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## Braybrooke Substation, Northamptonshire

### *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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## Summary

In September 2018 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation comprising 20 trenches at the site of a proposed substation at Braybrooke, Northamptonshire.

The evaluation identified two concentrations of archaeological features, situated in the north and south-western parts of the evaluation area. All the features were ditches and it is likely that they represent the boundaries of enclosure complexes or groups of fields. Only two features produced dating evidence – one in the northern group and one in the south-western group. In both instances the pottery was Roman, and further Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil of a third trench. The small amount of pottery recovered from the site is indicative of peripheral activity, perhaps suggesting that the features were not particularly close to any associated areas of domestic occupation.

## Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank National Grid for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Lesley Ann Mather, who monitored the work on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council, for her advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Carl Champness. The fieldwork was directed by Rachael Daniel, who was supported by Liberty Bennett and Adam Moffat. Survey and digitizing were carried out by Anne Kilgour-Cooper. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Geraldine Crann and Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicola Scott.



## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Scope of work**

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by National Grid to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of a proposed new substation and access road on an area of land within the parish of Braybrooke, Northamptonshire. The first phase of the work comprised a 20 trench evaluation of a field at the south-eastern edge of the development area.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of planning permission (KET/2017/0791). A brief was set by Lesley Ann Mather (Archaeological Advisor to Northamptonshire County Council) and a written scheme of investigation was produced by OA (2018a) detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.
- 1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (2014) and local and national planning policies.

### **1.2 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.2.1 The site was located to the south-east of the urban development of Market Harborough, Leicestershire, although the site of the proposed substation is located within the Kettering district of Northamptonshire, except for the access road, which runs to the west and north of the substation to join Kettering Road and the A6, and runs partially along the Northamptonshire-Leicestershire boundary (Fig. 1). The area of the proposed development occupies a rectangular field of approximately 4ha centred at NGR SP 756 859. The access route is a linear dogleg road approximately 1.5km long, leading from Kettering Road to the site. The site is located on the north slope of a valley running southeast-northwest between the village of Braybrooke and Market Harborough, along the bottom of which runs the River Jordan, a minor water course that empties into the River Welland in Market Harborough, to the northwest. The site is located on very gently sloping ground at approximately 100m OD. To the north the incline becomes steeper rising to the top of the ridge at 150m OD. The valley bottom lies to the south, at 87m OD.
- 1.2.2 The A6 runs along the top of the ridge to the north of the site, whilst at the bottom of the slope the railway line between Market Harborough and Desborough runs directly adjacent to the southern edge of the site and part of the access route.
- 1.2.3 The site lies on a mixed bedrock, partly of the Whitby Mudstone Formation and partly of the Dyrham Formation siltstone and mudstone. Over part of the site and access route there is a superficial geological deposit of mid-pleistocene till, which runs across the slope of the ridge and down towards Desborough to the south-east.

### **1.3 Archaeological and historical background**

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in the desk-based assessment (OA 2018b) and is summarized below.

- 1.3.2 Stray finds of flint tools and those recovered from unstratified contexts during archaeological excavations are often given a generic 'prehistoric' date. There are a number of such finds from Braybrooke village, including one recovered during excavations at Firs Farm, a polished flint axe from 1, Newland Road, and other such finds from Church Close. The closest of these to the site is about 1.3km away. A number of similar finds have come from Little Bowden, to the north-west of the site. Excavations at Overstone House and the adjacent Overstone Park recovered flint tools, some of which at the latter site were sufficiently characteristic to be dated to the early Neolithic and the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. It should be noted that Overstone Park stretches over a large area and abuts the edge of the access route and so lies in direct contact with the area of proposed works. About 1.4km to the north-west, also in Little Bowden, excavations at 32 The Heights also recovered prehistoric flint.
- 1.3.3 There is also some stratified prehistoric archaeology in the vicinity, in the form of a Bronze Age pit alignment with associated flint tools from excavations at Glebe Road in Little Bowden, 1.5km north-west of the site. Nearby at Clack Hill, less than 900m north-west of the site, linear earthworks have been excavated that could potentially be prehistoric in date. A little further away from the site at Compass Point excavations have revealed pits and ditches that could be Neolithic in date according to some associated flint finds.
- 1.3.4 Further to these excavated sites and stray finds, there are many cropmarks in the area that could be prehistoric. Some have been specifically characterised as prehistoric, including a possible boundary feature 1.4km south-west of the site. Another similar group of cropmarks 1.4km north-east has also been characterised as possibly prehistoric.
- 1.3.5 The site excavated at Overstone Park adjacent to the proposed access route also uncovered the only excavated Iron Age evidence in the vicinity. Occupation was continuous from the late Iron Age into the Roman period and included enclosures, droveways, pits and a roundhouse.
- 1.3.6 In summary, the prehistoric evidence in the vicinity is substantial and potentially includes evidence from the Neolithic through to the end of the Iron Age. The evidence comes from both the top of the valley (Braybrooke) and the bottom of the valley (Little Bowden), and the site lies directly between these zones. As such, there is a high potential for prehistoric evidence at the site, lying as it does on the slopes of a fertile valley that was utilised for settlement purposes in both the Bronze Age and the Iron Age, and potentially also the Neolithic. Furthermore, there are cropmarks belonging to an unknown period that surround the site and encroach onto the proposed access route, which will be discussed below.
- 1.3.7 Like the prehistoric evidence, finds and features relating to the Roman period are mainly found at either end of the valley, at Little Bowden and Braybrooke. A pottery scatter of Roman date was found at an uncertain location somewhere near Braybrooke on Great Oxendon Road, about 1.3km south-east of the site. Another Roman pottery scatter was found further down the valley bottom, c 850m south-west of the site, potentially indicating a second settlement site.

1.3.8 The other Roman evidence comes from excavations in Little Bowden, which essentially stretch from the location of the access route to the edge of the study area 1.3km to the north-west. These remains are dispersed and substantial and have been recovered at recent excavations at 32 The Heights, Clack hill, Overstone Park, and Glebe Road. The evidence from The Heights and Clack Hill consisted only of unstratified pottery and insecurely dated linear features respectively. At Overstone Park and Glebe Road, however, the remains included two sizeable enclosures with boundary ditches, numerous other ditches, enclosures and droveways. There were also a number of human burials and pits. These sites are therefore representative of a substantial Roman rural settlement. The dating evidence suggested an origin in the late Iron Age, with firm evidence indicating continued use up until at least the 4th century, and some Anglo-Saxon evidence indicating a period of use beyond this date. Roman evidence from nearby Little Bowden lies very close to the site. Taken together with the pottery scatters from the other end of the valley at Braybrooke and the scatter at about the same position along the valley to the south-west of the site, this all indicates a high potential for Roman archaeology in the area.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general project aim was as follows:

- i. To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features and deposits within the proposed development area.

2.1.2 The project-specific aims and objectives were:

- ii. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present;
- iii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- iv. To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development;
- v. To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains.
- vi. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence;
- vii. To provide sufficient information on the archaeological potential of the site to enable the archaeological implications of any proposed developments to be assessed;
- viii. To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record.

### 2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The evaluation comprised 20 trenches, each measuring 30m by 1.8m (Fig. 2). A buffer zone was included in the layout to maintain a safe distance from an overhead power cable that extended across the field from north-west to south-east.

2.2.2 Trenches were excavated using a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. Machining ceased at the surface of the natural geology or significant archaeological horizon, whichever was reached first.

2.2.3 A range of features were selected for hand excavation and recording in consultation with the NCC Archaeologist. Environmental samples were taken from a selection of dated deposits to assess the potential of the site for palaeo-environmental evidence. These comprised bulk samples of 40 litres taken for flotation for charred plant remains.

2.2.4 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with the written scheme of investigation.

## **3 RESULTS**

### **3.1 Introduction and presentation of results**

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches, including dimensions and depths of all deposits, can be found in Appendix A.

3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated e.g. pit 102 is a feature within Trench 1, while ditch 304 is a feature within Trench 3.

### **3.2 General soils and ground conditions**

3.2.1 The soil sequence was fairly uniform in all trenches. The natural geology of compact mid orange brown clay was overlain by a mid brown silty clay subsoil, which in turn was overlain by the modern ploughsoil.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the trenches remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

### **3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits**

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 1, 5, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19, concentrated in two areas in the north and south-west parts of the excavation area (Fig. 2).

### **3.4 Trenches 1 and 5 (Figs 3 and 5)**

3.4.1 Three linear features were exposed in Trench 1, none of which was dated. Only ditch 1003 was excavated. It was very shallow and had a concave profile (Fig. 5). Its form, and its alignment with present field boundaries and plough marks, suggest that it is a plough furrow of medieval or post-medieval date. Unexcavated feature 1007 lay on a similar alignment and may have been of similar origin. Feature 1005 lay on a diagonal alignment, between the two probable furrows, but was not excavated so its date and function remain unclear.

3.4.2 Ditches 5003 and 5007 in Trench 5 may represent field or enclosure boundaries of probable early Roman date. Both were aligned NW-SE and they were 1.2m apart. This distance is too narrow to suggest a trackway and it is more likely that they represent two phases of the same boundary or a double-ditched boundary. Both measured approximately 1.8m in width. Ditch 5007 was 0.4m deep and contained two sherds of pottery dating to AD43-100. Ditch 5003 was only 0.14m deep and yielded no artefactual evidence. Ditch 5005 was roughly perpendicular to ditches 5003 and 5007, although it was only 0.6m wide and was not dated.

### **3.5 Trenches 11, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19 (Figs 4 and 5)**

3.5.1 A small ditch or gully (11003) in Trench 11 was not dated.

3.5.2 Trench 14 contained three short lengths of ditch, none of which were dated. At the north-eastern end of the trench, ditch 14003 was aligned NE-SW and terminated

within the trench (Plate 1). It had moderate to steep sides and a flat base and the only material recovered from the fill were two small refitting fragments of coal. Intercutting ditches 14005 and 14007 were situated immediately south of ditch 14003. Ditch 14007 was the earlier of the two and continued beyond the trench edge, perhaps curving to the north. Ditch 14005 appeared to terminate within the trench. The extent of both ditches to the south-west was unclear.

- 3.5.3 Trenches 15 and 16 revealed parts of the same NE-SW aligned ditch (15004/16003). It was only excavated in Trench 16, where it had steep, convex sides and a flat base and measured 0.72m wide and 0.32m deep.
- 3.5.4 Trench 18 contained two intercutting ditches (18003 and 18005, Plate 2). Ditch 18003 was the earlier and was aligned NE-SW. It was shallow and had a concave profile, of similar size to the ditches in Trench 14. It was cut by ditch 18005, a more substantial feature that was 2.4m wide but shallow. Pottery recovered from the fill dated to the Roman period. One small flint flake was also recovered.
- 3.5.5 Trench 19 exposed a single ditch (19003) that measured 4.67m wide and 0.57m deep (Plate 3). The upper of its two fills was dark in colour and similar to the fill of ditch 16003.
- 3.5.6 There were no archaeological features revealed in Trench 10 but a small amount of pottery dated to AD 150-400 was recovered from the subsoil.

## 3.6 Finds

### *Roman pottery by Edward Biddulph*

- 3.6.1 Six sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 47g, were recovered.

*Table 1: Description of the Roman pottery by context*

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Description	Spot-date
5004	2	10	Base sherds (R30, E80)	AD 43-100
10001	3	16	Body sherds (O81, R20, C11)	AD 150-400
18006	1	21	Body sherd (R30)	AD 43-410
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>47</b>		

- 3.6.2 A small sherd of grog-tempered pottery from context 5004 suggests a date for deposition in the mid/late 1st century AD, although the fragment is small (recovered from sample 1), and could be residual. Pink grogged ware from context 10001 reached the site from the Stowe/Towester area between the mid-2nd and late 4th century AD. The shell-tempered ware recovered from the same context may belong to a vessel manufactured in Harrold in Bedfordshire or one of a number of other kiln sites in the South Midlands. The fabric was widely distributed in the late Roman period, though production is attested throughout the Roman period. A reduced ware sherd from context 18006 had a broad Roman date.
- 3.6.3 The assemblage is small, but nevertheless points to activity at the site in the Roman period, with both earlier and later Roman pottery represented. The condition of the pottery is poor; the mean sherd (weight divided by number of sherds) is 8g, indicating

a highly fragmented group that is likely to have undergone multiple episodes of disturbance and redeposition away from primary areas of use.

### *Fired Clay by Cynthia Poole*

- 3.6.4 Fired clay amounting to 26 fragments (41g) was recovered from three contexts, comprising single fragments from contexts 10001 and 18006 and the remainder from 14004. None is diagnostic, nor can any be dated. Fired clay was utilised from the Neolithic through to the medieval period, declining thereafter as it was replaced by other materials.
- 3.6.5 All the fragments are made in a very fine sandy clay fired to shades of red, orange and purple. The clay fabric of fragments from context 14004 was additionally very micaceous and contained frequent voids from chaff inclusions and several pieces had a black reduced core.
- 3.6.6 No surfaces or deliberate shaping survive on any of the fragments. It is most probable that the material derives from oven or hearth structures.

### *Flint by Geraldine Crann*

- 3.6.7 The size of the assemblage and its condition limits interpretation of the material. The single small flint flake recovered from context 18006 retains no technologically datable features.

Table 2: Worked flint

Context	Description	Date
18006	One small flint flake, punctiform butt, hinge termination, one lateral margin has possible retouch/usewear, 1g	Prehistoric

## 3.7 Environmental evidence

### *Animal Bone by Martyn Allen*

- 3.7.1 The evaluation produced 99 hand-collected fragments of animal bone from three contexts and 17 fragments from sieved samples. Cattle and sheep/goats were the only taxa represented. Overall, the preservation of the material was very poor and the remains were generally very fragmentary.
- 3.7.2 Of the total fragments recovered, 84 came from context 14004. The vast majority were small unidentifiable fragments of mammal bone. Two cattle bones consisted of a radius shaft, almost certainly from a juvenile animal owing to the slightly porous surface texture of the bone, and a lower 2nd molar. Sheep/goat bones accounted for six fragments, including an upper 2nd molar, a lower 3rd molar (with a small fragment of mandible attached), a metatarsal shaft and three metacarpal shaft fragments. The sheep/goat lower 3rd molar was in a moderate state of wear and probably derived from an animal aged four years or older (Jones 2006).
- 3.7.3 Four small unidentifiable fragments of bone were recovered from context 14006 and 11 very poorly preserved fragments (with much of the cortical surface lost) were recovered from context 18006.

3.7.4 The animal bone assemblage contained small quantities of cattle and sheep/goat bones. The preservation levels were generally very poor. On their own, these remains have little or no research value. In the event of a more suitable animal bone assemblage being recovered, the faunal material from the evaluation may be added to it.

### *Charred plant remains by Sharon Cook*

3.7.5 Five bulk samples were taken during the evaluation. Table 3 gives full details of the samples and the charred taxa identified from them. The samples all originate within ditch fills and with the exception of sample 2 (14004) contain very little charred material, with the volume of the flots largely comprising fine modern roots. Charcoal is present in small amounts within the flots for all samples but is only present in larger amounts in sample 2. Sample 2 also includes small chaff-like fragments but these are too fragmentary to identify further although they do not appear to be glume bases.

3.7.6 The grain from sample 2 is in generally poor condition but is occasionally identifiable as wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and some is possibly barley (*Hordeum* sp.).

3.7.7 No finds were present within the residues of samples 3 and 5. Sample 1 produced a single fragment of pottery, sample 2 contained a small quantity of mammal bone and fired clay and sample 4 contained a small quantity of burnt mammal bone.

3.7.8 The samples (with the exception of sample 2) have produced only small quantities of charred material. This is not unexpected, as ditch fills often contain little charred material unless close to an area of habitation or industrial activity.

3.7.9 Sample 2 is the richest sample in terms of its charred assemblage but is unfortunately undated. While in terms of its grain and uncultivated plant seeds the charred remains would not be out of place within a Roman assemblage, the lack of glume wheat chaff is unusual, especially considering with the amount of grain in this sample, and may hint at the possibility of a later date.

3.7.10 The charred seeds from uncultivated plants include those which are commonly found in arable fields, including vetches, grasses and various other plants such as mayweed (*Tripleurospermum* sp.). Stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), identified in samples 2 and 4 and only identified in the East Midlands region from the Roman period onwards, is considered to be an indicator of agricultural intensification in the Roman period with the cultivation of heavy clay soils (Monkton 2006). This would be consistent with cultivation locally; all the sampled deposits had a significant clay component.

3.7.11 A single charred legume from sample 2 may indicate the consumption of peas or beans, but generally pulses are unlikely to become charred and any food preparation would have taken place in settlement areas, so the cultivation and use of this foodstuff is likely to be under-represented.

3.7.12 The preservation of charred remains is clearly patchy across the site, but given the kinds of features excavated this is unsurprising, as is the fact that the richest sample was taken from a ditch terminus.



Table 3: Summary of charred plant remains

Sample no.	Context no.	Trench	Sample vol. (L)	Feature/deposit	Date	Flot vol. (ml)	Charcoal >2mm	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Molluscs	Other	Notes
1	5004	5	40	Fill of ditch 15003	43-100AD early Roman	25	*	*	*				Volume is almost entirely modern roots. Occasional small charcoal mostly <2mm. Single indet cereal grain frag. Two small frags of glume wheat chaff.
2	14004	14	40	Fill of ditch terminus 14005	Undated	100	***	****	**	**		*	Rich in charcoal >2mm. Cereal grains mostly indet but include wheat and a few grains of possibly barley. Very fragmented, clinkered and vitrified but occasional grains in better condition. Small quantities of grass seeds and <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> . Single <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Juncus sp.</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum sp.</i> , and <i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> . One indet seed in poor condition. One legume fragment >4mm – cf. <i>Pisum</i> .
3	18004	18	40	Fill of ditch 18003	Undated	20	*						Volume is almost entirely modern roots. Occasional small charcoal mostly <2mm.
4	18006	18	40	Fill of ditch 18005	43-410AD Roman	25	*	**		*			Volume is almost entirely modern roots. Occasional small charcoal mostly <2mm. Single <i>Anthemis cotula</i> seed in poor condition. Small amount of grain in poor condition – likely to be wheat but clinkered and heavily encrusted with a metallic appearance.
5	19004	19	40	Fill of ditch 19003	Undated	20	**						Volume is almost entirely modern roots. Small charcoal mostly <2mm.

Key: +=present (up to 5 items), +=frequent (5-25), +++=common (25-100) ++++=abundant (&gt;100)

## **4 DISCUSSION**

### **4.1 Reliability of field investigation**

- 4.1.1 The fieldwork was undertaken over a period of one week in good weather conditions. The clear and mainly dry conditions, combined with the natural geology meant that features were clearly visible.
- 4.1.2 On the whole, there is a high level of confidence that the investigations have provided an accurate demonstration of the archaeological remains present within the evaluation area, but the small amount of dateable material recovered means that many features were undated, hampering interpretation of the remains.

### **4.2 Interpretation**

- 4.2.1 The evaluation identified two concentrations of archaeological features, situated in the north and south-western parts of the evaluation area. All the features were ditches and it is likely that they represent the boundaries of enclosure complexes or groups of fields. In the south-western group, ditch 5005 lay on a perpendicular alignment to ditches 5003 and 5007, perhaps forming the corner of a rectangular enclosure.
- 4.2.2 Only two features produced dating evidence – ditch 18005 in the northern group and ditch 5003 in the south-western group. In both instances the pottery was Roman, and further Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 10. The small amount of pottery recovered from the site is indicative of peripheral activity, perhaps suggesting that the features were not particularly close to any associated areas of domestic occupation.
- 4.2.3 Ditch 19003 was particularly substantial and may therefore have defined a particularly significant boundary. No features were found south-east of this ditch and it may therefore have defined the limit of the archaeology in this direction.
- 4.2.4 Ditch 14003 produced the only significant assemblage of charred plant remains from the site, including grain and uncultivated plant seeds, mainly weeds associated with arable cultivation. Although the feature was not dated, the assemblage would not be out of place on a Roman site although the lack of glume what chaff may hint at a later date.

### **4.3 Significance**

- 4.3.1 Nearby remains at Braybrooke and closer to the site at Little Bowden attest to a large dispersed rural settlement pattern near to the site and the two dated ditches are likely to represent peripheral settlement activity, perhaps representing field boundaries in the hinterland of nearby settlement.

## APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained two plough furrows and one possible ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, Friable mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil, Mid brown moderately compact silty clay	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural, compact mid orange brown clay	-	-
1003	Cut	0.79	0.12	Cut of plough furrow, NE-SW aligned	-	-
1004	Fill		0.12	Fill of 1003, Compact mid orange brown silty clay		
1005	Cut	0.68		Cut of plough furrow, NW-SE aligned, unexcavated		
1006	Fill			Fill of 1005, compact greyish brown and mottled orange clay silt		
1007	Cut	1.34		Cut of ditch, NE-SW aligned, unexcavated		
1008	Fill			Fill of 1007, pale grey brown with mottled orange		

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3000	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
3001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
3002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4000	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
4001	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
4002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained two parallel ditches and one on a perpendicular alignment. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
5000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
5001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
5002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
5003	Cut	1.78	0.14	Plough furrow		
5004	Fill		0.14	Fill of 5003, firm orange brown silty clay	Pot	AD 43-100
5005	Cut	0.6	0.29	Ditch, NE-SW aligned		
5006	Fill		0.29	Fill of 5005, firm mid grey brown silty clay		
5007	Cut	1.84	0.4	Ditch, ESE-WSW aligned		
5008	Fill		0.4	Fill of 5007, firm mid grey brown silty clay		

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay. One E-W aligned land drain runs through the middle of the trench.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
6000	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
6001	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
6002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay. Very patchy geology may be disturbed by root action.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
7000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
7001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
7002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
8000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
8001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
8002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
9000	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
9001	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-

9002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
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Trench 10						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.8
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
10000	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
10001	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	Pot Fired Clay	AD 150-400
10002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 11						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	SE-NW
Trench contained a single N-S aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.8
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.48
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
11000	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
11001	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
11002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
11003	Cut	0.48	0.11	Ditch, N-S aligned		
11004	Fill		0.11	Fill of 1103, mid grey brown clay silt		

Trench 12						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.8
					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
12000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
12001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
12002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay. One land drain aligned N-S at the NW end of the trench.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
13000	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
13001	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
13002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained three ditches, two of which terminated within the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
14000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
14001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
14002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
14003	Cut	0.86	0.22	Ditch terminus, NE-SW aligned		
14004	Fill		0.22	Fill of 14003	Fired Clay	
14005	Cut	0.61	0.12	Ditch, NE-SW aligned		
14006	Fill		0.12	Fill of 14005, mid orange brown silty clay		
14007	Cut	0.47	0.16	Ditch, NE-SW aligned		
14008	Fill		0.16	Fill of 14007		

Trench 15						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
One Linear feature aligned NE-SW across the trench may represent a post-medieval field boundary but was not excavated (recorded in Trench 16). Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
15000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
15001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
15002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
15003	Cut	0.7		Ditch, aligned NE-SW, not excavated		

15004	Fill			Fill of 15003, dark orange brown silty clay		
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Trench 16						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained a NE-SW aligned ditch which extended along the length of the trench. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
16000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
16001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
16002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
16003	Cut	0.72	0.32	Ditch, aligned NE-SW		
16004	Fill		0.32	Fill of 16003, dark orange brown silty clay		

Trench 17						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
17000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
17001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
17002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches on perpendicular alignments. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
18000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
18001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
18002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
18003	Cut	0.78	0.2	Ditch, NE-SW aligned		



18004	Fill		0.2	Fill of 15003, moderately compact, light orange brown silty clay		
18005	Cut	2.4	0.28	Ditch, NW-SE aligned	Flint	
18006	Fill			Fill of 18005, compact light orange brown silty clay	Pot Fired Clay	AD 43-410

Trench 19						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contained one NE-SW aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.96
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
19000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
19001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
19002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-
19003	Cut	4.67	0.57	Ditch, aligned NE-SW		
19004	Fill		0.42	Fill of 19003, dark brown and mottled orange clay silt		
19005	Fill		0.15	Fill of 19003, firm pale orange brown clay silt		

Trench 20						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.66
Context No.	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
20000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, mid grey brown silt	-	-
20001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-
20002	Layer	-	-	Natural, Compact mid orange grey clay	-	-

## APPENDIX B      BIBLIOGRAPHY

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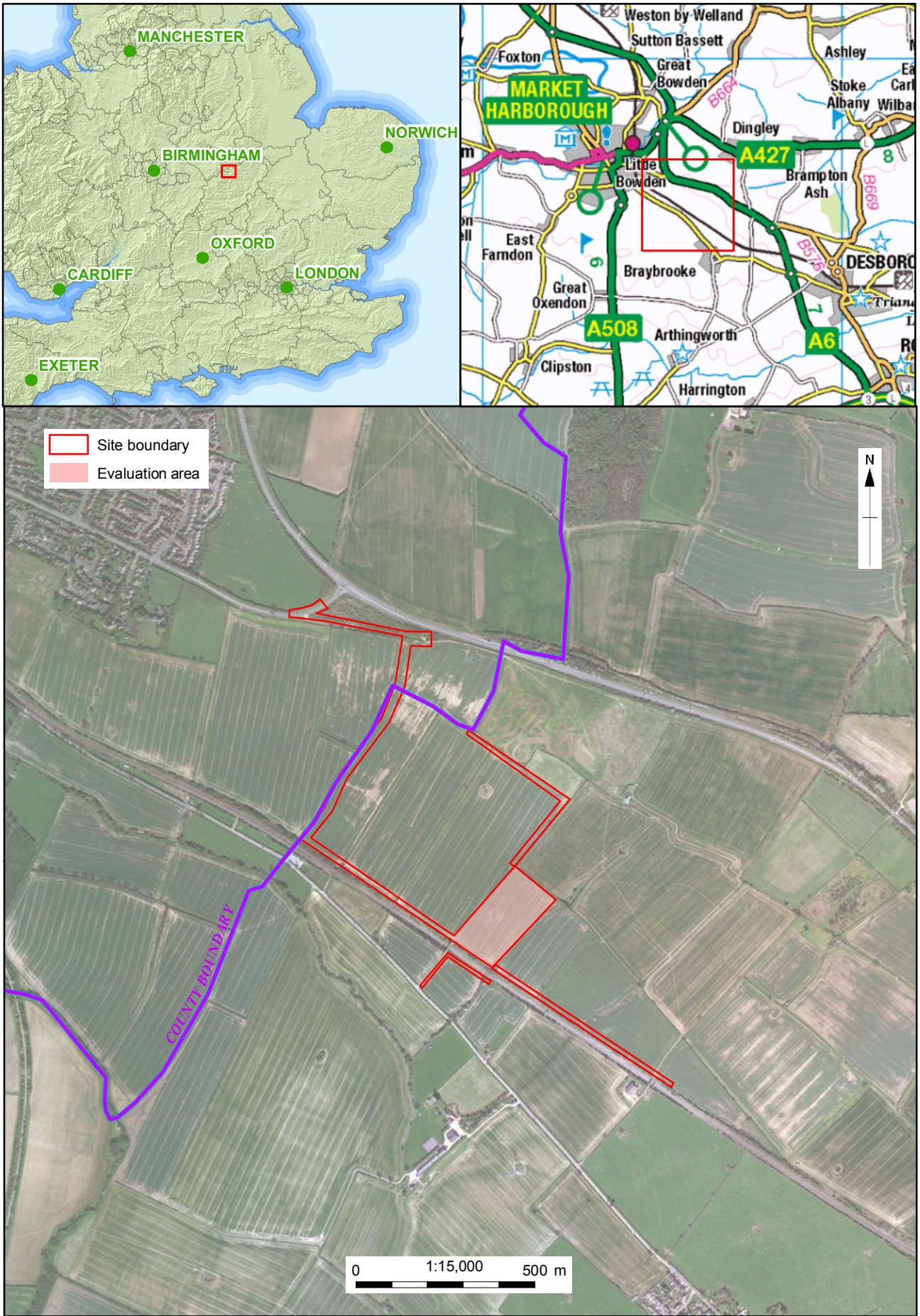
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**APPENDIX C****SITE SUMMARY DETAILS**

<b>Site name:</b>	Braybrooke Substation, Northampton
<b>Site code:</b>	BRSU18
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 756 859
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date and duration:</b>	3rd to 7th September 2018
<b>Area of Site</b>	4ha
<b>Location of archive:</b>	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be held on review as an interim measure
<b>Summary of Results:</b>	Between the 3rd and the 7th of September 2018 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation comprising 20 trenches in the parish of Braybrooke in Northamptonshire (NGR SP 756 859) on the site of a proposed substation.

The evaluation identified two concentrations of archaeological features, situated in the north and south-western parts of the evaluation area. All the features were ditches and it is likely that they represent the boundaries of enclosure complexes or groups of fields. Only two features produced dating evidence – one in the northern group and one in the south-western group. In both instances the pottery was Roman, and further Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil of a third trench. The small amount of pottery recovered from the site is indicative of peripheral activity, perhaps suggesting that the features were not particularly close to any associated areas of domestic occupation.





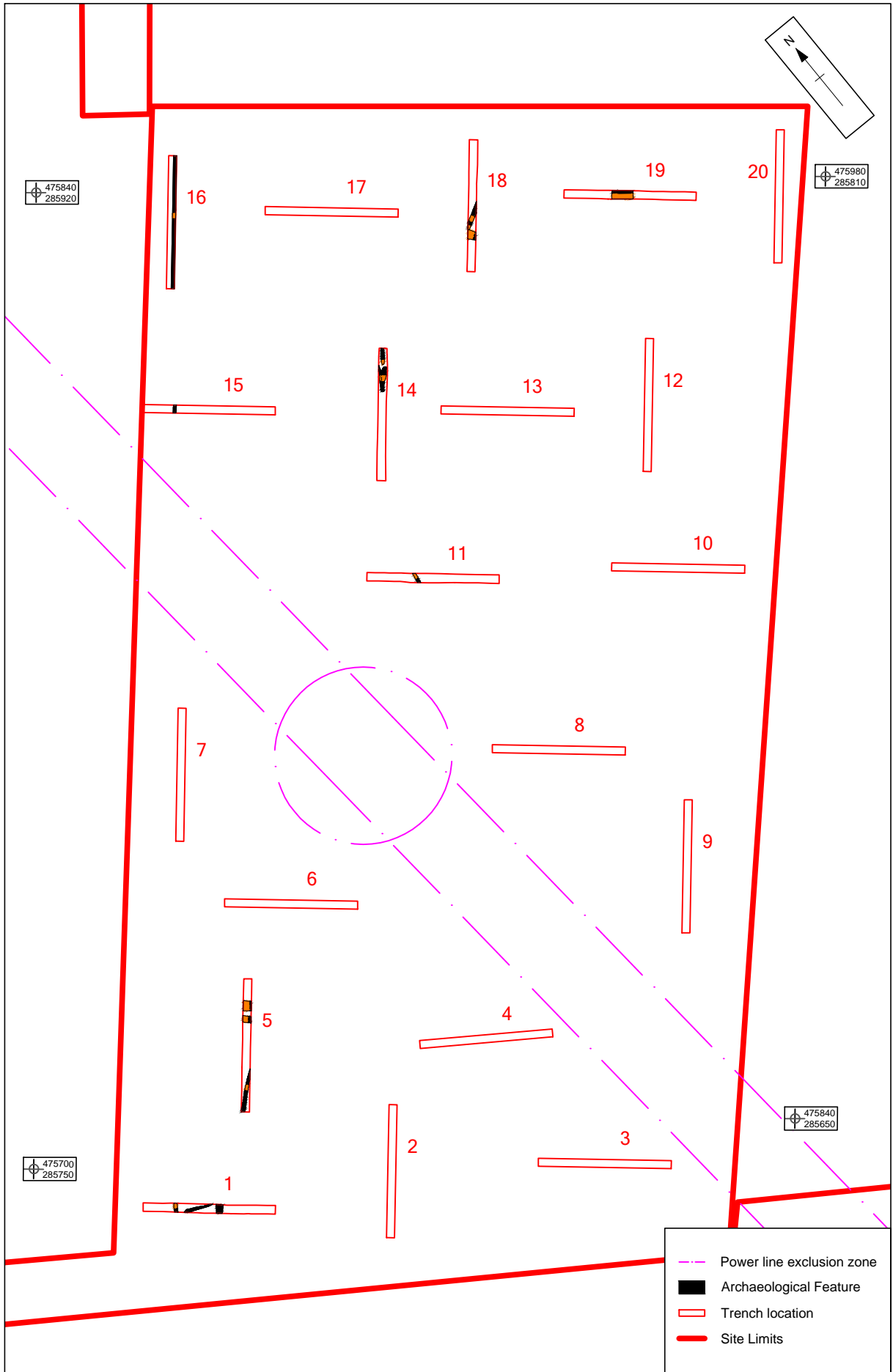
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 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,

Figure 1: Site location



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- Power line exclusion zone
- Archaeological Feature
- Trench location
- Site Limits

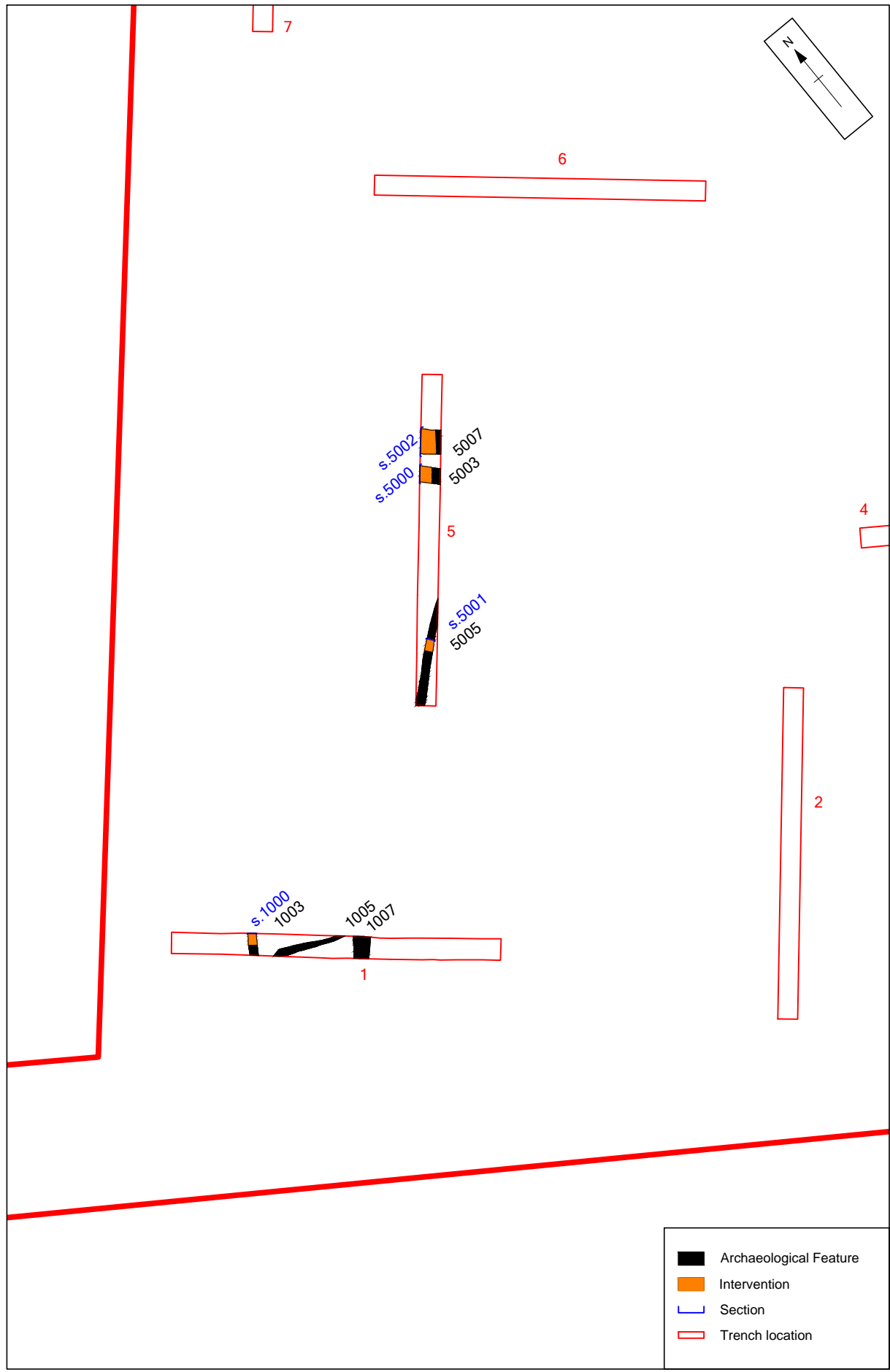
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Figure 2: Trench layout







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Figure 3: Trenches 1 and 5



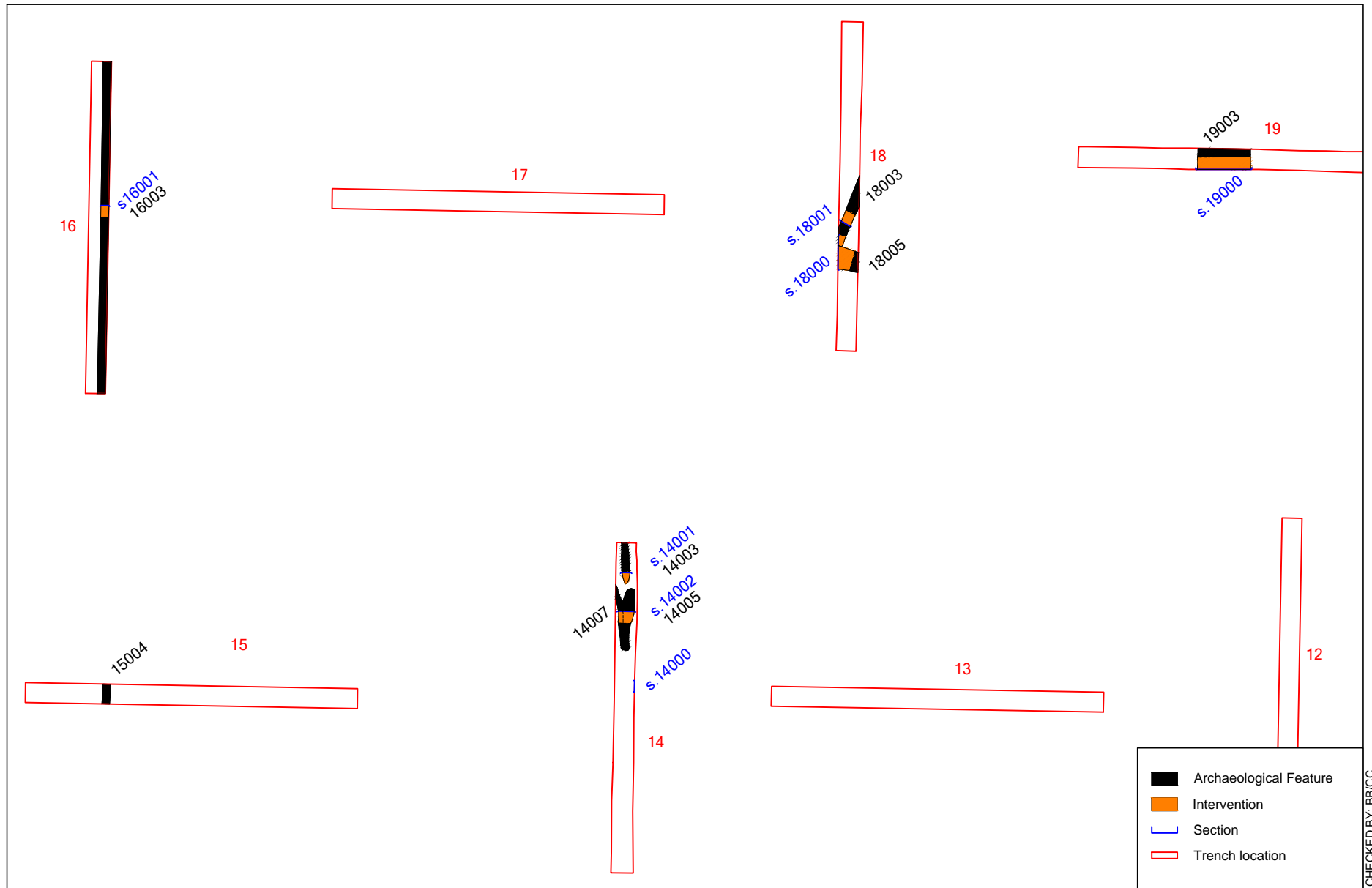


Figure 4: Trenches 11, 14, 18 and 19



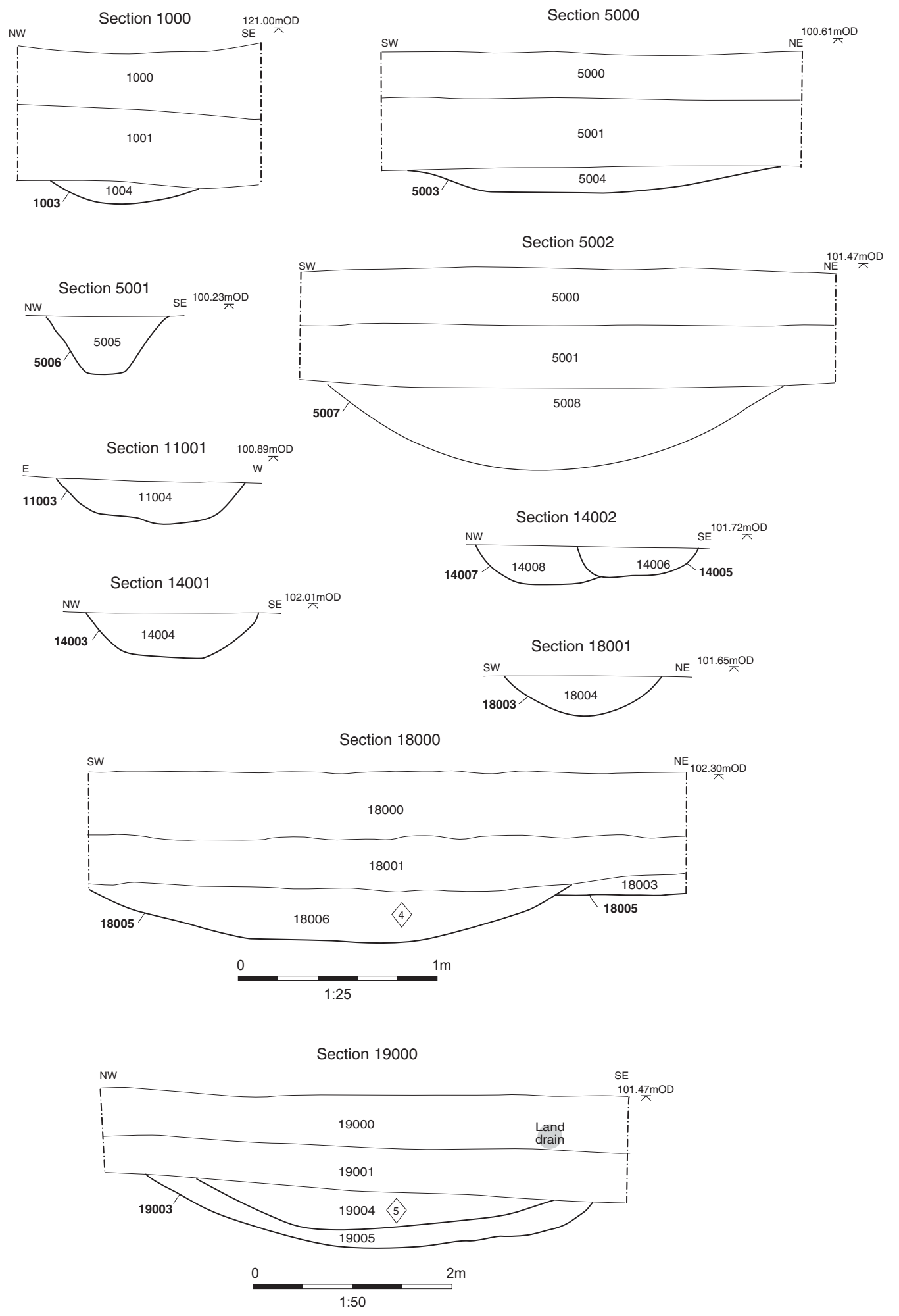


Figure 5: Sections





Plate 1: Ditch 14003, view to North-east



Plate 2: Ditches 18003 and 18005, view to North-west







Plate 3: Ditch 19003, view to North-east







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