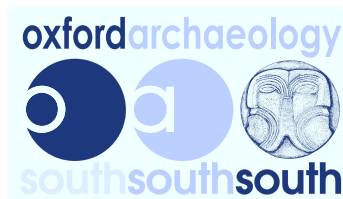


# Land Off Coxwell Road, Faringdon



## Archaeological Evaluation Report



October 2010

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# Land off Coxwell Road, Faringdon

## *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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## **Summary**

*Between the 11<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2010, Oxford Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation within a field west of Coxwell Road, Faringdon, on behalf of CgMs Consulting and Welbeck Land Limited. A total of forty trenches, each measuring 30m by 1.5m were excavated, equating to a two percent sample of the field.*

*Of the forty trenches excavated, twenty-nine contained archaeological features. These included a group of linear features, pits and post-holes, concentrated in the north-western area of the field, some of which dated to the late Iron Age - early Roman period. Furrows of a probably medieval date were identified throughout the field but particularly towards its northern boundary. Post-medieval quarry pits were present in the south-western area of the field, and probable post-medieval ditches were seen adjacent to the field's eastern boundary.*





## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA), was commissioned by CgMs Consulting acting on behalf of Welbeck Land Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation of part of a proposed mixed use site located either side of Coxwell Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The work is being undertaken as part of an archaeological investigation which has included the preparation of a Desk Based Assessment (DBA)(Pugh 2010) in order to inform the Planning Authority in advance of submission of a Planning Application. A brief was set by Hugh Coddington, of the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Service, detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process (OCMS 2010).
- 1.1.3 This document presents the results of the field evaluation.

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is situated on the south-western edge of the town of Faringdon and consists of three fields straddling the road leading to Great Coxwell (two to the west and one to the east). The brief required that initially only the north-western of three fields of the site (centred on SU 27927 94369) need be evaluated, to look for evidence that known archaeological activity to the north (Weaver and Ford 2004) extended further south (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development currently consists of open farmland located on a south facing slope at a level of between approximately 130 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north, falling to approximately 120 m aOD in the south.
- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the study site comprises limestone of the Stanford Formation (a member of the Corallian series) in the south-west of the site. Mudstones of the Amphill Clay formation overlie this in the north and east (British Geological Survey 1971, Sheet 253).

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background for the site is described in detail in the Heritage Assessment (Pugh 2010). The site is in an area of significant Iron Age activity, located roughly between two Iron Age hill forts, Badbury hill fort (SAM OX257), located approximately 1.5 km to the west, and Little Coxwell Camp (SAM OX207), located 1.25 km to the south-east (Pugh 2010). Excavation by Thames Valley Archaeological Service (TVAS) directly north of the site revealed an early Iron Age settlement, and a second century or later Roman shrine or temple (Weaver and Ford 2004); a second excavation, located directly north of the TVAS site, was undertaken by OA, and revealed more evidence of early to middle Iron Age settlement, with a single pit of a late Iron Age date, and evidence of some Romano-British activity (Cook et al. 2004).

### 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Greg Pugh of CgMs for co-ordinating the work, and Hugh Coddington of Oxfordshire County Council for approving the WSI and monitoring the fieldwork.



## 2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

#### ***General***

- 2.1.1 The aims of the evaluation were to gather sufficient information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within those areas affected. The evaluation report produced will present a digest of information on the character and significance of the deposits observed during the course of the evaluation and this report will form the basis of any proposals for appropriate further action.

#### ***Specific aims and objectives***

- 2.1.2 The specific aim of the proposed archaeological evaluation is to define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required.

### 2.2 Methodology

#### ***Mechanical Excavations***

- 2.2.1 A 360° tracked excavator with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket was used to open the trenches.
- 2.2.2 All mechanical excavation was undertaken under direct archaeological supervision.
- 2.2.3 All undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon, in successive, level spits.
- 2.2.4 Following mechanical excavation, all areas of the trench that require examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools.
- 2.2.5 Spoil heaps were monitored in order to recover artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts. Modern artefacts were noted but not retained.
- 2.2.6 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material in reverse order of excavation, but otherwise not fully reinstated.

#### ***Hand Excavation***

- 2.2.7 All investigations of archaeological levels were carried out by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section.
- 2.2.8 In each trench where archaeology was present a limited number of features were selected for hand excavation, to test preliminary interpretations based on their appearance in plan and to further characterise and date them. At least one linear feature was hand excavated in each trench. A small sample of possible pits or post-holes were hand excavated, as were some features which proved to be probable tree-holes.

#### ***Recording***

- 2.2.9 Written descriptions were recorded on proforma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.
- 2.2.10 Plans were drawn at 1:100.



- 2.2.11 The site grid was tied into the National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area.
- 2.2.12 A register of plans was kept.
- 2.2.13 Sections of features or short lengths of trenches were drawn at 1:20.
- 2.2.14 A register of sections was kept.
- 2.2.15 All sections were tied into Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2.16 A full black and white and colour photographic record, illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds, was maintained. The photographic record included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological work.
- 2.2.17 Photographs were recorded on OA Photographic Record Sheets.



### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented by groupings of the trenches (Fig. 2), with brief descriptions of features where appropriate. An index of all trenches is also presented in tabular form, with full detail of each context, including dimensions, depths and any finds recovered.

#### 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The topsoil consisted of a dark brown-orange, silty clay plough-soil, up to 0.3 m thick. This overlay an orange-brown silty clay sub-soil, ranging in depth from 0.05 m to 0.3 m; presence of this subsoil coincided with the presence of a natural orange-brown clay, which lay beneath it, and in turn over-lay the Corallian limestone. The absence of the subsoil and clay meant that the limestone was visible within Trenches 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 35, in the south-eastern area of the field. The orange-brown clay was present within the rest of the trenches (Fig 2).

3.2.2 The trenches were located on a gentle south facing slope.

3.2.3 The features in Trench Groups 1 and 2 generally contained very similar fills, a light to mid orange-brown silty clay with occasional small limestone inclusions. The fills within the features were very similar in colour to the natural clay, and were only clearly visible in overcast conditions, or when the soils were damp.

3.2.4 The fills of the quarry pits in Trench Group 3 were generally a mid orange-brown clay silt, and will not be described further below.

3.2.5 The fills of the post-medieval ditches in Trench Group 4 were generally a darker orange-brown clay silt, and will not be described further below.

#### 3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Of the forty trenches excavated, twenty-nine contained archaeological features (Figs 2, 3 and 4).

3.3.2 A concentration of linear features, pits and post-holes was present in the north-western area of the field.

3.3.3 Possibly medieval furrows on a north-south and north-east to south-west orientation were present.

3.3.4 In the south-west area of the field, where the natural limestone outcrops from the natural clay, was a group of large quarry pits.

3.3.5 The trenches have been placed in four groups (Fig. 2) to reflect four main areas of activity:

- The trenches of Group 1 contain possibly medieval furrows, with a few earlier features;
- The trenches of Group 2 contain ditches, pits and post-holes, some of late Iron Age – early Roman date;
- The trenches of Group 3 contain probable post-medieval quarry pits, and
- The Group 4 trenches contain probable post-medieval ditches.

3.3.6 Trenches containing no archaeological features will not be discussed further below.



### 3.4 Trenches in Group 1

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 contained an east-west gully (106) which was cut by a modern, north-south ditch (108).
- 3.4.2 Trench 2 contained four north-south furrows, all between 1 m and 2 m wide; one was excavated (210), and was found to be 0.1 m deep, with shallow sloping edges and a concave base.
- 3.4.3 Trench 5 (Fig. 7) contained eight linear features, one pit, and two tree-holes. Ditches 506, 508, 510, 514 and 522 were all aligned north-south; of these, 514 was excavated and found to be 0.1 m deep, with a shallow slope and flat base. Two parallel curvilinear ditches (516 and 518), and a gully (424), shared a north-east – south-west alignment. Quarry pit 520 was 8.3 m wide and sub-circular. Tree-holes 504 and 512 were irregularly shaped/sub-circular.
- 3.4.4 Trench 9 contained two linear features and one pit. Ditch 902 (0.68 m wide and 0.08 m deep, with shallow sides and a flat base) and ditch 906 (0.9 m wide) were on a north-east to south-west alignment. Pit 904 was oval shaped in plan and 1 m wide.
- 3.4.5 Trench 23 contained four linear features and one pit. Ditch 2304 was 2.5 m wide, and ditch 2308 was 1.8 m wide and 0.08 m deep, with a shallow slope and concave base; both were aligned east-west. Ditch 2310, 0.3 m wide, and ditch 2312, 0.4 m wide were aligned north-south. Pit 2306 was 3.3 m wide, and was sub-oval in shape.
- 3.4.6 Trench 25 contained three possible furrows, all around 1.6 m wide, on a north-west to south-east alignment. One furrow was excavated, and was 0.22 m deep, with shallow slope and concave base.
- 3.4.7 Trench 27 contained three furrows, all around 2 m wide, on a north-east to south-west alignment. One of the furrows was excavated, and was 0.2 m deep, with shallow slope and concave base.
- 3.4.8 Trench 28 contained three furrows, all around 1.5 m wide, on a north-east to south-west alignment. Ditch 2804 was 3 m wide and +0.7 m deep on a north-west to south-east alignment.

### 3.5 Trenches in Group 2

- 3.5.1 Trench 3 (Fig. 5) contained eight linear features, eight pits or tree-holes, and one confirmed tree-hole.
- 3.5.2 Ditch 310 was 3.3 m wide, ditch 312 was 1.6 m wide, ditch 316 was 2.5 m wide, ditch 322 was 1 m wide, and ditch 332 was 0.8 m wide; all shared a north-south alignment. Ditch terminus 324 was 0.50 m wide, and ditch 334 was 1.3 m wide; they shared a north-west to south-east alignment. Gully 330 was 0.68 m wide and 0.07 m deep, with moderately sloping sides, and a flat base.
- 3.5.3 Of the pits or tree-holes, 304 was 1.5 m wide and irregular in shape, 306 was 0.50 m wide and sub-circular in shape, 308 was 1.9 m wide and 0.3 m deep with an irregular base, and was oval shaped, 314 was 0.65 m wide, and was oval shaped, 318 was 1.5 m wide, and was sub-square in shape, 320 was 1 m wide and sub-oval in shape. 326 was 0.55 m wide and 328 was 0.6 m wide; both were circular. 336 was 0.6 m wide and sub-circular in plan.
- 3.5.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 6) contained five linear features, two pits, and three tree-holes.



- 3.5.5 Gully 406 was 0.3 m wide, and was aligned north-west to south-east. Ditches 408 and 412 were both 1 m wide and shared a north-east to south-west alignment. Ditch 410 was 2.5 m wide, and ditch 414 was 1.1 m wide; they shared an east-west alignment.
- 3.5.6 Pit 404 was 1.7 m wide and 0.2 m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. Tree-hole 416 was 0.7 m wide and 0.1 m deep with a uneven base, and oval shaped. Of the remaining pits / tree-holes: 418 was 0.8 m wide, 420 was 0.8 m wide and 422 was 1.3 m wide; all were oval shaped.
- 3.5.7 Trench 6 (Fig. 8) contained nine linear features, and 19 pits or post-holes.
- 3.5.8 Ditch 604 was 1.7 m wide, and gully 624 was 0.4 m wide; they shared an east-west alignment. Gullies 612 and 644 were both 0.5 m wide, and ditch 628 was 0.8 m wide; these shared a north-east to south-west alignment. Ditch 642 was 1.3 m wide and shared a north-west to south-east alignment with three gullies: 622 (0.2 m wide), 632 (0.4 m wide), and 638 (0.3 m wide).
- 3.5.9 Of the small pits, 606 was 0.4 m wide, 608 was 0.65 m wide, 610 was 1 m wide, 636 was 1 m wide, and 640 was 0.7 m wide; all were oval in shape. Of the small pits / post-holes: 614 was 0.3 m wide, 616 was 0.4 m wide, 618 was 0.3 m wide, 620 was 0.3 m wide, 630 was 0.25 m wide, 634 was 0.5 m wide, and 646 was 0.2 m wide; all were sub-circular in shape. Pit 626 was 3 m wide and had an irregular shape.
- 3.5.10 Trench 7 (Figs 9 and 13) contained eleven linear features, and eight pits.
- 3.5.11 One group of ditches were aligned north-north-east to south-south-west: 704 was 2.8 m wide, 706 was 1.65 m wide and 0.4 m deep, with a moderate slope and concave base, 708 was 0.8 m wide and 736 was 1.3 m wide.
- 3.5.12 Another group shared a north-south alignment: 718 was 1.1 m wide and 0.30 m deep, with steep slope and flat base, 722 was 1.3 m wide, 732 was 0.8 m wide, and 712 was 2.5 m wide.
- 3.5.13 Gullies 714 (0.5 m wide, 0.15 m deep with moderate slope and flat base) and 742 (0.5 m wide) had a north-west to south-east alignment. Ditch 716 was 0.8 m wide, and had a north-east to south-west alignment.
- 3.5.14 Pits 710 was 1 m wide, and 724 was 1.5 m wide; both were oval shaped.
- 3.5.15 Another group of pits were were all sub-circular in shape: 720 was 0.8 m wide, 730 was 1 m wide, 740 was 0.7 m wide, 726 was 2.2 m wide and 0.4 m deep, with a moderate slope and flat base, and 728 was 1.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base.
- 3.5.16 Trench 8 (Fig. 10) contained three linear features and one pit. Ditch 806 was 1.50 m wide, and ditch 810 was 2.6 m wide; both were aligned east-west. Curvilinear gully 804 was 0.06 m deep, with shallow sides and a concave base, and the visible diameter formed by the curve was 4 m. Pit 812 was circular and 1.4 m wide.
- 3.5.17 Trench 12 (Figs 11 and 12) contained six linear features and nine pits / post-holes.
- 3.5.18 Of the ditches: 1208 was 1 m wide, 1210 was 0.9 m wide, 1222 was 3.6 m wide, and gully 1232 was 0.48 m wide and 0.29 m deep, with steep sides and a concave base; all were aligned north-west to south-east. Ditch 1224 was 1.2 m wide, was aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch 1214 was 0.6 m wide and 0.24 m deep with steep sides and a flat base, and was aligned north-south.
- 3.5.19 Pits 1204 (2.5 m wide) and 1206 (1.3 m wide) were irregularly shaped. Feature 1212 was 0.38 m wide and 0.24 m deep, with steep sides and flat base; its shape was



unclear as it had been truncated by ditch 1214. Pit 1216 was 0.5 m wide, 1218 was 0.7 m wide and 1220 was 1.1 m wide; all were oval shaped. Of the small pits / post-holes 1226 was 0.3 m wide, and 1228 was 0.5 m wide; both were circular. Possible tree-hole 1230 was 1.5 m wide and was an irregular shape.

- 3.5.20 Trench 13 (Fig. 12) contained three linear features and two pits. Furrow 1303 was 0.9 m wide and 0.1 m deep, with a gentle slope and concave base. Ditch 1305 was 0.7 m wide and 1309 was 1.8 m wide; all three were aligned north-south.
- 3.5.21 Pit 1307 was 1.8 m wide, and quarry pit 1311 was up to 5.5 m wide; both were irregular in shape.
- 3.5.22 Trench 17 contained four linear features and four pits.
- 3.5.23 Ditch 1705 was 0.95 m wide and 0.3 m deep, with a moderate slope and concave base, and was aligned north-south. Ditch 1707 was 0.6 m wide, ditch 1709 was 0.3 m wide, and ditch 1717 was 0.6 m wide; all shared a north-east to south-west alignment.
- 3.5.24 Pit 1711 was 1.6 m wide and sub-circular in shape, pit 1713 was 2.3 m wide and irregularly shaped, pit / post-hole 1715 was 0.5 m wide and circular in shape and pit 1718 was 1.2 m wide, and was sub-square.
- 3.5.25 Trench 18 contained two linear features and one pit. Ditch 1805 was 0.8 m wide and 0.1 m deep, with shallow sides and a concave base, and was aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch 1808 was 1.3 m wide and aligned east-west, and pit 1806 was 1.3 m wide, and sub-oval in shape.
- 3.5.26 Trench 21 contained two linear features and four tree-holes / pits. Tree-hole 2103 was 2.2 m wide and 0.17 m deep, with steep slopes and a flat base. Of the other tree-holes / pits: 2105 was 1.3 m wide, 2107 was 1.2 m wide and 2109 was 0.8 m wide; all were sub-oval in shape. Ditch 2111 was 0.6 m wide and ditch 2113 was 0.5 m wide; they shared a north-east to south-west alignment.

### 3.6 Trenches in Group 3

- 3.6.1 Trench 10 contained three pits. Quarry pit 1003 was irregular in shape, and 3.9 m wide, with steep sides, and excavated to a depth of 0.30 m. Quarry pit 1005, also irregular in shape and 6.5 m wide, and pit 1007 was oval shaped and 1.3 m wide.
- 3.6.2 Trench 14 contained a large quarry pit (1403), 10.40 m wide and +0.1 m deep and irregularly shaped.
- 3.6.3 Trench 15 contained a large quarry pit (1504). It was 13 m wide and irregularly shaped.
- 3.6.4 Trench 19 contained four quarry pits: Pit 1902 (0.74 m wide and 0.22 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base), pit 1905 (6.5 m wide), pit 1907, (1.7 m wide), and pit 1909, (2.9 m wide); all had an irregular shape.
- 3.6.5 Trench 20 contained a single quarry pit (2004), which was 3.8 m wide and had an irregular shape.
- 3.6.6 Trench 35 contained one linear feature and two pits / tree-holes. Ditch 3505 was 1.7 m wide, and was aligned east-west. Pit / tree-hole 3503 was 0.47 m wide and 0.14 m deep, with a moderate slope and concave base, and sub-oval shaped. Pit / tree-hole 3507 was 0.7 m wide and oval shaped.



### 3.7 Trenches in Group 4

- 3.7.1 Trench 31 contained two linear features. Ditch 3104 was 3 m wide, was excavated to a depth of 0.5 m, and had steep sides. Ditch 3106 was 1.4 m wide. They shared a north-south alignment.
- 3.7.2 Trench 33 contained two ditches, one pit and two furrows. Ditch 3305 was 0.8 m wide and was aligned north-east to south-west, ditch 3307 was 0.8 m wide and was aligned north-west to south-east.
- 3.7.3 Pit 3311 was 0.7 m wide. Furrow 3303 was 0.88 m wide and 0.07 m deep with shallow sides and a concave base. Furrow 3309 was 1.4 m wide; both were on a north-south alignment.
- 3.7.4 Trench 37 contained two linear features. Ditch 3704 was 3 m wide, and ditch 3706 was 1.75 m wide; they shared a north-east-south to west alignment.
- 3.7.5 Trench 39 contained two linear features. Ditch 3904 was 2 m wide, and ditch 3906 was 3 m wide; they shared a north-south alignment.

### 3.8 Finds summary

- 3.8.1 The evaluation produced 155 sherds (1513 g) of pottery ranging in date from the middle Iron Age to the post-medieval period, although the great majority was assigned to the early Roman period. There were six animal bones recovered from the site, two sheep or goat, one medium mammal, and one large mammal. There were various metal and glass finds recovered, all of post-medieval or modern date.
- 3.8.2 As shown in Table 1 below, pottery dating to the late Iron Age and early Roman period was concentrated in Trenches 7 and 12. Trenches 1, 2, 9 and 13 also had pottery from this period but in small quantities.
- 3.8.3 Pit 107 in Trench 10 contained a single sherd dated to the late Saxon period or possibly a little later.





## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 Soil conditions at the site, as mentioned earlier, made it sometimes very difficult to distinguish features from the natural clay, particularly during bright conditions (such as during the monitoring visit by Hugh Coddington, where he noted that a similar problem was encountered during the OA and TVAS excavations to the north (pers comm)). Overcast and damp conditions helped define features more clearly, but the difficulty of seeing features means that a degree of caution must be observed when attempting to quantify the full potential of the site.
- 4.1.2 The medieval furrows that were present throughout the field share the same alignment as some of the late Iron Age - early Roman linear features, and had very similar fills. Confidently distinguishing between the two was thus difficult, making interpretation of the extent of the possible field systems (see below) problematic.
- 4.1.3 The presence of possible tree-holes in a number of the trenches means that attempts to quantify of the likely number of pits and or post-holes must be approached with caution.
- 4.1.4 Generally the confidence level should be regarded as moderate to good; some of the features which were excavated contained reasonable quantities of pottery and many had profiles consistent with the interpretations suggested by their shape in plan. However this confidence must be qualified by the fact that pottery dating to the late Iron Age and early Roman period was only found in substantial quantities in Trenches 7 and 12; Trenches 1, 2, 9 and 13 had pottery from this period but only in small quantities. Feature 712 in Trench 7 was was a shallow linear initially interpreted as a furrow, but contained a substantial quantity of Roman pottery – the artefactual evidence makes this interpretation unlikely, and is further evidence of the issue discussed in section 4.1.2, above.

### 4.2 Interpretation

- 4.2.1 Archaeological features consisting of ditches, gullies, pits and possible post-holes of a possible late Iron age-early Roman date were generally concentrated within the north-western area of the field (Group 2 - see Fig. 2). The boundaries of Trench Group 2 have been drawn to encompass those trenches that contain features consistent with a small settlement within a field system, but many of those features were undated, or only contain small amounts of pottery. The distribution and density of the finds may suggest that the extent of this settlement may actually be limited to an area immediately around Trenches 7 and 12.
- 4.2.2 The linear features were generally aligned either on a roughly north-south to east-west, or a north-east to south-west or north-west to south-east direction (Fig. 3). This could indicate the presence of one or more field systems, or ditches relating to stock control, such as drove-ways.
- 4.2.3 As stated above, the gullies, pits and post-holes could indicate a settlement component within the field system. Further evidence from this comes from a single 1 m intervention within Trench 12, where a pit (1212), containing eight sherds (22 g) of first to second century pottery, was cut by ditch 1214, that contained sixty sherds (629 g) of second century pottery. The amount of pottery within the fills supports the suggestion of a settlement within or near to the site.



- 4.2.4 The occurrence of chaff and cereal grain in both of the processed environmental samples does suggest that crop processing was being carried out in the local environment at the time that ditches were open (see below).
- 4.2.5 The excavations to the north revealed early to middle Iron Age settlement. The focus of that settlement appears to have shifted, with predominantly early Iron Age activity in the south (Weaver and Ford 2004), and more evidence of middle Iron Age settlement to the north (Cook et al. 2004). Neither site contained clear evidence of a significant later Iron Age or early Roman settlement, although it is possible that Ditch Group 3 at the latter may represent a small early Roman settlement (Cook et al. 2004, 277). Iron Age sites of the higher Thames gravel terraces and the Corallian Ridge in this area tend to last throughout the Iron Age, albeit with shifts in the focus of the settlement (Lambrick and Robinson, 2009, 108). The evidence from the evaluation might suggest another such shift in the focus, with the initial move northwards followed by a shift further south in the late Iron Age to early Roman period, but further investigation would be necessary to prove this.
- 4.2.6 Possibly medieval furrows were present across the field, roughly orientated north to south, although a slight shift in orientation, to the north-east to south-west was noted in the north-eastern corner of the field.
- 4.2.7 Post-medieval limestone quarries were identified within the south-east area of the field, where the limestone natural was close to the surface (Trench Group 3 – see Fig. 2). A north-south linear ditch was seen in Trenches 31, 37, and 39, which though undated, was probably post-medieval, as an extant ditch in the field to the south continued on the same alignment.

### 4.3 Significance

- 4.3.1 The results from this evaluation highlight the presence of a late Iron age-early Roman arable field system and/or or stock control ditches, and probably a small associated settlement. This activity may represent a southward shift in focus of the settlement that originated in the early to middle Iron Age and was seen in excavations to the north; features seen in the northernmost of the two previous excavations suggested the presence of an later Iron Age to early Roman settlement nearby.
- 4.3.2 This evidence is apparently limited to Trench Groups 1 and 2. Further south and east, in Trench Groups 3 and 4, the late Iron Age - early Roman activity appears to be absent, with activity limited to quarrying and ditches of probable post-medieval date.



## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Please note – question marks in the following tables indicate uncertainty regarding feature type or date

Trench 1							
General description					Orientation		
Trench contained two linear features, cut into natural clay.					n-s		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.5
					Width (m)		1.5
		Length (m)		25			
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
101	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-	
102	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	1 sherd	M-LIA	
103	Layer	-	-	Natural clay	-	-	
104	Void						
105	Void						
106	Cut	0.55	-	e-w gully?			
107	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 106			
108	Cut	0.8	-	n-s gully			
109	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 108	2 sherds	PMED	

Trench 2							
General description					Orientation		
Trench contained four linear features, cut into the natural clay.					e-w		
					Avg. depth (m)		0.32
					Width (m)		1.5
		Length (m)		30			
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
201	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-	
202	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-	
203	Layer	-	-	Natural clay			
204	Cut	2.45	-	n-s furrow?			
205	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 204	2 sherds	17C+	
206	Cut	2.9	-	n-s furrow?			
207	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 206	1 sherd	Poss RB	
208	Cut	-	-	ne/ sw plough scar?			
209	Fill	-	-	Fill of plough scar 208			
210	Cut	3	0.1	n-s furrow? (excavated)			
211	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 211			



212	Cut	2	0.08	nnw/sse (excavated)	furrow		
213	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 212			

**Trench 3**

<b>General description</b>  Trench contains eight linear features, eight pits and one tree-hole, cut into the natural clay.	<b>Orientation</b>	e-w
	<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.34
	<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
	<b>Length (m)</b>	30

**Contexts**

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
301	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
303	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
304	Cut	1.5	-	Pit?		
305	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 304		
306	Cut	0.5	-	Pit		
307	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 306		
308	Cut	1.9	0.3	Tree-hole (excavated)		
309	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 308		
310	Cut	3.3	-	n-s ditch		
311	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 310	1 sherd	17C+
312	Cut	1.6	-	n-s ditch		
313	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 312		
314	Cut	0.65	-	Pit		
315	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 314		
316	Cut	2.5	-	n-s ditch?		
317	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 316		
318	Cut	1.5	-	Pit		
319	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 318		
320	Cut	1	-	Pit		
321	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 320		
322	Cut	1	-	n-s ditch		
323	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 322		
324	Cut	0.5	-	nw-se Ditch terminus?		
325	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 324		
326	Cut	0.55	-	Pit		
327	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 326		
328	Cut	0.6	-	Pit		



329	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 328		
330	Cut	0.68	0.07	nne-ssw gully (excavated)		
331	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 330		
332	Cut	0.8	-	n-s ditch		
333	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 332		
334	Cut	1.3	-	nnw-sse ditch		
335	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 334		
336	Cut	0.6	-	Pit		
337	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 336		

Trench 4						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench contains two pits, three tree-holes and five linear features, cut into the natural clay					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.37
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
401	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
403	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
404	Cut	2.3	0.2	Pit? (excavated)		
405	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 404		
406	Cut	0.3	-	nw-se gully		
407	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 406		
408	Cut	1	-	ne-sw gully		
409	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 408		
410	Cut	2.5	-	e-w ditch		
411	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 410		
412	Cut	1	-	ne-sw ditch		
413	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 412		
414	Cut	1.1	-	e-w ditch		
415	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 414		
416	Cut	0.7	0.1	Tree-hole (excavated)		
417	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 416		
418	Cut	1	-	Tree-hole?		
419	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 418		
420	Cut	0.8	-	Tree-hole?		
421	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 420		



422	Cut	1.3	-	Pit		
423	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 422		

**Trench 5**

<b>General description</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	e-w
Trench containing eight linear features, one pit and two tree-holes, cut into the natural clay	<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.36
	<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
	<b>Length (m)</b>	30

**Contexts**

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
501	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
502	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
503	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
504	Cut	0.4	-	Tree-hole?		
505	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 504		
506	Cut	2.25	-	n-s furrow?		
507	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 506		
508	Cut	2	-	n-s furrow?		
509	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 508		
510	Cut	1.6		n-s furrow?		
511	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 510		
512	Cut	1		Tree-hole?		
513	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 512		
514	Cut	1.2	0.1	n-s ditch (excavated)		
515	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 515		
516	Cut	0.55	-	Curvilinear ditch		
517	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 517		
518	Cut	1.3	-	Curvilinear ditch		
519	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 519		
520	Cut	8.3	-	Quarry pit?		
521	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 520		
522	Cut	1.8		n-s furrow?		
523	fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 522		
524	Cut	0.35	-	ne-sw gully		
525	fill	-	-	Fill of gully 524		

**Trench 6**

<b>General description</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
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Trench containing 9 linear features and 19 pits-post-holes, cut into the natural clay				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.55	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
601	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
603	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
604	Cut	1.7	0.28	e-w ditch		
605	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 604		
606	Cut	0.4		Pit?		
607	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 606		
608	Cut	0.65	0.08	Pit (excavated)		
609	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 608		
610	Cut	1		Pit		
611	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 610		
612	Cut	0.5	0.05	ne-sw gully (excavated)		
613	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 612		
614	Cut	0.3		Pit?		
615	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 614		
616	Cut	0.4		Pit?		
617	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 616		
618	Cut	0.3		Pit-post-hole?		
619	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 618		
620	Cut	0.3		Pit-post-hole?		
621	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 620		
622	Cut	0.2		Curvilinear gully		
623	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 622		
624	Cut	0.4		e-w ditch		
625	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 624		
626	Cut	3		Pit?		
627	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 626		
628	Cut	0.8		ne-sw ditch		
629	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 628		
630	Cut	0.25		Pit-post-hole?		
631	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 630		
632	Cut	0.4		nw-se gully		
633	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 632		



634	Cut	0.5		Pit-post-hole?		
635	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 634		
636	Cut	1		Pit?		
637	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 636		
638	Cut	0.3		gully		
639	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 638		
640	Cut	0.7		Pit		
641	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 640		
642	Cut	1.3		nw-se ditch		
643	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 642		
644	Cut	0.5		ne-sw ditch		
645	fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 644		
646	Cut	0.25		Pit-post-hole?		
647	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 646		

Trench 7						
General description					Orientation	e-w
Trench containing 11 linear features and 8 pits-post-holes, cut into the natural clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
					Width (m)	1.5
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
701	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
703	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
704	Cut	2.8	-	nne-ssw ditch?		
705	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 704	1 sherd	Late 1-2C
706	Cut	1.7	0.4	nne-ssw ditch (excavated)		
707	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 706	4 sherds	mid/late 1-2C
708	Cut	0.8	-	nne-ssw ditch		
709	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 708		
710	Cut	1	-	Pit		
711	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 710		
712	Cut	2.5	-	n-s furrow or ditch		
713	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow or ditch 713	39 sherds	mid/late 1C-mid 2C
714	Cut	0.5	-	nw-se gully (excavated)		
715	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 714	1 sherd	Mid 1C
716	Cut	0.7	-	ne sw Linear?		





717	Fill	-	-	Fill of linear 716		
718	Cut	0.85	0.3	n-s ditch (excavated)		
719	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 718	7 sherds	Late 1-2C
720	Cut	0.8	-	Pit-post-hole		
721	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 720		
722	Cut	1.3	-	n-s ditch		
723	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 722		
724	Cut	1.5	-	Pit		
725	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 724	1 sherd	Late 1-2C
726	Cut	2.2	0.4	Pit (excavated)		
727	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 726	2 sherds	Late 1-2C
728	Cut	1.7	0.3	Pit (excavated)		
729	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 742		
730	Cut	1	-	Pit-post-hole		
731	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 730		
732	Cut	0.8	-	n-s ditch		
733	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 733		
734	Cut	1.6	-	Pit		
735	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 734		
736	Cut	1.3	-	nne-ssw ditch		
737	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 736		
738	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 706	5 sherds	1C?
739	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 724		
740	Cut	0.7	-	Pit		
741	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 740		
742	Cut	0.5		nw-se gully		

Trench 8						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	n-s	
Trench containing three linear features and one pit, cut into the natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.36	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
801	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
803	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
804	Cut	0.4	0.06	Curvilinear gully		



805	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 804		
806	Cut	1.5	-	e-w ditch		
807	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 806		
808	Cut	0.25	-	Field drain		
809	Fill	-	-	Fill of field drain 808		
810	Cut	2.6	-	e-w ditch		
811	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 810		
812	Cut	1.4	-	Pit		
813	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 812		
814	Void	-	-			

Trench 9						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	nne-ssw
Trench containing two linear features and one pit, cut into the natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
900	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	-	Natural clay	-	-
902	Cut	0.68	0.08	ne-sw ditch (excavated)		
903	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 903	1 sherd	late1-4C
904	Cut	1	-	Pit		
905	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 904		
906	Cut	0.9	-	ne-sw ditch		
907	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 906	2 sherds	1-2C / MED?

Trench 10						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench contains 3 Pits cut into the natural limestone.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.32
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1000	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		
1003	Cut	3.9	0.3	Quarry pit (excavated)		



1004	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1003	1 sherd	Poss RB
1005	Cut	6.5	-	Quarry pit		
1006	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1005	1 sherd	17C+
1007	Cut	1.3	-	Pit?		
1008	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1007	1 sherd	9-11C

Trench 11						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	e-w
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying natural Limestone					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.26
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1100	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.02	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		

Trench 12						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench containing six linear features, and nine pits post-holes, cut into the natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.6
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1201	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1203	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
1204	Cut	2.5	-	Pit		
1205	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1204		
1206	Cut	1.3	-	Pit?		
1207	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1206		
1208	Cut	1	-	nw-se ditch		
1209	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1208	1 sherd	120-200
1210	Cut	0.9	-	nw-se ditch		
1211	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1210		
1212	Cut	0.38	0.24	Pit (excavated)		
1213	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1212	8 sherds	Late 1-2C
1214	Cut	0.6	0.24	nne-ssw ditch (excavated)		



1215	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1214	60 sherds	2C
1216	Cut	0.5	-	Pit-post-hole		
1217	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 1216		
1218	Cut	0.7	-	Pit		
1219	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1218		
1220	Cut	1.1	-	Pit		
1221	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1220		
1222	Cut	3.6	-	nw-se ditch		
1223	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1222		
1224	Cut	1.2	-	ne-sw ditch		
1225	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1225		
1226	Cut	0.3	-	Pit-post-hole		
1227	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 1226		
1228	Cut	0.5	-	Pit-post-hole		
1229	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit-post-hole 1228		
1230	Cut	1.5	-	Pit?		
1231	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1230		
1232	Cut	0.48	0.29	nw-se gully (excavated)		
1233	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 1232		

Trench 13						
General description					Orientation	e-w
Trench containing three linear features and two pits, cut into natural clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
					Width (m)	1.5
					Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1300	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
1302	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
1303	Cut	0.9	0.1	n-s furrow (excavated)		
1304	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 1303	1 sherd	17C
1305	Cut	0.7	-	n-s gully		
1306	Fill	-	-	Fill of gully 1305	1 sherd	PMED
1307	Cut	1.8	-	Pit		
1308	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1307		
1309	Cut	1.8	-	n-s ditch		
1310	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1309	1 sherd	Mid 1-2C



1311	Cut	5.5	-	Quarry pit		
1312	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1311	1 sherd	Mid 1-2C

Trench 14						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		e-w
Trench contained one quarry pit cut into the natural limestone.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.28
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1400	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.1	subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		
1403	Cut	10.4	0.1	Quarry pit (excavated)		
1404	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1403	2 sherds	18C+

Trench 15						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		n-s
Trench containing single quarry pit cut into the natural limestone.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1500	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1503	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		
1504	Cut	13	-	Quarry pit		
1505	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1504	1 sherd	19C+

Trench 16						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		n-s
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural limestone				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1601	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-



1602	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1603	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		

Trench 17						
General description				Orientation		e-w
Trench containing four linear features and four pits, cut into the natural clay and limestone.				Avg. depth (m)		0.5
				Width (m)		1.5
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1701	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
1702	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
1703	Layer	-	-	Natural clay and limestone		
1704	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1705		
1705	Cut	1.65	0.4	n-s ditch (excavated)		
1706	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1707		
1707	Cut	0.6	-	ne-sw ditch		
1708	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1709		
1709	Cut	0.3	-	ne-sw ditch		
1710	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1711		
1711	Cut	1.6	-	Pit		
1712	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1713		
1713	Cut	2.3	-	Pit		
1714	Fill	-	-	Fill of post-hole 1715		
1715	Cut	0.5	-	Post-hole		
1716	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1717		
1717	Cut	0.6	-	ne-sw ditch		
1718	Cut	1.2	-	Pit 1719		
1719	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit		

Trench 18						
General description				Orientation		n-s
Trench containing three linear features and one pit, cut into the natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.45
				Width (m)		1.5
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date



1801	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1802	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
1803	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
1804	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1805		
1805	Cut	0.8	0.1	ne-sw ditch (excavated)		
1806	Cut	0.7	-	Pit		
1807	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1806		
1808	Cut	1.3	-	e-w ditch?		
1809	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 1808		

Trench 19						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		e-w
Trench containing 4 quarry pits cut into the natural limestone.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.65
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1900	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Cut	0.74	0.22	Quarry pit (excavated)		
1903	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1903		
1904	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		
1905	Cut	6.5	-	Quarry pit		
1906	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1905		
1907	Cut	1.7	-	Quarry pit		
1908	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 1907		
1909	Cut	2.9	-	Quarry pit		
1910	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit1909		

Trench 20						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		n-s
Trench containing a single quarry pit cut into the natural limestone.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2001	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-



2003	Layer	-	-	Natural		
2004	Cut	3.8	-	Quarry pit		
2005	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 2004		

Trench 21						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench containing two linear features and four tree-hole-pits, cut into the natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.68
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2100	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Layer	-	-	Natural clay and limestone		
2103	Cut	2.2	0.17	Tree-hole (excavated)		
2104	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 2103		
2105	Cut	1.3	-	Tree-hole-pit		
2106	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole-pit 2105		
2107	Cut	1.2	-	Tree-hole-pit		
2108	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole-pit 2107		
2109	Cut	0.8	-	Tree-hole-pit		
2110	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole-pit 2109		
2111	Cut	0.6	-	ne-sw ditch		
2112	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2111		
2113	Cut	0.5	-	ne-sw ditch		
2114	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2113		

Trench 22						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	e-w
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural limestone.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.55
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		





Trench 23						
General description				Orientation		nne/ ssw
Trench containing four linear features and one pit, cut into the natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.38
				Width (m)		1.5
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2301	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2302	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
2303	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
2304	Cut	2.5	-	e-w ditch?		
2305	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2304		
2306	Cut	3.3	-	Pit		
2307	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 2306		
2308	Cut	1.8	-	e-w ditch? (excavated)		
2309	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2308		
2310	Cut	0.3	-	n-s ditch?		
2311	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2310		
2312	Cut	0.4	-	n-s ditch?		
2313	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2312		

Trench 24						
General description				Orientation		n-s
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay				Avg. depth (m)		0.48
				Width (m)		1.5
				Length (m)		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2401	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2402	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2403	Layer	-	-	Natural		

Trench 25						
General description				Orientation		e-w
Trench containing three n-e furrows, cut into the natural clay.				Avg. depth (m)		0.3
				Width (m)		1.5
				Length (m)		30



<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
2501	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
2503	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
2504	Cut	1.6	-	ne-sw furrow		
2505	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2504		
2506	Cut	1.6	0.2	ne-sw furrow (excavated)		
2507	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2506		
2508	Cut	1.7	-	ne-sw furrow		
2509	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2508		

<b>Trench 26</b>						
<b>General description</b>			<b>Orientation</b>	n-s		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay			<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.44		
			<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5		
			<b>Length (m)</b>	30		
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
2601	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2602	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2603	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		

<b>Trench 27</b>						
<b>General description</b>			<b>Orientation</b>	e-w		
Trench containing three furrows cut into the natural clay.			<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4		
			<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5		
			<b>Length (m)</b>	30		
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
2700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2701	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
2702	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
2703	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2704		
2704	Cut	1.7	-	ne-sw furrow		
2705	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2706		
2706	Cut	3.8	0.2	ne-sw furrow (excavated)		



2707	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2708		
2708	Cut	1.7	-	ne-sw furrow		

Trench 28						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	n-s	
Trench containing one linear and three furrows, cut into the natural clay				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2800	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2801	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
2802	Layer	-	-	Natural		
2803	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 2804		
2804	Cut	3	0.7	nw-se ditch (excavated)		
2805	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2806		
2806	Cut	1.2	-	ne-sw furrow		
2807	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2808		
2808	Cut	1.5	-	ne-sw furrow		
2809	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 2810		
2810	Cut	1.5	-	ne-sw furrow		

Trench 29						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	e-w	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.34	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2901	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2902	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
2903	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		

Trench 30						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	n-s	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	



<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3001	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3002	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3003	Layer	-	-	Natural		

<b>Trench 31</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		e-w
Trench containing two ditches, cut into the natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.5
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3101	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
3102	Layer	-		Subsoil	-	-
3103	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
3104	Cut	3	0.5	ne-sw ditch (excavated)		
3105	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3104		
3106	Cut	1.4	-	ne-sw ditch		
3107	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3106		

<b>Trench 32</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		n-s
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.4
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3201	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3202	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3203	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		

<b>Trench 33</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		e-w
Trench containing four linear features and one pit, cut into the natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.41
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30



<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3301	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		
3303	Cut	0.88	0.07	n/ s furrow (excavated)		
3304	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 3303	1 sherd	PMED
3305	Cut	0.8	-	ne/ sw ditch		
3306	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3305		
3307	Cut	0.8	-	nw-se ditch		
3308	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3307		
3309	Cut	1.4	-	n-s ditch / furrow		
3310	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3309		
3311	Cut	0.7	-	Pit		
3312	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 3311		

<b>Trench 34</b>						
<b>General description</b>			<b>Orientation</b>	n-s		
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.			<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.5		
			<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5		
			<b>Length (m)</b>	30		
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3401	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3402	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3403	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		

<b>Trench 35</b>						
<b>General description</b>			<b>Orientation</b>	n-s		
Trench containing one linear feature and two tree-holes, cut into the natural limestone.			<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.29		
			<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5		
			<b>Length (m)</b>	30		
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3500	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
3501	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural limestone		



3503	Cut	0.47	0.14	Tree-hole (excavated)		
3504	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-hole 3503		
3505	Cut	1.7	-	e-w ditch		
3506	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3505		
3507	Cut	0.7	-	Tree-hole		
3508	Fill			Fill of tree-hole 3507		

Trench 36						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	e-w
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.5
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3601	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
3602	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3603	Layer	-	-	Natural clay		

Trench 37						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench containing two linears cut into the natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.5
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3701	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
3702	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3703	Layer	-	-	Natural		
3704	Cut	3	-	ne-sw Ditch		
3705	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3704		
3706	Cut	1.75	-	ne-sw Ditch		
3707	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3706		

Trench 38						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	n-s
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.45
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.5
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30



<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3801	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3802	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
3803	Layer	-	-	Natural		

<b>Trench 39</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		<b>e-w</b>
Trench containing two linears, cut into the natural clay				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.4
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3901	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3902	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3903	Layer	-	-	Natural		
3904	Cut	2	-	ne-sw ditch		
3905	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3904		
3906	Cut	3	-	ne-sw ditch		
3907	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 3906		

<b>Trench 40</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		<b>n-s</b>
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of soil and subsoil overlying a natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.4
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.5
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4001	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
4002	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
4003	Layer	-	-	Natural		



## APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By Paul Booth*

#### **Introduction and methodology**

- B.1.1 The evaluation produced 155 sherds (1513 g) of pottery ranging in date from the middle Iron Age to the post-medieval period, although the great majority was assigned to the early Roman period. The pottery was scanned quite rapidly and quantified by period for each context group (Table 1). General ware codes were noted for the Roman material, using the standard OA recording system terminology (Booth 2008). These and other codes used in Table 1 are explained below. An assessment of the date of each context group, taking account of ceramic building material as well as pottery, is also presented in Table 1.
- B.1.2 The pottery was in moderate condition. Sherd size was very variable, and the mean sherd weight of the Roman material (10.6 g) was enhanced by the presence of a few large sherds, particularly in context 1215. Some sherds were abraded so that surfaces were not well-preserved.

*Table 1: Quantification of pottery by context by period (no. sherds/weight g)*

**Please note – question marks in the following table indicate uncertainty regarding date**

CONTEXT	IRON AGE	ROMAN	MEDI-EVAL	POST-MEDIEVAL	BRICK/TILE	COMMENT	CONTEXT DATE
102	1/1					sand	M-LIA
109				2/10		incl GRE, +1/4 fired clay?	PMED
205				2/9			17C+
207		1/1?			1/7	O30?	poss RB
311				1/17		GRE	17C+
705		1/5				R30, trimmed base fragment	late 1-2C
707		4/63				E20?, E60, R90	mid-late 1C
713		39/394				E60, O10, R10, R20, R30, R90-jar rims	mid/late 1C- mid 2C
715		1/7				E20, cordoned	mid 1C
719		7/142				O30, R10, R30 (jar x 2)	late 1-2C
725		7/46				R30, R90, R95	late 1-2C?
727		2/17				R20 jar rim, R30	late 1-2C
738	4/5?	1/6				voids, sand; E60?	1C?
903		1/15				R30	late 1-4C
907		1/5	1/1?			R95	1-2C?





1004					1/3		poss RB
1006				1/6			17C+
1008			1/10			OXBF	9-11C
1209		1/11				B11/IA, 2 frags	120-200
1213	1/1	7/21				sand, O10, R10, R30	late 1-2C?
1215	5/27	55/602				sand, M22, E60, O10, R20, R30, R90-jar rims	2C
1304				1/13		slipware	17C
1306				1/1			PMED
1310		1/29				R30?	mid 1-2C
1312		1/8				S20/Curle 11	late 1C
1404				2/24		1/4 fired clay	18C+
1505				1/11	2/485	+ 2/5 fired clay	19C+
3304				1/5			PMED
TOTAL	11/34	130/1372	2/11	12/96	4/495		

### ***Fabrics, forms and chronology***

#### *Prehistoric*

B.1.3 Prehistoric fabrics were noted in terms of their principal inclusion type, usually quartz sand. The sherds in question were all small, almost all in sand-tempered fabrics, and included no feature or other diagnostic sherds. A broadly middle Iron Age date is likely. Since in all but one case these sherds were associated with later material, however, it is quite possible that they all belong to the later part of the middle Iron Age, as defined in ceramic terms, and could therefore date as late as the end of the 1st century BC.

#### *Late Iron Age-Roman*

B.1.4 The fabrics noted were as follows:

- S20. South Gaulish samian ware
- M22. Oxford white ware mortarium
- E20. Fine sand-tempered 'Belgic type' fabrics
- E60. Flint-tempered 'Belgic type' fabrics
- O10. Fine oxidised 'coarse' wares
- O30. Medium sand-tempered oxidised coarse wares
- R10. Fine reduced 'coarse' wares
- R20. Coarse sand-tempered reduced wares
- R30. Medium sandy reduced coarse wares .
- R90. Very coarse (usually grog-) tempered reduced fabrics
- R95. Savernake ware



- B.1.5 The only non-regional product was a single sherd of South Gaulish samian ware from a flanged bowl, probably of Curle type 11. All the remaining material would have been of relatively local origin. A single sherd of white ware mortarium was the only specialist product of the Oxford industry, but sherds in fabrics O10, O30, R10 and R30 could also have derived from this industry, although it is very unlikely to have accounted for all of these. The 'E' wares, broadly belonging to the late Iron Age 'Belgic' tradition, are also likely to have been of local origin. These were relatively scarce, however, the most notable element amongst them being a few sherds in flint-tempered E60 fabrics, though since the latter were all fairly small body sherds their attribution to this tradition is not absolutely certain.
- B.1.6 Relatively few vessels were represented by rim sherds and with the exception of the samian ware bowl these were all everted rim jars of various kinds, none of which is particularly diagnostic in chronological terms. Overall, however, the range of fabrics and the limited repertoire of vessel forms demonstrate that this is essentially an early Roman assemblage. It may include elements such as some of the E wares that date from before the Roman conquest, although this is not certain. Later Roman material is completely absent. None of the pottery is likely to be later in date than the latter part of the 2nd century, and it is possible that the entire assemblage belongs to the period before c AD 150.

#### *Post-Roman*

- B.1.7 The most significant post-Roman sherd was a single piece in Oxford fabric OXBF from context 1008. This fabric, originating in east Wiltshire, is dated to the late 9th-mid 13th centuries (Mellor 1994, 162), though the sherd present here may more likely belong to the earlier half of this range (John Cotter pers. comm.). A tiny sandy oxidised fragment from context 907 appeared to have a spot of glaze, but in any case is so small that it may well have been intrusive in this context. The scattering of post-medieval material is unremarkable. The code GRE is used for glazed red earthenware, ubiquitous from the 17th century onwards.

#### ***Other ceramic material***

- B.1.8 Fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from three contexts. Fragments from contexts 207 and 1004 were possibly of Roman date but were too small for this to be certain. Two much larger pieces from 1505 were of relatively recent date, the larger piece being from a brick 65 mm (2 5/8 inches) thick. Small, amorphous fragments of fired clay were recovered from three contexts. These were intrinsically undatable, but all came from contexts in which they were associated with post-medieval material.

## **B.2 Animal Bone**

#### *By Lina Strid*

- B.2.1 Six hand collected animal bones were recovered from this site (Table 2). The assemblage consists of sheep/goat and unidentified medium and large mammal. Judging from bone surface structure, all remains derived from adult or sub-adult individuals. The bones were in a fair condition, with some erosion of the surface. Traces of burning and animal gnawing were absent.
- B.2.2 The assemblage should be considered alongside any other bones retrieved from the site, should it proceed to full excavation.



Table 2. Bone assemblage

	<b>719</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>1505</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Sheep/goat		1	1	2
Medium mammal	1			1
Large mammal		1		1
Unidentified		2		2
<b>Total (NISP)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
Weight (g)	3	18	8	29

### B.3 Glass

*By Ian Scott*

- B.3.1 There are 2 sherds of vessel glass. One sherd from context 1505 is of green glass from a modern machine-made cylindrical wine bottle. The second sherd (context 1804) is of olive green glass, again probably from a cylindrical wine bottle, but possibly of late 19th-century date.
- B.3.2 No further work is required.

### B.4 Metals

*By Ian Scott*

- B.4.1 The metal assemblage comprises 13 iron fragments perhaps representing 11 objects. The assemblage includes 9 fragments of nails, 1 length of iron rod, 1 fragment probably from a cast iron pipe, and 2 small pieces of possible slag.

4.3.3 Table 3: Metal assemblage

<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Fragmen t count</b>
Context 805	1 x nail stem fragment	1
Context 809	1 x incomplete nail with small flat head	1
Context 905	1 x long nail with small head, almost complete (L: 130 mm)	1
Context 1004	2 x small fragments of possible slag	2
Context 1215	2 x incomplete nails and 1 x stem fragment	3
Context 1404	2 x stem fragments	2
Context 1505	1 x nail incomplete; 1 x fragment cast iron; 1 x length rod.	3

- B.4.2 None of the iron need date before the 20th century. No further work is required.



## APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Environmental samples

*By Julia Meen*

#### **Introduction**

C.1.1 Three bulk soil samples were taken for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR) and artefacts. Sample <1> (707) was taken from the upper fill of a ditch. Sample <3> (1215) was also taken from a ditch. Both probably dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period. A third sample was taken from a feature thought to be a medieval furrow, although this was not processed for the present evaluation

#### **Aims**

C.1.2 Sampling was undertaken to:

- Record the range of soils and sediments on site.
- Determine whether ecofacts and environmental evidence (such as plant remains, animal bone, human bone and molluscs) are present.
- Determine the quality, range, state and method of preservation of any ecofactual evidence.
- Recover and identify any small artefacts.
- Make further recommendations about sampling for future excavations at the site.

#### **Methodology**

C.1.3 Samples were processed for the recovery of CPR by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue sieved to 500µm, and both were dried in a heated room, after which the residue was sorted by eye for artefacts and ecofactual remains. The flot was scanned for charred plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification. Identifications were made without detailed reference to OA's reference collection and therefore, should all be seen as provisional. Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (1997).

#### **Results**

##### *Sediment*

C.1.4 Sample <1> was a dark yellowish brown clayey silt, taken from ditch [706], which was very well compacted into firm, irregular clods, which were difficult to break down during processing. Rounded and subrounded stone, pebble and small cobble sized, made up approximately 15% of the material. 33L was processed for the recovery of CPR and artefacts. Sample <3> was a brown clayey silt, taken from ditch [1214], and again was very well compacted and difficult to break down, with a similar level of stone inclusion as seen in sample <1>. 35L was processed for the recovery of CPR and artefacts.

##### *Bones and artefacts*

C.1.5 Finds from the samples are noted in Table 5. A small quantity of undifferentiated bone, some of which was burnt, was the only material to be recovered from sample <1>, with



bone from the 10-4 mm heavy residue retained and further occasional fragments noted in the finer residues discarded as they were too small to be diagnostic. From sample <3>, a small amount of pottery was obtained from the greater than 10 mm heavy residue, with a low quantity of undifferentiated bone from the smaller fractions, plus a micro mammal bone from the 4-2 mm residue.

### *Plant Remains*

- C.1.6 Table 4 summarises the assessment results for charred plant remains (CPR) from the two samples. No charred material was recovered from the heavy residues.
- C.1.7 Sample <1> contained abundant modern root material. Charcoal was fairly common, although tended to be small in size (often no more than 2 mm along its greatest diameter). Two thorns were noted. Cereal grains were poorly preserved and mostly indeterminate, although at least one appears to be wheat (*Triticum* sp.). Occasional chaff was present, consisting of two fragments of *Avena* sp. (oat) awn, two fragments of cereal stalk and one culm node, four glumes bases of *Triticum* c.f. *spelta* (cf spelt wheat) and one example of a free threshing glume base. There were a moderate number of weed seeds present, although mostly limited to one or two examples of each; the most abundant genus, *Rumex* sp. (dock), looks likely to be modern. The rest of the weed assemblage consisted of one seed of *Montia fontana* (blinks), one of *Chenopodium* sp. (goosefoot), one complete and one partial seed of *Lathyrus/Vicia* type (pea/vetch), plus rare examples of other weed species.
- C.1.8 Sample <3> contained a very high proportion of modern cereal stalk, grain and root material, and occasional modern seeds. Charcoal was fairly common but tended to be small in size. A moderate quantity of cereal grain was present but was mostly poorly preserved, although two compare favourably to *Triticum* sp. (wheat). Rare charred cereal stalk fragments were noted and two culm nodes were present. Two glume bases of *Triticum* cf *spelta* (spelt wheat) plus three indeterminate fragments of glume base were present, plus one rachis node. A low number of weed seeds were present, dominated by seven examples of *Montia fontana* (blinks), plus one example each of three other weed species.

### *Discussion*

- C.1.9 In keeping with findings from previous excavations at the site (Pelling 2004) charred material from both of these samples demonstrates that the environment at this site is suitable for the preservation of CPR, and suggests that other features may have considerable potential for the recovery of charred plant remains which would relate directly to the ancient economy of this area. As neither flots produced over 100 identifiable items, it is not recommended that they be put forward for further analysis should more work on this site be undertaken as they are unlikely to be of interpretable value. However, despite the small quantities recovered in these two cases, the occurrence of chaff and cereal grain in both of the samples does suggest that crop processing was being carried out in the local environment at the time that these ditches were open, and further sampling from features which have not yet been excavated may show in more detail the nature of this activity.
- C.1.10 The poor preservation of the animal bone implies that any bone recovered is liable to be biased in favour of large and robust items, limiting the potential for detailed analysis. However, at the immediately adjacent TVAS site preservation was noted as '...variable. Most bones are in good condition or slightly eroded, very few fragments are in poor condition...' (Hamilton Dyer 2004, 163)



C.1.11 Pollen may be preserved should suitable deposits, i.e. buried soils or waterlogged deposits, be discovered. No molluscs were observed in either of the flots or residues, suggesting that the soil at the site is unfavourable for their preservation.



Table 4: Assessment of charred and waterlogged plant remains

Sample No	Context No	Feature Type	Sample Volume (L.)	Date/Phase	Flot vol (ml)	Grain	chaff	weeds	other CPR	Bone/Animal	Charcoal	Molluscs	CPR/WPR Potential	Full Analysis
1	707	Ditch	33		50ml	++	++	++	+		+++		POOR/FAIR	NO
3	1215	Ditch	35		200ml	++	++	++			+++		POOR/FAIR	NO

Table 5: Finds recovered from environmental samples

Sample	Pottery	Bone	Small mammal bone
<1>	-	++	-
<3>	+	++	+



## APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site name:** Land off Coxwell Road, Faringdon

**Site code:** FAXR 10

**Grid reference:** Centred on SU 28063 94248

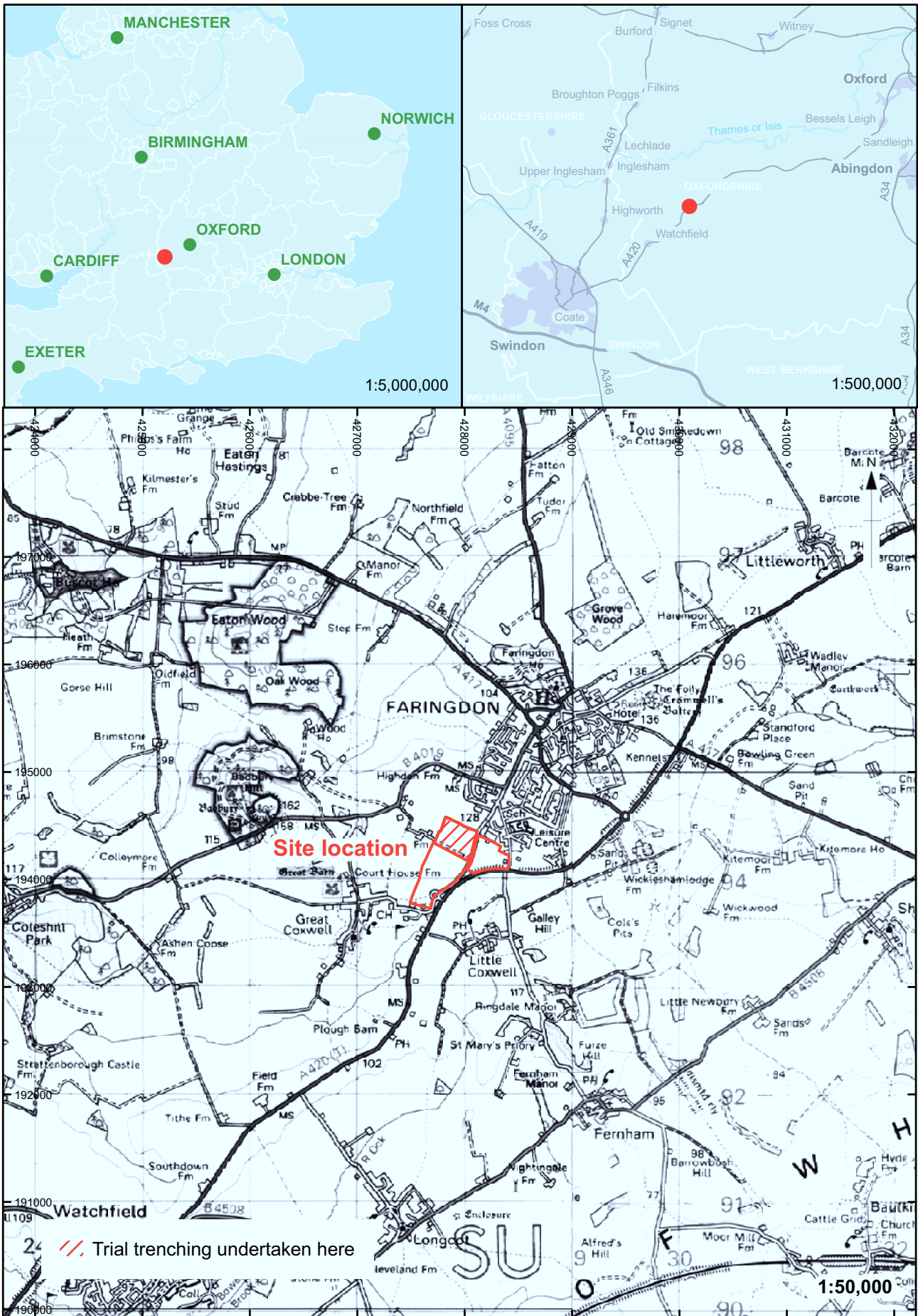
**Type:** Archaeological Field Evaluation

**Date and duration:** 11<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 10 days duration

**Summary of results:** A total of forty trenches, each measuring 30m by 1.5m were excavated, equating to a two percent sample of the field. Of the forty trenches excavated, twenty-nine contained archaeological features. These consisted of late Iron Age-early Roman linear features, pits and postholes. These were mainly concentrated in the north-western area of the field. Medieval furrows were identified sporadically throughout the field. Post-medieval quarry pits were located within the south-western area of the field.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS:2010.84





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Figure 1: Site location



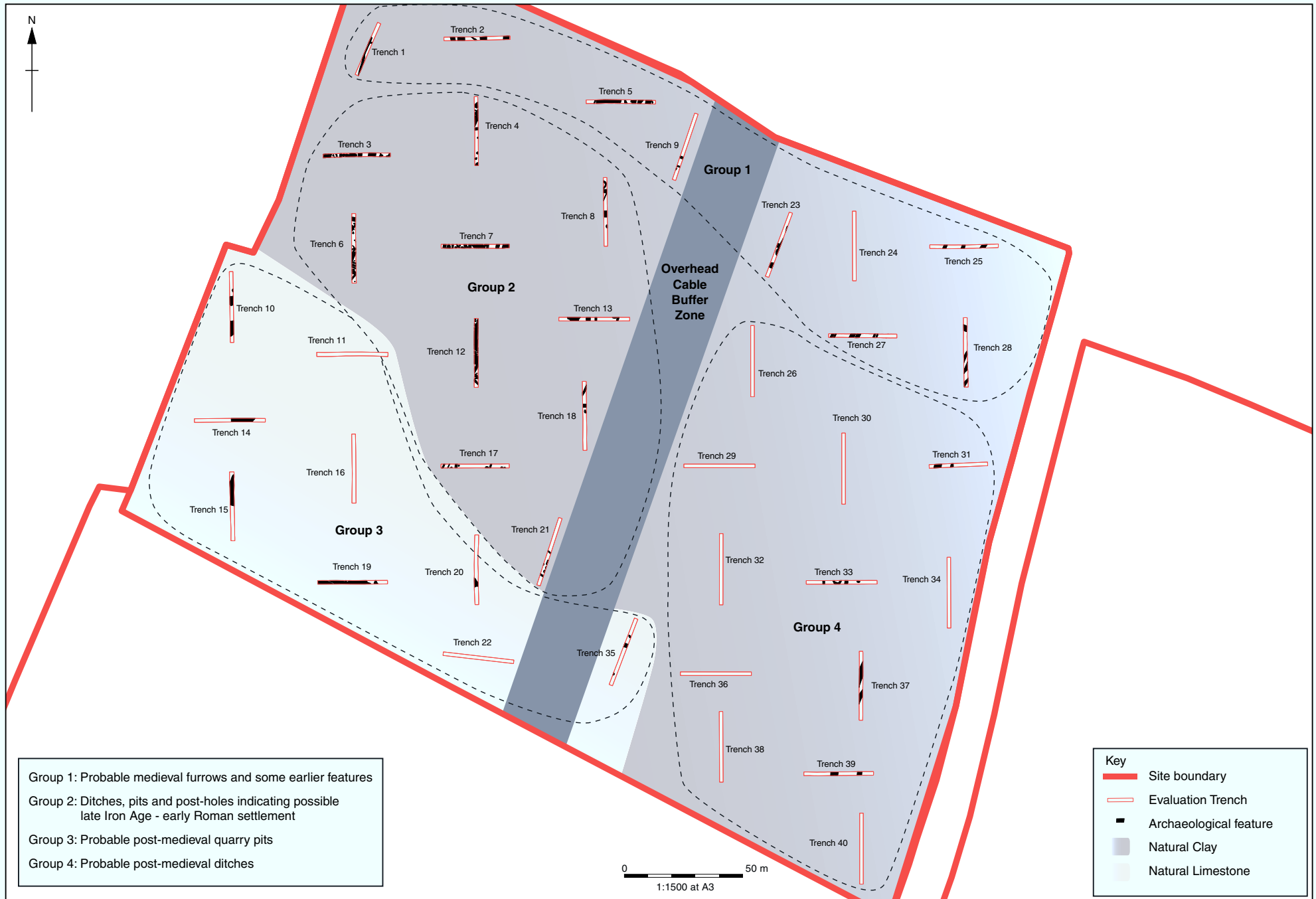


Figure 2: Overall Trench Plan showing changes in geology and Trench Groups 1-4



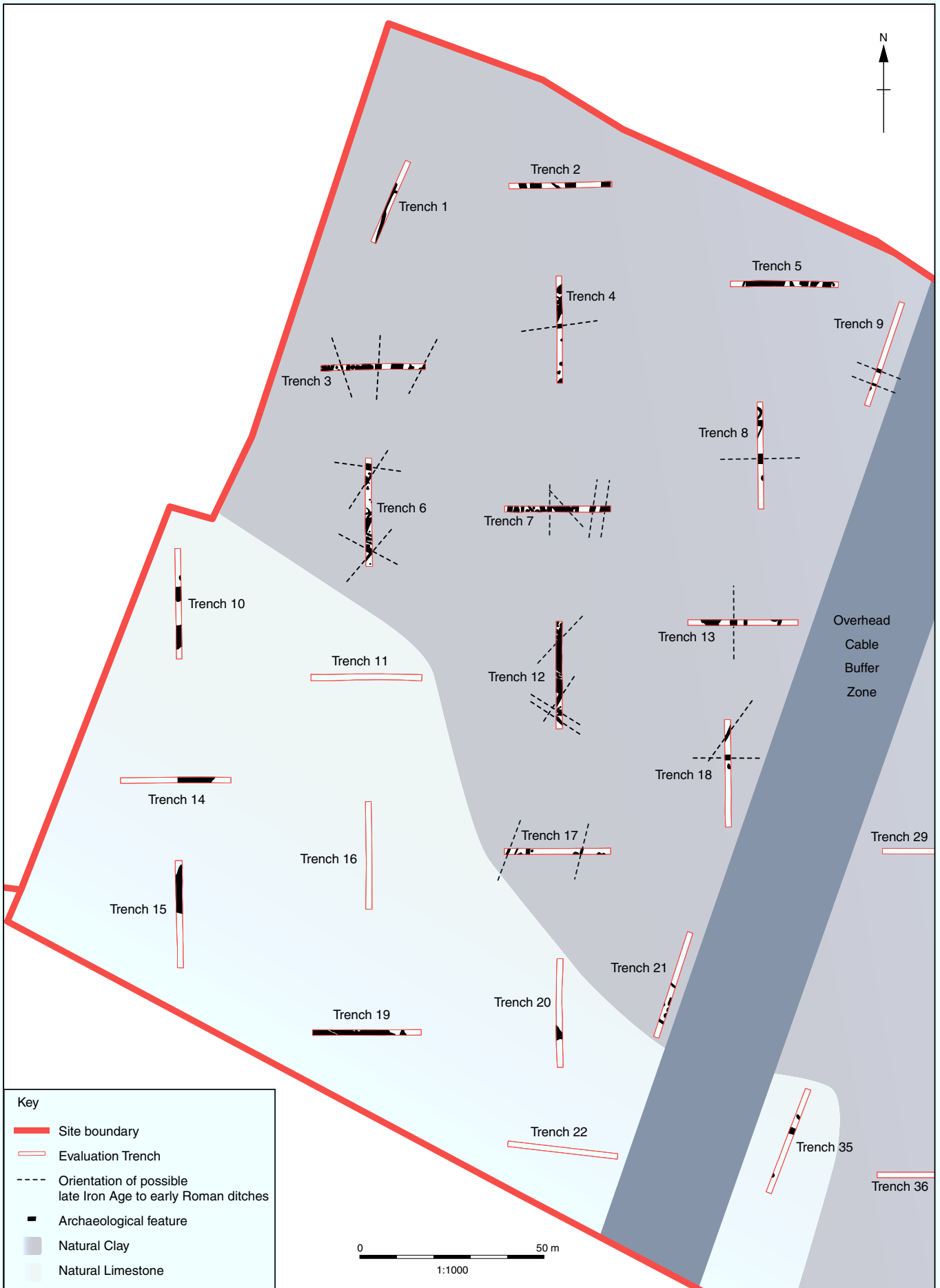


Figure 3: Trenches 1-22, Showing orientation of some ditches





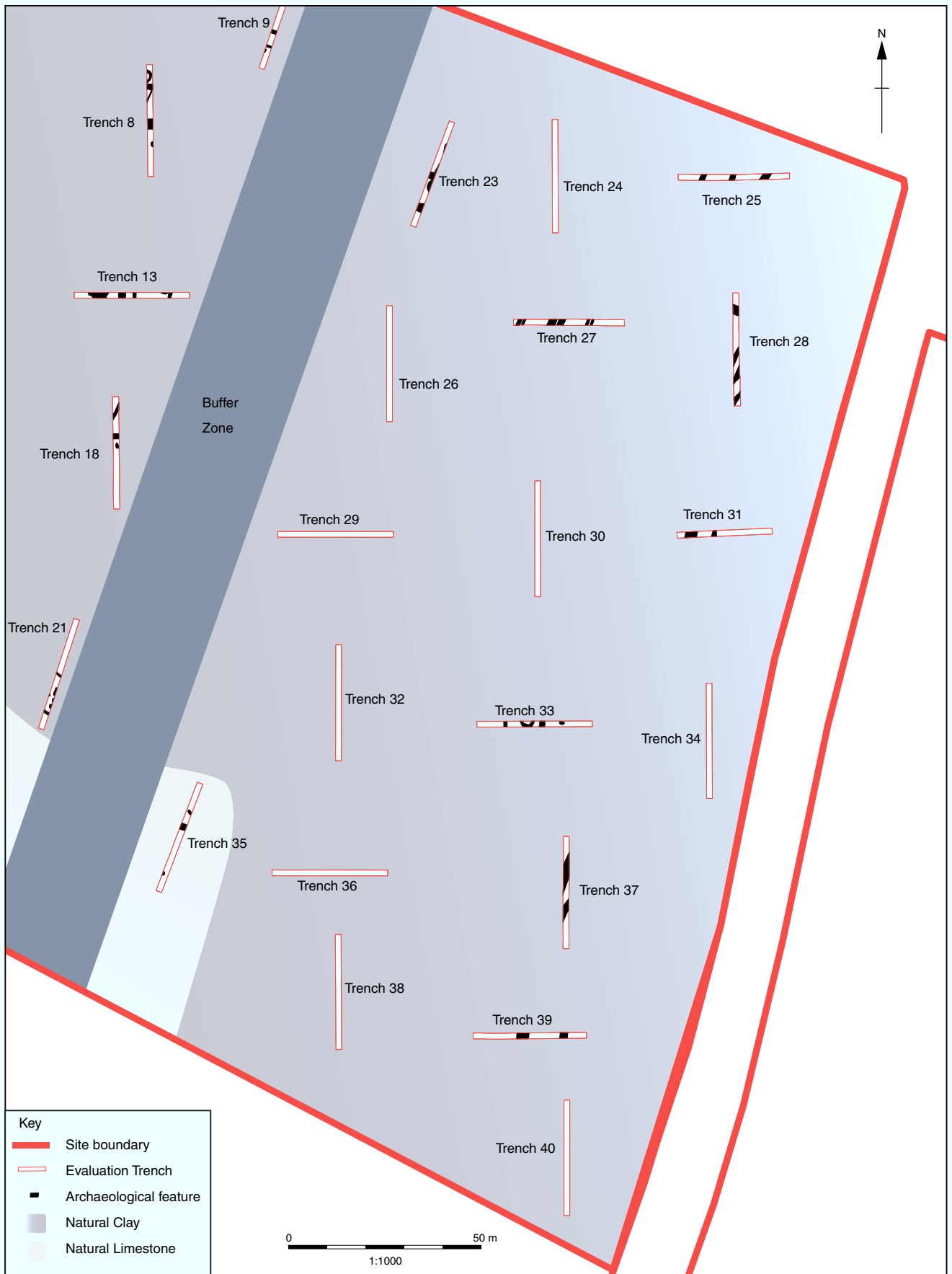


Figure 4: Trenches 23-40



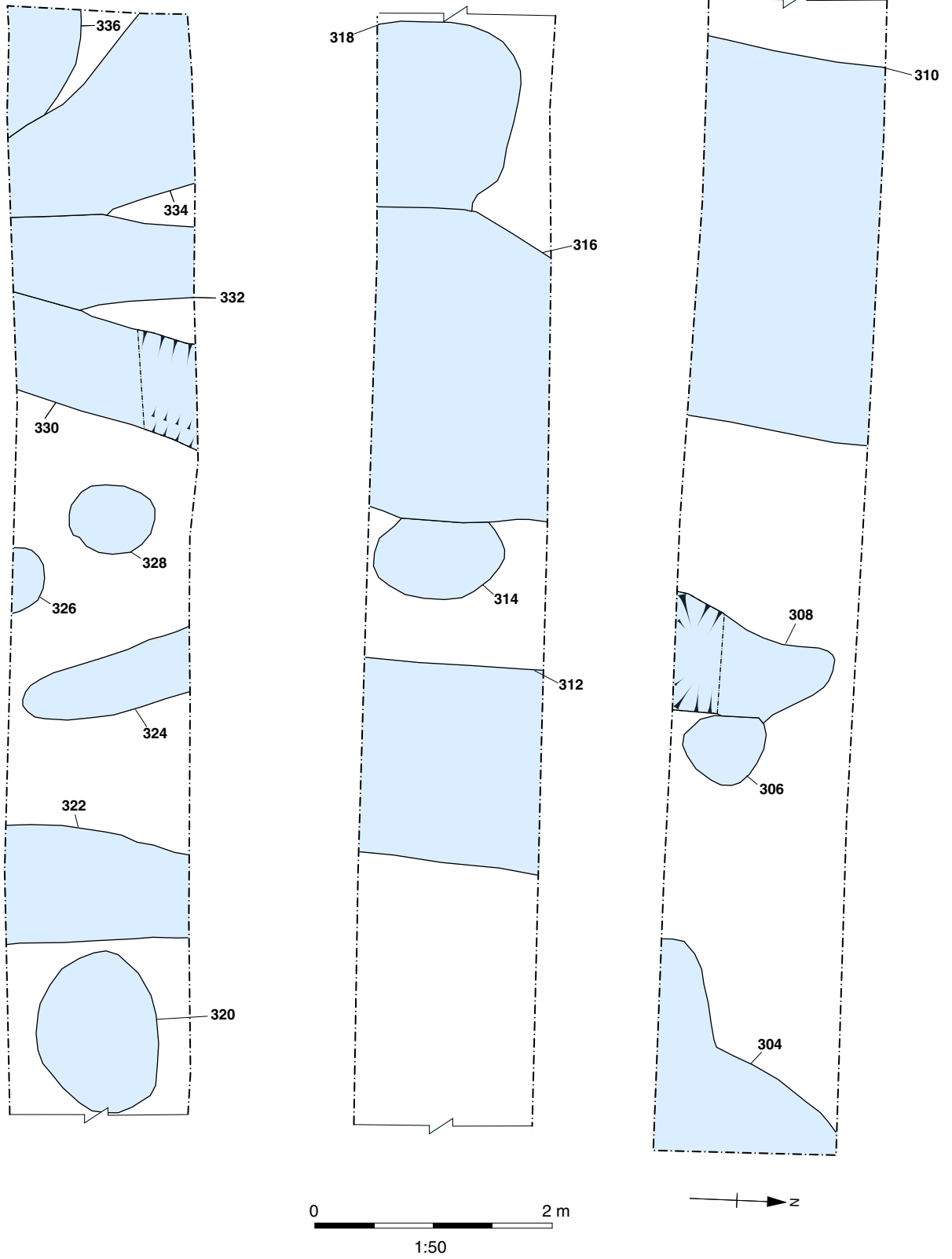


Figure 5: Plan of Trench 3



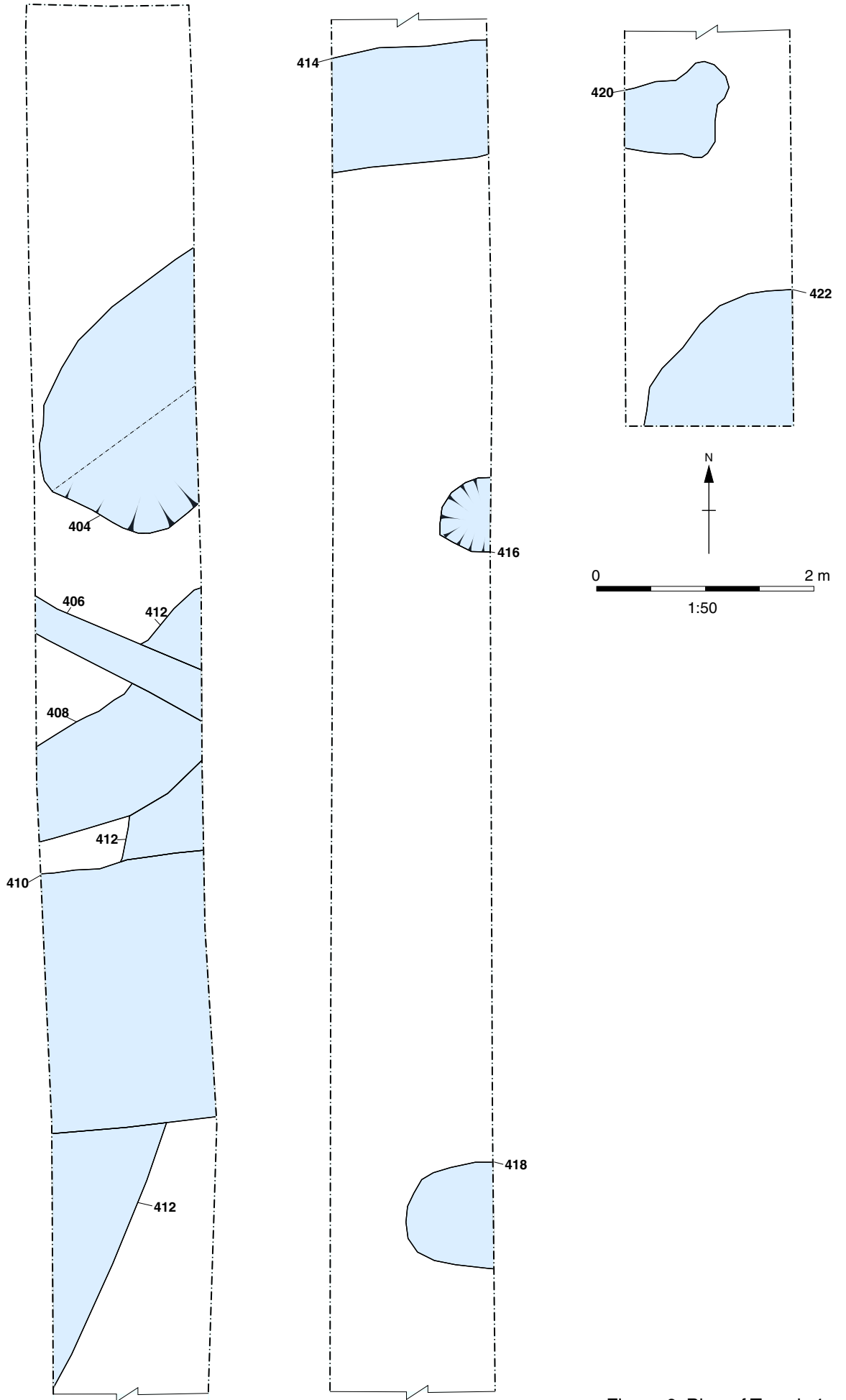


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 4



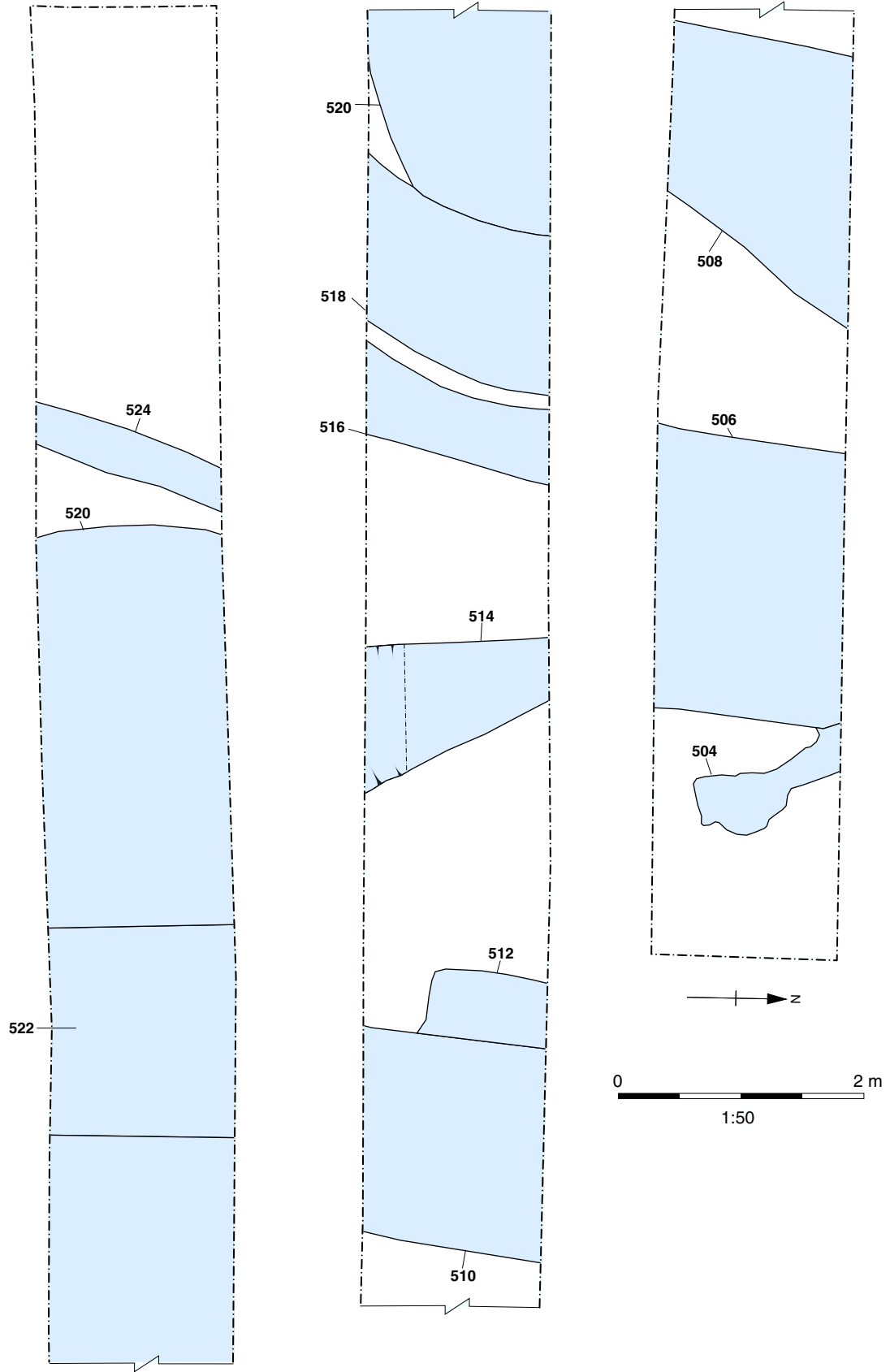


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 5





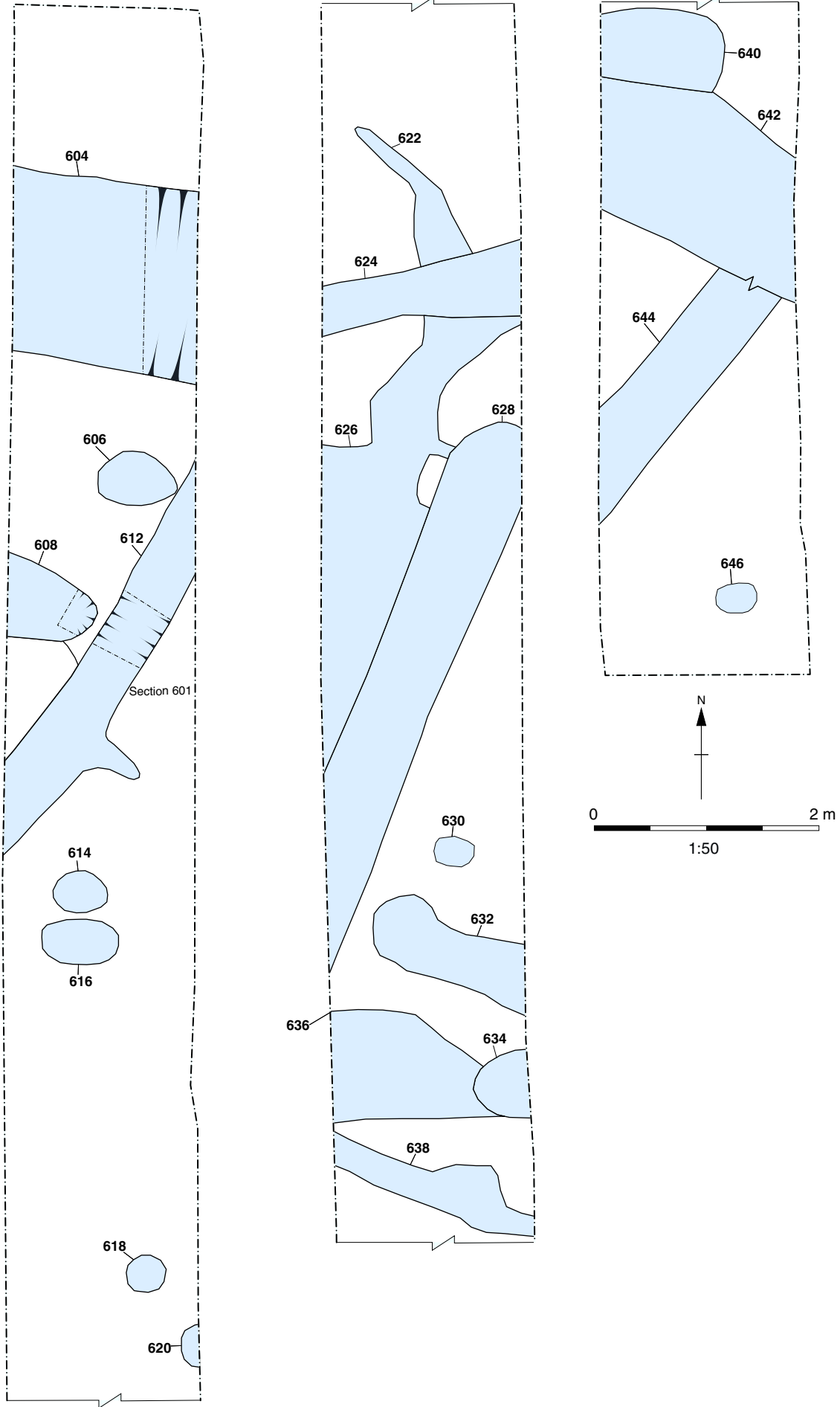


Figure 8: Plan of Trench 6



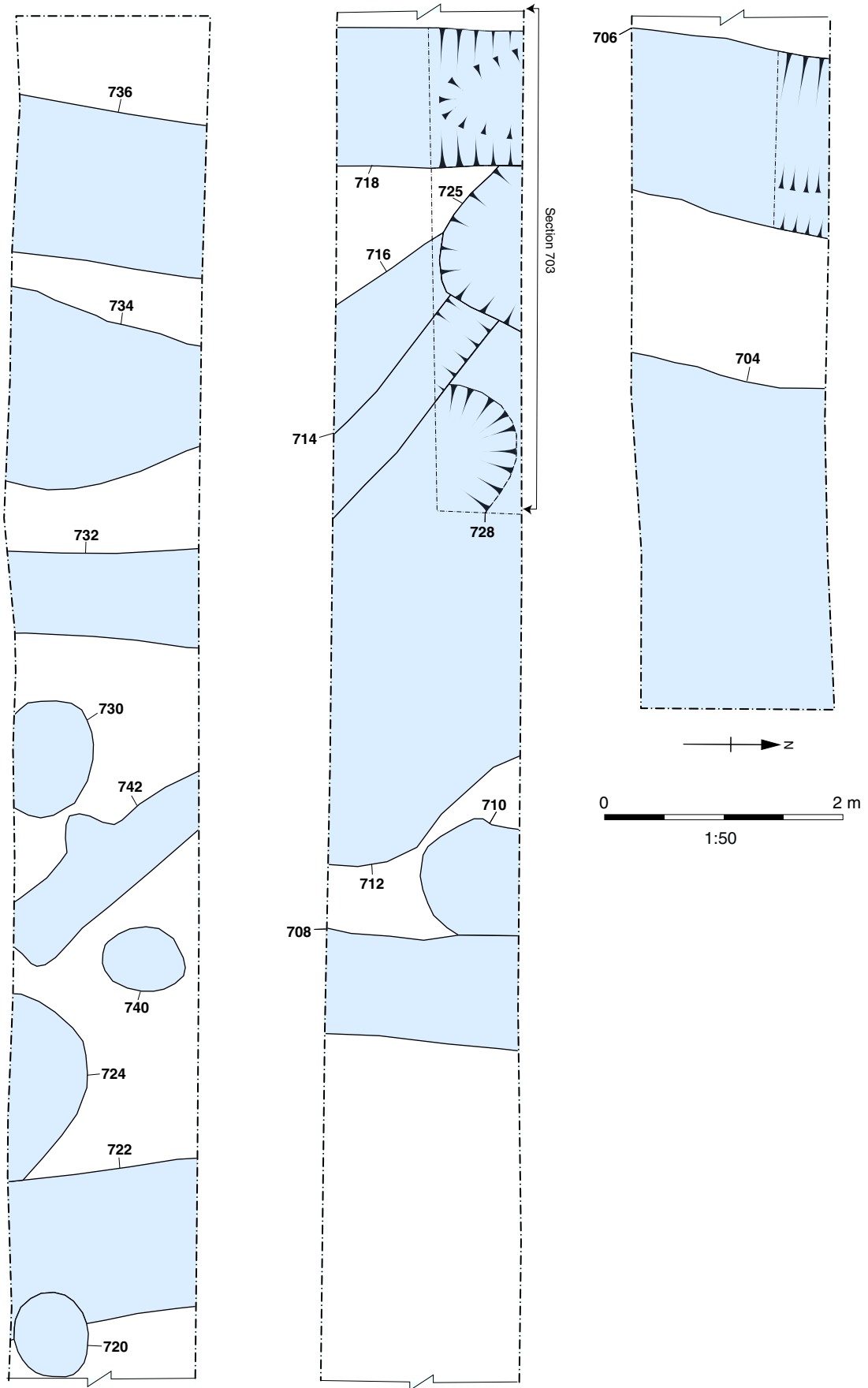


Figure 9: Plan of Trench 7



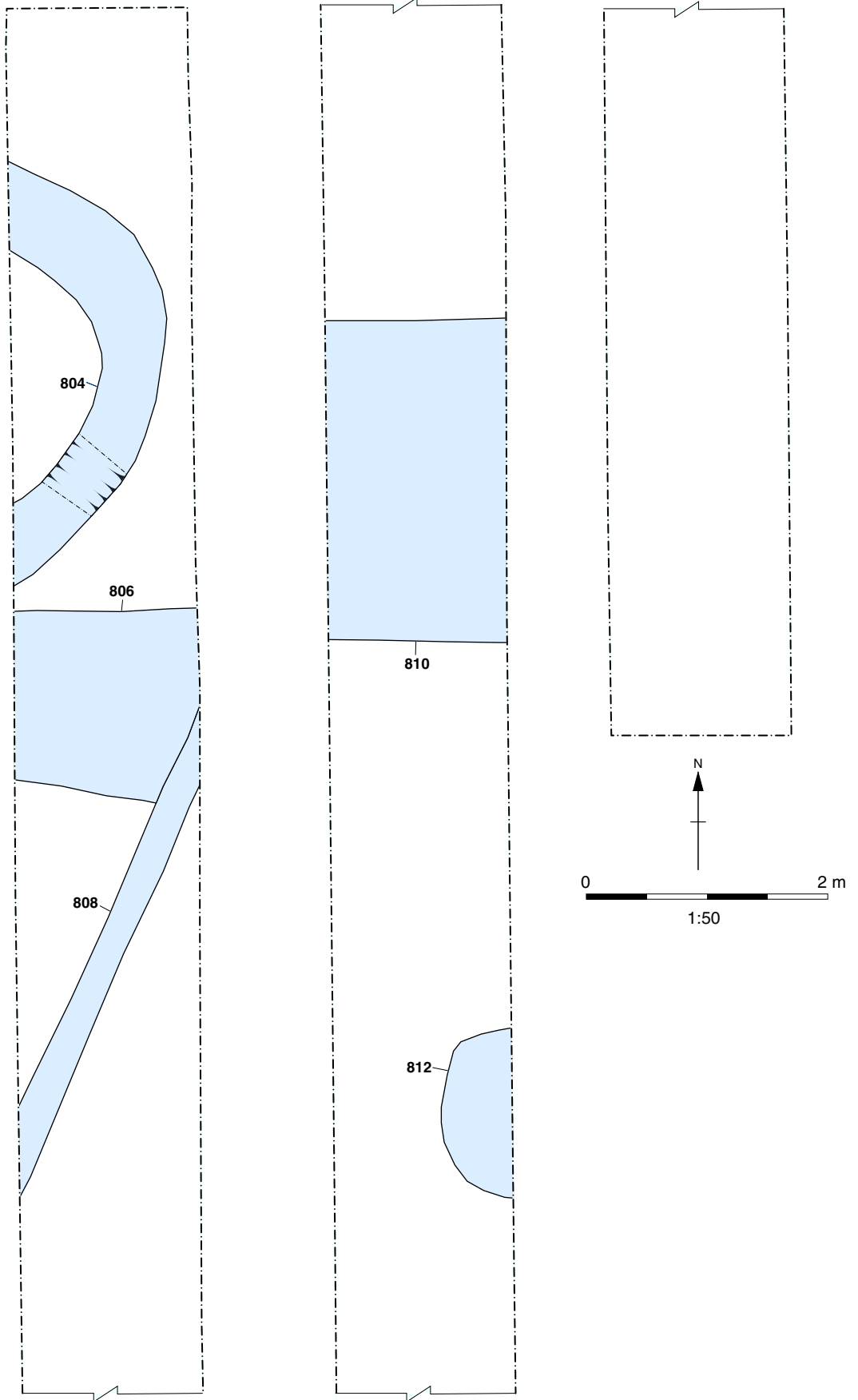


Figure 10: Plan of Trench 8



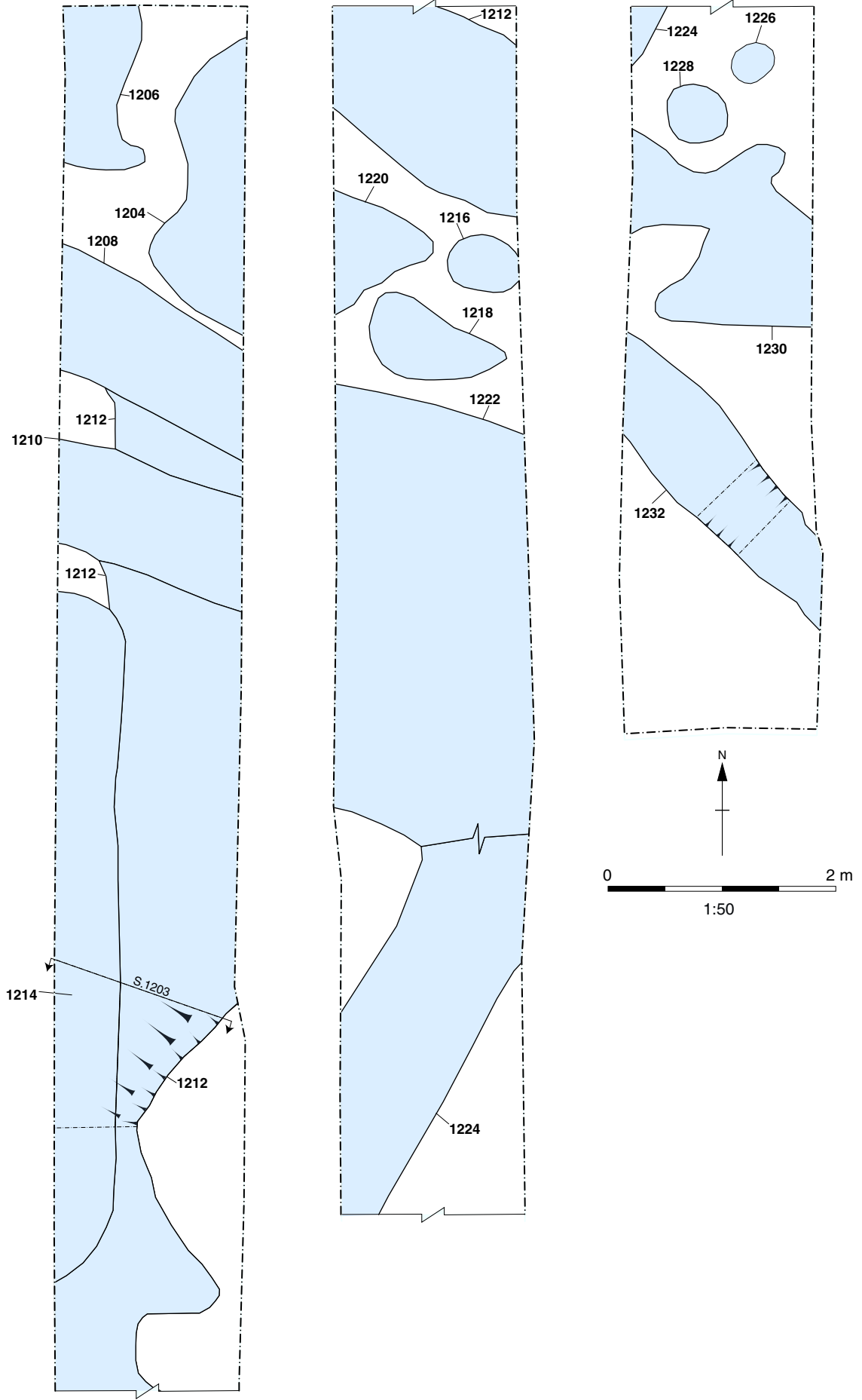


Figure 11: Plan of Trench 12





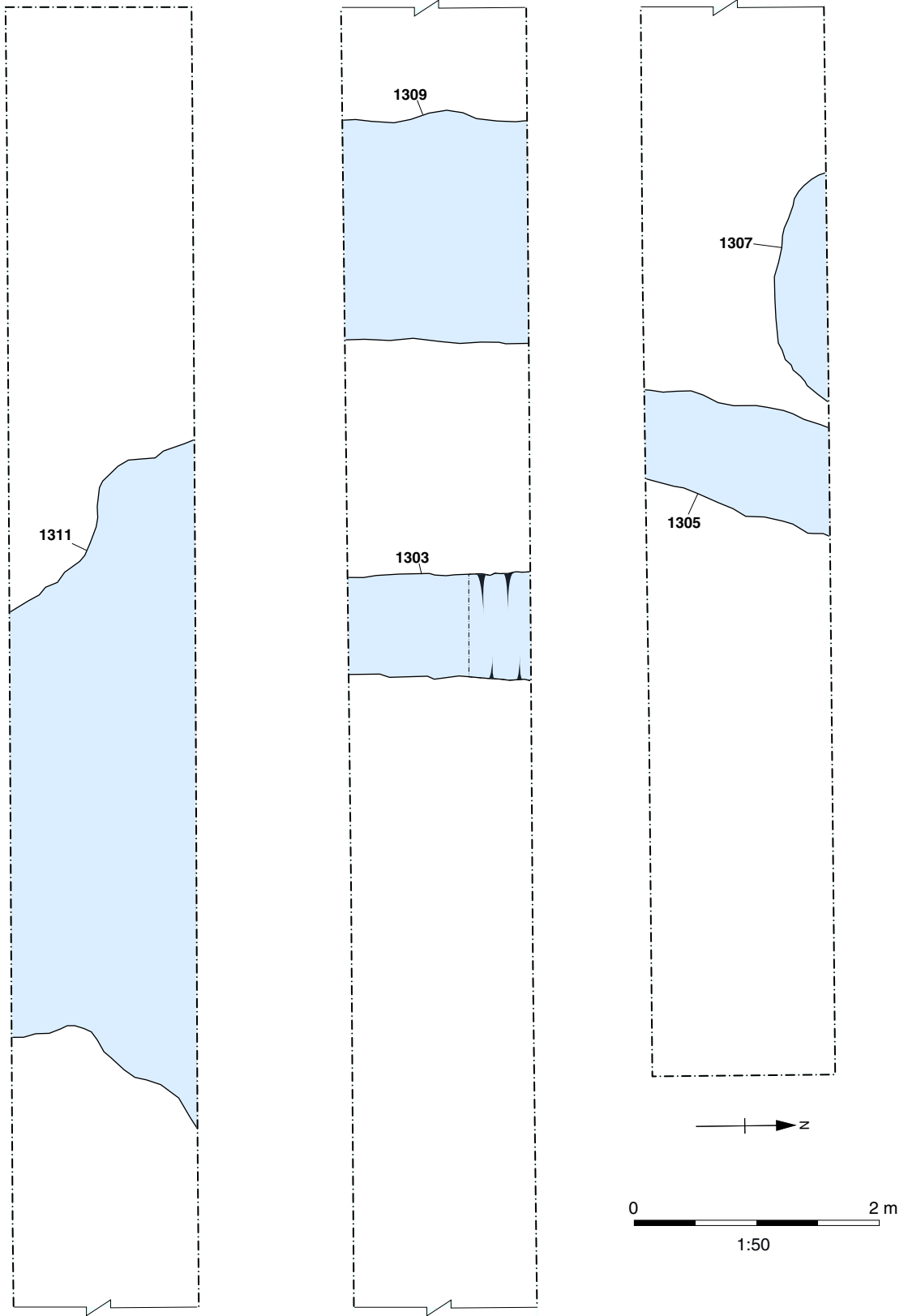


Figure 12: Plan of Trench 13



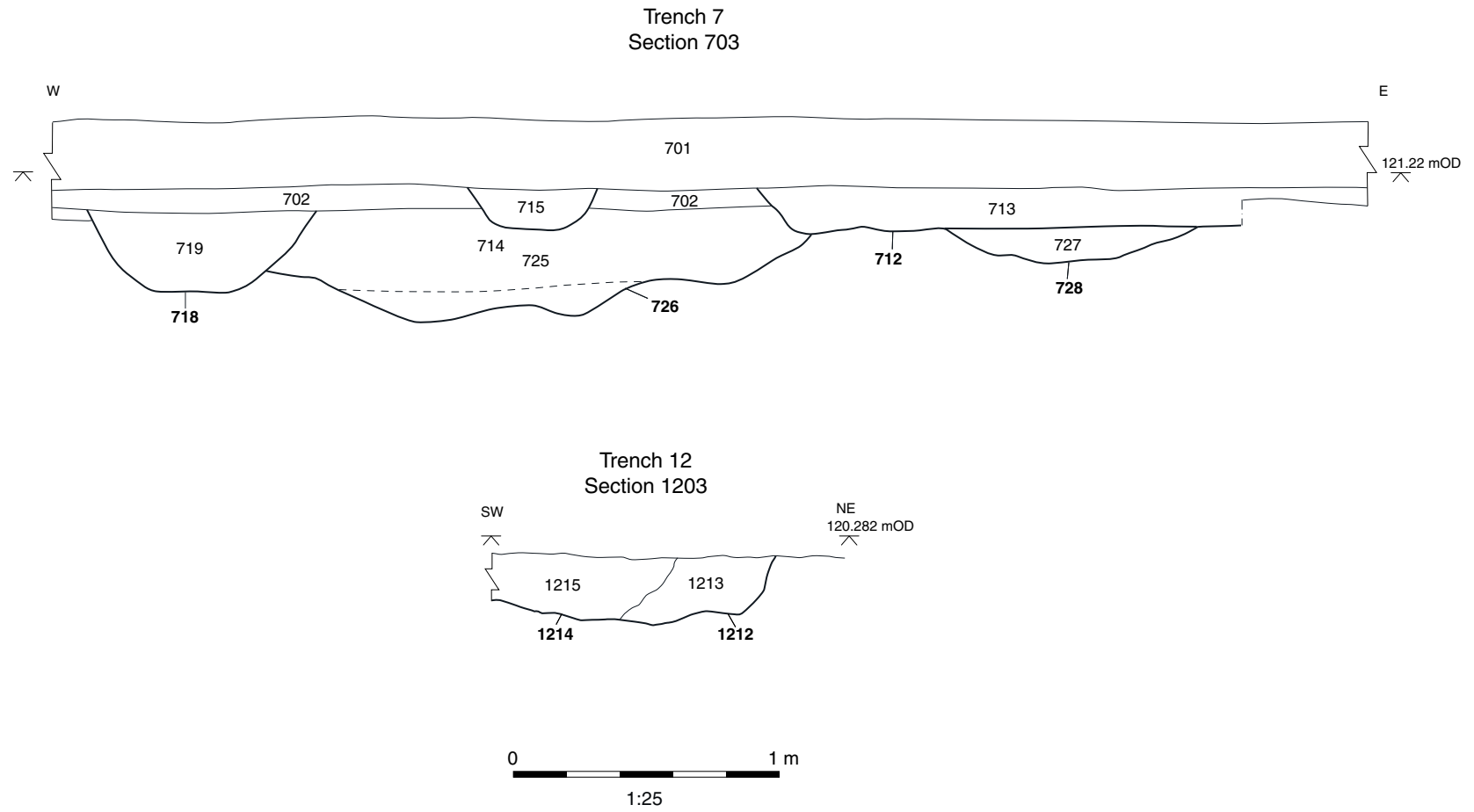


Figure 13: Sections 703 and 1203





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