

**Archaeological Evaluation Report  
Land at Cobthorn Way  
Congresbury, Somerset**

**NGR: 344300 163999  
(ST 4430 6399)**

**Planning Ref: 15/P/0519/O  
ASE Project No: 160377  
Site Code: CBT16  
ASE Report No: 2016250**



**By Hayley Nicholls**



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**Abstract**

*This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by Sunley Homes in advance of the proposed residential development of the site.*

*A potential palaeochannel was identified in the south-west corner of the site during site investigation monitoring works. The paleochannel deposit comprised highly humified organic silt with visible insect remains and occasional bi-valve shell fragments. Two pieces of animal bone, one an incomplete horse pelvis showing signs of butchery and a tibia shaft from a large mammal, possibly deer were also recovered from the deposit.*

*This investigation has succeeded in identifying archaeological features in 11 of the 17 excavated trenches. A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site, with one potential pit or tree throw of this date.*

*Much of the recorded archaeological activity appears to be related to a late Roman metalworking site with two identified focusses of smelting activity, both located towards the centre of the investigated area, one of which may have been partially enclosed. Residues from environmental samples also suggest limited smithing within the site.*

*A single in-filled post-medieval field boundary ditch was identified towards the south-east end of the site.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE) was commissioned by Sunley Homes Ltd. to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed residential development of land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset, hereafter referred to as 'the site'. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 344300 163999 and its location is shown in Figure 1.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site lies in agricultural fields on the north-east periphery of Congresbury and encompasses approximately 8.1ha (Figures 1 & 2). The proposed area for development is confined to the north-western part of the wider site and is bounded by housing estates to the north and west and fields to the south and east. The land slopes southwards towards the River Yeo (Congresbury Yeo).

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey maps the underlying geology of the site as Triassic mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. Superficial deposits are not mapped (BGS 2016).

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 A Desk-Based Assessment was produced by Foundations Archaeology (2015) and concluded that the site had the potential to yield archaeological material across most periods, with the highest potential being for later archaeology of low significance.

1.3.2 A subsequent magnetometer survey identified a number of linear, possible rectilinear and discrete anomalies in the north-western part of the site which may relate to cut features (Archaeological Services Ltd 2015). Previous geophysical survey of part of the site suggested the possibility for the presence of Roman kilns (YCCCART 2014).

1.3.3 Proposals for residential development of the north-west part of the site, with the remainder to be retained as open space, were recommended for approval by North Somerset Council (15/P/0519/O). The following archaeological condition was proposed by planning committee:

19. No development including any ground preparation shall take place until an archaeological evaluation and mitigation strategy has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that any archaeological features of interest are fully understood and properly recorded or preserved in accordance with paragraphs 128 and 169 of the National Planning Policy Framework, policy CS5 of the North Somerset Core Strategy and policy ECH/6 of the North Somerset Replacement Local Plan and in accordance with DM6 of the Sites and Policies Plan Part 1 Publication Version 2015

1.3.4 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological evaluation was prepared by ASE (2016) and outlined the research aims and objectives of the current project and the methodology to be followed. It was submitted to and approved by the client and the archaeological advisor to North Somerset Council prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

#### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 The current report provides the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site, carried out between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The fieldwork work was supervised by Hayley Nicholls (Senior Archaeologist) with assistance from Garrett Sheehan (Archaeologist) and Tom Simms (Assistant Archaeologist). The fieldwork was managed by Paul Mason and post-excavation by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift.

## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The general archaeological background to the site is presented in the desk-based assessment (Foundations Archaeology 2015). What follows is a summary of the DBA and of the results of the geophysical survey undertaken by Archaeological Services Ltd (2015) and an earlier survey undertaken by the Yatton, Congresbury, Claverham and Cleeve Archaeological Research Team (YCCCART 2014) as outlined in the WSI (ASE 2016).

### **2.2 Prehistoric**

2.2.1 Somerset has a rich prehistoric heritage and contains sites of national importance, including the Neolithic timber trackway of Sweet Track in the Somerset Levels, 25km south of the site. Closer to the site there is a cemetery of round barrows and a long barrow at Redhill, 6.7 km east of the site, with a further cemetery of bowl barrows on Felton Hill, 7.5 km northeast of the site. The multivallate Iron Age and Saxon period hillfort of Cadbury Castle is 1.1 km north of the site while lesser univallate hillforts are on Cleeve Hill, 2.7 km northeast of the site.

2.2.2 In the environs of the site, flint artefacts of Neolithic and Bronze Age date have been recovered during fieldwalking projects, some 400m to 570m from the site.

2.2.2 The later prehistoric multivallate hillfort on Cadbury Hill lies to the north of the site and is of both national and international importance. The earliest settlement was represented by pits and post holes dated by Neolithic pottery and flints. Discoveries during excavation and survey work between 1992 and 2010 by the South Cadbury Environs Project have revealed that there was considerable activity on the lower slopes of the hill during the second millennium BC. A bank under the later Iron Age defences is likely to be a lynchet or terrace derived from early ploughing of the hilltop. The site was also occupied in the Late Bronze Age, from which ovens have been identified, and throughout the Iron Age with the earliest ramparts dating the c. 400 BC. The hillfort continued in use until the Roman conquest.

### **2.3 Roman**

2.3.1 Roman intervention in Somerset began in AD 47 with the area of the County conquered by the Second Augustan Legion under the command of the future Emperor Vespasian. Forts were established at Bath and at Ilchester, which both developed into towns with Bath becoming famous as a ritual centre devoted to the cult of Sulis-Minerva and for its bathing complex. The fort at Ilchester became the town of Lindinis, 42 km south of the site.

2.3.2 The fort on Cadbury Hill went out of use shortly after the invasion, but there was significant Roman period activity at the site during the late 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries, which may have included the construction of a Romano-British temple.

2.3.3 Roman activity in Somerset appears to have been focused largely in the



Mendip Hills, which were mined for silver.

- 2.3.4 Two Roman period mosaics were uncovered in the Kent Street area, 500m northwest of the site. One of the mosaics (MNS399) was found in the garden of Clarence Court. The record is dated 1977, but no further information is given in the HER. The second mosaic (MNS8200) is recorded as being from Kent Road immediately to the southeast of Clarence Court - but no other data is given in the HER. Given the date of the record is also 1977 it may be a duplicate entry, but the possibility cannot be ruled out that a high status Romano-British building with multiple tessellated floors was located in this area.

## **2.4 Saxon**

- 2.4.1 In the period immediately after the Roman withdrawal in AD 409, Cadbury Castle was reoccupied for around 90 years. Excavations have revealed a substantial timber building dating to this period. Between 1010 and 1020, the hill was reoccupied again for use as a temporary Saxon mint, standing in for that at Bruton.

## **2.5 Medieval**

- 2.5.1 In 1086, King William held Congresbury and Domesday records that it had been previously held by Harold. The earliest physical evidence for a settlement dates to the 13th century when St. Andrews Church was consecrated in 1215. The church is just outside the search radius, 768m southwest of the site, but it is worth noting that it is a Grade I Listed Building (1158046). The church was extensively remodelled in the 15th century in the perpendicular style.

## **2.6 Post-medieval**

- 2.6.1 Congresbury remained a large village throughout the post-medieval period with numerous entries in the HER for post-medieval buildings and monuments within the village.

## **2.7 Previous archaeological work within the site**

- 2.7.1 Recent detailed magnetometer survey located a number of geophysical anomalies within the site (Archaeological Services Ltd 2015). The area of the proposed housing development corresponds with the northern part of survey Area 2 and the north-western extreme of survey Area 1.
- 2.7.2 Within the north-western part of the site (Area 2) were number of positive linear and discrete anomalies that may relate to cut features, such as ditches and pits. A further, very strongly magnetic response was also located parallel with one of the linear anomalies to the east within Area 1. This strong response may relate to intense burning, magnetically thermoremnant or ferrous material. However, it was not possible to confidently interpret the origin of the anomalies as the main axis of the features is parallel with the linear trend of strip field cultivation boundaries that exist within the site. Therefore it is possible that positive anomalies relate to magnetically enhanced material within cultivation features or to features that post-date

them.

2.7.3 The entire site contained widespread magnetic debris, some of it relatively weak, relating to magnetically thermoremanent material. Stronger magnetic responses relate to shallow ferrous objects.

2.7.4 Previous geophysical survey was conducted within the north eastern field (Area 1) by the Yatton, Congresbury, Claverham and Cleeve Archaeological Research Team (YCCART 2014), as part of a project to establish the extent of Congresbury's Roman kiln sites. A number of magnetic anomalies were located and interpreted as relating to possible kilns, though these predominantly lie beyond the limit of the development.

## **2.8 Project Aims and Objectives**

2.8.1 The broad aims of the evaluation were:

- To test/corroborate the results of the geophysical survey
- To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any archaeological 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 would also seek to inform on relevant areas of research in line with the South-West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF; Webster 2007), including:

- Research Aim 29: Improve our understanding of non-villa Roman rural settlement
- Research Aim 4: Encourage wide involvement in archaeological research and present modern accounts of the past to the public

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The archaeological methodology was as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2016). All work was carried out in accordance with this document and in line with the relevant professional standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a; 2014b).
- 3.1.2 All 17 trenches were excavated. Trenches 1, 3, 4 and 17 were excavated in their intended locations. The remainder of the trenches had to be relocated to avoid overhead power cables but were placed so as to still evaluate the areas most impacted by the proposed development and the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 The locations of trenches were scanned prior to excavation using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner) in order to check for services.
- 3.1.4 The location of the trenches was accurately established using a Leica Viva CS15 RTK GPS instrument.

#### 3.2 Archive

- 3.2.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited with a suitable local Museum in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Tables 1 and 2).

Context sheets	144
Section sheets	5
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	205
Context register	0
Drawing register	3
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	18

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box )	2 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	1 box
Palaeoenvironmental specialists samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	1
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

## **4.0 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Geology and Overburden**

- 4.1.1 The trenches were situated on a gentle south to south-west facing slope, with ground level falling from a maximum height of 15.48m AOD in the north-east corner of the site (Trench 11) to 8.52m AOD towards the south-west (Trench 7, Figure 2).
- 4.1.2 The undisturbed natural geology was only encountered on the higher ground in the north-east of the site area and comprised a firm light orange-brown clay with fractured pale grey sandstone and siltstone inclusions. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum elevation of 14.77m AOD in the very north-east of the site area (Trench 11), falling away to 10.37m towards the centre of the site (Trench 6).
- 4.1.3 In the west and south-west of the site, on the lower ground, a complex series of substantial colluvial and alluvial deposits were encountered underlying the subsoil. These deposits were tested in Trench 17 and were seen to extend more than 2.2m below ground level.
- 4.1.4 Archaeological monitoring of geotechnical site investigation works has been undertaken since the completion of this evaluation. During these monitoring works a potential paleochannel was identified in the south-west corner of the site in the vicinity of Trenches 4, 7, 8 and 9. The paleochannel deposit comprised highly humified organic silt with visible insect remains and occasional bi-valve shell fragments, becoming less well humified and containing more frequent woody remains up-profile. The deposit was encountered underlying colluvial/alluvial deposits at depths of between 1.3m and 2.3m below ground level and was seen to have a thickness of between 0.9m and 1.8m (ASE, forthcoming).
- 4.1.5 An intact subsoil deposit measuring between 0.1m and 0.51m in thickness overlay the natural substrate or colluvium/alluvium in all but Trench 11. The deposit comprised a moderately firm mid red-brown clay silt with occasional flint gravels. In Trench 11, situated close to the access gate to the site area, in place of the subsoil was made ground comprising crushed brick, CBM and gravel.
- 4.1.6 A topsoil deposit overlay the subsoil (and made ground in Trench 11) and comprised a friable dark red-brown clay silt which measured between 0.16m and 0.4m in thickness.
- 4.1.7 Narrow gravel and stone-filled land drains were encountered in Trenches 7 and 10. All cut the natural substrate.
- 4.1.8 Of the 17 trenches excavated, 11 contained archaeological features of Roman or unknown date.

## 4.2 Trench 1

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.21-0.24
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.31-0.36
1/003	Layer	Colluvium	trench	trench	0.25
1/004	Cut	Ditch	2	0.83	0.29
1/005	Fill	Fill, single	2	0.83	0.29
1/006	Cut	Pit	0.87	1.48	0.32
1/007	Fill	Fill, single	0.87	1.48	0.32

Table 3: Trench 1 list of recorded contexts

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 was located in the north-west of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.2.2 Two archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch and a pit (Figure 3 and 4).
- 4.2.3 Ditch [1/004] was located at the west end of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment. The ditch fill [1/005] comprised a soft light brown-grey silt sand clay with occasional sandstone and limestone inclusions. No finds were retrieved from the ditch.
- 4.2.4 Pit [1/006] was located towards the east end of the trench, partially exposed against the north edge and corresponds with a discrete geophysical anomaly. Single fill [1/007] comprised a moderately compact dark brown silt clay with frequent charcoal inclusions. A moderate assemblage of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD Roman pottery was recovered from the fill, along with a small blue glass bead, a copper alloy needle and a square shank Manning-type Roman nail. The environmental sample taken from the fill contained oak, ash, cherry/blackthorn and hazel charcoal, charred wheat, barley and possible Celtic/broad bean, the bone of a sheep or goat, and a large quantity of magnetic material including hammerscale.
- 4.2.5 A large piece of tap slag was recovered from the overlying subsoil [1/002], and two square headed Roman nails and three large mammal rib bones were recovered from the underlying colluvium [1/003].

### 4.3 Trench 2

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.40
2/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.3-0.50
2/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	NA
2/004	Void				
2/005	Layer	Natural	10	trench	0.06
2/006	Cut	Ditch	2	1.68	0.55
2/007	Fill	Fill, single	2	1.68	0.55

Table 4: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

- 4.3.1 Trench 2 was located in the north of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.3.2 A single archaeological features was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch which corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly (Figure 5).
- 4.3.3 Ditch [2/006] was located towards the centre of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment. The ditch fill [2/007] comprised a moderately compact mid brown silt clay with frequent sandstone inclusions. Two sherds of late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date were recovered from the fill.
- 4.3.4 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

### 4.4 Trench 3

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.2
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.30
3/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	trench	trench	0.05-0.40
3/004	Cut	Ditch	12	1.25	0.51
3/005	Fill	Fill, single	trench	1.25	0.51
3/006	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	5	2	0.15

Table 5: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 was located towards the north-west corner of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-east to south-west alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.4.2 A single archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch which corresponded with a linear geophysical anomaly (Figure 6).
- 4.4.3 Ditch [3/004] was located towards the north-east end of the trench, orientated on an east to west alignment and was seen to continue into Trench 5, immediately to the east. The ditch fill [3/005] comprised a compact dark

black-brown silt clay with occasional fragments of sandstone and limestone. A moderate assemblage of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date was recovered from the fill along with a fragment of pig radius and three medium sized mammal bones.

- 4.4.4 Two sherds of late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date, a sherd from a 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century earthenware dish and a piece of slag were recovered from the overlying subsoil deposit.

#### 4.5 Trench 5

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.3
5/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.40
5/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	trench	trench	0.1
5/004	Cut	Posthole	0.35	0.27	0.23
5/005	Fill	Fill, single	0.35	0.27	0.23
5/006	Cut	Elongated pit? Ditch terminus?	6	1.17	0.39
5/007	Fill	Fill, basal			0.39
5/008	Fill	Fill, upper			0.08
5/009	Cut	Pit? Construction cut?	1.29	0.84	0.33
5/010	Fill	Fill, basal			0.4
5/011	Fill	Fill, upper			0.15
5/012	Masonry or other construction	Wall?	0.5	0.41	0.4
5/013	Fill	Fill, secondary			
5/014	Cut	Pit	0.61	0.52	0.05
5/015	Fill	Fill, single	0.61	0.52	0.05

Table 6: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 was located towards the north end of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.5.2 Five archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising a posthole, a possible elongated pit or ditch terminus, a possible structure, a pit, and a ditch (Figure 7). The ditch was a continuation of that recorded and securely dated in Trench 3 and was not excavated.
- 4.5.3 Posthole [5/004] was located towards the south end of the trench. Single fill [5/005] comprised a soft black silt clay. The environmental sample of the fill produced frequent oak charcoal and a large quantity of magnetic material including hammerscale. No similar associated features were identified within the trench.
- 4.5.4 Elongated pit of ditch terminus [5/006] was located towards the centre of the

trench, orientated on an approximate north to south alignment. The basal ditch fill [5/007] comprised a compact mid brown silt clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. The upper fill [5/008] comprised a moderately compact dark brown silt clay and produced five sherds of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date, a single spall fragment of similar date and a single bovine metatarsal.

- 4.5.5 Structure [5/012] was also located towards the centre of the trench and cut feature [5/006]. The structure sat within what appeared to be a construction cut [5/009] and contained two fills, however the form and function of the structure was unclear as only a small portion of the feature was exposed and it continued into and beyond the west edge of the trench. Basal fill [5/010] comprised a moderately compact black silt clay from which oak and ash charcoal, charred wheat, Celtic/broad bean, vetch, and a single emmer/spelt glume base and a large quantity of magnetic material including hammerscale was recovered. The upper fill [5/011] comprised a moderately compact dark brown silt clay which contained three sherds of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date, and 59 animal bones all likely from the same juvenile sheep/goat. The structure appeared to correspond with a discrete geophysical anomaly, which extended to the west of the trench by a couple of meters.
- 4.5.6 Pit [5/014] was located towards the north end of the trench and contained a single fill [5/015] which comprised a soft mid brown silt clay. A single sherd of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date, and 13 animal bones were recovered from the fill of which some were identifiable as metapodials from sheep/goat.
- 4.5.7 A single peg tile fragment of post-medieval date and a single blade-like flint flake were retrieved from the overlying subsoil deposit.

#### 4.6 Trench 6

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.40
6/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.30
6/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
6/004	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
6/005	Cut	Pit	1	0.9	0.08
6/006	Fill	Fill, single	1	0.9	0.08

Table 7: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

- 4.6.1 Trench 6 was located towards the centre north of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.6.2 A single archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a pit (Figure 8).
- 4.6.3 Pit [6/005] was located towards the north end of the trench and contained a single fill [6/006], which comprised a compact dark black-brown clay silt. The



environmental sample from the fill produced a moderate quantity of oak, ash and Maloideae charcoal, a small quantity of charred wheat, a single animal bone, and a large quantity of magnetic material including hammerscale.

- 4.6.4 A single piece of machine-cut perforated brick dating to the 19th century or later was retrieved from the overlying subsoil deposit.

#### 4.7 Trench 8

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.3
8/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.30-0.50
8/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	10	2	0.1
8/004	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	15	2	0.1
8/005	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	6	2	0.1
8/006	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	3	2	0.1
8/007	Layer	Paleochannel deposit?	15	2	0.1
8/008	Cut	Pit?	0.67	0.62	0.11
8/009	Fill	Fill, single	0.67	0.62	0.11
8/010	Cut	Pit	0.48	0.41	0.15
8/011	Fill	Fill, single	0.48	0.41	0.15
8/012	Cut	Pit	0.53	0.49	0.21
8/013	Fill	Fill, primary			0.07
8/014	Fill	Fill, secondary			0.14
8/015	Cut	Posthole	0.4	0.4	0.15
8/016	Fill	Fill, single	0.4	0.4	0.15
8/017	Cut	Ditch	1.9	1.07	0.34
8/018	Fill	Fill, primary			0.21
8/019	Fill	Fill, secondary			0.12

Table 8: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Trench 8 was located towards the south-west of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.7.2 Five archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising three pits, a posthole, and a ditch, none of which corresponded with geophysical anomalies (Figure 9).
- 4.7.3 Possible pit [8/008] was located towards the east end of the trench, in close proximity to pits [8/010] and [8/012]. The pit contained a single fill [8/009], which comprised a soft dark brown grey silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal.
- 4.7.4 Pit [8/010] also contained a single fill [8/011], which comprised a moderately compact dark grey-brown silt clay. Three pieces of struck flint were recovered from the fill.

- 4.7.5 Pit [8/012] contained a sequence of two fills. The basal fill [8/013] comprised a moderately compact mid brown silt clay whilst the upper fill [8/014] comprised a soft dark brown silt clay with occasional limestone and sandstone fragments.
- 4.7.6 Posthole [8/015] was located towards the centre of the trench and contained a single fill [8/016], which comprised a friable dark grey-brown silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal. A single piece of struck flint was recovered from the fill.
- 4.7.7 Ditch [8/017] was also located towards the centre of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment and lay approximately 2m to the east of posthole [8/015]. The basal ditch fill [8/018] comprised a compact dark grey silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal whilst the upper fill [8/019] comprised a compact mid brown-grey silt clay with rare charcoal inclusions.
- 4.7.8 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

#### 4.8 Trench 9

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.30
9/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.30
9/003	Layer	Working horizon layer?	15	2	0.2
9/004	Layer	Colluvium/alluvium?	15	2	0.1
9/005	Cut	Pit	0.9	0.9	0.37
9/006	Fill	Fill, secondary			0.2
9/007	Masonry or other construction	Stone lining	0.9	0.9	0.3
9/008	Fill	Fill, tertiary			0.3
9/009	Cut	Gully	3.5	0.3	0.13
9/010	Fill	Fill, single	3.5	0.3	0.13
9/011	Cut	Pit	0.87	0.3	0.12
9/012	Fill	Fill, single	0.87	0.3	0.12
9/013	Cut	Pit	0.78	0.78	0.2
9/014	Void				
9/015	Masonry or other construction	Platform?	0.4	0.2	0.15
9/016	Masonry or other construction	Furnace	0.7	0.7	0.2
9/017	Fill	Fill, basal			0.05
9/018	Fill	Fill, upper			0.2
9/019	Cut	Pit	0.81	0.66	0.07
9/020	Fill	Fill, single			0.07
9/021	Cut	Ditch	1	0.75	0.25
9/022	Fill	Fill, single			0.25
9/023	Masonry or other	Wall?	1	0.5	0.05

	construction				
9/024	Layer	Surface? trample layer?	2	1	0.07
9/025	Layer	Working horizon layer?	2	4	0.05

Table 9: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

- 4.8.1 Trench 9 was located towards the centre of the westernmost half of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.8.2 Seven archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising a stone-lined pit, a furnace, a ditch, a gully, two pits, and a third structure of unknown form and function (Figure 10).
- 4.8.3 Pit [9/005] was situated towards the south end of the trench, located at the end of a narrow gully [9/009]. The pit was filled with a well-constructed sub-square stone lining [9/007], a packing fill external to the lining [9/006] and a tertiary fill internal to the lining [9/008]. Packing fill [9/006] comprised a compact mid red-brown silt clay and contained no artefacts. Tertiary fill [9/008] comprised a friable dark brown clay silt and the environmental sample taken from it produced a small quantity of wood charcoal, a small amount of charred wheat and barley, a single hazelnut shell, animal bone (from which pig, rodent and sheep/goat were identified) along with a quantity of magnetic material including hammerscale.
- 4.8.4 Gully [9/009] extended from the north-west edge of pit [9/005] for a distance of more than 3.5m, and continued beyond the west edge of the trench. Single fill [9/010] comprised a compact dark brown silt clay with rare charcoal inclusions. The pit and gully appeared to be contemporary and associated with one another however, their form is unusual, leaving their function uncertain.
- 4.8.5 Pits [9/011] and [9/019] were very similar in form, situated towards the south end of the trench at a distance of 1.6m apart. Both were shallow, contained moderately compact dark brown silt clay fills and remained undated.
- 4.8.6 Pit [9/013] was situated towards the centre of the trench and contained the bowl-shaped base of a furnace [9/016]. The furnace was circular with a diameter of 0.7m, constructed from rough stone and fired clay. A hard iron rich slag [9/017] filled the base of the furnace, which in turn was overlaid by a compact fill of dark brown black clay silt [9/018]. The environmental sample taken of fill [9/018] produced a large quantity of oak charcoal, charred barley and wheat, slag, hammerscale, and a small quantity of burnt bone and teeth of which a single sheep/goat molar was identified. Furthermore, nearly all of the clay from the environmental sample had been subject to intense heat, resulting in vitrification, and a number of pieces had a layer of slag-like material of the type found in association with iron-working attached to them, possibly of Roman date. A possible trample layer or intentionally laid hard surface [9/024] surrounded furnace [9/016] and contained abundant slag, and a single large mammal rib bone.
- 4.8.7 The furnace appears to correspond with a discrete geophysical anomaly

which comprises one of a cluster of eight similar anomalies, seven of which are arranged in a crescent extending to the south of furnace [9/016] and may represent similar or associated features.

- 4.8.8 Ditch [9/021] was also located towards the centre of the trench, orientated on an east to west alignment and appeared to cut working horizon layer [9/003]/[9/025]. The ditch fill [9/022] comprised a compact dark brown-black clay silt with frequent flecks of charcoal, two sherds of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date and 5 fragments of animal bone and teeth of which one was identified as a sheep/goat molar.
- 4.8.9 Layer [9/003] covered the centre of the trench, and was situated to the north-west of furnace [9/016]. The layer comprised a firm dark brown-black clay silt from which 8 sherds of Late Roman pottery, 24 fragments of animal bone (of which pig, sheep/goat, and a large mammal scapula were identified), one iron awl or similar tool, and 1 piece of slag were recovered. There was no obvious edge between layer [9/003] and layer [9/025] which was situated towards the north-west of the trench. Layer [9/025] had a similar composition to layer [9/003] but appeared to be more charcoal-rich, however, they may have both been part of the same deposit. One pig tibia and three sherds of Late Roman pottery of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century date were recovered from layer [9/025]. Both layers were interpreted as possible working horizons and may seal and disguise further underlying archaeological features.
- 4.8.10 Possible wall/structure [9/023] was identified and partially exposed at the base of a small hand-dug sondage through layer [9/003] but was not excavated.
- 4.8.11 No finds were retrieved from the overlying subsoil and topsoil deposits.

#### 4.9 Trench 10

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.3
10/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.40
10/003	Layer	Colluvium/alluvium?	trench	trench	0.1
10/004	Cut	Pit? Tree throw?	0.89	0.8	0.14
10/005	Fill	Fill, single			0.14

Table 10: Trench 10 list of recorded contexts

- 4.9.1 Trench 10 was located towards the centre south of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment (Figure 2).
- 4.9.2 A single archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a possible pit or tree throw (Figure 11).
- 4.9.3 Possible pit or tree throw [10/004] was located towards the centre of the trench, partially exposed against the north edge. Single fill [10/005]

comprised a compact dark brown silt clay with occasional charcoal inclusions and contained 18 fragments of struck flint consisting of nine flakes, a bladelet, two blades, four blade-like flakes, a rejuvenation flake and a flake from a polished implement.

4.9.4 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

#### 4.10 Trench 13

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.30
13/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.14-0.26
13/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
13/004	Cut	Furnace	1.35	0.8	0.17
13/005	Fill	Fill, secondary	0.46	0.3	0.09
13/006	Cut	Ditch?	13.5	1.35	0.2
13/007	Fill	Fill, single			0.2
13/008	Layer	Colluvium?	7	2	0.1
13/009	Cut	Pit	1.9	2	0.38
13/010	Fill	Fill, upper			0.25
13/011	Fill	Fill, basal			0.18
13/012	Fill	Fill, upper			0.13
13/013	Fill	Fill, primary			0.07
13/014	Cut	Ditch	13.5	0.9	0.11
13/015	Fill	Fill, single			0.11
13/016	Cut	Pit	1.55	1.2	0.35
13/017	Fill	Fill, single			0.35

Table 11: Trench 13 list of recorded contexts

4.10.1 Trench 13 was located towards the north-east corner of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).

4.10.2 Five archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising two ditches, two pits and a furnace, all of which appeared to correspond with geophysical anomalies (Figure 12).

4.10.3 Furnace [13/004] was located at the south end of the trench and sat within an elongated shallow pit with heat affected clay and a heat halo focussed around the east end of the feature. The furnace was lined with a thick deposit of tap slag [13/013] over which sat a deposit of loose coarse dark brown orange industrial material including slag, hammerscale, fired clay, and a small quantity of unidentified wood charcoal [13/005], again focussed in the east end of the feature. Some fragments of the recovered fired clay had a layer of slag attached to them. This was overlaid by a deposit of firm grey brown clay silt which contained hammerscale, fired clay and slag [13/012].

4.10.4 Possible ditch [13/006] was located in the southernmost half of the trench, orientated on a north to south alignment. Single fill [13/007] comprised a firm light- mid grey brown silt clay with abundant small slag inclusions and contained 25 fragments of unidentifiable animal bone. Ditch [13/014] appeared to be a continuation of ditch [13/006], to the north of intercutting pits

[13/009] and [13/016]. Ditch [13/014] contained a single firm light to mid-grey brown silt clay fill [13/015] containing four animal bones of which two were medium mammal ribs and one a dog phalange.

4.10.5 Pit [13/009] was located at the centre of the trench and cut ditch [13/006]. The basal fill [13/011] comprised a firm mid orange-grey-brown silt clay and contained three pieces of slag, one of which comprised tap slag. The upper fill [13/010] comprised a firm dark grey-brown silt clay and contained 44 pieces of slag and a single unidentifiable animal bone.

4.10.6 Pit [13/016] was located at the centre of the trench and cut ditch [13/014]. Single fill [13/017] comprised a firm mid brown silt clay and contained two pieces of slag.

4.10.7 44 pieces of slag were recovered from the overlying subsoil deposit, of which 31 were tap slag.

#### 4.11 Trench 14

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.30
14/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.15-0.30
14/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
14/004	Cut	Pit?	1.9	1.05	0.5
14/005	Fill	Fill, upper			0.4
14/006	Fill	Fill, basal			0.12
14/007	Fill	Fill, primary			0.43
14/008	Cut	Pit?	1.4	0.63	0.43

Table 12: Trench 14 list of recorded contexts

4.11.1 Trench 14 was located towards the north of the easternmost half of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment (Figure 13).

4.11.2 Two archaeological features were identified within the trench, comprising two intercutting possible pits, both situated at the north end of the trench and both corresponded with a discrete geophysical anomaly (Figure 14).

4.11.3 Pit [14/004] was partially exposed against the north-west corner of the trench and appeared to cut pit [14/008]. Basal fill [14/006] comprised a soft black silt with frequent charcoal inclusions. Six pieces of animal bone were recovered from the fill of which one was identified as being from a large mammal. Upper fill [14/005] comprised a firm mottled orange/ mid grey-brown/ light yellow silt clay.

4.11.4 Pit [14/008] was only partially exposed against the west edge of the trench and its north edge had been heavily truncated by pit [14/004]. Single fill [14/007] comprised a soft dark grey-brown clay silt with occasional charcoal inclusions.

4.11.5 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

#### 4.12 Trench 16

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.25-0.30
16/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.25
16/003	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
16/100	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.20-0.26
16/101	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.16-0.25
16/102	Layer	Natural	trench	trench	0
16/103	Cut	Ditch	2	1.17	0.27
16/104	Fill	Fill, single			0.27

Table 13: Trench 16 list of recorded contexts

4.12.1 Trench 16 was located towards the south end of the easternmost half of the site. The trench was divided into two sections; section A was orientated on a north to south alignment, whilst section B was orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment. Each section measured 15m in length, and 2m wide (Figure 2).

4.12.2 A single archaeological feature was identified within the trench, comprising a ditch (Figure 14).

4.12.3 Ditch [16/103] was located towards the north end of Trench 16A, orientated on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment. The ditch fill [16/104] comprised a friable dark brown silt clay and contained a single unidentifiable iron object. The alignment and location of the ditch corresponded with a post-medieval field boundary recorded on historic mapping.

4.12.4 No finds were retrieved from the overlying deposits.

#### 4.13 Trench 17

Context	Type	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	trench	trench	0.26-0.32
17/002	Layer	Subsoil	trench	trench	0.45-0.51
17/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	trench	trench	0.38
17/004	VOID				
17/005	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	trench	trench	0.15
17/006	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	trench	trench	0.9

Table 14: Trench 17 list of recorded contexts

4.13.1 Trench 17 was located towards the north-west end of the site. The trench measured 30m in length, 2m wide and was orientated on a north to south alignment (Figure 2).

4.13.2 No archaeological features were identified within the trench. As such it was

deemed a suitable location to excavate a test pit through the identified colluvial/alluvial deposits to clarify their sequence and depth and to take environmental samples. (Figure 15).

- 4.13.3 The test pit was excavated towards the north end of the trench down to a depth of 2.2m below ground level. A series of three alluvial/colluvial deposits were encountered underlying the subsoil. The base of these deposits and the natural geology was not reached. The lowest deposit [17/006] comprised a firm orange-brown silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal, the intermediate deposit [17/003] comprised a dark brown soft silt clay with frequent charcoal inclusions, whilst the uppermost deposit [17/005] comprised a dark red-brown soft silt clay with occasional charcoal. The environmental samples taken from deposit [17/005] contained a large quantity of land mollusc snails, and a small amount of unidentified wood charcoal, fired clay, and hammerscale.
- 4.13.4 A sequence of samples was taken through the lower two colluvial deposits [17/006] and [17/003] and have the potential to preserve further land snail remains and potentially provide information relating to land-use change and patterns of erosion over time.
- 4.13.5 A small group of finds were recovered from the overlying subsoil deposit [17/002] and comprised two sherds of Late Roman pottery, one piece of CBM identified as a spall fragment, and one unidentifiable animal bone.

#### **4.14 Archaeologically negative trenches: Trenches 4, 7, 11, 12, and 15**

- 4.14.1 No archaeological features were identified within the above trenches. A list of all recorded contexts in each trench is provided in Appendix 1. The archaeologically negative trenches were located in roughly two clusters, one towards the south-west corner of the site, the other along the east edge.
- 4.14.2 Very limited quantities of finds were recovered from overburden contexts in Trenches 4, and 15. In Trench 4 these comprised a sherd from a glazed red earthenware bowl of probable 18th- to early 19th- century date and three animal bones of which one was identifiable as a large mammal pelvis. In Trench 15 these comprised a jointed snaffle bit of unknown date.



## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation at Congresbury, Cobthorn Way. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context (Table 15). All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c). No further conservation is required.

Context	Flint	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Bulk Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)
1/002							1	552						
1/003											2	12	6	29
1/007			24	391					6	134	2	11		
2/007			2	20					1	16				
3/002			2	67			1	14	2	2074				
3/005			66	1042					20	2190			5	41
4/007			1	54									3	84
5/002	1	4			1	30								
5/008			5	33	1	14			2	67			1	60
5/011			3	22									59	196
5/015			1	3									13	50
6/002					1	219								
8/011	3	3							2	56				
8/014									4	526				
8/016	1	2												
9/003			8	48			1	8	1	43	1	11	24	152
9/022			2	8					1	145			5	27
9/024							31	813					1	17
9/025			3	17									1	36
10/005	18	136												
13/002							44	21664						
13/007							24	3777						
13/010							44	3765	3	321			1	3
13/011							3	6165	2	295				
13/015													4	3
13/017							2	29						
13/077													25	29
14/006													6	42
15/002											2	117		
16/104											1	21		
17/002			2	18	1	21	9	659					1	4
Total	23	145	119	1723	4	284	160	37446	44	5867	7	171	155	773

Table 15: Quantification of bulk finds

## 5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The evaluation on Land at Cobthorn Way produced a total of 24 pieces of struck flint weighing 274g (Table 16). The pieces were hand collected from five contexts in four trenches (Trenches 5, 8, 10 and 14). They were quantified by piece count and weight and were catalogued directly onto an Excel spreadsheet.

Category	Flakes	Blade-like flakes	Irregular waste	Retouched piece	Total
No	14	8	1	1	24

Table 16: the flintwork

- 5.2.2 The majority of the pieces came from pit / treebowl [10/004], fill [10/005]. The feature produced 18 pieces consisting of nine flakes, a bladelet, two blades, four blade-like flakes, a rejuvenation flake and a flake from a polished implement. The material displays slight to moderate edge damage suggesting that it has undergone negligible post depositional movement. The majority of pieces are free from surface cortication with the exception of two artefacts. A flake displays white surface discolouration on the dorsal face, and the bladelet is entirely recorticated white. The majority of the pieces have been manufactured from a mid to dark grey flint. Where present the cortex is abraded, thin (<2mm) and slightly pink. The exception is the flake from a polished implement. A light grey flint was selected for the manufacture of this artefact. Polished axes recovered in Sussex are frequently made from a light grey flint. The raw material is likely to have been imported to the site.
- 5.2.3 Both the bladelet and the blade display parallel lateral edges. They are products of a blade-based industry and indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The flakes are mostly thin and display platform preparation. The presence of a rejuvenation flake confirms the concern with good core preparation and maintenance. This is a characteristic shared by Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint industries. The remaining assemblage from the site (three flakes, a bladelet, a piece of irregular waste and a retouch blade-like flake) is likely to be of the same early prehistoric date. The retouch blade-like flake from subsoil context [5/002] displays fine retouch along the left side. However, it is too fragmentary to confirm what it was.
- 5.2.4 The assemblage is small, but it provides evidence for the use of the site during the early prehistoric period. Of particular interest is the assemblage from pit / treethrow [10/004]. Based of typological and technological ground this assemblage an Early Neolithic date can be proposed for this assemblage. A small quantity of Neolithic flints has been found in the area surrounding Congresbury-Cadbury hillfort.

### 5.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

- 5.3.1 A moderate-sized assemblage of later Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation totalling 117 sherds, weighing 1614 g. At present the assemblage has been examined for characterisation and spot-dating purposes but not recorded according to a fabric and form type-series. It is recommended that it should be retained for full recording in the event of further work at the site which might produce a larger assemblage.
- 5.3.2 The Roman pottery was found in 11 different contexts mostly within stratified features ([1/007], [2/007], [3/002], [3/005], [5/008], [5/011], [5/015], [9/003], [9/022], [9/025] and [17/002]). By far the largest group (66 sherds) came from fill [3/005] although another moderate-sized assemblage was found in context [1/007]. Even in the deposits where only a few sherds were noted, the pottery was notably unabraded with a large average sherd size, suggesting that it may have been deposited fairly directly from the place in which it was used.
- 5.3.3 All of the above contexts contain pottery of a very similar type, mainly comprising hard-fired sandy coarse wares with a blueish grey hue. Where form elements are present, all are associated with variants of black-burnished style everted rim or wide-mouth cavetto-rim jars, in some cases featuring wavy line decoration. This material appears similar to that from four kilns known in the vicinity of Congresbury, three of which are located with c. 500m of the site's southern boundary (Swan 1984; romankilns.net 2016). However, these sites are unpublished apart from a brief gazetteer entry (ibid) and fabrics and forms of a broadly similar type are common to many later Romano-British kiln sites so it is possible that they come from further afield. The main other pottery type represented is a hand-made BB1-style fabric, often containing very large rounded opaque quartz grains; again this is probably of fairly local origin. Context [17/002] also produced a hard-fired sandy fabric containing sparse limestone-like inclusions.
- 5.3.4 Being entirely composed of local fabrics and coarse ware forms, none of the pottery is very closely datable; however, it is broadly typical of the later Roman period, most likely the mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### 5.4 The Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.4.1 The evaluation recovered just two sherds of post-Roman pottery. The earliest of these is from context [3/002]. This produced a slightly worn sherds from a green glazed fine red earthenware dish with thickened rim, likely to be of 16th to mid-17th- century date. The other sherd is fresher (54g) and is from a glazed red earthenware bowl with simple rim (context [4/007]). An 18th- to early 19th- century date is most likely for this vessel.

### 5.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

- 5.5.1 Four pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 279g were recovered from four separate evaluation contexts: [5/002]; [5/008]; [6/002]; and [17/002]. [5/002] and [6/002] produced post-medieval material comprising of a peg tile fragment from [5/002] and a piece of machine-cut perforated brick dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later from [6/002]. Contexts [5/008] and [17/002] produced spall fragments of the same fabric type; a softish red clay

with sparse quartz (0.5-1mm). The fragment from [5/008] had a flat but abraded sanded surface still intact. Based on the fabric type and state of these latter two pieces of CBM, it is possible that they are pieces of residual Roman material.

## **5.6 The Fired Clay** by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.6.1 A total of 116 pieces of fired clay were extracted from environmental samples <5>, <4>, <7> and <10>. This represents the only fired clay recovered from site. Sample <10> from context [9/018] resulted in the greatest quantity of clay, and the 95 clay pieces collected is approximately 75% of the total amount of fired clay within that sample. Nearly all of the clay from sample <10> had been subject to intense heat, resulting in vitrification, and a number of pieces also have a layer of slag-like material of the type found in association with iron-working, possibly of Roman date. Some fragments from sample <4>, context [13/005] also had a layer of slag, and the remaining pieces were all in the same fine, buff clay, as were all the fragments from [13/012] and the crumb from [17/005].

## **5.7 The Bulk Metalwork** by Trista Clifford

5.7.1 Three square headed nails with a total weight of 22g were recovered from trench 1. Context [1/003] contained two complete examples with square heads and shanks, measuring 46mm and 41.5mm in length. A similar nail came from context [1/007]. All are Manning type 1a (Manning 1985, fig 32), broadly Roman in date and in good condition.

## **5.8 The Metallurgical Remains** by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The evaluation recovered a relatively large assemblage of slag from the site: just over 41.5kg from one of 20 individually numbered contexts. This total consists of 37,264g (129 individual pieces) of hand-collected material with the remainder being derived from one of nine environmental residues. The whole assemblage has been scanned as part of a rapid appraisal of the material but no detailed analysis beyond preliminary sorting and quantification has been undertaken.

5.8.2 The assemblage all appears to relate to Roman activity, with the related ceramics suggesting a 3rd- to 4th- century date. Although fresh sherds of pottery were found in association with some of the slag most, including the vast majority of the smelting waste, had no such association. However, this is more likely to be the result of a division of domestic and industrial activities spatially rather than chronologically and it is presumed the slag is of later Roman date.

5.8.3 The assemblage was recovered from a number of features, including pits and furnaces (the latter including samples from contexts [9/018], [13/005] and [13/012]). A number of different slag types are represented overall, but the vast majority consists of iron smelting tap slag (84/26,796g) that was recovered from features in Trenches 1, 13, 14 and 17 (that from [13/012] being associated with one of the furnaces). The tap slag is notably fresh and represented by large pieces: single pieces from [13/002] and [13/011] weighing 4734g and 4566g respectively. The largest concentration of this

type was in context [13/002] that produced 31 fresh pieces weighing just under 14.5kg. There are a few other dense grey pieces of slag that are likely to be from smelting as well as a scatter of ferruginous ironstone pieces in the residues that may represent ore.

5.8.4 Much of the iron slag from the residues is characterised by small pieces that are not particularly diagnostic of process. This type of slag is most common in the three contexts associated with the furnaces (contexts [9/018], [13/005] and [13/012]) and there are some pieces from the furnaces and other features that have the typical aerated rusty brown morphology of smithing slags (occasionally with charcoal still embedded). The presence of smithing is confirmed by hammerscale from a number of the residues (contexts [1/007], [5/005], [5/010], [6/006], [9/008], [9/018] (furnace), [13/005] (furnace), [13/012] (furnace) and [17/005]). Although some hammerscale particularly that of spheroid form, can be created during smelting it is most commonly created through smithing. The densest areas of typical fine metallic flake smithing hammerscale was found in the pits (e.g. [1/007]) and colluvial layer [17/005] rather than the furnaces, which had very low quantities and a notably high proportion of spheroid type. The assemblage also contains a scatter of fuel ash slag and furnace lining fragments, the latter in a sandy clay, usually with adhering fuel ash slag.

5.8.5 Overall it would appear the main activity represented is smelting but as is usual for such a site, with a scattering of primary smithing. The latter is likely to have occurred quite close to the smelting furnaces but the micro slag waste generated is likely to have a wide spread across the site, though concentrations can be expected associated with the actual working area/s.

## 5.9 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.9.1 The evaluation recovered 82 pieces of stone from the site, weighing 7080g, from one of 16 individually numbered contexts. The whole assemblage has been listed on pro forma for archive. Some nine different stone types were noted though some of these represent variations of the same general type. There are a number of fine to medium-grained sandstones, some of which are calcareous, that probably derive from the local Triassic beds. However, there are at least four pieces (506g) of dark grey Carboniferous limestone that also outcrops in the region. Most of the stone appears to be somewhat weathered and or worn but no pieces show any signs of manmade.

## 5.10 The Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

5.10.1 Five objects were assigned Registered Find numbers (RF<00>).

5.10.2 A copper alloy needle, RF<1>, came from context [1/007] which also produced a moderate Roman pottery assemblage and a small opaque blue glass bead, RF<5>. The needle is bent and broken across the eye. An iron awl or similar tool, RF<2>, was recovered from context [9/003]. The stem is circular in section, similar to small awls from Hod Hill (Manning 1985, 41) and it appears complete with a length of c.50mm.

5.10.3 A jointed snaffle bit (RF<4>) was recovered from context [15/002]. Only one bar of the jointed bar is present although both side rings were recovered. The

bit resembles jointed snaffles from London and Hod Hill (Manning 1985, 67) and is a common Roman type which continues into the post medieval period with little change.

- 5.10.4 Lastly, an unidentified object forms of a rectangular sectioned iron strip bent at right angle with an expanded bifurcated terminal came from context [16/104] (RF<3>). This object requires x-ray for further identification. It is recommended to retain the assemblage for full recording alongside any finds from further work on the site.

RF	Context	Object	Material	Period	Wt (g)
1	1/007	NEED	COPP	ROM	1.06
2	9/003	AWL	IRON	ROM	11.3
3	16/104	UNK	IRON	ROM-MED	23.38
4	15/002	BIT	IRON	ROM-MED	116.39
5	1/007	BEAD	GLAS	ROM	0.08

Table 17: Summary of the Registered Finds assemblage

## 5.11 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

- 5.11.1 The archaeological evaluation produced a small animal bone assemblage containing 176 hand-collected fragments of which 58 were identifiable to taxa. The bones were retrieved from 10 contexts, the greatest concentration of material was recovered from context [5/011] which produced 59 fragments of which 31 were identifiable. The bones are in a moderate to poor state of preservation with no complete specimens remaining and with many fragments displaying evidence of surface weathering.

- 5.11.2 The assemblage is dominated by sheep/goat which are represented by teeth and long-bone fragments. It is likely that the material from context [5/011] represents an articulated, juvenile sheep/goat skeleton found alongside later Roman pot sherds. Further sheep/goat remains were recovered across the site including metapodials from context [5/015]. Pig remains were identified in contexts [9/003] and [9/025] and include scapula and long-bone fragments. Cattle are represented by a single metatarsal fragment recovered from [5/008].

- 5.11.3 A further 66g of bone was recovered from whole earth samples, the majority of this material is small, friable and unidentifiable. The identifiable remains include sheep/goat and pig teeth and incisors from a rat-sized rodent. Small quantities of charred and calcined bones were recovered weighing 6g in total.

- 5.11.4 There is no evidence of butchery, pathology or gnawing on the bones.

## 6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Mariangela Vitolo & Marvin Demicoli

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Nine bulk soil samples were taken from the fills of pits, a posthole, furnaces and colluvium to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and molluscs as well as to assist finds recovery. Only context [1/007] was spot-dated to the Late Roman period, whilst dating of other contexts was not available. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and discusses the information provided by the charred plant remains and charcoal on diet, agrarian economy, vegetation environment and fuel selection and use.

### 6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 The 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 (Appendix 2). 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 (or 100ml subsamples for the larger ones) were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 3). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.2.2 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residues were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000, Hather 2000, Leney and Casteel 1975). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schweingruber 1990) and online databases (InsideWood 2004-onwards, Schoch *et al.* 2004). Genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit more detailed identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2.

### 6.3 Results

*Samples <1> [1/007], <2> [5/005], <3> [6/006], <4> [13/005]. <5> [13/012], <6> [5/010], <7> [17/005], <10> [9/018] and <11> [9/008].*

#### *Charred plant macrofossils*

6.3.1 All the samples contained some degree of uncharred rootlets and twigs. This material indicates low level disturbance across the site and is likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action. Sample <7>, from the colluvium,

contained a large amount of land mollusc shells.

- 6.3.2 Charred plant macrofossils were present in five of the sampled contexts, in some cases in high amounts. Seeds of wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and possible Celtic/broad bean (*Vicia* cf *faba*) were recorded. A single emmer/spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) glume base from the bottom fill of [5/009] was the only remain of chaff. Seeds of wild plants were scarce and included grasses (Poaceae), small vetch/tare (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.). One hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragment was the only evidence for gathered plant material that could have been used for food.

#### *Charcoal*

- 6.3.3 Sample <2> from a posthole/pit and sample <6> from a furnace yielded the highest amount of >4mm charcoal fragments. However, the only identified taxon from these samples was oak (*Quercus* sp.).
- 6.3.4 Samples <1>, <3> and <6>, from pit features, yielded a relatively lower amount of >4mm charcoal fragments, on which identification work could be carried out. These however, had higher taxonomic diversity with the identified taxa including oak (*Quercus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and the Maloideae subfamily, which includes apple, pear, rowan and hawthorn, among others.
- 6.3.5 The preservation state of the charcoal fragments from all feature types was generally good. The remaining samples had very few charcoal fragments and thus identification was not carried out.
- 6.3.6 The heavy residues contained more environmental remains, such as mammal and microfauna bones, some of which were burnt, and land snail shells. Finds included mortar, stone, burnt clay, slag, magnetic material and a tiny amount of pottery.

## **6.4 Discussion**

- 6.4.1 Pits yielded the largest amount of charred crop remains, mainly consisting of cereals, namely wheat and barley. Seeds of wild plants appeared sporadically and do not belong to taxa that are indicative of specific vegetation environments, although small legumes, such as vetches and tares, are sometimes associated to nutrient poor soils. Although cereals made up the most of the charred botanical assemblage, evidence for other crops is given by two cotyledons of possible broad/Celtic bean. Although the low number could be due to a lesser importance of beans in the human diet, legumes tend to be under represented in the archaeobotanical records. Wild plants could also have contributed to the local subsistence, perhaps in the form of fruits or nuts. However only one hazelnut shell fragment has survived.
- 6.4.2 The charcoal analysis has shown a consistency of woody taxa throughout the samples. These taxa suggest that a variety of vegetation environments were present at or around the site and exploited for fuel procurement. These included deciduous woodland, hedgerows, and scrubs. The ubiquity of oak within the samples indicates that perhaps this taxon was widely available in



the local woodland. Oak is known to make an excellent fuel wood and can also be used for joinery (Taylor 1981). Its presence within the furnace feature <10> [9/018] indicates that possibly this wood was preferentially selected as fuel because of its burning characteristics. It was also dominant in possible-posthole feature <2> [5/005] showing that oak was also used for structural purposes. Pit features contained more diverse taxon representation possibly indicating that material coming into them came from domestic or different activities from the furnace features.

- 6.4.3 These samples show that there is potential for nearby deposits to also preserve plant macrofossils and charcoal and any future work at the site should continue to include sampling, targeting primary deposits. Furthermore, if further work is carried out a selection of samples from this evaluation should be included in the analysis and final site publication, provided dating of the features is secure. This would include charcoal from samples <3, 6, and 10> and plant macrofossils from <1, 6, and 11>.

## 7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 7.1.1 The trenches can be roughly divided into two groups. Those in the north-east of the site were situated on higher ground and revealed a sequence of natural geology overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Those in the west and south-west had complex substantial sequences of colluvial and/or alluvial deposits overlain by subsoil and topsoil. The natural geology was not encountered within this second group.
- 7.1.2 The undisturbed natural geology, where encountered, comprised a firm light orange-brown clay with fractured pale grey sandstone and siltstone inclusions. The natural geology was encountered at a maximum elevation of 14.77m AOD in the very north-east of the site area, falling away to 10.37m towards the centre.
- 7.1.3 In the west and south-west of the site, colluvial and alluvial deposits were encountered underlying the subsoil. The deposits were tested in Trench 17 and were seen to extend more than 2.2m below ground level.
- 7.1.4 An intact subsoil deposit overlay the natural substrate or colluvium/alluvium in all but Trench 11. The deposit comprised a moderately firm mid red-brown clay silt with occasional flint gravels. In Trench 11, the subsoil had been truncated and replaced with a firm made ground deposit comprising crushed brick, CBM and gravel.
- 7.1.5 A topsoil deposit overlay the subsoil (or made ground in the case of Trench 11) and comprised a friable dark red-brown clay silt.
- 7.1.6 Of the 17 trenches excavated, 11 contained archaeological features of Roman or unknown date.
- 7.1.7 All archaeological features were encountered underlying the subsoil. The depth of overburden over archaeological deposits varied between 0.3m and 0.8m across the site.
- 7.1.8 Archaeological monitoring of geotechnical site investigation works has been undertaken since the completion of this evaluation. During these monitoring works a potential paleochannel was identified in the south-west corner of the site in the vicinity of Trenches 4, 7, 8 and 9. The paleochannel deposit comprised highly humified organic silt with visible insect remains and occasional bi-valve shell fragments, becoming less well humified and containing more frequent woody remains up-profile. Two pieces of animal bone, one an incomplete horse pelvis showing signs of butchery and a tibia shaft from a large mammal, possibly deer were also recovered from the deposit. The deposit was encountered underlying colluvial/alluvial deposits at depths of between 1.3m and 2.3m below ground level and was seen to have a thickness of between 0.9m and 1.8m (ASE, Proj. 160576, forthcoming).
- 7.1.9 The methodology, as set out in the WSI (ASE 2016), was successfully employed during the evaluation. The conditions on site were conducive to confident and efficient identification and recording of archaeological features

and as such it is considered that this evaluation and report has successfully achieved its objective.

## 7.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 7.2.1 Intact topsoil and subsoil deposits were identified in all but Trench 11, where the subsoil had been truncated and replaced with a possible hardcore layer.
- 7.2.2 Narrow gravel and stone-filled land drains were encountered in Trenches 7 and 10. All cut the natural substrate but appeared to have had minimal impact on the archaeological deposits.

## 7.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

### *Prehistoric*

- 7.3.1 Twenty-four pieces of struck flint were recovered from the site. Two pieces, comprising a bladelet and a blade, products of a blade-based industry, indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. Furthermore, the presence of a rejuvenation flake within the assemblage confirms the concern with good core preparation and maintenance. This is a characteristic shared by Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint industries.
- 7.3.2 The majority of the flint, 18 of the 24 pieces recovered, came from a single undated pit/ tree throw. Based on typological and technological grounds, this assemblage, and the feature could be of Early Neolithic date and potentially contemporary with the small quantity of Neolithic flints that have previously been found in the area surrounding Congresbury-Cadbury hillfort. The remainder of the flint was recovered as residual finds in deposits of a later date, however, together, this assemblage provides evidence for at least limited use of the site during the early prehistoric period.

### *Roman*

- 7.3.3 A moderate-sized assemblage of later Roman pottery was recovered during the trial trench evaluation. Being entirely composed of local fabrics and coarse ware forms, none of the pottery is very closely datable; however, it is broadly typical of the later Roman period, most likely the mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 7.3.4 The main activity within the site area appears to be characterised by a slightly dispersed, partially enclosed metalworking site. Overall it would appear the main activity represented is smelting but as is usual for such a site, with a scattering of primary smithing.
- 7.3.5 Although fresh sherds of later Roman pottery were found in association with some of the slag most, including the vast majority of the smelting waste, had no such association. However, this is more likely to be the result of a division of domestic and industrial activities spatially rather than chronologically and it is presumed the slag and metalworking is of later Roman date.
- 7.3.6 Two ditches, partially enclosing an area in the west of the site, and corresponding to geophysical anomalies were securely dated as from this

phase of activity and contained the majority of the later Roman pottery finds.

- 7.3.7 A smelting furnace was identified towards the south end of this partial enclosure, with a dark, charcoal rich possible working horizon or layer situated immediately to the north. The working horizon contained later Roman pottery sherds.
- 7.3.8 A second, potentially unenclosed focus of smelting activity was identified in the east of the site. A second furnace, lined with tap slag was identified, along with a wide possible ditch or associated feature and multiple pits extending to both the north and south of the furnace.

#### *Post-medieval*

- 7.3.9 A single feature of probable post-medieval date was identified and comprised an infilled field boundary in the south-east of the site which corresponded with an old boundary recorded on historic mapping.

### **7.4 Consideration of research aims**

- 7.4.1 The broad aims of the evaluation were:

- To test/corroborate the results of the geophysical survey

- 7.4.2 Many of the identified archaeological deposits and features correspond with identified geophysical anomalies, particularly those associated with metalworking. A few small discrete pits and two ditches did not correspond with geophysical anomalies.

- To assess the character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of any archaeological remains and deposits

- 7.4.3 The field evaluation has established that there are significant archaeological remains, probably of mid-3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD date located towards the centre of the investigated area. The archaeological remains have been interpreted as most likely a single phase, partially enclosed metal working site. Overall it would appear the main activity represented is smelting but with a scattering of primary smithing.

- To assess how they might be affected by the development of the site

- 7.4.4 The depth of overburden over the archaeological features ranges from between 0.3m and 0.8m in depth and as such any groundworks are likely to have an impact on the archaeological remains.

- To establish the extent to which previous groundworks and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site

- 7.4.5 Very limited truncation and contamination of the archaeological deposits was encountered. Intact subsoil and topsoil horizons were present in all but the north-easternmost trench.

## **7.5 Conclusions**

- 7.5.1 This investigation has succeeded in identifying archaeological features in 11 of the 17 excavated trenches. A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site, with one potential pit or tree throw of this date.
- 7.5.2 Much of the archaeological activity recorded however, appears to be related to a late Roman metalworking site with two identified focusses of smelting activity, one of which may have been partially enclosed. Residues from environmental samples also suggest limited smithing within the site.
- 7.5.3 A single in-filled post-medieval field boundary ditch was identified towards the south-east end of the site.

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## HER Summary

<b>Site code</b>	CBT16				
<b>Project code</b>	ASE Project No: 160377				
<b>Planning reference</b>	Planning Ref: 15/P/0519/O				
<b>Site address</b>	Land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset				
<b>District/Borough</b>	Congresbury				
<b>NGR (12 figures)</b>	344300 163999				
<b>Geology</b>	Triassic Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone				
<b>Fieldwork type</b>	Eval				
<b>Date of fieldwork</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2016				
<b>Sponsor/client</b>	Sunley Homes Ltd				
<b>Project manager</b>	Paul Mason				
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Hayley Nicholls				
<b>Period summary</b>		Mesolithic	Neolithic		
	Roman				
<b>Project summary</b>	<p>This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset between the 6th and 14th June 2016. The fieldwork was commissioned by Sunley Homes in advance of the proposed residential development of the site.</p> <p>A potential palaeochannel was identified in the south-west corner of the site during site investigation monitoring works. The paleochannel deposit comprised highly humified organic silt with visible insect remains and occasional bi-valve shell fragments. Two pieces of animal bone, one an incomplete horse pelvis showing signs of butchery and a tibia shaft from a large mammal, possibly deer were also recovered from the deposit. This investigation has succeeded in identifying archaeological features in 11 of the 17 excavated trenches. A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site, with one potential pit or tree throw of this date. Much of the recorded archaeological activity appears to be related to a late Roman metalworking site with two identified focusses of smelting activity, both located towards the centre of the investigated area, one of which may have been partially enclosed. Residues from environmental samples also suggest limited smithing within the site. A single in-filled post-medieval field boundary ditch was identified towards the south-east end of the site.</p>				



## OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-257277**

### Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation Report, Land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset
Short description of the project	A potential palaeochannel was identified in the south-west corner of the site during site investigation monitoring works. This investigation has succeeded in identifying archaeological features in 11 of the 17 excavated trenches. A small quantity of residual struck flint artefacts suggests some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site, with one potential pit or tree throw of this date. Much of the recorded archaeological activity appears to be related to a late Roman metalworking site with two identified focusses of smelting activity, both located towards the centre of the investigated area, one of which may have been partially enclosed. Residues from environmental samples also suggest limited smithing within the site. A single in-filled post-medieval field boundary ditch was identified towards the south-east end of the site.
Project dates	Start: 06-06-2016 End: 14-06-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	CBT16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	DITCHES Roman
Monument type	SMELTING FURNACES Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	CBM Roman
Significant Finds	SLAG Roman
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

planning process

**Project location**

Country	England
Site location	NORTH SOMERSET NORTH SOMERSET CONGRESBURY Land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset
Postcode	BS49 5DF
Study area	22400 Square metres
Site coordinates	ST 4430 6399 51.371734277737 -2.800284729357 51 22 18 N 002 48 01 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 10.37m Max: 14.77m

**Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Paul Mason
Project supervisor	Hayley Nicholls
Type of sponsor/funding body	private client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Sunley Estates Ltd

**Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Local Museum
Physical Archive ID	CBT16
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Industrial", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics", "Animal Bones"
Digital Archive recipient	Local Museum
Digital Archive ID	CBT16

Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Local Museum
Paper Archive ID	CBT16
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section"

**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological evaluation at Land at Cobthorn Way, Congresbury, Somerset
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Entered by	Dan Swift (d.swift@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	11 July 2016

**Appendix 1: Archaeologically negative trenches: list of recorded contexts**

<b>Trench</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Depth m</b>	<b>Height m AOD</b>
T4	4/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	
T4	4/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.40-0.50	
T4	4/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	+0.2	
T7	7/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3	
T7	7/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.30-0.45	
T7	7/003	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	+0.1	
T7	7/004	Layer	Colluvium/ alluvium?	+0.1	
T11	11/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.20-0.30	
T11	11/002	Layer	Made ground	0.10-0.25	
T11	11/003	Layer	Natural	NA	
T12	12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.20-0.30	
T12	12/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.10-0.15	
T12	12/003	Layer	Natural	NA	
T15	15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.20-0.30	
T15	15/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.10-0.19	
T15	15/003	Layer	Natural	NA	

**Appendix 2: Residue quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights in grams**

Sample Number	Context	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 >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)	
1	1/007	40	**	2	***	2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. 3, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 5, <i>Prunus</i> sp. 1, <i>Corylus avellana</i> 1	****	5	*	15			*	<1	*	<1						
2	5/005	10	****	51	****	150	<i>Quercus</i> p. 10			*	1												mag.mat. ****/20g
3	6/006	30	**	1	**	<1	<i>Quercus</i> sp. 8, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 1, <i>Maloideae</i> 1	*	<1	*	16			*	<1			*	<1				mag.mat ****/103g, stone */243g, burnt stone */104g, mortar? **/77g, slag ****/200g
4	13/005	10			*	<1																	mag.mat. ****/1650g, industrial material **/11g, burnt clay */82g
5	13/012	20	*	<1	**	<1				*	<1												slag ****/1143g, mag. Mat. ****/112g, stone **/202g/ industrial material ****/

Sample Number	Context	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 >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
																						614g, fossil? */<1g, burnt clay */69g
6	5/010	40					<i>Quercus</i> sp. 3, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 7															Stone */130g, coal */<1g, mag. Mat. ****/4g, 2-4mm residue retained for charcoal and charred plant remains (10% extracted), <2mm residue retained for charred plant remains (2% extracted)
7	17/005	40			**	1			**	5	*	1								**	3	coal **/2g, mag.mat. ****/8g, burnt clay */2g, slag */27g, pottery */11g
10	9/018	40	****	23	****	20	<i>Quercus</i> p. 10		*		1		*	<1								Fired clay ****/1762g, stone */178g, mag.mat. ****/86g, slag ****/308g, mortar */29g

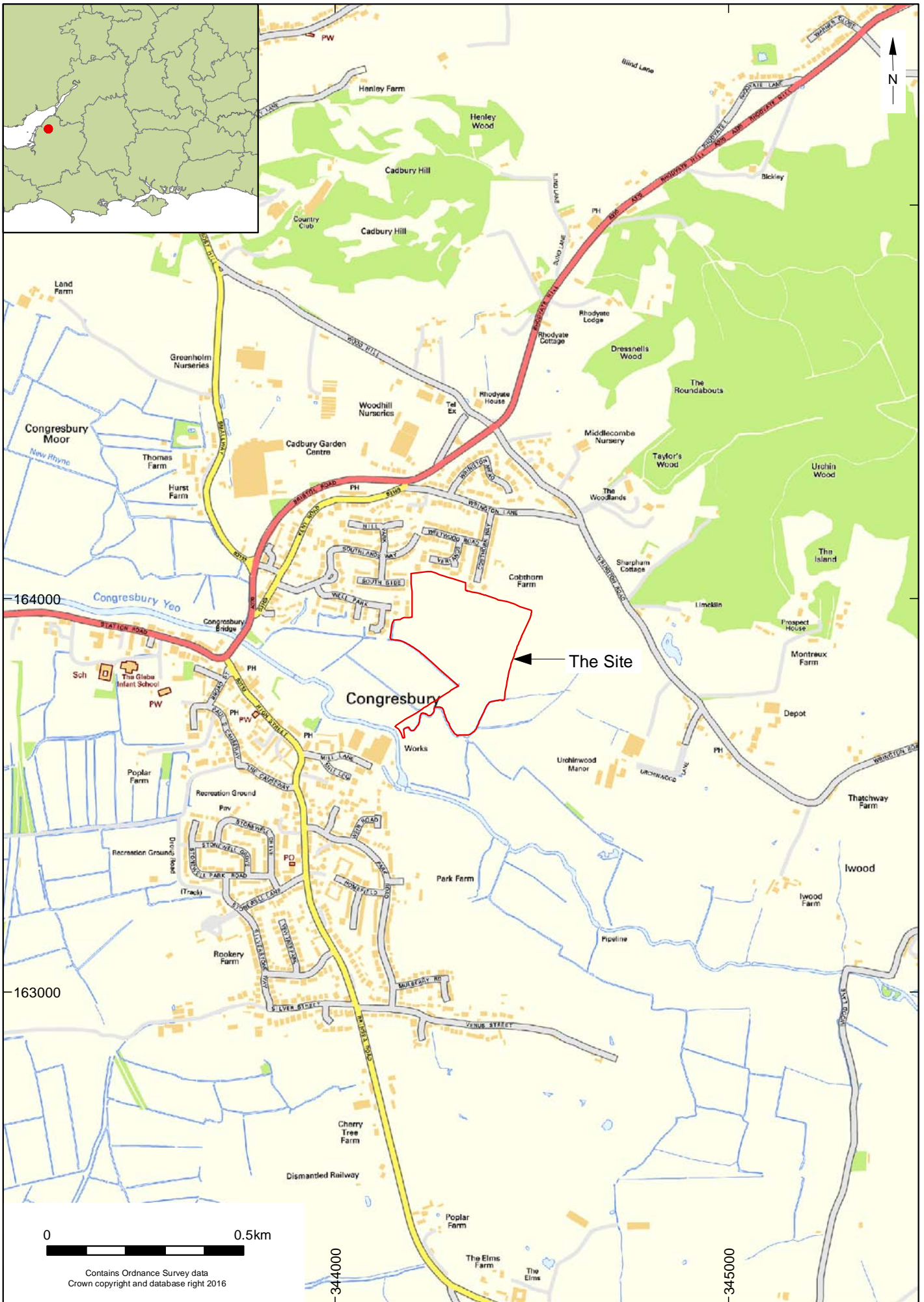
Sample Number	Context	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Fishbone and microfauna	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
11	9/008	40	**	1	***	13		**	<1	*	5							*	<1			stones */450g, mag.mat. ***/9g, pottery */1g

**Appendix 3: Flot quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)**

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells	Industrial debris hammerscale	
1	1/007	18	175	100	60	10	*	**	***	***	<i>Hordeum</i> sp., <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Vicia</i> cf <i>faba</i>	+ / + + / + + +	*	Poaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp. (small)	+						
2	5/005	11	50	50	40	10	**	***	***												
3	6/006	47	200	100	50	10	***	***	****	*	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (1)	+									
4	13/005	4	35	35	70	10			**											**	
5	13/012	29	300	100	70	10			***												
6	5/010	20	150	100	40	20	**	***	****	***	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Vicia</i> cf <i>faba</i> (1)	++	**	Poaceae , <i>Vicia</i> / <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. (small)	++	*	<i>Triticum</i> dicocum/ spelta glume base (1)	+			

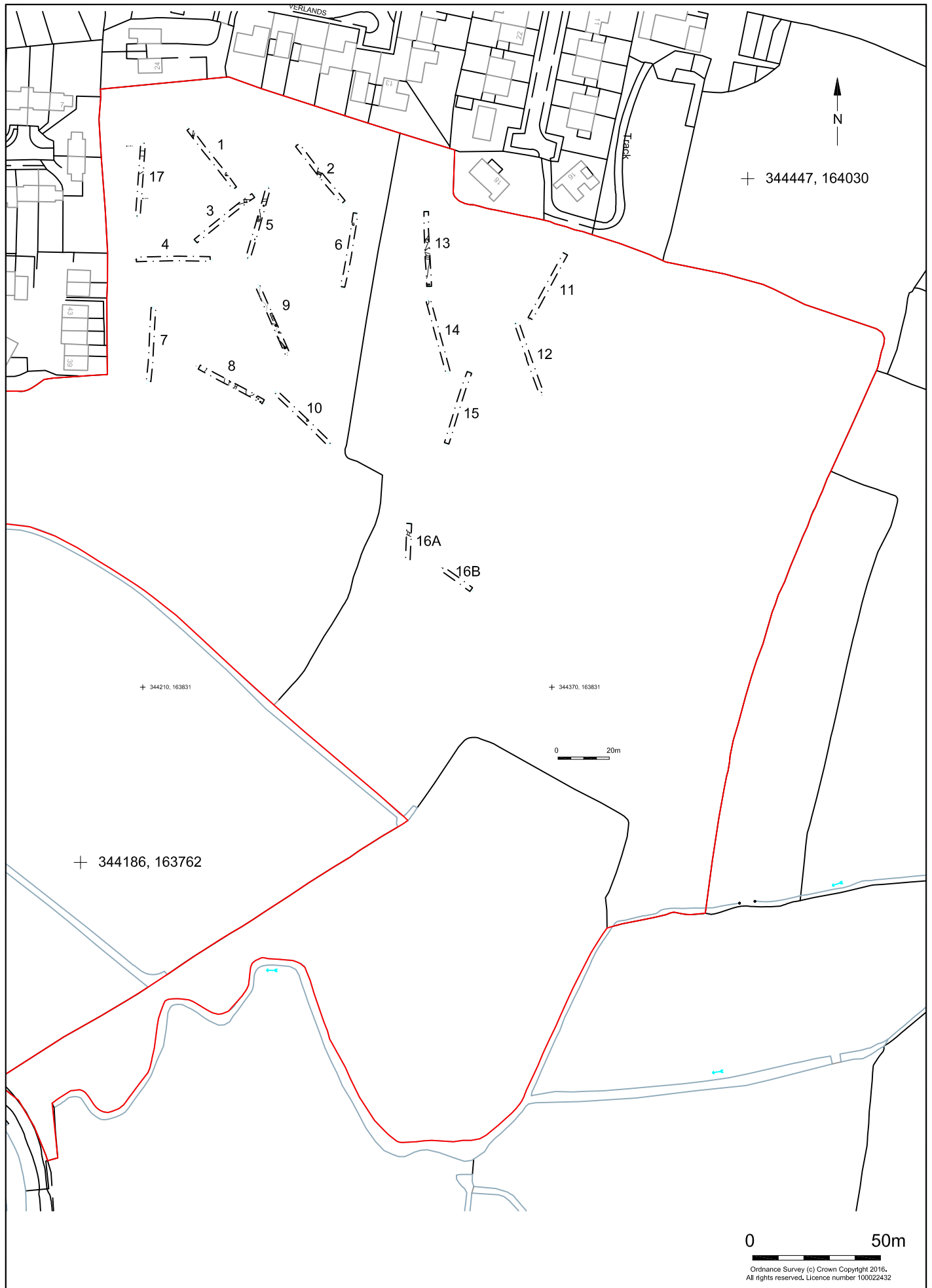


Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells	Industrial debris hammerscale
7	17/005	7	150	100	80	10			**										****	
10	9/018	6	120	100	50	30			***	*	cf <i>Hordeum</i> sp., <i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	+	*	Poaceae	+					
11	9/008	18	180	100	70	10			**	**	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum</i> sp., <i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	+ / ++	*	Poaceae	+	*	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	++		

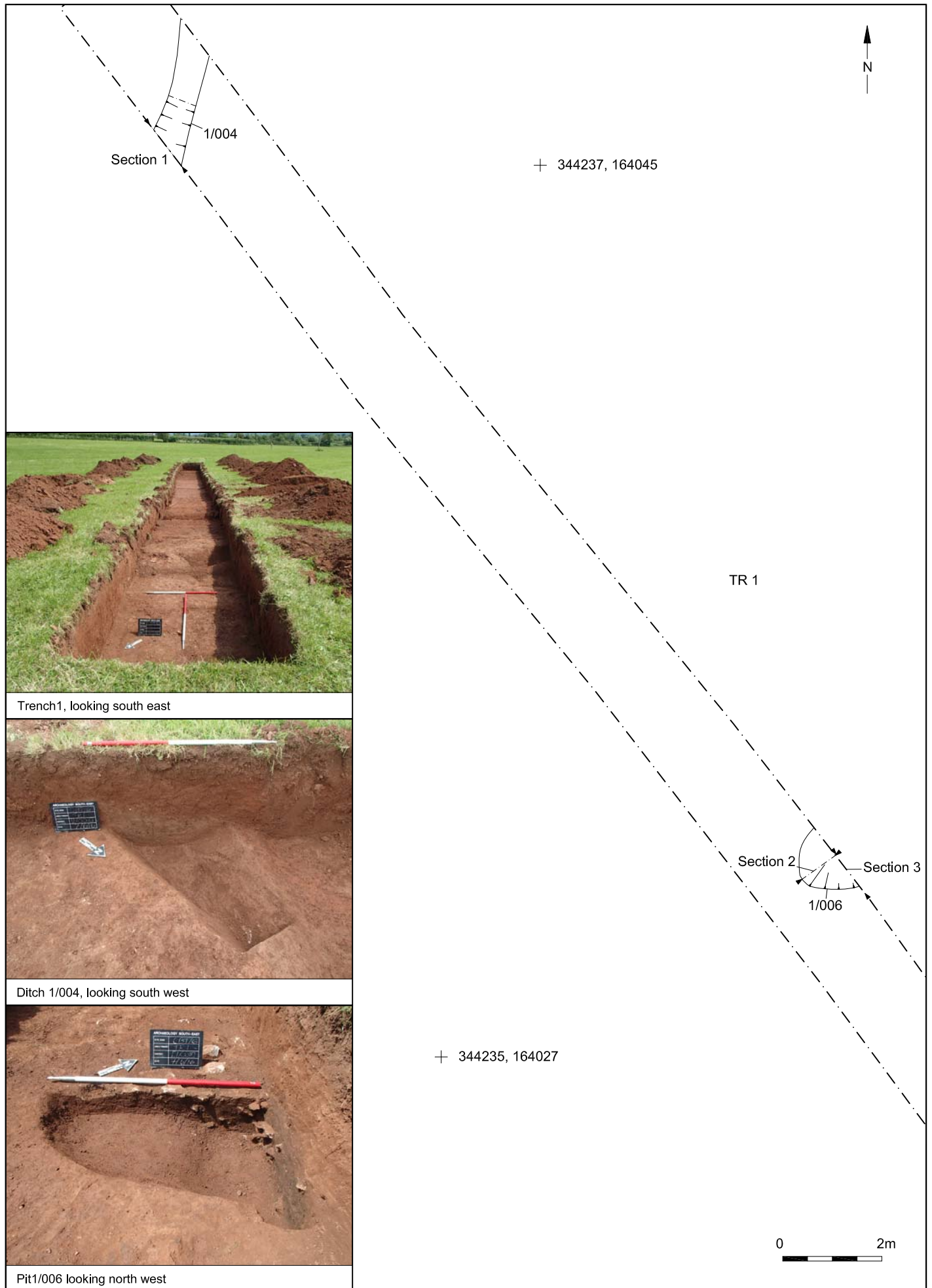


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Project Ref: 160377	May 2016	Site location	
Report Ref:	Drawn by: LG		



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Project Ref: 160377	June 2016	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2016250	Drawn by: AR		



Trench1, looking south east

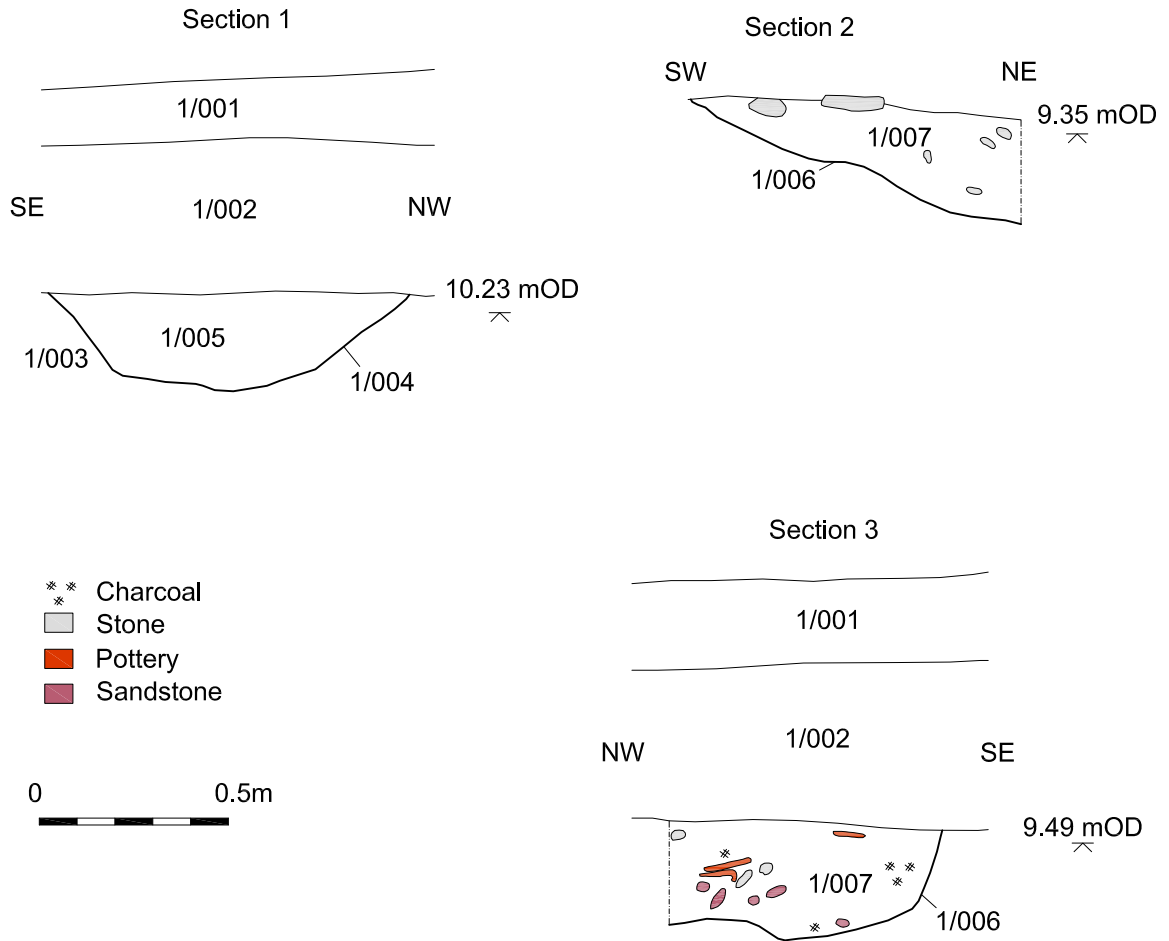


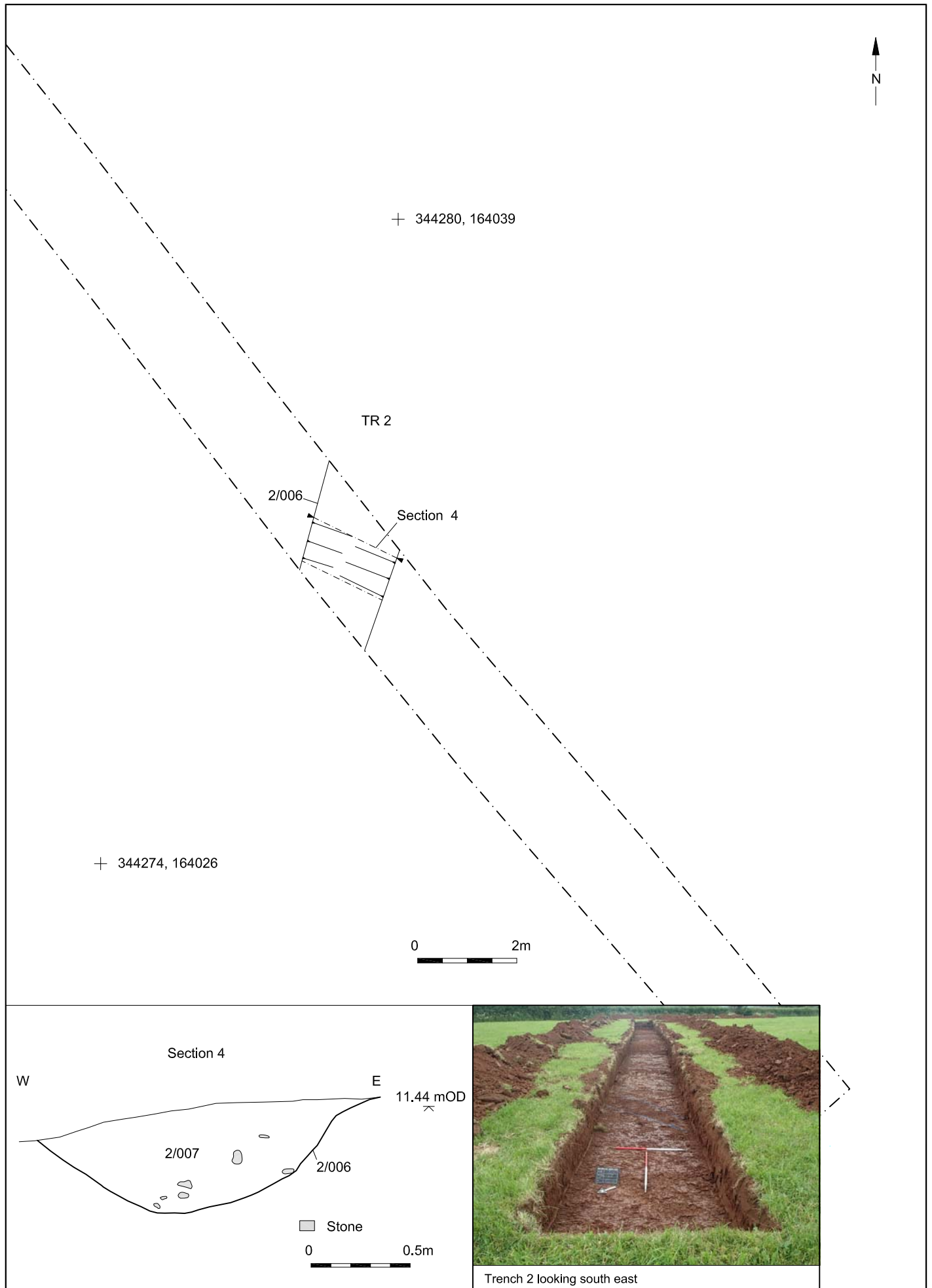
Ditch 1/004, looking south west



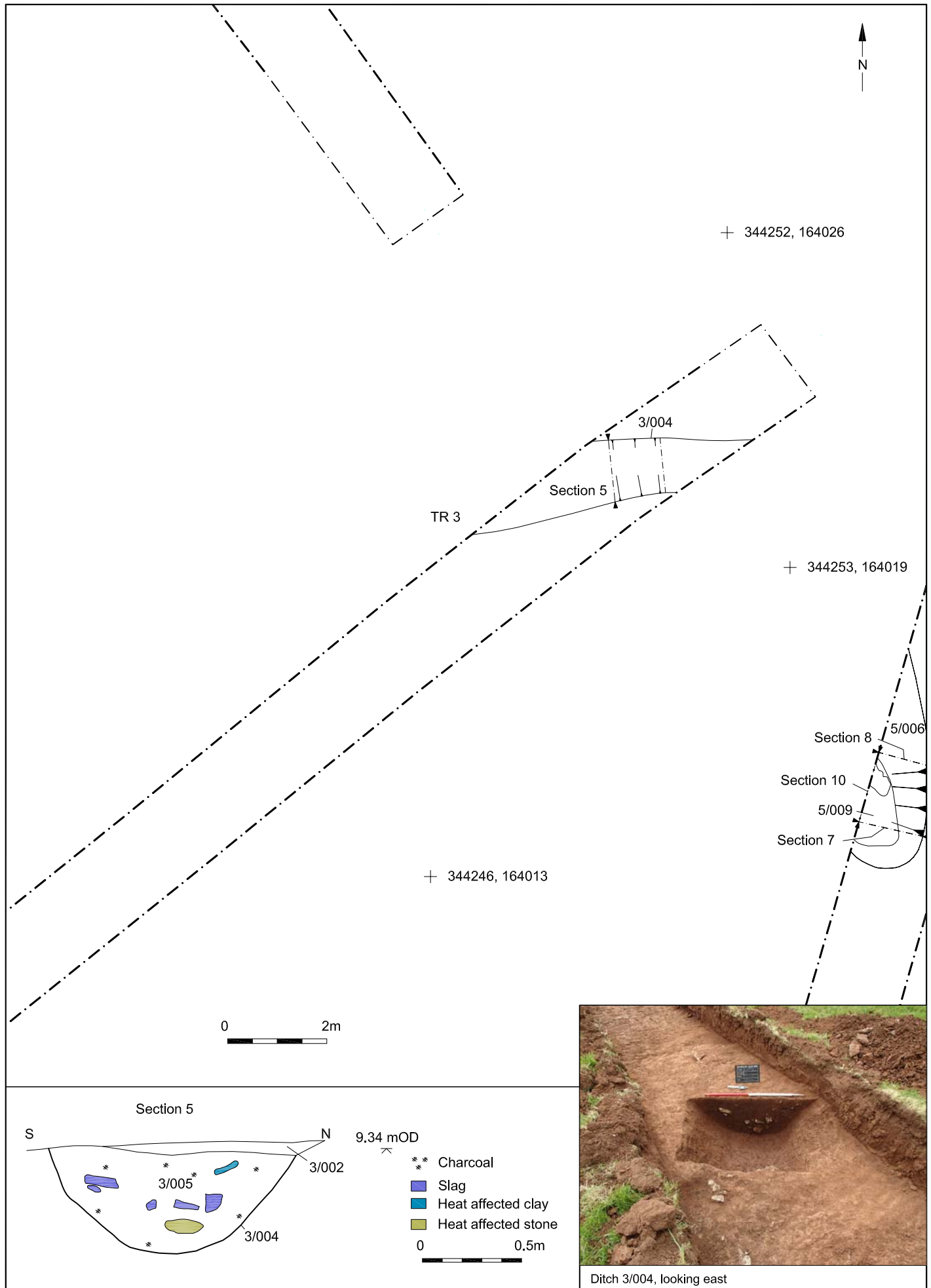
Pit1/006 looking north west

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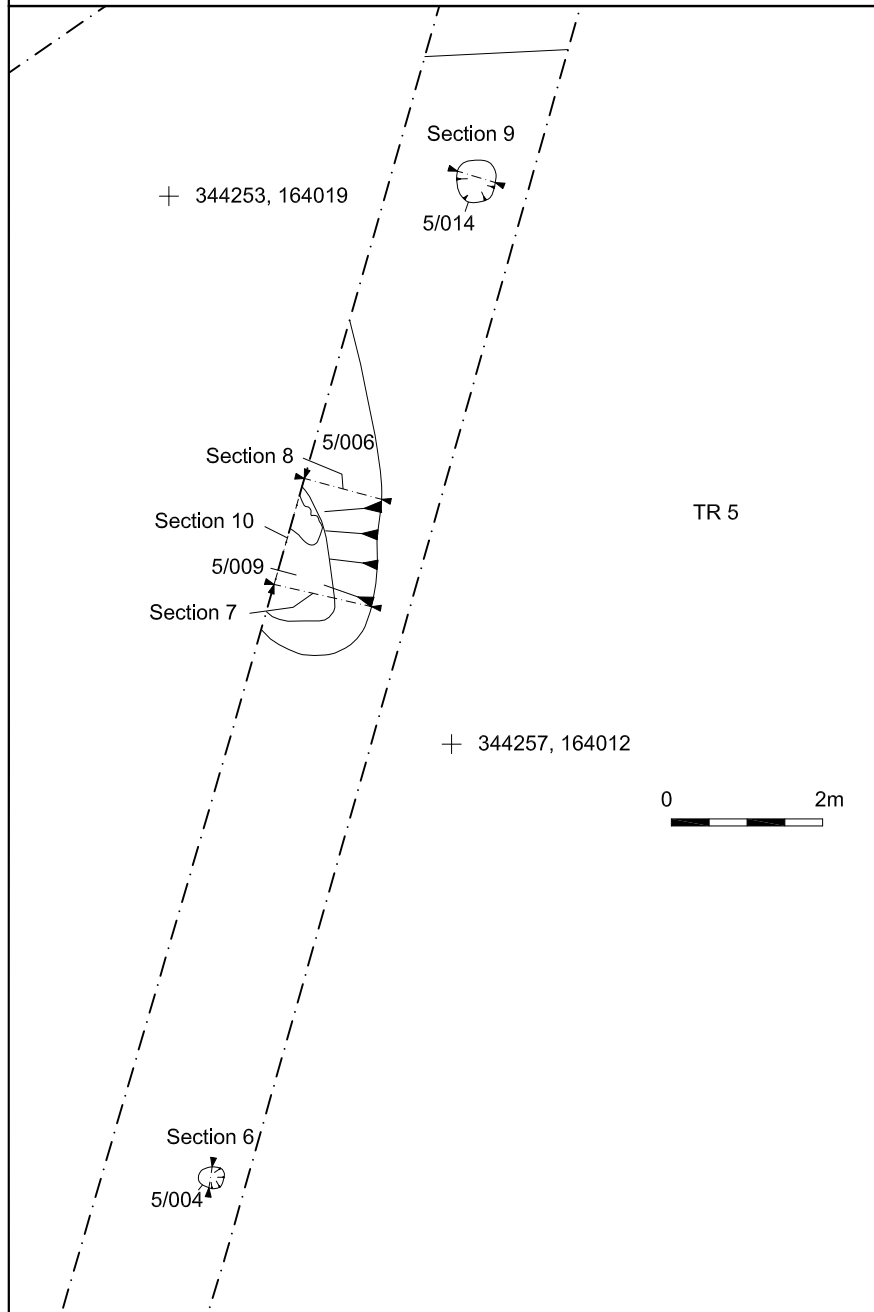
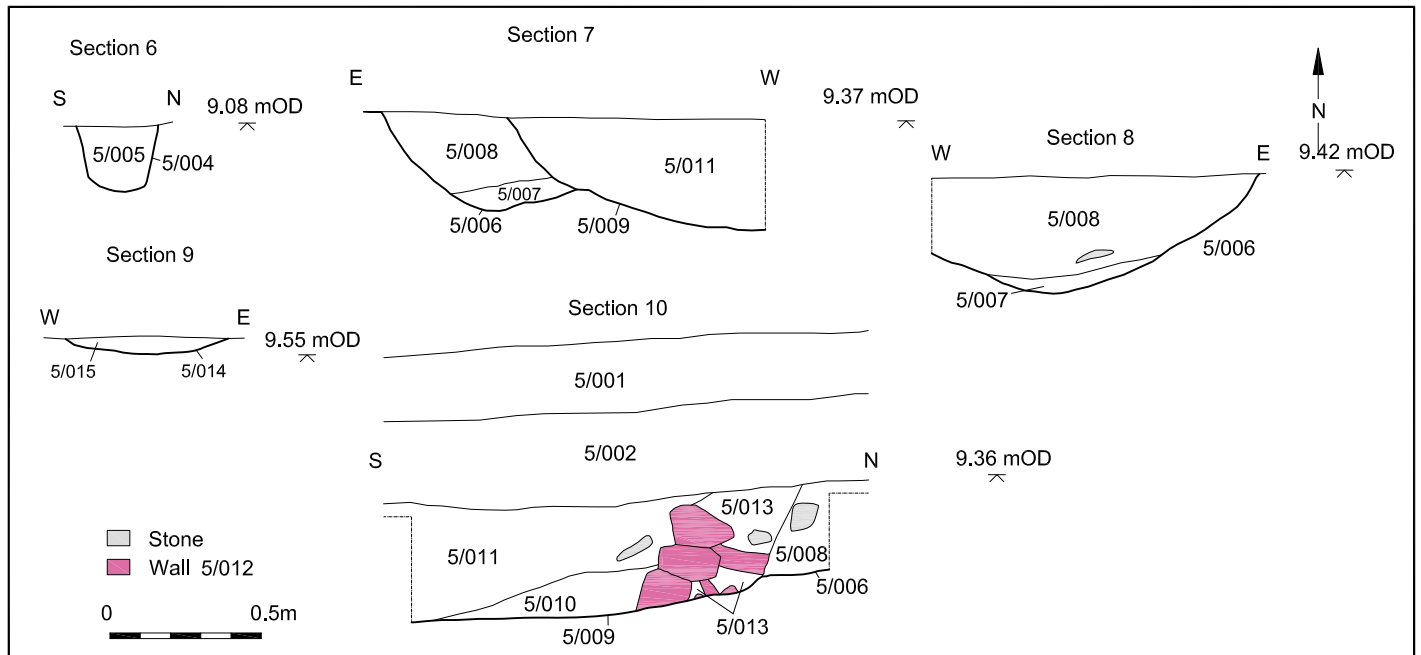




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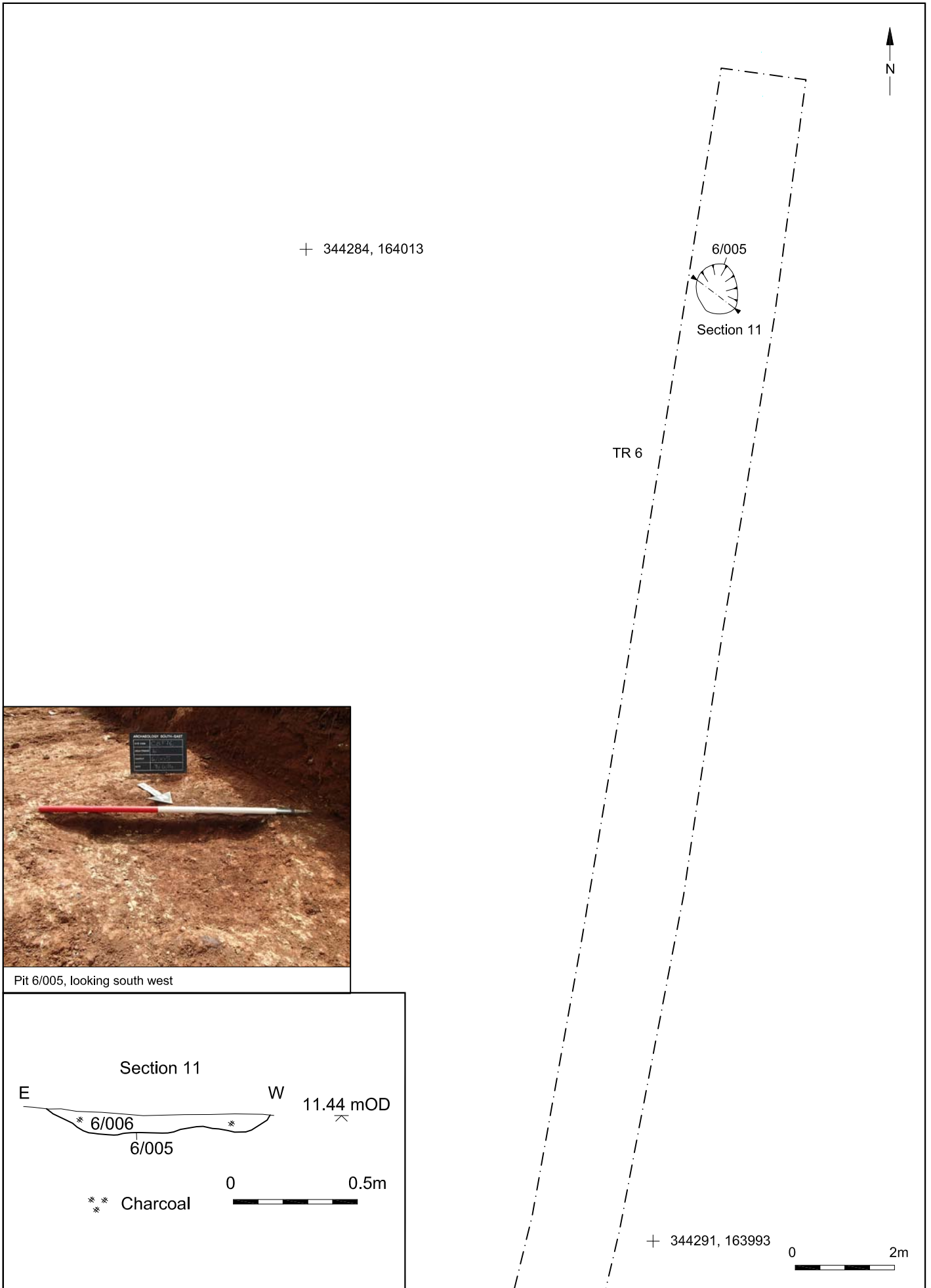


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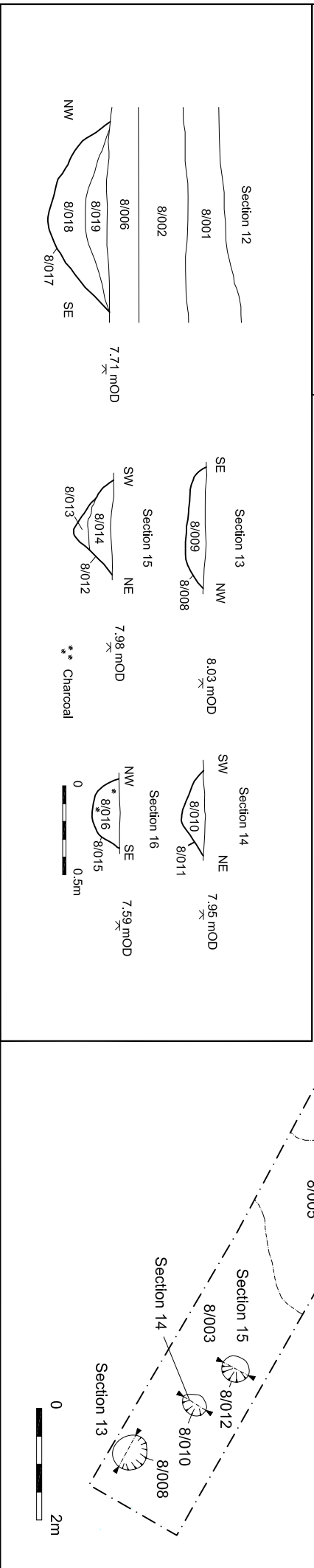
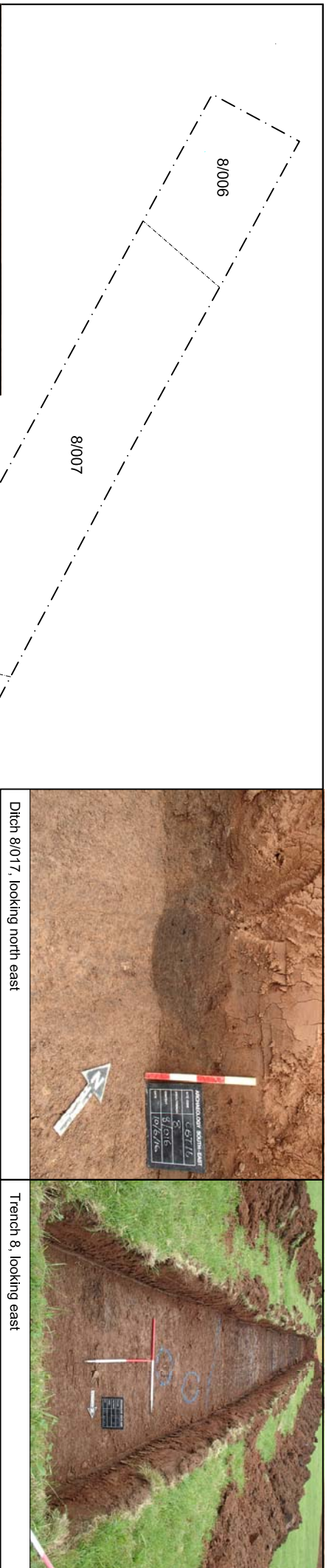


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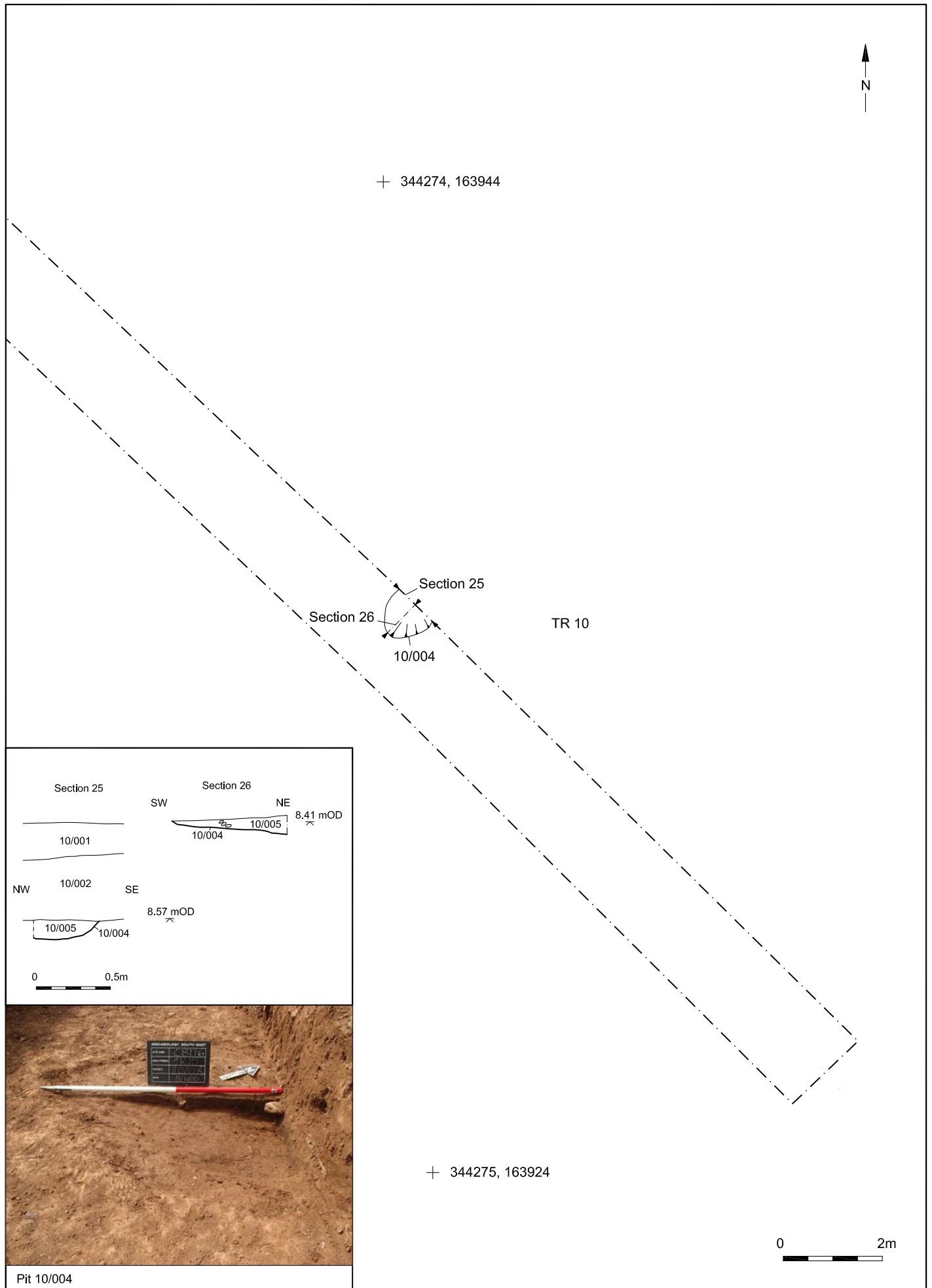
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Land of Cobthorn Way Congressbury, Somerset

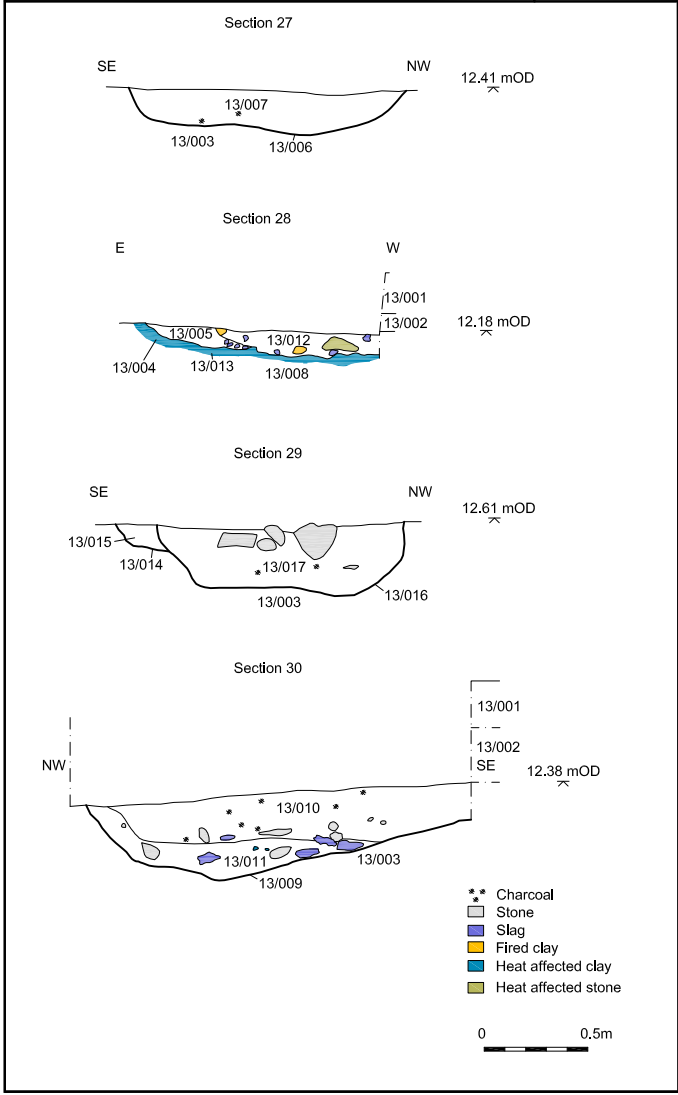
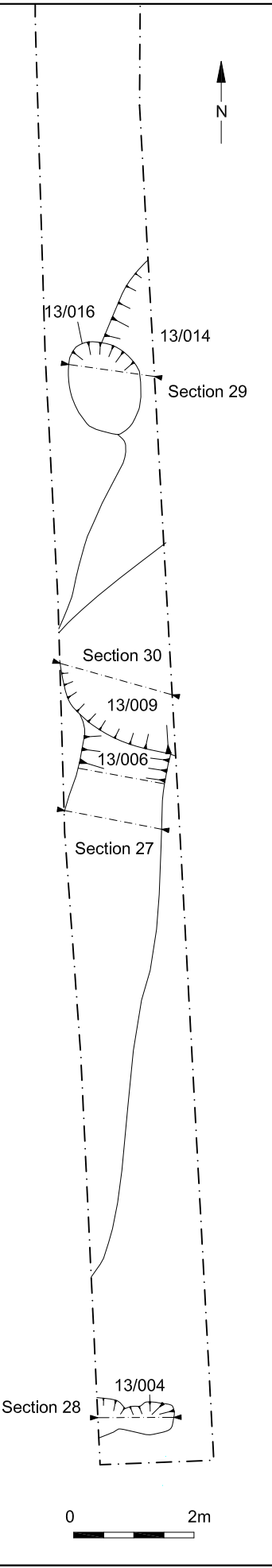
Trench 8, plan, sections and photographs

Fig. 9



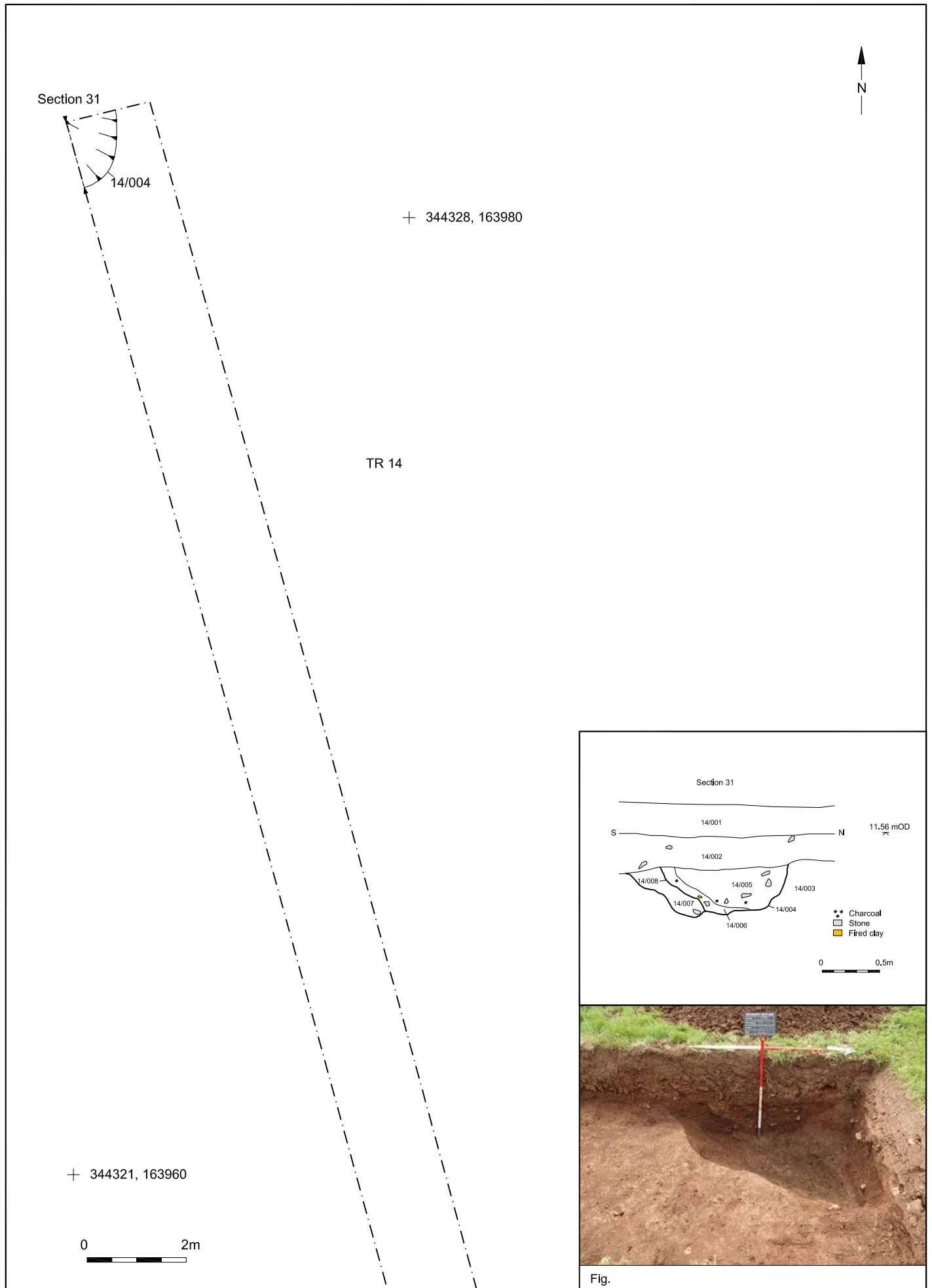


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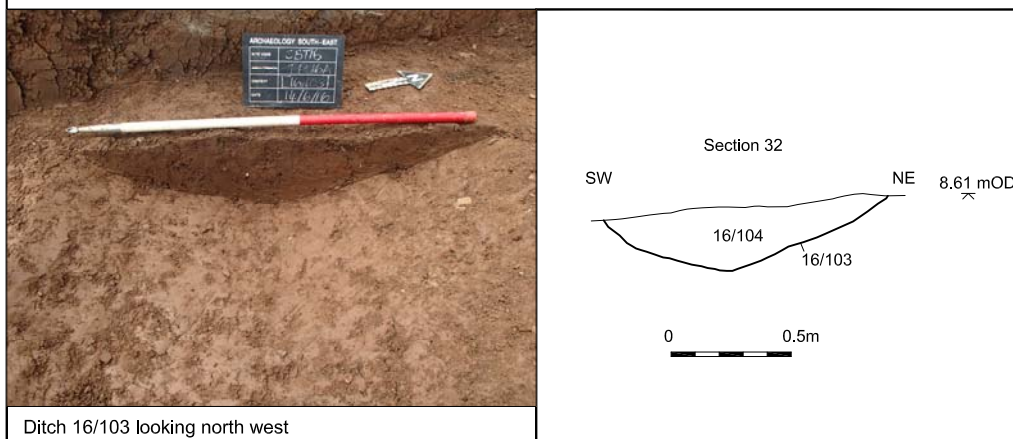
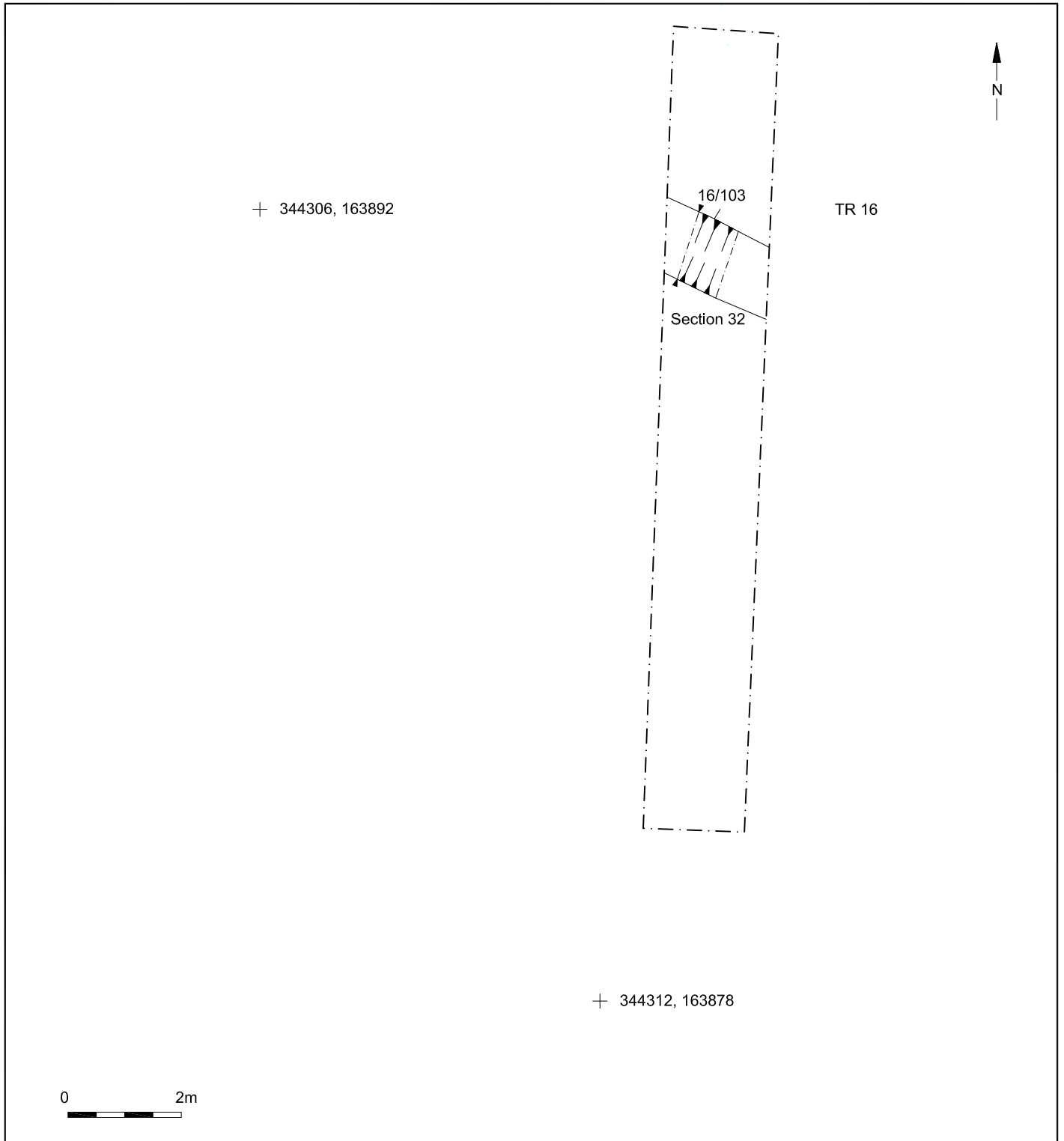


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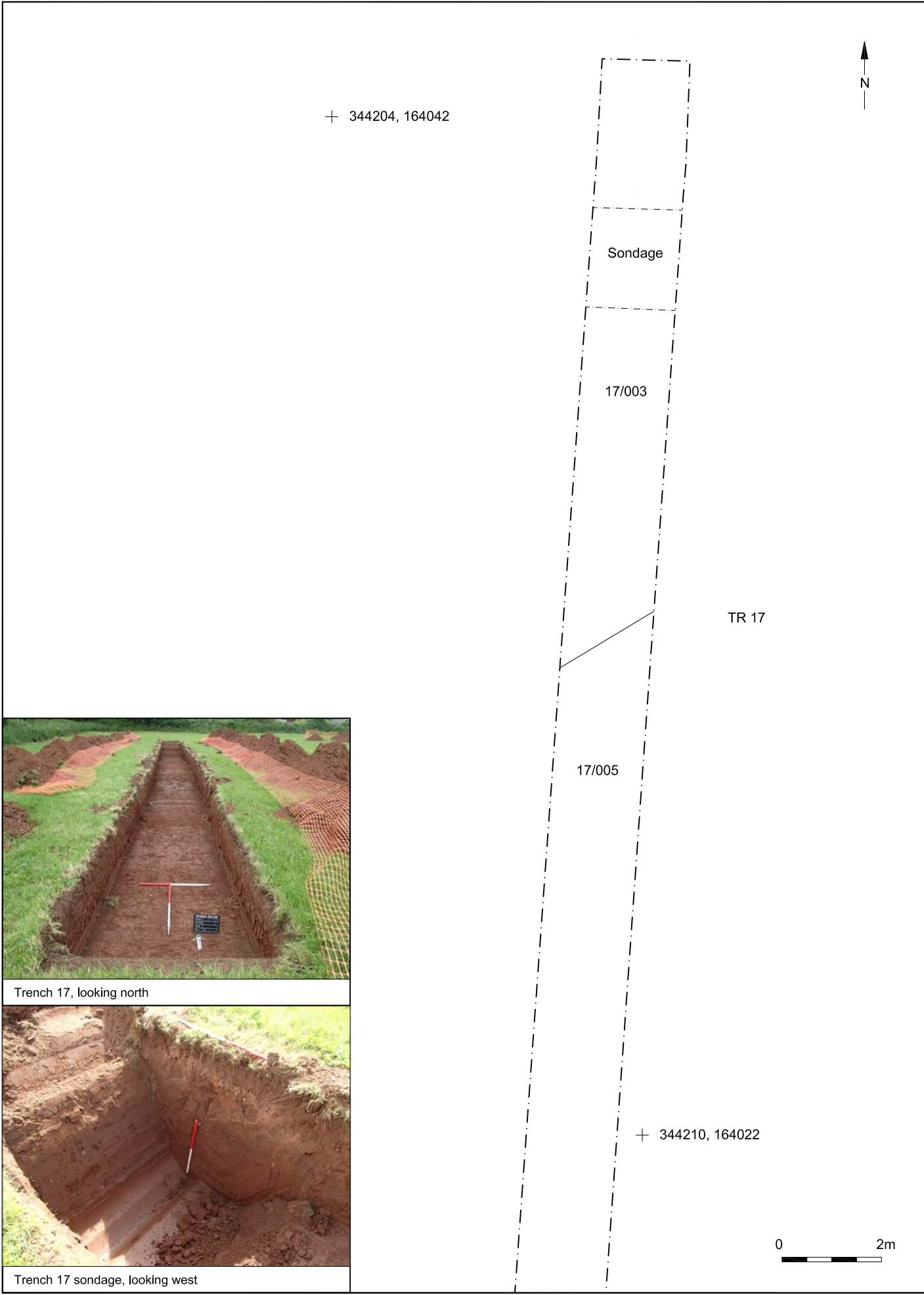
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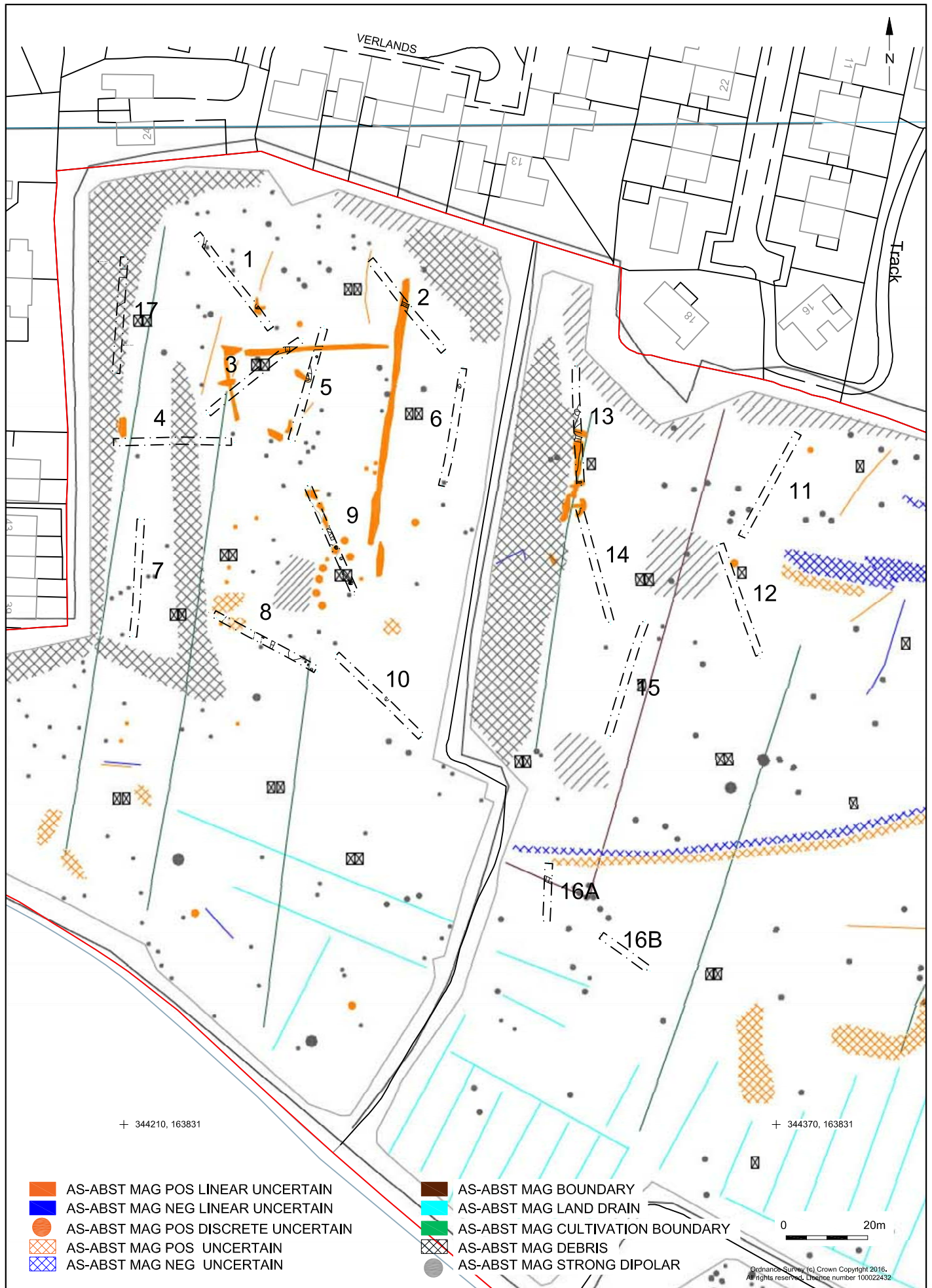


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