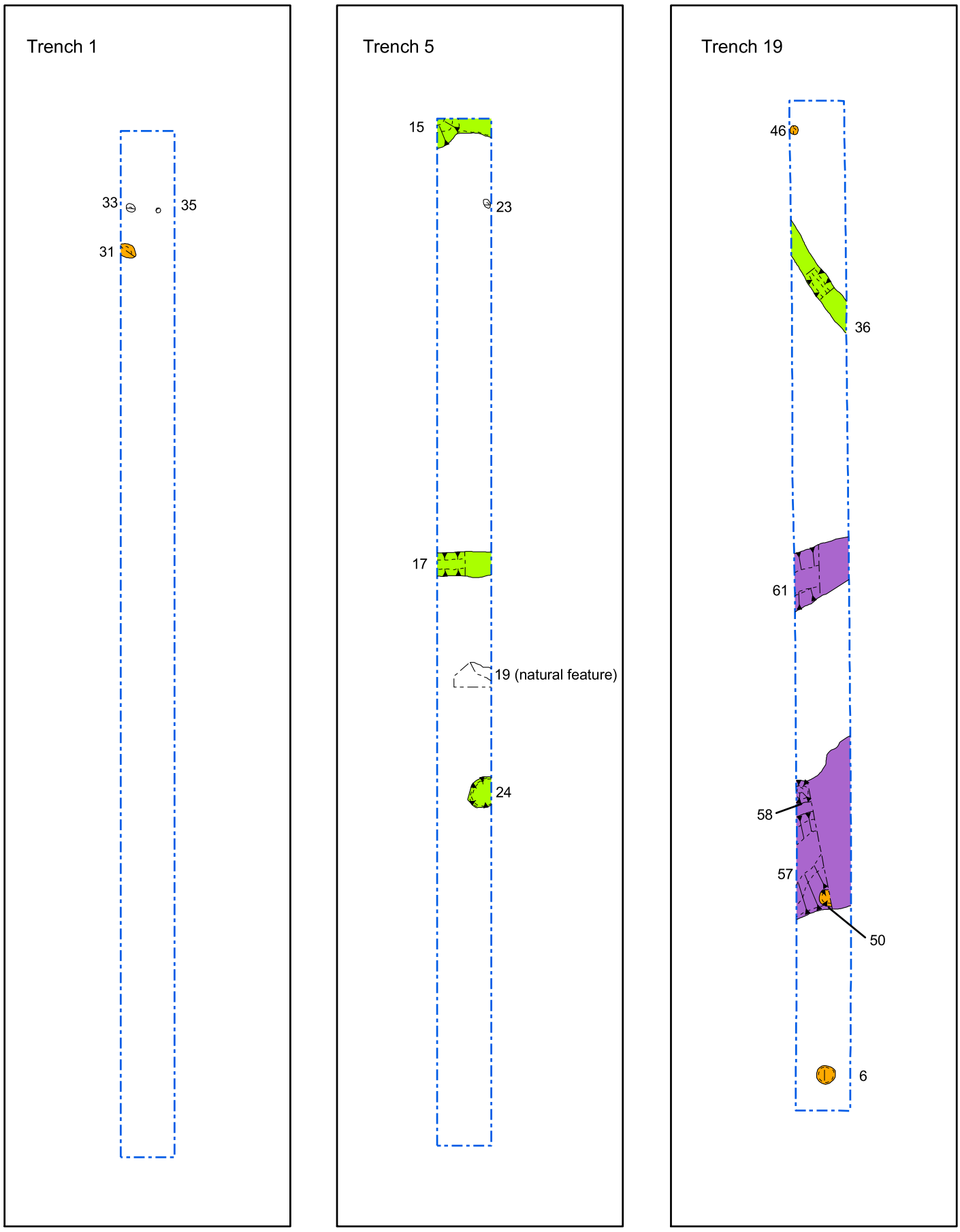


Fig.7. Area A: Trenches 1, 5 & 19

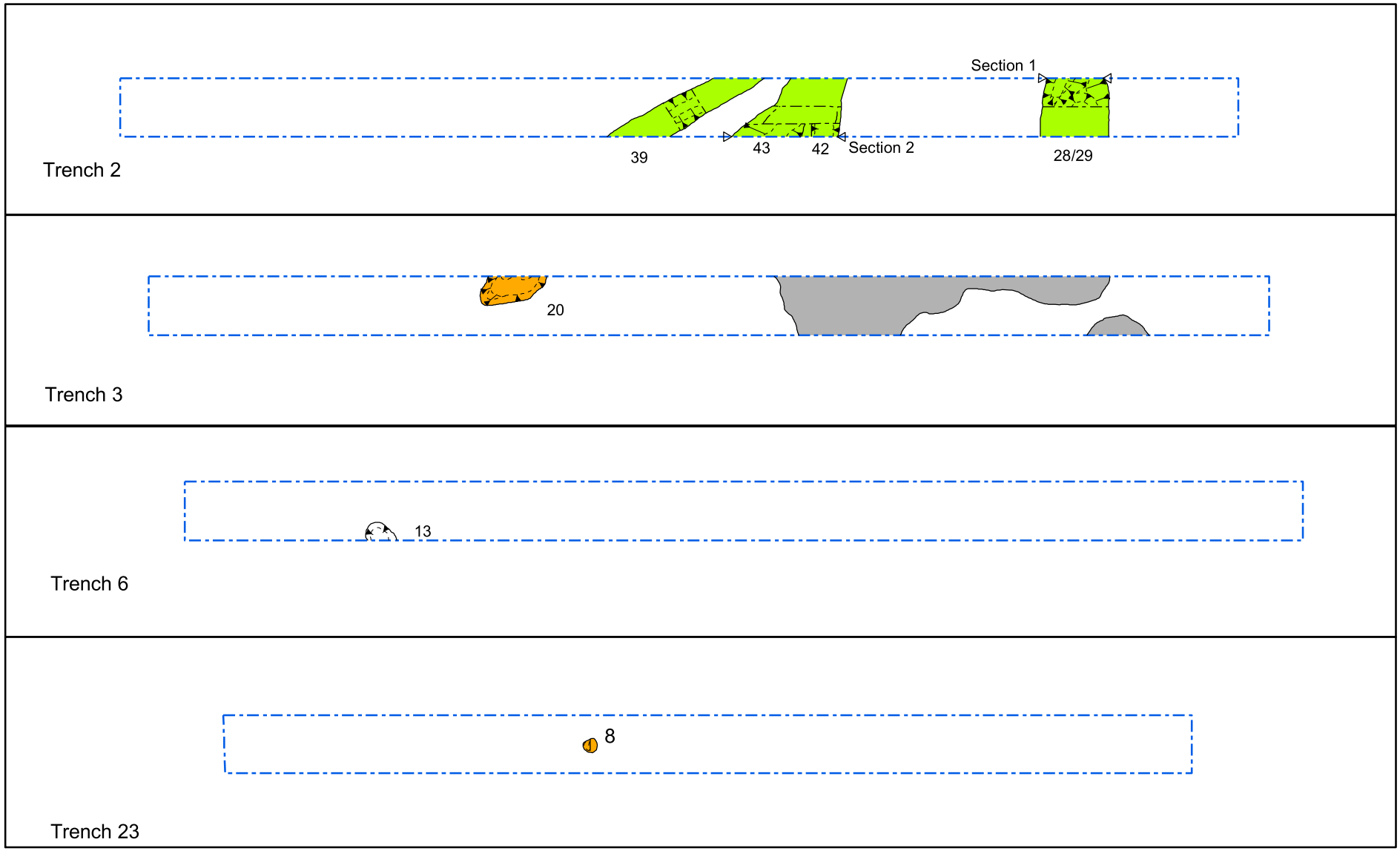


Fig.8. Area A: Trenches 2, 3, 6 & 23

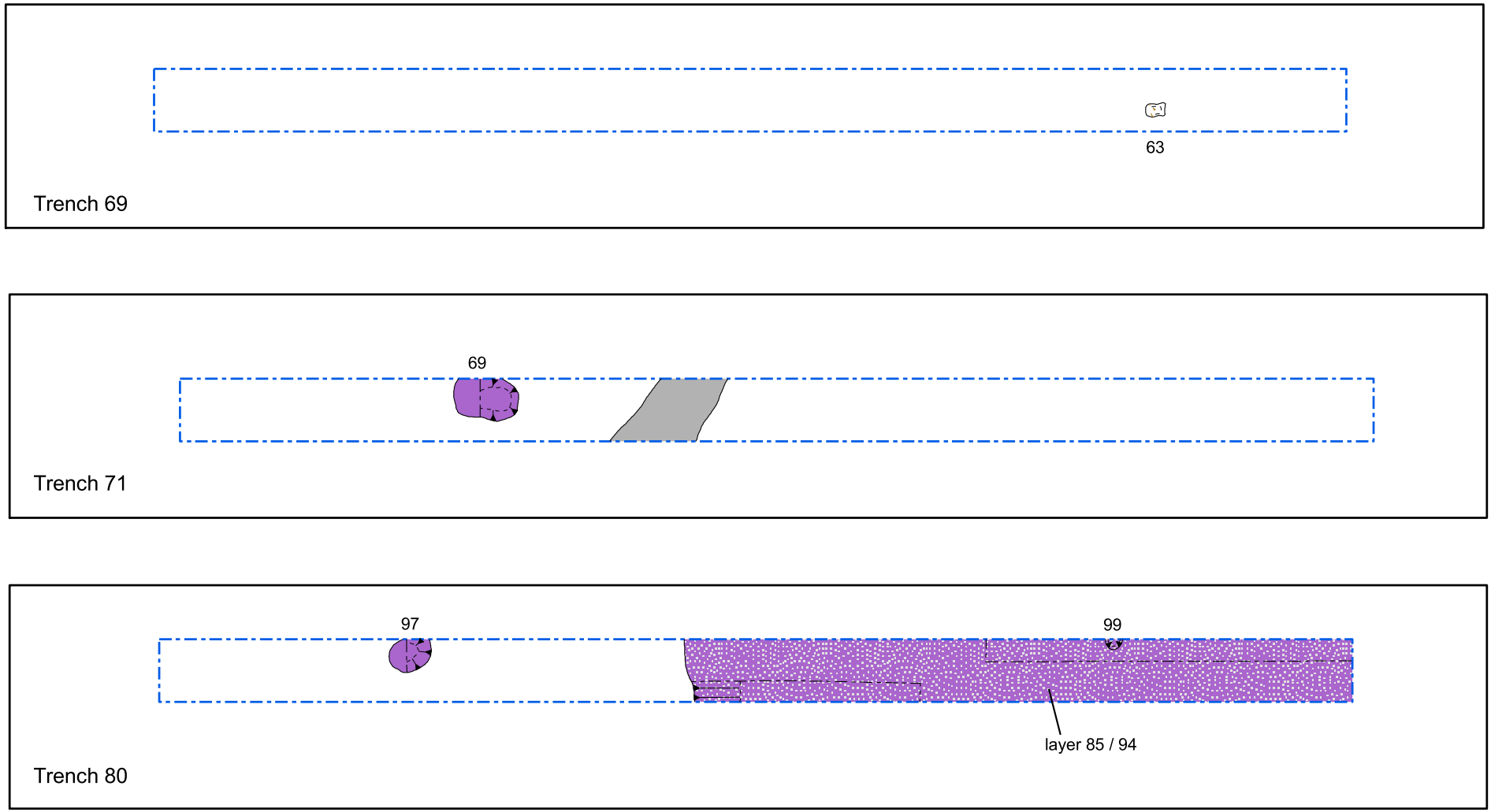


Fig.9. Area B : Trenches 69, 71 & 80

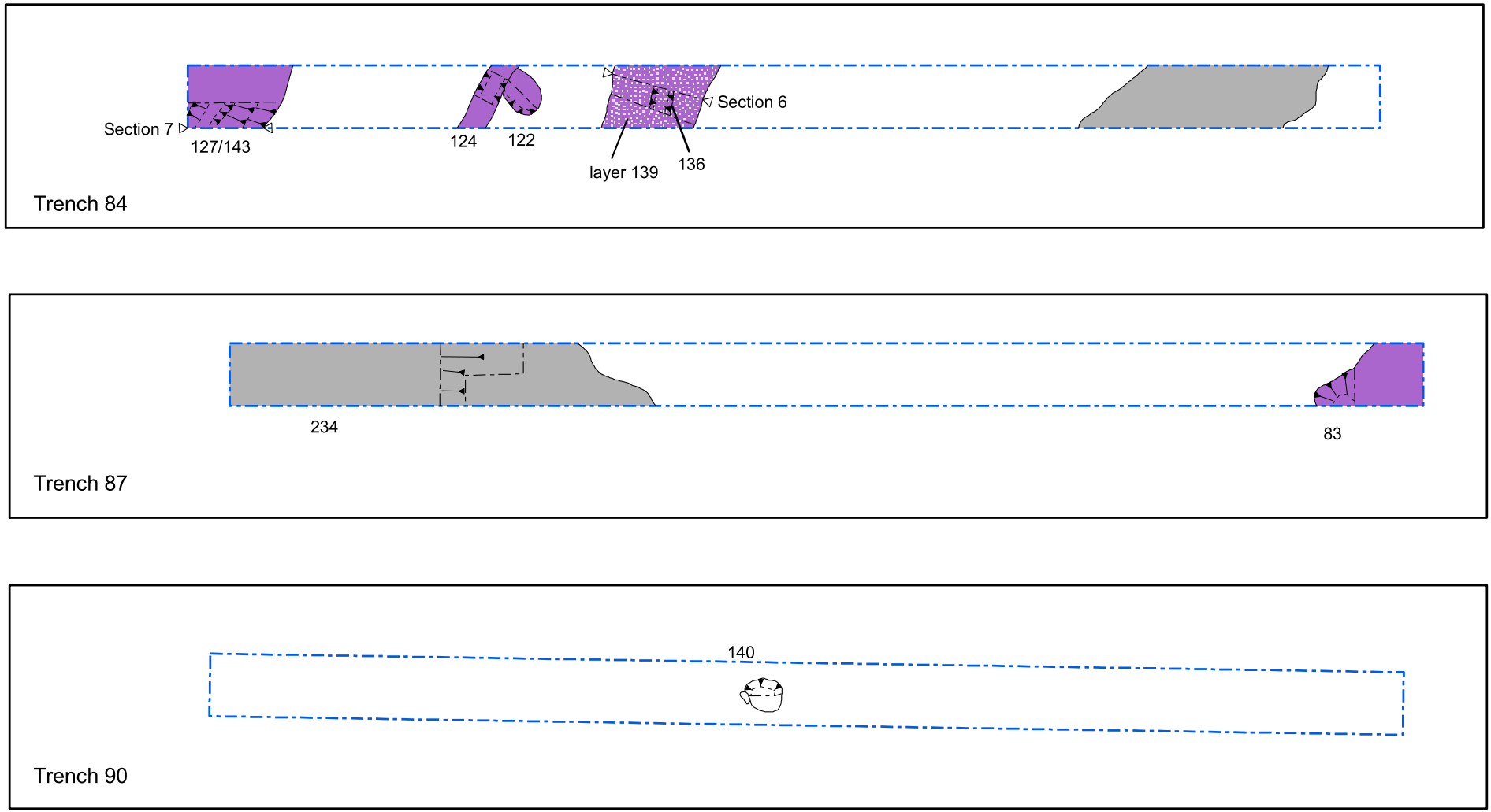


Fig.10. Area B : Trenches 84, 87 & 90

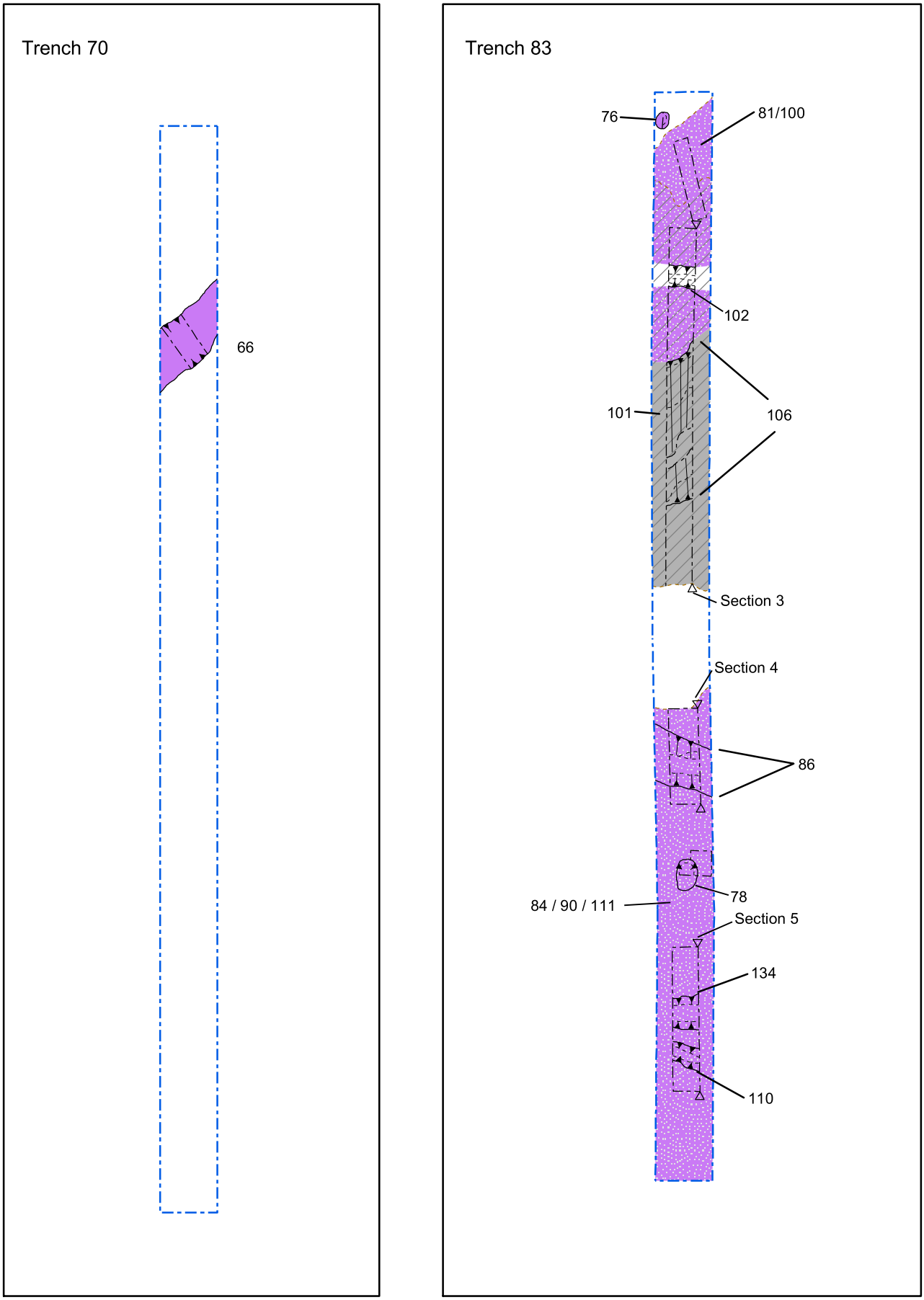


Fig.11. Area B : Trenches 70 & 83

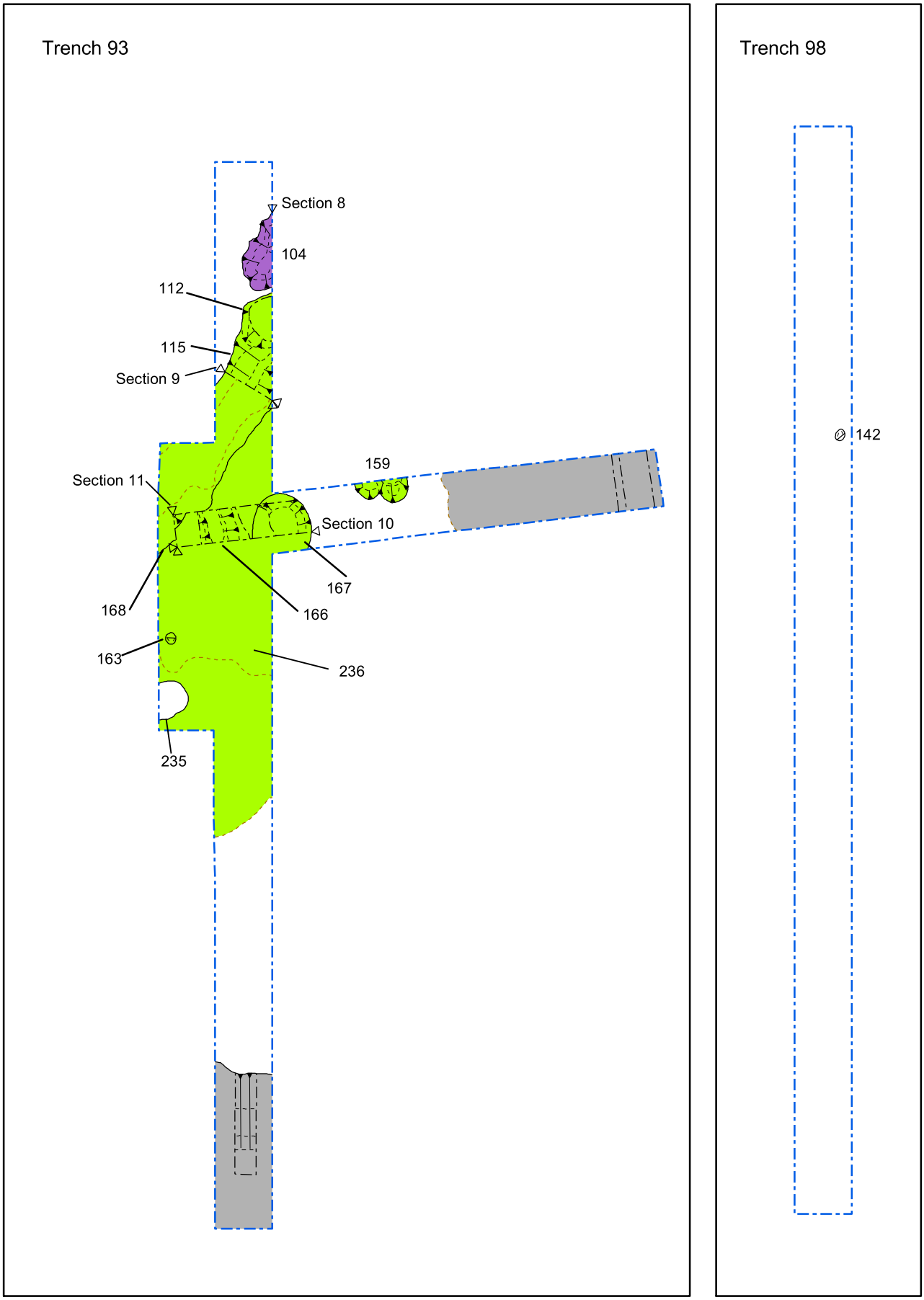


Fig.12. Area B : Trenches 93 & 98

N

0 5 10 m

1:200

Key

- Prehistoric
- Late Iron Age / Roman
- Medieval
- Post-medieval / modern
- Undated

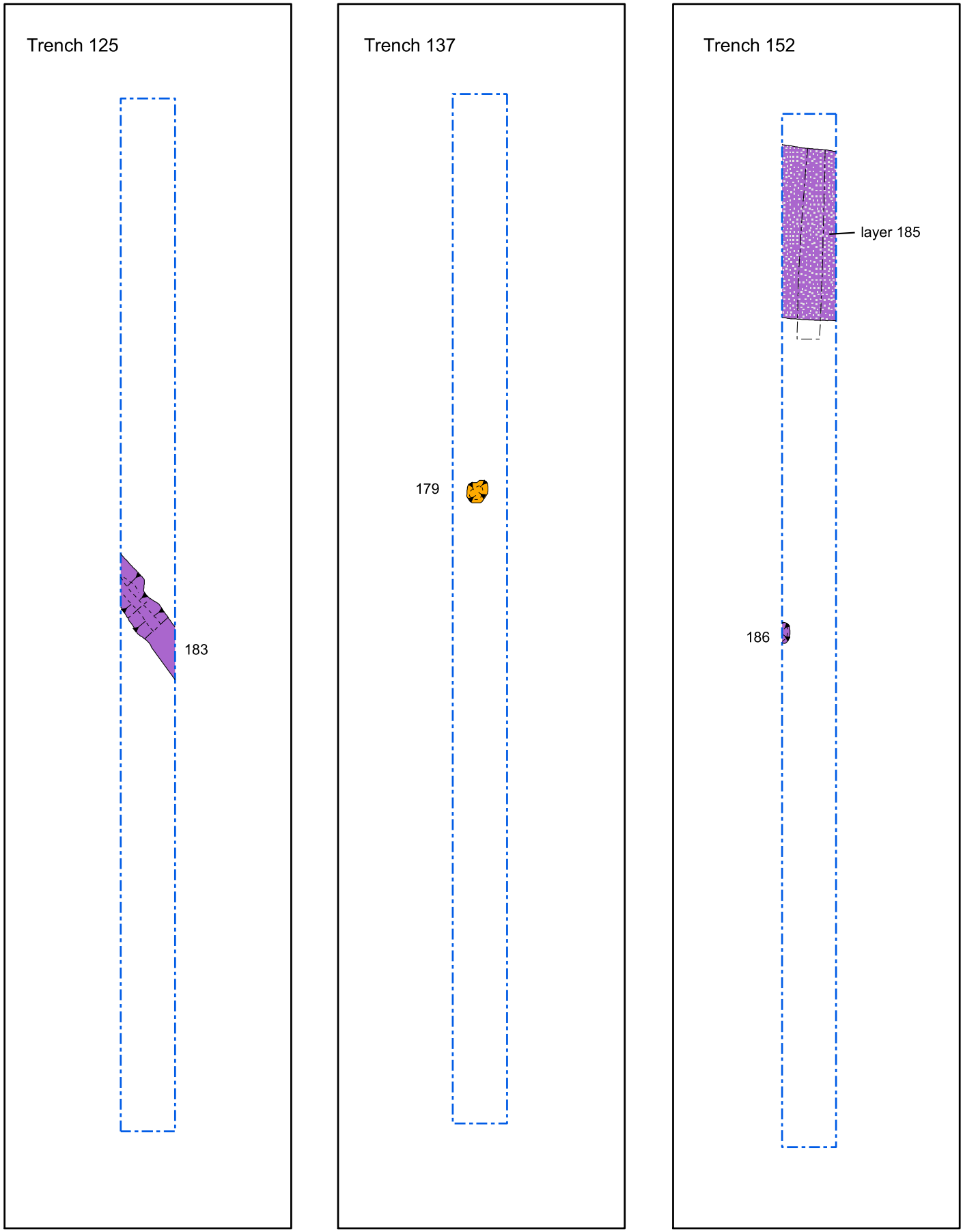


Fig.13. Area C : Trenches 125, 137 & 152

N

0 5 10 m

1:200

Key

- Prehistoric
- Late Iron Age / Roman
- Medieval
- Post-medieval / modern
- Undated

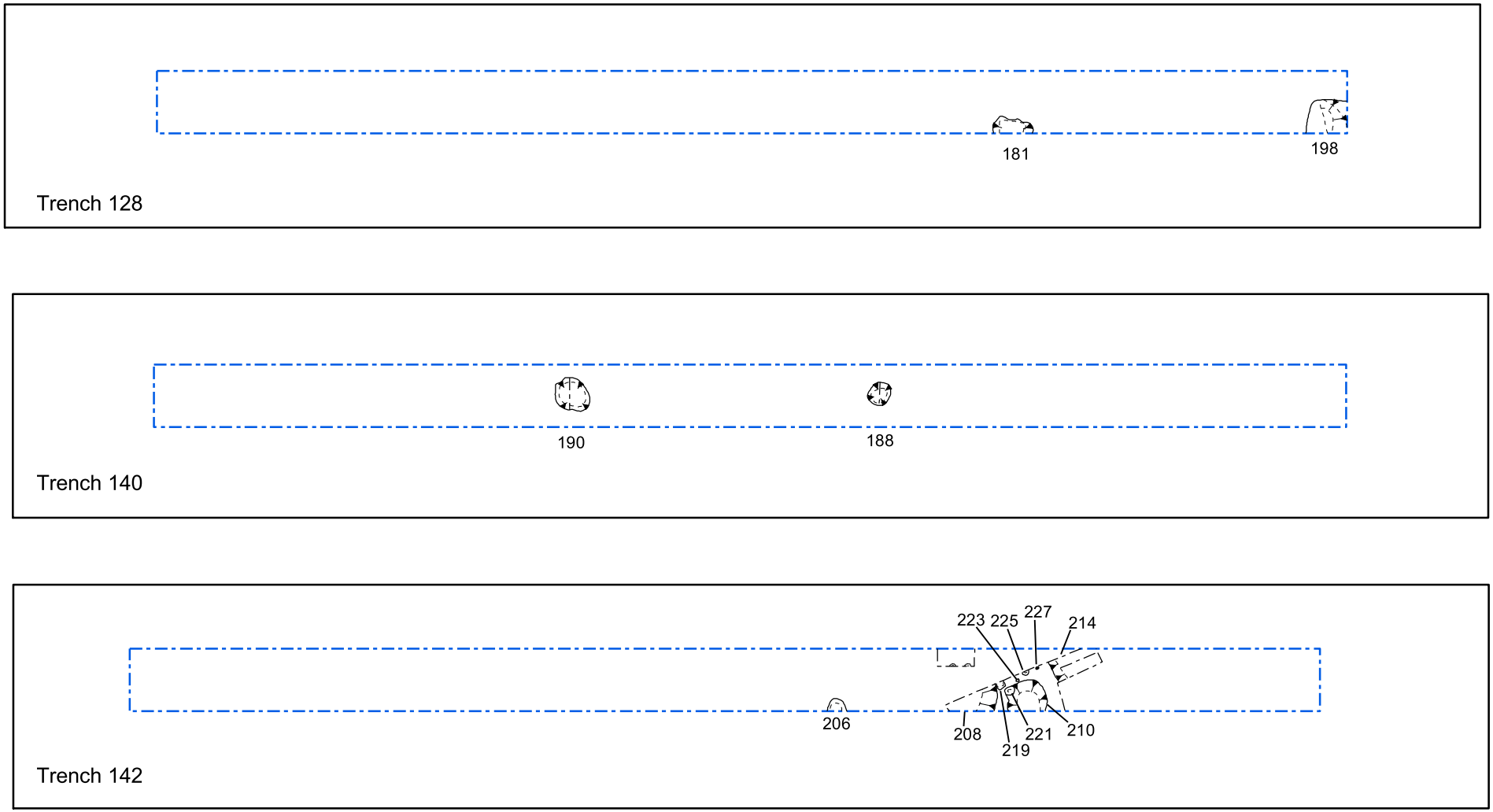


Fig.14. Area C : Trenches 128, 140 & 142

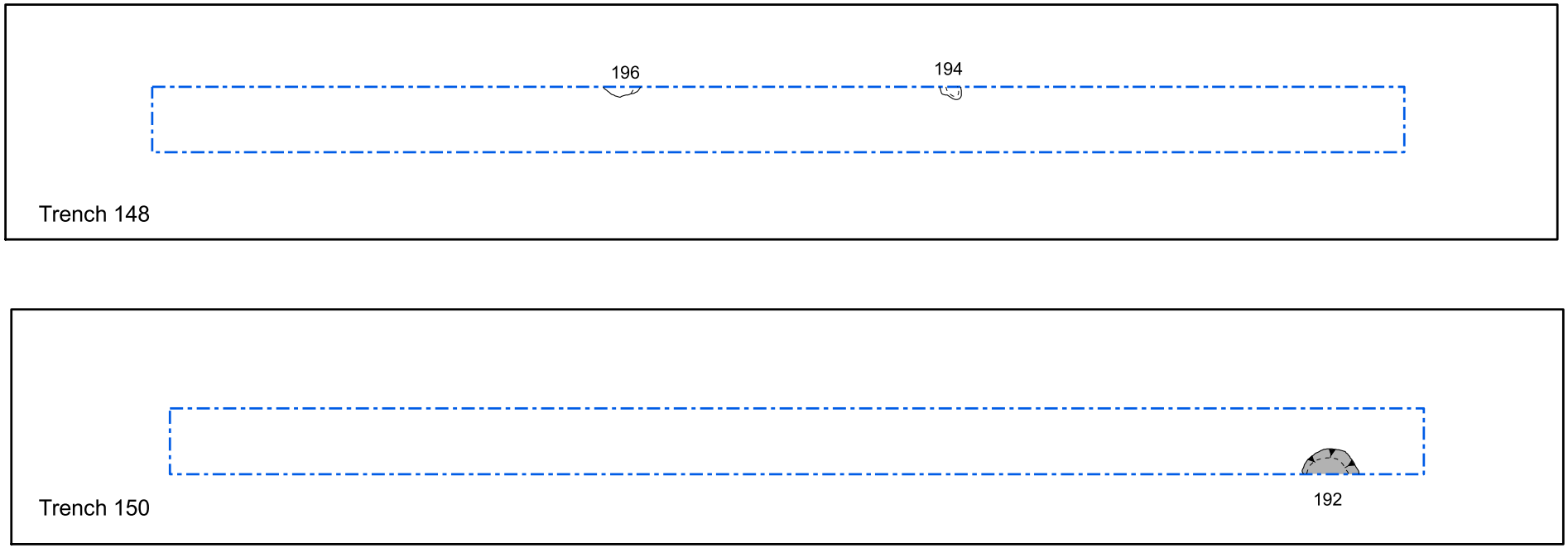
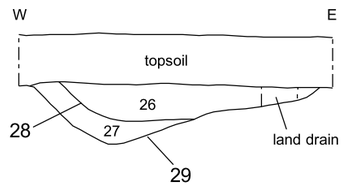
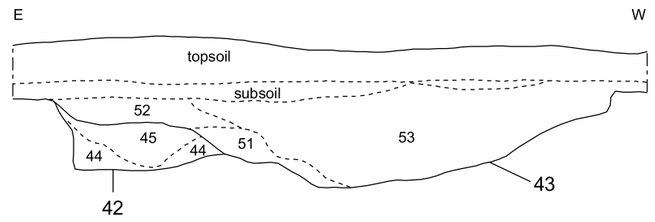


Fig.15. Area C : Trenches 148 & 150

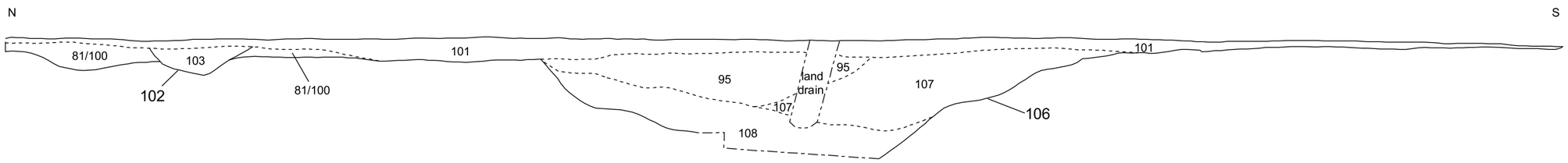
Section 1, Trench 2



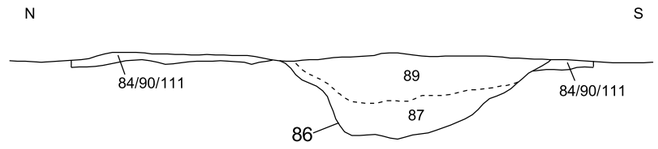
Section 2, Trench 2



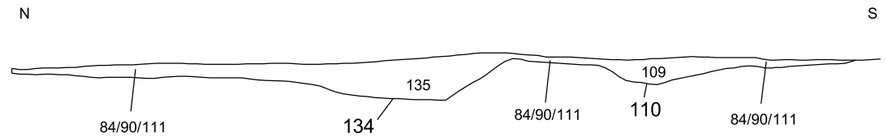
Section 3, Trench 83



Section 4, Trench 83



Section 5, Trench 83



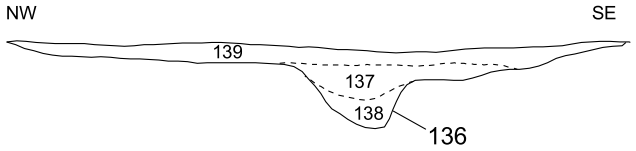
0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 m

1:40

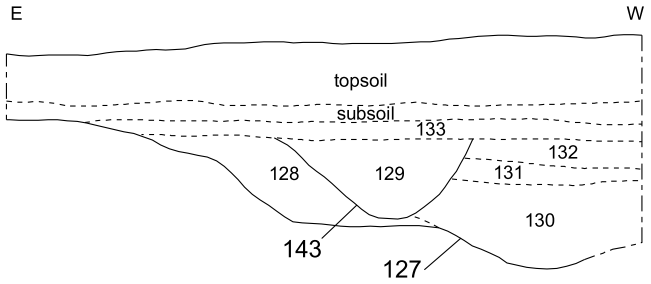
Fig.16. Sections 1 - 5

Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit

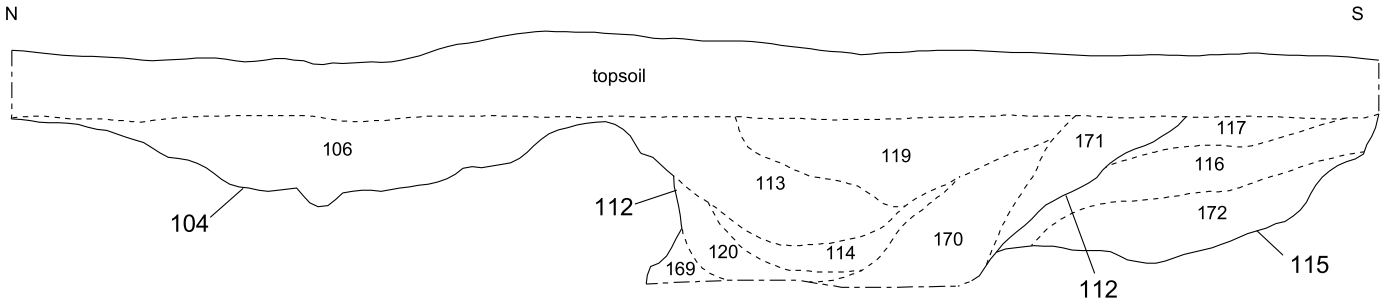
Section 6, Trench 84



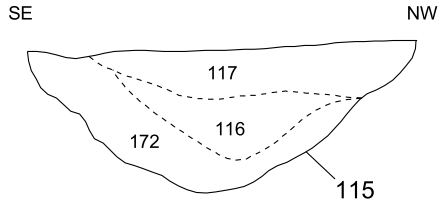
Section 7, Trench 84



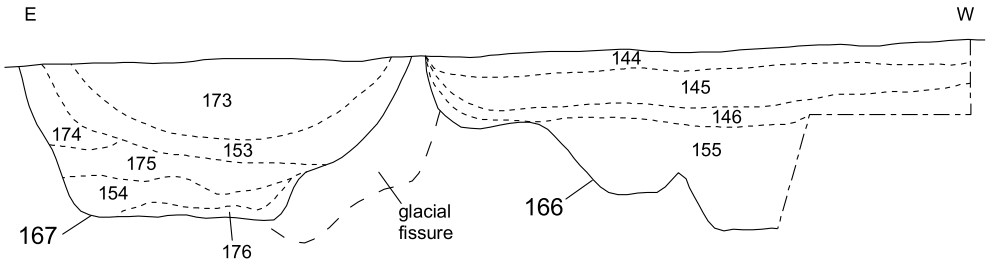
Section 8, Trench 93



Section 9, Trench 93



Section 10, Trench 93



Section 11, Trench 93

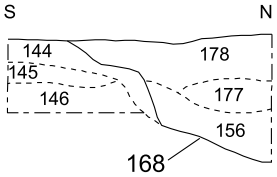


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Fig.17. Sections 6 - 11

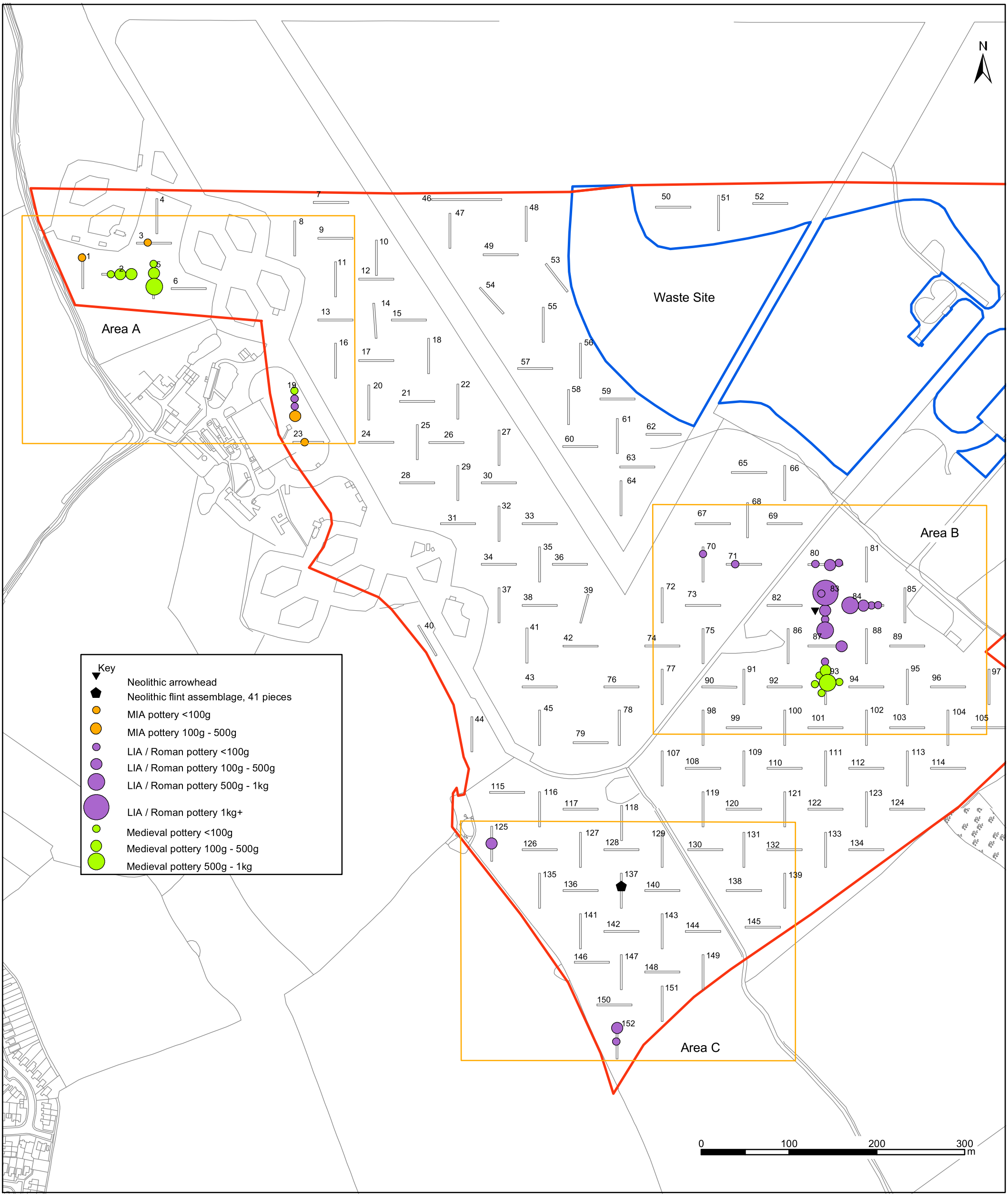

Fig.18. Distribution of worked flint and pottery (residual finds excluded)

Plate 1. Medieval ditches 39, 42 and 43. Trench 2

Plate 2. Medieval pit 24, Trench 5

Plate 3. Roman layers 84/90/111 and 81/100, Roman ditch 86, post-medieval ditch 106 and modern layer 101, Trench 83

Plate 4. Roman ditches 110 and 134 and Roman layer 84/90/111, Trench 83

Plate 5. Roman ditch 127 and recut 143, Trench 84

Plate 6. Roman gully 136 and layer 139, Trench 84

Plate 7. Medieval pits 166 and 167, Trench 93

Plate 8. Medieval pit 112 and ditch 115/168, Trench 93