Archaeology South-East

ASE

Archaeological Evaluation Report
Land South of Canterbury
Kent

NGR: 617441 156717 & 616940 156215
(TR 17441 56717 & TR 16940 56215)

ASE Project No: 7918
Site Code: LSC 15
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OASIS id: archaeol6-241064

By Tom Munnery

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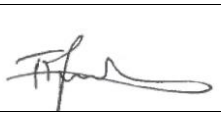
Prepared by:	Tom Munnery	Senior Archaeologist	
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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on Land to the South of Canterbury, Kent between 14th and 17th December 2015 and the 4th and 8th January 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs.

The work has verified the existence of ditches and pits first identified in a geophysical survey, and has provided dating evidence that these belong to the later Iron Age and Roman periods. The close proximity of the site to Canterbury may inform on the early Roman development of the town. In addition a small residual assemblage of prehistoric worked flint was recovered.

The site appears to have been little affected by post-medieval activity, and features survive beneath around 0.30m overburden. The environmental samples suggest a degree of post-depositional disturbance.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land South of Canterbury, Kent, (centred on NGR 617441 156717 & 616940 156215; Figure 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies in the north-eastern part of a wider area of proposed development occupying agricultural fields to the south of Canterbury. Two probable areas of archaeological activity have been identified hereabouts as a result of a recent geophysical survey (Stratascan 2015; Figures 4 and 16). Both areas (hereafter Site A and Site B; Figure 2) lie to the north of Roman Road (A2050) and east of Appledown Way, They are bisected by Pilgrim's Way. The northernmost area (Site A) is bounded to the north by the Canterbury to Dover railway line.

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the bulk of the site is highly mixed but with Thanet Formation sand, silt and clay predominating as the bedrock. Locally this is capped by head deposits of clay and silt. Superficial deposits are not thought to be present (CgMs 2014).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 This work is being undertaken prior to a planning application being submitted in order to inform development design.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation which was carried out in two phases between the 14th and 17th December 2015 and the 4th and 8th January 2016.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is summarised from the Desk-Based Assessment (*ibid*.) and the geophysical survey report (Stratascan 2015).

2.2 Palaeolithic

2.2.1 A Palaeolithic hand axe fragment is recorded from TR 14600 54500 (HER Ref: MKE 79287). No other finds from the earlier prehistoric period are recorded within 400m of the site boundary.

2.3 Prehistoric

2.3.1 Archaeological investigations within the study boundary at the New Dover Road Park and Ride carpark (HER Ref: EKE 5727; TR 1647 5592 and HER Ref: TR 15 NE398; TR 1640 5590) identified two late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pits both containing placed deposits, one containing complete and crushed pot boilers and pottery, the other cold deposited ash. Also within the site red line boundary and approximately 150m to the west of the Park and Ride site a watching brief on the south Canterbury water main (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 397; TR 16250 55900) revealed a spread of late Bronze or early Iron Age pot boilers and pottery. Approximately 500m to the west of the water main site and also within the site, a Bronze Age palstave axehead was recovered as a metal detecting find (HER Ref: MKE 57417; TR 15650 55850).

2.3.2 A number of other finds/sites of the later prehistoric period are recorded within 400m of the site boundary.

2.4 Roman

2.4.1 The dominant Roman feature in the landscape of the site is the Roman Road Watling Street, which bisects the site.

2.4.2 Other Roman finds recorded within 400m of the study site boundary include a Roman burial from Ridlands Farm (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 128; TR 1517 5636), and the head of a Roman Bronze figurine at TR 148 564 (TR 15 NW 271). An undated straight sided enclosure recorded at TR 1598 5499 might represent a Roman farmstead (TR 15 SE 96).

2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 Although a large number of late medieval sites and finds are recorded within 400m of the site, the majority of these have no relevance for the site's archaeological potential. Part of the Pilgrims Way crosses the northern part of the site.

2.6 Post Medieval

2.6.1 Map evidence spanning the period 1799 to 1838 shows the site as principally comprising agricultural land.

2.6.2 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1877 shows farms at Milestone Farm towards the eastern edge of the site and at Barton towards the northern edge. A limekiln is located at Milestone (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 385; TR 1703 5581).

2.6.3 By 1899 (Figure 11) the site had been crossed by the Elham Valley Line Railway (HER Ref: TR 14 NE 10; TR 1707 4712).

2.6.4 Few changes are shown to the study site in Ordnance Survey maps of 1908 and 1938. During the Second World War a road block was established on Watling Street within the study sites red line boundary (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 781; TR 1675 5587), together with air raid shelters at TR 1620 5622 (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 902).

2.6.5 By 1961 the Elham Valley Railway Line had closed and a large number of field boundaries had been removed with the bulk of the site utilised for fruit orchards. Subsequently a number of agricultural buildings and further field boundaries have been deleted and a Park and Ride facility constructed.

2.6.6 Although the HER places a World War II block point within the site (HER Ref: TR 15 NE 869), this is actually located on the railway to the north.

2.7 Recent Geophysical Survey

2.7.1 A detailed gradiometry survey was conducted over approximately 228 hectares of the wider proposed development area (Stratascan 2015). Two areas of probable archaeology with various linear, point and amorphous anomalies were identified in the north and centre of the site. Several more isolated features across the wider site were considered of possible archaeological origin.

2.7.2 A number of field boundaries and trackways were observed crossing the survey area, appearing on maps from 1888. Several more anomalies were probably associated with former field boundaries but do not appear on OS mapping. The line of a former railway crosses the southernmost field.

2.7.3 Areas of amorphous geological or pedological variation were noted across the site and many anomalies were modern in origin, including land drains with associated disturbance and spikes, scattered debris- some of which is caused by ‘green waste’ fertilizer and general magnetic disturbance caused by nearby metallic objects.

2.8 Project Aims and Objectives

2.8.1 The broad aims of the evaluation, in keeping with previous similar projects are:

- To corroborate the results of the geophysical survey which appear to show two possible archaeological sites located in the north and centre of the wider development area (Sites A & B)
- To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any remains and deposits
- To assess how they might be affected by the development of the site
- To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site
- To assess what options should be considered for mitigation

2.8.2 The project will seek to inform on the following areas of research from the South-Eastern Research Framework (SERF):

- The evolution of settlement in the later prehistoric period
- The role of rural settlement in the Roman period

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

3.1.1 All 20 trenches were excavated in the locations proposed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015). The trenches were 30.00m long and 1.80m wide.

3.1.2 All trenches were scanned prior to excavation with a cable avoidance tool. Mechanical excavation using a flat-bladed ditching bucket was undertaken under archaeological supervision in spits of no more than 0.10m to the top of the underlying substrate, or to the top of the archaeological deposits, whichever was the higher.

3.1.3 All deposits and archaeological features were recorded on ASE context sheets, with colours recorded by visual inspection only. Vertical sections were drawn of features and a comprehensive photographic record taken.

3.1.4 Trenches and features were located and planned using GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey

3.1.5 Spoil heaps and trench bases were scanned for unstratified finds.

3.1.6 Trenches were backfilled using the machine bucket but no formal reinstatement was undertaken.

3.2 Archive

3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited at a suitable local repository in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	173
Section sheets	3
Plans sheets	3
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	169
Context register	1
Drawing register	3
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)	
Registered finds (number of)	1
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	1
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	4

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

SITE A

(Figures 3 and 4)

4.1 Trench 1

(Figure 5)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.44
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	-	-	0.18
1/003	Layer	Natural	-	-	-
1/004	Cut	Ditch	-	1.1	0.68
1/005	Fill	Fill, single	-	1.1	0.68
1/006	Cut	Ditch	-	-	-
1/007	Fill	Fill, upper	-	-	-

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

4.1.1 Trench 1 was excavated to a depth of 0.70m. The natural (1/003) was overlaid by 0.44m topsoil (1/001) and 0.18m subsoil (1/002). The subsoil contained some fragments of late Roman pottery and two large pieces of Roman imbrex tile. Two parallel ditches were revealed, also observed on the geophysical survey, one of which was sampled.

4.1.2 Sampled ditch [1/004] was 1.10m wide and 0.68m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. It was filled with a homogeneous mid grey-brown silt-clay (1/005) and contained predominantly post-conquest pottery dating to between AD50 and 100.

4.1.3 Ditch [1/006] was not sampled, a sherd of possible Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery was recovered from the surface.

4.2 Trench 2

(Figure 6)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
2/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	-	-	0.38
2/002	Layer	Natural	-	-	-
2/003	Cut	Ditch	-	1.2	0.33
2/004	Fill	Fill, single	-	1.2	0.33
2/005	Cut	Ditch	-	1.29	0.38
2/006	Fill	Fill, single	-	1.29	0.38

Table 4: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 This trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m and had up to 0.38m ploughsoil (2/001) above natural (2/002). Three linear features were revealed within the base of the trench. Two of these were sampled.

4.2.2 East-west aligned ditch [2/003] was investigated and had dimensions 1.20m wide and 0.33m depth. It was filled with a dark brown silt-clay (2/004) with frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered.

4.2.3 Ditch [2/005] was also approximately east-west aligned and measured 1.29m wide and 0.38m deep. It contained a mid-brown silt-clay (2/006) with frequent gravel inclusions, but no finds were recorded.

4.2.4 Between ditches [2/003] and [2/005] a third ditch [2/007] was not sampled.

4.3 Trench 3

(Figure 7)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
3/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.55
3/002	Layer	Natural			
3/003	Cut	Ditch terminus		0.90	0.23
3/004	Fill	Fill, single		0.90	0.23
3/005	Cut	Gully		0.53	0.05
3/006	Fill	Fill, single		0.53	0.05

Table 5: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

4.3.1 Trench 3 was excavated to a depth of 0.60m. The overburden comprised up to 0.55m ploughsoil (3/001) which sat above the natural (3/002). Four linear features were observed within the trench, one of which was identified during the geophysical survey, and another which was identified as an isolated feature.

4.3.2 The westernmost feature of the trench was north-south ditch [3/005]. This was 0.53m wide and 0.23m deep with a rounded base and was filled with a mid-brown-grey silt-clay (3/006) with frequent gravel inclusions from which a single sherd of pottery dated to between 50BC and AD80.

4.3.3 Possible ditch terminus [3/003] was present at the west end of the trench. It measured 0.90m wide and 0.23 deep and filled with a mid-brown-grey silt-clay with frequent gravel cobbles (3/004). No finds were recovered from the fill.

4.3.4 Two further linear features were identified but not sampled; [3/007] and [3/008].

4.4 Trench 4

(Figure 8)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
4/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.55
4/002	Layer	Natural			
4/003	Cut	Pit	0.67	0.63	0.03
4/004	Fill	Fill, single	0.67	0.63	0.03
4/005	Cut	Pit, storage	1.25	1	0.37
4/006	Fill	Fill	1.25	1	0.37
4/007	Cut	Posthole			
4/008	Fill	Fill, upper			
4/009	Cut	Ditch			
4/010	Fill	Fill, upper			
4/011	Cut	Ditch			
4/012	Fill	Fill, upper			
4/013	Cut	Ditch			
4/014	Fill	Fill, basal			
4/015	Cut	Ditch terminus			
4/016	Fill	Fill, upper			
4/017	Cut	Pit			
4/018	Fill	Fill, upper			
4/019	Cut	Ditch			
4/020	Fill	Fill, upper			

Table 6: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

4.4.1 Up to 0.55m ploughsoil (4/001) overlay the natural (4/002) within trench 4. Nine features were observed within the trench, only two of which were identified during the geophysical survey.

4.4.2 Four isolated pits were revealed; [4/003], [4/006], [4/007] and [4/017]. The former two of these were excavated. [4/003] was a small pit or posthole with diameter 0.65m and depth of 0.03m. It contained a mid-dark grey silt-clay (4/004) with frequent gravel. Pit [4/005] was ovoid in plan and had dimensions 1.25m x 1.00m x 0.37m with a rounded base. It was filled with a mid-brown-grey sand-clay (4/006) and contained a few sherds of pottery dated to AD50-80. The remaining two pits were not sampled.

4.4.3 Five linear features were also revealed. Water ingress precluded the possibility of excavating any of them, but finds were recovered from the surface of [4/009], [4/011] and [4/013]. These all most probably date to between AD40 and AD100.

4.5 Trench 5

(Figure 9)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
5/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.27-0.45
5/002	Layer	Natural			
5/003	Cut	Ditch		1.53	0.49
5/004	Fill	Fill, single		1.53	0.49
5/005	Cut	Pit			
5/006	Fill	Fill, basal			
5/007	Fill	Fill, basal			
5/008	Cut	Pit			
5/009	Fill	Fill			

Table 7: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

4.5.1 Trench 5 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.55m with up to 0.45m ploughsoil (5/001) lying above the natural geology (5/002). Three features were revealed, two pits and an east-west ditch.

4.5.2 Ditch [5/003] corresponded to the results of the geophysical survey. It contained dark grey-brown silt-clay with frequent gravel inclusions (5/004). A medium-sized assemblage of grog-tempered pottery was recovered from the ditch, dated to between AD50 and AD80, along with a couple of fragments of baked clay.

4.5.3 To the south of ditch [5/003] was pit [5/005]. This contained mostly gravel within a matrix of grey-brown silt-clay (5/007). Above this was a smaller layer of dark grey-brown silt-clay (5/006) which contained a large assemblage of pottery and the greater portion of a Roman *Lydion* brick which together date to AD50-80.

4.5.4 South of this was another pit [5/008] that remained unsampled. A single sherd of grog tempered pottery dating to between 50BC and AD80 was recovered from the surface of fill (5/009).

4.6 Trench 6

(Figure 10)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
6/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.35-0.42
6/002	Layer	Natural			
6/003	Cut	Ditch		1.7	0.34
6/004	Fill	Fill?		1.64	0.44
6/005	Fill	Fill		1.7	0.3
6/006	Cut	Ditch			
6/007	Fill	Fill			
6/008	Cut	Ditch			
6/009	Fill	Fill			
6/010	Cut	Ditch			
6/011	Fill	Fill			
6/012	Cut	Pit?			
6/013	Fill				

Table 8: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

4.6.1 Trench 6 was excavated to a depth of 0.50m and had up to 0.42m ploughsoil (6/001) above the natural geology (6/002). Four possible ditches and a possible pit were revealed within the trench. Two of the linear features relate to those interpreted in the geophysical survey, while the others correspond to isolated features identified during the survey and may be pits rather than ditches.

4.6.2 One of the potential ditches was investigated; [6/003]. This contained a brown-grey silt clay fill with frequent gravel inclusions (6/005). Within this fill was a small assemblage of pottery dating to AD50-100 and some fragments of fired clay, daub and iron nails. The layer beneath this, (6/004), is likely to be a variation in the natural geology, and contained fragments of the same vessel recovered from (6/005) above pressed in to its surface.

4.6.3 The remaining features were left *in situ*. Two related to ditches observed in the survey and [6/010] and [6/012] to isolated features. Large chalk blocks were observed on the surface of ditch [6/010]

4.7 Trench 8

(Figure 11)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
8/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.30-0.42
8/002	Layer	Natural			
8/003	Cut	Ditch		1.47	0.31
8/004	Fill	Fill, basal		1.05	0.14
8/005	Fill	Fill, upper		1.47	0.17
8/006	Cut	Ditch			0.9
8/007	Fill	Fill, upper			0.9
8/008	Cut	Ditch			
8/009	Fill	Fill, single			
8/010	Cut	Pit		2.5	
8/011	Fill	Fill, upper		2.5	
8/012	Cut	Land drain			
8/013	Cut	Pit			
8/014	Cut	Pit			

Table 9: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.7.1 Trench 8 was 0.50m deep with up to 0.42m ploughsoil (8/001) above the natural (8/002). A fragment of Roman tegula was recovered from the ploughsoil. Three ditches, a possible land drain and three pits were revealed in the base of the trench.

4.7.2 North-south aligned ditch [8/003] was not evident from the geophysical survey. The ditch had a basal fill of brown-orange clay-silt (8/004) with brown-grey matrix (8/005) above this. No finds were recovered from the feature.

4.7.3 Ditch [8/008] was also investigated. It contained a single homogeneous red-brown clay-silt fill (8/009). A small assemblage of pottery dating to between AD50 and AD80 was recovered together with two fragments of baked clay. This ditch likely relates to that observed just to the south in the geophysical survey.

4.7.4 Two other linear features were not sampled, [8/006] and [8/012]. The latter is possible a post-medieval land drain, while [8/006] ties in with the boundary ditches revealed in the survey.

4.7.5 Three pits were also revealed; [8/010], [8/013] and [8/014]. The largest of these [8/010] is placed over a positive anomaly from the survey and had a single sherd of possible Roman pottery from its surface. None of these features were sampled.

4.8 Trench 9

(Figure 12)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
9/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.33-0.40
9/002	Layer	Natural			
9/003	Cut	Ditch		0.9	0.26
9/004	Fill	Fill, single		0.9	0.26
9/005	Cut	Ditch		0.85	0.36
9/006	Fill	Fill, basal		0.6	0.26
9/007	Fill	Fill, upper		0.85	0.2
9/008	Cut	Ditch		0.55	0.16
9/009	Fill	Fill, single		0.55	0.16

Table 10: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Three ditches were revealed in Trench 9, one more than the survey indicated. The trench was 0.40m deep with up to 0.40m ploughsoil above the natural.

4.8.2 [9/003] was northwest to southeast aligned and related to the ditch system observed in the survey. It was filled with a red-brown clay-silt (9/004) from which three sherds of pottery dating to between 50BC and AD80 were recovered.

4.8.3 Ditch [9/005] was near north-south orientated and contained a basal fill of dark brown-grey clay-silt (9/006). Above this was a secondary grey-brown clay-silt fill (9/007) which yielded a small group of pottery dating to AD50-80 and some fired clay fragments.

4.8.4 Ditch [9/008] was also sampled. It ran parallel to [9/005] and contained a dark red-brown clay-silt with frequent gravel inclusions from which a fragment of an iron nail was recovered.

4.9 Trench 10

(Figure 13)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
10/001	Layer	Topsoil			0.26-0.33
10/002	Layer	Subsoil			0.26-0.44
10/003	Layer	Natural			
10/004	Cut	Ditch		2.3	0.29
10/005	Fill	Fill, single		2.3	0.29
10/006	Layer	Natural			
10/007	Cut	Ditch			
10/008	Fill	Fill, upper			

Table 11: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

4.9.1 Trench 10 was up to 0.82m deep at its southeast end and 0.60m at the northwest. It had up to 0.33m topsoil (10/001) above a maximum of 0.44m subsoil (10/002). Two features were identified within the base of the trench.

4.9.2 Ditch [10/004] was sampled and held a dark grey-brown silt-clay (10/005). This yielded a medium sized group of pottery which contained pottery dating to both AD50-100 and AD270-410 and it is unclear whether one set is intrusive or the other residual. Also within the feature was a large quantity of Roman brick and tegula, an iron hipposandal fragment (RF <01>), and a piece of iron slag.

4.9.3 Feature [10/007] may be a ditch or a possibly a spread of material across the northern portion of Trench 10, which might have extended beyond boundaries placed on the plan. This feature produced a small quantity of pottery predominantly dating to AD270-410 and some large fragments of Roman brick and tile. In addition to these was a large quantity of iron slag and some daub fragments.

4.10 Trench 11

(Figure 14)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
11/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.42-0.56
11/002	Layer	Natural			
11/003	Cut	Ditch		0.74	0.18
11/004	Fill	Fill, single		0.74	0.18
11/005	Cut	Ditch			
11/006	Fill	Fill, basal			
11/007	Fill	Fill, intermediate		0.3	
11/008	Fill	Fill, upper			

Table 12: Trench 11 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 11 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m with up to 0.56m ploughsoil (11/001) above the natural (11/002). Two ditches were identified, neither of which were identified by the geophysical survey. Conversely, a linear feature that was recorded during the survey was not located in the trench.

4.10.2 Both ditches were sampled and may associate with features identified in Trench 9 to the southwest. Both were on a northeast to southwest alignment. Ditch [11/003] was filled with a dark grey-brown clay-silt (11/004) with frequent gravel inclusions. A small group of pottery dating from AD50 to AD80 and a fragment of CBM were recovered from the fill.

4.10.3 Ditch [11/005] had a more complex fill sequence comprising primary fill (11/006) a mid-grey-brown clay-silt, a dark brown-grey silt secondary fill (11/007) from which a quarter of a vessel was recovered dating to between 50BC and AD80. A mid grey-brown clay-silt (11/008) capped these fills.

SITE B

(Figures 15 and 16)

4.11 Trench 13

(Figure 17)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
13/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	-	-	0.27-0.28
13/002	Void	-	-	-	-
13/003	Layer	Natural	-	-	-
13/004	Cut	Ditch	-	0.42	0.25
13/005	Fill	Fill, single	-	0.42	0.25
13/006	Cut	Ditch	-	0.31	0.11
13/007	Fill	Fill, single	-	0.31	0.11
13/008	Cut	Ditch	-	0.42	0.22
13/009	Fill	Fill, single	-	0.42	0.22

Table 13: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Trench 13 was excavated to a depth of 0.37m and had about 0.28m ploughsoil above the natural. Two features were observed to cut the natural, a ditch and linear feature.

4.11.2 The ditch, [13/008], was on a northeast to southwest alignment and contained a mid-brown silt-clay fill (13/009) and a collection of medieval or post-medieval tile.

4.11.3 The second feature, investigated in slots [13/004] and [13/006] could be a ditch terminus. It contained a homogeneous brown silt-clay (13/005) and (13/007). No finds were recovered.

4.12 Trench 14

(Figure 18)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
14/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.31-0.34
14/002	Void				
14/003	Layer	Natural			
14/004	Cut	Ditch/pit		0.83	0.21
14/005	Fill	Fill, single		0.83	0.21
14/006	Cut	Tree throw	1.30	1.15	0.25
14/007	Fill	Fill, single	1.30	1.15	0.25

Table 14: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 14 had between 0.31 and 0.34m ploughsoil sat above the natural and was excavated to a depth of 0.42m, except for a sondage to confirm the geology at its northern end, which reached 1.10m in depth through the same stratigraphy.

4.12.2 Two features were observed within the base of the trench, tree throw [14/006] and possible ditch/pit [14/004].

4.12.3 Tree throw [14/006] was filled with a mid-brown silt-clay (14/007) and contained no archaeological artefacts.

4.12.4 South of this was what appeared to be the terminus of a ditch or an oblong pit [14/004]. A homogeneous mid brown silt-clay (14/005) filled the feature and contained a small fragment of undated CBM and single piece of struck flint.

4.13 Trench 15

(Figure 19)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
15/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.32-0.34
15/002	Layer	Natural			
15/003	Cut	Ditch, enclosure		1.65	0.95
15/004	Fill	Fill, upper		1.65	0.45
15/005	Fill	Fill		0.65	0.25
15/006	Fill	Fill		0.70	0.07
15/007	Fill	Fill		0.70	0.5
15/008	Cut	Ditch		0.65	0.24
15/009	Fill	Fill, single		0.65	0.24
15/010	Cut	Ditch, enclosure			

Table 15: Trench 15 list of recorded contexts

4.13.1 Trench 15 had around 0.33m ploughsoil above the natural. It was excavated to a depth of 0.38m. Three ditches were observed in the base of the trench.

4.13.2 Ditch [15/003] corresponded to one of two identified during the geophysical survey. It was excavated to a depth of 0.95m and continued beyond this depth where it was not possible to excavate further because of safety reasons. Four fills were observed within the ditch. Upper fill (15/004) was a mid-brown-grey silt-clay. Below this was (15/005), a mid-brown-yellow silt-clay and beneath this a layer of degraded red-orange baked clay within a silt-clay matrix (15/006). The lowest observed fill (15/007) was a mid-brown-yellow silt-clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Pottery from the deepest excavated portion dated to around the early to middle 1st century BC, whilst the assemblage from the final fill dated to the latter half of the 1st century BC. Eight pieces of struck flint were recovered from the ditch in addition to over 7kg of fire-cracked flint.

4.13.3 To the south of ditch [15/003] was a smaller linear feature [15/008]. It was filled with a mid-brown-orange silt-clay (15/009) and contained no finds.

4.13.4 The northernmost ditch [15/010] identified in the geophysical survey was not excavated.

4.14 Trench 16

(Figure 20)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
16/001	Layer	Ploughsoil			0.30-0.35
16/002	Layer	Natural			
16/003	Cut	Spread	0.80	0.56	0.12
16/004	Fill	Fill, single	0.80	0.56	0.12
16/005	Cut	Spread	1.10	0.50	0.18
16/006	Fill	Fill, single	1.10	0.50	0.18
16/007	Cut	Pit		1.44	0.44
16/008	Cut	Ditch, enclosure		1.10	0.64
16/009	Fill	Fill, basal		0.64	0.3
16/010	Fill	Fill, upper		1.10	0.34
16/011	Cut	Posthole		0.30	0.3
16/012	Fill	Fill, single		0.30	0.3
16/013	Cut	Ditch, enclosure		1.47	0.3
16/014	Fill	Fill, basal		1.47	0.3
16/015	Fill	Fill, intermediate		0.40	0.08
16/016	Fill	Fill, upper		0.57	0.14
16/017	Fill	Fill, upper		1.44	0.44
16/018	Fill	Fill, basal		0.80	0.2
16/019	Cut	Ditch		0.87	0.98
16/020	Fill	Fill, upper			0.18
16/021	Fill	Fill, intermediate			0.4
16/022	Fill	Fill, secondary			0.56
16/023	Fill	Fill, tertiary			0.28
16/024	Fill	Fill, basal			0.46

Table 16: Trench 16 list of recorded contexts

4.14.1 Trench 16 was excavated to a depth of 0.45m with up to 0.35m of ploughsoil (16/001) covering the natural. Four features and two possible spreads of material or tree-throws were recorded within the trench.

4.14.2 Two shallow spreads or tree-throws were excavated along the northern edge of the trench; [16/003] and [16/005]. Both contained mid grey-brown silt-clay fills. [16/003] contained a small group of abraded Roman pottery and some possible medieval or post-medieval CBM, while [16/005] yielded a small assemblage of Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery.

4.14.3 Three linear features were also encountered. All three were noted in the geophysical survey. Ditch [16/008] contained a basal fill of grey-brown clay-silt (16/009) and upper fill of brown-red clay-silt (16/010), both of which contained frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered from the basal fill, but the upper yielded a medium sized assemblage of mid to late 1st century BC pottery and a small number of struck flints, fire-cracked flint and fired clay fragments.

4.14.4 Ditch [16/013] contained three fills; (16/014), (16/015) and (16/016). Pottery from the fills date the infilling to between the late 1st century BC and early 1st century AD.

4.14.5 To the west of these ditches a third ditch [16/019] contained five fills (16/020) to (16/024). Three of these fills contained small groups of pottery, each of which were dated to between 50BC and AD80. In addition to these were small collections of struck flint, fire-cracked flint and fired clay.

4.14.6 Between and cutting ditches [16/013] and [16/019] was ditch terminus or pit [16/007]. This contained fills (16/007) and (16/008). These contained a large group of late 1st century BC to early first century AD pottery, along with some fragmented cattle bone and fired clay.

4.14.7 Cutting ditch [16/013] was small posthole [16/011] from which no finds were recovered.

4.15 Trench 17

(Figure 21)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
17/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	trench	trench	0.29-0.30
17/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	
17/003	Cut	Ditch		0.51	0.32
17/004	Fill	Fill, single		0.51	0.32
17/005	Cut	Pit			
17/006	Cut	Tree throw			

Table 17: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

4.15.1 Trench 17 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.42m with up to 0.30m ploughsoil (17/001) above the natural geology. A ditch, pit and tree throw were recorded within the trench.

4.15.2 Ditch [17/003] contained a dark-red brown silt-clay fill (17/004), from which no artefacts were recovered.

4.15.3 The pit and tree throw were not sampled, nor were any finds recovered from their surface.

4.16 Trench 18

(Figure 22)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
18/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	trench	trench	0.28-0.32
18/002	Layer	Subsoil	13	trench	0.28-0.32
18/003	Cut	Ditch		1.62	0.52
18/004	Fill	Fill, upper		1.62	0.33
18/005	Fill	Fill, basal		1.12	0.2
18/006	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	
18/007	Cut	Ditch			

Table 18: Trench 18 list of recorded contexts

4.16.1 Trench 18 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.84m. Its stratigraphy comprised up to 0.32m ploughsoil (18/001) which lay above the natural at the north-western end, but 0.37m subsoil at the south-eastern (18/002). The natural geology dropped in level from the northwest to the southeast.

4.16.2 Two ditches were recorded in the trench. Ditch [18/003] was sampled and revealed a basal fill of mid-brown clay (18/005) below a light brown clay fill (18/004). It contained nearly half of a single Late Iron Age to Early Roman vessel within the upper fill.

4.16.3 Ditch [18/007] was not excavated.

4.17 Trench 19

(Figure 23)

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
19/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.32
19/002	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	
19/003	Cut	Pit	0.85	0.6	0.3
19/004	Fill	Fill, single	0.85	0.6	0.3

Table 19: Trench 19 list of recorded contexts

4.17.1 Trench 19 was 0.40m deep with up to 0.32m ploughsoil lying above the natural. A single pit was observed in the trench base.

4.17.2 Pit [19/003] contained a brown clay-silt matrix (19/004) which yielded a single flint flake.

4.18 Trenches 7, 12 and 20

4.2.1 No archaeology was recorded in trenches 7, 12 and 20. All three had similar stratigraphy, comprising ploughsoil ranging in thickness from 0.26m to 0.38m.

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth
T7	7/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.34-0.38
T7	7/002	Layer	Natural	
T12	12/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.26-0.29
T12	12/002	Layer	Natural	
T20	20/001	Layer	Ploughsoil	0.29-0.32
T20	20/002	Layer	Natural	

Table 20: List of recorded contexts in blank trenches

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A relatively large assemblage comprising mainly Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery (Appendix 1) was recovered. Finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were quantified by count and weight and subsequently bagged by material and contexts. Packaging and storage policies follow IfA (2013) guidelines. None of the finds require further conservation.

5.1.2 The earliest material evidence consists of flintwork which broadly dates to the Bronze Age, although some may be earlier in origin. The pottery predominantly dates from the Late Iron Age through to the Early Roman period, nearly all fitting between 50BC and AD80. A few sherds of Middle Iron Age and Late Roman pottery were also recovered. The Roman period was also represented by brick and tile fragments with associated iron finds and iron slag. The only evidence of later occupation comes from a small number of medieval or post-medieval tile fragments from a feature well outside the focus of Roman activity.

5.1.3 The overall assemblage is of significance and the group should be retained in its entirety to enable its study in conjunction with finds from potential future stages of mitigation.

5.2 **Worked Flint** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 In total, 27 pieces of struck flint weighing 973g were recovered during both evaluation phases at the site (Table 21). The artefacts were hand-collected and retrieved from sample residues. Twenty five pieces came from 12 contexts in six trenches (trenches 1, 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20). The remaining two artefacts were found from unstratified deposits. The largest concentrations came from trenches 15 and 16; each trench produced six pieces. A further 10555g of unworked burnt flint were collected. This material came from ten contexts in three trenches (trenches 15, 16 and 18). The material was quantified by piece count and weight and was catalogued directly into an Excel spreadsheet.

Category	Flakes	Blade-like	Irregular waste	Fragmentary core	Retouched pieces	Total
No	21	1	1	2	2	27

Table 21: The flintwork

5.2.2 The assemblage of struck flints consists principally of unmodified waste pieces, of which flakes are the dominant type. It contains 21 flakes, one blade-like flake and a piece of irregular waste. This result indicates a late prehistoric date (Ford 1987). The large quantity of plain platforms with no preparation suggests a Bronze Age / Early Iron Age, but a flake from subsoil context (1/002) with thin blade scars on the dorsal surface suggests a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. Two modified pieces were found. They are only minimally retouched and are chronologically undiagnostic. The cores are fragmented, but they seem to have been minimally prepared. The condition of the material varies, but the majority of the pieces display some edge damage implying some degree of post-depositional disturbance.

5.2.3 Unworked burnt flints were recovered from three trenches: trench 15 (7099g), trench 16 (3347g) and trench 18 (109g). While the majority of fragments from trench 15 were calcined to a light grey colour, the fragments from trench 16 were only slightly burnt to a reddish colour. Unworked burnt flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activities.

5.2.4 The evaluation work produced a small amount of struck flints and unworked burnt flint. The flintwork provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence at the site. No diagnostic tools were found, but based on technological and morphological traits the bulk of the material suggests a later prehistoric date (Bronze Age / Early Iron Age). A very small earlier component is also present.

5.3 Prehistoric and/or Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A relatively large assemblage of pottery was recovered during the evaluation, amounting to 655 sherds, weighing 10.21kg. The two evaluated areas of the site produced assemblages of slightly differing date. The earliest material, which appears to be of transitional Middle/Late Iron Age (*?c*. early/mid-1st century BC) type, comes from Site B (Trenches 13-20). This area also produced grog-tempered pottery of more solidly Late Iron Age date but no evidence of continuity into the early Roman period. Although similar grog-tempered fabrics were encountered in Site A (Trenches 1-12), here almost all stratified groups contained at least a small element of Roman sandy wares, indicating that most features in this area were filled in the post-Conquest period. This area also produced a few late Roman sherds.

5.3.2 The pottery has been characterised for spot-dating purposes using a x20 binocular microscope. It has not, at this stage, been quantified according to a fabric and form type-series (although some forms are cross-referenced to Thompson's (1982) corpus of grog-tempered pottery in the text below). It is recommended that it should be retained and fully integrated into any assessment/analysis programme in the event of future archaeological work at the site.

5.3.3 The earliest stratified pottery group comes from ditch [15/003]. Here the assemblages from lower fills (15/007) and (15/005) were almost exclusively made up by flint-tempered wares. In general these fabrics are typically quite fine with common well-sorted flint inclusions of less than 1.5mm in size. One or two examples are slightly coarser and include flint of up to 3mm; another fabric variant has a very fine silty/sandy matrix with only rare/sparse flint. These groups are not very closely datable and could have been placed entirely in the Middle Iron Age; however a tiny chip of grog-tempered pottery from the primary fill (15/007) (unless intrusive) suggests that the feature had not started to fill until the early/mid-1st century BC. The upper fill of this feature, (15/004), appears slightly later in character and is made up by roughly equal proportions of flint-tempered and grog-tempered wares, suggesting it was almost certainly deposited after *c*.50BC. Flint-tempered wares did not occur more generally in the assemblage suggesting that they had gone out of use fairly rapidly in the Late Iron Age. The only other group in which they appear at all is in fill (16/010) of ditch [16/008]; here only three small sherds appear and are vastly outnumbered by grog-tempered fabrics which make up more than 90% of the group.

5.3.4 The rest of the pottery from Site B was almost all found in Trench 16 (with one group from Trench 18). This material is entirely made up by grog-tempered fabrics. Several diagnostic feature sherds are present and chiefly comprise handmade jars with short necks or beaded rim profiles: variants of Thompson's (1982) C1 and C2 forms. Two examples of plain profile jars (Thompson's type C3) were also noted, as well as a small base fragment from a pedestal jar (type A). Only one vessel had a slightly corrugated/cordoned body profile; combed decoration on the body was, however a very common element of the assemblage. Overall this material can probably be placed broadly in the later 1st century BC to earlier 1st century AD and it seems likely that the features in this area had filled up prior to the Roman Conquest.

5.3.5 Meanwhile, the pottery from Site A contains some very similar elements to that from Site B. Grog-tempered wares make up a large proportion of most pottery groups and hand-made necked/beaded rim jars often with combed decoration continue to be represented. However, even amongst the grog-tempered wares there are apparently new elements: storage jars appear here but not in Site B, as do jars with well-defined necks (comparable to Thompson's B1 forms), including one or two examples which may be wheel thrown.

5.3.6 There are several groups from this area in which no clearly Roman fabrics appear, most notably a medium/large group of over 70 sherds from context (5/006). However, the fact that this assemblage is stratified with Roman ceramic building material suggests that it belongs to the early post-conquest period but probably pre-dates *c*.AD60, by which time Roman ceramics seem to be fairly ubiquitous on the site. Several other small groups, such as (4/006) and (5/004), are similarly dominated by grog-tempered wares but contain at least one example of a post-conquest pottery fabric. One context, (4/014), contained a small group of black-surfaced sandy wares with comparable matrixes to later coarse Canterbury grey and oxidised wares. A review of well-stratified groups from central Canterbury suggests that, whilst such fabrics lack clearly 'Romanised' firing traits, they are unlikely to have developed prior to the Conquest (Pollard 1988, 43).

5.3.7 Another group of contexts, including (1/005), (4/010), (6/004), (6/005), (9/007) and (10/005), contain larger proportions of clearly Roman material. These groups typically contain Canterbury grey or oxidised wares and fabrics from North Kent/Thameside industries, including examples of Upchurch and Hoo wares. Few feature sherds are associated with these fabrics but they include a flanged bowl in a fine red oxidised fabric, possibly of North Kent origin, which loosely imitates samian forms such as Ritterling 12/Dragendorff 36. A large part of the handle of a Dressel 20 amphora was noted in context (9/007) whilst sherds of south Gaulish samian, including a Dragendorff 15/17 platter, were recorded from (10/005). It is likely that these groups were deposited well into the latter half of the 1st century AD, although it is worth noting that the assemblage does not contain anything diagnostically Flavian so it is possible that this whole phase of activity was over as early as AD70-80 and there are certainly no indications of continuity in to the 2nd century.

5.3.8 Late Roman Oxfordshire red-slipped ware was noted in three contexts from Site A. A large but isolated sherd was found in context (1/002) and large fragments, including examples of bowls modelled on Dragendorff 38 and a

bodysherd from a mortarium, were noted in context (10/008) alongside a few grog-tempered sherds which could be residual Late Iron Age/early Roman or contemporary late Roman fabrics. Some small fragments were also noted in context (10/005); however, these are possibly intrusive in a fairly large diagnostic pottery group which is otherwise of early Roman character. Another possible later Roman sherd was noted in context (1/007). Here a very small partial rim in a coarse sandy fabric *may be* from a bead-and-flange bowl in local black-burnished style ware (a form which post-dates AD250); however, not enough of the rim survives to be certain of the form and the fabric also bears some similarities to the early Roman black-surfaced sandy fabrics described above. Away from the immediate production area, Oxfordshire red-slipped wares first appear in groups dated to after c.AD270. The fact that they make up a large proportion of the small group in (10/008) is perhaps more suggestive of very late Roman dating as this industry is known to have intensified its distribution to Kent in the later 4th-early 5th centuries (Pollard 1988, 139).

5.3.9 It is also worth noting the pottery groups in both areas of the site are characterised by fairly large unabraded sherds. In three cases, fills (11/007), (16/018) and (18/004), large parts of vessel profiles had been deposited; each of these contained a vessel which was fragmented but *c*. quarter to half-complete and (16/018) contained two vessels of this type. At the very least, this suggests quite a direct form of deposition close to the context in which these vessels were originally used and broken but it may also imply some form of deliberate or structured deposition.

5.4 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.4.1 A fairly small assemblage of 36 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing a total of 11,754g was recovered from eight evaluation contexts. Nearly all the material was Roman although there were a few items of medieval or post-medieval date. An approximate date per context based on the CBM is provided in Table 22.

5.4.2 All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. Fabric descriptions were compiled with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope except in those instances when the material was either too small or fragmentary to assess fabric or form ('spall'), or if it was vitrified. In these instances the CBM was only counted and weighed prior to discard. Fabric descriptions use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions as sparse, moderate, common or abundant; the size of inclusions as fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (up to 0.25 and 0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). The information on the recording sheets has been entered into a digital Excel database. Samples of the fabrics and items of interest have been retained.

5.4.3 All the main forms of Roman CBM were represented at LSC15, although Roman brick was the most numerous with thirteen examples. Roman brick is not particularly diagnostic and generally distinguished by its thickness of 30mm or greater; the examples from LSC15 were generally between 35-40mm, with one significantly larger brick measuring 50mm in depth. Three conjoining fragments of this brick were found, which fit together to create the better part of what is most likely a Lydion brick, the only rectangular brick type which is

also amongst the most common. The pieced together fragments measure >280mm x 280mm x 50mm; if intact the length would be expected to be 400-500mm. A 1-arc signature mark is present across one end of the brick.

5.4.4 The other Roman material comprised of three fragments of Roman tegula, 2 of imbex and one piece of box flue tile, unmarked. The three pieces of tegula were very fragmentary and no flanges were intact, although on two examples were the remains of upper cutaways which aided their identification. With the exception of R2 all the fabrics identified seem to correlate with either the Roman or post-Roman material. Fabrics R1, R2A, R3 and R4 are all Roman fabrics (see Table 23), and T1A and B1 medieval and post-medieval fabrics; R2 was very similar to T1, suggesting a common source.

5.4.5 The post-Roman material consisted of four brick pieces and six roof tile fragments. These are most likely post-medieval peg tile fragments but there were no peg holes in evidence on any of the fragments. The bricks were all much abraded, but their approximate shape and soft fabric suggest them to be of a medieval-to-late medieval date. The post-Roman roof tile fragments were formed of a material very similar to Roman fabric R2, and the bricks from a largely inclusionless clay that was similar to Museum of London Tudor fabric 3033.

Context	CBM form	Period
1/002	Imbrex tile only.	Roman
5/006	Roman brick only.	Roman
8/001	Tegula tile only.	Roman
10/005	Roman brick; tegula; spall.	Roman
10/008	Roman brick; box flue.	Roman
13/009	Brick and roofing tile.	?Medieval – post-medieval
14/005	Tile fragment.	?Roman
16/004	Roofing tile.	?Medieval – post-medieval
16/004	Spall fragments only.	Unknown

Table 22: Approximate dating per context based on CBM found

5.5 **Fired Clay** by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 A total of 99 pieces of fired clay weighing 1188g were collected from fifteen evaluation contexts. Most of the clay was very fragmentary and abraded, and even that which wasn't was largely undiagnostic. Apart from contexts (6/005), (15/006) and (16/017) – which respectively produced 8, 31 and 40 pieces of fired clay – the average number of fired clay fragments taken from each context was less than two, and it is suspected that much of the clay may be redeposited or residual material.

5.5.2 With the exception of one fully reduced clay piece from context (16/016), all the fired clay was formed from the same soft orangey-brown clay, which had no inclusions except occasional pebble splinters. Two fragments – one from (5/004) and one from (15/004) – had a slight pinkish tinge and traces of cream-coloured patina that could indicate that they are fragments of briquetage, but are both too small to say with any certainty. Several pieces of clay had a flat and often slightly patinated surface that indicates human utilisation, but for what purpose is not clear.

5.6 **The Metallurgical Remains** by Susan Chandler

5.6.1 A total of nine iron objects were collected during the excavations weighing a total of 157.49 grams. Of these, five of the objects are nails or parts of nails. The nails were all found singularly in contexts (1/002), (1/005), (6/005), (9/009) and (10/005). In general the nails are fairly large, with the more complete examples measuring between 84mm and 87mm long. They all have both square heads and stems and are typical of large examples of Roman nails.

5.6.2 The remaining iron objects come from two contexts; from (1/005) there is a small undiagnostic lump which may be a nail head and a ring, possibly with part of an attachment loop, suggesting it may be part of a chest or furniture fitting. This is unclear as the find is heavily concreted and would benefit from radiography to clarify. Radiography may also help clarify the section shape of the ring and if it was decorated in any way. From context (6/005) a second small, undiagnostic (possible nail head) lump was recovered as well as a larger, ovoid shaped fragment of iron plate. This appears to be leaf shaped and has a possible broken tang or attachment. Due to the corroded state of the find it is unclear if this is a fragment of a tool or part of a decorative element. Radiography may aid its identification.

Significance and Potential

5.6.3 The metal finds assemblage is fairly small and unremarkable, thought there is potential for further work (specified below) to formalise the identification of some objects.

Further Work

5.6.4 Of the metal finds, further work could be carried out on the ring from context (1/005) and the plate fragment from (6/005). This work would take the form of radiography and then the examination of the radiographic results to formalise their identifications. This work should take no more than half a day. For the other objects, the nails and unidentifiable lumps, no further work is needed and

any reporting text may be taken from the above.

5.7 **Registered Finds** by Susan Chandler

5.7.1 One find was given a registered find number, RF<00>, on site. This is shown in the table 23 below:

RF no.	Context	Object	Material	Period
01	10/005	Hipposandal	Iron	Roman

Table 23: List of registered finds

5.7.2 RF <01> is the back hook of a Roman hipposandal. This includes some of the plate that makes up the sole of the hipposandal which has a nail hole, suggesting the object saw use and was repaired at some point in it's lifetime. It is likely that the repair took the form of an extra plate being added to the sole of the hipposandal once the original had worn through. The find is comparable to the example seen in Manning (1985), pg 65 no H5 found in London.

Significance and Potential

5.7.3 The single registered find is of low significance, it fits into the general Roman date of the site, and hipposandals are found throughout Britain. There is little potential work as the object has been identified.

Further Work

5.7.4 No further work is needed; any reporting text may be taken from the above.

5.8 **Animal Bone** by Gemma Ayton

5.8.1 A small assemblage of animal remains was hand-collected from this site amounting to 63 fragments weighing 493g. The specimens were recovered from three contexts including [16/016], [16/018] and [10/005]. The assemblage is in a poor condition and the majority of the specimens are highly fragmented. Contexts [16/016] and [16/018] contain friable cattle teeth and context [10/005] includes poorly preserved fragments of cattle mandible and teeth and the distal end of a cattle metacarpal. There is no evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology on the bone.

5.8.2 A further 6g of bone was recovered from environmental samples <1>, <2> and <4>. Cattle tooth enamel was recovered from sample <1> whilst the remaining samples contained very small fragments of calcined bone.

6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Four bulk soil samples were taken from ditch and pit fills to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and discusses the information provided by the charred plant remains on diet, agrarian economy and vegetation environment at the site.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 Samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 24). 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 25). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al*. 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.3 Results and discussion

Sample <1> [16/015], <2> [16/016], <3> [16/018] and <4> [16/023]

6.3.1 All flots contained a large amount of rootlets, which, alongside uncharred goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.*)* seeds, are indicative of low level disturbance and are likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action. No charred plant macrofossils were noted in the flots, but a small number of caryopses of indeterminate cereals (Cerealia) and grasses (Poaceae) and some indeterminate seeds were picked out of the residues. These plant remains were however too badly abraded to be identified. Charcoal was present in all the samples, but not in high enough quantities to warrant identification work. Residues contained mammal bone fragments, some of which burnt, fire cracked flint, hammer scale, pottery, coal, flint and burnt clay.

6.3.2 These samples provide limited information on diet, crop husbandry and environment at the site. The few charred crop remains, represented by unidentifiable cereal caryopses, might represent background scatter of domestic waste. However, the few remains present show that there is potential for nearby deposits to preserve plant macrofossils and charcoal and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting primary deposits.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume (ltrs)	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	16/015	Ditch	20	20			**	1	*	*Cerealia	<1	*	3	*	<1			FCF **/ 308g - pottery */ 8g - hammerscale **/ 1g - coal */ <1g - burnt clay **/ 41g - flint **/ 34g
2	16/016	Ditch	20	20	*	<1	**	1	**	** Cerealia, Poaceae, indeterminate seed	1					*	<1	FCF **/ 352g - pottery */ 35g - burnt clay */ 10g - hammerscale **/ 1g - flint */ 9g - coal */ <1g
3	16/018	Pit	20	20	*	<1	**	1	*	*Cerealia	<1							burnt clay **/ 96g - pottery */ 18g - coal */ <1g - flint **/ 13g - hammerscale **/ 1g - FCF **/ 302g
4	16/023	Ditch	20	20			**	1	*		<1			*	<1	*	<1	pottery **/ 57g - burnt clay */ 3g - hammerscale **/ 1g - flint */ 4g - FCF **/ 725g

Table 24: Residue 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 <4mm	Charcoal <2mm
1	16/015	2.1	120	100	80	10	* *Chenopodium* sp.			*
2	16/016	1	75	75	80	10	* *Chenopodium* sp.			*
3	16/018	2.5	150	100	70	10	* *Chenopodium* sp.		*	**
4	16/023	1	50	50	80	10				*

Table 25: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

7.1.1 The stratigraphy of the evaluated areas is constant with a layer of ploughsoil directly above the natural geology. Exceptions to this were recorded in Trenches 1, 10 and 18. Subsoil might have survived in Trench 1, as it is slightly lower than the other trenches. The subsoil in Trench 10 might be an occupation layer or dump of material relating to the Roman occupation of the site, rather than a true subsoil and the presence of a subsoil in Trench 18 likely derives from where the natural dropped to the east but a modern field boundary planted with trees stopped the downward movement of soil creating a build up between the natural and ploughsoil.

7.1.2 The 58 features recorded in 17 of the 20 trenches comprised mostly of ditches but some pits and tree throws were also present. Only a sample of these features was investigated as the geophysical survey indicated that many formed parts of the same system of ditches and boundaries.

7.1.3 Residual prehistoric flintwork was predominantly recovered from Site B while Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery was recovered in most of the recorded contexts from across the site with significant quantities of Roman brick and tile retrieved from Site A. Some iron slag was also found within Site A.

7.1.4 The methodology employed was successful in corroborating the results of the geophysical survey and adding to the detail of the information with accurate dating of the features identified. It also demonstrated that additional features not identified during the survey exist.

7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

7.2.1 The archaeological horizon remained intact across the site and do not appear to have been significantly affected by any previous groundworks or activity, despite ploughsoil sitting directly above the natural geology. The encountered features were recorded beneath 0.27m to 0.56m of overburden, except in Trench 18 where 0.67m of overburden was recorded at its eastern end.

7.2.2 The archaeological features were encountered at heights of between 30.05m OD and 33.36m OD in Site A and 42.55m OD and 45.70m OD in Site B.

7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

Prehistoric

7.3.1 The earliest evidence observed on site pertains to a small assemblage of residual flintwork recovered from the overburden and later features. Most of this probably dates to the Bronze Age, or may be Iron Age, but a couple of fragments might derive from the Mesolithic or Neolithic.

Middle to Late Iron Age (1st century BC)

7.3.2 The bivallate enclosure noted in Site B is possibly a defensive structure. The internal ditch was relatively deep with a steep profile. The primary fill (15/007) and intermediate fill (15/005) of the ditch were dated to the early to mid-1st century BC, and final fills (15/004) and (16/010) dated to the mid to late 1st century BC.

Late Iron Age to Early Roman (late 1st century BC and 1st century AD)

7.3.3 The external ditch of the Site B enclosure can be dated to between the late 1st century BC and early 1st century AD. This may suggest the expansion of the original enclosure during this period, perhaps increasing its defensive nature, or adding to its perceived grandeur. The enclosure itself occupies the higher ground and the land to the east would once have sloped away at a far greater rate (exemplified by the overburden noted in Trench 18). The absence of any later artefacts, the enclosure appears to have been in use for a relatively short period of time, perhaps some 150 years. This outer ditch was shallower than the inner one with the possibility of posts set at intervals; and could perhaps have formed a palisade-type structure.

7.3.4 The field system and enclosure ditches represented in Site A also appear to have come into existence around this time. Dating evidence for all of the ditches, except [10/004], in this area came from late 1st century BC and 1st century AD (the dating from [10/004] may be intrusive). The features probably relate to a small settlement, perhaps associated to the enclosure of Site B, although this is some 500m to the northeast. The occurrence of Roman brick and tile and chalk blocks within the ditches may suggest the proximity of a relatively high status building.

Late Roman

7.3.5 A small number Late Roman artefacts was recovered from the overburden of Trench 1, and from features [10/004] and [10/007]. Those recovered from ditch [10/004] might be intrusive, deriving from nearby spread [10/007]. This spread might relate to the abandonment of the rest of the site, with small scale robbing and re-use of materials taking place, which might also explain the iron slag within this feature.

Medieval/Post-Medieval

7.3.6 A single feature was dated to the medieval or early post-medieval period; ditch [13/008]. Several large fragments of tile were recovered.

7.4 Potential impact on archaeological remains

7.4.1 The precise plans for the development were not available at the time of writing this report. However, the impact of any development on the recorded archaeological remains is likely to be high (as the development will entail the excavation of foundations for dwellings and associated services and other buildings). The evaluation has shown that in these parts of the site the potential for significant archaeological remains is high.

7.5 Consideration of research aims

7.5.1 The evaluation was successful in corroborating the results of the geophysical survey, as well as adding further features not identified as a part of the survey in Sites A and B. It also successfully characterised the preservation, significance, date and quality of the remains in those areas.

7.6 Conclusions

7.6.1 The evaluation has demonstrated the survival of archaeological features with pottery suggesting that the activity dates from the Middle Iron Age into the Early Roman period. Some late Roman activity was also detected.

7.6.2 The remains present are assessed as being of local to regional importance.

7.6.3 Current land use is clearly degrading the archaeological resource through ploughing.

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HER Summary

HER enquiry no.						
Site code	LSC15					
Project code	7918					
Planning reference						
Site address	Land South of Canterbury, Kent					
District/Borough	Canterbury					
NGR (12 Figures)	617441 156717 & 616940 156215					
Geology	Thanet Formation					
Fieldwork type	Eval					
Date of fieldwork	14-17th December 2015 and 4-8th January 2016.					
Sponsor/client	CgMs Consulting					
Project manager	Paul Mason					
Project supervisor	Tom Munnery					
Period summary			Neolithic	Bronze Age	Iron Age	
	Roman		Medieval	Post-Medieval		
Project summary **(100 word max)**	An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Land South of Canterbury, Kent during 14th December 2015 and January 2016. Twenty 30m long trenches were excavated. Small quantities of, predominantly Bronze Age, residual worked flint was recovered from a number of features and the overburden across the site. The evaluation has also demonstrated the survival of significant archaeological features with pottery suggesting that the activity dates from the Middle Iron Age into the Early Roman period. Some late Roman activity was also detected.					
Museum/Accession No.						

Finds summary

Find type	Material	Period	Quantity
Debitage	Flint	Neolithic/Bronze Age	35
Pottery	Ceramics	Middle Iron Age to Late Roman	655
CBM	Ceramic	Roman, Medieval/post-medieval	30
Animal Bone	Bone	LIA-ER	63
Nail	Fe	Roman	9
Hipposandal	Fe	Roman	1
Fired clay	Ceramic	Roman	106

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-241064

Project details	
Project name	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land to the South of Canterbury, Kent
Short description of the project	This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on Land to the South of Canterbury, Kent between 14th and 17th December 2015 and the 4th and 8th January 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs. The work has verified the existence of ditches and pits first identified in a geophysical survey, and has provided dating evidence that these belong to the later Iron Age and Roman periods. The close proximity of the site to Canterbury may inform on the early Roman development of the town. In addition a small residual assemblage of prehistoric worked flint was recovered. The site appears to have been little affected by post-medieval activity, and features survive beneath around 0.30m overburden. The environmental samples suggest a degree of post-depositional disturbance.
Project dates	Start: 14-12-2015 End: 08-01-2016
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	7918 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	BRICK Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Middle Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	TILE Roman

Significant Finds	IRON SLAG Roman
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	Pre-planning guidance
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	KENT CANTERBURY ADISHAM Land South of Canterbury
Postcode	CT4 5DL
Study area	220 Hectares
Site coordinates	TR 17441 56717 51.267436051773 1.117385672158 51 16 02 N 001 07 02 E Point
Site coordinates	TR 16940 56215 51.263120283577 1.109909801596 51 15 47 N 001 06 35 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 30.05m Max: 45.7m

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Tom Munnery

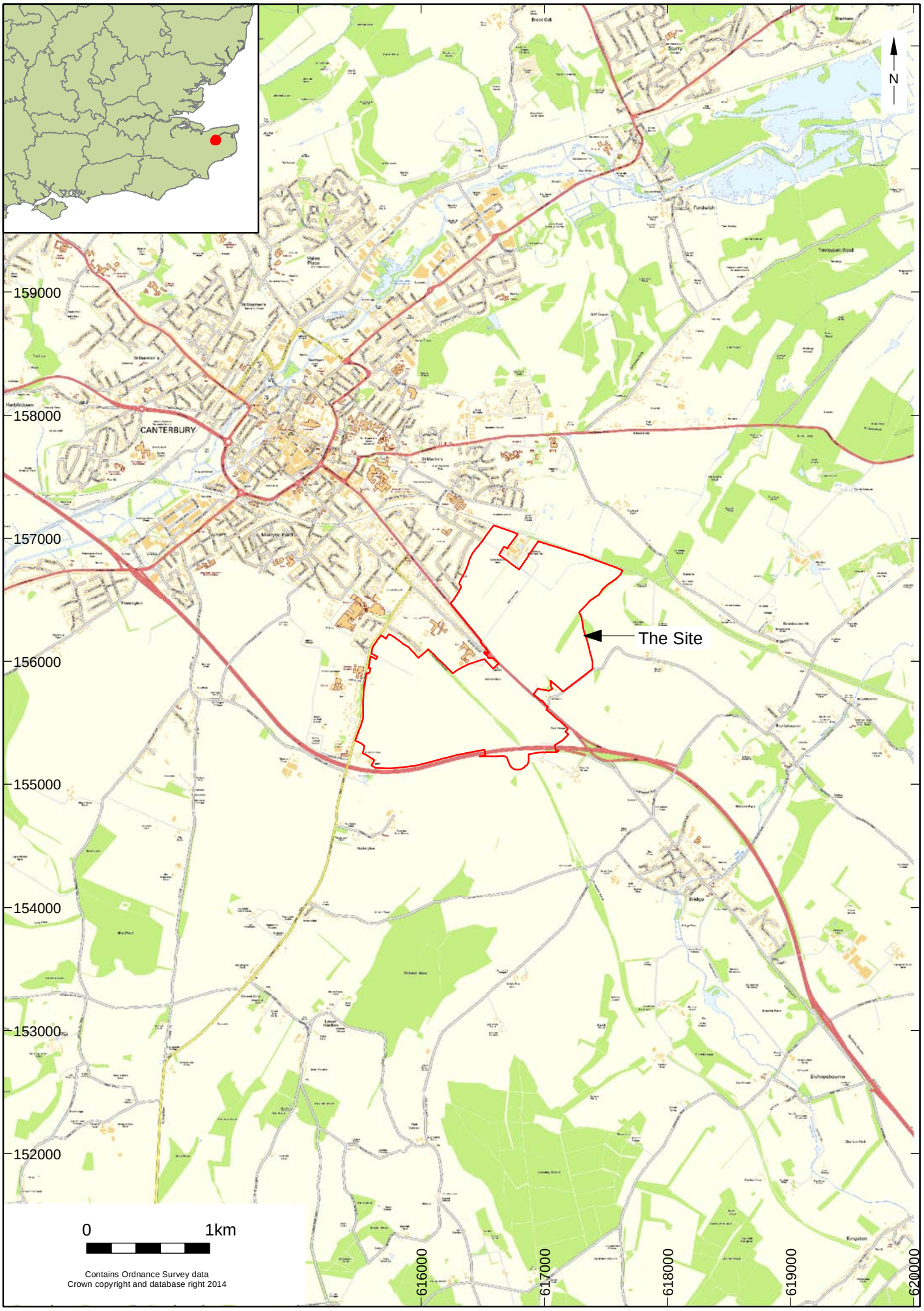
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	CgMs Consulting
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Land South of Canterbury, Kent
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Munnery, T.
Other bibliographic details	2015472
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Kent HER

Entered by	Tom Munnery (t.munnery@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	29 January 2016

Appendix 1: Finds quantification table

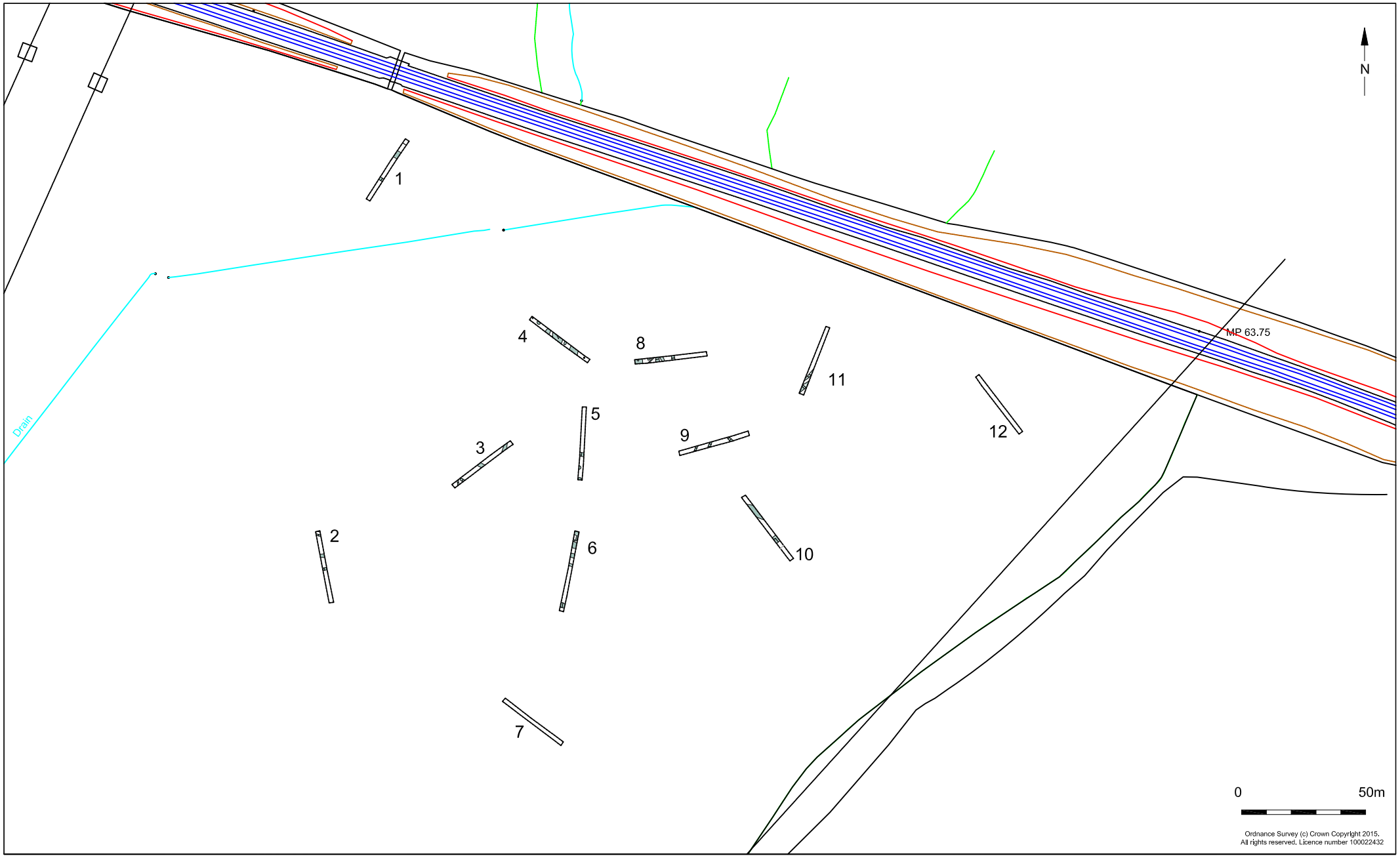
Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Flint	wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	F. clay	Wt (g)	Industrial?	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Daub	Wt (g)
1/002	1	36	2	440			3	141									1	58		
1/005	11	75	1	318			5	125	25	454					1	247	4	51		
1/007	2	11	1	371											11	90				
3/006	1	29																		
4/006	8	41									2	41								
4/010	13	114																		
4/012	4	45																		
4/014	16	85																		
5/004	35	807									2	13								
5/006	79	1611		7586																
5/009	1	16																		
6/004	33	142																		
6/005	17	82									4	27					3	24	8	166
8/009	18	91									2	5								
8/011	1	4	1	161																
9/004	3	59																		
9/007	23	951									2	4								
9/009																	1	10		
10/005	41	2114	1917		45	477							1	21	2	782				
10/008	10	140	3	774									5	1435					1	24
11/004	4	49	1	21																
11/007	3	246																		
13/009			8	1007			1	17			1	5								
14/005			1	23			1	28												
15/004	33	143					7	246	32	1381	1	5								

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Flint	wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	F. clay	Wt (g)	Industrial?	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	Daub	Wt (g)
15/005	13	67					1	13	76	3226										
15/006											36	601								
15/007	16	64							44	2438	1	2								
16/004	2	11	5	123									1	2						
16/006	26	182							1	76	1	33								
16/010	50	415					2	22	16	1348	4	8								
16/013							2	69												
16/015	4	35					1	14												
16/016	15	152			3	1	2	33			1	8								
16/017	16	96									43	297								
16/018	68	1165			15	15					2	15								
16/021	18	206					1	3			3	9								
16/022	10	92					2	18			1	3								
16/023	20	186							6	236										
18/004	40	644							1	109										
19/004							1	60												
20/001							3	266												
U/S T13							2	111												
U/S T14							1	43												

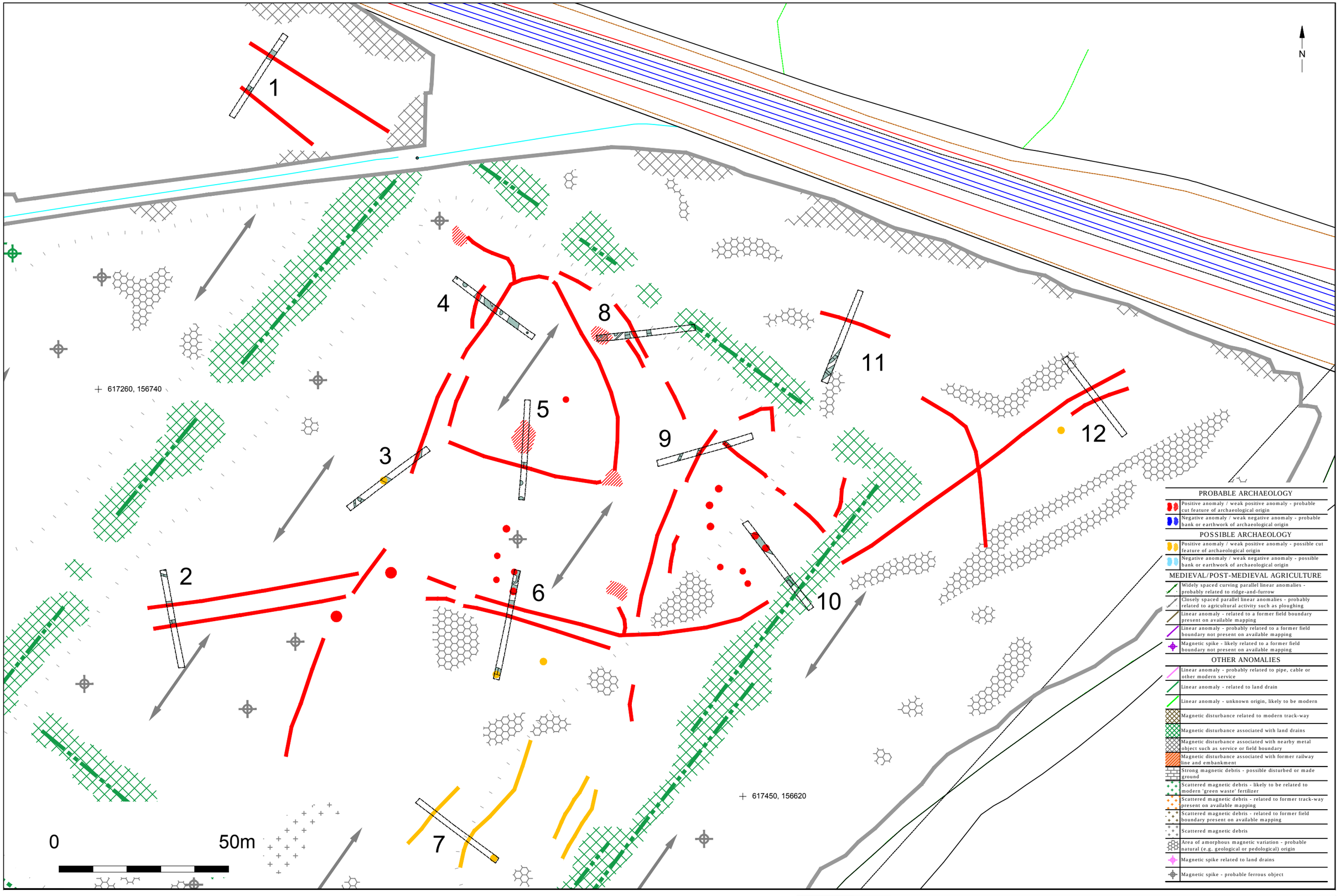


© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Site location	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR		

© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Site plan	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR		



© **Archaeology South-East**		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Site A: trenches 1-12	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR		



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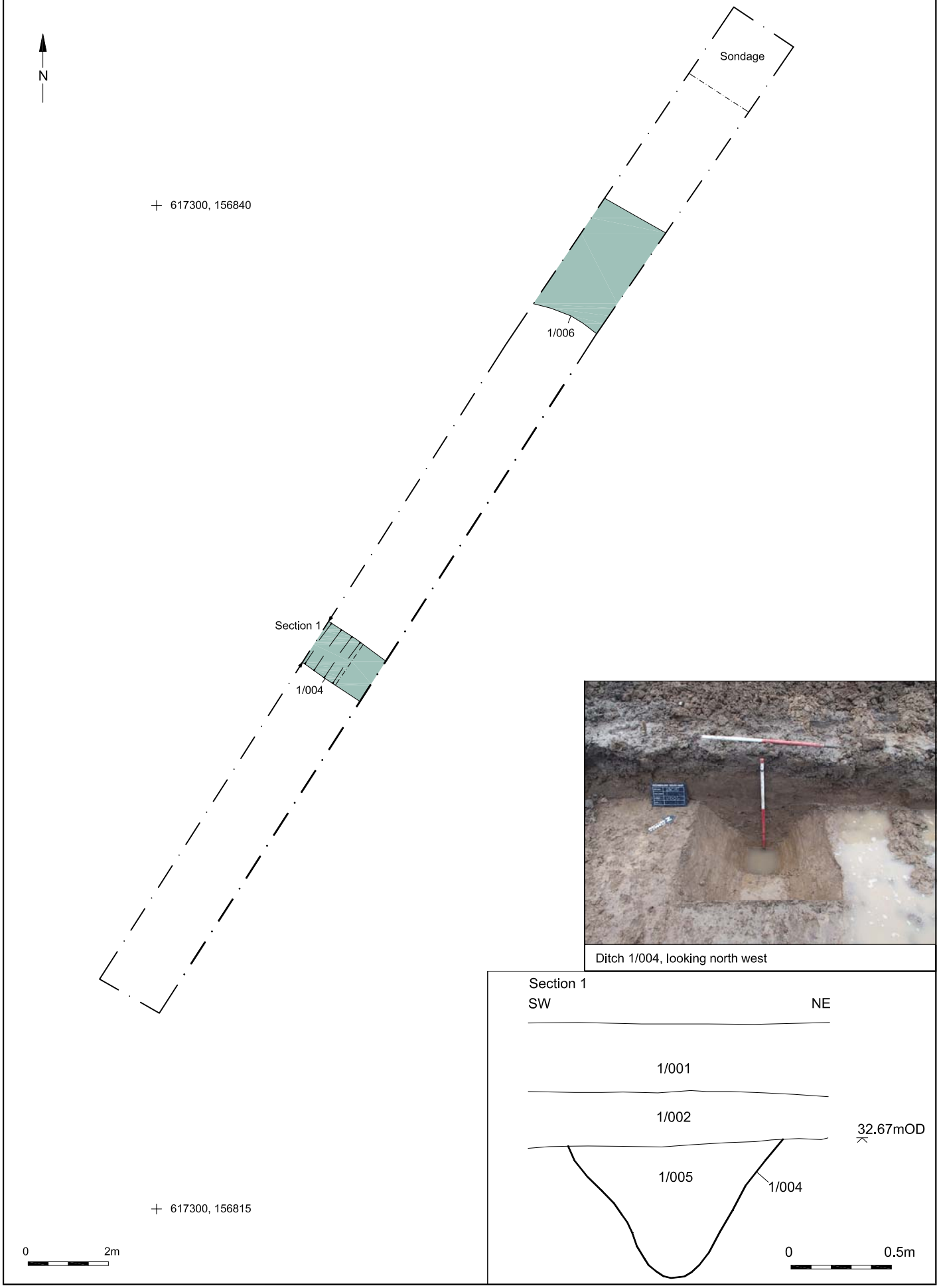
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Site A: trenches 1-12 and geophysics interpretation	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR		

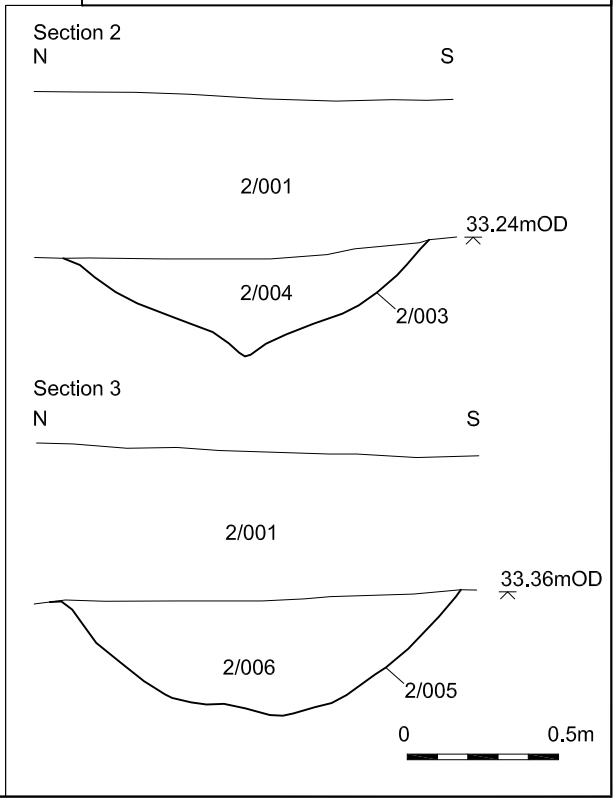


Ditch 1/004, looking north west

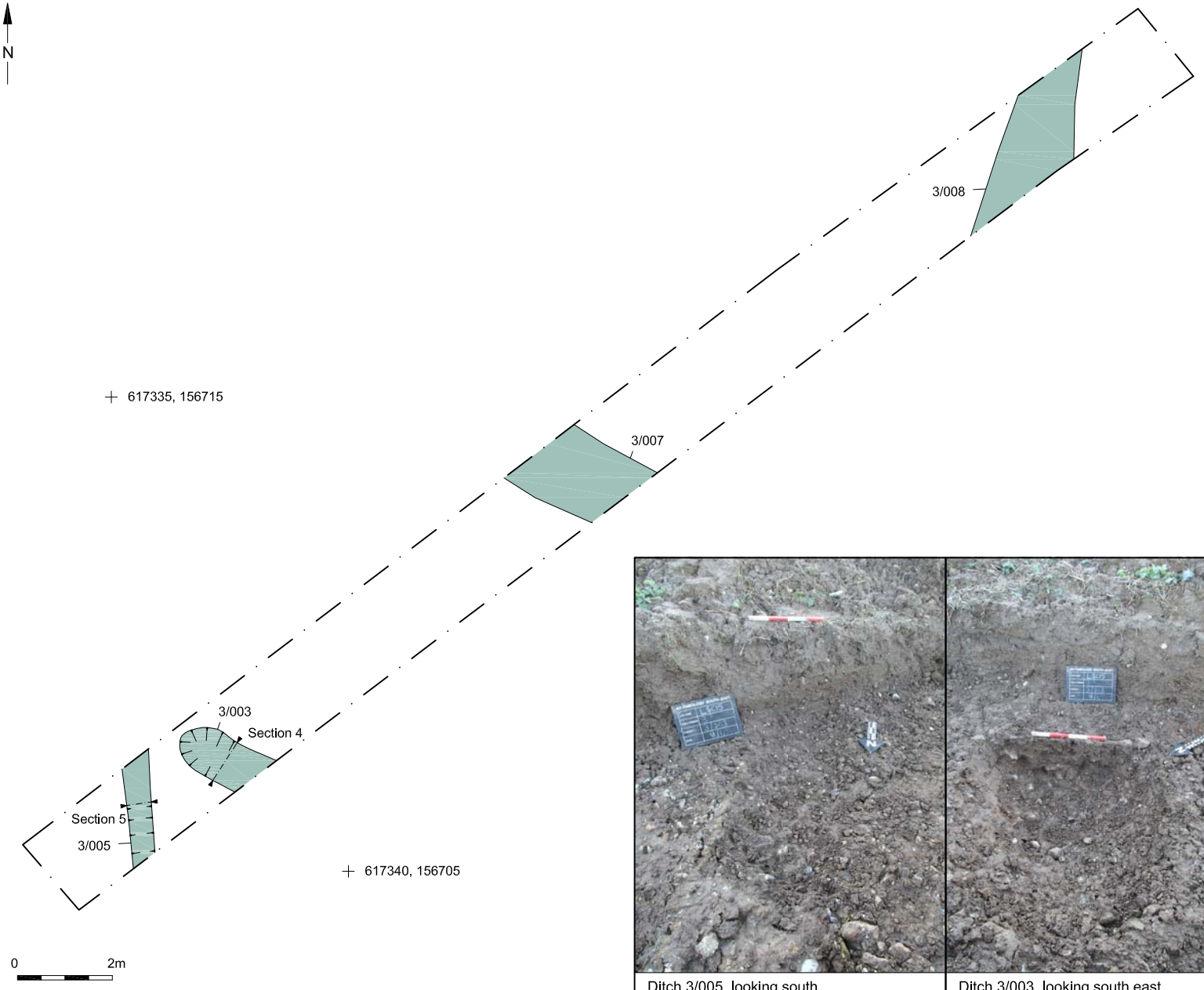
© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 1: plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

Ditch 2/005, looking east

Ditch 2/003, looking east



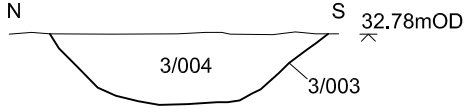
© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 2 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



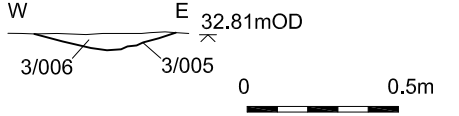
Ditch 3/005, looking south

Ditch 3/003, looking south east

Section 4



Section 5



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 7
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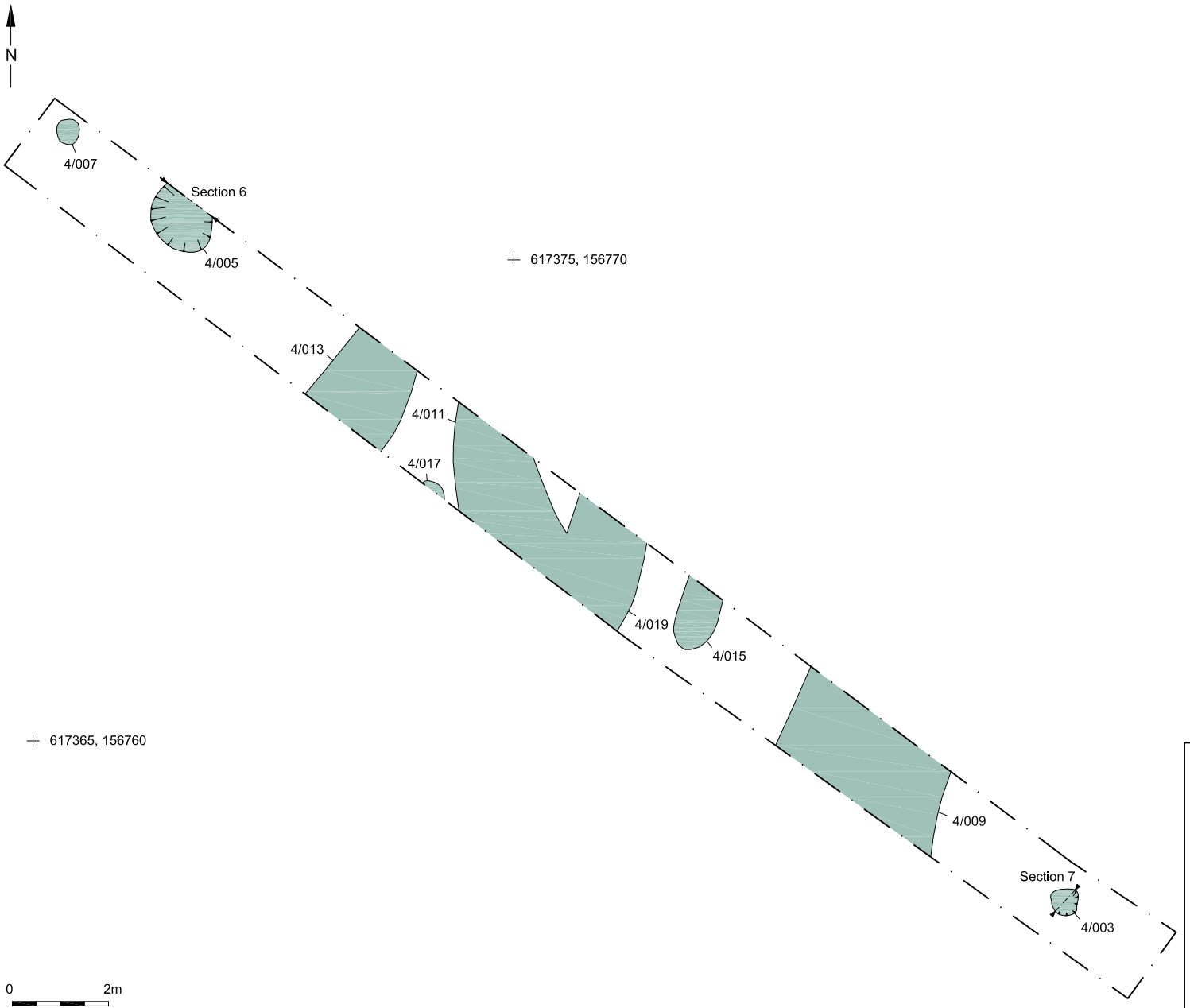
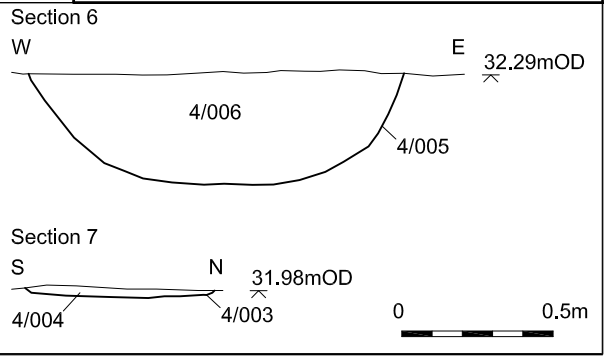
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Pit 4/005, looking north

Pit 4/003, looking west



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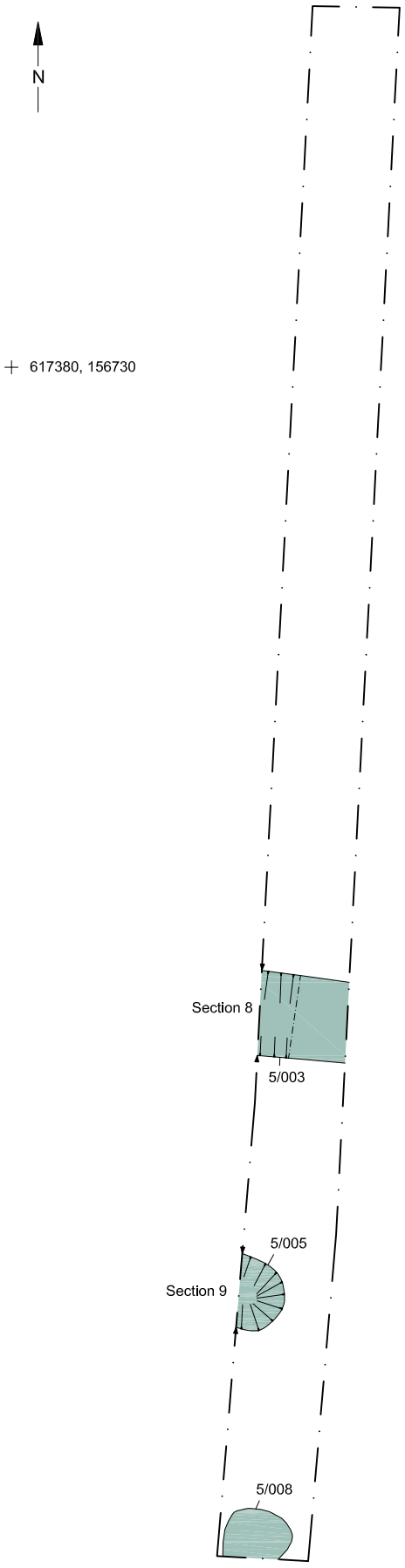
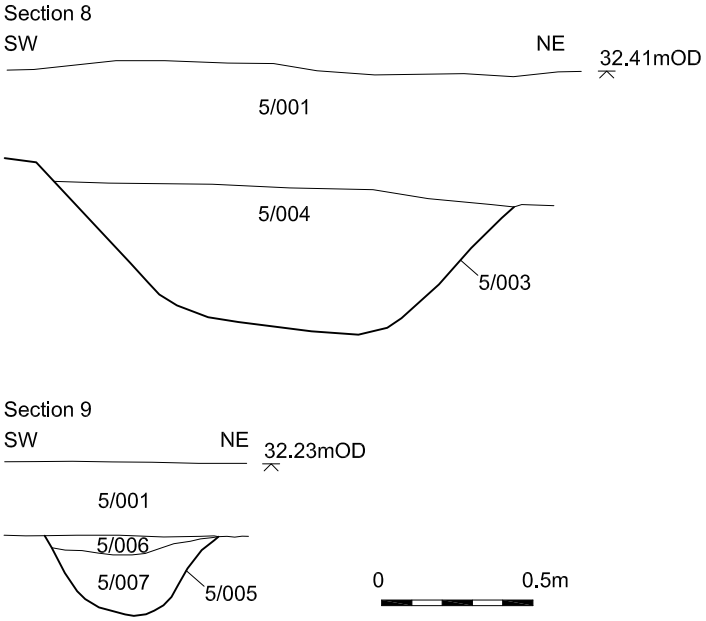


Ditch 5/003, looking north west

Pit 5/005, looking north west



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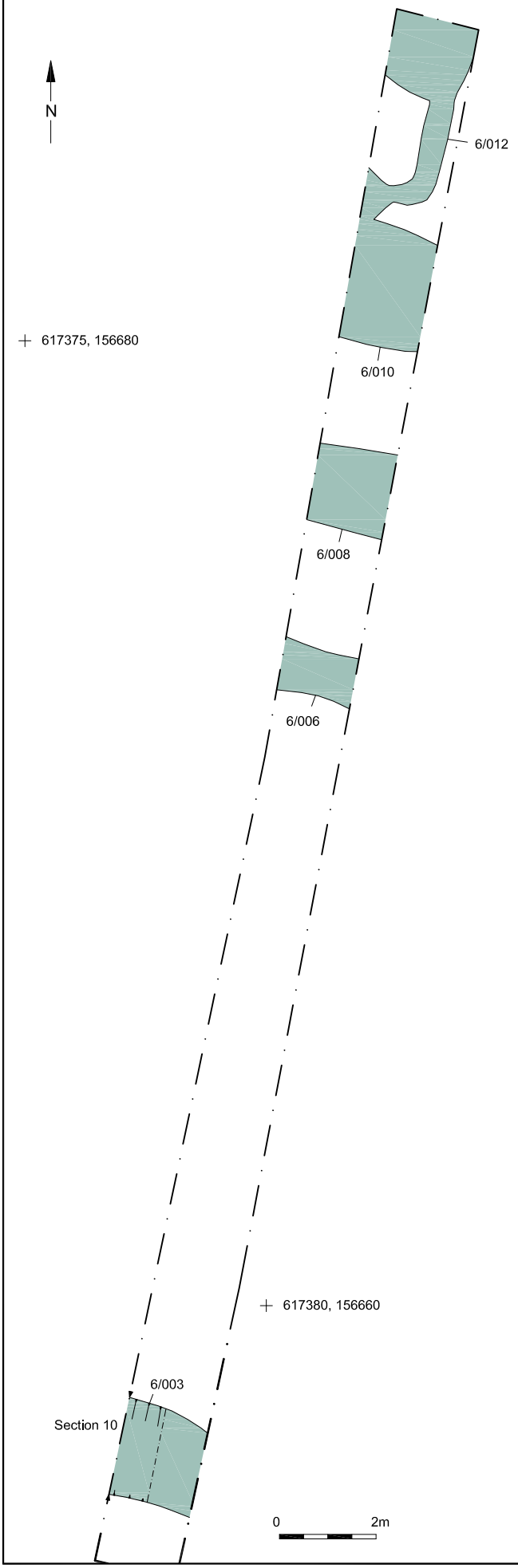
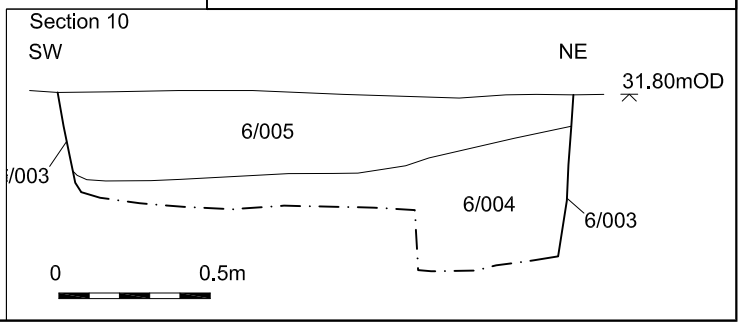
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 5: plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Ditch 6/003, looking south east



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 6 : plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

617410, 156760

N

Section 11

Section 12

8/014

8/013

8/008

8/006

8/003

8/010

8/012

617415, 156750

Ditch 8/003, looking north

Ditch 8/008, looking north

Section 11

W E

8/001

31.24mOD

8/005

8/003

8/004

Section 12

W E

8/001

31.28mOD

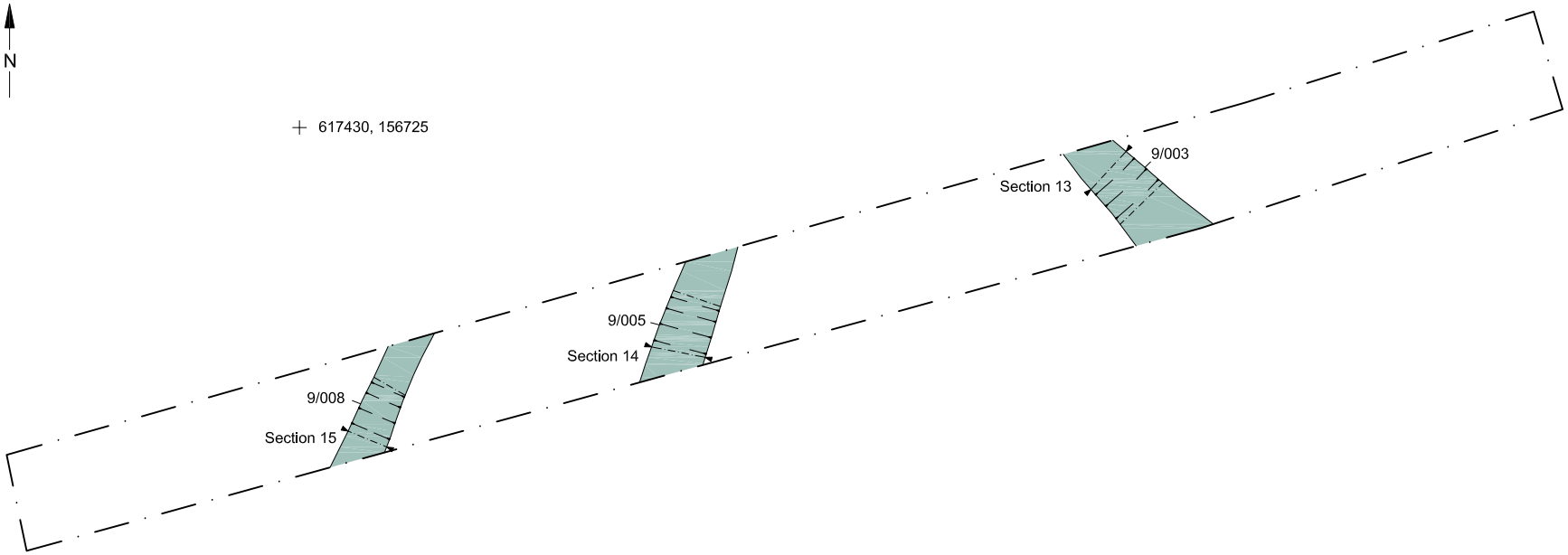
8/009

8/008

0 2m

0 0.5m

© **Archaeology South-East**		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 11
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 8 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by:NG		

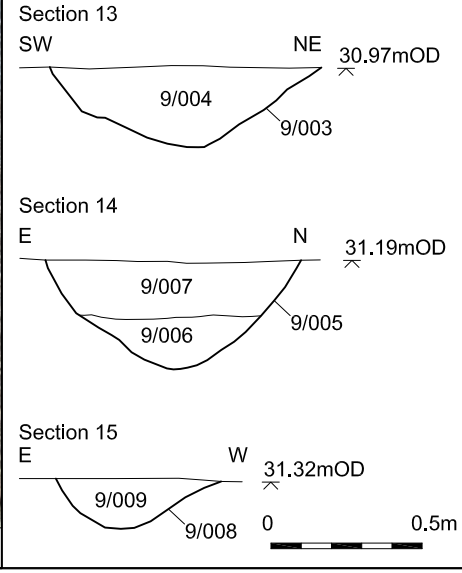


617435, 156715

Ditch 9/003, looking north west

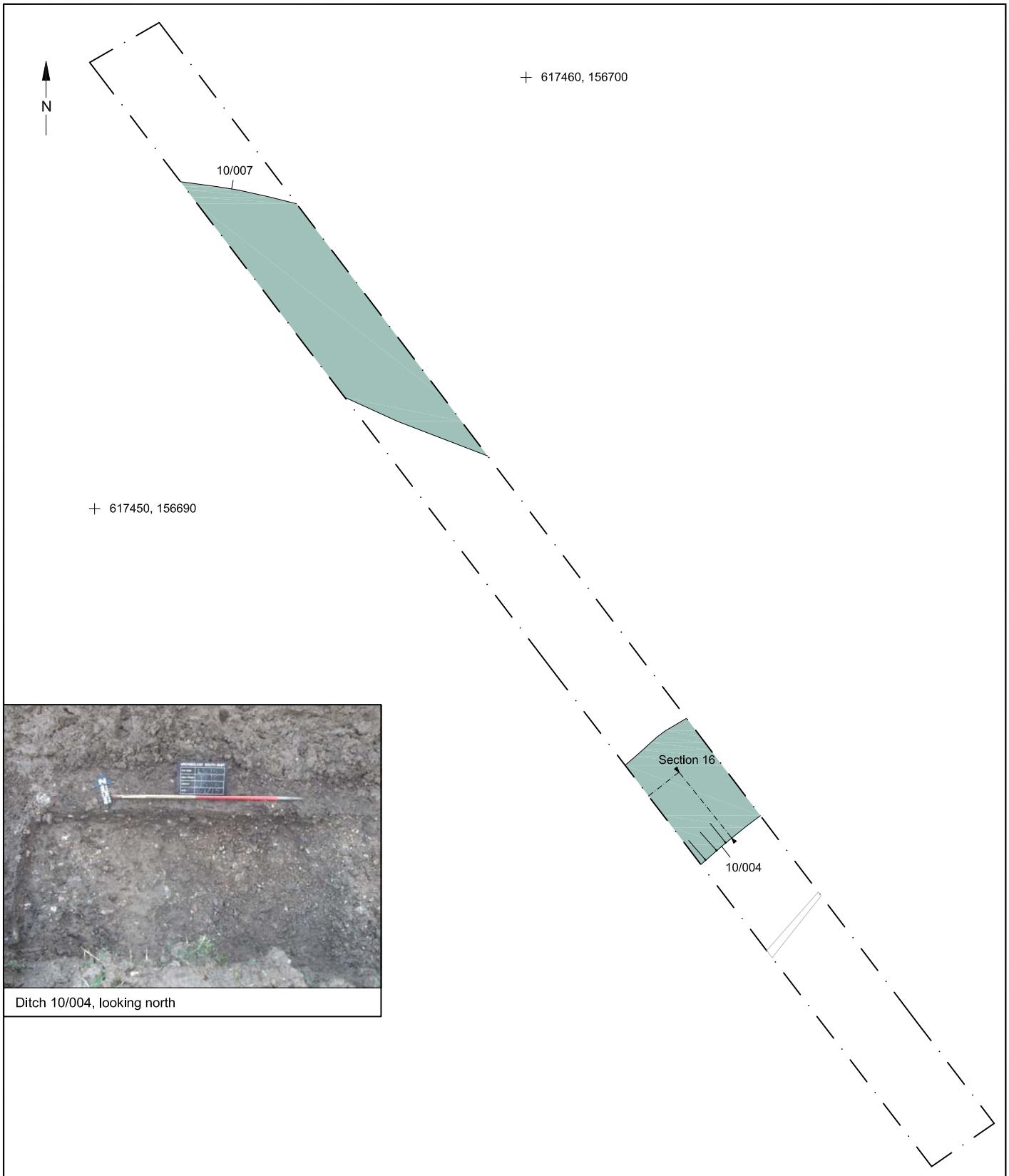
Ditch 9/008, looking south

Ditch 9/005, looking south

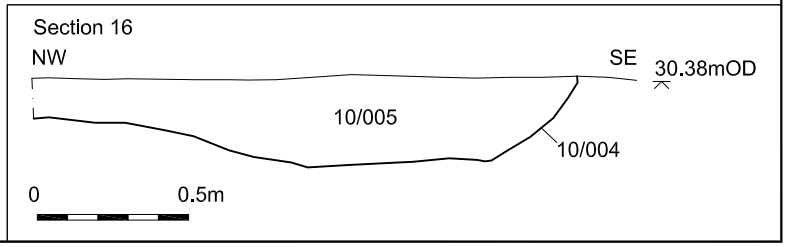


0 2m

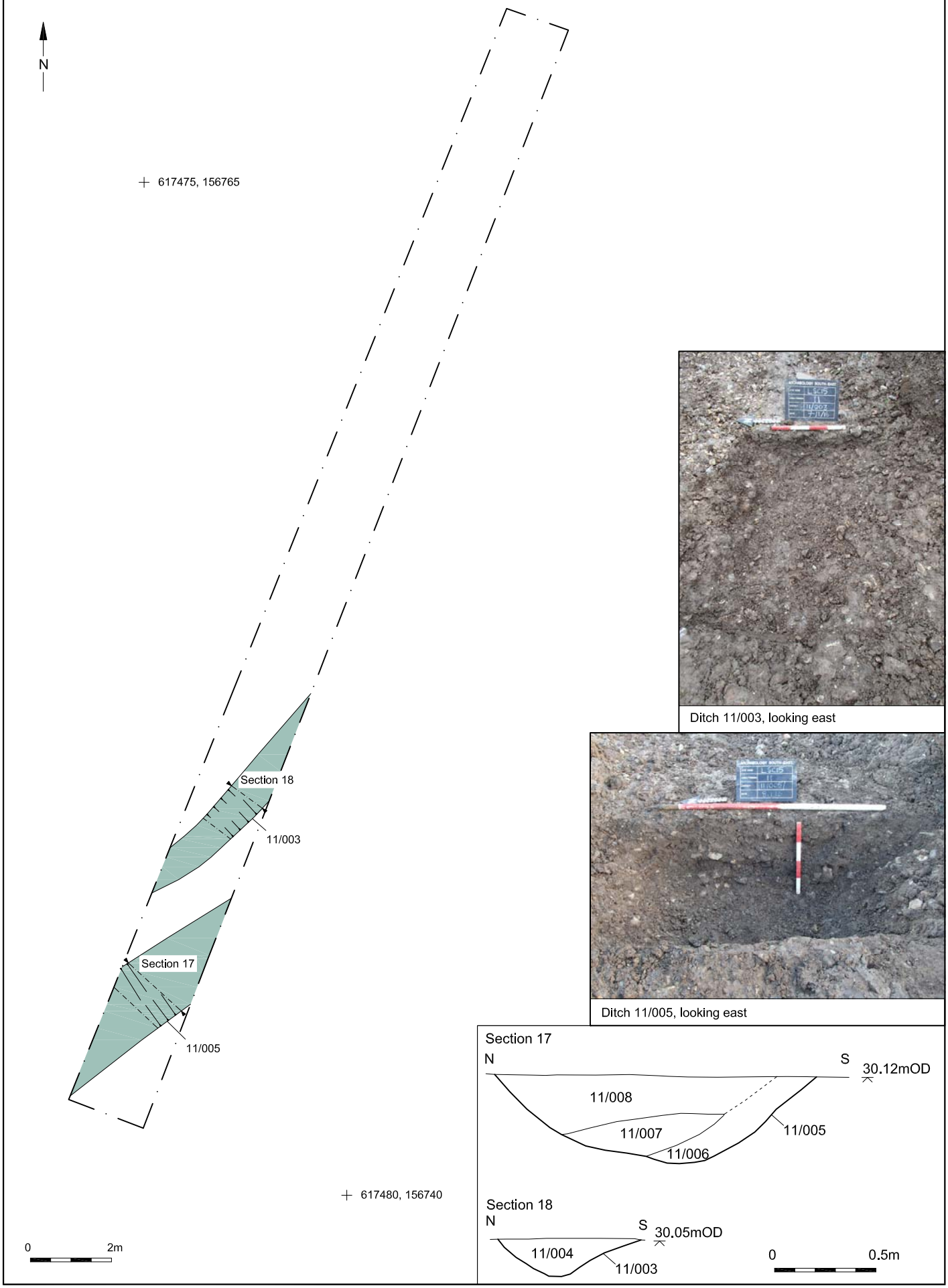
© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 12
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 9 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Ditch 10/004, looking north



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 13
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 10 : plan, sections and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Ditch 11/003, looking east

Ditch 11/005, looking east

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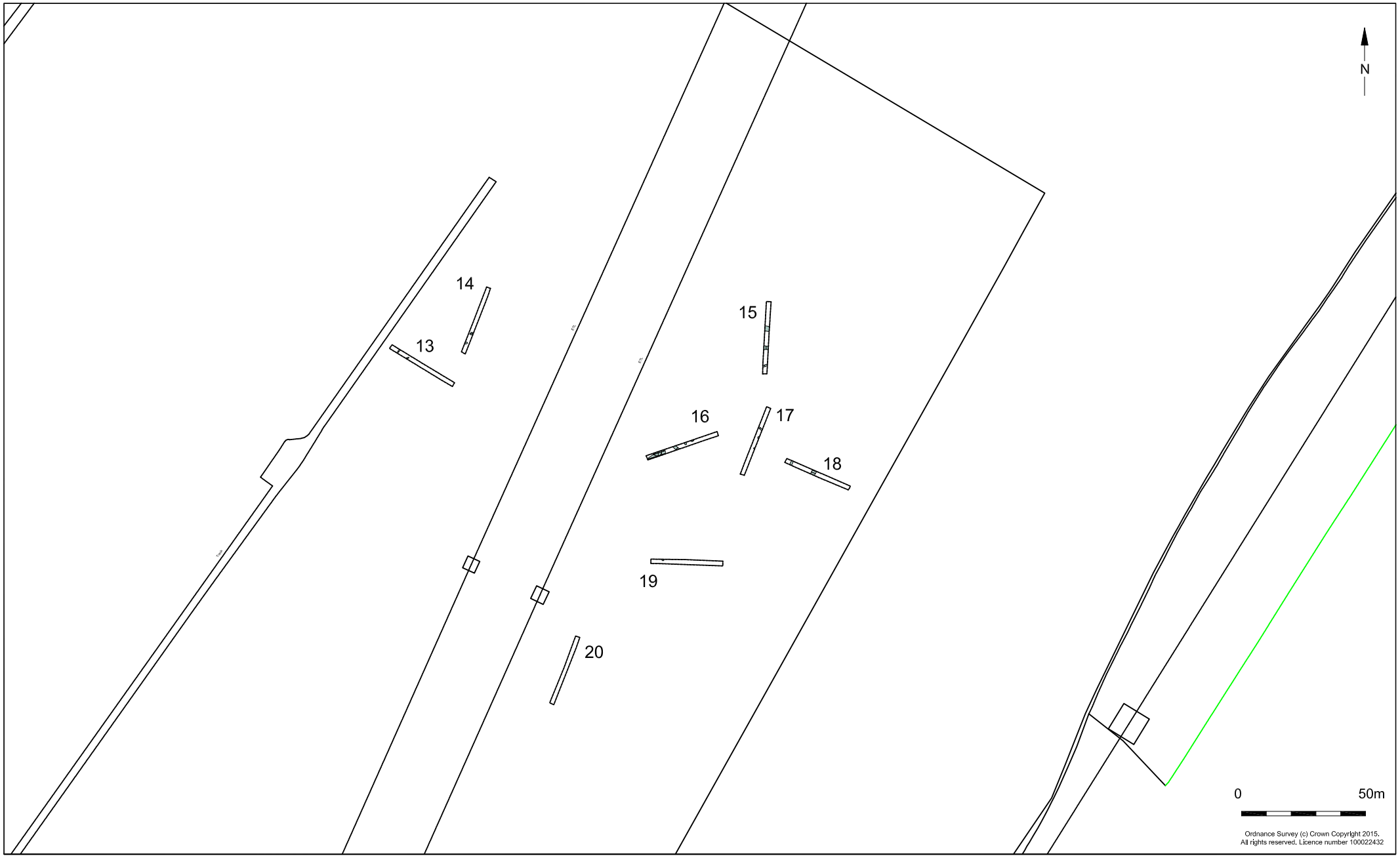
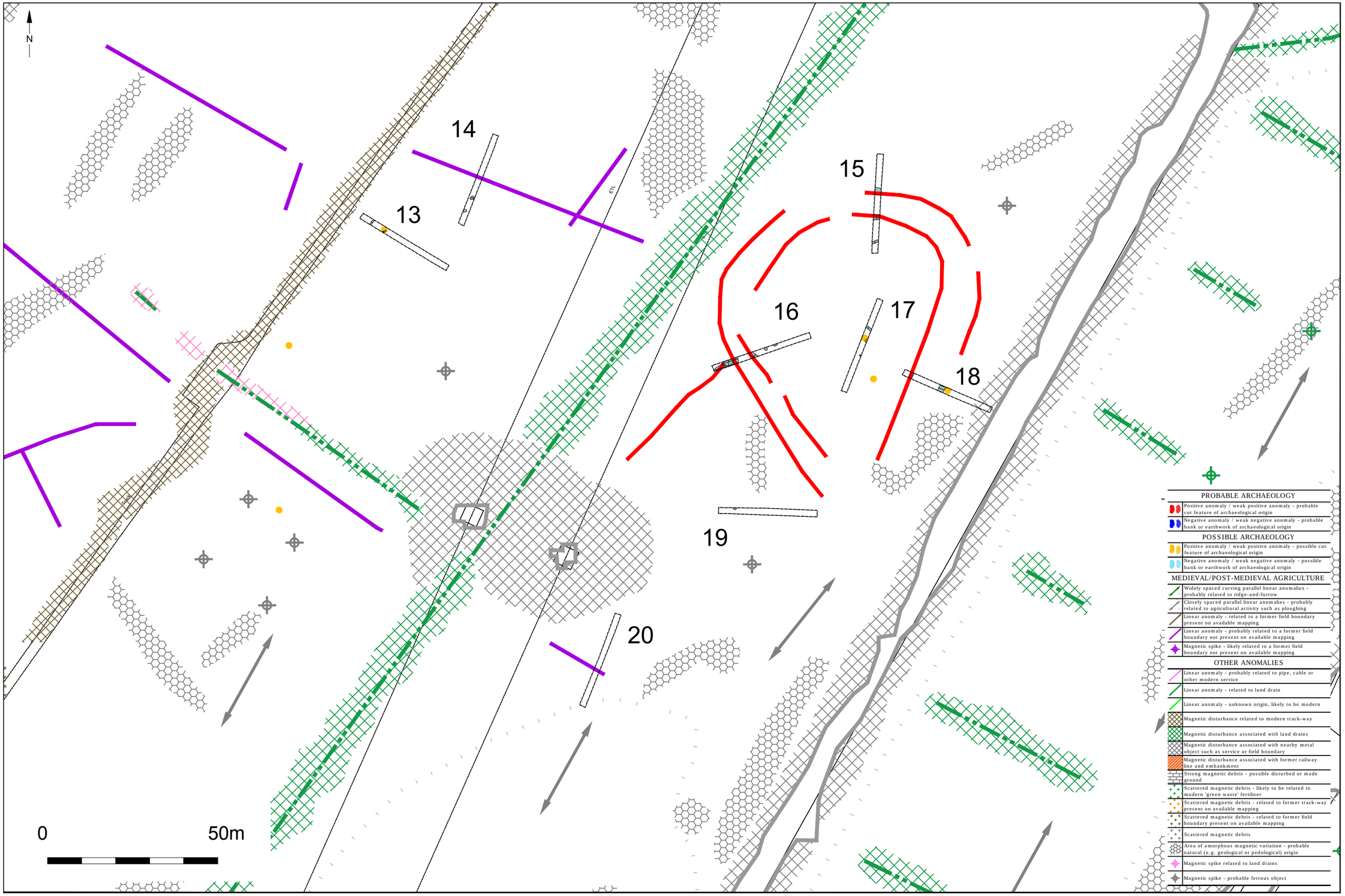
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 11 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



© Archaeology South-East		Land south of Canterbury	Fig. 15
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Site B: trenches 13-20	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR		

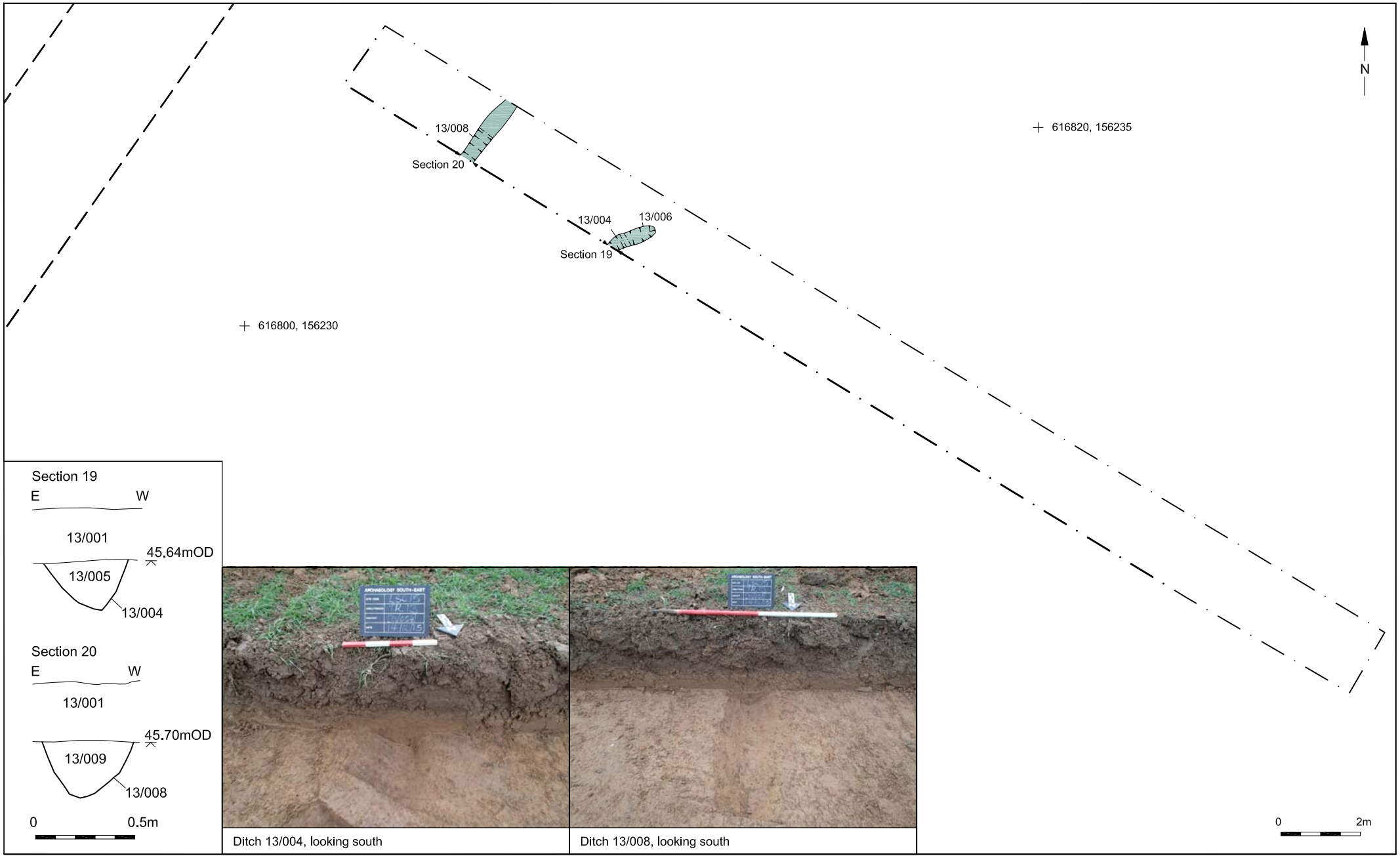


Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: JLR

Land south of Canterbury

Site B: trenches 13-20 and geophysics interpretation

Fig. 16



Ditch 13/004, looking south

Ditch 13/008, looking south

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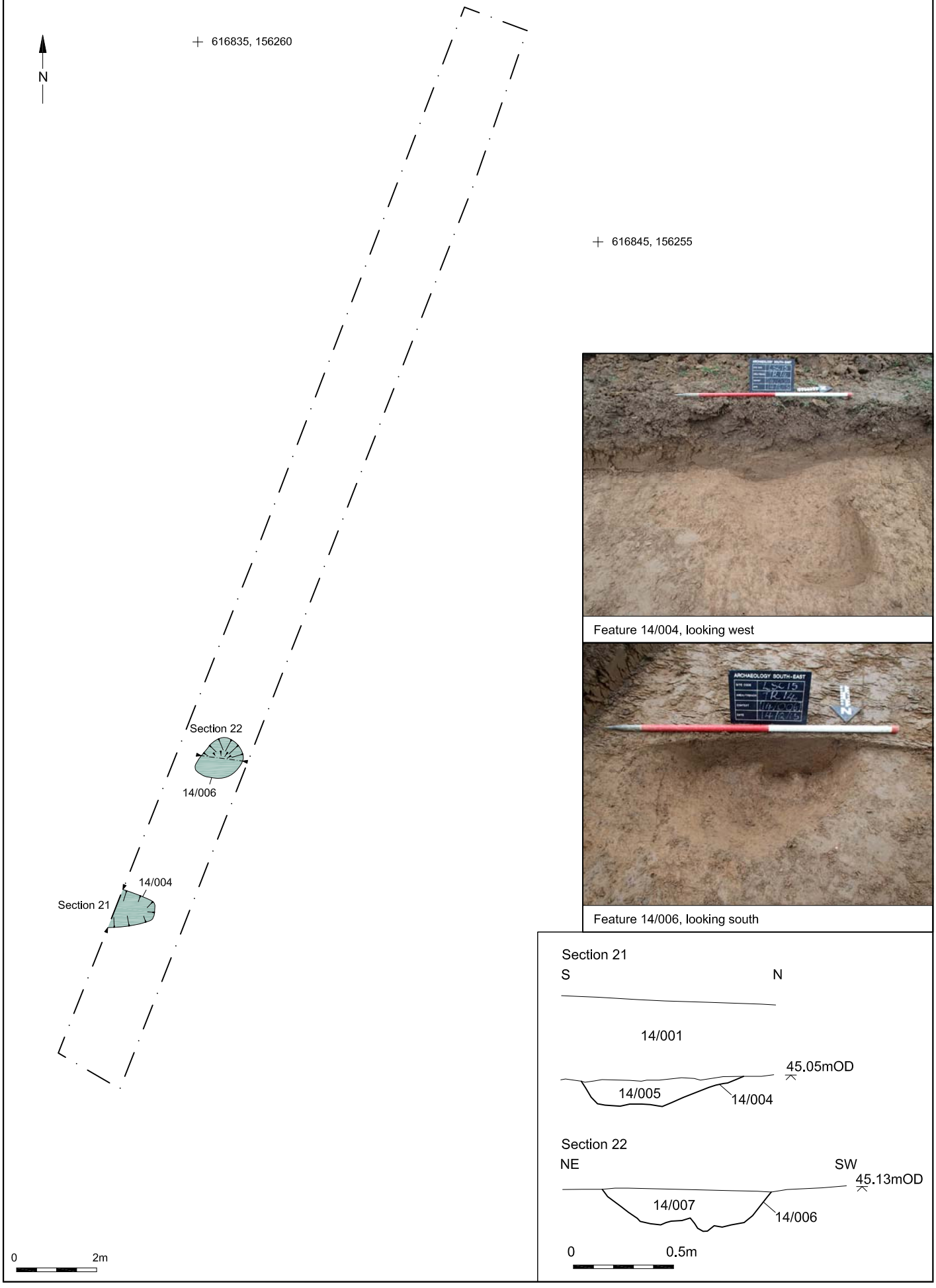
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 13 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Feature 14/004, looking west

Feature 14/006, looking south

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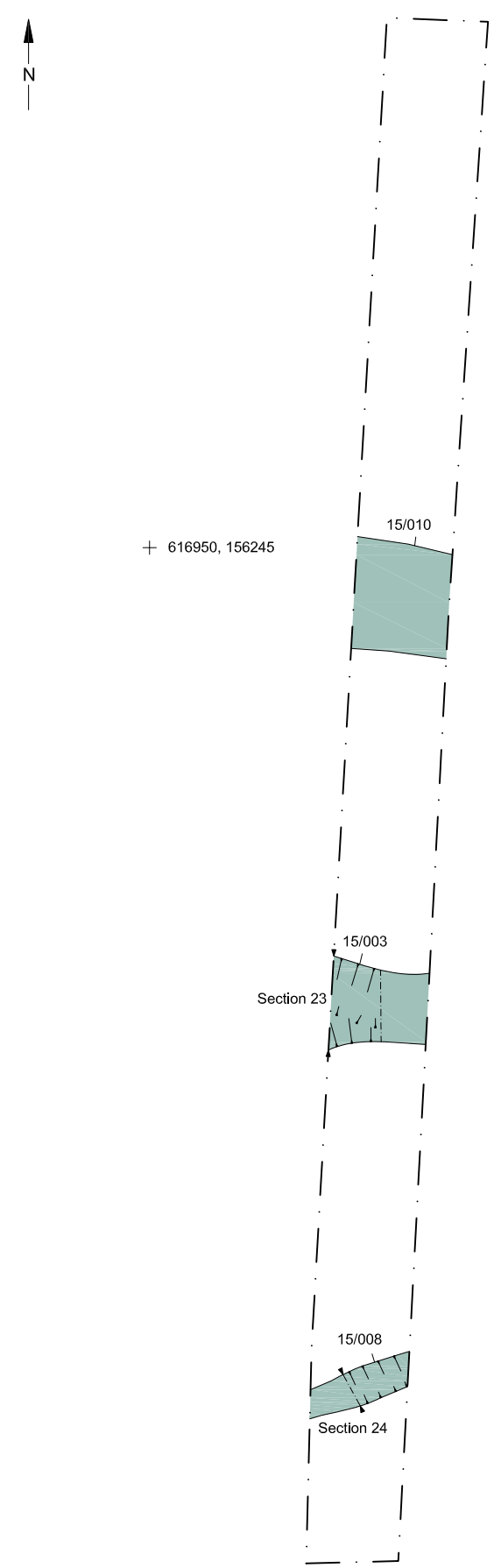
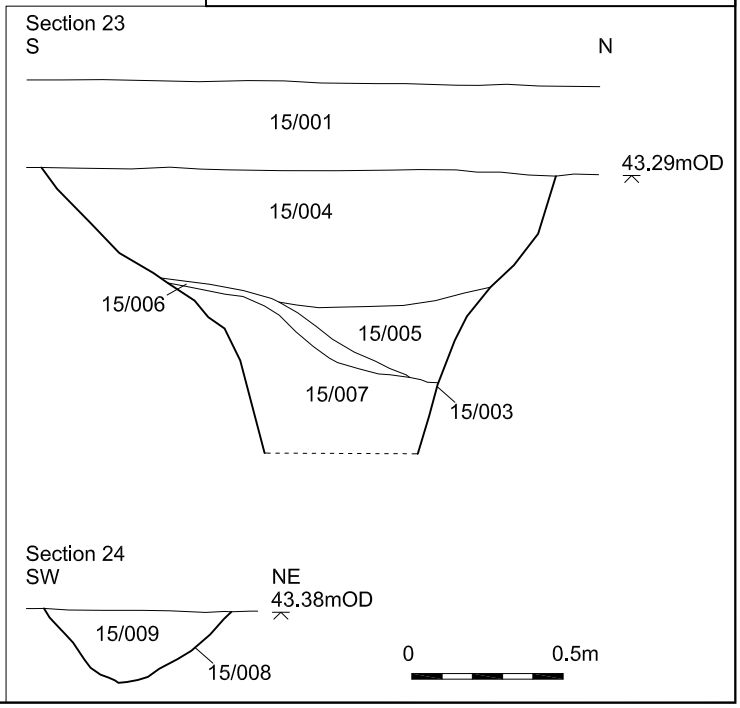
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 14 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Ditch 15/008, looking west

Ditch 15/003, looking west



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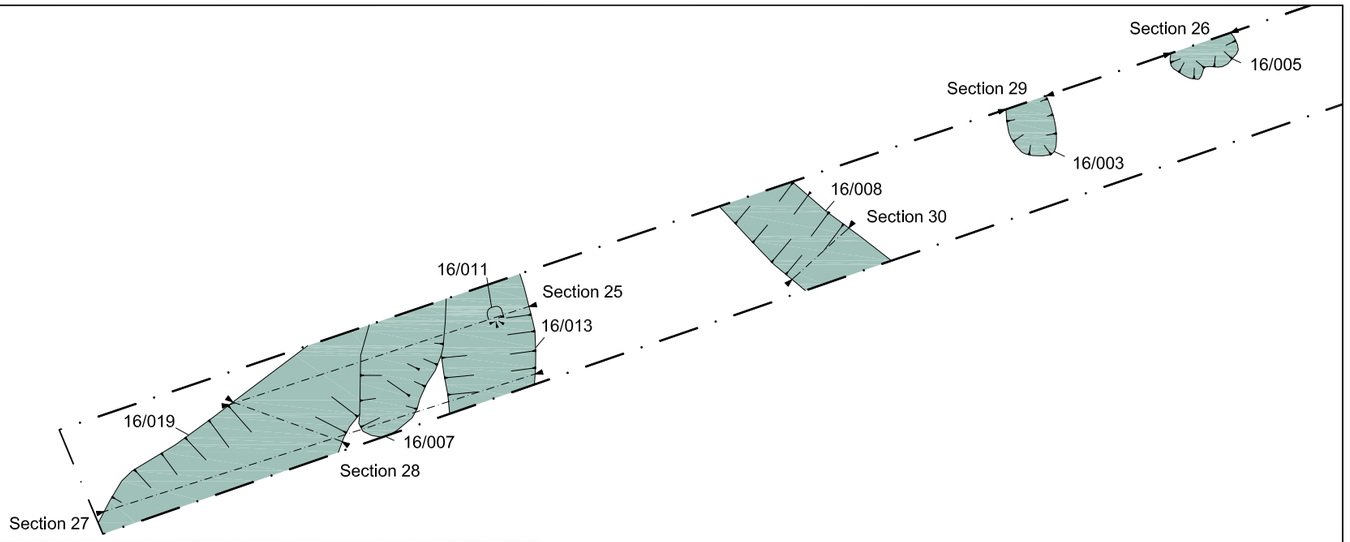
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 15 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

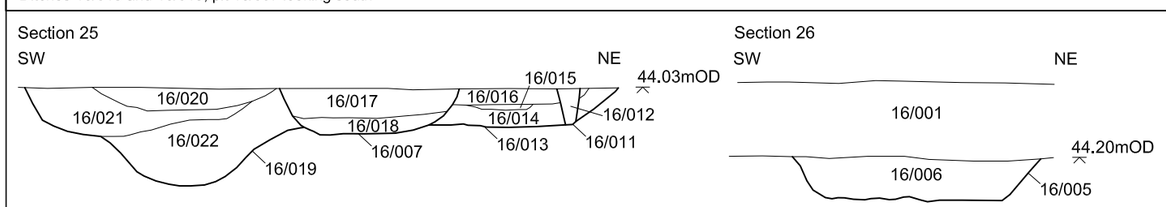
Feature 16/005, looking north west

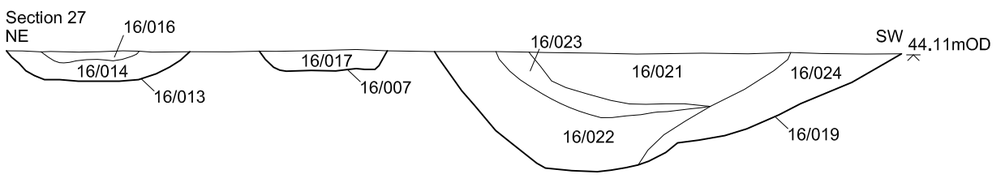
Ditches 16/013 and 16/019, pit 16/007 looking south

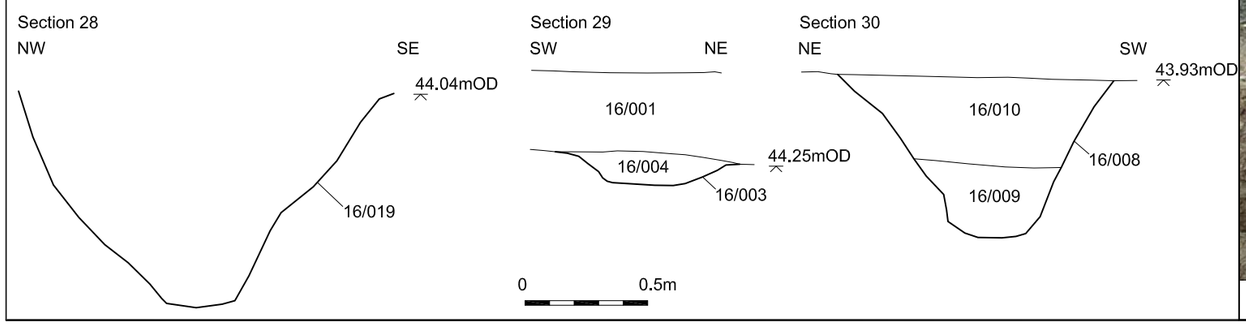


616900, 156195

616920, 156190







Ditch 16/008, looking south east

0 2m

Ditches 16/013 and 16/019, pit 16/007 and posthole 16/011, looking north

Feature 16/003, looking north west

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Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 16 : plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

N

616945, 156210

616955, 156200

17/003

Section 31

17/005

17/006

0 2m

Ditch 17/003, looking south east

Section 31

NE SW

17/001

43.80mOD

17/004

17/003

0 0.5m

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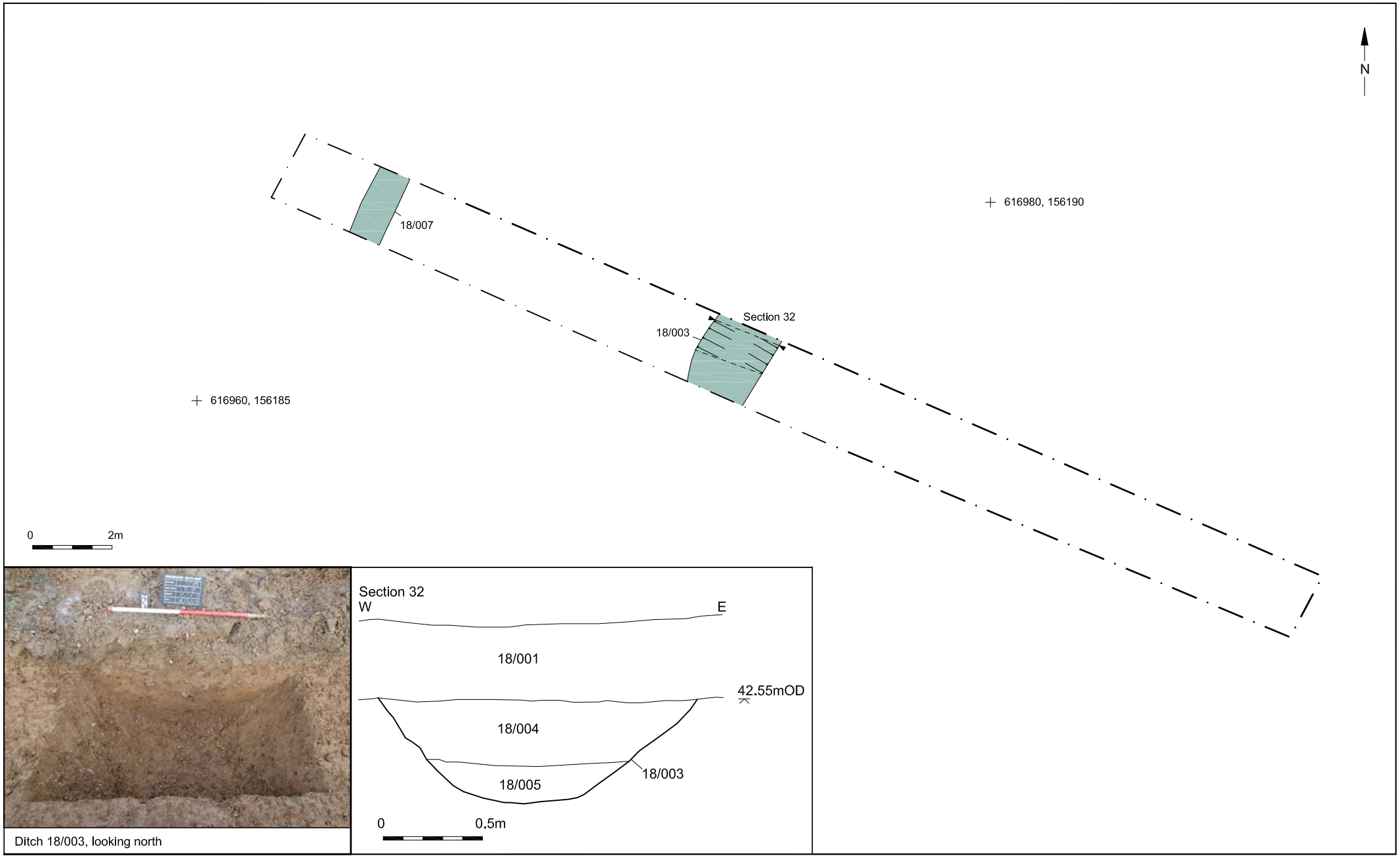
Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 17: plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		



Ditch 18/003, looking north

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Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 18 : plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

616910, 156155

N

Section 33

19/003

616930, 156145

0 2m

Section 33

W E

19/001

44.36mOD

19/004

19/003

0 0.5m

Pit 19/003, looking north

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Project Ref: 7918	Jan 2016	Trench 19 : plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2015472	Drawn by: NG		

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