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ARCHAEOLOGICAL

SERVICES

SOUTH WEST

Woodsford Quarry Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation

by Andrew Weale

Site Code: WQW 13/200

(SY 7537 8998)

Woodsford Quarry Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset

An Archaeological Evaluation

for Hills Quarry Products

by Andrew Weale

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code WQW13/200

March 2016

Summary

Site name: Woodsford Quarry Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset

Grid reference: SY 7537 8998

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 12th January to 22nd February 2016

Project manager: Andrew Weale

Site supervisor: Andrew Weale

Site code: WQW 13/200

Area of site: *c.* 8.7ha

Summary of results The evaluation has revealed the presence of archaeological finds and deposits in several locations across the site. It has broadly confirmed the results of the prior geophysical survey but has also revealed additional deposits elsewhere.

The Mesolithic period is represented by a few stray finds of struck flint, while the Late Neolithic/Earlier Bronze Age period is represented both by cut features and scatters of struck flint mostly from the topsoil.

The enclosures identified by the geophysical survey seem to represent two phase of use, one in the earlier Bronze Age and the second in the Late Iron Age-Early Roman period.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, South West in Taunton and will be deposited at Dorset County Museum in due course

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Woodsford Quarry Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset
An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andrew Weale

Report 13/200c

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Woodsford Quarry, Woodsford, Dorset (SY 7537 8998) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Nick Dunn, of Land & Mineral Management Ltd, Bridge St, Frome, BA11 1BB on behalf of Hills Quarry Products Ltd, Woodsford Quarry, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8FR.

Planning permission is to be sought from Dorset County Council to develop the site as an area for the management of silt derived from the gravel and sand extraction in the adjacent quarry. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by groundworks, a field evaluation is proposed as detailed in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and Dorset County Council mineral policies in order to draw up a scheme to mitigate the impacts of the proposal on archaeology if necessary. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist with Dorset County Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Weale, Mariusz Paszkiewicz, Agata Socha-Paszkiewicz, Luis Esteves, David Sanchez, Ellen McManus-Fry, Jesse Coxey and Peter Banks between 12th January and 22nd February 2016 and the site code is WQW13/200. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services South West in Taunton and will be deposited with Dorset County Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

Woodsford is a small parish and village on the bottom of the Frome Valley, 6km east of the centre of Dorchester, Dorset, with the River Frome, which forms the northern limit of the parish, just north of the site. The proposal site is 930m south-west of the village, south of the road which links it to West Stafford. It comprises the southern 8.7ha of a 12.4ha field limited on its north side by the road between Lewell Corner and West Woodford. A bund lies along the west boundary forming a sight screen to the works and plant compound of the current quarry for half of its length. The rest of the western boundary is formed by a wood. The north, eastern and southern boundaries are formed of hedgerows with a footpath within the south-eastern corner. The field had up until recently been used as arable farmland. A grassed stand off was present around the entire field which was uncultivated. Heavy rain had formed large puddles and ponds across this stand off especially in the south west corner and along the western edge of the cultivation which lead to

localized flooding. The site undulates over a slight decline from *c*. 44m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 42m aOD from south to north. The site is characterized as Dorset heath (NE 1997) which has formed over Quaternary river terrace deposits of sand and gravel set on solid geology of Poole Formation Palaeogene sedimentary sand deposits (BGS 2013).

Archaeological background

The archaeological background has been highlighted in the desk-based assessment (Tabor 2013). Woodsford is surrounded by areas of intense prehistoric and Roman occupation. The heathland setting of the area around the site is itself a product of human intervention, the processes which led to its formation originating with the agricultural practices of the Bronze Age (NE 1997, 21) or possibly earlier. Ring ditches discovered on the route of the West Stafford Bypass signify occupation during that period whilst Neolithic and Roman pottery show that the area was used during earlier and later periods (Heaton 1991; Richards 1991). Two barrows in the east of Woodsford parish were excavated the Reverend Warne in the 1860s (Warne 1866) and further barrows in the area appear to have been destroyed without record at Warmwell.

At Warm well Quarry, 1km to the south extensive fieldwork has revealed revealed Middle to Late Bronze Age occupation and cremation burial (Leach 1994; Bevan 1994). A Bronze Age urnfield cemetery was recorded at Perry Gravel Pit in Knighton Heath Wood to the south (Petersen 1981). Further to the south at Broadmayne a series of Bronze Age crouched burials were uncovered during building works (Young 1973; Hewitt 1985).

In contrast, the parish of Woodsford itself contains relatively few archaeological records. Roman pottery and a spindle whorl have been found on the site of the Deserted Medieval Settlement of Woodsford Strangeways (West Woodsford) adjunct to Woodsford Castle (Weale 2010). Recent excavations on land adjoining the south of the site has identified Roman and Medieval field systems with probable later Iron Age antecedents (Weale 2010, Pine and Tabor 2015, and Weale and Tabor, forthcoming) as well as a possible Bronze Age Barrow.

A geophysical survey was under taken across the site itself in November 2015 (Beaverstock 2015). The survey revealed a number of reasonably sized enclosures, and many isolated linear features that likely represent a continuation of the extensive complex of Late Iron Age, Roman and medieval deposits recorded to the south (Fig. 3). In addition to the archaeological features, a number of areas of magnetic disturbance and ferromagnetic debris were observed; any underlying archaeology in these areas will have been obscured in the survey data. The ferrous spikes close to the north-west site boundary could have been caused by a drain.

Objectives and methodology

The aims of the evaluation will be to determine the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development. The general objectives of the project were to:

excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the areas threatened by the proposed development;

produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site;

establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.; and

produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.

The specific research aims of this project are:

to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;

to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;

to determine if deposits of Iron Age and Roman date are present;

to determine the nature and origin of any geophysical anomalies;

to provide information in order to draw up an appropriate mitigation strategy if required; and

to report on the findings of the evaluation.

A total of 49 trenches 25m long and 2m wide (2% of site area) were to be excavated across the site, partly in a stratified random pattern and partly located to target the geophysical anomalies (Fig. 2). Topsoil, and any other overburden was to be removed by a 360^0 tracked slue machine. A toothless ditching bucket was used to expose archaeologically sensitive levels, under constant archaeological supervision. Where archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains were exposed, these were to be cleaned by hand investigated, recorded and sampled. All discrete features of medieval or earlier date were to be investigated by hand and at least 50% of the volume of each pit or posthole was to be excavated. A 25% sample of each linear feature was also to be dug (a minimum of a 1m wide slot per feature). Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, without compromising archaeological features or deposits which warrant preservation in-situ, or might better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation.

A programme of environmental sampling took place where sufficiently well stratified subsoil deposits were located. Metal detectors were used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.

Results

All trenches were excavated as intended (Fig. 2), the width of the toothless bucket was found to be wider than 2.00m at around 2.20m. Trench 33 was extended southwards to try to locate a geophysical anomaly. Due to the weather many of the trenches in the south and western part of the site were flooded to various depths and, with one exception (Trench 9), left to drain and dry out naturally. Trench 9 had to be pumped dry. All trenches that were fully or partially flooded were hand cleaned where archaeology was thought to exist and the collapsed sides of the trench were further cut back. The trenches varied from 23m to 30.50m long and from 0.34m to 1.20m deep.

The complex archaeological features in Trench 8 that appeared to be multiphase were hand cleaned, planned and, after consultation with Mr Steve Wallis, the section of the trench recorded only, as it was thought that these features would be better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation, as they extended beyond the trench edges.

Trenches 4–6, 17–23, 26, 28, 31–2, 35–8, 40–2, 45 and 47–9 contained no archaeological features nor were any artefacts recovered from them. Only those trenches containing certain or probable archaeological features are described in detail below. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. A complete list of features investigated forms Appendix 2.

Trench 1 (Figs 4 and 10; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned NW-SE was 25.80m long and a maximum of 0.34m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a thin grey subsoil 0.04m thick which overlay natural gravels. At the south-eastern end of the trench, gully 30 was aligned south to north and was 0.62m wide and 0.18m deep. Gully 30 was filled with a mid grey silty sand (80) that contained no datable artefacts. 1m to the north-west of Gully 30 was Gully 31which was slightly curving and aligned roughly east to west with a terminal at the eastern end. Gully 31 was 0.40m wide and 0.24m deep and was filled with a mid to dark grey silty sand (81) that contained no closey datable artefacts. Gully 31 was a kidney shaped feature 33 that appeared to be a tree throw and was unexcavated. Oval feature 34 appeared to be another natural feature, or perhaps a small pit 0.82m long and 0.36m wide that was filled with 84 a mixed mid to dark grey to light grey to white silty sand and was unexcavated. Ditch 32 that was aligned east to west, 0.65m wide and 0.25m deep. Ditch 32 was filled with a mid to dark grey silty sand (82) that contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 32 was on the same orientation as a feature highlighted by the geophysics survey.

Trench 2 (Figs. 5 and 10 Pls 7 and 8)

Trench 2 was aligned S-N was 25.90m long and a maximum of 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which a mid grey silty sand subsoil overlay natural yellow brown silty sand and gravel. At 9m

from the southern end of the trench was what appeared to be the terminal end of a gully or pit 29. Gully terminal 29 was aligned west to east, 0.65m wide and 0.26m deep, with a single fill, 79, a light to mid grey brown silty clay that contained no datable artefacts other than a single struck flint. To the north of Gully 29 was oval pit 28 which was 1.64m long 1.04m wide and 0.18m deep. Pit 28 was filled with 78 a light to mid grey brown silty clay which contained two sherds of abraded pottery that may date to the late Iron Age or early Roman periods. Pit 28 appears close to the end of a penannular feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible roundhouse and may be related to it. 5m to the north of Pit 28 was Gully 27 that was slightly curvilinear and was aligned west to east 0.48m wide and 0.16m deep. Gully 27 was filled with 77 a mid grey brown silty clay that contained no datable artefacts and appeared to be in the same orientation as a second penannular feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible roundhouse.

Trench 3 (Figs 5 and 10)

Trench 3 was aligned SE-NW was 24.40m long and a maximum of 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.35m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.15m thick which overlay natural gravels. Just 1m to the north-west of the southern end of the trench was Gully terminal or Pit 26 which was aligned roughly north to south, 0.88m wide and 0.12m deep. Gully Terminal 26 was filled with a light brown grey sandy clay (76) that contained no datable artefacts.

Trench 7 (Figs 5 and 12)

Trench 7 was aligned SW-NE was 23.70m long and a maximum of 0.79m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was 0.34m of subsoil which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. At the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 118 which was roughly aligned south to north, 0.95m wide and 0.33m deep. Beneath the subsoil Ditch 118 was filled with 176 a grey brown silty sand which was 0.24m thick and contained 4 sherds of late Iron Age or early Roman pottery and two residual struck flint flakes. Beneath deposit 176 was 177, a light greyish brown silty sand that contained six sherds of late Iron Age or early Roman pottery. Ditch 118 is in a similar position and orientation to a feature highlighted by the geophysical report which has been interpreted as a possible enclosure however the return of this enclosure was not seen within the trench. Eleven struck flints were found in the topsoil of this trench.

Trench 8 (Figs 5, 12 and 13; Pls 9 and 10)

Trench 8 was aligned WNW-ESE was 24.40m long and a maximum of 0.74m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.30m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. Located 12m from the south-east end of the trench was a complex of archaeological features that were cleaned, planned and photographed only as it was thought that they would be better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full

excavation as they extended beyond the trench edges. It appeared in plan that the complex considered of two ditches 106 and 107 both below the subsoil. In the section of the trench it appeared that Ditch 106 was filled with 158 a light brown grey silty sand contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 107 contained an upper fill 159 a grey brown silty clay that contained no datable artefacts, beneath which was 173 a dark grey to black silty sand that contained no datable artefacts.

Both of these ditches appeared to cut an oven or kiln, 108, which was roughly circular, 2m in diameter. Oven 108 contained at least 4 fills 160-163, and pot 170. Towards the centre of the oven was 160 a grey brown silty clay that contained no datable artefacts, to the east of 160 was 162 a mixed light yellow clay with red brown clay that contained no datable artefacts. To the south-east of both 160 and 162 was 161 a grey brown clay that contained a large sherd of late Iron Age to early Roman pottery as well as what appeared to be the remains of a large pot (170) that was left *in-situ* and appeared to be cut by Ditch 106.

It appeared in plan that oven 108 cut pit 114 which was circular in plan approximately 2.04m in diameter and filled with 171 a mid brown silty clay that contained one sherd of late Iron Age or early Roman pottery. Pit 114 appeared in plan to cut pit 115 which appeared to be circular approximately 0.54m in diameter and filled with 172 a brown grey silty sand that also appeared to contain the remains of a single pot that was cut by pit 114 and Ditch 106. This complex corresponded to a large geophysical anomaly.

Some 1m to the north west of this complex Ditch Terminal 117 was aligned south to north, and was 0.52m wide and 0.26m deep. Ditch 117 was filled with a mid grey brown silty sand that contained a single broken flint flake. Ditch 117 may form part of the complex of enclosures that was highlighted in the geophysical report.

A single sherd of post medieval pottery and 12 struck flints were recovered from the topsoil of Trench 8.

Trench 9 (Fig. 3)

Trench 9 was aligned SE-NW was 23.00m long and a maximum of 0.87m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.40m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. Trench 9 flooded and retained water which was subsequently pumped out. The base and sections of the trench near where the geophysical anomalies were recorded, were hand cleaned but no archaeological features were noticed.

Trench 10 (Figs 6 and 13)

Trench 10 was aligned SW-NE was 24.20m long and a maximum of 0.83m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.40m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. At 4m from the south-west end of the trench was post hole 116 which oval in plan 0.39m long, 0.21m wide and 0.08m deep. Post hole 116 was filled with 174 a mid red brown silty clay that contained no datable artefacts.

Trench 11 (Figs 6 and 13)

Trench 11 was aligned SE-NW was 24.90m long and a maximum of 0.77m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.46m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.27m deep which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. At the south east end of the trench was Pit 109 that appeared oval in plan 0.89m long, 0.51m wide and 0.46m deep. Pit 109 was contained two fills, the upper 164 a mid grey brown silty clay which overlay 178 a light grey brown silty clay. Neither fill contained any artefacts. Pit 19 could have been the terminal of a linear geophysical anomaly. The other geophysical anomalies highlighted by the survey were not seen.

Trench 12 (Figs 6 and 13)

Trench 12 was aligned SE-NW was 26.80m long and a maximum of 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.30m deep which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 8m from the south-east end of the trench was Ditch 111 which was aligned south to north 1.0m wide and 0.32m deep. Ditch 111 was filled with 166 a mid brown grey silty clay that contained no artefacts. 9m to the north-west of Ditch 111 was Ditch 110 which was aligned roughly west to east 0.95m wide and 0.38m deep. Ditch 110 was filled with 165 a mid brown grey silty clay that contained five sherds of late Iron Age to early Roman pottery and a residual flint. Ditches 110 and 111 correspond to two geophysical anomalies and form parts of an enclosure.

Trench 13 (Fig. 2)

Trench 13 was aligned SW-NE was 25.80m long and a maximum of 0.64m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.30m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. The trench contained no archaeological features or artefacts. The geophysical anomalies highlighted by the survey were not seen.

Trench 14 (Figs 7, 11 and 13; Pl 2)

Trench 14 was aligned SW-NE was 28.0m long and a maximum of 0.71m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.25m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 6m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 104 which was aligned rough west to east 0.95m wide and 0.48m deep. Ditch 104 was filled with 156 a mid grey brown silty clay that contained one sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery and two broken flint flakes. 9m to the north-east of Ditch 104 was Ditch 105 which was aligned south to north 0.81m wide and 0.30m deep. Ditch 105 was filled with 157 a grey brown silty sand that contained no datable artefacts. Both Ditches 104 and 105 appear to correspond to geophysical anomalies. A further sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the topsoil of the trench, along with 17 struck flints.

Trench 15 (Figs 7 and 11)

Trench 15 was aligned SE-NW was 25.70m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.35m thick which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay. 5m from the south-east end of the trench was Ditch 103 which was aligned rough west to east, 1.10m wide and 0.38m deep.

Ditch 104 was filled with 155 a light grey brown silty clay that contained two sherds of early to mid Bronze Age pottery. Ditch 103 appears to correspond to a geophysical anomaly, however the other two anomalies were not seen.

Trench 16 (Figs 7 and 10 Pls 3, 12 and 13)

Trench 16 was aligned SW-NE was 24.50m long and a maximum of 0.81m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil, 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.38m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 15m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 1 which was aligned roughly west to east 0.76m wide and 0.29m deep. Ditch 1 was filled with a mid brown grey silty clay (52) that contained two Roman bronze bracelets and possible remains of a bronze pin. Ditch 1 appears to correspond to geophysical anomaly.

Trench 24 (Figs 7 and 13)

Trench 24 was aligned SE-NW was 26.80m long and a maximum of 0.64m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.35m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.25m thick which overlay natural mix yellow and red brown silty clay. 18m from the south-east end of the trench was Ditch 112 which was aligned roughly west to east before returning south to north and terminating. Ditch 112 was 0.80m wide and 0.37m deep. Ditch 112 was filled with 167 a light grey brown silty sand that that contained a broken flint flake. 1m to the north of Ditch 112 was Ditch 113 that was aligned roughly south-west to north-east, was 0.70m wide and 0.10m deep. Ditch 113 contained fill 168 a mid brown silty sand that contained one sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was also recovered from the topsoil of Trench 24.

Trench 25 (Figs 8 and 11; Pl. 4)

Trench 25 was aligned SW-NE was 26.70m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.41m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.22m thick which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay with patches of gravel. 7m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 102 which was aligned roughly west to east and was 0.75m wide and 0.40m deep. Ditch 102 had two fills: the upper fill 153 was a mid grey brown silty sand, beneath 153 was 154 a mid to dark grey brown silty clay. Neither fill contained any datable artefacts. Ditch 102 corresponds to geophysical anomaly highlighted by the survey.

Trench 27 (Figs 8 and 11)

Trench 27 was aligned SW-NE was 25.00m long and a maximum of 0.69m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.38m thick which overlay natural yellow brown silty clay with patches of gravel. 3m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 46 which was aligned roughly west to east and was 1.18m wide and 0.32m deep. Ditch 46 was filled with 152 a light brown silty sand, with contain 42 sherds of 2nd-century Roman pottery. Ditch 46 appears to correspond to a geophysical anomaly highlighted by the survey, however two other anomalies were not seen.

Trench 29 (Figs 8 and 11)

Trench 29 was aligned S-N was 26.00m long and a maximum of 0.68m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.25m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 2m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 101 which was aligned roughly east to west and terminated with the trench. Ditch 101 was 0.48m wide and 0.21m deep. Ditch 101 was filled with 151 a light grey brown silty sand, that contained a flint blade. 0.10m to the north of Ditch 101 was Ditch 100 which was aligned roughly SSE to NNW and terminated with the trench. Ditch 100 was 0.30m wide and 0.08m deep and also contained no datable artefacts. Ditch 100 possibly represents the southern terminal of one of ditches 47 or 48 in Trench 30. Sixteen struck flints came from the topsoil in this trench.

Trench 30 (Figs 8, 11 and 12)

Trench 30 was aligned SW-NE was 28.30m long and a maximum of 0.68m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.22m thick which overlay natural mixed red and red brown silty clay. Gully 47 lay 10m from the south-west end of the trench, aligned roughly south-east to north-west, and was 0.51m wide and 0.16m deep. Gully 47 was filled with 97 a mid grey brown silty sand, that contained no datable artefacts. 2m to the north-east of Gully 47 and parallel to it was Gully 48 which was 0.68m wide and 0.20m deep was filled with 98 a mid grey brown silty sand and also contained no datable artefacts. 10m to the north-east of Gully 48 was Gully 49 that was aligned south-west to north-east and terminated within the trench. Gully 49 was filled with 99 a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no datable artefacts.

Trench 33 (Figs 9 and 10)

Trench 33 was aligned SE-NW was 30.50m long and a maximum of 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.25m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 13m from the south east end of the trench was Ditch 36 which was aligned roughly east to west was 0.86m wide and 0.60m deep. Ditch 36 was filled with 86 a mid grey brown silty sand, that contained one sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery and three struck flints. The two anomalies recorded by the geophysical survey were not seen within the trench.

Trench 34 (Figs 9 and 10)

Trench 34 was aligned SW-NE was 24.90m long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.40m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.33m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 14.5m from the south-west end of the trench was Ditch 35 which was slightly curvilinear and aligned roughly south to north and was 1.10m wide and 0.46m deep. Ditch 35 was filled with 85 a mid grey brown silty clay, that contained four sherds of late Iron Age to early Roman pottery and three residual struck flints. Ditch 35 has the same alignment as a geophysical anomaly but is situated slightly further to the east. One struck flint was found in the Trench 34 topsoil.

Trench 39 (Figs 9 and 10)

Trench 39 was aligned WSW-ENE was 26.20m long and a maximum of 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.36m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.16m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 5.5m from the WSW end of the trench was Gully 40 which was aligned roughly south-east to north-west and was 0.40m wide and 0.14m deep. Gully 40 was filled with 89 a mid grey brown silty clay, that contained no datable artefacts. Gully 40 has the same aligned to a geophysical anomaly but is situated further to the east.

Trench 43 (Figs 9 and 10; Pl 5)

Trench 43 was aligned SW-NE was 26.70m long and a maximum of 0.63m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.35m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.25m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 1m from the south-west end of the trench was Gully 38 which was aligned roughly south to north and was 0.40m wide and 0.20m deep. Gully 38 was filled with 87 a mid brown silty sand, that contained a flint flake and spall. 25m along the trench, Gully 38 was Pit 39 which was roughly rectangular in plan 1.00m long and 0.66m wide. Pit 39 was filled with 88 a grey brown silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks and contained a sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery and a broken flint flake. Gully 38 was in the same orientation as one of the geophysical anomalies but slightly further to the east, and the other was not seen within the trench. Seven struck flints came from the topsoil in this trench.

Trench 44 (Figs 9 and 11 Pls 6, 13 and 14)

Trench 44 was aligned SW-NE was 26.00m long and a maximum of 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.37m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.11m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 1m from the south west end of the trench was Pit 42 which was circular in plan and 0.90m in diameter and 0.24m deep. Pit 42 had two fills the upper of which was 92 a mid reddish brown silty sand with occasional small flecks of charcoal and contained 27 sherds of late Neolithic pottery. Beneath 92, fill 93 was a mid red brown silty sand with frequent flecks of charcoal that contained 71 sherds of late Neolithic pottery, a polished greensand axe head (broken) and 120 flints including 19 scrapers and a hammerstone.

Pit 42 was cut on its northern edge by Gully 43 which was aligned roughly south to north 0.50m wide and 0.25m deep. Gully 43 was filled with 94 a light brown grey silty sand that contained no datable artefacts. 2.5m to the north-east of Gully 43 was Ditch 45 that was aligned south-east to north-west, and was 1.04m wide and 0.37m deep. Ditch 45 was filled with 96 a light red brown silty sand with occasional charcoal and contained one flint flake. 1.5m to the north-east of Ditch 45 was pit 44 which was oval in plan 0.75m long and 0.60m wide and 0.14m deep. Pit 44 was filled with 95 a light red brown silty sand that contained no datable artefacts.

Neither of the two geophysical anomalies were seen within the trench however Gully 43 was on the same alignment as the western of the two. Four further sherds of late Neolithic pottery were recovered from the topsoil of Trench 44 along with two sherds of late Iron Age to Roman pottery and seven struck flints.

Trench 46 (Figs 9 and 11)

Trench 46 was aligned S-N was 25.80m long and a maximum of 0.62m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.36m thick beneath which was a subsoil 0.23m thick which overlay natural red brown silty clay. 3m from the south end of the trench was Ditch 41 which was aligned roughly south-west to north-east and was 1.50m wide and 0.30m deep. Ditch 41 was filled with 91 a mid brown silty sand, that contained one sherd of early to mid Bronze Age pottery and a flint flake and scraper. Ditch 41 was not on the same orientation as the geophysical anomaly within the trench (nor another one close by) which was not seen. Ten struck flints came from the topsoil in this trench.

Finds

Neolithic and Bronze Age Pottery by Richard Tabor

The pre-Iron Age pottery assemblage comprised a total of 113 sherds weighing 1183g (Appendix 3). The weight and fabric and vessel part of all sherds was recorded. The assemblage is dominated by Late Neolithic pottery from in and immediately around a single pit. However, the fabrics and finishes of several non-feature sherds from elsewhere suggest an Early to Middle Bronze Age component. A small number of very badly abraded sherds may be much later, possibly Iron Age or Roman.

The sherds were allocated to fabric groups based on the material, size and sorting of the principal inclusions. Vessel forms were grouped also by characteristic profiles, where reconstruction was possible, or by rim or other diagnostic features, including surface treatments in accordance with guidelines for the recording and analysis of prehistoric pottery (PCRG 2010).

Fabrics

The fabrics have been divided into two general Late Neolithic groups of sand and sand-and-grog mixtures; Early to Middle Bronze Age grog and flint-and-sand mixtures; and potentially Late Iron Age or Roman quartz mixtures (Appendix 4). The dating of the Late Neolithic groups is supported strongly by their association with diagnostic Grooved Ware sherds. All of this material is from Trench 44 and by far the greater part from pit 42. The only feature sherd from elsewhere was a base angle from gully 41 in Trench 46 so that the attribution of material to the Middle Bronze Age assemblage is based entirely on analogy with fabrics from the region. Their distribution by trench and context is shown in Appendix 3 and Figure 14.

Late Neolithic: sand mixtures

fS1 (medium) Soft grey sandy fabric with exterior varying from grey to red brown and interior grey including abundant well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.25mm) and rare angular burnt flint (<4mm).

Late Neolithic: sand and grog mixtures

SG1 (medium) Soft grey fabric with grey surfaces including moderate well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.5mm), and sparse to moderate grog (<3mm).

fSG1 (medium) Soft grey or cream fabric with exterior varying from cream to pale pink and interior dark grey including moderate well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.5mm), moderate subangular voids (<3mm), sparse to moderate grog (<2mm) and rare to sparse angular burnt flint (<3mm).

shqSG1 (medium) Soft grey fabric with grey surfaces including moderately well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.5mm), and sparse to moderate grog (<3mm) and rare angular quartz (<5mm), some cemented into conglomerate, occasionally with traces of iron pyrites, and rare shell impressions or platelet voids (<3mm)

Early to Middle Bronze Age: grog mixtures

G1 (medium) Soft dark grey fabric with red brown exterior and dark grey interior surfaces including moderate grog (<3mm).

fG1 (medium) Soft dark grey fabric with red brown exterior and dark grey interior surfaces including moderate grog (<3mm) and rare flint (<1.5mm).

qfG1 (medium) Soft grey fabric with grey surfaces including common moderately well-sorted grey, pale pink and off white grog (<5mm) and rare to sparse rounded quartz (<3mm) and rare angular flint (<1.5mm).

Early to Middle Bronze Age: flint and sand

FS1 (medium) Moderately hard grey fabric with red brown exterior and grey interior surfaces including abundant quartz sand (<0.25mm) and sparse rounded quartz (<1mm), sparse moderate, moderately well-sorted, angular flint (<1.5mm) and sparse brown oxides (<1mm).

Undated: quartz and mixtures

Q1 (coarse) Hard grey sandy fabric with buff red exterior including abundant well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.5mm) and rare brown iron oxides (<2mm).

gQ1 (coarse) Moderately hard grey sandy fabric including common to abundant well-sorted fine rounded quartz (<0.5mm) and sparse grog (<4mm).

The use of grog with varying amounts of flint is typical for Grooved Ware in Dorset (Woodward 1993, 201; Tabor 2015, 146; Cleal 1991a, fig. 7.1(a)) and quartz sand and inclusions of larger pieces of angular quartz have been noted on Cranborne Chase (Cleal 1991a, fig. 7.1(a)). Sparse flint and shell was present in a sherd from Poundbury and shell also occurred in sherds from Cranborne Chase and Maiden Castle (Smith 1987, 114-5; microfiche 3 A9; Cleal 1991a, fig. 7.1(a); 1991b, 182). The fabric range of the Woodsford Grooved Ware from pit 42 may reflect use of material from a variety of sources. Of particular interest is a featureless sherd which includes sparse fragments of coarse angular quartz with accretions of iron pyrites.

Grog tempered pottery dominates Early and Middle Bronze Age pottery in Dorset and the inclusion of variable amounts of flint, fine or coarse, is also typical (Woodward1993, 201; Smith 1987, 114-5; microfiche 3 A1-2; Davies *et al.* 1991, 99-101; Watling and White 1982, 28, appendix IV). It is commonly associated with Deverel-Rimbury ceramics as well as earlier forms.

Vessel forms

Late Neolithic

S1. fS1. Pit 42 (93). Grooved Ware, Rinyo-Clacton, profile. The vessel is a near straight sided open bucket, with a slightly expanded or collared elongated rim tapered by internal concave moulding towards a flattened top. Decoration comprises at least six rows of oblique, sharply tooled linear incisions with alternating directions of slant each separated by roughly horizontal continuous rounded grooves varying in width from 2mm to 2.5mm. The upper outer surface is in very good, sharp, condition but in the lower third the exterior is generally badly abraded. Rim radius: 90mm.

S2. fS1. Pit 42 (93). Sharply defined base angle at *c*. 80^{o} from vertical. Abraded surfaces but slightly oblique lines visible in places immediately above angle. Base radius: 75mm. Thick carbonised residues had collected in the base angle.

S3. fS1. Pit 42(93). Lower wall sherd decorated with pairs of small fingertip impressions.

S5. fSG1. Pit 42(93). Lower wall sherd decorated a minimum of 7 divergent 1.5mm wide rounded grooves. Lump of carbonised residue on interior close to the base.

S8. fSG1. Pit 42 (92). Rim. Incurved, simple rounded.

S9. fSG1. Pit 42 (92). Upright simple rounded rim with upper wall turning slightly inwards. Rim radius: 90mm. Badly abraded exterior but retaining traces of linear oblique incisions.

S10. fSG1. Pit 42 (92). Straight-sided wall sherd with abraded exterior but retaining traces of stab marks over oblique linear incisions.

S11. fSG1. Pit 42 (92). Wall sherd with worn exterior but retaining traces of two rows of lightly incised sharp oblique lines in opposing directions divided by similar horizontal line.

S12. fS1. Pit 42 (92). Lower wall sherd with worn exterior but retaining broad (10mm) upward turned furrows. Extensive carbonised residue on interior.

S13. fS1. Pit 42 (92). Wall sherd with worn exterior but retaining minimum of three concentric grooves.

S14. fSG1. Pit 42 (92). Simple rounded rim over straight-sided conical wall. Abraded exterior but retaining flat oblique linear 1.5mm wide, 1mm deep, grooves. Carbonised residue settled in grooves.

S20. SG1. Trench 44, (50). From topsoil, near pit 42. Upright simple rounded rim from an open bowl decorated with fingertip impressions.

The diversity of rims shows that a minimum of four different vessels were represented in pit 42 although at least two more are possible and a nearby topsoil rim would give a potential seven vessels. The rim form of S1 is parallelled by vessels from Woodhenge, Wiltshire and Latch Farm, east Dorset (Annable and Simpson 1964, 35, item 3; Smith 1956, fig.115, 1; Calkin 1952, 40, plate 1a). A vessel from Wyke Down, Dorset was decorated with a similar arrangement of oblique incisions and dividing grooves, although it had the additional motif of concentric grooves (ie. Cleal 1991a, fig. 7.17, P187). Similar badly abraded incisions above the base and the similarity of fabric suggest that S1 and S2 are from the same vessel. Simple rounded and flattened upright rims S9, S14 and S20 from in and near pit 42 are similar to those on neutral and open vessels at Wyke Down (Cleal 1991a, 163-4, figs. 7.18 and 7.19).

Decoration on other sherds is dominated by oblique incisions and only on the small sherd S13 do the grooves show signs of curvature. Patterns formed from oval stab marks are also common on Grooved Ware but the examples in this assemblage are too badly damaged to interpret. Fingertip impressions on Grooved Ware often cohabit with other decorative motifs and may be geometrically zoned. There is no evidence of other forms of decoration on either rim S20 or wall sherd S3.

Carbonized residues were noted on S4, S5, S7, S9, S10, S14, S20, S21 and most thickly S2, from which a sample has been collected with a view to potential radiocarbon dating.

Middle Bronze Age

S28. FS1. 41, (91). Base angle of c. 70°.

A base angle from pit 41 is the only feature sherd likely to be of Middle Bronze Age date but it lacks determining characteristics.

Conclusion

Although no feature sherds of Bronze Age date have been recovered several sherds have fabrics which are entirely consistent with manufacture in the early to middle part of the period. The Late Neolithic Grooved Ware assemblage is of some local and probably regional importance as several different vessels are represented within a single closed context. Together with the associated flint and a stone axe the pit assemblage fits well within a pattern of deposition during the Mid to Late Neolithic (Tabor 2015, 147-8). The prospect of absolute dating for material adhering to the pottery lends it added potential.

Iron Age, Roman and Post Medieval Pottery by Jane Timby

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of 70 sherds of pottery, weighing 536g, dating to the later Iron Age-early Roman and post-medieval periods (Appendix 5). The pottery was in fairly fragmented condition reflected in the overall average sherd size of just 7.7g. Despite this there are several examples of multiple sherds from single vessels. Pottery was recovered from six features, mainly ditches, with one pit and one oven.

For the purposes of the assessment the assemblage was sorted into fabrics. Traded or names wares were coded using the National Roman reference collection codes (Tomber and Dore 1998). More local or unknown wares were coded generically according to colour and inclusions. The sorted sherds were quantified by sherd count and weight. Freshly broken sherds were counted as single pieces.

Later Iron Age –early Roman

Most of the assemblage, 67 sherds, dates to the later Iron Age or Roman period. The composition of the assemblage is extremely limited being dominated by Dorset and Dorset-related black-burnished wares which effectively account for 97% of the Roman assemblage. There are no continental or regional traded wares present.

The only vessel in tradition Poole Harbour black burnished ware (DOR BB1) is represented by several sherds from a necked jar from ditch 46. The vessel is decorated with an acute lattice and is thus likely to date to the 2nd century AD. There are 45 sherds belonging to this single vessel effectively accounting for 64% of the recovered assemblage.

Most of the other sandy wares mainly black (BW/ BWF), but some oxidized (OXID) are related to the traditional BB1 fabrics but show some textural variation. Variability on products from the Poole Harbour kilns from sites close to

the production area has been previously noted (cf. Seager Smith 1997; Seager Smith and Davies 1993). A distinction can also be made between the traditional Roman fabric and the preceding Durotrigian sandy wares which are again more variable.

The only two sherds of slightly different character include a sandy ware (SAND) from ditch 118 with ill-sorted quartz sand and traces of a possible matt red surface slip. Also from the same context is a handmade sandy ware sherd containing sparse iron oxidised and organic inclusions.

The entire assemblage comprises jars.

Post-medieval

Three rims from glazed earthenware vessels were recovered from Trenches 8 and 24.

Conclusion

The pottery demonstrates the presence of later Iron Age-early Roman activity at the site extending into the 2nd century AD. In broad terms the assemblage is typical of that to be expected from this area.

Flint and Chert and stone by Steve Ford

A moderately large collection of 223 lithic artefacts were recovered from the evaluation, as summarized in Appendix 6A and detailed by context in Appendix 6B. These were all seemingly made on gravel flint available locally, which varied from fine black flint to coarser grey flint. Three pieces were made from a fine-grained chert. A significant proportion of the collection was recovered as spoilheap finds indicating the likely presence of a lithic artefact component in a topsoil-only context. Most of the lithic collection was made by hard hammer and was broad flake, not particularly well produced, and in general would appear to reflect a predominant Bronze Age chronology. A small number of blades and narrow flakes are certainly and probably of Mesolithic date and were usually patinated bluish white but not exclusively so. Two scrapers had been burnt.

Several cut features produced struck flint but usually as single items and rarely two items. The exception to this was pit 42, from which 121 pieces were recovered, accounting for more than half of the collection.

The collection from pit 42 was notable for the exceptionally high proportion of scrapers present (19 out of 88 items, excluding spalls) indicating that this was a specialized assemblage. Most scrapers were probably used for processing hides though several other functions have been demonstrated. Similar specialized assemblages have been recorded, such as at a Late Neolithic site at Rackham in Sussex (Holden and Bradley 1975) and two Early Bronze Age pits at Philliols Farm, Bere Regis (Wallis 2005). The pit also produced a fragment of polished stone axe probably group I (see Williams, below).

Polished axe by David Williams, FSA

From pit 42, lower fill 93. A large tapered fragment from towards the butt end of a dark grey, Neolithic ground and polished hand axe head, broken at both ends. The surface is pitted here and there by weathering but still retains some areas that are smooth and show the original polish. The axe is oval in section and the remaining dimensions are: Length: 53mm; maximum Width: 58mm; maximum Thickness: 25mm.

A close visual examination with the aid of a hand lens (x 10) shows that the stone is coarse-grained and dominated by interlocking mafic minerals, suggesting that it is a greenstone (a medium to coarse-grained basic intrusive igneous rock). A small slither of the rock was carefully detached from one of the broken ends and made into a thin section for study under a petrological microscope. This shows that the matrix is composed of plentiful dark coloured grains of clinopyroxene and fibrous amphibole set in a lighter-coloured matrix of altered felspar. This composition is suggestive of the rock being an uralitized gabbro, belonging to the Implement Petrology Committee Group 1, with a Cornish origin, almost certainly coming from the area of Mount's Bay, near Penzance (Clough and Cummins, 1979; 1988). This was one of the main sources for Neolithic polished stone axes and its products have a wide distribution over large areas of southern England, being particularly well-represented in Dorset (Davis *et al*. 1988, table 8).

Metalwork by Steve Crabb

Three copper alloy objects were recovered from deposit 52 in ditch 1, two bracelets and a fragmentary pin.

Both bracelets have a lozenge shaped cross section and are roughly oval in shape. Bracelet 1 measures 76mm long by 70mm across. The band measures 15mm across by 10mm thick. It is dark green blue in colour with moderate levels of light green powdery copper oxide corrosion. There is no decoration on the band nor signs of wear. Bracelet 2 measures 76mm long by 70mm across. The band measures 15mm across by 10mm thick. It is also dark green blue in colour with moderate levels of light green powdery copper oxide corrosion. There is no decoration on the band nor signs of wear. These bracelets are a matching pair with near identical size and shape, they conform with type C bracelets from Lankhills cemetery in Winchester (Clarke *et al.* 1979). Bracelets are thought to be an exclusively female personal item during the Roman period (Johns 1996; Murdochs 1991). This type of bracelet or bangle has a wide period of use and cannot be accurately dated beyond the middle to late Roman period in Britain (Johns 1996).

The fragmentary pin is in seven fragments, it is square in cross section with significant penetration of corrosion, the original surface of the pin is not visible due to the level of corrosion. The original function of this object is not clear due to the level of damage and corrosion.

Macrobotanical plant material and charcoal by Jo Pine

Ten bulk soil samples were processed from the site. The flots were wet sieved to 0.25mm and air dried. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnifications between x10 and x40.

Charred plant macrofossils were present low quantities in samples [1] 26 (76); [4] 31 (81); [5] 42 (93); [6] 49 (99); [7] 100 (150); [8] 101 (151) (possible cereal) and [10] 112 (167). These were generally poorly preserved and can only be identified as indeterminate weed and cereal.

A low density of charcoal fragments were present in samples [2] 28 (78), [3] 29 (79); [4] 31 (81) [5] 42 (93); [6] 49 (99); [7] 100 (150); [8] 101 (151) [9] 110 (165). The majority of this material was too small for species identification but samples [5] contains one or two pieces of a size and structure that has potential for species identification.

Conclusion

The evaluation has revealed the presence of archaeological finds and deposits in several locations across the site. It has broadly confirmed the results of the geophysical survey but also revealed additional deposits in other locations.

The earliest period represented is the Mesolithic with a few flint finds. These are considered to reflect no more than casual loss or discard within the landscape rather than the presence of occupation foci.

More detailed evidence dates to the later Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age with concentrations of struck flint within the topsoil, especially towards the east of the site, the latter also a location for a late Neolithic pit.

The majority of the archaeological potential appears to consist of a landscape of enclosures of two periods; those of the early to mid Bronze Age together with a later phase dating from the late Iron Age into the early Roman period. This collates well with the previous works to the south which have shown an agricultural landscape with multiple phases of occupation and reorganisation from the Bronze Age into the Iron Age and on into the Roman period with a subsequent later Medieval and Post Medieval component (Weale 2010, Pine and Tabor 2015; Weale and Tabor forthcoming).

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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at South, West or South West end

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
1	25.80	2.20	0.34	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.34, 0.34 + gravel (Natural Geology?) Gully 30, Ditch Terminal End 31, Gully 32 Tree Bowl 33 Possible Pit 34 Plate 1
2	25.9	2.20	0.40	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.40m, 0.40m+ yellow brown silty sand and gravel (Natural Geology?) Ditch 27, Pit 28 Ditch Terminal End 29 Plates 7 and 8
3	24.4	2.20	0.60	Topsoil 0-0.35m., 0.35-0.50m Subsoil 0.50-.60m+ gravel (Natural Geology?). Gully 26
4	25.0	2.20	0.35	Topsoil 0-0.30m. 0.30-0.35m Subsoil, 0.35m+ gravel (Natural Geology?)
5	24.9	2.20	0.98	Topsoil 0-0.45m. Subsoil 0.45-0.80 (NW end) 0.40-0.90 (SE end). 0.80-0.83m+ (NW end), 0.90-0.98m+ (SE end) yellow brown silty clay with some gravel (Natural Geology?)
6	24.5	2.20	1.00	West end of trench Topsoil 0-0.38m. 0.38-0.39m Subsoil. 0.39m+ red brown silty clay with gravel (Natural Geology?). East end of trench Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.90m. 0.90-1.00m+ Gravel and yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
7	23.70	2.20	0.79	Topsoil 0-0.40m. 0.40-0.79m Subsoil. 0.79m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 118
8	24.40	2.20	0.74	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.70. 0.70-074m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch Terminal End 118, Ditch and Oven/Kiln complex 106-108, 114-115 Plates 9 and 10
9	23.0	2.20	0.87	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.80. 0.80-0.87m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
10	24.20	2.20	0.83	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.80. 0.80-0.83m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
11	24.90	2.20	0.77	Topsoil 0-0.46m. Subsoil 0.46-0.73. 0.73-0.78 yellow brown silty clay+ (Natural Geology?). Pit 9
12	26.80	2.20	0.60	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.60. 0.60m+ red brown silty clay(Natural Geology?). Ditch 110, Ditch 111
13	25.80	2.20	0.64	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.60. 0.90-0.64m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
14	28.0	2.20	0.71	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil0.40-0.65m. 0.65-0.71m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 104 Plate 2
15	25.70	2.20	0.80	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.75. 0.75-0.80m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 103
16	24.50	2.20	0.81	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.78. 0.78-0.81m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 1 Plates 3, 11 and 12
17	24.90	2.20	0.90	South end Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.75m. 0.75-0.80m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). North end Topsoil 0-0.40. Subsoil 0.40-0.86. 0.86-0.90m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). North end Topsoil 0-0.40. Subsoil 0.40-0.86. 0.86-0.90m+ red brown silty clay with gravel (Natural Geology?)
18	24.40	2.20	1.10	West end Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.76m. 0.76-0.81m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). East end Topsoil 0-0.50. Subsoil 0.50-1.00m. 1.00-1.10m gravel (Natural Geology?)
19	2720	2.20	0.81	South end Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.76m. 0.76-0.81m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). North end Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.60m. 0.60-0.63m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
20	27.80	2.20	0.70	Topsoil 0-0.38m. Subsoil 0.38-0.66m. 0.66-0.70m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
21	26.50	2.20	0.52	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.48m. 0.48-0.52m+ red brown silty clay with patches of gravel (Natural Geology?)
22	29.70	2.20	1.02	Topsoil 0-0.500m. Subsoil 0.50-1.00m 1.00-1.02m+ (1.20 in test pit) yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
23	24.30	2.20	0.65	Topsoil 0-0.350m. Subsoil 0.35-0.60m. 0.60m-0.65m+ mixed red brown and yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
24	26.80	2.20	0.64	Topsoil 0-0.45m. Subsoil 0.45-0.62. 0.62-0.64m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 112 Ditch Terminal End 113
25	26.70	2.20	0.80	Topsoil 0-0.34m. Subsoil 0.34-0.70m. 0.70-0.80m+ mixed red brown yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 102 Plate 4
26	27.40	2.20	0.84	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.77m. 0.77m-0.84m+ mixed red brown and yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
27	25.00	2.20	0.69	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.68m. 0.68-0.69m+ yellow brown silty clay with gravel at southern end (Natural Geology?). Ditch 46
28	25.20	2.20	0.66	Topsoil 0-0.41m. Subsoil 0.41-0.63m. 0.63-0.66m+ yellow brown silty clay with gravel towards south east (Natural Geology?)
29	26.0	2.20	0.74m	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.70m. 0.70-0.74m+ yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 101, Gully 100
30	28.30	2.20	0.68	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.62m. 0.62-0.68m+ mixed re brown and yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Gully 47, Gully 48, Gully Terminal End 49
31	24.70	2.20	0.68	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.65m. 0.65-0.68m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
32	26.10	2.20	0.78	Topsoil 0-0.40m. Subsoil 0.40-0.75m. 0.75-0.78m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
33	30.50	2.20	0.60	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.55m. 0.55-0.60m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 36
34	24.90	2.20	0.80	Topsoil 0-0.34m. Subsoil 0.40-0.73. 0.73-0.80m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 35
35	26.80	2.20	0.59	Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.56m. 0.56-0.59m+ red brown silty clay with gravel (Natural Geology?)
36	26.0	2.20	0.65	Topsoil 0-0.39m. Subsoil 0.39-0.63m. 0.63-0.65m+ red brown silty clay with gravel (Natural Geology?)
37	25.0	2.20	0.54	Topsoil 0-0.32m. Subsoil 0.32-0.50-m. 0.50-0.54m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
38	26.20	2.20	0.62	Topsoil 0-0.32m. Subsoil 0.32-0.59. 0.59-0.62m+ red brown silty clay gravel at north-eastern end (Natural Geology?)
39	26.2	2.20	0.60	Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.52m. 0.52-0.60m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?) Ditch 40
40	26.0	2.20	0.64	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.60m. 0.60-0.64m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
41	24.50	2.20	0.60	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.54m. 0.54-0.60m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
42	25.0	2.20	0.68	Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.62m. 0.62-0.68m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
43	26.70	2.20	0.63	Topsoil 0-0.35m. Subsoil 0.35-0.60m. 0.60-0.63m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 38, Pit 39 Plate 5
44	26.00	2.20	0.50	Topsoil 0-0.37m. Subsoil 0.37-0.48m. 0.48-0.50m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Pit 42, Ditch 43, Ditch Terminal End 44, Ditch 45 Plates 6,13 and 14
45	26.10	2.20	0.82	Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.80. 0.80-0.82m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)
46	25.80	2.20	0.62	Topsoil 0-0.36m. Subsoil 0.36-0.59m. 0.59-0.62m+ red brown silty clay (Natural Geology?). Ditch 41
47	24.50	2.20	0.50	Topsoil 0-0.34m. Subsoil 0.34-0.50m. 0.50m+ north western 5m red brown silty clay rest of trench gravel (Natural Geology?)
48	29.0	2.20	0.70	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.65m. 0.65m-0.70m+ yellow brown silty sand and gravel (Natural Geology?)
49	23.40	2.20	0.72	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.69m. 0.69-0.72m+ mixed red brown and yellow brown silty clay (Natural Geology?)

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill (s)*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*
16	1	52	Ditch	Roman	Bronze Bracelets
3	26	76	Gully Terminal End		
2	27	77	Gully		
2	28	78	Pit	Late Iron Age to early Roman?	Pottery
2	29	79	Gully Terminal End		
1	30	80	Gully		
1	31	81	Gully Terminal End		
1	32	82	Gully		
1	33	83	Feature unexcavated		
1	34	84	Pit unexcavated		
34	35	85	Ditch	Late Iron Age to early Roman	Pottery
33	36	86	Ditch	Early to Mid Bronze Age	Pottery
43	38	87, 90	Gully		
43	39	88	Pit		
39	40	89	Gully	Early to Mid Bronze Age	Pottery
46	41	91	Gully	Late Neolithic	Pottery
44	42	92, 93	Pit	Late Neolithic	Pottery, Axe
44	43	94	Gully		
44	44	95	Pit or Gully Terminal End		
44	45	152	Ditch		
27	46	96	Ditch	Roman 2nd Century	Pottery
30	47	97	Gully		
30	48	98	Gully		
30	49	99	Gully Terminal End		
29	100	150	Gully Terminal End		
29	101	151	Ditch Terminal End		
25	102	153, 154	Ditch		
15	103	155	Ditch	Early to Mid Bronze Age	Pottery
14	104	156	Ditch	Early to Mid Bronze Age	Pottery
14	105	157	Ditch		
8	106	158	Gully		
8	107	159, 173	Gully		
8	108	160, 161, 162, 163, 169, 170	Oven	Late Iron Age to early Roman	Pottery
11	109	164	Pit or Gully Terminal End		
12	110	165	Ditch	Late Iron Age to early Roman	Pottery
12	111	166	Ditch		
24	112	167	Ditch Terminal End		
24	113	168	Ditch	Early to Mid Bronze Age	Pottery
8	114	171	Pit	Late Iron Age to early Roman	Pottery
8	115	172	Pit		
10	116	174	Posthole		
8	117	175	Ditch Terminal End		
7	118	176, 177	Ditch	Late Iron Age to early Roman	Pottery

Appendix 3: Neolithic and Bronze Age Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

			fS1		**SG1**		**fSG1**		**shqSG1**		**G1**		**fG1**		**qfG1**	
Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*
2	28	78														
14		50													1	11
14	104	156											1	4		
15	103	155									2	22				
24	113	168											1	1		
33	36	86									1	0.5				
43	39	88									1	3				
44		50			4	31										
44	42	92	2	25	16	49	5	43	4	11						
44	42	93	51	877	19	71	1	7								
46	41	91														
Total			53	902	39	151	6	50	4	11	4	25.5	2	5	1	11

			FS1		**Q1**		**gQ1**	
Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*	*No*	*W(g)*
2	28	78			1	4	1	2
14		50						
14	104	156						
15	103	155						
24	113	168						
33	36	86					1	1
43	39	88						
44		50						
44	42	92						
44	42	93						
46	41	91	1	20				
Total			1	20	1	4	2	3

Appendix 4: Neolithic and Bronze Age Pottery Fabric Quantification

Fabric	*No. sherds*	*% sherds*	*Wt (g)*	*%*	*Mean weight (g)*
fS1	53	46.9	902	76.2	17.0
SG1	39	34.5	151	12.8	3.9
fSG1	6	5.3	50	4.2	8.3
shqSG1	4	3.5	11	0.9	2.8
G1	4	3.5	25.5	2.2	6.4
fG1	2	1.8	5	0.4	2.5
qfG1	1	0.9	11	0.9	11.0
FS1	1	0.9	20	1.7	20.0
Q1	1	0.9	4	0.3	4.0
gQ1	2	1.8	3	0.3	1.5

Appendix 5: Iron Age, Roman and Post Medieval Pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Type*	*Fabric*	*Form*	*Wt(g)*	*No*	*Rim*	*Comment*	*Date*
7	118	177	ditch	DOR BB1	jar	98	5	1		Late Iron Age–early Roman
7	118	176	ditch	OXID		4	1	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
7	118	176	ditch	SAND		7	1	0	?red slip	Late Iron Age–early Roman
7	118	176	ditch	BWF		2	1	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
7	118	176	ditch	OXFEOR	BASE	10	1	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
8		50		PMGRE		35	0	1		Post-medieval
8	108	161	oven	BW	jar	119	1	2	large vessel	Late Iron Age–early Roman
12	110	165	ditch	BW	base	23	5	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
24		50		PMGRE		48	0	2		Post-medieval
24	114	171	pit	OXID		32	1	0	?burnt	Late Iron Age–early Roman
27	46	152	ditch	DOR BB1	jar	148	42	3		2nd century AD
34	35	85	ditch	BW	jar	4	0	1		Late Iron Age–early Roman
44		50		BW		1	1	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
44		50		BW/OXID		5	1	0		Late Iron Age–early Roman
				TOTAL		**536**	**60**	**10**		

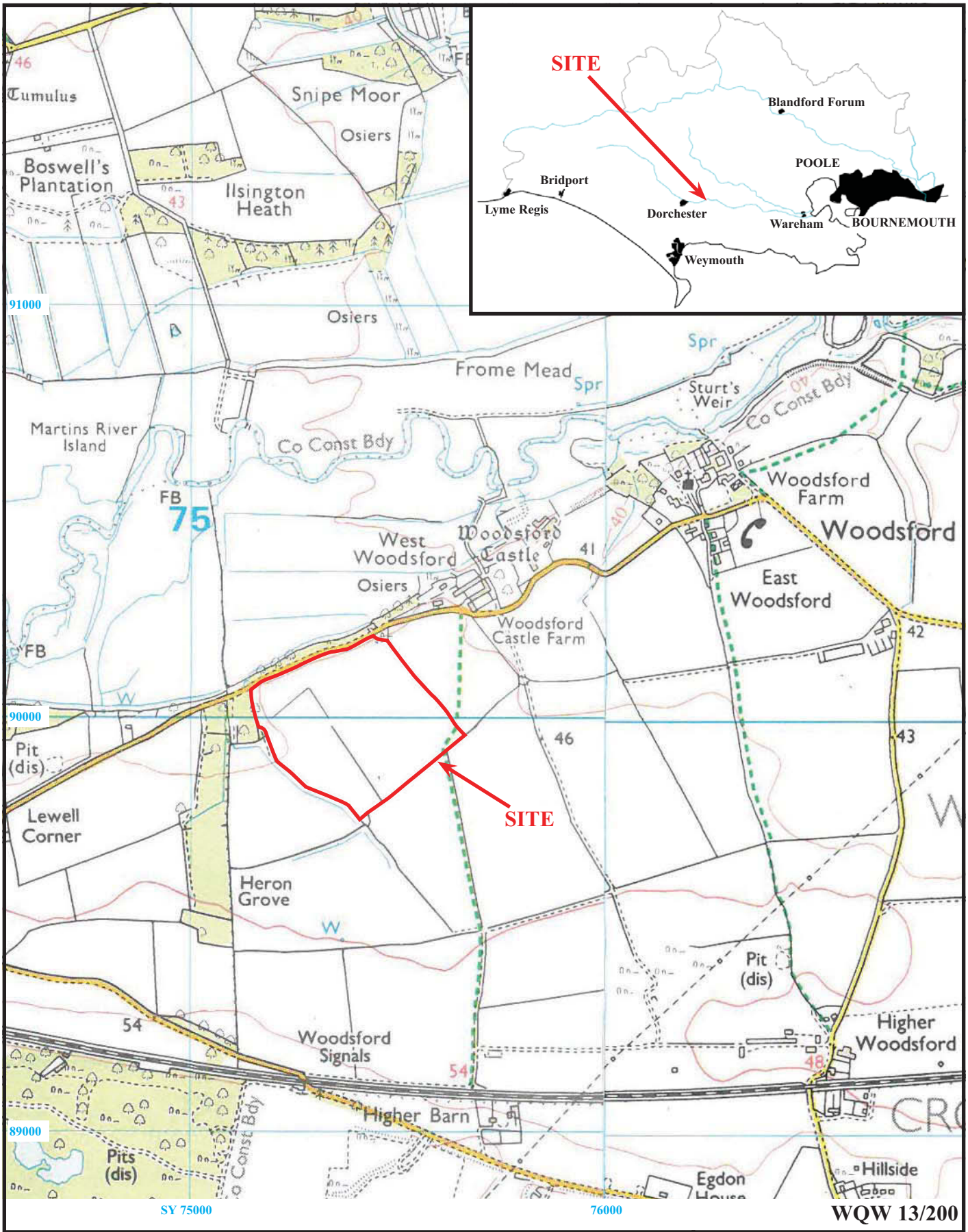
Appendix 6

6A Summary of the flint collection

Type	*Number*
Flakes	110
Chert flakes	3
Narrow flakes/blades	16
Cores	5
Core fragments	6
Tested nodules	2
Spalls	50
Hammerstone	1
Scrapers	33
Polished stone axe	1

6B Flint Catalogue

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Intact flake*	*Broken flake*	*Intact Blade*	*Broken Blade*	*P.Broken Blade*	*Spall*	*Core*	*Core fragment*	*Other*
7		50	2	2		3 (patinated)	1	2			Scraper
8		50	3	5	1			3			
14		50	7	4				2		1	Scraper; 2 chert flakes
29		50		7	1			6		1	Scraper
31		50	2 (1 patinated)	1				1			Scraper (burnt) chert flake
34		50	1 (patinated)								
43		50		1	3 (1patinated)	1 (patinated)					2 scrapers
44		50						2	1		4 scrapers
46		50	1	4 (1 retouched)		1	1		1 (on flake)		2 Scrapers
	29	79	1								
	35	85		1						2	
	36	86	1					1			Scraper
	38	87	1					1			
	39	88		1							
	41	91	1								Scraper
	42	93	33	25	3			33	3	1	19 scrapers (1 burnt); Hammerstone; 2 tested nodules polished stone axe
	46	96	1								
	101	151			1						
	104	156		2							
	110	165			1						
	112	167		1							
	117	175		1							
	118	176	1	1(patinated)							



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Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site within Woodsford and Dorset.

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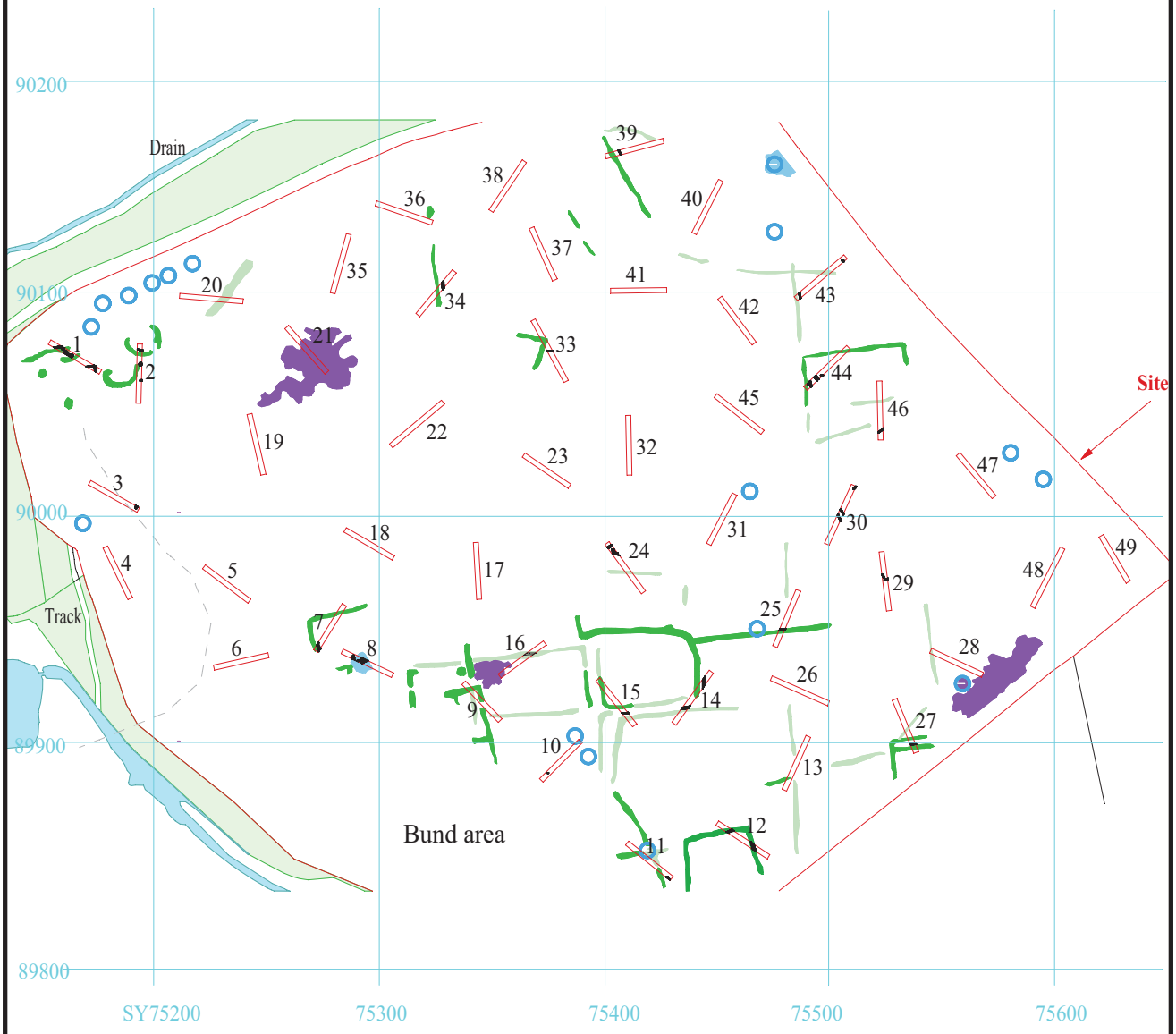

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Figure 2. Trench Layout in relation to geophysical anomalies (after Beaverstock and Constable 2015)

0 150m

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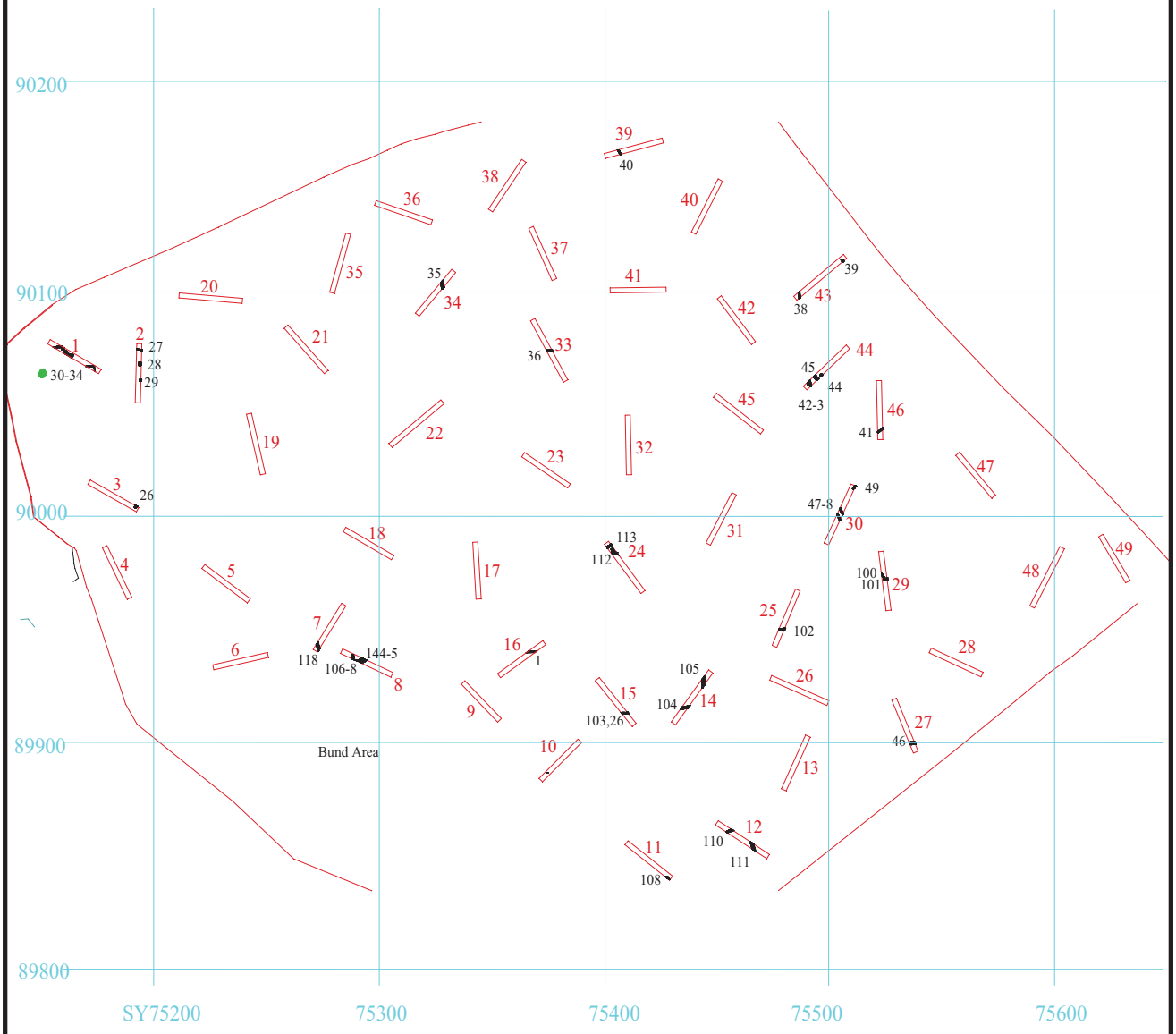

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Figure 3. Trenches and archaeological features.

0 150m

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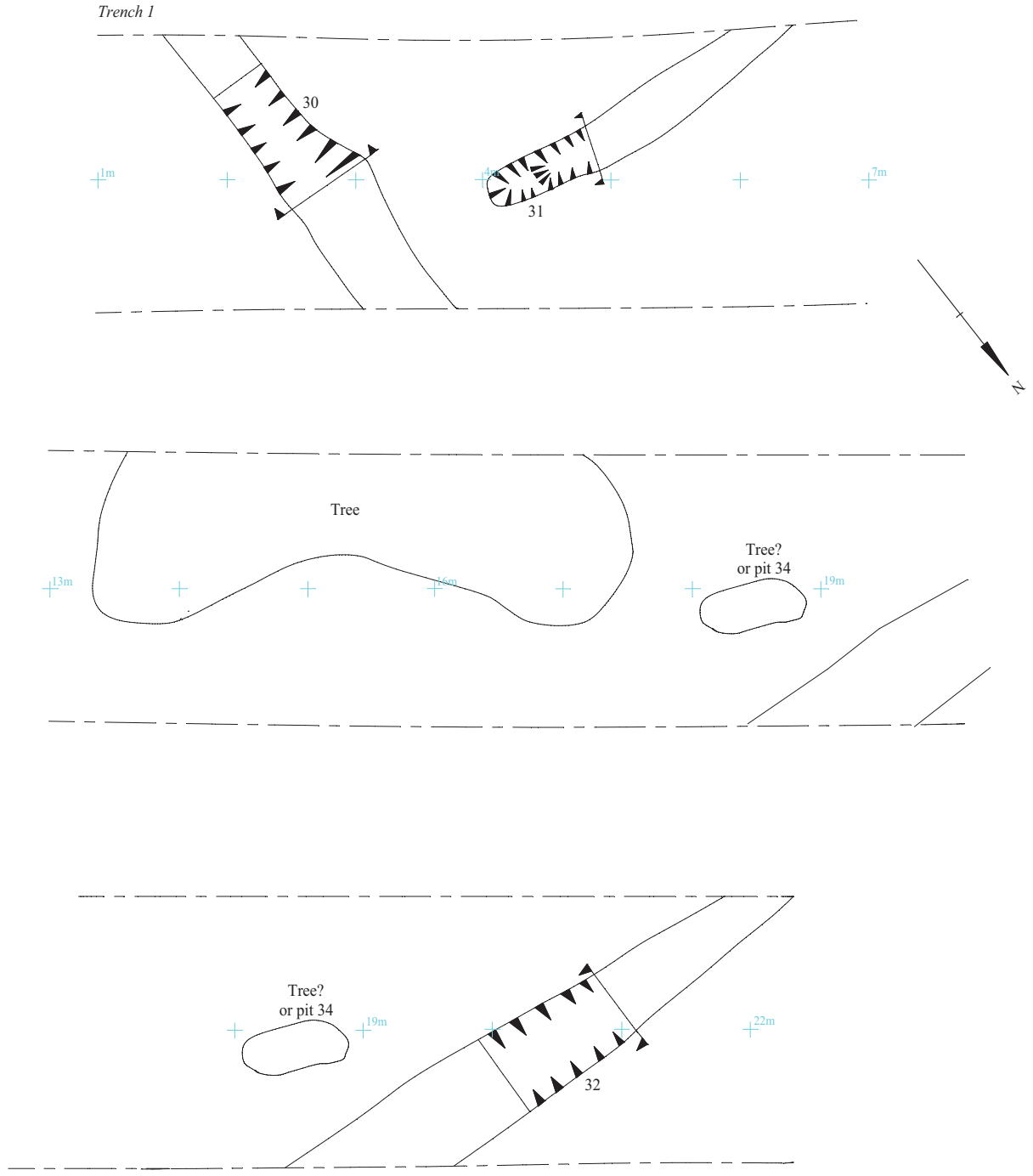

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Figure 4. Plan of Trench 1

0 5m

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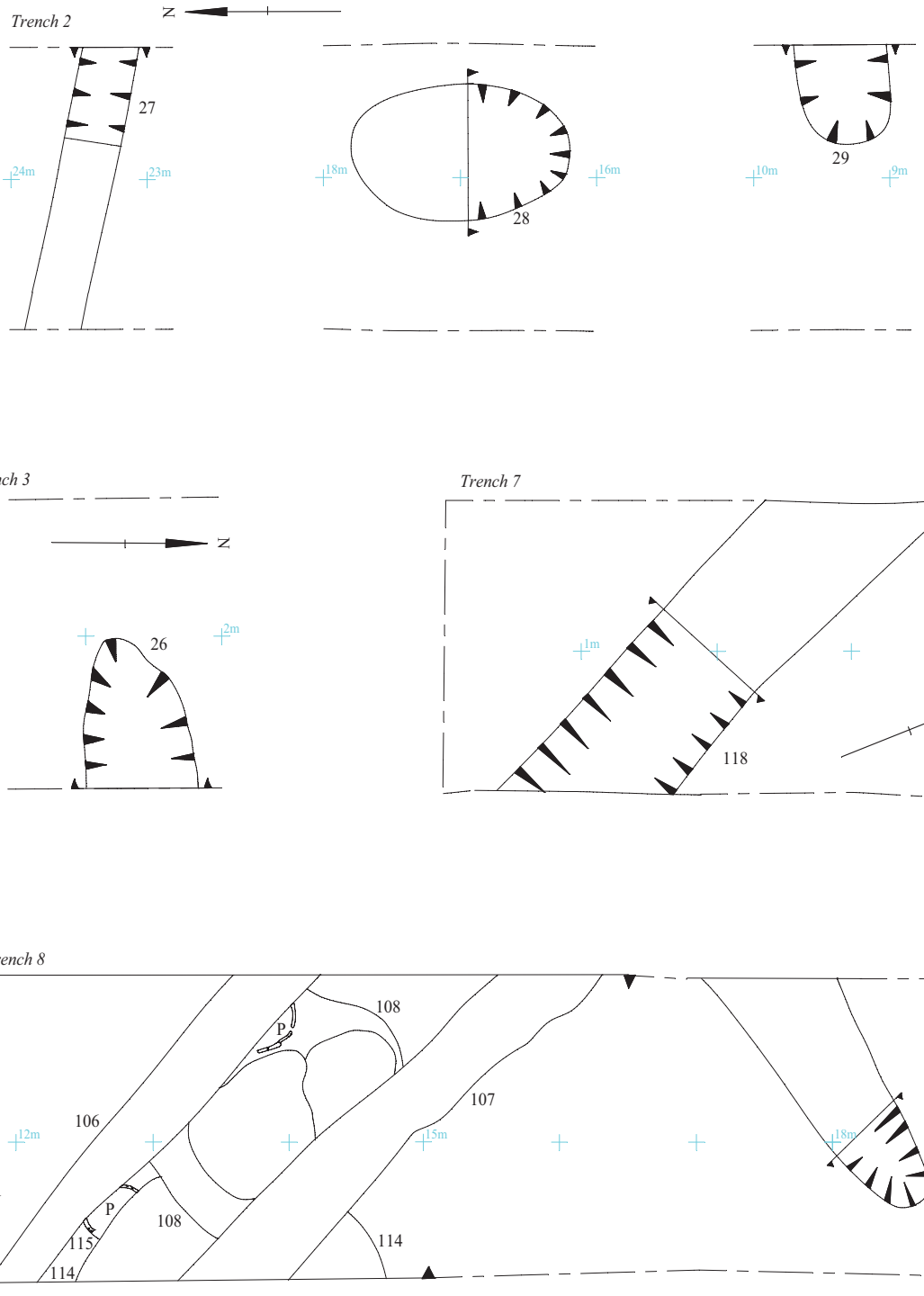

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Figure 5. Plans of Trenches 2, 3, 7 and 8

0 5m

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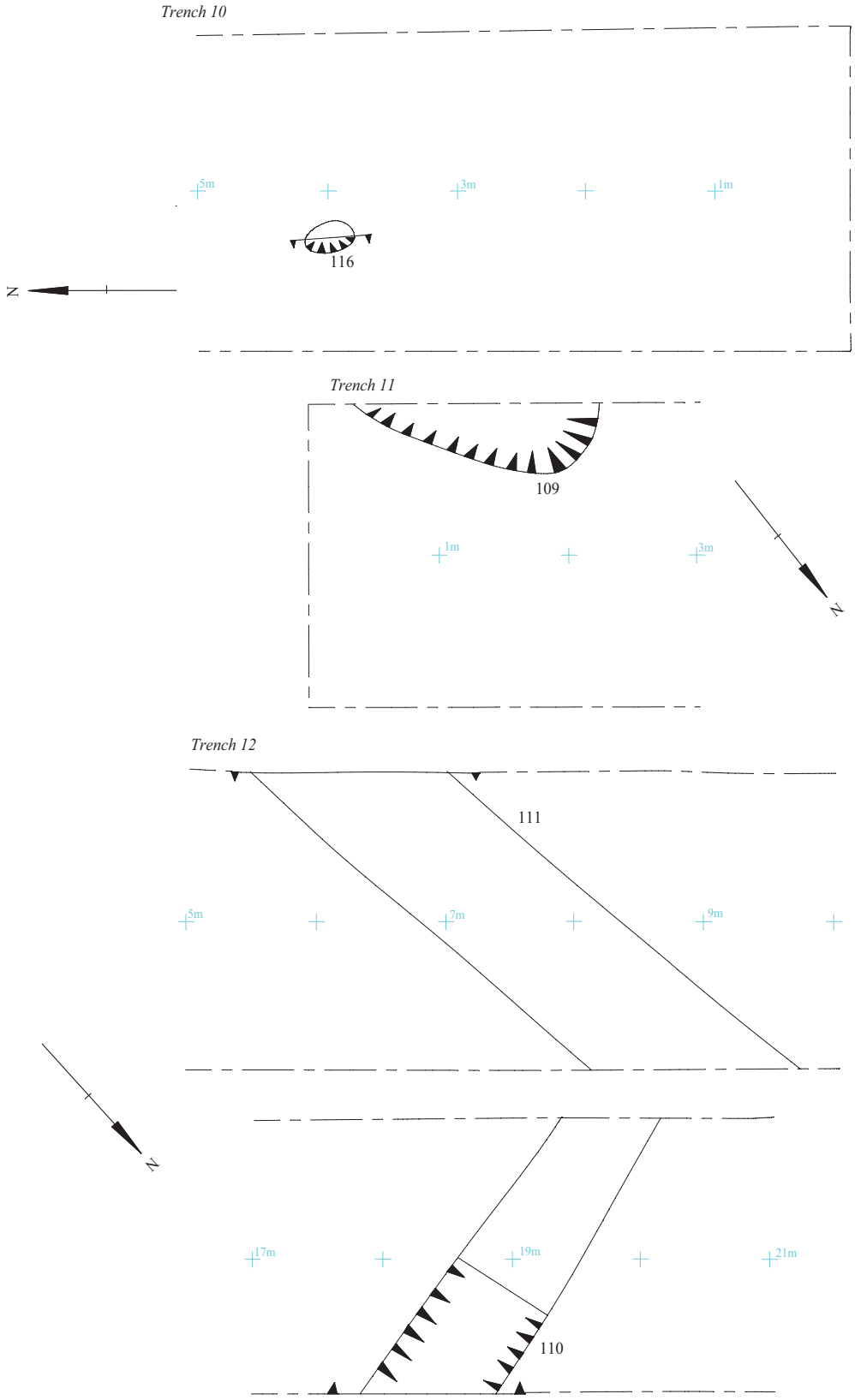

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Figure 6. plans of Trenches 10, 11 and 12

0 5m

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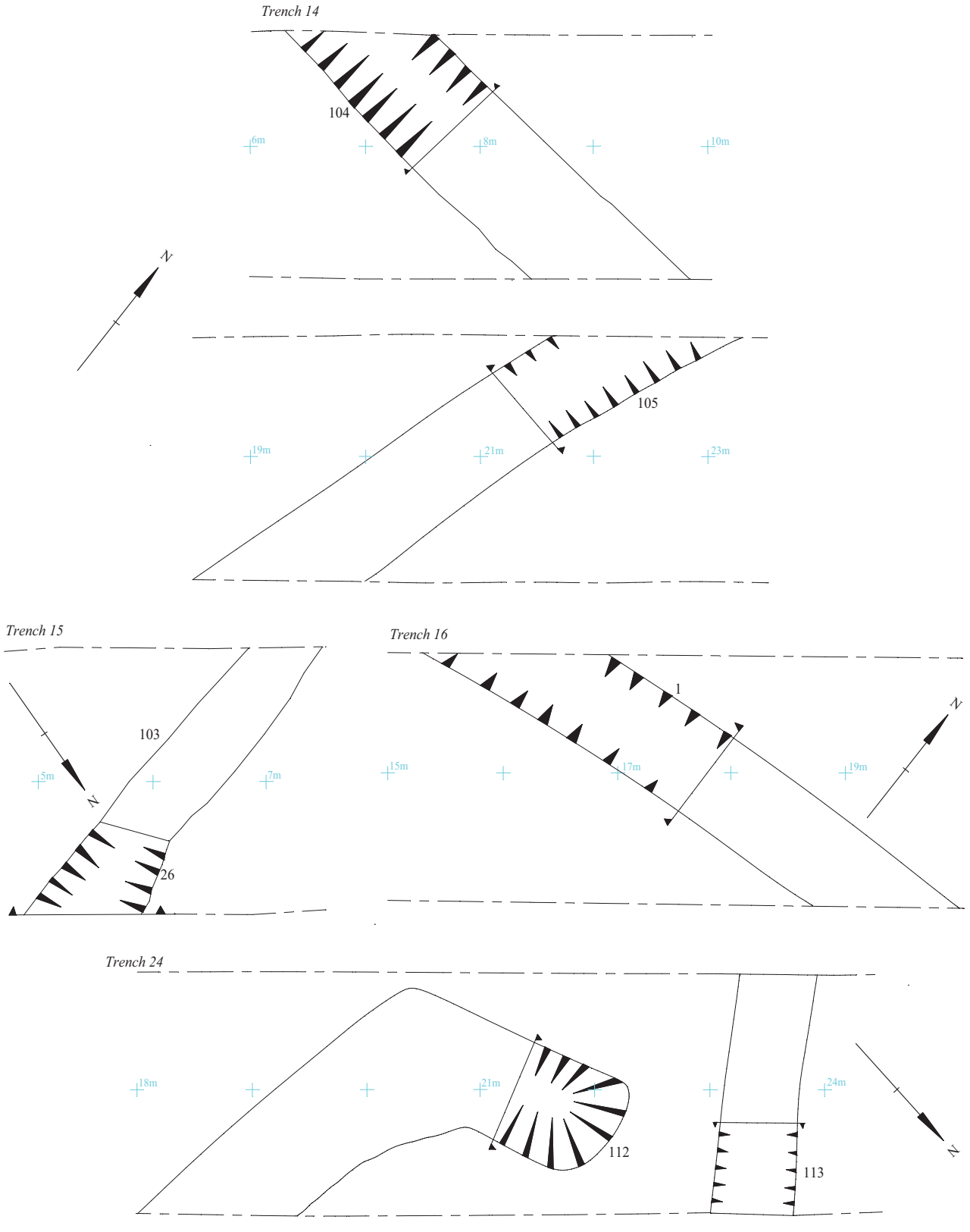

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Figure 7. Plans of Trenches 14, 15, 16, and 24

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

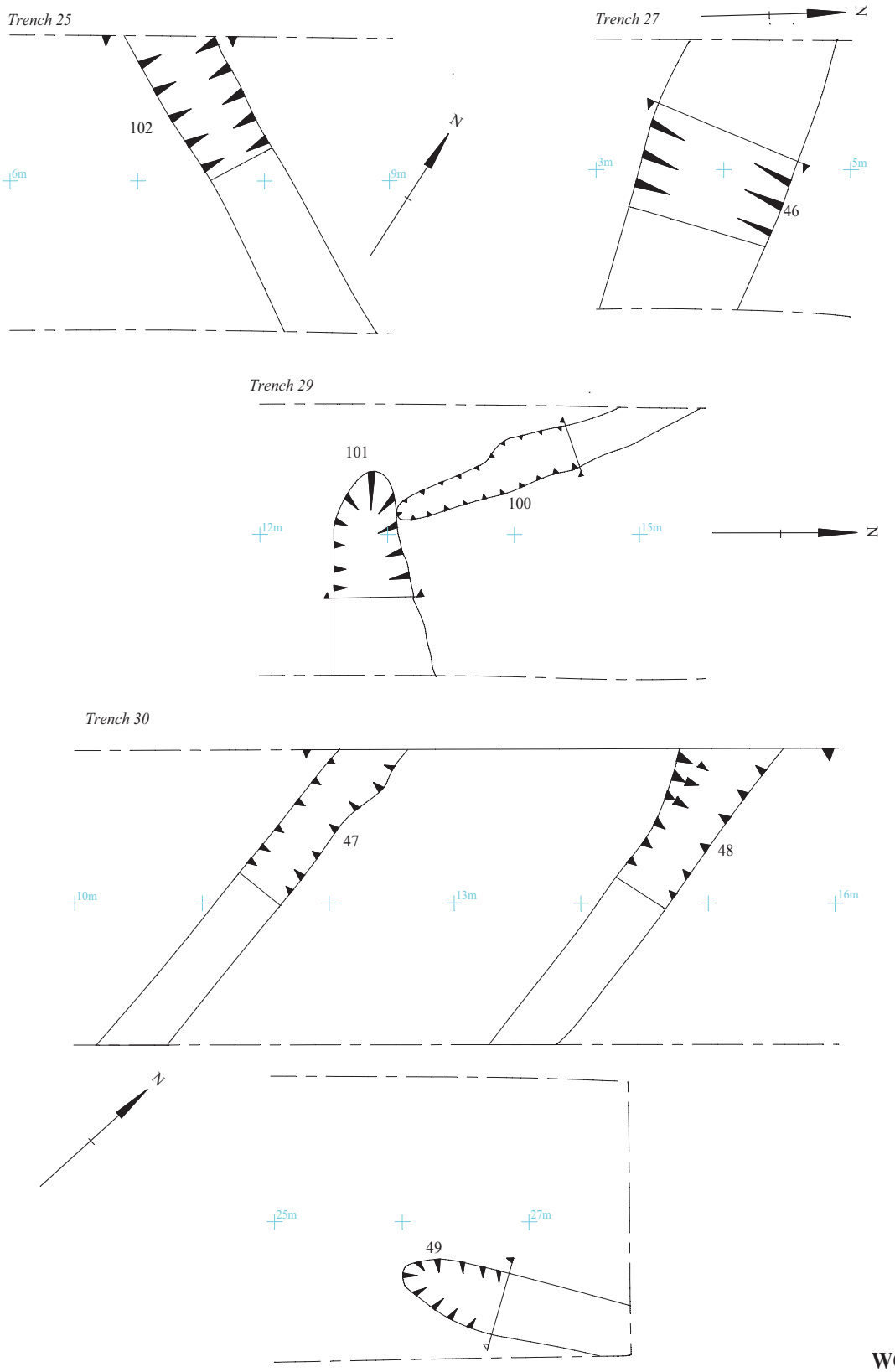

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Figure 8. Plans of Trenches 25, 27, 29 and 30

0 5m

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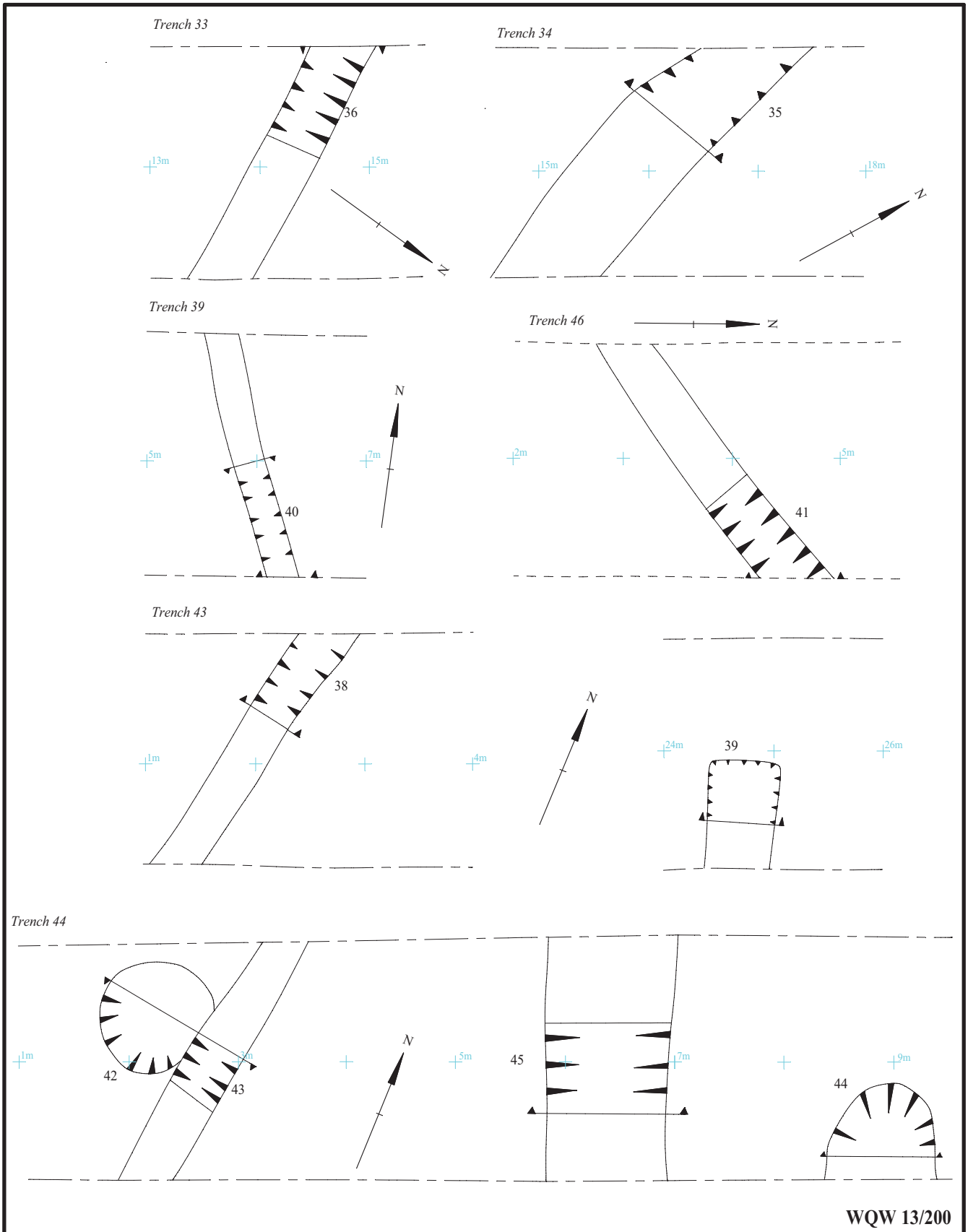

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Figure 9. Plans of Trenches 33, 34, 39, 46, 43 and 44

0 5m

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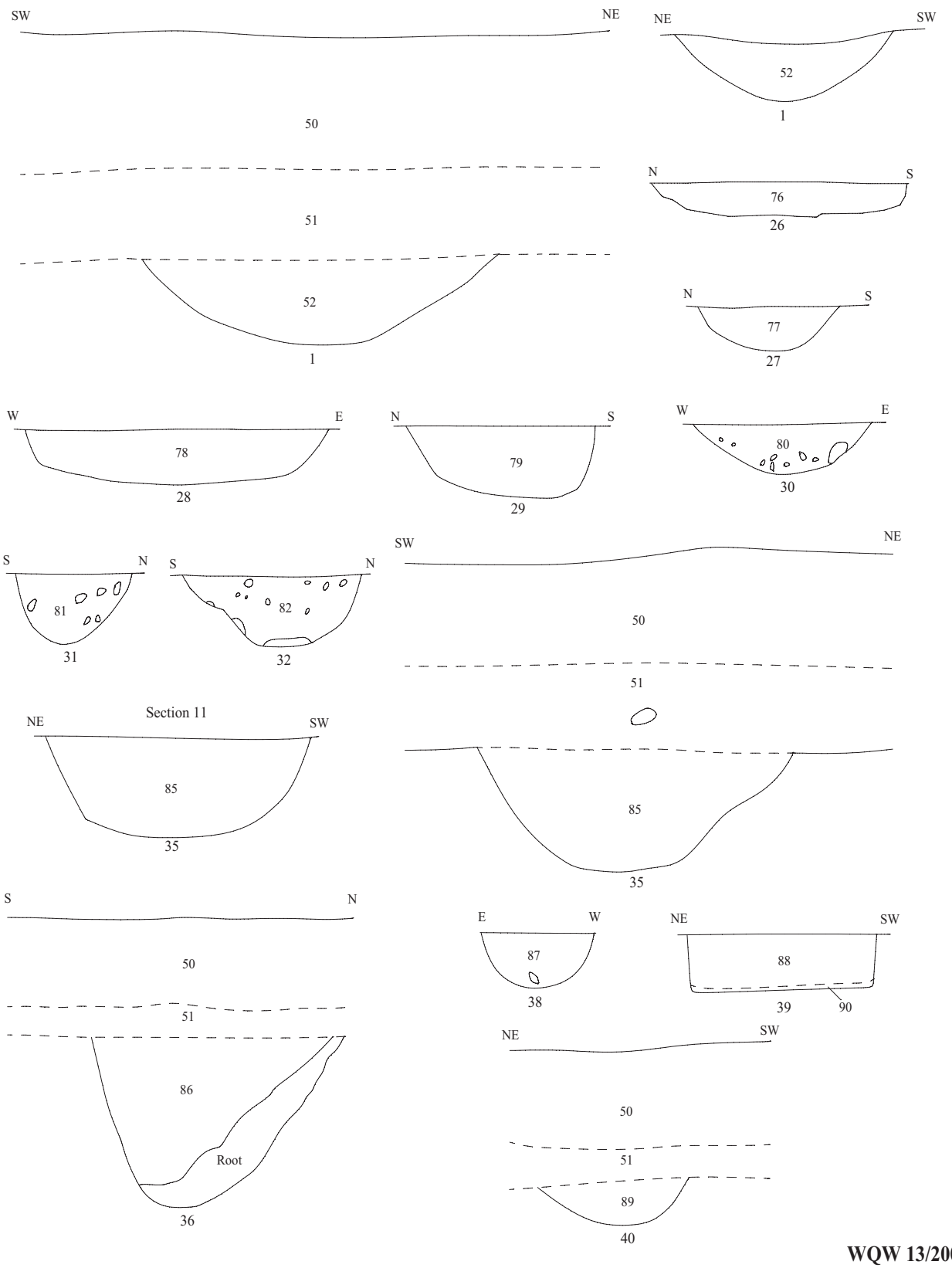

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Figure 10. Sections (1).

0 1m

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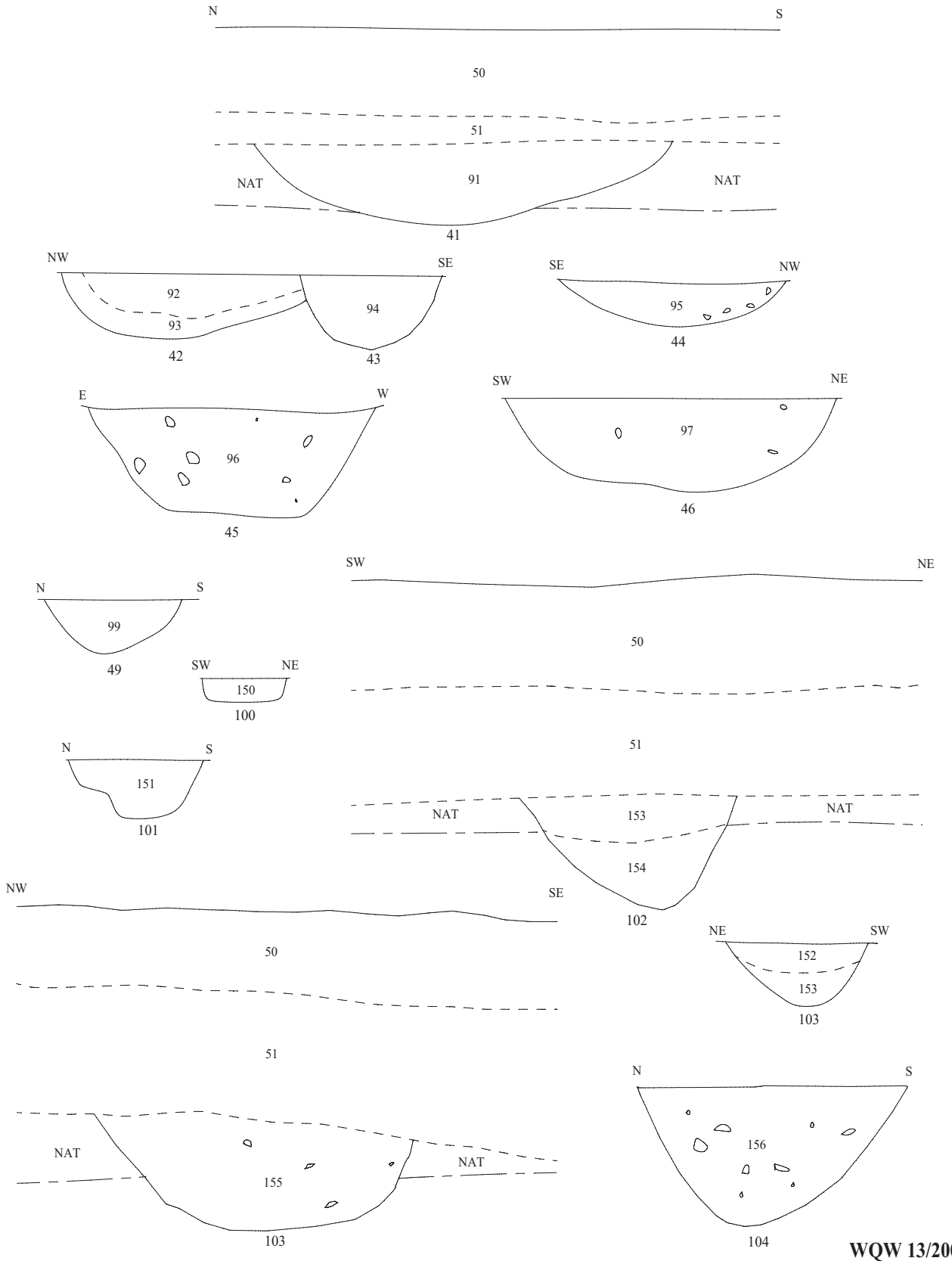

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Figure 11. Sections (2).

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

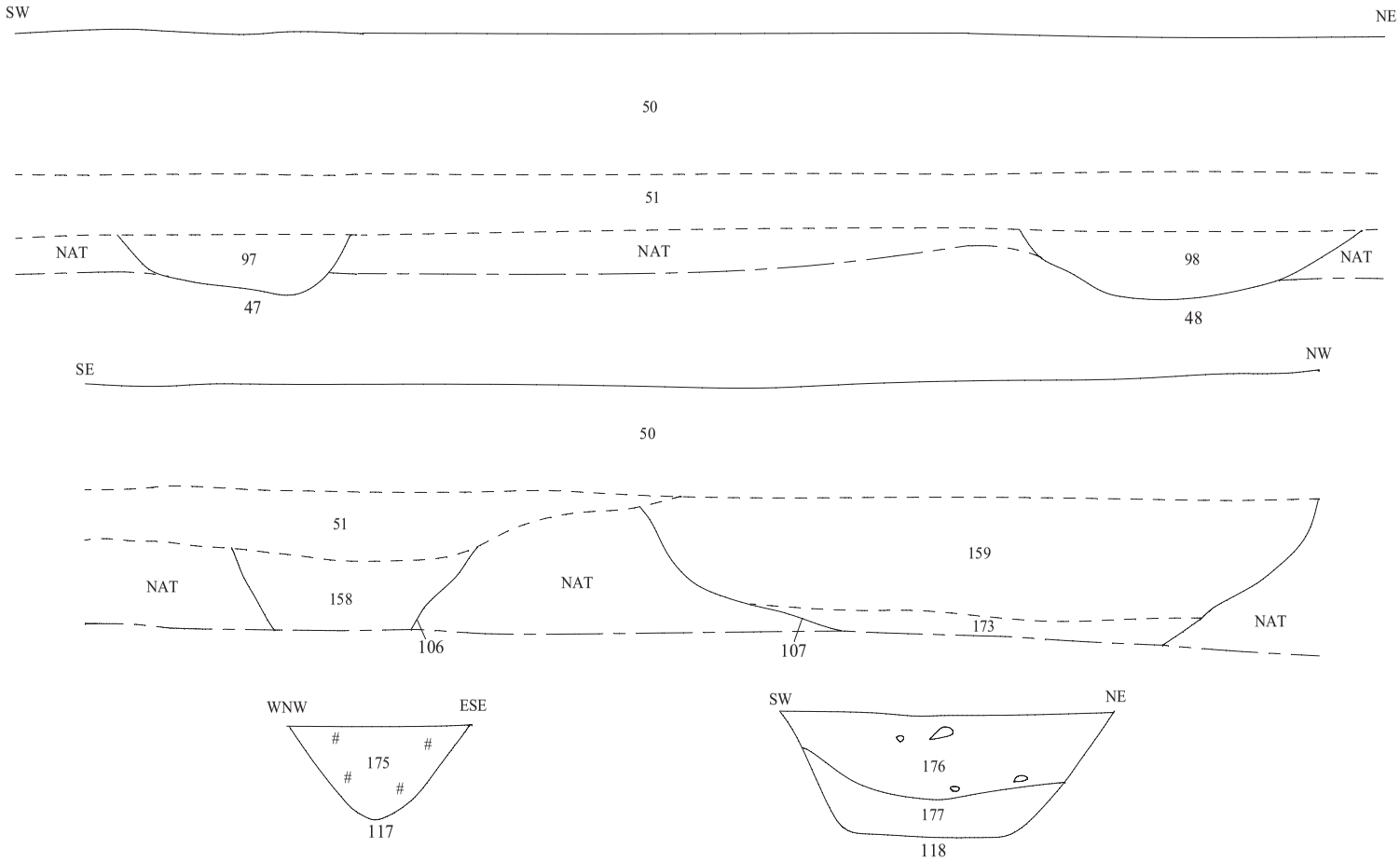

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Figure 12. Sections (3).

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

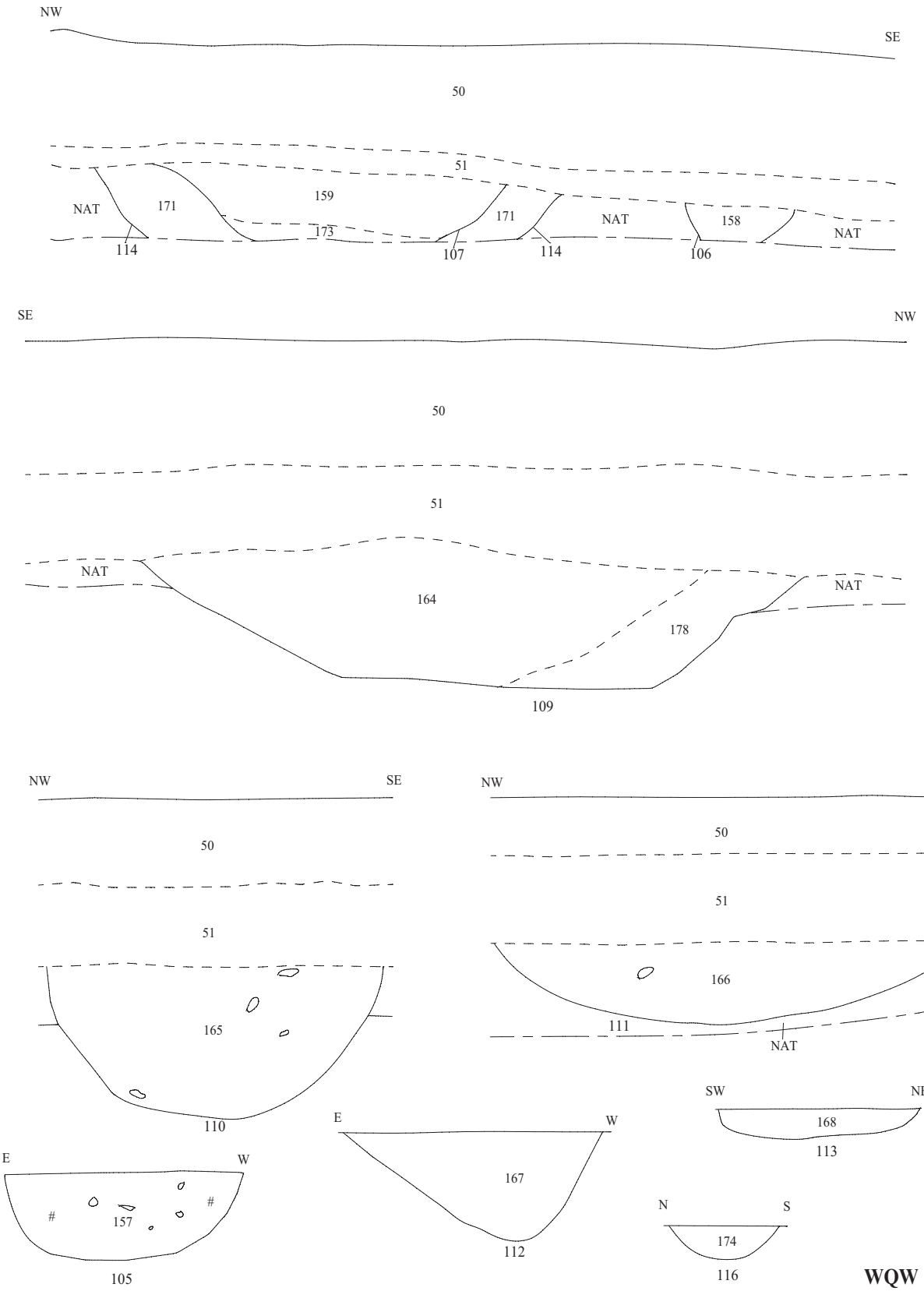

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Figure 13. Sections (4).

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

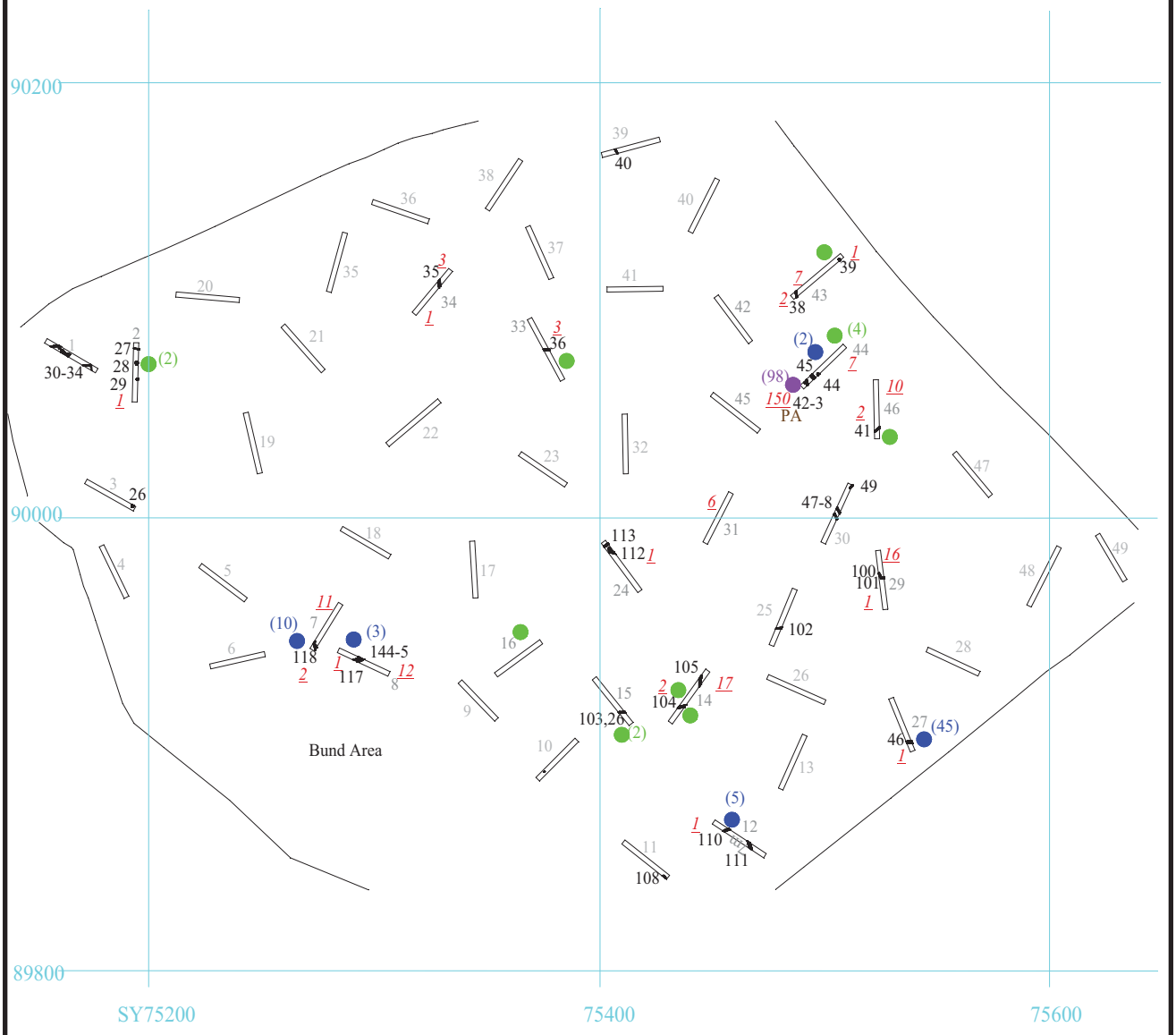

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Figure 14. Distribution of finds.

0 150m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Plate 1. Trench 1 looking North West Scales 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 2. Trench 14 looking East scales 2m, 2m and 1m

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Proposed Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset, 2016
Archaeological Evaulation

Plates 1 and 2.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

Plate 3. Trench 16 looking East Scales 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 4. trench 25 looking North East Scales 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 5. trench 43 looking East Scales 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 6. Trench 44 looking North East Scales 2m, 2m and 1m

Plate 7. Trench 2 Pit 26 looking North Scales 1m 0.3m

Plate 8. Trench 2 Gully 27 looking East Scales 0.5m 0.3m

Plate 9 Trench 8 looking North East, Ditches 106-7, Pits 108, 114-5, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m

Plate 10. Trench 8 looking East. Pit 108 containing pot 170 cut by Ditch 106, Scale: 0.5m

Proposed Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset, 2016
Archaeological Evaulation

Plates 9 and 10.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

Plate 11. Trench 16 looking North East, Bronze metalwork under excavation, Scales: 0.5m and 0.3m

Plate 12. Trench 16 looking North, Ditch 1, Scales: 2m and 1m

Proposed Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset, 2016
Archaeological Evaluation

Plates 11 and 12.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

Plate 13. Trench 44 looking North, Pit 42 under excavation Scales 0.5m and 0.10m

Plate 14. Trench 44 looking North, Pit 42 and Gully 43 Scales 1m and 0.10m

Proposed Silt Management Lagoon, Woodsford, Dorchester, Dorset, 2016
Archaeological Evaulation

Plates 13 and 14.

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES SOUTH WEST

TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman	AD 43
Iron Age	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC

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