LAND AT BOOT FIELD
HIGH ROAD
SOULBURY
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

Albion archaeology

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Preface

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The fieldwork was undertaken by Allan King and Adam Williams (Archaeological Supervisors), Petros Fountoukidis, Federica Mauro, Stefano Costanzo and Arkadiusz Pruchniak (Assistant Supervisors/Archaeological Technicians). Metal-detecting was undertaken by Mike Head.

This report has been prepared by Benjamin Carroll (Assistant Archaeological Manager), with contributions by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician), Irene Sala (charred plant remains) and Jackie Wells (artefacts and animal bone).

The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Lucy Lawrence, Archaeological Officer, Buckinghamshire Council Archaeological Service. It was managed for Albion Archaeology by Gary Edmondson (Project Manager) and Benjamin Carroll under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

The following terms and abbreviations are used throughout this report:

BC	Buckinghamshire Council
BCAO	Buckinghamshire Council* Archaeology Officer
BCAS	Buckinghamshire Council* Archaeological Service
CI*f*A	Chartered Institute *for* Archaeologists
HER	Historic Environment Record (of Buckinghamshire Council*)
HES	Buckinghamshire Council* Historic Environment Service
LPA	Local Planning Authority
PDA	Permitted development area
WSI	Written scheme of investigation

** Services formerly provided by Buckinghamshire County Council, which was abolished on 01/04/2020*

Non-Technical Summary

Planning permission was granted on appeal (APP/J0405/W/18/3203262) for the construction of up to 10 dwellings at Boot Field, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire, with associated access, parking, landscaping, drainage and engineering works. Boot Field is located on the west side of High Road—the village's main thoroughfare—at the south-west margin of the village

Because of the archaeological potential of the site, the Buckinghamshire Council Historic Environment Service advised that an archaeological condition (no.5) should be attached to the appeal decision, requiring an associated programme of archaeological work.

An initial stage of field evaluation consisted of an earthwork survey, which identified four lynchets or terraces crossing the site, and trial trenching, which revealed a sequence of medieval and post-medieval features across the site.

A further stage of archaeological mitigation works was carried out, the results of which are presented in this report. The works comprised excavation of five areas in two phases. Watching brief work on the remainder of the site was carried out during groundworks associated with the development. The open-area archaeological investigation took place between mid-October and the end of December 2019, with the watching brief carried out between the end of February and June 2020.

The first phase of excavation involved the removal of topsoil down to the top of archaeological remains or the upper surface of the subsoil, whichever was encountered first, within four areas (A–D). During the second phase of excavation the overburden was removed to the upper surface of the undisturbed geological stratum across Areas A and B.

The investigation provided evidence of a sequence of activity on the margins of Soulbury, dating to the early medieval (12th–13th centuries), post-medieval (16th–18th centuries) and modern periods. This mainly comprised early medieval field systems, the remains of two post-medieval buildings, multiple cobbled surfaces, and drainage and field boundary ditches. Modern deposits consisted of levelling layers. With the exception of a single, residual sherd of late Anglo-Saxon St Neots type ware, there was no evidence for the Anglo-Saxon origins of Soulbury within the site.

The project archive will be deposited at the Buckinghamshire County Museum (accession no.: AYBCM 2019.3). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (reference no.: albionar1-361657) in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

Planning permission was granted on appeal (APP/J0405/W/18/3203262) for the construction of up to 10 dwellings at Boot Field, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire, with associated access, parking, landscaping, drainage and engineering works. This document makes use of the development drawings, including those relating to footing construction and formation levels, together with the site layout plan (1304-002).

Because of the archaeological potential of the site, the Buckinghamshire Council Historic Environment Service (HES) advised that an archaeological condition should be attached to the appeal decision.

Condition no. 5 in the schedule of conditions set out in the appeal decision states that:

> *No development shall take place within the site until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, have secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work (which may comprise more than one phase of work) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme approved pursuant to this condition.*

The associated programme of archaeological work comprised an initial stage of field evaluation, consisting of earthwork survey and trial trenching (Albion Archaeology 2019a). This revealed medieval and post-medieval features across the permitted development area (PDA).

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out archaeological mitigation works, the scope of which was described in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Albion Archaeology 2019b). This report details the findings of the investigation. The works comprised excavation of five areas in two phases. Watching brief work on the remainder of the PDA was carried out during groundworks associated with the development.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

Situated within the Vale of Aylesbury, the village of Soulbury is located, some 4km west of Leighton Buzzard and 11.5km south-east of the centre of Milton Keynes. Boot Field is located on the west side of High Road—the village's main thoroughfare, at the south-west margin of the village—centred at grid reference SP (4)8828 (2)2675 (Figure 1; Plate 1).

The village is located on high ground at the western edge of the valley of the Ouzel, with tributaries of the river creating valleys to the north and south. The PDA is on a SE-facing slope between 101m and 105m above OD. The course of a small stream is located a short distance to the south-east. The PDA forms an irregular strip of land covering *c.*0.9ha, extending *c.*155m NNW-SSE and

from *c.*60–90m wide, bounded by High Road to the east and a pumping station and associated access to the south. A property boundary defines the PDA's northern limit, whilst its irregular western extent is within a larger field.

The northern part of the PDA occupies relatively high ground, which falls away steeply to the east and south, with a gentler slope to the west. The ground falls slightly to the north, beyond the PDA, before rising towards the church to the north-east. A series of irregular 'terraces' occupied the eastern margin of the site towards High Road, with another prominent terrace, aligned roughly NE-SW delimiting the northern part of the PDA. Several linear depressions were visible crossing the western part of the PDA.

A service trench was present within the eastern margins of the PDA, roughly following High Road. The location was confirmed by geophysical survey—gradiometer anomaly (8) (CgMs 2016b, fig. 05) and appears to result in intermittent undulations shown on a LIDAR survey (CgMs 2016a, fig. 16).

A series of superficial geological deposits are identified by the British Geological Survey, comprising an area of glaciofluvial deposits in the north-east part of the PDA, bounded to the south by the Oadby Member of the Wolston Formation, which can contain bands of sand gravel and clay. A linear band of Head – clay deposits extends across the lower, southern part of the PDA, within the valley of the tributary of the Ouzel.

The PDA lies beyond the Soulbury Conservation Area, which extends roughly N–S along High Road.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The village has at least late Anglo-Saxon origins, the name referring to a 'stronghold in a gully'. The village, then known as 'Soleberie', was recorded in Domesday Book of 1086. The village appears to have originated on the higher ground, with the Church of All Saints overlooking most of the village, which developed along the main routeway, the High Road, which runs roughly N–S. Farms as dwellings developed along the routeway, with a number of timber-framed buildings dating from the 16th and 17th centuries still surviving.

The area to the immediate north was the subject of a programme of archaeological work in 2016 (Albion Archaeology 2016). This included ground reduction of the north-eastern part of the current PDA.

1.3.1 Historic Environment Record (HER)

The site is located within an Archaeological Notification Area (0108500000), associated with medieval settlement activity, as designated by the former Buckinghamshire County Council and detailed in the former Aylesbury Vale District Council planning policy. Information from an earlier desk-based study (CgMs 2016a) and from a 500m radius search of the Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record (dated 17/01/2019) is summarised below.

The land parcel containing the PDA has a number of records MBC3272/ MBC3273 relating to earthworks associated with the shrunken medieval village, identified from aerial photographs. However, a trench dug for a water pipe in the 1970s that bisected one of the platforms (apparently away from the street frontage based on coordinates) did not reveal any features or finds, although several slabs of limestone were exposed. MBC3274 corresponds to the trackway at the northern limit of the PDA, defining the northern boundary of the land parcel and continuing to the south-west.

The heritage assets in the vicinity of the PDA are exclusively medieval to post-medieval in date; designated heritage assets include the Grade II* church and the Grade II Manor Farmhouse and 'The Old Cottage'

1.3.2 Historical maps

The most useful map currently available is the 1769 Soulbury manorial plan, which shows a series of roughly rectilinear enclosures extending across the PDA (Figure 20 and 21). Several of the boundaries are sinuous, which may suggest that they followed (potentially earlier) cultivation furrows. As part of the evaluation, it was found necessary to adjust the location of the map relative to the position shown in an earlier desk-based study. Geo-locating the historical plan proved challenging, as it has very few points that can be correlated with modern maps. Boundaries and even the watercourse in this area of Soulbury appear to have undergone significant modification over the intervening period. However, several features shown on the plan, including three of the buildings, appear to correlate with features revealed in the trial trenching.

Subsequent maps of a suitable scale, such as the 1813 Ordnance Survey drawing, indicate that the PDA was part of a large land parcel, with no evidence for any buildings.

The 1880 Ordnance Survey map indicates a small pond within a copse of trees in the north-east of the PDA. It is not shown on subsequent maps, suggesting that the pond was infilled.

1.3.3 Aerial photographs

Aerial photographs taken in February 1990 clearly show a large, darker area with a rounded western limit within the PDA—apparently an extensive depression extending westwards from the street frontage. The depression seems to be confirmed by LIDAR data (CgMs 2016a, fig. 16). Traces of rectilinear earthworks are visible beyond this, apparently correlating with land divisions shown on the 1769 manorial plan. The continuation of these features, though less clearly defined, can be traced to the east towards High Road. At least one pronounced bank is highlighted within the darker area by low sunlight on image SBC21713.

1.3.4 Geophysical survey

Gradiometry and earth resistance surveys were undertaken in early August 2016 (Figures 22 and 23; CgMs 2016); a digital terrain survey was carried out at the same time. Generally, the results of the two geophysical surveys

complement each other with a roughly rectilinear pattern of former banks/earthworks being identified, apparently relating to the land divisions shown on the 1769 map. The central area of the site contained clusters of anomalies (2) and (3) on the gradiometer survey. These appear to correlate roughly with the cluster of buildings depicted on the 1769 map. An area of general enhanced magnetic responses was identified further to the south, towards the street frontage (4). An area interpreted as made-ground (possibly modern) was identified towards the north-east corner of the PDA (5); it corresponds to the area containing a pond on the 1880 OS map, and works associated with the adjacent development immediately to the north (Albion Archaeology 2016).

1.3.5 Earthwork survey, topographic survey and trial trenching

The initial stage of the evaluation consisted of a topographical survey, which identified four lynchets or terraces aligned roughly NE–SW across the slope, three possible building platforms towards High Road, and traces of boundaries comprising ditches and low earthworks (Figures 17 and 18). The results of this survey were used in conjunction with historical map data and the geophysical survey results to devise a trenching strategy. The trenching was undertaken in March 2019, revealing medieval and post-medieval features across the PDA (Albion Archaeology 2019a). They comprised ditches, internal/external surfaces, a single post-hole and other layers associated with the earthworks visible within the surrounding landscape.

The earliest dated features were a series of ditches, sealed by a thick subsoil layer. These were either directly dated to the medieval period by associated finds or indirectly by alignment or stratigraphy. The low quantity of finds suggested that these ditches represented field boundaries located away from any focus of human settlement. Within the limited confines of the trial trenches, the ditches did not appear to respect the terraces, suggesting the terracing was associated with later activity.

A variety of features and deposits associated with the post-medieval period were revealed, including numerous make-up layers and cobbled and gravel surfaces in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7. It was concluded that these most likely related to the buildings recorded on the 1769 manorial plan. Surfaces immediately below the topsoil and above the subsoil—apparently correlating with known buildings—were observed in Trenches 3 and 4. A surface recorded in Trench 2 might have been associated with another of the buildings depicted on the 1769 plan. Originally it was thought that a fourth building would be present at the south-east margin of the PDA, but the trenching results suggested that it was in fact situated further to the south, beyond the PDA.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Fieldwork Data Collection Aims

The primary function of the archaeological mitigation works was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the site in its cultural and environmental setting. The principal outcome is the production of a report that fully describes the results of the investigation and its findings (this document).

2.2 Research Strategies and Project Objectives

Research strategies for Buckinghamshire are included within the *Solent-Thames: Research Framework for the Historic Environment: Resource Assessments and Research Agendas* (Hey and Hind 2014). This covers the historic counties of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and is a vital tool for the assessment of any heritage asset within their local, regional and national historic environment setting.

The general objectives of the investigation were to determine:

- The extent and nature of the medieval remains within the PDA;
- The development and changes within the PDA during the post-medieval period, including the nature of the habitation within the PDA;
- The nature, date and formation of the terraces within the PDA;
- Evidence for any other phases of utilisation of the site, not identified in the evaluation;
- Nature of palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

The resource assessment indicates that village origins from the Anglo-Saxon period onwards, together with subsequent development in the later medieval period are a focus for investigation, particularly expansion up to the 14th century and subsequent decline or shrinkage (Hey and Hind 2014, 240).

For the later medieval period the research framework lists a number of areas for further research, which were thought to be relevant to the investigation:

- The chronology of development and character of field systems and their relationship to settlement across the region;
- The origin and nature of rural settlements (of various types);
- Village shrinkage and abandonment; change from hamlets to farmsteads.

3. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below; a full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2019b).

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

• Albion Archaeology	*Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork* (3rd ed, 2017).
• Archaeological Archives Forum	*Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2nd ed. 2011)
• Buckinghamshire County Museum	*Procedures for Notifying and Transferring Archaeological Archives* (rev 2013)
• CIfA	*Charter and by-law (2014); Code of conduct (2019)* *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation (2014)* *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014)*
• Historic England [formerly English Heritage]	*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (2015)*
	Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation. 2nd ed. (2011)

The open-area archaeological investigation took place between mid-October and the end of December 2019. Monitoring for construction groundworks in the parts of the PDA not covered by open-area investigation was carried out between the end of February and July 2020.

The first phase of excavation involved the removal of topsoil down to the top of archaeological remains or the upper surface of the subsoil, whichever were encountered first, within four areas:

- *Area A:* a 230m^2 area (centred on SP 88285/26775) around the north-east end of Trench 2 of the evaluation, where a possible building platform had been identified.
- *Area B:* a 820m^2 area (centred on SP 88291/26738) targeting a possible building platform identified within Trench 3 and 4 of the evaluation. This area was extended to the west to reveal the full extent of the surfaces identified.
- *Area C:* a 520m^2 area (centred on SP 88261/26677) targeting ditches identified within Trench 6.
- *Area D:* a 85m^2 area (centred on SP 88319/26703) targeting external surfaces identified within Trench 7.

During the second phase of excavation the overburden was removed to the upper surface of undisturbed geological strata within Area Z, a linear 1,185m^2

area (between SP 88278/26797 and SP 88297/26705) that encompassed areas A and B.

Monitoring included a service trench, a house plot with associated garage at both the north and south ends of the PDA, as well as an area for the gardens and car park along the western side of Area B/Z.

Within the investigation areas, the overburden was removed by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, operated under close archaeological supervision.

Once machining was complete, pre-excavation planning was undertaken and used as the framework for the excavation sampling strategy. A metal detector was used routinely both to check spoil and to locate potential metal artefacts in advance of the excavation of features. An appropriate sample of all the potential archaeological features was investigated.

Hand excavation and recording were carried out by experienced Albion staff and any potential archaeological features were recorded using Albion's *pro forma* sheets. Each feature was subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

The project archive will be deposited at the Buckinghamshire County Museum (accession no.: AYBCM 2019.3). Details of the project and its findings will be submitted to the OASIS database (reference no.: albionar1-361657) in accordance with the guidelines issued by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service.

4. THE STRATIGRAPHIC SEQUENCE

4.1 Introduction

Archaeological remains were identified within all the excavation areas, although none was present in the northern garage plot or southern house plot. Some of the revealed remains had previously been recorded during the trial-trench evaluation. However, not all the findings of the evaluation were confirmed by the open-area excavation.

The contextual data were analysed in order to establish a coherent spatial and chronological framework. For ease of reference, features were combined into Groups (indicated by a 'G' prefix), which were then assigned to Land-use Areas (indicated by a 'L' prefix), representing associated, contemporary elements. The Land-Use Areas were then assigned to Phases, which represent a distinct chronological period of contemporary activity, e.g. post-medieval settlement (Table 1; Figures 2–3)

The text which follows is structured by Phase and discussed by Group (G) and Land-use Area (L). The phasing was principally based on a combination of finds data and stratigraphy. Undated features, wherever possible, were also assigned to a chronological period, based on their correspondence with geophysical anomalies and spatial association with other, more securely dated, archaeological remains. Detailed analysis of the artefacts and ecofacts that were recovered is presented in Appendix A.

Phase	Chronological period	Area	L	Description	G	Description	No. of contexts	Sub-total
1	Early medieval c.12th–13th century	Z	1	Boundaries and an enclosure ditch	47	Enclosure ditch	8	
					48	Two NW-SE boundary/drainage ditches	16	
					49	NW-SE boundary/drainage ditch	2	
			2	Terrace ditch bounding the southern edge of a field system	50	Undated pit	2	
					51	Pit	3	
					52	Post-hole	2	
		B&Z			53	Recut NW-SE terrace ditch	18	
		Z			54	E-W ditch terminus	11	
					55	NW-SE gulley	2	
					56	Two E-W boundary/drainage ditches	16	
					57	Three NW-SE boundary/drainage ditches	21	
					58	Post-hole	2	
					59	NE-SW gulley	6	
		Watching brief	16	Drainage ditches	66	Four parallel NW-SE ditches	16	**125**

Phase	Chronological Period	Area	L	Description	G	Description	No. of Contexts	Sub-total
2	Post-medieval c.16th–18th Century	A	6	Building platform comprising Internal/ external surfaces and related structural features	5	Two post-holes	4	
					6	Two drainage gulleys	8	
					7	Make-up/consolidation layer with sparse cobbles	2	
					8	Exterior cobbled surface	1	
					9	Internal beaten earth surface	2	
					10	Exterior cobbled surface	1	
					11	Exterior cobbled surface	2	
					12	Beaten earth surface	2	
					13	Exterior cobbled surface	2	
					14	Make-up/consolidation layer for cobbled surface	1	
					15	Partially robbed cobbled surface	2	
		B	4	Colluvium over enclosure ditch	31	Colluvium collected in hollow left by enclosure ditch	6	
			7	Post-med building comprising external surfaces, building elements and associated features	16	Make-up/consolidation layer	4	
					17	Make-up/consolidation layer for a possible path	2	
					18	Make-up/consolidation layer under cobbles and building	3	
					19	Make-up layer/consolidation over hollow	1	
					20	Exterior cobbled surface	3	
					21	Exterior cobbled surface	2	
					22	Layer of large cobbles. Possible consolidation for building	3	
					23	Exterior cobbled surface with pitched cobbles	2	
					24	Exterior cobbled surface	1	
					25	Exterior cobbled surface	2	
					26	Exterior cobbled surface	1	
					27	Beaten earth surface	3	
					28	Make-up layer for building	2	
					29	Post-med building,	7	

Phase	Chronological Period	Area	L	Description	G	Description	No. of Contexts	Sub-total
						including an in-situ brick threshold and hearth		
					30	Drainage gulley	2	
		B&Z			38	Drain and soakaway	25	
		B	8	Demolition activity	32	Demolition spread	3	
					33	Demolition spread	2	
					34	Demolition spread	2	
					35	Demolition spread	2	
					36	Demolition spread	2	
					37	Demolition spread from possible exterior wall	1	
		B&Z			39	Robber cut	14	
					40	Pit backfilled with brick	5	
		C	5	Boundary ditches	4	Two NW-SE boundary ditches	4	
		Watching Brief			67	NE-SW ditch visible in the landscape	2	
		D	9	External surfaces	42	Two make-up layers for cobbled surfaces	4	
					43	Partially robbed out cobbled surface	2	
					44	Exterior cobbled surface	3	
					45	Exterior cobbled surface	3	
			10	Demolition spread	46	Demolition spread	2	
		Watching Brief	17	Demolition spread	68	Demolition spread	3	
		A	11	Interface layer	1	Interface layer	4	
		B			2	Interface layer	58	
		D			3	Interface layer	6	**218**
3	Modern c.19th century to present	B	12	Modern in-filling of robber cut	41	Layers in-filling hollow over robber cut	5	
		Z	3	Layer and gulley relating to a pond	60	Layer and gulley related to a pond	3	
		A-B, D & Watching Brief	13	Modern intrusions and services	64	Modern intrusions and services	11	**19**
4	Overburden and Geology	All Areas	14	Natural geology	63	Natural	7	
		Watching Brief			65	Possible paleochannel or remnants of a pond visible on 1880 OS map.	1	
		All Areas	15	Overburden	61	Topsoil	9	
					62	Subsoil	8	**25**
Total								**387**

Table 1: Summary of phasing

4.2 Overburden and Undisturbed Geological Deposits

Topsoil G61 was 0.05–0.3m thick across the site and comprised dark-grey-brown clay-silt. Subsoil G62 was up to 0.5m thick across the site, apart from

Area D where it was only present at the northern end of the area, and comprised mid-grey-brown silty clay. Undisturbed geological strata within the site varied from mid-orange-grey silty clay to light-yellow-grey chalky clay.

Paleochannel or remnants of a pond visible on 1880 OS map (G65)
Ground reduction and the excavation of foundation trenches for the northern house plot revealed the possible remnants of a pond visible on 1880 OS map or a palaeochannel G65, which was noted in the base of the foundation trench; it was 3.5m wide and on a broadly E–W alignment (Figure 6). Due to safety considerations, no sample could be recovered from the feature.

4.3 Phase 1: Early Medieval (c.12th–13th Century)

The earliest substantive evidence for activity dates to the early medieval period and was identified in Areas B and Z, and during archaeological monitoring (Figures 4, 12, 13 and 15; Plate 11).

A total of twelve ditches, two gulleys, two pits and two post-holes were assigned to this phase. Although several of the features are undated, they can (on the basis of stratigraphy and spatial patterning) be considered to be contemporary. These include: G47, G49, G50, G52, and G54–G59. A small quantity of early medieval pottery was recovered from three ditches, G48 and G53, and pit G51, with a total of five sherds, weighing c.190g.

4.3.1 Boundaries and an enclosure ditch (L1)

Land-use Area 1 comprised four ditches G47-49 in the southern half of Area Z forming an enclosure and field boundaries.

NW-SE boundary/drainage ditches (G48-G49)
Two intercutting ditches G48 extended *c*.18m from the eastern limit of the area on a NW-SE alignment, terminating to the north-west. Ditch G49 was on a similar alignment and terminated *c*.14m to the north. These ditches shared a similar, shallow, U-shaped profile and ranged from 0.4–0.8m wide by up to 0.3m deep. They contained deposits ranging from mid-grey-brown to light orange-brown silty clay.

Enclosure ditch G47
This ditch extended c.9m from the southern limit on a NW–SE alignment before curving to the north and east, truncating and terminating over ditches G48. It had a U-shaped profile with steep sides up to 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep, and contained a deposit of mid-brown-grey silty clay.

4.3.2 Terrace ditch bounding the southern edge of a field system (L2)

Field system L2 comprised terrace ditch G53 drainage ditches G53-54 and G56-57, two gulleys G55 and G59, two pits G50-51 and two post-holes G52 and G58 in the northern half of Area Z (Plate 11).

Recut NW-SE terrace ditch G53
A ditch with two recuts G53 was cut from the top of the subsoil and followed the NE–SW alignment of a terrace that was still prominent in the landscape at the time of excavation (Plate 12). This terrace became a long-standing

landscape boundary and it seems likely that its origins were associated with the digging of these ditches. The ditches varied from U-shaped to V-shaped in profile, and were 0.9–1.2m wide and up to 0.45m deep. Excavation of the service trench along the south-west side of the PDA also revealed a continuation of terrace ditch G53.

Ditches and gulleys (G54-G57 and G59)
Five ditches, two E–W aligned (G56) and three NW–SE aligned (G57) (Plate 14), appear to have acted as drainage and boundary features. While G56 appears to be truncated by G57, which in turn appears to be truncated by G53, these features were likely contemporary with the purpose of draining water in the field into the main boundary ditch G53. A further two short lengths of gulleys G55 and G59 may represent heavily truncated elements of this drainage system. The function of ditch G54, on a similar E–W alignment to G56, appears to have been a boundary rather than a drainage ditch as it terminates *c.*3m north of terrace ditch G53.

The ditches and gulleys shared similar U-shaped profiles and ranged from 0.3–1.25m wide by up to 0.4m deep. They generally contained deposits varying from mid-orange-brown to mid-brown-grey silty clay.

Pits and postholes (G50-G52 and G58)
Two pits and a post-hole G50–52 were identified *c.*3–5m south of G53 on a similar NE–SW axis to the ditch. An additional isolated post-hole G58 was situated *c.*15m to the north. Pit G50 (Plate 13) and post-hole G58 were circular in plan; while pit G51 and post-hole G52 were oval. These features had gradual concave profiles, apart from pit G51 which was more steep-sided.

4.3.3 Drainage ditches (L16)

Ground reduction for the gardens and car park revealed continuations of ditches forming part of field system L2. A further four parallel drainage ditches L16 were recorded within the area on a NW–SE alignment regularly spaced *c.*6m apart (Plate 16). They were 0.6–0.7m wide and up to 0.25m deep, sharing a similar U-shaped profile with a concave base. Although no finds were recovered from these features, they are likely to be early medieval as one of the ditches was truncated by terrace ditch G53.

4.4 Phase 2: Post-medieval (c.16th–18th Century)

Post-medieval remains were revealed within all the excavated areas and are discussed below by area. Selected sections are shown on Figures 12–16.

4.4.1 Area A: Building platform comprising internal/external surfaces and related structural features (L6)

The north-east corner of Area A contained a building platform L6, consisting of consolidation layers, beaten-earth and cobbled surfaces, as well as two post-holes and two gulleys (Figure 7; Plates 2 and 3).

Consolidation layers (G7, G14)
Two consolidation layers G7 and G14 overlay the subsoil (Figure 14). G14 was only revealed within an excavated segment in the eastern side of the area,

underlying cobbled surface G13; it comprised a 0.07m-thick layer of mid-yellow-orange sandy gravel. G7 was situated along the northern limit of the area underlying cobbled surface G8; it comprised a thin spread of pea gravel. The diffuse nature of this layer and the presence of occasional larger cobbles would suggest that it was largely robbed out or disturbed along with the overlying surface.

External cobbled surfaces (G8, G10-G11, G13 and G15)
Five layers of cobbles were interpreted as possible external surfaces. G10, G11 and G15 consisted of a loose spread of medium-sized cobbles up to 180mm in diameter. G13 was more densely packed, with a larger average cobble size and well-defined edges on its north-east and south-east sides. G8 differed in nature; it comprised mid-yellow-orange sandy gravel with large cobbles and ironstone up to 360mm in diameter.

Beaten-earth surfaces (G9 and G12)
A possible internal beaten-earth surface G9 comprised a 0.08m-thick layer of firm mid-brown-grey silty clay, containing flecks of charcoal, situated on the northern limit of the area (Figure 14). A large quantity of finds was recovered from the topsoil directly above this layer, including 4kg of ceramic building material, 1.7kg of animal bone, 3kg of pottery and thirty-five nails. A similar layer G12, situated directly south-west, comprised a 0.04m-thick layer of firm mid-grey-brown silty clay containing charcoal flecks. This layer lacked the same density of finds recovered from the topsoil above it; may represent a trample layer rather than an internal beaten-earth surface.

Two postholes G5
The only structural features identified within Area A comprised two post-holes G5 that were cut from the top of G8 on a NW–SE axis similar to the south-west extent of G9 (Figure 14). They both had steep-sided profiles and were up to 0.45m in diameter and 0.2m deep. It is uncertain whether a large ironstone slab, measuring 540 x 310 x 100mm within G8 was deliberately placed as an additional structural element.

Two drainage gulleys G6
Two approximately perpendicular gulleys G6 likely provided drainage around cobbled surface G13 (Figure 14). One followed the south-east side of the surface, while the NW–SE-aligned gulley may have followed the south-west side, which had been truncated by a water main. These features had a shallow, U-shaped profile and were 0.55m wide by 0.2m deep, filled with a deposit of dark-brown-grey silty clay.

4.4.2 Area B: Post-medieval building comprising external surfaces, building elements and associated features (L7)

The post-medieval remains in Area B comprised building platform L7 with an in-situ threshold and hearth, a brick drain running into a soakaway, a drainage gulley, and numerous consolidation layers and cobbled surface (Figures 5, 8 and 15; Plates 4–6 and 11). Also present was L8, which consisted of demolition spreads with associated robber pits. L4 was a colluvial layer collected in a hollow left by enclosure ditch G47.

Consolidation layers (G16-G19)

Consolidation layer G16 overlay the subsoil over the majority of Area B, up to a thickness of 0.11m. It comprised light-yellow-brown sandy gravel, although like those found in Area A, a large proportion of it had been robbed out or heavily disturbed, leaving only a thin spread of pea gravel. G17 formed a NW–SE-aligned linear spread of the same material, up to 2.5m wide, in the southern end of the area. This may represent consolidation for a pathway leading towards the street.

G18 formed a consolidation layer on the eastern limit of Area B for cobbled surfaces G23 and G25, and for building G29; it comprised mid-grey-brown silty clay with patches of gravel and was 0.06m thick. A layer of mid-yellow-brown sandy clay and gravel G19, *c.*4m to the south, appears to have been laid to consolidate a natural hollow in the landscape.

External and cobbled surfaces (G20-G21 and G23-G26)

Seven layers representing external surfaces were identified within Area B. Six were cobbled surfaces that appear to have been partially robbed out. G20 formed a large, cobbled surface north of building G29, covering *c.*27m^2; it comprised densely packed cobbles up to 150mm in diameter. It may have joined cobbled surface G21, situated *c.*2.7m to the south-west to form a cobbled yard extending off the north side of the building. Two similar cobbled surfaces G24 and G25 might represent a similar yard on the south side of the building, although these were extensively robbed out.

A small area of tightly packed and pitched cobbles G23, covering *c.*4m^2 on the eastern edge of the area was located directly south of the threshold and ironstone slab that formed the front of building G29 (Plate 5). It might represent a path around the south-east corner of the building, marking its southernmost limit. A similar patch of cobbles G26, *c.*13m to the south, was situated in the middle of colluvial deposit G31, likely to create a crossing point over the hollow left in the landscape by the earlier enclosure ditch.

External beaten-earth surface G27

Layer G27 formed a roughly square, raised area in the centre of Area B, covering *c.*38m^2. It comprised mid-brown-grey silty clay, 0.15m thick, and marks an area devoid of the gravel consolidation layer G16 that covers much of Area B. It is interpreted as an external beaten-earth surface as no related structural features were identified.

Brick drain and soakaway G38

A brick-built drain running into a soakaway G38 was revealed encircling building G29 (Plate 8). The drain was constructed within a U-shaped cut with vertical sides and a flat base; it consisted of two ashlar courses on the sides with a single row of perpendicular bricks on both the top and the base. The drain ran into a sub-rectangular soakaway that had been backfilled with sandstone rubble. A large proportion of the western length of the drain had been robbed out where it ran either directly beneath or just outside of the western wall of the building.

Layer of large cobbles G22 and make-up layer G28
G22 and G28 represent make-up layers for the construction of building G29. G22 comprised a layer of large cobbles up to 290mm in diameter, underlying G28. The larger average size of the cobbles differentiates this layer from the surrounding external surfaces, suggesting that it was primarily constructed as a consolidation layer for the building, rather than a reuse of an earlier surface. G28 comprised a levelling layer of mid-brown-grey silty clay and mid-yellow-orange sand up to 0.2m thick, upon which the surviving elements of building G29 were constructed.

Post-medieval building G29, including an in-situ brick threshold and hearth
Building G29 had been almost entirely robbed out, with only a hearth, a threshold and a large ironstone slab surviving in-situ. The threshold faced east towards the road, consisting of a single course of bricks that had been cut to form a semi-circle, surrounded by cobbles. Stone settings, constructed of fragmented limestone, for the door frame were situated at the north-west and south-west corners of the threshold. A rectangular brick-built hearth, *c.*1.5m to the south-west of the threshold, may represent a chimney base (Plate 6). It was on a slightly different alignment to the threshold and contained a deposit of dark-brown-grey sandy silt with a high charcoal content. A large roughly hewn ironstone slab measuring 890 x 440 x 310mm was situated *c.*1m directly south of the threshold on the same N–S alignment and may have been a part of the foundation for the front wall of the building.

4.4.3 Area B: Demolition activity L8

Demolition layers (G32–G37)
Six demolition layers G32–G37 and two features G38 and G39 were identified relating to the demolition of building G29. The demolition layers typically comprised mid-yellow-brown sandy clay with frequent inclusions of roof tile and brick; G35 differed as it contained much less ceramic building material. G32 and G33 were located across the assumed northern wall while G35 extended over the southern wall. G36 appeared to have accumulated in a hollow overlying the cut for drain G38. G34 spread across much of the interior and eastern extent of the building, overlying levelling layer G28. A small, concentrated demolition spread with a linear shape in plan G37 extended approximately east from the southern end of the ironstone slab and may represent the remains of a small exterior wall heading towards the road, possibly to form a walled garden or courtyard.

Robber pits (G39–G40)
A large N–S-aligned robber cut G39, measuring *c.*11 x 4m and up to 1.3m deep, removed the entirety of the western wall along with the drain on the same alignment (Plate 7). It had a U-shaped profile with steep sides and a flat base, except at its northern terminus where the base was uneven. It had been partially backfilled with a deposit of mid-brown-grey silty clay with frequent inclusions of ceramic building material, leaving a hollow within the landscape. An E–W-aligned oval pit G40 lined up with the northern extent of G39 and may represent robbing out of the northern wall of building G29. It was 1.85m long, 0.65m wide by 0.7m deep, and was backfilled with brick and tile.

Assuming that robber cut G39 and pit G40 represent the west and north extents of building G29 respectively, and that cobbled surface G23 marks the south-east corner, the building would have measured *c.*10 x 7m.

Colluvial deposit G31

During the first phase of excavation in Area B, a layer of colluvium G31, overlying the subsoil with a curvilinear shape in plan, was identified; it corresponded with the lower-lying ditch G47, in Area Z, and extended beyond it to the east. This would suggest that a hollow remained in the landscape for some time after this ditch went out of use, and that a potential opposing terminus may have existed forming an enclosure, but not cut deep enough to be visible in the underlying geology.

4.4.4 Area C

Boundary ditch G4

The only features revealed in this area were a NW–SE-aligned boundary ditch with a recut G4 that was still visible in the landscape (Figure 10). These features were not investigated as part of the archaeological mitigation, as they had been excavated during the trial trenching. They had U-shaped profiles up to 3.15m wide and 0.85m+ deep.

4.4.5 Area D: External surfaces L9

Excavation of Area D revealed a cobbled surface with associated consolidation layers L9 and a demolition spread L10 (Figures 9 and 16; Plate 9).

Consolidation layers G42 and cobbled surfaces (G43-G45)

Consolidation layers G42 comprised mid-yellow-orange sandy gravel up to 0.1m thick, overlying the undisturbed geological strata, as the subsoil was largely absent within this area. Cobbled surfaces G43, G44 and G45 would likely have formed a single continuous surface of densely packed cobbles up to 260mm in diameter, heading east towards the road (Plate 10).

4.4.6 Area D: Demolition activity L10

Demolition spread G46

The northern extent of the cobbled surface was overlaid by a small, linear demolition spread G46 on an E–W alignment; it was up to 1.15m wide, 0.06m thick and comprised mid-brown-grey silty clay with frequent inclusions of ceramic building material. As this demolition spread was isolated from any known building or structural remains, it may represent the demolition of a small wall bounding a cobbled lane leading to the road.

4.4.7 Archaeological monitoring

Cobbled surface G45 and demolition spread G68

Excavation of the service trench along the south-west and south-east sides of the PDA revealed a continuation of cobbled surface G45 as observed in Area D. A demolition spread G68 *c.*6m south of G45 was observed in section, measuring 9.5m wide and 0.6m thick; it contained crushed limestone mortar

and fragmented ceramic building material, probably associated with another post-medieval building.

Boundary ditch G67

The only feature observed within the southern garage plot was a NE–SW field boundary ditch G67, which was 3.2m wide and aligned with a visible earthwork to the south-west, making it likely to be post-medieval in date (Figures 5 and 17).

4.5 Phase 3: Modern (c.19th century to present)

4.5.1 Modern intrusions and services G64

A N–S aligned service trench for a water main G64 was recorded crossing Areas A and B. A NNW-SSE modern drainage ditch, following the alignment of the field boundary, was recorded in Area D (G64) (Figure 11).

Ground reduction and the excavation of foundation trenches for the northern house plot revealed three modern make-up layers G64, with a combined thickness of 1.45m. A sub-circular pit G64, 3m in diameter, cut through these layers.

4.5.2 Layers G41 in-filling hollow over robber cut

Three layers G41 were recorded in the hollow left by robber cut G39 (Figure 11). After it was backfilled, a layer of colluvium accumulated within the hollow, before the topsoil re-established across it. The area was then levelled with a deposit of mid-yellow-brown sandy clay that produced modern objects including plastic combs and cat's-eye road studs.

4.5.3 Layer and gulley related to a pond (G60)

A layer of dark-grey-brown clay silt with deposits of gravel G60 was recorded in the northern end of Area Z; it produced modern brick and china (not retained) (Figure 6; Plate 15). A short curving gulley extending off it was filled with the same deposit. The layer accumulated in a hollow that may have been caused by trample on wet ground around a pond to the north, shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map; the gulley may have been created to drain water from this area down the slope.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 Introduction

The investigation provided evidence of a sequence of activity on the margins of Soulbury, dating to the early medieval, post-medieval and modern periods. This mainly comprised early medieval field systems, the remains of two post-medieval buildings, and multiple cobbled surfaces, drainage and field boundary ditches. Modern activity consisted of layers linked to levelling of the site and refuse disposal.

Previous works for a water main within the site boundary had caused considerable truncation to the archaeological horizon, but this was mostly confined to a narrow corridor along the eastern edge of site.

The relatively shallow depth of the post-medieval deposits as well as robbing out of the structures caused significant disturbance to and reworking of the below-ground remains, although despite this some well-preserved elements of the structures remained.

With the exception of a single, residual sherd of late Anglo-Saxon St Neots type ware, there was no evidence for the Anglo-Saxon origins of Soulbury within the PDA. Given that much of the settlement appears to have originated on the higher ground to the north, it is likely that the site falls outside of the settlement limits during this period.

5.2 Early Medieval Land Boundaries

The earliest evidence for activity on site dates to the early medieval period, between the 12th–13th centuries AD. It comprised field boundary and drainage ditches, mostly focused in the north of the site on the higher ground within the top terrace, indicating subdivision of the landscape at the edge of Soulbury (Figure 17).

This evidence indicates that at least the upper earthwork terrace and substantial NE–SW aligned ditched boundary is likely to be of medieval origins, marking the main limit of activity within the PDA. The terrace ditch had multiple recuts and many of the upper fills contained post-medieval material, suggesting that this boundary persisted in the landscape for some time.

The dating of the terrace is earlier than the trial trenching had suggested, but given the wider area of investigation and higher level of data recovered, this can now be given a high level of confidence. Only a single enclosure to the south also dated to this period; its function is likely to be agricultural in origin. During the medieval period the evidence would suggest that the PDA was situated on the periphery of Soulbury village. The small assemblage of medieval pottery was dominated by locally made, 13th-century sandy ware; a smaller number of later medieval wares are represented in the assemblage, including Brill/Boarstall ware. Given the limited artefactual evidence and the nature of the features, it is clear that the PDA was situated in the agricultural hinterland of the medieval settlement.

5.3 Post-medieval Settlement

Evidence for post-medieval activity was present in most parts of the site, broadly dating from the 16th to 18th century. It comprised two buildings, multiple cobbled surfaces, and drainage and field boundary ditches. The buildings and some of the boundary ditches broadly correlate with the 1769 Soulbury manorial plan, which shows a series of roughly rectilinear enclosures extending across the PDA (Figures 18–23). Subsequent maps, such as the 1813 Ordnance Survey drawing, indicate that the PDA was part of a large land parcel, with no evidence for the buildings, pointing to a relatively short-lived expansion of the village onto the PDA during the post-medieval period.

The building platform in Area A was ill-defined due to robbing; it was most likely either a small dwelling or an agricultural outbuilding. The building platform in Area B was better-preserved with a drain and soakaway defining the maximum limit of the building, although the structure was still badly affected by robbing out. Despite this a brick hearth and semi-circular threshold survived, indicating that the structure was most likely a substantial building, possibly representing more than one dwelling, although no evidence of internal partitions remained.

Surrounding the building footprints in both Areas A and B were expanses of ground consolidation and pitched stone cobbling, representing large exterior yard surfaces. Area D also had a cobbled surface, but as it was bounded by only a single wall to the north, with no evidence of a structure nearby, it is thought to represent a cobbled lane bounded by a small wall leading to the road. Paving over such large areas would have been a substantial undertaking, stopping the ground around the properties and their accesses quickly becoming an impassable quagmire, as well as preserving public health by allowing the easy removal of accumulated waste and refuse.

The pottery recovered from this phase of occupation was dominated by a variety of earthenware products from kilns in South Northamptonshire. Material from further afield, e.g. Rhenish stoneware, attest to the inhabitants' links with wider trading networks and markets. A range of non-ceramic artefacts are typical of rural, domestic activity, e.g. horseshoes, agricultural tools, rumbler bells, etc. The post-medieval deposits also yielded an unremarkable assemblage of animal bone and sparse charred plants remains, which are again characteristic of domestic occupation in the post-medieval period.

The only other activity on site dating to the post-medieval period were enclosure and field boundary ditches in the south and south-west part of the site, indicating that it was on the edge of the village directly adjacent to agricultural land.

The post-medieval data from the site points to a well thought out design and construction of the structures and surfaces, rather than a hastily built development. There was no evidence of the structures having burnt down, i.e. heat-affected brickwork or layers of burning. It may be more likely that the demolition of the buildings is evidence of enclosure or changing socio-

economic conditions associated with the industrial revolution, which encouraged migration from villages to towns and cities.

5.4 Modern Features

Evidence for modern activity within the PDA included a deposit accumulated in a hollow, identified in the north of Area Z. This may have been caused by trample on wet ground around a pond within a copse of trees to the north, shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map; the gulley may have been created to drain water from this area down the slope. The pond is not shown on subsequent maps, suggesting that it was infilled.

The only other activity of note from this period was a levelling deposit infilling the robbed out hollow left by the building in Area B. It produced modern objects, including plastic combs and cat's-eye road studs.

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7. APPENDIX A: ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

7.1 Introduction

During the first phase of excavation, which entailed the removal of topsoil to the level of archaeological remains or the upper surface of the subsoil, large quantities of unstratified post-medieval and modern finds were recovered (*Table 2*). Their volume and limited analytical potential meant it was impractical to fully analyse or retain the assemblage. Accordingly, this material was broadly quantified and summarised (Appendix B), and with the agreement of the CAO and receiving museum, was not retained.

Find type	Qty.	Wt. (g)
Animal bone	462	15,352
Ceramic building material	218	34,184
Clay tobacco pipe	39	172
Ferrous slag	6	1,713
Iron nails	350	2,726
Iron objects	79	2,994
Oyster shell	27	335
Pottery (post-medieval)	286	5,903
Pottery (modern)	140	1,895
Vessel glass	99	1,429

Table 2: Summary of unstratified finds by type

Artefacts collected from stratified archaeological deposits, the majority deriving from Phase 2 post-medieval features, are discussed below.

7.2 Pottery

A total of 193 sherds (4.5kg) the majority associated with post-medieval features assigned to Phase 2 was recovered. The assemblage is summarised in Table 3, with a more detailed breakdown by Group and fabric type presented in Appendix C.

Pottery survives in good condition, with a mean sherd weight of 24g. Wares and forms are common and well-represented from published excavations across the county.

Phase	Area	Land-use Area		Group	Qty.	Wt. (g)
1	Z	L1	Boundaries & enclosure ditch	G48	1	7
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G51	1	58
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G52	2	17
	B&Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G53	5	203
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G54	2	16
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G56	2	25
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G57	5	32
2	WB	L5	Boundary ditches	G67	19	610
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G5	1	37
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G7	18	295
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G10	1	7
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G16	30	329
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G22	1	43
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G29	1	70
	B&Z	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G38	5	247

Phase	Area	Land-use Area		Group	Qty.	Wt. (g)
	D	L9	External surface	G44	1	15
	A	L11	Interface layer	G1	13	272
	B	L11	Interface layer	G2	72	1,807
	C	L11	Interface layer	G3	2	29
3	A, B, D & WB	L13	Modern intrusions & services	G64	11	405
Total					**193**	**4,524**

Table 3: Pottery quantification by Phase, Area, Land-use Area and Group

Fabric types (Table 4) range in date from the 10th–19th centuries and are identified in accordance with the Milton Keynes post-Roman pottery type series (Mynard 1992).

Common name	Date range	Qty.	Wt. (g)
St Neots type ware (ware code SNC1)	10th-late 12th century	1	5
Medieval shelly ware (MC1)	11th-late 13th century	5	71
Medieval coarse sandy ware (MS2)	13th century+	18	439
Brill/Boarstall ware (MS9)	13th-15th century	2	25
Late medieval reduced ware (TLMS3)	14th-15th century	5	83
Late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (TLMS7)	15th-16th century	6	205
Cistercian-type ware (PM15)	Late 15th-17th century	2	9
Fine late medieval reduced ware (TLMS13)	16th century	2	11
Late medieval oxidised ware	16th century	18	315
Trailed slipped earthenware (PM5)	17th century	21	367
Lead-glazed earthenwares (PM8)	17th century+	59	2,250
Black-glazed coarse wares (PM16)	17th century	16	162
Rhenish stonewares (PM29)	17th century	1	83
Westerwald stoneware (PM32)	17th century	1	8
Mottled brown-glazed ware (PM41)	17th century	2	14
Brown salt-glazed stoneware (PM28)	17th-18th century	1	13
Staffordshire slipware (PM2)	Late 17th-18th century	1	33
Creamware (PM23)	18th century	2	18
Scratch blue (PM30)	18th century	1	4
White salt-glazed stoneware (PM22)	Mid to late 18th century	3	12
Pearlware (PM24)	Late 18th century	1	5
White earthenwares (PM25)	18th-19th century	14	199
English stoneware	18th-19th century	1	70
Misc. mass produced modern	19th century +	1	10
Yellow/mocha ware	19th century	9	113

Table 4: Pottery Type Series

7.2.1 Medieval: 59 sherds: 1.2kg

Medieval pottery was collected from Phase 1 deposits (18 sherds: 358g), principally within L2 (Areas B & Z), and occurred residually in Phase 2 features (36 sherds: 732g).

The earlier medieval assemblage mainly comprises locally manufactured sandy coarse wares (MS2), with a small quantity of shell-tempered wares (SNC1, MC1) and Brill/Boarstall ware (MS9). Late medieval and transitional early post-medieval pottery comprises reduced wares (TLMS3, TLMS13), later Brill/Boarstall products (TLMS7) and Cistercian ware (PM15). Forms are square-rimmed bowls (one thumbed), jars, a cistern and a glazed jug (MS9) with applied diagonal red iron-rich clay strips.

7.2.2 Post-medieval and later: 134 sherds: 3.4kg

Pottery assigned to Phase 2 deposits is entirely of post-medieval and later date, the largest assemblages associated with L5 boundary ditches (610g), L7 external surfaces/building elements (Areas B & Z: 689g) and L11 interface layer (2.1kg: principally G2, Area B).

The majority are simple lead- or iron-glazed, or glazed- and slip-decorated earthenware products of the South Northants. industry (PM5, PM8, PM16). Forms are mainly bowls, and a single jar and handled bowl/chamber pot (cf. Mynard 1992, 333, fig. 170:58). Two sherds from Rhenish stoneware drinking vessels and single sherds of Pearlware, Scratch blue and Staffordshire slipware with combed and trailed decoration also occur. Refined white earthenwares (flatwares, cups and a teapot lid) include examples with sponge decoration or a printed underglaze bearing the ubiquitous Blue Willow pattern.

7.3 Building Materials

Sand-tempered ceramic building material (17kg) derived from several deposits, the majority associated with Phase 2 L5 boundary ditches G67, and L7 external surfaces/building elements (Area B), which respectively yielded 10.1kg and 4kg (Table 5).

The assemblage comprises 29 stock-moulded brick fragments, a nib tile, 31 flat roof (peg) tile fragments and three unglazed floor or hearth tiles (W110 x D40mm), the latter with smoothed, worn upper surfaces. Bricks are fairly uniform, measuring *c.*230-220mm (length) x 100–110mm (width) x 60–65mm (depth), and broadly date from the 16th to mid-18th centuries. Several have mortared surfaces indicating use. The single nib tile dates from the 13th century onwards, while the peg tiles are broadly later medieval to post-medieval in date.

A single sandy daub fragment (11g), distinguished by a flat surface and lath impression, was recovered from L6 make-up layer G7 (Area A).

L5 boundary ditch G67 yielded a sizeable coarsely aggregated mortar fragment (450g). Five pieces of off-white wall plaster (18g) (some with keying marks and lath impressions) were collected from L7 cobbled layer G22 (Area B).

Phase	Area	Land-use Area		Group	Qty.	Wt. (g)
1	Z	L1	Boundaries & enclosure ditch	G47	1	129
	B&Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G53	4	248
2	WB	L5	Boundary ditches	G67	20	10,080
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G7	8	568
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G10	5	768
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G16	6	427
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G22	3	314
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G29	2	3,149
	B&Z	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G38	2	108
	B	L8	Demolition activity	G32	1	98
	B&Z	L8	Demolition activity	G39	1	400
	D	L9	External surface	G42	2	57
	D	L9	External surface	G45	4	577

3	A, B, D & WB	L13	Modern intrusions & services	G64	5	90
Total					**64**	**17,013**

Table 5: Brick and tile quantification by Phase, Area, Land-use Area and Group

7.4 Non-ceramic Artefacts

A disparate group of non-ceramic artefacts derived mainly from Phase 2 deposits, the greatest concentration associated with L7 surfaces/building elements, and L8 demolition spread (Areas B & Z; Table 6).

Phase	Area	Land-use Area	Group	Artefact summary
1	B&Z	L2	G53	Iron nail x7; shoeing nail (RA9)
	Z	L2	G57	Ferrous slag (495g); trace hammerscale (<1g); iron horseshoe (RA2)
2	WB	L5	G67	Vessel glass x5; iron nail x2; primary whetstone (RA19)
	A	L6	G7	Iron nail x 4; iron pitchfork (RA15)
	B	L7	G16	Ferrous slag (116g); trace hammerscale (<1g); iron nail x3; vessel glass x2; pewter spoon (RA16)
	B	L7	G22	Shoeing nail (RA11); iron nail x2
	B&Z	L8	G32	Copper alloy rumbler bell (RA61)
	B&Z	L8	G35	Iron nail x10, copper alloy rumbler bell (RA1), copper alloy washer (RA5); iron padlock bolt? (RA6)
	B&Z	L8	G39	Vessel glass x1
	B&Z	L8	G40	Vessel glass x3
	D	L9	G44	Vessel glass x1
	D	L9	G45	Vessel glass x1, iron horseshoe (RA17); iron fragment (RA18)
	A	L11	G1	Copper alloy lace tag (RA50)
	B	L11	G2	Copper alloy coin (RA54)
	C	L11	G3	Vessel glass x1
3	A, B, D & WB	L13	G64	Ferrous slag (154g); shoeing nail (RA12); iron nail x10; iron buckle (RA7)

Table 6: Other artefact quantification by Phase, Area, Landscape and Group

7.4.1 Iron objects

L8 demolition spread G35 and L13 make-up layers G64 respectively yielded a possible medieval padlock bolt spine (RA6) and a 17th–18th-century oval shoe buckle (RA7). A portion of tanged pitchfork (RA15), broadly datable to the medieval or post-medieval periods, was collected from L6 surface G7. A cast, slightly curving fragment (RA18) possibly deriving from an 18th-century or later cooking pot derived from L9 surface G45.

The heel of a horse or pony shoe (RA2) of probable 13th–15th-century date was recovered from L2 ditch G57 (Area Z) while L9 surface G45 (Area D) yielded a 19th-century draught horse shoe (RA17), the latter with toe clip, fuller, rectangular nail holes and caulkins on both heels. L2 ditch G53, L7 surface G22 and modern L13 layer G64 contained three rectangular headed Type 4 shoeing nails (RAs 9, 11, 12; Clarke 1995, 88) of 14th–15th-century date.

Portions of 38 iron timber nails with either flat squared, offset, or faceted rectangular heads were recovered from features within L2 and L5-L9. A few are identifiable later medieval/post-medieval forms (Goodall 1980, 106 and fig. 15).

7.4.2 Other materials

A distorted late 17th–18th-century pewter spoon (RA16) with a rat tail bowl attachment and decorated stem derived from L7 surface G16. Two late 17th-century cast copper alloy rumbler bells (RA1, RA61) were recovered from L8 demolition spreads G32 and G35.

L11 interface layers G1 (Area A) and G2 (Area B) respectively yielded a poorly preserved late medieval/post-medieval copper alloy lace tag (RA50) and a George III halfpenny (RA54), datable to the 18th century.

Undatable finds collected respectively from L8 layer G35 and L5 ditch G67, comprise a copper alloy washer (RA5) and the end of a rectangular-sectioned sandstone primary whetstone (RA19).

7.4.3 Industrial residues

Ferrous smithing slag (765g), including a small portion of hearth bottom, was recovered from L2 terrace ditch G57, L7 surface G16 (Area B) and L13 layer G64. Trace amounts of flake hammerscale (<1g) derived from L2 ditches G57 (Area Z) and L7 surface G16 (Area B).

7.4.4 Vessel glass

A later medieval to post-medieval olive-green glass body sherd and a partial kick base from a 17th-century wine bottle was collected from L7 surface G16 (Area B).

Olive green bottle glass of 17th–18th-century date from L5 boundary ditch G67 comprises eight body sherds, a V-tooled string rim (diameter *c.*28mm; height 36.5mm) and three partial bases—one cylindrical with a domed kick (possibly Hume's type 19, 1750–70); one with a low irregular kick (possibly from squat form Hume's type 9, 1705–20); and one of indeterminate form. L8 demolition spreads G39 and G40 (Area D) yielded an additional four wine bottle fragments, including two kick bases and a neck and rim.

L9 external surfaces G44 and G45 (Area D) respectively contained a moulded and embossed 'Kilner Brothers' jar lid dating *c.*1900+ and three joining body fragments from a 19th-century olive green cylindrical bottle. A complete 'PECKS' meat paste moulded jar with ribbed decoration, lipped for a rubber seal, and datable to 1922 derived from L11 interface layer G3 (Area C).

7.5 Animal Bone and Oyster Shell

Sixty animal bone fragments (2.7kg) were collected (Table 7), the largest deposit (1.8kg) from L2 terrace ditches ditch G53 (Area B & Z). The material displays minimal surface erosion/weathering and is generally well-preserved, with a mean fragment weight of 45g. Anatomical elements are mainly post-cranial: principally meat-bearing limb bone shafts and a small number of rib and vertebrae fragments. The most intact examples, deriving from G53, include the distal ends of a cattle femur and horse humerus; a complete horse radius and phalanx; a sheep/goat mandible fragment and indeterminate pieces of metapodial, skull and pelvis. Unfused epiphyses indicate some immature animals.

The sparse spread of animal bone suggests occasional or incidental deposition, particularly given its incorporation into surfaces and make-up layers.

Three poorly preserved oyster shell fragments (23g) deriving from L5 boundary ditches G67 and L6 make-up layer G7 (Area A) were not retained.

Ph.	Area	Land-use Area		Group	Qty.	Wt. (g)
1	B&Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G53	19	1,832
	Z	L2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	G57	3	27
2	WB	L5	Boundary ditches	G67	14	388
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G7	6	151
	A	L6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	G10	1	13
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G16	9	200
	B	L7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	G22	4	24
	D	L9	External surface	G42	1	55
	D	L9	External surface	G44	2	12
3	A, B, D & WB	L13	Modern intrusions & services	G64	1	16
Total					**60**	**2,718**

Table 7: Animal bone quantification by Phase, Area, Land-use Area and Group

7.6 Charred Plant Remains

7.6.1 Introduction and methodology

A total of 5 soil samples were collected during the excavation and samples <10>, <13> and <14>, selected due to their higher potential, were processed and the recovered charred plant remains analysed in their entirety.

The samples were processed using a flotation tank, with the flot captured on a 300-micron sieve and the residue on a 1mm mesh; the material was then air-dried before being examined. Any artefacts present were noted and added to the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were then sorted with the naked eye and under digital microscope.

A list of all the items identified in flots and residues is presented in Table 8. They have been recorded according to the following criteria: + = 1–10; ++ = 11–50; +++ = 51–100; ++++ = 101–250; +++++ = >250.

7.6.2 Results

The flots contained occasional to frequent intrusive modern plant remains (small roots, straw and occasional seeds).

7.6.2.1 Sample <10>

The sample was collected from the bottom of a post-medieval (16th to 18th century) brick hearth.

The whole flot had a volume of 350ml and contained almost exclusively a slag-like charred material, most of it consisting of coal and fuel ash slags. A smaller amount of this material, looking very porous and not vitreous as the fuel ash slags, may be identified as the so called “amorphous charred

objects"[1], charred residues of an organic product whose original shape is no longer identifiable. These charred amorphous remains are usually classified as food remains, either fruit pulp or cereal-based foodstuff such as bread or "porridges". Unfortunately, the remains examined under digital microscope did not show clear traces of fruit or grains tissues and therefore the interpretation of this material remains unclear.

The flot also contained occasional small charcoal flecks, a small number of charred cereal grains, identified as hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oats (*Avena* spp.), and seeds of wild grasses such as "false rye barley" (cf. *Hordeum secalinum*).

7.6.2.2 Sample <13>

The sample was taken from an oval pit, artefactually dated to the early medieval period.

The charred items consisted mostly of small charcoal flecks but also contained a few charred cereal grains, all identified as free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum*). The only wild plant seed present in the flot was tentatively identified as wild vetch (cf. *Vicia* spp.).

7.6.2.3 Sample <14>

The sample, collected from an early medieval enclosure ditch, was very poor in archaeobotanical remains, containing only few charcoal flecks of extremely small size.

7.6.3 Conclusions

Of the flots examined, sample <13> presented the highest amount of charred plant remains, while sample <14> consisted mainly of coal and fuel ash slags, and sample <14> had almost no plant items at all.

The charred cereal grains from sample <13> are likely to be derived from the final stages of crop-processing, with some of the grains being accidentally burnt during the drying process and therefore thrown away.

The presence of very sparse cereal grains and wild grasses seeds in sample <10> is likely to be due to the accidental collection of these plants together with fuel sources such as woody material or animal dung.

[1] Translation from the German "*Amorphe Objekte Verkohlt*" (AOV), the definition of this category of material given in Heiss 2014, 343–53.

	Phase	2 (post-medieval)	1 (early medieval)	
	Land-use Area	7	2	1
	Group	29	51	47
	feature type	MS	P	D
	feature number	1074	3050	3061
	context number	1075	3051	3062
	sample number	10	13	14
	vol sample (l)	8	20	20
	vol flot (ml)	350	50	25
	% sorted	100%	50%	50%
	% scanned	100%	50%	50%
Plant remains - charred				
Latin name	English name			
Cereal grains				
Avena spp.	oat	+		
Hordeum vulgare	hulled barley	+		
Triticum aestivum/durum	free-threshing wheat		++	
Cerealia indet.	cereal indet.	+		
Other plant/weed seeds				
cf. *Hordeum secalinum*	false rye barley	+		
Lolium/Bromus	grasses	+		
cf. *Vicia* spp.	vetch?		+	
indeterminate	wood charcoal (>/<2cm)	+ / -	++++ / -	+ / -
Other ecofacts				
AOC		++		
Animal bone		+	+	++
Snails		++	++	+

Item frequency: + =1-10; ++ = 11-50; +++ = 51-100; ++++=101-250; +++++ = > 250 items; D=ditch, P = pit; MS = masonry; AOC = amorphous charred objects.

Table 8: Medieval and post-medieval charred plant remains

8. APPENDIX B: ARTEFACT SELECTION AND DISPOSAL STRATEGY AND DATA

8.1 Finds Selection and Disposal Strategy

During the initial phase of excavation, involving the removal of topsoil down to the top of archaeological remains or the upper surface of the subsoil, large numbers of unstratified finds were recovered. Their volume and limited analytical potential meant it was impractical to fully analyse or retain the assemblage. Therefore, an appropriate retention and disposal strategy, as detailed below, was agreed with the CAO.

8.1.1 Upper archaeological horizon

The majority of the finds derived from demolition or overburden layers above surfaces, or deposits disturbed by modern activity. As such, they were essentially unstratified, did not provide secure dating, and provided only a general idea of the activity occurring in the vicinity.

Finds from these deposits represented a standard range of well-documented domestic material. They were recorded and broadly quantified on site by artefact type: animal bone, ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, metal objects, vessel glass, post-medieval and modern pottery, oyster shell, ferrous slag (Table 9). During the excavation process a selection of datable finds (mainly pottery) was examined and catalogued by Albion Archaeology's Finds Officer.

With agreement of the CAO and receiving museum, in line with the latter's pre-deposit selection and disposal requirements (Bucks. County Museum 2013), the majority of this material was reburied on site. A selection was made available to the museum for educational use. Any items retained were complete or well-dated examples to provide a cross-section of types present.

8.1.2 Lower archaeological horizon

All artefacts collected from stratified deposits were retained.

8.2 Summary of Non-retained, Unstratified Finds

Key to spot dates
Early medieval c.12th-13th
Post-medieval c.16th-18th
Modern: 19th century

Spot date	Area	Find type	Group	Weight (g)	Quantity
	B	Animal bone	2	278	8
	A	Animal bone	1	2287	81
	B	Animal bone	2	6312	204
	B	Animal bone	2	6475	169
		Sub-total		**15352**	**462**
	B	CBM	2	109	3
	A	CBM	1	5217	36
	B	CBM	2	13434	85

Spot date	Area	Find type	Group	Weight (g)	Quantity
	B	CBM	2	13989	73
	D	CBM	3	1435	21
		Sub-total		**34184**	**218**
	A	Clay pipe	1	4	1
	B	Clay pipe	2	54	11
	B	Clay pipe	2	114	27
		Sub-total		**172**	**39**
	A	Copper alloy object	1	20	8
	B	Copper alloy object	2	3	1
	B	Copper alloy ring	2	5	1
	D	Copper alloy decorated buckle	3	5	1
	D	Copper alloy object	3	5	1
	B	Copper alloy coin	2	5	1
		Sub-total		**43**	**13**
	B	Fe nails Type 1	2	56	5
	B	Fe nails Type 2	2	21	1
	A	Fe nails Type 1	1	333	47
	A	Fe nails Type 2	1	35	2
	B	Fe nails Type 1	2	782	125
	B	Fe nails Type 2	2	295	16
	D	Fe nails Type 1	3	63	9
	D	Fe nails Type 2	3	26	2
	B	Fe nails Type 1	2	560	98
	B	Fe nails Type 2	2	184	8
	D	Fe nails Type 1	3	304	31
	D	Fe nails Type 2	3	113	6
		Sub-total		**2772**	**350**
	A	Fe knife	1	83	5
	A	Fe rings	1	83	4
	A	Fe objects	1	866	8
	A	Fe hinge	1	28	1
	A	Fe key	1	42	1
	B	Fe object	2	439	8
	B	Fe sickle blade	2	138	1
	B	Fe buckle	2	20	1
	B	Fe hinge	2	81	1
	B	Fe ring	2	31	1
	B	Fe staple	2	14	1
	B	Fe pot	2	887	3
	B	Fe stirrup	2	170	2
	B	Fe staple	2	159	22
	B	Fe hinge	2	57	1
	B	Fe object	2	938	15
	B	Fe buckle	2	12	1
	D	Fe objects	3	48	2
	D	Fe key	3	16	1
		Sub-total		**2994**	**79**
	A	Glass	1	11	1
	B	Glass	2	690	56
	B	Glass	2	692	37
	D	Glass	3	36	5
		Sub-total		**1429**	**99**

Spot date	Area	Find type	Group	Weight (g)	Quantity
	A	Oyster shell	1	167	18
	B	Oyster shell	2	168	9
		Sub-total		**335**	**27**
	B	Pottery-modern	2	1606	108
	D	Pottery-modern	3	289	32
		Sub-total		**1895**	**140**
	A	Pottery-post-medieval	1	3757	203
	B	Pottery-post-medieval	2	2146	83
		Sub-total		**5903**	**286**
	B	Slag	2	1713	6

Table 9: Non-retained, unstratified finds

9. APPENDIX C: POTTERY QUANTIFICATION BY GROUP

				Pottery fabric types (see Table 4 for common names)																								
Phase	Land-use Area		Group	SNC1	MC1	MS2	MS9	TLMS3	TLMS7	PM15	LMED OX	TLMS13	PM5	PM8	PM16	PM29	PM32	PM41	PM28	PM2	PM23	PM30	PM22	PM24	PM25	ENG	MOCH	MOD	TOTAL
1	1	Boundaries & enclosure ditch	48	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
	2	Terrace boundary ditches, pits & post holes	51	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
			52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**
			53	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**5**
			54	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**
			56	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**
			57	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**5**
2	5	Boundary ditches	67	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**19**
	6	Internal/external surfaces & related structural features	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
			7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**18**
			10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
	7	External surfaces, building elements & assoc. features	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	14	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**30**
			22	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
			29	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
			38	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**5**
	9	External surface	44	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**
	11	Interface layer	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	**13**
			2	-	1	4	-	3	4	-	3	-	2	23	4	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	7	1	9	1	**72**
			3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	**2**
3	13	Modern intrusions & services	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**11**
TOTAL				**1**	**5**	**18**	**2**	**5**	**6**	**2**	**18**	**2**	**21**	**59**	**16**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**14**	**1**	**9**	**1**	**193**

Table 10: Pottery fabric types by Group

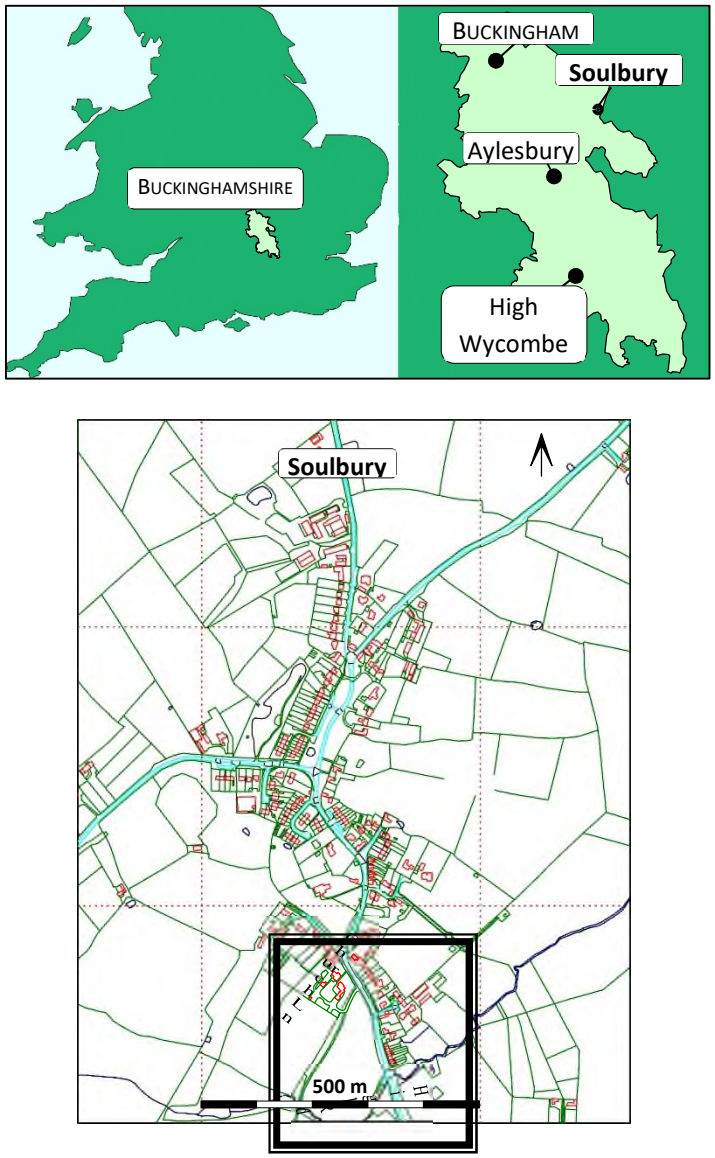


Figure 1: Site location plan, showing archaeological investigation areas

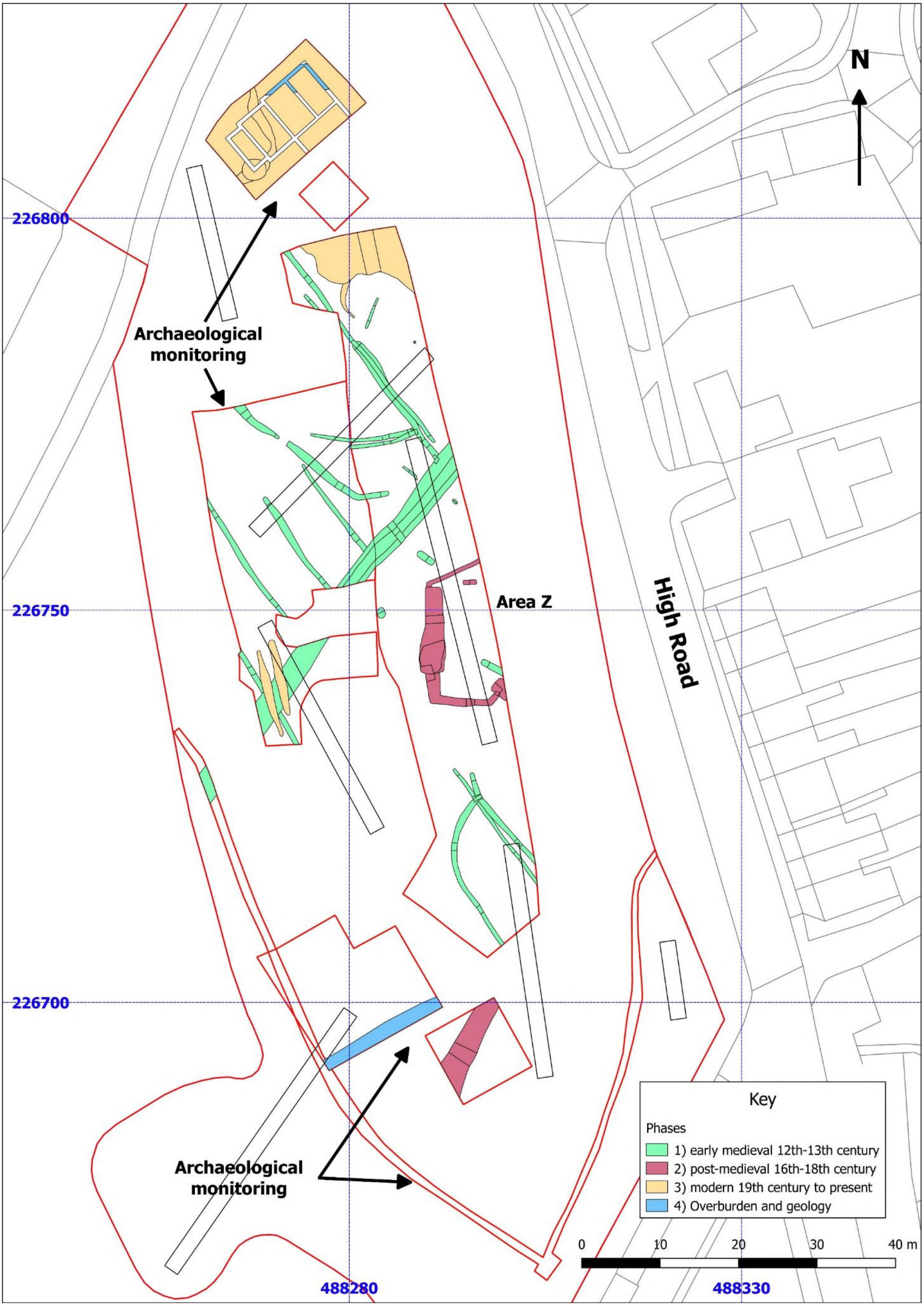


Figure 2: Phased all-features plan, Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

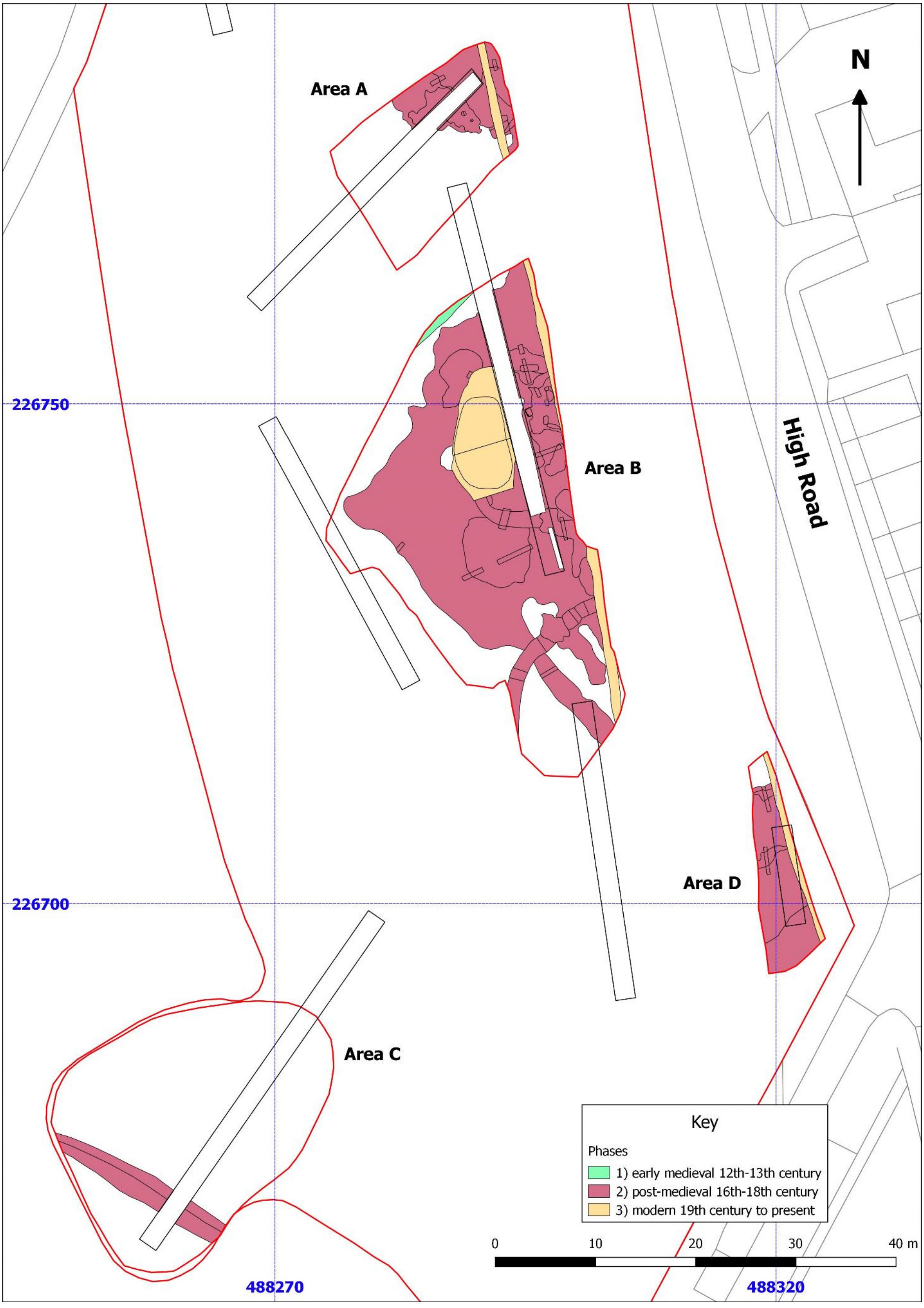


Figure 3: Phased all-features plan, Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon)

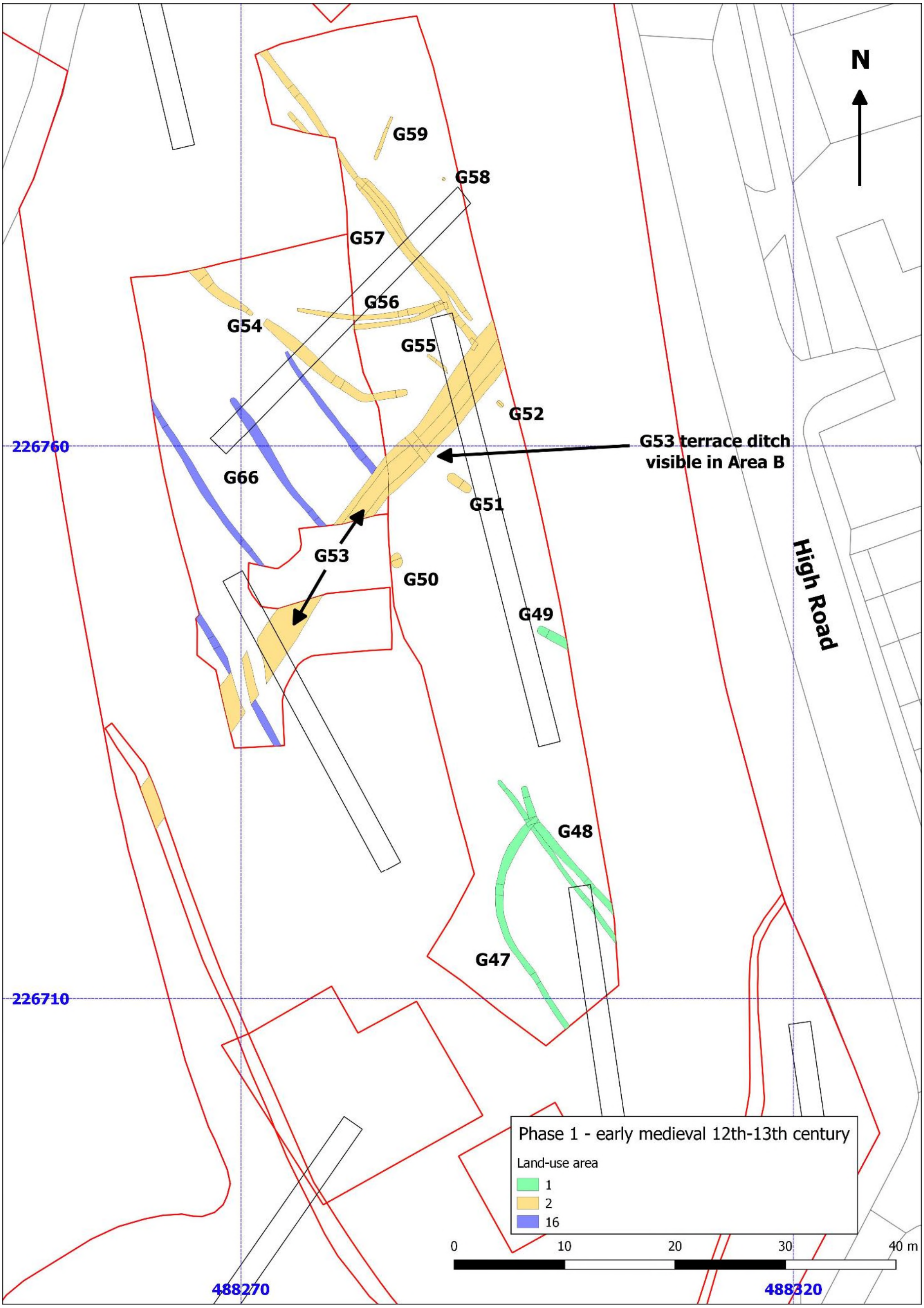


Figure 4: Phase 1 (early medieval 12th to 13th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

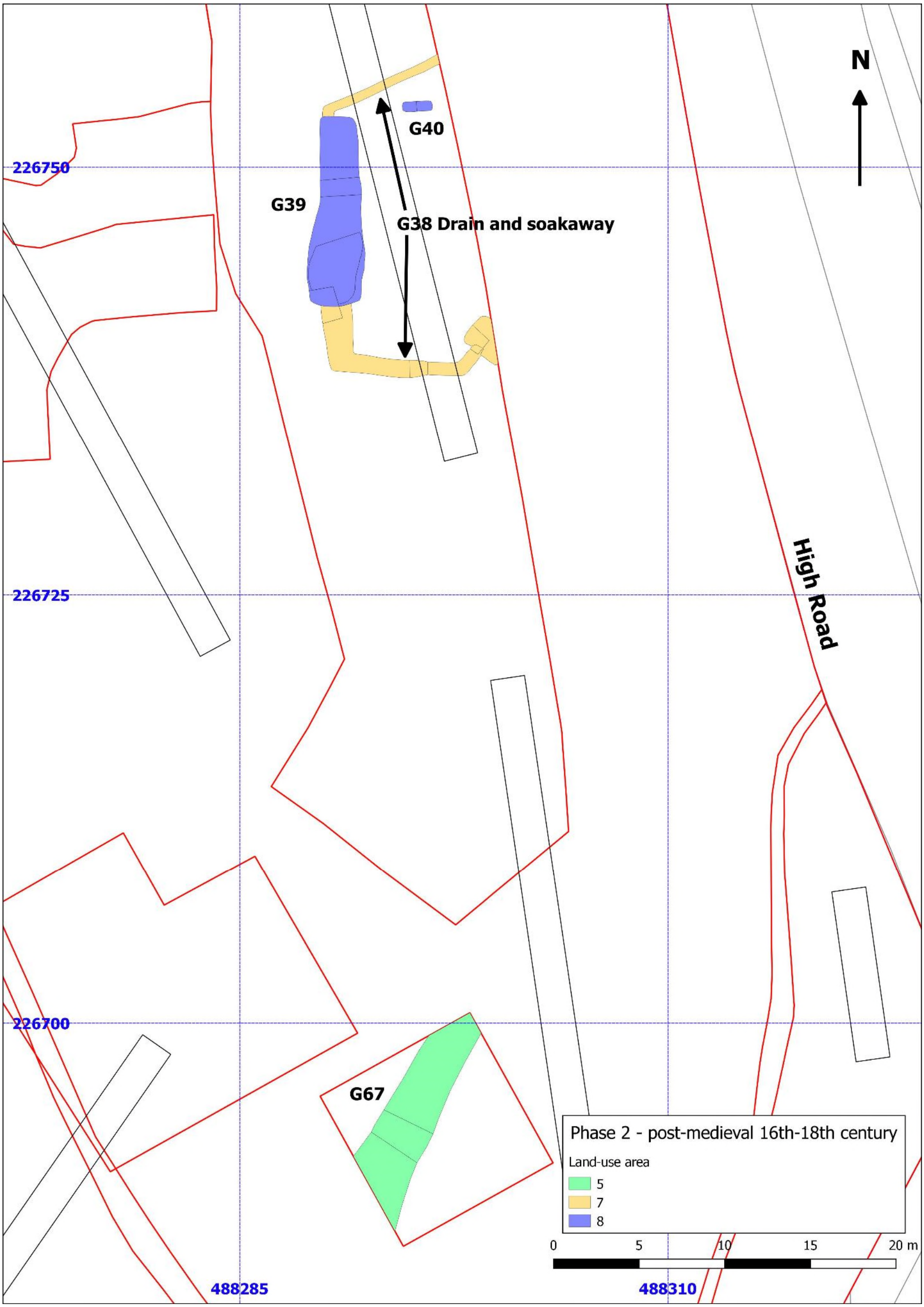


Figure 5: Phase 2 (post-medieval 16th to 18th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

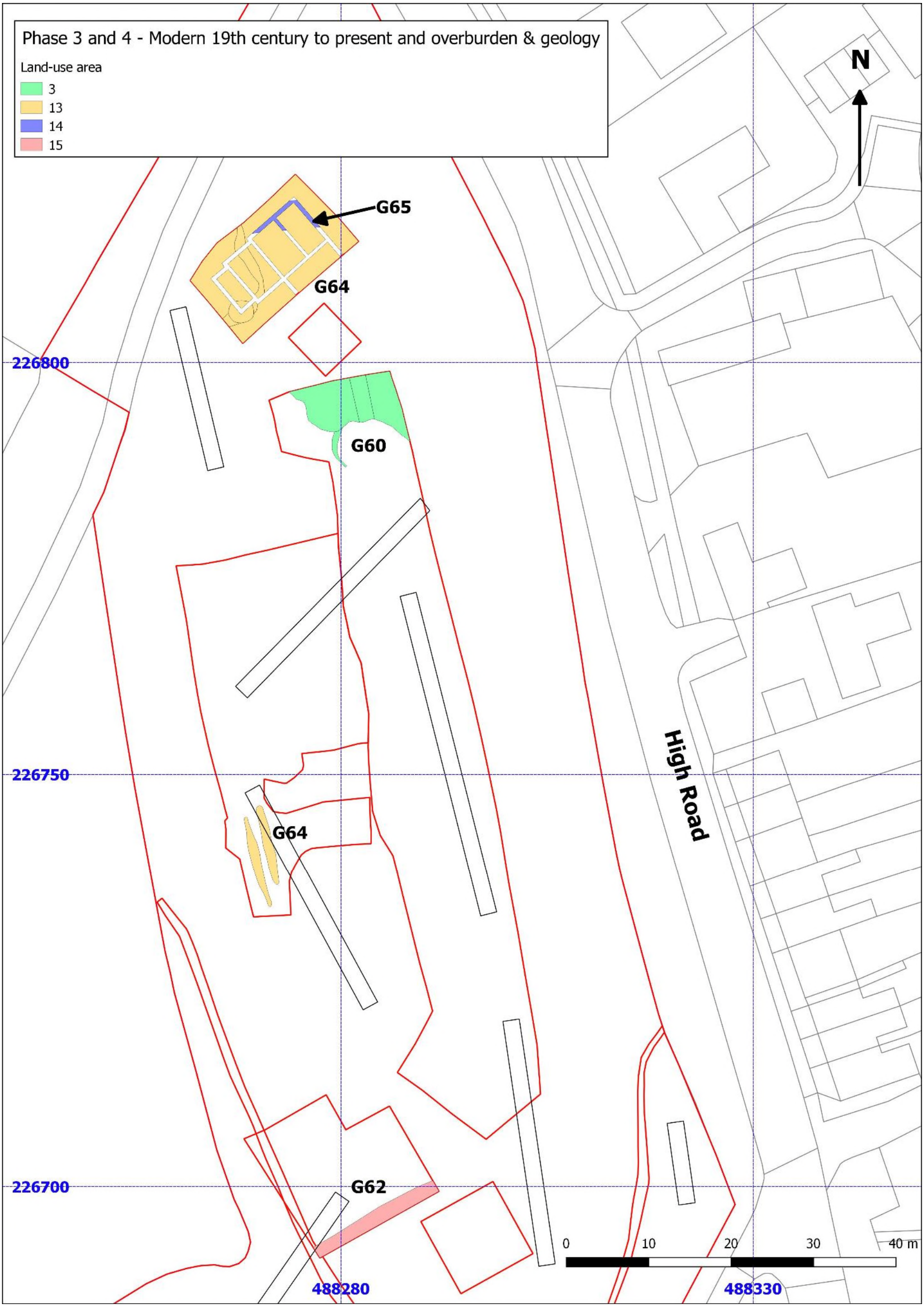


Figure 6: Phases 3 and 4 (modern 19th century to present and overburden/geology) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

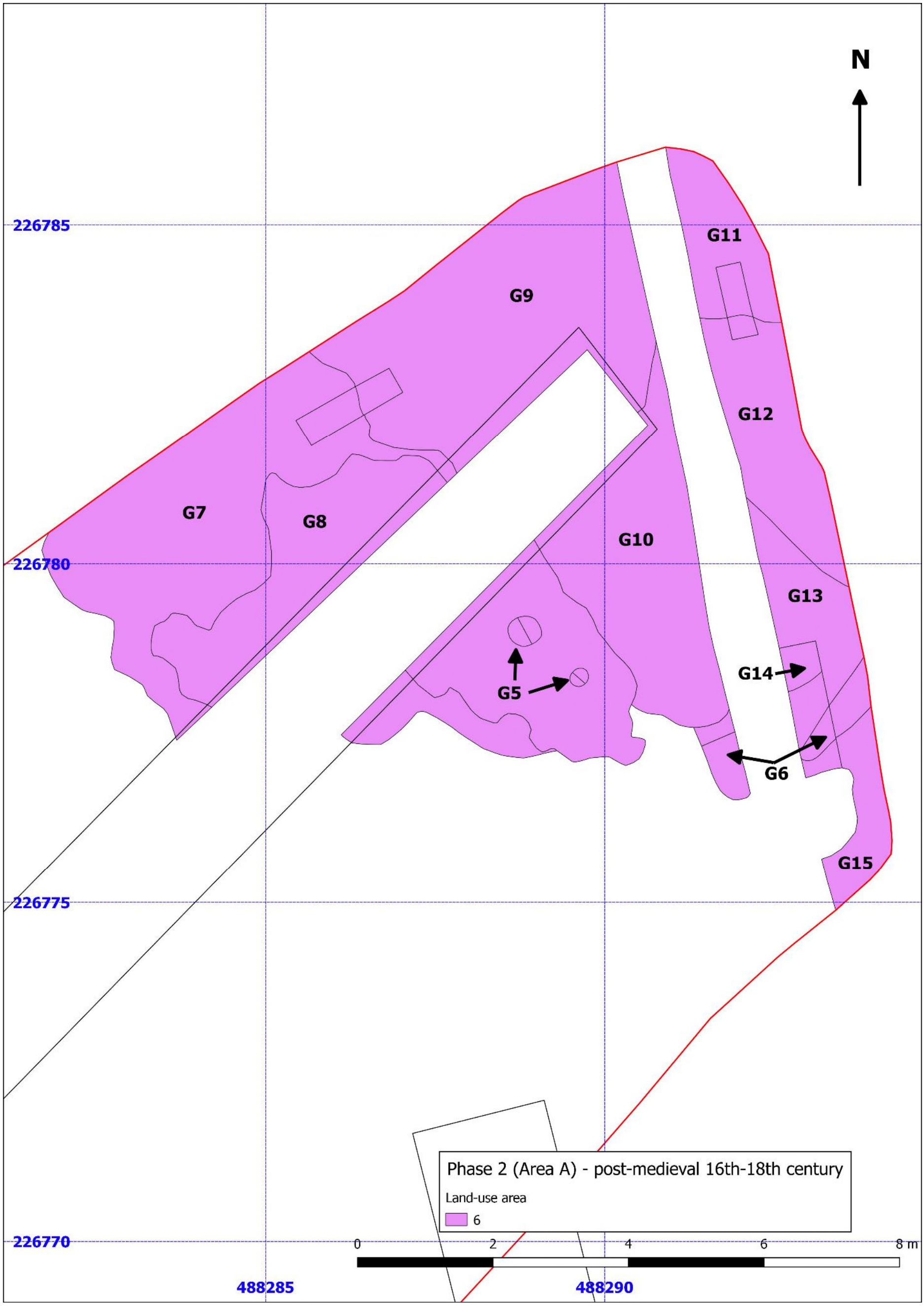


Figure 7: Phase 2 (post-medieval 16th to 18th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area A (upper archaeological horizon Phase 2)

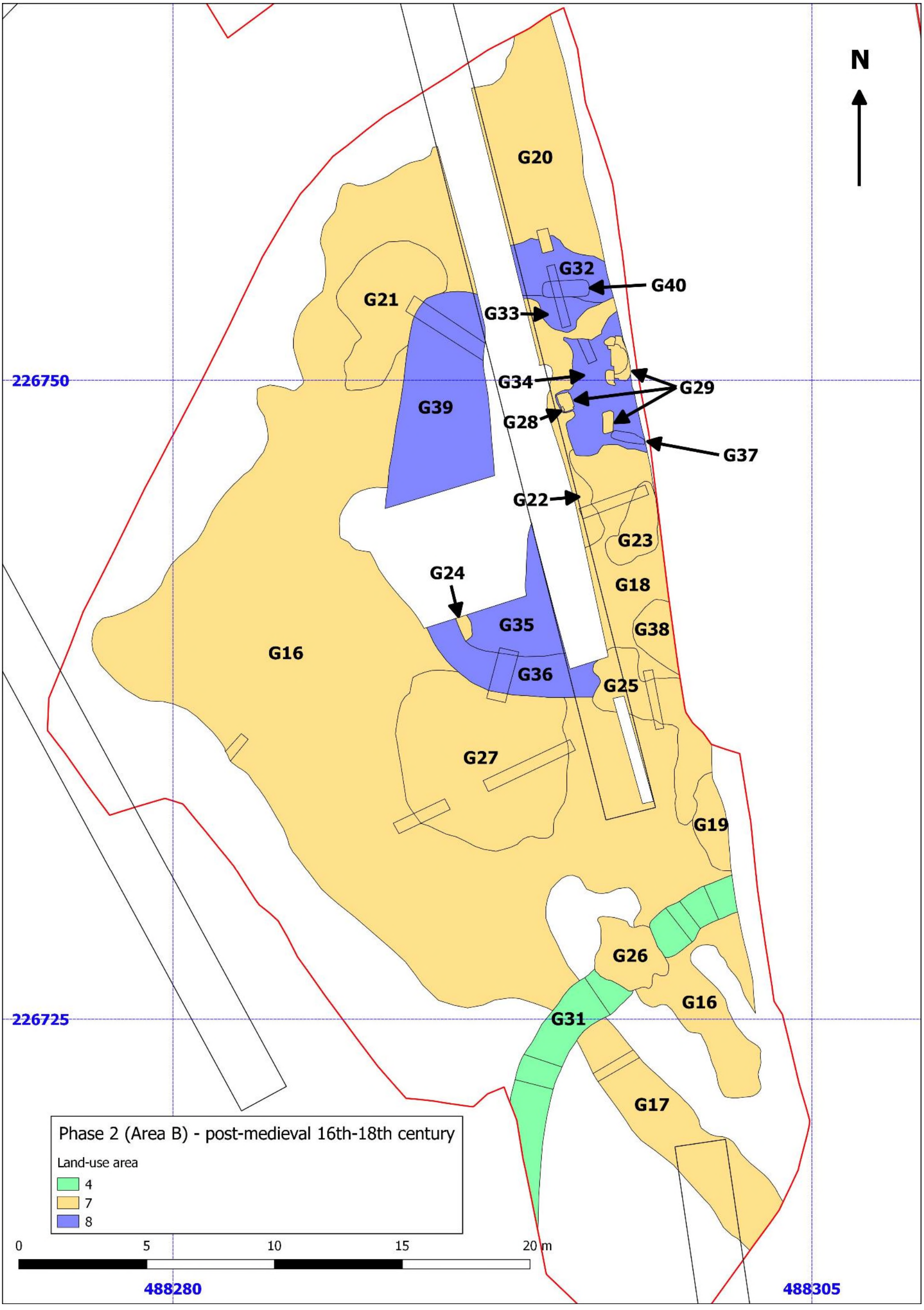


Figure 8: Phase 2 (post-medieval 16th to 18th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area B (upper archaeological horizon)

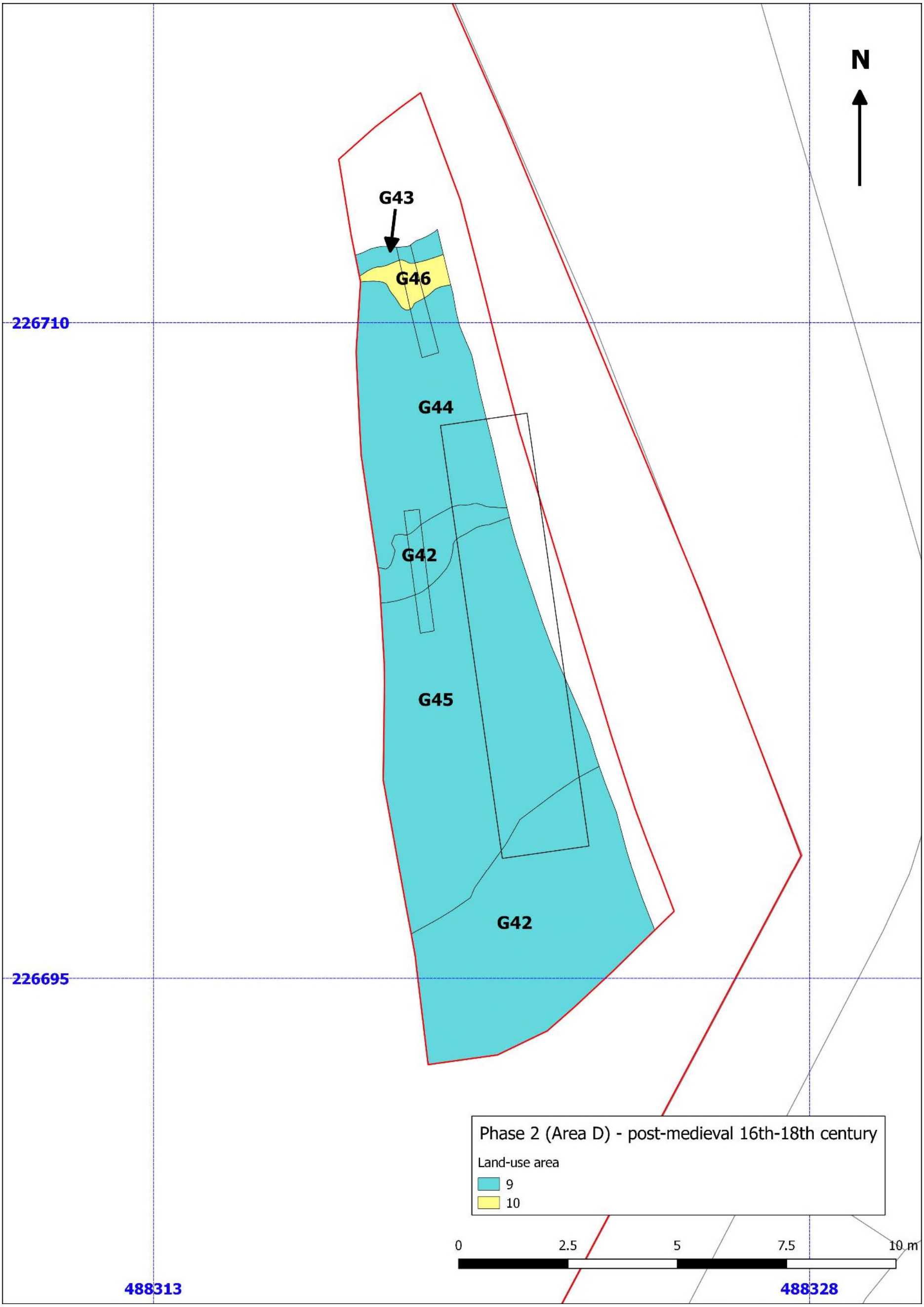


Figure 9: Phase 2 (post-medieval 16th to 18th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area D (upper archaeological horizon)

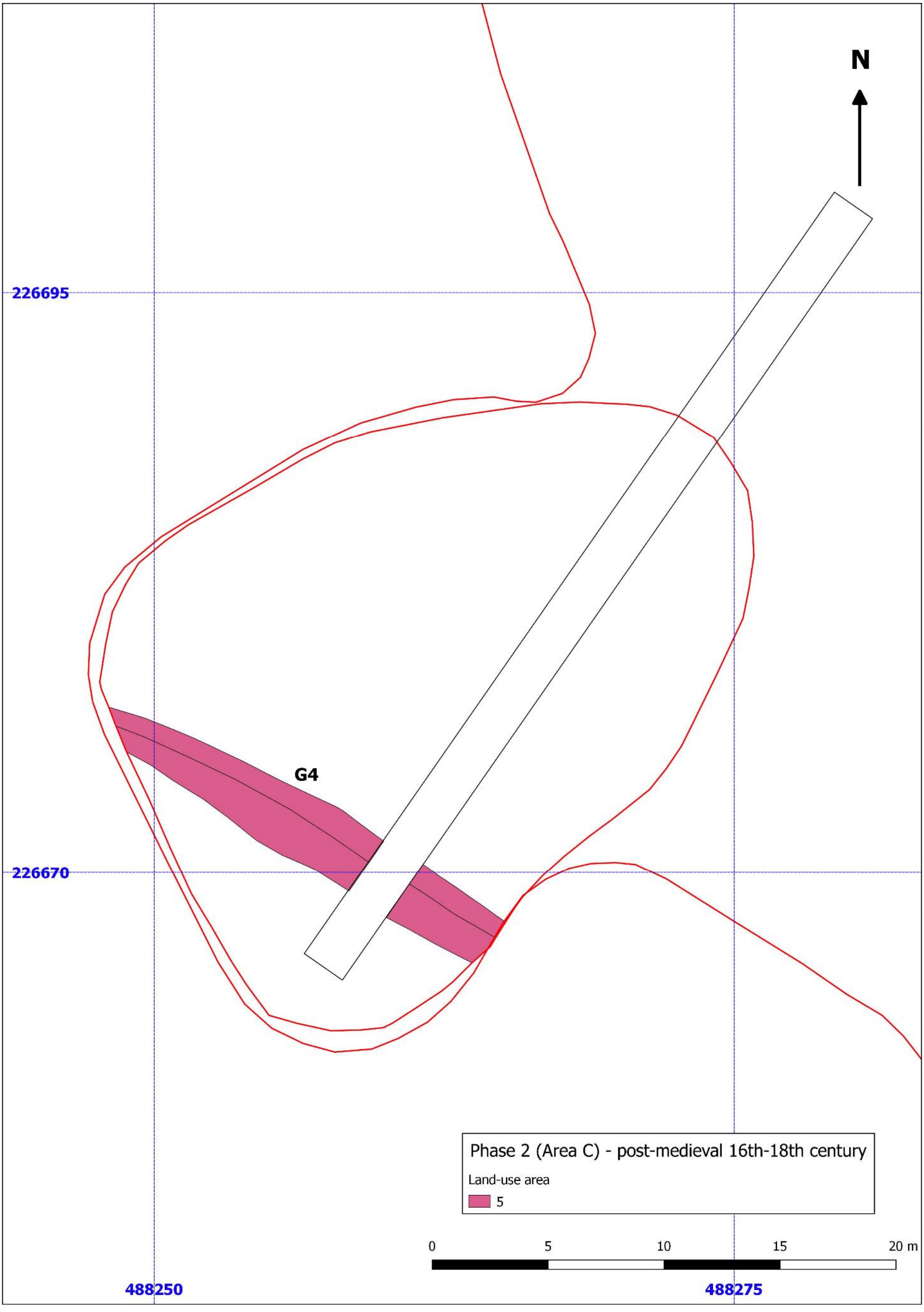


Figure 10: Phase 2 (post-medieval 16th to 18th century) Land-use Areas and Groups—Area C (upper archaeological horizon)

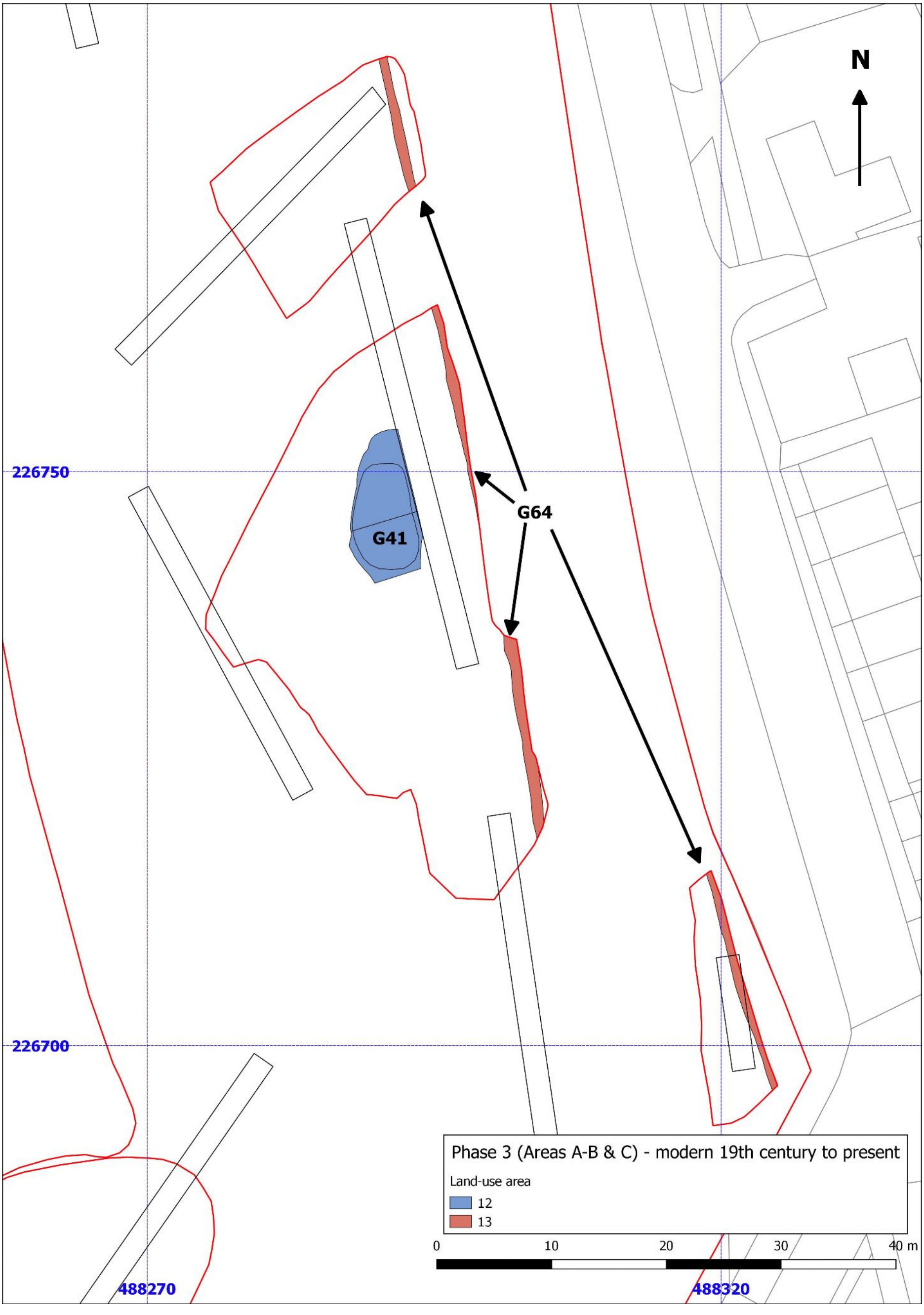
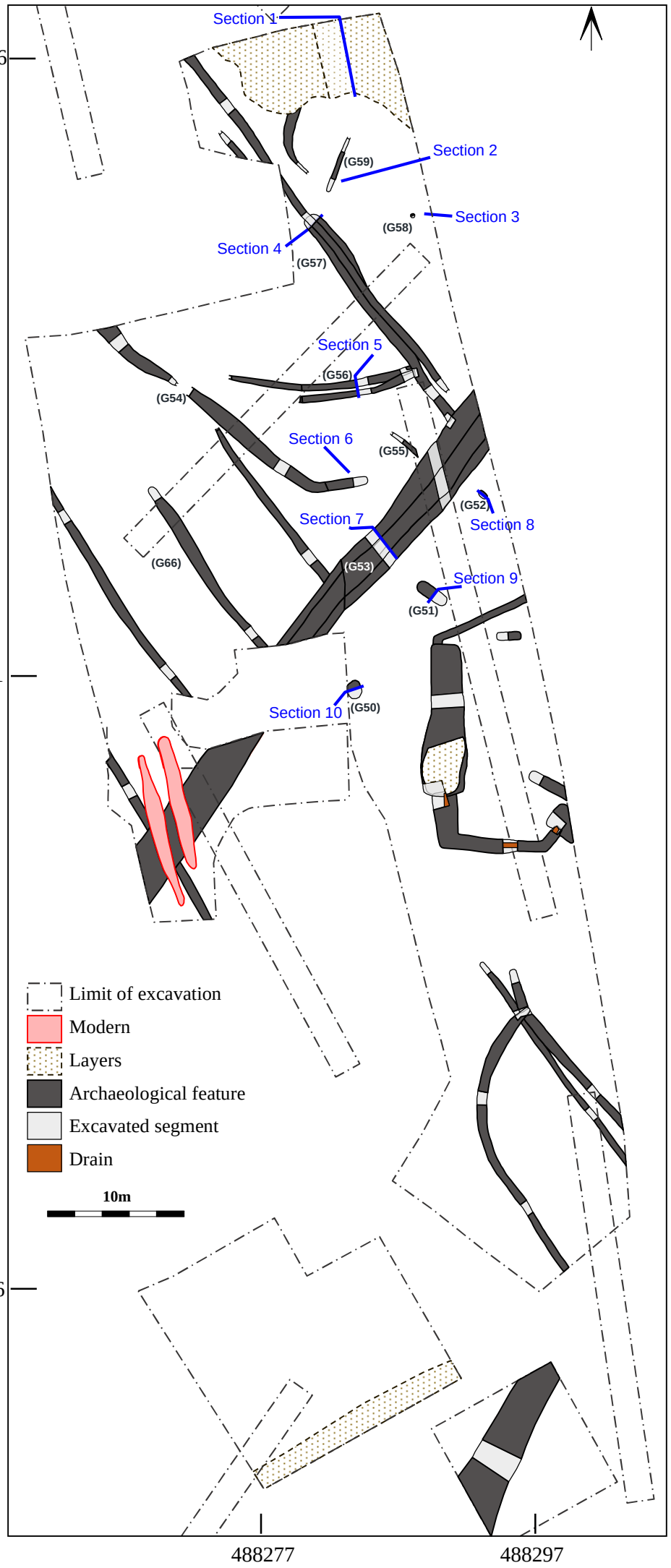
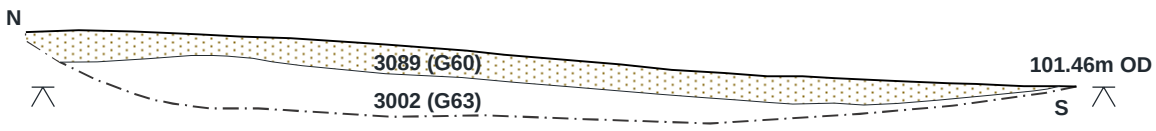
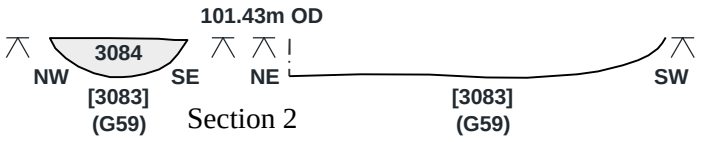


Figure 11: Phase 3 (modern 19th century to present) Land-use Areas and Groups—Areas A, B and D (upper archaeological horizon)





Section 1



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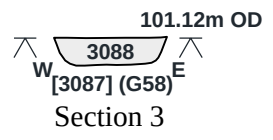

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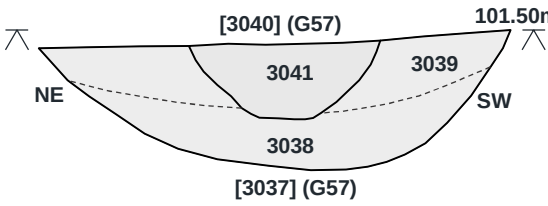

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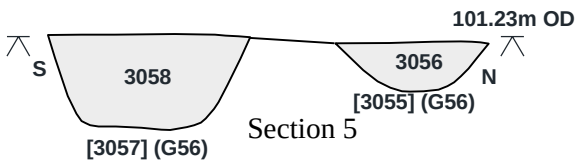
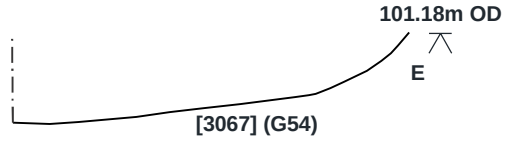
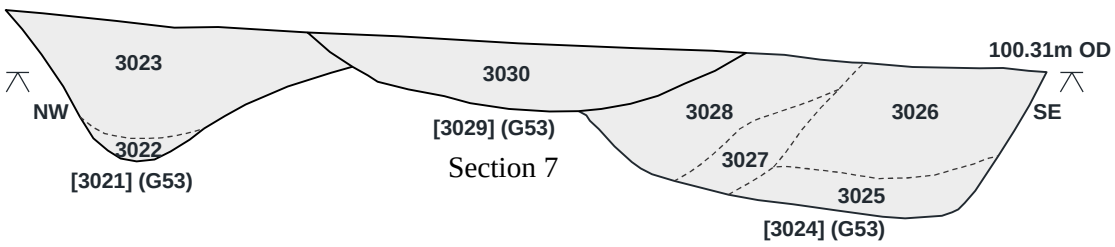


Section 5

Section 6





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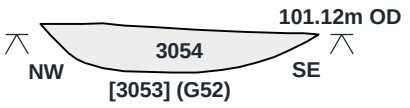

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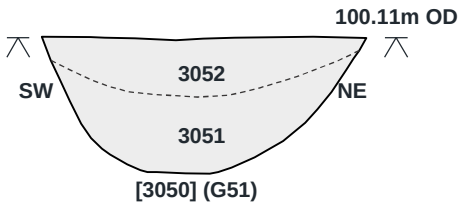

Section 9

Section 10

Figure 12: Selected section drawings from Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

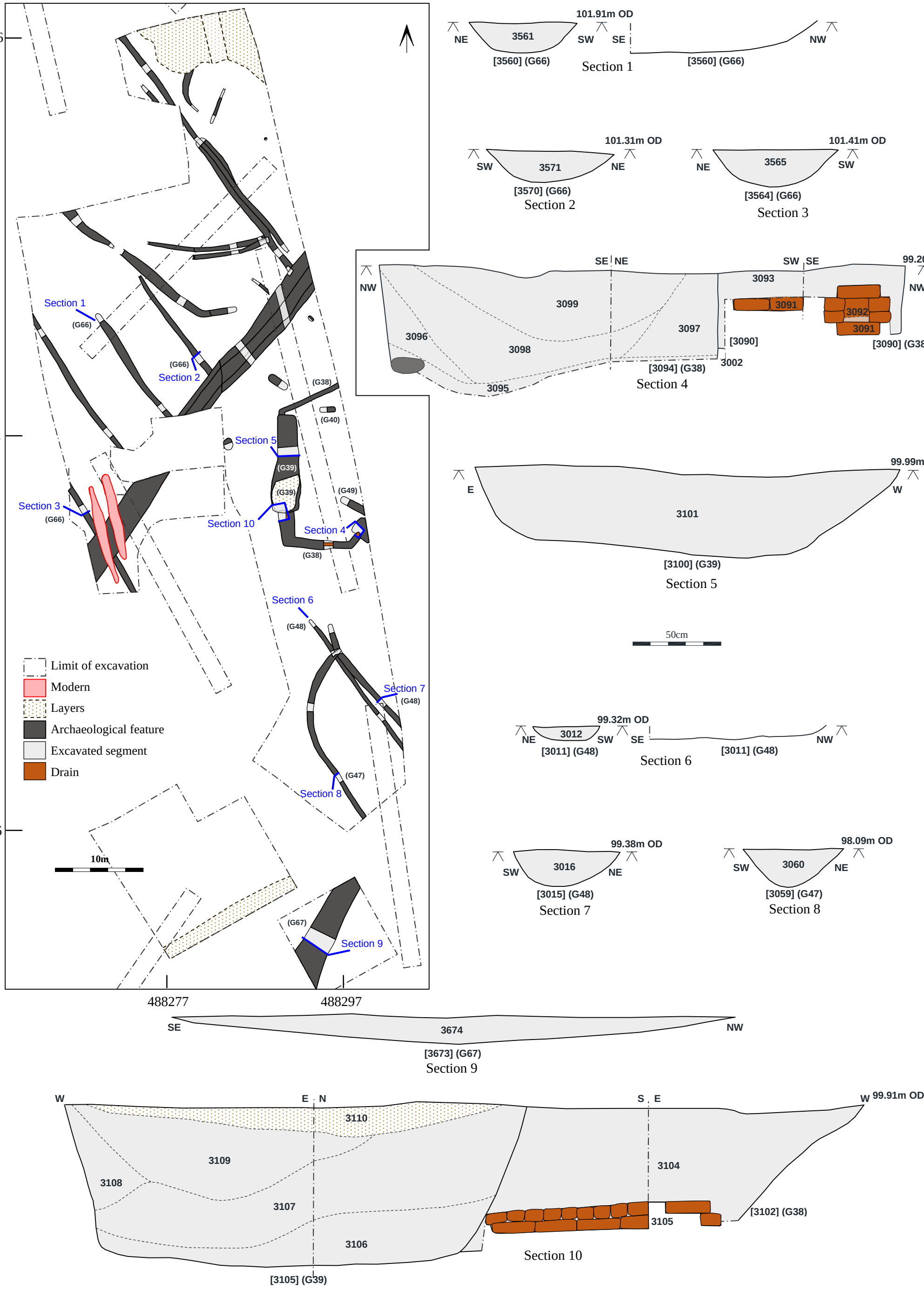

Figure 13: Selected section drawings from Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon)

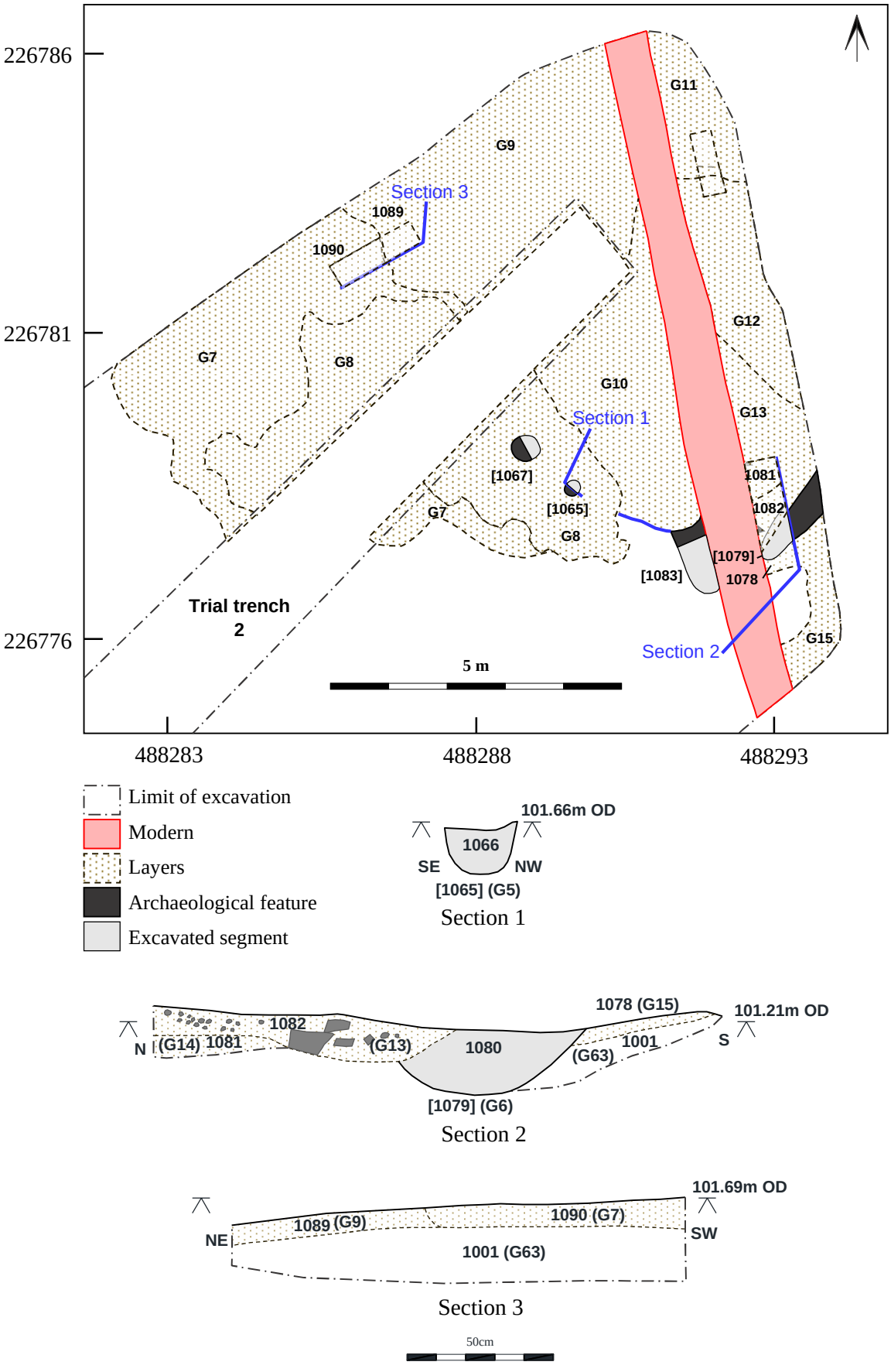

Figure 14: Selected section drawings from Area A (upper archaeological horizon)

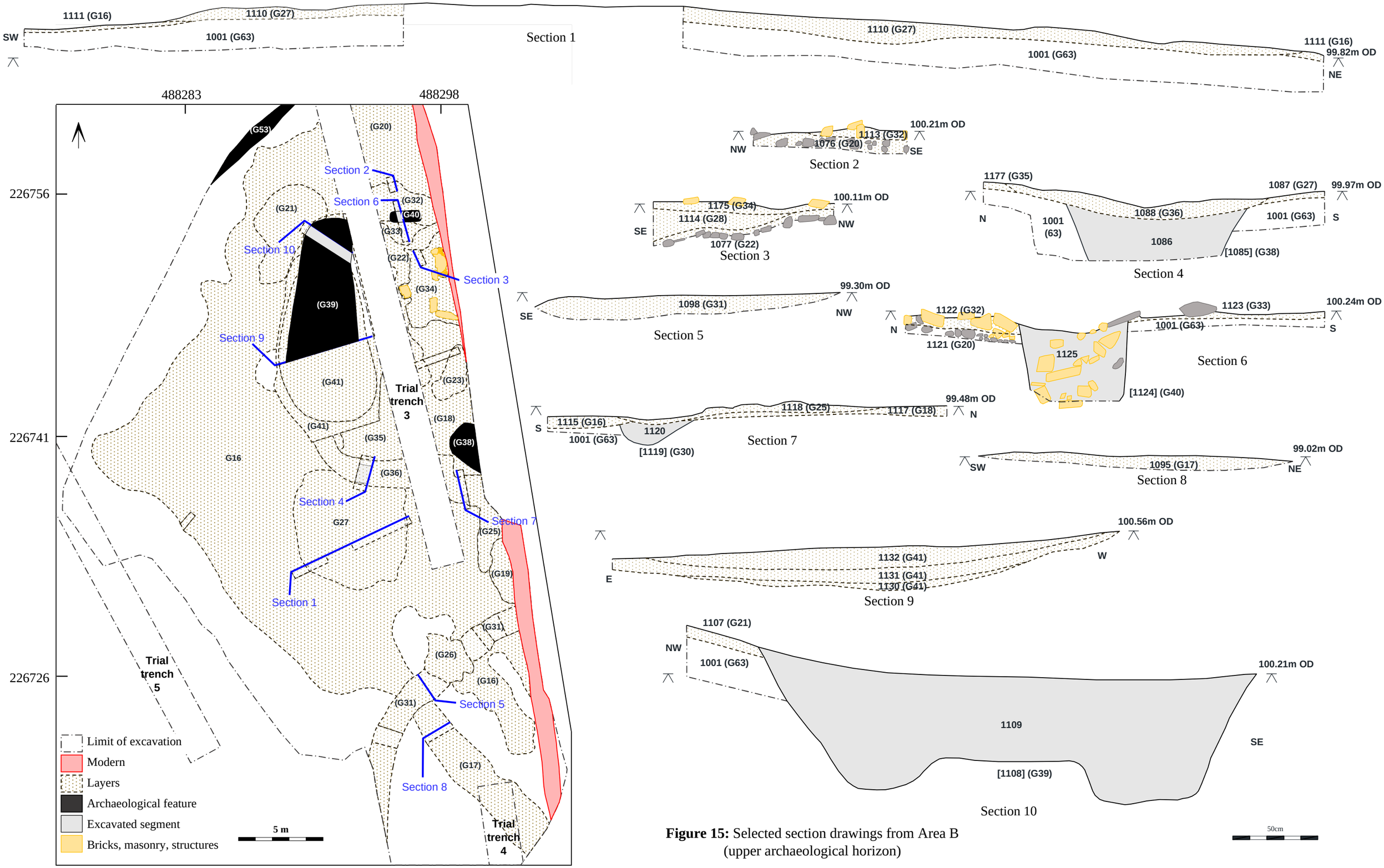

Figure 15: Selected section drawings from Area B (upper archaeological horizon)

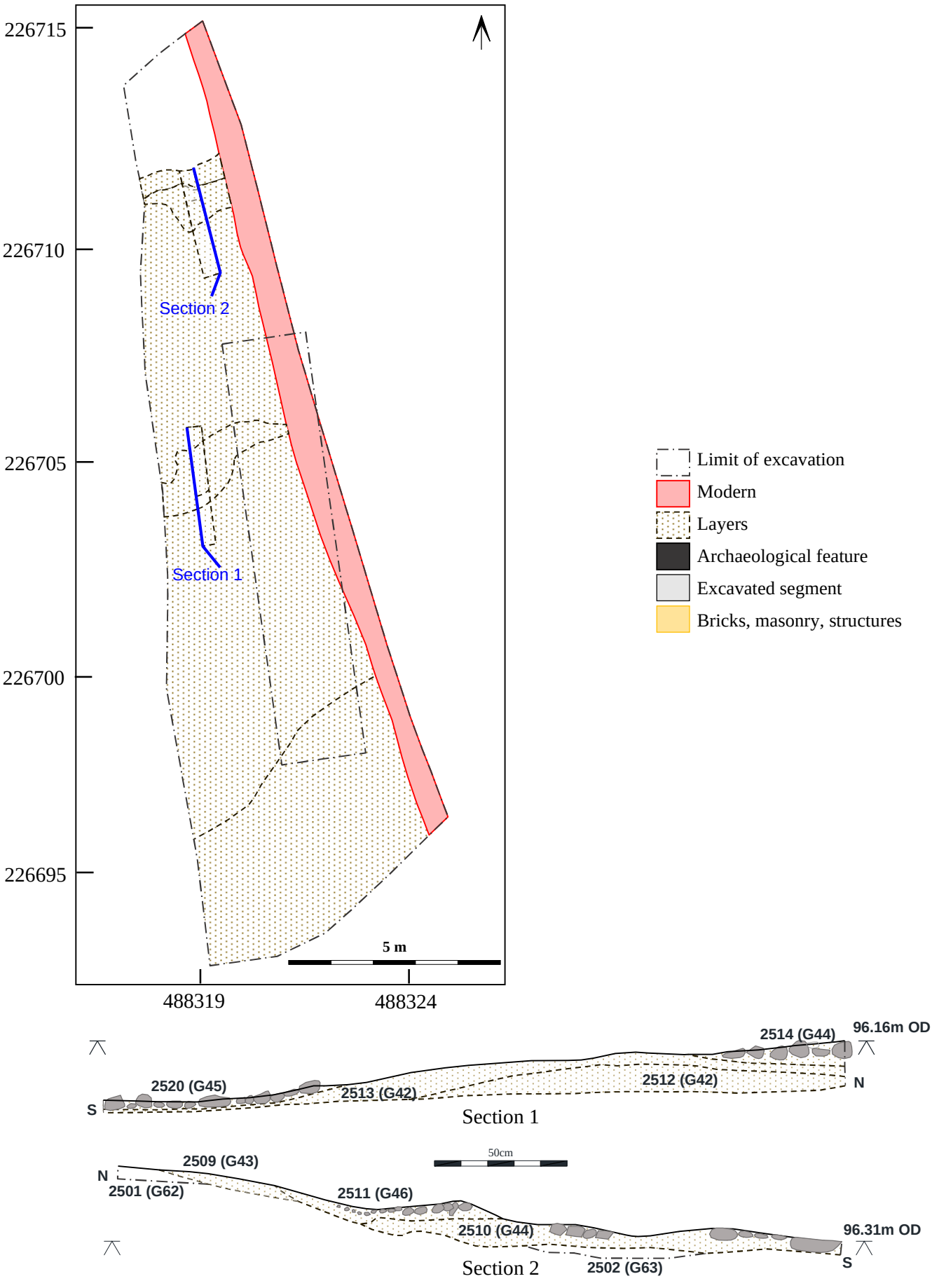

Figure 16: Selected section drawings from Area D (upper archaeological horizon)

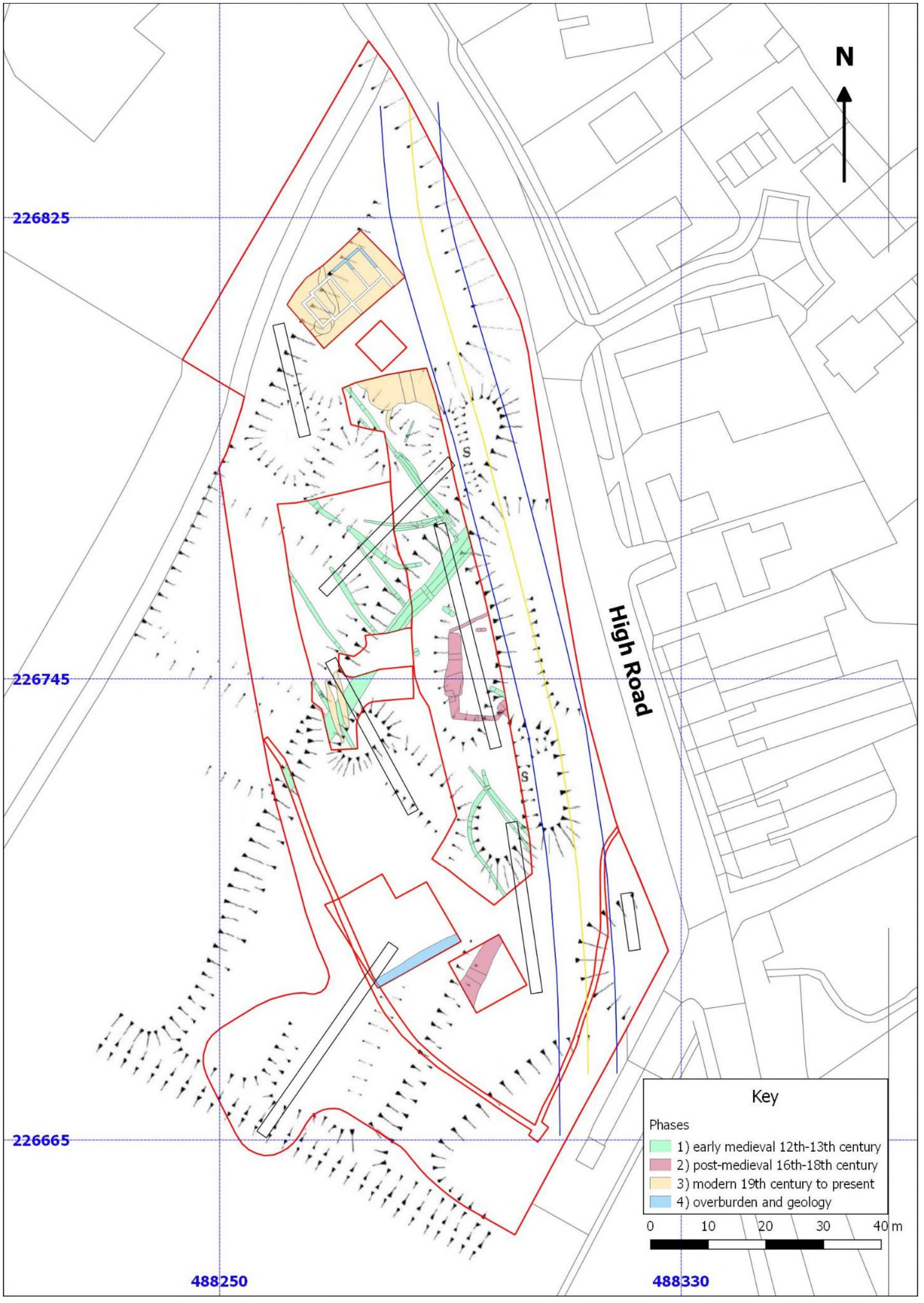

Figure 17: Phased all-features plan, Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon) overlain onto topographical survey

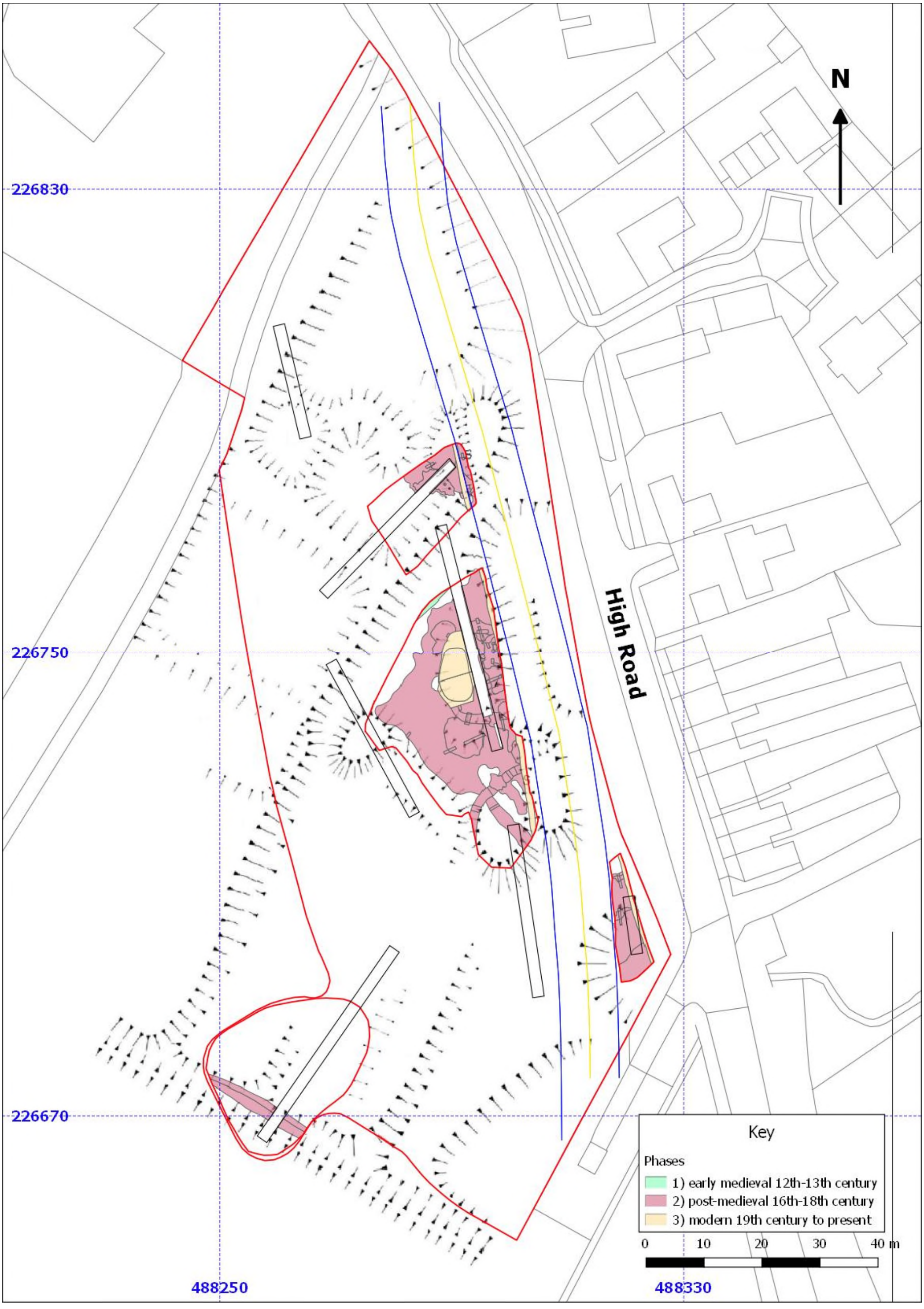

Figure 18: Phased all-features plan, Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon) overlain onto topographical survey

Figure 19: All-features plan, Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon) overlain onto aerial drone survey

Figure 20: Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon) overlain onto aerial drone survey

Figure 21: Phased all-features plan, Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon) overlain onto 1769 manorial plan, reproduced courtesy of Buckinghamshire Archives.

Figure 22: Phased all-features plan, Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon) overlain onto 1769 manorial plan, reproduced courtesy of Buckinghamshire Archives.

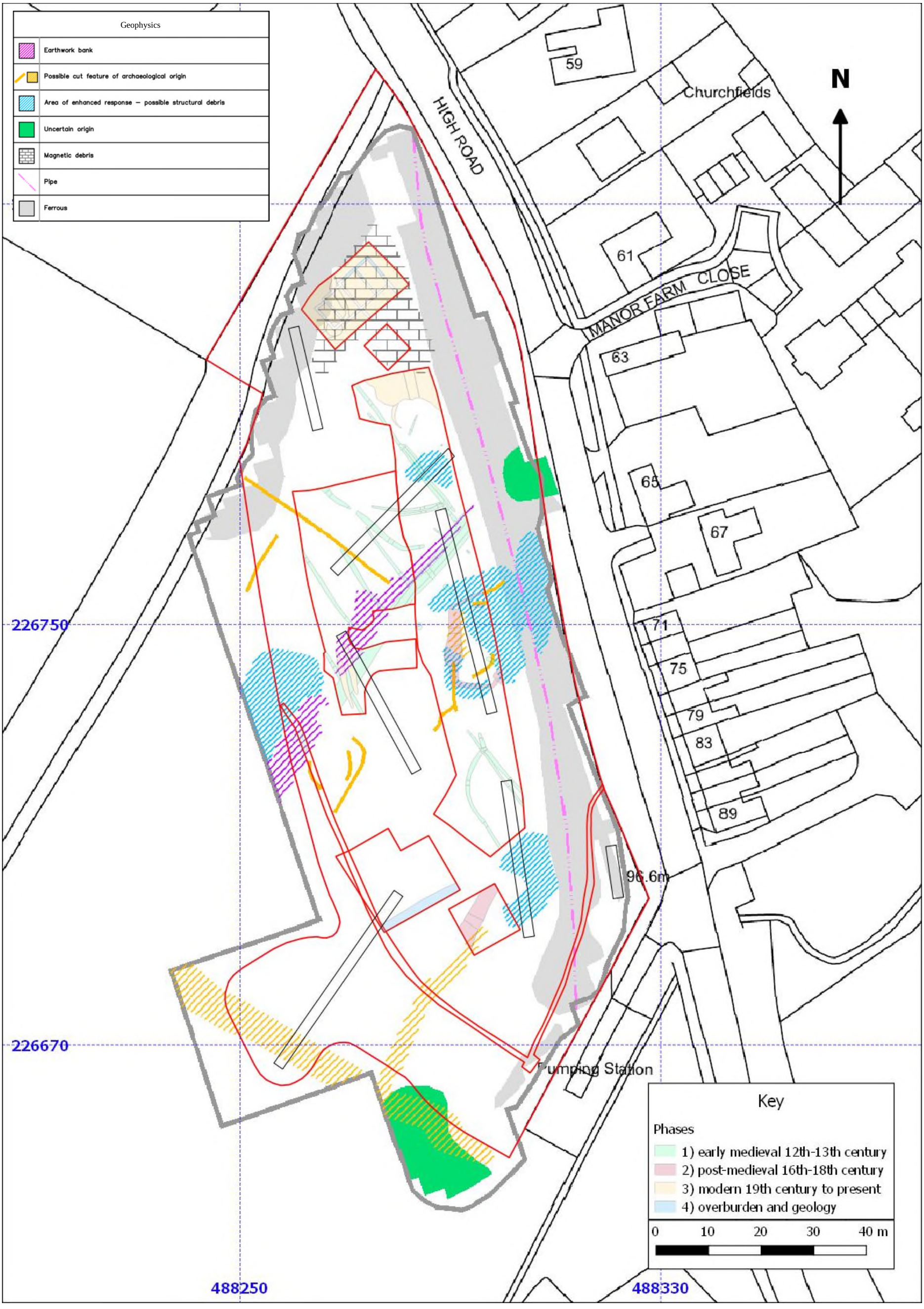

Figure 23: Phased all-features plan, Area Z and archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon) overlain onto combined interpretations of gradiometry and resistivity data (Stratascan 2016)

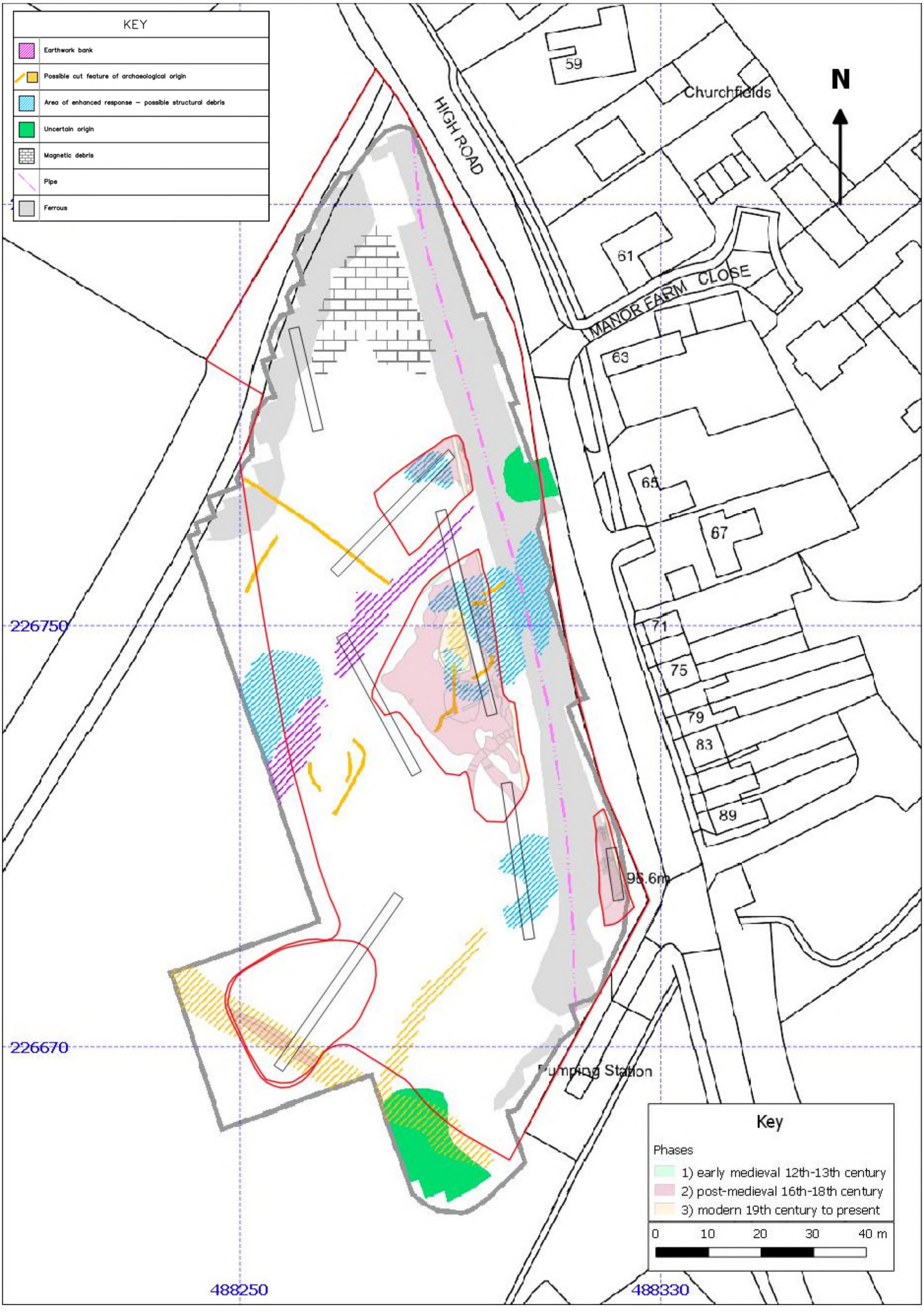

Figure 24: Phased all-features plan, Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon) overlain onto combined interpretations of gradiometry and resistivity data (Stratascan 2016)

Plate 1: Overview of Boot Field and Areas A–D (upper archaeological horizon), looking north

Plate 2: Overview of building platform L6 Area A (upper archaeological horizon), looking west

Plate 3: Area A (upper archaeological horizon) postholes G5 and exterior cobbled surface G8 forming part of structure L6, looking south-west (0.4m scale)

Plate 4: Overview of Area B (upper archaeological horizon), building remains with cobbled surfaces L7 and demolition deposits L8, looking north

Plate 5: Area B (upper archaeological horizon) semi-circular brick threshold with cobbling G29, looking west (0.4m scale)

Plate 6: Area B (upper archaeological horizon) rectangular brick hearth G29, looking south-west (0.4m scale)

Plate 7: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) robber cut G39, looking south (1m scale)

Plate 8: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) brick drain and soakaway G38, looking south-east (1m scale)

Plate 9: Overview of Area D (upper archaeological horizon), exterior cobbled surfaces L9 and demolition spread L10, looking east

Plate 10: Area D (upper archaeological horizon) section, from left to right, through robbed cobble surface G43, demolition spread G46 and cobble surface G44, looking east (1m scale)

Plate 11: Overview of Area Z (lower archaeological horizon), terrace ditch and field boundaries L2, building L7 and demolition activity L8, looking south-west

Plate 12: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) segment in terrace ditches G53, looking north-east (1m scale)

Plate 13: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) section of pit G50, looking north-west (1m scale)

Plate 14: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) segment through boundary ditch G57, looking north-west (0.4m scale)

Plate 15: Area Z (lower archaeological horizon) segment through deposit L3 (trample), looking north-east (1m scale)

Plate 16: Overview of archaeological monitoring (lower archaeological horizon) section through ditches G66, looking north

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