

**Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land at Stevenage Lane
Near St Ippolyts
Hertfordshire, SG4 7UW**

**NGR: 520206 226489
(TL 20205 26489)**

**Planning Ref: 15/01532/1
ASE Project No: 8531
Site Code: SHS 15
ASE Report No: 2015465
OASIS id: archaeol6-236738**



By Sarah Ritchie, MA ACIfA



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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at Land at Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire, SG4 7UW between 30th November and 8th December 2015. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of the redevelopment of the site.

Archaeological features were revealed within 9 of the 20 trenches opened, revealing a large amount of archaeological activity within the south-western area of the site, as well as small area of apparently localised activity within the south-east, and a lone hearth to the east. The dating evidence collected during the evaluation suggests two phases of activity on the site, one dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman (AD10-100) with possible residual Middle Iron Age pottery located to the east of the probable trackway identified within the geophysical survey and consisting of pits and ditches, and the other Early Roman (AD50-120) located to the west of the possible trackway and consisting of post holes, occupation layers and rubbish pits.

Natural clay, sand and gravels were observed at c.97.36m OD in the north-east, sloping down to c.93.17m OD in the south-west. A sharper drop within the south-western corner corresponds with a change in the natural geology, becoming a yellowish-white silt with very frequent chalk fragments and flecks located at c.90m OD dropping to c.87.72m OD.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at land at Stevenage Lane, near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire, in advance of the redevelopment of the site.

1.2 Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale geological mapping (available online) the natural geology of the site comprises Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation, formed approximately 89 to 100 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. Overlying this is a superficial deposit of Glaciofluvial sand and gravel, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period.
- 1.2.2 The site's existing topography comprises one sub-rectangular field totalling c.15.6 hectares of arable land. The majority of the site is on a gentle gradient from approximately 97m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the north-eastern corner down to 95m AOD towards the southern and western edges. There is then a sharper drop in gradient along the southern edge down to c.88m AOD in the south-western corner, and a noticeable dip along the north-western edge down to c.85m AOD

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 A planning application (15/01532/1) is currently being considered by North Hertfordshire District Council for the erection of a solar farm of approximately 4.99 Mega Watts of electricity generating capacity, comprising the installation of solar photovoltaic panels and associated infrastructure, including electrical inverter and transformer buildings, substations, communications and storage buildings, new access, access tracks, fencing and landscaping.
- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk based assessment was prepared in support of the planning application (CgMs 2015). The document found that the site had a high theoretical potential for *as yet to be discovered* archaeological remains. Accordingly, a geophysical survey (GSB 2105) was carried out and a written scheme of investigation for an archaeological evaluation (ASE 2015) was produced prior to fieldwork on the site. All works were carried out in accordance with the ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2014a, b and c).

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation carried out on the site between the 30th November and 8th December 2015, and has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015). The work was carried out by Sarah Ritchie (Project Supervisor); Angus Forwshaw; Thomas Simms; Marek Kamysz; Kate Clover; Paulo Clemente and Samara King. Survey was carried out by Lukasz Miciak. The fieldwork was managed by Andy Leonard and the post-excavation work by Jim Stevenson.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is drawn from the desk-based assessment. For a full background of the site please refer to the DBA (CgMs, 2015).

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 There are no records of finds dating to the Palaeolithic or Mesolithic periods within 1km of the site.

2.2.2 A single Neolithic axe has been discovered at Chaplefoot 1km to the south of the study site (HER316).

2.2.3 An undated flint scraper has been discovered 700m north-west of the site at The Crescent, Ippolyt's (HER320).

2.2.4 Two possible Bronze Age ring ditches have been identified as cropmarks within the site via aerial photography (HER4404 and HER 6123). The features form part of an Archaeological Alert Area (AAA) which extends from within the site to the south-west. A further four possible Bronze Age ring ditches have been identified to the west of the site and are also defined by the HER as part of the AAA (HER6118, HER6119, HER6129 and HER6121).

2.2.5 A mound of unknown date and purpose known as 'Round Hill' is situated to the north of Ippolyt's 500m north of the site. The HER records a house was built on the site in the 1920s, and 'bones' found there. It is unclear now whether it was a Bronze Age barrow as there has been much modern landscaping (HER6555).

2.2.6 Iron Age pottery sherds have been discovered on the edge of a former gravel pit 800m to the west site at Little Wymondley (HER464). The HER also records a ditch containing Late Iron Age finds discovered during the cutting of a water pipeline (HER2606).

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 There is no definite archaeological evidence dating to the Roman period recorded on the HER within 1km of the site.

2.3.2 Two parallel ditches 1km to the south of the site are thought to possibly represent a Roman Road although this is unproven (HER7428).

2.4 Early Medieval/Medieval

2.4.1 A late 6th/early 7th century Middle Saxon burial was found during construction works at Pound Farm 1km to the north-west of the site (HER1617). Associated finds comprised a scramasax, belt buckle and tag and a knife.

- 2.4.2 Middle Saxon pottery comprising a complete 7th century pot has been discovered from the Vicars Grove Gravel Pit formerly 950m to the south-west of the site (HER398).
- 2.4.3 St Ippolyt's is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The church of 'St. Ippollitts' is recorded as built in the 11th century (VCH Vol III pp25) and is considered to indicate the historic core of the town.
- 2.4.4 The HER only records one entry for the medieval period comprising pottery discovered in a gully at St Ippolyt's Junior School 400m to the north of the site (HER12756). The HER does record the centre of the town as an AAA and medieval deposits dating back to the 11th century could conceivably be present within this area.

2.5 Post-medieval and modern

- 2.5.1 The 1776 Dury and Andrews map shows the study site within open ground to the south of 'Hippolites'.
- 2.5.2 The 1816 Ippollitts Enclosure Map records the site as under the ownership of the Vicar of Great Wymondley. The site appears to be in use as a mixture of allotment, common ground, and pasture at this time and is shown with a high number of internal land divisions. The 1821 Bryant Map shows no change to the site but does show detail of the topography of the site in the south.
- 2.5.3 By the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey edition of 1881, the internal field divisions are not shown, and the site portrayed as a large single field to the east of Joyner's Folly. No mentionable change to the site is then shown on mapping from 1899, 1924 and 1948.
- 2.5.4 The 1960 Ordnance survey shows no change to the actual site itself but does show large scale gravel extraction taking place immediately to the north-east and former gravel pits to the west of the site.
- 2.5.6 Mapping from 1972-81 shows that the site is now crossed by electricity cables and has a central pylon originating from the Wymondley Transforming Station which has been constructed in the former gravel pit to the north-east of the site. No further changes are shown on the site up to the present day.
- 2.5.7 Current evidence indicates that the site has been used for agricultural purposes throughout the Post-Medieval, Industrial and Modern periods. There has been very little change to the study site itself since the earliest detailed map of 1816. The archaeological potential is therefore considered as low for these periods.

2.6 Previous archaeological work

- 2.6.1 A study of aerial photographs for the wider area have revealed features which have been interpreted as ring ditches (ploughed out Bronze Age burial mounds) within the south-west corner of the site with further possible ring ditches to the south and west of the site (EHT2231, EHT2516).
- 2.6.2 No intrusive excavation is recorded on the HER as being undertaken in close proximity to the site; however GSB (2015) were commissioned to carry out a geophysical survey of the site. This revealed a possible trackway as well as rectangular and oval enclosures. There are weak hints of a circular feature, but elevated background levels of response have hampered interpretation. Five possible ring ditches lying within a large enclosure have been detected in the northern part of the site (Figure 2).
- 2.6.3 Elsewhere a few curving and linear anomalies and trends may be of archaeological interest, but a combination of poor definition and incomplete patterning permits only a tentative archaeological interpretation. Numerous small scale pit-type responses are present across the site; most of these are consistent with natural pockets of magnetic gravels, but some of those which lie within or close to the aforementioned definitive archaeological anomalies may be of interest.

2.7 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.7.1 The aims of the field evaluation were:

To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

To enable CgMs and the County Archaeologist to make an informed decision as to the requirement for any further work required in order to satisfy the archaeology condition.

- 2.7.2 With reference to *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England*, the evaluation will seek to contribute data to a future regional study of Bronze Age/Iron Age transition and social organisation (Medlycott 2011, 29-31).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Twenty trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m were mechanically excavated on the site, as shown in Figure 2. None of the trenches had to be moved from their proposed locations (ASE 2015); however at the request of the County Archaeologist, Trench 20 was extended 7m to the east and 7m within the south-western area of the trench in order to better understand the archaeology within this area of the site. As the aim of this extension was purely to further understand the archaeology within this area of the site, it was agreed that any new features exposed during this extra strip would not be excavated but planned, located with a GPS, photographed, and any datable finds collected from the tops of the features.
- 3.1.2 The trenches were located using a Digital Global Positioning system (DGPS).
- 3.1.3 The trenches were scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) before excavation. Excavation was undertaken using a mechanical excavator and a toothless ditching bucket, and the ground reduced in spits of no more than 0.10m to the top of the underlying natural substrate or first archaeological level.
- 3.1.4 The trenches were cleaned by hand, and features and deposits were recorded using ASE standard context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only. Sample sections were recorded and a comprehensive photographic record taken.
- 3.1.5 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned by eye for unstratified finds.
- 3.1.6 Trenches were backfilled and compacted upon completion.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 ASE informed the local museum prior to the commencement of fieldwork that a site archive would be generated. The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at the museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Context sheets | 93 |
| Section sheets | 6 |
| Plans sheets | 1 |
| Colour photographs | 0 |
| B&W photos | 0 |
| Digital photos | 139 |
| Context register | 0 |
| Drawing register | 1 |
| Watching brief forms | 0 |
| Trench Record forms | 20 |

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

| | |
|--|-------|
| Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box) | 1 box |
| Registered finds (number of) | 1 |
| Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples | 3 |
| Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides) | 0 |
| Waterlogged wood | 0 |
| Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples | 3 |

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.0.1 The field revealed a sequence of natural clay, sand and flint overlain by a mid-brown silty clay plough soil with frequent gravel inclusions and the remains of the last farm crop. The plough soil depth varied across the field, and many trenches showed evidence of plough scars within the natural deposits. As a result, an orange-brown silty clay subsoil only survived within two areas of the site: around Trenches 6 and 20. Features that were identified survived only where they cut into the natural deposits.

4.1 Trench 6 (Figures 2 & 3)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|-----------------|----------|---------|---------|--------------|
| 6/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.32m | 97.05m OD |
| 6/002 | Layer | Subsoil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.28m | 96.73m OD |
| 6/003 | Fill | Fill of [6/004] | 0.70m | 0.60m | 0.30m | 96.31m OD |
| 6/004 | Cut | Hearth | 0.70m | 0.60m | 0.30m | 96.31m OD |
| 6/005 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.64m | 96.45m OD |

Table 3: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.1.1 Trench 6 revealed natural orange-brown silty-clay natural [6/005] at 96.45m OD. Cut into the natural at the east end of the trench was hearth [6/004], filled with a firm black silt [6/003] with frequent charcoal, Fire Cracked Flint (FCF) flecks and burnt stones, located at 96.31m OD. Sealing the hearth and natural was subsoil [6/002], an orange-brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions. The trench was sealed by 0.32m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [6/001] with frequent flint inclusions.

4.2 Trench 10 (Figures 2 & 4)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|--------------|
| 10/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.26m | 96.74m OD |
| 10/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.12m | 96.29m OD |
| 10/003 | Cut | Pit | 0.92m | 0.60m | 0.23m | 96.26m OD |
| 10/004 | Fill | Fill of 10/003 | 0.92m | 0.60m | 0.23m | 96.26m OD |

Table 4: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 10 revealed natural orange-brown clay with frequent flint inclusions [10/002] at 96.29m OD. Cut into the natural was shallow pit [10/003] filled with 0.23m of compact mid-brown silty clay [10/004] with frequent stones at the base. No dating material was found within the fill, and as an isolated feature it is not possible at this time to infer more about its date or function. The trench was sealed by 0.26m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [10/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions.

4.3 Trench 11 (Figures 2 & 5)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 11/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.32m | 95.35-94.32m OD |
| 11/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.06m | 95-94.05m OD |
| 11/003 | Cut | Pit | 5.72m | 1.80m | 0.54m | 94.53m OD |
| 11/004 | Fill | Fill of 11/003 | 5.72m | 1.80m | 0.34m | 94.53m OD |
| 11/005 | Fill | Fill of 11/003 | 4.38m | 1.80m | 0.20m | 94.19m OD |
| 11/006 | Cut | Ditch | 1.80m | 0.98m | 0.44m | 94.34m OD |
| 11/007 | Fill | Fill of 11/006 | 1.80m | 0.98m | 0.44m | 94.34m OD |
| 11/008 | Cut | Ditch | 1.80m | 0.79m | 0.19m | 94.80m OD |
| 11/009 | Fill | Fill of 11/008 | 1.80m | 0.79m | 0.19m | 94.80m OD |

Table 5: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Natural orange-brown silty clay with flint [11/002] was observed at 95m OD in the east, sloping down to 94.05m OD in the west. Cut into the natural deposits were ditches [11/006] and [11/008] and pit [11/003].
- 4.3.2 Circular pit [11/003] measured 5.72m in diameter and 0.54m deep, and was filled with a light brown sandy-clay primary fill [11/005] and dark brown sandy-clay secondary fill [11/004] with occasional flint and charcoal flecks. To the west of pit [11/003] was north-south orientated ditch [11/006], measuring 0.98m wide and 0.44m deep and filled with a loose dark brown sandy clay fill [11/007] with occasional flint and charcoal flecks. Ditch [11/008], to the east of pit [11/003] was much shallower, measuring only 0.19m deep with gradually sloped sides and curved base. It was filled by [11/009], a loose dark brown sandy clay fill with flint pebbles at the base.
- 4.3.3 No dating evidence was observed, within any of the features within Trench 11. It is possible that the two north-south ditches [11/006] & [11/008] are field boundaries, or are associated with the possible trackway suggested by the geophysical survey (Figure 2).
- 4.3.4 The trench was sealed by 0.32m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [11/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions. The trench was located at 95.35m OD in the east, sloping down to 94.32m OD in the west.

4.4 Trench 12 (Figures 2 & 6)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 12/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80 | 0.32m | 97.66-97.19m OD |
| 12/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.06m | 97.28-96.77m OD |
| 12/003 | Cut | Pit | 1.58m | 1.38m | 0.45m | 97.18m OD |
| 12/004 | Fill | Fill of 12/003 | 1.58m | 1.38m | 0.45m | 97.18m OD |

Table 6: Trench 12 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Trench 12 revealed natural orange-brown silty clay with frequent flint [12/002] at 97.28m OD sloping down to 96.77m OD in the south. Cut into the natural was oval pit [12/003] filled with loose dark brown sandy-clay [12/004] with charcoal flecks and stone inclusions. No datable material was forthcoming, and so further understanding of the features date or function is not possible at this time.

4.4.2 The trench was sealed by 0.32m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [12/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions, and located at 97.66m OD sloping down to 97.19m OD in the south.

4.5 Trench 16 (Figures 2 & 7)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 16/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.25m | 94.42-94.02m OD |
| 16/002 | Fill | Fill of 16/003 | 0.20m | 0.20m | 0.06m | 94.02m OD |
| 16/003 | Cut | Post Hole | 0.20m | 0.20m | 0.06m | 94.02m OD |
| 16/004 | Fill | Fill of 16/005 | 0.64m | 0.52m | 0.30m | 93.80m OD |
| 16/005 | Cut | Pit | 0.64m | 0.52m | 0.30m | 93.80m OD |
| 16/006 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.12m | 93.99-93.71m OD |
| 16/007 | Fill | Fill of 16/008 | 0.74m | 0.53m | 0.18m | 93.80m OD |
| 16/008 | Cut | Pit | 0.74m | 0.53m | 0.18m | 93.80m OD |

Table 7: Trench 16 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Natural orange-brown silty clay with very frequent flint [16/006] was located at 93.99m OD in the west sloping to 93.71m OD in the east. Cut into this deposit were post hole [16/003] and pits [16/005] and [16/008].

4.5.2 Post hole [16/003] measured 0.20m in diameter and 0.06m deep and was filled with a black sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks [16/002]. No other post holes were observed within the trench, and it is not possible to hypothesize as to what structure [16/003] was once a part of.

4.5.3 Shallow pit [16/005] was oval in shape and filled with a soft dark brown sandy-silt [16/006]. Shallow pit [16/008] was filled with soft mid brown sandy silt [16/007] with occasional charcoal flecks. No dating evidence was retrieved from any of the features within Trench 16.

4.5.4 The trench was sealed by 0.25m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [16/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions located at 94.42m OD in the west sloping to 94.02m OD in the east.

4.6 Trench 17 (Figures 2, 8 & 12)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 17/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.32m | 95.26-93.52m OD |
| 17/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.04m | 94.84-93.17m OD |
| 17/003 | Cut | Ditch | 1.80m | 1.19m | 0.28m | 94.67m OD |
| 17/004 | Fill | Fill of 17/003 | 1.80m | 1.19m | 0.28m | 94.67m OD |
| 17/005 | Cut | Pit | 1.59m | 1.80m | 0.58m | 94.52m OD |
| 17/006 | Fill | Fill of 17/005 | 1.59m | 1.80m | 0.28m | 94.52m OD |
| 17/007 | Fill | Fill of 17/005 | 1.15m | 1.80m | 0.30m | 94.52m OD |
| 17/008 | Cut | Pit | 1.29m | 1.80m | 0.97m | 94.52m OD |
| 17/009 | Fill | Fill of 17/008 | 0.88m | 1.80m | 0.44m | 93.67m OD |
| 17/010 | Fill | Fill of 17/008 | 1.23m | 1.80m | 0.49m | 94.52m OD |
| 17/011 | Fill | Fill of 17/008 | 0.36m | 1.80m | 0.22m | 94.17m OD |
| 17/012 | Fill | Fill of 17/008 | 0.20m | 1.80m | 0.09m | 94.31m OD |
| 17/013 | Fill | Fill of 17/008 | 0.22m | 1.80m | 0.19m | 94.19m OD |
| 17/014 | Fill | Fill of 17/015 | 0.64m | 0.86m | 0.26m | 93.66m OD |
| 17/015 | Cut | Pit | 0.64m | 0.86m | 0.26m | 93.66m OD |
| 17/016 | Fill | Fill of 17/017 | 0.70m | 1.10m | 0.32m | 93.75m OD |
| 17/017 | Cut | Pit | 0.70m | 1.10m | 0.53m | 93.75m OD |
| 17/018 | Cut | Pit | 0.86m | 0.86m | 0.18m | 94.02m OD |
| 17/019 | Fill | Fill of 17/018 | 0.86m | 0.86m | 0.18m | 94.02m OD |
| 17/020 | Fill | Fill of 17/017 | 0.70m | 1.10m | 0.21m | 93.45m OD |

Table 8: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

- 4.6.1 Natural orange-brown silty clay with very frequent flint [17/002] was located at 94.84m OD in the north-east, sloping down to 93.52m OD in the south-west. Cut into this deposit were ditch [17/003], pits [17/005], [17/008], and [17/017], and shallow pits [17/015] and [17/018].
- 4.6.2 Linear ditch [17/003] measured 1.19m wide by at least 1.80m long and was filled with 0.28m of mid reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional rounded and angular flints [17/004]. A single pot sherd dates the ditch to AD 10-100. Ditch [17/003] truncated the southern side of pit [17/005], which was filled with a basal silting [17/006] and subsequently filled by mid orange-brown silty sand [17/007]. Pit [17/005] appeared to cut an earlier pit [17/008], which was filled with what appeared to be various phases of natural silting: [17/009]; [17/010]; [17/011]; [17/012] and [17/013]. No finds were observed within either of the pits, and it is not possible at this stage to determine their extent or use.
- 4.6.3 Shallow pits [17/015] and [17/018] were circular in plan, and measured 0.26m and 0.18m deep respectively. [17/015] was filled with mid-brown silty-sand [17/014] which contained a pottery sherd dated to AD 10-100. [17/018] was filled with mid-brown silty-sand [17/019] which contained a pottery sherd dated to 400BC-AD40.

4.6.4 Pit [17/017] measured 1.10m wide and 0.70m long, continuing past the western LOE of the trench. The feature was filled with primary fill [17/020], a dark brown-black sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks, occasional pottery, metal and animal bone inclusions. The pottery suggests a Late Iron Age/Early Roman date of AD10-100, three possible metal knife blades, an incomplete joiners dog and a metal haft were also recovered, all of Roman date. [17/020] was sampled, which revealed charred barley and wheat as well as charred bone. Sealing primary fill [17/020] was mid-brown silty sand [17/016] which contained frequent small flint and large rolled river stones and a quantity of bodysherds from one vessel in a hand-made sandy fabric with has a 400BC-40AD date.

4.6.5 The trench was sealed by 0.32m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [17/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions, located at 95.26m OD in the north-east sloping to 93.52m OD in the south-west.

4.7 Trench 18 (Figures 2, 9 & 12)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 18/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.32m | 95.28-93.63m OD |
| 18/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.10m | 94.95-93.44m OD |
| 18/003 | Fill | Fill of 18/004 | 1.80m | 0.86m | 0.29m | 93.74m OD |
| 18/004 | Cut | Ditch | 1.80m | 0.86m | 0.29m | 93.74m OD |
| 18/005 | Fill | Fill of 18/010 | 1m slot | 0.48m | 0.20m | 93.74m OD |
| 18/006 | Fill | Fill of 18/010 | 1m slot | 0.97m | 0.62m | 93.74m OD |
| 18/007 | Fill | Fill of 18/010 | 1m slot | 0.32m | 0.45m | 93.62m OD |
| 18/008 | Fill | Fill of 18/010 | 1m slot | 0.44m | 0.27m | 93.26m OD |
| 18/009 | Fill | Fill of 18/010 | 1m slot | 0.44m | 0.49m | 93.53m OD |
| 18/010 | Cut | Ditch re-cut | 1m slot | 1.37m | 0.76m | 93.74m OD |
| 18/011 | Fill | Fill of 18/015 | 1m slot | 0.24m | 0.17m | 93.80m OD |
| 18/012 | Fill | Fill of 18/015 | 1m slot | 0.54m | 0.38m | 93.80m OD |
| 18/013 | Fill | Fill of 18/015 | 1m slot | 0.24m | 0.27m | 93.45m OD |
| 18/014 | Fill | Fill of 18/015 | 1m slot | 0.42m | 0.47m | 93.55m OD |
| 18/015 | Cut | Ditch | 1m slot | 0.70m | 0.73m | 93.80m OD |

Table 9: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Natural orange-brown silty clay with very frequent flint [18/002] was located at 94.95m OD to the north, sloping to 93.44m OD in the south. Cut into this deposit were ditches [18/004]; [18/010] and [18/015].

4.7.2 Ditch [18/004] measured 0.86m wide by at least 1.80m long and was filled with 0.29m of mid yellowish-brown silty clay with occasional pebbles and flint [18/003]. Pottery and a small fragment of CBM from this feature suggest a Late Iron Age/Early Roman date.

4.7.3 Truncated by ditch [18/004], and on a different alignment, was earlier ditch [18/015], filled with [18/014]; [18/013]; [18/012] and [18/011], which all appeared to be naturally deposited silting episodes within the ditch. Ditch [18/015] is believed to have been re-cut, with re-cut [18/010] containing

natural silting [18/005]; [18/006]; [18/007]; [18/008] and [18/009]. Fills [18/005], [18/006], [18/009] and [18/014] all contained pieces of daub.

4.7.4 The trench was sealed by 0.32m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [18/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions and located at 95.28m OD in the north sloping to 93.63m OD in the south.

4.8 Trench 19 (Figures 2, 10 & 12)

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|--------------|
| 19/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 30m | 1.80m | 0.29m | 94.08m OD |
| 19/002 | Layer | Natural | 30m | 1.80m | 0.06m | 93.92m OD |
| 19/003 | Cut | Pit | 1.55m | 1.08m | 0.22m | 93.92m OD |
| 19/004 | Fill | Fill of 19/003 | 1.55m | 1.08m | 0.22m | 93.92m OD |
| 19/005 | Cut | Ditch | 12.34m | 1.69m | 1.22m | 93.84m OD |
| 19/006 | Fill | Fill of 19/005 | 1m slot | 0.34m | 0.13m | 92.72m OD |
| 19/007 | Fill | Fill of 19/005 | 1m slot | 0.68m | 0.27m | 93.17m OD |
| 19/008 | Fill | Fill of 19/005 | 1m slot | 0.70m | 0.29m | 93.10m OD |
| 19/009 | Fill | Fill of 19/005 | 1m slot | 1.13m | 0.32m | 93.39m OD |
| 19/010 | Fill | Fill of 19/005 | 1m slot | 1.69m | 0.51m | 93.84m OD |
| 19/011 | Cut | Ditch | 1m slot | 1.03m | 0.43m | 93.86m OD |
| 19/012 | Fill | Fill of 19/012 | 1m slot | 1.03m | 0.43m | 93.86m OD |

Table 10: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Natural orange-brown silty clay with very frequent flint [19/002] was located at 93.92m OD. Cut into this deposit was pit [19/003] and ditch [19/005]=[19/011].

4.8.2 Pit [19/003] was a shallow oval, measuring 1.08m wide by 1.55m long and was filled with 0.22m of mid reddish-brown silty clay with occasional pebbles and flint [19/004].

4.8.3 Also within the trench was a large north-south linear [19/005]=[19/011] measuring 12.34m long by at least 1.69m wide. The ditch was 1.22m deep at base (92.57m OD) with slightly convex and fairly steep sides. The very base of the ditch looked to have been worn naturally by water action, forming a slight gully, suggesting it had been left open for a long period of time. The basal fill of the ditch, [19/006] consisted of a soft brown sand sitting within the naturally formed gully at the base, and interpreted as a primary silting. Overlying [19/006] were three distinct phases of natural infilling: [19/007] consisted of 0.27m of light-brown silty sand with occasional rounded stones slumping in from the north-east; [19/008] consisted of 0.29m of mid-grey-brown clay with common flints and occasional charcoal; and [19/009] 0.32m of mid-orange-brown sandy clay with occasional rounded stones. All three of these natural silting episodes were sterile. Sealing the ditch was [19/010]=[19/012], 0.51m of mid-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, pot, animal bone and common flint. [19/010] contained a mixed group of pottery with a *Terminus Post Quem* of Late Iron Age/Early Roman; however the fill also contained residual Middle Iron Age sherds and a prehistoric worked flint.

4.8.4 The trench was sealed by 0.29m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil [19/001] with frequent flint and stone inclusions located at 94.08m OD.

4.9 Trench 20 (Figures 2, 11 & 12)

4.9.1 At the request of the County Archaeologist Trench 20 was extended 7m to the east and 7m within the south-western area of the trench. As the aim of this extensions was purely to further understand the archaeology within this area of the site, it was agreed that any new features exposed during this extra strip would not be excavated but planned, located with a GPS, photographed, and any datable finds collected from the tops of the features.

4.9.2 Natural yellowish-white silt with very frequent chalk fragments and flecks [20/003] was located at 90m OD in the north-east, sloping to 87.72m OD in the south-west. Cut into this deposit were pits [20/004]; [20/025]; [20/027]; [20/035]; [20/037]; [20/039] and [20/041]. As well as the pits there was possible structure [20/016]=[20/023] with 8 associated postholes and two floor layers [20/014]=[20/021] and [20/015]=[20/022].

4.9.3 Possible structure [20/016]=[20/023] was comprised of a shallow cut c.7m wide and 0.30m deep with very gradual, barely perceptible slope to the sides and a flat base. Around the edge of cut [20/016]=[20/023] were postholes [20/011]; [20/013]; [20/009]; [20/029]; [20/018]; [20/020]; [20/031] and [20/033]. All the postholes were filled with a darkish-grey silty clay. Postholes [20/009] and [20/020] contained medium sized stones around the cuts, interpreted as the remains of *in situ* post packing. Pottery from post hole [20/020] dates to AD120-160, and sherds from [20/033] date to AD50-120. The cut was filled by primary floor/occupation layer [20/015]=[20/022]; a dark grey-black silty-clay with small fragments of chalk, charcoal flecks and frequent small gravel and stone inclusions. The pot from this layer suggests a date of AD50-120. Overlying layer [20/015]=[20/022] was a secondary floor/occupation layer [20/014]=[20/021], a darkish brown silty-sand. The pottery from this suggests a wider range of 1st-2nd century. A sample from [20/014] revealed evidence of small mammal bones, possibly house mouse, as well as charred bone, wheat and barley remains.

4.9.4 Within the western end of the trench was a large, deep, circular rubbish pit [20/004]. [20/004] was filled by primary fill [20/007], a firm mid yellowish-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and stone and frequent chalk flecks. Sealing [20/007] was secondary fill [20/006], a mid-brown silty clay with charcoal and chalk flecks. Both fills [20/007] and [20/006] contained pottery dating to the 1st -2nd centuries and animal bone including cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse. [20/007] contained a large dump of large smooth river cobbles. The final fill of [20/004] was mid brownish-grey silty clay [20/005] with rare chalk flecks, frequent large river cobbles and pot dated to AD50-120. It is unknown why so many river cobbles would be within the site or how they ended up in pit [20/004], however, as no such stones were observed within the natural deposits it is highly likely they were brought onto site intentionally in antiquity. It is possible they were once used as paving for a trackway or yard surface within the site before being disposed of within pit [20/004].

4.9.5 Pits [20/041]; [20/039]; [20/037] and [20/035], located to the east of possible

structure [20/016]=[20/023], were exposed when the trench was extended, and so were recorded and photographed, but not excavated. Finds suggest a 1st-2nd century date.

4.9.6 Pits [20/025] and [20/027] were observed within the extension to the south-western end of the trench. These features were recorded and photographed but not excavated. No finds were retrieved from these features.

4.9.7 The features were sealed by 0.17m of subsoil [20/002], an orange-brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions, which was overlain by 0.29m of mid-brown silty clay plough soil with frequent flint and stone inclusions [20/001] and located at 90.73m OD in the north-east, sloping down to 88.11m OD in the south-west.

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|-------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 20/001 | Layer | Plough Soil | 37m | 9m | 0.30m | 90.73-88.11m OD |
| 20/002 | Layer | Subsoil | 37m | 9m | 0.17m | 90.43-87.79m OD |
| 20/003 | Layer | Natural | 37m | 9m | 0.16m | 90-87.72m OD |
| 20/004 | Cut | Pit | 3.55m | 2m (to LOE) | 1.20m | 88.30m OD |
| 20/005 | Fill | Fill of 20/004 | 3.20m | 2m (to LOE) | 0.36m | 88.30m OD |
| 20/006 | Fill | Fill of 20/004 | 3.55m | 2m (to LOE) | 0.58m | 88.24m OD |
| 20/007 | Fill | Fill of 20/004 | 2.60m | 2m (to LOE) | 0.29m | 87.85m OD |
| 20/008 | Fill | Fill of 20/009 | 0.40m | 0.35m | 0.17m | 89.59m OD |
| 20/009 | Cut | Posthole | 0.40m | 0.35m | 0.17m | 89.59m OD |
| 20/010 | Fill | Fill of 20/011 | 0.21m | 0.20m | 0.20m | 89.60m OD |
| 20/011 | Cut | Posthole | 0.21m | 0.20m | 0.20m | 89.60m OD |
| 20/012 | Fill | Fill of 20/013 | 0.28m | 0.26m | 0.20m | 89.63m OD |
| 20/013 | Cut | Posthole | 0.28m | 0.26m | 0.20m | 89.63m OD |
| 20/014 | Layer | Floor | 3.10m | 1.85m | 0.15m | 89.81m OD |
| 20/015 | Layer | Floor | 3.10m | 1.75m | 0.12m | 89.67m OD |
| 20/016 | Cut | Building? | 3.10m | 1.85m | 0.33m | 89.81m OD |
| 20/017 | Fill | Fill of 20/018 | 0.16m | 0.15m | 0.10m | 89.83m OD |
| 20/018 | Cut | Posthole | 0.16m | 0.15m | 0.10m | 89.83m OD |
| 20/019 | Fill | Fill of 20/020 | 0.42m | 0.38m | 0.16m | 89.89m OD |
| 20/020 | Cut | Posthole | 0.42m | 0.38m | 0.16m | 89.89m OD |
| 20/021 | Fill | Floor | 2.20m | 1.85m | 0.16m | 89.99m OD |
| 20/022 | Fill | Floor | 2.20m | 1.85m | 0.18m | 89.83m OD |
| 20/023 | Cut | House? | 2.20m | 1.85m | 0.30m | 89.99m OD |
| 20/024 | Fill | Fill of 20/025 | 0.82m | 0.88m | Not excavated | 88.09m OD |
| 20/025 | Cut | Pit | 0.82m | 0.88m | Not excavated | 88.09m OD |
| 20/026 | Fill | Fill of 20/027 | 1.70m | 1.55m | Not excavated | 87.85m OD |
| 20/027 | Cut | Pit | 1.70m | 1.55m | Not excavated | 87.85m OD |
| 20/028 | Fill | Fill of 20/029 | 0.40m | 0.35m | 0.14m | 89.69m OD |
| 20/029 | Cut | Posthole | 0.40m | 0.35m | 0.14m | 89.69m OD |
| 20/030 | Fill | Fill of 20/031 | 0.28m | 0.24m | 0.25m | 89.96m OD |
| 20/031 | Cut | Posthole | 0.28m | 0.24m | 0.25m | 89.96m OD |
| 20/032 | Fill | Fill of 20/033 | 0.46m | 0.40m | Not excavated | 89.97m OD |
| 20/033 | Cut | Posthole | 0.46m | 0.40m | Not excavated | 89.97m OD |

| Context | Type | Interpretation | Length m | Width m | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------|------|----------------|----------|---------|---------------|--------------|
| 20/034 | Fill | Fill of 20/035 | 1.20m | 0.50m | Not excavated | 89.97m OD |
| 20/035 | Cut | Pit | 1.20m | 0.50m | Not excavated | 89.97m OD |
| 20/036 | Fill | Fill of 20/037 | 1m | 0.92m | Not excavated | 89.99m OD |
| 20/037 | Cut | Pit | 1m | 0.92m | Not excavated | 89.99m OD |
| 20/038 | Fill | Fill of 20/039 | 1.20m | 1.29m | Not excavated | 90.35m OD |
| 20/039 | Cut | Pit | 1.20m | 1.29m | Not excavated | 90.35m OD |
| 20/040 | Fill | Fill of 20/041 | 1.80m | 0.84m | Not excavated | 90.36m OD |
| 20/041 | Cut | Pit | 1.80m | 0.84m | Not excavated | 90.36m OD |

Table 11: Trench 20 list of recorded contexts

4.10 Trenches 1-5; 7-9 and 13-15

4.10.1 Eleven trenches revealed no archaeological remains, and consisted of c.0.20m - 0.30m of mid-brown silty-clay plough soil with frequent gravel inclusions and the remains of the last farm crop overlying a mixed sand, clay and gravel natural deposit.

4.10.2 The data for these negative trenches has been tabulated in Appendix 1.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Worked Flint by Karine Le Hégarat

5.1.1 The evaluation work produced six flakes weighing 50g. The flakes came from four contexts in trenches 19 and 20. They are manufactured from fine-grained mid to dark grey flint. Cortex, present only on three pieces, is stained and thin (<1mm). The flints exhibit fresh edge condition implying that the material has undergone minimal post depositional disturbance. They are otherwise undiagnostic. The assemblage provides limited evidence for Prehistoric presence in the landscape.

5.2 Prehistoric and/or Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 A moderate-sized assemblage of pottery was recovered during the evaluation, totalling 340 sherds, weighing 2.76 kg. The assemblage is largely of 1st-2nd century Roman date; some Middle Iron Age material was also identified but this may be largely residual.

5.2.2 In the absence of an established regional type-series for Hertfordshire, the fabrics and forms were recorded using the Essex type series (see Doherty 2015 Appendixes 1 & 2) which uses a series of mnemonic fabric codes and incorporates elements of existing form type-series (Hawkes & Hull 1947; Going 1987). One site-specific fabric code was defined for prehistoric pottery and is described in detail below. Data was quantified by sherd count, weight, Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) and Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) on *pro forma* records and in an Excel spreadsheet. A summary quantification of the assemblage by fabric type is given in Table 12.

5.2.3 The earliest element of the assemblage comprises a series of lower-fired hand-made sandy wares with common, very coarse, rounded quartz (mostly of 0.4-0.8mm and rare examples up to 2mm), and occasionally containing rare fine flint inclusions of <1.5mm (QUAR1). In one context, [19/010], these were associated with diagnostic Middle Iron Age forms including a hand-made necked jar and a weakly-shouldered jar with fingernail scoring along its rim. This latter style of decoration is very typical of earlier Middle Iron Age assemblages and tends not to be present in 3rd century or later groups. However, these sherds were directly stratified with Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered wares and one sherd in a post-conquest Roman oxidised ware; they are therefore considered likely to be residual. Bodysherds in very similar fabrics also occurred in contexts [17/016] and [17/019]. In the former these comprised 60 fragmented sherds from one vessel, part of the base/lower wall of a jar which was found upright in the ground. However, this was found in a secondary pit fill, directly above a primary fill, [17/020], which contained Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered, shell-tempered and sandy black-surfaced wares. Similarly, in context [18/003], sherds in fabric QUAR1 were stratified with Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered bodysherds and it is therefore unclear whether fabric QUAR1 is contemporary or redeposited in these groups. In the case of the vessel from [17/019], it is perhaps even possible that earlier pottery was curated over a considerable period of time.

| Fabric | Description | Sherds | Weight (g) | ENV |
|--------|--|--------|------------|-----|
| QUAR1 | Site-specific code: MIA style sandy ware | 91 | 330 | 20 |
| BSW1 | Sandy black-surfaced ware | 38 | 268 | 35 |
| BSW2 | Grog-tempered black-surfaced ware | 5 | 44 | 5 |
| BUF | Unsources buff oxidised ware | 22 | 131 | 13 |
| CGRHN | Central Gaulish black-slipped ware | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| CGSW | Central Gaulish samian ware | 7 | 34 | 4 |
| ESH | Early shell-tempered ware | 56 | 651 | 34 |
| GRF | Unsources fine grey ware | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| GROG | Grog-tempered ware | 22 | 255 | 11 |
| GRS | Unsources grey ware | 42 | 512 | 36 |
| HAB | Hadham black-burnished ware | 3 | 35 | 2 |
| HAR | Hadham reduced ware | 21 | 114 | 13 |
| HAX | Hadham oxidised ware | 1 | 11 | 1 |
| MWSRS | Miscellaneous white-slipped red sandy fabric | 3 | 20 | 2 |
| RED | Unsources red oxidised ware | 6 | 33 | 5 |
| SGSW | South Gaulish samian ware | 1 | 10 | 1 |
| STOR | Storage jar fabric | 12 | 192 | 9 |
| VRGR | Verulamium region grey ware | 3 | 41 | 3 |
| VRW | Verulamium region white ware | 5 | 68 | 3 |
| Total | | 340 | 2760 | 199 |

Table 12: Quantification of prehistoric and Roman pottery fabrics

- 5.2.4 Elsewhere in the assemblage there is limited evidence for pre-Roman Conquest activity. Although Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered (GROG; BSW2) and shell-tempered (ESH) wares are some of the most commonly represented fabric types, these almost always occur in direct association with Roman sandy wares. Having said this, tempered fabrics make up a large proportion of some context groups, including [20/015], [20/021] and [20/022], suggesting that these were sealed in mid/late 1st century AD. Such groups are dominated by bead rim (G1, G3) and necked jars (G19, G20 etc).
- 5.2.5 Most other context groups are broadly in keeping with a late 1st-mid 2nd century date. They tend to be dominated by unsourced grey (GRS) and sandy black-surfaced wares (BSW1) with some unsourced oxidised wares (BUF, RED, MWSRS). Again, necked jars (G20) predominate and there are two examples of reeded rim bowls (C16). Where diagnostic regionally-traded wares were identified, these fall into two categories: earlier Hadham wares (HAR, HAX) and Verulamium region wares (VRW, VRGR).
- 5.2.6 The small amount of samian ware from the site is mostly of central Gaulish (CGSW) rather than south-Gaulish (SGSW) origin; however, sherds of the post-AD120 CGSW fabric often occur in stratified groups which otherwise appear broadly of late 1st-early 2nd century character. Having said this, a few other indications of mid/late 2nd century activity were noted, including a flat rim bowl (B4) in a Hadham black-burnished style ware (HAB), found in

context [20/019]. The latest sherd in the assemblage is a fragment from an indented beaker in central Gaulish black-slipped ware which dates to after c. AD170; again, this sherd occurred in a stratified group, in context [20/038], which otherwise appears slightly earlier in date.

5.2.7 The quantity of pottery, including four individual moderate-sized context groups of 30-60 sherds is probably indicative of proximity to Roman settlement, although the assemblage is relatively fragmented suggesting that it may have been redeposited from primary activity areas elsewhere.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Luke Barber

5.3.1 The evaluation recovered a small assemblage of brick, tile and burnt clay/daub. The material includes a number of different forms and fabrics, but essentially it appears to relate to the Later Iron Age and Roman activity at the site. The assemblage is summarised in Tables 1 and 2 as part of the visible archive.

| Fabric | Description |
|--------|---|
| D1 | Silty with sparse fine to medium quartz |
| D2 | Silty with moderate/abundant fine to medium quartz |
| D3a | Silty pale marl-rich matrix, sometimes with marl patches |
| D3b | As D3a but with moderate/abundant fine quartz |
| D4 | As D2 but with common fossil shell and/or chalk pellets to 2mm |
| RB1 | Common very fine quartz (slightly silty) with common iron oxides to 3mm |

Table 13: Ceramic Building Material fabrics

| Context | Fabric | Form | No/weight | Comments |
|---------------|--------|-------------|-----------|--|
| 18/003 | D1 | Daub? | 1/1g | Amorphous |
| 18/005 | D2 | Daub? | 1/1g | Amorphous |
| 18/006 | D4 | Daub? | 3/1g | Amorphous |
| 18/009 | D3a | Daub? | 1/1g | Amorphous |
| 18/014 | D3a | Daub? | 3/6g | Amorphous |
| 20/005 | D4 | Daub | 5/82g | X1 with flat face |
| 20/006 | RB1 | Brick | 1/326g | 37mm thick. Weathered. Roman |
| 20/006 | RB1 | Imbrex tile | 1/250g | 16mm thick. Weathered. Roman |
| 20/014 | D3b | Daub? | 1/8g | Amorphous |
| 20/014 <2> | D4 | Daub? | 3/1g | Amorphous |
| 20/015 | D1 | Daub? | 5/60g | Amorphous |
| 20/015 | D4 | Daub? | 4/4g | Amorphous |
| 20/021 | D1 | Daub? | 1/1g | Amorphous |
| 20/022 | D4 | Daub? | 1/4g | Amorphous |
| 20/034 | D4 | Daub | 7/196g | Large, fresh pieces. 1x with flat face |

Table 14: Ceramic Building Material assemblage

5.3.2 The assemblage of burnt clay is almost certainly all derived from daub – certainly the D4 fabric is associated with deliberately flat faces. Whether this material derived from buildings or structures such as ovens is uncertain. The two pieces of Roman tile, although slightly weathered, are quite large though if the associated building was close by one may expect to see considerably more Roman brick/tile in the assemblage.

5.4 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.4.1 A moderate-sized assemblage of stone was recovered from the site. The assemblage is summarised in Table 3 as part of the visible archive.

| Context | Sample | Type | No/weight | Comments |
|---------|--------|---|-----------|---------------------------|
| 6/003 | <1> | Sarsen-type Tertiary sandstone | 6/234g | Burnt/fractured |
| 17/020 | <3> | Ferruginous Tertiary sandstone (medium grained) | 1/42g | Worn |
| 20/005 | | Ferruginous siltstone/boxstone | 1/4g | |
| 20/005 | | Ferruginous Tertiary sandstone (coarse grained) | 1/196g | Worn |
| 20/006 | | Fossiliferous Tertiary friable sandstone | 1/106g | Weathered |
| 20/014 | <2> | Ferruginous siltstone | 15/17g | Includes ammonite fossils |
| 20/015 | | Ferruginous siltstone/boxstone | 3/30g | |
| 20/038 | | Ferruginous Tertiary sandstone (medium grained) | 1/12g | Worn |
| 20/038 | | Downland flint | 1/88g | 42mm diameter sphere |
| 20/040 | | Sarsen-type Tertiary sandstone | 1/20g | Burnt pebble |
| 20/040 | | Ferruginous Tertiary sandstone (medium grained) | 1/10g | Worn |

Table 15: Geological material

5.4.2 All of the stone derives from either the chalk or the former overlying Tertiary deposits. As such the material is likely to have been naturally occurring at the site. With the exception of some (probably unintentional) heating none of the stones show signs of modification at the hand of man.

5.4.3 Three of the environmental residues produced magnetic material: contexts [6/003] (6g), [17/020] (2g) and [20/014] (14g). Examination of these did not locate any slag waste, all being composed of 'magnetic fines'. These consist of granules of ferruginous siltstone, sandstone and clay that have been subjected to heating and thereby having their magnetism enhanced. Such fines can be created by a domestic fire and are not an indication of industrial activity.

5.5 The Metallurgical Remains by Susan Chandler

5.5.1 A total of nineteen iron objects were recovered during the excavation. One was subsequently added to the registered finds list (see below) the rest are discussed here.

5.5.2 Of the metal work recovered, nine objects are nails. There are two small, dome headed hobnails from context [20/014] which were recovered in

environmental sample <2>. This context also contained four standard nails collected during excavation. Of these, two have round heads with square stems and two have square heads and stems. Incomplete nails, remaining only as square stem fragments were recovered from contexts [20/006] and [20/021]. [20/021] also contained a complete nail with a square stem and an 'L' shaped head. All of these nails are of a Roman date.

5.5.3 Three small, unidentifiable iron plate fragments were recovered from [17/020] in sample <3>. Further iron objects were recovered from this context during excavation; three possible knife blade fragments, all very corroded. It would be beneficial to x-ray these to help see the blade shapes and possibly fit them into established typologies. As well as these, an incomplete joiners dog, slightly twisted and missing one arm, was found in [17/020]. This is a fairly large, staple-like item with a sub rectangular section, its arm tapering to a flattened rectangular point. Finally [17/020] also contained a large iron ferrule, made from a single sheet of iron rolled into a blunted cone shape. This object is corroded and wood remains in the corrosion on the internal surface suggest that it was once hafted as a tool or implement.

5.5.4 A further small, unidentifiable, iron object was recovered from context [20/021]. This may simply be another nail however due to its condition it is not possible to tell; it may be part of a tang or tool fragment. Radiography may help clear this up. All of the metalwork items would fit with the general Roman dating for the site.

5.6 Registered Finds by Susan Chandler

5.6.1 During the post excavation work one item of metalwork was chosen for further work. This has been recorded as a registered find. This object, RF <1>, from [17/020] is part of a (probably Roman) tool or knife. It is corroded and incomplete, with a square section widening to a flat rectangular section, possibly a blade. The flat rectangular portion bends at a right angle at its tip. The incomplete nature of the item makes identification tricky. It is unlikely much extra detail would be revealed by radiography.

5.7 Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.7.1 A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the archaeological evaluation including 144 fragments, weighing 1594g retrieved through hand-collection and a further 54g retrieved from whole earth samples. The majority of the assemblage is in a moderate state of preservation with no complete but some large fragments remaining. Evidence of bone surface erosion is notable on a small number of fragments.

5.7.2 The hand-collected assemblage includes cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse with the largest contexts being [20/006] and [20/007]. Both meat-bearing and non-meat bearing bones have been identified; no evidence of butchery has been noted. Both mature and juvenile animals are represented by deciduous and adult teeth; an ulna from a neo-natal pig was recovered from context [17/020]. No evidence of gnawing or pathology was noted.

5.7.3 Samples <2> and <3> produced animal bone, the majority of which is small, fragmented and unidentifiable. Evidence of small mammal in the form of long-

bones and teeth were recovered from both samples, the size and shape of the teeth suggest the presence of rodents, possibly house mouse. Small quantities of unidentifiable calcined and charred bones were also recovered from both samples.

5.8 Shell by Susan Chandler

- 5.8.1 The bulk of the shell recovered from the site is land snail shell found in context [20/014], collected in environmental sample <2>. Further to this, two small, unidentifiable fragments of marine shell were recovered from [17/020] in sample <3>. A final, identifiable fragment of marine shell was collected from context [20/012]. This is part of a *Mytilus Edulis* shell.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Angela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During archaeological investigation at the site, 3 bulk soil samples were taken to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The samples were extracted from the undated fills of a hearth, a floor and a ditch terminus. The following report summarises the contents of these samples and discusses the contribution that the environmental remains can give in regards to the local vegetation environment, fuel use and selection and the agricultural economy or other plant use.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 The samples were processed by flotation in their entirety. The flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and were air dried. The dried residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 13). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 14). Macro plant remains have been identified through comparison with reference atlases (Cappers et al. 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results

6.3.1 *Samples <1> [6/003], <2> [20/014] and <3> [17/020]*

All the samples produced small flots, which were dominated by uncharred vegetative matter, such as rootlets and seeds of goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) and knotgrasses (*Polygonum* sp.) This material is indicative of low level disturbance and is likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action. Charred plant remains were scarce. Cereal caryopses were present in limited numbers in fills [20/014] and [17/020] and included hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.), wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and a few poorly preserved ones for which identification could not be taken further than wheat/barley (*Triticum/Hordeum* sp.) or indeterminate cereal (Cerealina).

6.3.2 The residues contained both environmental remains and finds. Mammal bone, some of which burnt, marine molluscs, land snail shells, charred cereal grains and charcoal were recorded in most samples. Charcoal was present in fairly low amounts and it was not deemed to be able to provide useful information on vegetation environment and fuel selection and use. Therefore, no identification work was carried out on the charcoal fragments. Finds from the residues included fire cracked flint, stone, CBM, fired clay, flint, pottery and magnetic material.

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 Overall, the environmental samples from Land at Stevenage Lane did not contain enough material to allow for a discussion on diet, crop husbandry and

fuel use at the site. The few charred plant macrofossils recorded are likely to represent a background scatter of waste. However, they have showed the potential for other deposits in the vicinity to also preserve plant remains and charcoal and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting primary deposits.

Table 16: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

| Sample Number | Context | Context / deposit type | Sample Volume litres | Sub-Sample Volume litres | Charcoal >4mm | Weight (g) | Charcoal <4mm | Weight (g) | Charred botanicals (other than charcoal) | Weight (g) | Bone and Teeth | Weight (g) | Burnt bone >8mm | Weight (g) | Burnt bone 4-8mm | Weight (g) | Burnt Bone 2-4mm | Weight (g) | Marine Molluscs | Weight (g) | Land Snail shells | Weight (g) | Other (eg ind, pot, cbm) |
|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| 1 | 6/003 | Hearth | 10 | 10 | * | <2 | ** | <2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FCF **/76 - Stone */230 - CBM */7 - Magnetised Material ***/8 |
| 2 | 20/014 | Floor | 40 | 40 | ** | 3 | ** | 2 | * | <2 | ** | 40 | * | 2 | ** | 2 | * | <2 | | | ** | 9 | FE **/18 - Bead */<2 - Pot **/12 - F.Clay */4 - Flint */50 - FCF */13 - Magnetised Material ***/18 |
| 3 | 17/020 | Ditch | 10 | 10 | ** | 2 | ** | <2 | * | <2 | * | <2 | | | | | * | <2 | * | <2 | | | FCF */54 - Stone */41 - Pot */4 - Flint */3 - Metal */6 - Magnetised Material ***/4 |

Table 17: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

| Sample Number | Context | Weight g | Flot volume ml | Volume scanned | Uncharred % | Sediment % | Seeds uncharred | Charcoal <4mm | Charcoal <2mm | Crop seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | Weed seeds charred | Identifications | Preservation | |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|--|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|--|
| 1 | 6/003 | <0.5 | 10 | 10 | 70 | 10 | | | * | | | | | | | |
| 2 | 20/014 | 5.5 | 75 | 75 | 60 | 20 | * <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Polygonum</i> sp. | | ** | * | <i>Triticum/Hordeum</i> sp., <i>Triticum</i> sp., Cerealia indet | + / ++ | | | | |
| 3 | 17/020 | 1.3 | 35 | 35 | 40 | 20 | | ** | *** | ** | <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (hulled), cf <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Triticum/Hordeum</i> sp. | + + / + | * | <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. | + | |

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 The natural geology on site consisted mainly of orange-brown Glaciofluvial clay, sand and gravel across much of the site, which sloped from c.97.36m OD in the north-east down to c.93.17m OD in the south-west. A sharper drop within the south-western corner corresponds with a change in the natural geology, becoming a yellowish-white silt with very frequent chalk fragments and flecks located at c.90m OD dropping to c.87.72m OD. Subsoil was only present in Trenches 6 and 20, and consisted of an orange-brown silty clay with occasional flint inclusions which sealed subsequent archaeological features.
- 7.1.2 36 archaeological features were observed across 9 trenches (Trenches 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20), predominantly clustered around the south-west of the site, but with occasional outliers to the east and south-east. The features consisted of pits and ditches, with one hearth and a series of postholes with associated occupation layers interpreted as a possible structure.
- 7.1.3 Of the 36 features, the 9 from Trenches 6, 10, 11, 12 & 16 did not contain any datable finds. Pottery spot dates from Trenches 17-20 suggest that there was human activity on the site from the Middle Iron Age to the 2nd Century AD. The spread of the dating suggests two distinct phases of occupation: a Late Iron Age/Early Roman (AD10-100) period focused within the area around Trenches 17 & 18; and an Early Roman phase (AD50-120) focused around Trenches 19 & 20 (Figure 12).
- 7.1.4 Trenches 17 and 18 revealed a series of pits and ditches dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period (AD10-100). The Middle/Late Iron Age (400BC-AD40) is represented by one small pit [17/018] and the secondary fill of pit [17/017]. The features within Trenches 17 and 18, when combined with the geophysical data (Figure 2), suggest ditches [17/003] and [18/004] are both part of a large square enclosure with an end date of LIA/Early Roman, with associated pits inside the enclosure.
- 7.1.5 Sherds of potentially residual Middle/Late Iron Age pottery suggest the possibility of an earlier phase of activity within this area of the site, ditch [18/004] represents the second and final re-cut of an earlier ditch, the primary ditch and primary re-cut of which did not contain datable finds, suggesting the possibility of the enclosure being used, or re-used, over a long period of time.
- 7.1.6 Dating evidence from Trenches 19 and 20 revealed a large north-south ditch [19/005]=[19/011], a series of pits and a possible post built structure with associated occupation layers all of an Early Roman (AD50-120) date.
- 7.1.7 Pits [20/004], [20/039], posthole [20/020] and floor layer [20/014] contained sherds with a *Terminus Post Quem* (TPQ) of AD120-170, however the overall assemblages were characteristically late 1st – early 2nd century, suggesting some features were going out of use/sealed around AD120-170 but that the actual settlement activity is from the late 1st to early 2nd Century. This phase

of activity, when overlaid with the geophysical data, suggests evidence of a post built structure and associated pits within an oval enclosure, and several pits located outside the enclosure within the south-west area of Trench 20 (Figure 2).

- 7.1.8 Ditch [19/005]=[19/011] looks to be part of a large north-south ditch, the western of two parallel ditches, which may represent a trackway. Residual LIA/Early Roman pottery within ditch [19/005]=[19/011] could be evidence of continuity of use between the two phases of occupation.
- 7.1.9 The location of the trial trenching across the site, and the localised areas of archaeological potential identified from the trenching, suggest the methodology was effective and a high level of confidence in the results and interpretation can be relied upon.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 No previous known building or ground works have been carried out on the site, however archaeological survival has been impacted upon by ploughing, the scars of which can be seen within the natural deposits. The ploughing has removed any subsoil that might have once existed, except within the south-western area of the site, which is also the area with the greatest archaeological survival.
- 7.2.2 Archaeological features survive where they cut into the natural deposits, which slope from 97.36m OD in the north-east down to 93.17m OD, and then drop sharply down to c. 87.72m OD in the south-west corner. The features are sealed by c.0.30m of plough soil.

7.3 Potential impact on archaeological remains

- 7.3.1 The actual impact of the proposed development on the archaeological remains will depend on the final design of the solar farm; the depth of any cable runs; the placement of substations and transformer stations and the depth and location of any additional groundworks, landscaping etc.

7.4 Consideration of research aims

- To determine, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

The south-western area of the site revealed what appear to be a Late Iron Age/Early Roman enclosure and associated features, as well as an Early Roman timber built structure with associated pits and a large north-south orientated ditch of the same date. This area also revealed undated features of unknown use. The south-east area of the site revealed two undated small pits and a posthole. Trench 6, within the north-east of the site, revealed a small hearth of unknown date.

- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

Three features were deemed suitable for environmental sampling during the evaluation. The samples did not contain enough material to allow for a discussion on diet, crop husbandry and fuel use at the site. The few charred plant macrofossils recorded are likely to represent a background scatter of waste. However, they have shown the potential for other deposits in the vicinity to also preserve plant remains and charcoal.

- With reference to Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England, the evaluation will seek to contribute data to a future regional study of Bronze Age/Iron Age transition and social organisation (Medlycott 2011, 29-31).

The evaluation revealed no Bronze Age/Iron Age transitional evidence.

7.5 Conclusions

- 7.5.1 Archaeological features were revealed within 9 of the 20 trenches, revealing a large amount of archaeological activity within the south-western part of the site, as well as a small area of apparently localised activity within the south-east, and a lone hearth to the east. The dating evidence collected during the evaluation suggests two phases of activity on the site, one dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman (AD10-100) located to the east of the probable trackway identified within the geophysical survey and consisting of pits and ditches, and the other Early Roman (AD50-120) located to the west of the possible trackway and consisting of post holes, occupation layers and rubbish pits.

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HER Summary

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|----------|
| Site code | SHS 15 | | | | |
| Project code | 8531 | | | | |
| Planning reference | 15/01532/1 | | | | |
| Site address | Stevenage Road Solar Park, Near St Ippolyt's | | | | |
| District/Borough | Hertfordshire | | | | |
| NGR (12 figures) | 520206 226489 | | | | |
| Geology | Glaciofluvial sand and gravel | | | | |
| Fieldwork type | Eval | | | | |
| Date of fieldwork | 30 th November-7 th December | | | | |
| Sponsor/client | CgMs | | | | |
| Project manager | Andy Leonard | | | | |
| Project supervisor | Sarah Ritchie | | | | |
| Period summary | | | | | Iron Age |
| | Roman | | | | |
| Project summary (100 word max) | <p>An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's NGR 520206 226489, between the 30th November and 7th December 2015. Twenty trenches measuring 1.8m x 30m in length were excavated.</p> <p>Archaeological features were revealed within 9 of the 20 trenches, revealing a large amount of archaeological activity within the south-western area of the site, as well as small area of apparently localised activity within the south-east, and a lone hearth to the east. The dating evidence collected during the evaluation suggests two phases of activity on the site, one dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman (AD10-100) with possible residual Middle Iron Age pottery located to the east of the probable trackway identified within the geophysical survey and consisting of pits and ditches, and the other Early Roman (AD50-120) located to the west of the possible trackway and consisting of post holes, occupation layers and rubbish pits.</p> | | | | |

Finds summary

| Find type | Material | Period | Quantity |
|------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Pot | Clay | MIA/LIA; LIA; LIA/Early Roman; 1 st - 2 nd C | 352 |
| CBM | Clay | Roman | 5 |
| Bone | Bone | LIA/Roman; Roman | 587 |
| Shell | Shell | Roman | 1 |
| Tool | Flint | Prehistoric | 16 |
| Stone | Stone | Roman | 7 |
| Nail | Fe | Roman | 23 |
| Daub | Clay | Roman | 33 |
| Tool | Metal | LIA/Roman | 1 |

OASIS Form**OASIS ID: archaeo16-236738****Project details**

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | Land at Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire SG4 7UW |
| Short description of the project | An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Archaeology South-East at Land at Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire, SG4 7UW between 30th November and 8th December 2015. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of the redevelopment of the site. Archaeological features were revealed within 9 of the 20 trenches opened, revealing a large amount of archaeological activity within the south-western area of the site, as well as small area of apparently localised activity within the south-east, and a lone hearth to the east. The dating evidence collected during the evaluation suggests two phases of activity on the site, one dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman (AD10-100) with possible residual Middle Iron Age pottery located to the east of the probable trackway identified within the geophysical survey and consisting of pits and ditches, and the other Early Roman (AD50-120) located to the west of the possible trackway and consisting of post holes, occupation layers and rubbish pits. Natural clay, sand and gravel was observed at c.97.36m OD in the north-east, sloping down to c.93.17m OD in the south-west. A sharper drop within the south-western corner corresponds with a change in the natural geology, becoming a yellowish-white silt with very frequent chalk fragments and flecks located at c.90m OD dropping to c.87.72m OD. |
| Project dates | Start: 30-11-2015 End: 08-12-2015 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | SHS15 - Sitecode |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area |
| Current Land use | Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m |
| Monument type | PIT Late Iron Age |
| Monument type | DITCH Late Iron Age |
| Monument type | PIT Roman |
| Monument type | DITCH Roman |
| Monument type | POST HOLE Roman |
| Monument type | PIT Uncertain |
| Monument type | POSTHOLE Uncertain |
| Monument type | DITCH Uncertain |
| Monument type | OCCUPATION LAYER Roman |
| Significant Finds | POT Middle Iron Age |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Significant Finds | POT Late Iron Age |
| Significant Finds | POT Roman |
| Significant Finds | CBM Roman |
| Significant Finds | NAIL Roman |
| Significant Finds | METAL TOOL Roman |
| Significant Finds | BONE Roman |
| Methods & techniques | "Targeted Trenches" |
| Development type | Solar Farm |
| Prompt | Direction from Local Planning Authority - Direction 4 |
| Position in the planning process | Pre-application |

Project location

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Country | England |
| Site location | HERTFORDSHIRE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE ST IPPOLYT'S Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire |
| Postcode | SG4 7UW |
| Study area | 15.6 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | TL 20205 26489 51.923481833986 -0.251775875607 51 55 24 N 000 15 06 W Point |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 87.72m Max: 97.36m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Archaeology South-East |
| Project brief originator | CgMs Consulting |
| Project design originator | Archaeology South-East |
| Project director/manager | Andy Leonard |
| Project supervisor | Sarah Ritchie |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Developer |

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | An Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Stevenage Lane, Near St Ippolyt's, Hertfordshire SG4 7UW |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Ritchie, S. |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Date | 2016 |
| Issuer or publisher | Archaeology South-East |
| Place of issue or publication | London |
| <hr/> | |
| Entered by | Sarah Ritchie (s.ritchie@ucl.ac.uk) |
| Entered on | 7 January 2016 |

Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts

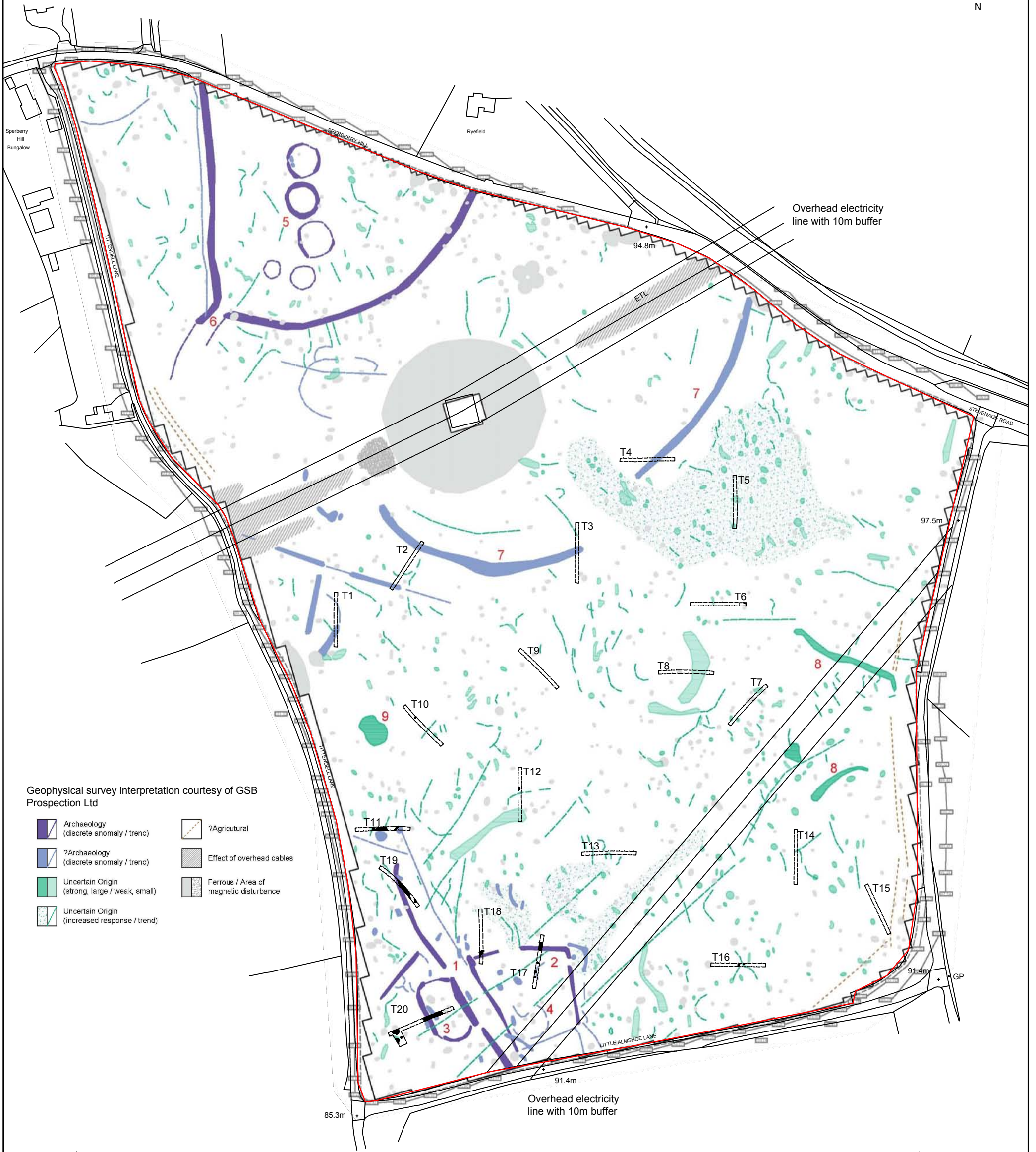
| Trench | Context | Type | Interpretation | Depth m | Height m AOD |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 1/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.26m | 95.90m OD |
| 1 | 1/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.04-0.10m | 95.55m OD |
| 2 | 2/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.25m | 95.92- 96.63m OD |
| 2 | 2/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.12m | 95.61- 96.30m OD |
| 3 | 3/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.27m | 96.83- 97.60m OD |
| 3 | 3/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.05m | 96.45- 97.36m OD |
| 4 | 4/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.20-0.28m | 96.81m OD |
| 4 | 4/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.09m | 96.53m OD |
| 5 | 5/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.27m | 97.17m OD |
| 5 | 5/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.08-0.76m | 96.80m OD |
| 7 | 7/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.30-0.36m | 96.95- 97.48m OD |
| 7 | 7/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.04-0.80m | 96.72- 97.15m OD |
| 8 | 8/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.20-0.20m | 97.28- 97.86m OD |
| 8 | 8/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.12-0.30m | 96.91- 97.34m OD |
| 9 | 9/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.28m | 98.06- 98.43m OD |
| 9 | 9/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.10m | 97.75- 98.14m OD |
| 13 | 13/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.25-0.30m | 97.17m OD |
| 13 | 13/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.10-0.17m | 96.86m OD |
| 14 | 14/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.15-0.30m | 96.05- 95.37m OD |
| 14 | 14/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.10m | 95.78- 95.01m OD |
| 15 | 15/001 | Layer | Plough soil | 0.24-0.30m | 94.50- 93.25m OD |
| 15 | 15/002 | Layer | Natural | 0.06-0.12m | 94.14-93m OD |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig. 1 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Site location | |
| Report No: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |

+ 519950, 226850

+ 520400, 226850



- Geophysical survey interpretation courtesy of GSB
Prospection Ltd
- Archaeology (discrete anomaly / trend)
 - ?Archaeology (discrete anomaly / trend)
 - Uncertain Origin (strong, large / weak, small)
 - Uncertain Origin (increased response / trend)
 - ?Agricultural
 - Effect of overhead cables
 - Ferrous / Area of magnetic disturbance

+ 519950, 226200

+ 520400, 226200

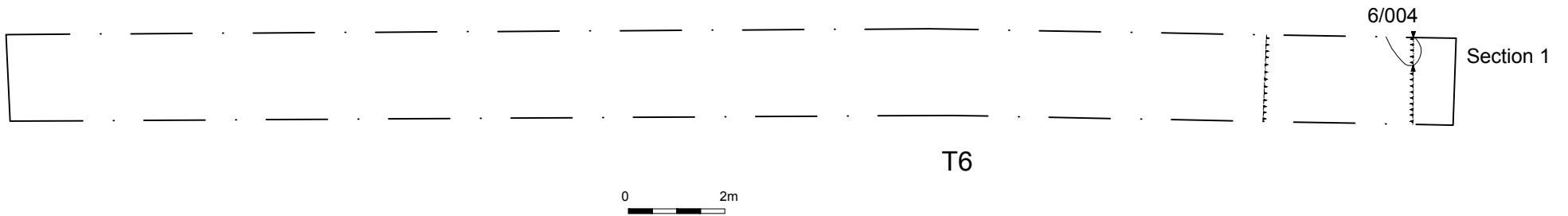
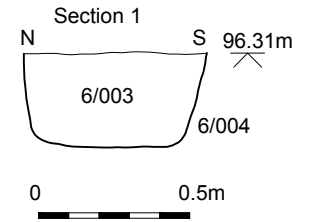


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| | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|--|-------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | | Fig.2 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trench locations with geophysical survey interpretation | | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | | |



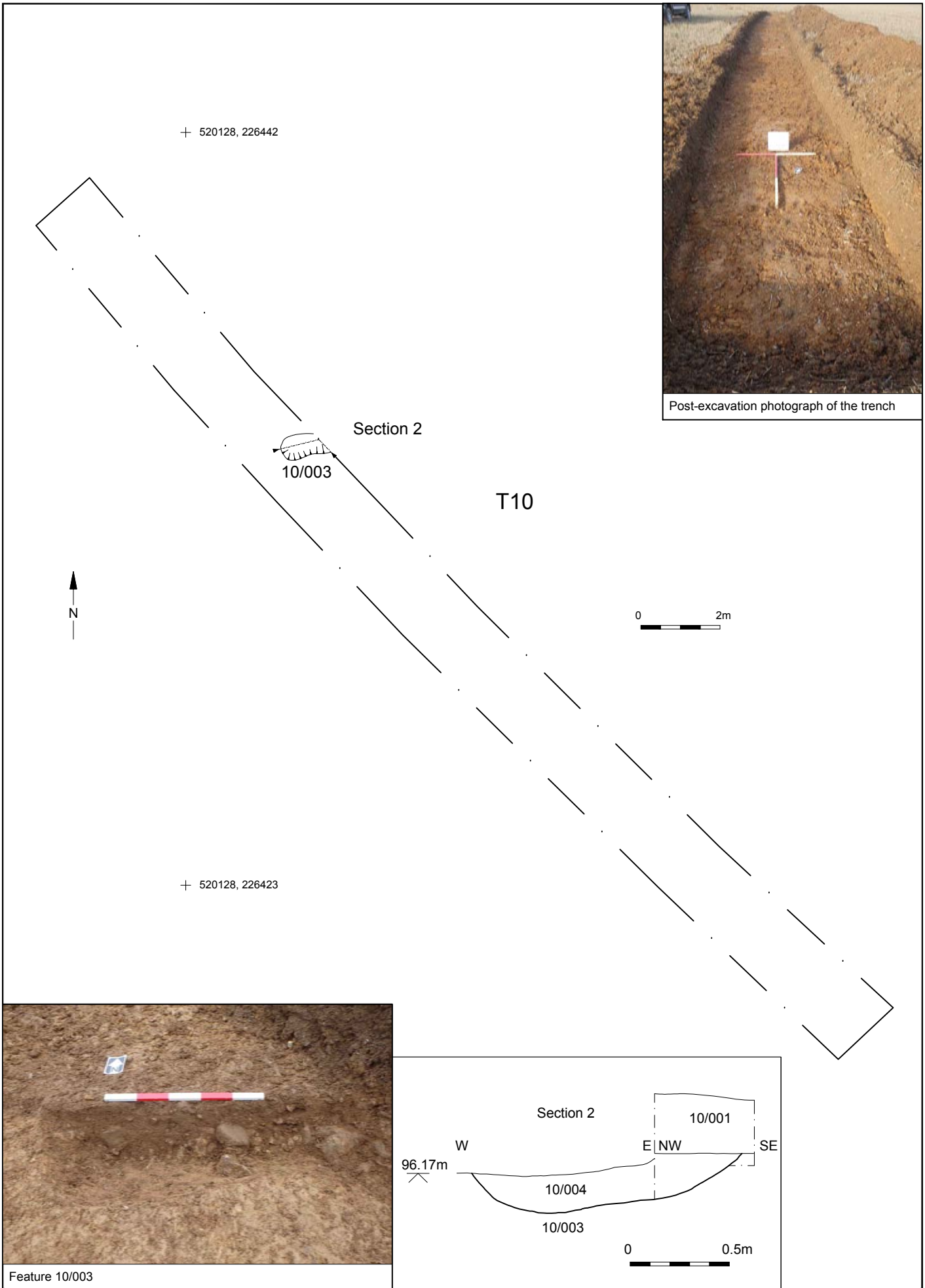
Post-excitation photograph of the trench



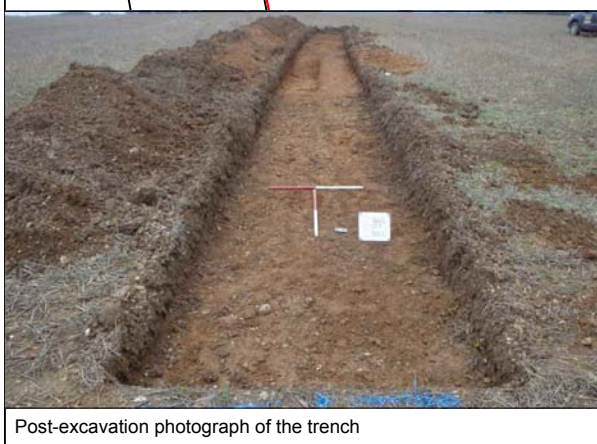
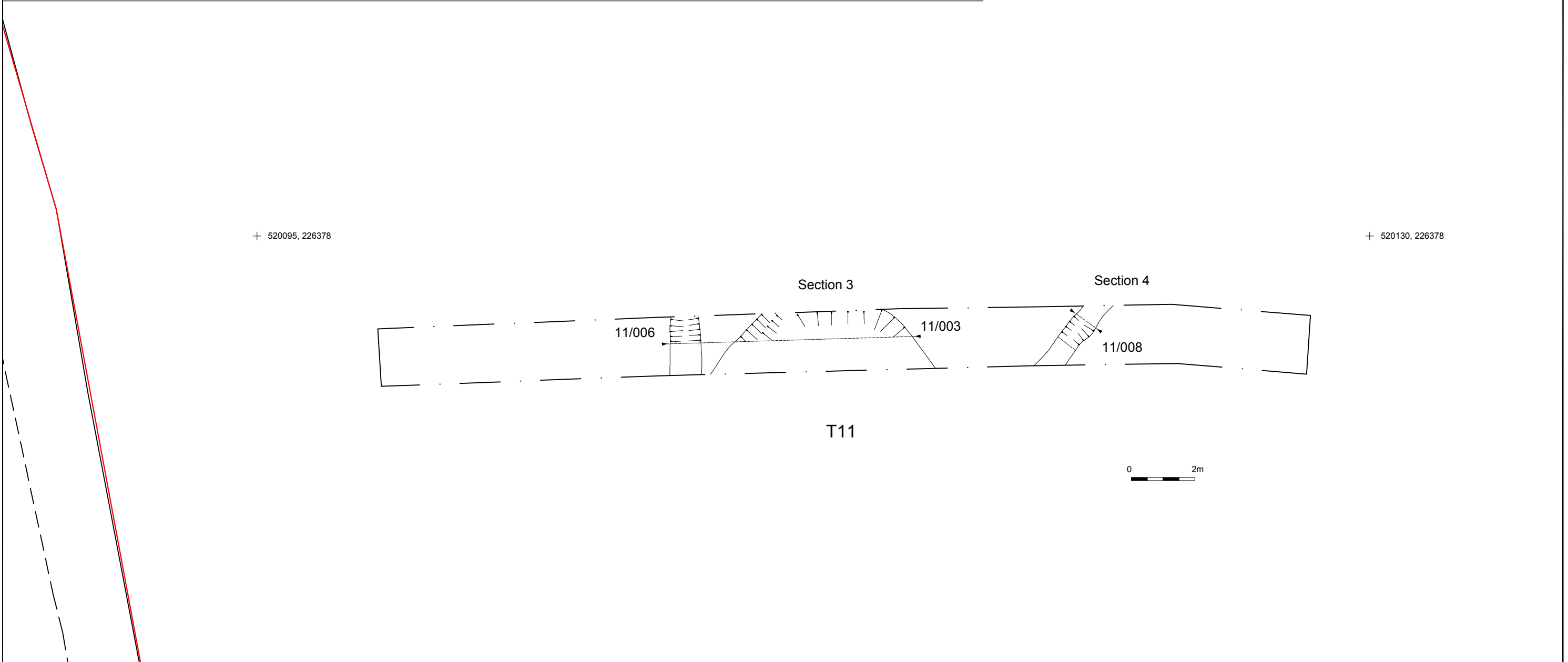
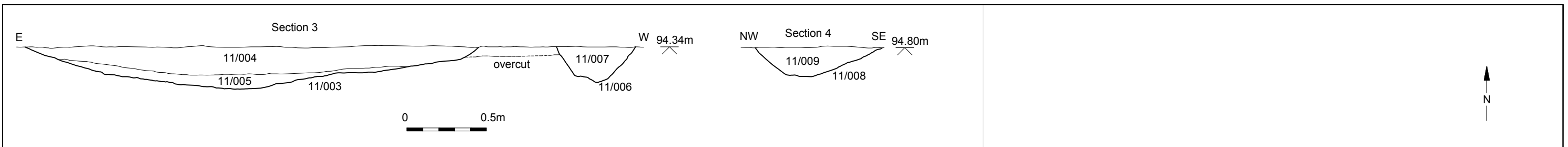
+ 520277, 226489

+ 520307, 226489

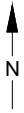
| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig.3 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trench 6 plan, section and photograph | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|-------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig.4 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trench 10 plan, section and photograph | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |



+ 520181, 226408



Section 5

T12



+ 520181, 226378

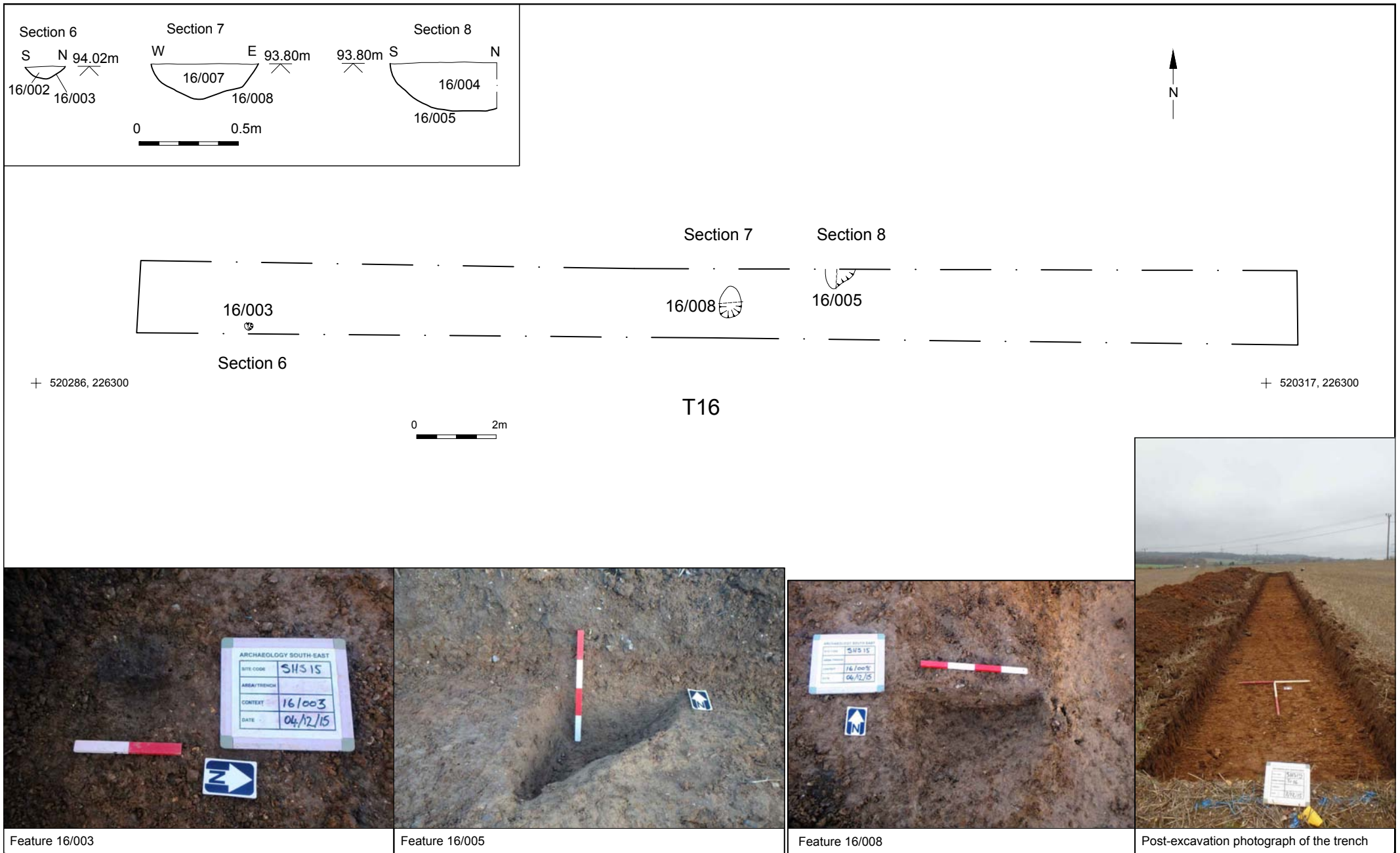


Feature 12/003



Post-excavation photographs of the trench

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|-------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig.6 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trench 12 plan, section and photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |



| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|-------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig.7 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trench 16 plan, sections and photographs | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |



Feature 17/017



Feature 17/018



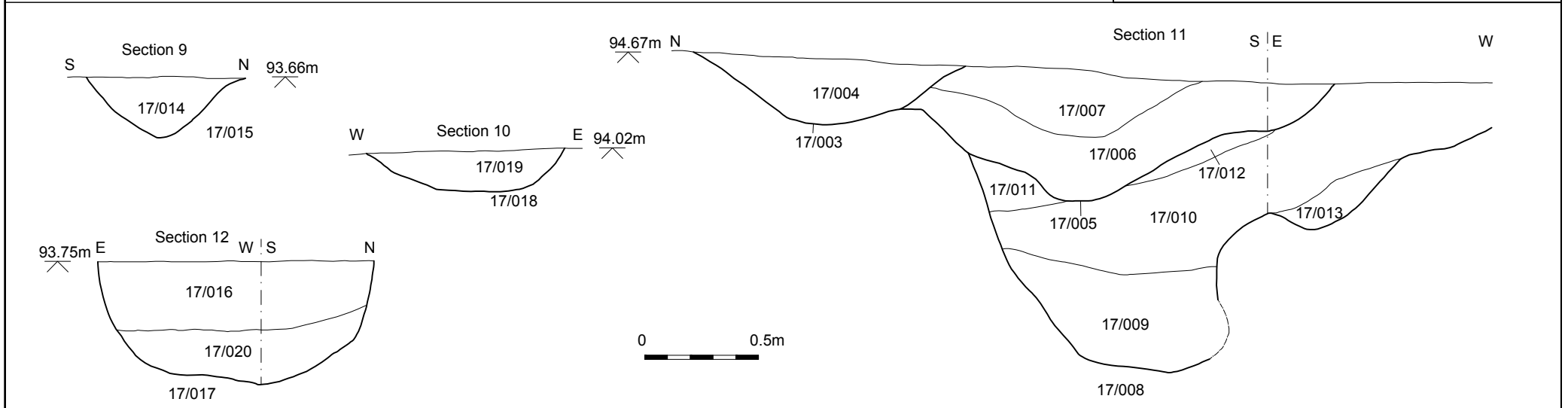
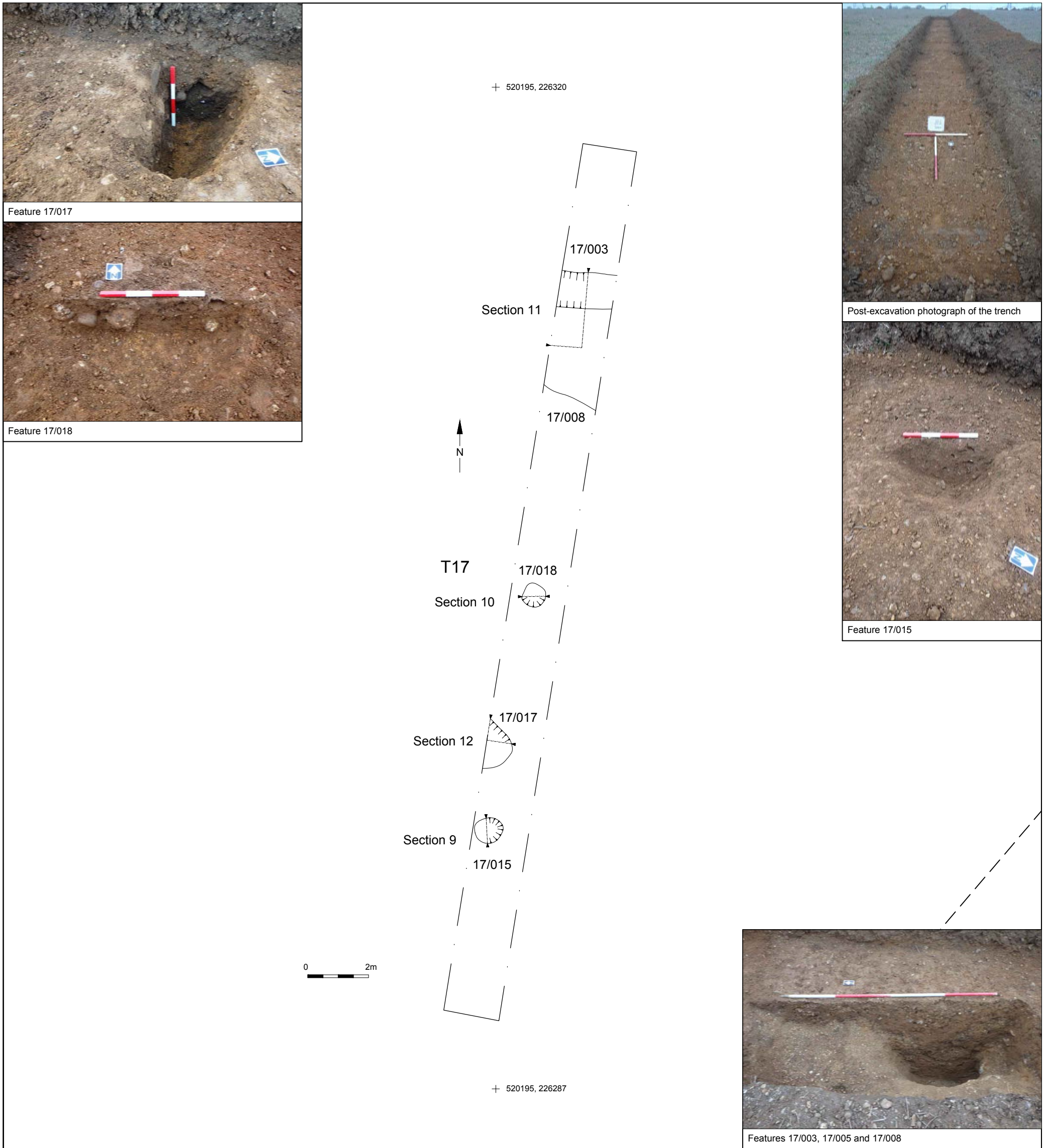
Post-excavation photograph of the trench



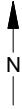
Feature 17/015



Features 17/003, 17/005 and 17/008



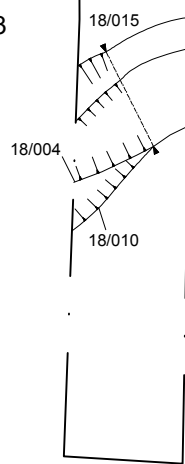
+ 520160, 226332



Post-excavation photograph of the trench

T18

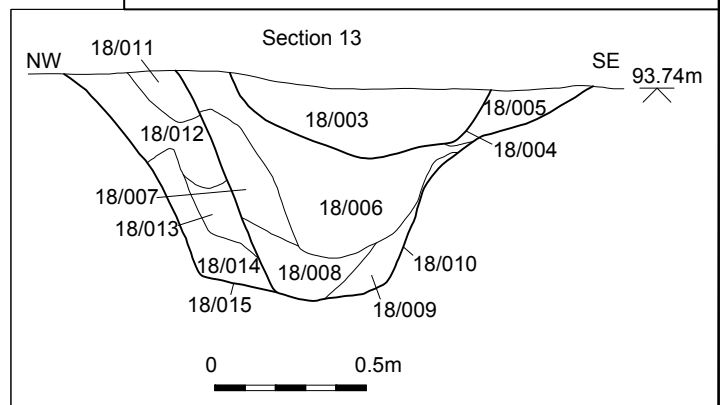
Section 13



+ 520160, 226301



Features 18/004, 18/010 and 18/015





Post-excavation photograph of the trench



Feature 19/003



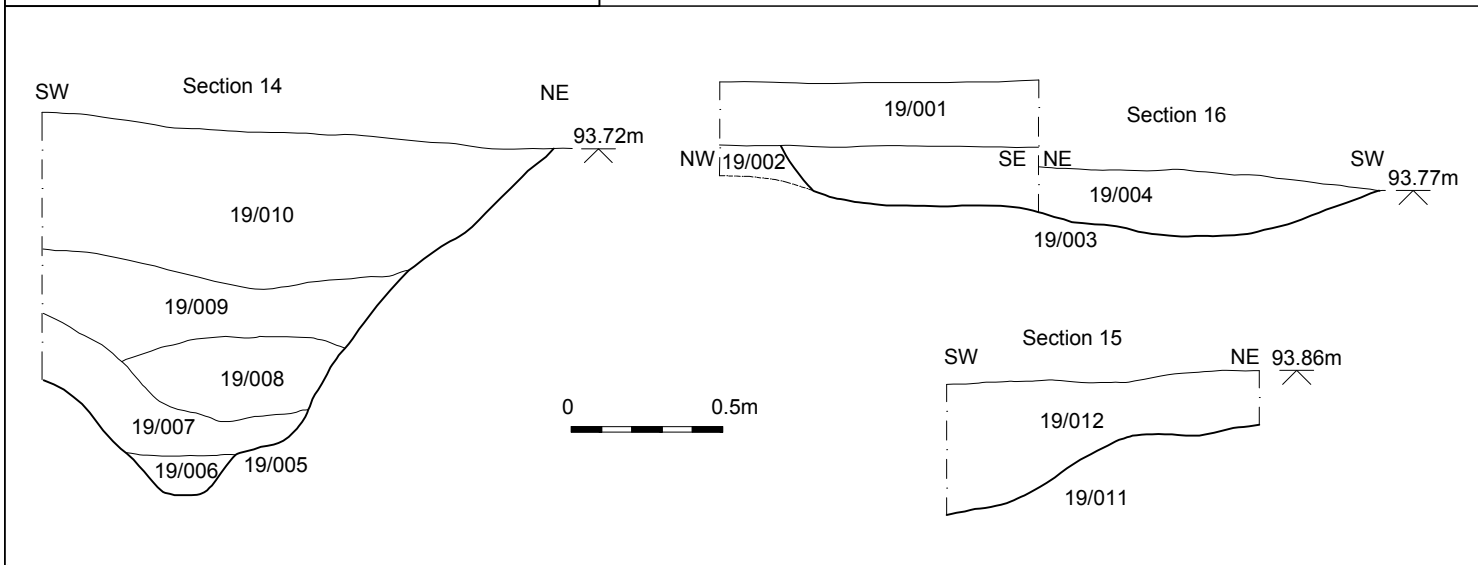
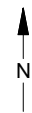
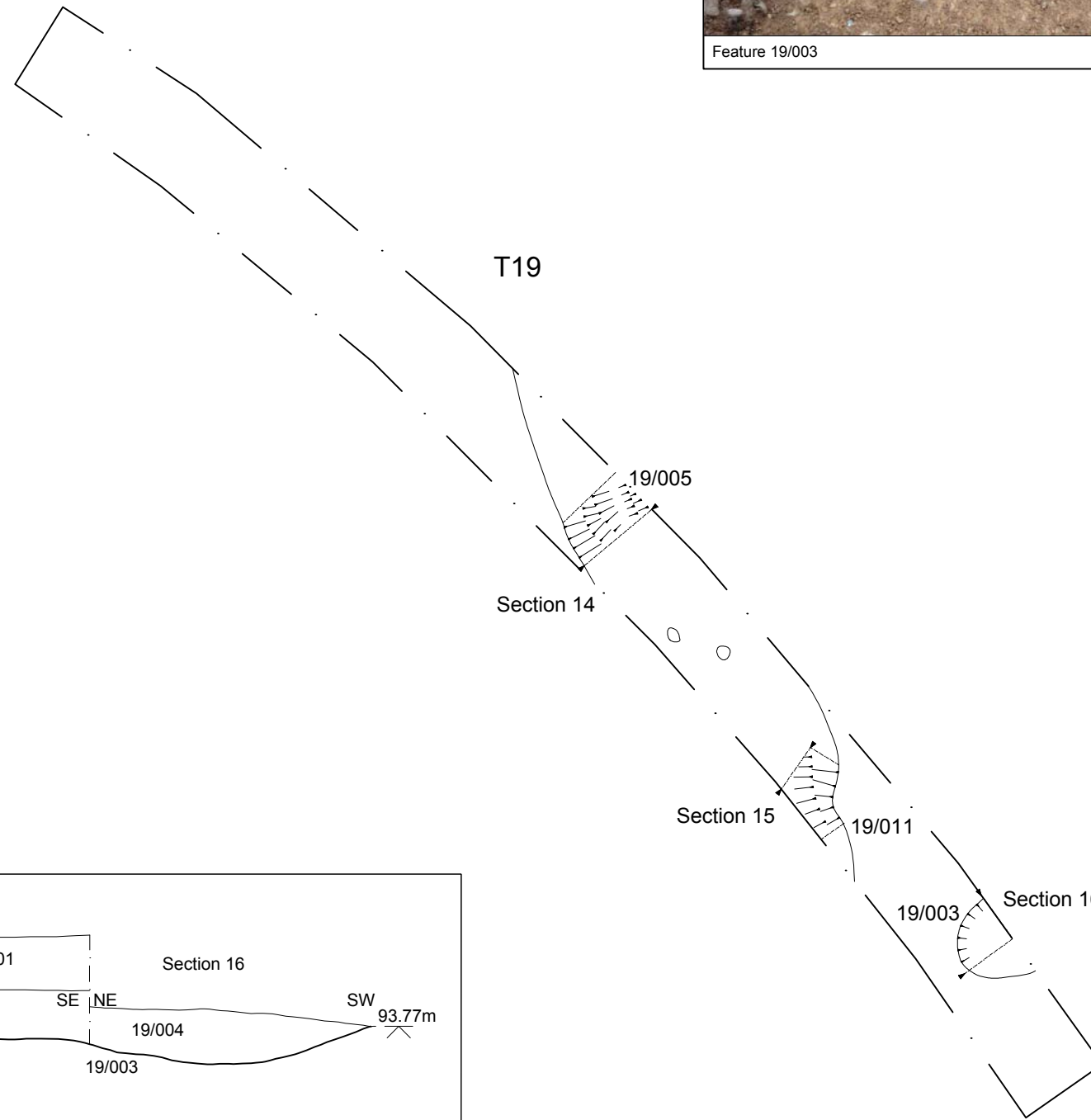
Feature 19/011



Feature 19/005

+ 520105, 226350

+ 520137, 226350





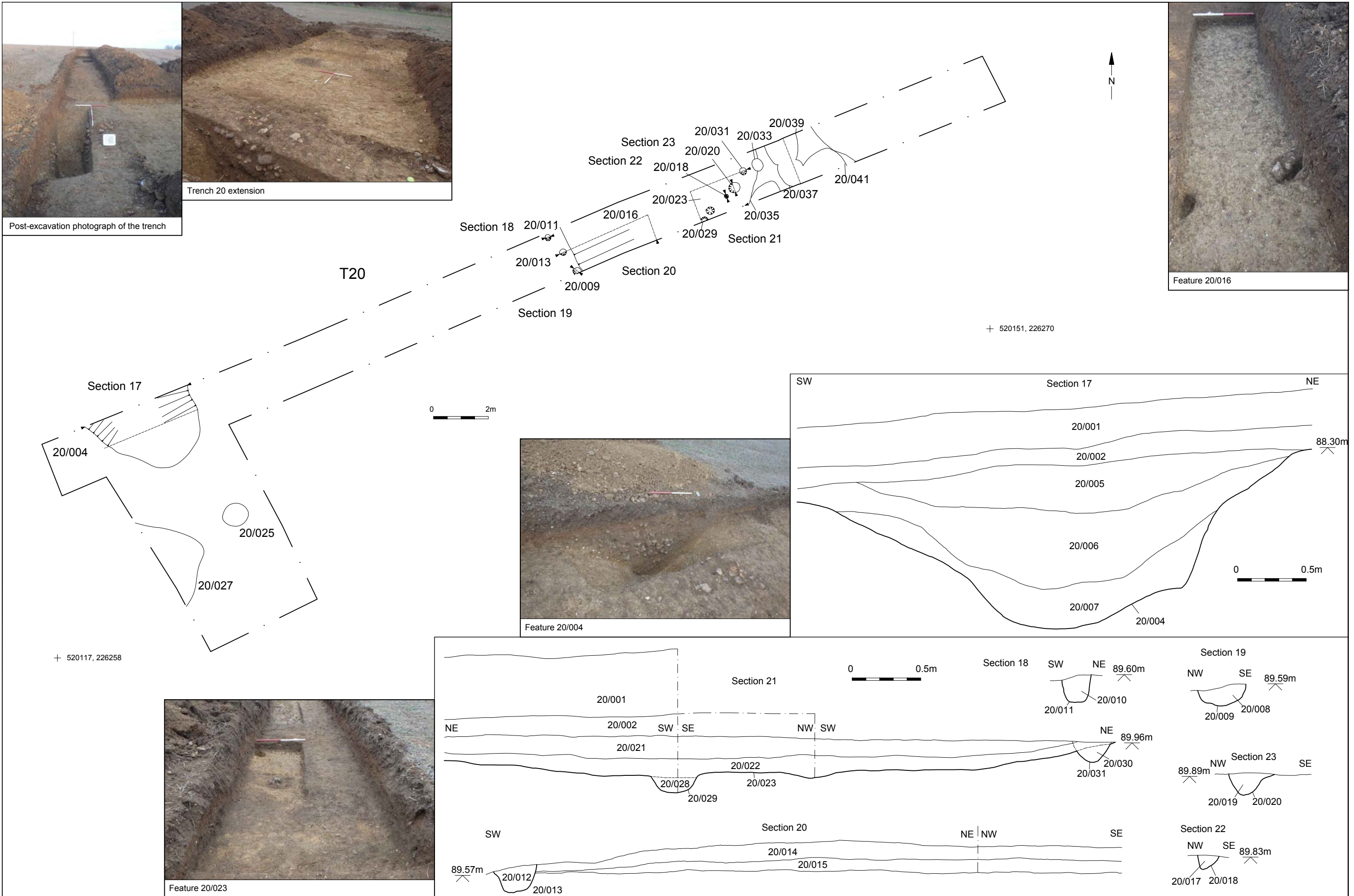
Post-excitation photograph of the trench

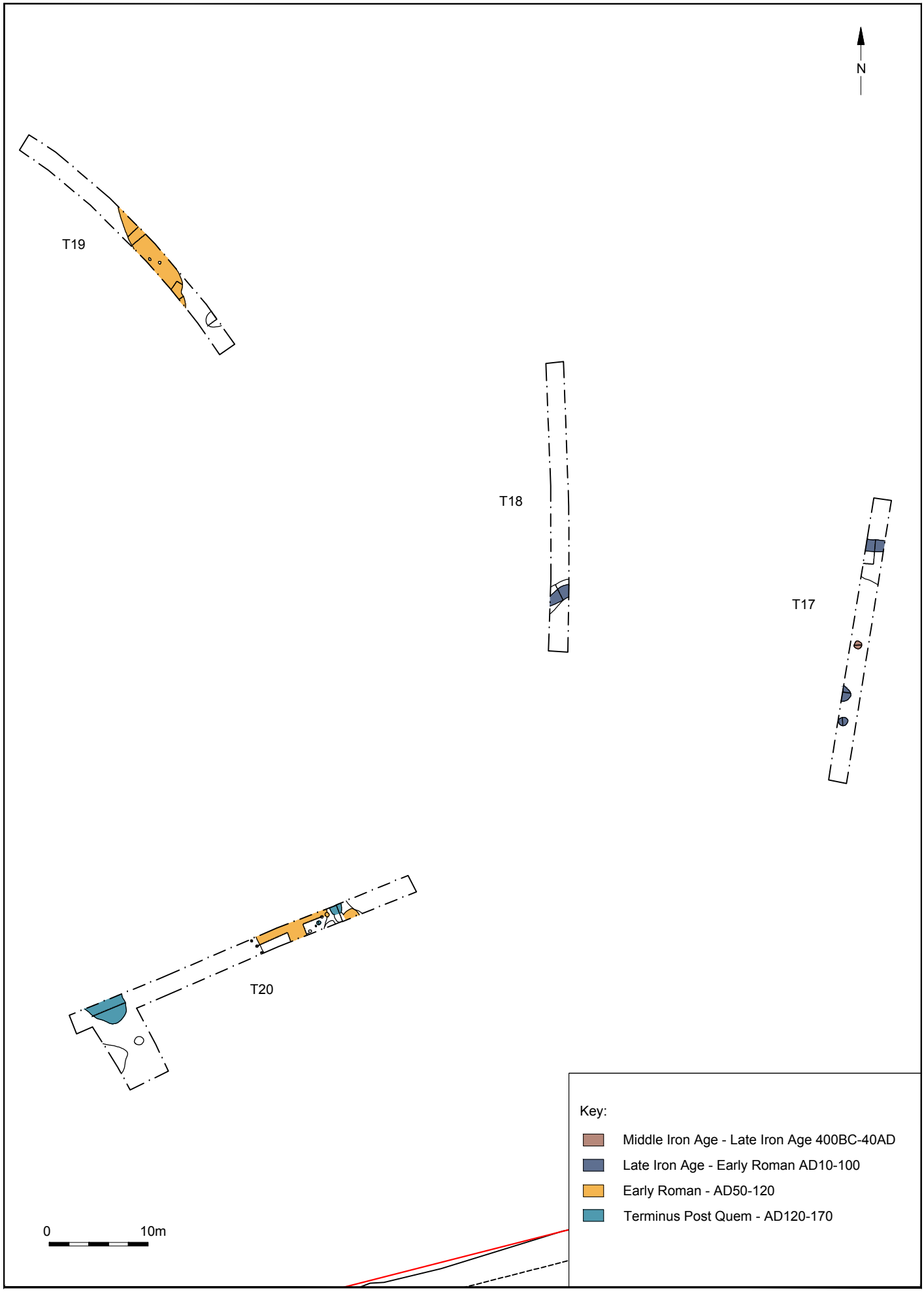


Trench 20 extension



Feature 20/016





| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| © Archaeology South-East | | Stevenage Road, St Ippolyts, Herts | Fig.12 |
| Project Ref: 8531 | Jan 2016 | Trenches 17 - 20 phased plan | |
| Report Ref: 2015465 | Drawn by: LM | | |

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