LAND AT SOMERTON DOOR, SOMERTON, SOMERSET

Centred on NGR ST 47494 30335

Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

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AC archaeology

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Centred on ST 474 303

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Somerset Historic Environment PRN ref. 32515

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Summary

An archaeological trench evaluation carried out on land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset (centred on ST 474 303), was undertaken by AC archaeology during May and June 2014. The proposed development occupies approximately 22.6 hectares of agricultural land that slopes gradually towards the River Cary to the northwest. A previous geophysical survey had identified the presence of a concentration of anomalies principally located towards the southwest of the site. These included curving and straight linear features and part of a large rounded linear feature. These were interpreted as representing parts of possible prehistoric enclosures and divisions.

The evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of 17 trenches totalling 850m in length, with each trench 2.2m wide. These were positioned to target the series of geophysical anomalies, as well as to provide a sampled coverage elsewhere. The trench evaluation recorded archaeological features from across the entire site with these corresponding with the targeted geophysical anomalies and in a greater concentration towards the southwest portion of the site. Here, the presence of a potential Bronze Age enclosure, Iron Age ditches and pits and a large probable Romano-British enclosure, with further activity such as pits and a curving linear hollow, all indicate a multi-phase of occupation on the site. To the northwest of this a concentration of features, perhaps associated with Iron Age settlement activity, was recorded while elsewhere more dispersed Iron Age and Romano-British ditches and pits and post-medieval boundaries were recorded.

The preservation of features was varied with those on an elevated platform to the southwest of the site exposed at a depth of approximately 0.4m below existing levels and having evidence of plough truncation. While to the north of this and close to the River Cary, features were sealed at a depth of between 0.6m and 1m by, in places, a complex layer sequence that included prehistoric buried soils, peat horizons and possible Roman or post-Roman alluvial deposits.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological trench evaluation on land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset (centred on ST 474 303), was undertaken by AC archaeology during May and June 2014. The evaluation was undertaken in support of a planning application (14/00876/FUL) for a new solar farm and was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of clients.

1.2 The application site lies approximately 2km north of Somerton, encompassing two arable fields and covers an area of 22.6ha (Fig.1). It is bounded by the River Cary to the northwest, and Grove Lane bridleway to the southeast. The site lies below elevated ground forming Bradley Hill on ground that slopes gradually towards the River Cary between 27m and 9m aOD (Plate 1). The underlying solid geology comprises Mudstone and Halite-stone of the Mercia Mudstone Group, which is overlain to the northeast by superficial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel alluvium (British Geological Survey viewer).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site lies in a general area containing significant Roman occupation, with this comprising villa and farming settlements. Four such sites are present within approximately 1km of the application area. These include Bradley Hill farmstead and cemetery positioned on elevated ground approximately 400m to the southeast of the application area. Here, three stone buildings dating to the 4th to 5th centuries AD as well as a total of 55 burials have been recorded (Somerset Historic Environment

Record ref. 18782). Approximately 1km to the south is Brancombe Hill Roman Villa site where building foundations were excavated in the 1960s and a subsequent geophysical survey confirmed the arrangement of a substantial structure (54486). To the northwest is the putative location (based on historic records) of Lugshorn Roman Villa (54483) and further east is Compton Dundon Roman Villa site (53765). The villa at Compton Dundon comprises a large multi-roomed residence, some containing mosaic floors that are set around a courtyard.

2.2 The site itself has been the subject of a previous geophysical survey by Stratascan (Richardson 2014). The survey interpreted a series of principally linear anomalies across the site. The most significant of these where located to the southwest, and comprised a concentration of anomalies including curving and straight linear features and part of a large rounded linear feature. These were interpreted as representing parts of possible prehistoric enclosures and divisions. Elsewhere on the site a series of straight linear anomalies were considered to relate to former medieval and post-medieval agricultural boundaries.

3. AIMS

3.1 The aims of the evaluation were to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds within the site. The results of the work, as set out in this report, will be reviewed and used to inform any subsequent mitigation.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC Archaeology (Hughes 2014). It comprised the machine-excavation of 17 GPS-located trenches totalling 850m in length, with each trench measuring 2.2m wide (Figs 2 and 3). The trenches were positioned to test features identified by the geophysical survey results, as well as to provide sampled coverage of 'blank' areas. The removal of soil overburden within the trenches was undertaken under the control and direction of the site archaeologist.

4.2 All features and deposits revealed were recorded using the standard AC archaeology pro-forma recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2* (revised August 2012). Detailed sections and plans were produced at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. All site levels relate to Ordnance Datum.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

With the exception of Trench 3, archaeological features and deposits were present in all of the trenches (Figs 2 and 3). These are discussed in detail below. Detailed context descriptions are presented by trench in Appendix 1.

5.2 Trench 1 (Plan and section Fig 4a-b)

Trench 1 was located at the far northwest end of the site and was positioned to investigate a short curving linear anomaly and a further possible linear feature interpreted from the geophysical survey. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (context 102) which comprised a mid red clay with bands of sand and gravels and was present at a depth of 0.51m below existing levels. The natural subsoil was overlain by a mid reddish-brown clayey-loam colluvial subsoil (101) and ploughsoil (100). Towards the southeast of the trench, a single north to south aligned probable ditch (F103) was

exposed that corresponded with the targeted curving linear anomaly. The other linear anomaly was not encountered.

Ditch F103 measured 1.75m wide and 0.61m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base that cut through the colluvial subsoil 101. It contained a mid reddish-brown clayey-loam fill (104) that was overlain by a mid brown silty-loam accumulation (105). The ditch was truncated by a modern ceramic land drain. Two pieces of animal bone were recovered from ditch F103.

5.3 **Trench 2** (Plan and section Fig. 4c-d. Plate 1)
Trench 2 was positioned to target a slightly curving northeast to southwest aligned linear anomaly interpreted from the previous geophysical survey. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (202) which was present at a depth of 0.55m under colluvial subsoil (201) and ploughsoil (200). The trench contained two probable ditches (F203 and 207) that were both sealed by colluvial subsoil 201.

Ditch F203 corresponded with the location of the targeted linear anomaly. It measured 6.4m wide and 0.44m deep with a moderately steep northwest side, a gradual southeast side and a concave base. It contained a sequence of three fills that consisted of an initial mid greyish-brown clayey-loam primary accumulation (204), which was overlain by a possibly dumped or rapidly infilled dark greyish-brown silty-clay loam, which had frequent charcoal fleck inclusions (205). The upper fill of the ditch comprised a homogenous mid greyish-brown silty-clay accumulation (206). Seven sherds of Iron Age pottery, 11 pieces of animal bone and 10 pieces of worked flint were recovered from ditch F203.

Probable ditch 207 was north to south aligned and measured 1.5m wide. It was comprised of mid brown silty-clay from which one piece of worked flint and 3 pieces of animal bone were recovered. The ditch was unexcavated.

5.4 **Trench 4** (Plan and sections Fig. 4)
Trench 4 was positioned to investigate a northeast to southwest aligned linear geophysical anomaly. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (404), which was present at a depth of 0.88m below current levels and was overlain by a clayey-loam buried soil (403). The trench contained four probable ditches (F410, F414, 416 and 417) that all cut through the buried soil layer 403. Overlying the ditches were two layers of grey alluvial clay (402 and 401) that were present under the modern ploughsoil (400). Towards the southeast end of the trench were two pits (F405 and F408).The relationship between these and the buried soil layer was not established.

Ditch F410 was slightly curving in plan and measured 1.79m wide and 0.8m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flattish base. It contained wet-lain grey silty-clay accumulation fills (411 and 412) that were separated by a tip fill of re-deposited natural subsoil (412). Three sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from ditch F410

Ditch F414 measured 0.55m wide and 0.44m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single mid grey silty-clay fill (415) from which a piece of worked flint was recovered.

Probable ditches 416 and 417 measured 1.05m and 3.4m wide respectively and contained similar mid grey silty-clays. The location of probable ditch 416 corresponds with the targeted linear anomaly. These features were not investigated due to a high water table.

Pit F405 was located towards the southeast end of the trench. It was oval-shaped in plan and measured 0.65m long, 0.38m wide and 0.22m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two mid reddish-grey silty-clay fills (406 and 407), with the upper deposit containing common charcoal fleck inclusions. A total of 32 sherds of Iron Age pottery, one sherd of Romano-British pottery and pieces of fired clay were recovered from the feature.

Pit F408 was sub-round in plan measuring approximately 1m across and 0.22m deep. It contained a single homogenous light grey silty-clay fill (409). Three fragments of animal bone were recovered from fill (409).

5.5 **Trench 5** (Plate 2)
This trench was positioned on low-lying ground adjacent to the River Cary. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (507), which was present at a depth of 1.48m below current levels. Overlying the natural subsoil was a thin alluvial clay (506) that was in turn sealed by a two peat deposits (505 and 502). These were separated by a localised dump of small limestone pieces and gravel (504). The peat layers measured a total of 0.98m thick and were sealed by a deposit of alluvial clay (501) which a very clear horizon with the underlying material and was in turn overlain by the modern ploughsoil (500). One sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the lower peat layer, 505.

5.6 **Trench 6** (Plan and sections Fig. 6. Plate 3)
Trench 6 was positioned to target two parallel and a separate single linear anomaly interpreted from the geophysical survey. The natural subsoil (604) was encountered at a depth of 0.8m below current levels. It was overlain by a layer of buried soil (603) that was in turn sealed by a layer of light brownish-grey alluvial clay (602). The upper layers comprised subsoil (601) and ploughsoil (600). The trench contained a total of 15 features that with the exception of one feature (628), were sealed by buried soil layer 603 and consisted of three probable ditches (F616, F619 and 628) and 12 discrete features including small pits, postholes and stakeholes (F605, F607, F609. 611, F612, F614, 622-627)

Ditch F616, which was located to the southeast of the trench, was approximately northwest to southeast aligned and curving in plan. It measured 0.51m wide and 0.27m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. The ditch contained a two sandy-clay to sandy-clay loam fills (617 and 618). One sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from fill 618. To the southeast of ditch F616 was four of the discrete features (F605, F607, F609 and 611) that represented probable post and stakeholes. These measured between 0.3m and 0.12m across and around 0.05m deep. Each contained similar light grey clayey-loam fills (606, 608 and 610).

Ditch F619 was located towards the middle of the trench and comprised an abruptly curving or corner arrangement. It measured 1.01m wide and 0.45m deep with moderately steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a light greyish-brown sandy-clay loam primary fill (621) that was overlain by a dark greyish-brown sandy-loam (620). Five pieces of animal bone were recovered from fill 620.

To the southeast of ditch F619 was a concentration of discrete features comprising F612, F614 and 622-627. From these features F612 and F614 were investigated. Small pit or posthole F612 measured 0.29m across and 0.12m deep and contained a light grey sandy-clay fill that had common limestone piece inclusions (613). To the northwest of F612 was F614 which measured 0.19m across and 0.12m deep with a steeply-sloping concave profile. It contained a dark grey clayey-loam fill (615) that had abundant charcoal inclusions.

At the northwest end of the trench was probable ditch 628. This was north to south aligned, measured 4.5m wide and was sealed by alluvial clay layer 602. The feature was not investigated due to the high water table.

5.7 **Trench 7** (Plan and section Fig. 7a-b)
Trench 7 was positioned to investigate two curving linear geophysical anomalies. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (704) which was present at a depth of 0.44m below subsoil (701) and ploughsoil (700). One ditch (F702) was exposed within the trench that cut through the subsoil and corresponded with the broad location, but not the alignment, of the northern of the two targeted anomalies. The other linear anomaly was not encountered.

Ditch F702 measured 0.5m wide and 0.28m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid brown clayey-loam fill (703) that was undated.

5.8 **Trench 8** (Plan and section Fig. 7c-d)
Trench 8 was positioned to target two approximately northeast to southwest aligned linear anomalies. Natural subsoil (804) was present at a depth of 0.94m below current levels. It was sealed by a 0.61m thick layer of colluvial subsoil (801) that was in turn overlain by the modern ploughsoil (800). The trench contained a single ditch (F803) which corresponded with the targeted linear anomaly to the southwest of the trench. The second linear anomaly was not encountered.

Ditch F803 measured 1.74m and 0.55m+ deep (not fully excavated) with steeply sloping sides that cut through the colluvial subsoil. It contained a mid grey silty-clay loam fill (804). No finds were recovered from F803.

5.9 **Trench 9** (Plan and sections Fig. 8a-d)
This trench was positioned on low-lying ground and in an area that contained no interpreted geophysical anomalies. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (904), which was present at a depth of 0.66m below current levels. The natural subsoil was overlain by a sequence of layers comprising a buried soil (903), two layers of alluvial clay (902 and 901) and the modern ploughsoil (900). The trench contained two ditches (F907 and F910) that cut through buried soil 903 and one probable pit (F908) that was sealed by the buried soil.

Ditch F907 was aligned approximately north to south and measured 1.88m wide and 0.42m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides that were stepped to the southeast, and a concave base. It contained a sandy-clay primary fill (905) that was overlain by a light grey clayey-loam (906) that that common limestone inclusions towards the top of the deposit. Two sherds of Iron Age pottery and 17 sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from ditch F907.

Ditch F910 was aligned east to west and measured 0.91m wide and 0.23m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained two clayey-loam fills (911 and 912). Two sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from upper fill 912.

Probable pit F908 was located towards the middle of the trench and was partially exposed. It consisted of a rounded feature measuring 0.74m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flattish base. The probable contained a single dark grey silty-clay fill (909) that had abundant charcoal inclusions. A total of 22 sherds of Romano-British pottery and one piece of cremated bone was recovered from fill 909.

5.10 Trench 10 (Plan Fig. 8e)

Trench 10 was positioned to target the NNW to SSE extent of a broad curving linear anomaly as well as two further linear anomalies interpreted from the geophysical survey. The trench was excavated onto natural subsoil (1002) which was exposed at a depth of 0.65m below a colluvial subsoil (1001) and ploughsoil (1000). A total of four linear features (1003, 1004, 1007 and 1008) were present within the trench that were sealed by the colluvial subsoil. Linear 1008 corresponded with the location of the broad targeted anomaly while 1003 and 1007 correspond with the remaining targeted features. Continuations of linear 1008 was investigated in Trench 11.

5.11 Trench 11 (Plan and sections Fig. 9. Plate 4)

This trench was positioned to target a continuation of the broad linear anomaly that was recorded in Trench 10 as well as a further linear feature. The trench was excavated onto natural subsoil (1103) which was present at a depth of 0.52m below a buried soil (1102) a colluvial subsoil (1101) and ploughsoil (1100). The trench contained four probable ditches (F1106, F1107, F1113 and F1117), a possible pit (F1116) and a hollow feature (F1120) that were all sealed by buried soil 1102.

Hollow feature F1120 measured a maximum of 0.07m deep with a very gradual profile. It contained a single clayey-loam fill (1121) that was cut to the north and south by ditches F1107 and F1117. A total of eight fragments of animal bone were recovered from fill 1121.

Ditch F1107 corresponded with the location of the east to west aligned broad linear feature interpreted from the geophysical survey. It measured 4.25m wide and 0.39m deep with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a sequence of four fills, with these comprising a basal fill of red clay (1108) that was overlain by three deposits of silty-clay loam to clayey-loam (1109, 1110 and 1111). Fill 1110 was dark grey and contained frequent charcoal fleck inclusions. A total of 62 sherds of Iron Age pottery and six fragments of cremated human bone as well as fragment of animal bone and pieces of worked flint were recovered from F1107.

Ditch F1117 was aligned parallel and to the south of ditch F1107. It measured 0.68m wide and 0.28m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained two clayey loam fills (1118 and 1119) from which one piece of burnt flint was recovered.

Probable pit F1116 was located towards the middle of the trench and was cut by later ditch F1113. It measured 0.7m across and 0.27m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The probable pit contained a basal fill of re-deposited natural subsoil (1115), which was overlain by a dark grey silty-clay (1114). The feature was undated.

Ditch F1113 was aligned ENE to WSW and measured 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single mid yellowish-brown silty-clay fill (1112) that was undated.

Ditch F1106 was aligned approximately north to south and corresponded with the location of the second targeted linear anomaly. It measured 0.55m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained two silty-clay fills (1105 and 1104) from which one piece of worked flint was recovered.

5.12 Trench 12 (Plan and sections Fig. 10)

This trench was positioned to investigate two straight linear anomalies and an oval linear anomaly that were interpreted from the previous geophysical survey. It was

excavated through ploughsoil (1200) and subsoil (1218) onto natural subsoil (1202) which was exposed at a depth of 0.38m below current levels. The trench contained a total of four probable ditches (F1209, F1212, F1219 and 1120), three pits (F1203, F1205, F1207) and a further possible pit or linear feature (F1201) that were all sealed by subsoil layer 1218.

Ditch F1219 was positioned towards the southwest end of the trench and was aligned approximately east to west. It measured 0.4m wide and 0.13m deep with gradually-sloping sides and a flattish base. The ditch contained a single mid brown silty-clay fill (1223). No finds were recovered from F1219.

Ditch F1209 was aligned NNW-SSE and corresponded with the location of the straight linear anomaly to the southeast of the trench. The ditch measured 0.56m wide and 0.35m deep with a 'V-shaped' profile. It contained a redeposited natural subsoil primary fill (1211) that was overlain by an accumulation deposit of mid reddish-brown silty-clay (1210). One piece of worked flint was recovered from fill 1211.

Towards the middle of the trench was ditch F1212, which was aligned northeast to southwest. The ditch measured 0.47m deep and generally 2.18m wide but flared out to the southwest. It contained a sequence of five fills (1212-17). These comprised primary deposits of mid brownish yellow silty-clays (1214 and 1215) or dark brown silty-clay with frequent gravel inclusions (1213), which were overlain by accumulation deposits of mid reddish brown and brown clayey-loams (1216 and 1217). No finds were recovered from ditch F1212

To the southwest of ditch F1212 was possible pit or linear feature F1201 which may have corresponded with one side of the targeted oval-shaped linear anomaly. The feature measured 0.91m wide and 0.08m deep and contained a single mid reddish-brown clayey-loam fill (1202). One piece of worked flint was recovered from fill 1202. F1201 was truncated by pits F1203 (which also cut into ditch F1212) and F1207.

Pit F1203 was oval-shaped in plan measuring 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark brownish-grey silty-loam fill (1204) that had common charcoal inclusions and occasional heat effected clay flecking. Two fragments of cremated human bone and six pieces of worked flint were recovered from fill 1204.

Northeast of ditch F1212 was small pit or posthole F1205. This measured 0.4m across and 0.22m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single mid brown clayey-loam fill (1206) from which a piece of worked flint was recovered.

Probable ditch 1220 was located to the northeast of the trench and corresponded with the second targeted straight linear anomaly. It measured 1.9m wide and was comprised of mid brown silty-clay. The linear anomaly continued into Trench 16 and was investigated in this location.

5.13 **Trench 13** (Plan and sections Fig. 11. Plate 5)
Trench 13 was positioned to investigate southeast the extent of a large rounded linear anomaly as well as a smaller overlapping rounded linear anomaly and a collection of rounded discrete anomalies. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (1302), which was present at a depth of 0.38m below subsoil (1301) and ploughsoil (1300). The trench contained a total of 20 features consisting of probable pits and ditches.

Towards the southwest end of the trench were two ditch features (F1307 and F1311) that corresponded with the location of the targeted large and small rounded linear

anomalies. Ditch F1307 corresponded with the line of the larger rounded linear anomaly. It measured 1.75m wide and 0.5m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a gravel-rich primary deposit (1328) that was overlain by accumulations of mid yellowish-brown clayey-loams (1308 and 1309) and a mid greyish-brown silty-clay (1310). Three sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from upper fill 1310.

Ditch F1311 measured 0.68m wide and 0.31m deep with moderately-steep 'V-shaped' profile. It contained a gravel-rich primary fill (1329) that was overlain by an accumulation of mid brown silty-clay (1330). Two sherds of Bronze Age pottery were recovered from upper fill 1330.

On the southwest side of ditch F1307 was a collection of possible pit features (F1305, 1303, 1304). From these features possible pit F1305 was investigated. It measured 1.16m across and 0.13m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and an irregular, flattish base. F1307 contained a single mid reddish-brown silty-clay fill (1306). No finds were recovered from fill 1306.

Northeast of ditch F1311 was a complex of largely intercutting possible pit and ditch features. The location of these corresponded with the position of the targeted rounded discrete anomalies as well as the return to the smaller rounded linear anomaly investigated to the southwest as ditch F1311. One sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from feature 1319. The majority of the features were truncated by linear feature 1318 from which a sherd of modern pottery was recovered, with this probably representing the line of a land drain.

5.14 **Trench 14** (Plan and sections Fig. 12)
Trench 14 was positioned to investigate three linear geophysical anomalies including a continuation of the large rounded linear anomaly from Trench 13. It was excavated through ploughsoil (1400) and subsoil (1401) onto natural subsoil (1430) which was exposed at a depth of 0.4m below current levels. The trench contained two probable ditches (F1408 and 1424) a complex possibly consisting of three ditches (1415, 1416 and 1417) and a collection of discrete probable pits or postholes (1405, 1406 1407, 1409, 1411, F1411, 1412, 1413, 1422 and 1423).

Ditch F1408 corresponded with the location of the large rounded linear anomaly. It measured 1.4m wide and 0.66m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a narrow concave base. The ditch contained a sequence of three fills, which comprised of a re-deposited natural subsoil primary fill (1426) that was overlain by accumulations of mid brown silty-clay (1427 and 1428). One piece of worked flint was recovered from upper fill 1428.

Northeast of ditch F1408 was probable ditch 1417, which corresponded with the position of the second targeted linear anomaly and was part of a complex of linears with 1415 and 1416. At the far northeast end of the trench was probable ditch 1424 which corresponded with the line of the location of the third targeted linear anomaly.

The majority of the discrete features were located towards the southwest end of the trench. From these F1411 was investigated. It measured 0.75m long, 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single mid brown silty-clay fill that was undated.

5.15 **Trench 15** (Plan and sections Fig 13. Plate 6)
Trench 15 was positioned to investigate the northwest extent of the large rounded linear anomaly investigated in Trenches 13 and14 s well as a further straight linear

anomaly. Natural subsoil (1501) was encountered at a depth of 0.39m under an intermittent subsoil (1507) and ploughsoil (1500). The trench contained seven linear features (F1502, F1504, F1506, F1509, F1514, 1517 and 1516) of which F1506 and 1517 corresponded with the location of the targeted anomalies.

Ditch F1506 measured 1.32m wide and 0.43m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a sequence of four fills that were sealed by subsoil layer 1507. These comprised primary fills of light reddish-brown and mid reddish-grey silty-clays (1511 and 1512) that were overlain by accumulation fills of mid greyish-brown clayey-loam (1513) and dark greyish-red silty-clay (1508). One sherd of Romano-British pottery and two pieces of worked flint were recovered from upper fill 1508.

At the northeast end of the trench was ditch F1502. This measured 2.16m wide and 0.35m deep with gradually-sloping sides and concave base. It contained a single mid reddish-brown sandy-clay fill that was undated.

Probable ditches F1504, F1509 and F1514 were all shallow gradual-sided features that measured a maximum of 1.37m wide and 0.19m deep and cut through subsoil layer 1507. Each contained similar clayey-loam fills (1505, 1510 and 1515) and contained no datable material.

The remaining features comprised possible ditch terminal 1516 and probable ditch 1517 that were no investigated.

5.16 **Trench 16** (Plan and sections Fig 14. Plate 7)
This trench was positioned across a linear anomaly which was the likely continuation of one exposed in Trench 12 (1220) and crossed the line of an approximately east to west aligned former field boundary. It was excavated onto natural subsoil (1619) which was present at a depth of 0.77m below a buried soil (1603), subsoil (1601) and ploughsoil (1600). The trench contained three probable ditches (F1603, 1608 and 1609) and four probable pits and postholes (1607 F1610, 1612 and F1615). Ditch F1603 corresponded with the location of the targeted linear feature and 1609 is likely to represent the line of the former field boundary. With the exception of probable ditch 1609 all the features were sealed by buried soil layer 1603.

Ditch F1603 was NNW to SSE aligned and measured 1.38m wide and 0.7m deep with steeply-sloping sides that flared out towards the top and a concave base. It contained a sequence of five fills. These comprised a light brownish-yellow sandy-loam primary fill (1613) that was overlain by a wet-lain accumulation of light brownish-grey silty-loam (1604). Fill 1604 was overlain by a tip fill of re-deposited natural subsoil (1606) that was in turn sealed by accumulation fills of light greyish-brown silty-clay (1605) and dark brown silty-loam (1613). A total of 16 sherds of Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery, nine fragment of animal bone and a piece of daub were recovered from the fills of ditch F1603.

Adjacent to ditch F1603 was posthole F1615 and possible pit 1607. Posthole F1615 measured 0.26m across and 0.24m deep with steep to undercutting sides and a flat base. It contained two deposits that comprised light greyish-red clayey-loam probable packing material (1617) with a central deposit of dark brownish-grey silty-loam (1616), which probably represents the remains of the post pipe. A piece of perforated worked bone, a fragment from a shale object and four sherds of Iron Age pottery and 6 fragments of cremated undiagnostic bone were recovered from fill 1616. Possible pit 1607 was located on the southwest side of ditch F1603. It measured 0.92m across and

was comprised of dark brown silty-loam from which three sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered.

Probable ditch 1608 was located towards the middle of the trench and was aligned approximately east to west and was comprised of a dark greyish-brown silty-loam. Probable pit F1610 was located towards the southwest end of the trench. It measured 4.2m across and 0.34m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides, a flat base and contained a homogenous mid reddish-brown silty-loam. No finds were recovered from F1610. Feature 1612 was not excavated but was irregular in plan and was comprised of mid reddish-brown silty-loam.

5.17 **Trench 17** (Plan and sections Fig 15. Plate 8)
This trench was located on low-lying ground adjacent to the River Cary. It was positioned across a broad linear trend interpreted from the previous geophysical survey (shown in grey hatching). It was excavated to a depth of 0.92m onto natural subsoil (1705) towards the southwest of the trench and an alluvial clay (1716) towards the northeast. Overlaying the natural subsoil from the southeast end of the trench was a buried colluvial soil (1704) which was overlain by a further buried soil of dark brownish-grey sandy-loam (1704) with moderate organic content. Buried soil 1704 was in turn overlain by alluvial clay deposit 1716, which comprised a mid yellowish-grey silty clay and represents a probable paleo-channel deposit.

Buried soil layer 1704 was cut by three ditch features (F1708, F1710 and F1712). Ditch F1708 was ENE to WSW aligned and measured 1.8m wide and 0.98m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a basal fill of light reddish-yellow silty-sand (1707) that was overlain by a wet-lain dark bluish-grey clay that included occasional pieces of preserved wood.

Ditch F1710 was parallel and to the south side of ditch F1708. It terminated within the trench and measured 0.45m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a dark brownish-grey silty-clay fill (1709). One piece of worked flint was recovered from fill 1709.

Possible ditch F1712 was observed only in section and measured 0.52m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a narrow concave base. The possible ditch contained a dark bluish-grey silty-clay fill (1711). Five sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from fill 1711.

Sealing ditch F1708 and probable paleo-channel deposit 1716 was a layer of dark grey peat (1703) which measured 0.16m thick and extended beyond the northeast end of the trench. The peat layer was sealed by two layers of alluvial clay (1715 and 1702) that also extended over ditches F1710 and F1712 and petered out towards the southeast end of the trench. Layer 1715 was a light bluish-grey homogenous fine grained alluvial clay that was under 1702, which comprised a more mottled light brownish-grey silty-clay. One sherd of Roman Samian pottery was recovered from alluvial layer 1702.

The alluvial deposits were cut by an NNW to SSE aligned ditch (F1718) which measured 4.9m long and 0.6m deep with a broad flat-based profile. This contained a mid brown clayey-loam fill that was overlain by final layers of subsoil (1701) and ploughsoil (1700).

6. THE FINDS by Charlotte Coles and Henrietta Quinnell

6.1 Introduction

All finds recovered on site were retained, cleaned and marked where appropriate. A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery, worked flint and Roman pottery was recovered. A small worked bone object and a piece of burnt worked shale was also retrieved as well as some post-medieval finds. A complete table of finds is presented in Appendix 2.

6.2 Prehistoric Finds *by Henrietta Quinnell and Charlotte Coles*

Table 1. Prehistoric finds

Context	Context Description	Worked Flint		Prehistoric Pottery		Worked Bone		Worked Shale	
		No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt
100	Ploughsoil from Tr1	1	1						
200	Ploughsoil from Tr2	2	5						
204	Fill of ditch F203	6	24	3	13				
205	Fill of ditch F203	4	21	4	15				
207	Prob ditch, unexcavated	1	1						
406	Fill of pit F405			18	61				
407	Fill of pit F405			15	43				
413	Fill of pit F410			3	5				
415	Fill of pit F414	1	4						
505	Peat Layer	1	6	1	16				
618	Fill of ditch F616			1	4				
700	Ploughsoil from Tr7	4	27						
801	Subsoil from Tr8	1	1						
903	Buried soil from Tr9			6	41				
906	Fill of ditch F907			2	21				
909	Fill of pit F908			22	56				
912	Fill of ditch F910			2	22				
1100	Ploughsoil from Tr11	1	1	1	1				
1104	Fill of ditch F1106	1	1						
1110	Fill of ditch F1107	3	6	54	150				
1111	Fill of ditch F1107	1	9						
1200	Ploughsoil from Tr12	5	14						
1202	Fill of ditch F1201	1	22						
1204	Fill of pit F1203	8	13	1	1				
1206	Fill of posthole F1205	1	1						
1211	Fill of ditch F1209	1	1						
1310	Fill of ditch F1307			3	1				
1319	Possible pit, unexcavated			1	4				
1330	Fill of ditch F1311			2	12				
1428	Fill of ditch F1408	1	8						
1500	Ploughsoil from Tr15	7	33						
1508	Fill of ditch F1506	2	2						
1510	Fill of ditch F1509	1	1						
1517	Possible ditch, unexcavated	1	1						
1600	Ploughsoil from Tr16	1	4						
1604	Fill of ditch F1603			4	22				
1607	Possible pit, unexcavated			3	9				
1613	Fill of ditch F1603			12	29				
1616	Fill of posthole F1615	2	2	4	5	1	2	1	1

1706	Fill of ditch F1708	1	1						
1709	Fill of ditch F1710	1	1						
1711	Fill of ditch F1712			5	30				
Total		60	211	167	561	1	2	1	1

6.3 Worked Flint

Sixty pieces of struck flint were recovered from 26 contexts. The assemblage is mainly nodular dark grey flint, with a good deal of cortex on many pieces indicating that it had been worked on site. There are also several spalls from retouching. A number of the pieces are patinated with subsequent working, suggesting at least two separate episodes of flint working. This is especially marked in (700) where a patinated flake has been retouched. The assemblage is mainly hard hammer flakes, broadly Bronze Age in type. In general pieces are fresh, except for a few from topsoil. There is a thumbnail scraper from (1111), a type generally considered to be Beaker or Bronze Age. There are also small scrapers or parts of scrapers from (700), (1600) and (1428). There is also a rough side scraper worked through patination from (1500). There are no flints from the few contexts which contain probably Bronze Age ceramics.

6.4 Bronze Age Pottery

Six pieces of Bronze Age pottery were recovered from contexts 1330 and 1604. These are grogged sherds dating to the mid-Bronze Age, one of the sherds from context 1604 has a rim, the remaining pieces are body sherds.

6.5 Iron Age Pottery

A total of 130 sherds of pottery were positively identified as being Iron Age these are from 17 different contexts. A number of different fabrics with fine inclusions are probably Iron Age. It is worth noting that some contexts also contain Romano-British sherds and the possibility of a Bronze Age date is also flagged up for other sherds. The mixture of Iron Age and Roman sherds suggest some degree of continuity in use of the site, although the (limited) Roman sherds which are dateable suggest activity was also present in the later Roman period.

6.6 Worked Bone

A single piece of worked bone, possibly a bead was retrieved from context 1616. One end has been cut cleanly, the other damaged. The bone was burnt at a high enough temperature for it to calcine (turn white) this is usually achieved at temperatures over 940C (Shipman et al, 1984). This could be a cut piece of bone which has survived because it has been burnt, but it does have the appearance of having been worked. Simple bone beads do not appear to be at all common or typical of any particular period. The largest known assemblage are the group of seven from the infill of the West Kennet Long Barrow in Wiltshire (Piggott 1962, 52 7 Fig 18) but re-assessment means that artefacts in this fill can be of any date from the Early Neolithic to the Beaker period. Very occasional bone beads of different shapes are found in barrows. The published volumes on the Glastonbury (Bulleid and Gray 1917, 405-5, Fig 145) and Meare Lake Villages (Gray 1966, 294) shows that the former site has a small group of decorated bone pieces interpreted as a complex necklace and the latter three artefacts interpreted as beads.

6.7 Worked Shale

A fragment from a polished shale object was recovered from context 615 (1g). This measures 18mm x 18mm x 4mm and forms a point from a larger unknown object.

6.8 Fired Clay

Eight pieces of fired clay were recovered from context 407 (15g).

6.9 Roman Pottery *by Henrietta Quinnell and Charlotte Coles*

Table 2. Roman Pottery

Context	Context Description	No	Weight (in grams)
100	Ploughsoil from Tr1	2	16
407	Fill of pit F405	1	3
906	Fill of ditch F907	17	51
1110	Fill of ditch F1107	8	22
1319	Possible pit, unexcavated	1	4
1508	Fill of ditch F1506	1	2
1601	Subsoil from Tr16	1	2
1715	Alluvial Clay in Tr17	1	10
Total		32	110

Thirty-two sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from eight contexts, these were four sherds of black burnished ware 1, including one sherd from a conical flanged bowl dating from the 3rd-4th century (context 906). Thirteen sherds of grey ware were recovered including a latish grey ware rim (context 906). Two sherds of Samian ware were also recovered these are a piece of footring from a small cup from context 1601 and a piece of rim from a dish (Dragondorff form 37) dating from the 2nd century from context 1715.

6.10 Burnt Human Bone

Burnt bone was recovered from five contexts (909, 1110, 1204, 1218 and 1616), only bone from three of these contexts can be positively identified as human (contexts 1110, 1204 and 1218) these are very small largely unidentifiable fragments, one distal hand phalanx and one piece of cranium were identified.

6.11 Animal Bone

Table 3. Animal Bone

Context	Bone Count	Weight (gram)
104	2	9
204	6	5
205	5	25
207	3	36
409	3	1
620	5	19
1110	7	15
1121	8	39
1605	9	75
1706	12	54
Total	60	278

A total of sixty pieces of animal bone were retrieved from 10 contexts, these are all badly preserved and very fragmentary. Thirty-two of these are unidentifiable mammal bones. Twenty-two pieces of bone are recordable to species, these are 20 fragments of cattle teeth (from contexts 205, 1110 and 1121) one cattle scapula (context 1605) and one butchered sheep tibia (context 650). One fragment of unidentifiable bone from context 650 was burnt.

6.12 Post-Medieval finds

Eleven pieces of post-medieval pottery were retrieved, ten of these come from the ploughsoil of five of the trenches. These are all 19th and 20th century sherds with the

exception of one piece of 17th to 18th century courseware, from Trench 3. One piece of modern pottery was also recovered from feature 1318 (an unexcavated linear).

A single claypipe stem (3g) was recovered from the ploughsoil of Trench 15.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT *by Cressida Whitton*

7.1 Six bulk environmental samples were retrieved from a selection of features in 6 evaluation trenches (4, 6, 9, 12, 16 and 17) from both dry and waterlogged contexts, in order to assess the environmental potential of the site. Sub-samples of around 10 litres were processed at AC Archaeology by tank flotation/sieve to a minimum mesh size of 250 microns (flot) and 500 microns (residues). Sample 6 came from a waterlogged ditch fill and sub-sampled (2 lt) prior to flotation, with the waterlogged flot being stored suitably. Dried flots and residues were generally small in volume and were 100% sorted for charcoal and organic remains using an illuminated hand lens. Only sample 4 residues were larger and therefore partially sorted (*c*.80%).

Table 4. Results of soil sample processing

Sample no.	Context no. /type	Sample volume processed (litres)	Environmental Remains (significant amounts in **bold**) Amount - x – occasional (1-5 fragments), xx – moderate (6 – 15), xxx – frequent (16 – 50+) Type - Ch – charcoal, CPM - charred plant macrofossils (type), UnC PM – uncharred plant macrofossils, BB - burnt bone
1	1204 – Fill of pit F1203	10	**Ch x x**, **CPM x xx** (**50+ hazel nut fragments,** x legume/weed), BB x
2	909 – Fill of pit F908	10	Ch x, CPM x (weed), BB x
3	407 – Fill of pit F405	9	Ch x, CPM x (weed), BB x
4	615 – Fill of posthole F614	1.5	**Ch xx**, **CPM xxx** (**50+ grain**, x legume/hazelnut/weed *nb good preservation of charred cereal grain (no visible chaff).*
5	1616 – Fill of posthole F1615	6	Ch x
6	1706 – Fill of ditch F1708	2	Ch x, UnC PM x (waterlogged weed seeds)

7.2 Table 4 details the results of the environmental assessment. In summary, whilst most samples contained occasional charcoal/charred weeds, only Samples 1 and 4 showed significant environmental potential. The waterlogged ditch sample (Sample 6) did not contain significant uncharred organic remains.

7.3 Sample 1 (context 1204) was recovered from the charcoal-rich single fill of a prehistoric pit (F1203) containing worked flint and pottery. The sample contained frequent charred hazel nut (*Corylus avellana*) fragments (50+), as well as moderate small charcoal fragments and occasional charred legume/weed. Sample 1 may represent domestic waste, as there was no indication of *in situ* burning.

7.4 Sample 4 (614) came from the charcoal-rich fill of a small post-hole which along with most Trench 6 features, was well-sealed a buried soil (603). The 100% 1.5 litre sample *significantly* contained over 50 + charred cereal grains from a relatively small volume of post-hole fill, probably indicating deliberate deposition within the feature. Cereal

chaff was also not recovered, suggesting the grain deposit may have originated as food or storage waste, or have been charred as a deliberate deposit.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The evaluation has established that the results of the geophysical survey were generally accurate with the majority of targeted anomalies encountered. With the exception of Trench 3, each trench contained archaeological features or deposits dating from the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British and post-medieval periods.

8.2 The layer Sequence

The layer sequence across the site was generally split between the upslope area to the southeast and the low-lying area adjacent to the River Cary to the northwest. Those trenches to the southeast generally contained sequences of colluvial subsoil and ploughsoil measuring approximately 0.6m thick over the natural subsoil. This was with the exception of Trenches 11 and 16 that contained a possible buried soil or lower colluvial layer. The trenches to the southwest of the site (Trenches 13, 14 and 15) were positioned on a subtle geological platform formed of natural gravels that was generally level and above the low-lying ground to the north. Here the overlying subsoil and topsoil was shallower, measuring approximately 0.4m thick.

8.3 The trenches adjacent to the River Cary (Trenches 4, 5, 6, 9 and 17) contained more complex layer sequences. Trench 17 contained the most comprehensive representation of the stratigraphy in this portion of the site. In this the alluvial natural subsoil was overlain by two layers of buried soil (1717 and 1704), with 1704 comprising a deposit reflecting wet to waterlogged conditions. These are overlain by the extensive alluvial clay deposit 1716, the profile of which is likely to represent an infilled paleo-channel and perhaps a former extent of the River Cary. This is depicted as an intermittent broad anomaly on the geophysical survey that curves parallel to the existing water course. The buried soil layers are also cut by the three ditches recorded in this trench (F1708, F1710 and F1712) with the lowest lying ditch, F1708, overlain by a formation of peat. Finds of Iron Age pottery from ditch F1712 suggest that the peat formed around this date. A deeper sequence of peat was recorded to the northeast in Trench 5. Here, it measured approximately 1m thick and from which a sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from towards the base of its sequence. This indicates that the ground conditions in this part of the site were boggy but with stable water levels perhaps from the later Iron Age

The subsequent sequence of layers comprises an abrupt influx of alluvial clays visible as a clear horizon with the underlying deposits and beneath the more recent agricultural subsoil (where present) and ploughsoil. In Trenches 4, 9 and 17, an initial deposit of light grey fine-grained alluvial clay was recorded against a subsequent and thicker deposition or more mottled material present in these trenches, and Trenches 5 and 6. The extent of the layers of alluvial clay was exposed in Trench 17, with these petering out at around 7.9m aOD. The alluvial deposits were poorly dated with only a single sherd of Roman Samian pottery recovered from the primary alluvial layer in Trench 17 (1715). Whether this represents an influx of material in the Roman to post Roman period was not conclusive. However, the fact that these layers are cut by ditch F1718 in Trench 17, which is likely to be a medieval or post-medieval feature sealed by the subsoil, does provide a broad date the alluvial clays.

8.4 Bronze Age

Only ditch F1311 could potentially be dated to this period based on the recovery of two sherds of middle Bronze Age pottery. This feature forms part of a semi-circular linear

anomaly positioned on the level ground above the River Cary and may represent part of an enclosure.

Other features that could more tentatively be dated to this phase are located in Trench 12. Here, a small oval-shaped linear anomaly that was targeted was not conclusively encountered. Shallow, irregular linear F1201, did correspond with its location and could however represent the southwest side to this feature. From this a piece of worked flint was recovered. Finds of worked flint were also recovered from adjacent ditch F1209 and small pit or posthole F1205.

8.5 Iron Age

Iron Age features were recorded in Trenches 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 16 and 17. At the west end of the site, the linear features in Trench 2 included the broad, shallow ditch F203. From this, sherds of pottery and worked flint were recovered. The function of the feature was not established but the presence of these finds and a charcoal rich fill (205) may suggest that some degree of settlement activity was in the vicinity.

Trench 4 contained a total of four ditches that all cut through buried soil layer 403 and were sealed by alluvial clays (402 and 401). These all contained similar light grey wet and stable-lain clay-rich fills, with Iron Age pottery recovered from the fills of ditch F410. Ditch F414 extended towards the river and perhaps served a drainage function. The remaining ditches extended parallel to the river, with these perhaps forming boundary lines.

Trench 6 contained a concentration of features comprising the three ditches and two clusters of probable post and stakeholes. These were all sealed beneath a dark buried soil and were located on the periphery of the low-lying ground. Ditch F619 is likely to represent a corner to a ditch and F616 a narrow curving gully. The clusters of postholes and stakeholes probably represent some form of structural remains within the southeast portion of the trench. The recovery of charred plant remains from posthole F614 and a small assemblage of pottery and animal bone perhaps indicate the a settlement nature to the activity in this part of the site.

Trench 9 contained a single small probable pit that was sealed beneath the buried soil and contained a dump of pottery and charcoal as well as fragments of undiagnostic cremated bone. Pit F1203 in Trench 12 comprised a second similar feature. This also contained a dumped, charcoal-rich fill as well as fragments of identifiable cremated human bone. However, the quantity of bone recovered was not of a sufficient enough quantity in each to conclusively suggest that there features were definitely cremation pits. The features positioned to the northeast of Trench 16 and comprising ditch F1603, probable pit 1607 and posthole F1615 each have been dated to the Iron Age. These were all sealed by buried soil 1603. The presence the well-defined posthole suggests the general potential for structural remains in this part of the site. Finds including pottery and animal bone as well as the possible bone bead may indicate that the nature of this activity perhaps represents some form of settlement occupation. Fragments of undiagnostic cremated bone were also recovered from posthole F1615. Further fragments of identifiable cremated human bone were also recovered from the subsoil of Trench 12. Occurrences of cremated human bone from a number of features across the site and residually in overlying layers strongly suggests that some form of funerary activity was being undertaken on the site. Although no earlier features were recorded in Trench 16, Bronze Age pottery recovered from ditch F1603 may also suggest a longer occupational range more broadly on the site.

The three ditches recorded in Trench 17 (F1708, F1710 and F1712) are, based on Iron Age pottery recovered from F1712, all of a probable comparable date. These extended

parallel to the River Cary and as with those present in Trench 4 may represent boundaries. As discussed above these features were infilled with water-lain deposits and then overlain stratigraphically by the formation of the peat deposit (1703).

In Trenches 6, 9 and 16 the features were generally sealed by a buried soil. This suggests that the formation of this soil horizon was established late in this period or during the subsequent period. Small ditch F910 in Trench 9 contained two sherds of Iron Age pottery but the feature cuts the buried soil. These may be residual finds and based on stratigraphy the feature it is more likely to be Romano-British in date.

8.6 Romano British

Features dating to the Romano-British period were recorded in Trenches 4, 9, 10, 11 and 13-15. Included in these features is the large rounded linear anomaly targeted by Trenches 13-15. It consisted of a single ditch measuring approximately 1.5m wide, 0.5m wide and enclosed an area of around 135m across. However, this was only poorly dated with a small assemblage of finds recovered from each of the three interventions (F1305, F1428 and F1509). This comprised three sherds of Iron Age pottery and one sherd of Romano-British pottery that were all recovered from its equivalent upper fill. A small number of probable pit features were exposed within the internal area as well as the concentration of features, which were comprised principally of probable pits, exposed the external side of this enclosure in Trench 13, and that are also of potential Romano-British date. However, the lack of finds and sterile deposits recorded within the ditch makes an interpretation on the function and a close date for the probable enclosure unclear.

The broad curving linear anomaly targeted by Trenches 10 and 11 comprised a wide shallow possible ditch or erosion hollow. The function of this was not established. Nevertheless the recovery of a broad range of finds from F1110 in Trench 11 including pottery and animal bone associated with a dark charcoal rich fill suggests the location of further Romano-British occupation on the site. An explanation for the recovery of cremated human bone from this feature is not currently known. It is possible that these are residual when considering the recovery other earlier finds from this feature. Pit F405 represents further Romano-British activity on the site with this containing a dump of largely Iron Age sherds and one Romano-British sherd. The presence of quantities of Iron Age sherds was also the case for ditch F1110 and to a lesser extent the probable enclosure ditch investigated in Trenches 13-15. This may indicated a general continuity of occupation.

Romano-British ditch F907 was cut into buried soil as was ditch F910, which is also of a likely comparable date (see above). These were perpendicular to each other and perhaps represent agricultural plot boundaries.

8.7 Post-medieval

Post-medieval features exposed across the site are all likely to represent agricultural boundaries. The ditch exposed in Trench 8 (F803) is almost certainly a continuation of the alignment of the extant boundary to the southwest. This feature was cut through the colluvial subsoil. This was also the case for the ditches recorded in Trenches 1 (F103), 7 (F702) and ditches in Trenches 13, 15 and 17 (1315, F1504, F1509, F1514, 1517 and F1718), which although were undated, are stratigraphically likely to be medieval to post-medieval in date.

9. CONCLUSIONS

The trench evaluation has recorded archaeological features from across the entire site, with these in a greater concentration towards the south portion of the area as shown on the previous geophysical survey. Here, the presence of a potential Bronze Age enclosure, Iron Age ditches and pits, with a large probable Romano-British enclosure and further activity such as pits and a curving linear hollow indicate multi-phase occupation on the site. To the northwest of this a concentration of features, perhaps associated with Iron Age settlement activity was recorded in Trench 6 while elsewhere more dispersed Iron Age and Romano-British ditches and pits and post-medieval boundaries were recorded.

The preservation of features was varied with those on the elevated platform to the southwest of the site exposed at a depth of approximately 0.4m and having evidence of plough truncation. While to the north of this, features were sealed at a depth of between 0.6m and 1m by, in places, a complex layer sequence that included prehistoric buried soils, peat horizons and possible Roman or post-Roman alluvial deposits.

10. ARCHIVE AND OASIS

10.1 The paper and digital archive is currently held at the offices of AC archaeology Ltd, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ. This will ultimately be deposited under museum accession number **TTNCM 55/2014** at the Somerset Hertitage Centre, Taunton. The Somerset Historic Environment Service Primary Reference Number for this project is **32515**.

10.2 An online OASIS entry has been completed, using the unique identifier **183722**, which includes a digital copy of this report.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

11.1 The evaluation was commissioned by Will Bedford on behalf of CgMs Consulting. The site works were carried out by Simon Hughes, Simon Sworn, Kerry Kerr-Peterson, Paul Cooke, Stella de-Villiers, Will Smith and Chris Caine, Stella De Villiers. The illustrations for this report were prepared by Elisabeth Patkai. The collaboration of Steve Membery, Somerset County Council Historic Environment Officer, is duly acknowledged.

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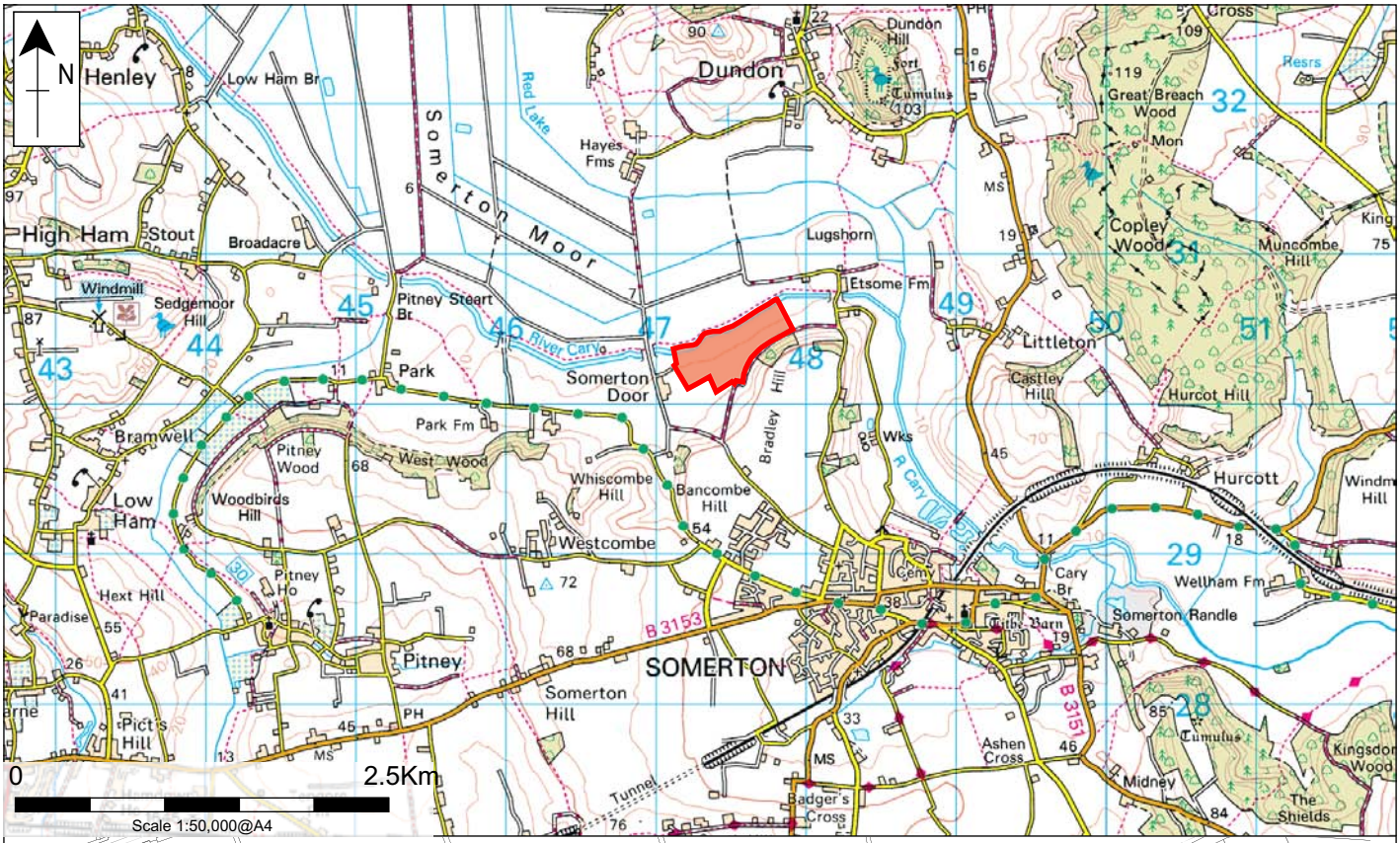
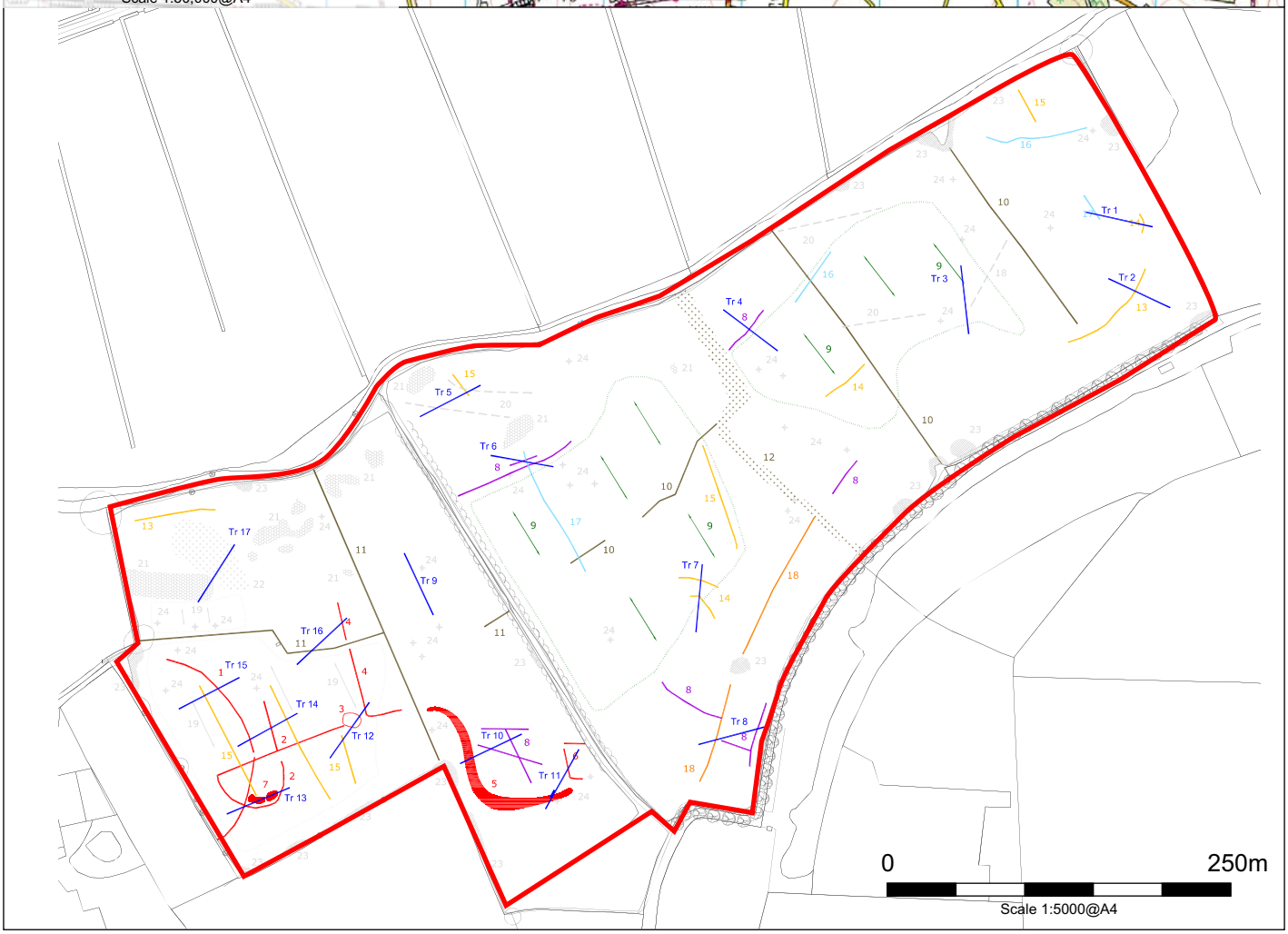




Site location

Evaluation trenches

PROJECT

Land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset

TITLE

Fig. 1: Site location and trench plan

AC archaeology

N

0 100m

Scale 1:1500@A3

Site outline

Evaluation trenches with archaeological features shown

AC archaeology

PROJECT

Land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset

TITLE

Fig. 2: Trench location plan west with archaeological features shown

N

Tr 1
F103
Tr 2
F203
Tr 3
Tr 4
417
F410
416
F414
F408
F405
Tr 7
F702
Tr 8
F803

0 100m

Scale 1:1500@A3

Site outline

Evaluation trenches with archaeological features shown

AC archaeology

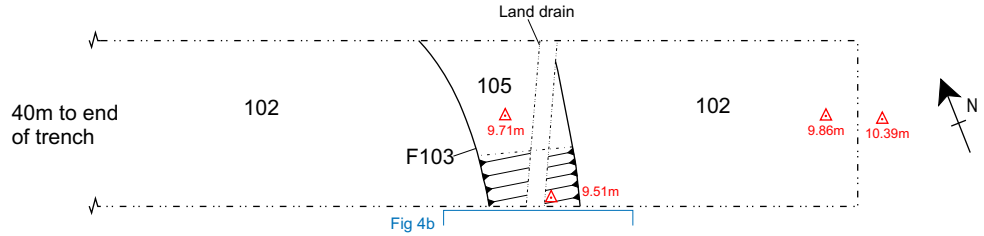
PROJECT

Land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset

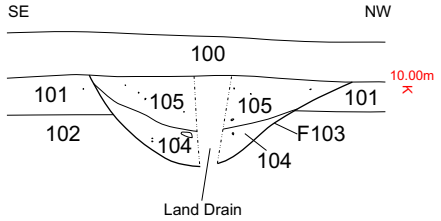
TITLE

Fig. 3: Trench location plan east, with archaeological features shown

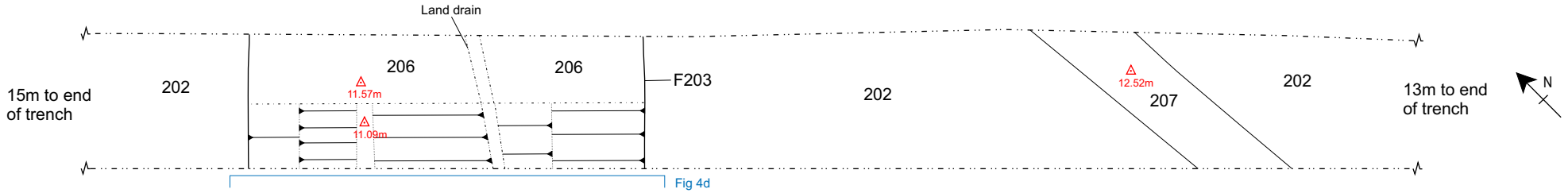
a) Trench 1, plan



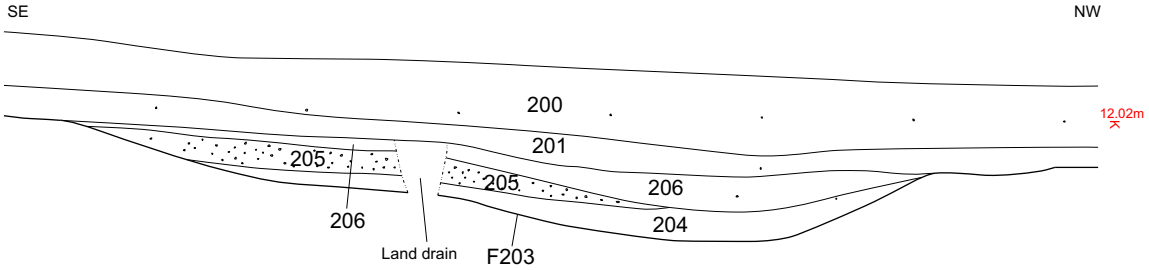
b) Section of F104



c) Trench 2, plan



d) Section of F203



0 Plans 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 3m

Scale 1:50@A4

PROJECT

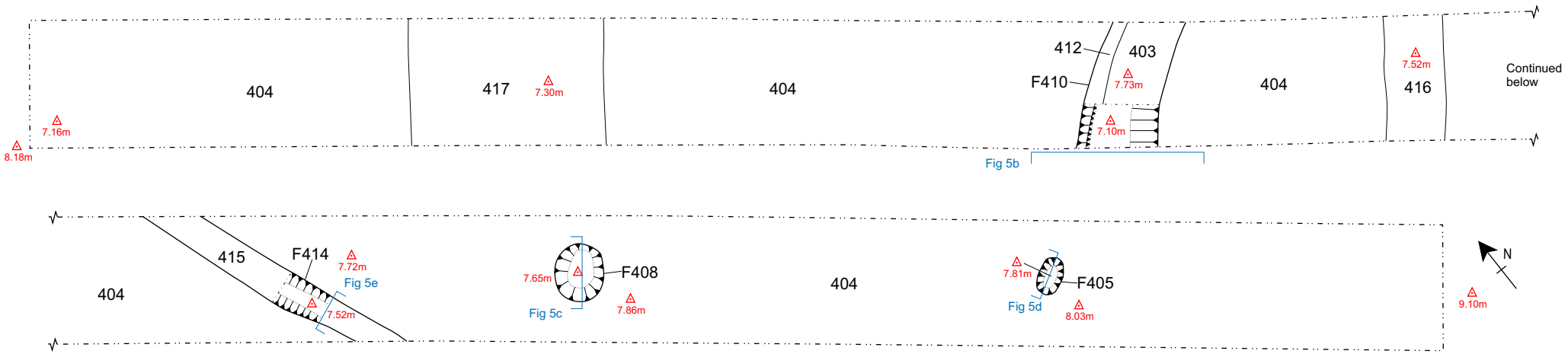
Land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset

TITLE

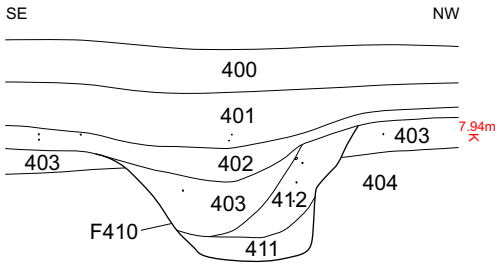
Fig. 4: Trenches 1 and 2, plans and sections

AC archaeology

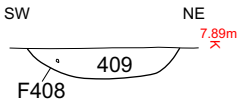
a) Trench 4, plan



b) Section of F410



c) Section of F408



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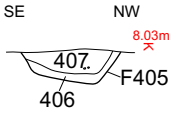
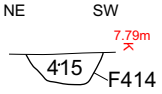
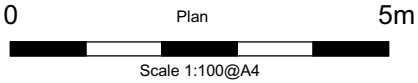


e) Section of F414





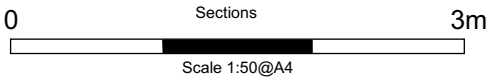


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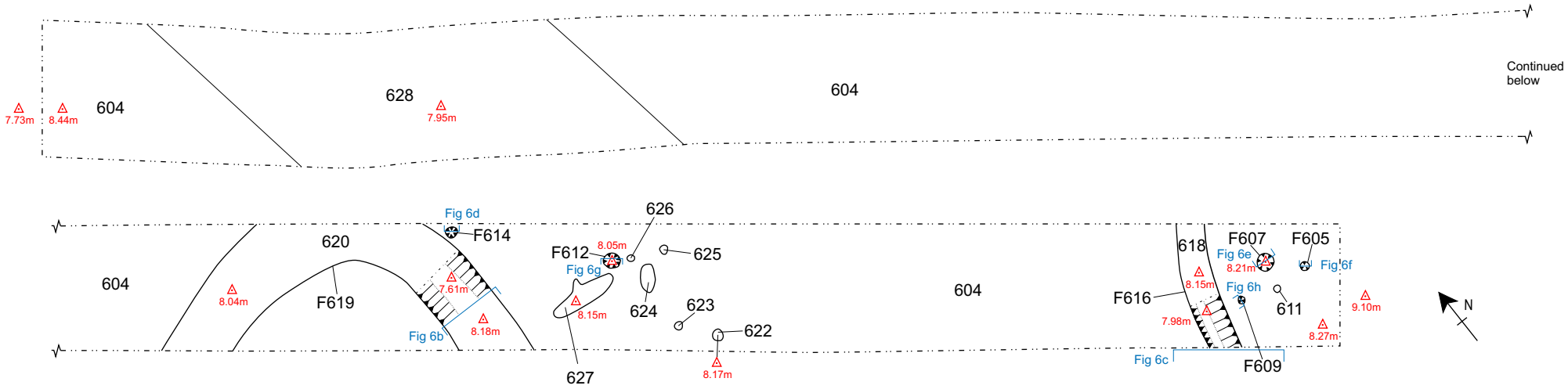
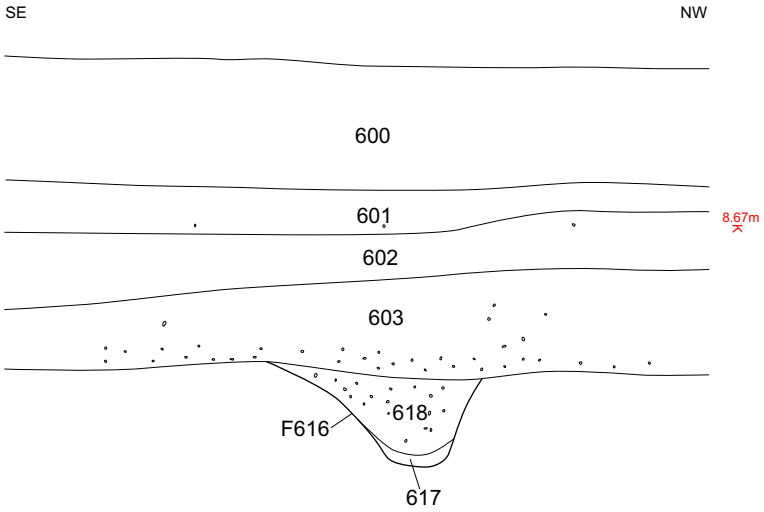
Fig. 5: Trench 4, plan and sections

AC archaeology

a) Trench 6, plan



b) Section of F616



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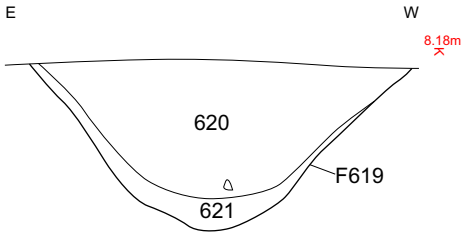

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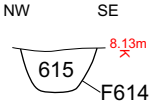
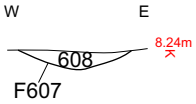
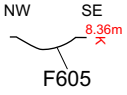


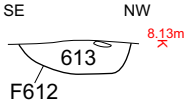
e) Section of F607



f) Section of F605



g) Section of F612



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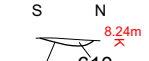

0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 1m

Scale 1:20@A4

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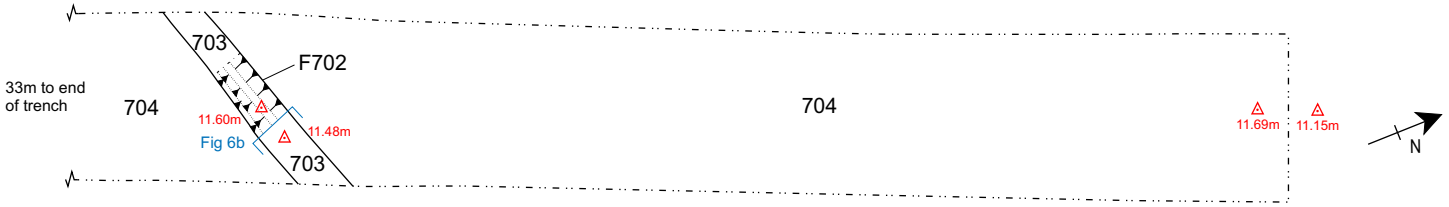
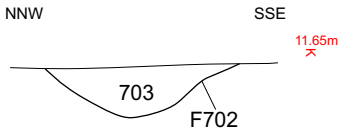
Fig. 6: Trench 6, plan and sections

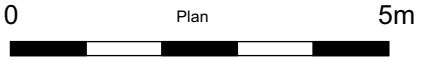
AC archaeology

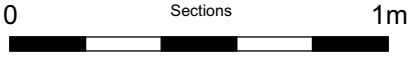
a) Trench 7, plan



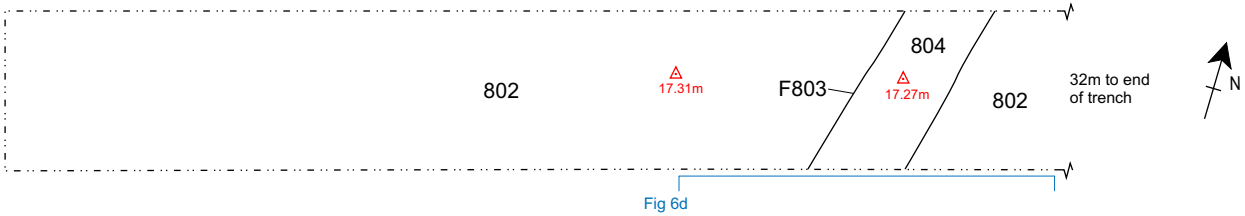
b) Section of F702



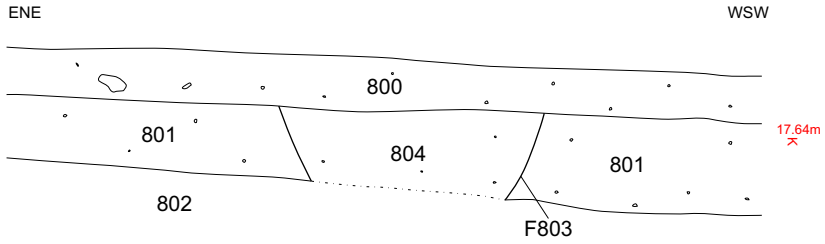


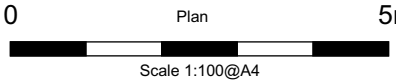


c) Trench 8, plan



d) Section of F803





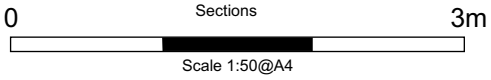


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Fig. 7: Trenches 7 and 8, plans and sections

AC archaeology

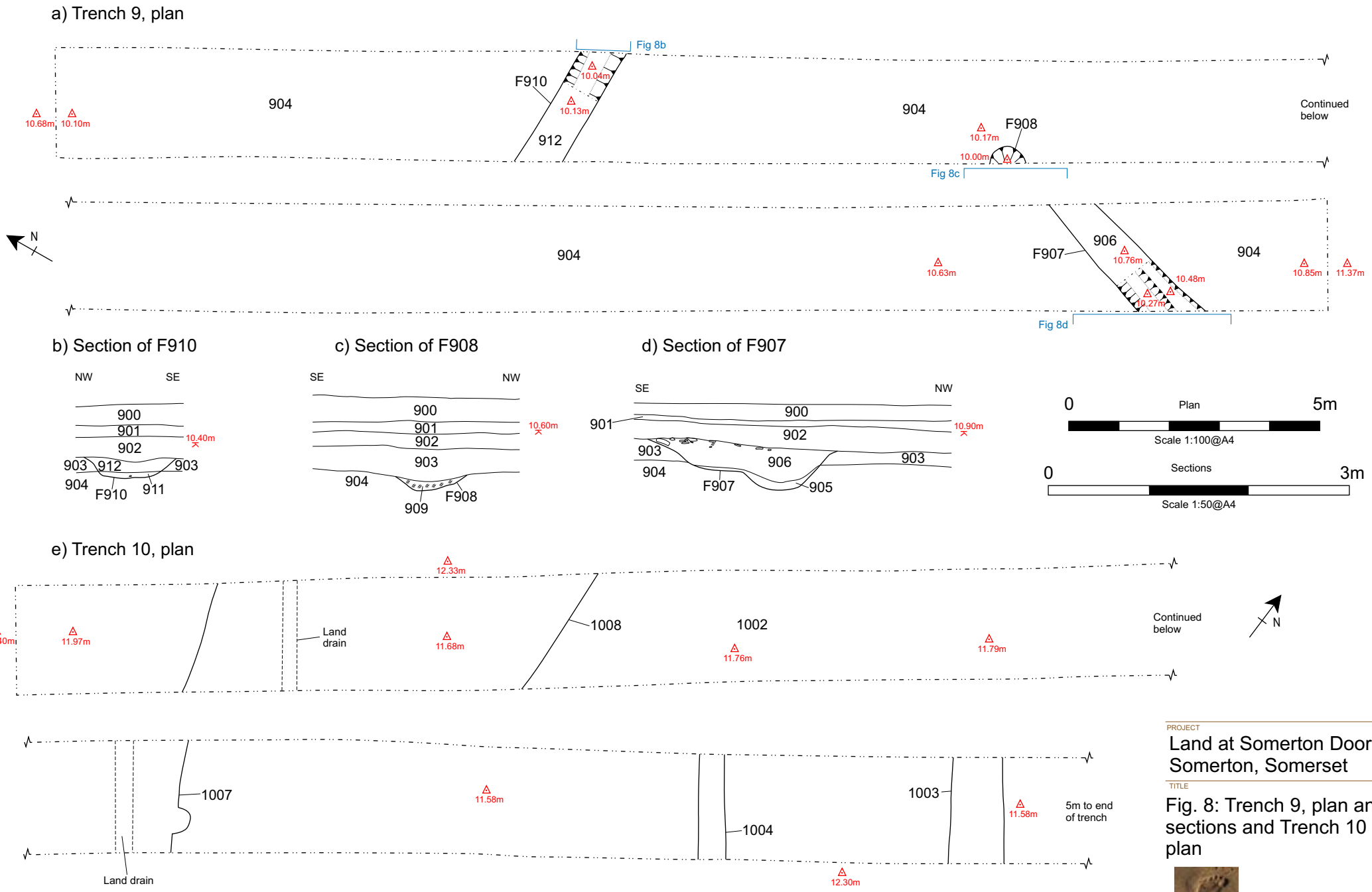

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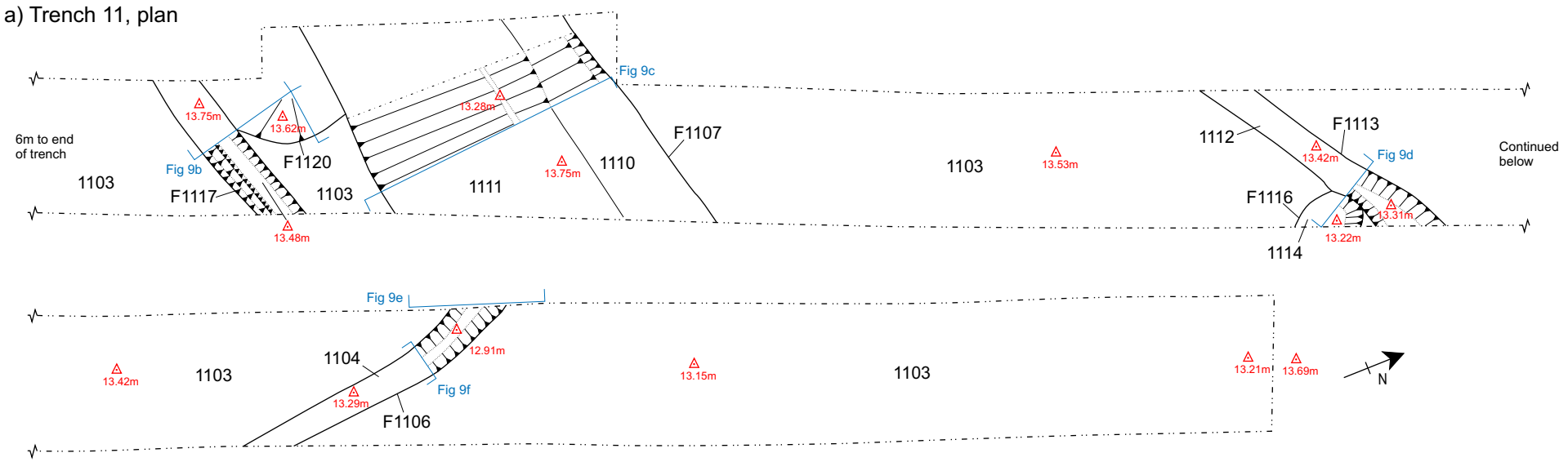
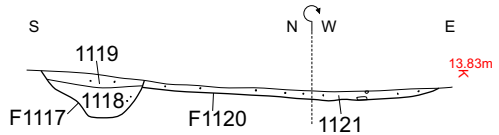
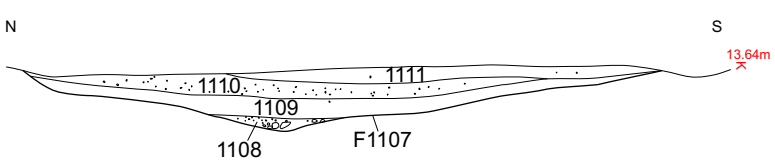
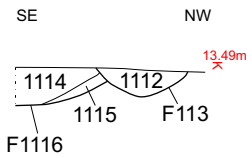
Fig. 8: Trench 9, plan and sections and Trench 10 plan

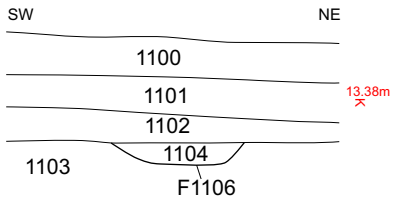
AC archaeology

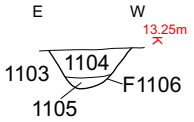


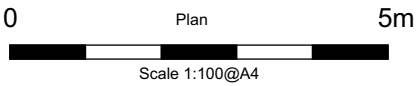












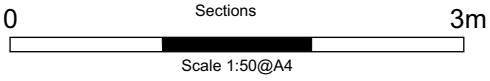


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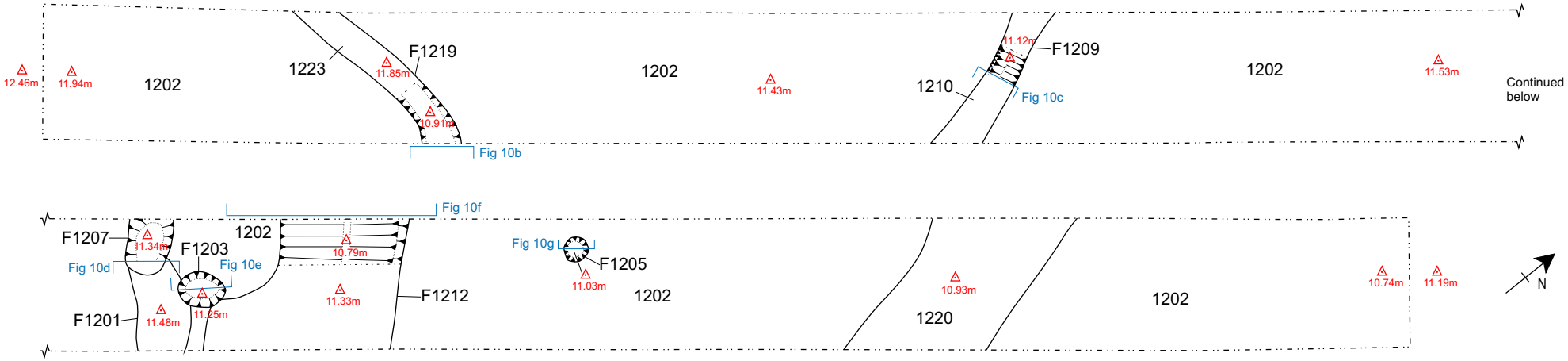
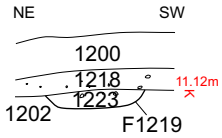
Fig. 9: Trench 11, plan and sections

AC archaeology

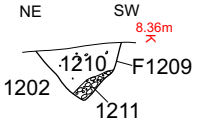
a) Trench 12, plan



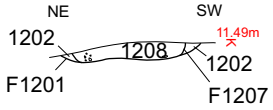
b) Section of F1219



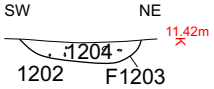
c) Section of F1209



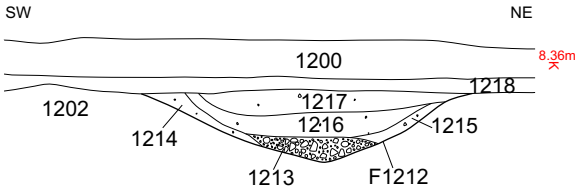
d) Section of F1207



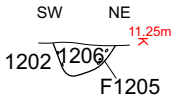
e) Section of F1203



f) Section of F1212



g) Section of F1205



0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 3m

Scale 1:50@A4

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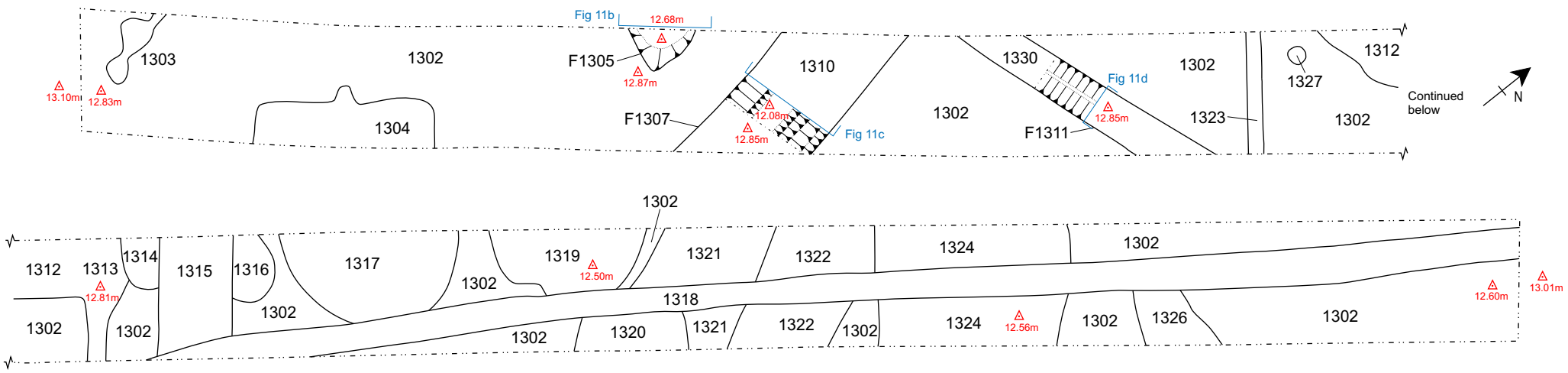
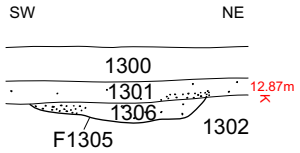
Fig. 10: Trench 12, plan and sections

AC archaeology

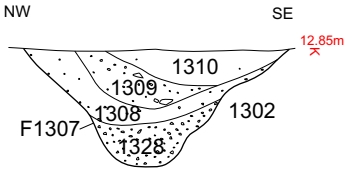
a) Trench 13, plan



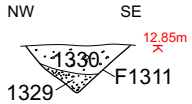
b) Section of F1305

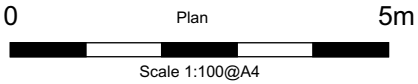


c) Section of F1307



d) Section of F1311





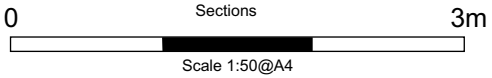


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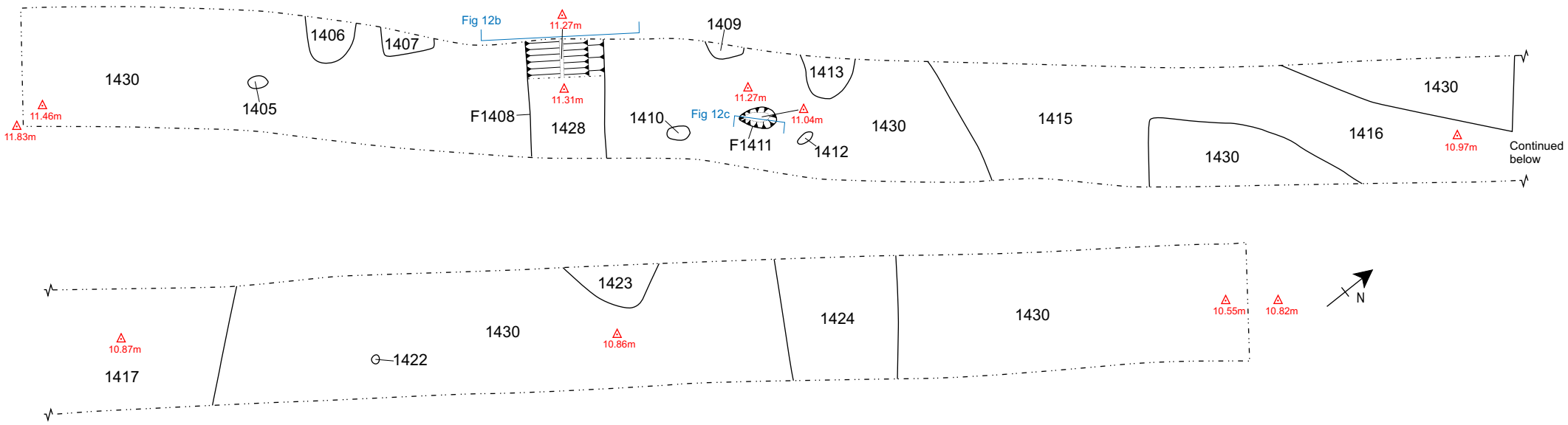
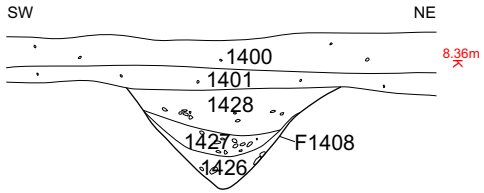
Fig. 11: Trench 13, plan and sections

AC archaeology

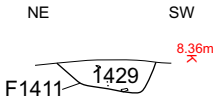
a) Trench 14, plan



b) Section of F1408



c) Section of F1411



0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 3m

Scale 1:50@A4

PROJECT

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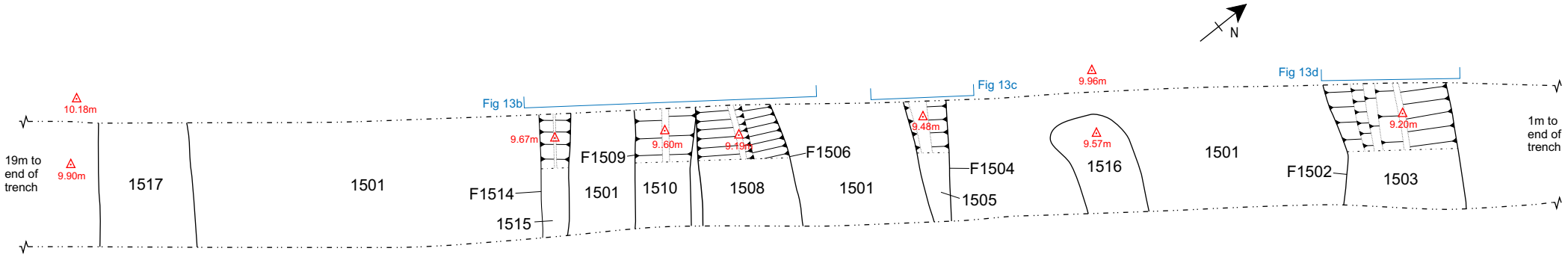
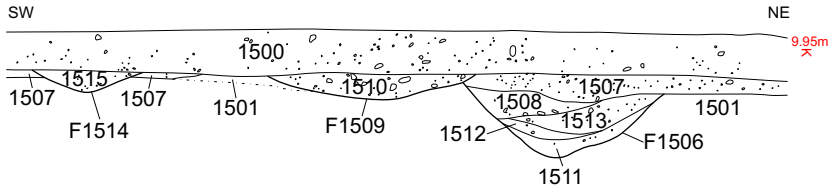
Fig. 12: Trench 14, plan and sections

AC archaeology

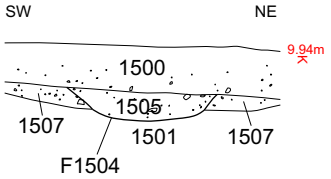
a) Trench 15, plan



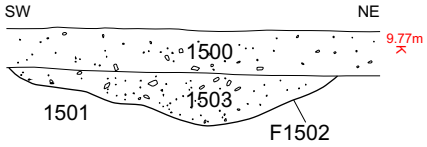
b) Section of F1514, F1509 and F1506

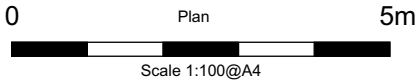


c) Section of F1504



c) Section of F1502





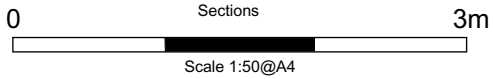


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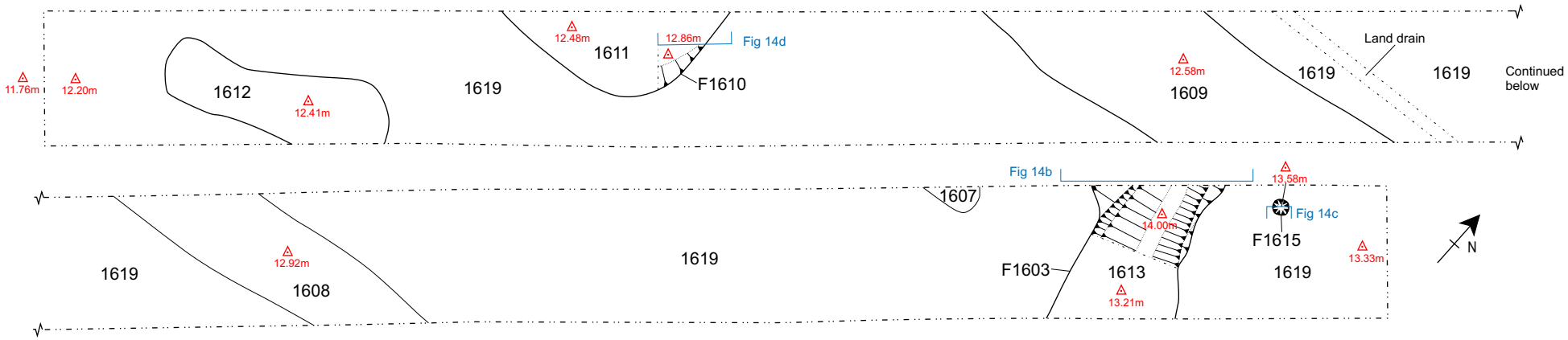
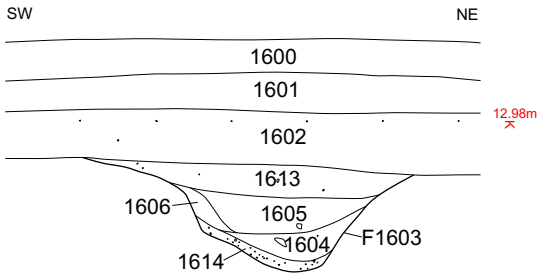
Fig. 13: Trench 15, plan and sections

AC archaeology

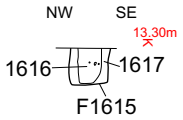
a) Trench 16, plan



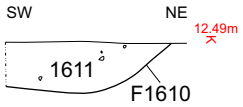
b) Section of F1603



c) Section of F1615



d) Section of F1610



0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 3m

Scale 1:50@A4

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Fig. 14: Trench 16, plan and sections

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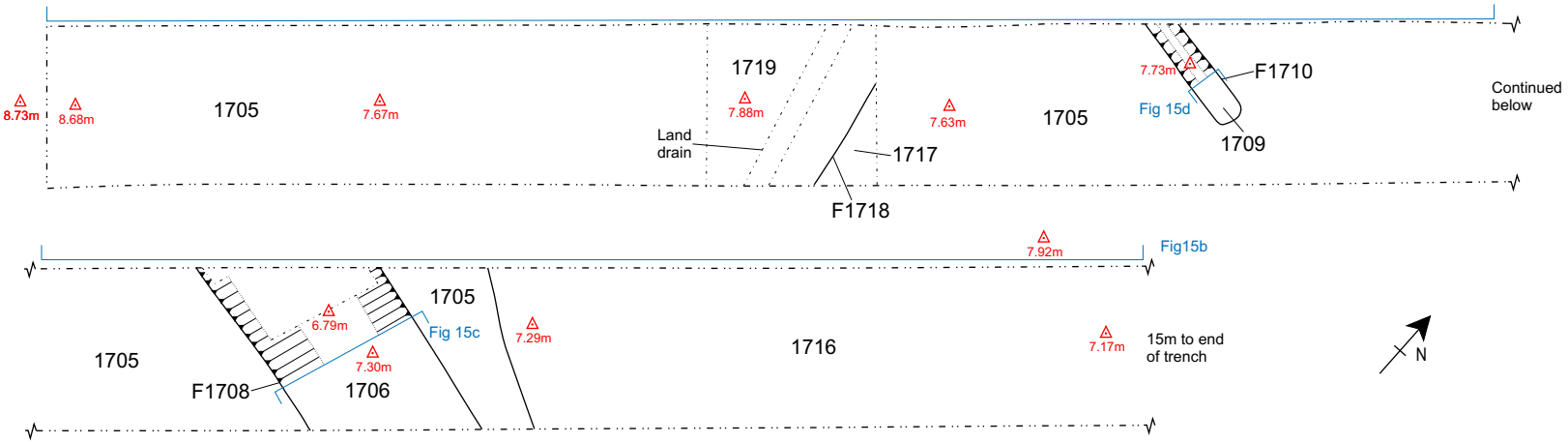
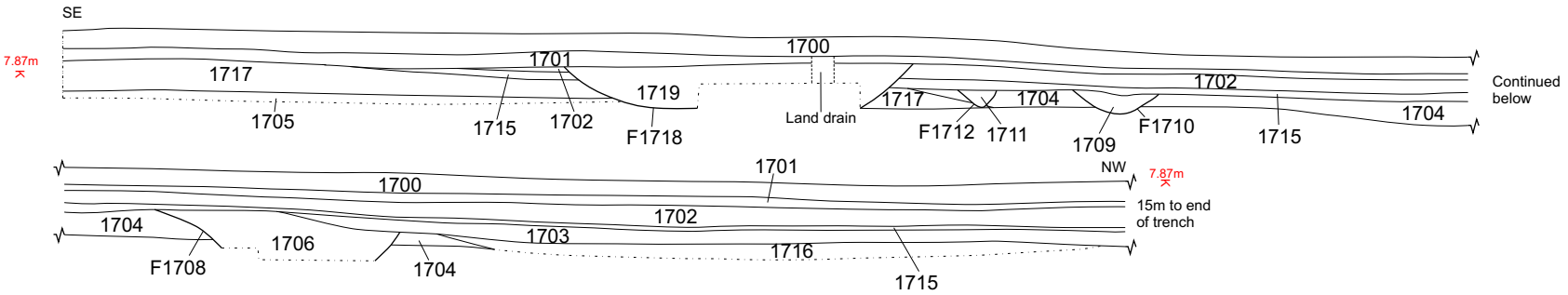
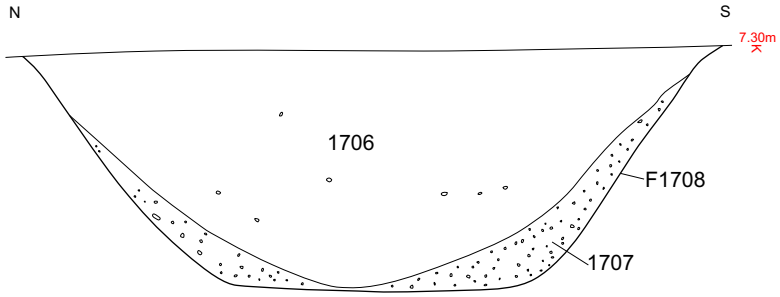
a) Trench 17, plan



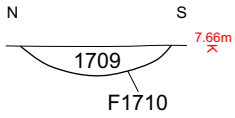
b) Section of Trench 17

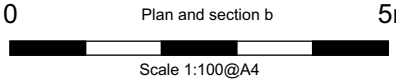


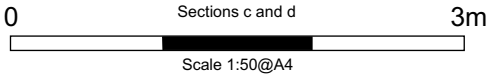
c) Section of F1708



d) Section of F1710







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Land at Somerton Door, Somerton, Somerset

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Fig. 15: Trench 17, plan and sections

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Plate 1: General view of site looking northwest towards Trench 2

Plate 2: Trench 5, showing peat layer sequence with overlying alluvial clay, looking southeast (scale 1m)

Plate 3: Trench 6, showing pre-excavation view of features, looking southeast (scale 1m)

Plate 4: Trench 11, showing ditch F1107, looking east (scale 2m)

Plate 5: Features in Trench 13, with enclosure ditch F1307 in foreground, viewed from the southwest

Plate 6: Trench 15, showing enclosure ditch F1506, view to the north-northeast (scale 1m)

Plate 7: Trench 16, with ditch F1603 and posthole F1615 in foreground, view to the southwest (scale 1m)

Plate 8: Trench 17, working view of ditch F1708, looking east

Appendix 1

Tabulated Context Descriptions

APPENDIX 1: TABULATED TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** NW-SE
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
100	Dark brown silty-loam	0-0.3m	Ploughsoil	
101	Mid reddish brown clayey-loam	0.3-0.51m	Colluvial subsoil	
102	Mid red clay with sand and gravel bands	0.51m+	Natural subsoil	
F103	NNE to SSW aligned linear feature measuring 1.75m wide and 0.61m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Ditch cut	
104	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam with occasional sub-angular gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F103	
105	Mid brown silty-loam with rare small gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F103	

Trench 2		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** NW-SE
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
200	Dark brown silty-loam	0-0.33m	Topsoil	
201	Mid reddish brown clayey-loam	0.33-0.55m	Subsoil	
202	Mid red clay with sand and gravel bands	0.55m+	Natural subsoil	
F203	NE-SW aligned linear feature measuring 6.4m wide and 0.44m deep with a moderately steep northwest side, a gradual southeast side and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
204	Mid greyish-brown clayey-loam with rare charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F203	
205	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay loam with frequent charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F203	
206	Mid greyish- brown silty-clay with rare charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F203	
207	North to south aligned linear feature measuring 1.5m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch	

Trench 3		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** NW-SE
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
300	Dark brown silty-loam	0-0.3m	Topsoil	
301	Mid reddish brown clayey-loam	0.3-0.6m	Subsoil	
302	Mid red clay with sand and gravel bands	0.6m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 4		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** NW-SE
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
400	Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam	0-0.28m	Ploughsoil	
401	Light grey silty-clay with occasional small gravel and grit inclusions	0.28-0.56m	Alluvial clay	
402	Mid grey silty-clay with rare small gravel and grit inclusions	0.56-0.71m	Alluvial clay	
403	Mid brownish-red clayey-loam with rare small gravel inclusions	0.71-0.88m	Buried colluvial soil	
404	Light brownish red alluvial sandy-clay with occasional gravels	0.88m+	Natural subsoil	
F405	Sub-oval feature measuring 0.65m long, 0.38m wide and 0.22m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of pit	
406	Mid reddish-grey silty-clay with rare small sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Basal fill of pit F405	
407	Mid reddish-grey silty-clay with common charcoal flecks and rare sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Upper fill of pit F405	
F408	Sub-round feature measuring 1m long, 0.85m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of pit	
409	Mid to light grey silty-clay with occasional charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Fill of pit F408	
F410	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 1.79m wide and 0.8m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flattish base	-	Cut of ditch	
411	Mid grey silty-clay	-	Basal fill of ditch F410	
412	Light greyish-red silty-clay	-	Second fill of ditch F410	
413	Light grey silty-clay with rare charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F410	
F414	N-S aligned linear feature measuring 0.55m wide and 0.44m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flattish base	-	Cut of ditch	
415	Mid grey silty-clay with rare small gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F414	
416	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 1.05m wide and comprised of mid grey silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch	
417	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 3.4m wide and comprised of mid grey silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch	

Trench 5		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** ENE-WSW
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
500	Mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam	0-0.28m	Ploughsoil	
501	Light brownish-grey silty-clay	0.28-.04m	Alluvial clay	
502	Dark greyish-brown silty-clay loam/peat with rare preserved organics	0.4-0.66m	Peat layer	

503	Dark grey humic silty-loam/peat common preserved organics	0.66-0.83m	Peat layer
504	Dark grey humic silty-loam/peat common preserved organics with frequent medium sub-angular limestone inclusions	0.83-1.03m	Dumped layer
505	Dark brownish-grey humic silty-loam/peat common preserved organics	1.03-1.48m	Peat layer
506	Light grey clay	1.38-1.48m	Alluvial clay
507	Light brownish red alluvial sandy-clay with occasional gravels	1.48m+	Natural subsoil

Trench 6		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
600	Mid greyish-brown clayey-loam	0-0.3m	Ploughsoil	
601	Light brownish-grey clayey-loam	0.3-0.46m	Subsoil	
602	Light brownish-grey silty-clay with occasional small gravel and grit inclusions	0.46-0.61m	Alluvial clay	
603	Mid greyish-brown sandy-clay loam	0.61-0.8m	Buried soil	
604	Light brownish red alluvial sandy-clay with occasional gravels	0.8m+	Natural subsoil	
F605	Round feature measuring 0.15m across and 0.04m deep with a concave base	-	Cut of stake hole	
606	Light grey clayey-loam	-	Fill of stake hole F605	
F607	Round feature measuring 0.30m across and 0.05m deep with a concave base	-	Cut of posthole	
608	Light grey clayey-loam	-	Fill of posthole F607	
F609	Round feature measuring 0.13m across and 0.02m deep with a concave base	-	Cut of stake hole	
610	Light grey clayey-loam	-	Fill of stake hole F609	
611	Round feature measuring 0.12m across and 0.04m deep with a concave base	-	Probable stake hole	
F612	Round feature measuring 0.29m across and 0.09m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of posthole	
613	Light grey sandy-loam with common small angular limestone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Fill of posthole F612	
F614	Round feature measuring 0.19m across and 0.12m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of posthole	
615	Dark grey clayey-loam with abundant charcoal inclusions	-	Fill of posthole F614	
F616	Curvilinear feature measuring 0.51m wide and 0.27m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch	
617	Light yellowish-grey sandy clay with rare angular grave inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F616	
618	Dark grey sandy-clay loam with common	-	Upper fill of ditch F616	

	manganese flecking		
F619	Curving to angled linear feature measuring 1.01m wide and 0.45m deep with moderately steep sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch
620	Dark greyish-brown sandy-loam with rare gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F619
621	Light greyish-brown sandy-clay loam with rare gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F619
622	Round feature measuring 0.18m across and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Possible posthole
623	Round feature measuring 0.15m across and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Possible posthole
624	Oval feature measuring 0.48m long and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit
625	Round feature measuring 0.12m across and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Possible stake hole
626	Round feature measuring 0.1m across and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Possible stake hole
627	Short linear feature measuring 1.25m long and comprised of mid grey silty-clay with moderately-common charcoal fleck inclusions. Unexcavated	-	Unknown
628	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 4.5m wide and comprised of mid grey silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch

Trench 7		**Length** 50m	**Width** 2.2m	**Alignment** NE-SW
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
700	Mid brown silty-loam	0.03m	Ploughsoil	
701	Mid greyish-brown to reddish-brown clayey-loam	0.3-0.44m	Colluvial subsoil	
F702	ENE-WSW aligned linear feature measuring 0.5m wide and 0.28m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
703	Mid brown clayey-loam	-	Fill of ditch F702	
704	Light grey and red clay with bands of sand	0.44m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 8		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment ENE-WSW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
800	Mid brown silty-loam	0-0.33m	Ploughsoil	
801	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam	0.33-0.94m	Colluvial subsoil	
802	Light grey and red clay with bands of sand	0.94m+	Natural subsoil	
F803	NE-SW aligned linear feature measuring 1.74m wide and 0.55m+ deep with steeply-sloping sides	-	Cut of ditch	
804	Mid grey silty-clay with rare medium sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F803	

Trench 9		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment NNW-SSE**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
900	Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam	0-0.23m	Ploughsoil	
901	Light greyish-brown clayey-loam	0.23-0.32m	Alluvial clay	
902	Light grey silty-clay	0.32-0.51m	Alluvial clay	
903	Dark grey clayey-loam	0.51-0.66m	Buried soil	
904	Light reddish-yellow sandy-loam	0.66m+	Natural subsoil	
905	Mid greyish brown sandy-clay with rare gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F907	
906	Light grey clayey-loam with common medium sub-angular limestone inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F907	
F907	NE-SW aligned linear feature measuring 1.88m wide and 0.42m deep with moderately steep NW side, a stepped SE side and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
F908	Rounded feature measuring 0.74m wide and 0.1m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flattish base	-	Cut of pit	
909	Dark grey silty-clay with abundant charcoal inclusions	-	Fill of pit F908	
F910	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.91m wide and 0.23m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch	
911	Dark greyish-brown clayey loam with rare gravel and charcoal inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F910	
912	Mid grey clayey-loam with rare charcoal fleck inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F910	

Trench 10		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment ENE-WSW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1000	Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam	0-0.3m	Ploughsoil	
1001	Mid greyish-brown clayey-loam	0.3-0.65m	Colluvial subsoil	
1002	Mid brownish-yellow sandy-clay with abundant gravels	0.65m+	Natural subsoil	
1003	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 1.1m wide and comprised of dark grey silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch	
1004	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 0.5m wide and comprised of mid brownish-grey silty-clay. Unexcavated	-	Probable ditch	
1007	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring c.0.7m wide and comprised of mid greyish-brown silty-clay. Unexcavated		Probable ditch	
1008	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 6.5m wide and comprised of mid brownish-grey silty-clay. Unexcavated		Probable ditch	

Trench 11		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment NE-SW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1100	Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam	0-0.25m	Ploughsoil	
1101	Mid greyish-brown clayey-loam	0.25-0.4m	Colluvial subsoil	
1102	Mid greyish-brown silty-clay	0.4-0.52m	Buried soil	
1103	Mid brownish-red sandy-clay with abundant gravels	0.52m+	Natural subsoil	
1104	Dark grey silty-clay with rare gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1106	
1105	Light reddish-grey silty-clay	-	Basal fill of ditch F1106	
F1106	N-S aligned linear measuring 0.55m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
F1107	ENE-WSW aligned linear feature measuring 4.25m wide and 0.39m deep with gradually sloping sides	-	Cut of ditch	

	and a concave base		
1108	Mid red clay	-	Basal fill of ditch F1107
1109	Light greyish-brown clayey-loam with rare charcoal and manganese inclusions	-	Second fill of F1107
1110	Dark grey silty-clay loam with frequent charcoal and rare small sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Third fill of ditch F1107
1111	Mid brownish-grey clayey-loam with rare charcoal inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1107
1112	Mid yellowish-brown silty-clay with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F1113
F1113	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch
1114	Dark grey silty-clay	-	Upper fill of possible pit F1116
1115	Dark grey silty-clay with mixed re-deposited natural subsoil	-	Basal fill of possible pit F1116
F1116	Rounded feature measuring 0.7m across and 0.27m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of possible pit
F1117	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 0.68m wide and 0.28m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch
1118	Dark grey clayey-loam with rare charcoal and gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1117
1119	Dark brownish-grey clayey-loam	-	Upper fill of ditch F1117
F1120	Rounded hollow measuring 0.07m deep with gradual sloping sides and flat base	-	Cut of hollow
1121	Mid brownish grey clayey-loam with rare gravel inclusions	-	Fill of hollow F1120

Trench 12		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment NE-SW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1200	Dark brown silty-clay loam	0-0.26m	Ploughsoil	
F1201	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.91m wide and 0.08m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides	-	Probable pit or ditch	
1202	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Fill of probable pit or ditch F1201	
F1203	Oval feature measuring 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of pit	
1204	Dark brownish-grey silty-loam with common charcoal and occasional heat-effected clay and gravel inclusions	-	Fill of pit F1203	
F1205	Round feature measuring 0.4m across and 0.22m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of posthole	
1206	Mid brown clayey-loam	-	Fill of posthole F1205	
F1207	Oval feature measuring 0.95m+ long and 0.75m wide and 0.13m deep with moderately-steep sloping side and a flattish base	-	Cut of pit	
1208	Mid brown silty-clay with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Fill of pit F1207	
F1209	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.56m wide and 0.35m deep with a moderately-steep 'V-shaped' profile	-	Cut of ditch	
1210	Mid reddish-brown silty-clay with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1209	
1211	Mid brown silty-clay with common gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1209	
F1212	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 2.18m wide and 0.47m deep with gradually-sloping sides	-	Cut of ditch	

	and a concave base		
1213	Dark brown silty-clay with frequent gravel inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F1212
1214	Mid brownish-yellow silty-clay with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1212
1215	Mid brownish-yellow silty-clay with occasional medium sub-angular stone and gravel inclusions	-	Third fill of ditch F1212
1216	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam with occasional medium sub-angular stone and gravel inclusions	-	Forth fill of ditch F1212
1217	Mid brown clayey-loam with common manganese and occasional medium sub-angular stone and gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1212
1218	Mid greyish-brown clayey-loam	0.26-0.35m	Subsoil
F1219	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 0.4m wide and 0.13m deep with gradually sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch
1220	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 1.9m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-loam	-	Probable ditch
1222	Light brownish yellow sandy-clay with abundant gravels	0.35m+	Natural subsoil
1223	Mid brown silty-clay with moderately-common gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F1219

Trench 13		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment ENE-WSW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1300	Dark brown silty-clay loam	0-0.23m	Ploughsoil	
1301	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam	0.23-0.38m	Subsoil	
1302	Light brownish yellow sandy-clay with abundant gravels	0.38m+	Natural subsoil	
1303	Amorphous feature 0.5m wide max and comprised of mid brown sandy-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Unknown, probable intercutting features	
1304	Squared feature measuring 3.1m across and comprised of mid brown sandy-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit	
F1305	Squared feature measuring 1.16m across and 0.13m deep with moderately steep sides and an irregular base	-	Possible pit	
1306	Mid reddish-brown silty-clay with rare gravel inclusions	-	Fill of possible pit F1305	
F1307	N-S aligned linear feature measuring 1.75m wide and 0.5m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
1308	Mid yellowish-brown clayey-loam with common sub-angular small stone inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F1307	
1309	Mid yellowish-brown clayey-loam with frequent sub-angular small stone inclusions	-	Third fill of ditch F1307	
1310	Mid greyish-brown silty-clay with rare gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1307	
F1311	ENE-WSW aligned linear feature measuring 0.68m wide and 0.31m deep with moderately-steep 'V-shaped' profile	-	Cut of ditch	
1312	Sub-rounded feature measuring 1.3m+ across and comprised of mid brown sandy-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit	
1313	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.35m wide and comprised of mid brown sandy-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch	
1314	Rounded feature measuring 0.9m+ across and comprised of mid reddish-brown clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit	
1315	Linear feature measuring 1.25m wide and comprised of mid greyish-brown clayey-loam	-	Probable ditch	
1316	Rounded feature measuring 1.2m+ across and	-	Possible pit	

	comprised of mid reddish-brown clayey-loam. Unexcavated		
1317	Rounded feature measuring 3.05m across and comprised of mid reddish-brown clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit
1318	Linear feature measuring 0.6m wide and comprised of mid greyish-red clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Probable land drain or ditch
1319	Rounded feature measuring 2.71m across and comprised of mid brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit
1320	Rounded feature measuring 1.95m across and comprised of mid reddish-brown clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit
1321	Linear feature measuring 1.8m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit or ditch
1322	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 1.7m wide and comprised of mid reddish-brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch
1323	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.2m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay	-	Possible ditch
1324	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 3.2m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch
1326	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1.2m wide and comprised of mid greyish-red clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch terminal
1327	Round feature measuring 0.25m across and comprised of mid brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit or posthole
1328	Mid yellowish-brown silty-sand with abundant small to medium sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1307
1329	Mid brown silt with abundant sub-angular gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1311
1330	Mid brown silty-clay with common gravel inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1311

Trench 14		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1400	Dark brown silty-clay loam	0-0.26m	Ploughsoil	
1401	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam	0.26-0.4m	Subsoil	
1405	Oval feature measuring 0.45m long, 0.25m wide and comprised of mid reddish-brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit or posthole	
1406	Rounded feature measuring 0.85m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit	
1407	Squared feature measuring 0.9m across and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit	
F1408	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1.4m wide and 0.66m deep with moderately-steeply-sloping sides and a narrow concave base.	-	Cut of ditch	
1409	Squared feature measuring 0.6m across and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit	
1410	Oval feature measuring 0.4m long, 0.25m wide and comprised of light-brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit or posthole	
F1411	Oval feature measuring 0.75m long, 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of pit	
1412	Oval feature measuring 0.4m long, 0.15m wide and comprised of mid-brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit or posthole	
1413	Rounded feature measuring 0.7m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit	
1415	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 2.85m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-	-	Possible ditch	

	excavated		
1416	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 1.25m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated		Possible ditch
1417	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 3.35m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible ditch
1422	Round feature measuring 0.3m across and comprised of light-brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit or posthole
1423	Rounded feature measuring 0.7m wide and comprised of mid brown silty-clay. Un-excavated	-	Possible pit
1424	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 2.1m wide and comprised of mid brown clayey-loam Un-excavated	-	Possible ditch
1426	Mid yellowish-brown silty-clay with common sub-angular small to medium stone inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1408
1427	Mid brown silty-clay with frequent small to medium sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F1408
1428	Mid brown silty-clay with occasional small to medium sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1408
1429	Mid brown silty-clay with occasional gravel inclusions	-	Fill of pit F1411
1430	Mid red silty-clay with common gravels	0.4m+	Natural subsoil

Trench 15		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1500	Dark brownish-grey clayey-loam	0-0.28m	Ploughsoil	
1501	Mid red clay	0.39m+	Natural subsoil	
F1502	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 2.16m wide and 0.35m deep with gradually–sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
1503	Mid reddish-brown sandy-clay loam	-	Fill of ditch F1502	
F1504	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1m wide and 0.19m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch	
1505	Dark reddish-grey clayey-loam	-	Fill of ditch F1504	
F1506	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1.32m wide and 0.43m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a narrow concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
1507	Mid reddish-grey clayey-loam	0.28-0.39m	Subsoil	
1508	Dark greyish-red silty-clay	-	Upper fill of ditch F1506	
F1509	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1.37m wide and 0.17m deep with gradually-sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
1510	Mid reddish-grey clayey-loam with moderately-common gravel and small stone inclusions	-	Fill of F1509	
1511	Light reddish brown silty-clay with rare small stone inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1506	
1512	Mid reddish-grey silty-clay with rare small stone inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F1506	
1513	Mid greyish brown clayey-loam with moderately-common small stone inclusions	-	Third fill of ditch F1506	
F1514	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 0.74m wide and 0.14m deep with gradually-sloping sides and a concave base	-	Cut of ditch	
1515	Mid reddish-grey clayey-loam with moderately-common gravel and small stone inclusions	-	Fill of F1514	
1516	NW-SE aligned linear feature with rounded terminal measuring 1.1m wide and comprised of mid reddish-brown silty-clay loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch terminal	
1517	NW-SE aligned linear feature measuring 1.7m wide and comprised of mid greyish-brown clayey-loam. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch	

Trench 16		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment NE-SW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1600	Dark brown silty-loam	0.0.26m	Ploughsoil	
1601	Mid brown silty-loam	0.26-0.46m	Subsoil	
1602	Mid reddish-brown silty-loam	0.46-0.77m	Buried soil	
F1603	N-S aligned linear feature measuring 1.38m wide and 0.7m deep with steeply-sloping sides with upper flared edge and a concave base.	-	Cut of ditch	
1604	Light brownish –grey silty-loam with occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Second fill of ditch F1603	
1605	Light greyish-brown silty-clay with occasional gravels	-	Fourth fill of ditch F1603	
1606	Mid brownish-red clayey-sand	-	Third fill of ditch F1603	
1607	Rounded feature measuring 0.92m across and comprised of dark brown silty-loam. Sealed by 1602. Unexcavated	-	Possible pit	
1608	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 1.4m wide and comprised of dark greyish-brown silty-loam. Sealed by 1602. Unexcavated	-	Possible ditch	
1609	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 2.25m wide and comprised of dark brown silty-loam	-	Probable ditch	
F1610	Rounded feature measuring 4.2m across and 0.34m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of pit	
1611	Mid reddish-brown silty-loam with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Fill of pit F1610	
1612	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 3.8m long and 1.15m wide and comprised of mid reddish-brown silty-loam	-	Possible pit	
1613	Dark brown silty-loam with occasional charcoal and small sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1603	
1614	Light brownish-yellow sandy-lam with occasional small gravel inclusions	-	Basal fill of ditch F1603	
F1615	Round feature measuring 0.26m across and 0.24m deep with steep to undercutting sides and a flat base	-	Cut of posthole	
1616	Dark brownish-grey silty-loam with occasional charcoal fleck and gravel inclusions	-	Fill of posthole F1615, possible post pipe	
1617	Light greyish-red clayey-loam with occasional sub-angular stone inclusions	-	Fill of posthole F1615, packing material	
1619	Light reddish-yellow sandy-loam	0.77m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 17		**Length 50m**	**Width 2.2m**	**Alignment NE-SW**
Context	**Description**	**Depth**	**Interpretation**	
1700	Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam	0.0.3m	Ploughsoil	
1701	Mid reddish-brown clayey-loam	0.3-0.42m	Subsoil	
1702	Light brownish-grey silty-clay	0.42-0.62m	Alluvial clay	
1703	Dark grey silty-clay peat with abundant preserved organics	0.67-0.83m	Peat layer	
1704	Dark brownish-grey sandy-loam	0.62-0.92m	Buried soil	
1705	Light reddish-yellow sandy-loam	0.92m+	Alluvial natural subsoil	
1706	Dark bluish-grey clay with occasional sub-angular stone, preserved wood and charcoal inclusions	-	Upper fill of ditch F1708	
1707	Light reddish-yellow silty-sand	-	Basal fill of ditch F1708	
F1708	ENE-WSW aligned linear feature measuring 1.8m wide and 0.98m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch	
1709	Dark brownish-grey silty-clay	-	Fill of ditch F1710	
F1710	E-W aligned linear feature with rounded terminal measuring 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave	-	Cut of ditch	

	base		
1711	Dark bluish-grey silty-clay with occasional small gravel inclusions	-	Fill of ditch F1712
F1712	Probable linear feature measuring 0.52m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a narrow concave base	-	Cut of ditch
1715	Light bluish-grey clay	0.62-0.68m	Alluvial clay
1716	Mid yellowish-grey silty-clay	0.92m+	Alluvial clay
1717	Mid brownish-red sandy-loam	0.42-0.87m	Buried soil
F1718	NNW-SSE aligned linear feature measuring 4.9m wide and 0.6m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base	-	Cut of ditch
1719	Mid brown clayey-loam	-	Fill of F1718

Appendix 2
Finds Quantification

APPENDIX 2: FINDS QUANTIFICATION

Context	Context Description	Worked Flint		Prehistoric Pottery		Roman Pottery		Worked Bone		Post-Medieval Pottery		CBM		Claypipe		Animal Bone		Burnt Bone		Clinker		Burnt Flint		Worked Shale	
		No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt	No	Wgt
100	Tr 1 Ploughsoil	1	1			2	16																		
104	Fill of ditch F103															2	9								
200	Tr 2 ploughsoil	2	5																						
204	Basal fill of ditch F203	6	24	3	13											6	5								
205	Second fill of ditch F203	4	21	4	15											5	25								
207	Linear feature, un-excavated	1	1													3	36								
300	Tr 3 Ploughsoil									2	27														
406	Basal fill of pit F405			18	61																				
407	Upper fill of pit F405			14	40	1	3																		
409	Fill of pit F408															3	1								
413	Upper fill of ditch F410			3	5																				
415	Fill of ditch F414	1	4																						
505	Peat layer	1	6	1	16																				
618	Upper fill of ditch F616			1	4																				
620	Upper fill of ditch F619															5	19								
700	Tr 7 Ploughsoil	4	27							1	4														
801	Tr 8 colluvial subsoil	1	1																						
903	Buried soil			6	41																				

906	Upper fill of ditch F907			2	21	17	51																		
909	Fill of pit F908			22	56													1	1						
912	Upper fill of ditch F910			2	22																				
1000	Tr 10 ploughsoil																					1	5		
1100	Tr 11 ploughsoil	1	1	1	1					2	9							2	7						
1104	Upper fill of ditch F1106	1	1																						
1110	Third fill of ditch F1107	3	6	54	150	8	22									7	15	6	3						
1111	Upper fill of ditch F1107	1	9																						
1119	Upper fill of ditch F1117																					1	20		
1121	Fill of hollow F1120															8	39								
1200	Tr 12 ploughsoil	5	14							1	8	1	1												
1202	Fill of ditch F1201	1	22																						
1204	Fill of pit F1203	8	13	1	1													2	1						
1206	Fill of posthole F1205	1	1																						
1211	Basal fill of ditch F1209	1	1																						
1218	Tr 12 subsoil																	2	4						
1310	Upper fill of ditch F1307			3	1																				
1318	Linear feature, un-excavated									1	4														
1319	Possible pit, un-excavated					1	4																		

1330	Upper fill of ditch F1311			2	12																				
1428	Upper fill of ditch F1428	1	8																						
1500	Tr 15 ploughsoil	7	33							3	43			1	3										
1508	Upper fill of ditch F1506	2	2			1	2																		
1510	Fill of ditch F1509	1	1																	1	1				
1517	Linear feature un-excavated	1	1																	1	1				
1600	Tr 16 ploughsoil	1	4																						
1601	Tr 16 Subsoil					1	2																		
1604	Second fill of ditch F1603			4	22																				
1605	Fourth fill of ditch F1603											1	4			9	75								
1607	Possible pit, un-excavated			3	9																				
1613	Upper fill of ditch F1603			12	29																				
1616	Fill of posthole F1615			4	5			1	2															1	1
1706	Upper fill of ditch F1708															12	54								
1709	Fill of ditch F1710	1	1																						
1711	Fill of ditch F1712			5	30																				
1715	Alluvial clay layer					1	10																		
Total		60	211	166	558	32	110	1	2	10	95	2	5	1	3	60	278	19	17	2	2	2	25	1	1

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