

1EW03 Enabling Works Contract. AWH Interim Report for Trial Trenching at C21014 Upper Wendover Dean Farm - Rocky Lane Cutting - Buckinghamshire (AC210/8)

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1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Rocky Lane (C21014), near Wendover Dean, Buckinghamshire by INFRA.
- 1.1.2 The site was located on the eastern side of a dry valley north of Wendover Dean (central NGR 487969 205521; Figure 1).
- 1.1.3 The site comprised a single land parcel of 5.77 ha (C21014), one of three that form the Upper Wendover Dean – Rocky Lane site. These land parcels are required to enable the construction of the Small Dean South Embankment and excavation of the Rocky Lane Cutting.
- 1.1.4 A total of 23 trenches was excavated. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in any of the trenches with the exception of one trench which contained a modern disturbance.

2 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation, conducted in February 2019, on land designated as at Upper Wendover Dean Farm, Rocky Lane Cutting, Wendover, Buckinghamshire (AC210/6) (NGR 487969 205521; Figure 1). The work was undertaken by INFRA for Fusion on behalf of HS2.
- 2.1.2 The site code for C21014 was 1C18RCLTT.
- 2.1.3 The aims of the trial trenching were to:
 - to confirm the presence/absence, extent and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site;
 - to determine the nature, date, condition, state of preservation including any preservation bias, complexity and significance of any archaeological remains;
 - to determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
 - suggest measures, if appropriate and feasible, for further archaeological investigation
 - to mitigate identified significant impacts; and
 - contribute to the delivery of GWSI: HERDS Specific Objectives as specified in Section 4.2 of the project plan

2.2 Project Plan

- 2.2.1 The trial trench evaluation at Rocky Lane was implemented to address a Project Plan designed and prepared by Fusion (doc. ref. 1EW03-FUS-EV-REP-CS03_CL05-002524).

3 Preliminary Results

3.1 Site Geology

- 3.1.1 The natural geology comprised chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and the New Pit Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded.

3.2 Trench Summary

- 3.2.1 A total 23 trenches was excavated (Figure 2) comprising;
- 19 no. 1.8m wide trenches (Nos 60-61, 63, 65-67, 69-75, 77-82).
 - 4 no. 4m wide trenches (Nos 62, 64, 68, 76).
- 3.2.2 One trench (77) contained a modern disturbance (Figure 3).
- 3.2.3 A summary of the findings is in table 1, below.

Table 1 – Summary of trench results

Trench Number	Features	Provisional Date
60-76	Blank	
77	1 x modern disturbance	modern
78-82	Blank	

3.3 Archaeological Results

- 3.3.1 Of the 23 excavated trenches, only one (77) contained any evidence of human activity, the remainder being devoid of any archaeological features or deposits.
- 3.3.2 The initial results of the one positive trench are discussed below (Figure 4).

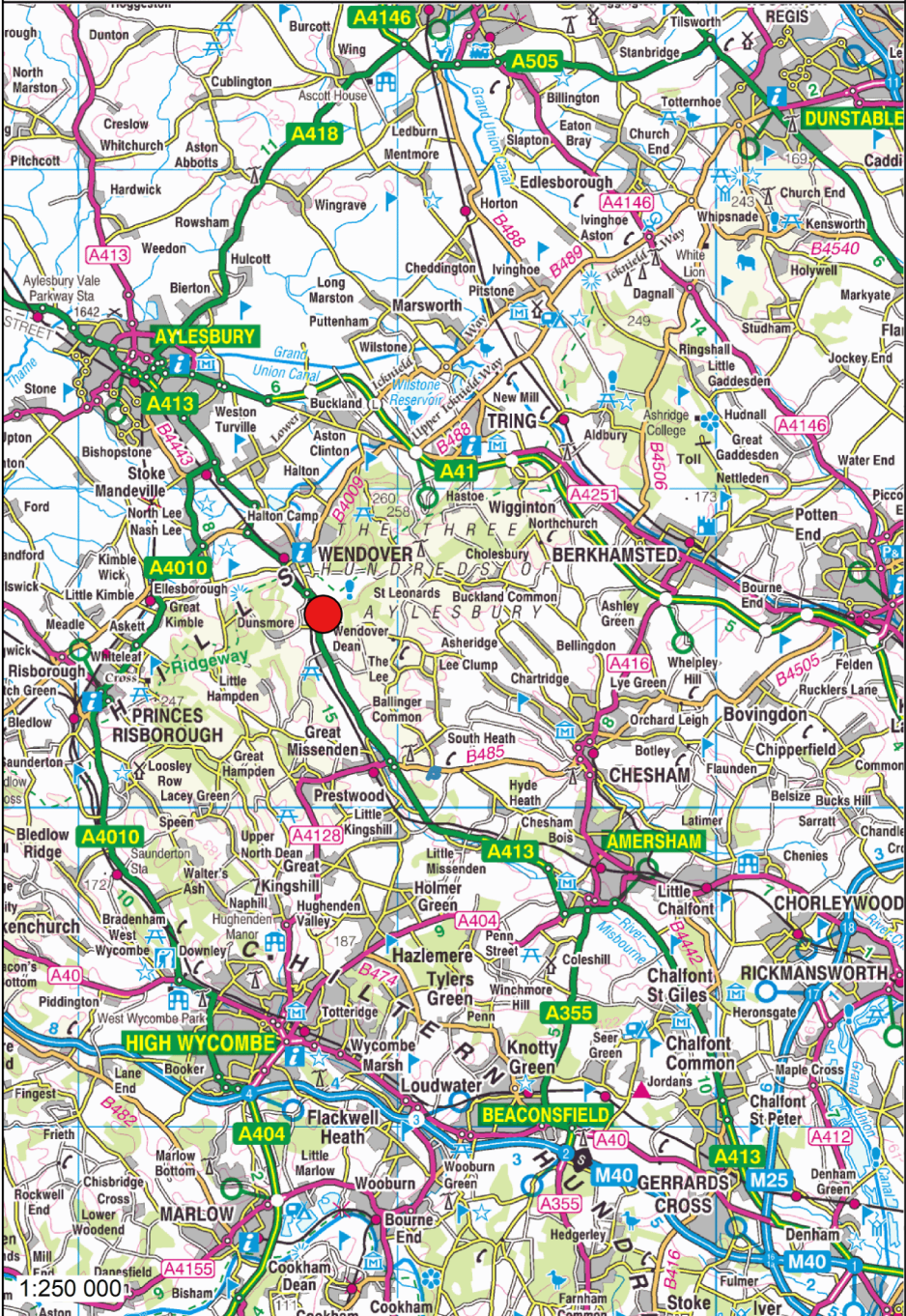
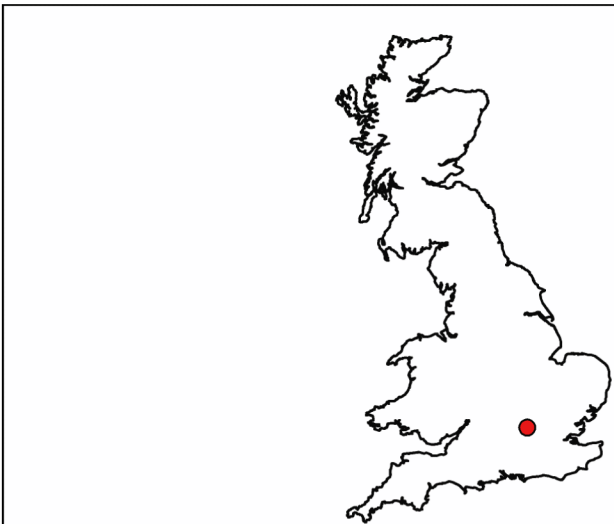
Trench 77 (figure 4)

A shallow depression [307704] measuring c. 1.4m wide and 0.35m deep was located centrally in the trench. It was filled with a wet deposit which had organics present. The depression appeared to be connected to a modern cess pit, located upslope. This was overflowing at the time of investigation and therefore no further recording was conducted.

4 Summary

No significant archaeological features were recorded within the trial trenches, with almost all proving blank. One trench (77) contained a modern disturbance, which appeared to be associated with a modern cess pit. There was no indication of human activity on the site that was not modern in date.

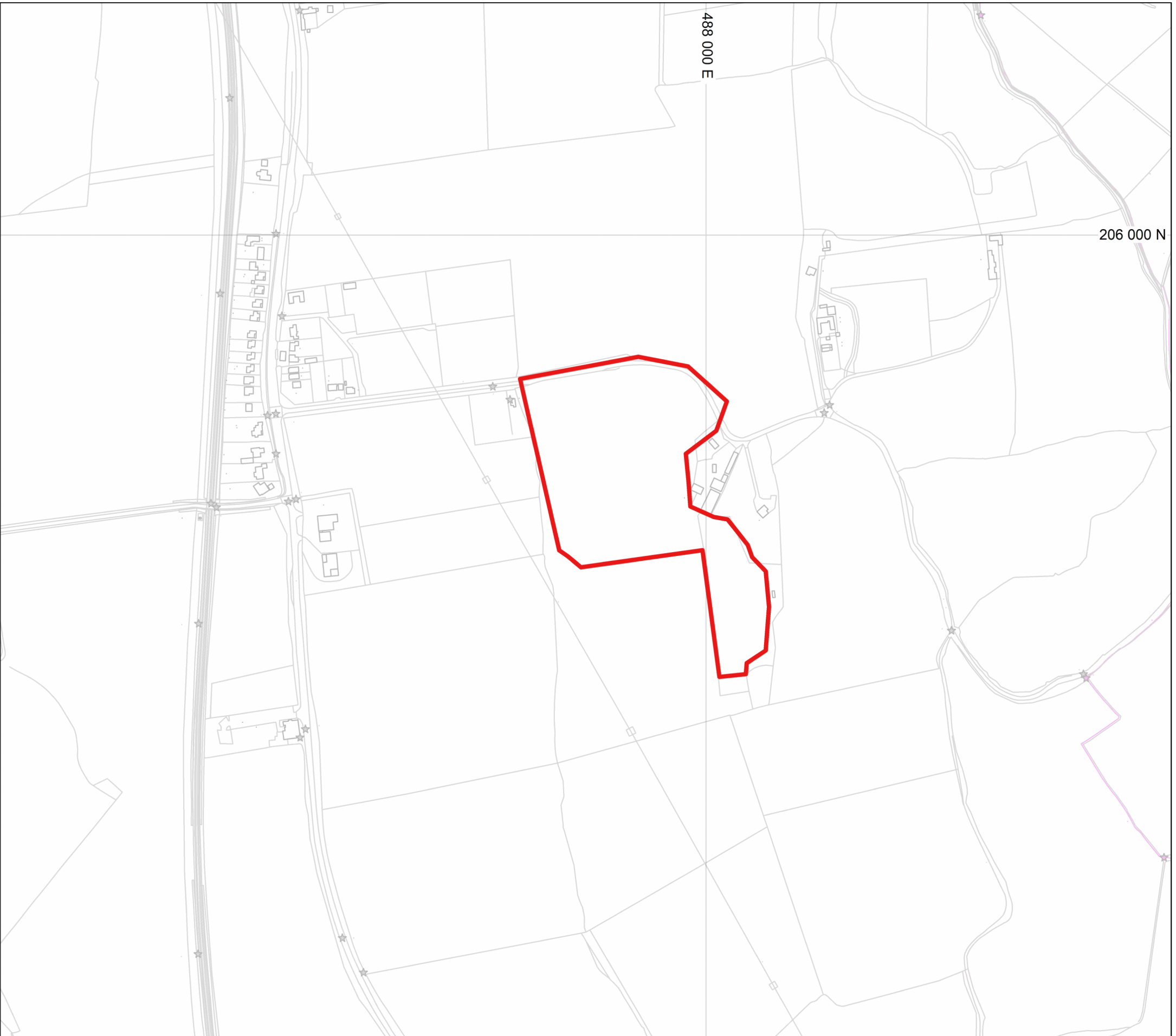
5 Appendix - Figures



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Legend

- Site location
- Site extent

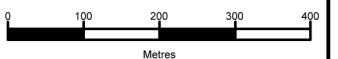


High Speed Two
Figure 1. Site location

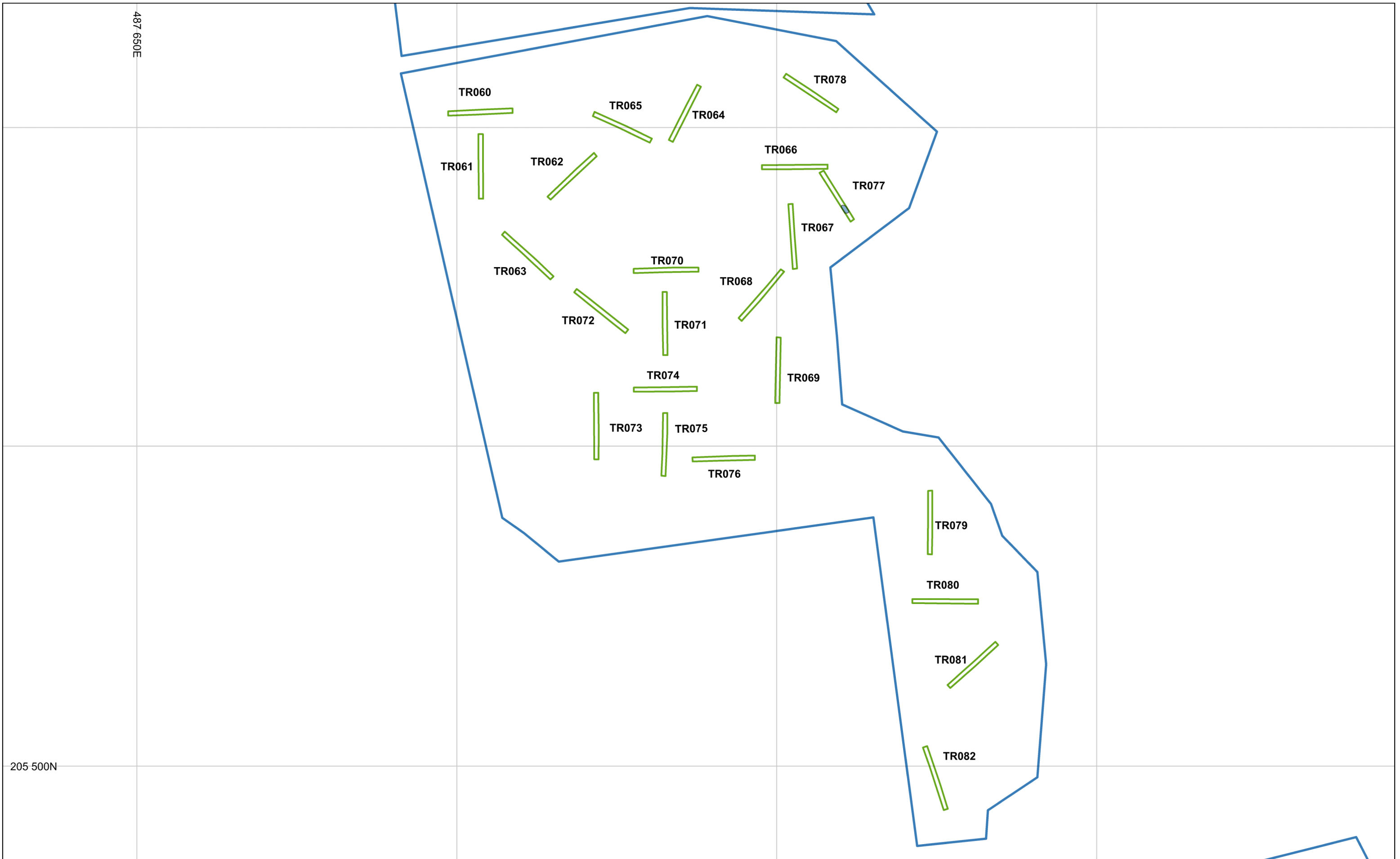
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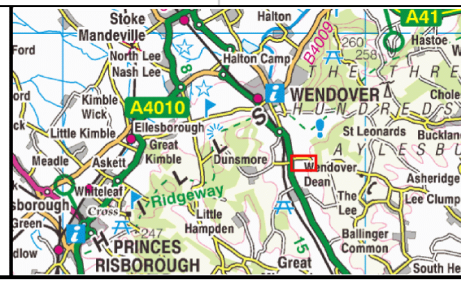
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Legend

- Excavated evaluation trench
- Site extent



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Figure 2. Overview of excavated evaluation trenches
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0 16 32 48 64
Metres

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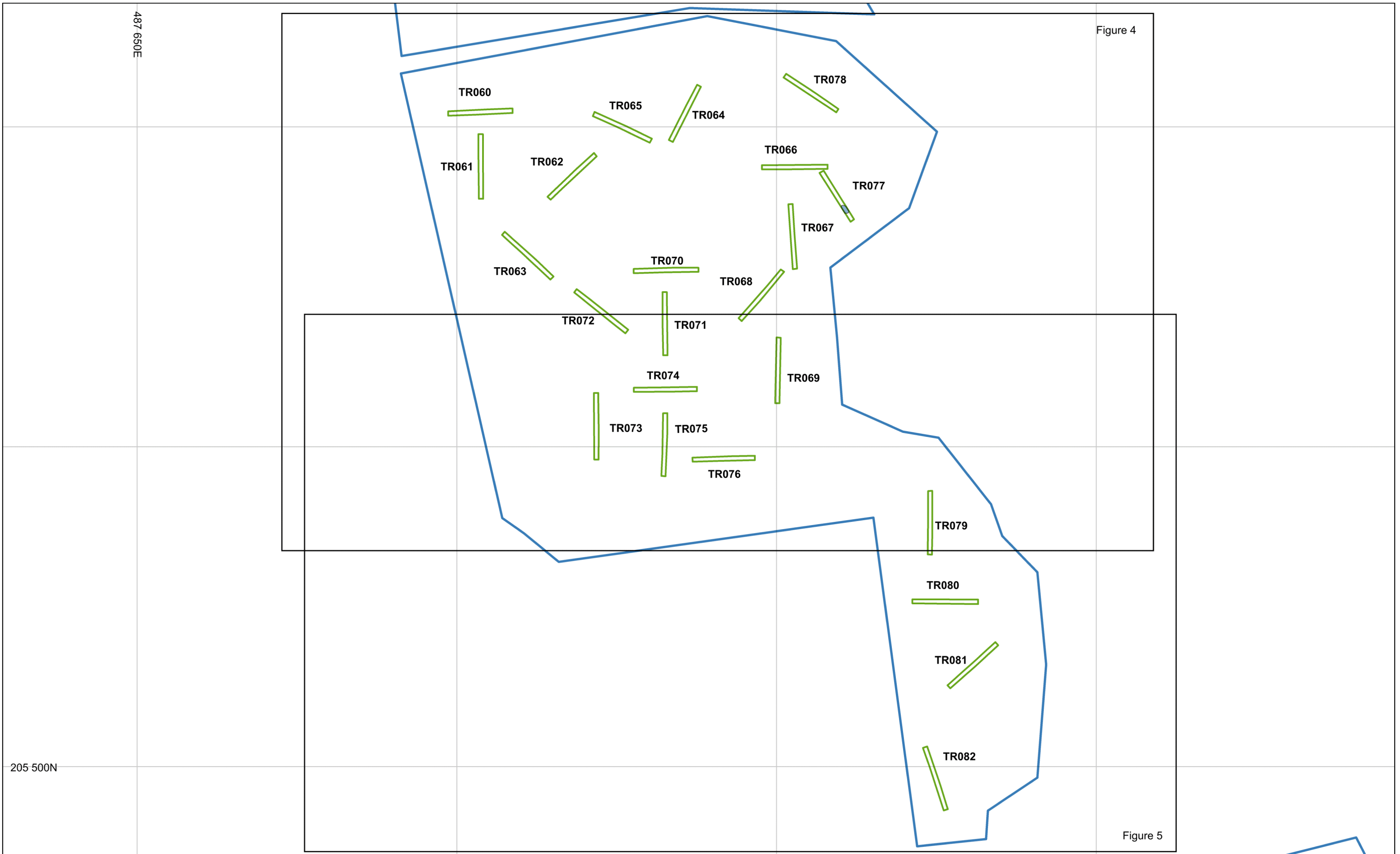


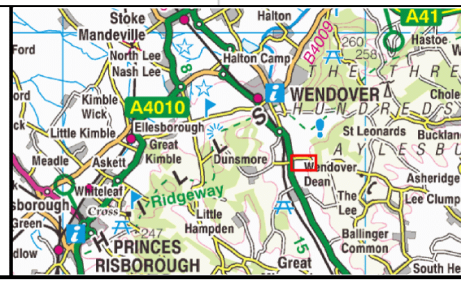
Figure 4

Figure 5

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Legend

- Archaeological feature
- Excavated evaluation trench
- Site extent



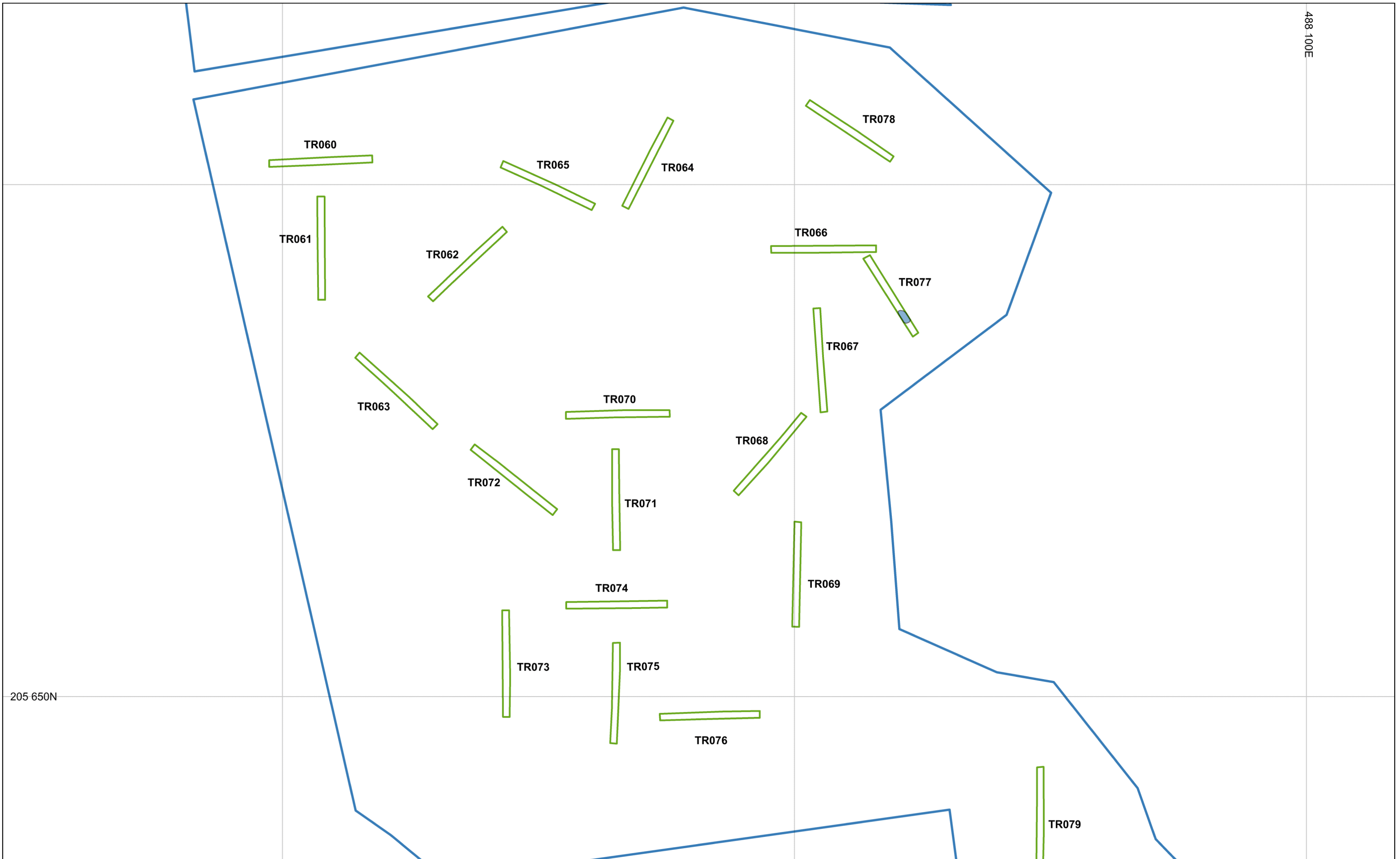
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Figure 3. Overview of archaeological features

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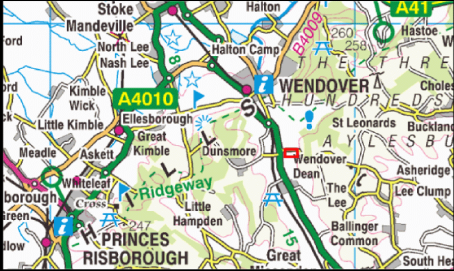
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Legend

-  Archaeological feature
-  Excavated evaluation trench
-  Site extent

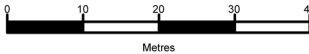



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Figure 4. Detail of trench results 1 of 2

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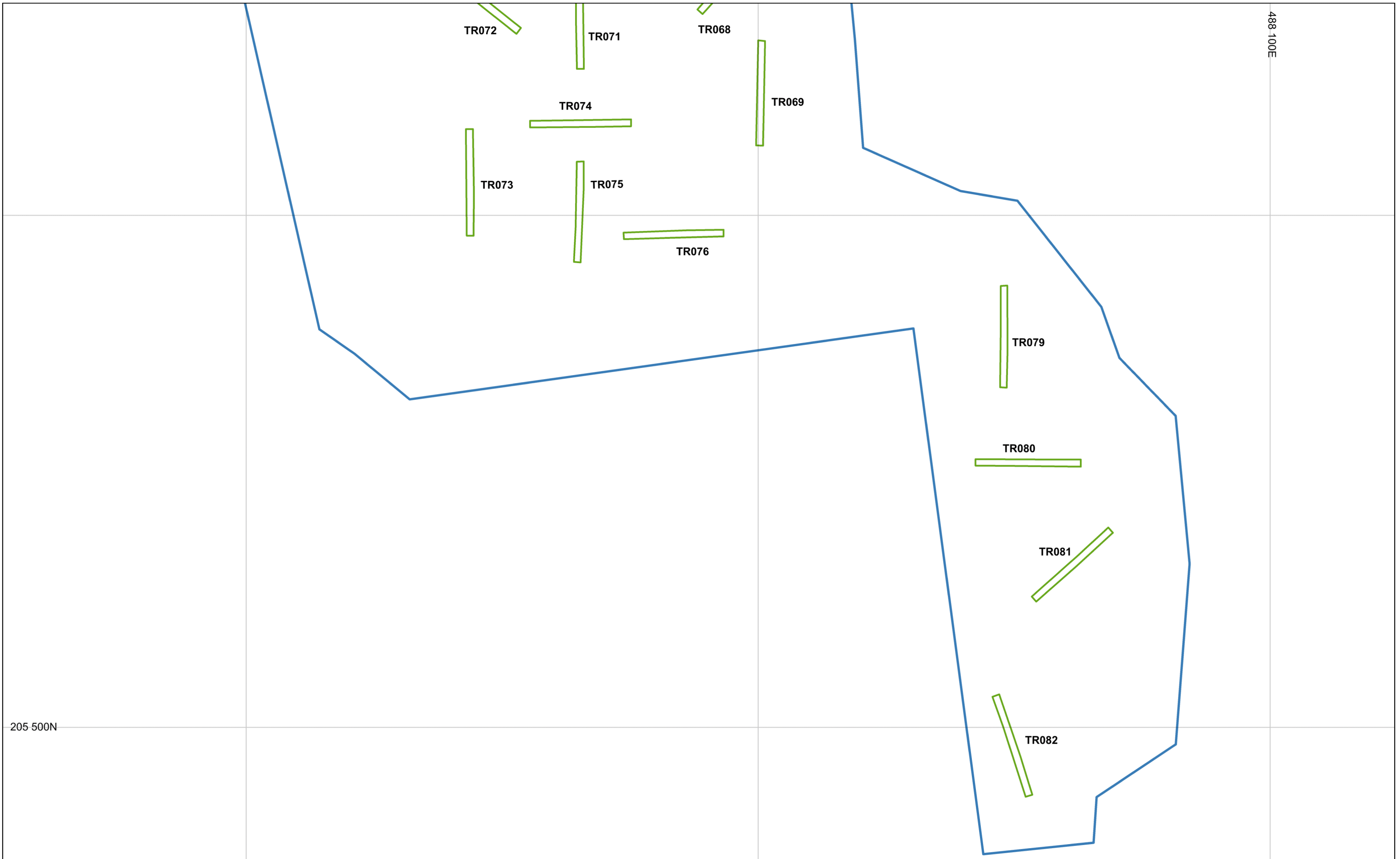


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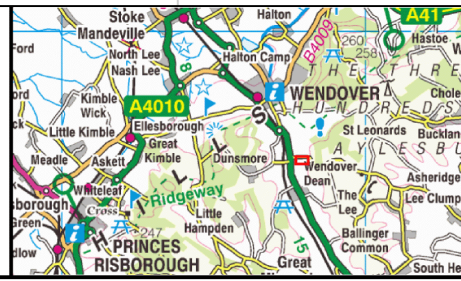
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Legend

Archaeological feature

Excavated evaluation trench

Site extent



High Speed Two
Figure 5. Detail of trench results 2 of 2

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