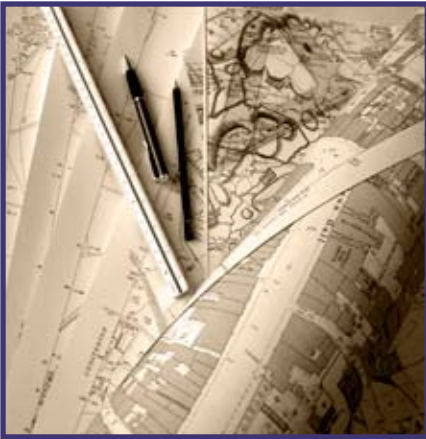


University of Reading
Land north-east of
Didcot
Oxfordshire



**Archaeological
Evaluation Report**



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University of Reading land north-east of Didcot

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between January and April 2013 Oxford Archaeology carried out an evaluation of an area of some 34.7 ha, bounded to the south by the Ladygrove Estate, to the north and east by the B4016, and to the west by the Moor Brook. Trenching was restricted in some parts of the site by gas mains, two of which crossed the site. A total of forty five trenches each 50m long and 2m wide was excavated, totalling 4,500 sq m, and constituting a 1.3% sample of the whole. The trenches were targeted on those areas designated for housing, rather than for open spaces, ie where the impact of development was likely to be greatest.

At the north end of the site, where the ground rises onto the gravel terrace, cropmarks and geophysical survey had indicated a variety of archaeological features, and a concentration of ditches, plus a number of pits, was found. Finds indicated that one pit, which was particularly large, was probably late Bronze Age, one ditch contained later prehistoric pottery and others were Romano-British. South of the terrace, which dipped quite steeply onto the Gault Clay, a number of ditches were also found within a couple of hundred metres, particularly in the north-east corner, and two of the most substantial of these contained later prehistoric pottery. Pits and postholes were also found in a single trench just off the edge of the gravel terrace, though none was dated.

A small number of worked flints were recovered from this part of the site, and appear to represent Mesolithic or early Neolithic activity in this vicinity, though on a limited scale. No other evidence of earlier prehistoric activity was found on the site.

In the central part of the site a variety of ditches and gullies were seen, but none (other than a recent example) was dated. On the west side of the site the density of trenches was less, and here work was targeted on a possible palaeochannel suggested by the geophysical survey. No waterlogged deposits were found, nor any artefactual evidence, perhaps bearing out the evidence from the plan that this feature was a man-made, or at least modified, channel rather than a natural watercourse.

In the southern part of the site alluvium was encountered. No archaeological features were found here either cutting the alluvium or sealed by it, and despite the high water table no waterlogged deposits were preserved. Snails from this part of the site suggested that the environment was one of low-lying floodplain, marshy but dry enough for some terrestrial species, that was periodically flooded.

The evaluation demonstrated that archaeological features continued onto the Gault Clay, but except at its very edge no features other than ditches were certainly identified. The very limited artefactual material tentatively suggests that a field or enclosure system of later prehistoric date may have extended across the area, but the ditches found may alternatively be of several dates.

Only in two small areas of the site was there any evidence that might support the suggestion of ridge-and-furrow cultivation, and in neither case was there any dating evidence.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation at University of Reading land north-east of Didcot, Oxfordshire (the site), prior to determination of a planning application for development for housing. The site covers an area of approximately 34.7 ha.
- 1.1.2 The scope of the evaluation was determined through consultation between William Bedford of CgMs and Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist of OCC.
- 1.1.3 The site lies is centred on National Grid Reference SU 5310 9160.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is currently agricultural land, and is bounded on the south by the A4130 and the Ladygrove Estate, on the north and east by the B4016, and on the west by the Moor Ditch watercourse just east of the railway line between Didcot and Oxford. The northern part of the site is cultivated, the southern fields are under pasture.
- 1.2.2 The geology of the site is Gault Clay (Mudstone) except at the very north end, where this is overlain by second terrace gravel deposits (BGS 1948, Sheet 254).
- 1.2.3 The ground is generally just above 50m aOD, but rises to 55m aOD at the north, and at the very south-east edge of the site. East of the site, and just beyond Willington Down Farm, the ground rises more steeply onto the Upper Greensand, reaching 75m aOD. To the west and south the ground remains fairly level, although an evaluation carried out prior to the construction of the Ladygrove Estate immediately south of the A4130 suggested that the ground was rising gradually towards the south (OAU1994).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 This site has been subject to previous archaeological investigation, comprising an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (hereafter DBA) (Pugh 2011), geophysical surveys (GSB 2000; Bartlett-Clark 2012) and Watching Brief on the installation of a gas pipeline (Lingard and Wilson 1995). Both cropmarks and geophysical anomalies of possible archaeological origin were largely confined to the northern edge of the site, where the underling geology is terrace gravels.
- 1.3.2 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail in the DBA, which was undertaken in 2008 and updated in 2010. This is summarised below.
- 1.3.3 A stone and a flint axe are recorded from Willington Down Farm, but the exact locations of these finds is uncertain, so it is not clear whether they come from within the site. Struck flints were also recovered 400m south of the site (HER15677), but nothing else from the site itself. Immediately south of the site evaluation within the Ladygrove estate (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1994) found a number of burnt tree-throw holes, some filled with charcoal, that were interpreted as evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age woodland, although there were no associated finds.
- 1.3.4 North-west of the site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM243) representing multi-period settlement activity and a Bronze Age burial ground. Other Bronze Age burials and metal finds have been made north of Pearith Farm (and outside the site) during gravel extraction.



- 1.3.5 Only 300m to the west of the site at Appleford Sidings, and just west of the Didcot-Oxford railway line, scattered Mesolithic flints, a Neolithic pit and Middle Bronze Age trackways, enclosures and fields were found (Booth and Simmonds 2009, figure 6). The Bronze Age ditches were continuing eastwards towards the site.
- 1.3.6 An Iron Age settlement was found in 1934 during gravel extraction at Wigbald's Farm (HER 2384) just east of the north-east corner of the site (SU 540/923). The pottery from this indicated an early Iron Age date (Savory 1937).
- 1.3.7 Cropmarks of a sinuous bifurcated trackway and an associated large enclosure are located just north-west of the site beyond Moor Ditch (Benson and Miles 1974, Map 35), and cropmarks of a possible continuation of this exist on the gravel terrace deposits just outside the northern boundary of the site to a point just west of Pearith Farm (Pugh 2011, Appendix 3). A boundary roughly at right angles to this ran south into the northern end of the site, petering out after c. 100m. A number of possible discrete features were identified from the geophysical survey to the west of this at the north edge of the site.
- 1.3.8 Geophysical survey (GSB 2000; Bartlett-Clark 2012) immediately north of Pearith Farm revealed an elongated trapezoidal enclosure, wider on the east than the west, but this survey stopped short of Pearith Cottages. Part of an oval enclosure was recorded as a cropmark in the same area (Benson and Miles 1974, Map 35; HER 8492). Survey within the site, however, indicated an east-west trackway running east of the modern farm, which petered out just short of the NE corner of the site, but was continued by a single boundary ditch east of Wigbolds Farm (Bartlett-Clark 2012). Associated discrete features lay to the north and just to the south, but all of these disappear not far to the south, presumably where the gravel terrace deposits peter out as the ground drops onto the underlying Gault Clay.
- 1.3.9 A possible circular enclosure is also recorded south of Pearith Farm (NMR 238351), although this could not be located during the recent re-examination of aerial photographs for the DBA (Pugh 2011), and may instead relate to a pond.
- 1.3.10 Geophysical survey also located a feature running almost due south from Bow Bridge. The sinuous character of the this feature at the north and in the centre of the site indicates that it was probably a natural watercourse of unknown antiquity, now superseded by the major canalised watercourse running north-south across the centre of the site. This watercourse does not appear on Rocque's map of AD 1760. A number of possible discrete features were located by the geophysical survey just west and east of this, concentrated at the very NW corner of the site.
- 1.3.11 Five ditches of probable Romano-British date were found during the digging of a gas pipeline across the northern part of the site. Further ditches presumed to be Romano-British were found in evaluation just south of the site within the Ladygrove Estate (HER 16146). Additional Roman pottery finds have been identified 10m east of the study site (HER 7942 and NMR 238373).
- 1.3.12 West of the site at Appleford Sidings, Roman enclosures and fields were found (Booth and Simmonds 2009, figure 14). One of the most substantial enclosures continued east of the excavations below the railway line, and cropmarks show that fields or enclosures continued eastwards towards the Moor Ditch.
- 1.3.13 The only Saxon activity on the site was south of Laydgrove Farm within the south-east corner of the site (HER 7674). Two Saxon sunken-featured buildings were found north of the site (HER 12544). The Anglo-Saxon charters for Appleford, Hagbourne and Harwell describe the area of the study site as marshland. The 'old dyke' that lies



between Wigbaldcgtune (Didcot) and Appleford is believed to be Moor Ditch, the western boundary of the study site.

- 1.3.14 Traces of ridge-and-furrow cultivation were identified from aerial photographs across almost all of the site, except at the very north-west and south-west edges, and along the very south-east edge of the site (Pugh 2011, Appendix 3). This would suggest that the area was open farmland in the medieval (or at least the later medieval) and early post-medieval periods.
- 1.3.15 Rocque's map of Berkshire (1760) shows that there were cultivated fields along the north edge of the site, though Pearith Farm and Wigbold's Farm were not apparently in existence, and others in the south-east corner of the site around Ladygrove Farm, where a Grade II Listed 17th Century farmhouse still exists. The site was bisected by another north-south watercourse (still existing), and the remainder of the site east of this was common land, with meadowland to the west.
- 1.3.16 Later historic maps show that it has remained as open farmland.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The work was commissioned by William Bedford of CgMs, and monitored by Richard Oram, Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council. We are grateful to both of them for their advice and encouragement on site visits. Within OA the project was managed by Tim Allen, and the work in the field supervised by Steve Leech. The first stage of the evaluation was carried out in very cold conditions in January, and we would like to thank all of the OA staff for their hard work and perseverance in these trying conditions. Logistical support was provided by Granville Laws, and plant and welfare by White Horse Contractors and Qik Group respectively.



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation were:

- (i) To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive.
- (ii) To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains.
- (iii) To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means.
- (iv) To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
- (v) To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy.
- (vi) To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape.
- (vii) To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive.
- (viii) To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity.
- (ix) To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

2.1.2 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- (x) To clarify the date or dates of the cropmarks visible in the north-east corner of the site, and the character of the activities they represent.
- (xi) As a corollary of this, to determine whether the Iron Age settlement found previously at Wigbold's Farm, or the Bronze Age activity to the north, extends into the site.
- (xii) To establish whether the visible extent of cropmark features is a genuine reflection of their extent, or whether they continue southwards onto the Gault Clay, and are lost due to the unresponsive nature of this geology.
- (xiii) To investigate the cropmark and geophysical features indicated west of Pearith Farm in the north-west part of the site, and if possible determine their date.
- (xiv) As a corollary of this, to attempt to determine whether the middle Bronze Age fields and enclosures found on the gravels to the west continued east of the Moor Ditch onto the Gault Clay.
- (xv) To establish the general depth of cultivation soil covering the Gault Clay over the majority of the site, and to determine whether there are any further refinements to the soil sequence.
- (xvi) To investigate the environs of the defunct watercourse crossing the site, and if possible establish the antiquity of this feature, and whether it contains the potential for environmental information about the past environment of the site.
- (xvii) To look for further Romano-British ditches to add to the evidence for drainage and land-division suggested by previous discoveries



- (xviii) To look for further evidence relating to the Anglo-Saxon activity indicated by previous finds of pottery in the southern part of the site.
- (xix) If practicable, to determine the start date of the ridge-and-furrow cultivation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The methodology followed the requirements laid down in the WSI (CgMs 2013) and in the supplementary Method Statement prepared by OA (OA 2103) as a minimum. Variations from this methodology are described below.
- 2.2.2 Recent experience on very similar geology (Stockham House, Wantage, OA 2012) had shown that it is sometimes difficult to determine when undisturbed natural has been reached. On occasion, therefore, and only in parts of a trench where no archaeological features or other deposits are believed to be present, sondages were dug by machine to test the depth of deposits and ensure that no archaeological horizons remain unexplored at greater depth.
- 2.2.3 Once the problem with groundwater seepage was realised, trenches were photographed and plans drawn as soon as the trench had been excavated by the machine, or even as machining was progressing, in order to ensure that an adequate photographic record was obtained. As it was faster to open trenches than to excavate and record them, some trenches became flooded before they could be excavated. Water could then be pumped out as required, and the features excavated and recorded.
- 2.2.4 No excavation of archaeological features or deposits by machine were undertaken unless previously agreed with Richard Oram of OCC and William Bedford of CgMs.
- 2.2.5 A summary of OA's general approach to excavation and recording can be found in Appendix A. Standard methodologies for Geomatics and Survey, Environmental evidence, Artefactual evidence and Burials can also be found below (Appendices B, C, D and E respectively).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The following section summarises the results of the evaluation. All of the trenches were 50m long and of standard width, except for Trench 4. The location of the trenches is shown on Figure 2, plans of trenches with archaeological features on Figures 3-8 and sections on Figures 9-20. Detailed archaeological descriptions are presented in the context inventory (Appendix A), and within the descriptive text where they are integral to the interpretation of the context in question.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 Trenches 10, 13, 14 and 35, dug along the northern edge of the site, were situated on the first gravel terrace, and had a dark grey / brown silty clay ploughsoil 0.3m thick overlying a light grey / brown silty clay subsoil. These trenches were well-drained, and remained dry throughout. The fills of features usually contained a sand or gravel component.

3.2.2 All the other trenches were located on the Gault Clay, and had very similar topsoil and subsoil deposits. These were similar to those found on the gravel terrace, although subsoil was generally olive grey in colour. The fills of features were generally clays, and were dense and tenacious. Excavation was therefore difficult, and breaking up individual clods almost impossible. It is therefore possible that very small finds may not have been seen.

3.2.3 The work was carried out in the winter months. The initial trenches (1-14) were covered in snow, then rain, and most of the trenches became flooded, necessitating the use of pumps. Many of the trenches on the Gault Clay were subject to groundwater seepage as soon as they were opened, although few were deeply flooded because of this.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Ditches were widely spread across the site, and followed a variety of orientations. Pits and postholes were concentrated at the north end of the site, either on or close to the gravel terrace.

3.4 Trench 1

3.4.1 Trench 1 was orientated east-west. It contained two tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Tree-hole 103 was sub-oval in shape, 0.6m wide and 0.16m deep. Tree-hole 105 was sub-oval in shape, 0.65m wide and 0.1m deep. Both had a single fill of dark brownish-grey clay, numbered respectively 104 and 106

3.5 Trench 2 (Figures 3 and 9; Plate 1)

3.5.1 Trench 2 was orientated east-west. It contained two ditches and ten tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Ditch 203 was aligned north-south, was 0.55m wide and 0.18m deep, with a flat base and sloping sides, and was filled by a single dark grey silty clay (204). It was cut through the subsoil 201 and tree-hole 225. Ditch 207 was aligned north-west to south-east, was 1.3m wide and 0.29m deep, with a concave base and sloping sides. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty clay, and cut through tree-hole 223.



3.5.2 Tree-hole 205 was sub-oval in plan, and was 0.8m wide and 0.17m deep. Tree-hole 209 was sub-oval but larger, 2m across and 0.31m deep. Both of these contained a sandy silt fill that was largely dark grey but mottled with light grey, numbered respectively 206 and 210. The remaining eight tree-holes were also excavated, and all contained a single fill identical to that filling 205 and 209. None of the fills contained any finds. These tree-holes were drawn on the plan, but were not recorded in detail.

3.6 Trench 3 (Figure 3)

3.6.1 Trench 3 was orientated from north-east to south-west, and contained two ditches and three tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Ditch 303 was aligned north-west to south-east, and was 0.6m wide and 0.04m deep, with a flat base and sloping sides. It contained one grey / brown silty clay fill numbered 304.

3.6.2 Ditch 305 was aligned north-west to south-east, and was 0.6m wide and 0.06m deep, with a flat base and sloping sides. Like ditch 303, there was one grey / brown silty clay fill, here numbered 306. Tree-holes 307, 309 and 311 were excavated and all contained a grey silty clay fill without finds (numbered respectively 308, 310 and 312). They were drawn on the plan but were not recorded in detail.

3.7 Trench 4 (Figures 3 and 9)

3.7.1 Trench 4 was orientated east-west and was only 41m long, as the trench had to be shortened and two x 2m long baulks left unexcavated due to active drains found during machining. The trench contained one ditch, which was later re-cut along much the same line, interspersed with a sequence of alluvial deposits deposited over the natural clay 402 and sealed by the subsoil layer 401.

3.7.2 Ditch 409 cut the natural clay, and was aligned north-south. It was 0.6m wide and 0.44m deep, with a flat base and steep sides; the eastern side had been partly disturbed by an animal burrow. The ditch contained a single fill, 410, that was a light brown / grey silty clay.

3.7.3 Both the ditch fill and the surrounding natural clay were sealed by alluvial layer 406, a dark brown silty clay 0.24m thick. This was overlain by alluvial layer 405, a dark grey brown silty clay 0.07m thick.

3.7.4 Ditch 407 cut through alluvial layers 405 and 406, and the upper fill of the earlier phase ditch 409. Ditch 407 was aligned north-south, and was 1.5m wide and 0.4m deep with a concave base and sloping sides. It contained a single dark brown clay loam fill, 408, which was sampled for molluscan remains (sample 3). These are reported upon below (Section 5.2).

3.7.5 Ditch fill 408 and alluvial clay 405 were sealed by a further alluvial layer 404, a 0.24m thick deposit of dark grey silty clay, and this was overlain in turn by alluvial layer 403, a 0.16m thick layer of mid-brown silty clay. This layer contained snails, and sample 2 was taken to examine these (see Section 5.2 below). This was followed by subsoil 401, and then by topsoil 400.

3.8 Trench 5 (Figures 3 and 9)

3.8.1 Trench 5 was orientated north-south. It contained two ditches and four tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Ditch 505 cut ditch 507 and was aligned NEE – SWW, 0.64m wide and 0.16m deep, with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 506, a dark grey silty clay.



3.8.2 Ditch 507 was aligned E – W, 1.2m wide and 0.32m deep, with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 508, a light grey / yellow silty clay, and was cut by ditch 505 along the north side.

3.8.3 Tree-hole 503 was sub-oval in shape, 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep, tree-holes 509, 511 and 513 were excavated and drawn on the plan, no further recording was undertaken.

3.9 Trench 6 (Figures 4 and 9; Plate 2)

3.9.1 Trench 6 was orientated E – W. It contained one ditch, three tree-holes and three natural hollows cut into the natural clay. Ditch 615 was aligned N – S, and was 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. It contained a single fill, 616, a mid grey silty clay.

3.9.2 Tree-holes 603, 605, 609 and natural hollows 607, 611 and 613 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were all sterile, and no further recording was undertaken.

3.10 Trench 7 (Figures 4 and 10)

3.10.1 Trench 7 was orientated N – S. It contained one ditch, four gullies and four tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Ditch 703 was aligned E – W, and was 0.6m wide and 0.19m deep, with a flat base and moderately sloping sides. It contained a single fill, 704, a dark grey silty clay.

3.10.2 Gully 705 was aligned NW – SE, 0.18m wide and 0.05m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 706, a dark grey silty clay. There was no relationship established between gullies 705 and 707. Gully 707 was aligned E – W, 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 708, a dark grey silty clay.

3.10.3 Gully 709 was part of a curvilinear feature running from the SE to the NE. It was 0.7m wide and 0.17m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides, and contained a single fill, 710, a dark grey silty clay.

3.10.4 Gully 711 was aligned E - W, 0.48m wide and 0.33m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 712, a dark grey silty clay.

3.10.5 Tree-holes 713, 715 717 and 719 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were all sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.11 Trench 8 (Figures 4 and 11; Plates 3 and 4)

3.11.1 Trench 8 was orientated N – S, and contained five ditches, four tree-holes and one palaeochannel cut either into the natural clay or the subsoil. Ditch 803 was aligned NE – SW, 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep with a flat base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 804, a dark grey silty clay, cut into the natural clay.

3.11.2 Ditch 805 was aligned E – W, 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 806, a mid grey silty clay, cut into the natural clay.

3.11.3 Ditch 807 was aligned E – W, 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 808, a dark grey silty clay, cut into the natural clay.

3.11.4 Ditch 809 was aligned E – W, 1.5m wide and 1m deep with a V-profiled base and steeply sloping sides and contained an upper fill, 811, which was a brown / grey silty clay, 0.2m thick, and a lower fill 810, which was a grey brown silty clay, 0.8m thick. The

ditch cut into the subsoil overlying the natural clay and was overlain by alluvial layer 812 (the same as alluvial layer 814 described below).

- 3.11.5 Ditch 817 was aligned E – W, 2m wide and 0.3m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 818, a light grey silty clay, cut into the natural clay.
- 3.11.6 Palaeochannel 813 was aligned NE – SW and cut tree-hole 822, the channel was 8m wide and 1.4m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained six fills. The lowest fill 821 was a mid grey silty clay, 0.2m thick and 0.8m wide. Overlying that was fill 820, a dark brown silty clay, 0.15m thick and 0.85m wide. This was overlain by fill 819, a light grey / brown silty clay, 0.2m thick and 1.3 m wide, and this in turn by fill 816, a dark brown silty clay, 0.25m thick and 2.5 m wide. Overlying 816 was fill 815, a grey / yellow silty clay, 0.3m thick and 2.9 m wide, and the final fill was 814, a light grey silty sand, 0.65m thick and 8 m wide.
- 3.11.7 No finds were recovered from any of the fills, but environmental samples for molluscs were taken from layers 814, 815 and 816, and are reported upon below (Section 5.2).
- 3.11.8 Tree-holes 822, 824, 826 and 828 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.12 Trench 9 (Figures 4 and 12; Plates 5 and 6)

- 3.12.1 Trench 9 was orientated E – W, and contained two ditches, one tree-hole and one palaeochannel cut into the natural clay. Ditch 902 was aligned N – S, 1.6m wide and 0.65m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 903, a mid brown silty clay that contained a modern shotgun cartridge, wire and two sherds of post-medieval pottery.
- 3.12.2 Ditch 906 was aligned N – S, 1.7m wide and only excavated to a depth of 0.3m due to modern material found within the fill, so was not bottomed. It had moderately sloping sides and the only fill exposed was 907, a mid grey / brown silty clay.
- 3.12.3 Palaeochannel 908 / 910 was aligned N – S, 14m wide and 0.35m deep with a flat base and moderate slope and contained a single fill, 909 / 911, a brown silty clay.
- 3.12.4 Tree-hole 905 was excavated and drawn on the plan, but was sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.13 Trench 10 (Figures 5 and 13)

- 3.13.1 Trench 10 was orientated E – W and contained five ditches and three pits cut into the natural clay. Pit 1002 was sub-circular in shape, 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep with a convex base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 1003, a dark brown sandy clay.
- 3.13.2 Pit 1004 was sub-oval in shape, 1.05m wide and 0.2m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1005, a dark brown sandy clay.
- 3.13.3 Pit 1006 was sub-circular in shape, 1.3m wide and 0.31m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1007, a dark brown silty clay. The pit was cut into the north-western extent of ditch 1008. This ditch was aligned NE-SW, was 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1009, a dark grey / brown silty clay.
- 3.13.4 Ditch 1010 was aligned N – S, 1.68m wide and 0.54m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1011, a mid grey / brown silty clay

that included four fragments of indeterminate animal bone and one sherd of Late Iron Age pottery. It was cut along the east side by ditch 1012.

- 3.13.5 Ditch 1012 was again aligned N – S, 2.18m wide and 0.18m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1013, a dark grey / brown silty clay.
- 3.13.6 Ditch 1014 was aligned NW – SE, 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1015, a dark grey / brown silty clay. Running parallel to this ditch was ditch 1016, which was 1.5m wide and 0.32m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. It contained a single dark brown silty clay fill, numbered 1017.

3.14 Trench 11

- 3.14.1 Trench 11 was orientated E – W and contained a single tree-hole 1103 cut into the natural clay. This was excavated and drawn on the plan, but was sterile; no further recording was undertaken.

3.15 Trench 12 (Figures 5 and 14)

- 3.15.1 Trench 12 was orientated E – W and contained a single tree-hole and a single gully cut into the natural clay. Gully 1203 was aligned N – S, 0.48m wide and 0.1m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1205, a yellow / brown silty clay. Tree-hole 1205 was excavated and drawn on the plan, but was sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.16 Trench 13 (Figures 5 and 14)

- 3.16.1 Trench 13 was orientated NE – SW and contained one pit, two ditches and two tree-holes cut into the natural gravels and brickearth. Pit 1306 was sub-circular in shape, 1.55m wide and 0.48m deep with a concave base and moderate to steep sides and contained four fills. Lower fill, 1305, was a yellow / brown silty clay 0.35m thick and 0.8m wide, fill 1304, a dark brown silty clay 0.15m thick and 0.7m wide, fill 1303, a brown silty clay 0.35m thick and 0.9m wide and upper fill 1302, a dark brown silty clay, 0.26m thick and 1m wide.
- 3.16.2 Ditch 1307 was aligned NW – SE, 1.3m wide and 0.46m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1308, a brown silty clay.
- 3.16.3 Ditch 1309 was aligned E – W, 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained two fills, lower fill, 1310, a light brown silty clay 0.08m thick and 1.3m wide and upper fill 1311, a dark brown silty clay 0.38m thick and 1.3m wide.
- 3.16.4 Tree-holes 1314 and 1316 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.
- 3.16.5 A lead weight of uncertain date was recovered from the subsoil layer 1301.

3.17 Trench 14 (Figures 5 and 15; Plate 7)

- 3.17.1 Trench 14 was orientated NE – SW, and contained two pits, eight ditches and two postholes cut into the natural gravels. Ditch 1402 was aligned N – S, 1m wide and 0.15m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1403, a dark brown silty clay that contained two fragments of bird humerus and one sherd of 18th Century pottery.

- 3.17.2 Ditch 1404 was aligned E – W, 1m wide and 0.25m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1405, a brown silty clay. This ditch cut ditch 1406 along its northern side. Ditch 1406 was aligned E – W, and was 1.05m wide and 0.56m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. It contained two fills: the lower fill, 1427, was an orange / brown silty clay 0.25m thick and 0.75m wide and the upper fill 1407 a dark brown silty clay 0.4m thick and 1.05m wide. Fill 1407 included two Mesolithic / Early Neolithic flint flakes, 11 sherds of Early Roman pottery and two fragments of ironstone. This layer was also sampled for environmental remains (sample 1), and these are reported upon below (Section 5.2).
- 3.17.3 Ditch 1408 was aligned E – W, 0.85m wide and 0.35m deep with a concave base and steeply sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1409, a dark brown silty clay. This ditch cut ditch 1410 along its northern side. Ditch 1410 was aligned E – W, 0.82m wide and 0.4m deep with a concave base and steeply sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1411, a dark brown sandy clay and contained one sherd of Late Prehistoric pottery.
- 3.17.4 Northwestern ditch terminus 1420 was aligned NW - SE, 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1421, a dark brown silty clay.
- 3.17.5 Ditch 1422 was aligned N – S, 1m wide and 0.35m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. It had a single fill, 1423, a dark brown silty clay that contained one Mesolithic /Early Neolithic flint blade.
- 3.17.6 Ditch 1424 was aligned NW – SE, 0.55m wide and 0.1m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 1425, a dark brown silty clay.
- 3.17.7 Posthole 1412 was sub-circular in shape, 0.3m in diameter and 0.32m deep and contained a single fill, 1413, a dark grey / brown silty clay.
- 3.17.8 Posthole 1416 was sub-circular in shape, 0.3m in diameter and 0.1m deep and contained a single fill, 1417, a dark brown silty clay.
- 3.17.9 Pit 1414 was sub-oval in shape 0.8m wide and 0.1m deep and contained a single fill, 1415, a dark orange / brown sandy clay and contained four fragments of horse tibia.
- 3.17.10 Pit 1418 was sub-oval in shape, 0.6m wide and 0.12m deep, and contained a single fill 419. This was a dark brown sandy clay which contained a single Mesolithic / Early Neolithic flint blade.

3.18 Trenches 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 (Plate 8)

- 3.18.1 None of these trenches contained any archaeological features, so are not drawn or illustrated in detail.

3.19 Trench 23 (Figures 6 and 16)

- 3.19.1 Trench 23 was orientated E – W, and contained three tree-holes cut into the natural clay and one ditch and re-cut cut into the subsoil. Ditch 2313 was aligned N – S, 1.75m wide and 0.3m deep with a sloping base and moderately sloping side and contained two fills. Lower fill 2314, a dark grey / brown silty clay, 1.4m wide and 0.25m thick and upper fill 2315, a brown grey silty clay.
- 3.19.2 This ditch was re-cut along its western edge by ditch 2309, again aligned N – S, 1.8m wide and 0.54m deep and contained four fills. Lower fill 2310, a grey silt, 1.58m wide and 0.68m thick, fill 2316, a dark grey / brown silty clay, 0.5m wide and 0.18m thick. Fill



2311. a dark grey // brown silt, 1.05m wide and 0.4m thick and upper fill 2312, a dark brown silty clay, 0.82m wide and 0.21m thick.

- 3.19.3 Tree-holes 2303, 2305 and 2307 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were all sterile, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.20 Trench 24 (Figures 6 and 16)

3.20.1 Trench 24 was orientated N – S, and contained one gully terminus and two tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Eastern gully terminus 2403 was aligned E – W, 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides. It had a single fill, 2404, a dark grey silty clay.

3.20.2 Tree-holes 2405 and 2407 were excavated and drawn on the plan, no further recording was undertaken.

3.21 Trenches 25 and 26 (Plate 9)

3.21.1 These trenches did not contain any archaeological features, so are not described or illustrated in detail.

3.22 Trench 27 (Figures 6 and 16)

3.22.1 Trench 27 was orientated N – S, and contained two ditches cut into the natural clay. Ditch 2703 was aligned E- W, 1.30m wide and 0.3m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides, and contained a single fill, 2704, a dark grey / brown silty clay.

3.22.2 Ditch 2705 was aligned NW – SE, 1.25m wide and 0.2m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides, and contained a single fill, 2706, a dark grey / brown silty clay.

3.23 Trench 28

3.23.1 This trench did not contain any archaeological features, so is not described or illustrated in detail.

3.24 Trench 29 (not illustrated)

3.24.1 Trench 29 was orientated N – S, and contained a single tree-hole 2903 that was cut into the natural clay. This was excavated, but proved to be shallow and sterile, so was drawn on the plan but was not further recorded.

3.25 Trenches 30 and 31 (Plate 10)

3.25.1 These trenches did not contain any archaeological features, so are not described and illustrated in detail.

3.26 Trench 32 (Figures 6 and 17)

3.26.1 Trench 32 was orientated N – S, and contained a single ditch cut into the natural clay. Ditch 3203 was aligned NW – SE, 1.18m wide and 0.04m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 2304, a dark grey silty clay.

3.27 Trenches 33 and 34

3.27.1 These trenches did not contain any archaeological features, so are not described or illustrated in detail.

3.28 Trench 35 (Figures 7, 18 and 19; Plate 11)

- 3.28.1 Trench 35 was orientated E – W, and contained five ditches and three pits cut into the natural gravels. Below topsoil 3501 and subsoil 3502 there was an alluvial layer, 3503, that was present throughout the whole length of the trench, and which sealed the archaeological features. This layer was a brown / grey silty sand 0.1m thick containing a 12th - 13th Century horseshoe.
- 3.28.2 Pit 3504 was sub-circular in shape, was at least 1.2m wide, but lay at the very end of the trench so was not completely exposed. It was excavated to a depth of 0.6m, but was not bottomed, due both to groundwater and for reasons of health and safety. It had steep sides and contained three fills. Lower fill 3505 was a grey silty clay, 0.6m wide and 0.35m thick, fill 3506 was a dark grey silty clay, 1.2m wide and 0.6m thick and contained 32 pieces of burnt quartzitic sandstone and two sherds of Late Prehistoric pottery. This was sampled for charred plant remains (sample 7), which are reported upon below (Section 5.2). The upper fill 3507 was a brown silty sand 1.1m wide and 0.12m thick and contained one horse metacarpal.
- 3.28.3 Ditch 3508 was aligned N – S, 1.01m wide and 0.24m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 3509, a dark brown sandy clay.
- 3.28.4 Ditch 3510 was aligned N – S, 1.95m wide and 0.44m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained two fills; lower fill 3512, a grey silty clay, 1.54m wide and 0.08m thick and upper fill 3511, a grey / brown sandy clay, 1.85m wide and 0.36m thick.
- 3.28.5 Ditch 3513 was aligned N – S, 2.1m wide and 0.5m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides and contained four successive fills: 3517, a dark grey silty clay 1.34m wide and 0.4m thick, 3516, an orange / brown silty sand 0.64m wide and 0.24m thick, then 3515, a dark grey silty clay 0.81m wide and 0.23m thick and finally 3514, a grey brown sandy gravel 1.72m wide and 0.11m thick.
- 3.28.6 This ditch was cut by pit 3518 along its eastern side. Pit 3518 was oval in shape, 0.42m wide and 0.25m deep with a concave base and steep sides and contained a single fill of grey / brown silty sand.
- 3.28.7 Ditch 3520 was aligned NE – SW, 1.4m wide and 0.27m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill of light grey sandy silt.
- 3.28.8 Pit 3522 was sub-circular in shape, excavated to a width of 0.86 and 0.4m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping side and contained two fills. Lower fill 3523, a mid grey silty clay 0.4m wide and 0.2m thick and upper fill 3524, a grey / brown sandy silt 0.86m wide and 0.2m thick.
- 3.28.9 Ditch 3526 was aligned E – W, 0.94m wide and 0.1m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill of a dark grey / brown silty clay.

3.29 Trench 36

- 3.29.1 This trench did not contain any archaeological features, so is not described or illustrated in detail.

3.30 Trench 37 (Figures 7 and 17)

- 3.30.1 Trench 37 was orientated E – W and contained two ditches cut into the natural clays. Ditch 3703 was aligned NE – SW, 0.5m wide and 0.26m deep with a concave base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 3704, a dark grey silty clay.



3.30.2 Ditch 3705 was aligned N – S, 0.66m wide and 0.34m deep with a flat base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 3706, a dark grey silty clay.

3.31 Trenches 38 and 39

3.31.1 These trenches did not contain any archaeological features, so are not described in detail.

3.32 Trench 40 (Figures 7 and 17)

3.32.1 Trench 40 was orientated E – W, 1.8m wide and 50m long and contained one ditch cut into the natural clay. Ditch 4003 was aligned N – S, 1m wide and 0.38m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained a single fill, 4004, a brown / grey silty clay.

3.33 Trench 41 (Figures 7 and 17)

3.33.1 Trench 41 was orientated N – S, and contained one ditch cut into the natural clay. Ditch 4103 was aligned NE – SW, was 0.89m wide and 0.35m deep with a concave base and moderately sloping sides. It had a single fill, 4104, a brown / grey silty clay that contained one Mesolithic / Early Neolithic bladelet and one sherd of Late Prehistoric pottery.

3.33.2 One Mesolithic / Early Neolithic blade was recovered from the topsoil 4100.

3.34 Trench 42 (not illustrated)

3.34.1 Trench 42 was orientated E – W, 1.8m wide and 50m long and contained one sterile natural feature, 4203, This was excavated and drawn on the plan, but no further recording was undertaken.

3.35 Trench 43 (Figures 8 and 20)

3.35.1 Trench 43 was orientated E – W, and contained one ditch, two gullies three pits and two tree-holes cut into the natural clay. Ditch 4305 was aligned N – S, 2.44m wide and 0.6m deep with a flat base and moderately sloping sides and contained three fills. Lower fills 4326, a grey / brown silty clay, 0.6m wide and 0.08m thick and 4327 also a grey / brown silty clay 0.83m wide and 0.21m thick and upper fill 4306 a grey silty clay 2.44m wide and 0.6m thick and contained one sherd of Late Prehistoric pottery.

3.35.2 Gully 4313 was aligned N – S, 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep with a concave base and steep slopes and contained a single fill, 4328, a grey / brown silty clay. This gully cut gully 4314. Gully 4314 was aligned E – W, 3m long, 0.2m wide and 0.15m deep with a concave base and steep sides and filled with a single fill 4315, a dark grey silty clay. This gully cut pit 4316 and was cut by pits 4321 and 4311.

3.35.3 Pit 4316 was sub-circular in shape, 0.62m wide and 0.33m deep with a concave base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 4317, a brown / grey silty clay. The northern part of the pit was disturbed by an animal burrow.

3.35.4 Pit 4311 was sub-circular in shape, 0.67m wide and 0.3m deep with a flat base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 4312, a dark grey silty clay. This pit cut gully 4314 and pit 4321.

3.35.5 Pit 4321 was sub-circular in shape, 0.56m wide and 0.28m deep with a concave base and steep sides and contained a single fill, 4322, a brown / grey silty clay.

3.35.6 Tree-holes 4303, 4307, natural disturbance 4318 and 4323 were excavated and drawn on the plan, but were all sterile and shallow, so no further recording was undertaken.

3.36 Trench 44 (Figures 8 and 17)

3.36.1 Trench 44 was orientated E – W, 1.8m wide and 50m long and contained one gully cut into the natural clay. Gully 4403 was aligned E-W, 0.35m wide and 0.35m deep with a concave base and steep sides and contained a single fill of a brown / grey silty clay.

3.37 Trench 45 (not illustrated)

3.37.1 Trench 45 was orientated E – W, 1.8m wide and 50m long and contained one tree-hole cut into the natural clay. Tree-hole 4503 was excavated and drawn on the plan, but was sterile, so no further recording was undertaken. One sherd of 14th - 15th Century pottery was recovered from the subsoil 4501.

4 FINDS

4.1 Ceramic finds

by Paul Booth

Introduction

4.1.1 Some 19 sherds of pottery, weighing 159g, were recovered, along with 3 small fragments retrieved from sieving. There were also 2 fragments (13g) of ceramic building material (CBM) and 1 piece (29g) of fired clay. These were recorded rapidly, mainly using standard codes defined in the OA system for recording later prehistoric and Roman pottery. Pottery fabrics were identified at a fairly broad level of precision and quantified in context groups by sherd count and weight. Vessel forms (where present) were also noted in terms of broad classes. Fired clay and CBM fabrics were not recorded, although characteristics of CBM fabrics were used as a guide to assessment of date.

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 The pottery was in moderate condition. Mean sherd weight (8.3g overall excluding the sieved fragments) varied from group to group and was generally low, only 6.4g for the prehistoric and Roman sherds. Surface condition was also variable; the majority of sherds being at least moderately abraded.

4.2.2 The assemblage comprised later prehistoric and Roman material, with one sherd each of later medieval and post-medieval date (27g and 23g respectively). A limited range of late prehistoric/Roman fabrics was present, defined by OA codes as follows (Table 1):

Table 1: Quantities of pottery by fabric

Fabric/ware code	Description	No. sherds	Weight (g)	
AN3	Sand tempered fabric	1	11	
FA3/FA4	Flint and sand-tempered fabrics	7	41	
Q	Quartz (white) crushed	2	2	
F53	New Forest colour-coated ware	1	4	ID probable
OF	Oxford colour-coated ware	1	11	Eroded, ID probable

W10	Oxford white ware	2	10	
W30	Medium sandy white ware, ? local	1	10	
E20	Fairly fine sandy LIA/ERB reduced coarse ware	3	17	
E80	Grog tempered 'Belgic type' ware	1	3	
R20	Coarse sandy reduced coarse ware	1	4	
Z20	Brill Boarstall ware	1	27	Jug handle
Z30	Post-medieval red wares	1	23	Bowl rim
Total		22	163	

- 4.2.3 Five context groups contained only pottery assigned a broad later prehistoric date, though with the exception of pit 3505 these were only single sherds. In this area flint and sand-tempered fabrics could date to the late Bronze Age but could be later as well, and in the absence of diagnostic pieces close dating is not possible. The single sand tempered (fabric AN3) sherd is more likely to have been of middle or late Iron Age date.
- 4.2.4 All the 'Roman' sherds occurred in a single context group (1407), but this was clearly mixed, the coarse wares suggesting an early date range (broadly 1C AD), while two fine ware sherds were rather later and the white wares are not closely dated. The fragment of fired clay from the same context was from a roughly flat-surfaced object with a straight edge. A late Iron Age or early Roman date is likely and is consistent with that suggested by the coarse ware sherds in this group.
- 4.2.5 Overall the assemblage is too small for its significance to be assessed. The group of sherds in context 1407 suggests activity of Roman date in the vicinity, but it is mixed and does not appear to represent a single coherent deposit.

Table 2: Summary of ceramic material by context

Context	Number of sherds	Weight (g)	Fabrics/wares	Context group date	Comment
903	2	13	CBM	Post-medieval	
1011	1	8	FA4/5	LPRE	
1403	1	23	Z30	18C+	
1407	11	63	FA3, F53, OF, W10, W20, E20, E80, R20	250+	Mostly early Roman
1407	1	29	Fired clay		
1411	1	6	FAV3	LPRE	
3506	2 (5)	15 (19)	FA3, FA4	LPRE	Late Bronze Age?
4104	1	6	FA4	LPRE	
4306	1	11	AN3	LPRE	
4501	1	27	Z20	14-15C	
Total	19	159			

4.3 Struck Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

- 4.3.1 A very small assemblage of six struck pieces was recovered from this evaluation. These were focused closely on trench 14 but material of a similar nature was also present in trench 41. Two natural fragments were also present but can be discarded
- 4.3.2 The assemblage almost entirely comprises pieces of probable Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. Blades are common and the flakes in the assemblage display parallel negative scars and evidence of platform preparation that are more typical in early assemblages.
- 4.3.3 The blades are usually quite broad and are more typical of early Mesolithic or early Neolithic assemblages, but given such a small assemblage, a more cautious early prehistoric date would be more appropriate.
- 4.3.4 The possibility that some form of early prehistoric site lies in the evaluation area should be considered. Such sites can be very small and self-contained, and can be easily missed by evaluation. This assemblage did display considerable levels of edge damage suggesting that the scatter or surface that the originated from has been heavily disturbed.

Table 3. Flints by context and type

Context	type	sub-type	notes	date
1407	flake	inner	Snapped proximal segment with very parallel negative scars on dorsal surface	Meso-E-Neo
1407	flake	inner	possibly from axe/adze working	
1407	natural			
1407	natural			
1419	blade	inner	utilised right edge	Meso-E-Neo
1423	blade	side trimming	spontaneous retouch and heavy damage	Meso-E-Neo
4100	blade	inner	heavy edge damage, quite broad	Meso-E-Neo
4104	bladelet	inner		Meso-E-Neo

4.4 Metals

By Ian R Scott

- 4.4.1 There are 4 metal objects from three contexts:

Context 903 - (i) Wire U-staple. Modern
 (ii) Base of shotgun cartridge. Modern

Context 1300 - (iii) Lead weight, small irregular sub-rectangular block with narrow rectangular piercing. Possible net weight. 26mm x 20mm.

Context 3503 (iv) small horse, or more probably pony, shoe, worn at the front, with small calkins at the pointed heels. It has a wavy outline and fiddle key nails. There appear to be 3 nails or nail holes on each branch. The nail holes are rectangular and set in countersunk slots. L: 97mm; W: 95mm
This is a Type 2b horseshoe and probably dates from the 12th century and into the 13th century (Clarke 1995, 86, 95-6, figs 62, 81-2).

4.4.2 The horseshoe from context 3503 is medieval horseshoe. The finds from context 903 are modern, and the lead object from context 1300 (topsoil) is undated.

4.5 The stone

by Ruth Shaffrey

4.5.1 The stone assemblage consists of 2 fragments of naturally occurring ironstone and a collection of quartzitic sandstone pot boilers. The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work. Having been recorded the stones may be discarded.

Table 4. Stone by context

Context	Description
1407	2 fragments of ironstone, 27g
3506	32 pieces of reddened and heat-shattered quartzitic sandstone, 3059g

5 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Animal bone

identified by Lena Strid

5.1.1 A very small number of animal bones was recovered from this evaluation. Those that could be identified were of horse and bird, rather than the usual domesticated species: cattle, sheep/goat and pig.

Table 5. Quantification of animal bones by context, species and element

Context	Description
1011	4 indeterminate fragments, 8g
1403	2 fragments bird humerus, 3g
1415	4 fragments horse tibia, 43g
3507	1 horse metacarpal in 2 pieces, 145g

5.1.2 The animal bone assemblage is in poor condition and this, when combined with the small numbers of bones, makes it of low potential. No further work is required.

5.2 An Evaluation of Seven Bulk Samples

By Julia Meen and Elizabeth Stafford

Introduction

5.2.1 Seven bulk samples were taken for the recovery of plant remains, snails, bones and artefacts during the evaluation. Sample 1 (33L) was taken from context 1407, a fill of ditch [1016] dated on the basis of associated pottery to the Roman period; it was an olive (5Y 5/3) silty loam with abundant pebble sized gravel. Sample 2 (20L) was taken from alluvial layer (403) in Trench 4; it was a grey (5Y 5/1) silty clay with a small number of stone inclusions. Sample 3 (17L) was a grey (2.5Y 6/1) silty clay with few inclusions taken from fill (408) of ditch [407], also in Trench 4. Samples 4 to 6 were all of 10L, taken from palaeochannel [813] in Trench 8, from contexts (814), (815) and (816) respectively. Each was a grey (2.5Y 6/1 to 5Y 5/1) silty clay with few inclusions. Palaeochannel [813] was noted during excavation to be rich in molluscs, and the three samples from this feature were taken specifically to characterise the mollusc communities present. Sample 7 (20L) was taken from fill (3506) of pit [3504], dated from associated pottery to the later prehistoric period, possibly late Bronze Age. It was a black (2.5Y 2.5/1) sandy silt loam with frequent inclusions of burnt flint.

Methodology

5.2.2 The entire volume of sediment for each sample was 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. The residues of those samples found to be rich in molluscs (samples 2 to 6) were retained unsorted for scanning, and the mollusc communities present in both flots and residues were characterised by Elizabeth Stafford. The residues of samples 1 and 7 were sorted by eye for artefacts and ecofactual remains. All flots were also scanned for plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification, and a brief assessment of charcoal potential was made for sample 7 with guidance from Sheila Boardman. Charred plant identifications were made with reference to published guides and the comparative seed collection held at OAS. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010).

Finds (with bone identification by Lena Strid)

5.2.3 Sample 1 produced a small quantity of flint and a small sherd of late Bronze Age pottery, as well as a small number of bones including a pig (*Sus* sp.) tooth and fish, amphibian and small mammal bones (not further identified).

5.2.4 Sample 7 also contained bones, with several belonging to water vole (*Arvicola terrestris*) as well as several from frog/toad. Several rounded small cobble-sized burnt flints and two small pottery fragments, probably of late Bronze Age date, were also extracted.

Charred Plant Remains

- 5.2.5 Sample 1 produced a flot of 30ml, of which 100% was scanned. The flot contains sand and frequent modern straw and roots, and occasional charcoal flecks although none are of identifiable size. Rare fragments of indeterminate cereal grain and a single charred legume are also present.
- 5.2.6 Sample 2 produced a flot of 200ml, sample 3 a flot of 15ml and samples 4, 5 and 6 produced flots of 60ml, 30ml and 5ml respectively. The flots of samples 2 to 6 all have very similar compositions, almost entirely consisting of mollusc shell with occasional indeterminate charcoal flecks and, in the case of sample 4, a single charred seed of dock (*Rumex* sp.) and a wheat (*Triticum* sp.) glume base fragment.
- 5.2.7 Sample 7 produced a flot of 310ml, approximately one third of which was scanned. The flot is composed almost exclusively of charcoal, with other charred plant remains limited to two poorly preserved wheat grains, a fragment of wheat glume base and a single seed of bedstraw (*Galium* sp.). Almost half of the charcoal is heavily fragmented (less than 2mm in diameter), but a significant proportion (around 80ml of the flot) is greater than 4mm in diameter, containing enough items of identifiable size for the assemblage to be of interpretable value. Frequent items of charcoal were also extracted from the >4mm heavy residues. Several of the larger charcoal pieces were examined under low magnification and all examples exhibited a diffuse porous structure, with scattered vessels and multiseriate rays characteristic of the group that includes *Prunus* sp. (cherry/sloe/blackthorn). Scanning the remainder of the flot suggests a general homogeneity in wood type throughout the sample. Many charcoal pieces, especially the larger pieces recovered from the heavy residues, could be seen to be roundwood with bark visible in many examples, but timber wood was also present.

Molluscs

- 5.2.8 Five of the seven samples contained frequent to abundant well-preserved mollusc shell, dominated by freshwater species. These included the three samples taken in a vertical sequence from palaeochannel [813], as well as the samples from alluvial deposit (403) and ditch fill (408), both in Trench 4. A rapid identification of the range of species present in the five assemblages was carried out. The samples all contained mixed communities of molluscs and a varying proportion of broken shell. This is consistent with high energy in-channel deposition and lower energy flooding and alluviation. Species present include *Bithynia tentaculata*, a species of flowing water, and other aquatic species included *Planorbis planorbis*, *Planorbarius contortus* and *Anisus leucostoma*. Species common in floodplain or marsh environments included *Lymnaea* spp., particularly *L. palustris*, and *Succinea putris*, a marsh species often found on erect vegetation such as reeds and sedges. Terrestrial species were present in much lower numbers, but included the catholic species *Trichia hispida* which is common in floodplain grassland.

Discussion and Recommendations

- 5.2.9 The presence of well-preserved, diverse assemblages of mollusc shell in samples from three separate features demonstrates that conditions favourable to the preservation of molluscs exist at this site. Molluscs have the potential to provide information on past

vegetation and hydrological regimes. Therefore, any further excavations should include a detailed strategy for careful sampling for mollusc shell by incremental (5-10cm) columns.

- 5.2.10 Although only charcoal flecks were present in six of the seven samples, the presence of abundant charcoal in sample 7 demonstrates the potential for charred plant remains at this site. Evidence for agricultural activity was limited to rare, poorly preserved cereal grains and isolated examples of cereal chaff, probably representing background material that had been worked into the deposits. Their presence does however hint that agricultural processes were occurring in the vicinity of the excavated samples of these features. The wood species composition in sample 7 appears to be homogeneous, with all examined charcoal belonging to the *Prunus* type, a group of trees that generally inhabits wood or scrubland. Many roundwood examples were noted. These factors point to the collection of branches for fuel from a single resource or may demonstrate the deliberate selection of *Prunus* type wood.
- 5.2.11 If further excavation is undertaken at this site in the future, standard 40L bulk samples should be taken from potentially datable features across the site, in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (eg. Oxford Archaeology, 2005 and English Heritage, 2011)

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 Much of the evaluation was carried out in very cold conditions, and this was compounded by flooding in many of the trenches, both from groundwater and from melted snow or rainwater. Nevertheless, pumps were used to drain the trenches, so that visibility during hand-excavation was generally good, and this did not affect the reliability of the results.
- 6.1.2 It is possible that the very clayey nature of the fills of those features on the Gault Clay, ie the majority of the features, may have contributed to the low numbers of finds recovered. It was difficult to break every clod of clay to check for small fragments that might have been embedded within them. This would however only have affected the recovery of small fragments, and the absence of larger pieces of pottery or bone suggests that the paucity of finds was genuine.

6.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 6.2.1 The evaluation located a number of the features indicated by cropmarks and by geophysical survey at the north-east end of the site (Fig. 2), such as the west-east trackway in Trenches 14 and 13 and the north-south ditch in Trench 10, plus others not picked up by these means. Artefactual material that could be used for dating was sparse, but it was possible to demonstrate that at least one of the trackway ditches was Romano-British, and that the north-south ditch was possibly later prehistoric (Fig. 2; Fig. 21).
- 6.2.2 None of the finds was certainly of Early Iron Age date, so there is no evidence from the results of the evaluation that the occupation found at Wigbold's Farm continued into the site. A small collection of struck flints was recovered from the north-east corner of the site, but all of these were identified as Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date, so do not appear to relate to the Bronze Age activity in the field to the north. One pit in Trench 35 may well have been late Bronze Age, although the amount of pottery recovered was not conclusive. This is likely to be an outlier from the Bronze Age activity either to the north, or more likely, to the west.
- 6.2.3 A significant number of archaeological features was found at the north-west edge of the site, and as expected, these features lay on the edge of the gravel terrace, like those in the

north-east corner. Again finds were sparse, but the pottery from two features was of later prehistoric date, suggesting a focus of activity of that period close by.

- 6.2.4 One pit contained only small sherds of late Bronze Age pottery, and this may belong with the activity found further west (Booth and Simmonds 2009). Given the common paucity of artefactual material from later Bronze Age field systems, however, and the limited number of trenches dug on the western side of the site, it remains uncertain whether this pit is an isolated outlier, or was situated within a continuation of the enclosure/field system into the site.
- 6.2.5 Ditches were found south of the edge of the gravel terrace, particularly in the north-east part of the site, in trenches 12, 43, 44 and 41. It would therefore seem that the extent of features recorded from cropmarks and from geophysical survey was largely coincident with that of the gravel terrace, and that archaeological features on the Gault Clay were not susceptible to identification by these means. As on the adjacent gravel terrace, artefactual material was sparse. It is worth noting, however, that the pottery from these ditches was of later prehistoric rather than Romano-British date (Fig. 21), suggesting that some of the undated features on the gravel terrace to the north probably also belong to this period.
- 6.2.6 A number of further drainage ditches were identified further south in the central part of the site, though none was dated. These were almost all sealed by the subsoil, so may be Romano-British or even prehistoric, but the absence of finds of any kind suggests that they belong to field boundaries at some distance from settlement.
- 6.2.7 A few gullies were also revealed in the very centre of the site, on alignments that do not suggest field boundaries. These do not form any recognisable structures or enclosures. They may belong to small enclosures of prehistoric or Romano-British date, but the absence of finds suggests that whatever activities were being carried out were short-lived and ephemeral.
- 6.2.8 Alluvium was definitely identified in the southern part of the site, and the environmental evidence from the snail samples in Trench 8 suggest that it was also present in the west central part of the site. Alluvium may have been present over all of the Gault Clay, but the absence of obvious snails within it made this difficult to prove. The environmental samples that were taken and examined suggested that aquatic snails were present within the ditches, confirming that these were for drainage. The presence of terrestrial snails suggests that the clay areas were dry for much of the time, but the mixed character of most of the snail assemblages, together with the fact that many of the snails were fragmentary, suggested that the site was subject to periodic flooding. This is entirely consistent with the low-lying nature of the Gault Clay area in relation to the surrounding gravel terraces.
- 6.2.9 No further Saxon finds or features were recovered in the evaluation. The exact location of the previous finds is uncertain, and the density of trenching in this part of the site was not as high as further north, but the evaluation does not suggest a dense concentration of Saxon activity.
- 6.2.10 Although the Desk-Based Assessment report (CgMs 2012) suggested that ridge-and-furrow cultivation covered most of the site, no clear trace of this was found within the excavated trenches. Three parallel shallow features were encountered on a south-south-west alignment in Trenches 13 and 14, and these are broadly in alignment with the furrows marked on the Desk-based Assessment (see Fig. 2), though none was dated. A broad shallow feature roughly at right angles to this was seen in Trench 35 (cut 3526), and another in Trench 10 (1008) may also have related, but again neither feature was dated.
- 6.2.11 Towards the south end of the site two parallel and shallow features were seen in Trench 3, which could possibly have been furrows (Fig. 21). Neither was very wide, however, and they

were 30m apart. The only other two broad shallow features were on a similar east-south-east alignment, but were found in separate widely-spaced trenches (Cut 817 Trench 8 and Cut 2705 Trench 27). This alignment is at right angles to that suggested on the Desk-based Assessment, although they are parallel to the major boundary dividing Ladygrove Farm from the land belonging to Willington Down Farm to the north.

6.3 Interpretation

- 6.3.1 The evidence recovered has confirmed the existence of archaeological activity of later prehistoric and Romano-British date on the gravel terrace edge at the north end of the site. It has also confirmed the presence of discrete features such as pits and postholes in this area, including some just off the gravel terrace (Trench 43).
- 6.3.2 South of this, on the Gault Clay, the evaluation has found ditches crossing many of the trenches, but due to the absence of finds, and the wide spacing between the trenches, it has proved impossible to identify field systems with confidence. Even if the ditches were straight, which is certainly not always the case in prehistory, it is very difficult to project their line from exposures only 2m long with accuracy, so that linking ditches between trenches over long distances is fraught with uncertainty.
- 6.3.3 The alignments of the ditches have been plotted on an overall plan of the site, and divided into separate colours by depth (Fig. 21). The depth divisions are not exact, but distinguish features more than 0.4m deep (deep) from those 0.1-0.4m deep (medium) and those that are less than 0.1m (shallow). It is clear that, with the exception of the cropmark trackway crossing Trenches 14 and 13, the deepest ditches tend to be on approximately north-south (Trenches 4, 9, 23, 35, 37, 43) or north-east to south-west alignments (Trenches 10, 37, 41). The palaeochannel or very wide ditch in Trench 8 is also on a north-east to south-west alignment.
- 6.3.4 Three of the ditches, in trenches 10, 41 and 43, contained sherds of later prehistoric pottery. This may indicate a system of prehistoric land-division (Fig. 21), but the alignment of the deepest ditches may alternatively simply reflect the predominant orientation of drainage from north to south. The deep ditch in Trench 4, for instance, has several recuts of different dates on the same alignment, and the ditch in Trench 23 cuts the subsoil, so is recent.
- 6.3.5 There are however a number of other ditches, less deep but still substantial (medium), following alignments either just west of north-south (Trenches 35, 10, 43, 40) or just south of west-east, ie at right angles (Trenches 5, 7, 8, 44), so between these and the deeper ditches, a broadly co-axial enclosure or field system could be suggested, though only very tentatively (see Fig. 21). In the absence of finds for most of these, however, it is uncertain whether one or several phases of activity are represented.
- 6.3.6 Other than in Trench 43, no discrete features have been identified for certain on the Gault Clay, and none of the tree-holes that have been revealed have contained any finds either from hand-excavation or as surface finds. Charcoal has also been conspicuously absent from the fills of these features, and it is clear that none of these features was close to an area of earlier prehistoric activity, or was utilised by prehistoric people.
- 6.3.7 The evaluation has also provided some information on the past environment of the site. The charred plant remains from the large pit in Trench 35, tentatively dated to the late Bronze Age, suggest that the charcoal came from scrub, which would be consistent with the pattern of fields, presumably bounded by hedgerows, found at Appleford Sidings to the west (Booth and Simmonds 2009). A low level of cereal grains is also consistent with this.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing two tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
103	Cut	0.6	0.16	Tree-hole	-	-
104	Fill	0.6	0.16	Tree-hole fill	-	-
105	Cut	0.65	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
106	Fill	0.65	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing two ditches and ten tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
203	Cut	0.55	0.18	N – S Ditch	-	-
204	Fill	0.55	0.18	Ditch fill	-	-
205	Cut	0.8	0.17	Tree-hole	-	-
206	Fill	0.8	0.17	Tree-hole fill	-	-
207	Cut	1.3	0.29	NW – SE Ditch	-	-
208	Fill	1.3	0.29	Ditch fill	-	-
209	Cut	2	0.31	Tree-hole	-	-
210	Fill	2	0.31	Tree-hole fill	-	-
211	Cut	1.8	-	Tree-hole	-	-
212	Fill	1.8	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
213	Cut	0.6	-	Tree-hole	-	-
214	Fill	0.6	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
215	Cut	1.6	-	Tree-hole	-	-
216	Fill	1.6	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
217	Cut	0.5	-	Tree-hole	-	-
218	Fill	0.5	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
219	Cut	0.6	-	Tree-hole	-	-
220	Fill	0.6	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
221	Cut	2.1	-	Tree-hole	-	-
222	Fill	2.1	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
223	Cut	2	-	Tree-hole	-	-
224	Fill	2	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
225	Cut	0.7	-	Tree-hole	-	-
226	Fill	0.7	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					Orientation	N - S
Trench containing two ditches and three tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
303	Cut	0.6	0.04	Ditch	-	-
304	Fill	0.6	0.04	Ditch fill	-	-
305	Cut	0.6	0.06	Ditch	-	-
306	Fill	0.6	0.06	Ditch fill	-	-
307	Cut	0.5	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
308	Fill	0.5	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
309	Cut	0.8	-	Tree-hole	-	-
310	Fill	0.8	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
311	Cut	1	0.25	Tree-hole	-	-
312	Fill	1	0.25	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing a ditch and re-cut ditch cut into the natural clay and alluvial deposits, and overlain by soil and subsoil and further alluvial deposits.					Avg. depth (m)	0.85
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
403	Layer	-	0.16	Alluvial layer	-	-
404	Layer	-	0.24	Alluvial layer	-	-
405	Layer	-	0.07	Alluvial layer	-	-
406	Layer	-	0.24	Alluvial layer	-	-
407	Cut	1.5	0.4	Ditch re-cut	-	-
408	Fill	1.5	0.4	Ditch fill	-	-
409	Cut	0.6	0.44	Ditch	-	-
410	Fill	0.6	0.44	Ditch fill	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					Orientation	N - S
Trench containing two ditches and four tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
500	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
503	Cut	1.2	0.2	Tree-hole	-	-
504	Fill	1.2	0.2	Tree-hole fill	-	-
505	Cut	0.64	0.16	Ditch	-	-
506	Fill	0.64	0.16	Ditch fill	-	-
507	Cut	1.2	0.32	Ditch	-	-
508	Fill	1.2	0.32	Ditch fill	-	-
509	Cut	0.6	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
510	Fill	0.6	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
511	Cut	0.5	-	Tree-hole	-	-
512	Fill	0.5	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
513	Cut	0.8	-	Tree-hole	-	-
514	Fill	0.8	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing one ditch, three tree-holes and three natural hollows cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
600	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
603	Cut	2	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
604	Fill	2	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
605	Cut	0.7	0.2	Tree-hole	-	-
606	Fill	0.7	0.2	Tree-hole fill	-	-
607	Cut	0.8	0.05	Natural hollow	-	-
608	Fill	0.8	0.05	Natural hollow fill	-	-
609	Cut	0.55	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
610	Fill	0.55	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
611	Cut	0.7	0.1	Natural hollow	-	-
612	Fill	0.7	0.1	Natural hollow fill	-	-
613	Cut	1.8	0.05	Natural hollow	-	-
614	Fill	1.8	0.05	Natural hollow fill	-	-
615	Cut	0.5	0.25	Ditch	-	-
616	Fill	0.5	0.25	Ditch fill	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	N - S
Trench containing one ditch, four gullies and four tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
703	Cut	0.6	0.19	Ditch	-	-
704	Fill	0.6	0.19	Ditch fill	-	-
705	Cut	0.18	0.05	Gully	-	-
706	Fill	0.18	0.05	Gully fill	-	-
707	Cut	0.4	0.12	Gully	-	-
708	Fill	0.4	0.12	Gully fill	-	-
709	Cut	0.7	0.17	Curvilinear gully	-	-
710	Fill	0.7	0.17	Gully fill	-	-
711	Cut	0.48	0.33	Gully	-	-
712	Fill	0.48	0.33	Gully fill	-	-
713	Cut	0.5	0.2	Tree-hole	-	-
714	Fill	0.5	0.2	Tree-hole fill	-	-
715	Cut	1.2	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
716	Fill	1.2	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
717	Cut	-	-	Tree-hole	-	-
718	Fill	-	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
719	Cut	0.8	0.15	Tree-hole	-	-
720	Fill	0.8	0.15	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					Orientation	N - S
Trench containing five ditches, and four tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by subsoil and one paleo-channel that cut the subsoil, and was overlain by ploughsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.8
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
800	Layer	-	0.5	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
803	Cut	0.5	0.3	Ditch	-	-
804	Fill	0.5	0.3	Ditch fill	-	-
805	Cut	0.5	0.2	Ditch	-	-
806	Fill	0.5	0.2	Ditch fill	-	-
807	Cut	0.8	0.3	Ditch	-	-
808	Fill	0.8	0.3	Ditch fill	-	-
809	Cut	1.5	1	Ditch	-	-
810	Fill	1.1	0.8	Ditch fill	-	-
811	Fill	1.5	0.2	Ditch fill	-	-
812	Layer	1.7	0.1	Alluvial layer	-	-
813	Cut	8	1.4	Paleo-channel	-	-
814	Fill	8	0.65	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
815	Fill	2.9	0.3	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
816	Fill	2.25	0.25	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
817	Cut	2	0.3	Ditch? Natural hollow?	-	-
818	Fill	2	0.3	Ditch? Fill	-	-
819	Fill	1.3	0.2	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
820	Fill	0.85	0.15	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
821	Fill	0.8	0.2	Paleo-channel fill	-	-
822	Cut	1	0.2	Tree-hole	-	-
823	Fill	1	0.2	Tree-hole fill	-	-
824	Cut	-	-	Tree-hole	-	-
825	Fill	-	-	Tree-hole fill	-	-
826	Cut	0.8	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
827	Fill	0.8	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-
828	Cut	0.7	0.1	Tree-hole	-	-
829	Fill	0.7	0.1	Tree-hole fill	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing two ditches, one tree-hole and one paleochannel cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
900	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
902	Cut	1.6	0.65	Ditch	-	-
903	Fill	1.6	0.65	Ditch fill	Shotgun cartridge/ wire staple, CBM post-medieval	Modern
904	Cut	3.2	0.34	Tree-hole	-	-
905	Fill	3.2	0.34	Tree-hole fill	-	-
906	Cut	1.7	0.3	Ditch	-	-
907	Fill	1.7	0.3	Ditch fill	yes	Modern
908	Cut	13.5	0.35	Paleochannel	-	-
909	Fill	13.5	0.35	Paleochannel fill	-	-
910	Cut	-	-	Same as 908	-	-
911	Fill	-	-	Same as 909	-	-
912	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing five ditches, one tree-hole and two pits cut into the natural gravels and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1000	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Cut	0.9	0.2	Pit	-	-
1003	Fill	0.9	0.2	Pit fill		
1004	Cut	1.05	0.2	Tree-hole		
1005	Fill	1.05	0.2	Tree-hole fill		
1006	Cut	1.3	0.31	Pit		
1007	Fill	1.3	0.31	Pit fill		
1008	Cut	0.6	0.2	Ditch		
1009	Fill	0.6	0.2	Ditch fill		
1010	Cut	1.68	0.54	Ditch		
1011	Fill	1.68	0.54	Ditch fill	Pottery, animal bone	Later Bronze Age or Iron Age
1012	Cut	2.18	0.18	Ditch		
1013	Fill	2.18	0.18	Ditch fill		
1014	Cut	0.6	0.3	Ditch		
1015	Fill	0.6	0.3	Ditch fill		
1016	Cut	1.5	0.37	Ditch		
1017	Fill	1.5	0.37	Ditch fill		
1018	Layer	-	-	Natural		

Trench 11						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing one tree-hole cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1100	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1103	Cut	1.05	0.2	Tree-hole		
1104	Fill	1.05	0.5	Tree-hole fill		

Trench 12						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing one gully and one tree-hole cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1203	Cut	0.48	0.1	Gully		
1204	Fill	0.48	0.1	Gully fill		
1205	Cut	1.5	0.05	Tree-hole		
1206	Fill	1.5	0.05	Treehole fill		

Trench 13						
General description					Orientation	NW - SE
Trench containing one pit, two ditches and two tree-holes cut into the natural gravels and clay, and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	Lead weight	-
1301	Layer	-	-	Natural gravels	-	-
1302	Fill	0.5	0.26	Pit fill	-	-
1303	Fill	0.75	0.35	Pit fill		
1304	Fill	0.7	0.16	Pit fill		
1305	Fill	0.8	0.35	Pit fill		
1306	Cut	0.48	1.55	Pit		
1307	Cut	0.8	0.1	Ditch		
1308	Fill	0.8	0.1	Ditch fill		
1309	Cut	1.3	0.46	Ditch		
1310	Fill	1.3	0.08	Ditch fill		
1311	Fill	1.3	0.38	Ditch fill		
1312	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil		
1313	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
1314	Cut	0.6	0.2	Tree-hole		
1315	Fill	0.6	0.2	Tree-hole fill		
1316	Cut	0.5	0.2	Tree-hole		
1317	Fill	0.5	0.2	Tree-hole fill		

Trench 14							
General description Trench containing eight ditches, two postholes and two pits cut into the natural gravels and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Orientation		E-W
					Avg. depth (m)		0.5
					Width (m)		1.8
					Length (m)		50
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
1400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	
1401	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-	
1402	Cut	1	0.15	Ditch	-	-	
1403	Fill	1	0.15	Ditch fill	Pottery, bird bone	post-medieval	
1404	Cut	1	0.25	Ditch			
1405	Fill	1	0.25	Ditch fill			
1406	Cut	1.05	0.56	Ditch			
1407	Fill	1.05	0.4	Ditch fill	Pottery, 2 flint flakes, fired clay	Late Roman , AD250-400	
1408	Cut	0.85	0.35	Ditch			
1409	Fill	0.85	0.35	Ditch fill			
1410	Cut	0.82	0.4	Ditch			
1411	Fill	0.82	0.4	Ditch fill	Pottery	Later Bronze Age or Iron Age	
1412	Cut	0.3	0.32	Posthole			
1413	Fill	0.3	0.32	Posthole fill			
1414	Cut	0.8	0.1	Pit			
1415	Fill	0.8	0.1	Pit fill	Horse bones		
1416	Cut	0.3	0.1	Posthole			
1417	Fill	0.3	0.1	Posthole fill			
1418	Cut	0.6	0.12	Pit			
1419	Fill	0.6	0.12	Pit fill	Flint blade		
1420	Cut	0.6	0.14	Ditch terminus			
1421	Fill	0.6	0.14	Ditch fill			
1422	Cut	1	0.35	Ditch			
1423	Fill	1	0.35	Ditch fill	Flint blade		
1424	Cut	0.55	0.1	Ditch			
1425	Fill	0.55	0.1	Ditch fill			
1426	Layer	-	-	Natural gravels			
1427	Fill	0.75	0.25	Ditch fill			

Trench 15						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1500	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay				Avg. depth (m)	0.3	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1600	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
1601	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural of clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.3	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
1701	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
1702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay				Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1800	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1801	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay and one animal burrow.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1900	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1903	Cut	0.3	0.1	Animal Burrow		
1904	Fill	0.3	0.1	Animal burrow fill		

Trench 20						
General description				Orientation	N - S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.28	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2000	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description				Orientation	N - S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.3	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2100	Layer	-	0.13	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.33	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2200	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing one ditch and re-cut ditch and three tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
2302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2303	Cut	2.2	0.22	Tree-hole		
2304	Fill	2.2	0.22	Tree-hole fill		
2305	Cut	1.3	0.2	Tree-hole		
2306	Fill	1.3	0.2	Tree-hole fill		
2307	Cut	0.9	0.2	Tree-hole		
2308	Fill	0.9	0.2	Tree-hole fill		
2309	Cut	1.8	0.54	Ditch re-cut		
2310	Fill	1.58	0.54	Ditch fill		
2311	Fill	1.05	0.4	Ditch fill		
2312	Fill	0.82	0.21	Ditch fill		
2313	Cut	1.85	0.3	Ditch		
2314	Fill	1.4	0.25	Ditch fill		
2315	Fill	0.65	0.19	Ditch fill		
2316	Fill	0.5	0.18	Ditch fill		

Trench 24						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench containing one gully and two tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2403	Cut	0.5	0.1	Gully terminus		
2404	Fill	0.5	0.1	Gully fill		
2405	Cut	1	-	Tree-hole		
2406	Fill	1	-	Tree-hole fill		
2407	Cut	1	0.15	Tree-hole		
2408	Fill	1	0.15	Tree-hole fill		

Trench 25						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay				Avg. depth (m)	0.31	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2500	Layer	-	0.08	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 26						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.33	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2600	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
2601	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
2602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 27						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing two ditches cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2700	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
2701	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2703	Cut	1.3	0.3	Ditch		
2704	Fill	1.3	0.3	Ditch fill		
2705	Cut	1.25	0.2	Ditch		
2706	Fill	1.25	0.2	Ditch fill		

Trench 28						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.43	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2800	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
2801	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
2802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology, contains a single tree-hole. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2900	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
2901	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
2902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2903	Cut	0.9	0.15	Tree-hole		
2904	Fill	0.9	0.15	Tree-hole fill		

Trench 30						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3000	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3001	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.36	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3100	Layer	-	0.17	Topsoil	-	-
3101	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
3102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 32						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench containing one ditch cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3200	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3203	Cut	1.18	0.04	Ditch		
3204	Fill	1.18	0.04	Ditch fill		

Trench 33						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.39
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
3301	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 34						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3400	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3401	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
3402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 35						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing five ditches and three pits cut into the natural gravels and overlain by soil and subsoil and an alluvial layer.					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3500	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3501	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3503	Layer	1.8	0.1	Alluvial layer	Horseshoe	Medieval AD1100-1299
3504	Cut	1.2	0.6	Pit		
3505	Fill	0.6	0.35	Pit fill		
3506	Fill	1.2	0.6	Pit fill	Pottery	Late Bronze Age ?
3507	Fill	1.1	0.12	Pit fill	Horse bone	
3508	Cut	1.1	0.24	Ditch		
3509	Fill	1.1	0.24	Ditch fill		
3510	Cut	1.95	0.44	Ditch		
3511	Fill	1.8	0.36	Ditch fill		
3512	Fill	1.54	0.08	Ditch fill		
3513	Cut	2.1	0.5	Ditch		
3514	Fill	1.72	0.11	Ditch fill		
3415	Fill	0.81	0.23	Ditch fill		
3516	Fill	0.64	0.24	Ditch fill		
3517	Fill	1.34	0.4	Ditch fill		
3518	Cut	0.42	0.25	Pit		
3519	Fill	0.42	0.25	Pit fill		
3520	Cut	1.4	0.27	Ditch		
3521	Fill	1.4	0.27	Ditch fill		
3522	Cut	0.86	0.4	Pit		
3523	Fill	0.41	0.2	Pit fill		
3524	Fill	0.86	0.2	Pit fill		
3525	Void	-	-			
3526	Cut	0.94	0.1	Ditch		
3527	Fill	0.94	0.1	Ditch fill		

Trench 36						
General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3600	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3601	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 37						
General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench containing two ditches cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.					Avg. depth (m)	0.44
					Width (m)	1.8
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3700	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3701	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
3702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3703	Cut	0.5	0.26	Ditch		
3704	Fill	0.5	0.26	Ditch fill		
3705	Cut	0.66	0.34	Ditch		
3706	Fill	0.66	0.34	Ditch fill		

Trench 38						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3800	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
3801	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
3802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 39						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
3900	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
3901	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 40						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Trench containing one ditch cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)		0.4
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4000	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
4001	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
4002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4003	Cut	1	0.38	Ditch		
4004	Fill	1	0.38	Ditch fill		

Trench 41						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Trench containing one ditch cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)		0.5
				Width (m)		1.8
				Length (m)		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4100	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	Flint blade	-
4101	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
4102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4103	Cut	0.89	0.35	Ditch		
4104	Fill	0.89	0.35	Ditch fill	Pottery, flint bladelet	Later Bronze Age or Iron Age

Trench 42						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing one tree-hole cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.48	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
4201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
4202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4203	Cut	0.6	0.12	Natural feature		
4204	Fill	0.6	0.12	Natural feature fill		

Trench 43							
General description Trench containing one ditch, two gullies, three pits and two tree-holes cut into the natural clay and overlain by subsoil and topsoil.					Orientation		E-W
					Avg. depth (m)		0.57
					Width (m)		1.8
					Length (m)		50
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
4300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-	
4301	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-	
4302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-	
4303	Cut	0.6	0.2	Tree-hole			
4304	Fill	0.6	0.2	Treehole fill			
4305	Cut	2.44	0.6	Ditch			
4306	Fill	2.44	0.6	Ditch fill	Pottery	Later Bronze Age or Iron Age	
4307	Cut	0.8	0.1	Tree-hole			
4308	Fill	0.8	0.1	Tree-hole fill			
4309	Cut	-	-	Modern field drain			
4310	Fill	-	-	Fill of modern field drain			
4311	Cut	0.67	0.3	Pit			
4312	Fill	0.67	0.3	Pit fill			
4313	Cut	0.5	0.25	Gully			
4314	Cut	0.2	0.15	Gully			
4315	Fill	0.2	0.15	Gully fill			
4316	Cut	0.62	0.33	Pit			
4317	Fill	0.62	0.33	Pit fill			
4318	Cut	0.3	0.15	Natural disturbance			
4319	Fill	0.3	0.15	Natural disturbance fill			
4320	Void	-	-				
4321	Cut	0.56	0.28	Pit			
4322	Fill	0.56	0.28	Pit fill			
4323	Cut	0.18	0.15	Animal burrow			
4324	Fill	0.18	0.15	Animal burrow fill			
4325	Void						
4326	Fill	0.6	0.08	Fill of 4305			
4327	Fill	0.83	0.21	Fill of 4305			
4328	Fill	0.5	0.25	Fill of 4313			

Trench 44						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing one gully cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4400	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4401	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
4402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4403	Cut	0.35	0.35	Gully		
4404	Fill	0.35	0.35	Gully fill		

Trench 45						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Trench containing one tree-hole cut into the natural clay and overlain by soil and subsoil.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	1.8	
				Length (m)	50	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4500	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
4501	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	pottery	Medieval AD1300-1499
4502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4503	Cut	0.4	0.2	Tree-hole		
4504	Fill	0.4	0.2	Tree-hole fill		

APPENDIX B. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: University of Reading land north-east of Didcot, Oxfordshire
Site code: DIDNE 13
Grid reference: SU 5310 9160
Type: Evaluation
Date and duration: January to April 2013
Area of site: 34.7ha.

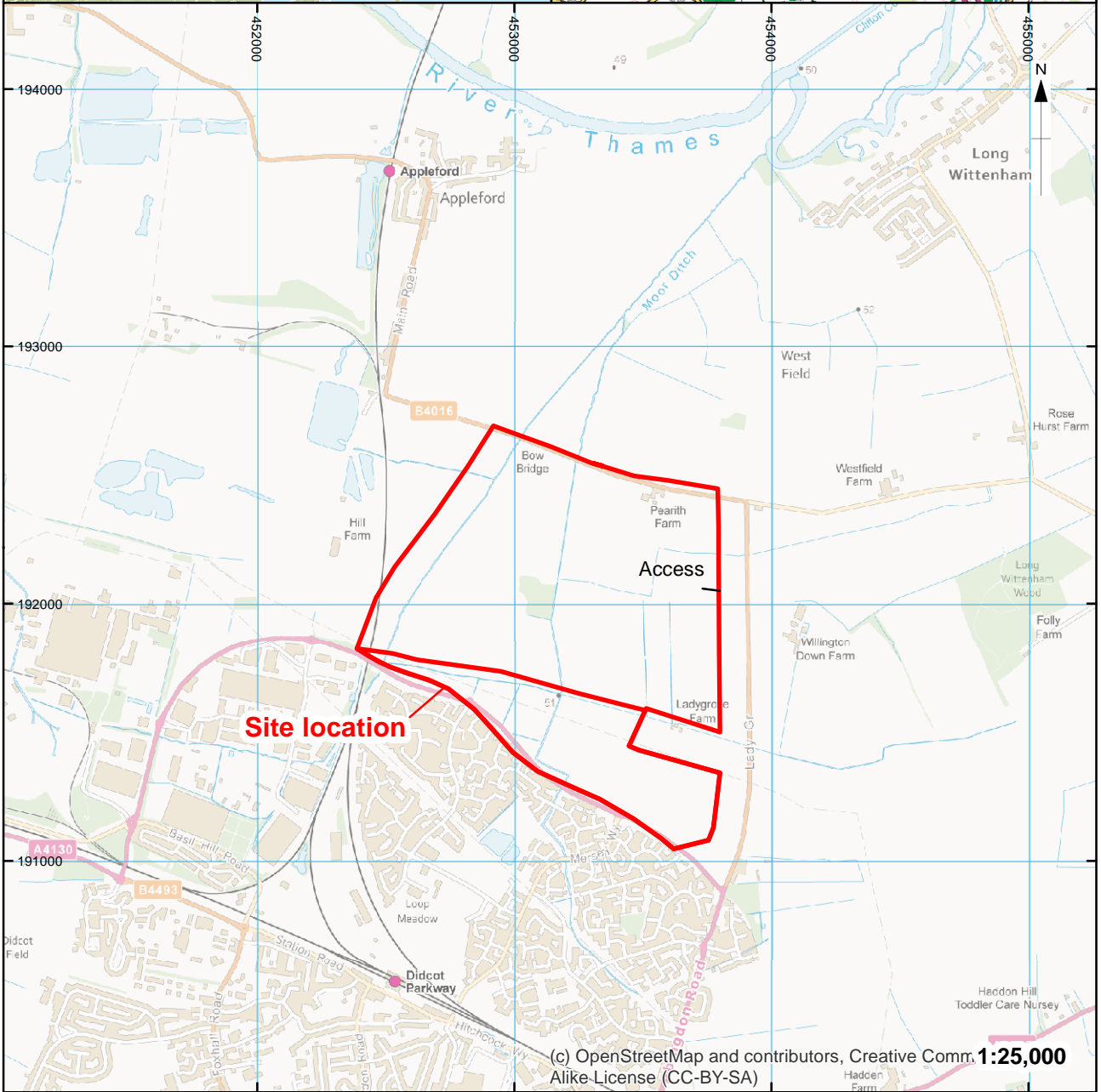
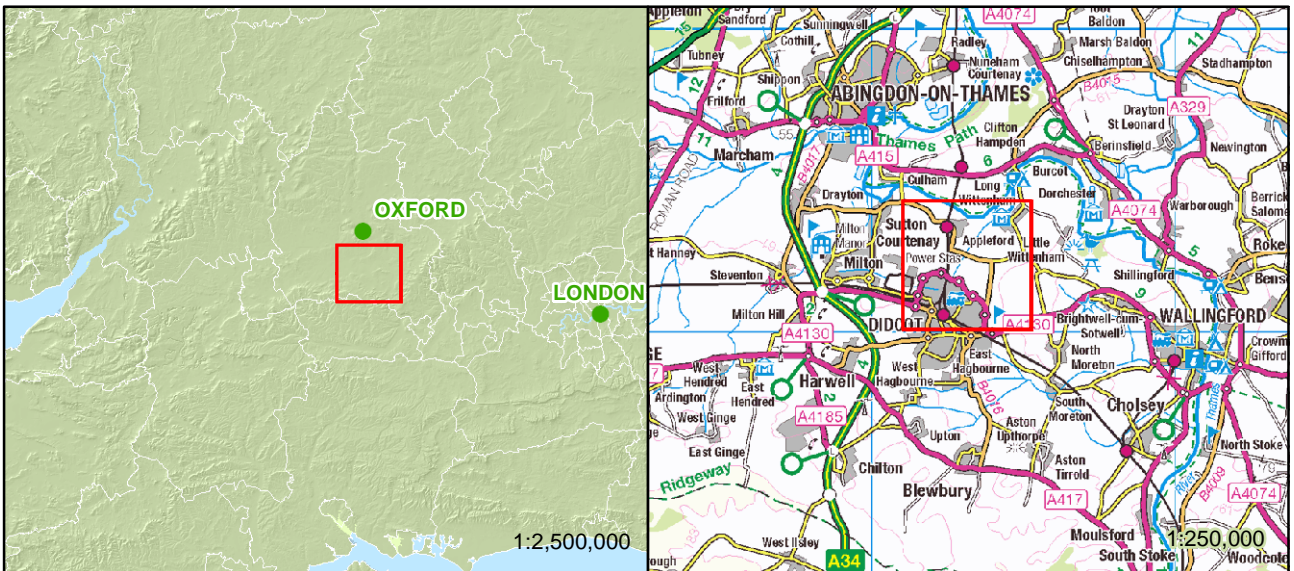
Summary of results: A total of 45 trenches, each 50m long and 2m wide, was excavated. On the gravel terrace at the north end of the site, evaluation confirmed cropmark and geophysical survey evidence suggesting dense archaeological activity. Some of these features were of later prehistoric date, including one pit tentatively dated to the late Bronze Age, and a trackway represented by parallel east-west ditches was dated to the Roman period. On the Gault Clay that covered most of the site, pits and postholes were absent, except on the very edge close to the gravel terrace. Ditches on a variety of alignments were found, as were smaller gullies, but only a couple close to the gravel terrace contained any dating evidence. These were single sherds of later prehistoric pottery.

Small numbers of prehistoric struck flints were found in the north-east part of the site, both on and off the gravel terrace, and these were probably of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. There were no concentrations, and elsewhere no evidence, either artefactual or in the form of charcoal or burnt stones, for the use of the Gault Clay in prehistory.

Snails from alluvium and from features on the Gault Clay suggest a marshy environment subject to periodic flooding, but dry enough at times for terrestrial species to become established.

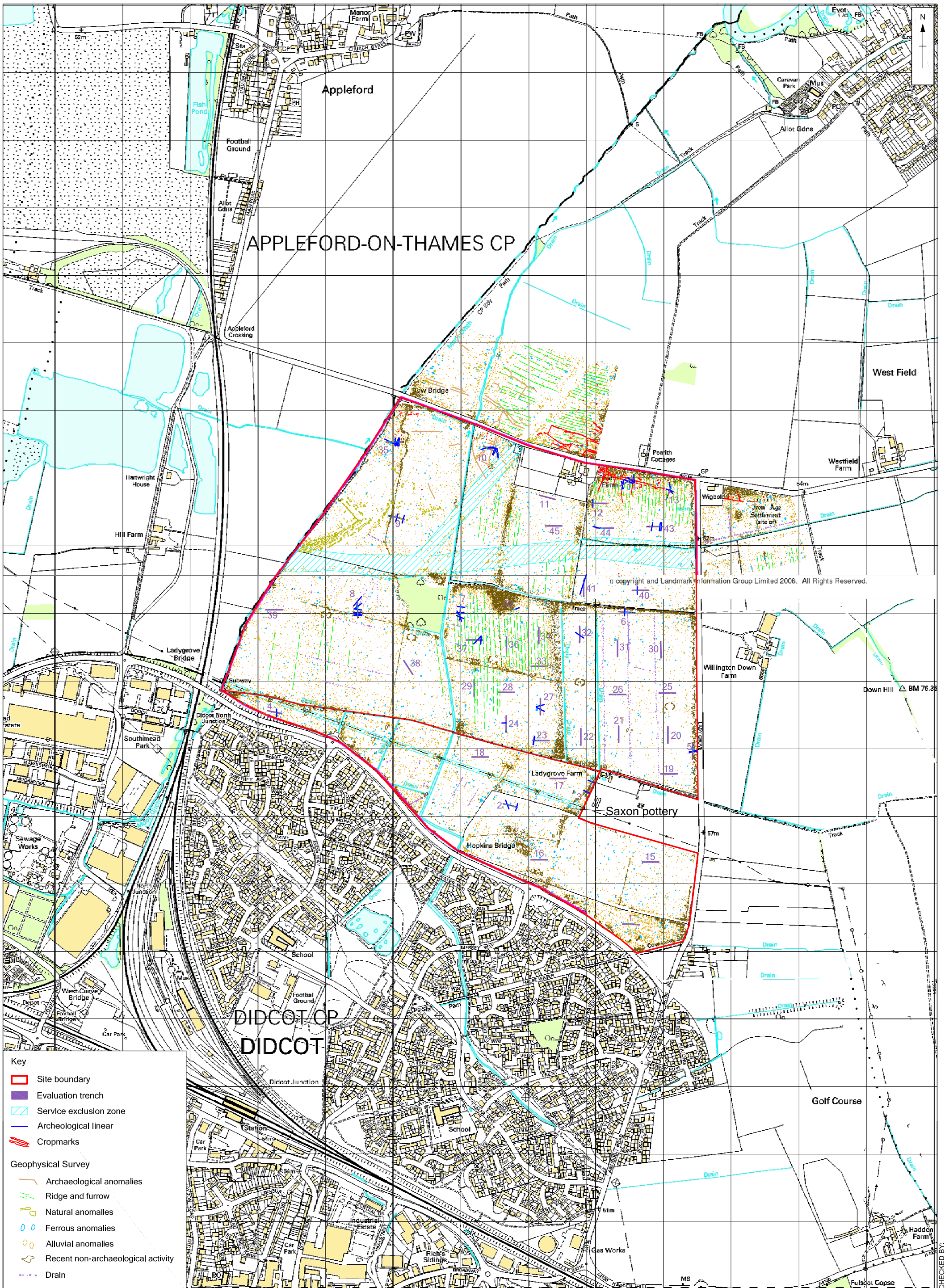
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museums Service in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS. 2013.7

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Figure 1: Site location



Key

- ▭ Site boundary
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Service exclusion zone
- Archaeological linear
- Cropmarks

Geophysical Survey

- Archaeological anomalies
- Ridge and furrow
- Natural anomalies
- Ferrous anomalies
- Alluvial anomalies
- Recent non-archaeological activity
- Drain

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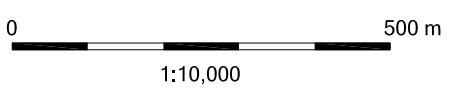


Figure 2: Trench layout in relation to cropmarks geophysical survey and modern constraints.

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Fig. 3: Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5.

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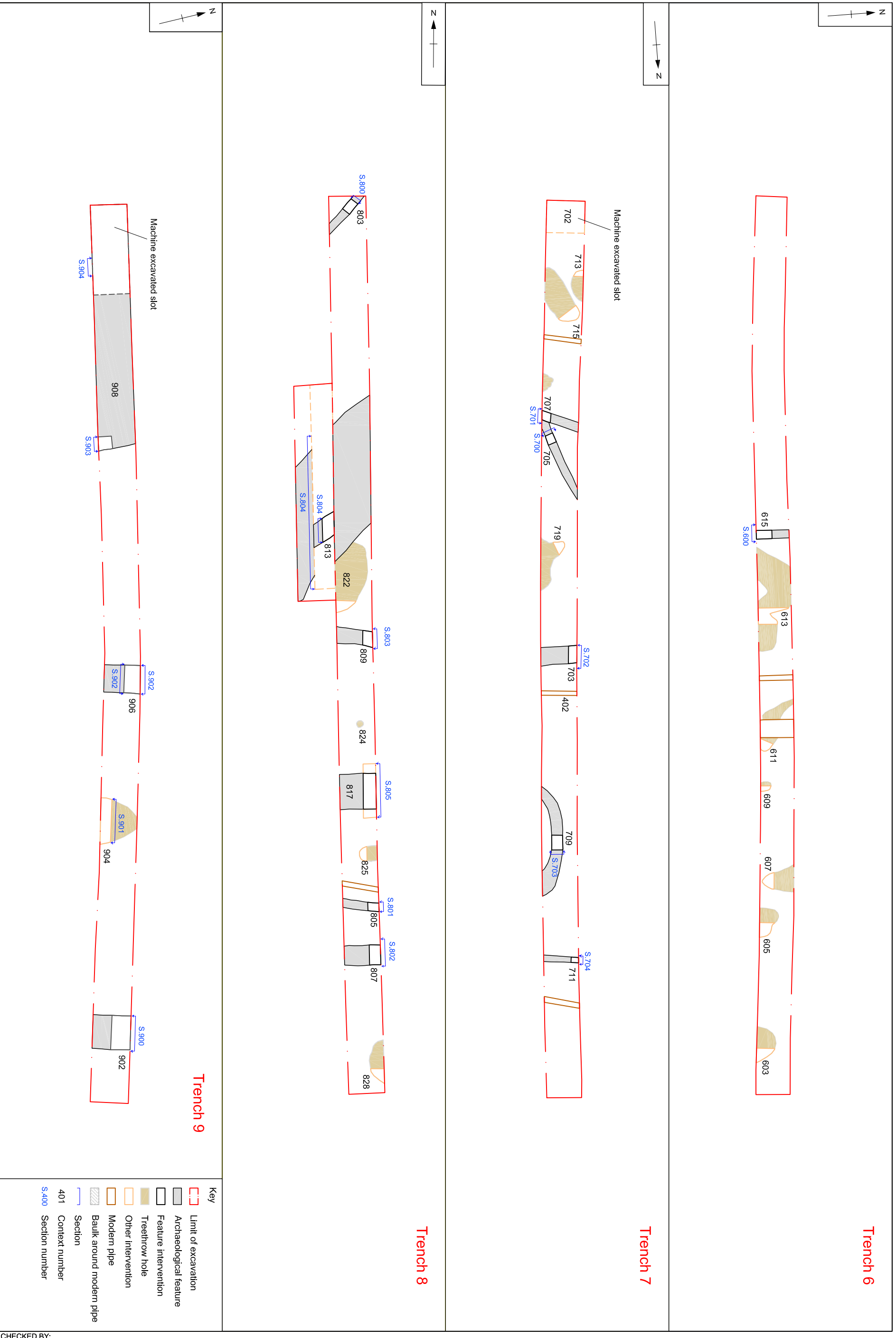
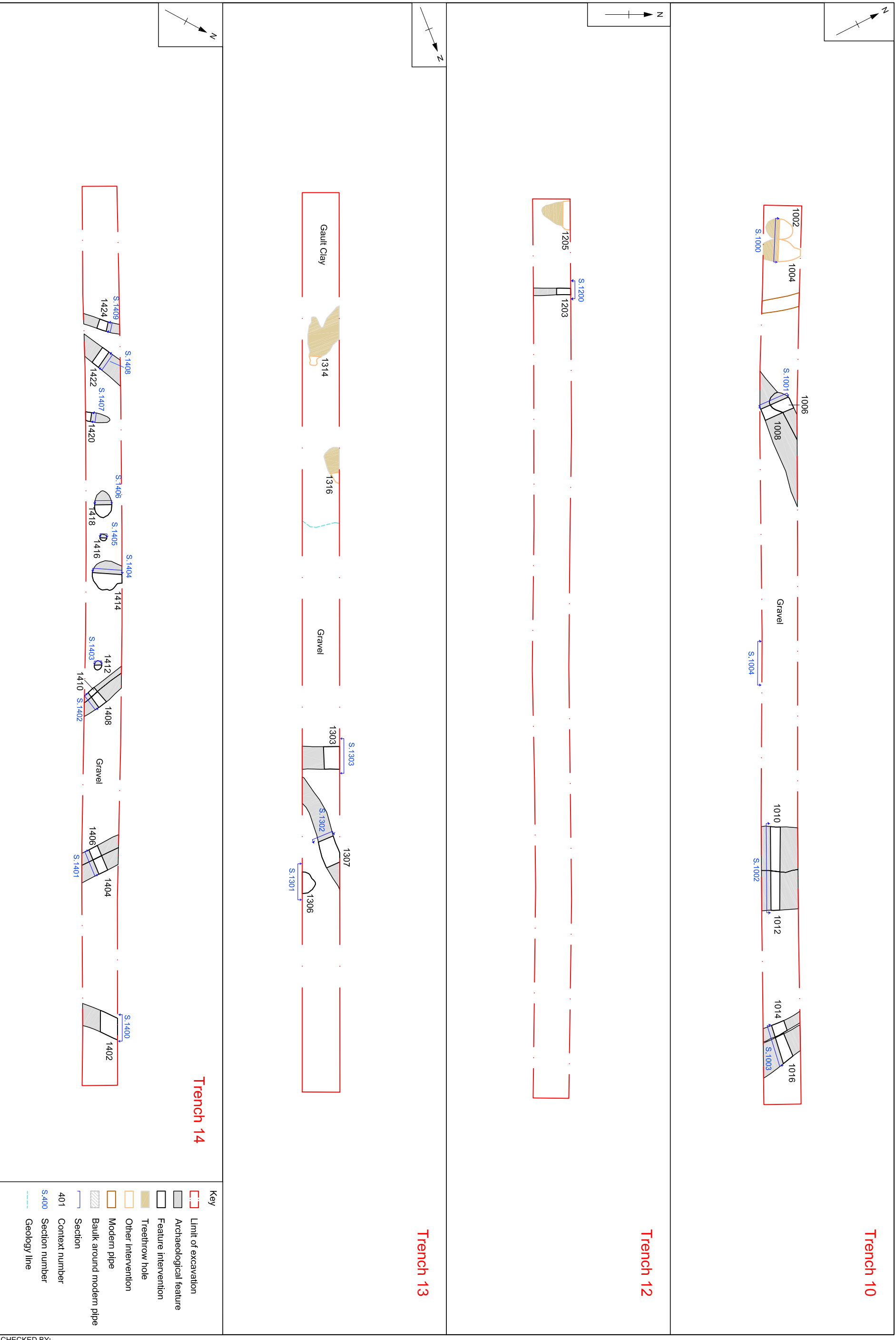


Fig. 4: Trenches 6, 7, 8 and 9.

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Trench 10

Trench 12

Trench 13

Trench 14

Key	
[Red dashed line]	Limit of excavation
[Grey shaded area]	Archaeological feature
[White area]	Feature intervention
[Brown shaded area]	Treethrow hole
[Orange shaded area]	Other intervention
[Blue shaded area]	Modern pipe
[Blue hatched area]	Baulk around modern pipe
[Blue line]	Section
[Blue line with '401']	Context number
[Blue line with 'S.400']	Section number
[Blue dashed line]	Geology line

Fig. 5: Trenches 10, 12, 13 and 14.

0 1:200 at A3 10 m

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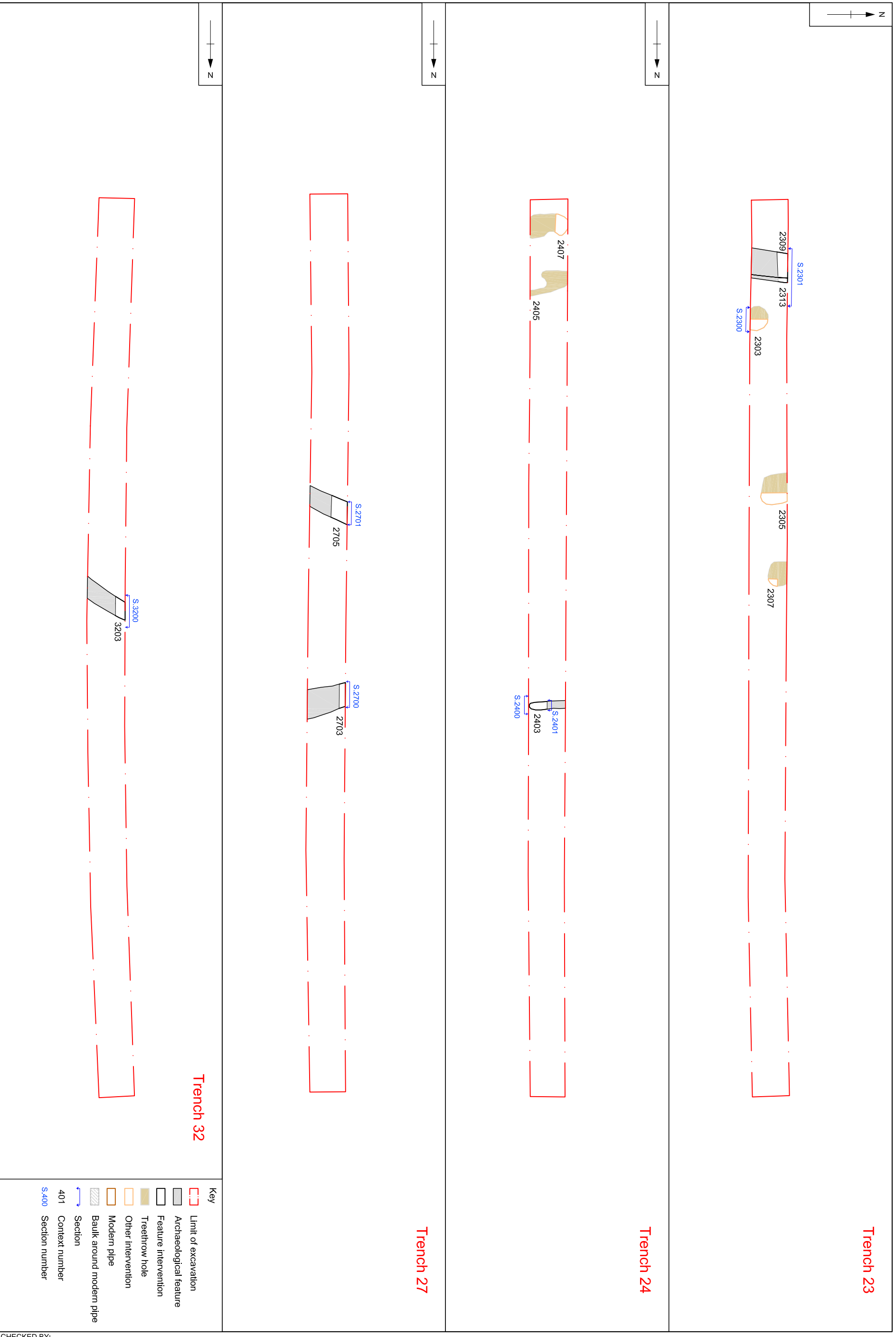
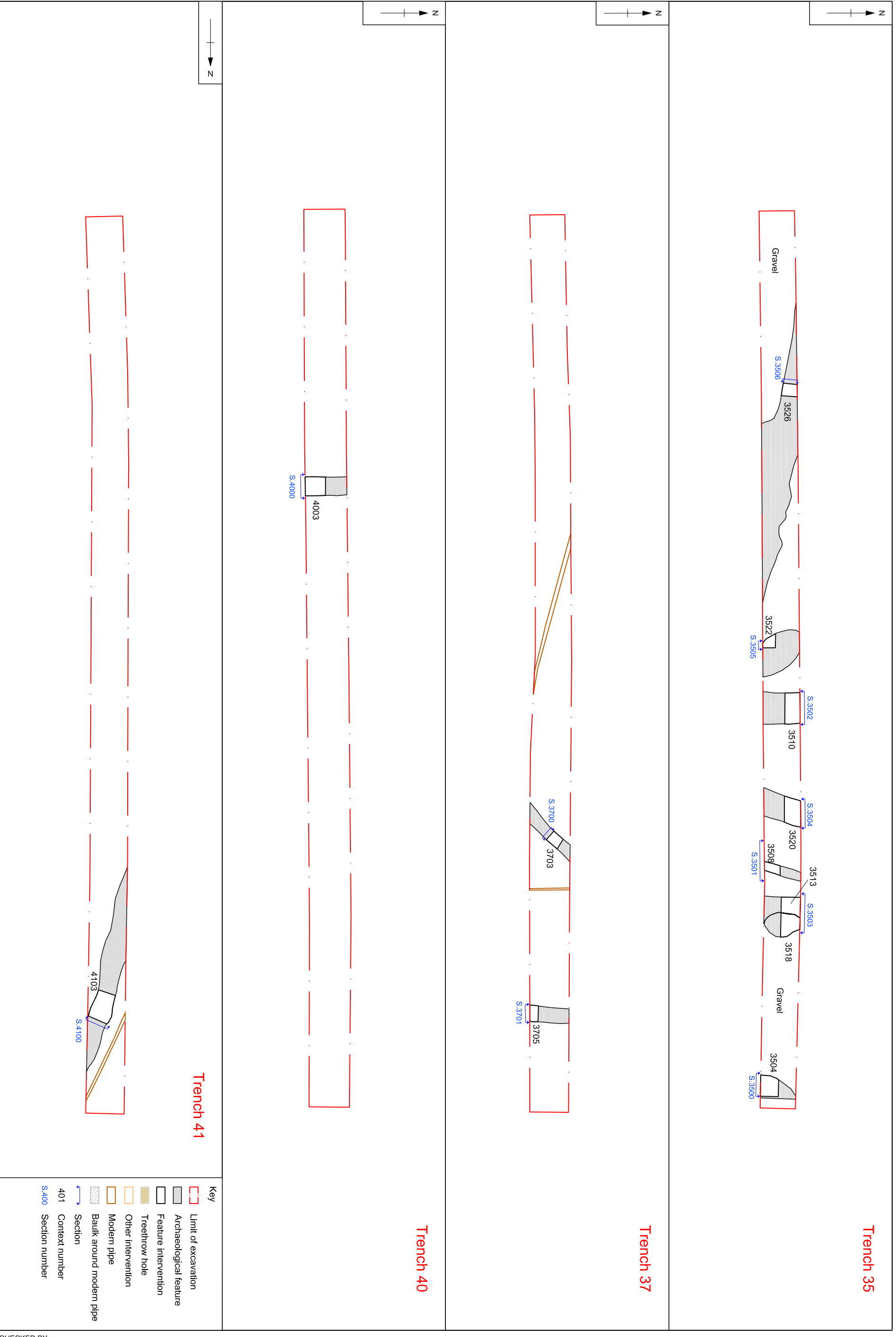


Fig. 6: Trenches 23, 24, 27 and 32.

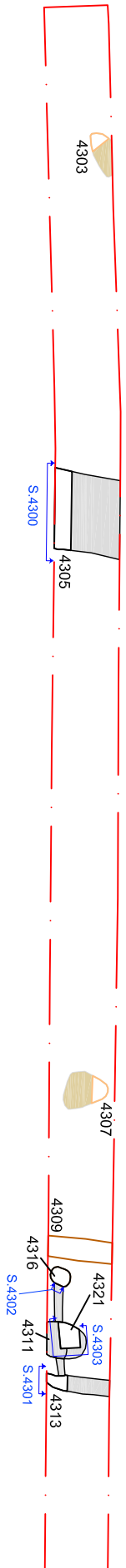
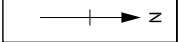
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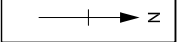
0 1:200 at A3 10 m

Fig. 7: Trenches 35, 37, 40 and 41.

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Trench 43



Trench 44

Key	
	Limit of excavation
	Archaeological feature
	Feature intervention
	Treethrow hole
	Other intervention
	Modern pipe
	Baulk around modern pipe
	Section
401	Context number
S.400	Section number

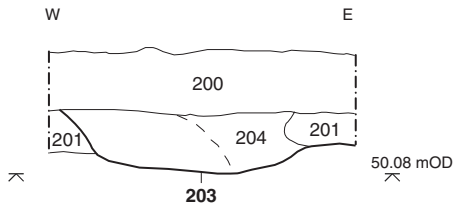


Fig. 8: Trenches 43 and 44.

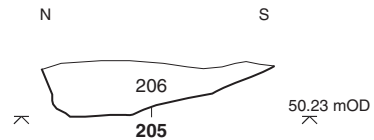
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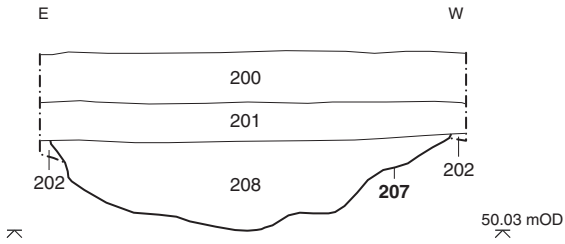
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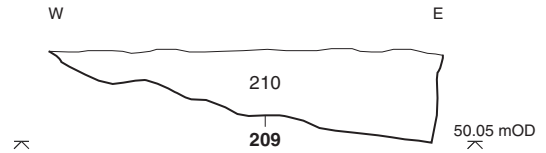
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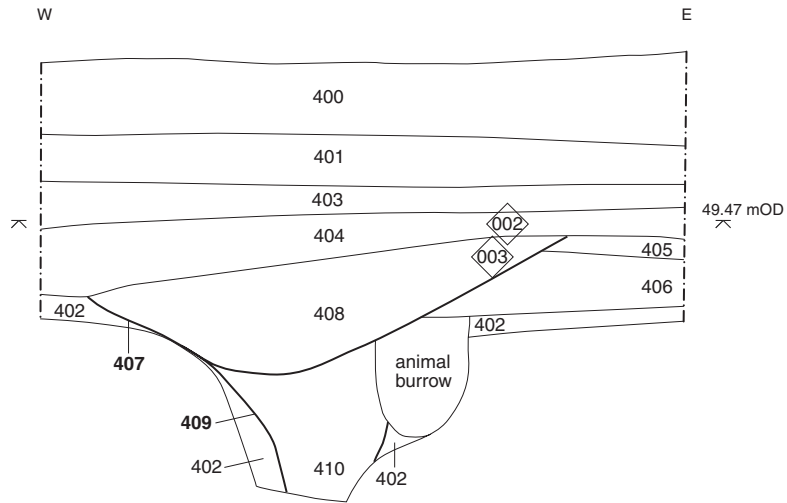
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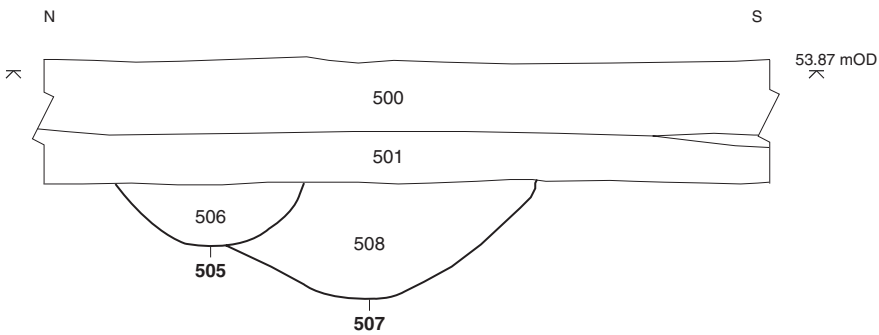
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Section 400



Section 501



Section 600

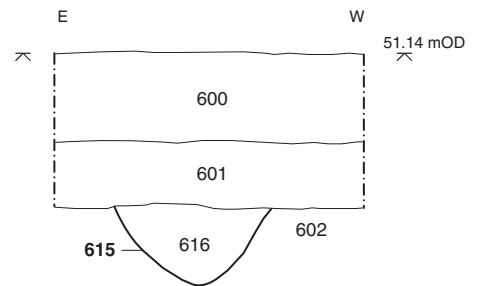
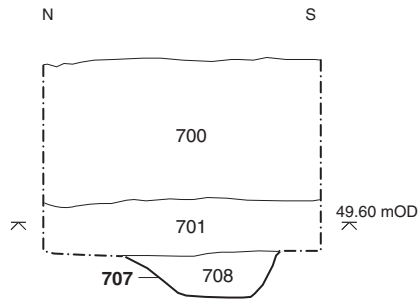


Figure 9: Sections: 200, 201, 202, 203, 400, 501, 503, 600

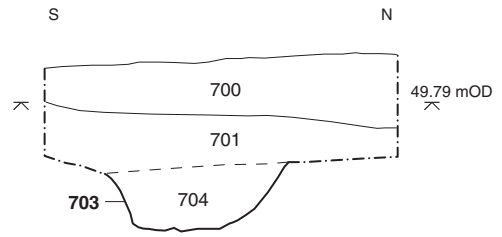
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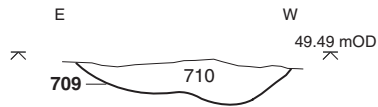
Section 701



Section 702



Section 703



Section 704

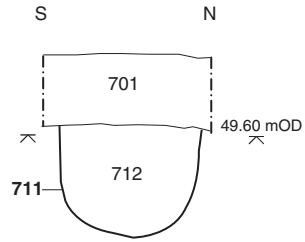


Figure 10: Sections: 700, 701, 702, 703, 704

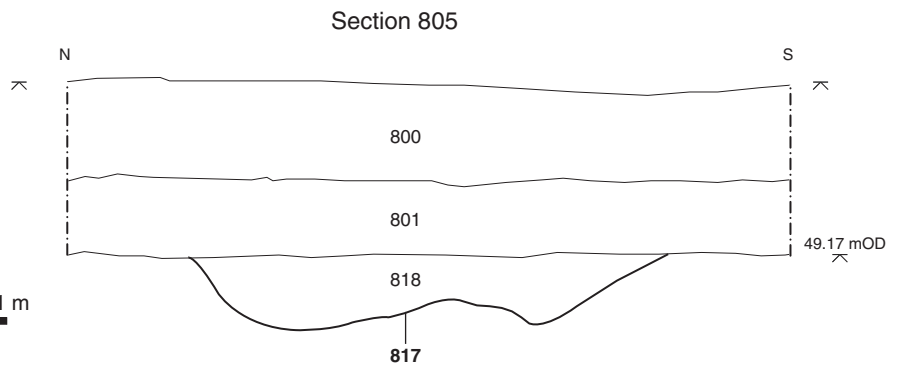
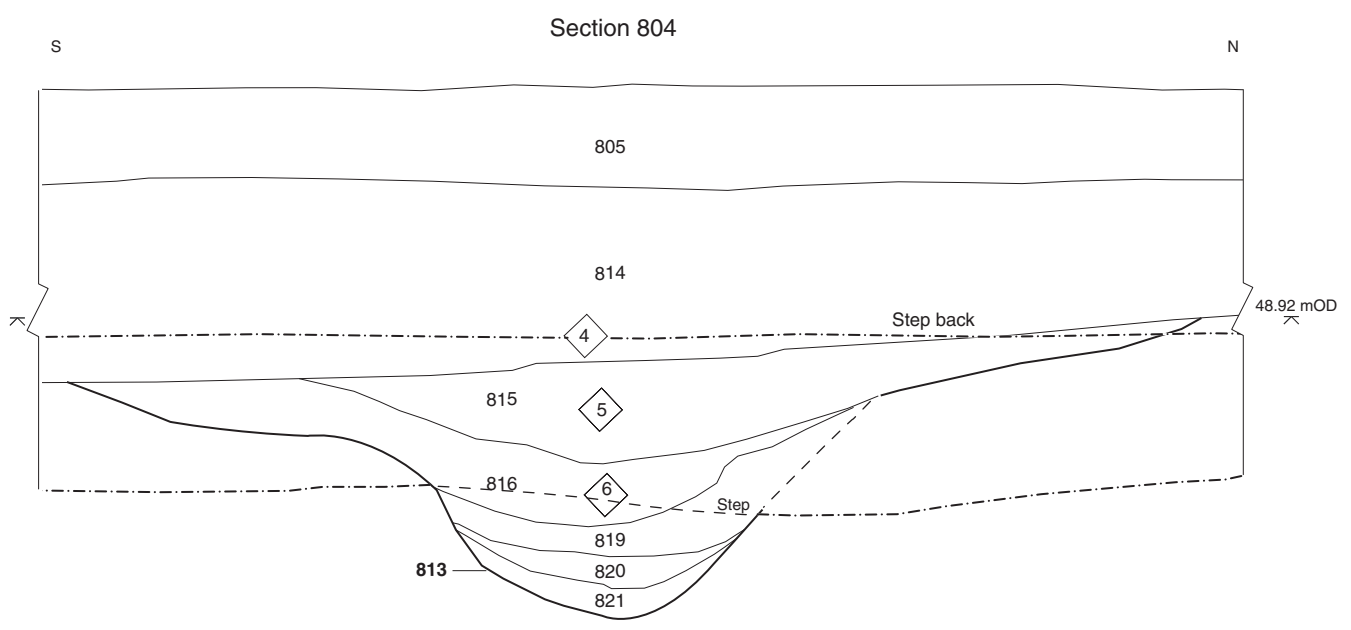
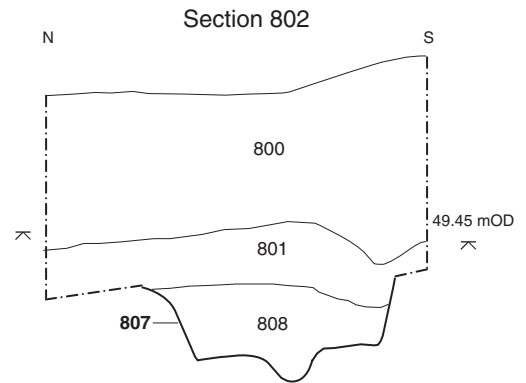
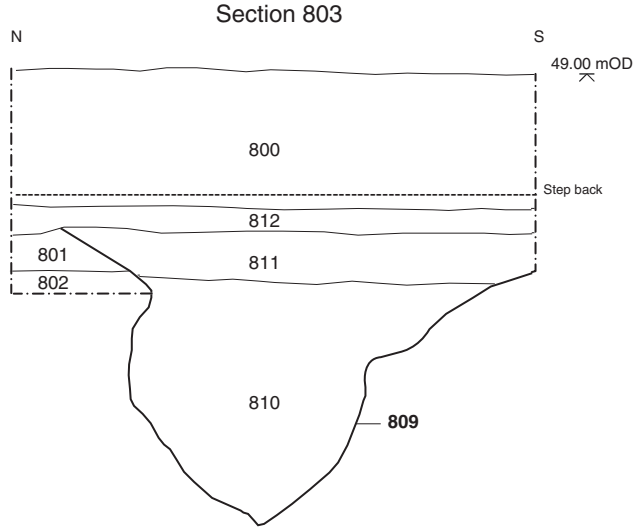
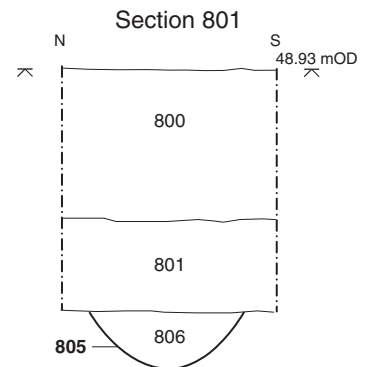
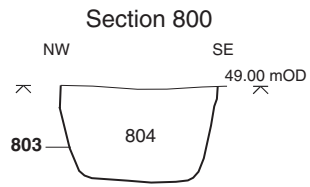


Figure 11: Sections: 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805

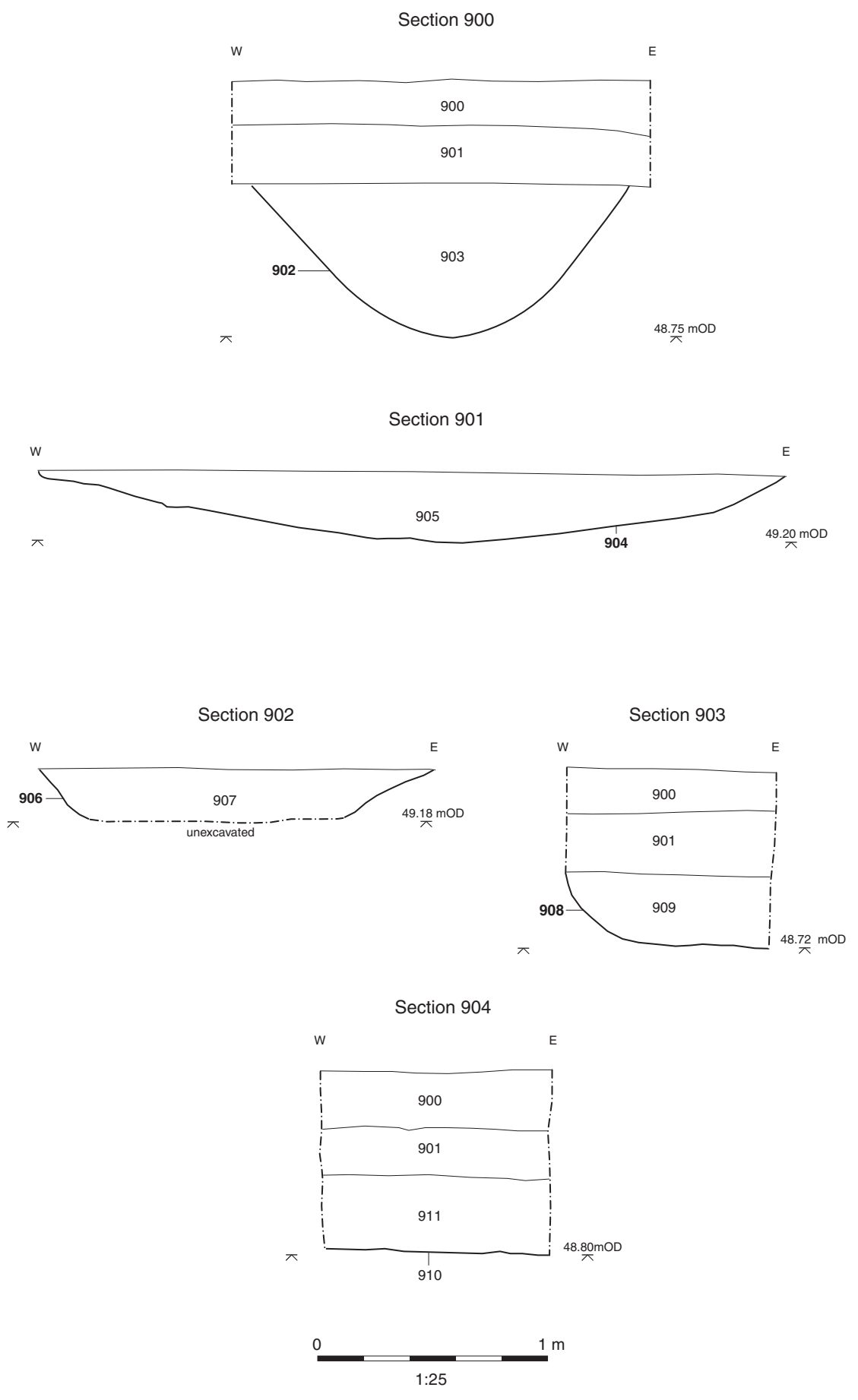


Figure 12: Sections: 900, 901, 902, 903, 904

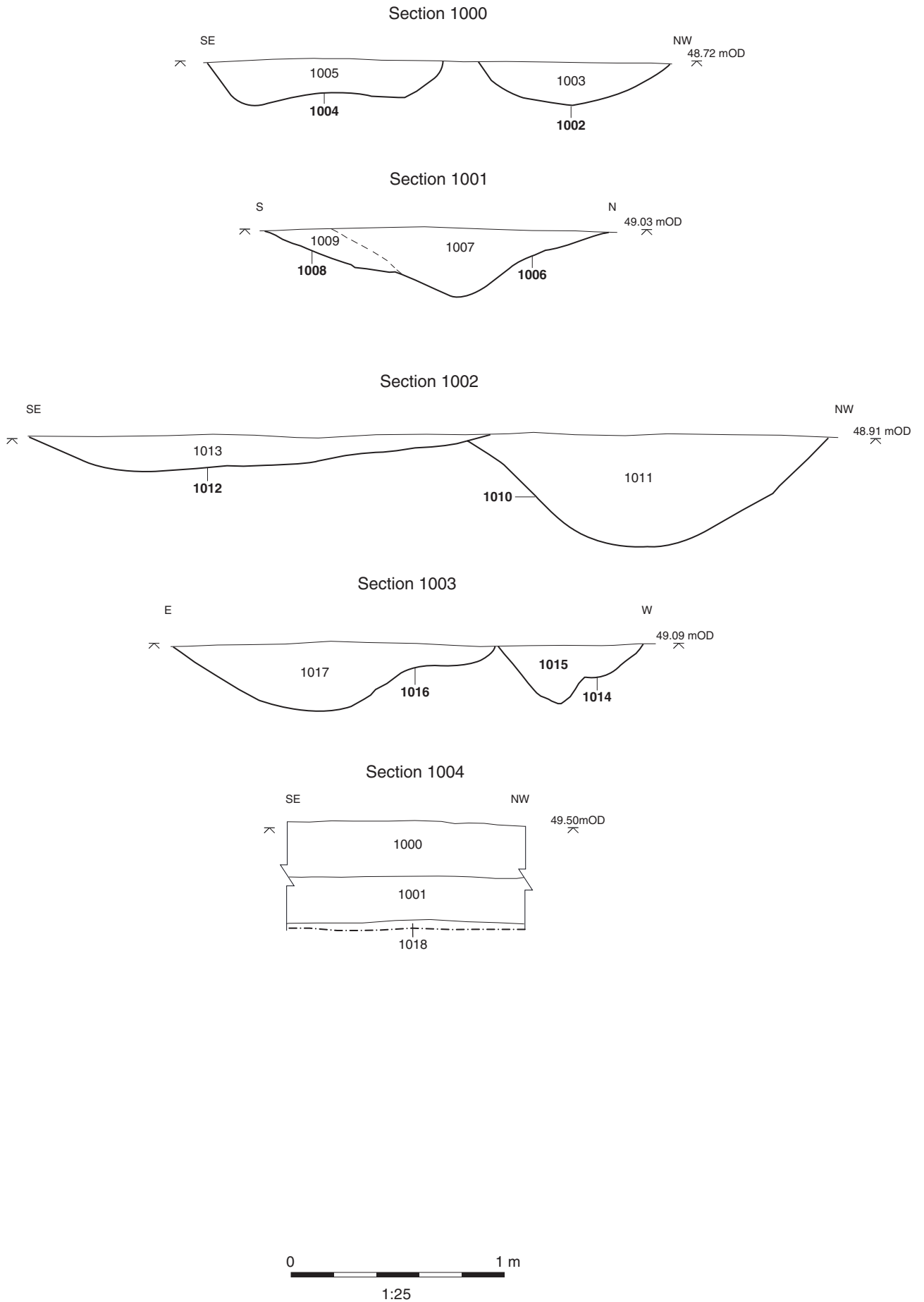


Figure 13: Sections: 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004

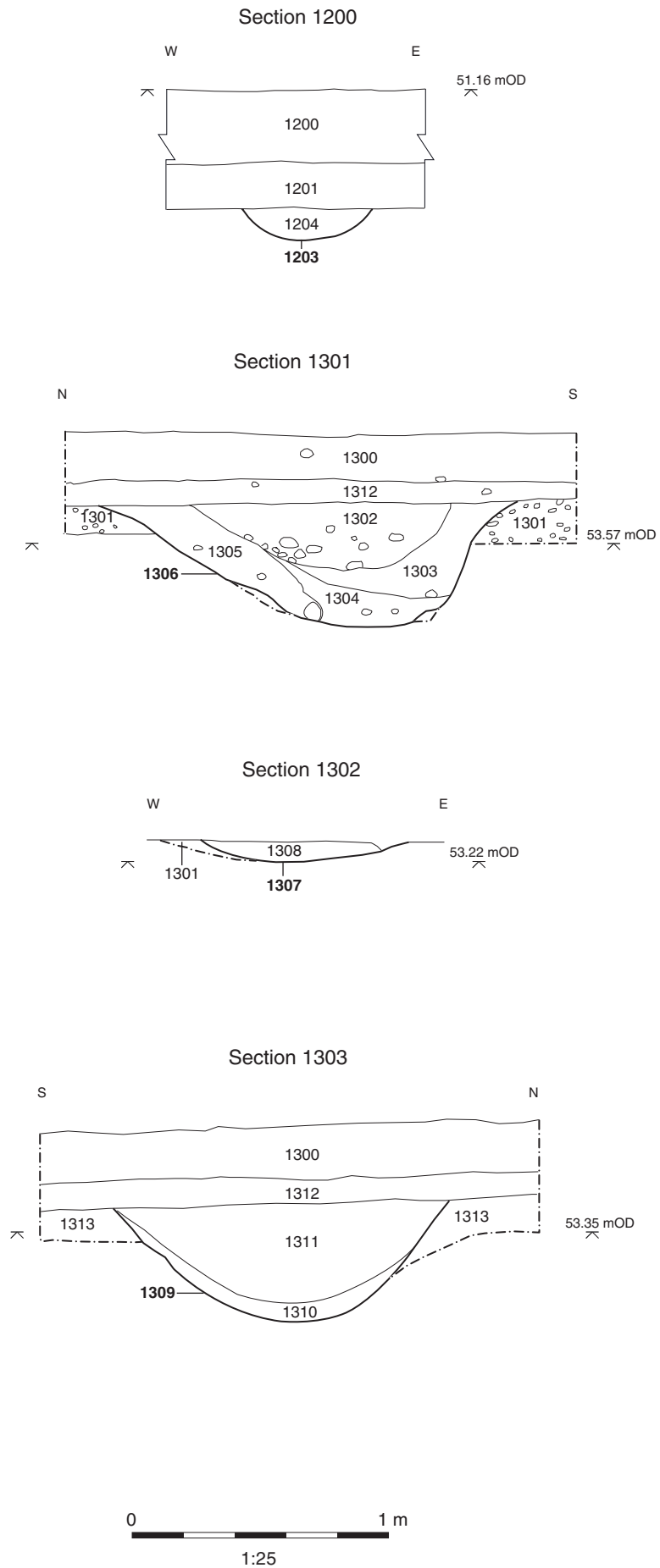


Figure 14: Sections: 1200, 1301, 1302, 1303

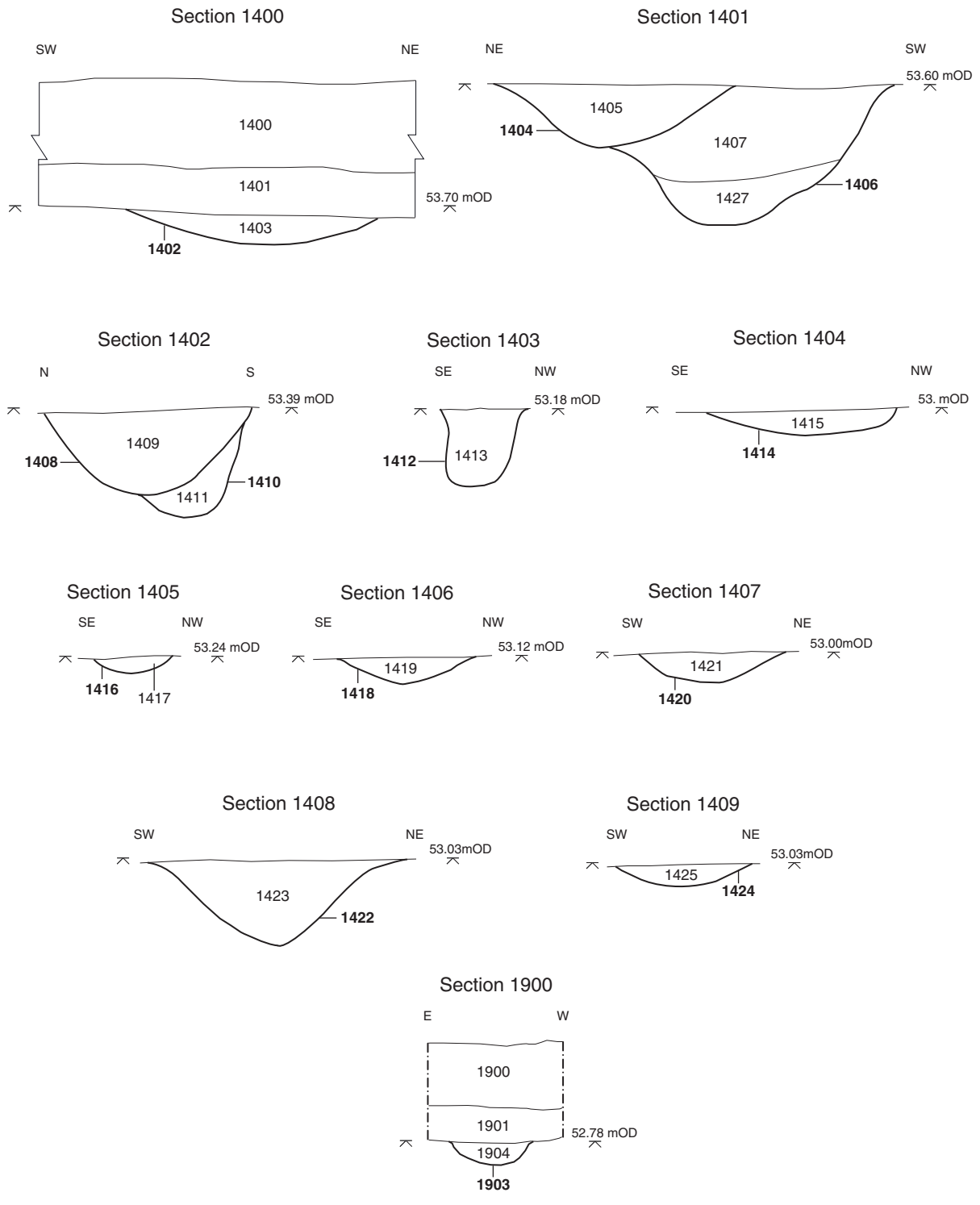


Figure 15: Sections: 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1900

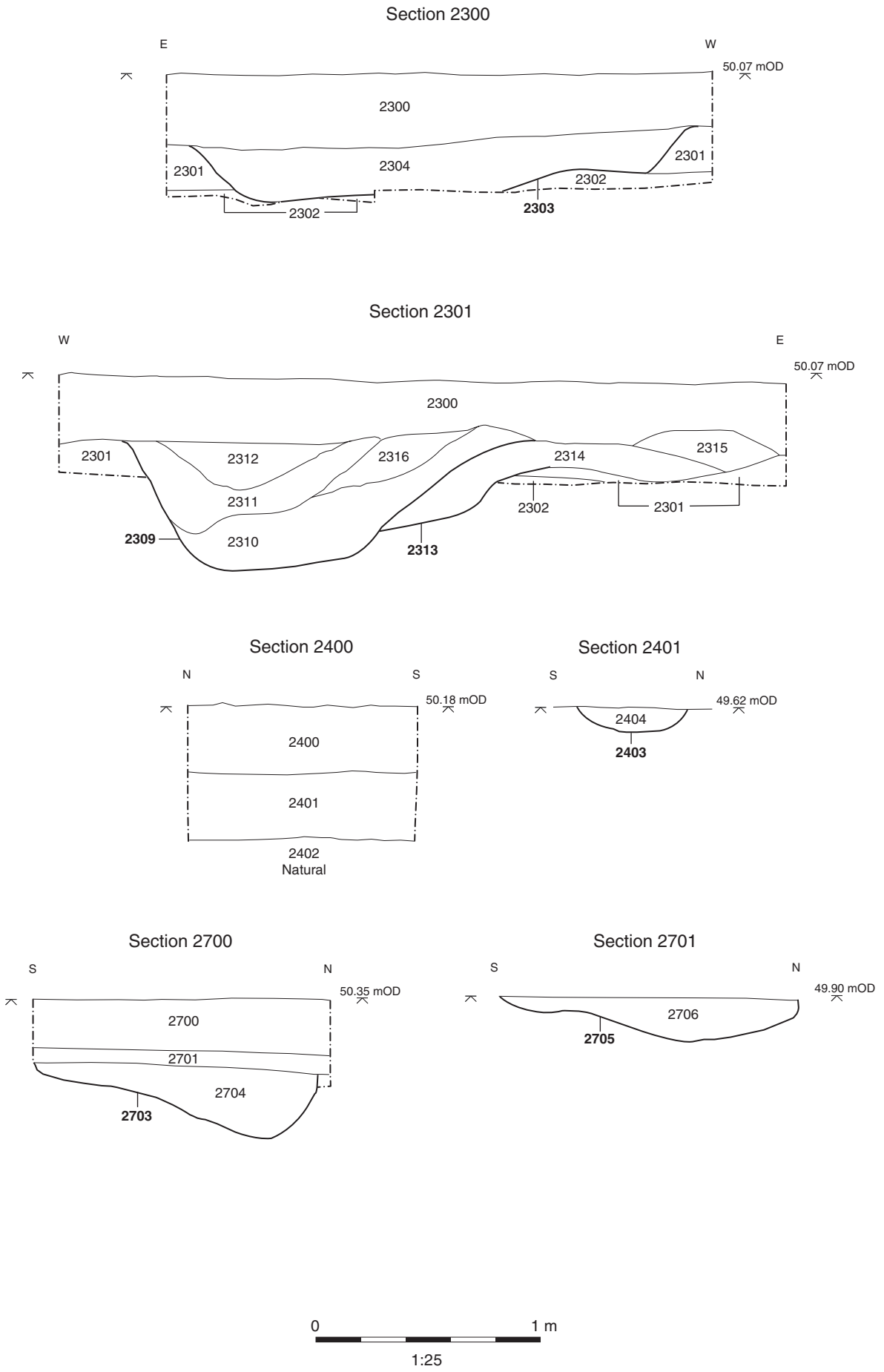


Figure 16: Sections: 2300, 2301, 2400, 2401, 2700, 2701

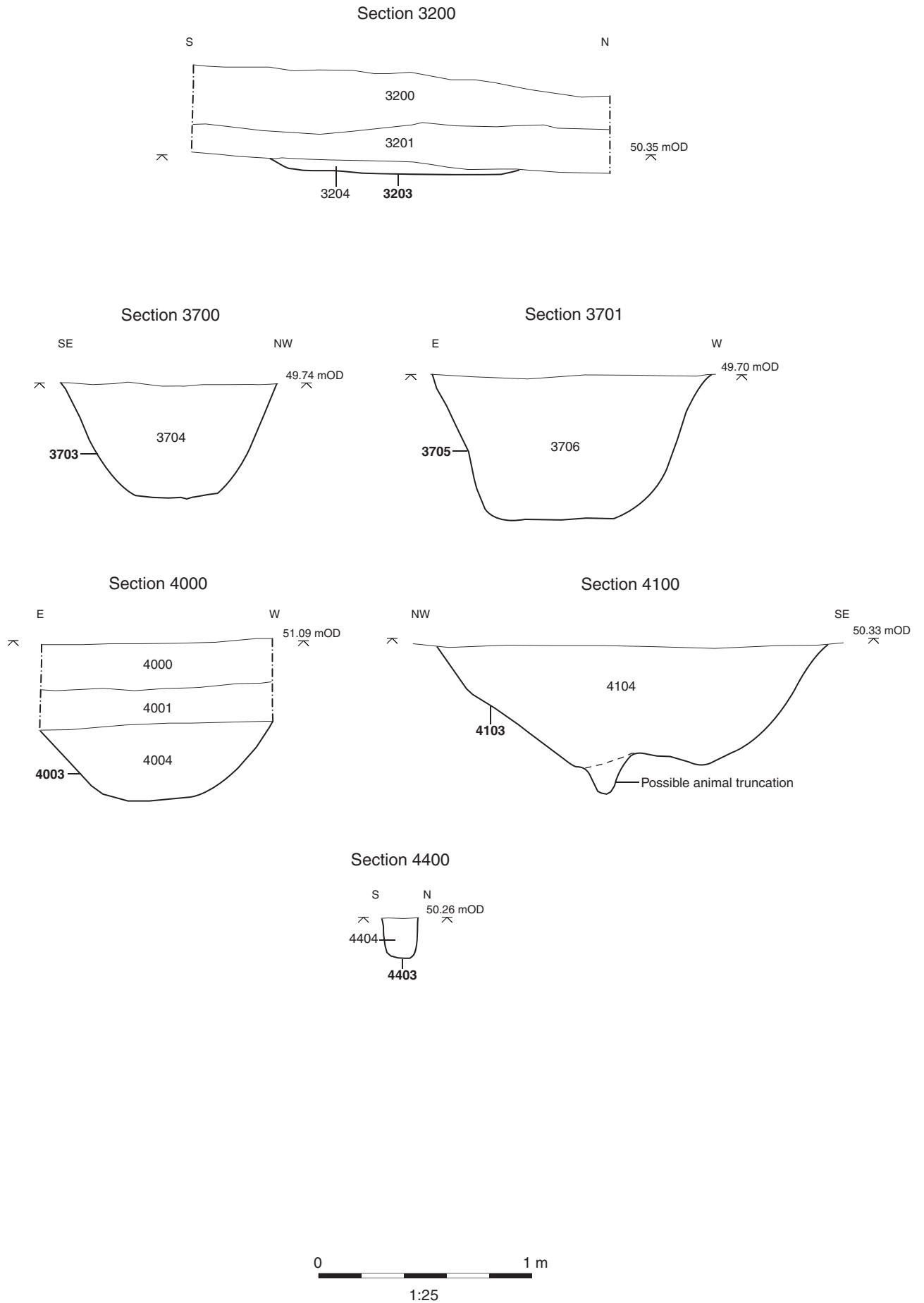


Figure 17: Sections: 3200, 1900, 3700, 3701, 4000, 4100, 4400

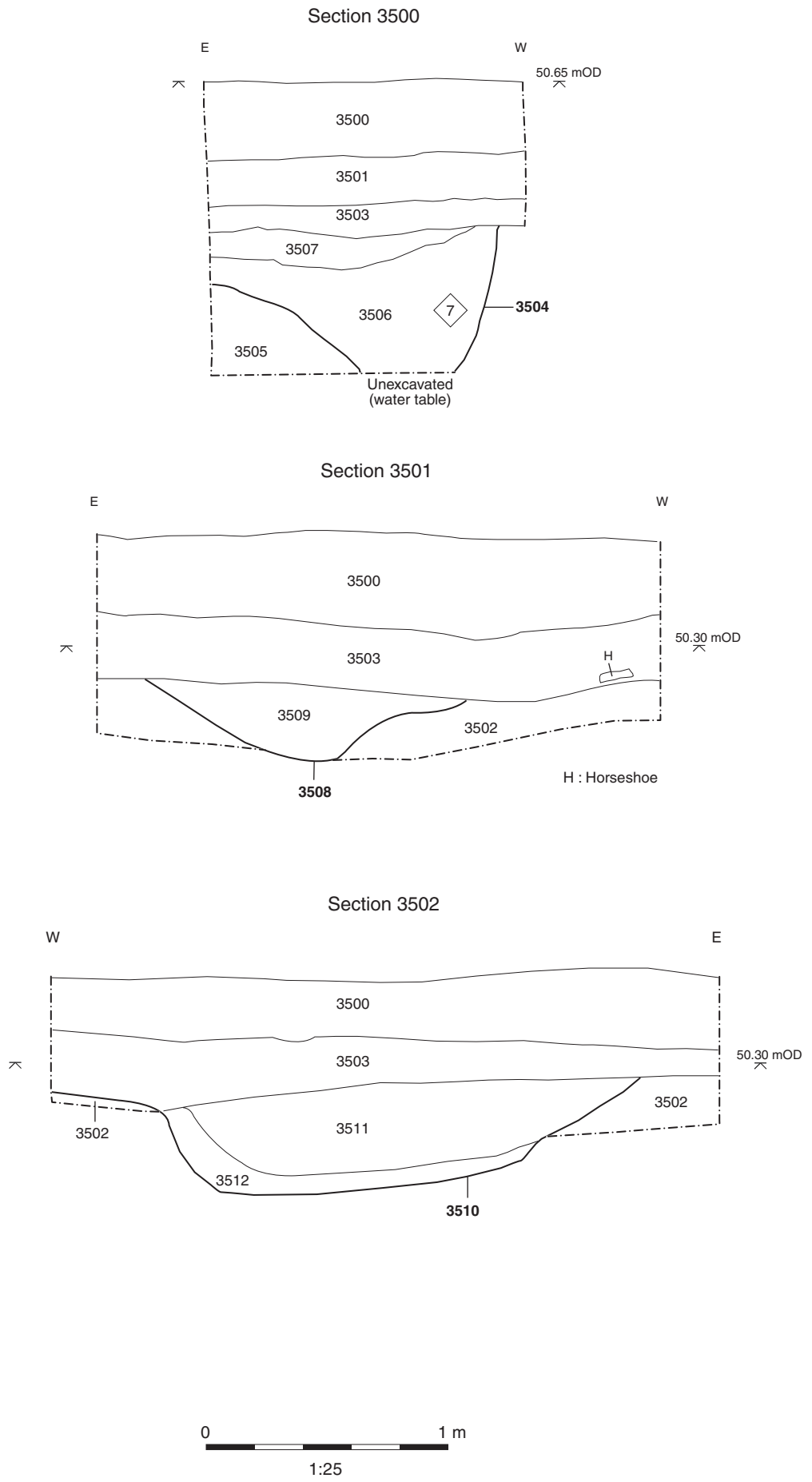


Figure 18: Sections: 3500 , 3501, 3502

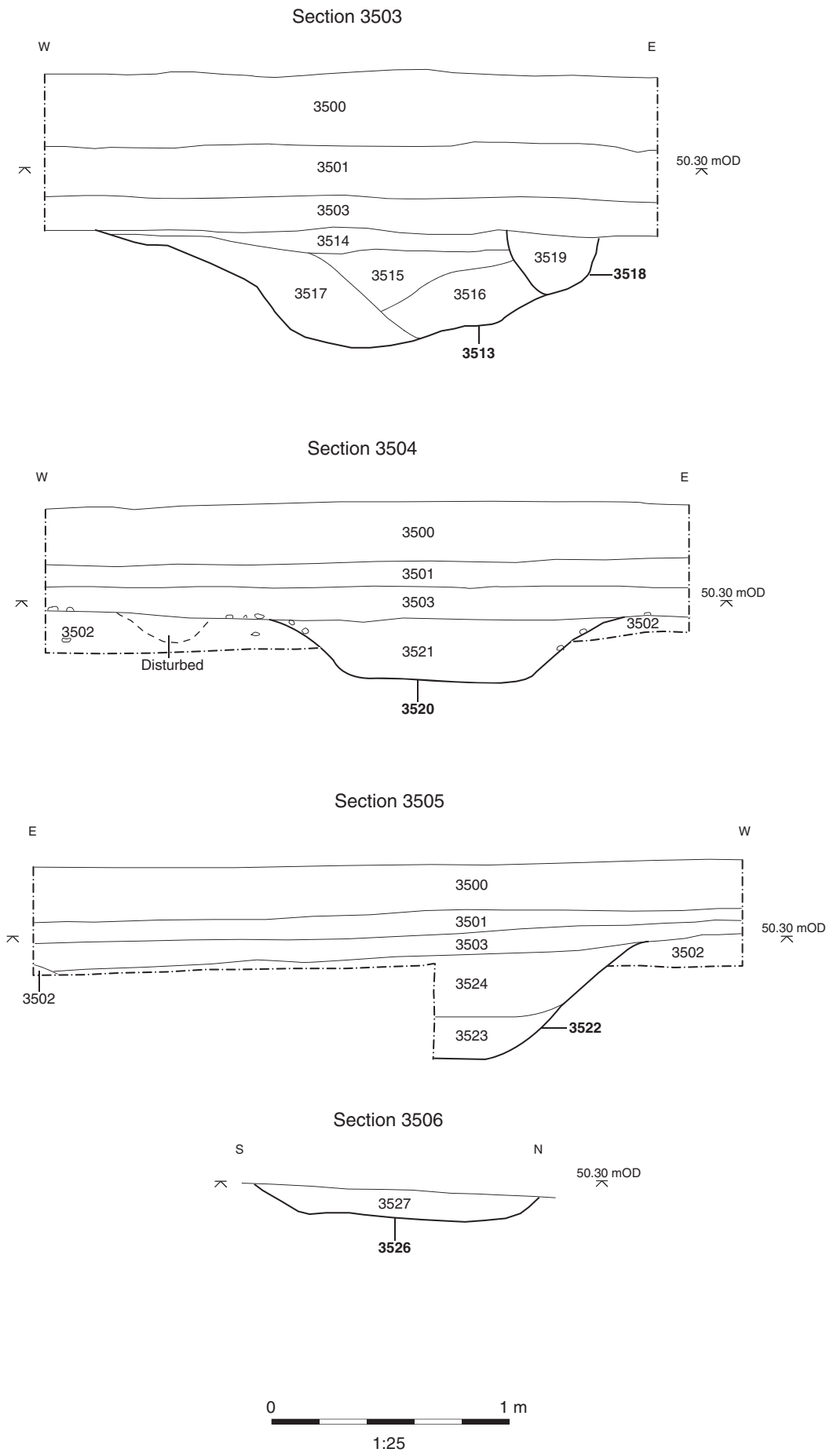


Figure 19: Sections: 3503, 3504, 3505, 3506

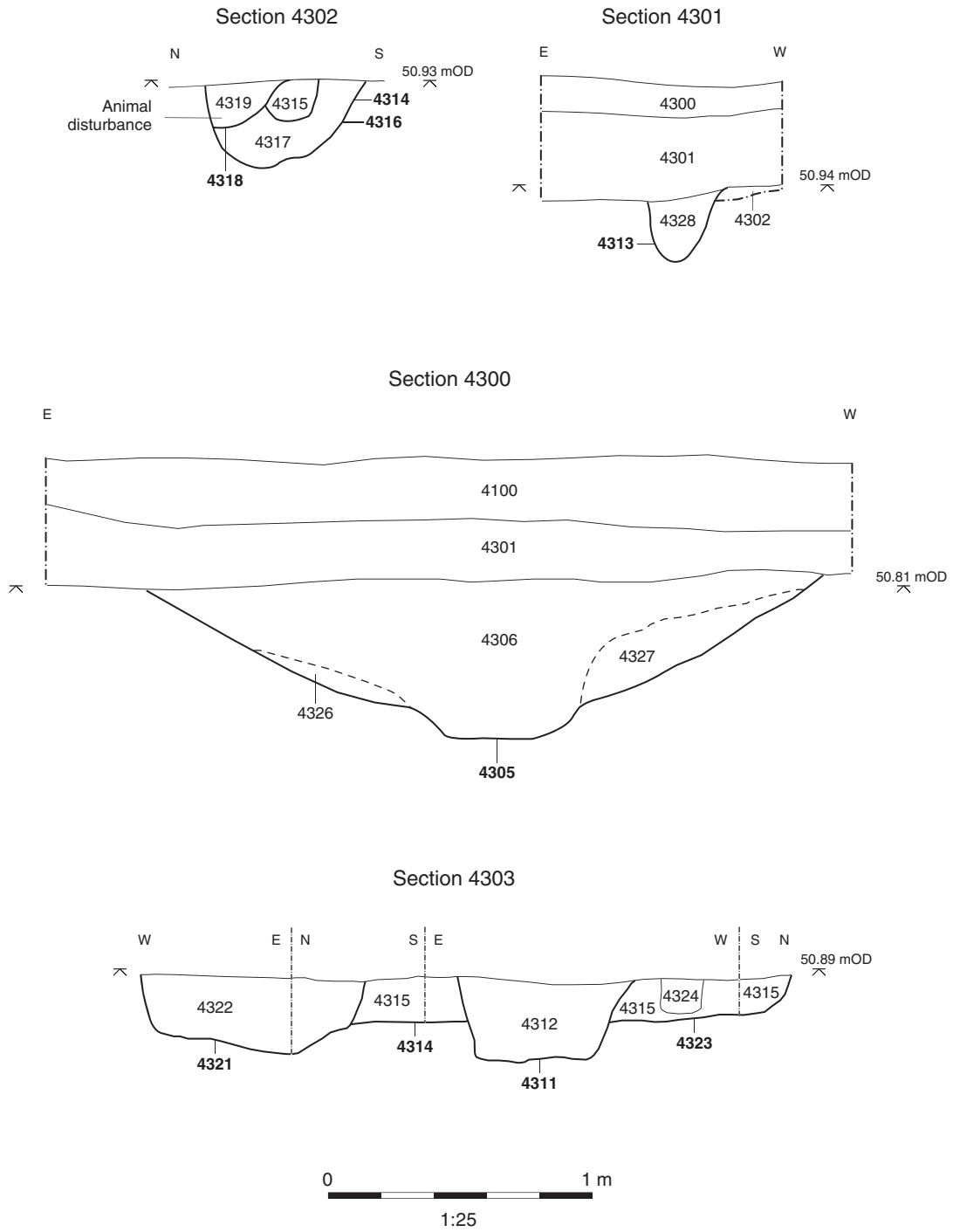
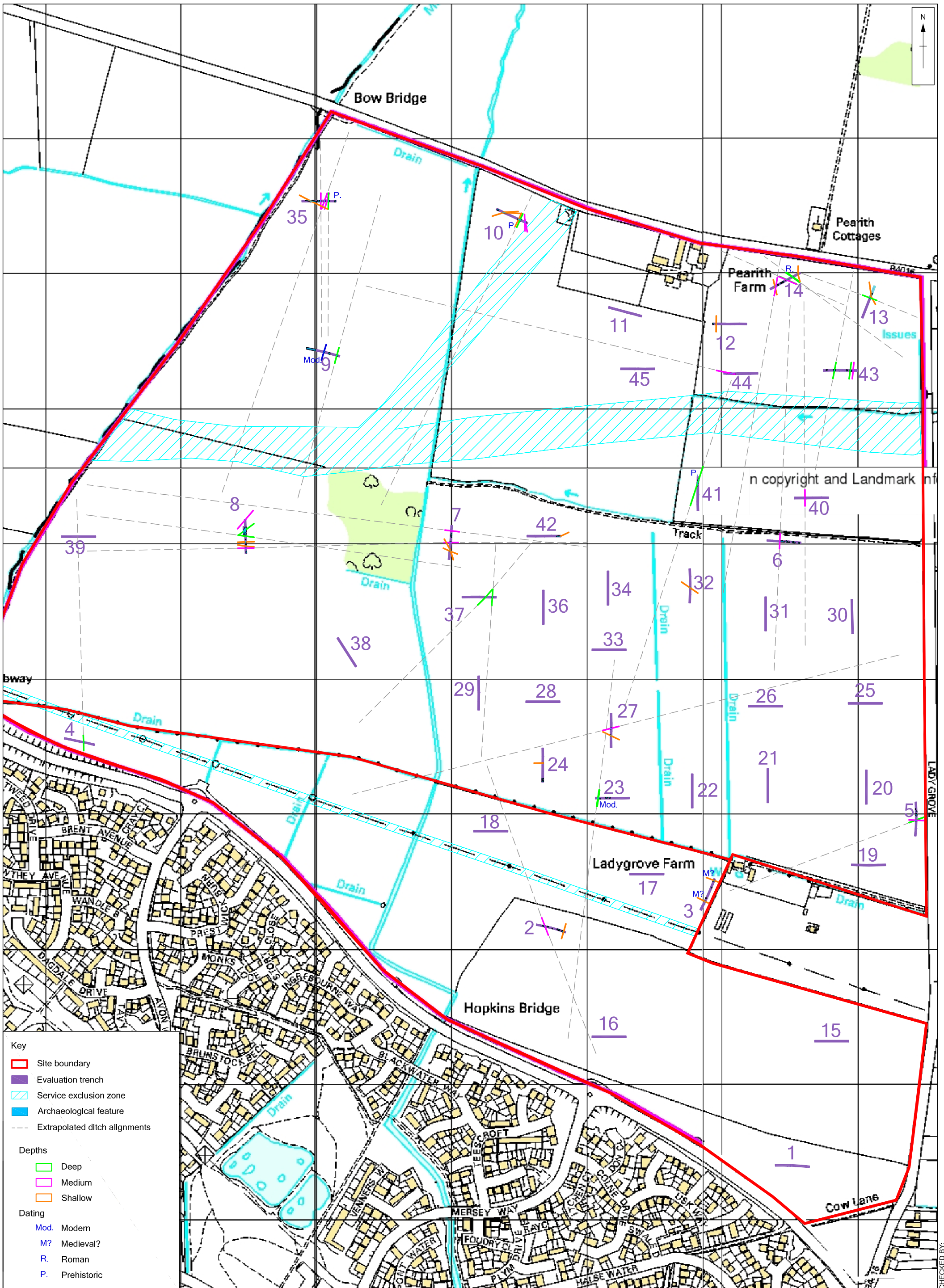


Figure 20: Sections: 4300, 4301, 4302



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Figure 21: Ditches divided by depth with dating evidence, and showing possible alignments.

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Plate 1: Trench 2 tree-hole 205 sectioned looking east



Plate 2: Trench 6 ditch 615 sectioned, looking south



Plate 3: Trench 8 ditch 809 excavated, looking east



Plate 4: Trench 8 ditch 809 excavated, looking east



Plate 5: Trench 9 looking east in the snow



Plate 6: Trench 9 ditch 902 looking north



Plate 7: Trench 14 ditches 1404 and 1406 looking east



Plate 8: Trench 22 looking south and representative section



Plate 9: Trench 26 looking west



Plate 10: Trench 30 looking north



Plate 11: Trench 35 pit 3504 looking south



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