

Land South of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Herts.

HN1187

Report No.924

Site name and address:	Land South of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Hertfordshire SG9 9JQ		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Buntingford	Parish:	Buntingford
Planning reference:	3/14/0970/RP	NGR:	TL 536700 229200
Client name and address:	Wheatley Homes Ltd. Wheatley House, Dunhams Lane, Letchworth Garden City Herts. SG6 1BE		
Nature of work:	Residential development	Present land use:	Cultivated Land 3
Site Status:	None	Reason for investigation:	Direction of local planning authority (PPS5)
Position in planning process:	Post-determination (as a condition)	Project brief originator:	Local authority
Size of affected area:	c. 9 ha	Size of area investigated:	2100m ²
Site Code:	HN1025	HER enquiry ref:	224/12
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Project type, methods etc.	Trial trenching	Archive Recipient:	Hertford Museum
Start of work	07/04/2015	Finish of work	16/04/2015
Related HER Nos:	N/A	Periods represented:	Iron Age, Roman, medieval
Oasis UID:	heritage1-204661	Significant finds:	Pottery, CBM, iron, animal bone, shell
Monument types:	Ditch, pit		
Physical archive:	Pottery, CBM, iron, animal bone, shell		
Previous summaries/reports:	Snee, J. 2013, <i>Land South of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . Heritage Network report no.767 (HN1039)		

Introduction:

This report has been prepared at the request of Wheatley (Buntingford) Ltd., as part of a programme of development on land to the south of Hare Street Road, Buntingford, Herts.

Prior to the submission of a planning application, and on the advice of the Historic Environment Unit of Hertfordshire County Council (HEU), the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developers to carry out preliminary works to assess the archaeological potential of the site. This involved desk-based research, and archaeological evaluation by geophysical survey and trial trenching, covering a 1% sample of the area affected by the proposed development (Snee, 2013).

Planning permission for the development (ref: 3/13/0118/OP; 3/14/0970/RP) was granted by East Herts. District Council (EHDC) after appeal, subject to a standard archaeological condition issued under the provisions set out in the Department of Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF).

Narrative:

The study area comprises an open arable field bounded to the west and north-west by residential properties and to the east and south by open fields. It is located on the east side of Buntingford, to the south of Hare Street Road, centred on NGR TL 536700 229200 (Figure 1).

The development entails the construction of approximately 100 dwellings, with associated parking, access roads, services, and landscaping.

The present stage of investigation has involved the excavation of a further series of twenty-three trial trenches to supplement the original evaluation and increase the sample ratio from 1% to 5%.

Trench data:

Trench 101

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	96.75	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	97.75
		Base	95.75			Base	97.25
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25		
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags,	>50	>2.1	0.75		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.05		

Trench 101, located in south-west corner of the site, revealed modern disturbed ground associated with structures dating to World War II (Plate 1). No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed.

Trench 102

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1.15	Orientation	NE-SW
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	96.34	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	97.29
		Base	94.97			Base	96.32
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.2		
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.9		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.05		

Trench 102, located in the south-west corner of the site, revealed disturbed ground and pockets of colluvium running across the trench (Plate 2).

Trench 103

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45-1.15	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	97.51	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	97.50
		Base	96.70			Base	96.93
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.28		
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.4		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1		

Trench 103 was located in the south-western corner of the site, to the north-west of Trench 102. Machining revealed colluvium deposits, a ceramic field drain and hydrocarbon contamination at the south-east end of the trench. No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 103 (Plate 4).

Trench 104

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.65	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	97.23	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	98.55
			Base	96.68			Base	98.11
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.2			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1			
10401	Cut	Irregular oval 'pit' with steep irregular sloping sides and an irregular concave base. Root.	0.8	0.54	0.16			
10402	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 5/6 friable clayey silt. Root fill.	0.8	0.54	0.16			
10403	Cut	Irregular feature with sloping sides and an irregular base. Root	>2	1.2	0.28			
10404	Fill	Brownish yellow friable clayey silt. Root fill.	>2	1.2	0.28			
10405	Cut	Sprawling 'linear' with undercut sloping sides and an irregular base. Root.	>2	0.9	0.2			
10405	Fill	Dark yellowish brown 10YR 4/4 friable clayey sand. Root fill.	>2	0.9	0.2			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1			

Trench 4 was located in the south-western corner of the site and contained a number of potential archaeological features, comprising a single 'pit' and two irregular 'ditches', which were located in the middle of the trench (Plate 6).

Investigation revealed that all three features were of natural origin, most probably caused by root action.

No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 104.

Trench 105

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.7	Orientation	NW-SE	
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	98.15	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	98.07
			Base	97.78			Base	97.66
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.36			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.17			
10501	Cut	Bisected irregular 'feature' with steep irregular sides and an irregular base. Root.	0.65	>0.5	0.36			
10502	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) friable clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular flint. Fill of root.	0.65	>0.5	0.36			
10503	Cut	Oval 'pit' with irregular sides and an irregular base. Root.	1.5	0.65	0.18			
10504	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) friable clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular flint. Fill of root	1.5	0.65	0.18			
10505	Cut	Irregular oval with steep sides and an irregular, slightly concave base.	1.6	>0.7	0.35			

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.7	Orientation	NW-SE	
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	98.15	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	98.07
			Base	97.78			Base	97.66
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
10506	Fill	friable clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular flint. Fill of root.	1.6	>0.7	0.35			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1			

Trench 105 was located in the north-west corner of the site and contained three irregular ovoid features (Figure 1). Excavation revealed all three features to have been natural in origin. No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 105 (Plate 8).

Trench 106

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.4-0.6	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	98.61	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	100.71
			Base	98.31			Base	100.35
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.3			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags. Only present in the middle of the trench.	>50	>2.1	0.1			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.3			

Trench 106 was located in the north-west corner of the site, to the east of Trench 105 and contained four field drains (Plate 9). No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 106.

Trench 107

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.55	Orientation	N-S	
Level at N End of Trench (mOD)			Top	102.28	Level at S End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.27
			Base	101.78			Base	100.87
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.34			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.2			

Trench 107 was located in the north-west corner of the site, to the east of Trench 106 and contained several field drains and evidence of root activity (Plate 8). No subsoil was present in the trench. No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 107.

Trench 108

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	NE-SW		
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	99.44	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.15
			Base	99.19				Base	100.65
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.32				
10801	Cut	Irregular Linear with steep sides and a concave base. Orientated N-S	>1.5	0.7	0.26				
10802	Fill	Dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) friable sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags and stones	>1.5	0.7	0.26				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.16				

Trench 108 was located in the central northern area of the site and contained one irregular linear feature [10801]. Investigation revealed this to be of natural origin (Plate 12). No subsoil was present within the trench. No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 108.

Trench 109

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	N-S		
Level at N End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.20	Level at S End of Trench (mOD)			Top	99.24
			Base	100.70				Base	98.74
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.22				
10901	Cut	Linear orientated NE-SW with steep sides and a concave base. Contained (10902).	>2.1	1.49	0.48				
10902	Fill	Yellowish brown 5/4 sandy clay with moderate small to medium chalk frags.	>2.1	1.49	0.48				
10903	Cut	Linear orientated NW-SE with steep sides and a concave base. Cut of U-shaped enclosure and contained (10904), (10905) & (10906).	>2.1	1.26	0.61				
10904	Fill	Brown 10YR 4/3 soft sandy clay with mod. Charcoal, occ. chalk and medium sub-angular stone. Upper fill of [10901]. Contained animal bone.	>2.1	1.26	0.27				
10905	Fill	Brown 10YR 5/3 friable sandy clay with occ. stones and small chalk frags. Below (10904).	>2.1	1.26	0.17				
10906	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 5/3 soft sandy clay with occ. chalk frags and small to large sub-rounded stones. Below (10905). Bottom fill of [10903].	>2.1	0.53	0.19				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.2				

Trench 109 was located in the centre of the site and was orientated approximately N-S (Figure 2). It contained a number of potential archaeological features, comprising two linear ditches, which were located in the northern and southern ends of the trench respectively (Figure 3, Plate 13).

Ditch [10901] was located in the north end of the trench and measured over 2.1m in length, 1.49m in width and 0.48m in depth (Figure 4, Plate 14). It had steep sides with a concave base and contained a single fill (10902), a yellowish brown sandy clay. Intrusive finds of post-medieval date, including pottery and tile were recovered from the top of the fill, but no primary dating evidence was found.

Ditch [10903] lay approximately 20m to the south of [10901] and measured over 2.1m in length, 1.26m in width and 0.61m in depth (Plate 15). It had a steep sides with a concave base and contained three fills. The upper fill (10904) consisted of a brown soft sandy clay, and contained animal bone fragments. The middle fill (10905) consisted of a brown friable sandy clay; no finds were recovered from this fill. The bottom fill (10906) consisted of a yellowish brown soft sandy clay, and contained animal bone. Ditch [10903] formed part of a 'U'-shaped enclosure [2000], which was identified through geophysical survey of the site in 2011.

Trench 110

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1	Orientation	NE-SW		
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	98.21	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	99.66
			Base	97.40				Base	98.88
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.2				
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.4				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.2				

Trench 110 was located to the immediate south of Trench 109 and contained modern disturbance with hydrocarbon contamination (Figure 2). No features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 110 (Plate 16).

Trench 111

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1.3	Orientation	NW-SE		
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	100.40	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	100.67
			Base	99.69				Base	99.32
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25				
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.8				
11101	Cut	Linear with steep-moderate sides and a concave base. Orientated NE-SW. Part of Group [2000] – 'U'-shaped enclosure. Contained (11102).	>2.1	1.3	>0.3				
11102	Fill	Dark brown 10YR 4/2 soft sandy clay with small chalk inclusions. Contained 1 prehistoric pottery sherd and 1 CBM fragment. One possible piece of worked flint was also recovered from the fill.	>2.1	1.3	>0.3				
11103	Cut	Linear with vertical and gentle sloping sides and a flat base. Orientated NE/SW. Contained (11104).	>2.1	1.0	0.14				
11104	Fill	Reddish yellow soft sandy clay with frequent flint, pebbles and gravel. No finds. Cut by [11105].	>2.1	1.0	0.14				
11105	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a 'v'-shaped base. Orientated NE/SW and cuts (11104). Possibly a re-cut of earlier ditch. Contained (11106).	>2.1	0.63	0.44				
11106	Fill	Dark brown 7.5YR 3/2 soft sandy clay with occ. small chalk frags. Contained CBM, shell and a small black jet bead, possibly Roman.	>2.1	0.63	0.44				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1				

Trench 111 was located in the central area of the site, to the south of Trench 109 and orientated NW-SE (Figure 2). It contained a number of potential archaeological features, comprising three linear ditches, located in the northern half of the trench (Figure 3, Plate 17).

Ditch [11101] was located in the north-west end of the trench and measured over 2.1m in length, 1.3m in width and more than 0.3m in depth (Figure 4, Plate 19). It had steep sides with a concave base and contained a single fill (11102), a dark brown sandy clay which contained a pottery sherd of prehistoric date, and a worked flint castoff. A small piece of intrusive post-medieval tile was uncovered from the top of the fill. Ditch [11101] formed part of the 'U'-Shaped enclosure, [2000], which was identified through geophysical survey of the site in 2011.

Ditch [11103] lay approximately 4m to the south-east of [11101] and measured over 2.1m in length, 1m in width and 0.14m in depth (Plate 20). It had a steeply sloping side to the north-west and a more gently sloping side to the south-east and contained one fill (11104), which consisted of a reddish yellow soft sandy clay with no finds.

Ditch [11105] cut fill (11104) and appeared to be a recut of [11101]. It measured over 2.1m in length, 0.63m in width and 0.44m in depth (Plate 20). It had steep sides with a 'v'- shaped base and contained fill (11106), which consisted of a dark brown soft sandy clay containing a small black Roman Kimmeridge shale bead, and a residual fragment of a possible Roman pipe clay figurine. Intrusive post-medieval tile was found in the top of the fill, probably as the result of ploughing.

Trench 112

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	102.09	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	100.42
			Base	100.98			Base	99.21
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.5			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1			

Trench 112 was located to the east of Trench 111 and was orientated north-east to south-west (Figure 2, Plate 21). The trench contained colluvium deposits along its entire length. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified within the trench.

Trench 113

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.15	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	102.48
			Base	100.80			Base	101.88
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.2			
11301	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base. Contained (110302) & (11303). Part of Group [2000].	>2.1	1.1	0.54			
11302	Fill	Brown 10YR 4/3 friable sandy silty clay with occ. cobbles, flint chalk and charcoal flecks. Upper fill of ditch [11301]. Contained pottery sherds, CBM, a metal object and animal bone.	>2.1	1.1	0.35			

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	101.15	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	102.48
			Base	100.80			Base	101.88
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
11303	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 5/6 friable sandy clay with occ. sub-angular flints and chalk frags. Lower fill of ditch [11301]. No finds.	>2.1	1.1	0.19			
11304	Cut	Linear with shallow stepped irregular sides and an irregular concave base. Contained fill (11305).	>2.1	1	0.3			
11305	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 5/6 friable sandy clay with occ. sub-angular flints and chalk frags. Fill of ditch [11304]. Disturbed by animal burrows. No finds.	>2.1	1	0.3			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.05			

Trench 113, was located in the central area of the site and contained two linear features [11301] and [11304] (Figure 5, Plate 22).

Linear [11301] was located in the south-west end of the trench. It measured >2.1m in length, 1.11m in width and 0.54m in depth, with steep sides and a flat base (Figure 5, Plate 24). The feature contained an upper fill (11302), consisting of brown sandy silty clay and a lower fill (11303), of yellowish brown friable sandy clay. Fragments of residual prehistoric pottery sherds, including late Bronze Age and early Iron Age wares and intrusive post-medieval CBM and metal were recovered from the upper fill. This linear formed part of the 'U'-shaped enclosure, [2000], which was identified through geophysical survey of the site in 2011.

A second linear [11304] was located in the centre of the trench. It measured >2.1m in length, 1m in width and 0.3m in depth (Plate 23). It had irregular shallow sides and an irregular concave base. The feature contained a single fill (11304), a yellowish brown friable sandy clay. It was heavily disturbed by animal burrows and did not contain any datable finds.

Trench 114

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.5	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	100.77	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.96
			Base	100.27			Base	100.46
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.28			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags.	>50	>2.1	0.4			
11401	Cut	Linear with mid gradient slope with a concave base. Contained (11402) & (11403). Part of 'U' - shaped enclosure/group [2000].	>2.1	1.7	0.4			
11402	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) friable sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags. And small sub-rectangular stones and charcoal flecks. Upper fill of [11401]. No finds.	>2.1	1.7	0.3			
11403	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) firm sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags and charcoal flecks. Lower fill of [11401]. No finds.	>2.1	1.7	0.3			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1			

Trench 114, located in the centre of the site, was orientated NW-SE and contained a single linear feature [11401] (Figure 5, Plate 25).

Linear [11401] was located in the north-east end of the trench. It measured >2.m in length, 1.7m in width and 0.6m in depth, with fairly steep sides and a concave base (Figure 5, Plate 27). The feature contained an upper fill (11402), consisting of yellowish brown friable silty sandy clay and a lower fill (11403), of yellowish brown firm sandy clay. No datable finds were recovered from either fill. This linear feature formed part of the 'U'-shaped enclosure, [2000], which was identified through geophysical survey of the site in 2011.

Trench 115

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.3	Orientation	NE-SW	
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	103.43	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.41
			Base	103.03			Base	101.16
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.2			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	>0.05			
11501	Cut	Linear with steep sides and an irregular concave base. Orientation E-W. Contained (11502) & (11503). Part of enclosure [2000].	>2.1	1.9	0.8			
11502	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) friable silty sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags. And small sub-angular stones. Upper fill of [11501]. Contained Roman pottery and CBM.	>2.1	1.9	0.4			
11503	Fill	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) firm sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags. and charcoal flecks. Lower fill of [11501].	>2.1	1.9	0.4			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.05			

Trench 115, located in the centre of the site was orientated NW-SE and contained a single linear feature [11501] (Figure 7, Plate 28).

Linear [11501] was located in the south-west end of the trench. It measured >2.1m in length, 1.9m in width and 0.4m in depth, with steep sides and an irregular concave base (Figure 4, Plate 29). The feature contained an upper fill (11502), consisting of yellowish brown friable silty sandy clay and a lower fill (11503), of yellowish brown firm sandy clay. Pottery sherds were recovered from the upper fill dating to the Late Bronze Age, and also later intrusive pottery sherds at the top of the fill, dating to the post-medieval period. This linear feature formed part of enclosure [2000], which was identified through geophysical survey of the site in 2011.

Trench 116

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45	Orientation	N-S	
Level at N End of Trench (mOD)			Top	103.55	Level at S End of Trench (mOD)		Top	101.91
			Base	103.25			Base	101.51
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)					
			Length	Width	Depth			
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25			
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1			
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1			

Trench 116 was located in the central area of the site and was orientated approximately north-south (Figure 2). Root action was observed at both ends of the trench. No features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 116 (Plate 30).

Trench 117

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	105.45	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	104.18
		Base	104.85			Base	103.93
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25		
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1		
11701	Cut	Linear with sloping sides and a flat base. Orientated NW-SE. Contained (11702) & (11703). Same as [11901].	>2.1	1.6	0.45		
11702	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 4/4 firm clayey silt with rare charcoal flecks and occ. sub-angular flint. Upper fill of ditch [11701]. Contained metal and tile fragment. Medieval?	>2.1	1.6	0.26		
11703	Fill	Brown 4/3 friable clayey silt with moderate sub-angular flint to 3cm. Lower fill of [11701]. No finds	>2.1	1.18	0.19		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1		

Trench 117, located in the north-east half of the site, revealed a single linear feature (Figures 2 & 7, Plate 31).

Linear [11701] was located in the north-west half of the trench and was orientated NW-SE. It measured >2.1m in length, 1.6m wide and was 0.45m deep. It had steep sloping sides and a flat base and contained two fills (Plate 32). The upper fill (11702), consisted of yellowish brown firm clayey silt and contained post-medieval CBM fragments and an iron nail. The lower fill consisted of brown friable clayey silt and did not contain any datable finds. This linear feature was picked up in the geophysical survey and continued in Trench 119, as ditch [11901].

Trench 118

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45	Orientation	NW-SE
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)		Top	106.33	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)		Top	104.99
		Base	105.83			Base	104.64
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)				
			Length	Width	Depth		
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.25		
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1		
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1		

Trench 118 was located in the north-east corner of the site and contained two land drains and root disturbance. No other features, deposits or artefacts were revealed in Trench 118 (Figure 2, Plate 33).

Trench 119

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	0.45	Orientation	NE-SW		
Level at NE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	102.77	Level at SW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	104.46
			Base	102.42				Base	104.01
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.2				
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1				
11901	Cut	Linear with gentle sloping stepped sides and a flat base. Orientated NW/SE. Contained (11902). Same as [11701].	>2	1.17	0.28				
11902	Fill	Yellowish brown 10YR 4/4 sticky sandy clay with occ. chalk flecks, moderate sub-angular flint and charcoal. Contained medieval pottery fragments brick and an iron nail.	>2	1.17	0.28				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1				

Trench 119, located in the eastern half of the site, revealed a single linear feature (Figure 2 & 7, Plate 34).

Linear [11901] was orientated NW-SE and measured >2m in length, 1.17m wide and was 0.28m deep. It had gentle sloping and stepped sides, a flat base and contained fill (11102), which consisted of yellowish brown sandy clay and contained fragments of post-medieval pottery, tile and an iron nail (Figure 8, Plate 35). This linear feature was picked up in the geophysical survey and was a continuation of ditch [11701].

Trench 120

Length (m):	50	Width (m):	2.1	Maximum Depth (m):	1.2	Orientation	NW-SE		
Level at NW End of Trench (mOD)			Top	102.37	Level at SE End of Trench (mOD)			Top	102.31
			Base	101.41				Base	101.19
Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)						
			Length	Width	Depth				
-	Topsoil	Very dark greyish brown (2.5Y 3/2) soft silty sandy clay with freq. small chalk and stone	>50	>2.1	0.22				
-	Subsoil	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) soft sandy clay with occasional small chalk frags	>50	>2.1	0.1				
-	Natural	Pale yellow (2.5Y 7/4) soft clay with freq. small to large chalk.	>50	>2.1	>0.1				

Trench 120 was located to the east of Trench 112 and was orientated north-west to south-east (Figure 2). The trench contained colluvium deposits up to 0.1m along the entire length of the trench. No archaeological features, finds or deposits were revealed within the trench (Plate 36).

Discussion:

The stratigraphy across the site comprised layers of ploughsoil and subsoil above the pale yellow natural soft clay, which was exposed in all twenty trenches at depths of between 0.30m and 1.1m below the existing ground level.

Most of the potential features revealed by the earlier geophysical survey of the site were located in the trial trenches. Of these, the majority were concentrated in the central area of the site.

The substantial U-shaped enclosure, [2000], was revealed in trenches 109, 111, 113, 114 and 115. Investigation revealed residual finds dating from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age. Heavily abraded post-medieval pottery and CBM was also uncovered from the top of the fill of this feature, but these finds have been dismissed as intrusive, most probably from the result of later ploughing.

Two linear features, possibly dating to the late medieval or post-medieval period, were revealed in Trenches 113 and Trenches 117/119. Pottery sherds retrieved from the features were of post-medieval date.

Two further linear features were revealed in Trenches 109 and Trench 111, though neither was identified from the geophysical survey.

A number of potential features were investigated in the north-west corner of the site, but these all turned out to be naturally formed features, probably caused by rooting or animal activity.

Modern disturbance indicated by the geophysics, was exposed in Trenches 101, 102, 103 & 110, in the south-west corner of the site. Investigation of these areas confirmed the conclusions drawn from the geophysics.

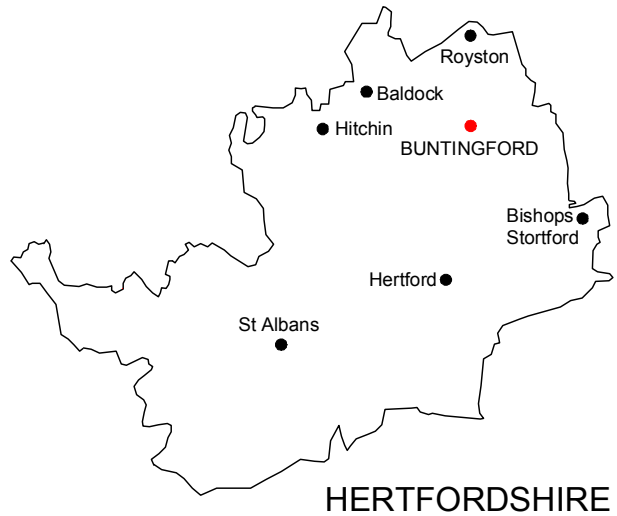
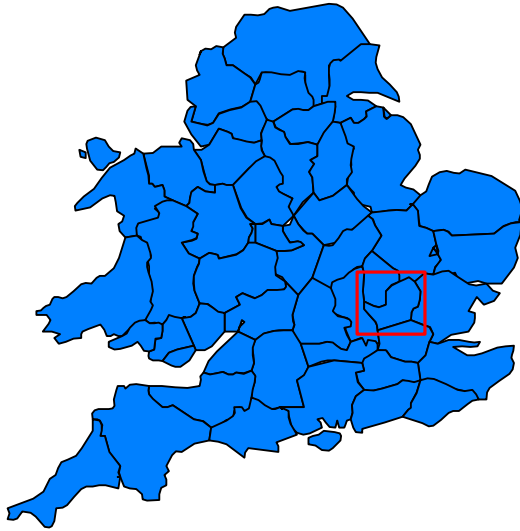
Illustrations:

Figure 1	Site Location
Figure 2	Site plan
Figure 3	Plans of trenches 109 and 111
Figure 4	Sections through features [10901], [10903], [11101], [11103] and [11105]
Figure 5	Plans of trenches 113 and 114
Figure 6	Sections through features [11301], [11304] and [11401]
Figure 7	Plans of trenches 115, 117 and 119
Figure 8	Sections through features [11501], [11701] and [11901]
Plate 1	Trench 101, looking south-east
Plate 2	Trench 102, looking north-west
Plate 3	Trench 102, indicative section, looking north-east
Plate 4	Trench 103, looking south-east
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Plate 14	Section 9, [10901], looking west
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Plate 20	Section 14, [11103] and [11105], looking south-west
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Plate 33	Trench 118, looking north-west
Plate 34	Trench 119, looking north-east
Plate 35	Section 14, [11901], looking north-west
Plate 36	Trench 120, looking south-west

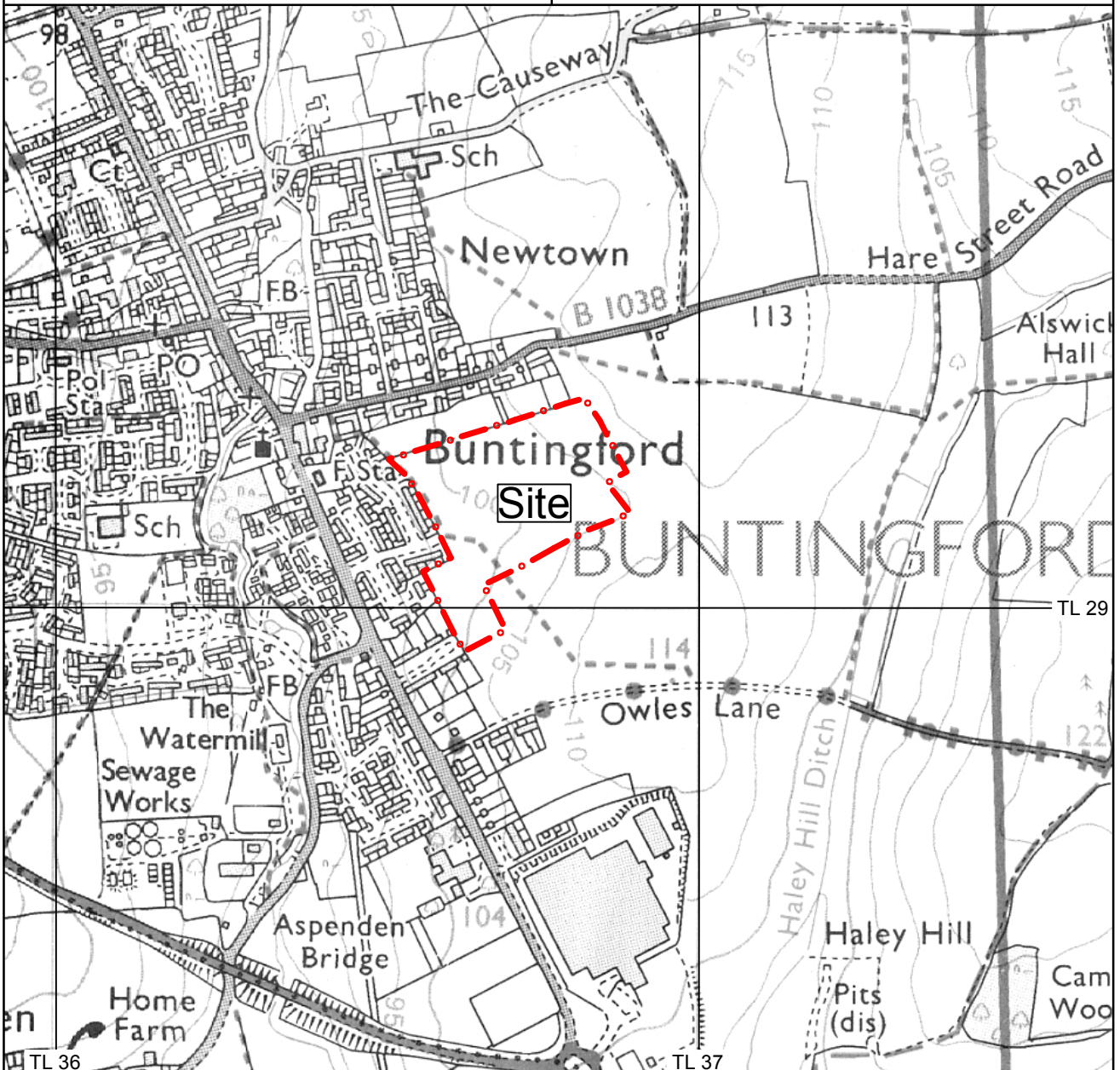
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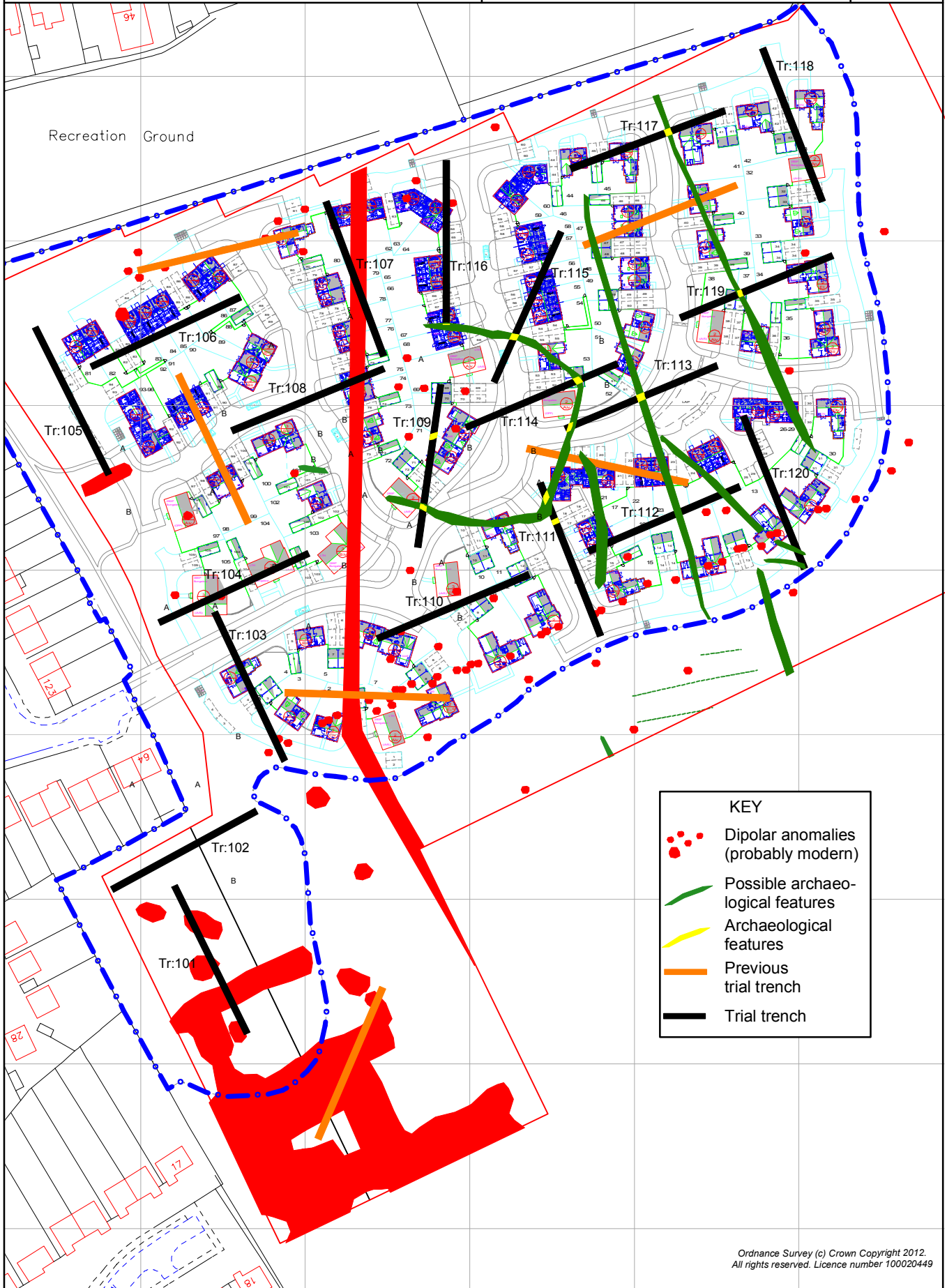


Site Location

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Figure 1

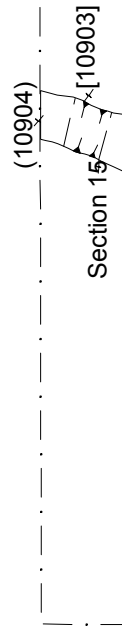


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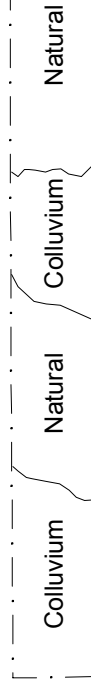
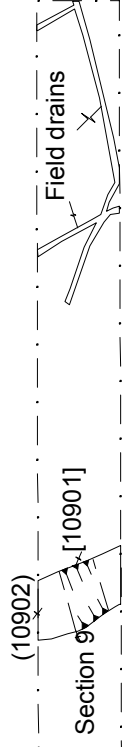
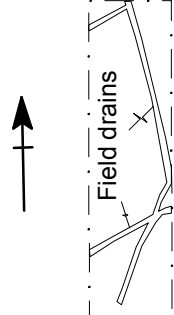
Trench locations and investigated features

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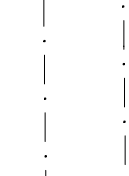
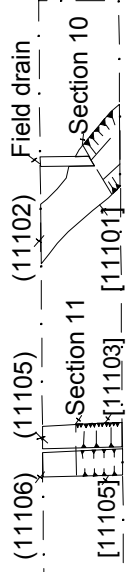
Figure 2

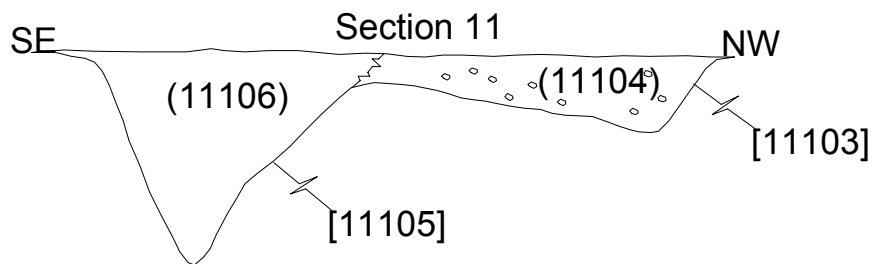
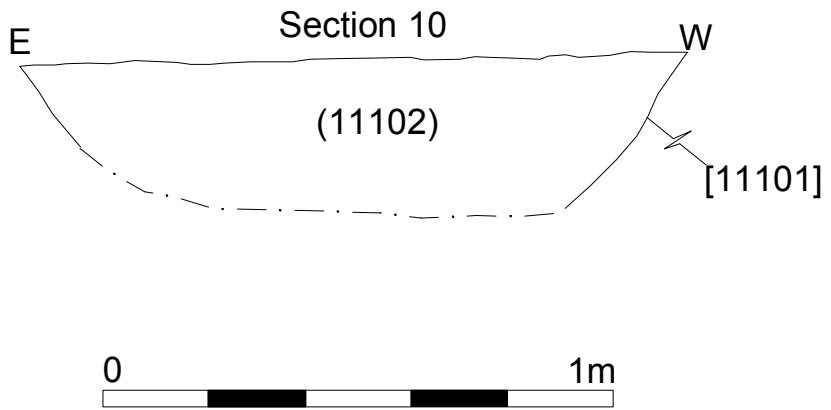
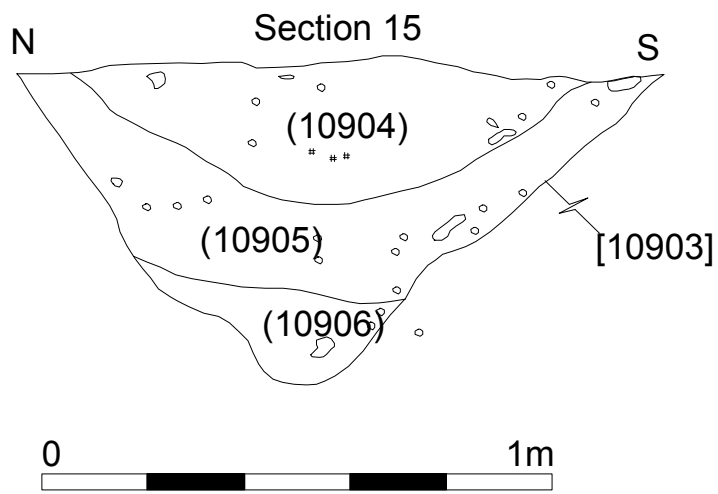
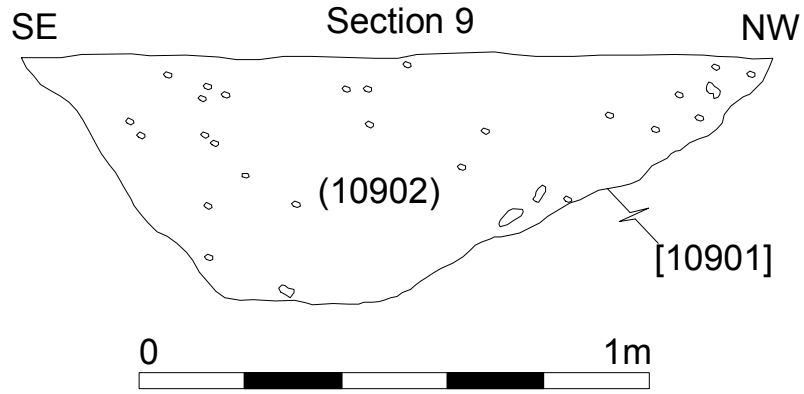


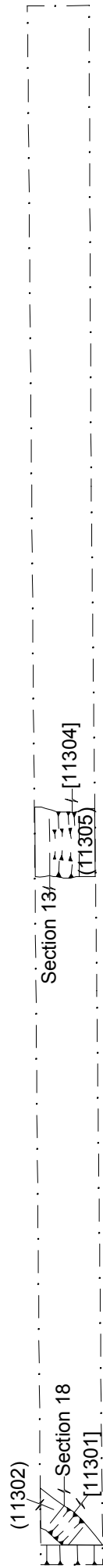
Plan 4



Plan 5





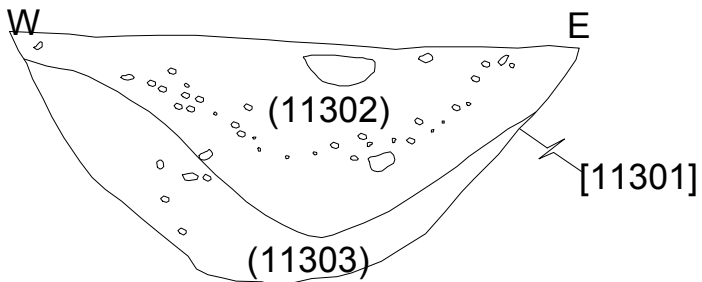


Plan 7

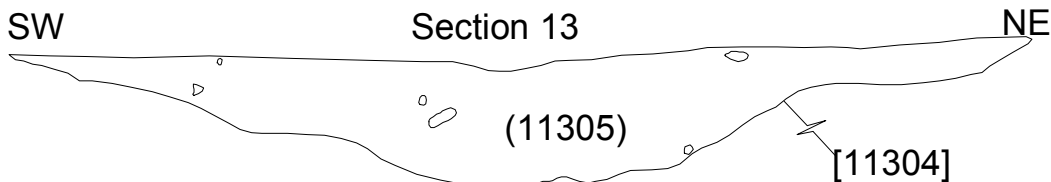


Plan 11

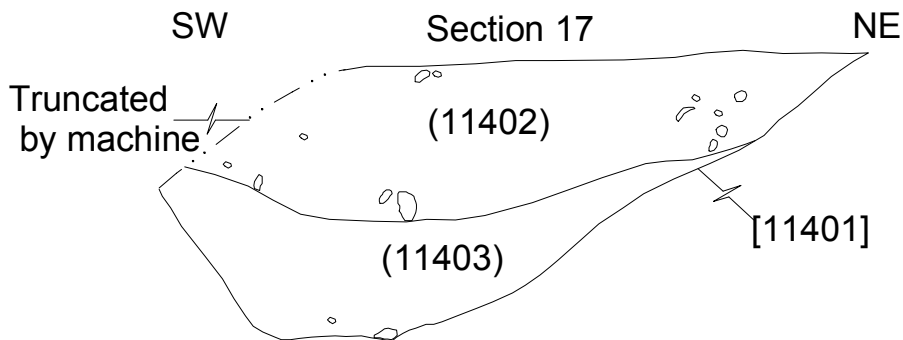
Section 18

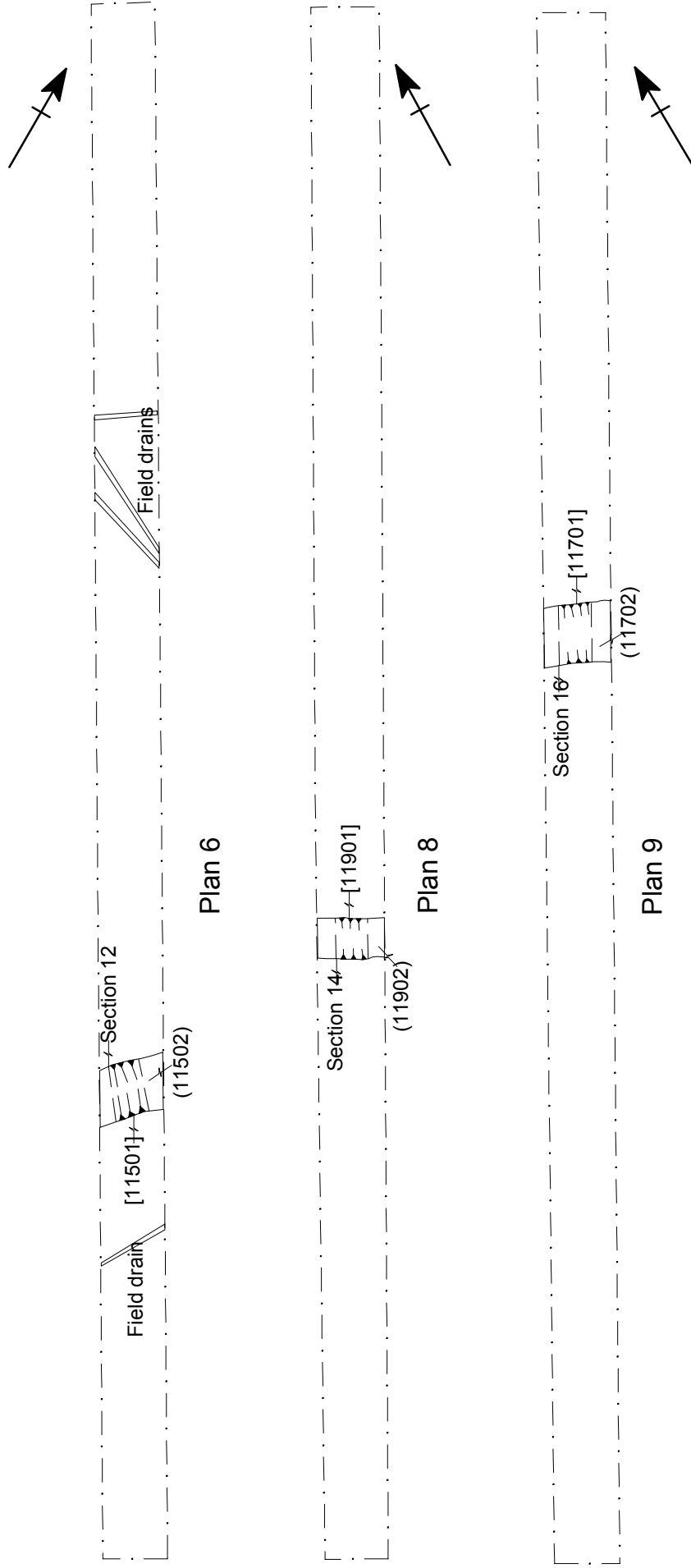


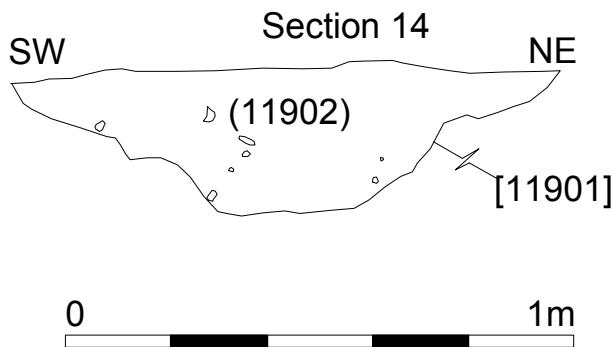
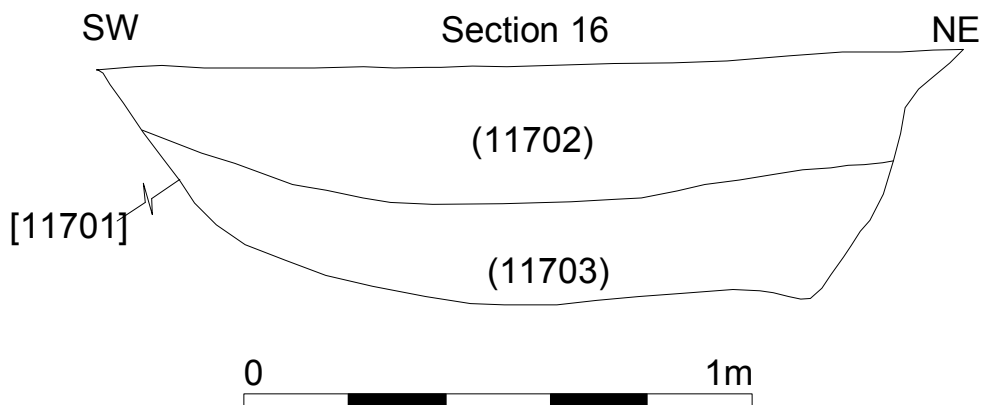
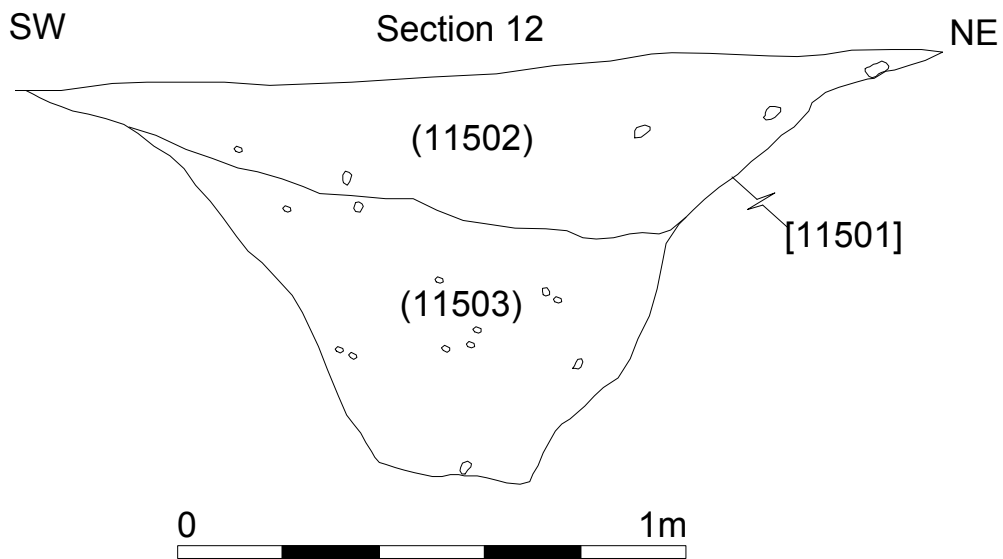
Section 13



Section 17







Sections 12, 14 and 16

Scale 1:15

Figure 8



Plate 1: Trench 101, looking south east



Plate 2: Trench 102, looking north west



Plate 3: Trench 102, indicative section,
looking north east



Plate 4: Trench 103, looking south east



Plate 5: Trench 103, indicative section,
looking north west



Plate 6: Trench 106



Plate 7: Trench 104, indicative section,
looking north west



Plate 8: Trench 105, looking north west



Plate 9: Trench 106, looking north east



Plate 10: Trench 106, indicative section,
looking north west



Plate 11: Trench 107, looking north west



Plate 12: Trench 108, looking west



Plate 13: Trench 109, looking north



Plate 14: Section 9, [10901], looking west



Plate 15: Section 15, [10903], looking east



Plate 16: Trench 110, looking north east



Plate 17: Trench 111, looking south east



Plate 18: Trench 111, indicative section,
looking north east



Plate 19: Section 10, [11101], looking south west



Plate 20: Section 11, [11103] and [11105],
looking south west



Plate 21: Trench 112, looking north east



Plate 22: Trench 113, looking north east



Plate 23: Section 13, [11304], looking north west



Plate 24: Section 18, [11301], looking north east



Plate 25: Trench 114, looking north east



Plate 26: Trench 114, indicative section, looking north west



Plate 27: Section 17, [11401], looking north west



Plate 28: Trench 115, looking north



Plate 29: Section 12, [11501], looking west



Plate 30: Trench 116, looking north



Plate 31: Trench 117, looking north east



Plate 32: Section 16, [11701], looking north



Plate 33: Trench 118, looking north west



Plate 34: Trench 119, looking north east



Plate 35: Section 14, [11901], looking north west



Plate 36: Trench 120, looking south west