

Gilden Way Harlow Essex



Archaeological Evaluation Report



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Gilden Way, Harlow, Essex

NGR: TL 4815 1225

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SUMMARY

Between the 9th and 25th of August 2006, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological field evaluation of land at Gilden Way, Harlow, Essex (NGR TL 4815 1225) on behalf of CgMs Consulting. This phase of evaluation revealed areas of activity within the site relating to the Bronze Age/early Iron Age, Iron Age, early to late Romano-British and post-medieval periods. Evidence for Saxon activity is slight.

All features revealed during the evaluation have been truncated by ploughing and are concentrated to the north and, north-east of the site. The archaeological evaluation generally confirms the results of the geophysical survey.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 In August 2006, Oxford Archaeology carried out a field evaluation at Gilden Way, Harlow, Essex (NGR TL 4815 1225), on behalf of CgMs consulting. The work was carried out in advance of a planning application for the development of the land by Taylor Woodrow, David Wilson Homes and Persimmon Homes (East Midlands). The archaeological requirements of the work were outlined in a Specification produced by CgMs consulting (Chadwick and Dicks 2006).

1.1.2 This evaluation follows several stages of investigation, undertaken by various contractors over a number of years (Chadwick & Dicks 2006). This phase comprised the excavation of 36 trenches targeted on geophysical anomalies identified during a survey undertaken by the Archaeological Services, University of Durham (ASUD) (Figs 2 a-j).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies within a rolling landscape with the highest part located to the north-east at *c* 70 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). From here the site slopes down to the south-western boundary at *c* 48.7 m aOD and the northern boundary is at *c* 45.7 m aOD. The western part of the site drains towards a wooded and the northern part of the site drains into the River Stort *c* 100 m north of the study area.

1.2.2 The solid geology is shown by the Institute of Geological Sciences (IGS 1979) as comprising Chalk. Further detail is provided by the 1:50,000 series British Geological Survey (BGS Sheet 240: Epping) which indicates that the majority of the study site is underlain by Boulder Clay.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background has been summarised from *Specification for an Archaeological Field Evaluation* (Chadwick and Dicks 2006)

- 2.1.2 There are three Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 500 m radius of the study area. These include a Roman villa complex adjacent to the north-eastern boundary of the site (SAM 24860), a medieval chapel c 160 m west of the study site (SAM 50) and the remains of Harlowbury Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) c 80 m west of the study site (SAM 171).
- 2.1.3 Four stages of archaeological evaluation were undertaken on the site in 1997. Stages 1-3 involved evaluation trenching primarily in the north east of the central area (Fig. 2). Stage 4 involved a geophysical survey of the entire development area (Fig. 2).
- 2.1.4 These investigations identified evidence of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement/activity and, trackways and ditches associated with the Roman villa to the north-west. More recently, a geophysical survey on the proposed application site identified a large number of positive anomalies.

Neolithic-Bronze Age

- 2.1.5 During the Neolithic and Bronze Ages, the pace of woodland clearance to create arable and pasture-based agricultural land undoubtedly varied, depending on a wide variety of climatic, topographic, social and other factors, but the trend was one of a slow, but increasing pace of forest clearance. In 1990 systematic field-walking on the site identified 5 areas with significant densities of worked flint. The 5 areas have been recorded as 'sites' on the HER (HER 14145, 14146, 14147, 14148 & 14149). In 1997 three phases of trenching were undertaken in and around a number of the HER sites (HER 14149, 14148 and 14146). The Stage 1-2 investigations recorded a total of 8 Neolithic pits and the Stage 3 investigations identified a further two possible Neolithic pits. The majority of the pits contained worked flint and tempered pottery characteristic of the Mildenhall style. Additionally, the Stage 3 investigations recorded two ditches and a small pit dated to the Middle Bronze Age and a posthole dated to the Late Bronze Age. In view of the results of the trial trenching and the field-walking, Neolithic and Bronze Age sub-surface features are expected on the north-eastern part of the application site. While, a low-moderate potential is identified for sub-surface remains of this date on the remainder of the study site. Additionally, a high potential is identified for Lithics of late prehistoric date within topsoil and subsoil horizons across the site.

Iron Age

- 2.1.6 The Stage 1 evaluation identified a small amount of Iron Age pottery within later features. However, the Stage 3 evaluation recorded two curvilinear ditches, thought to connect to form a single sub-circular or oval enclosure, with an approximate diameter of c 9 m. Significant quantities of pottery were recovered from the enclosure ditch. Additionally, three post holes, possibly representing a structure, were identified within the enclosure. Outside the enclosure, excavations in Trench 13 recorded a small gully of Late Iron Age date and excavations in Trench 17 recorded a post hole dated to the Late Iron Age. The geophysical survey identified an area of strong positive magnetic anomalies within the northern and north-eastern part of the site. Although, the majority of the anomalies are probably associated with the Roman villa site to the north-west,

there are a number of curvilinear anomalies, which may suggest further remains of Iron Age settlement on the site. In view of the results from the archaeological investigations undertaken on the site a good potential is identified for Iron Age settlement remains within the north-eastern part of the application site. The remainder of the site is considered to have a low-moderate potential for sub-surface features of Iron Age settlement and activity and a moderate potential for stray finds within subsoil and topsoil horizons across the site.

Roman

- 2.1.7 The remains of a Roman villa complex immediately north-east of the application site were scheduled in 1995 (SAM 24860). An evaluation was carried out to assess the compressibility of the archaeological deposits and the underlying sub-soils (Chadwick & Dicks 2006). The results of the evaluation confirm the presence of a Roman building or buildings. Indeed, a large quantity of Roman roof tile was discovered in the vicinity of a 'D-shaped' enclosure, which enclosed a series of post holes. The Stage 1-2 evaluation identified five Roman ditches within Trench 11. These ditches contained quantities of Roman tiles, likely to have derived from the Roman villa complex to the north-west (Chadwick & Dicks 2006). A further four ditches were identified during the Stage 2 evaluation. These include; two parallel ditches in Trench 1 (thought to have flanked a trackway), a ditch in Trench 2 and a shallow ditch in Trench 3. In view of the results of Stages 1-4 evaluation a good potential is identified for further Roman sub-surface features within the north-eastern part of the application site. Areas away from settlement were probably intensively farmed during the Roman period. Accordingly, a moderate potential is identified for the remains of field ditches. In addition, in view of the proximity of Roman villa, the remainder of the site is considered to have a moderate-high potential for stray finds.

Saxon

- 2.1.8 The settlement and communication pattern that replaced the Roman one remains obscure, but a complete abandonment of fertile, well-drained agricultural landscape seems inconceivable. Indeed, the Stage 1-2 evaluation identified early Saxon pottery within the upper fills of the 'Roman ditches' identified in Trenches 1, 2 and 3 (Chadwick & Dicks 2006) It is suggested that the ditches either went out of use and silted up in the Saxon period or that the ditches are in fact Saxon in date and contain residual Roman finds. However, in view of the absence of other Saxon settlement remains, it is likely that the ditches are dated to the late Roman period. Accordingly, the site is considered to have a low-moderate potential for sub-surface features dated to the Saxon period. However, a moderate potential is identified for residual Saxon material within later deposits and a low-moderate potential is identified for stray finds within topsoil and subsoil horizons on the site.

Medieval/post-medieval

- 2.1.9 Documentary sources record 148 tenants within the Manor of Harlowbury in 1360. Although, the majority of the tenants lay towards Harlow Tye and Hobbs Cross c 1 km

from the application site, earthworks thought to represent the remains of a deserted medieval village have been identified at Harlowbury. The earthworks, which have been designated a Scheduled Monument, are located *c* 80 m west of the application site (SAM 171, HER 18). A 12th century chapel (Harlowbury Chapel: SAM 50, HER 19) lies at the centre of the earthwork site. There is no evidence to suggest the medieval settlement extended towards the proposed application site. Indeed, the geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies, which are likely to represent house platforms. It is likely that the majority of the site was in agricultural use during the medieval period. Accordingly, a good potential is identified for medieval field ditches and stray finds as result of manuring.

2.1.10 The 1848 Tithe map of the Parish of Harlow shows the application site encompassing parts of 10 fields, predominantly in arable use. The 1884 Ordnance Survey shows little change to the layout of the fields. By 1923 a gravel pit had been opened within the south-eastern part of the site. Other than the enlargement of the gravel pit, little changes on the site between 1923 and the present day. Therefore, overall the application site is considered to have a low potential for post-medieval remains of historic interest.

3 EVALUATION AIMS

3.1 General aims:

- To determine as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features encountered.

3.2 Specific aims:

- To clarify the impact of medieval/post-medieval ploughing and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- To clarify the presence and character of any Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement/activity at the site.
- To clarify the presence/absence of Roman and Saxon settlement/activity associated with the Roman villa complex to the north-west of the application site.
- To clarify the presence and character of any prehistoric, Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, and medieval agricultural activity.
- To evaluate the targeted geophysical anomalies as detailed below:

3.2.1 It should be noted that due to rectification of geophysical survey data, when geographical reference data has been used, discrepancies can occur between the results of the archaeological evaluation results and the geophysical results. No adjustment has

been made, to either sets of data, to make a better fit., as this would result in data being extensively manipulated.

Trench No.	Length	m²	Reason for Trench
1	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate an area that does not contain anomalies.
2	40m	80m ²	This trench was located to investigate a series of NW/SE aligned linear positive magnetic anomalies to the west of the Roman villa complex.
3	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a curvilinear positive magnetic anomaly to the west of the Roman villa complex.
4	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/SW aligned linear positive anomaly.
5	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features within the curvilinear positive anomaly.
6	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a curvilinear positive magnetic anomaly to the west of the Roman villa complex.
7	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate NW/SE aligned linear positive magnetic anomalies and a large dipolar magnetic anomaly.
8	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features within a rectilinear positive anomaly.
9	25m	50m ²	As above
10	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NW/SE aligned positive anomaly.
11	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate a N/S aligned positive anomaly.
12	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features associated with the curvilinear positive anomaly to the west.
13	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features to the south of a curvilinear positive anomaly.
14	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate a N/S linear positive anomaly.
15	40m	80m ²	This trench was located to investigate two parallel NW/SE aligned linear positive anomalies.
16	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NW/SE aligned positive linear anomalies.
17	40m	80m ²	This trench was located to investigate an area, which does not contain anomalies.
18	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate NW/SE positive linear anomalies.
19	15m	30m ²	This trench was located to investigate NE/SW positive linear anomaly.
20	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate NW/SE positive

Trench No.	Length	m ²	Reason for Trench
			linear anomaly and a NE/SW positive linear anomaly.
21	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/SW positive linear anomaly.
22	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate a large dipolar anomaly.
23	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/SW aligned linear positive anomaly.
24	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/SW aligned positive linear anomaly.
25	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a long positive curvilinear anomaly.
26	30m	60m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/NW positive linear anomaly.
27	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NE/NW positive linear anomaly.
28	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate a NW/SE positive linear anomaly.
29	40m	80m ²	This trench was located to investigate two positive curvilinear anomalies.
30	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate two positive curvilinear anomalies.
31	20m	40m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features in the vicinity of Late Iron Age finds (HER 9936).
32	40m	80m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features the vicinity of late Iron Age finds (HER 9936) and the Roman tile (HER 16709).
33	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate a sub-rectilinear anomaly.
34	25m	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate the presence/absence of features in the vicinity of the sub-rectilinear anomaly.
35	25	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate an area, which does not contain anomalies.
36	25	50m ²	This trench was located to investigate an area, which does not contain anomalies.

4 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

4.1 Scope of fieldwork

4.1.1 The evaluation consisted of 36 trenches, positioned at predetermined locations, as agreed with the consultant, CgMs (Fig. 2). The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket.

4.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

4.2.1 Where appropriate trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

4.3 Finds

4.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the evaluation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number.

4.3.2 Finds retrieved by a metal detectorist, prior to the evaluation, were handed to OA site staff. These finds have been consolidated and bagged and will be deposited with the relevant receiving museum, but do not form part of this report.

4.4 Presentation of results

4.4.1 Section 5 comprises a detailed description of archaeological observations within each trench and includes individual context descriptions, with archaeological deposits and features described from earliest to latest. Each trench is also shown in plan and section, where appropriate (see Figures 3-10). General archaeological context information is summarised in the context inventory (Appendix 1).

5 RESULTS: GENERAL

5.1 Soils and ground conditions

5.1.1 The trenches were located on arable land with the stubble of a recent crop still extant. The trenches were machined to an average depth of 0.4 m onto undisturbed, banded, sandy clay natural. In the majority of trenches, a disturbed subsoil, the result of recent, deep ploughing action, underlay the topsoil, which averaged 0.19 m in depth. After heavy rainfall, water pooled in features and had to be sponged out.

6 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

6.1 Description of deposits

General

6.1.1 The topsoil and subsoil are not generally described within the individual trench descriptions. Generally topsoil was numbered as 100 in Trench 1, as 200 in Trench 2 and so on. In Trench 1 subsoil was numbered as 101 in Trench 2, as 201 and so on.

Trench 1

6.1.2 Trench 1 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.3 Natural was observed at c 0.4 m below current ground at 53.11-53.25 m aOD

6.1.4

Trench 2 (Fig 2 and 3)

- 6.1.5 Natural (217) was observed at between 53.33 m aOD and 54.13 m aOD. It was cut by a NW-SE aligned linear feature, ditch 209, which measured *c* 1.9 m long, 0.9 m wide and 0.4 m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (210), a dark silt, contained a quantity of Roman tile fragments and pottery dated to AD 350-410. A large concentration of gravel lying some 8.5 m to the east of (209) and initially thought to be a track-way proved to be a natural geological feature (211).
- 6.1.6 To the east, an ESE-WNW orientated ditch (213) was *c* 1.9 m long, 0.86 m wide and 0.3 m deep with a flat base and steeply sloping sides. It had a single fill (214), a light brown silty sand and contained finds dated to the late Roman period. Some 2.5 m to the east of (213), a NW-SE aligned ditch (205), ran through the trench. Cut (205) was 1.05 m wide and 0.4 m deep with a flat base. The single artefact-rich fill (206) contained a probable sickle. All three of these linear features appeared in the geophysical survey and all are Roman in date, containing large quantities of pottery and other finds.
- 6.1.7 At the eastern end of Trench 2, two further features were revealed. A discontinuous N-S gully/ditch (215) measured over 7 m in length and was 0.62 m wide with shallow, sloping sides and had a single silt fill (216). This contained Roman pottery and flint. At a break in ditch 215, a large posthole or small pit (203) was excavated. It was 0.6 m in diameter and 0.38 m deep and contained two fills: The lower fill, (208), a brown silt, contained patches of lime mortar and charcoal; the upper fill (204), a dark brown silt, contained late Roman pottery.

Trench 3

- 6.1.8 Trench 3 contained no archaeological features.
- 6.1.9 Natural was observed at *c* 0.38-0.48 m below current ground at *c* 51.25 m aOD

Trench 4

- 6.1.10 Trench 4 contained no archaeological features.
- 6.1.11 Natural was observed at *c* 0.48 m below current ground at 54.56-54.93 m aOD

Trench 5

- 6.1.12 Trench 5 contained no archaeological features.
- 6.1.13 Natural was observed at *c* 0.4-0.5 m below current ground at 51.36-52.1 m aOD

Trench 6 (Fig. 2 and 3)

- 6.1.14 Natural (603) was revealed at 53.98 m aOD. A large curvilinear ditch (604) was observed running NW-SE through the trench. This ditch was 2.4 m wide and 0.42 m deep with a concave base and gently sloping sides. A single brown silt clay fill, (605)

contained both Iron Age pottery and a quantity of struck flint flakes. This ditch corresponds with the curvilinear positive anomaly on which this trench was targeted.

Trench 7 (Fig. 2 and 4)

6.1.15 Natural, (703) was recorded between 55.49 m aOD at the NE end and 56.26 m aOD at the SW end of the trench. A NW-SE aligned ditch cut (704) was observed at the NE end of the trench. This measured 1.04 m wide and 0.46 m deep, with near vertical sides and a concave base. A single silty clay fill (705) contained a large quantity of Roman pottery. To the west of this feature a parallel ditch (706) was recorded. This measured 1.6 m wide and 0.44 m deep and contained a single fill, (707), a red brown sandy clay containing mid to late Roman pottery. At the SW end of the trench, a further NW-SE aligned ditch (708) was 2.5 m wide with gently sloping sides, which became vertical. Its excavation was abandoned at a depth of 0.84 m due to health and safety considerations. The upper fill (709) contained a high concentration of both charcoal and iron slag. The lower (part-excavated fill-711) appears to represent a silting up of the feature. Both deposits contained Roman pottery and ceramic building material (CBM). All three features confirm the expectations of the geophysical plots.

Trench 8 (Fig. 2 and 4)

6.1.16 Natural, (803) was recorded at 59.44 m aOD at the north end of the trench, sloping down to 58.42 m OD at the south. A single small pit (804) some 0.52 m long, 0.46 m wide and 0.12 m deep was recorded. Its fill (805) was a brown silt clay with gravel inclusions, which yielded no finds.

Trench 9 (Fig. 2 and 4)

6.1.17 Natural (903) was revealed at *c* 59 m aOD. A single posthole (904) was 0.16 m in diameter and 0.14 m deep and contained two fills. The primary clay fill (905) was overlain by 906, which was charcoal rich. Neither fill contained finds. A further feature (907) was excavated but appeared to be of geological origin. Its fill (908) contained no finds.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2 and 4)

6.1.18 In Trench 10 the natural (1003) was recorded at 58.42 m aOD to the east and at 58.86 m aOD at the west end of the trench. A N-S aligned ditch cut (1004) ran through the middle of the trench and measured 1 m wide and 0.36 m deep with a concave base. It contained two fills. The primary fill (1005), a light brown silt sand, had no finds and was overlain by (1006), a gravel-rich silt sand containing both flint and late Iron Age pottery. The ditch was probably truncated on the east side by pit (1007), although the relationship was unclear due to the similarities of the pit fill (1008) and ditch fill (1006). Pit (1007) was 0.8 m in diameter and 0.37 m deep. The single fill (1008) contained no finds. The targeted NE-SW aligned geophysical anomaly does not match the orientation or position of (1004), and may thus lie slightly to the west of the machined trench.

Trench 11 (Fig. 2 and 5)

6.1.19 In Trench 11 the natural (1103) occurred at 59.7 m aOD. Trench 11 was targeted at a N-S aligned anomaly, which was recorded as ditch (1104). This ditch was 1.06 m wide, 0.4 m deep and had a concave base. A single fill, a mottled grey brown silt clay (1105), contained flint flakes and pottery of the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age. It is possible that these finds derived originally from fill (1107) of the pit (1106), which was truncated by (1104) on its eastern side. Pit (1106) measured 0.7 m in diameter, was 0.34 m deep and had a single clay silt fill (1107), which contained no finds. A small pit/posthole (1108) was recorded at the northern end of the trench. It was 0.46 m in diameter, 0.22 m deep with vertical sides and a concave base and had a single homogenous fill (1109) that yielded no finds.

Trench 12

6.1.20 Trench 12 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.21 Natural was observed at c 0.35 m below current ground at 54.3-54.98 m aOD

Trench 13 (Fig. 2 and 5)

6.1.22 In Trench 13, natural, (1303), was revealed at between 59.69 m aOD at the east and 59.16 m aOD at the west end of the trench. A large NW-SE ditch (1308), on the alignment of a clear geophysical anomaly, measured 2.38 m wide and 0.64 m deep. It had a concave base, a gently sloping side to the west and a steeper side to the east. A single, brown silt clay fill (1309) contained flint flakes and late Iron Age pottery. A ditch (1304) extending parallel to 1308 lay some 5.5 m to the east. Ditch 1304 was 1.14 m wide, 0.36 m deep and was filled by (1305), a brown silt clay with pottery finds of probable Saxon date. A pit (1306) was partly revealed at the NW edge of the trench and measured 0.78 m in diameter and 0.22 m in depth. It had an uneven base and gently sloping sides and was filled with (1307), a mid brown silt clay with a single possibly residual flint flake.

Trench 14 (Fig. 2 and 5)

6.1.23 The N-S anomaly on which this trench was targeted probably passes slightly to the west of Trench 14. Natural (1403) was recorded at 55.73 m aOD at the NE and at 55.37 m aOD at the SW end of the trench. A sub-rectangular pit (1404) was partially revealed on the south side of the trench. It was 1.02 m across and 0.5 m deep, with a flat base and vertical sides and was filled with (1405), an orange brown silt clay. Pottery dating to the late Iron Age was recovered from this fill. Running partly into the opposite baulk, posthole (1406) was 0.7 m diameter and 0.54 m deep. Its fill, (1407), a brown silt clay, yielded late Iron Age pottery.

Trench 15 (Fig. 2 and 5)

6.1.24 In Trench 15, natural (1503) was revealed between 58.53 m aOD at the west end of the trench and 59.22 m aOD at the east end. An alignment of three postholes, orientated NE-SW was recorded. The easternmost (1512) was 0.39 m diameter and 0.12 m deep,

with a concave base. Its fill (1513) was a dark brown silt sand. About 7 m to the east was posthole 1507, which was 0.3 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep with a concave base and near-vertical sides. The fill (1507) was devoid of finds. The next post-hole (1508) was of similar profile and measured 0.2 m in diameter and 0.2 m deep. Its fill (1509) contained a single (probably residual) microlith.

- 6.1.25 A NW-SE aligned ditch cut (1504) ran between (1507) and (1512). This was 0.88 m wide and 0.2 m deep with a concave base and it had a single a brown silt clay fill (1505). Fill (1505) contained flint tempered pottery dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age and Roman pottery. At the west end of the trench feature (1510) was recorded as a sub-rectangular pit or possible ditch terminus. It measured 1.1 m long, was 1.1 m wide and 0.3 m deep with a gentle break of slope becoming near vertical at the base. The fill (1511) was a brown sand clay with no finds. Feature (1510) was truncated by a modern land-drain. It may be part of the westernmost NW-SE aligned geophysical anomaly on which this trench was targeted. However, there was no evidence of its parallel eastern counterpart in this trench.

Trench 16 (Fig. 2 and 6)

- 6.1.26 Natural (1603) was observed at between 58.78 m aOD and 58.18 m aOD. A NW-SE ditch (1607) with a concave base and gently sloping sides measured 0.72 m wide by 0.26 m deep. The single fill of this ditch (1608) was a dark brown silt sand which contained CBM and Roman pottery, although the latter was small, abraded and probably residual. Ditch 1607 was truncated by a large pit (1604), some 1.46 m in diameter. It had a concave base with fairly steep sides, partly truncated by animal burrows. It had three fills. The primary fill (1605) was a dark grey brown silt sand with charcoal inclusions and Roman pottery. This was overlain by (1606), a yellow-brown compacted sand silt. A brown silt sand (1609) with pottery finds dating to the early Roman period overlay (1606). These features appear to confirm the presence of the NW/SE aligned anomalies indicated from the geophysical survey.

Trench 17 (Fig. 2 and 6)

- 6.1.27 Natural, (1703) was observed at 61 m aOD. This was cut by a NE-SW aligned linear (1704), 0.44 m wide and 0.22 m deep. It had a 'V'-shaped base with *c* 45 degree sides. The sole fill (1705) was an orange brown silt clay. Ditch (1704) corresponds well with the targeted NE-SW geophysical anomaly.

Trench 18 (Fig. 2 and 6)

- 6.1.28 Natural (1811) was observed at between 59.65 m aOD and 59.29 m aOD. To the east, a NW-SE orientated ditch (1805) was excavated. This was 1.8 m wide and 0.58 m deep with a flat base and had two silt clay fills both of which contained early Roman pottery. Ditch (1805) appears to be a continuation of a curvilinear feature seen on the geophysical survey, which runs towards the trench from the north-east. On the east side of the ditch, a 0.15 m diameter posthole (1808) 0.26 m deep, with a single brown silt fill

(1809), yielded a copper small find. The post hole is possibly associated with the ditch and may have formed part of a fence line alongside it.

- 6.1.29 Two NW-SE parallel linear features were recorded in Trench 18 *c* 0.5 m apart. The eastern cut, ditch (1803), measured 0.97 m wide and 0.30 m deep. Two sets of parallel postholes were observed running along its (excavated) length, each averaging 0.34 m in diameter. The fill of the postholes consisted of natural, probably used as post-packing. The feature is interpreted as a ditch with a palisade on each side. Pottery of a mid to late Iron Age date and a fragment of a fibula brooch were recovered from the fill (1804). The western ditch (1801) was 0.82 m wide and 0.28 m deep with a flat base. The fill of 1801 (1802) was a dark brown silt clay which yielded pottery and flints of the mid to late Iron Age.

Trench 19 (Fig. 2 and 6)

- 6.1.30 Layer (1903), the natural in Trench 19, sloped from 60.33 m aOD in the north-west to 60.54 m aOD in the south-east. A single posthole (1904), *c* 0.31 m in diameter was 0.1 m deep. It had two fills: fill (1905), a sterile brown silt clay, *c* 0.07 m thick overlying, (1906), a charcoal-rich silt clay, which contained unidentified pottery. The NE-SW geophysical anomaly targeted by this trench appears to run slightly to the west of the trench.

Trench 20 (Fig. 2 and 7)

- 6.1.31 Natural (2003) was observed at 59.41 m aOD in the east of the trench and 58.82 m aOD to the west. A NE-SW aligned ditch (2016) was recorded running across the north-west corner of the trench. This was *c* 3.8 m long, 0.8m wide and 0.6 m deep with a concave base. Ditch (2016) contained two fills: the primary fill (2017), a mid brown silt clay with charcoal inclusions and (2018), a 0.36 m deep sandy clay with late Iron Age pottery. To the south of (2016), a sub-rectangular pit (2019) was observed partially exposed within the trench. This measured 1.4 m long, *c* 1.25 m wide and was 0.26 m deep with a concave base. Its fill (2020), a dark brown silt clay, yielded a single small pottery sherd of probable Iron Age date.
- 6.1.32 Towards the centre of the trench was a further NE-SW orientated ditch (2004), which was *c* 3 m long, 1.7 m wide and 0.34 m deep. It had a flat base, shallow sloping sides, and a single dark brown sandy clay fill (2005) containing pottery of indeterminate Roman date.
- 6.1.33 A NW-SE aligned linear (2006) 2 m to the east of (2004) measured *c* 2.1 m long, 1.3 m wide and was 0.66 m deep. It had a concave base and contained a dark brown silt clay fill (2007) containing late Iron Age pottery.
- 6.1.34 Ditch (2008), on the same alignment as (2006), was 0.34 m deep, *c* 2 m long and 0.7 m wide. Its single fill was a mid brown clay, (2009). Ditch (2008) was truncated on its east side by a parallel, NW-SE orientated ditch (2010) *c* 2m long, 0.65 m wide and 0.36 m deep with a flat base and a single brown clay fill (2011); a single flint flake was recovered from this fill. Ditch (2010) was in turn truncated, on its eastern side by

another NW-SE ditch (2012) which measured *c* 2 m long, 1.1 m wide and 0.27 m deep: its single light brown clay fill (2013) contained no finds.

- 6.1.35 Cut (2014), a NE-SW linear was *c* 2.1 m long, 1.2 m wide and 0.82 m deep, with a flat bottom and steep sides. The single fill (2015), a dark brown sandy clay, contained worked flint and pottery of late Iron Age/Roman date. Cut (2014) diagonally crossed and truncated ditches (2006) and (2008).

Trench 21 (Fig. 2 and 7)

- 6.1.36 Natural (2103) was observed in Trench 21 between 54.66 m aOD and 53.62 m aOD. A single NE-SW aligned linear located by the geophysical survey was observed. Ditch (2104) was 2.2 m in length, 1m wide and 0.32 m deep. It had a concave base and gently sloping sides. The single fill, (2105), was a mid brown silt clay which contained a flint flake and early Roman pottery.

6.1.37 *Trench 22*

- 6.1.38 Trench 22 contained no archaeological features.

- 6.1.39 Natural was observed at *c* 0.3 m below current ground at 56.06-56.32 m aOD

Trench 23 (Fig. 2 and 8)

- 6.1.40 Natural (2302) was observed between 56.39 m aOD and 55.79 m aOD. Cut (2305), a concave-based, NW-SE orientated gully was 0.44 m wide and 0.25 m deep. Fill (2306) was a brown silt clay. Immediately to the west, a NW-SE aligned ditch, cut (2303) measured *c* 2.05 m in long, 1.95 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It had a concave base and a single fill (2304), a brown silt clay that lacked any dating evidence. Cut (2307), a curvilinear feature to the west of (2303) was *c* 1.8 m long, 0.48 m wide and 0.12 m deep. This gully widened into a circular terminus at the south-west end, to be 0.8 m in diameter. The fills (2308) - a grey brown gravel-rich clay, overlain by (2309), a grey brown sandy clay) ran throughout the feature, but contained no dating evidence.

- 6.1.41 Cut (2310), a gully terminus on a NW-SE alignment, measured *c* 0.65 m long, 0.56 m wide and 0.32 m deep. It had a concave base, moderately sloping sides and two fills, (2311), a brown clay and (2312), a brown sandy clay. Another NW-SE aligned ditch (2313), ran across the trench and measured *c* 1.95 m long, 0.94 m wide and 0.31 m deep and a had a concave base. The primary fill (2314), a dark orange brown sandy-clay was overlain by (2315), a dark grey, charcoal-rich sand clay, 0.26 m thick, which contained worked flint and organic tempered un-identified pottery.

Trench 24 (Fig. 2 and 8)

- 6.1.42 Trench 24 was machined to natural (2402) between 54.28 m aOD and 54.18 m aOD. A NE-SW linear geophysical anomaly on which the trench was targeted (gully (2403), was recorded as being *c* 2.60 m long, 0.41 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It had a concave base and a mid brown clay fill (2404) which lacked dating evidence.

Trench 25 (Fig. 2 and 8)

6.1.43 Natural, (2502), was observed between 54.64 m aOD and 54.89 m aOD. A NE-SW aligned gully (2503) ran across the trench. It measured *c* 1.80 m long, 0.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It had a concave base and a brown silt clay fill (2504). To the east of this feature a gully terminus (2505), which was truncated by a modern land drain (2505) had a concave base with gently sloping sides and measured *c* 0.36 m long, 0.30 m wide and 0.14 m deep. The brown silt clay fill contained no finds.

Trench 26

6.1.44 Trench 26 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.45 Natural was observed at *c* 0.84 m below current ground at 57.95-58.3 m aOD

Trench 27

6.1.46 Trench 27 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.47 Natural was observed at *c* 0.34 m below current ground at 58.08-58.68 m aOD

Trench 28

6.1.48 Trench 28 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.49 Natural was observed at *c* 0.32 m below current ground at 59.86-60.05 m aOD

Trench 29 (Fig. 2 and 8)

6.1.50 In Trench 29 the natural was observed at 61.20 m aOD. A NE-SW aligned gully (2904) measured *c* 14.30 m long, 0.46 m wide and 0.12 m deep. The base was concave with shallow sides and it was filled with an orange brown clay silt (2905), which yielded no finds.

Trench 30 (Fig. 2 and 9)

6.1.51 Natural was observed in Trench 30 between 59.52 m aOD and 58.63 m aOD. Trench 30 was targeted at two geophysical anomalies. Two large ditches were excavated. A NE-SW ditch (3002) with rounded base and fairly steep sides was *c* 42 m long, 1.11 m wide and 0.4 m deep and contained a single grey silty clay fill (3003) containing residual flints and pottery of medieval date. Ditch (3002) was truncated on its west side by N-S aligned ditch cut (3004), which in turn was truncated on its west side by N-S aligned ditch (3014) and on its east side by a modern land drain. Ditch (3004) was *c* 2.2 m long, 1.8 m wide and 0.81 m deep with a gently sloping eastern edge and flat base. It contained three fills; the lowest (extant) fill (3007) was a dark grey silt clay with a high charcoal content, some 0.3 m in depth and pottery dating from the medieval period. The next fill (3006) was an orange brown silt clay with medieval pottery. The upper fill, (3005) was a sterile brown sandy silt.

6.1.52 Ditch (3014) measured *c* 2.2 m long, 5 m wide and was up to 1.6 m deep. It had a fairly steep, 50-60 degree east side with a more gentle, 30 to 40 degree western edge. The

bottom was concave and filled with (3015), an orange grey silt clay. Fill (3010) - a light brown silt clay - appears to slump from the western side of the cut. The main fill of (3014) was a dark grey silt clay, up to 1.2 m deep which was finds rich. The upper fill, (3008) was a dark brown silt clay, up to 0.35 m in depth and like the other fills contained finds datable to the medieval period. A further N-S aligned gully (3011), cut 3008. Gully (3011) was *c* 2.2 m long, 0.44 m wide and 0.25 m deep with a rounded base and was filled with (3012), a brown silt clay.

Trench 31 (Fig. 2 and 9)

6.1.53 Natural (3103) was observed between 60.75 m aOD and 60.96 m aOD. A single NW-SE orientated ditch (3104) terminated at the southern end of the trench. The full width of the feature, along its entire length (*c* 6.4 m including the terminus) was partly obscured by the eastern baulk. Cut (3104) was *c* 0.55 m wide and 0.4 m deep with a rounded base. The sole fill (3105), a grey brown silt clay, contained medieval pottery.

Trench 32

6.1.54 Trench 32 contained no archaeological features.

6.1.55 Natural was observed at *c* 0.36 m below current ground at 60.07-60.78 m aOD

Trench 33 (Fig. 2 and 10)

6.1.56 Trench 33 was machined to natural (3307) between 58.77 m aOD and 58.15 m aOD. A N-S orientated ditch cut (3301) had been heavily truncated by probable re-cuts on the same alignment, visible on its east side only. Ditch (3301) was a gently sloping, 30-40 degree cut, which was not bottomed due to health and safety considerations, but was found to be in excess of 1.2 m deep and *c* 0.8 m wide. A single surviving fill (3304), a mixed clay/chalk and sand contained a flint. Ditch (3301) was cut/re-cut by (3306) on the west side of (3304) and by (3305) on the east: Cut (3306) was at least 0.74 m deep but was not bottomed and at least 3.6 m wide, continuing beyond the western edge of the trench. Cut (3305) measured 0.7 m wide and 0.38 m deep and had a rounded base. Both ditches were filled by the same light brown sandy loam (3303) that contained medieval finds. A further mid brown silt clay fill (3302) overlay (3303) and also yielded medieval pottery.

Trench 34

6.1.57 Trench 34 contained no archaeological features

6.1.58 Natural was observed at *c* 0.32 m below current ground at 59.21-59.33 m aOD

Trench 35 (Fig. 2 and 10)

6.1.59 Natural (3503) was observed between 60.03 m aOD and 59.20 m aOD. A small pit or posthole (3504) was located at the southern end of the trench. It was 0.64 m in diameter and 0.08 m deep. It had a single grey brown silt clay fill, (3505).

Trench 36 (Fig. 2 and 10)

6.1.60 Natural (3603) was encountered between 52.72 m aOD and 52.61 m aOD. Two NE-SW aligned ditches/gullies ran across the trench. The easternmost (3606) was 0.66 m wide, 0.08 m deep and had a single orange brown silt sand fill (3607). Cut (3604) was located 5.5 m to the west and measured 0.78 m wide and 0.18 m deep. It was filled with (3605), a brown silt sand, which contained Medieval pottery.

6.2 Finds***The Pottery by Edward Biddulph (OA) (see Appendix 2)***

6.2.1 A total of 760 sherds of pottery, weighing 5374 g, was recovered during the evaluation (Appendix 2). The assemblage was rapidly scanned to identify diagnostic pieces, allowing context-groups to be spot-dated. Context-groups were quantified by weight and sherd count. A note was made of the range of fabrics present; where possible, forms were assigned to types from Going's Chelmsford typology (Going 1987).

6.2.2 Coarse, flint-tempered pottery may be dated to the later Bronze Age or early Iron Age (with the emphasis on the later Bronze Age). No forms were identified in this fabric, but similarly-dated sand-tempered wares (cf. Barrett and Bond 1988, 25-37) were recovered from context 1305. A small amount of sand-tempered pottery may belong to the middle Iron Age, but the next significant portion of the assemblage dates to the late Iron Age, characterised by grog-tempered wares. The grog-tempering tradition lasted in the region from *c* 50 BC to AD 70/80, though context-groups containing no exclusively post-conquest pieces have been confined to the late Iron Age.

6.2.3 The bulk of the assemblage belonged to the Roman period. Early Roman pottery (*c* AD 43-125) took a small share of the Roman material, and mainly comprised grog-tempered wares in association with post-conquest sandy grey wares. No forms, except a grey ware platter (type A2) in context 2105, were recognised. The majority of the Roman pottery, however, dated to after AD 250. Context-groups from trench 2 included shell-tempered ware and Hadham oxidised ware with so-called 'Romano-Saxon' (RSX) decoration and must date to the late 4th century or beyond. A standard range of late Roman forms were present: B6 bead-and-flanged dishes, G24 and G27 necked jars, and E2/E6 bowl-jars. Mortaria reached the site in this period from the Nene Valley, Oxfordshire, and, more locally, Much Hadham. The remaining Roman context-groups contained undiagnostic sherds, mainly in grey ware, and could not be dated closely.

6.2.4 Trench 13 (context 1305) contained sandy and organic tempered pottery that probably dates to the early Anglo-Saxon period (5th/6th century AD). As Iron Age and Saxon fabrics are superficially very similar, it is possible that sandy fabrics encountered in other features and currently dated to the Iron Age should also be given a Saxon date. Trenches 30, 31, 33 and 36 contained medieval wares only. These included hard-fired shell-tempered and sandy fabrics. The key periods in this assemblage are the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age and Roman period, especially after AD 250. With an average sherd weight of 7 g, the condition of the pottery is poor, but given the

chronological and typological range of material present, the focus of settlement is unlikely to be far from the area of intervention.

Flint by Rebecca Devaney (OA) (Appendix 3)

6.2.5 A total of 129 pieces of worked flint (*Table 1, below*) and 81 fragments (1096 g) of burnt un-worked flint were recovered. The material was spread between 41 contexts in 17 trenches. Most contexts contained less than 10 pieces of flint, however, concentrations of between 10 and 18 pieces occurred in six contexts (605), (1105), (1305), (1505), (1806), (3009) in trenches 6, 11, 13, 15, 18 and 30, across the middle of the site. Chronologically diagnostic pieces were not present in the assemblage; however, the debitage is reminiscent of later Neolithic to early Bronze Age flint working.

Table 1. Summary of worked flint

Flint category	Total
Flake	95
Blade	4
Blade-like flake	5
Irregular waste	5
Chip	1
Single platform blade core	1
Single platform flake core	1
Multiplatform flake core	3
Core on a flake	2
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	3
End and side scraper	1
End scraper	2
Scraper on a non-flake blank	1
Retouched flake	4
Miscellaneous retouch	1
Total	129

Methodology, raw material and condition

6.2.6 The worked flint was catalogued according to a standard debitage, core or tool type. Information about burning, breaks, condition, raw material and technology was recorded and, where possible, dating was attempted. In addition, cores were weighed and burnt un-worked flint was quantified by count and weight. The data was entered into an MS Access database.

6.2.7 The majority of pieces of an identifiable raw material are gravel derived flint, which are characterised by a thin and abraded cortex. These pieces are likely to be locally derived, perhaps coming from river gravel deposits. A small amount of chalk flint, identified by a thick white cortex, is also present. The site is located on the London Clay and so chalk flint is not local, the nearest possible source being at least 15 km to the north where the chalk bedrock outcrops.

6.2.8 The majority of pieces (80%) exhibit slight to moderate post-depositional damage with just 17% of the assemblage being in a fresh condition. The damage is most frequently

seen on vulnerable unretouched edges and implies the occurrence of post-depositional disturbance. The amount of surface alteration is minimal with the majority of the assemblage (83%) remaining uncorticated. Just 22 pieces (17%) exhibit cortication, with only one of these being heavily corticated. A total of 46 pieces (36%) are broken and four are burnt.

Technology and dating

- 6.2.9 The assemblage is dominated by unretouched flakes (110 pieces, 85%). Of this total, 95 pieces are flakes and nine are blades. This proportion (9% blades) is quite low and suggests the bulk of the material dates to the later Neolithic (Ford 1987:79, table 2). In general, the debitage exhibits characteristics that are consistent with the hard hammer industries of this date, such as large platforms, pronounced cones and points of percussion and clear ventral ripples. On the contrary, the few blade removals often exhibit platform edge abrasion, which is usually seen in the more planned and carefully executed industries of the Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic, and dorsal blade scars, which indicates previous blade removals were taken from the same core and suggests they are genuine blade removals as opposed to unintentional blades removed from predominantly flake based cores. It is therefore likely that a small proportion of the assemblage derives from the Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic.
- 6.2.10 The flake cores are quite small in size, weighing between 14 g and 63 g. They are all fairly irregularly worked which suggests a haphazard and unplanned reduction strategy. The cores are not chronologically diagnostic, but are not out of place with the rest of the predominantly later Neolithic and early Bronze Age assemblage. The blade core is the largest of the cores, weighing 79 g, and is likely to date from the Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic. The piece may be associated with the small blade assemblage, however, it was contextually associated with flakes and not blades.
- 6.2.11 The retouched element of the assemblage is small (nine pieces, representing only 7% of the total assemblage), with the range of tools limited to scrapers and retouched flakes. The tools are quite crudely manufactured, but are consistent with a general later Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Discussion and significance

- 6.2.12 The flint from Harlow can be broadly dated to the later Neolithic and early Bronze Age, the dating being based on the technological and typological composition of the assemblage. A couple of pieces, including the blades and blade core, may date from the Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic. The assemblage therefore suggests small scale activity at the site throughout this period. The burnt unworked material is thinly scattered across the site and is not indicative of any specific activity. Further work is not recommended, however, the flint should be reconsidered alongside any material recovered from future excavations at the site.

Animal Bone by Lena Strid (OA) Appendix 4)

6.2.13 A total of 214 (re-fitted) animal bones were recovered from this site (see table A.5.1). Most bones were in a fairly good condition (see Lyman 1994:355 for definitions) (see table A5.2) although several were very fragmented.. Three bones were burnt, and only two bone displayed gnaw marks. The bone assemblage seems to be household refuse. The predominance of cattle in the assemblage (see table A.5.2) is to be considered normal, regardless of time period. The presence of dogs is evidenced by gnaw marks on a sheep/goat radius and a deer tibia. A cattle humerus, metacarpal and tibia were all fused distally, indicating that they derived from sub-adult and/or adult animals. Butchering marks and pathological conditions were absent in the assemblage. No further information can be gained from such a small sample of bones.

Metal Work by Ian Scott (OA)

6.2.14 A total of 57 metal items (71 fragments) were recovered. The assemblage comprises 52 iron and 5 copper alloy objects. The ironwork was encrusted with corrosion products, but apparently stable. The copper alloy was well preserved.

6.2.15 The majority of the iron was from Trench 2 (n = 42) and included at least 14 hobnails from contexts 206 and 210. Other finds from these contexts included nails, miscellaneous fragments, etc. (Table 2 below, including a small reaping hook, probably socketed, from context 206. There were no copper alloy objects from Trench 2. Trench 7 produced a single nail fragment. Trench 16 produced a single fragment of copper alloy, apparently much eroded. It appeared polished on one face. Its function is unclear. Trench 18 produced three copper alloy objects. Two pieces came from context 1804: one piece as a fragment of a spring from a brooch, the other was a strip bent into a curve and apparently decorated with two pieces attached to one edge. One of these pieces appeared to be in the shape of a bird. Its purpose is unclear. The third piece of copper alloy was tiny fragment of strip bent into a loop (context 1809).

6.2.16 Trench 25 produced a single fragment of copper alloy strip, eroded to an irregular outline. Trench 30 produced five pieces of iron, four from context 3006. The finds include two nails, a fragment of bar and a piece of strip. Context 3000 curved iron strip fragment. Trench 33 produced four pieces of iron, three from context 3302. The finds from 3302 included a nail, a small hook, possible from a swivel attachment and post-medieval 'fiddle-key' type horseshoe nail. The remaining find was a nail from context 3303. The finds of interest were from context 206 (reaping hook, and hobnails), 210 (hobnails) and 1804 (brooch spring fragment and decorated bar of strip). None of these finds would be out of place in a Romano-British context.

Table 2. The metalwork: Quantification by Context and Functional Category

Ctxt	Use								Context Totals
	Tools	Transport	Personal	Structural	Nails	Misc	Query	Unknown	
204						2			2
206	1		10		1	1	1	9	23
207					5	1	1		7
210			4		2	4			10

711					1				1
1602						1			1
1804			1				1		2
1809							1		1
2504						1			1
3000						1			1
3006					2	1	1		4
3302		1		1	1				3
3303					1				1
Function Totals	1	1	15	1	13	12	5	9	57

Environmental remains by Martha Perez (OA) (Appendix 5)

- 6.2.17 Ten bulk samples, of 40L each, were taken during the evaluation for the recovery of charred plant remains, small bones and artefacts. The samples were taken from a range of archaeological features including a linear feature, ditches and a pit, all provisionally dated to the Iron Age and Romano-British period. Eight bulk samples were processed by flotation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh. After air-drying the flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at x 10 and x20 magnification with the residues sorted by hand. Samples <9> and <10> were processed by wet sieving solely for the recovering of bones and artefacts.
- 6.2.18 The eight flots ranged in size from 20ml to 350ml. All contained some modern seeds and weeds, as well as small pieces of plastic. Wood charcoal was present in all the flots and was especially abundant in the sample taken from the linear feature (sample 1). Sample <1> was the only one to contain relatively large and potentially identifiable fragments of charcoal; the rest contained fragments smaller than 2mm. Samples <1>, <3> and <4> contained charred grain, but all were very small and badly preserved with a very unclear structure. In sample <1> fragments of burnt spikelets were found, suggesting that the grains were carbonised as complete spikelets. However, the chaff that surrounded the grains has burned away entirely. Coal was present in samples (<1> and <8>) alongside wood charcoal. The presence of coal is usually considered to represent modern contamination. Snails were only found in samples <4> and <6> and were common in sample <4> (a ditch fill). Species included some tentatively identified as: *Ena montana* and *Discus rotandatus*, both are indicative of shaded places. Some other snails present were identified as modern molluscs (including the burrowing snail *Ceciliodes acicula*). This finding, together with the presence of modern weeds and coal is likely to indicate some degree of bioturbation or intrusion. The flot from sample <1> produced hammer-scale and small pieces of slag. Small flint flakes were found in samples <1> and <5>. All the samples contained fragments of pottery; burnt clay and flint (sometimes burnt). Iron and slag were present in several samples, and a fragment of copper alloy was found in sample <5>.
- 6.2.19 A single piece of oyster shell was recovered from context 3008, which was dated by pottery to the medieval period.

Discussion and recommendations

- 6.2.20 The soil samples described in this report were taken to assess the preservation and abundance of environmental and economic indicators from a selection of contexts. The relatively small number of samples taken obviously limit the findings, and the small preservation of charred material in particular samples can not be taken to imply that all features subsequently excavated in the vicinity will be devoid of such material. The results of the assessment indicate that the sampled pit, ditches and linear feature contained some discarded refuse of domestic origin (fuel-wood and pottery) and (in sample 1) possibly industrial origin (hammer-scale and slag). The only indications of domestic food refuse were the occasional cereal grains in some of the samples.
- 6.2.21 With the exception of the charcoal in sample <1>, the quantity and preservation of charcoal was generally quite poor which makes the potential for further identification low. The range of food remains was also limited and poorly preserved. It is recommended that the only sample with any potential for further work is sample <1>, where charcoal analysis may inform on the use of fuel wood associated with metalworking. Although molluscs were well preserved in samples <4>, the analysis of snails from a single sample of ditch fill is not likely to produce much significant information. However, if further archaeological mitigation is proposed a programme of environmental sampling for snails and charred remains is recommended in accordance with best practise. Given the calcareous nature of the soils, as indicated by the preservation of mollusc shells, pollen is likely to be poorly preserved and specific sampling would not be recommended unless waterlogged features are discovered.

7 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

7.1 Reliability of field investigation

7.2 Geophysical Survey

- 7.2.1 The geophysical survey results (ASUD 2005) produced strong geophysical responses in certain areas of the site, with other areas producing minimal or no responses. The trenches in this phase of evaluation were targeted at these geophysical anomalies to test their reliability and determine, where possible, the nature and date of any features observed. In addition trenches were targeted at areas showing minimal or no activity to test the reliability of the survey in these areas.
- 7.2.2 Generally the geophysical survey seems to have been reliable, with most trenches revealing the features they were targeted upon. Trenches targeted at areas lacking anomalies have confirmed that these areas are generally lacking in archaeological features. In particular it has been confirmed that the area to the south of the southern trackway is generally lacking in archaeological features or deposits.
- 7.2.3 The only trenches where the geophysical survey, and evaluation results did not correspond well were 4, 5, 14, 22, 26 and 28. This may be as a result of poor geophysical results, or irregularities in the initial setting out for the geophysical survey, which would make the accurate targeting of trenches difficult if not impossible.

7.2.4 In conclusion, the results of the evaluation corresponded well with the geophysical results.

7.3 *Evaluation*

7.3.1 The results of the evaluation appeared to be generally reliable. There was little cross-contamination of finds within the features. However, as a result of post-medieval ploughing, some medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from the upper levels of the prehistoric features.

7.3.2 While medieval and post-medieval ploughing will undoubtedly have had a negative impact on archaeological features and deposits, the evaluation has proved that these features and deposits remain largely intact and that relationships between features are easily determined.

7.4 **Overall interpretation**

Neolithic/ Bronze Age

7.4.1 Flints recovered during the evaluation may indicate later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity has occurred across the site although no features of this date were observed in any of the trenches. The majority of the flints were found in contexts of demonstrably later date. Distinct areas of concentration could not be determined.

7.4.2 Further possible evidence for Bronze Age activity comes from Trench 11 to the east of the site with a single ditch fill containing flint-tempered wares, although this pottery may date to the early Iron Age.

Iron Age

7.4.3 Mid to late Iron Age activity is focused in the centre of the site (Fig. 2) in Trenches 10, 13-16, 18 and 20 with further activity in Trenches 3 and 6 to the north-western edge of the site. These latter trenches are located over curvilinear ditches which contract with the later rectilinear system of probable Roman date described below.

7.4.4 The pottery recovered during this phase of evaluation points to a locally focussed small settlement farming settlement. This is indicated by the general lack of imported pottery goods the pottery recovered being primarily locally produced grog and flint-tempered wares.

Roman

7.4.5 Early to mid-Roman activity is concentrated to the eastern area of the site north of the southern east-west track, within Trenches 15, 16, 18, 20 and 21. Further evidence for activity from this period was found in Trenches 2 and 7 to the north-west. In general this activity coincides with the rectilinear trackway and enclosure system best described by anomalies recorded during the geophysical investigation.

- 7.4.6 The focus of activity and may be associated with the Roman villa complex recorded immediately to the north-west of the evaluation area (CgMs 2006). Some development can be seen in the layout of this system and excavated features of Later Roman date appear focused slightly more west of the earlier Roman activity, (in Trenches 14, 15 and 16, again with activity to the north-west in Trenches 2 and 7).
- 7.4.7 The pottery and other finds indicate that during the early Roman period the small settlement, which probably represents a continuation of occupation from the late Iron Age, remained locally focussed and probably of low status. Over time, however, the settlement became more outward looking with pottery being imported from outside the immediate area possibly via the Roman town at Harlow. This consisted of significant quantities of Hadham wares from the Stanstead area.
- 7.4.8 Interestingly the site seems to lack any of the goods that would be associated with the high status villa to the immediate north-west of the evaluation area. If the features in this area represent settlement then this might be of a lower status, possible for estate workers.

Saxon

- 7.4.9 Pottery of probable Saxon date was recovered from the fill (1305) of ditch 1304 in Trench 13 to the centre of the site. Whilst no centre of Saxon activity could be determined from the results of this evaluation, the location of the Saxon pottery in association with areas of mid-late Roman activity may indicate continuity of occupation or land use.

Medieval

- 7.4.10 Medieval activity is limited to the south-west of the site in Trenches 30, 31 and 33, with some activity to the northern limits of the evaluation area in trench 36. The features interpreted as medieval are indicative of agricultural sub-division of the site rather than settlement and occupation.

7.5 Summary

- 7.5.1 Overall the results of this phase of evaluation appear to correspond well with previous phases, and in particular with the results of geophysical survey.
- 7.5.2 The central/eastern part of the investigation area, focussed on the trackways and enclosures is the main focus of activity from the Iron Age to late Roman period. Further activity from these periods is also indicated to the north-west. Interestingly the Iron Age/Roman settlement seems, during its occupation, to have remained relatively small scale, low status and remained reasonably static within the landscape
- 7.5.3 The southern area of the site, which was not previously evaluated, appears to provide evidence for activity limited to the medieval period.

7.5.4

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Finds	Date
1	NE-SW	0.40m	N	101	Topsoil	0.24m		
				102	Subsoil	0.16m		
				103	Natural			
2	E-W	0.45m	Y	201	Topsoil	0.30m		
				202	Subsoil	0.15m		
				203	Posthole cut	0.60x0.38m		
				204	Posthole fill		Y	Roman-250-410
				205	Ditch cut	c 1.80x1.05x0.40m		
				206	Ditch fill		Y	Roman-350-410
				207	Unstrat. finds			Roman-350-410
				208	Posthole fill			
				209	Ditch cut	c 1.80x0.84x0.40m	Y	Roman-350-410
				210	Ditch fill		Y	Roman-350-410
				211	VOID			
212	VOID							
213	Ditch cut	c 1.80mx0.86x0.30m						
214	Ditch fill		Y					
215	Ditch cut	7.00x0.62x0.16m						
216	Ditch fill		Y	Roman				
3	N-S	0.38m	N	301	Topsoil	0.10m		
				302	Subsoil	0.28m		
				303	Natural			
4	E-W	0.48m	N	401	Topsoil	0.28m		
				402	Subsoil	0.20m		
				403	Natural			
5	E-W	0.40m	N	501	Topsoil	0.10m		
				502	Subsoil	0.30m		

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Findings	Date
				503	Natural			
6	E-W	0.40m	Y	601	Topsoil	0.30m		
				602	Subsoil	0.10m		
				603	Natural			
				604	Ditch cut	c 1.80x2.40x0.42 m		
				605	Ditch fill		Y	IA
7	NE-SW	0.58m	Y	701	Topsoil	0.14m		
				702	Subsoil	0.48m		
				703	Natural			
				704	Ditch cut	c 1.98x1.04x0.46 m		
				705	Ditch fill		Y	Roman?
				706	Ditch cut	c 1.98x1.60x0.44 m		
				707	Ditch fill		Y	Roman-250-350
				708	Ditch cut	c 1.98x2.50x0.84 m		
				709	Ditch fill		Y	Roman-280-410
				711	Ditch fill		Y	Roman
8	N-S	0.56m	Y	801	Topsoil	0.28m		
				802	Subsoil	0.28m		
				803	Natural			
				804	Pit cut	0.52x0.46x0.12 m		
				805	Pit fill		N	
9	E-W	0.52m	Y	901	Topsoil	0.32m		
				902	Subsoil	0.20m		
				903	Natural			
				904	Posthole cut	0.16x0.16x0.14 m		
				905	Posthole fill		N	
				906	Posthole fill		N	
				907	Ditch cut	c 2.50xc 0.70x0.13m		
				908	Ditch fill		N	
10	E-W	0.60m	Y	1001	Topsoil	0.28m		
				1002	Subsoil	0.32m		
				1003	Natural			
				1004	Ditch cut	c		

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Finds	Date
						1.80x1.00x0.36 m		
				1005	Ditch fill		N	
				1006	Ditch fill		Y	LIA
				1007	Pit cut	?x0.80x0.37m		
				1008	Pit fill		Y	?
11	NE-SW	0.38m	Y	1101	Topsoil	0.12m		
				1102	Subsoil	0.26m		
				1103	Natural			
				1104	Ditch cut	<i>c</i> 1.98x1.06x0.40 m		
				1105	Ditch fill		Y	LBA/EIA
				1106	Pit cut	0.70x0.70x0.34 m		
				1107	Pit fill		N	
				1108	Pit cut	0.46x0.46x0.22 m		
				1109	Pit fill		N	
12	E-W	0.35m	N	1201	Topsoil	0.20m		
				1202	Subsoil	0.15m		
				1203	Natural			
13	NE-SW	0.40m	Y	1301	Topsoil	0.12m		
				1302	Subsoil	0.28m		
				1303	Natural			
				1304	Ditch cut	<i>c</i> 1.90x1.14x <i>c</i> 0.36m		
				1305	Ditch fill		Y	Saxon
				1306	Pit cut	<i>c</i> 0.78mx0.22m		
				1307	Pit fill		Y	
				1308	Ditch cut	<i>c</i> 1.90mx2.38x0.64m		
				1309	Ditch fill		Y	LIA
14	NE-SW	0.32m	Y	1401	Topsoil	0.12m		
				1402	Subsoil	0.20m		
				1403	Natural			
				1404	Pit cut	102x?x0.50m		
				1405	Pit fill		Y	LIA/Roman
				1406	Posthole cut	0.70x0.70x0.54 m		
				1407	Posthole fill		Y	LIA
15	NE-SW	0.60m	Y	1501	Topsoil	0.20m		
				1502	Subsoil	0.40m		
				1503	Natural			

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Finds	Date
				1504	Ditch cut	c 1.98x0.88x0.20 m		
				1505	Ditch fill		Y	Roman
				1506	Posthole cut	0.30x0.30x0.12 m		
				1507	Posthole fill		N	
				1508	Posthole cut	0.20x0.20x0.20 m		
				1509	Posthole fill		Y	LIA?
				1510	Pit cut	1.10x1.10x0.30 m		
				1511	Pit fill		N	
				1512	Posthole cut	0.40x0.38x0.12 m		
				1513	Posthole fill		N	
16	N-S	0.60m	Y	1601	Topsoil	0.34m		
				1602	Subsoil	0.26m		M/LIA
				1603	Natural			
				1604	Pit Cut	?x1.46x0.54m		
				1605	Pit fill		Y	Roman
				1606	Pit fill		N	
				1607	Ditch cut	c 1.90x0.72x0.26 m		
				1608	Ditch fill		Y	Roman
				1609	Pit fill		Y	Roman-43-80
17	NE-SW	0.32m	Y	1701	Topsoil	0.10m		
				1702	Subsoil	0.22m		
				1703	Natural			
				1704	Ditch cut	c 1.98x0.44x0.22 m		
				1705	Ditch fill		Y	?
18	NE-SW	0.41m	Y	1800	Topsoil	0.30m		
				1801	Ditch cut	c 1.90x0.82x0.28 m		
				1802	Ditch fill		Y	LIA
				1803	Ditch cut	c 1.90x0.97x0.30 m		
				1804	Ditch fill		Y	LIA
				1805	Ditch cut	c 1.90x1.80x0.58 m		

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Findings	Date
				1806	Ditch fill		Y	M/LIA
				1807	Ditch fill			Roman-43-80
				1808	Posthole	0.15x0.15x0.26 m		
				1809	Posthole fill		Y	?
				1810	Subsoil	0.11m		
				1811	Natural			
19	NW-SE	0.38m	Y	1901	Topsoil	0.30m		
				1902	Subsoil	0.08m		
				1903	Natural			
				1904	Posthole cut	0.32x0.30x0.10 m		
				1905	Posthole fill		N	
				1906	Posthole fill		Y	?
20	NE-SW	0.45m	Y	2001	Topsoil	0.30m		
				2002	Subsoil	0.15m		
				2003	Natural			
				2004	Ditch cut	c 3.00x1.70x0.34 m		
				2005	Ditch fill		Y	Roman
				2006	Ditch cut	c 2.10x1.30x0.66 m		
				2007	Ditch fill		Y	LIA
				2008	Ditch cut	c 2.00x0.70x0.34 m		
				2009	Ditch fill		N	
				2010	Ditch cut	c 2.00x0.65x0.36 m		
				2011	Ditch fill		Y	?
				2012	Ditch cut	c 2.00x1.10x0.27 m		
				2013	Ditch fill		N	
				2014	Ditch cut	c 2.10x1.20x0.82 m		
				2015	Ditch fill		Y	LBA/EIA
				2016	Ditch cut	c 3.80x0.80x0.60 m		
				2017	Ditch fill		N	
				2018	Ditch fill		Y	LIA?
				2019	Pit cut	c		

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Finds	Date
						1.25x1.40x0.26 m		
				2020	Pit fill		Y	IA
21	E-W	0.50m	Y	2101	Topsoil	0.16m		
				2102	Subsoil	0.32m		
				2103	Natural			
				2104	Ditch cut	c 1.00x1.00x0.32 m		
				2105	Ditch fill		Y	Roman-43-125
22	E-W	0.30m	N	2200	Topsoil	0.30m		
				2201	Natural			
23	N-S	0.40m	Y	2300	Topsoil	0.30m		
				2301	Subsoil	0.10m		
				2302	Natural			
				2303	Ditch cut	c 2.05x1.95mx0.30m		
				2304	Ditch fill		Y	?
				2305	Gully cut	c 1.8x0.44x0.25m		
				2306	Gully fill		N	
				2307	Gully cut	c 1.8x0.48x0.12m		
				2308	Gully fill		N	
				2309	Gully fill		N	
				2310	Gully terminus	c 0.65mx0.56x0.32m		
				2311	Gully fill		N	
				2312	Gully fill		N	
				2313	Ditch cut	c 1.95x0.94x0.31 m		
				2314	Ditch fill		N	
				2315	Ditch fill		Y	?
24	E-W	0.50m	Y	2400	Topsoil	0.30m		
				2401	Subsoil	0.08m		
				2402	Natural			
				2403	Gully cut	c 2.60x0.41x0.10 m		
				2404	Gully fill		N	
				2405	Pit cut	1.03x1.95m		
25	E-W	0.46m	Y	2500	Topsoil	0.26m		
				2501	Subsoil	0.18m		

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Finds	Date
				2502	Natural			
				2503	Gully cut <i>c</i> 1.80x0.60x0.30m			
				2504	Gully fill		Y	?
				2505	Gully terminus <i>c</i> 0.36x0.30x0.14m			
				2506	Gully fill		N	
26	NW-SE	0.34m	N	2601	Topsoil	0.12m		
				2602	Subsoil	0.22m		
				2603	Natural			
27	NW-SE	0.34m	N	2701	Topsoil	0.12m		
				2702	Subsoil	0.22m		
				2703	Natural			
28	NE-SW	0.32m	N	2801	Topsoil	0.12m		
				2802	Subsoil	0.20m		
				2803	Natural			
29	NE-SW	0.44m	Y	2901	Topsoil	0.22m		
				2902	Subsoil	0.22m		
				2903	Natural			
				2904	Gully Cut <i>c</i> 14.3x0.46x0.12m			
				2905	Gully fill		N	
30	E-W	0.30m	Y	3000	Topsoil	0.18m		
				3001	Subsoil	0.12m		
				3002	Ditch cut <i>c</i> 4.50x1.11x0.40m			
				3003	Ditch fill		Y	?
				3004	Ditch cut <i>c</i> 2.20x1.10x0.81m			
				3005	Ditch fill		N	
				3006	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3007	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3008	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3009	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3010	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3011	Ditch cut <i>c</i> 2.20x0.44x0.25m			
				3012	Ditch fill		N	
				3013	Natural			
				3014	Ditch cut <i>c</i>			

Tr.	Orientation	Avg depth to natural	Archaeology present	Context	Type	Dimensions and depth	Findings	Date
						2.20x5.00x1.60 m		
				3015	Ditch fill		Y	?Med
31	NW-SE	0.28m	Y	3101	Topsoil	0.12m		
				3102	Subsoil	0.16m		
				3103	Natural			
				3104	Ditch cut	c 6.4x c 0.55x0.40m		
				3105	Ditch fill		Y	?Med
32	NW-SE	0.36m	N	3201	Topsoil	0.16m		
				3202	Subsoil	0.20m		
				3203	Natural			
33	E-W	0.51m	Y	3300	Topsoil	0.30m		
				3301	Ditch cut	c 1.90x4.90x c 1.2m		
				3302	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3303	Ditch fill		Y	Med
				3304	Ditch fill		Y	?
				3305	Ditch cut	c 1.90x0.70 x c 0.38m		
				3306	Ditch cut	c 1.90 x 3.60 x c 0.74m		
				3307	Natural			
34	NW-SE	0.32m	N	3401	Topsoil	0.10m		
				3402	Subsoil	0.21m		
				3403	Natural			
35	N-S	0.36m	Y	3501	Topsoil	0.10m		
				3502	Subsoil	0.26m		
				3503	Natural			
				3504	Pit cut	0.64x0.64x0.08 m		
				3505	Pit fill		N	
36	NE-SW	0.41m	Y	3601	Topsoil	0.20m		
				3602	Subsoil	0.21m		
				3603	Natural			
				3604	Gully cut	c 2.00x0.78x0.18 m		
				3605	Gully fill		Y	Med
				3606	Gully cut	c 2.00x0.66x0.08 m		
				3607	Gully fill		N	

APPENDIX 2 POTTERY

Table A2.1 Pottery catalogue

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Date
204	22	203	Nene Valley colour-coat, B6 (grey ware), G24 (grey ware), Oxfordshire whiteware mortarium fabric	250-410
206	78	585	G24 (grey ware), G27 (late shell-tempered ware), B6 (grey ware), bowl with RSX decoration (Hadham oxidised ware), grog-tempered ware	350-410
207	49	655	bowl with RSX decoration (Hadham oxidised ware), B1/B4/B6 dishes (grey ware/Hadham grey ware), E6 (Hadham oxidised ware), late shell-tempered ware	350-410
210	61	342	G27 (late shell-tempered ware), narrow-necked jar (grey ware), jars (Hadham oxidised ware, grey ware), Oxfordshire whiteware mortarium fabric	350-410
214	2	44	Grey ware jar	?200-410
216	2	11	Grey ware, flint-tempered jar	Roman
304	1	3	?Coarse grog-tempered ware	LIA
605	7	21	Jar (flint-tempered ware)	IA
707	16	286	D14 (Nene Valley white ware mortarium), Hadham oxidised ware, grey ware	250-350
709	11	441	Jar (grey ware), D7 (Hadham oxidised ware), storage jar fabric	280-410
711	3	347	Storage jar fabric	Roman
1006	10	42	Grog-tempered ware	LIA
1105	21	87	LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware	LBA/EIA
1305	42	374	Slack-profiled jars (sandy/organic fabrics)	?Saxon
1309	22	167	MIA sandy fabric, grog-tempered ware (bowl and jar)	LIA
1405	14	82	(Context number is uncertain; unstrat) G24 (oxidised ware, grey ware), E2 (grey ware), CG samian, Hadham ware	200-410
1405	10	119	Flint-tempered ware, grog-tempered ware, MIA sandy fabric	LIA
1407	1	19	Coarse grog-tempered ware	LIA
1502	4	11	Flint-tempered ware	M/LIA
1505	12	108	Flint-tempered (LBA/EIA); storage jar fabric	Roman
1602	2	2	Flint-tempered ware	M/LIA
1605	73	190	LBA/EIA flint-tempered fabric, grey/oxidised ware	Roman
1608	33	125	LBA/EIA flint-tempered fabric, grey ware	Roman
1609	43	535	Storage jar fabric, coarse grog-tempered ware, grey ware, beaker (oxidised ware), LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware, LIA flint-tempered ware	43-80
1802	9	17	LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware, ?LIA flint-tempered ware	LIA
1804	3	4	LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware, ?LIA flint-tempered ware	LIA
1806	11	14	Flint-tempered ware, sandy fabric	M/LIA
1807	5	16	Grog-tempered ware, grey ware	43-80
1906	2	2	Unidentified	Undated
2005	6	12	Flint-tempered ware, grey ware	Roman
2007	14	21	Flint-tempered ware, grog-tempered ware	LIA
2015	2	5	Flint-tempered ware, oxidised ware	Roman
2018	10	30	Grog-tempered ware, flint-tempered ware	LIA
2020	1	1	Unidentified - ?Iron Age	IA
2105	7	46	A2 (grey ware)	43-125
2304	1	1	Unidentified	Undated
3003	3	3	Unidentified	Undated
3006	21	35	Shell-tempered ware, sandy wares	Medieval
3007	19	29	Shell-tempered ware	Medieval
3008	24	39	Oxidised/sandy wares	Medieval
3009	31	75	Shell-tempered ware, sandy wares	Medieval
3010	4	15	Shell-tempered ware	Medieval
3015	5	21	Shell-tempered ware	Medieval
3105	1	6	Flint-tempered ware	?Medieval
3302	27	159	Shell-tempered ware, sandy wares	Medieval
3303	33	136	Shell-tempered ware, sandy wares	Medieval
3605	4	16	Glazed earthenware, unglazed earthenwares	Medieval

APPENDIX 3 FLINT

Table A3.1: Flint catalogue

Flint ID	Context	Flint category	Total	Brnt	Broken	Wt	Comments	Cortcation	Damage
3	0	Flake	1		1		Secondary removal	Uncorticated	Slight
4	102	Blade-like flake	1		1		Proximal break	Uncorticated	Moderate
5	204	Flake	1	1	1		Heavily burnt, possible broken flake	Uncorticated	Heavy
6	204	Irregular waste	1				Gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
9	206	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
14	206	Burnt unworked	1			1			
13	206	Burnt unworked	1			6			
12	206	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Moderate
16	206	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1		1	63	Irregular, some flake removals from one face, reverse used as platform is natural, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
10	206	Chip	1		1		Tiny angular fragment, probably natural	Uncorticated	Slight
8	206	Flake	1	1			Side trimming	Light	Fresh
7	206	Flake	1		1		Proximal break, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
169	206	Burnt unworked	2			34			
17	207	Flake	1		1		Secondary removal, gravel flint, proximal break	Uncorticated	Moderate
18	210	Burnt unworked	1			17			
24	210	Single platform blade core	1			79	Couple of parallel blade removals, chalk flint?, simple platform	Uncorticated	Fresh
21	210	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Fresh
19	210	Burnt unworked	1			12			
22	210	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Fresh
170	214	Burnt unworked	2			13			
25	214	Flake	1				Hinge termination	Uncorticated	Moderate
29	216	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Slight
28	216	Scraper on a non-flake blank	1		1		Gravel flint, retouch around curved edge	Uncorticated	Slight
27	216	Burnt unworked	1			3			
26	216	Flake	1		1		Proximal break	Uncorticated	Moderate
30	304	End scraper	1				Chalk flint, chunky, crude, direct retouch on distal end	Uncorticated	Heavy
187	605	Burnt unworked	1			5	<6> >10mm		
37	605	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Slight
36	605	Retouched flake	1		1		Pronounced ripples, distal trimming, proximal break, possible usewear on both lateral edges , more regular on left edge possible fine retouch	Uncorticated	Slight
35	605	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Fresh
34	605	Blade-like flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint, possible usewear on distal right, faceted platform	Uncorticated	Slight
33	605	Blade-like flake	1		1		Platform edge abrasion, distal break	Light	Slight
32	605	Retouched flake	1	1	1		Blade-like flake, distal break, minimal inverse retouch on right edge	Uncorticated	Moderate
31	605	Flake	1				Hard hammer struck, clear point and cone of percussion, distal trimming, gravel flint, platform edge abrasion, struck from opposed platform flake core, failed bulb on distal end	Uncorticated	Slight
46	605	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Slight
38	605	Flake	1				Distal trimming, pronounced ripples	Uncorticated	Slight
44	605	Flake	1				Distal trimming, clear point of	Uncorticated	Slight

							percussion		
42	605	Flake	1	1			Probable flake, quite heavily burnt, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
39	605	Flake	1				Clear cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Fresh
40	605	Flake	1		1		Distal break	Uncorticated	Fresh
41	605	End scraper	1		1		Proximal break, quite crude, distal trimming, gravel flint, abrupt direct retouch on distal end	Uncorticated	Slight
45	605	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Slight
43	605	Flake	1		1		Proximal & distal breaks	Uncorticated	Slight
49	707	Multiplatform flake core	1		1	35	Irregular and broken, gravel flint	Moderate	Slight
48	707	Flake	1				Primary removal, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
51	709	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint, thermal flaw	Uncorticated	Slight
190	709	Burnt unworked	3			6	<1> >10mm		
205	709	Flake	1				<1> >10mm	Uncorticated	Slight
53	711	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
60	1006	Flake	1				Secondary removal, cortical platform	Uncorticated	Fresh
59	1006	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Slight
58	1006	Flake	1		1		Distal break, platform edge abrasion	Uncorticated	Fresh
57	1006	Burnt unworked	1			7			
56	1006	Blade	1				Distal trimming, gravel flint, dorsal blade scars	Uncorticated	Slight
55	1006	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Fresh
54	1006	Flake	1		1		Distal trimming, proximal break	Uncorticated	Slight
74	1105	Flake	1				Distal trimming, chalk flint	Light	Slight
71	1105	Flake	1		1		Possible sired break	Light	Fresh
68	1105	Flake	1				Primary removal, gravel flint, clear point and cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Fresh
69	1105	Flake	1				Small	Light	Fresh
171	1105	Burnt unworked	7			23			
67	1105	Flake	1				Thermal flaws, clear point and cone of percussion, platform edge abrasion, previous failed cone of percussion	Heavy	Moderate
66	1105	Flake	1				Hinge termination, side trimming, chalk flint	Light	Fresh
65	1105	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Slight
63	1105	Flake	1				Distal trimming, chalk flint?	Moderate	Fresh
62	1105	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint, pronounced ripples	Uncorticated	Fresh
61	1105	Flake	1				Primary removal, chalk flint?, clear point and cone of percussion, plunging termination	Moderate	Slight
73	1105	Flake	1		1		Side trimming, gravel flint, distal break	Light	Moderate
75	1109	Flake	1		1		Proximal break, distal trimming	Uncorticated	Slight
183	1305	Burnt unworked	14			56	<3> >10mm		
196	1305	Burnt unworked	2			6	<3> >10mm		
76	1307	Blade	1		1		Proximal break, plunging termination	Uncorticated	Slight
185	1309	Burnt unworked	1			2	<2> >10mm		
77	1309	Flake	1		1		Distal break, side trimming	Uncorticated	Moderate
172	1309	Burnt unworked	1			19			
92	1502	Flake	1				Secondary removal, gravel flint, removed from rather battered core, plunging termination	Light	Heavy

83	1502	Blade	1		1		Proximal break, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
91	1502	Blade	1		1		Distal break, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
93	1502	Flake	1				Chunky, distal trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
89	1502	Flake	1				Irregular, pronounced ripples	Uncorticated	Slight
88	1502	Flake	1				Hinge termination, clear cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Slight
87	1502	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Slight
86	1502	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion, side trimming	Uncorticated	Moderate
82	1502	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Moderate
81	1502	Flake	1				Primary removal, gravel flint, pronounced ripples, cortical platform	Uncorticated	Fresh
79	1502	Flake	1				Pronounced ripples	Uncorticated	Slight
90	1502	Flake	1				Distal break, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
84	1502	Retouched flake	1		1		Proximal break, side trimming, possible direct retouch on left edge	Uncorticated	Moderate
78	1502	Flake	1		1			Uncorticated	Moderate
85	1502	Burnt unworked	1			12			
173	1505	Burnt unworked	2			23			
97	1505	Flake	1				Pronounced ripples, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
95	1505	Flake	1		1		Side trimming, gravel flint, proximal break	Uncorticated	Slight
94	1505	Irregular waste	1					Uncorticated	Slight
100	1602	End and side scraper	1		1		Pronounced ripples, proximal break, direct retouch on distal and right edges	Uncorticated	Slight
103	1602	Flake	1		1		Distal break	Uncorticated	Slight
99	1602	Flake	1				Hinge termination, clear cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Slight
101	1602	Retouched flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion, pronounced ripples, secondary removal, gravel flint, irregular direct retouch on right edge, verging on denticulation	Uncorticated	Moderate
102	1602	Flake	1		1		Clear point and cone of percussion, distal break	Uncorticated	Fresh
98	1602	Flake	1				Pronounced ripples	Uncorticated	Slight
106	1605	Irregular waste	1				Probable flake	Uncorticated	Slight
107	1605	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint, pronounced ripples, possible usewear distal left	Uncorticated	Slight
104	1605	Blade-like flake	1		1		Pronounced ripples, platform edge abrasion, punctiform butt, dorsal blade scars, distal break	Uncorticated	Moderate
174	1605	Burnt unworked	4			113			
105	1605	Flake	1				Hinge termination, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
108	1608	Flake	1		1		Distal trimming, gravel flint, proximal & distal breaks	Uncorticated	Slight
175	1608	Burnt unworked	2			36			
112	1609	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Slight
176	1609	Burnt unworked	1			5			
113	1609	Flake	1				Hinge termination, side trimming	Uncorticated	Fresh
111	1609	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Fresh
110	1609	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Fresh
109	1609	Flake	1		1		Proximal break, side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
114	1802	Flake	1				Distal trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
177	1804	Burnt unworked	1			35			

116	1804	Burnt unworked	1			4			
184	1804	Burnt unworked	1			4	<5> >10mm		
115	1804	Flake	1		1		Distal break, dorsal blade scars	Light	Slight
178	1806	Burnt unworked	2			90			
129	1806	Flake	1		1			Light	Slight
122	1806	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1			41	Some genuine looking removals, incipient cones of percussion, virtually exhausted though	Uncorticated	Heavy
127	1806	Flake	1				Distal trimming, gravel flint	Light	Moderate
126	1806	Burnt unworked	1			7			
125	1806	Flake	1				Clear cone of percussion, pronounced ripples, hinge termination, lipped butt, side trimming	Uncorticated	Slight
120	1806	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1			35	Possibly natural, some genuine looking removals though	Uncorticated	Slight
119	1806	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion	Moderate	Slight
124	1806	Burnt unworked	1			2			
131	1807	Flake	1				Pronounced ripples, cortical platform	Moderate	Fresh
137	2007	Flake	1				Irregular, secondary removal, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
134	2007	Flake	1				Side trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
136	2007	Multiplatform flake core	1			14	Exhausted	Light	Slight
139	2015	Flake	1				Irregular, cortical platform	Uncorticated	Slight
189	2015	Burnt unworked	1			1	<10> 10-4mm		
140	2015	Flake	1				Irregular, cortical platform, side trimming, gravel flint, hinge termination	Uncorticated	Moderate
145	2015	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion, slightly irregular	Uncorticated	Moderate
143	2015	Flake	1				Primary removal, gravel flint, probably naturally struck	Uncorticated	Slight
186	2018	Burnt unworked	1			2	<7> >10mm		
193	2018	Flake	1				Side trimming, lipped butt, hinge termination. <7> >10mm	Uncorticated	Slight
194	2018	Single platform flake core	1			19	Tiny, mostly natural, couple of small flake removals, gravel flint. <7> >10mm	Uncorticated	Slight
146	2018	Flake	1				Clear cone of percussion	Uncorticated	Moderate
151	2018	Blade-like flake	1		1		Proximal & distal breaks, dorsal blade scars, struck from opposed platform core	Uncorticated	Moderate
149	2018	Flake	1				Clear point and cone of percussion, corticated platform, distal trimming, gravel flint, platform edge abrasion	Uncorticated	Slight
203	2020	Flake	1				Distal trimming. <8> >10mm	Light	Slight
188	2020	Burnt unworked	1			2	<8> >10mm		
152	2105	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Slight
153	2304	Flake	1		1		Gravel flint	Uncorticated	Moderate
155	2304	Flake	1		1		Proximal break	Uncorticated	Slight
154	2304	Core on a flake	1		1	21	Gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight
157	3003	Irregular waste	1					Uncorticated	Moderate
179	3006	Burnt unworked	3			120			
158	3006	Flake	1		1		Distal break, side trimming, gravel flint, cortical platform	Moderate	Slight
180	3007	Burnt unworked	1			4			
159	3007	Core on a flake	1			30	Gravel flint, small removals taken from original ventral and dorsal surfaces	Light	Moderate
181	3009	Burnt unworked	15			410			
160	3105	Flake	1				Distal trimming, gravel flint	Uncorticated	Slight

161	3105	Flake	1				Clear cone of percussion, primary removal, cortical platform	Uncorticated	Slight
182	3302	Burnt unworked	3			16			
168	3303	Miscellaneous retouch	1				Natural flake, gravel flint, probable retouch along straight edge, also some larger damage	Uncorticated	Moderate
167	3303	Multiplatform flake core	1			22	Corticated scars are later than uncorticated, gravel flint	Moderate	Slight
166	3303	Irregular waste	1				Possible flake, secondary removal, chalk flint?	Uncorticated	Slight
165	3303	Flake	1				Possible step termination	Uncorticated	Slight
164	3303	Flake	1					Uncorticated	Slight

APPENDIX 4 ANIMAL BONE

Table A5.1: Preservation level for bones from the HAGIL06 assemblage

	N	0	1	2	3	4	5
HAGIL06	214		16.4 %	49.5%	25.7%	8.4%	

Table A5.2: Bone assemblage from HAGIL06.

	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Pig	Horse	Deer	Medium mammal	Large mammal	Ind et.
Antler					1			
Skull								
Mandible	1						1	
Loose teeth	14	3	1	1				
Atlas								
Vertebra							2	
Rib						1	2	
Scapula								
Humerus	1					1		
Radius		1						
Ulna	1						1	
Metacarpal	1							
Pelvis								
Femur	1							
Tibia	1				1			
Calcaneus	1						1	
Phalanx 3								
Metapodial				2				
Longbone						4	12	
Indeterminate							13	145
TOTAL	21	4	1	3	2	6	32	145
Weight (g)	542	7	4	43	117	12	182	27

Table A5.3: Epiphyseal fusion of cattle bones.

	Unfused	Fusing	Fused	% unfused
Early fusion (< 1.5 years)			1	0%
Mid fusion (2-2.5 years)			1	0%
Late fusion (> 3 years)			1	0%

Table A5.4: Bones by context and species

Context	Species	No. of bones (refitted)	Sum of weight (g)
204	Medium mammal	1	32

	Large mammal	7	
	Indeterminate	2	
206	Cattle	8	406
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	4	
	Indeterminate	73	
207	Cattle	8	142
	Sheep/goat	2	
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	2	
	Indeterminate	28	
210	Horse	2	50
	Large mammal	10	
	Indeterminate	33	
1105	Indeterminate	3	0
1107	Cattle	1	11
1609	Indeterminate	1	1
1806	Horse	1	17
1906	Cattle	1	0
2015	Cattle	1	33
	Sheep/goat	1	
	Large mammal	3	
3006	Medium mammal	1	1
	Large mammal	1	
3007	Large mammal	2	8
3008	Sheep/goat	1	17
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	1	
3009	Deer	1	90
	Large mammal	1	
3015	Pig	1	4
3302	Cattle	3	116
	Deer	1	
	Large mammal	1	
	Indeterminate	2	
3303	Medium mammal	1	6
	Indeterminate	2	
Context	Species	No. of bones (refitted)	Sum of weight (g)
204	Medium mammal	1	32
	Large mammal	7	
	Indeterminate	2	
206	Cattle	8	406
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	4	
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	Indeterminate	73	
207	Cattle	8	142
	Sheep/goat	2	
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	2	
	Indeterminate	28	
210	Horse	2	50
	Large mammal	10	
	Indeterminate	33	
1105	Indeterminate	3	0
1107	Cattle	1	11
1609	Indeterminate	1	1
1806	Horse	1	17
1906	Cattle	1	0
2015	Cattle	1	33
	Sheep/goat	1	
	Large mammal	3	
3006	Medium mammal	1	1
	Large mammal	1	
3007	Large mammal	2	8
3008	Sheep/goat	1	17
	Medium mammal	1	
	Large mammal	1	
3009	Deer	1	90
	Large mammal	1	
3015	Pig	1	4
3302	Cattle	3	116
	Deer	1	
	Large mammal	1	
	Indeterminate	2	
3303	Medium mammal	1	6
	Indeterminate	2	

APPENDIX 5 CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

Table A.6.1 : CPR Flots Data

Period	Sample	Context	Type of Context	Charcoal	Grain	Notes
Romano-British/ Iron Age	1	709	Linear	++++ wood + coal	+(prob barley + spikelet (frag)	Contaminated by modern grass. Small pieces of burnt clay. Metal/hammerscale and slag fragments.
Romano-British/ Iron Age	2	1309	Ditch	++ wood (small frag)		Very contaminated with modern grass and sand. Insect carcasses. Charred <i>Chenopodium</i> +
Romano-British/ Iron Age	3	1305	Ditch	+++ wood	++ (too frag to be identified)	Fairly contaminated with modern grass and weeds. Burnt clay
Romano-British/ Iron Age	4	3015	Ditch	+++ wood	+++	Some contamination with modern grass. Bone fragments. Abundant fragments of molluscs +++
Romano-British/ Iron Age	5	1804	Fill of palisade, ditch cut	+++ wood		Very contaminated with modern grass. Burnt clay.
Romano-British/ Iron Age	6	605	Ditch	+++ wood		Highly contaminated by modern grass and weeds. Presence of <i>Chenopodium</i> ++ and <i>knotgrass</i> +
Romano-British/ Iron Age	7	2018	Ditch	+++ wood		Very contaminated with modern grass
Romano-British/ Iron Age	8	2020	Pit	++ wood + coal		Highly contaminated with modern grass and weeds.

+ = present (up to 5 items), ++ = frequent (5-25), +++ = common (25-100), ++++= abundant (>100)

APPENDIX 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 7 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Land off Gilden Way, Harlow, Essex

Site code: HAGIL06

Grid reference: TL 4815 1225

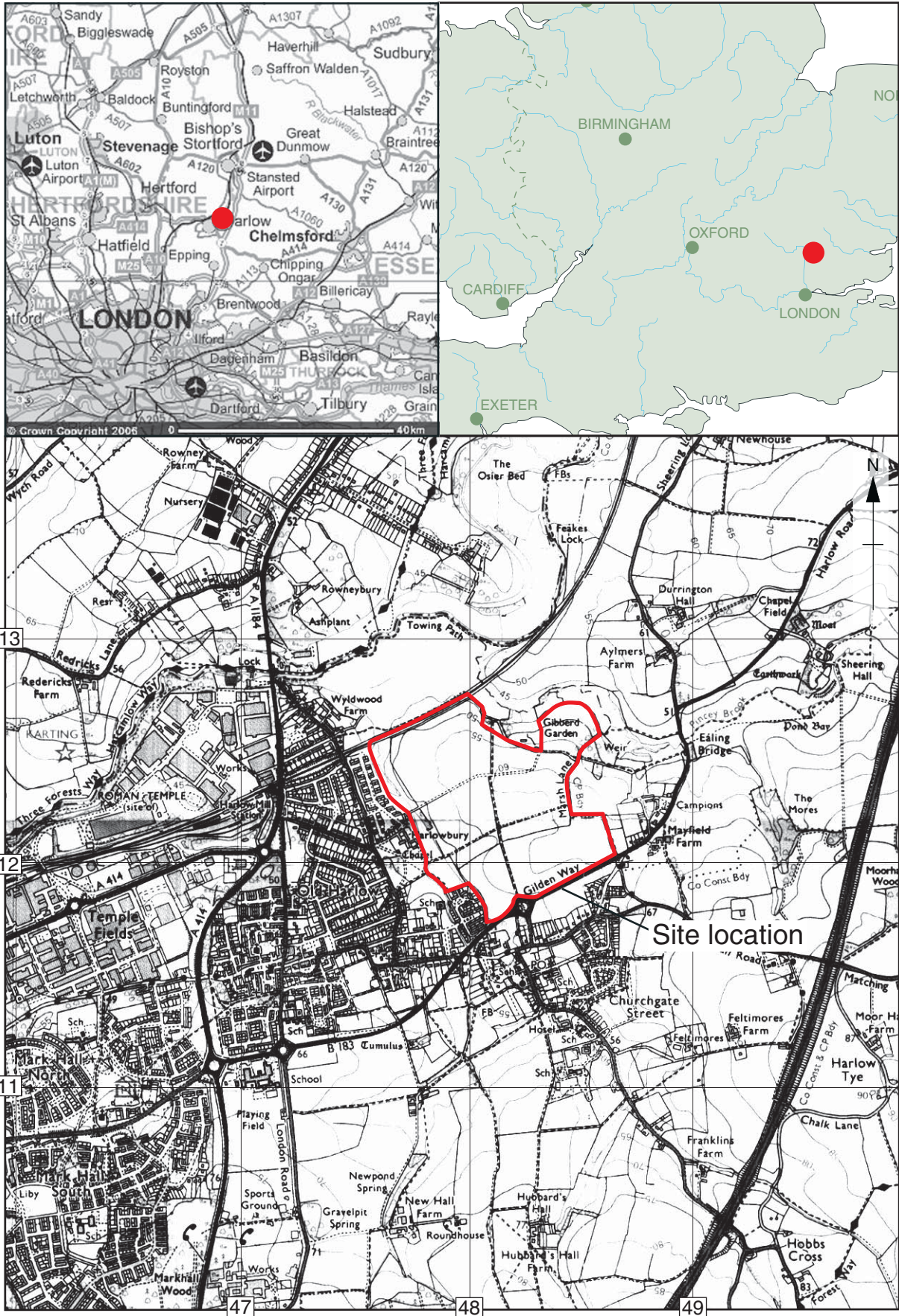
Type of evaluation: Thirty-six trenches of varying length, targeted at geophysical anomalies

Date and duration of project: August 2006

Area of site: 47 ha

Summary of results: Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman ditches. Roman and medieval boundary ditches.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Harlow Museum in due course, under the following accession number: **2006-611**



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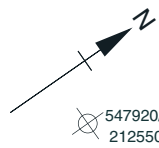
Figure 1: Site location

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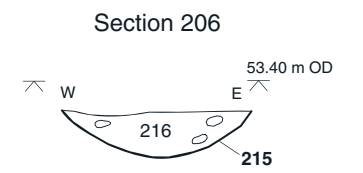
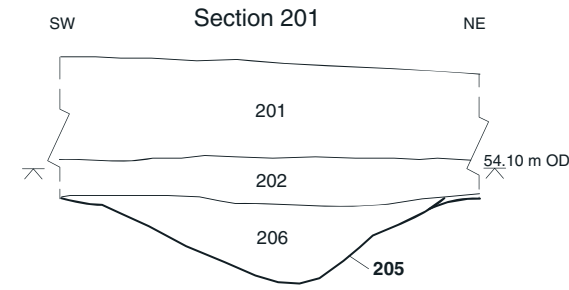
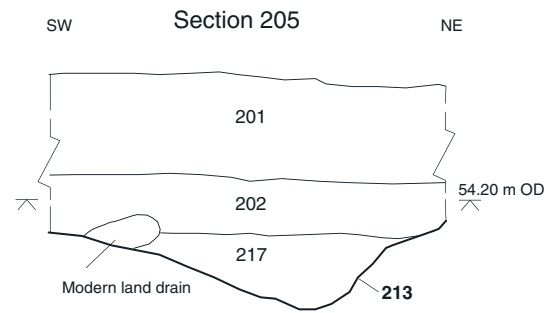
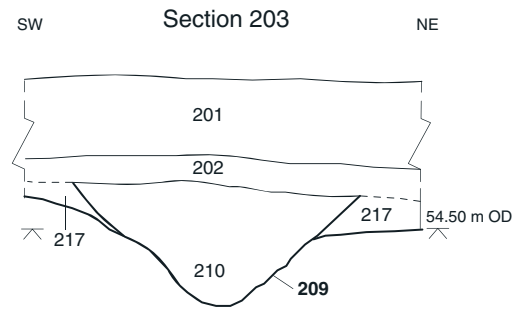
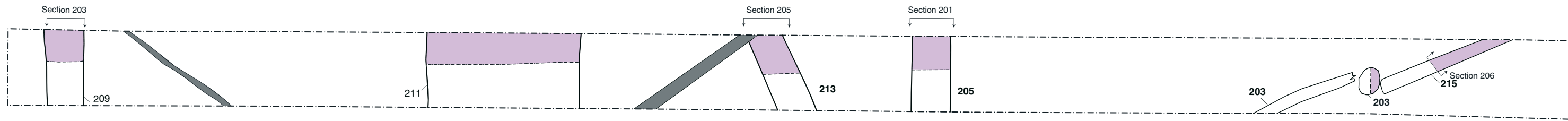


Figure 2: Trench location with geophysical plots

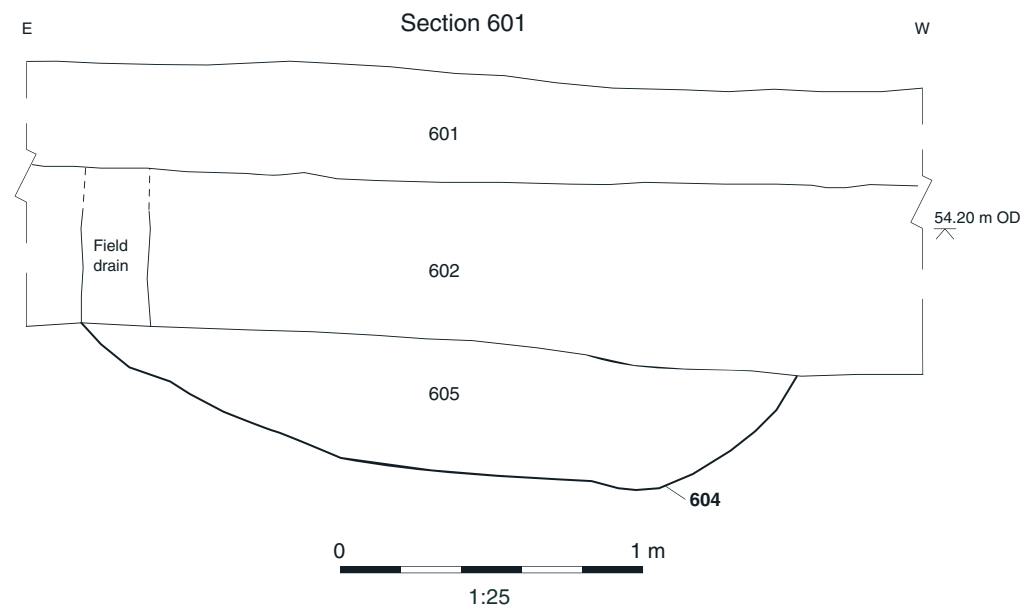
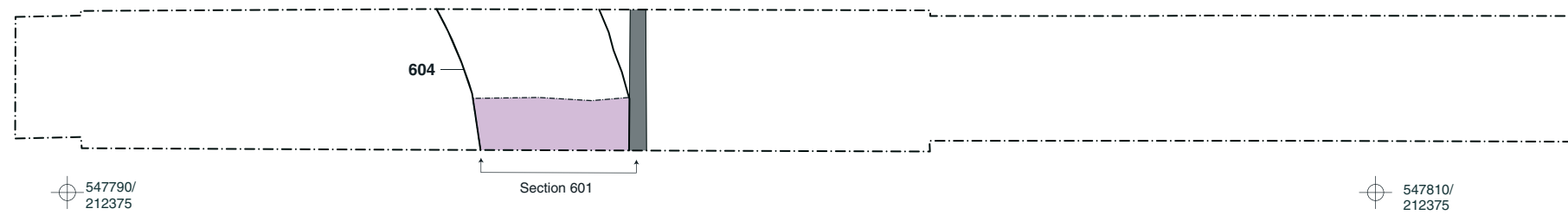
CHECKED BY: Anna Komar



Trench 2



Trench 6



Key	
	Excavated Areas
	Field drain

Figure 3: Trenches 2 and 6, plans and sections

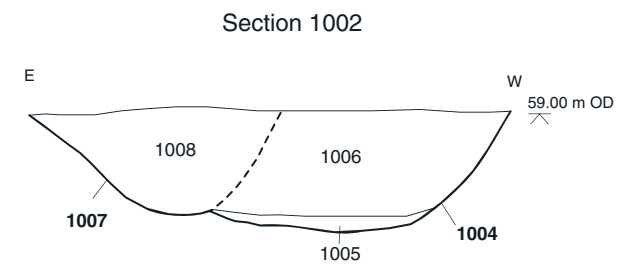
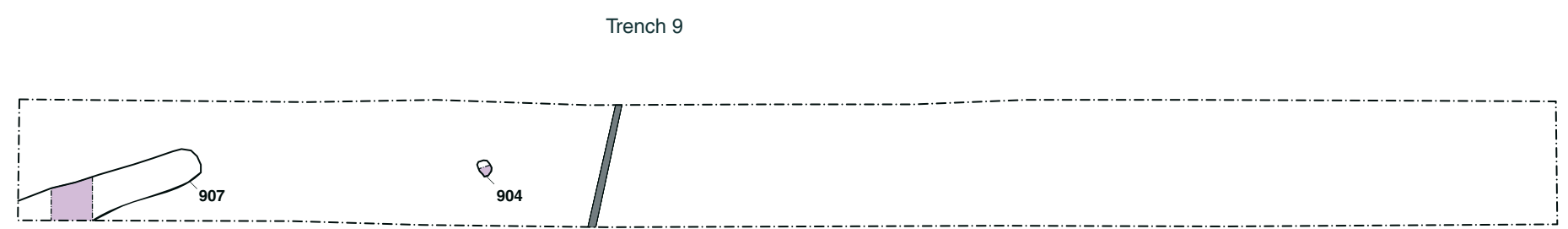
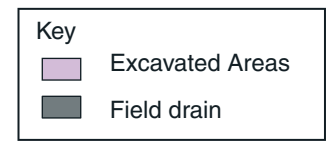
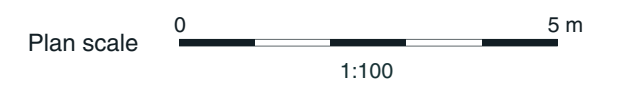
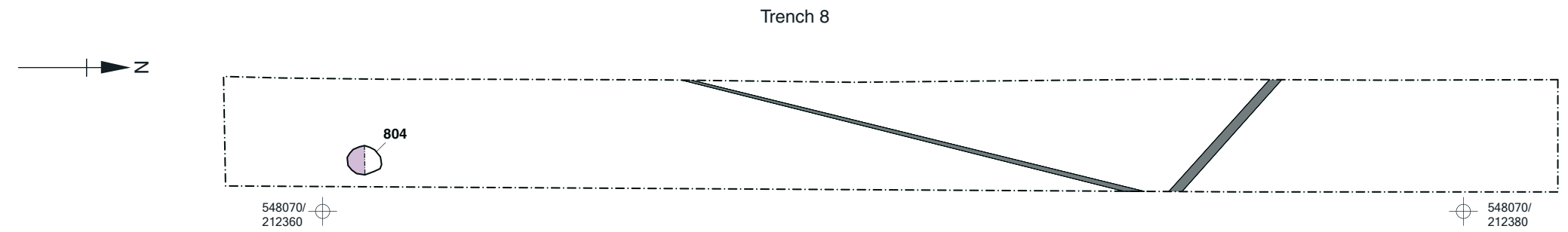
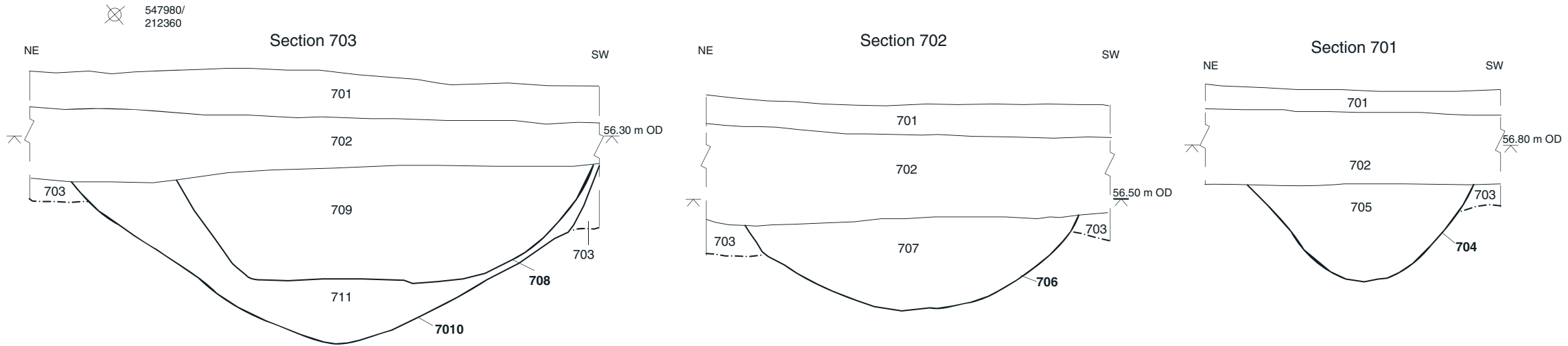
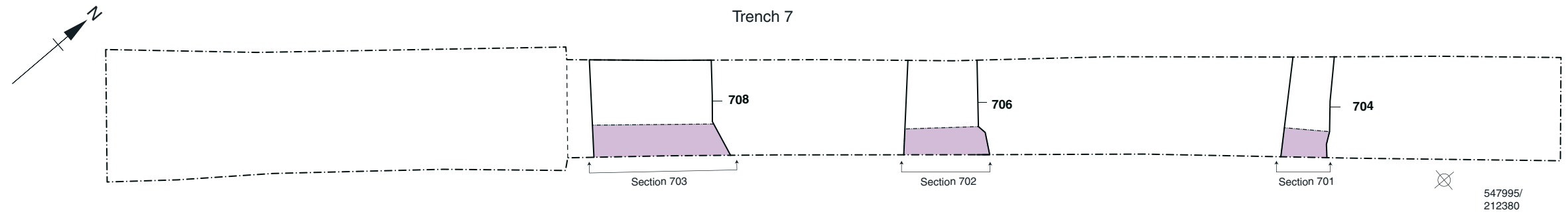


Figure 4: Trenches 7, 8, 9 and 10, plans and sections

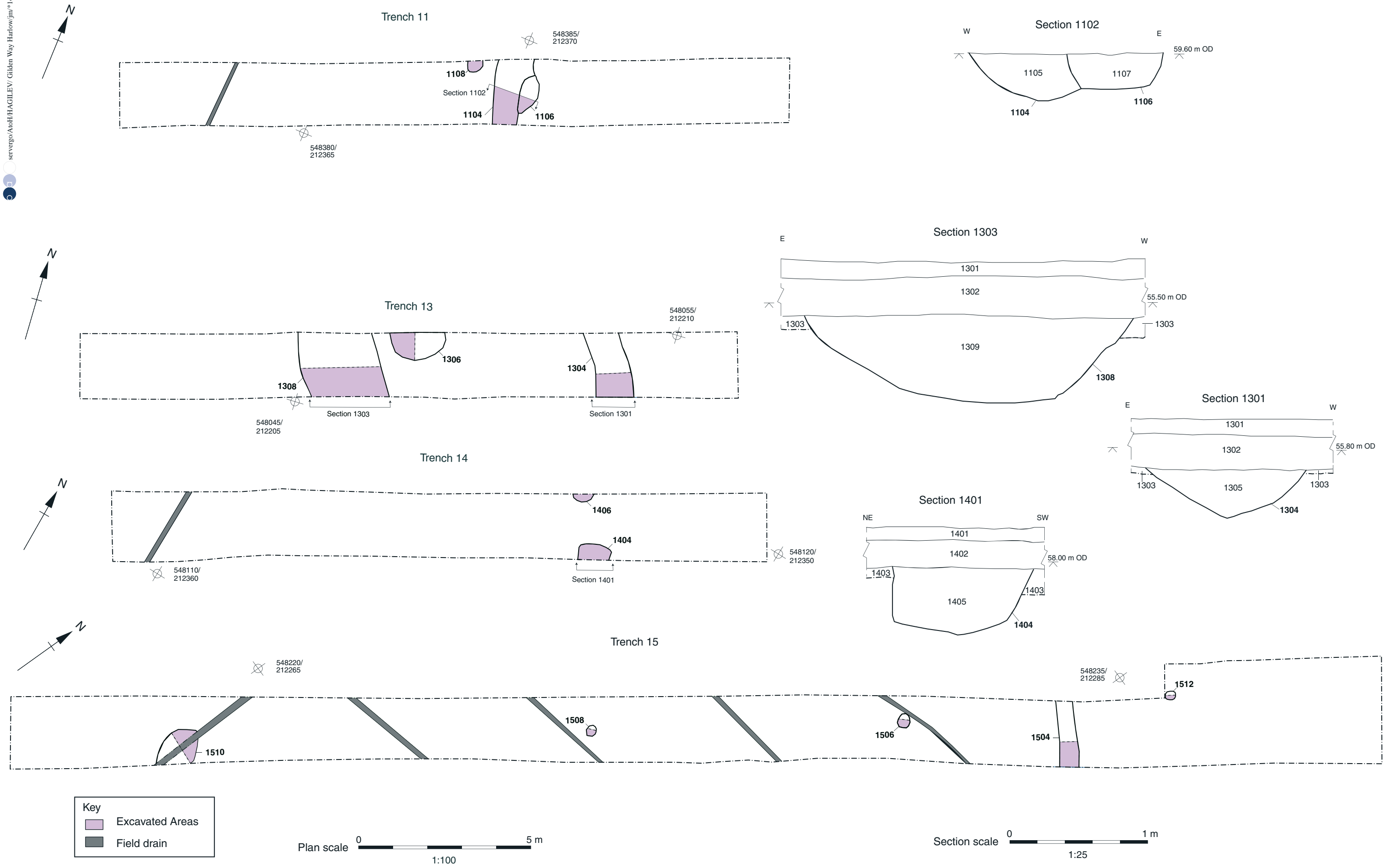


Figure 5: Trenches 11,13,14 and 15, plans and sections

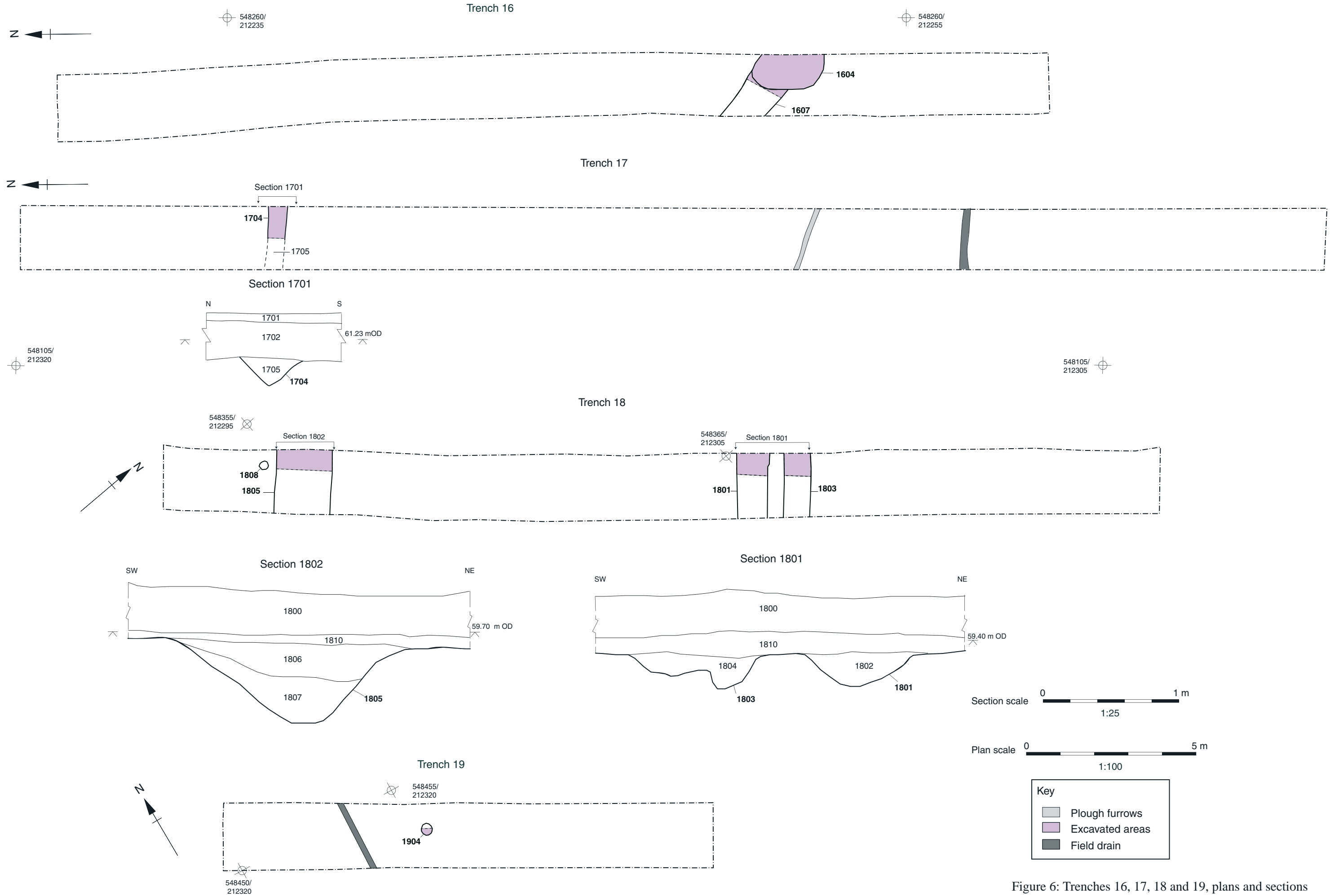
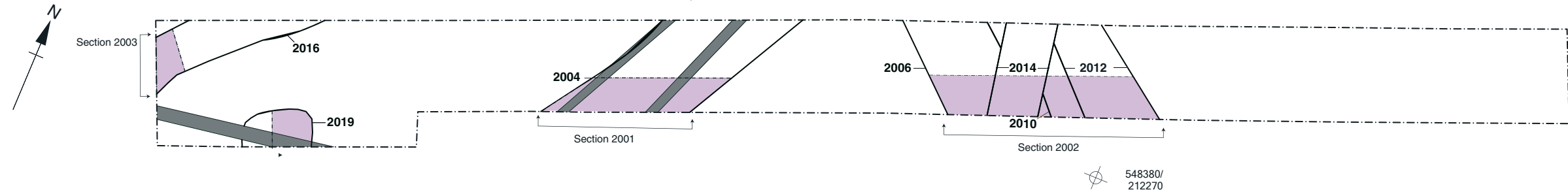


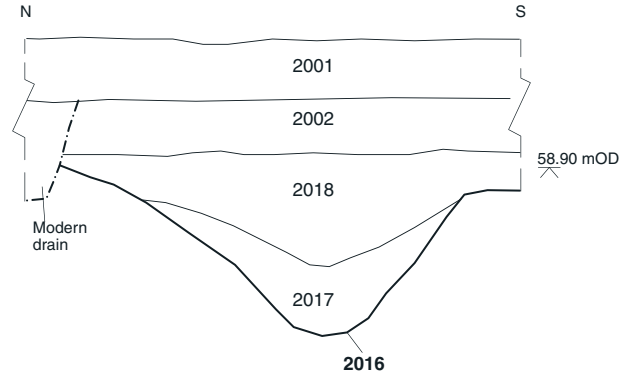
Figure 6: Trenches 16, 17, 18 and 19, plans and sections

Trench 20

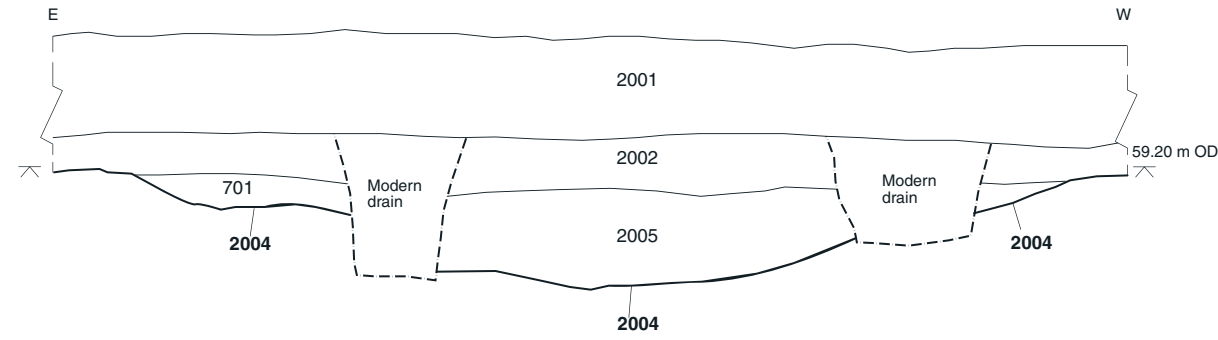
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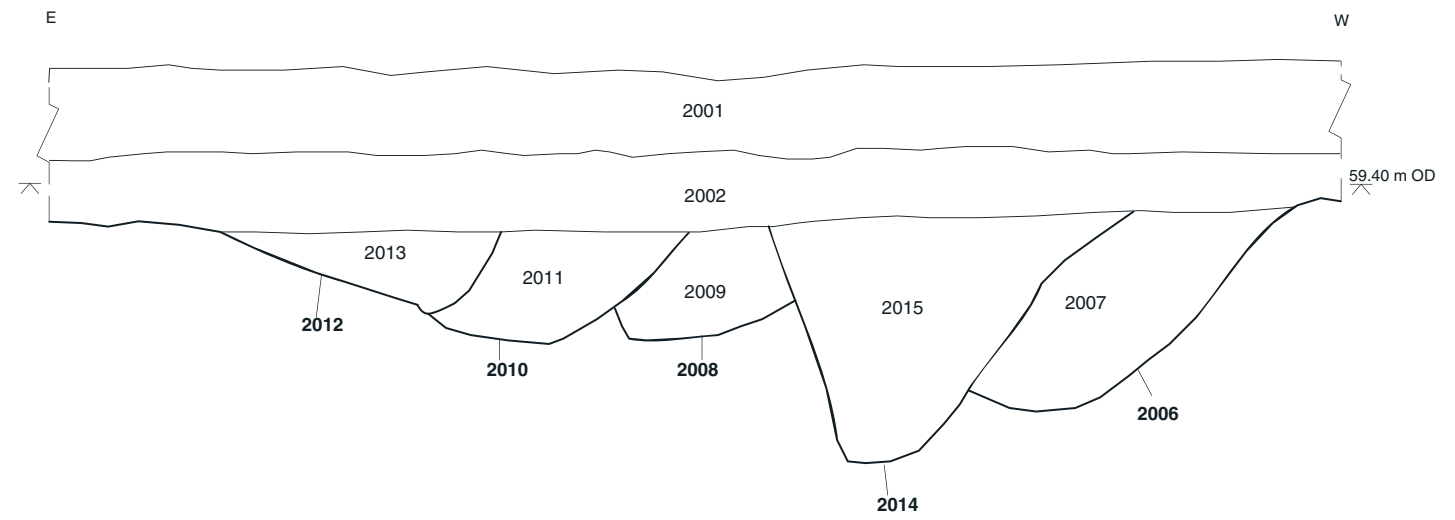
Section 2003



Section 2001



Section 2002

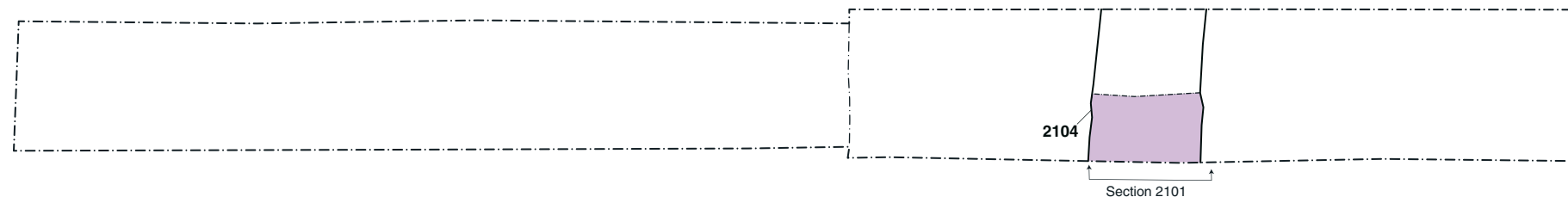


Key	
	Excavated Areas
	Field drain



548150/
212135

Trench 21



Section 2101

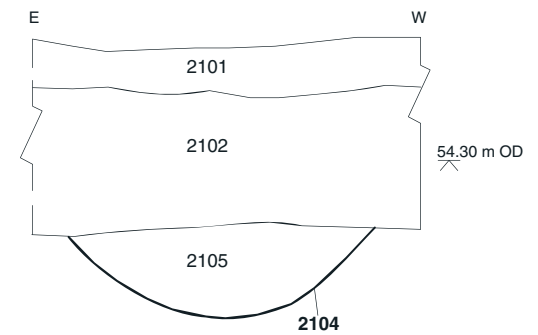


Figure 7: Trenches 20 and 21, plans and sections

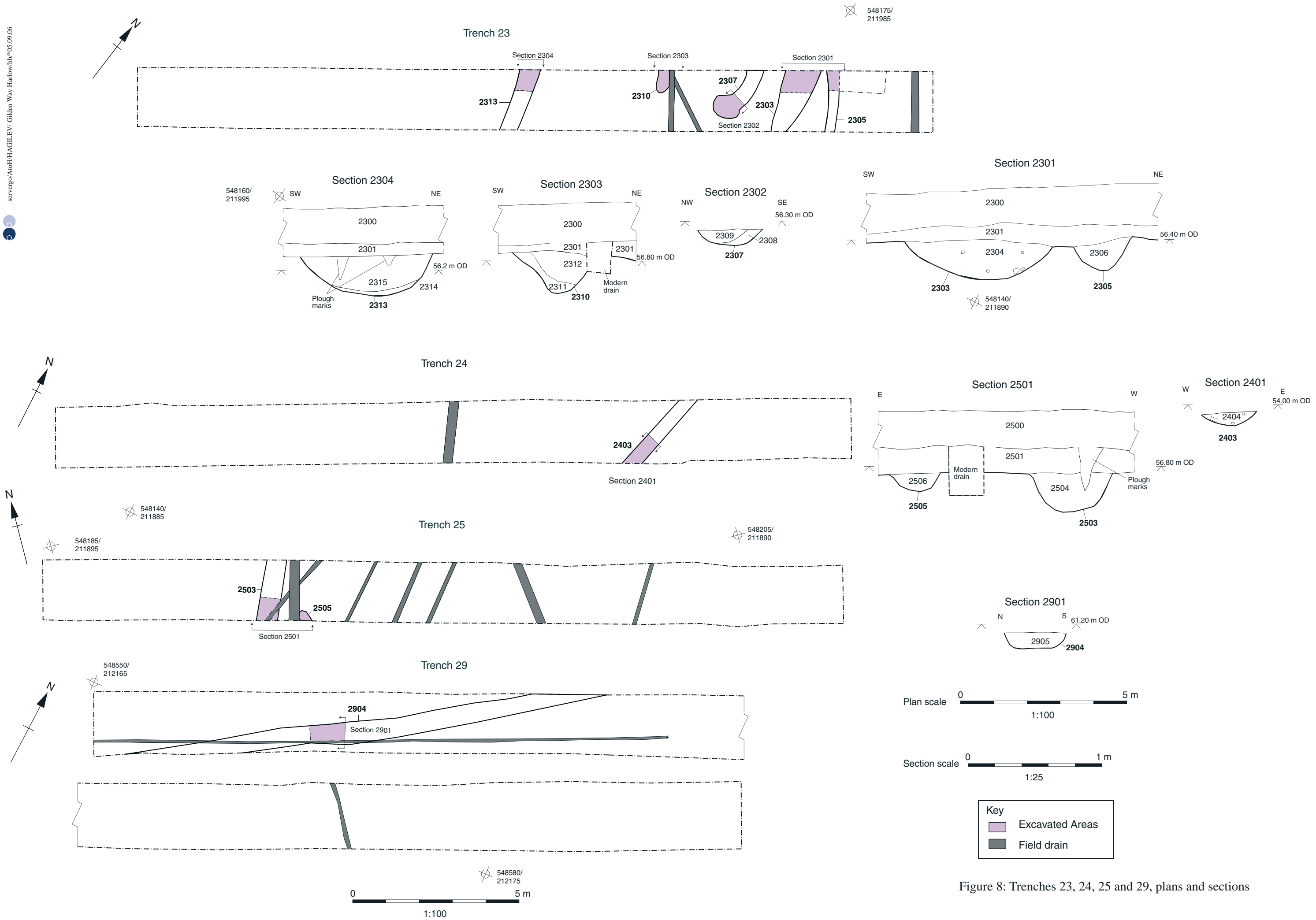


Figure 8: Trenches 23, 24, 25 and 29, plans and sections

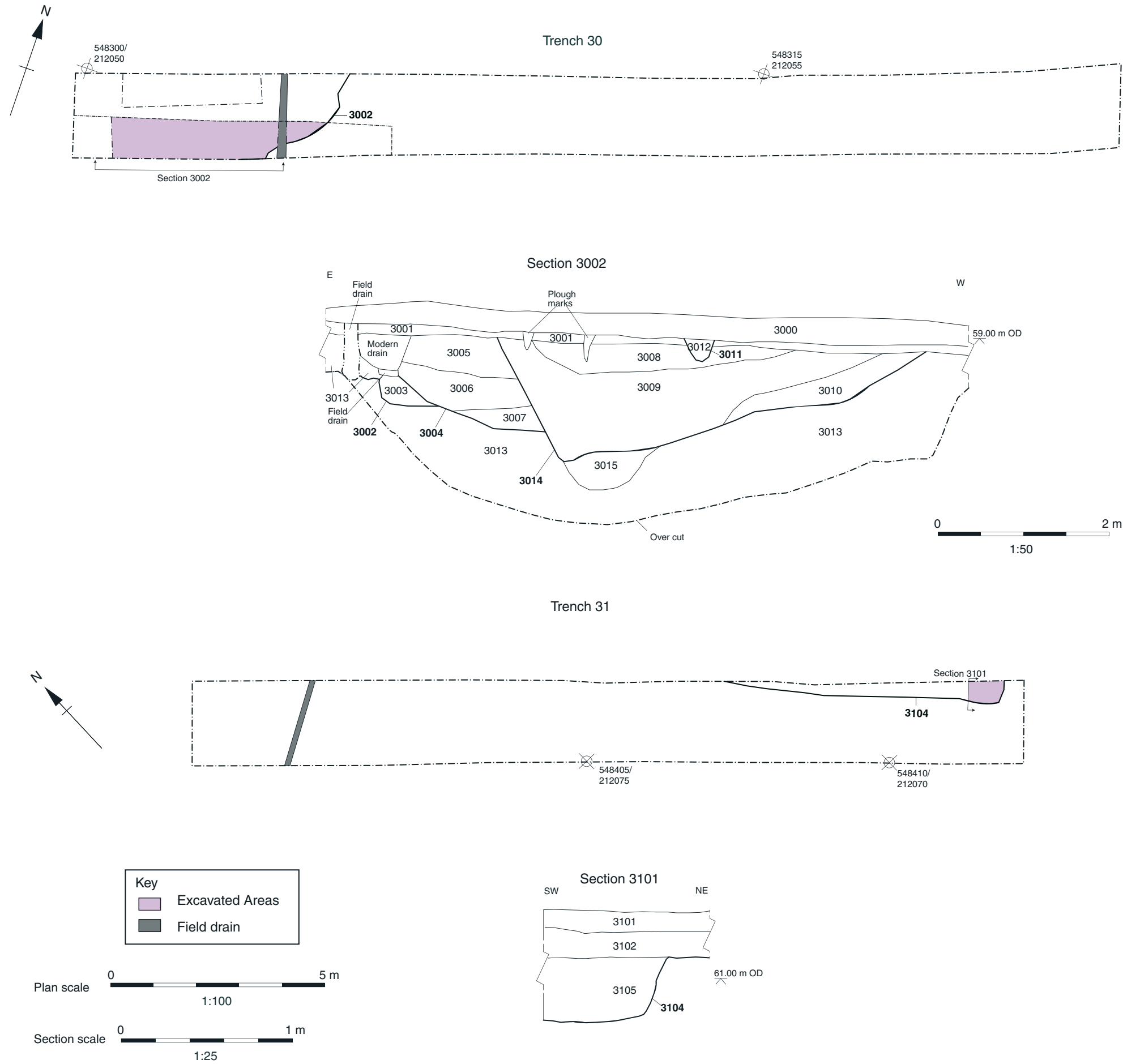


Figure 9: Trenches 30 and 31, plans and sections

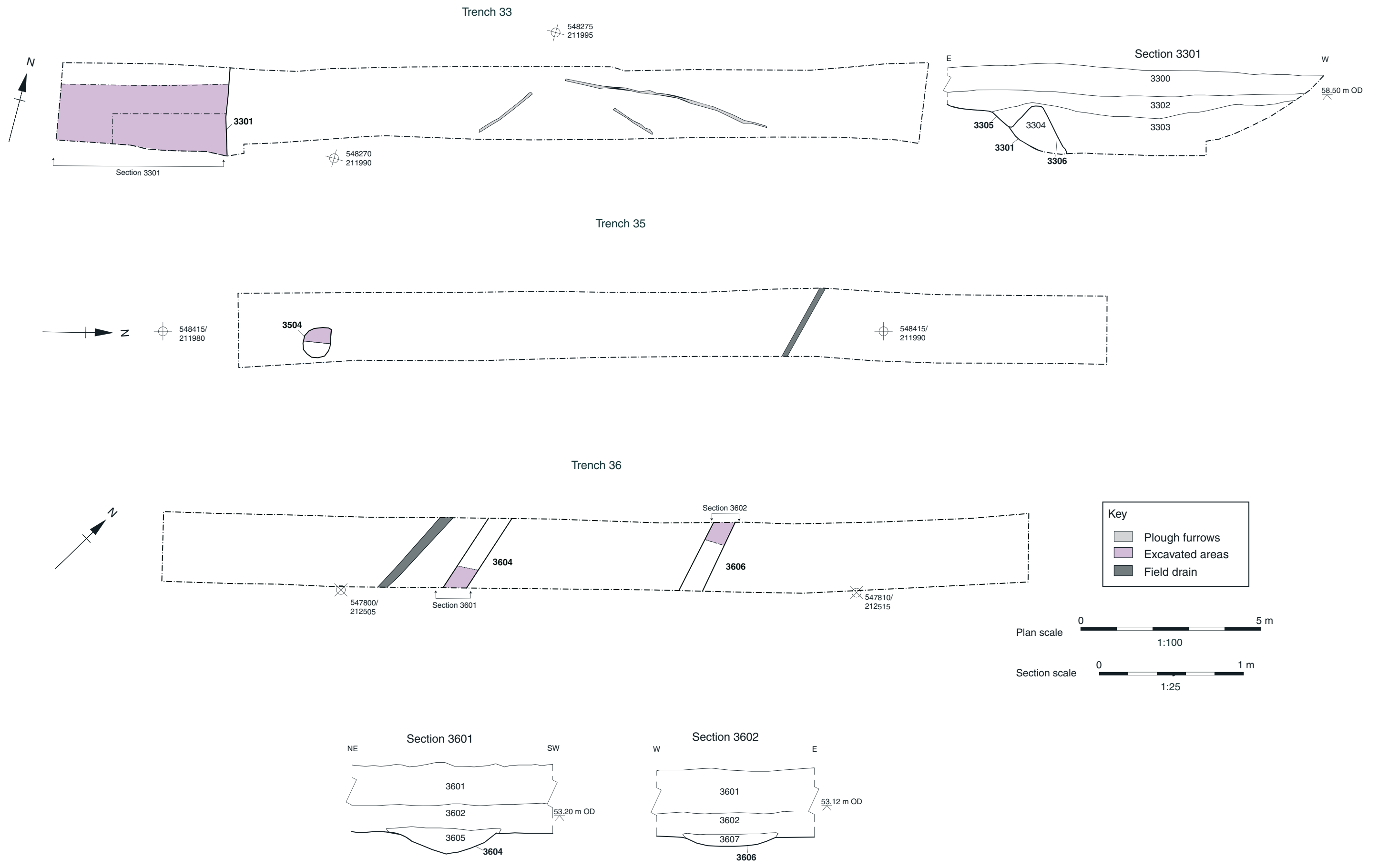


Figure 10: Trenches 33, 35 and 36, plans and sections



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