

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Evaluation
of Land at Nova Mk1
Milton Keynes
March 2007



Mark Patenall

January 2007

Report 07/42

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 2007**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF LAND AT NOVA MK1, MILTON KEYNES
MARCH 2007**

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Town | Milton Keynes |
| Parish | Wavendon |
| Address | W Fen Farm, Wavendon, Milton Keynes |
| Grid Reference | SP 91400 38600 |
| Size of Property | 99ha |
| Landuse | arable, lorry park, disused exhibition ground |
| Planning Application Number | |
| Client | Fen Farm Developments |
| Date of commencement | 19/02/07 |
| Date of completion | 02/03/07 |

QUALITY CONTROL

| | Print name | Signed | Date |
|-------------|---------------|--------|------|
| Verified by | Anthony Maull | | |
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OASIS REPORT FORM

| PROJECT DETAILS | | |
|---|---|--|
| Project title | Archaeological Evaluation at Nova MK1, Milton Keynes | |
| Short description (250 words maximum) | <p>Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation on land proposed for the development of the Magna Park Business Park, Milton Keynes. The trial trenching revealed three Iron Age enclosures in two areas of the proposed development site including two overlapping sub-rectangular enclosures previously found during geophysical survey and a smaller isolated enclosure situated approximately 400m to the south-east.</p> <p>The pottery from the evaluation indicated that all three enclosures date to the first half of the first century AD. The ditches of the two overlapping enclosures contained generally large unabraded pottery sherds indicating a nearby settlement. This is in contrast to the isolated enclosure from which only a relatively small amount of smaller and more abraded sherds of pottery were recovered, suggesting that it was located away from the principal area of occupation and was possibly used to hold livestock.</p> <p>The remaining trenches were all devoid of archaeological deposits which confirmed the results of the geophysical survey.</p> | |
| Project type | Field Evaluation (Site Code: NMK1 07) | |
| Previous work | CPM 2006, Environmental Assessment (NA) Butler 2006, Geophysical survey NA 2006a and b, Trial trenches phases 1a and b | |
| Current Land Use | Arable field, lorry park, disused exhibition ground | |
| Future work (yes, no, unknown) | Yes/Likely | |
| Monument type And period | Iron Age Enclosures | |
| Significant finds (artefact type and period) | Pottery, Late Iron Age | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | | |
| County | Milton Keynes | |
| Site address | Fen Farm, Wavendon, Milton Keynes | |
| Study Area | 99ha | |
| OS Easting & Northing | 491400, 238600 | |
| Height OD | 70m OD | |
| PROJECT CREATORS | | |
| Organisation | Northamptonshire Archaeology | |
| Project brief originator | | |
| Project Design originator | JSAC (now CgMs Consultants) | |
| Director/Supervisor | Chris Jones | |
| Project Manager | Simon Mortimer for CgMs Adam Yates, Northamptonshire Archaeology | |
| Sponsor or funding body | Fen Farm Developments Ltd | |
| PROJECT DATE | | |
| Start date | February 2007 | |
| End date | March 2007 | |
| ARCHIVES | Location (Accession no.) | Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) |
| Physical | 2006.203 | Pottery, animal bone, flint |
| Paper | | 1 File |
| Digital | | Text files, mapinfo figures, photographs |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | | |
| Title | Archaeological Evaluation of Land At Milton Keynes, Nova Mk1 | |
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
OF LAND AT
MILTON KEYNES, NOVA MK1
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2007

ABSTRACT

Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation on land proposed for the development of the Magna Park Business Park, Milton Keynes. The trial trenching revealed three Iron Age enclosures in two areas of the proposed development site including two overlapping sub-rectangular enclosures previously found during geophysical survey and a smaller isolated enclosure situated approximately 400m to the south-east.

The pottery from the evaluation indicated that all three enclosures date to the first half of the first century AD. The ditches of the two overlapping enclosures contained generally large un-abraded pottery sherds indicating a nearby settlement. This is in contrast to the isolated enclosure, from which only a relatively small amount of smaller and more abraded sherds of pottery were recovered, suggesting that it was located away from the principal area of occupation and was possibly used to hold livestock.

The remaining trenches were all devoid of archaeological deposits which confirmed the results of the geophysical survey.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consultants (previously John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, JSAC) for Fen Farm Developments Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation on proposed development land at Magna Park (formally Nova MK) in Milton Keynes, NGR 4914 2386 (Fig 1). The evaluation met the requirements of a specification prepared by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants JSAC (2006) acting on behalf of their clients.

2 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The entire development site occupies an area of land approximately 99ha on the east side of Milton Keynes. It is bounded to the south by the A421 Standing Way and to the west by the A5130. To the north and east are further arable fields and drainage ditches. The area examined during this evaluation comprised phase 2 of the development. The total area of phase 2 was 60.5ha; however, 15.4ha was excluded due to the presence of lorry parks, disturbed ground, buildings, gardens which left a remainder of 45.1ha available for trenching.

The ground slopes moderately to the east with an elevation of between 60-70m above Ordnance Datum to the east and west respectively.

The geology of the site comprises Glacial Till overlying Oxford Clay (JSAC 2006:3). The fields at the time of the evaluation were a combination of fallow set-aside with the remnants of crop mixed with weeds, and the former exhibition grounds.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Recent evaluation of land to the north-west of the site (NGR 90150 39570) has identified a large number of Iron Age/early Romano-British features and apparently associated building materials (JSAC 2006: 3).

A geophysical survey undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA), comprising magnetic susceptibility reconnaissance and subsequent detailed gradiometer areas (Butler 2006) identified a possible sub-rectangular enclosure in the northern part of the application area. Subsequent trial trench evaluation (NA 2006b) confirmed the presence of the enclosure and revealed evidence for mid to late Romano-British occupation on the site.

Between August and September 2006, a further phase of trial trenching was carried out in the area of the proposed balancing ponds and the widening of the A421 to the south. The trenches in the Balancing Pond Area confirmed the presence of a large rectilinear enclosure and associated ditches corresponding to the results of the geophysical survey. In the northern corner of the enclosure there was evidence of occupation comprising the remains of a possible roundhouse and some small pits.

Mitigation excavation is currently being undertaken in the area of the proposed balancing ponds, at the northeast corner of the development area. This has involved the strip, map and sample excavation of the settlement and field enclosure features found in the earlier phase of trial trenches (NA 2006a and 2006b). The excavations have extended to over

4.48ha in extent covering two fields. Archaeological features found to date include a small number of possible Bronze Age pits, one of which contained parts of seven fired clay loom-weights. The majority of the archaeology consists of at least two phases of rectilinear field systems, laid out either side of a wide trackway or possible drove-way. At the south was a Romano British farmstead, enclosed within a series of ditches and paddocks. The farmstead was reorganised at least once, upon a more regular and larger scale. Buildings found included at least three roundhouses marked by eaves drip gullies, and the later reorganisation included the construction of a rectangular building based upon beam slot foundations.

4 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The present stage of trial trenching continues the methodology previously employed in phase 1 evaluation over the remainder of the development area (JSAC, Section 1.3). Specific objectives were, to define the character, quality, extent and significance of the archaeological remains to inform mitigation.

In total, 53 trenches, each measuring c50m long by 2.4m wide (Fig 1) were excavated using a mechanical digger fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision. Several of these were targeted over sub-surface anomalies detected during the Geophysics phase of the evaluation (Butler 2006). Mechanical excavation proceeded as far as the first significant archaeological layer or in its absence, the surface of the natural substrate.

The trenches were located relative to Ordnance Survey using a Leica 1200 GPS system with level heights related to Ordnance Datum.

All potential archaeological features were examined by hand excavation. Standard Northamptonshire Archaeology recording procedures were employed. Trenches containing archaeology were planned at 1:100 while all sections were recorded at 1:10 or 1:20.

All works were carried out according to the policy & guidance for archaeological fieldwork projects in Northamptonshire (NCCNH 1995). All procedures complied with the Northamptonshire County Council Health and Safety provisions and Northamptonshire Archaeology Health and Safety at Work Guidelines (NA 2003).

5 RESULTS OF FIELDWORK

5.1 Blank Trenches (Fig 2)

In 48 trenches (64-71, 76-93, 94-105,111-119,125), no archaeological features were present.

The underlying geology comprised orange sand and gravels on the east and north-east and light grey clays over the remainder at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.7m. The subsoil was largely consistent across the site, consisting of a mid grey brown silty clay layer between 0.15m-0.4m thick.

In 8 trenches (111,112, 114-119) the overburden consisted of modern material, principally hardcore, rubble and demolition material mixed with remnants of the natural clays, between 0.70m and 1.20m deep.

The topsoil was generally dark brown silty clay c0.3m thick.

Trenches (106-110,120-124), plus 6 further in paddock area were not excavated due to access restrictions

5.2 Trenches with archaeological features (Fig 3)

In total 5 trenches, (Trenches 72-75 and 87) contained a number of archaeological features including ditches and gullies dating to the Iron Age period.

5.3 Iron Age Enclosures (Trenches 72-75)

Trenches 72-75 were positioned to investigate the western and southern sides of two sub-rectangular enclosures found in the geophysical survey (Butler 2006), (Fig 3).

The results indicated that two enclosures were present, with an earlier, smaller enclosure overlaid by a larger enclosure demarcated by a more substantial ditch.

The western arm of the smaller enclosure was found in trenches 72 and 74, [7207] [7407]. In trench 72, the ditch was visible for a length of 34m aligned north-south. It was c1.4m wide by 0.6-0.8m deep, with steeply sloping sides leading to a concave base (Fig 5, Section 2). Its fill contained Iron Age pottery. The ditch returned towards the east and formed the southern boundary of the enclosure, in trench 75 [7506].

The later enclosure was found in trenches 72 and 75, [7210] and [7511]. The ditch on the western side of the enclosure was narrower, but slightly deeper than that on the southern side; surviving 2.9m wide and 1.2m deep compared to 4.4m wide and 1m deep (Fig 5, Section 4).

Trenches 74 & 75 also contained two small gullies which may represent internal divisions of the enclosures. At the west end of trench 72 there was a single small gully, which appears to lie outside of both enclosures.

5.4 'Isolated enclosure' (Trench 87)

During excavation of trench 87, the southern side of a possible enclosure with a spur and additional east-west aligned ditch was recovered (Fig 4). Following discussion at a monitoring meeting held with the Milton Keynes Archaeological Officer and CgMS Consultants, the trench was expanded to the north by 14m north-south by c26m east-west to uncover the complete plan of a small trapezoidal shaped enclosure. In shape, it was narrower on its southern side than on its northern side, and measured 21m east-west by 16.50m north-south. The ditch was up to 1.3m wide by 0.85m deep and had steep sides with a flat or rounded base (Fig 5, Section 15). There was no visible entrance to the enclosure and no evidence for a bank, either internal or external. No internal features were present.

At its south-east corner the enclosure was cut by a short spur of ditch [8718], which extended 5m to the north-east where it terminated. It was 1.05m wide and 0.45m deep with steep sides and a concave base.

A second shallow ditch or gully [8707], extended from the south-east corner of the enclosure to the east, and continued beyond the limit of the excavation. It measured 0.55m wide and 0.18m deep.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 Pottery by Andy Chapman

A total of 14,520g of pottery (552 sherds) was recovered. The material comes from a total of 16 contexts, but with the larger groups coming from ditches in trenches 72 and 75.

The pottery from the trial trenching has been scanned to establish the general nature of the material and the date range represented. It falls within a very tight chronological range, the first half of the 1st century AD, the late Pre-Roman Iron Age and perhaps continuing for a little following the Roman conquest. There is no evidence for any significant earlier or later activity, however, it is always possible that the trial trench material is biased towards the principal phase of occupation, and an earlier beginning and a slightly later end date may be masked due to under-representation.

Much of the recovered material comprises large quantities of pottery with a high average

sherd size, clearly the product of primary deposition (Plate 1). It is dominated by wheel-finished vessels with the coarser wares in a shelly fabric while the finer vessels contain grog. The range of forms includes smaller jars and bowls and large thick-walled storage jars. The larger vessels tend to be plain, with rolled rims. The finer jar forms include necked bowls with one or more cordons, and a few vessels with rouletted decoration. There is at least one channel-rim jar.

There is no evidence for any significant quantity of material to date to the 1st century BC, and the absence of distinct Roman forms indicates that occupation could not have continued much beyond the conquest.

7 DISCUSSION

The evaluation was successful in recovering three Iron Age enclosures in two areas of the proposed development site. These comprised two sub-rectangular enclosures in trenches 72-75; and a smaller isolated enclosure situated approximately 400m to the south-east; within trench 87 along the southern limit of the present evaluation.

The enclosures found in trenches 72-75 supports the geophysical survey results undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2006, (Butler 2006). The slightly smaller enclosure predates the larger one; although the pottery recovered from both features was very similar. The pottery was dated to the first half of the first century AD, and generally comprised large unabraded sherds (Plate 1), suggestive of nearby settlement.

The ditches of the isolated enclosure found and mitigated in trench 87 only contained a small amount of occupation debris, characterised by small and abraded sherds of pottery. The feature contained no evidence of any internal features which suggests that it was positioned away from the principal area of occupation and was possibly used to hold livestock.

The remaining trenches, all devoid of archaeological deposits supported the results of the geophysical survey.

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Institute of Field Archaeologist

Northamptonshire Archaeology
Northamptonshire County Council

March 2007

APPENDIX 1: SITE DATA

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|--------------|---|----------------|
| 64 | 6401 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.36m deep | |
| | 6402 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.24m deep | |
| | 6403 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown clay. | |
| 65 | 6501 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.42m deep | |
| | 6502 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.18m deep | |
| | 6503 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown to reddish brown clay. | |
| 66 | 6601 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.33m deep | |
| | 6602 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.18m deep | |
| | 6603 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown clay. | |
| 67 | 6701 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.31m deep | |
| | 6702 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.21m deep | |
| | 6703 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown clay. | |
| 68 | 6801 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.31m deep | |
| | 6802 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.21m deep | |
| | 6803 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown clay. | |
| 69 | 6901 | Topsoil | Firm dark orange brown clay loam, occasional medium sized sub angular stones 0.38m deep | |
| | 6902 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown compacted clay with occasional small stones and gravel, 0.28m deep | |
| | 6903 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with occasional stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow brown clay. | |
| 70 | 7001 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.30m deep | |
| | 7002 | Subsoil | Firm yellowy orange brown clay loam, frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.30m deep. | |
| | 7003 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel. | |
| 71 | 7101 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam, frequent rounded stones, 0.30m deep. | |
| | | Subsoil | Firm light yellowy brown clay, frequent rounded to sub rounded stones 0.26m deep. | |
| | 7103 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel | |
| 72 | 7201 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam frequent rounded to sub- rounded stones 0.30m deep | |
| | 7202 | Subsoil | Firm yellowy orange brown clay loam, frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.26m deep. | |
| | 7203 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel. | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|--|------------------|
| | (7204) | Gulley fill | Firm light yellowy grey clay with gravel, 0.50m wide by 0.25m deep | |
| | [7205] | Gulley cut | Linear aligned SE-NW with rounded sides and base 0.50m wide by 0.25m deep | |
| | (7206) | Ditch fill | Firm light grey to orange brown silty clay, with frequent rounded to angular stones 1.34m wide by 0.56m deep | Pottery |
| | [7207] | Enclosure ditch cut | Linear aligned N-S with steep slightly curving sides and a concave base 1.34m wide by 0.56m deep | |
| | (7208) | Ditch fill | Firm mid yellow clay with blue orange mottling with occasional stones, 2.54m wide by 0.63m deep | Bone |
| | (7209) | Ditch fill | Firm mid blue grey clay with brownish orange flecks with occasional rounded stones, 2.90m wide by 0.58m deep | Pottery and bone |
| | {7210] | Enclosure ditch cut | Linear aligned N-S steep uneven sided with a rounded base, 2.90m wide by 1.18m deep | |
| 73 | 7301 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.32m deep | |
| | 7302 | Subsoil | Firm yellowy orange brown clay loam, frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.23m deep. | |
| | 7303 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel. | |
| 74 | 7401 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.32m deep | |
| | 7402 | Subsoil | Firm yellowy orange brown clay loam, frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.19m deep. | |
| | 7403 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel. | |
| | (7404) | Ditch fill | Firm light yellow to grey- brown clay occasional sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks, 1.65m wide by 0.29m deep | |
| | (7405) | Ditch fill | Firm dark yellow to grey brown silty clay with occasional stones and charcoal flecks, 2.10m wide by 0.25m deep. | Pottery and Bone |
| | (7406) | Ditch fill | Firm light to mid orange brown silty clay with occasional stones and charcoal flecks, 1.40m wide by 0.30m deep. | Pottery |
| | [7407] | Enclosure ditch cut | Linear curving towards the east, oblique section against baulk, sides steep irregular with a concave base, 2.00, wide by 0.30m deep. | |
| 75 | 7501 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.20m deep | |
| | 7502 | Subsoil | Firm yellowy orange brown clay loam, frequent rounded to sub-rounded stones 0.26m deep. | |
| | 7503 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel. | |
| | (7504) | Ditch fill | Firm mid yellow to grey-brown silty clay, 1.52m wide by 0.48m deep. | Pottery |
| | {7505) | Ditch fill | Firm light yellow to grey silty clay with occasional stones, 0.52m wide by 0.19m deep. | Pottery |
| | [7506] | Enclosure ditch cut | Linear aligned E-W, irregular V shape with a break of slope on each side and a square flat base, 1.52m wide by 0.65m deep. | |
| | (7507) | Ditch fill | Firm dark blue-grey silty clay with occasional stones, 3.7m wide by 0.40m deep | |
| | (7508) | Ditch fill | Firm mid brownish yellow, with blue-grey mottling silty clay mixed with sandy gravel and stones, 2.0m wide by 0.30m deep | |
| | (7509) | Ditch fill | Firm mid grey-brown silty clay with gravel and charcoal flecks, 3.00m wide by 0.40m deep. | Pottery and bone |
| | (7510) | Ditch fill | Firm light yellowy grey – blue grey clay with stones and gravel, 2.00m wide by 0.20m deep. | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|---|----------------|
| | [7511] | Enclosure ditch cut | Linear aligned E-W, with steep straight sides and flat base, 4.00m wide by 1.00m deep. | |
| | (7512) | Ditch fill | Firm Light yellow to grey-brown silty clay, occasional small stones and charcoal flecks, 0.80m wide by 0.30m deep | |
| | [7513] | Ditch cut | Linear aligned E-W, shallow with rounded sides and flat base, 0.80m wide by 0.30m deep | |
| 76 | 7601 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.32m deep | |
| | 7602 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.37 m deep. | |
| | 7603 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 77 | 7701 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.32m deep. | |
| | 7702 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.31m deep. | |
| | 7703 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 78 | 7801 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 7802 | Subsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.39m deep. | |
| | 7803 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 79 | 7901 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.34m deep. | |
| | 7902 | Subsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.29m deep. | |
| | 7903 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 80 | 8001 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones 0.38m deep. | |
| | 8002 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.28m deep. | |
| | 8003 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 81 | 8101 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.33m deep. | |
| | 8102 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.37m deep. | |
| | 8103 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 82 | 8201 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.29m deep. | |
| | 8202 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.29m deep. | |
| | 8203 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 83 | 8301 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.26m deep. | |
| | 8302 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.25m deep | |
| | 8303 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|----------------|---|---|---------------------|
| 84 | 8401 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown silty loam, occasional sub-angular stones, 0.42m deep. | |
| | 8402 | Subsoil | Firm mid orange brown clay, occasional small stones and gravel, 0.27m deep | |
| | 8403 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange brown sandy gravel and light yellow-brown clays. | |
| 85 | 8501 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 8502 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 8503 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 86 | 8601 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.36m deep. | |
| | 8602 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.25m deep. | |
| | 8603 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 87 | 8701 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 8702 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.15m deep. | |
| | 8703 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| | (8704) | Ditch fill | Firm mid blue-grey clay with orange-brown flecks and rounded stones, 0.88m wide by 0.49m deep. | Pottery and Bone |
| | [8705] | Ring ditch cut | Sub circular linear with a irregular V shaped section, 0.88m wide by 0.49m deep. | |
| | (8706) | Gully fill | Firm mottled light grey clay with stones gravel and charcoal flecks, 0.56m wide by 0.19m deep | Pottery, Bone Flint |
| | [8707] | Gulley cut | Linear aligned E-W, V shaped section with a even flat base, 0.56m wide by 0.19m deep | |
| | (8708) | Ditch fill | Firm dark yellow to grey-brown silty clay with rounded and sub-rounded stones, 1.10m wide by 0.42m deep. | Pottery and Bone |
| | (8709) | Ditch fill | Firm blue-grey silty clay, with rounded and sub-rounded stones, 0.47m wide by 0.12m deep. | |
| | (8710) | Ditch fill | Firm mottled orange brown sandy clay with stones and gravel, 0.82m wide by 0.40m deep. | Pottery |
| | [8711] | Ring-ditch cut | Sub-circular linear with irregular V shaped section to a rounded base, 1.10m wide by 0.85m deep. | |
| | (8712) | Gulley fill | Firm yellow to grey-brown silty clay occasional gravel, 0.40m wide by 0.23m deep. | |
| | [8713] | Gulley cut | Linear aligned E-W wide V shaped profile flat even base, 0.40m wide by 0.23m deep | |
| | (8714) | Ditch fill | Firm orange brown to light grey silty clay occasional rounded and sub-rounded stones, 1.15m wide by 0.15m deep. | Pottery |
| | (8715) | Ditch fill | Firm orange-brown to mid grey silty clay frequent rounded to angular stones, 1.35m wide by 0.34m deep. | Pottery and Bone |
| [8716] | Ring ditch cut | Sub-circular linear with curving sides and flat un even base, 1.35m wide by 0.48m deep. | | |
| (8717) | Ditch fill | Firm mid blue grey silty clay with rounded and angular stones and orangey brown flecks, 1.07m wide by 0.44m deep. | Pottery and Bone | |
| [8718] | Ditch cut | Curved linear aligned SW-NE, irregular steep sides and rounded base, 1.07m wide by 0.44m deep. | | |
| (8719) | Ditch fill | Firm light grey-brown silty clay, with occasional stones, 1.32m wide by 0.69m deep. | Pottery and bone | |
| [8720] | Ring ditch cut | Sub-circular linear, steep uneven sides and flat even base, 1.32m wide by 0.69m deep. | | |
| (8721) | Ditch fill | Firm mid blue grey silty clay with occasional stones, 0.85m wide by 0.44m deep. | Pottery and Bone | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|----------------|--|----------------|
| | (8722) | Ditch fill | Firm light blue grey to orange brown silty clay, occasional rounded stones, 0.64m wide by 0.78m deep. | |
| | [8723] | Ring ditch cut | Curved Linear, steep sided with flat even base, | |
| 88 | 8801 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.35m deep. | |
| | 8802 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.17m deep. | |
| | 8803 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 89 | 8901 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.34m deep. | |
| | 8902 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.27m deep. | |
| | 8903 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 90 | 9001 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.36m deep. | |
| | 9002 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.32m deep. | |
| | 9003 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 91 | 9101 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.39m deep. | |
| | 9102 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.18m deep. | |
| | 9103 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 92 | 9201 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.40m deep. | |
| | 9202 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.23 deep. | |
| | 9203 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 93 | 9301 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.38m deep. | |
| | 9302 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.27m deep. | |
| | 9303 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 94 | 9401 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.31m deep. | |
| | 9402 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 9403 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| | (9404) | Gulley fill | Firm mid-dark brown to grey silty clay with occasional stones, 1035m wide by 0.42m deep | |
| | [9405] | Gulley cut | Linear modern drain aligned SE-NW, with even sloping sides and rounded base, 1.35m wide by 0.42m deep. | |
| 95 | 9501 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.35m deep. | |
| | 9502 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.26m deep. | |
| | 9503 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 96 | 9601 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.33m deep. | |
| | 9602 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 9603 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 97 | 9701 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.31m deep. | |
| | 9702 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.24m deep. | |
| | 9703 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 98 | 9801 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.34m deep. | |
| | 9802 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.18m deep. | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

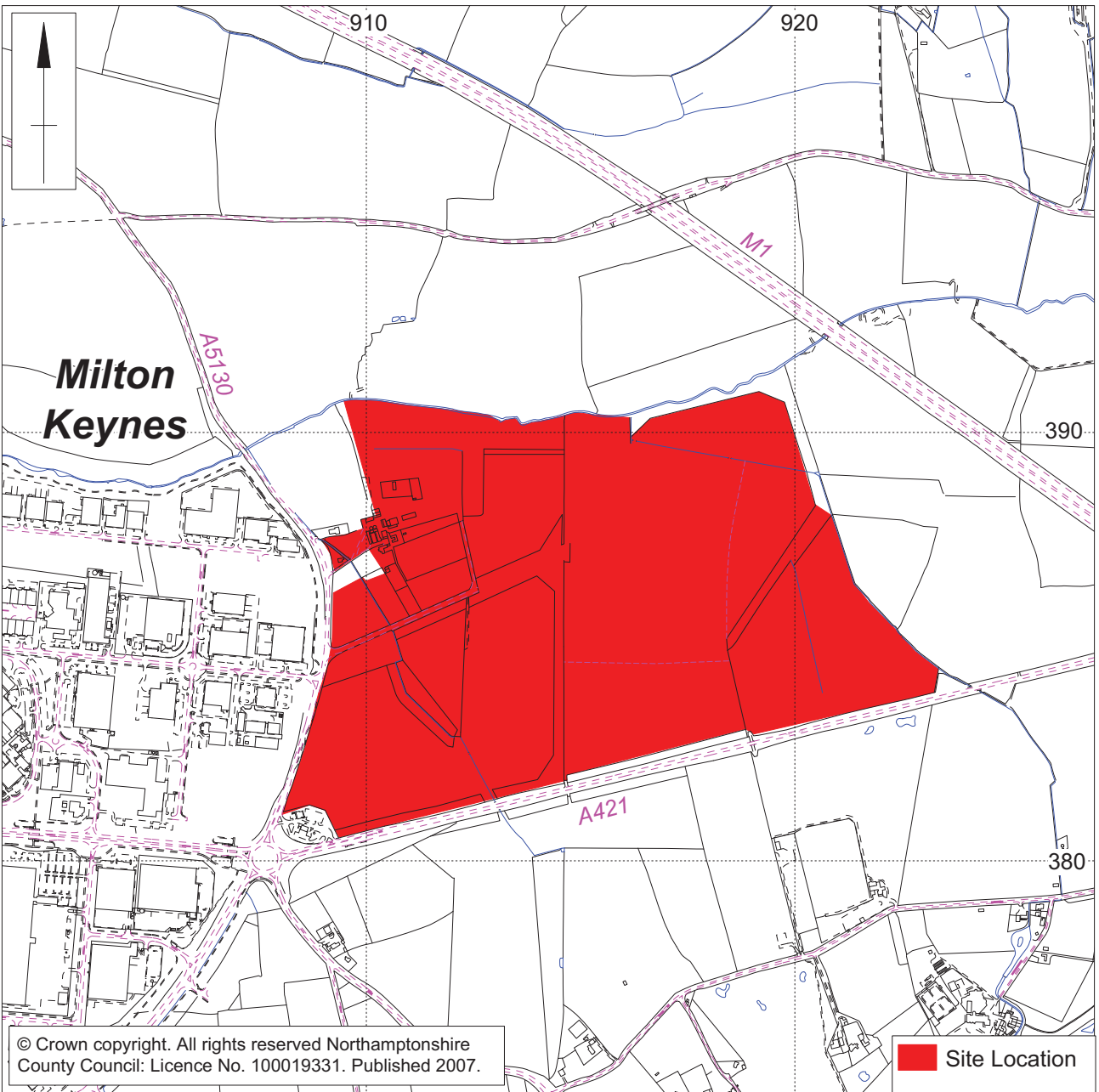
| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|--------------|--|----------------|
| | 9803 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 99 | 9901 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.32m deep. | |
| | 9902 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.17m deep. | |
| | 9903 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 100 | 10001 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.30m deep. | |
| | 10002 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.32m deep. | |
| | 10003 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 101 | 10101 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.40m deep. | |
| | 10102 | Subsoil | Firm mid yellow brown clay with occasional gravels, 0.28m deep. | |
| | 10103 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 102 | 10201 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.38m deep. | |
| | 10202 | Subsoil | Firm orange-brown clay loam with patches of blue-grey clay and occasional; gravel, 0.50m deep. | |
| | 10203 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 103 | 10301 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.39m deep. | |
| | 10302 | Subsoil | Firm orange-brown clay loam with patches of blue-grey clay and occasional; gravel, 0.40m deep. | |
| | 10303 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 104 | 10401 | Topsoil | Dark orange brown clay loam, 0.29m deep. | |
| | 10402 | Subsoil | Firm orange-brown clay loam with patches of blue-grey clay and occasional; gravel, 0.17m deep. | |
| | 10403 | Natural | Firm blue-grey clay with stones and patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| 105 | 10501 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam, occasional rounded and angular stones, 0.35m deep. | |
| | 10502 | Subsoil | Firm orange-brown clay frequent rounded and angular stones, 0.24m deep | |
| | 10503 | Natural | Firm orange-brown sandy gravel with patches of yellow-brown to light grey clay and rounded stones. | |
| 111 | 11101 | Layer | Redeposited dark grey to brown mixed clays, gravels and modern rubbish, 110m deep | |
| | 11102 | Natural | Firm orange-brown sandy gravel and yellow-brown to light grey clay | |
| 112 | 11201 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam occasional rounded and angular stones, 0.30m deep | |
| | 11202 | Subsoil | Firm yellow-brown clay with rounded and angular stones, 0.20m deep | |
| | 11203 | Natural | Firm light yellow-brown to blue-grey clay with patches of orange-brown sandy gravel. | |
| | 11204 | Layer | Mixed clays and modern rubbish, extending 8m from the south end of trench, 0.60m deep. | |
| 113 | 11301 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam occasional rounded and angular stones, 0.30m deep | |
| | 11302 | Subsoil | Firm yellow to orange-brown sandy clay loam, with mixed clay and gravel, 0.20m deep | |
| | 11303 | Natural | Firm orange sandy gravels and yellow to light grey clay. | |

MILTON KEYNES NOVA MK 1 PHASE 2

| Trench No | Context | Deposit Type | Description | Artefact types |
|-----------|---------|-----------------|--|----------------|
| 114 | 11401 | Layer | Redeposited clays soils and modern rubbish, 1.20m deep. | |
| | 11402 | Layer | As 11401, with more gravel, very disturbed. | |
| 115 | 11501 | Layer | Redeposited clays soils and modern rubbish, 1.05m deep. | |
| | 11502 | Layer | As 11501, no depth. | |
| 116 | 11601 | Layer | Redeposited clays soils and modern rubbish, 1.20m deep. | |
| | 11602 | Natural | Firm grey to orange-brown clays and gravel | |
| 117 | 11701 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam occasional rounded and angular stones,0.30m deep | |
| | 11702 | Natural | Firm yellow-brown to blue grey clays with stones,0.30m deep | |
| | 11703 | Layer | Redeposited clays soils and modern rubbish, 1.20m deep. | |
| 118 | 11801 | Layer | Uneven depths of rediposited clays, gravels and modern rubbish, 0.40m deep | |
| | 11802 | Natural | Firm yellow to orange-brown clay. | |
| 119 | 11901 | Topsoil | Firm mid grey clay loam with stones, 0.30m deep.Rediposited. | |
| | 11902 | Layer | Redeposited clays soils and modern rubbish, 0.40m deep. | |
| 125 | 12501 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam with rounded stones,0.30m deep | |
| | 12502 | Subsoil | Firm yellow-orange to brown clay loam with rounded stones, 0.17m deep | |
| | 12503 | Natural | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel | |
| 126 | 12601 | Topsoil | Firm brown clay loam with rounded stones,0.25m deep | |
| | 12602 | Subsoil | Firm yellow-orange to brown clay loam with rounded stones, 0.20m deep | |
| | 12603 | Natural Subsoil | Firm yellowy brown to light grey clays with patches of orange brown sandy gravel | |

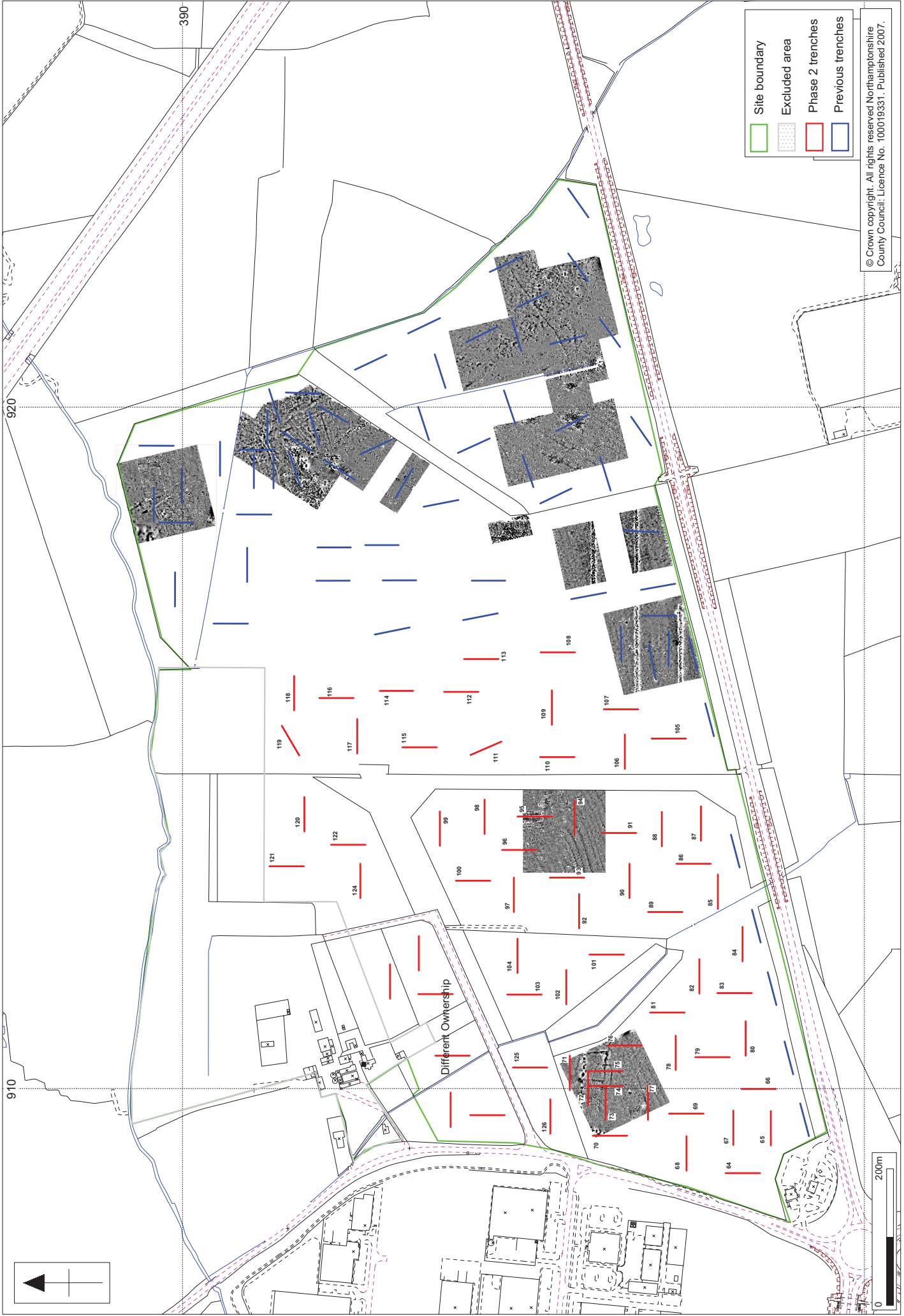


Plate 1: Pottery



Scale 1:15,000

Site location Fig 1

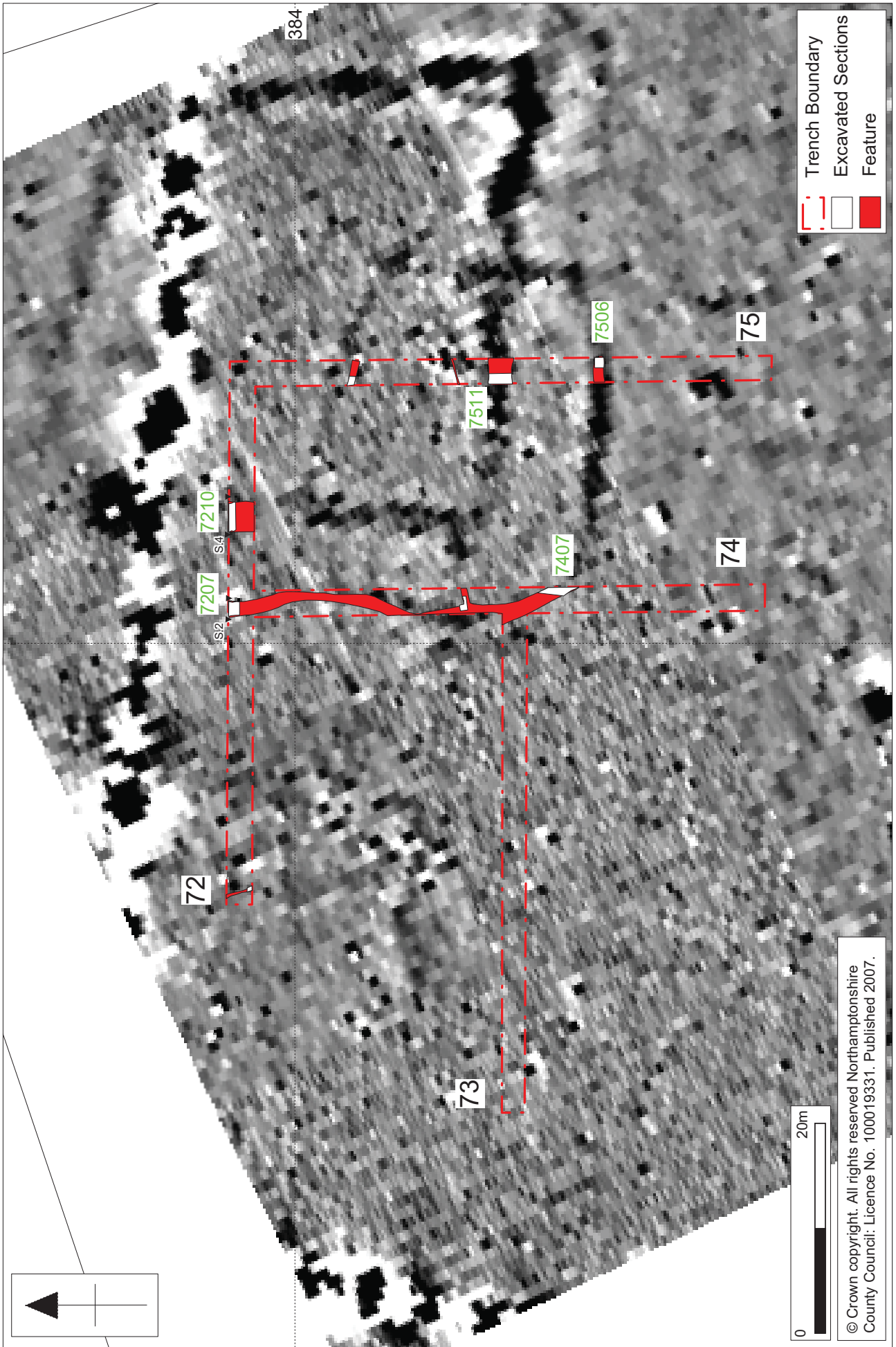


- Site boundary
- Excluded area
- Phase 2 trenches
- Previous trenches

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Milton Keynes Nova Phase 2 Trench Plan Fig 2

1:5000

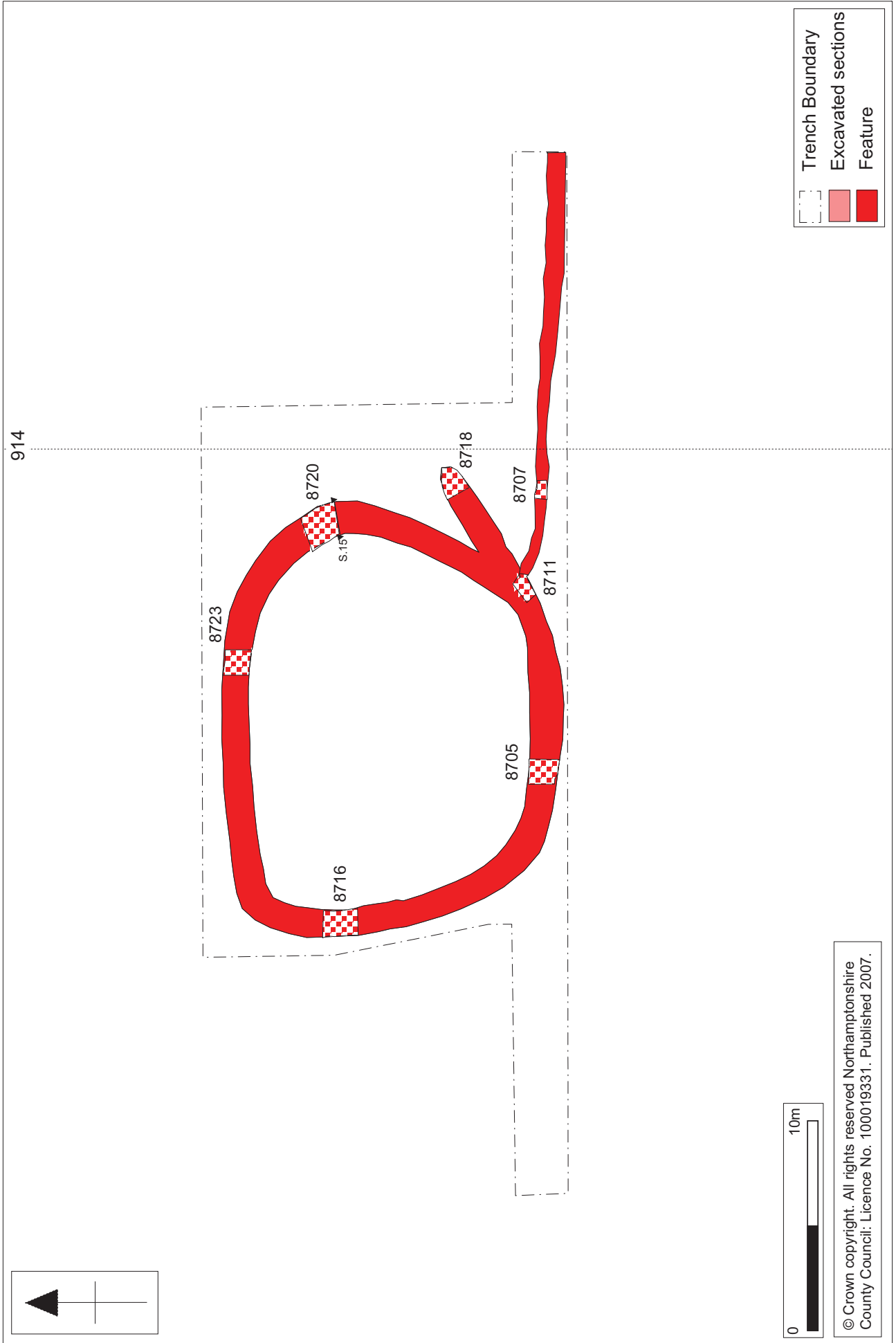


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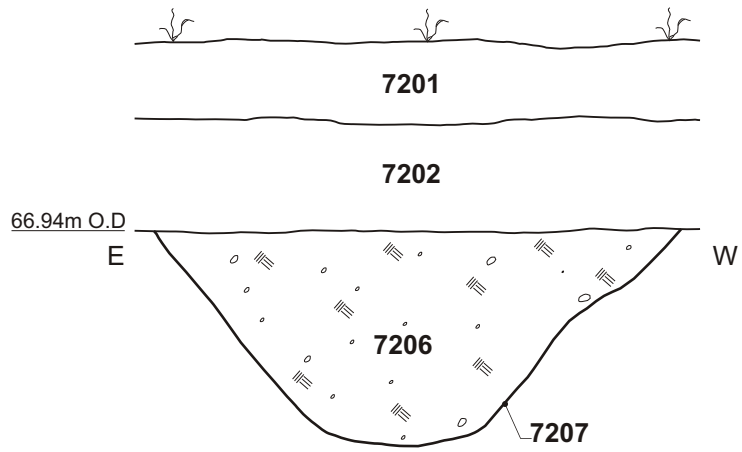
Trenches 72 - 75 Features

Fig 3

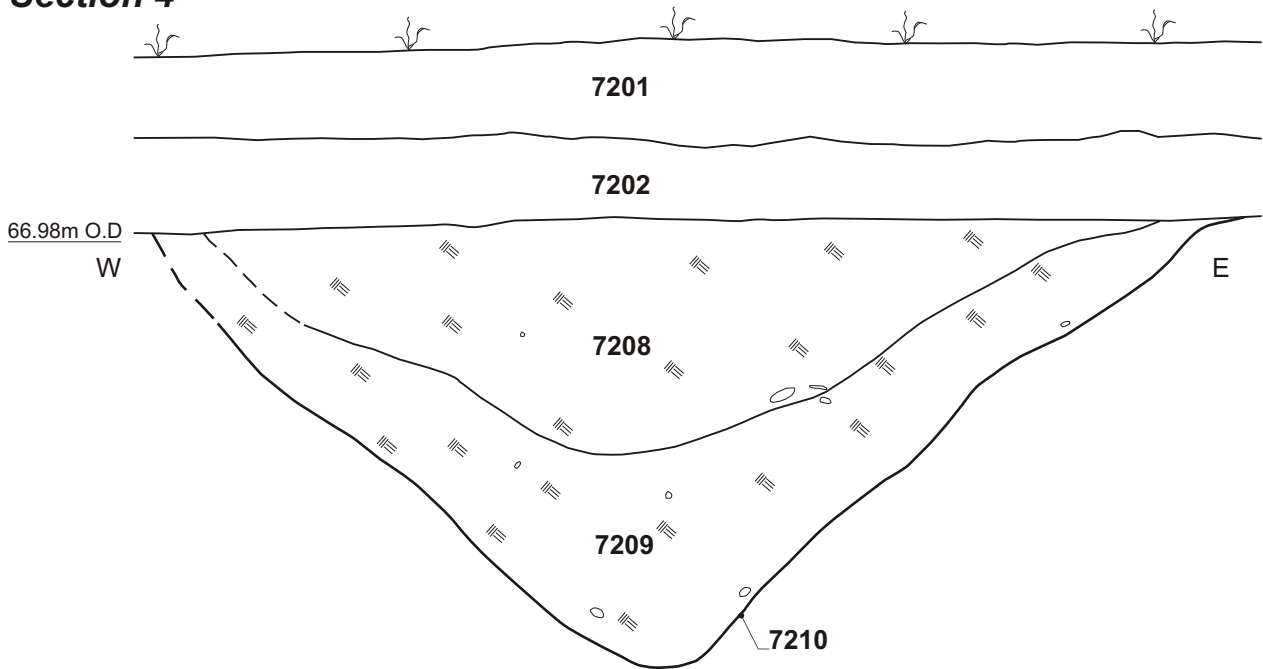
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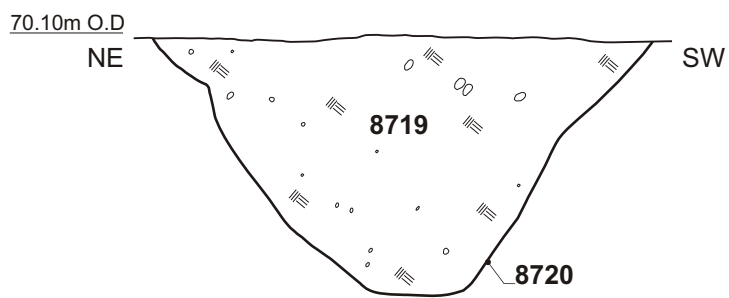
Section 2



Section 4



Section 15



Sections Fig 5