



# Land West of Ironbridge Power Station, Shropshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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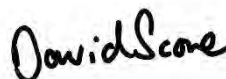




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# Land West of Ironbridge Power Station, Shropshire

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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## Summary

In November 2019 Oxford Archaeology excavated 49 trial trenches at the site of proposed mineral extraction on land west of Ironbridge power station. The trenches were positioned to ground-truth the results of a geophysical survey. The majority of the trenches were devoid of archaeological remains but a sporadic distribution of undated ditches, not picked up by the geophysical survey, was identified in several trenches (5, 9, 15, 20, 31, 42 and 47), as well as two pits in Trench 21, one of which contained an animal skeleton. A tree-throw hole in Trench 13 contained Neolithic pottery and flint, while a ditch that extended through Trenches 9 and 15 contained post-medieval pottery.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by John Boothroyd. The fieldwork was directed by Mariusz Gorniak, who was supported by Adam Rapiejko and Liberty Bennett. Survey was carried out by Adam Rapiejko and Liberty Bennett. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicola Scott.



## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Scope of work**

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by RPS Consulting (RPS) on behalf of the Harworth Group to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Land West of Ironbridge Power Station, Shropshire which is proposed for mineral extraction.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Local Planning Authority in support of a Planning Application. Although the Local Planning Authority did not set a brief for the work, discussions between RPS and Andy Wigley, Natural and Historic Environment Manager for Shropshire Council, established the scope of work required. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

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

- 1.2.1 The site lies approximately 2km west of the town of Ironbridge, Shropshire, in the parish of Buildwas.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of three arable fields with a combined area of approximately 24 hectares (Fig. 1; NGR SJ 6462 0390). The site is bounded by arable land to the north, west and south. Ironbridge Power Station lies immediately east of the site and the River Severn some 300m to the north. The site undulates, sloping from 92m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the south to 62m aOD in the north.
- 1.2.3 The area surrounding Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 was particularly undulant compared to the rest of site and this led to the splitting of Trench 2 (see below).
- 1.2.4 The geology of the area is mapped as Coalbrookdale Formation Mudstone overlain by Devensian Glaciofluvial Deposits of sand and gravel (BGS Online)

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

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in detail in Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (RPS 2019), and will not be reproduced here. The following summary is provided to place these works in context.
- 1.3.2 No heritage assets of prehistoric date are recorded within the site boundary, however, a Neolithic stone axe and a bronze sword and socketed bronze axe of Bronze Age date have been recovered in the vicinity of the site.
- 1.3.3 Similarly, no heritage assets of Roman date are recorded within the site, nor within a 1km radius.
- 1.3.4 Significant activity dating to the medieval period is recorded within the vicinity of the site, although not within the site itself. This includes Buildwas Abbey, a Grade I Listed Building and Scheduled Monument, and its associated structures. The abbey has its origins in the early 12th century and is located approximately 500m north-west of the site. The route of an early medieval road running from Benthall Hall to Buildwas is depicted on the tithe map and also the later Ordnance Survey maps, and was projected to cross the east of the site, in the area now occupied by Ironbridge Power Station.

- 1.3.5 The landscape around the site changed drastically in the post-medieval and modern period due to the rise of industry, with the creation of several railway lines in the 19th century and the construction of Ironbridge Power Station in the mid-20th century.

### *Previous investigations*

- 1.3.6 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during geotechnical investigations (WA 2019). A total of 16 geotechnical trial pits were monitored within the site and the surrounding area but no archaeological deposits or features were identified.
- 1.3.7 A geophysical survey undertaken in September 2019 did not identify any features of archaeological origin except a linear feature suspected to be a post-medieval or modern field boundary (TG 2019).

## **1.4 Potential**

- 1.4.1 The Desk-based Assessment concluded that there was negligible potential for archaeological assets dating to the Roman period to be present, and also a low potential for assets dating to the prehistoric, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods to be present within the site.

## 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims and objects of the trial trench evaluation were:

- i. establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains,
- ii. determine and confirm the character of any remains present, without compromising any deposits that may merit detailed investigation or preservation,
- iii. determine or estimate the date range of any remains from artefacts or otherwise,
- iv. characterise any underlying archaeological strata down to undisturbed geology without significantly impacting upon younger (overlying) deposits where possible,
- v. determine the geo-archaeological and palaeo-environmental potential of any archaeological deposits encountered where appropriate,
- vi. recover suitable materials for scientific dating where appropriate,
- vii. make available the results of the investigation to inform subsequent development designs or mitigation strategies,
- viii. produce a factual report, full archive and HER data submission,

2.1.2 The specific aims and objectives of the trial trench evaluation were:

- ix. To ground-truth the results of the geophysical survey.

### 2.2 Methodology

#### *Trench excavation*

2.2.1 The trenches were laid out as shown in Figure 2 using a GPS with sub-15mm accuracy.

2.2.2 The trenches were excavated using a 13-tonne 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was stored adjacent to, but at a safe distance from the trench edges.

2.2.3 Only one trench, Trench 2, was not excavated as proposed. This trench was split into two separate trenches because the steepness of the slope in that area prevented the machine safely excavating the trench. As such, the southern segment of the trench retained the original number but the second, northern part of the trench was given the trench number 49 (see Fig. 2)

2.2.4 Machining continued in even spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology. Once archaeological deposits had been exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand.

2.2.5 The exposed surface was sufficiently cleaned to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type (for example pits, postholes, and ditches) was excavated and recorded. Excavation was sufficient to resolve the principal aims of the evaluation.

- 2.2.6 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with established best practice and the OA Field Manual. Bulk finds were collected by context.
- 2.2.7 Digital photos were taken of any archaeological features, deposits, trenches and evaluation work in general.
- 2.2.8 Sections of features were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All section drawings were located using GPS. The absolute heights (m OD) of all principal strata, features and section datum lines were recorded using GPS.
- 2.2.9 The trenches were located using a GPS unit.
- 2.2.10 Upon completion of the works and in agreement with the Planning Archaeologist, the trenches were backfilled with the arisings in reverse order of excavation.

## **3 RESULTS**

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

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches, with dimensions and depths of all deposits, are tabulated in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are detailed in Appendix B.

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

3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches varied considerably across the site. The natural geology was primarily a brownish red silty sand but this became gravellier in the lower-lying trenches, with some trenches exposing a more yellowish or grey mudstone as well. This was overlain in Trench 39 by a grey-brown silty sand subsoil but in most others by a reddish brown and or greyish brown colluvial layers. Some trenches (1, 3, 5, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 31, 33, 35 and 49) exhibited only one colluvial layer but no subsoil while others (7, 8, 9, 12, 23, 25, 29, 32 and 34) contained two colluvial layers and no subsoil. Similarly, some trenches (38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48) revealed a single colluvial layer overlain by subsoil whereas others (28, 30 and 40) were found to have both colluvial layers overlain by subsoil. These colluvial layers and subsoil were, in turn, overlain by topsoil, though in some trenches (2, 4, 6, 11, 14, 18, 21, 26, 27, 36 and 37) the natural geology was overlain directly by topsoil.

3.2.2 Due to the depth of some of the colluvial deposits being greater than 1m, the underlying natural geology was not exposed in Trenches, 16, 17 and 49. It is notable that the depth of deposits generally increased as the slope descended to the north.

3.2.3 Although there was significant variation in the soil profiles between trenches, it can be noted that the presence of subsoil appears to be concentrated in the more northern trenches, indicative of more intensive ploughing in this area.

3.2.4 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good and the site remained mostly dry but with some periods of heavy rain. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

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

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 5, 9, 15, 20, 21, 31, 42 and 47. A probable tree-throw hole which contained possible Neolithic pot was found in Trench 13 and a ditch was investigated in Trench 15 (1503) that produced modern finds.

3.3.2 Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 48 were all devoid of archaeology and will not be described further.

3.3.3 Trenches 1, 4 and 43 contained possible features that were investigated and found to be of either natural or geological origin.

### 3.4 Trench 5 (Fig. 3)

- 3.4.1 Trench 5 was excavated on a slope from 84.98m OD in the south to 77.35m OD in the north. The natural geology comprised a brownish red sand with lenses of rounded sandstone pebbles which was overlain by a light brown silty sand colluvial layer, in turn overlain by topsoil. The underlying topography mirrored the surface slope.
- 3.4.2 This trench contained a single NE-SW oriented ditch (502) which cut the natural geology and contained a single natural fill (504). The ditch measured 0.55m wide and 0.13m deep. No finds were recovered. The ditch was interpreted as a land management feature and likely utilised for drainage.

### 3.5 Trench 9 and 15 (Fig. 4)

- 3.5.1 Trench 9 was located along a break in the topography with a drop of only 3m from south to north, from 75.74m aOD to 72.66m aOD. The stratigraphy in this trench was relatively deep at 0.80m and exhibited the common reddish brown sand natural overlain by a reddish brown silty sand colluvial layer (902). This was overlain by another, grey brown silty sand colluvial layer (901), which in turn was overlain by topsoil.
- 3.5.2 A single NW–SE drainage ditch (904) was recorded as cutting the lower colluvial deposit (902) at a height of 74.05m aOD and was sealed by the upper colluvial deposit. It measured 0.88m wide and 0.13m deep. Post-medieval pottery was recovered from the grey brown silty sand fill (905).
- 3.5.3 The ditch was also present in Trench 15, located north-west of Trench 9.
- 3.5.4 Orientated E–W, Trench 15 was comparatively low lying and level but with a slight fall from 70.67m aOD in the east to 69.59m aOD. However, the underlying geology, a reddish brown sand natural, was exposed at a significantly greater depth towards the east. A colluvial deposit, a dark brown slightly silty sand with relatively frequent rounded sandstone pebbles, was recorded as overlying the natural geology and in turn was sealed by the topsoil. The colluvial deposit was c 1m thick at the eastern end of the trench but had petered out by the western end, with the topsoil directly overlying the natural geology.
- 3.5.5 Ditch 1503 was aligned NW-SE and located towards the eastern end of the trench. Measuring 2.7m and over 0.8m deep, the ditch was recorded as truncating the colluvial deposit at 69.3m aOD. The ditch contained two fills. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the earlier fill (1505), a dark-grey brown sandy silt, but the later fill (1504), a mid-olive green grey sandy clay, was devoid of artefactual evidence.

### 3.6 Trench 13 (Fig. 5)

- 3.6.1 Trench 13 was located on a very slight slope, falling from 86.07m OD at the south-west end to 82.56m OD at the north-east end. It was relatively deep at 0.70m. The natural in this trench was recorded as a mid-yellowish/reddish brown silty sand with lenses of gravel and sandstone pebbles. It was overlain by a mid-brown silty sand colluvial layer (1301) which was in turn covered by topsoil.
- 3.6.2 A single feature (1303) was identified in the middle of the trench under colluvium (1301) and cutting the natural (1302) at a height of 83.55m OD. Excavation of the

feature showed it to most likely be a tree-throw hole. However, ten sherds of probably Neolithic pottery were recovered from the fill (1304).

### 3.7 Trench 20 (Fig. 6)

- 3.7.1 Trench 20 was located on a particularly flat area and only experienced a slight drop in height from 80.38m OD to 79.10m OD from west to east. The natural in this trench was a light brownish yellow sand with occasional sandstone pebbles. It was only exposed in the two ends of the trench, as the overlying colluvial layer (2001) filled a geological hollow in the centre which was more than 1m deep. The mid brown silty sand colluvium (2001) was overlain by topsoil.
- 3.7.2 The single archaeological feature in the trench was a N–S aligned boundary/drainage ditch (2003) with a possible recut (2005). Each of the two ditches were filled by a single natural fill, a mid-brownish grey silty sand (2004) in ditch 2003 and a dark grey brown silty sand (2006) and in ditch 2005. Neither fill contained any finds.
- 3.7.3 The original ditch (2003) was 1.33m wide and 0.45m deep whereas the possible recut (2005) was 0.90m wide and 0.28m deep. The earlier of the two ditches cut colluvial layer (2001) at a height of 78.86m OD.
- 3.7.4 To the east of the ditch was a geological feature that was investigated only as far as was necessary to characterise it and confirm that it was natural in origin.

### 3.8 Trench 21 (Fig. 7; Plate 4)

- 3.8.1 The trench was located on a slight slope falling from 76.10m OD in the south-west to 72.39m OD in the north-east. The exposed natural comprised a reddish-brown silty sand with gravelly patches. This was directly overlain by the topsoil.
- 3.8.2 Archaeology was represented in this trench by two discrete pits (2102 and 2105), both located in the south-western half of the trench.
- 3.8.3 Pit 2102 was a large, irregular feature only partially exposed within trench and continuing beyond the north-west limit. It was cut from a height of 74.93m OD. It contained two fills. The lower (2103) was a compact deposit of stone with patches of possible mortar and may represent a placed deposit or possible foundation. These stones were overlaid by a deposit of grey brown silty gravel (2104). Neither of the deposits contained any finds.
- 3.8.4 The second pit (2105) was entirely within the trench limits and was cut from a height of 75.26m OD. An articulated animal skeleton of a sheep or goat (2106) was placed on the base of the pit and sealed by a yellowish brownish grey silty sand (2107) a deliberate backfill. The animal bones were very well preserved and believed to date from the 19th century and were not retained.
- 3.8.5 Both of the pits were cut from the natural horizon and were overlain by topsoil.

### 3.9 Trench 31 (Fig. 8; Plate 7)

- 3.9.1 Trench 31 was excavated down a slope from 83.73m OD at the southern end to 78.96m OD at the northern end. Natural geology in this trench was represented by reddish

brown silty clay with grey gravel and was overlain by a greyish brown silty sand colluvial layer (3101). This was overlain by topsoil.

- 3.9.2 A single NE-SW aligned boundary ditch was identified cutting across the trench and two interventions (3103 and 3105) were excavated along its 15.53m length. The maximum width of the ditch was recorded as 0.65m and the maximum depth was 0.14m. Each intervention contained a single natural fill of greyish brown silty sand and animal bone was recovered from fill 3104. The ditch cut the natural geology from a height of 81.66m OD.

### 3.10 Trench 42 (Fig. 9)

- 3.10.1 Trench 42 was located in the lower, northern slopes of the site and sloped from 65.54m OD at its southern end to 62.98m OD at its northern end. Natural geology in this trench was a reddish brown silty sand which was overlain by a colluvial layer (4202) of reddish greyish brown silty sand. Topsoil overlay the colluvium.

- 3.10.2 The only archaeological feature in this trench was a roughly NW–SE aligned ditch (4204), which was located at the southern end of the trench and cut the natural geology from a height of 64.35m OD. The ditch contained a single natural fill of light brown silty sand (4205). This feature contained no finds.

### 3.11 Trench 47 (Fig. 10)

- 3.11.1 Trench 47 was excavated on a nearly flat location with a height of 61.50m OD at the south end and 60.32m OD at the north end. The exposed natural geology comprised a reddish brown silty sand and mudstone overlain by a greyish brown silty sand colluvium (4702). The colluvium was overlain by a dark brownish grey subsoil (4701), which was, in turn, overlain by topsoil.

- 3.11.2 This trench contained a geological feature in its northern end which was only partly investigated sufficient to determine its character.

- 3.11.3 The only archaeological feature in the trench was a roughly E–W aligned linear ditch (4704) in the centre of the trench, which cut the natural from a height of 60.18m OD. It was 1.5m wide and 0.35m deep. The probable boundary ditch contained a single natural fill of reddish brown silty sand. No finds were retrieved from the feature.

### 3.12 Finds summary

- 3.12.1 Limited artefactual evidence was recovered during the evaluation. The largest assemblage of pottery is suspected to be of Neolithic date, comprising ten sherds from a single vessel recovered from a tree-throw hole in Trench 13 (Appendix B.1). Post-medieval pottery was recovered from a single ditch that extended through Trench 9 and Trench 15, although only a single sherd was recovered from it in each trench (Appendix B.2).

- 3.12.2 Along with the Neolithic pottery, a flint flake was recovered from the tree-throw hole in Trench 13. An irregular flint flake was also recovered from the topsoil in Trench 32. Neither flake is closely datable (Appendix B.3).



3.12.3 Other finds comprise a fragment of ceramic roof tile from the topsoil in Trench 12 (Appendix B.4) and eight animal bones, all of sheep and/or goat (Appendix C.1).

## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The geology of the site was easily identified and archaeological features, where present, were well defined. The weather was at times inclement; this affected the visibility of features but is not considered to have been a significant issue. Therefore, it can be surmised that the results can be considered reliable.

### 4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The aims and objects are outlined above in Section 2 of this report. Principally the aim of the evaluation was to identify and characterise any archaeological remains present, and to ground-truth the results of the geological survey.

4.2.2 The evaluation identified a small number of archaeological features across the site in the forms of sporadic pits and ditches. Most of the features did not produce any datable material. However, a single feature, tree-throw hole 1303, produced a small assemblage of probable Neolithic pottery along with a struck flint. The only other features to yield datable material was a ditch present in both Trench 9 and 15. A sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from it in each trench.

4.2.3 The recovery of Neolithic pottery from a tree-throw hole in Trench 13 is the most notable discovery. The utilisation of tree-throw holes for deposition of material culture in the Neolithic is not an uncommon occurrence. The recovery of a Neolithic stone axe in the vicinity of the site demonstrates activity in the area during this period but the absence of any other confirmed prehistoric activity within the site suggests the pottery recovered is an isolated find and not indicative of significant Neolithic activity within the proposed development area.

4.2.4 In addition to a known former field boundary, a single anomaly identified by the geophysical survey was considered to be of archaeological origin and was interpreted as a boundary or land management ditch. Trench 5 was positioned to investigate the anomaly, but no corresponding feature was identified. The field boundary is shown on the 1882–1883 Ordnance Survey map and corresponds with the ditch recorded in Trenches 9 and 15. All other archaeological features were not identified by the geological survey, suggesting the results of the survey are not entirely reliable. Consideration should be given to the depth of colluvial deposits and the impacts these may have had on the accuracy of the survey. However, both the results of the evaluation and the geophysical survey suggest there is limited archaeological potential within the proposed development area.

4.2.5 Given the topography of the site the accumulation of colluvial deposits is unsurprising. The majority of the archaeological features identified were sealed by the deposit. Unfortunately none of these features produced dateable material, except the tree-throw hole in Trench 13. Only undated or post-medieval activity was recorded cutting the colluvial deposit, which provides a *terminus ante quem* for their accumulation but does not provide an indication of date for the underlying features which could date from the medieval period or earlier.

- 4.2.6 All the archaeological features are indicative of land management and agricultural activity. The presence of sheep and/or goat bones, including the complete skeleton in Trench 21, suggests the land was used for grazing in the post-medieval period. As such, the stone deposit in Trench 21 (pit 2102) may be the base for a sheepfold or the deliberate dumping of material to create a solid surface.
- 4.2.7 This report will be distributed to all concerned parties to inform subsequent development designs or mitigation strategies. It will also form part of the archive to be deposited with Shropshire Museum Service. The report will be made available through both the Shropshire HER and Oxford Archaeology's Online Library (<https://library.thehumanjourney.net/>).

## APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Top of a hill and slope westwards. Topsoil overlying natural geology. A large recent tree-throw at the highest point (eastern part of the trench). An old colluvial layer (or glacial layer) at the western end (the lowest part)					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand with moderate amount of sandstone pebbles, overlies natural geology - at the lowest part (western end) it overlies old colluvium/glacial layer		
101	Layer				Natural. Brownish yellow sand and sandstone pebbles and gravel cobbles. Overlain by topsoil		
102	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. Old Colluvium. Western (the lowest) part of the trench. Under topsoil, overlies 101.		
103	Cut		1.50	0.70	Cut of tree throw. Irregular shape in plan, asymmetrical sides, undulating base.		
104	Fill		1.50	0.70	Fill of tree throw. Brown silty sand with rounded sandstone pebbles		
Trench 2							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Trench shortened as part of it was on a very steep hill. Topsoil overlying natural geology. No archaeology.					Length (m)	21	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand with occasional sandstone pebbles. Overlies natural geology		
201	Layer				Natural. Brownish red sand with frequent traces of bioturbation (burrows, tree-throws)		

Trench 3							
General description					Orientation	NNW-SSE	
Topsoil overlaying thin old colluvium and natural geology. No archaeology.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Dark brown silty sand with only occasional sandstone pebbles. Overlaying 301 in the southern part of the trench and 302 in the northern		
301	Layer			0.15	Colluvial Layer. Thin old colluvial subsoil. Light brown silty sand. Thicker in the southern part of the trench		
302	Layer				Natural. Brownish red slightly silty sand		
Trench 4							
General description					Orientation	NW-SE	
Topsoil overlaying natural geology. One feature sample excavated - a tree-throw. No archaeology.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand with occasional sandstone pebbles. Ploughsoil		
401	Layer				Natural. Reddish light brown sand with lenses of sandstone pebbles and cobbles gravel		
Trench 5							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Topsoil overlaying old colluvium, and natural geology of sand and gravel. A drainage ditch aligned NE-SW in the lowest part of the trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Ploughsoil overlaying 501 and 502		
501	Layer				Colluvial Layer. Light brown silty sand with occasional rounded sandstone pebbles -		

					old colluvium, overlain by topsoil and overlaying natural geology 502		
502	Layer				Natural. Brownish red sand with lenses of rounded sandstone pebbles and cobbles gravel		
503	Cut		0.55	0.13	Ditch. Linear NE-SW unknown date no finds likely associated with drainage as situated within lowest part within hills. Shallow steep sides and flat base. 1m slot excavated		
504	Fill	503	0.55	0.13	Secondary Fill. Single fill of ditch [503] mid browning grey silty clay with abundant small-med rounded pebbles. No finds		

**Trench 6**

General description					Orientation	E-W	
Topsoil overlaying natural geology					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
600	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Dark brown no silty sand -. ploughsoil. Overlies 601		
601	Layer				Natural. Light brown very silty sand, overlain by topsoil. Probably a glacial layer - I used to call it 'old colluvium". Only very occasional rounded sandstone pebbles		

**Trench 7**

General description					Orientation	E-W	
No archaeology. Various lenses of colluvial deposits -brown with frequent pebbles, olive silty sand, light brown silty sand. Natural geology exposed in the western end of the trench.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
700	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand, ploughsoil, overlaying 701, 702, and 703,		
701	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. In the central part of the trench -brown silty sand with rounded sandstone		

					pebbles, overlain by 700, overlaying 702		
702	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. Lenses of old colluvial and alluvial deposits - light brown silty and, brown silty sand with pebbles, olive sandy silt. Overlain by 700 and 701		
703	Layer				Natural. Brownish red silty sand and reddish sand - exposed only in the eastern and western ends of the trench (i.e. not in the central part. Overlain by 700 and 702		

**Trench 8**

General description					Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeology; topsoil (800) overlaying colluvium (801) on the SW end of a trench; Natural (802) in the central part; colluvium (801) overlaying old colluvium (803) on NE part of a trench; modern cut with a water pipe on NE part of a trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
801	Layer			0.45	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty sand with sandstone pebbles		
802	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand with lenses of sandstone and gravel on the top		
803	Layer				Colluvial Layer. Light- mid greyish- brown; silty sand; old colluvium - overlays (802), overlain by (801) on the NE end of a trench		

**Trench 9**

General description					Orientation	N-S	
Colluvial layers in the northern part of the trench - old and new - more than 1.0m BGL. Natural sand on the central part - 0.75m BGL. A post-medieval ditch in the southern part of the trench. A plastic live water pipe running across the trench. Three field drains NW-SE in southern part.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Ploughsoil Dark brown silty sand with moderate		

					amount of rounded sandstone pebbles. Overlies 901		
901	Layer			0.75	Colluvial Layer. Friable, brown slightly silty sand with moderate amount of mostly small sized l, rounded sandstone pebbles. Overlain by 900, overlies 902 and 903. Only 0.2m thick in the southern part of the trench, more than 0.75m in the northern part of the trench		
902	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. Old colluvium, excavated only to 0.3m depth, overlain by 901, overlies 903.; reddish brown silty sand.		
903	Layer				Natural. Light reddish brown sand. Overlain by 901 and 902 exposed only in the central and southern part of the trench		
904	Cut		0.88	0.13	Ditch. Cut of shallow linear ditch orientated NW-SE. Post-med pot found within fill. Runs parallel to three field drains further south		
905	Fill	904	0.88	0.13	Secondary Fill. Single fill of shallow ditch. Mid grey brown with occasional pebbles and infrequent charcoal. Post medieval China pot found within.	Pottery	Post-Med

**Trench 10**

General description					Orientation	W-E	
No archaeology; topsoil (1000) on the top of natural (1002); in W part of a trench topsoil overlaying colluvium (1001) that lies on the top of (1002)					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Dark brownish - grey, silty sand		
1001	Layer			0.35	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty clay with sandstone pebbles		
1002	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand with lenses of gravel and sandstone pebbles on the top		



Trench 11							
General description					Orientation	NEE-SWW	
Topsoil (1100) overlaying natural geology - a brownish red sand with patches of gravel and in the eastern part of the trench a thick lens of light olive, slightly clayey silt. No archaeology, no finds.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1100	Layer			0.5	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey silty sand.		
1101	Layer				Natural. Brownish red sand with patches of gravel and in the eastern part of the trench a thick lens of light olive, slightly clayey silt.		
Trench 12							
General description					Orientation	W-E	
No archaeology. Topsoil (1200) in the eastern-part of the trench natural olive light brown natural geology (1201) - slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional sandstone pebbles; (1201) overlaying natural (1202)- As observed in intervention for [1204] - linear geology running across the trench in the central and western part of the trench.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1200	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand	CBM	-
1201	Layer			0.9	Colluvial Layer. Light- mid greyish- brown, silty sand; old colluvium; fully explored in a machine intervention		
1202	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand with gravel		
1203	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. Light - mid brownish- grey, silty sand with sandstone pebbles; overlaying (1201) in W-part of a trench		
1204	Cut		3.6	0.8	Natural Feature. Cut of a natural feature, possibly linear (N-S)		
1205	Fill	1204	3.6	0.8	Primary Fill. Fill of a geological feature, overlain by (1203)- colluvium and topsoil (1200)		
Trench 13							
General description					Orientation	SW-NE	

Archeology represented by tree throw [1303] with pottery and flint in (1304) ; trench located SW-NE with topsoil (1300) overlaying colluvium (1301) with natural silty sand (1302) with lenses of gravel and sandstone pebbles on the top						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.7
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1300	Layer			0.38	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
1301	Layer			0.52	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty sand with sandstone		
1302	Layer				Natural. Mid yellowish- reddish brown, silty - sand with lenses of gravel and sandstone pebbles		
1303	Cut		2.15	0.34	Tree Throw. Cut of a tree-throw with 1 fill (1304) with concentration of sandstone in its central part and pottery and flint in it		
1304	Fill	1303	2.15	0.34	Primary Fill. Fill of [1303]; mid greyish- brown, silty sand with 20% of sandstone; finds: pottery + flint	Flint Pottery	Neolithic

**Trench 14**

General description						Orientation	N-S
No archaeology; topsoil (1400) overlaying natural (1401) on whole length of a trench						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1400	Layer			0.33	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
1401	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand		

**Trench 15**

General description						Orientation	E-W
One post-med - 19th century drainage ditch aligned NNE-SSW (probably the same feature as the ditch in Tr9. Topsoil overlaying natural geology in the western part of the trench. 1.0 m thick colluvium in the eastern end of the trench						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.8
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand with moderate amount of rounded sandstone pebbles.		

					Ploughsoil. Overlies 1501 and 1502		
1501	Layer			1	Colluvial Layer. Dark brown slightly silty sand with relatively frequent pieces of rounded sandstone pebbles. Overlain by 1500, overlies 1502. Very thick in the eastern part of the trench. Shallows up to the west - not present at the western end		
1502	Layer				Natural. Brownish red sand with a few meters wide light brown patch of sandy silt in the central part of the trench (an alluvial lens). Overlain by 1500 (western end of the trench) and 1501 (central and eastern part of the trench).		
1503	Cut		2.7	0.8	Ditch. Modern ditch orientated NW-SE. Moderately steep sided. Boxed at East side due to presence of field water pipe. [1504] is likely associated as a drainage system too. Possibly the same ditch as found in Tr.9. True depth is not fully excavated		
1504	Fill	1503	0.8	0.11	Secondary Fill. Deposit of olive green grey sandy clay situated on West side of ditch [1504] likely natural colluvium. Moderately soft. Mudstone inclusions. No finds.		
1505	Fill	1503	2	0.8	Secondary Fill. Natural deposit within ditch [ 1504] dark grey brown moderately soft sandy clay with frequent pebbles plus rare charcoal. CBM found, glazed tile and glass	Pottery	Modern

**Trench 16**

General description					Orientation	N-S	
Topsoil overlaying old colluvium. Natural geology not exposed					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	1	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

1600	Layer			0.4	Topsoil		
1601	Layer			0.6	Colluvial Layer. Excavated to 1m BGL		
<b>Trench 17</b>							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Blank trench; topsoil (1700) overlaying colluvium (1701) with natural (1702) on a depth of 1 m in central and S-part of a trench; in N-part of a trench colluvium (1901) throughout. Tree throw situated in West part.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.9	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1700	Layer		1.8	0.38	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying colluvium		
1701	Layer		1.8	0.52	Colluvial Layer. Mid reddish brown silty sand with frequent medium sized mudstone and sandstone		
1702	Layer		1.8		Natural. Not exposed due to 1m limit of trench depth		
<b>Trench 18</b>							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Topsoil overlaying natural geology. Patches of grey sandy material with charcoal - bioturbation					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1800	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Overlaying natural geology 1901		
1801	Layer				Natural. Light brownish yellow sand		
<b>Trench 19</b>							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench; topsoil (1900) overlaying colluvium (1901) with natural (1902) on a depth of 1 m in central and S-part of a trench; in N-part of a trench colluvium (1901) deeps down below 1 m					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	1	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1900	Layer			0.35	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
1901	Layer			0.65	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty sand with sandstone		

1902	Layer				Natural. Light- mid yellowish-brown, sandy silt		
<b>Trench 20</b>							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
There features sample excavated. Two were geological formations (recorded only by GPS survey plan). One linear - possible shallow ditch cutting colluvial subsoil with a recut. It had no finds and its anthropogenic provenance is questionable. A wide geological deep in the central part of the trench - more than 1.2m deep BGL.					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Layer			0.4	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand. Overlaying 2001 and 2002		
2001	Layer			0.8	Colluvial Layer. Colluvial subsoil. Non-existent at the eastern and western ends, but +0.8m thick in the central part of the trench - a geological deep. Overlain by 2000, overlaying 2002.		
2002	Layer				Natural. Light brownish yellow sand with occasional sandstone pebbles and cobbles. Exposed only at the western and eastern ends of the trench - where it was overlain by 2000. In the larger part of the trench is overlain by 2001.		
2003	Cut		1.33	0.45	Other Cut. Linear feature, aligned N-S, with 1 fill (2004), cut by [2005]- possible recut		
2004	Fill	2003		0.45	Other Fill. Mid greyish- brown, sand with gravel; Fill of [2003]		
2005	Cut		0.9	0.28	Other Cut. Cut of a linear feature, possible recut for [2003]		
2006	Fill	2005		0.28	Other Fill. Mid- dark brownish grey, silty sand with small sand stone; Fill of a linear feature		
<b>Trench 21</b>							
General description					Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench contains one pit and one animal burial					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	

						Avg. depth (m)	0.36	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
2100	Layer		1.8	0.36	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying natural			
2101	Layer		1.8		Natural. Slightly silty sand, mid reddish brown, small infrequent sub angular mudstone. Natural underlies topsoil.			
2102	Cut		3.46	0.38	Pit. Cut of potential pit located NW side of trench. Due to compaction of stones in lower fill (2103) and possible presence of a lime-mortar material, this could be a structure. Not excavated to the base and would have to be extended westwards to prove function. No finds.			
2103	Fill	2102	2.88	0.26	Lower fill of pit [2102]. Compact large stones in a silty sand matrix, with some clay and possible lime mortar. Foundation? Placed deposit?			
2104	Fill	2102	3.46	0.18	Upper fill of pit [2102]. Silty gravel. Overlies (2103).			
2105	Cut		0.90	0.20	Cut of pit containing articulated goat/sheep skeleton 2106.			
2106	SK	2105	0.76	0.15	Articulated goat/sheep skeleton.			
2107	Fill	2105	0.76	0.20	Soft, mid yellowish brownish grey silty sand with small sand stones. Backfill of animal burial pit.			
<b>Trench 22</b>								
General description						Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench						Length (m)	50	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
2200	Layer		1.8	0.35	Topsoil. Topsoil overlies natural at South end at the top			

					of the hill. Halfway down it overlies colluvium.		
2201	Layer		1.8	0.55	Colluvial Layer. Light- mid grey-brown silty sand. Only develops mid-way downslope of trench, the N part. Overlies natural		
2202	Layer		1.8		Natural. Natural only revealed in Southern half of trench dug to 1m BGL under colluvium in Northern half. Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with occasional pebbles plus mudstone and sandstone		

**Trench 23**

General description					Orientation	E-W
Blank trench excavated to 1m limit					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	1

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2300	Layer		1.8	0.36	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying mid brown colluvium		
2301	Layer		1.8	0.52	Colluvial Layer. Underlies topsoil and overlies lighter colluvium. Mid grey-brown silty sand with frequent medium sized sub-rounded stones plus mudstone and sandstone		
2302	Layer		1.8	0.2	Colluvial Layer. Light-mid grey-brown silty sand with frequent medium sized sub-rounded stones plus mudstone and sandstone		
2303	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with rare small pebbles		

**Trench 24**

General description					Orientation	N-S
Blank trench with topsoil (2400) overlaying colluvium (2401) in central and S-part of a trench; N-part with (2400) overlaying natural (2402) with lenses of gravel on the top					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	1

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
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2400	Layer			0.32	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
2401	Layer			0.8	Colluvial Layer. Light- mid greyish- brown, sandy silt with sand stone		
2402	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand with lenses of sandstone		

**Trench 25**

General description					Orientation	E-W	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.95	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2500	Layer		1.8	0.37	Ploughsoil. Very dark town silty sand. Overlying 2501 and 2502		
2501	Layer		1.8	0.5	Colluvial Layer. Brown silty sand with moderate amount of mostly rounded sandstone pebbles. Overlain by 2500. Only western part of the trench. Overlying 2503.		
2502	Layer		1.8	0.1	Natural. Brownish red sand, overlain by 2500 at the eastern end of the trench and by 2503 at the western and central part		
2503	Layer		1.8	0.2	Colluvial Layer. Old colluvium. Light brown very silty sand. Overlain by 2501 in the western part of the trench, by 2500 in the central part, non-existing at the eastern end.		

**Trench 26**

General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench; topsoil (2600) overlying natural (2601); in S-part of a trench lenses of gravel with stones on the top of (2601)					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2600	Layer			0.34	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		



2601	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand with sandstone; +0.2m		
2602	Void						
2603	Layer		1.8		Natural. Brownish red sand. Overlain by 2602. Exposed in the central and western part of the trench: 1.0-1.3m BGL.		

**Trench 27**

General description					Orientation	E-W	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2700	Layer			0.55	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand		
2701	Layer				Natural. Old Colluvium, Light brown very silty sand. (West end only)		
2702	Layer				Natural. Reddish brown silty sand and gravel.		

**Trench 28**

General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench with deep colluvium					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	1	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2800	Layer		1.8	0.2	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
2801	Layer		1.8	0.11	Subsoil. Grey, stony subsoil		
2802	Layer		1.8	0.7	Colluvial Layer. Mid grey brown silty sand with frequent medium sized round mudstone and sandstone, situated at northern part of trench having washed down hill. Not fully excavated due to 1m limit		
2803	Layer		1.8	0.7	Colluvial Layer. Dark- mid grey brown silty sand with frequent medium sized round mudstone and sandstone, situated at southern part of trench having		

					washed down hill. Not fully excavated due to 1m limit		
2804	Layer		1.8	0.7	Natural. Mid red brown slightly silty sand with patches of mid grey brown gravelly sand. Only visible in southern part of trench at a depth of 0.6m		
<b>Trench 29</b>							
General description					Orientation	NW-Se	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2900	Layer		1.8	0.25	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying gravelly colluvium		
2901	Layer		1.8	0.4	Colluvial Layer. Mid reddish brown gravelly sandy colluvium located only in the NW half of trench. Underlies the subsoil and overlies s light brown colluvium		
2902	Layer		1.8	0.5	Colluvial Layer. Light brown silty sand colluvium underlying gravelly colluvium. Material has occasional large mudstone and sandstone rocks. Overlies natural.		
2903	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand. Occasional mudstone and manganese		
<b>Trench 30</b>							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.9	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3000	Layer		1.8	0.23	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
3001	Layer		1.8	0.1	Subsoil. Subsoil underlies topsoil and overlies colluvium		
3002	Layer		1.8	0.24	Colluvial Layer. Mid grey brown silty sand with frequent		

					pebbles of mudstone and sandstone. Overlies a lighter colluvium		
3003	Layer		1.8	0.19	Colluvial Layer. Light-mid brown silty sand with larger rocks of mudstone and sandstone overlying natural		
3004	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand with gravelly patches		

**Trench 31**

General description		Orientation	N-S
Trench containing one ditch NE-SW. Two slots dug		Length (m)	50
		Width (m)	1.8
		Avg. depth (m)	0.6

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3100	Layer		1.8	0.21	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying colluvium		
3101	Layer		1.8	0.5	Colluvial Layer. Light-mid grey-brown silty sand. No colluvium in N end. Colluvium situated in South end underlies topsoil and overlies natural.		
3102	Layer		1.8	0.5	Natural. Natural not reached at S end. Patches of mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand but mostly gravel consisting of pebbles, large rocks plus sandstone and mudstone		
3103	Cut		0.65	0.13	Ditch. Cut of linear ditch orientated NE- SW. 1m slot. Unknown date or function. Very shallow.		
3104	Fill	3103	0.65	0.13	Secondary Fill. Single fill of ditch [3103] mid grey brown silty sand with very abundant pebbles and gravel plus mudstone and sandstone.	Animal Bone	-
3105	Cut		0.58	0.14	Ditch. Linear ditch NS-SW same as [3103]		
3106	Fill	3105			Secondary Fill. Single fill of ditch [3105] mid grey brown silty sand with very abundant pebbles and gravel plus mudstone and sandstone. No finds		

3107	Grp		0.6	15	Ditch group. Linear ditch NS-SW approximately 15m total length. Unknown date and function. One animal bone found.		
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**Trench 32**

General description					Orientation	W-E	
Blank trench; topsoil (3200) overlaying colluvium (3201) and old colluvium (3202) on E and mid part of a trench; W- part with (3200) overlaying natural (3203)					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3200	Layer			0.33	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand	Flint	Pre-his
3201	Layer			0.4	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty sand with sandstone		
3202	Layer				Colluvial Layer. Light yellowish-greenish-grey, sandy silt; +0.15 depth. Old Colluvium.		
3203	Layer				Natural. Brownish- red sand overlain by 3202, exposed in the central and W- part of a trench: 1.0-1.3m BGL		

**Trench 33**

General description					Orientation	E-W	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3300	Layer		1.8	0.25	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying colluvium		
3301	Layer		1.8	0.25	Colluvial Layer. Light brown sandy clay colluvium overlying natural		
3302	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand with large patches of gravel consisting of pebbles, large rocks plus sandstone and mudstone		

**Trench 34**

General description					Orientation	N-S
					Length (m)	50

Blank trench; N- part with topsoil (3400) overlaying colluvium (3401) and old colluvium (3402); S- part of a trench with (3400) overlaying natural (3403)					Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5		
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
3400	Layer			0.33	Topsoil. Dark brownish- grey, silty sand			
3401	Layer			0.5	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown, silty sand with sandstone;			
3402	Layer			0.1	Colluvial Layer. Old colluvium, light green- yellow, sandy silt			
3403	Layer			0.05	Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand; lenses of gravel and sandstone in the top part			

**Trench 35**

General description					Orientation	W-E		
Blank trench; colluvium reaches depth of over 1m on the E- part of a trench; on W-part natural present at the depth of 0.6m; no subsoil					Length (m)	50		
					Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7		
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
3500	Layer			0.32	Topsoil. Mid- dark greyish- brown, silty sand with small and medium sand stones			
3501	Layer			0.68	Colluvial Layer. Mid brown silty sand with small and medium sand stone			
3502	Layer				Natural. Light- mid reddish, silty sand			

**Trench 36**

General description					Orientation	NE-SW		
Blank trench					Length (m)	50		
					Width (m)	1.8		
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3		
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
3600	Layer		1.8	0.3	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying natural			
3601	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown silty sand with patches of mid grey-brown sandy gravel, frequent mudstone and sandstone			

Trench 37							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3700	Layer		1.8	0.36	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying natural		
3701	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand with occasional small-medium mudstone and infrequent manganese		
Trench 38							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3800	Layer		1.8	0.14	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
3801	Layer		1.8	0.17	Subsoil. North part of trench subsoil is underlying topsoil and overlies natural. In South part of trench subsoil overlies colluvium		
3802	Layer		1.8	0.36	Colluvial Layer. South part of trench which is on a gradient contains mid grey-brown sandy gravel colluvial material underlying the subsoil. Overlies natural		
3803	Layer		1.8		Natural. North part of trench is shallow at 0.3 depth, the natural is mid reddish-brown silty sand with occasional mudstone and sandstone. As trench slopes down towards the South, natural depth becomes deeper to 0.8 as it underlies colluvium. Becomes more gravelly sand than silty sand, changes to mid grey-brown		

Trench 39							
General description					Orientation	W-E	
Blank trench; topsoil overlaying subsoil, that grows up to 0.28 m in E- part of a trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3900	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Mid- dark brownish-grey, silty sand with small sandstones		
3901	Layer			0.28	Subsoil. Light- mid brownish-grey, silty sand with small sandstone; depth from 0.09-0.28m		
3902	Layer				Natural. Mid reddish- brown, silty sand		
Trench 40							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	1	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4000	Layer		1.8	0.19	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4001	Layer		1.8	0.13	Subsoil. Subsoil underlying topsoil. Overlies colluvium		
4002	Layer		1.8	0.31	Colluvial Layer. Mid reddish-brown silty sand deposit of colluvium underlying subsoil. Overlies a lighter, sandier colluvium. Infrequent pebble inclusions and mudstone		
4003	Layer		1.8	0.25	Colluvial Layer. Light brown slightly silty sandy colluvial layer which overlies the natural		
4004	Layer		1.8		Natural. Light reddish-brown silty sand, occasional medium sized sub angular mudstone and sandstone inclusions, infrequent manganese		
Trench 41							
General description					Orientation	W-E	

Blank trench						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4100	Layer			0.3	Topsoil. Mid brownish- grey, silty sand with small stones		
4101	Layer			0.12	Subsoil. Light- mid brown, silty sand with small stones		
4102	Layer			0.28	Colluvial Layer. Light brown, silty sand		
4103	Layer				Natural. Light reddish- brown, silty sand with mud stone		
<b>Trench 42</b>							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench containing one possible ditch at South end						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4200	Layer		1.8	0.19	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4201	Layer		1.8	0.13	Subsoil. Subsoil overlain by topsoil overlying colluvium		
4202	Layer		1.8	0.35	Colluvial Layer. Light reddish- greyish-brown silty sand with occasional rounded stones. Deposit is present throughout trench, thickest in Southern half		
4203	Layer		1.8		Natural. Light-mid reddish- brown silty sand natural, becomes gravellier towards north end. Occasional mudstone inclusions		
4204	Cut		1.2	0.28	Ditch. Linear ditch NW-SE		
4205	Fill	4204	1.2	0.28	Secondary Fill. Single fill of ditch, no finds		
<b>Trench 43</b>							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench containing one possible ditch at East end orientated N-S						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6



Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4300	Layer		1.8	0.16	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4301	Layer		1.8	0.18	Subsoil. Subsoil underlies topsoil and overlies colluvium		
4302	Layer		1.8	0.45	Colluvial Layer. Colluvial material appears in patches throughout trench and becomes deeper downhill Eastwards		
4303	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown with patches of grey-brown silty sand natural. Occasional medium sized sub angular sandstone and mudstone. Becomes deeper towards East beneath larger amounts of colluvium		
4304	Cut		2.84	0.86	Geological feature. Excavated due to linear appearance in plan.		
4305	Fill	4304	1.7	0.72	Fill of a geological feature.		
4306	Fill	4304	1.2	0.7	Fill of geological feature.		

**Trench 44**

General description		Orientation	N-S
Blank trench		Length (m)	50
		Width (m)	1.8
		Avg. depth (m)	0.8

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4400	Layer		1.8	0.18	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4401	Layer		1.8	0.17	Subsoil. Subsoil underlies topsoil and overlies colluvium but not at southernmost part of trench where it just overlies natural		
4402	Layer		1.8	0.55	Colluvial Layer. Colluvial layer appears approximately two meters from the south end of trench. Material is light grey-brown gravelly sand with frequent pebbles of mudstone and sandstone. Becomes deeper towards the north of the trench which is on a		

					downwards gradient. Overlies natural although trench has only been dug to 1m limit		
4403	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand with occasional mudstone and sandstone. Some more gravelly patches. Appears at South end of trench at depth of 0.5 but as colluvium becomes deeper the trench limit stops at 1m and does not reveal natural layer		
<b>Trench 45</b>							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Blank trench						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.85
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4500	Layer		1.8	0.16	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4501	Layer		1.8	0.12	Subsoil. Subsoil underlies topsoil and overlies colluvium		
4502	Layer		1.8	0.73	Colluvial Layer. Underlies subsoil and overlies natural. Mid greyish-brown silty sand, occasional medium sized rounded mudstone and sandstone		
4503	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown slightly silty sand, underlies colluvium. Appears in the middle and north part of the trench at 0.85m deep in patches. Not present at South end at 1m limit.		
<b>Trench 46</b>							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Blank trench						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4600	Layer		1.8	0.2	Topsoil. Topsoil overlaying subsoil		

4601	Layer		1.8	0.11	Subsoil. Subsoil overlain by topsoil overlying colluvium		
4602	Layer		1.8	0.27	Colluvial Layer. Light reddish-brown silty sand deposit present throughout trench		
4603	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid-light reddish brown silty sand with more gravelly patches of natural overlain by colluvium		

**Trench 47**

General description					Orientation	N-S	
Possible ditch in the S-part of a trench; geological feature in the N-part of a trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.8	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4700	Layer		1.8	0.16	Topsoil. Topsoil overlying subsoil		
4701	Layer		1.8	0.1	Subsoil. Subsoil dark brownish grey, silty sand. Overlain by topsoil, overlying colluvium		
4702	Layer		1.8	0.22	Colluvial Layer. Mid greyish-brown silty sand with occasional mudstone, deposit of colluvium throughout trench, underlying subsoil and overlying natural		
4703	Layer		1.8		Natural. Mid reddish-brown silty sand with sub-angular mudstone inclusions		
4704	Cut		1.5	0.35	Ditch. Linear feature located at southern half of trench, orientated E-W		
4705	Fill	4704	1.5	0.35	Secondary Fill. Fill of ditch		
4706	Layer		5.4	0.4	Colluvial Layer. Geological feature situated at northern end of trench		

**Trench 48**

General description					Orientation	NNE-SSW	
Blank trench					Length (m)	50	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

4800	Layer			0.19	Topsoil. Mid brownish- grey, silty sand with small stones		
4801	Layer			0.12	Subsoil. mid-dark brownish grey, silty sand; rare charcoal inclusions		
4802	Layer			0.21	Colluvial Layer. Light- mid reddish- brown silty sand; gravel inclusions		
4803	Layer				Natural. Light- mid reddish - brown; sandy silt with mud stone		

**Trench 49**

General description						Orientation	NNW-SSE
Northern part of Tr2. As the central part could not be excavated because of very steep sloped of the hill (45 degrees or even more). And thus Tr2 was divided into Tr2 and Tr49. Topsoil overlaying thick colluvium. No archaeology						Length (m)	20
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	1
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
4900	Layer			0.4	Topsoil. Very dark brown silty sand with occasional sandstone pebbles. Overlaying a colluvial layer		
4901	Layer			1	Colluvial Layer. More than 1.0m deep colluvium (base not reached). Brown silty see and with moderate amount of sandstone pebbles and cobbles. Overlain by topsoil.		

## APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Prehistoric pottery

*By Alex Davies*

B.1.1 A single context produced prehistoric pottery (1304). This comprised 10 sherds weighing 16g, all probably from the same vessel. All were body sherds and none were decorated. The pottery was in a sandy fabric and had common coarse quartz inclusions. Assigning a date to the sherds is difficult due to a lack of diagnostic material, although a Neolithic date is probable.

### B.2 Post-medieval pottery

*By John Cotter*

Context	Description	Date
905	Single sherd from dish/plate in Pearl ware with blue feathered rim (PEAR PNTD). 5g	c 1780–1840
1505	Single base sherd from large pot in black glazed pink buff ware (Midlands black ware) (BLACK). 56g	Late 17th–early 19th century

### B.3 Flint

*By Geraldine Crann*

Context	Description	Date
1304	Irregular, thick debitage flake, possible retouch/usewear on right dorsal lateral margin, more recent damage to same area. 13g	Prehistoric
3200	Small irregular flake, modern damage to all edges, possibly soft-hammer struck. 3g	Prehistoric

B.3.1 The small size of the flint assemblage limits interpretation of the material beyond attesting to a human presence during the prehistoric period. The flints should be retained and should be fully integrated into any future analysis arising from further archaeological investigation on the site.

## B.4 Ceramic building material

*By Cynthia Poole*

### *Introduction*

- B.4.1 A single fragment of ceramic building material (334g) was recovered from the topsoil (1200) of Trench 12. This was a corner fragment of flat roof tile, fairly heavily abraded and made in an orange-red sandy clay containing coarse silty clay pellets up to 10mm and greyish brown stone grits 1–3mm. It measures 17mm thick and has a fairly rough finish. It is probably a fragment of nib tile rather than peg tile in this region. It cannot be precisely dated as this form of roof tile changed little since its introduction c 1200. The general finish suggests a late medieval or early post-medieval date is most likely (c 15th–17th century).

## APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Animal bone

*By Lee G. Broderick*

#### **Introduction**

- B.2.1 A total of eight animal bone specimens were recovered from the site (Table 1) all of which were collected by hand. No datable finds were recovered from the single context which included animal bone (2107).
- B.2.2 The material was recorded in full, with the aid of the Oxford Archaeology skeletal reference collection and standard identification guides, using a diagnostic zone system (Serjeantson 1996).

#### **Description**

- B.2.3 Preservation on the site was good (Behrensmeyer 1978 weathering stage 2), suggesting that the material may be modern. Specimens consisted of several caprine specimens (sheep [*Ovis aries*] and/or goat [*Capra hircus*]), a sheep mandible and three medium mammal vertebrae. The caprine longbones (1st phalanx, femur and metatarsal) all have unfused epiphyses, indicating a juvenile individual (under thirteen months in the case of the 1st phalanx, the earliest fusing element; Silver 1969) and analysis of the tooth wear and eruption in the sheep mandible indicates an individual between three months and a year of age at death. No taphonomic or pathological indicators are present on the bones (Table 2).

#### **Conclusions**

- B.2.4 Little can be read into such a small assemblage, particularly since it has not been possible to date it.

#### **Recommendations regarding the conservation, discard and retention of material**

- B.2.5 The assemblage should not be considered for retention.

**Table 1: Total NISP (Number of Identified SPecimens) and NSP (Number of SPecimens) figures per period from hand-collected material from the site.**

	Undated
Caprine	4
Sheep	1
Medium mammal	3
<b>Total NISP</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total NSP</b>	<b>8</b>

**Table 2: Non-species data recorded from the specimens (NSP) in the assemblage.**

	<b>Butchery marks</b>	<b>Pathologies</b>	<b>Gnawed</b>	<b>Burnt</b>	<b>Ageing data</b>	<b>Biometric data</b>	<b>Sex</b>
Caprine					3		
Sheep					1		
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	4	0	0



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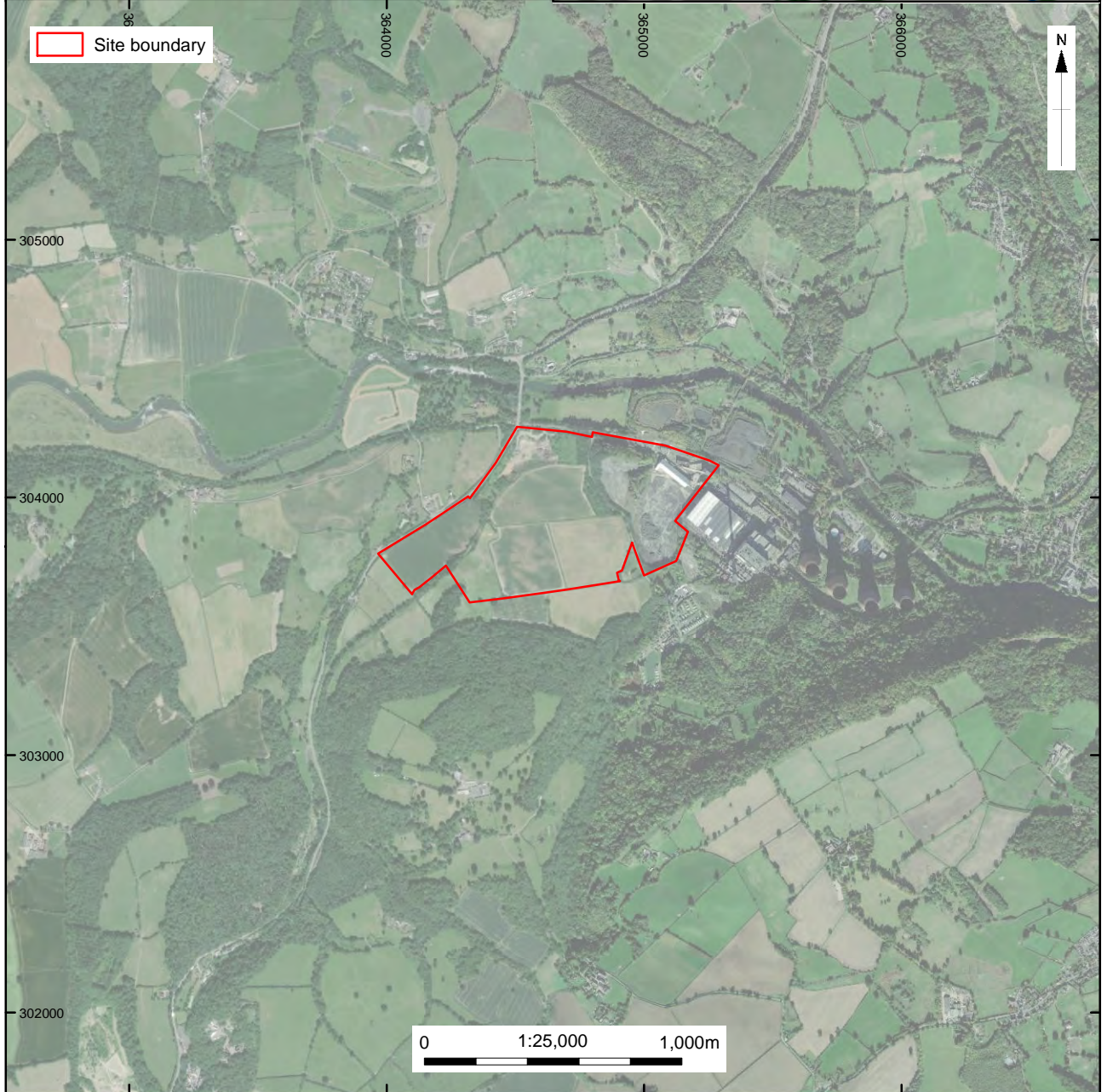
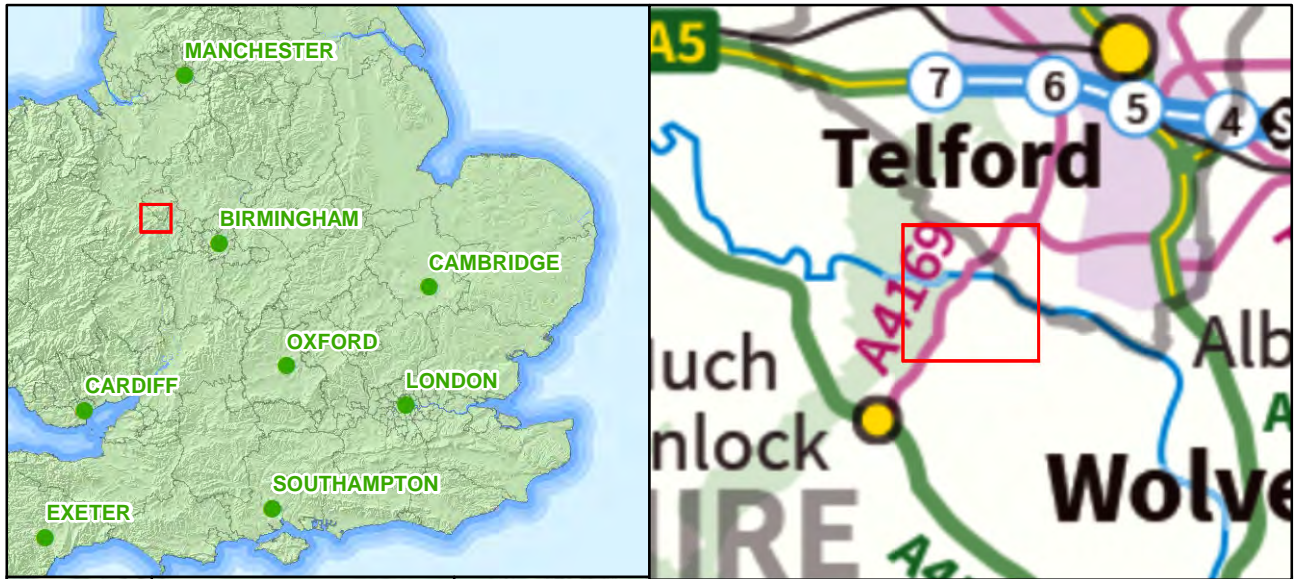
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**APPENDIX D****SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>Site name:</b>	Archaeological Evaluation Report
<b>Site code:</b>	BUIPS19
<b>Grid Reference</b>	BUIPSEV
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date and duration:</b>	06/11/2019 to 29/11/2019
<b>Area of Site</b>	49.8ha
<b>Location of archive:</b>	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Shropshire Museum Services in due course.
<b>Summary of Results:</b>	In November 2019 Oxford Archaeology excavated 49 trial trenches at the site of proposed mineral extraction on land west of Ironbridge power station. The trenches were positioned to ground-truth the results of a geophysical survey. The majority of the trenches were devoid of archaeological remains but a sporadic distribution of undated ditches, not picked up by the geophysical survey, was identified in several trenches (5, 9, 15, 20, 31, 42 and 47), as well as two pits in Trench 21, one of which contained an animal skeleton. A tree-throw hole in Trench 13 contained Neolithic pottery and flint, while a ditch that extended through Trenches 9 and 15 contained post-medieval pottery.



X:\Ironbridge Power Station\010\Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\Ironbridge\_Figure1.mxd\conan.parsons\09/12/2019

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Figure 1: Site location

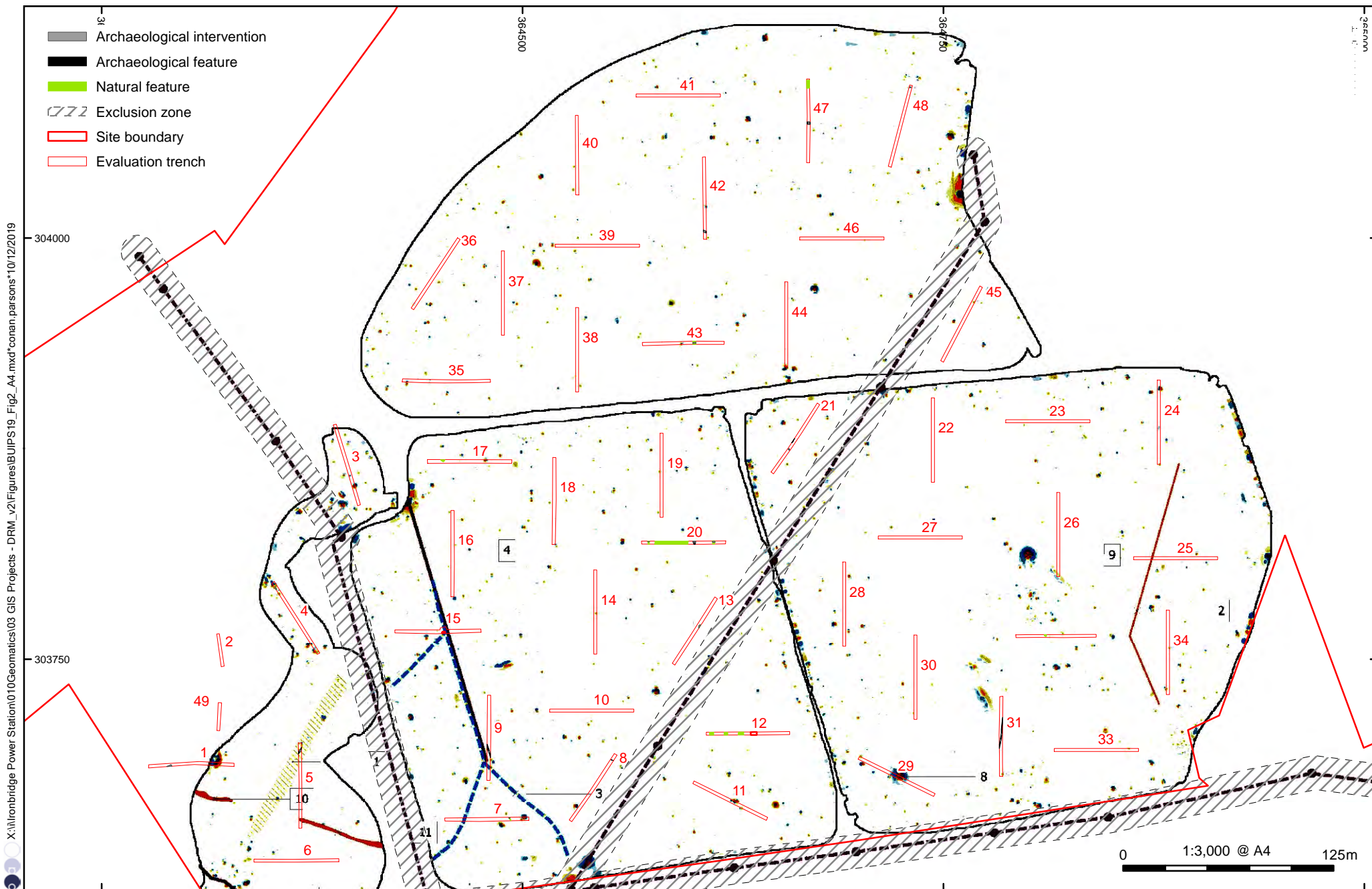


Figure 2: Trench location plan

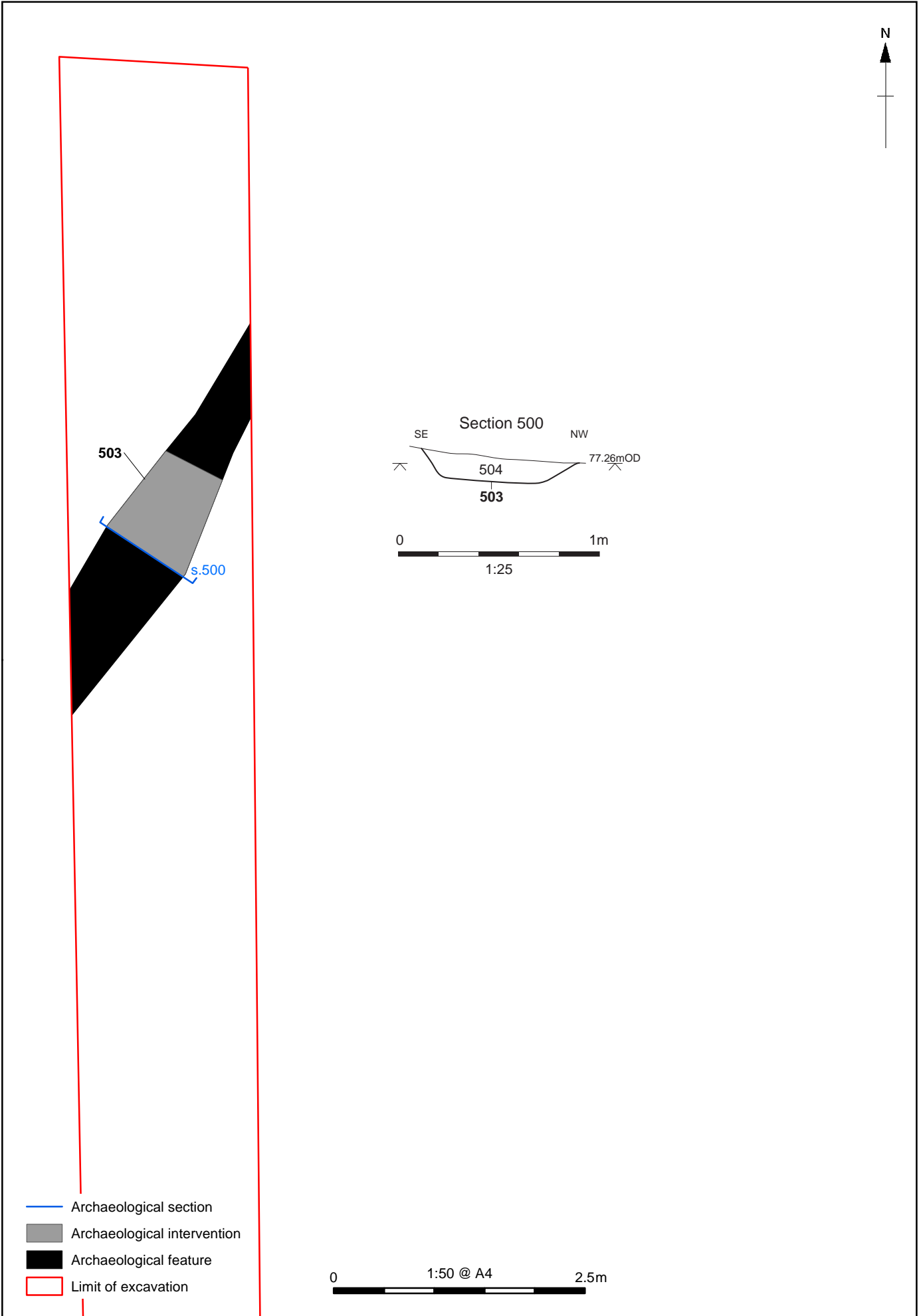
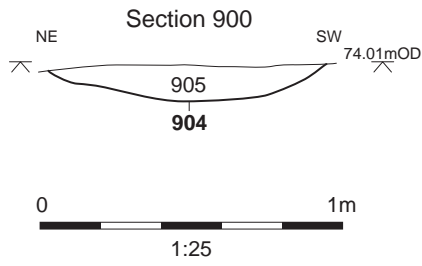
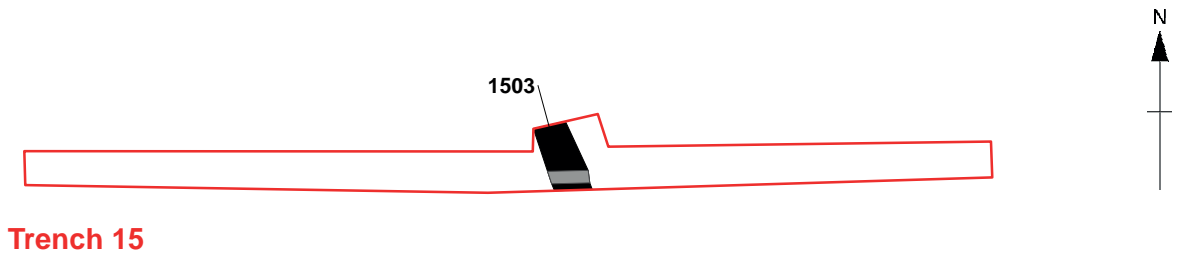
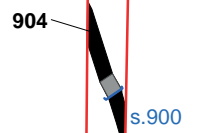


Figure 3: Trench 5



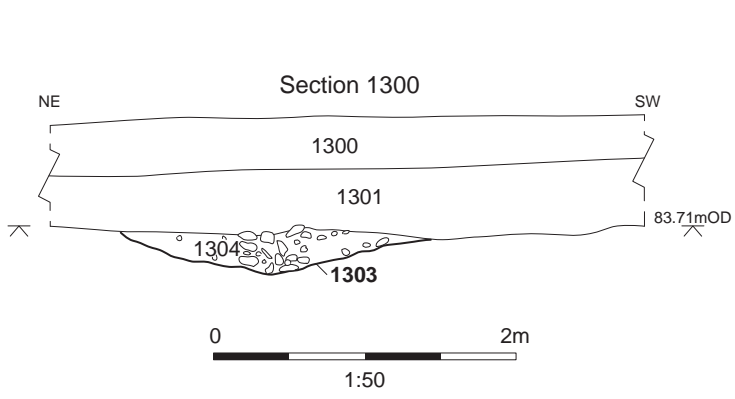
**Trench 9**



- Archaeological section
- Archaeological intervention
- Archaeological feature
- Limit of excavation



Figure 4: Trenches 9 and 15



Pit 1303

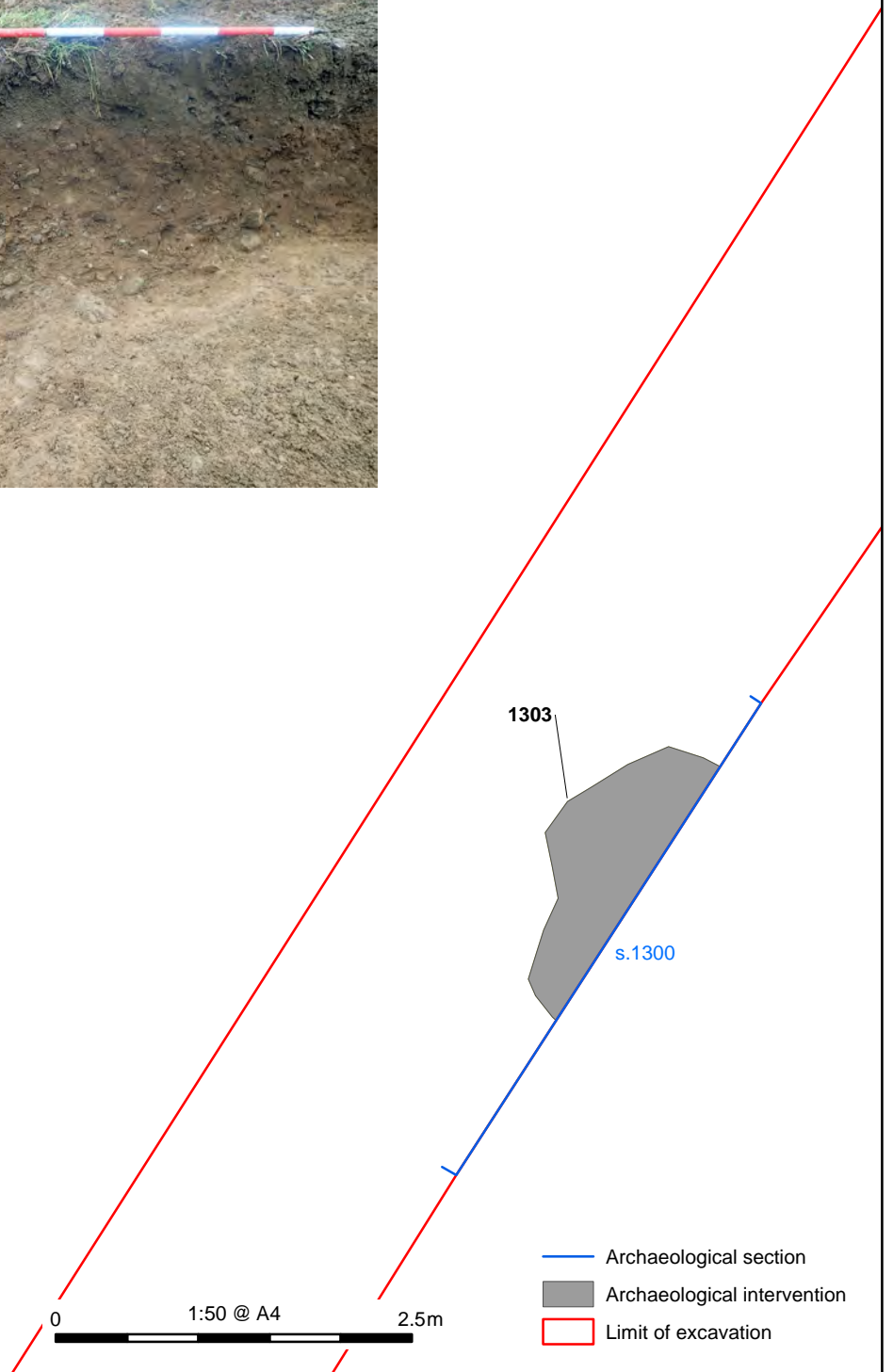
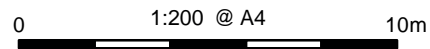
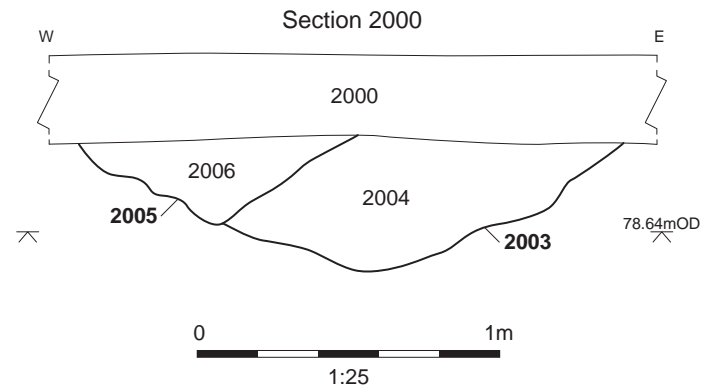


Figure 5: Trench 13



Ditch 2003 and recut 2005



- Archaeological section
- Archaeological intervention
- Archaeological feature
- Natural feature
- Limit of excavation

Figure 6: Trench 20



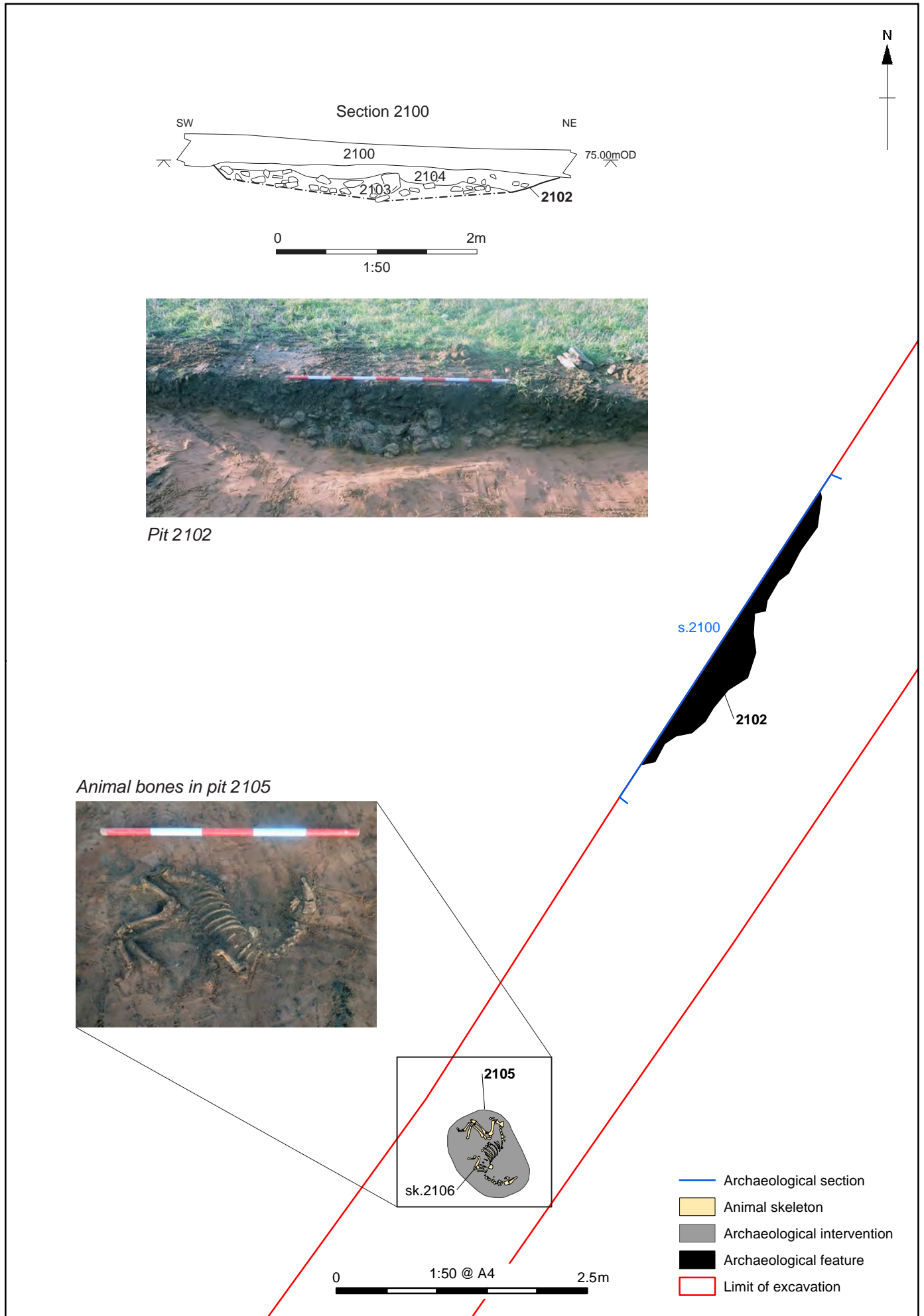
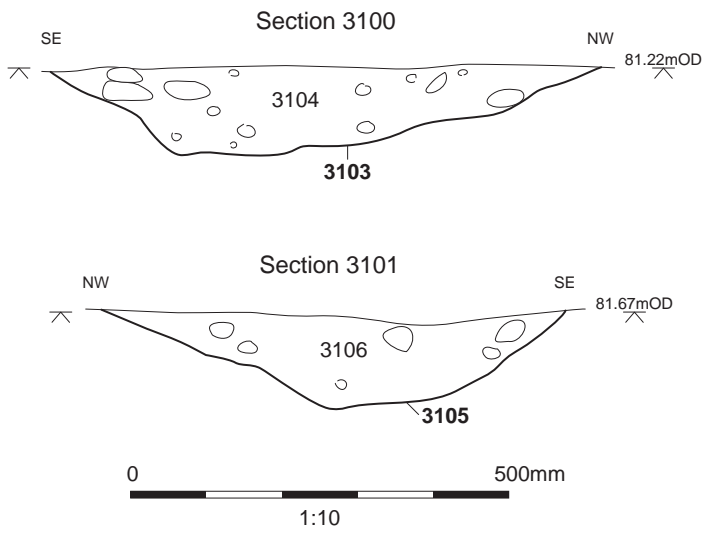


Figure 7: Trench 21



Ditch 3105

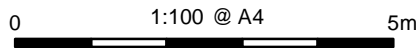
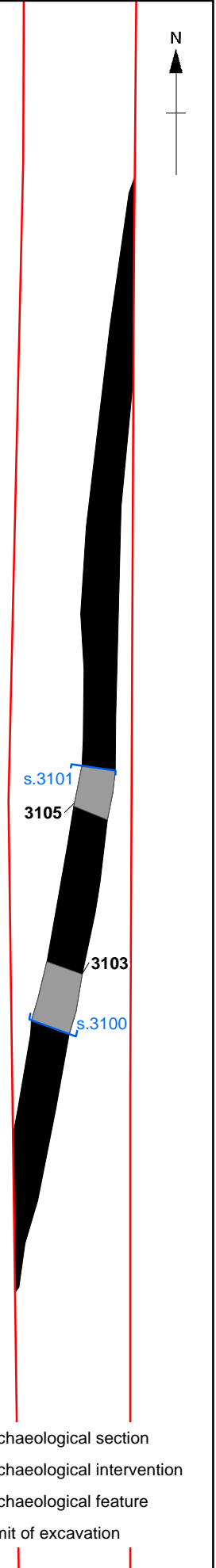
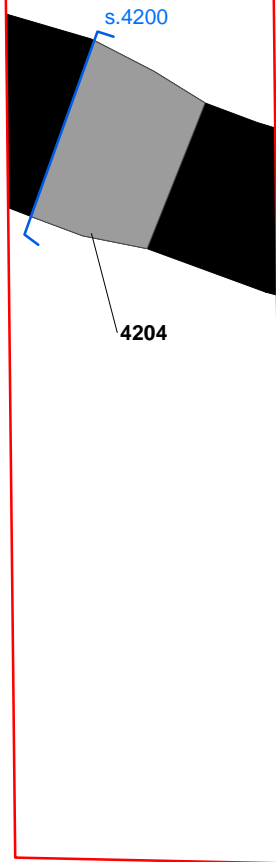
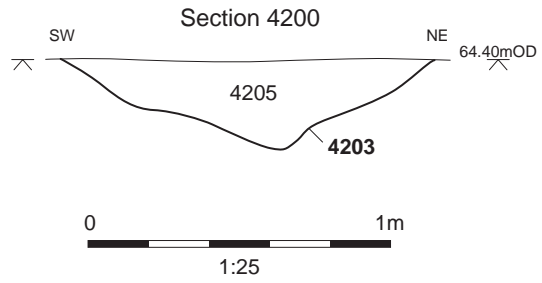






Figure 8: Trench 31



Ditch 4204

-  Archaeological section
-  Archaeological intervention
-  Archaeological feature
-  Limit of excavation

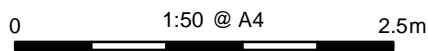


Figure 9: Trench 42

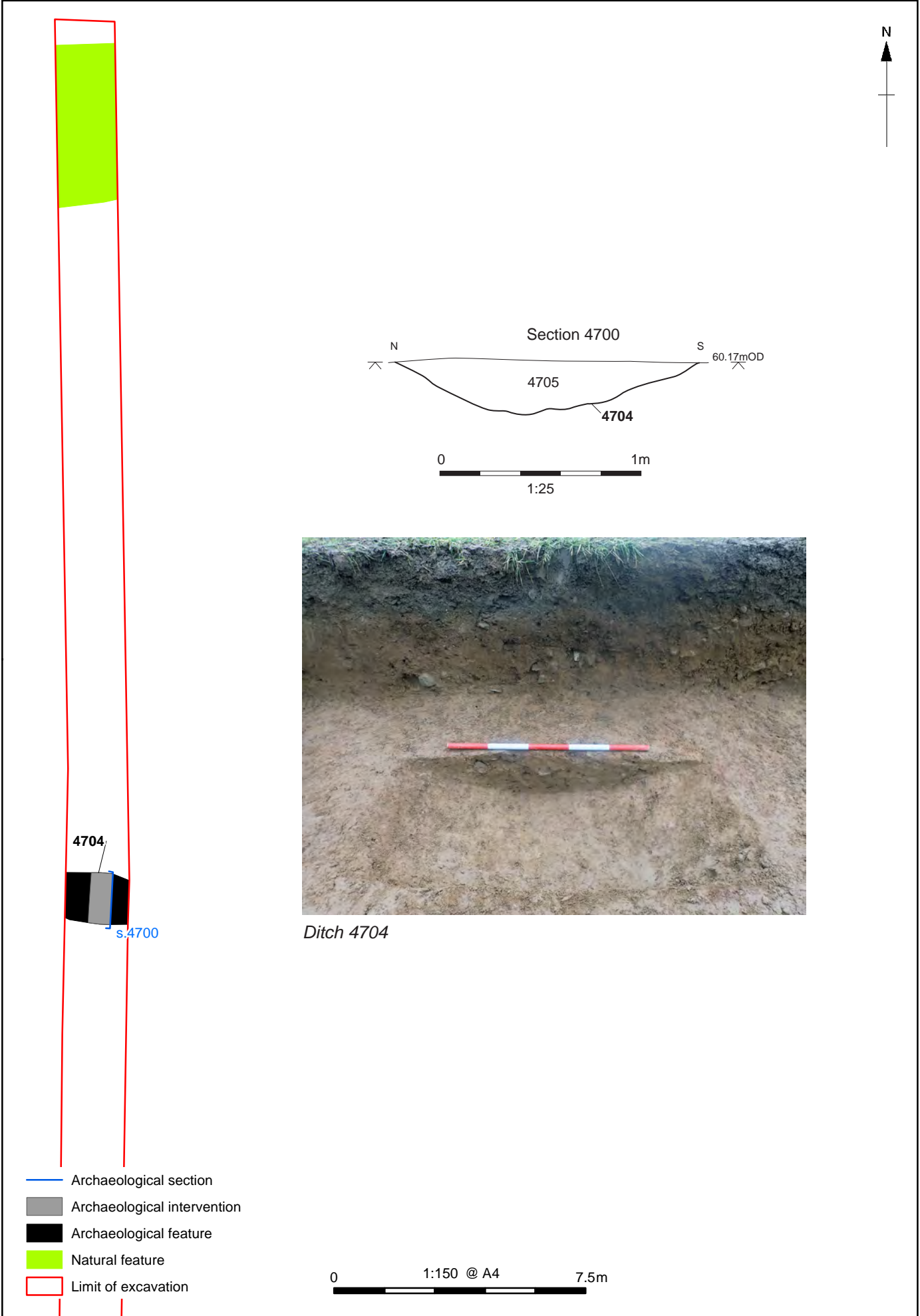


Figure 10: Trench 47



Plate 1: Trench 4 looking south-east



Plate 2: Trench 11 looking north-west



Plate 3: Trench 17 looking east



Plate 4: Trench 21 looking south-west



Plate 5: Trench 25 looking east



Plate 6: Trench 30 looking north



Plate 7: Trench 31 looking south



Plate 8: Trench 39 looking west



Plate 9: Trench 41 looking east



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