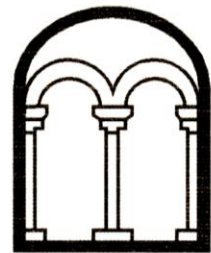


LAND OFF STONY LANE
LITTLE CHALFONT
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion
archaeology



**LAND OFF STONY LANE
LITTLE CHALFONT
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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Preface

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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1.0	25/02/2016	n/a
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Structure of the Report

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the project, describing the site's location, its archaeological background and the aims of the archaeological works. Section 2 describes the project methodology and Section 3 summarises the results. Section 4 comprises the conclusion; whilst Section 5 is a bibliography. Detailed contextual data is contained in Section 6.

Key Terms

BCC	Buckinghamshire County Council
CI/A	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
HES	Historic Environment Service [of Buckinghamshire County Council]
LPA	Local Planning Authority
PDA	Proposed development area
WSI	Written scheme of investigation



Non-Technical Summary

ACD Environmental acting on behalf of their client Inland Homes Ltd commissioned Albion Archaeology to undertake an archaeological evaluation to support a future planning application for the residential development of Land off Stony Lane, Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire. The village of Little Chalfont is located towards the southern edge of the Chiltern Hills, some 12.5km south east of the centre of Amersham. Situated on the northern margin of the village, the proposed development area (PDA) is located to the west of Stony Lane, centred on grid reference (TQ) 50030 19810, immediately to the south of the valley of the River Chess.

The PDA extends c. 470m westwards from Stony Lane by 240m wide, to cover an area of some 11ha. An initial desk-based assessment (ACD Archaeology 2015) indicated that there were no extant heritage assets within the PDA, other than peripheral hedgerows which would be retained. A geophysical survey of the PDA was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica in 2015. This identified a former watercourse and a linear feature, interpreted as a possible ditch.

Archaeological trial trenching was undertaken in early February 2016, with eleven 50m trenches being opened in two phases, to allow for livestock to move from one contained area to another within the site. Weather during the trial trenching varied from stormy and wet through cold and crisp to bright and sunny, allowing the exposed deposits to be examined under varying conditions.

The investigation revealed a low density of features with a minor concentration of undated features in the western part of the PDA, in Trenches 5, 6 and 11, comprising two ditches and two gulleys on roughly perpendicular alignments. This area also contained two pits; one of which contained charred material including grain.

In the rest of the PDA to the east, a pit containing three abraded sherds of prehistoric pottery, characteristic of the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age, was identified in Trench 2. Given the abraded condition of the pottery, it cannot be used to date the feature with certainty. The area also contained a low density of undated features including two elongated features in the north, which are interpreted as ditch terminals. An undated pit in Trench 2 may have been associated with the dated pit. Deposits associated with the dry valley or slade were identified in Trenches 3 and 6 towards the centre of the area. No finds were recovered from these deposits. A number of tree-throws — the cavities created by the uprooting of trees — were also identified. In the north-east corner of the PDA were two linear features, interpreted as furrows, characteristic of medieval and later cultivation.

The evaluation revealed a low density of archaeological features within the PDA, the majority of which are undated. The ditches and pits in the west may define elements of a field system and associated activity; the lack of finds suggests that this was away from any settlement focus. Further east, three abraded sherds of pottery indicate activity in the late prehistoric period, though it is not certain that they provide reliable dating for the feature. The eastern part of the area contains dispersed, low-density, undated features, with low archaeological potential. The results of the evaluation did not reveal any significant heritage assets with potential to address regional research objectives; this supports the conclusions of the Heritage Assessment and geophysical survey.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Background**

Inland Homes Ltd, through their Archaeological Consultants ACD Environmental, commissioned Albion Archaeology to undertake an archaeological evaluation in support of a proposed planning application for the residential development of Land off Stony Lane, Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire.

An initial desk-based assessment (ACD Archaeology 2015) indicated that there were no extant heritage assets within the proposed development area (PDA), other than peripheral hedgerows which would be retained. The archaeological potential of the PDA was assessed as low — it was remote from past settlements and comprised a mixture of woodland and agricultural land from the medieval period onwards; there was a possibility of activity in earlier periods. However, any such remains would have been affected by later cultivation and tree-root disturbance.

A geophysical survey of the PDA was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica (2015). This identified a former watercourse and a linear feature, interpreted as a possible ditch (see Section 1.4 below and Figure 1). Based on these results the Buckinghamshire County Council Historic Environment Service (HES) advised that an intrusive archaeological evaluation would be required in order to further identify the nature of the archaeological resource. This was in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework.

In response to the HES's requirements, a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for an archaeological trial trench evaluation was prepared (Albion Archaeology 2016).

1.2 **Site Location and Description**

The site is located on the northern margin of the village of Little Chalfont, to the west of Stony Lane, centred on grid reference (TQ) 50030 19810, immediately to the south of the valley of the River Chess (Figure 1). The village is located towards the southern edge of the Chiltern Hills, some 12.5km south east of the centre of Amersham. The historic core of the village is focused along the main road, the A404 trunk road, which was a turnpike in the 18th century, linking Hatfield to Reading.

The PDA is located within Chessfield Park; it measures *c.* 470m by 240m, covering an area of some 11ha. Stony Lane defines its eastern edge. To the north, West Wood follows the edge of the river valley. The western edge of the PDA is defined by a hedged boundary with the adjacent land parcel.

At the time of the evaluation the PDA was subdivided into four land parcels used for grazing livestock; they were separated by post-and-wire fencing. A public footpath runs across the PDA from east to west.



From a maximum elevation of *c.* 127m OD in the south-east, the PDA slopes down to the west and particularly the north, towards the river valley. The geology of the area comprises Head gravel above chalk, mostly comprising Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation, with a band of Lewes Nodular Chalk outcropping at the northern margin, within the river valley (British Geological Survey 2016).

1.3 Archaeological Background

The desk-based assessment (ACD Archaeology 2015) reviewed known heritage assets recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) in the vicinity of the site and a 650m-radius study area around it. It also assessed the potential for further heritage assets on the site itself. Its main conclusions are summarised here.

The PDA contains no designated or other previously recorded heritage assets.

The Conservation Area for Latimer village extends to West Wood immediately north of the PDA.

The HER records a small number of sites in the study area, ranging in date from the prehistoric to modern period, with most relating to the post-medieval and modern periods. The earliest comprises prehistoric flints found during gardening in Chenies Avenue (HER 2932) west of the PDA and a fragment of an axe found near the Roman Latimer Villa (HER 40005).

Iron Age and Roman activity is focused around Latimer Villa, situated to the north west of the PDA. Occasional stray finds have also been recorded in the surrounding area.

For the medieval period, the nearest recorded heritage asset is Old Flaunden Church (HER 5769), some 600m to the north. The area around the church and associated settlement is an Archaeological Planning Notification Area.

The settlement remained a small hamlet until well into the 20th century, expanding with the arrival of the railway. This is reflected in HER entries for this period. These include three in close proximity to the PDA — an extraction pit in West Wood to the north (HER 8148) and two listed buildings to the south (HER 12447 and HER 13444).

The assessment concluded that the PDA is located away from past settlement, in the Roman and medieval periods, with the area likely to have been woodland or agricultural land in the medieval and post-medieval periods. It also concluded that the PDA could potentially contain traces of activity from earlier periods.

A geophysical survey undertaken in 2015 (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd) revealed the line of a possible watercourse, with a single possible ditch in the north-east corner of the PDA (Figure 1). These results seemed to confirm the conclusions of the desk-based assessment.



1.4 Project Objectives

The principal objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on any archaeological remains present within the PDA. This information would assist in determining the potential impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains present and in formulating the nature of any mitigation works that might be required in the event of planning permission being obtained.

Information on the following was required:

- The nature and date of the watercourse and linear feature identified by the geophysical survey;
- The location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present.

The research framework for the region is the *Solent-Thames: Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas* (Hey and Hind 2014). There is also a set of papers which specifically deal with the archaeological resource of Buckinghamshire. The papers fed into the wider Solent-Thames research framework and are still available online.

For all prehistoric periods landscape development and settlement patterns are areas where considerable further research is needed (Kidd 2008; Lambrick 2010). The research framework for the area (Fulford 2014) also suggests that more work needs to be undertaken with regard to rural settlement characters and typologies during the Roman period.

Similarly, understanding of early medieval settlements, their organisation and interrelationship with other sites in their contemporary landscape remains limited. This, together with more concentrated work on the dating of settlements and the recovery and study of datable material is one of the research aims of the regional research framework. The development of agricultural systems and agricultural change is also a theme of the research framework (Dodd and Crawford 2014, 229–230).



2. METHOD STATEMENT

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2016).

2.1 Standards

The standards and requirements set out in the following documents were adhered to throughout the project:

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd ed, 2001).
• Archaeological Archives Forum	<i>Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> (2nd ed. 2011)
• BCAS	<i>Generic brief for archaeological evaluation (trial trenching)</i>
• Buckinghamshire County Museum	<i>Procedures for Notifying and Transferring Archaeological Archives</i> (2013)
• CfA	<i>Charter and by-law; Code of conduct</i> (2014) <i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</i> (2014) <i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2014)
• Historic England [formerly English Heritage]	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> (2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation.</i> 2nd ed. (2011)

2.2 Trial Trenching

A series of eleven 50m-long trial trenches were excavated across the PDA, with six in the southern half of the site (Figure 2). The trenches were located in order to clarify the nature of anomalies identified in the geophysical survey and to achieve an even sample across the PDA.

The trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, operated by an experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. All excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion staff.

The extent of investigation of exposed archaeological remains was sufficient to achieve the objectives of the project (see Section 1.4).



3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

Archaeological investigation was undertaken in February 2016, in a period of variable weather, allowing the trenches to be examined under a variety of conditions. The trenches were opened in two phases to allow livestock to be moved from one contained area to another.

For the following discussion, the PDA has been split into two components based on the nature and relative density of features. The Western Area comprises Trenches 5, 6 and 11, with the remainder of the trenches constituting the Eastern Area (Figure 2).

Context numbers in brackets refer to deposits recorded on site. Each trench was allocated a block of numbers commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 etc. Cut features are represented with square brackets, e.g. pit [505]; deposits or layers are in curved brackets, e.g. pit fill (506). Figure 2 is an all-features plan for the whole of the PDA. Figures 3 and 6 provide more detailed plans with associated sections for the western and eastern parts of the site. Figures 4 and 5 provide selected images of the Western Area; whilst Figures 7 and 8 provide images of the Eastern Area.

All of the trenches except 1 and 4 contained archaeological features which are summarised below with details of the contexts in Appendix 1. Only one of the archaeological features, a pit in Trench 2, contained datable artefacts. In addition to the archaeological features, there were also four areas of root-disturbed ground or tree-throws. A variation in the geological strata recorded within Trench 1 corresponded with a linear anomaly identified by geophysical survey of the PDA.

3.2 Overburden and Geological Deposits

Topsoil varied in thickness from 0.28–0.47m. It ranged in colour from dark grey-brown to brown-grey and from sandy silt to silty clay in composition. The depth of this layer suggests that it was a former ploughsoil, even though in more recent times the PDA appears to have been used solely for pasture.

Subsoil comprised mid orange-grey to mid grey-brown sandy clay and clay silt, varying in thickness from 0.1m to 0.26m. There was no subsoil in Trenches 1, 2, 8 and 10, three of which (1, 2 and 8) were located towards the eastern margin of the PDA.

The undisturbed geological strata varied from light orange-brown to mid grey-orange in colour and from sandy clay to sandy gravel in composition.

3.3 Archaeological Features in the Western Area

3.3.1 Introduction

A relative concentration of archaeological features was recorded within Trenches 5, 6 and 11 towards the western margin of the PDA (Figures 2 and 3). It



comprised: two N-S aligned ditches [503] and [510] in Trench 5; two gulleys aligned roughly E-W [603] and [605] in Trench 6; and pits [505] and [1103] in Trenches 5 and 11 respectively. Pit [505] truncated ditch [503]. No datable artefacts were recovered from any of these features.

3.3.2 Ditches

The two ditches [503] and [510] were 0.7–0.95m wide and 0.2–0.39m deep, with concave to steep sides and flat basal profiles (Figure 3: sections 3 and 4 and Figure 4: Images 1 and 2). They were each filled by several deposits that probably reflect a progression from initial weathering of the exposed sides to stabilization and gradual silting of a stable soil profile. The ditches were roughly perpendicular to the two gulleys [603] and [605] situated to the west.

3.3.3 Gulleys

The two E-W gulleys [603] and [605] in Trench 6 were 0.31–0.42m wide and 0.06–0.15m deep with concave profiles (Figure 3: section 2 and Figure 5: image 3). The deposits within both of them comprised mid brown-grey clay silt, suggesting material derived from an unstable soil profile.

There was a marked contrast in the size, form and fills of the two types of linear features, although it is not clear if they were fulfilling different functions in a contemporary field system, or if they were not associated.

3.3.4 Pitting

Truncating ditch [503] was a sub-circular pit [505] with concave sides and a flat base. It was 1.57m across and 0.26m deep, with a sequence of four distinct fills (Figure 3: section 3 and Figure 4: image 1). The lower deposit (506) was dark brown-grey silty clay that may have been the result of backfilling or trample. The next deposit (507) was lighter and was probably the result of natural infilling. Above this deposit, on the western side of the pit only, was a distinctive very dark deposit (508) which was only 0.04m thick, tapering down to the east (black deposit on section 3). A sample <102> from this deposit contained frequent charred seed and flecks and small lumps of charcoal. Several types of grain were present, as well as several small weed seeds. The relatively small volume of this deposit may suggest an accidental burning of 'clean' grain, after most of the weeds had been removed. Above this dumped deposit was another lighter deposit that was probably the result of further natural infilling.

A second, possible, pit [1103] was located c. 110m to the north within Trench 11. It was sub-oval in shape, 1.52m across and 0.44m deep with a concave profile (Figure 3: section 1 and Figure 5: Image 4). The deposit within it comprised light grey-brown silty gravel.

3.4 *Archaeological Features in the Eastern Area*

All but two of the remaining trenches contained at least one feature (Figures 3 and 6), including the only feature to produce datable artefacts.

3.4.1 Possible late prehistoric pit

A relatively large pit [208] was located towards the western end of Trench 2. It was 1.37m across and 0.53m deep with asymmetrical sides and a concave base



(Figure 6: section 5 and Figure 7: Image 5). The dark grey-brown sandy silt fill contained three abraded, flint-tempered pottery body sherds (14g) — broadly characteristic of the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age period in the Chilterns (Kidd 2008, 3). The undiagnostic nature of the sherds, however, precludes more accurate dating (Figure 7: Image 6) and their abraded condition means that they cannot be used to date the feature with certainty.

A sample <1> of 20 litres was taken from the very stony fill; only very sparse flecks of charcoal and an occasional charred seed were present. No additional artefacts were recovered from the sample residue.

3.4.2 Undated Features

A total of seven undated features are discussed by feature type below.

Ditches

Two possible ditch terminals [803] and [1004] were located in the north of the PDA (Figure 6 and Figure 8: Image 7). Both terminated within their respective trenches (8 and 10) and both were *c.* 0.9m wide and 0.3–0.43m deep, with steep sides and concave bases (Figure 6: section 5). The deposits within them were relatively dark, ranging from mid grey-brown silty gravel to dark grey-brown silty clay; they probably derived from an unstable ploughsoil.

Pit

An undated, fairly large pit [204] was located 18m east of the prehistoric pit [208] within Trench 2. It was 1.6m across and 0.54m deep, with steep sides and a concave base, filled with dark grey-brown sandy silt. This deposit was similar to the fill of the prehistoric pit.

Posthole

Oval posthole [305] was located in the southern half of the PDA within Trench 3, 2m from the eastern edge of a dry valley or slade [303]. It was 0.45m long, 0.29m wide and 0.24m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base (Figure 6: section 6). The mid grey-brown silty clay fill contained no finds.

Dry valley or slade

N-S aligned dry valley [303] and [903] was located in the middle of the PDA; it was visible in the landscape as a depression that became significantly deeper and wider to the north (Figure 8: Image 8). It was investigated in Trenches 3 and 9. In Trench 3, it had asymmetrical sides, was 6.65m wide and at least 0.28m deep. Further north in Trench 9 its width increased to some 40m across; it was at least 0.18m deep. This periglacial feature probably formed when abundant water was flowing across these generally well-drained deposits.

There was no evidence of the geophysical anomaly considered to be a continuation of the dry valley in the south-east part of the PDA. There was no trace of the continuation of this landscape feature into this area

Furrows

Two roughly N-S aligned wide but shallow features [702] and [705] in the north-east of the PDA are interpreted as cultivation furrows. They were 1.01–1.25m



wide and up to 0.22m deep. The deposits within them comprised mid grey-brown silty gravel. These features are characteristic of cultivation furrows associated with medieval and later arable farming. Neither correlated with the geophysical anomaly identified in the vicinity.



4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 *Summary*

The evaluation has revealed that below a relatively thick former cultivation soil, there was a low density of archaeological features within the PDA. The majority of the features are undated. The ditches and pits recorded towards the western margins of the PDA may define elements of a field system and associated activity. The absence of finds suggests this activity was away from any settlement focus.

Further east, a single pit produced small abraded sherds of late prehistoric pottery. The material indicates activity in the vicinity during the prehistoric period, though given its abraded condition, it cannot be used to date the feature with complete certainty. Otherwise, the eastern part of the PDA contained a low density of dispersed, undated features.

4.2 *Significance of the Evaluation Results*

The undated, dispersed features have low potential to address research themes identified in the regional research framework. The results of the evaluation did not reveal any significant heritage assets, which supports the conclusions of the earlier Heritage Assessment and geophysical survey.



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6. TRENCH SUMMARY



Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50042: Northing: 19797)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50046: Northing: 19799)

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomaly - possible former watercourse

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones 0.34m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Natural	Friable mid orange grey sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Natural interface	Irregular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.45m, max depth 0.18m, min length 1.2m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural interface	Friable mid grey brown silty sand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.28 m. Max: 0.48 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50045: Northing: 19807)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50050: Northing: 19807)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones 0.47m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Natural	Friable mid orange grey sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Treethrow	Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.43m, min length 1.8m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
203	Fill	Firm dark brown grey sandy silt frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
204	Pit	Sub-circular E-W sides: steep base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.54m, max length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
205	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
206	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.05m, min depth 0.25m, min length 2.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
207	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt moderate small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
208	Pit	Sub-circular sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.53m, max length 1.37m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
209	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy silt frequent small-medium stones The fill contained a small quantity of pottery. Sample <1> was taken from this deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.33 m. Max: 0.4 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50039: Northing: 19805)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50034: Northing: 19805)

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomaly - possible former watercourse

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy clay moderate small stones 0.29m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown sandy clay moderate small stones 0.11m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Natural	Firm light orange brown sandy clay occasional small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Palaeochannel	Linear N-S sides: asymmetrical dimensions: max breadth 6.65m, min depth 0.28m, min length 1.6m Excavated by machine, not bottomed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy clay frequent small stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Posthole	Oval N-S sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.29m, max depth 0.24m, max length 0.45m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: Length: 49.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50026: Northing: 19805)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50024: Northing: 19809)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Natural	Firm mid grey orange sandy clay moderate medium stones Patches of firm mid orange sandy clay with frequent medium stones.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50020: Northing: 19802)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50015: Northing: 19802)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small stones 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm mid orange grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Natural	Firm mid grey orange sandy clay moderate medium stones Patches of mid orange sandy clay with frequent medium stones.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Ditch	Straight linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.2m, min length 0.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Lower fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.11m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
514	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.1m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.07m, max depth 0.26m, max length 1.57m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Lower fill	Firm dark brown grey silty clay 0.08m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Fill	Firm light grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal 0.09m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Backfill	Dark black clay silt frequent flecks charcoal 0.04m thick, tapering down to the east. Sample <2> was taken from this deposit.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
509	Upper fill	Firm mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones 0.12m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Ditch	Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.95m, max depth 0.39m, min length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Lower fill	Firm light brown yellow sandy silt moderate small-medium stones Some mid brown-grey mottling. 0.05m thick, forming a thin band at the edge of the cut.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
512	Fill	Firm mid brown grey clay silt 0.15m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
513	Upper fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay 0.23m thick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: Length: 49.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50010: Northing: 19806)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50009: Northing: 19801)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones 0.28m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.14m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Natural	Firm mid orange brown sandy clay Frequent patches of gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Gulley	Linear ESE-WNW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.42m, max depth 0.15m, min length 1.7m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Gulley	Linear ESE-WNW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.31m, max depth 0.06m, min length 1.6m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 7

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.49 m. Max: 0.58 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50051: Northing: 19818)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50047: Northing: 19816)

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomaly

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
700	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty clay frequent small stones 0.38m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
701	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay frequent small stones 0.22m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
702	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.01m, max depth 0.22m, min length 2.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
703	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
704	Natural	Firm light orange brown sandy clay frequent small-medium stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
705	Furrow	Linear NE-SW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.25m, max depth 0.2m, min length 1.85m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
706	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.37 m. Max: 0.43 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50041: Northing: 19814)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50042: Northing: 19819)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
800	Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy clay frequent small stones 0.31m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
801	Natural	Firm light orange brown sandy clay frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
803	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.89m, max depth 0.43m, min length 1.75m Well defined terminal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
802	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty gravel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 9

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: m. Max: m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50031: Northing: 19815)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50036: Northing: 19815)

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomaly - possible former watercourse

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
900	Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy clay moderate small stones 0.29m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
901	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay occasional small-medium stones 0.26m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
902	Natural	Firm light orange brown sandy clay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
903	Palaeochannel	Linear N-S base: concave dimensions: min breadth 37.9m, max depth 0.18m, min length 1.6m Gently sloping sides.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
904	Fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay occasional small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 10

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.47 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50026: Northing: 19814)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50024: Northing: 19818)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown sandy clay 0.34m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1001	Natural	Firm light orange brown sandy clay frequent small stones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1002	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW sides: steep base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.6m, max depth 0.18m, min length 1.75m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1003	Fill	Firm mid grey brown sandy clay frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1004	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW sides: steep base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.9m, max depth 0.3m, min length 1.35m Well defined terminal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1005	Fill	Firm dark grey brown sandy clay frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 11

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.54 m. Max: 0.54 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50017; Northing: 19813)

OS Grid Ref.: TQ (Easting: 50012; Northing: 19813)

Reason: To assess archaeological potential

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1100	Topsoil	Loose dark grey brown clay silt 0.33m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1101	Subsoil	Loose mid orange brown clay silt 0.18m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1102	Natural	Compact mid orange brown clay gravel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1103	Pit	Sub-oval N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.8m, max depth 0.44m, max length 1.52m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1104	Fill	Loose light grey brown silty gravel frequent small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1105	Treethrow	Irregular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max length 4.m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1106	Fill	Loose light brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

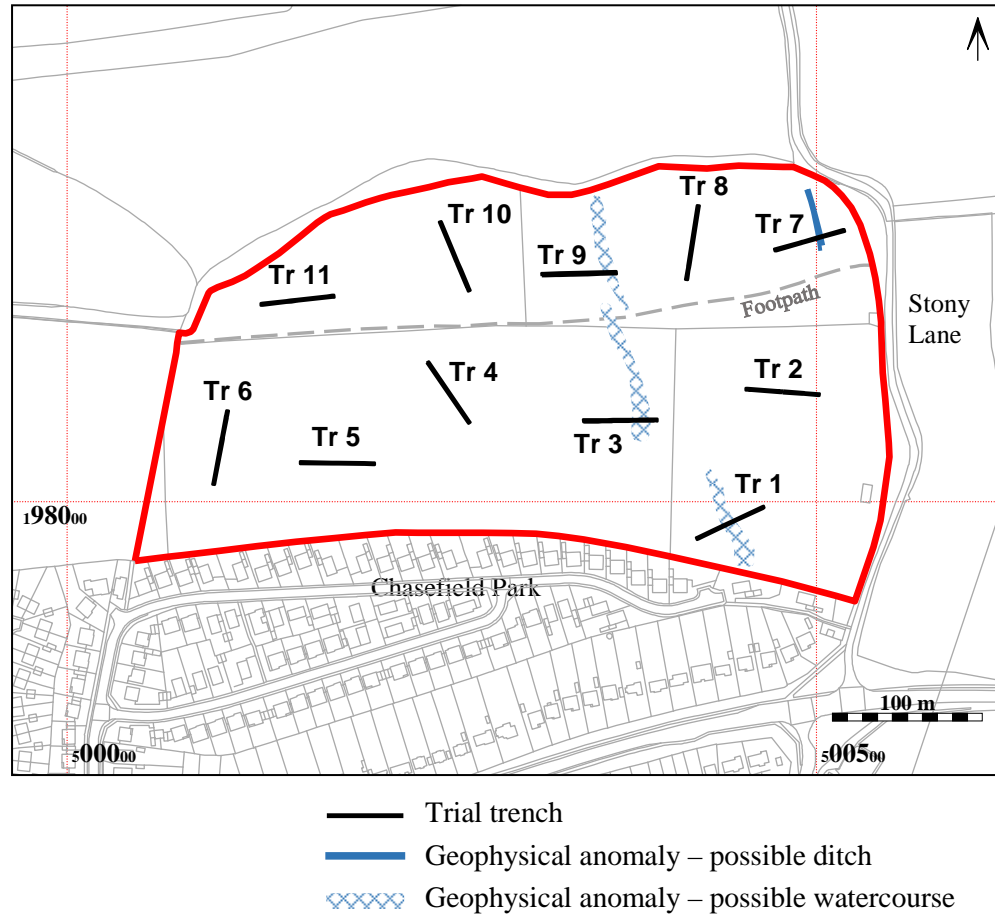
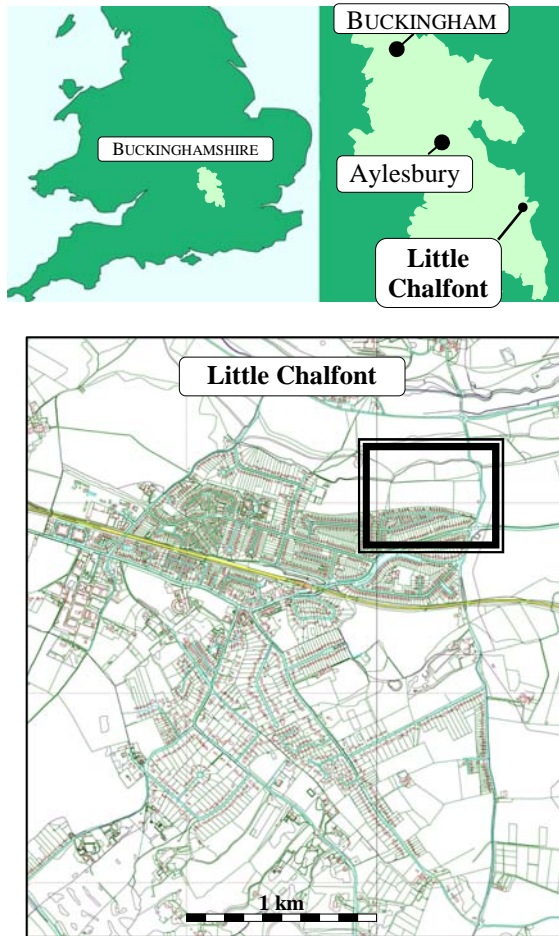


Figure 1: Site location and trial trench layout

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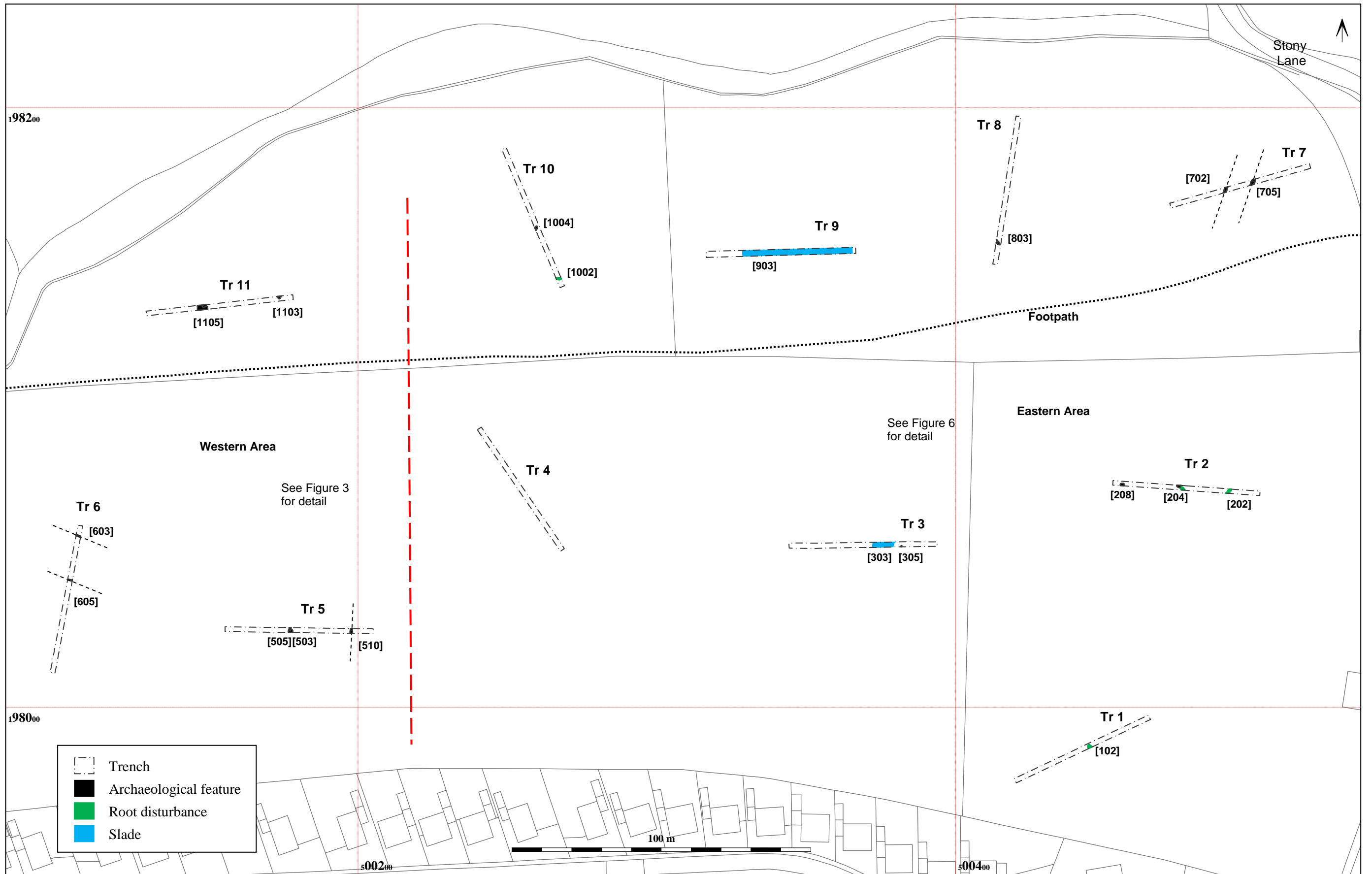


Figure 2: All-features plan

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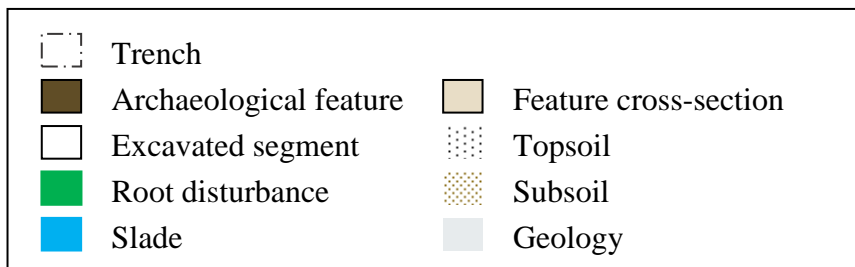
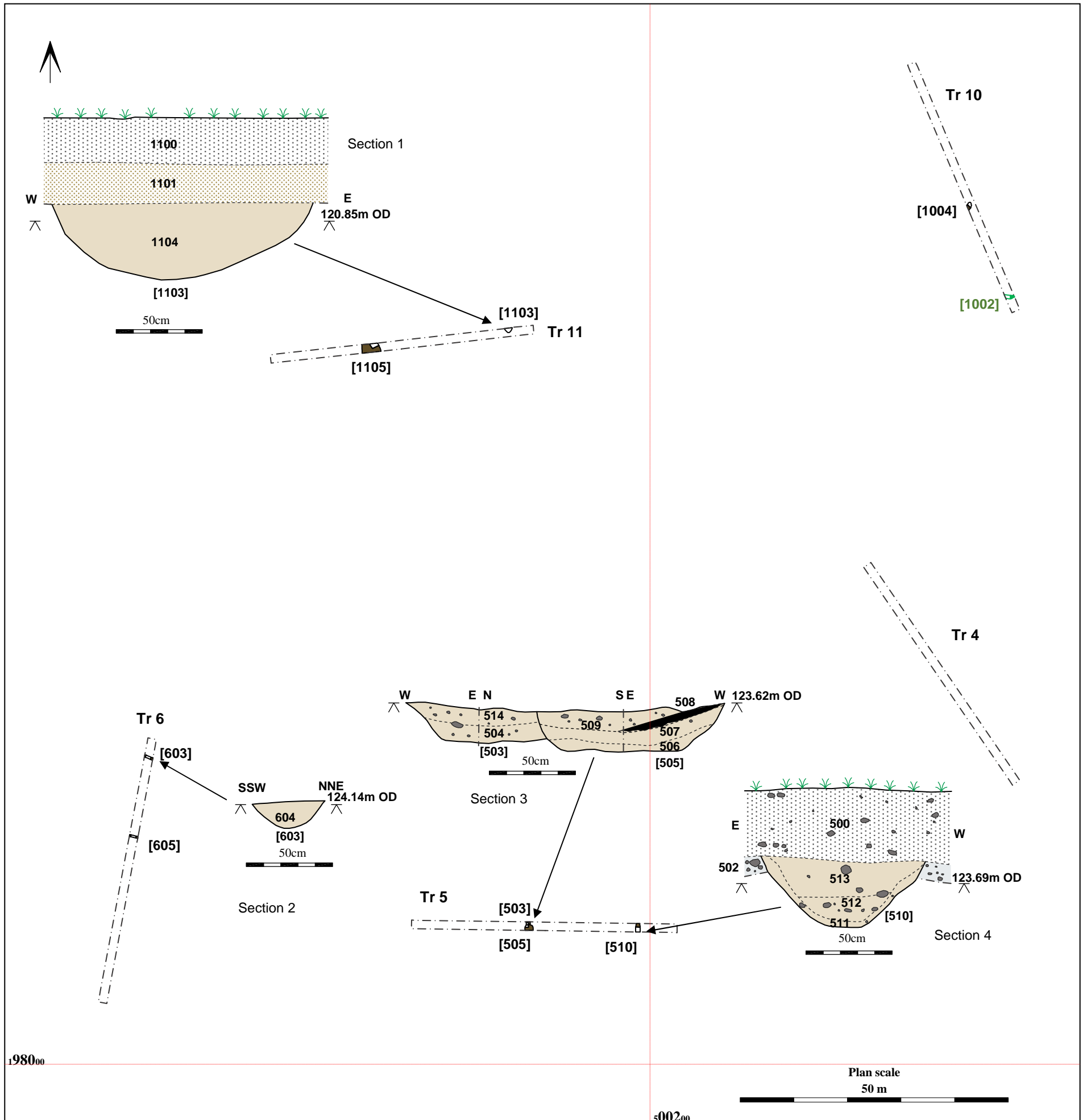


Figure 3: Detail of Western Area with sections



Image 1: Section across ditch [503] to the left and pit [505] to the right, showing a thin dark band of dumped material (508)
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)



Image 2: Section across ditch [510]
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)

Figure 4: Western Area – Images 1 and 2



Image 3: Section across shallow gully [605]
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)



Image 4: Section across pit [1103]
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)

Figure 5: Western Area – Images 3 and 4

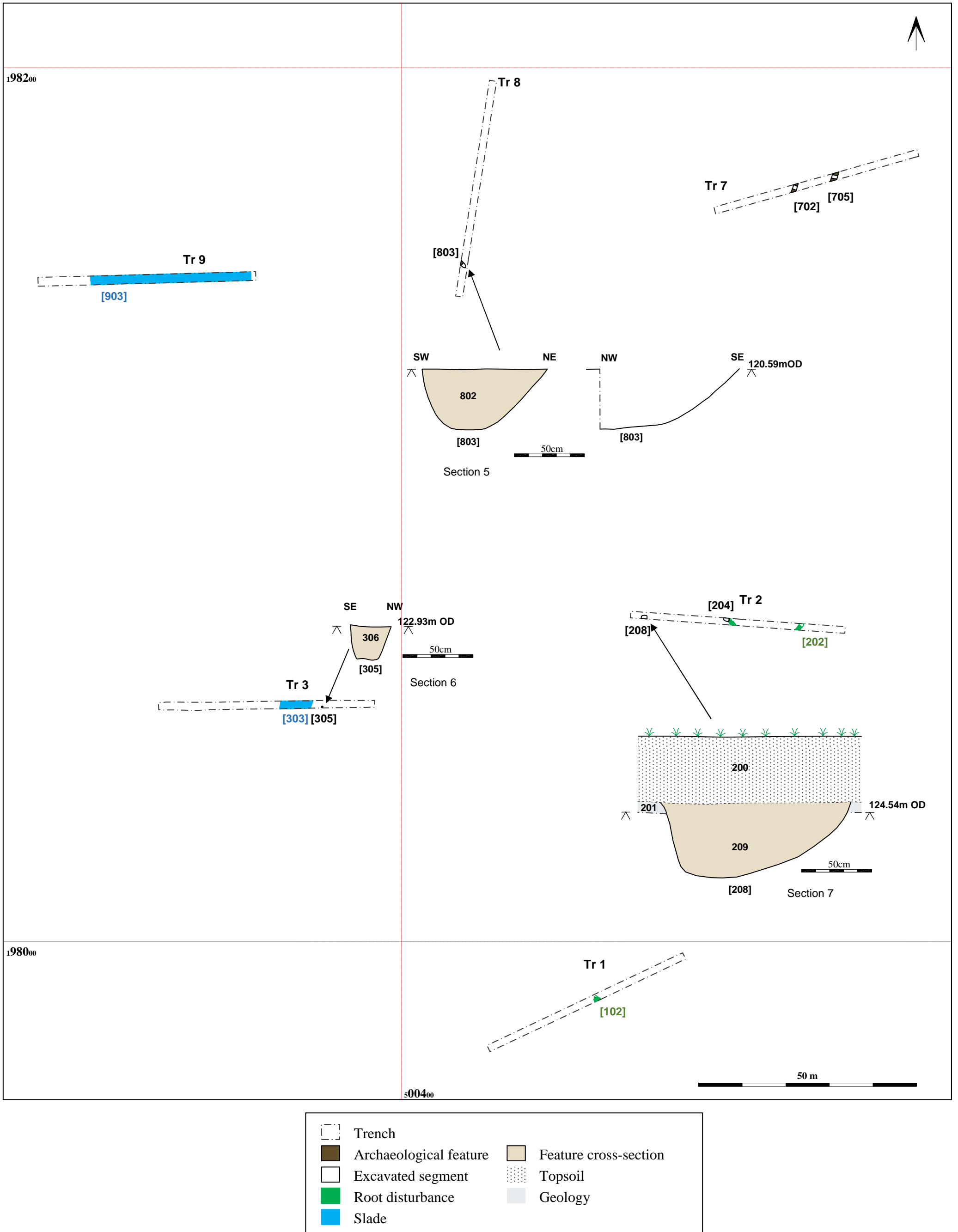


Figure 6: Detail of Eastern Area with sections



Image 5: Excavated section across pit [208], the fill of which contained prehistoric pottery
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)



Image 6: Flint-tempered pottery, characteristic of the late Bronze Age / early Iron Age, from
the fill of pit [208]
(Scale 5cm in 1cm divisions)

Figure 7: Eastern Area – Images 5 and 6



Image 7: Excavated terminal of undated ditch [803]
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)



Image 8: General view of Trench 9, looking east into the dry valley or slade
(Scale 1m in 50cm divisions)

Figure 8: Eastern Area – Images 7 and 8

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