

Further Evaluation at
Land East of Aylesbury
Broughton Crossing
Bierton
Buckinghamshire
Phase 2



**Archaeological
Evaluation Report**



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Further Evaluation at Land East of Aylesbury, Broughton Crossing, Berton, Buckinghamshire, Phase 2

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

In July 2014, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation on land at Broughton Crossing, Berton in Buckinghamshire. The evaluation comprised machine excavation of 35 trenches, each measuring 30m by 2m. These trenches were in two areas, Areas A and D. This area was part of a larger development site, previously investigated by Oxford Archaeology in 2012.

A single trench was proposed for Area A to investigate an area of strong magnetic response recorded during the geophysical survey of the site. The trench had to be abandoned due to the probable presence of modern services.

The trenches in Area D were located to investigate two areas of anomalies recorded in a geophysical survey of the site as well as the apparently blank areas between and around them. The trenching revealed two main concentrations of archaeological remains. One, in the north-eastern part of the area, mostly dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period, and one, in the south-eastern part of the area, was of mainly middle to late Roman date.

Evidence for later prehistoric activity was present in the north of the area, in the form of sherds of flint tempered pottery recovered from later features and from the subsoil. The nature of this activity is unclear and was not closely datable.

Evidence of activity of late Iron Age or early Roman date was recorded in the north-eastern part of the area, with pottery recovered from a number of ditches corresponding with an area of geophysical anomalies. Further evidence of activity of this date was recorded on the northern and southern peripheries of the area of Roman activity.

Roman settlement activity, perhaps originating in the 1st century AD, was recorded in trenches in the south-east of the site. A considerable density of archaeological features produced pottery, fragments of oven furniture, ceramic building material, iron nails and animal bone, strongly indicating the presence of a farmstead with its main period of occupation in the middle Roman period but extending into the late Roman period. A possible demolition layer, consisting of a tumble of limestone blocks, along with the presence of a variety Roman tile, suggests that a building existed in this area set in a series of enclosures and fields.

A number of plough furrows, the remnants of ridge and furrow, suggest that during the medieval period and later, the site lay within agricultural fields. Ceramic land drains, present in many trenches, attest to efforts to improve the drainage of the site, probably in the 18th century or later.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project details

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Barratt North Thames to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the site of a new urban expansion to the east of Aylesbury (Fig. 1). The proposed development consists of 2450 homes, a 10 ha employment land, a neighbourhood centre, two primary schools, construction of an eastern link road (part) and the Stocklake link road (rural section), green infrastructure, associated community facilities and support infrastructure, including expanded an electricity sub-station and flood defences. Outline planning permission has been granted for the scheme (planning reference: 10/02649/AOP).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Oxford Archaeology 2014) submitted to, and approved by, Sarah-Jane Farr of Buckinghamshire County Council, on behalf of Aylesbury Vale District Council.
- 1.1.3 A number of sites of known archaeological potential, recorded during a geophysical survey of the main development site, were identified (Fig. 2) as requiring further evaluation. Phase 1 of this work was undertaken in 2012 (Oxford Archaeology 2013), when access was only possible to two areas, labelled B and C on Figure 2. This document reports on the results of the investigations carried out in Areas A and D, in July 2014.

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The proposed development area lies in the Vale of Aylesbury (centred on SP 848 145), to the east of the built environment of the town of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, and within the administrative area of Aylesbury Vale District Council.
- 1.2.2 The development site lies over farmland. Its western extent meets the current eastern urban edge of Aylesbury. To the north lies Berton, to the south Broughton, and to the east, open farmland. The fields are mostly pasture, but with crops (beans and silage) to the east with set-aside and cereal to the west.
- 1.2.3 The geology of development area is complex. The majority of the development is dominated by Kimmeridge Clay, with a layer of alluvium at the extreme western edge (associated with the Bear Brook) and Upper Greensand and Gault in the south east corner (BSG sheet 219).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail in the Cultural Heritage Baseline Report (Oxford Archaeology 2010, Appendix 1), which should be read in conjunction with this document. A summary is given below to set the context for the current investigations.
- 1.3.2 The topography of the site suggests that the site would have been amenable to settlement from the prehistoric period onwards. Evidence of prehistoric activity has been recovered from the broader area, including finds of Mesolithic/Neolithic flints and a hoard of late Bronze Age axes, discovered approximately 550m north of the site. There is much more widespread evidence for Iron Age settlement activity in the Berton area, following a series of excavations in the village over the past 140 years.
- 1.3.3 Possible Iron Age/Romano-British sites were identified by the geophysical survey of the site (see below). In addition, there is also a Roman road (Akeman Street) to the south of the site and a possible villa at Berton. A number of findspots of Roman pottery and



coins are known from the wider area. These are concentrated in particular around Bierton and a number of Roman burials have also been identified in this area, close to the site of the putative Roman villa. The site also lies close to the postulated Roman roadside settlement or small town at Fleet Marston, along Akeman Street.

- 1.3.4 Saxon settlement evidence has been found at Bierton, and Broughton is thought to have Saxon origins. Excavations at Church Farm, Bierton revealed a settlement site dating to the late 5th to 9th centuries AD and further finds of Saxon pottery have been made within the village.
- 1.3.5 The earliest detailed mapping of the area (the Bierton and Hulcott Enclosure map of 1780) is thought to show many surviving elements of the later medieval landscape, including fields, lanes and settlements at Bierton, Hulcott and Broughton. A number of cropmarks, visible in aerial photographs within the site and to the north of Broughton, were thought to be associated with the Worlds End medieval settlement. These were investigated as part of this project (Oxford Archaeology 2011) and it was shown that the cropmarks were not associated with underlying archaeological remains of medieval date but were, rather, associated with agricultural features of probable 19th century date.
- 1.3.6 The geophysical survey of the main development site recorded a number of anomalies of probable archaeological origin, some of which (labelled B, C and D on Figure 2) appear to form coherent archaeological sites. In addition, an area of strong magnetic disturbance (labelled A on Fig. 2) may be the site of some form of industrial activity. Roman pottery has also been recorded on the surface of the field at this location, perhaps indicating that the activity is of this date.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The work was funded by Barratt North Thames. The fieldwork was managed for OA by Ken Welsh and conducted by Steve Leech, Kate Brady, Ian Cook, Rose Grant, Isobel Bentley, Lee Grana, Phil Wright, Fred Neville-Jones and Steve Litherland. Eliza Alqassar and Philip Markham of Buckinghamshire County Council monitored the fieldwork on behalf of Aylesbury Vale District Council.



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation, as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation, were:

- To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains in the area of geophysical anomalies.
- To confirm whether the geophysical anomalies accurately represent the extent of any surviving remains.
- To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means.
- To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
- To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy.
- To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape.
- To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive.
- To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.
- To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.
- To make available the results of the investigation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The trial trenching methodology adhered to the requirements set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Oxford Archaeology 2014).
- 2.2.2 All trenches were laid out by a surveyor using a Leica RX1250XC Global Positioning System tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All levels were related to Ordnance Survey datum level.
- 2.2.3 A total of 34 trenches were excavated in Area D using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under close archaeological supervision. Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately and reinstated in reverse order of excavation.
- 2.2.4 Given the density of archaeological features identified in many of the trenches, a sample only was excavated in order to meet the aims of the investigation. In many cases, pottery was recovered from the surface of unexcavated features in order to provide additional dating evidence.
- 2.2.5 The single trench in Area A was abandoned and backfilled following partial removal of the turf. Scanning of the area of the trench using a cable avoidance tool recorded strong signals indicative of the presence of live buried services. It was, therefore, deemed unsafe to continue with excavation.
- 2.2.6 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with standard OA's practices.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, beginning with a description of the ground conditions, the distribution of archaeological remains and followed by a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. An index of all trenches is presented in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 In Area A, the modern turf and topsoil overlay a disturbed layer probably associated with a modern service trench(es).

3.2.2 In Area D, a fairly consistent sequence of topsoil and subsoil overlying Kimmeridge Clay was present in most trenches. In general, the natural geology consisted of a yellowish brown silty clay. However, areas of blueish grey clay were present across the site.

3.2.3 The topsoil was generally between 0.2m and 0.3m thick throughout the area. It overlay a layer of subsoil in all trenches which measured between 0.20m and 0.3m thick.

3.2.4 It is likely that the subsoil represents a former ploughsoil of medieval or later date.

3.2.5 Ground conditions were good throughout the work, with dry weather conditions.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Significant archaeological remains were present in the north-eastern and south-eastern parts of Area D, coinciding, in part, with recorded geophysical anomalies. An array of 34 trenches was excavated in this area (Fig. 3). All archaeological features were sealed beneath a layer of subsoil, unless otherwise stated.

3.3.2 In the north-east, remains of possible prehistoric date and late Iron Age to early Roman date were recorded in Trenches 47, 49, 48, 73 and 75.

3.3.3 To the south-east, remains of Roman date were most densely concentrated in Trenches 62, 64 and 65, with Trenches 54, 61, 60, 64, 69, 70, and 71 revealing less concentrated areas of Roman activity.

3.3.4 A scatter of features, largely ditches containing little or no artefactual material, was recorded throughout the remainder of the area, in Trenches 45, 46, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 63 and 74.

3.3.5 No archaeological remains were present in Trenches 42, 43, 44, 59, 68 and 72.

3.3.6 The site was crossed by plough furrows of medieval or post-medieval date. These cannot be more closely dated at present as no artefactual material was recovered from them.

3.4 Trenches 45, 46, 49, 50 and 53 (Fig. 4)

Trench 45

3.4.1 Three plough furrows (4503, 4505 and 4507) were revealed in Trench 45, aligned E-W, c. 8-9m apart. All three were filled by a grey silty clay. One was excavated (4503) and was 1.4m wide and 0.12m deep (Fig. 9, section 4500). No finds were recovered.



Trench 46

- 3.4.2 Trench 46 contained two pits (4603 and 4605). Pit 4603 (Fig. 9, section 4600) was excavated and was found to be circular in shape and have steep sides and a conical base. It measured 1m in width and 0.55m in depth and was filled with a dark blueish grey silty clay (4602).
- 3.4.3 Pit 4605 was smaller, measuring 0.55m in width, and was filled by a dark brown clay silt. No finds were recovered.

Trench 49

- 3.4.4 Trench 49 contained an E-W aligned ditch (4904). It measured 0.8m in width and 0.2m in depth (Fig. 9, section 4900) and contained a mid reddish brown clay silt (4903) from which a single sherd of flint tempered pottery of late prehistoric date was recovered.
- 3.4.5 A small tree throw hole (4906), just to the south of the ditch, measured 0.6m in diameter and 0.15m in depth and was filled by a firm grey silty clay (4905). No finds were recovered.

Trench 50

- 3.4.6 Trench 50 contained a plough furrow (5003) on an E-W alignment (Fig. 9, section 5000), measuring 0.8m in width and 0.12m in depth and filled with an orangey grey silty clay (5004). No finds were recovered.
- 3.4.7 A second, unexcavated, plough furrow was present at the north end of the trench.

Trench 53

- 3.4.8 Trench 53 revealed two ditches and four postholes.
- 3.4.9 Ditch 5303 (Fig. 9, section 5300) was aligned NW-SE. It measured 0.64m in width and 0.04m in depth and had an irregular shallow profile. It was filled by a mid brown silty clay (5304). No finds were recovered.
- 3.4.10 Ditch 5305 (Fig. 9, section 5301) was aligned N-S and measured 0.76m in width and 0.28m in depth. It had steep sides and a V-shaped base. Its fill (5306) was a mid grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered.
- 3.4.11 Four unexcavated postholes (5307, 5309, 5311 and 5313) were situated in a group just to the east of the ditch. All were 0.3m to 0.4m in diameter and filled with a mid grey brown silty clay.

3.5 Trenches 47, 48, 51, 52 55 and 56 (Fig. 5)

Trench 47

- 3.5.1 Tree throw 4703 (Fig. 10, section 4700) was 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep and contained fill 4704 which produced no finds.
- 3.5.2 Ditch 4705 (Fig. 10, section 4701) measured 1.7m in width and 0.32m in depth and had moderate sides and a flat base. It contained two fills (4706 and 4707). Fill 4706 was a light orangey brown silty clay from which 118 sherds of pottery, animal bone and fired clay were recovered. The pottery dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period (50BC to AD100).
- 3.5.3 Tree throw 4708 (Fig. 10, section 4702) was 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep and contained fills 4709 and 4710, which produced no finds.
- 3.5.4 Plough furrow 4711 (Fig. 10, section 4703) was 1.5m wide and 0.2m deep and contained fill 4712 which contained no finds.



- 3.5.5 Ditch 4713 (Fig. 10, section 4704) was situated c.11m to the south and was cut by a plough furrow (4715) directly above it. It had moderate sides and a flat base and measured 0.98m in width and 0.18m in depth and was filled by a mid orange-brown silty clay (4714). No artefacts were recovered from the fill, but the later plough furrow contained a small amount of pottery dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period in its fill (4716), which probably originated from the earlier ditch.
- 3.5.6 Ditch 4717 (Fig. 10, section 4705, Plate 1) measured 2.1m in width and 0.28m in depth and had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. The earliest fill (4718) was a mid orange brown silty clay from which, pottery, animal bone and fired clay were recovered. The pottery assemblage dated to the middle Roman period (AD150-250). The upper fill (4719) was a mid grey brown silty clay which contained no artefacts.
- 3.5.7 Ditch 4720 (Fig. 10, section 4705, Plate 1) measured 1.5m in width and 0.58m in depth and was filled by two mid brownish grey fills (4721 and 4722). The earliest fill (4721) contained animal bone, fired clay and 16 sherds of pottery of late Iron Age to early Roman date.

Trench 48

- 3.5.8 Trench 48 contained a modern drain, which had disturbed much of the earlier archaeology, making interpretation difficult.
- 3.5.9 Ditch 4816 was not excavated and measured 2.6m in width. It was filled with a mid brownish grey silty clay.
- 3.5.10 Ditch 4804 (Fig. 11, section 4800) was aligned NNW-SSE and measured 2m in width and 0.2m in depth. It was filled by a mid yellow brown clay silt (4803) from which pottery with a broad Roman date (AD 43-410) was recovered. It cut tree throw 4806.
- 3.5.11 Tree throw 4806 (Fig. 11, section 4800) was 0.8m wide and 0.41m deep. It contained fill 4805 which produced no finds.
- 3.5.12 Possible ditch 4812 was situated c.3m further east and measured 1.1m in width and 0.2m in depth. It was filled by a mid brownish grey clay silt, from which animal bone, and pottery dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period was recovered.
- 3.5.13 A small part of another possible feature (4814) was seen in a small excavated slot. Its full extent was not revealed but it may have been substantial, measuring up to 10m in width and was greater than 0.22m in depth. However, it was in an area heavily disturbed by a modern pipe trench and could not be further investigated.

Trench 51

- 3.5.14 Trench 51 contained four ditches and two pits. Seven sherds of flint tempered prehistoric pottery was recovered from the subsoil (5101), suggesting that activity of this date may be represented by at least one of these features.
- 3.5.15 Situated at the western end and only partially revealed by the trench, pit 5103 (Fig. 11, section 5100) was sub-circular in shape and had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 1.1m in diameter and 0.24m in depth.
- 3.5.16 An unexcavated pit (5105) was situated 1.8m to the east and measured 5m in diameter and was filled with a mid grey silty clay.
- 3.5.17 Immediately to the east of this pit were the partial remains (unexcavated) of two E-W ditches (5109 and 5111) which appeared to be truncated at both ends. Both measured at least 1m in width (the full width was not seen). They were both filled with a mid grey brown silty clay.



- 3.5.18 Two to the east of this two substantial N-S aligned ditches were revealed. Ditch 5113 measured 2.4m in width and 5107 measured 2.5m in width. Neither were excavated but both contained a mid grey silty clay.

Trench 52

- 3.5.19 Ditch 5203 (Fig. 11, section 5200) was 0.6m in width and 0.2m in depth and had moderately sloping sides and a V-shaped base. It was filled by a mid grey brown silty clay (5204). No finds were recovered.

Trench 55

- 3.5.20 Ditch 5504 (Fig. 11, section 5500) measured 0.73m in width, 0.1m in depth and was filled with a light brownish yellow silty clay (5503) and had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. No finds were recovered.

Trench 56

- 3.5.21 Ditch 5604 (Fig. 11, section 5601) was aligned N-S and measured 0.76m in width and 0.13m in depth and had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay (5603). No finds were recovered.

3.6 Trenches 54, 58, 60, 63 and 64 (Fig 6)

Trench 54

- 3.6.1 Trench 54 contained two E-W aligned ditches and a plough furrow (5405).
- 3.6.2 In the north of the trench, ditch 5403 measured 0.65m in width and 0.14m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with mid grey brown silty clay.
- 3.6.3 Ditch 5407 (Fig. 12, section 5402, Plate 2) measured 1.75m in width and 0.74m in depth and had steep sides and a concave base. Its mid grey brown silty clay fill (5408) contained animal bone and pottery of early Roman date.

Trench 58

- 3.6.4 Ditch 5803 (Fig. 12, section 5801) was partially revealed at the western end of the trench and the exposed portion measured 0.87m in width and 0.49m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base and contained two light yellow brown and yellow grey fills (5806 and 5807). No finds were recovered. It was cut by pit 5804
- 3.6.5 Pits 5804, 5810, 5812, 5815 and 5817) all contained similar silty clay fills; three were excavated.
- 3.6.6 Pit 5804 (Fig. 12, section 5801) was 0.7m wide and 0.44m deep and contained fill 5805 which produced no finds.
- 3.6.7 Pit 5810 (Fig. 12, section 5802) was 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep and contained fill 5811 which produced no finds.
- 3.6.8 Pit 5812 (Fig. 12, section 5803) was 1.2m wide and 0.19m deep and contained fill 5813 which produced no finds.

Trench 60

- 3.6.9 Pit 6003 (not excavated) measured 0.4m in diameter and filled by a grey brown silty clay. Pit 6005 (not excavated) measured 1.1m in width and also contained a similar silty fill. Pit 6011 (not excavated) was partially revealed by the trench and measured 0.5m in diameter and also contained a grey brown silty clay.



- 3.6.10 Ditch 6007 (Fig. 12, section 6000) was aligned NW-SE, measured 0.8m in width and 0.2m in depth and had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with a grey brown silty clay which contained no finds. It was cut by ditch 6009.
- 3.6.11 Ditch 6009 (Fig. 12, section 6000) was 1.4m wide and 0.2m deep and contained fill 6010 which produced no finds.
- 3.6.12 Ditch 6013 (Fig. 12, section 6001) was aligned NW-SE and had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It measured 0.8m in width and 0.2m in depth and was filled with a grey silty clay (6014). No artefacts were recovered from the fill.
- 3.6.13 A line of pits was only just revealed along the northern edge of the trench. These were not excavated, but ranged in diameter from 1.8m to 2.5m. All were filled with a grey silty clay. A sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the surface of pit 6019 (fill 6020) and seven sherds of late Roman pottery (c. AD 250-410) were recovered from the surface of pit 6023 (fill 6024).
- 3.6.14 Ditch 6029 (not excavated) measured 2.1m in width and was filled by a grey silty clay. It was not excavated.
- 3.6.15 Pit 6027 contained a grey silty clay fill (6028). A sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the surface of the pit.
- 3.6.16 Two parallel NE-SW aligned ditches (6031 and 6033) extended beyond the eastern limit of the trench. They were filled with grey silty clays but no finds were recovered.

Trench 63

- 3.6.17 Trench 63 revealed a single N-S aligned ditch (6303). It measured 0.5m in width and 0.25m in depth (Fig. 13, section 6300). It contained two fills (6304 and 6305), neither of which contained any artefacts.

Trench 64

- 3.6.18 Ditch 6403 (Fig. 13, section 6401), aligned N-S, was excavated and had steep straight sides and a u-shaped base. It contained fill 6404 which produced 21 sherds of pottery of late Roman date.
- 3.6.19 A series of unexcavated ditches (6411, 6413, 6415) were all filled with grey brown silty clay. Sherds of pottery dating to the 2nd to 4th century AD were recovered from the surface of ditch 6411 (fill 6412).
- 3.6.20 Ditch 6408 (Fig. 13, section 6400) was situated in the western part of the trench and aligned N-S. It measured 1.1m in width and 0.4m in depth, and may be the continuation of one of the boundary ditches seen in Trench 69, to the south. The ditch was filled with a single mid to light grey brown clay silt (6407) from which two sherds of pottery of broad Roman date were recovered, along with a coin dated AD 330-335. It was cut by ditch 6406
- 3.6.21 Ditch 6406 (Fig. 13, section 6400) was 0.9m wide and 0.33m deep and contained fill 6405 which produced no finds.
- 3.6.22 At the western end of the trench was an irregularly shaped feature (6419) that was not excavated. It is likely that this represents a group of intercutting pits.

3.7 Trenches 57, 61, 62, 65, 66 and 67 (Fig. 7)

Trench 57

- 3.7.1 Trench 57 revealed three broadly N-S aligned ditches and three sub-circular features.



- 3.7.2 Ditch terminal 5703 (Fig. 14, section 5701, Plate 3), aligned N-S was 0.97m in width and 0.28m in depth and was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay (5704). No artefacts were recovered from it. It was cut through the subsoil.
- 3.7.3 Situated c.9m to the east was a possible pit (5705) that was not excavated. It measured 0.7m in width and was filled by mid yellowish brown silty clay.
- 3.7.4 Ditch 5707 (not excavated) was broadly N-S aligned and measured 1.1m in width. It was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay.
- 3.7.5 Ditch 5709 (not excavated) measured 0.5m in width and was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay.

Trench 61

- 3.7.6 Ditch 6108 (Fig. 14, section 6101, Plate 4) was E-W aligned and partially revealed along the southern edge of the trench and measured 1.3m in width and 0.4m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its single fill (6109) was a mid brownish grey silty clay from which a large assemblage (37 sherds) of pottery was recovered, dating to the late Roman period. Animal bone was also recovered from this fill.
- 3.7.7 Two ditches (6110 and 6112), both filled with greyish brown silty clay, were unexcavated.
- 3.7.8 Ditch 6105 (Fig. 14, section 6100) was N-S aligned and measured 1m in width and 0.4m in depth. It contained two fills (6106 and 6107) which were mid brownish silty clays. Fill 6107 contained three sherds of pottery which included a dish of middle Roman date.
- 3.7.9 L-shaped gully 6103 (Fig. 14, section 6100), situated just to the east, measured 0.48m in width and 0.16m in depth. It was filled by a dark brownish grey silty clay (6104) and contained two sherds of early Roman pottery (AD 43-150).

Trench 62

- 3.7.10 At the north-eastern end of the trench, possible enclosure ditch 6227 was revealed (not excavated). It measured 1.7m in width and was filled by a very dark grey silty clay (6226) which produced two sherds of pottery of broad Roman date, an iron object of undetermined function, animal bone and ceramic building material (CBM) of Roman date.
- 3.7.11 Just to the south-west of this was ditch 6225 (Fig. 14, section 6203) which measured 4.08m in width and 0.18m in depth. Seven sherds of pottery of Roman date were recovered from the fill (6224), along with some animal bone.
- 3.7.12 To the south-west of this ditch was a group of at least four pits (6215, 6219, 6223 and 6217) measuring over 1m in diameter. Pottery recovered from the surface of pits 6217 (fill 6216) and 6223 (fill 6222) was of broad Roman date.
- 3.7.13 Immediately to the south-west of these pits was NW-SE aligned ditch 6213 (not excavated). It measured 1.11m in width and was filled by a brownish grey silty clay (6212). Pottery recovered from the upper part of the fill included both later prehistoric and early Roman period sherds.
- 3.7.14 Pits 6209 and 6211 were circular in shape and both measured c. 0.5m in diameter. Five sherds of pottery of later prehistoric date were recovered from the surface of pit 6211 (fill 6210).
- 3.7.15 Towards the western end of the trench, ditch 6207 (Fig. 14, section 6202, Plate 5) was aligned E-W. It measured 2.6m in width, 0.64m in depth and had steep sides and a



concave base. It contained two brownish grey silty clay fills (6206 and 6205), both of which contained pottery, animal bone, CBM and fired clay. A total of 11 sherds were recovered and was of a broad Roman date.

- 3.7.16 The south-western end of the trench partially revealed a ditch (6204), broadly E-W aligned, measuring 1.05m in width and 0.22m in depth (Fig. 14, section 6201). It had moderately sloping sides and a flat base and was filled by a light brownish grey silty clay (6203) from which two sherds of pottery of broad Roman date were recovered.

Trench 65

- 3.7.17 At the northern end of the trench was ditch 6503 (Fig. 15, section 6502). It was E-W aligned and measured 1.1m in width and 0.27m in depth. Its fill was a dark greyish brown clay silt (6502), from which animal bone, fired clay and middle Roman pottery was recovered.
- 3.7.18 To the south of this ditch, and lying directly on the natural, was a layer of medium to large roughly hewn limestone blocks (6506), possibly a demolition layer from a nearby structure (Fig. 15, section 6503, Plate 6). It contained 35 sherds of pottery of middle Roman date, along with animal bone, CBM and fired clay.
- 3.7.19 Layer 6506 was overlain by a layer of silty clay containing frequent smaller stones (6505) which produced 119 sherds of pottery of late Roman date, animal bone, iron nails and hobnails, fired clay, glass and a copper alloy pin.
- 3.7.20 Situated c.5m to the south of the demolition deposits was NW-SE aligned ditch 6508 measuring c.2m in width. It was not excavated but three sherds of pottery of broad Roman date were recovered from the upper part of the mid orangey brown sandy silt fill (6507), along with a small number of iron nails, fired clay and CBM.
- 3.7.21 Just to the south of this, ditch 6510 (not excavated) was aligned NE-SW and measured 1.1m in width. Two sherds of middle to late Roman pottery were recovered from the top of the dark greyish brown clay silt fill (6509).
- 3.7.22 Ditch 6512 (not excavated) was aligned E-W and measured 2.2m in width. Four sherds of pottery recovered from the dark greyish brown clay silt fill (6511) were early Roman in date.
- 3.7.23 Ditch 6515 (Fig. 15, section 6501, Plate 7) was also aligned E-W and measured 1.88m in width and 0.4m in depth. It had moderately sloping stepped sides and a concave base. It contained two grey brown silty clay fills (6514 and 6513), the upper of which (6513) contained animal bone, CBM, fired clay and late Roman pottery. The lower fill (6514) contained animal bone and an iron nail.
- 3.7.24 The southernmost feature in the trench was NE-SW aligned ditch 6517 (Fig. 15, section 6500) which measured 0.84m in width and 0.2m in depth. It had a moderately sloping concave profile and its single grey brown silty clay fill (6516) contained animal bone and a single sherd of pottery dated to the middle to late Roman period.

Trench 66

- 3.7.25 At the western end of the trench, ditch 6604 (Fig. 15, section 6601) was aligned broadly E-W and measured 1.12m in width and 0.19m in depth. It had steep sides and a flat base. Its single light yellow brown silty clay fill (6603) contained animal bone, CBM and an assemblage of ten sherds of middle Roman pottery.



- 3.7.26 Ditch 6606 (not excavated) measured 3.5m in width and was filled with a dark brownish grey silty clay (6605). Two sherds of pottery of middle to late Roman date were recovered from the upper part of the fill.
- 3.7.27 A plough furrow (6608) of probable medieval or post-medieval date extended on a NE-SW alignment across the eastern part of the trench.

Trench 67

- 3.7.28 Trench 67 contained a ditch and a pit. Ditch 6703 (Fig. 15, section 6700, Plate 8) was N-S aligned and measured 1.48m in width and 0.54m in depth. It has steep sides and a concave base and was filled with two orangey grey silty clay fills (6704 and 6705). The upper fill (6705) contained two sherds of pottery dated to the early Roman period.
- 3.7.29 Pit 6706 (Fig. 15, section 6701) was partially revealed by the northern edge of the trench. It measured 1.9m in diameter and had steep sides and a concave base. Its single dark grey silty clay fill (6707) contained animal bone, fired clay and Roman pottery.

3.8 Trenches 69, 70, 71, 73, 74 and 75 (Fig. 8)

Trench 69

- 3.8.1 A slot excavated through a series of features at the western end of the trench revealed a sequence of six ditches (Fig. 16, section 6900, Plate 9). The two earliest (6906 and 6912) were only partly exposed and their widths remain unknown. The relationships between three later ditches (6908, 6910 and 6914) had been removed by a later wide shallow cut (6904), but it is likely that they defined the same slightly shifting boundary. However, the dates of these ditches are not known as no artefacts were recovered from the grey brown silty fills.
- 3.8.2 A sequence of three ditches (6916, 6918 and 6920) at the eastern end of the trench were not excavated.

Trench 70

- 3.8.3 Ditch 7005 (Fig. 16, section 7000) was 1.3m in width and 0.3m in depth and had a moderately sloping concave profile. It was filled with two mid to dark brown silty clays (7004 and 7003). Fill 7003 produced iron nails, animal bone, fired clay and pottery dated to the middle Roman period
- 3.8.4 Ditch 7008 (Fig. 16, section 7000) measured 1.1m in width and 0.3m in depth and had a steep concave profile and also contained two mid to dark brown silty clay fills (7007 and 7006). The earliest (7007) contained seven sherds of middle Roman pottery and the upper fill contained 45 sherds of pottery also of middle Roman date, animal bone, CBM, fired clay and iron hobnails.

Trench 71

- 3.8.5 At the western end of the trench, ditch 7124 extended in a curvilinear alignment from north to west. It measured 1.5m in width and was filled by a mid grey brown clay silt, which was not excavated.
- 3.8.6 To the east of this was an irregular shaped cut that is likely to represent a group of intercutting pits (7122). The group occupied a space 2m in diameter and was not excavated. Another similar group of intercutting features was identified immediately to the east of this (7120) measuring 3.25m in diameter. Both were filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay.



- 3.8.7 To the east of this were a series of small pits or postholes (7106, 7108, 7110, 7112, 7114, 7116 and 7118). All were filled with mid greyish brown clay silt. Features 7114 and 7118 were excavated.
- 3.8.8 Posthole 7118 was circular shaped in plan and measured 0.5m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. It had a concave profile and was filled with a mid greyish brown clay silt. No artefacts were recovered from it.
- 3.8.9 Pit 7114 (Fig. 16, section 7101) was sub-circular in shape and had a concave profile. It was filled with a mid grey brown clay silt, which did not contain artefacts. Another possible posthole (7112) was situated to the east of this pit, c.2.5m from posthole 7118. It was 0.6m in diameter and filled by a mid grey brown clay silt which was not excavated.
- 3.8.10 Ditch 7103 (Fig. 16, section 7100, Plate 10) measured 2m in width, 0.4m in depth and had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with a mid greyish brown clay silt (7104) from which a small group of early Roman pottery was recovered. A layer of greyish brown silty clay (7105) overlay this ditch and part of the area to the east of it. It measured 0.2m in thickness and produced a sherd of pottery of broad Roman date and an iron nail.

Trench 73

- 3.8.11 At the western end of the trench, the terminal of N-S aligned gully 7311 (not excavated) was revealed. It measured 0.4m in width and was filled by a grey silty clay.
- 3.8.12 Ditch 7309 (not excavated), aligned N-S, measured 1.5m in width and was filled by a grey silty clay.
- 3.8.13 Ditch 7304 (Fig. 17, section 7300) measured 1.7m in width and 0.5m in depth and had a moderate concave profile. A small amount of animal bone was recovered from the grey silty clay fill (7303).
- 3.8.14 Pit 7306 (Fig. 17, section 7301) was circular in shape and had moderate sides and a concave base. Its grey silty clay fill (7305) contained animal bone and late Iron Age to early Roman pottery.

Trench 74

- 3.8.15 At the southernmost end of the trench, two ditch terminals were revealed (7407 and 7409). Neither was excavated but both were filled with grey silty clay.
- 3.8.16 Two pits (7411 and 7415), measuring c. 0.6m to 0.7m in diameter and filled with mid grey clay, were located in the central part of the trench but were not excavated. Pit 7415 was cut by ditch 7413 which was aligned NW-SE and contained a grey silty clay.
- 3.8.17 Ditch 7404 (Fig. 17, section 7400) was 1.4m in width and 0.3m in depth and had a similar profile to ditch 7406. It was filled with a mid grey clay (7403) from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 3.8.18 Ditch 7406 (Fig. 17, section 7401) was 0.8m in width and 0.2m in depth and had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a mid grey clay (7405) from which no artefacts were recovered.
- 3.8.19 A gully (7417) extended from the west and was not excavated. It was slightly curvilinear in form and measured 0.5m in width.
- 3.8.20 Pits 7419 and 7421 (not excavated) both measured 0.6m in diameter and were filled with grey silty clay.



3.8.21 A plough furrow (7423) crossed the northern part of the trench on a broadly E-W alignment.

Trench 75

3.8.22 At the western end of the trench, ditch 7507 (not excavated) extended on a SW-NE alignment for c.1.7m and then turned to the north and extended beyond the limit of excavation. It measured 1.2m in width and was filled by a grey silty clay.

3.8.23 Ditch 7503 (Fig. 17, section 7500) was aligned N-S and measured 1.4m in width and 0.45m in depth. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled with a grey silty clay (7504) from which animal bone, fired clay and two sherds of pottery of late Iron Age to early Roman date were recovered.

3.8.24 Pit 7505 (Fig. 17, section 7501) was circular and measured 1.2m across and 0.25m deep. It contained a grey silty clay (7506) which did not produce any finds.

3.8.25 Ditch terminal 7509 (not excavated) was aligned NW-SE and contained a grey silty clay.

3.8.26 Ditch 7513 (not excavated) was aligned N-S and contained a grey silty clay.

3.8.27 At the eastern end of the trench was a NE-SW aligned furrow (7511). It measured 1.7m in width and was filled with a mid grey brown silty clay.



4 FINDS REPORTS

4.1 Prehistoric and Roman pottery

by Kate Brady

Introduction and methodology

4.1.1 Prehistoric and Roman pottery recovered from the evaluation was quantified within context groups by sherd count and weight in grammes. The assemblage totalled 1241 sherds and 9343g. The pottery was scanned to identify diagnostic forms and fabrics, assess condition, and provide spot dates. Where necessary the pottery was examined under a binocular microscope at x20 magnification to aid in identification of the fabric. Fabrics were assigned codes from OA's standard guidelines for Iron Age and Roman pottery (Booth 2008). Vessel forms were given simple descriptions (Table 1).

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description	Date
4706	118	1250	O30, P, E80, O20, E40	50BC to AD100
4716	9	172	E80	50BC to AD100
4718	5	34	O81, O20, P, Bead rim jar (R20?), E80	AD150-250
4721	16	99	E80 (jar)	50BC to AD100
4803	4	14	O30	AD43-410
4811	12	72	E80	50BC to AD100
4903	1	27	P	LPREH
5032	1	4	O20	AD43-410
5101	7	16	P	LPREH
5408	74	1358	E80,O20	50BC to AD100
6020	1	8	O20	AD43-410
6024	7	88	M41, R50 (dish), R20, R10, O20, F51	AD240-410
6028	1	9	O20	AD43-410
6104	2	15	R20, E80	AD43 to100
6107	3	62	R50 (dish), R30 (Globular jar)	AD125-250
6109	37	561	O80, R50 (dish), C11, W21 (jar), F51, O20, R20	AD240-410
6203	2	29	R50, O20	AD43-410
6205	8	78	R40 (Jar), R50, R30 (Jar), O20, O10	AD43-410
6206	3	53	R20, R30	AD43-410
6210	5	13	P	LPREH
6212	9	106	LPREH, R30, R20, O20, S	AD50-150



6216	1	25	O80	AD43-410
6218	1	20	R20	AD43-410
6222	2	20	O20, R20	AD43-410
6224	7	32	R20, O20	AD43-410
6226	2	30	O80, R20	AD43-410
6402	4	22	O20	AD43-410
6404	21	332	R20 (dish) O80, R50, R91 (Jar), W10, M22, O20 (dish and jar)	AD240-410
6407	2	16	O20 (jar), R30	AD43-410
6412	4	21	C11 (jar), R30 (jar), O20	AD100-410
6501	542	333	R90, W21 (AD50-150), O20, O81, R20, R30, S20, M31	AD240-410
6502	17	149	C11, B10 (dish), O20, R50 (bead rimmed dish), R10, R20 (Jar)	AD150-250
6504	2	16	E80	50BC to AD100
6505	119	1655	S20, F51, O80, O81, C11, B10, O30, O10 (funnel neck beaker), R20 (dish), R30 (Jars), R50 (dish/bowl) M21, A11/A12, M22, W21 (jar)	AD240-410
6506	35	417	C10 (jar) O80, O20, R20, R50, M22, S30, O81, crucible frag	AD150-300
6507	3	42	R20, O20,	AD43-410
6509	2	83	O10, O81	AD150-410
6511	4	34	E80, R20	AD50-100
6513	11	87	C11, O20, R30, W21, F51	AD240-410
6516	1	5	F52	AD150-410
6603	10	90	O80 (jar) R20, S40, O20, R50	AD150-240
6605	2	40	M22, S20/30 (Burnt)	AD100-410
6705	2	19	E80, S20	AD 40-100
6707	1	2	O20	AD43-410
7003	36	581	R20, R30 Bead rimmed dish (M2C-MC3), O10 (ring necked flagon) M1-L2C, W21 (jar and reed-rimmed bowl) (M1-M2C), R10 (poppy-head beaker with barbitone dots)	AD150-200
7006	45	882	R10 (jar) R20 (jar and bead-rimmed bowl) O20 (globular jar) O80, S20, W21 M21, C11 (lid seated jar), R50 (jars and dish/ bowl), O81	AD150-200
7006	23	90	R50, W21, O20 R20	AD50-150
7007	7	134	C10, R50, R50 (dish)	AD150-250
7104	4	36	E80, R20, O10	AD50-100



7105	1	18	R20	AD43-410
7305	2	17	E80	50BC to AD100
7502	1	11	E80	50BC to AD100
7504	2	16	E80	50BC to AD100

Table 1 – Prehistoric and Roman pottery

- 4.1.2 The earliest pottery was recovered from contexts 4903 and 5101 and 6212. The pottery was fairly well preserved and in contexts 4903 and 5101 was found without later pottery. Flint (F) was the principal component of the medium course handmade pottery, pointing to a later prehistoric date, probably mid to late Bronze Age or early Iron Age.
- 4.1.3 Grog tempered pottery (E80) with a late Iron Age to early Roman date (mid 1st century BC to late 1st century AD) was recovered from 12 contexts and was present without later sherds in significant quantities to indicate activity of this date on the site. In contexts 4706 and 5408 this may have been contemporary with a few sherds in an early Roman glauconitic tempered fabric; glauconite derives from greensand, and so the geology of the area suggests that the pottery was locally made. Other grog tempered sherds were present with reduced ware sherds (R20) in contexts 6104 and 6511 and also in 6705, where a fine oxidised ware (O10) was also present. A single sherd of grog tempered pottery was found in context 6705, along with a sherd of South Gaulish samian ware (S20). These contexts have all been assigned an early Roman date.
- 4.1.4 Pottery of mid-Roman date was collected from eight contexts. Sherds of a bead-rimmed bowl and a jar in a medium to fine reduced fabric (R30) were recovered from context 7006, which also contained sherds of a globular jar in a medium to fine oxidised fabric (O20). A lid seated jar sherd in a shell-tempered fabric (C11) along with some pink grogged ware (O81) also suggest a mid second to late second century date for this context. Contexts 7003 and 7006 were notable for their variety of fabrics and forms of middle Roman date, pointing to a focus of activity of this date in or around Trench 70.
- 4.1.5 Dark-surfaced reduced ware fabric (R50) in the form of a bead-rimmed dish and other plain-rimmed dishes and bowls were recovered from contexts 6502, 7006 and 7007. Context 6502 also contained a black-burnished ware dish sherd (B10).
- 4.1.6 The late Roman period is characterised by Oxford colour-coated wares and mortaria. The mortaria were present in three fabrics: Oxford red colour coated ware (M41), Oxford white-slipped oxidised ware (M31) and Oxford white ware (M22). Oxford red colour-coated ware sherds (F51) were recovered from four contexts, along with jars in late Roman shelly ware (C11) with which it is likely to be contemporary.
- 4.1.7 Regional material includes Verulamium-region White wares (W21). The Verulamium region may also have been the source of many of the grey wares, which had a similar granular appearance to the white ware (cf. Parminter 1990, 185) Oxfordshire potters provided colour-coated wares and mortaria (described above), while the small amount of black-burnished ware was from Dorset. Pink grogged ware sherds (O81) were found in six contexts, and was manufactured in the Northampton/north Buckinghamshire area between the later 2nd century and mid 4th century (Taylor 2004).
- 4.1.8 Imported pottery includes two amphora sherds of probable southern Spanish origin (A11/A12) and several sherds of samian, which appears to be mostly central Gaulish



(S30) in origin, although some east (S40) and south Gaulish (S20) material is also represented.

Discussion

- 4.1.9 Prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered from the site. The flint tempered prehistoric pottery was consistent with a mid to late Bronze Age-early Iron Age date, although as no forms were identified some caution should be applied as this material may be earlier or later in date.
- 4.1.10 Pottery dating from the late Iron Age-early Roman to late Roman period was represented. The significant amount of grog-tempered ware (E80) may indicate a late Iron Age phase, especially as in some contexts it was not accompanied by any post-conquest material, although equally it could all belong to the early Roman phase of activity.
- 4.1.11 The condition of the pottery is mixed; most of the sherds were in moderate to good condition, some large sherds were in good condition and some were smaller and more abraded. The overall mean sherd weight is 7.5g, which overall is fairly broken up, but exceptions to this were noted, in particular the E80 sherds from context 4706 and some grey ware sherds from 7003, which were relatively large.
- 4.1.12 Typically, a more fragmented assemblage suggests that the pottery has undergone multiple episodes of discard, disturbance and redeposition, with its final location being away from where it was originally used and discarded and this may be the case here, although the large sherds hint at a domestic focus relatively close to the site.
- 4.1.13 The prehistoric assemblage has little potential for further work, comprising as it does a relatively small number of body sherds, but indicates prehistoric occupation in the area.
- 4.1.14 The Roman assemblage is typical of a medium scale rural settlement, consisting mostly of jars in locally produced sandy grey wares and shell-tempered fabrics and indicates the presence of settlement with a late Iron Age to early Roman origin, with a growth period focused on the 2nd century AD, but continuing to some extent into the late 3rd century, and possibly into the 4th. Therefore, the material suggests that the settlement was occupied throughout the Roman period, similar to the site at Berton (Parminter 1986).
- 4.1.15 The presence of local and imported table wares, as well as amphorae (which probably contained olive oil) suggests a settlement nearby of at least moderate status. Some or all of this material may have derived from supply patterns and sources used by the nearby villa or relatively high-status settlement at Berton (Allen 1986).

4.2 Metal objects

by Ian Scott

- 4.2.1 There are 30 metal finds (35 fragments) from 13 contexts (Table 2). These comprise two copper alloy objects and 28 iron objects (33 fragments). The iron objects include nine nails (11 fragments) and nine hobnails (11 fragments). The finds have been recorded and details entered onto an Excel spreadsheet.
- 4.2.2 The single personal item is a copper alloy hairpin of late 1st- to early 2nd-century date (sf 2; context 6507). Hobnails were recovered from contexts 6505 and 7006. There is whittle tang knife with straight back and dropped convex curved edge and probably of Roman date (context 6205). A number of miscellaneous fragments have been recorded comprising bar, strip and wire fragments and plain iron ring, the last mentioned from



context 7006. There are five objects of uncertain identification, four of which are from context 6505 (see below).

- 4.2.3 Most contexts (6205, 6226, 6404, 6514, 6771 and 7105) produced single metal objects, usually miscellaneous pieces or nails although the single find from context 6205 was a whittle tang knife. Context 7105 produced a nail and a piece of slag. Contexts 6212 and 6214 produced single nail stem fragments.
- 4.2.4 Context 6505 produced four hobnails, two nails, a fragment of copper alloy wire or pin stem and four objects of uncertain identification. The last group include a tang probably from a knife (almost nothing survived of the blade), a fragment of bar or nail stem, a fragment of strip with a loop or eye at one end, possibly a small handle mount, and a fragment of bar possibly looped at one end, but encrusted. Context 6505 also produced a sherd of probable Roman vessel glass.
- 4.2.5 The finds from context 6507 comprise the copper alloy hairpin (sf 2) and two nails. From context 6509 there were a nail and fragment of iron bar.
- 4.2.6 Context 7006 produced five hobnails and two hobnail stems, and plain iron ring.
- 4.2.7 The metals assemblage includes hobnails and at least two objects of Roman date. The nails are hand made and could be of Roman origin.

Context		Function							Totals
		Personal	Hobnails	Household	Nails	Misc	Query	Slag	
6205	Count			1					1
	Fragt			1					1
6212	Count				0				0
	Fragt				1				1
6214	Count				0				0
	Fragt				1				1
6226	Count					1			1
	Fragt					1			1
6404	Count					1			1
	Fragt					1			1
6505	Count		4		2	1	4		11
	Fragt		4		2	1	4		11
6507	Count	1			2				3
	Fragt	1			2				3
6509	Count				1	1			2
	Fragt				1	1			2
6514	Count				1				1
	Fragt				1				1
6701	Count					1			1
	Fragt					1			1
7003	Count				2				2
	Fragt				2				2
7006	Count		5			1			6
	Fragt		7			1			8
7105	Count				1			0	1
	Fragt				1			1	2
Total	Count	1	9	1	9	6	4	0	30
Total	Fragt	1	11	1	11	6	4	1	35

Table 2 – Metal Objects



4.3 Glass

by Ian Scott

- 4.3.1 A single small sherd of vessel glass was recovered from context 6505. This is possibly from shoulder / neck junction of a flask or bottle. There are bubbles in the metal which is blue green. The sherd is probably Roman in date.

4.4 Coin

By Paul Booth

- 4.4.1 A single Roman coin was recovered from context 6407.

Context	Description	Date
6407	Small find SF4. Constantinopolis (irregular), 1g	330-335AD

Table 3 - Coin

4.5 Ceramic building material

by Cynthia Poole

- 4.5.1 A small assemblage of 19 fragments of ceramic building material weighing 1020g was recovered from seven trenches. The tile is summarised by context in the accompanying table and is fully recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, which forms part of the archive. The tile is not well preserved having a low mean fragment weight of 53g, though abrasion was variable. All the tile is Roman in date, with two fragments suggesting a date of mid-2nd century or later for the group.
- 4.5.2 The tile was assigned to the same fabric types established for the previous evaluation at the site. These were generally orange, brownish orange or reddish orange in colour sometimes with a grey or red core and consisted of fine sandy micaceous clay (fabric D), or the same matrix with red ferruginous clay pellets (fabric B) or with the addition of medium-coarse quartz sand (fabric C). Two bricks and an indeterminate tile in fabric D had a distinctive coarse flint gritted moulding sand.
- 4.5.3 Diagnostic material included all major categories of Roman tile: tegula, imbrex, *tubulus* (box tile) and brick. The remaining material has been classified as indeterminate or flat tile varying in thickness from 12-37mm, which suggests it includes examples from all major forms. There is a clear concentration of pieces in trenches 64, 65, 66 and 70, suggesting a focus of Roman activity. The range of material found is indicative of a masonry building with tiled roof and at least one heated room somewhere in the locality, though not within the immediate vicinity, where it is more likely tile was being recycled in minor structures such as hearths ovens and kilns. The prevalence of flat plates in the fired clay assemblage, suggests that these may have been substituted by tile as this became more readily available in the mid-late in the Roman period.

Context	Nos	Wt (g)	Fab	Form	Spot Date	Comments
6028	1	11	D	Flat	RB	
6214	1	6	D	indet	RB	
6407	1	360	D	Brick	RB	Possible scored graffiti
6501	3	147	D	Flat /brick	RB	

6501	1	24	C	Flat/imbrex	RB	
6501	1	23	B	Tubulus?	RB	
6505	1	109	D	Tubulus	RB: 2nd C+	Combed keying: coarse combing in OA pattern type 2 or 14
6505	1	22	C	Flat	RB?	
6605	3	82	D	Brick	RB	
7006	1	62	C	Brick	RB	
7006	1	11	B	indet	RB	
7006	1	149	C	Tegula	RB: AD160- 260	Flange type D (28mm w, 45- 49mm H); cutaway Warry type C5 (Warry 2006)
7006	2	5	B	indet	RB	
7123	1	9	C	Imbrex	RB	
Total	19	1020				

Table 4 – Ceramic Building Material

4.6 Fired clay

by Cynthia Poole

- 4.6.1 A small assemblage of fired clay amounted to a total of 115 fragments weighing 1671g. Preservation is poor to average indicated by a mean fragment weight (MFW) of 14.5g. This is summarised by context in the accompanying table and has been recorded in more detail on an Excel spreadsheet, which forms part of the archive. Abrasion was variable though most commonly moderate. The assemblage was recovered from eight trenches (47, 61, 62, 65-7, 70 and 75) with the largest concentration found in trench 65. Fired clay can only be dated on intrinsic features for a relatively restricted number of diagnostic forms, but the majority is reliant on associated material for phasing.
- 4.6.2 The most common fabric was a fine silty sandy laminated micaceous clay fabric (fabric A) containing red ferruginous grits and fired to variegated shades of red, pink, buff, brown and cream. In a few cases this was tempered with organic material (fabric AV), essentially crop processing waste consisting of chaff or broken straw. The second main fabric was a very sandy clay (Fabric Q GI) containing a high density of fine-medium dark rounded sand, probably glauconite or an iron rich mineral with lesser quantities of medium-coarse quartz sand in a laminated sometimes micaceous clay. This clay fabric was also tempered with organic material in some examples.
- 4.6.3 The majority of the fired clay appears to derive from oven or kiln plates. In form this is a flat clay slab with smooth moulded surfaces, possibly slightly rougher on the base reflecting the working surface on which it was made and with a flat straight edge. On one piece the surfaces diverged to suggest a slightly lentoid profile (context 4706). They measured between 20 and 34mm thick, though some incomplete examples were 35mm or more. They were probably rectangular though with no corners surviving it is impossible to be sure whether other polygonal shapes are represented. Some of these thicker pieces may derive from triangular bricks, but only a single corner fragment of a triangular brick was identified (context 6205) and no pieces with diagnostic perforations were found. Other fragments, usually with a single moulded surface sometimes finger marks, are probably structural in origin deriving from oven/kiln walls or floors. A small



number had wattle impressions on the reverse measuring 9, 11 and 25mm diameter. Some pieces with the surface fired almost white may represent hearth floor (context 6505).

Context	Nos	Wt (g)	Form	Fab	Spot Date	Comment
4706	1	29	Plate	A	LIA-ERB	25-28mm th
4718	1	25	Plate/ Triangular Brick?	Q GI V	IA-RB	
4718	2	5	Indeterminate	A GI	Neo-Med	
4721	1	38	Plate	AV gl	LIA-ERB	c. 24mm thick
6104	1	2	Plate?	A/?V	LIA-ERB	
6205	1	43	Triangular Brick	A	IA-ERB	Rounded corner of triangular brick
6205	1	24	Plate?	Q GI	LIA-ERB	
6205	2	6	Indeterminate	AV	Neo-Med	
6206	1	31	Plate	A	LIA-ERB	
6222	3	50	Indeterminate	A	Neo-Med	
6226	3	49	Indeterminate	Q GI	Neo-Med	
6226	4	47	Plate	Q GI	LIA-ERB	
6501	2	66	Oven wall/floor	A	Neo-Med	Possible very poorly preserved wattle impressions.
6502	13	74	Oven Structure	A	Neo-Med	Wattle impression 25mm dia.
6505	3	112	Plate	Q GI	LIA-ERB	
6505	5	104	Oven/hearth floor?	AV	Neo-Med	
6505	19	260	Oven/hearth floor?	A	Neo-Med	
6506	20	154	Plate	A	LIA-ERB	
6506	3	42	Plate/ Triangular Brick?	A	IA-ERB	
6507	1	67	Plate/ Triangular Brick?	Q GI	IA-RB	
6513	1	25	Oven wall/floor	A	Neo-Med	Interwoven wattle impressions 9, 11mm diam
6513	1	25	Indeterminate	A	Neo-Med	
6605	1	20	Plate	Q GI	LIA-ERB	34mm thick
6608	1	104	Plate/ Triangular Brick?	Q GI	Neo-Med	
6707	2	18	Plate?	Q GI V	LIA-ERB	
7003	1	7	Indeterminate	A	Neo-Med	
7006	20	212	Oven Structure?	A	Neo-Med	
7504	1	32	Plate	A	LIA-ERB	30mm thick
Total	115	1671				

Table 5: Fired Clay



5 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

5.1 Environmental samples

by Julia Meen and Rebecca Nicholson

- 5.1.1 Two environmental samples were taken during the evaluation. Sample 3 (6404) and sample 4 (7006) were both from the single fills of ditches of Roman date. Both samples were processed by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residues sieved to 500µm and dried in a heated room, after which the residues were sorted by eye for artefacts and environmental remains. The charred plant remain flots were scanned for plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x10 magnification.
- 5.1.2 Sample 3 (6404) was a dark grey silty loam (2.5Y 4/1), 27l in volume. Pottery, animal bone, a fragment of burnt flint and an iron fragment probably from a nail were retrieved from the residue. The flot was c.100ml of which 50% was scanned. While rich in modern roots only a small quantity of charcoal was noted. The charcoal is in good condition although the majority is too small to provide a species identification. No charred seeds were noted within the scanned portion.
- 5.1.3 Sample 4 (7006) was also a dark grey silty loam (2.5Y 4/1), 30l in volume. Pottery, fired clay, animal bone and iron objects which appear to be hobnails were retrieved from the residue as well as fragments of a broken ammonite (fossil) and a small amount of snail shell. The flot was also c.100ml of which 50% was scanned. Modern roots were common with occasional charcoal too small to identify to species. While no charred seeds were noted within the scanned portion, fragments of cereal grain were seen, these were unidentifiable to species due to poor condition. Snail shells were also observed in good condition within the flot.
- 5.1.4 The flots from this phase of evaluation are largely poor in charred remains with the poorly preserved cereal grains that were recovered likely to represent background material only.

5.2 Animal Bone

by Lena Strid

- 5.2.1 A total of 320 animal bone fragments were recovered from features preliminarily dated to the Roman period (Table 1). This included 114 fragments (35.6%) which came from sieved soil samples. The bone condition was generally good to fair. Gnaw marks from carnivores, probably dogs, were found on 22 bones. A single indeterminate bone was burnt.
- 5.2.2 The assemblage contains bones from domestic animals (cattle, sheep/goat and pig) and microfauna (field vole, mouse and frog/toad). The presence of these domestic taxa are common for Roman rural assemblages, although due to the small sample size it is not possible to extrapolate on the frequency of cattle, sheep/goat and pig and their contribution to the economy and diet.
- 5.2.3 A small number of bones could be attributed to minimum age at death (Table 2-3). The presence of sub-adult and adult cattle and sheep/goat suggest that they were kept for a variety of products. Surplus animals were usually killed for meat after their first few winters and the rest of the herds used as providers of wool, milk and manure, and as draught animals. Pigs were on the other hand raised solely for meat and due to their high fecundity and growth rate they were mostly killed as sub-adults after reaching



maximum size. Two ribs from juvenile medium mammals and a metacarpal from a calf may be indicative of infant mortalities or of the utilization of veal/lamb/suckling pig.

- 5.2.4 Two cattle bones, one scapula and one femur, had blade marks indicative of filleting carried out by a cleaver. This was a common method for large scale meat processing in Roman towns, and also spread through the countryside (Maltby 2007). Cut marks just below the proximal joint surface on a sheep/goat metatarsal suggests skinning or disarticulation of the meat-poor lower leg. One cattle metacarpal had an extended medial condyle, a condition associated with the use of cattle as draught animals (Bartosiewicz *et al.* 1997).

	Hand-collected	Sieved	Total
Cattle	38		38
Sheep/goat	17	2	19
Pig	10		10
Horse	7		7
Carnivore (fox-size)	1		1
Field vole		1	1
Shrew		2	2
Mouse/vole sp.		7	7
Micromammal		16	16
Indet. bird		1	1
Frog		5	5
Frog/toad		38	38
Microfauna		9	9
Small mammal		1	1
Medium mammal	24	3	27
Large mammal	40	1	41
Indeterminate	69	28	97
TOTAL	206	114	320
Weight (g)	4297	17	4314

Table 6 - Number of bones per species in all phases

Species	Dp4	M1	M2	M3	MWS	Estimated age
Cattle	k	j	f		29-33	18-36 months
				k	46-50	Senile
Sheep/goat	g	e	E		13-15	6-12 months
				e	33-38	3-4 years

Table 7 - Tooth wear and estimated age of cattle and sheep/goat in the Berton assemblage, following Grant (1982), Halstead 1986 and Payne (1973)



		Unfused	Fusing	Fused
Cattle	Early fusion			2
	Mid fusion	2		4
	Late fusion	1		1
Sheep/goat	Early fusion	1		1
	Mid fusion	2		3
	Late fusion			
Pig	Early fusion			1
	Mid fusion			1
	Late fusion			
Horse	Early fusion			2
	Mid fusion			
	Late fusion			

Table 8 - Epiphyseal fusion of cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse in all phases from the Berton assemblage, following Habermehl (1975). Fusion stages follows Serjeantson (1996).

5.3 Shell

by Rebecca Nicholson

- 5.3.1 A small number of marine shells, all of native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) were recovered by hand during the evaluation excavation (Table 1), from probable Roman contexts 6505, 6506, 6205 and 6206. Most valves are in fair or good condition, round hinged, of moderate size and a few are fairly complete. Several left valves have purple banding externally and one left valve from (6206) has an opening notch ventrally and this shell is blistered internally, as are several others, probably caused by the polychaete worm *Polydora hoplura*. Three left valves from (6206) have burrows from *Ploydora ciliata* on the external surface. Small cuts are visible on the exterior of two valves from (6505).
- 5.3.2 Apart from confirming that oysters were imported to and eaten at the site, little can be deduced from this small assemblage.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 Thirty four trenches were excavated, as part of a wider scheme of evaluation reported elsewhere (Oxford Archaeology 2013). In conjunction with the geophysical survey and with the results of the earlier work the evaluation has successfully characterised the archaeological potential of the site in general terms and has provided more detailed information on areas of significant activity, identified in the north-east and south-eastern parts of Area D. The features and artefacts identified in these areas suggest a focus of settlement activity and the areas adjacent to these trenches to the east are likely to contain similarly dense concentrations of features with large artefactual assemblages within their fills.
- 6.1.2 The results of the geophysical survey produced a good indication of the extent of archaeological deposits. However, concentrations of features in Trench 53, 60 and 75 did not produce corresponding geophysical anomalies. In other trenches there was a



reasonably good correspondence between geophysical anomalies and archaeological features.

- 6.1.3 The trenches along the far western and northern edges of the site encountered no remains or very sparse. The trenching results, in conjunction with the geophysical survey, suggest that adjacent areas are likely to have similarly low archaeological potential.
- 6.1.4 It is felt that the recorded density and distribution of archaeological features provides a generally accurate representation of the evaluation area as a whole.

6.2 Interpretation

Area A

- 6.2.1 The single trench in Area A had to be abandoned due the probable presence of live below ground services. The trench was targeted on an area of strong magnetic disturbance recorded in the geophysical survey and it is possible that this disturbance was, itself, caused by the presence of such services.

Area D

- 6.2.2 A small quantity of prehistoric pottery of broadly middle Bronze Age to early Iron Age date was recovered from three locations across Area D (Fig. 18). The nature of the activity represented is difficult to determine given its dispersed distribution, but it certainly indicates the utilisation of the landscape during this period. A considerable number of scatters of prehistoric pottery are known from the area to the north and east of Berton, there is widespread evidence of Iron Age activity in Berton itself, and evidence of activity of a similar date was recovered to the south of Burcott during the previous phase of evaluation (Oxford Archaeology 2013). It is therefore likely that this material forms part of a wider, if dispersed, pattern of prehistoric activity in the area
- 6.2.3 The evaluation recorded a concentration of features in the north-east of Area D, corresponding with an area of anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, which produced pottery of late Iron Age to early Roman date (Trenches 47 and 48). Further pottery of this date was also recovered from Trench 56, slightly further to the south, and Trenches 73 and 75, at the southern extent of the evaluated area. It seems clear, given the quantity of pottery recovered from Trenches 47 and 48, that a settlement of this date existed in the north-eastern part of Area D, perhaps extending as far south as Trench 51.
- 6.2.4 A significant quantity of pottery was also recovered from Trench 54 and this, along with a series of undated features in Trench 53, may represent a second area of settlement activity. The material recovered from the southern edge of the evaluated area perhaps indicates a third area of activity as no material of this date was recovered from the intervening trenches. The imprecise dating of the pottery recovered from these trenches means that it is not possible to say whether the activity dates to the pre- or post-conquest period or, indeed, whether the various areas of activity were contemporary.
- 6.2.5 A focus of securely Roman period activity is present in the south-eastern part of Area D, in Trenches 60-62, 64-67, 69-71 and, perhaps 57 (Fig. 18). In Trench 65, a possible demolition layer, perhaps from a collapsed stone wall, produced large quantities finds, including pottery, nails, ceramic building material, glass and personal items (hobnails and a dress pin). The presence of the possible demolition layer and a quantity of tile (including tegula, imbrex, *tubulus* and brick) strongly suggests that a building of Roman date is located in this area, set in a series of enclosures and fields.



- 6.2.6 The range and type of material present indicates that it was probably a farmstead of moderate status. The pottery evidence recovered seems to suggest that the main period of activity was focused on the 2nd century AD but continued into the late 3rd and perhaps even the 4th century. It is not clear whether there was any continuity with the late Iron Age or early Roman activity described above, but this must be a possibility.
- 6.2.7 Little is known about the pattern of Roman rural settlement in the Vale of Aylesbury, although recent excavations suggest a relatively dense pattern along Aylesbury's section of Akeman Street (Zeepvat and Radford, 2009). For example, excavations at Berryfields near Quarrendon to the north-west of Aylesbury and to the east of the Roman road revealed roadside field systems, a set of narrow rectangular plots, and settlement features. South-east of Aylesbury, Roman settlement was uncovered along the Aston Clinton by-pass (Masefield 2008), while a villa or relatively high-status settlement is known at Berton north-west of the current evaluation area (Allen 1986). How far these settlements inter-related in terms of chronology and function is at present uncertain, but they nonetheless point to a complex pattern of settlement across Aylesbury.
- 6.2.8 The evidence from the evaluation adds to data gathered during the first phase of evaluation (Oxford Archaeology 2013), perhaps indicating an extensive area of rural settlement to the east of Aylesbury.
- 6.2.9 A number of plough furrows, the remnants of ridge and furrow, suggest that during the medieval period and later, the site lay within agricultural fields. Ceramic land drains, present in many trenches, attest to efforts to improve the drainage of the site, probably in the 18th century or later.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Area D

Trench 42						
General description					Orientation	E-W
No archaeological remains present.					Avg depth (m)	0.48
					Width (m)	30
					Length (m)	2
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
4201	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
4202	Natural	-	?	Orangey brown and greenish clay silt with chalky inclusions.	-	-

Trench 43						
General description					Orientation	E-W
No archaeological remains present.					Avg depth (m)	0.37
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4300	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
4301	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
4302	Natural	-	?	Orangey brown clay silt with chalky inclusions.	-	-

Trench 44						
General description					Orientation	E-W
No archaeological remains present					Avg depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date



4400	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
4401	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
4402	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed mid yellow brown clay silt	-	-

Trench 45						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Three NE-SW plough furrows.					Avg depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4500	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
4501	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil, mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay	-	-
4502	Fill	1.6	0.12	Moderately compact, blueish grey brown silty clay	-	-
4503	Cut	1.6	0.12	Linear, with shallow sides and a flat base	-	-
4504	Fill	1.6	0.12	Moderately compact, blueish grey brown silty clay	-	-
4505	Cut	1.6	0.12	Linear, with shallow sides and a flat base	-	-
4506	Fill	1.6	0.12	Moderately compact, blueish grey brown silty clay	-	-
4507	Cut	1.6	0.12	Linear, with shallow sides and a flat base	-	-
4708	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed mid yellow brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 46						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Two pits or postholes					Avg depth (m)	0.46
					Width (m)	1.7
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4600	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern



4601	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay	-	-
4602	Fill	1	0.55	Dark blueish grey brown silty clay, occasional charcoal	-	-
4603	Cut	1	0.55	Pit or large posthole. Circular, steep sides, conical base	-	-
4604	Fill	0.55	?	Dark grey brown clay silt	-	-
4605	Cut	0.55	?	Circular, probable small pit. Not excavated.	-	-
4606	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown clay silt	-	-

Trench 47						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Four E-W aligned ditches, two plough furrows, Two tree throw holes.					Avg depth (m)	0.47
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Findings	Date
4700	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
4701	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay	-	-
4702	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown clay silt	-	-
4703	Cut	0.5	0.16	Tree throw hole. Steep sides, flat base.	-	-
4704	Fill	0.5	0.16	Firm mid grey-brown silty clay fill of tree throw hole 4703	-	-
4705	Cut	1.7	0.32	E-W aligned ditch. Linear, moderate side slope, flat base.	-	-
4706	Fill	0.62	0.12	Firm, light orange-brown silty clay, fill of ditch 4705	Pot, Bone, Clay	Animal Fired -50 to AD100
4707	Fill	1.68	0.32	Firm, mid grey-brown silty clay, fill of ditch 4705	-	-
4708	Cut	1.2	0.2	Tree throw hole. Sub-circular, moderate side slope, concave base.	-	-
4709	Fill	0.9	0.2	Firm, mid grey-brown silty clay, fill of tree throw hole 4708	Animal Bone	-
4710	Fill	0.58	0.1	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay. Fill of tree throw hole 4708	-	-
4711	Cut	1.3	0.2	Plough furrow. Linear, shallow sides, flat base	-	-



4712	Fill	1.3	0.2	Fill of furrow 4711. Firm, mid brown silty clay	-	-
4713	Cut	0.98	0.18	Ditch, E-W aligned. Moderate sides, flat base	-	-
4714	Fill	0.98	0.18	Fill of ditch 4713. Firm, mid orange brown silty clay	-	-
4715	Cut	2.1	0.18	Plough furrow. Linear, shallow sides, flat base	-	-
4716	Fill	2.1	0.18	Fill of furrow 4715. Firm, mid brown silty clay	Pot	-50 to AD70
4717	Cut	2.1	0.38	Ditch, E-W aligned. Linear, moderate sides, flat base		
4718	Fill	1.32	0.12	Fill of ditch 4717. Firm mid orange-brown silty clay	Pot, Bone, Clay	Animal Fired AD150-250
4719	Fill	2.1	0.28	Fill of ditch 4717. Firm mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-
4720	Cut	1.5	0.58	Ditch. E-W aligned. Linear, moderate to steep sides, concave base	-	-
4721	Fill	0.5	0.08	Fill of ditch 4720. Firm, mid brown-grey silty clay	Pot, Bone, Clay	Animal Fired -50 to AD70
4722	Fill	1.5	0.2	Fill of ditch 4720. Firm mid grey-brown silty clay		

Trench 48						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Five possible ditches (one of which is a terminal) and a tree throw hole. Extensive disturbance from modern feature.					Avg depth (m)	0.46
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4800	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
4801	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
4802	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
4803	Fill	2	0.2	Fill of possible ditch 4804. Moderate mid yellow-brown clay silt	Pot	43-410
4804	Cut	2	0.2	Possible ditch, NNW-SSE aligned. Linear, moderate sides, concave base	-	-



4805	Fill	0.8	0.41	Fill of tree throw hole 4806. Compact mid blue-grey silty clay.	-	-
4806	Cut	0.8	0.41	Tree throw hole, circular, moderate side slope, concave base	-	-
4807	Fill	0.3	0.26	Fill of modern drain 4808	-	-
4808	Cut	0.3	0.26	Modern drain	-	-
4809	Fill	3	0.28	Fill of possible ditch 4810. Compact, mid reddish brown clay silt	-	-
4810	Cut	3	0.28	Possible ditch NE-SW aligned. Linear, steep sides	-	-
4811	Fill	1.1	0.2	Fill of possible ditch 4812. Moderate mid brown-grey clay silt	Pot, Bone	Animal -50 to AD70
4812	Cut	1.1	0.2	Possible ditch. Linear, moderate sides, concave base	-	-
4813	Fill	10	0.22	Fill of possible ditch 4814. Moderate mid brown-grey clay silt.	-	-
4814	Cut	10	0.22	Possible ditch. Irregular sides, base unknown. Only a small extent seen in excavated slot.	-	-
4815	Fill	?	2.6	Fill of possible ditch 4816. Moderate mid brown-grey clay silt	Pot	
4816	Cut	2.6	?	Possible ditch. NW-SE aligned. Not excavated.	-	-

Trench 49						
General description					Orientation	N-S
One possible ditch or plough furrow. One pit or tree throw hole.					Avg depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
					Contexts	
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4900	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
4901	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
4902	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
4903	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch 4904. Moderate mid reddish brown and grey-brown clay silt	Pot	Late prehistoric
4904	Cut	0.8	0.2	Ditch, aligned E-W. Concave sides, V-shaped base	-	-
4905	Fill	0.6	0.15	Fill of tree throw hole 4906. Firm grey	-	-



				silty clay		
4906	Cut	0.6	0.15	Tree throw hole. Circular, moderate sides, concave base	-	-

Trench 50						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Two plough furrows.					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5000	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5001	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil, Orange-brown slightly silty clay	-	-
5002	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown clay silt	-	-
5003	Cut	0.8	0.12	Plough furrow. Linear, shallow sides, flat base	-	-
5004	Fill	0.8	0.12	Fill of plough furrow. Firm mid orange-grey silty clay	-	-

Trench 51						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Four ditches and two pits.					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5100	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5101	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid orange-brown slightly silty clay	Pot	Late Prehistoric
5102	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown clay silt	-	?
5103	Cut	1.1	0.24	Pit. Sub-circular, moderate sides, flat base	-	-
5104	Fill	1.1	0.24	Fill of pit 5103. Firm mid orange-brown silty clay	-	-
5105	Cut	5	?	Not excavated, possible pit	-	-
5106	Fill	5	?	Fill of possible pit 5105. Firm, mid	-	-



				grey silty clay		
5107	Cut	2.5	?	Not excavated, probable ditch. N-S linear	-	-
5108	Fill	2.5	?	Fill of probable ditch 5107. Firm mid grey silty clay	-	-
5109	Cut	1	?	Ditch, E-W aligned linear. Not excavated	-	-
5110	Fill	1	?	Fill of ditch 5109. Firm, mid grey silty clay.	-	-
5111	Cut	0.8	?	Ditch, E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
5112	Fill	0.8	?	Fill of ditch 5111. Firm mid grey silty clay	-	-
5113	Cut	2.4	?	Ditch. N-S aligned linear	-	-
5114	Fill	2.4	?	Fill of ditch 5113. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 52						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
E-W aligned ditch.				Avg depth (m)	0.28	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5201	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5202	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5203	Cut	0.6	0.2	Ditch, Linear, moderate side slope, V-shaped base	-	-
5204	Fill	0.6	0.2	Fill of ditch 5203, Firm mid grey brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 53						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Possible gully, ditch and 4 postholes.				Avg depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Comment	Finds	Date



number		(m)	(m)			
5300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	pottery and CBM	modern
5301	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5302	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5303	Cut	0.64	0.04	Shallow gully. Linear, NW-SE aligned. Irregular, shallow profile	-	-
5304	Fill	0.64	0.04	Fill of gully 5303. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
5305	Cut	0.76	0.28	Ditch. N-S aligned. Steep sides, V-shaped base	-	-
5306	Fill	0.76	0.28	Fill of ditch 5305. Firm, mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-
5307	Cut	0.2	?	Posthole, oval. Unexcavated	-	-
5308	Fill	0.2	?	Fill of posthole 5307. Firm mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
5309	Cut	0.4	?	Posthole. Circular. Unexcavated	-	-
5310	Fill	0.4	?	Fill of posthole 5309. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
5311	Cut	0.3	?	Posthole. Circular, unexcavated	-	-
5312	Fill	0.3	?	Fill of posthole 5311. Firm, mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
5313	Cut	0.3	?	Posthole. Sub-circular, not excavated	-	-
5314	Fill	0.3	?	Fill of posthole 5313	-	-

Trench 54						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
E-W aligned gully and a plough furrow.				Avg depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay	pottery and CBM	modern
5401	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5402	Natural	-	0.25	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5403	Cut	0.65	0.14	Ditch. E-W aligned linear. Moderate	-	-



				straight sides, concave base		
5404	Fill	0.65	0.14	Fill of ditch 5403. Moderate-firm mid grey brown silty clay	Bone	
5405	Cut	1.4	?	Plough furrow. Not excavated	-	-
5406	Fill	1.4	?	Fill of plough furrow 5405. Moderate to compact mid yellow-brown silty clay	-	-
5407	Cut	1.75	0.74	Ditch. E-W aligned linear. Steep sides, concave base.	-	-
5408	Fill	1.75	0.74	Fill of ditch 5407. Moderate to firm mid grey-brown silty clay	Pot, CBM	Bone, -50 to AD100

Trench 55						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
E-W aligned ditch				Avg depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5500	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil, very dark grey brown organic silty clay		modern
5501	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay		-
5502	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5503	Fill	0.73	0.1	Fill of ditch 5504. Firm, light brownish yellow silty clay	-	-
5504	Cut	0.73	0.1	Ditch. E-W aligned. Moderately sloping sides flat base	-	-

Trench 56						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
N-S aligned ditch.				Avg depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5600	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5601	Layer	-	?	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-



5602	Natural	-	0.2	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5603	Fill	0.76	0.13	Fill of ditch 5604. Firm mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-
5604	Cut	0.76	0.13	Ditch. N-S aligned. moderately sloping sides, concave base	-	-

Trench 57						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Three linear features including one terminal. Ditch 5703 cuts through the subsoil, suggesting a later date. Tree throw hole. A land drain cuts through the trench in the east.					Avg depth (m)	0.25
					Width (m)	1.9
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Findings	Date
5700	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5701	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5702	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5703	Cut	0.97	0.28	Ditch. NE-SW aligned. Terminal. Steep sides, concave base.	-	-
5704	Fill	0.97	0.28	Fill of ditch 5703. Firm mid grey-brown silty clay.	-	-
5705	Cut	0.7	?	Pit or treethrow. Circular, not excavated.	-	-
5706	Fill	0.7	?	Fill of feature 5705. Compact mid yellow-brown silty clay	-	-
5707	Cut	1.1	?	Linear feature. N-S aligned. Not excavated.	-	-
5708	Fill	1.1	?	Fill of linear feature 5707.	-	-
5709	Cut	0.5	?	Ditch. NE-SW aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
5710	Fill	0.5	?	Fill of ditch 5709. Moderate mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 58						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Ditch at west end of the trench cut by two pits of likely post-medieval date. Five features to the east of the ditch were very shallow and may have been small pits or postholes.					Avg depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	1.9
					Length (m)	30



Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
5800	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
5801	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5802	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
5803	Cut	0.87	0.49	Ditch. N-S aligned. Linear moderate sides, flat base	-	-
5804	Cut	0.7	0.44	Pit. Shallow sides, flat base	-	-
5805	Fill	0.7	0.44	Fill of pit 5804. Firm dark yellowish grey silty clay	Animal Bone	-
5806	Fill	0.87	0.23	Fill of ditch 5803. Firm light yellow-brown silty clay	-	-
5807	Fill	0.87	0.23	Fill of ditch 5803. Firm yellow grey silty clay	-	-
5808	Cut	0.7	0.24	same as 5804	Animal Bone	-
5809	Fill	0.7	0.24	same as 5805	Animal Bone	-
5810	Cut	0.33	0.15	Pit. Circular, concave sides and base	-	-
5811	Fill	0.33	0.15	Fill of pit 5810. Firm very dark grey silty clay	-	-
5812	Cut	0.61	0.19	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Shallow sides, concave base	-	-
5813	Fill	0.61	0.19	Fill of possible pit 5812. Firm mid brown-grey silty clay	-	-
5814	Fill	0.51	?	Fill of possible pit 5815. Firm Grey-brown silty clay	-	-
5815	Cut	0.51	?	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
5816	Fill	0.45	?	Fill of possible pit 5817. Firm dark grey brown silty clay	-	-
5817	Cut	0.45	?	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-

Trench 59						
General description			Orientation	NW-SE		
No archaeological remains identified.			Avg depth (m)	0.38		
			Width (m)	1.9		
			Length (m)	30		
Contexts						
Context	Type	Width	Depth	Comment	Finds	Date



number		(m)	(m)			
5900	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
5901	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
5902	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-

Trench 60						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Ten pits and six ditches.					Avg depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	1.9
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6000	Natural	-	?	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
6001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6002	Layer	-	0.2	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	modern
6003	Cut	0.4	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6004	Fill	0.4	?	Fill of pit 6003. Firm brown silty clay.	-	-
6005	Cut	1.1	?	Pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6006	Fill	1.1	?	Fill of pit 6005. Firm brown silty clay	-	-
6007	Cut	0.8	0.2	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Moderate sides, flat base	-	-
6008	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch 6007. Firm grey-brown silty clay	-	-
6009	Cut	1.4	0.2	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Moderate side slope, flat base	-	-
6010	Fill	1.4	0.2	Fill of ditch 6009. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6011	Cut	0.5	?	Pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6012	Fill	0.5	?	Fill of pit 6011. Firm grey-brown silty clay	-	-
6013	Cut	0.8	0.2	Ditch. NW-SE aligned	-	-
6014	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch 6013. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6015	Cut	2.3	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6016	Fill	2.3	?	Fill of pit 6015. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6017	Cut	1.5	?	Pit, oval. Unexcavated	-	-



6018	Fill	1.5	?	Fill of pit 6017. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6019	Cut	1.8	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6020	Fill	1.8	?	Fill of pit 6019. Firm grey silty clay	Pot	43-410
6021	Cut	2.5	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6022	Fill	2.5	?	Fill of pit 6021. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6023	Cut	2.2	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6024	Fill	2.2	?	Fill of pit 6023. Firm grey silty clay	Pot	AD240+
6025	Cut	2	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6026	Fill	2	?	Fill of pit 6025. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6027	Cut	2.2	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
6028	Fill	2.2	?	Fill of pit 6027. Firm grey silty clay	Pot, CBM	AD43-410
6029	Cut	2.1	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6030	Fill	2.1	?	Fill of ditch 6029. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6031	Cut	1	?	Ditch. NE-SW aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6032	Fill	1	?	Fill of ditch 6031. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
6033	Cut	0.4	?	Ditch. NE-Sw aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6034	Fill	0.4	?	Fill of ditch 6033. Firm grey silty clay	-	-

Trench 61						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Five ditches					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6100	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
6101	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6102	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	modern
6103	Cut	0.48	0.16	Ditch. Moderate sides, concave base	-	-
6104	Fill	0.48	0.16	Fill of ditch 6103. Firm dark brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Bone, Clay	Animal Fired -43 to AD100
6105	Cut	1	0.4	Ditch, steep sides, flat base	-	-
6106	Fill	0.5	0.2	Fill of ditch 6105. Firm mid orange grey silty clay	-	-
6107	Fill	1	0.22	Fill of ditch 6105. Firm mid brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Bone	AD125-250



6108	Cut	1.3	0.4	Ditch. E-W aligned. Moderate side slope, flat base	-	-
6109	Fill	1.3	0.4	Fill of ditch 6108. Firm mid brown grey silty clay	Pot, Bone	AD240+
6110	Cut	0.6	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6111	Fill	0.6	?	Fill of ditch 6110. Firm grey brown silty clay	-	-
6112	Cut	5.8	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated		
6113	Fill	5.8	?	Fill of ditch 6112. Firm brown-grey silty clay	-	-

Trench 62						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
Five ditches a pit and a group of intercutting pits.				Avg depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6200	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
6201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6202	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
6203	Cut	1.05	0.22	Fill of ditch 6204. Moderate light brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone	AD43-410
6204	Cut	1.05	0.22	Ditch. Curvilinear, broadly E-W aligned. Moderate side slope, flat base	-	-
6205	Fill	2.6	0.21	Fill of ditch 6207. Moderate very dark brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, CBM, Fired Clay, Fe obj	AD43-410
6206	Fill	1.96	0.46	Fill of ditch 6207. Firm brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, CBM, Flint, Fired Clay	AD43-410
6207	Cut	2.6	0.64	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Steep sides, concave base		-
6208	Fill	0.54	?	Fill of possible pit. Moderate very dark grey silty clay	-	-
6209	Cut	0.54	?	Possible pit or posthole. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-



6210	Fill	0.48	?	Fill of possible pit 6211. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	Pot	Prehistoric
6211	Cut	0.48	?	Possible pit or posthole. Not excavated	-	-
6212	Fill	1.11	?	Fill of ditch 6213. NW-SE aligned. Unexcavated	Pot, Animal Bone, Fe Nail	AD50-150
6213	Cut	1.11	?	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6214	Fill	2.03	?	Fill of ditch 6213. Moderate dark greyish brown silty clay	Metal, CBM, Fe Nail	-
6215	Cut	2.03	?	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6216	Fill	2.47	?	Fill of possible pit or posthole 6217. Firm yellow-brown silty clay	Pot	AD43-410
6217	Cut	1.47	?	Possible pits. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6218	Fill	1.56	?	Fill of possible pits 6217. Firm yellowish brown silty clay	Pot	AD43-410
6219	Cut	1.56	?	Possible pits. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6220	Fill	1.4	?	Fill of possible pit. Unexcavated	-	-
6221	Cut	1.4	?	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6222	Fill	1.67	?	Fill of possible pit 6223. Moderate mid grey brown silty clay	Pot, Fired Clay	AD43-410
6223	Cut	1.67	?	Possible pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
6224	Fill	4.08	0.18	Fill of furrow. Firm dark brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Bone	AD43-410
6225	Cut	4.08	0.18	Furrow. E-W aligned. Shallow sides, flat base	-	-
6226	Fill	1.7	?	Fill of possible enclosure ditch 6227. Firm very dark grey silty clay	Pot, Bone, CBM, Fe Obj	AD43-410
6227	Cut	1.7	?	Ditch. E-W aligned enclosure ditch. Unexcavated	-	-

Trench 63						
General description					Orientation	E-W
N-S aligned ditch.					Avg depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-



6301	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6302	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
6303	Cut	0.5	0.25	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate side slope, concave base	-	-
6304	Fill	0.5	0.07	Fill of ditch 6303. Friable dark grey brown silty clay	-	-
6305	Fill	0.2	0.24	Fill of ditch 6305. Compact mid brown-grey silty clay	-	-

Trench 64						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Six ditches					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6400	Layer			Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay		modern
6401	Layer			Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	Animal Bone	-
6402	Natural			Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	Pot (surface)	AD43-410
6403	Cut	1.36	0.14	Ditch. N-S aligned. Convex sides, V-shaped base	-	-
6404	Fill	1.36	0.14	Fill of ditch 6403. Firm yellow-orange sandy clay	Pot, Animal Bone, Fe Obj	AD240+
6405	Fill	0.9	0.33	Fill of ditch 6406. Moderate dark grey brown clay silt	-	-
6406	Cut	0.9	0.33	Ditch. N-S aligned. Steep sides, flat base	-	-
6407	Fill	1.1	0.4	Fill of ditch 6408. Moderate mid to light grey brown clay silt	Pot, CBM, Coin, Animal Bone	AD330+
6408	Cut	1.1	0.4	Ditch. N-S aligned. Steep sides, flat base	-	-
6409	Not used					
6410	Not used					
6411	Cut	1.2	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6412	Fill	1.2	?	Fill of ditch 6411. Loose Brownish grey silty clay	Pot	AD100+



6413	Cut	1.8	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6414	Fill	1.8	?	Fill of ditch 6413. N-S aligned. unexcavated	-	-
6415	Cut	1.65	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6416	Fill	1.65	?	Fill of ditch 6415. Moderate dark grey brown clay silt	-	-
6417	Not used					
6418	Not used					
6419	Ditch	1.1	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6420	Fill	1.1	?	Fill of ditch 6419. Loose dark brownish grey clay silt	-	-

Trench 65						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Six ditches, possible collapse wall and a layer of demolition debris.					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6500	Layer	-	?	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	-
6501	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	Pot, CBM, Animal Bone, Fired Clay	AD240+
6502	Fill	1.1	0.27	Fill of ditch 6503. Moderate dark grey brown clay silt	Pot, Animal Bone, Fired Clay	AD150-250
6503	Ditch	1.1	0.27	Ditch. NE-SW aligned. Moderate sides, concave base	-	-
6504	Natural			Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	Pot (surface)	-50 to AD70
6505	Layer	3.9	0.1	Demolition layer. Moderate mixed mid grey brown with patches of orangey brown. Clay silt with patches of clay	Pot, Animal Bone, metal, CBM, Fired Clay, Glass, Fe Hobnails, Fe Nails, Cu dress pin	AD240+
6506	Layer	1.7	0.5	Collapsed remains of a limestone wall. Shaped masonry in mid brownish grey silt matrix	Pot, Bone, CBM, Fired Clay	AD150-300
6507	Fill	2	?	Fill of ditch 6508. Loose mid orangey brown sandy silt	Pot, metal, CBM, Fired Clay, Fe obj,	AD43-410



					Fe Nails	
6508	Cut	1.1	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6509	Fill	1.1	?	Fill of ditch 6510. Loose dark greyish brown clay silt	Pot, Animal Bone, Fe Nail, Fe Obj	AD150+
6510	Cut	1.1	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6511	Fill	2.2	?	Fill of ditch 6512. Loose Dark grey-brown clay silt	Pot	AD50-100
6512	Cut	2.2	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6513	Fill	1.88	0.25	Fill of ditch 6515. Loose dark grey brown clay silt	Pot, Animal Bone, CBM, Fired Clay	AD240+
6514	Fill	1.88	0.15	Fill of ditch 6515. Moderate light grey-brown silty clay	Animal Bone, Fe Nail	-
6515	Cut	1.88	0.4	Ditch. E-W aligned. Stepped sides, concave base	-	-
6516	Fill	0.84	0.18	Fill of E-W aligned ditch 6517. Loose mid grey brown silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone	AD150-410
6517	Cut	0.84	0.2	Ditch. E-W aligned. Moderate concave profile	-	-

Trench 66						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Two ditches and a plough furrow					Avg depth (m)	0.48
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Findings	Date
6600	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
6601	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6602	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
6603	Fill	1.12	0.19	Fill of ditch 6604. Firm light yellow-brown silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, CBM	AD150-240
6604	Cut	1.12	0.19	Ditch. E-W aligned. Steep sides, flat base	-	-
6605	Fill	3.5	?	Fill of ditch 6606. NW-SE aligned. Moderate dark brownish grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, CBM, Fired Clay	AD100-410
6606	Cut	3.5	?	Ditch. NE-SW aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
6607	Fill	1.8	?	Fill of linear 6608. Firm mid grey-	Animal Bone	-



				brown silty clay		
6608	Cut	1.8	?	Linear. NE-SW aligned. Furrow	Fired Clay	-

Trench 67						
General description					Orientation	E-W
A ditch and a pit.					Avg depth (m)	0.48
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6700	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
6701	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	Fe Obj	-
6702	Natural			Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
6703	Cut	1.48	0.54	Ditch. N-S aligned. Steep sides, concave base	-	-
6704	Fill	0.84	0.24	Fill of ditch 6703. Firm mid orangey grey silty clay	-	-
6705	Fill	1.48	0.32	Fill of ditch 6703. Firm light orangey grey silty clay	Pot	AD40-100
6706	Cut	1.9	0.4	Pit. Sub-circular steep sides, concave base	-	-
6707	Fill	1.9	0.4	Fill of pit 6706. Firm dark grey silty clay	Pot, Bone, Clay	Animal Fired AD43-410

Trench 68						
General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeological remains identified					Avg depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6801	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
6802	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6803	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey	-	-



				clay		
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Trench 69

General description	Orientation	E-W
Intercutting ditches.	Avg depth (m)	0.4
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
6900	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
6901	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mid grey brown (with greenish hue) silty clay	-	-
6902	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
6903	Fill	4.1	0.2	Fill of ditch. Moderate dark grey brown clay silt	Pot, Animal Bone	-
6904	Cut	4.1	0.2	Ditch, very wide and shallow. Shallow sides, flat base	-	-
6905	Fill	?	0.2	Fill of feature 6906. Moderate mid orange brown clay silt	-	-
6906	Cut	0.6	0.2	Possible ditch. Shallow sides, base not seen.	-	-
6907	Fill	0.8	0.38	Fill of ditch 6908. Moderate mid grey brown clay silt	-	-
6908	Cut	0.8	0.38	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate sides, flat base	-	-
6909	Fill	1	0.25	Fill of ditch 6910. Moderate mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
6910	Cut	1	0.25	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate concave profile	-	-
6911	Fill	0.6	0.18	Fill of ditch 6912. Moderate mid orange brown clay silt	-	-
6912	Cut	0.6	0.18	Ditch. N-S aligned. Sides truncated, flat base	-	-
6913	Fill	1.4	0.5	Fill of ditch 6914. Moderate mid to dark grey brown clay silt	Pot, Animal Bone	-
6914	Cut	1.4	0.5	Ditch. N-S aligned. Shallow stepped sides, narrow v-shaped base	-	-

Trench 70

General description	Orientation	E-W
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Two N-S aligned ditches.				Avg depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Findings	Date
7000	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7001	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7002	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
7003	Fill	0.65	0.2	Fill of ditch 7005. Moderate mid brown silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, Fired Clay, Fe Nails	AD150-200
7004	Fill	1.3	0.3	Fill of ditch 7005. Moderate mid to dark brown silty clay	-	-
7005	Cut	1.3	0.3	Ditch. N-S aligned. Concave profile	Fe Nail, Fe Slag	-
7006	Fill	1.5	0.3	Fill of ditch 7008. Moderate mid brown silty clay, Fe Nails	Pot, CBM, Animal Bone, Fired Clay, Fe Hobnails, Fe Obj	AD150-200
7007	Fill	1	0.22	Fill of ditch 7008. Moderate mid to dark brown clay silt	Pot	AD150-250
7008	Cut	1.1	0.3	Ditch. N-S aligned. Deep concave profile	-	-

Trench 71						
Two ditches and several groups of intercutting pits.				Orientation	E-W	
				Avg depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
				Contexts		
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Findings	Date
7100	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7101	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7102	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark	-	-



				yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay		
7103	Cut	2	0.4	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate sides, flat base	-	-
7104	Fill	2	0.2	Fill of ditch 7103. Moderate mid grey brown clay silt	Pot, Bone	Animal AD50-100
7105	Layer	5	0.2	Layer overlying ditch 7103. Moderate mid grey-brown silty clay	Pot	AD43-410
7106	Cut	0.5	?	Possible pit. Sub-circ. Unexcavated	-	-
7107	Fill	0.5	?	Fill of possible pit 7106. Mid grey-brown clay silt	-	-
7108	Cut	1.25	?	Unexcavated feature. Irregular shape in plan	-	-
7109	Fill	1.25	?	Fill of unexcavated feature	-	-
7110	Cut	0.8	?	Possible pit. Squared shape. Unexcavated	-	-
7111	Fill	0.8	?	Fill of pit 7110. Moderate mid grey brown silty clay	-	-
7112	Cut	0.6	?	Possible pit or posthole. Circular. Unexcavated	-	-
7113	Fill	0.6	?	Fill of possible pit or posthole. Moderate mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-
7114	Cut	1.5	?	Pit. Sub-circular. Concave profile	-	-
7115	Fill	1.5	0.2	Fill of pit 7114. Moderate mid grey brown clay silt	-	-
7116	Cut	1.5	?	Irregular shape in plan. Probably a group of several pits. Unexcavated	-	-
7117	Fill	1.5	?	Fill of feature 7116. Moderate mid grey-brown silty clay	-	-
7118	Cut	0.5	0.2	Possible posthole. Circular, concave profile	-	-
7119	Fill	0.5	0.2	Fill of possible posthole 7118. Moderate mid grey brown clay silt	-	-
7120	Cut	3.25	?	Irregular in shape, probably a group of intercutting pits. Unexcavated	-	-
7121	Fill	3.25	-	Fill of pit group. Amagamated. Unexcavated	-	-
7122	Cut	2	-	Irregular in shape, probably a group of intercutting pits. Unexcavated	-	-
7123	Fill	2	-	Fill of pit group. Amagamated. Unexcavated	CBM	-
7124	Cut	1.5	?	Curvilinear ditch. Unexcavated	-	-
7125	Fill	1.5	?	Fill of ditch 7124. Mid grey-brown clay silt	-	-



Trench 72						
General description					Orientation	E-W
No archaeological remains identified.					Avg depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
7200	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7202	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-

Trench 73						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Three ditches and a pit.					Avg depth (m)	0.53
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
7300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7301	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7302	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
7303	Fill	1.7	0.5	Fill of ditch. Firm grey silty clay	Animal Bone	-
7304	Cut	1.7	0.5	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate sides, concave base		
7305	Fill	1.2	0.4	Fill of pit 7306. Firm grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone	-40 to AD70
7306	Cut	1.2	0.4	Pit. Circular, moderate slope concave base	-	-
7307	Not used					
7308	Not used					
7309	Cut	1.5	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7310	Fill	1.5	?	Fill of ditch 7309. Firm grey silty clay	-	-



7311	Cut	0.4	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7312	Fill	0.4	?	Fill of ditch 7311. Firm grey silty clay	-	-

Trench 74

General description	Orientation	N-S
Ditches and four pits.	Avg depth (m)	0.46
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	30

Contexts

Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
7400	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7401	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7402	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	-	-
7403	Fill	1.4	0.3	Fill of ditch 7404. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7404	Cut	1.4	0.3	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Moderate slope, concave base	-	-
7405	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch 7406. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7406	Cut	0.8	0.2	Ditch. E-W aligned. Moderate slope, concave base	-	-
7407	Cut	0.3	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7408	Fill	0.3	?	Fill of ditch 7407. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7409	Cut	0.3	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7410	Fill	0.3	?	Fill of ditch 7409. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7411	Cut	0.6	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
7412	Fill	0.6	?	Fill of pit 7411. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7413	Cut	0.6	?	Ditch. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7414	Fill	0.6	?	Fill of ditch 7413. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7415	Cut	0.8	?	Pit. Sub-oval. Unexcavated	-	-
7416	Fill	0.8	?	Fill of pit 7415. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7417	Cut	0.5	?	Ditch. NW-Se aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7418	Fill	0.5	?	Fill of ditch 7417. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7419	Cut	0.6	?	Pit. Sub-circular. Unexcavated	-	-
7420	Fill	0.6	?	Fill of pit 7419. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7421	Cut	0.7	?	Pit. Oval. Unexcavated	-	-
7422	Fill	0.7	?	Fill of pit 7422. Firm grey silty clay	-	-



7423	Cut	2.7	?	Furrow. E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7224	Fill	2.7	?	Fill of furrow. Firm brown-grey silty clay		

Trench 75						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Four ditches and a pit.				Avg depth (m)	0.6	
				Width (m)	2	
				Length (m)	30	
Contexts						
Context number	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
7500	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil, dark grey brown organic silty clay	-	modern
7501	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil, mottled dark yellowish brown to mid grey brown slightly silty clay	-	-
7502	Natural	-	?	Natural 'C' horizon, mixed dark yellow brown to dark blueish grey clay	Pot	-40 to AD70
7503	Cut	1.4	0.45	Ditch. N-S aligned. Moderate slope, concave base	-	-
7504	Fill	1.4	0.45	Fill of ditch 7503. Firm grey silty clay	Pot, Animal Bone, Fired Clay	-40 to AD70
7505	Cut	1.2	0.25	Pit. Circular. Moderate slope, concave base	-	-
7506	Fill	1.2	0.25	Fill of pit 7505. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7507	Cut	1.2	?	Ditch. N-S with E-W aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7508	Fill	1.2	?	Fill of ditch 7507. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7509	Cut	0.8	?	Ditch. NW-SE aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7510	Fill	0.8	?	Fill of ditch 7509. Firm grey silty clay	-	-
7511	Cut	1.7	?	Furrow. NE-SW aligned. Unexcavated		
7512	Fill	1.7	?	Fill of furrow 7511. Firm brown-grey silty clay	-	-
7513	Cut	0.8	?	Ditch. N-S aligned. Unexcavated	-	-
7514	Fill	0.8	?	Fill of ditch 7513. Firm grey silty clay	-	-



APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Broughton Crossing, Bierton, Buckinghamshire
Site code: BBBC12
Grid reference: SP 850 150
Type: 35 trench evaluation
Date and duration: July 2014, 3 weeks

Summary of results: In July 2014, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation on land at Broughton Crossing, Bierton in Buckinghamshire. The evaluation comprised machine excavation of 35 trenches, each measuring 30m by 2m. These trenches were in two areas, Areas A and D. This area was part of a larger development site, previously investigated by Oxford Archaeology in 2012.

A single trench was proposed for Area A to investigate an area of strong magnetic response recorded during the geophysical survey of the site. The trench had to be abandoned due to the probable presence of modern services.

The trenches in Area D were located to investigate two areas of anomalies recorded in a geophysical survey of the site as well as the apparently blank areas between and around them. The trenching revealed two main concentrations of archaeological remains. One, in the north-eastern part of the area, mostly dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period, and one, in the south-eastern part of the area, was of mainly middle to late Roman date.

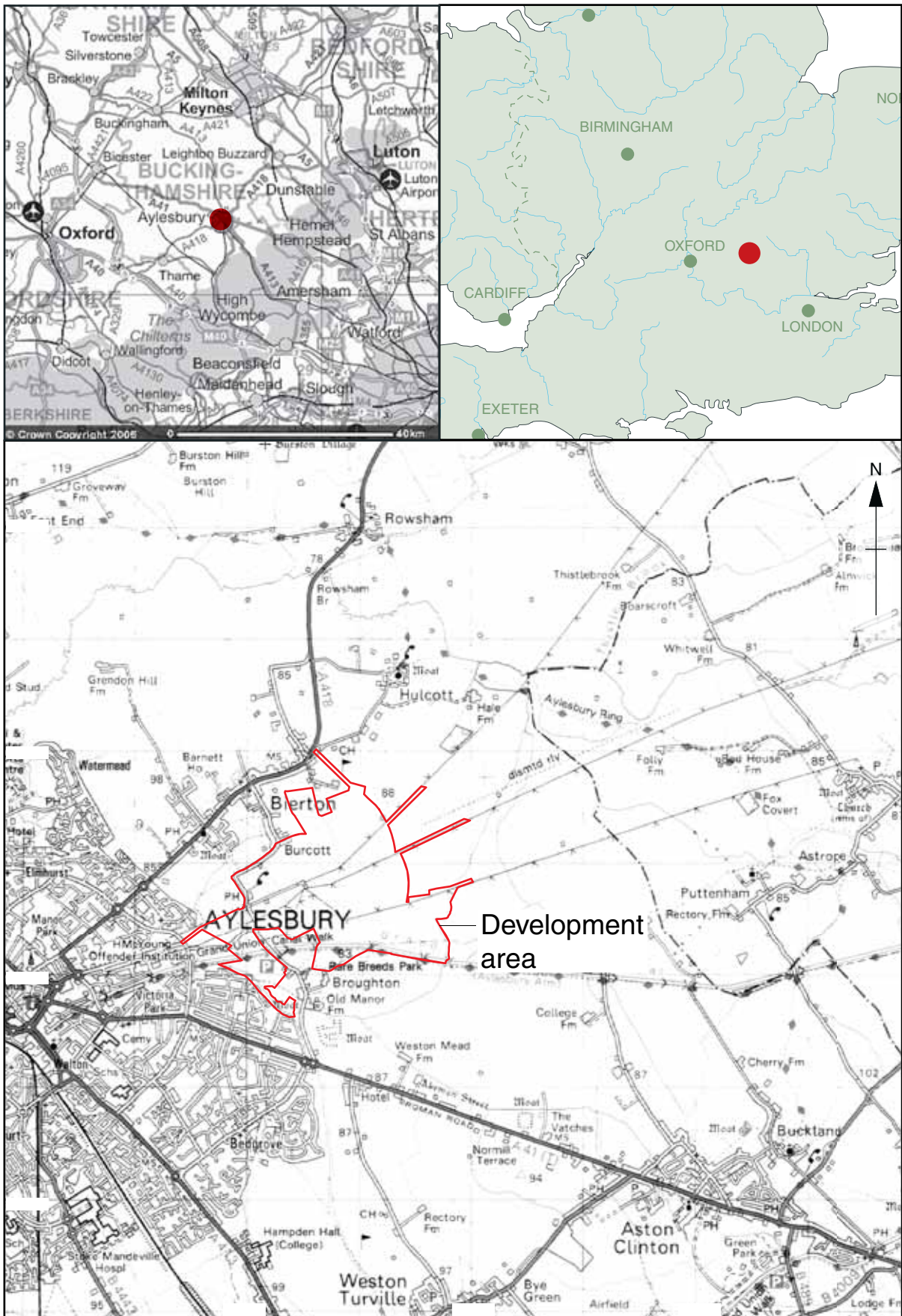
Evidence for later prehistoric activity was present in the north of the area, in the form of sherds of flint tempered pottery recovered from later features and from the subsoil. The nature of this activity is unclear and was not closely datable.

Evidence of activity of late Iron Age or early Roman date was recorded in the north-eastern part of the area, with pottery recovered from a number of ditches corresponding with an area of geophysical anomalies. Further evidence of activity of this date was recorded on the northern and southern peripheries of the area of Roman activity.

Roman settlement activity, perhaps originating in the 1st century AD, was recorded in trenches in the south-east of the site. A considerable density of archaeological features produced pottery, fragments of oven furniture, ceramic building material, iron nails and animal bone, strongly indicating the presence of a farmstead with its main period of occupation in the middle Roman period but extending into the late Roman period. A possible demolition layer, consisting of a tumble of limestone blocks, along with the presence of a variety Roman tile, suggests that a building existed in this area set in a series of enclosures and fields.

A number of plough furrows, the remnants of ridge and furrow, suggest that during the medieval period and later, the site lay within agricultural fields. Ceramic land drains, present in many trenches, attest to efforts to improve the drainage of the site, probably in the 18th century or later.

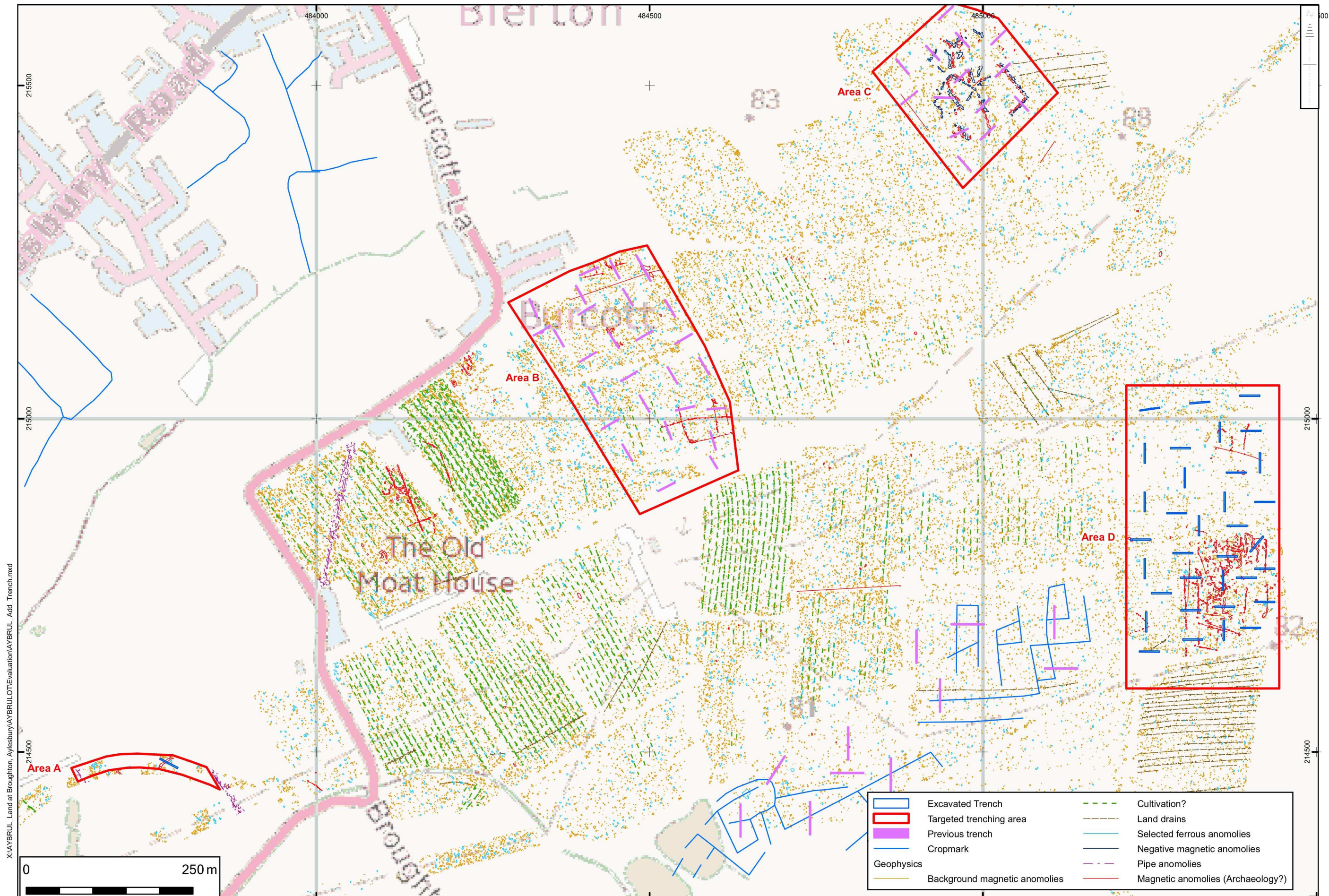
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at Oxford Archaeology, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Buckinghamshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: AYBCM: 1012.50

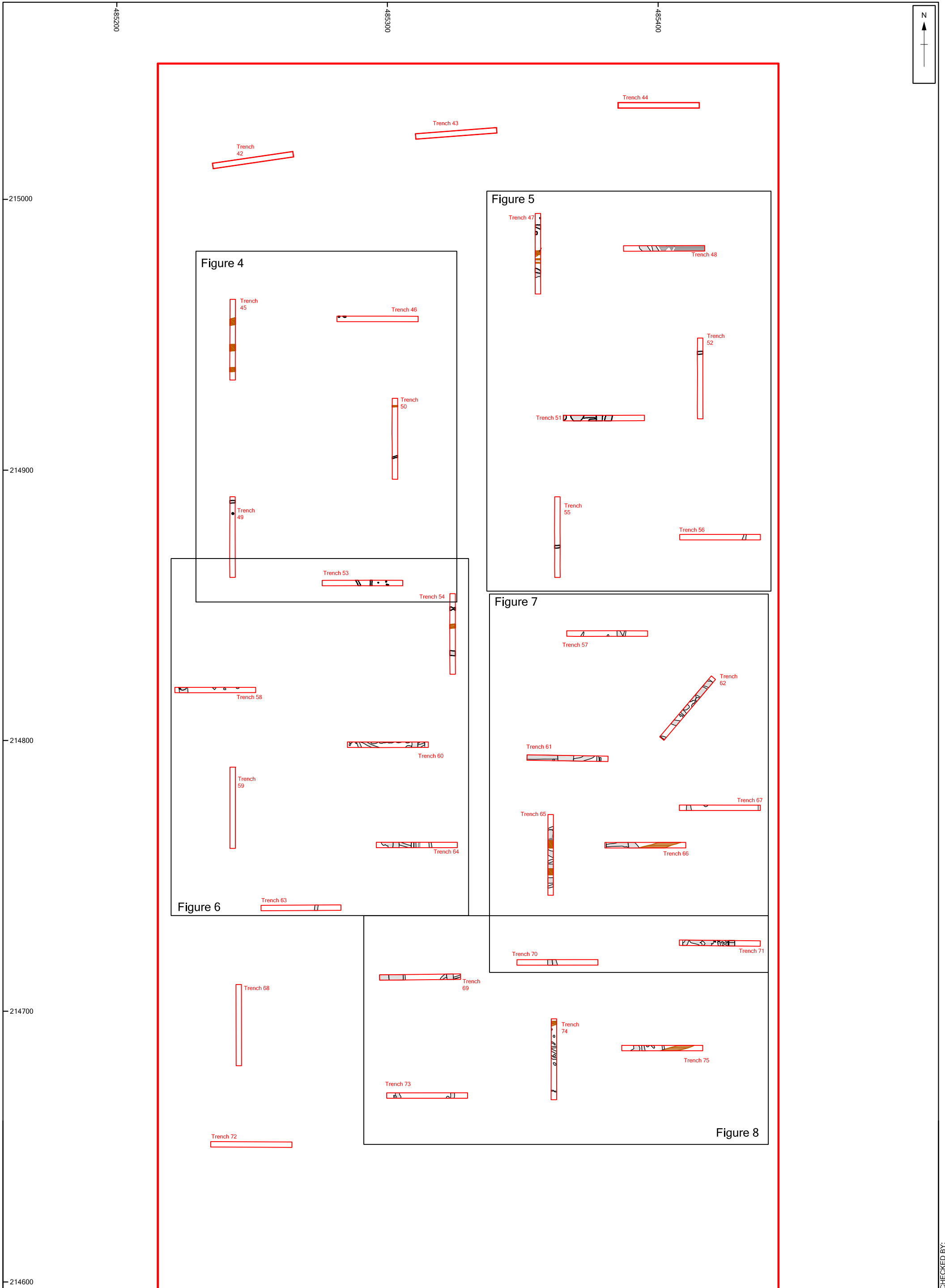


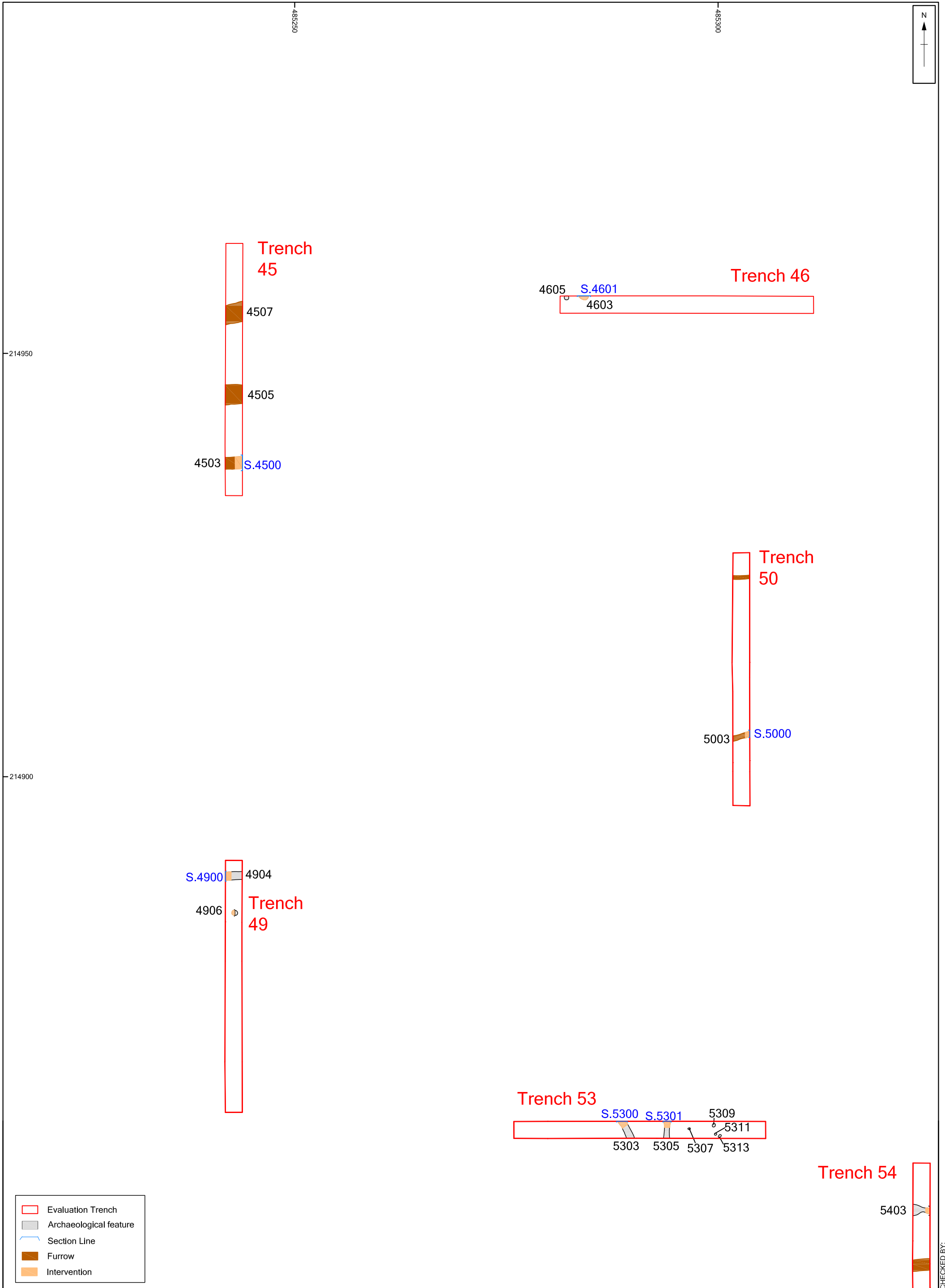
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Figure 1: Site location



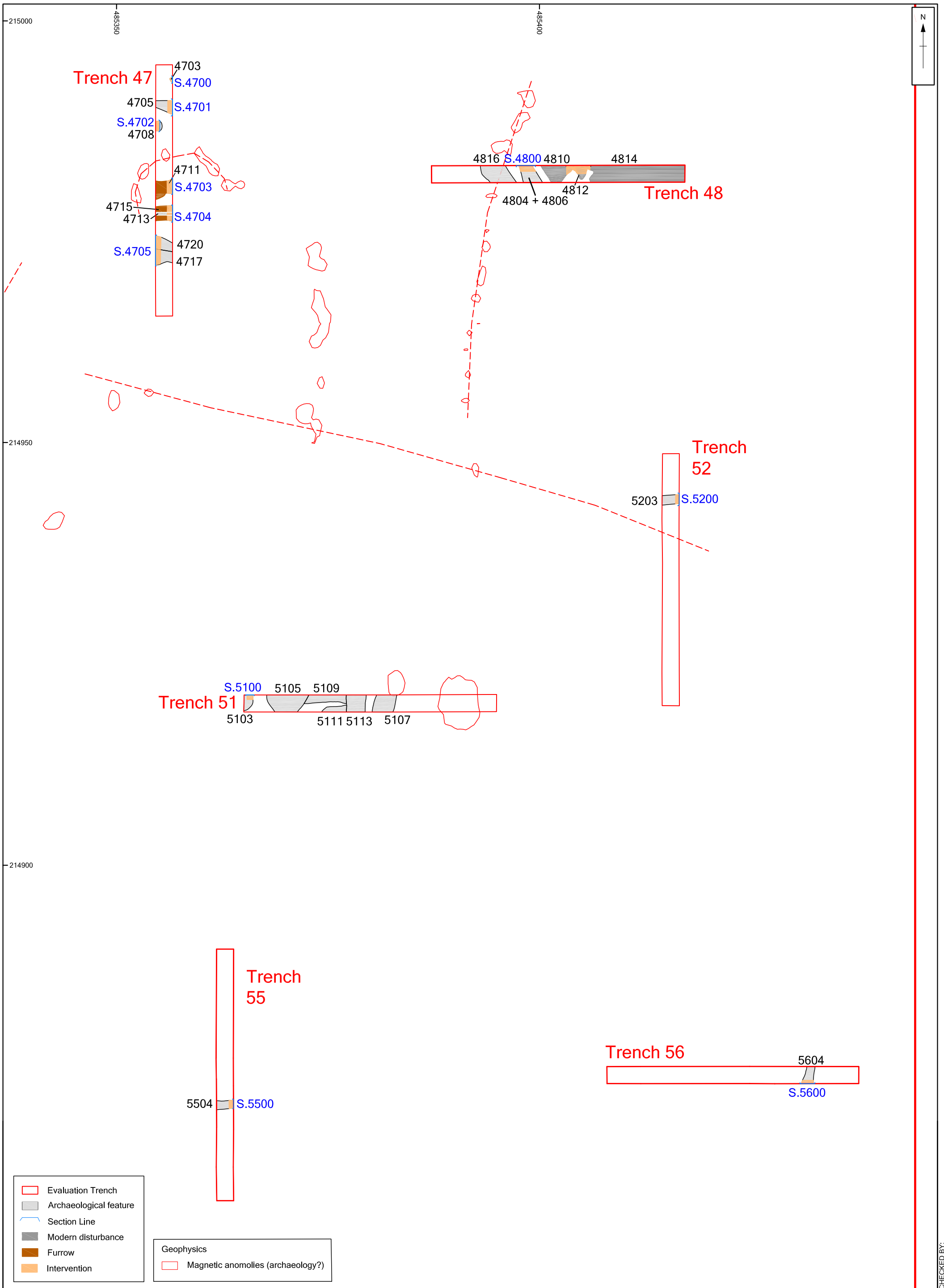




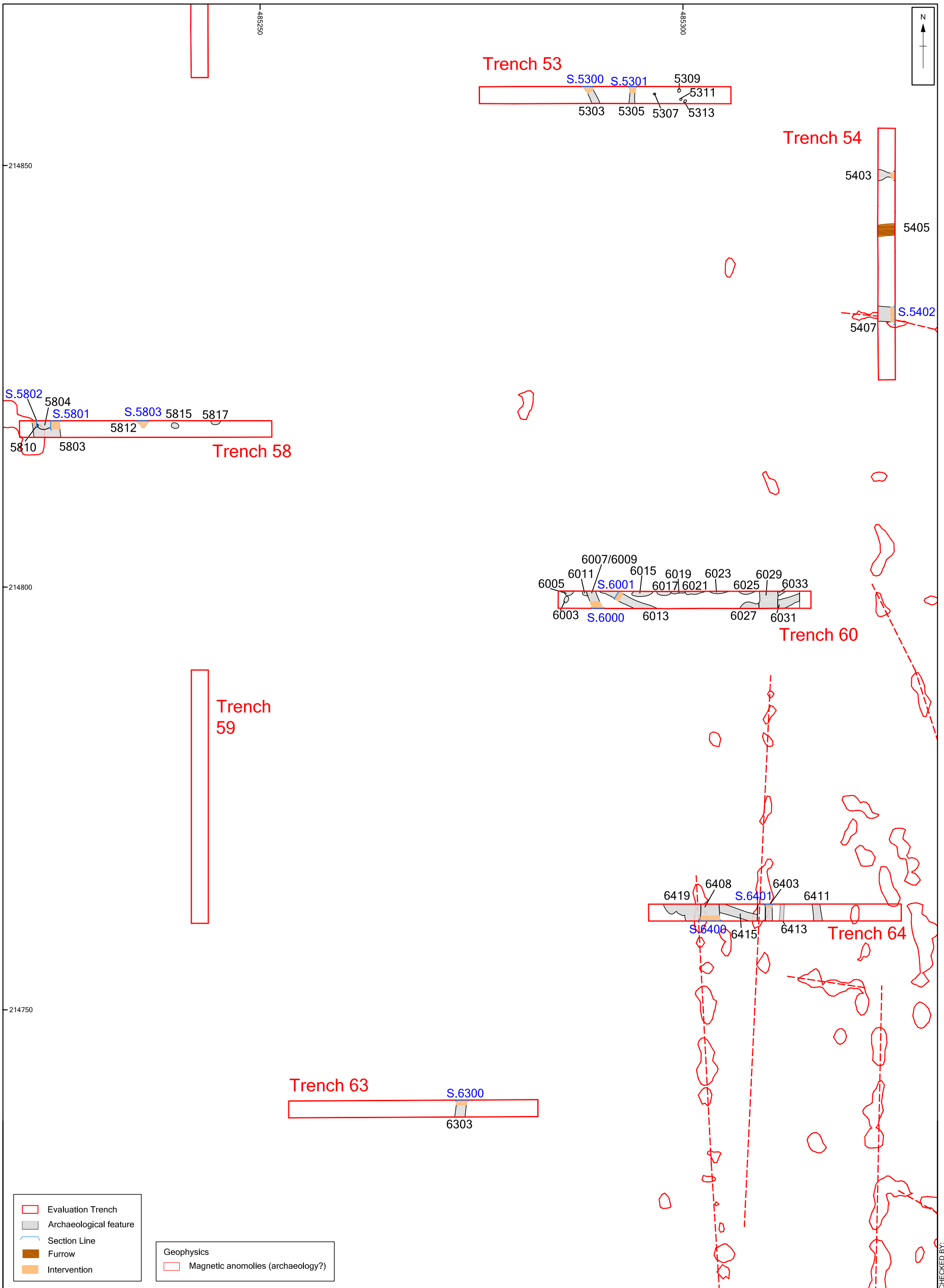
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Figure 4: Detail of archaeology in the north-west of Area D

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- Evaluation Trench
- Archaeological feature
- Section Line
- Furrow
- Intervention

- Geophysics
- Magnetic anomalies (archaeology?)

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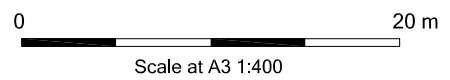
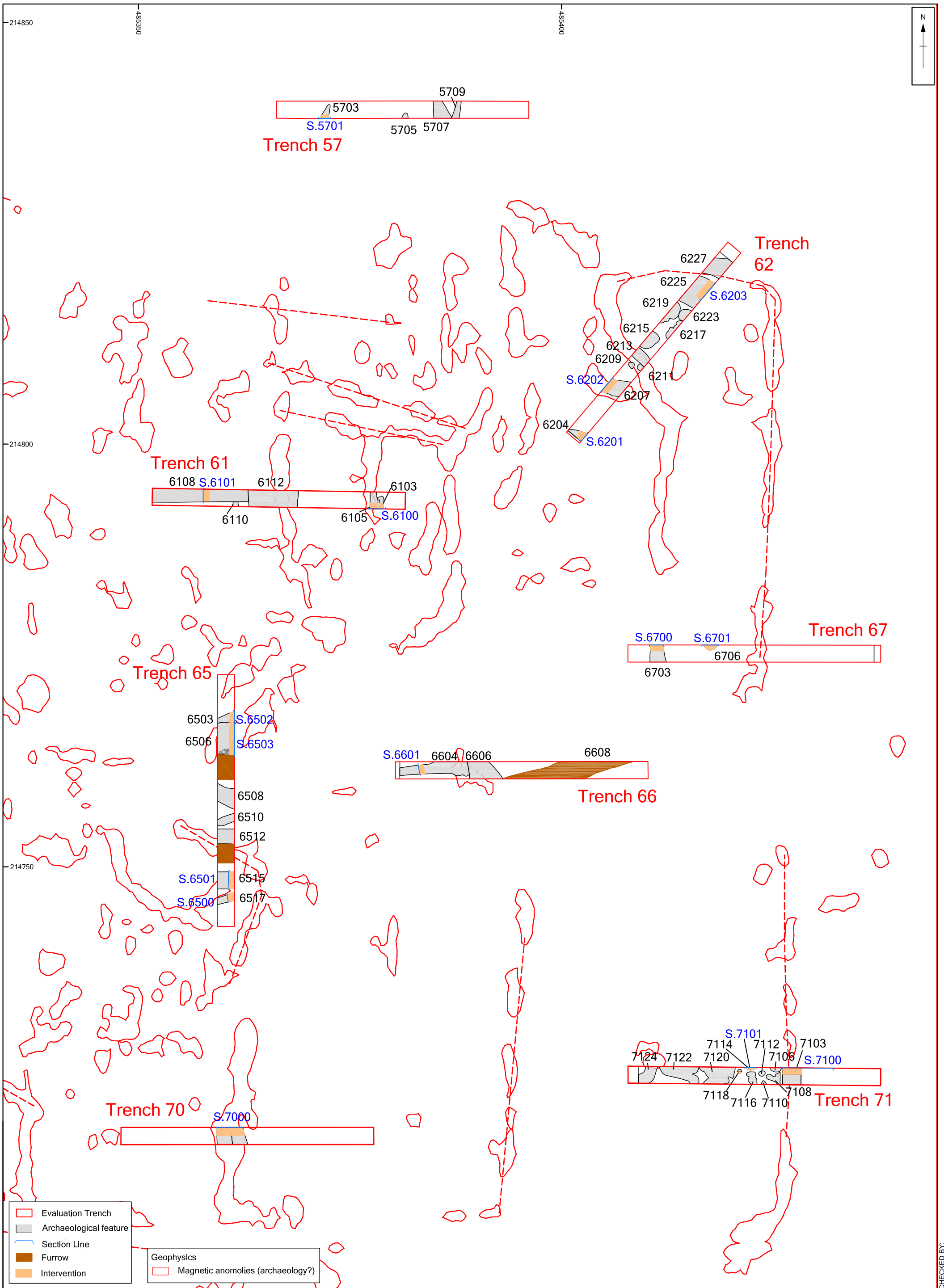


Figure 6: Detail of archaeology in the west of Area D

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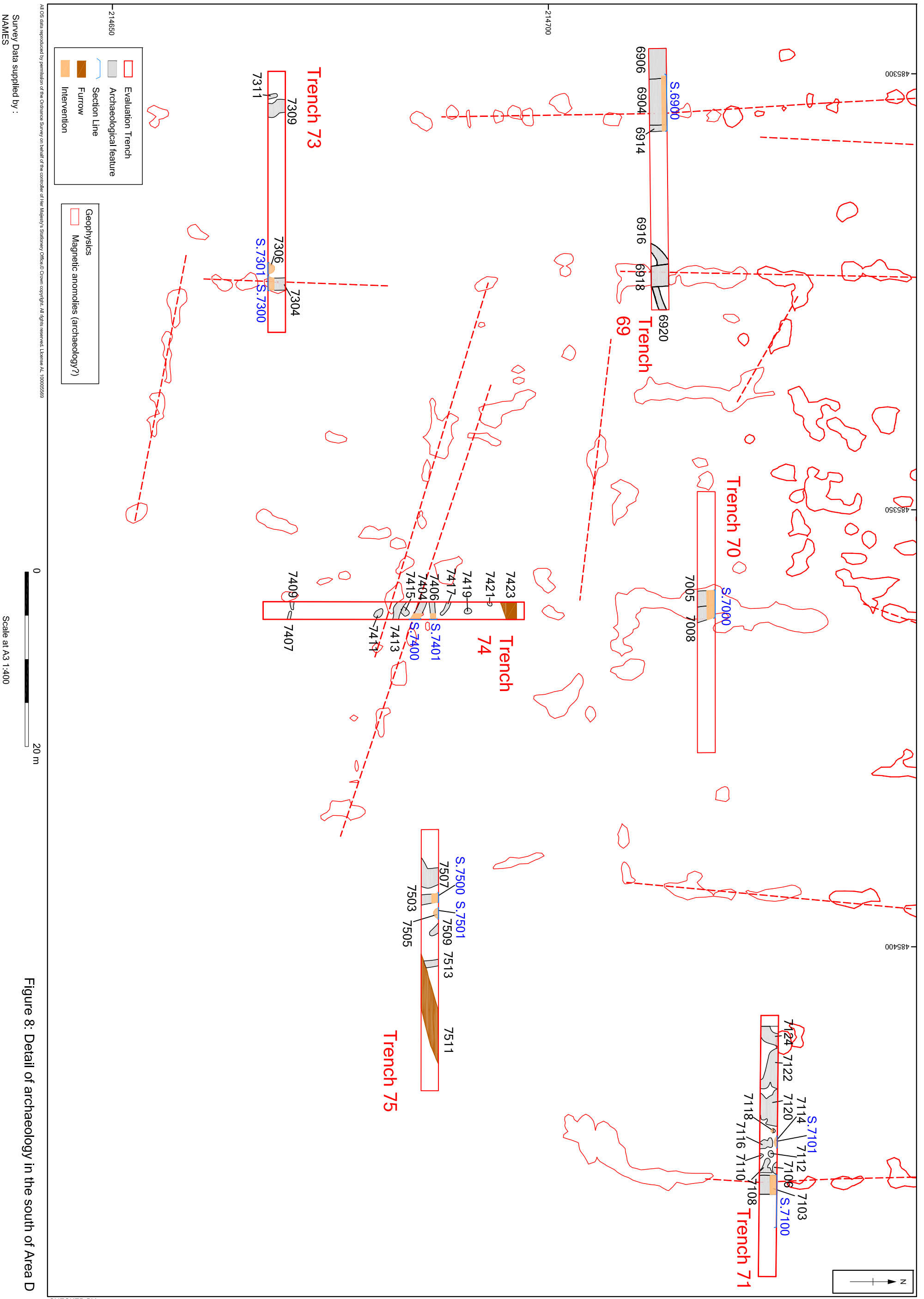
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Figure 7: Detail of archaeology in the east of Area D

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Figure 8: Detail of archaeology in the south of Area D

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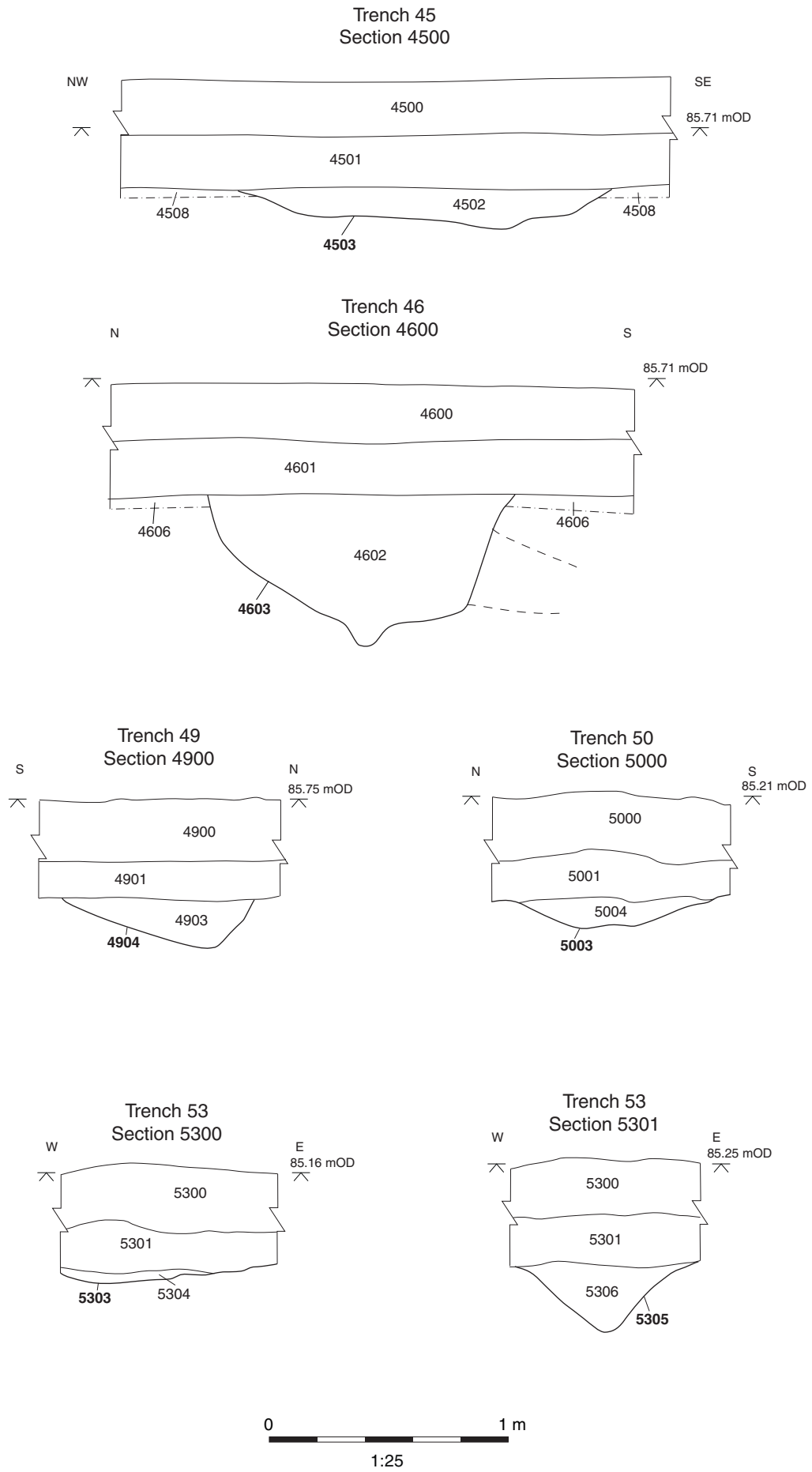


Figure 9: Sections from Trenches 45, 46, 49, 50 and 53

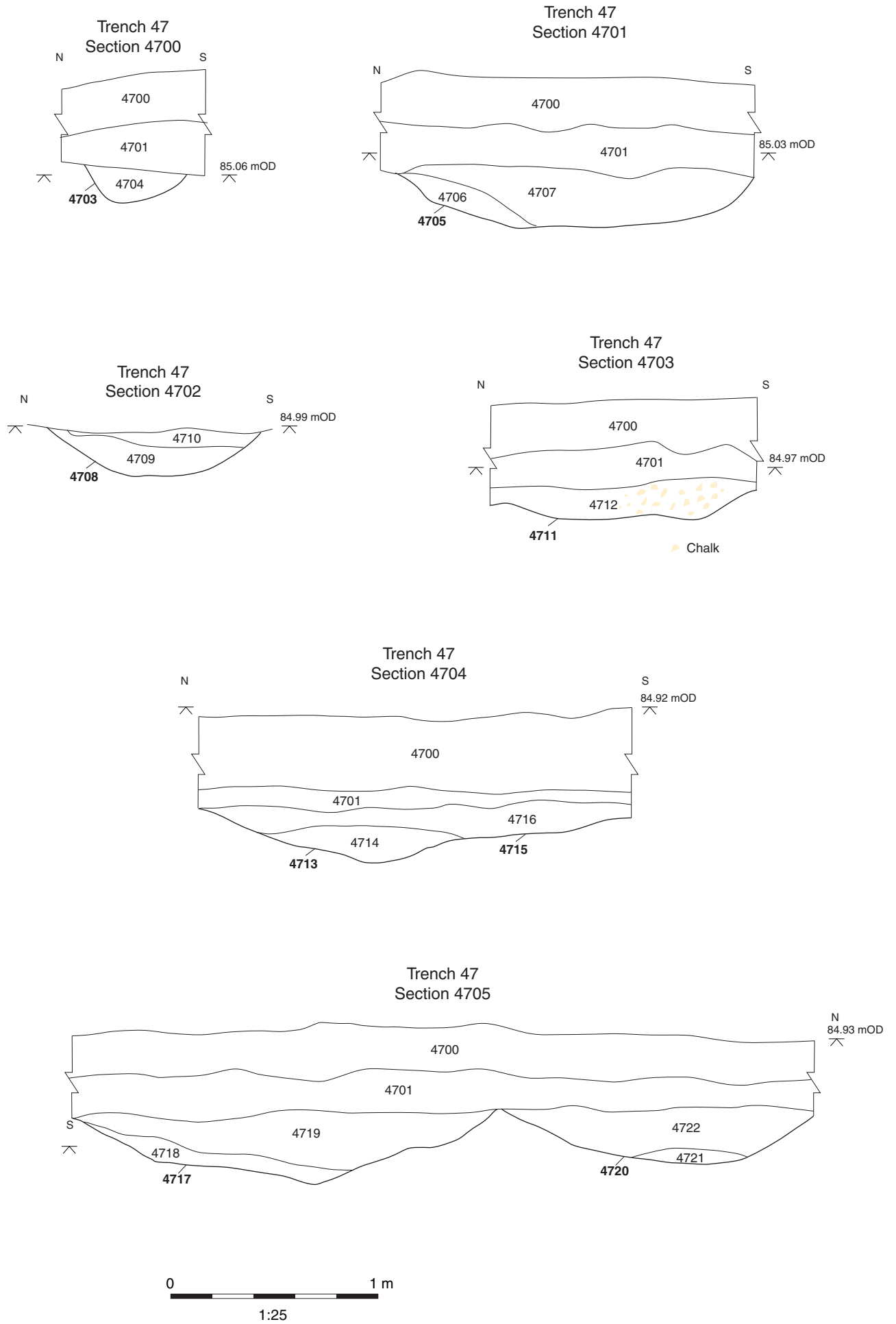


Figure 10: Sections from Trench 47

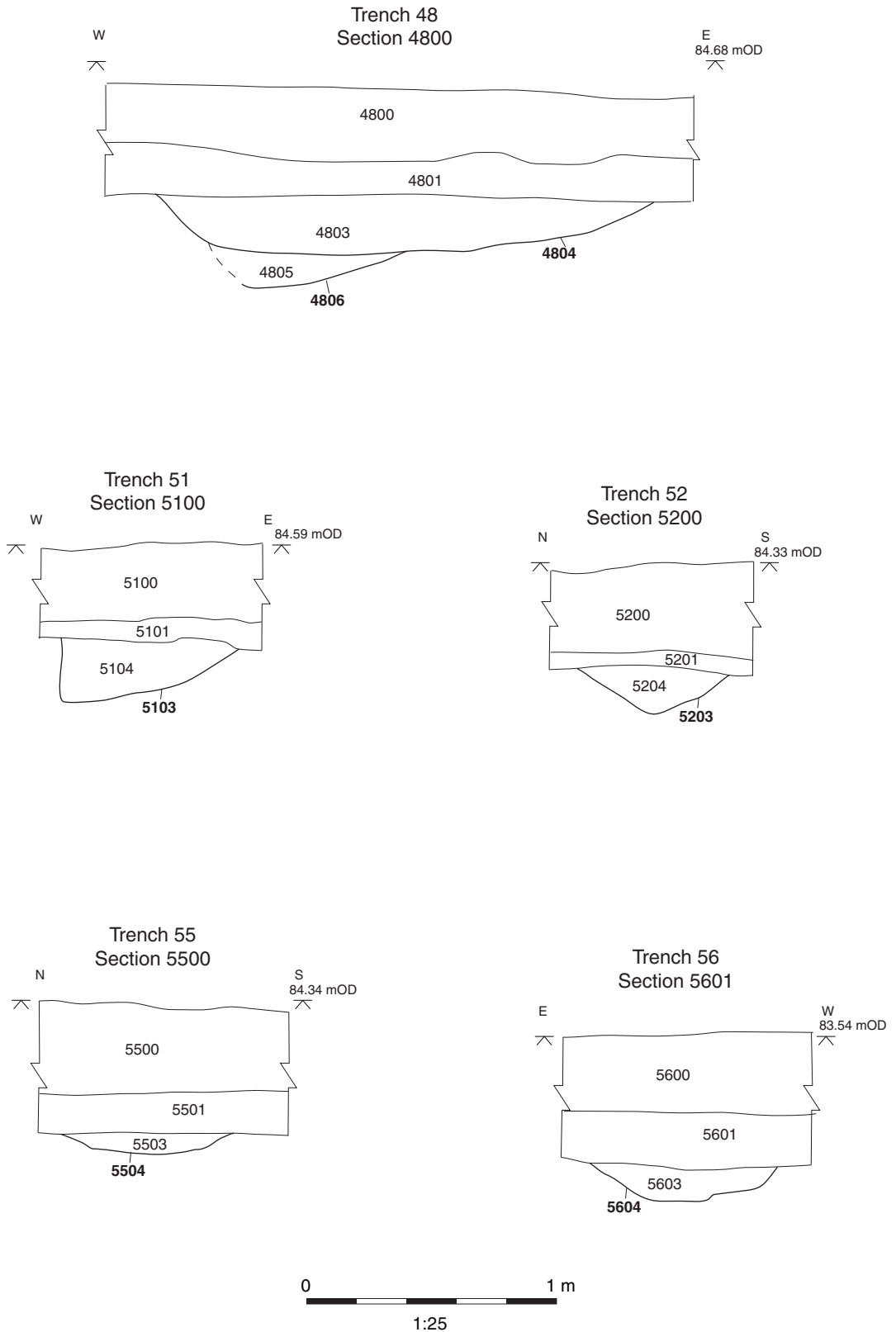


Figure 11: Sections from Trenches 48, 51, 52, 55 and 56

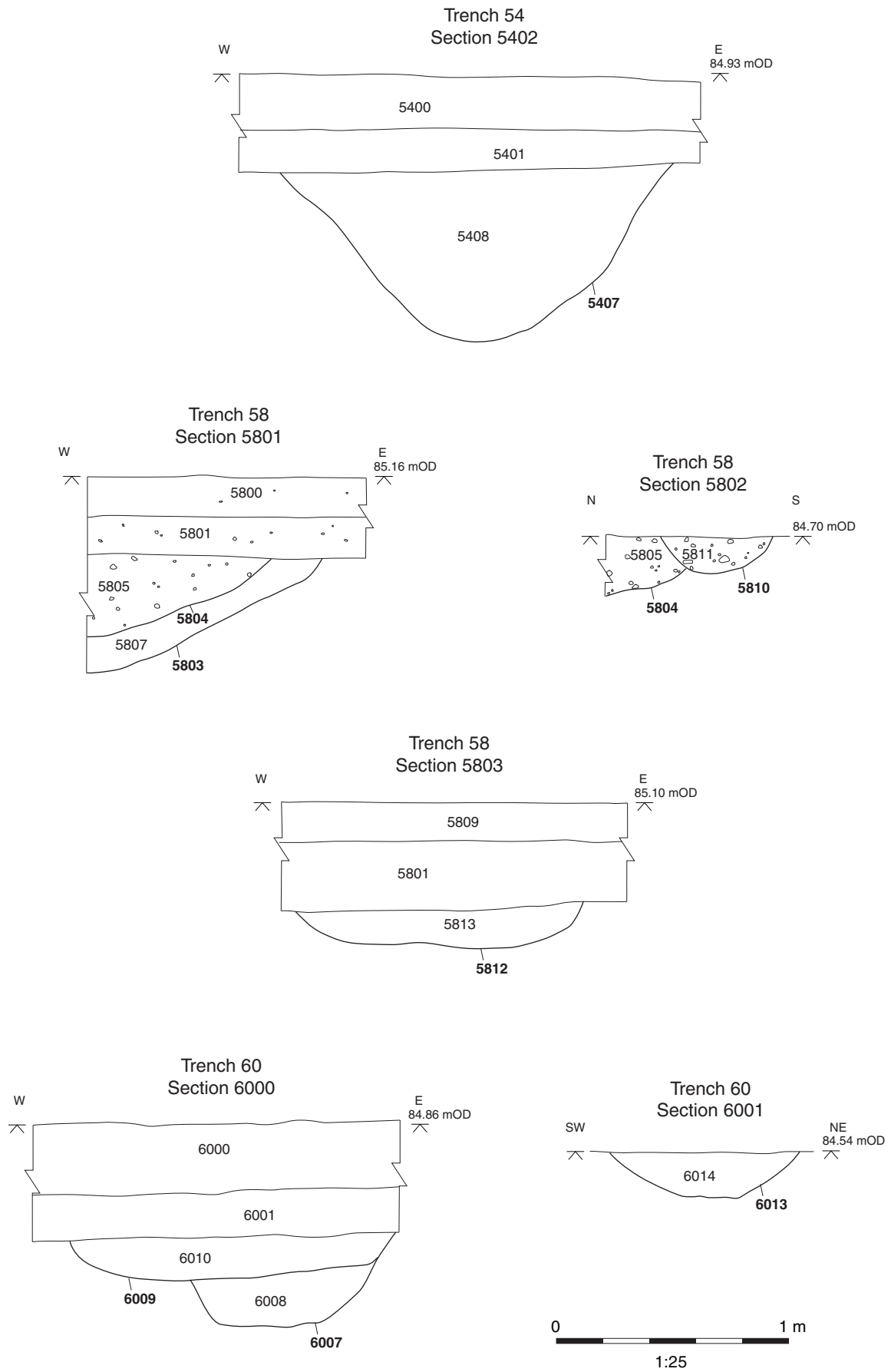


Figure 12: Sections from Trenches 54, 58 and 60

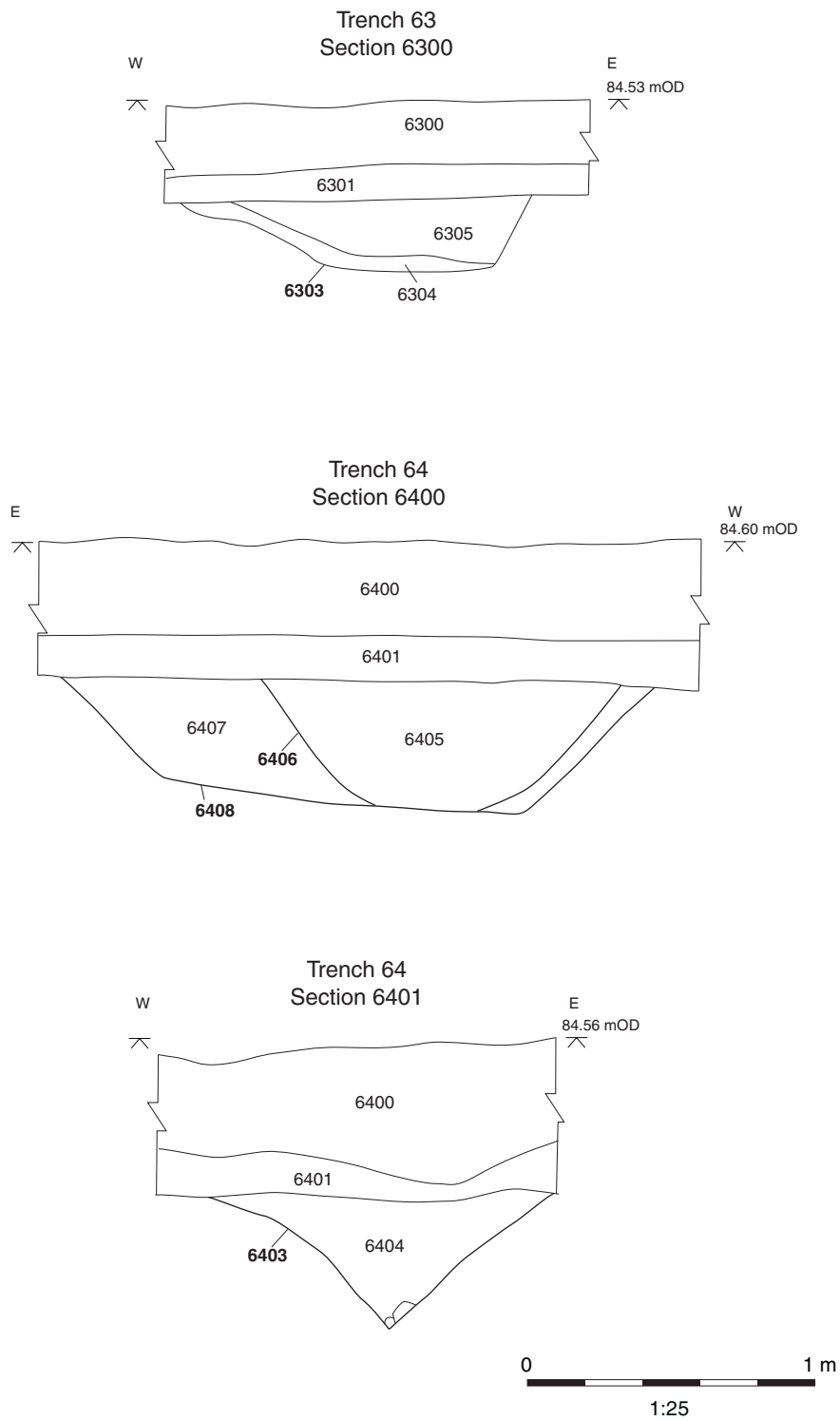


Figure 13: Sections from Trenches 63 and 64

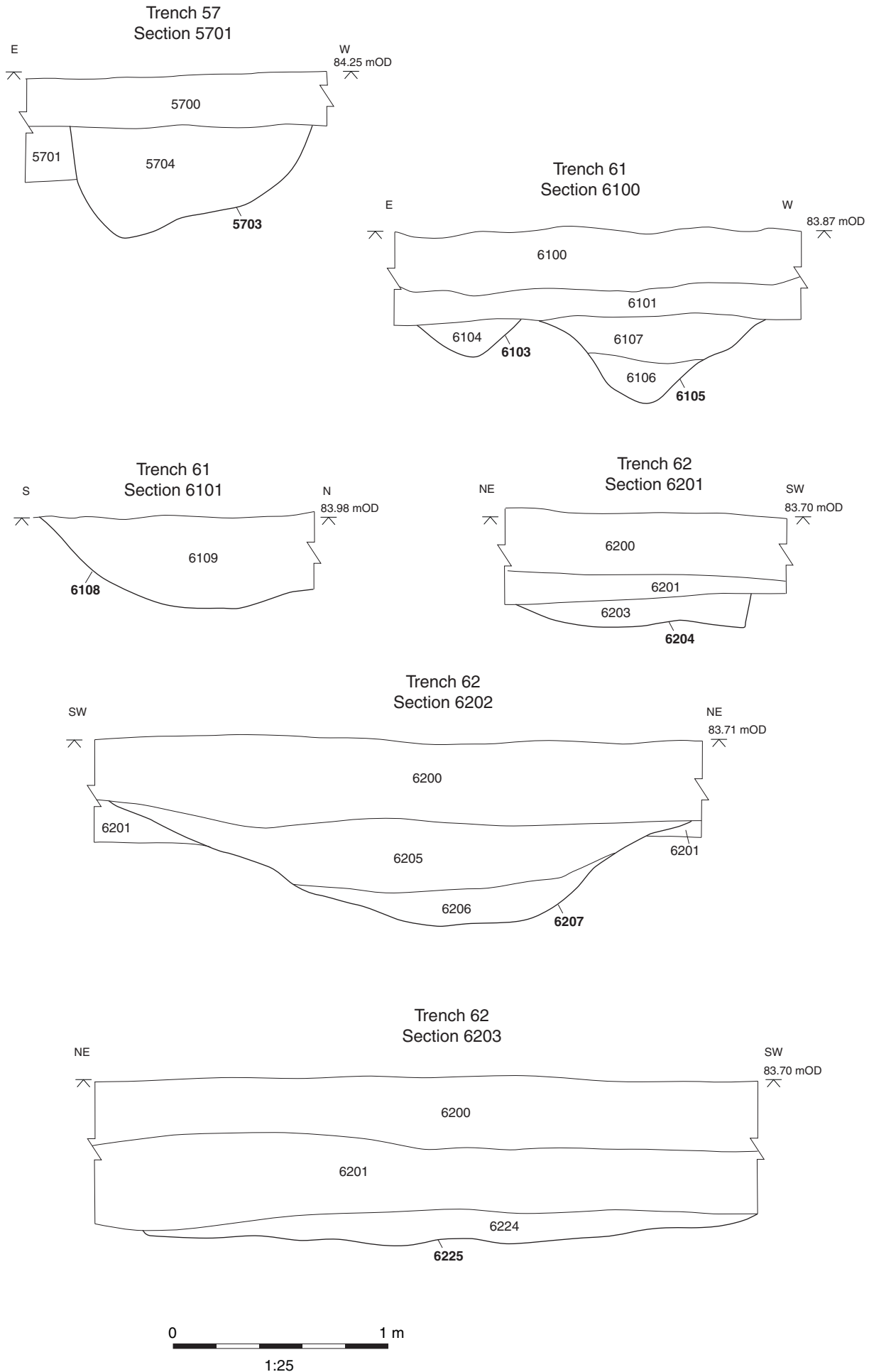


Figure 14: Sections from Trenches 57, 61 and 62

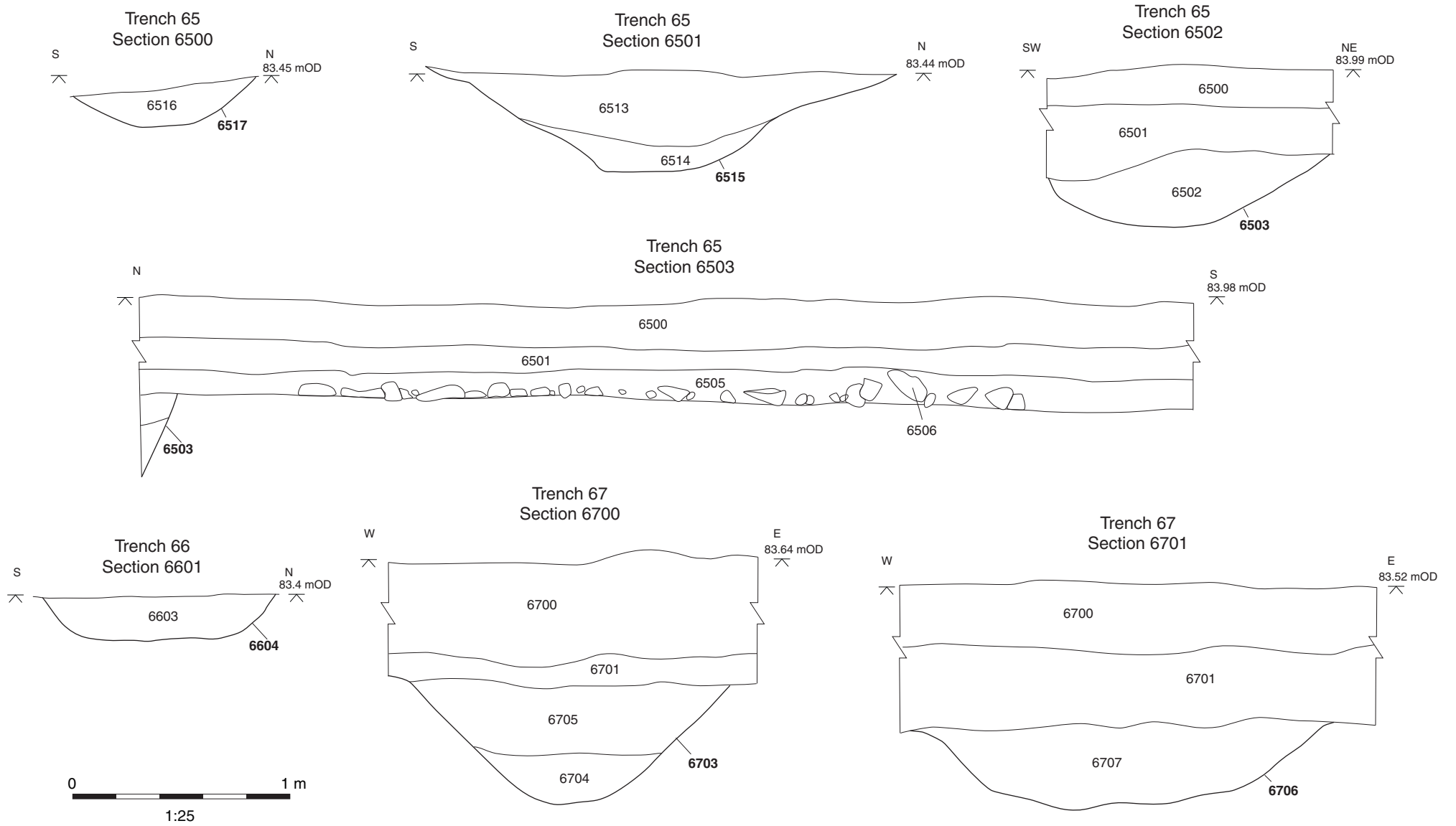


Figure 15: Sections from Trenches 65, 66 and 67

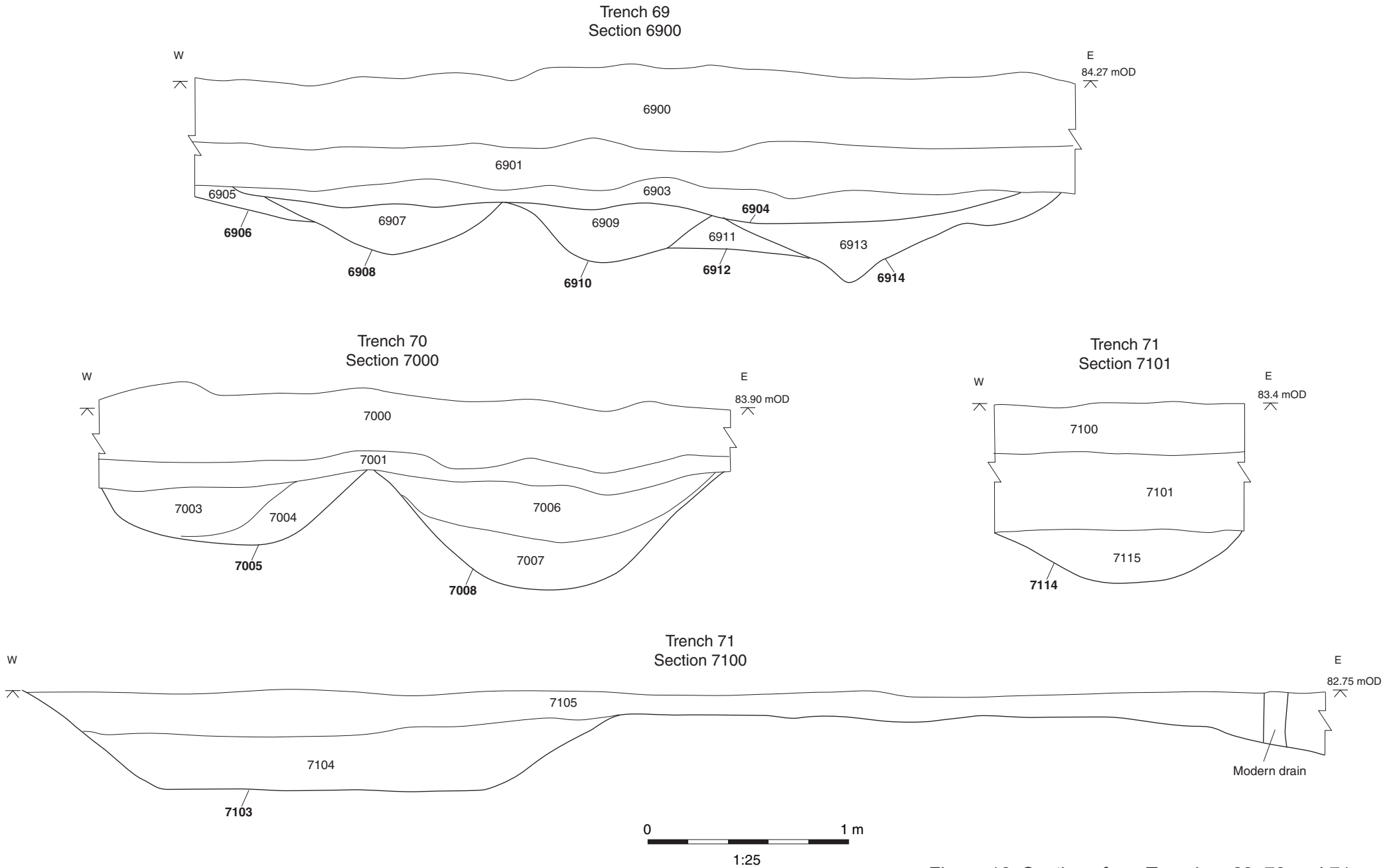


Figure 16: Sections from Trenches 69, 70 and 71

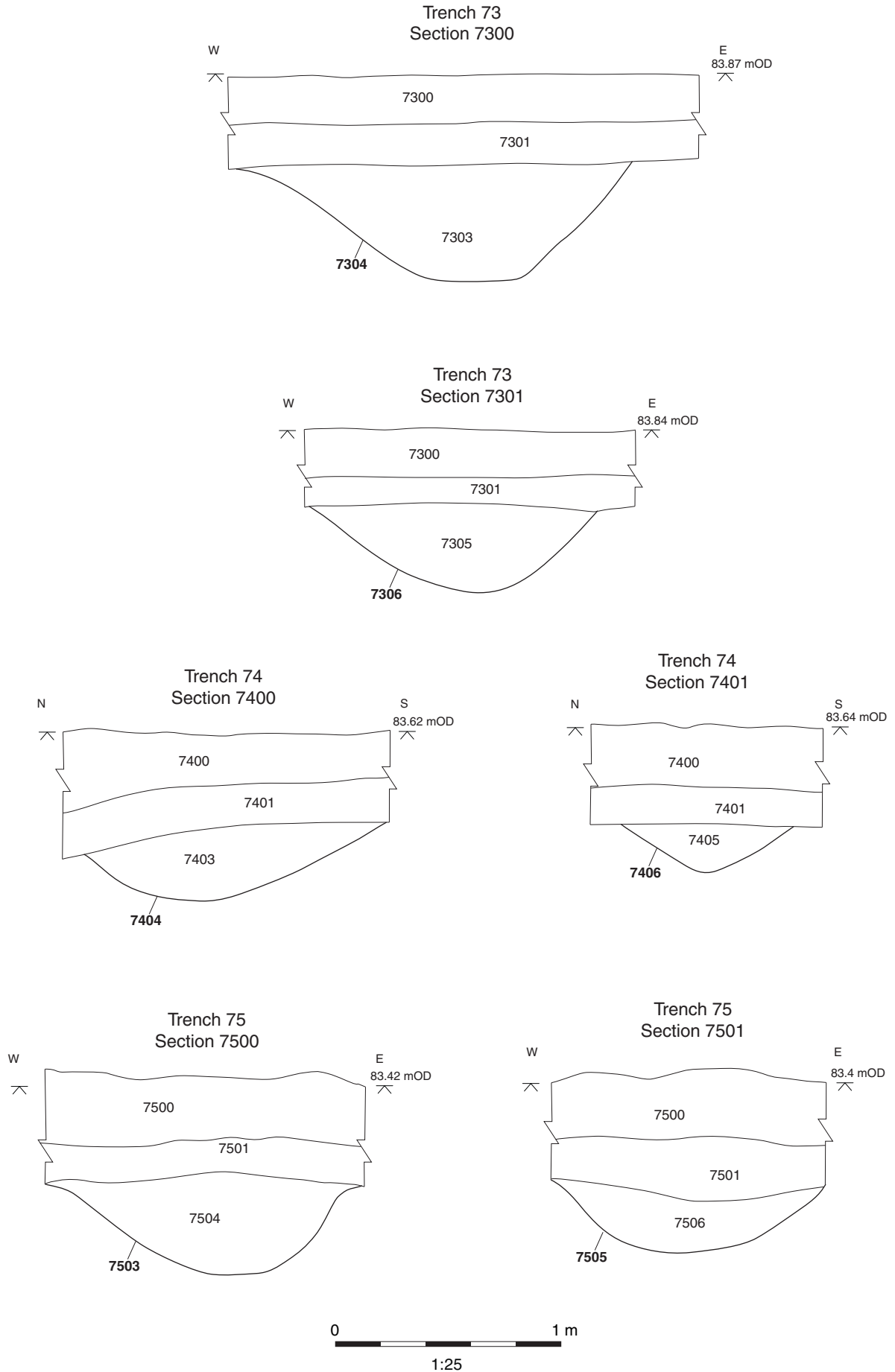


Figure 17: Sections from Trenches 73, 74 and 75

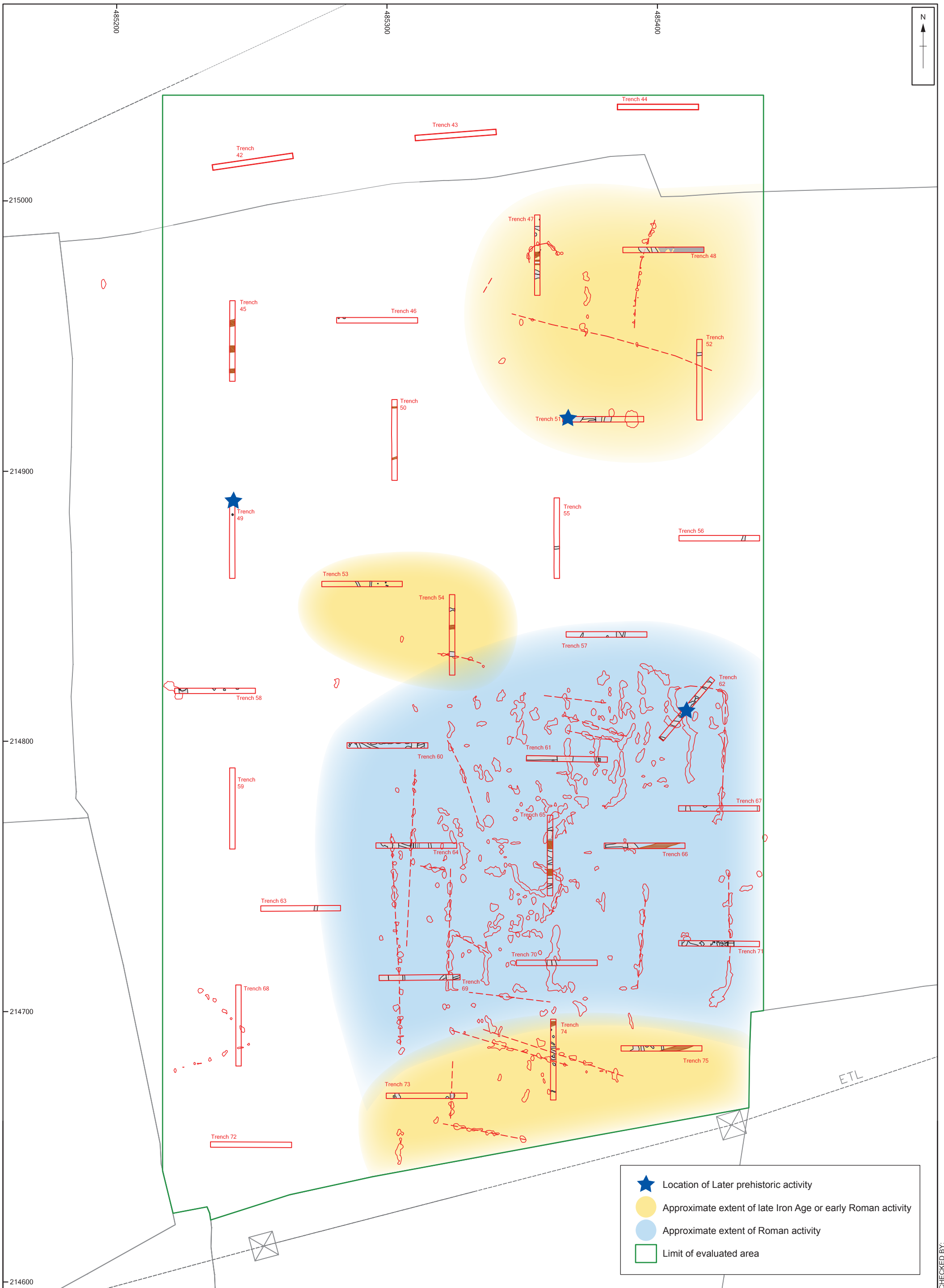




Plate 1: Trench 47, ditches 4717 and 4720



Plate 2: Trench 54, ditch 5407



Plate 3: Trench 57, ditch 5703



Plate 4: Trench 61, ditch 6108



Plate 5: Trench 62, ditch 6207



Plate 6: Trench 65, layers 6505, 6506 and ditch 6503



Plate 7: Trench 65, ditch 6515



Plate 8: Trench 67, ditch 6703



Plate 9: Trench 69, intercutting ditches



Plate 10: Trench 71, ditch 7103



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