LAND AT BANBURY LANE
PINEHAM
NORTHAMPTON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

Albion archaeology

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Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Ben Barker and Mike Luke	Mike Luke	Drew Shotliff

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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete a summary as possible within the terms of the method statement. 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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The project was commissioned by Myk Flitcroft of CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands). It was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Liz Mordue, Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor.

This report has been prepared by Ben Barker (Project Officer), Mike Luke (Project Manager), Jackie Wells (Finds Officer) and John Giorgi (charred plant remains specialist). The fieldwork was undertaken by Marcin Koziminski (Project Supervisor), Ben Carroll, Cat Godsiffe, Claire Lockwood, Gary Manning and Jessica Stevens (Archaeological Technicians). The project was managed by Mike Luke of Albion Archaeology. Illustrations were prepared by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician).

Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church
St Mary's Street
Bedford, MK42 0AS
☎: 0300 300 8141
Fax: 0300 300 8209
E-mail: office@albion-arch.com
Website: www.albion-arch.com

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Key Terms

Throughout this report the following terms or abbreviations are used:

NCC	Northamptonshire County Council
AAA	Assistant Archaeological Advisor
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority
HER	Historic Environment Record

Non-Technical Summary

David Wilson Homes (South Midlands) has submitted an application for residential development of land at Banbury Lane, Northampton (application ref 10/0188/FULWNN). Previous non-intrusive evaluation work indicated that the site had considerable potential for the preservation of archaeological remains. As a result, further information on the site's potential was requested by Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor (AAA), who issued two briefs specifying a programme of trial trenching. The results of that work are presented in this report.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd, on behalf of David Wilson Homes (South Midlands), to undertake the trench evaluation. It comprised the investigation of eighteen trial trenches within the c. 7ha development area. The trench layout was designed to investigate geophysical anomalies and to test the apparently "blank" parts of the site.

The trenching located numerous furrows indicating the site was open fields during the medieval period. A number of post-medieval and modern boundaries and disturbance were also located. However, the most significant evidence comprised a Neolithic–early Bronze Age monument and late Bronze Age–Iron Age field systems.

The Neolithic–early Bronze Age monument was located in the northern part of the development area and comprised three concentric ditches with a diameter of c. *22m. The presence of Collared Urn sherds in one of the ditches suggests an early Bronze Age date and burial function. However, monuments of this type are known to have a long history and to have changed function over time.*

The central part of the development area contained evidence for a field system which extended over at least 2ha. It typically comprised fields defined by single boundary ditches, although, in a few places, parallel ditches c. 5m apart are suggestive of trackways or double boundaries. The main field system is on a comparable alignment to that found on Site 2 within the adjacent Swan Valley Business Park. The pre-Roman dating of the system within the development area is based on the absence of pottery of this period and a small number of early-middle Iron Age pottery sherds within the ditches. However, fields are notoriously difficult to date. Elsewhere in southern England comparable field systems are known to have originated in the middle/late Bronze Age. At Banbury Lane sufficient ditches were found on different alignments to suggest that there may have been at least two phases of field system. A few small pits and postholes were identified which may be contemporary but these did not produce any domestic debris so are assumed to result from short-term, non-settlement activity within the fields. The same may apply to the possible oven within Trench 8.

The archaeological remains within the development area fit into the wider landscape of dispersed Neolithic–early Bronze Age monuments in the vicinity of the River Nene. The field systems are situated within a dense Iron Age landscape, featuring small enclosed settlements (two found c. 400m apart within the adjacent Swan Valley Business Park), seemingly unoccupied, possible livestock, enclosures and the Hunsbury Hillfort. The possibility that this landscape has origins in the late Bronze Age cannot be ruled out, especially as some hillforts originate in this period.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

David Wilson Homes (South Midlands) have submitted an application for residential development of land at Banbury Lane, Northampton (application ref 10/0188/FULWNN). The application was submitted with an archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs 2010). Geophysical survey has also been carried out at the site and the results (NA 2010) supplied to support determination of the application.

In response to consultation by the planning authority, Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor (AAA) noted that the application area was potentially archaeologically sensitive and that the application did not provide sufficient information to assess the archaeological impact of the proposed development. It was recommended that further information, derived from a programme of field evaluation, be provided on the archaeological potential of the site.

This document represents a report on the archaeological evaluation by trial trenching undertaken in response to briefs issued by the AAA (NCC 2010a and NCC 2010b).

1.2 Site Location, Geology and Topography

The site is located to the south of Banbury Lane, west of the Grand Union Canal, north of Wootton Brook and west of the A43 dual carriageway.

Topographically the site is relatively flat, at around 65m OD, but slopes gently down towards the canal to west and Wootton Brook to the south. The ground gradually rises towards Hunsbury Hill, approximately 1km to the east. The site comprises agricultural land adjacent to the flood plain of the Wootton Brook (a tributary to the River Nene).

The underlying geology of the site comprises Middle Lias Silts & Clay (Dryham Siltstone Formation) and Marlstone Rock Bed.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 Archaeological Context

The following summary of the site's archaeological context is based on the outline provided in the brief (NCC 2010a). The area has produced evidence for human activity from the Palaeolithic period onwards.

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint artefacts have been found at Shelfleys and Hunsbury Hill. Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments are also recorded, such as the Briar Hill causewayed enclosure (now built over) and the barrows at Pineham Barns and Upton.

Iron Age activity is represented by the scheduled hillfort at Hunsbury, as well as a series of settlements such as those investigated at Pineham Barns, Milton

Ham and Swan Valley Business Park (Holmes and Chapman 2005). Romano-British settlements and enclosures are known at Milton Ham and Swan Valley Business Park (Holmes and Chapman 2005).

There is much less evidence for activity in the area in the Saxon and medieval periods. Banbury Lane is on the line of an important medieval droveway; it has been suggested that it has pre-Roman origins (Holmes and Chapman 2005, 43). The area was enclosed in 1778 and in the 19th century new communication routes were built in the form of the canal to the west and the Blisworth and Northampton branch of the London & North Western Railway to the east, on the line of the modern A43.

1.3.2 Geophysical survey results

A geophysical survey of the site was carried out in November 2010 (NA 2010). A number of archaeological features were identified. A greyscale plot of the geophysical anomalies is shown on Figure 1 and an interpretive plot on Figure 2.

In summary the geophysical anomalies comprised:

- Three concentric ditches at the north end of the site which were thought to represent a prehistoric monument
- A series of ditches thought to represent fields or enclosures
- Series of parallel linear features interpreted as medieval furrows
- A single ditch, parallel to the furrows, and accordingly interpreted as being post-medieval in date

1.4 Research Aims and Objectives

The aims of the trial trenching were to:

- Establish the date, nature and extent of past activity within the development site
- Assess the artefactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits on the site
- Provide sufficient information to allow assessment of the impact of development on the significance of surviving archaeological remains
- Inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate the impact of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- Produce a site archive for future deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Northamptonshire HER.

1.5 Archiving

The finds and records generated during the project will be archived to the standards outlined in Appendix 3 of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*. Details of the project and its findings have been submitted to the OASIS database (reference albionar1- 91704) in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service.

The integrated project archive (including both artefacts/ecofacts and project documentation) will be prepared upon approval of this report. As the NCC

brief notes, there is currently no archaeological archive depository able to accept material from this part of the county, although the issue is being actively addressed and it is hoped that suitable facilities will be available within 3-5 years.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

The methodological approach to the project was detailed in the Project Proposal (Albion 2011) and was approved by the AAA. It was designed to conform to the requirements of *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010) and the accompanying Practice Guide (DCLG/EH 2010). The archaeological investigation was conducted in accordance with appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines including:

• IfA	*Code of Conduct*
	Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation
• Albion Archaeology	*Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork* (2nd edn, 2001)
• Archaeological Archive Forum	*Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2007)
• English Heritage	*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2009)

2.2 Implementation

The archaeological investigation and recording were undertaken between 12th and 21st January 2011. A total of eighteen trenches were opened: fifteen 30m-long trenches, two 15m-long double-width trenches and one L-shaped 30m-long trench. The trench layout (Figure 1) was designed to investigate the geophysical anomalies and to test the apparently "blank" parts of the site.

The trenches were opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged, 2.1m-wide ditching bucket, operated by an experienced driver, under close archaeological supervision. The overburden was removed down to the top of undisturbed geological or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts. All deposits were recorded in a unique number sequence, using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn and photographed as appropriate.

2.3 Monitoring

The AAA and Archaeological Consultant visited the investigations on Friday 14th January and Wednesday 19th January. The meetings monitored progress against the specification of the project proposal and agreed an environmental sampling strategy.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

All archaeological features located in the trenches are shown on Figure 2 and detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in Appendix 1. The following section summarises the results, focussing on an early prehistoric ring ditch monument and a pre-Roman field system. A series of medieval furrows, post-medieval ditches and modern activity are also briefly described. Note: numbers in brackets are used as follows [***] = feature number, (***) = fill number.

3.2 Early Bronze Age Activity (Figure 3)

3.2.1 Early Bronze Age ring ditch monument

Three ditches corresponding to the concentric, curvilinear, geophysical anomalies (NA 2010) were identified in Trench 2, which was extended *c.* 5m eastwards in order to expose the full extent of the inner ditch [209].

The outer ditch [204] was partially truncated on its western site by a later ditch [212] which contained a modern ceramic land drain. Ditch [204] was *c.* 1.6m wide and less than 0.4m deep (Figure 3, Section 3). At *c.* 1m wide and only 0.1m deep (Figure 3, Section 4) the intermediate ditch [206] was the shallowest of the three, as suggested by the weakness of the geophysical anomaly. The inner ditch [209] was similar in size to the outer ditch. It was *c.* 1.5m wide and 0.4m deep; it had been truncated by a ceramic land drain on its eastern side (Figure 3, Section 5).

There was no firm evidence to suggest that any of the ditches had been re-dug. The possible double-ditch base in outer ditch [204] was the only possible indication of re-digging (Figure 3, Section 3). The distribution of larger stones within both fills of outer ditch [204] tentatively suggests the presence of a bank on the inside. However, the concentration of stones on the western side of both fills of inner ditch [209] would suggest an external bank to this phase of the monument.

Of the three ditches only the intermediate ditch [206] produced finds — 14 sherds from a Collared Urn (60g), indicating that this ditch was open in the early Bronze Age. Ecofact samples 1, 2 and 3 were taken and processed from each ditch fill but they were sterile of ecofacts and artefacts.

3.2.2 Activity in the vicinity of the ring ditch monument

No internal or external features were located in the vicinity of the monument within Trenches 2 or 3, even though both were "double-width" to maximise the chances of identifying small features such as postholes and cremation burials.

A small number of features were located in Trench 1, *c.* 50m south-west of the monument. They produced no dating evidence so it is uncertain if they are contemporary with the monument. Possible ditches [106] and [110] (with its recut [112]) were *c.* 5m apart on similar west-east alignments. They had steep

sides, flat bases and were under 0.6m deep (Figure 3, Section 2). They do not correspond with any geophysical anomalies and are on a different alignment to the medieval furrows (see below). Their alignment is not dissimilar to that of some of the field ditches to the south (see below) and, given their spacing, they could represent a trackway associated with that field system.

Two small possible small pits [104] and [108] were located near the ditches. Both were under 0.6m in diameter, 0.55m deep and sterile of finds or ecofacts. Pit [104] was partly truncated by ditch [106] (Figure 3, Section 1), suggesting that there were at least two episodes of activity in this area.

3.3 The Pre-Roman Field System (Figure 4)

The series of linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey were investigated. Within Trenches 5, 8, 9, 10 12 and 14 they proved to be ditches; a number of other ditches not on the geophysical survey were also identified. Some of the ditches were clearly part of a single system which extended over at least 2ha. A small number of ditches were located on different alignments to the main system and may represent a different chronological period. A small number of isolated features, e.g. small pits, postholes and a possible oven were identified. The small quantity of recovered finds and ecofacts suggests that this evidence represents a field system, located some distance from a major settlement focus, although it did contain localised areas of activity.

3.3.1 Northern boundary ditch

A NW-SE aligned ditch was identified in Trenches 5, 8 and probably 10, extending for *c.* 150m. It appears to represent a major element in the field system. No definitely associated ditches were found to the north of it, although at least two ditches joined it from the south. The ditch was quite substantial in the west [504] (*c.* 2m wide and 0.55m deep) but got progressively smaller to the east, e.g. [806] (*c.* 1m wide and 0.35m deep) and [1012] (*c.* 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep) (Figure 5, Sections 6–8). It is possible that the ditch to the west, on the lower ground, was dug deeper. However, given the depths of other features to the east, it is also possible that the variations in the dimensions of this ditch reflect plough truncation. The fills of the northern boundary ditch were sterile, except for ditch [1012] which produced a single sherd of early-middle Iron Age pottery.

3.3.2 SW-NE aligned ditches

The geophysical survey suggested that two perpendicular ditches joined the northern boundary ditch from the south; these ditches were identified in Trench 9 and Trenches 10 and 12. Ditch [904] was *c.* 2.2m wide and 0.7m deep (Figure 6, Section 10). Ditch [1006] / [1204] and an additional, apparently parallel, ditch [1004], *c.* 5m to the east in Trench 10, were all under 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep with similar profiles (Figure 6, Sections 11, 12 and 14). The two parallel ditches in Trench 10 are suggestive of a trackway, although a continuation of ditch [1004] was not located in Trench 12 to the south.

The fills of these ditches were fairly sterile except for tiny quantities of charcoal flecks in ditch [1006] (ecofact sample 5) and two sherds of early-middle Iron Age pottery in ditch [1004]. Ecofact sample 10 from ditch [904] contained a single spelt wheat glume base and small quantities of wood charcoal. It may be significant that ditch [1004] and the northern boundary ditch [1012], both of which produced pottery, were only *c.* 10m apart.

3.3.3 Southern boundary ditch

Evidence for a possible southern boundary to the field system was located in Trench 14. The geophysical survey suggested that the boundary located in Trenches 10 and 12 curved to the south-west where it appeared to coincide with ditch [1408]. The latter was *c.* 1m wide and under 0.45m deep with an atypical, slightly V-shaped profile (Figure 6, Section 16). It produced one sherd of early-middle Iron Age pottery but was otherwise sterile in nature.

Two other small ditches were located in Trench 14, adjacent to ditch [1408]. Because they were on different alignments and because one was truncated by ditch [1408] they are discussed below.

3.3.4 Other ditches

The ditches described in this section are all on different alignments to those of the main system and, given that some were truncated by ditches of the main system, it is possible they represent evidence for an earlier field system. However, their extent is uncertain because they were not located by the geophysical survey and their dating is uncertain because they did not produce any artefacts. The ditches are summarised by trench:

- Trench 5: parallel NE-SW ditches [511] and [513] appear to be perpendicular to ditch [517], suggesting they were part of the same system. They were under 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep but had clear edges against the natural. Ditch [517] was truncated by east-west ditch [515] which was 2m wide (Figure 6, Section 9). Their fills were sterile and ecofact sample 4 from ditch [515] contained a single wheat/barley grain and tiny quantities of wood charcoal.
- Trench 11: NE-SW ditches [1106] and [1110] were *c*. 5m apart and therefore could be associated with a trackway. They were under *c*. 1m wide and 0.4m deep with sterile fills (Figure 6, Section 13). The alignment of these ditches suggests that they could be associated with those in Trenches 5 and 14.
- Trench 14: NE-SW ditch [1406] appears to be on a similar alignment to ditches [511/513]. However, as they were only exposed in single trenches, *c*. 110m apart, it can only be tentatively suggested that they are part of the same field system. However, it is interesting that ditch [1406] was truncated by ditch [1408] (Figure 6, Section 16), which is part of the main field system. Ecofact sample 8 from [1406] contained tiny quantities of wood charcoal.

  Gullies [1404] and [1410] appeared to be on different alignments but were similar in profile and dimensions (Figure 6, Section 15 and 17). Gulley [1404] was definitely curving and could, therefore, have been

the continuation of gully [1410]. However, if these gullies were part of a circular feature, its projected *c*. 5m diameter would be very small for a roundhouse. Ecofact sample 9 from gully [1410] contained traces of crop-processing debris, including a few hulled wheat glume bases, barley rachis fragments and a single weed seed. It also contained small quantities of wood charcoal.

3.3.5 Evidence for activity within the fields

A small number of isolated features, e.g. pits, postholes and a possible oven were identified within the fields.

A banjo-shaped, possible oven [804] was located *c.* 15m to the south of the northern major boundary. The pit/oven area was *c.* 1.4m in diameter; the linear/flue-type element was *c.* 0.4m wide to the south. Both parts of the oven were under 0.2m deep (Figure 7, Section 20). As well as its shape, the presence of a thin band of burnt clay along with tiny quantities of charcoal flecks has led to this feature's identification as a possible oven. Ecofactual sample 7 contained moderate quantities of wood charcoal but no charred plant remains.

The only other isolated features occurred within Trenches 10 and 11. They comprised a small pit [1014] and a posthole [1010] (Figure 7, Section 18), both with sterile fills. However, a small quantity of early-middle Iron Age pottery was found in the ditches of the main field system within this trench, tending to support the idea that this area was the site of short-term, domestic activity. To the east, pit [1104] was larger with steep sides and a flat base (Figure 7, Section 19); it was also sterile.

3.4 Medieval Open Fields (Figure 2)

Traces of medieval furrows were identified in the geophysical survey and in several trenches. They were all on NNW-SSE alignments and were best defined to the south. Here, within Trench 17, they were *c*. 0.8m wide, less than 0.1m deep and 4.8m apart. The majority of the furrows had been truncated by land drains, which is likely to have been a deliberate attempt to improve drainage after they fell into disuse.

3.5 Post-medieval Fields

The NNW-SSE aligned ditch [1016] / [1804] coincided with a linear geophysical anomaly. It is likely to be the same feature as ditch [212], which truncated the outer ditch of the early prehistoric monument at the north end of the site. This ditch corresponds with the boundary shown on the first edition, 6-inch OS map (Flitcroft 2010).

Similar ditches [1307] / [1604] and [1304], on the same alignment, were identified *c.* 20m and *c*. 40m to the east. Ecofact sample 6 was taken from ditch [1304]; it contained tiny quantities of unidentifiable charred wood. Although these ditches were on a similar alignment to the medieval furrows, they were noticeably deeper (up to 0.5m). They are interpreted as post-enclosure field boundaries, which followed the line of earlier furrows.

3.6 Modern Activity

The large areas of apparently modern debris, identified by the geophysical survey, were investigated in Trench 18. An area of disturbed ground [1806], containing modern brick and tile, corresponded to the geophysical anomaly.

3.7 Artefacts

3.7.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a small finds assemblage comprising mainly pottery. Negligible quantities of fuel ash slag, charcoal and burnt stone were also recovered (Table 1). No artefacts were recovered from Trenches 1, 3, 4-7, 9, 11-13, and 15-18.

Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Spot date*	Finds Summary
2	206	Monument ditch	207	Early Bronze Age	Pottery (55g)
8	804	Pit	805	Undated	Fuel ash slag (<1g); burnt stone (2g)
10	1004	Ditch	1005	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (11g)
	1012	Ditch	1013	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (4g)
14	1404	Ditch	1405	Undated	Charcoal (1g)
	1408	Ditch	1409	Early-middle Iron Age	Pottery (6g)
18	1806	Disturbed ground	1806	Modern	Brick and tile

* - spot date based on date of latest artefact in context

Table 1: *Artefact summary by trench and feature*

3.7.2 Pottery

Eighteen pottery sherds, weighing 76g, were recovered. They were examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The pottery survives in poor condition, with much surface abrasion; its fragmentary nature is reflected in a low average sherd weight of only 4g. In the absence of a standardised prehistoric type series for Northamptonshire, three fabric types were identified using common names and type codes in accordance with the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series, currently maintained by Albion Archaeology (Table 2).

Fabric Type	Common name	Sherd No.	Context:Sherd No.
Early Bronze Age			
X10	Collared Urn	**14**	(207):14
Early-middle Iron Age			
F03	Grog and sand	**3**	(1005):2; (1013):1
F17	Grog	**1**	(1409):1

Table 2: *Pottery type series*

The fill of the middle ditch [206] of the early prehistoric monument yielded 14 sherds (55g) in a coarse, shell-tempered fabric, deriving from a Collared Urn. The most diagnostic sherd is a collar fragment, with cord impressed herringbone decoration, characteristic of the vessel type. Collared Urns are generally used as containers for cremation burials in the early Bronze Age, although rarer examples from domestic contexts also occur. Radiocarbon dates for Collared Urns indicate a wide date range for this vessel type, which, when recalibrated, runs from *c.* 2200 to 1500 BC (Longworth 1984, 140; Allen 2009, 115).

Four abraded grog/sand-tempered body sherds (total weight 21g) of probable early-middle Iron Age date were recovered from the fills of ditches [1004], [1012], and [1408]. All are highly abraded and have no diagnostic features. The sherds from [1004] derive from a single vessel and have a thick internal black residue, indicative of use.

3.7.3 Other finds

Sieved ecofact sample residues taken from the fill of possible oven [804] contained small quantities of fuel ash slag (1g) and burnt stone (2g).

3.8 Ecofacts

No animal bone was recovered from the hand excavation. Ten bulk soil samples were collected for the potential recovery of environmental evidence (Table 3). The samples were taken where charred material was visible and as controls. Virtually all the samples were from ditch fills, with the exception of one sample from the fill of possible oven [804].

Sample no.	Context no.	Feature	Reason for sampling	Quantity sampled (ltrs)
1	210	Inner monument ditch [209]	Control	30
2	207	Intermediate monument ditch [206]	Control	30
3	205	Outer monument ditch [204]	Control	30
4	516	Field ditch [515]	Control	20
5	1007	Field ditch [1006]	CPR	20
6	1305	Boundary ditch [1304]	Control	20
7	805	Possible oven [804]	CPR	20
8	1407	Field ditch [1406]	Control	20
9	1405	Field ditch [1404]	Control	20
10	905	Field ditch [904]	Control	20

Note. CPR= charred wood or plant remains visible, control= no visible environmental potential

Table 3: *Ecofact samples*

All samples were processed by a combination of flotation onto a 0.3mm sieve and wet-sieving of the residue through a 1mm mesh. Both the flots and residues were dried and the latter sorted for biological remains and artefacts. The flots were examined using a binocular microscope with a magnification of up to x40.

All the samples only produced very small flots, ranging in size from less than 1ml to 10ml and consisting predominantly of rootlets together with other intrusive remains in some samples, with occasional molluscs (including the burrowing species *Cecelioides acicula*), insect fragments and uncharred seeds (*Urtica dioica, Chenopodium* sp., *Sambucus* sp., *Polygonum aviculare, Raphanus raphanistrum*). Three of the samples produced small amounts of identifiable but generally poorly preserved charred plant remains (Table 4). No identifiable remains were present in the flots from the early Bronze Age monument.

Sample 9 from curving ditch [1404] produced traces of crop-processing debris with a few hulled *Triticum* (wheat) glume bases including *Triticum spelta* (spelt wheat) and a *Hordeum* (barley) rachis fragment and one charred weed seed of *Tripleurospermum inodurum* (scentless mayweed), a common arable weed found in all kinds of soils but with a preference for sandy soils; there

were also a few indeterminate charred cereal fragments. Ditch [515] (sample 4) and [904] (sample 10) contained a wheat/barley grain and a spelt wheat glume base respectively. All the samples contained tiny amounts of generally very fragmented charcoal although with occasional identifiable fragments in ditch fill samples 5, 6, 9 and 10 and with a larger amount in sample 7, taken from the fill of a possible oven [804].

The few charred plant remains from the samples are indicative of debris mainly from the final stages of crop-cleaning/food preparation, including the de-husking of hulled spelt wheat, although the paucity of material suggests that these activities may have been taking place at some distance from the sampled features. The few charred plant remains may have been incidentally deposited into the fills along with the other small amounts of debris recovered from the samples.

The limited evidence however, corresponds with previous archaeobotanical research from this period which shows that spelt wheat and barley were the main cereals cultivated during the late Bronze Age and Iron Age in southern Britain (Greig 1991, 302, 306). The potentially identifiable charcoal fragments may provide information on the range of species used for fuel selection (domestic, economic and other uses) including possibly the oven, and also evidence on the character of local woodland. However, there is the possibility that the material may be intrusive, particularly in those ditch fill samples containing only occasional charcoal fragments and other intrusive remains.

The paucity and very low density of charred botanical material in these samples does not allow any detailed examination of human activities at the site, which may, in any event, have been taking place at some distance from the sampled features.

	Sample number	**9**	**4**	**10**
	Context number	**1405**	**516**	**905**
	Vol sample (l)	**10**	**10**	**10**
	Vol flot (ml)	**3**	**2**	**6**
Cereal grains				
Triticum/Hordeum sp.	wheat/barley		1	
Cerealia	indet. cereal			
Cerealia	indet cereal fragments <2mm	+		
Cereal chaff				
Triticum spelta L.	spelt wheat glume base	2		1
Triticum sp.	wheat glume base	1		
Hordeum sp.	barley rachis fragment	1		
Other plant/weed seeds				
Tripleurospermum inodorum	scentless mayweed	1		
indeterminate	wood charcoal	++	+	++
Total		**5**	**1**	**1**

Key: + = 1=10 items; ++ = 11-50 items

Table 4: *Summary of charred plant remains from ecofact samples*

4. DISCUSSION

The two major discoveries stemming from the evaluation are the Neolithic–early Bronze Age monument and the pre-Roman field system. These are discussed in more detail below.

4.1 Neolithic–early Bronze Age Monument

The three concentric ditches at the north end of the development area represent a prehistoric monument, *c.* 22m in diameter. No mound material was present and no sequence between the three ditches could be identified. Such monuments are typically associated with burial and/or ceremonial activities. The presence of sherds of Collared Urn from the intermediate ditch would support both an early Bronze Age date and the funerary interpretation, although this type of pottery is more often found in "flat" graves, e.g. Upton, Northampton (Foard-Colby 2008). The monument's diameter would also be consistent with other 'multiple ring ditch' monuments of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date (cf. Deegan and Foard 2007, 56-57) and the general trend towards smaller monuments (Chapman 2004, 42).

Henges are a different type of monument, often characterised by ditches which have been redug several times; they too are associated with ceremonial activities. The possibility that the monument originated as a hengi-form of Neolithic date cannot be ruled out. After all, the sherds of early Bronze Age Collared Urn were only found in one of the three ditches. However, it would be considerably smaller than the Cotton Henge in East Northamptonshire (Parry 2006, 204).

Bronze Age activity is known within *c.* 5km of the site and includes a number of barrows, e.g. Pineham Barns, Upton, which are similarly located on the valley floor. Of these sites, only Pineham Barns has been subject to any investigation.

4.2 Pre-Roman Field System

A field system extending over at least 2ha was identified within the central part of the development area. It typically comprised fields defined by single boundary ditches, although, in a few places, parallel ditches *c.* 5m apart are suggestive of trackways or double boundaries.

The main field system is aligned NW-SE, apparently to the south of an extensive ditched boundary. This alignment and arrangement is comparable to that found on Site 2 at the Swan Valley Business Park (Holmes and Chapman 2005, fig. 2). The dating of the system within the development area is based on a small number of early-middle Iron Age pottery sherds and absence of Roman pottery. Again, the dating appears to be consistent with that from the Swan Valley Business Park, although only the ditches near the settlements were apparently investigated.

Field systems of this type, apparently un-associated with settlements, are notoriously difficult to date without the presence of material suitable for scientific dating. It is, therefore, not impossible that some of the field

boundaries within the development area, perhaps those on a different alignment, were originally created in the middle–late Bronze Age. This period may be under represented in Northamptonshire, partly due to the absence of diagnostic pottery and flint. A possible middle Bronze Age field system was identified at Stanwick on the basis of radiocarbon dating (Kidd 2004, 51; Clay 2006, 82). Extensive field systems of this date are known in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and the Thames Valley (Yates 2007).

Possible foci of settlement and other activity are often identified within field systems, e.g. the middle Bronze Age evidence at Perry Oaks, Heathrow (Framework Archaeology 2006, 114-32). At Banbury Lane, a few small pits and postholes were identified but these did not produce any domestic debris or charred plant remains so are assumed to result from short-term, non-settlement activity within the fields. The same may apply to the possible oven. Although a curving gully is unlikely to have defined a roundhouse because it lacked domestic debris and was only *c.* 5m in diameter, it should be noted that some of the roundhouses at the Swan Valley Business Park were quite small, e.g. Roundhouse 3 (Holmes and Chapman 2005, fig. 5). The curving gully is, however, interesting because it produced traces of crop-processing debris, although in such small quantities that it is possible that the crop-cleaning/food preparation may have been taking place at some distance from the feature itself.

The field system within the development area is located within a dense Iron Age landscape, featuring small enclosed settlements (two found *c.* 400m apart within the adjacent Swan Valley Business Park), seemingly unoccupied, possible livestock, enclosures and the Hunsbury hillfort (CgMs 2010, 12-13).

5. REFERENCES

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6. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY

Trench: **1**

Max Dimensions: **Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.7 m. Max: 0.7 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72485: Northing: 58128)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72514: Northing: 58136)*

Reason: **To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
101	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey black clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small manganese staining, occasional small stones**	☑	☐
102	**Subsoil**	**Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
103	**Natural**	**Firm light grey clay occasional small stones**	☐	☐
104	**Small pit**	**Circular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.25m, min diameter 0.65m, min length 0.7m Cut by ditch [106]**	☑	☐
105	Sole fill	Friable light red brown silt	☑	☐
106	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.62m, min length 0.9m Cuts pit [104]**	☑	☐
107	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown silt	☑	☐
108	**Small pit**	**Sub-oval NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.27m, min length 0.65m**	☑	☐
109	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown silt	☑	☐
110	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.55m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.m**	☑	☐
111	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown silt	☑	☐
112	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.23m, min length 1.m**	☑	☐
113	Sole fill	Friable dark red brown silt	☑	☐

Trench: 2

Max Dimensions: **Length: 21.00 m. Width: 4.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.55 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72541: Northing: 58163)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72562: Northing: 58163)*

Reason: **To investigate geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
201	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey brown clay silt**	☑	☐
202	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid red brown clay silt**	☑	☐
203	**Natural**	**Firm light blue grey clay**	☐	☐
204	**Outer ditch of monu**	**Curving linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.47m, max depth 0.37m, min length 4.5m**	☑	☐
205	Primary fill	Firm mid yellow grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones 0.1m thick.	☑	☐
208	Secondary fill	Firm mid red brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones 0.28m thick.	☑	☐
206	**Middle ditch of monu**	**Curving linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.98m, max depth 0.11m, min length 4.5m**	☑	☐
207	Sole fill	Firm mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☑
209	**Inner ditch of monum**	**Curving linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.47m, max depth 0.41m, min length 4.5m**	☑	☐
210	Primary fill	Firm mid yellow grey silty clay frequent small-medium stones 0.20m thick.	☑	☐
211	Secondary fill	Firm mid red brown clay silt occasional medium stones 0.22m thick.	☑	☐
212	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.28m, max depth 0.54m, min length 1.m Ditch with a modern land drain pipe placed in it. Cuts outer ring ditch [204].**	☑	☐
213	Sole fill	Compact mid orange grey sandy clay moderate small-medium stones	☑	☐
218	**Furrow**	**Linear NW-SE base: flat dimensions: min breadth 2.65m, max depth 0.1m, min length 5.m**	☑	☐
219	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐

Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 15.00 m. Width: 5.00 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72579: Northing: 58177)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72586: Northing: 58164)*

Reason: To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies in vicinity of the triple ring ditch.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
301	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
302	Subsoil	Friable mid brown clay silt moderate small stones	☑	☐
303	Natural	Firm light blue grey clay occasional small stones	☐	☐

Trench: 4

Max Dimensions: **Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.6 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72559: Northing: 58082)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72588: Northing: 58090)*

Reason: **To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
401	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
402	Subsoil	Friable light brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
403	Natural	Firm light grey clay occasional small stones	☐	☐

Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.65 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72536: Northing: 58069)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72527: Northing: 58041)*

Reason: To investigate an area of geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
501	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
502	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid brown orange silty clay frequent small sand**	☑	☐
503	**Natural**	**Firm light grey blue sandy clay occasional medium-large stones**	☐	☐
504	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: irregular base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.03m, max depth 0.56m, min length 2.2m The same as [806] and [1012]/[1022].**	☑	☐
505	Primary fill	Compact light grey orange sandy clay occasional medium stones 0.26m thick.	☑	☐
506	Secondary fill	Compact mid brown orange sandy clay occasional medium stones	☑	☐
507	**Small pit**	**Sub-oval sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.2m, max length 0.97m**	☑	☐
508	Sole fill	Firm dark brown orange sandy clay frequent small stones, moderate medium stones	☑	☐
509	**Gully/ditch terminus**	**Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.72m, max depth 0.25m, min length 1.2m**	☑	☐
510	Terminal fill	Firm dark yellow orange sandy clay occasional medium sand	☑	☐
511	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.11m, max depth 0.3m, min length 2.6m**	☑	☐
512	Sole fill	Friable dark orange brown clay sand frequent medium stones, occasional small stones	☑	☐
513	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.57m, max depth 0.2m, min length 2.6m**	☑	☐
514	Sole fill	Friable dark orange brown clay sand occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐
515	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: 45 degrees dimensions: min breadth 0.52m, min depth 0.26m, min length 2.6m Truncates ditch [517].**	☑	☐
516	Sole fill	Firm dark orange brown sandy clay moderate flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones	☑	☐
517	**Ditch**	**Linear N-S sides: 45 degrees dimensions: min breadth 0.42m, min depth 0.17m, min length 0.49m Cut by ditch [515].**	☑	☐
518	Sole fill	Firm mid brown orange sandy clay frequent small-medium stones Truncated by ditch [515].	☑	☐

Trench: 6

Max Dimensions: **Length:** 30.00 m. **Width:** 2.20 m. **Depth to Archaeology Min:** 0.45 m. **Max:** 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72609: Northing: 58068)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72639: Northing: 58074)*

Reason: **To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
601	Topsoil	Friable mid grey black clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
602	Subsoil	Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
603	Natural	Firm light grey brown clay frequent small-medium stones	☐	☐

Trench: 7

Max Dimensions: **Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.7 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72524: Northing: 58035)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72553: Northing: 58028)*

Reason: **To investigate an area devoid of geophysical anomalies, but in vicinity of a possible enclosure system.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
701	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey black clay silt occasional small stones 0.5m thick**	☑	☐
702	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid brown clay silt occasional small stones 0.2m thick**	☑	☐
703	**Natural**	**Firm light grey clay occasional small stones**	☐	☐
706	**Ditch terminus**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.55m, max depth 0.2m, min length 0.7m**	☑	☐
707	Sole fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt	☑	☐

Trench: 8

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.38 m. Max: 0.48 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72587: Northing: 58047)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72577: Northing: 58017)*

Reason: To test an area of geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
801	**Topsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones**	☑	☐
802	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
803	**Natural**	**Firm light yellow brown clay moderate small stones, occasional medium stones**	☐	☐
804	**Possible oven**	**Irregular NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.22m, max depth 0.16m, min length 2.2m A possible oven comprising sub-circular 'pit' and linear 'gulley/flue'.**	☑	☐
805	Sole fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate medium fired clay, occasional small stones Contains a layer of burnt clay at the base of the pit, with a 'layer' of charcoal flecks overlying it.	☑	☑
806	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.93m, max depth 0.35m, min length 2.2m The same as [504] and [1012]/[1022].**	☑	☐
807	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 9

Max Dimensions: **Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.6 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72544: Northing: 58005)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72572: Northing: 57996)*

Reason: **To investigate an area in vicinity of geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
901	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey brown clay silt**	☑	☐
902	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown silty clay**	☑	☐
903	**Natural**	**Firm mid blue yellow clay**	☐	☐
904	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 2.25m, max depth 0.73m, min length 2.2m Possibly associated with [504] and [806], which run perpendicularly to it.**	☑	☐
905	Sole fill	Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional large stones	☑	☐
908	**Furrow**	**Linear N-S sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.9m, max depth 0.12m, min length 2.5m**	☑	☐
909	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 10

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.62 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72596: Northing: 58017)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72616: Northing: 58026)*

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1001	**Topsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones**	☑	☐
1002	**Subsoil**	**Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones**	☑	☐
1003	**Natural**	**Firm light brown white clay occasional small stones**	☐	☐
1004	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.01m, max depth 0.21m, min length 2.2m**	☑	☐
1005	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☑
1006	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.21m, max depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m The same as [1204] and [1408].**	☑	☐
1007	Sole fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐
1008	**Tree-throw**	**Irregular sides: irregular base: uneven dimensions: min breadth 0.82m, max depth 0.14m, max length 1.26m**	☑	☐
1009	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown clay sand occasional small stones	☑	☐
1010	**Post-hole**	**Oval sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.22m, max depth 0.21m, max length 0.19m**	☑	☐
1011	Sole fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1012	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max depth 0.21m, min length 2.2m The same as [504], [806] and [1022].**	☑	☐
1013	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☑
1014	**Small pit**	**Oval sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.65m, max depth 0.19m, min length 0.55m**	☑	☐
1015	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1016	**Ditch**	**Linear N-S dimensions: min breadth 0.45m, min length 3.3m**	☐	☐
1017	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt	☐	☐
1022	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max depth 0.21m, min length 2.2m The same as [1012], [504] and [806].**	☑	☐
1023	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones The same as(1013).	☑	☐

Trench: 11

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.47 m. Max: 0.77 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72652: Northing: 58023)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72642: Northing: 57994)*

Reason: To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies, although located in vicinity of an enclosure system.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1101	**Topsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones**	☑	☐
1102	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
1103	**Natural**	**Firm light brown white clay occasional small stones**	☐	☐
1104	**Pit**	**Oval sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.04m, max depth 0.54m, max length 2.83m**	☑	☐
1105	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1106	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.79m, max depth 0.12m, min length 2.5m**	☑	☐
1107	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1108	**Tree-throw**	**Irregular sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.22m, min length 0.7m**	☑	☐
1109	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown clay sand frequent medium stones	☑	☐
1110	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.08m, max depth 0.38m, min length 2.7m**	☑	☐
1111	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐

Trench: 12

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.4 m. Max: 0.5 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72585: Northing: 57984)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72613: Northing: 57979)*

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1201	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey brown clay silt**	☑	☐
1202	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown silty clay**	☑	☐
1203	**Natural**	**Firm light blue yellow clay**	☐	☐
1204	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.04m, max depth 0.26m, min length 2.2m The same as [1006] and [1408].**	☑	☐
1205	Sole fill	Friable mid red brown sandy clay occasional medium stones	☑	☐
1208	**Furrow**	**Linear NW-SE sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.11m, min length 2.5m**	☑	☐
1209	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 13

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.55 m. Max: 0.58 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72637: Northing: 57970)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72666: Northing: 57977)*

Reason: To investigate an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1301	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark red brown clay silt**	☑	☐
1302	**Subsoil**	**Firm light orange brown silty clay**	☑	☐
1303	**Natural**	**Firm light blue grey clay moderate flecks manganese staining**	☐	☐
1304	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.52m, max depth 0.36m, min length 2.2m**	☑	☐
1305	Primary Fill	Firm light red brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.28m thick.	☑	☐
1306	Secondary Fill	Firm dark red brown silty clay occasional small stones 0.29m thick.	☑	☐
1307	**Ditch**	**Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.3m, min length 2.2m The same as [1604].**	☑	☐
1308	Sole fill	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 14

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.65 m. Max: 0.7 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72578: Northing: 57966)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72573: Northing: 57937)*

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1401	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark grey brown clay silt**	☑	☐
1402	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown silty clay**	☑	☐
1403	**Natural**	**Firm mid blue yellow clay**	☐	☐
1404	**Gulley**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.56m, max depth 0.11m, min length 1.m**	☑	☐
1405	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt	☑	☑
1406	**Ditch**	**Linear NE-SW sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.33m, min length 1.m**	☑	☐
1407	Sole fill	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay	☑	☐
1408	**Ditch**	**Linear E-W sides: V-Shaped base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.44m, min length 1.m The same as [1006] and [1204].**	☑	☐
1409	Sole Fill	Friable mid yellow brown sandy clay	☑	☑
1410	**Gulley**	**Linear NW-SE sides: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, max depth 0.15m, min length 1.5m Gully terminus.**	☑	☐
1411	Sole fill	Compact light orange brown sandy clay occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: **15**

Max Dimensions: **Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.63 m. Max: 0.65 m.**

Co-ordinates: **OS Grid Ref.: SP** *(Easting: 72613: Northing: 57926)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72589: Northing: 57907)*

Reason: **To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1501	**Topsoil**	**Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
1502	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid orange brown silty clay**	☑	☐
1503	**Natural**	**Compact light orange grey sandy clay**	☐	☐
1504	**Land-drains**	**Linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.44m, max depth 0.21m, min length 1.m General number for all three land drains within the trench.**	☑	☐
1505	Sole/unexcavated fills	Friable mid orange brown sandy clay occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 16

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.59 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72656: Northing: 57945)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72663: Northing: 57916)*

Reason: To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1601	**Topsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones**	☑	☐
1602	**Subsoil**	**Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones**	☑	☐
1603	**Natural**	**Firm light yellow brown clay occasional small stones**	☐	☐
1604	**Ditch**	**Linear N-S sides: V-Shaped base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.04m, max depth 0.47m, min length 23.m The same as [1307] in TT13.**	☑	☐
1605	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones	☑	☐

Trench: 17

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.42 m. Max: 0.53 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72605: Northing: 57875)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72635: Northing: 57875)*

Reason: To test an area devoid of geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1701	Topsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐
1702	Subsoil	Friable mid red orange clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1703	Natural	Firm light yellow brown clay occasional small stones	☐	☐
1704	Furrow	Linear N-S sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.84m, max depth 0.08m, min length 2.2m	☑	☐
1705	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐

Trench: 18

Max Dimensions: Length: 30.00 m. Width: 2.20 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.45 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72654: Northing: 57864)*

OS Grid Ref.: SP *(Easting: 72680: Northing: 57878)*

Reason: To investigate geophysical anomalies.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1801	Topsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐
1802	Subsoil	Friable mid red brown clay silt occasional small stones	☑	☐
1803	Natural	Firm light yellow brown clay occasional small stones	☐	☐
1804	Ditch	Linear NW-SE sides: U-shaped base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.04m, max depth 0.26m, min length 2.2m	☑	☐
1805	Sole fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones	☑	☐
1806	Disturbed ground	Compact mid orange grey clay sand occasional small-medium burnt stones, moderate small-large CBM, moderate small-large stones Contained modern brick and tile. Minimum thickness 0.15m.	☑	☐

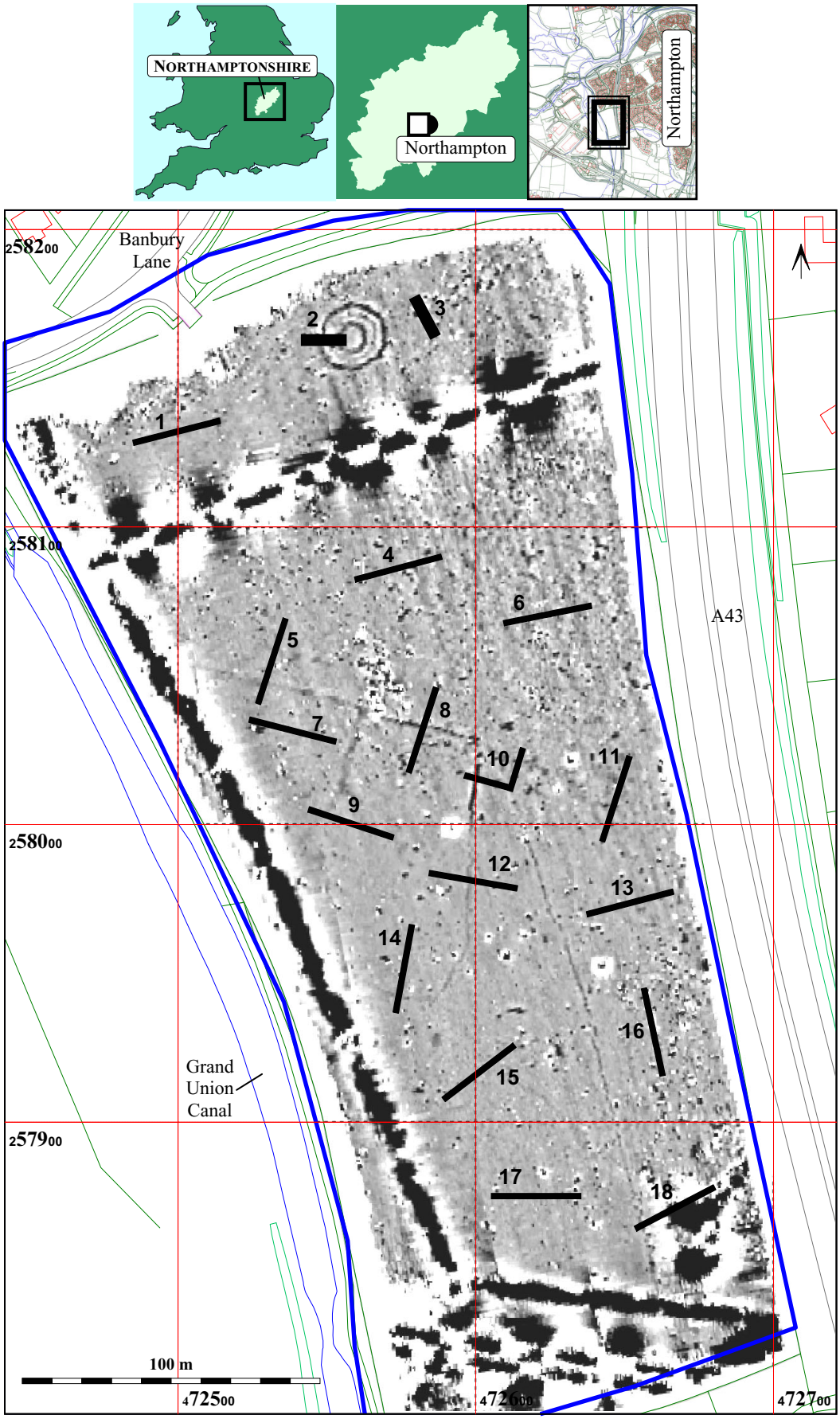


Figure 1: Site location and position of trenches over geophysical greyscale

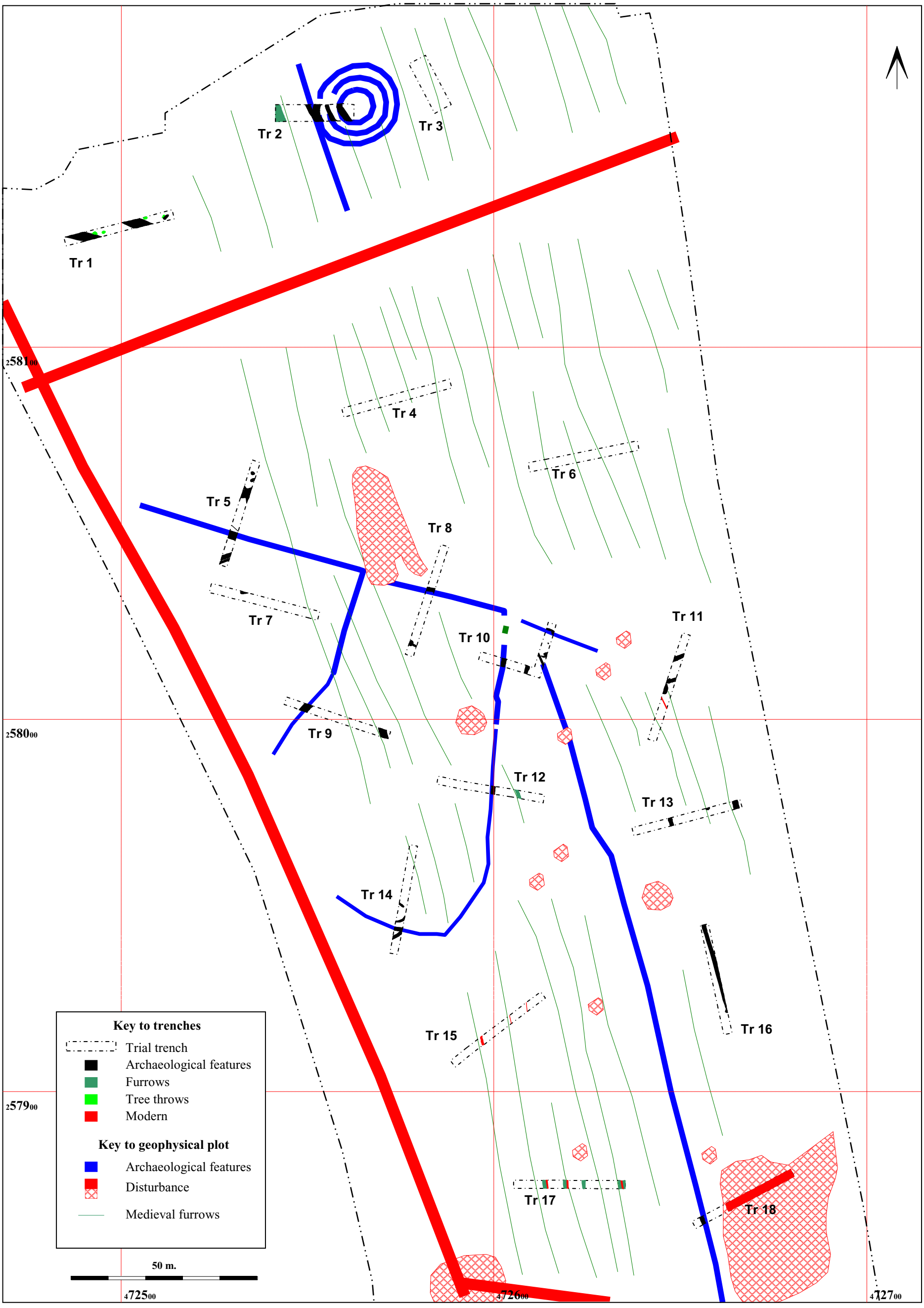
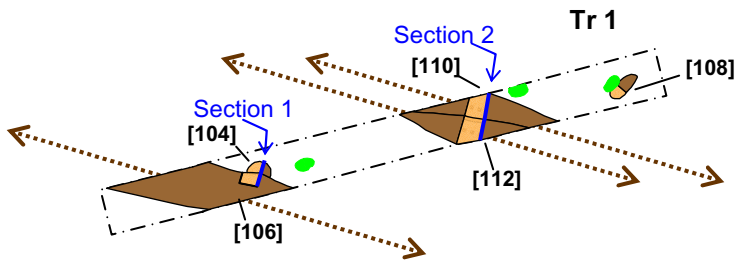
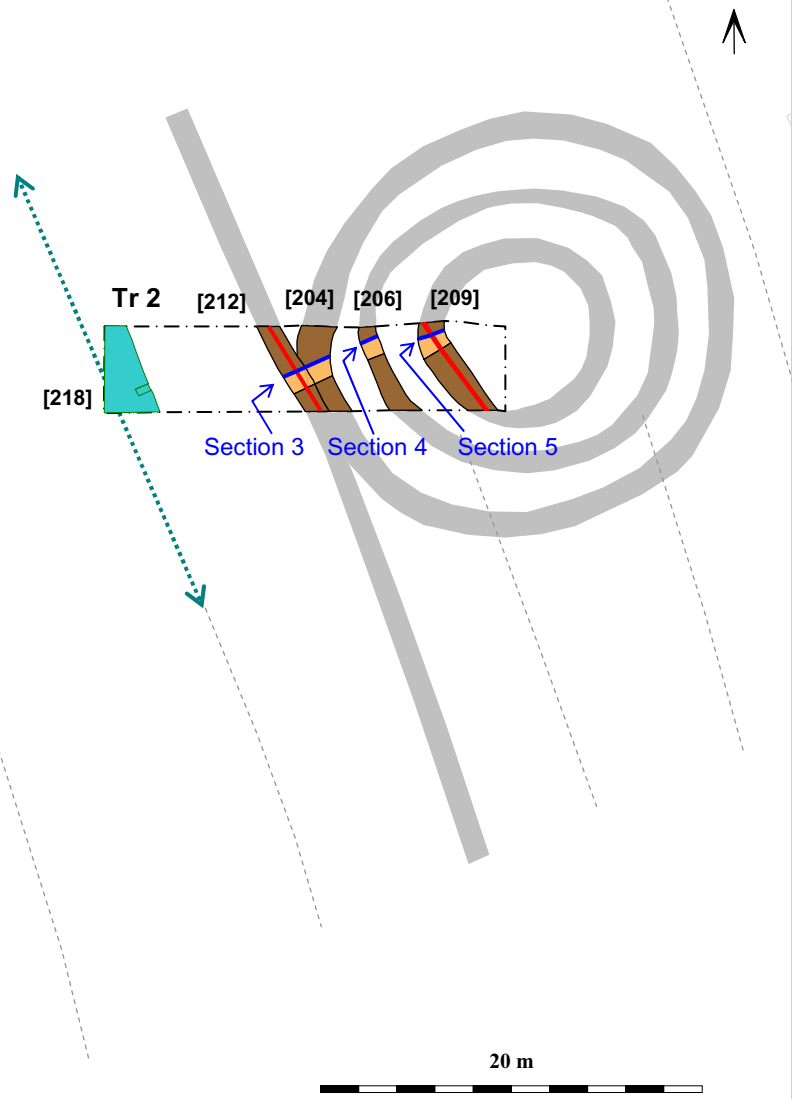
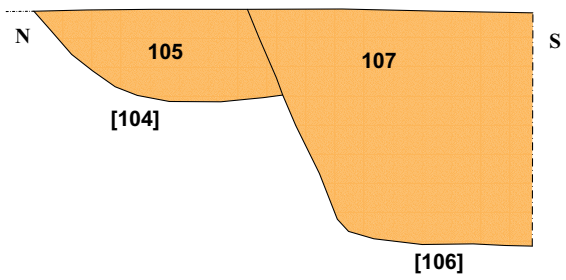


Figure 2: All features plan overlaid onto geophysics interpretation.

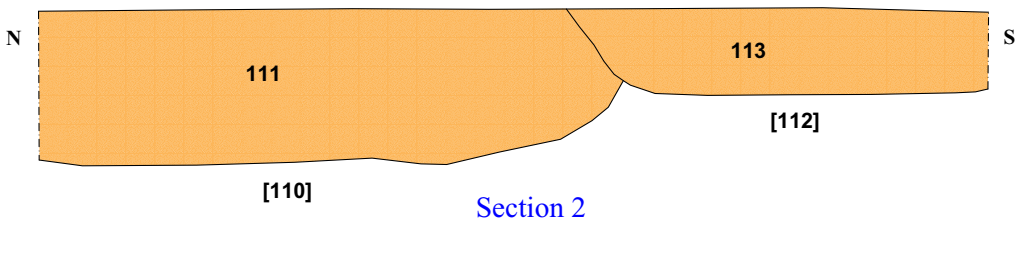
Trench 1 looking north - east. Scale 1m.







Section 1



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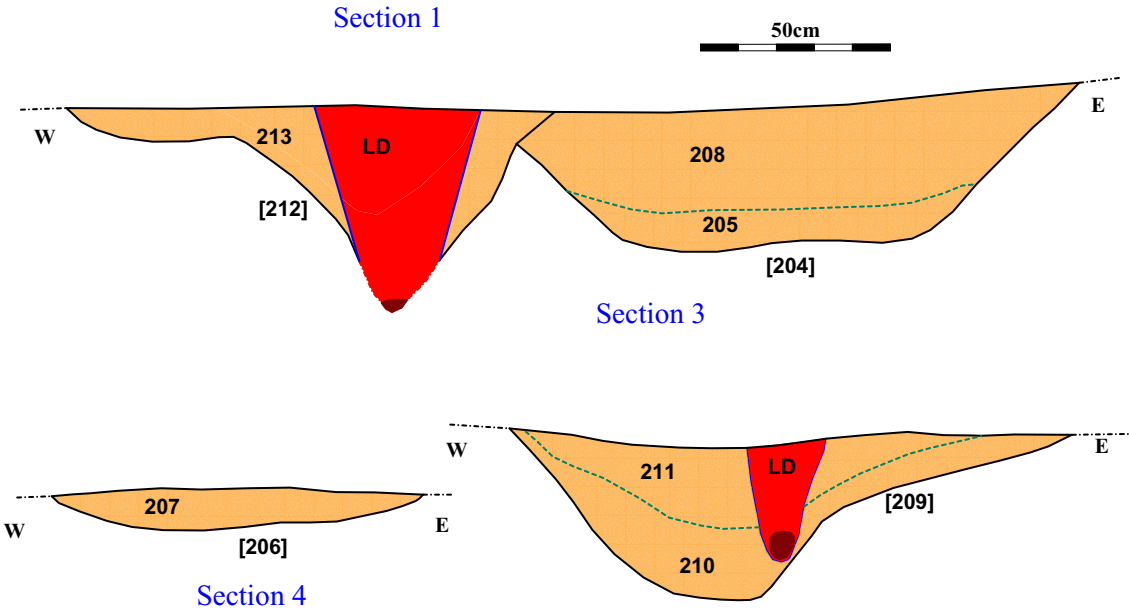
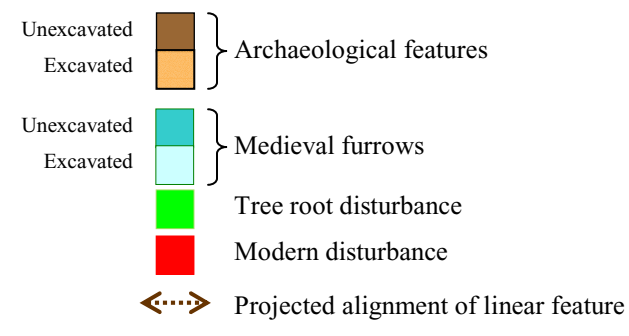


Section 3

Section 4

Section 5



Trench 2 looking east. Scale 1m.

Figure 3: Trenches 1 and 2 overlaid on geophysical interpretation.

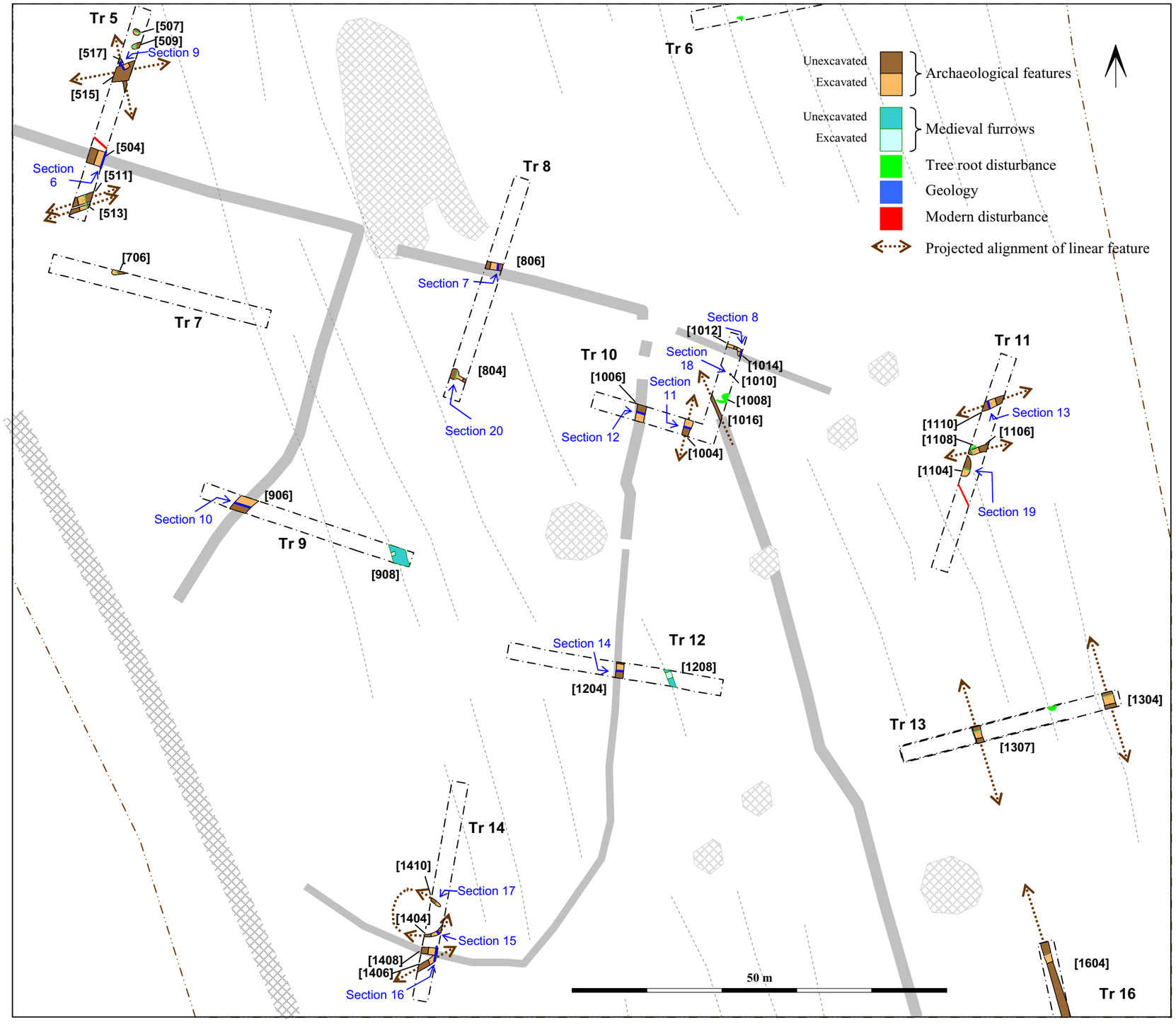
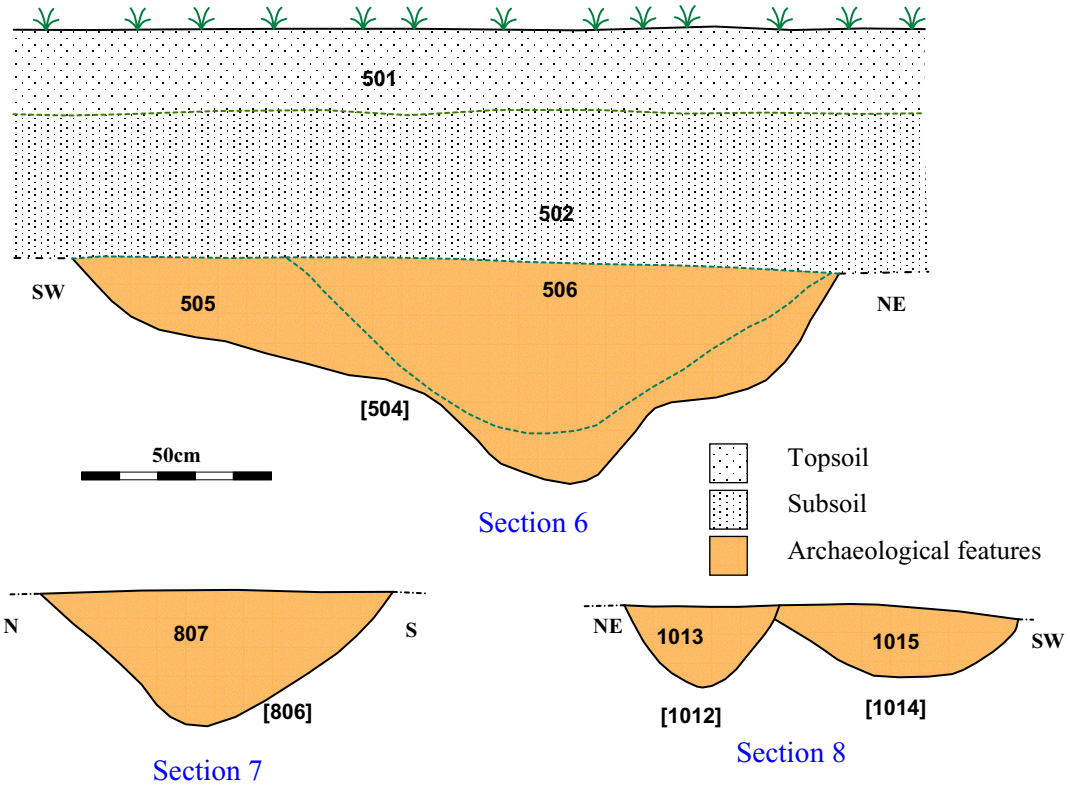
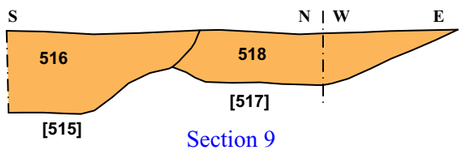


Figure 4: Trenches 5 to 16 overlaid on geophysical interpretation

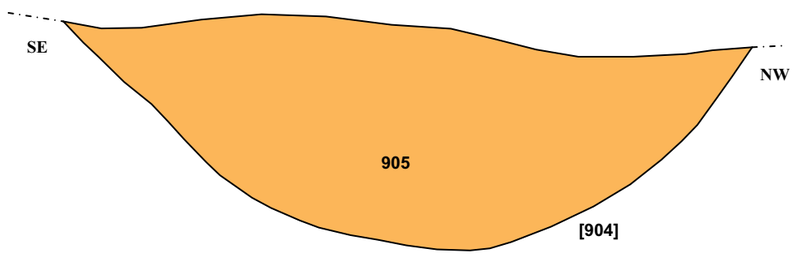


Ditch [806] looking west. Scale 1m.

Figure 5: Sections through northern boundary ditch



Section 9



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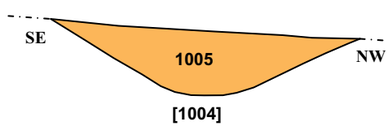

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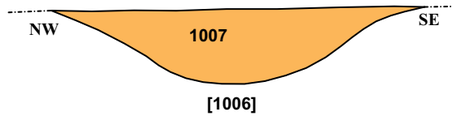

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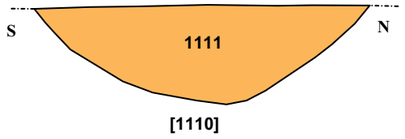

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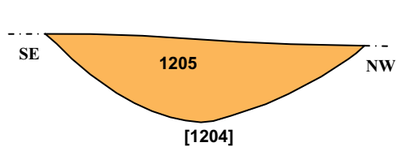

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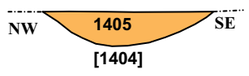

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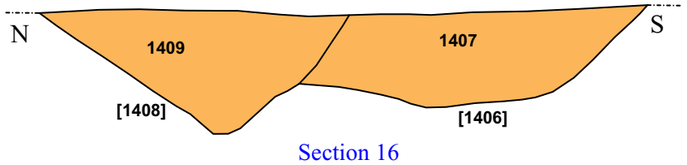

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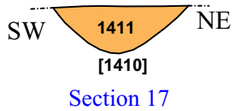

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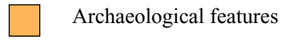
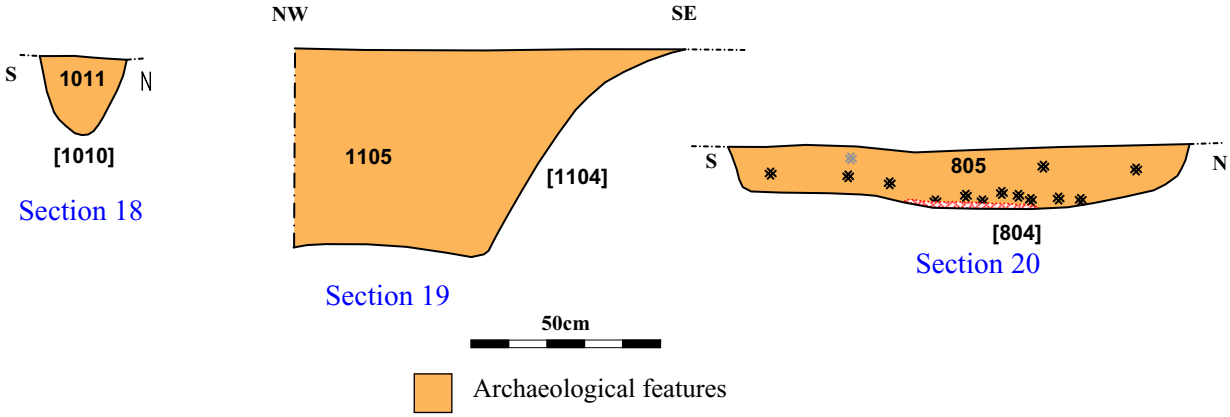


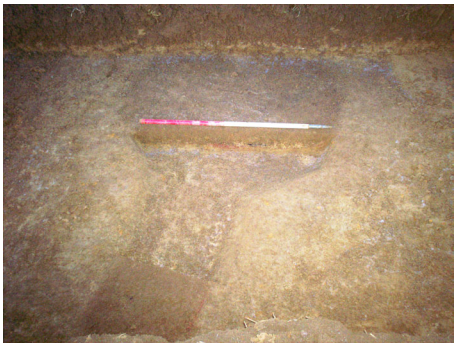
Ditch [509] looking north-east. Scale 40cm

Ditch [1110] looking west. Scale1m.

Ditches [1408] and [1406] looking east. Scale 1m

Figure 6: Sections through other ditches



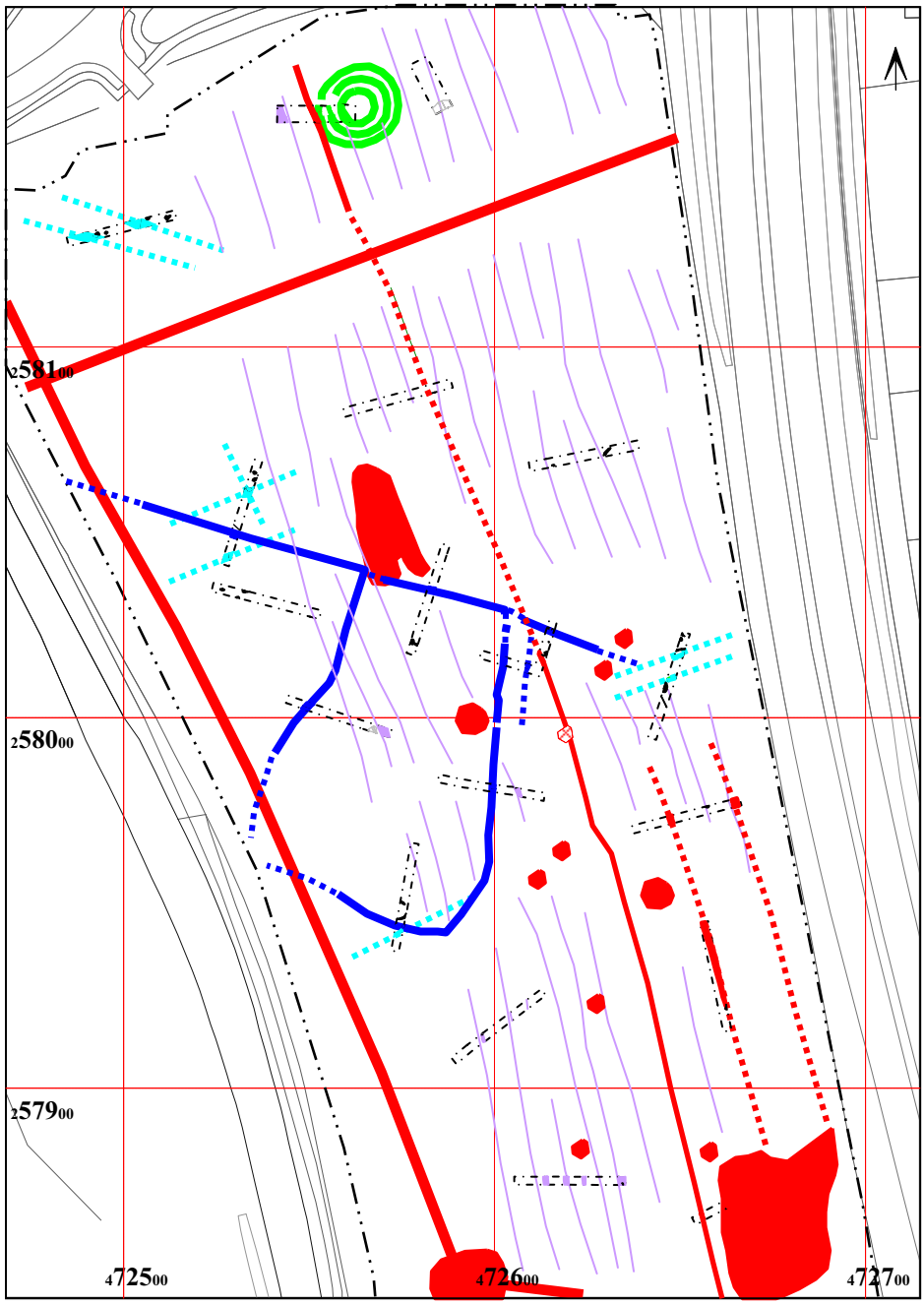


Possible oven [804] looking west. Scale 1m.

Possible oven [804] looking west.
Section detail showing burning. Scale 1m

Posthole [1010]. Scale 40cm

Figure 7: Sections through non-ditch features



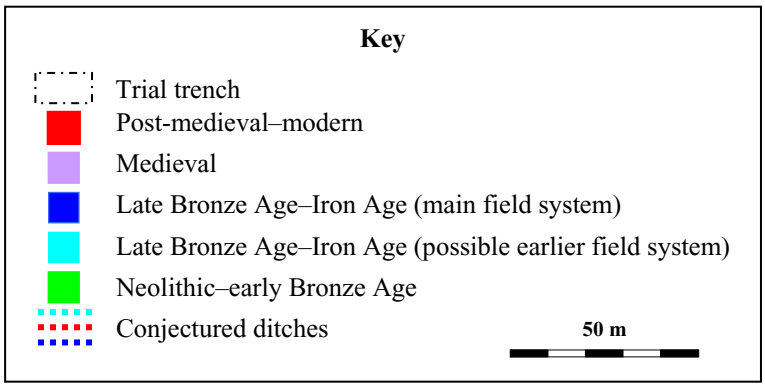


Figure 8: Indicative phase plan of archaeological remains within the development area

Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church,
St Mary's Street,
Bedford,
MK42 0AS

Telephone 01234 294002
Email office@albion-arch.com
www.albion-arch.com