

ARC Southern

Land Near Appleford Sidings, Sutton Courtenay, Oxfordshire

*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT*

SU 522 962

Plan No. 1932 C

The Oxford Archaeological Unit

July 1997

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Land Near Appleford Sidings, Sutton Courtenay, Oxfordshire  
NGR SU 522 962  
Archaeological Evaluation Report

## Summary

The Oxford Archaeological Unit conducted a field evaluation on Land Near Appleford Sidings, Sutton Courtenay, Oxfordshire in June 1997. The work was carried out on behalf of ARC Ltd in connection with a proposal for mineral extraction. The evaluation comprised the excavation of 26 trial trenches, representing a 2 % sample of the area in question.

The evaluation revealed a broad scatter of features throughout the area of investigation. These comprised mostly of ditches and gullies relating to Roman, medieval and post-medieval land division, but features representing low level prehistoric activity were also present. A large pit, possibly a waterhole, produced a small quantity of Bronze Age pottery and worked flint, and this material included a redeposited Mesolithic microlith. Two sherds of Bronze Age pottery were also recovered from two of the ditches though both of these sherds may be redeposited. However, the most significant deposits that were discovered comprised a cluster of six pits containing human cremation burials in the SE corner of the area of investigation, and although the date of these burials is uncertain, the inclusion of a worked flint suggests that these features are also prehistoric in date.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report details the finding of archaeological evaluation undertaken by the Oxford Archaeological Unit at land near Appleford Crossings, Near Didcot, Oxfordshire in June 1997. The work was carried on behalf of ARC Ltd in respect of a planning application for mineral extraction and landfill operations (Planning Application No. 1932 C).
- 1.2 The evaluation formed part of a continuing programme of archaeological work at the ARC Appleford quarry in advance of gravel extraction. However, although the application area is considerable, permission to extract minerals has already been granted in parts. This evaluation was designed to examine part of the remaining area where permission to extract minerals has not yet been granted.
- 1.3 The proposed quarrying would completely destroy any archaeological remains within the application area, and the aim of the evaluation was therefore to establish the presence, degree of preservation, and extent of any archaeological deposits, so the need for excavation, or possible mitigation strategies could be determined.
- 1.4 Twenty six trial trenches, representing a 2% sample of the area in question, were

positioned and excavated according to specifications set out in a WSI agreed with Oxfordshire Archaeological Services.

## **2 Location and Topography**

- 2.1 The extraction and development area is located south-west of the Appleford Crossing for the Didcot/Oxford railway line, and is approximately equidistant between Appleford railway station and the Southmead Industrial Park (SU 522 962). The area examined covers approximately 7 hectares.
- 2.2 The site lies approximately 50 m OD. The underlying geology is river terrace sands and gravel. The area of investigation has been under cultivation until recent times and the site is covered by a silty clay ploughsoil.

## **3 Archaeological and historical background**

- 3.1 In November 1993 an archaeological evaluation was carried out on an area of 11 hectares, immediately to the east of the current area of investigation (blocks 5, 8 and 9 including parts of block 3). Fieldwalking and geophysical survey were unproductive. The results of the evaluation indicate a single phase of late Iron Age/Roman activity (1st to 2nd century). A rectilinear enclosure, in block 9, contains evidence for buildings, with beamslot and posthole foundations in the south-west corner of the enclosure. The pottery was of significantly higher status than average for contemporary rural settlements. The enclosure lay within a rectilinear scheme of cropmarks which indicates a carefully laid out pattern of landscape organisation. Two major alignments were identified, north-north-east to south-south-west and north-south, east-west, with the later not closely dated. Features sharing the early Roman alignments were thought to be medieval. Medieval and undated features were revealed in blocks 5,9 and parts of 3 (Booth 1993, OAU) in the area directly east to the present area of investigation.

## **4 Methodology and Strategy (see Fig. 2 for trench locations)**

- 4.1 The evaluation was based upon a 2% sample of the development area, and comprised the excavation of 26 trenches measuring 30 m long and 1.8 m wide.
- 4.2 The trenches were excavated down to the top of the first significant archaeological deposits, or in their absence to the top of the natural subsoil, using a JCB mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The trenches were then planned and photographed, and a representative sample of features was excavated and sections were drawn where appropriate.
- 4.3 Soil samples for environmental analysis were taken from the primary fills of a possible

Bronze Age ditch and waterhole. The fill of a cremation pit was also retrieved for detailed analysis.

## 5 Description of Archaeology (see Fig. 2 for trench locations)

### 5.1 Trenches 19, 20 and 21 (Fig. 3, and Fig. 5, section 13)

These three trenches were located in the SE corner of the area of investigation and lay in a separate field from the main area of trenches. The natural subsoil in this area was principally an orange sandy clay with blue mottling. Overlying the subsoil were buried alluvial ploughsoils (2101 and 2106), overlain by the present topsoil.

Trench 19 contained no archaeological features. Five pits (2005 to 2009) were revealed in the west end of trench 20, and another (2103) in trench 21, which were filled by charcoal and burnt bone. The pit in trench 21 (2103) was sectioned and the fill was retrieved for further analysis. This deposit was later identified as a human cremation burial. The excavated feature measured 0.70 m in diameter and survived to a depth of 0.48 m. The five similar features in trench 20 were left *in situ*. These cremation pits initially appeared to be cut through an overlying buried ploughsoil (2106), but this impression was created by plough disturbance and worm action ("Ghosting") above these features, which were almost certainly originally sealed beneath this deposit.

### 5.2 Trenches 22 to 27

These trenches were located on the eastern side of block 2. The depth of overburden in this area varied considerably from 0.40 m in trench 22 to 1 m in trench 27. The underlying subsoil was similar in character to that seen in trenches 19 to 21.

Trenches 22, 23, 24, 26 and 28 each contained single ditch or gully and trenches 25 and 27 contained two ditches. These features were mostly orientated north-south and east-west. No dateable finds were recovered from any of these features.

### 5.3 Trenches 29 to 34

The western end of block 2 contained trenches 29 to 34. The natural subsoil in this area consisted of sandy gravel with frequent patches of clay. This subsoil was overlain a buried ploughsoil which mostly varied from 0.15 m to 0.30 m in depth, but was up to 0.80 m in trench 31 where it appeared to be filling a natural hollow. This deposit was directly overlain by the present topsoil, which was 0.20 m to 0.30 m thick.

Trench 29 contained a single small feature (2902), possibly a truncated pit or posthole

measuring 0.74 m in diameter and 0.12 m in depth. Each of the remaining trenches in this area contained between one and three linear features, comprising ditches gullies and shallow furrow type features.

A substantial NNE-SSW aligned ditch located in trench 31 (3107, see Fig. 3 for plan and Fig. 5, section 3) produced a single sherd of Bronze Age pottery, but this was abraded and may have been redeposited. The ditch measured 3.5 m in width and up to 0.70 m in depth and had steep sloping sides an uneven base. A shallow gully running through the west end of this trench produced a single sherd of post-medieval pottery. Two ditches which ran obliquely through trench 33 were also aligned NNE-SSW and a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from largest of these ditches. The continuation of the smaller ditch was observed in trench 32 to the SW.

The linear features discovered in trenches 30 and 34 were orientated N-S and E-W. No dateable finds were recovered from these features.

#### 5.4 Trenches 35 to 44

Trenches 35 to 44 were grouped within block 10 situated north of block 2 and immediately east of the 1993 evaluation area

Trench 35 (Fig. 4 and Fig. 5, sections 28, 29, 30 and 33)

Archaeological features within trench 35 were reasonably concentrated. Four linear features were observed orientated north-south. These comprised three shallow furrow type features (3521 and 3523) measuring between 1.6 m to 2.6 m in width, but all approximately 0.20 m in depth, and a more substantial ditch (3512) situated at the western end of the trench measuring 0.88 m in depth. A sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this ditch and another sherd was found in the topsoil directly above the ditch.

A large circular pit (3504), measuring 2 m in diameter 0.86 m in depth, was discovered in this east half of the trench, though this feature lay only partly within the area of excavation. Two large sherds of Bronze Age pottery and two pieces of worked flint were recovered from this feature. The fill within this feature comprised layers of sterile sandy silt. An ESE-WNW aligned gully (3509) ran through the east end of the trench and this feature partly cut across the top of pit 3504.

The remaining trenches in this area (trench 36 to 44) located a broad scatter of ditches and gullies and these were particularly concentrated toward the north end of block 10. These features were mostly orientated N-S and E-W or NNE-SSW. The only finds recovered from the features in this area comprised of a single sherd of Roman pottery from a ditch in trench 41, a sherd of Bronze Age pottery from a ditch in trench 42, which may be redeposited and small quantity of animal bone.

## 6 Finds

- 6.1 Pottery assessment by Alistair Barclay with identifications by P Blinkhorn, P Booth & N Jeffries

### INTRODUCTION

The evaluation produced a small assemblage (10 sherds) that includes material of a number of date ranges (Bronze Age, Roman, Medieval and post-medieval). Most of the pottery is represented by small and worn sherds regardless of date. Featured sherds were present amongst the prehistoric and medieval material. No significant groups of pottery were recovered as nearly every context contained only single sherds. Significant among the assemblage are a small number of later Bronze Age sherds from ditches and a waterhole that could indicate the presence of a contemporary field system.

### METHODOLOGY

A rapid assessment and quantification (number of sherds) of the evaluated assemblage was undertaken to provide spot dates. No detailed record was made of fabrics during the assessment, although fabric group (eg. flint tempered) was used as a broad chronological indicator for the prehistoric material. The incidence of featured and, or decorated sherds was noted.

#### Mid-late Bronze Age

Four contexts contained material of later Bronze Age date. Sherds from contexts 3108, 3507-8 are manufactured from coarse flint-tempered fabrics that are more likely to be of a middle Bronze Age date. The sherd from 3506, although quite worn, has what appears to be part of a ?boss. Context 3507 produced a relatively large and unabraded sherd. It is probable that all three sherds derive from Bucket Urns of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition. The fourth sherd from context 4212 is principally quartzite tempered and could also be of this date.

#### Roman

Two contexts, 3303 and 4105, contained material of this date. Both contexts produced single oxidised sherds that are not closely dateable within the Roman period.

#### Medieval

Two contexts, 3501 and 3514, contained material of this date. The former contained a decorated handle and both are identified as 13th century Brill Boarstall Ware.

#### Post-medieval

Context 3110 contained a single sherd of post-medieval ?Brill Boarstall Ware.

### DISCUSSION

The later Bronze Age pottery is perhaps the most interesting group of material from the evaluation. It was recovered from ditch fills and a waterhole. The condition of at least

one of the sherds from the waterhole would indicate that it is unlikely to be redeposited. However, there is the possibility that some of the abraded sherds from the ditch fills are redeposited, although it can be noted that no later pottery was recovered from these features. Deverel-Rimbury pottery is generally rare in the Upper Thames Valley, although important find spots associated with domestic activity exist within 10 km of the site, most notably a middle Bronze Age settlement at Corporation Farm, Abingdon and from a ditched field system at Dorchester (Shand unpub; Whittle *et al* 1992). In addition, middle Bronze Age Bucket Urns have been recorded from funerary contexts at Sutton Courtenay (Barclay *et al* forthcoming) and from Barrow Hills, Radley (Barclay and Halpin forthcoming). While other urns are reported as coming from Long Wittenham, although little is know of their context (Case *et al* 1964/5, 71).

The remaining pottery which is of Roman, Medieval and post-medieval date was nearly all recovered from probable field ditches. All of this material can be assumed to derive from manuring scatters.

Table 1:

Context	M-LBA	Roman	Medieval	Post-medieval	Total
3108	1				1
3110				1	1
3303		1			1
3501			1		1
3506	1				1
3507	1				1
3514			1		1
4105		1			1
4212	1				1
Total	4	2	3	1	10

## 6.2 Worked Flint by Philippa Bradley

### Introduction

Seven pieces of worked flint and a single piece of burnt unworked flint were recovered from the evaluation. The material was recovered from nine contexts. The raw material consists of a good quality dark brown flint with many cherty inclusions and a white, slightly chalky cortex. A single piece of gravel flint from context 3506 was recorded, it is of relatively good quality. A single piece of Bullhead flint (Shepherd 1972, 114) was recovered from context 2102. Cortication where present was light.

### Methodology

The material was briefly scanned; diagnostic forms were noted for dating purposes and technological aspects of the material were also recorded. A few flint chips were noted



within the unsorted residues of the cremation (context 2102) however, these were not assessed.

#### Description

The material consists four flakes (contexts 3009, 3305, 3516 and 3804). A core fragment was recovered from context 3507. Three retouched pieces were recovered, these were a geometric microlith from context 3507, a very worn serrated flake with edge gloss (context 2102) and a minimally retouched flake from context 3804. The microlith is typical of later Mesolithic industries which began to be made after approximately 8500 BP. Several of the flakes were badly edge damaged and hammer mode was not identifiable on most pieces. One flake did however, have previous blade scars on its dorsal face. The retouched flake was so minimally worked that it might result from use rather than deliberate retouching; it is not a closely dateable type. The serrated flake is a type that continues to be made from the Mesolithic period into the early Bronze Age. The blank used for the serrated flake has been struck from an opposed platform core, indicating a careful reduction strategy was being employed. Such knapping techniques are indicative of the Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic.

There appeared to be little to indicate any other period present than Mesolithic. However, the relatively fresh appearance of flakes, the core fragment and the retouched/used flake from contexts 3516, 3804, 3506 and 3804 might indicate later material but this must be regarded as tentative given the small size of the collection and the lack of diagnostic forms other than the microlith.

Mesolithic finds are rather thinly spread throughout the county (Case 1956; Case 1986, 18; Holgate 1987, fig. 5, 11). Locally Mesolithic material has been recovered from Drayton (Holgate *et al* forthcoming) although this material is more likely to be earlier Mesolithic, a single geometric microlith was recovered from Tubney and it seems likely that more of the assemblage dates to this period (Bradley and Hey 1993). Other later Mesolithic finds come from Warborough, Abingdon, Brighthampton and Waterperry (Case 1986, 18).

### 6.3 Animal bone assessment by N.Scott

A total of 48 animal bone fragments were recovered of which 4% were identified to species and anatomical part. Ribs and vertebrae fragments were not identified. Generally the poor surface condition and very fragmentary nature of the bones prevented identification, but two bones were probably from Red deer one coming from a ditch fill possibly dated to the middle Bronze Age.

Context 3104

7 tiny fragments

Context 3108  
Red deer?? metatarsal frag.(possible cut marks at proximal end)

Context 3303  
6 frags. of mid shaft bone (cow/red deer femur size?)

Context 3506  
5 frags. one of which is an ungulate tooth frag.

Context 3507  
11 tiny frags.

Context 4206  
18 frags. of which 4 are ribs.

#### 6.4 Human cremation deposit by Angela Boyle

A single deposit of cremated bone was recovered from a pit which was revealed during evaluation. The pit was not completely excavated as it extended beyond the limits of the evaluation trench. It is therefore assumed that c. 40-50% of the deposit remains in the ground. The pit (2103) was roughly circular with vertical sides and an almost flat base. Two fills were identified: the primary fill (2105) was a clay silt with approximately 5% charcoal; the cremated deposit (2102) comprised a substantial quantity of bone within a charcoal matrix (c. 40%). A single worked flint of probable Neolithic date was recovered from this deposit during processing.

The deposit has been assessed for the purposes of this report. This has involved the examination of the <10 mm fraction and the scanning of the 10-4 mm fraction. The results are detailed in the table below.

Table 1 *Cremation details*

Context	Weight	Age	Sex	Colour	Identifiable bones
2102	843 g*	Adult	?	largely white, a few fragments of skull are charred black	skull, femur, ulna, cervical vertebrae

\*this total does not include the unsorted fraction 4-0.5 mm.

The date of the deposit is uncertain and it is conceivable that the flint is redeposited. Unenclosed cremations of both Iron Age and Roman date are known (Philpott 1991, 45-47). In the Iron Age the unaccompanied and unenclosed cremations are simple deposits of calcined human bone in shallow scoops and examples are known from Puddlehill, Beds and Quinton, Northants (Whimster 1981, 154). The Roman examples correspond with Whimster's simple Iron Age type (1981, 157) and are discussed in detail by Phillipott

(1991, 45-47).

Given the low-lying location of the feature and the fact that it has been ploughed in the late Roman period it is perhaps more likely to be prehistoric in date. A further five cremation deposits were identified during the evaluation although these have not yet been excavated. However, it is expected that they are of comparable type and date.

#### 6.5 Assessment of environmental indicators by Greg Campbell

In order to assess preservation in the deposits, the four samples taken were processed by flotation to recover plant macroscopic remains in a modified Siraf machine. Each sample was held on 0.5 mm mesh and the flot collected on 0.25 mm mesh. The residues of the flotation were then wet-sieved through 10 and 4 mm sieves and the residue fractions sorted for bones and artefacts.

Waterlogged preservation was absent from all the deposits, including the base fill of the Bronze Age waterhole (deposit 3508). Charred remains, almost entirely wood charcoal, were present in large amounts in the two cremations recovered, which indicate that such remains are to be expected at the site.

The ditch and pit fills were rich in snails, indicating that the soil conditions preserve this class of environmental indicator. It also implies that the conditions for animal bone preservation are also good, although no animal bones were observed in the samples.

Artefacts recovered during the processing were very limited. They included a worked flint flake from one of the cremations.

### 8 Discussion and conclusions

- 8.1 The evaluation revealed a broad scatter of features throughout the area of investigation; only one of the trenches (19) was completely devoid of archaeological features. A majority of the features comprised ditches, gullies and shallow furrows. Two major alignments of these features were identified; N-S and E-W, and NNE-SSW. However, the paucity of dating material from these features means their function and significance remains uncertain. Nevertheless, a small number of these features did produce Roman and medieval pottery, and it would seem most likely that they relate to Roman, medieval and post-medieval land division. The density of these features in this low-lying area may suggest that a number of the ditches were also related to drainage. The distribution, character and alignment of these features closely mirrored the picture seen in the area immediately to the east, which was examined in the 1993 evaluation (Booth 1993) and this suggests a similar tradition of land use.

- 8.2 Low-level prehistoric activity was also present on the site represented by the Bronze Age pit/waterhole, in trench 35, but most significantly by the cluster of cremation pits discovered in the SE corner of the area of investigation. (Although it remains possible that these burials are also Roman in date, their location in this lower-lying area and the inclusion of the worked flint, suggests they are more likely to be prehistoric). Bronze Age pottery was also recovered from two of the ditches that were excavated, but as these were both single abraded sherds it remains uncertain whether these features were genuinely Bronze Age in date or whether this material was redeposited in later features.
- 8.3 The topography, and the character of the underlying geology, suggests that the area of investigation comprises lower-lying land adjacent to higher gravel islands. (Didcot power station is situated on one of the higher gravel islands immediately to the south of the site). This is also suggested by the alluvial nature of the buried ploughsoils on the site, and the general depth and character of the overburden, which imply that this area had been subjected to periodic flooding and alluviation. The contrast in the ground level between these lower-lying areas and the gravel islands will have been more pronounced before the onset of alluviation. The depth and character of the overburden in this area was also almost certainly the main factor in the failure of the aerial photography and geophysical survey to locate features in this part of the site.
- 8.4 The character and distribution of both the prehistoric and later features discovered during the evaluation also appear to reflect the apparently marginal nature of this area of land, and most probably represent peripheral activity associated with settlement mainly concentrated on the adjacent gravel islands. In the Roman and later periods this activity appears to be predominantly related to seasonal or periodic agricultural land use. However, the significance and extent of the prehistoric activity is more difficult to interpret due to the inconclusive dating of features. Nevertheless, the cluster of cremations appears to represent a distinct zone of more significant prehistoric activity.

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### Archaeological Context Inventory

Trench	Ctx	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
19							
	1900	natural			sand and clay		
	1901	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	1902	layer		0.50	alluvial ploughsoil		
20							
	2000	layer		0.25	topsoil		Modern
	2001	layer		0.20	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2002	ditch			boundary ditch?		
	2003	fill			ditch fill?		
	2004	natural			sand and clay		
	2005	pit	0.40		unexcavated cremation deposit?		
	2006	pit	0.40		unexcavated cremation deposit?		
	2007	pit	0.40		unexcavated cremation deposit?		
	2008	pit	0.40		unexcavated cremation deposit?		
	2009	pit	0.40		unexcavated cremation deposit?		
21							
	2100	layer		0.25	topsoil		Modern
	2101	layer		0.30	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2102	pit fill		0.13	cremation deposit	human bone, one flint flake	
	2103	pit			cremation pit		
	2104	natural			sand and clay		
	2105	pit fill		0.22	f/o 2103		
	2106	layer			buried soil		
22							
	2200	natural			sand and clay		
	2201	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern

	2202	layer		0.90	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2203	ditch			unexcavated		
	2204	layer			buried soil		
23							
	2300	layer		0.28	topsoil		Modern
	2301	layer		0.40	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2302	natural			sand and clay		
	2303	ditch	0.80				
24							
	2400	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	2401	layer		0.30	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2402	natural			sand and clay		
	2403	ditch	2.10				
25							
	2500	layer		0.37	topsoil		Modern
	2501	layer		0.64	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2502	natural			sand and clay		
	2503	ditch					
	2504	plough furrow?	1.10				
	2505	ditch					
	2506	plough furrow?	1.80				
26							
	2600	layer		0.38	topsoil		Modern
	2601	layer		0.26	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2602	natural			sand and clay		
	2603	ditch					
	2604	ditch	0.80				
27							
	2700	layer		0.27	topsoil		Modern
	2701	layer		0.10	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2702	natural			sand and gravel		
	2703	plough furrow?	2.0				
	2704	plough furrow?	1.25				
28							
	2800	layer		0.25	topsoil		Modern

	2801	layer		0.15	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2802	natural			gravel and clay		
	2803	ditch	0.50				
	2804	ditch	0.50				
29							
	2900	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	2901	layer		0.26	alluvial ploughsoil		
	2902	pit	0.18	0.75	post hole?		
	2903	pit fill	0.18	0.75	post hole fill?		
	2904	natural			gravel and clay		
30							
	3001	natural			sand and clay		
	3002	layer		0.20	topsoil		
	3003	layer		0.25	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3004	tree hole					
	3005	fill		0.20	f/o 3004		
	3006	tree hole					
	3007	fill		0.15	f/o 3006		
	3008				unused		
	3009	gully fill	0.50	0.13	f/o 3010	flint flake	
	3010	gully	0.50	0.13	drainage/boun dary gully		
31							
	3100	layer		0.28	topsoil		Modern
	3101	layer		0.93	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3102	natural			sand and gravel		
	3103	ditch	1.10	0.10	plough furrow?		
	3104	furrow fill?	1.10	0.10	f/o 3103	animal bone	
	3105	tree hole					
	3106	pit fill			f/o 3105		
	3107	ditch	3.70	0.70	ring ditch ?		
	3108	ditch fill	3.70	0.70	f/o 3107	pot and bone	Bronze Age?
	3109	ditch	1.32	0.28	boundary ditch?		
	3110	ditch fill	1.32	0.28	f/o 3109	pot	post-Med.
	3111	ditch/fur row fill?					
32							
	3200	layer		0.20	topsoil		Modern
	3201	layer		0.16	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3202	natural			sand and gravel		
	3203	ditch	1.30	0.11	plough furrow?		



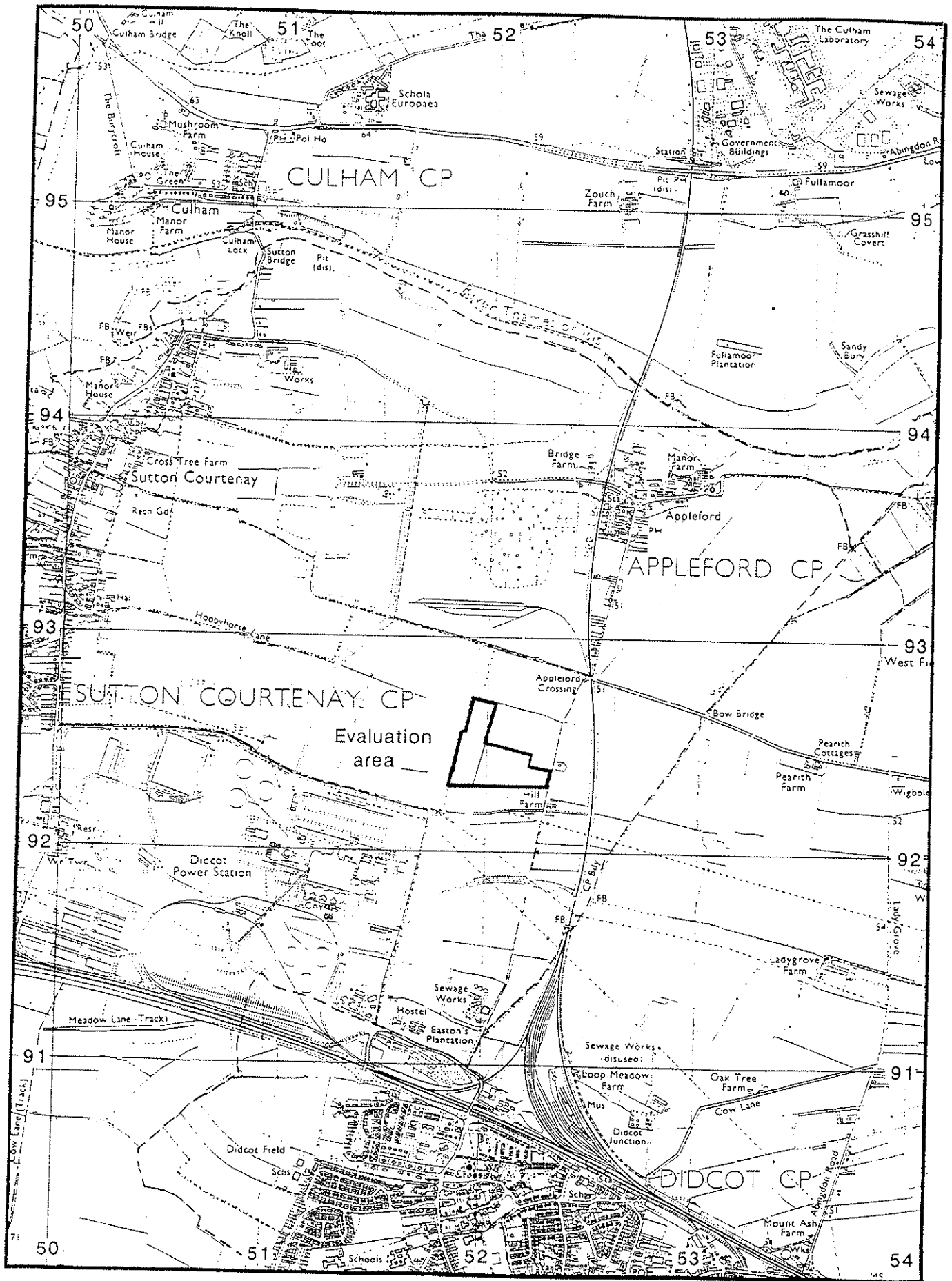
	3204	furrow fill?	1.30	0.11	f/o 3203		
33							
	3300	layer		0.26	topsoil		Modern
	3301	layer		0.18	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3302	ditch		0.60	boundary ditch?		
	3303	ditch fill		0.60	f/o 3302	pot and bone	Roman ?
	3304	ditch	1.30	0.52	boundary ditch?		
	3305	ditch fill	1.30	0.52	f/o 3304	flint flake	
	3306	natural			sand and clay		
34							
	3400	natural			sand and clay		
	3401	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	3402	layer		0.28	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3403	ditch	1.40	0.08	plough furrow?		
	3404	furrow fill?	1.40	0.08	f/o 3403		
	3405	ditch	2.60	0.45	boundary ditch		
	3406	fill		0.34	f/o 3405		
	3407	fill		0.40	f/o 3405		
	3408	fill		0.45	f/o 3405		
	3409	fill		0.23	f/o 3405		
	3410	fill		0.45	f/o 3405		
	3411	ditch	2.30	0.10	plough furrow?		
	3412	fill	2.30	0.10	furrow fill?		
35							
	3501	layer		0.25	topsoil	pot	Medieval
	3502	layer		0.30	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3503	natural			sand and gravel		
	3504	pit	2.3 E-W	1.0	water hole ?		
	3505	pit fill		0.15	upper fill of 3504		
	3506	pit fill		0.40	2nd fill of 3504	pot and bone	Bronze Age
	3507	pit fill		0.28	3rd fill of 3504	pot, bone and flint	Bronze Age
	3508	pit fill		0.25	primary fill of 3504		
	3509	gully	0.50	0.30	drainage ditch?		
	3510	gully fill	0.50	0.30	f/o 3509		
	3511				unused		

	3512	ditch	0.90	2.20	boundary ditch?		
	3513	ditch fill		0.32	upper fill of 3512		
	3514	ditch fill		0.20	2nd f/o 3512	pot	Medieval
	3515	ditch fill		0.30	3rd f/o 3512		
	3516	primary fill		0.25	f/o 3512	flint flake	
	3517				unused		
	3518	gully	0.80	0.46	drainage gully? same as 3509		
	3519	gully fill		0.28	upper fill of 3518		
	3520	gully fill		0.18	primary fill of 3518		
	3521	ditch	1.60	0.25	plough furrow?		
	3522	fill	1.60	0.25	furrow fill?		
	3523	ditch	2.30	0.20	plough furrow		
	3524	fill	2.30	0.20	furrow fill?		
36							
	3600	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	3601	layer		0.60	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3602	natural			sand and gravel		
	3603	ditch	0.65	0.18	boundary ditch?		
	3604	ditch fill		0.16	upper fill of 3603		
	3605	gully	0.30	0.12	drainage gully?		
	3606	gully fill	0.30	0.12	fill of 3605		
	3607	tree hole					
	3608	tree hole fill			fill of 3607		
	3609	ditch fill		0.04	primary fill of 3603		
37							
	3700	layer		0.36	topsoil		Modern
	3701	layer		0.18	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3702	natural			sand and clay		
	3703	ditch	0.56	0.16	boundary ditch?		
	3704	ditch fill	0.56	0.16	fill of 3703		
38							
	3800	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	3801	layer		0.20	alluvial ploughsoil		
	3802	natural			gravel and clay		

	3803	ditch	0.40	0.18	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	3804	ditch fill	0.40	0.18	fill of 3803	flint	
	3805	ditch	0.66	0.28	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	3806	ditch fill	0.66	0.28	fill of 3805		
	3807	gully	0.38	0.22	dramage gully?		
	3808	gully fill	0.38	0.22	fill of 3807		
	3809	ditch	1.22	0.10	plough furrow?		
	3810	furrow fill?	1.22	0.18	fill of 3809		
	3811	ditch	1.10	0.18	plough furrow?		
	3812	furrow fill?	1.10	0.18	fill of 3811		
39							
	3900	layer		0.30	topsoil		Modern
	3901	layer		0.20	a l l u v i a l ploughsoil		
	3902	natural			clay and gravel		
	3903	ditch	0.60	0.50	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	3904	ditch fill	0.60	0.50	fill of 3903		
	3905	ditch	0.70	0.32	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	3906	ditch fill	0.70	0.32	fill of 3905		
	3907	ditch	2.30	0.40	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	3908	ditch fill	2.30	0.40	fill of 3907		
40							
	4000	layer		0.30	topsoil		
	4001	layer		0.14 - 0.36	a l l u v i a l ploughsoil		
	4002	natural			sand and clay		
	4003	ditch	2.34	0.64	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4004	ditch fill		0.24	upper fill of 4003		
	4005	ditch	2.70	0.12	plough furrow?		
	4006	furrow fill?	2.70	0.12	fill of 4005		
	4007	oval pit	0.30	0.23	post hole?		
	4008	fill	0.30	0.23	fill of 4007		
	4009	circular pit	0.22	0.10	post hole?		
	4010	fill	0.22	0.10	fill of 4009		
	4011	ditch fill		0.32	2nd fill of 4003		

	4012	ditch fill		0.06	primary fill of 4003		
	4013	ditch	0.90	0.39	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4014	ditch fill		0.19	upper fill of 4013		
	4015	ditch fill		0.08	primary fill of 4013		
41							
	4100	layer		0.34	topsoil		Modern
	4101	layer		0.18	a l l u v i a l ploughsoil		
	4102	natural			sand and clay		
	4103	ditch	1.80	0.66	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4104	ditch fill		0.18	fill of 4103		
	4105	ditch fill		0.46	fill of 4103	pot	Roman ?
	4106	ditch		0.36	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4107	ditch fill		0.36	fill of 4106		
	4108				unused		
	4109	ditch	2.80			1 nail	
	4110	ditch		0.46	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4111	ditch fill		0.30	upper fill of 4110		
	4112	ditch fill		0.08	primary fill of 4110		
42							
	4200	layer		0.20	topsoil		Modern
	4201	layer		0.20	a l l u v i a l ploughsoil		
	4202	natural			sand and clay		
	4203	ditch	1.80	0.18	plough furrow fill ?		
	4204	ditch	1.40	0.24	plough furrow fill ?		
	4205	gully	0.55	0.18	drainage gully?		
	4206	gully fill	0.55	0.18	fill of 4205	bone	
	4207	gully	0.55	0.17	drainage gully?		
	4208	gully fill	0.55	0.17	fill of 4207		
	4209	gully / ditch	0.65	0.22	boundary or drainage ditch?		
	4210	gully / ditch fill	0.65	0.22	fill of 4209		
	4211	ditch	0.64	0.46	b o u n d a r y ditch?		
	4212	ditch fill	0.64	0.46	fill of 4211	pot	? Bronze A g e

	4213	ditch	1.20	0.40	boundary ditch?		
	4214	ditch fill	1.20	0.40	fill of 4213		
	4215	gully	0.55	0.20	drainage gully?		
	4216	gully fill	0.55	0.20	fill of 4215		
43							
	4300	layer		0.20	topsoil		Modern
	4301	layer		0.18	alluvial ploughsoil		
	4302	natural			sand and clay		
	4303	ditch					
	4304	ditch					
44							
	4400	layer		0.60	topsoil		Modern
	4401	layer		0.70	alluvial ploughsoil		
	4402	natural			sand and clay		
	4403						
	4404	ditch	1.40				
	4405						
	4406	ditch					
	4407						
	4408	ditch	1.40				
	4409						
	4410	ditch					

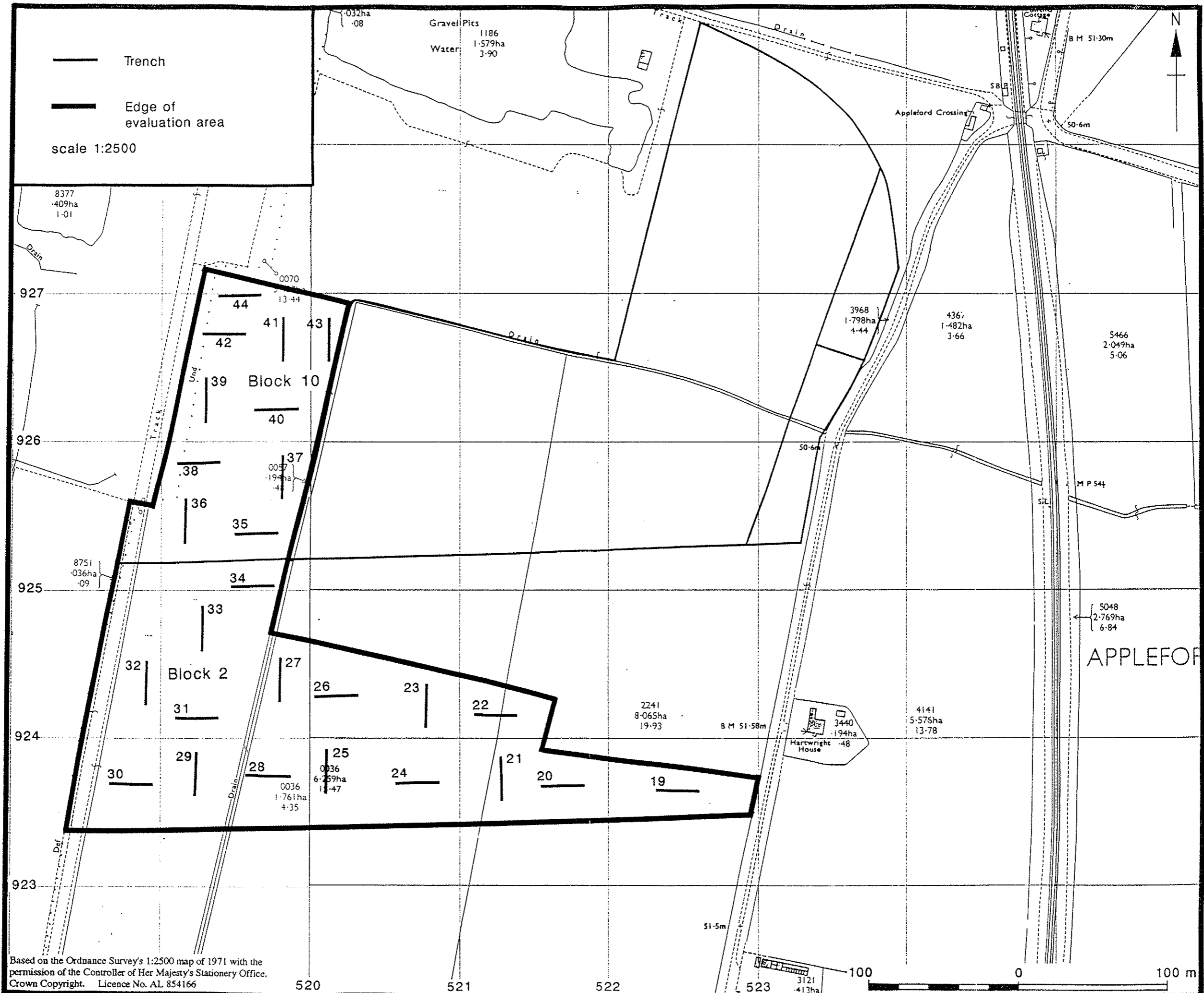


Scale 1:25,000

Evaluation area

Figure 1

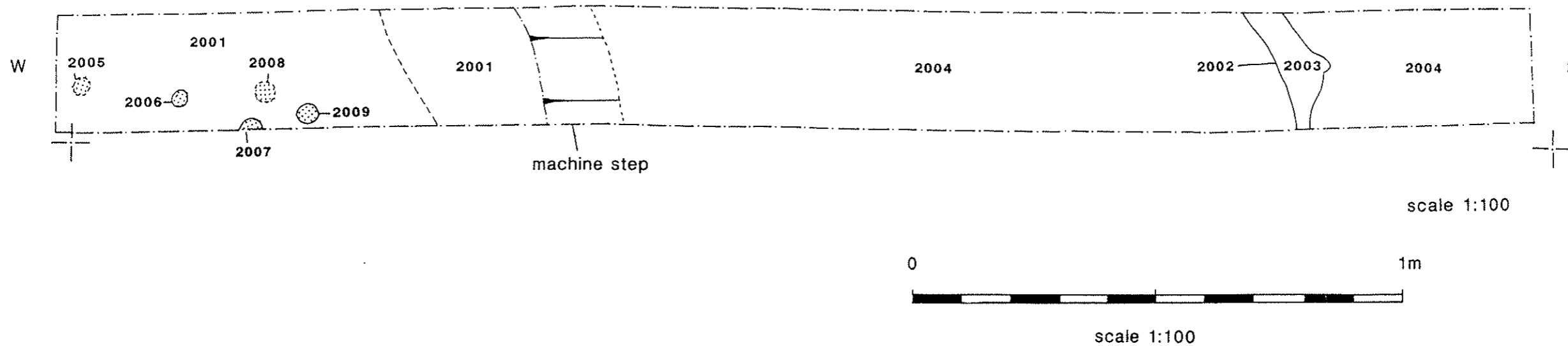
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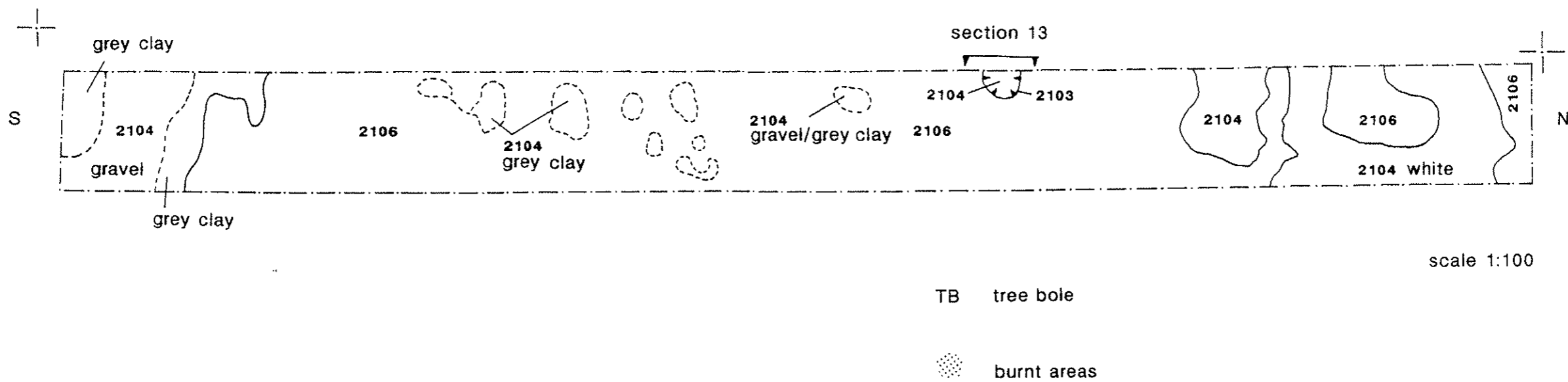
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Figure 2

Trench 20 plan



Trench 21 plan



Trench 31 plan

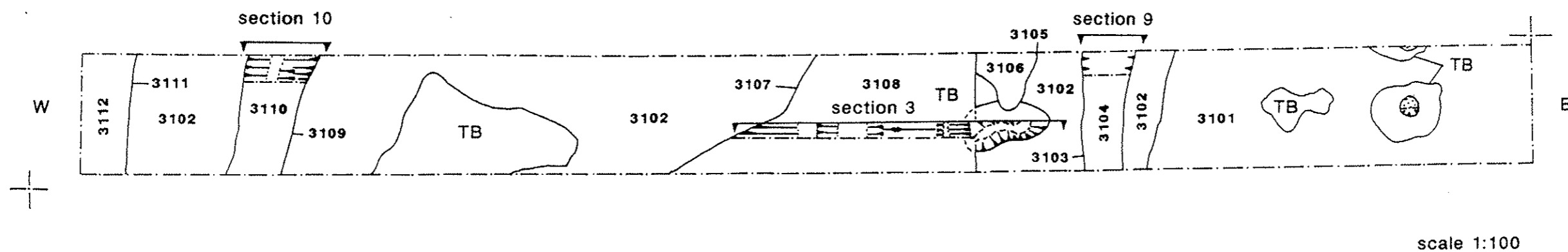


Figure 3





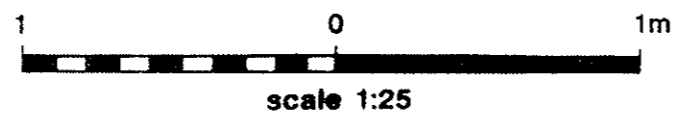
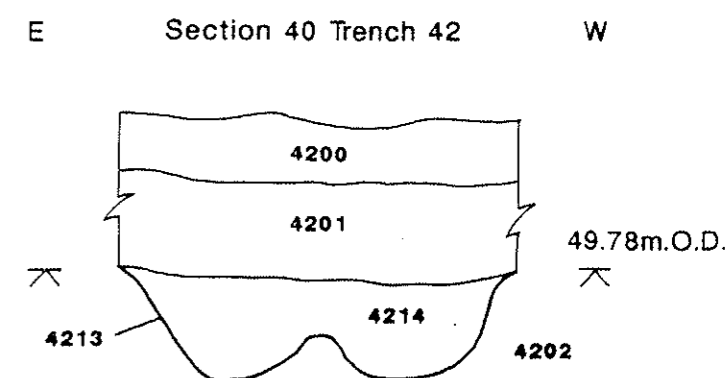
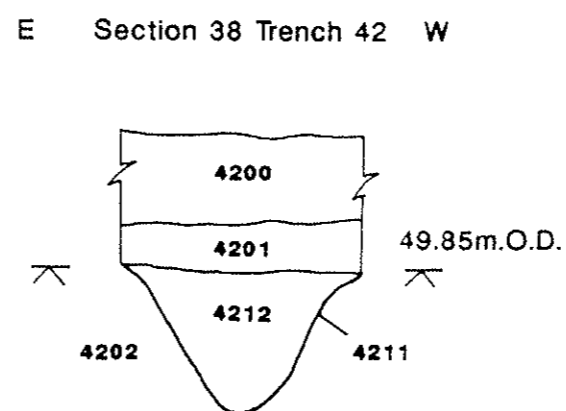
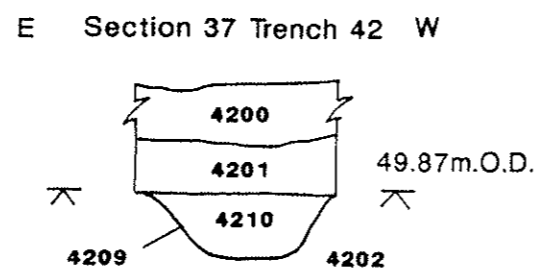
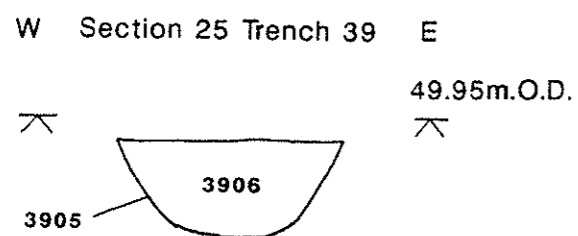
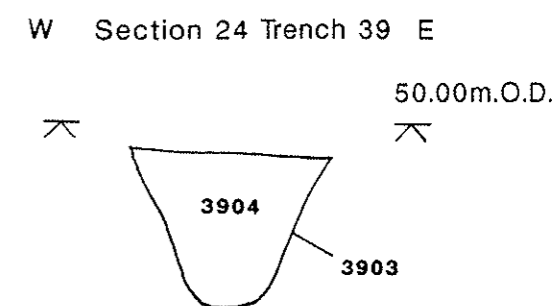
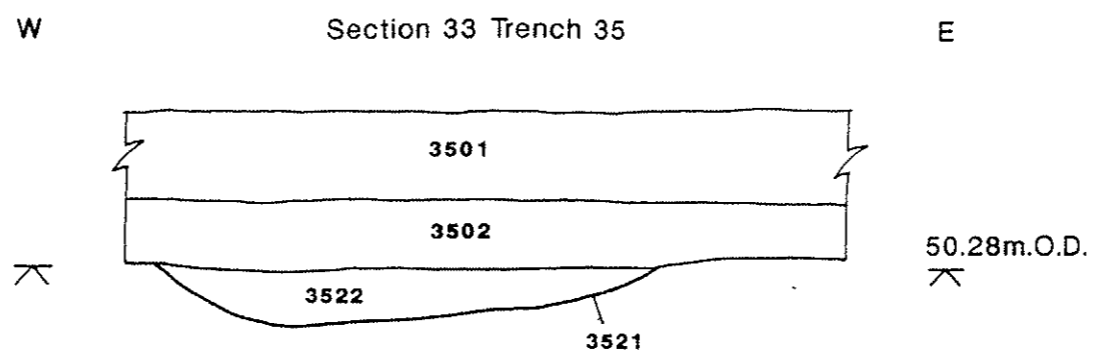
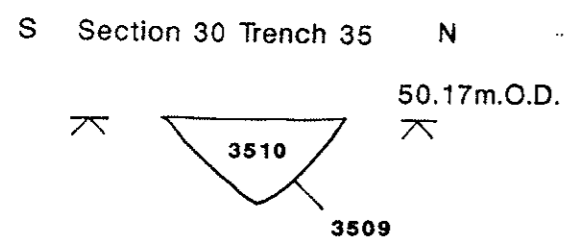
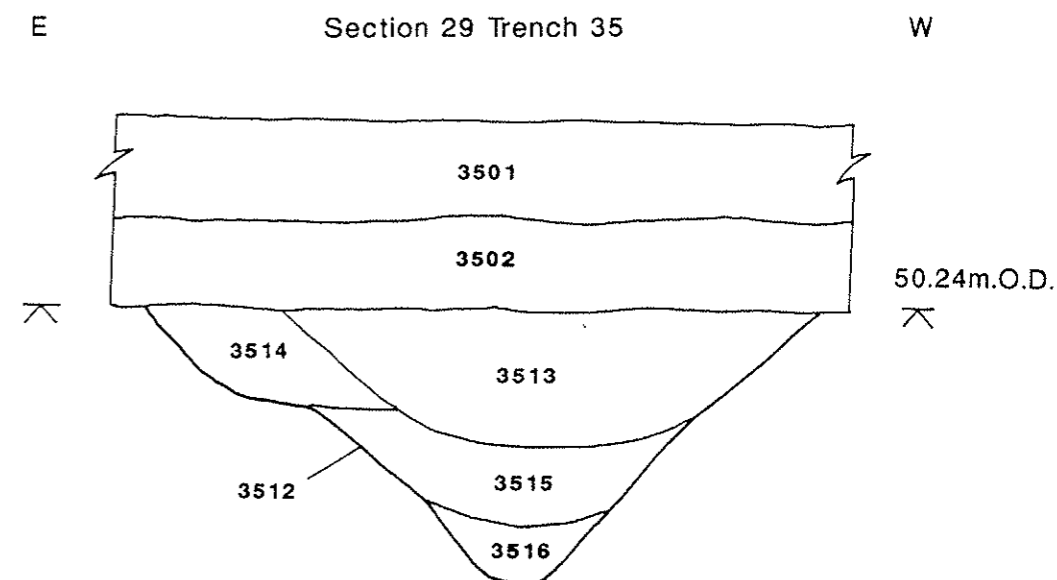
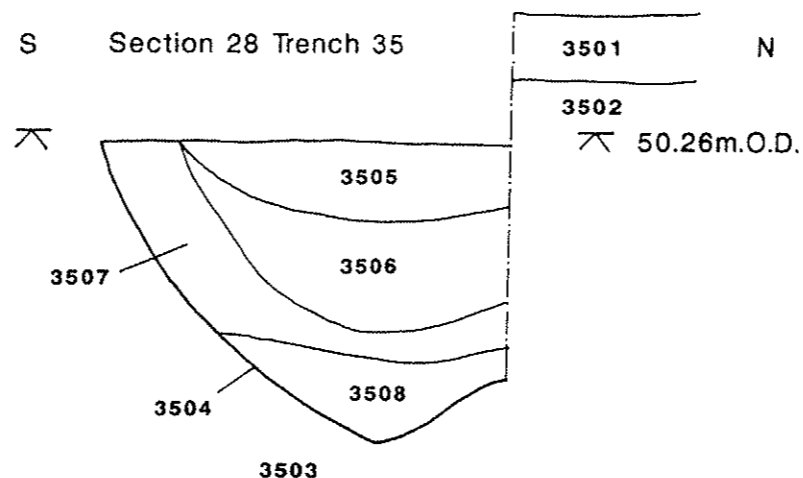
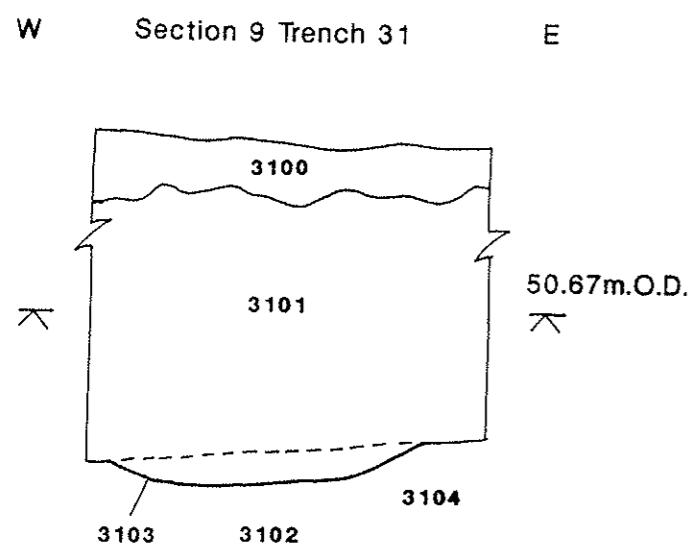
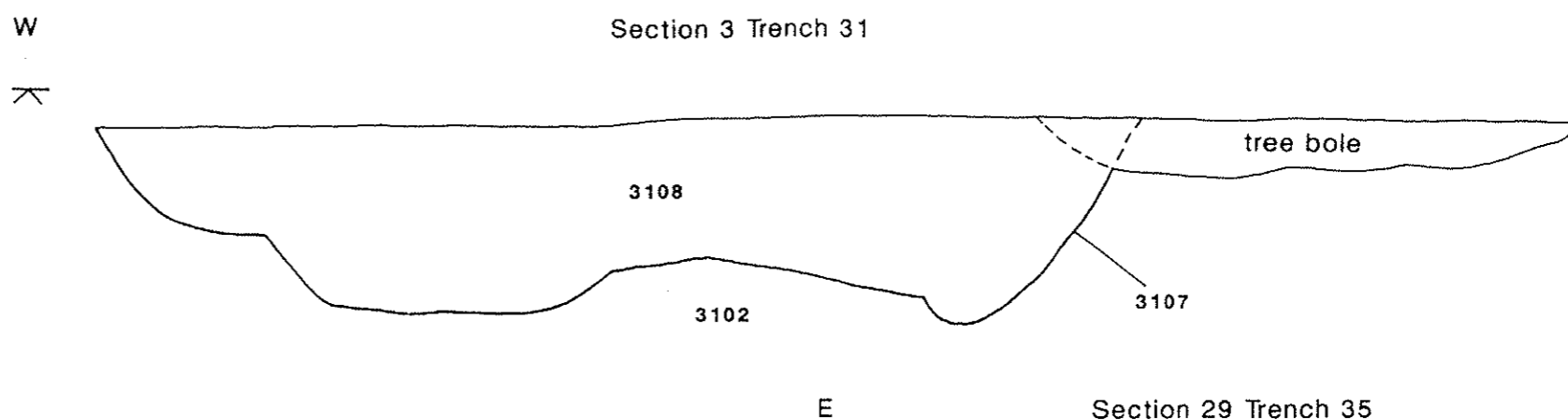
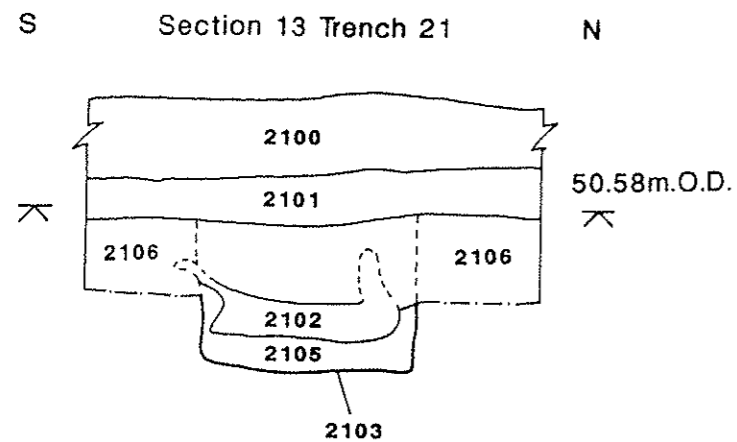


Figure 5



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