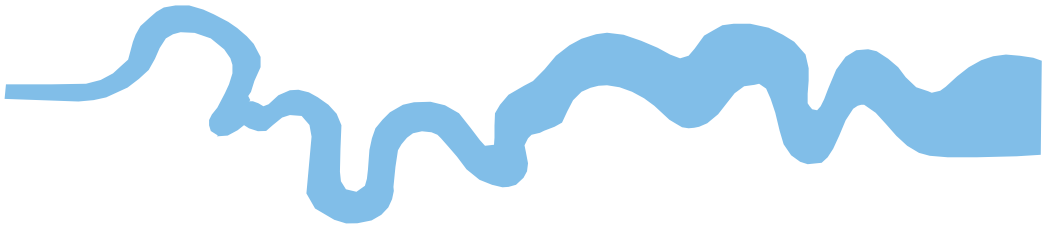
T V A S



EAST MIDLANDS

Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation

by Luis Esteves

Site Code: HFH18/158
(TL 1997 3105)

Highover Farm,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

For Archaeologica Ltd

by Luis Esteves

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code HFH 18/158

February 2019

Summary

Site name: Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire

Grid reference: TL 1997 3105

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 1st October to 23rd November 2018

Project coordinator: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Luis Esteves

Site code: HFH 18/158

Area of site: *c*. 37ha

Summary of results: The evaluation was carried out as intended and in total 119 trenches were excavated covering the area of proposed development. A large number of linear features (gullies and ditches) and a small number of pits were investigated, producing a considerable amount of Late Iron Age and Roman (mostly early Roman) pottery. Virtually all of the features correlated with the results of previous geophysical survey. Two pits appeared to be of Neolithic (or perhaps Early Bronze Age) date, based on struck flint finds. Apart from the odd isolated find, no other periods appear to be represented. Two fairly large enclosures seem to be present, and both of these areas can be considered to have high archaeological potential. Large parts of the site, however, revealed no features and have markedly lower archaeological potential, if any.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands and will be deposited with North Hertfordshire Museums in due course.

Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford✓ 19.02.19
	Steve Preston✓ 19.02.19

TVAS East Midlands, 4 Bentley Court, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, NN8 4BQ

Tel: 01933 277 377; Email: eastmidlands@tvas.co.uk; Website: www.tvas.co.uk/eastmidlands

Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire
An Archaeological Evaluation

by Luis Esteves

Report 18/158

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Land north and northeast of Highover Farm, south of Stotfold Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire (TL 1997 3105) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Dr Isabel Lisboa of Archaeologica Ltd, 7 Fosters Lane, Bradwell, Milton Keynes MK13 9HD.

A planning application is being prepared for submission to North Hertfordshire District Council to develop the site for mixed, but primarily residential, use. The results of a programme of archaeological investigation will help to inform the planning process with regard to any potential archaeological implications of the proposal, in accordance with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2018) and the District's heritage policies. A desktop assessment (Lisboa 2018a) and a geophysical survey (Bartlett 2018) suggested the site's archaeological potential, and a field evaluation has been requested in order to provide further information.

The field investigation was carried out to a specification (Lisboa 2018b) approved by Dr Simon Wood, Historic Environment Advisor at Hertfordshire County Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Luis Esteves, David Sanchez, Cosmo Bacon, Jim Webster and Virginia Fuentes between 1st October and 23rd November 2018 and the site code is HFH 18/158. The archive is presently held at TVAS East Midlands, Wellingborough and will be deposited with North Hertfordshire Museums Resource Centre in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located to the north-east of Hitchin town (Fig. 1), bounded by a housing estate to the south, Stotfold Road to the north and north-east and a railway line, with industrial estate beyond, to the north and west. The site is irregular in shape covering some c. 37 ha, and extends across an area of pasture and arable farmland. The underlying geology is described by the British Geological Survey (BGS 1995) as Grey Chalk Subgroup in the northern part of the site and Lowestoft Formation (sands, silts and clays) to the south and southwest, which is what was observed in the trenches. The elevation of the site is highest in the south-eastern corner at c. 83m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and falls to *c*. 60m aOD in the north-eastern corner.

Archaeological background

A desktop assessment (Lisboa 2018b) assessed the archaeological potential of the site and a programme of magnetometry was undertaken (Bartlett 2018), which drew on findings from an earlier (larger) survey (GSB 2008) which include part of the north end of the site. In summary the site lies in an area where previous investigations have demonstrated dense archaeological remains for several periods.

The extensive investigations as part of a project for the Hitchin Grade Separation area, adjacent to the north of the site, provided a transect across the archaeological landscape. The evaluation and trial trenching showed occasional pits of Neolithic and early Bronze Age date were present in the lower lying areas. Bronze Age barrows were sited at above 65m aOD, seemingly aligned along Icknield Way, while settlement was located towards the base of the vale. It showed that there was intensive Iron Age settlement at *c* 55-60m aOD. There was a very good correspondence between the geophysical anomalies and the cut features.

Magnetic anomalies (in both surveys) suggestive of trackways across the eastern part of the site were thought to be of late Iron Age date, continued northwards across the vale and one of these trackways continues for 400m into the site. A large enclosure, part of a Roman field system is represented by an L shaped ditch, one arm of which continued to the north of the railway line. A smaller enclosure with a possible ring-ditch seems to be present at its junction with the trackway and could represent a farmstead of late Iron Age date. However, none of the geophysical anomalies can be dated without excavation.

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development. All works were to be carried out in such a manner as would not compromise the integrity of the archaeological features or deposits that would be best suited for investigation under conditions pertaining to full excavation.

Specific aims of the evaluation were:

to ‘ground truth’ the results of the recently completed geophysical survey;

to identify evidence of prehistoric occupation;

to identify evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation;

to identify evidence of Medieval occupation; and

to facilitate production of a mitigation strategy for the project.

It was proposed that 119 trenches were to be opened, each 2m wide and 50m long (Fig. 2). The trenches were to be dug using a 360^0-type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Any features uncovered were to be cleaned, excavated and recorded using the appropriate hand tools.

Results

All 119 trenches were dug as intended (Figs 2 and 16) with just small orientation changes in some of the trenches due to fences and trees. The trenches ranged between 36m and 55m long, and 0.3m to 0.65m deep. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. Enlarged plans of the trench locations are shown as Figures 17-21.

In general the stratigraphy consisted of dark brown silt topsoil overlying a mid brown silty clay subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology (mid orange brown silty clay in the south and southwest of the site). Many trenches, in the eastern half of the site, and primarily in the south-east (Trenches 40, 43, 49–50, 55, 62–3, 65–7, 69, 71, 73–8, 93, 95 and 112–14), lacked subsoil and the natural geology was directly underneath the topsoil: most of these trenches also lacked features. Land drains crossed many trenches, often distinctively 7m apart, and were sketch planned but not investigated. Archaeological deposits were observed and investigated in 32 trenches, which are described in detail below. Figures 17 and 18 illustrate the features in relation to geophysical anomalies.

Trench 17 (Fig. 3)

Trench 17 was aligned NW–SE and was 50m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Five gullies or ditches (two of them probably land drains) were observed crossing the trench, and planned but not excavated.

Trench 19 (Figs 3, 15: Pl. 11)

Trench 19 was aligned S - N and was 50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.09m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Between 7m and 9m from the south of the trench, two pits (142 cut by 143) were observed partially against the side of the trench, and fully excavated within the trench. Pit 143 was 0.25m deep and 0.8m in diameter, filled with dark grey brown clayey silt (195) producing 3 sherds of 1st to 2nd century (early Roman) pottery. Pit 142 (cut by 143) was 0.1m deep and 1.7m in diameter: its fill (194) of mid brown clay with chalk inclusions produced 13 sherds of Roman pottery.

Trench 20 (Figs 3, 14, 15; Pls 1, 12)

Trench 20 was aligned W - E and was 50m long and 0.43m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil and 0.12m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Six ditches and one gully were observed and excavated: from east

to west, they were as follows. Ditch 126 was aligned SW–NE, 1.1m wide and 0.25m deep filled with a layer (178) of dark grey brown clayey silt producing two sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery and some animal bone. Ditch 127 was aligned north–south, 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep and filled with dark grey brown clayey silt (179) which contained a sherd of early Roman pottery. Ditches 128 to 132 were all aligned NW–SE, all filled with similar dark grey brown clayey silt, but varying distances apart. Ditch 128 was 1.1m wide and 0.43m deep, its fill (180) producing 49 sherds of pottery dating from the 1st to 2nd centuries AD but including some Late Iron Age material, probably residual, and some animal bone. Ditch 129 was 0.8m wide and fill 181yielded 4 sherds of Roman pottery. Ditch 130 was 1.6m wide and 0.24m deep, with 25 sherds of early Roman pottery coming from its fill (182). Possible ditch 131 was 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep with irregular edges (possible natural feature) with no finds. Gully 132 was 0.4m wide and 0.09m deep with no finds from its fill (184).

Trench 27 (Figs 3, 13, 14; Pls 2, 13)

Trench 27 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.09m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Four ditches and a gully and a pit were excavated. Ditch 117 was aligned NE–SW on the line of a geophysical anomaly, and was 0.65m wide and 0.23m deep. It was filled with a dark grey brown clayey silt (169) producing five sherds of prehistoric pottery (not closely datable within the Bronze Age or Iron Age). Ditch 118 on a parallel alignment but not correlating with a geophysical anomaly, was 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep filled with a similar dark brown clayey silt (170) which contained 2 sherds of early Roman pottery. Next to ditch 118 was gully 119, which was 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep, again filled with dark brown clayey silt (171) which produced 2 sherds of pottery dating from the 1st century AD. A small pit (120) (or possibly a continuation of gully 119 if it was curving and discontinuous), was 0.35m wide and 0.1m deep filled with a similar dark brown clayey silt (172) with a single very small sherd of Roman pottery. At 13m from the south end of the trench, southeast–northwest aligned ditch 121 was 0.93m wide and 0.21m deep with a fill (173) of dark grey brown clayey silt with no finds. At the south end of the trench was a large ditch approximately 5m wide, aligned NW–SE, into which a partial slot was dug (122), 1m wide, 3.1m long and 0.2m deep, showing the ditch was filled with a layer (174) of dark grey brown clayey silt producing four sherds of pottery, not closely datable within the Roman period.

Trench 28 (Figs 4 and 15)

Trench 28 was aligned SE - NW and was 50m long and 0.51m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.17m of subsoil overlying a reddish brown silty clay natural geology. Two ditches and one gully were observed and excavated. Gully 137, at the south-east end of the trench aligned close to north–south, on the line of a geophysical anomaly, was 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep filled with a dark grey brown clayey silt (189) with no finds. Aligned NE-SW at 17m along the trench, ditch 138 was 0.94m wide and 0.25m deep filled with a dark grey brown silty clay (190) which

contained two sherds of pottery, not closely datable within the Roman period. At 27.5m from the south-east end, and roughly corresponding with a geophysical anomaly, ditch 139 was 1.8m wide and 0.3m deep filled with a layer (191) of dark grey brown silty clay which produced a single small sherd of early Roman pottery.

Trench 30 (Figs 4 and 15; Pl. 14)

Trench 30 was aligned W - E and was 50m long and 0.41m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil and 0.12m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three parallel ditches and a gully on a different alignment were observed and excavated. Ditch 133 was 1.7m wide and 0.5m deep filled with a layer (185) of mid grey brown clayey silt which yielded 2 sherds of early Roman pottery. Ditch 134 was 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep with a fill (186) of dark grey brown clayey silt with no finds. Ditch 135 was 1.7m wide and 0.5m deep filled with dark brown clayey silt (187) producing only animal bone. Ditches 134 and 135 corresponded very closely with geophysical anomalies. Gully 136 was 0.3m wide and 0.05m deep filled with a layer (188) of dark grey brown clayey silt with no finds.

Trench 31 (Figs 4 and 15)

Trench 31 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.25m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. A possible feature (140) 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep was probably a land drain.

Trench 33 (Figs 4 and 15)

Trench 33 was aligned W - E and was 50m long and 0.54m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Gully (141), 0.43m wide and 0.12m deep, with a straight shape, shallow depth and no finds, could be a possible land drain or furrow; it appears to match a geophysical anomaly also interpreted as agricultural.

Trench 36 (Figs 4 and 13)

Trench 36 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.43m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of topsoil and 0.16m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three ditches and one gully, all parallel, were observed and excavated and a further ditch was only planned. Ditch 113 was 1.04m wide and 0.34m deep filled with two layers (163 and 164) of dark grey brown clayey silt with animal bone and mid brown clayey silt with no finds. Gully 114 was 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep, with a fill (165) of mid brown clayey silt with no finds. Ditch 115 was 0.74m wide and 0.2m deep filled with two layers (166) of dark grey brown clayey silt which produced 2 sherds of pottery dating from the 1st century BC to the 1st century AD, and (167) mid brown clayey silt with no finds. Ditch 116 was 4.4m and a 1.4m wide slot showed it was at least 0.44m deep filled with a layer (168) of mid grey brown clayey silt which produced 3 sherds of 1st–2nd century AD pottery. It was cut by a modern field drain. The linear features all correlated with rather diffuse geophysical anomalies, although other anomalies that the south end of the trench intersected were not represented.

Trench 37 (Figs 4 and 14; Pl.15)

Trench 37 was aligned SE - NW and was 50m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.17m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. One ditch, one gully and a modern truncation (125) were observed a the south end, and excavated. Gully 123 was 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep with a single fill (175) of dark grey brown clayey silt which contained a sherd of Roman pottery. Ditch 124 (cut by modern truncation 125) was 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep filled with a layer (176) of mid grey brown clayey silt producing 2 sherds of 1st-century AD pottery. Neither feature was clearly apparent in the geophysical survey.

Trench 38 (Figs 4 and 13)

Trench 38 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.46m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil and 0.14m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. One ditch and one gully were observed, both corresponding to geophysical anomalies, and excavated. Gully 111 was 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep filled with mid brown clayey sand (160) with no finds. Ditch 112 was 0.95m wide and 0.23m deep, with two fills of dark grey brown clayey silt (161) which produced 22 sherds of pottery in a wide range of fabrics including both late Roman and (presumably residual) earlier Roman wares, and mid brown clayey silt (162) with no finds.

Trench 44 (Figs 5 and 12)

Trench 44 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.1m of topsoil and 0.25m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Two ditches were observed and excavated (Fig 12); an unexcavated feature at the south end of the trench was probably a field drain. Ditch 45, aligned NNW–SSE, corresponded closely with a major geophysical anomaly which was traced for most of the length of the site, through trenches 57, 58, 62, 70, 81, 103, 108 and probably 112. It was 9.6m wide and 0.38m deep with a fill (93) of mid grey brown clayey silt which produced 3 sherds of 1st century AD pottery. Ditch 46 was 0.9m wide and 0.17m deep filled with a layer of mid grey brown clayey silt (94) with no finds. Ditch 46 appears to match the location of a strong magnetic disturbance interpreted as ‘recent’ by the geophysics.

Trench 49 (Fig. 5)

A single ditch in Trench 49 was planned but not investigated. It matches the geophysical anomaly also traced in Trenches 59, 60 and 61.

Trench 55 (Fig. 5)

Trench 55 was aligned W - E and was 47m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of topsoil directly overlying the chalk natural geology. A single ditch was planned but not investigated. It matches an intermittent geophysical anomaly also traced in Trenches 56, 68 and 69.

Trench 58 (Figs 5 and 13)

Trench 58 was aligned SW - NE and was 49m long and a maximum of 0.50m deep in the centre, shallower at either end. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.15m of topsoil and 0.30m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology, the subsoil shallowing to 0.20m at both the east and west ends. Two east–west aligned ditches, one pit and a modern truncation (110) were observed and excavated, while a further two wide ditches and two gullies (or drains) were planned but not excavated: these broadly corresponded with the location of a north–south geophysical anomaly, although appearing much wider. Ditch 107 was 0.6m wide and 0.22m deep with a fill (156) of mid brown clayey silt with no finds. Ditch 108 was 1m wide and 0.28m deep filled with a mid brown clayey silt (157) with no finds. Pit 109 (cut by ditch 108) was 0.8m wide (in slot) and 0.54m deep filled with a layer (158) of dark grey brown silty clay with chalk inclusions and no finds. The excavated features were not represented in the geophysical survey.

Trench 60 (Figs 5 and 13; Pl. 16)

Trench 60 was aligned SE - NW and was 50m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.21m of topsoil and 0.27m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. One ditch and one gully were observed at right angles to one another, and excavated. Ditch 101 was 0.8m wide and 0.12m deep filled with a mid brown clayey silt (150) with no finds. Gully 102 was 0.5m wide and 0.08m deep with a fill (151) of mid brown clayey silt with no finds. Gully 102 correlates closely with a discontinuous geophysical anomaly also traced in Trenches 49, 59 and 61. Ditch 101 was not evident in the geophysical survey.

Trench 61 (Figs 5, 13)

Trench 61 was aligned NW - SE and was 50.7m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.16m of subsoil, overlying the chalk natural geology. A gully terminus (103) aligned north–south corresponded with the discontinuous geophysical anomaly also traced in Trenches 49, 59 and 60. It was 0.52m wide and 0.08m deep with a single fill (153) of mid brown clayey silt with no finds.

Trench 62 (Figs 6, 13)

Trench 62 was aligned SW - NE and was 51.5m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of topsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. At the west end of the trench, gully (104) was 0.52m wide and 0.08m deep filled with mid brown clayey silt (153) with no finds. It possibly represents part of a diffuse geophysical anomaly also traced to the south, although it appears a little displaced. A wide ditch towards the centre of the trench was planned but not investigated: it is reasonably certainly the same feature seen in Trenches 44, 57, 58, 69, and 70 to the south, although, again, it appears slightly displaced from the location of the geophysical anomaly.

Trench 68 (Figs 6, 13; Pl. 17)

Trench 68 was aligned W - E and was 50.5m long and 0.48m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.2m of topsoil and 0.2m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. A ditch and parallel gully were excavated, either of which could be

represented by a geophysical anomaly. Gully 105 was 0.53m wide and 0.13m deep filled with a mid brown clayey sand (154) with no finds. Ditch 106 was 1.2m wide and 0.05m deep with a fill (155) of mid brown clayey sand with no finds.

Trench 69 (Fig. 6)

Three parallel ditches at the extremes of Trench 69 were planned but not investigated. The wide ditch at the west end matches the geophysical anomaly also traced in Trenches 44, 57, 58, 62, and 70, while one or other of the two narrower features at the eastern end correlates with an anomaly also seen in Trench 55 and investigated in Trenches 56 and 68, and which is probably the same feature traced further north in Trench 103.

Trench 70 (Figs 6, 12, 13)

Trench 70 was aligned SW - NE and was 51.6m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.16m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three ditches and one gully were observed and excavated; any of these (or all) could match a geophysical anomaly, or more probably two, in this location, or only slightly displaced. Ditch 47 (cut by gully 48) was 0.9m wide and 0.11m deep filled with mid grey brown clayey silt (95) with no finds. Gully 48 was 0.5m wide and 0.22m deep with a fill of brown grey clayey silt (96) with no finds. Ditches 49 and 100 were on the same alignment (in plan they looked to be just one ditch) and is the same as the ditch (45) traced all the way from trench 44. In terms of measurements, ditch 49 was 3.7m wide and 0.3m deep filled with a layer (97) of mid grey brown clayey silt which contained one sherd of pottery, not closely datable within the Roman period. Ditch 100 was 3.15m wide and 0.35m deep, filled with a mid grey brown clayey silt (98) which contained 6 sherds of Iron Age pottery and one tiny sherd of Roman pottery but also post-medieval brick/tile (Appendix 5).

Trench 76 (Fig. 6)

Trench 76 was aligned SW - NE and was 51.5m long and 0.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil directly overlying the chalk natural geology. Three parallel silty clay filled linear features (38-40) typically up to 0.37m wide but less than 0.06m deep were investigated. They contained no dating evidence are are considered to be natural periglacial features.

Trench 78 (Figs 6, 12)

Trench 78 was aligned SW - NE and was 52m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.33m of topsoil directly overlying the chalk natural geology. A single small irregular and poorly defined feature (44), not evident on the geophysical surveys, was excavated but was probably just root disturbance.

Trench 80 (Fig. 6)

Trench 80 was aligned SW - NE and was 50.3m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil and 0.08m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Two small ditches were planned but left unexcavated: it is unclear if they relate to diffuse geophysical anomalies.

Trench 81 (Figs 6, 12; Pl. 18)

Trench 81 was aligned W - E and was 50m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil and 0.12m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three ditches and one gully were observed and excavated. Ditch 13 and 31 were on the same alignment (in plan it looks like one ditch and the same as the widest ditch from trenches 108, 111 and 103, also observed in the geophysical survey). In terms of measurements ditch 13 (cut by ditch 31) was 2.1m wide and 0.4m deep filled with a layer (65) of mid grey brown clayey silt which contained the site's largest pottery assemblage, 190 sherds of mixed dates: most (150 sherds) are in late 1st century or later Roman grey-ware but 40 sherds are of slightly earlier (1st-century BC to mid-1st AD) grog-tempered pottery. Ditch 31 was 2.4m wide and 0.45m deep filled by a light reddish brown sandy silt (86) with no finds. Ditch 32 was 0.87m wide and 0.1m deep with a fill (87) of light reddish brown sandy silt which produced 4 sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman grog-tempered pottery. Gully 33 was 0.33m wide and 0.09m deep with a fill (88) of light reddish brown sandy silt with no finds.

Trench 82 (Figs 6, 11; Pl. 19)

Trench 82 was aligned SE - NW and was 50m long and 0.42m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.23m of topsoil and 0.15m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three pits were observed and excavated. Pit 18 was 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep filled with a layer (71) of mid brown sandy silt with no pottery finds but seven struck flints and might be of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Pit 19 was 0.8m in diameter and 0.4m deep with a fill (72) of mid grey brown sandy silt with animal bone. In the middle a small re-cut (20) was filled with compact chalk in a light brown clay silt matrix (73) with no finds.

Trench 83 (Figs 7, 11, 12; Pls 4, 23)

Trench 83 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of topsoil and 0.18m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Two ditches and two gullies, one of which corresponds to a geophysical anomaly (though it is not entirely clear which), and two pits were observed and excavated. Pit 21 was 0.65m in diameter and 0.12m deep with a fill (74) of mid grey brown clayey silt which yielded 31 sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman grog-tempered pottery and 7 residual struck flints. Pit 22 was around 1m in diameter (not fully visible in the trench) and 1m deep filled with dark grey brown clayey silt (75) which produced no pottery but 9 worked

flints and might be of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Ditch 23 was 0.85m wide and 0.22m deep filled with a dark grey brown clayey silt (76) with no finds. Ditch 29 was 1.5m wide and 0.3m deep with a single fill (83) of light brown sandy clay with no finds. Gully 34 was 1m wide and 0.2m deep filled with a brown sandy clay (89) with no finds. Gully 35 was 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep whose fill (90) of brown sandy clay had no finds. Both gullies 34 and 35 and ditch 29 were cutting a layer (84) of compact dark brown grey clay with chalk inclusions that was observed between the subsoil and the chalk natural for 12m along the west-centre of the trench.

Trench 84 (Figs 7, 12)

Trench 84 was aligned NW - SE and was 48.9m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.10m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. At 12m from the SE end of the trench as a ditch aligned north-south, not corresponding to any geophysical anomaly. It was 0.78m wide and 0.16m deep with a rounded profile and its single fill (85) contained no finds.

Trench 85 (Figs 7, 11)

Trench 85 was aligned S - N and was 49.9m long and 0.47m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.35m of topsoil and 0.10m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. At 15m from the south end was ditch 16, aligned SW–NE, and not evident on the geophysics. It was 3m wide, 0.8m deep with a single fill (69) of light brown silty clay flecked with charcoal, that produced no finds. Next to the ditch was a tree-throw hole (17).

Trench 97 (Figs 7, 10; Pl. 21)

Trench 97 was aligned SE - NW and was 50m long and 0.37m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil and 0.05m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. One ditch was observed precisely on the line of an L-shaped geophysical anomaly, and excavated. Ditch 11 was 0.75m wide and 0.18m deep filled with grey brown clayey silt (63) with no finds. The same anomaly was observed in trenches 100 and 101 with the same characteristics and no finds (ditches 12, displaced some distance from the expected line, and 15, a closer match). This enclosure is on the same alignment as a Roman ditch in the previous works on the other side of the railway. It is uncertain if it was also intercepted in Trench 110, but it could align on ditch 9 there, or have been obliterated by the large unexcavated ditch.

Trench 100 (Figs 7, 10; Pl. 22)

Trench 100 was aligned SW - NE and was 48m long and 0.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.24m of topsoil and 0.14m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. At 7m from the west end was ditch 12, identical to ditch 11 in Trench 97, although not quite on the expected line. No finds were recovered.

Trench 101 (Figs 7, 10; Pl. 23)

Trench 101 was aligned W - E and was 50.9m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.22m of topsoil and 0.13m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. At 6m from the west end was ditch 15, like ditch 11 also identical to ditch 11 in Trench 97, and very close to the expected line. No finds were recovered.

Trench 103 (Figs 8, 10; Pl. 24)

Trench 103 was aligned W - E and was 50.6m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil and 0.09m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Three north-south aligned ditches and one gully were excavated. Ditch 1 was 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep with a fill (52) of mid grey brown clayey sand with no finds. Ditch 2 was 5.2m wide and 0.26m deep filled with light grey brown sandy silt (53) with no finds. Ditch 5 was 8.4m wide, and a partial slot 3.4m long was excavated into it showing it to be at least 0.8m deep with two fills: a light grey brown clayey silt (56), and a mid brown silty clay (57), with no finds coming from either. Gully (3) was aligned NE–SW with a width of 0.6m and 0.09m deep, filled with mid grey brown sandy silt (54) with no finds. Ditches 1, 2 and 5 were all close matches to geophysical anomalies that continued to the north and south.

Trench 107 (Figs 8, 10)

A single feature (14) was investigated in this trench and shown to be a tree throw

Trench 108 (Figs 8, 10; Pl. 5)

Trench 108 was aligned roughly WNW - ENE and was 50m long and 0.55m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of topsoil and 0.05m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Two ditches and one gully were investigated: none contained any finds. Ditch 4 was 1.05m wide and 0.3m deep filled with a of light grey brown sandy silt (55). Ditch 6 (with an uncertain relationship with gully 7) was 5m wide and 0.26m deep filled with a layer (58) of mid grey brown clayey silt. Gully 7 was 0.3m wide and 0.08m deep filled with a single fill (59) of mid grey brown clayey silt. Ditch 4 corresponds with a geophysical anomaly but ditch 6 appears much larger than a second anomaly in this location.

Trench 110 (Figs 8, 10; Pls 6, 25, 26)

Trench 110 was aligned SW - NE and was 50m long and 0.32m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.26m of topsoil overlying the chalk natural geology, except that between 29m and 40m was a band of colluvium above the chalk. Two ditches and one gully were observed and excavated. Ditch 8 was 1m wide and 0.29m deep filled with a layer (60) of mid grey brown clayey silt with 5 sherds of Roman pottery animal bone. Ditch 10 was 0.86m wide and 0.2m deep filled with a layer (62) of mid grey brown clayey silt with no finds. Gully 9 was 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep filled with a layer (61) of mid brown clayey sand with no finds. A very wide feature across the middle of the trench (at least 11m wide, though this measurement is necessarily on a diagonal across it) may have been a substantial ditch or a quarry, but was left unexcavated. It was not evident in any other trench and although its location corresponds to a geophysical anomaly, neither its width nor its orientation do so (there are also other amorphous geophysical anomalies in the vicinity to which it might be a better match allowing for some minor displacement).

Trench 111 (Fig. 9)

Trench 111 was aligned WSW - ENE and was 50m long and 0.38m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.06m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Towards the middle of the trench was a layer of colluvium,

0.15m deep, between the topsoil and chalk. Five ditches or gullies in this trench were planned but left unexcavated. Three of these align on geophysical anomalies , and two of those were explored in other trenches.

Trench 112 (Figs 9 and 12)

Trench 112 was aligned W - E and was 50m long and 0.44m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.36m of topsoil directly overlying the chalk natural geology. At the west end of the trench for at least 6m was a layer of colluvium, 0.27m deep, between the topsoil and chalk (also present in Trenches 110 and 111). The deeper part of this spread was initially considered as a ditch aligned N–S and was investigated by hand (37) but revealed to be a product of agricultural activity being shallow with multiple ploughscars. It was almost certainly the feature causing a geophysical anomaly. also explored in Trenches 81, 103 and 108 but does not appear to be of archaeological interest. A narrower feature aligned NE–SW could possibly be a wheel rut, plough scar or possibly a gully. Two clay patches were also observed.

Trench 117 (Figs 9, 11; Pls 27, 28)

Trench 117 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 50m long and 0.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of topsoil and 0.08m of subsoil overlying the chalk natural geology. Four ditches and one gully were observed and excavated and another ditch was planned but left unexcavated. Ditch 24 was 0.95m wide and 0.3m deep filled with two layers of mid grey brown clayey silt (77), and mid grey brown silty clay with chalk inclusions (82). Gully 25 (with an uncertain relationship with ditch 26) was 0.25m wide and 0.11m deep filled with a layer of mid grey brown clayey silt (78). Ditch 26 was 0.85m wide and 0.11m deep filled with mid grey brown clayey silt (79). Ditch 27 was 0.6m wide and 0.05m deep with a fill (80) of mid grey brown sandy silt. Ditch 28 was 2.5m wide and 0.25m deep filled with a layer (81) of mid grey brown sandy silt. No finds were retrieved from any of the features in trench 117. Almost any of these could be interpreted as corresponding with extensions of a series of intermittent geophysical anomalies that were plotted as stopping just short of this trench.

Finds

Pottery by Alice Lyons

A total of 388 sherds (4242g) of prehistoric, Iron Age and Roman pottery was recovered (Appendix 3), of which Latest Iron Age to Early Roman material is the most prolific (Table 1). No whole vessels were present. The material is significantly abraded with an average fragment weight of 11g. Pottery was recovered from 13 of the 120 evaluation trenches, with over half the assemblage (56% by weight) recovered from ditches in Trench 81. Pottery was primarily recovered from ditches (93.5% by weight), but also from pits (6%) and gullies (0.5%). The pottery was analysed

following the national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and has been recorded by fabric and form, quantified by sherd count and weight. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted (details in archive).

Table 1: Pottery summary by period

Period	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Wt (%)*
Prehistoric: PRE	5	16	0.38
Iron Age: IA & LIA	91	246	5.80
Latest Iron Age – Early Roman: LIA/ER & ER	269	3445	81.21
Romano-British: M/LRB, LRB & RB	23	535	12.61

Prehistoric

A small number, 5 sherds, weighing 16g, of handmade late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age undiagnostic jar/bowl sherds were recovered. This material is extremely abraded with an average sherd weight of only 3.2g, which is indicative of pottery that has suffered from severe post-depositional disturbance (such as repeated ploughing). This material is almost certainly residual but does indicate prehistoric activity did take place nearby.

Iron Age

A total of 91 sherds, weighing 246g, of hand made pottery characteristic of the Iron Age was recovered. The majority of this material (71 sherds, weighing 169g) comprises Shelly ware jar and storage fragments, although a small number of grey ware jar/bowl fragments were also found. Similarly to the prehistoric pottery (above) this material is also severely abraded with an average sherd weight of only 2.7g, which again suggests it is largely residual.

Latest Iron Age to Early Roman

The majority of pottery is characteristic of the Latest Iron Age to Early Roman period (1st century BC – AD 1st century). This group comprises 269 sherds, weighing 3445g and representing 81% (by weight) of the total assemblage. The material, although fragmentary, has survived in reasonable condition and has an average sherd weight of 12.8g.

Coarse wares

The majority of the pottery is in hand- and wheel-made reduced wares, commonly tempered with grog (crushed previously fired vessels). Most of the material is undiagnostic jar/bowl fragments, although one globular jar with an everted rim was recorded. Other locally produced coarse wares found in smaller quantities include Shelly, also Sandy, reduced ware fabrics found in a similar conservative range of vessel types which include globular jars, with both lid-seated and everted rim examples found. Locally produced Sandy oxidized wares were also found as jar/bowl and possible flagon fragments.

Table 2: The Latest Iron Age to early Roman pottery

Fabric: abbreviation	*Vessel form*	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Wt (%)*
Grey ware with grog inclusions: GW(GROG), GW	Jar/bowl	160	2266	65.78
Shelly ware: STW	Jar/bowl, storage jar	28	442	12.83
Sandy reduced (grey) ware: SGW	Jar, jar/beaker, pedestal urn, storage jar	34	370	10.74
Sandy oxidised (white to red) ware: SREDW, SOW, OW	Flagon, jar/bowl	45	330	9.58
South Gaulish Samian: SAM	Bowl	2	37	1.07

Worthy of note was a single piece from the base of a pedestal urn, which is a "common in burials without imports and common (as base fragments) in early post-conquest site-clearance deposits" (Thompson 1982, A1, p. 35) - in this case the latter interpretation is suggested.

Fine wares
Two sherds of imported South Gaulish samian (Tyers 1996, 112-113) was recorded, from the lower part of a large bowl. The vessel had been burnt prior to deposition.

Roman
A total of 23 sherds, weighing 535g, was also identified, representing 12.6% of the assemblage by weight.

Coarse wares

The majority of this group comprise locally produced wheel-made utilitarian Sandy grey ware globular jars and straight-sided dishes following the Black Burnished 2 (BB2) ceramic tradition fashionable in eastern Britain from the mid Roman (Antonine) period (Tyers 1996, 186-188). Shelly ware and Sandy oxidized ware jar/bowl and storage jars sherds were found in very small numbers. Worthy of note is a Nene Valley white ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 119) flanged rim dish that is decorated with a red painted motif.

Fine wares

Although no imported fine wares were found (such as samian) a small number of Nene Valley colour coated (Tomber and Dore 1998, 118; Tyers 1996, 173-175) beaker fragments were found, also diagnostically late Roman Oxfordshire red slipped ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 176; Tyers 1996, 175-178) jar/bowl sherds.

Discussion
This is a mixed period assemblage of pottery, largely recovered from stratified ditch deposits. The earliest material found comprises prehistoric and Iron Age material which is severely abraded and almost certainly residual. Most of the pottery, however, is latest Iron Age to Early Roman in date and it is suggested that it is this pottery that is contemporary with the ditched field systems. A small amount of mid- to late Roman pottery was also found, indicating continued, but declining, levels of agrarian activity until the end of the Roman period.

Struck Flint by Steve Ford

A small collection comprising 31 struck flints was recovered from the site. All pieces were patinated white. These comprised 20 flakes, one narrow flake, a core, core fragment, a spall (piece less than 20x20mm) and seven retouched pieces (Appendix 4). The narrow flake is partly cortical and is probably an accidental by-product of flint knapping

rather than a product of deliberate blade manufacture. The retouched pieces comprise three scrapers, three serrated pieces and a transverse arrowhead. The serrated blade from pit 21 was also retouched to form a backed piece. The transverse arrowhead is minimally edge retouched to form the functional shape with invasive retouch used only to form the cutting edge. It appears to have been functional rather than well crafted for display purposes.

Although most of the pieces are not closely datable and only a Neolithic or Bronze Age date can be suggested for them, the serrated pieces and arrowhead are no later than the early Bronze Age, with the arrowhead typically regarded as being of later Neolithic date. Pit 22, in Trench 83, is likely to be of later Neolithic date; pit 21 contained similar flintwork but also Late Iron Age to Roman pottery.

Ceramic Building Materials by Danielle Milbank

A total of 931g of ceramic building material was recovered in the course of the evaluation (18 fragments), and examined under x10 magnification (Appendix 5). These largely comprised small fragments which could not be identified as brick or tile. Of the remainder, the majority comprised tile of Roman date, with some likely medieval or early post-medieval material present. All but one of the features containing brick and tile were linear features (ditches and a gully). The Roman tile was largely of one broad fabric type, a fine clay with no inclusions and occasional small voids and an orange red colour, with a sandy base.

Small fragments of this Roman fabric type were encountered in ditch slots 115 (166) and 116 (168), and represent tile pieces 14mm thick and of slightly uneven form, and represent the thinner form of Roman roof tile. Ditch slot 130 (182) also contained pieces of this type. Ditch slot 139 (191) contained pieces of tile measuring 42mm thick, possibly *tegula* at the thickest of the typical range, but more likely to represent thin tile-like bricks such as the *bessalis* or *pedalis* forms (Brodribb 1987). No specific Roman forms could be identified with certainty.

Medieval and post-medieval material was recovered from ditch slot 100 (deposit 98), which contained tile fragments 13mm thick in a hard, evenly-fired dark red fabric with sparse coarse sandy and sparse fine groggy inclusions. These pieces are likely to be of late medieval or early post-medieval date. Gully slot 141 contained pieces 16mm thick in a similar fabric with a likely post-medieval date.

Pit 143 (195) contained several fragments which could conceivably be of Roman date but are more likely to be of Medieval date. The fabric is a rough, slightly laminated friable clay with fine chalky and occasional small flint inclusions. The pieces are small and it is not possible to determine if they represent brick or tile.

Conclusion

Overall, the ceramic building material assemblage recovered from the site is modest, and falls into two broad groups by date, Roman and later Medieval to early post-medieval.

Glass by Danielle Milbank

A single small piece of glass (2g) came from ditch slot 2 (deposit 53) in Trench 103. It comprises the rim of a vessel, in green blue glass. Although the fragment is small, it is possible to identify the rim as being fire-rounded, which can be broadly dated to the Roman period.

Burnt clay by Danielle Milbank

Ditch 127 in Trench 20 contained one fragment (weighing 10g) of burnt clay. The fabric is a fine, dark red brown clay with very occasional chalk inclusions, blackened on one side. The piece does not have any characteristics to suggest what type of fired clay it represents (for example, daub or a fired clay object such as a loomweight).

Animal Bone by Ceri Falys

A moderate assemblage of animal bone was recovered from 27 contexts. A total of 302 fragments of bone were present for analysis, weighing 2051.5g (Appendix 6). The surface preservation of the remains varies greatly between the contexts. The majority of bone is very poorly preserved, with significant erosion of the cortical bone surfaces and a high degree of fragmentation. The severe fragmentation has limited the amount of element and species of origin identification possible from within the assemblage.

Initial analyses roughly sorted elements based on size, not by species, into one of three categories: large (horse/cow), medium (sheep/goat, pig), and small (dog, cat etc). Where possible, a more specific identification to species and side of origin has been made. Teeth were commonly much better preserved than the postcranial elements, and permitted much of the species identification. Long bone shaft fragments were frequently too small and non-descript to suggest even the size animal of origin.

The minimum number of animals present in this assemblage has been estimated to be five: two large-sized animals (at least one horse and one cow), two medium-sized animals (at least one sheep/goat and one pig), and at least one small-sized animal (possibly a dog). Although it is possible that multiple animals of each type resulted in the formation of the assemblage over time, a lack of element duplication has resulted in the MNI calculation of five.

Evidence of horse has been observed in four contexts, (deposits 96, 161, 178, and 192). Horse teeth have been identified in deposits 96 and 192. Aspects of the legs/feet have also been recovered, including a right distal tibia is present in deposit 161, and a left 3rd metatarsal from 178.

Cattle bones were identified in four deposits (75, 170, 182 and 195). Cow-sized teeth were present in the first three of these and deposit 195 contained a well-preserved portion of a left proximal metatarsal.

A single sheep-goat sized tooth is present in deposit 75. Three features contained one or more pig teeth, (72, 75, and 74). Finally, several small-sized teeth and small portions of mandible, possibly of canine origin, are present in deposit 185. A second deposit, (180), also contains a fragment of a small-sized animal mandible, however, a species of origin cannot be suggested.

No evidence of butchery has been found on any elements in this assemblage however, it is possible the poor surface preservation masked any marks that may have been present. The only possible evidence of cooking practices identified is the partial charring of a single, unidentified piece of bone in deposit 74.

In summary, evidence of a broad range of domesticated animals has been recovered, including horse, cattle, sheep/goat, pig, and a small-sized animal, possibly of canine origin. No further information could be retrieved from this moderately sized assemblage of highly fragmented animal bone.

Oyster shell by Danielle Milbank

Three contexts contained oyster shell (ranging from one to six fragments in each). These were ditches 113 (163) and 128 (180) and pit 143 (195), and all represent fragments of oyster shell, a common find on sites of many periods but especially ubiquitous in the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.

Charred plant remains by Elspeth St. John-Brooks

Thirty-eight bulk soil samples were processed using standard flotation methods. The resultant flots were examined under low power microscopy and 8x hand lens. No charred plant remains were found other than charcoal clasts. Very little microcharcoal was present and no clasts above 0.50cm. Most samples had mollusca shells present in high abundance, most probably modern burrowing species.

Conclusion

The trenching has shown that the majority of the anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey do correspond with sub-surface archaeological features, and that surprisingly few additional features were present (Figs 16 -18). Some anomalies interpreted as agricultural or ‘probably recent’ were indeed shown to be such. One notable absence, however, was in the northernmost corner of the site where there was no trace of a possible ring ditch.

Two pits appears to date to the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, while a second contained similar flint alongside Roman pottery and is clearly later, but does suggest that more Neolithic deposits might be present. Likewise one ditch

contained prehistoric pottery and although it was in an area dominated by Roman features, provides another hint that more than one period may be represented.

The majority of the features that produced dating evidence, however, fall into a very narrow time frame in the late Iron Age and early Roman period (broadly, the late 1st century BC to the late 1st or early 2nd century AD). Almost all of the features were ditches and gullies, with very few pits and nothing suggesting structures, so the site seems most likely to represent a field system or a series of enclosures, and probably trackways.

However, a lack of earthfast foundations is commonly observed on rural settlements of this period so their absence here need not mean that the site did not see occupation in this period. Indeed, the quantity of pottery in some of the ditches (notably ditches 112 and 128 and to a lesser extent 130) seems greater than would be expected in simple field boundaries, so at least the western enclosure (the area covered by Figure 19, and north of it) can be regarded as a potential occupation site. The second enclosure, further north, corresponds with one revealed in previous work across the railway line to the north. These areas have high archaeological potential.

Large areas of the site, however, especially around its perimeter, and in the east and south generally, contained no features, and can be considered to have markedly lower archaeological potential, if any.

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APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at S, SW and W end

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
1	43	2	0.52	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ natural geology. **[Pl. 7]**
2	49	2	0.48	0–0.23m topsoil, 0.23m-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ natural geology.
3	51	2	0.5	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
4	52	2	0.43	0–0.14m topsoil, 0.14m-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ natural geology.
5	48	2	0.42	0–0.19m topsoil, 0.19m-0.31m subsoil, 0.31m+ natural geology.
6	51	2	0.52	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
7	52	2	0.55	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
8	51	2	0.54	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.43m subsoil, 0.43m+ natural geology.**[Pl. 8]**
9	53	2	0.42	0–0.23m topsoil, 0.23m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
10	48	2	0.45	0–0.21m topsoil, 0.21m-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology.
11	50	2	0.44	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
12	43	2	0.5	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
13	52	2	0.4	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18m-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ natural geology.
14	36	2	0.45	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology.
15	49	2	0.55	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology.
16	48	2	0.45	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.43m subsoil, 0.43m+ natural geology.
17	50	2	0.55	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology. Unexcavated ditches.
18	39	2	0.53	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
19	50	2	0.4	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.37m subsoil, 0.37m+ natural geology. Pits 142 and 143 **[Pl. 11]**
20	50	2	0.43	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ natural geology. Ditches 126-132 **[Pl. 1, 12]**
21	51	2	0.44	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
22	50	2	0.46	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.43m subsoil, 0.43m+ natural geology.
23	55	2	0.43	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
24	50	2	0.48	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.44m subsoil, 0.44m+ natural geology.
25	55	2	0.45	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
26	50	2	0.48	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.44m subsoil, 0.44m+ natural geology.
27	50	2	0.37	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology. Ditches 117, 118, 121, 122, Gullies 119 and 120 **[Pls 2, 13]**
28	50	2	0.51	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology. Ditches 138 and 139, Gully 137
29	50	2	0.42	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
30	50	2	0.41	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Ditch 133-136 **[Pl. 14]**
31	50	2	0.6	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.53m subsoil, 0.53m+ natural geology. Gully 140
32	50	2	0.42	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
33	50	2	0.54	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology. Gully 141
34	50	2	0.54	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.46m subsoil, 0.46m+ natural geology.
35	46	2	0.52	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.49m subsoil, 0.49m+ natural geology.
36	50	2	0.43	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology. Ditches 113–16
37	50	2	0.5	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology. Ditch 124, Gully 123 (modern truncation 125).
38	50	2	0.46	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology. Ditch 112, Gully 111. **[Pl. 15]**
39	37	2	0.48	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m-0.46m subsoil, 0.46m+ natural geology.
40	50	2	0.3	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m+ natural geology.
41	51.5	2	0.4	0–0.21m topsoil, 0.21m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
42	50	2	0.5	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
43	50.9	2	0.38	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology.
44	50.5	2	0.4	0–0.1m topsoil, 0.1m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology. Ditches 45 and 46, unexcavated gully.
45	50.7	2	0.45	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
46	49.1	2	0.54	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.45m subsoil, 0.45m+ natural geology.
47	51.2	2	0.5	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
48	48.8	2	0.48	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
49	49.7	2	0.34	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m+ natural geology. Unexcavated ditch
50	50	2	0.35	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m+ natural geology.
51	46	2	0.46	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
52	45.1	2	0.42	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
53	49.5	2	0.5	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.45m subsoil, 0.45m+ natural geology.
54	50.5	2	0.4	0–0.35m topsoil, 0.35m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
55	47.2	2	0.38	0–0.32m topsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology. Unexcavated gully.
56	50	2	0.35	0–0.1m topsoil, 0.1m-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology.
57	49.7	2	0.35	0–0.1m topsoil, 0.1m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
58	48.7	2	0.5	0–0.15m topsoil, 0.15m-0.45m subsoil, 0.45m+ natural geology. Ditches 107 and 108, Pit 109 (modern truncation 110), unexcavated ditches.
59	50.7	2	0.49	0–0.18m topsoil, 0.18m-0.45m subsoil, 0.45m+ natural geology.

Trench	*Length (m)*	*Breadth (m)*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*
60	49.6	2	0.5	0–0.21m topsoil, 0.21m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology. Ditch 101, Gully 102 **[Pl. 16]]**
61	50.7	2	0.4	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Gully 103
62	51.5	2	0.32	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m+ natural geology. Gully 104, unexcavated ditch
63	50.4	2	0.32	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m+ natural geology.
64	50.1	2	0.4	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
65	50.9	2	0.47	0–0.36m topsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology.
66	50.7	2	0.4	0–0.34m topsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
67	52.5	2	0.32	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m+ natural geology.
68	50.5	2	0.48	0–0.2m topsoil, 0.2m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology. Ditch 106, Gully 105 **[Pl. 17]**
69	53.8	2	0.38	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m+ natural geology. Unexcavated ditches.
70	51.6	2	0.42	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Ditches 47–9, 100, unexcavated ditch.
71	50.9	2	0.35	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m+ natural geology.
72	49.5	2	0.45	0–0.11m topsoil, 0.11m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
73	50.6	2	0.4	0–0.32m topsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology.
74	50	2	0.35	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology.
75	50.2	2	0.32	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m+ natural geology.
76	51.5	2	0.38	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology. Gully 38
77	51.1	2	0.38	0–0.32m topsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology.
78	52	2	0.4	0–0.33m topsoil, 0.33m+ natural geology. Ditch 44
79	51.5	2	0.32	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology.
80	50.3	2	0.38	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology. Unexcavated ditches.
81	50	2	0.47	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.39m subsoil, 0.39m+ natural geology. Ditch 13, 31 and 32, Gully 33 **[Pl. 18]**
82	50	2	0.42	0–0.23m topsoil, 0.23m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Pits 18-20 **[Pl. 19]**
83	50	2	0.5	0–0.32m topsoil, 0.32m-0.5m subsoil, 0.5m+ natural geology. Pits 21 and 22, Ditches 23 and 29, Gullies 34 and 35 **[Pls 4, 20]**
84	48.9	2	0.4	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology. Ditch 30
85	49.9	2	0.47	0–0.35m topsoil, 0.35m-0.45m subsoil, 0.45m+ natural geology. Ditch 16 (tree hole 17)
86	50	2	0.5	0–0.36m topsoil, 0.36m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology.
87	50	2	0.42	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
88	50	2	0.4	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
89	50	2	0.45	0–0.29m topsoil, 0.29m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
90	50	2	0.35	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology.
91	50	2	0.5	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
92	51.2	2	0.4/0.7	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.37m/0.7m subsoil, 0.4m/0.7m+ natural geology.
93	50	2	0.4	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology.
94	50	2	0.65	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.62m subsoil, 0.62m+ natural geology.
95	50	2	0.4	0–0.36m topsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology.
96	50	2	0.44	0–0.32m topsoil, 0.32m-0.4m subsoil, 0.4m+ natural geology.
97	50	2	0.37	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology. Ditch 11 **[Pl.21]**
98	50	2	0.38	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology.
99	50	2	0.4	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
100	48	2	0.35	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.32m subsoil, 0.32m+ natural geology. Ditch 12 **[Pl.22]**
101	50.9	2	0.4	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Ditch 15 **[Pl.23]**
102	50.7	2	0.4	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.35m subsoil, 0.35m+ natural geology.
103	50.6	2	0.4	0–0.27m topsoil, 0.27m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology. Ditches 1, 2 and 5, Gully 3 **[Pl.24]**
104	50	2	0.48	0–0.34m topsoil, 0.34m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology.
105	50	2	0.39	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology.
107	50	2	0.38	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.3m subsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology. (Tree hole 14).
108	50	2	0.55	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m-0.46m subsoil, 0.46m+ natural geology. Ditch 4 and 6, Gully 7 **[Pl. 5]**
109	50	2	0.4	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology.
110	50	2	0.32	0–0.26m topsoil, 0.26m+ natural geology. Band of colluvium from 29–40m along the trench. Ditch 8 and 10, Gully 9, unexcavated ditch **[Pls 6, 25, 26]**
111	48.6	2	0.38	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.36m subsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology. Band of colluvium in middle of trench. Four possible features sealed by colluvium
112	50	2	0.44	0–0.36m topsoil, 0.36m+ natural geology. Band of colluvium in west end of trench. Ditch 37, unexcavated ditch and gully.
113	50	2	0.35	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m+ natural geology.
114	50	2	0.3	0–0.28m topsoil, 0.28m+ natural geology.
115	50.3	2	0.44	0–0.38m topsoil, 0.38m-0.42m subsoil, 0.42m+ natural geology. **[Pl. 9]**
116	46.4	2	0.4	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.34m subsoil, 0.34m+ natural geology.
117	50	2	0.4	0–0.3m topsoil, 0.3m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. Ditches 24, 26–8, gully 25 **[Pls 27-8]**
118	50	2	0.43	0–0.25m topsoil, 0.25m-0.38m subsoil, 0.38m+ natural geology. **[Pl. 10]**
119	50	2	0.38	0–0.22m topsoil, 0.22m-0.33m subsoil, 0.33m+ natural geology.
120	48	2	0.57	0–0.24m topsoil, 0.24m-0.48m subsoil, 0.48m+ natural geology.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill (s)*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*
103	1	52	Ditch		
103	2	53	Ditch	Roman	Glass
103	3	54	Gully		
108	4	55	Ditch		
103	5	56, 57	Ditch		
108	6	58	Ditch		
108	7	59	Gully		
110	8	60	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
110	9	61	Gully		
110	10	62	Ditch		
97	11	63	Ditch		
100	12	64	Ditch		
81	13	65	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
107	14	66	Tree hole		
101	15	67, 68	Ditch		
85	16	69	Ditch		
85	17	70	Tree hole		
82	18	71	Pit	Neolithic	flints
82	19	72	Pit		
82	20	73	Pit		
83	21	74	Pit	1st century BC/AD	Pottery (Neolithic flints residual)
83	22	75	Pit	Neolithic	flints
83	23	76	Ditch		
117	24	77, 82	Ditch		
117	25	78	Gully		
117	26	79	Ditch		
117	27	80	Ditch		
117	28	81	Ditch		
83	29	83	Ditch		
83		84	Spread		
84	30	85	Ditch		
81	31	86	Ditch		
81	32	87	Ditch	1st century BC/AD	Pottery
81	33	88	Gully		
83	34	89	Gully		
83	35	90	Gully		
112	37	92	Ditch		
76	38	91	Geological Silt stripe		
76	39	-	Geological Silt stripe		
76	40	-	Geological Silt stripe		
78	44	99	Ditch		
44	45	93	Ditch	1st century BC/AD	Pottery
44	46	94	Ditch		
70	47	95	Ditch		
70	48	96	Gully		
70	49	97	Ditch	Roman	Pottery
70	100	98	Ditch	Post-medieval	Brick/Tile (Roman pottery residual)
60	101	150	Ditch		
60	102	151	Gully		
61	103	152	Gully		
62	104	153	Gully		
68	105	154	Gully		
68	106	155	Ditch		
58	107	156	Ditch		
58	108	157	Ditch		
58	109	158	Pit		
58	110	159	Modern truncation		
38	111	160	Gully		
38	112	161, 162	Ditch	Mid- to Late Roman	Pottery
36	113	163, 165	Ditch		
36	114	164	Gully		
36	115	166, 167	Ditch	Roman	Pottery, Brick/Tile
36	116	168	Ditch	Roman (2nd century)	Pottery, Brick/Tile
27	117	169	Ditch	Bronze Age or Iron Age	Pottery
27	118	170	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
27	119	171	Gully	1st century AD	Pottery

Trench	*Cut*	*Fill (s)*	*Type*	*Date*	*Dating evidence*
27	120	172	Gully	1st century AD	Pottery
27	121	173	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
27	122	174	Ditch	Mid-to late Roman	Pottery
37	123	175	Gully	1st century AD	Pottery
37	124	176	Ditch	1st century AD	Pottery
37	125	177	Modern truncation		
20	126	178	Ditch	1st century BC/AD	Pottery
20	127	179	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
20	128	180	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
20	129	181	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
20	130	182	Ditch	Roman	Pottery, Brick/Tile
20	131	183	Ditch		
20	132	184	Gully		
30	133	185	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery
30	134	186	Ditch		
30	135	187	Ditch		
30	136	188	Gully		
28	137	189	Gully		
28	138	190	Ditch	Roman	Pottery
28	139	191	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery, Brick
31	140	192	Gully		
33	141	193	Gully	Post-medieval	Brick/Tile
19	142	194	Pit	Roman	Pottery
19	143	195	Pit	?Medieval	Brick/Tile (Early Roman pottery)

APPENDIX 3: Pottery

Trench	*Cut*	*Context*	*Fabric*	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Pottery Date*	*Context Date*
39		subsoil	GW (FLINT & SHELL)	1	1	C1BC-Mid C1AD	LIA/ER
110	8	60	SGW	4	7	LC1-C4	LIA/ER
110	8	60	GW (OX)	1	1	C1BC-Mid C1AD	LIA/ER
81	13	65	STW (GROG)	40	115	C1BC-Mid C1AD	LIA/ER
81	13	65	GW(GROG)	150	2242	LC1-C4	LC1-C4
83	21	74	STW	31	54	C1BC-Mid C1AD	LIA/ER
81	32	87	SGW (OX)	4	4	C1BC-Mid C1AD	LIA/ER
44	45	93	GW (GROG)	2	6	E/Mid C1	ER
44	45	93	GW (FLINT)	1	2	E/Mid C2	ER
70	49	97	SGW	1	8	Mid C1-C4	ER
70	100	98	GW (FLINT)	6	6	IA	ER
70	100	98	SGW	1	1	Mid C1-C4	ER
38	112	161	GW (FINE)	2	2	E/Mid C1	C4
38	112	161	GW (GROG)	1	6	Mid C1-Mid C2	C4
38	112	161	NVCC	5	67	Mid C2-C4	C4
38	112	161	NVOW	1	48	C4	C4
38	112	161	OXREDS	2	14	C4	C4
38	112	161	SGW	7	45	C1-C4	C4
38	112	161	SGW (BB)		259	C3-C4	C4
38	112	161	STW	1	37	Mid C1-Mid C2	C4
38	112	161	STW (OX)	2	77	C1-C2	C4
36	115	166	STW (OX)	1	6	C1BC-AD C1	ER
36	115	166	GW (GROG) (BS)	1	2	E/Mid C1	ER
36	116	168	SOW (ORANGE)	1	4	C2	MR
36	116	168	STW	2	54	Mid C1-Mid C2	MR
27	117	169	GW (GROG)	3	15	BA/IA	BA/IA
27	117	169	GW (FINE FLINT)	2	1	BA/IA	BA/IA
27	118	170	SGW (OX)	1	22	Mid C1-E/Mid C2	ER
27	118	170	SREDW	1	1	C1	ER
27	119	171	SGW	1	14	E/Mid C1	ER
27	119	171	GW (GROG)	1	2	C1	ER
27	121	173	GW (GROG)	1	1	C1	ER
27	122	174	STW	2	36	C1-C4	MR
27	122	174	SOW (ORANGE)	1	44	Mid C1-C3	MR
27	122	174	SGW	1	9	Mid C2-C3	MR
37	123	175	SGW	1	4	C1	ER
37	124	176	GW (GROG)	2	3	E/Mid C1	ER
20	126	178	GW (GROG & ORG) (OX)	2	47	C1BC-ADE/Mid C1	ER
20	127	179	GW (GROG)	1	7	Mid C1-Mid C2	ER
20	128	180	SGW	1	24	Mid C1-Mid C2	ER
20	128	180	GW (GROG)	1	7	C1BC-ADMid C1	ER
20	128	180	GW (FINE) (OX)	1	2	C1	ER
20	128	180	SREDW (REDS) (SANDW)	40	247	Mid C1-EC2	ER
20	128	180	STW	1	25	Mid C1-C2	ER
20	128	180	SGW	5	79	Mid C1-C2	ER
20	129	181	SGW (MICA)	2	33	Mid C1-E/Mid C2	ER
20	129	181	OW (FINE) (WS)	1	2	Mid C1-C3	ER
20	129	181	SGW (OX)	1	8	C1	ER
20	130	182	GW (FINE)	1	4	Mid C1-Mid C2	ER
20	130	182	SGW	3	37	Mid C1-E/Mid C2	ER
20	130	182	SGW (BSRW)	6	24	Mid C1-C2	ER
20	130	182	SGW (OX)	1	13	C1	ER
20	130	182	SOW (VER)	1	6	Mid C1-Mid C2	ER
20	130	182	STW	13	185	C1	ER
30	133	185	STW	1	3	C1-C2	ER
30	133	185	SGW (OX)	1	65	C1-EC2	ER
28	138	190	SGW	1	1	C1	ER
28	138	190	SGW (BLUE)	1	4	LC1-C4	ER
28	139	191	GW (GROG) (BSRW)	1	1	C1	ER
19	142	194	SAM	2	37	Mid C1-C3	ER
19	142	194	STW	7	55	Mid C1-C2	ER
19	142	194	SOW	2	71	Mid C1-C2	ER
19	142	194	SGW	2	15	LC1-C4	ER
19	143	195	SGW	2	15	Mid C1-C2	ER
19	143	195	SGW (FLINT)	1	5	Mid C1-E/Mid C2	ER

APPENDIX 4: Catalogue of Struck Flint

Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Sample*	*Intact Flake*	*Intact Blade (narrow flake)*	*Broken flake*	*Spall*	*Other*
81	13	65		1	-	-	-	
82	18	71		5	1	-	-	Serrated blade
83	21	74		3	-	-	-	2 Scraper; Serrated blade
83	21	74	10	-	-	1	-	
83	22	75		1	-	5 (1 burnt)	-	Core fragment; Serrated flake
83	22	75	11	-	-	-	1	
70	100	98		-	-	1	-	
36	115	166	29	-	-	1	-	
37	124	176		-	-	-	-	Transverse arrowhead
30	135	187		2	-	-	-	Scraper (burnt)
33	141	193		-	-	-	-	Core

APPENDIX 5: Catalogue of ceramic building material

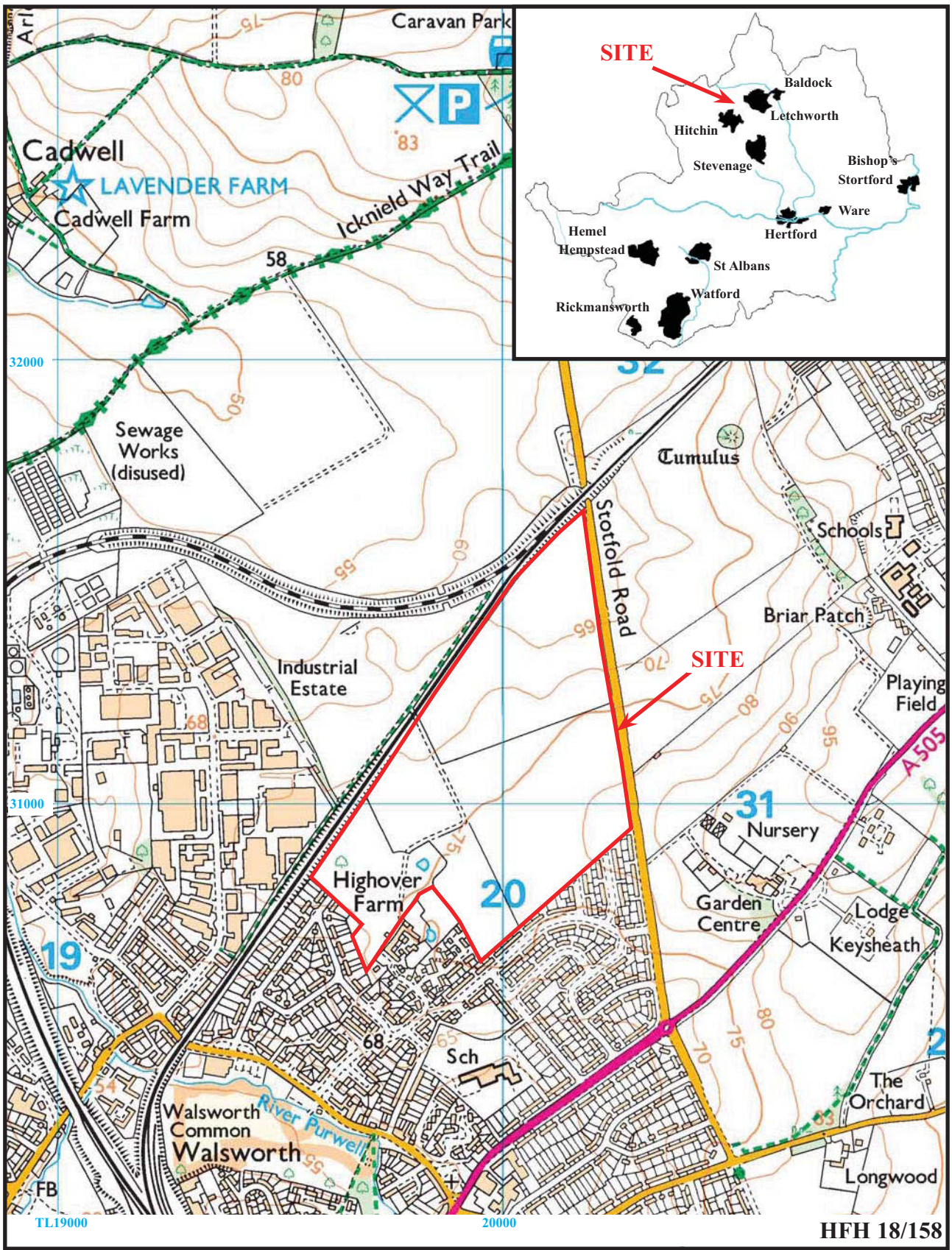
Trench	*Cut*	*Deposit*	*Feature type*	*No*	*Wt (g)*	*Date*
70	100	98	Ditch	1	12	Medieval and post-medieval
36	115	166	Ditch	2	15	Roman
36	116	168	Ditch	1	25	Roman
20	130	182	Ditch	1	112	Roman
28	139	191	Ditch	9	567	Roman ?brick
33	141	193	Gully	2	37	Post-medieval
19	143	195	Pit	2	163	Probably medieval
			Total	18	931	

APPENDIX 6: Inventory of animal bone

Cut	*Deposit*	*No. frags*	*Wt (g)*	*Horse*	*Cattle*	*Large*	*Pig*	*Medium*	*Small*	*Unident.*	*Comments*
3	54	22	86	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	
5	56	1	24	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
8	60	5	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
13	65	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
15	67	4	23	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	
18	71	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	
19	72	35	47	-	-	-	3	-	-	32	pig teeth
21	74	40	38	-	-	-	2	-	-	38	one partially charred piece of bone, and a pig tooth
22	75	69	422	-	10	-	1	10	-	48	pig tooth, s/g sized distal humerus shaft, cow-sized tooth and distal tibia
48	96	6	82	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	1 horse tooth
112	161	16	48	2	-	-	-	3	-	11	horse distal tibia
112	162	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
113	163	1	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
113	165	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
116	168	7	135	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	
118	170	4	183	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	cow right mandibular fragment with tooth *in situ*
122	174	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
126	178	4	262	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	horse left metatarsal
128	180	31	166	-	-	10	-	-	1	20	small animal mandible frag.
129	181	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
130	182	5	50	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	cow-sized tooth and frontal bone fragments
133	185	6	10	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	fragments of possible dog mandible and teeth
135	187	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
138	190	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
139	192	18	293	16	-	-	-	-	-	2	Horse teeth
142	194	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
143	195	4	118	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	

APPENDIX 7: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD SUMMARY SHEET

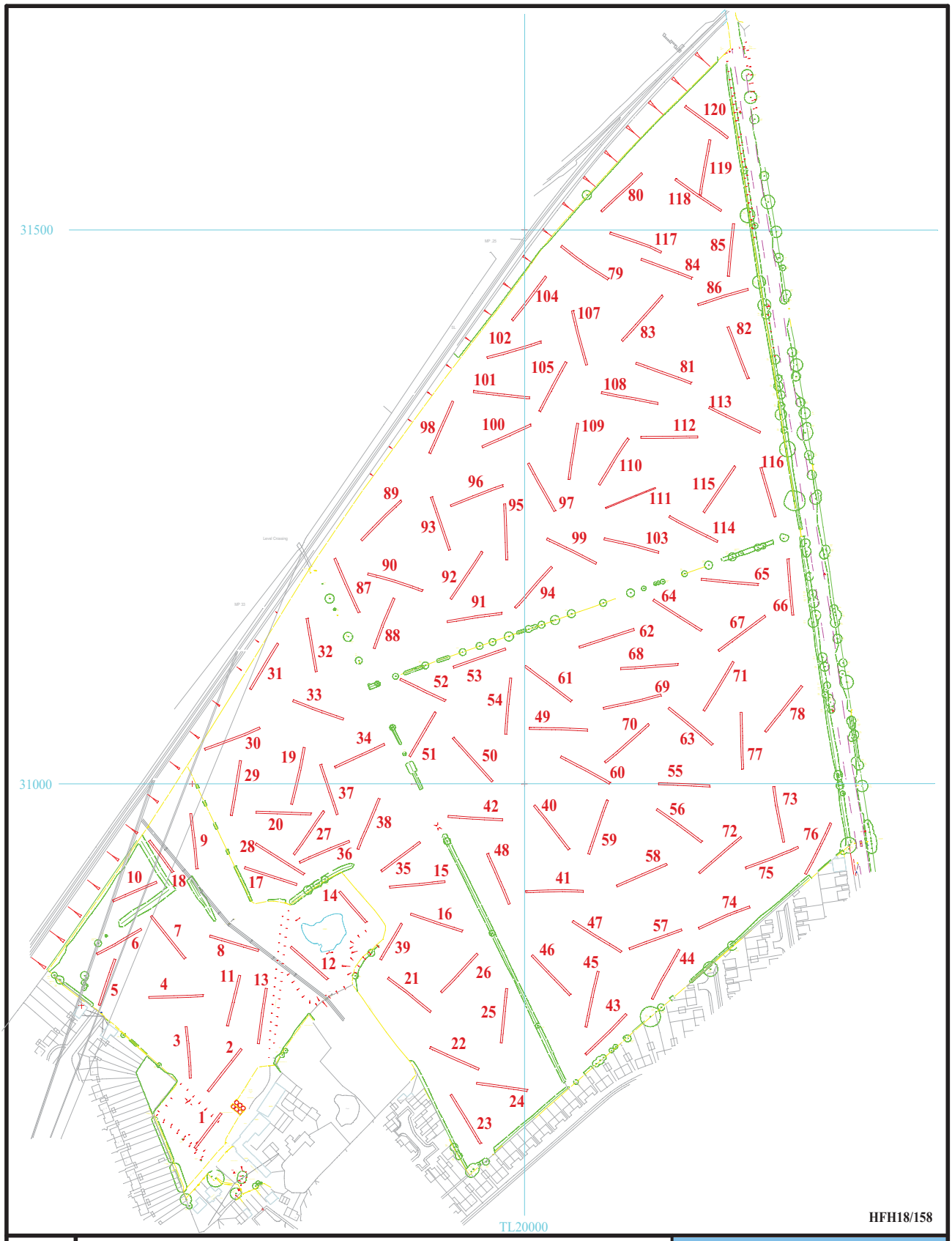
Site name and address: Highover Farm, Stotfold Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire		
County: Hertfordshire	**District:** North Hertfordshire	
Village/Town: Hitchin	**Parish:** Ickleford	
Planning application reference: N/A		
Client name, address, and tel. no.: Archaeologica Ltd, 7 Fosters Lane, Bradwell, Milton Keynes MK13 9HD.		
Nature of application: Housing		
Present land use: Arable		
Size of application area: 37ha	**Size of area investigated:** 37ha	
NGR (to 8 figures): TL 1997 3105		
Site code (if applicable): HFH18/158		
Site director/Organization: Luis Esteves, Thames Valley Archaeological Services		
Type of work: Evaluation		
Date of work:	Start: 1/10/18	Finish: 20/2/19
Location of finds & site archive/Curating museum: To go to Hertfordshire Museums Resource Centre		
Related HER Nos:	**Periods represented:** Neolithic, IronAge, Roman	
Relevant previous summaries/reports -		
Summary of fieldwork results: The evaluation was carried out as intended and in total 119 trenches were excavated covering the area of proposed development. A large number of linear features (gullies and ditches) and a small number of pits were investigated, producing a considerable amount of Late Iron Age and Roman (mostly early Roman) pottery. Virtually all of the features correlated with the results of previous geophysical survey. Two pits appeared to be of Neolithic date, based on struck flint finds, but one of these also contained Late Iron Age-Early Roman grog-tempered pottery. Apart from the odd isolated find, no other periods appear to be represented. Two fairly large enclosures seem to be present, and both of these areas can be considered to have high archaeological potential. Large parts of the site, however, revealed no features and have markedly lower archaeological potential, if any.		
Author of summary: Luis Esteves	**Date of summary:** 20/2/19	



Land at Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, 2018
Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1. Location of site within Hitchin and Hertfordshire.

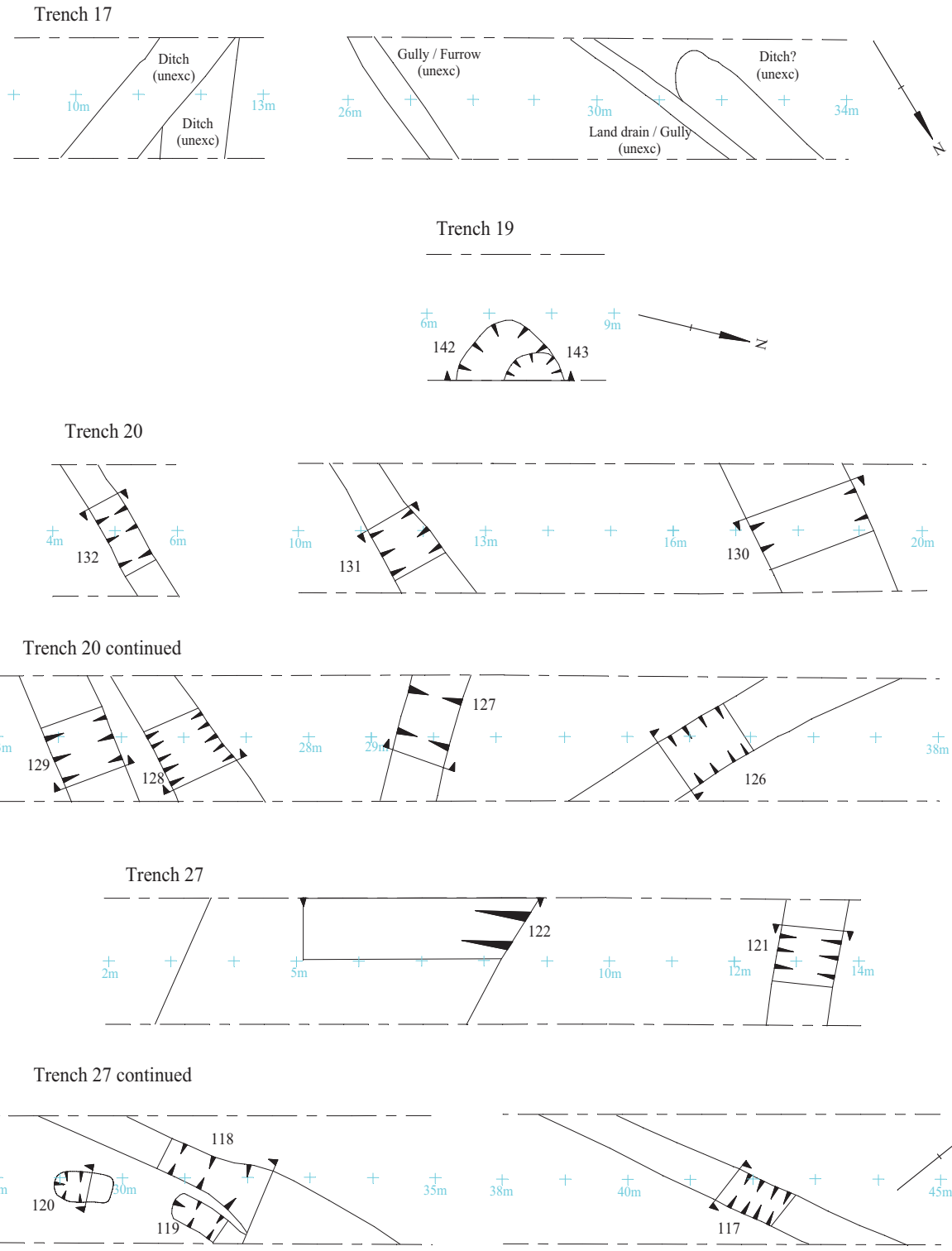
TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



Land at Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, 2018 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2. Locations of trenches.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



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Land at Highover Farm, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, 2018 Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 3. Details of trenches 17-27.

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

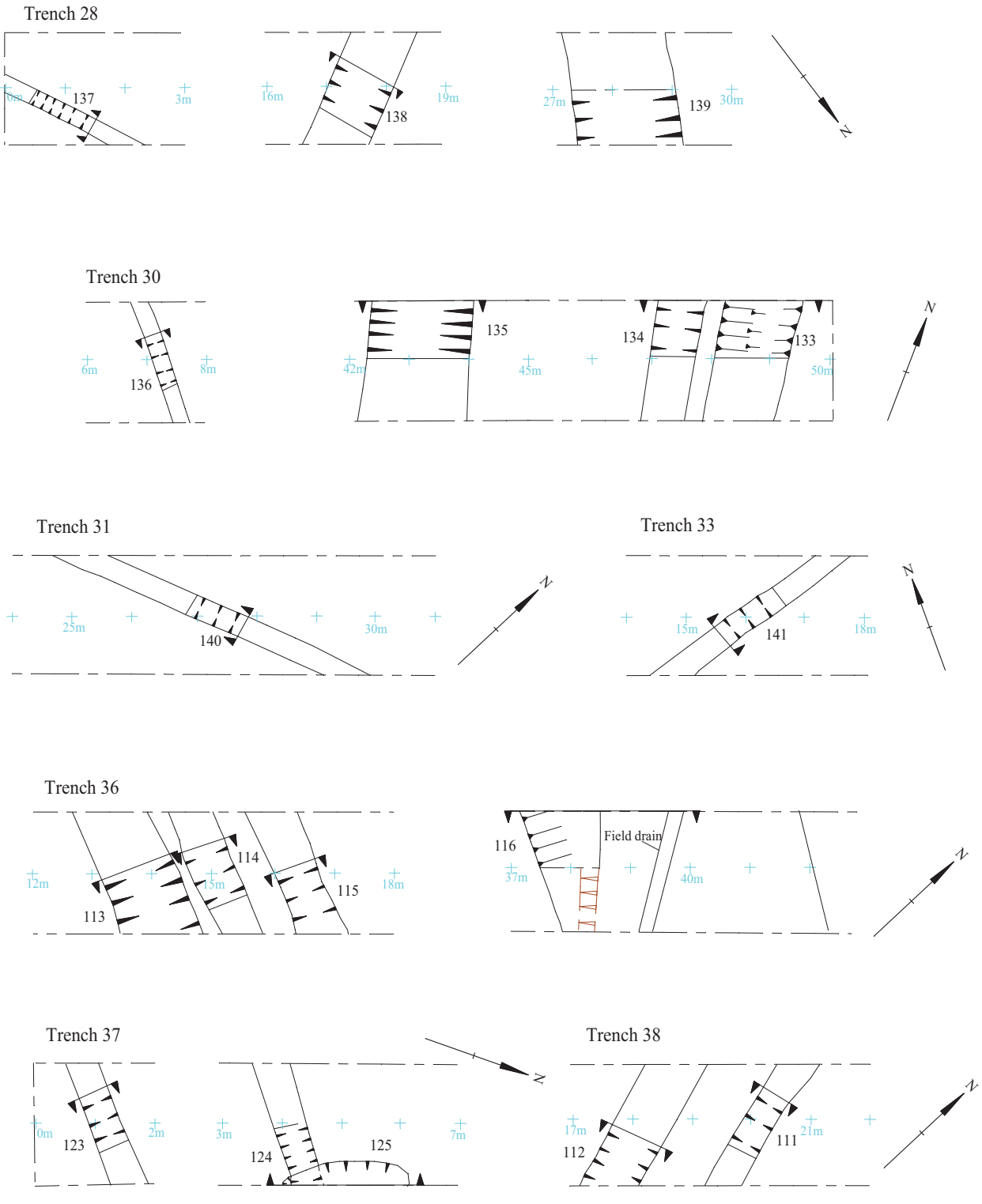

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Figure 4. Details of trenches 28-38.

0 5m

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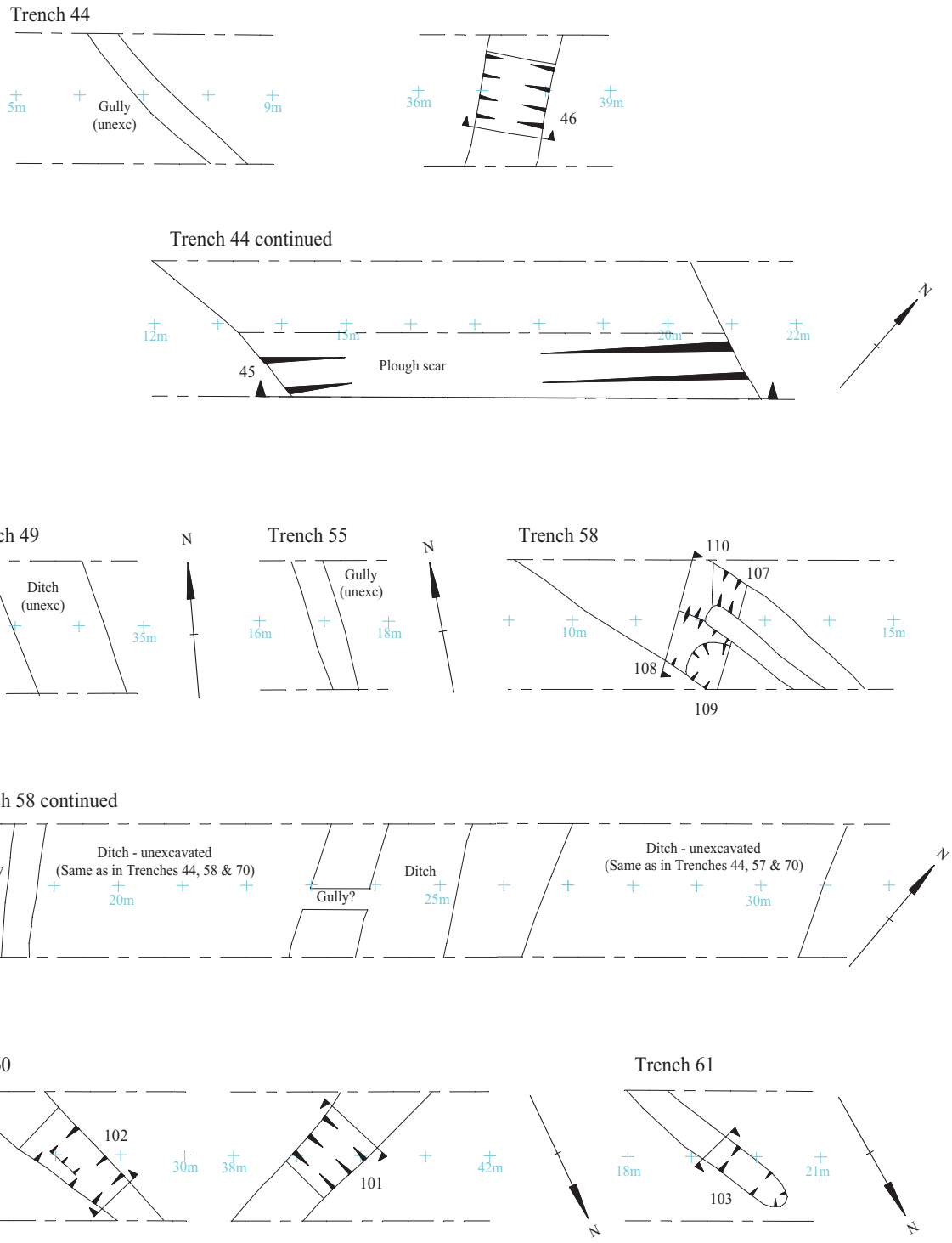

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Figure 5. Details of trenches 44-61.

0 5m

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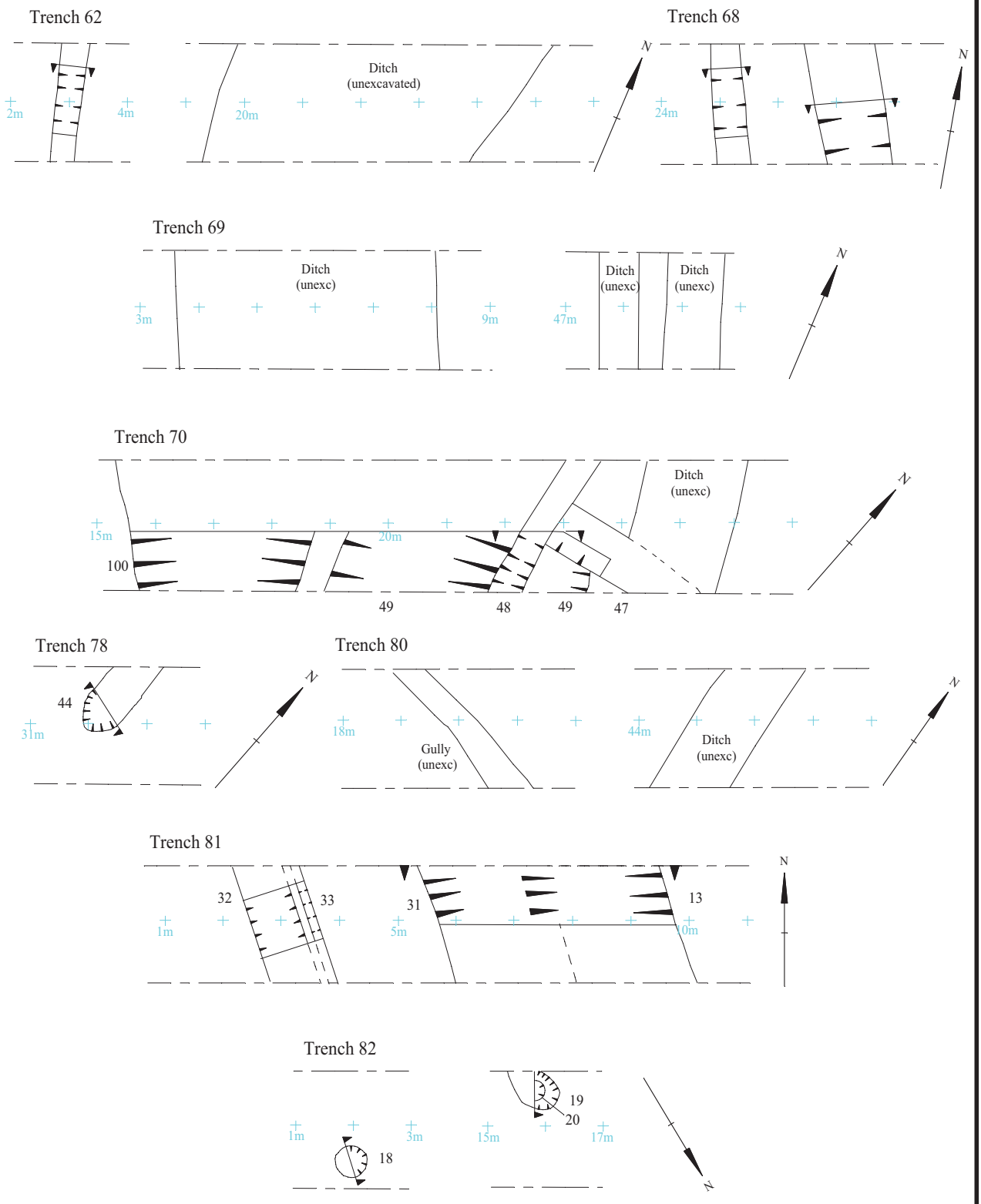

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Figure 6. Details of trenches 62-82.

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

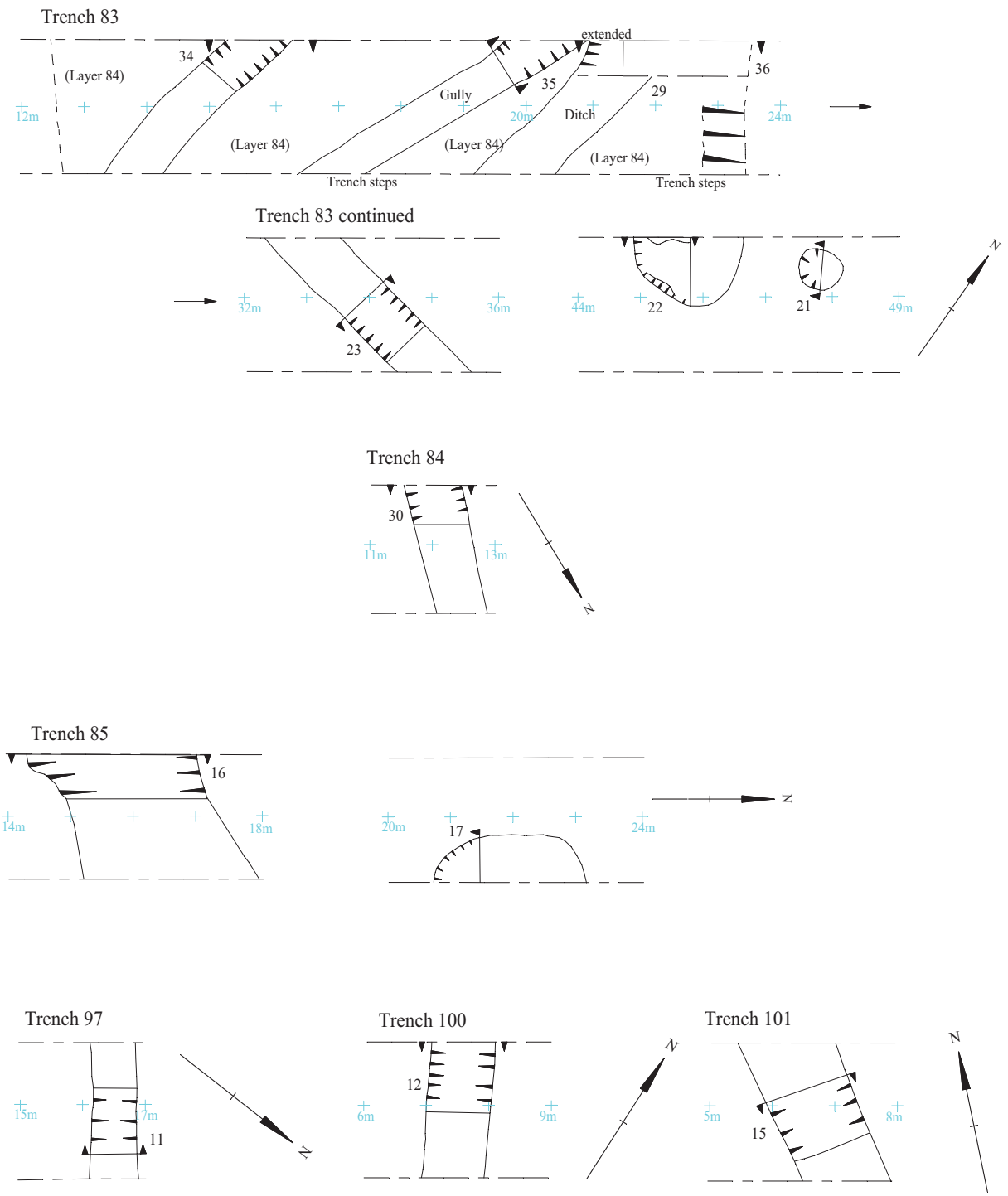

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Figure 7. Details of trenches 83-101.

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

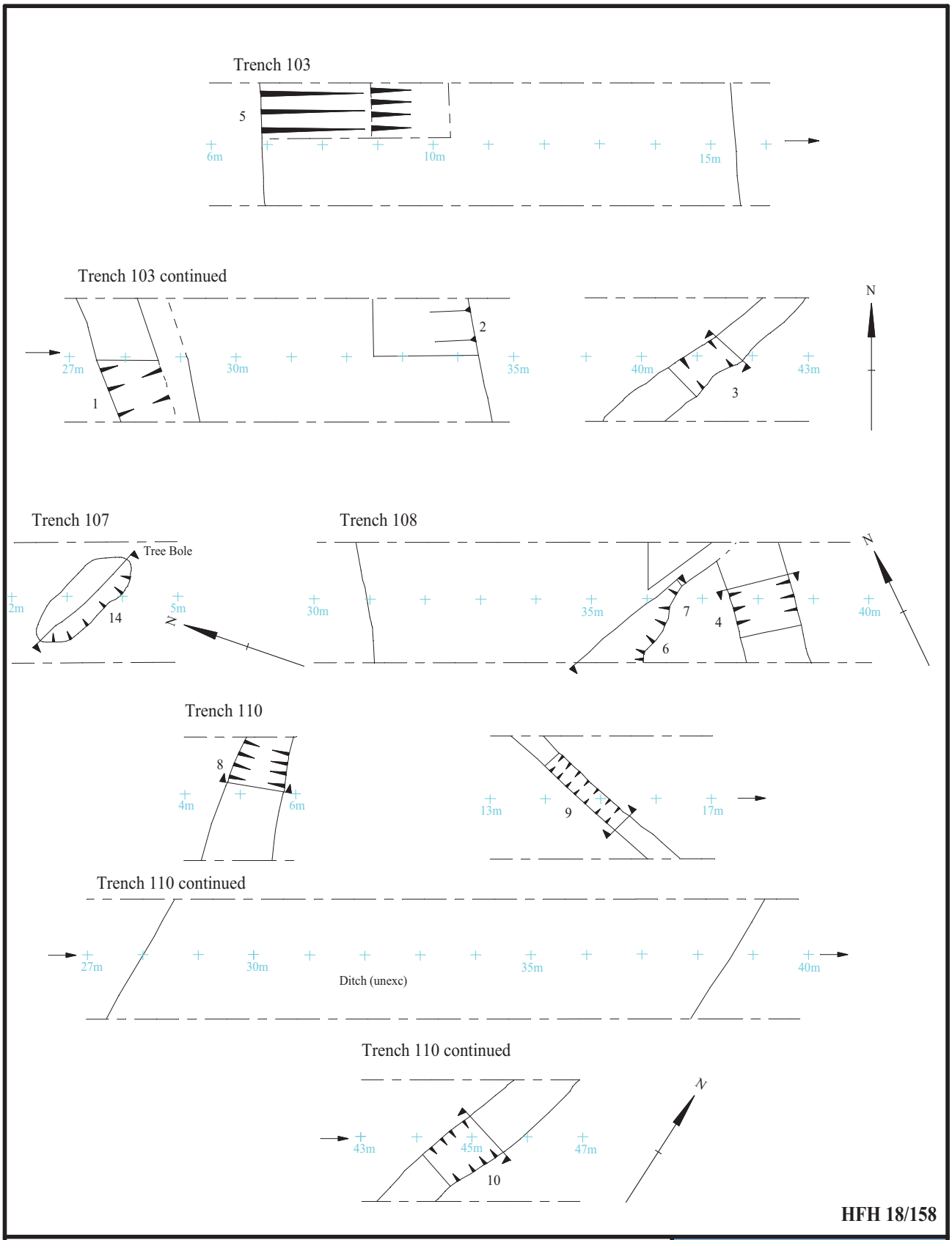

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Figure 8. Details of trenches 102-110.

0 5m

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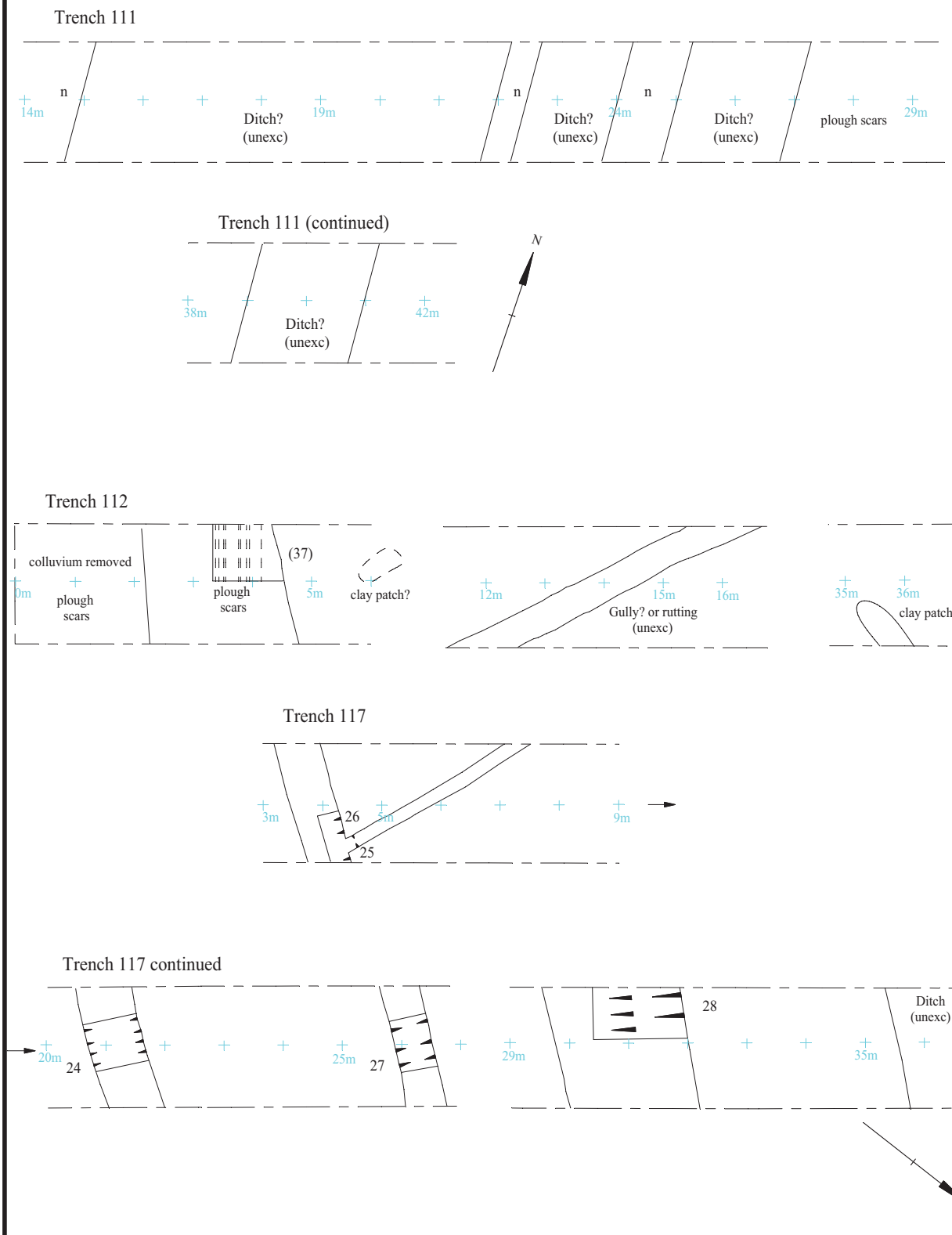

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Figure 9. Details of trenches 112-17.

0 5m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

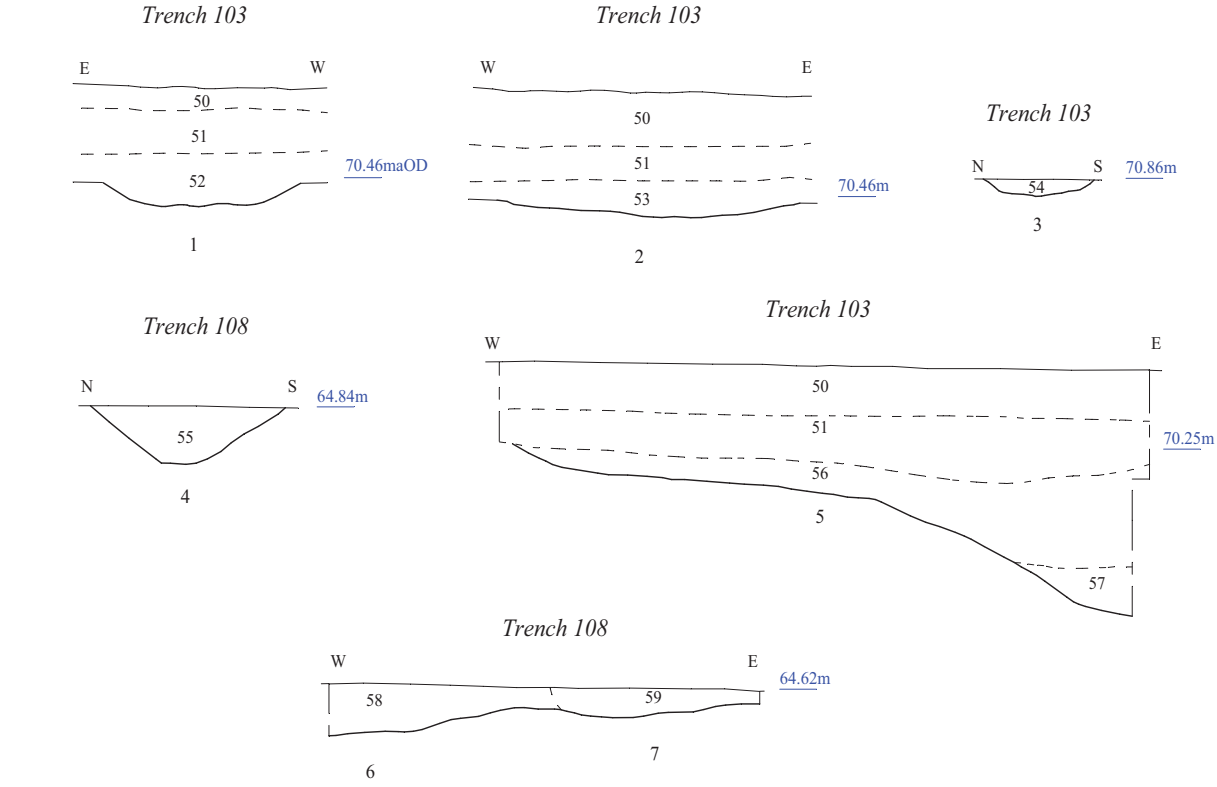

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Figure 10. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

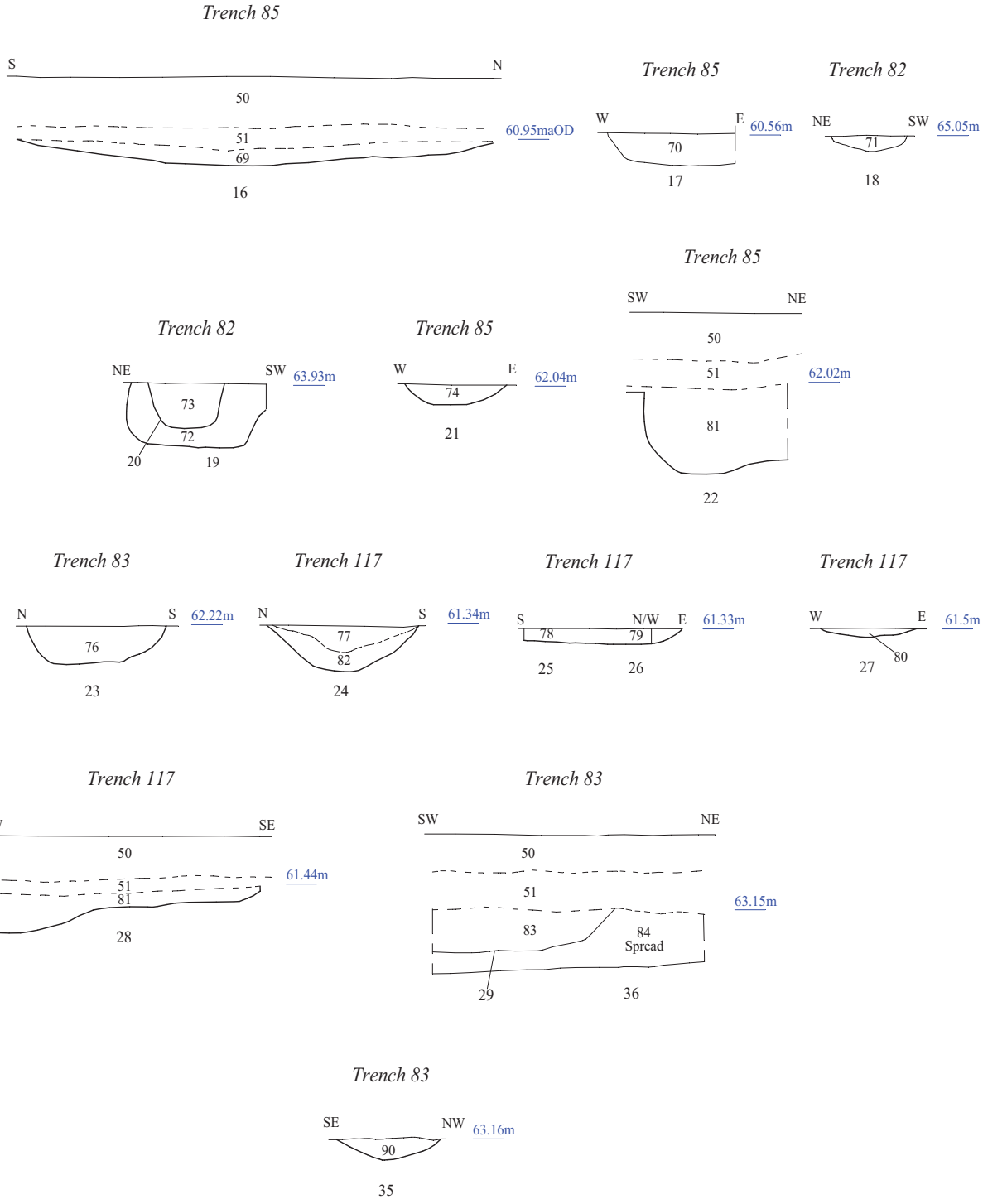

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Figure 11. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

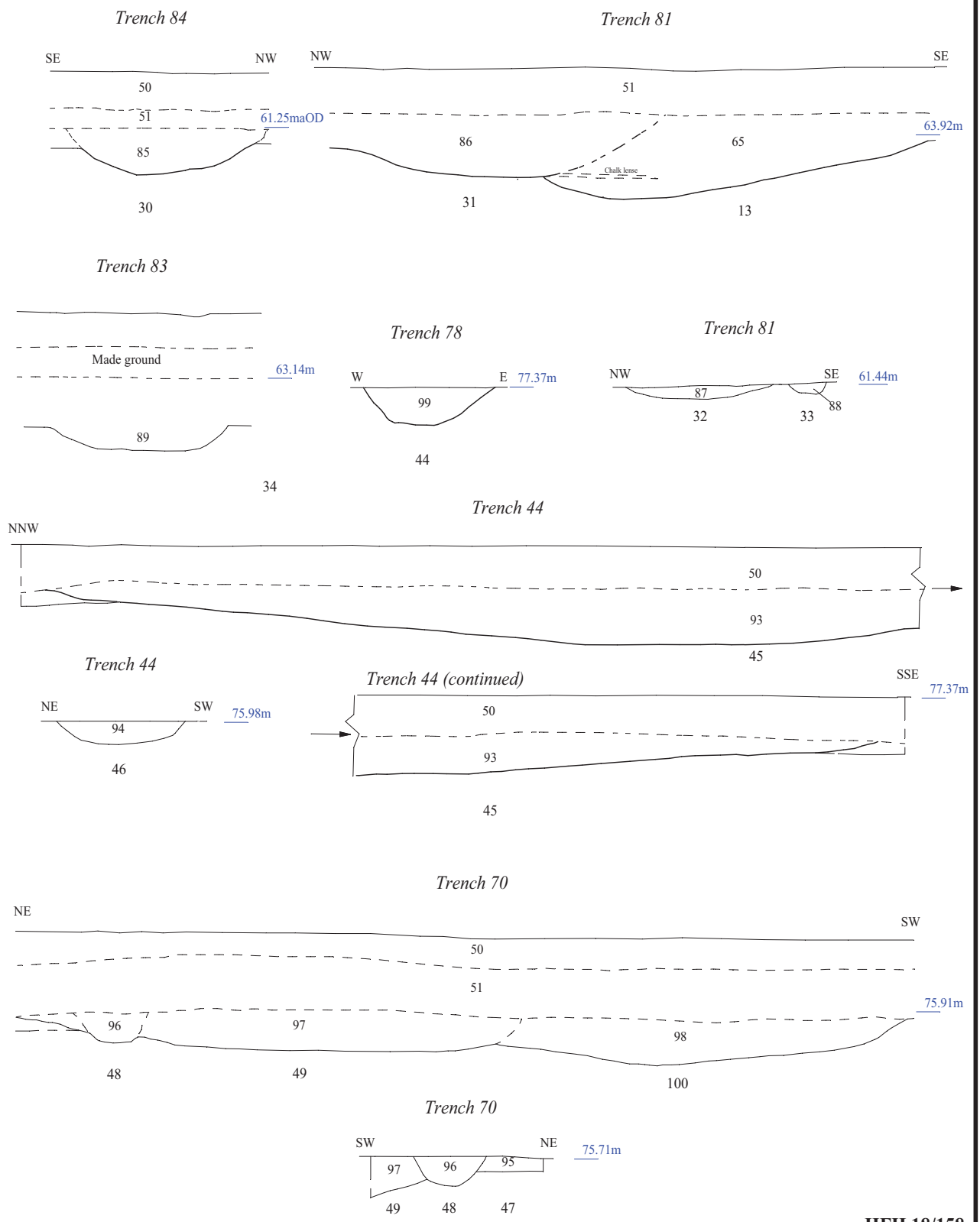

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Figure 12. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

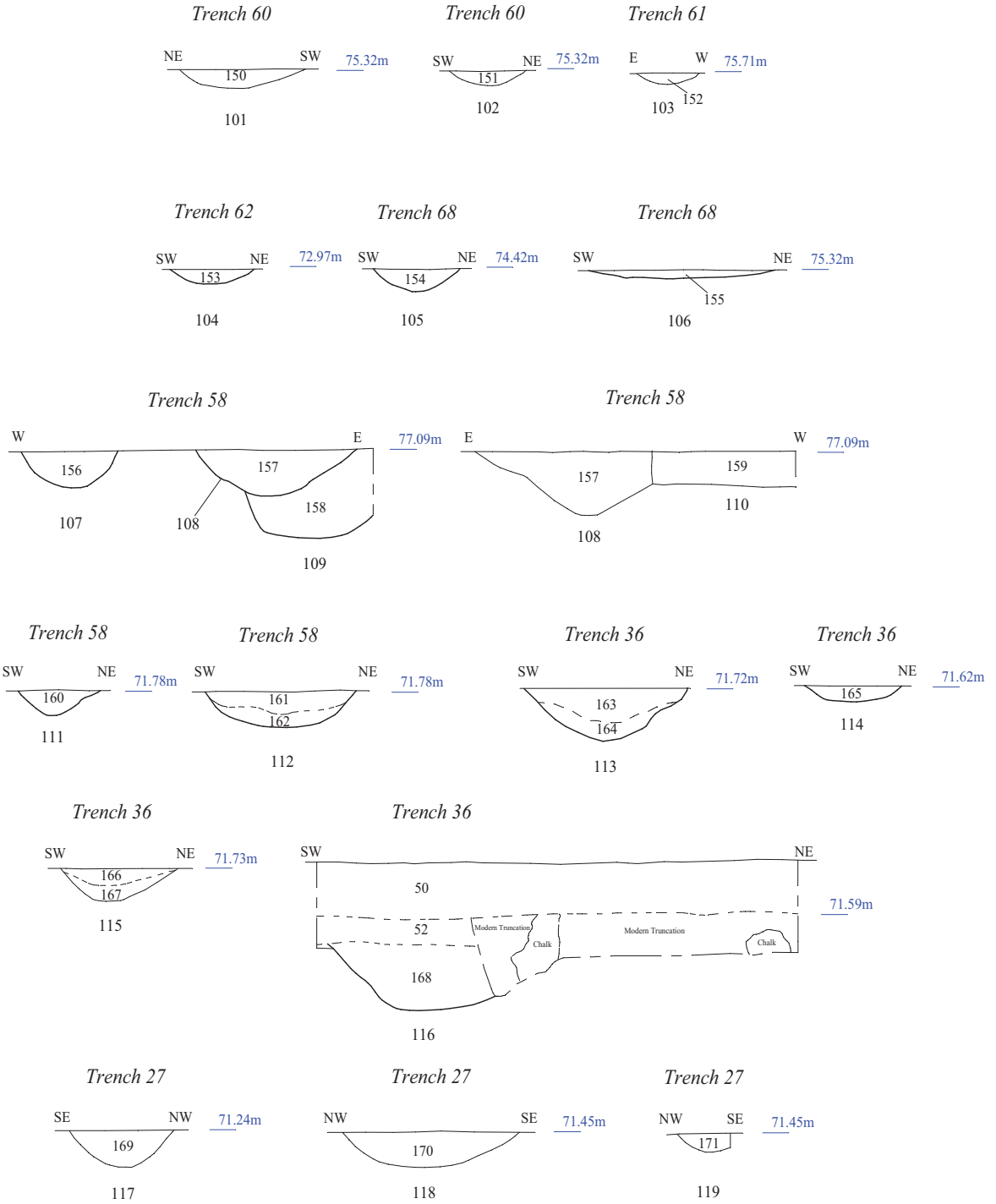

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Figure 13. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

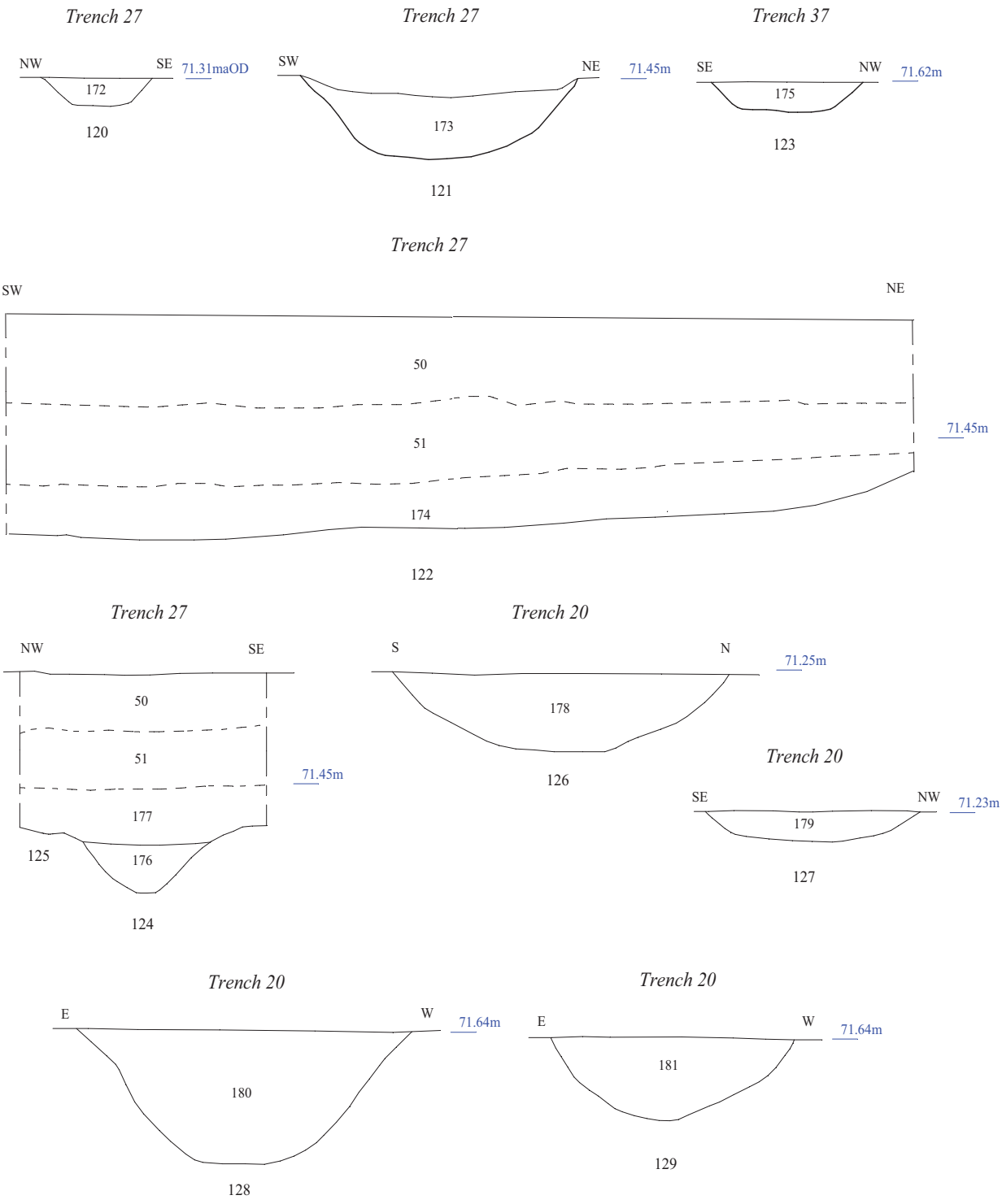

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Figure 14. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

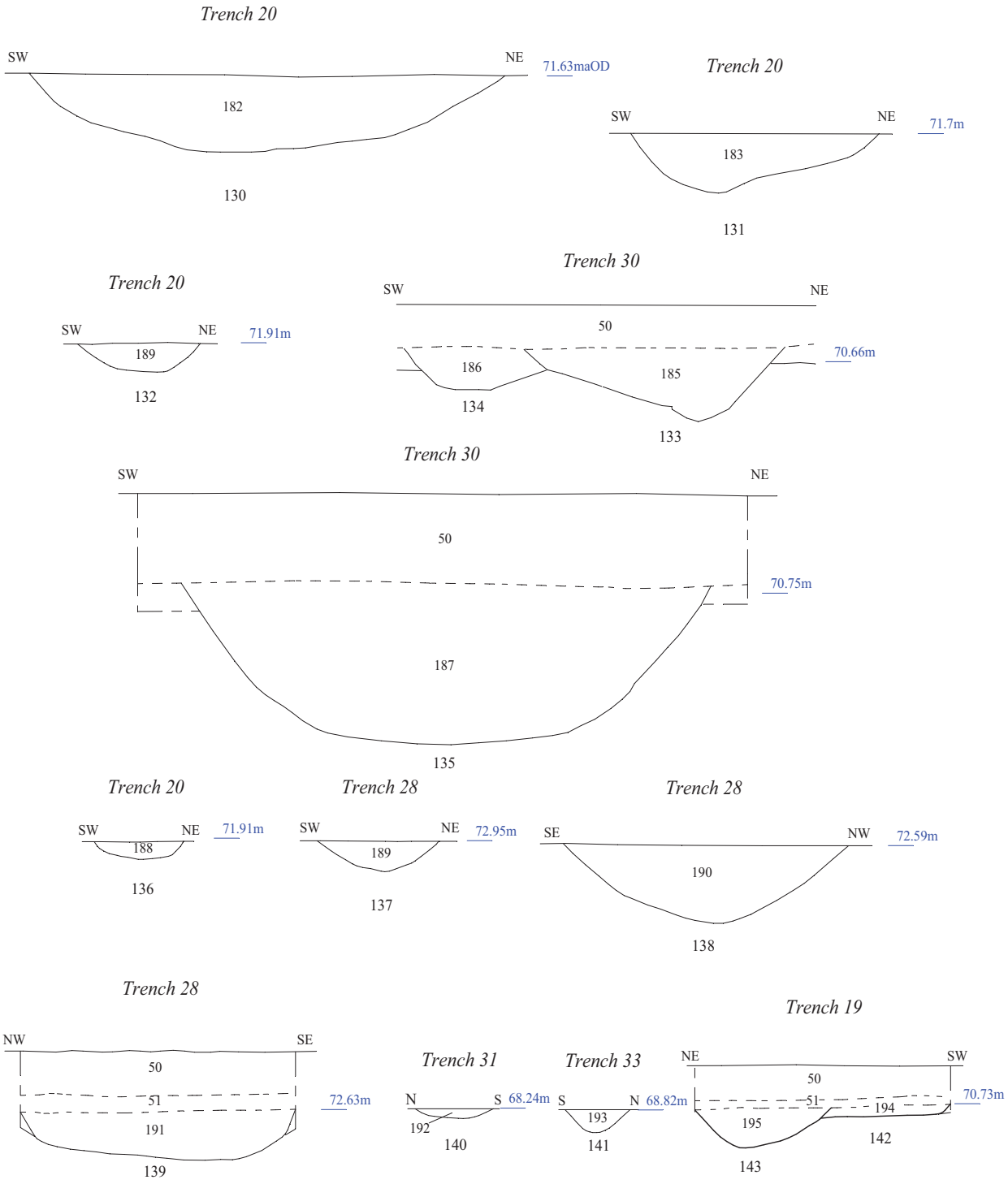

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Figure 15. Sections.

0 1m

THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

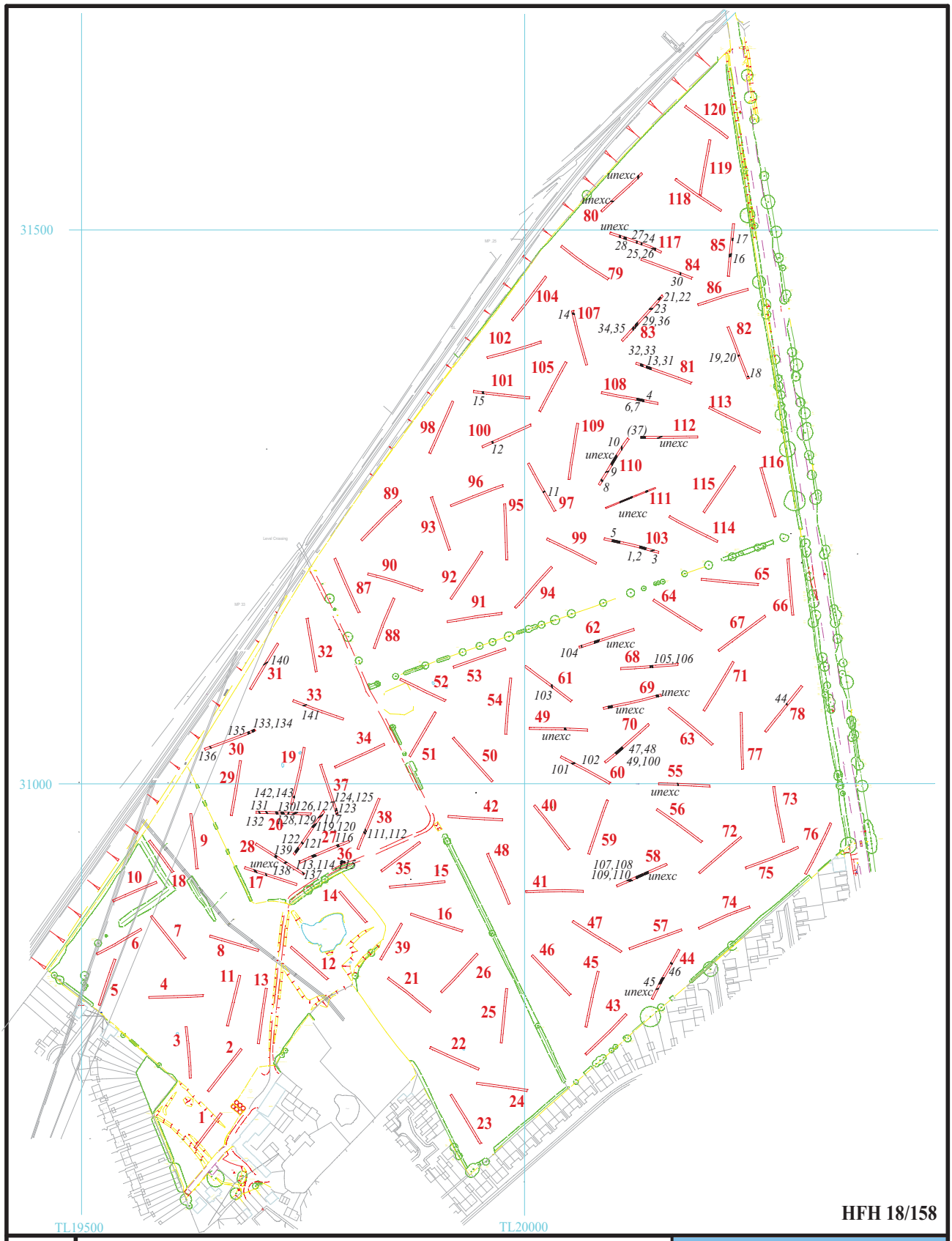

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Figure 16. Locations of features in trenches.

N

0 500m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

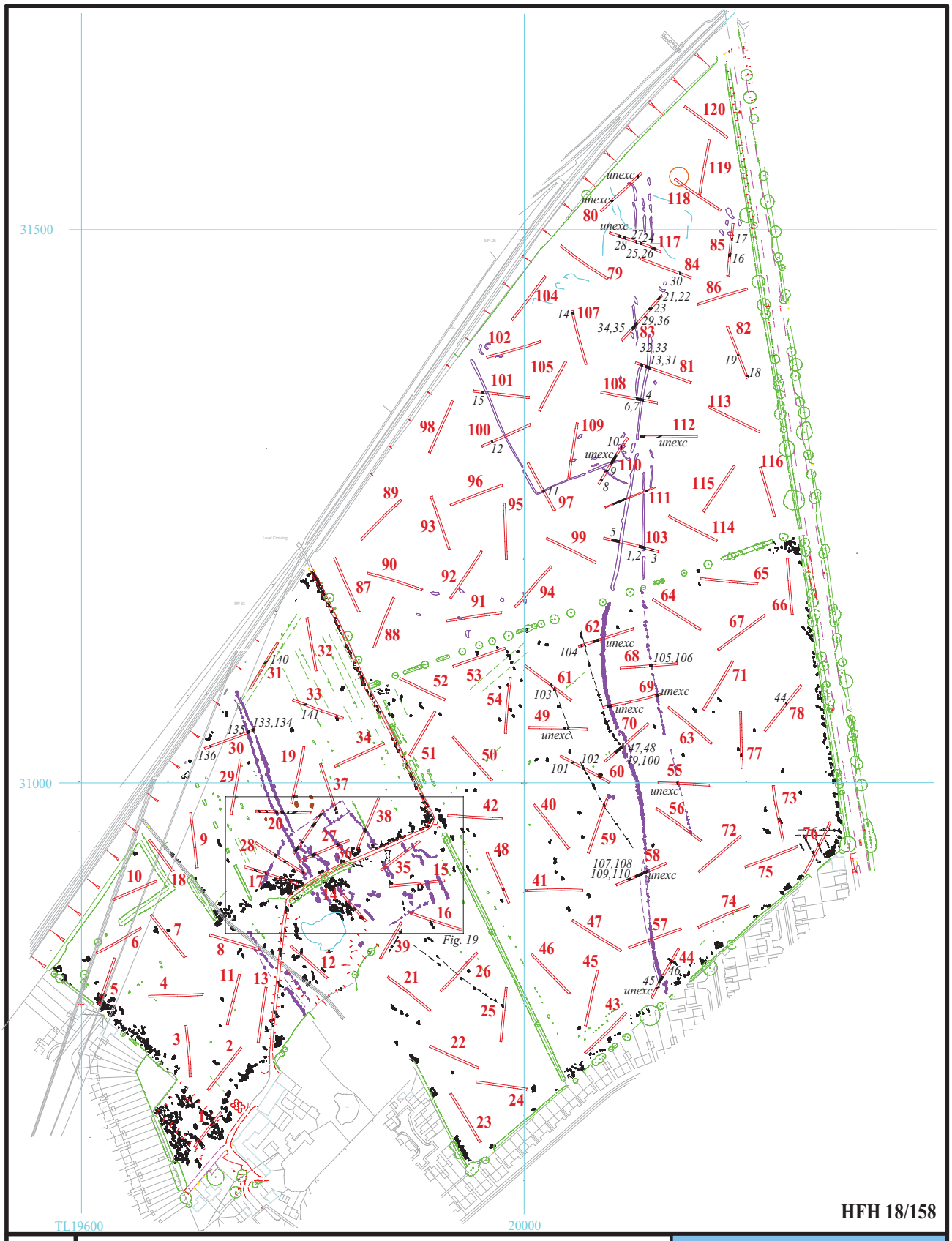

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Figure 17. Locations of features against geophysical anomalies.

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

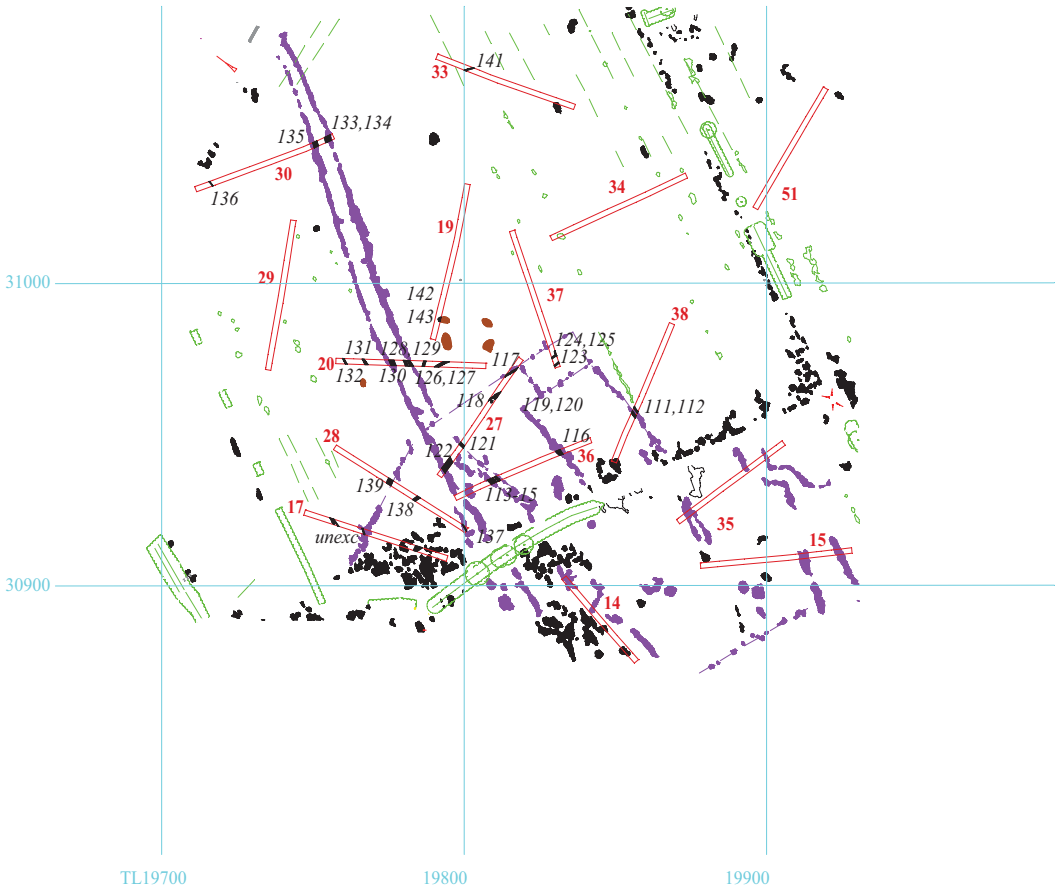

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Figure 18. Detailed Locations of features in central part of site, against geophysical anomalies.

0 250m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

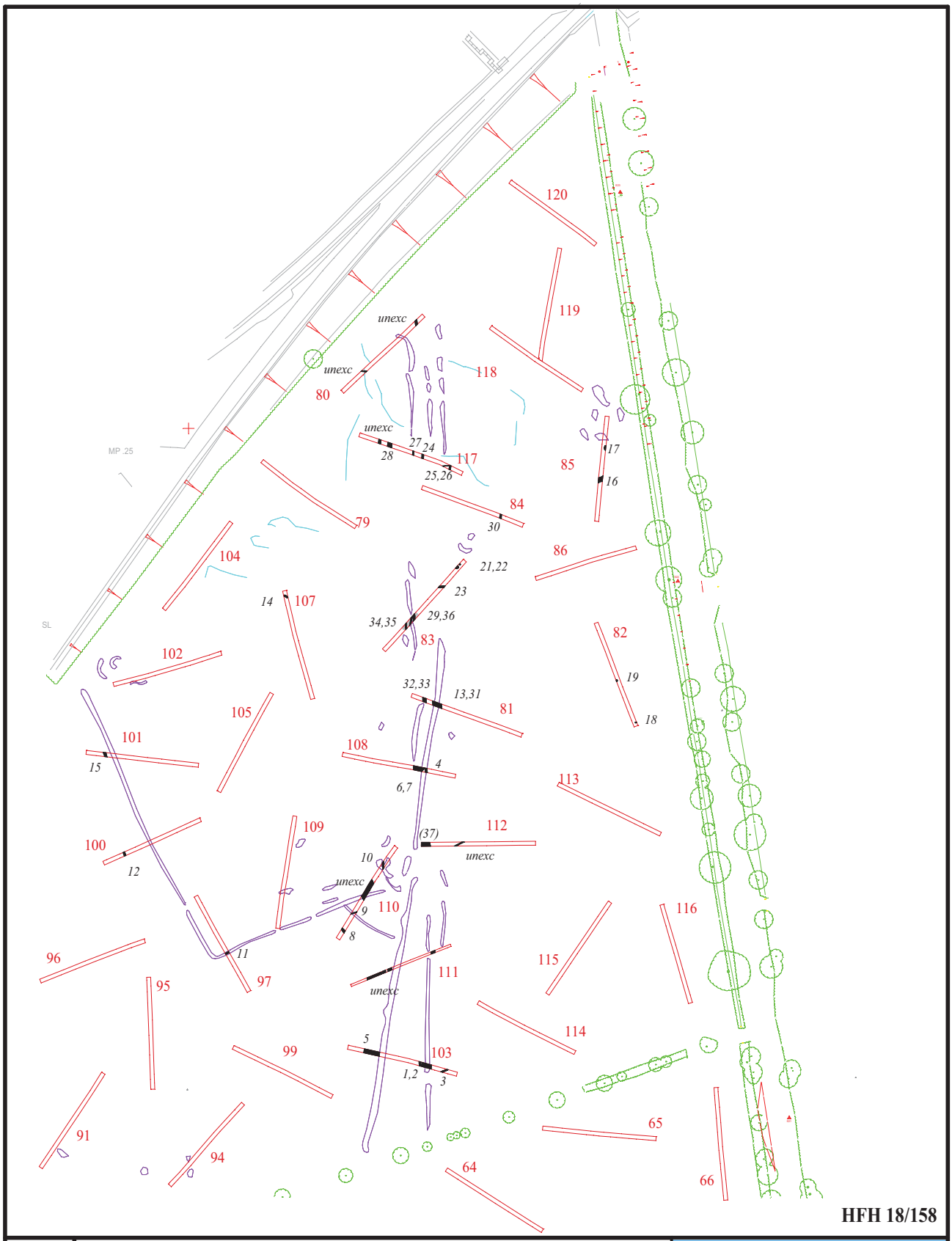

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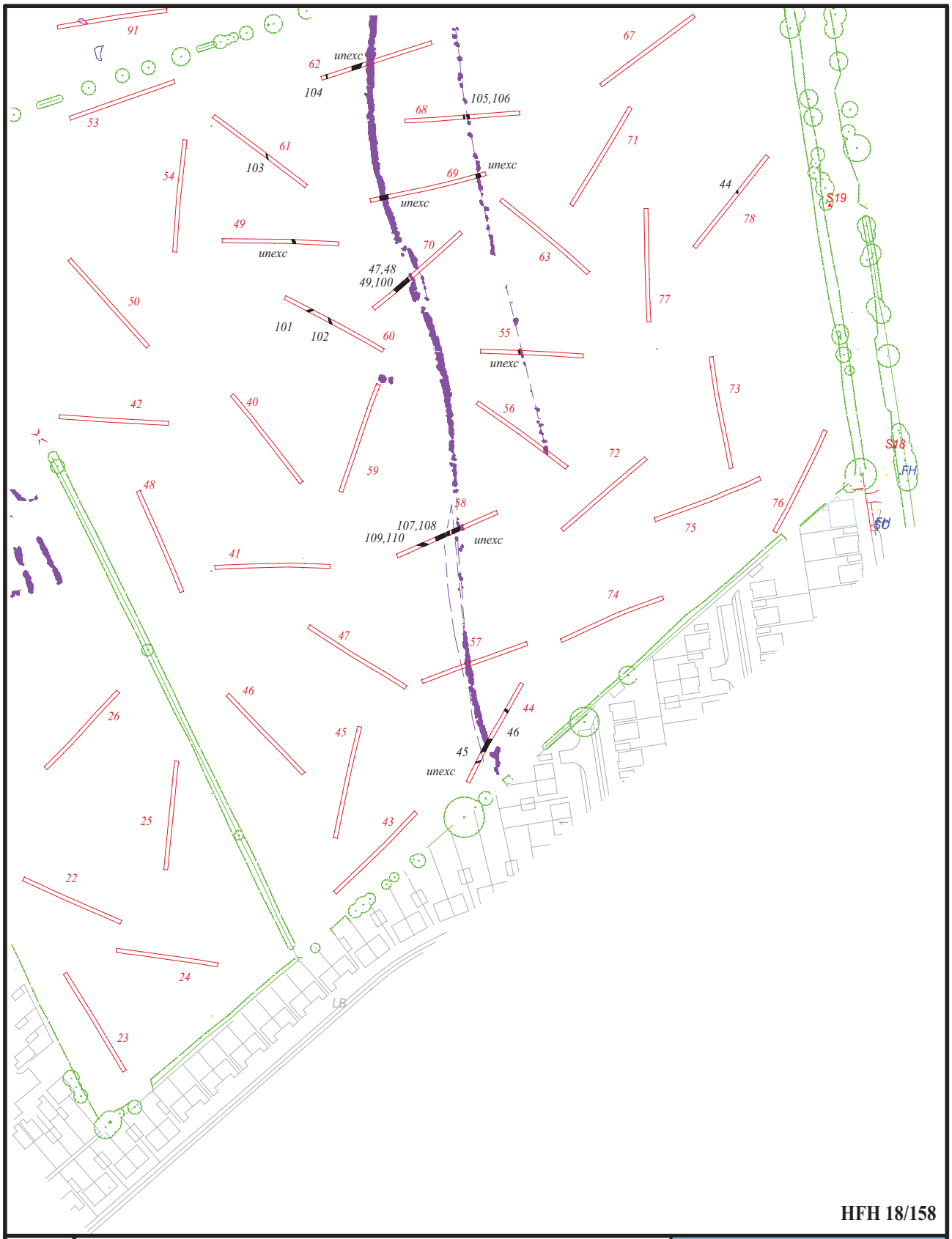
Figure 19. Enlargement of trench plan, North end of site.
Locations of features against geophysical anomalies.

0 250m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS



N

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Figure 20. Enlargement of trench plan, South East end of site.
Locations of features against geophysical anomalies.

0 250m

TVAS EAST MIDLANDS

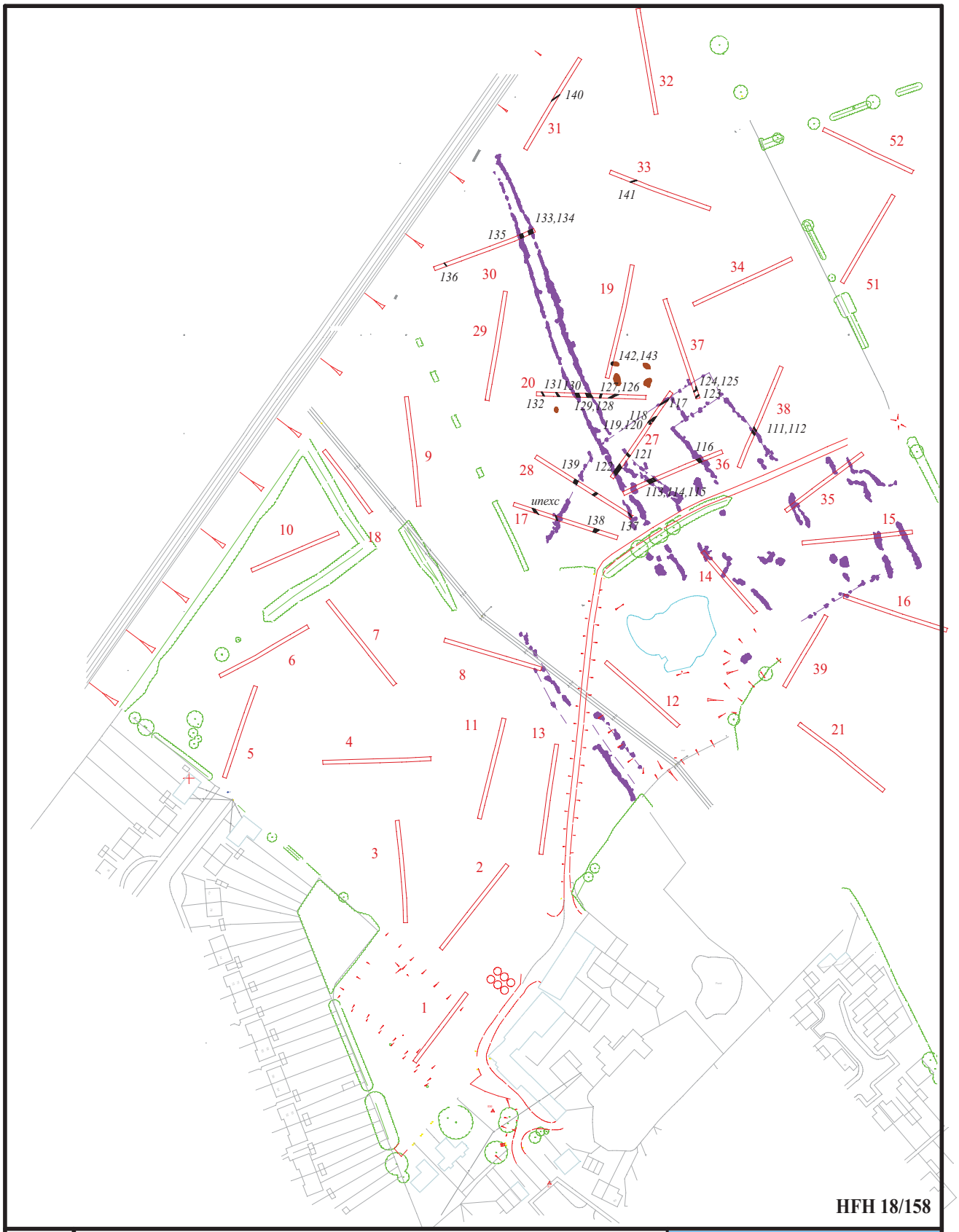

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Figure 21. Enlargement of trench plan, South West end of site.
Locations of features against geophysical anomalies.

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Plate 1. Trench 20, looking north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 2. Trench 27, looking north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

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Plates 1 and 2.

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Plate 3. Trench 40, looking north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 4. Trench 83, looking north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 5. Trench 108, looking north, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 6. Trench 110, looking east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 7. Trench 1, looking south west, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 8. Trench 5, looking north, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 9. Trench 115, looking north east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 10. Trench 118, looking east, Scales: horizontal 2m and 1m, vertical 0.5m.

Plate 11. Trench 19, ditch 142-3, looking south east, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 12. Trench 20, ditches 128-9, looking south, Scales: 0.1m. 0.5m and 1m.

Plate 13. Trench 27, ditch 121, looking north west, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

Plate 14. Trench 30, ditches 133-5, looking north west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

Plate 15. Trench 38, ditch 112, looking north, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

Plate 16. Trench 60, ditch 101, looking north west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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Plates 11 to 16.

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Plate 17. Trench 68, ditch 105, looking north,
Scales: 0.1m and 0.5m.

Plate 18. Trench 81, ditches 13 and 31, looking north,
Scales: 0.3m and 1m.

Plate 19. Trench 82, pits 19-20, looking south,
Scales: 0,3m and 0.5m.

Plate 20. Trench 83, pit 21 looking north east,
Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

Plate 21. Trench 97, ditch 11, looking west,
Scales: 0.1m and 0.5m.

Plate 22. Trench 100, ditch 12, looking north,
Scales: 0.5m and 1m.

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Plates 17 to 22.

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Plate 23. Trench 101, ditch 15, looking south east, Scales: 0.1m and 1m.

Plate 24. Trench 103, ditch 5, looking north east, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

Plate 25. Trench 110, gully 8, looking south, Scales: 0,3m and 0.5m.

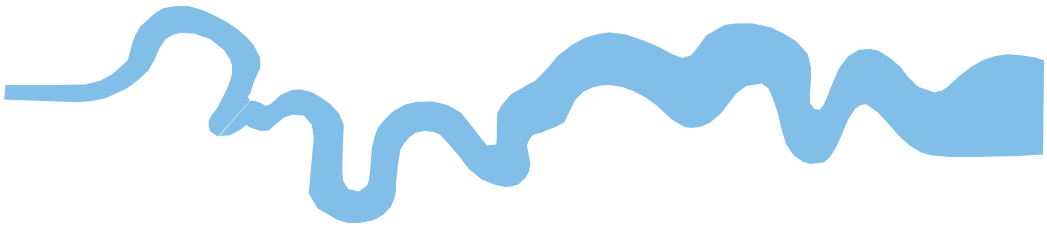
Plate 26. Trench 110, gully 9 looking east, Scales: 0.3m and 0.1m.

Plate 27. Trench 117, ditch 24, looking south, Scales: 0.3m and 1m.

Plate 28. Trench 117, ditch 27, looking north, Scale: 0.5m.

TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman	AD 43
	AD 0 BC
Iron Age	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



TVAS (East Midlands),
4 Bentley Court, Wellingborough
Northamptonshire, NN8 4BQ

Tel: 01933 277 377
Email: eastmidlands@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk/eastmidlands

Offices in:
Reading, Brighton, Taunton and Stoke-on-Trent