LAND NORTH OF TREGONNING FARM
KESTLE MILL
ST. NEWLYN EAST
CORNWALL

Results of an Archaeological Excavation

South West Archaeology Ltd. Report no.250812

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES & HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
SOUTHWEST ARCHAEOLOGY

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Land North of Tregonning Farm, Kestle Mill, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall
Results of Archaeological Excavation

By S. Stevens
Report Version: **FINAL**
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Work undertaken by SWARCH for PW Planning (The Agent)
On behalf of a Private Client (The Client)

SUMMARY

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by PW Planning (The Agent) on behalf of a Private Client (the Client) to undertake an archaeological excavation on Land north of Tregonning Farm, St. Newlyn East, Newquay, Cornwall, prior to the development of the site and in compliance with a planning condition. This phase of works followed on from a geophysical survey (Ovenden et. al. 2021) and evaluation (Short, 2021). *This work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2024) and CIfA guidelines.*

The archaeological excavation clarified the results of the geophysical survey, confirming the presence of several probable prehistoric, short curvilinear and linear ditches and gullies and Medieval or Post-Medieval boundary features.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

PARISH: LAND NORTH OF TREGONNING FARM
DISTRICT: ST. NEWLYN EAST
COUNTY: CORNWALL
NGR: SW 86554 58912
SWARCH REF: NTF24
PLANNING APPLICATION NO: PA23/09029; PA23/09030
OASIS NO: SOUTHWES1-527297

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by PW Planning (The Agent) on behalf of a Private Client (the Client) to undertake an archaeological excavation and reporting for land north of Tregonning Farm, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall, prior to the development of the site and in compliance with a planning condition associated with planning applications PA23/09029 and PA23/09030. This phase of works followed on from a geophysical survey (Ovenden et. al. 2021) and evaluation (Short, 2021). This work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2024) and CIfA guidelines.

1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site is located within an almost rectangular agricultural enclosure within an agricultural landscape. The buildings of Tregonning Farm lie to the south, Kestle Mill lies 1.5km to the west and Quintrell Downs lies 2km to the north-west. The proposal site lies at a height of c.79m AOD. The soils of the area are the well-drained fine loamy soils of the Denbigh 2 Association (SSEW 1983). These overlie the mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Bovisand Formation (BGS 2025).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies within the parish of St. Newlyn East, in the historic hundred and deanery of Pyder (Lysons 1814). It is not clear which manor held the lands that include the site.

In the mid-19th century, the Newlyn Tithe map and apportionment indicate that the site lay within plot 331, an enclosure that appears relatively unchanged from the one we see today. The site formed part of the landholding of Great Tregoning, owned by Sir Thomas Acland Dyke, Baronet and the Executors of Richard Gully Bennett. The land was occupied by William Tremain and the plot was in arable use and known as *Brake*.

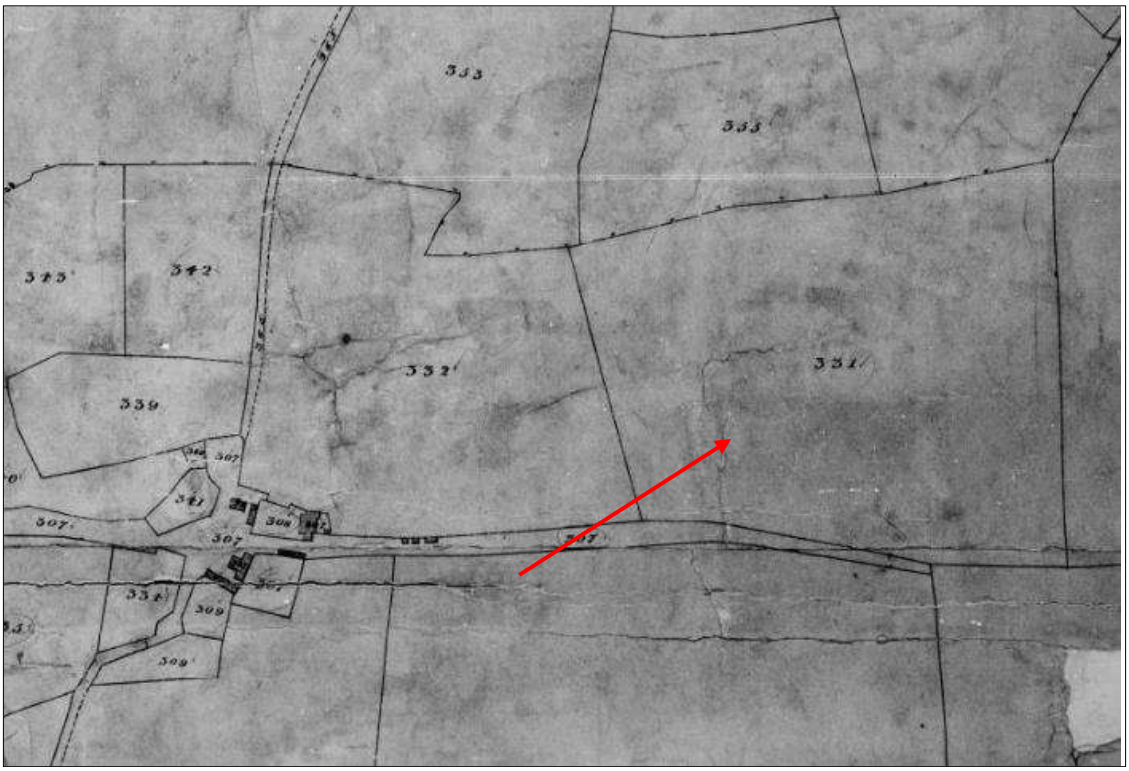

FIGURE 1: EXTRACT OF THE NEWLYN TITHE MAP C.1840. THE SITE IS INDICATED (GENEALOGIST).

A geophysical survey was carried out for a proposed solar development in 2021 by AOC Archaeology (Ovenden et. al. 2021).

The survey area included the plot in which the site is located as part of a 92.13Ha survey. The summary of the results reads:
In the northwest of the Site strong linear trends which show excellent corelation (sic) with the transcription of an undated prehistoric enclosure identified on aerial photograph from 1946. However, the gradiometer survey has not mapped the full extent of the feature visible in the aerial photograph. This may be due to variations in the level of magnetic enhancement across the feature or due to truncation associated with agricultural activity since 1946.

Across the Site a number of linear trends and enhanced magnetism were identified which are likely to be archaeological in origin. However, without the support of LiDAR, aerial photographic evidence or HER data, they cannot be definitively confirmed as being archaeological in nature.

Towards the centre of the site a weak, but coherent, curving response has been detected. The response measures some 95m in diameter and may indicate the remnants of a round or enclosure. It is situated on a southern slope just below the highest point of the Site.

The across the Site well-defined linear trends have been detected which are indicative of a former field system. The responses are single ditch type anomalies rather than the traditional double ditch response of a traditional Cornish boundary and none of the postulated field boundaries are indicated on past mapping. As a result, it is possible that this former field system may be of some age. Additional weak, fragmentary trends have also been noted throughout the Site, but particularly in the north of the Site, which may suggest the remnants of a separate earlier field system (sic)

In the south of the Site a concentration of Additional suggestions of circular ring ditch type

anomalies have been noted throughout the Site which are likely to be archaeologically significant.

In the west of the Site several rectilinear enclosures and additional circular anomalies have been detected which are suggestive of prehistoric settlement and comparable to the responses in the south of the Site.

Several traditional Cornish boundaries have been detected across the Site. Those in the south of the Site are indicated on the St Newlyn East Tithe Map of 1840, but other are not recorded on any mapping.

Several modern utilities have also been detected.

A number of areas of magnetic disturbance, most likely the result of modern activity, were also recorded (sic)

The geophysics results for the plot in which the proposed site lies include a feature recorded on the HER, identified through aerial photography and interpreted as a possible prehistoric enclosure (MCO33769). This enclosure is located beyond the development area, but associated features and deposits may extend into the proposed development area.

FIGURE 2: INTERPRETATION OF THE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS FOR THE PLOT THAT INCLUDES THE PROPOSALS (AOC ARCHAEOLOGY). THE APPROXIMATE SITE IS HIGHLIGHTED IN RED.

Following the results of the geophysical survey, an evaluation trenching survey was carried out on the wider proposed solar site in 2021. The evaluation trenching confirmed the results of the geophysical survey. Various linear features were identified, some of which are highly likely to be archaeological. Pottery recovered from these features dates to both Medieval and Prehistoric periods; the prehistoric pottery dating to both the Bronze and Iron Ages (Short, 2021).

1.4 METHODOLOGY

This work was undertaken in accordance with a WSI (Boyd 2024) and CIfA guidelines and in consultation with the Cornwall Council Historic Environment and Planning Advice Officer (HEP (Arch)). The archaeological excavation followed the guidance as outlined in: *Standard for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2023a), *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2023b), *Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2023c), *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2023d). The aim of the excavation was to clarify the results of earlier archaeological works on the site and determine the presence or absence, extent, date, condition, and complexity of archaeological remains within the site and to ensure preservation by record of any encountered archaeological deposits or remains in accordance with current industry standards and best practice.

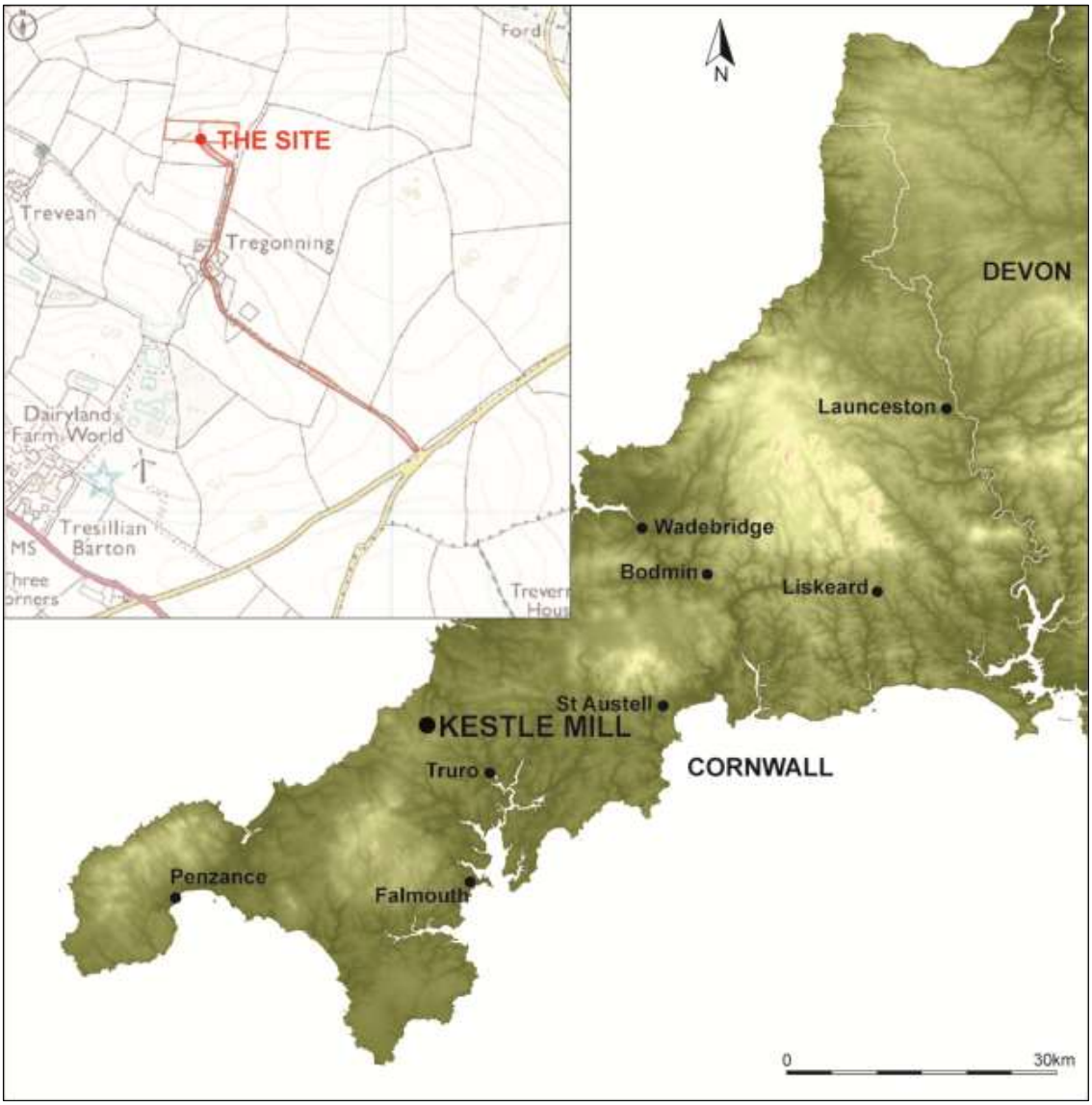

FIGURE 3: SITE LOCATION (THE SITE IS INDICATED).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The archaeological excavation was conducted between the 18th of May and the 26th of September 2024 by SWARCH personnel. Seven SMS areas were opened by a 360° mechanical excavator to the depth of in-situ weathered natural or the top of the archaeological features or deposits, whichever was highest in the stratigraphic sequence. The excavation targeted the possible prehistoric features identified by the geophysical survey (Ovenden *et. al.* 2021) (Figure 4).

2.2 DEPOSIT MODEL

The stratigraphy of the site consisted of a layer of topsoil (1000), (2000), (3000), (4000), (5000), (6000), (7000), consistent across the whole field, which was a mid-grey-brown friable silt soil, up to c.0.26m thick. This overlay the natural (1001), (2001), (3001), (4001), (5001), (6001), (7001), which was a yellow-grey shillet.

2.3 RESULTS

The excavation revealed nineteen features spread across Areas 1-7. Numerous features of natural origin (tree-throws) were identified, of which two were investigated to confirm that identification (not recorded). Seventeen ditches and two post-holes were identified. All the features are likely of prehistoric origin, due to their form and fill.

In the following discussion the features are grouped by area. A full context list can be found in Appendix 1; site drawings including plans and sections in Appendix 2; and supporting photographs in Appendix 3.

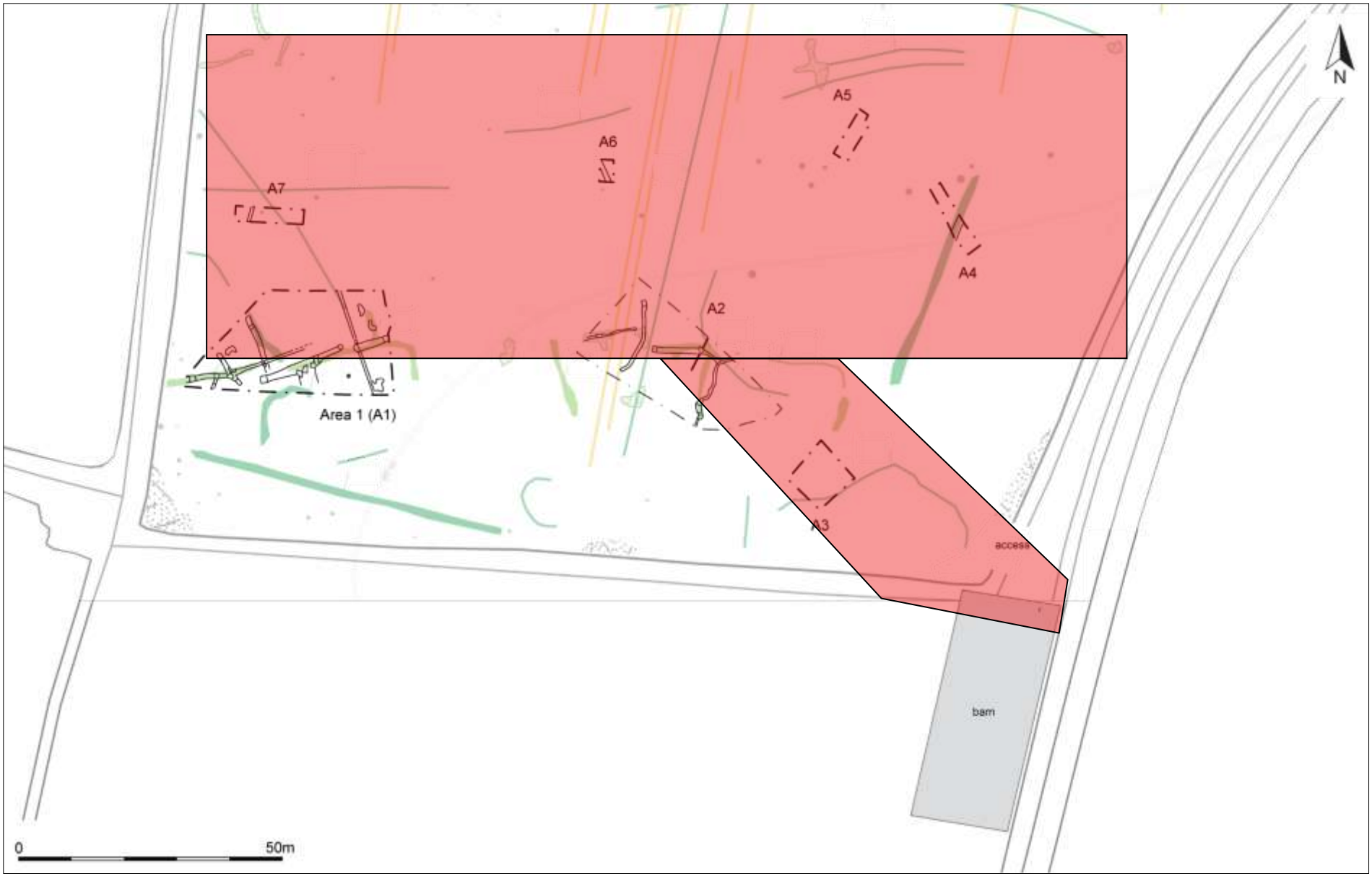

FIGURE 4: FULL SITE PLAN OF ALL EXCAVATED AREAS.

2.3.1 **AREA 1**

Eight ditches and a single post-hole were identified across 16 slots, all presumed prehistoric in date. Ditch [1002] ran across the area, from the south-west corner and turned approximately to the east (visible in Slot 6), running a short distance again until returning to the south-east (visible in Slot 2) (Figures 5, 9 and 11). It measured c.7m in length, c.0.60m wide in Slot 1 and c.0.14m deep. It had concave sides and a gradual break of slope into a flat base. It was filled by (1003), a mid-yellow brown soft clay-silt.

Ditch [1002] was cut by [1004], a linear ditch that ran north-east to south-west across the southern part of the site, spanning a total of c.25m, ending/becoming discernible centrally within Area 1. It had steep convex sides which ran into a flat base; measuring c.0.76m at its widest point and c.0.28m deep. It cut [1002] (visible in Slots 2, 4 and 6) and cut [1006] (visible in Slot 4). It was filled by (1005), a mid-dark grey-brown friable-soft silt-clay (Figure 5).

Ditch [1006] was located in the south-west corner of Area 1, starting/terminating just before the north-west edge of the excavation and running for c.4m north-west to south-east, cut by [1004] to the south. It had gradual concave sides, into a flat base; measuring c.0.34m wide and c.0.12m deep. Filled by (1007), a mid-grey-brown friable-soft silt.

Ditch [1008] ran from the north-west to south-east for c.12m in the west half of Area 1 (Figure 5), cut by [1004] to the south; with gradual sloping concave sides, into a concave base. It measured c.1.10m wide and c.0.20m deep. Filled by (1009), a mid-dark grey-brown friable-soft silt-clay.

To the south-east of [1008] was [1010], running north-west to south-east for c.6m and cut by [1012] (visible in Slot 9 and 11) to the north-west (Figure 5). It was the widest ditch in area 1 (c.3m wide) and was shallow, c.0.12m deep, with shallow, gradual concave sides, into a flat base. It was filled by (1011), a mid-brown-yellow soft-friable silt.

Ditch [1012] was centrally located in Area 1 on the south side, running north-east to south-west for c.16.5m and cutting [1010] (Figures 5, 9 and 11). It had a steep concave north side and gradual stepped south side, into a flat base. It measured c.1.2m wide and c.0.24m deep. It was filled by (1013), a mid-brown soft-friable silt-clay.

[1014] was the only post-hole located in Area 1, in the south-east corner and had steep concave sides, into a flat base; measuring c.0.44x0.44m wide and c.0.14m deep. It was filled by (1015), a dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay.

Ditch/gully [1016] was located in the south-east corner of Area 1 and ran north-west to south-east, largely non-existent/indiscernible in the natural, for c.21m in broken stages (Figure 5). It had steep sloping sides, into a flat base and measured c.0.36m wide and c.0.16m deep. It was filled by (1017), a mid-yellow redeposited natural clay.

Ditch [1018] ran from the east edge of the excavation to the south-west, terminating c.7m within Area 1. It cut [1016] and terminated just beyond the west edge of [1016]. It had steep sloping convex sides, into a concave base; and measured c.1.05m wide and up to 0.40m deep. It was filled by (1019), a dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay.

2.3.2 **AREA 2**

Seven features were identified in Area 2, one of which was a post-hole, the rest were all shallow ditches, across eight slots; again all presumed prehistoric. Ditch [2002] ran across the area approximately north-north-east to south-south-west and ended c.2m into the area (Figures 6, 10 and 12) it measured c.0.40m wide and was c.0.12m deep. It had moderate sides,

into a concave base; filled by (2003), a mid-yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stones. It was cut by [2004] to the north-north-east within Slot 17 (Figures 6, 10 and 12).

Ditch [2004] ran north-south c.2m from the south-western edge of the excavation and continued for c.10m, in a very irregular snaking snape, terminating within Slot 23. It measured c.1.3m wide and was c.0.20m deep; with gradual sloping sides, into a shallow flat base. It was cut by [2016], within Slot 17 (Figures 6, 10 and 12). It was filled by (2005), a mid-yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stone. Ditch [2006] was located in the north-west corner of Area 2, running approximately east-west and terminated c.10m within the area (Figures 6, 10 and 12). It had a steep southern side and gradual northern side, into a shallow, flat base. It measured c.0.60m wide and was c.0.06m deep. It was filled by (2007), a mid-yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub angular stone.

Ditch [2008] ran from the north and curved slightly to the south-west terminating at both ends within the excavated area; measuring c.11m in length. It had gradual shallow sides, into a flat base; measuring c.0.65m wide and c.0.04m deep. It was filled by (2009), a mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub angular stone.

Ditch [2010] was curvilinear, on the north side of Area 2 and ran from the west to the south-east before turning again to the north-east, into the edge of the excavation (Figures 6, 10 and 12). It had a gradual, concave south-east edge and a gradual convex north-west edge, into a flat base. Spanning c.16m and measuring c.1.20m wide x c.0.20m deep. It cut gully [2012] (shown in Slot 24) and was filled by (2011), a dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub rounded stone.

Gully [2012] ran from the north, curving to the south-west from the north side of the area, surviving poorly, becoming indiscernible in places (Figures 6, 10 and 12). It had gradual sides, into a shallow, flat base and measured c.0.40 wide x c.0.12m deep. It was filled by (2013), a dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub rounded stone, c.0.06m thick; which overlay (2014), a light yellow soft clay, c.0.06m thick.

Post-hole [2015] was sub-circular in shape and located within Slot 17 (Figures 6, 10 and 12) cutting ditch [2004]. It had vertical sides, into a flat base; measuring c.0.24x0.24m wide x c.0.30m deep. It was filled by (2016), a mid-brown soft-friable silt-clay.

2.3.3 **AREA 3**

Area 3 was located approximately 10m to the south-east of Area 2, measuring c.9.5m x 9.75m and contained no archaeological features or deposits (Figures 4 and 6).

2.3.4 **AREA 4**

Area 4 was located approximately 45m to the east-north-east of Area 2 and measured 1.5m x 7m (Figure 7). It contained a single, deep ditch [4002] roughly centrally located in the area, running north-east to south-west. It had steep concave sloping sides, into a concave base. It measured c.1.6 wide x c.0.52m deep. It was filled by (4003) a dark grey-brown friable silt, with common sub-angular stone, c.0.32m thick; which overlay (4004), a mid-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with occasional sub-angular stone, c.0.24m thick.

2.3.5 **AREA 5**

Area 5 was located approximately 40m north-north-east of Area 2 and measured c.3m x 10m and contained no archaeological features or deposits (Figures 4 and 7).

2.3.6 **AREA 6**

Area 6 was located approximately 18m north of Area 2 and measured 2.7m x 4.2m. it contained ditch [6002], a linear ditch running east-west, with a steep concave south-west side and gradual convex north-east side, into a flat base. It measured c.0.90m wide x c.0.20m deep. it was filled by (6003), a mid-yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub-angular stone (Figure 8).

2.3.7 **AREA 7**

Area 7 was located approximately 16m north of Area 1 and measured 2.9m x 13.2m. It contained ditch [7002], a linear ditch running north-west to south-east on the west side of Area 7. It had a steep convex western side and uneven sloping eastern side; into a concave base. It measured c.0.52m wide x c.0.12m deep. It was filled by (7003), a mid-brown-grey soft-friable silt-clay (Figure 8).

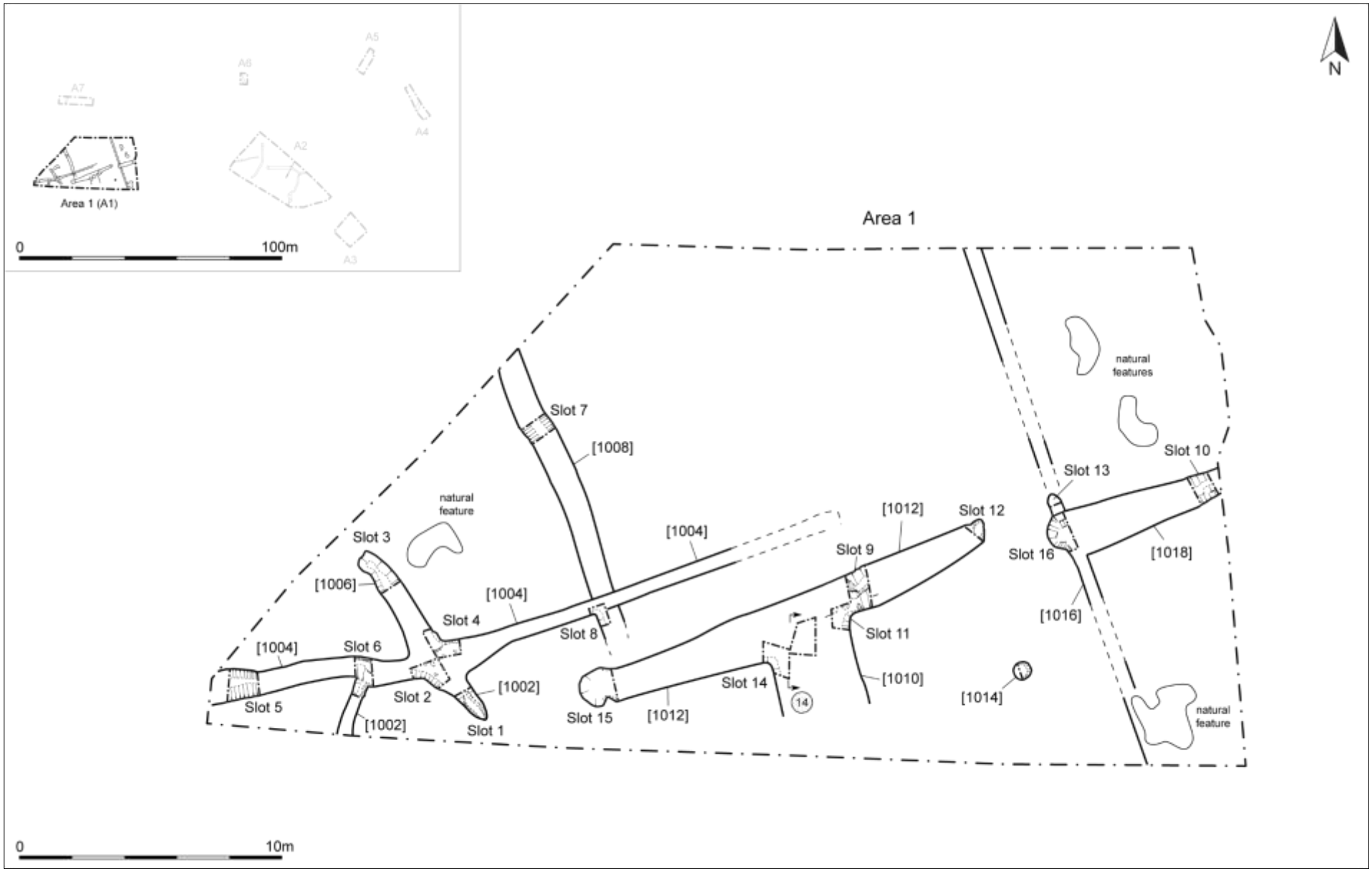

FIGURE 5: AREA 1 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN (SHOWING RELATION TO ALL OTHER AREAS IN TOP LEFT).

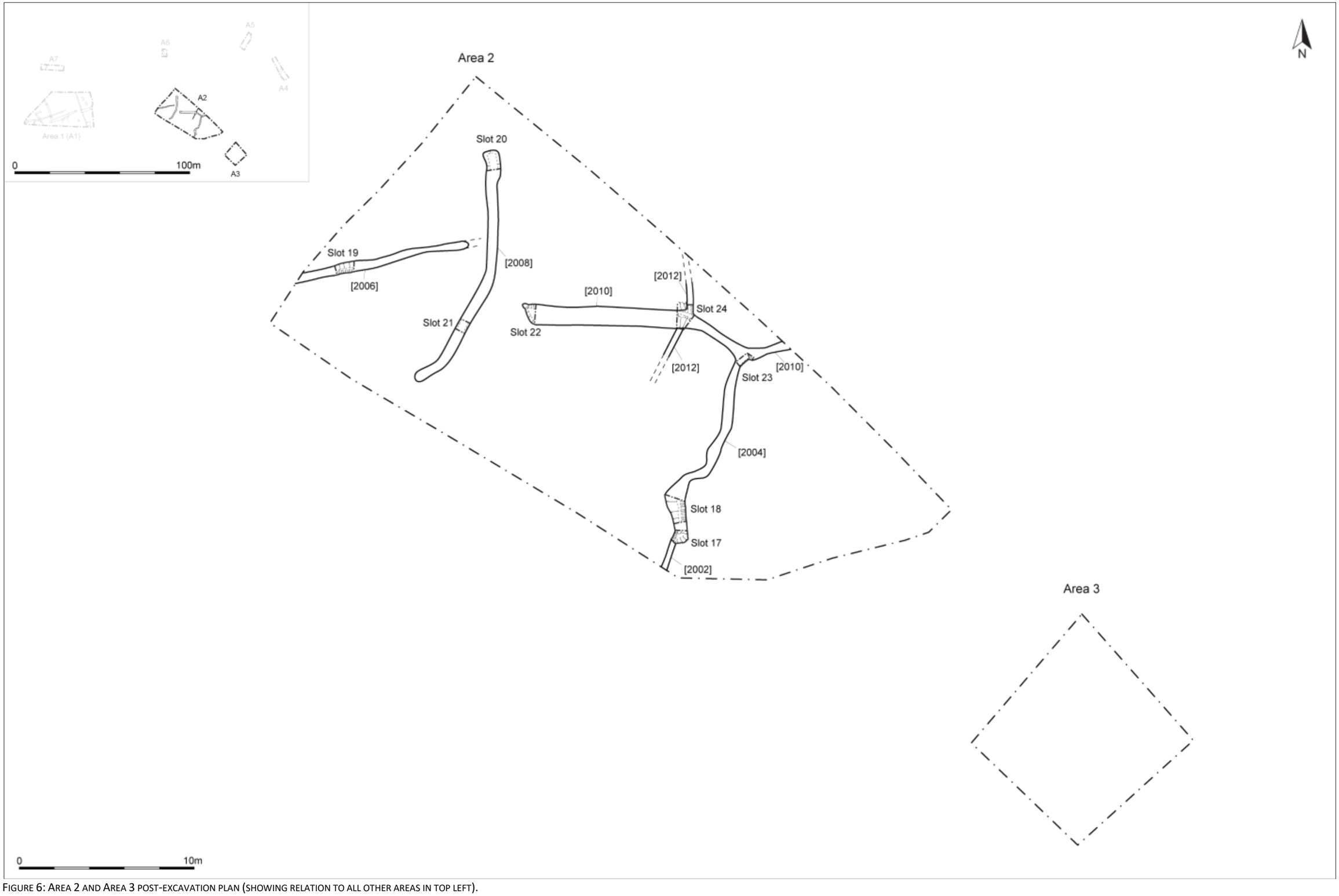

FIGURE 6: AREA 2 AND AREA 3 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN (SHOWING RELATION TO ALL OTHER AREAS IN TOP LEFT).

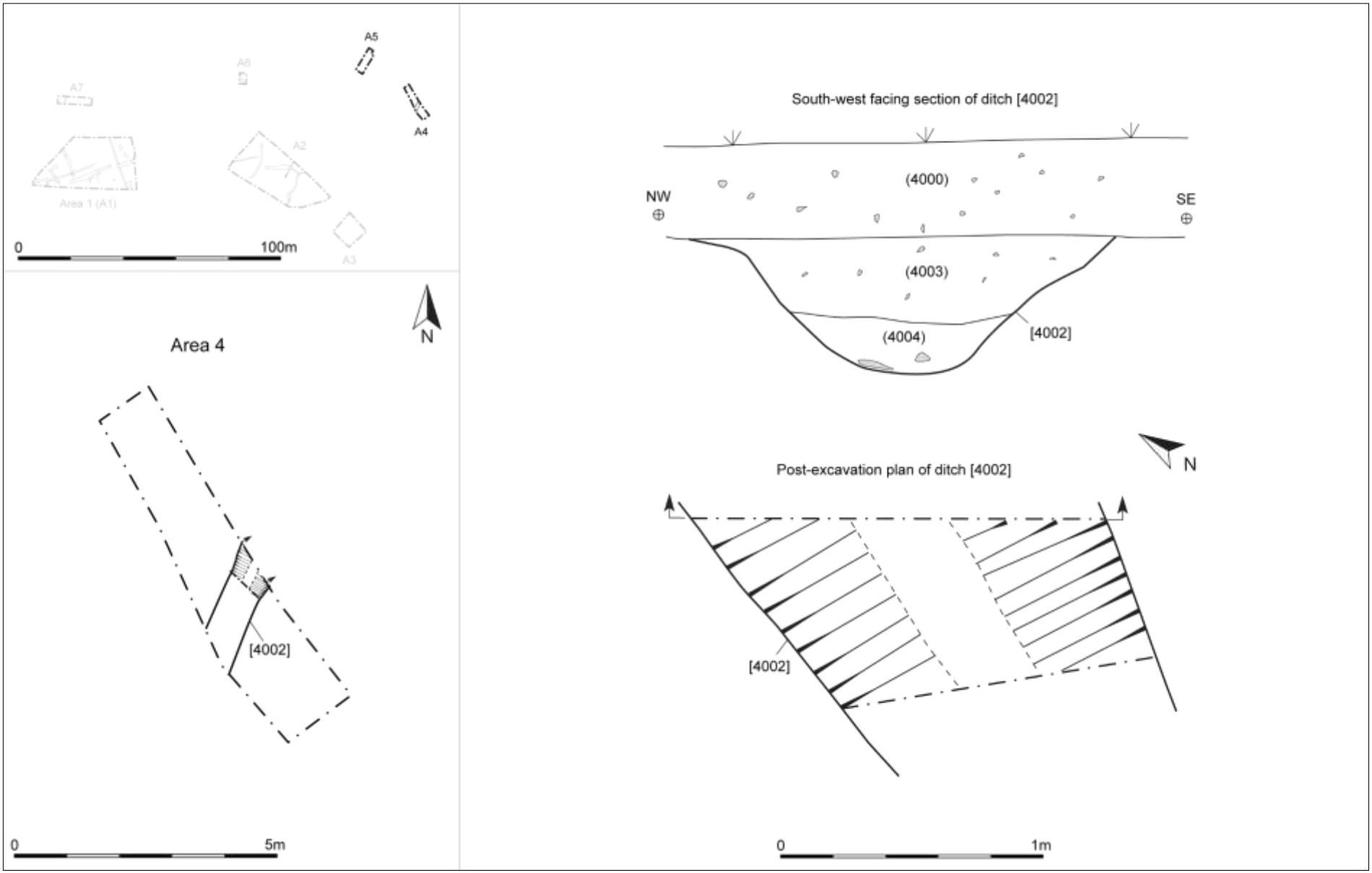

FIGURE 7: AREA 4 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN (SHOWING AREA 5 AND RELATION TO ALL OTHER AREAS IN TOP LEFT).

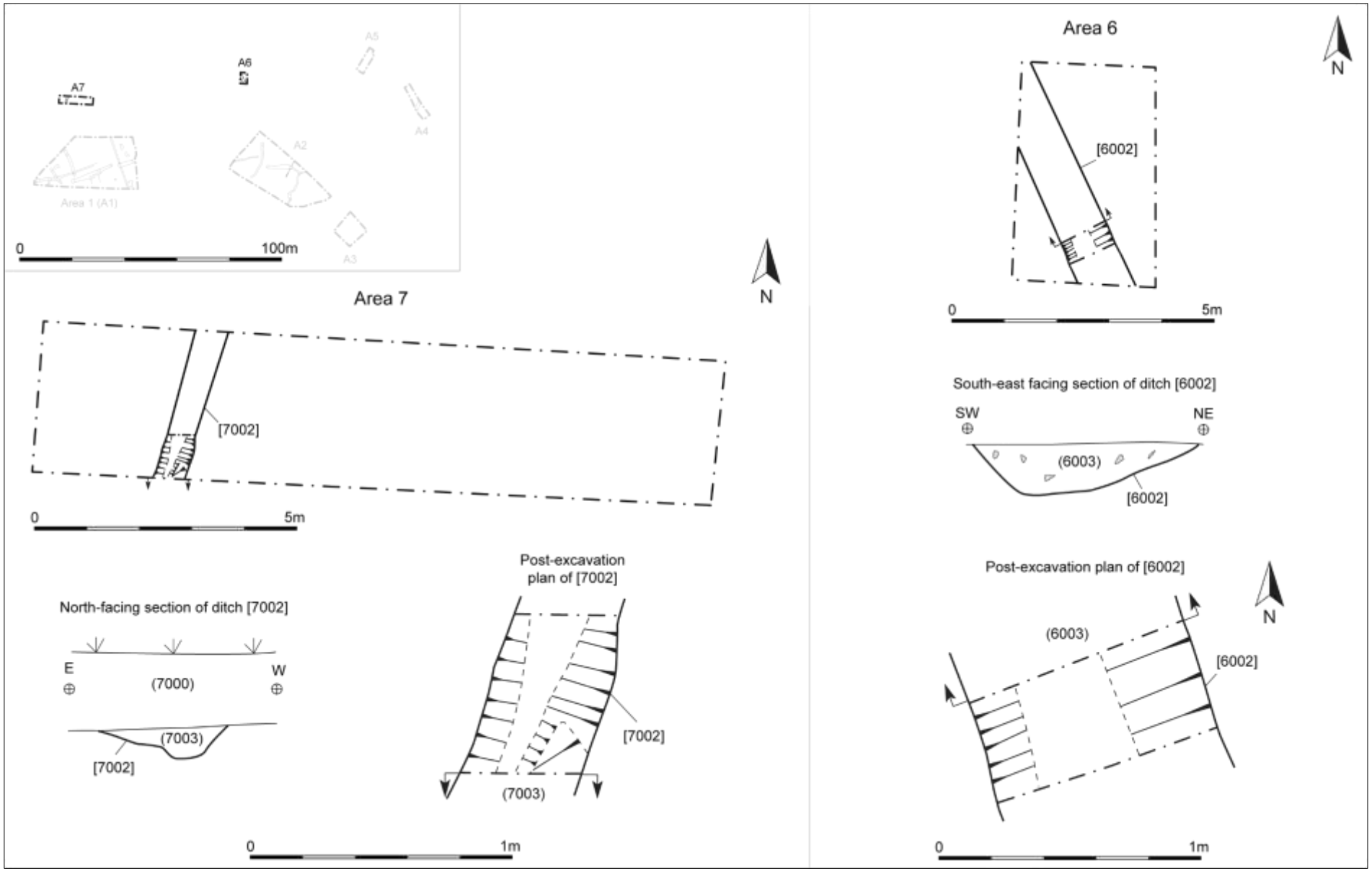

FIGURE 8: AREA 6 AND AREA 7 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN (SHOWING RELATION TO ALL OTHER AREAS IN TOP LEFT).

2.4 FINDS

No archaeological finds were recovered from the site with the exception of modern plastics and metal waste found in topsoil (1000) (not retained).

3.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

3.1 DISCUSSION

The site sat near the top of a hill slope, which would explain the mostly shallow depth of the topsoil, largely consistent over the whole site. The natural shillet presumably allowed for water to filter well and so draining the area wouldn't have required much in the way of depth for the ditches present on site, explaining their mostly shallow depth throughout areas 1 and 2.

The ditches in Areas 1 and 2 reflect a system of small ditch boundaries and possible small enclosures, however, the nature of the depths of these ditches would indicate they were meant as light drainage ditches only and most likely each ditch was gradually added to allow water run off away from possible working areas, etc., although no evidence of either working or settlement was found. Ditches [1004] and [1012] seem to reflect a later need for more effective drainage, as these features cut earlier, shorter and slightly deeper features. Area 2 also had the same nature of ditches and it is likely ditches [2004] and [2010] had a similar relationship with the earlier ditches in the area.

A single post-hole [1014] was revealed in Area 1 but does not appear to be associated with the surrounding features and could therefore be a much later cut. Further post-holes may be present to the south of Area 1, as indicated in the geophysical survey results, but any evidence of structural remains appears unlikely. A second post-hole [2015] was identified in Area 2 and cuts linear ditch [2004], but is shown to cut the feature from the top of section (Figure 12) and is therefore not associated with [2004], being a much later feature.

The linear ditch [4002] found in Area 4 was found to be much deeper than the other ditches in Areas 1-6 and more of a straight linear, which could indicate it is not related to the other ditches and may be Post-Medieval in origin; but no dating evidence was recovered.

3.2 CONCLUSION

The archaeological excavation clarified the results of the geophysical survey, confirming the presence of a number of probable prehistoric, short curvilinear and linear ditches and gullies and probable later features. The excavation also revealed the stratigraphy in the area as being fairly shallow, with most features truncated. The lack of finds and sterile fills suggest that these features were most likely agricultural in nature and not close enough to any settlement activity to incorporate occupational debris.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT LIST

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION (EOE = Edge of Excavation)		RELATIONSHIPS	DEPTH/ THICKNESS	SPOT DATE
Area 1					
(1000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (1001)(1003)(1005)(1007)(1009)(1011)(1013)(1015)(1017)(1019)	*c.*0.26m thick	C20
(1001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (1000); Cut by [1002][1004][1006][1008][1010][1012][1014][1016][1018]	-	-
[1002]	*Ditch*	Curvilinear ditch running north to south in south-west corner of Area 1 and curving around to the east, terminating just before the south EOE; with concave sides and a gradual break of slope, into a flat base. Measured c.0.60m wide.	Cut (1001); Cut by [1004]; Filled by (1003)	0.14m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1003)	*Fill*	Mid yellow brown soft clay-silt, with occasional sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1002];	0.14m thick	
[1004]	*Ditch*	Linear ditch running north-east to south-west, with steep convex sides and a flat base. Measured c.0.76m wide.	Cuts (1001)[1002][1006][1008]; Filled by (1005)	0.28m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1005)	*Fill*	Mid-dark grey-brown, friable-soft silt-clay, with occasional sub-angular stone.	Overlaid by (1000); Fill of [1004]	0.20m thick	
[1006]	*Ditch*	Short linear ditch running north to south, with gradual concave sides, into a flat base. Measured c.0.34m wide.	Cuts (1001); Cut by [1004]; Filled by (1007)	0.12m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1007)	*Fill*	Mid grey brown friable-soft silt, with common sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1006]	0.14m thick	
[1008]	*Ditch*	Linear ditch running north-west to south-east, with gradual sloping concave sides, into a concave rounded base. Measured c.1.10m wide.	Cuts (1001); Cut by [1004]; Filled by (1009)	0.20m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1009)	*Fill*	Mid dark grey brown, friable-soft silt-clay, with occasional sub-angular stone and inclusions of yellow clay.	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1008]	0.20m thick	
[1010]	*Ditch*	Linear ditch running north-north-west to south-south-east, with shallow, gradual concave sloping sides; into a flat base. Measured c.0.60m wide.	Cuts (1001); Cut by [1012]; Filled by (1011)	0.12m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1011)	*Fill*	Mid brown-yellow soft-friable silt; with occasional small angular and sub-angular stone	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1010]	0.12m thick	
[1012]	*Ditch*	Linear ditch running west-south-west to east-north-east, with a steep concave northern side and a gradual, stepped south side; into a flat base. Measured c.1.2m wide.	Cuts (1001)[1010]; Filled by (1013)	0.24m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1013)	*Fill*	Mid brown soft-friable silt-clay, with occasional small sub-angular stone	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1012]	0.24m thick	
[1014]	*Post-hole*	Circular post-hole, with steep concaved sides, sudden break of slope; into a flat base. Measured c.0.44mx0.44m wide.	Cuts (1001); Filled by (1015)	0.14m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1015)	*Fill*	Dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1014]	0.14m thick	
[1016]	*Ditch/gully*	Linear ditch/gully running north-north-west to south-south-east, with steep sloping concave sides, into a flat base. Measured c.0.36m wide.	Cuts (1001); Cut by [1018]; Filled by (1017)	0.16m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1017)	*Fill*	Mid yellow redeposited natural clay, with common sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1016]	0.16m thick	
[1018]	*Ditch*	Linear ditch running south-west to north-east, with steep sloping convex sides, into a concave base. Measured up to 1.05m wide.	Cuts (1001)[1016]; Filled by (1019)	Up to 0.40m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(1019)	*Fill*	Dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay	Overlain by (1000); Fill of [1018]	Up to 0.40m thick	
Area 2					
(2000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (2001)(2003)(2005)(2007)(2009)(2011)(2013)(2016)(2018)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(2001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (2000); Cut by [2002][2004][2006][2008][2010][2012][2015][2017]	-	-
[2002]	Ditch	Linear ditch running north-north-east to south-south-west, with moderate sides, into a concave base.	Cuts (2001); Cut by [2004]; Filled by	0.12m deep	Prehistoric (?)

		Measured c.0.40m wide.	(2003)		
(2003)	*Fill*	Mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2002]	0.12m thick	
[2004]	Ditch	Linear ditch running north-south, with gradual sloping sides, into a shallow flat base. Measured up to c.1.3m wide.	Cuts (2001); Cut by [2015]; Filled by (2003)	0.20m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2005)	*Fill*	Mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2004]	0.20m thick	
[2006]	Ditch	Linear ditch running east-north-east to west-south-west, with a steep southern side and gradual northern side; into a shallow flat base. Measured c.0.60m wide.	Cuts (2001); Filled by (2007)	0.06m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2007)	*Fill*	Mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2006]	0.06m thick	
[2008]	Ditch	Curvilinear ditch running from north to south-west, with gradual shallow sides, into a flat base. Measured c.0.65m wide.	Cuts (2001); Filled by (2009)	0.04m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2009)	*Fill*	Mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with rare sub-angular stone.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2006]	0.04m thick	
[2010]	Ditch	Linear ditch running west-north-west to east-south-east, with a gradual concave south-east edge and gradual convex north-west edge; into a flat base. Measured c.1.20m wide.	Cuts (2001)[2012]; Filled by (2011)	0.20m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2011)	*Fill*	Dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub-rounded stone.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2010]	0.20m thick	
[2012]	Ditch	Linear gully running north-north-east to south-south-west, with gradual sides into a shallow flat base. Measured up to c.0.40m wide.	Cuts (2001); Cut by [2010]; Filled by (2013)	0.12m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2013)	*Fill*	Dark grey-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub-rounded stone.	Overlain by (2000); Overlaid (2014); Fill of [2012]	0.06m thick	
(2014)	*Fill*	Light yellow soft clay	Overlain by (2013); Fill of [2012]	0.06m thick	
[2015]	*Post-hole*	Sub circular post-hole cutting base of [2004], with vertical sides, into a flat base. Measured c.0.24x0.24m wide.	Cuts (2001)[2002]; Filled by (2016)	0.30m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(2016)	*Fill*	Mid brown soft-friable silt-clay.	Overlain by (2000); Fill of [2015]	0.30m thick	
Area 3					
(3000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (3001)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(3001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (3000)	-	-
Area 4					
(4000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (4001)(4003)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(4001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (4000); Cut by [4002]	-	-
[4002]	Ditch	Linear ditch running north-north-east to south-south-west, with steep concave sloping sides, into a concave base. Measured c.1.6m wide.	Cuts (4001); Filled by (4003)(4004)	0.52m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(4003)	*Fill*	Upper fill - dark grey-brown friable silt, with common sub-angular stone	Overlain by (4000); Fill of [4002]	0.32m thick	
(4004)	*Fill*	Basal fill – mid brown soft-friable silt-clay, with occasional sub-angular stone	Overlain by (4003); Fill of [4002]	0.24m thick	
Area 5					
(5000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (5001)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(5001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (5000)	-	-
Area 6					
(6000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (6001)(6003)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(6001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (6000); Cut by [6002]	-	-
[6002]	Ditch	Linear ditch running east-west, with a steep concave south-west side and gradual convex sloping north-east side; into a flat base. Measured c.0.90m wide.	Cuts (6001); Filled by (6003)	0.20m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(6003)	*Fill*	Mid yellow-brown soft-friable silt-clay, with common sub-angular stone	Overlain by (6000); Fill of [6002]	0.20m thick	
Area 7					
(7000)	*Topsoil*	Mid grey-brown, friable silt	Overlaid (7001)(7003)	*c.*0.26m	C20
(7001)	*Natural*	Yellow-grey shillet	Overlain by (7000); Cut by [7002]	-	-
[7002]	Ditch	Linear ditch running north-west to south-east, with a steep convex western side and uneven sloping eastern side; into a concave base. Measured c.0.52m wide.	Cuts (7001); Filled by (7003)	0.12m deep	Prehistoric (?)
(7003)	*Fill*	Mid brown-grey soft-friable silt-clay	Overlain by (7000); Fill of [7002]	0.12m thick	

APPENDIX 2: SITE PLANS, SECTION DRAWINGS, FEATURE PLANS, AND MAPS

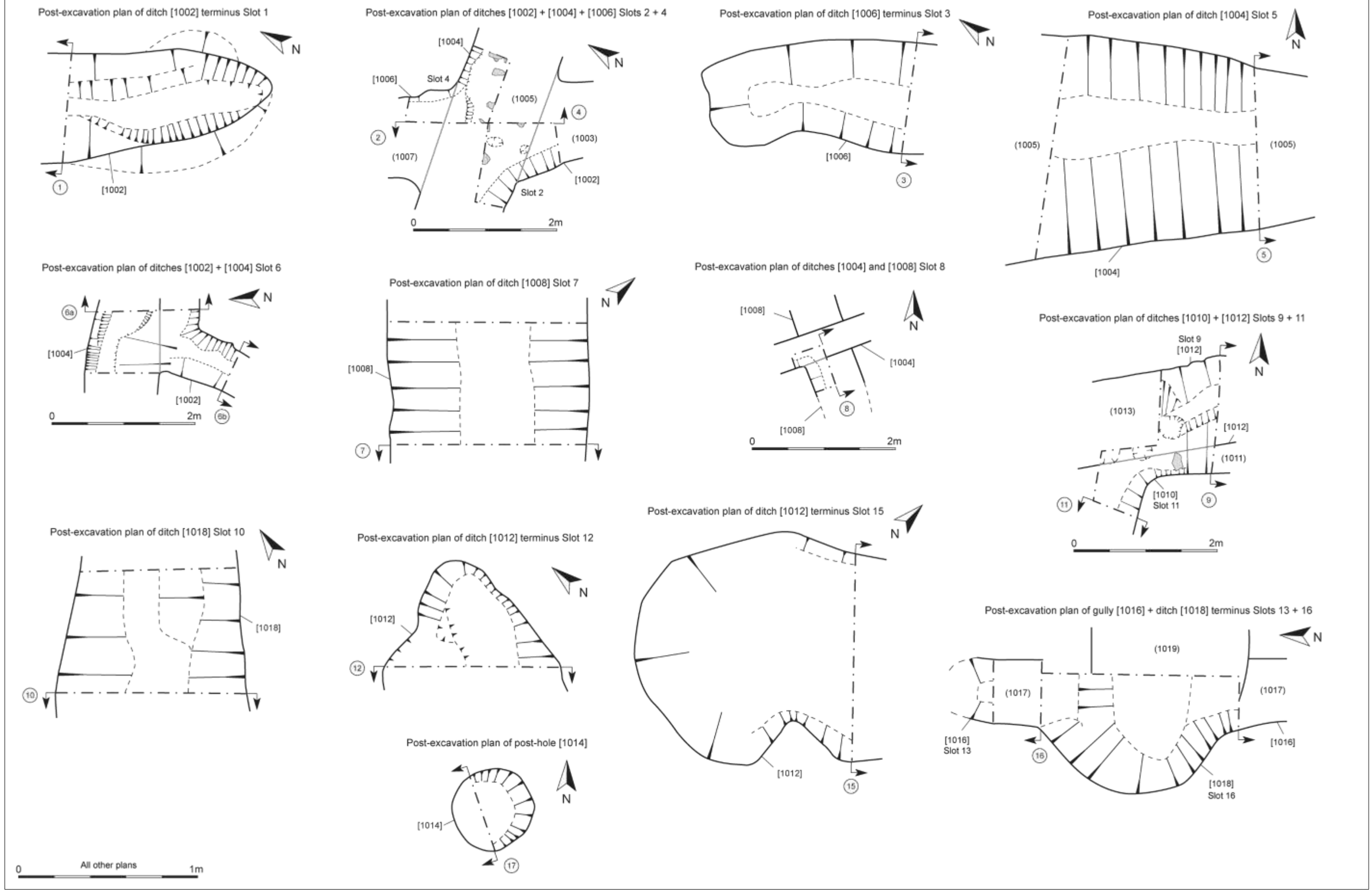
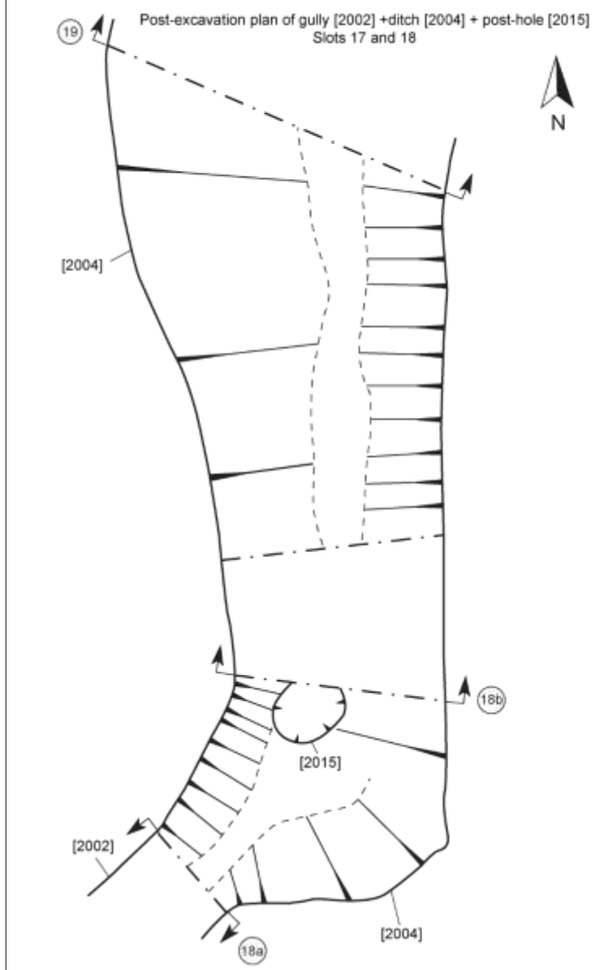
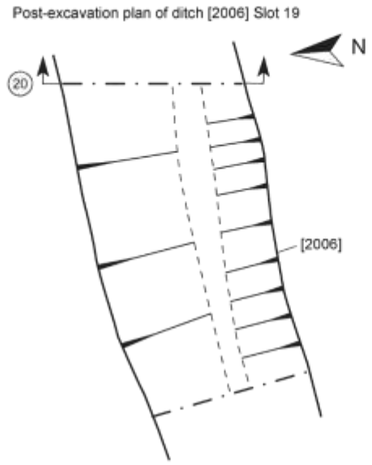
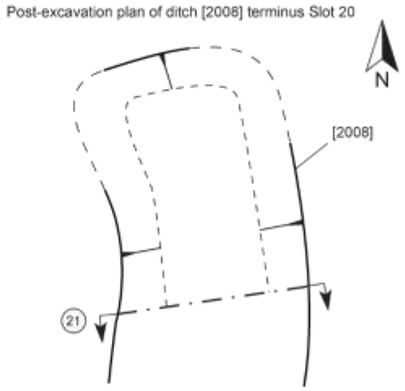
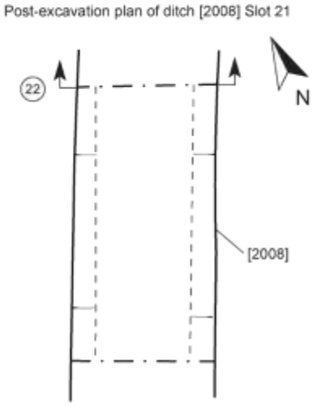


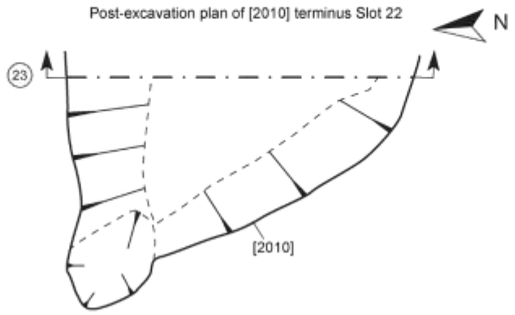
FIGURE 9: AREA 1 ALL PLANS

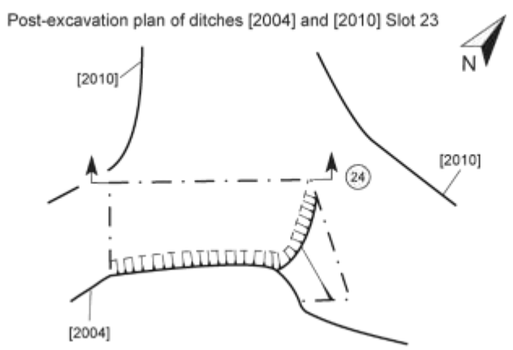












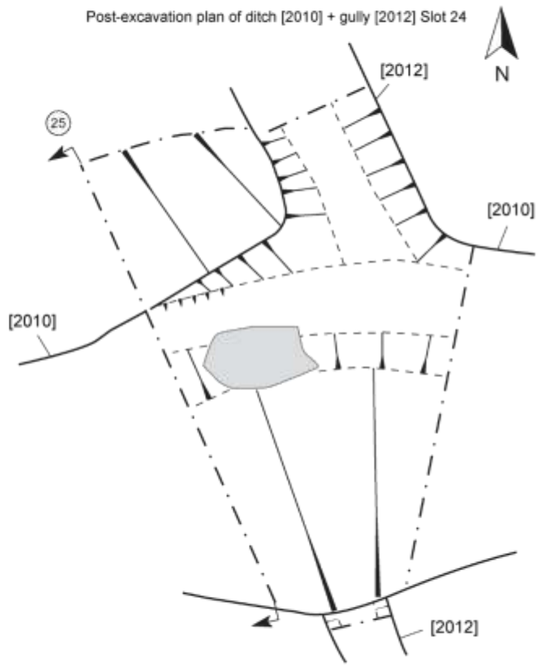


FIGURE 10: AREA 2 ALL PLANS

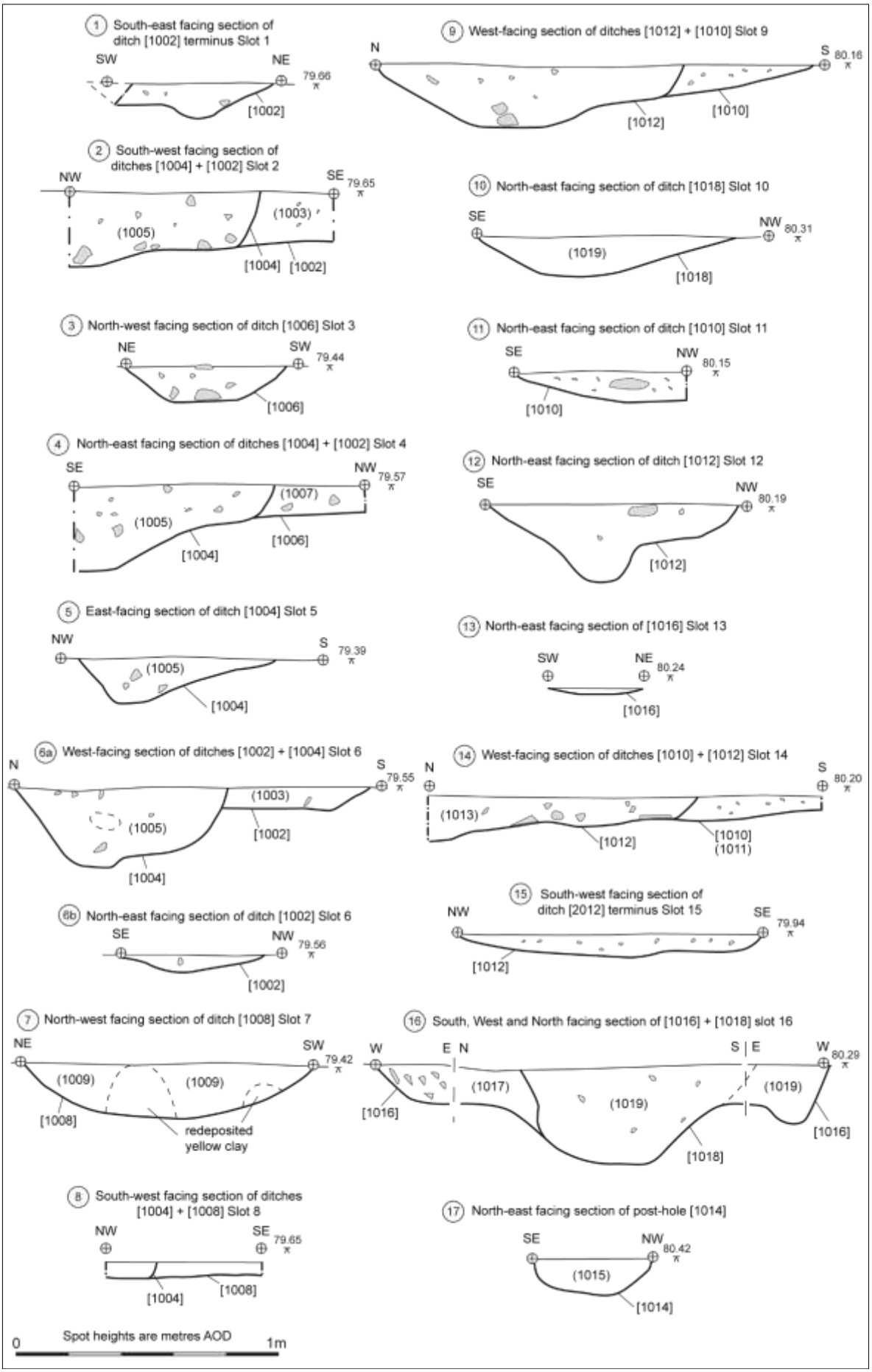


FIGURE 11: AREA 1 ALL SECTIONS, WITH SPOT HEIGHTS

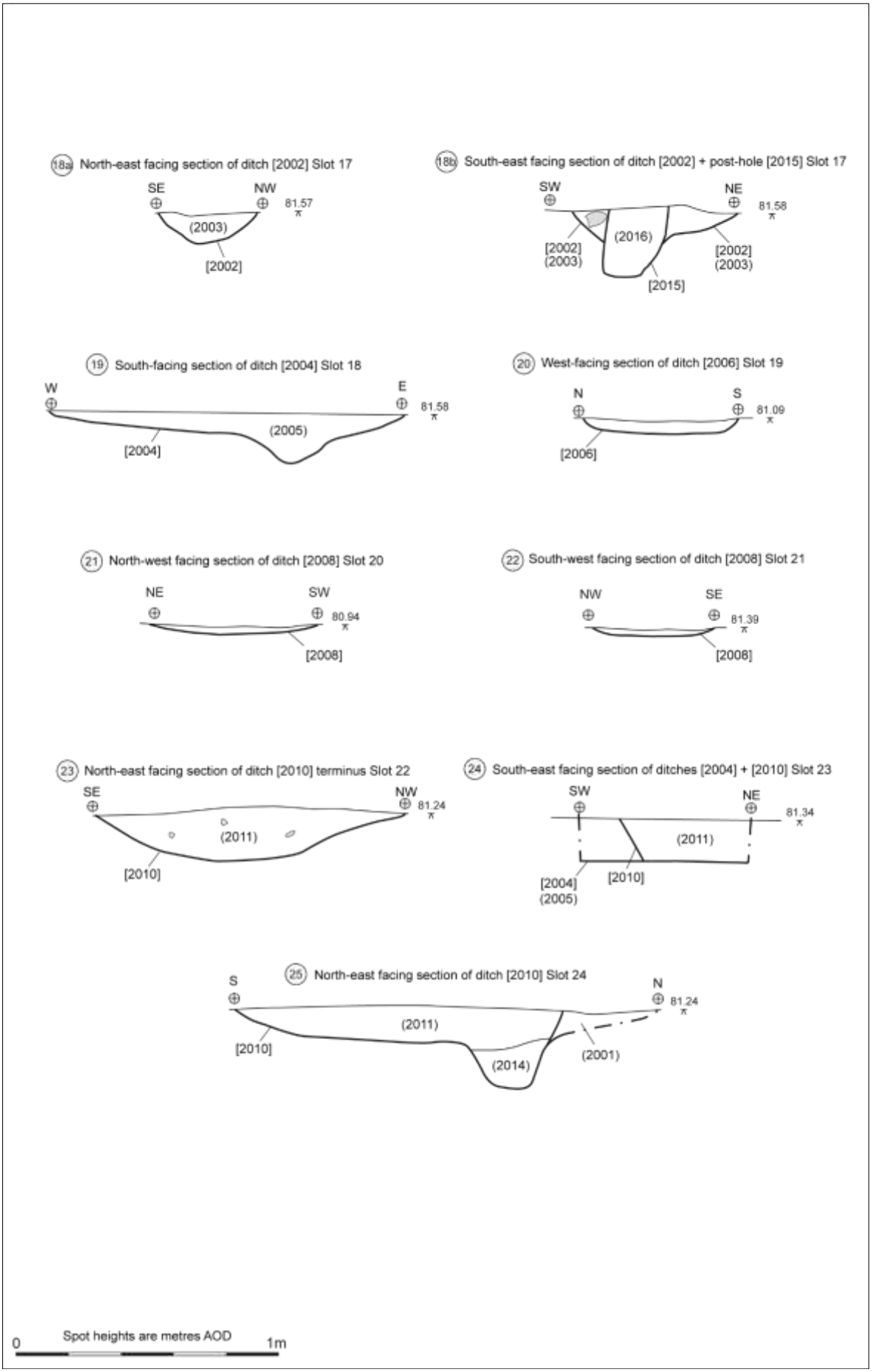


FIGURE 12: AREA 2 ALL SECTIONS, WITH SPOT HEIGHTS

APPENDIX 3: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS

1. DITCH [1002] SLOT 1 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.4M SCALE)

2. DITCH [1002] SLOT 1 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.4M SCALE)

3. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 2 SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE)

4. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 2 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE)

5. DITCH [1006] SLOT 3 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

6. DITCH [1006] SLOT 3 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

7. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 4 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (1M SCALE)

8. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 4 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (1M SCALE)

9. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 4 NORTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE)

10. DITCHES [1002] AND [1004] SLOT 4 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE)

11. DITCH [1004] SLOT 5 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

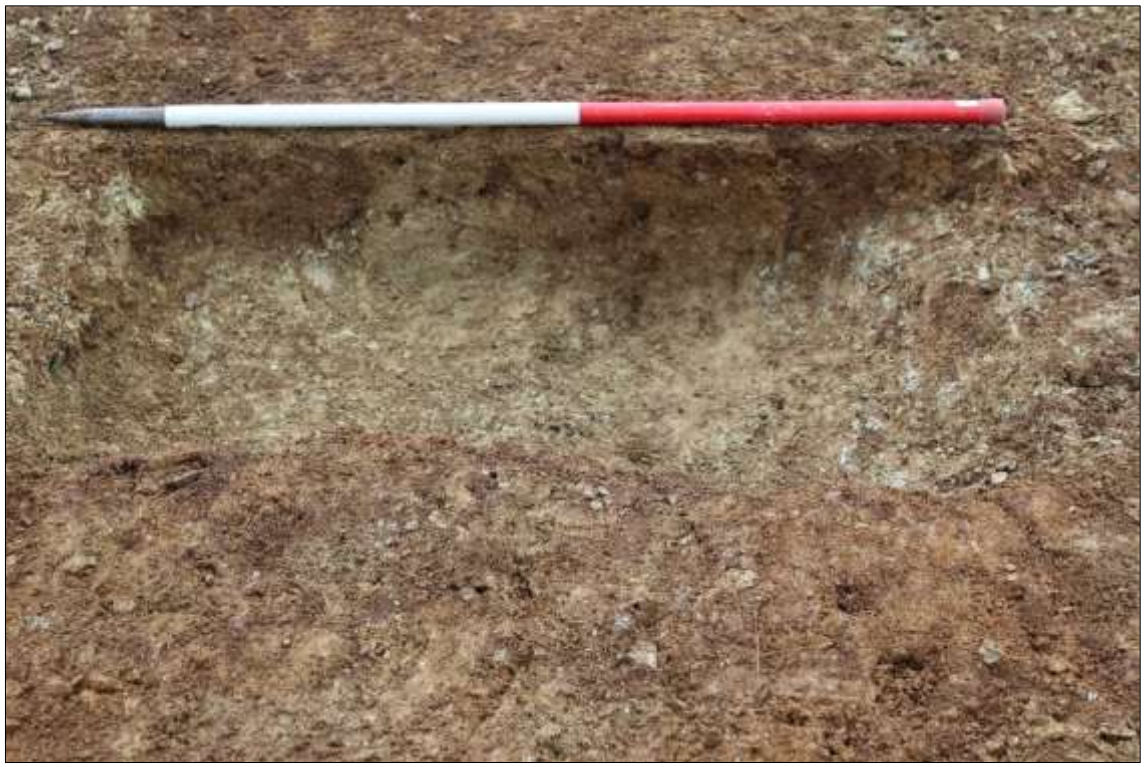
12. DITCH [1004] SLOT 5 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

13. DITCH [1004] SLOT 6 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE)

14. DITCH [1004] SLOT 6 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M + 0.5M SCALE)

15. DITCH [1002] SLOT 6 NORTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

16. DITCH [1002] SLOT 6 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M + 0.5M SCALE)



17. DITCH [1008] SLOT 7 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

18. DITCH [1008] SLOT 7 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

19. DITCHES [1004] AND [1008] SLOT 8 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.4M SCALE)

20. DITCH [1012] SLOT 9 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE)

21. DITCH [1012] SLOT 9 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE)

22. DITCH [1018] SLOT 10 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

23. DITCH [1018] SLOT 10 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

24. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 11 SOUTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.5M SCALE)

25. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 11 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.5M SCALE)

26. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 11 EAST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

27. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 11 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

28. DITCH [1010] SLOT 11 NORTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

29. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 11 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

30. POST-HOLE [1014] NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.4M SCALE)

31. POST-HOLE [1014] MID-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.4M SCALE)

32. DITCH [1004] TERMINUS SLOT 12 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

33. DITCH [1004] TERMINUS SLOT 12 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

34. DITCH [1016] SLOT 13 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.4M SCALE)

35. DITCH [1016] SLOT 13 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.4M SCALE)

36. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 14 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

37. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 14 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

38. DITCH [1010] SLOT 14 NORTH-NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

39. DITCHES [1010] AND [1012] SLOT 14 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

40. DITCH [1012] SLOT 15 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE)

41. DITCH [1012] SLOT 15 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE)

42. DITCHES [1016] AND [1018] SLOT 16 SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

43. DITCHES [1016] AND [1018] SLOT 16 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

44. DITCHES [1016] SLOT 16 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

45. DITCH [1016] SLOT 16 NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

46. AREA 1 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M + 2M SCALE)

47. AREA 1 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M + 2M SCALE)

48. AREA 1 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M + 2M SCALE)

49. GULLY [2002] SLOT 17 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

50. [2002], [2004] AND POST-HOLE [2015] SLOT 17 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

51. DITCH [2004] AND POST-HOLE [2015] SLOT 17 SOUTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.5M SCALE)

52. [2002], [2004] AND POST-HOLE [2015] SLOT 17 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.5M SCALE)

53. DITCH [2004] SLOT 18 SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

54. DITCH [2004] SLOT 18 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

55. SLOTS 17 AND 18 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (0.5M SCALE)

56. DITCH [2006] SLOT 19 EAST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

57. DITCH [2006] SLOT 19 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

58. DITCH [2008] SLOT 20 NORTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

59. DITCH [2008] SLOT 20 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

60. DITCH [2008] SLOT 21 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

61. DITCH [2008] SLOT 21 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

62. DITCH [2010] SLOT 22 WEST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

63. DITCH [2010] SLOT 22 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

64. DITCHES [2004] AND [2010] SLOT 23 SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

65. DITCHES [2004] AND [2010] SLOT 23 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

66. DITCHES [2010] AND [2012] SLOT 24 EAST-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

67. DITCHES [2010] AND [2012] SLOT 24 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE)

68. DITCH [2012] SLOT 24 NORTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

69. DITCHES [2010] AND [2012] SLOT 24 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

70. DITCHES [2010] AND [2012] SLOT 24 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.5M SCALE)

71. POST-HOLE [1014] POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

72. DITCH [4002] SOUTH-WEST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

73. DITCH [4002] POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST (1M SCALE)

74. DITCH [4002] NORTH-FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE)

75. AREA 4 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M + 2M SCALE)

76. AREA 5 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (1M + 2M SCALE)

77. DITCH [6002] SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

78. DITCH [6002] POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

79. AREA 6 POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M + 2M SCALE)

80. DITCH [7002] NORTH-FACING; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

81. DITCH [7002] POST-EXCAVATION PLAN; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.5M SCALE)

82. DITCH [7002] SOUTH-EAST FACING SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (0.5M SCALE)

83. AREA 7 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M + 2M SCALE)

APPENDIX 4: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI)

LAND NORTH OF TREGONNING FARM
KESTLE MILL
ST. NEWLYN EAST
CORNWALL

Written Scheme of Investigation

South West Archaeology Ltd. WSI no. NTF24WSIv2

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES & HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING
SOUTHWEST ARCHAEOLOGY

www.swarch.net Tel. 01769 573555
01872 223164

Land North of Tregonning Farm, Kestle Mill, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall
Written Scheme of Investigation

By Natalie Boyd
Checked by Dr. Samuel Walls MCIfA
Issued: 8th August 2024
Revised: 20th August 2024

Produced by SWARCH for PW Planning (the Agent)
On behalf of a Private Client (the Client)

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by South West Archaeology Ltd. for PW Planning (the Agent) on behalf of a Private Client. (the Client). It has been drawn up in consultation with the LPA and details the archaeological mitigation strategy and methodology to be employed for a staged programme of archaeology, commencing with area excavation ahead of the proposed development of land north of Tregonning Farm, Kestle Mill, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall.

In the mid-19th century, the Newlyn Tithe map and apportionment indicated that the site lay within plot 331, an enclosure that appears relatively unchanged from the one we see today. The site formed part of the landholding of Great Tregoning, owned by Sir Thomas Acland Dyke Baronet and the Executors of Richard Gully Bennett. The land was occupied by William Tremain and the plot was in arable use and known as Brake.

A geophysical survey was carried out for a proposed solar development in 2021 by AOC Archaeology. The survey area included the plot in which the site is located as part of a 92.13Ha survey.

The geophysics results for the plot in which the proposed site lies include a feature recorded on the HER, identified through aerial photography and interpreted as a possible prehistoric enclosure (MCO33769). Within the footprint of the proposals, there appears to be a small number of linear anomalies on the geophysical survey results which may be archaeological in origin and relate to field boundaries of an unknown date, but potentially prehistoric.

CONTENTS

FIGURES

INTRODUCTION

SITE NAME:	LAND NORTH OF TREGONNING FARM
PARISH:	ST. NEWLYN EAST
COUNTY:	CORNWALL
CENTROID NGR:	SW 86554 58912
PLANNING REFERENCE:	PA23/09029; PA23/09030
OASIS NUMBER:	SOUTHWES1-527297

PROJECT SCOPE

This document is the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for land north of Tregonning Farm, Kestle Mill, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall. It has been produced by South West Archaeology Ltd (SWARCH) for PW Planning (the Agent) on behalf of a Private Client (the Client). It sets out the methodology for a staged programme of archaeological investigation, commencing with area excavation to be undertaken ahead of the proposed development of the land and for related off-site analyses and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes were drawn up in consultation with HEP (Arch).

PLANNING CONTEXT

Works on this site are being undertaken as part of Planning Applications PA23/09029 and PA23/09030 for the erection of two agricultural general-purpose buildings.

PLANNING CONDITION(S)

In accordance with paragraph 211 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2023), and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, Cornwall Local Plan Policy 24, consent may be granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. The usual condition wording states:

A) No demolition/development shall take place/commence until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority (LPA) in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions, and:
1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording;
2. The programme for post investigation assessment, recording;
3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording;
4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation;
5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation; and
6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

B) No demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A).

C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

D) The archaeological recording condition will normally only be discharged when all elements of the WSI including on site works, analysis, report, publication (where applicable) and archive work has been completed.

LPA COMMENTS

Historic Environment Planning (Archaeology)
Comment Date: Tue 16 Jan 2024
Thank you for re-consulting HEP Archaeology on this application. We note the submitted results of a geophysical survey undertaken in 2021 (AOC Archaeology July 2021) and the supporting plan showing the redline boundary over the generalised geophysical survey results.

Closer analysis of the interpretive plan in the geophysical report (Sheet 8 of 8) shows that the proposed footprint of the building, its apron and access track will disturb a number of linear features (E3, E6 and E7), interpreted as the potential buried remains of field boundaries of uncertain date. Due to the proximity of neighbouring later prehistoric settlement (MCO33769; MCO8641), these linear features could be of a contemporary date.

Geophysical survey can miss small pits, kilns and ovens and archaeologists are increasingly identifying these within fields neighbouring adjacent later prehistoric settlement (at Parkengear, Probus and Gwel-an-Mor, Portreath for example).

Due to the neighbouring settlement sites known in the HER and further examples identified by geophysical survey within close proximity to the application site (R2, R5, for example), we consider that it has high potential for later prehistoric archaeological features.

We therefore advise that a targeted strip map and sample should be carried out during the early stages of groundworks, undertaken by a suitably qualified organisation or individual. This should be focussed on three or four small areas which include anomalies E3, E6 and E7 and areas surrounding them. HEP Archaeology would advise, for the above reasons, that any consent issued should carry the condition as worded below of sections A-D inclusive (please do not split into separate Conditions or treat separately), which includes words recommended by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO), as follows:

A) No development or groundworks shall take place until a programme of archaeological recording work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions, and:

1. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
2. *The programme for post investigation assessment*
3. *Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording*
4. *Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
5. *Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
6. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*

B) No development or groundworks shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).

C) The development or groundworks shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

D) The development or groundworks recording condition will normally only be discharged when all elements of the WSI including on site works, analysis, report, publication (where applicable) and archive work has been completed, and a final report has been submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority.

A pre-commencement condition is necessary in this instance due to the need to ensure that a programme and methodology of site investigation and recording of archaeological features is undertaken before physical works commence on site. This is in accordance with the provisions of NPPF (2023) Chapter 16, paragraph 211 and Cornwall Local Plan policy 24.
Historic Environment Planning (Archaeology) [PD]

HEP.Arch@cornwall.gov.uk

1.5 PUBLIC AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT[1]

1.5.1 Social benefit can arise through learning and development, and community strength and local identity can be enhanced through contact with the historic environment.

1.5.2 Social benefit also arises from the net contribution to human knowledge (the *research dividend*) made by investigative works.

1.5.3 Economic benefit can arise from the regeneration of historic places, leading to the revitalisation of communities and neighbourhoods. Archaeology can make a meaningful contribution to place-making, which in turn enhances the image of a place and makes it a more desirable place in which to live.

1.5.4 Economic benefit can also arise from beneficial publicity, particularly through outreach, but also via public appreciation of due corporate diligence and care for the historic environment.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 TOPOGRAPHY AND LOCATION

The site is located within an almost rectangular agricultural enclosure within an agricultural landscape. The buildings of Tregonning Farm lie to the south, Kaestle Mill lies 1.5km to the west and Quintrell Downs lies 2km to the north-west. The proposal site lies at a height of c.79m AOD. The soils of the area are the well-drained fine loamy soils of the Denbigh 2 Association[2]. These overlie mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Bovisand Formation[3].

[1] CIfA 2015: *Professional Archaeology: a guide for clients*.
[2] Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (a brief explanation of the constituent soil associations)*.
[3] British Geological Survey 2024: https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/

FIGURE 13: LOCATION MAP, WITH PLAN FROM AGENT.

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies within the parish of St. Newlyn East, in the historic hundred and deanery of Pyder[4]. It is not clear which manor held the lands that include the site.

In the mid-19th century, the Newlyn Tithe map and apportionment indicated that the site lay within plot 331, an enclosure that appears relatively unchanged from the one we see today. The site formed part of the landholding of Great Tregoning, owned by Sir Thomas Acland Dyke Baronet and the Executors of Richard Gully Bennett. The land was occupied by William Tremain and the plot was in arable use and known as *Brake*.

[4] Lysons 1814: *Magna Britannia, Vol. 3: Cornwall.*

FIGURE 14: EXTRACT OF THE NEWLYN TITHE MAP C.1840. THE SITE IS INDICATED (GENEALOGIST).

A geophysical survey was carried out for a proposed solar development in 2021 by AOC Archaeology[5]. The survey area included the plot in which the site is located as part of a 92.13Ha survey. The summary of the results reads:

In the northwest of the Site strong linear trends which show excellent corelation with the transcription of an undated prehistoric enclosure identified on aerial photograph from 1946. However, the gradiometer survey has not mapped the full extent of the feature visible in the aerial photograph. This may be due to variations in the level of magnetic enhancement across the feature or due to truncation associated with agricultural activity since 1946.

Across the Site a number of linear trends and enhanced magnetism were identified which are likely to be archaeological in origin. However, without the support of LiDAR, aerial photographic evidence or HER data, they cannot be definitively confirmed as being archaeological in nature.

Towards the centre of the site a weak, but coherent, curving response has been detected. The response measures some 95m in diameter and may indicate the remnants of a round or enclosure. It is situated on a southern slope just below the highest point of the Site.

The across the Site well-defined linear trends have been detected which are indicative of a former field system. The responses are single ditch type anomalies rather than the traditional double ditch response of a traditional Cornish boundary and none of the postulated field boundaries are indicated on past mapping. As a result, it is possible that this former field system may be of some age. Additional weak, fragmentary trends have also been noted throughout the Site, but particularly in the north of the Site, which may suggest the remnants of a separate earlier field system

In the south of the Site a concentration of Additional suggestions of circular ring ditch type anomalies have been noted throughout the Site which are likely to be archaeologically significant.

In the west of the Site several rectilinear enclosures and additional circular anomalies have been detected which are suggestive of prehistoric settlement and comparable to the responses in the south of the Site.

[5] Ovenden, S. & Sykes, C. 2021: *Tregonning Solar Farm, Cornwall: Archaeological Geophysical Survey*. AOC Archaeology Project No. 40219.

Several traditional Cornish boundaries have been detected across the Site. Those in the south of the Site are indicated on the St Newlyn East Tithe Map of 1840, but other are not recorded on any mapping.

Several modern utilities have also been detected.

A number of areas of magnetic disturbance, most likely the result of modern activity, were also recorded

The geophysics results for the plot in which the proposed site lies include a feature recorded on the HER, identified through aerial photography and interpreted as a possible prehistoric enclosure (MCO33769).

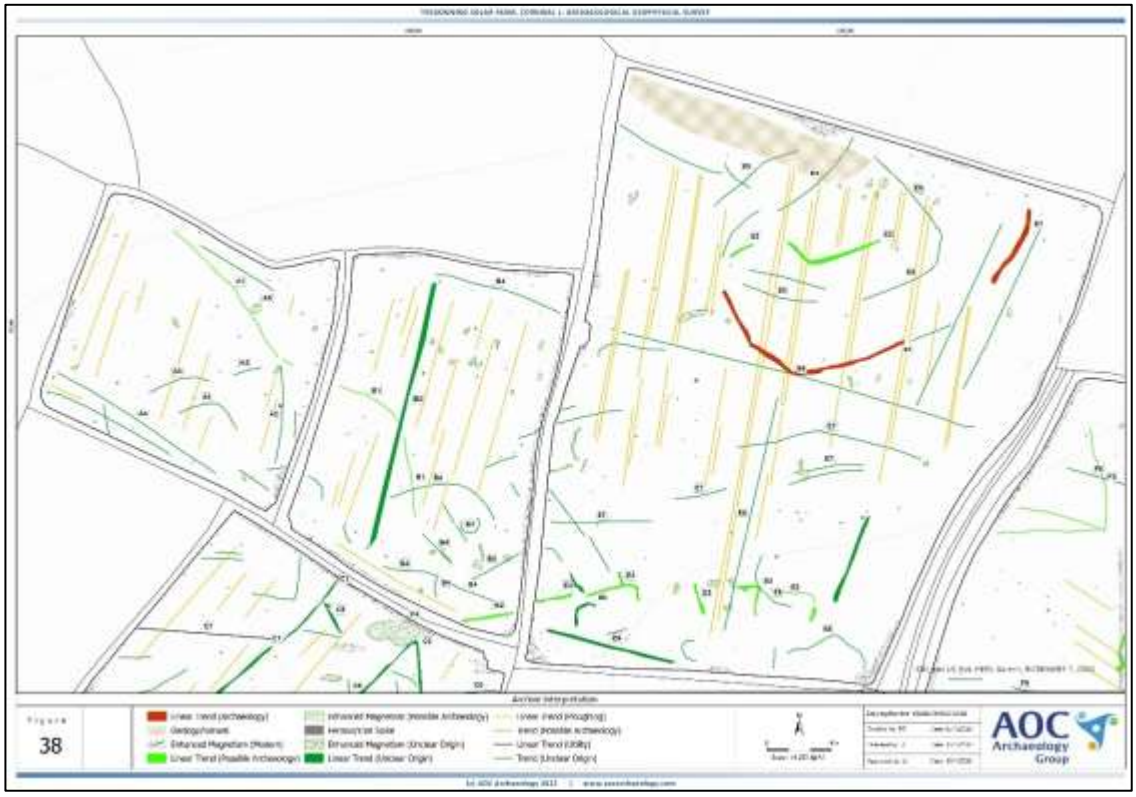


FIGURE 15: INTERPRETATION OF THE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS FOR THE PLOT THAT INCLUDES THE PROPOSALS (AOC ARCHAEOLOGY).

HEALTH & SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

3.1 SWARCH H&S POLICIES

SWARCH is committed to the highest standards of health and safety awareness. Works will be carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work Act* 1974, the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992, and other relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice. All SWARCH field staff hold current CSCS safety cards and EFAW or FAW qualifications. Specific RAMS and RA have been produced for this site, and will be taken onto site with any SWARCH personnel.

3.2 SPECIFIC HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES

The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.

The Client will provide details of all and any specific known hazards and guidance on how works should be undertaken around those services.

These health and safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with powered tools etc.

Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear. Additional PPE (gloves, glasses) will be worn as required.

3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

SWARCH is committed to the laws, regulations, and other policy mechanisms concerning environmental issues and sustainability. These issues include air and water pollution, solid waste management, biodiversity, ecosystem management, maintenance of biodiversity, the protection of natural resources, wildlife and endangered species, energy or regulation of toxic substances including pesticides and many types of industrial waste.

As a provider of archaeological services, SWARCH, its employees and subcontractors have a responsibility for the protection of archaeological heritage. In line with the CIfA *Environmental Protection Policy* para.1, SWARCH recognises that its responsibilities to the built heritage extend to the environment more generally, and that archaeological activities have the potential to affect the environment[6].

SWARCH will adhere to the environmental policies of the Client, and, if applicable, will take steps to minimise environmental damage or pollution arising from archaeological fieldwork.

PROJECT AIMS AND TIMETABLE

4.1 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

Undertake targeted archaeological Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) excavations;
Carry out further works as necessary, and;
Analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

4.2 TIMETABLE

The works are likely to commence in autumn 2024, dependent on the grant of consent and approval of this WSI.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

5.1 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The monitoring of the works will feed into the following SWARF objectives[7]:

Research Aim 4: Encourage wide involvement in archaeological research and present modern accounts of the past to the public.

METHODOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE (SMS) EXCAVATIONS

6.1.1 Six areas within the proposed footprint of each proposed buildings and the proposed access track will be opened to target geophysical anomalies identified by the survey (in particular anomalies E3, E6 and E7, as per the LPA comments (section 1.4)) and to test the validity of the survey (See Figure 4). This work will be carried out in compliance with the relevant guidance[8][9].

6.1.2 Depending on the results of this work, and the significance of the archaeology exposed, these SMS areas may need to be expanded and or an additional archaeological mitigation strategy for the site agreed with HEP(Arch) at Cornwall Council.

6.1.3 The areas will be opened by a 13t (or larger) tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under the supervision and control of an archaeologist. Any archaeological features exposed will be investigated and recorded by the site archaeologist to the depth of formation, the

[6] CIfA 2016: *Policy Statements*.
[7] Grove, J. & Croft, B. (eds.) 2012: *The Archaeology of South West England: South West Archaeological Research Framework; Research Strategy 2012-2017*. Somerset County Council.
[8] CIfA 2023: *Standard for Archaeological Excavation.*
[9] CIfA 2023: *Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.*

surface of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed, machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits. Topsoil and subsoil will be separated and stored to either side of the areas and reinstated as per DEFRA guidelines[10].

FIGURE 16: LOCATION OF PROPOSAL FOOTPRINT AND PROPOSED AREAS OF SMS IN BLUE OVERLAIN ON THE GEOPHYSICS INTERPRETATION (AFTER: AOC ARCHAEOLOGY).

METHODOLOGY

6.2.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code, Regulations and Standards & Guidance for Archaeological Excavation[11][12],

6.2.2 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of existing services, groundworks within the site area, and of the proposed construction programme.

6.2.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by stratigraphically by hand and recorded according to CIfA guidelines and best practice.

6.2.4 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.

6.2.5 Where archaeological features are exposed, then as a minimum:

i) Small discrete features will be fully excavated;

ii) Larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated);

iii) Long linear features will be sample excavated along their length, with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature, and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

[10] DEFRA 2009: *Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites*.
[11] CIfA 2023: *Standard for Archaeological Excavation*.
[12] CIfA 2023: *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.*

6.2.6 Should the above proportions not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits may be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeo-environmental samples and recovery of artefacts. Any variation of the above will be undertaken following consultation with HEP(Arch) at Cornwall Council.

6.2.7 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts; a metal detector will be used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.

6.2.8 Artefacts will be bagged and labelled on site. Unstratified post-1800 pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained. Following post-excavation analysis and recording, further material may be discarded, subject to consultation with the appropriate specialists and the receiving Museum;

6.2.9 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2011*.

6.2.10 If human remains are revealed, these will be left in-situ, covered and protected, and the Coroner notified. Removal will take place in line with the appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. A MoJ licence will be obtained prior to removal.

6.2.11 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or Prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (3rd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport) revised by the Treasure (Designation) (Amendment) Order 2023. Where removal cannot be affected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

6.2.12 In the event of particularly significant discoveries, the HEP (Arch) will be informed and a site meeting between SWARCH, the HEP (Arch) and the client/applicant will be held to determine the appropriate response.

SAMPLING STRATEGY

6.3.1 Where suitable deposits are exposed then samples will be collected in preparation for scientific assessment/analysis/dating. Sampling will be undertaken in line with the relevant guidance[13]. It is envisaged that samples will either consist of bulk soil samples [sampling 100% or 40 litres, in labelled 5 or 10 litre plastic sample tubs] or vertical sediment columns [monolith tins].

6.3.2 Suitable deposits are taken to include contexts where sampling will recover material for dating or palaeo-economic evidence (e.g. sealed pits, basal deposits), or waterlogged/well-preserved sediments with potential for palaeo-environmental remains.

6.3.3 Bulk samples will be stored in sealed containers until off-site processing by SWARCH personnel. The flot will be separated and the residue examined for small artefacts/ecofacts/hammerscale. The residue will be disposed of appropriately, and the flots forwarded for specialist analysis.

6.3.4 Monolith samples will be stored under controlled conditions before delivery to the appropriate specialist.

6.3.5 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants, and the regional Historic England science advisor, can be called upon during the works as necessary.

6.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

6.4.1 Standardised single recording sheets will be employed.

6.4.2 Survey drawings in plan, section and profile at 1:10, 1:20, 1:50 and 1:100 will be prepared, as appropriate to the size and/or significance of archaeological features.

[13] English Heritage 2011: *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*.

6.4.3 A photographic record of the excavation and will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological and architectural detail will feature an appropriately sized scale.

6.4.4 Survey and location of features (metal finds to sub-metre accuracy).

6.4.5 All stratified finds, except when clearly modern, will be retained, bagged and labelled on site. Unstratified post-1800 material may be discarded on site, but a representative sample will be retained.

6.4.6 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts; a metal detector **will be** used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.

6.4.7 All retained artefacts will be processed (washed, identified, weighed, counted) and assessed for their stratigraphic and research potential.

6.4.8 Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the HEP (Arch).

MONITORING

SWARCH shall agree monitoring arrangements with the LPA and give one weeks' written notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made. This will include discussion with HEP following the area excavation fieldwork and preliminary analysis.

HEP (Arch) will be notified on the completion of area excavation fieldwork and the results will be discussed with HEP Arch to assess the significance and progression of the site.

If significant or complex archaeological remains are uncovered during the excavation, SWARCH will arrange an online meeting with the contractor, HEP Arch and the developer/Client. An addendum will be written to the WSI to show the areas of further recording and to outline and agree a methodology.

Monitoring will continue until the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report.

SWARCH will notify the HEP Arch upon the completion of each stage of fieldwork and when the finds and project archive have been deposited with an accessioning museum.

REPORTING

8.1 REPORTING STRATEGY

Copies of the report(s) detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations*) database under reference southwes1-527297 within 3 months of completion of fieldwork, longer as dictated by specialist reporting, etc. The type of report produced will be agreed with the LPA in light of the results.

8.2 ARCHIVE REPORT

If a full report is produced it will include the following elements:

A report number, date and the OASIS and ADS (if significant archaeology is identified) record numbers;

A summary of the project background;

A description and illustration of the site location;

A methodology of the works undertaken, and an evaluation of that methodology;

Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;

A summary of the results;

An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;

A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);

A location plan and overall site plan including the location of areas subject to archaeological recording;

Detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans will show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeo-environmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;

Plans will be located using a dGPS with an accuracy of <20mm. Very large features may be recorded entirely using the dGPS and plotted directly into GIS;

Section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeo-environmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;

A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;

Analysis, as appropriate, of significant artefacts, environmental and scientific samples;

Discussion of the archaeological deposits encountered and their context;

A consideration of the evidence within its wider context;

Site matrices where appropriate;

Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the caption;

A consideration of evidence within its wider context;

A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;

Specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken.

The LPA will receive the report within six months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc, the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated, then an interim report will be produced and a revised submission date for the final report agreed with the LPA.

8.3 PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

It is not anticipated that the results of this fieldwork will merit wider dissemination. Subject to the results of the work a note may be submitted to the journal *Cornish Archaeology* for inclusion in the *recent fieldwork* section.

8.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The relatively short-term and intensive character of this fieldwork (i.e. on private land), together with health and safety considerations (inherent risk and lack of appropriate training) and CIfA policies on the use of volunteers mean that public participation during the recording is not feasible.

ARCHIVE

On completion of the project an ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with the appropriate guidelines[14].

The archive will consist of two elements, the material archive and the digital archive.

SWARCH will, on behalf of the Royal Cornwall Museum (RCM) obtain a written agreement from the landowner to transfer title to all items in the material archive to the receiving museum.

If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.

The material archive, comprising the retained artefacts/samples and the hardcopy paper record (if requested) will be cleaned (or otherwise treated), ordered, recorded, packed and boxed in accordance with the deposition standards and selection strategies of the RCM, and in a timely fashion. As the museum is currently unable to offer curatorial advice, specialists will be consulted to achieve an appropriate strategy in line with best practice.

The hardcopy paper archive will be retained by SWARCH for 3 years and then destroyed.

[14] Historic England 2015: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*.

The digital archive, including copies of all relevant documentation relating to the project and digital copies of all photographs, will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) in compliance with their standards and requirements and according to Historic England guidance[15] for digital photography. The ADS record number will be included in the report.

SWARCH will notify the LPA of the deposition of the material (finds) archive with the RCM, and the deposition of the digital archive with the ADS.

The archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the final report.

PERSONNEL

10.1 SWARCH PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by Samuel Walls BA MA PhD MCIfA (Director at SWARCH 2013-present with 15 years of experience in the commercial sector).

The fieldwork will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience, or supervised by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience: Bryn Morris BA MA PhD MCIfA (Director at SWARCH 2013-present with 18 years commercial experience); Joe Bampton BA MA (15 years commercial experience); Peter Webb BA MA² (16 years commercial experience).

Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be obtained.

10.2 SPECIALISTS

Bone	Hayley Foster MA
Building Recording	Emily Wapshott MA
Conservation	Laura Ratcliffe BSc
Environmental Sample Processing	SWARCH personnel
Lithics	Peter Webb MA
Medieval Pottery	John Allan
Metal & Leatherwork	Quita Mould MA
Mills & Hydroelectric Plants	Martin Watts
Plant Macro-Fossils	Wendy Carruthers
Pollen Analysis	Ralph Fyfe PhD
Post Medieval Pottery	Bryn Morris PhD
Prehistoric Pottery	Henrietta Quinnell or Imogen Wood PhD
Roman Pottery	Henrietta Quinnell or Imogen Wood PhD Wood
Identification	Dana Challinor PhD

10.3 TRAINING AND CPD

Where appropriate, SWARCH will seek to provide training opportunities to SWARCH personnel during the archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation process. Training would be undertaken in order to enhance recording and recovery, and maximise the research gain.

SWARCH training plans (PDP) and CPD logs will be updated during the project, as appropriate to need and demand.

It is envisaged that period fixture awareness and recognition are likely to receive further training.

INSURANCES AND QUALITY CONTROL

SWARCH carry Professional Indemnity Insurance cover up to £5 million, Public Liability up to £5 million and Employers Liability up to £10 million.

SWARCH is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

SWARCH is committed to the highest standard of professional ethics and technical standards, and adheres to CIfA and Historic England guidelines in the conduct of our work.

[15] Historic England 2015: *Digital Image capture and File Storage: guidelines for best practice*.

The work undertaken will be carried out by professional archaeologists overseen by supervisors of ACIfA-level competence. The works and products will be overseen and checked by professional archaeologists with MCIfA-level competence.

CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORY RESTRAINTS

Even where works are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of SWARCH personnel, it remains the responsibility of the Client - in consultation with SWARCH, the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites, etc.

SUMMARY OF DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Section 1: Project Administration
• Site: Land north of Tregonning Farm, Kestle Mill, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall; • Site code: NTF24 • Agent: PW Planning, Rodds Bridge Farm, Bude, EX23 0LS • Activity: Strip, Map and Sample archaeological excavations.
Section 2: Data Collection
• The dataset comprises both born digital and digitised (scanned) archival records relating to the archaeological fieldwork to be carried out at the site. • There will be a separate set of digital data related to the client and billing of the project held in restricted password protected files, only accessible by the Directors, retained and destroyed following GDPR guidance.
Section 3: Documentation and Metadata
• ADS recommended template spreadsheets for metadata (e.g. photolists).
Section 4: Ethics and Legal Compliance
• SWARCH retains copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). ADS will be licensed to preserve and distribute data on behalf of SWARCH should a digital archive be produced.
Section 5: Storage and Backup
• Data will be stored on SWARCH server, backed up daily, with a monthly failsafe backup stored at a separate location.
Section 6: Selection and Preservation
• Should significant archaeology be identified, a full digital archive will be uploaded to ADS for long-term preservation. Otherwise, the report should be uploaded to ADS via the OASIS V system. • An OASIS record has been opened at the outset of the project. The project is of a small scale and ADS have therefore not been consulted. • The costs of archiving have been quoted for.
Section 7: Data Sharing and Accessibility
• The relevant data, proportionate to the results of the fieldwork, will be publicly disseminated through the ADS library. • There are no known restrictions on data sharing for this project.
Section 8: Responsibilities
• Dr. Samuel Walls, MCIfA, Director of SWARCH

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