ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT HALL GATE, HOLBEACH, LINCOLNSHIRE (HBHG 15)

Work Undertaken For
Ashley King Developments

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Hall Gate, Holbeach, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed residential development at the site.

During the medieval period (AD 1066-1540), the site probably lay within the open fields of Holbeach and maintained for agricultural purposes. There is some evidence to suggest that a chapel with an associated cemetery, which has partially been revealed, was located close to the northeast part of the site. A terrier of 17th century date implies that a manor house lay within or close proximity to the site. It could be that Manor Farm represents a successor to this, perhaps re-using the same site. Romano-British (AD 43-410) pottery has been found to the east of the site at depth.

Prior to this work, a geophysical survey and a programme of fieldwalking was undertaken across the area to be developed. The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies to the east of Manor Farm, including an oval enclosure masked by rubble filled pits. Former field boundaries were also identified with traces of relict creek systems. The subsequent fieldwalking recovered a significant quantity of Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) and medieval finds from the area east of Manor Farm which corresponded to a slight elevated area. This evidence presented the possibility that part of the site to be developed was an early manorial centre, perhaps even moated, and further suggested by documentary evidence.

The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, undated, Late Saxon to early medieval and post-medieval deposits. Undated features include elements of an extensive creek system. Although undated, one creek matches the position of a post-medieval field boundary. Late Saxon and early medieval deposits were concentrated in the northeast corner of the site mirroring the fieldwalking results. However, there was no indication that this was a manorial complex and it would appear to have been a small enclosed settlement associated with salt-making and agriculture, both pastoral and arable. Salt-making appears to have been concentrated on the eastern side of the former Holbeach river where extensive dumps of silt waste were recorded. No hearths or settling tanks were identified though fired clay/briquetage supports and oven material imply they are located in close proximity.

The presence of salt-making waste implies that the Holbeach river was certainly tidal up to the site during this period. This is also suggested by the fills of several ditches which show rapid accumulations of silt as well as subsequent recutting.

There was an apparent hiatus in occupation of the site from the later 13th century. This is possibly due to a number of reasons, though extensive land reclamation on the seaward side of Holbeach meant that tidal influences were not felt at the site. It is also about this time that medieval salt-making was undertaken on a more industrial scale.

Post-medieval remains are few, comprising ditches, former ponds and a bottle dump. These are associated with Manor Farm.

The largest category of finds retrieved from the evaluation comprise pottery of 10th – 13th century date. The earlier examples were produced at Thetford, St Neots and Stamford and were later replaced by more local products. Some of the pottery appears to have been used in conjunction with salt-making.

Other finds include medieval and later brick and tile and fired clay, including briquetage associated with salt-making.

Lava quern fragments indicate crop processing and there are a number of worked bone items. Metalwork includes a knife, jettons and nails.

Analysis of the animal bone has indicated that cattle was the principal livestock reared at the site. Further analysis is needed to determine if cattle were raised for meat or for dairy produce. The sites associated with salt-making may prefer a dairy hypothesis, although beef is ideally suited for salting.

Sheep/goat was also an important contributor to the local diet, though pig was very low down. Horse and a deer were also represented. Bird, though only goose was identified to species, was a small element of the local diet.

Environmental sampling was undertaken of a few key features. From this, fish can be added to the above list of meat producing animals, along with a varied range of cereals, particularly salt-tolerant barley.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as *'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (CIfA 2014).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by rg+p on behalf of Ashley King Developments Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development on land at Hall Gate, Holbeach, Lincolnshire, as detailed in Planning Application H09-0521-14. The evaluation was undertaken between the 9th October and 27th November 2015 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Historic Environment Team, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Holbeach is situated 11km east of Spalding and 20km south of Boston, in the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The proposed development site is located 900m southwest of the centre of Holbeach, as defined by the Market Place, at National Grid Reference TF 3546 2403 (Fig. 2). The site lies to the south of Hall Gate.

Local soils are of the Wisbech Series, typically coarse silty calcareous alluvial gley soils, with coarse silty gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils of the Romney Series in the northeast corner of the site (Robson 1990, 26, 36). These soils are developed upon a drift geology of younger marine alluvium which in turn seals a solid geology of Upper Jurassic West Walton Formation mudstones (BGS 1992).

Part of the eastern boundary to the site follows the course of the Old River or Holbeach River which once extended through the town but was culverted during the 19th century. Alluvial deposits associated with this river may be expected on the eastern margins of the site.

The local topography describes a generally

flat area of land within the fens of South Lincolnshire. The site lies at a height of *c*. 2.7m OD with a very gentle rise to the north to 4m along the northern, elevated, boundary. The site encompasses some 40.02 hectares.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Hall Gate lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the Romano-British period to the present day. Substantial amounts of Romano-British pottery was found to the east of the site which may indicate a settlement of the period in this vicinity.

Holbeach is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c*. 1086. Referred to as *Holobec*, *Holobech* and *Holebech*, the name is derived from the Old English and means the 'hollow (*hol*) back (*bæc*)', derived from the local topographic position of the town on raised ground (Cameron 1998, 64). The Domesday Survey records that Holbeach was held by the King (as sokeland of Gedney), by Crowland Abbey (as a manor), Count Alan (as sokeland and a berewic) and Guy of Craon (also manorial) and contained *c*. 5210 acres of arable land and 182 acres of meadow, though the acreage was shared with Whaplode (Foster and Longley 1976, 1/32-3; 11/1; 12/83-4; 57/50).

The manor belonging to Crowland Abbey appears to have been the principal manor in Holbeach and seems to have formed part of the demesne lands of the abbey at the time of the dissolution in 1539 (Dugdale 1819, 124). The descent of the manor is generally unknown but was held by Sir Joseph Banks in the 18th century and was known as Holbeach Abbots.

A chapel dedicated to St Peter is recorded at Holbeach during the reign of King John (Owen 1975, 19) which has been placed to the northeast of the Site. Only one document relates to its existence in which Fulk of Oiri made over the advowson of the church and Chapel of St Peter to Conan (RC 1811, 97). The fate of this chapel is unknown but it must have had some importance as it held burial rights as evidenced by the discovery of 130 skeletons when a mound was levelled in 1867.

In 1330, several grants of land in Holbeach were made to Spalding priory. This included land at '*Oldegate*' granted by Alexander, son of Peter Gouk. It is claimed that Oldgate was also known as Hallgate and St Peter's Gate (MacDonald 1890, 58). Spalding priory still retained land in Holbeach in 1405 (Dugdale 1821, 213), although no mention of land in Holbeach is mentioned at the dissolution.

A terrier of Holbeach, dating to the late 17th century, describes the area in which the Site lies as 'All the lands between *Rutlehurn* and Hinder Oldgate south, Hallgate north, the common sewer east and Robins Lane (now Cranmore Lane) west'. Part of this comprised 72 acres of land (*c*. 21 hectares) with the '*mannor house*' and a further 5 acres (2 hectares) were owned by the Bishop of Lincoln (MacDonald 1892, 152). The mention of a manor house, perhaps preserved in the current Manor Farmhouse, may infer some importance to the site. It may also suggest that the medieval chapel of St Peter was manorial in origin, though the question of burial rights still remains.

Prior to this work, geophysical survey and fieldwalking were undertaken at the site. Geophysics revealed an area of archaeological type anomalies comprising a possible enclosure and rubble filled pits to the east of Manor Farm. Field boundaries, since removed were also identified and there were also slight traces of relict creeks in the eastern and southern parts of the site respectively (Jefferson 2014, 4). Fieldwalking identified a concentration of Late Saxon and medieval finds overlying the geophysical enclosure to the east of

Manor Farm, along with post-medieval finds (Lane 2014, 4).

The documentary evidence along with the geophysical and fieldwalking results may have potentially identified the site as a possible manorial centre. Archaeological investigations at the site have the potential, therefore, to contribute to the understanding of the development structure and landholdings of manorial estate centres, a research objective identified in recent research agenda and strategy (Knight *et al*. 2012, 101).

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information to enable the Historic Environment Team, Lincolnshire County Council, to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

- Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.
- Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
- Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
- Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
- Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
- Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

4. METHODS

Fifty five trenches, each measuring 50m by 2m were positioned to provide sample coverage and to target geophysical anomalies at the site (Fig. 3). However in the event, ## trenches could not be opened due to crop cover. Trenches were excavated to the surface of the underlying natural geology or to the uppermost archaeological horizon, as appropriate.

Removal of topsoil and other overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trenches were plotted prior to excavation using a survey grade GPS.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable

relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

Environmental sampling was undertaken on the discretion of the site supervisor using guidelines established by English Heritage (2011). The subsequent processing of the samples is detailed in Appendix 3.

5. RESULTS

The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed by area and then in trench order. Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

AREA A (Fig.3)

A number of trenches contained no archaeological deposits and in the northernmost end of Area A, comprised natural alluvial silts overlain by a 0.22m to 0.31m thick silty to clayey silt subsoil, sealed by modern ploughsoil ranging in thickness from 0.36m to 0.4m. This sequence of deposits was identified in Trenches 2, 3 and 4.

In Trenches 8, 10, 11 and 15 a sequence of natural alluvial silts overlain by 0.43m to 0.45m thick modern ploughsoil was recorded.

The natural alluvial silts recorded across the whole of Area A comprise firm mid orangey grey brown to mid to light yellowish brown silts, slightly clayey silts and sandy silts.

The ploughsoil across area A consisted of firm to friable dark greyish brown silt and clayey silt.

Trench 1 (Fig.5)
Natural silts (101) in this trench were overlain by a 0.25m thick firm mid reddish brown clayey silt (104) subsoil.

A linear ditch cut [102] orientated north-northwest to south-southeast measured up to 0.9m wide by 0.39m deep, and through the subsoil (Fig. 36, Section 65). The ditch had steep concave sides and was filled with firm mid brownish grey silty clay (103).

The ditch was overlain by 0.44m thick ploughsoil (100).

Trench 5 (Fig.5)
A total of two natural silt deposits (502), (504) were identified in this trench.

Silt deposit (504) was cut by a linear ditch [505] orientated roughly north-south and measuring 1.5m deep by 3.8m wide with steep sides stepping in and breaking sharply to a flat base (Fig. 34, Section 57) (Plate 2). The earliest fill within this ditch comprised orange blue silty clay (503) and was recorded filling the sides of the cut. The silty clay was overlain by firm dark blackish grey silty clay (510) which was truncated by a recut [511].

Recut [511] had steep sides, one slightly convex and one concave and measured 2.9m wide by 0.6m deep, breaking gradually to an irregular base. The primary fill comprised a 0.5m thick, firm dark yellowish grey silty clay (509). This was overlain by firm dark blackish brown silty clay (508), up to 0.35m thick followed by a loose light yellowish grey sandy silt (507), up to 0.4m thick. The final fill comprised 0.3m thick loose to firm dark greyish brown clayey silt (506).

Ploughsoil deposit (501) overlay the ditch.

Trench 6 (Fig.6)
The natural deposit (601) in this trench was truncated by two features.

In the southern end of the trench the natural was cut by an east-west orientated ditch

[605] measuring 0.5m deep by 1.25m wide with steep sides breaking very gradually to a concave base (Fig. 36, Sections 61 & 62). The ditch contained three fills, the earliest of which consisted of 0.16m thick, firm light greyish brown clayey silt (609). This was overlain by 0.12m thick firm mid yellowish grey clayey silt (608). The final fill was 0.22m thick and comprised firm mid brownish grey clayey silt (606).

A second ditch [603] was identified to the north of the first. This was orientated on an east to west alignment and measured 2.7m wide by at least 0.42m deep with steep sides (Fig. 36, Section 60). The earliest fill recorded within this feature comprised light greyish yellow clayey silt (607), that measured at least 0.23m thick. This was overlain by a 0.22m thick deposit of firm light yellowish grey clayey silt.

Trench 7 (Fig.6)

Two natural deposits of alluvial silt (701), (705) were identified in this trench.

Natural silt (701) was cut by a linear ditch [702] measuring 2.5m wide by 0.6m deep, orientated north-south with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave point (Fig. 34, Section 59). The primary fill of this ditch comprised 0.4m thick, loose dark greyish brown clayey silt (704), containing occasional mollusc shell fragments. This was overlain by a 0.2m thick mix of loose greyish brown and yellow sandy silts (703) with occasional mollusc shells.

Trench 9 (Fig.7)

Natural silt (906) was only observed in section, suggesting the trench overlies a significantly large feature (Fig.34, Sections 54-55 & 58) (Plate 3).

The suggested large cut [904] was observed in Sections 54, 55 and 58 (Fig. 34; Plate 3) where 0.61m of depth was measured. Where sides were partially revealed they were shallow and partly convex. The base of the cut was recorded as flat in Section 58. This cut was filled with firm orange grey silty clay (905).

This large feature was truncated by a roughly north-south aligned ditch [902] measuring 0.52m deep by 1.08m wide with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 34, Sections 54-55 & 58) (Plate 3). The ditch was filled with loose dark brown sandy silt (903) containing frequent fragments of modern brick, charcoal, shell, fragments of bone and glass.

Ploughsoil (900) overlay ditch [902].

Trench 12 (Fig.7)

Within this trench, natural silt (1202) was truncated by linear ditch cut [1203] which measured at least 0.75m deep by 2.52m wide (Fig. 36, Sections 63 & 64). The ditch was aligned northwest to southeast and had steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base. The ditch was filled with firm pinkish greyish brown silty clay (1204), containing occasional shell.

A 0.19m thick layer of mid yellowish brown silt subsoil (1201) overlay the ditch.

The subsoil was in turn sealed by 0.4m thick ploughsoil (1200).

Trench 14 (Fig.8)

Natural deposit (1403) was overlain by 0.35m thick firm mid brown silty sand subsoil (1402).

The subsoil was truncated by two linear ditches [1408] and [1410] which were parallel and orientated on roughly north-south alignments. Ditch [1408] (Fig. 38, Section 82) is probably the same as the ditches in trenches 9 and 5, [902] and [505], and probably modern. As a result it was decided to partially excavate the ditch using the mechanical excavator. The ditch was steep sided with the earliest fill consisting

of soft dark brown to dark grey sandy silt (1407) containing plastic and modern debris. This was overlain by firm mid brown silty sand (1406) which in turn was overlain by firm light brown sandy silt (1405).

Ditch [1410] was parallel but probably contemporary with modern ditch [1408] and remained unexcavated. The fill recorded in plan comprised soft mid grey clayey sand (1409) with mid brown mottling.

Trench 16 (Fig.8)

In the western end of Trench 16 the natural silt (1602) was cut by linear ditch [1617] and feature [1635] (Fig. 35, Section 52) (Plate 4) which probably represents a second linear or possibly a pit. These two features share a number of fills and recuts suggesting they were dug at the same time and in use together, most likely forming a double ditch [1617/1635].

Cut [1635] is at least 3.2m wide by 0.75m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base. If this is a wide linear it is orientated on a north-south alignment. Along the south facing section, the base of the cut slopes downward, suggesting that if this is a linear, the section may be located close to its terminal end, or there is a possibility that this may be a large square or rectangular pit.

Cut [1617] is also orientated on a north-south alignment and has a more standard ditch profile, measuring at least 1.5m wide by 1.65m deep with its western side gradually sloping and convex, then becoming steep and near vertical. What is observable of the eastern side is moderately steep and straight. Both sides break sharply to a flat base.

These cuts are contemporary, connected and sharing a primary fill comprising loose light bluish grey sandy silt (1624), up to 0.2m thick. Finds retrieved from this deposit include a fragment of possible briquetage, eight pieces of fired clay, two of which may represent hearth lining and three which are possibly hearth bottom, along with a significant amount of animal bone derived mostly from large mammals such as cattle. This is overlain on the eastern side of feature [1635] by a 50mm thick deposit of loose light grey sandy silt (1634), which is probably the result of collapse into the side of the feature. This was sealed by a 0.34m thick fill consisting of loose dark blackish grey clayey silt (1633).

In ditch [1617] on the western side of [1617/1635], shared fill (1624) was overlain by 0.25m thick, light yellowish grey sandy silt (1623). Overlying (1623) was a 0.1m thick fill of loose light greyish yellow sandy silt (1619).

Fills (1619) and (1633) were both truncated by recut [1636] which preserved the double ditch profile and had a width of at least 3.7m before truncation on the western side. The depth of the base on the western side was 0.48m, while the base at the eastern side measured 0.68m below ground surface.

The primary of fill of the recut consisted of 0.13m thick, loose light grey sandy silt (1622). This was overlain by a 0.32m deep fill of loose light greyish yellow sandy silt (1632).

This latter fill was truncated by a second recut [1637] which also preserved the double ditch profile, but significantly shortened the width of the feature to 2.96m with a depth of 0.6m at the eastern base and 0.43m at the western base.

The primary fill of recut [1637] comprised 0.37m thick loose dark blackish grey clayey silt, (1621) which contained a fragment of lava quern of Late Saxon or later date, eight pieces of possible briquetage and a significant amount of animal bone, mostly

of sheep/goat and medium size mammal. This was overlain by a 0.11m thick deposit of loose mixed dark greyish brown and light yellowish grey, sandy silt (1620).

Fill (1620) was in turn cut by two postholes located between the two dips in double ditch profile. The western posthole [1625] measured 80mm wide by 0.39m deep with fairly straight vertical sides, slightly tapered at the bottom, breaking sharply to a flat base. The inclination of axis was *c.* 80-85º. The fill of this posthole comprised loose dark grey clayey silt (1626).

The eastern posthole [1627] measured 80mm wide by 0.38m deep with fairly straight vertical sides, slightly tapered at the bottom, breaking sharply to a flat base. The inclination of axis was *c.* 95-100º. The fill consisted of loose dark grey clayey silt (1628).

The postholes were overlain by deposit (1618), which is also a fill within recut [1636] and contained cattle, sheep/goat and large mammal bone. Deposit (1618) is up to 0.2m thick and comprised loose dark greyish brown clayey silt.

A final recut [1629] was recorded truncating deposit (1618). This had the profile of a single shallow ditch or possible pit measuring 2.27m wide by 0.25m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base. The single fill within this cut comprised loose dark brownish grey clayey silt containing occasional small mollusc shells.

Near the central part of the trench the natural silt was cut by a roughly north-northeast to south-southwest aligned linear ditch [1613] measuring 1.01m wide by 0.27m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly sloping flat base (Fig. 34, Section 51). This ditch contained a sequence of three fills, the earliest of which comprised loose light bluish grey clayey silt (1616), 90mm thick, containing pottery of 10th to 12th century date. This was followed by a 0.1m thick deposit of loose mid brownish blue clayey silt (1615) with small mollusc shells. The final fill consisted of loose light orangey blue sandy silt (1614) containing small mollusc shells. Finds retrieved from this deposit include a single sherd of 10th to 12th century pottery, a fragment of fired clay and a small assemblage of animal bone.

Adjacent to this ditch on its eastern side was a circular or ovoid pit [1609] partially exposed in plan (Fig. 33, Section 50). The pit measured 1.3m wide by 0.35m deep with irregular sides breaking gradually to a sloping base. The earliest fill within the pit comprised loose light bluish grey silty clay (1612). This was overlain by 0.14m thick, loose dark bluish grey clayey silt (1611), which in turn was sealed by up to 0.15m thick fill of loose mid greyish orange sandy silt (1610).

Three irregular shaped pit type features were recorded in the eastern end of the trench. (Fig. 33, Section 49) (Plate 5). Oval pit [1607] measured 0.25m wide by at least 0.65m long by 0.2m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a concave base. This feature contained a single fill of loose dark brownish grey clayey silt (1608).

Pit [1607] was truncated by a probable natural feature [1605] which shared a fill (1604) with pit like feature [1603], suggesting they were open at the same time. The irregular shapes and shallowness of these pits suggest they were natural in origin, possibly tree throws, filled with clayey silt (1606) and silty clay (1604) deposits.

Trench 17 (Fig.9)

A single linear ditch [1705] on a broadly east-west alignment was recorded in this trench. Measuring 1.7m wide by 0.34m deep, it had fairly shallow slightly concave

sides that developed into an imperceptibly to concave base (Fig. 32, Sec 41). The basal fill of this ditch comprised 90mm thick, soft light pinkish brown to light grey silt (1706). This was overlain by a 0.32m thick deposit of soft mid grey silt (1704).

Up to 80mm thick subsoil deposit (1702) of soft mid brown and greyish brown silt was identified in this trench.

AREA B (Fig.3)

Area B contained 6 trenches with no archaeological features recorded. Trenches 19, 20, 21 (Plate 6), 23, 28 and 29 revealed natural silts, clayey silts and sandy silts ranging in colour from light greyish brown to orangey brown, pinkish brown, dark yellowish brown, light to mid yellow and light to mid brownish yellow. These were overlain by dark to mid greyish brown silt ploughsoil ranging in thickness from 0.3m to 0.52m.

Five trenches 30 (Plates 7-8), 34, 35, 37 and 38 (Figs. 10-12) contained evidence of natural creeks and channels which correspond to a previous geophysical survey of the site. A sample of these was excavated using a mechanical excavator in order to confirm their character. Creek deposits in Trench 34 consisted of indeterminate banded layers of mid grey and brownish yellow silty sands. An exploratory sondage in Trench 38 revealed channel or creek deposits comprised of reddish brown and reddish greyish brown silts (3804), (3803), and (3802) (Fig.39, Section 91) (Plate 9). Creek deposits in Trenches 30 and 35 had dark organic fills at the edges suggesting vegetation.

Trench 22 (Fig.9)

The natural deposit in Trench 22 consisted of firm, light to mid yellowish brown silt (2205).

A north-south aligned linear ditch [2202] cut through the natural silts in this trench and measured 3.5m wide by at least 0.82m deep (Fig. 36, Section 67). One side was exposed during excavation which was steep and fairly flat before becoming horizontal and flat, then becoming moderately steep again.

The earliest fill recorded within this ditch comprised a dark greenish grey silty clay (2204), at least 0.35m thick and containing occasional mollusc shells. This was overlain by 0.52m thick, firm light yellowish grey clayey silt (2203).

A 0.26m thick layer of mid greyish brown clayey silt subsoil (2201), cut by a field drain, was identified in this trench and was sealed by 0.36m of firm dark greyish brown clayey silt ploughsoil (2200).

Trench 24 (Fig.10)

At the base of Trench 24, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (2401) natural was recorded.

A single ditch [2402] was recorded in the northern end of this trench, orientated northeast-southwest (Fig. 36, Section 66). It measured 0.83m wide by 0.34m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a shallow V-shaped base with a concave point. Two fills were identified, the first of which consisted of firm light brownish grey clayey silt (2403), 0.34m thick. The uppermost fill comprised 0.12m thick, firm light greyish brown clayey silt (2404).

Sealing all deposits was a 0.45m thick, dark greyish brown clayey silt (2400) ploughsoil.

AREA C (Fig.3)

Area C (Southwest quadrant of the site) contained 9 trenches, four with no archaeological evidence. Trenches 31, 36,

52 and 55 revealed light to dark yellow and mid brownish yellow, sandy silts and silty sands, overlain by 0.35m to 0.40m thick ploughsoil consisting of friable mid to dark brown sandy silt (Plate 12).

The same sequence of natural silts and sands overlain by ploughsoil was observed across the rest of the area. However, Trench 32 revealed evidence of overbank flooding at the southeastern end of the trench (Figs. 11 & 39, Section 87), while Trench 26 revealed a possible creek in its northwestern end (Figs 10 & 39, Section 85) (Plate 13). In Trench 54, a possible watercourse was recorded in the eastern end (Fig. 23). Trenches 25 (Fig.10; Plates 11-12) and 53 (Fig 23 & 39, Section 95) (Plate 14) also revealed evidence of river or creek channels.

Exploratory sondages were excavated through potential river/creek deposits in Trenches 26 and 53 to confirm their character. These alluvial deposits are described in Appendix 1.

AREA D (Figs 3 & 4)

A total of 12 trenches were excavated in Area D which revealed a significantly dense concentration of archaeological remains.

Trench 49 was the only trench where no archaeological finds or features were encountered. This trench revealed a sequence of natural yellowish brown and light reddish brown clayey silt (4904) and silts (4903) overlain by an 0.11m thick silty subsoil (4902), in turn sealed by 0.4m thick ploughsoil consisting of soft dark greyish brown slightly clayey silt (4901).

Trench 39 (Fig.12)

Naturally deposited silts in Trench 39 comprised firm mid brown to mid yellowish brown clayey silt (3905).

A linear or possibly curvilinear ditch [3904] cut through the natural silts on a roughly northeast-southwest alignment had fairly steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Fig. 25, Sections 10 and 11). The ditch measured 1.26m wide by 0.49m deep and contained two fills. The primary fill of this ditch comprised a 0.23m thick, firm to friable light greyish brown silt (3903) layer with some yellowish brown mottling. The final fill was a firm mid to light greyish brown silt (3902) that was 0.34m thick.

A 0.33m thick layer of friable mid brown silt (3901) was identified in this trench and sealed by a ploughsoil deposit, comprising dark greyish brown silt (3900), which measured up to 0.52m thick.

Trench 40 (Fig.13)

Natural in Trench 40 comprised firm, mid to light yellowish brown silt (4003).

In the eastern end of the trench, a sequence of deposits was recorded washed into what was probably a natural depression (Figs 13 & 25, Section 8) (Plate 15). The earliest of these was an 80mm thick deposit of soft light yellowish brown silt (4023). This was overlain by soft dark grey silt (4024), up to 80mm thick containing a small amount of animal bone and two pieces of worked bone, including a 10th to 12th century pin beater and a fragment of highly polished bird bone which possibly forms part of a whistle (Appendix 2). The third deposit in this sequence consisted of light yellowish brown silt (4025), up to 0.16m thick, containing moderate charcoal flecks and fragments. The final deposit in this sequence was a mixture of soft dark grey, mid greyish brown and pale yellowish brown silt (4026), up to 0.18m thick. Finds recovered from this deposit include five fragments of medium size mammal bone, two fragments of lava quern (late Saxon or later) and five pieces of mortar.

A north-south orientated linear ditch [4018]

cut through deposit (4025) on the western end of this group of fills (Fig. 25, Section 8) (Plate 15). However, ditch [4018] was truncated by another feature [4013] which obscures where the original cut for [4018] may have been and it could be the case that it was originally cut through deposit (4026).

Ditch [4018] was up to 2.75m wide by at least 0.4m deep before truncation by [4031], with steep sides breaking sharply to a sloping flat base. It was orientated roughly north-south alignment and contained a sequence of four fills. The primary fill comprised a 0.1m thick, soft pale bluish grey silt (4019) fill with orange red mottle, containing occasional charcoal and moderate shell. This was overlain by a 50mm thick deposit of soft pale yellowish brown silt (4028) with occasional charcoal flecks. The third fill in the sequence consisted of soft mid to light grey laminated silts (4020), 0.31m thick, containing frequent charcoal flecks and a small assemblage of animal bone. The final fill comprised 0.12m thick, soft pale yellowish greyish brown silt (4027).

Ditch [4018] was in turn truncated by possible linear ditch or pit [4031], which measured 2.64m wide by 0.4m deep (Fig. 25, Section 8) (Plate 15), with shallow straight sides breaking imperceptibly to a slightly concave base. The basal fill consisted of soft dark grey and light brown laminated silt (4021), up to 70mm thick, containing a fragment of Late Saxon or later degenerated lava quern, six pieces of fired clay and some possible iron spur fragments. This was overlain by 0.34m thick, firm mid brownish grey silt (4022) containing occasional burnt clay and moderate charcoal fragments. Finds retrieved from this deposit include a small amount of animal bone, eight mussel shells and a sherd of 10th to 12th century pottery showing signs of bleaching on one side.

A posthole [4029] lay adjacent to the western edge of [4018]. It was sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners, measuring 0.28m wide by 0.1m deep with straight sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 25, Section 9). The posthole was filled with a firm mid brown silt (4030).

A ditch [4011] was recorded cutting through natural silts towards the centre of the trench, which measured 1.6m wide by 0.44m deep, and orientated northeast-southwest, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 24, Section 3). It contained a sequence of six fills, the first five comprising 50mm to 100m thick bands of dark grey and light grey silts, containing moderate to frequent amounts of charcoal. These were assigned context numbers (4012), (4013), (4014), (4015) and (4016). The final fill comprised a 0.23m thick, firm mid brownish grey silt (4017) with moderate charcoal. Fills (4012), (4014) and (4017) contained a number of finds. Fill (4012) produced a piece of cattle bone and a fragment of Late Saxon or later lava quern. Finds retrieved from (4014) consisted of a significantly large amount of animal bone and a fragment of fired clay. Deposit (4017) produced some animal bone, a flake of probable post-Roman ceramic building material (CBM) and a large bone needle, possibly a netting needle.

A deposit of soft mottled mid brown and dark grey silt (4008) with frequent charcoal was recorded overlying the natural (possibly filling a small hollow or old shallow channel) to the immediate west of ditch [4011]. This deposit contained two fragments of 10th to 12th century pottery and a small amount of animal bone.

This layer was truncated by linear cut, [4009] and ditch [4006]. Linear cut [4009] may represent a small shallow ditch orientated on a northeast to southwest alignment, but was very ephemeral. It

measured 0.12m deep by 0.7m wide, with moderately steep straight sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 24, Section 4). The single fill within this feature consisted of soft, light to mid brown silt (4010) and contained a few fragments of large and medium sized mammal bone.

Ditch [4006] was aligned northwest to southeast and had straight sides breaking sharply to a flat base, measuring 1.1m wide by 0.35m deep (Fig. 24, Section 2). It contained a single fill of firm, light to mid brown silt (4007) containing moderate charcoal flecks and fragments, a sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery and a small amount of animal bone.

A narrow ditch [4004] was recorded cut through the natural in the western end of the trench, aligned broadly east-west. The ditch measured at least 10m long and was up to 1.09m wide and 0.42m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Fig. 24, Section 1). The ditch was filled with soft mid greyish brown silt (4005) with occasional charcoal flecks. Finds retrieved from this deposit include a small amount of large mammal bone, two pieces of fired clay, a sherd of late 15th to 17th century pottery and two fragments of post-medieval brick, one dating from the 18th to 19th century.

At the western end of the trench, ditch [4004] was overlain by an up to 0.36m thick, firm light orangey brown silt subsoil (4039) deposit (Fig. 30, Section 30). In the central and eastern end of the trench subsoil (4002) overlay deposit (4008) and pit or ditch [4031] consisting of 0.3m thick soft mid brown silt (Fig.25, Section 8).

Subsoil deposit (4039) was cut by large feature [4032], partially revealed in the western end of the trench. This large feature may represent a pit or perhaps part of a large partial enclosing feature and measured at least 7.3m wide by at least 0.96m deep with moderately steep slightly concave sides (Fig. 30, Section 30).

The earliest fill recorded consisted of a light brownish orange silt (4033), up to 0.6m thick. Overlying this was up to 0.24m thickness of hard, mid brownish orange silt (4034) which contained a cattle bone, seven fragments of brick and a sherd of 19th century pottery. The third fill recorded in this sequence comprised friable mid dark greyish black silt (4035), at least 0.54m thick. Finds recovered from this deposit consisted of two sherds of 17th to 18th century pottery, a fragment of post-medieval CBM, five pieces of glass representing vessels of 19th century date, along with some cinder and mortar. This was overlain by up to 0.32m thick, firm light orange brown silt (4038).

Fill (4038) was in turn cut by probable pit [4040] which measured 3.11m wide by 0.3m deep with moderately steep concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 30, Section 30). This pit contained a single fill consisting of hard mid to light brownish orange silty clay (4037) with chalk fragments. This fill yielded two fragments of mortar, a residual sherd of 17th to 18th century pottery and two pieces of fired clay, of which one may represent redeposited briquetage.

A second probable pit [4041] cut through deposit (4038) at the western end of the trench measuring at least 3.4m wide by 0.36m deep with a moderately steep concave side breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 30, Section 30). The fill comprised hard, mid to dark brownish grey silt (4036) containing occasional brick fragments, a piece of post-medieval brick and charcoal.

The pits were overlain by up to 0.5m thick ploughsoil (4001) consisting of soft dark greyish brown silt.

Finds recovered from metal detecting of the spoil around this trench include lead studs, a fragment of spindle whorl and a possible line sinker along with a copper alloy thimble, button, jetton and possible belt fitting.

Trench 41 (Fig.14)

The natural in Trench 41 comprised light yellowish brown silt with mid brown mottling (4101).

Towards the centre of this trench was a large cut [4104], partially excavated by machine, with a width of 4m by at least 1m deep, with moderately steep concave sides (Fig. 39, Section 93) (Plate 16). The earliest fill within this large feature consisted of firm dark greyish brown silt (4103), which was overlain by a 0.3m thick deposit of friable black sand, ash, charcoal and silt (4102) packed densely with glass bottles, pottery, household items, including a candlestick holder and kitchen pan. A number of finds were retrieved from this deposit, including pottery of 19th to 20th century date and a sample of glass bottles all dating from the late 19th to early 20th century.

A dark greyish brown clayey silt topsoil (4100) overlay feature [4104].

Trench 42 (Fig.14)

The natural identified at the base of this trench comprised soft light orangey grey silt (4202).

Near the centre of the trench the natural was cut by a 2.85m wide by 1.08m deep ditch [4207] with moderately steep, slightly convex sides, breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Fig. 29, Section 28) (Plate 17). It was orientated east-west and contained seven fills (4208), (4209), (4210), (4211), (4212), (4213) and (4214). These were generally light in colour ranging from brown to grey and greyish brown. The lower fills (4208), (4209) and (4210) were clean, containing no inclusions, while the mid to upper fills (4211), (4212), (4213) and (4214) contained various amounts of charcoal. A number of finds were recovered from fill (4211) which included a small amount of animal bone, some burnt stone, a Late Saxon or later whetstone fragment, seven fragments of fired clay and a relatively large amount of pottery. The pottery assemblage from this deposit comprised 19 sherds of 11th to 12th century date and two fragments of 10th to 11th century date.

Sampling of fill (4211) produced a large amount of undiagnostic fired clay showing some signs of bleaching. The sample also revealed an abundance of charred grain along with numerous charred weed seeds. Barley, oats, rye and wheat were preliminarily identified along with pea and/or bean remains. Aquatic mollusc shells were also recovered suggesting this feature was permanently filled with water. A few shells belong to brackish and estuarine habitat species, which suggests some possible marine or saline influence (Appendix 3).

To the north a second large ditch cut [4203] was revealed measuring 6.98m wide by 1.48m deep with moderately steep convex sides (Fig. 26, Section 27). Due to its depth, ditch [4203] was only partially excavated. However, an auger was used to ascertain the depth of the ditch and full sequence of fills.

The earliest fill in this ditch comprised 0.23m thick soft light brownish grey silt (4219). This was overlain by firm to soft mid brownish grey silt (4218), 0.36m thick. The final fill in the sequence consisted of 1m thick, firm grey to light brownish grey silt (4217/4204) and contained two sherds of 11th to 12th century pottery, two fragments of 12th to early 13th century pottery, a piece of fuel ash slag and a small amount of animal bone.

The ditches were sealed by ploughsoil (4201) consisting of friable dark brown silt, up to 0.46m thick.

Trench 43 (Fig.15)

Natural comprised firm mid yellowish brown silt (4315).

At the northeast end of the trench a possible pit or linear [4304] was recorded (Fig. 38, Sections 78-79) measuring up to 0.36m deep with an unknown width and extent. This cut had straight to near vertical sides breaking sharply to a flat base. The primary fill comprised an 80mm thick mid orange brown and light grey silt (4305). This was overlain by soft dark grey silt (4306), also up to 80mm thick, followed by a deposit of 0.22m thick light greyish brown silt (4307). The final deposit recorded in this feature before it was truncated consisted of a firm mid orange brown silt (4308), measuring at least 0.2m thick.

This feature was in turn cut by a possible shallow pit [4312] that was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.04m wide and 0.18m deep with concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 38, Sections 78-79). A single fill was identified, consisting of firm light grey silt (4313) with red mottling.

This was overlain by two alluvial silt layers, soft light grey silt (4303) with reddish mottling followed by 0.45m thick firm yellowish brown and light grey silt (4302) (Fig. 38, Sections 78-79).

Silt deposit (4302) was cut by a northwest to southeast aligned possible ditch [4309]. This feature was not fully excavated but had a probable width of 1.81m and was 0.86m deep with moderately steep straight sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 38, Sections 78-79). The primary fill comprised 0.14m thick firm light brownish grey silt (4310) which was overlain by a 0.74m thick layer of firm mid brown silt (4311) with moderate mollusc shells. A fragment of large mammal bone was also recovered from this deposit.

A large modern pit [4314] measuring 9m wide was observed in the southwestern end of the trench, filled with a number of episodes of dumping and containing modern material including plastic, asbestos and tile.

Trench 44 (Fig.16)

Trench 44 revealed a sequence of alluvial deposits of light yellowish brown to light yellow silts (4402), (4403), (4410), (4427), (4412), along with light grey to greyish brown silt (4411) and orange silt (4446). Deposit (4411) (Fig. 38, Section 80) contained four fragments of 11th to 12th century Stamford Ware pottery.

These alluvial silts were cut by a number of natural channels [4403], [4404], [4405], [4448] of varying size and shape, some of them intercutting [4425], [4406/4409], [4413]. These were filled with sequences of alluvial silt deposits.

Channel [4403] at the southern end of the trench contained two fills of light brownish yellow (4415) and mid greyish brown (4414) silt (Fig. 36, Section 68). Deposit (4414) contained 10th to 12th and 11th to mid-12th century pottery along with a fragment of dog skull and a piece of fired clay.

A sequence of six silt deposits was recorded in channel [4404], to the north of [4403], which was partially excavated (Fig. 37, Section 69) (Plate 18). The earliest fill (4424) encountered in this feature consisted of 90mm thick, soft dark grey and blackish grey silt. This was overlain by 0.1m thick soft to firm light grey silt (4423), which contained a single fragment of fired clay. Context (4422) was assigned to a 0.12m thick grouping of thin silt layers consisting of soft whitish grey to black to dark blackish grey silts which formed above

deposit (4423). A small amount of animal bone was retrieved from these deposits. The lenses of silt were sealed by a 0.11m thick soft dark grey ashy silt (4421) deposit that contained a sherd of 10th to 11th century pottery and five fragments of fired clay, including a piece of possible hearth lining. The fifth deposit in the sequence comprised light orange brown silt (4420), up to 0.16m thick from which a sherd of 10th to 11th century pottery was retrieved. This was overlain by 0.25m thick soft to moderately firm light brownish yellow silt (4419).

Feature [4404] was cut by channel [4425] (Fig.37, Section 69) (Plate 18) which contained three fills, the earliest of which comprised a mixture of soft blackish grey and brownish grey ashy silt (4418) containing occasional flecks of burnt silt and three fragments of fired earth. This was overlain by soft light yellowish brown silt (4417), measuring 90mm thick, which contained five fragments of pottery, four of which date from the mid-11th to 12th century along with two pieces of animal bone. The final fill in this sequence consisted of firm mid brown silt (4416) that was 0.23m thick.

Creek [4405] contained four fills (Fig. 37, Sections 70-71 & 76) (Plate 19), the first of which consisted of 80mm thick, soft light yellowish brown to light grey silt (4437). This was overlain by a number of thin lenses and layers of black, dark grey, light grey and mid grey silts which were assigned context number (4436) and contained occasional fragments of charcoal and fired silt along with two sherds of 11th to 12th century pottery and two soot covered fragments of fired clay. The third fill in this sequence comprised up to 0.22m thick, light grey to light greyish yellow brown silt (4435) and was the same as (4432). Two pieces of animal bone and four fragments of fired clay (possibly structural elements of a kiln/oven) were recovered from this deposit. The final fill of [4405] consisted of firm light brownish yellow silt (4434)/(4431), up to 0.27m thick.

Creek [4405] was cut by channel [4406]/[4409]. In Section 76 (Fig. 37), two fills were identified. The first of which consisted of soft light to mid yellowish brown fine sandy silt (4430), 0.18m thick. This was sealed by a 0.16m thick deposit of firm light greyish brown fine sandy silt (4429).

In Section 72 (Fig. 37), the primary fill of [4406]/[4409] consisted of soft light greyish brown fine sandy silt (4441), 0.18m thick, containing a significant amount of fish bone. An environmental sample taken from this deposit revealed charred barley along with rodent, frog/toad, small fish, cockle, mussel and snail remains. This bone rich fill was overlain by 0.14m thick light to mid greyish brown silt (4440). Deposit (4440) was sealed by 0.19m thick, firm light greyish brown silt (4439). The final fill in this channel comprised soft to firm mid greyish brown silt (4438), up to 0.22m thick.

A total of two fills within [4406]/[4409] were identified in Section 80 (Fig. 38). The earliest comprising light greyish brown silt (4408), 0.21m thick, containing a small amount of animal bone and a sherd of 11th to 12th century pottery. The upper fill comprised a 0.15m thick, soft mixture of black, dark grey and orange silt (4407), containing occasional small fragments of burnt clay/silt and a moderate amount of mussel shell fragments. Finds retrieved from this deposit including a cattle jaw, a piece of daub and a sherd of 11th to 12th century pottery.

A basal fill of [4406]/[4409] was not observed in the section edge, but was recorded during excavation and consisted of firm mid greyish brown silt (4428), containing a single fragment of 12th century pottery.

Possible linear channel [4448] (Fig.38, Section 77) had two fills. The lower consisted of mid reddish brown silt (4443), up to 0.38m thick with an upper fill comprising a 70mm thick, firm mid grey clayey silt (4442).

Channel [4448] was truncated by [4413] (Fig. 38, Section 77) that contained two fills. The lower fill comprised 0.24m thick soft to firm mid to dark grey silt (4445) with occasional mussel shells. Finds recovered from this deposit include two fragments 11th to 12th century pottery and four pieces of possible briquetage. This was overlain by a 0.1m thick, soft black ashy silt (4444) from which one cattle phalange and five piece of possible briquetage, with bleached surfaces, including what may be sub-circular props.

An up to 0.13m thick subsoil deposit (4447) was recorded in Section 70 (Fig. 37) sealing creek [4405] and consisted of soft light to mid yellowish brown silt.

The subsoil was overlain by up to 0.40m thick ploughsoil (4401).

Trench 45 (Fig.17)

The alluvial silt encountered in the base of this trench consisted of firm mid yellowish brown to light grey silt (4502).

An east-west aligned linear cut [4503] measuring 1.7m wide by 0.17m thick, with moderately steep slightly concave sides, breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Fig. 37, Section 73), was recorded in the southern end of the trench. The fill of this feature consisted of firm light greyish brown silt (4506) containing fragments of fired clay. Finds retrieved from this deposit included four fragments of fired clay, a piece of cattle horn and twelve pieces of charcoal.

A ditch cut [4504] was recorded near the centre of the trench orientated east-west and measuring 1.42m wide by 0.49m deep with irregular sides breaking imperceptibly to a concave base (Fig. 37, Section 74). The primary fill of this ditch comprised a 0.36m thick, firm light brownish grey silt (4508) which was overlain by 0.25m thick, firm mid greyish brown silt (4507).

Towards the northern end of the trench a number of linear cuts were identified. Possible ditch [4505] was orientated northeast-southwest and measured at least 0.65m wide by 0.26m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base (Fig. 37, Section 75). A probable terminal end was identified in plan. This possible ditch was filled with firm mid yellowish grey silt (4509), up to 0.26m thick.

Cut [4515] was linear in plan, measuring at least 0.6m wide by 0.35m deep, and orientated on a broad northeast-southwest alignment (Fig. 37, Section 75). This feature contained a single fill of firm mid yellowish brown silt (4516) containing a charcoal rich lens.

Cut [4505] was truncated by [4510] which could possibly be a recut of possible ditch [4505], although a terminal end for this feature was not observed. Possible ditch recut [4510] was aligned northeast-southwest and measured at least 0.85m wide by 0.31m deep with a moderately steep side breaking gradually to a concave base. The single fill of this feature comprised firm mid yellowish brown silt (4511).

Possible recut [4510] and cut [4514] were in turn truncated by possible ditch or pit cut [4512] (Fig. 37, Section 75). This measured 1.75m wide by 0.27m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a flattish and somewhat irregular base. The earliest fill in this feature consisted of firm mid yellowish brown silt (4513), 0.1m thick. This was overlain by a 0.27m thick deposit

consisting of a mixture of light brownish grey and greyish white silt with charcoal flecks throughout and a concentration of charcoal towards the northern edge of the feature.

All deposits in this trench were overlain by an up to 0.18m thick, firm mid reddish brown clayey silt (4501) subsoil which was sealed by topsoil deposit (4500).

Trench 46 (Fig. 18)

The natural alluvial deposit recorded in trench 46 consisted of firm mid orange yellow silt (4631).

Towards the southern end of the trench was a large ditch or drain cut [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604] orientated on a roughly northeast-southwest alignment. The cut measured roughly 7.80m in width by at least 1.20m depth with irregular sides (Figs. 27-28 & 35, Sections 22-24 & 56) (Plate 20). This was investigated by hand along the northwestern trench edge (Figs 27, Sections 22-23) and found to be of a significant size. It was subsequently decided to machine excavate a slot through this feature in order to obtain a fuller profile which was recorded as Section 56 (Plate 20).

Section 56 (Fig. 35; Plate 20) revealed a sequence of eight deposits filling feature [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604]. The earliest fills in this sequence comprised firm light brownish grey clayey silt (4648) and firm mid orangey brown clayey silt (4649). These were overlain by at least a 0.36m thick deposit of soft dark blackish grey organic silt (4650) from which a bulk environmental sample was taken. The sample revealed abundant waterlogged seeds, along with insect, sheep/goat, cattle, small fish, eggshell, cockle and mussel remains. A total of twenty six fragments of fired clay were also retrieved from the sample. Deposit (4650) was sealed by a 0.4m thick fill of firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4646) which contained a 60mm thick lens of firm mid brownish orange clayey silt (4647) within it. Fill (4646) was overlain by 0.28m thick, firm mid yellowish grey to yellowish brown, silt (4645). The next deposit in the sequence comprised 0.14m thick firm mid yellowish brown and mid brownish grey clayey silt (4644). The final fill in the sequence consisted of a 0.28m thick, dumped deposit of firm dark blackish brown clayey silt filled with charcoal fragments, modern pottery and glass (4606). A sample of finds were recovered from this deposit, including a sherd of 19th century pottery, an 18th to 19th century pantile and a number of 19th to 20th century metal finds. Overlying this dumped deposit was a layer of firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4603) which lay inside ditch/drain cut [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604], but also overlay the edge of it on the northeast side.

The investigation along the northwest edge of the trench (Fig. 27, Section 22-23) revealed a more complex sequence of fills within feature [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604]. The earliest of these comprised soft, light brownish grey clayey silt (4629), at least 0.28m thick from which two probable post-medieval brick fragments, a small amount of animal bone and a fragment of coal and oyster shell was retrieved. This was overlain by a deposit of firm mid brownish grey clayey silt (4627)/(4623)/(4621) which yielded pottery of 16th to 18th century date and a fragment of post-medieval brick. At the northeast edge of the feature, deposit (4627)/(4623)/(4621) was truncated by possible linear ditch cut [4608], which was orientated northwest-southeast and measured 0.89m wide by 0.54m deep with steep straight sides breaking sharply to a concave base. Ditch cut [4608] contained two fills, the earliest of which comprised firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4609), 0.17m thick, from which a single fragment of CBM was recovered. Above this was a 0.33m thick deposit of firm, mid greyish

brown clayey silt (4607) with lenses of light yellowish grey sand. Ditch/drain cut [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604] continued to silt up with deposit (4627)/(4623)/(4621) being overlain by 0.11m thick, firm mid brownish yellow clayey silt (4620).

This silty fill (4620) was truncated by pit [4617] which was circular in plan measuring 0.83m in diameter by 0.46m deep, with steep straight sides breaking gradually to a flat base. This pit was filled with firm, dark brownish grey clayey silt (4618) which produced four fragments of post-medieval brick, a fragment of bone from a large mammal and an undated piece of brick or tile. Following its truncation by pit [4627], it continued to deposit fills. The next fill in the sequence overlay pit [4627] and consisted of 0.12m thick, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4619) sealed by a 0.3m thick band of firm, light yellowish brown clayey silt (4624). Overlying deposit (4624) was an 80mm thick deposit of firm, dark brownish grey clayey silt (4625) followed by firm light yellowish brown clayey silt (4615), 70mm thick. These alluvial silts fills were overlain by deposit (4626), a firm dark greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.35m thick then overlain by dumped deposit (4616), which was the same as deposit (4606) observed in Section 56, comprising firm dark blackish brown clayey silt filled with charcoal fragments, modern pottery and glass. Overlying this dumped deposit was a layer of firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4613) which lay inside the ditch/drain cut but also overlay the edge of it on the northeast side. This was the same deposit as (4603) recorded in Section 56 and contained two sherds of 17th to 18th century pottery, a fragment of post-medieval brick and five flakes of CBM.

The southwest edge of ditch/drain cut [4643]/[4630]/4622]/[4604] was investigated and recorded in Section 24 (Fig. 28). The earliest fill observed at this end comprised firm mid yellowish grey clayey silt (4602), at least 0.53m thick. This was overlain by 0.29m thick, firm light greyish brown clayey silt (4601). Fill (4601) was sealed by dumped deposit (4606)/(4616) which consisted of firm dark blackish brown clayey silt filled with charcoal fragments, modern pottery and glass, 60mm thick. A deposit of 0.26m thick, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt (4605) formed the next fill in the sequence. Overlying (4605) was deposit (4603) which was the same as deposit (4613) observed in Sections 56 & 23.

Towards the centre of the trench a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch [4610] cut through natural (4631) (Fig. 28, Section 20). The ditch measured 2.39m wide by 1.01m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base. It contained a sequence of three fills, the earliest of which comprised firm light greyish yellow clayey silt (4614), up to 0.77m thick. This was overlain by a 0.43m thick deposit of, firm light yellowish brown clayey silt (4612). The final fill in the sequence comprised firm mid yellowish brown clayey silt (4611), 0.28m thick containing five fragments of charcoal.

At the northeast end of the trench was a large feature [4642] (Figs 18 & 30, Section 53) (Plate 21) which due to its size was partially excavated using a mechanical digger. Feature [4642] possibly represents an enclosure or large water management feature identified from an anomaly on a previous geophysical survey (Fig. 3). Ditch [4642] measured at least 8m in length by at least 1.02m deep with fairly shallow and somewhat irregular sides (Fig.30, Section 53) (Plate 21). The earliest fill identified in this feature comprised soft light greyish white silt (4641), up to 0.4m thick. Environmental sampling of this deposit revealed good waterlogged conditions with preserved wood and twigs, along with abundant waterlogged seed and insect, sheep/goat, cattle, small fish, eggshell,

cockle and mussel remains. However, no mollusc remains were recovered from the sample. The second fill in the sequence consisted of at least 0.3m thick soft mid brownish grey silt (4640). This was overlain by a 60mm thin band of firm black clayey silt (4639). Overlying the black silty fill was a mixed deposit of firm light orangey yellow and dark brownish grey clayey silt (4638). The next deposit in the sequence consisted of firm mid orangey brown clayey silt (4651), 0.38m thick. This was overlain by 0.6m thick, firm dark yellowish brown silty clay (4637). At the southern edge of the cut, fill (4638) was truncated by possible linear ditch cut [4635] which was orientated northeast-southwest, measuring 2m wide by 0.52m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base. The ditch was filled with firm mid yellowish grey clayey silt (4636). Fill (4637) and ditch [4635] were overlain by the final fill of [4642], a 0.42m thick deposit of firm dark brownish grey clayey silt (4632).

At the southern edge of ditch/drain [4642], deposit (4632) was truncated by modern drainage ditch [4633] orientated on an east-west alignment and measuring 1.06m wide by 0.6 deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base. This was filled with a mix of dark greyish brown and mid brownish yellow clayey silt (4634).

All features in this trench were overlain by an up to 0.45m thick topsoil (4600) deposit of firm mid greyish brown clayey silt.

Unstratified metal detecting finds from around this trench include a copper alloy jetton and piece of lead sheet both dating from the 15th to 16th century.

Trench 47 (Fig.19)

The natural in Trench 47 consisted of firm to soft light yellow, greyish brown and yellowish brown laminated alluvial silts and clayey silts (47003).

Towards the southeast end of the trench a possible ditch cut or natural creek [47004] curved from a southwest-northeast alignment to an east-west orientation (Fig. 24, Section 5). It was only partially exposed in plan and not fully excavated due to wet conditions. However, a depth of at least 0.9m was recorded and the feature extended 1.9m into the trench. The earliest deposit recorded in [47004] was laminated firm light yellowish brown and grey silts and clays (47009), 0.28m thick, from which a significant amount of animal bone was recovered, along with two fragments of fired clay. This was overlain by a 0.26m thick deposit of soft to firm light yellowish brown silt (47008). The final fill recorded in this sequence comprised 0.27m thick, soft to moderately firm, light to mid yellowish greyish brown silt (47007).

Towards the centre of the trench a large feature [47005] was investigated. It measured 6.24m wide by 0.30m thick (Fig. 24, Section 6) (Plate 22) with shallow irregular sides breaking imperceptibly to an irregular undulating base. This suggests a probable natural origin for the cut, possibly representing the base of a shallow creek or stream. Fills encountered in the base of the feature consisted of light brownish yellow silt (47012), laminated soft light grey, light yellow, light orange yellow and yellowish brown silts and clayey silts (47017) along with soft to firm light yellowish brown, light brown and mid yellowish brown silt and sandy silts (47018), with these contexts ranging in thickness from 50mm to 0.1m. These fills are probably the result of natural silting through fluvial processes, and redeposition of natural.

Fills (47017), which contained a single fragment of animal bone, and (47018) were overlain by a 0.12m thick deposit of soft dark greyish black to black ashy silt (47015), which contained patches of burnt silt and clay, frequent charcoal and possible

cess remains. This could be the result of deliberate dumping or perhaps represents the washed in detritus from nearby activity. Finds retrieved from this deposit include two pieces of fired clay, seven fragments of animal bone, two pieces of charcoal and a possible mussel shell fragment. The rest of the fills (47016), (47011), (47010), (47014), (47013) of this cut which overlay (47012) and (47015) comprised soft to firm silts, light yellowish brown to brownish yellow and light grey in colour and ranging in thickness from 40mm to 0.2m. These are probably alluvial in nature. A single fragment of cattle mandible was retrieved from (47014), while fill (47013) produced a cockle shell, a small amount of animal bone and a single sherd of late 12th to 14th century pottery.

To the northwest of this feature, the natural was overlain by an 80mm thick and 2.34m long deposit of soft light brownish yellow to mid yellowish brown sandy silt (47020), which was truncated by linear ditch [47006] (Fig. 24, Section 7). Orientated on a roughly east-west alignment, it measured 1.05m wide and 0.42m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base. The ditch contained a single fill of firm mid brown silt (47019) which produced two pieces of animal bone, three sherds of 12th to early 13th century pottery and a piece of late 12th to 14th century pottery.

Further northwest of ditch [47006] was a second silted up possible creak or stream [47053] (Figs. 25-26, Section 15-16) (Plate 23) cut by ditches [47041], [47028] and [37055]. This was filled with a sequence of silts and clayey silts, the earliest of which comprised soft light pinkish brown silt (47052), light greenish grey clayey silt (47050) and light yellowish brown and pinkish brown silt (47049), ranging in thickness from 40mm to 0.11m. Deposit (47049) was overlain by 0.12m thick, firm light brownish yellow and yellowish brown silt (47048). Overlying fill (47052) was an 80mm thick deposit of soft light bluish grey silt (47051), which was overlain by a 0.20m thick group of soft laminated pinkish brown, light grey and light greyish brown ashy silts (47043) from which two fragments of daub with bleached surfaces were recovered, along with a small amount of animal bone. The next fill in the sequence was assigned context numbers (47042) and (47047) and consisted of mid yellowish brown and brownish grey silt mixed with dark blackish grey ashy silt. Finds retrieved from this deposit include animal bone, fired clay and four fragments of degenerated lava quern of Late Saxon or later date. This was overlain by soft light yellowish brown silt (47054), 0.22m thick. A bone sledge runner of possibly post-medieval date was recovered from this deposit (Appendix 2), along with a scale tang knife dating from the 13th century or later.

The latest fill (47054) within creek [47053] was truncated by ditch [47041]. The earliest fill comprised a 0.11m thick soft light grey and greyish brown slightly ashy silt (47040) with occasional patches of yellowish brown silt. Finds from this fill included a small amount of animal bone. This was overlain by moderately soft light yellow to brownish yellow silt (47039), 0.18m thick. The final fill of this ditch comprised 0.23m thick, firm light yellowish pinkish brown silt (47038) with occasional flecks of charcoal, patches of ash and fragments of burnt silt and clay. This fill spilled over the southeast edge of the ditch where it was assigned context number (47046) and extended southeast to comprise the upper fill of ditch [47028] where it was assigned context number (47030).

Creek [47053] was also cut by ditches [47028] (Figs. 25-26, Section 14 & 16) (Plates 23-24) and [47055] (Figs. 25-26, Sections 15-16). These appear to be contemporary as they share the same fills

without intercutting. Ditch [47055] was only partially observed in section and was orientated on an east-west. Ditch [47028] was curvilinear and orientated on an east-west alignment turning towards the northeast. Ditch [47028] measured 1.4m wide by at least 0.85m deep with gentle to steep sloping sides breaking gradually to a concave base. The earliest fill in ditches [47028] and [47055] comprised firm, light to mid reddish brown silt (47045), 0.12m thick. Fill (47045) was overlain by a sequence of five silt deposits (47044), (47037), (47036), (47035/47027), (47034) ranging in thickness from 90mm to 0.15m. These were bluish grey to pinkish brown, light yellowish brown, brownish grey, brown and light yellow in colour with some containing ash, fired clay and burnt silt. Finds from (47044) included a fragment of animal bone and fired clay; fill (47037) yielded ten pieces of animal bone and two of fired clay, while (47036) produced five fragments of animal bone. The latest of these fills (46034) produce an iron nail, some animal bone and two pieces of fired clay. It was overlain by a 0.20m thick group of mid greyish brown, black, light yellowish brown and brownish grey laminated bands of silt (47033/47026), containing moderate ash and rare flecks and fragments of charcoal. A coprolite, and three fragments of degenerated lava quern of Late Saxon or later date were recovered from this fill along with a small amount of animal bone and four pieces of fired clay (two of which were derived from objects). Overlying this fill was mid greyish brown silt (47032/47025), up to 0.25m thick, containing rare shell fragments. The next four fills in the sequence comprised thin deposits of soft to firm, mid greyish brown, bluish brown, light yellowish brown, and mid greyish brown silts and clayey silts (47024), (47023), (47029), (47031) some of which contained, ash, flecks of charcoal and fired clay or burnt silt. The final fill consisted of firm light yellowish pinkish brown silt (47030) with occasional flecks of charcoal, which was the same deposit as (47046) and (47038) recorded in Section 16. A total of five fragments of animal bone and a piece of fired clay was retrieved from this deposit.

Ditch [47028] was cut by a thin linear feature [47022] (Fig. 25, Section 12). This was filled with soft mid yellowish brown silt (47021) and contained two fragments of animal bone and a sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery.

A sequence of four naturally deposited alluvial silts was identified overlying natural layer (47003) in the northwest end of the trench. The earliest of these was an up to 0.26m thick, deposit of light greyish brown and brownish yellow laminated silt bands (47083). In Section 38 (Fig. 32) this was overlain by 60mm thick soft to firm mid greyish pinkish brown ashy silt (47086), while in Section 37 (Fig.32) it was sealed by a 60mm thick mix of mid brownish yellow silt and mid greyish black ashy silt (47082). Overlying this was a mixed deposit of soft to firm light to mid brown and brownish yellow silt (47081), up to 0.12m thick.

A roughly east-west orientated linear ditch [47056] was recorded in Sections 29 (Fig.29; Plate 25) and 39 (Fig.32) in the northwestern end of the trench, measuring 1.95m wide by 0.68m deep with moderately steep, fairly straight sides breaking gradually to a concave base.

A full profile of ditch [47056] was recorded in Section 29 (Fig. 29) where a total of 13 separate fills were identified. The lower fills (47067), (47065), (46066), (47069), (47064), (47068) comprised silts and clayey silts ranging in thickness from 30mm to 0.10m and in colour from light brownish yellow, to light grey, to pinkish grey and mid greyish yellow. A fragment of horse bone was recovered from deposit (47065). The mid to upper fills (47063),

(47062), (47061), (47060), (47059), (47058), (47057) formed a sequence of light brownish grey, light yellowish brown, light grey, yellowish grey and greyish brown silts interspersed with some black and greyish black, ashy and charcoal rich silt deposits, containing occasional fired clay. Fill (47062) produced four fragments of animal bone, while deposit (47059) yielded five fragments of fired clay (including a possible stand or prop), twelve fragments of animal bone, a possible fiddle key nail of 10th to 14th century date and four sherds of 10th to 12th century pottery. Fill (47063) and (47062) were thin and measured 50mm and 20mm in thickness respectively. The rest of the deposits ranged in thickness from 0.1 to 0.12m. Fill (47061) was rich in mussel shells of which many were unbroken, 20 were recovered during excavation along with a cockle shell fragment, five pieces of animal bone and a sherd of 12th to Early 13th century pottery.

To the southeast of ditch [47056] a roughly north-south aligned linear [47070] measuring at least 1.3m wide by 0.84m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base, cut deposit (47081). This was recorded in Sections 37 and 38 (Fig. 32; Plate 26) where the primary fill comprised a mix of firm yellowish brown and light pinkish grey silt (47079), 0.16m thick. This deposit produced four fragments of degenerated lava quern of Late Saxon or later date. Deposit (47079) was overlain by deposits (47078), (47080) and (47085). Deposit (47078) comprised 0.12m thick firm light pinkish grey silt and contained a piece of fired clay, a cattle molar and a sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery. Fill (47080) consisted of 0.13m thick soft light yellow silt, while (47085) was 60mm thick soft light brownish yellow and yellowish brown silt. Overlying fill (47078) was a deposit of soft black ashy silt (47077), 0.10m thick, containing a moderate amount of charcoal and occasional fired silt. Finds recovered from this fill consisted of two sherds of 11th to 12th century pottery. The next fill in the sequence comprised a 0.26m thick mix of mid greyish brown and pinkish brown silt (47076), containing a cattle molar and frequent ash and occasional charcoal. Deposit (47076) was overlain by fills (47075) and (47084). Deposit (47075) consisted of soft to firm light to mid pinkish grey brown silt, 0.23m thick, while (47084) comprised 60mm thick, soft to firm light brownish yellow and yellowish brown silt (47085). These two fills were overlain by a 0.30m thick deposit of firm mid greyish brown ashy silt (47074), containing moderate fine charcoal flecks. Finds from this deposit included a significant amount of animal bone, two mussel shells, one cockle shell and four sherds of pottery ranging from 10th to 13th century in date.

Fill (47074) was truncated by [47100] (Fig. 32, Sections 37-38), which is likely to be a recut of ditch [47070]. This was orientated north-south, measuring 0.8m wide by 0.54m deep with moderately steep slightly concave sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base. The primary fill comprised soft to firm, light brownish greyish yellow ashy silt (47073), 0.26m thick. Overlying this was a 0.15m thick deposit of firm light to mid greyish brown silt (47072), containing occasional patches of ashy silt and some fine charcoal flecks. The final fill in the sequence comprised soft to firm mid to light yellowish brown silt (47071), from which a sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery was retrieved along with a small amount of animal bone.

Towards the northeast edge of the trench, ditch [47070] intersected with ditch [47056]. An exploratory sondage (Fig.32, Section 39) was dug at the intersection of the two ditches in order to ascertain the relationship between them. The features were only partially excavated in this area as both ditches appeared to share many of the same alluvial fills, suggesting they were

contemporary and open at the same time. A third cut [47100] which truncates both ditches is probably a recut of ditch [47070]. Early fills in the sequence (47099), (47098), (47097) within ditch cut [47056] were soft dark blackish grey and dark grey ashy silts ranging in thickness from 20mm to 0.11m. These were overlain by a deposit of soft light pinkish brown slightly silty clay (47096), up to 20mm thick. The next fill in the sequence (47095) was shared by ditch [47056] and [47070] where it was the earliest fill identified within the ditch. Fill (47095) comprised firm dark grey ashy silt with occasional charcoal fragments, 0.14m thick. This was overlain by a sequence of three more fills which were present in both ditches. The first of these (47093) consisted of 20mm thick soft dark grey clayey silt. The next fill in the sequence was firm mid greyish brown and greyish yellow silt (47092), 0.13m thick. The final fill within both these ditches before truncation by possible recut [47100] consisted of firm mid greyish brown silt (47090), up to 0.22m thick.

Recut [47100] was recorded in Section 39 (Fig. 32) cutting through fill (47090). The primary fill within recut [47100] consisted of soft to firm mid to dark greyish brown ashy silt (47091), 50mm thick. This was overlain by 0.13m thick, firm mid yellowish brown silt (47089). The third fill within [47100] comprised soft silt ranging in colour from mid yellowish brown to light brownish yellow to greyish brown, 0.36m thick with occasional charcoal flecks. The final fill in the sequence consisted of firm mid greyish brown to yellowish brown silt (47087), 0.16m thick.

A layer of 0.4m thick mid brown to greyish brown silt (47002) subsoil was identified overlying features throughout this trench. The subsoil was overlain by an up to 0.44m thick layer of topsoil (47001) consisting of loose to firm dark brown silt.

Trench 48 (Fig.20)

Firm light yellowish brown silt (4802) formed the natural deposit at the base of this trench.

A large ditch [4811] cut the natural in the eastern end of the trench. Ditch [4811] measured 5.92m wide by 1.97m deep (Fig. 30, Section 40). Due to the size of the feature, it was only partially excavated by hand, however, an auger survey was conducted across the feature in order to obtain a profile and identify basal fills. A mechanical excavator was used to further investigate the feature in order to obtain a bulk sample from basal fill (4831/4836/4840) and a photograph of the ditch profile in deep section (Plate 27). The basal fill of the ditch was first identified through auger survey and assigned context numbers (4831), (4836) and (4840) in Auger holes 1-3 respectively (Fig.??). The fill consisted of soft, dark blackish grey organic silt, up to 0.44m thick. An environmental sample was taken of this deposit revealing waterlogged remains of wood and twigs, seeds and insect, charred grain, rodent, frog/toad, fish and snails. The presence of a few shells of marine/brackish water habitat snails suggest the possibility of a marine/saline component to this feature or from somewhere in the vicinity.

Overlying the organic basal fill was a 0.3m thick deposit of firm greyish brown mottled silt which was recorded in Auger Hole 3 where it was assigned context number (4839). This is probably the same deposit as (4812) which was observed against the western edge of the ditch cut and recorded in Section 40 (Fig. 30). Finds recovered from (4839)/(4812) included a small amount of animal bone and pottery of 11th to mid-12th century date, along with a possible stone door jamb or trough fragment of medieval date. Fill (4839/4812) was overlain by firm mid brownish grey silt (4838/4835/4817), up to 0.28m thick. This fill is probably the same as (4816) and

(4817) recorded in the eastern edge of the cut, but groups the two deposits together at either edges, as they were extremely similar and thus the boundary between deposits was too diffuse to be recognised in an auger core. Deposit (4817) produced three fragments of animal bone. Deposit (4838/4835/4817/4816) is also the same as (4813) recorded at the eastern side of the cut. The fill overlying this comprised soft mixed light orange brown silt (4814) with light and mid grey mottle, up to 0.18m thick. A single sherd of 11th to 12th century pottery was recovered from this fill. The final fill in the sequence consisted of firm light greyish brown silt (4815), up to 0.32m thick.

Towards the western end of the trench ditch [4821] was cut by probable pit [4819]. Ditch [4821] was aligned north-south, measuring 1.24m wide by 0.33m deep with steep slightly concave sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 33, Section 46). The basal fill of the ditch comprised soft light grey silt (4822), up to 0.34m thick, containing occasional shell fragments. This was overlain by 0.21m thick, firm mid orangey brown silt (4823). The uppermost fill consisted of firm light greyish brown silt (4824), 0.21m thick and containing occasional charcoal.

Ditch [4821] was truncated by probable pit [4819] (Fig. 33, Section 46) which was only partially exposed in plan. Pit [4819] was semi-circular where it extended out from the trench edge and measured 3m wide by 0.35m deep with gently sloping straight sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base. The primary fill of the pit consisted of firm dark brownish grey silt (4820), up to 0.25m thick with occasional charcoal flecks. This was overlain by an alluvial deposit of firm mid brown silt (4825) which filled the top of pit [4819] and flowed over its edge extending to the east and west of the pit.

To the west of [4819], linear feature [4827] intersected with ditch [4807/4803] (Figs. 33 & 38, Sections 48 & 81). Feature [4827] was the earlier of the two and was linear in plan, orientated on a north-south alignment with steep straight sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Figs. 33 & 38, Sections 45, 47-48 & 81). It was partially excavated and measured at least 4m in width by 0.99m deep. The earliest fills identified within the deposit comprised soft dark greyish brown mottled silt (4831), 0.44m thick and firm light brownish grey silt (4828), 0.38m thick. Finds retrieved from (4828) consisted of three fragments of animal bone. These basal fills were overlain by an up to 0.21m thick deposit of firm light greyish brown silt with red mottle (4829). The final fill in the sequence consisted of up to 0.5m thick, soft mid yellowish reddish brown silt.

Feature [4827] was truncated by east-west aligned linear ditch [4807/4803]. This ditch extended from the western end of the trench for 10.75m and measured 1.5m wide by 0.32m deep with concave sides breaking gradually to a flat base. Two slots were excavated though this feature in order to get a full profile and to ascertain the relationship between the ditch [4807/4803] and feature [4827]. In Section 44 the primary fill of ditch [4807/4803] consisted of firm, light yellowish grey silt (4808), which contained two fragments of charcoal, a piece of gritstone which may be a quern fragment, five pieces of animal bone and seven oyster shells. In Section 81 the primary fill comprised firm light grey silt (4804) with orange patches, up to 0.13m thick. A sherd of 10th to 12th century pottery was retrieved from this deposit. These basal fills were overlain by (4809/4805), which was recorded in both slots and comprised soft mid orange to greyish orange silt with frequent charcoal and oyster shells. Finds recovered from this deposit include a possible bone needle, a fragment of animal bone, a fragment of copper alloy, two sherds of pottery ranging in date from 10th to 12th century and a tiny flake of 16th to 17th

century pottery which is probably intrusive (Appendix 2) An environmental sample was taken from this deposit revealing abundant charred grain, including wheat, barley and oats, along with eggshell, sheep/goat, cattle, rodent, frog/toad, duck, eel, small fish, abundant fish scales, cockle, mussel and snail remains. Numerous aquatic snail shells from this sample indicate the ditch carried permanent water, however there is an absence of marine/brackish water habitat species in this sample. In the western slot, the orange silt was overlain by friable blackish orange silt (4810) and charcoal, 80mm thick. Finds from this deposit consisted of two fragments of coal, 19 oyster shells, a moderate amount of animal bone and two sherds of 12th to early 13th century pottery. In Section 81 the final fill in the sequence consisted of soft light brownish grey silt (4806), 0.13m thick, from which a thin piece of undated copper alloy plate was recovered. This feature was overlain by alluvial silt deposit (4825) which also filled linear feature [4819] but flowed over its edge forming a layer. This shows that ditch [4807/4803] was fully filled before linear [4819] had silted up, suggesting it may be earlier in date.

Alluvial silt (4825) was overlain by a second flood layer, observed in the northern edge of the trench, and consisting of soft mid greyish brown silt (4826), up to 0.16m thick. The alluvium was sealed by a 0.4m thick deposit of soft mid to dark grey silt topsoil (4801).

Trench 50 (Fig.21)

Natural deposit in the base of Trench 50 consisted of firm light to mid yellowish brown silt (5002).

Ditch [5014] truncated the natural silt near the centre of the trench. The ditch was aligned north-south and was 1.62m wide by 0.26m deep with gently sloping sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base (Fig. 29, Section 36). The ditch contained six fills, the earliest of which consisted of 70mm thick, soft mid orange brown silt (5020) and firm light orange silt (5015), up to 50mm thick. Both fills contained flecks of charcoal and were overlain by firm light orange silt (5016), 70mm thick. Overlying the orange silt (5016) was a 40mm thick deposit of firm brownish orange silt (5017) containing occasional charcoal flecks. The next fill in the sequence comprised 0.1m thick, firm dark blackish brown silt (5018) containing frequent charcoal flecks and occasional shell and burnt clay fragments. The final fill consisted of 0.15m thick firm mid brown silt (5019).

Possible pit [5010] was partially exposed in plan with an ovoid shape, measuring 1.62m wide by 0.35m deep with moderately steep fairly straight sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 29, Section 35). The primary fill in this feature was a 0.15m thick, firm mid orange silt with light grey silt patches and moderate charcoal flecks (5011). This was overlain by a 0.19m thick mixed deposit of soft mid and dark grey silts (5012) with frequent charcoal flecks. This deposit extends over the cut suggesting it washed in and a fragment of animal bone, two nails, three pieces of fuel ash slag and a copper alloy object were retrieved from it. The final fill within [5010] comprised firm mid to light brown silt, 70mm thick, containing frequent charcoal flecks.

Amorphous shaped possible pit or natural feature [5003] measured 3.47m wide by 0.65m deep and had steep sides breaking gradually to a concave and slightly uneven base (Fig. 29, Section 33) (Plate 28). The earliest fill in the feature comprised 0.1m thick, firm bluish white silty clay (5004), containing frequent shell fragments. Overlying deposit (5004) was a 0.1m thick deposit of firm dark greenish grey silt (5005). This was overlain by firm dark greyish black silty clay (5006), up to 0.35m

thick. Finds recovered from this deposit comprise animal bone, including a large fragment of cattle skull, mussel shell, a fragment of fuel ash slag, two ferrous concentrations and a nail. Deposit (5006) was overlain by two deposits, a 0.26m thick, firm mid greyish orange silt (5008) with occasional charcoal flecks and a 0.25m thick deposit of firm light orange silt (5007), which contained a piece of animal bone, a fragment of fuel ash slag, a possible nail and burnt stone. Overlying (5007) and (5008) was a deposit of soft, light orange clayey silt (5009), up to 0.18m thick, from which a fragment of fired clay was recovered.

Features in this trench were sealed by an up to 0.4m thick layer of soft dark brown silt topsoil (5001)

Trench 51 (Fig.22)

Naturally deposited alluvial silts in Trench 51 consisted of soft light brown laminated sandy silts (5225/5126).

In the eastern end of the trench three features were identified, but recorded in section only, as this part of the trench was over excavated and the features relatively shallow and difficult to see. Feature [5116] could possibly be a small linear ditch cut or a pit, measuring 0.65m wide by 0.18m deep (Fig. 28, Section 25) with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base. It contained two fills, the earliest of which consisted of soft mid greyish brown sandy silt (5136), 0.1m thick. This was overlain by 60mm thick, soft dark grey sandy silt (5115) containing frequent charcoal flecks and fragments.

Ditch [5118] was linear and orientated roughly north-south, measuring 0.7m wide by 0.28m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a fairly flat base (Fig. 28, Section 26). This was filled with soft light greyish brown sandy silt (5117).

Ditch [5118] was cut by north-south aligned small ditch [5139], measuring 0.4m wide by 0.13m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 28, Section 26). The primary fill of this feature comprised soft mid grey sandy silt (5138), 70mm thick. This was overlain by 60mm thick, soft light brown sandy silt (5137).

A number of intercutting ditches and a pit were identified in the eastern area of the trench and recorded in Sections 31 and 32 (Fig.31; Plates 19-31). The earliest features in the sequence were ditches [5171], [5148], [5145] and pit [5159].

Ditches [5171] and [5148] shared many of the same alluvial fills, suggesting they were open and in use at the same time (Fig.31, Section 31) (Plate 29). Ditch [5171] was probably linear in shape and orientated on a roughly north-south alignment, measuring at least 1.06m wide by at least 0.75m wide, with irregular sides breaking gradually to a flat base. The earliest fill in this ditch consisted of a mix of firm light grey and light brown silt (5177), 0.39m thick. Ditch [5171] contained a sequence of four more fills (5176), (5175), (5174), (5170) overlying (5177) which were shared with ditch [5148] and described below.

Ditch [5148] was orientated on a roughly northwest-southeast alignment, measuring 0.50m wide by 0.26m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base. The primary fill in this ditch consisted of firm light grey silt (5179), 0.11m thick. This was overlain by (5161), a firm light brown silt deposit, 0.14m thick, which was recorded in ditch pit [5159] as well, suggesting the pit may also be contemporary with ditches [5148] and [5171]. The third fill consisted of firm light grey silt (5178), 80mm thick, and also filled ditch [5171] where it was assigned context number (5176). The next three fills were identified in both ditches. Fill (5178/5176) was overlain by 90mm thick, soft mid grey sandy silt (5149/5175)

with occasional charcoal flecks. A sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery was recovered from this fill. Overlying deposit (5149/5175) was firm mid yellowish to yellowish brown silt (5173/5174), 0.18m thick. The final fill shared by ditches [5148] and [5159] consisted of 0.17m thick, firm mid greyish brown silt (5172/5170).

Pit [5159] was partially exposed in plan and looked to be circular in shape, measuring 0.25m deep by at least 0.8m wide with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to fairly flat base (Fig. 31, Sections 31-32) (Plate 31). The primary fill of the pit comprised 0.24m thick, loose dark brownish grey and dark yellowish orange sandy silt (5160), containing moderate charcoal flecks. This was overlain by fill (5161) which also filled ditch [5148].

Ditch [5145] (Fig. 31, Section 32) (Plate 30) formed the westernmost of the intercutting ditches in the eastern end of the trench and measured 1.35m wide by 0.83m deep with moderately steep sides breaking gradually to a slightly concave base. This ditch contained a sequence of five fills, the earliest of which comprised loose dark brownish grey and dark yellowish orange sandy silt (5156), 0.25m thick. Overlying this was a 0.2m thick deposit of loose light brownish grey and dark yellowish orange laminated sandy silts (5154). The third fill in the sequence consisted of 70mm thick, loose light grey sandy silt (5155). This was overlain by loose dark greyish brown sandy silt (5146), 0.3m thick, which produced a small amount of animal bone. The final fill within ditch [5154] comprised 0.23m thick, loose dark greyish brown sandy silt (5153), 0.23m thick.

Pit [5159] was truncated by north-south aligned linear ditch [5106], which measured at least 0.75m wide by 0.64m deep, with a steep side breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 31, Section 32) (Plate 30). The primary fill of this ditch comprised soft mid brownish grey sandy silt (5105), 0.39m thick, containing occasional charcoal flecks. The final fill of the ditch was composed of loose dark greyish brown sandy silt (5158).

Ditches [5106] and [5145] were truncated by ditch [5151]. Ditch [5151] was orientated on a north-south alignment, measuring 1.5m wide by 0.75m deep with steep sides breaking sharply to a slightly concave base (Fig. 31, Section 32) (Plate 30). This ditch contained two fills, the first of which comprised 0.30m thick, loose dark grey silt (5157). This was overlain by loose dark brownish grey and dark yellowish orange sandy silt (5150), up to 0.4m thick.

Ditches [5148] and [5171] were truncated by ditch [5104/5167], which was linear in plan and orientated north-south with moderately steep concave to vertical sides breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 31, Section 31) (Plate 29). This ditch contained a sequence of five fills, the earliest of which comprised 0.21m thick, firm, mid to light grey sandy silt (5143) with light brown and mid orange silt patches and occasional charcoal flecks, from which a fragment of fired clay and cattle horn core was retrieved. This was overlain by an up to 0.17m thick deposit composed of soft dark grey organic silt (5142). Finds retrieved from this deposit include a sherd of 12th to early 13th century pottery and a small amount of animal bone. Overlying (5142) was firm mid grey silt (5166) with dark grey speckles, 70mm thick. The final deposit in the sequence consisted of soft mid brownish grey sandy silt (5103), up to 0.28m thick, containing moderate charcoal flecks and occasional fragments of fired clay. Finds retrieved from this deposit consisted of four fragments of degenerated lava quern of a Late Saxon or later date. An alluvial silt deposit, composed of firm, light grey, mixed with, mid brown, silt (5162), up to 0.25m thick was identified within this feature, overlying the eastern edge of the

ditch and filling the upper part of ditch [5141] to the east, suggesting these features are relatively close in age.

Ditch [5141] was the easternmost of this cluster of features and was orientated on a north-south alignment, measuring approximately 1.7m wide by 0.62m deep with steep, concave, stepped sides breaking gradually to a sloping but fairly flat base (Fig. 31, Section 31) (Plate 29). The primary fill consisted of firm, light to mid brown laminated silts (5164/5147), 0.26m thick, which produced two sherds of 12th to early 13th century pottery. This was overlain by a 0.14m thick fill consisting of mottled mid to light grey, greyish brown and light brown sandy silt (5140). A surface find of 10th to 12th century pottery was recovered from near this deposit. Overlying this was 0.12m thick, firm mid brownish grey silt (5163) with mid grey clay bands. Alluvial silt (5162) lay within and over the edges of the cut.

Overlying alluvial silt (5162) was another layer of alluvium, composed of loose dark greyish brown sandy silt (5152), up to 0.11m thick.

Alluvial silt (5152) was truncated by modern field drain [5169].

At the western end of the trench, two edges of a large feature [5114] were partially exposed in plan, measuring at least 7.47m long by at least 1.52m, wide with one rounded corner (Fig. 32, Section 43). The fill of this feature of uncertain shape and function consisted of soft mid brown sandy silt (5113), containing frequent small mollusc shells.

Feature [5114] was truncated by ditch [5102], which was linear in shape (possibly curving towards the southeast at its eastern end) and measured at least 16.66m long (before truncation at the eastern end) by 0.92m wide by 0.34m deep, with steep sides breaking gradually to a concave base (Fig. 28, Sections 18-19). Two fills were identified within this feature, the first of which comprised 0.18m thick, firm light brown sandy silt (5135) with rusty red mottle and occasional charcoal flecks. The upper fill of the ditch was composed of soft, light greyish brown sandy silt (5101), with occasional mid grey and dark grey clay mottle and charcoal flecks. A sherd of 11th to mid-12th century pottery was retrieved from this fill.

Ditch [5102] was truncated by ditch [5134/5120], which was part of a sequence of three ditches [5110], [5130], [5134/5120] located near the centre of the trench. The earliest of these ditches was [5110], however its relationship with ditch [5102] was unclear.

Ditch [5110] may have truncated ditch [5102] but in section was cut through natural deposit (5126) (Fig. 27, Section 17) (Plate 32). It was probably linear in shape and had a roughly north-south alignment, measuring at least 1.68m wide by 0.75m deep with steep sides breaking gradually to a flat base. A single fill was identified before truncation, consisting of firm light greyish brown sandy silt (5124), with red mottle and occasional charcoal flecks and fragments of fired clay. Finds recovered from this deposit include a small amount of animal bone and five fragments of fired clay, four of which represent possible kiln furniture or briquetage.

Ditch [5110] was truncated by probable linear ditch [5130] which could possibly be a recut of ditch [5110]. Ditch [5130] was orientated on a north-south alignment, measuring at least 2.2m wide before truncation and 0.58m deep with one moderately steep concave side breaking gradually to a flat base (Fig. 27, Section 17) (Plate 32). A sequence of three fills was identified within this feature. The primary fill was composed of 0.18m thick, soft light

greyish brown sandy silt (5129), containing occasional charcoal flecks and fragments of fired clay. This was overlain by a 40mm thick, layer of soft light grey sandy silt (5128), with occasional charcoal flecks. The final fill comprised 0.36m thick, soft, light brown to light greyish brown sandy silt (5109) with bands and lenses of dark grey silt, moderate charcoal and fragments of fired clay. A fragment of cattle bone and 12 fragments of fired clay representing possible briquetage props/stands and kiln or oven furniture was recovered from this deposit.

Ditch [5134/5120] truncated ditches [5110] and [5102]. Slots through this ditch were recorded in Sections 17 (Plate 32) and 18 (Figs. 27-28). In Section 18 the earliest fill in ditch [5134/5120] comprised 90mm thick, firm mid grey silt (5127) with occasional rust coloured mottle and charcoal flecks. This was overlain by soft dark grey sandy silt (5123) containing frequent charcoal flecks and small fragments of fired clay. Finds from this deposit comprised twenty-eight fragments of fired clay. An environmental sample of this deposit revealed over 500 more pieces of fired clay along with charred barley rye and possible wheat, oat/grass and pea/bean macrofossils. Remains of chicken and goose eggshell, sheep/goat, mole, field vole, wood mouse, frog/toad, stickleback, small fish, mussel and snails were also recovered. The presence of numerous aquatic shells suggest the feature was permanently filled with water and the water table in the area was quite high. A few fragments of brackish water/estuarine habitat snails suggests the possibility of a saline influence in this feature or nearby. Overlying (5123) was an up to 0.28m thick deposit of firm light greyish brown sandy silt (5119/5131) with occasional small charcoal and fired clay fragments. Finds recovered from this deposit include three fragments of fired clay (one a curved plate or tube) and a sherd of 10th to 12th century pottery. This deposit was recorded in Section 17 (Fig. 27; Plate 32) where it was assigned context number (5131). The final fill of this ditch consisted of soft light brown sandy silt (5121) with moderate fragments of charcoal and fired clay. A fragment of cattle skull and eight pieces of fired clay, one possibly from an oven, was recovered from this deposit.

The primary fill of ditch [5134/5120] in Section 17 (Fig. 27; Plate 32) was composed of firm mid brownish grey and light yellowish brown silt (5133), 0.23m thick, with occasional charcoal flecks. This was overlain by a 90mm thick deposit of soft light greyish brown sandy silt (5132), containing frequent charcoal flecks and fragments of fired clay. The third deposit in the sequence was observed in both sections 17 & 18 (5119/5131) and is described above. The final fill comprised firm light brown, light grey and mid orangey red silt and burnt silt, up to 60mm thick.

Ditch [5112] also truncated ditch [5102] in the western area of the trench, where it was orientated on a north-south alignment, measuring 1.2m wide by 0.67m deep, with steep sides breaking sharply on one side and gradually on the other to a flat base (Fig.32, Section 42). The ditch contained a single fill of soft mid brown sandy silt (5111), containing frequent mollusc shells and a fragment of cattle bone.

Modern topsoil in Trench 51 comprised soft dark brown sandy silt (5100), up to 0.4m thick.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise silts, clayey silts, sandy silts and silty sands of the underlying marine alluvium. This is likely to be post-Roman in date and the thickness of some of these deposits would indicate that the Roman land surface is buried quite deeply.

No remains could be assigned to the Romano-British period despite the close proximity of settlement as suggested by finds of pottery. The Roman land surface is usually identifiable beneath later alluvial deposits but evidence for its existence was not forthcoming during this evaluation. The implications of this cannot be explained within the context of this evaluation but probably indicate that a definite coastline existed in the Holbeach area at this time.

Across the site, trenching in areas A, B & C revealed few archaeological remains of any antiquity. In contrast, Area D in the northeast corner of the site revealed a significantly dense concentration of possible Late Saxon and early Medieval features and artefacts.

In Area A, trenches 1, 6, 7, 12 and 17 all contained undated ditches, the majority of which probably represent modern field boundaries. A large linear feature at the western edge of Area A was recorded in Trenches 5, 9 and 14. The feature displayed at least one recut ditch containing modern material, and was orientated on north-northeast to south south-west alignment This shows up as a distinct magnetic anomaly in the previous geophysical survey of the site (Fig.3) (Jefferson 2014) and also follows the line of a field boundary shown on the 1838 Holbeach Tithe Apportionment Map.

Trench 16 was the only trench in Area A to contain archaeological remains of 10th to 12th century date. These relate to the concentration of features in Area D which will be discussed below.

Areas B and C revealed evidence of relict creeks and channels, some of which were identified in the previous geophysical survey (Jefferson 2014). Part of the eastern boundary of the site follows the course of the Old River or Holbeach River which was culverted within the town in the 19th century. In Area C, Trench 32 showed evidence of overbank flooding, while an exploratory sondage in the western end of Trench 53 revealed deep alluvial deposits which possibly represent infilling of the channel.

Trenching in the northeast area of the site revealed significant archaeological remains ranging in date from the 10th to 13th century, as well as some post-medieval activity.

Prior to this investigation geophysical survey of Area D revealed archaeological type anomalies (Fig.3) interpreted as a possible oval enclosure and rubble filled pits (Jefferson 2014). Lidar (light detection and ranging) for the area was examined during the desk based assessment and a noticeable mound was observed which is unlikely to be of natural origin. In addition, fieldwalking of the area identified a concentration of late Saxon and medieval finds within the possible enclosure and over the mound (Lane 2014).

These lines of evidence led to the tentative suggestion that Area D might represent a possible manorial centre. However the evidence from the evaluation suggests this is not the case and that the early medieval remains in this area relate to settlement, possibly with a focus on salt production.

With the exception of a handful of post-medieval and modern features, archaeological remains in Area D comprise a number of large ditches and clusters of ditches of early medieval date. Very few pits were evident and structural remains were represented by a single possible post hole.

The bulk of pottery from features in Area D dates from the 11th to early 13th century. A possible distinction in terms of dating appears to be evident at the site with pottery from Trenches 16, 42 and 44 being

suggestive of 11th to early 12th century date, while the early medieval handmade wares recovered from Trenches 47, 48 and 51 are characteristic of domestic assemblages of the 12th to early 13th century (Appendix 2). The pottery derives from kilns located at Stamford, Thetford and St Neots with none indicating trade to other kiln sites, particularly Lincolnshire products. The use of fenland waterways as a means of transporting these pottery types possibly contributes to the distribution of these products.

A number of fragments of mostly degenerated lava quern were recovered from features in Area D. These are typical of the Late Saxon to medieval periods and in this case probably relate to the latter, considering the dating evidence provided by the pottery.

The quern fragments also indicate the domestic grinding of foodstuffs. Evidence of crop processing was also observable in environmental sampling, where charred grain was abundant, yet chaff was not represented. The absence of chaff probably reflects both the product and by product of fine sieving of the crop (Appendix 3). Sampling from Area D yielded a range of finds indicative of activity, crop processing and food waste at the site. "Cattle, sheep/goat, duck, chicken, goose, cereals, pulses, fish, bird eggs and marine shells are all indicative of the range of foods exploited at the site and are fairly typical of fenland sites where marine resources are easily accessible". (Rackham Appendix 3).

A relatively large assemblage of faunal remains was recovered mostly from trenches within Area D. The assemblage was dominated by cattle with sheep/goat in second place. The need for salt to produce cheeses and butter may indicate that dairying was an important element of the local economy, although meat could also be salted to preserve its shelf life. A few pig bones were identified along with a single deer bone, indicating hunting was occurring. Bird, including probable goose, were also recovered from the site. Fish and other marine resources, apart from oyster, cockle and mussel, are very poorly represented in the assemblage. Any future work should address this disparity by having a robust sampling policy.

The possible enclosure/moat identified in the geophysical survey was not evident in the evaluation trenches, rather the trenches contained some very large ditch type features, identified in Trenches 46, 42 and 48, that did not form an actual enclosure. Other features in these trenches included clusters of ditches and intercutting ditches with recuts containing numerous alluvial silty fills, which in some cases flow over and into other features suggesting periodic inundation of the site. Although the nature of evaluation trenching poses difficulties with regards to site interpretation, the layout of these features seems more suggestive of water management in an environment prone to flooding, rather than stable domestic settlement patterns. This is entirely consistent with the interpretation of the sites focus as one of salt-production.

Salt-making would require a ready source of brine to evaporate. The (at the time) tidal Holbeach river would have provided for this. The eastern boundary of the site which separates Trenches 34, 44 and 45 from the rest of Area D follows the old course of this river, however, a possible edge of a former course was identified in Trench 53 in Area C (Figs 3 & 23) just to the west of the present watercourse. The complete lack of archaeological remains in Trench 49 suggests that this trench may be located directly over the former course of the river (Fig.4). This would put Trenches 43-45 and 51 on the eastern side of the river with the bulk of the settlement occurring on the western bank. Environmental samples from Trenches 42, 48 and 51 which are located

adjacent to the foreshore of the proposed former river course produced snail assemblages dominated by aquatic species indicating that features in these trenches carried permanent water. Also present in these samples were a few shells of snail species from brackish water or estuarine habitats which suggest a saline influence in these features or nearby. The location of the site in an extremely wet environment beside the banks of a tidal river adds further weight to the notion that salt production may have been the primary activity carried out at the site.

Further evidence for salt-production in Area D is suggested by the mound observed both on lidar and during the fieldwork component of the investigation (Figs 4 & ??). This silt mound had a roughly circular shape in plan and is unlikely to be of natural origin (Lane, *pers comm*). Medieval salt-production methods differ from prehistoric and Roman periods in that in the latter, the raw material for heating and evaporation was seawater, while in the medieval period, salt rich muds were collected from the foreshore or creek sides and the salt washed through peat or turves in filtration units (Cope-Faulkner & Lane 2014, 82). This resulted in large quantities of waste silt, which would be heaped up. Many of these mounds are visible in the landscape today (eg Silvester 1988, Fig.115).

The presence of fired clay finds from Area D provides the most direct evidence for saltmaking at the site. A total of 19 pieces of probable briquetage (ceramic material and objects considered to relate to salt production processes), along with 25 unclassified pieces of fired clay "objects" which may include briquetage items, were recovered. Fired clay recovered from features in Trenches 16, 40, 44, 45 and 51 probably relate to salt-production and include pieces that show signs of heavy bleaching indicative of the salt making process. Bleaching was also evident on a high proportion of pottery vessels at the site, suggesting close contact with a chemical bleaching agent such as salt, and may have been used in the salt winning process. The fired clay "objects" from these trenches include possible props or stands. The most complete examples came from Trench 44 with one item having a flat base and rounded cone shaped profile. Cone shaped props are known to have been used for salt-making in the medieval period, although examples from stratified contexts are very rare (Appendix 2). Conical props similar in form to the one recovered at this site were found at a medieval salt making complex in Kings Lynn at Queen Mary's nurses home (Cope-Faulkner 2001).

Although the evaluation did not reveal certain features typical of medieval salt producing sites, such as clay lined tanks from filtration units, pits, postholes and hearths, this does not necessarily mean they are absent from the site. The dearth of these features may be a result of trench placement and considering the evidence, it seems likely that further investigation may yet reveal these types of remains. However, previous excavations of medieval salt-making sites have tended to be on those of 13th to 14th century date and it is possible that what is being revealed at Holbeach is a somewhat different process. Environmental sampling from Trench 51 produced more than 500 fragments of fired clay, and probably represents a dump of material from a hearth. It seems improbable that this waste would have been transported too far from the structure that produced it. Other finds at the site included the odd piece of "fuel ash slag", while sampling yielded a little glassy slag, both industrial residues possibly associated with the salt-making process that are unlikely to have been deposited far from where they originated.

Examining the lidar data from the vicinity of the site permits some interesting observations to be made. If, as mentioned

above, that the site represents a Late Saxon to early medieval salt-making site, a similar arrangement of mounds and water management features can be found at Fleet, where salt-making is also recorded as occurring along the former river. A mound, which is now no longer visible, was interpreted as an undocumented castle with the various ditches forming the baileys or wards. When partially excavated, finds and features were generally few and not easily related to a high-status castle or manorial centre. If this is the case, lidar may prove to be a useful means of identifying the early medieval salt-making industry which is currently biased towards the later, salt-industry typified by the large mounds and culminating in the industrial set-up recorded at Wainfleet (McAvoy 1994).

No Middle Saxon material was recovered at the site, although place-name evidence would appear to indicate that Holbeach was so named during this period. However, Holbeach along with Fleet and Whaplode, are named after topographical features as opposed to the names indicating actual settlement (*e.g.* those ending in *–ton* or *–ham*).

Features from later periods in Area D comprise a single late medieval to post-medieval ditch in Trench 40, a large ditch type feature in Trench 46 which contained post-medieval finds and modern material in its upper fills, a large pit in Trench 40 containing modern glass, which was cut by two smaller pits, a dump of Victorian glass bottles in Trench 41 and modern disturbances in Trench 43 and the northern end of Trench 42.

The bottle dump in Trench 41 fills what was a post-medieval fish pond (Fig.4) and was interpreted as a rubble filled pit in the geophysical survey of the site. The large ditch type feature in Trench 46 was identified from crop marks and the geophysical survey and is probably ….

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Hall Gate, Holbeach, as the site lay in an area of known archaeological remains of the Romano-British and Late Saxon/medieval periods.

However, no Romano-British remains or a contemporary land surface were encountered during the evaluation.

The earliest deposits encountered were dated to between the 10th and 13th centuries and were associated with salt-making and agriculture. Salt-making appears to have been dependant on the tidal nature of the Holbeach river though declined possibly due to land reclamation from the sea or the increasingly more industrialised nature of salt-production in the 13th century onwards. The remains were focussed within the northeast corner of the site, adjacent to the Holbeach river.

There were few features recorded outside this area which were principally former field boundaries and natural creeks.

Finds include a range of Saxo-Norman and medieval pottery, some of which appeared to have been used in salt-making along with fired clay/briquetage. Other finds include, brick, tile, metalwork, worked bone, quern and clay pipe.

Environmental evidence indicates that during the 10th – 13th centuries there was a mixed agricultural regime, with cattle and sheep/goat dominating the meat requirements and barley among the cereals.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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9. PERSONNEL

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
LAO	Lincolnshire Archive Office
OS	Ordnance Survey
RC	Records Commission

Figure 1 - General location plan

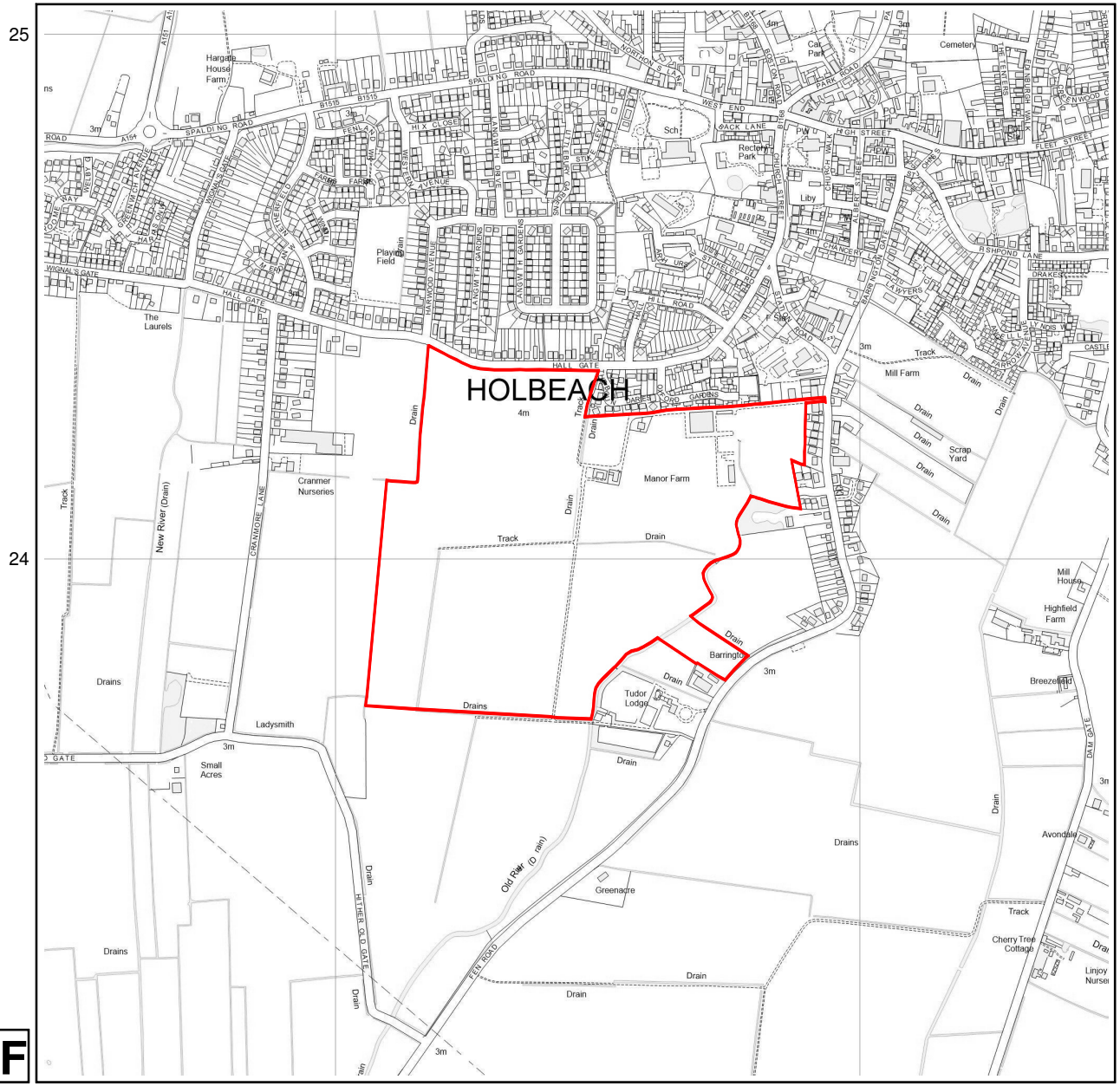
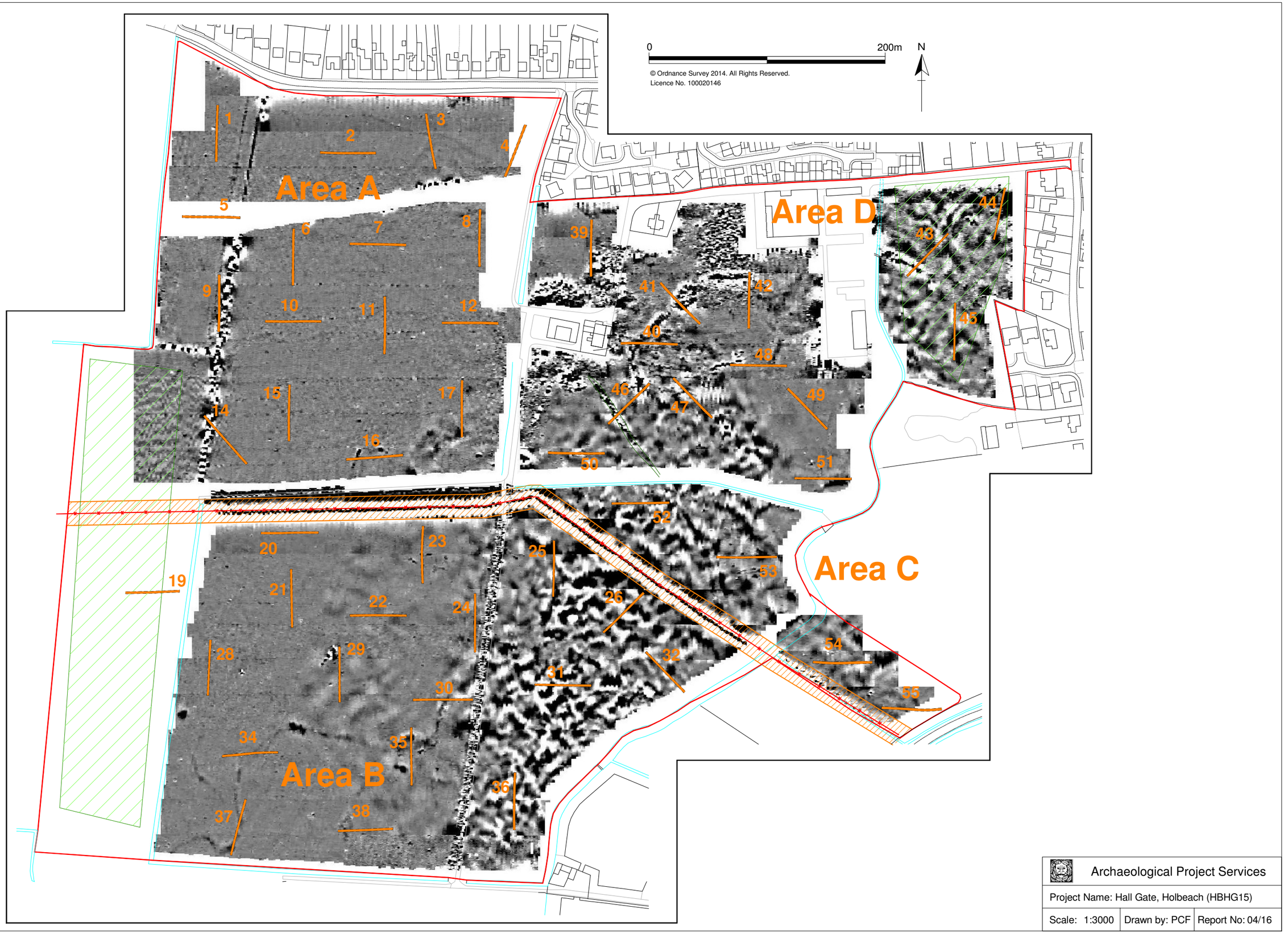


Figure 2 - Site location plan



Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Hall Gate, Holbeach (HBHG15)		
Scale: 1:3000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 04/16

Figure 3 - Trench location plan overlain on geophysical survey.

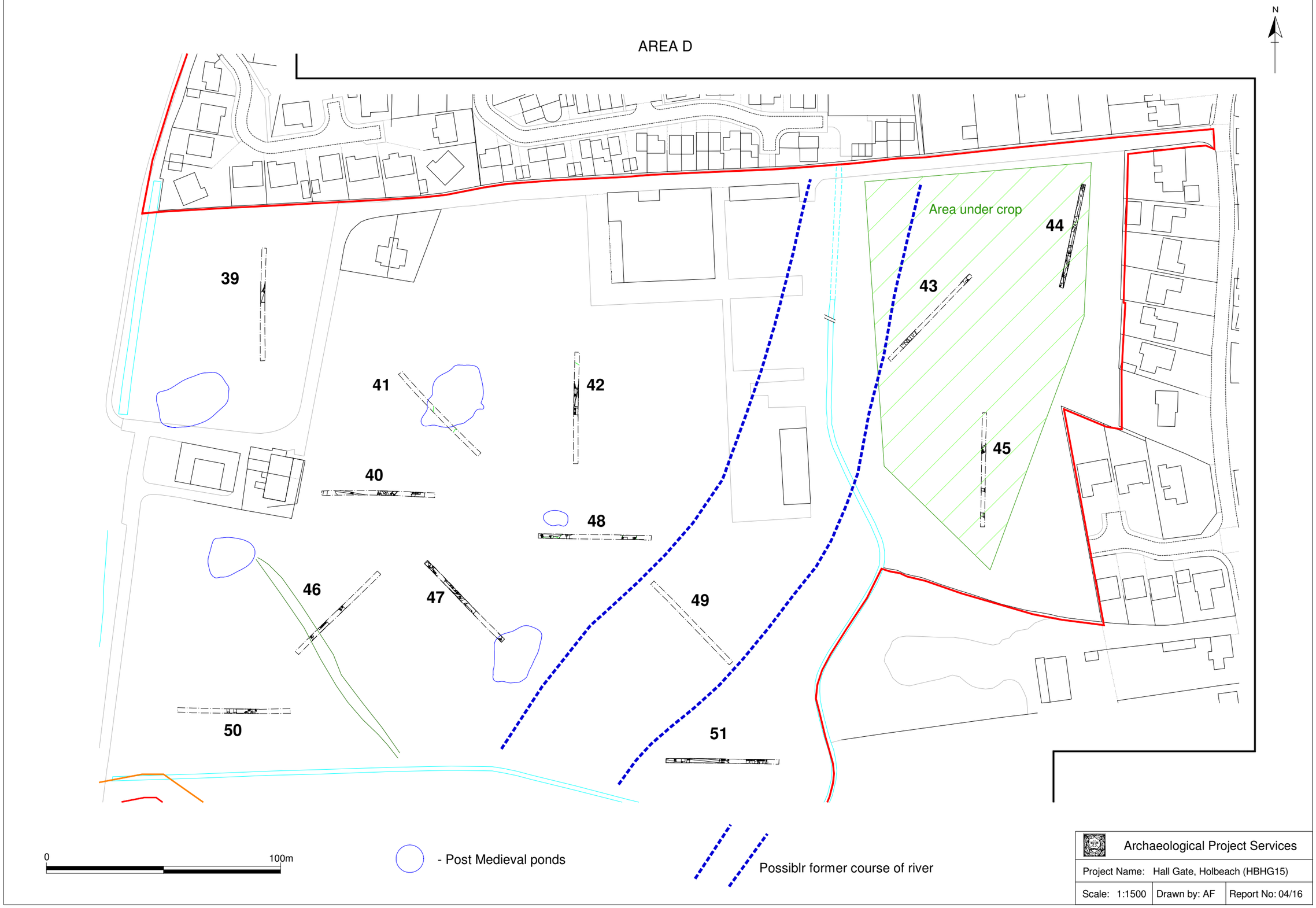


Figure 4 - Area D plan

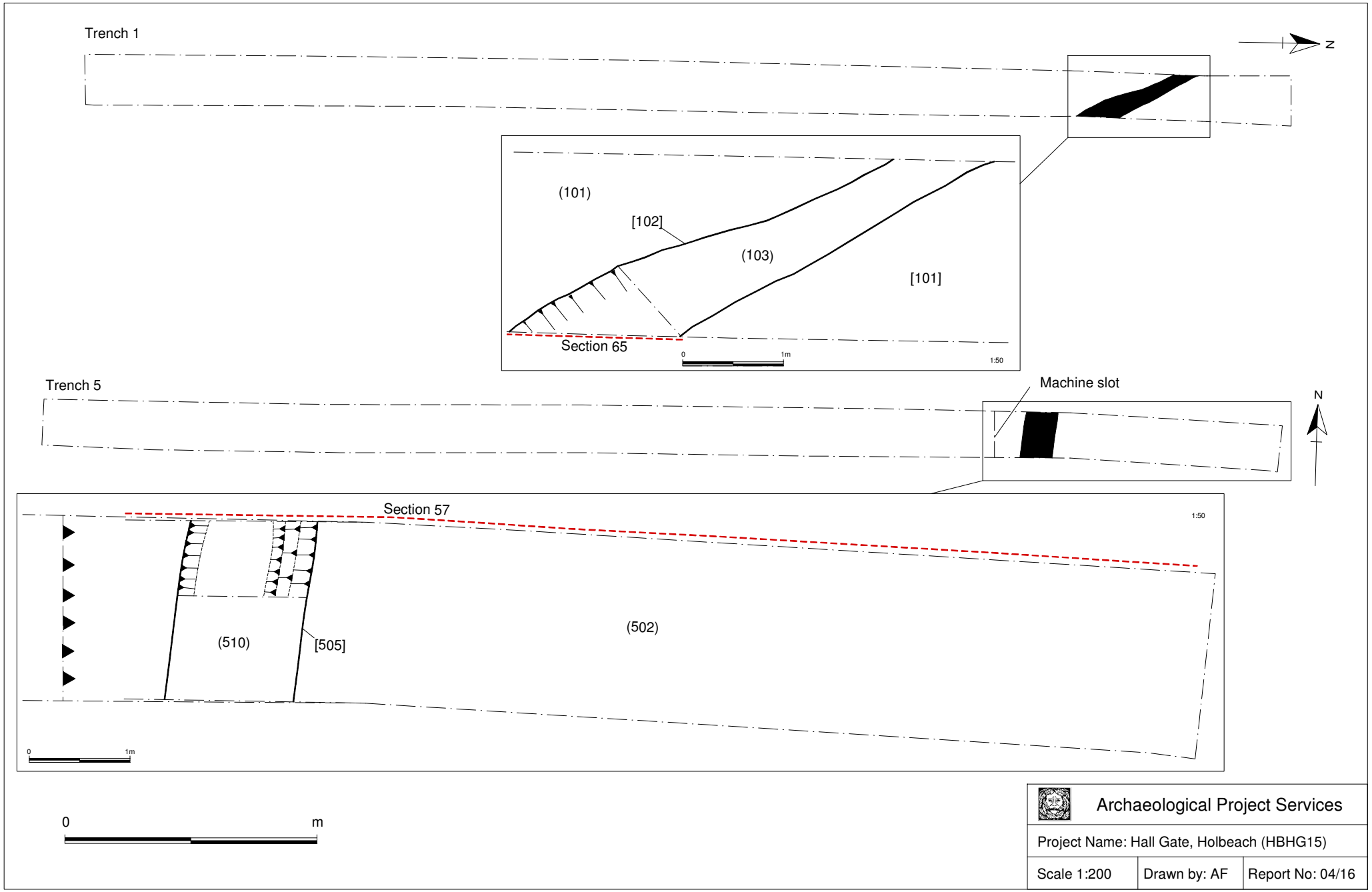


Figure 5 - Plan of Trenches 1 & 5

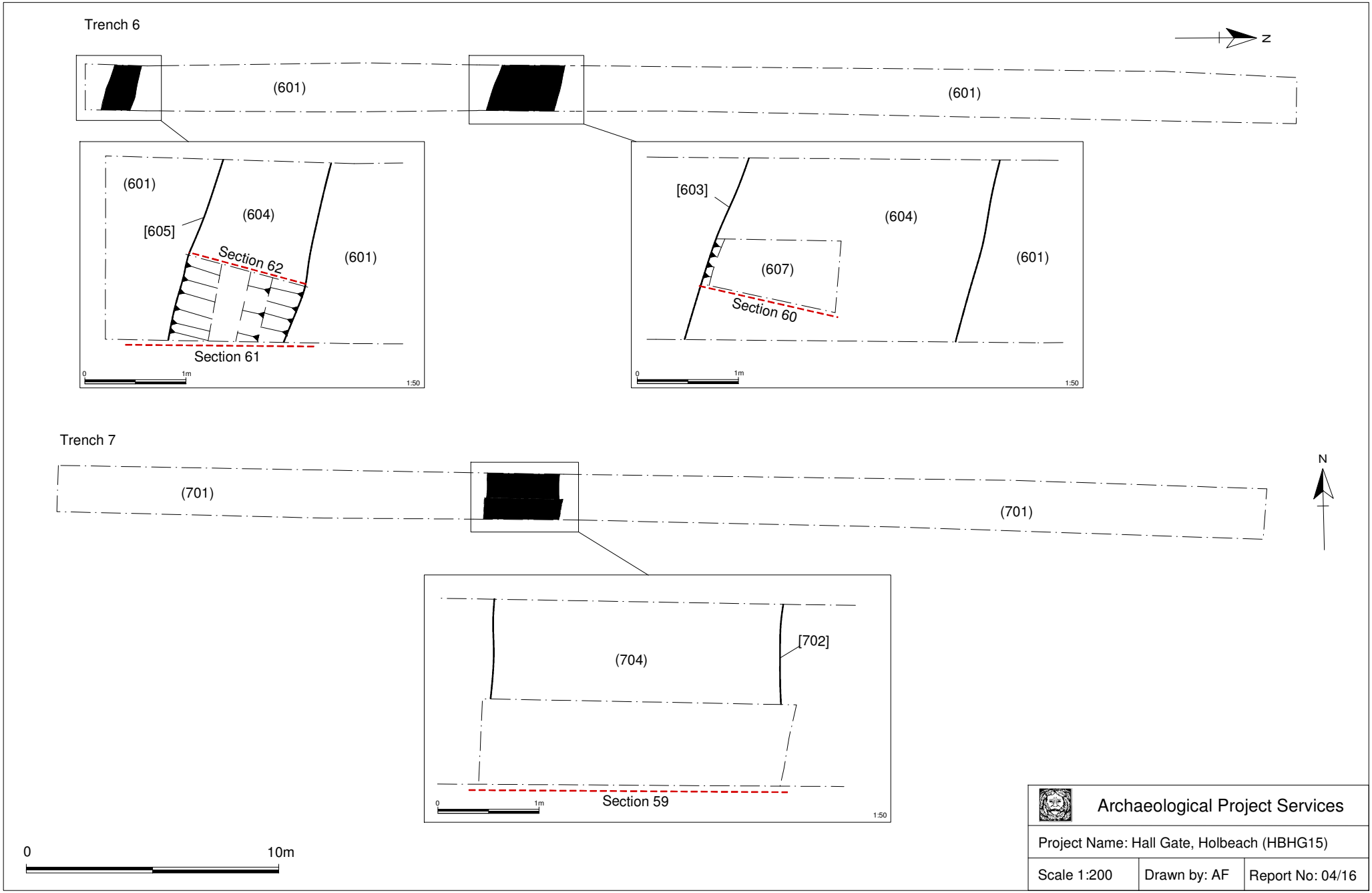


Figure 6 - Plan of Trenches 6 & 7

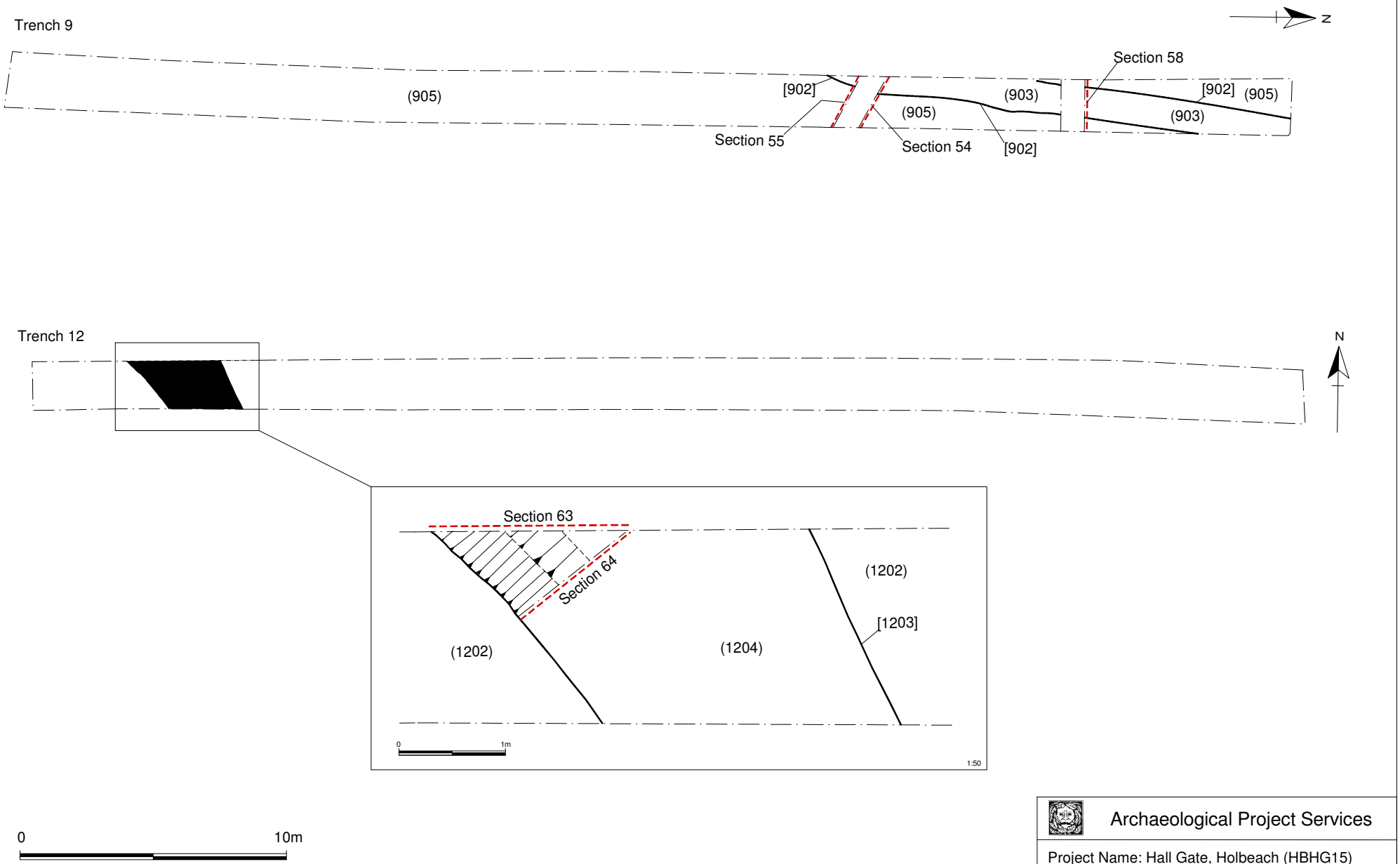


Figure 7 - Plan of Trenches 9 & 12

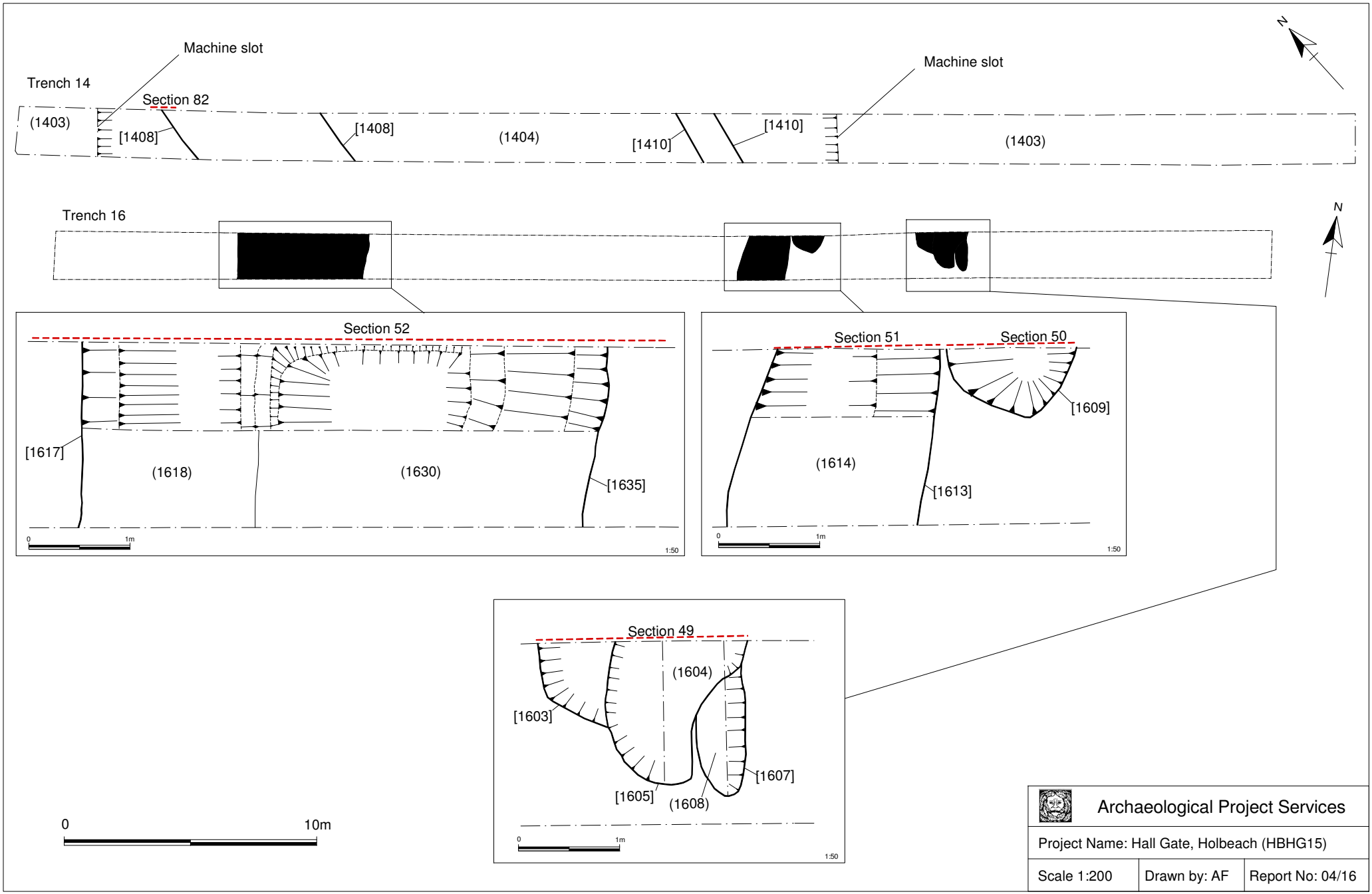


Figure 8 - Plan of Trenches 14 & 16

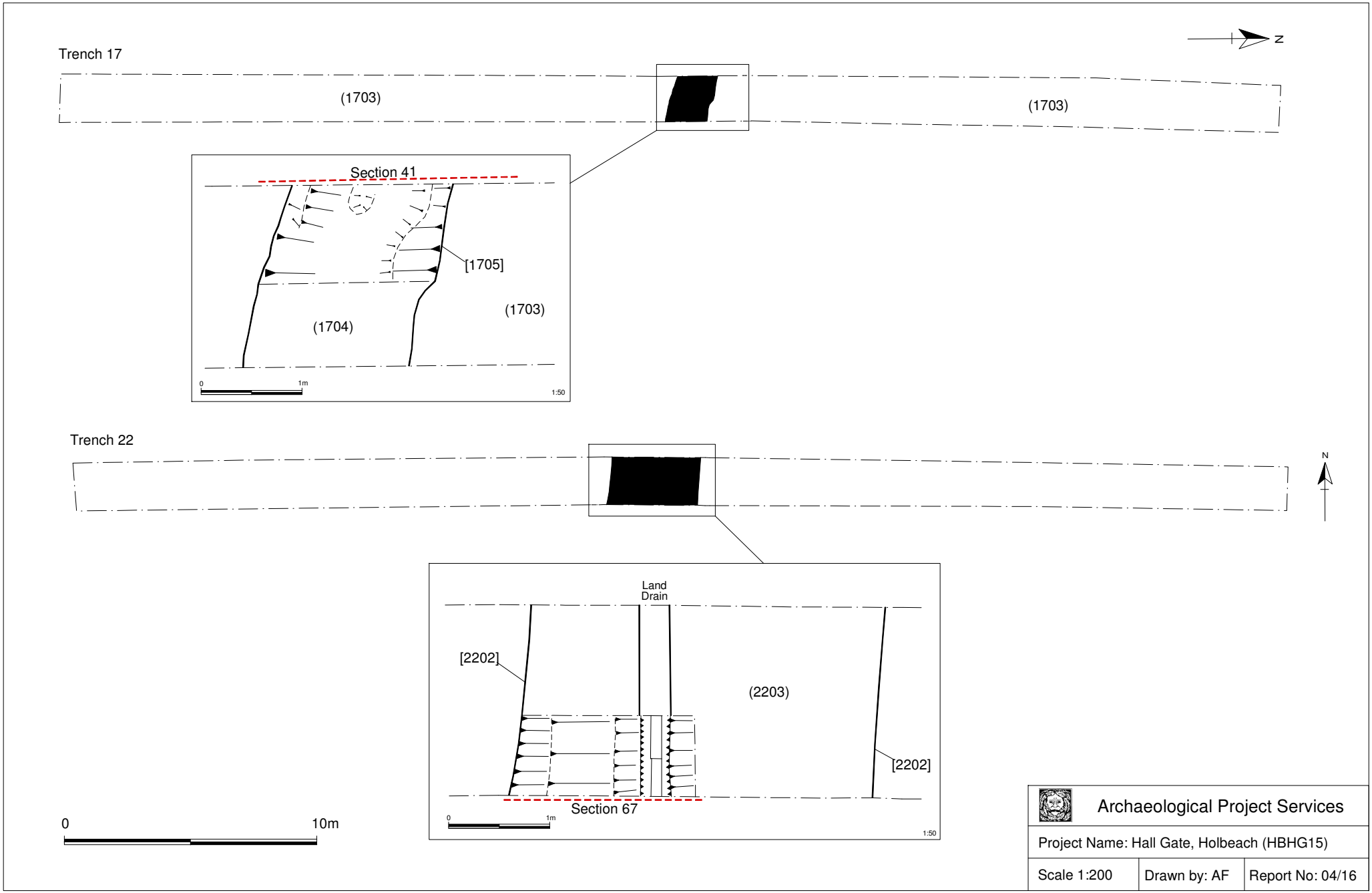


Figure 9 - Plan of Trenches 17 & 22

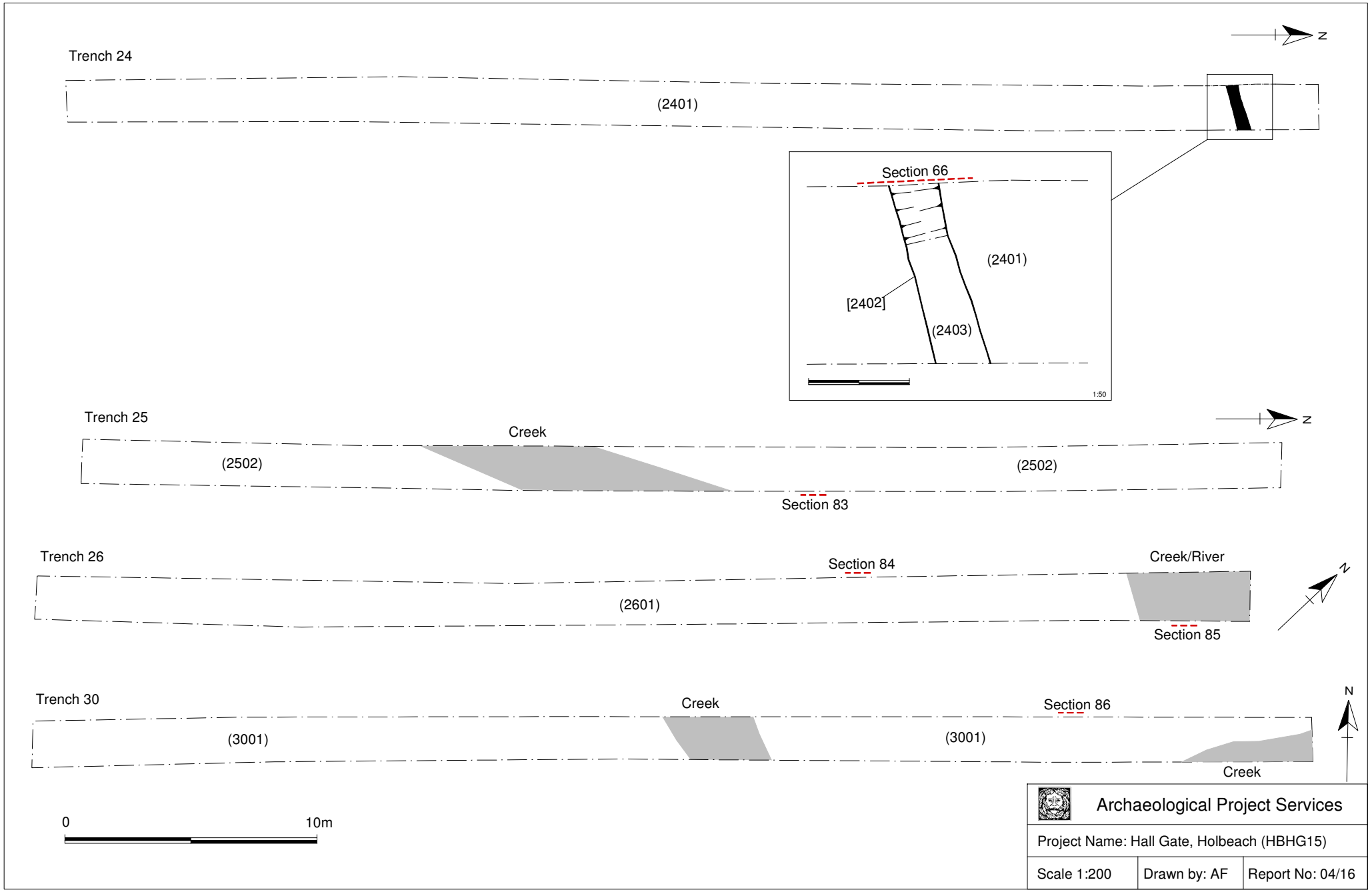


Figure 10 - Plan of Trenches 24, 25, 26 & 30

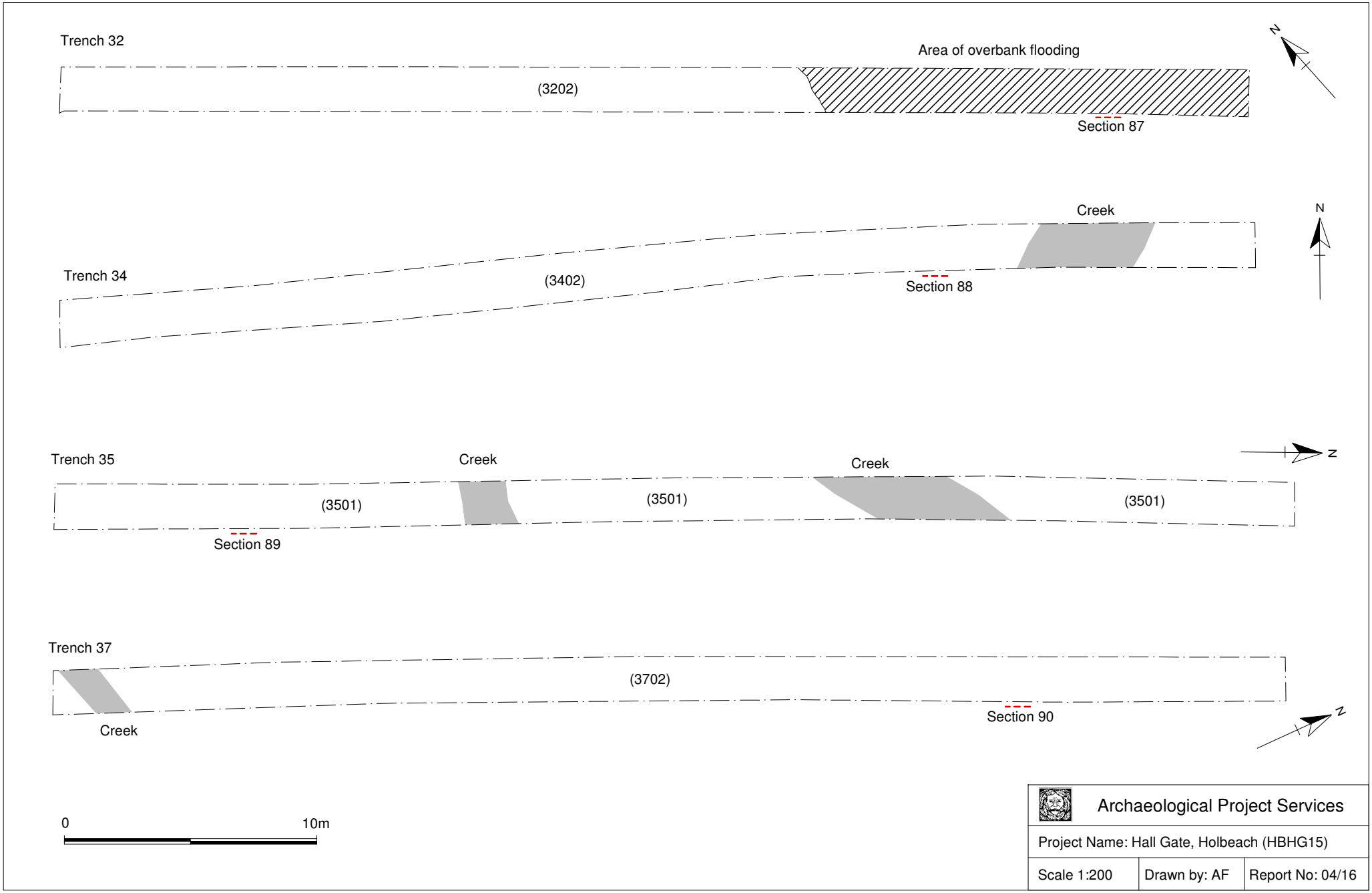


Figure 11 - Plan of Trenches 32, 34, 35 & 37

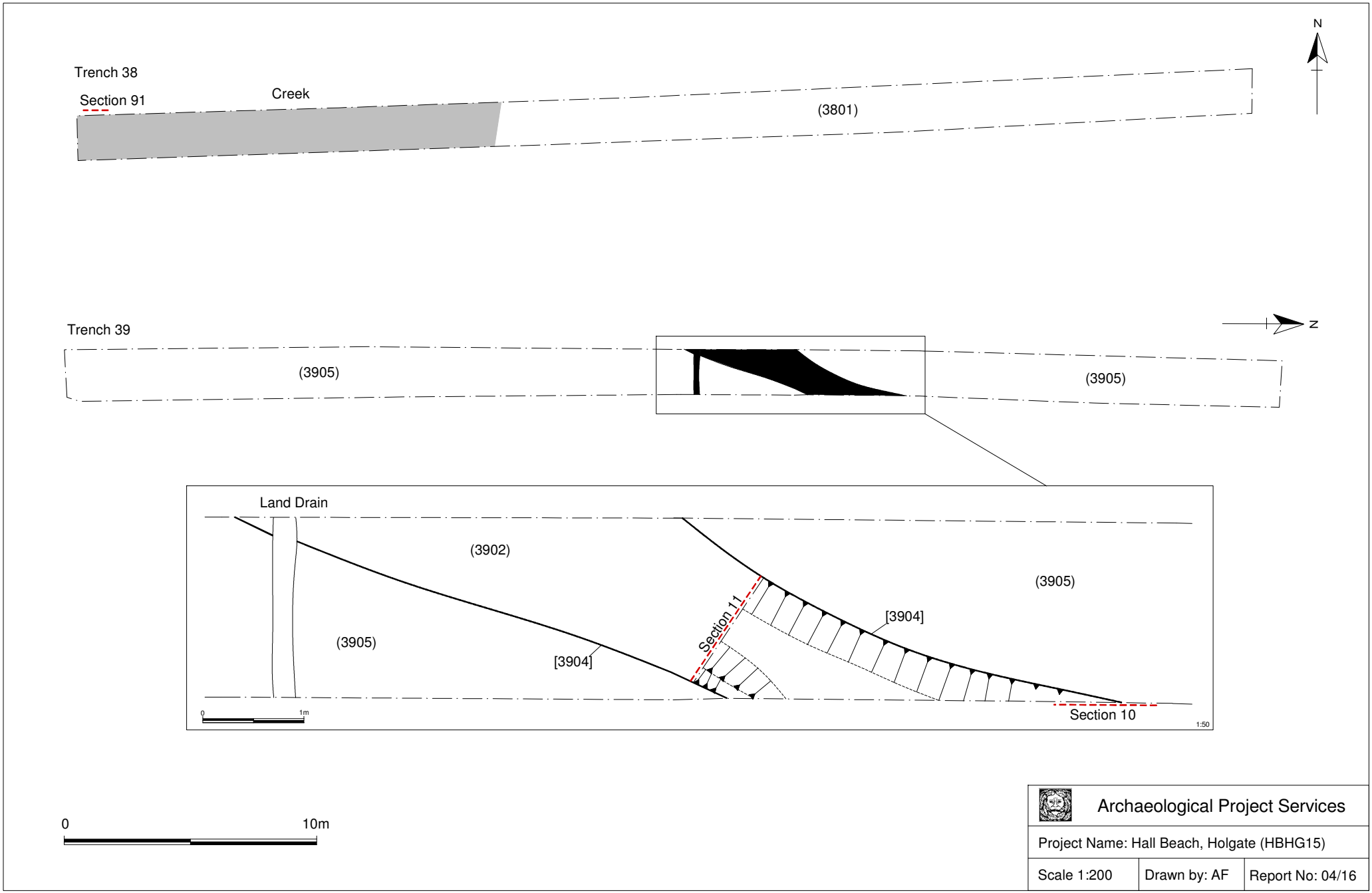


Figure 12 - Plan of Trenches 38 & 39

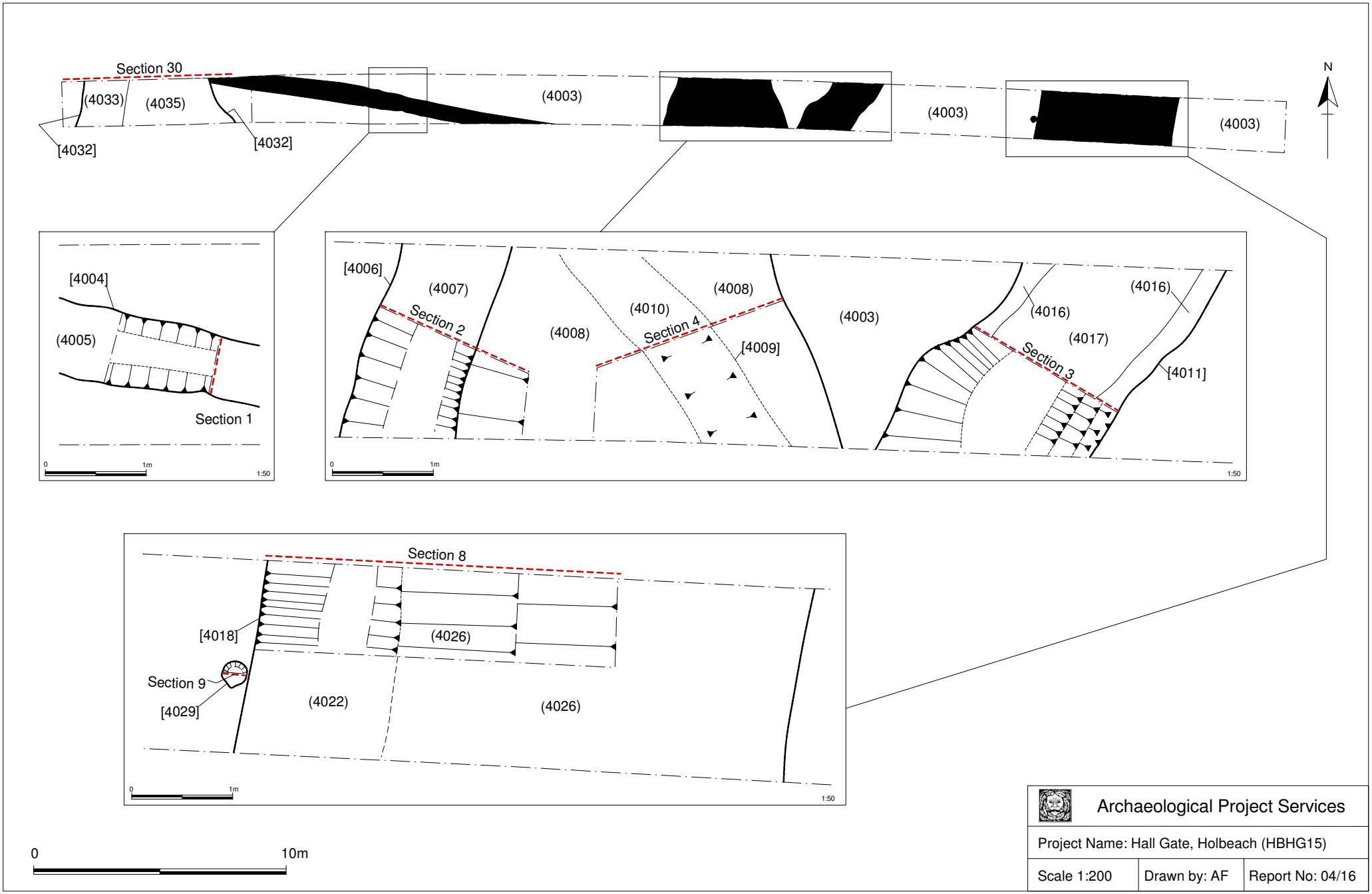


Figure 13 - Plan of Trench 40

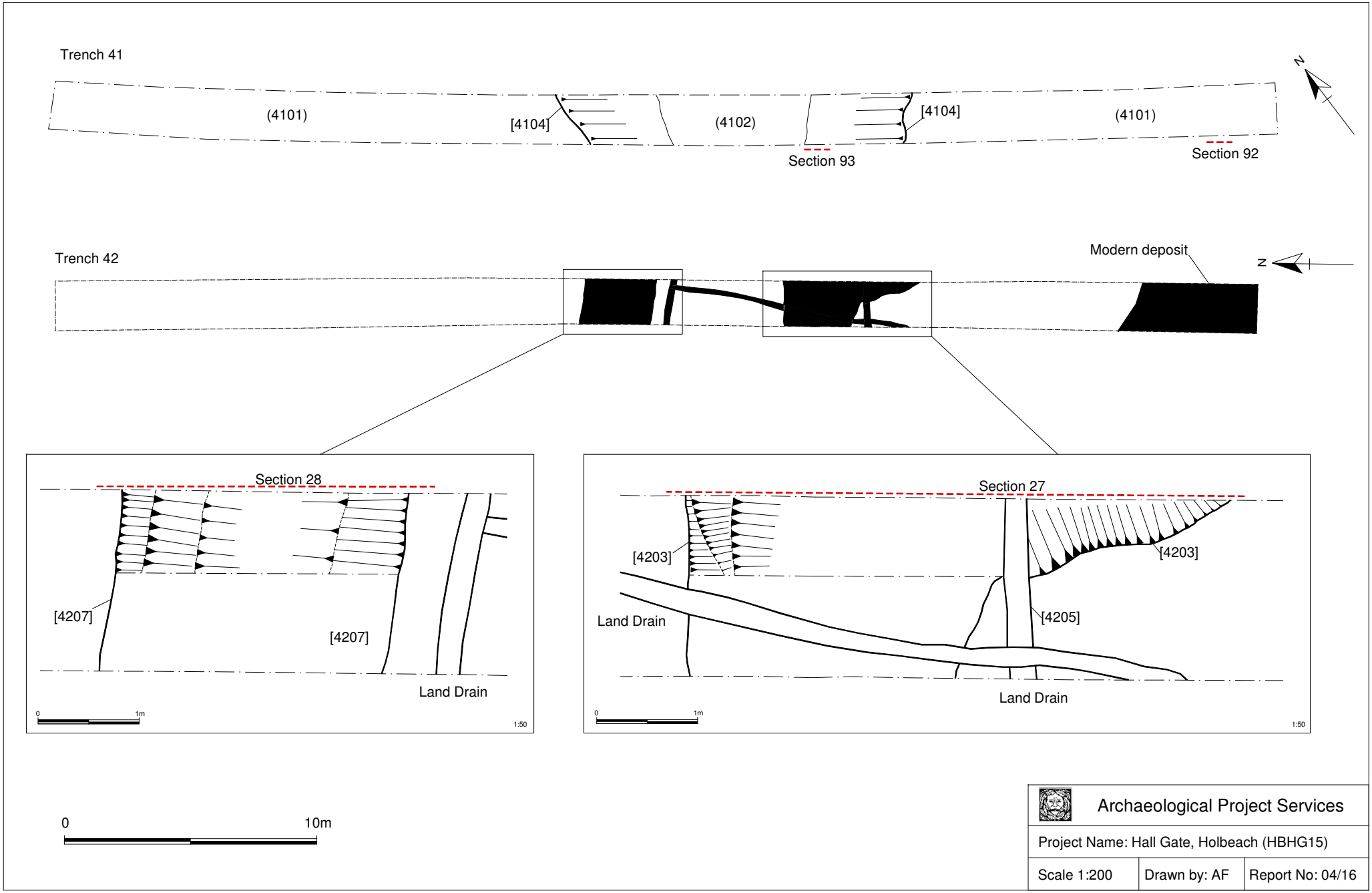


Figure 14 - Plan of Trenches 41 & 42

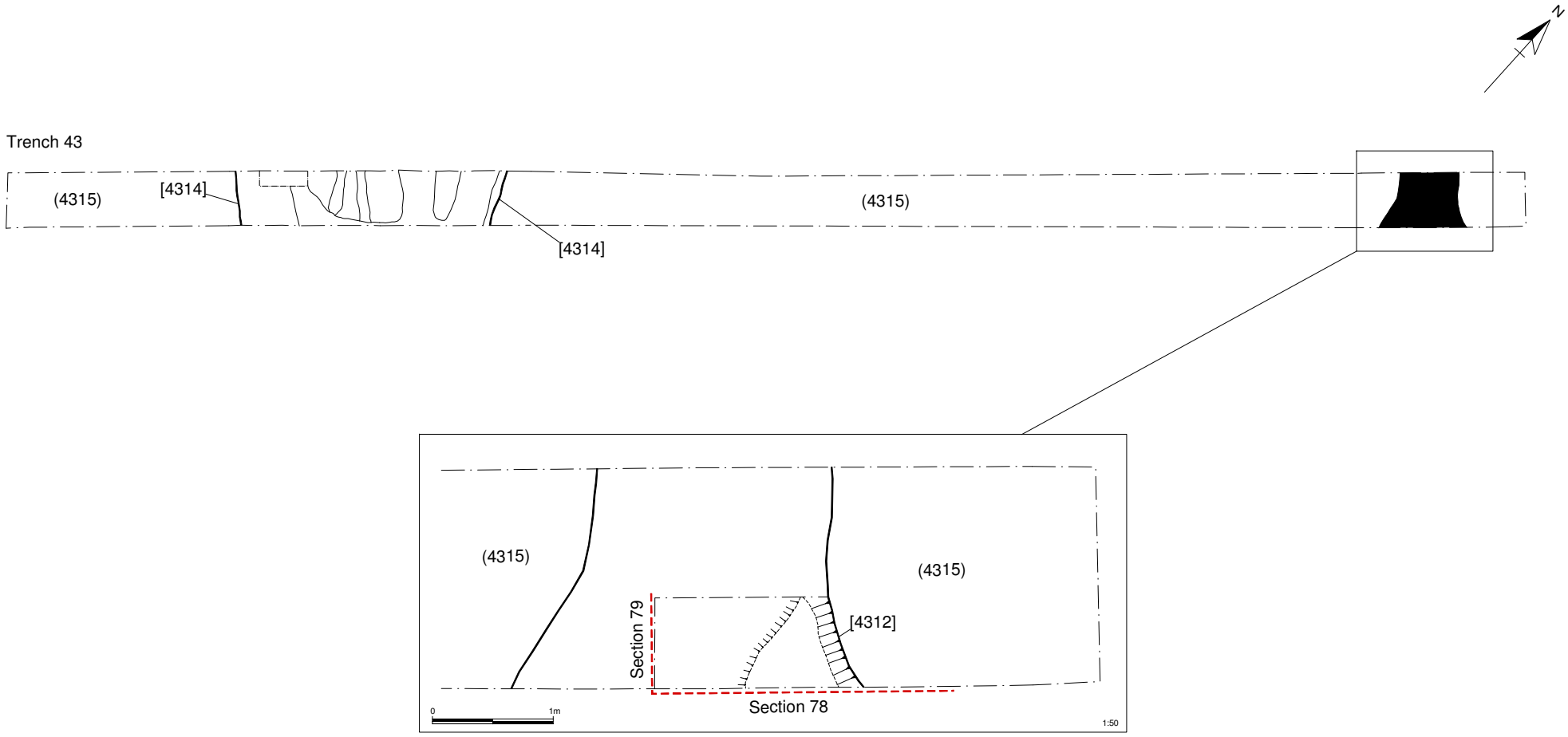


Figure 15 - Plan of Trench 43

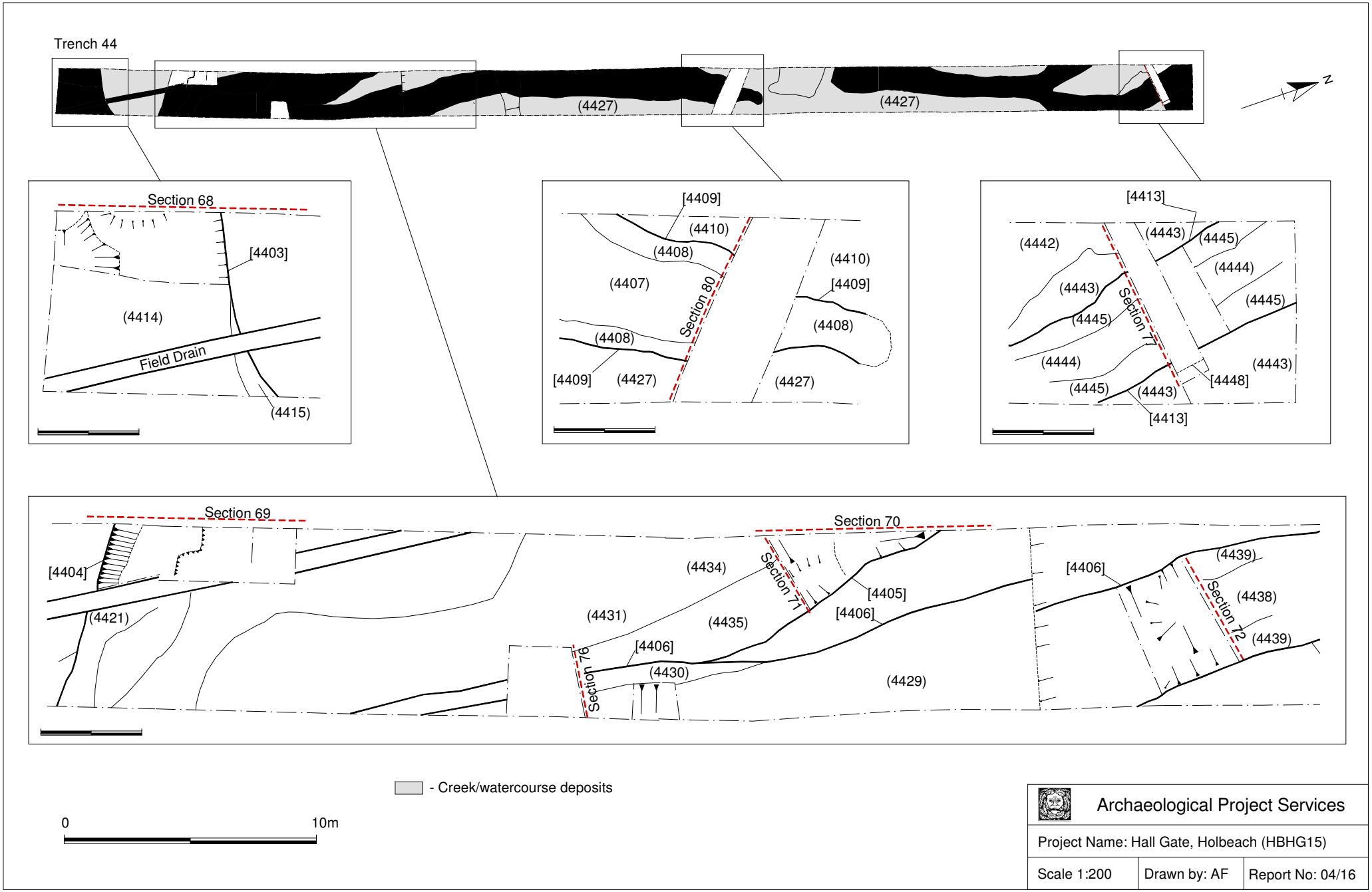
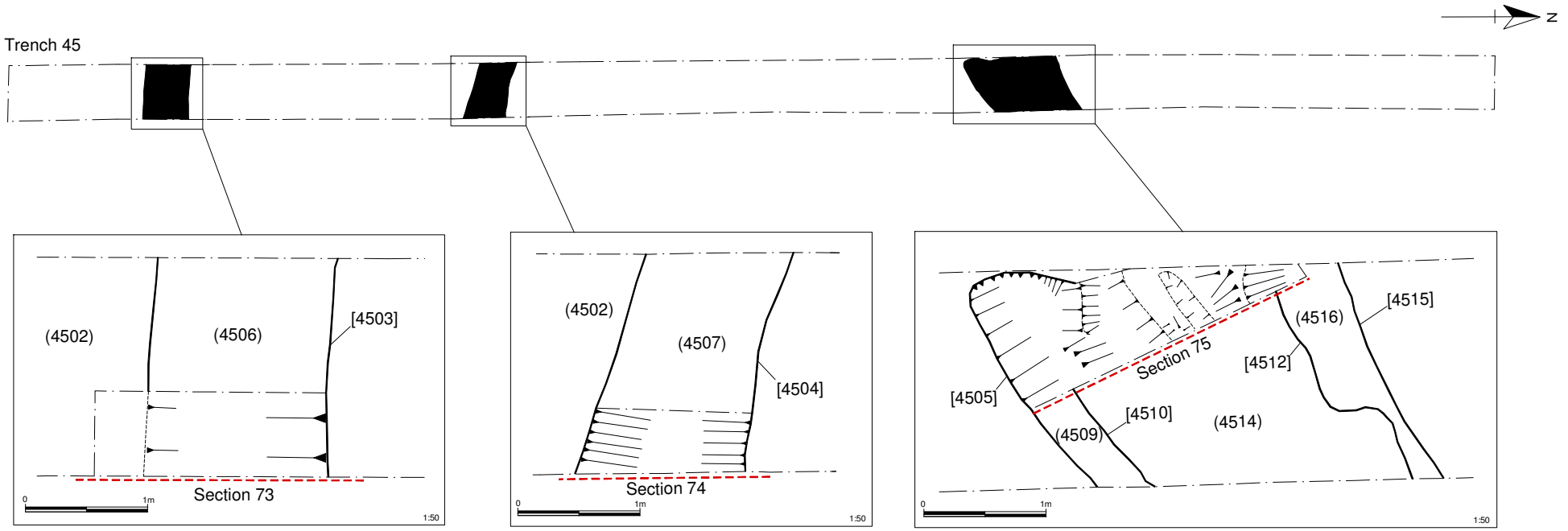


Figure 16 - Plan of Trench 44



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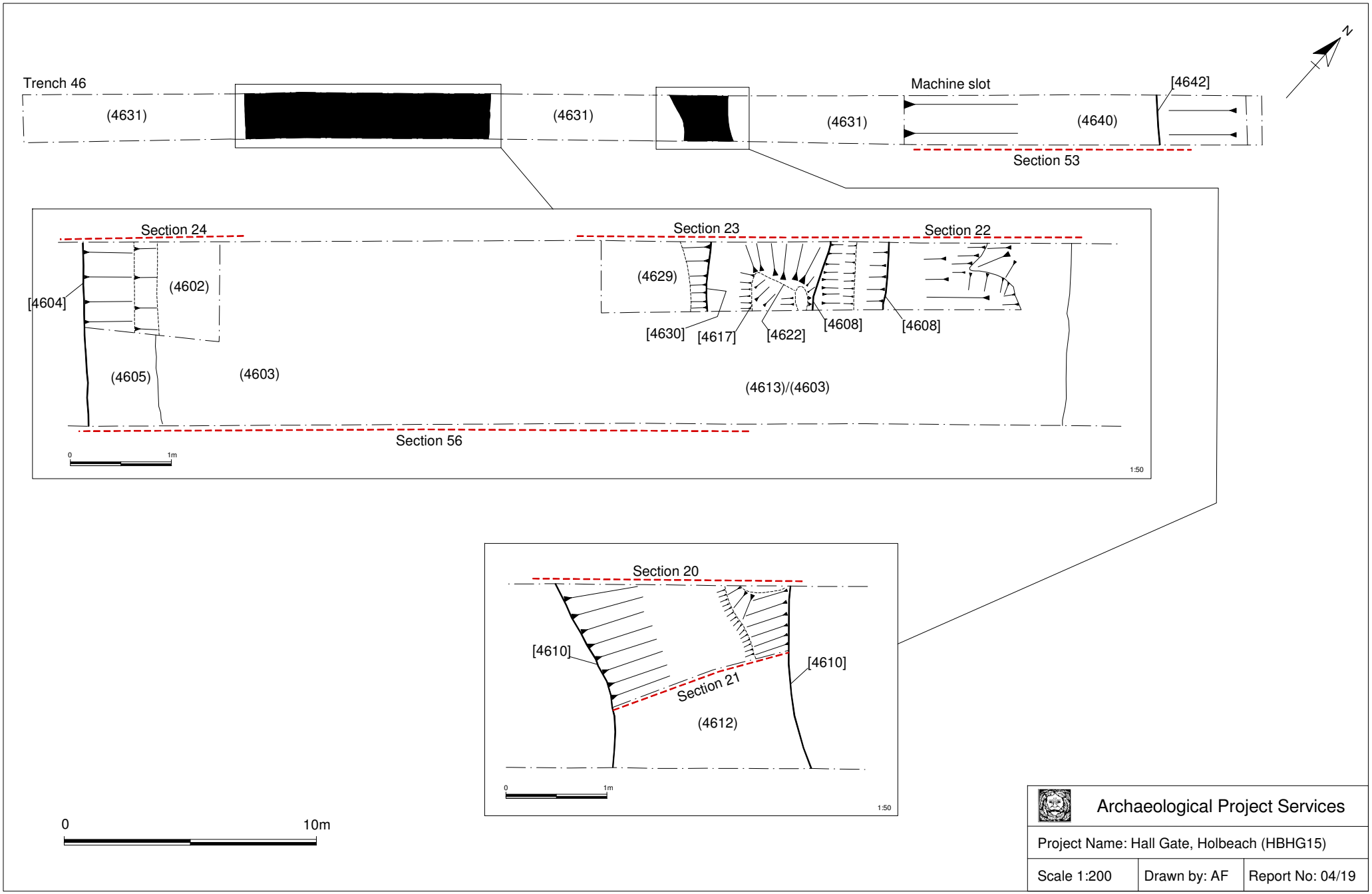
Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Hall Gate, Holbeach (HBHG15)		
Scale 1:200	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 04/16

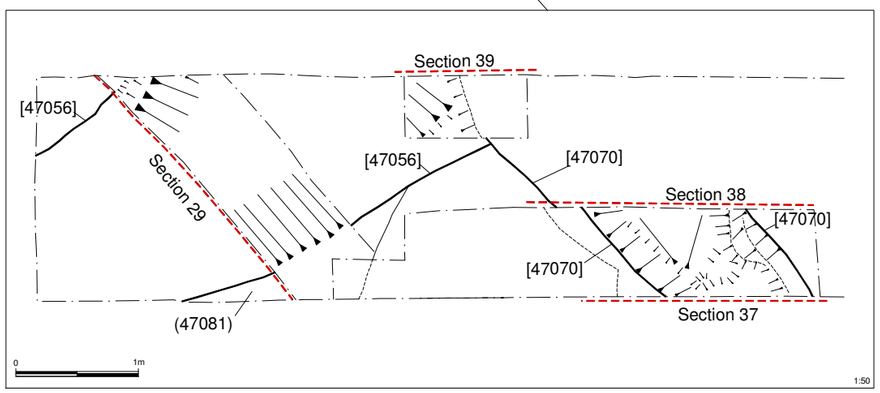
Figure 17 - Plan of Trench 45

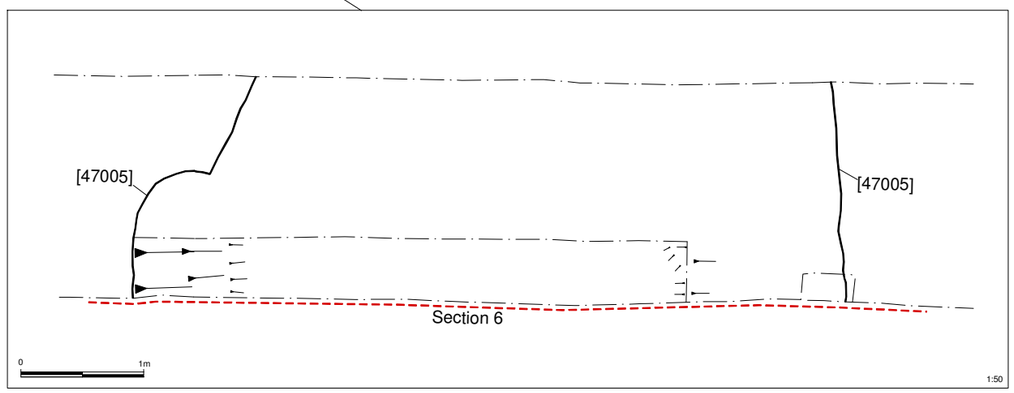


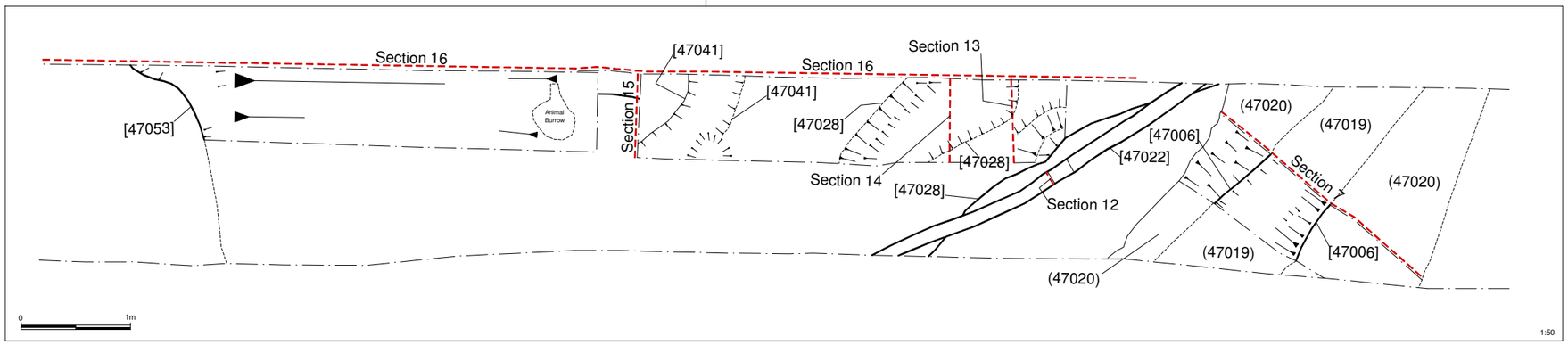
Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Hall Gate, Holbeach (HBHG15)		
Scale 1:200	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 04/19

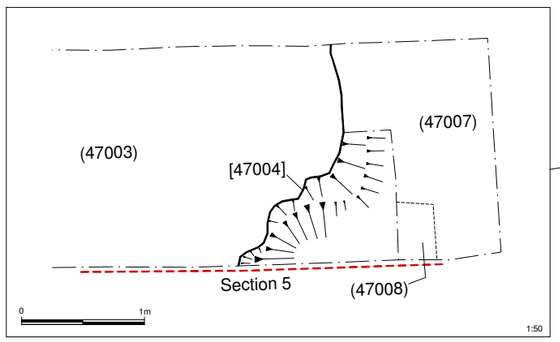
Figure 18 - Plan of Trench 46

Trench 47









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Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Hall Gate, Holbeach (HBHG15)		
Scale: 1:200	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 14/06

Figure 19 - Plan of Trench 47

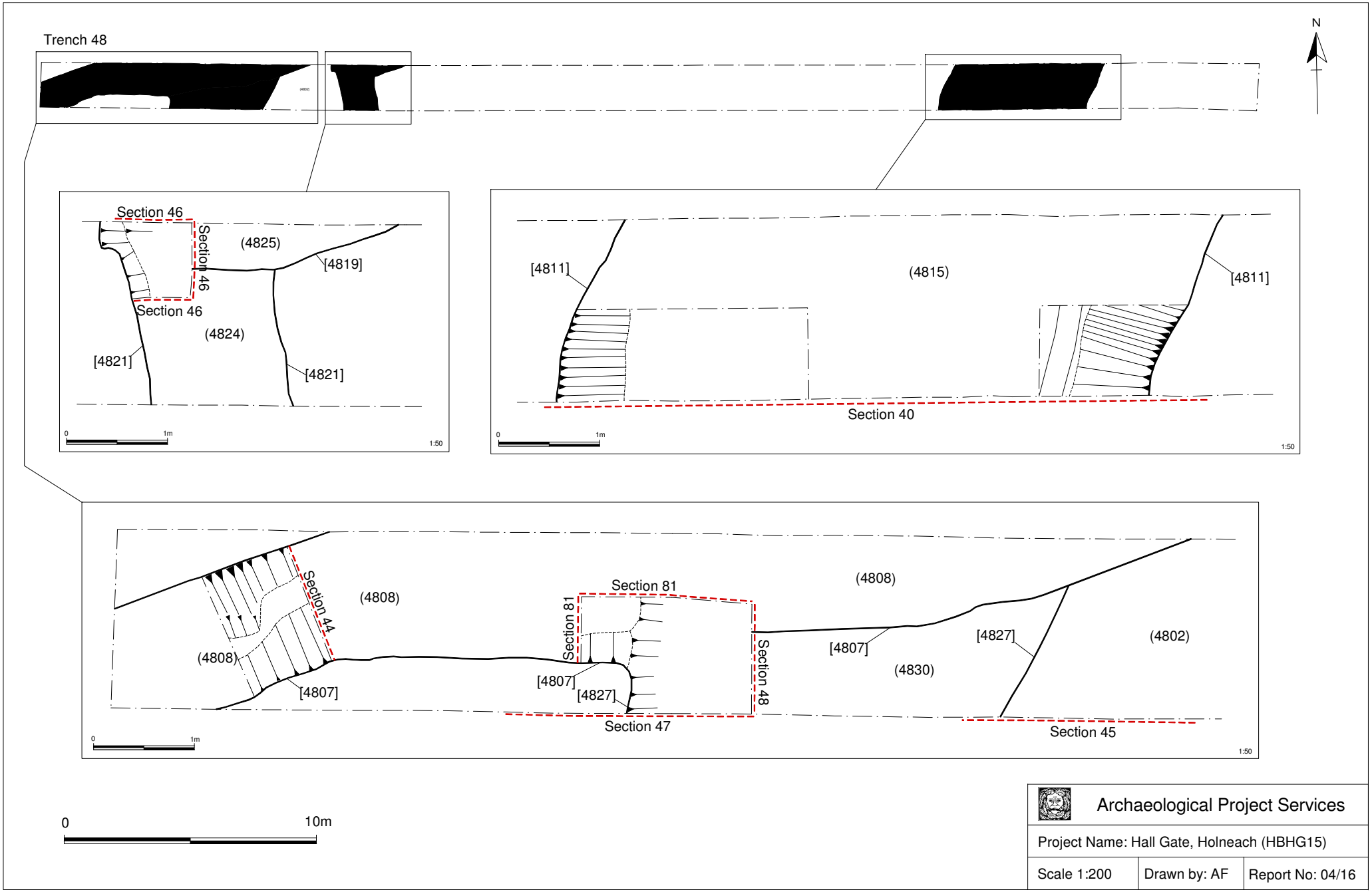


Figure 20 - Plan of Trench 48

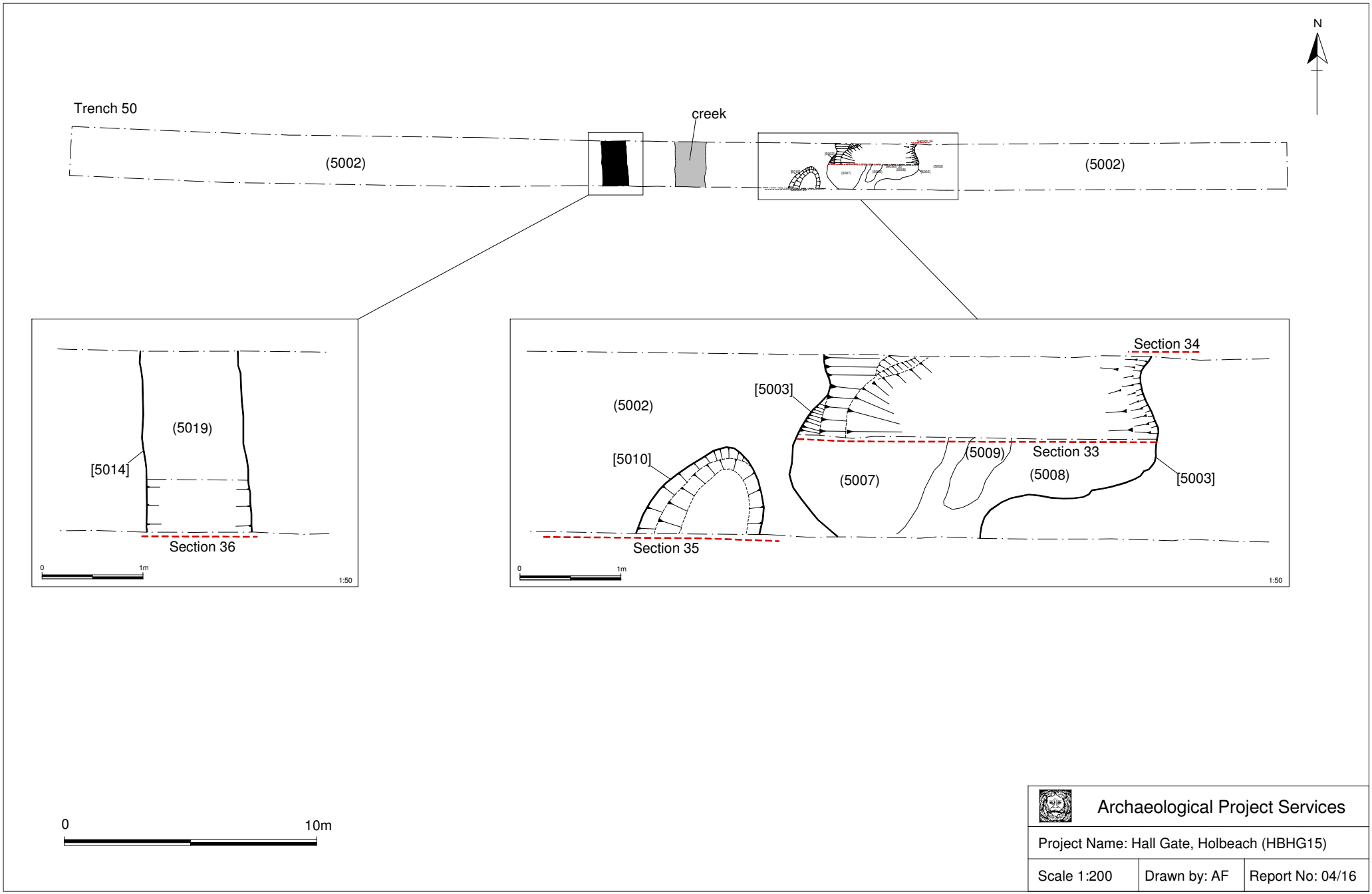


Figure 21 - Plan of Trench 50

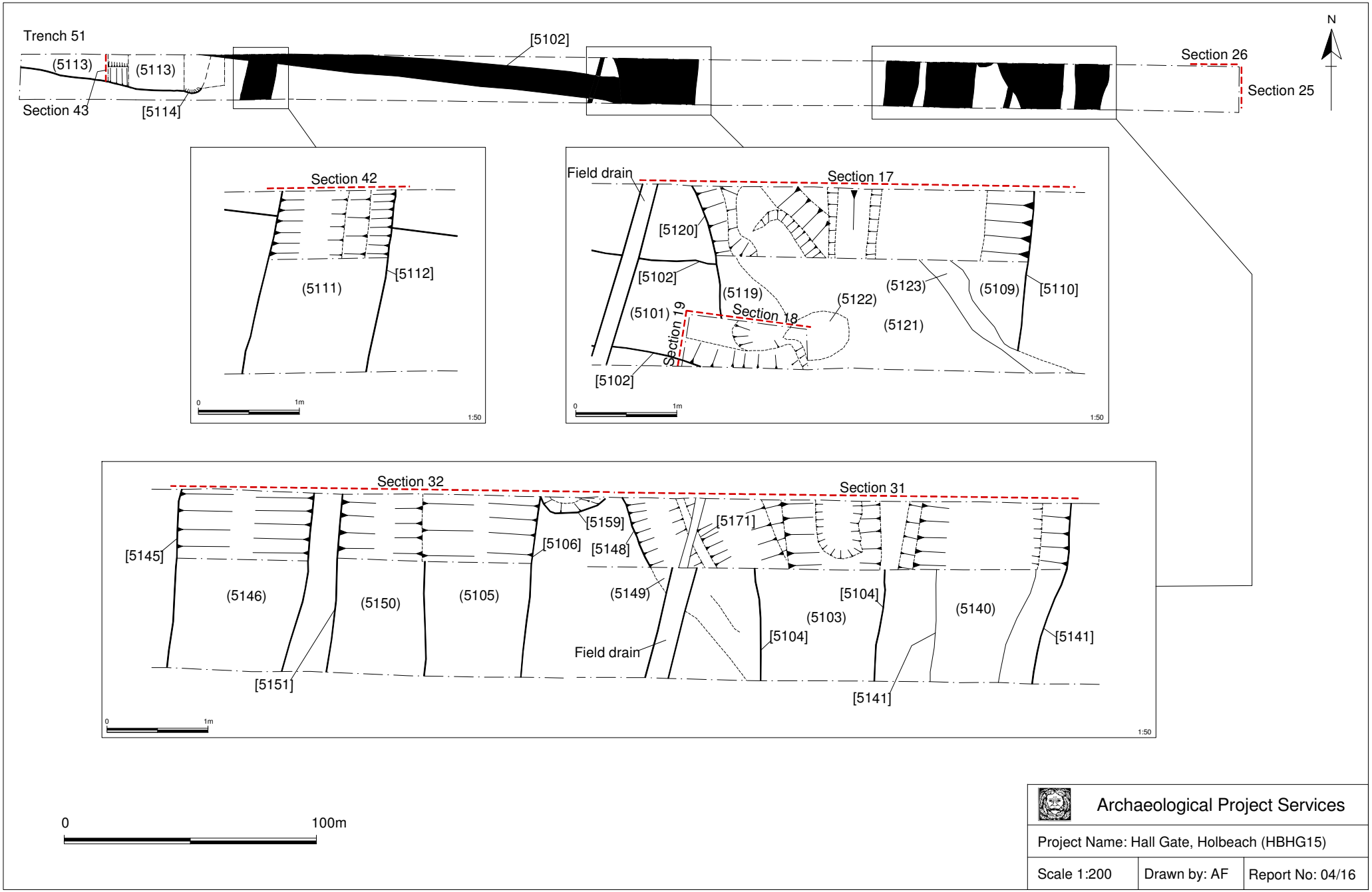


Figure 22 - Plan of Trench 51

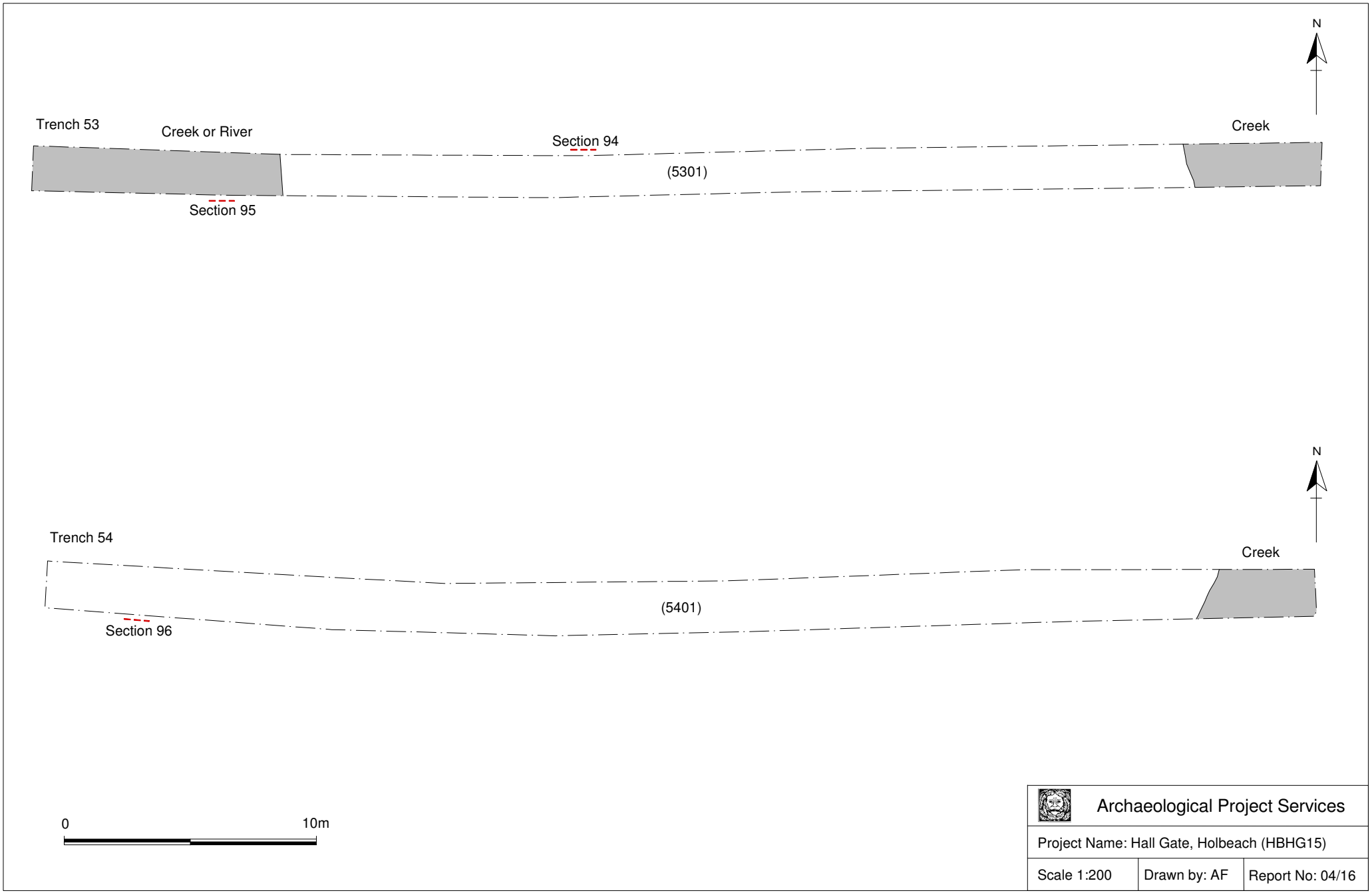


Figure 23 - Plan of Trenches 53 & 54

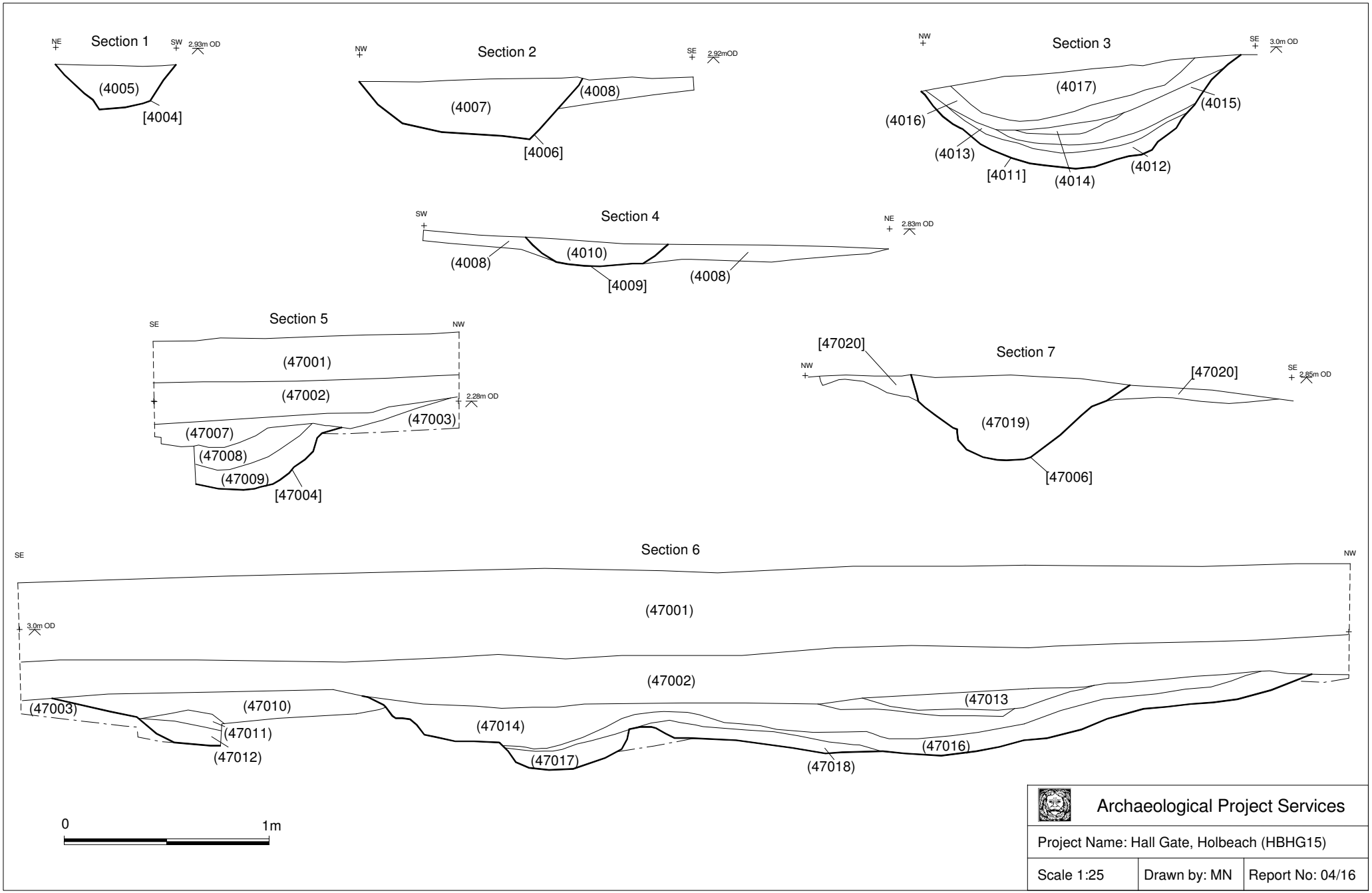


Figure 24 - Sections 1 - 7

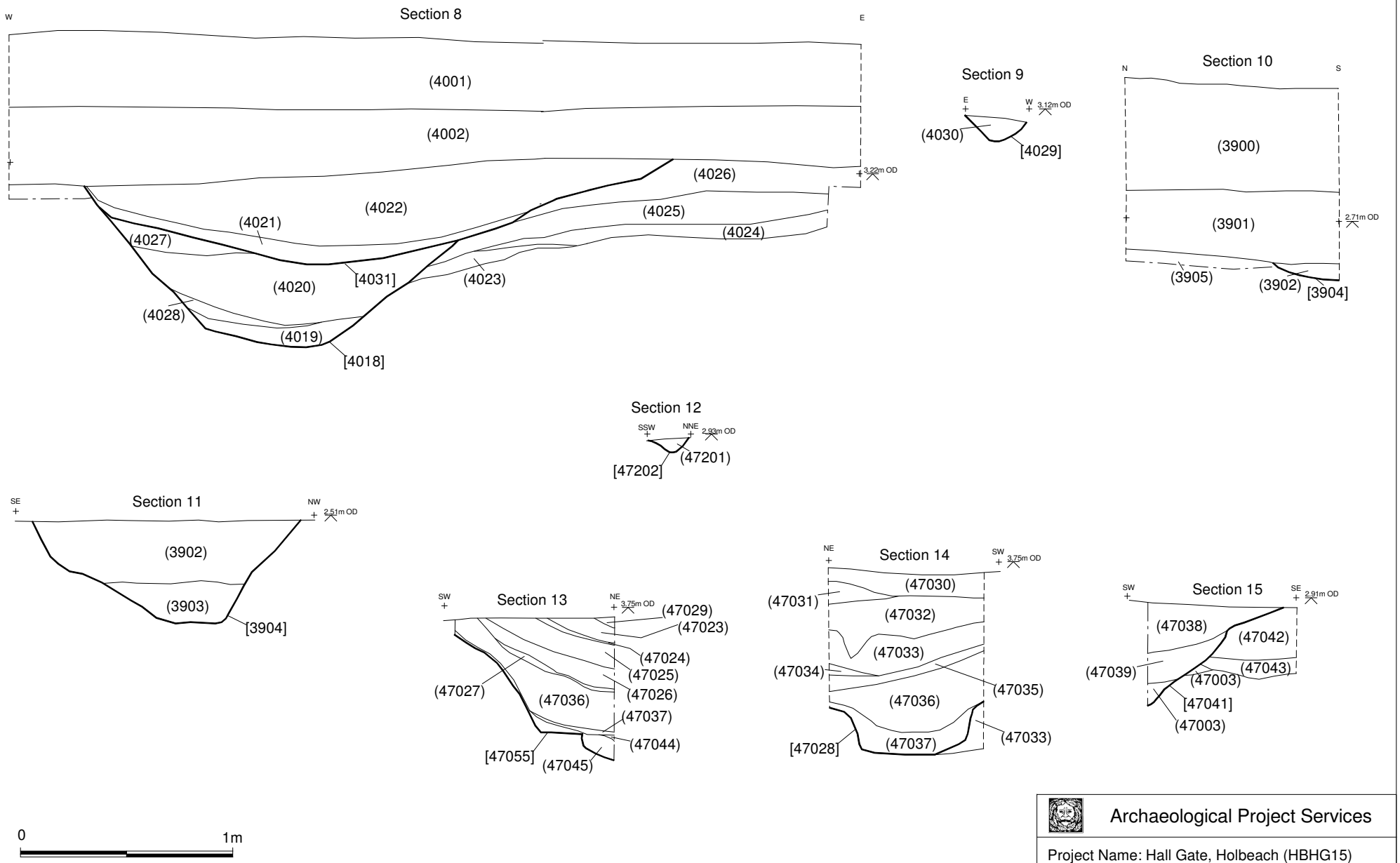


Figure 25 - Sections 8 - 15

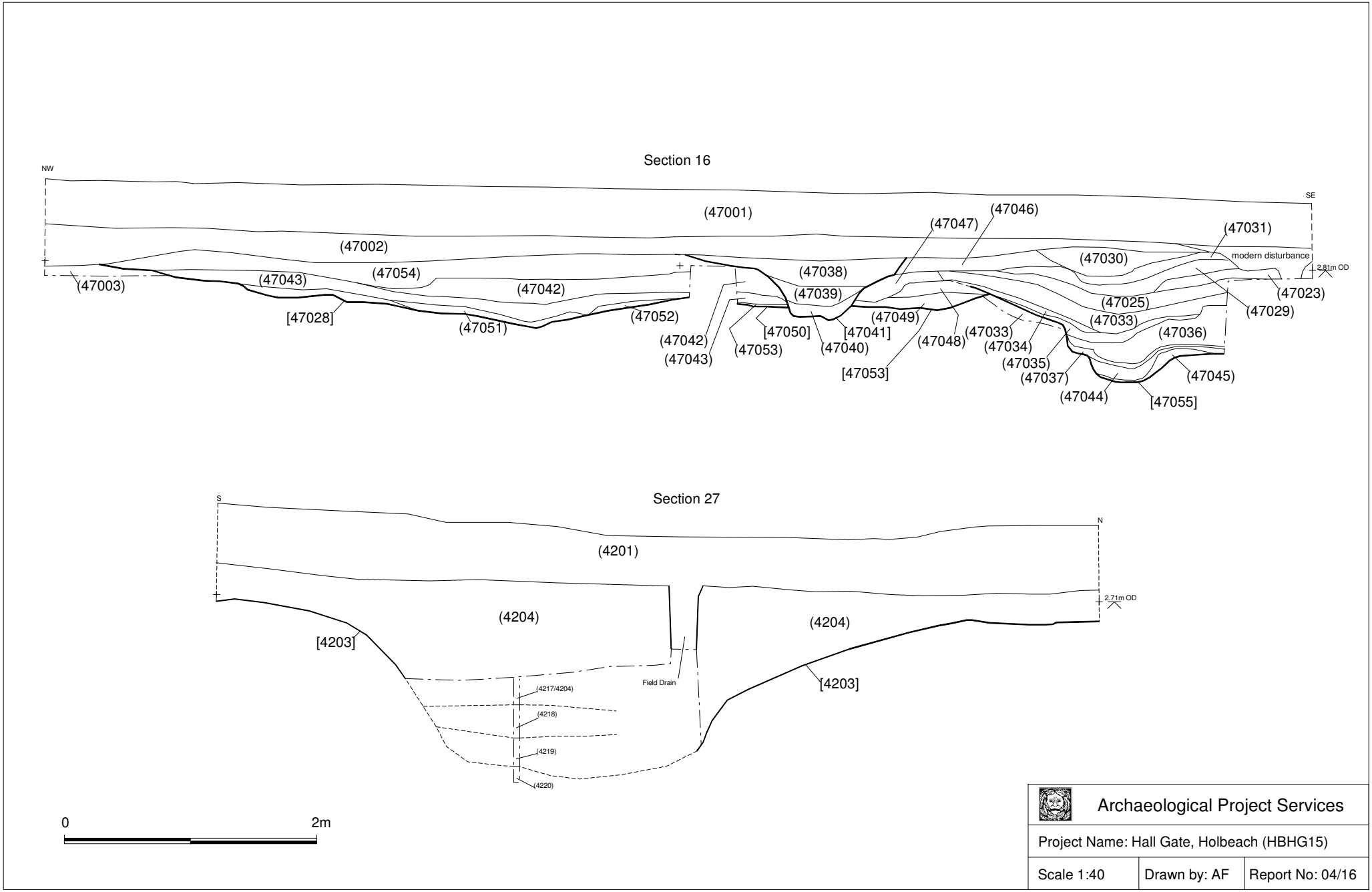


Figure 26 - Sections 16 & 27

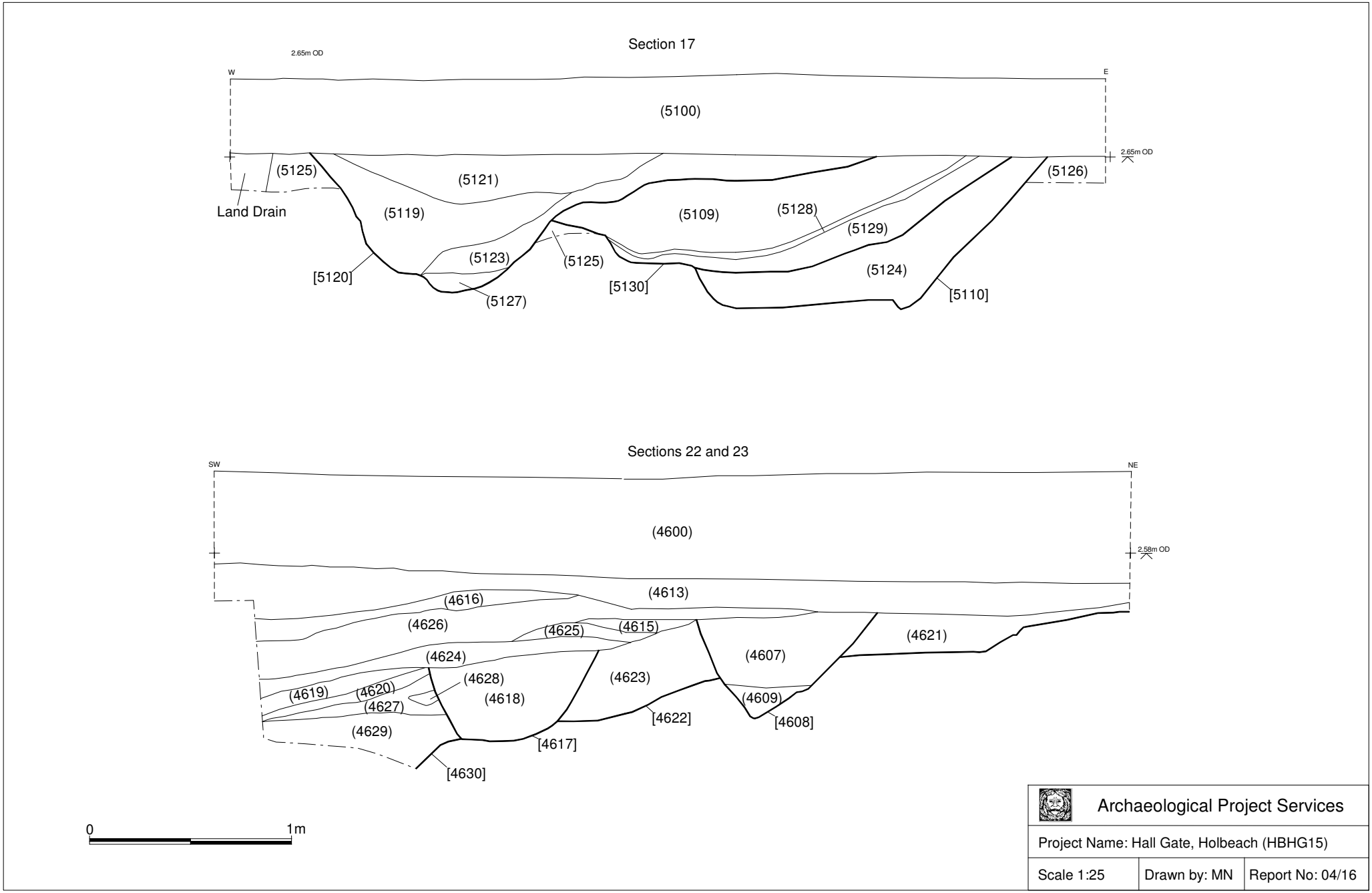


Figure 27 - Section 17, 22 & 23

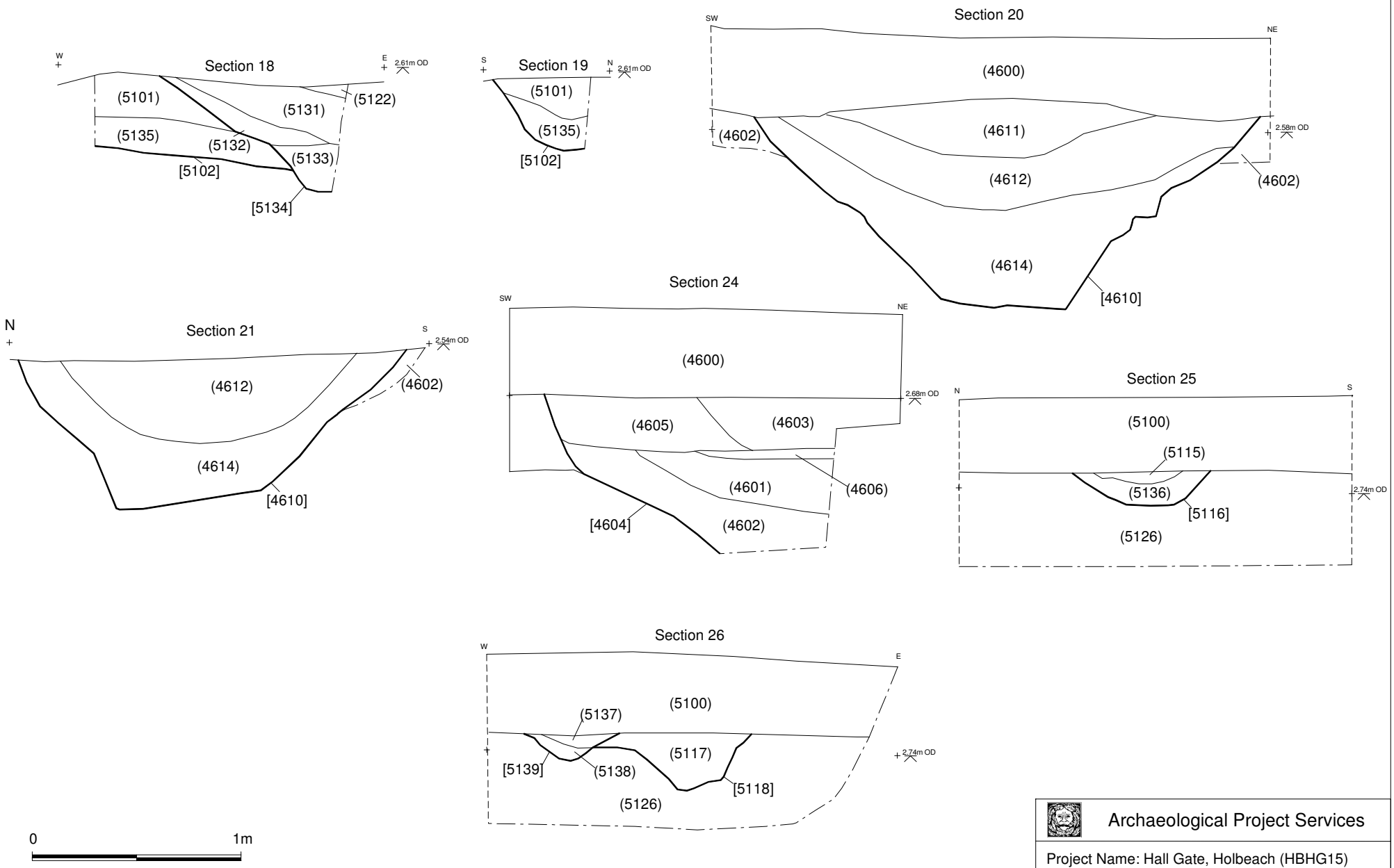


Figure 28 - Sections 18 - 21 & 24 - 26

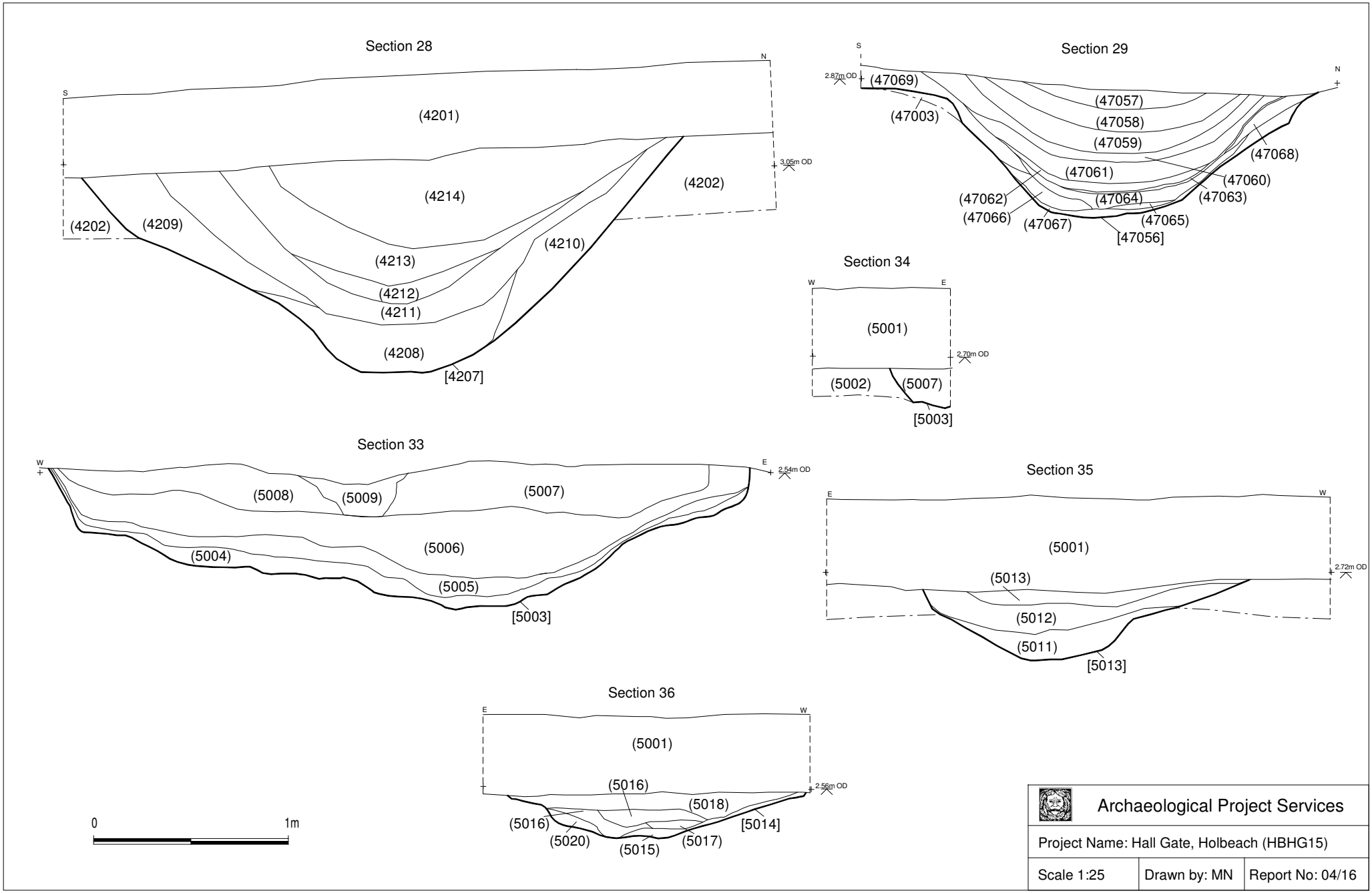
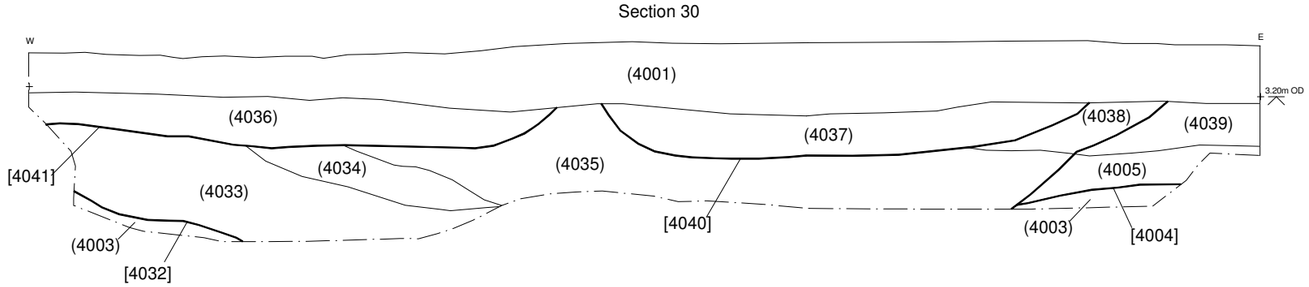
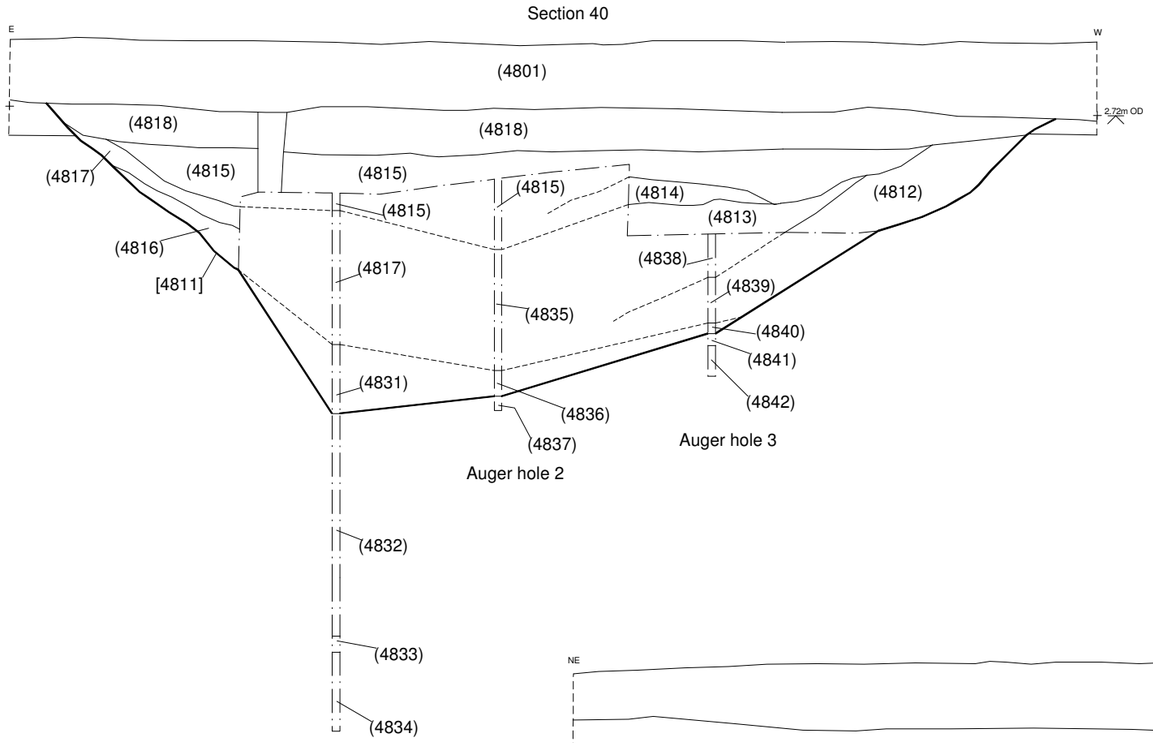


Figure 29 - Sections 28 - 29 & 34 - 36





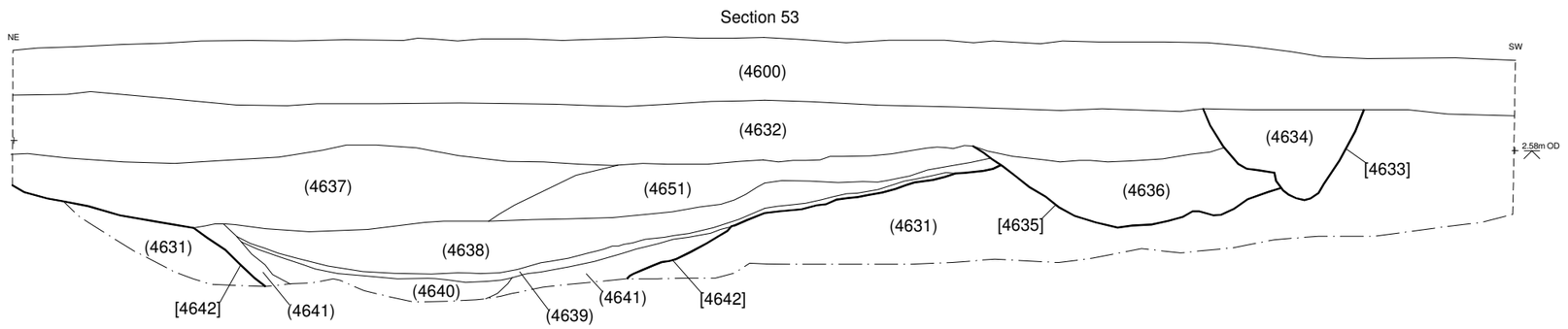


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Figure 30 - Sections 30, 40 & 53

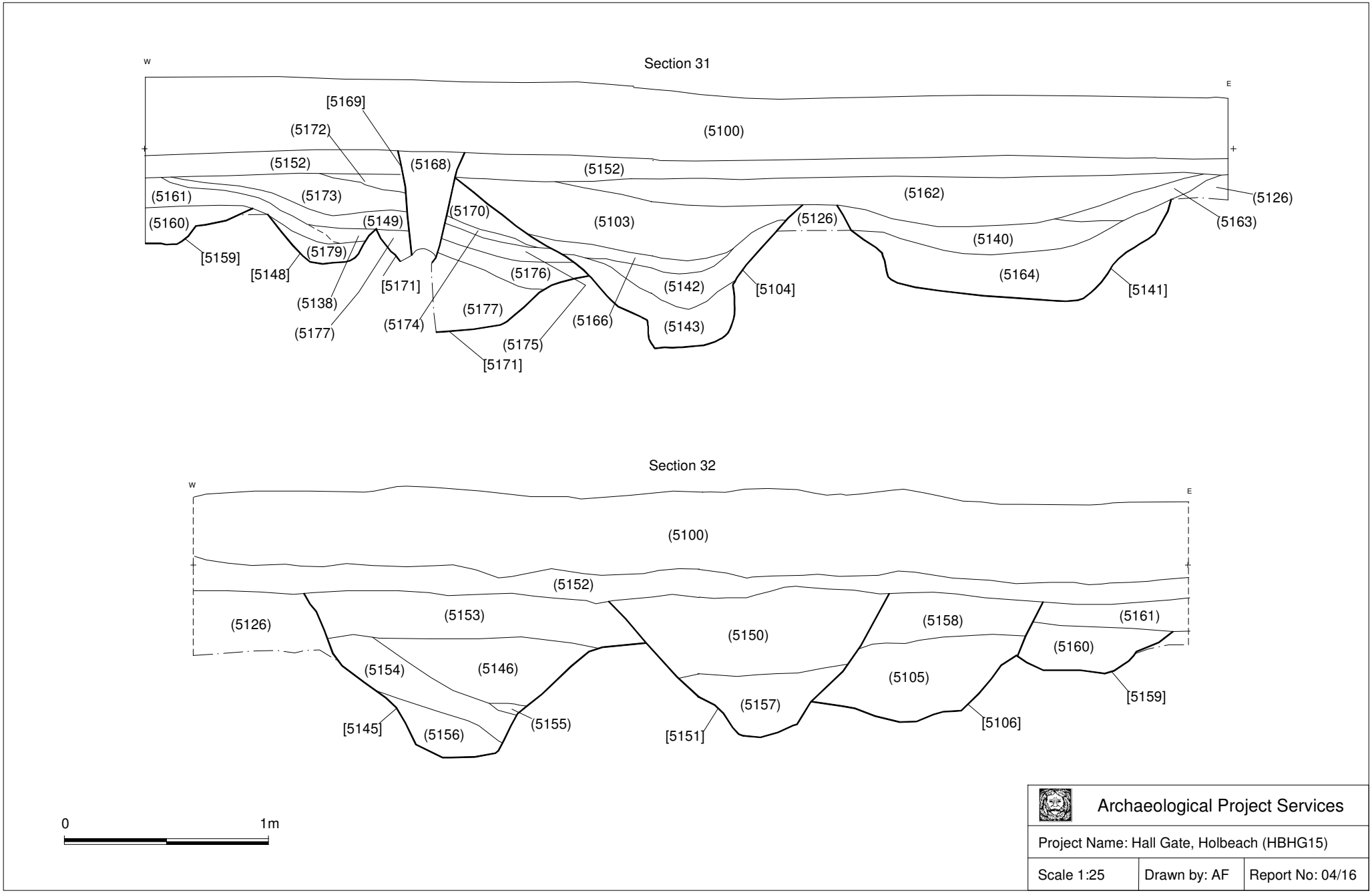


Figure 31 - Sections 31 & 32

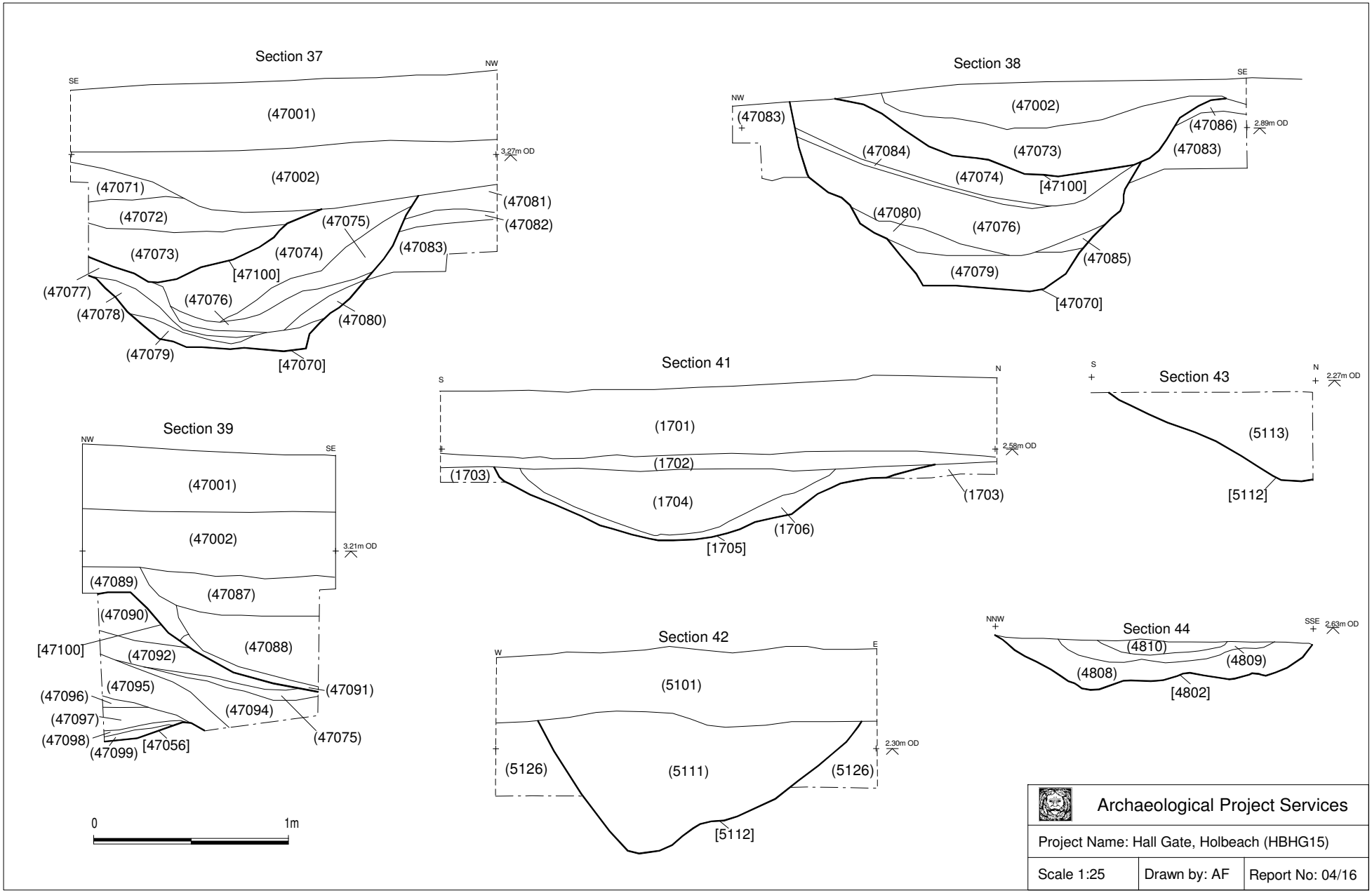


Figure 32 - Sections 37 - 39 & 41 - 44

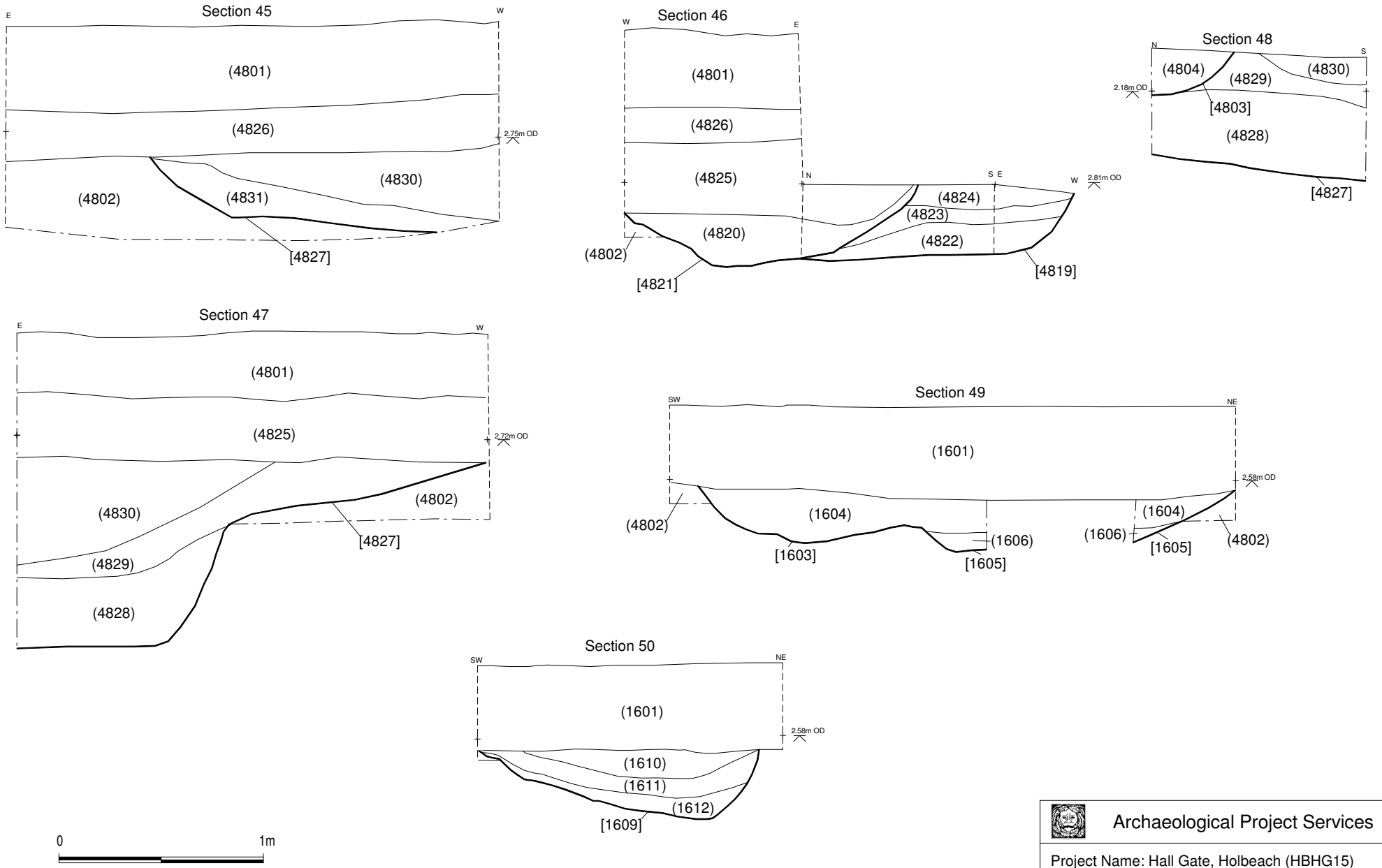


Figure 33 - Sections 45 -50

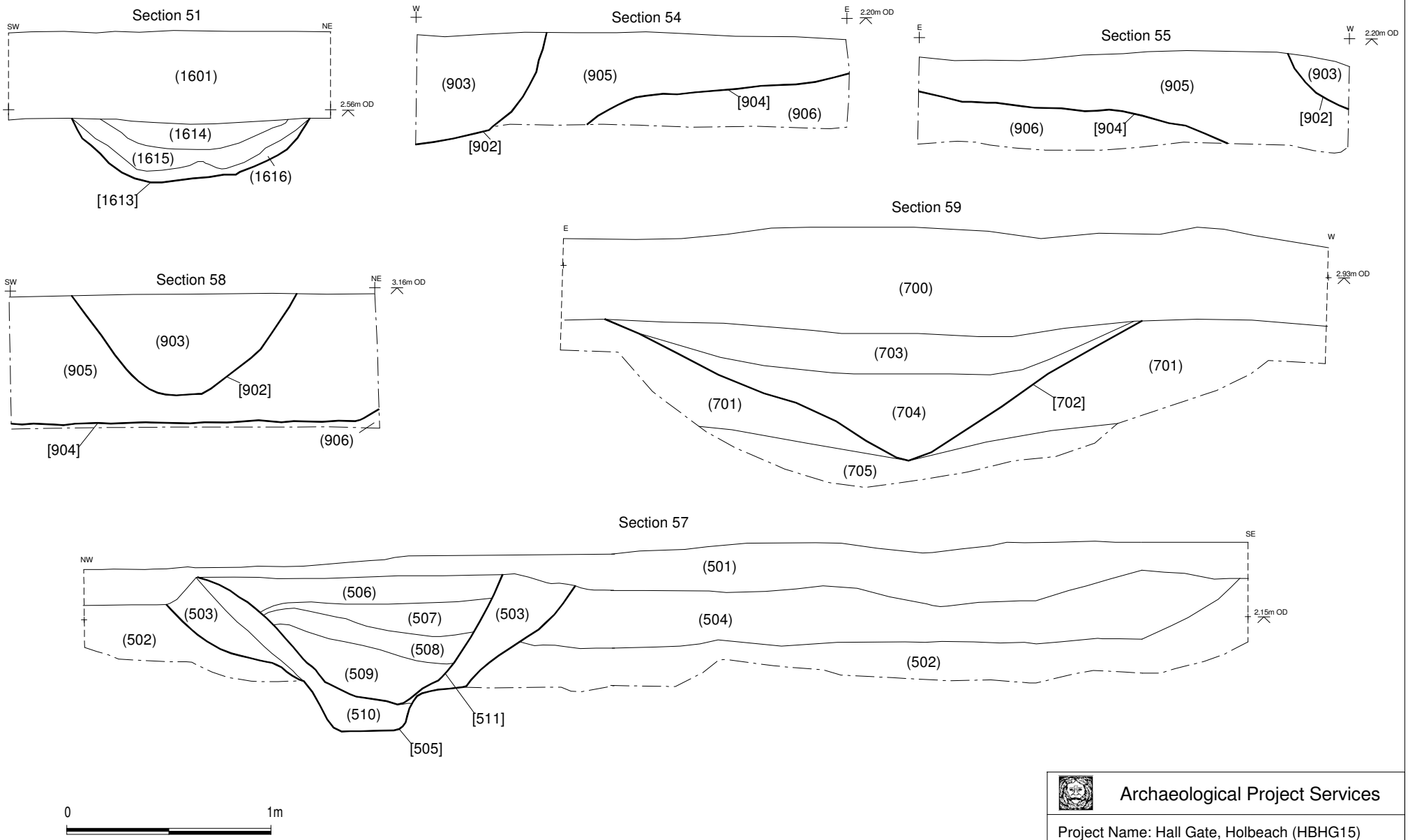


Figure 34 - Sections 51, 54 - 55 & 57 - 59

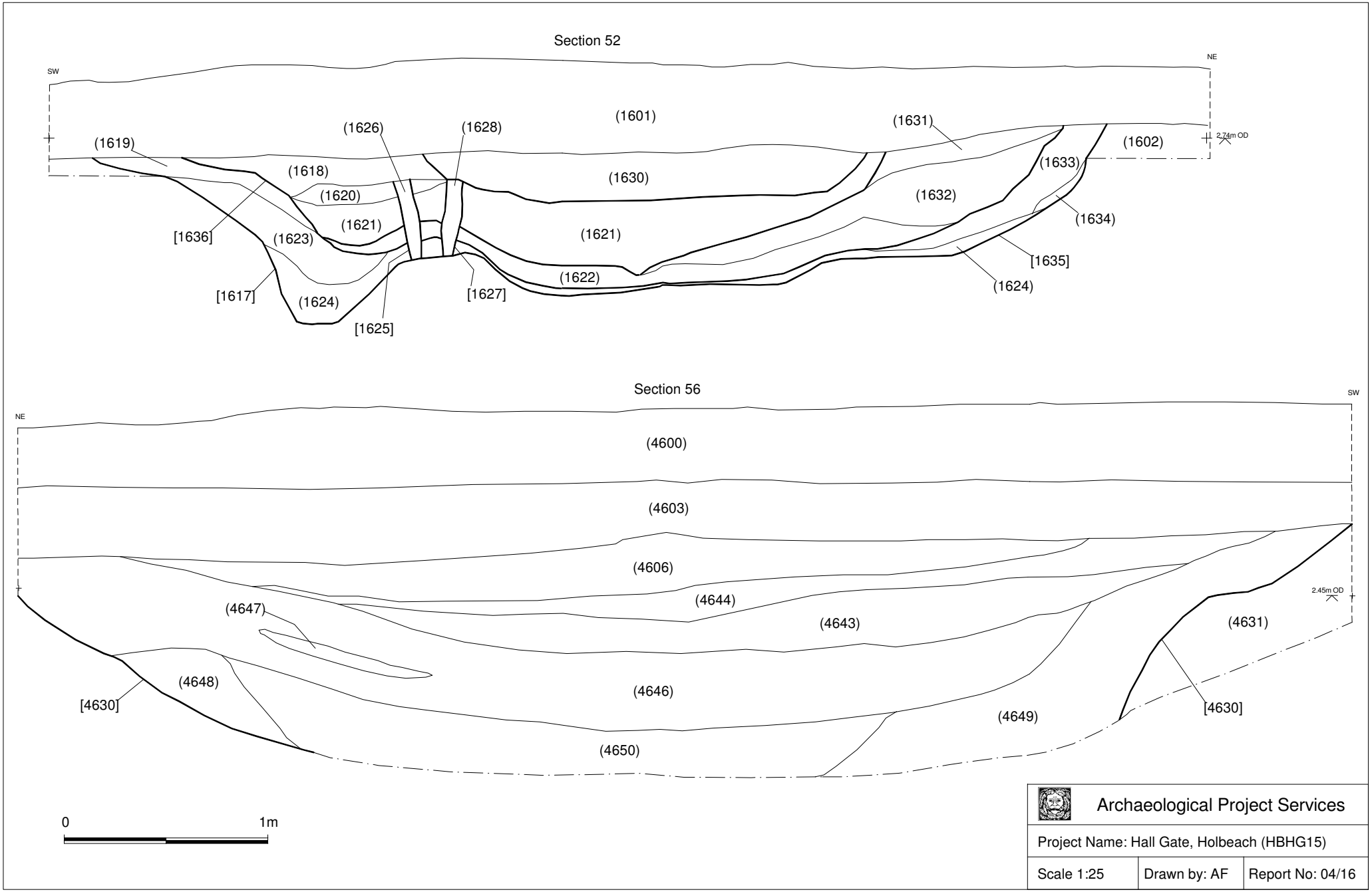


Figure 35 - Section 52 & 56

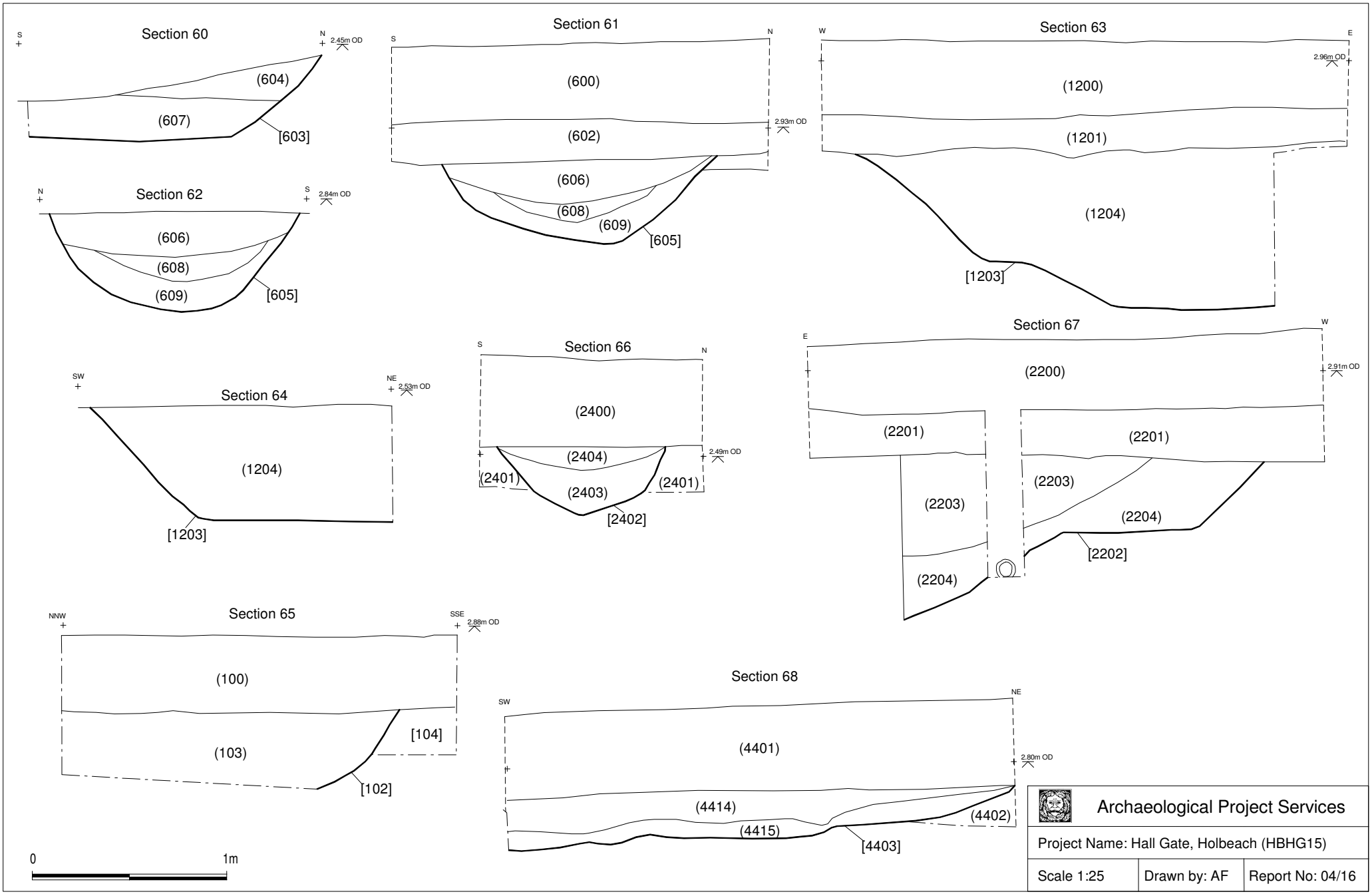


Figure 36 - Sections 60 - 68

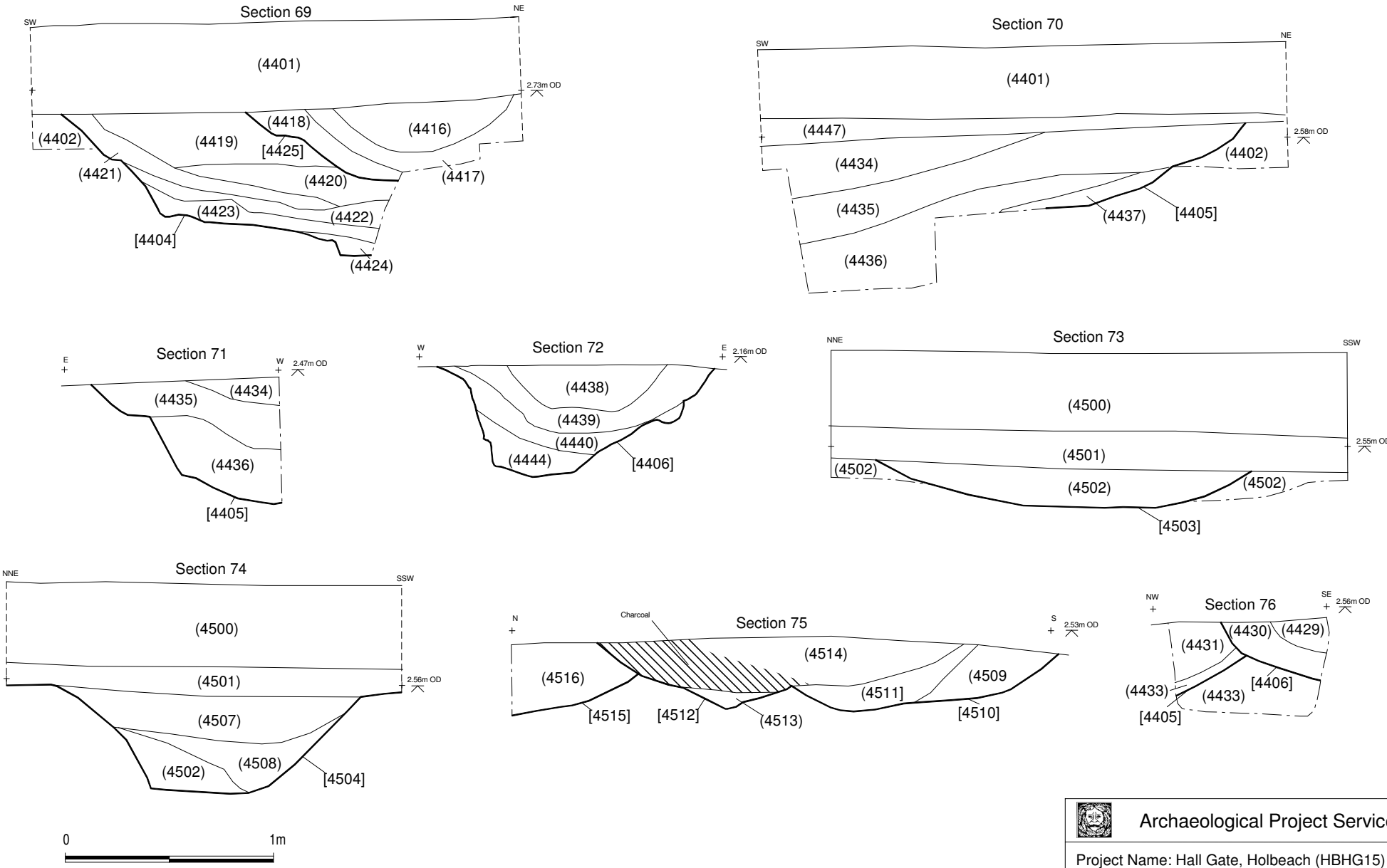


Figure 37 - Sections 69 - 76

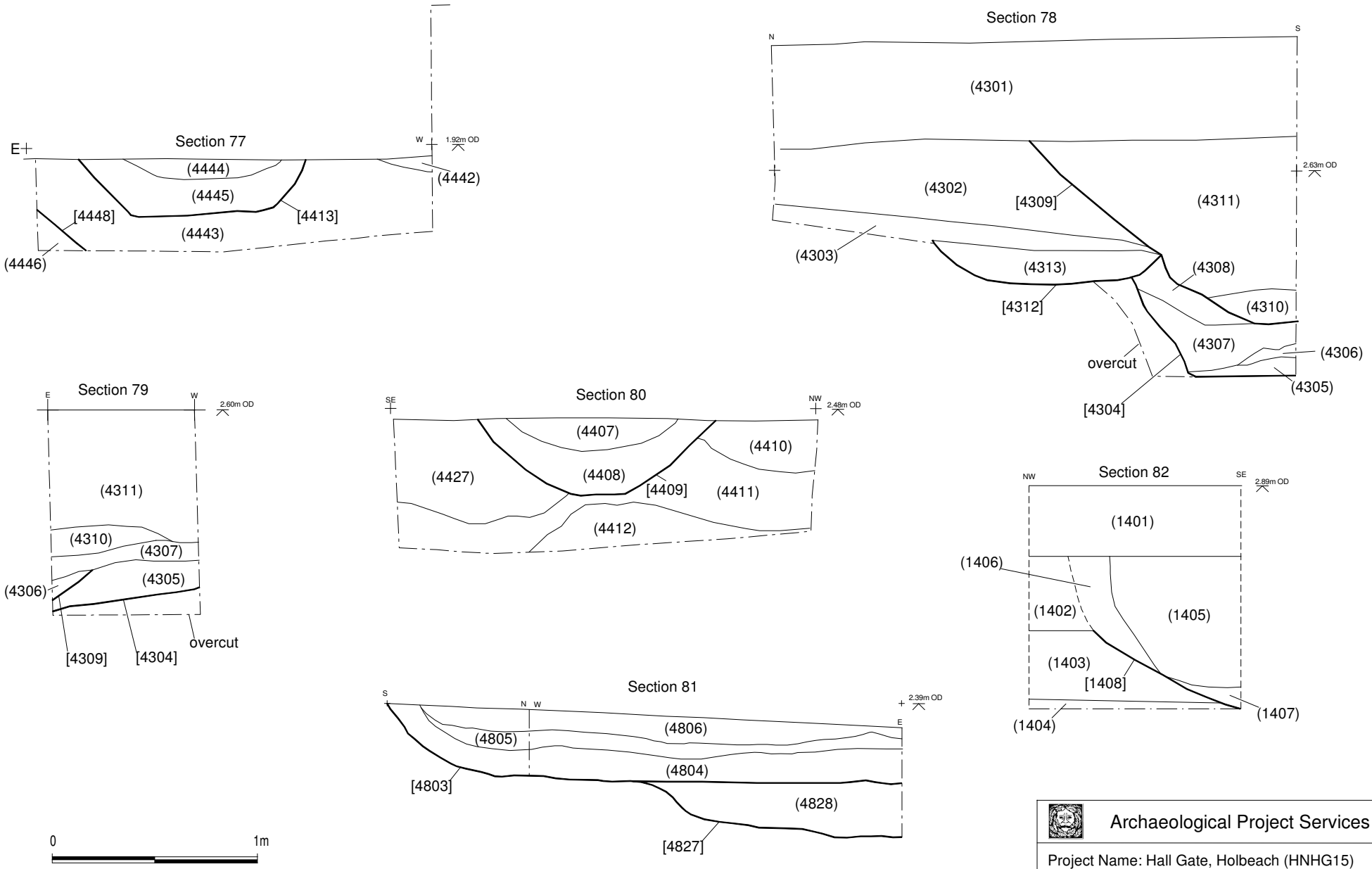


Figure 38 - Sections 77 - 81

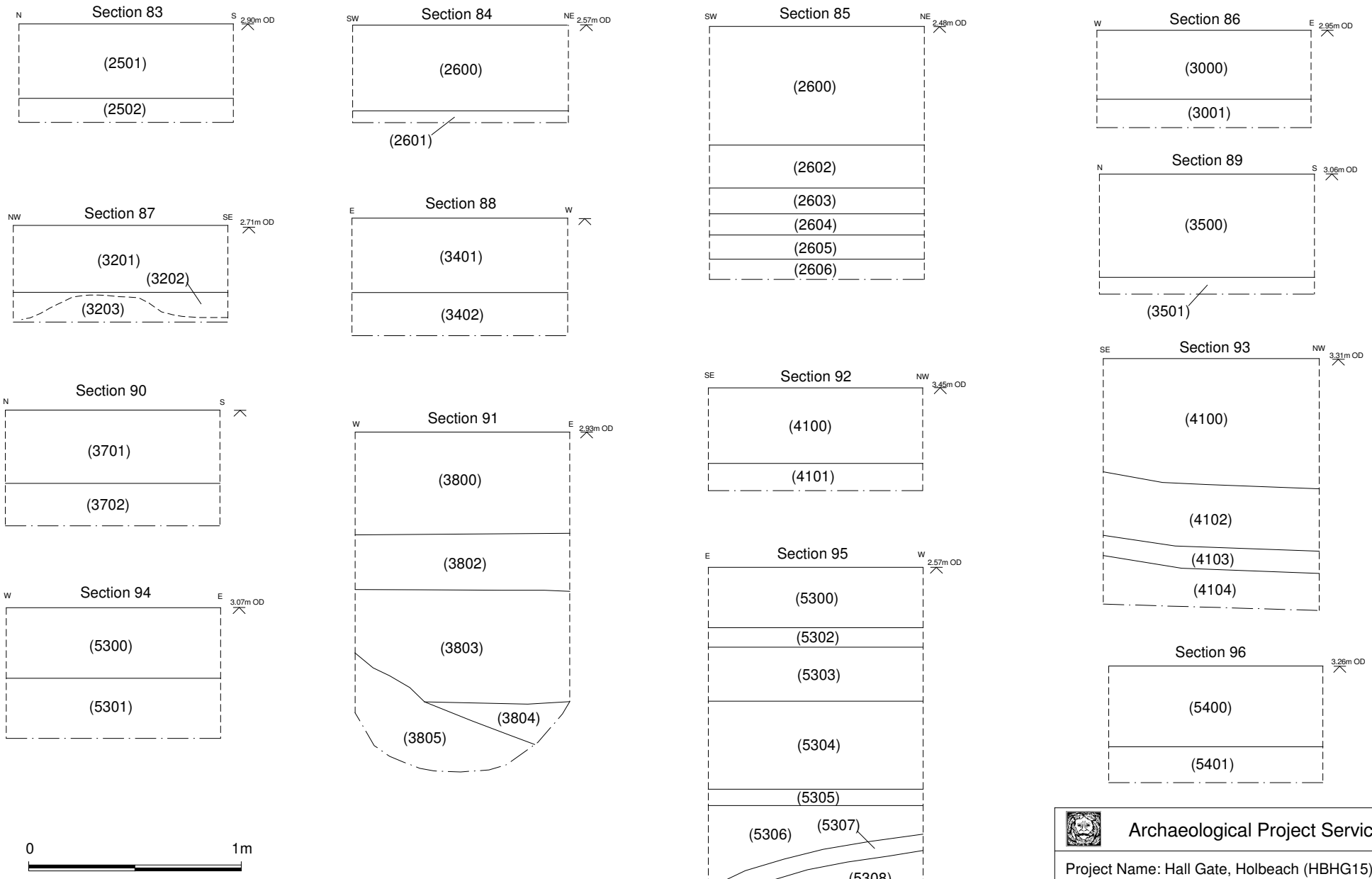
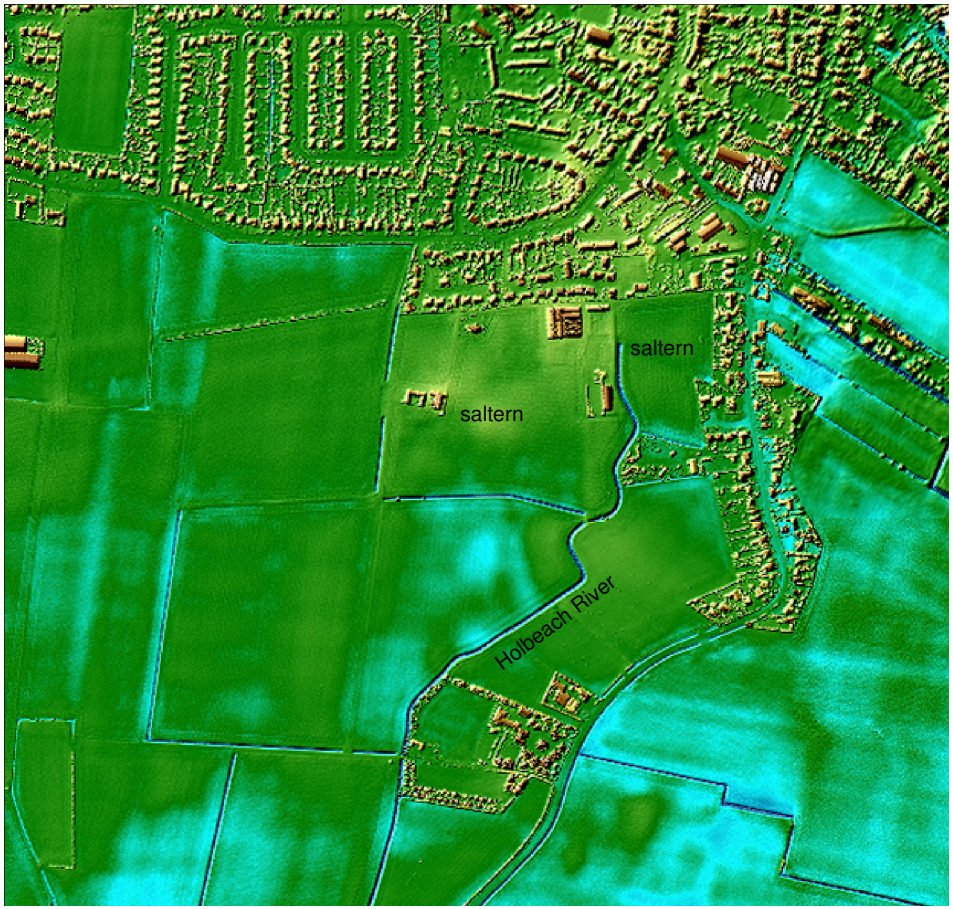


Figure 39 - Sections 83 - 96



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Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Hall Gate, Holbeach (HBHG15)		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 04/16

Figure 40 - Lidar imagery of Holbeach and Fleet

Plate 1 – View of Area A, looking west

Plate 2 – Trench 5, Section 57, ditch [505] and recut [511]

Plate 3 – Trench 9, Section 54, cuts [902] & [904]

Plate 4 – Trench 16, Section 52, ditches [1617] & [1635]

Plate 5 – Trench 16, Section 49, features [1603], [1605] & [1607]

Plate 6 – Trench 21, example of blank trenches in Area B

Plate 7 – Trench 30, example of trench in Area B with creek in foreground

Plate 8 – Trench 30, Section 86

Plate 9 – Trench 38, Section 91, sondage through creek


Plate 10 – Area C, looking northwest

Plate 11 – Trench 25, example of blank trench from Area C

Plate 12 – Trench 25, Section 83, representative section

Plate 13 – Trench 26, Section 85

Plate 14 – Trench 53, Section 95

Plate 15 – Trench 40, Section 8


Plate 16 – Trench 41, Section 93, bottle dump within cut [4104]

Plate 17 – Trench 42, Section 28

Plate 18 – Trench 44, Section 69

Plate 19 – Trench 44, Section 71


Plate 20 – Trench 46, Section 56

Plate 21 – Trench 46, Section 53

Plate 22 – Trench 47, Section 6

Plate 23 – Trench 47, Section 16

Plate 24 – Trench 46, Section 14

Plate 25 – Trench 46, Section 29


Plate 26 – Trench 47, Section 37

Plate 27 – Trench 48, machine slot through ditch [4811] (Section 40)

Plate 28 – Trench 50, Section 33

Plate 29 – Trench 51, Section 31

Plate 30 – Trench 51, Section 32

Plate 31 – Trench 51, Sections 31 & 32, Section 32 is in the foreground

Plate 32 – Trench 51, Section 17

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
100	Firm, dark brownish grey, silty clay, 0.44m thick	Topsoil	Modern
101	Firm, dark brownish yellow, silty clay	Natural deposit	Natural
102	Linear feature, aligned NNW-SSE. 5m long, 0.9m wide, 0.39m deep. Steep – not fully excavated	Gully	
103	Firm, dark brownish grey, silty clay. 0.39m deep	Gully	
104	Firm, reddish brown, clay silt, 0.25m thick	Subsoil	Modern

Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
200	(400)		
201	Firm, mid brown with greyish hue, clayey silt	Flood deposit	
202	Firm, mid to light greyish brown, silt	Flood deposit	

Trench 3

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
300	(400)		
301	Firm, mid brown, clayey silt	Flood deposit	
302	Firm, mid brown, silt	Flood deposit	

Trench 4

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
400	Firm to friable, dark greyish brown, silt	Plough soil	Modern
401	Soft, mid-brown slightly, clayey silt	Flood deposit	
402	Firm, mid grey brown, very slightly clayey silt	Flood deposit	

Trench 5

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
501		Topsoil	Modern
502		Natural deposit	Natural
503	Firm, mid orange blue, silty clay, 1m deep 0.6m wide	(505)	
504	Loose, mixed/laminated orange and grey, sandy silt, 0.6m deep	Alluvium	
505	Linear feature, 1.5m deep 3.8m wide, aligned NW-SE	Modern ditch	
506	Loose/quite firm, dark greyish brown, clay silt, 0.3m deep, 2.8m wide	(505)	
507	Loose, light yellowish grey, sandy silt, 0.4m deep 2.1m wide	(505)	
508	Quite firm, dark bluish grey, silty clay, 2m wide 0.28m deep	(505)	
509	Firm, dark yellowish grey, silty clay, 1.7m wide, 0.5m deep	(505)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
510	Firm, dark blackish grey, silty clay, 0.35m deep, 2m wide	(505)	
511	Linear feature, 0.6m deep 2.9m wide	(505)	

Trench 6

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
600	Firm, dark brownish grey, clay silt, 0.41m thick	Topsoil	Modern
601	Firm, light brownish yellow, clay silt	Natural deposit	Natural
602	Firm, dark yellowish brown, clay silt, 0.22m thick	Subsoil	Modern
603	Linear feature, 0.42m deep 2.7m wide, steep – not fully excavated, aligned E-W	Ditch (H)	
604	Firm, light yellowish grey, clay, 0.22m thick	(603)	
605	Linear feature, 0.5m deep 1.25m wide, steep, aligned E-W	Ditch (S)	
606	Firm, mid brownish grey, clay silt, 0.22m thick	(605)	
607	Firm, light grey yellow, clay silt, 0.23m thick	(603)	
608	Firm, mid yellowish grey, clay silt, 0.17m thick	(605)	
609	Firm, light greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.4m thick	(605)	

Trench 7

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
700		Topsoil	Modern
701	Loose, light greyish yellow, sandy silt, 0.5m deep	Alluvium	
702	Linear feature, 2.5m wide 0.6m deep, aligned N-S	Cut of Linear	
703	Loose, mixed greyish brown yellow, sandy silt, 2.5m wide 0.2m deep	(702)	
704	Loose, dark greyish brown, clay silt, 2.5m wide 0.4m deep	(702)	
705	Firm, dark greyish blue, clay, 0.2m deep	Natural	Natural

Trench 9

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
900		Topsoil	Modern
901		Subsoil	Modern
902	Linear feature, 52cm deep, aligned N-S	Cut of Linear	
903	Loose, dark brown, sandy silt, 52cm deep	(902)	
904	Linear feature, 68cm deep, aligned N-S	Cut of large linear	
905	Firm, orangey grey, silty clay, 48cm deep 88cm wide	Fill of (904)	
906	Loose, greyish brown, silty sand, 27cm deep	Natural	Natural

Trench 10

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1000	(1100)		
1001	Firm, mid orangey grey brown, silt	Flood deposit	

Trench 11

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1100	Firm, dark brown to dark grey brown, silt	Plough soil	Modern
1101	Firm, light orangey brown, silt	Flood silt	

Trench 12

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1200		Topsoil	Modern
1201		Subsoil	Modern
1202		Natural deposit	Natural
1203	Linear feature, 0.75m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of ditch	
1204	Firm, pinkish greyish brown, clay, 0.75m deep	Fill of (1203)	

Trench 14

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1401	Friable, mid brown, sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern
1402	Firm, mid brown, silty sand	Subsoil	Modern
1403	Firm, dark, brownish yellow, silty sand	Natural	Natural
1404	Firm, slightly plastic bluish brown, clayey sand	Natural	Natural
1405	Firm light brown sandy silt	Fill of (1408)	
1406	(1402)	Fill of (1408)	
1407	Soft, dark brown to dark grey, sandy silt w/ plastic + modern debris	Fill of (1408)	
1408	Linear feature, aligned N-S, moderate sides – not fully excavated	Former ditch	
1409	Soft, mid grey, clayey sand	Fill of (1410)	
1410	Linear feature, aligned N-S, not excavated	Parallel ditch to (1408)	

Trench 15

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1500	(1100)		
1501	Firm, mid orangey grey brown, slightly clayey silt	Flood deposit	

Trench 16

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1601		Topsoil	Modern
1602		Natural	Natural
1603	Possibly oval, 0.25m deep	Cut of pit	
1604	Loose, dark bluish grey, 0.2m deep	Fill of (1603)	
1605	Irregular bean shaped, 0.25m deep	Cut of pit	
1606	Loose, light bluish grey, clay silt, 0.07m deep	Fill of (1605)	
1607	Oval, 0.2m deep	Cut of pit	
1608	Loose, dark brownish grey, clay silt, 0.2m deep	Fill of (1607)	
1609	Circular, 1.3m wide 0.35m deep, steep on one side; sloping on other	Cut of pit	
1610	Loose, mid greyish orange, sandy silt, 0.15m deep	Upper fill of (1609)	
1611	Loose, dark bluish grey, clay silt, 0.14m deep	Fill of (1609)	
1612	Loose, light bluish grey, silty clay, 0.12m deep	Lower fill of (1609)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1613	Linear feature, 1.1m wide 0.27m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of Ditch	
1614	Loose, light orange blue, sandy silt, 0.12m deep	Upper fill of (1613)	10th-12th century
1615	Loose, mid brownish blue, clay silt, 0.1m deep	Fill of (1616)	
1616	Loose, light bluish grey, clay silt, 0.09m	Lower fill of ditch	10th-12th century
1617	Linear feature, 1.65m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of ditch	
1618	Loose, dark greyish brown, clay silt, 1.2m wide 0.2m deep	Upper fill of (1617)	
1619	Loose, light greyish yellow, sandy silt, 1.1m wide 0.1m deep	Fill of (1617)	
1620	Loose, mixed dark greyish brown and light yellowish grey, sandy silt, 0.52m wide, 0.1m deep	Fill of (1617)	
1621	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt, 2.92m wide 0.37m deep	Fill of (1617) and (1635)	
1622	Loose, light grey, sandy silt, 31.m wide, 0.1m deep	Fill of (1617) and (1635)	
1623	Loose, light yellowish grey, sandy silt, 1.1m wide 0.25m deep	Fill of (1617)	
1624	Loose, light bluish grey, sandy silt, 3.85m wide, 0.2m deep	Bottom fill of (1617) and (1635)	
1625	Vertical cut, 0.37m deep 0.07m wide	Cut of stake hole	
1626	Loose, dark grey, clay silt, 0.37m deep 0.07m wide	Fill of stake hole	
1627	Unknown, 0.37m deep 0.09m wide	Cut of stake hole	
1628	Loose, dark grey, clay silt, 0.37m deep 0.09m wide	Fill of (1627)	
1629	Linear feature, 2.27m wide 0.25m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of ditch	
1630	Loose, dark brownish grey, clay silt, 2.27m wide 0.25m deep	Fill of (1629)	
1631	Loose, mixed dark greyish brown and light orange yellow, sandy silt, 0.95m wide 0.1m deep	Fill of (1635)	
1632	Loose, light greyish yellow, sandy silt, 2.1m wide 0.35m deep	Fill of (1635)	
1633	Loose, dark blackish grey, clay silt 1.2m wide 0.3m deep	Fill of (1635)	
1634	Loose, light grey, sandy silt, 0.3m wide 0.05m deep	Fill of (1635)	
1635	Linear feature, 0.75m deep, aligned N-S	Cut of large ditch	
1636		Re-cut of (1617) / (1635)	
1637		Re-cut of (1617) / (1635)	

Trench 17

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1701	Soft crumbly, dark brown, organic silt, 0.34m thick	Plough soil	Modern
1702	Mod, mixed mid brown and grey brown, silt, 0.08m thick	Subsoil	Modern
1703	Mod, light brown yellow – mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Natural silts	Natural
1704	Soft – mod, mid grey, 0.32m thick	Fill of (1705)	
1705	Linear, 1.8m long 1.7m wide 0.34m deep, aligned WNW-ESE	Ditch cut	
1706	Soft – mud, mixed light pinkish brown and light grey	Fill of (1705)	

Trench 19

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
1900		Plough soil	Modern
1901	Firm, mid/light grey brown, silt	Alluvial deposit	

Trench 20

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2000	Firm, dark greyish brown, silt	Plough soil	Modern
2001	Firm, mid orangey grey brown, slightly clayey silt	Alluvium	

Trench 21

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2100	(2000)		
2101	Firm to soft, mid red/pinkish brown, silt	Alluvium	

Trench 22

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2200		Topsoil	Modern
2201		Subsoil	Modern
2202	Linear, 3.5m wide, alignment N-S	Cut of ditch	
2203	Firm, light yellowish grey, clay silt, 3.5m wide 0.52m deep	Fill of (2202)	
2204	Firm, dark greenish grey, silty clay, 0.35m deep 3.5m wide	Fill of (2202)	
2205		Natural	

Trench 23

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2300	Firm, mid greyish brown, clayey silt	Topsoil	Modern
2301	Compact, light brownish yellow, clay silt	Natural	Natural

Trench 24

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2400	Firm, mid greyish brown, clay silt, 0.45m thick	Topsoil	Modern
2401	Firm/compact, light brownish yellow, clayey silt, 0.24m thick	Natural	Natural
2402	Linear, 1.8m long 0.83m wide 0.34m deep, aligned E-W	Gully	
2403	Firm, light brownish grey, clay silt, 0.34m thick	(2402)	
2404	Firm, light grey-brown, clay silt, 0.12m thick	(2404)	

Trench 25

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2501	Friable, mid-brown, sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2502	Firm light yellow, silty sand	Natural	Natural

Trench 26

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2600		Plough soil	Modern
2601	Firm, mid yellowish brown, silt	Flood deposit	
2602	Friable, mid reddish brown, silt	River/creek deposit	
2603	Friable, dark red brown, silt	River/creek deposit	
2604	Firm to friable, mid brown grey, silt	River/creek deposit	
2605	Firm to friable, light yellowish grey brown, silt	River/creek deposit	
2606	Firm to hard, dark red brown clay with light blue grey silt laminations	River deposit	

Trench 28

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2801	Friable, mid yellowish brown, silty sand, 0.42m thick	Topsoil	Modern
2012	Firm, dark yellowish brown, sandy silt	Natural	Natural

Trench 29

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
2901	Friable, mid brown, silty sand, 0.46m thick	Topsoil	Modern
2902	Firm, mid brownish yellow, silty sand	Natural	Natural

Trench 30

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3000		Topsoil	Modern
3001	Firm, mid yellowish brown/grey yellow brown, silt	Alluvium	

Trench 31

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3101	Friable, mid brown, silty sand, 0.4m thick	Topsoil	Modern
3102	Firm, dark yellow, sandy silt, 50mm thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 32

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3201	Friable, mid brown, sand silt, 0.31m thick	Topsoil	Modern
3202	Firm, mid brown, sandy silt – slightly laminated, 0.14m thick	Natural	Natural
3203	Firm, light to mid yellow, silty sand, 0.14m thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 34

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3401	Friable, mid brown, sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern
3402	Firm, dark brownish yellow, silty sand, 0.2m thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 35

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3500		Plough soil	Modern
3501	Firm, mid to light yellowish brown, silt	Alluvium	

Trench 36

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3601	Friable, mid brown, sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Topsoil	Modern
3602	Slightly plastic, mid greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.15m thick	Natural	Natural
3603	Firm, mid yellow, silty sand, 0.15m thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 37

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3701	Friable, mid brown, sandy silt	Topsoil	Modern
3702	Firm, light to mid yellow, sand, 0.2m thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 38

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3800		Plough soil	Modern
3801	Firm, mid yellowish red brown, silt	Flood deposit	
3802	Friable, dark red brown, silt	Pond/creek deposit	
3803	Soft/friable, dark grey red brown, silt	River/creek/pond deposit	
3804	Soft, mid red grey, silt	River/creek/pond deposit	
3805	Soft, light yellowish brown with brown + grey + orange laminations	Flood silt	

Trench 39

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
3900	Friable to firm, dark grey brown, silt, 0.52m thick	Topsoil	Modern
3901	Friable, mid brown, silt, 0.33m thick	Subsoil	Modern
3902	Firm, mid to light greyish brown, silt, 0.34m thick	Fill of (3904)	
3903	Firm to friable, light greyish brown, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (3904)	
3904	Linear, aligned NE-SW	Ditch cut	
3905	Firm, mid brown to mid yellowish brown, clayey silt	Natural silts	Natural

Trench 40

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4001	Soft, dark greyish brown, silt, 0.5m thick	Topsoil	Modern
4002	Soft, mid brown, silt, 0.3m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4003	Firm, mid to light yellow brown, silt	Natural silt	Natural
4004	Linear, 0.6m wide 0.21m deep, aligned NW-SE	Narrow linear	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4005	Soft, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.21m deep 0.6m wide	Fill of (4004)	18th-19th century (CBM)
4006	Linear, 1.1m wide 0.25m deep, aligned NW-SE	Linear	
4007	Firm, light to mid brown, silt, 0.28m deep	Fill of (4006)	12th-E13th century
4008	Soft, mid brown and dark grey, silt, 0.15m thick	Dark silt spread	10th-12th century
4009	Linear, 0.12m deep 0.7m wide, aligned NE-SW	Linear	
4010	Soft, light to mid brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (4009)	
4011	Linear, 1.6m wide 0.44m deep, aligned NE-SE	Cut of Ditch	
4012	Soft, mixed pale pink and light grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Initial silting of (4011)	
4013	Soft, light grey, silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (4011)	
4014	Soft, darkest grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4011)	
4015	Soft, light greyish brown, silt 0.05m thick	Fill of (4011)	
4016	Mod firm, mid to dark grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4011)	
4017	Firm, mid brown grey, silt, 0.23m thick	Final fill of (4011)	
4018	Linear, 2.75m wide, aligned N-S	Linear	
4019	Soft, pale bluish grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Initial silting of (4018)	
4020	Soft, mid to light grey, laminated silts, 0.31m thick	Fill of (4018)	
4021	Soft, dark grey and light brown, laminated silt 0.07m thick	Initial silting of (4031)	
4022	Mod firm, mid brownish grey, silt, 0.34m thick	Fill of (4031)	10th-12th century
4023	Soft, light yellowish brown, silt, 0.08m thick	Silt deposit	
4024	Soft, dark grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Dark silt deposit	10th-12th century
4025	Soft, light yellow brown, silt	Laminated silts	
4026	Soft, mixed dark grey/mid grey brown and pale yellow brown, silt, 0.15m thick	Silt deposit	
4027	Soft, pale yellow greyish brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (4018)	
4028	Soft, pale yellowish brown, silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (4018)	
4029	Sub square, 0.28m wide, 0.1m deep	Cut of PH	
4030	Mod firm, mid brown, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4029)	
4031	Linear, 0.4m deep, 2.64m wide, aligned N-S	Recut of (4018)	
4032	Unknown – possibly a large pit	Cut of pit	
4033	Firm, light brown – orange, silt, 0.6m thick	Fill of (4032)	
4034	Hard, med brown – orange, silt, 0.24m thick	Fill of (4032)	19th century
4035	Friable, med dark grey – black, silt	Fill of (4032)	M17th-18th century
4036	Hard, med dark brown grey, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4032)	Late medieval – Post medieval
4037	Hard, med light brown orange, silty clay 0.26m thick	Fill of (4032)	M17th-18th century
4038	Firm, light orange brown, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4032)	
4039	Firm, light orange – brown, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4032)	

Trench 41

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4100		Topsoil	Modern
4101	Firm, light yellowish brown, silt	Alluvial silt	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4102	Friable, black, ash/charcoal/silt	Bottle dump into Pond	L19th-E20th century
4103	Firm, dark greyish and brown silt	Silting	

Trench 42

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4201	Friable, dark brown, silt, 0.46m thick	Topsoil	Modern
4202	Soft, light orange grey, silt	Natural	Natural
4203	Linear, 6.98m wide 1.20m deep, aligned E-W	Cut of pit/ditch	
4204	Firm, grey, silt	Fill of (4203)	12th century
4205	Land drain modern, aligned E-W	Cut of land drain	
4206	Firm, light grey orange, silty clay	Fill of (4205)	
4207	Linear, 1.08m deep, 2.85m wide, aligned E-W	Cut of ditch	
4208	Soft, light bluish grey, silt	Fill of (4207)	
4209	Soft, pale brown, silt, 0.31m thick	Fill of (4207)	
4210	Soft, pale brown, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (4207)	
4211	Soft, light to mid grey with dark patches, silt, 0.32m thick	Fill of (4207)	11th-M12th century
4212	Soft, pale brown and light grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4207)	
4213	Soft, mixed light grey and light brown, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4207)	
4214	Firm, light to mid brown, silt, 0.43m thick	Fill of (4207)	
4215	Firm, dark grey, silt, 0.51m thick	Fill of (4203)	
4216	Firm, mid orange/rusty, silt, 0.48 to limit of auger survey	Natural silt	Natural
4217	Firm, mid to light grey brown, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (4203)	
4218	Firm to soft, mid brown grey silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (4203)	
4219	Soft, light brown grey, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (4203)	
4220	Firm, yellow brown, silt, 0.13 to limit of auger survey	Natural	Natural

Trench 43

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4301		Topsoil	Modern
4302	Firm, mixed yellow brown and light grey, silt, 0.45m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4303	Soft, light grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Natural silt	Natural
4304	Linear, 0.36m deep width unknown, aligned N-S	Cut of linear	
4305	Soft, mixed mid orange brown and light grey, clay silt 0.08m thick	Fill of (4304)	
4306	Soft, dark grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (4304)	
4307	Soft, light grey brown, silt, 0.22m thick	Fill of (4304)	
4308	Firm, mid orange brown, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (4304)	
4309	Linear, 0.86m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of linear	
4310	Firm, light brownish grey, silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (4309)	
4311	Firm, mid brown, silt, 0.74m thick	Fill of (4309)	
4312	Sub circle, 0.18m deep, 1.04m wide	Cut of pit	
4313	Firm, light grey, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (4312)	
4314	Unknown, 9m wide	Cut of modern rubbish pit	
4315	Firm, mid yellow brown, silt	Natural silts	Natural

Trench 44

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4401	Crumbling, dark brown, silt, 0.4m thick	Plough soil	Modern
4402	Mod, light yellow – yellow brown, silt, 0.21m thick	Flood deposit	
4403	Unclear band at end of trench	Ponding	
4404	Linear, 2m long, 0.66m deep, aligned N-S/NNW-SSE	Linear/channel	
4405	Linear, 10m long, aligned N-S/NNW-SSE	Linear/channel	
4406	Linear, 15m long, aligned N-S	Linear/channel	
4407	Soft, black and dark grey mottle, orangey silt, 0.15m thick	Fill of (4409)	11th-12th century
4408	Firm, light grey brown, silt, 0.21m thick	Fill of (4409)	11th-12th century
4409	Curvilinear, 1.11m wide 0.37m deep	Channel/ditch	
4410	Firm, light yellow brown, silt, 0.23m thick	Channel	
4411	Firm, light grey with light brown mottle, silt, 0.36m thick	Channel	11th-12th century
4412	Light, yellowish reddish brown, silt, 0.2m thick	Channel	
4413		Linear/channel	
4414	Soft – mod crumbly, mid grey brown, silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (4403)	11th-M12th century
4415	Soft – mod, light brownish yellow, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4403)	
4416	Mod, mid brown, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (4425)	
4417	Soft – mod, light yellowish brown, silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (4425)	M11th-12th century
4418	Soft, mix black mid grey and brownish grey, ashy silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (4425)	
4419	Soft – mod, light brown yellow, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4404)	
4420	Mod, light orange brown, silt	Fill of (4404)	10th-11th century
4421	Soft, mid – dark grey, ashy silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (4404)	10th-11th century
4422	Soft, mix light grey/black/dark black grey, silty ash, 0.12m thick	Fill of (4404)	
4423	Soft – mod, light pinkish grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4404)	
4424	Soft – mod, mix dark grey – black grey and light orange brown, ashy silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (4404)	
4425	Linear, 2m long 1.2m wide 0.37m deep, aligned NW-SE	Linear	
4426	Aligned, NNE-SSW, cuts (4425) and (4404)	Land drain	
4427	Firm, light yellowish brown, silt, 0.49m thick	Fill which (4409) cuts	
4428	Firm, mid greyish brown, silt	Fill of (4409)	12th century
4429	Mod, light greyish brown, fine sandy silt, 0.16m thick	Fill of (4406)	11th-m12th century
4430	Soft – mod, light mid yellowish brown, fine sandyish silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (4406)	
4431	Soft – mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.27m thick	Fill of (4405)	
4432	Soft – mod, light greyish yellow brown, fine sandyish silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (4405)	
4433	Mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.28m thick	Silting	
4434	Mod, light brown yellow – yellowish, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4405)	
4435	Soft – mod, light grey to brownish grey, silt, 0.22m thick	Fill of (4405)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4436	Soft, mixed black/dark black grey and light/mid/dark grey, ashy silt, 0.28m thick	Fill of (4405)	11th-12th century
4437	Soft, mix light yellow brown and light grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (4405)	
4438	Soft – mod, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.22m thick	Fill of (4406)	
4439	Mod, light greyish brown, silt, 0.19m thick	Fill of (4406)	
4440	Mod, light – mid grey brown, silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (4406)	
4441	Soft, light grey brown, fine sandyish silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (4406)	
4442	Mod, mid grey, clayey silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of something	
4443	Mod, mid red brown, silt, 0.38m deep	Silting	
4444	Soft, black, ashy silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4413)	
4445	Soft – mod, mid dark grey, ashy silt, 0.24m thick	Fill of (4413)	11th-12th century
4446	Mod – firm, orange, silt, 0.18m thick	Natural	Natural
4447	Soft – mod, light – mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.13m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4448	Linear, 0.5m long 0.25m wide 0.2m deep, aligned NNE-SSW	Channel/creek	

Trench 45

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4500	Firm, mid greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.38m thick	Topsoil	Modern
4501	Firm, mid reddish brown, clay silt, 0.18m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4502	Firm, mid yellow brown/light greyish white, silt	Natural	Natural
4503	Linear, 1.8m long 1.7m wide 0.17m deep, aligned E-W	Gully	
4504	Linear, 0.49m deep 1.8m long 1.42m wide, aligned NNE-SSW	Ditch	
4505	Linear, 1.8m long 0.65m wide 0.26m deep, aligned E-W	Gully	
4506	Firm, light greyish brown, silt, 0.17m deep	Fill of (4503)	
4507	Firm, mid grey brown, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4504)	
4508	Firm, light brownish grey, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4504)	
4509	Firm, mid yellowish grey, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (4505)	
4510	Linear, 0.85m wide 1.8m long 0.31m deep, aligned E-W	Gully	
4511	Firm, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.31m thick	Fill of (4510)	
4512	Linear, 1.8m long 1.75m wide 0.27m deep, aligned E-W	Pit/Gully	
4513	Firm, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4512)	
4514	Firm, light brownish grey/light greyish white, silt, 0.27m thick	Fill of (4512)	
4515	Linear, 0.6m wide 0.35m deep 1.8m long, aligned E-W	Pit/Gully	
4516	Firm, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.35m thick	Fill of (4515)	

Trench 46

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4600	Firm, greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.40 - 0.45m thick	Topsoil	Modern
4601	Firm, light grey brown, clayey silt, 0.29m thick	Fill of (4604)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4602	Firm, mid yellow grey, clay silt, 0.53m thick	Fill of (4604)	
4603	Firm, dark yellow brown, clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4604)	
4604	Circular, 0.74m deep 1.38m wide 1m long, not fully excavated	Linear/pit	
4605	Firm, mid greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (4604)	
4606	Firm, blackish brown, clay silt, 0.06m thick	Fill of (4604)	19th century
4607	Firm, medium grey brown, clayey silt, 0.33m thick	Fill of (4608)	
4608	Linear, 0.89m wide 0.54m deep, aligned E-W	Gully	
4609	Firm, mid grey brown, clay silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (4608)	Roman or Post Roman
4610	Linear, 1.01m deep 2.39m wide 1.9m long, aligned E-W	Ditch	
4611	Firm, mid yellowish brown, clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Fill of (4610)	
4612	Firm, light yellowish brown, clay silt, 0.43m thick	Fill of (4610)	
4613	Firm, mid greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (4608)	17th-18th – 19th century on clay pipe
4614	Firm, light greyish yellow, clayey silt, 0.77m thick	Fill of (4610)	
4615	Firm, light yellowish brown, clayey silt, 0.07m thick	Layer	
4616	Compact, black, clayey silt, 0.13m thick	Layer	
4617	Circular, 0.46m deep 0.83m wide	Small pit	
4618	Firm, dark brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.46m deep, 0.83m wide	Fill of (4617)	Late medieval – post medieval
4619	Firm, mid brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (4630)	
4620	Firm, mid brownish yellow, clayey silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (4630)	
4621	Firm, light greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Layer	
4622	Circular, 0.47m deep 0.83m wide	Pit	
4623	Firm, mid brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.47m thick	Fill of (4622)	M17th-18th century
4624	Firm, light yellowish brown, clayey silt, 0.30m thick	Layer	
4625	Firm, dark brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.08m thick	Layer	
4626	Firm, dark greyish brown, clayey silt, 0.35m thick	Layer	
4627	Firm, mid brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.19m thick	Fill of (4630)	
4628	Firm, mid brownish yellow, clayey silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (4630)	
4629	Soft, light brownish grey, clayey silt, 0.28m thick	Fill of (4630)	Late medieval – post medieval
4630	Linear, 0.96m wide 0.28m deep, aligned E-W	Pit/linear	
4631	Firm, mid orange yellow, silt	Natural	Natural
4632	Firm, dark brownish grey, clay silt, 0.42m thick	Levelling	
4633	Linear, 0.6m deep 1.06m wide 1.8m long, aligned E-W, machine excavated	Modern drain	
4634	Firm, mixed dark grey brown and mid brownish yellow, clay silt, 0.6m thick	Fill of (4633)	
4635	Linear, 0.52m deep 2m wide 1.8m long, aligned E-W, machine excavated	Linear	
4636	Firm, mid yellowish grey, clay silt, 0.52m thick	Fill of (4633)	
4637	Firm, dark yellowish brown, silty clay, 0.6m thick	Fill of (4642)	
4638	Firm, mixed light orangey yellow and dark brownish grey, clay silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4642)	
4639	Firm, black, clay silt, 0.06m thick	Fill of (4642)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4640	Soft, mid brown grey, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4642)	
4641	Soft, light greyish white, silt, 0.4m thick	Fill of (4642)	
4642	Circular, 0.56m deep 5m wide 1.8m long	Pond	
4643	Linear, 1.23m deep 6.6m wide 1.8m long, aligned E-W, not fully excavated	Ditch	
4644	Firm, mixed mid yellow brown and mid brown grey, clay silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4645	Firm, mixed yellow grey and yellow brown, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4646	Firm, mid grey brown, clay silt, 0.9m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4647	Firm, mid brown orange, clay silt, 0.06m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4648	Firm, light brown grey, clay silt, 0.46m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4649	Firm, mid orange brown, clayey silt, 1.10m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4650	Soft, dark brownish grey, silt, 0.5m thick	Fill of (4643)	
4651	Firm, mid orangey brown, clay silt, 0.38m thick	Fill of (4642)	

Trench 47

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
47001	Loose – mod, dark brown, silt, 0.44m thick	Plough soil	Modern
47002	Mod, mid brown – greyish brown, silt, 0.4m thick	Subsoil	Modern
47003	Mod, light yellow and grey brown to yellow brown, silt and clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Natural	Natural
47004	Linear – curvilinear, 1.8m long 1.9m wide 0.9m deep, aligned E-W and at end turn SW-NE	Creek/ditch	
47005	Irregular, 1.8m long 6.24m wide 0.3m thick	Creek/pond	
47006	Linear, 1.8m long 1.05m wide 0.42m deep, aligned E-W	Ditch	
47007	Soft – mod, mid – light yellowish brown with grey hue, silt, 0.27m thick	Fill of (47004)	
47008	Soft – mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (47004)	
47009	Mod, light yellow brown and grey, silt and clay, 0.28m thick	Fill of (47004)	
47010	Mod, light yellow brown, fine sandyish silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47011	Soft – mod, mixed light brown yellow and mid grey, silt, 0.04m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47012	Soft – mod, light brown yellow, silt	Fill of (47005)	
47013	Soft – mod, light – mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (47005)	L12th-14th century
47014	Soft-mod, light brownish yellow – yellow brown, silt	Fill of (47005)	
47015	Soft, dark black grey – black, ashy silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47016	Soft, light grey – brownish grey, silty clay, 0.07m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47017	Soft, light grey/ light yellow/orange yellow and light yellowish brown, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47018	Soft – mod, mixed light yellow/ light yellow brown/ light brown and yellowish brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (47005)	
47019	Mod, mid brown silt, 0.42m thick	Fill of (47006)	L12th-E13th century
47020	Soft – mod, mixed light brownish yellow and mid yellowish brown, fine sandy silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (47006)	
47021	Soft – mod, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (47022)	12th-E13th century
47022	Linear, 1.8m long 0.16m wide 0.07m deep, aligned WNW-ESE	Gully	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
47023	Soft – mod, mixed light yellow brown – cream brown and mid yellowish brown, silt	Dump in (47028)	
47024	Soft, dark black brown – brown black, ashy silt, 0.03m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47025	Soft – mod, light pinkish brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47026	Soft – mod, mixed light pinkish brown/light and mid grey/ light – mid grey brown, ashy silt, 0.14m thick	Dump in (47028)	
47027	Soft – mod, light – mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.02m thick	Natural silts (47028)	Natural
47028	Curvilinear, 1.4m long 1.4m wide 0.85m deep, aligned E-W	Ditch	
47029	Mod, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47030	Soft – mod, mixed light – mid pinkish brown and mid yellowish brown – brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47031	Soft – mod light yellow brown, silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47032	Soft – mod, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47033	Soft – mod, mixed mid grey brown/black/light yellow brown and brownish grey, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47034	Soft – mod, light yellow, silt, 0.9m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47035	Soft – mod, mixed light mid brownish grey and mid red brown, silt, 0.9m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47036	Soft – mod, light yellow – yellow brown, silt	Fill of (47055)	
47037	Soft – mod, mixed light – mid pinkish brown/pinkish grey, light grey and grey brown, silt, 0.15m thick	Fill of (47055)	
47038	Mod, light yellowish brown with pinkish hue, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (47041)	
47039	Soft – mod, light yellow – brownish yellow, silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (47041)	
47040	Soft, light grey and grey brown, silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (47041)	
47041	Curvilinear, 1m long 0.8m wide 0.48m deep, aligned NW-NE	Curvilinear Ditch	
47042	Soft, mixed dark black grey and mid brown grey, ashy silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47043	Soft – mod, light grey, ashy silt	Fill of (47053)	
47044	Mod, light – mid bluish grey, silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (47055)	
47045	Mod, light – mid reddish brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47055)	
47046	Soft – mod, mid brown – pinkish brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47028)	
47047	Soft, light – mid yellow brown, silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47048	Mod, mixed light brown yellow and yellow brown, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47049	Soft – mod, light – mid yellow brown – pink brown, silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47050	Mod, light green and grey, silt, 0.04m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47051	Soft, light blue grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47052	Soft – mod, light pinkish brown, silt, 0.6m thick	Fill of (47053)	
47053	E-W 1.8m N-S 7.2m	Shallow creek/natural hollow	
47054	Soft – mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.22m thick	Layer of (47053)	
47055	Linear – curvilinear, 1.8m long 0.5m wide 0.6m deep, aligned NW-SE	Gully/ditch	
47056	Linear, 3.5m long 1.95m wide, aligned E-W	Ditch	
47057	Mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47058	Soft – mod, light – mid grey, ashy silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47059	Soft, mid – dark grey – blackish grey, silt ash, 0.13m thick	Fill of (47056)	10^{th}-12^{th} century
47060	Soft – mod, light brownish grey, silt	Fill of (47056)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
47061	Soft – mod, mid grey brown, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47056)	12th-E13th century
47062	Soft – mod, mixed light grey – yellowish grey and grey brown, silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47063	Soft, black, charcoal/ash, 0.02m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47064	Soft, light – mid grey and yellowish grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47065	Soft – mid, light grey, clayey silt, 0.03m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47066	Soft, light pinkish grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47067	Soft – mod, light brownish yellow – pinkish yellow, silt, 0.04m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47068	Soft – mod, light brownish yellow – pinkish yellow, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47069	Soft – mod, light brownish yellow – pinkish yellow, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47070	Linear, 0.9m long 1.3m wide 0.84m deep, aligned N-S	Linear	
47071	Soft – mod, mixed mid yellowish brown and light yellow brown, silt, 0.17m thick	Subsoil over (47070)	12th-E13th century
47072	Mod, light – mid greyish brown, silt, 0.15m thick	Upper settling in (47070)	
47073	Soft – mod, light brownish grey and yellow, ashy silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47074	Mod, mid grey – brownish grey, ashy silt, 0.3m thick	Fill of (47070)	12th century
47075	Soft – mod, light – mid greyish brown with pink hue, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47076	Mod, mixed mid greyish brown and pinkish brown, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47077	Soft – mod, black, silty ash, 0.1m thick	Fill of (47070)	11th-12th century
47078	Mod, light grey – pinkish grey, silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (47070)	12th-E13th century
47079	Mod, mixed yellow brown and light pinkish grey, silt, 0.16m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47080	Soft, light yellow, silt, 0.13m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47081	Soft – mod, mixed light – mid brown and brown yellow, silt, 0.12m thick	Natural flood deposit	Natural
47082	Soft – mod, mid grey – black brown yellow, ashy silt, 0.06m thick	Natural flood deposit	Natural
47083	Soft – mod, light greyish brown and brown yellow, silts, 0.26m thick	Natural flood deposit	Natural
47084	Soft – mod, dark grey, ashy silt, 0.02m thick	Fill of (47070)	
47085	Soft – mod, light brown yellow and yellow brown, silt, 0.06m thick	Silting in (47070)	
47086	Soft – mod, mixed mid grey and pinkish brown, ashy silt, 0.06m thick	Spread	
47087	Mod, mid greyish brown and yellowish brown, silt, 0.16m thick	Fill of (47100)	
47088	Soft – mod, mixed mid yellowish brown/light brownish yellow and grey brown, silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (47100)	
47089	Mod, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.13m thick	Subsoil	Modern
47090	Mod, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.22m thick	Upper silting (47056)	
47091	Soft – mod, mid – dark grey brown, ashy silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (47100)	
47092	Mod, mixed mid grey brown and grey yellow, silt, 0.13m thick	Fill of (47056) and (47070)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
47093	Soft, mid – dark grey, clayey silt, 0.02m thick	Fill of (47056) and (47070)	
47094	Mod, light greyish yellow – yellowish grey, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (47056) and (47070)	
47095	Mod, dark grey, silt, 0.14m thick	Fill of (47056) and (47070)	
47096	Soft, light pinkish brown, silt/slight clay	Fill of (47056)	
47097	Mod, mid – dark brownish grey, ashy silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47098	Soft – mod, dark grey – black grey, silt, 0.03m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47099	Mod, light mid bluish grey, silt, 0.02m thick	Fill of (47056)	
47100	Linear, 0.5m long 0.8m wide 0.54m deep, aligned N-S	Recut of (47070)	

Trench 48

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4801	Soft, mid – dark grey brown, silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil	Modern
4802	Firm, light yellow brown, silt	Natural silt	Natural
4803	Linear, 0.32m deep 1.3m wide, aligned E-W	Linear	
4804	Firm, light grey with orange patches, silt, 0.13m thick	Fill of (4803)	10th-12th century
4805	Soft, mid orange, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (4803)	
4806	Soft, light brownish grey, silt, 0.13m thick	Fill of (4803)	
4807	Linear, 1.5m long 0.25m deep, aligned NE	Ditch	
4808	Firm, pale yellow – grey, silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (4807)	
4809	Firm, med grey – orange, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (4807)	
4810	Friable, black – orange, silty charcoal	Fill of (4807)	12th-E13th century
4811	Curvilinear, steep slightly concave	'Moat'	
4812	Mod – firm, light brown grey with rusty mottle, silt, 0.4m thick	Fill of (4811)	11th-12th-E13th century
4813	Soft, mixed mid grey/light bluish grey patches and orange mottle, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4814	Soft, mixed light orange brown with light and mid grey mottle, silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (4811)	11th-12th century
4815	Mod – firm, light greyish brown, silt, 0.32m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4816	Soft, pale brown grey with rusty mottle, silt, 0.28m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4817	Soft, light grey brown with rusty mottle, silt, 0.2m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4818	Soft, mid brown silt, 0.3m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4819	½ circle, 0.25m deep 3m wide	Pit	
4820	Firm, dark brown grey, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (4819)	
4821	Linear, 0.33m deep 1.24m wide, aligned N-S	Ditch	
4822	Soft, light grey, silt, 0.24m thick	Fill of (4821)	
4823	Firm, mid orange brown, silt, 0.21m thick	Fill of (4821)	
4824	Firm, light grey brown, silt, 0.21m thick	Fill of (4821)	
4825	Firm, mid brown, silt, 0.36m thick	Layer of flooding	
4826	Soft, mid grey brown, silt, 0.16m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4827	Linear, aligned N-S	Linear	
4828	Firm, light brown grey with rusty mottle, silt	Fill of (4827)	
4829	Firm, light grey brown with rusty mottle, silt, 0.21m thick	Fill of (4827)	
4830	Soft, mid yellow/orange, silt, 0.5m thick	Fill of (4827)	

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4831	Soft, dark grey brown mottle, silt, 0.44m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4832	Firm, light grey, silt, 1.46m thick	Natural	Natural
4833	Very soft, mid grey, silt, 0.1m thick	Natural silt	Natural
4834	Firm, mid grey, silt	Natural	Natural
4835	Firm, grey brown with light brown mottle, silt	Fill of (4811)	
4836	Soft, dark grey, silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4837	Firm, light grey, silt, 0.09m thick	Natural	Natural
4838	Firm, mid brown grey, silt, 0.28m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4839	Firm, grey brown mottled, silt, 0.3m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4840	Dark grey, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (4811)	
4841	Firm, mid yellow brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Lower fill of (4811)	
4842	Firm, light brown, silt, 0.2m thick	Natural	Natural

Trench 49

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
4901	Soft, dark brown, silt, 0.4m thick	Plough soil	Modern
4902	Mod, light yellow brown, silt, 0.11m thick	Subsoil	Modern
4903	Mod, mid yellowish brown, silt, 0.17m thick	Natural deposit	Natural
4904	Mod, mid – light grey/mid brown/light pinkish brown and pinkish yellow, silt and clay silt	Natural deposit	Natural

Trench 50

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
5001	Mod – soft, dark brown, silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil	Modern
5002	Mod – firm, light – mid yellow brown, silt	Natural	Natural
5003	Irregular, 3.47m wide, 0.65m deep	Pit	
5004	Mod – firm, blue white, silty clay, 0.1m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5005	Firm, dark green, grey, silted, 0.1m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5006	Firm, dark black – grey, silt clay, 0.35m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5007	Firm, light orange, silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5008	Firm, mid grey orange, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5009	Soft, light orange, clay silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (5003)	
5010	½ sub circle, 0.8m wide 0.35m deep, aligned N-S	Pit/linear	
5011	Firm, mixed mid orange with light grey patches, silt, 0.15m thick	Fill of (5010)	
5012	Soft, mixed mid and dark grey, silt, 0.19m thick	Fill of (5010)	
5013	Firm, mid – light brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (5010)	
5014	Linear, 1.62m long, 0.26m deep, aligned N-S	Linear	
5015	Firm, light orange, silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (5014)	
5016	Firm, light orange, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (5014)	
5017	Firm, brown – orange, silt, 0.04m thick	Fill of (5014)	
5018	Firm, dark brown, black, silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (5014)	
5019	Firm, mid brown, silt, 0.15m thick	Fill of (5014)	
5020	Soft, mid orange brown, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (5014)	

Trench 51

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
5100	Soft, dark brown, sandy silt, 0.4m thick	Topsoil	Modern
5101	Soft, orange light greyish brown with mid grey and dark grey mottle, sandy silt	Fill of (5102)	11th-M12th century

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
5102	Linear, 1.0m wide 0.34m deep 0.18m long, aligned WNW-ESE	Ditch	
5103	Soft, mid brownish grey, sandy silt, 0.8m wide	Fill of (5104)	
5104	Linear, 0.8m wide, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5105	Loose, dark grey, sandy silt, 0.4m deep 1.05m wide	Fill of (5106)	
5106	Linear, 0.65m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5107	Soft, mid brownish grey, sandy silt, 0.96m wide	Fill of (5108)	
5108	Linear, 0.96m wide, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5109	Soft, mixed light brown and light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.36m thick	Fill of (5130)	
5110	Linear, 0.75m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5111	Soft, mid brown, sandy silt, 1.2m wide 1.8m long	Fill of (5112)	
5112	Linear, 1.2m wide 1.8m long, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5113	Soft, mid brown, sandy silt, 1.6m wide 7.4m long	Fill of (5114)	
5114	Linear, 1.6m wide 7.4m long, aligned WNW-ESE	Ditch	
5115	Soft, dark grey, sandy silt, 0.06m thick 0.4m wide	Fill of (5116)	
5116	Linear, 0.65m wide 0.18m deep	Ditch	
5117	Soft, light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.28m thick 0.7m wide	Fill of (5118)	
5118	Linear, 0.7m wide 0.28m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5119	Mod – firm, light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.38m thick 1.27m wide	Fill of (5120)	10th-12th century
5120	Linear, 2m wide 4m long 0.68m deep, aligned NW-SE	Ditch	
5121	Soft, light brown, sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of (5120)	
5122	Mod – firm, mixed light brown/light grey and light orangey red, silt, 0.06m thick	Fill of (5134)	
5123	Soft, dark grey, sandy silt	Fill of (5120)	
5124	Firm, light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.28m thick	Lower fill of (5110)	
5125	Soft, light brown, sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit	Natural
5126	Soft, light brown, sandy silt, 0.3m thick	Natural deposit	Natural
5127	Firm, mid grey, silt, 0.09m thick 0.4m wide	Fill of (5120)	
5128	Soft, light grey, sandy silt, 0.04m thick	Fill of (5130)	
5129	Soft, light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (5130)	
5130	Linear, 2.2m wide 1.8m long 0.58m thick, aligned N-S	Recut of (5110)	
5131	Soft, mixed light grey and yellow brown, sandy silt, 0.24m thick	Fill of (5134)	
5132	Soft, light greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (5134)	
5133	Mod – firm, mixed mid brownish grey and light yellow brown, silt, 0.23m thick	Fill of (5134)	
5134	Linear, 0.9m wide 0.5m deep, aligned NW-SE	Cut of (5134)	
5135	Firm, light brown with rusty mottles, sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (5102)	
5136	Soft, mid greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.1m thick	Fill of (5116)	
5137	Soft, light brown, sandy silt, 0.06m thick 0.35m wide	Fill of (5139)	
5138	Soft, mid grey, sandy silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (5139)	
5139	Linear, 0.4m wide 0.13m deep, aligned N-S	Cut	
5140	Soft, mottled mixed mid light brown and light brown, sandy silt	Fill of (5141)	
5141	Linear, 5.4m wide 1.8m long, aligned N-S	Cut	
5142	Soft, dark grey, silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (5104)	12th-E13th century
5143	Firm, mixed mid light grey/light brown and mid orange, sandy silt	Bottom fill of (5104)	
5144	Find of pottery	(5140)	10th-12th century

No.	Description	Interpretation	Phase
5145	Linear, 1.35m wide 0.83m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5146	Loose, dark greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.3m deep 0.75m wide	Fill of (5145)	
5147	Find of pottery	Fill of (5141)	12th-E13th century
5148	Linear, 0.5m wide 0.26m deep, aligned NW-SE	Ditch/gully	
5149	Soft, mid grey, sandy silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (5148)	12th-E13th century
5150	Loose, mixed dark brownish grey and dark yellowish orange, sandy silt, 0.4m deep 1.25m thick	Fill of (5151)	
5151	Linear, 1.5m wide 0.75m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5152	Loose, dark greyish brown, sandy silt	Subsoil	Modern
5153	Loose, dark greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.23m thick 1.52m wide	Fill of (5145)	
5154	Loose, light brownish grey and dark yellowish orange, sandy silt, 0.9m wide 0.2m deep	Fill of (5145)	
5155	Loose, light grey, sandy silt, 0.18m wide 0.07m deep	Fill of (5145)	
5156	Loose, dark brownish grey/dark yellowish orange, sandy silt, 0.25m deep 0.6m wide	Bottom fill of (5145)	
5157	Loose, dark grey, sandy silt, 0.8m wide 0.3m deep	Lower fill of (5151)	
5158	Loose, dark greyish brown, sandy silt, 0.2m deep 0.85m wide	Fill of (5106)	
5159	Circular, 0.25m deep 0.8m wide	Pit	
5160	Loose, dark brownish grey and dark yellowish orange, sandy silt, 0.78m wide 0.24m deep	Fill of (5159)	
5161	Firm, light brown, silt, 0.14m thick	Layer	
5162	Firm, mixed light grey and mid brown, silt, 0.25m thick	Deposit	
5163	Firm, mid brown grey and mid grey, clayey silt, 0.12m thick	Fill of (5141)	
5164	Firm, light brown and mid brown, silt, 0.26m thick	Fill of (5141)	
5165		Deposit	
5166	Firm, mid grey with dark grey speckles, silt, 0.07m thick	Fill of (5104)	
5167	Linear, 0.71m deep 1.54m wide, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5168		Fill of (5169)	
5169		Drain	
5170	Firm, mid grey, silt, 0.17m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5171	Linear, 1.06m wide 0.75m deep, aligned N-S	Ditch	
5172	Firm, mid greyish brown, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5173	Firm, mid yellow – yellowish brown, silt, 0.18m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5174	Firm, mid yellow, silt, 0.05m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5175	Firm, mid grey, silt, 0.09m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5176	Firm, mid brownish grey, silt, 0.13m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5177	Firm, mixed light grey and brown, silt, 0.34m thick	Fill of (5171)	
5178	Firm, light grey, silt, 0.08m thick	Fill of (5148)	
5179	Firm, light grey, silt, 0.11m thick	Fill of (5148)	

Appendix 2

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A total of 108 sherds from 84 vessels, weighing 1248 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary of fabric types shown in Table 1 below. The pottery ranges in date from the Saxo-Norman to the early modern period.

Condition

The pottery is in a fragmentary condition, although a high proportion of sherds are from thin-walled vessels of Saxo-Norman to early medieval date, which tend to fragment very easily. A high proportion of vessels have sooting patterns indicative of usage over a hearth or fire, and surface bleaching suggesting close contact with chemical bleaching agent such as salt.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Period	Cname	Full Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Saxo-Norman to early medieval	SNEOT	St Neots-type ware	870	1200	24	16	192
	ST	Stamford ware	970	1200	39	28	375
	THETT	Thetford-type fabrics	1000	1150	11	11	160
Early medieval	EMHM	Early medieval handmade ware	1100	1250	8	7	35
	LEMS	Lincolnshire early medieval shelly	1130	1230	8	7	65
Early medieval to medieval	BOUA	Bourne-type fabrics A, B, C, E, F and G	1150	1400	5	3	40
Post medieval	CIST	Cistercian-type ware	1480	1650	1	1	2
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware	1500	1650	1	1	1
	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	3	2	30
	BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	4	4	160
Early modern	PORC	Porcelain	1700	1900	1	1	1
	PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	2	2	69
	WHITE	Modern whiteware	1850	1900	1	1	118
				Total	**108**	**84**	**1248**

Provenance

Most of the material was recovered from natural channels or linear features, including gullies and ditches. Table 2 below shows the origin of all of the pottery as well as giving a spot date for each feature or layer. This dating is based solely on the post Roman ceramics.

Table 2, Origin of the Pottery and Feature date, Listed by Cut

Tr	Feature type	Cut	Deposit/fill	Feature Date
16	Ditch	1613	1614	10th-12th
			1616	
40	Layer	-	4008	10th-12th
	Layer	-	4024	10th-12th
	Linear Feature	4004	4005	Late 15th-early 17th
	Linear Feature	4006	4007	12th – Early 13th
	Linear Feature	4031	4022	10th – 12th
	Pit?	4032	4034	19th
			4035	
			4037	
41	Pond	-	4102	Late 19th – early 20th
42	Pit or Ditch	4203	4204	12th
	Ditch	4207	4211	11th-mid 12th
44	Channel	-	4411	11th-12th
	Ponding	4403	4414	11th-mid 12th
	Linear Feature or Channel	4404	4420	10th-11th
			4421	
	Linear Feature or Channel	4405	4436	11th-12th
	Linear Feature or Channel	4406	4429	11th-mid 12th
	Ditch or Channel	4409	4407	12th
			4408	
			4428	
	Linear Feature or Channel	4413	4445	11th-12th
	Linear Feature	4425	4417	Mid 11th-12th
46	Linear Feature or Pit	4604	4606	19th
	Gully	4608	4613	17th-18th
	Pit	4622	4623	Mid 17th-18th
47	Layer	-	47071	12th-Early 13th
	Pond or Channel	47005	47013	Late 12th-14th
	Ditch	47006	47019	Late 12th-early 13th
	Gully	47022	47021	12th-early 13th
	Ditch	47056	47059	10th-12th
	Ditch	47057	47061	12th-early 13th
	Linear Feature	47070	47074	12th-early 13th
			47077	
			47078	
48	Linear Feature	4803	4804	11th-mid 12th (Tiny flake of 16th-17th century date probably intrusive)
			4805	
	Ditch	4807	4810	12th-early 13th
	Possible Moat	4811	4812	12th-early13th
	Possible Moat	4812	4814	11th-12th
51	Finds Retrieval	-	5144	10th-12th
	Finds Retrieval	-	5147	12th-early 13th
	Ditch	5102	5101	11th-Mid 12th

Tr	Feature type	Cut	Deposit/fill	Feature Date
	Ditch	5104	5142	12th – early 13th
	Ditch	5120	5119	10th-12th
	Ditch or Gully	5148	5149	12th – early 13th

Range
There is a fairly restricted range of pottery types, with most pieces likely to be of 11th to early 13th century date. The almost complete absence of glazed, high medieval types, such as Bourne or Grimston wares from anywhere on the site, would also seem to indicate a focus of deposition before 1200AD.

Trenches 40 and 46 gave a range of pottery of later post medieval to early modern date, with no earlier types recovered. With the exception of six pieces from two vessels recovered from Area A, all of the pottery came from Trenches within Area D.

In terms of dating there appears to be a divide between the pottery recovered from Trenches 16, 42 and 44 and those pieces from Trenches 47, 48 and 51. The first three of these trenches produced large quantities of Stamford ware (ST), Thettford type ware (THETT) and St Neots ware (SNEOT), whilst the latter of the six trenches yielded a substantial quantity of early medieval handmade shelly and sandy fabrics (EMHM, LEMS), in addition to fragments of ST, THETT and SNEOT. Early medieval handmade types are very characteristic of domestic assemblages of the 12th to early 13th centuries, and their scarcity within features and deposits in Trenches 16, 42 and 44 would seem to suggest an earlier focus of deposition within the first three trenches, probably in the 11th to earlier 12th centuries.

A high proportion of sherds have surface bleaching; this suggests these pieces have been in contact with a strong chemical bleaching agent such as concentrated brine. These items may have been used in the processing of the salt or salted goods. Pieces appearing to display this damage were recovered from features in Trenches 40, 42, 44, 47, 48 and 51. There is no particular pattern to the distribution of these pieces or the types of fabrics with bleaching.

Potential
The pottery would be worthy of reappraisal in the event of further work on the site. Any further excavation within Area D is likely to recover more material. The pieces should be retained, they are in a stable condition and should pose no problems for long term storage

Summary
A moderately sized assemblage of pottery was recovered during the evaluation, with most of the material retrieved from trenches within Area D. The bulk of the pottery dates from the 11th to early 13th centuries and some pieces show evidence of contact with brine, either before or after deposition.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL
By Alex Beeby

Introduction
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (2002) and to conform to Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*. A total of 48 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 4519 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology
The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 3 below.

Condition
The condition of the material is mixed, with some large sections of brick as well as smaller undiagnostic fragments. None of the material is particularly abraded.

Results

Table 3, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	Description	Date	NoF	W(g)
3803	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Fenland	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	4	129
4005	BRK	Brick	Gault	Corner fragment	18th-19th	1	68
4005	BRK	Brick	OX/R/OX; calcareous; vitrified	Vitrified/bloated; struck upper	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	1	438
4017	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Flake; rough surface	Roman or Post Roman	1	5
4034	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous; flint; Fe	Highly fired; Fenland fabric; large - 60mm-d x 126-w; struck upper; straw impression in base; slop moulded		4	1203
4034	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine mica	Straw impressions; slop moulded		2	506
4034	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Straw impressions; slop moulded; Fenland fabric; 60mm-d x 119mm-w		1	746
4034	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; fine mica; Fe	Surfaceless; probably brick fragment		1	33
4035	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Calcareous Fenland type fabric; probably post medieval brick	Post medieval?	1	8
4036	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Fenland fabric; slop moulded; struck upper		5	577
4036	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous; Fe	Fenland fabric; 60mm-d; slop moulded	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	1	365
4037	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Fenland fabric		2	108
4606	PANT	Pantile	Oxidised; fine	Fe object attached	18th-19th	1	14
4609	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; fine	Flakes; probably brick fragments	Roman or Post Roman	7	50
4613	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine; mica	Flake; mortar adhered	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	1	27
4613	CBM	Ceramic Building Material	Oxidised; fine; mica	Flakes		5	11
4618	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	1 pc mortar adhered	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	4	170
4618	RTMISC	Misc. Brick or Tile	Oxidised; fine	PANT?; sanded base; Fenland		1	3
4623	BRK	Brick	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Fenland	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	3	50
4629	RTMISC	Misc. Brick or Tile	Oxidised; fine calcareous	Fenland; probably PM brick frags	Late Medieval - Post Medieval	2	8
					Total	**48**	**4519**

Provenance

Pieces were recovered from a range of feature types, including gullies, ditches, pits and a layer**.** Almost all of the material was recovered from Trenches 40 and 46, with four additional items, probably from the same item of building material, retrieved from Trench 38.

Table 4, Origin of the Ceramic Building Material

Tr	Feature Type	Cut	Deposit/Fill	NoF	W(g)
38	Layer	-	3803	4	129
40	Linear feature	4004	4005	2	506
	Ditch	4011	4017	1	5
	Pit	4032	4034	8	2488
			4035	1	8
			4036	6	942

			4037	2	108
46	Linear feature or pit	4604	4606	1	14
	Gully	4608	4609	7	50
			4613	6	38
	Pit	4617	4618	5	173
	Pit	4622	4623	3	50
	Linear feature or pit	4630	4629	2	8
			Total	**44**	**4390**

Range
The assemblage is dominated by fragments of post medieval brick, most of which are formed in a calcareous 'Fenland' fabric, of the type typical in this area. These pieces cannot be closely dated. Additional fragments of brick in a light firing Gault clay from linear feature [4004] and pantile from linear feature of pit [4604] are certainly later post medieval in date. There are no fragments of obvious medieval date or earlier.

Potential
There is no potential for further work. The ceramic building material should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary
A small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered during the evaluation, with features in just three trenches producing items. All of the diagnostic pieces are of post medieval date.

FIRED CLAY
By Alex Beeby

Introduction
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in the Lincolnshire County Council's *Archaeology Handbook*.

Methodology
The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments of fired clay were counted and weighed within each context. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Archive Catalogue 2, with a summary table of class types shown in Table 5 below. Small undiagnostic pieces recovered from environmental samples, measuring under 10mm in diameter, are listed in Archive Table 3; these have been listed separately as there is a large quantity of these abraded flakes and inclusion within the main archive would skew any statistical analysis of the data and these are not included within the main summary table. Larger pieces, more typical of the hand collected assemblage, have been included within the main archive and the summary table.

Condition
The condition of the fired clay is mixed, with a good quantity of larger fresh pieces as well as smaller more weathered items. This is reflected in the moderate average fragment weight of 30 grams. A high proportion of fragments are abraded and several items are bleached, probably due to exposure to a chemical bleaching agent such as salt.

Provenance
The bulk of the pottery was recovered from natural channels/creeks and linear features, including ditches and gullies. Table 5 below shows the origin of all of the fired clay listed by trench and then cut

Table 5, Origin of the Fired Clay, Sorted by Trench and Cut

Tr	Feature Type	Cut	Deposit/Fill	Fragments	Weight
16	Ditch	1613	1614	1	9
	Ditch	1617/1635	1621	8	225
	Ditch		1624	9	272

Tr	Feature Type	Cut	Deposit/Fill	Fragments	Weight
40	Linear feature	4004	4005	2	10
	Ditch	4011	4014	1	25
	Linear feature	4031	4022	6	85
	Pit	4032	4037	2	39
42	Ditch	4207	4211	7	33
44	Ponding	4403	4414	1	2
	Linear Feature or Channel	4404	4421	5	51
			4423	1	62
	Linear Feature or Channel	4405	4435	4	301
			4436	2	29
	Ditch or Channel	4409	4407	1	2
	Linear Feature or Channel	4413	4444	5	157
			4445	4	69
45	Gully	4503	4506	4	19
	Pit or gully	4512	4514	5	21
47	Ditch or Channel	47004	47009	2	15
	Pond or Channel	47005	47014	1	35
			47015	2	44
	Ditch	47028	47026	5	83
			47033	4	55
			47034	2	12
	Ditch	47041	47038	1	2
	Channel or Hollow	47053	47042	4	38
			47043	2	66
	Ditch or Gully	47055	47037	2	93
			47044	1	7
	Ditch	47056	47059	5	155
	Linear feature	47070	47078	1	12
50	Pit	5003	5009	1	2
51	Ditch	5104	5143	1	230
	Ditch	5110	5124	5	130
	Ditch	5120	5119	3	26
			5121	8	140
			5123	28	347
	Ditch	5130	5109	12	315
			Total	**158**	**3218**

Results

Table 6, Summary of the Fired Clay

Classification	Code	NoF	W(g)
Briquetage?	BRIQUETAGE?	18	495
Daub	DAUB/?	11	213
Unclassified Fired Clay	FCLAY	109	1876
Unidentified Object*/?	OBJECT/?	20	634
	Total	**158**	**3218**

*Objects include small deliberately shaped items such as kiln props and loomweights.

Range
The assemblage is dominated by undiagnostic fragments of fired clay. These make up 68% of the total number of fragments. Fabrics are mostly soft and fine, with red ferruginous grits and fine silver mica commonly noted. There are 11 fragments recognisable as daub, as well as 19 pieces of probable briquetage and 21 further unclassified pieces of 'object', which may include items of briquetage.

Trenches 16, 40, 42, 44, 45, 47, 50 and 51 produced material. Virtually all of the fired clay came from trenches in Area D, with the exception of material from Trench 16, which was located in neighbouring Area A.

Briquetage/Possible Briquetage
Clay fragments possibly related to salt-making activities were recovered from Trenches 16, 40, 44, 45 and 51. These include pieces of heavily bleached, but otherwise undiagnostic fired clay, and fragments from small shaped objects, including probable props or stands. The most complete of these came from possible channel [4413] in Trench 44 – these pieces have smooth curved bleached surfaces and one item has a flat base and seems to have a rounded cone shaped profile. Cone shaped 'props' are known to have been used in the medieval period, although stratified examples from archaeological contexts are very rare. Queen Mary's nurses home in King's Lynn produced 771 fragments of briquetage, including conical props which appear similar in form to that from channel [4413] (Cope-Faulkner 2001).

Fragments from an additional stand or prop of some type were recovered from ditch/ditches [1617/1635], whilst items with similar smooth surfaces, were also retrieved from ditches [5110] and [5130] in Trench 51, and ditches [47028] and [47056] in Trench 47. Some of these pieces show evidence of surface bleaching, whilst others do not. The assemblage is too small and the pieces too fragmentary to be sure that any or all of these additional items are briquetage. Because of this, some of these items have been listed within the archive as unidentified objects (OBJECT).

Daub
There are 11 pieces of daub, although none are especially diagnostic. Pieces came from channel or ditch [4409] in Trench 44, ditch [47028] and creek or hollow [47053] in Trench 47 and ditch [5120] in Trench 51.

Potential
The fired clay should be reassessed in the light of any further excavations on the site. There is good potential for the recovery of further items likely to relate to medieval salt production at Holbeach. The material is in a stable condition and should be retained as part of the site archive.

Summary
A total of 158 fragments of fired clay were recovered, including daub and pieces which are most probably briquetage. The recovery of briquetage from deposits of probable medieval date is of great archaeological significance.

FAUNAL REMAINS
By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction
A total of 423 (9,011g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts. An additional 107 fragments (394g) of mollusc shell were recovered.

Methodology
The faunal remains were laid out in context order and reference made to published catalogues (e.g. Schmid 1972; Hillson 2003). All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to species, element and side. Also fusion data, butchery marks, gnawing, burning and pathological changes were noted when present. Ribs and vertebrae were only recorded to species when they were substantially complete and could accurately be identified. Undiagnostic bones were recorded as micro (mouse size), small (rabbit size), medium (sheep size) or large (cattle size).

The condition of the bone was graded using the criteria stipulated by Lyman (1996). Grade 0 being the best preserved bone and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable.

Provenance
The bones were recovered mainly from the fills of linears/ditches, though some derived from pits and spreads of material. Mainly dating to the 10th – 12th century, many are undated with a few of post-medieval date.

Condition
The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate, averaging at grades 2-3 on the Lyman Criteria (1996).

Results
Table 7., Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
1614	Large mammal	Skull	-	9	122	
	Large mammal	Vertebra	-	1	28	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	1	
1618	Cattle	Radius	R	1	205	
	cattle	Ulna	R	1	70	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	3	43	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	11	247	
	Sheep/goat	mandible	-	1	17	
1621	Sheep/goat	Pelvis	R	1	16	
	Sheep/goat	Molar	-	1	1	
	Sheep/goat	Incisor	-	1	1	
	Medium mammal	Vertebra	-	15	40	
	Medium mammal	Femur	B	2	16	
	Medium mammal	Humerus	L	1	6	
	Medium mammal	Radius	-	1	21	
	Medium mammal	Ulna	-	1	10	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	19	76	
	Large mammal	Unident	-	1	9	
	Small mammal	rib	-	1	1	
1624	Horse	Pelvis	L	1	342	
	Cattle	Pelvis	B	4	224	
	Cattle	Skull	-	5	152	
	Cattle	Mandible	-	1	42	
	Cattle	Radius	-	2	148	
	Cattle	Ulna	-	1	26	
	Cattle	Astragalus	R	1	29	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	5	85	
	Large mammal	rib	-	2	31	
4005	Large mammal	Skull	-	1	26	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	4	
	Large mammal	rib	-	1	6	
4007	Cattle	Molar	-	1	26	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	28	
	Pig	Canine	-	1	8	
	Medium mammal	Rib	-	1	11	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	11	
4008	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	3	16	
	Medium mammal	skull	-	2	9	
4010	Large mammal	Vertebra	-	2	45	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	21	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	9	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	6	
4012	cattle	scapula	R	1	39	

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
4014	Cattle	Pelvis	L	1	96	
	Cattle	Ulna	R	1	80	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	8	144	
	Large mammal	Skull	-	3	42	
	Sheep/goat	Maxilla	-	1	20	
	Sheep/goat	Humerus	L	1	24	
	Pig	Mandible	-	1	13	
	Medium mammal	Rib	-	6	24	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	5	40	
	bird	Long bone	-	1	1	
4017	Large mammal	Rib	-	6	66	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	4	burnt
4020	Cattle	Scapula	L	1	57	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	3	69	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	5	
	Medium mammal	Metacarpal	-	1	14	
	Sheep/goat	Mandible	L	1	15	
	bird	Long bone	-	1	11	goose
4022	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	47	
	Large mammal	Scapula	R	2	63	
	Sheep/goat	Scapula	B	2	42	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	2	5	
4024	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	26	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	16	
	Sheep/goat	Scapula	R	1	17	
	Sheep/goat	Humerus	L	1	15	
	Medium mammal	rib	-	1	2	
4026	Medium mammal	rib	-	4	9	
4034	?cattle	humerus	-	1	46	juvenile
4204	Cattle	Molar	-	1	25	
	Large mammal	Mandible	-	4	71	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	17	
	Medium mammal	Humerus	-	1	8	
	Medium mammal	radius	-	1	6	
4211	Large mammal	Rib	-	3	43	
	Small mammal	rib	-	3	1	
4311	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	38	
4407	cattle	maxilla	R	1	125	Incl 4 molars
4408	Cattle	Radius	-	2	21	Both join
	Large mammal	vertebra	-	1	81	
4414	dog	skull	B	1	209	
4417	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	2	6	
4422	Large mammal	Mandible	-	3	23	Burnt
	Medium mammal	Unidentified	-	5	1	Calcined
	bird	Long bone	-	1	1	burnt
4435	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	3	
	bird	Long bone	-	1	1	burnt
4436	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	47	
4438	Medium mammal	unidentified	-	1	7	
4442	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	13	
4444	cattle	phalange	-	1	18	
4506	cattle	Horn core	-	1	18	
4618	Large mammal	humerus	-	1	40	
4629	Cattle	Humerus	L	3	169	2 join, 2 separate beasts
	Medium mammal	humerus	-	1	8	
4749	Medium mammal	unidentified	-	2	3	Both burnt
7004	Large mammal	femur	-	12	132	fragmentary
47007	Large mammal	unidentified	-	3	19	

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
47009	Cattle	tibia	R	1	85	
	Cattle	metacarpus	-	1	31	
	Cattle	molar	-	1	6	
	Large mammal	long bone	-	9	4	
	Medium mammal	vertebra	-	1	1	
47013	Cattle	Tibia	R	1	84	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	51	
47014	cattle	mandible	L	1	79	Incl. 2 molars
47015	Large mammal	Vertebra	-	1	44	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	2	4	
	bird	Long bone	-	4	5	Prob. goose
47017	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	12	
47019	Cattle	Mandible	L	1	80	
	Sheep/goat	molar	-	1	5	
47021	Cattle	Incisor	-	1	3	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	1	burnt
47026	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	66	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	23	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	7	
47033	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	11	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	11	
	Medium mammal	Rib	-	3	7	
	Medium mammal	unidentified	-	3	1	calcined
47034	Cattle	Ulna	R	1	75	
	cattle	Radius	-	1	34	
	cattle	Scapula	R	1	83	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	13	
	Sheep/goat	Mandible	R	1	9	
	Sheep/goat	Molar	-	1	3	
	bird	Long bone	-	1	8	Large prob. goose
47036	Large mammal	Skull	-	3	14	
	Sheep/goat	Radius	R	1	25	
	Sheep/goat	scapula	R	1	27	
47037	Cattle	Mandible	-	2	31	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	4	37	
	Large mammal	Skull	-	1	16	
	Large mammal	Carpel	-	1	26	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	9	
	Medium mammal	vertebra	-	1	4	
47038	Cattle	Metatarsus	-	1	22	
	Medium mammal	Rib	-	1	1	Burnt
	bird	Long bone	-	1	2	Large poss. goose
47040	Large mammal	Long bone	-	3	8	2 burnt
47042	Large mammal	?long bone	-	9	68	Some calcined and chalky
47043	Horse	Femur	R	1	53	
	Cattle	Metatarsus	R	1	121	
	Sheep/goat	mandible	L	1	55	
47044	unidentified	unidentified	-	1	1	burnt
47046	Cattle	Metatarsus	-	1	95	
	Large mammal	rib	-	1	13	
47047	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	6	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	9	
47051	Medium mammal	rib	-	1	1	
47059	Cattle	Phalange	R	1	16	
	cattle	Ulna	L	1	11	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	30	
	Large mammal	Molar	-	1	1	
	Sheep/goat	Mandible	L	1	35	
	Sheep/goat	Tibia	L	1	39	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	5	18	Some burnt-calcined

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
47061	Large mammal	Vertebra	-	3	128	
	Deer	Scapula	R	1	21	
	Small mammal	rib	-	1	1	
47062	Large mammal	Skull	-	1	4	
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	19	
	Medium mammal	Scapula	L	1	17	
	deer	tibia	L	1	14	
47065	horse	femur	L	1	432	
47071	Large mammal	Vertebra	-	1	18	
	Medium mammal	rib	-	1	5	
47074	Cattle	Scapula	R	1	89	
	Large mammal	Skull	-	4	76	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	22	
	Medium mammal	Vertebra	-	1	6	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	8	
	Medium mammal	rib	-	1	6	
47076	cattle	molar	-	1	28	
47078	cattle	molar	-	1	26	
4805	Medium mammal	incisor	-	1	2	Poss. sheep
4808	Pig	Mandible	-	1	149	
	Bird	Long bone	-	3	4	
	bird	unidentified	-	1	1	
4809	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	5	
	Medium mammal	Vertebra	-	1	12	
	Medium mammal	Metacarpus	-	1	5	
	bird	Long bone	-	1	1	
4810	Large mammal	Skull	-	1	30	
	Sheep/goat	Scapula	L	1	24	
	Sheep/goat	Radius/ulna	L	1	25	
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	2	18	
	Medium mammal	rib	-	1	2	
4812	Cattle	Humerus	L	1	308	
	Medium mammal	humerus	R	1	15	
4814	cattle	ulna	R	1	75	
4817	Cattle	Phalange	-	1	22	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	18	
4828	Cattle	Humerus	-	2	306	Separate beasts; cut marks
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	61	
5006	Cattle	Skull	-	13	142	Includes fragmentary horn core
	Cattle	Molar	-	6	101	Poss. Maxilla elements
	Large mammal	Rib	-	1	13	-
	Sheep/goat	Mandible	-	1	36	-
	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	2	13	-
	Medium mammal	Tibia	L	1	14	-
	Small mammal	humerus	-	1	3	?cat
5007	Medium mammal	scapula	-	1	9	
5012	Large mammal	Long bone	-	1	33	
5103	Medium mammal	Long bone	-	1	15	
5109	cattle	phalange	-	1	24	
5111	cattle	metacarpus	-	1	37	
5121	Medium mammal	skull	-	1	4	
5124	Cattle	Mandible	L	1	107	
	Cattle	Metatarsus	-	1	85	
	Sheep/goat	radius	R	1	15	
5142	Large mammal	skull	-	3	39	Prob cattle
5143	cattle	Horn core	-	1	105	
5146	Large mammal	Pelvis	-	1	103	
	Large mammal	Long bone	-	2	29	

Table 8, Mollusca Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
4022	Mussel	Shell		8	21	
4435	Ramshorn snail	Shell		2	3	
4611	Garden snail	Shell		4	4	
4612	Garden snail	Shell		9	4	
4629	Oyster	Shell	bottom	1	13	V-shaped notch
47013	Cockle	Shell		1	4	
47015	Mussel?	Shell		1	3	
47061	Mussel	Shell		20	56	
	Cockle	Shell		1	1	
47074	Mussel	Shell		2	6	
	Cockle	Shell		1	<1	
4808	Oyster	Shell	2x top; 2x bottom	7	24	
	Banded snail?	Shell		2	3	
4809	Oyster	Shell	2x top; 7x bottom	9	95	2 with V-shaped notches
	Mussel	Shell		1	<1	
	Banded snail	Shell		4	5	
4810	Oyster	Shell	8x top; 11x bottom	19	136	2 with V-shaped notches
	Mussel	Shell		1	2	
	Banded snail	Shell		1	<1	
4818	Tellin	Shell		9	1	All small
5006	Mussel	Shell		4	10	

Summary

All of the main domesticates are represented within the assemblage, though are dominated by cattle and sheep/goat with very little horse and pig recognised within the collection. Dog is also present and some hunting activity is represented by a single deer shoulder blade. Identifiable cattle bones comprised fragments 80 (3927g) which when compared to large mammal, 170 fragments (275g), account as the most significant livestock breed. Sheep/goat came in at 23 fragments (466g), medium mammal at 119 fragments (576g), pig at 3 fragments (170g) and horse (827g).

The dominance of cattle may be seen as unusual but as the contexts producing this material pre-dates the almost industrial scale of sheep rearing brought about by the wool trade from the 13th century onwards, which was dominated in this part of the fenlands by Spalding Priory and Crowland Abbey. In some ways the ratio of sheep to cattle reflects the earlier post-medieval period when cattle were raised on higher ground to be fattened up on fens and marshes before slaughter.

Bird bone form a small part of the assemblage. Some are large enough to suggest that goose was an important element of the diet, although none were clearly identified as being of chicken. Duck was also identified in the environmental samples (Appendix 3) and a few bones may belong to this genus.

Most of the mollusc shells are from marine species and are probably food waste, mostly being from oysters, mussels and at least brackish water, if not a tidal inlet.

There are also terrestrial species, including banded and garden snails. However, these species occur widely and do not provide useful environmental indicators. There are also two ramshorn snail shells. This is a freshwater species, occurring in hard water, and indicates that this context contained water.

In all, the faunal remains are focussed on the northeastern part of the site where most of the archaeological features were revealed. It is too soon to ascertain whether the remains are associated with the proposed salt-making activities suggested by some finds, but cattle is a very suitable meat for salting. Alternatively, the production of salt is essential for the production of dairy produce (butter and cheese).

The assemblage suggests that medieval Holbeach had access to a wide range of animal products and a quite varied meat based diet. The presence of deer, normally a reserve of the elite classes, could indicate some status to the site although there number is low, implying that there is no particular status attached to the site.

The animal bone and mollusc shell are all archive stable and should be retained. They will warrant further examination if further work is undertaken at the site.

GLASS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Forty-seven pieces of glass together weighing 4609g were recovered.

Condition

Much of the glass is in good condition with numerous complete or near-complete items. A few pieces are showing signs of deterioration with iridescence and lamination.

Results

Table 9, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
4035	Small fragments of dark olive green vessel glass. 19th century	2	4	19th century
	Base and body of pale green octagonal bottle (3 adjoining pieces). Measuring marks on one face consisting of four panels with raised markings. The bottom panel has four vertical lines, the next one three, the next one two and the top one, one. The panels are delineated by single raised horizontal lines. Heavy iridescence and lamination. 19th century	3	106	
4102	Dark green bottle, trademarked: 'MEASURES & LEVESLEY, SPALDING' and 'LUMB & CO, MAKER, CASTLEFORD', complete, corked, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	466	very late 19th-early 20th century
	Very pale green bottle, trademarked: 'HARDY'S KIMBERLEY BREWERY LIMTD', internal screw top, complete, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	638	
	Very pale green Codd bottle, trademarked: 'LEE & GREEN LTD, SLEAFORD & SPALDING', complete, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	666	
	Dark green bottle, trademarked: 'MORGANS, NORWICH', applied rim with internal screw top, complete, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	666	
	Very pale blue-green bottle, probable sauce bottle, applied rim, complete, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	170	
	Colourless small bottle, remnant paper label indicating contexts were furniture cream and price was 3d, complete, very late 19th-early 20th century	1	60	
	Colourless phial/small bottle, moderate iridescence, complete, 19th century	1	47	
4606	Colourless window glass, moderate iridescence, 19th century	1	4	Late 19th-20th century
	Colourless window glass, 19th-20th century	3	27	
	Colourless window plate glass, 20th century	1	102	
	Blue rectangular bottle, 19th-20th century	8	112	
	Very pale blue rectangular bottle, 19th-20th century	3	26	
	Very pale green paste jar, ribbed sides, 19th-early 20th century	1	23	
	Very pale green bottle, embossed trademark: ']LE…BOS…& SPALDING' (link). Probably Lee & Green Ltd, late 19th-early 20th century	2	124	
	Very pale green bottles (>2), 19th-early 20th century(2 link)	9	403	
	Dark olive green bottle, 19th-20th century	1	17	
	Dark brown bottle top with rubber stopper marked 'BARRETT & ELERS, PATENT, LONDON, RD NO 75329', late 19th-early 20th century	1	43	
	Colourless drinking glass base, 19th-20th century	1	1	
	Pink and white streaked vessel glass, possibly Nailsea, 19th-20th century	1	1	
	Milky white vessel, 19th century	1	1	
	Very pale blue green rectangular bottle, punt mark W (or M) in lozenge, complete, late 19th century	1	352	
	Pale green bottle, applied rim, complete, late 19th century	1	550	
TOTALS		47	4609	

Provenance
The glass was recovered from pit fill (4035), a dump in a pond (4102), and a ditch/pit fill (4606). A few pieces are marked as being from relatively local mineral water manufacturers, particularly Spalding. Others are from further afield, including Norwich, and Kimberley in Nottinghamshire.

Range
Much of the glass (almost 90%) is from vessels, mostly bottles, with only a few fragments from windows. There are a few pieces of medicine or poison bottles, with one, from (4035) having dosage indicators moulded into the body.

Many of the bottles were mineral water or pop containers and while these were probably manufactured in major glass producing areas, with one marked as a Castleford (Yorkshire) product, several are trademarked with details of the mineral water breweries. A number of these were fairly local, mostly from the firm of Lee & Green which had factories in nearby Spalding, as well as Sleaford, Bourne and Boston. There is another from Spalding, used by the firm of Measures and Levesley. Others from more distant sources including a bottle from the Kimberley (Nottinghamshire) brewery which was established in 1832, and one from the Morgan mineral water manufactory in Norwich. The Morgan family acquired an existing brewery in 1844 and it became known as Morgan & Co in 1879.

There is also a fragment of a pink and white streaked decorative vessel. This may be a product of the Nailsea glassworks (Wills 1981, 52).

Potential
The glass is of limited potential and could be discarded. The abundant material from (4102) and (4606) indicate these are refuse dumps, with (4102) being specifically used for the discard of bottles.

CLAY PIPE
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

Condition
The clay pipe is in good condition.

Results
Table 10, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
4613					1	1	3	Stem	19th century
Totals					1	1	3		

Provenance
The clay pipe was recovered from a gully fill. It is probably a fairly local product, perhaps made in Holbeach.

Range
A single 19th century pipe stem was recovered.

Potential
The clay pipe is of limited potential and could be discarded.

OTHER FINDS
By Gary Taylor and Denise Buckley

Introduction
A large quantity of other finds, 137 items together weighing in excess of 7kg were recovered.

Condition
Although some items are fragmentary, they are in generally good condition. The iron objects are corroded.

Results
Table 11, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
1621	Stone	Degenerated lava quern	1	111	Late Saxon +
1624	Ceramic? Fired earth?	Hearth bottom? Three pieces (2 adjoining).	3	529	
	Ferrous concretion	Natural panning	5	16	
2813	Concrete	Drain collar, 19th-20th century	1	73	19th-20th century
	Ferrous concretion	Natural panning	2	85	
4012	Stone	Lava quern fragment, topstone. Worn smooth on one side, hole in opposite side (handle, not pivot)	1	247	Late Saxon +
4017	Worked bone	Needle, in two adjoining pieces, 1500mm long x 6mm diameter. Slightly flattened, trimmed and squared off at one end with 4mm diameter hole drilled through to form the eye. Highly polished. Point missing. Small find /3\	2	12	
4022	Stone	Degenerated lava quern, burnt, link, Late Saxon +	2	47	Medieval?
	Iron	Possible spur fragment; L-shaped, bar with wide flat section at right angles, medieval?	1	66	
4024	Worked bone	One end of a pin beater, probably originally single ended. Sub-rectangular cross-section 5mm thick, 14mm wide, tapering to a point. Surface is highly polished with some abrasion at the point, 10th–12th century. Small find /5\.	1	6	10th–12th century
	Worked bone	Fragment of bird bone 51mm long. It is highly polished and cut and smoothed at one end which suggests it has been worked. Possibly part of a whistle? 11th century+? Small find /6\.	1	1	
4026	Stone	Lava quern fragments. One piece has smooth face and some tooling marks on opposite side. Late Saxon +	2	258	Late Saxon +
	Mortar?	Mortar? Amorphous flattish plates of light grey mortar or clay, with occasional charcoal inclusions	5	207	
4035	Fire residue	Cinder	1	3	
	Mortar	Mortar, off-white	1	3	
	Stone	Natural	1	31	
4037	Mortar	Mortar, off-white	1	15	
4042	Lead	Studs	2	14	19th-20th century
	Copper alloy	Thimble, late post-medieval	1	3	
	Copper alloy	Button, 19th-20th century	1	3	
	Copper alloy	Jetton, Queen Anne, 1702-9	1	3	
	Copper alloy	Uncertain, possible ferrule / crotal bell / toy cauldron, post-medieval	1	3	
	Copper alloy	Probable belt fitting/mount, early post-medieval	1	2	
	Lead	Spindle-whorl, sub-circular, c. 25mm diameter, c. 10mm thick, perforation 9mm diameter	1	43	
	Lead	Possible line sinker; rolled rectangular sheet	1	29	
4204	Slag	Fuel ash slag	1	1	
4211	Stone	Whetstone fragment 85mm long x 22mm wide x 10mm thick. Tapered at one end. Late Saxon +	1	54	Late Saxon +
	Stone	Burnt stone	1	115	
4418	Fired earth	Fired earth	3	1	
4426	Stone	Burnt stone	1	29	

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
4438	Ferrous concretion?	Ferrous concretion, probably natural	2	1	
4514	Charcoal	Charcoal	12	10	
4606	Iron	Nail	1	3	19th-20th century
	Iron	Barbed wire, 19th-20th century	5	10	
	Carbon	Slate pencil, 19th-early 20th century	1	1	
	Iron	Bar/spike	1	37	
	Iron	Rectangular strip, 270mm long, approx. 35mm wide, 7mm thick. T cross bar at one end L-terminal at other. Probable machinery part, Late post-medieval	1	652	
4611	Charcoal	Charcoal	5	7	
4629	Fire residue	Coal	1	4	
4652	Copper alloy	Jetton, French. Small find /7\. 15th-16th century	1	2	15th-16th century
	Lead	Twisted sheet/offcut	1	22	
47015	Charcoal	Charcoal	2	1	
47033	Coprolite?	Coprolite? Solidified earth	1	5	Late Saxon +
	Stone	Degenerated lava quern, smooth on 1 face, burnt? All link. Late Saxon +	3	121	
47034	Iron	Nail?	1	5	
47042	Stone	Degenerated lava quern. Two linking pieces of topstone with wide central hole; another piece with smooth face	4	394	Late Saxon +
47054	Worked bone	Sledge runner, in two adjoining pieces. Made from a horse metatarsus, 2408mm long x 73mm wide tapering to 40mm x 25mm deep. It has a vertical fixing hole of 15mm diameter drilled through the wide end. The underside (gliding surface) is trimmed, smoothed and polished and also worn through near the fixing hole. Small find /4\. Post-medieval	2	225	Post-medieval
	Iron	Blade with scale tang, 13th century +	1	35	
47059	Solidified earth?	Solidified earth	3	26	10th-14th century
	Iron	Possible fiddle-key nail, 10th-14th century	1	2	
47074	Stone	Natural	1	28	
47079	Stone	Degenerated lava quern, 2 link	4	91	Late Saxon +
4805	Copper alloy	Sheet, possible tube. From sample <3>	5	1	Post-medieval?
4806	Copper alloy	Thin plate, largest fragment 48x30mm. Small find /1\.	3	3	
4808	Charcoal	Charcoal	2	1	
	Stone	Flake, Lincolnshire Limestone. Natural?	1	93	
	Stone	Gritstone, possibly part of quern but no surviving faces. Natural?	1	218	
4809	Worked bone	Possibly a needle. Thin, curved, tapering to sharp point, 40mm long. Eye missing. Surface polished. Small find /2\.	1	1	
4810	Fire residue	Coal	2	3	
	Stone	Lincolnshire Limestone fragment, quite fossiliferous. Natural?	1	292	
4812	Stone	Possible door jamb fragment, though could also be a fragment of a trough. Possible evidence of exposure to heat. Lincolnshire Limestone	1	1865	medieval
5006	Slag	Fuel ash slag	1	6	
	Stone	Cobble, area of pecking on 1 surface	1	372	
	Ferrous concretion	Ferrous concretion, possible nail	1	8	
	Ferrous concretion	Ferrous concretion	1	9	
	Iron	Sheet	1	12	
5007	Slag	Fuel ash slag	1	13	
	Iron	Nail?	1	12	
	Stone	Burnt stone	1	129	
5009	Coprolite?	Ferrous concretion? Coprolite?	1	22	
5012	Iron	Nails, almost totally decayed and encrusted	2	16	
	Slag	Fuel ash slag, some vitrified	3	34	
	Copper alloy	Mount with hole for suspension loop. Filled with ?cement	1	6	
5103	Stone	Degenerated lava quern, smooth on one face, 3 link	4	286	Late Saxon +

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
TOTALS			137	7094	

Provenance
The other finds were recovered from ditch fills (1621, 1624, 4012, 4017, 4022, 4211, 4418, 4611, 4733, 4734, 4759, 4774, 4779, 5103), deposits (4024, 4026), pit fills (4035, 5006, 5007, 5009), pit/ditch fills (4204, 4514, 4606, 4629, 5012), land drain (4426), possible channel fill (4438), creek/pond fills (4715, 4742, 4754), and gully fills (4805, 4806, 4808, 4809, 4810).

Range
A range of other finds, predominantly of metal, bone and stone, were recovered.

Several worked bone implements were recovered, including a sledge runner made from a horse metatarsus. The vertical fixing hole indicates that this is a runner, not a skate. Bone-mounted sledges may have appeared in Britain in the mid-late Saxon period and continued in use, with examples being observed in the Fens until the late 19th century. Archaeological examples are uncommon in England and all are from Fenland or riverine environments, as is this one and also one found recently at Parsons Drove, Cambridgeshire (Archaeological Project Services 2015). Other examples have been found at Stixwould in the Witham Valley of Lincolnshire, Ramsey in Huntingdonshire, Mildenhall Fen and London (MacGregor 2015). Another example is on display in the Norris Museum at St. Ives, Cambridgeshire, and was probably found in that general locality.

A large bone needle was recovered. It is too large to have been used with anything other than the coarsest of material and is possibly a netting needle (MacGregor 2015).

The other possible needle is small and curved with a sharp point. However, the head and, therefore, the eye are missing.

A fragment of bird bone was also recovered. This was highly polished and cut at one end. It is possibly part of a whistle, but there is not enough of it to be certain. In York whistles appear to date from the 11th century and later (MacGregor *et al*. 1999, 1977).

A partial pin beater was also recovered. These were used in weaving to manipulate threads on the loom. Flattened, single-ended beaters-cum-pickers such as this have been found in late 9th-12th century contexts in York (MacGregor *et al*. 1999, 1967).

Amongst the stone items are numerous fragments of lava quern, much of it decayed. This material was imported to Britain from the Rhineland from the Roman period and then again from the Late Saxon to medieval periods (Mann 1982, 21-2). It is likely that all the recovered pieces are of the later period, though none of the fragments are distinctive or indicate specific dates.

A partial whetstone was recovered from (4211). This is probably made from Norwegian Ragstone, a fine grained micaceous schist quarried at Eidsborg in southern Norway. Whetstones of this material, and probably part-formed blocks or rods of the stone itself, were imported from the late 9th century and it was more common than local stones throughout the earlier medieval period (Mann 1982, 30). However, in Norwich, whetstones of this material are particularly common in the later medieval period, from the mid 14th to mid/late 16th centuries, though occur from the Late Saxon period (Mills and Moore 2009, 708-9; 176). Low numbers in the earlier periods suggest, however, that Norwegian Ragstone whetstones were not common during the Saxon period and only became widely available from the later 13th century (Shaffney 2011). There is a suggestion, based on evidence from Northampton, that importation of Norwegian Ragstone hones continued into the post-medieval period, but supporting evidence from elsewhere is lacking. On the basis of their size it has been inferred that Norwegian Ragstone hones were commonly used for sharpening small edged tools and there has been some suggestion that they were used by leather and iron-workers to keep their equipment effective (Mills and Moore 2009, 709).

Apart from stone tools, a single fragment of worked stone was recovered. Possibly a door jamb or fragment from a trough it is generally uninformative, although if the former would imply stone buildings at the site. A number of stone fragments in Lincolnshire Limestone are also recorded along with a coarse sandstone/gritstone fragment. These show no sign of having been worked and could be natural in origin. However, most stone found in the fens is likely to have been imported there.

A variety of metal items was also retrieved. A scale-tang knife was recovered from (47054). Although this example is lacking any distinctive features, scale-tang knives were introduced in the 13th or 14th century, providing some indication of dating (Goodall 1993, 128).

A possible fiddle-key nail was obtained from (47059). Fiddle-key nails were used for affixing horseshoes of early medieval types, generally dating from about the 10th to 14th centuries (Clark 2004, 86-7).

Two jettons were recovered. One, from (4042), has the bust of Queen Anne on the observe with the legend: ANNA DG MAG BR FR ET HIB R ('Anne, by the grace of God, Queen of Great Britain, France and Ireland'). The reverse shows a large church and the legend: FVNDAMENTVM QVIETIS NOSTRAE ('the basis of our peace') with ECCLES ANGL ('church of England') in the exergue. The building façade relates to the important role of the Protestant church and was a type used on jettons of Lazarus Gottlieb Lauffer, a Nuremburg maker whose floruit was from 1663 to 1709. The latter part of this period broadly coincides with the reign of Queen Anne, 1702-14.

The second jetton, from (4652), is French and bears the French shield but the legend is illegible due to corrosion around edge.

A spindle-whorl, made of lead, was recovered from (4042). A probable fishing line sinker, again made from lead, was retrieved from the same context.

There are a few pieces of fuel ash slag, most of it from Trench 50. Fuel ash slag is produced in high temperature processes when silicates in clays are in the presence of alkalis found in plant ashes, and does necessarily indicate metallurgical activities (English Heritage 2001, 21)

Potential
The other finds are of variable potential. Some items provide indications of dating but the main significance of much of the material is from the functional evidence it yields.

The pieces of quern indicate the domestic grinding of foodstuffs. Textile production, probably on a domestic-scale, is indicated by the pin beater and spindle-whorl. The bone needles may also have been used in this process.

Fishing may be implied by the possible line sinker. High temperatures processes, though of uncertain nature, are indicated by fuel ash slag.

The sledge runner is of note and provides a notable addition to a small corpus of such finds (though it seems likely that, perhaps due to mis-identification, they are under-represented in the archaeological record). It also provides functional evidence of the uses of sledges in the vicinity of the site.

SPOT DATING
The dating in Table 12 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 12, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
1614	10th-12th	
1616	10th-12th	
1621	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
1624		
2813	19th-20th	
4005	18th -19th	Date on CBM
4007	12th-E13th	
4008	10th-12th	
4012	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
4017		
4022	10th-12th	
4024	10th-12th	

4026	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
4034	19th	
4035	19th century	Based on glass; ceramics are M17th-18th
4036	Late Medieval -Post Medieval	
4037	M17th-18th	
4042	19th-20th	
4102	L19th-E20th	
4204	12th	
4211	11th-M12th	
4407	11th-12th	
4408	11th-12th	
4411	11th-12th	
4414	11th-M12th	
4417	M11th-12th	
4418		
4420	10th-11th	
4421	10th-11th	
4426		
4428	12th	
4429	11th-M12th	
4436	11th-12th	
4438		
4445	11th-12th	
4514		
4606	19th	
4609	Roman or Post Roman	
4611		
4613	17th-18th – 19th on clay pipe	
4618	Late Medieval -Post Medieval	
4623	M17th-18th	
4629	Late Medieval -Post Medieval	
4652	15th-16th	
47013	L12th-14th	
47015		
47019	L12th-E13th	
47021	12th-E13th	
47033	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
47034		
47042	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
47054	Post-medieval	Based on bone
47059	10th-12th	
47061	12th-E13th	
47071	12th-E13th	
47074	12th	
47077	11th-12th	
47078	12th-E13th	
47079	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
4804	10th-12th	
4805	11th – 12th or Post-medieval	Later date based on 1 ?post medieval metal item and a tiny flake of 16-17th century date recovered from Sample 3
4806		
4808		
4809		
4810	12th-E13th	
4812	12th-E13th	
4812	11th-12th	
4814	11th-12th	
5006		
5007		

5009		
5012		
5101	11th-M12th	
5103	Late Saxon or later	Based on stone
5119	10th-12th	
5142	12th-E13th	
5144	10th-12th	
5147	12th-E13th	
5149	12th-E13th	
5803	Late Medieval -Post Medieval	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Area	Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fab	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
16	16	1614	SNEOT		?	1	1	12		Base?	BS; ?ID; heat affected/clinkered	10th-12th
16	16	1616	SNEOT		Jar	5	1	16		BSS	Thick external carbon deposits; degraded shell; ?ID	10th-12th
40	40	4005	CIST		Drinking vessel	1	1	2		BS		L15th-E17th
40	40	4007	LEMS		Jar	1	1	12	Internal slashing within rim?	BS	Bleached; spalled	12th-E13th
40	40	4008	SNEOT		Jar	2	2	41		BS; Base angle	?Internal bleaching; external sooting	10th-12th
40	40	4022	SNEOT		Inturned rim bowl	1	1	30		Rim	Bleached	10th-12th
40	40	4024	SNEOT		Jar	2	1	18		BSS	Abraded; sooted; leached;	10th-12th
40	40	4034	PEARL		Plate	1	1	20	Blue transfer print - floral design	Base		19th
40	40	4035	BERTH	Bright orange; +Ca	Jar or bowl	1	1	23		BS		17th-18th
40	40	4035	BL	Dark orange; +flint;+Fe	Jar or bowl	1	1	15		BS		M17th-18th

Area	Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fab	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
40	40	4037	BL	Dark orange	Large bowl	1	1	121		Rim		M17th-18th
41	41	4102	PEARL		Dish	1	1	49	Blue transfer print - floral design	Base		19th
41	41	4102	WHITE		Plate	1	1	118		Base	Back stamped "POPPY RH&S"; R Hammersley and son; 1885-1905	L19th-E20th
42	42	4204	ST	B/C	Jar	2	2	1		Rim; BS	1 pc sooted; lid seated; thin pale yellow-green glaze	11th-12th
42	42	4204	ST	B/C	Jar	2	2	9		BSS	1pc sooted; unglazed	11th-12th
42	42	4204	EMHM		Jar	1	1	9	Notched rim	Rim	Everted rim	12th-E13th
42	42	4204	EMHM		Jar	1	1	2		BS		12th-E13th
42	42	4211	THETT		Jar	1	1	13		Rim	Long everted/lid seated	
42	42	4211	ST	A/D?	Jar	1	1	17		Rim	Hollow everted; burnt; sooted; bleached	
42	42	4211	ST	A/D?	Jar or pitcher	1	1	17		Rim	Everted rim; thin yellow glaze	11th-12th
42	42	4211	ST	?	Jar or pitcher	4	1	39		Base; BSS	Burnt reduced; sooted; bleached; unglazed	11th-12th
42	42	4211	ST	B/C	Pitcher	1	1	4		Spout	Thick patchy yellow glaze	11th-12th
42	42	4211	SNEOT		Jar	2	1	6		BSS	Sooted interior	
42	42	4211	THETT		Jar	2	2	58		Rims	Everted rims; sooted exterior	11th-M12th
42		4211	ST	A/D	?	2	1	3		BSS	Sooted; unglazed; Sample 2 Sample 2	10th-11th
42		4211	SNEOT		Jar?	2	1	1		Rim; BS	Abraded; ?ID; Sample 2	
42	42	4211	SNEOT		Inturned rim jar or bowl	1	1	21		BS		10th-12th
42	42	4211	THETT		Jar	2	2	25	1pc scored wavy line	BSS	Sooted exterior	11th-M12th
44	44	4407	ST	B/C	Jar	1	1	2		BS	Sooted; unglazed	11th-12th
44	44	4408	ST	B/C	Jar	1	1	22		BS	Sooted; spalled; unglazed	11th-12th
44	44	4411	ST	B/C	Jar	4	1	15		Rim; BS	Sooted; everted rim; unglazed	11th-12th

Area	Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fab	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
44	44	4414	SNEOT		Jar	1	1	4		BS	Bleached; sooted exterior	10th-12th
44	44	4414	THETT		Jar	2	2	10		BS	Bleached; sooted	11th-M12th
44	44	4417	ST	?	Jar	1	1	1		BS	Sooted; unglazed	
44	44	4417	ST	B/C?	Jar	4	1	107		Base; BSS	Bleached; burnt; white external deposit; thick ?olive green glaze	M11th-12th
44	44	4420	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	13		Base	Sooted; unglazed; burnt reduced	10th-11th
44	44	4421	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	10		BS	Bleached?; glaze?	10th-11th
44	44	4428	ST	B/C	Jar or Pitcher	1	1	21		Base	Thick olive green glaze	12th
44	44	4429	THETT		Jar	1	1	4		Base	Sooted	11th-M12th
44	44	4429	ST	A/D	Jar	1	1	1		BS	Abraded; flake; sooted; unglazed	
44	44	4436	ST	B/C?	Jar	1	1	12		Base	Thick carbon deposit on base	11th-12th
44	44	4436	ST	?	Jar	1	1	2		Rim frag	Sooted; ?ID	
44	44	4445	ST	B/C	Jar	1	1	20		BS	Sooted; thick ?yellow glaze	11th-12th
44	44	4445	ST	?	Jar	1	1	7		BS	Sooted exterior; unglazed	
46	46	4606	PORC		Cup or bowl	1	1	1	Gold leaf along rim	Rim		19th
46	46	4613	BERTH	Buff; Fe slip	?	2	1	7		BSS		17th-18th
46	46	4623	BL	MP type	?	1	1	5		BS		16th-18th
46	46	4623	BL	Bright Orange	Bowl	1	1	19		Rim		M17th-18th
47	47	47013	BOUA	?	Jug	1	1	2		BS	?ID	L12th-14th
47	47	47019	BOUA	EMHM	Jar	3	1	36		BSS	?ID-ELY	12th-E13th
47	47	47019	BOUA		Jug	1	1	2	Applied strips	BS		L12th-14th
47	47	47021	EMHM		Jar	1	1	5		BS	Sooted exterior	12th-E13th
47	47	47059	SNEOT		Jar	1	1	14		BS	Sooted; bleached over the break	10th-12th
47	47	47059	SNEOT		Jar	3	2	16		BS	Sooted exterior	10th-12th
47	47	47061	LEMS		Jar	1	1	5		BS	Abraded; oxidised over the break	12th-E13th
47	47	47071	LEMS		Jar	1	1	5		BS	Abraded; bleached?	12th-E13th

Area	Tr	Cxt	Cname	Sub Fab	Form	NoS	NoV	W(g)	Decoration	Part	Description	Date
47	47	47074	ST	?	Jar	1	1	9		BS	Sooted exterior; unglazed	11th-12th
47	47	47074	EMHM		Jar	2	1	7		BSS	Burnt	12th-E13th
47	47	47074	SNEOT		Jar	1	1	6		BS	Sooted	10th-12th
47	47	47077	ST	B/C	Jar	2	1	34		BS	Sooted	11th-12th
47	47	47078	LEMS		Jar	1	1	4		BS	Sooted exterior	12th-E13th
48	48	4804	ST	?	Jar	1	1	2		BS	Thick carbon deposit; burnt	10th-12th
48	48	4805	ST	?	Jar?	1	1	2		BS	Sooted exterior; unglazed; Sample 3	10th-12th
48	48	4805	THETT		?	1	1	4		BS	Orange margins; ?ID - TORK?; Sample 3	11th-M12th
48	48	4805	GRE		?	1	1	1		BS	Tiny flake; may well be intrusive; Sample 3	16th-17th
48	48	4810	EMHM		Jar	1	1	7		BS		12th-E13th
48	48	4810	LEMS		Jar	1	1	7		BS	Sooted	12th-E13th
48	48	4812	THETT		Jar	1	1	33		Rim	Everted rim; bleached	11th-M12th
48	48	4812	EMHM		Jar	1	1	4		BS	Sooted	12th-E13th
48	48	4812	ST	B/C	Jar	1	1	2		BS	Sooted exterior; unglazed	11th-12th
48	48	4814	ST	B/C	Jar or Pitcher	1	1	3		BS	Thick yellow glaze	11th-12th
51	51	5101	THETT		Jar	1	1	13		Rim	Upright lid-seated rim; ?ID	11th-M12th
51	51	5119	SNEOT		Jar	1	1	4		BS	Soot	10th-12th
51	51	5142	LEMS		Jar	1	1	26		Base	?ID; bleached	12th-E13th
51	51	5144	SNEOT		Jar	1	1	3		BS	Flake	10th-12th
51	51	5147	LEMS		Jar	2	1	6		BSS	Bleached	12th-E13th
51	51	5149	EMHM		?	1	1	1		BS		12th-E13th

Archive catalogue 2, Fired Clay

Tr	Cxt	Classification	Fabric	Fragments	Weight	Comment	Date
16	1614	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	9	Flake; abundant fine white mica; single rough surface with brush/wipe marks; bleached?	Undated
16	1621	BRIQUETAGE?	Oxidised; fine; Fe	8	225	Fresh; circular vesicules - ?Ca; soft; flat surfaces; sharp corner edge; briquetage or kiln/oven furniture?; one pc possible wattle impressions?	Undated
16	1624	BRIQUETAGE?	Oxidised; fine	1	44	Abraded; rough surface with bevelled corner edge; vesicular; leached organic and ?Ca; slight bleaching; crude; object?	Undated

Tr	Cxt	Classification	Fabric	Fragments	Weight	Comment	Date
16	1624	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	4	5	Abraded; flakes; flat surface; heavy bleaching	Undated
16	1624	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	2	196	Abraded; surfaceless; hearth lining?	Undated
16	1624	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	22	Corner; burnt; sooted; abraded; vesicular	Undated
16	1624	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	5	Surfaceless; amorphous	Undated
40	4005	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous	1	1	Surfaceless; soft	Undated
40	4005	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	9	Abraded; surfaceless; hard	Undated
40	4014	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous; mica	1	25	Abraded; soft; amorphous	Undated
40	4022	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	6	85	Abraded; surfaceless; soft	Undated
40	4037	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; Fe	1	22	Bleached surfaces; vesicular; 31mm thick; struck upper; rough underside; CBM?	Undated
40	4037	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous	1	17	Wedge shaped piece; briquetage or CBM?; high fired; smooth surfaces	Undated
42	4211	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	7	33	Single area of rough flat surface; sample 2; abraded	Undated
44	4407	DAUB?	Incompletely oxidised; fine sandy	1	2	Amorphous; hard; possible stick/wattle impressions	Undated
44	4414	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous; mica	1	2	Abraded; soft; amorphous	Undated
44	4421	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous	5	51	Abraded; soft; amorphous; one piece burnt and sooted; pale ashy deposit; hearth lining?	Undated
44	4423	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	62	Abraded; amorphous; sooted; vesicules - ?Ca	Undated
44	4435	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine ; mica	4	301	Abraded; wattle impressions?; vesicular; single area of rough surface with slight curve; structural? - oven/kiln?	Undated
44	4436	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	2	29	Single flake with smooth flat surface; vesicular; surface sooted	Undated
44	4444	BRIQUETAGE?	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	5	157	Curved edge and flat base; circular/sub circular prop/briquetage; bleached surfaces	Medieval ?
44	4445	BRIQUETAGE?	Oxidised; fine; mica	4	69	Joining fragments; curved smooth surface; slightly bleached; vesicules; briquetage	Undated
45	4506	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	13	Single flake with smooth flat surface; bleached over the break	Undated
45	4506	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous	3	6	Abraded; soft; amorphous	Undated
45	4514	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	5	21	Abraded; soft; amorphous	Undated
47	47009	FCLAY	Incompletely oxidised; fine; mica	2	15	Abraded; sooted over the break; flat surface?	Undated
47	47014	OBJECT	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	35	Curved item with struck or wiped upper surface; container or plate?;	
47	47015	FCLAY	Incompletely oxidised; mica	1	20	Abraded; amorphous; weathered piece of baked clay	Undated
47	47015	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica	1	24	Hard; surfaceless; amorphous; CBM?	Undated

Tr	Cxt	Classification	Fabric	Fragments	Weight	Comment	Date
47	47026	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica	5	83	Vesicular; grass/organic impressions; abraded; single area of rough surface; amorphous	Undated
47	47033	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine calcareous; mica	2	29	Soft; grass/linear impressions within fabric; area of gently undulating surface; one pc rough one pc smooth	Undated
47	47033	OBJECT?	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	2	26	Smooth curved surface	Undated
47	47034	DAUB	Oxidised; fine calcareous; mica	1	9	Thick wattle impressions; vesicular; organic material within clay; yellow deposit over the break	Undated
47	47034	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica	1	3	Flake; partially bleached	Undated
47	47037	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	2	93	Abraded; vesicules; amorphous	Undated
47	47038	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	2	Abraded; surfaceless; soft	Undated
47	47042	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica	3	22	Burnt/sooted	Undated
47	47042	FCLAY	Oxidised; light firing	1	16	Abundant charred vegetable matter and vesicules; bleached?; amorphous; abraded	Undated
47	47043	DAUB?	Oxidised; fine	2	66	Abraded; curved surface; thick ?lathe impression; bleached surfaces	Undated
47	47044	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	7	Abraded; surfaceless; amorphous; pale white/yellow deposit	Undated
47	47059	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	4	14	Abraded; soft; amorphous	Undated
47	47059	OBJECT	Oxidised; fine	1	141	Crudely formed; corner fragment; vesicular/organic impressions; clay block/stand or prop	Undated
47	47078	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica	1	12	Abraded; surfaceless; amorphous	Undated
50	5009	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	2	Abraded; amorphous	Undated
51	5109	OBJECT	Oxidised; fine	12	315	Curved face and sharp corner pieces; shaped curved item - prop or stand?; kiln or oven furniture?; briquetage?	Undated
51	5119	FCLAY	Incompletely oxidised; fine	1	5	Amorphous; abraded	Undated
51	5119	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine	1	3	Amorphous; vesicules	Undated
51	5119	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	18	Rough lower surface and smoothed top surface; 15mm thick; crude; curved plate or tube?	Undated
51	5121	DAUB	Oxidised; fine; Fe	7	136	Thick linear impressions in one piece; one pieces with smooth curved surface - oven?; soft	Undated
51	5121	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	4	Thumb/finger tip impressions	Undated
51	5123	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine mica; Fe	28	347	Mostly abraded; some grass impressions; sample 1	Undated
51	5124	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; mica; Fe	1	13	Sooted; amorphous; abraded	Undated
51	5124	OBJECT	Oxidised; fine	4	117	Curved surfaces/corner edge; kiln furniture/briquetage?; vesicular	Medieval ?
51	5143	FCLAY	Oxidised; fine; Fe	1	230	Abraded; vesicules; amorphous	Undated

*Archive catalogue 3 Undiagnostic Fired Clay from Samples**

Tr	Cxt	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Sample	Comments
42	4211	Oxidised; fine	48	29	2	Abraded; formless; some signs of bleaching
46	4650	Oxidised; fine/ fine calcareous	26	4	5	Abraded; formless; some ceramic building material? ; some probably post medieval CBM
48	4805	Oxidised; fine	3	1	3	Abraded; formless
51	5123	Oxidised; fine;	>500	327	1	Abraded; formless

**Undiagnostic Items measuring under 10mm in diameter*

Appendix 3

HOLBEACH – HBHG15
ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSESSMENT

Evaluation excavations conducted by Archaeological Project Services at Holbeach resulted in the collection of seven environmental soils samples (Table 1) from five of the evaluation trenches. The samples derive from medieval, mainly 13th century deposits. The samples were submitted to the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy for processing and assessment.

Table 1. Environmental samples collected from the evaluation at Holbeach – HBHG15

Sample	context	Trench	feature	Volume l.	Weight kg.	Provisional date
001	5123	51	Dark silt deposit in linear 5120	38	410	
002	4211	42	Dark silt deposit	35	36	11th – mid 12th
003	48	48	Orange silt – ditch dump?	38	40	
004	4836	48	Basal fill of moat	18	20	Med
005	4650	46	Base fill of moat 4643	19	21	
006	4641	46	Basal fill of pond 4642	20	24	
007	4441	44	Basal fill of 4406	9	10	

Methods

The soil samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill and an estimate made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerscale present. The residue was then discarded. The flot of each sample was studied using x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (i.e. snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the samples.

The individual components of the samples were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 2-3. Sub-samples of waterlogged contexts 4836, 4650 and 4641 were retained for possible pollen analysis.

Results

Sample 1 washed down to a residue of fired earth suggesting that the deposit may have represented a hearth or bonfire within the ditch or a dump. The residue of sample 2 was similarly dominated by fired earth but with concreted silts as well. The residue of sample 3 included a little stone, concreted silts and just a little fired earth. Samples 4-7 were reduced to very small residues of silt lumps/concretions and in sample 7 abundant fine calcareous tubes not identified at this stage of analysis.

Table 2: Holbeach – HBHG15. Finds from the processed samples

sample no.	context	sample vol. l.	residue volume (ml)	pot no/wt (g)	fired earth wt. g.	slag wt g.	magnetic wt. g.	hammer-scale	marine shell wt g.	bird eggshell	bone wt g.	
001	5123	38	700		686		0.4		0.5	0.2	4.8	Magnetic all fired earth
002	4211	35	300	4/4	63		0.4	3 flakes	1.4	0.4	14	Corrosion products in magnetic fraction
003	48	38	190	2/6	0.8		-		3.6	2.4	7	5x Cu alloy fragments
004	4836	18	30				0.2		0.5	3	14.4	
005	4650	19	30		4.4	0.8	-				9	
006	4641	20	50				-		6.4	2	18.8	
007	4441	9	40				-				0.5	

+ - present

Table 3: Holbeach – HBHG15. Environmental finds from the processed samples

sample no.	cont. no.	sample vol. (l)	flot vol. (ml)	charcoal *	charred grain *	chaff *	charred seed *	water-logged seed	water-logged insect	snail*	comment
001	5123	38	104	4/5	5		5			5	Charred barley, rye, wheat?, oat/grass, pea/bean; eggshell-cf chicken, cf goose; sheep/goat, mole, field vole, wood mouse, frog/toad, stickleback, small fish; mussel shell; snails – *Segmetina complanata, Vertigo* sp.*, Cecilioides acicula, Planorbis laevis, Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia excentrica, Glabra truncatula, Planorbis contortus, Anisus leucostoma, Aplexa* sp.*, Cochlicopa* sp.*, Planorbis planorbis,* Succinidae*, Vallonia colstata, Hydrobia ulvae, Lymneae peregra*
002	4211	35	97	4/5	5		3			3	Charred oat and barley, pea/bean; eggshell-cf chicken, cf goose?; sheep/goat, cattle size, rodent, frog/toad, duck, eel, small fish, lots fish scales; cockle, mussel; snails – *Aplexa* sp.*, Punctum pygmaeum, Vertigo* sp.*, Vitrea* sp.*, Hydrobia ventrosa, Anisus leucostoma, Planorbis vortex, Planorbis albus, Lymneae peregra, Vallonia pulchella, Cochlicopa* sp.*, Trichia hispida,* Succinideae*, Carychium* sp.*, Vallonia excentrica, Cecilioides acicula, Physa fontinalis, Bithynia tentaculata, Hydrobia ulvae, Planorbis corneus*;
003	48	38	51	2/5	4		2			5	Charred, wheat, barley, oats; eggshell – cf chicken, cf goose; chicken, vole, frog/toad, eel, small fish; mussel, cockle, bivalve; *Daphnia* sp.; snails – *Vertigo pygmaea, Bithynia tentaculata, Vallonia excentrica, Nesovitrea hammonis, Vitrea* sp.*, Punctum pygmaeum, Vertigo* sp.*, Vallonia pulchella, Vallonia costata, Glabra truncatula, Oxychilus* sp.*, Trichia hispida, Carychium* sp.*, Vallonia* sp.*, Anisus leucostoma, Planorbis planorbis, Cochlicopa* sp.*,* Succinidae*, Aegopinella nitidula*; ostracods
004	4836	18	250#	1/1	1			3	3	3	Waterlogged wood and twigs; abundant waterlogged seed and insect; indet charred grain; rodent, frog/toad, indet fish; snails - *Cepeae* sp.*, Bithynia tentaculata,* bivalve*, Hydrobia ulvae, Vallonia costata, Vallonia excentrica, Bithynia leachii, Vitrea* sp.*, Oxychilus* sp.,
005	4650	19	200#	2/2				5	3		Abundant waterlogged seeds and insects; Sheep/goat, field vole, water vole?, rodent, frog/toad, stickleback; *Daphnia* sp.
006	4641	20	250#					4	4		Waterlogged wood and twigs; abundant waterlogged seed and insect; sheep/goat, cattle, small fish; eggshell – cf chicken; cockle, mussel;
007	4441	9	5	1/1	1		1			4	Charred barley, wheat ?; rodent, frog/toad, small fish ; cockle; cockle, mussel; snails – *Bithynia tentaculata, Anisus leucostoma, Lymneae peregra, Glabra truncatula, Planorbis planorbis, Vallonia costata,* Succinidae; ostracods

*frequency 1=1-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-150; 4=151-250; 5=>250; + present.
waterlogged flot

A range of archaeological finds were present in the samples including pottery, fired earth, a very little glassy slag, rare hammerscale, marine shell, animal bone and bird eggshell, with some of the bone and eggshell burnt (Table 2). Five small fragments of copper alloy in context 48 appear to derive from a tubular object. The bones include domestic mammals and birds, fish including eel and a few small vertebrate remains from the native species – wood mouse, field vole, probable water vole, mole and frog or toad.

Three of the samples, contexts 4836, 4650 and 4641 were taken from deposits with good waterlogged conditions and the preservation of uncharred wood, plant and insect macrofossils. Small sub-samples of unprocessed deposits were saved from these three contexts for potential pollen analysis. The remaining samples produced only charred wood and plant macrofossils, apart from a few uncharred seeds that could be intrusive.

Charred grain was abundant in contexts 5123, 4211 and 48, along with numerous charred weed seeds, although no chaff was observed. This would appear to reflect both the product and by-product from fine sieving the crop. Barley, oats, rye and wheat have all been preliminarily identified and pea and/or bean remains are also present. Traces of charred cereal occur in two of the other samples and may be present in the waterlogged flots (Table 3), but time has not allowed the thorough sorting of these for the assessment. The waterlogged deposits (samples 4-6) include abundant plant debris, including wood, roundwood, twigs, seeds, insects and waterflea (*Daphnia* sp.). The preservation of these remains is good and indicates that the deposits have probably remained saturated since their deposition. A quick scan of a small sample of these waterlogged flots indicates a range of plant and insect remains in sufficient abundance to warrant detailed study.

Five of the samples produced numerous snail shells (Table 3). None were observed in the remaining two but since the organic flots were only briefly scanned some shells may survive in these deposits too. The shells are dominated by aquatic species but a few shells of terrestrial taxa are present. The numerous aquatic shells in contexts 5123, 4211 and 48 (non-waterlogged deposits) clearly indicate that these features carried permanent water and suggest that the past water table may have been quite high. The presence of a few shells of *Hydrobia ulvae* and *Hydrobia ventrosa*, both species of brackish water and estuarine habitats, suggests perhaps some marine or saline influence in the features, although it is possible that these few shells could be reworked from earlier marine sediments on or near the site. The few terrestrial shells suggest open grassland and wet ground habitats adjacent to the features, although a few shells of shade loving taxa such as *Oxychilus* sp, *Vitrea* sp., *Aegopinella nitidula* suggest some shade or perhaps a hedgerow.

Conclusion and recommendations

The deposits show a good general range of archaeological finds indicative of activity, crop processing and food waste on the site. Cattle, sheep/goat, duck, chicken, goose, cereals, pulses, fish, bird eggs and marine shells are all indicative of the range of foods exploited at the site and are fairly typical of medieval fenland sites where marine resources are easily accessible. Apart from eel the fish species have not been identified, but coastal marine species are likely to be dominant. The rich charred plant assemblages in three of the samples indicate the range of species grown in the medieval period, barley, oats, wheat, rye, pea and bean, and also indicate some of the crop processing activities on the site.

The terrestrial and aquatic shells afford an opportunity to consider the character of the water (saline, brackish, fresh?) in the features and moats, but also the immediate landscape, while the waterlogged deposits and the pollen subsamples should afford a good basis for reconstruction of the local environment on the site.

A few flakes of hammerscale in one sample are suggestive of contemporary iron smithing somewhere on the site although they could possibly be intrusive from later activity.

If further excavation is undertaken at the site then the range of finds and quality of preservation indicate that the site has very good potential for the reconstruction of the agricultural economy, the diet and the local landscape. Any further excavations should therefore include fairly comprehensive bulk sampling (30 litre samples) of well dated deposits, plus spot samples and sample 'columns' through ditch, pit and moats deposits for palaeoenvironmental data such as snails and pollen. The range of animal bones – domestic animal, bird and fish – indicate that normal hand collection is likely to bias the assemblage against the smaller elements (birds and fish) and control samples should be bulk sieved on a fine mesh (2mm) from the bone rich features to ensure a good recovery of the smaller bone elements, so that any bias can be assessed.

Whether or not further work is undertaken on the site the samples from the evaluation should be taken to full post-excavation analysis, either on their own account or as part of a larger excavation programme at the site.

Acknowledgments
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Bibliography
Williams, D.1973 Flotation at Siraf, *Antiquity*, 47, 198-202

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Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological or geological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Geophysical Survey	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

35	Context record sheets
540	Context records
74	Trench record sheets
10	Photographic record sheets
4	Section record sheets
34	Daily record sheets
103	Sheets of scale drawings
6	Boxes of finds
1	Small finds record sheet
7	Environmental Sample Sheets

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
LINCOLN
LN2 1LP

Accession Number	LCNCC: 2015.185
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	HBHG 15
OASIS Record Number:	archaeol1-259230

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

Appendix 6

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol1-259230

Project details

Project name	Hall Gate, Holbeach
Short description of the project	Extensive evaluation revealed a probable late Saxon to early medieval salt-making site with adjacent agricultural practises being undertaken. The form of the salt-making is not typical of medieval examples in this area which tend to be of an industrial scale.
Project dates	Start: 09-10-2015 End: 27-11-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	HBHG15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC: 2015.185 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METALWORK Post Medieval

Significant Finds	STONE Early Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Early Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches","Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH HOLLAND HOLBEACH Hall Gate
Study area	40 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 3546 2403 52.796451093631 0.00933572616 52 47 47 N 000 00 33 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	None
Project design originator	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project director/manager	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project supervisor	Andrew Failes
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	The Collection
Physical Archive ID	LCNCC: 2015.185
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Archaeological Project Services
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC: 2015.185
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation at Hall Gate, Holbeach, Lincolnshire (HBHG 15)
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Failes, A.
Other bibliographic details	4/16
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Project Services
Place of issue or publication	Heckington, Sleaford
Description	A4 comb-bound with folded A3 sheets

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