

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
AND EVALUATION AT
BARKHAM RIDE,
BARKHAM,
EAST BERKSHIRE
NGR SU 7898 6599**

On behalf of

Wokingham Borough Council

SEPTEMBER 2010

REPORT FOR Wokingham Borough Council
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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services conducted a Watching Brief during the construction of a Car Park and Soakaway prior to Landscaping for the planned park at Barkham Ride, East Berkshire (NGR SU 7898 6599). The site was previously part of Rook's Nest Farm. No previous archaeological material had been recognised in the immediate area, but the potential of the site was recognised due to the recovery of material from a field to the west of the site. A geophysical survey was carried out on the site prior to the Watching Brief that identified the remains of three anomalies interpreted as ditches and another considered to be a later inclosure boundary. The subsequent Watching Brief for the Car Park identified significant archaeological remains. Further significant archaeology was identified during the excavations of 12 trenches for an Evaluation. No proper dating evidence was recovered but the archaeology uncovered enables us for the first time to locate a boundary marker on the Anglo-Saxon Charter of the Barkham Estate; and interpret the archaeology as prehistoric field systems, a woodland boundary, Iron-Age to Roman settlement, medieval agricultural activity and post-medieval field systems.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The development site is located at Rook's Nest Farm, Barkham (NGR SP 6947 0884), in East Berkshire. The site lies between 55-60m OD. The underlying geology for the northern part of the field is London Clay, but in the southern part the clay is capped with the Bagshot Formation, orange sand with silt and clay laminae.

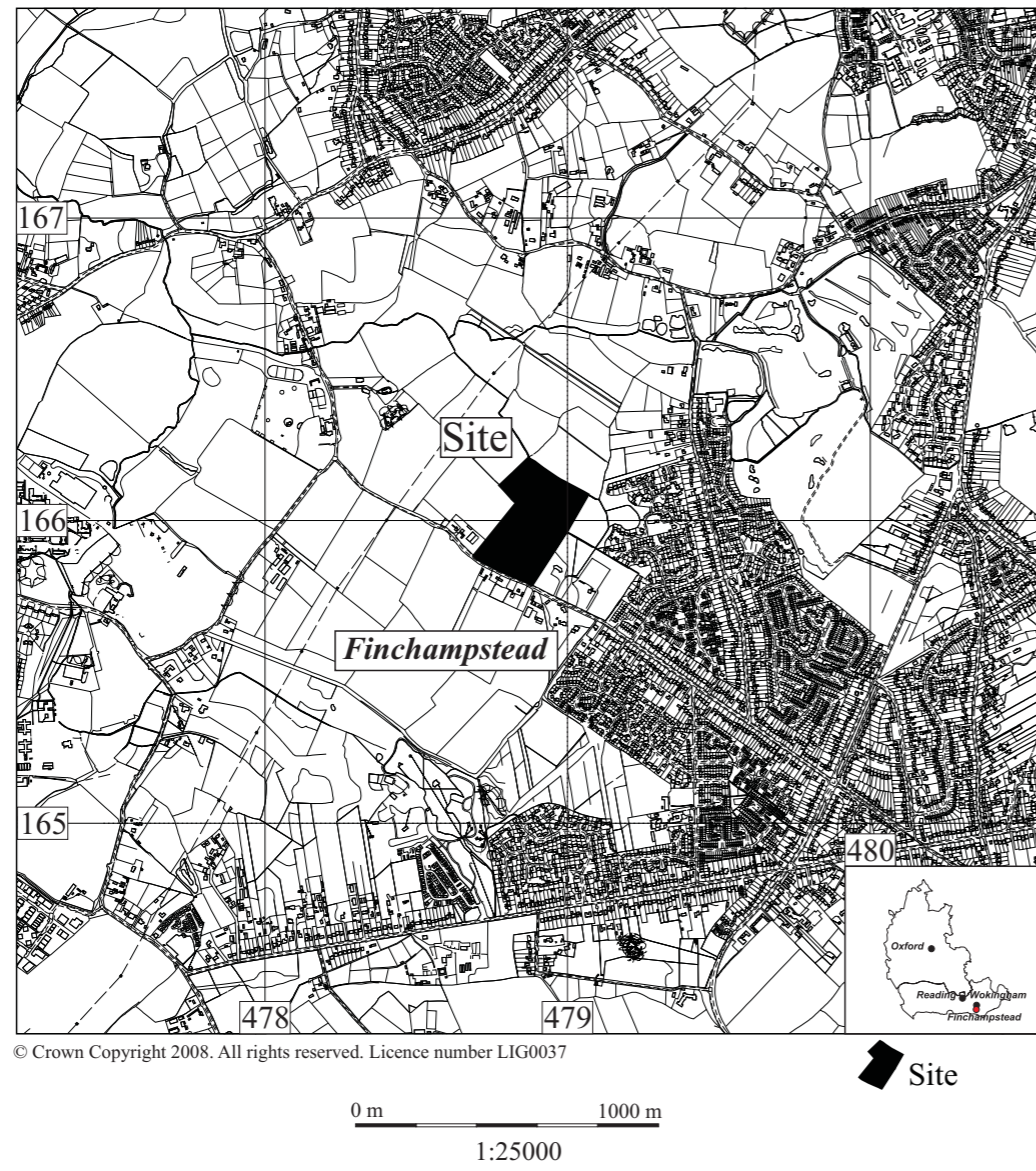
1.2 Planning Background

Wokingham Borough Council granted planning permission for the creation of a county park called Barkham Ride (ref. F/2009/1388). Little archaeological data had been obtained for the site although archaeological sites were recorded to the west around the church and material recovered from the field to the west dating from the Bronze Age to the medieval period. Thus, due to the archaeological potential of the site, a stipulation was made that geophysical survey work and a watching brief were to be carried out on the site. Subsequent to the discovery of significant archaeology in the car park and soakaway an evaluation was carried out that showed significant archaeological deposits surviving across parts of the field.

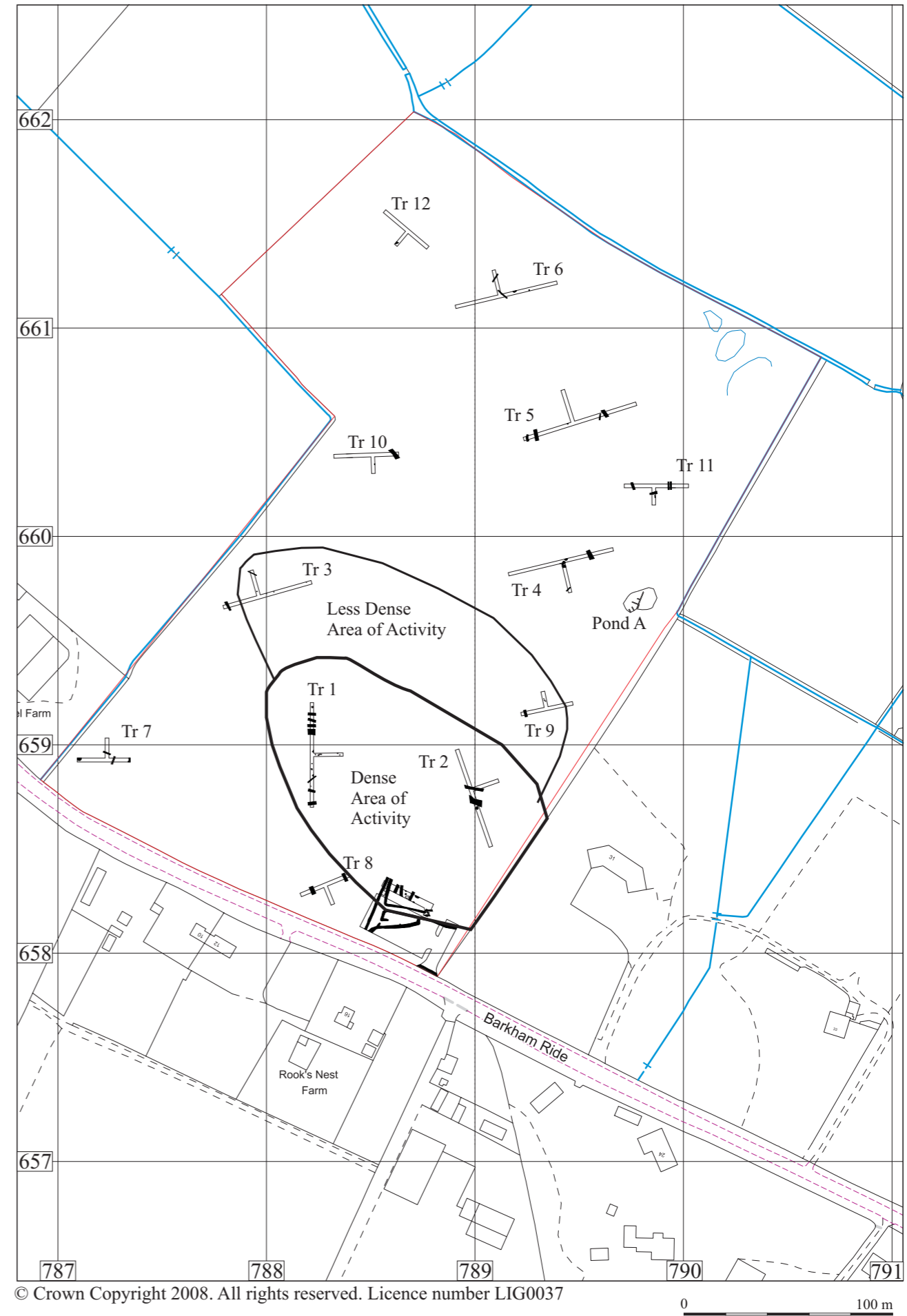
1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 Historical Account

The earliest find in the area dates to the Bronze Age, this is a palstave (BHE data, SU 7856 6624). A round barrow of a Bronze Age date lies to the southeast across the Finchampstead parish boundary at Warren Lodge (NMR 12057, BHE 156). The barrow though excavated is loosely dated to the Early to Middle Bronze Age 1500-1100 BC.



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Figure 1. Site location

Roman pottery has been recovered from either side of the Barkham Ride and near High Barn (BFRG 1999, plot 4600 SU 7853 6591, plot 3400 SU 7834 6600, plot 3130 SU 7824 6620, plot 0063, SU 7810 6582, plot 0063 SU 7812 6568, all NGR approximate). Early medieval sherds were recovered from the same area (BFRG 1999, plot 3130 SU 7824 6619).

The earliest historical reference to Barkham is in an Anglo-Saxon Charter dated to 952 but which survives only in a 16th century version (Gelling 1973, 91; 1976, 642-643; 1979, no.61). The charter records that king Eadred gives to *Ælfwine* 3 cassati at *Beorcham*, free of all but the three common dues. The bounds of the charter survive in the cartulary of Abingdon Abbey and Gelling gives a full version of the bounds in the Place-Names of Berkshire (1976, 642-643). There is no evidence that the monks at Abingdon ever held the estate and it is not known why the bounds were recorded in that document. They read as follows:

“ærest of ceollanwylle and lang riþe to yge to þæs hagan end þonne and lang hagan to cnottingahamme þonne of cnottingahamme forþ to wyrtwalan and lang slades to hwitan stane þonne from hwitan stane and lang stræt to loddera stræt þonne of loddera stræt eft to ceollanwylle”

The boundary markers on this charter have not been located (Gelling 1973, 91; 1979, no.61), but the grant that covers 3 hides has the same area later mentioned in the Domesday Book for the manor of Barkham (see below). It is for this reason that the two descriptions are considered to relate to the same estate. Grundy (Gelling 1973, 91) in a former interpretation of the estate suggested that the estate could lie in the northern part of Finchampstead (a neighbouring parish to the south), the reason for this is the reference in the charter to *and lang stræt to loddera stræt* that was associated with the Devil’s Highway Roman road in that parish. This interpretation is now considered erroneous.

Interpretations of the names are given by Gelling and there are three names that should be flagged up as being of interest here. The *loddera stræt* probably does refer to a Roman road. In looking at the parish boundaries there are only two relatively straight stretches where the boundary could have followed the course of a Roman road and that is on the northwest side of the parish between Targetts Farm and the Coombes or along the course of the present road past Bearwood Lakes Golf Course. It is perhaps of interest that two Roman roads are mentioned although only one is named, ‘from the white stone along the street to Loddera Street’. There are two references to features that may have surrounding earthen banks. The word *hagan* refers to a woodland boundary bank and is associated with a Forest landscape (Smith 1956a, 214-5). The significance of this will be discussed below. The other name is *wyrtwalan* of which *wyrt* is a vegetable (Smith 1956b, 282) and *walan* could be a reference to an earthen rampart (Smith 1956b, 244) or simply a vegetable plot. A further name of interest is *cnottingahamme* as it contains a reference to a folk-group, a meadow or home belonging to the *Cnottingas people* (Gelling 1976, 642-643).

That a *hagan* is referred to is of interest as it is a woodland enclosure and a feature that one would expect to find in the Forest of Windsor in which Barkham lay (VCH 1923, 238).

The second reference to the village is that the king held the manor of Barkham in 1086 (Morgan 1979, 1.20). This covered an area of 3 hides and had land for 3 ploughs, of which 1 hide was in lordship. There were 6 villagers and 4 smallholders who worked the 3 ploughs. There was a further 5 acres of meadow and woodland that could support 40 pigs. Ælmer held the estate in 1066 from King Edward. The location of the agricultural land (hides), meadow and woodland is not known. The woodland is indicative of the parish lying in the Forest of Windsor (VCH 1923, 238-41), and it is significant that so much survived in the parish to the end of the 11th century.

The main centres of medieval settlement lay some 370m to the northwest around the church and moated site (VCH 1923, 238-41, Scheduled Monument 12022), and further to the north at Barkham Manor. The Barkham family held the manor in the 13th century except for a brief spell around 1249-53. The bishop of Hereford then acquired Barkham Manor in 1279, but the king still presented as lord of the manor in 1334. In the 14th century the manor frequently changed hands until the 16th century when the Bullocks of Arborfield acquired it. The manor and rectory manor were split c. 1760. Coins dating from the 12th to the 16th century have been recovered to the north of the site (HER data SU 7873 6655).

The church of Barkham had Arborfield as a chapel, and thus the people of Barkham attended a visitation at Sonning Church in 1220 (VCH 1923, 238-41). Barkham must have been incorporated in some way into the larger parochial system of Sonning. The name *Soninges*, recorded first in 1086, is also a reference to a folk-group, *Sunna's people* (Gelling 1973, 132-3), as is Wokingham, *the homestead of the people of Wocc* (Gelling 1973, 139).

There are two place-names, as yet un-located, which are indicative of archaeological sites. The place-name *Burley Heath* is recorded in a Windsor manuscript for the year 1607 (Gelling 1973, 92). The name has no earlier medieval references but such names normally incorporate **burh**, 'a defended enclosure', and **lē(a)h**, 'a woodland clearing'. The open fields were inclosed in 1821 under an act of 1813 (VCH 1923, 238, 241), while those in the neighbouring parish of Finchampstead were inclosed in 1818 as a result of the Windsor Forest Inclosure Act. Place-name evidence from the Tithe Award Map is suggestive of there being a kiln site somewhere on the London Clay in the parish of Barkham as the document contains the name Kiln Close (Gelling 1973, 92).

1.3.2 Previous Archaeological Activity

The geophysical survey was conducted over an area of 4ha in 2 blocks. It identified the remains of archaeological features in the form of four anomalies interpreted as linear anomalies (Smith 2010). Three anomalies were considered to be archaeological in nature, ditches; the fourth was interpreted as an inclosure boundary as it confirmed to a boundary on the earliest OS map. It was suggested that the boundary might have been accompanied by a trackway as part of the other features appeared to be obscured by this later feature. At the far north of the area an area of brick and rubble dump was identified which was speculatively interpreted as an in-filled pond or lake.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To identify and record any archaeological and historic remains exposed during the course of development on the site.

In particular:

- To identify evidence relating to the probable prehistoric activity on the site, and if possible confirm the date.
- To identify any other datable remains on the site.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with *Berkshire Archaeology* (BA) the archaeological advisors to the Wokingham Borough Council. Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate and possible.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1994).

3.2 Methodology

An archaeologist monitored the course of the groundwork, which involved the stripping of the topsoil and subsoil to hold the foundation aggregate for a car park, and the excavation of a soakaway 2m deep. In the area of the car park the depth removed in most areas was to the base of the subsoil, but in other areas, some 0.2m were removed from the features. The sand (with silt and clay laminae) made observations in the soakaway excavations difficult, as due to the depth and instability in the natural the sides collapsed on two occasions. Records, photographs and plans were made when and where possible.

Subsequent to the identification of a probable complex field system of a probable later prehistoric date some 12 evaluation trenches were laid out across the site, these were initially planned as 6 trenches 50m long and 2m wide, and 6 trenches 25m long and 2m wide. T-extensions were added so as to cover the requirement of the stripped area (Fig. 1).

The results of both the watching brief and evaluation are accounted below.

4 RESULTS (see Figures 2-14 and plates 1-15)

The stripping of the topsoil and subsoil at Rook's Nest Farm Barkham, near Finchampstead, for the construction of a car park and soakaway revealed a number of

linear features, along with some scoops, postholes and stakeholes. The features had no datable finds although some features contained burnt flint, which is a recognised component of some later prehistoric settlement and field systems. Due to the apparent complexity of the features identified it was considered essential for further evaluation work to be carried out in the hope that a possible date could be assigned to the settlement or field system. The resulting trenches showed that the settlement was far more extensive and extended along the sand terrace, with further post-holes, stake-holes and scoops showing up in Trenches 1, 2, 3 9, and 11 especially. The large linear features were also identified that were shown to exist by the geophysical survey work. Besides this two later field systems were identified, the remains of medieval ridge and furrow and also land drains of the post-medieval period, one group containing silted ditches only and the other containing ceramic pipes.

4.1 Palaeolithic (Ice Age)

Two natural deposits were evident on the site; the older of the two was the London Clay (11/18), which lay under the lower part of the site Trenches 5, 6, 11 and 12. The deposit was a highly compact light yellow-grey clay. The clay had previously formed a shelf in the lower part of the field. During the watching brief for the construction of the Ponds B, C and D it was noted that there was an abrupt drop in the level of the clay on the very edge of the field. In the upper part of the field the natural was an orange sand with laminae of silt and clay (003). The depth of this deposit was reached by the cutting of the soakaway, and was approximately 2m deep. This layer of material has to be a result of the Ice Age and thus has a Palaeolithic date. No artefacts were recovered from this material to show that human habitation horizons exist in these deposits.

Many features had cut the natural on various occasions: ditches, gullies, scoops, postholes and stakeholes. The finds were negligible and, therefore, the sequence is not secure. Worked flints of either the Neolithic or Bronze Age were recovered from the topsoil (previously ploughed) while an abraded sherd of Roman greyware (see finds reports) was recovered from the subsoil. There is, therefore, minimal evidence to suggest some type of human activity in the field between the Neolithic and the Roman period. Ditched field boundaries become a feature of the middle Bronze Age (*c.* 1500 BC) to Roman (4th century AD) settlement sites, but the use of larger ditches is more reminiscent of the Iron Age (from *c.* 800 BC). The Anglo-Saxon Charter, discussed above, actually provides a context for the site to be divided into potentially four earlier phases. The first two probably represent middle to late Bronze Age and early Iron Age field systems. The digging of the large ditches probably follows this across the site, while the last of these phases is probably the settlement. There are subsequently recognisable medieval and post-medieval field regimes.

4.2 Phase 1: Early Cultivation (?)

The earliest agricultural activity probably contains two distinct phases, though again the ability to show this conclusively is hampered by datable evidence. The ditches in both of these phases do not align with the recognisable ridge and furrow and later post-medieval field drains. Though two phases are suggested in none of the excavations was it shown through stratigraphy that the linear features crossed.

Car Park and Soakaway

Ditch E lies at the west end of the area stripped for the car park and is on a northeast to southwest alignment (Fig. 3, S24 & 25; plate 1). The cut 04 is 1.1m wide and 0.4m deep, with a V-shape profile. The fill (05) was a loose dark brown sandy silt with pebble and charcoal inclusions. The fill was darker at the base. Running parallel to this are two other shallow gullies, revealed during the cutting of the soakaway. Ditch 55 was 0.9m wide and 0.2m deep, with a gentle or shallow profile with a flat base. The fill (54) was a loose to moderately compact deposit of a mid grey sand with pebble inclusions (Fig. 2, S13). The second ditch 67 was 1m wide and 0.2m deep with a medium to gentle profile with rounded base becoming flat. The fill (66) was a loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions (Fig. 2, S14; plate 2).

Ditch E lies close to ditch A and runs at a different angle to it, although they do not cross in the areas investigated it is apparent that they probably originate from two periods of cultivation, neither of which can be shown with their orientation to conform to the ridge and furrow. It is probable that they represent two different phases of prehistoric agricultural activity. The parallel nature of these ditches or gullies is suggestive of a field boundary with other linears being the base of cultivation beds. Due to the lack of finds these were probably some distance from permanent settlement.

Trench 7

A ditch 7/11 with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base was orientated north-northeast to south-southwest an alignment that conformed to that of ditch E. The ditch or furrow was 0.4m wide and 0.19m deep (Fig. 9, S7.3). If part of the same alignment it points to a far larger area of cultivation. The fill (7/12) was a moderately compact orange-grey silt sand.

4.3 Phase 2: Bronze Age to Iron Age field systems (?)

The earlier cultivation traditions were probably replaced by a more complex field system that conforms to the type of settlements evident from the Middle Bronze Age to the end of the Roman period. It is apparent from excavations in the area of the Car Park that this can be shown stratigraphically where the larger ditch of Phase 3 cuts across the earlier field ditch confirming these two phases of activity.

Car Park

Feature 39 was an oval scoop over 1.5m in length and 1.14m wide with a depth of 0.43m. Around most of the features the sides were steep with a flat base, but on the north side the slope was gentler. This cut was filled by a moderately compact mid brown-grey sand with pebble inclusions. This feature is described as a scoop although it may be a tree bowl or some older natural feature disturbed by bioturbation. This scoop was truncated by Ditch B and must belong to the earlier field system.

Ditch A is either contemporary with the earlier scoop or later; the ditch is truncated by a larger and later linear of Phase 3 (Fig. 2, S8). The cut 24 was 0.77m wide and 0.3m deep. There is a sharp break of slope with steep sides becoming gentler and rounded forming a U-shape cut. The fill (23) was a loose to moderately compact mid grey sand with inclusions of pebbles and burnt flints. Ditch A would appear to align with ditches C and D, but there is no stratigraphic relationship to demonstrate this just the form in the plan.

Ditch C has a short section that aligns with that of ditch A, but also has two stretches of ditch at right angles to it. The southern section is short, while that on the north side is longer. All these three sections are probably contemporary. The cut 16 was 0.83m across and 0.46m deep (Fig. 2, S26; plates 5 & 8). The sides were steep with a V-shaped profile, in some of the other cuts the ditch was slightly wider with a narrow flat base being identified. The fill (15) was a loose to moderately compact mid grey sand with inclusions of pebbles and burnt flints.

Ditch D also had a section in alignment with parts of ditches A and C, and indeed the east-west extension of ditch D runs parallel to the east-west part of ditch C, as though they flank the remains of a trackway. The cut 18 was 0.75m wide and 0.46m deep (Fig 2, S3, S12, S23; plate 3). The sides were steep forming a V-shape profile, but other profiles along the course of the cut showed it broadening out with a flatter base. The fill (17) was a loose to moderately compact grey-black sand with pebbles and burnt flint inclusions. One of the arms of this ditch appears to terminate in one of the sondages cut for the soakaway.

Soakaway

There are two further ditches that at present have no relationship and no datable evidence. Cut 57 is a linear ditch, designated H, with a width of 1.04m and a depth of 0.25m, the sides of the ditch/gully have a gentle to medium profile, with a rounded break of slope at the bottom with a flat base (Fig. 2, S14). This ditch shows up in profile and must terminate in the soakaway, as it does not show up in the opposite section of the trench. This cut contains fill (56) that is a loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions. Cut 75 has the profile of a linear ditch, although it must also terminate near this point, and was not picked up in any other place. The width of the ditch was over 1.15m, a complete profile might measure 1.25-1.30m across, and 0.4m deep (Fig. 2, S21; plate 4). The shoulders of the profile start off gently and become steeper with a rounded base. The ditch is aligned north to south. The fill (74) was a loose dark grey sand containing pebble inclusions. Cut 77 is part of a linear ditch/gully that shows up in two sections of the soakaway. It is orientated northeast to southwest and is 0.9m wide by 0.27m deep Fig. 2, S22). The sides are moderately sloping and the base rounded. There is a profile of a stake-hole in the section, 0.12m wide and 0.2m deep. The fill (076) is a loose to moderately compact grey-brown silty sand. In the profile in the south side of the sondage pebbles are abundant in the fill and burnt flints were also noted.

Trench 1

Gully 1/05 is 0.2m wide and 0.12m deep with a U-shape profile Fig. 3, S1.4). The fill (1/06) was a soft mid brown yellow sand with some small inclusions. Ditch 1/14 was 0.52m wide and 0.15m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, and was orientated southwest to northeast. The fill (1/15) was a friable mid-grey brown sand, with red-brown lenses. Ditch 1/27 was 1.1m wide and 0.2m deep with moderate sloping sides and a flat base (Fig 3, S1.10). The fill (1/28) was a soft mid grey-brown sand.

Trench 2

A further ditch 2/04 was 1.2m wide and 0.26m deep with gently sloping sides and a rounded base (Fig. 4, S2.4). The lower fill (2/06) was a moderately compact mid orange-grey sand silt with a depth of 0.22m. The upper fill (2/05) was a moderately compact dark mid-grey black sand silt with minimal stone inclusions.

Trench 5

Some two features could be assigned to this possible phase of the site. This includes a ditch 5/13 that had gradual sides and a flat base (Fig. 7, S5.4). The orientation was northwest to southeast. This ditch was also probably identified in Trench 11 as suggested by the geophysical survey. The fill (5/14) was a moderately compact light orange-grey silt with charcoal flecks and flint inclusions. A further feature 5/04 was a linear with an irregular course and profile (Fig. 7, S5.1). It could be a water-eroded channel.

Trench 6

There are four features that were identified in Trench 6, at least three of which are probably prehistoric in origin in that they cannot on the present evidence be fitted into the medieval ridge and furrow system or the orientation of the land drains. Ditch 6/06 has not been aligned with other agricultural features recognised in the field, it has thus been included here. This gully had a shallow cut 0.34m wide and a depth of 0.08m and a flat base Fig. 8, S6.1). The fill (6/07) was a mid red-brown silt clay with sub-angular flint inclusions.

Trench 9

On the present available information none of the four features in Trench 9 can be associated with the orientation of later agricultural regimes. Ditch 9/04 was 0.2m deep and 1.1m wide with moderately steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 11, S9.1). The fill (9/03) was a compact yellow-grey silt sand.

Trench 11

There were some six features in Trench 11 only one of which can be identified, as probably being of a post-medieval date, though two others may be contemporary. Ditch 11/04 was 0.37m deep and 1.03m wide with steep sides and a rounded base (Fig. 13, S11.2; plate 10). The primary silt (11/17) of the ditch was a compact dark grey silt clay 0.05m thick. The main fill (11/03) was a moderately compact brown silt clay 0.36m deep.

4.4 Phase 3: Iron Age Nemeton or later Hagan (?)

The Anglo-Saxon charter refers to a *hagan* (Gelling 1976, 642-3). This is a woodland enclosure and it is highly probable that the larger ditches excavated across the field belong to this feature. The nature of the enclosure was described above, while the debate on further interpretation about this enclosure is given in the discussion below.

Car Park

Ditches B and G although they do not touch are of a similar dimension (except where B has been truncated on the south side of the site). The profile of the cut of ditch B is normally V-shaped, see context 31, which is 1.44m across and 0.58m deep (the ditch was probably truncated 0.2m at this point). In other sections it exceeded 1.6m wide, with a more U-shaped profile with a small V-shaped slot at the base (Fig. 2, S1, 2, 4, & 10; plates 6 & 7). The lower fill (30) was a loose to moderately compact grey white sand, with inclusions of pebbles and burnt flint. This fill was approximately 1.1m wide and 0.29m deep. This was interpreted as a primary silt. The upper fill (029) was a loose grey-black sand, 1.44m across and 0.29m deep. The black fill may have contained residue from burning (hence the colour) and the burnt flints that were found in the inclusions.

Ditch G generally had a similar profile and size to that of ditch B. The main cut 44 of this feature was 1.62m wide and 0.82m deep (Fig. 2, S6; plate 9). The sides were steep with a sharp break of slope at the base, with a narrow flat base. The lower fill (46) was a moderately compact light grey sand with pebble inclusions. This was 0.05m deep and was interpreted as the primary silt. The second fill (043) was a moderately compact black-grey sand, containing pebbles and burnt flint inclusions. It was 0.75m deep and approximately 1.3m across. There were signs of bioturbation in this fill. On the north side of the fill of ditch G there were indications of a secondary cut 45 that was 0.74m wide and 0.25m deep. The sides were sharp and steep with a flat base producing a U-shape profile. The fill (042) was a loose to moderately compact mid light grey sand with pebble inclusions.

On the south side of Ditches B and G there are gravel scatters (64), which in some places spill down over the fill of the ditch, suggesting they were part of a bank that has slumped across the ditch.

Trench 1

Larger linear ditches clearly have the profile of boundary ditches, ditch 1/07 was 2.4m wide and 0.63m deep (Fig. 3, S1.9). The sides were moderately steep and the base flat. The fill (1/08) was a soft light grey-brown silt sand. This feature was detected by the geophysical survey work on the field.

Trench 2

The largest cut 2/07 was for a linear ditch 2.7m wide and 0.65m deep and was orientated northeast to southwest. The sides had moderate slopes and the base was flat (Fig. 4, S2.3; plate 12). The lower fill (2/09) was a moderately compact mid white-grey silt sand with small angular stone inclusions and also burnt nodules of flint (intensively burnt through an industrial process). The upper fill (2/08) was a moderately compact mid white-grey silt sand with some small angular stones and also a nodule of burnt flint. This ditch is part of the large ditch identified in Trench 1 as indicated by the geophysical survey.

Trench 4

Ditch 4/15 was 1.83m wide and 0.44m deep (Fig. 6, S4.4; plate 14). Though the sides start of shallow they quickly become steep with an angular break of slope at the base and have a flat base. The lowest fill (4/14) was a compact dark grey silt clay with some stone inclusions near the base. Fill (4/13) was a compact orange-brown sand clay 0.23m deep with layers of red iron staining. The upper fill (4/12) was a compact brown sand clay 0.15m deep. Three tree throws 4/03, 4/05, and 4/07 were excavated as a sample of such features, but these also are not datable.

Trench 5

One of the ditches noted in Trench 5 was wide and deep with a similar profile to some ditches noted elsewhere and considered possibly late. Ditch 5/06 was 1.1m wide and 0.65m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 7, S5.2). The geophysical survey may indicate that this is a continuation of a ditch identified in Trench 4. The deposit sequence is also similar. The lower fill (5/08) was a compact black clay silt with charcoal inclusions. The upper fill (5/07) was a compact light grey clay silt with patches of red brown.

Trench 10

Trench 10 like Trench 4 lies on the interface of the clay natural and Ice-Age sand deposits. The only true archaeological feature was a ditch 10/04 that was 1.7m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 12, S10.1). The fill (10/03) was a compact yellow-brown silt sand. The other feature numbered was 10/06 suspected of being a tree throw, and there were a number of other discolourations through which sondages were placed and were considered to be the result of bioturbation.

4.5 Phase 4: Possible Iron Age and Roman settlement (?)

Settlement features such as postholes, stakeholes, pits and scoops could date to any of the above periods, the former ditches of a field system or the boundary ditches of farming enclosures. The majority of possible settlement features have been placed here because it is felt more likely that the creation of a woodland enclosure (which may have extended for many square kilometres) provides one of the crucial components for possible exploitation of the timber, iron mineral deposits found in the sand, and the sand also. This commodity is timber from which charcoal was produced.

Car Park

There are a number of postholes and stakeholes that have been identified on the site, only one of these can be assigned to a phase of any kind and this is cut 14. This cut was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.1m and a depth of 0.15m (Fig. 3, S2). The sides are steep and vertical and the base pointed. The stake seems to have been inserted into the silt deposits of (11), and had been removed or rotted away as the deposits continued to accumulate in the ditch cut. The fill was a loose mid brown silty sand. This stake is evidently part of a phase that occurs after the creation of ditch B of the *Hagan*.

Soakaway

Feature 49 was a small circular cut with a diameter of 0.17 m and a depth of 0.12m. The sides were vertical and the base flat while the profile was U-shaped (Fig. 3, S11). The fill (48) was a loose to moderately compact sand. Cut 61 was oval in shape with a slightly flattened side. This measured 0.36m x 0.3m and had a depth of 0.2m (Fig. 3, S16). The sides were vertical and the base was flat. This was the clearest of the postholes and stakeholes in the area stripped because it was noted in plan; while the other probable features were recognised in section. Cut 63 was probably circular in shape with a 0.14m diameter and a depth of 0.2m (Fig. 3, S17). The sides were vertical, tapering slightly towards the base. The fill (62) was a loose dark grey sand. Cut 71 was presumed to be circular in shape, it was only seen in section (Fig. 3, S20). The diameter was 0.3m and the depth 0.25m.

Trench 1

Ditch 1/16 was 0.95m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base (Fig. 3, S1.2). The ditch altered its course in the trench. Three fills were discernable in this cut. The lower fill (1/18) was a soft mid brown-yellow sand. The main fill (1/17) was a friable dark grey-black silt sand with charcoal fragments. The upper fill (1/47) was similar to that of (1/18). The dark deposits are suggestive of this feature belonging to the possible settlement phase of industrial activity.

Feature 1/12 was oval in shape measuring 0.53m by 0.44m and with a depth of 0.23m. The sides were vertical and the base flat (Fig. 1.6). The fill (1/13) was a soft mid-brown-yellow sand with manganese nodules present in part of the fill. The feature was

either a large post-hole or a small pit. Scoop 1/21 was an oval cut, which extended under the baulk, being 0.9m wide and 0.16m. The sides were shallow and the base concave (Fig. 3, S1.5). The fill (1/22) was a soft mid grey-brown sand with charcoal inclusions. An irregular cut 1/25, which extended under the baulk, was at least 1m by 0.6m and 0.08m deep (Fig. 3, 1.8). This was interpreted as the possible base of a pit. The fill (1/26) was a soft mid-red brown sand with inclusions of small stones. Pit 1/31 was circular with a diameter of 0.8m and a depth of 0.19m. The fill (1/32) was a friable mid grey-brown sand with clay lumps as inclusions. The fill looked organic in nature and there were also fragments of stone possibly a black ore, but which on exposure crumbled. Feature 1/37 was oval measuring 0.8m by 0.55m with a depth of 0.06m. The sides were shallow and the base flat (Fig. 3, 1.16). The fill (1/38) was a soft mid grey-brown sand with charcoal inclusions. This is probably part of a pit or scoop.

Posthole 1/23 was a circular cut with a diameter of 0.26m and a depth of 0.12m (Fig. 3, S1.7). The fill (1/24) was a soft mid grey-brown silt sand with charcoal inclusions. The remains of a post-pipe were visible in the section. Posthole 1/33 was oval 0.25m by 0.20m and 0.08m deep. The sides were steep with a rounded base (Fig. 3, S1.14). The fill (1/34) was a soft dark grey-brown sand with charcoal inclusions. Post-hole 1/35 had a 0.2m diameter with steep sides and rounded base (Fig. 3, S1.15; plate 13). The fill (1/36) was a soft dark grey-brown sand. Post-hole 1/39 was circular with a diameter of 0.45m and a depth of 0.08m, this had moderately sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 3, S1.17). The fill (1/40) was a soft mid grey-brown sand with charcoal inclusions. Post-hole 1/41 was oval measuring 0.45m x 0.35m and having a depth of 0.07m. The sides were moderately steep and the base rounded (Fig. 3, S1.18). The fill (1/42) was a soft mid grey-brown sand with charcoal inclusions. Posthole 1/43 was circular with a 0.22m diameter and a depth of 0.28m. The sides were vertical and the base rounded (Fig 3, 1.19; plate 15). The fill (1/44) was moderately compact and a grey-brown silt sand and possible blacker staining for the post-pipe. Posthole 1/45 was oval measuring 0.3m by 0.25m and had a depth of 0.05m. The sides were moderately steep with a concave base (Fig. 3, S1.20). The fill (1/46) was a soft mid grey-brown sand.

There were also two layers of material that did not sit in any cuts. The first layer (1/19) was an irregular dark-grey black sand with charcoal inclusions (Fig 3). The second (1/20) was an irregular shaped firm dark grey black sand with charcoal inclusions. These could be spreads from charcoal production; all of these features and others in Trench 1 had environmental samples taken, for which the finances are not available for processing.

Trench 2

The fill of ditch 2/07 may have been clipped by the cutting of a post-hole 2/11. The cut was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.24m and a depth of 0.12m. The sides were steep and the base rounded (Fig. 4, S2.2). The fill (2/10) was a friable black-grey silt sand similar to that of the upper fill of the ditch it clipped.

The final feature was a circular pit 2/12 with a diameter of 0.97m and a depth of 0.27m (Fig. 4, S2.1). The sides had a gradual slope and the base was rounded. The lower fill (2/14) was a loose black-grey sand silt 0.27m deep, while the upper fill (2/13) was a loose white-grey sand silt 0.13m deep. All of these features were cut into the orange laminae sands (2/03).

Trench 3

Trench 3 produced a number of features that could be placed into this possible industrial phase due to their darker charcoal fills. Gully 3/12 was 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep with sharp sides and a rounded base, it is possible that there was more than one recut evident here (Fig. 5, S3.6). The fill (3/11) was a moderately compact grey-black deposit with lenses of clay and sand. This deposit had been truncated by the later cutting of a land drain running at a slightly different angle. The other gully 3/14 was 0.5m wide and 0.28m deep (Fig. 5, S3.4). There was considerable bioturbation in this area and the highly compact nature of the fill (3/13) may have been discoloured natural stained by root activity. The fill, if that is indeed what it is, was a black silt sand. Alongside this was further evidence of tree root activity and staining of the natural. A post-hole 3/10 was circular in shape with a 0.3m diameter and a depth 0.12m. The sides were vertical and the base flat (Fig. 5, S3.5). The fill (3/09) was a compact grey-black silt sand with charcoal and burnt stone inclusions. There were also three smaller circular cuts interpreted as possible stakeholes. Cut 3/04 was 0.1m deep and 0.2m by 0.17m with sharp sides tapering to a point. The fill (3/03) was a moderately compact grey sand. Cut 3/06 had a 0.14m diameter and a depth of 0.09m, with a similar profile just mentioned. The fill (3/05) was a moderately compact brown-grey sand. The final cut 3/08 was 0.15m x 0.12m and 0.09m deep (Fig. 5, S1-3). The profile was similar to the other two. The fill (3/07) was a moderately compact grey sand. These possibly represent the remains of a former fence line.

Trench 5

The cut 5/09 that was 0.4m in diameter and 0.12m deep had shallow sloping sides and a rounded base (Fig. 7, S5.3). The fill (5/10) was a loose dark brown clay silt with charcoal flecking.

Trench 6

Cut 6/08 was a pit with a diameter of 1.30 and depth of 0.33m that extended under the baulk. The profile was a wide U-shape (Fig. 8, S6.4 & S6.5). The lower fill (6/09) was a highly compact dark red-brown silt clay with flint inclusions and a depth of 0.2m. The upper fill (6/10) was a moderately compact blue-grey silt clay with a depth of 0.25m. Posthole 6/11 was slightly oval in shape with straight sides and an irregular base. The measurements were 0.43m by 0.4m and 0.08m deep (Fig. 8, S6.6). The fill (6/12) was a compact mid brown-grey silt clay.

Trench 7

Deposit (7/09) was a moderately compact feature of a dark grey-brown silt clay with flint inclusions. The deposit contained charcoal in its upper surface, perhaps indicative of a degrading charcoal spread rather than a fill and thus presumably associated with the pre-medieval phases. Cut 7/04 was a pit of oval or circular shape 0.42m deep and with a diameter of approximately 0.85m. The sides were steep and the base rounded (Fig. 9, S7.4 & S7.5). The fill (7/03) was a moderately compact grey sand silt. This was one of two intersecting pits for which the sequence was not apparent. Cut 7/13 was a possible oval 0.8m by 0.6m and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 9, S7.5). The fill (7/14) was similar to that of (7/03).

Trench 9

Cut 9/06 was 0.4m by 0.35m and 0.07m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 11, S9.2). The fill (9/05) was a compact black-grey silt sand. This was either a scoop or very truncated post-hole. Post-hole (9/08) had a 0.4m diameter and was 0.13m deep

Fig. 11, S9.3). The fill (9/07) was a compact grey-black silt sand with charcoal inclusions. The shadow of the post-pipe was still visible. Scoop 9/10 was an oval cut 0.34m by 0.26m and 0.05m deep (Fig. 11, S9.4). The fill (9/09) was a compact black-grey sand.

Trench 11

Posthole 11/14 was oval measuring 0.3m by 0.24m by 0.11m deep. The sides were sharp and the base flat (Fig. 13, S11.2). The fill (11/13) was a compact yellow-brown clay. Posthole 11/16 was also of an oval shape being 0.4m by 0.36m x 0.12m deep and having steep sides with a flat base Fig. 13, S11.6). The fill (11/15) was a compact yellow-brown clay.

Trench 12

The remains of two features were identified in Trench 12 of which one was a pit; an oval cut 12/04 that was 1.34m across and 0.33m deep with sharp sides and a rounded base (Fig. 14, S12.1). The fill (12/05) was a firm dark grey-brown clay silt with moderate charcoal inclusions.

Pond A

During a watching brief for the stripping of Pond A the remains of a short linear gully (A/03) was identified that was 1.45m long and 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep (Fig. 14). The fill (A/02) was a moderately compact yellow-brown sand clay truncated by later land drains.

4.6 Phase 5: Medieval

A number of shallow linears were detected across the site and due to their nature and profile it is highly likely that they represent the remains of medieval ridge and furrow.

Trench 1

Furrow 1/03, orientated northwest to southeast, had a broad shallow cut 2.15m wide and 0.15m deep, the profile was slightly irregular; thus the interpretation as part of the medieval field system (Fig 3, S1.1). This was filled by (1/04) a soft mid yellow-brown sand. Furrow 1/10, orientated northwest to southeast, was 1m wide and 0.23m deep (Fig. 3, S1.12). It is orientated in the same direction as 1/03. The fill (1/11) was a friable mid grey brown silt sand. Furrow 1/29 was 1m wide and 0.21m deep also with moderately sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 3, S1.11). The fill (1/30) was a soft mid-yellow brown sand.

Trench 7

The remains of a shallow furrow 7/07 was also noted which may belong to the earlier settlement activity, though the edges of this feature had also been highly disturbed by root action (Fig. 9, S7.2). The cut was 0.08m deep and 0.55m wide. The fill (7/06) was a highly compact orange-grey silt sand with some flint inclusions. Due to the orientation of this feature and profile it is possible that this was the very base of a furrow.

Trench 8

Two linear features along with significant tree disturbance were noted in Trench 8. Furrow 8/04 was 2m wide and 0.16m deep with gentle sides and a flat base. The fill

(8/03) was a compact yellow brown sand. The second linear 8/06 was 1.23m wide and 0.18m deep with gentle sides and flat base (Fig. 10, S8.1-2). The fill (8/05) was a compact yellow-grey sand. Due to the broad and shallow profiles and the fact that the natural rose up between them it was apparent that this was medieval ridge and furrow. The features here run at a different orientation to those in Trench 1 and it is possible that the ridges run in two different directions over the field with the remains of a headland running between Trenches 1 and 8.

4.7 Phase 6: Early Post-Medieval

The lack of datable materials from the site as a whole is problematic, but it should be noted that at least one of the larger ditches had a very square cut profile. It is possible that this feature could be prehistoric or Roman in date, alternatively it could be later as this ditch lies on the clay natural near the river, the area is likely to flood and it is possible that this square cut ditch may be part of a post-medieval drainage and or flooding system for water meadows. Water meadows became part of the pastoral landscape from 1650-1800 (Johnson 1996, 63).

Trench 11

Ditch 11/08 contained the primary signs that there was perhaps a series of ditches cut in the lower part of the field in the earlier post-medieval period. This was a deep ditch with a sharp break of slope steep to vertical sides an angular break of slope at the base and a flat base measuring 1.15m across and 0.8m deep (Fig. 13, S11.1; plate 11). The lowest fill (11/07) was a moderately compact red silt clay with wood inclusions probably the un-decayed roots of tree stumps (that did not appear to be that old) which was 0.07m deep. The red staining was from the iron that had leached out of the natural geology. The main layer was a moderately compact black-brown silt clay with the appearance of a fen deposit 0.55m deep. The upper fill (11/05) was a moderately compact yellow-brown sand clay 0.21m deep, that appeared to the base of the subsoil. This latter fill is indicative of a ditch partially open when ploughing started after inclosure.

Ditch 11/10 was 0.72m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a flat base. The fill (11/09) was a compact yellow silt clay with grey mottling (Fig. 13, S11.3). Ditch 11/12 was 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep the sides were steep and the base flat forming a broad U-shape Fig. 13, S11.4). The fill (11/11) was a compact dark grey silt clay also with mottling. The mottling here is iron staining and indicative of the deposits lying or forming in water.

4.8 Phase 7: Modern

The final phase of deposits can be dated as post 1821 and concern the present field boundaries and a sequence of land drains across the site.

Car Park and Soakaway

Deposit (02) was a compact mid yellow-grey sand with inclusions of pebbles, charcoal flecks and worn ceramic building material of the 19th-20th century. The deposit had a depth of 0.15-0.3m (Fig. 2, various sections).

A modern feature cut the subsoil; this was the cut of a land drain, which ran across the area stripped out for the soakaway (no numbers given). The red ceramic pipe was set

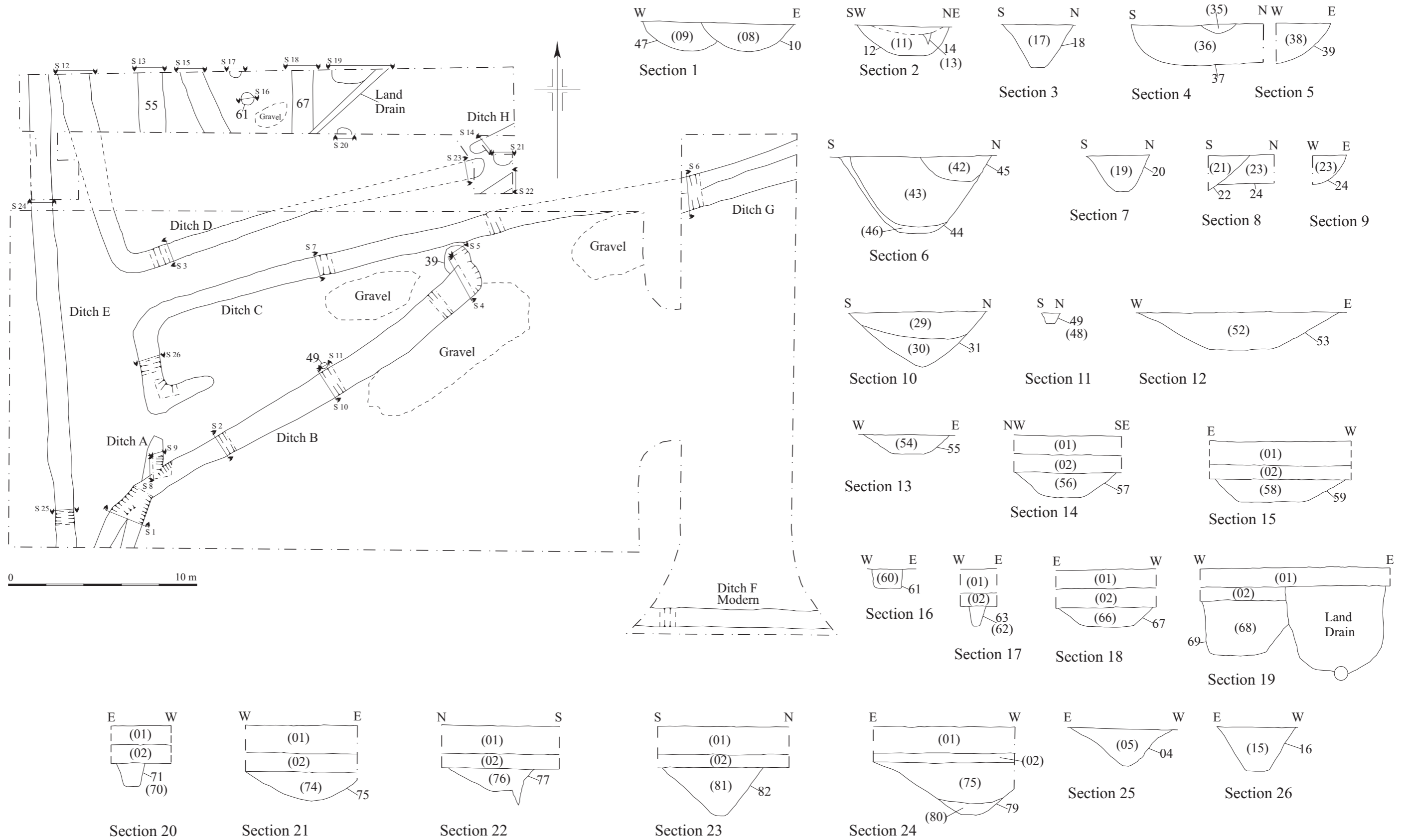


Figure 2. Plan and sections

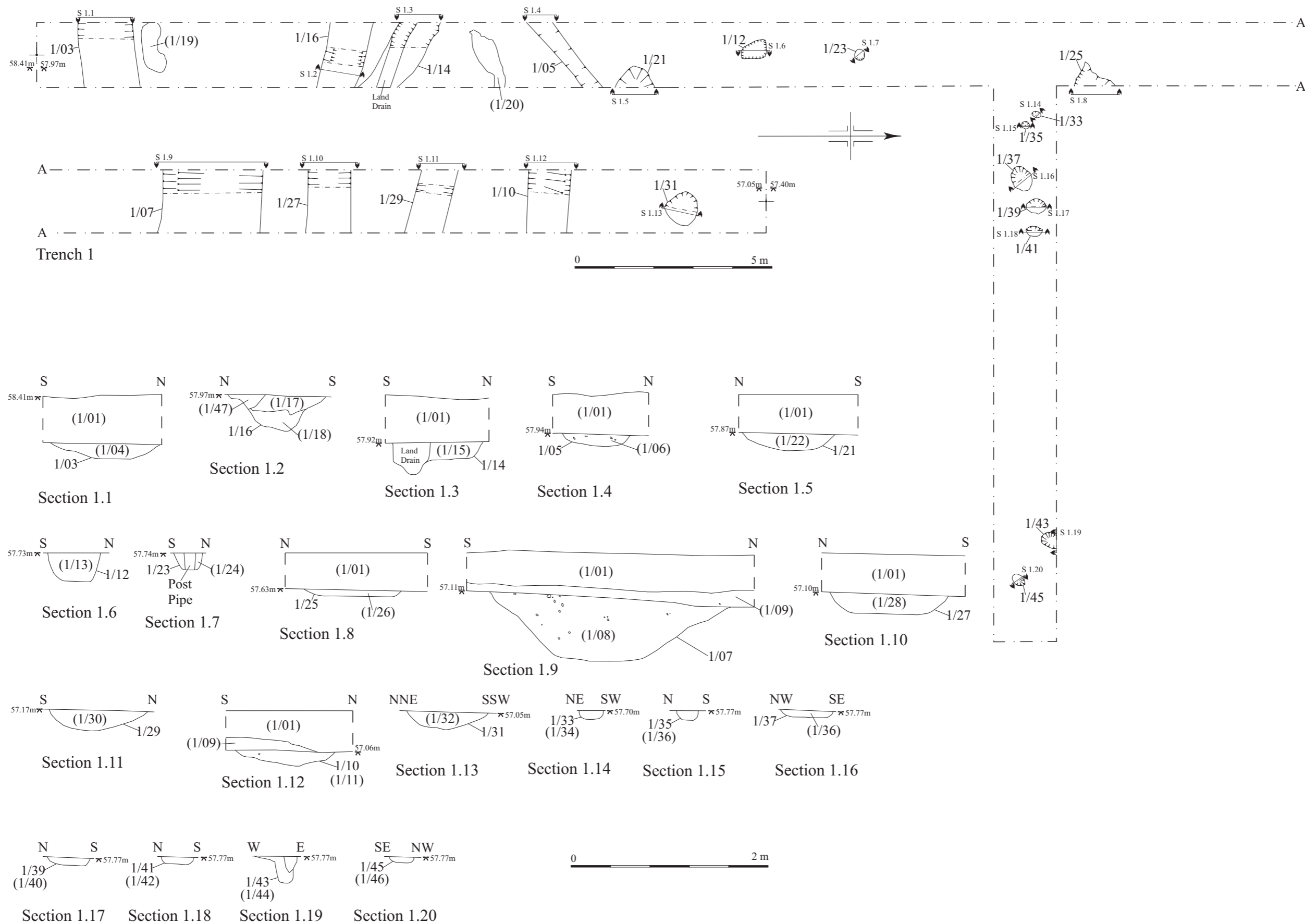


Figure 3. Trench 1 plan and sections

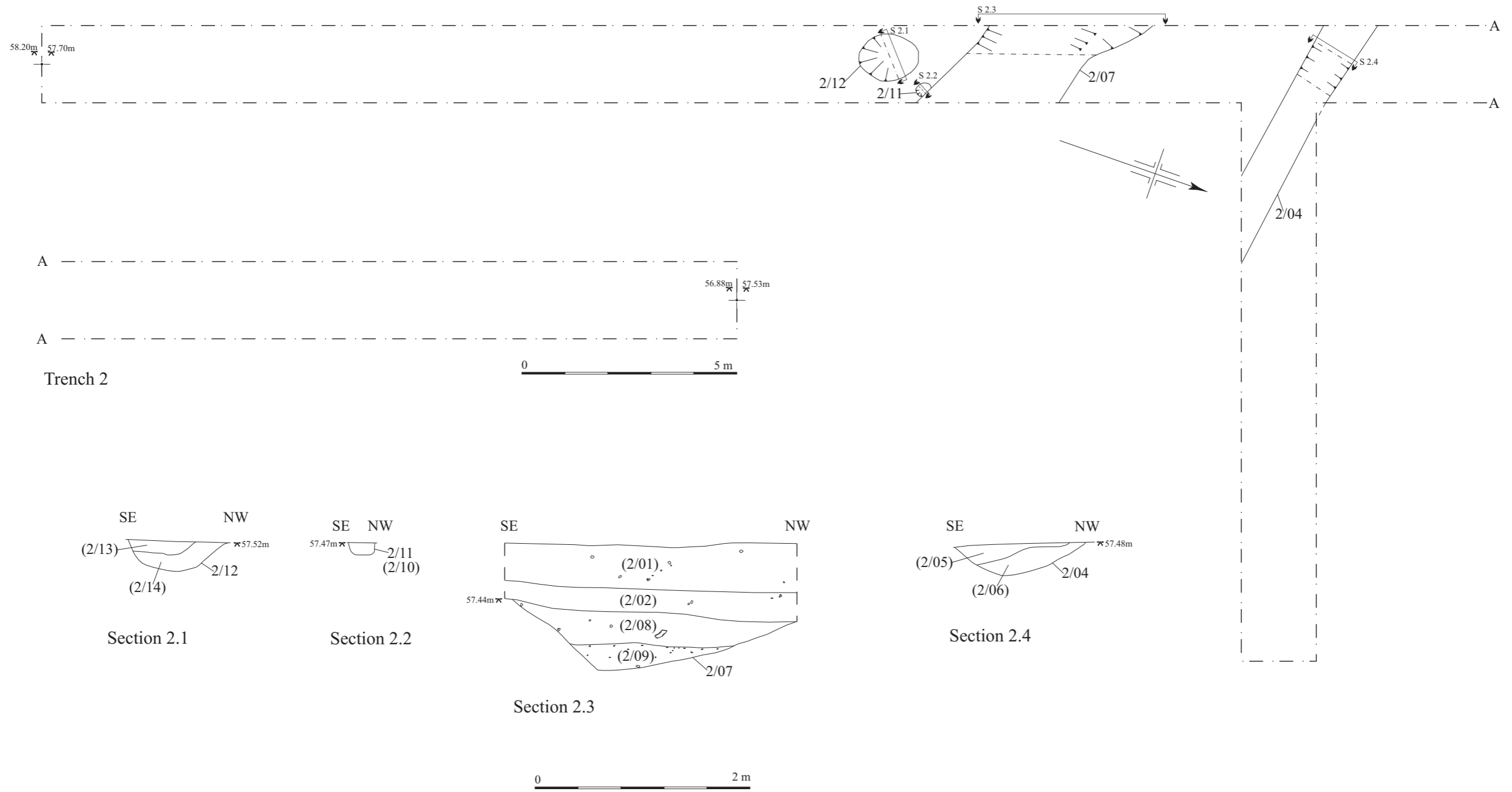


Figure 4. Trench 2 plan and sections

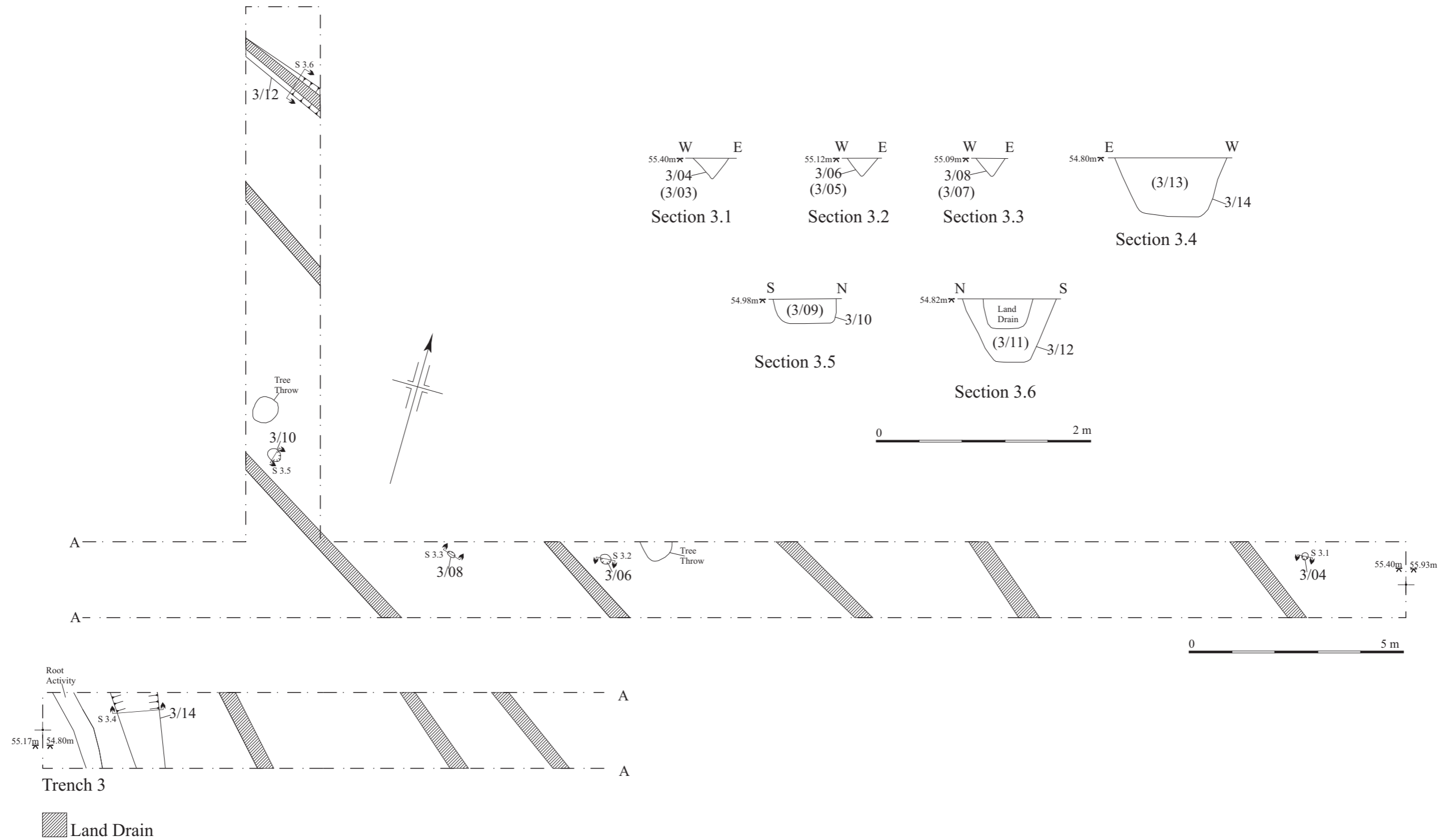


Figure 5. Trench 3 Plan and sections

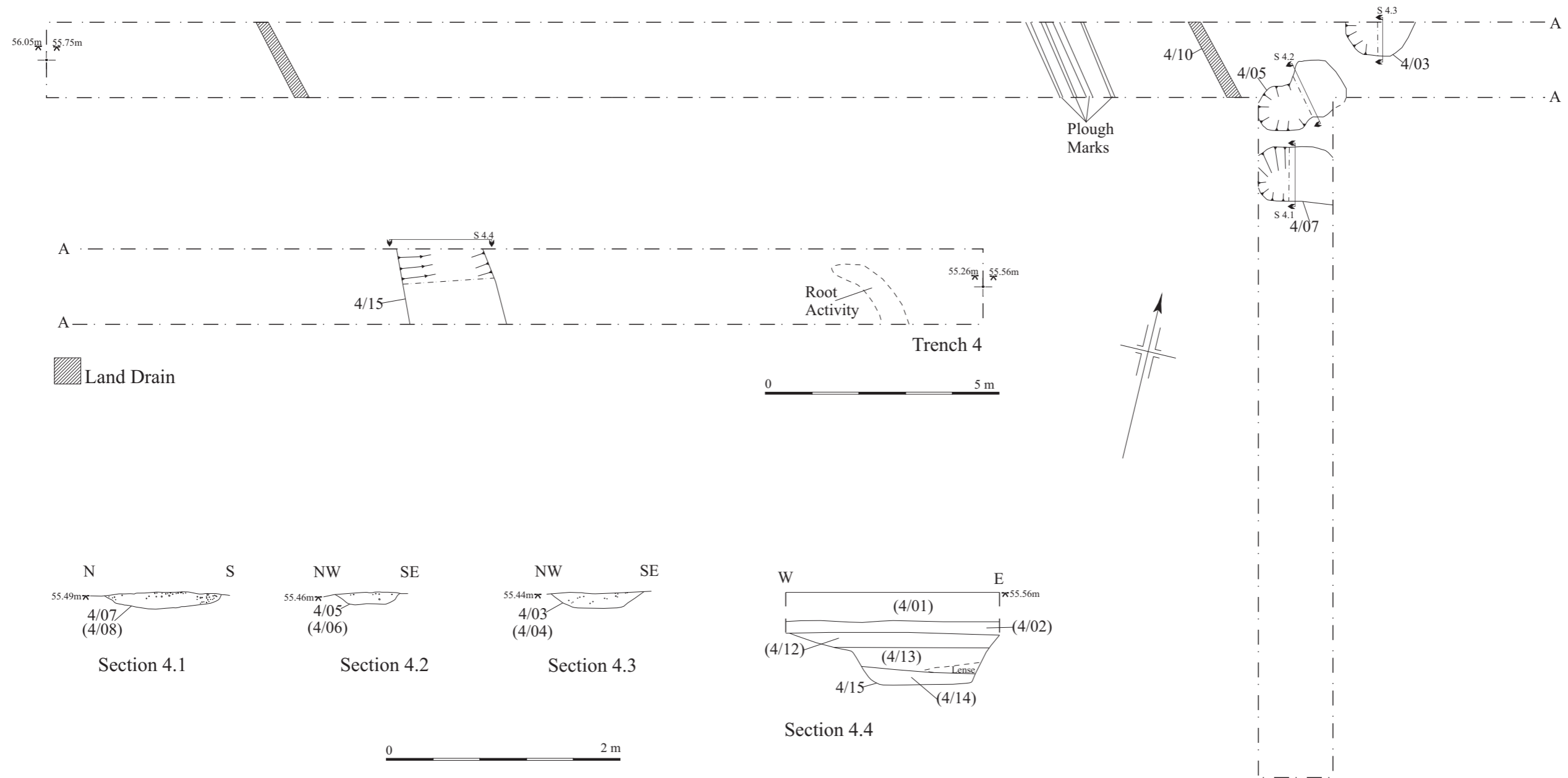


Figure 6. Trench 4 Plan and sections

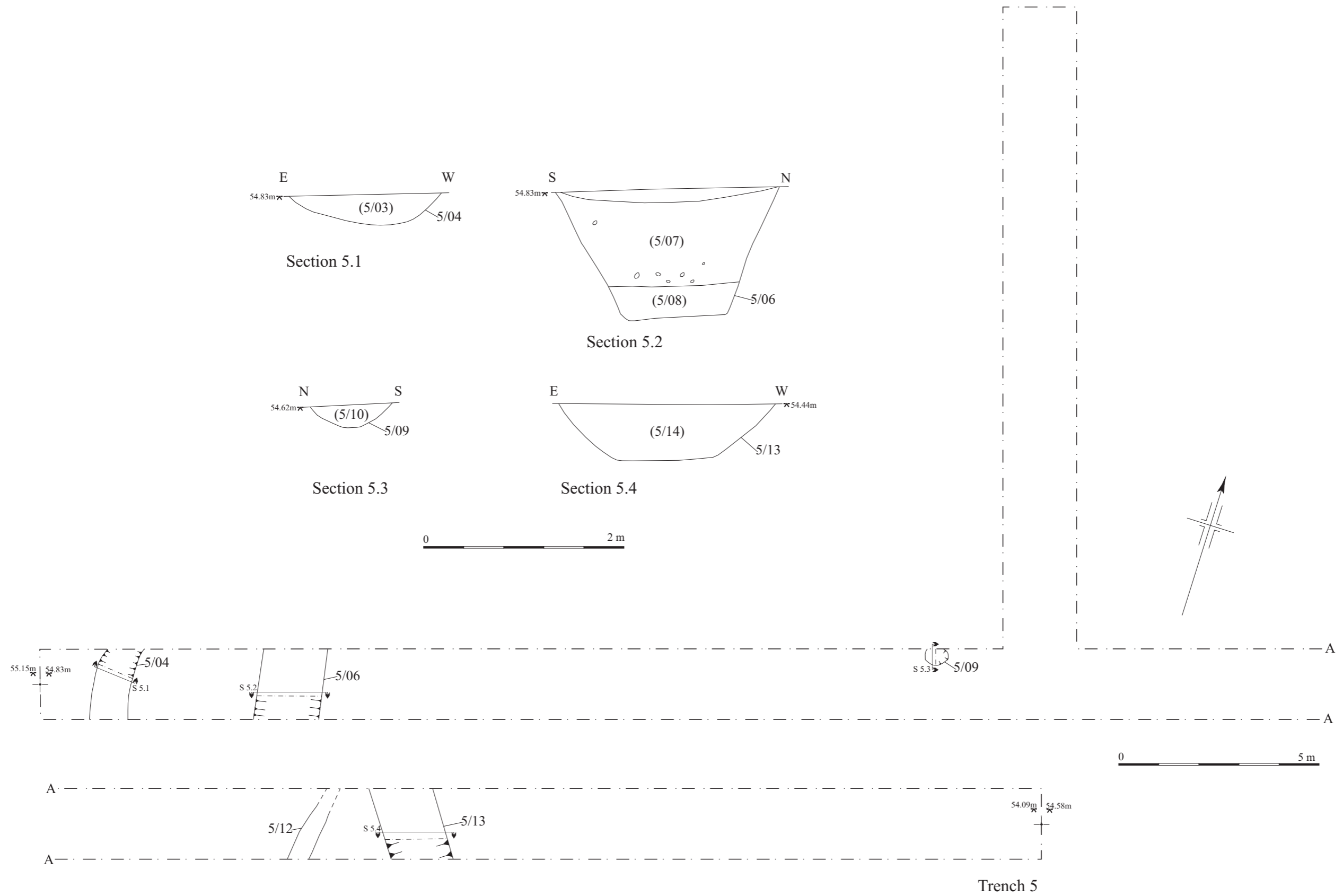


Figure 7. Trench 5 Plan and sections

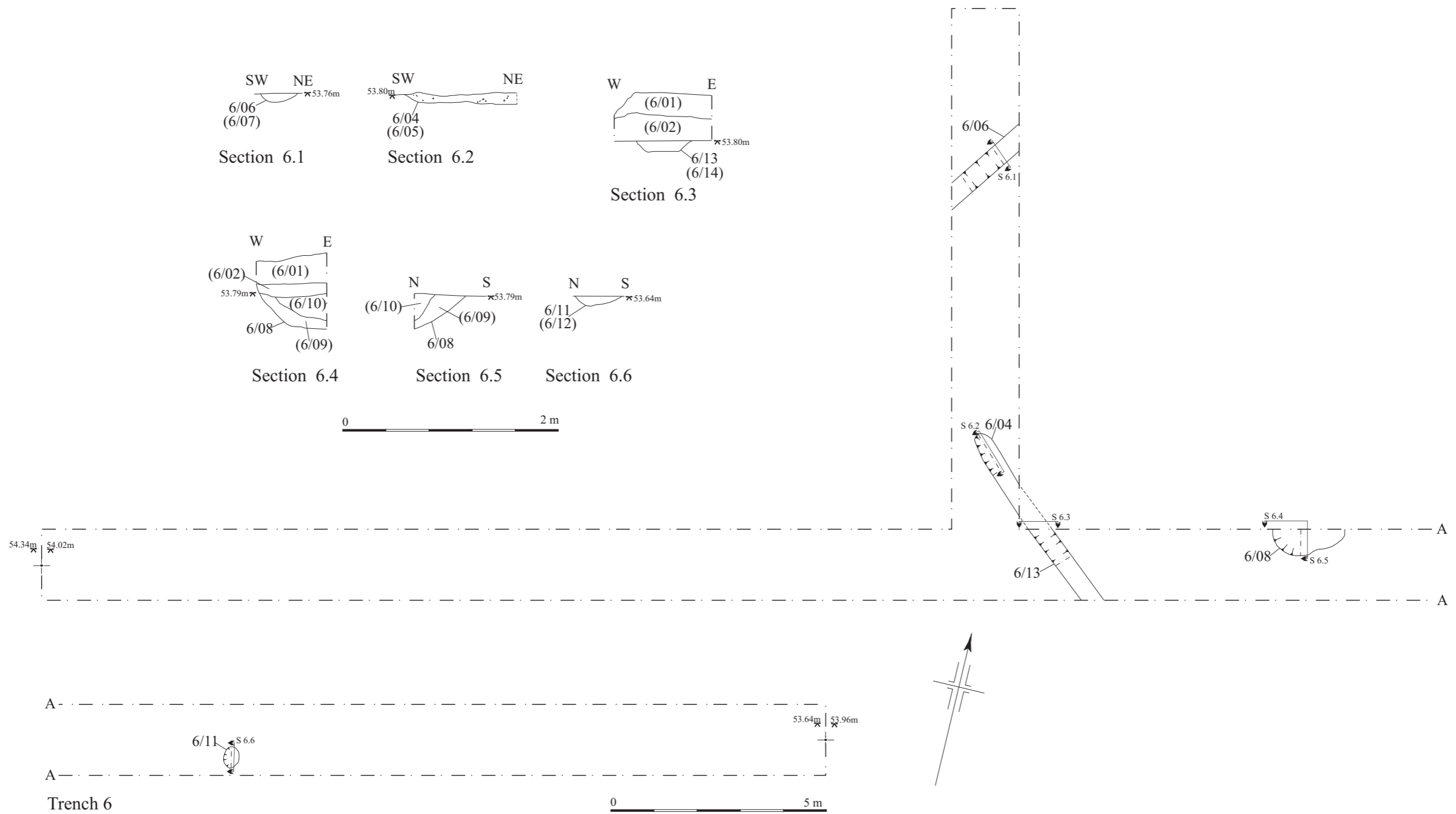


Figure 8. Trench 6 Plan and section

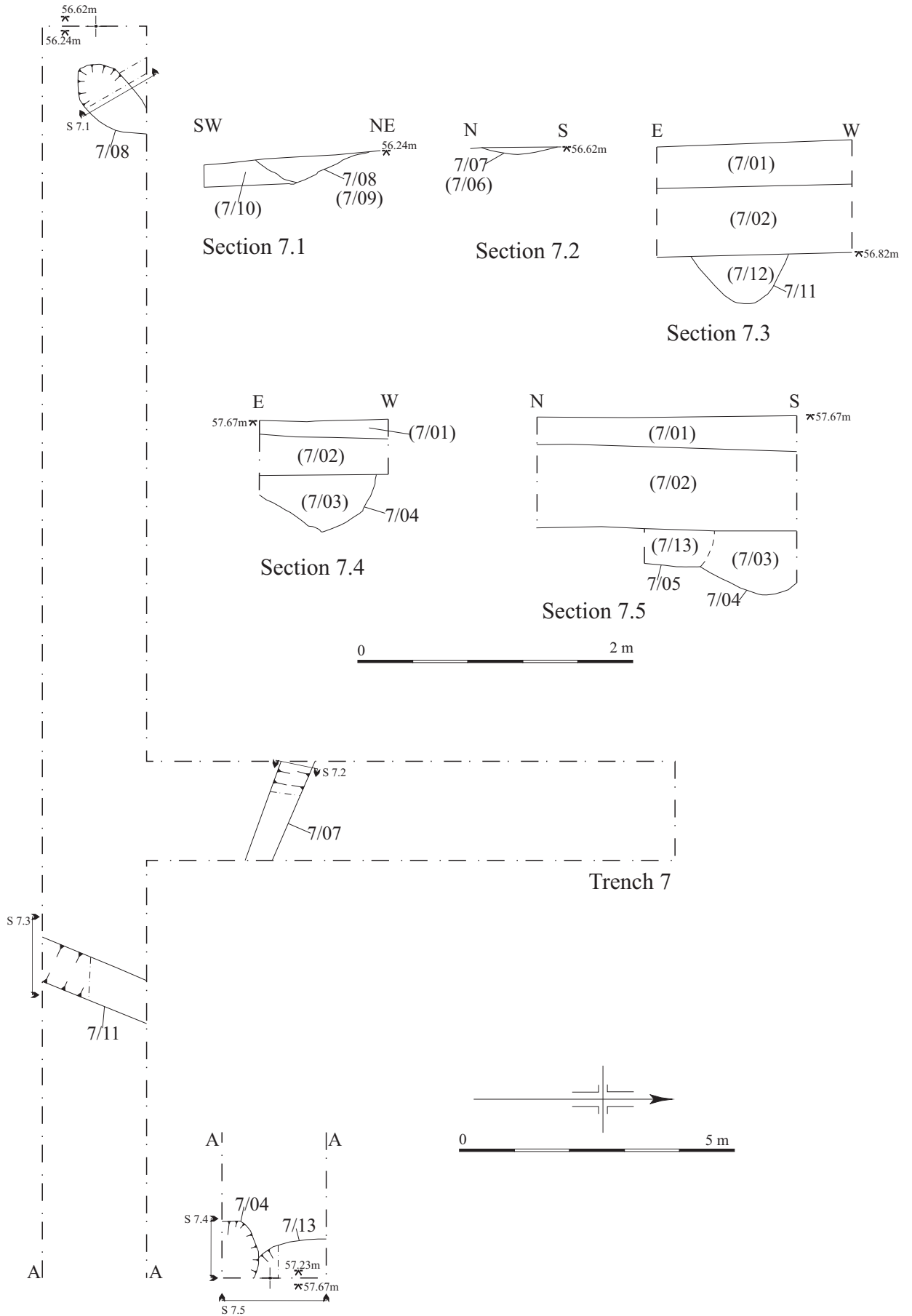


Figure 9. Trench 7 Plan and sections

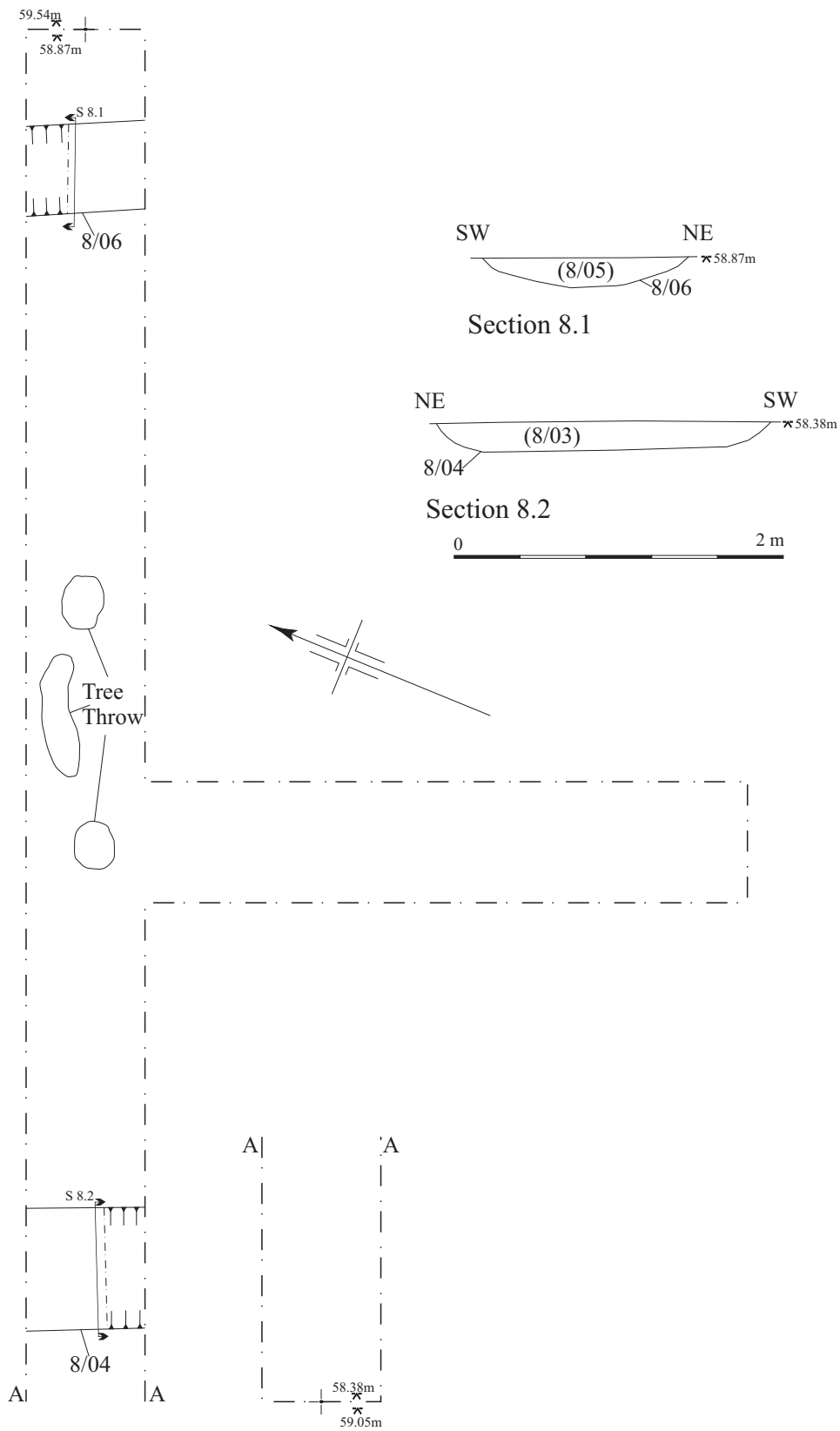


Figure 10. Trench 8 Plan and sections

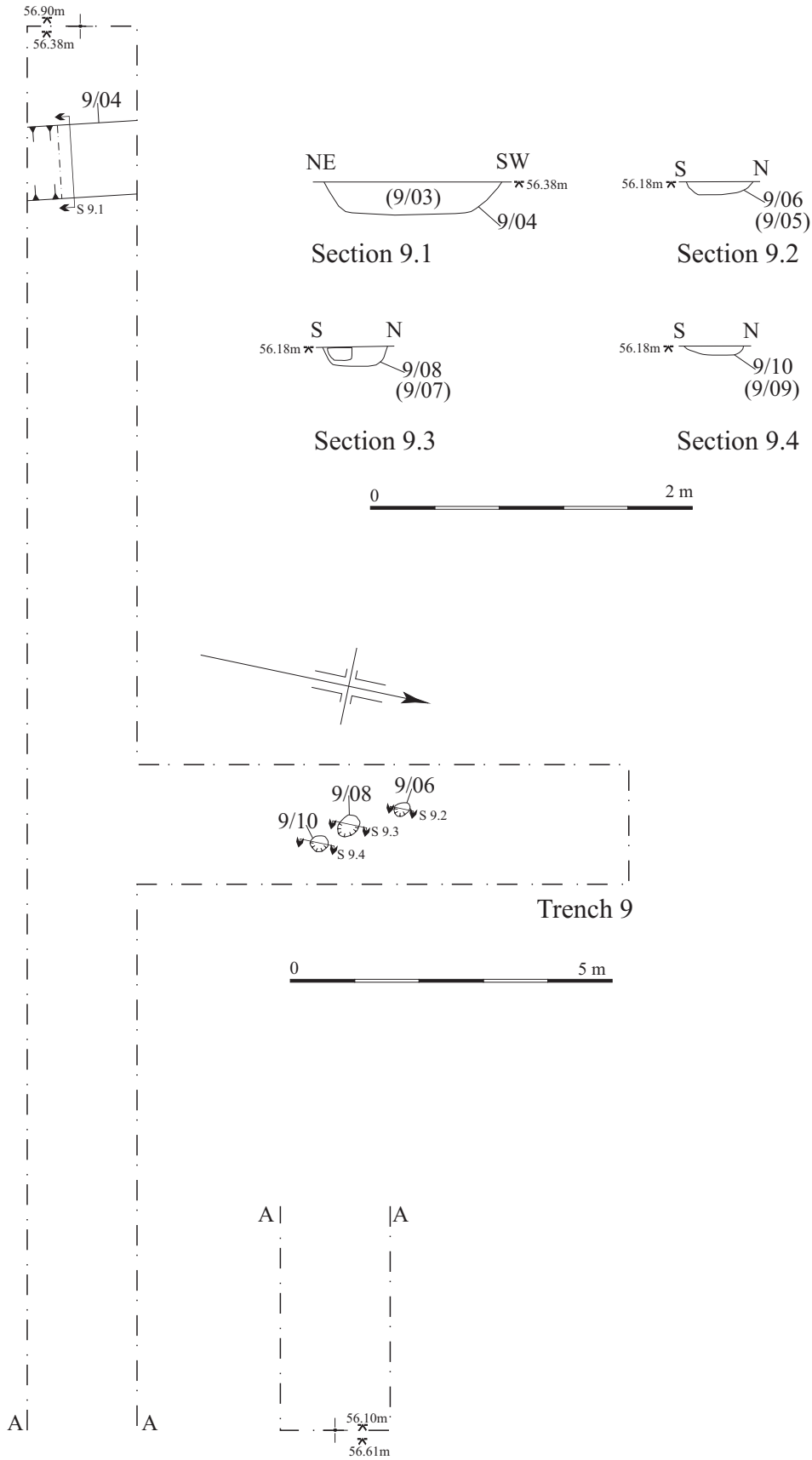


Figure 11. Trench 9 Plan and sections

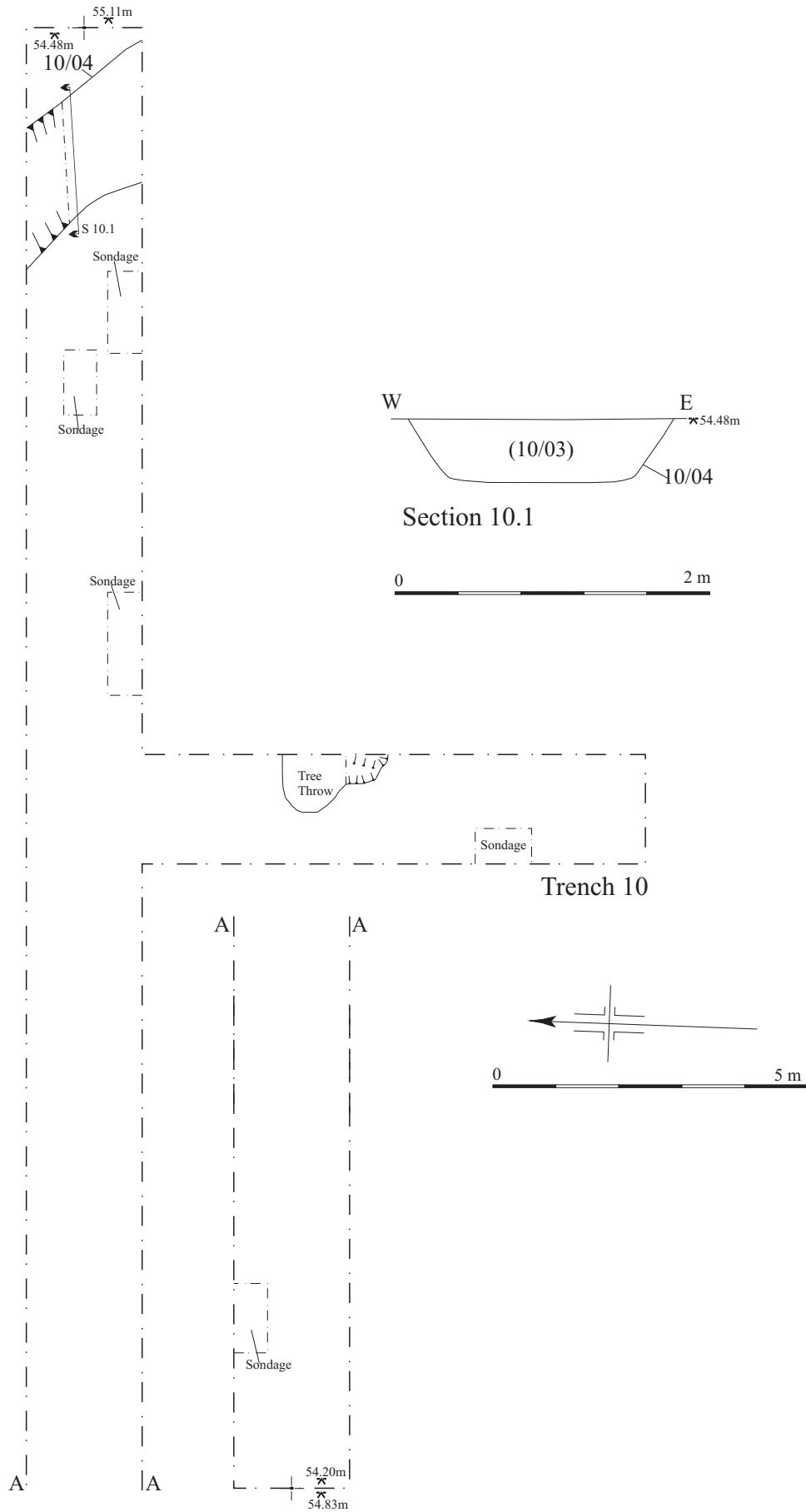


Figure 12. Trench 10 Plan and sections

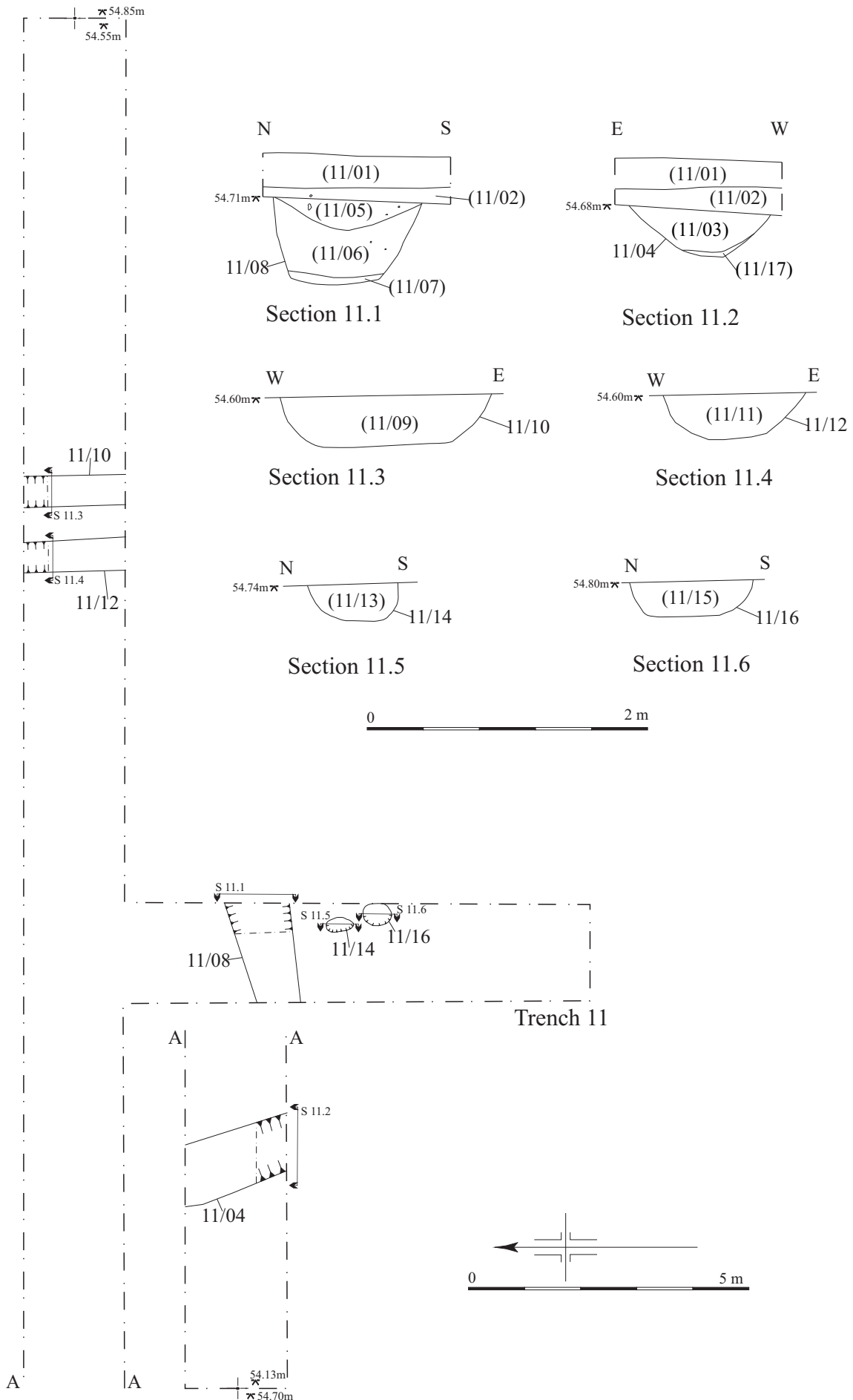


Figure 13. Trench 11 Plan and sections

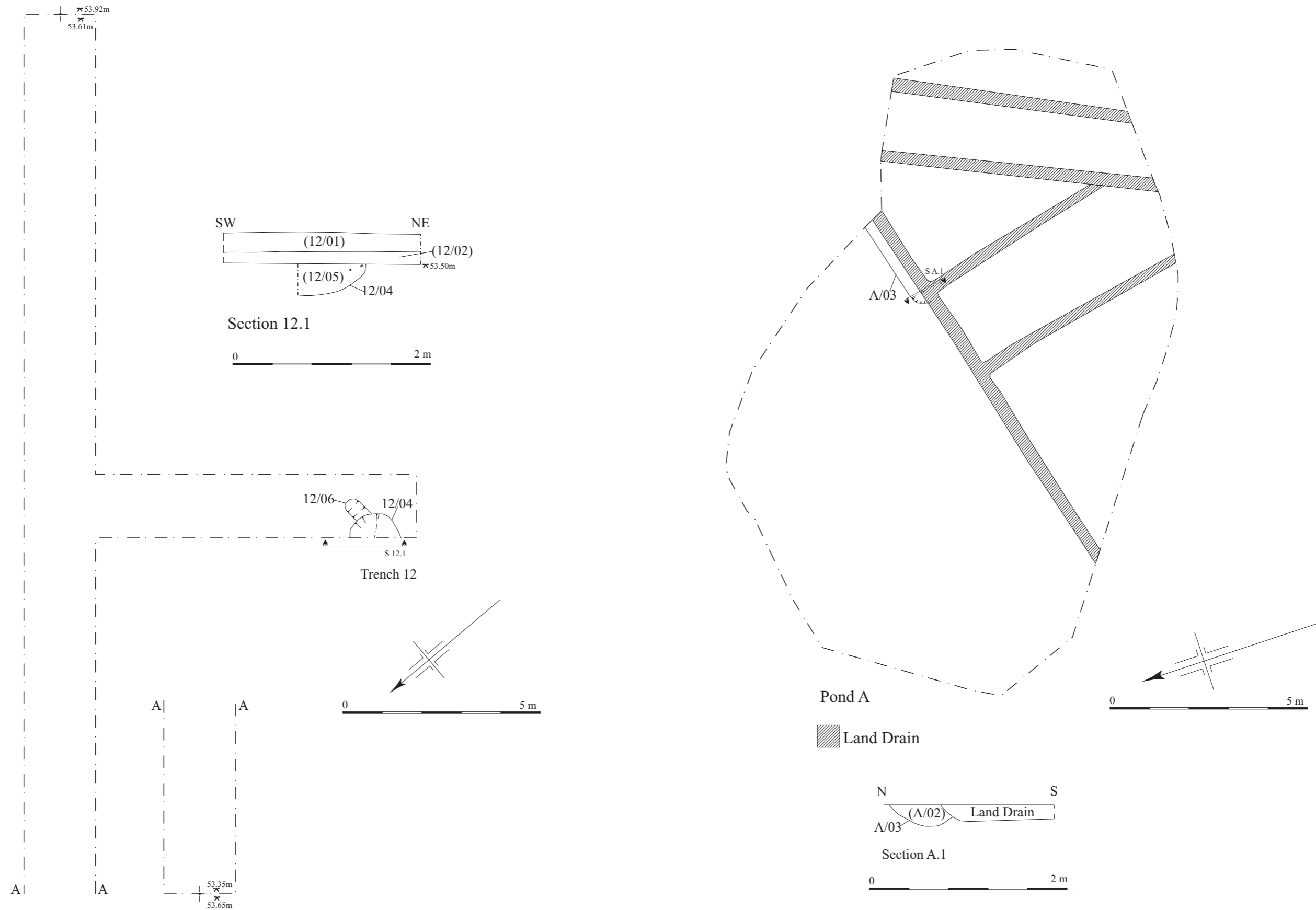


Figure 14. Trench 12 Plan and sections and Pond A



Plate 1. Linear ditch E in soakaway. Cut 79.
Part of an early series of a probable parallel
cultivation cuts



Plate 2. Linear ditch visible
during stripping for soakaway



Plate 3. Linear Ditch D in sokaaway. Cut 82.
Part of early field system



Plate 4. Linear ditch or pit in soakaway. Cut 75



Plate 5. Linear ditch C in carpark. Cut 16, part of
the early field system



Plate 6. Linear Ditch B in car park. Cut 31



Plate 7. Linear Ditch B
running across area of
car park



Plate 8. Linear ditch C
running across area of car
park



Plate 9. Linear ditch in car park. Cut 44. One of the possible cuts of the Hagan?



Plate 10. Trench 11, cut 11/04 of a linear ditch, part of a possible prehistoric field system



Plate 11. Trench 11, cut 11/08, a later ditch with subsoil in the top of the fill



Plate 12. Trench 12, cut 12/07. The large boundary ditch probably of the Hagan with burnt flint nodules from a furnace, oven or a kiln and deep root disturbance



Plate 13. Trench 1, cut 1/35. One of the numerous post-holes



Plate 14. Trench 4, cut 4/15. One of the large ditches possibly at the Hagan on the lower end of the field



Plate 15. Trench 1, cut 1/43. A further post-hole in that trench

within a deposit of black silt above which was a mixed brown-orange fill that contained few inclusions being re-deposited almost immediately.

Deposit (01), sealed the top of the land drain, it was a loose sandy silt of a dark yellow-grey, which contained inclusions of small stones and charcoal flecks. The layer was 0.15-0.3m in depth.

Cutting deposit (01) was the second of the modern features a linear ditch 06 (Fig. 2, Ditch F), undoubtedly a roadside drainage ditch. This was 0.5m wide and 0.5m deep. The fill (07) was a loose very humic sand fill. The inclosure of the parish of Barkham occurred in 1821 (VCH 1923, 238, 241) and it is conceivable that this ditch has been in use since the earliest part of the 19th century. The ditch, however, has probably been re-dug on numerous occasions since that date.

Trench 3

Numerous land drains were evident in Trench 3, no numbers were given but they were planned to give an orientation of these features.

Trench 4

One of the linear features 4/10 in Trench 4 lay on the same orientation as the land drains and is presumed to belong here.

Trench 5

A further linear feature 5/12 in Trench 5 also lay on the same orientation and is thus as identifiable as a land drain.

Trench 6

A linear feature 6/13 in Trench 6 may also be a land drain (Fig 8, S6.3).

Trench 12

Feature 12/06 is probably the base of a land drain or a recent cut as it truncates an earlier pit (Fig. 14).

Pond A

The bases of post-Inclosure land drains were identified, but not numbered.

5 FINDS

5.1 Lithics (*By David Gilbert*)

Two flint flakes were recovered from the topsoil (01) during the watching brief in the area of the car park. Both were hard hammer-struck secondary flakes. One is of dark grey flint (42x44x9mm) and the other of dark brown cherty-flint (42x33x10mm). Both display sign of slight post-depositional damage.

With such a small assemblage very little inference can be drawn, but both pieces are likely to date to the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age.

5.2 Burnt Flint

A total of 20 pieces of burnt flint were recovered from the site weighing 888g and coming from 7 contexts.

Context	Pieces	Weight (g)
08	1	7
19	1	10
21	5	19
29	7	53
35	2	3
40	2	9
2/08	2	787

The majority of the flint was heavily burnt being a white to blue-grey in colour. However, two nodules recovered from a ditch fill (2/08) were heavily burnt being white all of the way through. The cortex of the stone had become smooth and vitrified, while sand and possibly other material that had come into contact with the stone had formed a slag on the surface. The heat that these two pieces of flint had been exposed to must have been immense and points to the site being used for an industrial process rather than a domestic one. It should be noted here that the intensive burning of flint is part of the process used to form soft glass for enamelling (Butcher 1976, 43).

5.3 Pottery (*By Paul Blinkhorn*)

The pottery assemblage comprised 3 sherds with a total weight of 29g. The following fabrics were noted:

Romano-British Greyware, 1st – 2nd century. 1 sherd, 12g.

Red Earthenware, 16th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 14g.

Mass-produced white earthenware, 19th – 20th century. 1 sherd, 3g.

The fabrics are all typical finds in the region. The sherd of 19th century white earthenware occurred in context (01), the other two sherds in context (02). The Romano-British sherd is somewhat abraded, and clearly redeposited. The sherd of Red Earthenware is from the rim of a large bowl, a typical product of the tradition, and is likely to be of mid 16th – 17th century date.

5.4 Ceramic Building Material

Two contexts on the site yielded up finds of ceramic building material with a total of 15 fragments weighing 198g. During the process of stripping for the car park 13 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 131g, were recovered from context (02), the subsoil. It was all 19th-20th century extremely worn, containing 2 fragments of tile and 1 fragment of land drain. During the stripping of pond C (middle of the three) 2 pieces of ceramic building material was recovered of a weight of 67g. These also were un-diagnostic but perhaps point to a late formation for the fen deposits at the north end of the field.

5.5 Environmental Samples

A number of environmental samples were taken from Trench 1 and a couple of other trenches but they have not been processed due to financial constraints. These will be kept, as funds must be sought to pay for processing.

Sample No.	Context No.	Bags	Sample No.	Context No.	Bags
1	(6/09)	1	14	(1/06)	1
2	(1/36)	1	15	(1/15)	1
3	(1/34)	1	16	(1/17)	1
4	(7/09)	1	17	(1/20)	1
5	(1/11)	1	18	(1/28)	1
6	(1/22)	1	19	(1/30)	1
7	(1/18)	1	20	(1/40)	1
8	(1/32)	1	21	(1/42)	1
9	(1/26)	1	22	(1/44)	1
10	(1/38)	1	23	(1/46)	1
11	(1/19)	2	24	(5/08)	1
12	(1/08)	1	25	(5/10)	1
13	(1/04)	1			

6 DISCUSSION

No proper dating evidence was found on the site but it is suggested here that some seven phases are probably evident on the site. Neolithic to Bronze Age flints were recovered from the topsoil and a badly abraded piece of Roman greyware from the subsoil. These three artefacts probably give the time period into which the first four phases can in theory be placed. The decisive piece of information on why the phasing has been proposed in the way that it has is primarily due to the data provided by the Anglo-Saxon Charter bounds of the Estate of Barkham. The bounds had not previously been located but it is highly likely that the site uncovered is one of the boundary markers as will be suggested below. Most Anglo-Saxon Charter bounds proceed in a clockwise direction, but where they start is not always consistent though it is usually on the east side, while some start on the south side. The bounds of Barkham start with the name of a watercourse then proceed along a stream to an island. Most bounds are normally considered to be coterminous with parish boundaries, though some minor alterations may have occurred in some cases. The present parish boundary crosses watercourses in four places but there is only one of these locations where the boundary actually follows a stream and that is in the northeast of the parish to the north of our site. Here the fen deposits have new straight drainage channels so it is feasible that it is in this area where the first three markers: the named stream, the other stream and island are located. In the other three locations the boundary runs down across the valley and cuts across the stream and does not follow it. The following boundary marker is the end of the *hagan*. The Old English **hagen* is 'an enclosure bank covered with a thorn hedge' (Smith 1956a, 214-5). This is an enclosure associated with hunting, hence 'an enclosed woodland'. The large ditches found running across the site may be part of this feature. If this identification is correct then one has to consider that the large banks identified cross some of the

earlier ditches, thus there has to be an earlier perhaps brief period of cultivation in the area. The location of the *hagan* is marked on Figure 15 in location to the parish boundaries that are probably coterminous or nearly coterminous with the estate boundaries.

Due to the complexity of these earlier ditches in the area of the car park and soakaway it is considered that there are probably two phases of this early farming activity. A number of the apparent ditches lay parallel to each other which is reminiscent of cultivation plots identified in the north of Britain known as cord rig systems (Topping 1989, 161-179). This it has been suggested represent Phase 1. These plots have ditches from which top and subsoil have been dug to create a soil of a greater depth on the land between. Experiments have shown that creating these cultivation features increase the temperature and thus encourages crops to grow more productively. Though the width of the cut features evident and the areas between them are wider than is evident in the upland border country of England and Scotland, this in no way would detract from the possibility that this type of activity would occur in the south of the country. Indeed where the land is flatter and potentially more productive such features could have been created with wider dimensions. These types of field systems have been loosely dated to the Bronze Age.

There are a further group of ditches that seem to conform to field systems that are enclosed by small banks and ditches, many of the ditches have been placed in this group. This is suggested as Phase 2. These types of field systems are common across much of Britain and can be dated roughly from the middle Bronze Age to the Roman period, when they go out of use. It is thus possible that these two processes are evident although not clearly defined other than the fact that the large boundary ditches in the car park cut through the earlier field system. Some of the settlement activity may belong to this period, but due to the paucity of human material culture have been placed in Phase 4.

The large boundary banks have been placed in Phase 3, as most if not all, are probably the banks of the *hagan* mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Charter. Until recently it was considered that our forest regimes were a creation of the medieval period but it has been shown that the forests were in essence in existence in the Roman period and probably organised in the Iron Age at the latest (Yeates 2006, 9-27; 2008, 9-29). Barkham lay in the Forest of Windsor which was probably only reorganised in the early medieval period, being carved out of a larger forest associated with a distinct topographical area. In the Roman period such areas were designated *silva*, 'wood', for example *Silva Caledonia* or on the continent *Vosegus Silva* or *Silva Arduinna*. Many of these woods had large enclosures some covering many hectares that can be recognised for example in the Grim's Dyke of Wychwood and the Hobsditch Causeway of the Forest of Arden. Roman authors, such as Caesar (Edwards 1963, vi.14) and Tacitus (Hutton, Ogilvie et al. 1970, Germania 39), referred to sacred groves or *Nemetons*, which are probably what these banks and ditches are. Strabo refers to the strongest banks and ditches being built around cities of trees. The large banks identified at Barkham Ride may, as was suggested above, be part of the *hagan* of the charter, of which presumably the western end has been identified. The construction date of the work has not been confirmed but may be as suggested here of an Iron Age date; though in the early medieval period a number of minor hunting areas may have been defined or constructed and fitted into an existing landscape with prehistoric features. These sites are referred to in later Anglo-Saxon traditions as

hagan; for example at Kemble in Gloucestershire the Anglo-Saxon name is combined with that of a Roman period Belgic divine name Camulos. The charters represent the first recording of the feature rather than their date of construction. Those sites that do develop in the Iron Age and Roman period were sacred enclosures of trees and the boundary was on one hand for dividing the sacred world from the profane and on a practical level to control the movements of wild animals such as deer and boar. If this interpretation is correct here then it also indicates that the area during the Iron Age and Roman period, and even down to the recording of the Anglo-Saxon Charter in the tenth century should have no field systems as such thus indicating that the earlier agricultural regimes were probably Bronze Age or early Iron Age at the latest. The woodlands are still recorded in the *Domesday Book* of the late 11th century. The name of the village of Barkham may also be derived from this woodland environment, *Beorchamme* in 952, 'the meadow by the birch trees' (Gelling 1973, 91). The church, the old centre of the village, is located some 300m away from or just below the *hagan* site on meadowland near a stream.

The exact nature of the identified settlement is difficult to define and even date. Stake-holes forming fence-lines may be associated with the earlier farming activity, some of the post-holes may also date to that period, while others may be later. It could be argued that field systems had no place in an emparked Iron Age or Roman woodland. The majority of the settlement probably developed on the extremity of the emparked woodland for a number of reasons, the major settlement phase has thus been placed collectively as Phase 4.

The possible settlement of Phase 4 consists of postholes and ditches with charcoal deposits, focussed in the area around Trench 1, the Car Park, and the Soakaway. The settlement was also evident in Trenches 2, 3, and 9 but less intensive. The fill (2/08) is in a cut of a broad ditch 2/07 associated with the *hagan*, but the fill of the ditch silted over time and in its fill there were two fragments of extremely burnt flint nodules. The extent of burning has to be associated with an industrial process rather than a domestic one, due to the temperatures required to make the stone white to its core. Unanalysed slag deposits remain on one of these burnt flint pieces along with glass residue. Industrial processes are known at other sites in the area dating to the Iron Age and Roman period, for example at Arborfield Garrison (TVAS 2003) and Sindlesham (TVAS 2010). These were iron-working sites where ores were being extracted from the sand deposits dating from the early later Iron Age. The clinching piece of evidence to positively show iron working at the site is lacking, but one thing that should be noted is that iron working required a further natural material timber, which was more difficult to transport than the ores. It may thus be the case that a temporary industrial site developed along the edge of the woodland *nemeton* or *hagan* boundary. The forest could also have provided iron ores in the sand and also the sand as a natural material. There are probably three possibilities for the industrial activity:

- 1) Charcoal burning
- 2) Iron ore working
- 3) Enamel and glass production

One interesting piece of information is that enamelling began *c.* 400 BC in Britain and involved the process of creating soft glass (a compound of flint or sand, red lead and soda or potash) with metallic oxides for colouring and opacity (Butcher 1976, 43). Burnt flint has been recognised across the site. It should also be noted that the Roman

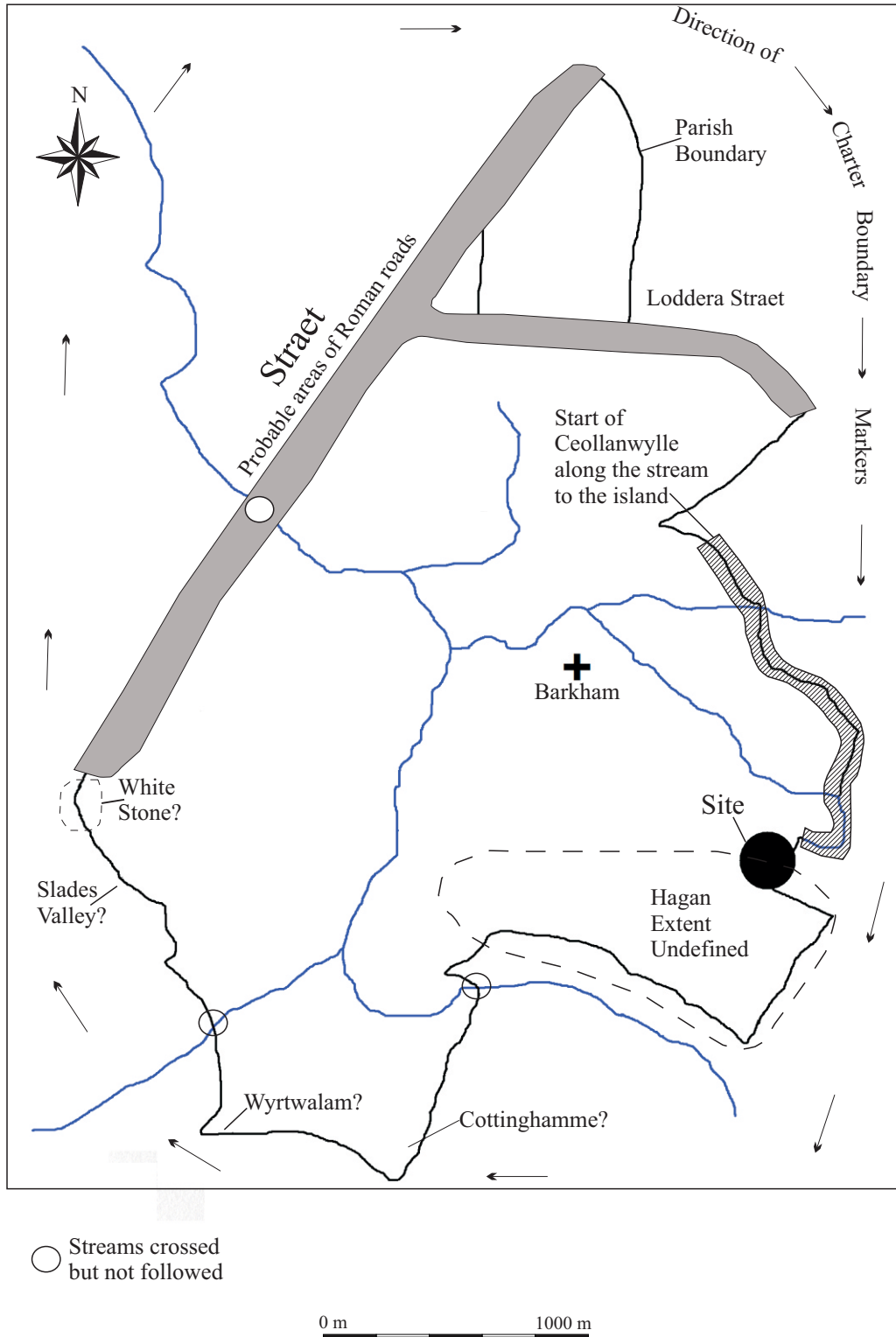


Figure 15. Plan of Anglo Saxon Barkham Estate

and early medieval pottery finds (BFRG 1999) extend to the west perhaps suggesting an extension of the settlement in that direction. The *silva* or forest environments were exploited for their natural resources of ores and timber and possibly sand.

The *hagan* was still a feature of the middle 10th century and woodland is described in the 11th century. When this land was encroached and taken out of a woodland environment is difficult to date precisely but it was after Domesday Book's compilation. The medieval ridge and furrow apparent on the sand deposits must have been created between the 12th and 17th centuries, presumably earlier, and they are classed as Phase 5.

Evidence across the lower part of the field for ridge and furrow is lacking and it may never have been there due to the possibility of flooding. One of the ditches in that area looks as though it was still open prior to the Inclosure Awards of 1821 and was only finally filled in after inclosure, from ploughing. This may be part of a water meadow that were designed and laid out through the 17th and 18th centuries. This has thus been suggested as part of Phase 6.

The final Phase 7 covers the Inclosure of the field and also the laying out of the land drains.

The archaeology identified in the car park has had some of the slighter features removed, but some of the ditches still survive. Those in the soakaway have been destroyed, though they still survive either side. Of the evaluation trenches Trench 1 had the greatest concentration of probable prehistoric-Roman features although Trenches 2, 9, and 3 also produced evidence of settlement with the remains of post-holes, stake-holes and scoops. An area running through the site has been defined in which the archaeological remains could be significant. *Berkshire Archaeology* should be consulted on any further activity across this area, and hopefully the remains should be preserved *in situ* as they are not fully explained on the current evidence recovered from the site although a plausible suggestion has been put forward to explain the features found based on the evidence found in the Anglo-Saxon Charter bounds.

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief
Written scheme of investigation
The project report
The primary site record

Physical record

Finds

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to Reading Museum.

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ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Car Park Watching Brief								
01	Deposit	Loosely compact dark yellow grey silt sand with some stone inclusions and charcoal	.30				Topsoil	
02	Deposit	Compact mid yellow grey sand with occasional inclusions of stone, charcoal and CBM	.30				Subsoil	
03	Deposit	Compact yellow orange sand with some stone inclusions					Natural	
04	Cut	Linear aligned northeast to southwest	0.4	1.1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
05	Deposit	Loose dark brown sand silt with small stone inclusions	0.4	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
06	Cut	Linear aligned northwest to southeast	0.5	0.5			Ditch	Modern
07	Deposit	Loose humic sand	0.5	0.5			Ditch fill	Modern
08	Deposit	Loose grey black sand with bunter pebble inclusions	0.3	0.9			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
09	Deposit	Loose light grey sand with bunter pebble inclusions	0.3	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
10	Cut	Linear with steep sides and an undulating base	0.3	0.9			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
11	Deposit	Loose light grey sand	0.32	0.97			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
12	Cut	Linear with shallow sides and a rounded base	0.32	0.97			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
13	Deposit	Loose mid brown silt sand	0.15	0.1			Stakehole fill	Prehistoric ?
14	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a pointed base	0.15	0.1			Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
15	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble and burnt stone inclusions	0.46	0.83			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
16	Cut	Linear with steep sides and V-shape profile	0.46	0.83			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
17	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.46	0.75			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
18	Cut	Linear with sharp sides and a V-shape profile	0.46	0.75			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
19	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black sand with	0.38	0.76			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?

		pebble and burnt flint inclusions					
20	Cut	Linear with steep sides a V-shape profile	0.38	0.76		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
21	Deposit	Moderately compact light white grey sand with pebbles and burnt flint inclusions	0.36	0.45		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
22	Cut	Linear with steep sides	0.36	0.45		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
23	Deposit	Moderately compact sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.3	0.77		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
24	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.3	0.77		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
25	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey the lower levels were considerably disturbed probably bioturbation	0.44	1.1		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
26	Cut	Short linear with steep sides	0.44	1.1		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
27	Deposit	Loose light grey sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions base of deposit extremely disturbed by bioturbation	0.35	-		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
28	Cut	Linear with steep sides	0.35	-		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
29	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.29	1.44		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
30	Deposit	Moderately compact grey white sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.29	1.1		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
31	Cut	Linear with sharp sides and a rounded base	0.58	1.44		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
32	Deposit	Moderately compact black sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.3	1.07		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
33	Deposit	Moderately compact grey white sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.4	1.62		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
34	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a gentler profile in near the break with an ankle breaker at the base	0.52	1.62		Ditch	Prehistoric ?
35	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black sand with gravel deposits across the top	0.1	0.4		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
36	Deposit	Moderately compact grey white sand	0.43	1.75		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
36	Deposit	Moderately compact grey white sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.43	1.75		Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
37	Cut	Linear terminus with steep sides and a	0.43	1.75		Ditch terminus	Prehistoric ?

		flat base						
38	Deposit	Moderately compact mid brown grey sand	0.43	1.14			Scoop or bioturbation	Prehistoric ?
39	Cut	Oval with steep sides and a flat base	0.43	1.14	1.5		Scoop	Prehistoric ?
40	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.4	0.7+			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
41	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.4	0.7+			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
42	Deposit	Moderately compact mid to light grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.25	0.74			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
43	Deposit	Moderately compact black grey sand with pebble and burnt flint inclusions	0.75	1.30			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
44	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.82	1.62			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
45	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded U-shape profile	0.25	0.74			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
46	Deposit	Moderately compact light grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.05	-			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
47	Cut	Linear with sharp sides and a rounded base	0.3	0.7			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
48	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand	0.12	0.17	0.17		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
49	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a flat base	0.12	0.17	0.17		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
64	Deposit	Gravel scatter with sand	0.05	2	4		Remain of a bank	Prehistoric ?
65	Deposit	Gravel scatter with sand	0.05	2	3		Remains of a bank	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Soakaway Watching Brief								
50	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.4	1.2			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
51	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.4	1.2			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
52	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.4	2.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
53	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.4	2.1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
54	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.2	0.9			Furrow fill	Prehistoric ?

55	Cut	Linear shallow sides and a flat base	0.2	0.9			Furrow	Prehistoric ?
56	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand	0.25	1.04			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
57	Cut	Linear terminus with moderately sloping sides	0.25	1.04			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
58	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.24	1.4			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
59	Cut	Oval with gentle sides and flat base	0.24	1.4			Scoop	Prehistoric ?
60	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand with black mottling and charcoal flecks	0.2	0.3	0.36		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
61	Cut	Oval with flattened side in plan and vertical sides in profile with a flat base	0.2	0.3	0.36		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
62	Deposit	Loose dark grey sand	0.2	0.14			Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
63	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a flat base	0.2	0.14			Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
66	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.2	1			Ditch/gully fill	Prehistoric ?
67	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides truncated by a land drain	0.2	1			Ditch/gully	Prehistoric ?
68	Deposit	Moderately compact grey white clay sand	0.55	0.9			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
69	Cut	Seen in section with sharp sides and flat base	0.55	0.9			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
70	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.25	0.3	0.3		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
71	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a flat base	0.25	0.3	0.3		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
-	Cut/ Deposit	Cut and fill of a land drain					Land drain	Modern
72	Deposit	Loose mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.3	0.3			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
73	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides	0.3	0.3			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
74	Deposit	Loose dark grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.4	1.15+			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
75	Cut	Possible linear with gentle sides becoming steeper and a rounded base, orientated north to south	0.4	1.15+			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
76	Deposit	Moderately compact grey brown silt sand with abundant inclusions	0.27	0.9			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
77	Cut	Linear with gentle sides and a rounded	0.27	0.9			Ditch	Prehistoric ?

		base the probable remains of a stakehole in the profile						
78	Deposit	Moderately compact black grey silt sand with pebble inclusions	0.44	1.5+			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
79	Cut	Linear steep sides and a rounded base	0.44	1.5+			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
80	Deposit	Moderately compact white grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.1	0.6			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
81	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey sand with pebble inclusions	0.52	1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
82	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a round base	0.52	1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 1								
1/01	Deposit	Loosely compact mid grey brown silt sand	0.4				Topsoil	
1/02	Deposit	Moderately compact light brown yellow	0.1				Subsoil	
1/03	Cut	Linear, shallow with flat base.	0.15	2.15			Furrow	Medieval ?
1/04	Deposit	Soft mid yellow brown sand	0.15	2.15			Furrow fill	Medieval ?
1/05	Cut	Linear with U-shape	0.12	0.7			Gully	Prehistoric ?
1/06	Deposit	Soft mid brown yellow sand	0.12	0.7			Gully fill	Prehistoric ?
1/07	Cut	Linear with steep sides and flat base	0.63	2.4			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
1/08	Deposit	Soft light grey brown silt sand	0.63	2.4			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
1/09	Deposit	Friable mid brown yellow silt sand, which is mottled	0.2	8			Subsoil	
1/10	Cut	Linear vertical sides orientated NW-SE	0.23	1			Furrow	Medieval ?
1/11	Deposit	Friable mid grey brown silt sand	0.23	1			Furrow fill	Medieval ?
1/12	Cut	Oval vertical sides and flat base	0.23	0.44	0.53		Posthole or small pit	Prehistoric ?
1/13	Deposit	Soft mid brown yellow sand	0.23	0.44	0.53		Posthole or small pit fill	Prehistoric ?
1/14	Cut	Linear orientated SE to NW	0.18	0.52			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
1/15	Deposit	Friable mid grey brown sand with red brown mottling	0.18	0.52			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
1/16	Cut	Linear with moderately steep sides and a concave base	0.35	0.95			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
1/17	Deposit	Friable dark grey black silt sand	0.18	0.73			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?

1/18	Deposit	Soft mid brown yellow	0.2	0.52			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
1/19	Deposit	Dark grey black sand with charcoal inclusions	0.02	0.9	0.9		Layer	Prehistoric ?
1/20	Deposit	Firm dark grey black sand with charcoal inclusions	0.02	0.8	1.1		Layer	Prehistoric ?
1/21	Cut	Oval shallow cut with concave base	0.16	0.5	0.9		Pit	Prehistoric ?
1/22	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.16	0.5	0.9		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
1/23	Cut	Circular with vertical sides and a concave base	0.12	0.25	0.26		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/24	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown silt sand with charcoal inclusions	0.17	0.25	0.26		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/25	Cut	Sub-rectangular with shallow sides on the north and vertical ones on the south	0.08	0.6	1		Pit	Prehistoric ?
1/26	Deposit	Soft mid red brown sand with stone inclusions	0.08	0.6	1		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
1/27	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides and a flat base	0.2	1.1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
1/28	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown sand	0.2	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
1/29	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, orientated SE-NW	0.21	1			Furrow	Medieval ?
1/30	Deposit	Soft mid yellow brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.21	1			Furrow fill	Medieval ?
1/31	Cut	Circular with moderately sloping sides and a concave base	0.19	0.75	0.8		Pit	Prehistoric ?
1/32	Deposit	Friable mid grey brown sand, black ore inclusions	0.19	0.75	0.8		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
1/33	Cut	Circular with moderately sloping sides and a concave base	0.08	0.2	0.25		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/34	Deposit	Soft dark grey brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.08	0.2	0.25		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/35	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a concave base	0.08	0.2	0.2		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/36	Deposit	Soft dark grey brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.09	0.2	0.2		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/37	Cut	Shallow sides and a flat base	0.06	0.5	0.55		Pit	Prehistoric ?
1/38	Deposit	Soft grey brown sand with charcoal	0.06	0.5	0.55		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?

		inclusions						
1/39	Cut	Circular with moderately sloping sides and a flat base	0.08	0.45	0.45		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/40	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.08	0.45	0.45		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/41	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a concave base	0.07	0.35	0.45		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/42	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown sand with charcoal inclusions	0.07	0.35	0.45		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/43	Cut	Circular with vertical sides and a concave base	0.28	0.22	0.22		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/44	Deposit	Moderately compact grey brown silt sand with a black stain forming the post-pipe	0.28	0.22	0.22		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/45	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a concave base	0.05	0.25	0.3		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
1/46	Deposit	Soft mid grey brown sand	0.05	0.25	0.3		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
1/47	Deposit	Soft mid brown yellow sand with small stone inclusions	0.15				Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 2								
2/01	Deposit	Loose dark brown black silt sand with angular stone inclusions	0.47				Topsoil	
2/02	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey black silt sand with stone inclusions	0.28				Subsoil	
2/03	Deposit	Compact yellow orange with white laminae					Natural sands	Palaeolithic
2/04	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides with a rounded base	0.26	1.2			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
2/05	Deposit	Moderately compact dark to mid grey black sand silt with stone inclusions	0.18	1.05			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
2/06	Deposit	Compact mid orange grey sand silt	0.22	1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
2/07	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides and a flat base orientated Northeast to Southwest	0.65	2.7			Boundary ditch	Prehistoric ?
2/08	Deposit	Moderately compact mid whitish grey silt sand with angular stone inclusions	0.34	2.7		Burnt nodule flint	Boundary ditch fill	Prehistoric ?

2/09	Deposit	Moderately compact mid orange grey silt sand with some stone inclusions	0.25	1.5		Burnt flint nodule	Boundary ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
2/10	Deposit	Friable black grey silt sand	0.12	0.24	0.24		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
2/11	Cut	Circular with steep to vertical sides and a rounded base	0.12	0.24	0.24		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
2/12	Cut	Circular with moderately sloping sides and a concave base	0.27	0.97	0.97		Pit	Prehistoric ?
2/13	Deposit	Loose white grey sand silt	0.13	0.63			Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
2/14	Deposit	Loose black grey sand silt	0.27	0.9			Pit fill	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 3								
3/01	Deposit	Loose black grey clay sand	0.3				Topsoil	
3/02	Deposit	Moderately compact light grey sand	0.1				Subsoil	
3/03	Deposit	Moderately compact grey sand	0.1	0.17	0.2		Stakehole fill	Prehistoric ?
3/04	Cut	Circular with steep sides and pointed base	0.1	0.17	0.2		Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
3/05	Deposit	Moderately compact brown grey sand	0.09	0.14	0.14		Stakehole fill	Prehistoric ?
3/06	Cut	Circular with steep sides and pointed base	0.09	0.14	0.14		Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
3/07	Deposit	Moderately compact grey sand	0.09	0.12	0.15		Stakehole fill	Prehistoric ?
3/08	Cut	Circular with steep sides and pointed base	0.09	0.12	0.15		Stakehole	Prehistoric ?
3/09	Deposit	Compact grey black silt sand with charcoal and burnt stone inclusions	0.12	0.3	0.3		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
3/10	Cut	Circular with vertical sides and a flat base	0.12	0.3	0.3		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
3/11	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black with lenses of clay and sand (truncated by later land drain)	0.3	0.4			Ditch/gully fill	Prehistoric ?
3/12	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.3	0.4			Ditch/gully	Prehistoric ?
3/13	Deposit	Highly compact black silt sand	0.28	0.5			Possible ditch/gully fill	?
3/14	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.28	0.5			Possible ditch/gully	?
3/15	Deposit	Compact orange sand with white laminae					Natural	Palaeolithic

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 4								
4/01	Deposit	Moderately compact grey black silt sand	0.25				Topsoil	
4/02	Deposit	Moderately compact brown grey silt sand	0.1				Subsoil	
4/03	Cut	Oval with gentle sides and flat base	0.13	0.8	1.4		Tree throw	
4/04	Deposit	Compact mid grey brown silt clay with flint inclusions	0.13	0.8	1.4		Tree throw fill	
4/05	Cut	Irregular with gentle sides and flat base	0.1	0.56	1.12		Tree throw	
4/06	Deposit	Highly compact dark grey brown silt clay with blue grey lenses (root disturbance)	0.1	0.56	1.12		Tree throw fill	
4/07	Cut	Oval with shallow sides and a flat base	0.15	1.01	1.7		Tree throw	
4/08	Deposit	Highly compact mid orange brown silt clay with flint inclusions	0.15	1.01	1.7		Tree throw	
4/09	Deposit	Compact light orange yellow sand					Natural	Palaeolithic
4/10	Cut	Linear with gentle sides and rounded break of slope at the base and flat base. Orientated along the same angle as the recognised land drains	0.07	0.33			Land drain	19 th -20 th century
4/11	Deposit	Loosely compact orange brown sand silt	0.07	0.33			Land drain	19 th -20 th century
4/12	Deposit	Compact brown sand clay	0.15	1.83			Ditch fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800
4/13	Deposit	Compact orange brown sand clay with layers of red iron staining	0.23	1.3			Ditch fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800
4/14	Deposit	Compact dark grey silt clay with stone inclusions in base of fill	0.15	1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800
4/15	Cut	Linear with sides becoming steep, angular break of slope at the base, and flat base, orientated north to south	0.44	1.83			Ditch (prehistoric boundary or post-medieval water meadow)	Prehistoric-c. 1800

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 5								
5/01	Deposit	Loose mid grey black silt clay					Topsoil	
5/02	Deposit	Moderately compact mid red brown clay silt with stone and flint inclusions					Subsoil	

5/03	Deposit	Loose white yellow to mid grey brown clay with abundant stone inclusions					Natural	
5/04	Cut	Linear shape with gradual rounded base and curving course	0.16	0.75			Water worn	
5/05	Deposit	Loose dark black brown clay silt with small flint nodule inclusions	0.16	0.75			Water worn	
5/06	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.65	1.1			Ditch (Prehistoric boundary or post-medieval water meadow)	Prehistoric-c. 1800
5/07	Deposit	Compact light grey clay silt with red brown patches and flint inclusions	0.47	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800
5/08	Deposit	Moderately compact mid black grey clay silt with charcoal flecking	0.18	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800
5/09	Cut	Circular with rounded base	0.12	0.4			Possible posthole or small pit	Prehistoric ?
5/10	Deposit	Loose dark brown clay silt with charcoal flecking	0.12	0.4			Possible posthole or small pit fill	Prehistoric ?
5/11	Deposit	Loose mid red brown sand silt	0.14	0.16			Land drain fill	19 th -20 th centuries
5/12	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a tapering base	0.14	0.16			Land drain	19 th -20 th centuries
5/13	Cut	Linear with gradually sloping sides and a flat base orientated northwest to southeast	0.27	1.1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?
5/14	Deposit	Moderately compact light orange grey silt with charcoal and flint inclusions	0.27	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 6								
6/01	Deposit	Moderately compact mid grey brown silt clay	0.25				Topsoil	
6/02	Deposit	Moderately compact red brown silt clay with some flint inclusions	0.3				Subsoil	
6/03	Deposit	Highly compact mid yellow brown clay, gravel and sand deposits intermittent over this					Natural	
6/04	Cut	Linear terminus (may just be truncated) moderately steep sides of a shallow cut with flat base	0.1	0.28			Ditch/gully	Prehistoric-c. 1800
6/05	Deposit	Loosely compact mid red brown silt clay	0.1	0.28			Ditch/gully fill	Prehistoric-c.

		with some flint inclusions						1800
6/06	Cut	Linear shallow cut with moderate slopes and flat base	0.08	0.34			Ditch/gully	Prehistoric-c. 1800
6/07	Deposit	Compact mid red brown silt clay with flint inclusions	0.08	0.34			Ditch/gully fill	Prehistoric-c.1800
6/08	Cut	Oval U-shaped cut	0.33	1	1.3		Pit	Prehistoric ?
6/09	Deposit	Highly compact dark red brown silt clay with flint inclusions	0.24	0.96	-		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
6/10	Deposit	Moderately compact blue grey silt clay	0.25	0.96	-		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?
6/11	Cut	Circular and shallow with straight edges and an irregular base	0.08	0.4	0.43		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
6/12	Deposit	Compact mid brown grey silt clay	0.08	0.4	0.43		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
6/13	Cut	Linear feature with moderately steep sides and a flat base	0.1	0.53			Ditch/gully	Prehistoric-c. 1800
6/14	Deposit	Loosely compact mid red brown silt clay with flint inclusions	0.1	0.53			Ditch/gully fill	Prehistoric-c. 1800

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 7								
7/01	Deposit	Loosely compact dark grey brown silt sand with flint inclusions	0.15				Topsoil	
7/02	Deposit	Moderately compact orange brown silt sand with flint and pebble inclusions	0.3				Subsoil	
7/03	Deposit	Moderately compact sand silt with inclusions of flint heavily disturbed by bioturbation	0.42	0.8	1.7		Fill of a feature considerably disturbed by bioturbation	Prehistoric ?
7/04	Cut	Irregular in plan with steep sometimes undercut sides and an irregular base, feature disturbed by root action	0.42	0.8	1.7		Cut of pit considerably disturbed by bioturbation	Prehistoric ?
7/05	Deposit	Compact mid yellow orange sand with light grey clay laminae throughout and flint inclusions					Natural	Palaeolithic
7/06	Deposit	Moderately compact orange grey silt sand with flint inclusions	0.08	0.55			Gully fill	Prehistoric ?
7/07	Cut	Linear with a shallow U-shaped profile orientated east to west	0.08	0.55			Gully	Prehistoric ?

7/08	Cut	Irregular cut in plan sides and base, disturbed throughout by bioturbation	0.2	1.2	1.2		Tree hollow	
7/09	Deposit	Moderately compact dark grey brown silt clay with flint inclusions and dark patches of charcoal	0.18	0.82	0.82		Tree hollow fill of which the upper layer may be the product of charcoal burning	Prehistoric ?
7/10	Deposit	Highly compact light grey white powdery silt clay	0.13	0.62			Disturbed natural from bioturbation	
7/11	Cut	Linear with moderately steep sides and a rounded base orientated NNE-SSW	0.19	0.4			Ditch or furrow	Prehistoric ?
7/12	Deposit	Moderately compact orange grey silt sand	0.19	0.4			Ditch or furrow fill	Prehistoric ?
7/13	Cut	Probable oval with vertical sides and a flat base	0.14	0.6	0.8		Pit	Prehistoric ?
7/14	Deposit	Moderately compact grey sand silt with flint inclusions	0.14	0.6	0.8		Pit fill	Prehistoric ?

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 8								
8/01	Deposit	Loosely compact black grey sand					Topsoil	
8/02	Deposit	Moderately compact yellow grey sand					Subsoil	
8/03	Deposit	Compact yellow brown sand	0.16	2			Furrow fill	Medieval
8/04	Cut	Linear of a broad shallow nature with gentle sides and a flat base	0.16	2			Furrow	Medieval
8/05	Deposit	Compact yellow brown sand	0.18	1.23			Furrow fill	Medieval
8/06	Cut	Linear of a broad shallow nature with gentle sides and flat base	0.18	1.23			Furrow	Medieval
8/07	Deposit	Highly compact orange sand with laminae of white clay					Natural	Palaeolithic

0ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 9								
9/01	Deposit	Loosely compact grey black sand	0.3				Topsoil	
9/02	Deposit	Moderately compact brown grey sand	0.1				Subsoil	
9/03	Deposit	Compact yellow grey silt sand	0.2	1.1			Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
9/04	Cut	Linear with moderately sloping sides and	0.2	1.1			Ditch	Prehistoric ?

		a flat base orientated north to south						
9/05	Deposit	Compact black grey silt sand	0.07	0.35	0.4		Scoop or posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
9/06	Cut	Oval with steep sides and a flat base	0.07	0.35	0.4		Scoop or posthole	Prehistoric ?
9/07	Deposit	Compact grey black sand with charcoal inclusions	0.13	0.4	0.4		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
9/08	Cut	Circular with steep sides and a flat base	0.13	0.4	0.4		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
9/09	Deposit	Compact black grey sand	0.05	0.26	0.34		Scoop fill	Prehistoric ?
9/10	Cut	Oval with moderately sloped sides and a flat base, orientated north to south	0.05	0.26	0.34		Scoop	Prehistoric
9/11	Deposit	Compact orange sand with white clay laminae					Natural	Palaeolithic

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 10								
10/01	Deposit	Loosely compact brown black silt sand	0.3				Topsoil	
10/02	Deposit	Moderately compact black grey silt sand	0.15				Subsoil	
10/03	Deposit	Compact yellow brown silt sand with gravel deposits at the base	0.4	1.7			Ditch fill (Prehistoric boundary or post-medieval water meadow)	Prehistoric-c. 1800
10/04	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.4	1.7			Ditch (Prehistoric boundary or post-medieval water meadow)	Prehistoric-c. 1800
10/05	Deposit	Compact brown black silt sand	0.16	0.65	0.86		Tree hollow/throw fill	
10/06	Cut	Irregular oval	0.16	0.65	0.98		Tree hollow/throw	
10/07	Deposit	Highly compact orange sand with white clay laminae and in the lower part of the trench a yellow green clay					Natural	Palaeolithic

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 11								
11/01	Deposit	Loosely compact grey brown sand clay					Topsoil	
11/02	Deposit	Moderately compact yellow brown sand clay					Subsoil	
11/03	Deposit	Moderately compact brown silt clay	0.36	1.03			Upper Ditch fill	Prehistoric ?
11/04	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.37	1.03			Ditch	Prehistoric ?

11/05	Deposit	Moderately compact yellow brown sandy clay	0.21	1.15			Upper ditch fill (subsoil)	Post-medieval
11/06	Deposit	Moderately compact black brown silt clay (fen deposit)	0.55	1.15			Main ditch fill	Post-medieval
11/07	Deposit	Moderately compact red silt clay (iron stained) with wood inclusions	0.07	0.67m			Primary ditch fill	Post-medieval
11/08	Cut	Linear with sharp break of slope, steep sides and an angular break of slope and a flat base, orientated north to south	0.8	1.15			Ditch for water management	Post-medieval
11/09	Deposit	Compact yellow silt clay with grey and red mottling	0.18	0.72			Ditch fill	Prehistoric- Post-Medieval
11/10	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.18	0.72			Ditch	Prehistoric- Post-Medieval
11/11	Deposit	Compact dark grey silt clay with mottling	0.17	0.5			Ditch fill	Prehistoric- Post-Medieval
11/12	Cut	Linear with steep sides and a flat base	0.17	0.5			Ditch	Prehistoric- Post-Medieval
11/13	Deposit	Compact yellow brown clay	0.11	0.24	0.3		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
11/14	Cut	Oval cut with steep sides and a flat base	0.11	0.24	0.3		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
11/15	Deposit	Compact yellow brown clay	0.12	0.36	0.4		Posthole fill	Prehistoric ?
11/16	Cut	Oval with steep sides and a flay base	0.12	0.36	0.4		Posthole	Prehistoric ?
11/17	Deposit	Compact dark grey silt clay	0.05	0.55			Ditch primary silt	Prehistoric ?
11/18	Deposit	Highly compact light yellow grey clay					Natural London Clay	

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Trench 12								
12/01	Deposit	Loose mid grey black silt clay with small angular stones	0.2				Topsoil	
12/02	Deposit	Compact mid grey brown sand clay with small stone inclusions	0.1				Subsoil	
12/03	Deposit	Compact mid red brown with patches of white yellow					Natural	
12/04	Cut	Oval with steep sides becoming gentler and a flat base	0.33	1.37			Pit	Prehistoric ?
12/05	Deposit	Firm dark grey brown clay silt with moderate charcoal inclusions	0.33	1.37			Pit fill	Prehistoric ?

12/06	Deposit	Compact mid grey brown silt clay	0.1	0.2			Land drain fill	Modern
12/07	Deposit	Linear with steep sides and a rounded base	0.1	0.2			Land drain	Modern

ID	Type	Description	Depth	Width	Length	Finds	Interpretation	Date
Pond A Watching Brief								
A/01	Deposit	Loosely compact grey brown clay sand	0.4				Topsoil	
A/02	Deposit	Moderately compact yellow brown clay sand (truncated by land drains)	0.1	0.3	1.45		Short linear fill	Prehistoric ?
A/03	Cut	Linear with rounded terminuses	0.1	0.3	1.45		Short linear	Prehistoric ?
A/04	Deposit	Highly compact yellow grey clay					Natural	