

# Land South-West of Exeter Alphington Devon



## Archaeological Evaluation Report

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## Land South-West of Exeter, Devon

### *Archaeological Evaluation Report*

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## Summary

Oxford Archaeology carried out a 51 trench evaluation at Land South-West of Exeter, Alphington, Devon for CgMs, on behalf of Bovis Homes. The site is situated on hillsides to the south-west of the River Exe. The evaluation was completed in two stages: Phase 1 (October-November 2013) comprised 13 trenches in the vicinity of a scheduled barrow cemetery in the northern part of the site and Phase 2 (February-March 2014) comprised 38 trenches in the remainder of the development area. This report details the results of both phases.

Most of the trenches were targeted to investigate features identified through geophysical survey or as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Archaeological features were found as predicted in the majority of trenches, although a few trenches contained features not detected by the geophysical surveys. The evaluation was largely successful in establishing the presence/absence, extent, conditions, nature, character and quality of archaeological and palaeo-environmental remains encountered. However, the date of many of the features remains uncertain as they had no associated artefacts and could not be dated on stratigraphic or morphological grounds.

On the basis of feature morphology and the very sparse artefacts, it is possible to provisionally suggest four broad phases of activity spread across six defined 'sites', although definition of the 'sites' is not clear-cut, given the poor dating evidence and the dispersed nature of both the funerary and settlement evidence.

**Early Bronze Age:** Activity attributed to this period comprised the scheduled barrow cemetery and two further ring ditches interpreted as small plough-levelled round barrows ('Site 1' on Fig. 2). Cremated human bone was recovered from one of the ring ditches, but no datable artefacts were recovered from either. In the absence of scientific dating at this stage, the barrow cemetery is assumed to belong to the early Bronze Age on morphological grounds.

**Middle Bronze Age:** This phase includes a rectilinear enclosure ditch, which may be associated with a more extensive series of tracks or field boundaries, located in the broadly same area as the barrow cemetery (Site 2). These enclosures may represent a phase of settlement post-dating the funerary use of the cemetery. The rectilinear enclosure ditch contained a deliberately buried pot. A separate site c600m to the east comprised a penannular ditch that was interpreted as the remains of a roundhouse (Site 3). The middle Bronze Age features are dated on the basis of the distinctive prehistoric pottery ('Trevisker'-related ware) found in small quantities in association with them.

**Late Iron Age-Roman period:** The third recognisable phase comprises dispersed evidence for late Iron and Roman settlement and field systems, identified through a combination of cropmark evidence, geophysical surveys and trial trenches. The main concentration of features was located in the north-western part of the evaluation area and comprised a complex of ditched enclosures that probably represent a farmstead (Site 4). A feature interpreted as the eaves-drip gully around a roundhouse was situated within a rectilinear enclosure, around which were further boundaries on similar alignments that probably enclosed paddocks and fields. A curving feature with a rubble fill may be the foundation for a second, stone-founded, roundhouse. A penannular feature in the south-eastern part of the area is



*interpreted on morphological grounds as the foundation trench of a roundhouse in an apparently isolated location (Site 5). A hearth group (Site 6) is tentatively interpreted as a charcoal-burning site, and is provisionally placed in the Roman phase on the basis of a single very small fragment of pottery. If the pottery is intrusive or incorrectly dated, a medieval or post-medieval date would be equally likely.*

**Medieval/ post-medieval:** *This phase is represented by poorly dated agricultural field boundaries, generally dated on the basis of their depiction on historic maps. No settlement foci of this period were identified in the trenches. It is likely that some of the extant historically documented post-medieval farms in the vicinity have medieval origins.*





## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Bovis Homes, to undertake a trial trench evaluation at Land South-West of Exeter, Devon (Fig.1, NGR 29230 089350). The total evaluation area is c 22.6ha.
- 1.1.2 The site falls within Teignbridge District. The northern fields lie within the historic parish of Alphington while the southern fields lie within Exminster parish, close to the hamlet of Matford. The evaluation was carried out with regard to a Heritage Statement prepared by Greg Pugh (CgMs 2012) and a trench plan prepared by William Bedford (CgMs 2013). A site-specific brief was not produced in this case. OA prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which detailed how the generic requirements of a standard Devon County Council (DCC) archaeological brief would be implemented, which was approved by the DCC Archaeological Officer, Stephen Reed.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation trenching was undertaken in two phases (Phase 1: 13 trenches; Phase 2: 38 trenches). This report details the results of both phases, updating a previous interim report on Phase 1 (OA 2013).

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The solid geology of the site comprises mainly Heavitree Breccia Formation to the south-east and Alphington Breccia Formation to the north-west. Bands of superficial deposits of Head are also present.
- 1.2.2 The site is situated near Exeter on hillsides to the south-west of the River Exe. The highest point within the overall development site lies at the south-west corner, at Pearce's Hill, which is at c 80m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). A second high spot (c 40m aOD) lies near the junction of the A30 and A379. The north slope of this hill falls to c 15m aOD where it meets the Matford Brook. The parish boundary between Alphington and Exminster follows the line of the brook.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

#### Previous investigations

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the development area is summarised in a site-specific Heritage Statement prepared on behalf of Bovis Homes (CgMs 2012). This was based on detailed research carried out by AC Archaeology in respect of the more extensive 'Land South-West of Exeter Development Masterplan Area' (Hughes and Valentin 2010). Targeted fieldwalking and magnetometer surveys of selected plots were completed for the 2010 Masterplan report (Hughes and Valentin 2010) and further surveys have been completed on behalf of Bovis Homes and CgMs (Stratascan 2012). The following summary is derived from the Heritage Statement (CgMs 2012).

#### Designated sites

- 1.3.2 There is a single Scheduled Monument (SM) within the site (SM 10625/1012347), a linear round barrow cemetery at Castle Park, Alphington. Two further Scheduled Monuments lie adjacent to the development area, comprising 'Enclosures north-east of Peamore Cottage' (SMDV985/1002652) to the south of the site and 'Earthwork enclosures to the north-east of Church Path Hill Plantation' ('SM DV953/1002644 ') to the east of the site.



- 1.3.3 There is one listed building within the site (Matford Barton), and three immediately adjacent: 'The Gables', a milestone on Chudleigh Road and another on Dawlish Road (all of which are Grade II). There are no other designated heritage assets within or adjacent to the site.
- 1.3.4 Matford Barton, which lies within the Phase 1 trenching area, is a Grade II listed building originally built in the 17th century and rebuilt in the 18th century. The building forms part of an otherwise modern complex of agricultural and office buildings on the south side of Dawlish Road.
- 1.3.5 A number of undesignated heritage assets are also recorded in the wider area and a number of archaeological features and artefacts were identified by the geophysical and fieldwalking surveys. These are considered in the relevant sections below. The nomenclature for site identifications (e.g. A32 or Plot 12) used by Hughes and Valentin (2010) is used in this report in order to facilitate cross-referencing between the documents (the locations of these features are shown on fig. 2 of Hughes and Valentin 2010).

### **Prehistoric**

- 1.3.6 The most significant prehistoric evidence within the site is represented by the linear barrow cemetery, comprising approximately nine features located on a slope above and to the north of the Matford Brook, in the north-western part of the site (SM10625, A5). Similar features, though not scheduled, have been identified from aerial photographs in the south part of the site (A32, A34-A36) and at the very western edge of the site (A1). A number of other cropmark features are also present within (A2, A17 and A18) or just outside the site (A7, A31 and A42). These potentially represent evidence for prehistoric settlement with associated boundaries and field systems.
- 1.3.7 The fieldwalking survey identified small surface artefact assemblages, suggesting Mesolithic/early Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity. The finds were mainly concentrated in the north-west corner of Plot 12 (the far west of the site) and on the west side of Plot 42.
- 1.3.8 The geophysical survey identified a number of anomalies of probable archaeological interest in Plots 12, 13, 19, 42, 44 and 45 whose form suggested a late prehistoric date. The survey undertaken adjacent to the SM did not indicate the continuation of the barrow cemetery beyond the scheduled area, although a number of linear features indicated enclosures which may be associated. None of the anomalies identified by geophysical survey within the site suggested prehistoric remains of national importance.

### **Roman**

- 1.3.9 No heritage assets from the Roman period have previously been recorded within the site. There is one known Romano-British site just to the south-west at Pond Farm (SM DV985; A23). It comprises cropmarks identified from aerial photography that are likely to represent settlement remains. Some limited investigation recorded a series of enclosure ditches associated with 2nd century AD pottery and tile (Jarvis 1976).
- 1.3.10 No Romano-British artefacts were recovered during the fieldwalking within the site. While no distinctly Romano-British anomalies were identified during the geophysical survey, it was considered possible that some of the enclosures date from this period.



### **Post-Roman, Saxon and Medieval**

- 1.3.11 There are no known heritage assets from these periods within the site or nearby. However, it is possible that evidence for the early settlements at Matford (A10 and A16) survives below ground.

### **Post-Medieval and Modern**

- 1.3.12 There is potential for remains associated with Matford Mill (A14) located along the Matford Brook. The mill is recorded for the first time in 1566. Other than the existing farmsteads most of the site would have been agricultural land.

### **Historic Landscape**

- 1.3.13 There are ten boundaries within the site that are depicted on maps of c 1840 and earlier and, where hedged, are considered to be important hedgerows under Criterion 5a of Schedule 1, Part II of the Hedgerow Regulations of 1997, as they are recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Act. The parish boundary between Alphington and Exeter, where hedged, also falls under Criterion 1 as it marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township.

## **1.4 Acknowledgements**

- 1.4.1 OA would like to acknowledge William Bedford, the consultant for CgMs who commissioned the work, and Stephen Reed (Archaeological Officer, Devon County Council), who monitored the project on behalf of the planning authority. The evaluation was managed for OA by Stuart Foreman, and the fieldwork was directed in the field by Alexandra Latham with the assistance of Benn Penny-Mason, Jim Harriss and Peter Vellet.



## 2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 General

2.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation as stated in the WSI (OA 2013) were:

- To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive;
- To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains;
- To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means;
- To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains;
- To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy;
- To assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape;
- To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive;
- To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, utility and social activity;
- To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present;

### 2.2 Specific aims and objectives

2.2.1 The specific aims and were:

- To target and investigate features identified by previous geophysical surveys and as cropmarks.

### 2.3 Methodology

2.3.1 The evaluation consisted of 51 trenches in total, distributed on a judgemental basis throughout the proposed development, located to investigate geophysical anomalies and other features identified by previous surveys. The trench locations were set out using Global Positioning Satellite survey equipment to ensure accurate placement over the proposed locations.

2.3.2 The trenches were excavated in two phases, as shown on Figure 2 (13 in Phase 1 and 38 in Phase 2). An interim report was completed in December 2013, detailing the results from Phase 1 (OA 2013). The current report is presented as an update which incorporates the results from both phases. Trenches excavated in each phase were as follows:

**Phase 1:** 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27 and 28

**Phase 2:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 21, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51

2.3.3 The trenches varied in length. Thirty-six were 30m x 2m; fourteen were 40m x 2m and one was 50m x 2m. The total specified trench area amounted to 3380m<sup>2</sup>. Trench 48 was extended by the addition of a 3m x 12m area to expose one side of a ring ditch. Trench 50 was moved 15m NW on the same alignment to avoid an area of surface water. Trench 2 was moved 10m SW on the same alignment to avoid overhead power cables. Trench 29 was rotated to a SW-NE alignment to avoid a steep slope. Otherwise



the trenches were excavated to the dimensions and locations specified in the proposed trench plan.

- 2.3.4 Plough-disturbed soil horizons were removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket to expose archaeologically significant horizons or the surface of the solid geology, whichever was encountered first.
- 2.3.5 A summary of OA's general approach to excavation and recording is included in Appendix A of the WSI. Standard methodologies for geomatics and survey, environmental evidence and artefactual evidence can also be found in Appendices B, C, D and E of the WSI.



### 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, beginning with a general description of soils and a stratigraphic account of those trenches that contained archaeological remains. This is followed by an overall discussion and interpretation. An index of trenches giving the extent and depths of all deposits is presented in tabular form in Appendix A. A description and quantification of the finds forms the content of Appendix B.
- 3.1.2 Trenches are illustrated in their landscape context in Figures 3-6. Individual trench and feature plans comprise Figures 7-42. Section drawings comprise Figures 43-58. Plates 1-15 have been selected to illustrate the most significant features, the soil sequence and general ground conditions.

#### 3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 Overall the evaluation was undertaken in good weather conditions with occasional heavy rain. Ground conditions were good and fairly dry. Most of the fields were under crops at the time of the evaluation, except for Trenches 36 and 45-49 inclusive, which were under grass.
- 3.2.2 The topsoil was between 0.19m and 0.65m thick (on average c 0.27m). All archaeological features were overlain by a heavily plough-disturbed reddish brown silty clay subsoil and all features appear to have been truncated by ploughing. The subsoil varied considerably from 0.08-0.60m thick (typically c 0.18m). The total soil thickness overlying intact archaeology was typically c 0.45m.
- 3.2.3 The underlying geology was reached in all trenches and usually consisted of soils developed over the Alphington and Heavitree Breccia formations, comprising fine-grained mid reddish brown loam with small shale and sandstone clasts. In the south-east corner of the site (Trenches 44-50) the soils comprised a somewhat lighter coloured and less stony reddish brown loam.

#### 3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.3.1 Significant archaeology present at six identified 'sites' (labelled Sites 1 – 6 on Figure 2). Site 1 comprises additional features thought to be associated with the scheduled barrow cemetery (provisionally assumed to be of early Bronze Age date). Possible domestic features dating from the middle Bronze Age include a rectilinear enclosure and possibly associated boundaries or tracks in the same general area as the barrow cemetery (Site 2), and an isolated roundhouse in the eastern corner of the evaluation area (Site 3). Sites 1 and 2 overlap to a large extent in plan but are distinguished on chronological grounds. Sites 4 and 5 are interpreted as farmsteads or agricultural buildings of late Iron Age-Roman date. Site 6 comprises a group of hearths that are not reliably dated but are thought most likely to be of late Iron Age-Roman date. The three late Iron Age-Roman sites are widely dispersed along the south-western edge of the evaluation area.
- 3.3.2 Beyond these focal locations, archaeological remains appear to be very sparsely distributed, comprising predominantly undated ditches (interpreted as field boundaries or tracks). Most trenches contained at least one archaeological feature, although the majority of these are of uncertain date as very few artefacts were found. Artefacts and environmental remains recovered are noted in the trench descriptions. Trenches 2, 3, 6, 12, 17, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 35, 37, 38, 41 and 51 contained no archaeological finds or



features at all and are not described or illustrated further, although they are included in the inventory in Appendix 1.

- 3.3.3 There is a broad correlation between the linear features identified by the magnetometer survey and cropmarks and the various ditches found in the trenches, although they do not always match exactly. Some significant features, such as the ring ditch in Trench 43 (Site 5), and hearth group in Trench 34 (Site 6), were only discovered by trenching.

### **3.4 Trench 1 (Figs 3, 7 and 43)**

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 contained a single NE-SW aligned ditch (103), which had a concave base with steeply sloped sides and contained a single mid brown, slightly red tinged, silty sandy clay fill (104). A single piece of worked flint was recovered from the fill. The alignment of the ditch is similar to that of the late Iron Age-Roman field system visible on aerial photographs and geophysical survey plots in this field.

### **3.5 Trench 4 (Figs 3, 8 and 43)**

- 3.5.1 Trench 4 contained a single NW-SE aligned ditch (403) and two postholes (406 and 408). No artefacts were recovered.
- 3.5.2 Ditch 403 had a concave base and steeply sloped sides and contained two fills (404 and 405). The lower fill (405) was a mid reddish brown sandy silty clay and the upper fill (404) was a mid brown red tinged silty sandy gritty clay.
- 3.5.3 Posthole 406 was circular in shape with a slightly concave base, and straight, almost vertical sides. It contained a single light brown orange/red silty, sandy clay fill (407).
- 3.5.4 Posthole 408 was only partially revealed at the north-western edge of the trench. The visible part of the posthole indicates a circular shape with a slightly concave base with straight, near-vertical sides and a single fill of mid brown orange/red silty, sandy, gritty clay (409).
- 3.5.5 The trench was located in an area of what appear from the geophysical and cropmark evidence to be settlement enclosures and the postholes may be traces of a wooden structure.

### **3.6 Trench 5 (Figs 3, 9 and 43; Plate 1)**

- 3.6.1 Trench 5 contained a single NW-SE aligned ditch (506). A slightly curvilinear stone wall or drain (504) was recorded at the SW end of the trench. The features lay on parallel alignments and no datable artefacts were recovered from either. The alignment differs from that of the possible late Iron Age-Roman field system in this field (Site 4). The alignment also bears little obvious relationship to the extant post-medieval/ modern field boundaries.
- 3.6.2 Ditch 506 had a slightly concave base with moderately sloping sides and contained a single friable mid brownish grey sandy silt fill (507).
- 3.6.3 The possible wall foundation or drain comprised a single uneven course of unmortared sandstone rubble (505) placed in a narrow shallow gully (504; Plate 1). The feature appeared to curve slightly, diverging from a predominantly east-west alignment.

### **3.7 Trench 7 (Figs 3, 10 and 44)**

- 3.7.1 Trench 7 contained a NE-SW aligned ditch which was investigated at two locations (cuts 703 and 707). A single pit (705) and a possible spread or shallow pit (709) were also identified. None of these features produced artefacts. The alignment of ditch 703/707 changes from N-S to NW-SE within the trench, possibly reflecting a kink in the adjacent Chudleigh Road, in which case it is perhaps most likely to be of medieval or post-medieval date.



- 3.7.2 Ditch 703 had a V-shaped profile with moderately sloping sides and contained a single mid reddish brown sandy silt fill (704). In cut 707 the ditch profile was more rounded at the base but of similar dimensions, and the fill (708) was very similar.
- 3.7.3 Pit 705 was only partly exposed at the western edge of the trench. The visible portion suggests a circular shape with a flat base and moderately sloping sides. It contained a single mid reddish brown sandy silt fill (706).
- 3.7.4 Possible spread or shallow pit 709 was fairly irregular in shape, with a flat base, very shallow sides, and a single light brown silty sandy clay fill (710). It could be a tree-throw hole. It was cut by ditch 703/707.

### **3.8 Trench 8 (Figs 3, 11 and 44; Plates 2 and 3)**

- 3.8.1 Trench 8 investigated a NW-SE aligned rectilinear enclosure ditch (805) and a curved enclosure ditch within it (803). This group of features, in particular the rectilinear enclosure, are consistently the most prominent cropmark features on a series of aerial photographs held by the HER, and also shows up strongly on the geophysical survey plot. The curved inner ditch appears on the aerial photographs to be at least 30 long. Its overall shape is uncertain as it is truncated to the south by the cutting for the A30 dual carriageway. The few finds recovered suggest a late Iron Age-Roman date for this complex.
- 3.8.2 The curved inner enclosure ditch (803; Plate 2) had a concave base and gently sloping sides with a single mid greyish red silty clay fill (804). The fill contained a single sherd of abraded Roman pottery.
- 3.8.3 The outer rectilinear enclosure ditch (805; Plate 3) was significantly deeper, with a concave base and moderately sloped sides. It contained a sequence of light brownish red silty sand fills (806, 807 and 808), of which 807 produced a group of late Iron Age pottery sherds including a rim.

### **3.9 Trench 9 (Figs 3, 12 and 44)**

- 3.9.1 Trench 9 contained a single NW-SE ditch (903) which was identified by the geophysical survey but not visible on aerial photographs. The alignment of the ditch suggests that it forms part of the late Iron Age-Roman field system in this area (Site 4). The ditch had a slightly concave base with gently sloping sides, filled with mid reddish brown silty clay (904). No artefactual dating evidence was recovered, a single piece of animal bone being the only find.

### **3.10 Trench 10 (Figs 3, 13, 44 and 45)**

- 3.10.1 Trench 10 was located to investigate two ditches mapped by the geophysical survey (1003 and 1005). Neither feature contained datable artefacts, and there is no other evidence for their date. Ditch 1003 was found to be NW-SE aligned, as predicted by the survey. However, the alignment of ditch 1005 does not seem to match the survey plot, although the ditch appears to be in the predicted location.
- 3.10.2 Ditch 1003 had a concave base, a moderately sloped south-west side and a gently sloped north-east side. The ditch contained a single mid brownish red tinged silty, sandy clay fill (1004).
- 3.10.3 Ditch 1005 curves within the trench from an east to north-west alignment and had a V-shaped base with steeply sloped sides and contained a single dark reddish brown silty, sandy, clay fill (1006). The only artefact recovered from the fill was a single piece of metal-working slag.



### **3.11 Trench 11 (Figs 3, 14 and 45)**

3.11.1 Trench 11 contained a single NW-SE aligned ditch (1103), as predicted from aerial photographs and the geophysical survey. The investigated section had a slightly concave base and steeply sloping sides and contained a single fill of firm dark reddish brown silty clay (1104). The ditch was expected to form part of the late Iron Age/ Roman enclosure complex (Site 4), but pottery and glass recovered from the fill was of 19th century date. This feature may be associated with construction of the A30 dual carriageway, as it follows the edge of the associated road landtake.

### **3.12 Trench 12 (Fig. 3)**

3.12.1 This trench was positioned to investigate elements of the late Iron Age-Roman enclosure complex (Site 4) but was found to be located in an area of ground disturbance. Aerial photographs show that the trench lies just within the area affected by construction of the A30 dual carriageway. Ground reduction and disturbance has clearly removed any archaeological remains that may have been present.

### **3.13 Trench 13 (Figs 4, 15 and 45)**

3.13.1 Trench 13 contained a single NE-SW aligned ditch (1303), with a moderately sloped U-shaped profile. It contained a brown silty clay fill (1304) that produced a single cattle bone fragment.

### **3.14 Trench 14 (Figs 4, 16 and 45)**

3.14.1 Trench 14 contained a single small and very shallow NE-SW aligned gully (1403) that contained a brown silty clay fill (1404).

### **3.15 Trench 15 (Figs 4, 17 and 45; Plate 4)**

3.15.1 Trench 15 contained two ditches (1503, 1504), with similar very shallow V-shaped profiles.

3.15.2 Ditch 1503 (Plate 4) was aligned E-W and had a reddish brown sandy clay fill (1504) that contained a single piece of later prehistoric flint and one sherd of pottery that dated from no earlier than the 18th century.

3.15.3 Ditch 1505 was aligned N-S and contained a reddish grey sandy clay fill (1506).

3.15.4 A single pot sherd of middle Bronze Age date was recovered from the topsoil (context 1500).

### **3.16 Trench 16 (Figs 4, 18, 46 and 47; Plates 5 and 6)**

3.16.1 Trench 16 contained two ditches (1603, 1605), a shallow feature that may have been the terminal of a third (1607) and a single posthole (1609).

3.16.2 Ditch 1603 was aligned E-W and had a very shallow profile with a depth of only 0.10m. It contained a greyish brown silty clay fill (1604).

3.16.3 Ditch 1605 (plate 6) was aligned NE-SW. It had a V-shaped profile and contained a reddish brown clayey silt fill (1606).

3.16.4 Feature 1607 extended into the trench from the north-eastern baulk and may have been the south-eastern terminal of a NE-SW aligned ditch. It had a broad, very shallow profile and contained a greyish brown silty clay fill (1608).

3.16.5 Posthole 1609 was circular in plan, with nearly vertical sides and a concave base and contained a greyish brown silty clay fill (1610).



### **3.17 Trench 18 (Figs 4, 19 and 47)**

- 3.17.1 Trench 18 contained two ditches (1803 and 1805) that lay on broadly parallel alignments but were of somewhat different dimensions.
- 3.17.2 Ditch 1803 was NW-SE aligned with a moderately steep V-shaped profile and contained a reddish brown silty clay fill (1804).
- 3.17.3 Ditch 1805 was also NW-SE aligned but was a more substantial feature, measuring 3.30m wide. It had a broad, concave profile and contained a reddish brown silty clay fill (1806).

### **3.18 Trench 19 (Figs 4, 20 and 48, Plate 7)**

- 3.18.1 Trench 19 contained a single E-W aligned ditch (1903; Plate 7) with a narrow concave profile, which was 0.60m wide and 0.26m deep. It was filled with a reddish brown sandy clay deposit (1904) that contained a concentrated deposit of pottery, derived from a single large vessel in a Trevisker-related style dating from the middle Bronze Age, as well as one abraded piece of worked flint. The geophysical survey indicates that the ditch forms part of an L-shaped ditch, possibly part of a more extensive enclosure system.

### **3.19 Trench 20 (Figs 4, 21 and 48)**

- 3.19.1 Trench 20 contained two ditches (2003 and 2005), neither of which produced any artefactual material.
- 3.19.2 Ditch 2003 was E-W aligned with a broad, shallow profile. It contained a reddish brown silty clay fill (2004).
- 3.19.3 Ditch 2005 was NW-SE aligned with a very broad and very shallow profile. It contained a reddish grey sandy clay fill (2006).

### **3.20 Trench 21 (Figs 4, 22 and 49)**

- 3.20.1 Trench 21 contained a single shallow NW-SE linear gully (2102) with a concave base and gently sloping sides. The gully contained a single soft mid reddish brown fine grained sandy silt fill (2103). No artefacts were recovered.

### **3.21 Trench 22 (Figs 4, 23 and 49, Plates 8 and 9)**

- 3.21.1 Trench 22 contained three ditches (2203, 2206 and 2210). The geophysical survey indicates that ditches 2203 and 2206 form opposing sides of a ring ditch, which measures c 15.5m in diameter.
- 3.21.2 The part of ditch 2203 that was exposed within the trench was aligned east-west, with a slight curvature evident in its alignment. The profile was moderately steep-sided, 1.74m wide and 0.56m deep. It contained two fills, a greyish brown silty clay (2205) overlain by a reddish brown clayey silt (2204).
- 3.21.3 Ditch 2206 (Plate 9) was similarly east-west aligned but was not obviously curved in plan. It had a similar profile to ditch 2204 and was 1.07m wide and 0.29m deep, with three fills. The bottom fill (2207) was a greyish brown silty clay, which when wet-sieved produced a small quantity of cremated human bone within a localised charcoal-rich deposit (visible as a dark stain in section on Plate 9). The deposit does not appear to represent an *in situ* cremation burial but must be redeposited from very close by, perhaps having fallen into the ditch from the adjacent former barrow mound as a result of soil erosion or deliberate infilling. A single sherd from a modern flower pot, also assigned to context 2207, is assumed to be intrusive. Overlying the charcoal-rich deposit were two mid reddish brown silty clay fills (2208 and 2209).



3.21.4 Ditch 2210 had a similar concave profile to ditches 2203 and 2206, but does not appear to be related to the ring ditch. It coincides with a weak negative linear feature on the survey plot which appears to be part of track or field boundary of unknown date, lying on a SW-NE alignment parallel to the Matford Brook. It was 0.78m wide, 0.18m deep and contained a reddish brown silty clay (2211).

### **3.22 Trench 25 (Figs 4, 24 and 50, Plates 10 and 11)**

3.22.1 Trench 25 contained two ditches (2503 and 2505) which the geophysical survey indicates are part of a ring ditch with a diameter of c 13m. As no artefacts were recovered the only evidence for the date and function of the feature is its circular form and proximity to the known barrow cemetery. The size and form of the ring ditch would also be consistent with a later prehistoric roundhouse, but the complete absence of artefacts, internal features or other evidence for domestic occupation suggests that a funerary function is more likely. The cremated human bone recovered from the similar ring ditch in Trench 22, c 200m to the SW, also strengthens the argument for the funerary character of these features.

3.22.2 Ditch 2503 was WNW-ESE aligned with a slight curve evident in plan, and a broad, moderately steep-sided, U-shaped profile. It was 1.46m wide and 0.46m deep and contained a greyish brown silty clay fill (2504).

3.22.3 Ditch 2505 (Plate 11) was NNW-SSE aligned, with a slight curve evident and a similar profile to 2503. It measured 1.40m wide and 0.44m deep and contained a single greyish brown silty clay fill (2506).

### **3.23 Trench 28 (Figs 4, 25 and 50)**

3.23.1 This trench, along with Trench 27, was placed to investigate a group of narrow linear anomalies on the geophysical survey. Only one of these (2803) was visible as an archaeological feature in the trenches. As this part of the site is seasonally boggy ground next to the Matford Brook, the features are likely to be land drains.

3.23.2 Trench 28 contained a single north-south aligned ditch (2803) which coincides with one of the north-south aligned geophysical features. It contained a greyish brown sandy clay fill (2804). No datable artefacts were recovered.

### **3.24 Trench 30 (Figs 4, 26 and 51)**

3.24.1 Trench 30 contained a single large NE-SW aligned ditch (3003) which had been identified by the geophysical survey. The ditch had a concave base and moderately sloped sides and contained four fills (3004, 3005, 3006 and 3007). The fills dipped down to the south-east, which may have been due to the slope of the ground in this area or to erosion from a former bank on the south-west side, although no positive evidence for a bank was observed *in situ*.

3.24.2 The fills comprised varying shades of reddish or greyish brown silty, sandy clay. The middle fill (3005) differed in that it contained frequent charcoal flecks. None of the deposits produced any artefacts and the alignment and location give no clue as to the feature's date.

### **3.25 Trench 31 (Figs 4, 27 and 51)**

3.25.1 Trench 31 contained a single substantial NNE-SSW aligned ditch (3103) with a V-shaped profile and moderately sloped sides. The ditch contained a series of three fills (3104, 3105 and 3106), which consisted of varying shades of mid brown silty, sandy, clay, and none of which produced any artefacts. No anomalies were identified in this location by the geophysical survey but the location and alignment of the feature



suggest that it may be a continuation of a ditch that was identified to the south and recorded in Trench 32 as ditch 3205.

### **3.26 Trench 32 (Figs 4, 28 and 51)**

- 3.26.1 Trench 32 contained a pair of parallel NE-SW ditches (3203 and 3205) of which 3205 was detected by the geophysical survey whilst 3203 was not. Neither feature produced any datable artefacts. Their profiles were quite different but they are sufficiently close together that they could be flanking a trackway.
- 3.26.2 Ditch 3203 was very shallow with a flat base and gently sloping sides and contained a single dark reddish brown silty, sandy, clay fill (3204).
- 3.26.3 Ditch 3205 had a V-shaped profile with moderately sloped sides and contained a single dark reddish brown silty, sandy, clay fill (3206).

### **3.27 Trench 33 (Figs 4, 29 and 52)**

- 3.27.1 Trench 33 contained four very shallow gullies (3303, 3305, 3307 and 3309), which broadly coincide with a series of tracks or boundaries on the geophysical survey. Gullies 3303, 3305 and 3307 were very close to each other on parallel SW-NE alignments and probably represent the traces of a former hedge bank. All of the features contained fills typical for this site, comprising light to mid brown reddish sandy, silty clay. The fills of gullies 3303 and 3305 contained 19th century pottery and glass.
- 3.27.2 Gully 3309 was on a roughly east-west alignment, which appears on the geophysical survey to be slightly curved. The profile was shallow and flat-based.

### **3.28 Trench 34 (Figs 5, 30 and 53, Plate 12)**

- 3.28.1 Trench 34 contained a concentration of 16 features, eight of which were sampled by hand excavation.
- 3.28.2 The excavated features comprised two possible hearths (3403 and 3407) situated in the central part of the trench and a gully (3416) that was situated at the southern end. Each of the hearths was partly encircled by an associated crescent-shaped gully (3405 and 3410) and associated with a single posthole (3412 and 3414). Signs of burning, including reddened soils were widespread throughout the trench, and most of the feature fills contained charcoal flecks. The absence of fired clay or any other signs of superstructure or furniture suggests that these were open hearths or clamps rather than enclosed furnaces or ovens. The function and date of the hearths is uncertain and is discussed further in Section 4.
- 3.28.3 Hearth 3403 (Plate 12) was roughly oval in shape with a concave base and moderately sloped sides. The hearth contained a single friable mid grey brown fine grained sandy silt fill (3404) with infrequent charcoal flecks and fragments of fire-cracked stone.
- 3.28.4 Crescent gully 3405 partly encircled the hearth but was open to the west. It was fairly shallow with a slightly concave base, gently sloping sides and contained a single reddened friable silty sand fill (3406). Posthole 3414 was situated adjacent to the end of the southern part of gully 3405. It was fairly shallow and circular in shape, with a concave base and gently sloping sides. The fill (3415) was similar to that of the gully but slightly darker brown.
- 3.28.5 Hearth 3407 was situated 4.5m south of hearth 3403. It was an irregular oval shape with a flat base and moderate-gently sloping sides. It contained a possible lining or heat-reddened crust (3409) and a single fill (3408). The crust was fairly firmly compacted, mottled light yellow/brown and red/brown in colour with fine sandy clay composition. It included infrequent charcoal flecks and fire/heat cracked stones. The crust may represent a deliberate hearth lining or the result of heating. Fill 3408



comprised a friable dark grey brown fine silty sand which contained fire cracked/burnt stone and a single piece of clinker material. Samples <6> and <7>, from contexts 3408 and 3409 respectively, contained abundant charred grass seeds, of a mixture of different species. It is suggested that turf may have been used as fuel or perhaps more likely to cover a clamp, as in charcoal burning. Sample 6 produced a scrap of oxidised pottery weighing just 1g, the only pottery recovered from this trench. Although insufficient to be considered reliable dating evidence, the fabric perhaps suggests a Roman date.

- 3.28.6 Crescent gully 3410 formed an arc around the eastern and southern sides of hearth 3407. It had a concave base and gently sloping sides and contained a single friable mid grey red fine sandy silt fill (3411). An environmental sample from the fill (sample <5>) produced no interpretable material.
- 3.28.7 Posthole 3412 was situated at the northern end of gully 3410 and was fairly shallow with a concave base and gently sloping sides. The single fill comprised a friable dark-mid brown red tinged sandy silt (3413).
- 3.28.8 Gully 3416 had a shallow concave base and gently sloping sides. Posthole 3418 was circular in shape with a shallow concave base and gently sloping sides.
- 3.28.9 The unexcavated features comprised three pits (3422, 3424, 3426) at the northern end of the trench, a pit (3434) and a cluster of three probably stakeholes (3428, 3430, 3432) situated a short distance north of hearth 3403 and a gully terminal (3420) located close to gully 3416 at the southern end of the trench. The fills of the unexcavated feature were similar in character to those of the excavated features described above.

### **3.29 Trench 36 (Figs 5, 31 and 53)**

- 3.29.1 Trench 36 contained a pair of almost parallel NNE-SSW aligned linear features, one of which comprised a broad, shallow ditch or hollow way (3603). The second was a recently levelled north-south field boundary ditch (3606), still partially visible as a depression in the field surface. The broad shallow profile of feature 3603 suggests that it could be a worn sunken field track. No artefacts were recovered from either feature. They seem to correspond with anomalies on the geophysical survey.
- 3.29.2 Feature 3603 was 5.20m wide and 0.60m deep, with a generally flat base and moderately sloped sides and contained two distinct fills (3604 and 3605). The primary fill (3605) comprised a friable mid orange red/brown sandy silt, probably formed by erosion from the feature sites. The main fill (3604) comprised a friable mid grey-brown sandy silt.
- 3.29.3 Ditch 3606 can still be seen in the landscape as a slight depression and was observed to cut subsoil 3601, suggesting that it is a recently infilled field boundary. The feature had a concave base and gradual-moderately sloped sides with a single mid grey brown sandy silt fill (3607).

### **3.30 Trench 39 (Figs 5, 32 and 54)**

- 3.30.1 Trench 39 contained a single N-S aligned gully (3903) that seemed to correspond with the location of a geophysical anomaly, although the alignments do not appear to match as the anomaly was aligned NW-SE. The gully had a slightly concave base and gently sloping sides and contained a single mid brown red tinged silty sandy clay fill (3904). No artefacts were recovered.

### **3.31 Trench 40 (Figs 5, 33 and 54)**

- 3.31.1 Trench 40 contained a pair of parallel east-west linear features (4003 and 4006) which appear as a single linear feature on the geophysical survey. They appear to represent a



former hedge bank comprising a pair of gullies originally separated by a bank. No artefacts were recovered from either feature, but their location and alignment correspond with that of part of a boundary shown on 19th century maps, the earliest of which is the Ordnance Survey 2-inch Surveyors' Drawing 5 of 1801.

- 3.31.2 Both features were broad and shallow and may have been little more than scoops from which the hedge bank material derived, rather than ditches as such. Feature 4003 had a flat base and uneven sloping sides and contained a single compact dark red brown sandy silt fill (4004). Feature 4006 had a slightly concave base, gently sloping sides and contained a single friable mid grey brown sandy silt fill (4007).

### **3.32 Trench 42 (Figs 5, 34, and 54)**

- 3.32.1 Trench 42 contained a single posthole (4202) at the north end, which had a flat base and steep-moderate sloped sides and contained a single friable mid brown red sandy silt fill (4203). No finds were recovered. As an apparently isolated, undated feature its function is unclear.

### **3.33 Trench 43 (Figs 5, 34 and 54; Plate 13)**

- 3.33.1 Trench 43 contained what appears to be the eastern side of a penannular ditch (4303; Plate 13), comprising a clearly defined curved section of shallow gully with a flat to slightly concave base and moderately sloped sides. In contrast to the ring ditches in Trenches 22, 25 and 48, this feature was not detected by the geophysical survey. The fill was a homogeneous friable orange brown fine-grained silt (4304). A soil sample from the fill produced a single piece of worked flint during sieving but no other finds were recovered. Extrapolation from the part of the ditch that was visible in the trench suggests that it was c 15m in diameter. There was no sign of an entrance or any other internal or external features. The gully is more characteristic of a penannular feature encircling a roundhouse rather than a ring ditch around a barrow, since it seems too narrow for a barrow ditch, but in the absence of artefacts or internal features the interpretation is very uncertain.

### **3.34 Trench 44 (Figs 5, 36 and 55)**

- 3.34.1 Trench 44 contained a single N-S aligned gully (4403), which had a slightly concave base, gently sloping sides and a single soft mid brown red tinged silty, sandy clay fill (4404). No artefacts were recovered and the date of the feature is uncertain. The gully was not detected by the geophysical survey, but is perhaps most likely to be a post-medieval feature associated with the adjacent Trood House (historically known as 'Higher Matford').

### **3.35 Trench 45 (Figs 6, 37 and 55)**

- 3.35.1 Trench 45 contained a single large E-W aligned ditch (4503), which corresponded with an anomaly that had been identified by the geophysical survey. It had a concave base and moderately sloped sides and contained a single mid brown red tinged silty clay fill (4504). The fill produced a single piece of worked flint. The identical alignment of the ditch to the extant field boundary to the south suggests that it is a recently removed post-medieval/modern boundary ditch.

### **3.36 Trench 46 (Figs 6, 38 and 56)**

- 3.36.1 Trench 46 contained two ditches (4604 and 4606). Ditch 4604 was aligned N-S and had a flat base and gently sloping sides. It contained a single mid brown grey sandy silt fill (4603). Ditch 4606 was aligned roughly NW-SE and had a more V-shaped profile,

with a narrow flat base and moderately sloped sides. It contained a single loose light yellow grey sandy silt fill (4605). Neither of the features produced any artefacts.

- 3.36.2 The location of the two ditches corresponds with that of a roughly pennannular enclosure that was identified by the geophysical survey, but it is not clear which of the ditches is the enclosure boundary. Ditch 4606 seems to have a slight curve and is therefore perhaps more likely to be the enclosure ditch, but this is by no means certain and it is possible that the ditches represent successive phases of the enclosure. The shape of the enclosure, and its proximity to a probable middle Bronze Age roundhouse in Trench 48, suggests that it may be of similar date. The somewhat similar profiles of the two ditches suggest that they might be contemporary.

### **3.37 Trench 47 (Figs 6, 39 and 56; Plate 14)**

- 3.37.1 Trench 47 contained a single fairly substantial NE-SW aligned ditch (4705; Plate 14) that corresponds with a feature that was identified by the geophysical survey. The ditch had a flat base and slightly stepped sides and contained two fills (4703 and 4704). The primary fill (4704) comprised friable dark red brown silty, gritty sand and was overlain by a secondary fill of friable mid red brown sandy silt (4703).
- 3.37.2 Neither of the fills produced any finds or other dating evidence. The alignment bears no obvious relationship to the nearby post-medieval field boundaries and could plausibly be part of an earlier enclosure system, perhaps associated with the possible Bronze Age roundhouse identified in Trench 48.

### **3.38 Trench 48 (Figs 6, 40, 56 and 57; Plate 15)**

- 3.38.1 Trench 48 was positioned to investigate a penannular ditch that had been identified as a distinct circular feature on the geophysical survey. In addition to the penannular ditch itself (4807), various intercutting features were recorded in section, all of which are probably broadly contemporary.
- 3.38.2 The archaeological features were cut into a relatively stone-free soil (4814), which differed from the stonier deposits in the majority of trenches and was initially thought to be a ploughsoil layer. The features were very difficult to distinguish in plan, as a result of which the trench was overcut in the initial machine excavation. Several shallow features became apparent only after thorough cleaning of the trench section. The truncated base of the southern side of penannular ring ditch was clearly visible in plan, but the northern side was entirely removed by the machine bucket. The trench was subsequently extended to reveal the western side of the penannular ditch in plan, and to identify any associated features. Within the extension the overall outline of the ditch was faintly visible in plan, immediately below the shallow ploughsoil, but the possible internal features and more complex stratigraphy recorded in section could not be discerned. The internal features were generally shallow and poorly defined, with uncertain stratigraphic relationships, but their presence leads to the tentative interpretation of the site as a later prehistoric roundhouse rather than a barrow. Among the very few artefacts recovered were a single small sherd of volcanic rock-tempered pottery that was recovered from a soil sample taken from the fill of the penannular ditch, and a quern fragment, which provide limited evidence for domestic occupation. The pottery fabric would suggest a middle Bronze Age date, although the quantity is too small to be considered reliable dating evidence.
- 3.38.3 Posthole 4811 was seen only in section and appears to be the earliest feature in stratigraphic terms, pre-dating the penannular ditch and was truncated by the ditch (4805) and by gully 4813. The posthole itself had a concave base and vertical sides and contained a single firm mid red brown silty sand fill (4810).



- 3.38.4 The penannular ditch had a diameter of c 12.5m and it was principally defined by a 1.9m-wide outer ditch, interpreted as an eavesdrip gully (4803/4805). Ditch 4803 (Plate 15), the southern side of the penannular ditch, had a concave base and moderately shallow sides. It contained two distinct fills (4804 and 4825). The primary fill (4825) comprised a light red brown silty sand from which no artefacts were recovered. Fill 4804 was a firm mid red brown silty sand which contained small amounts of pottery, flint and a quern fragment. An environmental sample collected from this fill produced only sparse charcoal and one charred elder seed. Ditch 4805 forms the northern side of the penannular ditch. As recorded in section, it had a concave base and moderately steep sides and contained a single firm mid red brown silty sand fill (4806). It was cut through a possible posthole (4811) and through layer/buried soil 4814. Feature 4809 may represent a recut of ditch 4805, as it appeared in section to truncate the ditch. It had a very shallow profile, an irregular base and moderately steep sides and contained a single firm mid brown red silty sand fill (4808).
- 3.38.5 Features 4813 and 4822 may have been opposite sides of a single feature, perhaps representing a recut of the penannular ditch. Feature 4813 truncated ring ditch 4805, posthole 4811 and layer 4814 and feature 4822 truncated buried soil/layer 4814. Both features were constructed with a concave base and gently sloping sides and contained a single firm light red brown silty sand fill (4812, 4821).
- 3.38.6 A pair of features (4816, 4820), also recorded only in section, that appeared to be placed symmetrically about the centre of the structure may represent opposite sides of an internal structural feature such as an inner ring of roof-supporting posts (c 4.6m in diameter). Feature 4816 had a concave base and moderately sloped sides with a single firm light red brown silty sand fill (4815). Feature 4820 had a concave base and moderately sloped sides and contained a single firm light red brown silty sandy fill (4819).
- 3.38.7 Probable pit 4818 is a possible internal feature of the penannular ditch and was constructed with a shallow concave base and gently sloping sides and contained a single firm light red brown silty sand fill (4817).
- 3.38.8 Feature 4824 was situated outside the southern side of the penannular ditch and had a concave base and slightly stepped sides, with a single firm mid brownish red silty sand fill (4823).

### **3.39 Trench 49 (Figs 5, 41 and 58)**

- 3.39.1 Trench 49 contained two NE-SW aligned ditches (4903 and 4907), both of which were identified by the geophysical survey, and a single pit (4905). None of the features contained any artefacts.
- 3.39.2 Ditch 4903 was constructed with a concave base and moderately sloped sides and contained a single mid brownish red tinged silty, sandy, gritty clay fill (4902).
- 3.39.3 Pit 4905 was oval in shape with a concave base and moderately-steeply sloped sides and contained a single light mid brown silty sandy clay fill (4906).
- 3.39.4 Ditch 4907 was constructed with a concave base and gently sloping sides and contained a single mid brown gritty, sandy, silty clay fill (4808).

### **3.40 Trench 50 (Figs 5, 42 and 58)**

- 3.40.1 Trench 50 contained a single NE-SW aligned ditch (5004), which corresponded with a feature identified by the geophysical survey, and a small pit (5006). Neither feature produced any artefacts.





- 3.40.2 Ditch 5004 was constructed with a V-shaped base and uneven sides and contained a single friable mid grey brown sandy silt fill (5003).
- 3.40.3 Pit 5006 was oval in shape with an uneven base and gently sloping sides and contained a single friable mid brown grey slightly clayey silt fill (5005).

### **3.41 Finds summary**

#### ***Pottery***

- 3.41.1 Seventy-four large fresh sherds belonging to a single later prehistoric urn, probably of middle Bronze Age date, were recovered from the fill of a rectilinear ditch investigated in Trench 19 (contexts 1903 and 1904). A single sherd of thin-walled Bronze Age or Iron Age handmade vessel in coarse sandy fabric with igneous rock fragments was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 15 (context 1500).
- 3.41.2 Post-medieval/modern pottery was found in very small quantities. A single sherd of post-medieval slipware and a probable middle Bronze Age sherd were recovered from ditch fill 1504 in Trench 15. The mixed date of the pottery suggests that the ditch fill has been plough-disturbed and the quantity is in any case too small to be considered reliable dating evidence. The boundary is on the same alignment as a securely dated middle Bronze Age enclosure ditch in Trench 19.

#### ***Worked flint***

- 3.41.3 Three fragments of worked flint were recovered from deposits widely distributed across the site, in Trenches 15, 18 and 19. Where diagnostic features survive, the irregular nature of the material points to a later prehistoric date, which would be consistent with the evidence from the pottery assemblage. A single irregular flint flake with post-production damage (context 1903) is the only piece that is likely to be contemporary with its later prehistoric context.

#### ***Human bone***

- 3.41.4 A single deposit of cremated human bone was recovered during the excavation of Trench 22. It was recovered from deposit 2207 at the base of ring ditch 2206. The cremated bone was spread diffusely through the deposit and was accompanied by charcoal. A bulk sample (2201) was recovered and wet sieved to maximise recovery of the material.
- 3.41.5 The deposit was unurned and did not form a discrete deposit (ie the fragments were diffuse throughout the fill) so it is unlikely that it represents a formal burial. Some other type of cremation-related deposit is more likely, such as redeposited pyre debris. This is supported by the presence of charcoal within the deposit. However, it is also possible that the bone was redeposited from another burial location (such as within the barrow), by soil erosion.
- 3.41.6 The weight of 4.0g falls drastically below the expected range for a cremated adult, which is between 1000g and 2400g, with an average of c1650g (McKinley 2000, 269). Given that the deposit was recovered from the base of ditch 2206, the low weight is unlikely to be due to truncation of the deposit. However, it does support the suggestion that the material was redeposited. The deposit contained bone that was buff white in colour. This indicates that temperatures greater than 600°C were achieved (McKinley 2004, 11), and thus the efficiency of the cremation was good. This is dependent on factors such as the quality of fuel, favourable weather conditions and the quality of the pyre construction. Other colours, such as brown or black, indicate lower temperatures.



- 3.41.7 Given the very small overall weight of the deposit, it is unlikely that radiocarbon dating will be a viable option.

***Animal bone***

- 3.41.8 A single cow distal humerus fragment, weighing 73g, was recovered from the fill of ditch 1303 in Trench 13 (context 1304).

***Miscellaneous finds***

- 3.41.9 Very few other artefacts were recovered from the trenches. Two flower pot sherds of 19th-20th century date were recovered from the topsoil in Trench 18. One probably intrusive flowerpot sherd was recovered from fill 2207 of ring ditch 2206. This feature otherwise contained a deposit of cremated human bone near the base, so is most likely to be a prehistoric barrow ditch, although it contained no chronologically diagnostic artefacts. As the modern flowerpot is a single sherd it is likely to be intrusive and perhaps indicates some modern disturbance of the ring ditch.

**3.42 Environmental summary**

- 3.42.1 Bulk soil samples were recovered from four archaeologically significant contexts to determine whether ecofacts and environmental evidence are present, as detailed in Appendix C.1. One sample was recovered from a later prehistoric pot deposit within a rectilinear enclosure ditch in Trench 19. Three samples were recovered from the fills of two ring ditches in Trenches 22 and 25, one of which resulted in the recovery of a deposit of cremated human remains. The samples were examined to determine the quality, range and state of preservation of any organic remains, such as plant remains, animal bone, human bone and molluscs. Any small artefacts present were also recovered.
- 3.42.2 While the majority of the charcoal within these samples is small in size, the condition overall is good and the charcoal recovered from the redeposited cremation was extremely well-preserved, with very little damage. This indicates that the site has good potential for the recovery of charred remains.
- 3.42.3 Trenches 25, 26, 27 and 28 were located on low-lying, slightly boggy ground adjacent to the Matford Brook, but no alluvial deposits were encountered.



## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The trenches were excavated during generally dry weather conditions and the features revealed were in most cases readily identified against the underlying geology, with a few exceptions that were mainly located in the easternmost Trenches 45, 48 and 50. The slight nature of the archaeological features in Trench 48, and the similarity of their fills to the underlying substrate, resulted in their being truncated during machine excavation, and they were only subsequently identified in section.
- 4.1.2 The number of ditches present in the trenches, and their distribution, seems to reflect the distribution of anomalies on the geophysical survey plot and cropmark evidence in general terms, although the alignments and locations of individual features do not always match closely.
- 4.1.3 Some significant features, including a penannular ditch (possibly representing a roundhouse) in Trench 43 and a stone footing in Trench 5, were not detected by either cropmark analysis or geophysical survey.
- 4.1.4 The scarcity of artefacts greatly limits the ability to date features. Sparse artefact assemblages are a characteristic feature of sites in the south-west region.

### 4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The evaluation was largely successful in establishing the presence or absence, extent, condition, nature, character and quality of archaeological and palaeo-environmental remains encountered, as discussed below.
- 4.2.2 Geophysical anomalies that had been highlighted by the magnetometry survey and cropmark evidence were all present within the trenches, with the exception of Trench 12 which had been disturbed during construction of the A30 dual carriageway, and were investigated by hand excavation.
- 4.2.3 As no alluvial deposits were encountered in any trench in Phase 2 there appears to be no potential for palaeo-environmental analysis in the areas examined.

### 4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 A few worked flints, potentially of Mesolithic or Neolithic date, found during fieldwalking, suggest possible activity on the site before the early Bronze Age. The very small assemblage of flint artefacts recovered from archaeological features during the trenching are more consistent with a later prehistoric date.
- 4.3.2 Considering the trenching results in conjunction with the morphology of the cropmarks and geophysical survey features, four broad phases of activity are tentatively suggested, at five widely separated locations (labelled 'Sites 1-5' on Figure 2):

**Phase 1:** Early Bronze Age barrow cemetery (Site 1)

**Phase 2:** Middle Bronze Age enclosure and roundhouse (Sites 2 and 3)

**Phase 3:** Late Iron Age-Roman roundhouses/field systems and hearth group (Sites 4, 5 and 6)

**Phase 4:** Medieval/post-medieval agricultural land-use (no defined focus)

### Phase 1: Early Bronze Age barrow cemetery

- 4.3.3 **Site 1** comprises features associated with the scheduled barrow (SM 10625/1012347). The barrow itself survives as a slight upstanding mound, which was not investigated as it is to be preserved *in situ* within the development. The traces of two small probable barrows were located on the south side of the Matford Brook. They were first identified by geophysical survey and investigated in Trenches 22 and 25. The ring ditches were 13 and 15.5m in diameter and no internal features or deposits were found in association with them. While no artefacts were recovered, the discovery of redeposited cremated human bone at the base of the ditch in Trench 22 supports the interpretation of that feature at least as a prehistoric burial mound. The barrows seem to have been eroded by ploughing to the extent that only the ditches survive. The diameters of the two ring ditches would, alternatively, be consistent with an interpretation as roundhouse eavesdrip gullies of later prehistoric or Roman date, but the presence of the cremated remains and the apparent absence of internal features or any settlement detritus, supports their interpretation as barrows.
- 4.3.4 No artefactual dating evidence has been found in the trenches that sheds light on the date range of the barrow cemetery, although round barrows and cairns are a characteristic feature of the early Bronze Age in the south-west Region (Webster 2008). The small quantity of cremated bone from Trench 22 is probably not sufficient for radiocarbon dating, but the associated charcoal deposit includes suitable short-lived sample material in sufficient quantity. The cremation deposit seems to have been redeposited in the base of the ring ditch, possibly as a result of erosion or disturbance of the associated barrow mound, which does not survive. A radiocarbon date would provide some chronological resolution for the funerary use of this particular barrow, although as redeposited material it would not date the primary construction of the barrow.

### Phase 2: Middle Bronze Age settlement

- 4.3.5 Possible evidence for middle Bronze Age settlement was found at two separate locations c 600m apart (Sites 2 and 3).
- 4.3.6 **Site 2** comprises the rectilinear enclosure investigated in Trench 19, which is dated with reasonable certainty to the middle Bronze Age on the basis of an *in situ* pottery vessel placed, apparently deliberately, in the enclosure ditch. It is not clear whether the vessel was whole when originally placed in the ground, but most of the vessel appears to be present. The vessel is simple in form and undecorated, in a red-firing, non-calcareous clay incorporating igneous rock (possibly some gabbro). The bevelled rim suggests affinities with Trevisker Ware. The best comparanda for this rim type come from slightly curved biconical vessels, which, when the profile is sufficient, all seem to have a rounded cordon around the girth. However, the profile of this vessel suggests an open, bowl form. A range of bowl forms is currently being recognised in what Quinnell terms 'Trevisker related' styles (Quinnell 2012). A soil sample from the deposits in and around the vessel failed to produce any clear evidence for the contents of the vessel, which may have been uncharred organic materials.
- 4.3.7 It is not clear whether the rectilinear enclosure that contained the pot represents domestic or funerary/ritual activity. Most of the non-decorated Trevisker-related pottery previously found in the Exeter area comes from domestic and field ditch contexts, with some evidence for structured deposition in both contexts (Quinnell 2012). In this case, the enclosure ditch lies very close to the scheduled barrow and a funerary/ritual context cannot be discounted. Boundary ditches visible on the geophysical survey plot in the same field as the scheduled barrow were investigated in Trenches 13-18. They



contained no reliably datable artefacts, although Trench 15 (ditch fill 1504) produced individual sherds of Bronze Age and 18th century date. The alignments of these ditches suggest that they could be part of a series of enclosures and/or tracks contemporary with the rectilinear enclosure, some of which appear to converge on the scheduled barrow. If so, it is plausible that the large early Bronze Age barrow has been incorporated as a boundary marker or focal point within a later series of middle Bronze Age agricultural or settlement enclosures.

- 4.3.8 There are other examples (in the south-west region and further afield) of early Bronze Age Barrow sites overlain by middle or late Bronze settlement and enclosures. An excavated example within the region is Stannon, on Bodmin Moor, where middle Bronze Age settlement activity took place around an early Bronze Age cairn group (Jones 2006). Further afield, at Saltwood in Kent, extensive open area excavation revealed an early Bronze Age linear barrow cemetery of five barrows that was overlain in the late Bronze Age by features interpreted as a settlement and field system. This site returned to use as a burial ground in the Iron Age, Roman and early Anglo-Saxon period, finally developing as a hundred meeting place in the late Saxon and medieval period (Riddler and Trevarthen 2006).
- 4.3.9 **Site 3** comprises an apparently isolated penannular ditch interpreted as a roundhouse (Group 4807, Trench 48). The ditch, which was identified by the geophysical survey, is located in the eastern corner of the development area, c 600m east of the contemporary middle Bronze Age rectilinear enclosure (Site 2). It appears to be relatively isolated, with little evidence for contemporary enclosures or field systems in the adjacent trenches. At c 11m in total diameter this feature is comparable in size and form to the ring ditches in Trenches 22 and 25, which are interpreted as barrows. However, this site is tentatively interpreted as a roundhouse as it had faint traces of internal features (very shallow features only visible in section) and produced a small assemblage of artefacts which, taken as a group, suggest domestic occupation. The finds include a handful of pottery sherds from contexts 4804 (the ditch fill) and 4801 (subsoil). These are made from a volcanic fabric similar to those recovered from Trench 19 (ditch fill 1904) and Trench 15 (1500), which is probably of middle Bronze Age date. The ditch fill (4804) also produced a single worked stone fragment with one flat worked surface, probably from a quern (not reliably datable), and two worked flints. A total of six flint artefacts were found in this trench (including ploughsoil finds), representing the largest group from any single trench, all of which are technologically consistent with a later prehistoric date.

### **Phase 3: Late Iron Age-Roman roundhouses and field systems (Sites 4 and 5)**

- 4.3.10 The third recognisable phase comprises dispersed evidence for late Iron Age and Roman settlement and field systems, identified through a combination of cropmarks, geophysical surveys and trial trenches.
- 4.3.11 **Site 4:** The area of densest activity appears to be in the north-west corner of the site (predominantly Trenches 1-12, with the core of the settlement located in the vicinity of Trench 8). Here, traces of a possible roundhouse within a rectilinear enclosure were investigated, which may represent a small enclosed farmstead. Several sherds of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of the roundhouse gully (803), and a single Roman sherd was recovered from the surrounding enclosure ditch (805). The quantity of pottery is too small to be considered reliable dating evidence, but a date range extending either side of the late Iron Age-Roman transition seems plausible for this complex.



- 4.3.12 Trench 5 contained a linear, stone-rubble-filled feature with a slight curve, which could be the remnants of a stone wall footing. If the curve is real it might suggest a stone roundhouse foundation, although there was no evidence for an associated eaves-drip gully. As no associated artefacts were found, and the form of the structure is uncertain, it is only very tentatively assigned to the Iron Age-Roman phase. The feature was not visible at all on the geophysical survey or aerial photographs examined.
- 4.3.13 Various other boundary ditches identified as cropmarks or geophysical anomalies were investigated in the north-west field (Trenches 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11). None of the ditches contained datable artefacts, but they are on the same alignment as the probable settlement enclosure and are likely to represent broadly contemporary fields or enclosures. The quantity of artefacts recovered from Site 4 is very small in comparison with farmsteads of similar date elsewhere in southern Britain, but is fairly typical for Devon (Webster 2008).
- 4.3.14 **Site 5:** Penannular ditch 4303 is interpreted as the western edge of a roundhouse, estimated from the excavated portion to be c 10m in diameter. The feature was not identified on aerial photographs or by geophysical survey prior to excavation. It was clearly defined in plan in the excavated trench and was filled with a single friable fine-grained clay silt fill. The ditch seems too narrow to be considered an eaves-drip gully and is more likely to be a foundation trench for a timber wall, although it is clearly very truncated by ploughing and so could be either. Sample <4> from the fill (4304) produced three crumb-sized fragments of pottery, two of which are probably prehistoric and one probably Roman or later in date. There was no sign of internal features in the limited area of the roundhouse plan that was exposed within the confines of the trench.
- 4.3.15 The roundhouse appears to be relatively isolated in the landscape. Archaeological features in the surrounding trenches are very sparse indeed and where present are only poorly dated. A few boundaries were identified on the geophysical survey in the vicinity, but at least one of those appears to be of post-medieval date. The penannular ditch is comparable in size to the ring ditches at Site 1 (Trenches 22 and 25), which are interpreted as barrow ditches., but the probable late Iron Age and Roman pottery and the feature's narrow, flat-bottomed profile lead to its tentative interpretation as a roundhouse rather than a barrow.
- 4.3.16 **Site 6:** A pair of hearths was investigated in Trench 34, and traces of burning extended throughout much of the trench. The complete absence of fired clay or other evidence for superstructure or furniture suggests that these features were open hearths or clamps rather than enclosed ovens or furnaces. They are tentatively included in the late Iron Age-Roman phase on the basis of a single very tiny fragment of pottery in an oxidised fabric, which was recovered from the fill of one of the features (fill 3408, hearth 3407) and is possibly of Roman date. If the date of the sherd does accurately reflect the date of the hearth, it would suggest that the activity in this trench is most likely to be Roman or later in date.
- 4.3.17 A soil sample from hearth 3407 contained significant quantities of charred grass seeds, as well as wood charcoal, which may suggest that turf was used as a fuel or to cover the feature if it was a clamp (Appendix C.1). A group of 13 heat-shattered quartzite pebbles (possibly 'pot-boilers'?) were recovered from the fill of the hearth (context 3408), which perhaps suggests that their function involved heating water, but the quantity is low and the stones could be accidental inclusions in the hearth. The presence of the hearths and extensive signs of burning within the trench suggests activity on an open air site, rather than confined to a fireplace within a building. Otherwise no positive evidence for the function of the hearths was recovered. The absence of pottery wasters, metallurgical or other waste products argues against an



industrial function, and the absence of charred grain argues against crop-drying or malting. One possibility is charcoal burning, although higher concentrations of wood charcoal might be expected in this case. Sufficient identifiable charcoal may be available from sample <6> to allow further analysis of fuel, and for radiocarbon dating if required.

#### **Phase 4: Medieval post-medieval land-use**

- 4.3.18 Various features, the majority comprising linear ditches or trackways, some of which had previously been identified by the geophysical survey, were attributed to this phase. The alignments of several were very poorly dated. It is likely that some of the extant historically documented post-medieval farms in the vicinity have medieval origins, such as Higher and Lower Matford (now known respectively as Trood Hall and Matford Barton).
- 4.3.19 Various very narrow rectilinear magnetic anomalies investigated in Trenches 26, 27 and 28 were not visible as archaeological features in the trenches and are probably land-drains. The area to the south of Matford Barton is low-lying, seasonally boggy ground, located next to the Matford Brook.

#### **4.4 Significance**

- 4.4.1 The prehistoric barrow cemetery (Site 1) is of national significance as a scheduled monument. Round barrows are comparatively commonplace, with several thousand examples known within the south-west region alone. The occurrence of such features in cemeteries is also relatively commonplace. Nevertheless, barrow cemeteries are often locations with considerable time-depth, which may have been used by local communities for funerary and other social functions for hundreds, if not thousands of years. The occurrence of Middle Bronze Age features in the same area as the barrow cemetery implies a degree of time-depth to this example.
- 4.4.2 The possible roundhouse in Trench 48 may represent a Bronze Age settlement, a comparatively rare example for Devon.
- 4.4.3 The site appears to have formed part of a relatively densely settled landscape in the late Iron Age and Roman period, which appears to have been a period of settlement expansion and perhaps population pressure. Farmsteads of this date are among the most common types of archaeological site encountered, although rural settlement is relatively understudied in Devon in comparison with neighbouring counties (Webster 2008). The poor material culture encountered at Alphington is fairly typical of such sites in the county.



## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench contained a single NE–SW linear which was identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and sub soil overlaying a firm red brown sandy gritty gravel natural					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
103	Cut	1.36	0.46	Ditch Cut		
104	Fill	1.36	0.46	Ditch Fill		

Trench 2						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlaying a firm mid red brown sandy, silty sine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
200	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 3						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlaying a firm mid red brown sandy, silty fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.44
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-





<b>Trench 4</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
Trench contained a NW-SE linear, which was identified on the geophysical survey, and two post holes. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm mid red brown silty, sandy, fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.46	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
400	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
403	Cut	2.4	0.72	Ditch Cut		
404	Fill	2.4	0.42	Ditch Fill		
405	Fill	1.56	0.32	Ditch Fill		
406	Cut	0.48	0.28	Post hole Cut		
407	Fill	0.18	0.28	Post hole Fill		
408	Cut	0.4	0.36	Post hole Cut		
409	Fill	0.4	0.36	Post hole Fill		

<b>Trench 5</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
Trench contained a single NW-SE linear, which was identified on the geophysical survey and a slightly curvilinear west-SE possible wall footing, which was made up of locally sourced stone. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm mid red brown sandy, silty fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
500	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
503	Cut	0.5	0.32	Curvilinear Wall cut		
504	Wall	0.3	0.32	Curvilinear Wall		
505	Fill	0.5	0.32	Curvilinear Wall fill		
506	Cut	1.18	0.28	Ditch Cut		
507	Fill	0.18	0.28	Ditch Fill		



<b>Trench 6</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm mid red brown sandy, silty fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
600	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

<b>Trench 7</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench contained two linears aligned NE-SW and a single pit and a possible spread deposit. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a friable mid red brown sandy silt natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.6
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	50
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
700	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
703	Cut	1.19	0.61	Ditch Cut		
704	Fill	1.19	0.61	Ditch Fill		
705	Cut	1.32	0.27	Pit Cut		
706	Fill	1.32	0.27	Pit Fill		
707	Cut	0.58	0.3	Ditch Cut		
708	Fill	0.58	0.3	Ditch Fill		
709	Cut	0.8	0.1	Spread/Pit Cut		
710	Fill	0.8	0.1	Spread/Pit Fill		



<b>Trench 8</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	SW-NE	
Trench contained a curvilinear and a single NW-SE linear both identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown silty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.38	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
800	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
803	Cut	1.5	0.24	Ditch Cut		
804	Fill	1.5	0.24	Ditch Fill	Roman pot	
805	Cut	2.1	0.66	Ditch Cut		
806	Fill	0.74	0.16	Primary Ditch Fill		
807	Fill	2.1	0.5	Ditch Fill	LIA? pot	
808	Fill	0.44	0.12	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 9</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
Trench contained as single NW-SE linear identified in the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown silty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
900	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
903	Cut	1.7	0.3	Ditch Cut		
904	Fill	1.7	0.3	Ditch Fill		



<b>Trench 10</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		N-S
Trench contained two linears identified on the geophysical survey. Linear (1003) is NW-SE and (1005) appears to be more curvilinear than linear. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown silty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.35
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1000	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1003	Cut	1.3	0.14	Ditch Cut		
1004	Fill	1.3	0.14	Ditch Fill		
1005	Cut	1.06	0.48	Curvilinear Cut		
1006	Fill	1.06	0.48	Curvilinear Fill		

<b>Trench 11</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NE-SW
Trench contained a modern NW-SE linear identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown sandy silty fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.32
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1100	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1103	Cut	0.84	0.3	Ditch Cut		
1104	Fill	0.84	0.3	Ditch Fill		



Trench 12						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology, crop marks indicated two NE-SW linears at either on the trench but neither were identified within the natural geology – potentially the linears were destroyed during the construction of the A30 road. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown sandy silty fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1200	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 13						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained a single NE-SW ditch which was sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay natural comprising silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.46
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		40.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1300	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
1300	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
1302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1303	Cut	0.68	0.53	Ditch	-	-
1304	Fill	0.68	0.53	Fill of 1303	Animal bone	-

Trench 14						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained a single NE-SW ditch which was sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay natural comprising clay with occasional small stone inclusions.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.31
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		40.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1400	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
1400	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1403	Cut	0.39	0.16	Ditch	-	-
1403	Fill	0.39	0.16	Fill of 1403	-	-



<b>Trench 15</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained two N-S ditches. Both features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay natural sandy clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.48
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
1500	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
1500	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1503	Cut	1.65	0.24	Ditch	-	-
1504	Fill	1.65	0.24	Fill of 1503	Pottery, flint	18 <sup>th</sup> C, ?BA
1505	Cut	1.45	0.24	Ditch	-	-
1506	Fill	1.45	0.24	Fill of 1505	-	-

<b>Trench 16</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained three ditches and a posthole. All features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay natural sandy clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.56
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		40.00
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
1600	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
1600	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
1602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1603	Cut	3.30	0.10	Ditch	-	-
1604	Fill	3.30	0.10	Fill of 1603	-	-
1605	Cut	1.10	0.60	Ditch	-	-
1606	Fill	1.10	0.60	Fill of 1605	-	-
1607	Cut	0.51	0.10	Ditch	-	-
1608	Fill	0.51	0.10	Fill of 1607	-	-
1609	Cut	0.23	0.33	Posthole	-	-
1610	Fill	0.23	0.33	Fill of 1609	-	-



Trench 17						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. The soil sequence consisted of a topsoil and subsoil overlying natural sandy clay with occasional fine gravel inclusions that increased in frequency to the SW of the trench.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.44
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1700	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
1700	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
1702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		E-W
Trench contained two ditches on a NW-SE alignment. The soil sequence consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural clay with occasional small stone inclusions.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.29
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1800	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	Pottery, flint	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> c
1800	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1803	Cut	1.06	0.50	Ditch	-	-
1804	Fill	1.06	0.50	Fill of 1803	-	-
1805	Cut	2.94	0.50	Ditch	-	-
1806	Fill	2.94	0.50	Fill of 1805	-	-

Trench 19						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained a single NE-SW ditch overlain by topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural sandy clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.60
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
1900	Layer	-	0.46	Topsoil	-	-
1900	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



1903	Cut	0.60	0.26	Ditch	-	-
1904	Fill	0.60	0.26	Fill of 1903	Flint	?BA

<b>Trench 20</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	N-S	
Trench contained two ditches. The soil sequence comprised topsoil and subsoil overlying natural clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.64	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.80	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30.00	
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2000	Layer	-	0.58	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2003	Ditch	1.80	0.11	Ditch	-	-
2004	Fill	1.80	0.11	Fill of 2003	-	-
2005	Ditch	2.65	0.06	Ditch	-	-
2006	Fill	2.65	0.06	Fill of 2005	-	-

<b>Trench 21</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
Trench contained a single shallow north-south linear which was identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown silty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.2	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.6	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2100	Layer	-	0.08	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2103	Cut	0.66	0.1	Gully Cut		
2104	Fill	0.66	0.1	Gully Fill		





<b>Trench 22</b>							
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE	
Trench contained two ditches making up part of a ring ditch and a third ditch to the north of them. All features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay clay natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.50	
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80	
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00	
<b>Contexts</b>							
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>	
2200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-	
2201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-	
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-	
2203	Cut	1.74	0.56	Ditch	-	-	
2204	Fill	1.74	0.42	Fill of 2203	-	-	
2205	Fill	1.74	0.14	Fill of 2203	-	-	
2206	Cut	1.07	0.29	Ditch	-	-	
2207	Fill	0.22	0.14	Fill of 2206	Pottery, bone	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> c	
2208	Fill	0.64	0.17	Fill of 2206	-	-	
2209	Fill	1.07	0.13	Fill of 2206	-	-	
2210	Cut	0.78	0.18	Ditch	-	-	
2211	Fill	0.78	0.18	Fill of 2210	-	-	

<b>Trench 23</b>							
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NE-SW	
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying two layers of hill wash which overlaid a mid red sandy silty clay natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.36	
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.6	
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30	
<b>Contexts</b>							
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>	
2300	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-	
2301	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-	
2302	Layer	-	0.34	Hill Wash	-	-	
2303	Layer	-	0.19	Hill Wash			
2304	Layer	-	-	Natural			



Trench 24						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm mid brown red silty sand.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.38
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.6
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2400	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench contained two ditches making up part of a ring ditch. Both features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil which overlay natural clay with occasional small stone inclusions.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.68
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.80
					<b>Length (m)</b>	24.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2500	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2503	Cut	1.46	0.46	Ditch	-	-
2504	Fill	1.46	0.46	Fill of 2503	-	-
2505	Cut	1.40	0.44	Ditch	-	-
2506	Fill	1.40	0.44	Fill of 2505	-	-

Trench 26						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench was devoid of archaeology. The soil sequence consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural silty clay.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.70
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.80
					<b>Length (m)</b>	40.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2600	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
2601	Layer	-	0.40	Subsoil	-	-
2602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 27						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench was devoid of archaeology. The soil sequence consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural silty clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.93
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		40.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2700	Layer	-	0.65	Topsoil	-	-
2701	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
2702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
The soil sequence consisted of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural silty clay.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		1.00
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.80
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2800	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
2801	Layer	-	0.60	Subsoil	-	-
2802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2803	Cut	0.52	0.23	Ditch	-	-
2804	Fill	0.52	0.23	Fill of 2803	-	-

Trench 29						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology, NE-SW plough scars were noted on the surface of the natural geology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.3
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
2900	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2901	Layer	-	0.04	Subsoil	-	-
2902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



<b>Trench 30</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		E-W
Trench contained a single NE-SW linear which was identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown gritty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.28
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3000	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
3001	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
3002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3003	Cut	2.58	0.76	Ditch Cut		
3004	Fill	2.58	0.22	Ditch Fill		
3005	Fill	2.04	0.14	Ditch Fill		
3006	Fill	2.36	0.28	Ditch Fill		
3007	Fill	1.28	0.24	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 31</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NW-SE
Trench contained a single NNE-SSW linear not identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.5
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3100	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
3101	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
3102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3103	Cut	1.7	0.6	Ditch Cut		
3104	Fill	1.7	0.2	Ditch Fill		
3105	Fill	1.3	0.3	Ditch Fill		
3106	Fill	0.4	0.16	Ditch Fill		



<b>Trench 32</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench contained two linears, (3205) was identified on the geophysical survey but (3205) was not, both are aligned north-south. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown gritty sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.28
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3200	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3201	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
3202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3203	Cut	1.2	0.1	Ditch Cut		
3204	Fill	1.2	0.1	Ditch Fill		
3205	Cut	1.04	0.4	Ditch Cut		
3206	Fill	1.04	0.4	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 33</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE
Trench contained three north-south linears and a possible east-west linear not fully revealed in the trench, (3303)/(3305) and (3309) were identified on the geophysical survey whilst (3307) was not. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.32
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
3301	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3303	Cut	1.8	0.3	Ditch Cut		
3304	Fill	1.8	0.3	Ditch Fill		
3305	Cut	1.4	0.26	Ditch Cut		
3306	Fill	1.4	0.26	Ditch Fill		
3307	Cut	1.06	0.08	Ditch Cut		
3308	Fill	1.06	0.08	Ditch Fill		
3309	Cut	1.6	0.3	Possible Ditch Cut		
3310	Fill	1.6	0.3	Possible Ditch Fill		



<b>Trench 34</b>							
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		<b>N-S</b>	
Trench contained two possible furnaces or hearths with associated curvilinear gullies, three postholes, two linear gullies, one of which was excavated, three unexcavated stakeholes, a single unexcavated linear and five pits, one of which was excavated. These features, along with the hearths/furnaces indicate some sort of industrial activity focal point. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mid red brown sandy gritty fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.44	
				<b>Width (m)</b>		1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50	
<b>Contexts</b>							
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>	
3400	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-	
3401	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-	
3402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-	
3403	Cut	0.56	0.19	Pit/Furnace/Hearth Cut			
3404	Fill	0.56	0.19	Pit/Furnace/Hearth Fill			
3405	Cut	0.24	0.3	Curvilinear Gully Cut			
3406	Fill	0.24	0.3	Curvilinear Gully Fill			
3407	Cut	0.63	0.16	Pit/Furnace/Hearth Cut			
3408	Fill	0.43	0.16	Pit/Furnace/Hearth Fill			
3409	Lining	0.09	0.05	Pit/Furnace/Hearth Lining			
3410	Cut	0.4	0.09	Curvilinear Gully Cut			
3411	Fill	0.4	0.09	Curvilinear Gully Fill			
3412	Cut	0.2	0.05	Posthole Cut			
3413	Fill	0.2	0.05	Posthole Fill			
3414	Cut	0.22	0.06	Posthole Cut			
3415	Fill	0.22	0.06	Posthole Fill			
3416	Cut	0.34	0.04	Gully Cut			
3417	Fill	0.34	0.04	Gully Fill			
3418	Cut	0.3	0.09	Posthole Cut			
3419	Fill	0.3	0.09	Posthole Fill			
3420	Cut	0.2	-	Unexcavated Gully Cut			
3421	Fill	0.2	-	Unexcavated Gully Fill			
3422	Cut	0.85	-	Unexcavated Pit Cut			
3423	Fill	0.85	-	Unexcavated Pit Fill			
3424	Cut	0.7	-	Unexcavated Pit Cut			
3425	Fill	0.7	-	Unexcavated Pit Fill			
3426	Cut	0.25	-	Unexcavated Pit Cut			
3427	Fill	0.25	-	Unexcavated Pit Fill			



Trench 34						
3428	Cut	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Cut		
3429	Fill	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Fill		
3430	Cut	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Cut		
3431	Fill	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Fill		
3432	Cut	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Cut		
3433	Fill	0.15	-	Unexcavated Stakehole Fill		
2434	Cut	0.75	-	Unexcavated Pit Cut		
3435	Fill	0.75	-	Unexcavated Pit Fill		
3436	Cut	0.9	-	Unexcavated Ditch Cut		
3437	Fill	0.9	-	Unexcavated Ditch Fill		
3438	Fill	0.1	-	Unexcavated Ditch Fill		

Trench 35						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compacted mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
3501	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench contained a large linear cut which was identified in the geophysical survey and a modern field boundary which can still be seen in the landscape. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mind red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.32
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3600	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-
3601	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



3603	Cut	5.2	0.6	Large Ditch Cut		
3604	Fill	5.2	0.5	Large Ditch Fill		
3605	Fill	2.9	0.1	Primary Ditch Fill		
3606	Cut	1.2	0.26	Ditch Cut		
3607	Fill	1.2	0.26	Ditch Fill		

Trench 37						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.36
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3700	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
3701	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
3702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 38						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy gritty fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.3
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3800	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
3801	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
3802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 39						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench contained a single north-south linear which was identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy gritty fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.46
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
3900	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
3901	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-





3902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3903	Cut	1.42	0.16	Ditch Cut		
3904	Fill	1.42	0.16	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 40</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	<b>N-S</b>
Trench contained two parallel east-west linears identified on the geophysical survey, these two linears appear to create a single old field boundary where, once the linears were excavated, the displaced natural was redeposited between the two linear to form a bank. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact red brown sandy gritty fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.7
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4000	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
4001	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
4002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4003	Cut	3.07	0.11	Ditch Cut		
4004	Fill	3.07	0.11	Ditch Fill		
4005	Mound	2.26	0.28	Mound		
4006	Cut	1.71	0.24	Ditch Cut		
4007	Fill	1.71	0.24	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 41</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	<b>N-S</b>
Trench devoid of archaeology, hill wash was noted at the southern end of the trench only. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.5
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	30
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4100	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4101	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
4102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4103	Layer	-	0.26	Hillwash		



<b>Trench 42</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	N-S	
Trench contained a single post hole cut. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy silt natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.48	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4200	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
4201	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
4202	Cut	0.41	0.23	Posthole Cut	-	-
4203	Fill	0.41	0.23	Posthole Fill		
4204	Layer	-	-	Natural		

<b>Trench 43</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NE-SW	
Trench contained a single curvilinear which is probably a ring ditch or drip gully. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown gritty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.45	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4301	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
4302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4303	Cut	0.45	0.22	Probable Ring Ditch Cut		
4304	Fill	0.45	0.22	Probable Ring Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 44</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	E-W	
Trench contained a single north-south linear and a modern dump deposit which overlaid a natural hillwash which was only seen in the eastern end of the trench. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown grey silty sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.6	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4400	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
4401	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
4402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



4403	Cut	1.34	0.16	Ditch Cut		
4404	Fill	1.34	0.16	Ditch Fill		
4405	Layer	-	0.24	Modern Dump Deposit		
4406	Layer	-	0.46	Hillwash		

Trench 45						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		N-S
Trench contained a single east-west linear identified on the geophysical survey. Trench was over dug. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a mixed mid red grey silty clay natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.42
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4501	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
4502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4503	Cut	2.8	0.54	Ditch Cut		
4504	Fill	2.8	0.54	Ditch fill		

Trench 46						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>		NE-SW
Trench contained two linears, (4604) was aligned NNW-SSE and (4606) was aligned NW-SE, the geophysical survey indicates a curvilinear feature within the vicinity of both the linears but which one relates to the geophysics is unknown. A natural hillwash was identified in the northern end of the trench only. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural in the southern end of the trench and a mid red grey sandy silt natural in the northern end.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>		0.55
				<b>Width (m)</b>		2.9
				<b>Length (m)</b>		50
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
4600	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
4601	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
4602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4603	Fill	1.01	0.46	Ditch Fill		
4604	Cut	1.01	0.46	Ditch Cut		
4605	Fill	1.06	0.5	Ditch Fill		
4606	Cut	1.06	0.5	Ditch Cut		
4607	Layer	-	0.14	Hillwash		



<b>Trench 47</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE	
Trench contained a single NE-SW linear identified on the geophysical survey. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.4	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	2.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4700	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4701	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
4702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4703	Fill	1.2	0.18	Ditch Fill		
4704	Fill	1.2	0.4	Ditch Fill		
4705	Cut	1.2	0.55	Ditch Cut		

<b>Trench 48</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	N-S	
Trench contained a ring ditch identified on the geophysical survey with several internal features. The ring ditch itself appears to have had three phases of activity. Trench over dug and then extended to reveal the true extent of the ring ditch and was mapped using a GPS. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm mid red grey brown sandy silt natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.65	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	5	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	50	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4800	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4801	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
4802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4803	Cut	2.45	0.5	Penannular ditch cut		
4804	Fill	2.45	0.5	Penannular ditch fill		
4805	Cut	1.2	0.44	Penannular ditch cut		
4806	Fill	1.2	0.44	Penannular ditch fill		
4807	Group			Penannular Ditch Group		
4808	Fill	1.64	0.26	Penannular ditch fill		
4809	Cut	1.64	0.26	Penannular ditch cut		
4810	Fill	0.3	0.3	Posthole Fill		
4811	Cut	0.3	0.3	Posthole Cut		
4812	Fill	0.56	0.16	Possible gully fill		
4813	Cut	0.56	0.16	Possible gully cut		
4814	Layer	3.64	0.12	Buried Soil		



4815	Fill	0.28	0.1	Possible gully fill		
4816	Cut	0.28	0.1	Possible gully cut		
4817	Fill	0.64	0.12	Pit Fill		
4818	Cut	0.64	0.12	Pit Cut		
4819	Fill	0.26	0.1	Possible gully fill		
4820	Cut	0.26	0.1	Possible gully cut		
4821	Fill	0.64	0.14	Possible gully fill		
4822	Cut	0.64	0.14	Possible gully cut		
4823	Fill	0.58	0.16	Feature fill		
4824	Cut	0.58	0.16	Feature cut		
4825	Fill	1	0.1	Primary Fill of 4803		

<b>Trench 49</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE	
Trench contained two NE-SW linears identified on the geophysical survey and a single pit. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.55	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	30	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
4900	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
4901	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
4902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4903	Cut	1.2	0.34	Ditch Cut		
4904	Fill	1.2	0.34	Ditch Fill		
4905	Cut	1.26	0.4	Pit Cut		
4906	Fill	1.26	0.4	Pit Fill		
4907	Cut	0.8	0.18	Ditch Cut		
4908	Fill	0.8	0.18	Ditch Fill		

<b>Trench 50</b>						
<b>General description</b>				<b>Orientation</b>	NW-SE	
Trench contained a single linear identified on the geophysical survey and a single pit. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a firm light to mid red grey sandy silty natural.				<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.7	
				<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9	
				<b>Length (m)</b>	50	
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
5000	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
5001	Layer	-	0.45	Subsoil	-	-



5002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5003	Fill	0.4	0.3	Ditch Fill		
5004	Cut	0.4	0.3	Ditch Cut		
5005	Fill	0.9	0.14	Pit Fill		
5006	Cut	0.9	0.14	Pit Cut		

<b>Trench 51</b>						
<b>General description</b>					<b>Orientation</b>	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Soil matrix consisted of top and subsoil overlying a compact mid red brown sandy fine gravel natural.					<b>Avg. depth (m)</b>	0.23
					<b>Width (m)</b>	1.9
					<b>Length (m)</b>	50
<b>Contexts</b>						
<b>context no</b>	<b>type</b>	<b>Width (m)</b>	<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>comment</b>	<b>finds</b>	<b>date</b>
5100	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
5101	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
5102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



## APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By Geraldine Crann (Identifications by Lisa Brown, John Cotter and Edward Biddulph)*

#### B.1.1 Prehistoric pottery

A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery was recovered from four stratified contexts including a rectilinear enclosure ditch (Trench 19), a linear field boundary ditch and two penannular ditches (the latter interpreted tentatively as roundhouse foundation or eaves-drip gullies). On the basis of pottery and other finds the date of these features appears to range from the middle Bronze Age to the Iron Age or Roman period, although their interpretation is problematic, as discussed in the main text.

Fill 1904 of rectilinear enclosure ditch 1903 in Trench 19 produced 74 large fresh sherds belonging to a single vessel in a local Exeter volcanic fabric (pers comm Henrietta Quinnell). The vessel is incomplete, with much of the rim and a small part of the flat base present, but no decorated sherds. It is very well fired and the outer surface was smoothed in such a way as to leave diagonal stripes. The bevelled rim suggests affinities with Trevisker Ware. The best comparanda for this rim type come from slightly curved biconical vessels, which, when the profile is sufficient, all seem to have a rounded cordon around the girth. However, the profile of this vessel suggests an open, bowl form. A range of bowl forms is currently being recognised in what Quinnell terms 'Trevisker related' styles (Quinnell 2012). Most of this undecorated Trevisker-related material in the Exeter area is middle Bronze Age and comes from domestic and field ditch contexts, with some evidence for structured deposition in both.

A single handmade, undecorated body sherd from context 4801 (subsoil in Trench 48) is in a volcanic fabric similar to those recovered from ditches 1904 and 1504, and is likely to date from the middle Bronze Age. Three undecorated body sherds from context 4804 (one of them from soil sample <1>) are also in a volcanic rock-tempered fabric and may be of the same date. This context is the only fill of penannular ditch 4807 in Trench 48, which is tentatively interpreted as a roundhouse rather than a barrow (see main text). Carbonised organic residue adhering to the inner surface of two of these sherds could be radiocarbon dated if this is deemed useful for more precise dating than the ceramic evidence permits.

A single small, undecorated sherd from context 1500 (topsoil) in Trench 15 is from a thin-walled vessel in coarse sandy fabric with volcanic rock fragments. It is probably Bronze Age but little more can be determined from this unstratified fragment.

A small group of seven small, undiagnostic prehistoric sherds (32g) were recovered from the fills of linear ditches 4003 and 4006 in Trench 40.

Sample <4> from context 4304 produced three crumb-sized fragments, two of which are probably prehistoric and one probably Roman or later. These are from the fill of penannular ditch 4303, which is interpreted as a roundhouse eaves-drip or foundation gully. The sherds are too small for further classification.



### B.1.2 Other pottery

The rest of the pottery assemblage consists of small, worn pottery sherds and covers a wide range of dates and is of low potential. It should, nevertheless, be fully integrated into any future analysis arising from further investigation on the site.

Context	Trench	Description	Date
804	8	1 Roman grey ware sherd, 6g	Roman
807	8	Rim and decorated sherds, including <2>, 34g	?LIA
1104	11	1 transfer printed ware (TPW) sherd, 1 creamware body sherd, 6g	1830 -1900 1770 -1830
1504	15	Single sherd post medieval slipware -?Donyatt or Barnstaple redware with trailed white slip, 7g; 1 sherd volcanic tempered MBA pottery also from this context	BA?/ 18 <sup>th</sup> c
1800	18	2 flower pot sherds in red terracotta, 11g	19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> c
2100	21	Flowerpot sherd, 4g	19 <sup>th</sup> c
2207	22	1 flower pot ware body sherd, 5g	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> c
3304	33	Creamware cup base, 3g	1770 - 1830
3306	33	Creamware ?mug body sherd, 11g	1770 - 1830
3408	34	<6> Scrap oxidised fabric, 1g	? Roman
4301	43	Flower pot sherd, 5g	19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> c
4304	43	Prehistoric, <4>, 2g	prehistoric
4801	48	Prehistoric, 7g	prehistoric
4804	48	Prehistoric, including <1>, 24g	prehistoric

### B.2 Animal bone

*Identified by Lena Strid*

Context	Trench	Description
904	9	Horse mandible fragment, 34g
1304	13	Single cow distal humerus fragment, 73g

The animal bone assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

### B.3 Lithics

*By Geraldine Crann*

Context	Trench	Description	Date
104	1	Chip, grey-black flint, 2g	-
500	5	Flake, patinated white, abraded, iron-spotting, 10g	-
1504	15	Single irregular flint flake, dark grey-black flint, snapped at distal end, edge damaged, 4g	?BA
1800	18	Single flint chunk, possibly natural, dark grey-black flint, with- plough damage spalling to proximal end, 7g	
1904	19	Single irregular flint flake with post-production damage, 4g	?BA
4000	40	Thick irregular flake, diffuse bulb, 50% cortex, edge damage, 11g	
4001	40	Snapped flake, edge damage, 4g	





Context	Trench	Description	Date
4304	43	Irregular snapped flake, edge damage, 4g	
4504	45	Chipped quartzite flake, punctiform butt, notched right proximal margin, 4 dorsal scars, 10g	
4600	46	Irregular flake, edge damage, hard hammer struck, 6g	
4600	46	Snapped flake/blade, 4 dorsal scars, punctiform butt, platform preparation, 3g	
4800	48	Small primary flake, 40% cortex, proximal end missing, 3g	
4800	48	Small flake on mottled flint, hinge termination, 2g	
4801	48	Blade-like flake fragment, sub-parallel lateral margins, burnt post-production, 4g	
4804	48	Very irregular flake, hard hammer struck, edge damage, 4g	
4804	48	Irregular flake fragment, proximal end shattered, 8g	

The size and nature of the assemblage limits interpretation of the material, many pieces having suffered post depositional ?plough damage. However, where diagnostic features survive, the irregular nature of the material points to a later prehistoric date. The single notched quartzite flake from context 4504 is interesting in being more finely worked than the rest of the assemblage and also the only piece on a local stone raw material. The lithic assemblage from the evaluation should be fully integrated into any future analysis arising from further investigation on the site.

### B.3 Glass

*Identified by Ian Scott*

Context	Trench	Description	Date
1104	11	Decorative glass sherd with chamfered edges, possibly from square medicine bottle, 6g	Late 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century
3306	33	Bottle base in amber metal, United Glass Bottle Co., 50g	Post 1920

The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

### B.4 Ceramic building material

*Identified by John Cotter*

Context	Trench	Description	Date
700	7	Fragment land drain, 136g	19 <sup>th</sup> –20 <sup>th</sup> century
4000	40	Worn scrap ?modern land drain, 6g	?19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century

The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

### B.5 Fired clay

*Identified by John Cotter*

Context	Description	Date
804	Slightly curved scrap of fired clay, 6g	undated
4304	<4> Gritty fired clay lumps, 58g	undated

The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.



## B.6 Clay pipe

*Identified by John Cotter*

Context	Description	Date
4300	Worn clay pipe stem, 4g	Late 17 <sup>th</sup> - early 18 <sup>th</sup> century.

The assemblage is of low potential and requires no further work.

## B.7 Stone

*By Ruth Shaffrey*

The retained stone consists of 13 fragments of heat-shattered quartzite pebbles (possible 'pot-boilers') from context 3408 and one worked fragment from penannular ditch fill 4804. The latter piece has one flat worked surface and is most probably from a quern. It is of a volcanic stone, like lava but quite different to that typically used for rotary querns, being denser, pinker and containing phenocrysts of quartz. It may have a source in Devon or Cornwall.



## APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Environmental samples

*By Sharon Cook and Julia Meen*

#### **Introduction**

A total of eleven environmental bulk samples were taken during the evaluation. The samples were taken to establish whether environmental evidence such as plant remains, bone and molluscs were present, to evaluate the state of preservation of any such items, and make further recommendations about sampling in the event of future excavation at the site. Table 2 shows details of the eleven samples.

Samples <2200> and <2201> were taken from fills (2204) and (2206) of a ring ditch identified in Trench 22. Cremated bone was hand excavated from the latter fill, and the primary aim of sampling this context was to allow the full recovery of any further bone, as well as potentially recovering evidence of fuels and other organic materials involved in the cremation ritual.

Samples <5>, <6>, <7> and <8> were taken from a group of features identified in Trench 34, in order to establish whether reddened deposits derived from the remains of hearths or furnaces.

#### **Methodology**

The samples were processed for charred plant remains by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue sieved to 500µm; both were dried in a heated room, after which the residues were sorted by eye for artefacts and organic remains. The dried flots were scanned for charred plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x15 magnification. Seed identifications were made with reference to Oxford Archaeology's reference collection and published identification guides. Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (2010).

#### **Results**

##### **Finds**

A small quantity of cremated human bone was recovered from sample <2201>. Small, abraded fragments of pottery were recovered from samples <1>, <2>, <4> and <6>, and possible fired clay from samples <2> and <4>. All finds were sent to the relevant specialists for further examination and is integrated into the relevant reports in Appendix B.

The samples from the second phase of work contained abundant red stone gravel, derived from the natural geology at the site. However, as one of the aims of environmental sampling was to establish whether the reddened deposits were related to hearths or furnaces, any larger (greater than 10mm) gravel was passed to a specialist to detect evidence of burning, while the finer gravels were weighed and then discarded. The weight of discarded gravel for each sample is given in Table 1.

**Table 1: Weight of discarded gravel from samples**

<1>	0.3kg
<2>	15.7kg
<4>	17.2kg
<5>	15kg
<6>	3.8kg
<7>	2.2kg
<8>	3.2kg

### **Charred Plant Remains**

Table 2 (below) summarises the charred plant remains from each flot.

### **Discussion and Recommendations**

The charcoal from Site 1 was generally well preserved, the assemblage from cremation deposit 2207, from the fill of ring ditch 2206 (Trench 22), showing particularly good preservation. However, the number of items that were potentially identifiable was low, limiting interpretation of the charcoal assemblages.

The three samples collected from the penannular ditches showed only low levels of environmental material. Samples <2> and <4> both contained occasional examples of cereal processing waste and, in the case of sample <4>, charred grain. However, these scarce items are likely to represent background material derived from agricultural activity occurring elsewhere in the vicinity rather than relating to the use of the ditches themselves. The seeds present in these samples (elder, bedstraws, ivy-leaved speedwell) all have a robust structure and tend to be preferentially preserved in archaeological deposits.

The remaining four samples were taken from the area of potential hearth-workings in Trench 34. Of these, samples <5> and <8> contained no material of interpretable value. Samples <6> and <7>, from contexts 3408 and 3409 respectively, were notable for both containing abundant charred grass seeds, of a mixture of different species. Little evidence was found from these features either during excavation or from the bulk samples to confirm unequivocally that the features are hearths or to indicate what their function might be. It is difficult therefore to speculate as to how the charred grass seeds arrived in the deposits in such quantity. One possible interpretation is that turves were being deliberately collected and used as fuel on the hearths or used to cover a clamp, as in charcoal burning. Sufficient identifiable charcoal may be available from sample <6> to allow further analysis of fuel.

The good condition of the charcoal within many of the flots shows that charred plant remains are well preserved at this site. Any future excavations should incorporate a sampling policy in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (e.g. Oxford Archaeology 2005; English Heritage 2011), with 40 litre samples taken for the recovery of charred remains.

Table 2: Summary of environmental samples

Sample	Context	Cut No.	Trench	Feature type	Sample volume (litres)	Sediment description	Flot volume	% scanned	Flot description
1	4804		48	Ring ditch	25	Red (2.5YR 4/8) clayey sand	<10ml	100%	Frequent modern material including straw and egg cases of soil organisms. Charcoal fragments greater than 4mm in size were rare (<5 items). One charred seed of <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (elder)
2	807		8	Ring ditch	35	Red (2.5YR 4/8) sand	20ml	100%	Abundant modern material present including roots, soil organisms and egg cases. Charcoal frequent, but mostly highly fragmented, with a further 20 items >4mm extracted from residue. Three charred seeds of <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (elder) and one abraded c.f. <i>Galium</i> sp. (bedstraws) seed present. Nine fragments of <i>Triticum</i> c.f. <i>spelta</i> (spelt wheat) glume base counted.
4	4307	4303	43	Ring ditch	40	Reddish brown (2.5YR 4/4) clayey sand	100ml	50%	Abundant sand and modern root present. Moderate number of charcoal pieces greater than 4mm in size, with a small number extracted from residues. Three charred grains of <i>Triticum</i> sp. (wheat), one c.f. <i>Hordeum</i> sp. (hulled barley) and a further three indeterminate cereal grains noted. One charred seed each of <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> (ivy-leaved speedwell) and <i>Rumex</i> sp. (dock) observed, as well as a single wheat ( <i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> ) glume base.
5	3404		34	Pit/hearth/furnace	35	Dark reddish brown (2.5YR 3/4) sandy loam	30ml	70%	Flot dominated by modern roots and sand. Charcoal frequent, but fragmented and obscured by concretions. No other charred remains observed.
6	3408		34	Furnace/hearth	20	Reddish brown silty clay	50ml	50%	Charcoal frequent in flot, also moderate quantity recovered from residues. Abundant seeds of several species of grass present, with few other types of wild seed observed.
7	3409		34	Furnace/hearth lining	10	Reddish brown (2.5YR 4/4) clayey sand	15ml	50%	Sandy flot, with frequent modern root. Grass seed is abundant, with several different species observed. Charcoal is present but mostly fragmentary, with a small number of additional pieces extracted from the residue, including roundwood.
8	3411		34	Ditch	10	Red (2.5YR 4/6) fine clayey sand	<5ml	100%	Flot composed of dust, charcoal flecks, and modern material including egg cases.
1900	1904	1903	19	Ditch	40	Yellowish red (5YR 4/6) sandy silt	75ml	100%	Large quantities of fine modern roots. Charcoal present; fragments are mostly <4mm, and so probably not identifiable, although they do appear to be in good condition. A single charred seed is present however it is fragmented and not identifiable.
2200	2204	2203	22	Ring ditch	40	Reddish brown (5YR	75ml	100%	Contains some fine modern roots. Charcoal is present; the

Sample	Context	Cut No.	Trench	Feature type	Sample volume (litres)	Sediment description	Flot volume	% scanned	Flot description
						4/4) sandy silt loam			fragments are mostly <4mm, although a small number are larger and may be suitable for species identification. They do appear to be in good condition. No other charred plant remains were noted.
2201	2207	2206	22	Ring ditch (suspected cremation deposit)	20	Reddish brown (5YR 5/3) sandy silt loam	150ml	50%	Contains small quantities of fine modern roots. Charcoal is present; with the fragments including a number that are >4mm, the charcoal does not appear to be oak and so may be suitable for C14. The fragments appear to be in extremely good condition. No other charred plant remains were noted.
2500	2504	2503	25	Ring ditch	40	Reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy silt loam	25ml	100%	Contains some fine modern roots. Charcoal is present; although the fragments are mostly <4mm, and so probably not identifiable, they do appear to be in good condition. No other charred plant remains were noted.



## APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

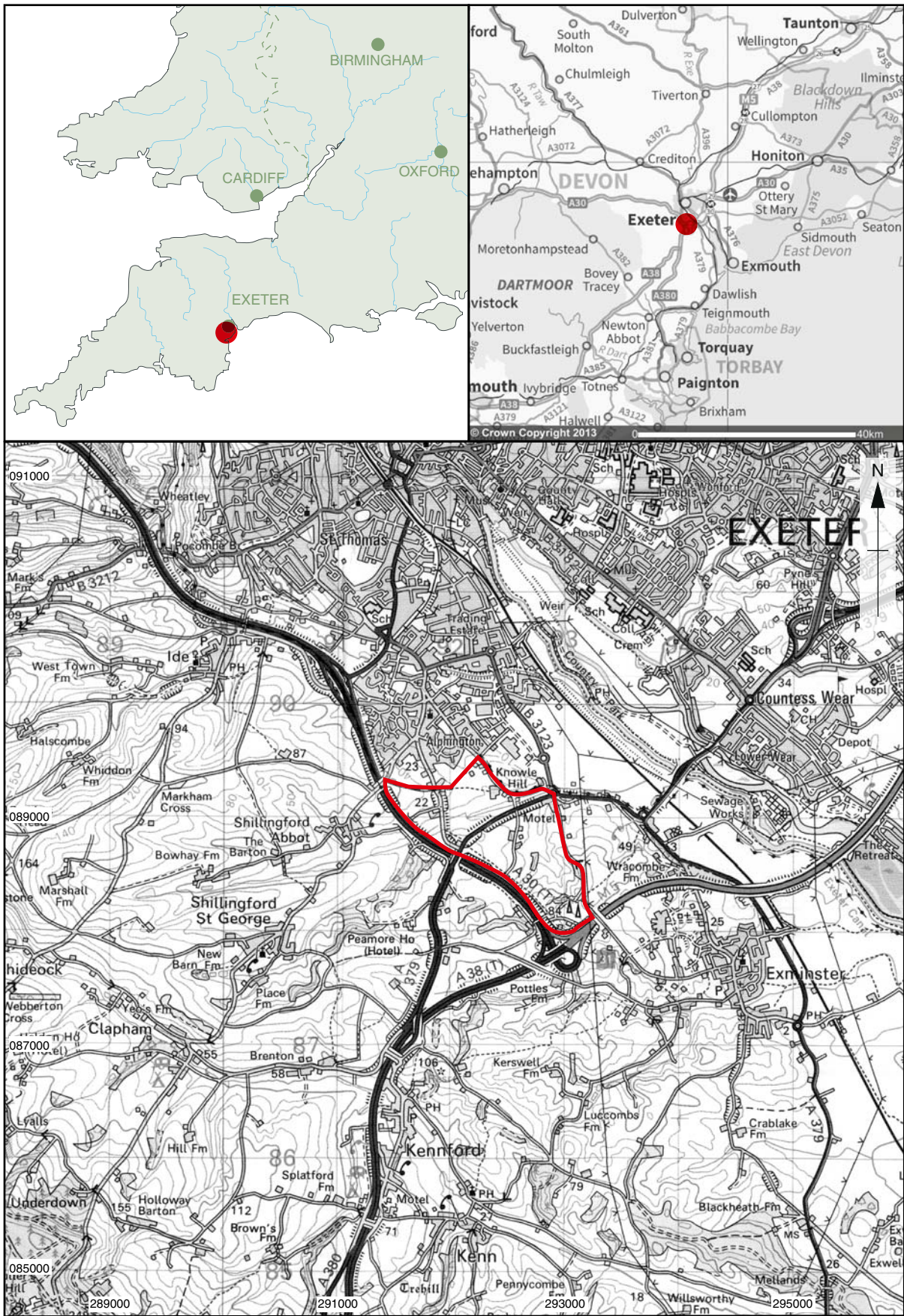
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## APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

<b>Site name:</b>	Land SW of Exeter, Archaeological Evaluation Report
<b>Site code:</b>	ALPH 13
<b>Grid reference:</b>	NGR 292300 089350
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date and duration:</b>	October-November 2013 and February-March 2014
<b>Area of site:</b>	c 22.6ha
<b>Summary of results:</b>	<p>The investigation comprised a programme of 51 evaluation trenches. On the basis of feature morphology and the very sparse artefactual evidence, it is possible to provisionally suggest four broad phases of activity spread across six defined 'sites':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phase 1: Early Bronze Age barrow cemetery (Site 1), comprising the existing scheduled barrow and two ring ditches identified by the evaluation and interpreted as plough-levelled barrows.</li><li>• Phase 2: Middle Bronze Age enclosures (Site 2) and roundhouse (Site 3).</li><li>• Phase 3: Late Iron Age-Roman farmstead (Site 4), isolated possible roundhouse (Site 5) and hearth group (Site 6).</li><li>• Phase 4: Medieval/post-medieval agricultural field boundaries (no defined focus).</li></ul>
<b>Location of archive:</b>	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES and will in due course be offered to Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter subject to acceptance under their current collecting criteria.





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Figure 1: Site location map

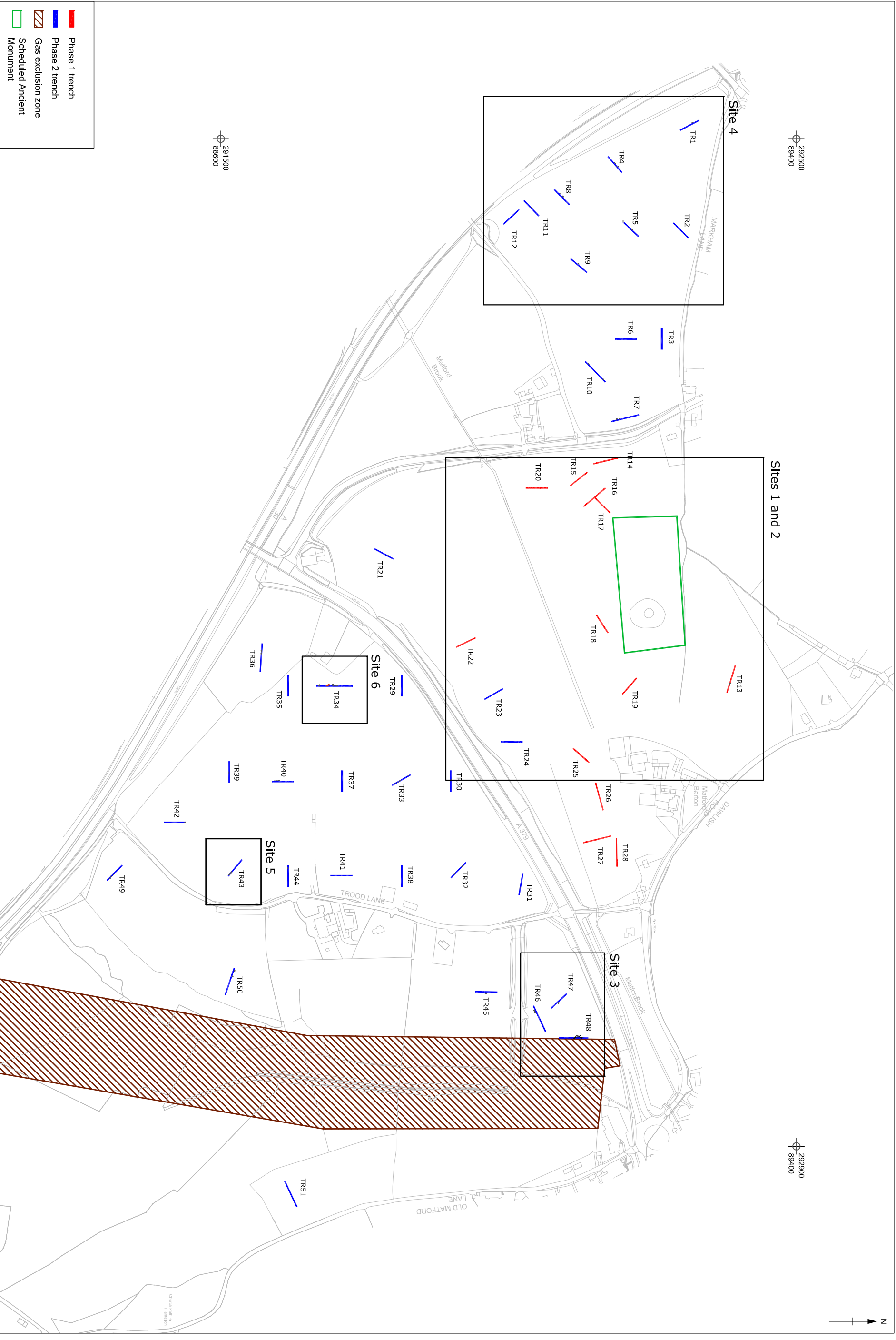
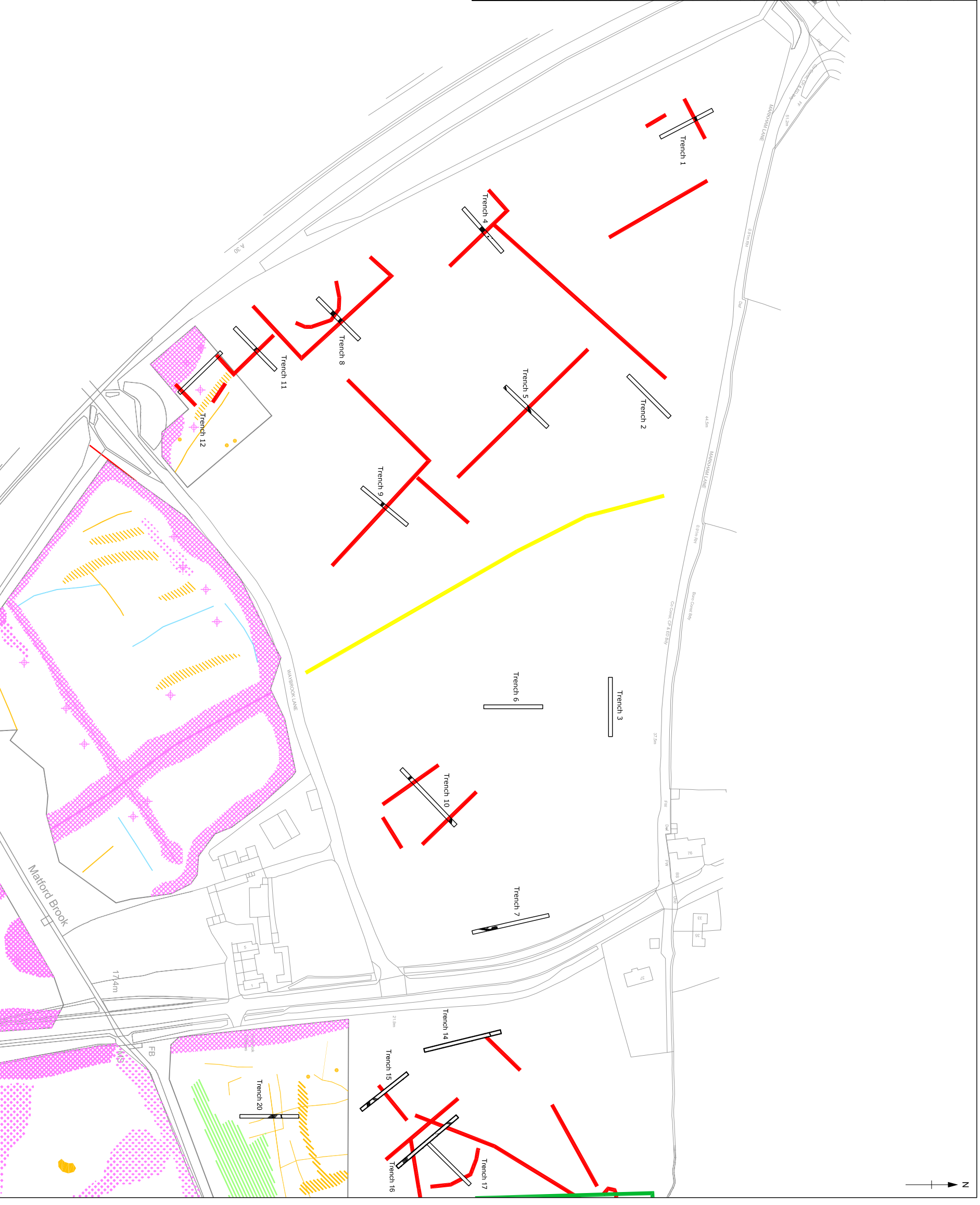


Figure 2: Overall trench plan



	Phase 1 evaluation trench
	Archaeological feature
	Scheduled ancient monument
	Archaeology (cgms)
	Modern disturbance (cgms)
<b>PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY</b>	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut
	Feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
	Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature
	Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridges-and-furrows
<b>POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY</b>	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut
	Feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
	Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature
	Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object
<b>OTHER ANOMALIES</b>	
	Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
	Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
	Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
	Scattered magnetic debris
	Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin



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Figure 3: Trench plan and archaeological features overlaid on interpreted geophysical survey plot (NW field)

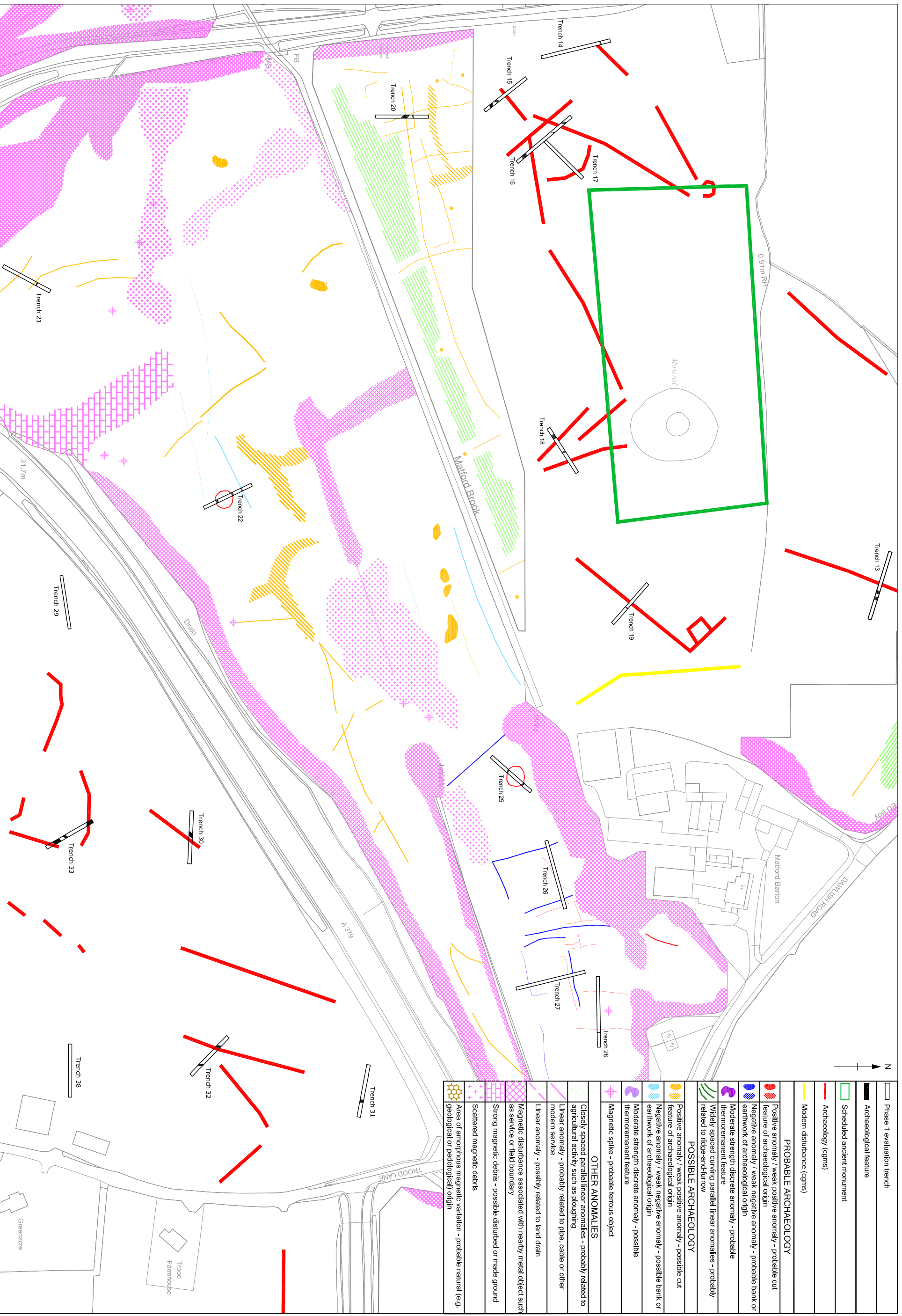
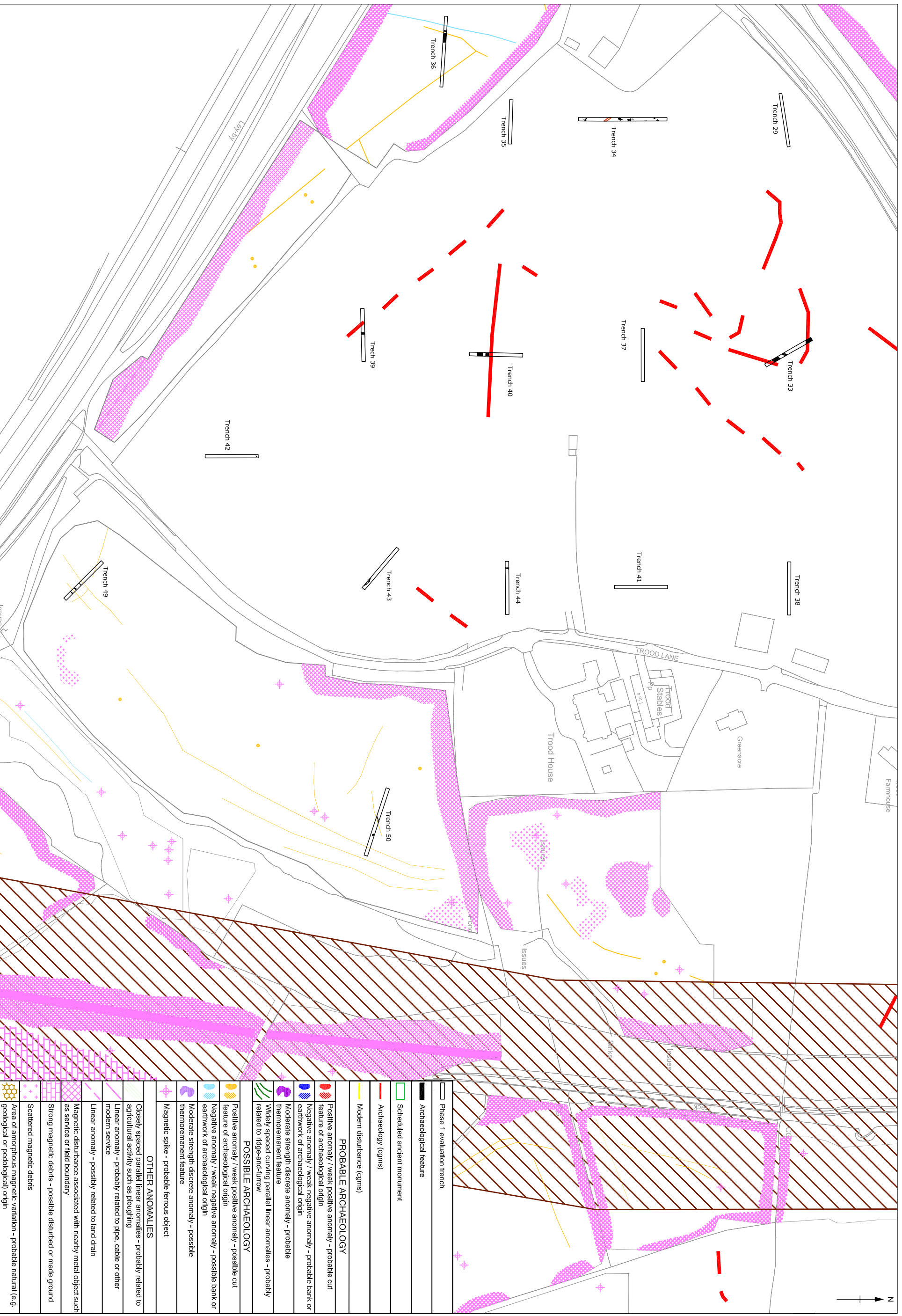


Figure 4: Trench plan and archaeological features overlaid on interpreted geophysical survey plot (scheduled barrow cemetery and vicinity of Matford Brook)

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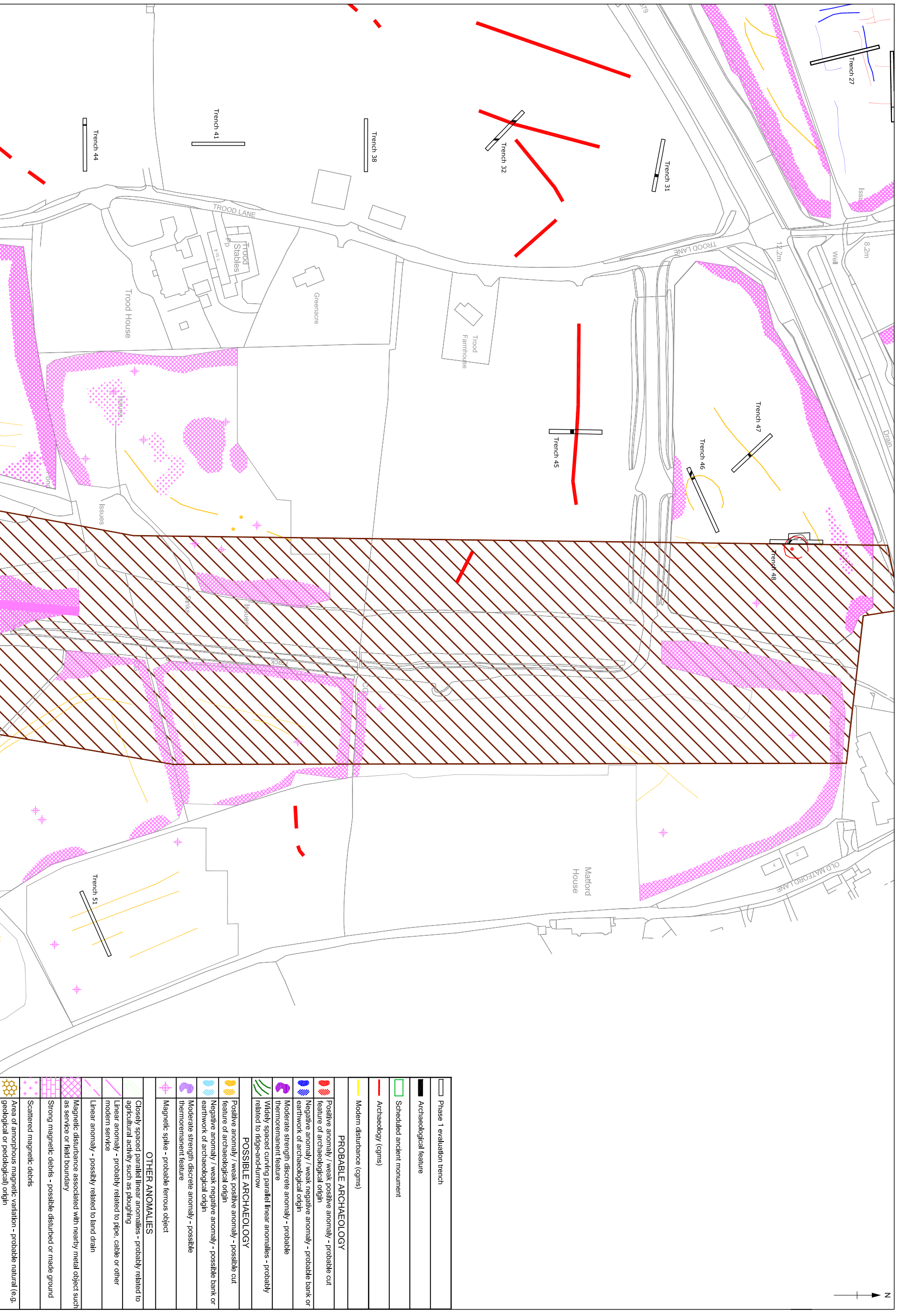




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Figure 5: Trench plan and archaeological features overlaid on interpreted geophysical survey plot (central fields)

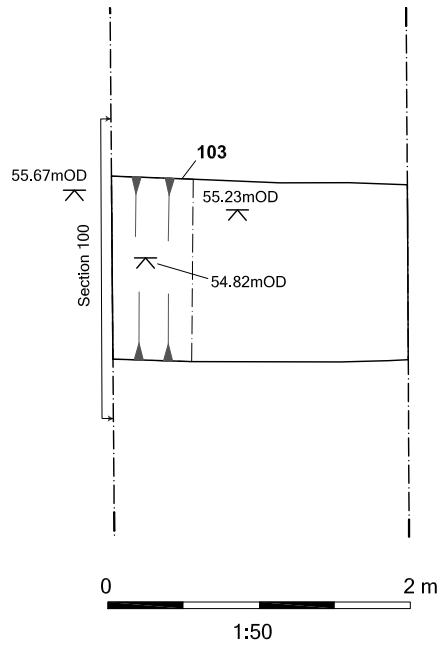


	Phase 1 evaluation trench
	Archaeological feature
	Scheduled ancient monument
	Archaeology (gms)
	Modern disturbance (gms)
<b>PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY</b>	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
	Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature
	Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow
<b>POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY</b>	
	Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
	Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
	Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature
	Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object
<b>OTHER ANOMALIES</b>	
	Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
	Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
	Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
	Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
	Scattered magnetic debris
	Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin

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Figure 6: Trench plan and archaeological features overlaid on interpreted geophysical survey plot (eastern fields)



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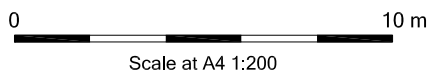
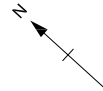


Figure 7: Detailed plan of Trench 1, feature 103



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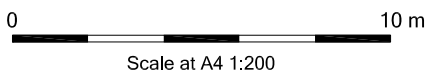
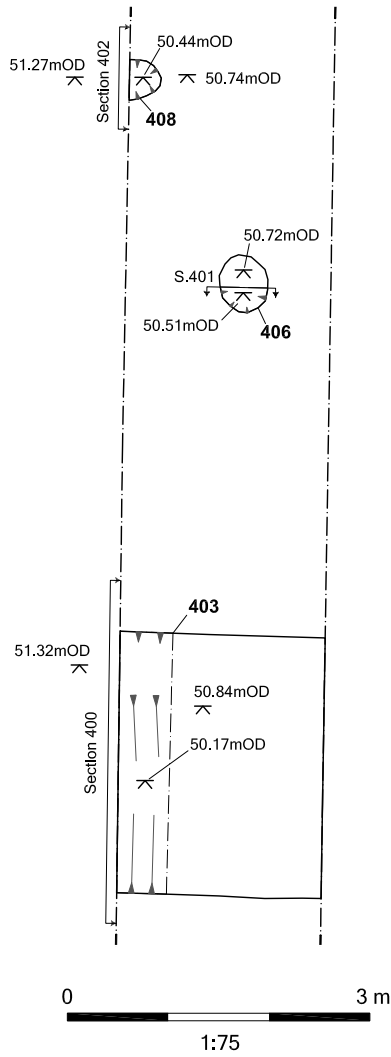
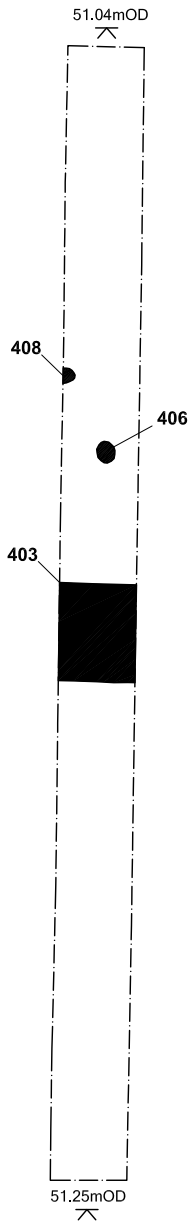


Figure 8: Detailed plan of Trench 4, features 403, 406 and 408





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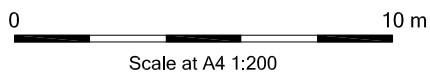
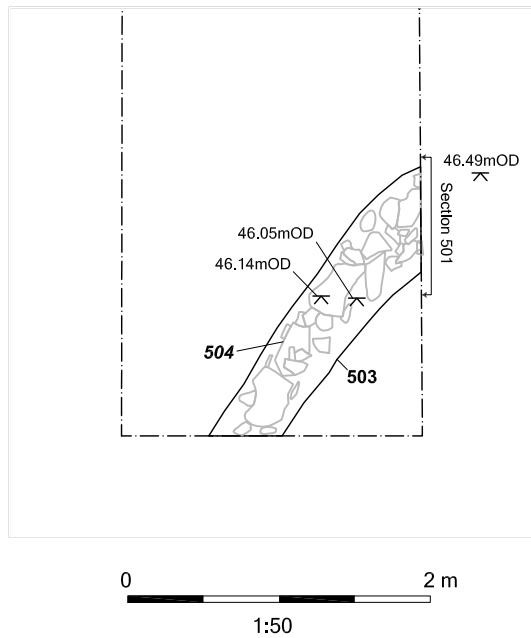
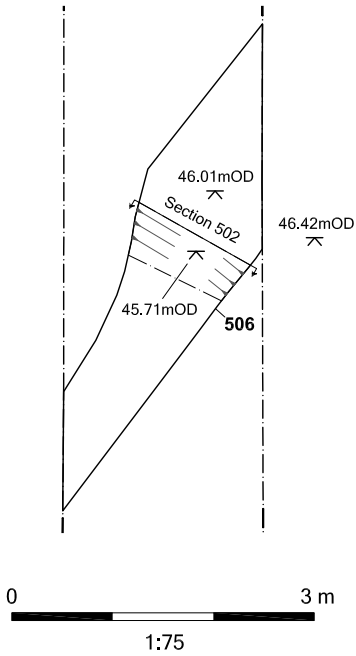
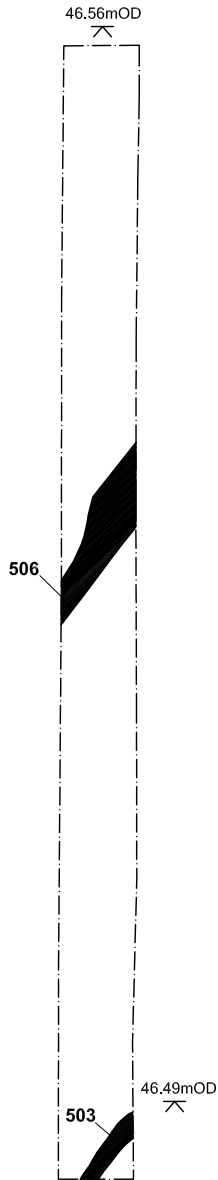
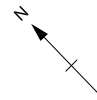


Figure 9: Detailed plan of Trench 5, features 503 and 506



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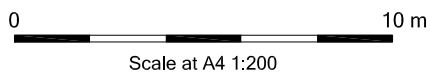
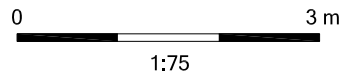
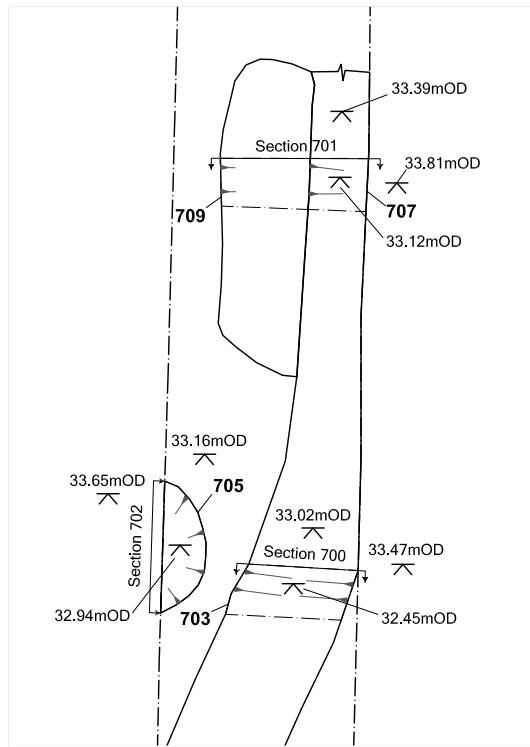
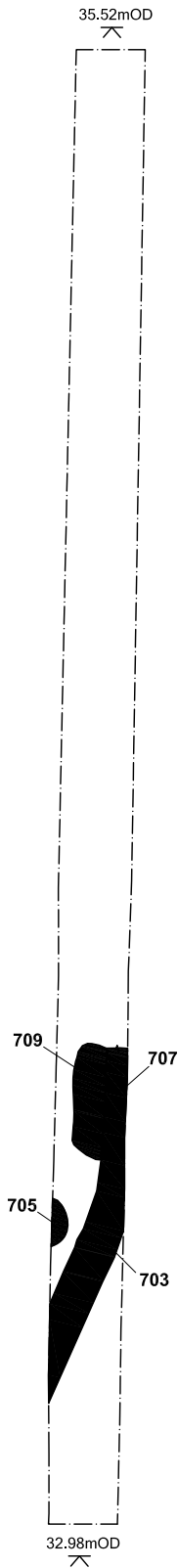


Figure 10: Detailed plan of Trench 7, features 703, 705, 707 and 709



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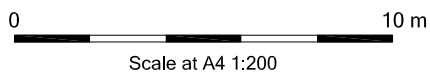
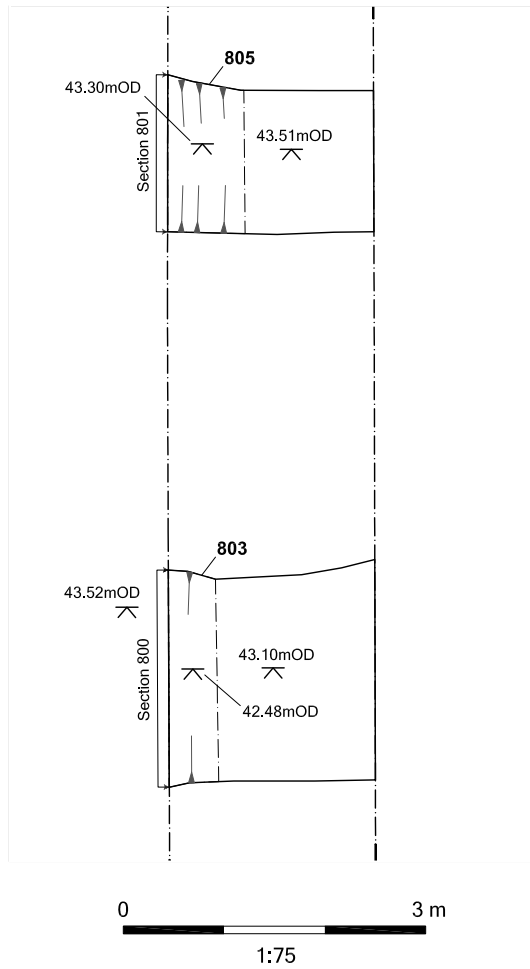
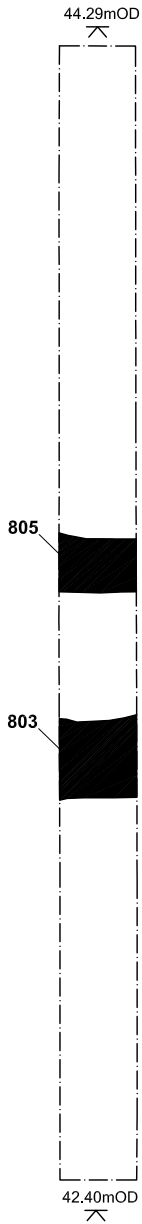
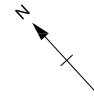


Figure 11: Detailed plan of Trench 8, features 803 and 805



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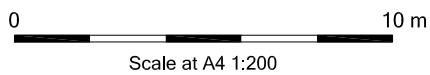
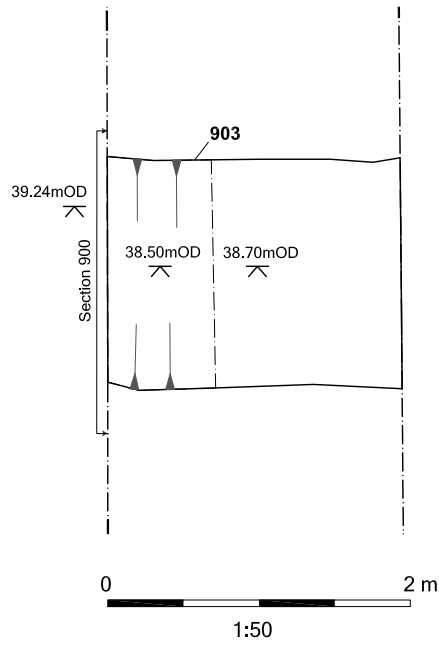
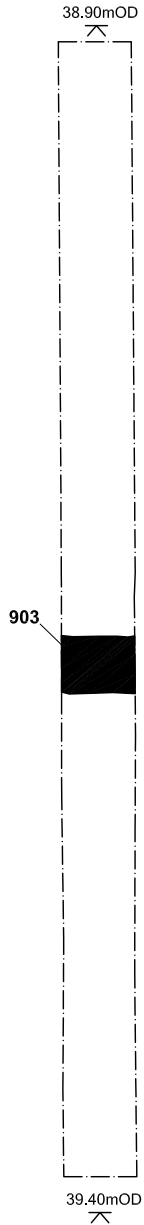
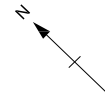


Figure 12: Detailed plan of Trench 9, feature 903





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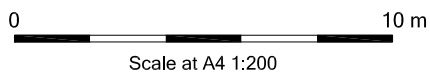
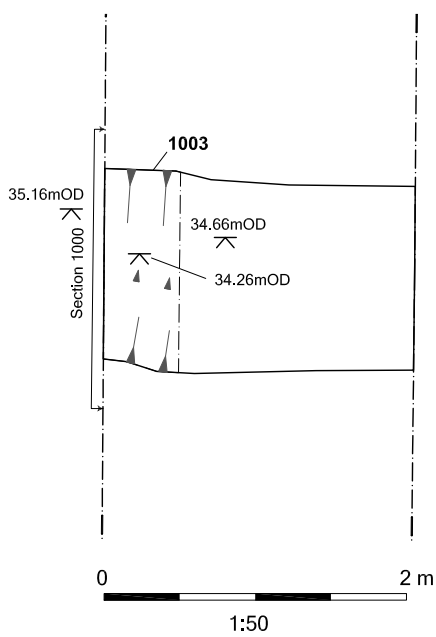
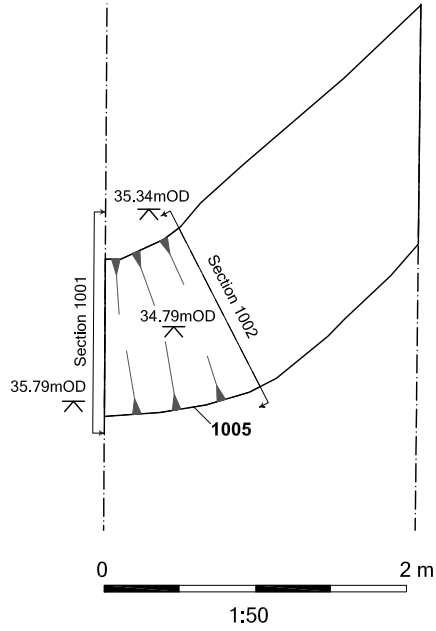
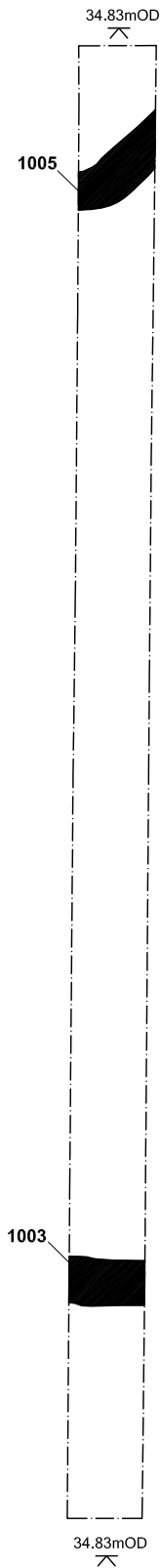


Figure 13: Detailed plan of Trench 10, features 1003 and 1005

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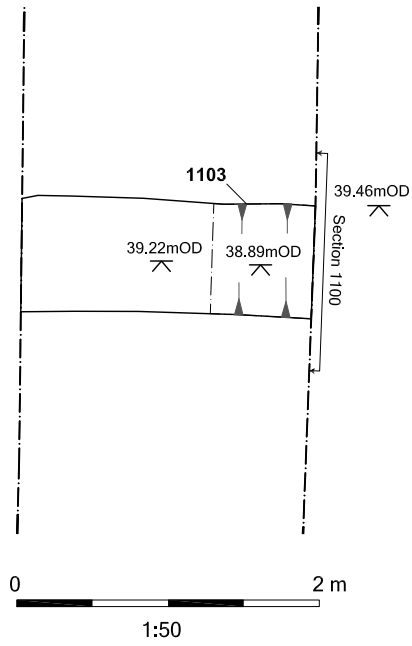
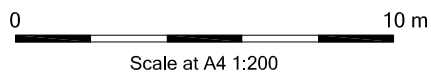
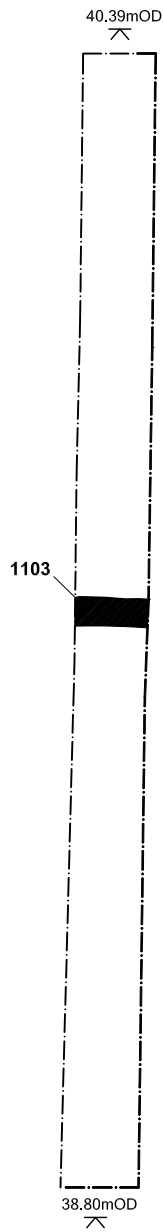
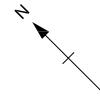


Figure 14: Detailed plan of Trench 11, feature 1103

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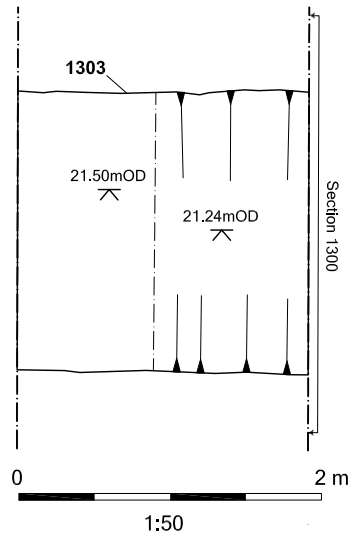
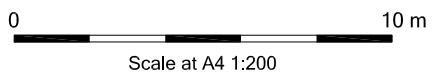
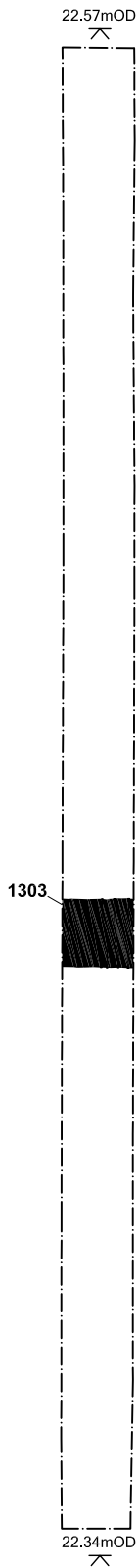
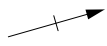


Figure 15: Detailed plan of Trench 13, feature 1303

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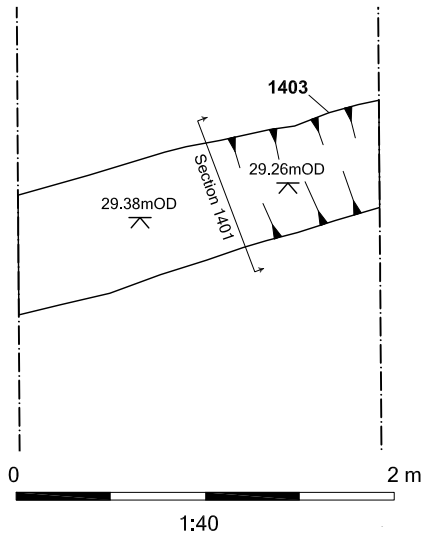
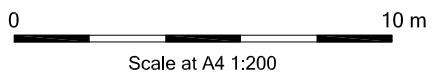
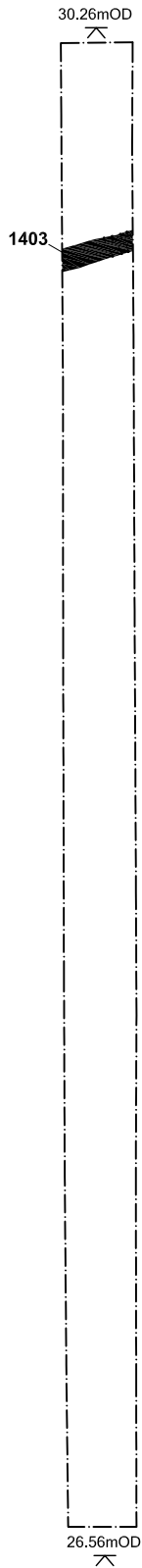


Figure 16: Detailed plan of Trench 14, feature 1403





X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alpington Exeter Devon\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase 1\_figures\_280314.dwg(Figure 17)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alpington, Devon\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

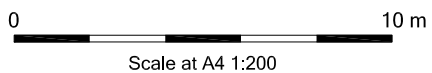
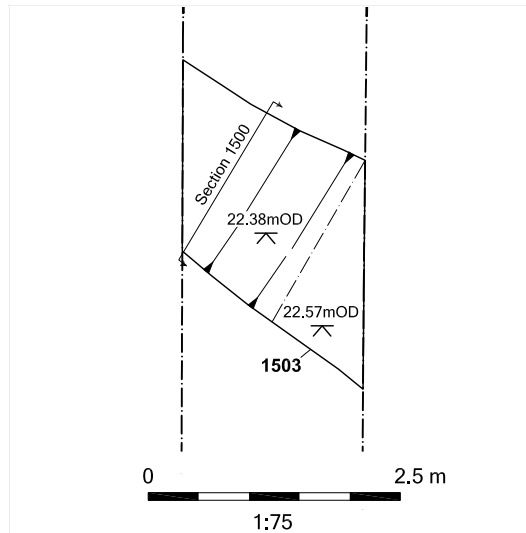
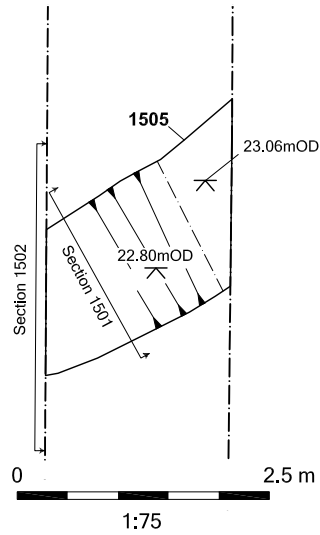
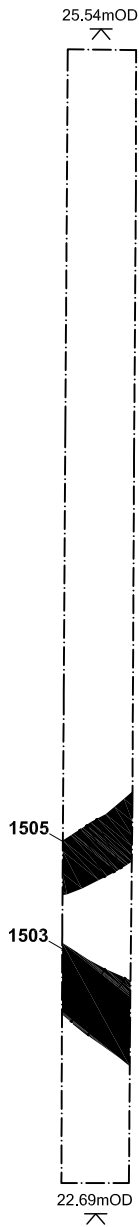


Figure 17: Detailed plan of Trench 15, features 1503 and 1505



X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase 1\_figures\_280314.dwg(Figure 18)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Devon\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

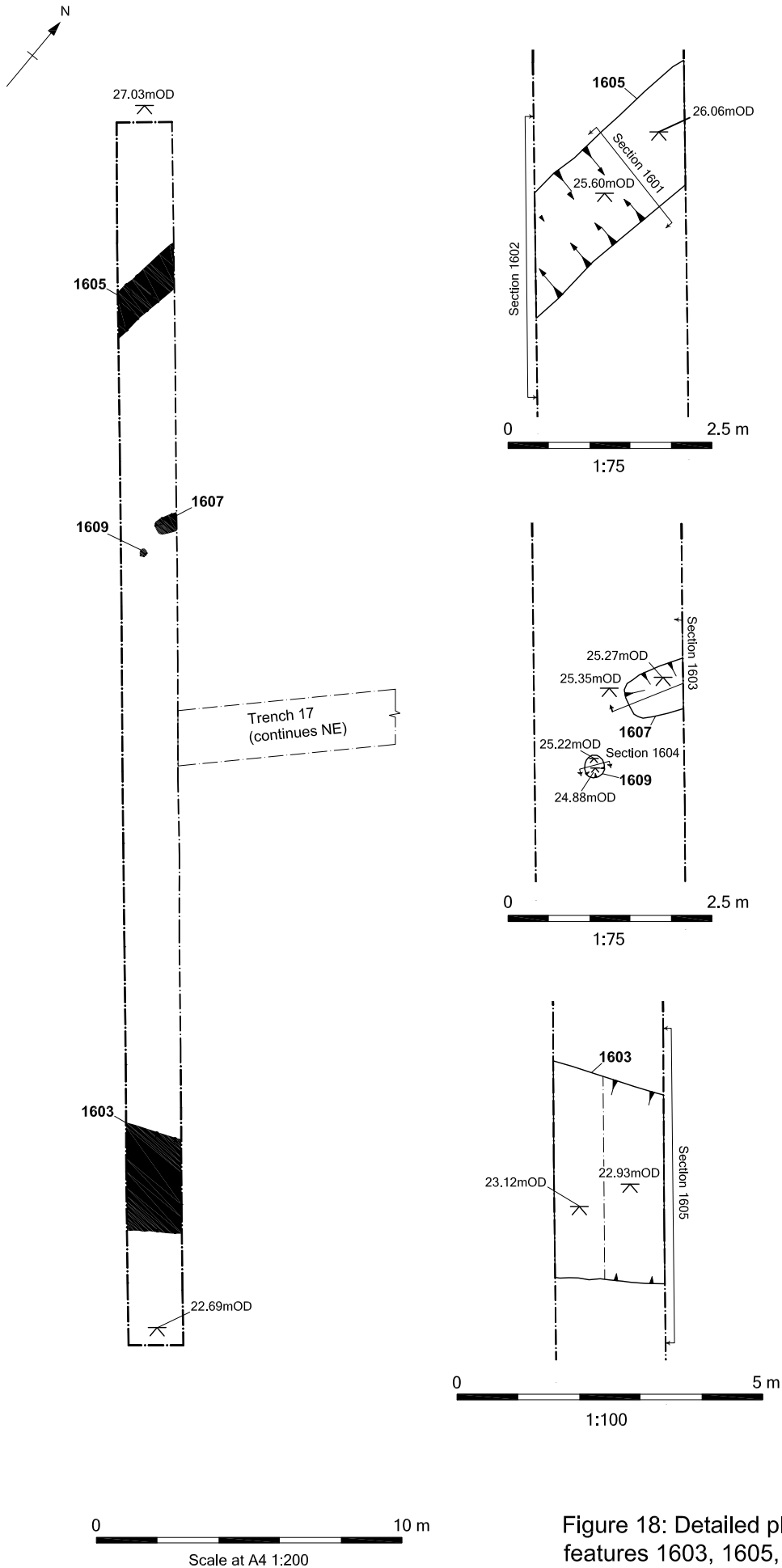
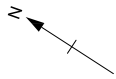


Figure 18: Detailed plan of Trench 16, features 1603, 1605, 1607 and 1609



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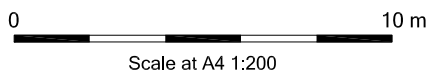
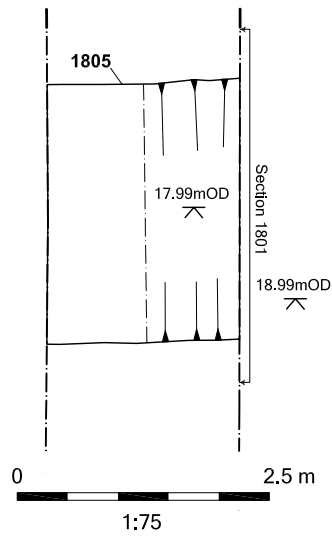
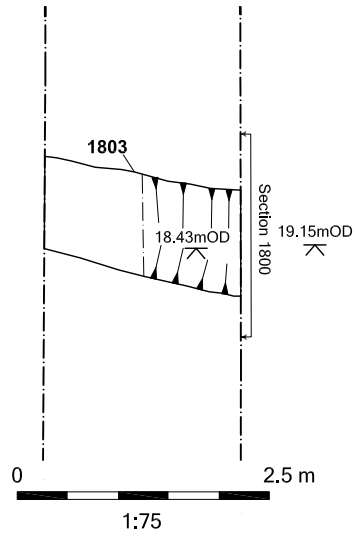
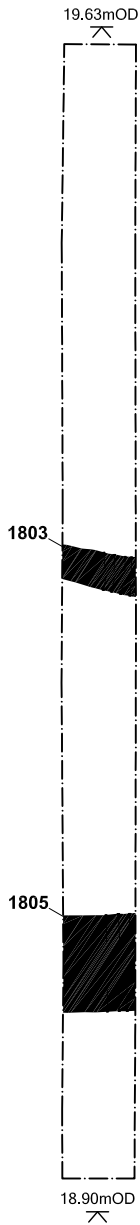
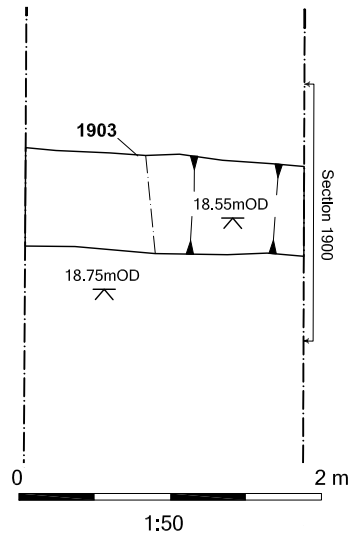
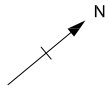


Figure 19: Detailed plan of Trench 18, features 1803 and 1805



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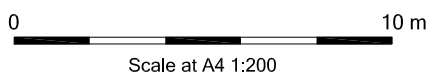


Figure 20: Detailed plan of Trench 19, feature 1903



X:\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase 1\_figures\_280314.dwg(Figure 21)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Devon\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

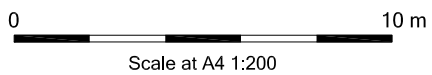
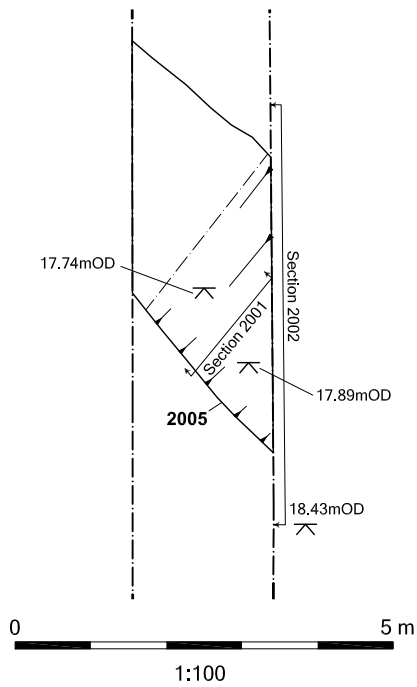
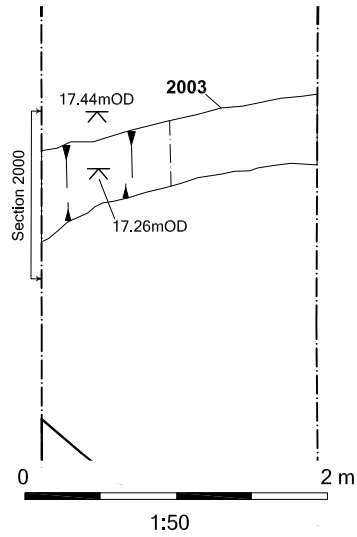
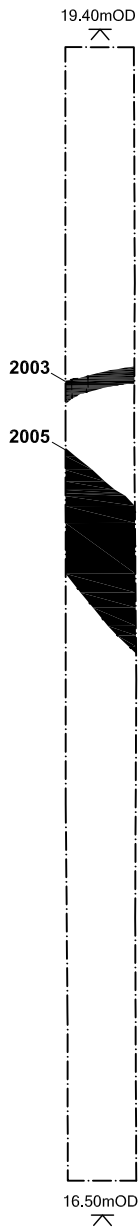


Figure 21: Detailed plan of Trench 20, features 2003 and 2005



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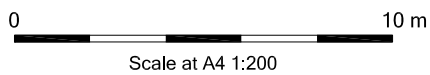
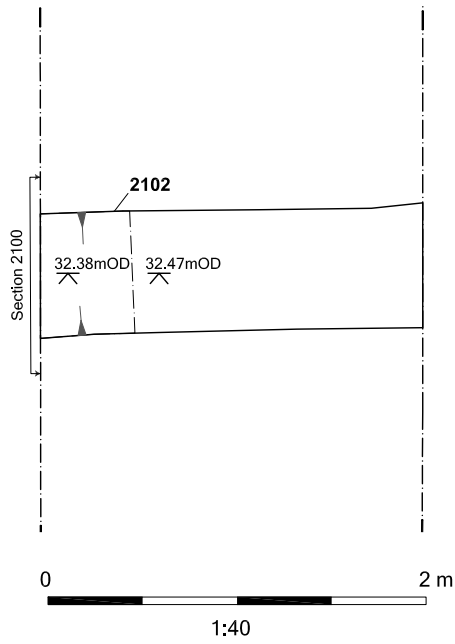
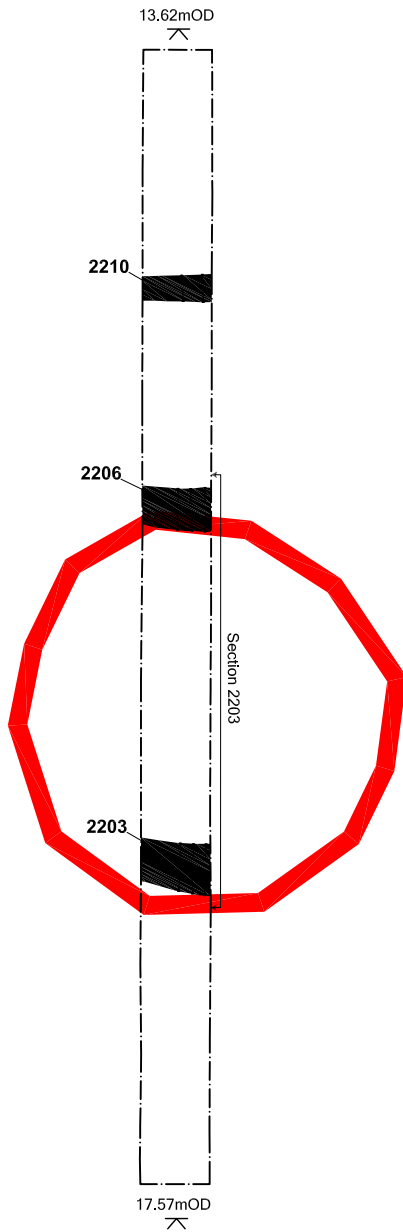



Figure 22: Detailed plan of Trench 21, feature 2102



X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase1\_figures\_280314.dwg (Figure 23)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington\_Devon\hannah.kennedy\* 18 Jul 2014



 Ring ditch from geophysical survey

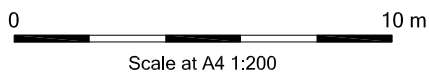
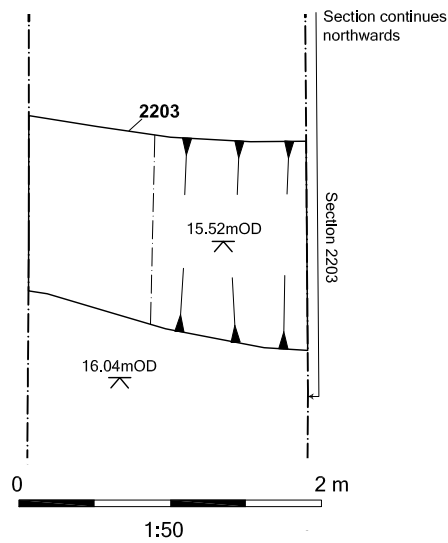
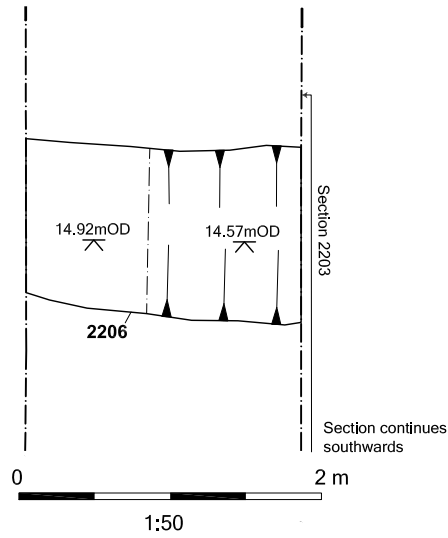
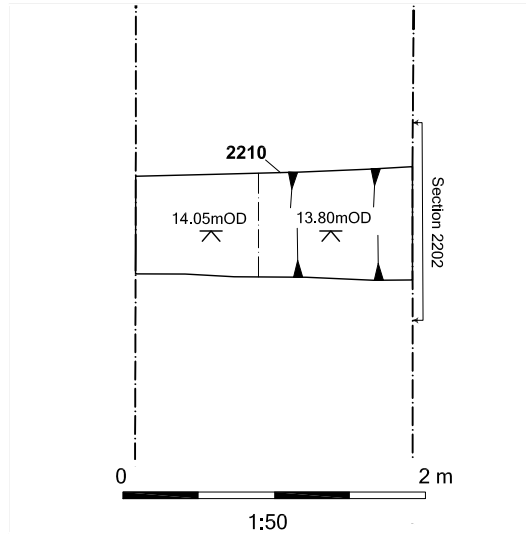
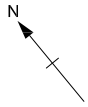
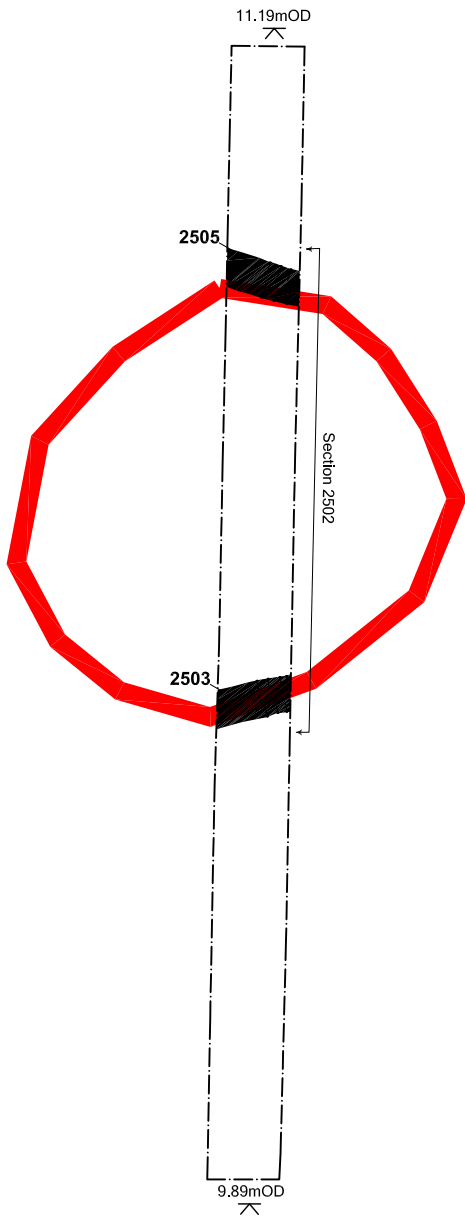



Figure 23: Detailed plan of Trench 22, features 2203, 2206 and 2210



X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase1\_figures\_280314.dwg(Figure 24)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Devon\hannah.kennedy\* 18 Jul 2014



 Ring ditch from geophysical survey

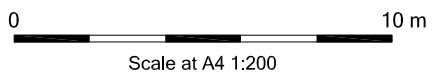
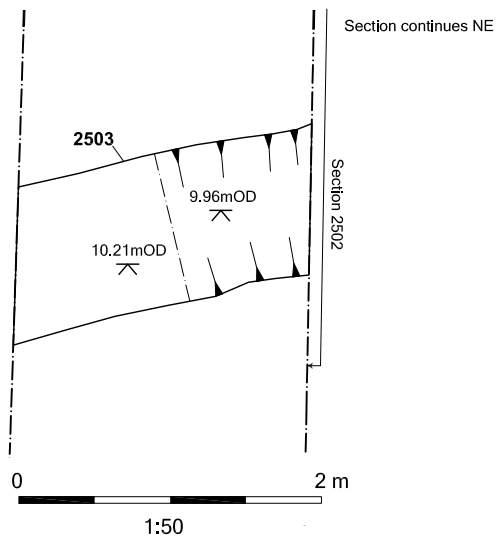
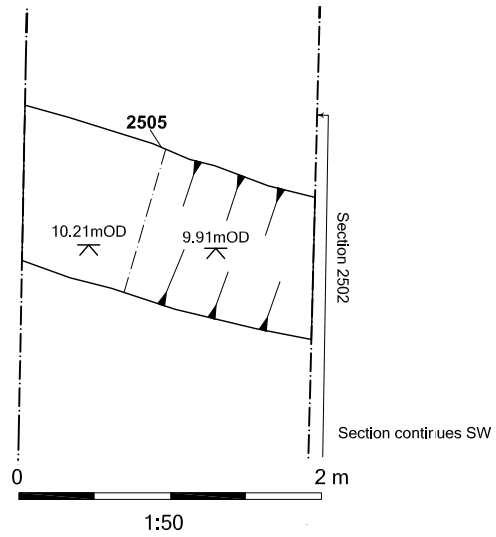
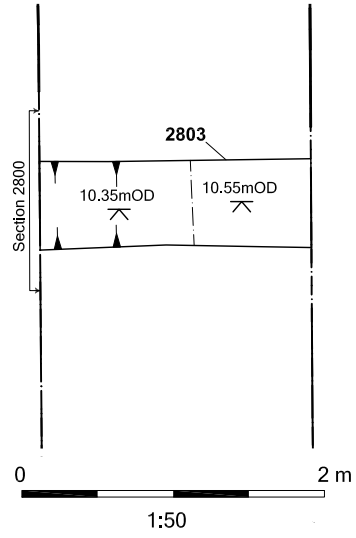
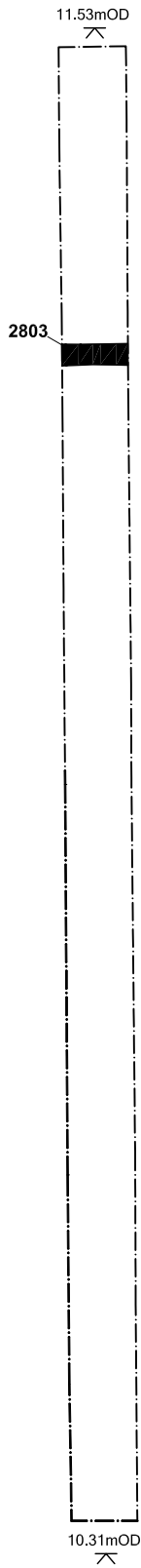


Figure 24: Detailed plan of Trench 25, features 2503 and 2505





X:\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase 1\_figures\_280314.dwg(Figure 25)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Devon\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

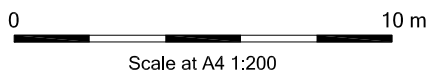


Figure 25: Detailed plan of Trench 28, feature 2803



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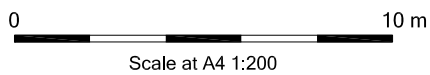
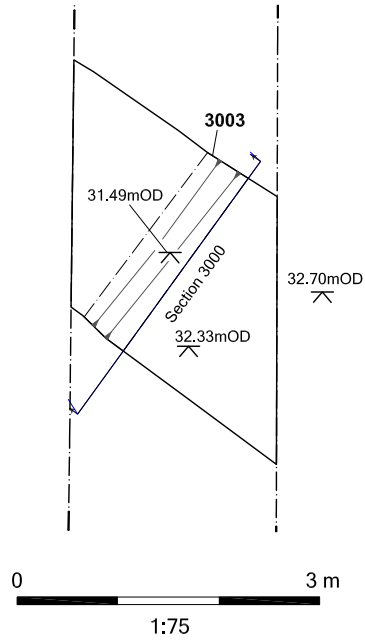
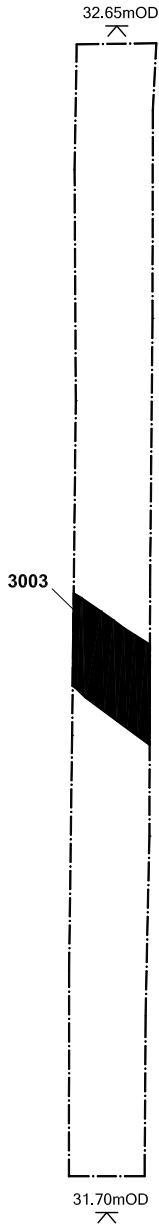
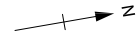


Figure 26: Detailed plan of Trench 30, feature 3003



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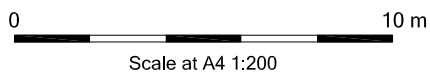
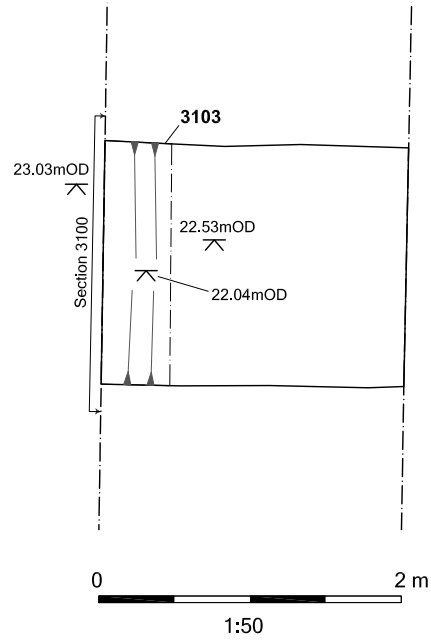
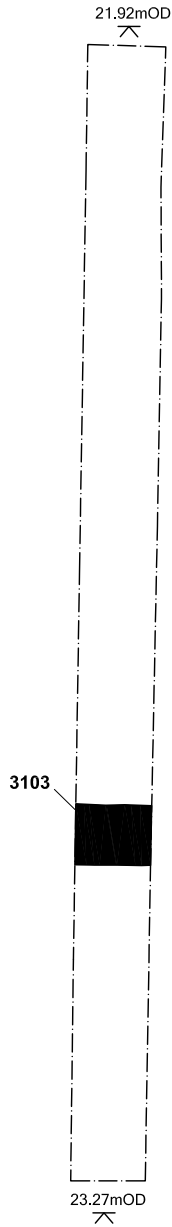
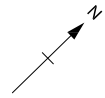


Figure 27: Detailed plan of Trench 31, feature 3103





X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig28)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Exeter\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

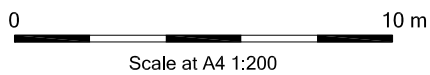
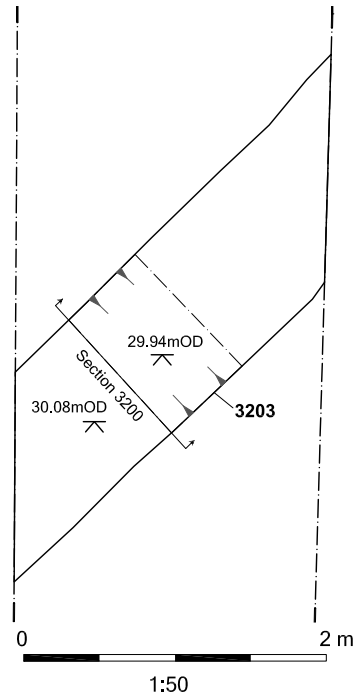
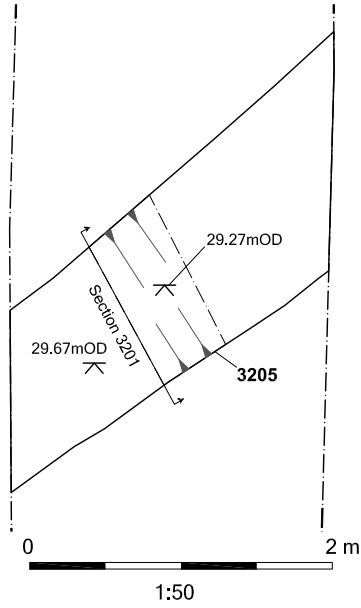


Figure 28: Detailed plan of Trench 32, features 3203 and 3205





X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg (Fig29)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington\_ Exeter\hamah.kennedy\* 15 Jul 2014

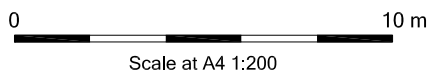
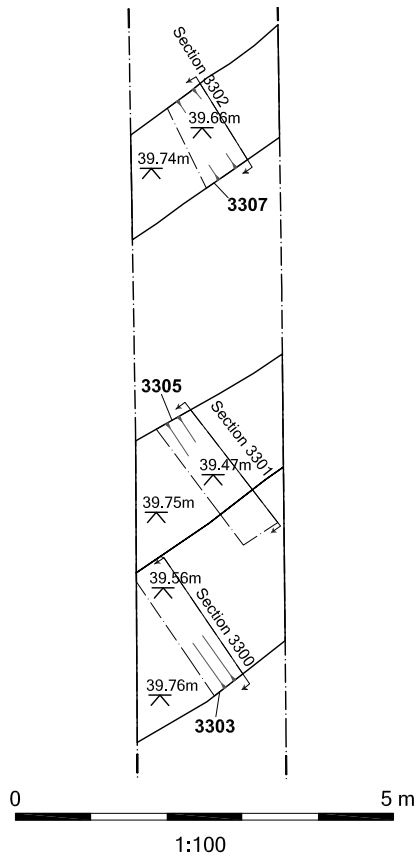
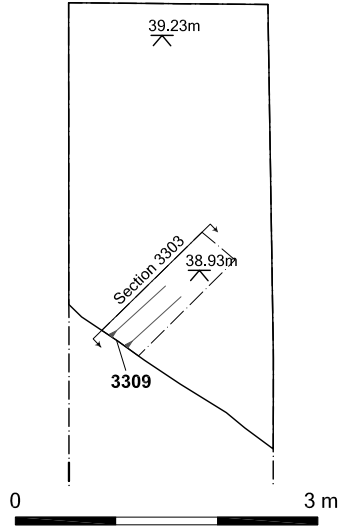
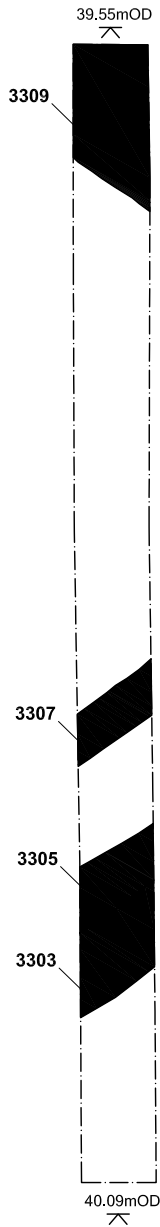


Figure 29: Detailed plan of Trench 33, features 3303, 3305, 3307 and 3309

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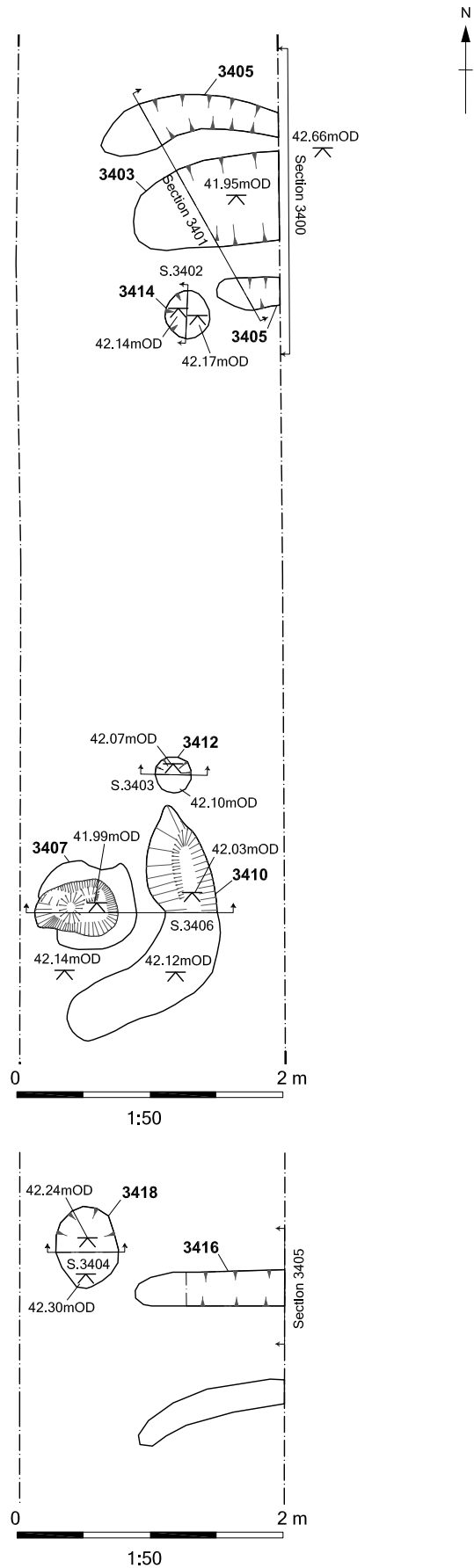
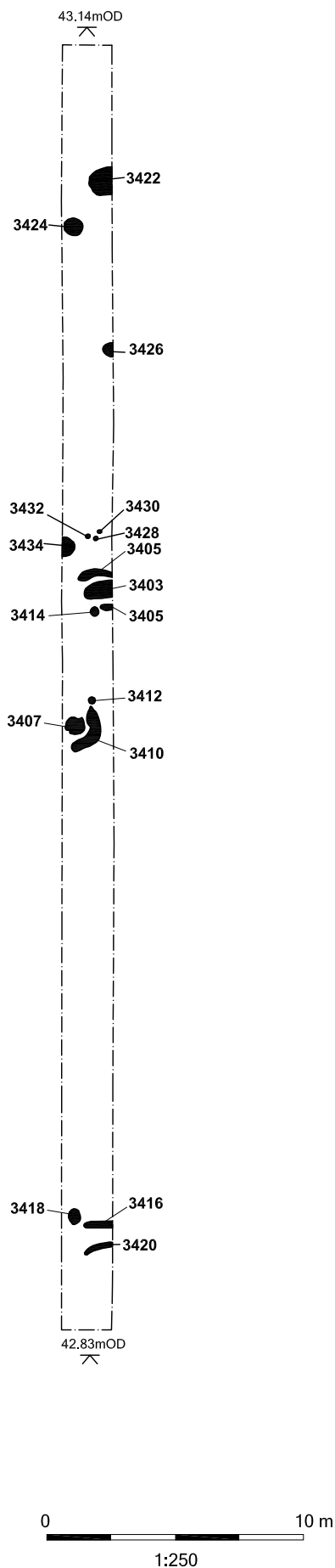


Figure 30: Detailed plan of Trench 34, features 3403, 3405, 3407, 3410, 3412, 3414, 3416, 3418, 3420, 3422, 3424, 3426, 3428, 3430, 3432 and 3434

X:\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig31)\*ALPH13\*ALPHEV\*Alphington, Exeter\hannah.kennedy\* 15 Jul 2014

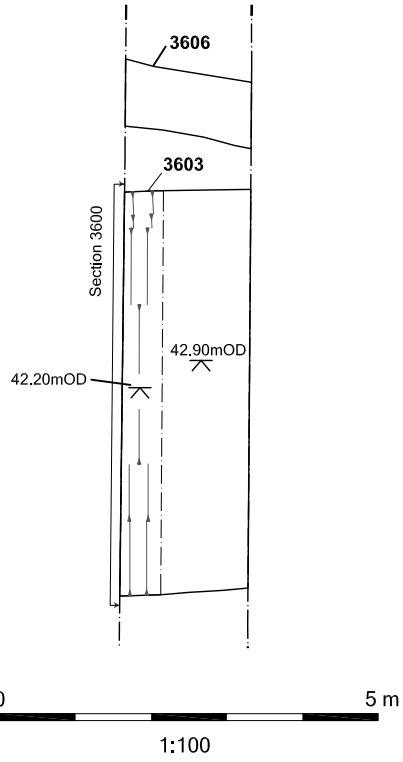
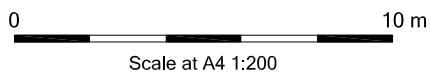
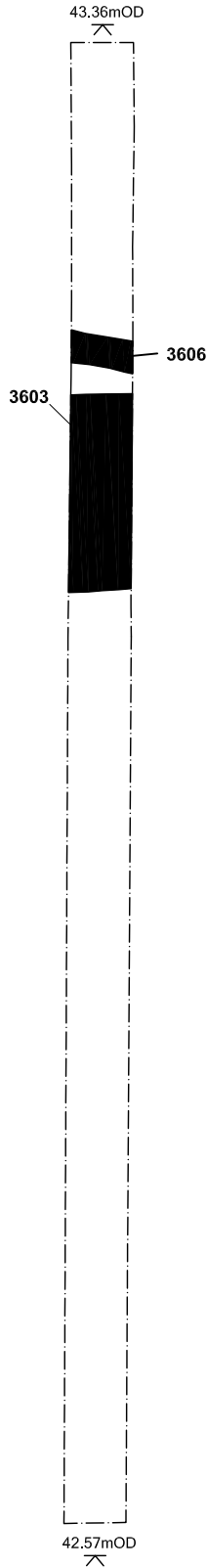
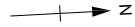
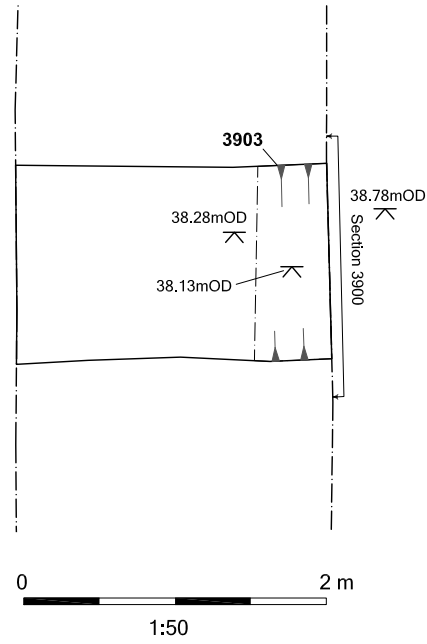
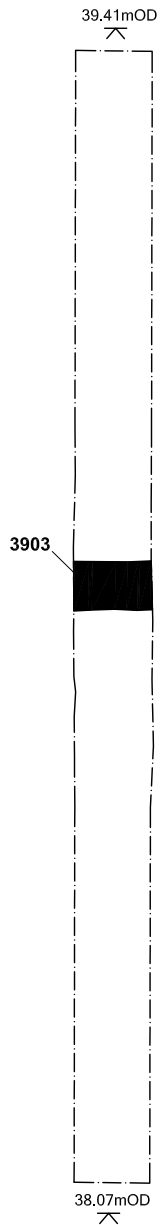
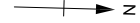


Figure 31: Detailed plan of Trench 36, feature 3603 and 3606



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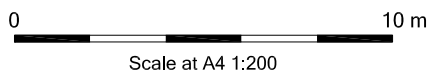


Figure 32: Detailed plan of Trench 39, feature 3903





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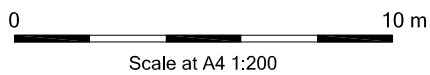
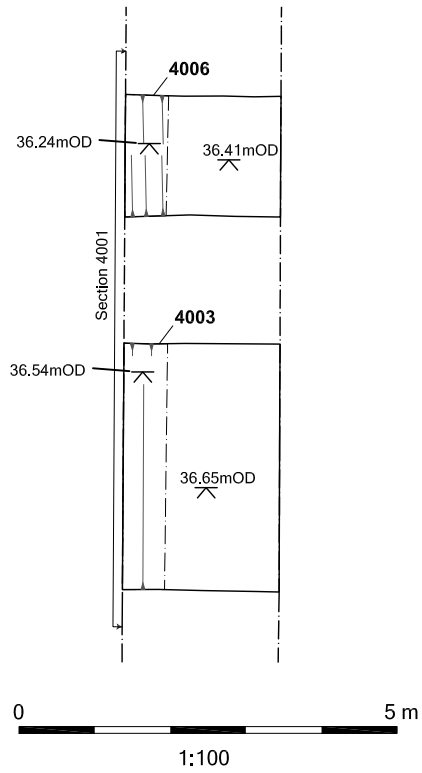
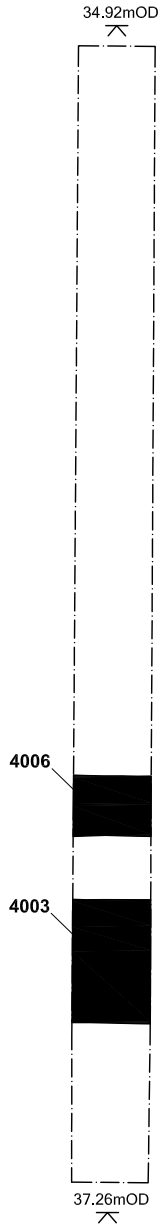


Figure 33: Detailed plan of Trench 40, features 4003 and 4006

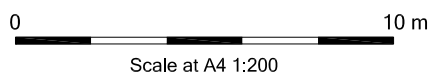
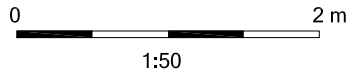
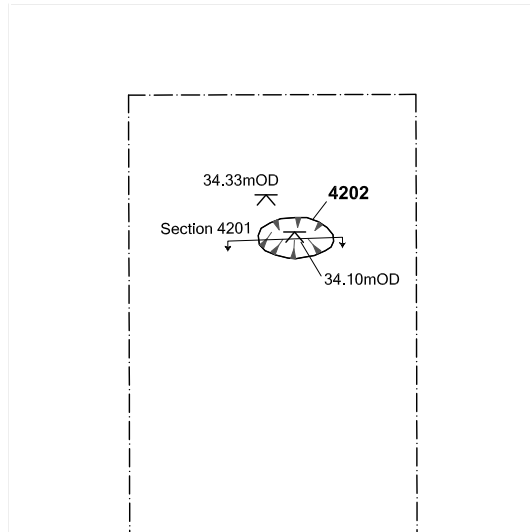
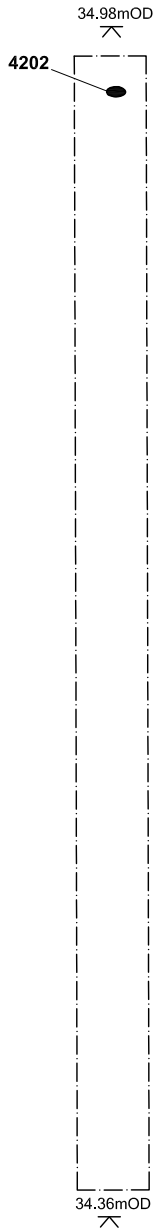


Figure 34: Detailed plan of Trench 42, feature 4202



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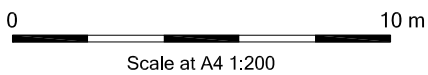
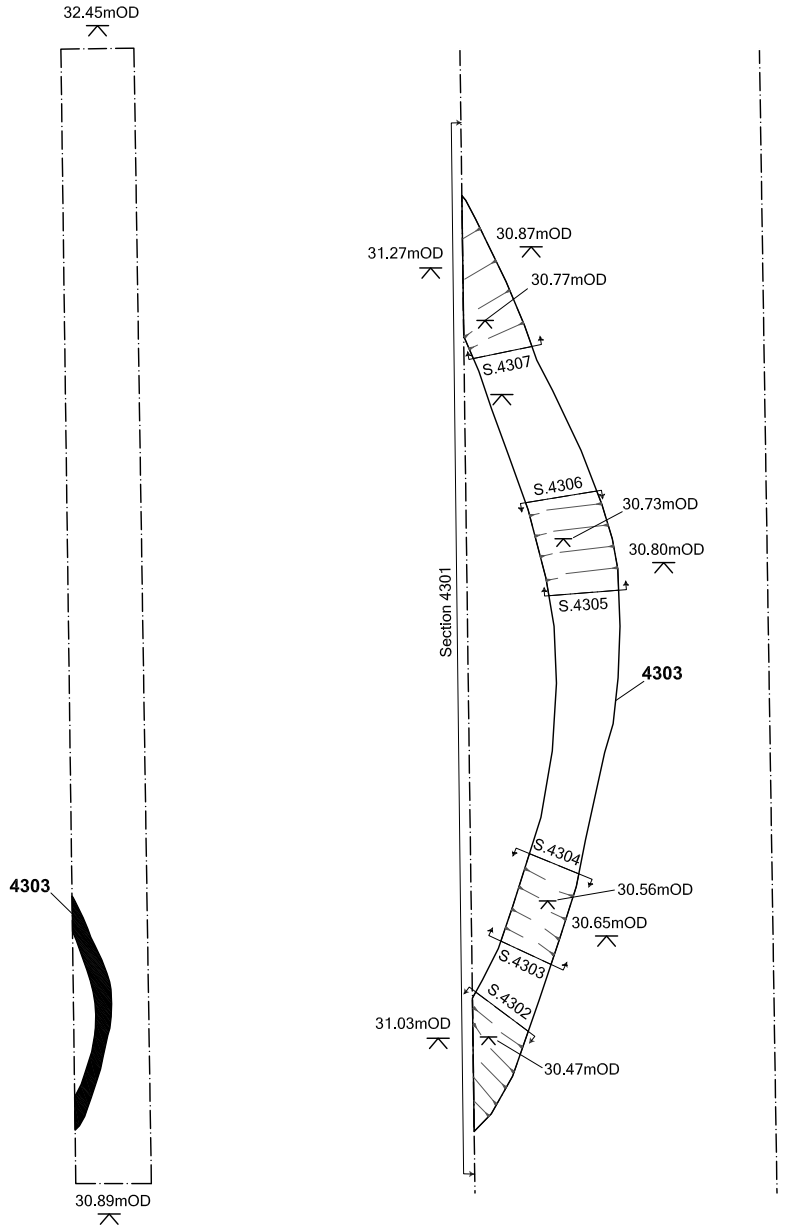
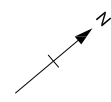


Figure 35: Detailed plan of Trench 43, feature 4303

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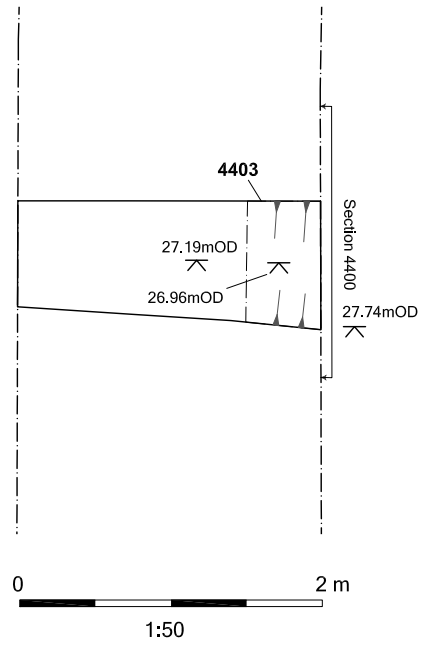
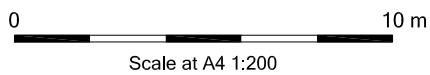
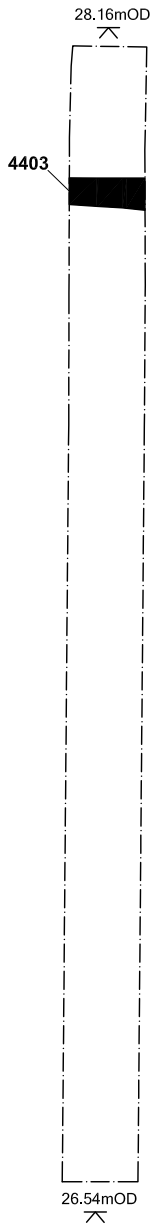
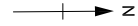


Figure 36: Detailed plan of Trench 44, feature 4403



X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig37)\*ALPH13\*ALPHEV\*Alphington, Exeter\hannah.kennedy\* 15 Jul 2014

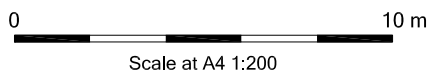
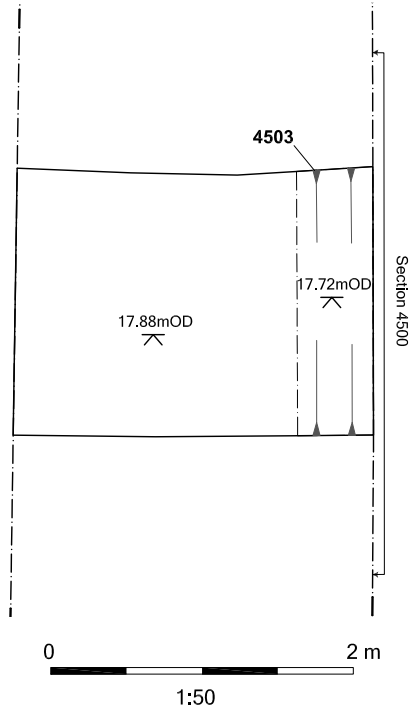
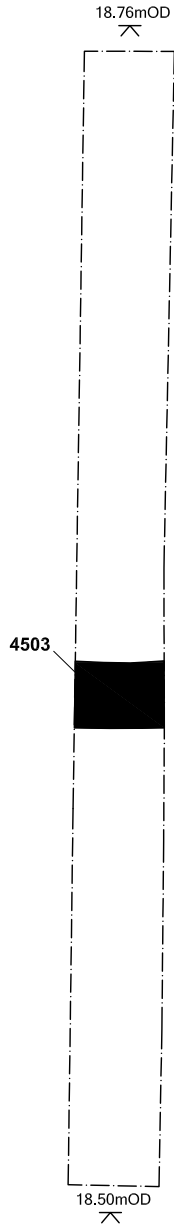


Figure 37: Detailed plan of Trench 45, feature 4503

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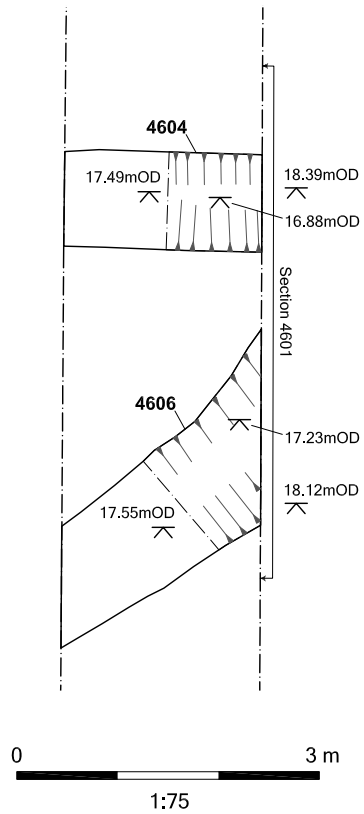
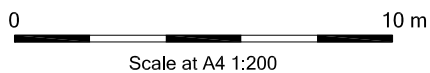
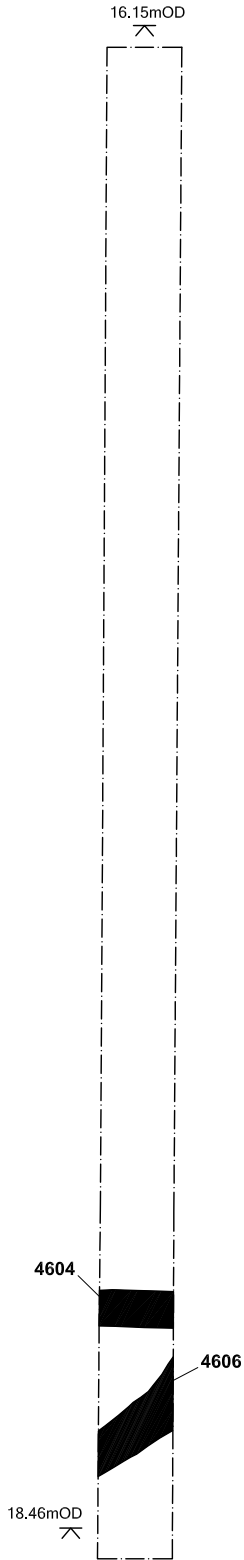


Figure 38: Detailed plan of Trench 46, features 4604 and 4606

X:\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig59)\*ALPH13\*ALPHEV\*Alphington, Exeter\hannah.kennedy\* 15 Jul 2014

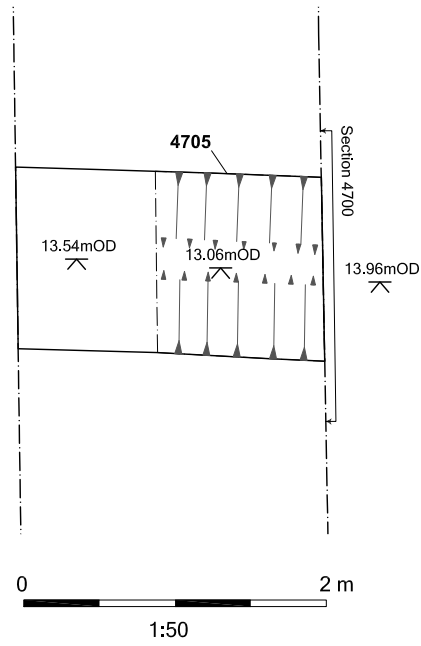
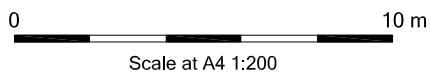
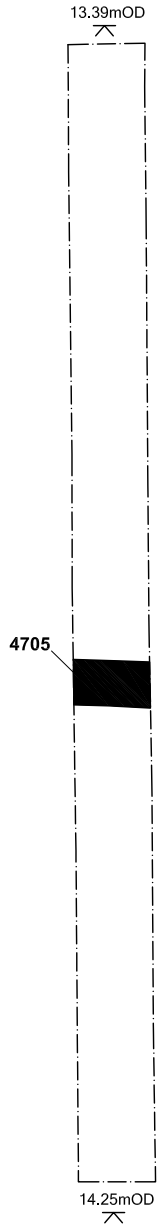
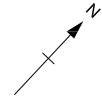


Figure 39: Detailed plan of Trench 47, feature 4705

X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig40)\*ALPH13\*ALPHEV\*Alphington, Exeter\hannah.kennedy\* 18 Jul 2014

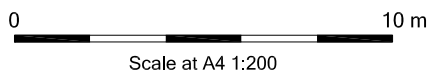
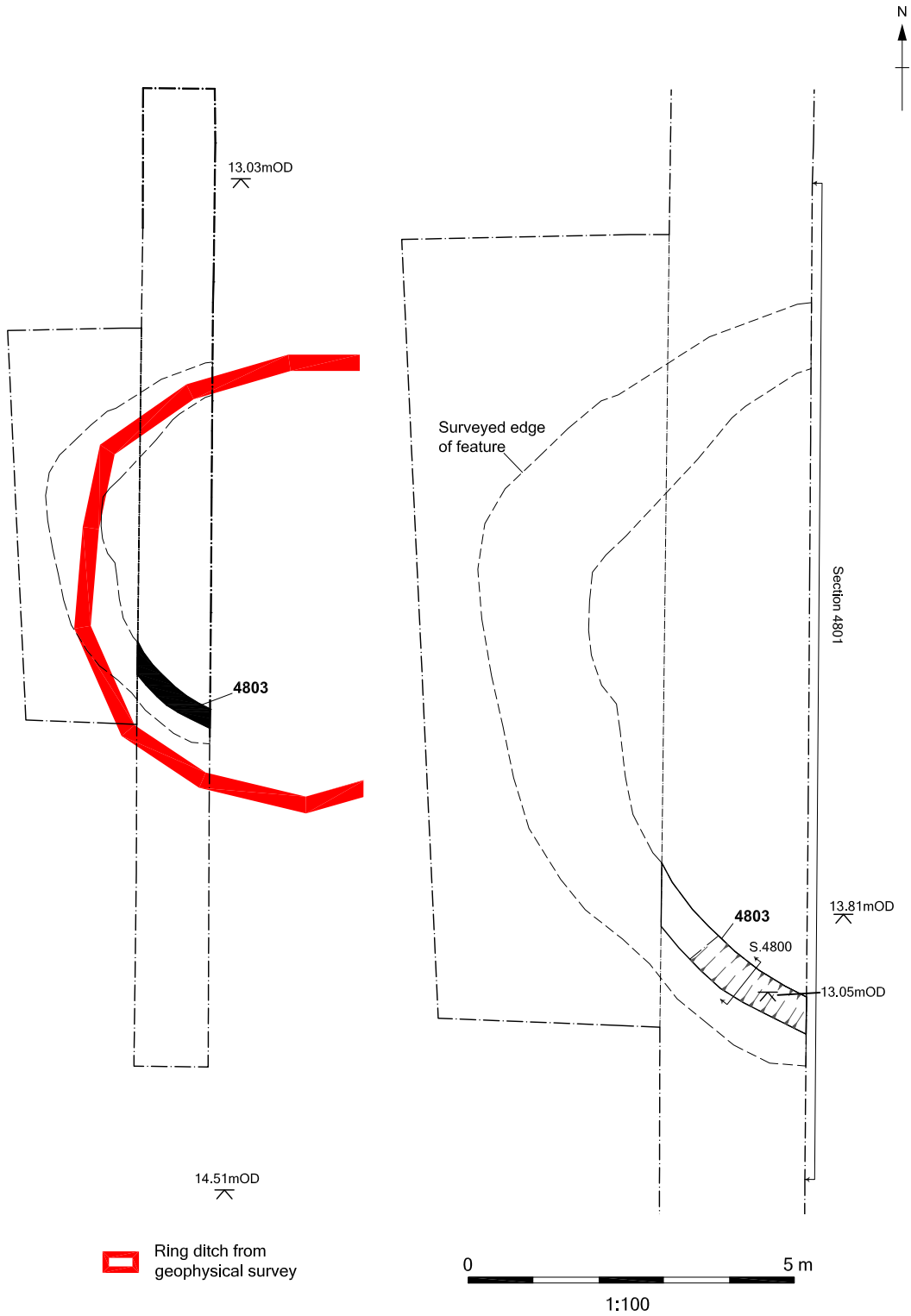


Figure 40: Detailed plan of Trench 48, feature 4803



X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\010\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig41)\*ALPH13\*ALPHEV\*Alphington, Exeter\*Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

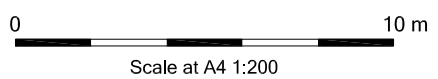
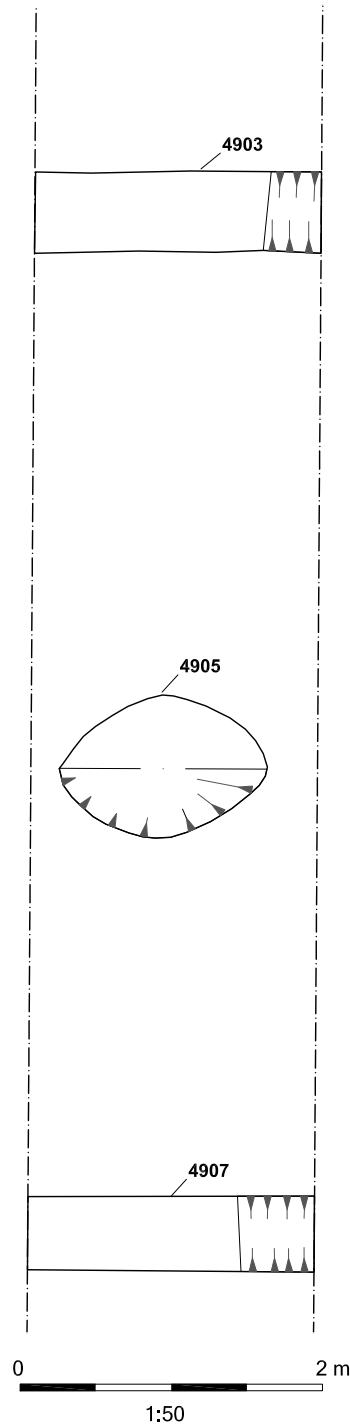
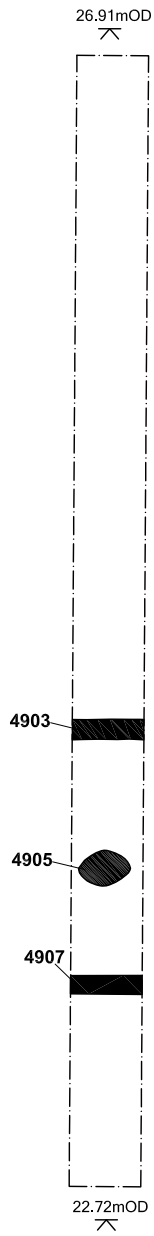
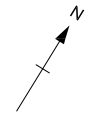


Figure 41: Detailed plan of Trench 49, features 4903, 4905 and 4907

X:\a\ALPHEV\_Alphington Exeter Devon\10\Geomatics\02 CAD\001\current\ALPHEV\_Phase2\_figures\_280314.dwg(Fig42)\ALPH13\ALPHEV\Alphington, Exeter\Lucy.gane\* 08 Jul 2014

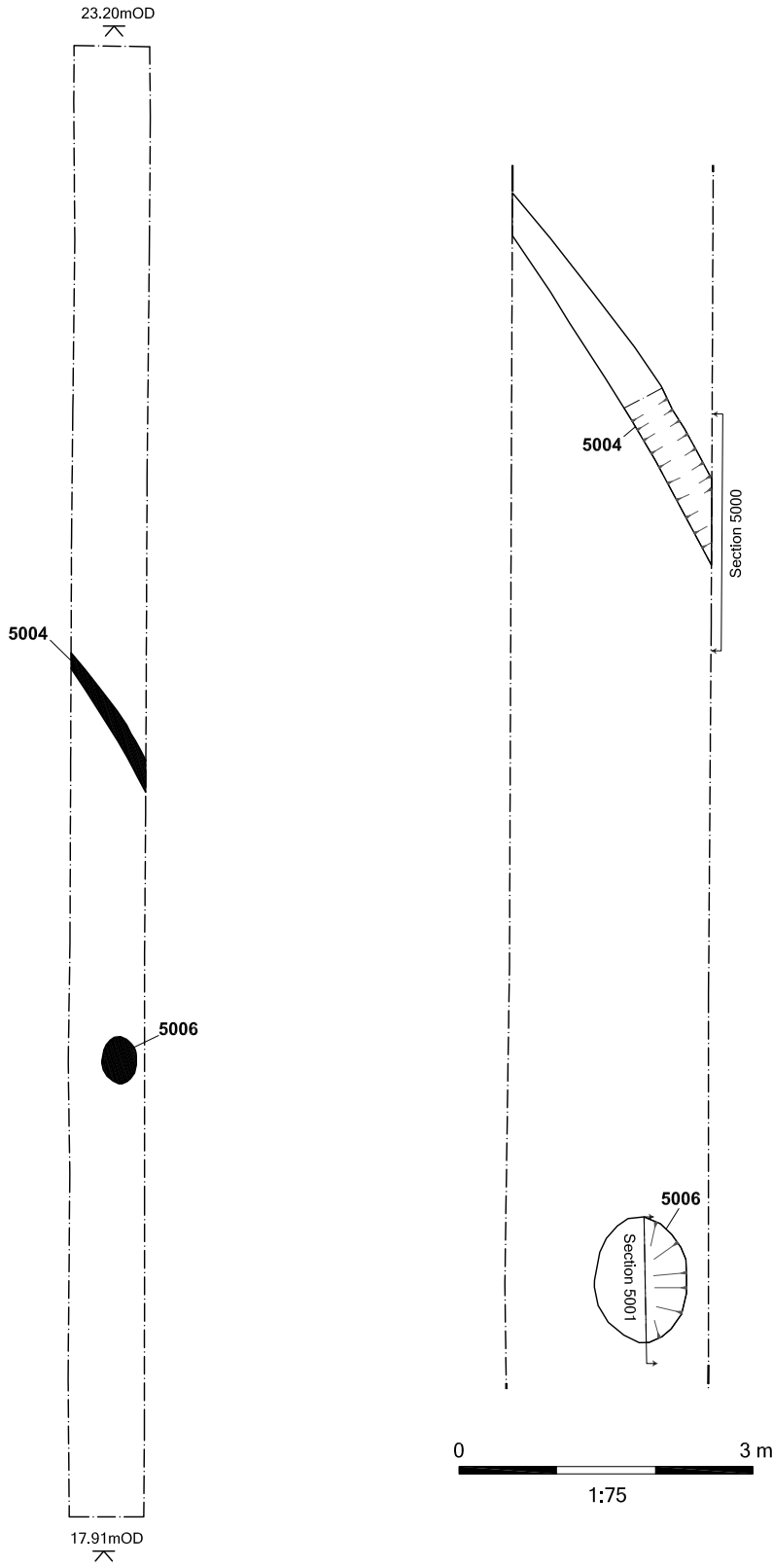


Figure 42: Detailed plan of Trench 50, features 5004 and 5006

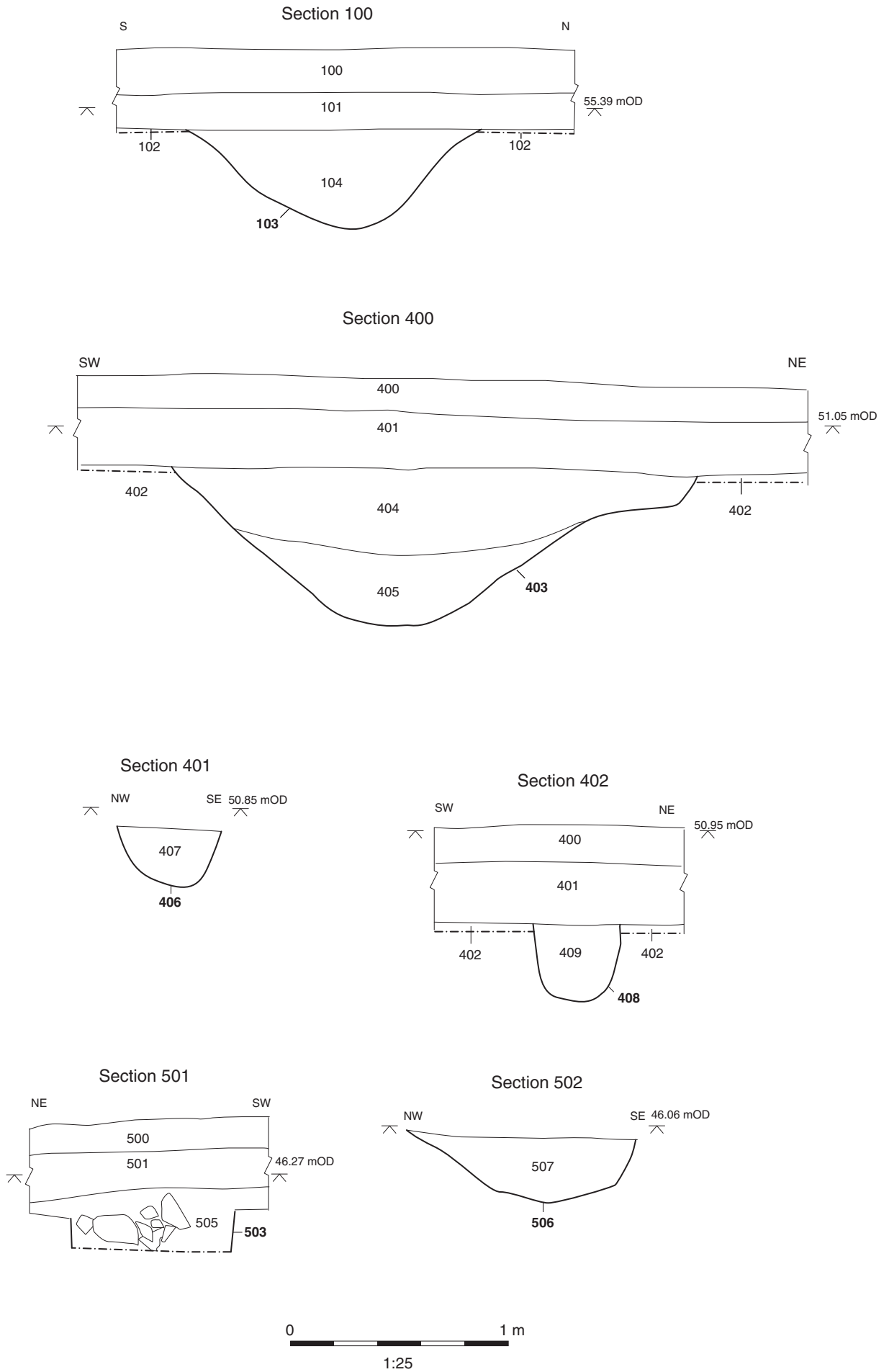


Figure 43: Sections 100, 400, 401, 402, 501, 502

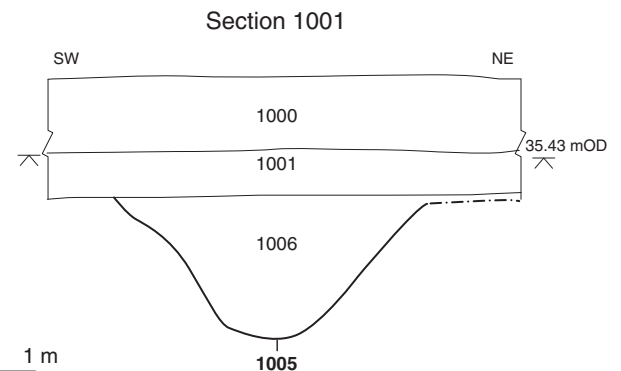
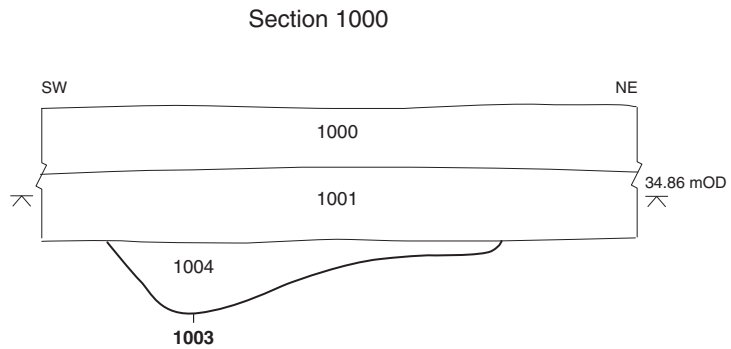
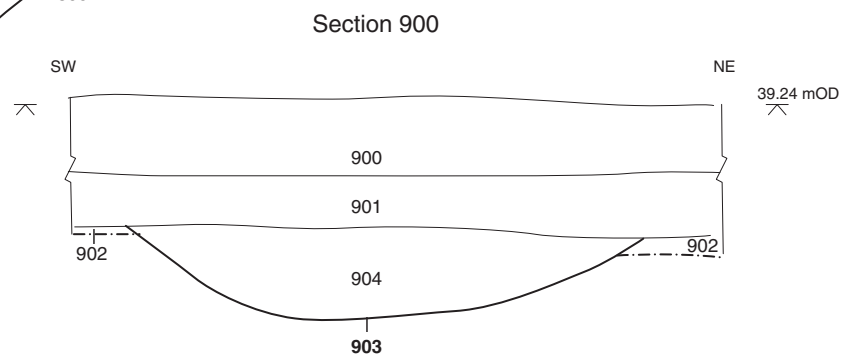
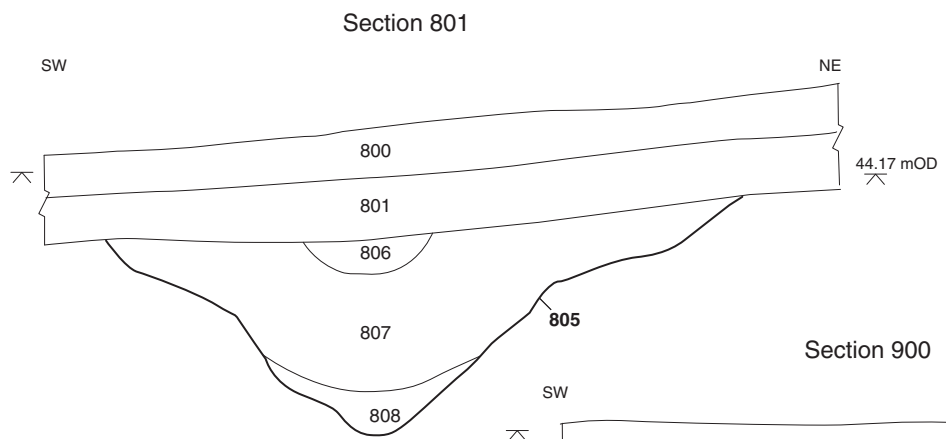
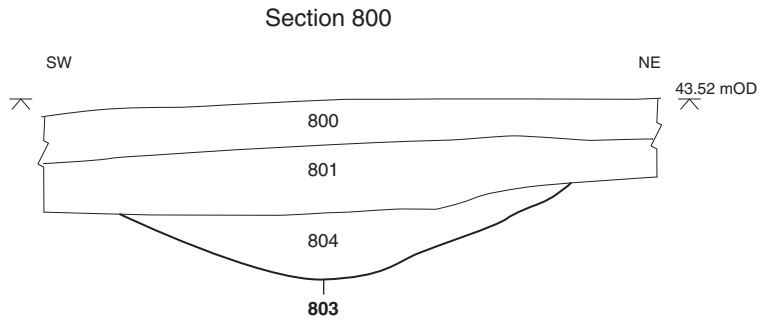
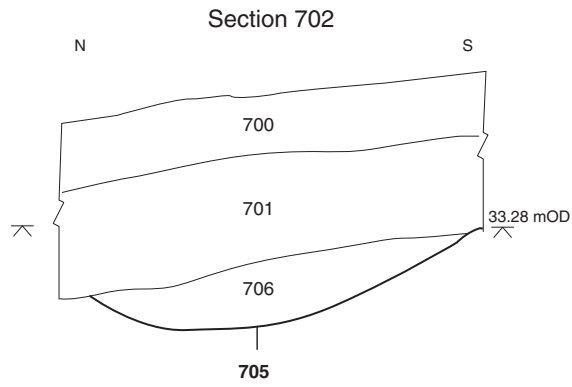
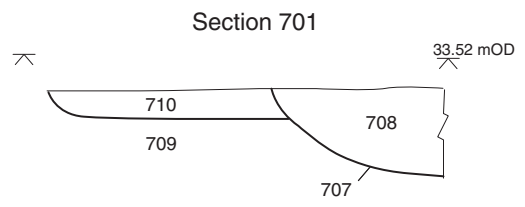
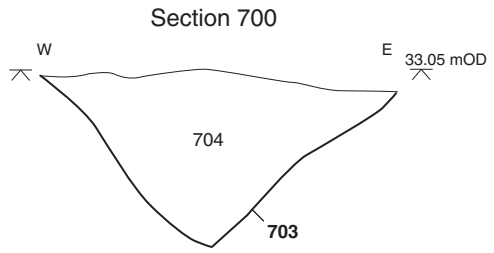


Figure 44: Sections 700, 701, 702, 800, 801, 900, 1000 and 1001

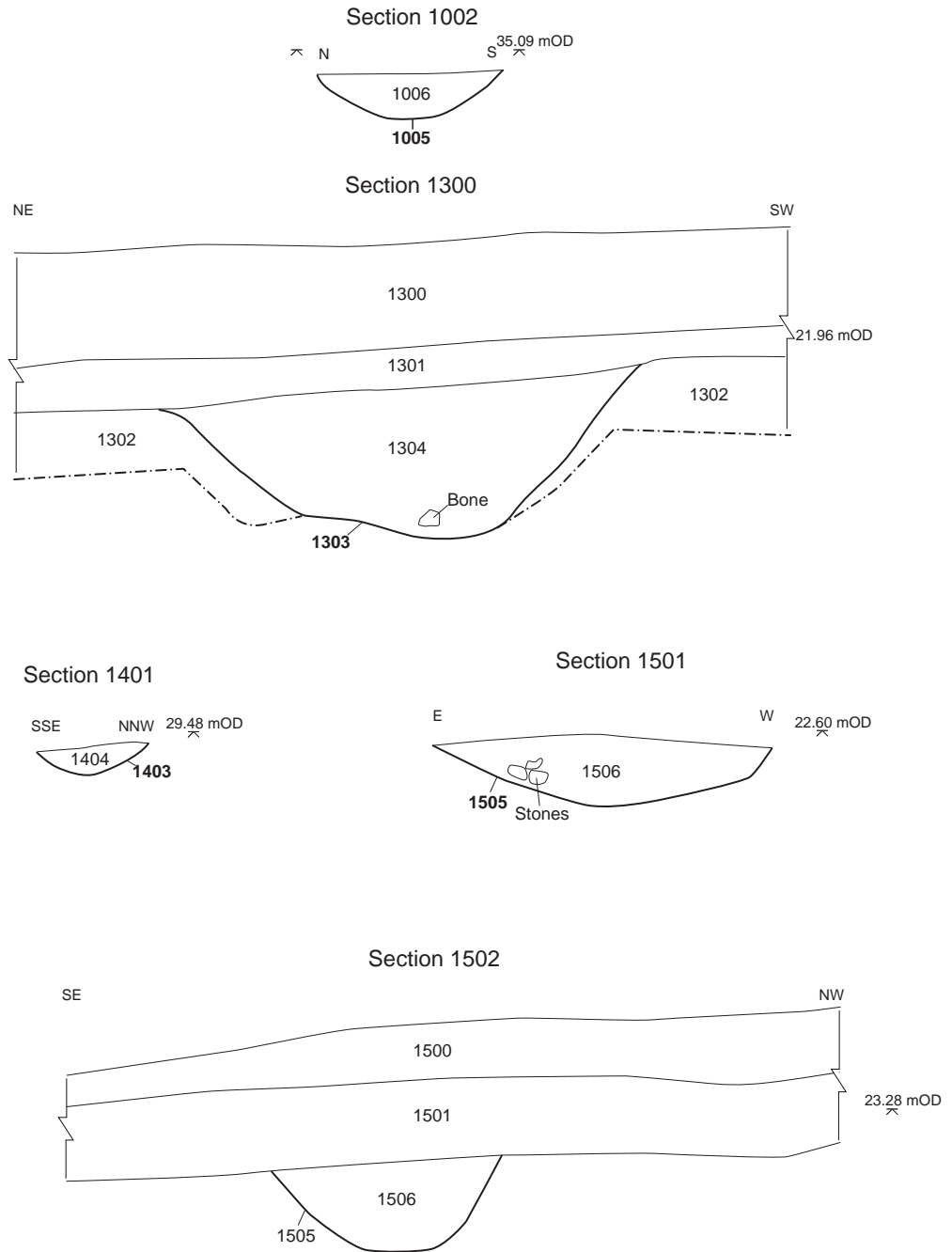


Figure 45: Sections 1002, 1300, 1401, 1501 and 1502

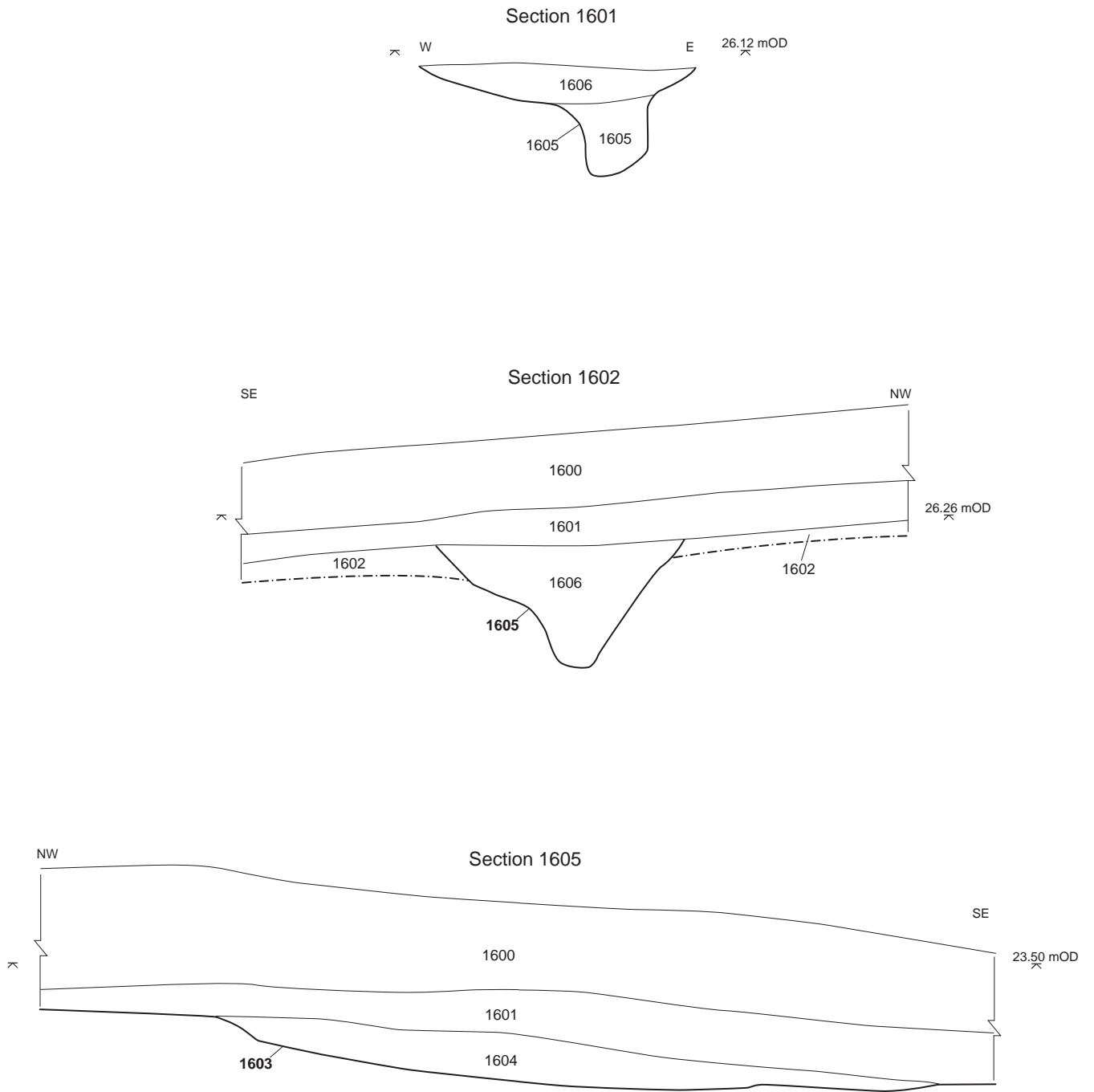


Figure 46: Sections 1601, 1602 and 1605

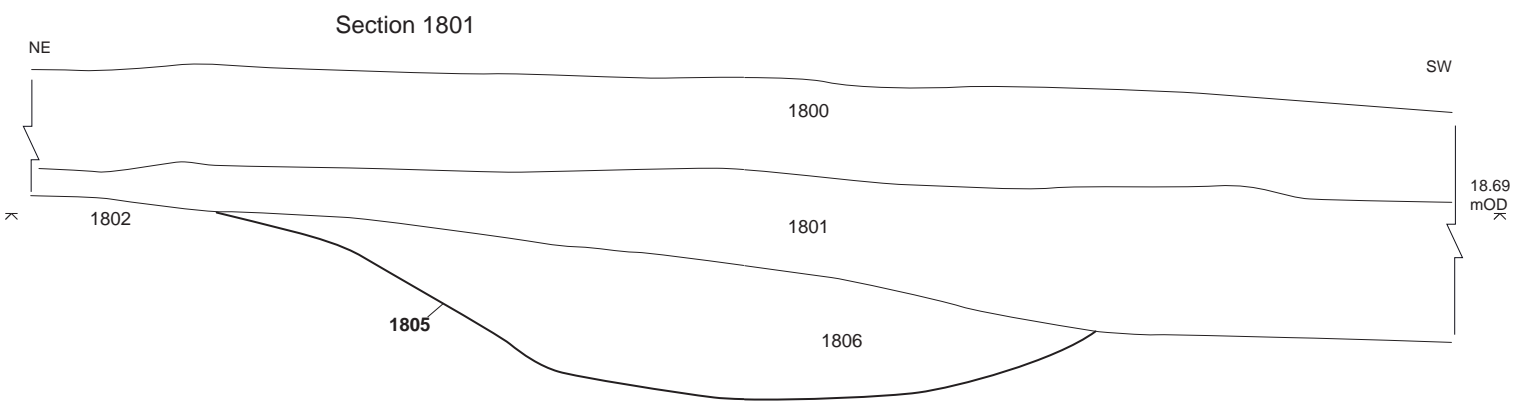
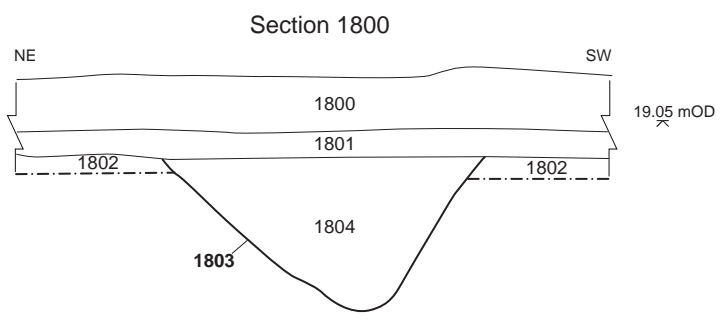
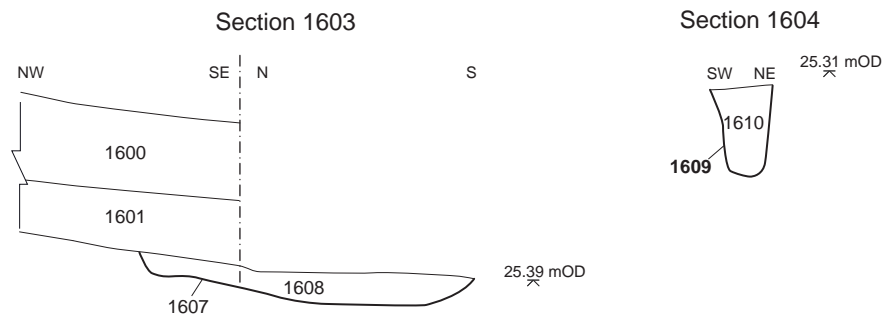


Figure 47: Sections 1603, 1604, 1800 and 1802

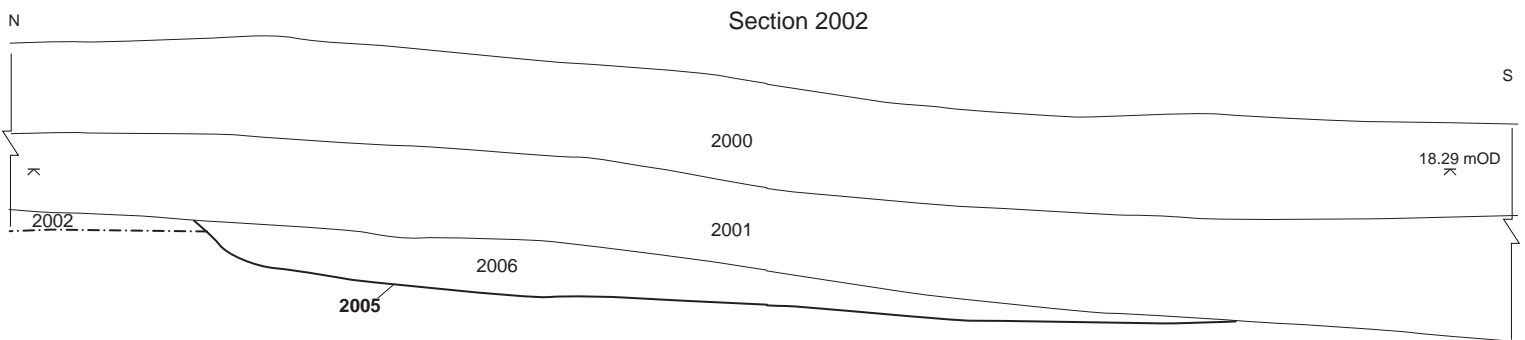
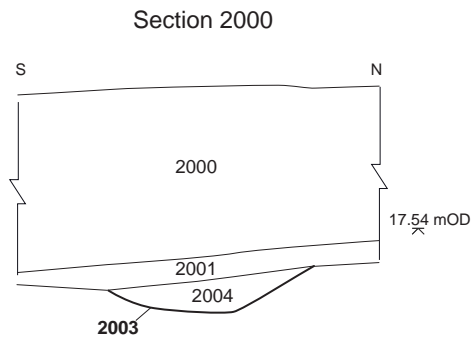
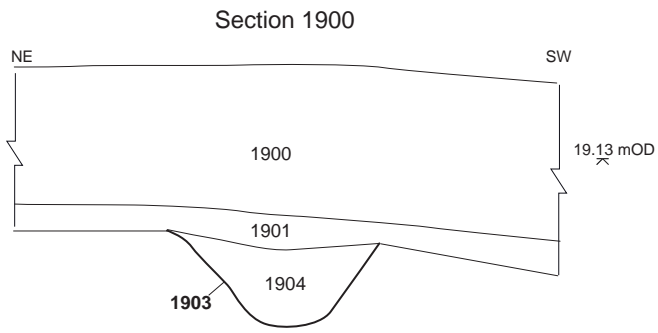


Figure 48: Sections 1900, 2000 and 2002



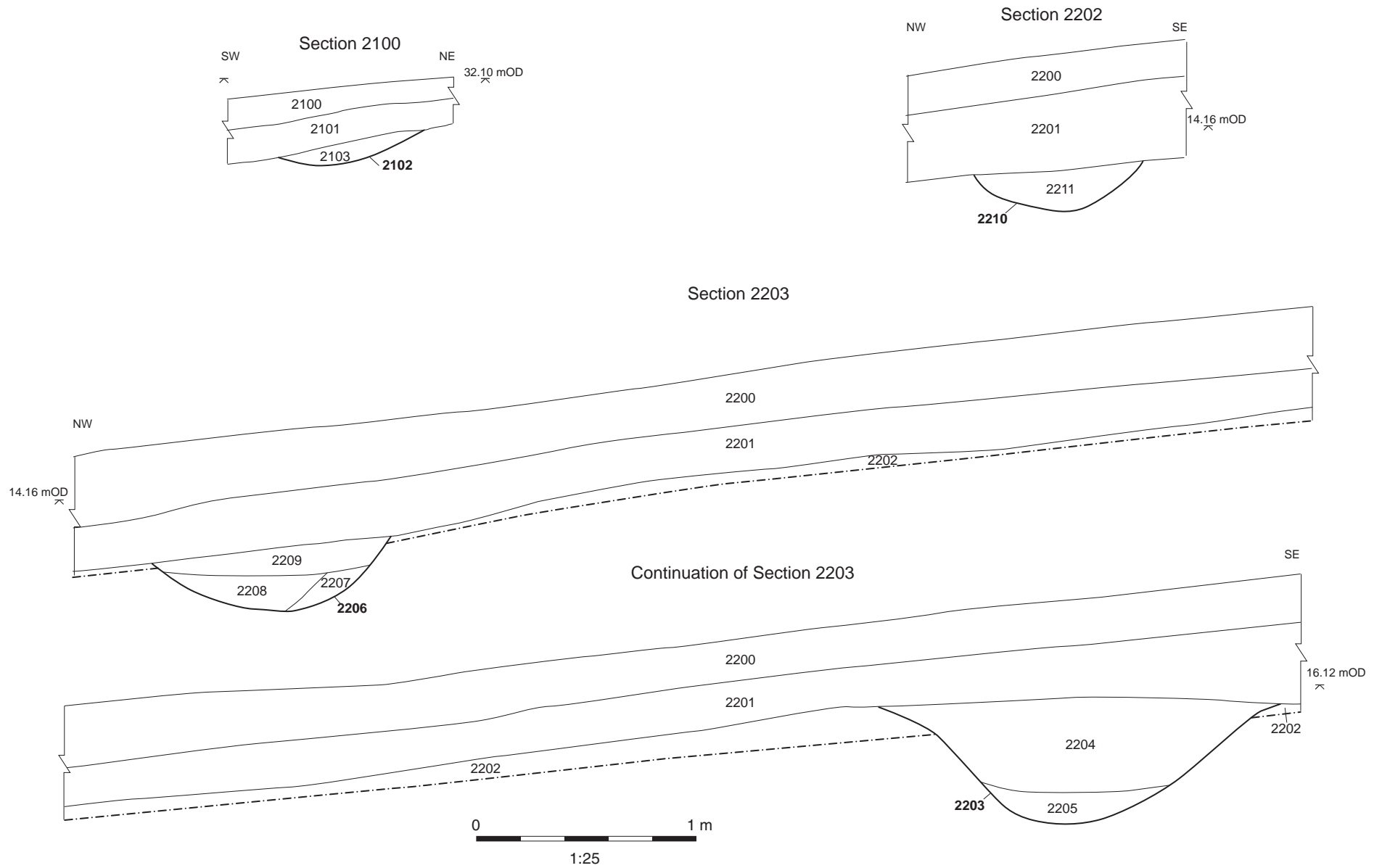
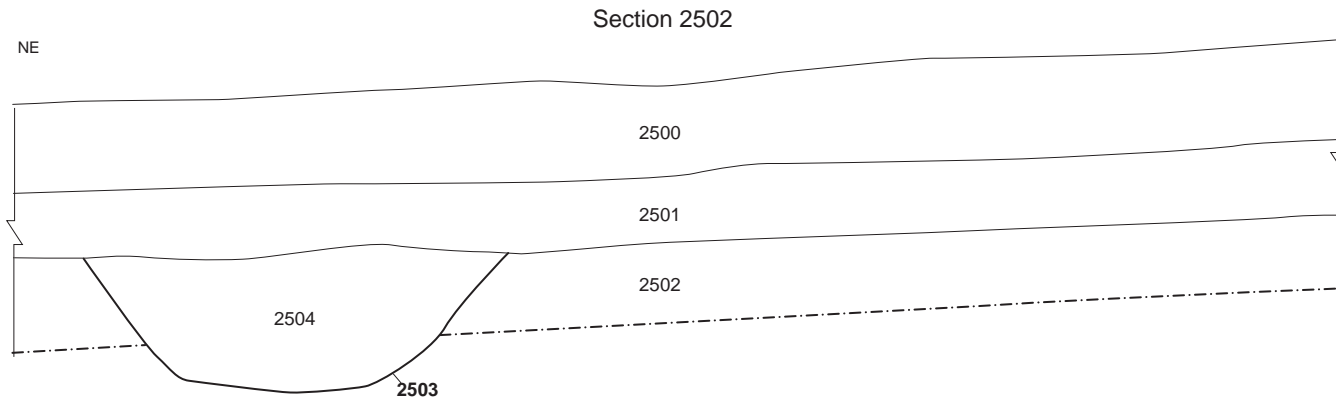
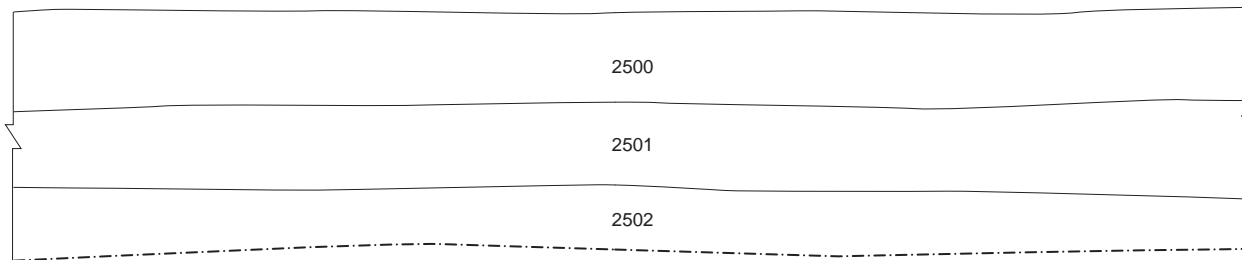


Figure 49: Sections 2202 and 2203



Continuation of Section 2502



Continuation of Section 2502

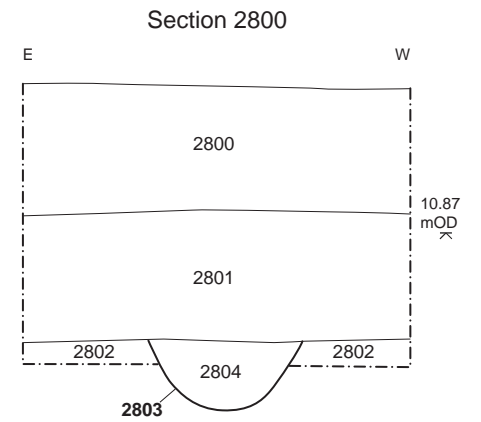
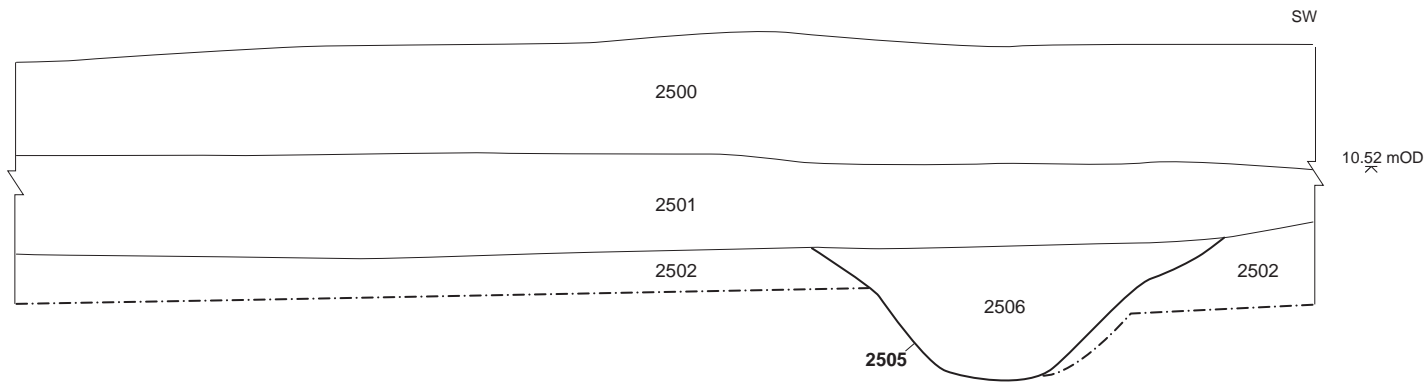


Figure 50: Sections 2502 and 2800

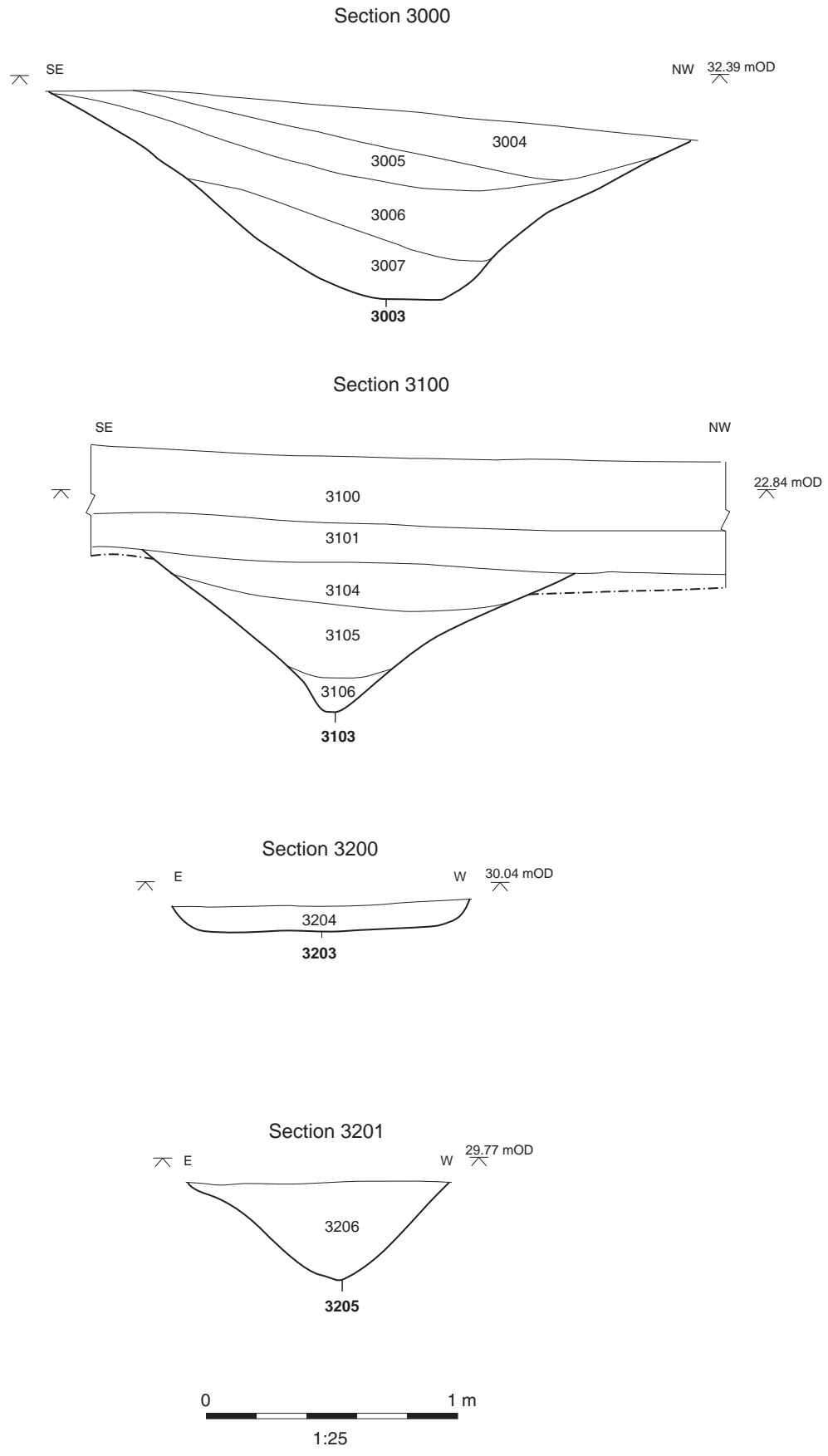


Figure 51: Sections 2100, 3000, 3100, 3200, 3201

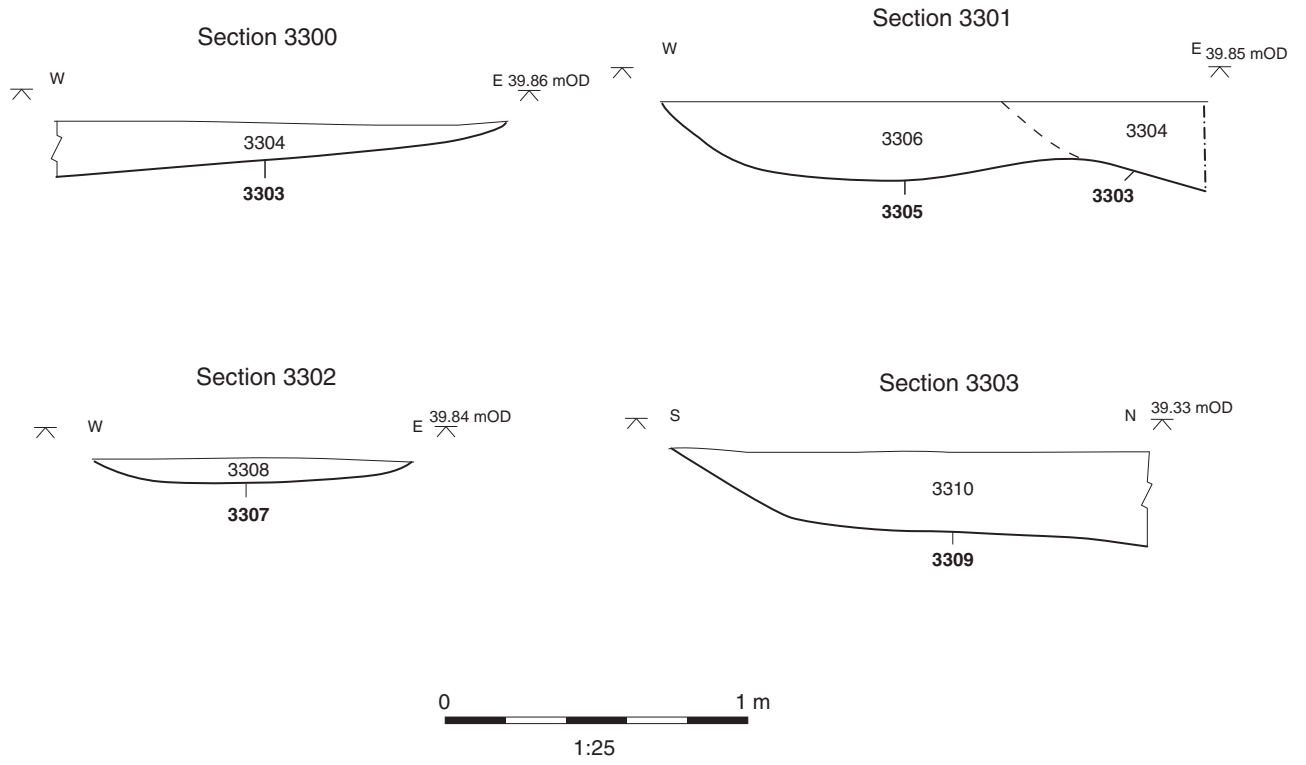


Figure 52: Sections 3300, 3301, 3302 and 3303

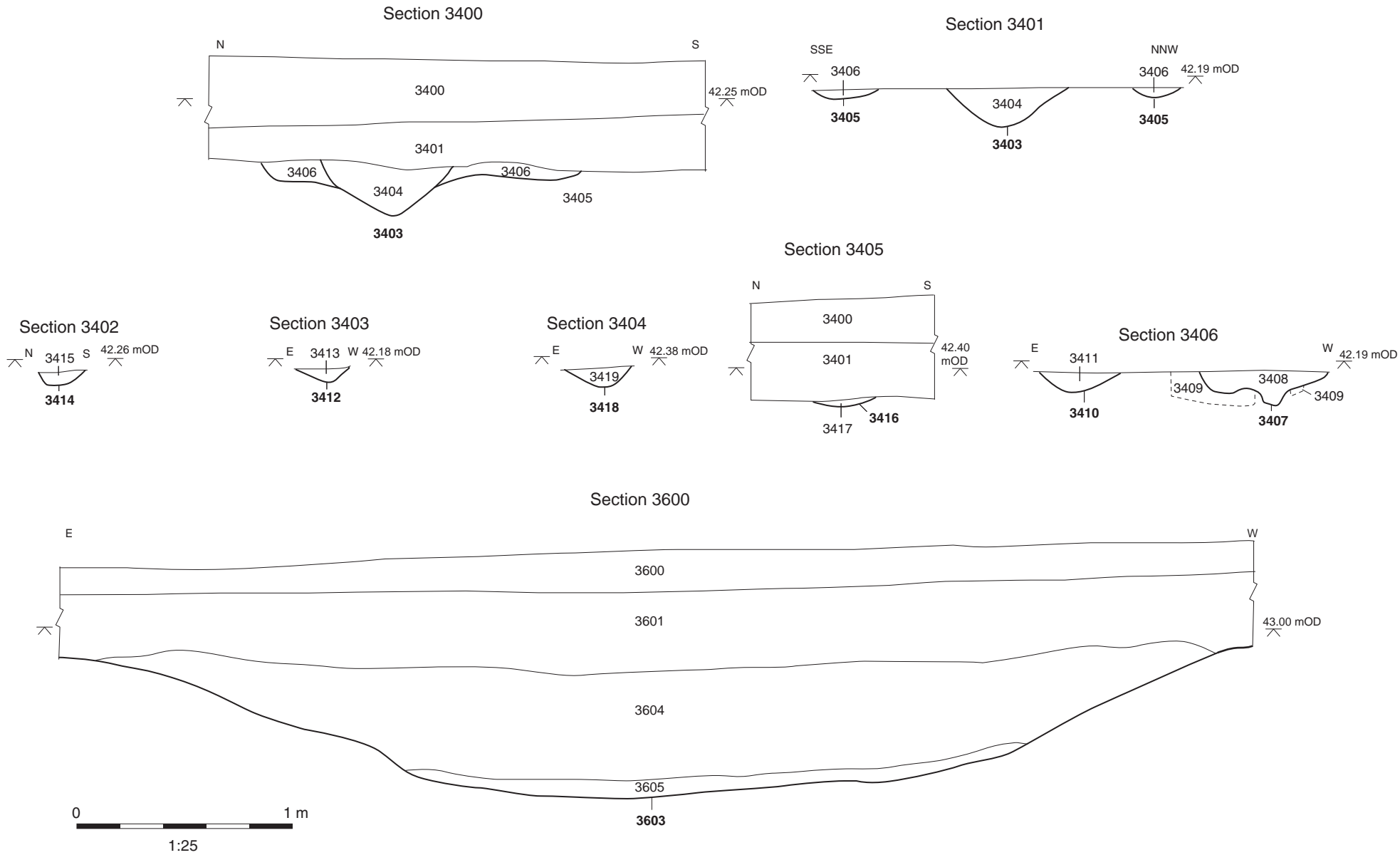


Figure 53: Sections 3400, 3401, 3402, 3403, 3404, 3405, 3406 and 3600

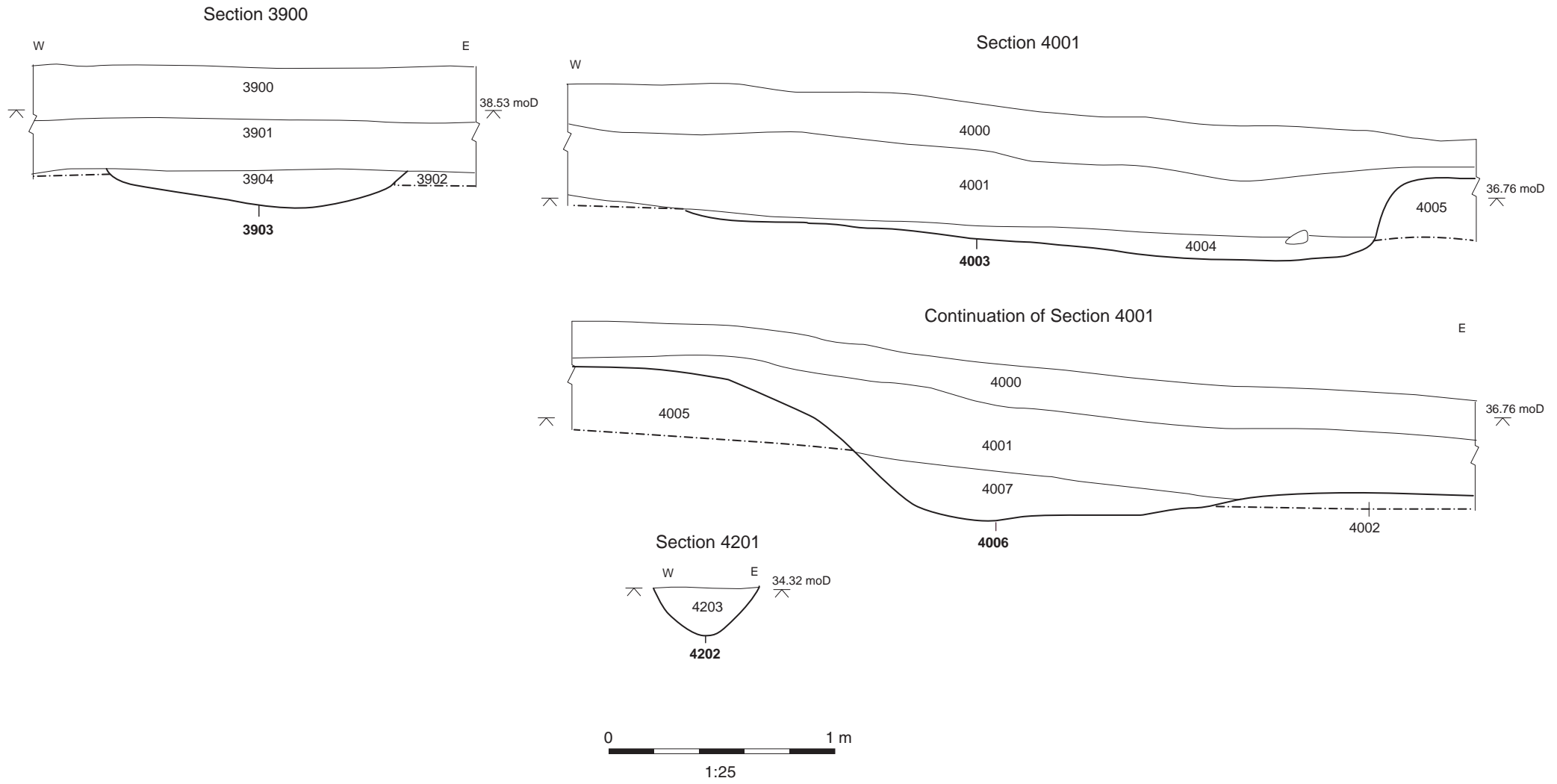


Figure 54: Sections 3900, 4001 and 4201

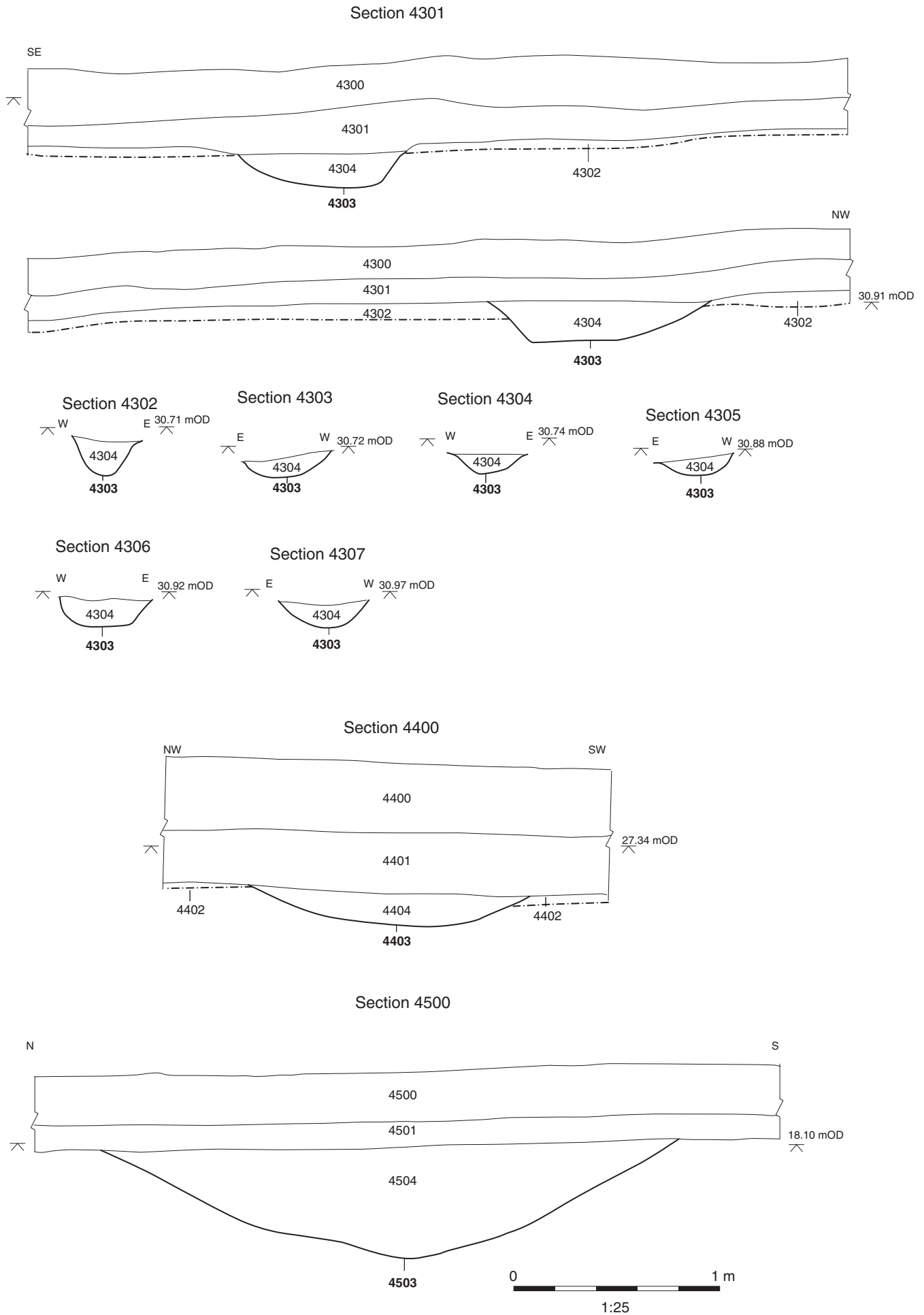


Figure 55: Sections 4301, 4302, 4303, 4304, 4305, 4306, 4307, 4400 and 4500

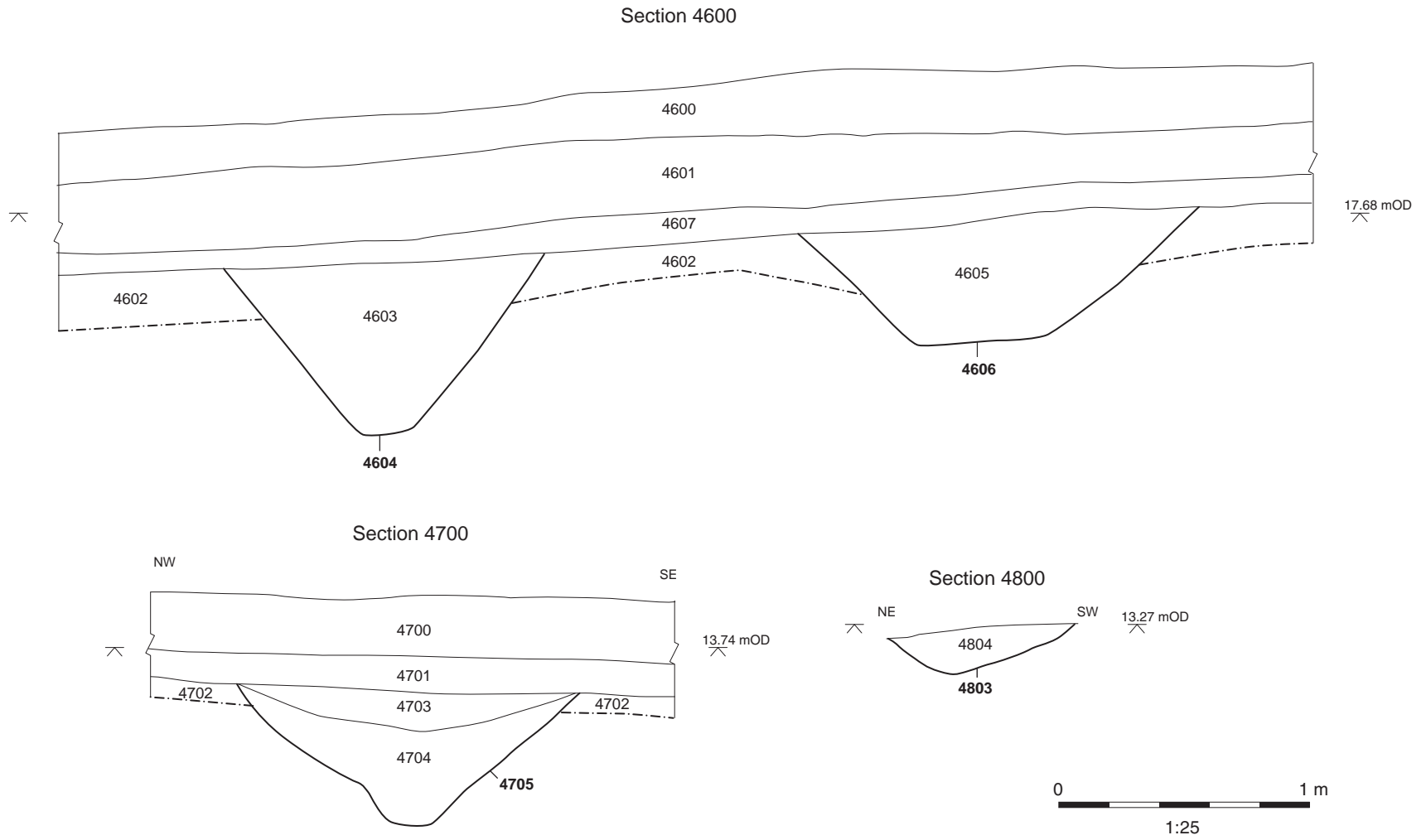


Figure 56: Sections 4600, 4700 and 4800



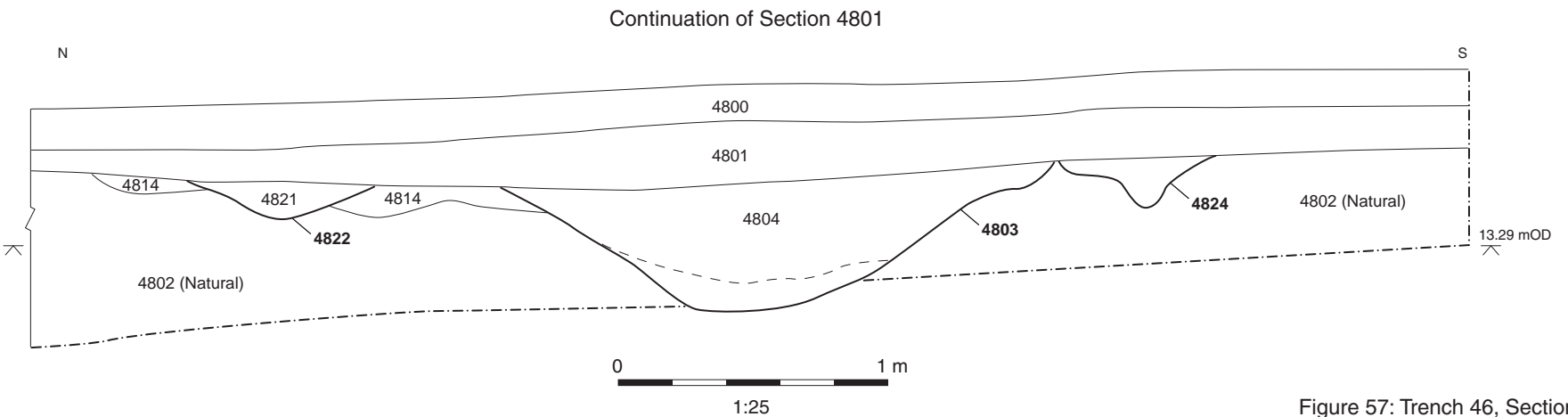
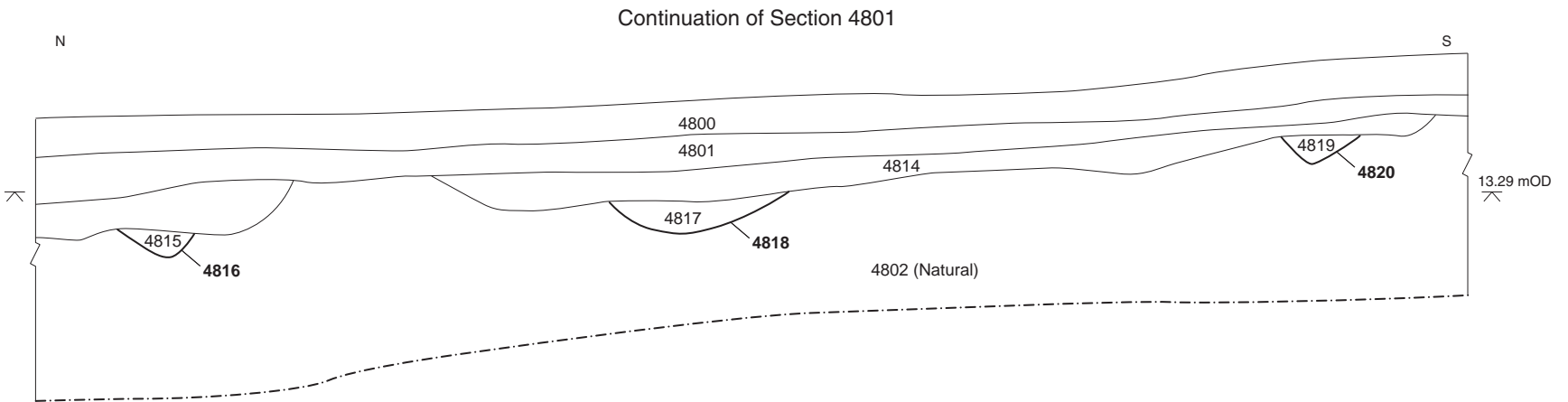
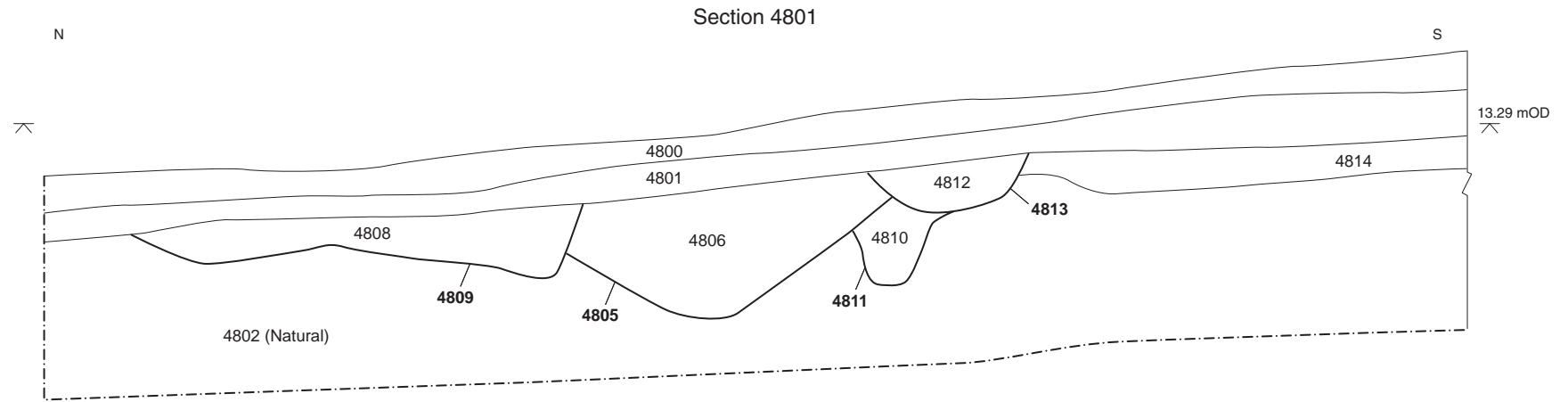


Figure 57: Trench 46, Section 4801

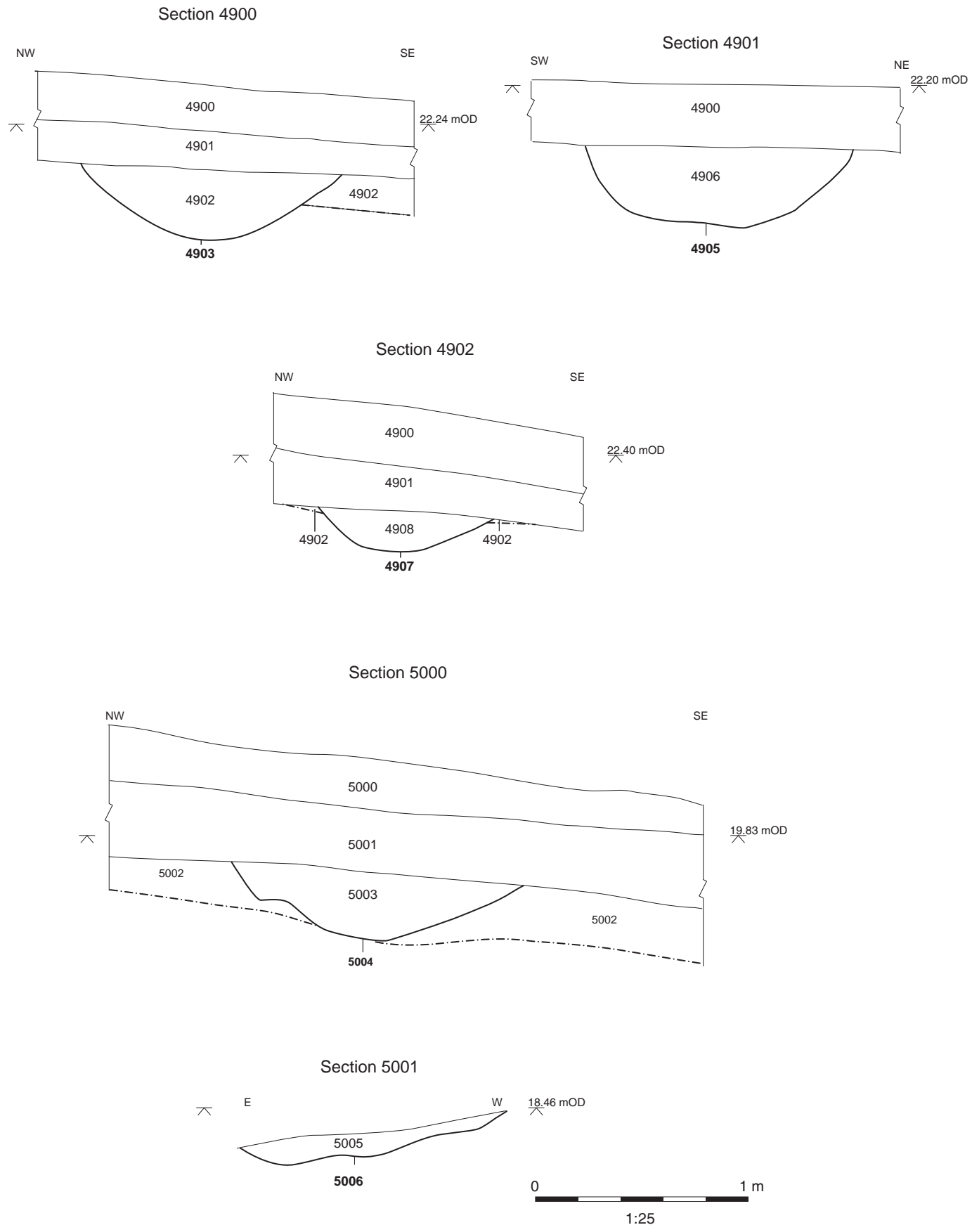


Figure 58: Section 4900, 4901, 4902, 5000 and 5001

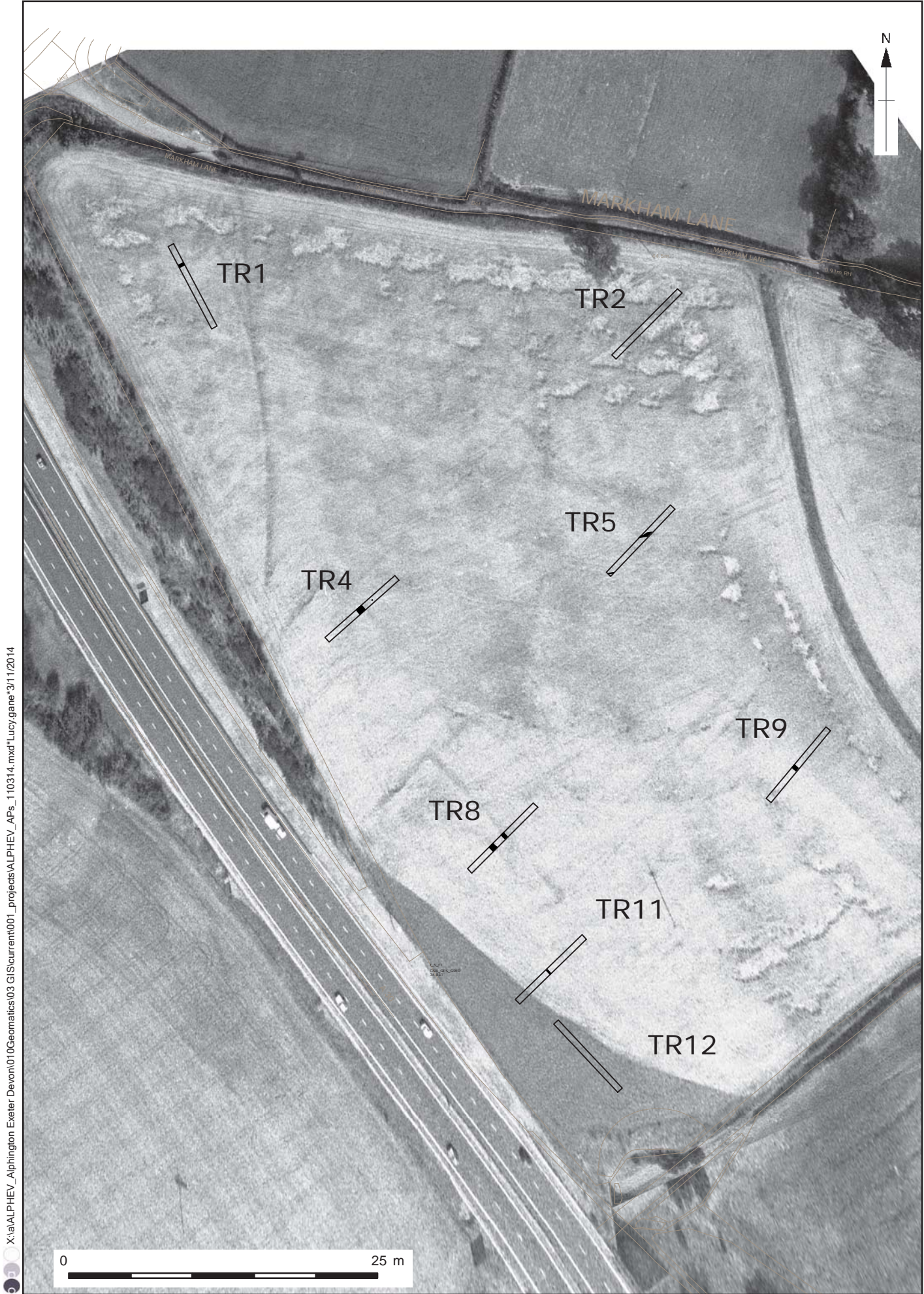


Figure 59: Trench plan and archaeological features overlaid on aerial photograph of Site 4 (supplied courtesy of Devon County Council HER)





Plate 1: Trench 5, structure 505



Plate 2: Trench 8, enclosure ditch 803





Plate 3: Trench 8, enclosure ditch 805



Plate 4: Trench 15, ditch 1503 profile





Plate 5: Trench 16 general view



Plate 6: Trench 16, ditch 1605 profile





Plate 7: Trench 19, ditch 1903 profile



Plate 8: Trench 22, general view





Plate 9: Trench 22, ring ditch 2206 profile



Plate 10: Trench 25, general view





Plate 11: Trench 25, ring ditch 2505 profile



Plate 12: Trench 34, hearth 3407 and crescent shaped gully 3410





Plate 13: Trench 43, ring ditch 4303



Plate 14: Trench 47, ditch 4705





Plate 15: Trench 48, ring ditch 4803





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