

BAE Systems Land
COWES
Isle of Wight



**Archaeological
Evaluation Report**



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BAE Systems Land, Cowes, Isle of Wight*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION***CONTENTS**

Summary	1
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Location and scope of work	1
1.2 Geology and topography	1
1.3 Archaeological and historical background	1
2 Evaluation Aims	2
2.1 General	2
2.2 Detailed	2
3 Scope of Fieldwork	3
3.1 Sample size	3
3.2 Mechanical excavation and reinstatement	3
3.3 Fieldwork methods and recording	3
3.4 Finds	3
3.5 Palaeo-environmental evidence	3
3.6 Presentation of results	4
4 Results: General	4
4.1 Soils and ground conditions	4
4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits	4
5 Results: Descriptions	4
5.1 Trench descriptions	4
5.2 Finds and environmental remains	7
6 Discussion and Interpretation	9
6.1 Reliability of field investigation	9
6.2 Overall interpretation	9
Appendix 1 Archaeological Context Inventory	11
Appendix 2 Bibliography and References	14
Appendix 3 Summary of Site Details	14

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Site location
Figure 2 Trench location plan
Figure 3 Trenches 1 & 2
Figure 4 Trenches 5 & 6
Figure 5 Trenches 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13
Figure 6 Trench 14

SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology undertook a field evaluation on land at BAE Systems, Cowes, Isle of Wight on behalf of CgMs for BAE systems. The evaluation revealed evidence of Iron Age occupation across the southern part of the site in the form of a probable eaves drip gully, posthole clusters and other possible posthole structures. Several undated drainage or field boundary ditches were also recorded.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Between 3rd and 7th November 2008 Oxford Archaeology (OA) undertook an archaeological field evaluation on land at BAE Systems, Cowes, Isle of Wight (Fig. 1). This was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of BAE Systems in advance of a planning application for mixed residential and industrial use development. Prior to the start of the fieldwork OA (2008) produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon the information presented within the Desk-based Assessment produced by CgMs Consulting (2007). This was submitted to Owen Cambridge, the Isle of Wight Planning Archaeologist, prior to the investigation.

1.1.2 The development site is located south of the junction of Three Gates Road and Newport Road. The site is bound to the north and west by Three Gates Road, to the east by Newport Road, and to the south by the existing BAE works. The site is *c* 4 hectares in area.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies on plateau gravel between 55.1 m and 52.4 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) sloping gently from the west and south-west to the east.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological background to the evaluation has been the subject of a separate desk based study (CgMs 2007), the results of which are summarised below. The site itself has produced no previous archaeological evidence. There are several known locations with archaeological remains adjacent to the development site.

Prehistoric

1.3.2 A flint scatter of probable early Neolithic date was recovered during a watching brief south of Cogleton Farm *c* 500 m south-west of the study site.

1.3.3 Several isolated finds of Neolithic date have been recovered within 1 km of the study site. A flint knife and arrowhead were found north of Cogleton Lane *c* 500 m west of

the study site, and a polished stone axe was found in a meadow at Cockleton Farm *c* 700 m south-west of the study site.

- 1.3.4 A flint working floor of Neolithic/Bronze Age date was identified north of Ruffin's Copse *c* 1 km south-west of the study site.
- 1.3.5 Pits containing fire cracked flint, debitage, and flint tools were revealed at Bottom Copse *c* 700 m south-east of the study site.
- 1.3.6 Two cropmarks identified as ring ditches lie *c* 1 km north of the study site.
- 1.3.7 A ditch and four pits of Iron Age date were located *c* 800 m south of the study area.

Roman

- 1.3.8 A field *c* 900 m south of the study site contained seven Roman coins, and a Roman lamp was discovered *c* 500 m to the north.

Saxon and medieval

- 1.3.9 In the Saxon period the site was within the northern wood of Parkhurst Forest. Ridge and furrow ploughing of possible medieval date was identified at Bottom Copse *c* 700 m south-east of the study site.

Post-medieval and modern

- 1.3.10 In the post-medieval period the study site initially comprised agricultural land. In 1915 a civil aerodrome was established, which was used to test amphibious aircraft during WWII. The airfield was closed in the late 1950s. In the early 1960s a radar complex was constructed to the south of the study area, which was further extended in the 1990s.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were to determine the presence/absence, location, extent, date, character, palaeoenvironmental potential, and state of preservation of any archaeological remains surviving within the site boundary.

2.2 Detailed

- 2.2.1 The detailed aims as specified in the WSI were;
 - To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any archaeological remains by means of artefactual or other evidence.
 - To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains.
 - To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
 - To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
 - To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present.

- To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

3 SCOPE OF FIELDWORK

3.1 Sample size

3.1.1 The evaluation comprised 15 trenches each measuring 40 m by 2 m (Fig. 2) representing a 3% sample of the development area. The trench layout was arranged to provide an unbiased coverage of the area taking into account the constraints of tree protection zones, a gas pipeline, and historic ordnance.

3.1.2 Trench 11 was stepped to the north to avoid a Victorian land drain that would have otherwise been uncovered along the line of the trench.

3.2 Mechanical excavation and reinstatement

3.2.1 Prior to machine excavation each trench was laid out precisely by an experienced surveyor and accurately related to the national grid. All levels were taken in relation to Ordnance Survey datum levels.

3.2.2 Trenches were machine excavated using a toothless bucket to the level of the first archaeological deposit or natural geology (whichever was encountered first). All machine excavation was under the direction of the site Project Supervisor. The topsoil and subsoil was stored separately to either side of each trench and replaced in the same order following approval by the monitoring archaeologist that each trench was complete.

3.3 Fieldwork methods and recording

3.3.1 Following machine excavation and where archaeological features were identified, the trenches were cleaned by hand and the archaeological deposits were sample excavated to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:50 and, where excavated, their sections drawn at a scale of 1:20. All features were photographed using digital cameras. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OA Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

3.4 Finds

3.4.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. The only finds recovered were ceramic, no struck flint or bone was present. Finds were recovered from contexts 105, 204, 206, 607 and 1406.

3.5 Palaeo-environmental evidence

3.5.1 Palaeo-environmental samples were taken from securely dated deposits. Contexts 204 and 606 were sampled for charred plant remains.

3.6 **Presentation of results**

3.6.1 Trench descriptions are presented below where archaeological deposits were encountered. General data, including specific feature/deposit dimensions, are presented in the Context Inventory (Appendix 1). The trench descriptions include reference to the significant artefact and environmental findings where relevant although detailed reports on these are also presented.

4 **RESULTS: GENERAL**

4.1 **Soils and ground conditions**

4.1.1 Modern topsoil and turf was present in all trenches and varied in depth between 0.38 m and 0.18 m. This overlay a buried ploughsoil, also present in all trenches, that varied in depth between 0.25 m and 0.08 m and was generally thinner towards the north-east of the site. This contained Victorian pottery and overlay the fills of the archaeological features encountered across the site.

4.1.2 All of the archaeological features were cut into the natural geology. This comprised a variably banded orange brown gravel and clay. An equivalent 'dirty' gravel horizon was present to the south of the site.

4.1.3 Ground and weather conditions were good during the fieldwork.

4.2 **Distribution of archaeological deposits**

4.2.1 Archaeological features (all periods) were identified in the south, east and northwest of the site, but not in the centre. Nine trenches contained archaeological features, in the form of ditches, postholes or pits. These were Trenches 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

5 **RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS**

5.1 **Trench descriptions**

Trench 1

5.1.1 A single ditch (104), aligned NNE to SSW, was identified within the eastern end of the trench (Fig. 3). This was infilled with a single brownish grey clay silt deposit (105) that contained two small fragments of post-medieval brick.

Trench 2

5.1.2 The western portion of a curvilinear gully (203 and 205) was identified within the northern part of Trench 2 (Fig. 3). Two excavated segments (Fig. 3, sections 200 and 201) revealed a U-shaped profile between 0.6 m and 0.5 m wide and 0.35 m deep. This was infilled with a single mixed clay deposit (204 and 206) containing burnt flint fragments and a distinct arc of scorched daub around the internal edge. A small assemblage of pottery dated from the middle Iron Age to late Iron Age was recovered

from both excavated segments of the gully. The internal arc of the gully suggests an overall diameter of between 10 m and 11 m.

- 5.1.3 A single posthole (209) was present within the interior area of the curvilinear gully with three others (216, 218 and 220) also recorded within the southern part of the trench. These were of similar appearance being between 0.3 m and 0.4 m in diameter and between 0.2 m and 0.3 m deep. Each also contained a single, near identical, sterile infill.
- 5.1.4 Separating the curvilinear ditch and the southern posthole group were two intercutting ditches (207 and 208) aligned east to west (Fig. 3, section 202). These were located at the interface between the 'dirty' gravel natural within the southern part of the trench and the banded gravels and clays to the north. Ditch 208 appeared to replace 207 on the same alignment and both displayed similar flat-based profiles. The fills of both ditches comprised sterile clayey silting deposits although the appearance of these was very similar to that of the overlying buried ploughsoil (201) which may imply a similar date or origin.

Trench 5

- 5.1.5 Trench 5 contained five postholes, four of which (502, 504, 506 and 508) formed a probable small square structure approximately 1.5 m by 1.5 m depending upon the placement of the post within the postholes (Fig. 4). These ranged in size between 0.3 m to 0.5 m in diameter and 0.1 m to 0.3 m deep. Each contained near identical dark brownish grey clay silt fill that did not contain any artefacts.
- 5.1.6 An isolated posthole (510) and a shallow, roughly linear, undulation (512) in the gravel infilled with the base of the buried ploughsoil were recorded within the northern part of the trench.

Trench 6

- 5.1.7 Trench 6 contained six postholes (although two of these may be interpreted as small pits) (Fig. 4). Within the northern part of the trench two postholes (611 and 613) were identified with similar dimensions and infills. The four remaining features were clustered together towards the centre of the trench. Two of these (603 and 609), were conspicuously larger than the others with diameters of 0.70 m and 0.55 m respectively. Both contained similar sterile orange grey silty clay infills. Likewise, two remaining postholes (605 and 607) were infilled with similar dark brownish grey silty clay deposits although three small abraded Iron Age sherds were recovered the infill of posthole 605.

Trench 10

- 5.1.8 A single posthole (1004) was identified within the western end Trench 10 (Fig. 5). This measured 0.36 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep and contained a single sterile light brown/grey silty clay infill.

Trench 11

- 5.1.9 Three linear ditches were identified and excavated in Trench 11 (Fig. 5). Within the southwestern part of the trench ditch 1105 was aligned west to east and could be the same ditch as 1203 in Trench 12. This had a concave profile 0.6 m wide and 0.14 m deep containing a single fill (1104) that was a mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. To the north-east of this, and on a perpendicular alignment to 1105, was ditch 1107. This had a similar profile and fill to ditch 1105.
- 5.1.10 Within the northeastern part of the trench ditch 1109 was aligned roughly parallel to 1107. This had a sharp V-shaped profile but contained a very similar fill (1108) to the other ditches within this trench. None of the excavated ditches produced any finds despite extending the initial excavated sections in an attempt to encounter artefacts.

Trench 12

- 5.1.11 Trench 12 contained a single linear ditch (1203), which is likely be the same feature as ditch 1105 described above (Fig. 5). This was aligned west to east with a concave profile with a width of 0.4 m and a depth of 0.1 m making it slightly smaller than ditch 1105 to the east. It contained a single grey silty clay undated fill (1204).

Trench 13

- 5.1.12 A single ditch (1304) was also identified within Trench 13 (Fig. 5). This was aligned NNW to SSE and had a clear rounded end (or terminal) around its northern side with the ditch continuing southwards beyond the limits. The excavated section revealed a steep-sided profile, 0.98 m wide and 0.34 m deep, with a flat base and contained two fills (1305 and 1306). The primary fill (1305) had a high mixed gravel content that could represent either intentional backfilling or primary silting/slippage deposits originating from the upcast of the ditch. The upper fill (1306) was a mid grey brown silty clay likely to represent a gradual silting infill. No dating evidence was present within the fills.

Trench 14

- 5.1.13 Trench 14 revealed a variety of features (Fig. 6). Within the northern end of the trench a single undated treehole (1405) was identified with a characteristic uneven base and redeposited natural infills. To the south of this was a curvilinear gully (1407) the western side of which was exposed within the trench. This was 0.52 m wide with a concave profile and contained a single fill (1406) from which a sherd of post-medieval pottery and fragment of brick were recovered.
- 5.1.14 Within the southern part of the trench a possible shallow ditch terminal (1411) was identified with a small pit or posthole (1409) located 2.5 m to the south of it. These contained single silty clay infills although that of the ditch was lighter grey in appearance than that of the small pit. Neither produced any artefacts.

5.2 Finds and environmental remains

General

5.2.1 Only small assemblages of artefacts and ecofacts were encountered within the evaluation. The pottery largely comprised Iron Age body sherds lacking in diagnostic traits other than the fabric of the vessels. A small amount of post-medieval pottery and brick was also recovered to clarify the date/presence of the later features. Animal bone was notable for its complete absence within the excavated contexts. This is probably due to the acid conditions created by the clay content of the underlying geology. Small amounts of charred plant remains were present within the sampled deposits.

Pottery (by Lisa Brown)

5.2.2 A small assemblage (14, 141g) of pottery was recovered from four excavated contexts (excluding 3, 6g of brick). This was dominated by vessels in a flint-tempered fabric that is likely to date to the middle Iron Age or early part of the late Iron Age, prior to the conversion to mainly sand-tempered ware production. The clay contains ferruginous materials which occur naturally in the in Greensand beds.

Context	No. sherds/Weight (g)	Description	Date
105	2/1	Fragments brick or tile	Post-medieval
204	7/61	2 joining basal sherds: flint-tempered ware - calcined, crushed white/grey flint added as temper (common to abundant) mostly <3 mm. Red haematite lumps and black ferrous pellets are likely to be natural inclusions in the clay. Simple flat jar base. 5 sherds of similar/same fabric recovered from the residue of sample numbers 1 and 2.	Middle Iron Age- Late Iron Age
206	3/50	1 large (40g) and 2 small sherds of flint-tempered ware (as above)	MIA-LIA
607	3/4	Small abraded body fragments flint-tempered ware - calcined white/grey flint added as temper, common.	MIA-LIA
1406	1/5	Brick fragment	Post-medieval
1406	1/26	Pink/buff local green glazed ware	17th-18th century
TOTAL	17/147		

Carbonised plant remains and charcoal (by Laura Strafford)

5.2.3 Two bulk environmental samples were taken from securely dated contexts (204 and 606) for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR) and artefacts. All artefacts recovered from the samples have been included in the pottery report above. Sample 1 was from a gully (203), and Sample 2 was from a post hole (605). The CPR results are summarised in the table below.

Sample No	Context No	Feature Type	Sample Volume	Date/Phase	Flot vol (ml)	Grain	Other CPR	Charcoal	Molluscs	Comments on CPR
1	204	Ditch	40 l	IA	25	+	+	+++		Entire flot scanned. Abundant charcoal present. One large fragment from flot identified as ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.), although most fragments were <2mm and unidentifiable. Small amount of larger fragments of charcoal retrieved from heavy residues. One indeterminable cereal grain and one common vetch (<i>Vicia cf. sativa</i> L.) observed. Large quantity of modern root. CPR assessed as POOR as not rich in quantity or quality. Charcoal unlikely to generate more than 100 identifiable fragments in flot and heavy residue together due to small size.
2	606	Posthole	10 l	IA	15		++	+++		Entire flot scanned. Abundant charcoal present, although most fragments <2mm. A small amount of common vetch (<i>Vicia cf. sativa</i> L.) and one small hazelnut fragment present. Large quantity of modern root present. CPR assessed as POOR. Charcoal unlikely to generate more than 100 identifiable fragments from flot and heavy residue together due to small size.

5.2.4 The bulk samples were processed by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue (the material which does not float) sieved to 500µm. All flots and heavy residues were dried after which the residues were visually sorted for artefacts. The flots were scanned for CPR using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification. Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (1997).

5.2.5 Charcoal was well preserved in both samples, although the fragments were generally small (less than 2mm) and unidentifiable. Sample 1 did produce two large fragments identifiable as ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), although generally there were too few individual fragments to make up an assemblage upon which a useful interpretation could be made.

5.2.6 Sample 1 also produced a very small amount of indeterminable cereal grain whilst both samples produced the remains of common vetch seed (*Vicia cf. sativa* L.). A single fragment from a hazelnut was also present in Sample 2.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 Where archaeological deposits were encountered they appeared to be well preserved and readily identifiable. Within some areas it did take a short period of drying for the features to show clearly although the fact that numerous small features were identified suggests an overall high level of identification and archaeological visibility.
- 6.1.2 The presence of a buried ploughsoil within each trench does demonstrate widespread likely truncation to some degree. However, deep furrows of medieval or post-medieval origin were not present suggesting that this was limited. Also the presence, number and depth of the postholes within this evaluation strongly points to only limited truncation of the upper levels having occurred.
- 6.1.3 The archaeological features that were encountered and excavated only produced limited dating evidence. However, the size of sherds recovered from the curvilinear gully in Trench 2, combined with the characteristics of the feature, confirm that these provide a reliable date for the archaeological remains. As such, the proximity of the posthole clusters within Trenches 5 and 6 and the presence of small sherds of a similar date provide reasonable evidence to suggest that these are of the same or similar date origin.
- 6.1.4 Services and land drains were also present in Trenches 1, 9, 11 and 13. These had little or no effect on archaeological deposits.

6.2 Overall interpretation

- 6.2.1 There is clear evidence for Iron Age occupation towards the south and southeast of the site focused upon Trenches 2, 5 and 6. This is most clearly represented within Trench 2 in the form of a curvilinear or penannular gully likely to be that of an eaves drip gully enclosing a round house. Indeed, a single posthole was identified within the interior area and a deposit of scorched daub was recorded around the internal edge of the gully. Although undated, the proximity of other postholes and ditches within this trench could suggest a reasonable level of activity and occupation at this location with structures set within enclosures.
- 6.2.2 The posthole and possible pit density identified to the north-east of Trench 2 within Trenches 5 and 6 can also reasonably be interpreted as part of this activity whether it be contemporary, earlier or a later continuation. The presence of a possible 'granary' four-post structure within Trench 5 is typical of Iron Age settlements and the recovery of comparable small Iron Age sherds within one of the pits in Trench 6 seems to confirm the existence of activity across the south-eastern part of the site. The cluster of pits and postholes at this location is strongly suggestive of another

structure being present although a ground plan of a large posthole building is near impossible to decipher within an evaluation trench.

- 6.2.3 Two other foci of activity were present within the development boundary although the significance of these is less clear. Several undated ditches were encountered within Trenches 11 and 12 and the potential origin and function of these is not easily interpreted. A variety of features were encountered within Trench 14 of which the only dated one was an unusual curvilinear gully that produced post-medieval pottery. Given the proximity of Trench 14 to the likely Iron Age features within Trench 6, it is reasonable to consider the possibility that the other features within this trench may also relate to the Iron Age activity to the south. This suggests that this activity may extend northwards along the eastern boundary of the site. However, this interpretation should be tempered by the lack of firm dating evidence.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i> Finds</i>	<i>No./ wt. (g)</i>	<i>Date</i>
Trench 1							
101	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
102	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			
103	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
104	Cut	1.06	0.15	Ditch			
105	Fill	1.06	0.15	Fill of 104	brick	2/1	Post -medieval
Trench 2							
200	Layer		0.18	Modern ploughsoil			
201	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			
202	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
203	Cut	0.6	0.35	Curvilinear gully			IA
204	Fill	0.6	0.35	Fill of 203	pot	7/61	IA
205	Cut	0.5	0.33	Curvilinear gully			IA
206	Fill	0.5	0.33	Fill of 205	pot	3/50	IA
207	Cut	0.95	0.28	Ditch			
208	Cut	1.2	0.18	Ditch			
209	Cut	0.3	0.26	Posthole			
210	Layer		-	Natural dirty gravel			
211	Fill	0.6	0.16	Fill of 207			
212	Fill	1.0	0.26	Fill of 207			
213	Fill	1.2	0.2	Fill of 208			
214	Fill	0.3	0.26	Fill of 209			
215	Layer			Same as 210			
216	Cut	0.38	0.29	Posthole			
217	Fill	0.38	0.29	Fill of 216			
218	Cut	0.39	0.19	Posthole			
219	Fill	0.39	0.19	Fill of 218			
220	Cut	0.37	0.3	Posthole			
221	Fill	0.37	0.3	Fill of 220			
Trench 3							
301	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
302	Layer		0.25	Buried ploughsoil			
303	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
Trench 4							
401	Layer		0.29	Modern ploughsoil			
402	Layer		0.16	Buried ploughsoil			
403	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
Trench 5							
500	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
501	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
502	Cut	0.48	0.3	Posthole			
503	Fill	0.48	0.3	Fill of 502			
504	Cut	0.3	0.1	Posthole			
505	Fill	0.3	0.1	Fill of 504			
506	Cut	0.28	0.25	Posthole			
507	Fill	0.28	0.25	Fill of 506			
508	Cut	0.25	0.15	Posthole			
509	Fill	0.25	0.15	Fill of 508			
510	Cut	0.32	0.1	Posthole			
511	Fill	0.32	0.1	Fill of 510			
512	Cut	1.85	0.2	Geological			
513	Fill	1.85	0.2	Fill of 512			
514	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			

<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>No./ wt. (g)</i>	<i>Date</i>
Trench 6							
600	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
601	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			
602	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
603	Cut	0.7	0.18	Posthole/pit			
604	Fill	0.7	0.18	Fill of 603			
605	Cut	0.38	0.22	Posthole			IA
606	Fill	0.38	0.22	Fill of 605	Pot	3/4	IA
607	Cut	0.24	0.15	Posthole			
608	Fill	0.24	0.15	Fill of 607			
609	Cut	0.55	0.35	Posthole/pit			
610	Fill	0.55	0.35	Fill of 609			
611	Cut	0.4	0.15	Posthole			
612	Fill	0.4	0.15	Fill of 611			
613	Cut	0.35	0.12	Posthole			
614	Fill	0.35	0.12	Fill of 613			
Trench 7							
701	Layer		0.23	Modern ploughsoil			
702	Layer		0.14	Buried ploughsoil			
703	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
Trench 8							
801	Layer		0.3	Modern ploughsoil			
802	Layer		0.13	Buried ploughsoil			
803	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
Trench 9							
901	Layer		0.32	Modern ploughsoil			
902	Layer		0.09	Buried ploughsoil			
903	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
Trench 10							
1001	Layer		0.3	Modern ploughsoil			
1002	Layer		0.15	Buried ploughsoil			
1003	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
1004	Cut	0.36	0.15	Posthole			
1005	Fill	0.36	0.15	Fill of 1004			
Trench 11							
1101	Layer		0.38	Modern ploughsoil			
1102	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
1103	Layer		0.15	Buried ploughsoil			
1104	Fill	0.6	0.14	Fill of 1105			
1105	Cut	0.6	0.14	Ditch			
1106	Fill	0.52	0.11	Fill of 1107			
1107	Cut	0.52	0.11	Ditch			
1108	Fill	0.8	0.28	Fill of 1109			
1109	Cut	0.8	0.28	Ditch			
Trench 12							
1200	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
1201	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			
1202	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
1203	Cut	0.4	0.1	Ditch			
1204	Fill	0.4	0.1	Fill of 1203			
Trench 13							
1301	Layer		0.2	Modern ploughsoil			
1302	Layer		0.2	Buried ploughsoil			
1303	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
1304	Cut	0.98	0.34	Ditch			
1305	Fill	0.98	0.34	Fill of 1304			
1306	Fill	0.9	0.2	Fill of 1304			

<i>Ctxt No</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Width (m)</i>	<i>Thick. (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Finds</i>	<i>No./ wt. (g)</i>	<i>Date</i>
Trench 14							
1401	Layer		0.3	Modern ploughsoil			
1402	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			
1403	Layer		0.1	Buried ploughsoil			
1404	Fill	1.15	0.27	Fill of 1405			
1405	Cut	1.15	0.27	Pit?			
1406	Fill	0.52	0.2	Fill of 1407	brick pot	1/5 1/26	Post-medieval
1407	Cut	0.52	0.2	Curvilinear ditch			Post-medieval
1408	Fill	0.61	0.3	Fill of 1409			
1409	Cut	0.61	0.3	Posthole/pit			
1410	Fill	0.5	0.14	Fill of 1411			
1411	Cut	0.5	0.14	Ditch terminus			
Trench 15							
1501	Layer		0.29	Modern ploughsoil			
1502	Layer		0.08	Buried ploughsoil			
1503	Layer		-	Natural gravel/clay			

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- CgMs 2007 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment. BAE Systems Site, East Cowes, Isle of Wight. Client report produced by CgMs Consulting.
- OA, 1992 Fieldwork Manual (D. Wilkinson ed.)
- OA, 2008 BAE Systems Land, Cowes, Isle of Wight. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation.
- Stace, C, 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. (second edition).

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: BAE Systems Land, Cowes, Isle of Wight

Site code: IOWBAE 08

Grid reference: SZ 489 453

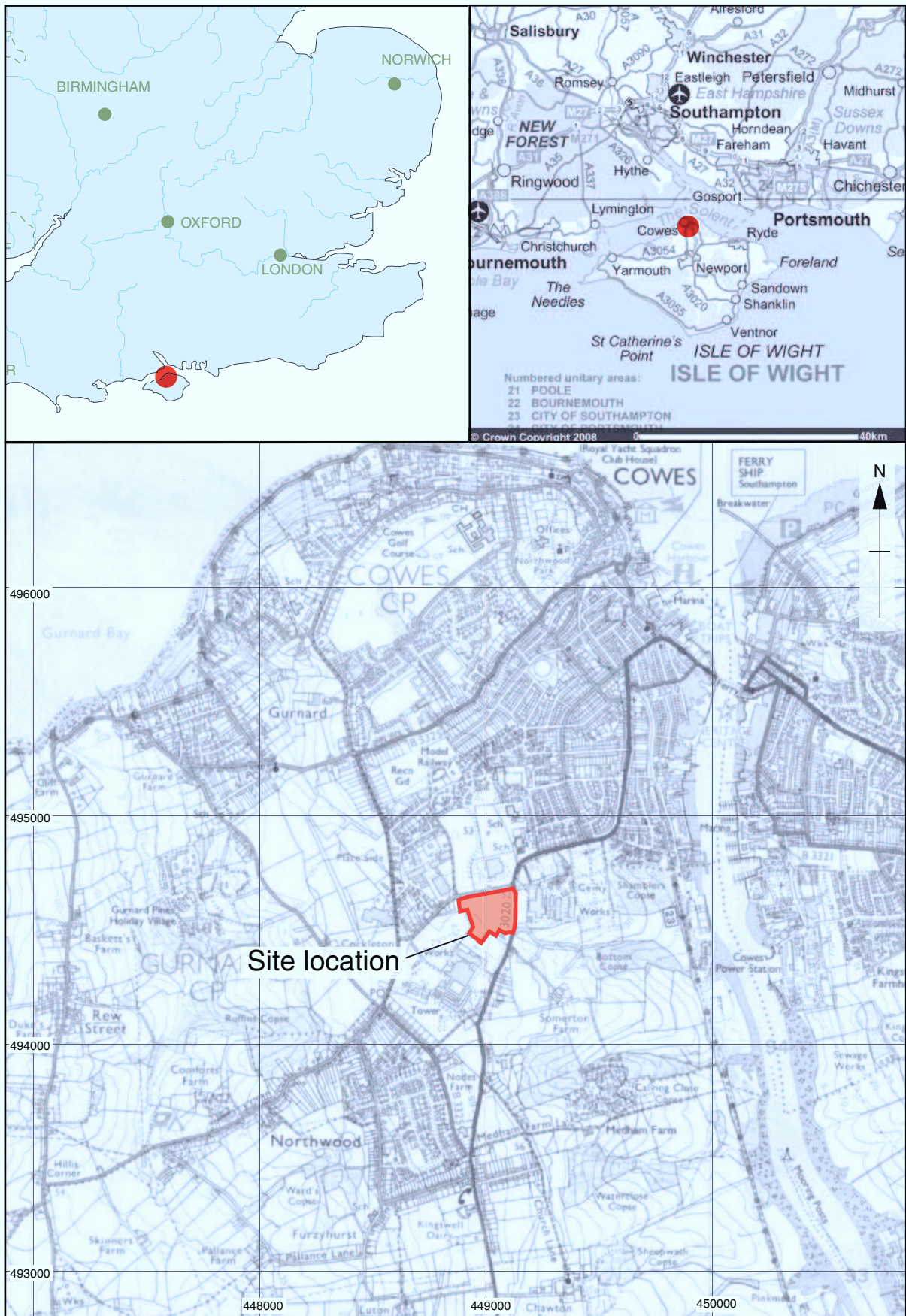
Type of evaluation: Fifteen 40 m x 2 m trenches

Date and duration of project: 3rd to 7th November 2008

Area of site: 4 hectares

Summary of results: Oxford Archaeology undertook a field evaluation on land at BAE Systems, Cowes, Isle of Wight on behalf of CgMs for BAE systems. The evaluation revealed evidence of Iron Age occupation across the southern part of the site in the form of a probable eaves drip gully, posthole clusters and other possible posthole structures. Several undated drainage or field boundary ditches were also recorded.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Isle of Wight Museums Service in due course, under the accession number IWCMS:2008.6299.



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Figure 1: Site location

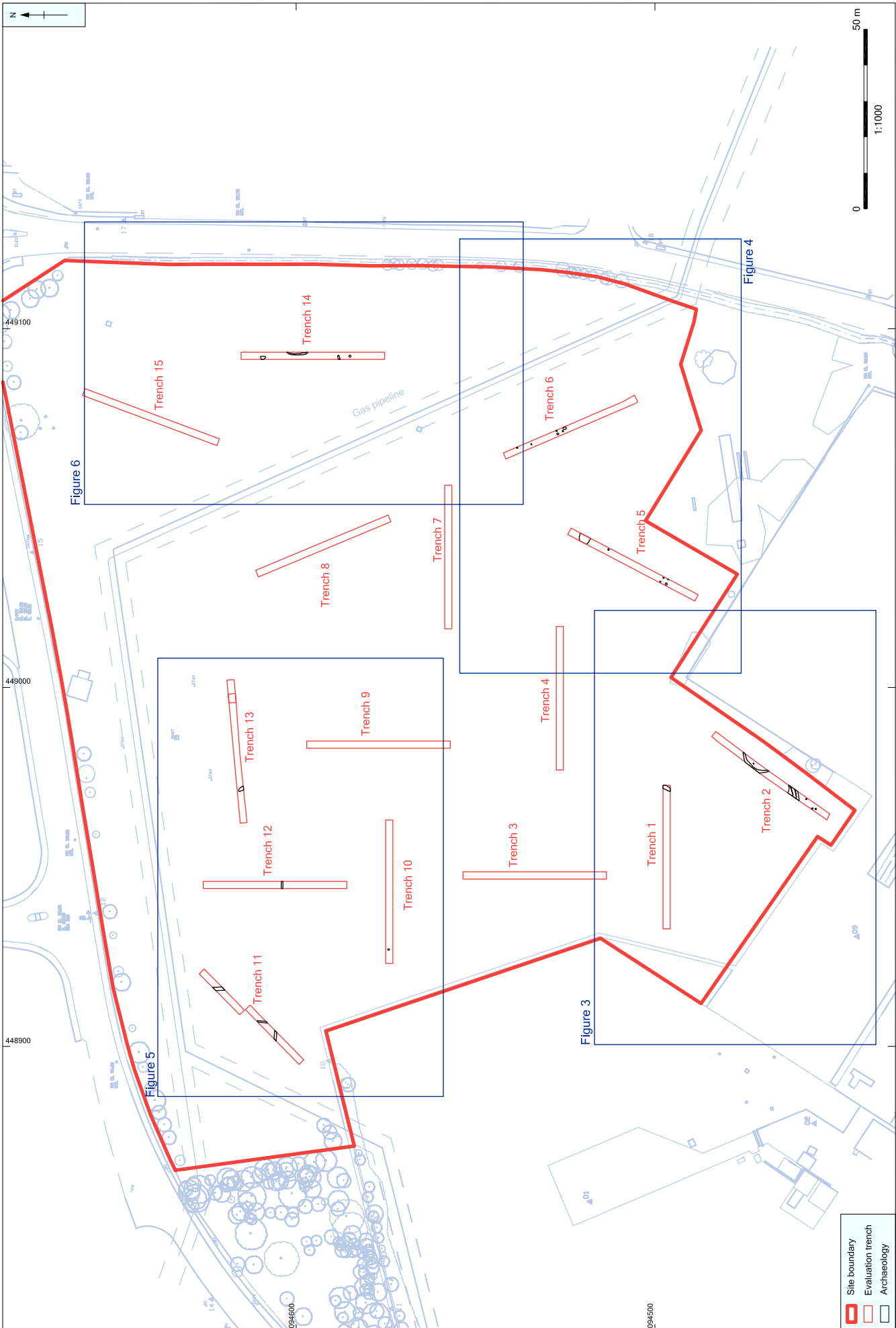


Figure 2: Trench location plan

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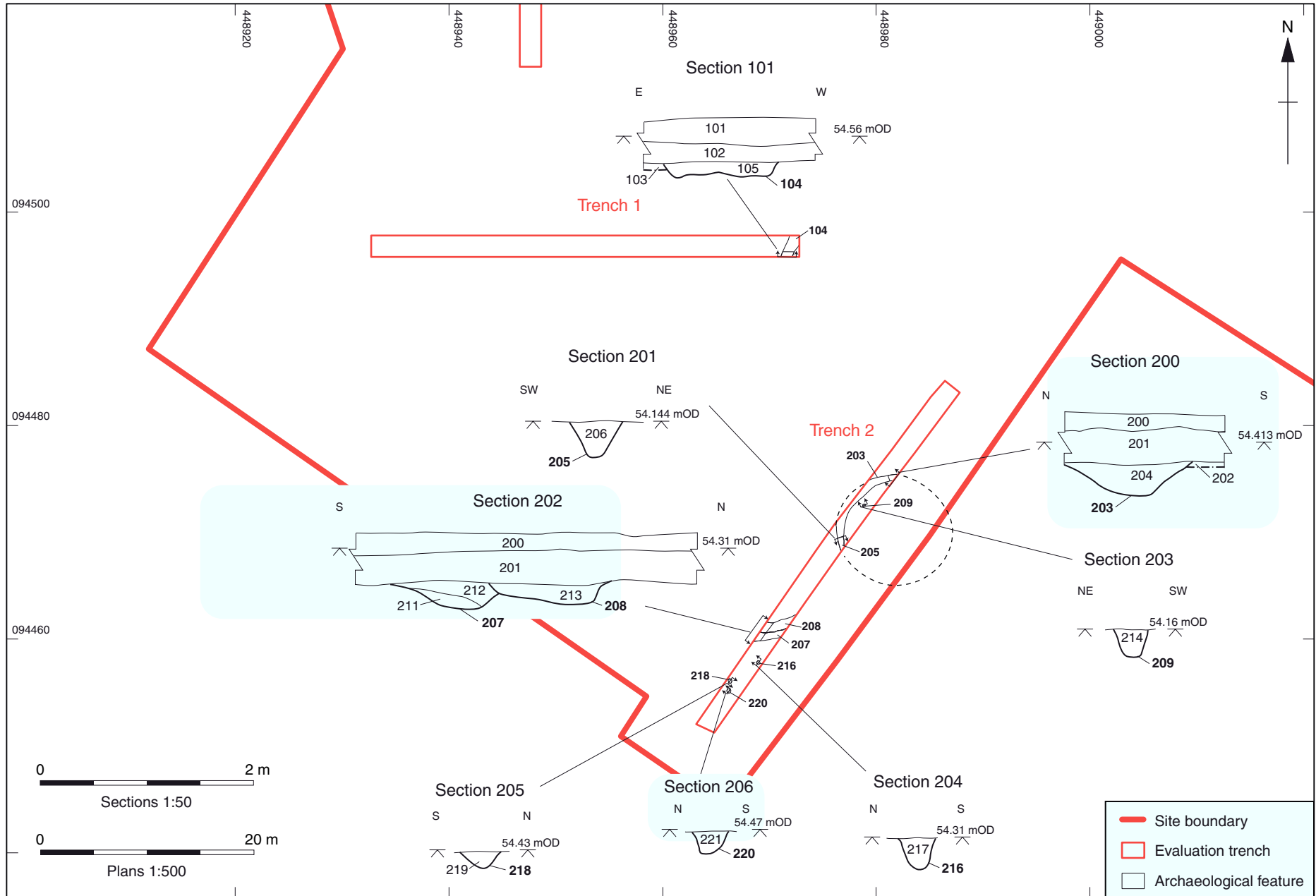


Figure 3: Trenches 1 & 2

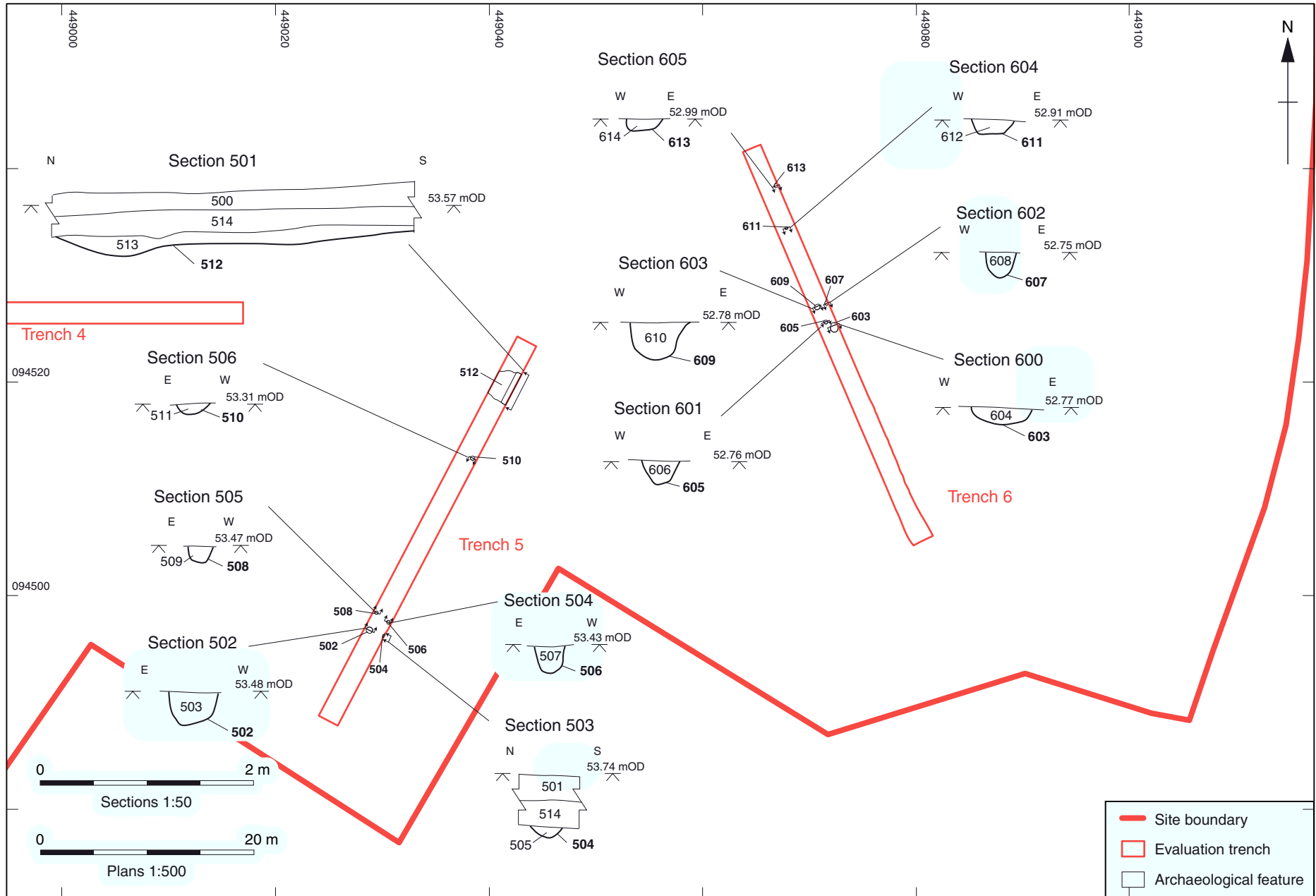


Figure 4: Trenches 5 & 6

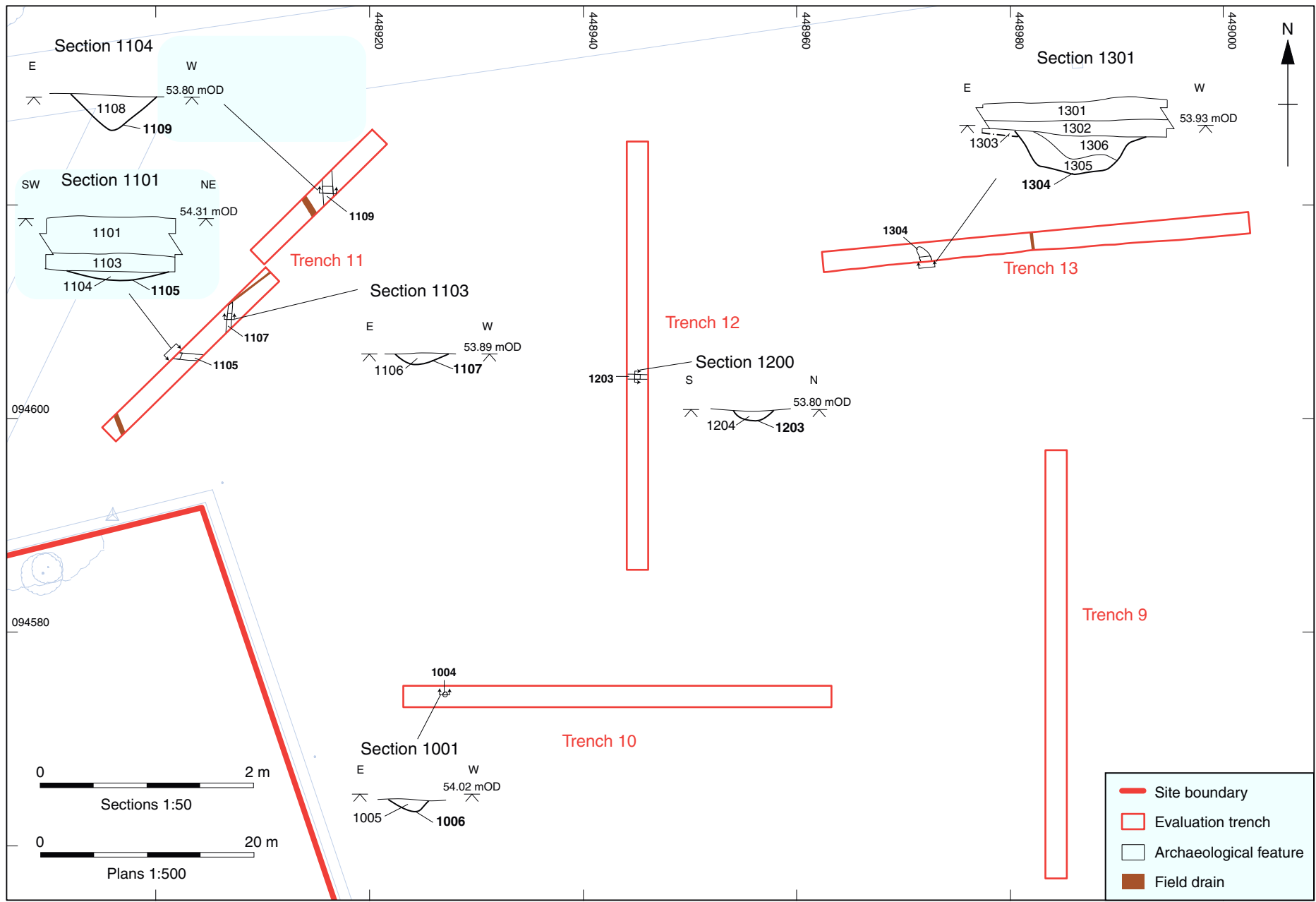


Figure 5: Trenches 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13

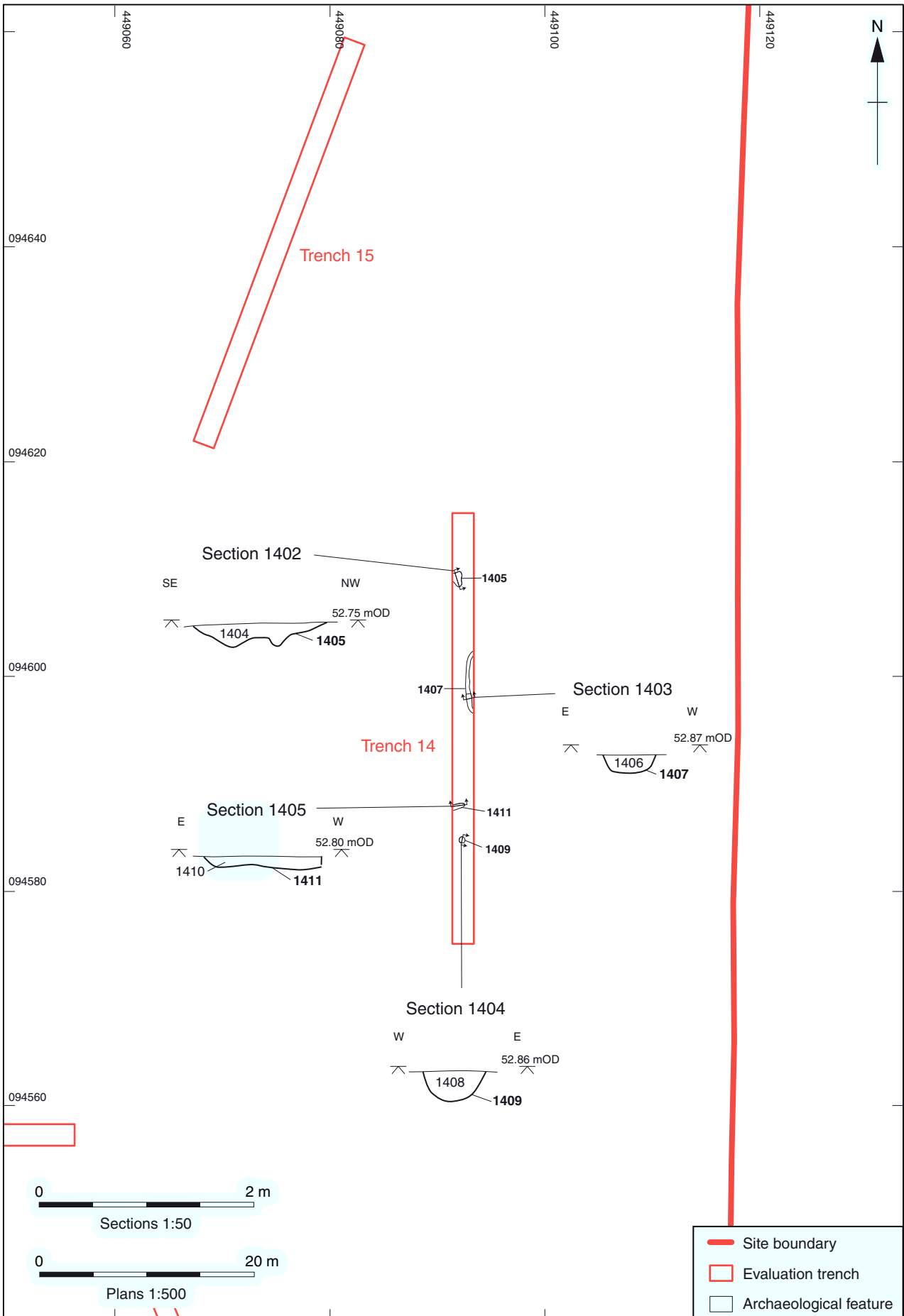


Figure 6: Trench 14



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