ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT DUGDALE DRIVE, TROTSHILL, WARNDON, WORCESTER

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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Dugdale Drive, Trotshill, Warndon, Worcester (NGR: SO 8850 5560). It was undertaken on at the request of Pegasus Planning Group for clients, Taylor Woodrow Development Limited and Persimmon Homes, who intend to construct a residential development, sports field and allotments, for which a planning application will be submitted. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate its location, nature and date.

Access for excavation was prevented on the western part of the site due to the presence of protected species. Fieldwork was therefore focussed on the eastern part of the site, though the potential for the western part is considered from existing sources.

All of the significant features observed were located within the northern half of the eastern site. Those containing dateable material were Roman and those that did not may be dated, by association, to the same period. They comprise a series of gullies and ditches, considered to define rectilinear enclosures, with a smaller number of pits. The quality and quantity of the artefacts recovered is indicative of early Roman occupation, and it is most likely that this is a farmstead.

A single prehistoric worked flint was recovered from a feature of probable Roman date in the northern end of the site. A medieval floor tile and pottery sherd were recovered from the topsoil in the north-eastern part of the site. The agricultural nature of the site in the medieval and post-medieval periods is indicated by traces of ridge and furrow, which were noted, on a north-west to south-east alignment, to the southern end of the site. It was not observed elsewhere, which is perhaps the result of intensive ploughing in the latter half of the 20th century. Aside from the Roman remains, the eastern part of the site is not considered to include important remains for any other period.

The western part of the site contains a holloway and, as it is considered unlikely that the remains of contemporary settlement extend within the site, this feature is not considered likely to be of importance.

The hedges have also been considered with regard to the *Hedgerow Regulations 1997* and none would strictly meet the criteria for importance.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation and hedgerow survey was undertaken at Dugdale Drive, Trotshill, Warndon, Worcester (NGR SO 88500 55600; Fig 1), at the request of the Pegasus Planning Group. Their clients, Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited and Persimmon Homes, intends a residential development, with sports field and allotments. A planning application will be submitted to Worcester City Council, who considers that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WCM 98599 and 94555).

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999), and the *Hedgerow Regulations* 1997.

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Worcester City Museums Archaeology Section (WCMAS 2006) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2006).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment, which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

More specifically the following aims have been identified:

- The investigation of minor satellite settlements surrounding Worcester (WCMAS 2004, 79, Research Priority 7.22).
- To assess the hedgerows with regard to the *Hedgerow Regulations* 1997.

2. Methods

The presence of protected species within the western area identified for housing prevented access for sample excavation as recognised in the brief (WCMAS 2006), though this area is considered as a desk-based assessment drawn from the documentary information outlined below.

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of Worcester Historic Environment Record (HER). In addition the following sources were also consulted:

Cartographic sources

- 1841, Warndon tithe map, WCRO BA 1572 s760/612
- 1st edition, 1890, Ordnance Survey, 1:2500

- 1904, Ordnance Survey, 1:2500
- 1965, Ordnance Survey, sheet SO85 NE, scale 1:10,560
- 2006, Ordnance Survey Superplan, scale 1:5000

Documentary sources

- Place-names (Mawer and Stenton 1927)
- County histories (VCH III)
- Site archives (from earlier excavations, evaluations etc)

The following sources were not considered relevant to this project: aerial photographs.

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2006). As a result of the documentary search, adjustments were made to the fieldwork strategy.

Fieldwork was undertaken between 7th and 17th February 2006. The site reference number and site code is WCM 101416.

Ten trenches, amounting to 685m² in area, were excavated over the sample area of *c* 1.8ha, representing a sample of 3.8%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2. The presence of protected species prevented trenches being undertaken in the vicinity of the pond to the north of the site and the testing of the proposed residential area to the west. The sample area also excluded the bank up to Trotshill Way and the western margin of the site which are not intended to be the subject of any groundworks.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 4.5 tonne tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.

A further site visit was made on 24th May 2006, to assess the hedgerows.

2.2.2 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 Artefact methodology, by Angus Crawford

2.3.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. All

artefacts were recovered from stratified deposits and a small quantity of additional material was retrieved from environmental samples (Section 2.4.1 below).

2.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a *terminus post quem* date produced for each stratified context.

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by the service (Hurst and Rees 1992; Hurst 1992).

2.4 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Andy Mann

2.4.1 Fieldwork and sampling policy

The environmental sampling policy was as defined in the County Archaeological Service Recording System (1995 as amended). Samples of 10-40 litres were taken from eight contexts of Roman date. Three were selected to assess the environmental potential of the deposits (Table 1).

Context	Sample	Context type	Period	Sample volume	Volume processed	Residue assessed	Flot assessed
207	1	Pit fill	Roman	10 ltrs	10 ltrs	1 ltrs	30 mls
904	4	Pit fill	Roman	10 ltrs	10 ltrs	400 mls	20 mls
906	8	Ditch fill	Roman	40 ltrs	10 ltrs	600 mls	10 mls

Table 1: Samples selected for environmental assessment

2.4.2 Processing and analysis

Ten litre samples were processed by flotation followed by wet-sieving using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a 300µm sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were scanned using a low power EMT stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by the Service, and seed identification manual (Beijerinck 1947). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the Flora of the British Isles (Clapham *et al* 1989).

2.5 Hedgerows

A site visit was undertaken to assess the existing hedgerows both within and along the boundary of the development area (Fig 12).

The consideration of the application of the *Hedgerows Regulations 1997* is intended to be indicative rather than definitive. Searches relating to the information necessary for the regulations is restricted to those that are readily available. For instance, the Service will not usually have undertaken exhaustive searches of documents (particularly textual documents) held by a Records Office, also some criteria may rest on legal definition (extent of boundaries etc), or planning opinion. Wildlife and landscape criteria are also beyond the scope of this archaeological project and have not been considered.

2.6 The methods in retrospect

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

3. Topographical and archaeological context

3.1 Site location and topography

The site is approximately 3km east of Worcester city centre, due south of Trotshill Farm and Trotshill settlement, now surrounded by Warndon housing estate, which was developed in the 1990s (Fig 1). It comprises an area totalling *c* 4.5ha on the south-eastern side of Warndon parish. The area sampled with trenches excludes an embankment to the east and the area of intended nature conservation to the west of the footpath, as well as areas where the presence of protected species prevented groundworks. The development area is bounded by Trotshill Lane East to the north, Trotshill Way to the east, Dugdale Drive to the south and the rear of residential properties off Bright Avenue and Cobden Avenue to the west. The larger field to the east is presently utilised as rough grazing. The smaller plot to the south-west is overgrown and contains trees and a former trackway. There is a gradual slope across the site, from *c* 54.50m AOD in the north-west corner, to *c* 51m AOD towards the south.

3.2 Soils and geology

The predominant soils of the area belong to the Whimple 3 Soil Association (572f) comprising reddish fine loamy or fine silty over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging; some similar clayey soils on brows, slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy and fine silty over clayey soils on lower slopes. The parent material comprises drift over Permo-Triassic and Carboniferous reddish mudstone (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

3.3 Archaeological and historical background

There have been no archaeological investigations undertaken previously on the site. To the north, evaluation trenches were dug in the late 1980s, in advance of the construction of the Warndon housing estates. Areas surveyed included an area of deserted settlement adjacent to Warndon Wood, now under the present A4440. This revealed a single 3rd-4th century Roman field or estate boundary ditch, a scatter of 14th-15th century pottery, footings of a half-timbered mid 17th century cottage, clay or marl quarries, a roadway connecting Trotshill with Warndon Court Farm, two further walls and a series of postholes forming part of an unknown building (WCM 98601-98605, 100103-100106, 100139, 100141-100145). Investigations to the south-west of Warndon Wood in 1996 identified Roman boundary ditches which may have continued into the woods themselves (WCM 91018).

At Lyppard Grange, west of the present site investigations in 1991 revealed a ditch, tentatively identified as of Roman date, but no other features or deposits predating the post-medieval period (WCM 100162). An adjacent survey in advance of demolition in 1996 dated a farm building to *c* 1675 (WCM 100164 and 100166). The Grange itself contains a 17th century core, with 18th century additions. The moat did not fully surround the site and is considered to have been a 16th or 17th century garden feature (WCM 91046).

The name Trotshill first appears in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as *Trottewell* and *Trotteswell*, although elsewhere it is recorded under slight variations: *Croteswell* in 1182, *Trottuswelle* in 1332, *Trotsall* and *Trotswell* in 1649, and *Trots Hall* in 1830. It is considered to derive from the personal name *Trott*, from the Old English *Torht*-, plus 'wielle' (Mawer and Stenton 1927, 175-6; WCM 91030).

Trotshill lies toward the south end of the parish of Warndon. It followed the descent of Warndon manor, coming under the control of Urse after the Norman Conquest, and thereafter the Beauchamps, de Bracys, Poers, Lygons and Berkeleys (VCH III, 552).

The site lies adjacent to Trotshill Archaeologically Sensitive Area. The exact location and extent of the medieval settlement is not known. It may have shifted focus and shrunk during the medieval period or later. There are a number of listed and noteworthy buildings within the hamlet, which forms a ribbon development along Trotshill Lane East (WCM 91079, 91107-91110). The 1843 tithe map and 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 denote houses within wide enclosures along the south-western side of the lane. This is typical of roadside settlements in the area east of Worcester. The lane continued south and cut across the south-western end of the site, beyond Mab's Cottage and Orchard (WCM 91108 and 98599). The site itself comprised part of a larger agricultural field, bounded by hedgerows with ditches to the east and south. A line of trees may indicate that this field was formerly subdivided.

Ridge and furrow earthworks have been identified within the area: in the field to the north of Trotshill Farm (WCM 91147); in the field west of Trotshill Way, which formed part of a larger field encompassing the site, prior to construction of the road, where the earthworks are aligned north-east to south-west and north to south in a field to the south (WCM 91148).

The tithe map shows the site to have comprised the north-western side of the larger Great Meadow field and The Orchard with adjacent track to the south-west. It is bounded by a lane to the north and smaller plots, some occupied by buildings (Rickyard buildings and Mab's Cottage with associated gardens) to the west. There is no indication of the form of the boundaries. The irregular nature of these and surrounding fields indicates that they predate parliamentary enclosure, and indeed there was no Enclosure Act for Warndon. A small pond is noted along the north side of the site, presumably related to those noted within the hamlet to the west.

The 1st edition OS map depicts the same landscape as above, but in greater detail. A footpath is recorded on a north to south alignment along the west side of the site. The Great Meadow has trees denoted around almost its entire perimeter, which may indicate that they probably comprised hedges, and a stream or ditch around the eastern half. There is an additional line of trees bisecting the smaller south-eastern third of the field, probably the remnant of a hedge which subdivided the plot. A number of trees within the north-east corner of the meadow indicate that the field may have been further divided here also. The Orchard is depicted containing rows of trees, with trees lining the track (giving a good definition of the holloway and its earthworks) and the further field boundary to the south-west.

The 1965 OS map denotes no apparent changes within the development area itself, although no trees are recorded along the boundaries. The M5 motorway now cuts across the east portion of the former Great Meadow. Warndon housing estate was developed in the early 1990s. Trotshill Way with the associated bund along the east side of the site was built at the same time.

4. Results

4.1 Structural analysis

The trench locations are shown in Figure 2. The trench plans and sections are shown in Figures 3-11 (there is no illustration of Trench 8, where no features were identified). The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1. Photographs of a selection of the trenches and features are included at the end of the text.

4.1.1 **Phase 1 Natural deposits**

The natural matrix comprised reddish pink/brown clay or keuper marl, with occasional manganese flecks and small-medium rounded pebbles. It lay at a regular depth of c 0.35-0.44m across the site, below topsoil comprising a fine loose clayey silt and a clay loam subsoil.

4.1.2 **Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits**

A single prehistoric worked flint was recovered from a feature to the northern end of the site (Section 4.2.1 below). Although otherwise undated, the ditch is considered by association to be Roman, and the flint is therefore probably residual. No other prehistoric finds, or any deposits, horizons or structures were identified.

4.1.3 **Phase 3 Roman deposits**

Half of the features identified on site contained Roman material. The majority of the rest can be similarly dated by association. The features comprised twelve linears and six discrete pits. All are located within the northern half of the site, in Trenches 1-4, 9 and 10. A further feature was observed in Trench 5 to the south-west, however flooding prevented its investigation.

The linears range from 0.24-2.95m wide and were up to 0.61-1.25m deep below the present ground surface. Their profiles vary from shallow gradual to steep sheer sides. Each was observed to contain a single, largely homogeneous, fill, indicative of gradual silting through time rather than deliberate backfilling, or the result of natural action such as earthworm. They lie on north-west to south-east, east to west or north-east to south-west alignments and are interpreted to be form gullies, drainage and boundary ditches.

The six discrete features varied in form from circular to sub-rectangular and very irregular; and portrayed varying profiles. The irregularities may be the result of root disturbance. Their dimensions varied also, from 0.32-1.12m wide, and 0.60-0.84m deep below the existing ground surface. As above, the single fills were largely homogeneous. That in Trench 2 in particular contained a large amount of pottery, suggesting that this one at least was a rubbish pit.

4.1.4 **Phase 2 medieval deposits**

A single decorated floor tile and a pottery sherd were recovered from the topsoil in Trench 9 to the north-east corner of the site. However, no deposits, horizons or structures of medieval date were identified.

4.1.5 **Phase 5 post-medieval deposits**

Traces of ridge and furrow were observed within Trenches 6 and 7 at the southern end of the site, on a north-west to south-east alignment. Although not identified to the north, similarly no other features were identified in Trenches 5 and 8 on the ridge adjacent, which may indicate deep intensive ploughing in the latter half of the 20th century.

4.2 Artefact analysis, by Angus Crawford

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Table 2.

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of 336 sherds of pottery weighing 2682g, in addition fragments of flint, roof tile, fire-cracked stone, Roman glass and *tegula*. The group came from 25 stratified contexts and could be dated from the Roman

period onwards (Table 2). The preservation was generally fair with the majority of sherds displaying only moderate levels of abrasion.

All sherds have been grouped and quantified according to fabric type (see Table 3). A total of three diagnostic form sherds were present and could be dated accordingly. The remaining sherds were datable by fabric type to their general period or production span.

The analysis below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

Context	Material	Type	Total	Weight (g.)
101	Pottery	Post-medieval	1	6
101	Roof	Tile	1	170
108	Flint	Flake	1	1
206	Pottery	Roman	17	249
300	Ceramic building material	Tile	5	260
300	Pottery	Modern	3	37
300	Pottery	Post-medieval	5	8
300	Pottery	Roman	3	21
301	Ceramic building material	Roman	1	40
301	Pottery	Post-medieval	1	6
301	Pottery	Roman	1	7
301	Tile	Roof	1	69
400	Pottery	Roman	14	58
402	Pottery	Roman	4	23
407	Pottery	Roman	1	4
409	Pottery	Roman	1	21
500	Pottery	Post-medieval	2	66
500	Pottery	Roman	1	22
502	Pottery	Roman	1	4
600	Ceramic building material	Brick	1	9
600	Iron	Fastener	1	5
600	Pottery	Post-medieval	1	9
600	Tile	Roof	1	36
700	Pottery	Post-medieval	2	71
777	Pottery	Post-medieval	1	9
900	Pottery	Roman	3	11
900	Tile	Roof	2	117
901	Pottery	Medieval	1	18
901	Pottery	Post-medieval	4	88
901	Pottery	Roman	1	10
901	Roof	Tile	8	382
901	Tile	Medieval	1	521
902	Pottery	Roman	37	323
904	Pottery	Roman	4	56
905	Pottery	Roman	4	39
906	Bone	Animal	2	8
906	Glass	Roman	1	9
906	Pottery	Roman	176	1079
906	Stone	Fire-cracked	3	296
907	Pottery	Roman	3	7
909	Pottery	Roman	18	94
911	Pottery	Roman	16	232
1002	Pottery	Roman	4	76
1004	Ceramic building material	Roman	1	195
1004	Pottery	Roman	6	28
1004	Stone	Fire-cracked	1	316

Table 2: Quantification of the assemblage

4.2.1 Prehistoric

The distal end of a struck flake was the only artefact dating to this period (context 108). It has been struck from olive brown flint with percussion waves along the dorsal surface. There is no evidence for retouch or usage suggesting that it snapped when knapped.

4.2.2 Roman

A total of 313 sherds of Roman pottery were retrieved from the site. Of these, 201 were of oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware making it the dominant fabric type. While this fabric dates throughout the Roman period such a high percentage (64%) was a strong indicator of earlier Roman activity dating from the mid 1st to 2nd century when this fabric type is more dominant. Several forms were identifiable within this fabric group and included an everted rim jar (Webster type 16, context 202) dating from the 2nd to 4th century, other jar forms (context 409, 901, 902, 904, 906, and 909) dating from the mid 1st to the 2nd century, and tankards (context 206, 300, 905 and 906) dating from the mid 1st to 2nd century. Further forms included bowls (contexts 902, 909 and 9011) dating to between the 2nd and 3rd century, and a large storage jar rim (context 902) dating to the 2nd century.

The second largest fabric group, consisting of 84 sherds, was oxidized Severn Valley ware. This fabric type also spans the Roman occupation period making the dating of undiagnostic sherds problematic. Only a single form was identifiable as a tankard (context 902) similar to Webster's' type 43 dating from the 2nd, and into the 3rd century.

Malvernian wares constituted the final significant sherd count, with a total of 17 sherds. While Malvernian wares are usually separated into handmade (fabric 3) and wheel made (fabric19) types. This proved problematic within this assemblage due to the existence of sherds displaying characteristics of both fabric types. Context 911 contained a large and well-formed rim sherd of an everted rim jar form. While the form is consistent with Roman style, the fabric type is consistent with that of handmade fabric 3. This suggests that the site was in existence during the 2nd century and the jar evidence a transition between manufacturing technologies and Roman cultural influence.

Only three sherds of Samian ware were within the assemblage. Of these, two (context 206 and 906), could be identified as central Gaulish (Lezoux) in origin dating from the mid 1st to late 2nd century.

The remaining Roman fabrics consisted of reduced Severn Valley ware (one sherd, fabric 12.1, context 906), organically tempered reduced Severn Valley ware (two sherds, fabric 12.3, contexts 206 and 906). Two miscellaneous Roman wares (fabric 98) from context 206 and an unprovenanced white ware (fabric 41) from context 106.

4.2.3 Other artefacts

A diagnostic shard of Roman glass was recovered from context 906. It was the partial lip, neck and attached handle of blue green glass from a long necked jug. Jugs of this style are most common from the 1st to 2nd century.

Context 1004 contained a single fragment of Roman roof tile (*tegula*). The use off *tegula* within Worcestershire is believed to span the Roman period until the 3rd century when they are replaced by stone roofing material. The presence within the assemblage of *tegula* indicates the possible presence of a well-made and important building of Roman construction style on the site or in the vicinity.

Fire-cracked stones were recovered from contexts 906 and 1004 and are an interesting indicator of Iron Age cooking technology continuing on into the early Roman period. The principle is to heat stones within a fire until hot, whereupon they are placed within a vessel containing water. The heat from the stones transfers to the water causing it to boil, while the sudden cooling of the stones causes them to crack. The practice is usually associated with cooking and, when located within Roman assemblages, early Roman occupation dates to the mid 1st to 2nd century.

Context	Fabric	Fabric name	Total	Weight (g.)
206	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	9	156
206	12.3	Organically tempered reduced Severn Valley ware	1	12
206	22	Black burnished ware, type 1	2	8
206	3	Hand made Malvernian ware	2	25
206	43.2	Central Gaulish samian ware	1	2
300	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	3	21
301	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	7
400	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	14	58
402	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	2	22
402	12?	Severn Valley ware	1	0.5
402	43	Samian	1	0.5
407	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	4
409	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	21
500	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	22
502	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	4
900	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	3	11
901	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	10
902	12	Severn Valley ware	2	54
902	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	33	243
902	19?	Wheelmade Malvernian ware	2	26
904	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	4	56
905	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	1	7
905	19?	Wheelmade Malvernian ware	3	32
906	12	Severn Valley ware	80	156
906	12.1	Reduced Severn Valley ware	1	15
906	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	82	797
906	12.3	Organically tempered reduced Severn Valley ware	1	1
906	19?	Wheelmade Malvernian ware	9	97
906	22	Black burnished ware, type 1	1	8
906	41	Unprovenanced white ware	1	2
906	43.2	Central Gaulish samian ware	1	3
907	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	3	7
909	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	18	94
911	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	14	167
911	19?	Wheelmade Malvernian ware	1	60
911	22	Black burnished ware, type 1	1	5
1002	12	Severn Valley ware	1	48
1002	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	3	28
1004	12.2	Oxidized organically tempered Severn Valley ware	6	28

Table 3: Quantification of the Romano-British pottery by fabric

4.2.4 Medieval

The medieval assemblage consisted of a single pottery sherd a near complete decorated medieval floor tile. The sherd was an undiagnostic body sherd of oxidized glazed Malvernian ware (fabric 69). While the fabric has a long production span (late 13th to early 17th century) the quality of the surviving glaze is more suggestive of medieval period manufacture.

The medieval floor tile proved to be unusual as rather than depicting the more common period imagery it portrays yellow letters on a dark brown background. Of the three remaining, two are clearly visible as the letters ‘D’ and ‘W’. Also of interest is a score line applied across the tile dividing it into two equal rectangular halves. This is apparently to allow the tile to be broken into halves prior to usage. An exact parallel half-tile with the letters ‘D W’ has been identified in Evesham Abbey and dated to the 14th century (Eames 1980, vol1 614, Vol 2 1223).

Context	Fabric number	Fabric name	Total sherds	Weight (g)
901	69	Oxidized glazed Malvernian ware	1	18

Table 4: Quantification of the medieval pottery by fabric

4.2.5 **Post-medieval and modern**

This assemblage consisted of fabric types that are commonly encountered within Worcestershire. These include post-medieval red, orange and buff wares (fabrics 78, 90 and 91) as well as more recent creamwares (fabric 84) and porcelain (fabric 83). None of the post-medieval or modern fabrics are of a quantity (no more than 19 sherds in total) to suggest any significant occupational activity during this period.

4.3 Environmental analysis, by Andy Mann

Only two of the samples processed produced any environmental remains, contexts 207 and 906 (Table 5). Both samples contained small assemblages of charred grain and chaff fragments, which included examples of glume wheat grains and glume bases (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). Both contained damaged and heavily pitted grains that could only be identified as cereal fragments. Context 207 also contained a single probable barley grain (*Hordeum vulgare* grain).

Latin name	Preservation type	Family	Common name	Habitat	207	906
Triticum dicoccum/spelta grain	Charred	Gramineae	emmer/spelt wheat	F	2	4
Triticum dicoccum/spelta glume base	Charred	Gramineae	emmer/spelt wheat	F	1	1
cf *Hordeum vulgare* grain	Charred	Gramineae	barley	F	1	
Cereal sp indet grain	Charred	Gramineae	cereal	F	3	9
Gramineae sp indet grain (small)	Charred	Gramineae	grass	AF	1	

Category of remains
A= cultivated ground
B= disturbed ground
C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc
D = grasslands, meadows and heathland
E = aquatic/wet habitats
F = cultivar

Table 5: Plant remains

4.4 The hedgerows (Fig 12)

The *Hedgerow Regulations 1997* sets out the archaeological and historical criteria for determining 'Important' hedgerows (wildlife and landscape criteria are beyond the scope of this report). The hedge must fulfil the first criterion in Table 6 and at least one of the succeeding criteria. Hedges are excluded from the regulations for the reasons given in Table 7.

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9
Hedge has existed for 30 years or more	Yes – shown on map of 1843 for example. Though hedges are not usually explicitly identified on historic maps it is considered likely that the field boundaries were hedged.	No – Hedge planted as part of road construction in c 1990s	Yes – see Hedge 1	No – Hedge planted as part of road construction in c 1990s	Yes – see Hedge 1. Also the continuation of this boundary to the north (outside of site) the parish boundary is described as being 4ft from the root of the hedge on the 1890 map.	?Yes – boundary is shown on 1965 map though hedges are not usually explicitly identified on historic maps. The hedge is on line of watercourse and on 1890 map indicated with braces suggesting that hedge/fence may not have been present.	Yes – see Hedge 1	Uncertain – not shown as a boundary on 1965 map. 1890 map shows boundary and trees. 1904 map shows trees but no boundary	Yes – see Hedge 1
On parish boundary (pre-1850)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	?Yes – shown on 1843 map but boundary is described as being at the base of bank on the 1890 map (and the "hedge" is on the top of the	No

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9
								bank) and the term hedge is not used in association with this part of the boundary	
Incorporates a feature which is part of a scheduled ancient monument*	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Incorporates a feature which is part of a site registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24 March 1997)*	No	No	No	No – the Trotshill Archaeologically Sensitive Area includes this boundary but is post-1997.	No	No	No – the trackway through Mab's Orchard is registered with the HER (WCM 98599) but the registration is dated 26/01/06	No– the trackway through Mab's Orchard is registered with the HER (WCM 98599) but the registration is dated 26/01/06	No
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor registered with the HER/SMR (pre-24	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9
March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor									
Marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997), or is visibly related to a building or other feature of such an estate or manor	Unknown	No – recent boundary line	Unknown	No – recent boundary line	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Recorded in a document held by a Record Office (pre-24 March 1997) as an integral part of a field system predating the Inclosure Acts, or is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system (the system must be substantially	?No – The Service is not aware of any documents held by the Record Office which indicate the presence of a pre-Inclosure field system or for any case that has been made that these hedges are part of such a system (excepting	No	?No – see Hedge 1	No	?No – see Hedge 1	?No – see Hedge 1	?No – see Hedge 1	?No – see Hedge 1	?No – see Hedge 1

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9
complete) or part of a historic landscape characterisation adopted for development control purposes pre-24 March 1997)	Hemingway no date which suggests a prehistoric date but contains little detail). However, the Warndon Local Plan 1988 includes policies to retain important hedges. It includes references to "a rich pattern of hedgerows" (2.22) but recognises that the pattern is "now fragmentary and of diminishing quality" (2.23).								
Conclusion – is this an important hedge?	?No	No	?No - see also Table 7 on excluded hedges	No	?No	?No	?No	Uncertain – may not have existed for 30 years	?No

* can be wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, such sites, and must be associated with such sites.

Table 6. Importance of hedgerows.

Hedge/criteria	Hedge 1	Hedge 2	Hedge 3	Hedge 4	Hedge 5	Hedge 6	Hedge 7	Hedge 8	Hedge 9
Less than 20m in length and not joined to another hedge	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	The existing hedge is discontinuous and has both lengths of 20m or more and gaps, one of which is more than 20m	Not excluded
Boundary of, or within, the curtilage of a dwelling-house	Not excluded	Not excluded	Excluded where appropriate	Not excluded	Not excluded, boundary of houses to west appears to be west of the hedge	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded	Not excluded

Table 7. Hedgerows excluded from the regulations.

For the reasons stated above the hedgerows appear not to satisfy the archaeological and historical criteria for 'Importance'. This is with the possible exception of Hedge 8, which lies very close to a parish boundary but there is some question as to whether this hedge is more than 30 years old.

5. Synthesis and discussion

5.1 Roman

The majority of dateable features and finds from the site are of Roman date. Of the twelve identified ditches and probable ditch termini, six contained Roman material; and of the six pits, three contained Roman material. All of these features lie in the northern half of the site. It is considered that the otherwise intrinsically undated features are, by association, also Roman.

The majority of the features comprise linear ditches, frequently on perpendicular alignments, which are interpreted to form rectilinear enclosures. Although no structural remains were identified, the density and type of artefacts recovered is indicative of settlement activity. The most likely form of site this represents is considered to be a farmstead. Such sites are commonly identified from cropmarks on aerial photographs, which give an impression of the site in plan. This particular site is on clay, for which cropmarks are not usually produced, but the identification is made on the basis of the type of features and what can be deduced of their layout, together with the quantity of artefacts.

No features or stray finds were recorded in the southern half of the site, indicating that the settlement was limited to the northern half, although peripheral or agricultural activity may have extended further a field, leaving only ephemeral traces.

5.2 Medieval

The single decorated tile from the sample trenches recovered from the topsoil is an anomaly. It could be argued to have been deposited accidentally during manuring of fields, which are known from ridge and furrow adjacent to have been in agricultural use in the medieval period, although it is not abraded, suggesting that it had not been previously disturbed during ploughing and was recovered from its primary deposition.

The Warndon tithe map of 1843 is perhaps the best indicator of any medieval settlement relating to Trotshill. Here the focus of the settlement is just to the north of the development site but also stretches along the road further north. On this evidence, therefore, it may be expected that any medieval settlement followed the same pattern and that settlement does not extend onto the development site. The absence of medieval settlement can, however, only be demonstrated by sample trenches.

5.3 Artefacts, by Angus Crawford

This assemblage is of some significance for the Worcestershire region. The Roman assemblage as a whole strongly indicates an early Roman settlement within, or immediately adjacent to, the evaluated area. The predominance of early Severn Valley ware fabrics and forms, combined with the domestic nature of the assemblage (bowls, tankards and storage jars) and the site location would indicate that this settlement would have been of 1st to 2nd century and with an agrarian focus. The presence of fine wares, such as Samian, as well as the remnant Roman glass, further suggests that the occupiers enjoyed a Romanised way of life. This is also evident through the presence of Roman roof tile (*tegula)* an indicator of expensive and well-constructed buildings in the Roman style. The presence of fire-cracked

stone within the assemblage, a native British tradition, poses further interesting questions into the ethnic background of the occupiers or their servants.

The lack of medieval, post-medieval and modern finds within the assemblage denotes low level activity within the site during those periods, and are most likely the result of agricultural field manuring rather than occupational activity. This in itself suggests that further Roman period archaeology, if present, should be reasonably intact due to the lack of intrusive earthworks during latter periods.

5.4 Environmental remains, by Andy Mann

The environmental remains are typical of those found within habitation areas and are likely to represent the general day-to-day waste produced during piecemeal crop processing (parching of grain prior to storage), during cooking or as fuel. The presence only of glume wheat is expected from Romano-British settlements, as free threshing-grain was not commonly used until the mid-Saxon period. The occasional quantities of chaff or grass seed would suggest that the grain had been fully processed, although the poor preservation of remains makes the detailed interpretation of the assemblage difficult.

5.5 Research frameworks

Under the English Heritage Monuments Protection Programme, this type of site has a designated Monument Class Description (MCD): the Farmstead (Romano-British) (EH 2000, 22). Farmsteads are defined as:

'… a discrete group of not more than four circular or rectilinear domestic buildings and associated structures of an agricultural character, which sometimes lie within a rectilinear or curvilinear enclosure. The main components include enclosure ditches, banks, palisades and/or walls; dwellings; yards; and pits. Farmsteads were a common characteristic of the rural landscape throughout the Roman period. They were the dwelling places and small-scale production and processing centres of individual families or small kinship groups involved in mixed farming, often at a subsistence level.' http://www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd/mcdtop1.htm

The importance of the archaeological investigation and understanding of this type of site is highlighted in a number of studies: within the Worcester Urban Archaeology Strategy, specifically the investigation of minor satellite settlements (RP 7.22) (WCMAS 2004); and within the West Midlands Regional Research Framework regarding rural Roman settlement character and the relationship between agricultural, industrial and domestic spheres (Lockett 2002, 7).

6. Significance

There have been very few Roman settlement sites identified around the periphery of Worcester. Although no structural remains were found during this evaluation it is entirely possible they exist and the large quantity and the range of finds is indicative of relatively high status occupation, possibly in the form of an early Roman farmstead. A small number of ditches of Roman date have been recorded at Warndon to the north and Lyppard Grange to the west (Section 3 above), but no direct evidence of settlement, and nothing this far south (*pers comm* James Dinn). A small number of features were very ephemeral and are considered to have been heavily truncated by intensive ploughing, although others were more substantial and survived to a depth of *c* 1.25m below the existing ground surface.

The heavily pitted charred environmental remains have limited potential to illustrate arable agricultural practices at this site. The lack of animal bone recovered by hand and through the flotation of these samples suggests that soil conditions are not suitable for the preservation

and recovery of such remains. This limits the environmental potential of the site and therefore the remains are of low and only local significance.

Overall this Roman site is considered to be of both local and regional significance, due to its rarity, survival and further potential. The zone of archaeological importance indicated on Figure 16 has been drawn broadly and variation in the nature and density of archaeological deposits may be expected to vary within this area. Based on the available evidence it appears that the deposits are more concentrated towards the north-west.

The development will involve the removal of hedgerows and a "hedgerow removal notice" should be obtained from the local planning authority by the owner. With the possible exception of Hedge 8 the criteria for importance are unlikely to be achieved by any of the hedges (on archaeological grounds). The Regulations are prescriptive, often subject to arbitrary specific modern dates of registration (for instance the Warndon Local Plan would appear to be applicable to the Regulations, though it has been superseded by other planning documents). The following observations are prepared from an archaeological view and seek to inform the local planning authority when considering the notice and hedgerow issues in its current local plan.

- Hedges 7 and 8 are related to a historic feature (the holloway WCM 98599) though this form of monument does not usually achieve any considerable importance in itself. Its association with the medieval and post-medieval settlement of Trotshill increases is importance, but it is difficult to argue that significance could be anything above a more local level.

- All other hedges will remain except for a small access to the proposed recreational area (affecting Hedge 9) and the main residential development (affecting Hedge 4 which is not classed as important).

7. Mitigation

The following mitigation is recommended and is anticipated to form the subject of a condition on any planning permission.

- Completion of the field evaluation within the proposed residential housing area, which was earlier prevented by the presence of protected species, and appropriate treatment of any significant archaeological site to be agreed with Worcester City Council.

- Preservation of the Roman site (Fig 16) *in situ* through appropriate design, to be agreed with Worcester City Council. The archaeological deposits lie just under the topsoil and are vulnerable to all but the most superficial of groundworks and plant operation. Where possible existing topsoils should remain in place. Raising of ground levels should be sufficient to remove the archaeological horizon from operations associated with the proposed change of use.

8. Publication summary

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on behalf of Taylor Woodrow Developments Limited and Persimmon Homes at Dugdale Road, Trotshill, Warndon, Worcester (NGR: SO 8850 5560; HER ref WCM 101416). All of the features observed were located within the

northern half of the site. Those containing dateable material were Roman. Those that did not may be dated by association. They comprise a series of gullies and ditches, considered to define rectilinear enclosures, with a smaller number of pits. The quality and quantity of the artefacts recovered is indicative of early high status occupation. A single prehistoric worked flint was recovered from a feature of probable Roman date in the northern end of the site. A medieval floor tile and pottery sherd were recovered from the topsoil to the north-east side. The agricultural nature of the site in the medieval and post-medieval periods is indicated by traces of ridge and furrow, which were noted, on a north-west to south-east alignment, to the southern end of the site. It was not observed elsewhere, which is probably the result of intensive ploughing in the latter half of the 20th century.

9. The archive

The archive consists of:

3	Fieldwork progress records AS2
1	Photographic records AS3
57	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogues AS4
7	Scale drawing sheets
2	Context number catalogues AS5
1	Sample number catalogues AS18
2	Levels records AS19
14	Trench record sheets AS41
2	Boxes of finds
1	Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery

Foregate Street

Worcester WR1 2PW

Tel (01905) 25371

10. Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Haydn Jones (Pegasus Planning), Peter Hadfield (Ecology Solutions), James Dinn (Worcester City Council Archaeological Officer) and Sheena Payne (Worcester City Council HER Officer).

11. Personnel

The fieldwork was led by Tom Rogers. The report was written by Tom Vaughan. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Emily Gough, Andy Mann and Tom Vaughan, finds analysis by Angus Crawford, environmental analysis by Andy Mann, processing by Christine Elgy and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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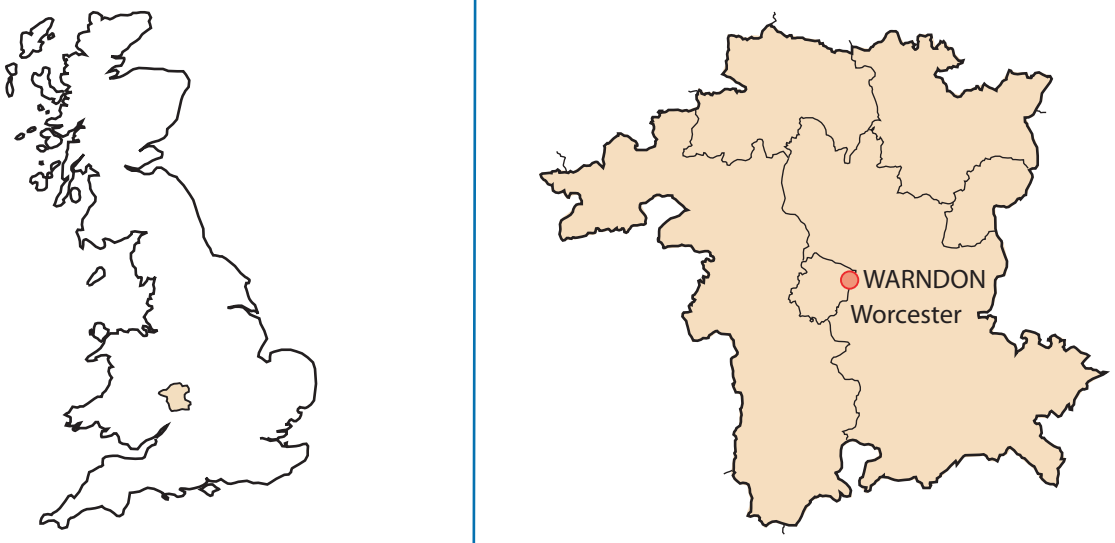
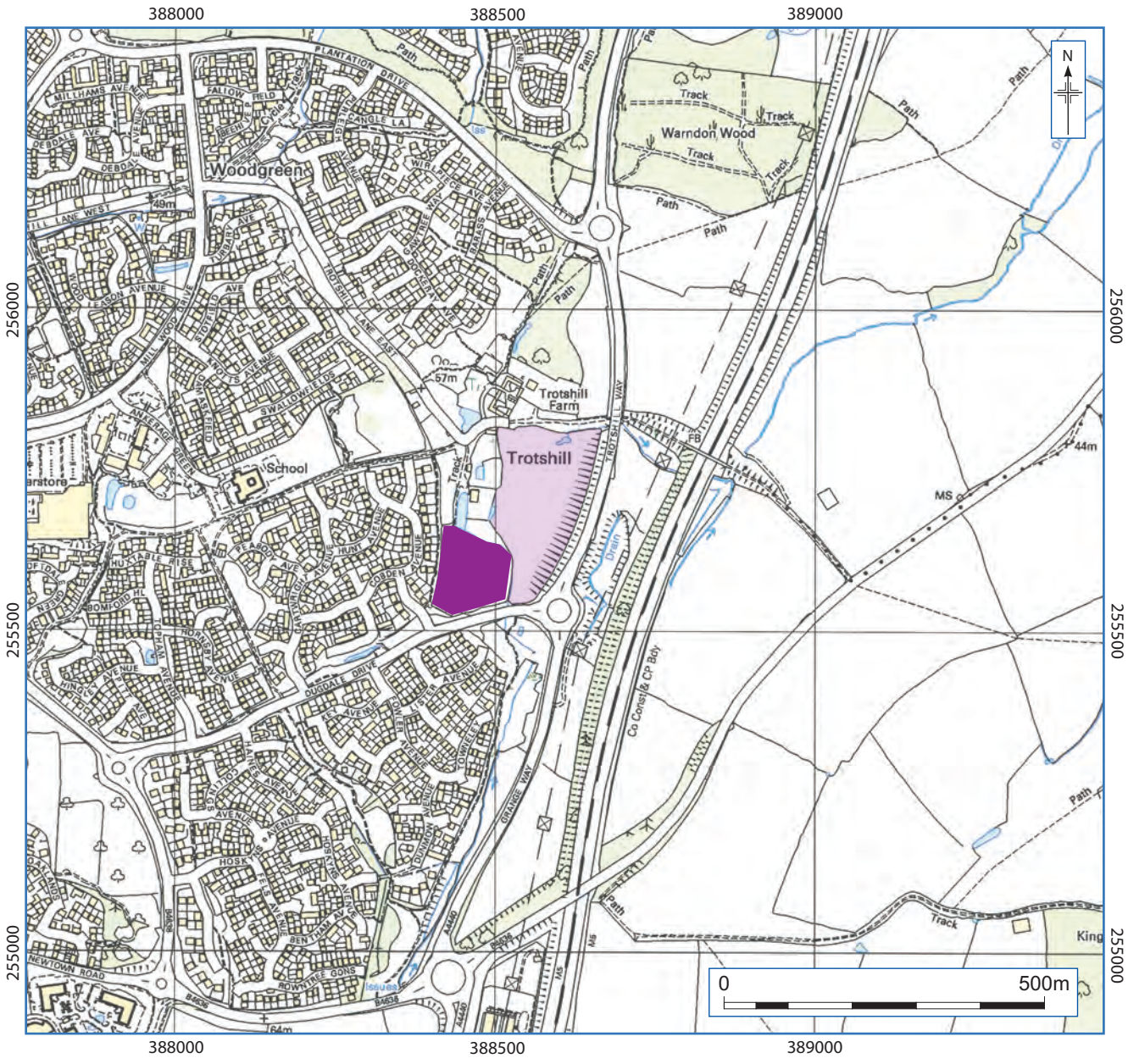




Location of the site. *Figure 1*

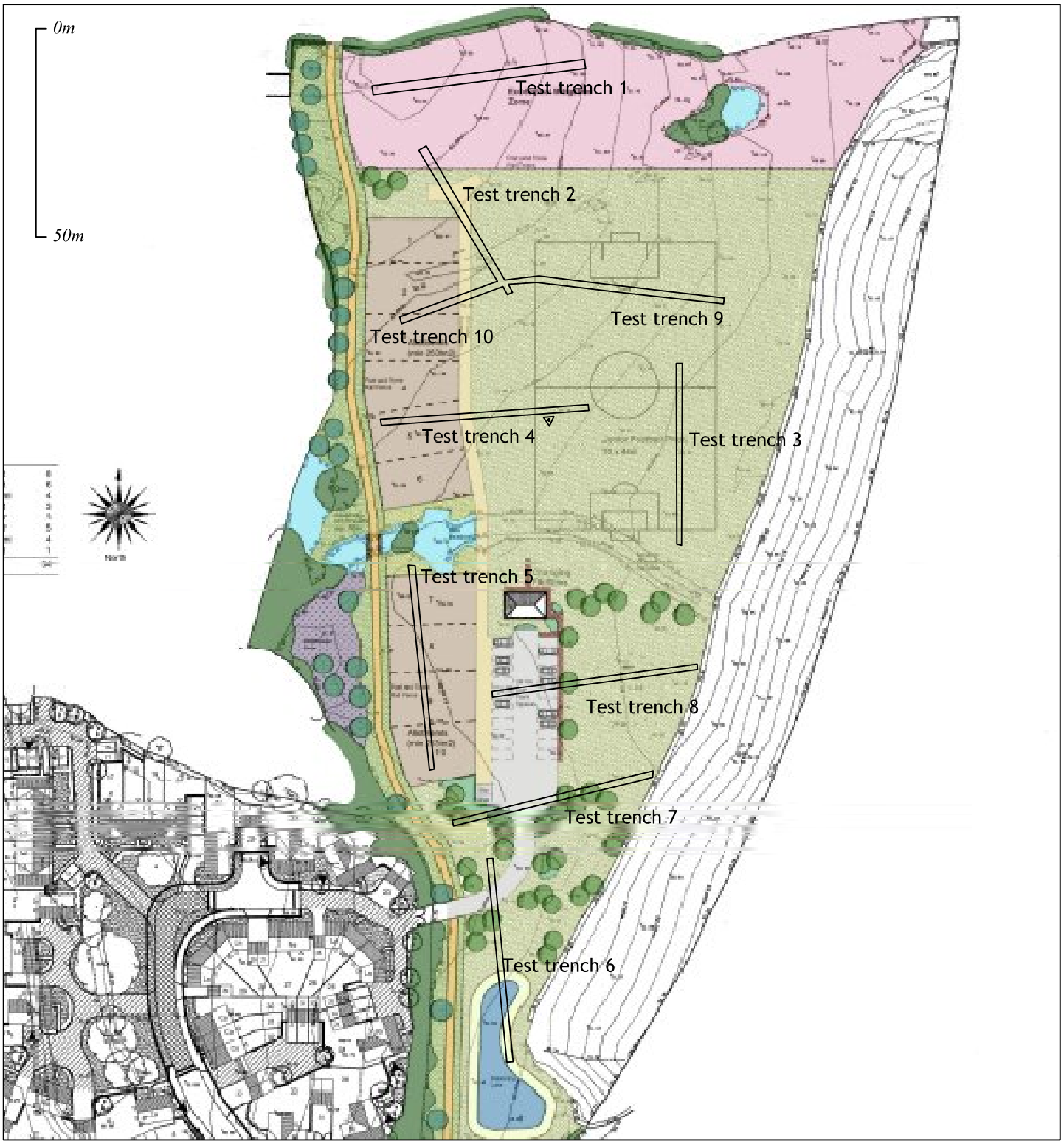
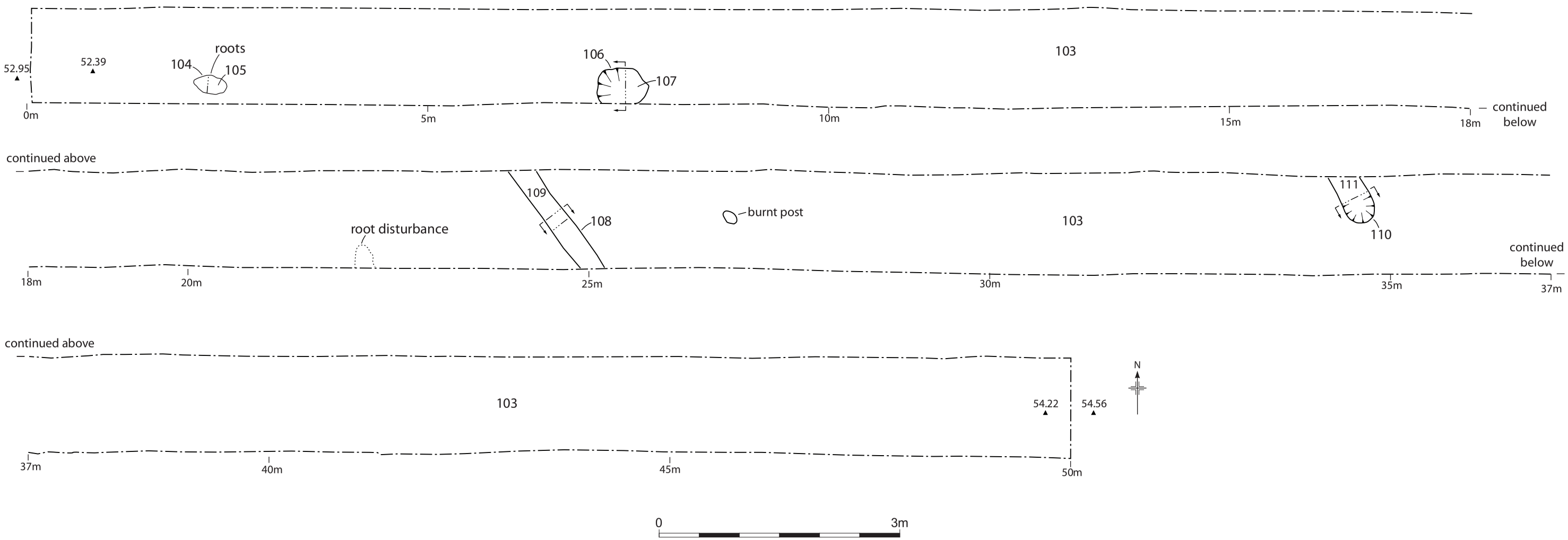
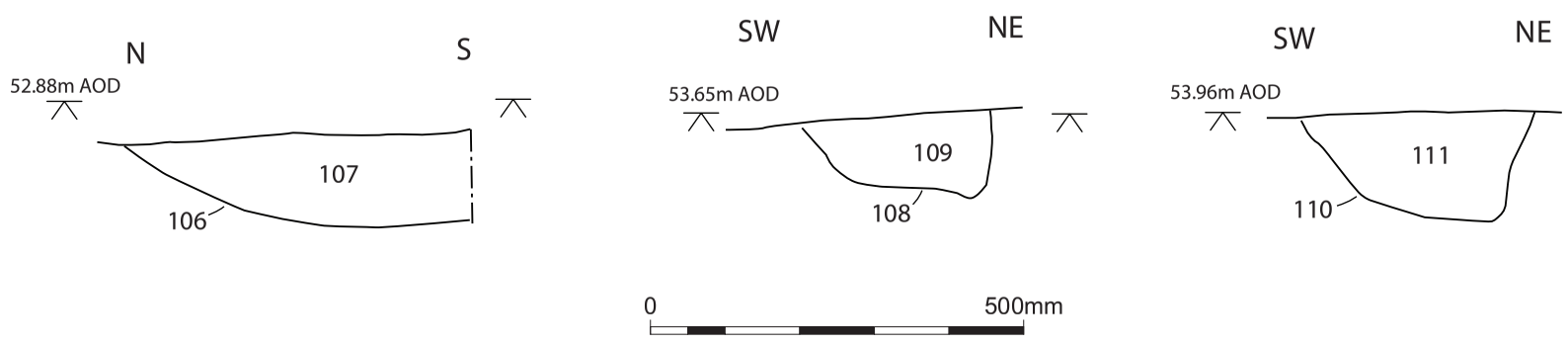


Figure 2. Location of test trenches

TRENCH 1: PLAN

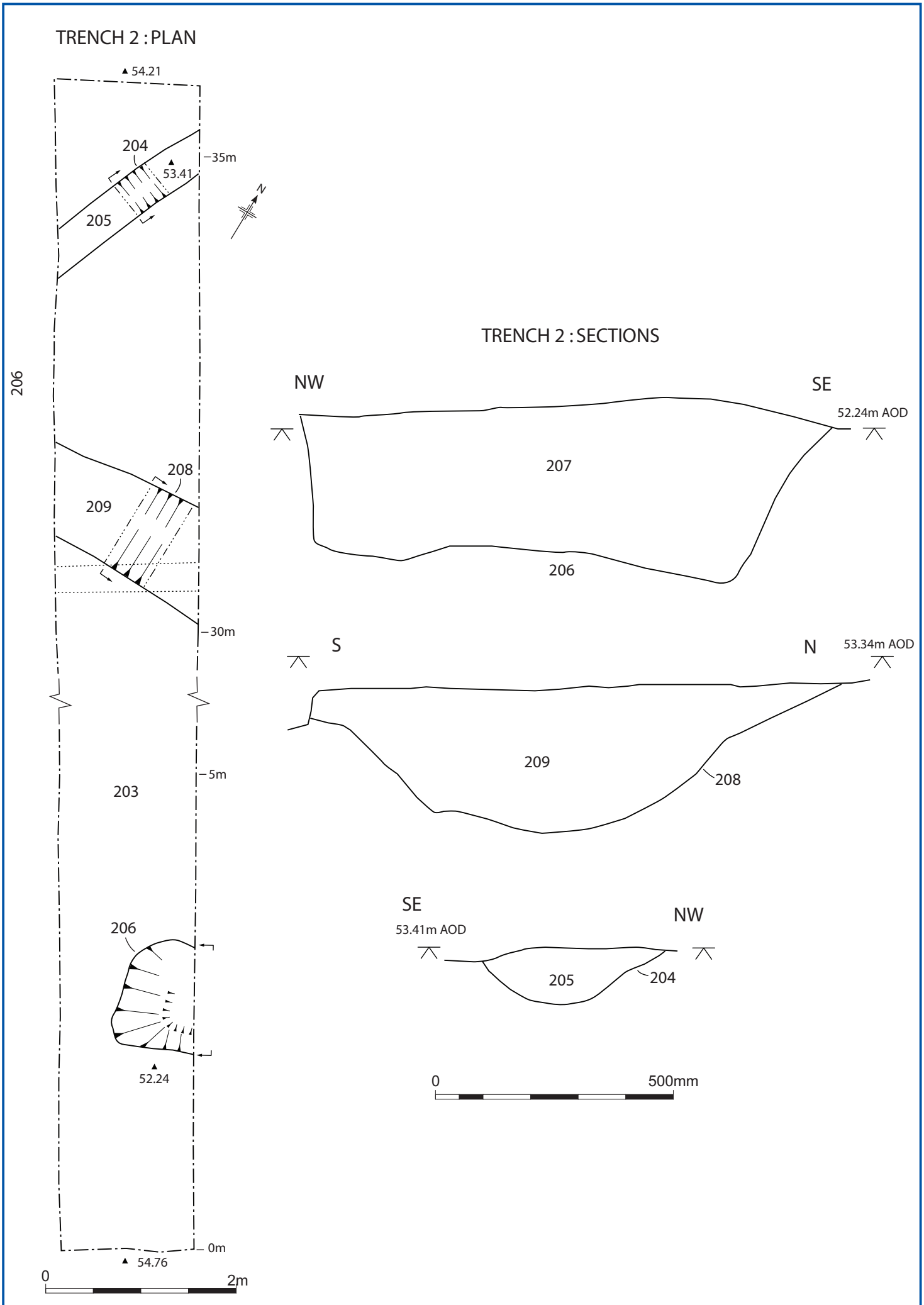


TRENCH 1: SECTIONS

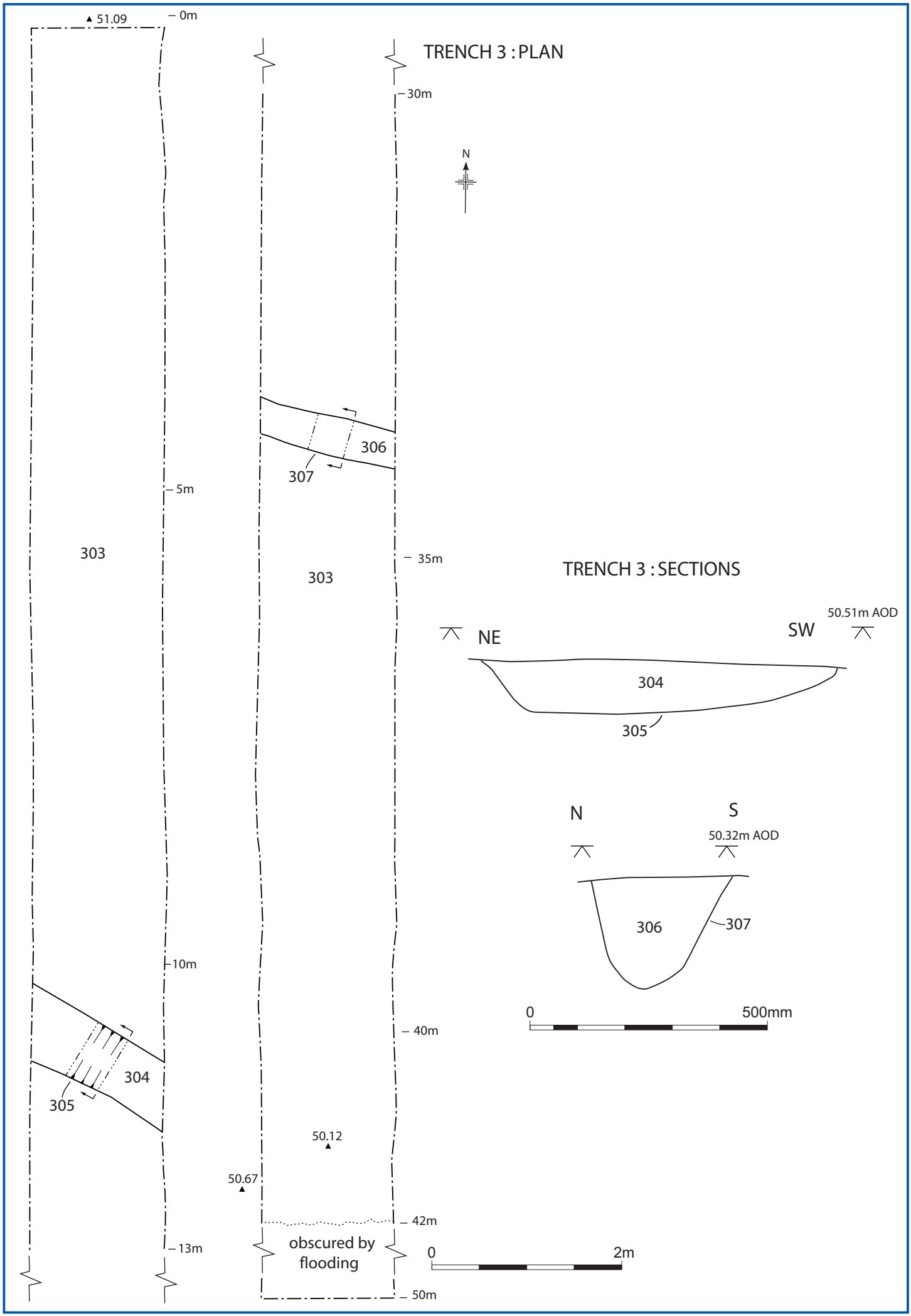


Trench 1: plan and sections

Figure 3

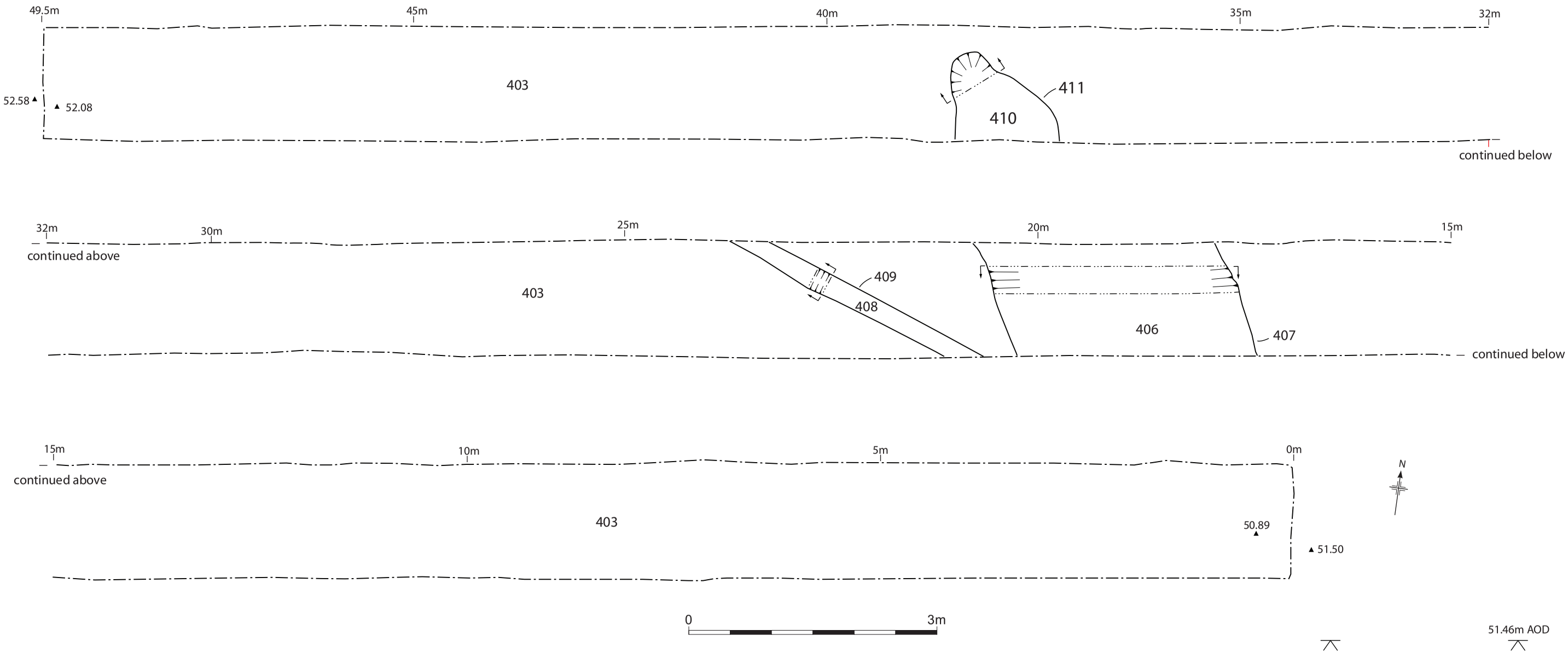


Trench 2: plan and sections *Figure 4*

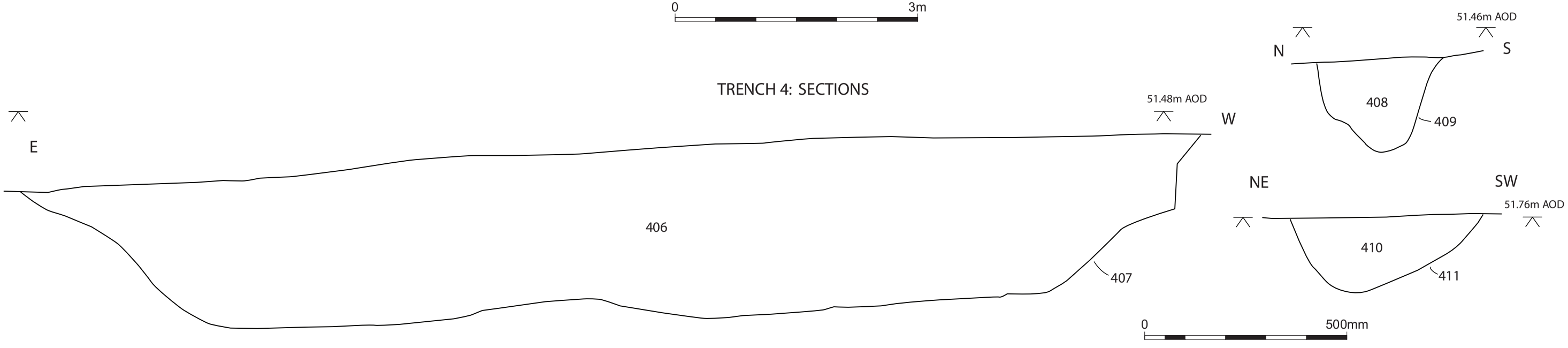


Trench 3; plan and section *Figure 5*

TRENCH 4: PLAN

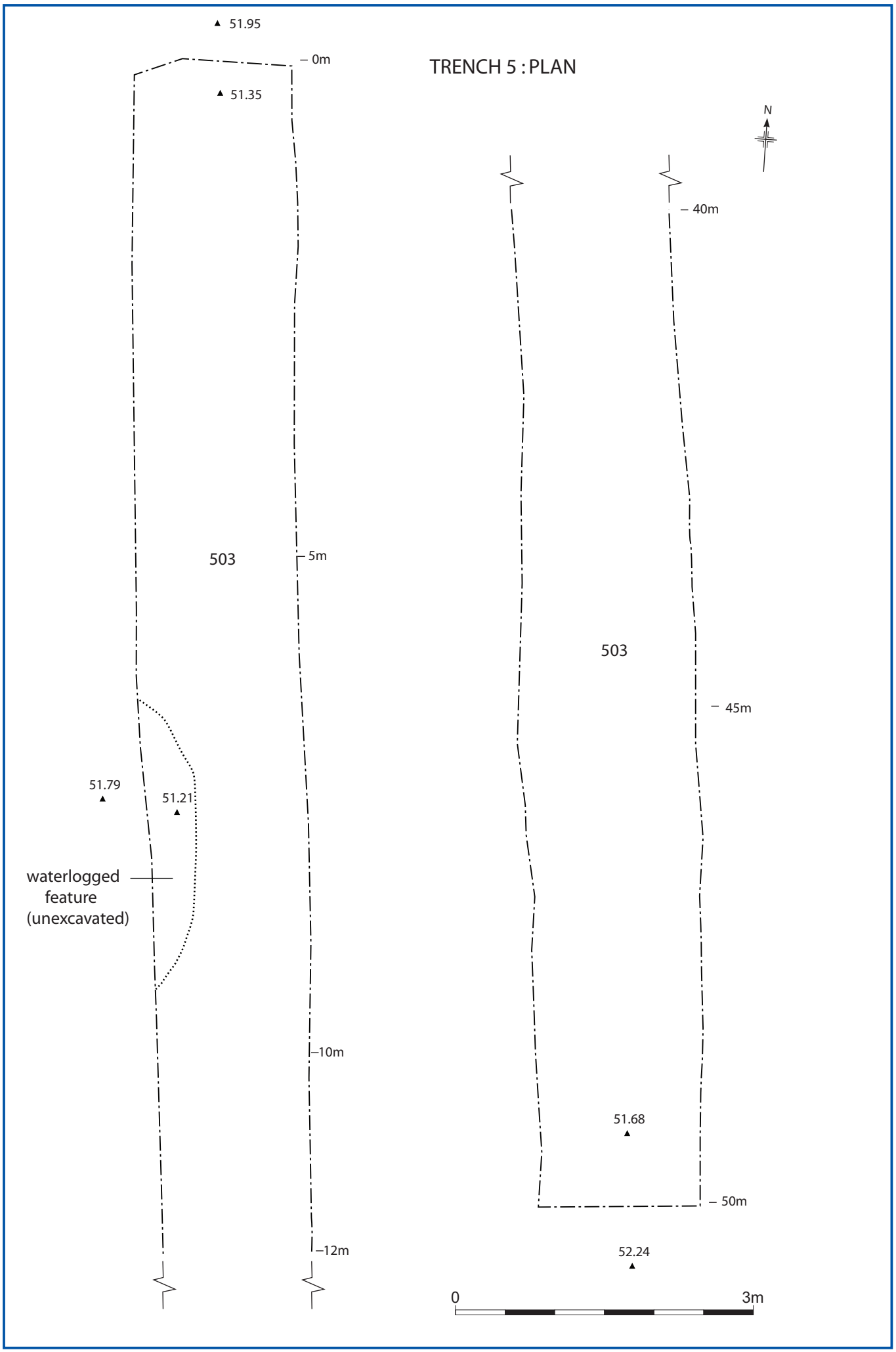


TRENCH 4: SECTIONS



Trench 4: plan and sections

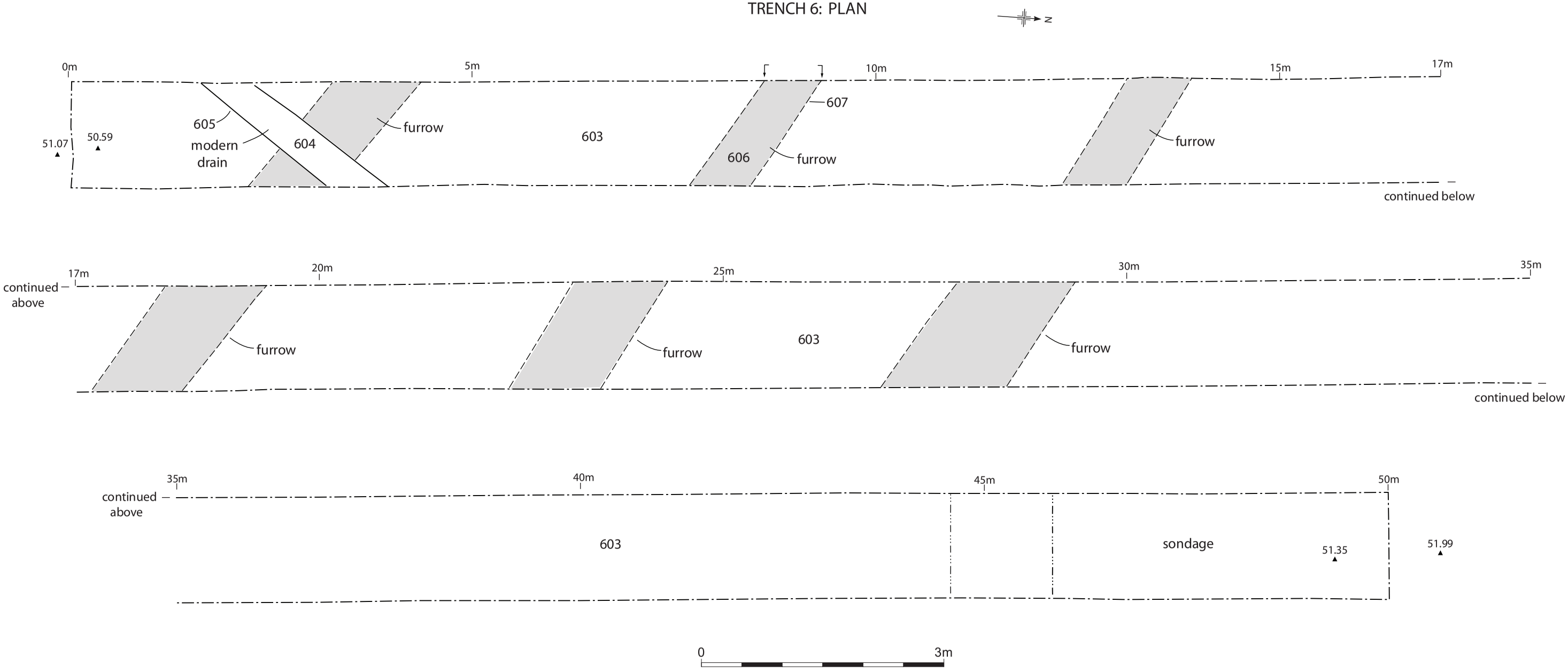
Figure 6



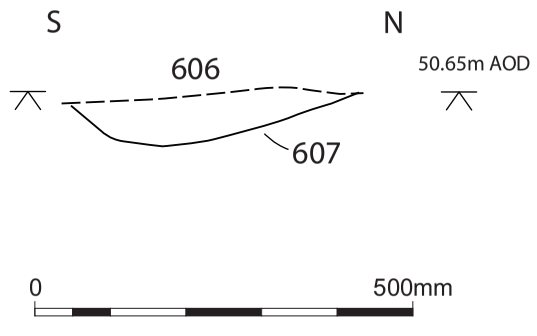
Trench 5: plan

Figure 7

TRENCH 6: PLAN



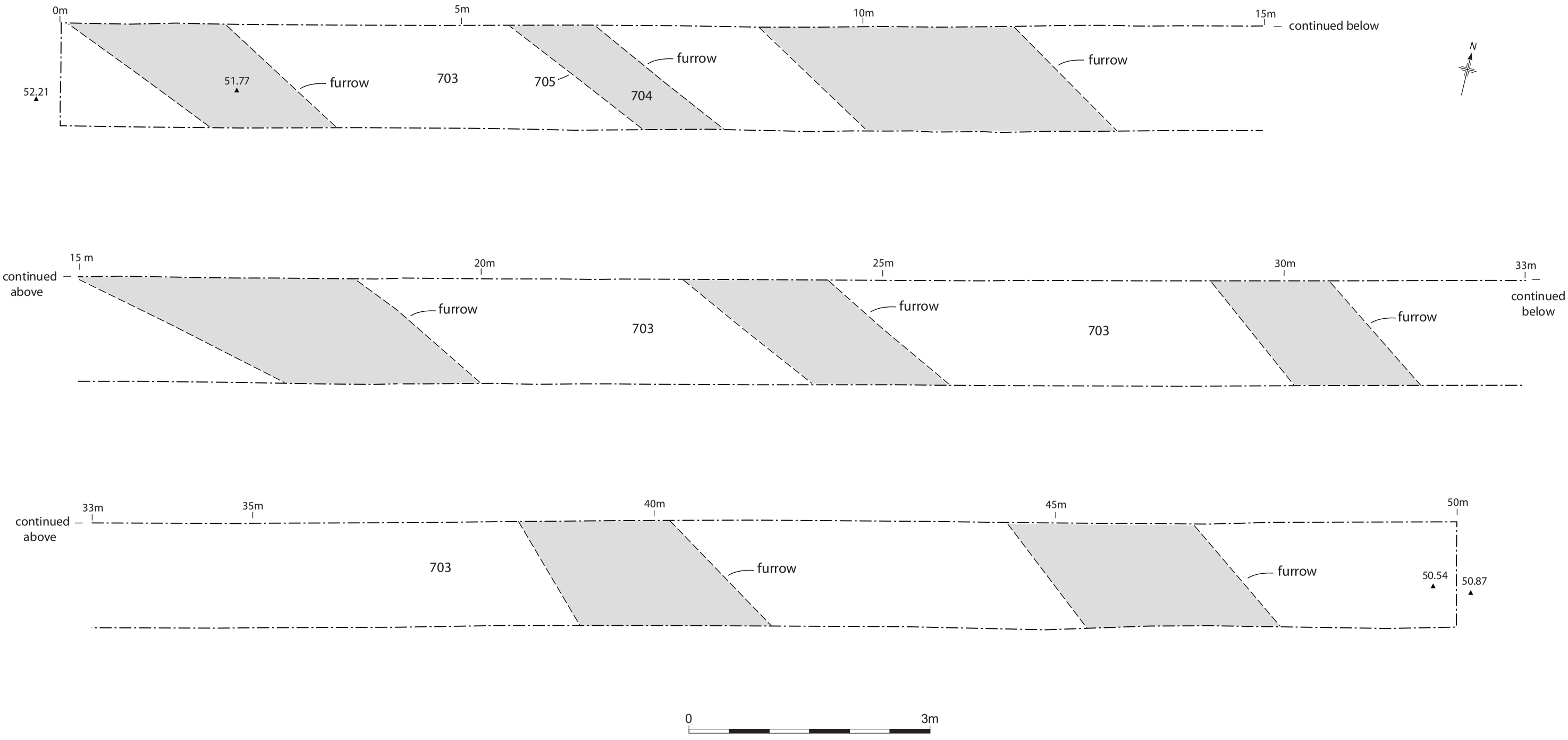
TRENCH 6: SECTION



Trench 6: plan and section

Figure 8

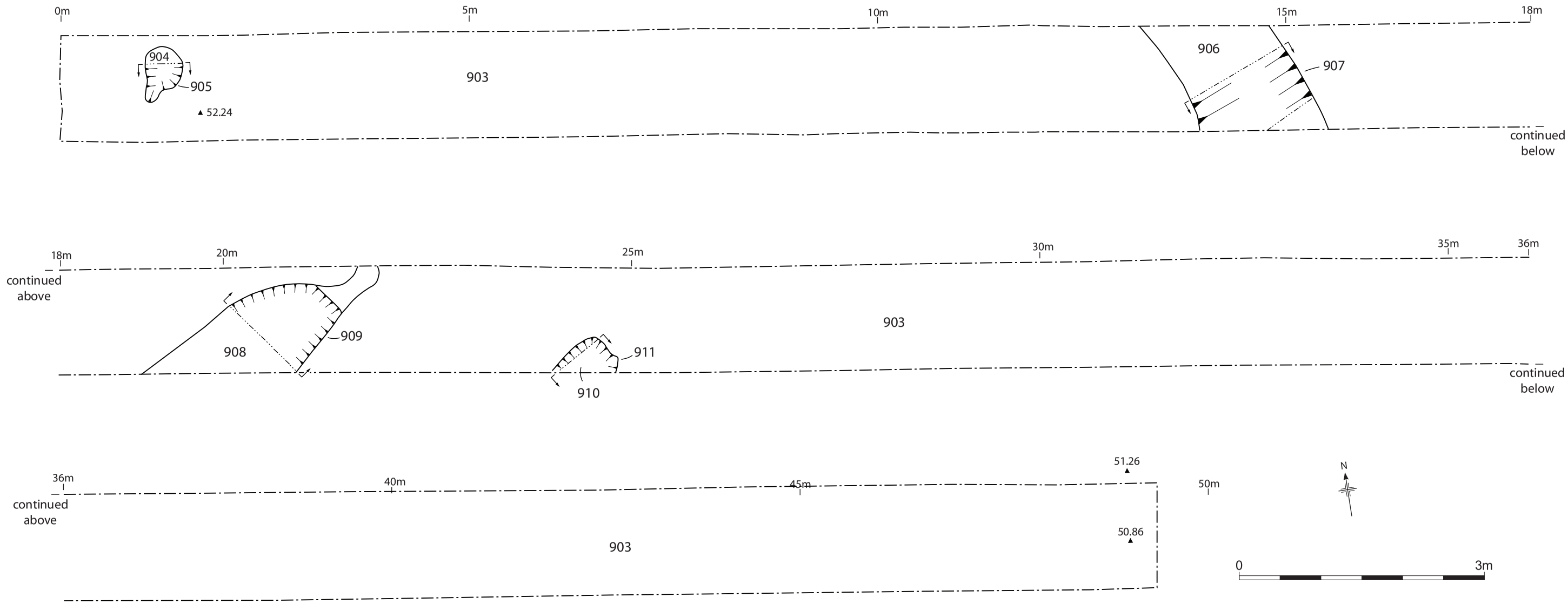
TRENCH 7: PLAN



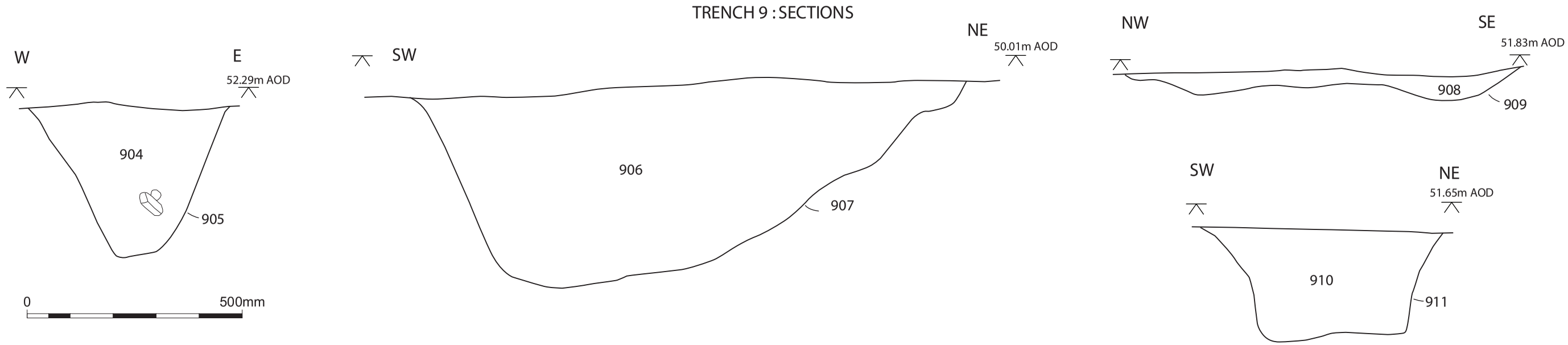
Trench 7: plan

Figure 9

TRENCH 9: PLAN

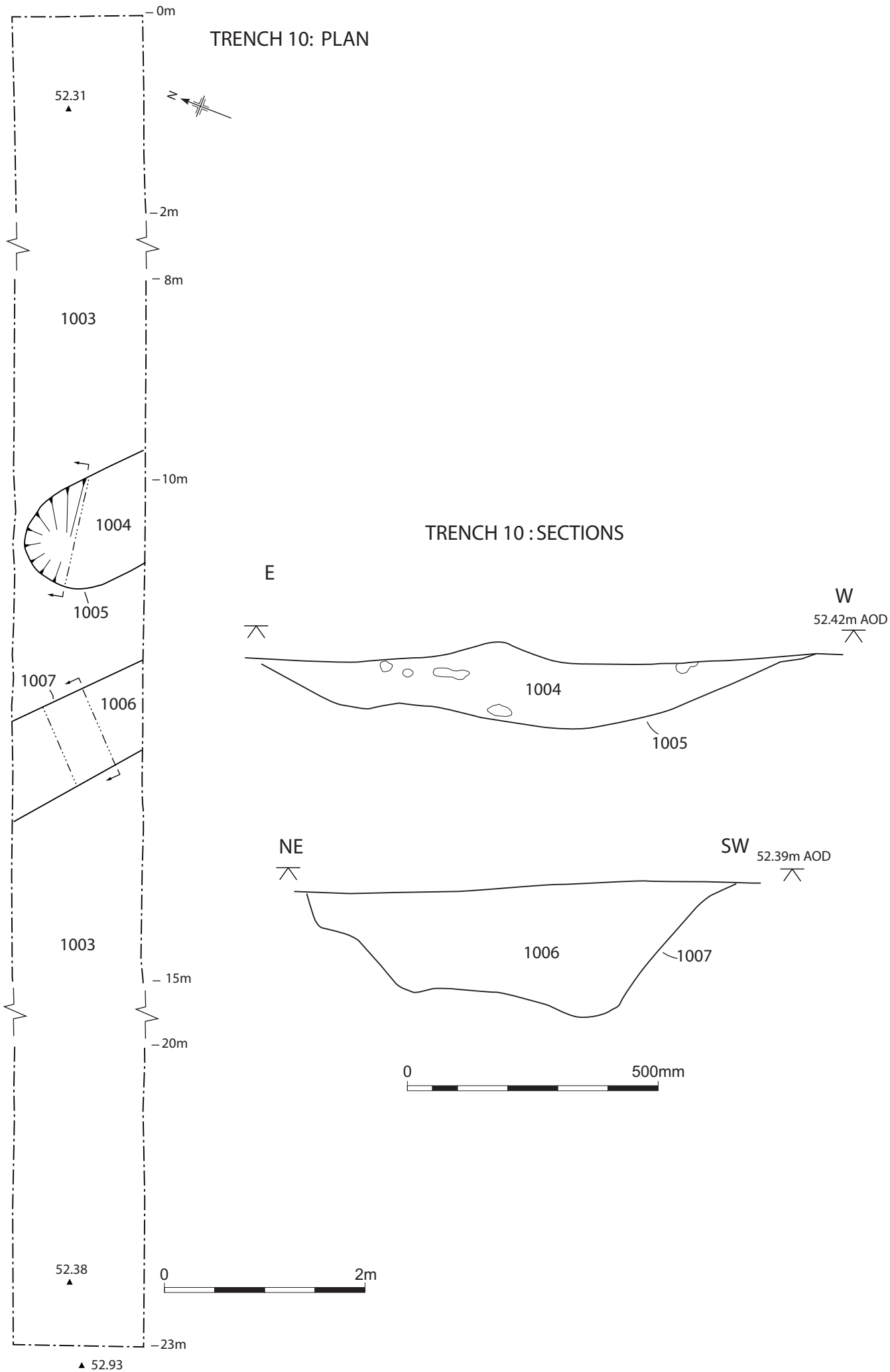


TRENCH 9 : SECTIONS



Trench 9; plan and section

Figure 10



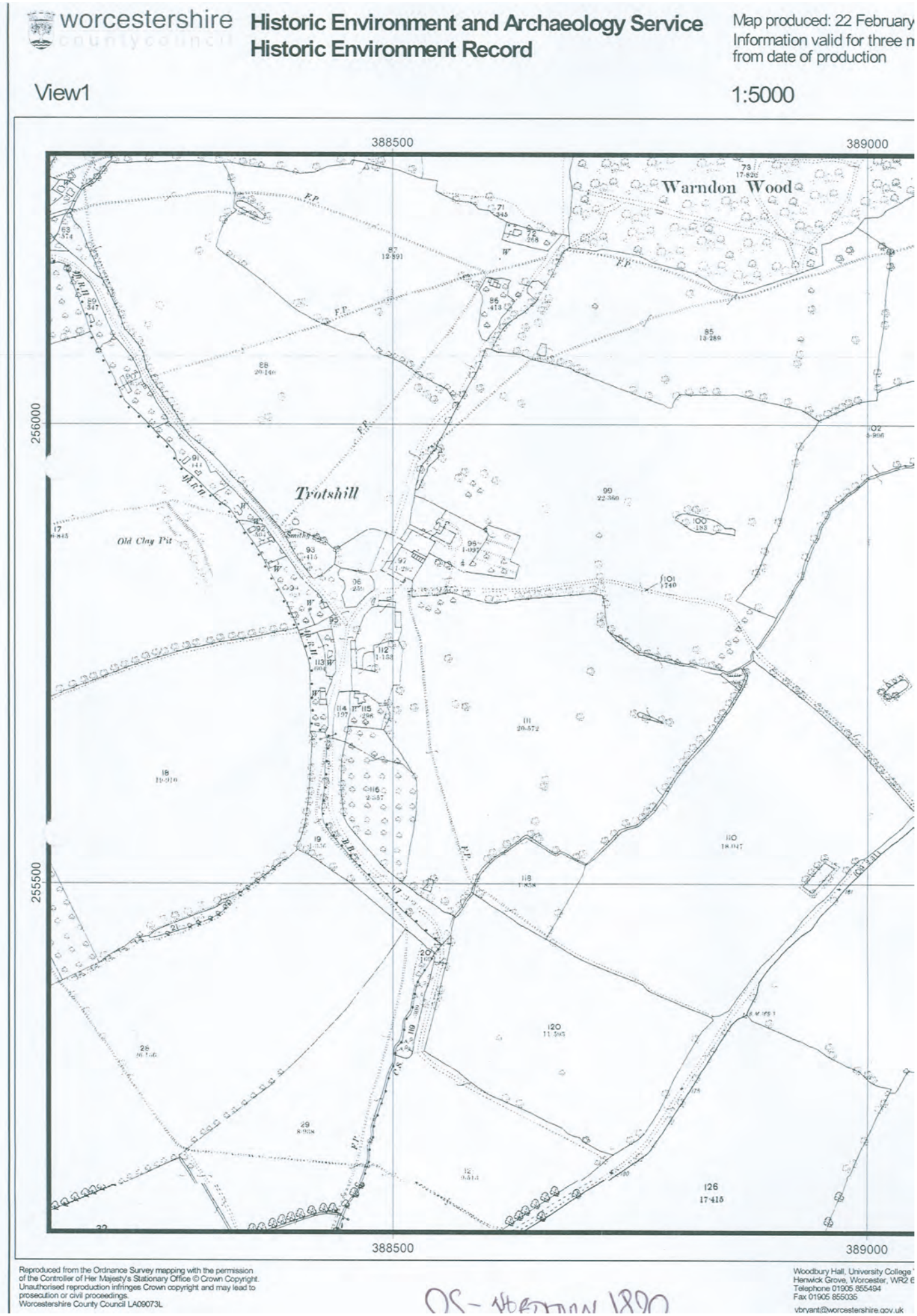
Trench 10: plan and sections

Figure 11

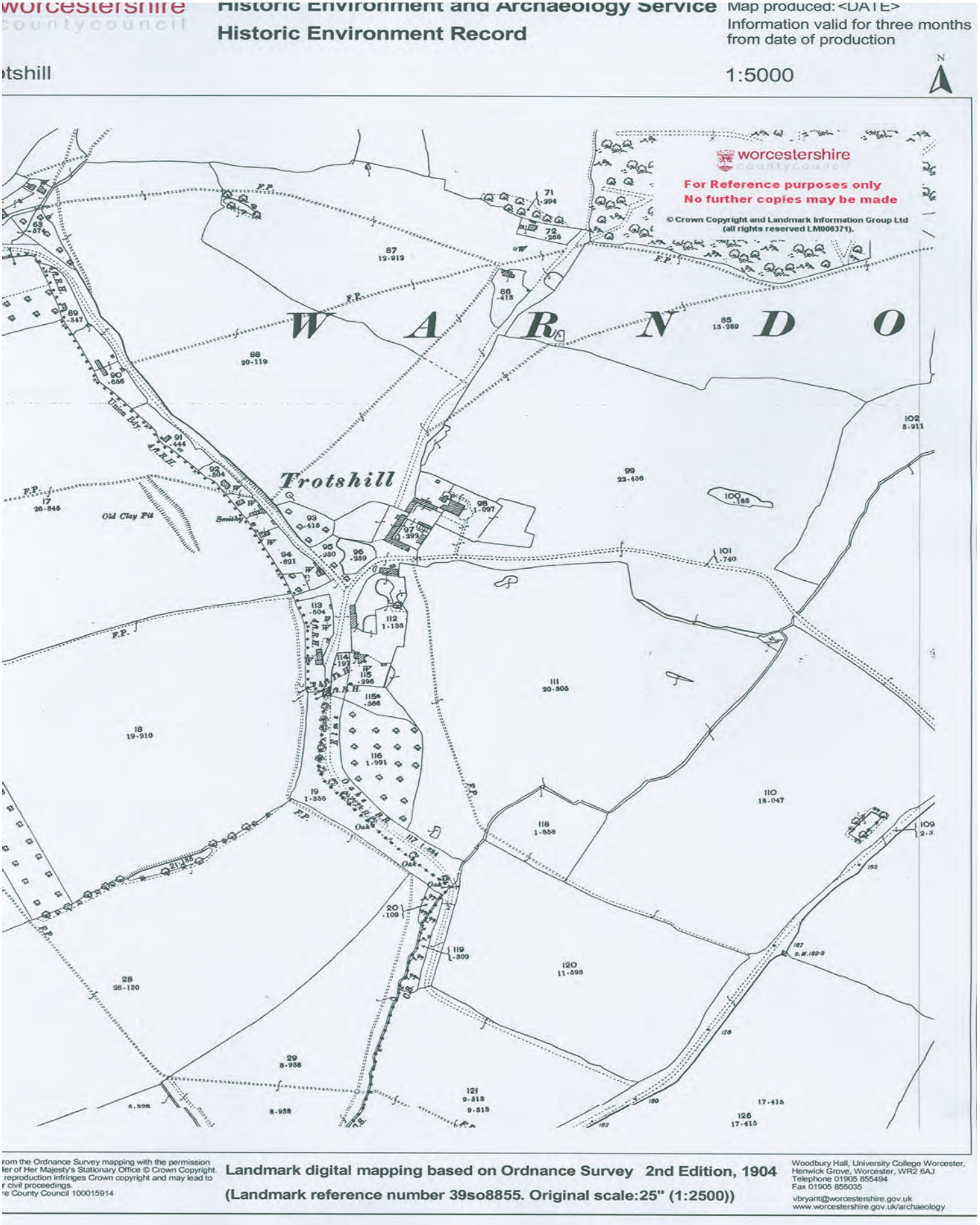
Hedgerow survey

Figure 12

Tithe map 1841 *Figure 13*



1890 Ordnance Survey *Figure 14*



1904 Ordnance Survey *Figure 15*


Zone of
archaeological
importance

Plates

Plate 1: Trench 1, general shot, view west

Plate 2: Trench 1, Pit 106, view east

Plate 3: Trench 1, gully ditch 108, view west

Plate 4: Trench 2, general shot, view north-west

Plate 5: Trench 2, pit 206, view north-east

Plate 6: Trench 3, gully ditch 307, view south-east

Plate 7: Trench 6, general shot, view north

Plate 8: Trench 9, general shot, view west

Plate 9: Trench 9, pit 905, view north-west

Plate 10: Trench 9, ditch 909, view south-west

Plate 11: Trench 9, ditch 907, view south-east

Plate 12: Trench 10, ditch 1007, view north-west

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.20m Depth: 0.34-0.56m

Orientation: east-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
101	Topsoil	Fine, loose, mid brown clayey silt with occasional small rounded pebbles, frequent grass roots, darker and more humic to the west.	0.00-0.20m
102	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional brick fragments and very occasional rounded quartzite pebbles.	0.17-0.35m
103	Natural	Compact, cohesive homogeneous reddish pink clay with rare small rounded pebbles and very occasional manganese flecks.	0.35m+
104	Cut	Circular, approx 0.32m wide, 0.58m long, shallow sides to south, steeper to north, approx 0.10m deep to north, 0.04m to south, flat base, V-shaped, aligned east-west. Possible root activity.	c 0.56-0.60m
105	Fill	Fill of 104. Mid greyish brown, compact and cohesive, sandy clay, frequent small rounded pebbles.	c 0.56-0.60m
106	Cut	Circular, approx 0.46m wide, gradually sloping sides, U-shaped, flat base.	c 0.65-0.78m
107	Fill	Fill of 106. Greyish yellowish mid brown silty clay, compact and cohesive, frequent small-medium rounded pebbles, some root disturbance.	c 0.65-0.78m
108	Cut	Linear, approx 0.24m wide, orientated NW-SE, relatively flat base, vertical west side, steeply sloping east side, cut into natural.	c 0.49-0.61m
109	Fill	Fill of 108. Yellowish grey silty clay, compact and cohesive, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles.	c 0.49-0.61m
110	Cut	Circular, approx 0.18m deep, steep sides to SW, near vertical to SE, concave base aligned NW-SE.	c 0.39-0.53m
111	Fill	Fill of 110. Mid orange grey sandy silt, compact but friable, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles.	c 0.39-0.53m

Trench 2

Maximum dimensions: Length: 35.80m Width: 1.40-1.50m Depth: 0.52-0.93m

Orientation: northwest-southeast

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
201	Topsoil	Mid brown fine, loose clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
202	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, roots, moderate charcoal flecks, compact.	0.18-0.40m
203	Natural	Compact, cohesive and homogenous reddish pink clay, occasional manganese flecks, rare small rounded pebbles.	0.40m +
204	Cut	Linear, cut in to natural, shallow sides, U-shaped, 0.36-0.40m wide, aligned NE-SW, possible drainage ditch?	c 0.80-0.90m
205	Fill	Fill of 204. Silty clay, greyish mid brown, compact, cohesive, occasional small rounded pebbles.	c 0.80-0.90m
206	Cut	Large circular pit or possible ditch, steep sloping sides, flat base, 1.12m wide.	c 0.50-88m
207	Fill	Fill of 206. Dark reddish grey silty clay, compact, cohesive, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, occasional flecks of charcoal, occasional pottery, inc 2nd C Samian.	c 0.50-88m
208	Cut	Linear ditch, U-shaped, gradually sloping sides, concave base, aligned east-west, approx 1.13m wide.	c 0.93-1.25m
209	Fill	Fill of 208. Mid yellowish grey sandy silt, compact, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles.	c 0.93-1.25m

Trench 3

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.40m Depth: 0.48-0.55m

Orientation: north-south

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
301	Topsoil	Mid brown fine loose clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small-rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.20m
302	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, moderate charcoal flecks, occasional small rounded pebbles, compact.	0.20-0.44m
303	Natural	Reddish pink clay, compact, cohesive, rare small rounded pebbles, occasional manganese flecks.	0.44m +
304	Fill	Fill of 305. Orange brown coarse sandy silt, occasional small rounded pebbles, compact, cohesive.	c 0.55-0.67m
305	Cut	Linear cut into natural. U- shaped, gradually sloping sides, approx 0.9m wide, aligned NW-SE.	c 0.55-0.67m
306	Fill	Fill of 307. Mid greyish reddish brown silty clay, frequent brick fragments, charcoal flecks, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, compact, cohesive, 1 pottery sherd. Same as 408?	c 0.48-0.71m
307	Cut	Linear cut into natural. V-shaped, steeply sloping sides, south side near vertical, 0.37m wide, aligned WNW-ESE. Same as 409?	c 0.48-0.71m

The southern 8m of Trench 3 were obscured by flooding.

Trench 4

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.45m Width: 1.35-1.40m Depth: 0.50-0.65m

Orientation: east-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
400	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
401	Topsoil	Mid brown fine loose clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles, darker to west, frequent brick fragments.	0.00-0.18m
402	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, compact, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles.	0.18-0.38m
403	Natural	Reddish pink homogenous clay, compact, cohesive, occasional manganese flecks, rare small rounded pebbles.	0.38m +
404	N/a	Not assigned	N/a
405	N/a	Not assigned	N/a
406	Fill	Fill of 407. Mid greyish brown silty clay, compact, cohesive, frequent charcoal flecks, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, pottery sherd.	c 0.62-1.06m
407	Cut	Linear cut into natural. Steeply sloping sides, flat base, aligned NNW-SSE, approx 2.95m wide.	c 0.62-1.06m
408	Fill	Fill of 409. Reddish grey brown silty clay, occasional small rounded pebbles, frequent charcoal flecks, compact, cohesive, 1 pottery sherd. Same as 306?	c 0.65-0.92m
409	Cut	Linear cut into natural. V-shaped, steeply sloping near vertical sides, 0.35m wide, aligned NW-SE. Same as 307?	c 0.65-0.92m
410	Fill	Fill of 411. Mid yellowish grey brown silty clay, compact, cohesive, frequent small-medium rounded pebbles.	c 0.65-0.84m
411	Cut	Sub-circular cut into natural. Gently sloping sides, concave base, 0.50-1.25m wide. Continues into southern baulk.	c 0.65-0.84m

Trench 5

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.60m Depth: 0.56-0.79m

Orientation: north-south

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
500	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
501	Topsoil	Mid brown fine clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles, loose.	0.00-0.14m
502	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, compact, rare small rounded pebbles, occasional grass roots.	0.14-0.35m
503	Natural	Mid greyish red clay, compact, cohesive, rare small rounded pebbles, occasional manganese flecks.	0.35m +

A single sub-circular feature was identified within the northern third of Trench 5, continuing under the western baulk, however due to flooding, it was not possible to investigate it further.

Trench 6

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.30m Depth: 0.32-0.64m

Orientation: north-south

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
600	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
601	Topsoil	Mid brown fine clayey silt, loose, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
602	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, compact, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.18-0.35m
603	Natural	Bright reddish brown clay, very compact, cohesive, frequent small-medium rounded pebbles, occasional manganese flecks. Cut by 0.52m wide furrows aligned NW-SE, approx 0.40m deep.	0.35m +
604	Fill	Mid reddish grey silty clay, moderately compact, cohesive, frequent small rounded and angular pebbles, occasional small brick fragments.	c 0.42m +
605	Cut	Modern drain. Aligned NE-SW. Cuts ridge and furrow. Unexcavated.	c 0.42m +
606	Fill	Fill of 607. Orange brown silty clay, compact, cohesive, rare small rounded pebbles.	c 0.32-0.38m
607	Cut	Linear furrow cut into natural. U-shaped, gradually sloping sides aligned NW-SE.	c 0.32-0.38m

Trench 7

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50m Width: 1.30m Depth: 0.33-0.44m

Orientation: east-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
700	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
701	Topsoil	Mid brown clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
702	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, compact, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.18-0.38m
703	Natural	Reddish brown clay, compact, cohesive, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, manganese flecks. Cut by furrows, aligned NW-SE.	0.38m +
704	Fill	Fill of 705. Mid greyish brown silty clay, occasional small rounded pebbles, compact.	c 0.33m +
705	Cut	Linear furrow cut into natural. Aligned NW-SE. Not fully excavated.	c 0.33m +

Trench 8

Maximum dimensions: Length: 49.90m Width: 1.80-2m Depth: 0.43-0.53

Orientation: east-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
800	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
801	Topsoil	Mid brown fine clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
802	Subsoil	Mid orange/grey brown clay loam, compact, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.18- c 0.40m
803	Natural	Reddish grey brown clay, compact, cohesive, occasional manganese flecks, small-medium rounded pebbles.	c 0.40m +

Trench 9

Maximum dimensions: Length: 50.40m Width: 1.30m Depth: 0.40-0.58m

Orientation: east-west

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
900	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
901	Topsoil	Mid brown fine, loose clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
902	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, roots, moderate charcoal flecks, compact.	0.18-0.40m
903	Natural	Compact, cohesive and homogenous reddish pink clay, occasional manganese flecks, rare small rounded pebbles.	0.40m +
904	Fill	Fill of 905. Mid orange grey brown sandy silt, compact, cohesive, occasional small rounded pebbles, frequent pottery.	c 0.45-0.79m
905	Cut	Sub-circular. Steeply sloping, near vertical sides, concave, stepped base, 0.46m wide, disturbed to south?	c 0.45-0.79m
906	Fill	Fill of 907. Dark greyish brown silty clay, compact, cohesive, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, frequent pottery.	c 0.45-0.92m
907	Cut	Curvi-linear. U-shaped, steeply sloping sides at c 70° to horizontal, concave base, aligned NW-SE, approx 1.31m wide.	c 0.45-0.92m
908	Fill	Fill of 909. Mid greyish brown silty clay, compact, cohesive, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, charcoal flecks, pottery sherds.	c 0.52-0.58m
909	Cut	Linear. Steep, near vertical east side, shallow gradual slope to west, base flattish, approx 1.18m wide, aligned NE-SW, terminates to NE, truncated by ploughing.	c 0.52-0.58m
910	Fill	Fill of 911. Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occasional small-large rounded pebbles, frequent charcoal flecks, pottery.	c 0.58-0.84m
911	Cut	Sub-rectangular cut. Steep, near vertical sides, flat base, 0.47m wide, >0.58m long, continues into southern baulk.	c 0.58-0.84m

Trench 10

Maximum dimensions: Length: 23m Width: 1.30m Depth: 0.55m

Orientation: northeast-southwest

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Unstrat finds	Machine cut and unstratified finds.	N/a
1001	Topsoil	Mid brown fine, loose clayey silt, frequent grass roots, occasional small rounded pebbles.	0.00-0.18m
1002	Subsoil	Mid orange brown clay loam, occasional small-medium rounded pebbles, roots, moderate charcoal flecks, compact.	0.18-0.40m
1003	Natural	Compact, cohesive and homogenous reddish pink clay, occasional manganese flecks, rare small rounded pebbles.	0.40m +
1004	Fill	Fill of 1005. Mid orange grey brown sandy silt, compact, cohesive, occasional charcoal flecks, pottery, very frequent small-medium rounded cobbles.	c 0.55-0.68m
1005	Cut	Linear. U-shaped, gentle sloping sides, concave base, approx 1.16m wide, terminus to northwest, continues into southern baulk.	c 0.55-0.68m
1006	Fill	Fill of 1007. Mid orange grey brown sandy silt, compact, cohesive, occasional charcoal flecks.	c 0.55-0.85m
1007	Cut	Linear. U-shaped, medium sloping sides, concave base, 0.82m wide, aligned NW-SE.	c 0.55-0.85m