ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF THE BRAMLEY-BASINGSTOKE ELECTRICITY CABLE ROUTE, HAMPSHIRE

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Contents

Part 1 Project summary 1

Part 2 Detailed report

1. **Background** 3
1.1 Reasons for the project 3
1.2 Project parameters 3
1.3 Aims 3
2. **Methods** 3
2.1 Documentary search 3
2.2 Fieldwork methodology 3
2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy 3
2.2.2 Structural analysis 4
2.3 Artefact methodology, by Angus Crawford 4
2.3.1 Artefact recovery policy 4
2.3.2 Method of analysis 4
2.4 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Alan Clapham 4
2.4.1 Sampling policy 4
2.4.2 Method of analysis 5
2.5 The methods in retrospect 5
3. **Topographical and archaeological context** 5
4. **Results** 6
4.1 Structural analysis 6
4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits 6
4.1.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits 6
4.1.3 Phase 3 Roman deposits 6
4.1.4 Phase 4 Medieval deposits 6
4.1.5 Phase 5 Post-medieval and modern deposits 7
4.1.6 Phase 6 Undated deposits 7
4.2 Artefactual analysis, by Angus Crawford 7
4.2.1 Discussion of the pottery 8
4.2.2 Other finds 9
4.3 Environmental analysis, by Alan Clapham 10
4.3.1 Wet-sieved samples 10
5. **Synthesis** 11
5.1 Geophysics 11
5.2 Environmental evidence 11
5.3 Artefactual evidence 11
5.4 Prehistoric 11
5.5 Medieval, post-medieval and modern 11
5.6 Undated 12
6. **Publication summary** 12
7. **Acknowledgements** 12
8. **Personnel** 12
9. **Bibliography** 13

Figures

1 Location of the site
2 Sites in the vicinity of the cable route
3 Location of easement: Sheet 1
4 Location of easement; Sheet 2
5 Postholes 2004 and 2006 in Field 2
6 Posthole 2009 in Field 2
7 Linear 5004 in Field 5
8 Pit 6004 in Field 6
9 Linear 11004 in Field 11

Plates

1 Field 1, general shot of easement strip, view north
2 Field 2, general shot of easement strip, view south
3 Field 2, pit/posthole 2004 sectioned
4 Field 2, pit/posthole 2004 fully excavated
5 Field 2, pit/posthole 2006 sectioned
6 Field 2, pit/posthole 2006 fully excavated
7 Field 2, pit 2009 as initially identified
8 Field 2, pit 2009 cleaned up, pre-excavation
9 Field 2, pit 2009 sectioned
10 Field 2, pit 2009 fully excavated
11 Field 4, general shot of easement strip, view north
12 Field 5, general shot of easement strip, view southwest
13 Field 5, ditch 5004 in cable trench, view south
14 Field 5, cable trench, view north
15 Field 6, pit/posthole 6004 sectioned and general shot of easement strip, view southeast
16 Field 6, pit/posthole 6004 fully excavated
17 Field 6, general shot of easement strip, view south
18 Field 6, general shot of cable trench, view north
19 Field 9, general shot of easement strip, view east
20 Field 10, general shot of easement strip, view south
21 Field 11, linear 11004 and general shot of easement strip, view northeast
22 Field 11, linear 11004 sectioned
23 Field 12, general shot of easement strip, view north
24 Field 14, general shot of easement strip, view south
25 Field 15, general shot of easement strip, view north
26 Field 17, general shot of easement strip, view north
27 Field 18, general shot of easement strip, view south
28 Field 19, general shot of easement strip, view northwest

Appendices

1 Context descriptions
2 Technical information
3 Geophysical report

Archaeological watching brief of the Bramley-Basingstoke electricity cable route, Hampshire

Tom Vaughan and Simon Sworn

With contributions by Alan Clapham and Angus Crawford

Part 1 Project summary

A geophysical survey and an archaeological watching brief was undertaken between Bramley and Basingstoke, Hampshire (NGR: SU 645 602 - 650 527). It was requested by Wardell Armstrong on behalf of their client, Scottish and Southern Energy, who proposed to install an electricity cable between Bramley substation and Basingstoke, a route of approximately 7km.

The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological remains were present and if so to indicate its nature, date and location.

The survey identified a scatter of anomalies, interpreted as possible pits and a series of linears within the fields south of the substation. However the results of the subsequent watching brief did not tally with these findings.

Three prehistoric features were recorded adjacent to the substation; an early/middle Iron Age pit containing the dumped remains of a kiln superstructure, and two small pits/postholes with extensive inclusions of fire-cracked stone. A medieval ditch, probably a field boundary, and a single undated pit/posthole were observed north of Tudor Farm, along with a late post-medieval/modern furrow or headland south of The Mill House. Three residual worked flints were recovered from the subsoils. A small quantity of residual pottery was recovered, including three Roman pottery sherds, along with post-medieval and modern pottery, all of which are considered to be the result of manuring or casual loss.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

A geophysical survey and an archaeological watching brief was undertaken along the Bramley-Basingstoke electricity cable route, Hampshire (NGR: SU 645 600 - 650 527, Fig 1), on behalf of Wardell Armstrong for Scottish and Southern Energy. Scottish and Southern Energy intends to install 132kV underground electricity circuits between Bramley substation and Basingstoke, Hampshire, a route of approximately 7km. It was considered that remains of archaeological interest might be affected.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 1999). The project also conforms to a specification prepared by Wardell Armstrong (2007) and for which a project proposal (including detailed written scheme of investigation) was produced (HEAS 2007).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the project were to locate any archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing an Environment Appraisal was undertaken by the Client, which included an archaeological appraisal of the study area, derived from information recorded on the Hampshire Archaeology and Historic Buildings Record (HAHBR; Wardell Armstrong 2006, Chapter 4, Appendices 5 and 6).

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2007).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 14 May 2007 and 20 February 2008. The site reference number and site code is BRBA07.

Two discrete phases of fieldwork were undertaken:

- Geophysical survey;
- Watching brief.

Stratascan Ltd undertook the geophysical survey between 14 and 16 May 2007. Three fields were surveyed and their report is appended at the end of this report (Appendix 3).

The watching brief was undertaken of all groundworks (with the exception of the southernmost third, through Popley and into Basingstoke), between 7 August 2007 and 20 February 2008. An easement was cleared of vegetation and topsoil, up to 12m wide and to a depth of 0.30m. A trench approximately 1m in width and 1.5m in depth was then dug to hold the three 132kV cables, associated pilot cables and a fibre optic cable. In addition, joint bays were constructed at approximately 500m intervals along the route and also where there was a significant change of direction. These required excavations approximately 3-4m wide by 5m long, to a depth of up to 1.5m.

All topsoil stripping and selected portions of the cable trench excavation were archaeologically monitored. Clean surfaces were inspected for archaeological remains, and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature and date. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

The easement was generally dug to a sufficient depth to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains. However, within Field 5 (the allotments) the topsoil/made ground was deeper than the initial strip, so the entire length of the cable trench was observed to establish the presence or absence of archaeology (Plates 12-14).

A fieldwalking survey was originally envisaged for part of this project (Fields 1 and 13, Fig 1). However the ground cover of potato crops was deemed to render the technique impracticable, so this element was ultimately not undertaken.

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

All artefacts from the area of salvage recording were retrieved by hand and retained in accordance with the Service manual (CAS 1995 as amended).

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 where applicable. The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under x20 magnification, and recorded by fabric and form type. Where possible, fabrics have been related to the fabric-type series maintained by WHEAS (Hurst and Rees 1992; worcestershireceramics.org).

2.4 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Alan Clapham

2.4.1 Sampling policy

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995, appendix 4). Samples of between 10 and 40 litres were taken from four contexts (2003, 2005, 2007 and 2008), from the fills of 3 pits/postholes that were considered to be of probable prehistoric date.

2.4.2 **Method of analysis**

The samples were processed by flotation 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 (Cappers *et al* 2006). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the New Flora of the British Isles, 2nd edition (Stace 1997).

A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale.

2.5 The methods in retrospect

Although the easement had frequently been tracked over by machinery prior to archaeological monitoring, the methods adopted allow a reasonable degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved. The exposed surfaces were sufficiently clean to observe well-differentiated archaeological deposits, although any less clear may have not been identified.

3. Topographical and archaeological context

The route for the cable runs between Bramley substation in Bramley Frith Wood at the north extent (SU 645 600), southwards to the A339 between Daneshill and Oakridge, in Basingstoke (SU 650 527). The urban section south of Carpenter's Down Wood (SU 640 550), through Popley was not monitored (Fig 1).

The predominant soils belong to the Bursledon Soil Association (572j), comprising deep fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging associated with deep coarse loamy soils variably affected by groundwater; also some slowly permeable waterlogged loamy over clayey soils. The parent material is Eocene and Jurassic loam and clay (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

The archaeological background to the area has previously been summarised within an Environmental Appraisal prepared by the Client (Wardell Armstrong 2006, Chapter 4, Appendices 5 and 6). It determined that the proposed route of the cable lies within a historically densely occupied landscape with extant remains from all periods of human history, from the prehistoric, through to the post-medieval (*ibid*, 44).

More specifically, a number of sites are recorded on the HAHBR within the immediate vicinity of the cable route (Fig 2), including: evidence of late Iron Age and Roman settlement and agricultural activity in Bramley Frith Wood (HAHBR 24009, 24010, 42780 and 51197); a medieval trackway (HAHBR 33434|) and post-medieval quarrying in Marl's Copse (HAHBR 33441 and 33442); the site of the post-medieval Pabley Farm, north of Popley (HAHBR 55811); and a WWII anti-aircraft battery in Popley (HAHBR 37528; Wardell Armstrong 2007, 2; Wardell Armstrong 2006, Appendix 5).

In addition there are four recorded archaeological sites bisected by the route of the project (Fig 2): a group of undated linear soil marks south of Bramley Frith Wood (HAHBR 36007); a scatter of prehistoric worked flints southwest of Bramley (HAHBR 36219); an undated lynchet southeast of Vyne Farm (HAHBR 36027); and a Roman road (HAHBR 29681; Wardell Armstrong 2007, 40 and 43).

The geophysical survey of three contiguous portions at the northern end of the scheme (Fields 1-3) determined that these areas were largely scattered with modern ferrous material,

although a general distribution of possible pits was also noted. In Area 1 (Field 1) a possible kiln was recorded within the southern half, along with a series of possible former linear banks or earthworks toward the centre. Toward the south edge of Area 2 (Field 2) and the north side of Area 3 (Field 3) lay a further series of linear anomalies, which were also considered to be of potential archaeological origin (Stratascan 2007, 7 and Fig 4).

4. Results

4.1 Structural analysis

The features and contexts recorded are shown in Figures 5-9. Their locations along the cable route are indicated on Figures 3 and 4. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits were noted across the entire length of the watching brief area. These largely consisted of a yellowish brown clay and silty clay with localised concentrations of flint gravel. Within Fields 13-17, between Vyne Lodge Farm and Marl's Copse, a sandy clay predominated.

The natural matrix underlay a developed soil horizon comprised of silty loam topsoil and clayey silt subsoil, both with occasional sub-angular flints. Where the easement ran through agricultural fields, plough scars were often noted towards the base of the subsoil.

4.1.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits

Within Field 2 a single sub-circular pit, 2009, 0.70-0.75m in diameter, was recorded containing extensive fired clay fragments, context 2008, and a quantity of middle/late Iron Age pottery (Section 4.2 below; Fig 6, Plates 7-10). Some of the clay fragments portrayed impressions of wickerwork or wattles and are considered to represent the remains of a kiln structure. This feature was sampled for environmental analysis (Section 4.3 below).

Two sub-circular small pits/postholes, 2004 and 2006, lay at a distance of *c* 100m to the south of the aforementioned pit (Fig 5, Plates 3-6). They lay in association, being *c* 4m apart, and contained similar fills, 2003 and 2005, with frequent charcoal and fire-cracked flints, but no finds. As above, both were sampled for environmental analysis (Section 4.3 below).

No other features of prehistoric date were identified. However a number of residual prehistoric artefacts were recovered: three flints within subsoils in Fields 1 and 3 and from a later feature in Field 5; and a single sherd of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pottery was recovered from the subsoil, 6001, in Field 6 (Section 4.2 below).

4.1.3 Phase 3 Roman deposits

No features, structures or horizons of Roman date were recorded. Three pottery sherds were recovered from the subsoils in Field 7, including two Samian fragments. Two possible Roman tile fragments were also recovered from the subsoils in Field 2 (Section 4.2 below).

4.1.4 Phase 4 Medieval deposits

A deep, wide ditch, 5004, with convex sides and a V-shaped base was noted toward the middle of Field 5 (Fig 7, Plate 13). Two sherds of pottery within the single silty clay fill, 5003, indicate that it is of probable medieval date. It may represent a former field boundary off the Silchester Road.

A small number of residual medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the soils in Fields 4, 5, 6 and 7.

4.1.5 Phase 5 Post-medieval and modern deposits

Linear 11004, toward the middle of Field 11, was determined to be of modern origin (Fig 9, Plates 21 and 22). The single silty clay fill, 11003, contained pottery of late 18th to early 19th century date. The feature is aligned in parallel with the north and south field boundaries and it is considered to be a furrow, headland or minor boundary ditch.

Residual pottery was also recovered from the subsoils in Fields 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 14.

4.1.6 Phase 6 Undated deposits

A single small circular pit or posthole, 6004, was recorded within the middle of Field 6 (Fig 8, Plates 15 and 16). It had a clayey silt fill, 6003, without dateable artefacts and lay in isolation from any other identified features.

4.2 Artefactual analysis, by Angus Crawford

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of 74 sherds of pottery weighing 782g. In addition, worked flint, fired clay, tile, brick, glass and ironwork were recovered. The group came from 18 stratified contexts and could be dated from the prehistoric period onwards (see Table 1). The level of preservation was generally fair, with the majority of sherds displaying moderate levels of abrasion.

Context	Material	Type/Date	Total	Weight (g)
1001	Ceramic building material	Various	11	120
1001	Flint	Core	1	70
2001	Clay	Fired	7	179
2001	Iron	?Agricultural tool	2	95
2001	Tile	?Roman	2	58
2007	Clay	Fired	12	81
2007	Pottery	Early to Middle Iron Age	2	33
2008	Clay	Fired	6	1374
2008	Pottery	Early to Middle Iron Age	25	271
3001	Brick	Post-medieval	2	114
3001	Flint	Blade	1	7
3001	Iron	Hardware	2	44
3001	Iron	Slag	3	144
3001	Pottery	Post-medieval	8	71
3001	Tile	Roof	29	856
4001	Clay	Fired	2	37
4001	Iron	Horseshoe	1	69
4001	Pottery	Medieval or post-medieval	2	10
4001	Pottery	Post-medieval	1	16
4001	Tile	Roof	6	134
5000	Pottery	Medieval	1	23
5000	Pottery	?Post-medieval	1	7
5000	Tile	Roof	1	93
5001	Ceramic building material	Various	2	3
5001	Pottery	Medieval	17	88
5001	Pottery	Modern	1	9
5001	Pottery	Post-medieval	2	11
5001	Pottery	?Post-medieval	1	53
5001	Tile	Roof	2	123
5003	Bone	Animal	1	6
5003	Flint	Large flake	1	133
5003	Pottery	?medieval	2	86
5003	Tile	Roof	4	109
6001	Pottery	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age	1	3
6001	Pottery	Medieval	1	2
6001	Tile	Roof	4	71

7001	Iron	Nail	1	9
7001	Iron	Unidentified	1	8
7001	Pottery	Medieval	1	7
7001	Pottery	Post-medieval	2	33
7001	Pottery	Roman	3	23
7001	Tile	Roof	2	55
7001	Tile	Unidentified	3	37
8001	Iron	Unidentified	1	35
8001	Pottery	Post-medieval or modern	1	21
8001	?Pottery or tile fragment	?Roman	3	22
8001	Tile	Roof	4	197
10001	Iron	Knife?	1	20
10001	Tile	Roof	1	39
11001	Ceramic building material	Tile?	3	21
11001	Iron	Unidentified	2	41
11003	Pottery	modern	1	12
12001	Tile	Roof	5	66
14001	Glass	Vessel	1	12
14001	Iron	Nut	1	28
14001	Iron	Spike	1	30
14001	Pottery	modern	1	3
19001	Tile	Roof	1	37

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

4.2.1 Discussion of the pottery

The discussion 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	Fabric	Fabric	Total	Weight (g)	Date
2007	97	Miscellaneous prehistoric wares	2	33	Early to Middle Iron Age
2008	97	Miscellaneous prehistoric wares	25	271	prehistoric
3001	100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	8	71	*c* 1550-1800
4001	99/100	Orange fabric	2	10	medieval or early post-medieval
4001	100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	1	16	*c* 1550-1800
5000	100	Post-medieval redware	1	7	*c* 1550-1800
5000	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	1	23	*c* 1100-1550
5001	85	Modern stone china	1	9	1800-2000
5001	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	17	88	*c* 1100-1550
5003	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	2	86	*c* 1100-1550
6001	97	Miscellaneous prehistoric fabrics	1	3	Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age
6001	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	1	2	*c* 1100-1550
7001	43.2	Central Gaulish Samian ware	2	22	2nd century
7001	78	Post-medieval red wares	1	11	*c* 1550-1800
7001	90	Post-medieval orange wares	1	22	?18th century
7001	98	Miscellaneous Roman wares	1	1	mid 1st to 4th century
7001	99	Miscellaneous medieval wares	1	7	*c* 1100-1550
8001	100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	1	21	1550-1800
11003	85	Pearl ware	1	12	1780-1840
14001	85	Stone china	1	3	modern

Table 2: Summary of the assemblage

The pottery assemblage

The majority of the pottery assemblage was retrieved from the topsoils and subsoils and included undiagnostic sherds of Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery. Only three sherds of Roman pottery were present within the assemblage and included a flange sherd from a probable Samian Curle 11 form (context 7001, early 2nd century to *c* AD140; Webster 1996) and a single undiagnostic body sherd of fine orange sandy fabric (context 7001, mid 1st to 4th century). Both sherds were highly abraded and are, therefore, more

indicative of residual Roman material rather than any significant archaeological activity. The majority of the later pottery assemblage is also in an abraded condition and, therefore, indicative of material deposited during field manuring or casual loss. However, groups from three excavated features have been examined in more detail and these are discussed below.

Pit 2009

An ovoid pit, 2009, contained well-preserved fragments of fired clay and Iron Age pottery within the two fills, 2007 and 2008. A number of the fired clay fragments displayed deep impressions from wattling or similar material, and had probably been utilised originally for some structural purpose. The associated pottery consisted of joining base and body sherds. No rim fragments were present and so the pottery could only be identified as probable early to middle Iron Age in date (*c* 800-100 BC). The fabric was characteristic of ceramics in the lower Thames valley in Middlesex and Berkshire (Lorraine Mepham, pers comm)

Ditch 5004

Ditch, 5004, contained a large prehistoric flint flake within its primary fill, 5003. However this also contained fragments of a handled cup of medieval date.

Linear 11004

Furrow or possible ditch, 11004, contained a single sherd of pearl-ware, which could be dated to a general production period of 1780 to 1840, indicating a late post-medieval to modern date.

4.2.2 Other finds

Prehistoric flint

Three worked flints were identified as residual finds within the assemblage, including the aforementioned flint flake from ditch fill 5003. The remaining material consisted of a blade with use damage to the edge and a bladelet core, from subsoils 3001 and 1001. All three artefacts were of a smokey brown-coloured flint.

Iron work

The iron objects were generally of poor preservation, exhibiting high levels of corrosion. All of the ironwork was recovered from topsoil and subsoil contexts, and provides little archaeological information.

Roof tile and brick

All the roof tile and brick assemblage was retrieved from subsoil contexts with the majority of the material being of small undiagnostic fragments in abraded condition. The roof tile was consistent in form with types produced from the medieval to post-medieval period. Two small tile fragments from subsoil 2001 were highly abraded and the poor preservation and general powdery fabric may indicate a Roman date, though accurate identification remained problematic.

The brick material was also of small and abraded fragments. All of the brick fragments were of a general appearance similar to types produced during the post-medieval period.

Glass

Only one sherd of bottle glass was present within the assemblage, weighing 12g. This was a shard of deep green glass typical of bottle glass produced in the later 19th to 20th century

4.3 Environmental analysis, by Alan Clapham

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Tables 3 and 4.

4.3.1 Wet-sieved samples

Categories represented and abundance

The flots from the four samples produced very little in the way of charred plant remains. Only two contexts, deposits 2005 and 2008, produced any charred plant remains and these were few in number. A single grass basal culm node (not of a cereal) was found in deposit 2005 and a small grass caryopsis (small Poaceae) and a single common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) were recovered from 2008 (the primary fill of pit 2009). As charred plant remains are resilient to decay, it is most likely that they represent a 'background flora'.

The residue from fill 2003 was dominated by heat-cracked stone and occasional finds of charcoal, fired clay and flint. A greater amount of charcoal was found in the residue from fill 2005, along with a fragment of burnt bone, occasional heat-cracked stone, fired clay, flint flakes and burnt flint. Upper fill 2007 contained occasional charcoal fragments, heat-cracked stone, fired clay and flint. Primary fill 2008 was dominated by fired clay fragments, some of which had small roundwood impressions. Other remains found in the residue included occasional charcoal fragments, heat-cracked stone, flint, burnt flint and iron slag. The charcoal fragments were too small to allow accurate identification.

Latin name	Family	Common name	Habitat	2005	2008
Urtica dioica	Urticaeae	common nettle	ABCD		1
Small Poaceae	Poaceae	grasses	E		1
Poaceae sp culm base	Poaceae	grasses	AF	1	

Table 3 Contexts containing charred plant remains

Context	2003	2005	2007	2008
Sample no.	1	2	3	4
Charcoal	occ	occ-mod	occ	occ
burnt bone		occ		
Heat-cracked stone	abt	occ	occ	occ
Fired clay	occ	occ	occ	abt
Flint	occ		occ	occ
Flint flakes		occ		
Burnt flint		occ		occ
Fe Slag				occ

Table 4 Summary of material found in the sample residues (occ = occasional; mod = moderate; abt = abundant)

5. Synthesis

5.1 Geophysics

The wide scatter of anomalies identified as potential pits and linear features identified in the survey across Fields 1-3 did not materialise during the easement strip (Appendix 4). Three pits were exposed in Field 2, although they do not align exactly with those noted in the survey (Stratascan 2007, Fig 4).

It is unclear why the results do not tally; it may simply be that the majority of anomalies relate to geological variations within the underlying matrix.

5.2 Environmental evidence

There is very little that can be said about the charred plant remains from the site as so few were recovered and they are most likely to simply reflect 'background flora'.

The dominance of heat-cracked stone in fill 2003 suggests that pit/posthole 2004 is of possible prehistoric date, with the heat-cracked stone representing some kind of heating activity. Again, a similar interpretation could be made for fill 2005, from pit/posthole 2006. Pit 2009, with the upper fill 2007 and the primary fill 2008 suggests some other kind of activity, with the abundance of fired clay and the presence of iron slag (see Table 4) it could be suggested that the artefacts represent the remains of a furnace.

5.3 Artefactual evidence

The small assemblage of largely residual finds is considered to be the result of the manuring of fields or simply casual loss, which generally results in a low level scatter of abraded material within agricultural soils.

5.4 Prehistoric

In early/middle Iron Age pit 2009, the presence of large amounts of burnt clay forming part of a possible superstructure suggests that it is a kiln or oven. However there is no evidence for *in situ* burning, so it appears to have been dumped from a kiln located elsewhere. The low density of iron slag indicates that this material is from a furnace or related metalworking activity.

The absence of artefacts coupled with the large amount of fire-cracked stone and flint in pits/postholes 2004 and 2006 nearby indicates a general prehistoric date. They do not appear to contain *in situ* burning, so cannot be considered to be burning or hearth pits. Nor can they be taken as definite postholes, as neither contained postpipes, nor do they appear to form part of a wider group defining the footprint to a structure. Rather they appear to have been deliberately backfilled with burnt waste from activities undertaken in the close vicinity.

These features, and the few residual finds previously noted, may be related to the known Iron Age (and Roman) activity recorded around Bramley Frith Wood to the north (Section 3 above).

5.5 Medieval, post-medieval and modern

Medieval linear 5004 is considered to be a former field boundary. Post-medieval linear 11004 may have had a similar function, although its shallow nature indicates that it may simply be a furrow or headland.

5.6 Undated

No conclusions may currently be drawn about small pit/posthole 6004, as it was intrinsically undated and lay in isolation from any other features.

6. 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.

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The survey identified a scatter of anomalies, interpreted as possible pits and a series of linears within the fields south of the substation. However the results of the subsequent watching brief did not tally with these findings.

Three prehistoric features were recorded adjacent to the substation; an early/middle Iron Age pit in-filled with the remains of a kiln superstructure, and two small pits/postholes with extensive inclusions of fire-cracked stone. A medieval ditch, probably a field boundary, and a single undated pit/posthole were observed north of Tudor Farm, along with a late post-medieval/modern furrow or headland south of The Mill House. Three residual worked flints were recovered from the subsoils. A small quantity of residual pottery was recovered, including three Roman pottery sherds, along with post-medieval and modern pottery, all of which are considered to be the result of manuring or casual loss.

7. Acknowledgements

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Jenny Emmett, Alison Nicholls and Charlotte Dawson (Wardell Armstrong LLP), Kevin Smith (Skanska McNicholas), Peter Barker, Simon Haddrell, Simon Stowe and Anna Bailey (Stratascan Ltd) and David Hopkins (County Archaeologist, Hampshire County Council).

The Service would also like to thank Lorraine Mepham for assisting with her insightful comments on the prehistoric and post-medieval fabrics.

8. Personnel

Fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Sworn, report preparation by Tom Vaughan and Simon Sworn, finds analysis by Angus Crawford, environmental analysis by Alan Clapham and illustration by Carolyn Hunt. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan.

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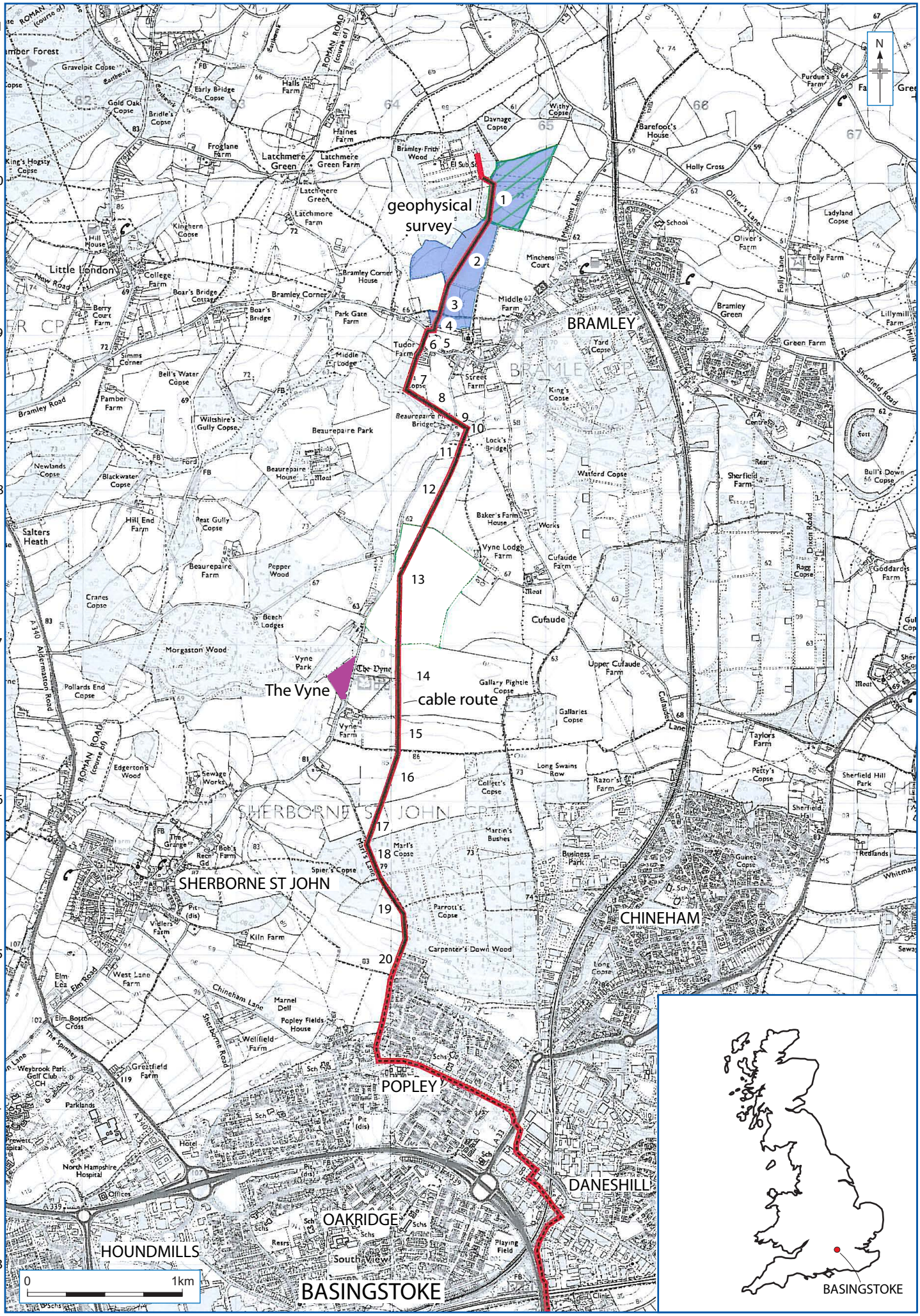
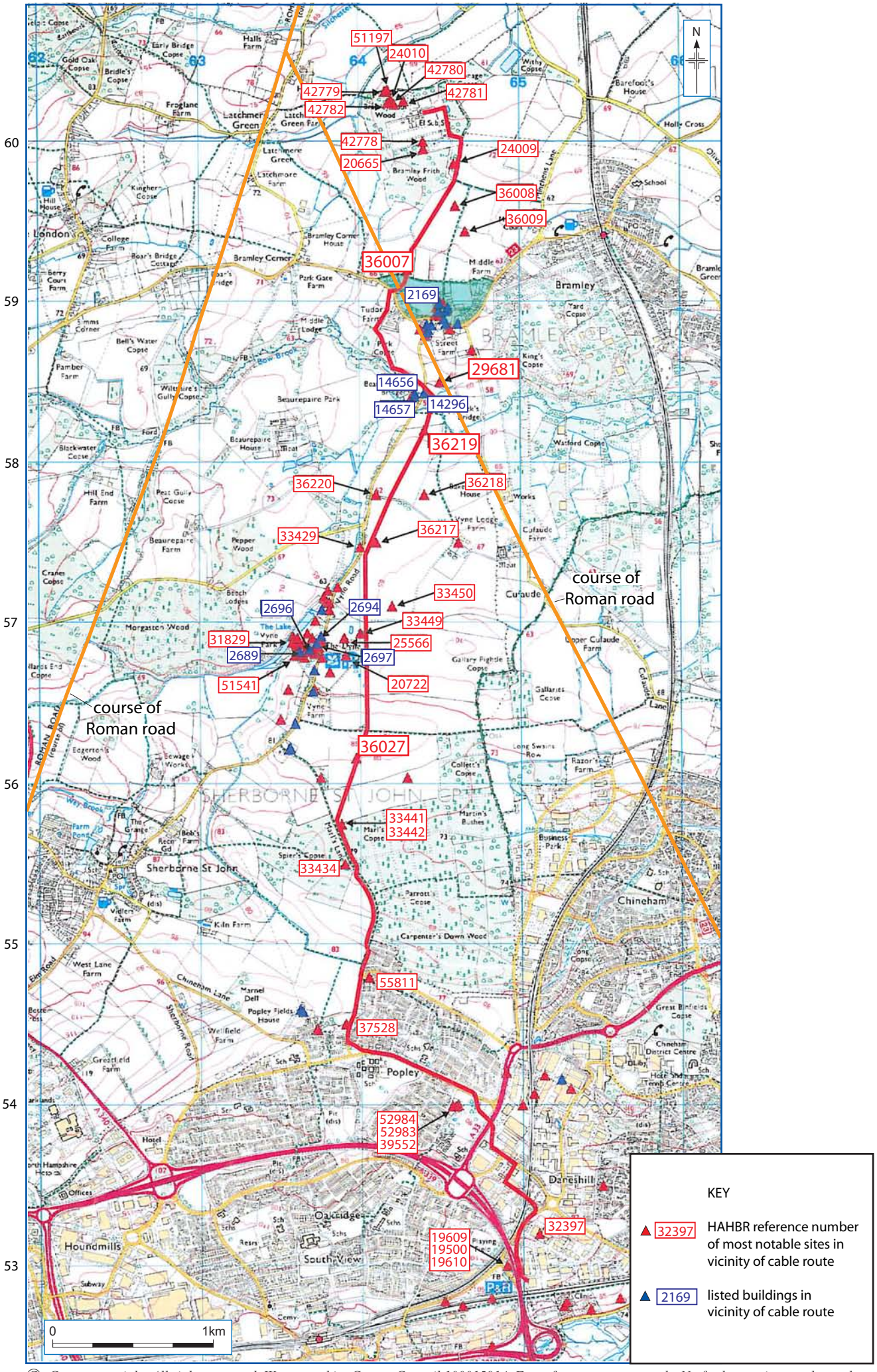
Figures

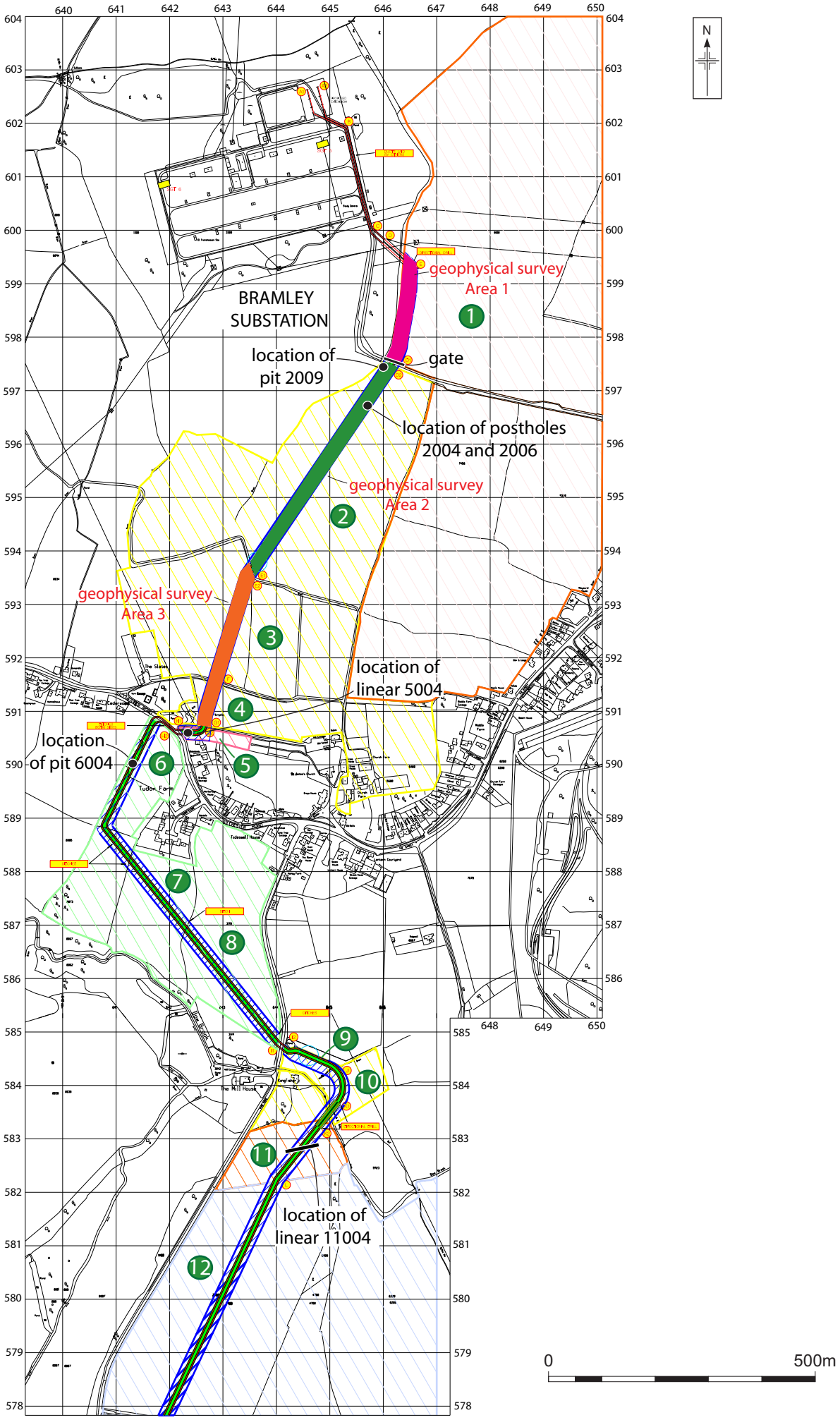


Location of the site.

Figure 1



Sites in the vicinity of the cable route. *Figure 2*

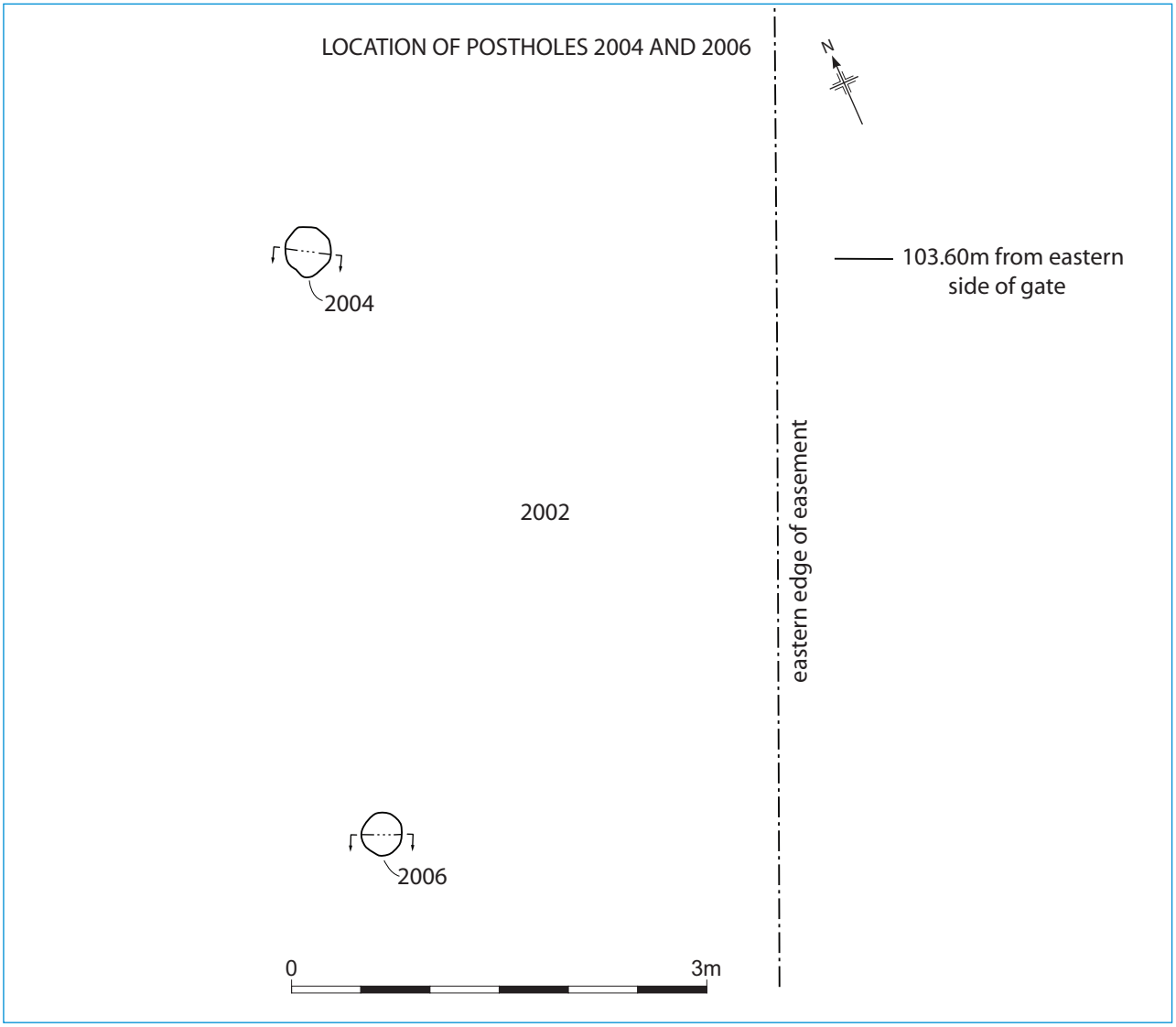


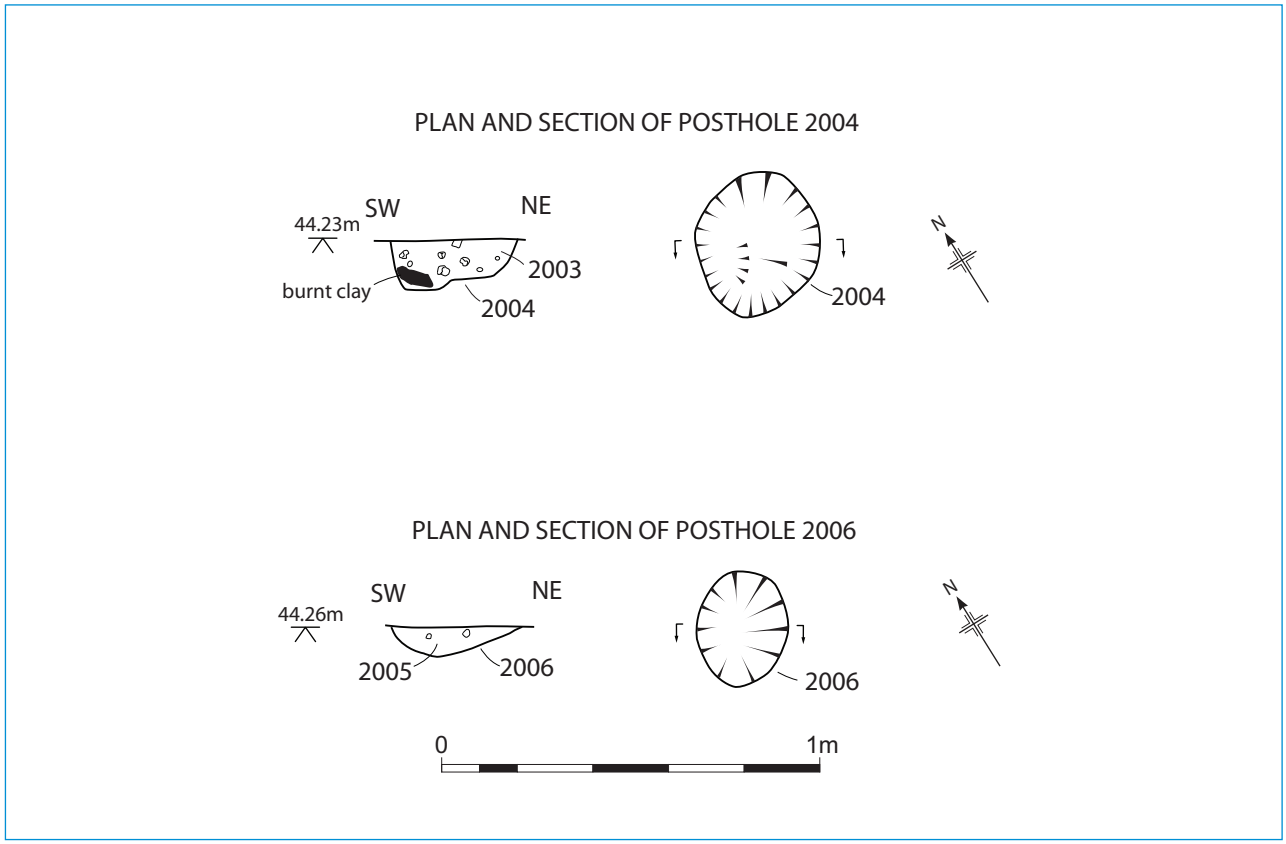
Location of easement: Sheet 1

Figure 3

Location of easement: Sheet 2

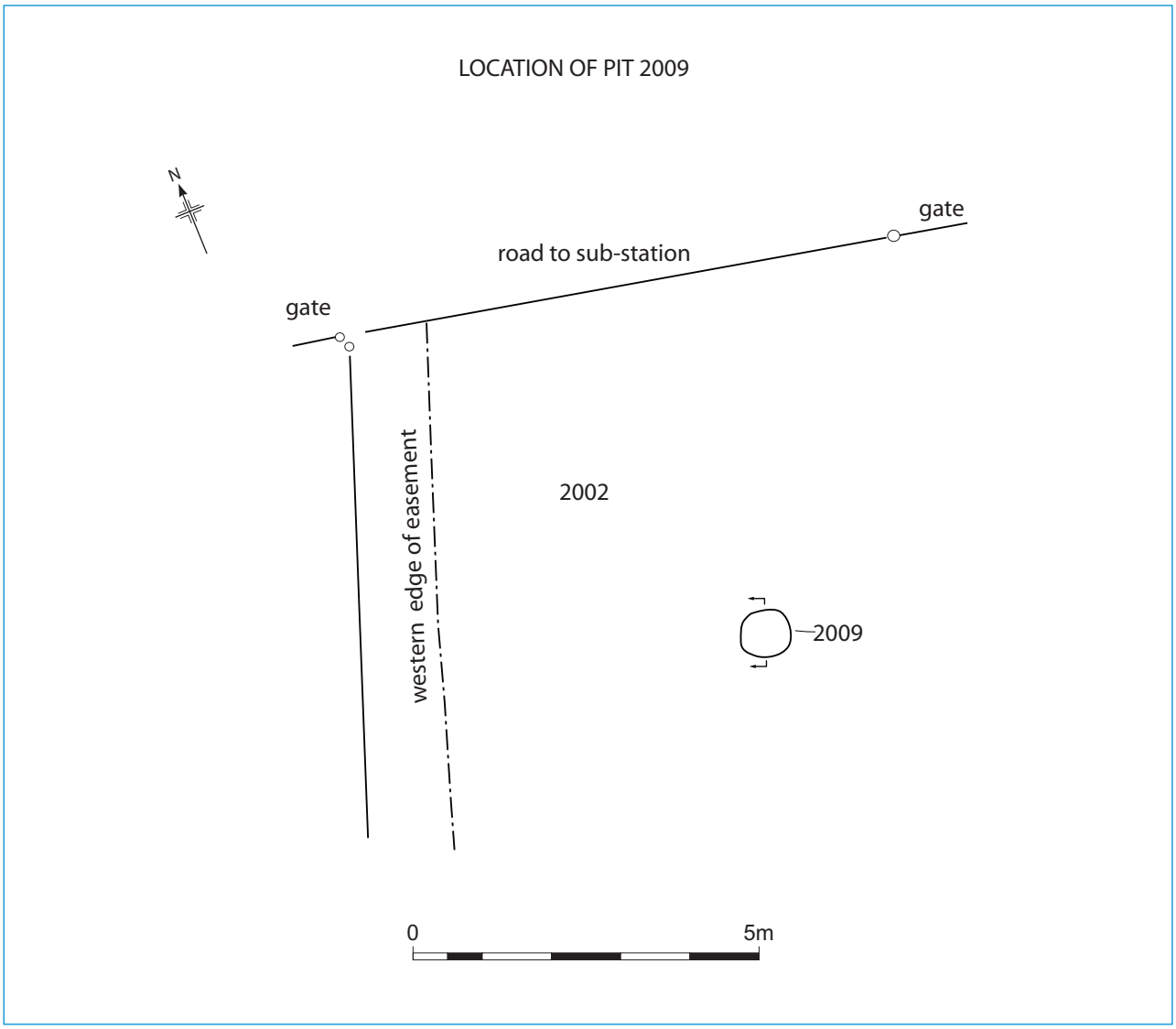
Figure 4

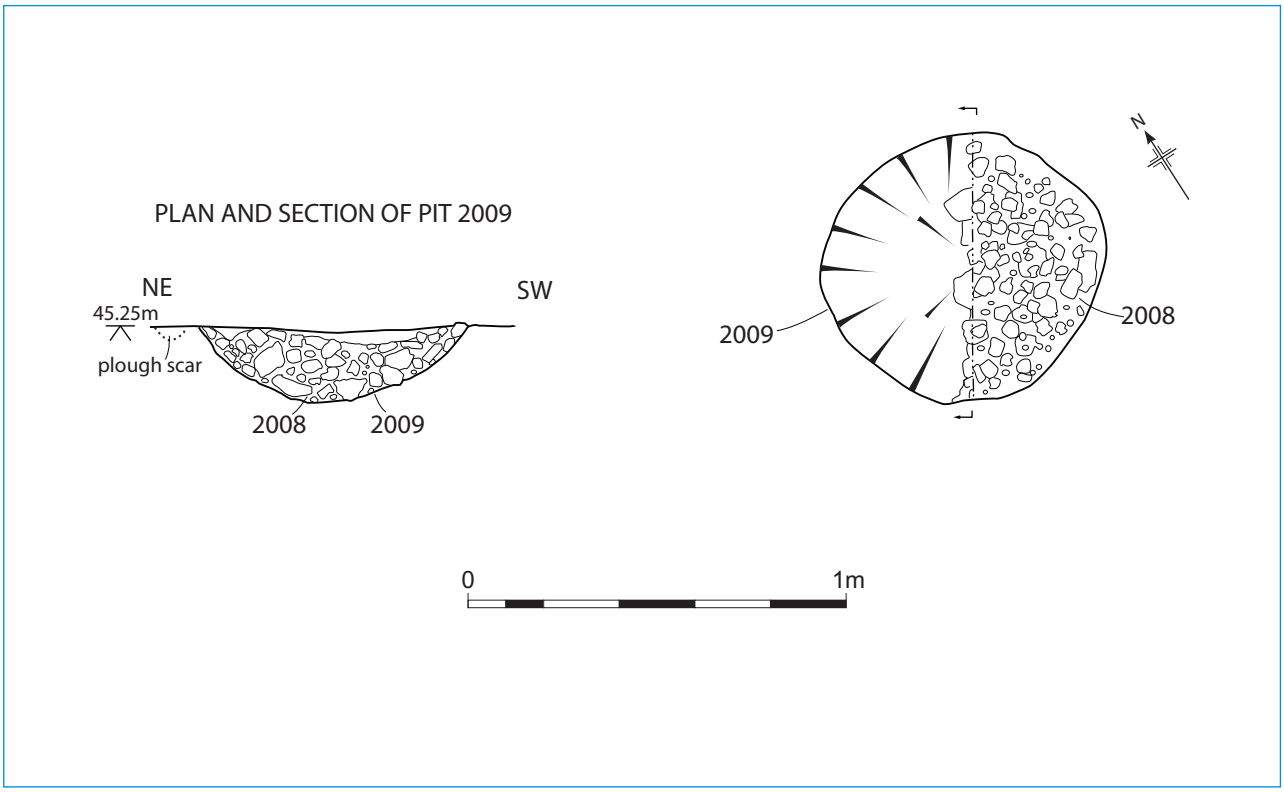




Postholes 2004 and 2006 in Field 2

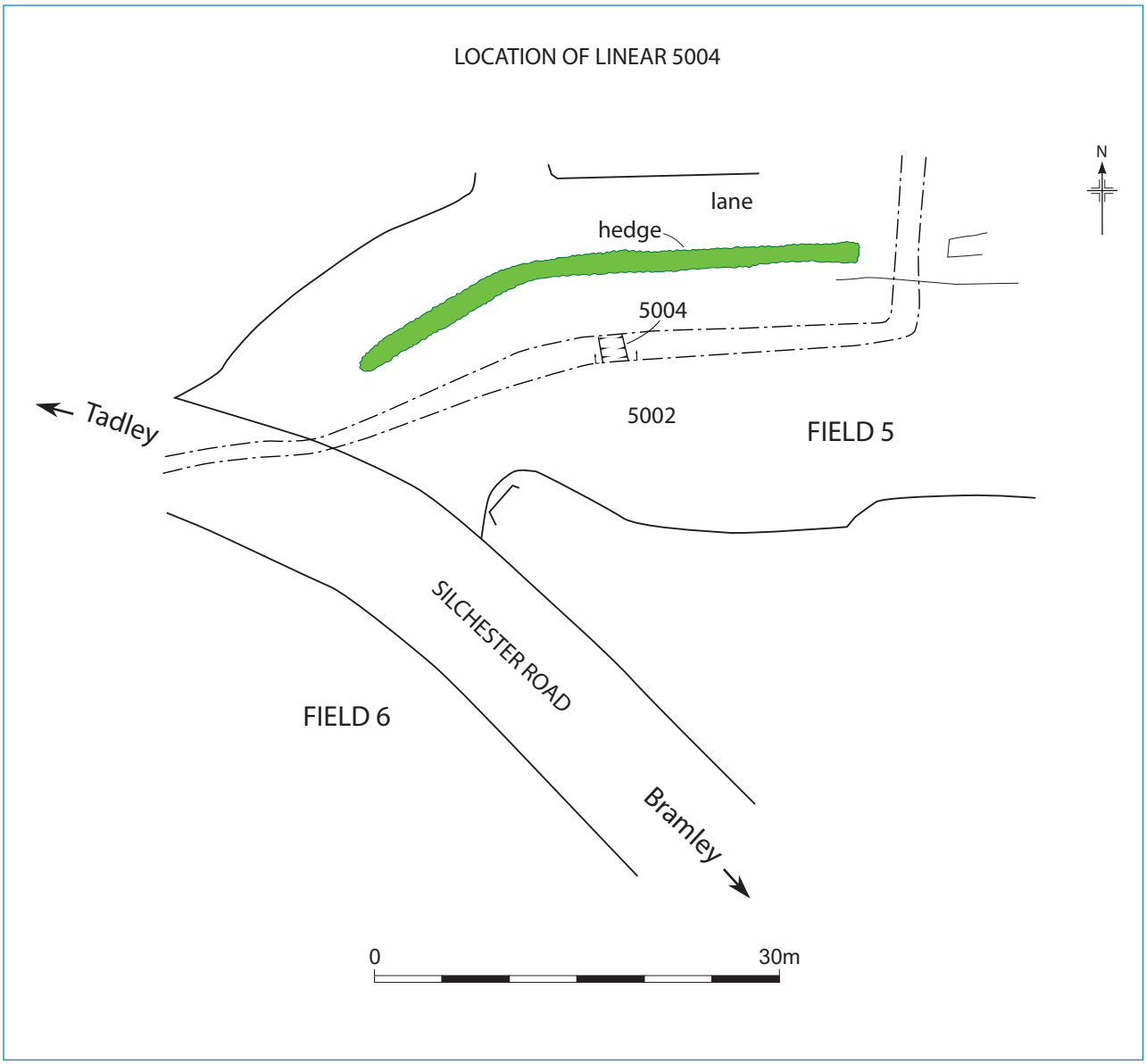
Figure 5

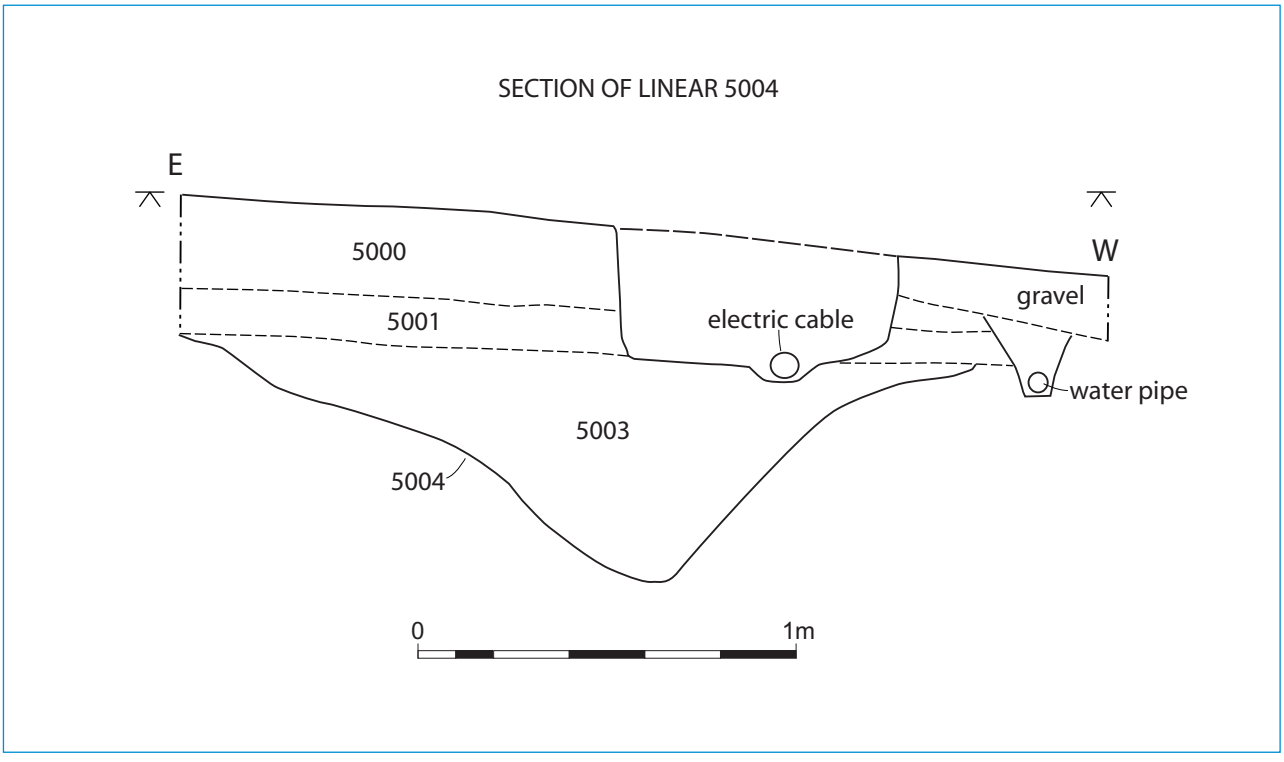




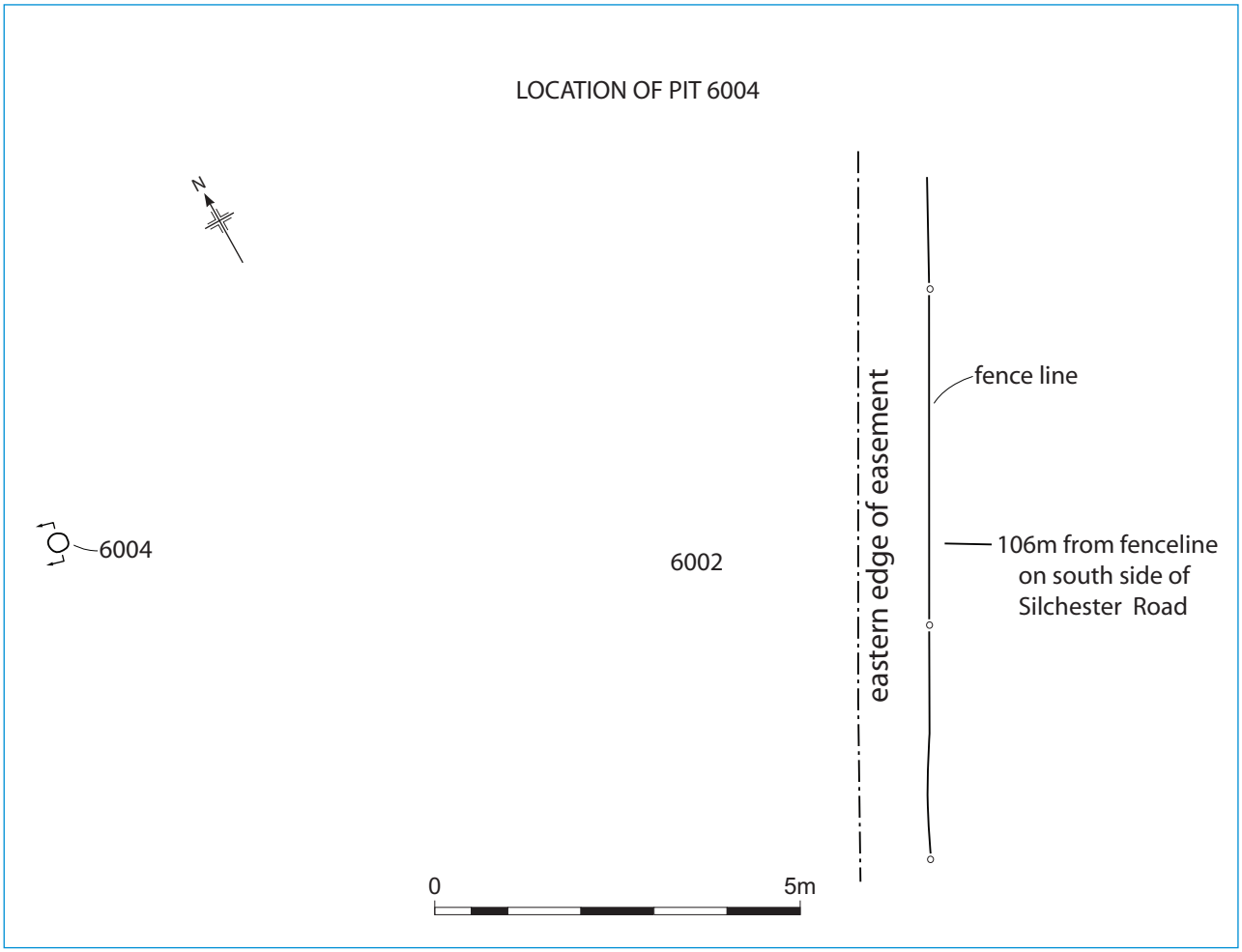
Pit 2009 in Field 2

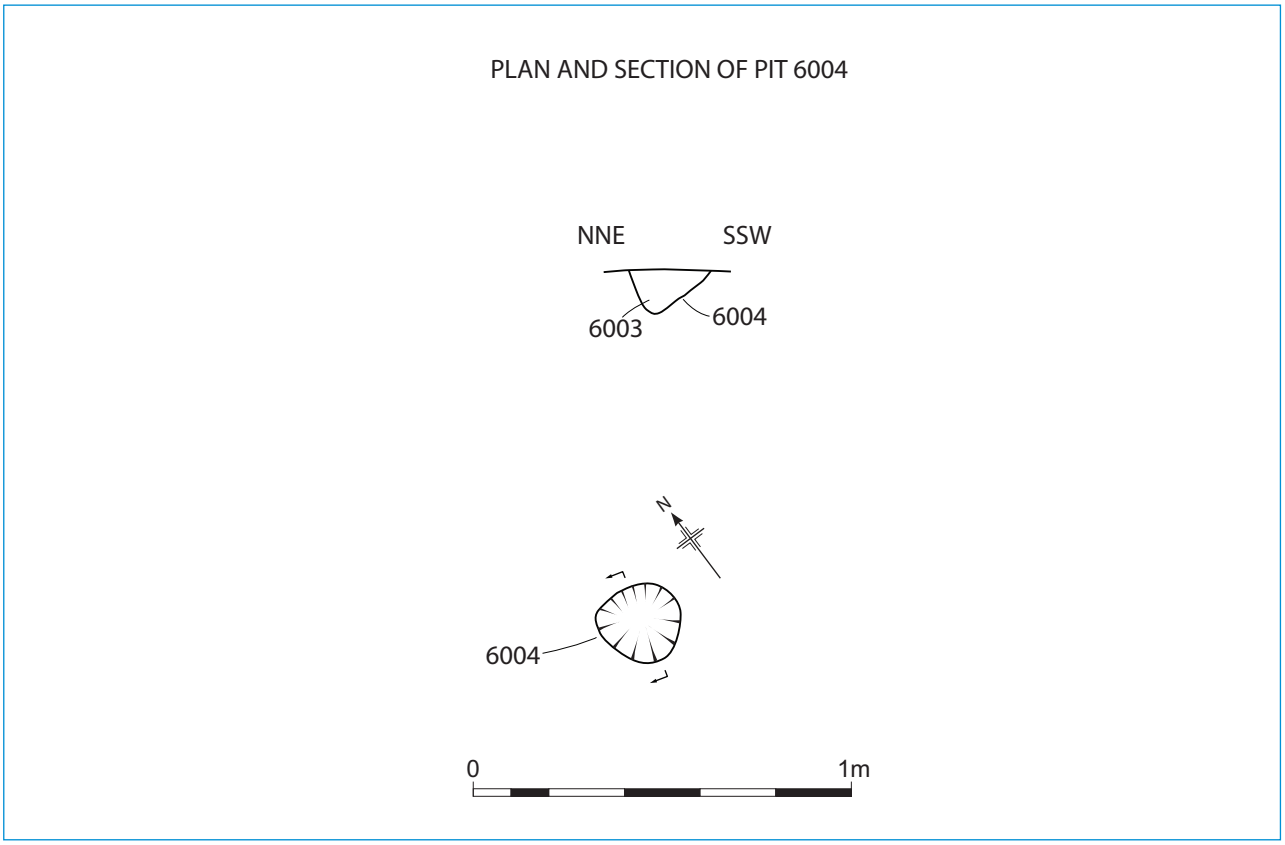
Figure 6





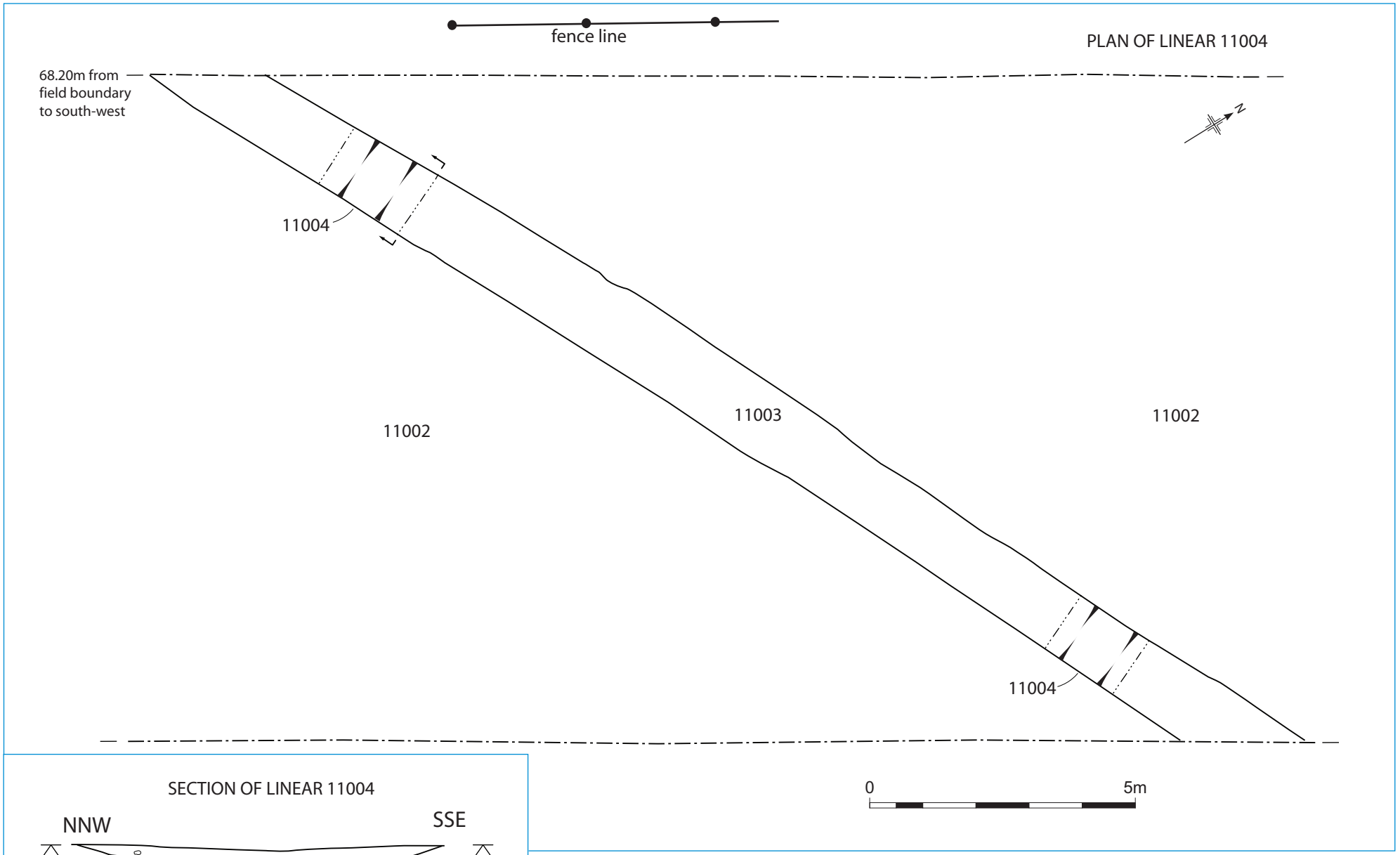
Linear 5004 in Field 5 *Figure 7*





Pit 6004 in Field 6

Figure 8



Linear 11004 in Field 11

Figure 9

Plates

Plate 1, Field 1, general shot of easement strip, view north

Plate 2, Field 2, general shot of easement strip, view south

Plate 3, Field 2, pit/posthole 2004 sectioned

Plate 4, Field 2, pit/posthole 2004 fully excavated

Plate 5, Field 2, pit/posthole 2006 sectioned

Plate 6, Field 2, pit/posthole 2006 fully excavated

Plate 7, Field 2, pit 2009 as initially identified

Plate 8, Field 2, pit 2009 cleaned up, pre-excavation

Plate 9, Field 2, pit 2009 sectioned

Plate 10, Field 2, pit 2009 fully excavated

Plate 11, Field 4, general shot of easement strip, view north

Plate 12, Field 5, general shot of easement strip, view southwest

Plate 13, Field 5, ditch 5004 in cable trench, view south

Plate 14, Field 5, cable trench, view north

Plate 15, Field 6, pit/posthole 6004 sectioned and general shot of easement strip, view southeast

Plate 16, Field 6, pit/posthole 6004 fully excavated

Plate 17, Field 6, general shot of easement strip, view south

Plate 18, Field 6, general shot of cable trench, view north

Plate 19, Field 9, general shot of easement strip, view east

Plate 20, Field 10, general shot of easement strip, view south

Plate 21, Field 11, linear 11004 and general shot of easement strip, view northeast

Plate 22, Field 11, linear 11004 sectioned

Plate 23, Field 12, general shot of easement strip, view north

Plate 24, Field 14, general shot of easement strip, view south

Plate 25, Field 15, general shot of easement strip, view north

Plate 26, Field 17, general shot of easement strip, view north

Plate 27, Field 18, general shot of easement strip, view south

Plate 28, Field 19, general shot of easement strip, view northwest

Appendix 1 Context descriptions

Field 1, southeast of Bramley substation

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
1000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
1001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.30m
1002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 2, south of access road to Bramley substation

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
2000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.30m
2001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.30 - 0.35m
2002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+
2003	Fill	Friable dark brownish black silty clay, frequent charcoal, fire-cracked flint and fired clay. Deliberate backfill of 2004. No defined postpipe. No finds.	0.30 - 0.43m
2004	Pit/posthole	Sub-circular in plan, 0.33-0.40m extended slightly north/south, near vertical, well-defined sides to irregular concave base. Filled by 2003. Contemporary with 2006?	0.30 - 0.43m
2005	Fill	Friable dark brownish black silty clay, frequent charcoal, fire-cracked stone and fired clay. Deliberate backfill of 2006. No finds	0.30 - 0.38m
2006	Pit/posthole	Circular in plan, diameter 0.34m, near vertical, well-defined sides, gradual break of slope to irregular concave base. Filled by 2005. Contemporary with 2004?	0.30 - 0.38m
2007	Fill	Friable light yellowish brown sandy clay, occasional charcoal flecks and fired clay. Well-defined boundary. Naturally silted secondary fill of 2009; overlying 2008. Pottery.	0.30 - 0.33m
2008	Fill	Fired clay fragments within an unfired light yellowish brown sandy silt, occasional charcoal flecks. Fired clay fragments display evidence of impressed wicker framework from a kiln structure? Deliberate lower backfill of 2009. Sealed by 2007 above. Pottery.	0.30 - 0.50m
2009	Pit	Sub-circular cut, 0.70-0.75m, slightly extended NE/SW; well-defined break of slope, steep concave sides curving to shallow concave base. Filled by 2007 & 2008.	0.30 - 0.50m

Field 3, south of Field 2 and north of Field 4

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
3000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
3001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.30m
3002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 4, north of the allotments and west of Church Farm Bungalow

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
4000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.25m
4001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.25 - 0.30m
4002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 5, the allotments south of Church Farm Bungalow

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
5000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.30m
5001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.13-0.50m
5002	Natural	Firm yellow silty clay, overlying blue alluvium at 1.52m bgs.	0.30m+
5003	Fill	Friable mid grey mottled silty clay, frequent charcoal, occasional organic material and pottery. Single fill of 5004. Truncated by modern services.	0.19-1.10m
5004	Ditch	NNW/SSE aligned linear cut; 2.80m wide, length indeterminate; well-defined convex edges, steep to west, undulating to east, to sharp V-shaped base. Filled by 5003	0.19-1.10m

Field 6, south of Silchester Road and west of Tudor Farm

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
6000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.10m
6001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.10 - 30m
6002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+
6003	Fill	Friable dark brownish grey clayey silt, frequent charcoal flecks. No defined postpipe. Fill of 6004. No finds.	0.30 - 0.41m
6004	Pit/posthole	Circular cut, diameter 0.22m, sharp break of slope, well-defined moderate/steep concave sides curving to shallow concave base. Filled by 6003.	0.30 - 0.41m

Field 7, south of Tudor Close and north of Bow Brook

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
7000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.25m
7001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.25 - 0.30m
7002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 8, west of Vyne Road and south of Tideswell House

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
8000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.25m
8001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.25 - 0.30m
8002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 9, east of Vyne Road and north of Kingfisher house

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
9000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.25m
9001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.25 - 0.30m
9002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 10, southeast of Field 9 and east of Kingfisher house

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
10000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
10001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 30m
10002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.30m+

Field 11, south of Field 10 and east of Vyne Road

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
11000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
11001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 30m
11002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay, frequent flint gravel.	0.30m+
11003	Fill	Friable greyish brown silty clay, occasional small sub-angular flint gravel, china and charcoal flecks. Single fill of 11004.	0.30 - 0.48m
11004	Ditch/furrow	NE-SW aligned linear cut, 1.40m wide, >22m long, well defined moderate concave sides, curving to concave base. Filled by 11003. Modern furrow or ditch.	0.30 - 0.48m

Field 12, north of Vyne Lodge Farm lane and east of Vyne Road

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
12000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0. 30m
12001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.30 - 0.35m
12002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay, occasional flint gravel.	0.35m+

Field 13, south of Vyne Lodge Farm lane and west of Vyne Lodge Farm

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
13000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
13001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.30m
13002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown sandy clay.	0.30m+

Field 14, east of The Vyne

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
14000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.25m
14001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.25 - 0.35m
14002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown sandy clay, frequent flint gravel.	0.30m+

Field 15, southeast of Vyne Farm

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
15000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
15001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 30m
15002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown sandy clay.	0.30m+

Field 16, north of Field 17 and south of Field 15

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
16000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
16001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.30m
16002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown sandy clay.	0.30m+

Field 17, north of Marl's Copse and east of Marl's Lane

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
17000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
17001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.30m
17002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown sandy clay.	0.30m+

Field 18, within Marl's Copse and east of Marl's Lane

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
18000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - *c* 0.20m
18001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance.	*c* 0.20-0.30m
18002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown clay, occasional flint gravel, heavy root disturbance..	0.30m+

Field 19, south of Marl's Copse and west of Marl's Lane

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
19000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
19001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.25m
19002	Natural	Firm yellow silty clay, frequent sub-round gravel, occasional chalk frags.	0.25m+

Field 20, west of Marl's Lane and Carpenter's Down Wood, northwest of Popley

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface – top and bottom of deposits
20000	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silty loam, turfed. Occasional sub-angular flint fragments and charcoal flecks. Heavy root disturbance.	0.00 - 0.20m
20001	Subsoil	Firm mid – dark brown clayey silt. Occasional small sub-angular flint fragments. Some root disturbance, signs of plough activity.	0.20 - 0.26m
20002	Natural	Firm yellowish brown silty clay.	0.26m+

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

6	Fieldwork progress records AS2
6	Photographic records AS3
32	Colour transparency film
33	Colour photographic prints
64	Black and white photographic prints
139	Digital photographs
1	Drawing number catalogue AS4
2	Context number catalogues AS5
1	Sample number catalogue AS18
13	Abbreviated context records AS40
3	Scale drawings
1	Box of finds
1	Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service
Chilcomb House
Bar End
Winchester, SO23 8RD
Tel. Winchester (01962) 826738

Appendix 3 Geophysical report