Luton Hoo
Hyde
Bedfordshire
Stage III - Trenched Evaluation

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Oxford Archaeology

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Luton Hoo, Hyde, Bedfordshire

STAGE III - TRENCHED EVALUATION

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SUMMARY

In June and July 2003, Oxford Archaeology carried out a trenched evaluation (Stage III) of the proposed development site on behalf of Elite Hotels and Luton Hoo Park Ltd. This work followed a programme offieldwalking (Stage I) and geophysical survey (Stage II). Eighty-two trenches were distributed across areas to be impacted by a proposed golf course development. Three aspects of archaeological interest were observed. A small group of truncated and undated linear features and pits was exposed towards the western part of the Study Area. Remnants of brickearth, a 'primary' deposit potentially yielding Palaeolithic material, were encountered in the central and northern parts of the site. Large quarry pits were dug across the area, probably before the mid 18th century, in order to extract brickearth and clay.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 In June and July 2003 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological trenched evaluation (Stage III) in advance of a proposed golf course development at Luton Hoo, Hyde, Bedfordshire. The site (here referred to as the Study Area) has been subject to two earlier stages of fieldwork: a programme of fieldwalking (Stage I) and a geophysical survey (Stage II).

1.1.2 The archaeological works have been commissioned by Elite Hotels and Luton Hoo Park Limited and conform to a formal Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by Bedfordshire County Council (BCC) in response to a Design Brief (BCC, 2002). The results provide a basis from which an informed decision can be made regarding the need for further archaeological works.

1.2 Location, geology and topography

1.2.1 Luton Hoo, centred at TL 1046 1847, is situated in the Chilterns on the west bank of the River Lea and immediately south of the town of Luton in southern Bedfordshire (Fig. 1). The site is bounded by the River Lea to the east, where the land rises westwards from a height of 100 m OD to a plateau at 150 m OD, before falling away again to the west.

1.2.2 The solid geology of the site is Upper Chalk and Middle Chalk; the drift which occupies the plateau is Clay-with-Flints and Brickearth deposits. Alluvial deposits exist in a series of dry river valleys to the north-east and south-west, and in the river valley to the east.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 Archaeological and historical information concerning the study area before the 17th century, when the area was transformed into parkland, was very limited prior to the commencement of the field evaluation. The Stage I fieldwalking (OA 2003) revealed a high density prehistoric flint scatter, indicative of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age activity in the Study Area. Medieval, post-medieval and modern material were also recovered. The geophysical

survey (Stage II) produced a number of anomalies indicative of earth-filled features, some of these as yet unidentified, and modern rubble-filled tracks and features.

1.3.2 Further landscaping was carried out from the mid 18th century onwards, including by Capability Brown. The site became a military centre during World War II; subsequently the land was dedicated to cultivation, parkland and woodland.

1.4 Evaluation Aims

1.4.1 To determine the location, extent, date, character and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the Study Area.

1.4.2 To define and characterise areas of archaeological sensitivity and to confirm the absence of features where no positive results were obtained from previous investigations.

1.4.3 To make available the results of the investigation.

2 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

2.1 Fieldwork methods and recording

2.1.1 A series of trenches were excavated across the Study Area (Fig. 2). Their locations were informed largely by the results of Stages I and II and agreed with the County Archaeological Officer (CAO) prior to implementation of Stage III. A small number of trenches could not be marked out as planned due to obstacles in the field, and were relocated consequently. Additional trenches (trenches 81 and 82) were excavated in order to further define an area of archaeological features.

2.1.2 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Excavation proceeded to the natural geology or the top of the first archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. The trenches were cleaned using hand tools. Archaeological features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds. Recording methods followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (Wilkinson 1992). All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. Trench plans were drawn at a scale of 1:100. Sections of excavated deposits were drawn at a scale of 1:20. A photographic record comprising colour slide and black and white print film was maintained.

2.1.3 The work was undertaken during June and July 2003 by a team from Oxford Archaeology comprising a Project Officer and two technicians under the direction of Project Manager Martin Wilson. The project was under the overall direction of Nick Shepherd (Head of Fieldwork).

2.2 Finds and palaeo-environmental evidence

2.2.1 A note was made of the location of 19th/20th century material encountered during the investigation, although none was collected. Earlier dated finds were not present. There was no material suitable for palaeo-environmental evidence.

2.3 Presentation of results

2.3.1 In the following sections the results of the fieldwork are described, followed by a discussion regarding interpretation and conclusions of the results of the evaluation then follows. A context inventory is presented as Appendix 1.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Detailed description

3.1.1 Features of archaeological potential were uncovered in trenches 3, 5, 14, 18, 27, 39, 48, 50, 52, 69, and 75 (Fig. 3). Most of these features were found to be severely truncated upon excavation.

3.1.2 Large pits were seen in trenches 5, 14, 18, 39, 50, 52 and 69. All were presumably dug for the purpose of quarrying the natural clay into which the pits were cut. Pit 504, in Trench 5, measured some 10 m in diameter and over 1 m deep (Fig. 4); the top of the feature had been truncated by ploughing. The pit had been backfilled with a mixture of topsoil and redeposited clay. Pit 1403 in Trench 14 was also very large (Fig. 7; Plate 1). Its width extended beyond that of the trench (2 m); excavation ceased after a depth of 1.66 m, but the pit was deeper still. It had been backfilled with a succession of silty clay deposits, which also contained large flint nodules. Another pit was exposed in Trench 18 (1801; Fig. 5; Plate 1). The same feature was also shown in trenches 50 (5001) and 52 (5201), which extended off Trench 18 at 90°. These revealed the full extent of the pit (*c* 30 x 40 m). In Trench 39, Pit 3901 was wider than the 8.8 m exposed (Fig. 6; Plate 2). Excavation continued to a depth of 2.2 m. The feature contained silty clay soil with flint and gravel. The pit in Trench 69 (Plate 2) similarly extended beyond the area of the trench. Modern ceramics, glass and building rubble had been dumped into it.

3.1.3 Linear features were seen in trenches 14, 27 and 75. Two shallow ditches or gullies were uncovered in Trench 14 (Fig. 7). Curvilinear ditch 1410 was 0.97 m wide and up to 0.37 m deep. It contained two fills. Ditch 1414, 0.73 m wide, was shallower at 0.25 m deep. A third feature, pit or tree throw 1412, was 0.34 m deep, and may have been up to 1 m wide. Its relationship with 1410 was unclear, but may have represented later disturbance. None contained finds. Three linear features, all cut into the natural clay were uncovered in Trench 27 (Fig. 6). Feature 2701 contained four silty fills, but, with a total depth of 0.2 m, had probably been severely truncated. The remaining linear features (2706 and 2708) were shallower than 2701, possibly resulting from a greater level of truncation. Given their shared width and alignment, all three may be related in

functional terms. The features may be the remnants of agricultural furrows. Trench 75 (Fig. 5) contained a truncated ditch terminus (7501). It contained a charcoal-rich deposit, which was probably part of the backfill, rather than created *in situ.*

3.1.4 A pit (303) was seen in Trench 3 (Fig. 4). The feature, cut into the natural clay, was more than 4.8 m wide and 0.56 m deep. No finds were recovered from its silty clay fill. Another three pits were uncovered in Trench 48 (Fig. 7). These had been severely truncated by the plough activity, so that only the bases remained. Pit 4803 survived to a maximum diameter of 0.25 m and a depth of just 0.09 m. The depth of pit 4805 was equally shallow, but was wider at 0.62 m. Pit 4807 was 0.57 m wide and 0.02 m deep. No finds were present

3.1.5 The remains of a trackway was uncovered in Trench 35. This feature had been constructed with a layer of unmortared bricks set at a depth of 2 m, then covered with building rubble. The bricks indicate a modern date for its construction and a feature of no archaeological significance.

3.1.6 Brickearth deposits were exposed in over 20 trenches on the plateau towards the southern part of the site, immediately SE of the archaeological remains (Fig. 3). Remnants of the deposit were additionally uncovered in four trenches (40, 41, 47, and 54) in the north-eastern area. Excavation revealed that the brickearth survived as pockets below the topsoil. A mixture of clay-with-flints and brickearth lay beneath the brickearth, which in turn overlay clay-with-flints that lay above the chalk bedrock.

4 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 Considered together with the results of the Stage I and II evaluations, the sample provided by the trenching strategy should give a reliable indication of the presence and absence of significant archaeological features. However, results generally from a sample of this size are typically biased towards the later prehistoric, Roman, medieval and later periods, which, if present, tend to be better represented in trial trenches, compared with relatively poorly preserved earlier prehistoric or Saxon archaeology. More specifically, the high level of truncation observed across the Study Area suggests that the full extent of archaeological activity has been lost, presumably through extensive landscaping and farming, with evidence surviving largely as bases of features.

4.2 Overall interpretation and significance

4.2.1 Eighty-two evaluation trenches were excavated across the areas of impact. Three aspects of archaeological interest were observed: 1) a small group of undated and truncated linear features and pits exposed towards the western part of the Study Area; 2) remnants of brickearth encountered within the central and northern areas; 3) very large pits distributed sporadically across the investigation area.

4.2.2 The brickearth deposits, while truncated, are nevertheless significant, since they potentially contain evidence of the early prehistoric past, although no artefactual material was recovered here. Brickearth comprises fine alluvial sediments and often covers floodplains of ancient rivers. It is regarded as a 'primary' deposit that could potentially yield undisturbed Palaeolithic material. Indeed, such evidence is known in the vicinity of Luton Hoo. A single flint artefact, for example, was recovered 200 m east of the study area from a evaluation trench at Napier House (BCAS 1999).

4.2.3 Only limited sense can be made of the ditches and pits seen in the western part of the site. All were truncated, and none contained dating evidence. The linear features seen here approached 1 m in width, but may have been wider originally, possibly functioning as boundary and enclosure ditches. The

ditches and pits represent a relatively dense area of possibly related archaeology. They may be associated with later prehistoric activity, as evidenced by a Neolithic and Bronze Age flint scatter situated immediately east of the buried features and collected during the Stage I evaluation (OA 2003). While the location of these two groups of evidence appears to be mutually exclusive, the area of occupation from where the scatter is likely to derive probably lies close to or within the Study Area. On current understanding, few features recorded in the Study Area, other than those seen here, could belong to this period of activity.

4.2.4 The discovery of furrows in Trench 27 is consistent with an extensive system of later medieval or early post-medieval agricultural ridge and furrow observed across the study area as eroded earthworks (BCAS 1999; Albion Archaeology 2002; Debois Landscape Survey Group 2002).

4.2.5 The very large pits, some of which were detected as anomalies during the Stage II geophysical survey (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2003), were presumably dug to extract the brickearth and underlying clay. Dating is uncertain, but the pits are likely to pre-date the mid 18th century. Some of them yielded no finds, but others contained 19th/20th century rubble, although the backfilling of the pits need not have occurred until long after they had been abandoned. Former quarries were depicted on a map of 1847, and the extensive landscaping work commencing a century earlier provides a context for the abandonment of the quarry areas. However, some of the pits continued to receive material during the 19th/20th century.

4.2.6 The rubble trackway seen in Trench 35 can be placed among a number of modern features, such as iron pipelines and former buildings, encountered as anomalies during the geophysical survey.

APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
1								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
2								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
3								
	301	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-		
	302	Fill	-	-	Fill of 303	-		
	303	Cut	4.8	0.56	Pit or tree throw	-		
	304	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
4								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
5								
	501	Layer	-	0.25	Ploughsoil	-		
	502	Fill	-	0.6	Upper fill of 504	-		
	503	Fill	-	0.4	Lower fill of 504	-		
	504	Cut	10.0	1.0	?Quarry pit	-		
	505	Layer			Natural			
6								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
7								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
		Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
8								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
9								
	-	Layer	-	0.07	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
10								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
11								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
12								
	-	Layer	-	0.05	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
13								
	-	Layer	-	0.07	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
14								
	1400	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-		
	1401	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-		
	1402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
	1403	Cut	2.0	1.52	Quarry pit	-		
	1404	Fill	0.86	0.14	First fill of 1403	-		
	1405	Fill	-	0.1	Second fill of 1403	-		
	1406	Fill	-	0.2	Third fill of 1403	-		
	1407	Fill	-	1.08	Fourth fill of 1403	Bone CBM		Undated Post-med
	1408	Void	-	-	-	-		
	1409	Void	-	-	-	-		
	1410	Cut	0.97	0.37	Boundary ditch	-		
	1411	Fill	-	0.37	Fill of 1410	-		
	1412	Cut	1.14	0.44	Pit or tree throw	-		
	1413	Fill	-	0.44	Fill of 1412	-		
	1414	Cut	0.73	0.25	Boundary ditch	-		
	1415	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of 1414	-		
	1416	Cut	0.36	0.16	Part of 1412	-		
	1417	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of 1416	-		
	1418	Cut	*c* 1.0	0.34	Boundary ditch	-		
	1419	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of 418	-		
15								
	-	Layer	-	0.05	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
16								
	-	Layer	-	0.05	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
17								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
18								
	1801	Cut	-	1.3	Pit	-		
	1802	Fill	-	1.3	Fill of 1801	Pottery Glass Metal	- - -	Post-med Post-med Post-med
	1803	Layer	-	-	Ploughsoil	-		
	1804	Cut	-	-	Same as 1801	-		
	1805	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	1806	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
19								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
20								
	-	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
21								
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
22								
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
23								
	-	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
24								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
25								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
26								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
27								
	2701	Cut	-	0.2	Ditch or gully	-		
	2702	Fill	-	0.03	First fill of 2701	-		
	2703	Fill	-	0.05	Second fill of 2701	-		
	2704	Fill	-	0.06	Third fill of 2701	-		
	2705	Fill	-	0.12	Fourth fill of 2701	-		
	2706	Cut	-	-	Furrow	-		
	2707	Fill	-	-	Fill of 2706	-		
	2708	Cut	-		Furrow	-		
	2709	Fill	-	-	Fill of 2708	-		
28								
	-	Layer	-	0.17	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
29								
	-	Layer	-	0.17	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
30								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
31								
	-	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
32								
	-	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
33								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
		Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
34								
	-	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	CBM	-	Post-med
	-	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
35								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Rubble/brick trackway	CBM	-	Post-med
36								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	CBM	-	Post-med
	-	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
37								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
		Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
38								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
39								
	3901	Cut	8.8	2.0	Quarry pit	-		
	3902	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-		
	3903	Fill	8.8	0.5	Third fill of 3901	-		
	3904	Fill	6.5	1.0	Second fill of 3901	-		
	3905	Fill	3.2	0.5	First fill of 3901	-		
40								
	-	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
41								
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
42								
	-	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
	-	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
43								
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-		
		Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
44								
	-	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
46								
	-	Layer	-	0.17	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
47								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
48								
	4801	Layer	-	0.3	Ploughsoil	-		
	4802	Fill	0.75	0.09	Fill of 4803	-		
	4803	Cut	0.75	0.09	Truncated pit/tree throw	-		
	4804	Fill	0.62	0.04	Fill of 4805	-		
	4805	Cut	0.62	0.04	Truncated pit/tree throw	-		
	4806	Fill	0.57	0.02	Fill of 4807	-		
	4807	Cut	0.57	0.02	Truncated pit/tree throw	-		
	4808	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
49								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
50								
	5001	Cut	-	-	Pit - same as 1801	-		
	5002	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
51								
	-	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
52								
	5201	Cut	-	-	Pit - same as 1801	-		
	5202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
53								
	-	Layer	-	0.31	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
54								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
55								
	-	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
56								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.38	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
57								
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
58								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
59								
	-	Layer	-	0.14	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
60								
	-	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
61								
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil/subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
62								
	-	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil/subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
63								
	-	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	CBM	-	Post-med
	-	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	CBM	-	Post-med
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
64								
	-	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	CBM Glass	- -	Post-med Post-med
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
65								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	CBM	-	Post-med
	-	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
66								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
67								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
68								
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
69								
	-	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
70								
	-	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-		

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Width (m)*	*Thick. (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*No.*	*Date*
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
71								
	-	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
72								
	-	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
73								
	-	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
74								
	-	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
75								
	7501	Cut	-	-	Ditch	-		
	7502	Fill	-	-	Fill of 7501	-		
	7503	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	7504	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	7505	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
76								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
77								
	-	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
78								
	-	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
79								
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
80								
	-	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
81								
	-	Layer	-	-	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-		
	-	Deposit	-	-	Brickearth	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		
82								
	-	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-		
	-	Layer	-	-	Natural	-		

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Luton Hoo, Hyde, Bedfordshire

Site code: LUHO03

Grid reference: Centred NGR TL 1046 1847

Type of evaluation: 82 trial trenches

Date and duration of project: June/July 2003

Area of site: Approximately 60 ha

Summary of results: In June and July 2003, Oxford Archaeology carried out a trenched evaluation (Stage III) of the proposed development site on behalf of Elite Hotels and Luton Hoo Park Ltd. This work followed a programme of fieldwalking (Stage I) and geophysical survey (Stage II). Eighty-two trenches were distributed across areas to be impacted by a proposed golf course development. Three aspects of archaeological interest were observed. A small group of truncated and undated linear features and pits was exposed towards the western part of the Study Area. Remnants of brickearth, a 'primary' deposit potentially yielding Palaeolithic material, were encountered in the central and northern parts of the site. Large quarry pits were dug across the area, probably before the mid 18th century, in order to extract brickearth and clay.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will remain there until such time as Luton Museum is able to accept new archives.

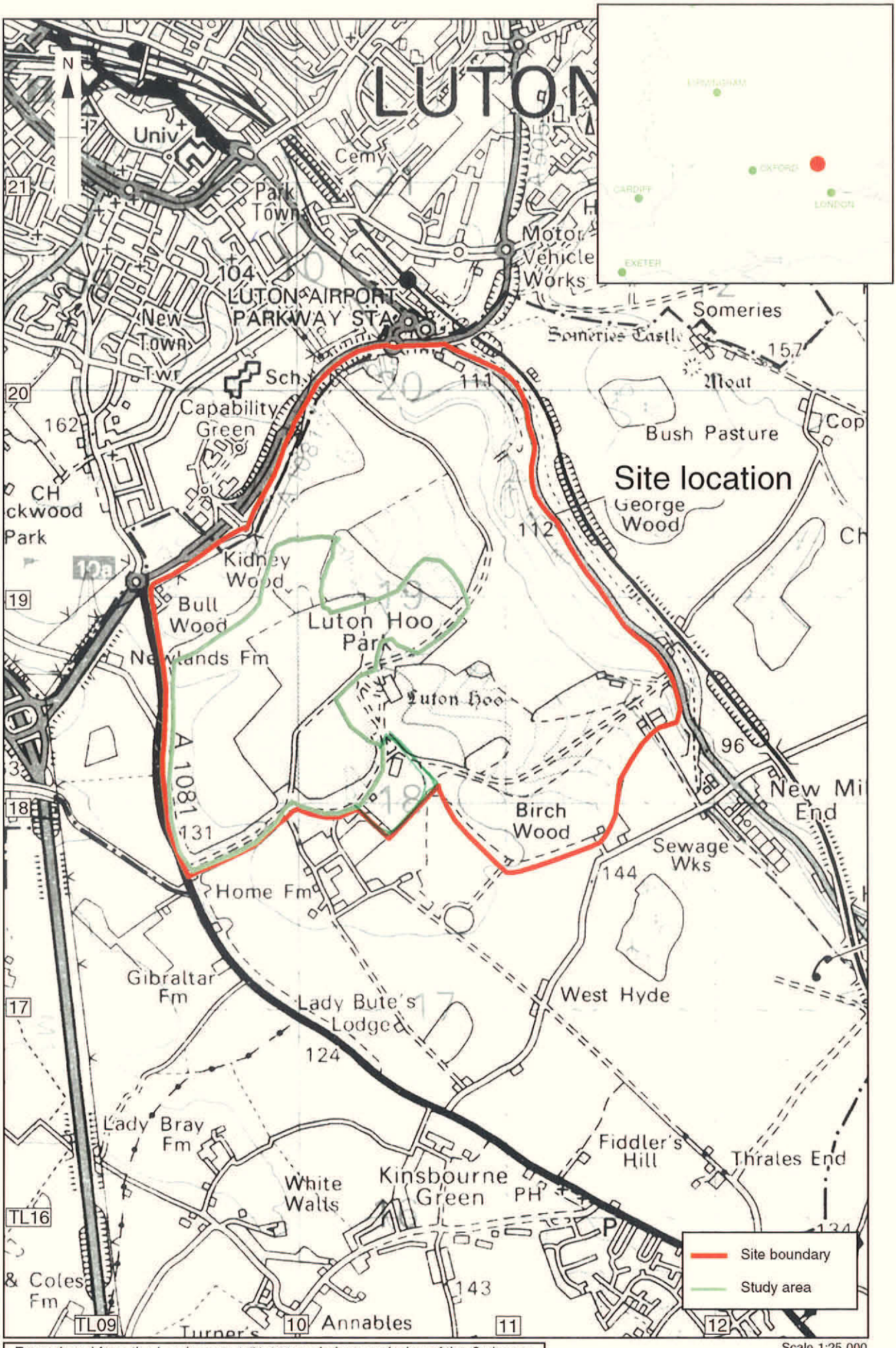


Figure 1: Site location

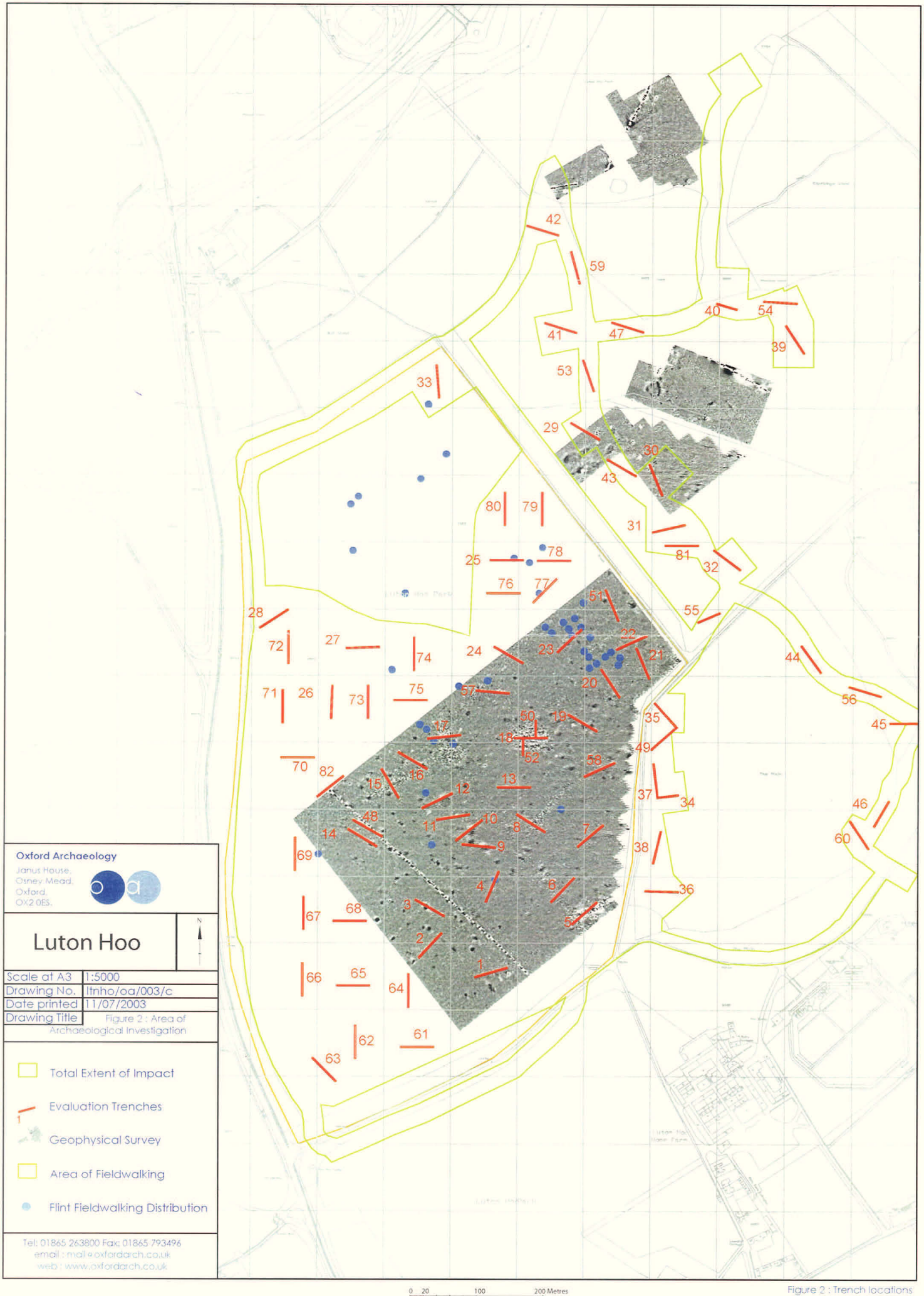


Figure 2 : Trench locations

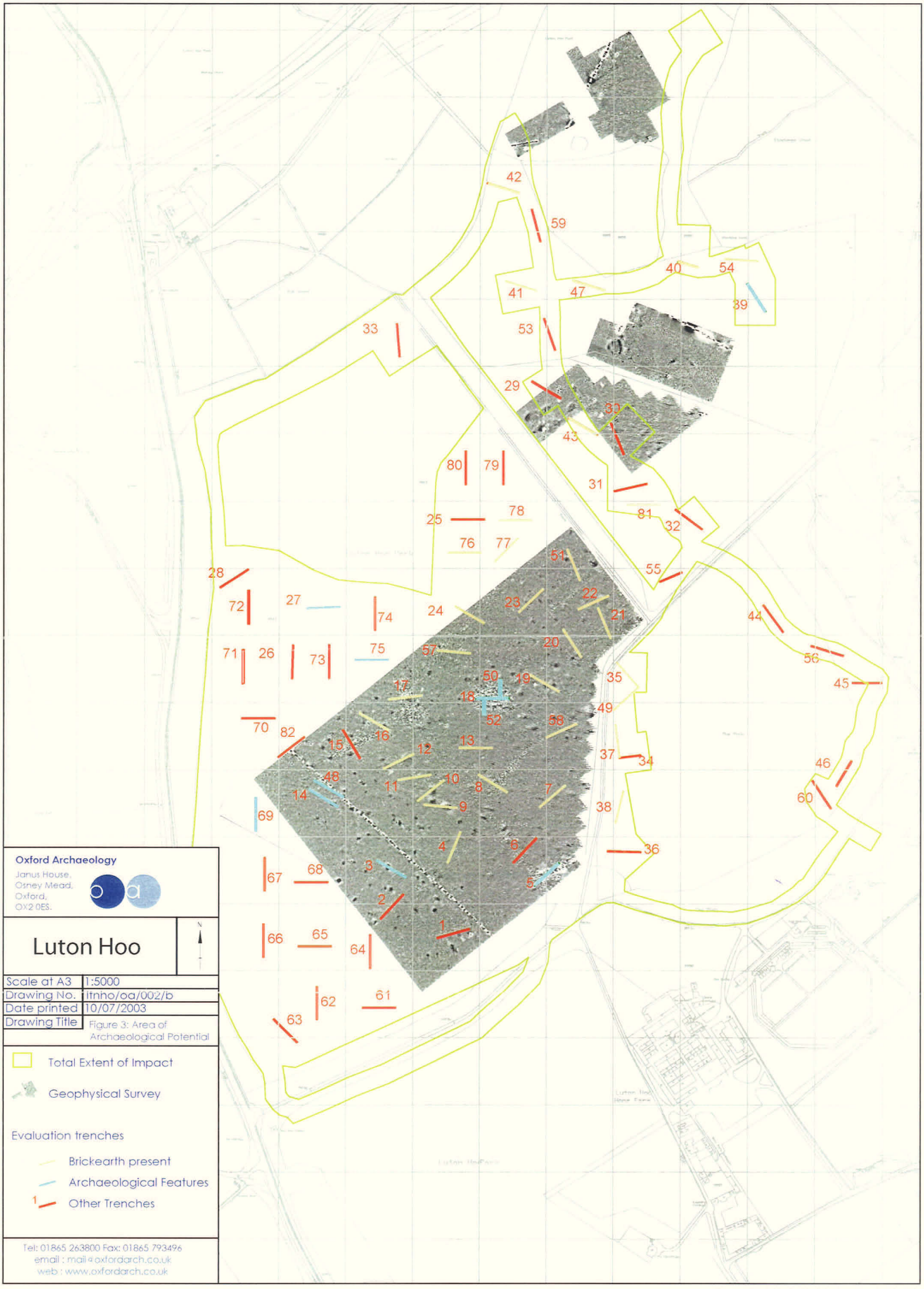


Figure 3: Areas of Archaeological Potential

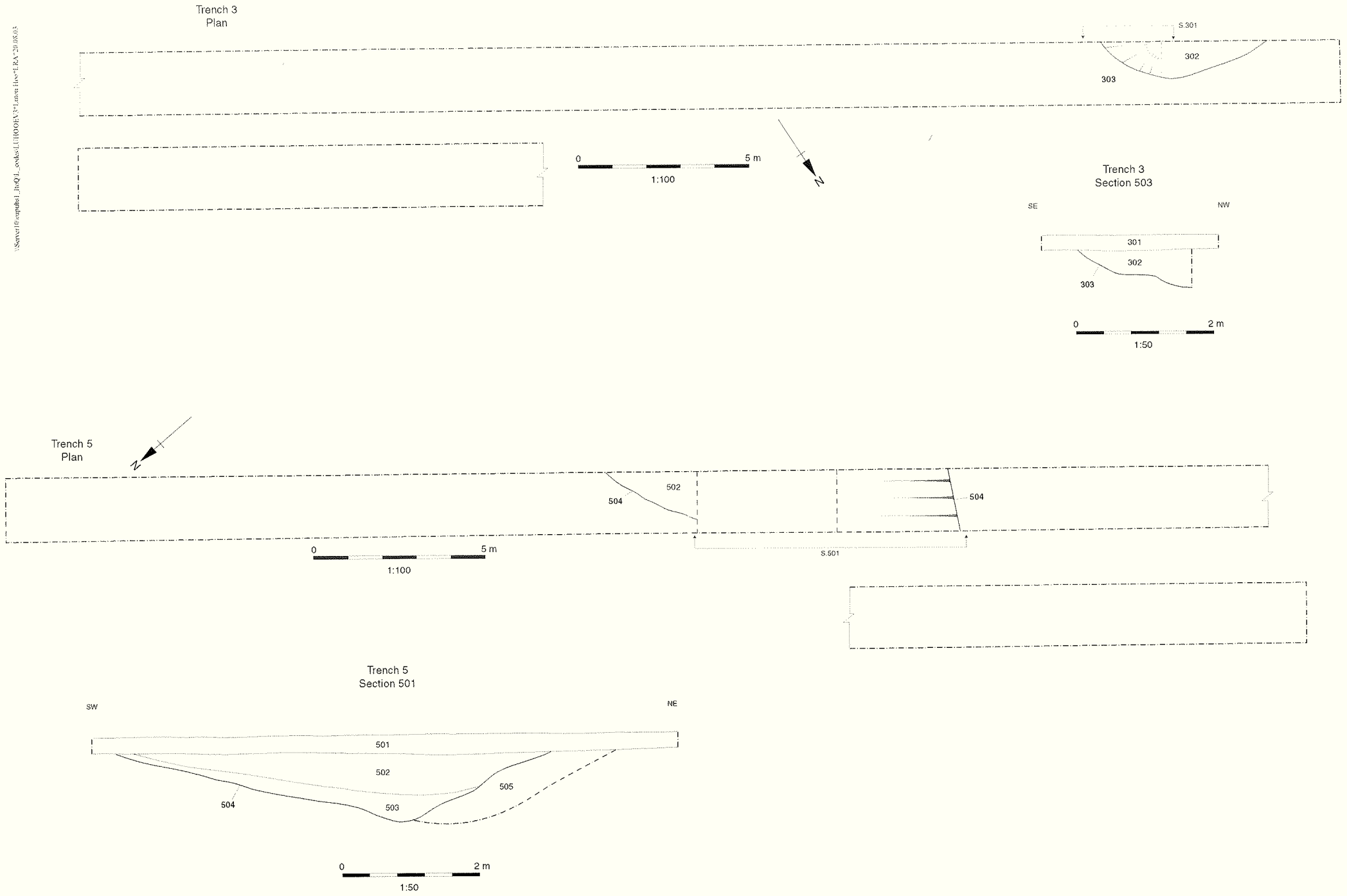


Figure 4: Trenches 3 and 5, plans and sections

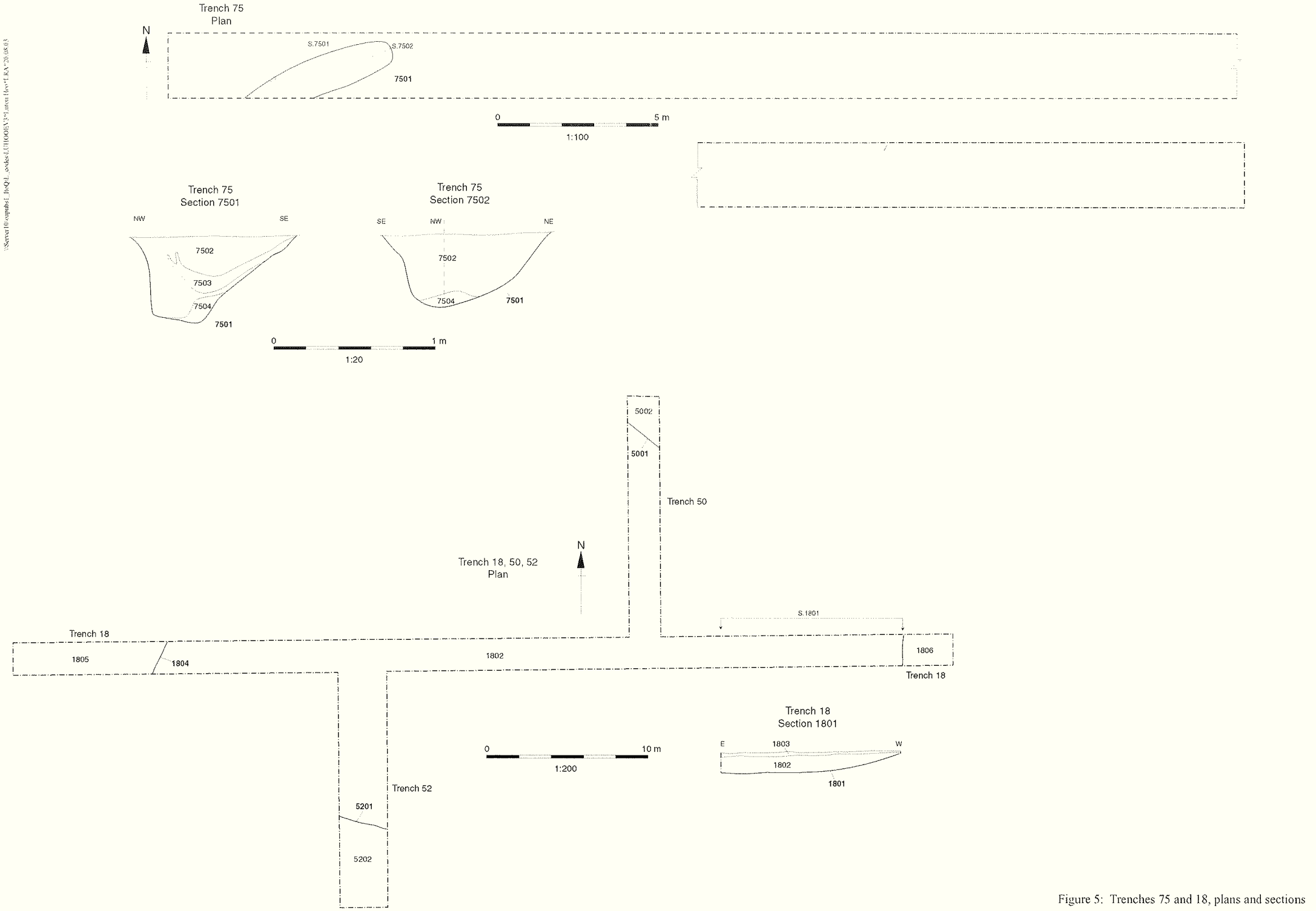


Figure 5: Trenches 75 and 18, plans and sections

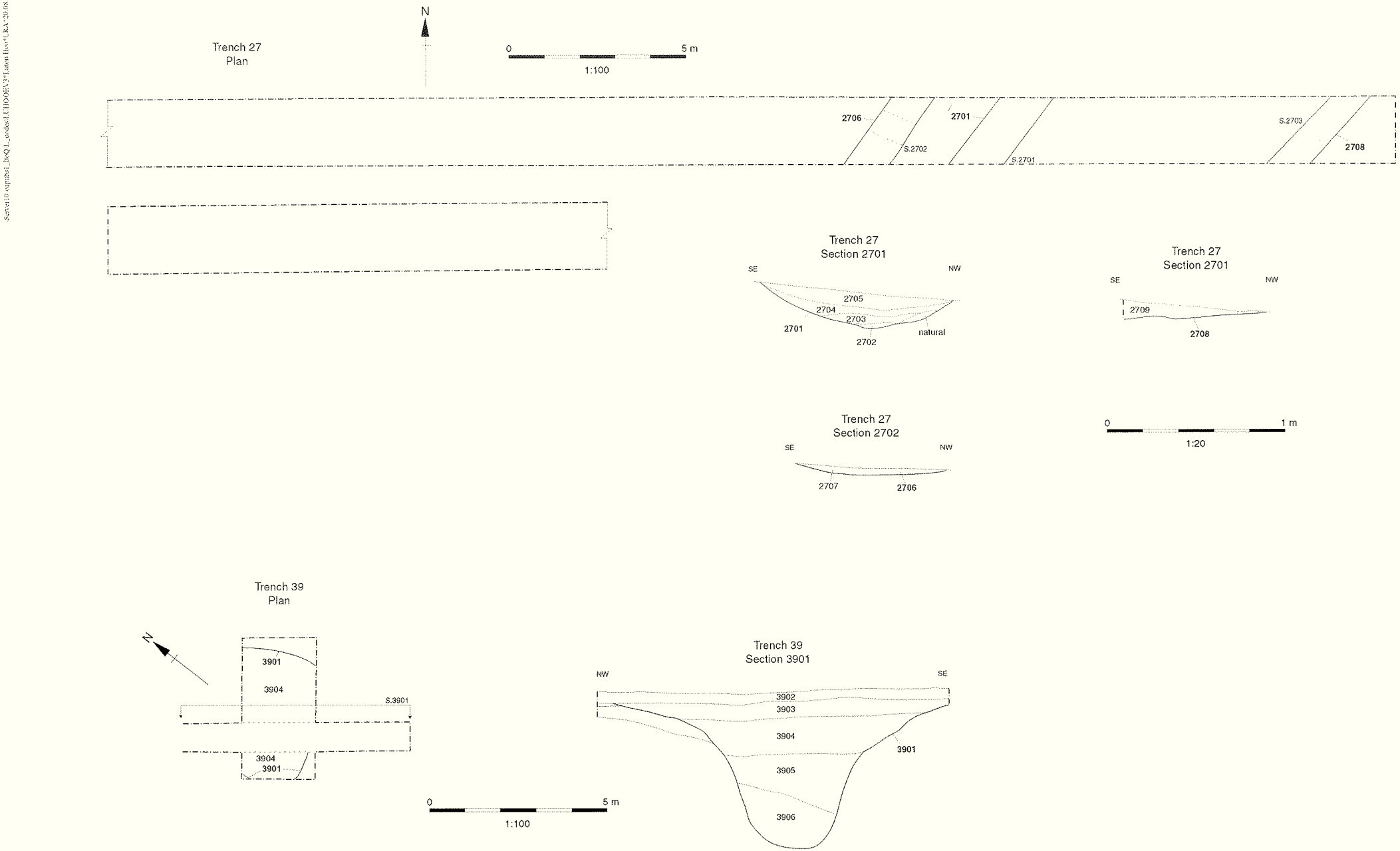


Figure 6: Trenches 27 and 39, plans and sections

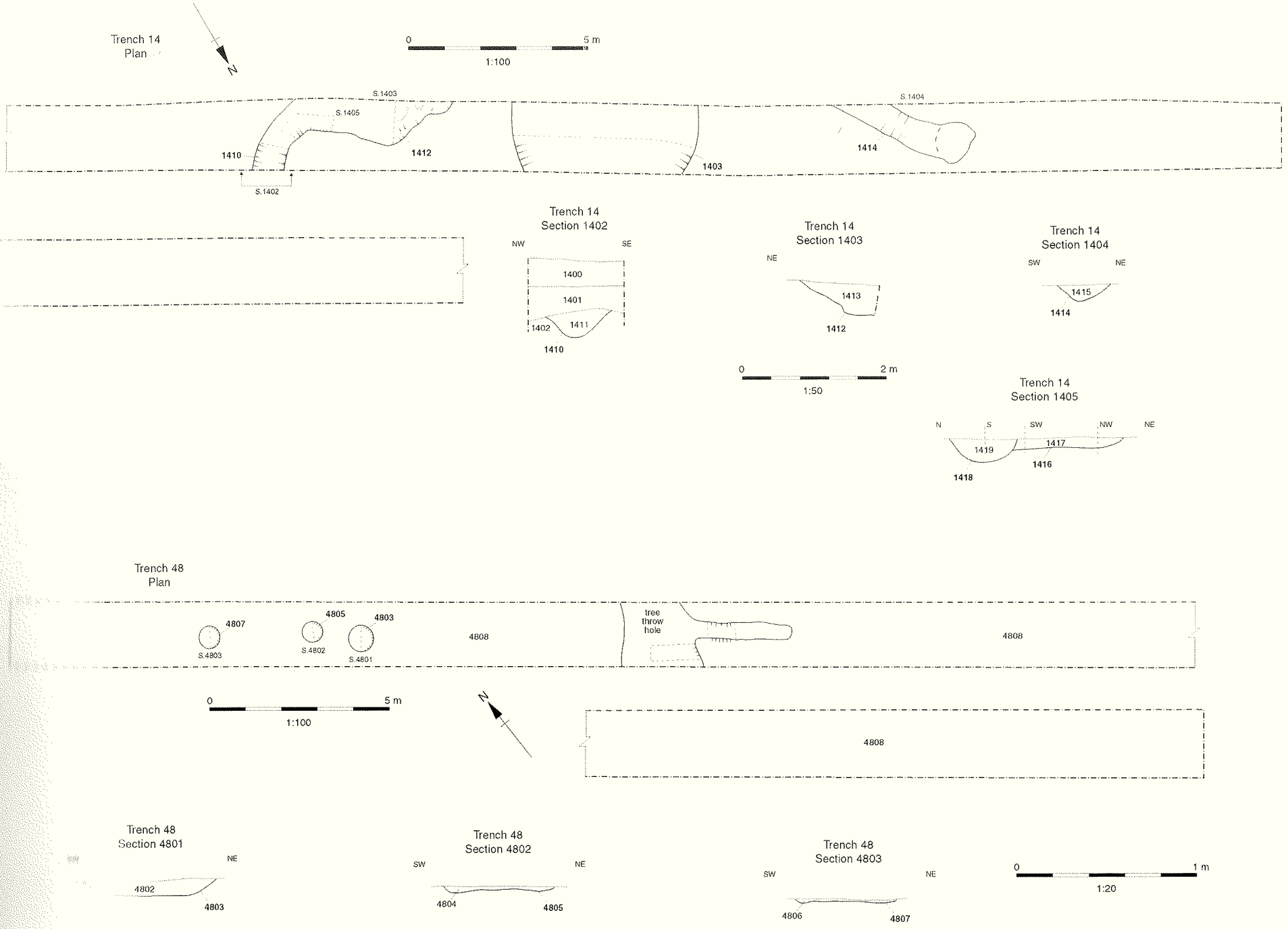
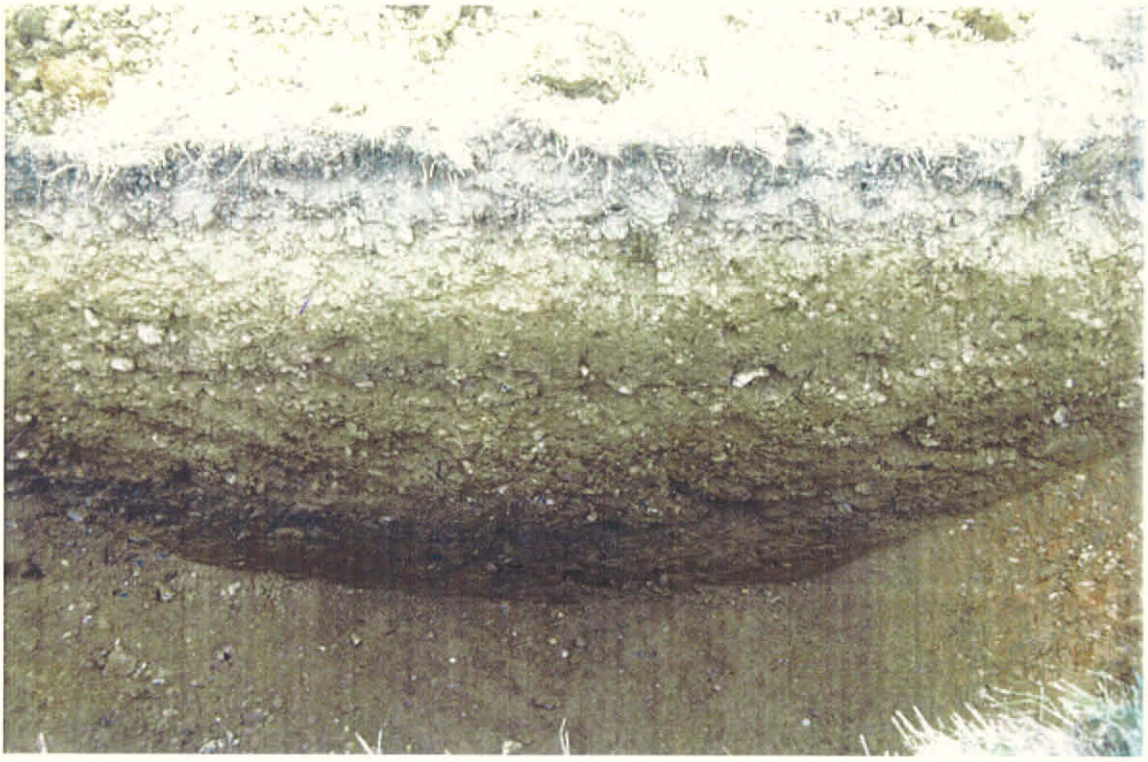


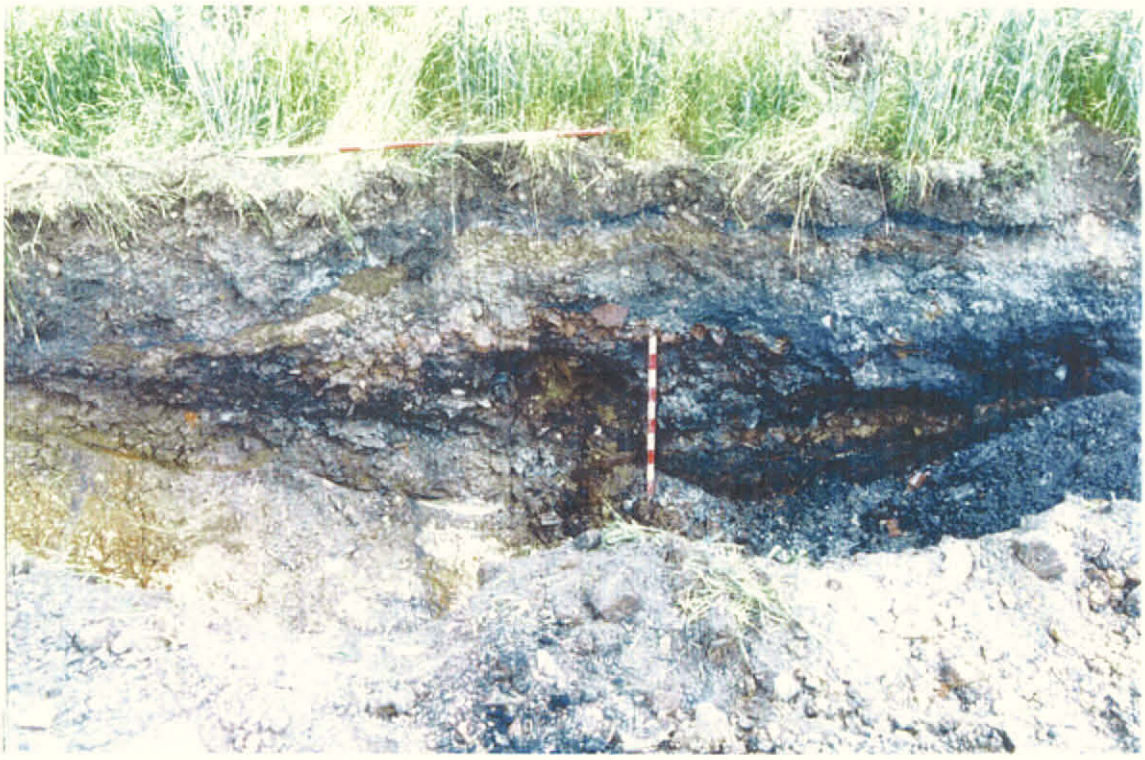
Figure 7: Trenches 14 and 48, plans and sections

Trench 14, pit 1403 (SW facing)

Trench 18, pit 1801 (S facing)



Trench 39, pit 3901 (SW facing)



Trench 69, pit 6901 (S facing)

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