

A421 Improvements: M1 Junction 13 to Bedford



Archaeological Evaluation Report



November 2009

**Client: Balfour Beatty
Civil Engineering Ltd**

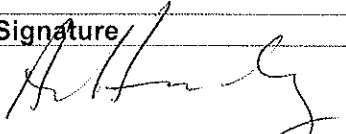
Balfour Beatty
Civil Engineering

Issue No: 2

OA Job No: 4238

NGR: SP 955 375 to TL 045 465

Client Name: Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd
 Client Ref No:
 Document Title: A421 Improvements: M1 Junction 13 to Bedford
 Document Type: Evaluation Report
 Issue/Version Number: 2
 Grid Reference: SP 955 375 to TL 045 465
 Planning Reference:
 OA Job Number: 4238
 Site Code: A421BD08
 Invoice Code: A421BDEX
 Receiving Museum: Bedford Museum
 Museum Accession No: BEDFM2008.313
 Event No:

Issue	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by	Signature
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Document File Location Projects3 on 'SAN Storage (Server21-db)\A421_M1_to_Bedford\002Reports\007 Evaluation Report\A421 evaluation\Updated with Martin Oake comments\A421_evaluation_report v2.odt
 Graphics File Location \\Servergo\invoice codes a thru h\A_invoice codes\A421BDEX_Eval_report
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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

During November 2008 Oxford Archaeology carried out an archaeological field evaluation on behalf of Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd along the proposed route of the A421 Improvements: M1 Junction 13 to Bedford, between NGR SP 955 375 and TL 045 465.

The evaluation has identified ten areas of archaeological remains. Six of these (Trench 48; Trench 54; Trenches 59-61; Trenches 91-2; Trenches 97-100; Trenches 114-120) are interpreted on the basis of the range of features and finds recorded as being possible settlement sites of late Iron Age or Roman date. Two further areas, where groups of ditches of uncertain date were recorded, may represent field boundaries forming part of a contemporary rural landscape. This pattern is consistent with the general picture established for rural areas of Bedfordshire during the late Iron Age and Roman period, which consists of small settlements interspersed with areas of fields.

Only one of these sites, that in Area 7 (Trenches 114-120), has been identified as continuing in use into the later part of the Roman period. This subsequent decline in the number of settlements in relation to the late Iron Age/early Roman period may be attributed to the adoption of a less dispersed settlement pattern, with settlement becoming focused on villa estates.

During the medieval period settlement became more nucleated, and this is demonstrated in the case of the current project by the limitation of remains of this period to a small area east of Lower End Farm, approximately defined by trenches 31, 34, 37 and 38. These remains form part of the deserted medieval village of Lower End, which extends into the development corridor at this location. The ubiquitous presence of furrows resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation indicates that much of the area encompassed by the scheme was farmland during this period.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 During November 2008, Oxford Archaeology carried out an archaeological field evaluation on behalf of Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd along the proposed route of the A421 Improvements: M1 Junction 13 to Bedford, between NGR SP 955 375 and TL 045 465 (Fig. 1). The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Scott Wilson Ltd on behalf of the Highways Agency (HA 2008a).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The underlying geology of the study area consists of Oxford Clay, which at the south-western end of the scheme is overlain by Boulder Clay on Brogborough Hill, and by terrace gravels and alluvium associated with the nearby Crawley Brook in the vicinity of Junction 13.

1.2.2 Most of the scheme lies within Marston Vale, a south-westerly projection of the drainage basin of the River Great Ouse which is generally flat and lies at an elevation of 30 - 40 m OD. Toward the south-western end it follows a steep rise out of the vale, reaching a height of c 100 m OD on Brogborough Hill before sloping down to c 75 - 80 m OD in the vicinity of Junction 13.

1.2.3 Prior to the investigation the area encompassed by the scheme comprised arable and pasture fields.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Previous Investigations

1.3.1 The Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) was commissioned by Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd, on behalf of the Highways Agency to undertake a DMRB Stage 2 Cultural Heritage Assessment prior to the improvement of the A421 between Junction 13 of the M1 and Bedford (HA 2004). The Stage 2 assessment demonstrated that the proposed works would impact on a number of archaeological remains along the proposed route.

1.3.2 In November 2005, MoLAS was commissioned by Hyder Consulting (UK) Ltd to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of test pits as part of the preliminary geotechnical site investigation (MoLAS 2006). A number of features were revealed including a quarry pit, a pit whose purpose was undetermined and the remains of a 19th-century outbuilding. No datable artefacts were found within any of the test pits. The watching brief also demonstrated that undisturbed ground surfaces survived within most of the trenches. The report concluded that there was the potential for the survival of undisturbed archaeological remains within the area.

1.3.3 Stratascan was subsequently commissioned to undertake a geophysical survey of ten areas along the route to locate any features of possible archaeological origin. The survey involved a detailed magnetometer survey of an area measuring approximately 72ha. Extensive evidence for ploughed out ridge and furrow cultivation was identified, along with evidence of possible settlement within Area 2 and concentrations of linear features and pits within Area 4. Less distinct, but potentially significant remains, including possible ring ditches and enclosures, were identified elsewhere on the route (Stratascan 2005).



- 1.3.4 Albion Archaeology undertook a limited programme of trial trenching at Areas 2, 3 and 4 in April 2006 to provide further information for the Environmental Statement. The trenches were positioned to assess the reliability of the geophysical survey results and to provide additional information on the nature, extent and character of the archaeological resource within the area. The trenches revealed archaeological remains dating from the Iron Age and into the Roman period, including a farmstead and associated field systems (Albion Archaeology 2006b).
- 1.3.5 Scott Wilson Ltd prepared the Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement in accordance with Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (HA 2001), Volume 11, part 3.2, and identified nine site areas containing known or potential archaeological remains that would be impacted by the Scheme (HA 2007).

Archaeological conditions

- 1.3.6 The following paragraphs provide an overview of the archaeological conditions (by site area, as shown on Figure 1) identified for the Scheme corridor, and identifies the key research themes that investigation mitigation of any remains should be directed towards. The archaeological conditions are based on information gathered as part of the Cultural Heritage chapter of the Environmental Statement (HA 2007). The key research themes which are relevant to the scheme are taken from the research agenda for archaeology in Bedfordshire (Oake *et al.* 2007).

Area 1

- 1.3.7 A possible ditched enclosure was identified by geophysical survey adjacent to the M1. Curving geophysical anomalies may represent the north-east corner of a double-ditched enclosure extending alongside the motorway. It seems likely that construction of the M1 would have destroyed the southern part of this enclosure. The ditches remain undated. It is possible that they represent the remains of an Iron Age–Roman farmstead. Farmsteads of that date are regularly discovered along the Marston Vale. A possible alternative interpretation may be that the anomalies represent later earthwork features, perhaps of medieval date.
- 1.3.8 Penannular anomalies, some of which appear to enclose central pit features, have been recorded by geophysical survey to the west of Salford Road. These features may represent the ploughed out remains of a late Neolithic – early Bronze Age barrow, or barrows, with the penannular ditch enclosing a central burial. Baseline studies indicate that evidence for prehistoric activity is limited within the study area. However, the remains of at least one small barrow have been identified during archaeological investigations in advance of construction of the proposed A507 Ridgmont Bypass, just beyond the study area to the south (Albion Archaeology 2006a).

Area 2

- 1.3.9 Evidence for settlement and cultivation dating from the Late Iron Age and continuing into the Roman period has been recovered over a wide area to the north and west of Brogborough.
- 1.3.10 A farmstead, comprising ditched enclosures and the remains of at least one roundhouse, was initially identified by geophysical survey on a south-facing slope to the north-west of Brogborough (Stratascan 2005). Subsequent trial trenching by Albion Archaeology suggests that the farmstead was of low status but was occupied over a prolonged period (Albion Archaeology 2006b). Ditched enclosures, visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs and also detected by geophysical survey (Stratascan 2005), were shown by trial trenching to be the remains of Romano-British field systems. It seems likely that these fields relate to the farmstead 500m to the north, although it is



possible that another farmstead is located nearby, outside of the study area (Albion Archaeology 2006b). A scatter of Roman pottery and iron objects, discovered during road widening in 1968, suggest that the area of the settlement and agricultural features extends to the north of Brogborough.

Area 3

- 1.3.11 The deserted medieval village (DMV) of Lower End extended eastwards from the ruined moated site at Lower End Farm. The village was abandoned during the post-medieval period: two structures and ponds are shown on a map dating to 1775 but by 1882 only the ponds remained. Aerial photographic evidence has been used to define the extent of the former settlement, which is now designated as an Archaeological Notification Area (ANA). An area of surviving ridge and furrow earthworks, a remnant of the medieval field system, is included within the ANA.
- 1.3.12 To the east of Lower End is the medieval settlement of Escheat and Vale Farm, which is also an ANA. The name 'Escheat' refers to land that has reverted to the lord or the Crown (Coleman and Wood 1988, 25). There are two former moated sites in this settlement, indicating that the settlement was once larger, possibly extending westwards across the fields to connect with Lower End. To the south-west of Escheat, a former medieval moated site is shown on the 1775 draft Enclosure map for Lidlington Parish.
- 1.3.13 Features identified by geophysical survey (Stratascan 2005) to the north of Vale Farm comprise linear and curvilinear anomalies, possible earthworks and pits. These features are currently undated. Curvilinear and linear anomalies detected by geophysical survey immediately to the north-west (A36) were investigated by trial trenching. The majority of the linear features were geological in origin. At least one irregular quarry pit of probable Roman date was recorded (Albion Archaeology 2006b).

Area 4

- 1.3.14 The Scheme passes within 300m of a small agricultural settlement, occupied over a prolonged period from the early-middle Iron Age (Pre-Belgic) and late Iron Age (Belgic) at the southern end of Beancroft Road (Shotliff and Crick 1999).
- 1.3.15 Geophysical survey detected anomalies relating to medieval agriculture to the west of Beancroft Road (Stratascan 2005), but it may be significant that the fragmentary traces of occupation recovered from the site to the south, were initially masked by traces of ridge and furrow cultivation (ibid, 35). To the east of Beancroft Road, geophysical survey detected linear anomalies denoting a possible ditched trackway and scattered pits and linear anomalies (Stratascan 2005). Trial trenching indicated that the possible ditched trackway was geological in origin (Albion Archaeology 2006b). However, the discrete features and other anomalies detected by the geophysical survey are reminiscent of the scattered settlement evidence recorded to the south (Shotliff and Crick 1999).
- 1.3.16 A possible Roman road, following the alignment of Beancroft Road and extending through Marston Moretaine, was identified by desk-based research carried out by the 'Viatores' in the 1960s (Margary 1964). No physical evidence for a Roman road has been discovered to date.

Area 5

- 1.3.17 The medieval settlement of Lower Shelton is laid out along either side of Lower Shelton Road between Higher Shelton and the current line of the A421. The Scheme cuts across the south-eastern edge of the settlement, which is designated as an ANA. Surviving medieval ridge and furrow earthworks to the south-east of the village, which



are included in the ANA due to the relative rarity of surviving earthworks of this type in the county, would also be affected by the Scheme.

- 1.3.18 Although some of the oldest clay extraction sites and brickworks in the area were located on either side of the A421, at the southern end of Lower Shelton, evidence of the former brickworks has been destroyed by more modern clay extraction.

Area 6

- 1.3.19 Ditched enclosures, identified through geophysical survey on the corner of the A421 and Hoo Lane (Stratascan 2005), are currently undated. Their alignments suggest that they pre-date the medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, which was also recorded by the geophysical survey. It is likely that they represent the remains of Iron Age–Romano-British field boundaries.
- 1.3.20 An irregular series of possible pits, extending c 250 m alongside the current line of the A421, was also recorded by geophysical survey (ibid.).
- 1.3.21 A possible palaeochannel, aligned north/south and cut into deposits of weathered Oxford Clay, was recorded during geotechnical test pitting. A ditch or pit was cut into the top of the palaeochannel deposits but no dating evidence was recovered.

Area 7

- 1.3.22 Extensive evaluation surveys to the north-west of the A421 undertaken for the Wootton development has recorded evidence of medieval cultivation to the north and south of Fields Road, but no evidence of archaeological remains (Albion Archaeology 2002).
- 1.3.23 Trial excavation at the corner of Fields Road and the A421 recorded undated linear features, which have been interpreted as a possible prehistoric settlement site (MoLAS 2005).
- 1.3.24 Evidence for ditched enclosures have been identified through geophysical survey to the east of the A421. Former ridge and furrow cultivation, perpendicular to the line of the current A421, may mask evidence for earlier features, as suggested by the presence of curvilinear features on the edge of the surveyed area (Stratascan 2005). The ditched enclosures remain undated. Their alignments suggest that they pre-date the medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, and their form suggests that they represent settlement or field boundaries of prehistoric or Roman date.

Area 8

- 1.3.25 Geophysical survey to the west of Manor Road recorded evidence for former ridge and furrow cultivation, perpendicular to the current line of the A421, and at least two phases of ridge and furrow cultivation were identified immediately to the north (Stratascan 2005). A number of linear features on contrary alignments may represent earlier field boundaries.
- 1.3.26 The Scheme crosses the parish boundary, marked by a sunken way extending from the present A421 to Keeley Farm, which formerly separated the medieval villas of Wootton and Kempston.

Area 9

- 1.3.27 Extensive evidence for Iron Age–Romano-British settlement and cultivation was recorded during the development of the Marsh Leys industrial estate, adjacent to the northern end of the Scheme. Two Iron Age farmsteads were succeeded by a Roman field system centred on the original farmsteads (Albion Archaeology 2005).
- 1.3.28 A Late Iron Age/Romano-British field system, extending to the north-east of the A421 is likely to be associated with the Marsh Leys site (Albion Archaeology 2002).



1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 OA would like to thank Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd for generously funding the excavations, and Nick Finch of Scott Wilson for acting as the archaeological consultant. Kevin Beechus of Jacobs, on behalf of the Highways Agency, and Martin Oake and Hannah Firth of Bedfordshire County Council monitored the work and played an important role in ensuring that the project proceeded smoothly.
- 1.4.2 The project was managed by Ken Welsh and the fieldwork was directed by Paul Murray.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching were:

- to contribute further data to determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, preservation, significance and stratigraphic complexity of archaeological deposits within the Scheme alignment;
- to provide further data from geophysical survey to establish the potential of key target areas to contain archaeological deposits or activity foci;
- to determine the level of risk that the archaeological resource would present to the road construction programme at these locations and aid the determination of a suitable mitigation work specification and programme;

2.1.2 The specific objectives of the evaluation trenching were:

- to identify the presence/absence of buried archaeological remains within the site areas (Sites 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and part of Site 8 to the south of Manor Road) identified in the Environmental Statement;
- to determine (where possible) the nature, depth, extent, character and date of any archaeological deposits or features encountered;
- to determine the condition or state of preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered;
- to determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present; and
- to inform the design of archaeological mitigation for these areas if appropriate.

2.2 Methodology

Scope of fieldwork

2.2.1 A total of 126 trial trenches were initially proposed, located in areas based on the proposed scheme alignment and the results of the 2005 geophysical surveys (HA 2008a). An additional three trenches (trenches 127-129) were subsequently added to this, in order to investigate a blank area in the 2008 geophysics results in Area 3 (HA 2008b). The evaluation consequently comprised a total of 129 trenches (Table 1 and Figs 2-8).

2.2.2 No trenches were excavated in Areas 2 or 9 as mitigation schemes had already been decided for these areas on the basis of the earlier phase of evaluation undertaken by Albion Archaeology.

Table 1: Details of archaeological trenching

<i>Site Area</i>	<i>Chainage</i>	<i>Trench area (m²)</i>	<i>No. of trenches/dimensions</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
1	200-400	2200	X20, 50 m x 2 m X1, 50 m x 4 m	Evaluate possible ditched enclosure, ring ditches, linear earthworks and pit like anomalies
	400 - 900	500	X5, 50 m x 2 m	Investigate "blank area" between Areas 1 and 2 and site of Construction Compound A



Site Area	Chainage	Trench area (m ²)	No. of trenches/dimensions	Objectives
3	3250 - 4400	2300	X21, 50 m x 2 m X1, 50 m x 4 m	Evaluate linear anomalies & cropmarks associated with Lower End DMV
			X3, 50 m x 2 m	Investigate “blank area” in 2008 geophysics
3-4	4450-5400	900	X7, 50 m x 2 m X2, 50 m x 4 m	Investigate “blank area” between Areas 3 and 4
4	5400-6650	3200	X30, 50 m x 2 m X1, 50 m x 4 m	Evaluate linear anomalies of possible Iron Age/Romano British origin and postulated line of Roman road
5	6800-7200	400	X4, 50 m x 2 m	Investigate “blank area” adjacent to Lower Shelton medieval settlement
6	7400-9350	2000	X16, 50 m x 2 m X2, 50 m x 4 m	Evaluate linear anomalies, discrete features and Construction Compound B
	9400-9550	300	X3, 50 m x 2 m	Evaluate linear anomalies and discrete features between Construction Compound B and Fields Road
7	9900-10,200	800	X8, 50 m x 2 m	Evaluate linear anomalies of possible Iron Age/Romano British origin
8	10,350-10,600	600	X6, 50 m x 2 m	Evaluate linear anomalies of possible Iron Age/Romano British origin (south of Manor Road)

Fieldwork methods and recording

- 2.2.3 The trenches were positioned using electronic survey equipment to an accuracy of ± 100mm. Each trench was opened using an appropriate mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.4 The excavation areas were subject to a rapid metal detector scan in advance of excavation, in order to identify and recover metal artefacts within the topsoil/subsoil.
- 2.2.5 The excavation proceeded under direct archaeological supervision, in level spits, until either the top of the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed natural deposits was encountered. Particular attention was paid to achieving a clean and well-defined horizon with the machine. The surface achieved through machine excavation was inspected for archaeological remains.
- 2.2.6 The machined surface was cleaned by hand where required for the acceptable definition of archaeological remains. Following cleaning, all archaeological deposits and remains were planned, to enable the selection of features and deposits for sample excavation.



Hand Excavation

- 2.2.7 Sample excavation was restricted to the minimum required to meet the key objectives of the evaluation.
- 2.2.8 Archaeological deposits/features identified for sample excavation were hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to meet the aims and objectives of the evaluation. A sufficient sample of deposits/features was investigated through sample excavation in each trench to record the horizontal and vertical extent of the stratigraphic sequence to the level of undisturbed natural deposits.

Recording

- 2.2.9 Following machine excavation, the extent of each evaluation trench was accurately recorded using electronic survey equipment. The data was overlaid at a scale of 1:500 onto the OS National Grid (using digital map data).
- 2.2.10 All archaeological remains were recorded in plan using electronic survey equipment. The resultant digital dataset was utilised to compare the position of the identified archaeological remains with the geophysical survey.
- 2.2.11 A full written, drawn and photographic record was made of each trench even where no archaeological features were identified. Hand drawn plans and sections of features were produced at an appropriate scale. One long section of each trench was drawn at a scale of not less than 1:50. All plans and sections included spot heights relative to Ordnance Datum in metres, correct to two decimal places.
- 2.2.12 Colour transparency and monochrome negative photographs was taken at a format of 35mm. In addition to records of archaeological features, a number of general site photographs were also taken to give an overview of the site. Particular attention was paid to obtaining shots suitable for displays, exhibitions and other publicity.
- 2.2.13 All recording was in accordance with the WSI (HA 2008a), the Institute for Field Archaeology's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Assessment and Evaluation* (IFA 1999) and the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

Finds

- 2.2.14 All artefacts were collected, stored and processed in accordance with standard methodologies and national guidelines. All non-modern artefacts were collected and retained. Each 'significant find' was recorded three dimensionally. Bulk finds were collected and recorded by context.

Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 2.2.15 Since the project proceeded directly to mitigation, only a very limited number of soil samples were taken at this evaluation stage as the results of any assessment would not have been available in time to inform the mitigation strategy. All samples which were taken have been retained and will be available for processing with the samples from the mitigation phase and incorporation into the post-excavation assessment as required.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results presented in the main text of this report provide a detailed overview of the findings of the evaluation, by Area. Only trenches that contained archaeological features are described in detail. Full details of all the trenches can be found in Appendix A. The artefactual evidence is summarised at the end of this section, and reported in detail in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 Soils were typically heavy and poorly drained on account of the clay geology, as was demonstrated by the prevalence of modern land drains exposed in the trenches. Combined with heavy rain at the time of the evaluation, this resulted in a raised water table that hampered excavation in many trenches, as well as rendering excavation impossible in Trenches 58 (see Plate 2), 98 and 99, which were completely flooded.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 A total of ten concentrations of archaeological features were identified, distributed intermittently along the Scheme.

3.4 Trench descriptions

Area 1 (Figs 2 and 9)

3.4.1 Area 1 comprised parts of five arable and pasture fields located on the north-western side of the current line of the A421 between M1 Junction 13 and Highfield Farm. The ground sloped gently down from 81.3 m OD at the north-eastern end of the Area to 77.05 m OD near Junction 13. A total of 27 trenches (Trenches 1 - 27) were excavated in Area 1, including Trench 16 and its replacement Trench 16a (Fig. 2).

3.4.2 In Trenches 1 - 16 an orange silty clay was recorded, which may be alluvial in origin, associated with a brook located adjacent to the southern side of the M1. At the southern end of Trench 4 patches of gravel outcropped through this material, and the gravel was also exposed in Trench 16, which was excavated to this level. In the latter trench the alluvium was found to have a maximum thickness of 0.32 m. The natural geology in Trenches 17 - 26 comprised Oxford Clay, which varied in colour from grey to orange.

3.4.3 Archaeological features were only uncovered in Trenches 3, 4 and 11, which were all located in the southern part of the area, close to the present Junction 13, although plough furrows that are likely to be associated with ridge and furrow cultivation were recorded in Trenches 1, 6, 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 20, 22 and 24. The furrows were generally orientated NE-SW, although those in Trenches 10, 11, 14 and 20 were orientated NW-SE. Tree-throw holes were recorded in Trenches 2, 6, 10, 22 and 24, including two examples, one each from Trenches 10 and 22, that yielded small sherds of Roman pottery. A modern ditch (100803), from which fragments of ceramic field drain of 19th or 20th century date were recovered, was recorded in Trench 8.

3.4.4 Subsoil, which varied in thickness from 0.12 m - 0.33 m, was recorded in all trenches except 7, 9, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 21. The modern topsoil was typically 0.20 m - 0.30 m thick.

Trench 3 (Fig. 9)

- 3.4.5 Trench 3 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (100303) was encountered at 76.89 m above Ordnance Datum (OD) at the north-eastern end, sloping gently down to 76.17 m OD at the south-western end, at an average depth of 0.48 m below current ground level. A single ditch was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.6 The ditch (100304), orientated NW-SE, was exposed 10 m from the north-western end of the trench. The ditch had a steep-sided, U-shaped profile and was 0.91 m wide and 0.40 m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of grey clay (100305), the only inclusion being patches of sand and grit observed throughout the fill. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 3.4.7 The ditch was sealed by a layer of mottled grey and orange silty clay subsoil (100302) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.19 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (100301) 0.38 m thick.
- 3.4.8 Due to the absence of finds it was not possible to attribute a chronological period to the ditch, although it was observed to be sealed by the subsoil and is therefore unlikely to be of modern origin.

Trench 4 (Fig. 9)

- 3.4.9 Trench 4 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (100408) was encountered at 77.63 m OD at the south-eastern end, sloping gently down to 77.27 m OD at the north-western end, at an average depth of 0.53 m below current ground level. A single ditch was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.10 The ditch (100403) was exposed near the north-western end of the trench. The ditch was orientated NE-SW and had a V-shaped profile. It measured 0.77 m wide and 0.45 m deep and contained two fills. The lower fill (100405) was a layer of mottled grey and orange clay 0.18 m thick, and was overlain by an upper fill of soft brown silty clay (100404). No finds were recovered from either fill.
- 3.4.11 The ditch lay on a parallel alignment to a furrow (100406) located c 6 m to the south-east, and both features were sealed by the subsoil (100402), a layer of orange brown sandy clay 0.23 m thick that extended throughout the trench. This was in turn overlain by the modern topsoil (100401), which was 0.32 m thick.

Trench 11 (Fig. 9)

- 3.4.12 Trench 11 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (101107) was encountered at 78.57 m OD at the north-eastern end, sloping gently down to 78.36 m OD at the south-western end, at an average depth of 0.50 m below current ground level. Three furrows and a gully were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.13 Furrow 101103 was orientated WNW-ESE and crossed the centre of the trench. Two further furrows were located to the north-east but were not excavated.
- 3.4.14 The gully (101105), orientated N-S, was exposed in the central part of the trench. The gully measured 0.65 m wide and 0.13 m deep and was filled by a single homogeneous deposit of orange brown sandy clay (101104), from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.15 The gully was sealed by a layer of mid orange brown sandy clay subsoil (101102) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.20 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (101101) that was 0.25 m thick.

**Area 3 (Figs 3, 10, 11 and 22)**

- 3.4.16 Area 3 extended across a group of arable and pasture fields between Lower End Farm and a bridleway that extends westward from Marston Moretaine. The topography was generally flat, at c 45 m OD - 50 m OD. A total of 25 trenches were excavated in this area (Trenches 27-49 and 127-129). The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.17 Archaeological features were recorded in Trenches 31, 34, 37, 38 and 48. A modern ditch (104203/104303), from which fragments of ceramic field drain of 19th or 20th century date were recovered, was recorded running through Trenches 42 and 43.
- 3.4.18 Most of the trenches revealed a subsoil of greyish brown silty clay that was typically 0.04 m - 0.12 m thick, although in Trench 38 it was 0.25 m thick, and in Trenches 27, 31, 48 and 49 it was absent. The modern topsoil was typically 0.20 m - 0.25 m thick, but was slightly deeper at the north-eastern end of the Area, where a depth of 0.30 m - 0.38 m was recorded in Trenches 47, 48 and 49.

Trench 31 (Fig. 10 and 22)

- 3.4.19 Trench 31 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated E-W. The natural clay (103102) was encountered at c 46.50 m OD, at an average depth of 0.48 m below current ground level. A ditch with a re-cut, a gully, a pit and three tree-throw holes were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.20 The ditch (103107, Fig. 22 and Plate 3) was exposed near the eastern end of the trench. It lay on a NE-SW orientation and was at least 1.16 m wide and 0.42 m deep. It was filled by two deposits, the lower of which was a layer of bluish grey silty clay with orange mottling (103109) that was 0.30 m thick, from which were recovered 54 sherds (971 g) of medieval pottery including a large proportion of a jar with an externally seated rim (103110). The upper part of the ditch was filled by a layer of dark greyish brown silty clay (103108) from which further medieval pottery was recovered, as well as two sherds of early post-medieval redware, dating from the 16th century, and a small quantity of animal bone. The eastern side of the ditch had been cut away by ditch 103111, which is likely to have been a re-cut of the original ditch. The re-cut was slightly deeper than the earlier ditch, with a depth of 0.60 m, and was V-shaped in profile with steeply sloping sides. Its main fill was a layer of bluish grey silty clay (103113) similar to that of the earlier ditch. The pottery from this fill dated from the 14th-15th century and included a rim sherd that joined with a sherd from context 103109, suggesting that this group is likely to be residual, derived from the earlier ditch. The upper part of the ditch was filled by a layer of dark greyish brown silty clay (103112) that contained no finds.
- 3.4.21 Gully 103104 was located in the central part of the trench and lay on a similar NE-SW orientation to that of ditch 103107. It was 0.40 m wide and 0.15 m deep and contained a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (103103) from which were recovered two sherds of pottery dating from the 13th-14th centuries and a single small fragment of animal bone.
- 3.4.22 Pit 103114 was located at the western end of the trench. It measured 0.70 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill comprised a firm, dark yellowish brown clay that contained occasional charcoal fragments. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 3.4.23 The three tree-throw holes were rather varied in size and form. The largest, 103118 extended beyond the southern edge of the trench, and measured at least 3.40 m E-W, but was only 0.16 m deep. tree-throw hole 103116 was similarly shallow and measured 1.50 m across, and three throw hole 103106 was an irregular oval feature measuring



1.00 m x 0.60 m and 0.16 m deep. Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill of the latter feature (103105).

- 3.4.24 These features were sealed by a layer of dark greyish brown silty clay subsoil (103101) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.16 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (103101) that was 0.32 m thick.

Trench 34 (Fig. 10)

- 3.4.25 Trench 34 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NNW-SSE. The natural clay (103402) was encountered at c 47.10 m OD, at an average depth of 0.30 m below current ground level. A single ditch or furrow was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.26 The feature (103403) was exposed at the south-eastern end of the trench, and extended on an NW-SE orientation. It measured 0.50 m wide and 0.10 m deep, and was filled by a single deposit of soft greyish brown silty clay (103404), from which no finds were recovered. Although the form and dimensions of the feature would be consistent with it being a plough furrow, the absence of other such features in this or nearby trenches, or on the geophysics plot, indicate that it may be a shallow ditch, albeit of unknown date.
- 3.4.27 It was sealed by a layer of mid-light greyish brown silty clay subsoil (103401) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.08 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (103400) that was 0.20 m thick.

Trench 37 (Fig. 10)

- 3.4.28 Trench 37 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (103708) was encountered at between 46.54 m and 46.79 m OD, at an average depth of 0.28 m below current ground level. A single ditch and two probable plough scars were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.29 Ditch 103704 was exposed in the central part of the trench. It lay on a NE-SW orientation and measured 0.30 m wide and 0.20 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark greenish brown silty clay (103705) from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.30 Two narrow linear features interpreted as plough scars were recorded (103702, 103706), located near the south-eastern end of the trench and in the central part of the trench. One of these features (103702) was investigated by excavation and was found to be only 0.08 m deep, with no finds present.
- 3.4.31 These features were sealed by a layer of mid-light greyish brown clay subsoil (103701) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.12 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (103700) that was 0.16 m thick.

Trench 38 (Fig. 10)

- 3.4.32 Trench 38 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (103806) was encountered at 46.60 m OD – 47.00 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. A single feature of uncertain form was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.33 The feature (103805) extended across the trench near its south-western end, although within the confines of the trench it was not possible to be certain whether it was a linear feature or a large discrete feature. It was certainly wide and shallow, measuring 4.00 m wide and only 0.22 m deep. Its main fill (103804) was very similar to the surrounding natural clay, comprising a light yellowish brown, slightly silty clay with very occasional flecks of charcoal. On the north-eastern side of the feature, this was overlain by a layer of light grey silty clay (103803). Both fills contained very small sherds of medieval pottery.



- 3.4.34 The feature was sealed by a layer of mid greyish brown silty clay subsoil (103802) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.25 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (103801) that was 0.30 m thick.

Trench 48 (Fig. 11 and Plate 1)

- 3.4.35 Trench 48 measured 50 m x 4 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (104801) was encountered at 46.11 m OD - 46.88 m OD, at an average depth of 0.35 m below current ground level. A cremation burial, a ditch, five pits, two pits/postholes, three ditch terminals, a large pit or ditch terminal, and two postholes were cut into this deposit. Following excavation of the cremation burial, it was agreed in consultation with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features should be deferred until the mitigation phase of the project. Pottery on the surface of the unexcavated features was, however, recovered.
- 3.4.36 The sides of the pit containing the cremation burial (104802, see Plate 4) could not be clearly defined as its fill was almost identical to the surrounding natural, but it was c 0.28 m deep. The cremated remains of an adult of undetermined sex (104835) had been placed within a poppyhead beaker (104804), which was placed in an inverted position. It was accompanied by two ancillary vessels, comprising a ring-necked flagon in Verulamium white ware (104805) and a greyware jar (104806). These vessels provide a date range for the burial of AD 70-120. The backfill of the feature consisted of re-deposited natural clay (104803).
- 3.4.37 Ditch 104807 was located at the south-eastern end of the trench and lay on a NE-SW orientation. It was 1.80 m wide and had an upper fill composed of dark greyish brown silty clay (104808) from which were recovered sherds of late Iron Age pottery.
- 3.4.38 A group of four small pits or postholes were located next to the western edge of the ditch. Pit/postholes 104809 and 104811 were fairly small circular features with diameters of 0.50 m and 0.60 m respectively. Pit 104813 was slightly larger and more oval in plan, measuring 1.00 m x 0.70 m, and pit 104815 had a rather elongated shape, measuring 1.85 m x 0.60 m. All four contained black or very dark grey fills with a high proportion of charcoal, but no finds were evident on the surface.
- 3.4.39 The remaining features all had similar fills of dark greyish brown silty clay. Pit 104819 measured 1.20 m in diameter and was located close to the cremation burial. Small, abraded sherds of a South Gaulish samian dish dating from AD 90-110 were recovered from the surface of its upper fill (104820). Pits 104821 and 104829 were both oval in plan, measuring 2.40 m x 1.00 m and 1.70 m x 0.90 m respectively.
- 3.4.40 Feature 104817 was not fully exposed within the confines of the trench, and may have been either a large pit or a ditch terminal. It measured 2.20 m across and extended beyond the southern edge of the trench. A small quantity of pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period was recovered from the surface of its upper fill (104818).
- 3.4.41 Three possible ditch terminals extended into the trench from the southern side. Ditches 104825 and 104827 measured 0.80 m and 1.10 m wide respectively and lay on parallel N-S alignments only 0.50 m apart. Both extended into the trench for a distance of 3.10 m before terminating. It is possible that they are in fact fills of a single ditch, and that the material between them is re-deposited natural within that feature rather than undisturbed natural clay. A third small ditch or gully (104823) measuring 0.60 m wide extended into the trench for 1.50 m before terminating. No finds were in evidence on the surface of these features.



- 3.4.42 Postholes 104830 and 104833 were both small, circular features no more than 0.30 m in diameter, and yielded no surface finds.
- 3.4.43 The features were all sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (104800) that was 0.35 m thick.

Between Areas 3 and 4 (Figs 4, 11 and 22)

- 3.4.44 A total of nine trenches (Trenches 50 - 58) were excavated in two arable fields between Areas 3 and 4, north-west of Marston Moretaine. This area was generally level at c 45 – 48 m OD. The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.45 Archaeological features were only uncovered in Trench 54. Furrows orientated NW-SE were recorded in Trenches 50 – 53, and a feature believed to be a post-medieval dew pond, which was apparent on the ground surface as a shallow hollow prior to excavation of the trench, was exposed in Trench 51. Two tree throw-holes were investigated in Trench 55, and one in Trench 51.
- 3.4.46 A shallow subsoil no more than 0.14 m thick was recorded in Trenches 52, 54, 55 and 56. Three sherds of late Iron Age/Roman pottery were recovered from the subsoil (105201) in Trench 52. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.26 m - 0.35 m. A sherd of Roman Gaulish samian ware was recovered from the topsoil (105700) in Trench 57.

Trench 54 (Figs 11 and 22)

- 3.4.47 Trench 54 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated E-W. The natural clay (105413) was encountered at between 46.30 m and 46.86 m OD, at an average depth of 0.41 m below current ground level. Four ditches were exposed in this trench. Following excavation of two ditches, one with a re-cut, it was agreed in consultation with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant, the Highways Agency Archaeologist and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and should be deferred until the mitigation phase of the project.
- 3.4.48 Ditch 105403 (Section 105402, Fig. 22) was located 10 m from the western end of the trench, and lay on a NE-SW orientation. It was 1.70 m wide and 0.80 m deep, with a V-shaped profile. The lower part of the ditch was filled by a deposit of light greyish blue clay (105415), which was overlain by an upper fill of dark bluish brown sandy silt (105408) from which late Iron Age pottery and a small quantity of animal bone were recovered. The upper part of the ditch was cut by a shallow re-cut (105414), the fill of which (105402) contained further similar pottery, as well as further fragments of animal bone.
- 3.4.49 Ditch 105404 was located c 17 m from the western end of the trench. Like ditch 105403, it lay on a NE-SW orientation and was V-shaped in profile, measuring 1.40 m wide and 0.78 m deep. It contained three fills, comprising two layers of bluish grey clay (105405, 105406) and an uppermost fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (105407) from which late Iron Age pottery was recovered, including a decorated rim sherd, part of a human femur, and more than 2 kg of animal bone, the largest such assemblage from the evaluation.
- 3.4.50 The two unexcavated ditches were ditch 105409, which was located at the western end of the trench and shared the same orientation as ditches 105403 and 105404, and ditch 105411, which was located at the eastern end of the trench and appeared to be L-shaped in plan. No finds were apparent on the surface of either feature.



- 3.4.51 All four ditches were sealed by a layer of mid grey silty clay subsoil (105401) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.11 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (105400) that was 0.30 m thick.

Area 4 (Figs 5, 12, 13 and 14)

- 3.4.52 Area 4 extended across four arable fields north of Marston Moretaine. A total of 30 trenches (Trenches 59 – 88) were excavated. The ground was generally level, at c 38 - 42 m OD. The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.53 Archaeological features were only uncovered in Trenches 59, 60, 61, 82 and 83. Furrows were recorded in Trenches 60 and 62 in the western part of the area and Trench 73 in the central part, and a particularly dense concentration was recorded in Trenches 83, 85 and 86 in the eastern part. Tree-throw holes were recorded in Trenches 60 and 61, and plough scars, presumably resulting from modern subsoiling, in Trenches 82 and 83. Layers of alluvial clay were recorded in Trenches 61 and 88, associated with former streams, now drainage ditches, that form field boundaries adjacent to these trenches.
- 3.4.54 Subsoil was only present in Trenches 59, 60 and 61, at the western end of the area, and in Trench 73, and had a maximum thickness of 0.14 m. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.20 m – 0.35 m.

Trench 59 (Fig. 12)

- 3.4.55 Trench 59 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NNE-SSW. The natural clay (105902) was encountered at 41.74 - 41.83 m OD, at an average depth of 0.38 m below current ground level. Two postholes were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.56 The postholes (105903, 105905) were close together, 7 m from the north-eastern end of the trench. Posthole 105903 measured 0.34 m in diameter and 0.26 m deep, and posthole 105905 measured 0.38 m in diameter and 0.30 m deep. Both had vertical sides and rounded bases, and contained identical fills of dark greyish brown silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.57 The postholes were sealed by a layer of yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (105901) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.14 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (105900) that was 0.24 m thick.

Trench 60 (Fig. 13)

- 3.4.58 Trench 60 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (106002) was encountered at 60.20 m OD, at an average depth of 0.30 m below current ground level. Two postholes, a pit, four furrows and two tree-throw holes were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.59 As with the postholes in Trench 59, those in Trench 60 were closely spaced, being only 0.30 m apart. The larger, posthole 106008, measured 0.30 m in diameter and 0.25 m deep, and posthole 106010 measured 0.21 m in diameter and 0.13 m deep. Both had vertical sides and rounded bases, and each was filled by a single deposit of charcoal-flecked greyish green clay. A small quantity of Roman pottery was recovered from the fill (106007) of posthole 106008.
- 3.4.60 The pit (106015) was located near the south-eastern end of the trench and contained a deposit of heat-discoloured, dark reddish brown silty clay. It was oval in shape, measuring 1.40 m x 1.10 m, its south-western edge extending slightly beyond the edge of the trench. The deposit was 0.10 m thick and contained very frequent charcoal flecks and some large, rounded stones.



- 3.4.61 Four furrows were recorded (106004, 106013, 106016, 106018), extending across the trench on parallel NE-SW alignments. All measured 1.00 m -1.60 m wide, and excavation of furrows 106004 and 106013 revealed them to be 0.30 m – 0.40 m deep. Furrow 106013 cut a tree-throw hole (106011).
- 3.4.62 The features were sealed by a layer of dark greyish brown clay subsoil (106001) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.10 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (106000) that was 0.20 m thick.

Trench 61 (Fig. 13)

- 3.4.63 Trench 61 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (106111) was encountered at 40.81 - 40.98 m OD, at an average depth of 0.90 m below current ground level. Two pits, a soil spread and nine tree-throw holes were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.64 Pit 106104 lay partly beyond the south-western edge of the trench, but appeared to be circular in plan, with a diameter of 0.90 m. It was 0.50 m deep and had steep, slightly irregular sides and a concave base. The fill (106105) consisted of a deposit of dark greyish blue clay with orange mottling and small charcoal flecks throughout, and contained no finds.
- 3.4.65 A spread of dark greyish brown silty clay was exposed in the central part of the trench (106110). Its full dimensions and form could not be established as it was not fully exposed, but it measured c 5.50 m NW-SE and 0.20 m thick, and contained a small quantity of pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period.
- 3.4.66 Nine irregularly shaped features interpreted as tree-throw holes were also observed, but none were excavated.
- 3.4.67 These features were sealed by a layer of alluvium 0.16 m thick, composed of dark brown clay with orange mottling (106103). This deposit is likely to be associated with the former stream, now a drainage ditch, that forms a field boundary immediately to the west of the trench.
- 3.4.68 Feature 106106, which was only partly exposed at the south-western edge of the trench, appeared to be cut into this layer. As only part of the feature was exposed, its form and size were uncertain, but it appeared to be a large pit. It contained a sequence of three fills. The primary fill was a deposit of orange brown clay (106107), which was overlain by a layer of bluish grey clay (10108) from which late Iron Age pottery was recovered. The upper part of the feature was filled by a layer of bluish grey clay with orange mottling (106109) that, like the primary fill, contained no finds.
- 3.4.69 Feature 106106 and alluvial layer 106103 were overlain by a second layer of alluvium (106102) composed of orange-mottled bluish grey clay, which was 0.48 m thick. This was overlain by a layer of greyish brown clay subsoil (106101) with an average thickness of 0.08 m, above which was a layer of modern topsoil (106100) that was 0.24 m thick.

Trench 82 (Fig. 14)

- 3.4.70 Trench 82 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (108208) was encountered at 40.00 - 40.15 m OD, at an average depth of 0.26 m below current ground level. A ditch and a posthole were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.71 Ditch 108202 was located in the central part of the trench. It measured 0.64 m wide and only 0.10 m deep, but despite its shallowness it was clearly not a furrow, as it lay on a NNE-SSW orientation rather than the more NE-SW alignment of the furrows recorded in the nearby Trenches 83, 85 and 86. It contained a single fill composed of

soft light brown clay (108203) that was quite similar to the surrounding natural geology. No finds were recovered. The ditch cut a shallow root hole, 108206.

3.4.72 Posthole 108204 had a diameter of 0.35 m and was 0.07 m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey clay from which no finds were recovered.

3.4.73 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (108201) that was 0.26 m thick.

Trench 83 (Fig. 14)

3.4.74 Trench 83 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (108311) was encountered at 39.27 - 39.94 m OD, at an average depth of 0.24 m below current ground level. A pit and three furrows were cut into this deposit.

3.4.75 A little over half of pit 108305 was exposed, the north-eastern half lying beyond the edge of the trench. The pit appeared to be roughly circular in plan, with steep, slightly irregular sides and a flat base. It measured 1.00 m in diameter and 0.52 m deep and contained a single fill of orange brown clay silt (108309) from which no finds were recovered.

3.4.76 Three furrows were recorded, lying on parallel NE-SW alignments. Two were excavated, and were found to be shallow and relatively broad features measuring 0.54 m - 0.74 m wide and 0.24 m - 0.26 m deep.

3.4.77 The pit and furrows were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (108301) that was 0.24 m thick.

Area 5 (Figs 6, 15 and 22)

3.4.78 Area 5 comprised four pasture fields located on either side of Lower Shelton Road at its junction with the current line of the A421. The ground was generally level, at c 38 m OD. A total of four trenches were excavated in this area (Trenches 89-92). The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford clay.

3.4.79 Archaeological features were uncovered in Trenches 91 and 92.

3.4.80 The thickness of the overburden varied between the trenches, presumably as a result of the varying history of landuse of the individual fields. Subsoil was only present in Trench 91, where it was 0.35 m thick. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.24 m - 0.35 m.

Trench 91 (Figs 15 and 22)

3.4.81 Trench 91 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (109114) was encountered at c 38 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. Four pits, a ditch and four furrows were cut into this deposit.

3.4.82 Pit 109103 was a shallow, concave feature 1.32 m in diameter and only 0.18 m deep. It contained a single fill of soft, light grey clay (109104) from which a small quantity of pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period was recovered.

3.4.83 Pit 109105 (Section 109102, Fig. 22) was only partly exposed, the south-eastern side lying beyond the edge of the trench. Its south-western side was truncated by ditch 109109, but it appeared to be roughly circular with a diameter of a little over 1.0 m. The sides were steep, and slightly undercut on the north-eastern side, and the base flat, at a depth of 0.50 m. The primary fill was a layer of light orange brown sandy clay (109106) that contained pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period. In the south-western part of the pit this was overlain by a localised deposit of natural clay (109107) that appeared to have slumped from the side of the feature, and which contained five sherds of early Iron Age pottery. Above this was the main fill of the pit, a

deposit of dark grey clay with frequent charcoal flecks (109108) that contained further late Iron Age or early Roman pottery, a single piece of animal bone, and part of a human femur.

- 3.4.84 Four further pits were exposed but were not excavated.
- 3.4.85 The south-western side of pit 109105 was cut by ditch 109109, which extended across the trench on a NW-SE orientation. The ditch was 0.80 m wide and 0.30 m deep, with a slightly irregular profile. Its only fill, a deposit of light grey clay (109110), contained pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period and part of a human femur.
- 3.4.86 Four furrows were exposed in the trench, including one (109111) which truncated the south-western side of ditch 109109. All lay on the same NW-SE alignment. Furrow 109111 was 1.70 m wide and 0.18 m deep, and was the only one of the furrows that was sampled by excavation.
- 3.4.87 The features were sealed by a layer of light orange brown clay subsoil (109102) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.35 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (109101) that was 0.35 m thick.

Trench 92 (Fig. 15)

- 3.4.88 Trench 92 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (109215) was encountered at c 38 m OD, at an average depth of 0.34 m below current ground level. A ditch, two furrows and a tree-throw hole were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.89 Ditch 109202 was located near the south-western end of the trench and lay on a NW-SE orientation. The upper part of the feature had been truncated by a plough furrow (109205) that lay on an identical alignment. The ditch was 1.00 m wide and 0.24 m, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained two fills composed of greyish brown silty clay (109206, 109207), from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.90 Two furrows were exposed in the trench, both orientated NW-SE. Furrow 109204 measured 0.90 m wide and 0.12 m deep and furrow 109205, which truncated ditch 109202, was 2.64 m wide and 0.24 m deep. A small iron punch, some fragments of tile and two pieces of clay pipe stem of 18th or 19th century date were recovered from the latter feature.
- 3.4.91 A large, irregularly shaped feature (109203) interpreted as a tree-throw hole measuring 2.50 m across and 0.38 m deep was excavated in the central part of the trench. No finds were recovered.
- 3.4.92 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (109201) that was 0.34 m thick.

Area 6 (Figs 6, 7, 16, 17, 18 and 22)

- 3.4.93 Area 6 extended across a series of fields between Marston Moretaine and the junction of the A421 with Fields Road. The ground surface in this area sloped very gently downward from 38 m OD at the south-western end of the area to 33 m OD at its north-eastern end. A total of 20 trenches were excavated in this area (Trenches 93-112). The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.94 Archaeological features were uncovered in Trenches 97, 98, 99, 100, 105, 107 and 110. In addition to this, plough furrows were recorded in Trenches 93, 94, 95, 96, 103 and 106, and tree-throw holes were investigated in Trenches 100, 101 and 111. A layer of alluvium 0.20 m thick was recorded in Trench 108, and is likely to be associated with the former stream, now a drainage ditch, that forms the eastern boundary of the field in which the trench was located. Trenches 98 and 99 were flooded shortly after



machining, and consequently the features in these trenches could not be excavated, and were only recorded in plan.

- 3.4.95 Subsoil 0.11 m - 0.30 m thick was recorded throughout the area, except in Trenches 93-96, at the south-western end of the area, and Trench 103 in the central part of the area. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.18 m - 0.36 m.

Trench 97 (Fig. 16)

- 3.4.96 Trench 97 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (109702) was encountered at 37.82 m OD – 38.00 m OD, at an average depth of 0.25 m below current ground level. Three ditches, one with a re-cut, and one definite and two probable pits were cut into this deposit. After excavation of two ditches and one pit, it was agreed in consultation with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project.
- 3.4.97 Ditch 109706 was located 17 m from the south-eastern end of the trench, and lay on a NE-SW orientation. It was 3.19 m wide and 0.84 m deep with slightly irregular sides and a concave base. Primary fills of re-deposited natural clay (109709, 109710) were overlain by a more substantial deposit of light bluish grey sandy clay (109711) and an uppermost fill of charcoal-flecked orange brown sandy clay (109712=109713). A re-cut of this ditch (109714) had been dug through the centre of the original feature. The re-cut ditch was slightly smaller than the original ditch, measuring 1.49 m wide and 0.66 m deep. It was mostly filled by a single deposit of greyish blue silt clay with orange mottling (109715), which was overlain on the south-eastern side of the feature by a localised deposit of very firm bluish grey clay (109716). No finds were recovered from either phase of the ditch.
- 3.4.98 Ditch 109707 was located c 2 m south-east of ditch 109706. It was similarly aligned, although the part of the ditch exposed in the trench appeared to be slightly curved. The ditch was relatively insubstantial, measuring 0.51 m wide and 0.15 m deep, and contained a single fill of grey silty clay (19708) from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.99 Pit 109703 was sub-circular in plan and measured 0.99 m x 0.84 m. It was 0.27 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. The lower part of the pit was filled by a layer of brownish orange silty clay (109704) that was 0.15 m thick and was overlain by an upper fill of dark brownish grey clay silt (109705). Neither fill yielded any finds.
- 3.4.100 A third ditch was observed c 12 m from the south-eastern end of the trench, but was not excavated. In plan it appeared to intersect with two pits, which were also not investigated during the evaluation.
- 3.4.101 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (109701) that was 0.25 m thick.

Trench 98 (Fig. 16)

- 3.4.102 Trench 98 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (109802) was encountered at 37.61 m OD – 37.79 m OD, at an average depth of 0.55 m below current ground level. As a result of heavy rain and a high water table, the trench flooded before it could be investigated in any detail. It was not possible to excavate any features, although up to five linear features and nine discrete features were observed during machining.
- 3.4.103 The features were sealed by a layer of yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (109803) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.27 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (109801) that was 0.28 m thick.

*Trench 99 (Fig. 16)*

- 3.4.104 Trench 99 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (109902) was encountered at 37.69 m OD – 37.88 m OD, at an average depth of 0.45 m below current ground level. As a result of heavy rain and a high water table, the trench flooded before it could be investigated in any detail. It was not possible to excavate any features, although two linear features and six discrete features were observed during machining.
- 3.4.105 The features were sealed by a layer of yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (109903) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.28 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (109901) that was 0.26 m thick.

Trench 100 (Figs 17 and 22)

- 3.4.106 Trench 100 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (110001) was encountered at 38.91 m OD – 39.25 m OD, at an average depth of 0.55 m below current ground level. A ditch and two tree-throw holes were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.107 Ditch 110003 (Section 110003, Fig. 22) was located at the north-eastern end of the trench and was orientated NW-SE. It was 2.80 m wide and 0.70 m deep, with gently sloping sides. The lower part of the ditch contained a deposit of soft, light yellowish grey clay (110005), similar to the surrounding natural geology, from which animal bone and seven sherds of late Iron Age pottery were recovered. A sherd of possible early Iron Age pottery was also recovered. The remainder of the feature was filled by a layer of dark grey silty clay (110004) that contained charcoal and domestic refuse including fired clay, animal bone and pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period, as well as a single, presumably residual, flint flake. The ditch had been re-cut on one occasion, the later phase of the ditch (110011) being located on the north-eastern side of the original ditch. The later ditch was considerably less substantial, measuring 1.20 m wide and 0.28 m deep, and contained a single fill of light brownish grey silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.108 Two oval features (110006, 110008) were investigated and found to be tree-throw holes.
- 3.4.109 The features were sealed by a layer of yellowish brown clay subsoil (110010) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.30 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (110001) that was 0.25 m thick.

Trench 105 (Fig. 17)

- 3.4.110 Trench 105 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NNE-SSW. The natural clay (110502) was encountered at c 38.20 m OD at the south-western end of the trench, sloping down to 37.70 m at the north-eastern end, at an average depth of 0.30 m below current ground level. Three pits were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.111 The largest of these features was pit 110503, which was 1.55 m in diameter. The pit was only partly exposed within the trench, its north-western half lying beyond the edge of the trench. It was 0.35 m in depth with gradually sloping sides and a concave profile. It contained a single fill of dark brownish grey clay (110504) from which were recovered five small sherds of pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period.
- 3.4.112 Pit 110505 was somewhat smaller, measuring 0.65 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of dark brownish grey clay (110506), and contained a single sherd of pottery dating from the late Iron Age or Roman period.

- 3.4.113 Pit 110507 was more oval in plan and measured 1.00 m x 0.60 m. It was rather irregular in profile and 0.23 m deep. No finds were recovered from its fill (110508).
- 3.4.114 The features were sealed by a layer of mid-light greyish brown silty clay subsoil (110509) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.20 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (110501) that was 0.30 m thick.

Trench 107 (Fig. 18)

- 3.4.115 Trench 107 measured 34.20 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (110702) was encountered at c 34.30 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. A pit was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.116 Pit 110703 measured 1.10 m x 0.55 m and was 0.09 m deep, with a slightly irregular base. It was filled by a deposit of charcoal-rich, black silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.117 The pit was sealed by a layer of light brown silty clay subsoil (110701) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.15 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (110700) that was 0.25 m thick.

Trench 110 (Fig. 18)

- 3.4.118 Trench 110 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (111002) was encountered at c 32.85 m OD, at an average depth of 0.50 m below current ground level. Two ditches were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.119 Ditches 111003 and 111005 were both located in the south-western half of the trench. Both extended across the trench on slightly curved NW-SE orientations. Ditch 111003 was 0.55 m wide and 0.15 m deep, and ditch 111005 was slightly smaller at 0.40 m wide and 0.10 m deep. They contained similar fills of brown silty clay, and neither produced any finds.
- 3.4.120 The ditches were sealed by a layer of greyish brown silty clay subsoil (111007) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.20 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (111001) that was 0.30 m thick.

Area 7 (Figs 8, 19, 20 and 22)

- 3.4.121 Area 7 comprised two arable fields to the east of Field Road. The ground surface in this area was generally level, at c 33 m OD. A total of eight trenches were excavated in this area (Trenches 113-120). The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.122 Archaeological features were uncovered in all trenches except Trenches 113 and 117.
- 3.4.123 Subsoil was recorded in Trenches 115, 116, 117 and 118 and was generally 0.10 m - 0.20 m thick. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.25 m - 0.32 m.

Trench 114 (Fig. 19)

- 3.4.124 Trench 114 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated ENE-WSW. The natural clay (111402) was encountered at c 32.30 m OD, at an average depth of 0.30 m below current ground level. A number of linear features were exposed, cutting into the natural clay. One of these features (111403) was excavated and proved to be a ditch. After consultation with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist it was agreed that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project.



- 3.4.125 Ditch 111403 was located near the north-eastern end of the trench, and extended on a NE-SW orientation. It was 1.00 m wide and 0.30 m deep, and had a steep-sided profile with a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of greyish brown silty clay (111404) from which a small quantity of animal bone was recovered. At its south-western end the ditch may have turned sharply toward north-west, but the junction with this NW-SE orientated ditch lay just beyond the edge of the trench and so it was not possible to establish conclusively whether it was part of the same feature. A less substantial ditch 0.60 m wide branched off the south-eastern side of ditch 111403 at a right angle and extended beyond the trench toward south-east, most likely defining a subsidiary boundary.
- 3.4.126 A short distance south-west of ditch 111403, the trench was crossed by a narrow ditch with a dog-legged form, and two further linear features, both orientated NW-SE, were exposed in the south-western half of the trench.
- 3.4.127 Two possible postholes were also recorded.
- 3.4.128 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (111401) that was 0.30 m thick.

Trench 115 (Fig. 19)

- 3.4.129 Trench 115 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (111501) was encountered at c 32.40 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. A ditch, a number of amorphous features, and four furrows were cut into this deposit. Following excavation of the ditch, it was agreed with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project.
- 3.4.130 Ditch 111509 was located at the south-western end of the trench and was orientated NW-SE. It was 2.00 m wide and 0.40 m deep with steep sides and a wide, flat base. A primary fill of light greyish brown clay loam (111512) was overlain by a main fill (111503) composed of dark grey clay loam that contained a large assemblage of late Roman pottery. The north-eastern side of the ditch was truncated by a plough furrow (111511).
- 3.4.131 A number of amorphous features were exposed whose form and function could not easily be understood within the confines of the evaluation trench. Pottery dating from the Roman period was recovered from the surface of these features.
- 3.4.132 The features were sealed by a layer of yellowish brown loamy clay subsoil (111513) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.15 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (111501) that was 0.25 m thick.

Trench 116 (Figs 19 and 22)

- 3.4.133 Trench 116 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (111616) was encountered at c 32.30 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. A total of ten ditches were cut into this deposit. Following excavation of three ditches, it was agreed with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project.
- 3.4.134 The three ditches that were excavated extended across the central part of the trench on a NW-SE alignment and may represent successive phases of a single boundary (Section 111601, Fig. 22). The earliest in the sequence was ditch 111605, which was 0.95 m wide and 0.54 deep, with slightly concave sides and a rounded base. The lower part of the ditch was filled by a primary fill of orange grey sandy clay (111610), above

which lay an upper fill of brownish grey clay (111611). No finds were recovered from either fill.

- 3.4.135 The south-western side of the ditch was cut by ditch 111604. This feature had steeper but more irregularly shaped sides with a narrow, flat base, and measured 0.85 m wide and 0.34 m deep. A sherd from a Roman greyware jar was found on the base of the ditch. The lower of the feature's two fills was a layer grey-black silty clay (111608) that contained frequent flecks of waterlogged plant material. The upper fill (111609) was composed of dark grey clay, and from it were recovered a small quantity of animal bone and two sherds of pottery dating from the mid-3rd or 4th century.
- 3.4.136 This ditch was cut, again on its south-western side, by ditch 111603. This ditch was 1.25 m wide with steep sides and a slightly irregular base, and was 0.37 m deep. It was filled by bluish grey clay with orange mottling, the lower part of which (111606) was firm and the upper part (111607) more soft. The upper part of these ditches appeared to have left a hollow 0.16 deep, which was filled by a layer of soft, light brown clay (111612) from which two sherds of Roman pottery were recovered.
- 3.4.137 A ditch that was not investigated by excavation branched off the south-western side of ditch 111603 and extended for c 10 m along the trench, before curving toward north-west and continuing beyond the edge of the trench. A second, similar ditch extended alongside this feature on its north-western side.
- 3.4.138 At the north-eastern end of the trench, a more substantial ditch was exposed that extended obliquely across the trench. A total length of 11 m of this ditch was exposed, and three sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from its surface.
- 3.4.139 A group of three ditches was exposed at the south-western end of the trench. Two of these ditches were closely spaced and extended across the trench on a NW-SE orientation. Sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the surfaces of both. They were cut by an L-shaped ditch from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.140 The features were sealed by a layer of light brown sandy clay subsoil (111602) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.10 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (111601) that was 0.30 m thick.

Trench 118 (Fig. 20)

- 3.4.141 Trench 118 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (111802) was encountered at c 32.30 m OD, at an average depth of 0.38 m below current ground level. Two ditches, one of which was associated with a bank, and a posthole were cut into this deposit. No finds were recovered from any of these features.
- 3.4.142 Ditch 111805 was located 18 m from the south-eastern end of the trench and lay on a NE-SW orientation. It was a relatively wide and shallow ditch, measuring 1.72 m wide but only 0.22 m deep. It had a very thin primary fill of light orange grey clay (111807), which was overlain by the main fill, a deposit of dark grey clay (111806).
- 3.4.143 Ditch 111808 was located in the central part of the trench and was orientated N-S. It was 1.00 m wide and 0.12 m deep, and was filled by a deposit of brownish black silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal (111809).
- 3.4.144 Posthole 111803 was located toward the north-western end of the trench. It measured 0.23 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep and had vertical sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill of brownish black loamy clay.
- 3.4.145 The features were sealed by a layer of light greyish brown silty clay subsoil (111810) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.10 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (11181) that was 0.28 m thick.

*Trench 119 (Fig 20 and 22)*

- 3.4.146 Trench 119 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NE-SW. The natural clay (111902) was encountered at c 32.30 m OD, at an average depth of 0.33 m below current ground level. A pit and two furrows were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.147 Pit 111903 (Section 11901, Fig. 22) was only partly exposed within the confines of the trench, and measured at least 7.90 m NE-SW. Excavation of a small intervention at its south-western edge revealed it to be at least 0.78 m deep, although the side was still sloping downward at this depth, and so the full depth of the feature may be considerably greater than this. Three fills were recorded, the earliest of which was a deposit of mid grey silty clay (111904). This was overlain by a layer of brownish grey silty clay (111905) and an uppermost fill of very firm grey silty clay (111906). None of these deposits contained any finds. The function of the pit was not established with any certainty, but the size and the potentially considerable depth suggest that it may be a well or quarry pit.
- 3.4.148 Two furrows were recorded, both on NW-SE alignments, but neither was sampled by excavation.
- 3.4.149 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (111901) that was 0.33 m thick.

Trench 120 (Figs 20 and 22)

- 3.4.150 Trench 120 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (112002) was encountered at c 32.10 m OD, at an average depth of 0.28 m below current ground level. A large pit was cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.151 Pit 112003 (Section 112001, Fig. 22) was only partly exposed within the confines of the trench, and so its shape and full dimensions could not be ascertained, although the part that was exposed measured 5.50 m NW-SE. An intervention was excavated at its north-western edge to a depth of 0.73 m, but the base was not reached and at this depth the side of the pit was still sloping steeply downward. Three fills were recorded, comprising a layer of stoney dark brownish grey sandy clay (112006), overlain by a layer of orange brown clay (112005) and an uppermost fill of greyish brown silty clay (112004). The only finds recovered were a few fragments of animal bone from the middle fill.
- 3.4.152 The features were sealed by a layer of modern topsoil (112001) that was 0.28 m thick.

Area 8 (Figs 8 and 21)

- 3.4.153 Area 8 comprised an arable field and an area of woodland beside the junction of the A421 with Manor Road, adjacent to Elms Farm. The ground surface in this area was generally level, at c 32 m OD. A total of six trenches were excavated in this area (Trenches 121-126). The natural geology throughout the area was Oxford Clay.
- 3.4.154 Archaeological features were uncovered in Trenches 123 and 125.
- 3.4.155 Subsoil was recorded in all the trenches and was generally 0.08 m – 0.20 m thick. In Trench 126 the subsoil was recorded as being considerably thicker, at 0.42 m thick, presumably reflecting its location in an area of different landuse, as this was the only trench located within an area of woodland. The modern topsoil varied in thickness from 0.16 m -0.34 m.

Trench 123 (Fig. 21)

- 3.4.156 Trench 123 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (112302) was encountered at c 31.25 m OD, at an average depth of 0.45 m below current ground level. A single ditch was cut into this deposit.

- 3.4.157 Ditch 112304 was located c 6 m from the south-eastern end of the trench and was orientated N-S. It was very shallow, surviving to a depth of only 0.08 m, and was 0.40 m wide. No finds were recovered from its only fill, a deposit of light brown silty clay (112304), but the ditch was cut by two land drains and is therefore unlikely to be of modern origin.
- 3.4.158 The features were sealed by a layer of subsoil (112301) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.20 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (112300) that was 0.25 m thick.

Trench 125 (Fig. 21)

- 3.4.159 Trench 125 measured 50 m x 2 m and was orientated NW-SE. The natural clay (112513) was encountered at c 31.10 m OD – 31.28 m OD, at an average depth of 0.40 m below current ground level. Three ditches were cut into this deposit.
- 3.4.160 Ditches 112503 and 112507 were located c 5 m and c 17 m respectively from the south-eastern end of the trench, and were both orientated NNW-SSE. Both were 0.80 m wide, ditch 112503 measuring 0.12 m deep and ditch 112507 measuring 0.10 m deep. They contained similar fills of brown clay, neither of which produced any finds.
- 3.4.161 Ditch 112505, which was located between these features, measured 0.84 m wide and 0.18 m deep. It too was filled by a deposit of brown clay (112506), and like the other features contained no finds.
- 3.4.162 The features were sealed by a layer of subsoil (112502) that extended throughout the trench and had an average thickness of 0.12 m. Above this was a layer of modern topsoil (112501) that was 0.28 m thick.

3.5 Finds summary

- 3.5.1 A total of 895 sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery, weighing 6027 g, were recovered during the evaluation. The assemblage is dominated by late Iron Age and early Roman material, although some late Roman material and two groups possibly dating to the early Iron Age are also present. The late Iron Age to early Roman assemblage consists largely of locally produced material and is dominated by jars, suggesting the presence of a low status rural settlement. The late Roman material indicates the presence of a relatively low status settlement, but with some regional links. In addition, a cremation burial (104802) produced a cremation urn and two ancillary vessels with a date range of AD70-120.
- 3.5.1 A total of 150 sherds of pottery of medieval and post-medieval date (mainly the former), weighing 1527 g, were recovered. The bulk of the pottery came from Trench 31.
- 3.5.2 A total of 11 lithic items were recovered, including four natural, unmodified flakes. Although the assemblage is small, the utilisation of flakes for expedient tools suggests a later Neolithic or Bronze Age date.
- 3.5.3 A total of 27 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2526 g, was recovered during the course of the evaluation. The assemblage is dominated by quarry tiles, roof tiles and fragments of land-drain.
- 3.5.4 A total of three fragments of fired clay, weighing 63 g was recovered during the evaluation. All three fragments probably represent structural/oven debris.
- 3.5.5 There are four pieces of ironwork, all from different contexts. These comprise a small punch and three nails. None are intrinsically datable, but the punch came from a modern context.
- 3.5.6 None of the stone recovered during the evaluation had been worked.



- 3.5.7 One small fragment of shell and two small pieces of slag were also recovered.
- 3.5.8 A total of 15 animal bones were recovered from the evaluation. The species present include cattle and sheep/goat, as well as indeterminate large and medium mammal. However, the number of fragments per species are insufficient for an interpretation of animal husbandry strategies.
- 3.5.9 An urned cremation burial of early Roman date was excavated in Trench 48, and unburnt human bones were recovered from a late Iron Age or early Roman pit in Trench 91 and from ditch fills of a similar date in Trenches 54 and 91.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 The results of the field investigation were largely consistent with those of the geophysical survey, indicating that they were generally reliable. The archaeological features, where present, survived predominantly undisturbed, with recent disturbance limited to the truncating effects of modern ploughing, which was no more severe than would be expected on any rural site.
- 4.1.2 A combination of heavy rain and poorly drained soil made excavation of many features more difficult, but it only proved to be a major problem in Trenches 98 and 99, which became flooded before excavation of the archaeological features could take place. It was, however, possible to confirm the presence of the enclosure ditches identified by the geophysical survey, although in the absence of excavation no finds were recovered from them, and so they remain undated.
- 4.1.3 Artefactual evidence was recovered from most of the feature complexes to provide spot-dates for most of the feature complexes, with the exceptions of those recorded in Area 4 in Trenches 82 and 83, and in Area 8 in Trenches 123 and 125. Both the quantity and range of finds recovered were generally small, and this hampered attempts to interpret the precise nature of the activities represented by the remains.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The results of the evaluation are summarised below in relation to the objectives set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 4.2.2 *To identify the presence/absence of buried archaeological remains within the site areas (Sites 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and part of Site 8 to the south of Manor Road) identified in the Environmental Statement.* The field evaluation was successful in identifying discrete concentrations of archaeological remains, contrasting with archaeologically blank areas in between. The correspondence of these areas with the locations of features indicated by the results of the geophysical survey suggests that the evaluation has provided an accurate representation of the distribution of archaeological remains within the scheme corridor.
- 4.2.3 *To determine (where possible) the nature, depth, extent, character and date of any archaeological deposits or features encountered.* The majority of the archaeological features encountered were ditches, although some pits and postholes were also recorded, as well as a cremation burial in Trench 48. These features occurred in discrete concentrations, which are likely to represent parts of settlements or field system, but within the limited investigation possible in an evaluation it is not easy to establish with any great certainty which groups of archaeological remains are domestic in origin and which agricultural. The limited quantity and range of the finds assemblages are not helpful in this respect, although the assemblages of animal bone from Trenches 54 and 91 may represent dumping of domestic refuse, as may the large pottery assemblage from Trench 100. Unburnt human bone occurred at two locations (Trenches 54 and 91) in three separate features of late Iron Age date. The presence of isolated, disarticulated human bones within settlement-related features dating to the Iron Age is fairly common. While it is possible that the bones were disturbed from earlier inhumation burials, it is, perhaps, more likely that they represent evidence of excarnation occurring at the site (eg Cunliffe 1978, 316; Wilson 1981, 148).
- 4.2.4 *To determine the condition or state of preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered.* Although all the archaeological features had been truncated to



some extent by later ploughing, they were otherwise well-preserved and had not been subject to any further disturbance.

- 4.2.5 To *determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present*. The results of the evaluation indicate that the quantity and range of artefactual material present is fairly limited, although this may vary between areas depending on their character; The groups of ditches identified in Trenches 82 and 83, and in Trenches 123 and 125, for example, produced no finds and are best interpreted as complexes of field boundaries, whereas the groups of features in Trench 54, Trenches 91 and 92, and Trenches 97–100 produced assemblages that may be indicative of domestic settlement, in which case a greater quantity of finds may be expected. The environmental evidence has not been analysed at this stage, but the presence of flecks of water-logged plant remains in Roman ditch fill 111608, and of a fragment of preserved wood in late Iron Age ditch fill 105405 suggest that water-logged plant remains may be well-preserved.

4.3 Interpretation

Area 1

- 4.3.1 No significant archaeological remains were identified in Area 1, although evidence for ridge and furrow cultivation was recorded throughout the area, as had been indicated by the results of the geophysical survey. The only archaeological features present were ditches in Trenches 3, 4 and 11, which contained no finds and are likely to be agricultural boundaries. Ditch 100403, in Trench 4, lay on the same NE-SW orientation as an adjacent furrow, and ditch 100304, in Trench 3, lay at a right angle to this, and it is therefore likely that the ditches formed boundaries associated with medieval cultivation.
- 4.3.2 No evidence was identified in Trench 2 for the features interpreted by the geophysical survey as the corner of a double-ditched enclosure. This trench did, however, uncover a number of tree-throw holes, and it is likely that these are the features that were recorded by the geophysics.
- 4.3.3 The geophysical anomalies interpreted as possible barrow ditches appear to have been geological in origin, formed by a mixed geology of clay and sand exposed in Trench 18.

Area 3

- 4.3.4 Two concentrations of archaeological remains were identified in Area 3, located immediately east of Lower End Farm, in Trenches 31 and 38, and at the eastern end of the area in Trench 48.
- 4.3.5 The archaeological features in Trenches 31 and 38 comprised ditches, a pit and a large shallow feature, possibly a pond, all of which date from the 14th-15th centuries. These features are likely to be associated with the deserted medieval village at Lower End, and indicate that it extends into the scheme corridor. The undated ditches recorded in Trenches 34 and 37 may also be associated with this settlement.
- 4.3.6 The features in Trench 48 comprised ditches, pits, postholes and a cremation burial, all of which appear to date from the late Iron Age or early Roman period. They are likely to be associated with a complex of possible enclosure ditches identified to the east of the trench identified by the geophysical survey. The range of features recorded suggests that this complex may be domestic in nature, although an evaluation trench previously excavated within the complex by Albion Archaeology (2006b) found evidence only for quarrying. Certainly, cremation burials are rarely located far from areas of settlement. The absence of associated features from Trenches 46, 47 and 49 would appear to



confirm the impression from the distribution of features in the geophysical survey that Trench 48 lies near the north-western limit of these remains.

Area 3/4

- 4.3.7 Three ditches were identified in Trench 54, including two that were not apparent from the geophysical survey. These features were late Iron Age in date, but their precise significance is uncertain. The presence in one of the ditches of the largest assemblage of animal bone from the evaluation, as well as large sherds of pottery that are unlikely to have moved far from their original place of breakage, may indicate that an area of settlement lies nearby, although the absence of further features in the adjacent trenches would suggest that Trench 54 is not located within an extensive area of settlement. The presence of a human femora in the fill of a ditch may be evidence that the practice of excarnation was undertaken at the site.

Area 4

- 4.3.8 Two concentrations of archaeological remains were identified in Area 4, located at the western and of the area in Trenches 59, 60 and 61, and east of Beancroft Road in Trenches 82 and 83.
- 4.3.9 The pits and postholes recorded in Trenches 59, 60 and 61 are most likely evidence for settlement in this location, although the artefactual assemblage was limited. The ceramic evidence indicates that this activity dates from the late Iron Age and early Roman period.
- 4.3.10 The ditches recorded in Trenches 82 and 83 form part of a group of features identified between these trenches and Beancroft Road by the geophysical survey. The sterile clay fills and absence of artefacts indicate that they are likely to be field boundary ditches rather than being associated with an area of settlement.

Area 5

- 4.3.11 An area of archaeological remains was identified in Trenches 91 and 92 in the form of pits and ditches of late Iron Age or Roman date. Although these features are clearly not extensive, as they did not continue into Trenches 90 or 93, the presence of animal bone may be indicative of dumping of domestic refuse, and therefore of settlement in the immediate vicinity. As with Trench 54 (see above), the presence of two human femora in separate features may be evidence that the practice of excarnation was undertaken at the site.

Area 6

- 4.3.12 Two concentrations of archaeological remains were identified in Area 6, located at the western end of the area in Trenches 97-100, and further east in Trench 105.
- 4.3.13 The features exposed in Trenches 97-100 confirmed the presence of the ditched enclosures identified by the geophysical survey. Flooding of Trenches 97, 98 and 99 prevented excavation of these features, and so their date could not be conclusively established, although ditch 110003 in Trench 100 contained pottery of late Iron Age or early Roman date. Animal bone and fired clay of possible structural origin that was also recovered from this ditch may be domestic refuse, indicating the presence of settlement activity nearby. The ditch also contained the largest single assemblage of pottery from the evaluation.
- 4.3.14 A further area of archaeological remains may be represented by the group of three pits, two of which contained pottery dating from the late Iron Age or early Roman period,



recorded in Trench 105. The character of the archaeology in this area is uncertain; the small quantities of pottery recovered from these pits and the absence of other domestic debris may indicate that they are not located within a settlement. The geophysical survey identified an irregular scatter of pits extending alongside the current line of the A421, and although Trench 106, which was targeted on this area, failed to identify any such features, it is possible that the pits in Trench 105 are outliers of this group.

Area 7

- 4.3.15 All the trenches in Area 7, with the exception of Trenches 113 and 117, revealed archaeological features, including ditches associated with a series of enclosures identified by the geophysical survey. Pits and two large features that may be quarries or wells/waterholes were also recorded, and this range of feature types, in addition to a range of artefactual evidence including pottery, animal bone, slag, shell and an iron nail, suggests that this area is likely to represent settlement rather than agricultural activity. The ceramic dating evidence recovered from these features indicates a date during the later part of the Roman period for this occupation.

Area 8

- 4.3.16 The ditches recorded in Trench 125 correspond with the linear features identified by the geophysical survey, and it is likely that the ditch in Trench 123, which lies on a similar alignment, is part of the same complex. The sterile clay fills of these features, and the absence of finds, indicate that they are probably field boundary ditches, although their date is unknown.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The evaluation has identified ten areas of archaeological remains, most of which are late Iron Age or Roman in date and are likely to form part of a contemporary rural landscape, comprising small, perhaps farmstead-sized settlements interspersed with areas of fields. The range of features and finds recorded at six of these locations (Trench 48; Trench 54; Trenches 59-61; Trenches 91-2; Trenches 97-100; Trenches 114-120) may indicate dumping of domestic debris from settlements located at or close to these areas, while the ditches recorded at two locations (Trenches 82 and 83; Trenches 123 and 125) contained no finds and are more likely to be complexes of field boundaries.
- 4.4.2 This pattern is consistent with the general picture established for rural areas of Bedfordshire during the late Iron Age and Roman period (Oake *et al.* 2007, 73-4), and the results of the evaluation and of the mitigation stage of the project will provide a valuable dataset for investigating the occupation of the landscape during these periods. In particular, the results of the evaluation have demonstrated the increase in both the number of settlements, and in the range of settlement types during the late Iron Age/early Roman period. Further investigation during the mitigation stage of the project should clarify the nature of the settlement sites that have been identified, and the relationships between these settlements and between areas of settlement and areas of field enclosures.
- 4.4.3 The results of the mitigation stage of the project should contribute to an understanding of the reaction of the native population of Bedfordshire to the Roman conquest, which has been characterised by a “tension between conservative and radical attitudes” (*ibid.*, 78).
- 4.4.4 Only one site, that in Area 7, has been identified as continuing in use into the later part of the Roman period. This decline in the number of settlements in relation to the late



Iron Age/early Roman period has been noted previously (ibid, 74), and has been attributed to the adoption of a less dispersed settlement pattern, with settlement becoming focused on villa estates and areas of previous settlement being subject to enclosure or emparkment (ibid).

- 4.4.5 During the medieval period settlement became more nucleated, and this is demonstrated in the case of the current project by the limitation of remains of this period to a small area east of Lower End Farm, approximately defined by Trenches 31, 34, 37 and 38. These remains form part of the deserted medieval village of Lower End, which extends into the development corridor at this location. The ubiquitous presence of furrows resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation indicates that much of the area encompassed by the scheme was farmland during this period.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeology present. One furrow recorded.				Avg. depth (m)	0.37	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100101	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
100102	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
100103	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
100104	Cut	1.26	0.18	Furrow	-	-
100105	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of furrow 100104	-	-

Trench 2						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Two possible features recorded.				Avg. depth (m)	1048	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100201	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
100202	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
100203	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
100204	Cut	0.52 0.46	x 0.15	Pit/posthole/root hole	-	-
100205	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of pit/posthole/root hole	-	-
100206	Cut	0.50 0.47	x 0.14	Pit/posthole/root hole	-	-
100207	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of pit/posthole/root hole	-	-



Trench 3						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
One N-S orientated ditch present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.48	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100301	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
100302	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
100303	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
100304	Cut	0.91	0.40	Ditch	-	-
100305	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of ditch 100304	-	-

Trench 4						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
Trench contained a ditch and a furrow, both orientated NE-SW.				Avg. depth (m)	0.53	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100401	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
100402	Layer	-	0.23	Subsoil	-	-
100403	Cut	0.71	0.45	Ditch	-	-
100404	Fill	-	0.27	Upper fill of ditch 100403	-	-
100405	Fill	-	0.18	Lower fill of ditch 100403	-	-
100406	Cut	1.67	0.13	Furrow	-	-
100407	Fill	-	0.13	Fill of furrow 100406	-	-
100408	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 5						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.54
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		20.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100501	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
100502	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
100503	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present. Three furrows were observed, one of which was excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.44
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		37.70
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100601	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
100602	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
100603	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
100604	Cut	0.86	0.19	Furrow	-	-
100605	Fill	-	0.19	Fill of furrow 100604	-	-

Trench 7						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.20
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100701	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
100702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 8						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present. A modern ditch was recorded running NE-SW across the trench.				Avg. depth (m)		0.52
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100801	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
100802	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
100803	Cut	1.30	-	Modern ditch	-	-
100804	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 100803	-	-
100805	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
100901	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
100902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. One tree-throw hole was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.49
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101001	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
101002	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
101003	Cut	4.10 x 1.30	0.34	Tree-throw hole	-	-
101004	Fill	-	0.34	Fill of tree-throw hole 101003	Pottery	AD 43-410
101005	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 11						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
A shallow gully/furrow was recorded, as well as three furrows, one of which was excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101101	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
101102	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
101103	Cut	0.65	0.13	Furrow	-	-
101104	Fill	-	0.13	Fill of furrow 101103	-	-
101105	Cut	0.36	0.08	Gully/furrow	-	-
101106	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of gully/furrow 101105	-	-
101107	Layer	-	Natural		-	-

Trench 12						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101201	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
101202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 13						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101301	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
101302	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
101303	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 14						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. Six possible furrows observed, one of which was excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.60
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101401	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
101402	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
101403	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
101404	Cut	1.40	0.25	Furrow	-	-
101405	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of furrow 101404	-	-

Trench 15						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		4.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101501	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
101502	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
101503	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. The trench was mistakenly machined to gravel, at a depth of 0.76 m, and consequently Trench 16a was excavated to replace it.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101601	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
101602	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil		
101603	Layer	-	0.36	Alluvium	-	-



Trench 16a						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101604	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
101605	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present. One furrow was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.27
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101701	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
101702	Cut	0.50	0.14	Furrow	-	-
101703	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of furrow 101702	-	-
101704	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present. Three furrows were observed, of which one was excavated, as well as a modern field drain.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101801	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
101802	Cut	0.14	>0.20	Field drain	-	-
101803	Fill	-	>0.20	Fill of field drain	-	-
101804	Cut	1.80	0.24	Furrow	-	-
101805	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of furrow 101804	-	-
101806	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 19						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.26
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
101901	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
101902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present. One furrow, orientated N-S, was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102001	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
102002	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
102003	Cut	1.18	0.05	Furrow	-	-
102004	Fill	-	0.05	Fill of furrow 102003	-	-
102005	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.22
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102101	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
102102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 22						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
No archaeology present. A furrow was partly exposed at the NW end of the trench, and two tree-throw holes were investigated.				Avg. depth (m)	0.43	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102201	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
102202	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
102203	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
102204	Cut	1.48	0.31	Furrow	-	-
102205	Fill	-	0.31	Fill of furrow 102204	-	-
102206	Cut	1.54 1.14	x 0.10	Tree-throw hole	-	-
102207	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of tree-throw hole 102206	Pottery	AD 70-180
102208	Cut	0.85 0.61	x 0.19	Tree-throw hole	-	-
102209	Fill	-	0.19	Fill of tree-throw hole 102208	-	-

Trench 23						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
No archaeology present. A single furrow, orientated N-S, was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)	0.20	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102301	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
102302	Layer	-	0.33	Subsoil	-	-
102303	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
102304	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 10235	-	-
102305	Cut	0.48	-	Furrow	-	-



Trench 24						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present. A single furrow, orientated NE-SW, was observed.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102401	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
102402	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
102403	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
102404	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
102405	Cut	2.00	0.20	Furrow	-	-
102406	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of furrow 1024105	-	-

Trench 25						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102501	Layer	-	0.10	Topsoil	-	-
102502	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
102503	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
102504	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 26						
General description				Orientation		SW-NE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102601	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
102602	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
102603	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 27						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102700	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
102701	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.36
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102800	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
102801	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
102802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
102900	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
102901	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
102902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
102903	Cut	0.90	0.30	Ditch	-	-
102904	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of ditch 102903	-	-



Trench 30						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.36
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103000	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
103001	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
103002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
General description				Orientation		E-W
The trench contained a medieval ditch with a re-cut, a medieval gully, and an undated pit. Three tree-throw holes were also recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.48
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103101	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
103102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
103103	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of gully 103104	Pottery Animal bone	13th-14thC
103104	Cut	0.40	0.15	Gully	-	-
103105	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of tree-throw hole 103106	Pottery	13th-14thC
103106	Cut	1.00 0.60	x 0.16	Tree-throw hole	Nail	-
103107	Cut	1.16	0.42	Ditch	-	-
103108	Fill	-	0.11	Upper fill of ditch 103107	Pottery Animal bone	c1550-1600
103109	Fill	-	0.30	Lower fill of ditch 103107	Pottery	14th-15thC
103110	Object	-	-	Pot in fill 103109	Pottery CBM	14th-15thC
103111	Cut	0.78	0.60	Re-cut of ditch 103107	-	-
103112	Fill	-	0.16	Upper fill of ditch 103111	-	-
103113	Fill	-	0.46	Lower fill of ditch 103111	Pottery Animal bone	14th-15 th C
103114	Cut	0.70	0.12	Pit/tree-throw hole	-	-



Trench 31						
103115	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of pit/tree-throw hole	-	-
103116	Cut	1.50	1.00	Tree-throw hole	-	-
103117	Fill	-	1.00	Fill of tree-throw hole 103116	Animal bone Nail	-
103118	Cut	3.40 x 1.30	0.16	Tree-throw hole	-	-
103119	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of tree-throw hole 103118	-	-
103120	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 32						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.42
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103200	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
103201	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
103202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 33						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.34
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103300	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
103301	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
103302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 34						
General description				Orientation		N-S
A single NW-SE ditch was present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103400	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
103401	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
103402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
103403	Cut	0.50	0.10	Ditch/furrow	-	-
103404	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of ditch/furrow 103403	-	-

Trench 35						
General description				Orientation		ENE-WSW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.34
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103500	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
103501	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
103502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
General description				Orientation		ENE-WSW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.28
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103600	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
103601	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
103602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 37						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
A single undated ditch, orientated N-S, was present. Two plough scars, probably modern, were also recorded.				Avg. depth (m)	0.28	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103700	Layer	-	0.13	Topsoil	-	-
103701	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
103702	Cut	0.26	0.08	Plough scar	-	-
103703	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of plough scar 103702	-	-
103704	Cut	0.30	0.20	Ditch	-	-
103705	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of ditch 103704	-	-
103706	Cut	0.25	-	Plough scar	-	-
103707	Fill	-	-	Fill of plough scar	-	-

Trench 38						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
A single shallow feature of uncertain form was present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.40	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103801	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
103802	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
103803	Fill	-	0.10	Upper fill of 103805	Pottery	13th-14thC
103804	Fill	-	0.22	Lower fill of 103805	Pottery	13th-14thC
103805	Cut	4.00	0.22		-	-
103806	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 39						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.20
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
103900	Layer	-	0.10	Topsoil	-	-
103901	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
103902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 40						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
104001	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
104002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 41						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104100	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
104101	Layer	-	0.04	Subsoil	-	-
104102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 42						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
A single ditch containing fragments of modern land drain was present. The alignment indicates that this is the same feature as ditch 104303 in Trench 42.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104200	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
104201	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
104202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104203	Cut	0.92	0.48	Modern ditch	-	-
104204	Fill	-	0.30	Upper fill of ditch 104203	CBM	19th-20th C
104205	Fill	-	0.18	Lower fill of ditch 104203	-	-

Trench 43						
General description				Orientation	ENE-WSW	
A single ditch containing fragments of modern land drain was present. The alignment indicates that this is the same feature as ditch 104203 in Trench 43.				Avg. depth (m)	0.35	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104300	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
104301	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
104302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104303	Cut	1.30	0.62	Modern ditch	-	-
104304	Fill	-	0.20	Upper fill of ditch 104303	-	-
104305	Fill	-	0.20	Middle fill of ditch 104303	-	-
104306	Fill	-	0.16	Lower fill of ditch 104303	CBM	19th-20th C



Trench 44						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104400	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
104401	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
104402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 45						
General description				Orientation		WNW-ESE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.34
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
104501	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
104502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 46						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104600	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
104601	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
104602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 47						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.44
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104700	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
104701	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
104702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104703	Cut	0.76	0.12	Root disturbance	-	-
104704	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of root disturbance	-	-

Trench 48						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
The trench contained a cremation burial, a ditch, five pits, two pits/postholes, three ditch terminals, a large pit or ditch terminal, and two postholes.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		4.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104800	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
104801	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
104802	Cut	-	0.28	Cremation pit	-	-
104803	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of cremation pit 104802	Pottery	AD 70-180
104804	Object	-	-	Cremation urn in cremation 104802	Pottery	AD 70-180
104805	Object	-	-	Ancillary vessel in cremation 104802	Pottery	AD 50-180
104806	Object	-	-	Ancillary vessel in cremation 104802	Pottery	AD 42-120
104807	Cut	1.80	-	Ditch (unexcavated)	-	-
104808	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 104807	Pottery	LIA
104809	Cut	0.50	-	Pit/posthole (unexcavated)	-	-
104810	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit/posthole 14809	-	-
104811	Cut	0.60	-	Pit-posthole	-	-
104812	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit/posthole 104811	-	-
104813	Cut	1.00 0.70	x -	Pit (unexcavated)	-	-



Trench 48						
104814	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 104813	-	-
104815	Cut	1.85 0.60	x -	Pit (unexcavated)	-	-
104816	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 104815	-	-
104817	Cut	2.20	-	Pit/ditch terminus	-	-
104818	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit/ditch terminus 104817	Pottery	LIA-AD 70
104819	Cut	1.20	-	Pit (unexcavated)	-	-
104820	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 104819	Pottery	AD 90-110
104821	Cut	2.40 1.00	x -	Pit (unexcavated)	-	-
104822	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 104821	-	-
104823	Cut	0.60	-	Ditch terminus (unexcavated)	-	-
104824	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch terminus 104823	-	-
104825	Cut	0.80	-	Ditch terminus (unexcavated)	-	-
104826	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch terminus 104825	-	-
104827	Cut	1.10	-	Ditch terminus (unexcavated)	-	-
104828	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch terminus 104827	-	-
104829	Cut	1.70 0.90	x -	Pit (unexcavated)	-	-
104830	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit 104829	-	-
104831	Cut	0.20	0	Posthole (unexcavated)	-	-
104832	Fill	-	-	Fill of posthole 104831	-	-
104833	Cut	0.30	-	Posthole	-	-
104834	Fill	-	-	Fill of posthole 104833	-	-
104835	Fill	-	-	Fill of urn 104804	Human bone	-



Trench 49						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
104900	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
104901	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 50						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. A single furrow, orientated NW-SE, was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105000	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
105001	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105002	Cut	0.62	0.12	Furrow	-	-
105003	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of furrow 105002	-	-

Trench 51						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
No archaeology present. Two furrows, orientated NW-SE, were recorded, as well as a dew pond that was visible as a hollow in the ground surface prior to excavation of the trench. Two tree-throw holes were also investigated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105100	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
105101	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105102	Cut	4.00 x >0.90	0.40	Tree-throw hole	-	-
105103	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of tree-throw hole 105102	-	-
105104	Cut	2.00 x >1.00	0.22	Tree-throw hole	-	-



Trench 51						
105105	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of tree-throw hole 105104	-	-
105106	Cut	1.40	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105107	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105106	Flint	-
105108	Cut	0.60	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105109	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105108	-	-
105110	Cut	10.00	-	Dew pond (unexcavated)	-	-
105111	Fill	-	-	Fill of dew pond 105110	-	-

Trench 52						
General description				Orientation	NNE-SSW	
No archaeology present. The trench contained three furrows, two of which were excavated.				Avg. depth (m)	0.30	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
105201	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
105202	Void	-	-	-	-	-
105203	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105204	Cut	0.60	0.12	Furrow	-	-
105205	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of furrow 105204	-	-
105206	Cut	2.50	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105207	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105206	-	-
105208	Cut	1.30	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105209	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105208	-	-

Trench 53						
General description				Orientation	N-S	
No archaeology present. The trench contained three furrows, one of which was excavated, and a single tree-throw hole.				Avg. depth (m)	0.32	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105300	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
105301	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105302	Cut	1.80	0.32	Furrow	-	-



Trench 53						
105303	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of furrow 105302	-	-
105304	Cut	2.00 x 0.70	-	Tree-throw hole (unexcavated)	-	-
105305	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-throw hole 105304	-	-
105306	Cut	0.70	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105307	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105306	-	-
105308	Cut	0.90	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
105309	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 105308	-	-

Trench 54						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
Two ditches, one with a re-cut, were excavated, and a further two ditches recorded in plan.				Avg. depth (m)	0.41	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105400	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
105401	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
105402	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of ditch 105414	Pottery Animal bone	LIA
105403	Cut	1.70	0.80	Ditch	-	-
105404	Cut	1.40	0.78	Ditch	-	-
105405	Fill	-	0.44	Lower fill of ditch 105404	Wood	-
105406	Fill	-	0.22	Middle fill of ditch 105404	Animal bone	-
105407	Fill	-	0.20	Upper fill of ditch 105404	Pottery Flint Animal bone	LIA
105408	Fill	-	0.40	Upper fill of ditch 105403	Pottery Animal bone	LIA
105409	Cut	0.60	-	Ditch (unexcavated)	-	-
105410	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 105409	-	-
105411	Cut	1.20	-	Ditch (unexcavated)	-	-
105412	Fill	-	-	Fill of ditch 105411	-	-
105413	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105414	Cut	0.80	0.30	Re-cut of ditch 105403	-	-
105415	Fill	-	0.26	Lower fill of ditch 105403	-	-



Trench 55						
General description				Orientation	NNE-SSW	
No archaeology present. Two tree-throw holes were investigated.				Avg. depth (m)	0.38	
				Width (m)	4.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105501	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
105502	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
105503	Cut	1.64 0.56	x 0.20	Tree-throw hole	-	-
105504	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of tree-throw hole 105503	-	-
105505	Cut	0.93	0.10	Tree-throw hole	-	-
105506	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of tree-throw hole 105505	-	-
105507	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 56						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.40	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105601	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
105602	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
105603	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 57						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.28	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105700	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-



105701	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
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Trench 58						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.28
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105800	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
105801	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 59						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
The trench contained two undated postholes.				Avg. depth (m)		0.38
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
105900	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
105901	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
105902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
105903	Cut	0.34	0.26	Posthole	-	-
105904	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of posthole 105903	-	-
105905	Cut	0.38	0.30	Posthole	-	-
105906	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of posthole 105905	-	-

Trench 60						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
The trench contained two postholes, a possible hearth, four furrows and two tree-throw holes.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106000	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
106001	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
106002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 60						
106003	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of furrow 106004	-	-
106004	Cut	1.00	0.30	Furrow	-	-
106005	Fill	-	>0.10	Fill of tree-throw hole 106006	-	-
106006	Cut	-	>0.10	Tree-throw hole	-	-
106007	Fill	-	0.25	Fill of posthole 106008	Pottery Animal bone	AD 43-410
106008	Cut	0.30	0.25	Posthole	-	-
106009	Fill	-	0.13	Fill of posthole 106010	-	-
106010	Cut	0.21	0.13	Posthole	-	-
106011	Cut	1.20 1.00	x 0.35	Tree-throw hole	-	-
106012	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of tree-throw hole 106011	-	-
106013	Cut	1.60	0.40	Furrow	-	-
106014	Fill	-	0.40	Fill of furrow 106013	Animal bone	-
106015	Deposit	1.40 1.10	x 0.10	Possible hearth	-	-
106016	Cut	1.00	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
106017	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 106016	-	-
106018	Cut	1.00	-	Furrow (unexcavated)	-	-
106019	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 106018	-	-

Trench 61						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
The trench contained two pits, a soil spread and nine tree-throw holes. Two alluvial layers were recorded, which are associated with the associated with the former stream, now a drainage ditch, located immediately west of the trench.				Avg. depth (m)	0.90	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106100	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
106101	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
106102	Layer	-	0.48	Alluvium	-	-
106103	Layer	-	0.16	Alluvium	-	-
106104	Cut	0.90	0.50	Pit	-	-
106105	Fill	-	0.50	Fill of pit 106104	-	-
106106	Cut	-	0.57	Ditch terminal	-	-
106107	Fill	-	0.17	Lower fill of ditch terminal	-	-



Trench 61						
				106106		
106108	Fill	-	0.20	Middle fill of pit 106106	Pottery	LIA
106109	Fill	-	0.20	Upper fill of pit 106106	-	-
106110	Layer	-	0.20	Soil spread	Pottery	LIA – AD 70
106111	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 62						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. A single furrow was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
106201	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
106202	Cut	1.45	-	Furrow	-	-
106203	Fill	-	-	Fill of furrow 106202	-	-

Trench 63						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106300	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
106301	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 64						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.34
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106400	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-



106401	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
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Trench 65						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106500	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
106501	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 66						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.29
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106600	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
106601	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 67						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106700	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
106701	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 68						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.27
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106800	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
106801	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 69						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.27
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
106900	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
106901	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 70						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.27
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107000	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
107001	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 71						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.29
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107101	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
107102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 72						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.29
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107201	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
107202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 73						
General description				Orientation		NNW-SSE
The trench contained three furrows, one of which was excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107301	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
107302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
107303	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of furrow 107304	-	-
107304	Cut	2.30	0.12	Furrow	-	-



Trench 74						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107401	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
107402	Layer	-	0.03	Subsoil	-	-
107403	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 75						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107501	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
107502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 76						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.24
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107601	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
107602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 77						
General description				Orientation		NNW-SSE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107701	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
107702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 78						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		30.47
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107801	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
107802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 79						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present. Four furrows were observed, but not excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
107900	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
107901	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 80						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.34
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108001	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
108002	Cut	1.60	0.08	Furrow	-	-
108003	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of furrow 108002	-	-
108004	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 81						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108101	Layer	-	0.40	Topsoil	-	-
108102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 82						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
The trench contained a ditch and a posthole.				Avg. depth (m)		0.26
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108201	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
108202	Cut	0.64	0.10	Ditch	-	-
108203	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of ditch 108202	-	-
108204	Cut	0.35	0.07	Posthole	-	-
108205	Fill	-	0.07	Fill of posthole 108204	-	-
108206	Cut	0.14	0.08	Root hole	-	-
108207	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of root hole 108206	-	-



108208	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
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Trench 83

General description The trench contained a pit, two furrows and a modern plough scar.	Orientation	NW-SE
	Avg. depth (m)	0.24
	Width (m)	2.00
	Length (m)	50.00

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108301	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
108302	Cut	0.74	0.26	Furrow	-	-
108303	Cut	0.54	0.24	Furrow	-	-
108304	Cut	0.08	0.20	Plough scar	-	-
108305	Cut	1.02	0.52	Pit	-	-
108306	Cut	0.82	0.21	Furrow	-	-
108307	Fill	-	0.26	Fill of furrows 108302 and 108303	-	-
108308	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of plough scar 108304	-	-
108309	Fill	-	0.52	Fill of pit 108305	-	-
108310	Fill	-	0.21	Fill of furrow 108306	-	-
108311	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 84

General description No archaeology present.	Orientation	NE-SW
	Avg. depth (m)	0.27
	Width (m)	2.00
	Length (m)	50.00

Contexts

context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108401	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
108402	Cut	0.28	0.32	Land drain	-	-
108403	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of land drain 108402	-	-
108404	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 85						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
The trench contained two furrows.				Avg. depth (m)	0.27	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108501	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
108502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
108503	Cut	2.33	0.31	Furrow	-	-
108504	Fill	-	0.31	Fill of furrow 108503	-	-
108505	Cut	0.73	0.07	Furrow	-	-
108506	Fill	-	0.07	Fill of furrow 108505	-	-
108507	Cut	1.28	0.16	Furrow	-	-
108508	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of furrow 108507	-	-
108509	Group	-	-	Furrow	-	-

Trench 86						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
The trench contained six furrows, two of which were excavated.				Avg. depth (m)	0.26	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108601	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
108602	Cut	1.26	0.30	Furrow	-	-
108603	Cut	0.88	0.32	Furrow	-	-
108604	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of furrow 108602	-	-
108605	Fill	-	0.32	Fill of furrow 108603	-	-
108606	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
108607	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 87						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present				Avg. depth (m)		0.20
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108701	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
108702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 88						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present. Two layers of alluvium were present, most likely associated with the former stream, now a drainage ditch, that forms a field boundary to the east of the trench.				Avg. depth (m)		0.71
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108801	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
108802	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
108803	Layer	-	0.20	Alluvium	-	-
108804	Layer	-	0.11	Alluvium	-	-
108805	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 89						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.24
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
108901	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
108902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 90						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.26
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109001	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
109002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 91						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
The trench contained four pits, a ditch and four furrows.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109101	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
109102	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
109103	Cut	1.32	0.18	Pit	-	-
109104	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of pit 109103	Pottery	LIA - AD 70
109105	Cut	1.04	0.50	Pit	-	-
109106	Fill	-	0.18	Lower fill of pit 109105	Pottery	LIA - AD 70
109107	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of pit 109105	Pottery	EIA
109108	Fill	-	0.42	Main fill of pit 109105	Pottery Animal bone	LIA – AD 70
109109	Cut	0.80	0.30	Ditch	-	-
109110	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of ditch 109109	Pottery Animal bone	LIA – AD 70
109111	Cut	1.70	0.18	Furrow	-	-
109112	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of furrow 109111	-	-
109113	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109114	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 92						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
The trench contained a single ditch, which was truncated by a plough furrow.					Avg. depth (m)	0.34
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109201	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
109202	Cut	2.64	0.44	Ditch	-	-
109203	Cut	2.50	0.38	Tree-throw hole	-	-
109204	Cut	0.90	0.12	Furrow	-	-
109205	Fill	-	0.24	Fill of plough furrow	CBM Clay pipe Fe object	18th-19th C
109206	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of ditch 109202	-	-
109207	Fill	-	0.05	Primary fill of ditch 109202	-	-
109208	Fill	-	0.22	Fill of tree-throw hole	-	-
109209	Fill	-	0.33	Fill of tree-throw hole	-	-
109210	Fill	-	0.16	Upper fill of tree throw hole 109203	-	-
109211	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of tree-throw hole 109203	-	-
109212	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of tree-throw hole 109203	-	-
109213	Fill	-	0.14	Fill of tree-throw hole 109203	-	-
109214	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of furrow 109204	-	-
109215	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 93						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
Ten furrows, all orientated NW-SE, were recorded but not excavated. No archaeology present.					Avg. depth (m)	0.20
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109301	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
109302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 94						
General description				Orientation		E-W
Nine furrows, all orientated NW-SE, were recorded but not excavated. No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.20
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109401	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
109402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 95						
General description				Orientation		N-S
Seven furrows, all orientated NW-SE, were recorded but not excavated. No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.36
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109501	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
109502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 96						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
Four furrows, all orientated NW-SE, were recorded but not excavated. No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.18
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109601	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
109602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 97						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
The trench contained three ditches, one with a re-cut, and one definite and two probable pits. Two ditches and one pit were excavated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.25
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109701	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
109702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109703	Cut	0.90	0.27	Pit	-	-
109704	Fill	-	0.15	Lower fill of pit 109703	-	-
109705	Fill	-	0.13	Upper fill of pit 109703	-	-
109706	Cut	3.19	0.84	Ditch	-	-
109707	Cut	0.40	0.15	Ditch	-	-
109708	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of ditch 109707	-	-
109709	Fill	-	0.05	Fill of ditch 109505	-	-
109710	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of ditch 109706	-	-
109711	Fill	-	0.48	Fill of ditch 109706	-	-
109712	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of ditch 109706	-	-
109713	Fill	-	0.39	Fill of ditch 109706	-	-
109714	Cut	1.49	0.66	Re-cut of ditch 109706	-	-
109715	Fill	-	0.66	Fill of ditch 109714	-	-
109706	Fill	-	0.20	Upper fill of ditch 109714	-	-

Trench 98						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
As a result of heavy rain and a high water table, the trench flooded before it could be investigated in any detail. It was not possible to excavate any features, although up to five linear features and nine discrete features were observed during machining.				Avg. depth (m)		0.55
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109801	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
109802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109803	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-



Trench 99						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
As a result of heavy rain and a high water table, the trench flooded before it could be investigated in any detail. It was not possible to excavate any features, although two linear features and six discrete features were observed during machining.				Avg. depth (m)		0.45
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		40.96
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
109901	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
109902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
109903	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
109904	Layer	-	0.25	Alluvium	-	-

Trench 100						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
The trench contained a single ditch of late Iron Age or Roman date. Two tree-throw holes were also investigated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.55
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110001	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
110002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110003	Cut	2.80	0.70	Ditch	-	-
110004	Fill	-	0.44	Lower fill of ditch 110003	Pottery Fired clay Flint Animal bone	LIA – AD 70
110005	Fill	-	0.26	Upper fill of ditch 110003	Pottery Flint Animal bone	LIA
110006	Cut	2.15 0.75	x 0.16	Tree-throw hole	-	-
110007	Fill	-	0.16	Fill of tree-throw hole 110006	-	-
110008	Cut	1.30	0.23	Tree-throw hole	-	-
110009	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of tree-throw hole 110008	-	-
110010	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
110011	Cut	1.20	0.28	Re-cut of ditch 110003	-	-
110012	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of ditch 110011	-	-



Trench 101						
General description					Orientation	N-S
No archaeology present. Three furrows, a tree throw hole and some bioturbation were recorded.					Avg. depth (m)	0.50
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110100	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
110101	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
110102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110103	Cut	1.26	0.38	Furrow	-	-
110104	Fill	-	0.38	Fill of furrow 110103	-	-
110105	Cut	>1.20 x 1.00	0.20	Tree-throw hole	-	-
110106	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of tree-throw hole 110105	-	-
110107	Cut	0.70	0.18	Furrow	-	-
110108	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of furrow 110107	-	-
110109	Cut	-	-	Bioturbation	-	-
110110	Fill	-	-	Fill of bioturbation 110109	-	-
110111	Cut	-	-	Bioturbation	-	-
110112	Fill	-	-	Fill of bioturbation 110111	-	-
110113	Cut	1.08	0.28	Furrow	-	-
110114	Fill	-	0.28	Fill of furrow 110113	-	-

Trench 102						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
No archaeology present.					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
110201	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
112002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 103						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present. A single furrow was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.24
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110301	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
110302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110303	Cut	0.80	0.35	Furrow	-	-
110304	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of furrow 110303	-	-

Trench 104						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present. A tree-throw hole was investigated.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110401	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
110402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110403	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
110404	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-throw hole 110405	-	-
110405	Cut	2.30 x >0.90	-	Tree-throw hole	-	-

Trench 105						
General description				Orientation		NNE-SSW
The trench contained three pits, two of which contained pottery dating from the late Iron Age or Roman period.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110501	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
110502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110503	Cut	1.55	0.35	Pit	-	-
110504	Fill	-	0.35	Fill of pit 110503	Pottery	LIA - AD70



Trench 105						
110505	Cut	0.65	0.12	Pit	-	-
110506	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of pit 110505	Pottery	LIA - AD70
110507	Cut	1.00 x 0.60	0.23	Pit	-	-
110508	Fill	-	0.23	Fill of pit 110507	-	-
110509	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 106						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present. A single furrow was recorded.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		4.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110601	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
110602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110603	Cut	1.20	0.15	Furrow	-	-
110604	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of furrow 110603	-	-
110605	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 107						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
The trench contained a single undated pit.				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		4.00
				Length (m)		34.21
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110700	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
110701	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
110702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110703	Cut	1.10 x 0.55	0.09	Pit	-	-
110704	Fill	-	0.09	Fill of pit 110703	-	-



Trench 108						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.35
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110800	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
110801	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
110802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
110803	Layer	-	0.20	Alluvium	-	-

Trench 109						
General description				Orientation		WNW-ESE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.38
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
110900	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
110901	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
110902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 110						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
The trench contained two undated ditches.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111001	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
111002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111003	Cut	0.55	0.15	Ditch	-	-
111004	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of ditch 111003	-	-
111005	Cut	0.40	0.10	Ditch	-	-
111006	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of ditch 111005	-	-



Trench 110						
111007	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 111						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.60	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111101	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
111102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111103	Layer	-	0.30	Subsoil	-	-
111104	Layer	-	-	Subsoil	-	-
111105	Cut	1.56	0.46	Tree-throw hole	-	-
111106	Fill	-	0.30	Upper fill of tree-throw hole 111105	-	-
111107	Fill	-	0.16	Lower fill of tree-throw hole 111105	-	-

Trench 112						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.56	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111200	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
111201	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
111202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 113						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.32
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111301	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
111302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 114						
General description				Orientation		ENE-WSW
The trench contained six linear features, one of which was confirmed by excavation to be a ditch, and two possible postholes.				Avg. depth (m)		0.30
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111401	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-
111402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111403	Cut	1.00	0.30	Ditch	-	-
111404	Fill	-	0.30	Fill of ditch 111403	Animal bone	-

Trench 115						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
The trench contained a ditch, a number of amorphous features, and four furrows. Following excavation of the ditch, it was agreed with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant, the Highways Agency Archaeologist and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project				Avg. depth (m)		0.40
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111501	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
111502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111503	Fill	-	0.40	Upper fill of ditch 111509	Pottery Nail Shell Slag	AD 240-410



Trench 115						
					Animal bone	
111504	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated gully	Pottery	AD 43-410
111505	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated gully	Pottery	AD 43-410
111506	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated ditch	Pottery	AD 240-300
111507	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated pit	Pottery	AD 180-410
111508	Finds ref.	-	-	Unstratified find	Pottery	AD 43-200
111509	Cut	2.00	0.40	Ditch	-	-
111510	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of furrow 111511	-	-
111511	Cut	1.35	0.20	Furrow	-	-
111512	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of ditch 111509	-	-
111513	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
111514	Finds ref.	-	-	Unstratified find	Pottery	AD 43-410

Trench 116						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
The trench contained a total of ten ditches. Following excavation of three ditches, it was agreed with Balfour Beatty's Archaeological Consultant, the Highways Agency Archaeologist and the Bedfordshire County Council Archaeologist that excavation of the remaining features was unnecessary at this stage and could be deferred until the mitigation stage of the project.					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111601	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	Flint	-
111602	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
111603	Cut	1.25	1.37	Ditch	-	-
111604	Cut	0.85	0.34	Ditch	-	-
111605	Cut	0.95	0.54	Ditch	-	-
111606	Fill	-	0.16	Lower fill of ditch 111603	-	-
111607	Fill	-	0.17	Upper fill of ditch 111603	Animal bone	-
111608	Fill	-	0.20	Lower fill of ditch 111604	Pottery	AD43-410
111609	Fill	-	0.26	Upper fill of ditch 111604	Pottery Animal bone	AD 250-410



Trench 116						
111610	Fill	-	0.26	Lower fill of ditch 111605	-	-
111611	Fill	-	0.19	Upper fill of ditch 111605	-	-
111612	Layer	-	0.16	Overlies ditches 111603, 111604 and 111605	Pottery	AD 43-410
111613	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated ditch	Pottery	AD 43-410
111614	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated gully	Pottery	AD 43-410
111615	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of unexcavated ditch	Pottery	AD 43-410
111616	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 117						
General description				Orientation		E-W
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.50
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111701	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111702	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
111703	Layer	-	0.30	Topsoil	-	-

Trench 118						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
The trench contained two ditches, one of which was associated with a bank, and a posthole.				Avg. depth (m)		0.38
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111801	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
111802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111803	Cut	0.23	0.15	Posthole	-	-
111804	Fill	-	0.15	Fill of posthole111803	-	-
111805	Cut	1.72	0.22	Ditch	-	-
111806	Fill	-	0.22	Main fill of ditch 111805	-	-
111807	Fill	-	0.03	Primary fill of ditch 111805	-	-
111808	Cut	1.00	0.12	Ditch	-	-



Trench 118						
111809	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of ditch 111808	-	-
111810	Layer	-	0.10	Subsoil	-	-
111811	Layer	1.50	0.38	Bank	-	-
111812	Finds ref.	-	-	Surface of amorphous feature	-	-

Trench 119						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
The trench contained a single undated pit.				Avg. depth (m)	0.33	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
111901	Layer	-	0.33	Topsoil	-	-
111902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
111903	Cut	7.90	>0.78	Pit	-	-
111904	Fill	-	0.37	Lower fill of pit 111903	-	-
111905	Fill	-	0.18	Middle fill of pit 111903	-	-
111906	Fill	-	0.23	Upper fill of pit 111903	-	-

Trench 120						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
The trench contained a single undated ditch, from which a small quantity of animal bone was recovered.				Avg. depth (m)	0.28	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112001	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	Flint	-
112002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112003	Cut	5.50	>0.73	Ditch	-	-
112004	Fill	-	0.54	Upper fill of pit 112003	Animal bone	-
112005	Fill	-	0.20	Fill of pit 112003	-	-
112006	Fill	-	>0.18	Fill of pit 112003	-	-
112007	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 121						
General description				Orientation	NE-SW	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.34	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112101	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
112102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112103	Layer	-	0.14	Subsoil	-	-
112104	Fill	-	0.10	Upper fill of hollow 112106	-	-
112105	Fill	-	0.22	Lower fill of hollow 112106	-	-
112106	Cut	1.00	0.35	Natural hollow	-	-

Trench 122						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.36	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112201	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
112202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112203	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 123						
General description				Orientation	NW-SE	
The trench contained a single, undated ditch.				Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112300	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
112301	Layer	-	0.20	Subsoil	-	-
112302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112304	Cut	0.40	0.08	Ditch	-	-
112305	Fill	-	0.08	Fill of ditch 112304	-	-



Trench 124						
General description					Orientation	NE-SW
No archaeology present.					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112401	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
112402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112403	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-

Trench 125						
General description					Orientation	NW-SE
The trench contained three undated ditches.					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
					Width (m)	2.00
					Length (m)	50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112501	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
112502	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
112503	Cut	0.78	0.12	Ditch	-	-
112504	Fill	-	0.12	Fill of ditch 112503	-	-
112505	Cut	0.84	0.18	Ditch	-	-
112506	Fill	-	0.18	Fill of ditch 112505	-	-
112507	Cut	0.80	0.10	Ditch	-	-
112508	Fill	-	0.10	Fill of ditch 112507	-	-
112509	Cut	1.35	-	Tree-throw hole	-	-
112510	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-throw hole 112509	-	-
112511	Fill	-	-	Fill of tree-throw hole 112509	-	-
112512	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
112513	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 126						
General description				Orientation		NW-SE
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.55
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112601	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
112602	Layer	-	0.42	Subsoil	-	-
112603	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 127						
General description				Orientation		NE-SW
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.42
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112700	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
112701	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
112702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 128						
General description				Orientation		N-S
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)		0.58
				Width (m)		2.00
				Length (m)		50.00
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112800	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
112801	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
112802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-



Trench 129						
General description				Orientation	E-W	
No archaeology present.				Avg. depth (m)	0.34	
				Width (m)	2.00	
				Length (m)	50.00	
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
112900	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
112901	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-	-
112902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Iron Age and Roman Pottery

By Daniel Stansbie

Introduction and methodology

- B.1.1 A total of 895 sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery, weighing 6027 g, were recovered during the evaluation. This material was rapidly scanned to determine context-group dates and to assess the character of the pottery. Where necessary the pottery was examined under a binocular microscope at x20 magnification to aid in identification of the fabric. The pottery was recorded using the Bedfordshire fabric codes, based on the type series held at Albion Archaeology, to ensure compatibility with other major sites from the county. Reference was also made to Young's report on the Roman pottery industry of the Oxford region (Young 1977), the London Roman pottery corpus (Davies *et al.* 1994) and the reports on the Iron Age and Roman pottery from the Great Barford Bypass (Webley 2007 and Stansbie 2007).

Condition

- B.1.2 The mean sherd weight of the assemblage is 6.95 g and the average number of sherds per context-group is 20.4. These low figures belie the general condition of the assemblage, which is moderate to good, with several large well-preserved groups, including some large sherds with well-preserved surfaces. The relatively low mean sherd weight may be a function of the high proportion of shelly fabrics within the assemblage, as these fabrics have a propensity to fracture easily.

Description

- B.1.3 The assemblage is dominated by late Iron Age and early Roman material, although some late Roman material and two groups possibly dating to the early Iron Age are also present. The early Iron Age assemblage comprises two jars, both with plain upright rims and pronounced shoulder carinations; one in a sand and organic tempered fabric (F19) has a row of fingertip impressions just above the shoulder. The other vessel is made in a fine sandy and shelly fabric (F18). The late Iron Age to early Roman assemblage is dominated by jars in medium grog-tempered ware (F06B), including high-shouldered vessels. Also present are three slack-sided jars of middle Iron Age form in late Iron Age shelly ware (F07) and grog and shell-tempered ware (F05), two of which have oblique finger impressions on the tops of their rims. Other pottery from this phase includes lid-seated and medium-mouthed jars in Roman shelly ware (R13), a very abraded form 18/31 dish and a trimmed base in South Gaulish samian ware (R01B), and body sherds in sandy grey ware (R06B). Body sherds in several other fabrics are present in minor amounts of less than 5% of the assemblage by weight (see table). In addition, a cremation burial (104802) with a date range of AD70-120 produced a cremation urn and two ancillary vessels. The cremation urn is a poppyhead beaker (104803) in black sandy ware (R07B) and the ancillary vessels comprise a ring-necked flagon (104804) in Verulamium region white ware (R03A) and a high-shouldered jar (104806) in black sandy ware (R07B). Late Roman pottery comprises two groups including jars in sandy grey ware (R06B), a jar and a dish or bowl with a dropped flange in sandy black ware (R07B), everted-rimmed jars and a flanged bowl in Roman shelly ware (R13) and body sherds in orange sandy ware (R05A). In addition, small amounts of fine and specialist wares are present; these include Colchester colour-coated ware (R04E), Oxfordshire colour-coated ware (R11D) and Hadham oxidised ware (R22A).

Potential and recommendations

B.1.4 The assemblage is small, but there are several relatively large groups with the potential to inform on pottery supply, site status and burial practices. The early Iron Age material indicates the presence of early Iron Age activity and should be added to material recovered from any subsequent excavation. The late Iron Age to early Roman assemblage consists largely of locally produced material and is dominated by jars, suggesting the presence of a low status rural settlement. The early Roman funerary assemblage should be fully recorded. The late Roman material is also dominated by locally produced material; however, some fine and specialist wares are present. The late Roman material indicates the presence of a relatively low status settlement, but with some regional links.

Table B.1.1: Iron age and Roman Pottery Spot Dates

Context	Sherd No.	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot Date
101004	1	7	R05A sandy orange ware	AD43-410
102207	1	2	Roman, med, post-med?	N/A
104803	29	85	R07B sandy black ware (1 poppyhead beaker – poss same vessel as 104804 below)	AD70-180
104804	112	661	R07B sandy black ware (1 poppyhead beaker)	AD70-180
104805	137	302	R03A Verulamium Region white ware (1 flagon; ring-necked?)	AD50-180
104806	45	248	R07B sandy black ware (1 jar with everted rim and high-shoulder)	AD43-120
104808	6	120	F06B medium grog-tempered ware, F05 grog and shell-tempered ware (1 slack-shouldered fairly open vessel – with oblique fingertip impressions on the top of the rim), F07 shelly fabric	LIA
104818	6	16	F06B medium grog-tempered ware	LIA-AD70
104820	6	6	R01B South Gaulish samian ware (1 form 18/31dish – very abraded)	AD90-110
104835	25	27	R07B sandy black ware	AD43-410
105201	3	20	R13 Roman shelly fabric, R05A orange sandy ware, F05 shell and grog-tempered ware (1 jar/bowl with plain rim - oblique finger slashing on top of rim)	LIA-Roman
105402	4	68	F06B medium grog-tempered ware (1 jar base), F01A coarse flinty fabric?, F15 fabric with coarse mixed inclusions	LIA
105407	6	305	F05 grog and shell-tempered ware, F07 late Iron Age shelly fabric (1 flat-rimmed jar with oblique finger slashes on the outside of the rim)	LIA
105408	7	140	F06B grog-tempered ware (1 jar), F07 (1 slack-sided jar)	LIA
105700	1	18	R01B Southern Gaulish samian ware (1 trimmed footring)	AD43-120
106007	4	20	R13 Roman shelly ware	AD43-410
106108	3	10	F05 grog and shell-tempered ware (1 slack-sided jar/bowl, with flat rim)	LIA
106110	7	30	F06B medium grog-tempered ware, F07 late Iron Age shelly ware	LIA-AD70
107303	1	8	R05A orange sandy ware	AD43-410
109104	5	26	F06B	LIA-AD70
109106	137	161	F06B medium grog-tempered ware, F07 late Iron Age shelly ware	LIA-AD70
109107	5	58	F19 sand and organic tempered fabric? (1 jar	EIA



Context	Sherd No.	Weight (g)	Comments	Spot Date
			with plain rim and slightly carinated shoulder, a row of fingertip impressions can be seen just above the shoulder)	
109108	19	80	F06B medium grog-tempered ware	LIA-AD70
109110	21	130	F06B medium grog-tempered ware (jars), F05 grog and shell-tempered ware	LIA-AD70
110004	144	1420	R13 Roman shelly ware, F06B medium grog-tempered ware (jars), F05 shell and grog-tempered ware	LIA-AD70
110005	8	126	F07 late Iron Age shelly fabric, F06B medium grog-tempered ware, F05 grog and shell-tempered ware, F18 fine sandy and shelly fabric ? (1 jar? with plain upright rim and pronounced shoulder carination)	LIA
110504	5	13	F06B medium grog-tempered ware (1 jar), misc	LIA-AD70
110506	1	2	F06B medium grog-tempered ware	LIA-AD70
111503	77	723	R06B sandy grey ware (1 jar + 1 jar base), R13 Roman shelly ware (1 flanged bowl, 2 everted-rimmed jars), R04E Colchester colour-coated ware, R07B sandy black ware (1 everted-rimmed high-shouldered jar), R11D Oxford colour-coated ware (1 base sherd with foot-ring), R22A Hadham oxidised ware	AD240-410
111504	6	98	R13 Roman shelly fabric, R06B sandy grey ware (1 jar base)	AD43-410
111505	3	24	R13 Roman shelly ware, R06B sandy grey ware	AD43-410
111506	23	287	R13 Roman shelly ware (1 jar, 1 bead-rimmed dish), R06B sandy grey ware, R07B sandy black ware, R11E Oxfordshire white ware mortaria (1 M17)	AD240-300
111507	1	12	R06B sandy grey ware (1 wide-mouthed jar, 2 base sherds), R07B sandy black-ware (1 drop-flanged bowl), R05A orange sandy ware, R13 Roman shelly ware	AD180 - 410
111508	19	378	R13 Roman shelly fabric (1 storage jar, 1 lid-seated jar, 1 everted-rimmed jar), R06B sandy grey ware, R05A orange sandy ware (1 everted-rimmed jar)	AD43-200
111514	4	19	R06B sandy grey ware, R05A orange sandy ware, R13 Roman shelly ware	AD43-410
111608	1	8	R06B sandy grey ware (1 jar)	AD43-410
111609	2	61	R13 Roman shelly ware (1 flanged bowl), R06B sandy grey ware	AD250-410
111612	2	15	R13 Roman shelly ware	AD43-410
111613	2	4	R06B sandy grey ware	AD43-410
111614	2	12	R06B sandy grey ware, R13 Roman shelly ware	AD43-410
111615	3	24	R06B sandy grey ware (1 jar)	AD43-410
112502	1	253	Storage jar fabric (grog-tempered) 1 body sherd	AD43-410

B.2 Post-Roman Pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

B.2.1 A total of 150 sherds of pottery weighing 1527 g were recovered from 12 contexts. This is of mixed medieval and post-medieval date - mainly the former. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.). Fabric codes referred to below are those of the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series.

Date and nature of the assemblage

B.2.2 The pottery came from five trenches: Trenches 29, 31, 38, 50 and 52. That from Trench 29 comprised a single sherd of 19th-century Staffordshire white earthenware (Fabric P45). The bulk of the pottery came from Trench 31 and this was nearly all of medieval date. Most of this comprised local grey (or reduced) sandy wares (C01, C03, C60, E01) mainly in the form of jars/cooking pots and one or two jugs. These include many large fresh sherds. Some of this probably dates to the 13th-14th centuries but the presence of joining sherds from the rims of at least two jars with distinctive externally lid-seated rims suggests a late medieval date, probably 14th-15th century (E01), for at least three contexts here (103109, 103110, 103113). These also produced very small amounts of local medieval shelly wares (B07) - mostly perhaps residual. Context 103108 produced post-medieval glazed Potterspury ware (P53, Northamptonshire) and early post-medieval redware (P01), dating the context to c 1550-1600. Trench 50 produced only a single sherd of 17th-18th century Potterspury slipware (P53) and Trench 52 produced only three sherds including 18th-century Staffordshire-type Agate ware (P40) and Potterspury ware and a small residual sherd of medieval Potterspury ware (C10).

Potential and recommendations

B.2.3 The assemblage, as it stands, is rather too small and fragmentary to have much potential for further analysis. The two medieval grey sandy ware jars with externally lid-seated rims are however unusual and of interest and should be illustrated and published at some point. Unless further work on this site increases the size of the assemblage no further work is recommended for the present.

Table B..2.1: Post-Roman pottery spot-dates

Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight	Comments
102904	19C	1	4	Bs Staffs-type whiteware with hand-painted floral decoration - probably mid 19C?
103103	13-14C?	2	10	Bs fine grey sandy ware possible fabric C03? Bs from shelly ware jar shoulder probably 13-14C?
103105	13-14C?	4	36	Rim fine brown sandy ware from jar with simple flattened rim. 1x coarser grey sandy ware bs. 2x joining med shelly ware bss



Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight	Comments
103108	c1550-1600	31	155	4 sherds from single small post-medieval jar/dish in cream/yellow fabric with all over int yellow glaze - probably post-medieval Potterspurry type. 1-2 x unglazed early post-medieval redware - probably 16C. Rest mainly local grey sandy wares 13-15C including jug rim & sooted cspot sherds. 1-2 early medieval shelly
103109	14-15C	20	427	Mostly grey sandy ware - probable late medieval reduced ware including 2 separate jars with externally lid-seated rims & 2 other jar rims - one quite developed and with ext moulding. Also large fresh sooted body sherds of the same. 2x worn medieval shelly ware bss
103110	14-15C	34	544	Mostly grey sandy ware - probable late medieval reduced ware including jar with externally lid-seated rim JOINS 103109. & 1 other jar rim - flanged with pricking on top. Also large fresh sooted body sherds of the same. 2x small worn medieval shelly ware bss
103113	14-15C	50	313	Mostly grey sandy ware - probable late medieval reduced ware including jar with externally lid-seated rim JOINS 103109. Also large fresh sooted body sherds of the same including cook pot bss with applied strips. 5x sherds med shelly ware including 2 joining from a simple thickened/sub-collared bowl rim. But for the ext lid-seated greyware rim a 13-14C date might have been suggested
103803	13-14C?	3	6	2 joining sherds from single grey sandy ware cook pot rim of simple upright thickened flat-topped form. 1x small shapeless scrap - unidentifiable - possible daub?
103804	13-14C?	1	3	bs grey sandy ware, sl worn, possibly 13-14C?
105003	17-18C	1	19	Rim from jar or bowl. Worn but probable post-medieval Potterspurry-type slipware. Orange-pink fabric with traces of white slip-trailed dec under a clear glaze
105207	18C	1	1	Bs, spalled, solid Agate ware. Possibly Staffordshire?
105208	18C	2	9	Rim from jar or bowl. Spalled ext but probably post-medieval Potterspurry ware. Orange-pink fabric with dribbles of black glaze int. 1x small scrap possible late medieval Potterspurry-type?
TOTAL		150	1527	

B.3 Worked Flint

By Dave Mullin

Introduction and methodology

- B.3.1 A total of 11 lithic items were recovered from six contexts during excavations along the A421. These included four natural, unmodified flakes and a small number of expediently used flakes. The flint was catalogued according to a broad debitage, core or tool type. Information about burning and breaks was recorded and where identifiable raw material type was also noted and possible dating was attempted.
- B.3.2 Cores were classified according to the number and position of their platforms, following Clark (1960) and core maintenance pieces were classified to the following criteria. Core rejuvenation flakes are pieces representing the removal of the top or bottom of a core in order to improve the flaking angle of the platform. Core trimming flakes are flakes that remove a substantial part of a core in order to aid working by removing an imperfection in the core, a miss-hit or other impediment to flaking. The nature of any remnant flake scars on the dorsal surface of core trimming flakes was noted.
- B.3.3 Flakes were classified following Saville (1990, 155), which allows an identification of the stage in the core reduction process to which the flake belongs. Terminations such as hinge fractures were noted. Chips are defined as pieces measuring less than 10mm by 10mm. Flakes having a proportions length to breadth ratio of greater than 2:1 were classified as blade-like, those with a greater length to breadth ratio being classified as blades. Midsections of blades with no bulb of percussion were classified as blade shatter (Andrefsky 1998, 81-3).
- B.3.4 Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (Bamford 1985, Healy 1988, Bradley 1999, Butler 2005).
- B.3.5 No attempt was made at refitting or use-wear analysis.

Raw materials

- B.3.6 A variety of raw materials were exploited at the site, including good quality chalk flint.

Technology and Dating

- B.3.7 Although the assemblage is small the utilisation of flakes for expedient tools suggests a later Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Table B.3.1: Catalogue of worked flint by context

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Raw Material</i>	<i>Date</i>
u/s	Small flake, hinge termination, with utilisation along one lateral margin.	Light brown flint	
105107	Core trimming flake from narrow blade core, utilisation along one lateral margin.	Red/orange flint	Neolithic
105407	Small lump of cortical flint, probably natural.		
110004	Unmodified natural flint.		
110004	Core trimming flake.	Light grey flint	
110005	Unmodified natural flint.		
110005	Unmodified natural flint.		
111601	Tertiary flake with utilisation at distal end.	Dark grey flint	



<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Raw Material</i>	<i>Date</i>
111601	Tertiary flake with utilisation at distal end and along one lateral margin.	Dark grey flint	
112001	Large secondary flake hinged termination, heavily utilised.	Dark grey flint	
112001	Core trimming flake.	Dark brown flint	

B.4 Ceramic Building Material

By Daniel Stansbie

B.4.1 A total of 27 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2526 g was recovered during the course of the evaluation. The material was rapidly scanned and a note made of the fabric and object types. The assemblage is dominated by quarry tiles, roof tiles and fragments of land-drain in a sandy fabric from context 104306. The fragments of land-drain are machine made and the group as a whole therefore dates to after AD1850 (J. Cotter pers. comm.). In addition, there are fragments of tile in sandy, and sandy and shelly fabrics. These probably date to the medieval or post-medieval periods. The material has no potential for further study and no further work is recommended.

Table B.4.1: Catalogue of ceramic building material by context

<i>Context</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
102904	1	33	Fabric: sandy (tile) - post-medieval
103110	1	43	Fabric: sandy (tile) – medieval or post-medieval
104204	1	61	Fabric: sandy and shelly (tile) – medieval or post-medieval
104306	18	2330	Fabric: sandy (quarry tile, land-drain fragments, roof tile) -post AD1850
105003	2	20	Fabrics: sandy, shelly and sandy (tile) – medieval or post-medieval
109205	4	39	Fabrics: sandy, shelly and sandy (tile) medieval or post-medieval



B.5 Fired Clay

By Daniel Stansbie

B.5.1 A total of three fragments of fired clay, weighing 63 g was recovered during the evaluation. The material was rapidly scanned and a note made of the fabric and object types. Two of the fragments are made in a sandy fabric and the other is in a sandy and shelly fabric. All three fragments probably represent structural/oven debris. The material has no potential for further study and no further work is recommended.

Table B.5.1: Catalogue of fired clay by context

<i>Context</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
105202	2	30	Fabric sandy (structural/oven debris)
1100004	1	33	Fabric sandy/shelly (structural/oven debris)



B.6 Ironwork

By Ian Scott

B.6.1 There are four pieces of ironwork, all from different contexts. These comprise the following :

- Possible small punch with a stem of rectangular section, a batter head and narrow chisel end. The identification is not certain. Not closely datable. L: 98 mm. Context 109205
- Nail, Type 1, with broad flat or slightly dome head. Incomplete. Context (103117)
- Nail stem fragment, small. Context (103108)
- Possible nail stem fragment, mineralised. Context (111503)

B.6.2 None of the objects is closely datable.



B.7 Worked Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

- B.7.1 None of the stone from the evaluation is worked. However context 110004 produced approximately 2.7 kg of burnt and heat-cracked stones and pebbles. None of these need to be retained.



B.8 Other Finds

By Nicola Hall

- B.8.1 One small fragment of shell, weighing 1 g, and two small sherds of slag, weighing 5 g, were recovered from context 111503.

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Lena Strid

Introduction

- C.1.1 A total of 15 animal bones were recovered from the evaluation.
- C.1.2 The bone preservation varied from good to very poor, but was generally fair (Table C1.1). No burned bones were present.
- C.1.3 The species present include cattle and sheep/goat, as well as indeterminate large and medium mammal (Table C1.2). Dog is indirectly evidenced by gnaw marks on a cattle metatarsal. However, the number of fragments per species are insufficient for an interpretation of animal husbandry strategies.
- C.1.4 No further information can be gained from such a small sample of bones. However, the assemblage should be considered alongside material from further excavations at the site, should bone of similar date be retrieved.

Table C.1.1: Preservation level for bones from the A421BD08 assemblage (0 = very well preserved; 5 = bone with such structural and attritional damage as to be unidentifiable)

Preservation score	N	0	1	2	3	4	5
Percentage of assemblage	15		26.7%	46.7%	13.3%	13.3%	

Table C.1.2: Bone assemblage from A421BD08. Number and weight of fragments

	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Medium mammal	Large mammal	Indeterminate
Mandible	1				
Loose teeth	1	2			
Vertebra				1	
Rib			1	1	
Scapula			1		
Sacrum				2	
Pelvis	1				
Metatarsal	1				
Phalanx 1	1				
Long bone				1	
Indeterminate	1				1
TOTAL	5	2	2	5	1
Weight (g)	121	9	2	98	0

C.2 Unburnt Human Bone

By Sharon Clough

Methodology

- C.2.1 As single elements of human bone, the unburnt bone was recorded as disarticulated. This involved identifying the part side, age, sex and any observable pathology. The minimum number of individuals present was determined based on any obvious age differences between bones (e.g. child or adult) and the duplication of bones. Standard techniques for age and sex were utilised (Brickley and McKinley 2004) and where possible metrical data recorded. Pathology and musculoskeletal stress markers were given a detailed description following standard guidelines.

Results

Context 109110 – fill of ditch 109109 LIA-early Roman

- C.2.2 This comprised the left upper two thirds of an adult femur. It was quite narrow and small in size. The surface of the bone was quite badly eroded (McKinley 2004 score 4) and where it was broken midshaft the ends were weathered suggesting it had fragmented in antiquity. The platymeric index was 71, flattened or platymeric.

Context 109108 – fill of pit 109105 LIA-early Roman

- C.2.3 This context contained the upper third of the shaft of a right femur from an adult individual. This bone was much larger and more robust than 109110. It had a prominent linea aspera and large gluteal attachment site. The surface erosion was less, grade 2/3 (McKinley 2004). The platymeric index was 85, moderate or Eurymeric. The enormous difference in size and index between 109108 and 109110 makes it extremely unlikely these are from the same individual.

Context 105406 – mid fill of ditch 105404 LIA

- C.2.4 This also contained a femur, mid third of the shaft, possibly right side. It was adult in size. The strongly adhering concretions from the soil obscured most of the surface, but where visible it had suffered the effects of lying in clay and become flaky.

Conclusion

- C.2.5 These represent three different individuals. It was a common practice in the Iron Age to place the dead in ditches or pits, either as complete bodies or as single elements. The sole presence of femora in the current assemblage may represent deliberate cultural selection of elements for burial. Wilson (1981, 150) states that long bones are usually the most 'representative' of the bones. It should also be considered however, that long bones (particularly femora) are robust, and may have survived preferentially over more fragile elements (ribs and vertebrae for example).
- C.2.6 Full investigation of the features where bone has been found may reveal more of the individual, though equally these may have been single element interments.

C.3 Cremated Human Bone

Methodology

- C.3.1 A cremation urn from Trench 48 was lifted with surrounding soil for excavation in the lab. After careful excavation and recording in spits of 20 mm the bone and soil were processed, which involved wet sieving. This was undertaken by passing them through three sieve fraction sizes including, 10 mm, 5 mm and 2 mm. This sorted the cremated bone and other material into groups comprising fragments that were <10 mm, between 10 and 4 mm and between 4 and 2 mm. Sieving the samples in this way allowed the degree of fragmentation to be explored for each deposit. Bone from the <10, 10-4 mm and 4-2 mm fractions was separated from the residue.
- C.3.2 Analysis followed the procedures set out by McKinley (1994). Animal bone was identified based on macroscopic appearance wherever possible. All human bone that could be identified was sorted into: skull, axial skeleton, upper limbs and lower limbs. The minimum number of individuals present was determined based on any obvious age differences between bones (e.g. child or adult) and the duplication of bones. In addition to weighing the deposit and recording bone fragment sizes, the bones were sorted (as described), to explore whether there had been any bias towards the collection of particular parts of the individual for burial following their cremation. Variation in the colour of bone fragments was noted to explore the efficiency of the cremation process. The age and sex of the individual were noted, employing the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Bass 1995) and, for age estimation, cranial suture closure, epiphyseal long bone fusion and cranial thickness (Gejvall 1947).

Results

Table C.2.2: Quantification of cremated bone

Context	Weight	colour	max frag size	<10	10-4	4-2	age/sex	comments
104835	520.7g	White, grey, blue, black and brown	30 x 16 mm	301.2g	134.4g	85.1g	Adult	Cremated animal bone present

Fragmentation

- C.3.3 The largest fragment size was 30 x 16 mm. The majority of fragments (80%) were extracted from the 10-4 mm fraction (5 mm sieve size). Nine per cent of the fragments were extracted from the >10 mm (10 mm sieve size) and 9% also from the 2-4 mm (2mm sieve size) fraction. This suggests high fragmentation levels, and this has hindered the identification of some elements.
- C.3.4 The majority of the bones were from the lower limbs. This is unusual, more commonly the cranium has the largest weight because of the relative ease with which even small fragments of cranium may be identified, compared to other bones. Further, the cranium tends to survive better than most bones. It is curious therefore as to why there is so little cranium present.

Colour

- C.3.5 Bone was predominantly white and grey with hints of blue. However, the animal bone present was black and brown.



Weight

- C.3.6 The cremated bone total weight was 520.7 g. The weight of bone of an adult cremation from modern crematoria ranges from about 1000 to 3600g (McKinley 2000, 404). The present cremation deposit is lower than this, which suggest the entire individual was not present in the urn.

Age, Sex, Pathology

- C.3.7 The size and morphology of the bone indicated that it represented the remains of an adult individual. No features had survived that allowed sex to be estimated. No pathology was identified.

Conclusion

- C.3.8 Cremated bone may range in colour from brown or black (slightly charred), through hues of blue and grey, to the brilliant white associated with full oxidisation (McKinley 2000, 405). Full oxidisation is dependent on several factors including the construction of the pyre, quantity of wood, position of the body, tending of the pyre, weather, duration of the cremation, maintenance of an optimal temperature, oxygen supply, amount of body fat and the age of the individual (McKinley 2000a, 407; McKinley 1994, 82-84). All of the bone from the present cremation burial was white in colour (calcined). This suggests that complete cremation of the corpse was of significance to the mourners and that the cremation process was efficient. Efficient cremation is an indication that effective pyre technology (for example, good quality fuel) had been employed to cremate the individuals.
- C.3.9 The degree of bone fragmentation that was observed is greater than would be expected. For example, McKinley (1994, 340-1) observed that in a sample of over 4000 cremations over 50% of bone fragments were in excess of 10 mm in size with the largest fragment being 134 mm, and an average maximum fragment size of 45.2 mm. In this instance the largest fragment size clearly fell well below this level. However, fragmentation is not solely a reflection of the cremation rites, (for example, burning the body and collecting and burying the human remains), but also of archaeological excavation and post-excavation processing (McKinley 1994, 340).
- C.3.10 There may have been truncation affecting the deposit, which would affected the quantity and elements of cremated bone. This does not, though, explain the lack of cranial elements, as there was no differentiation of layers throughout the urn for selection of body parts. It can only be surmised therefore that the cranium was either left at the pyre site, or selected for some other kind of post-cremation treatment. It had been included on the pyre as there were several very small fragments recovered from the urn. In the Iron Age and to a lesser extent in the Romano-British period the head was particularly prized, there is substantial evidence of special treatment applied to skulls and cranial parts amongst archaeological finds and artistic representations as well as written sources (Aldhouse Green 2002).



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APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: A421 Improvements: M1 Junction 13 to Bedford
Site code: A421BD08
Grid reference: SP 955 375 to TL 045 465
Type: Evaluation
Date and duration: November 2008
Area of site: n/a

Summary of results: The evaluation has identified ten areas of archaeological remains. Six of these (Trench 48; Trench 54; Trenches 59-61; Trenches 91-2; Trenches 97-100; Trenches 114-120) are interpreted on the basis of the range of features and finds recorded as being possible settlement sites of late Iron Age or Roman date. Two further areas, where groups of ditches of uncertain date were recorded, may represent field boundaries forming part of a contemporary rural landscape. This pattern is consistent with the general picture established for rural areas of Bedfordshire during the late Iron Age and Roman period, which consists of small settlements interspersed with areas of fields.

Only one of these sites, that in Area 7 (Trenches 114-120), has been identified as continuing in use into the later part of the Roman period. This subsequent decline in the number of settlements in relation to the late Iron Age/early Roman period may be attributed to the adoption of a less dispersed settlement pattern, with settlement becoming focused on villa estates.

During the medieval period settlement became more nucleated, and this is demonstrated in the case of the current project by the limitation of remains of this period to a small area east of Lower End Farm, approximately defined by Trenches 31, 34, 37 and 38. These remains form part of the deserted medieval village of Lower End, which clearly extends into the development corridor at this location. The ubiquitous presence of furrows resulting from ridge and furrow cultivation indicates that much of the area encompassed by the scheme was farmland during this period.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Bedford Museum in due course, under the following accession number: BEDFM2008.313

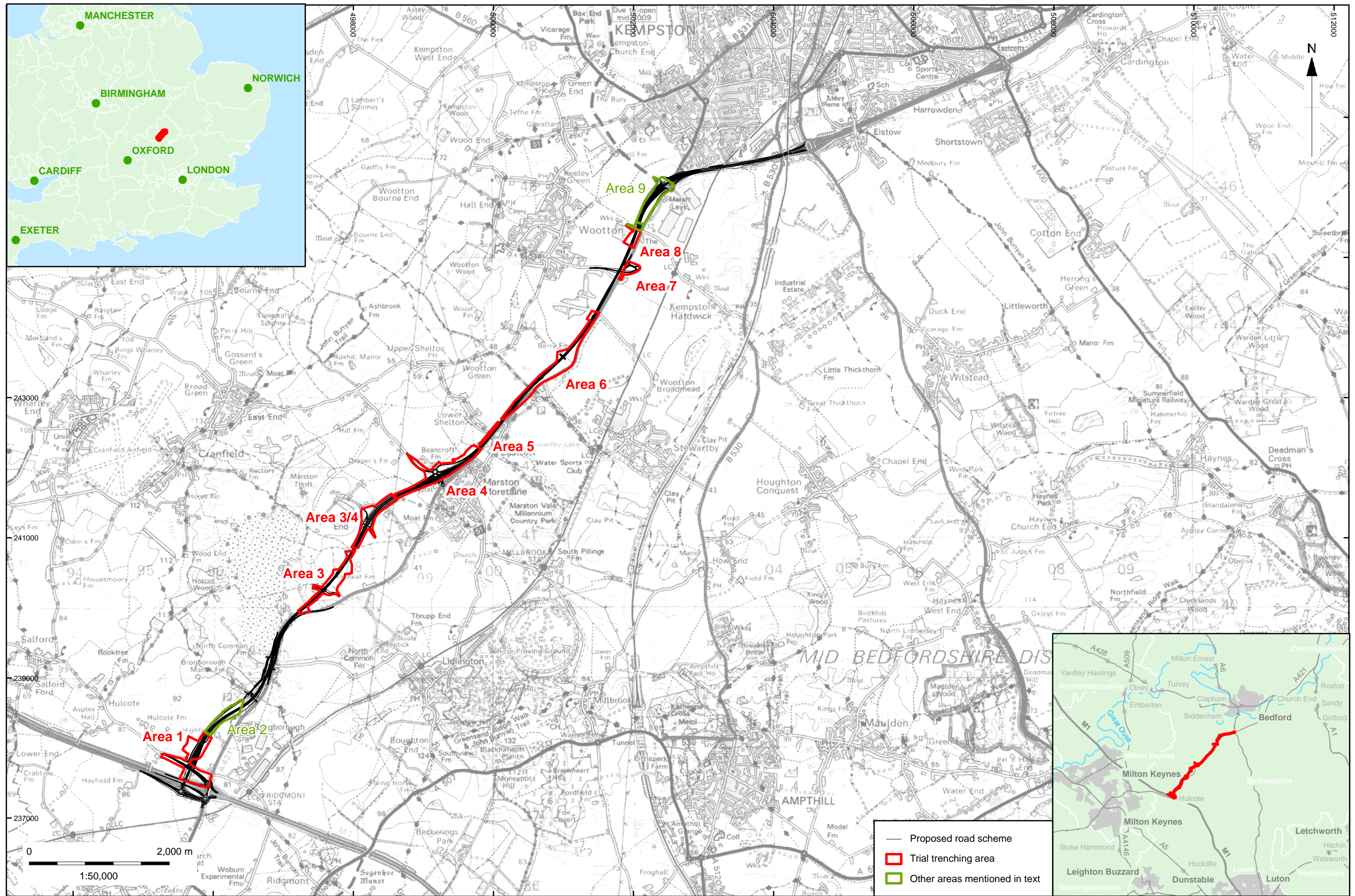


Figure 1: Site location

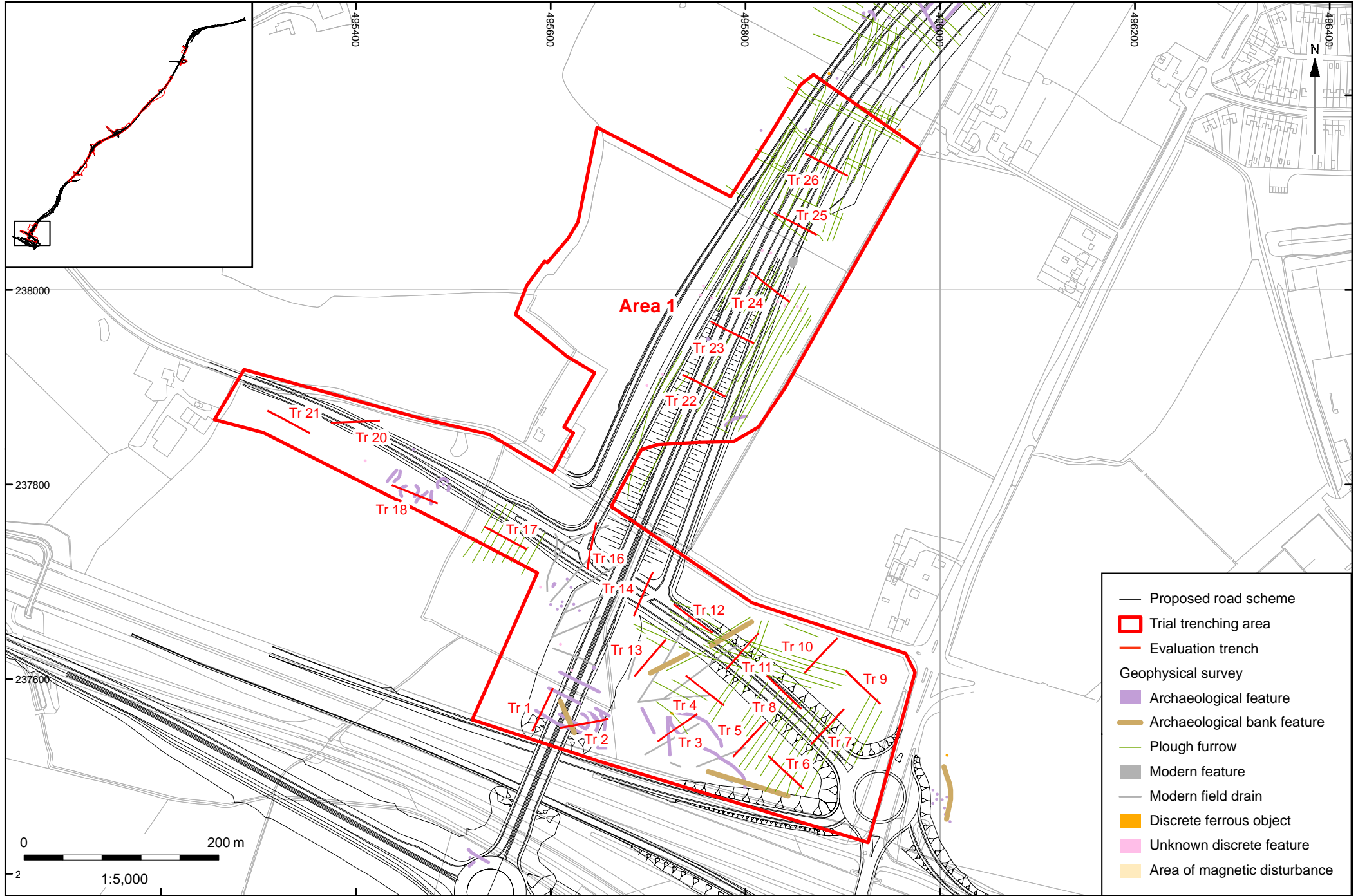


Figure 2: Trench locations, Area 1

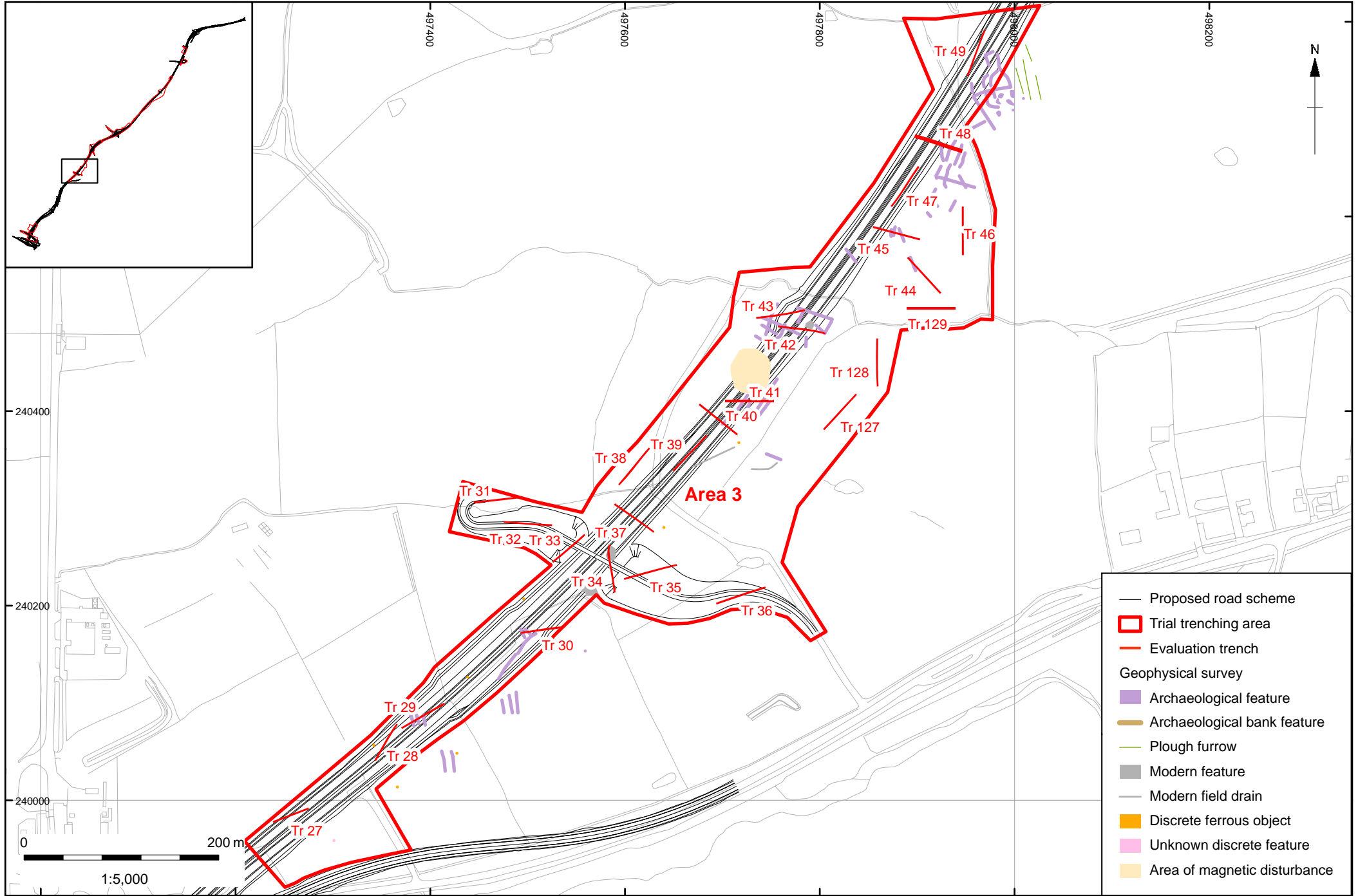


Figure 3: Trench locations, Area 3

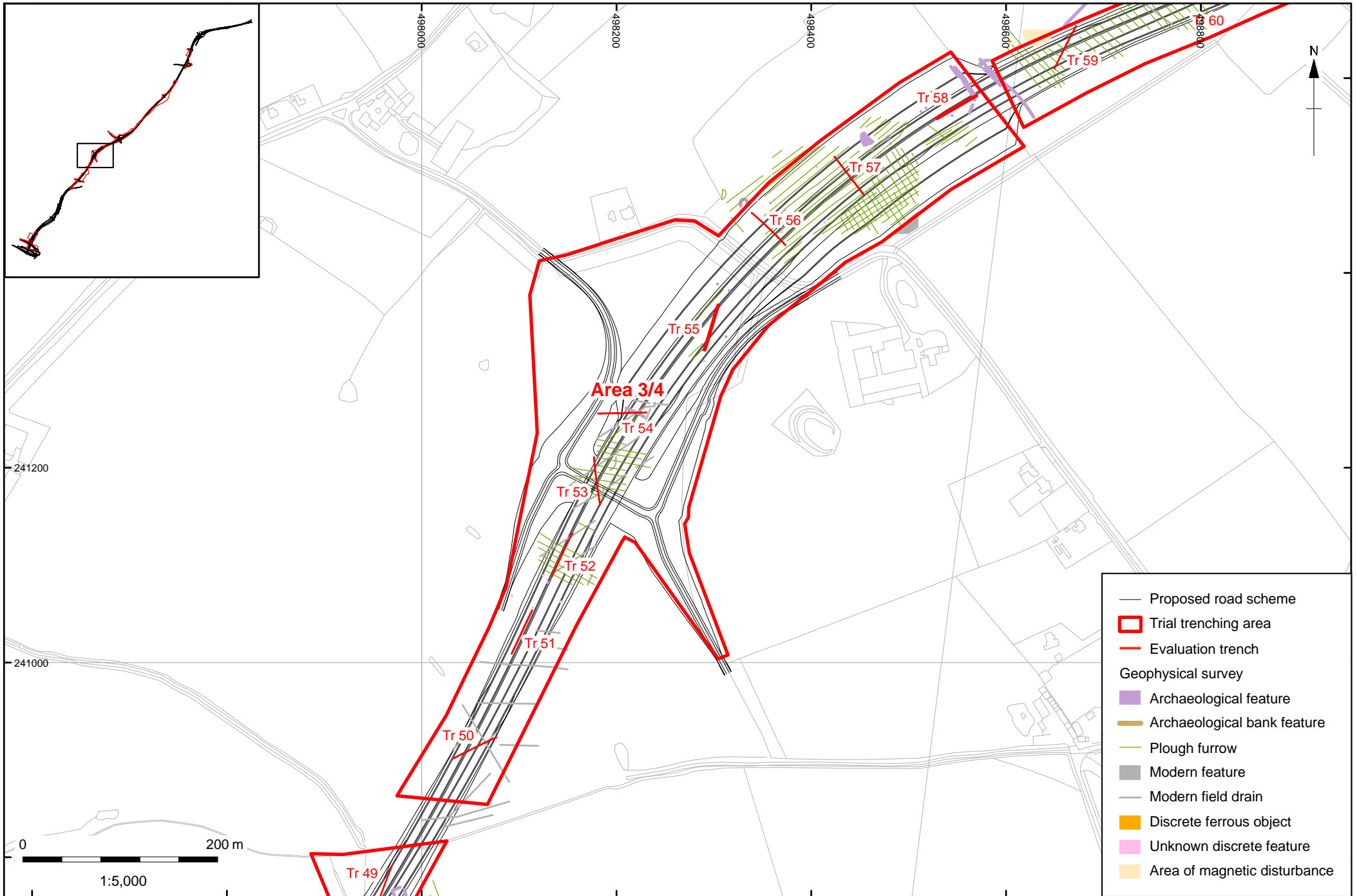


Figure 4: Trench locations, Area 3/4

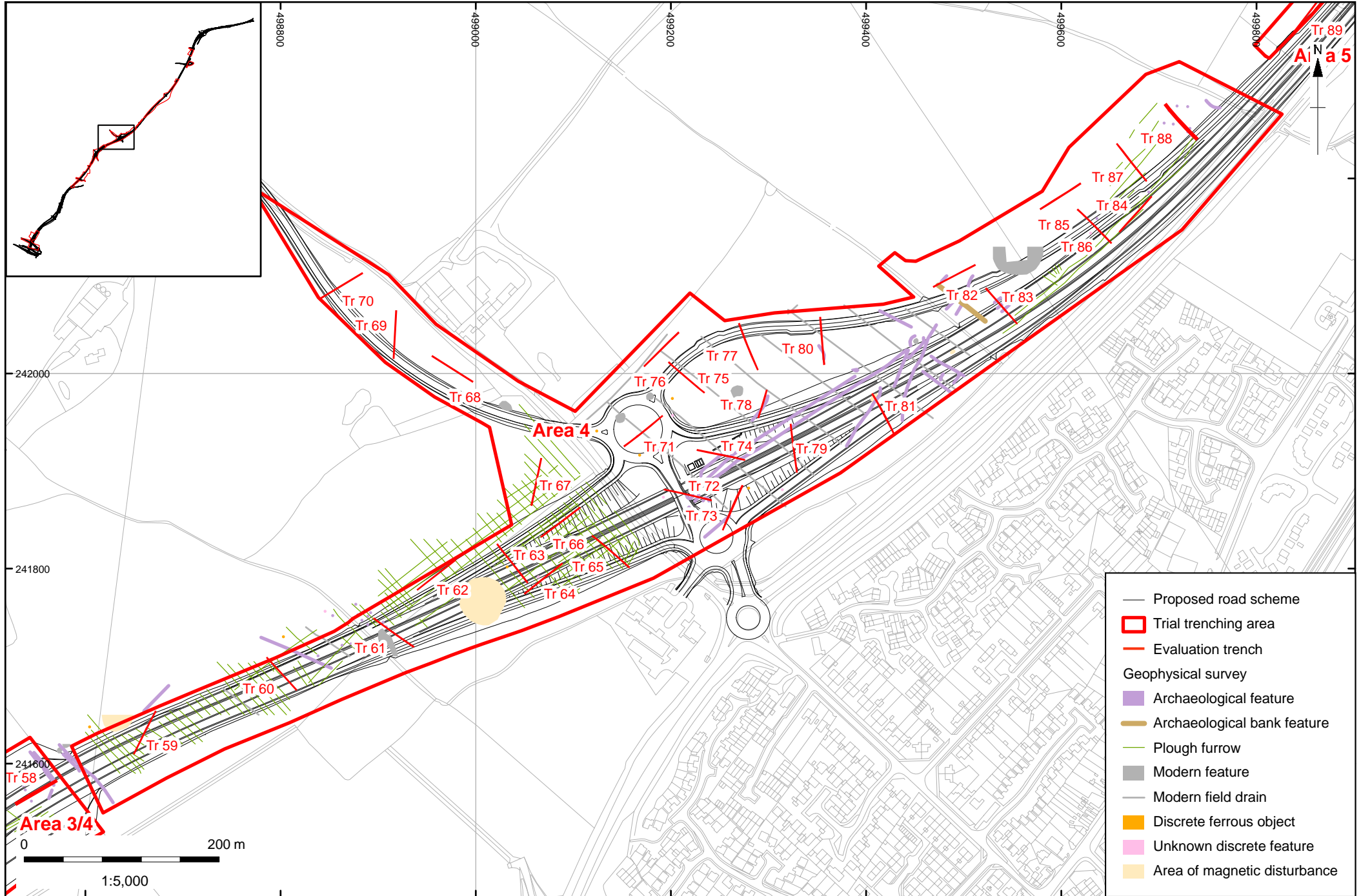


Figure 5: Trench locations, Area 4

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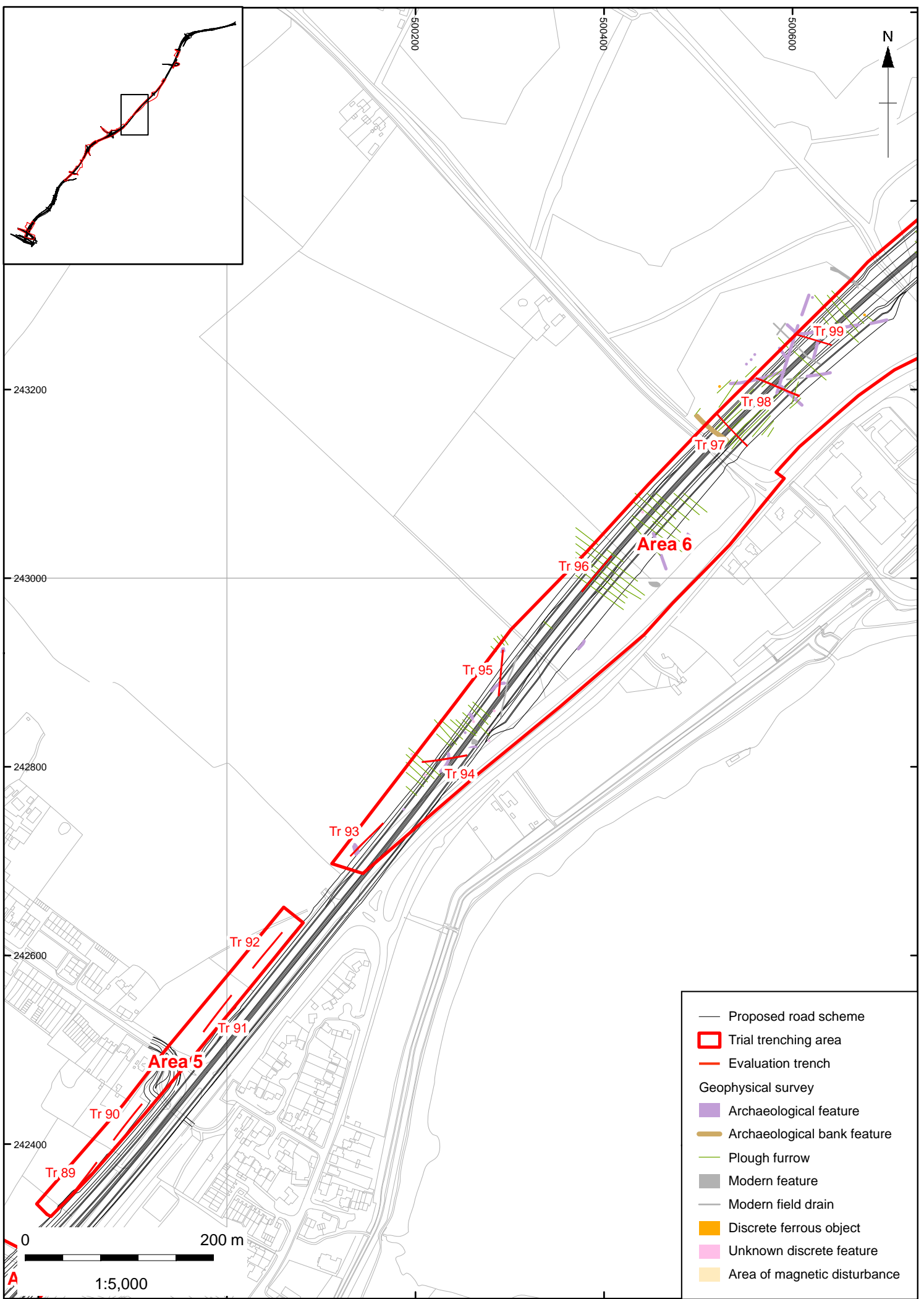


Figure 6: Trench locations, Areas 5 and 6 (south)

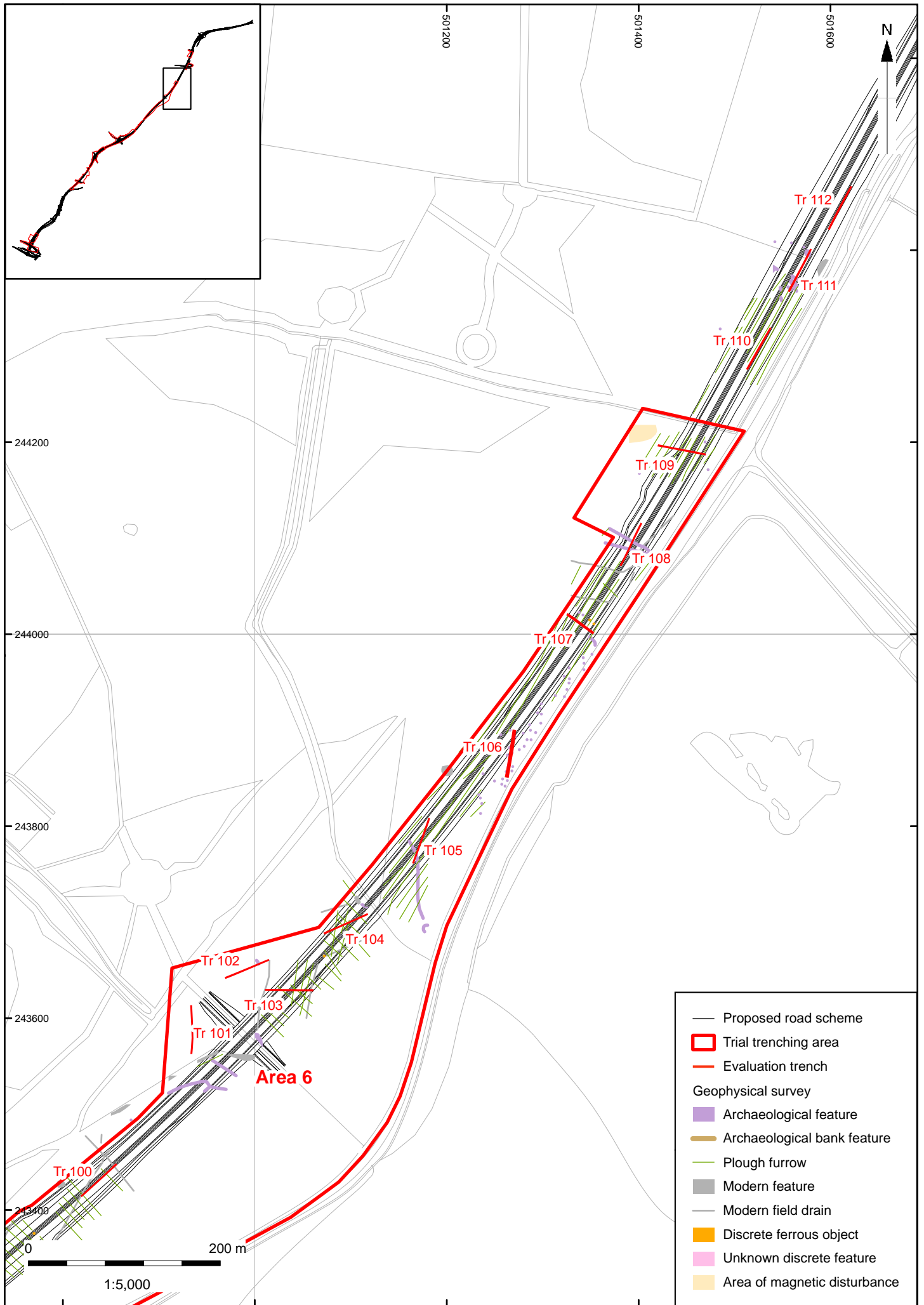
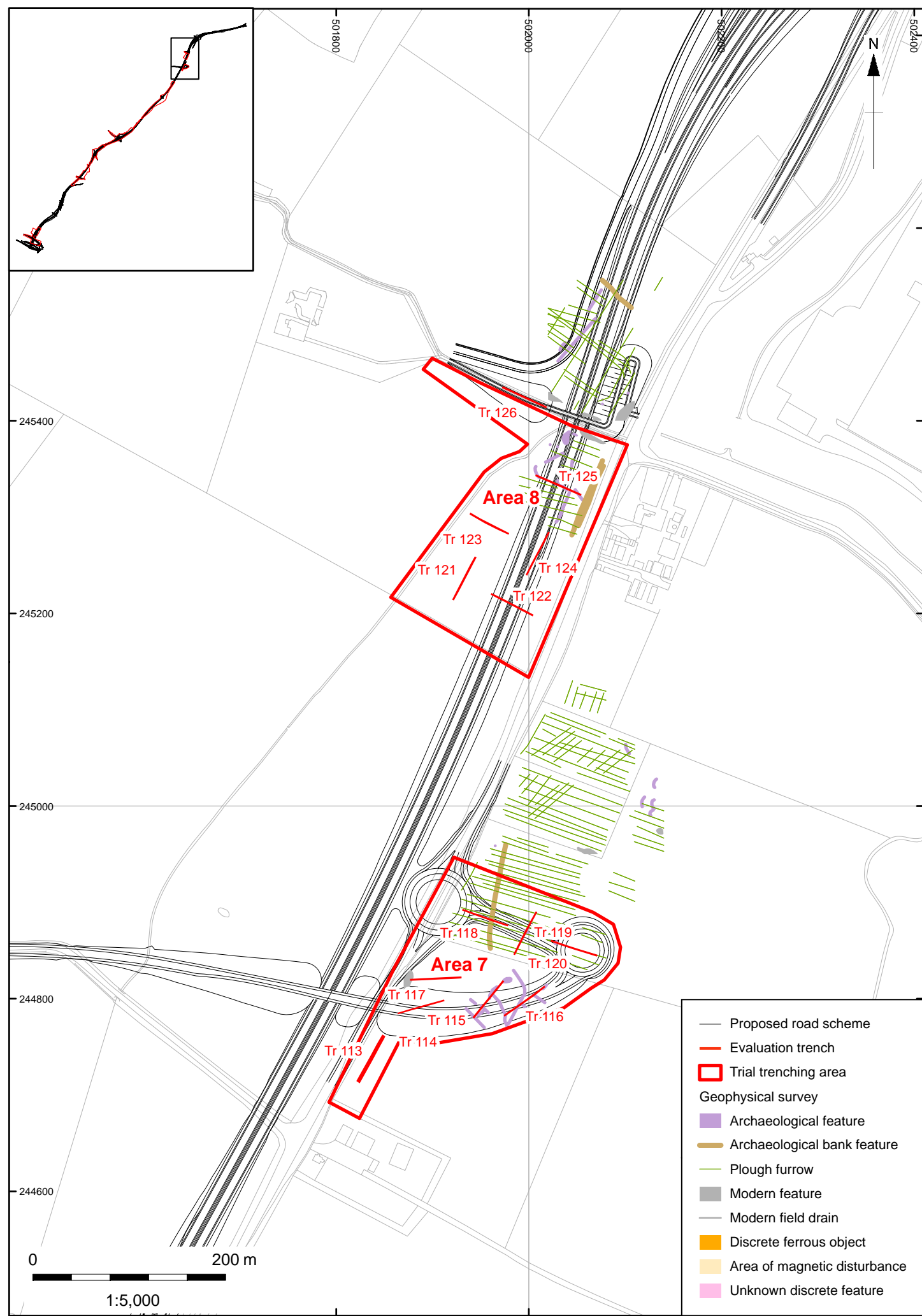


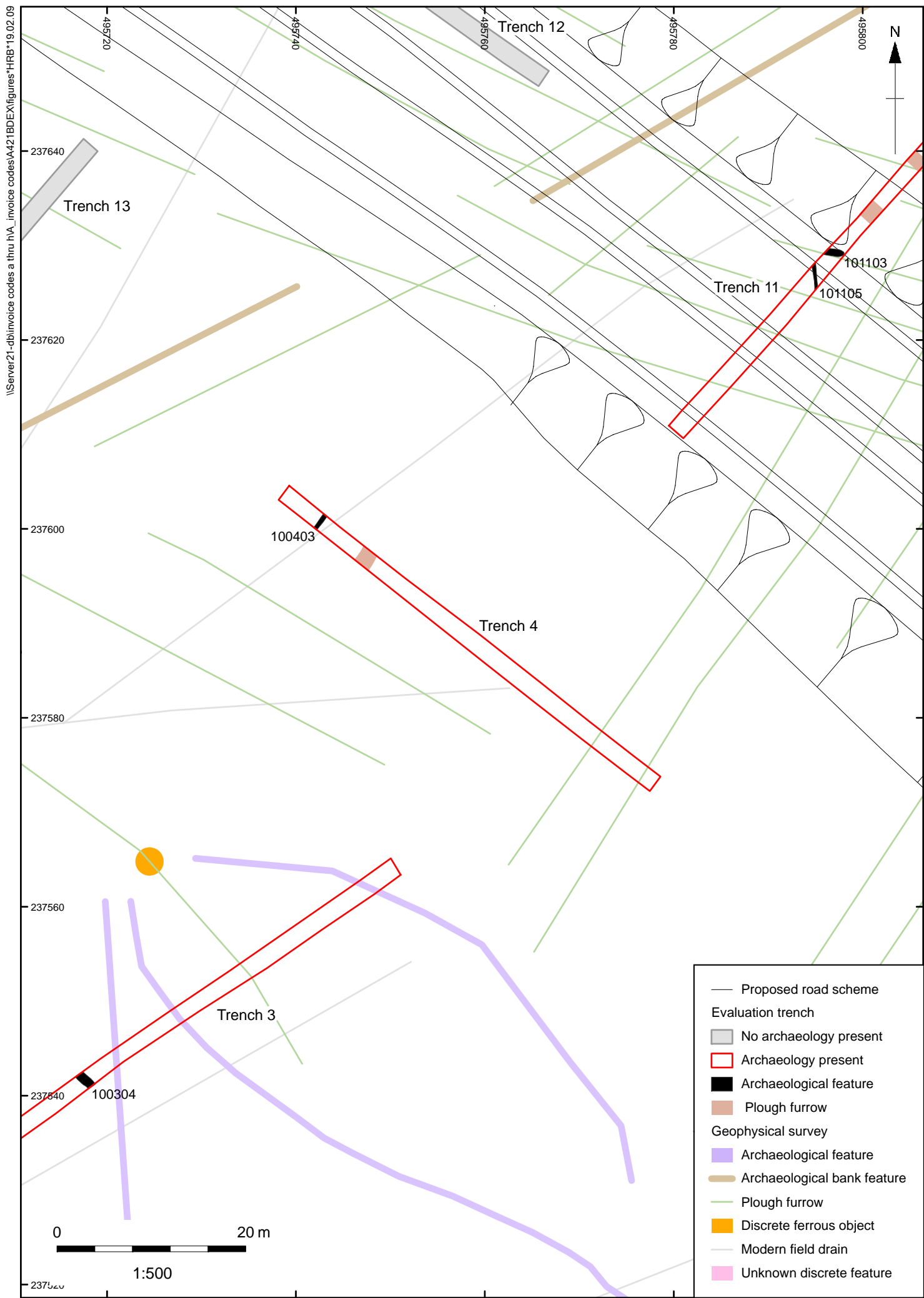
Figure 7: Trench locations, Area 6 (north)

\\Server21-cb\invoice codes a thru h\A_invoice codes\A421BDEX\figures+HRB\19_02.09



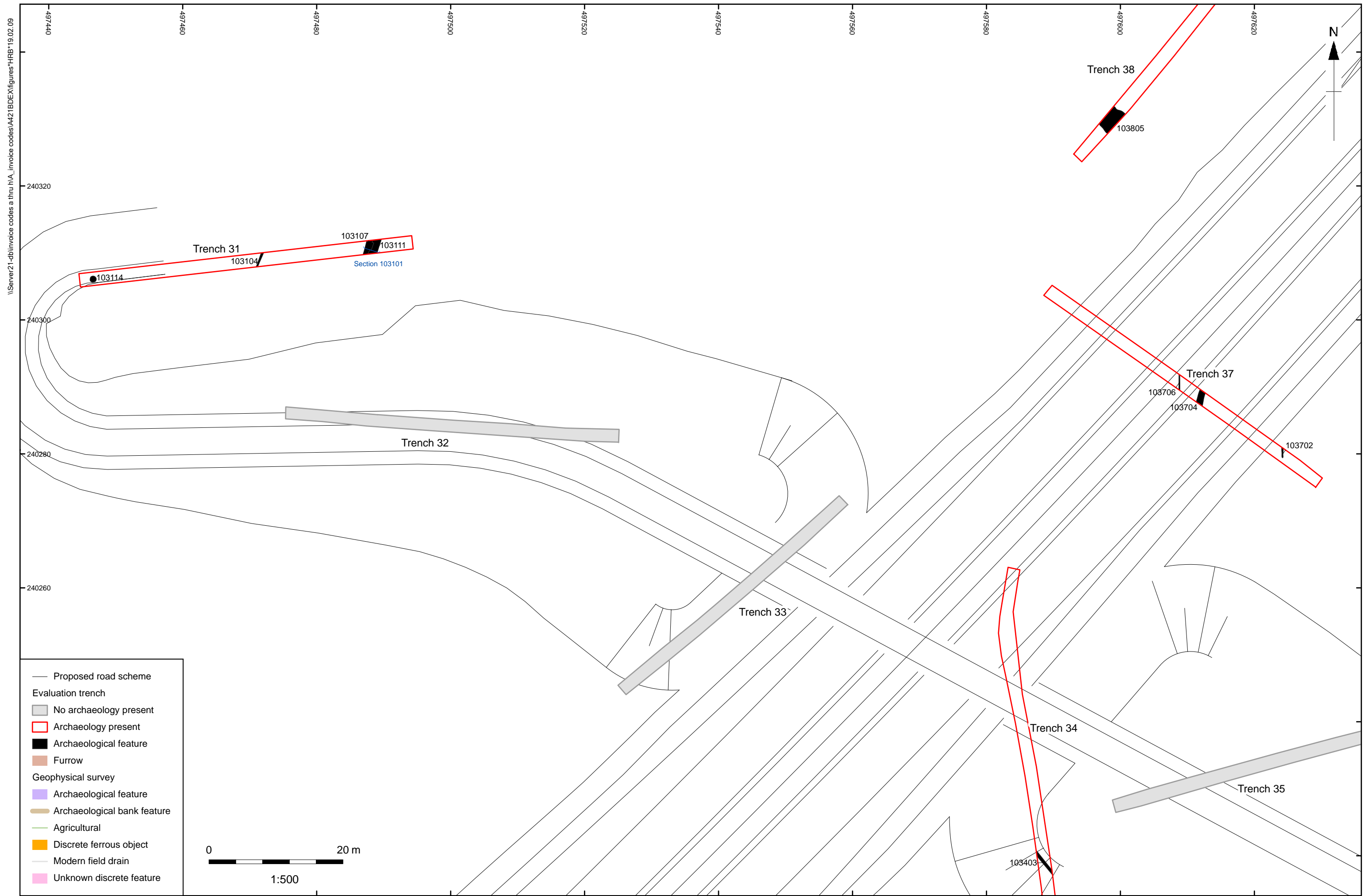
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Figure 8: Trench locations, Areas 7 and 8



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Figure 9: Plan of Trenches 3, 4 and 11



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- Proposed road scheme
- Evaluation trench
- No archaeology present
- Archaeology present
- Archaeological feature
- Furrow
- Geophysical survey
- Archaeological feature
- Archaeological bank feature
- Agricultural
- Discrete ferrous object
- Modern field drain
- Unknown discrete feature

0 20 m
1:500

Figure 10: Trenches 31, 37 and 38

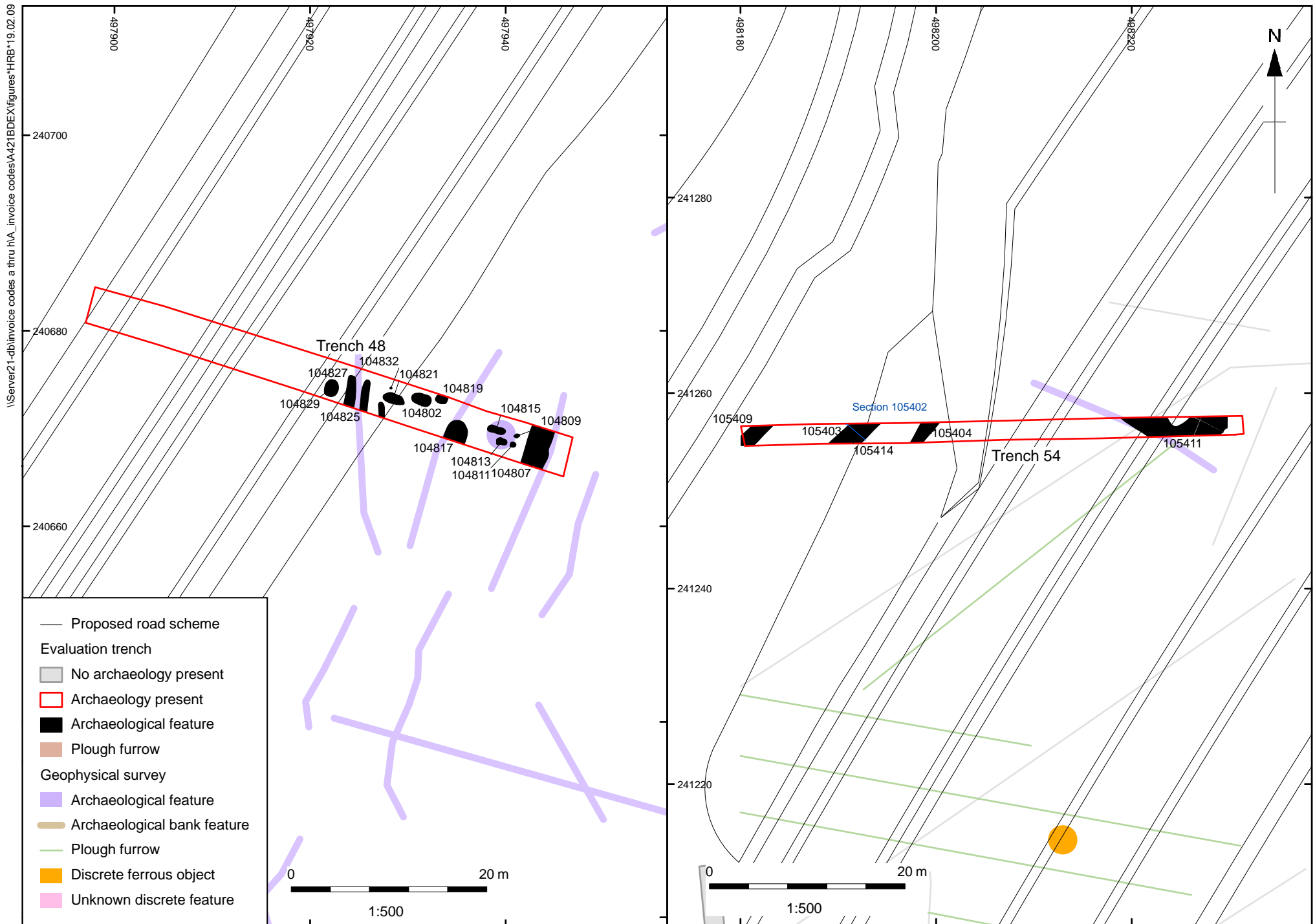


Figure 11: Plan of Trenches 48 and 54

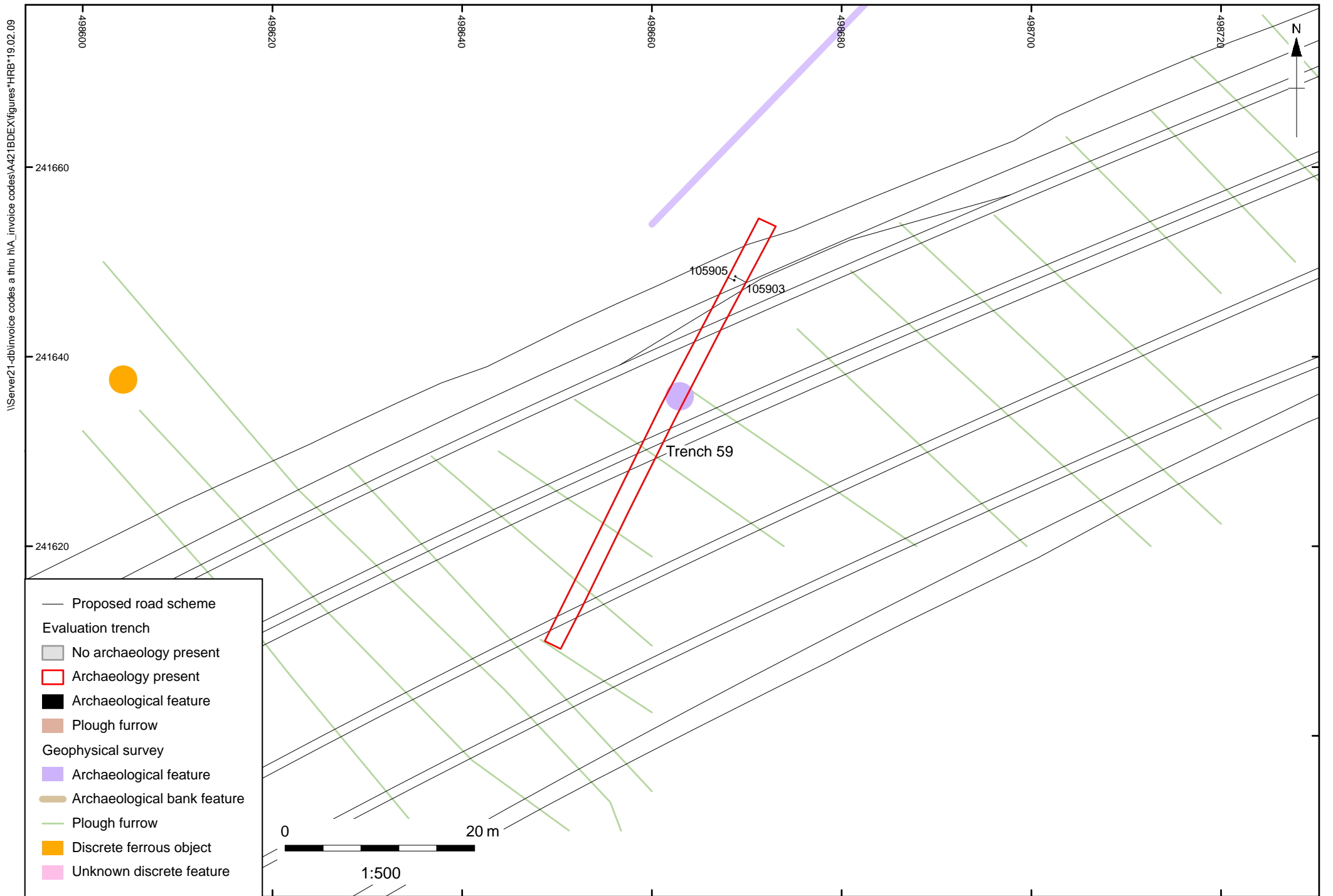


Figure 12: Plan of Trench 59

\\Server21-dbl\invoice codes a thru h\A_invoice codes\A421BDEX\figures\HRB*19.02.09

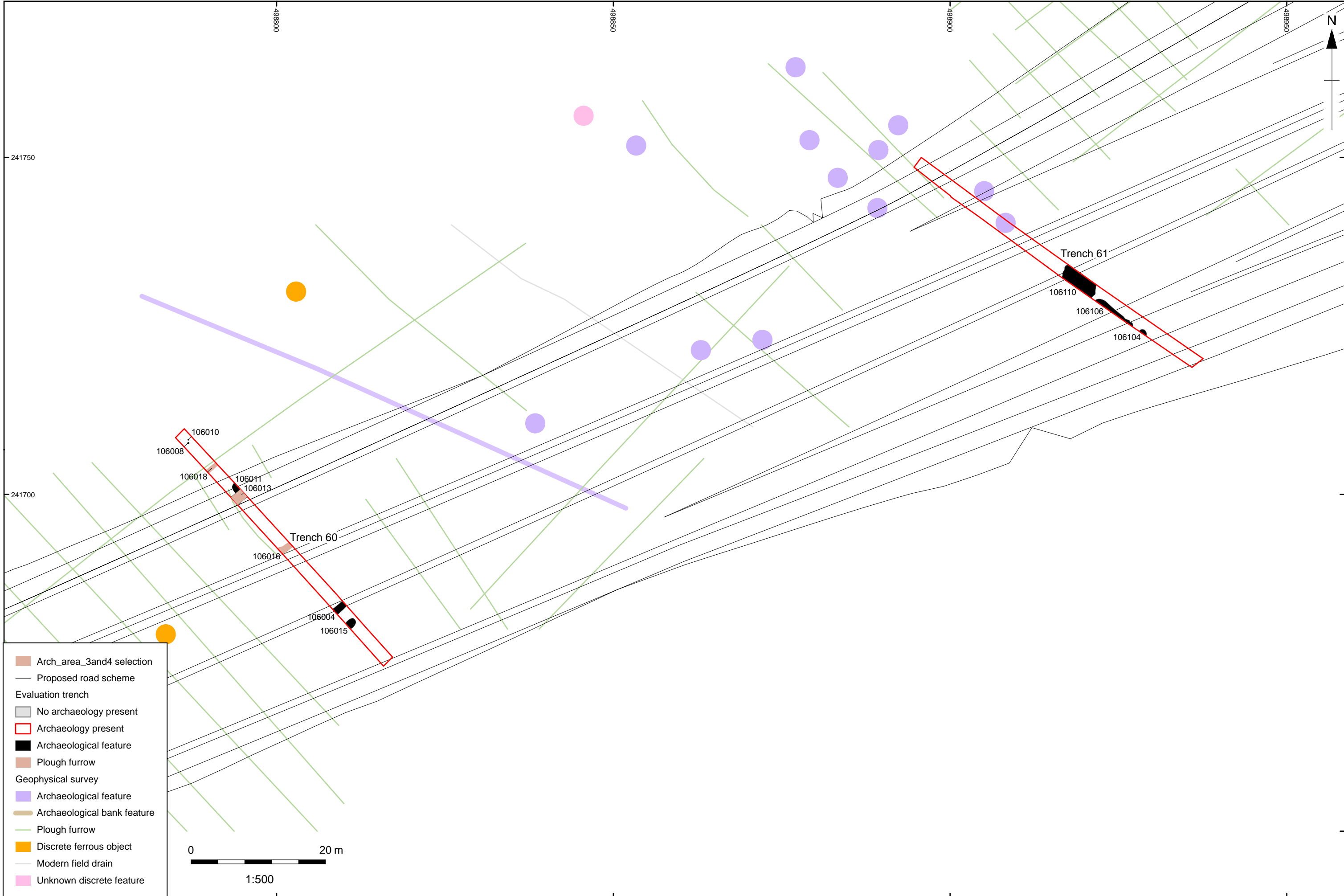


Figure 13: Plan of Trenches 60 and 61

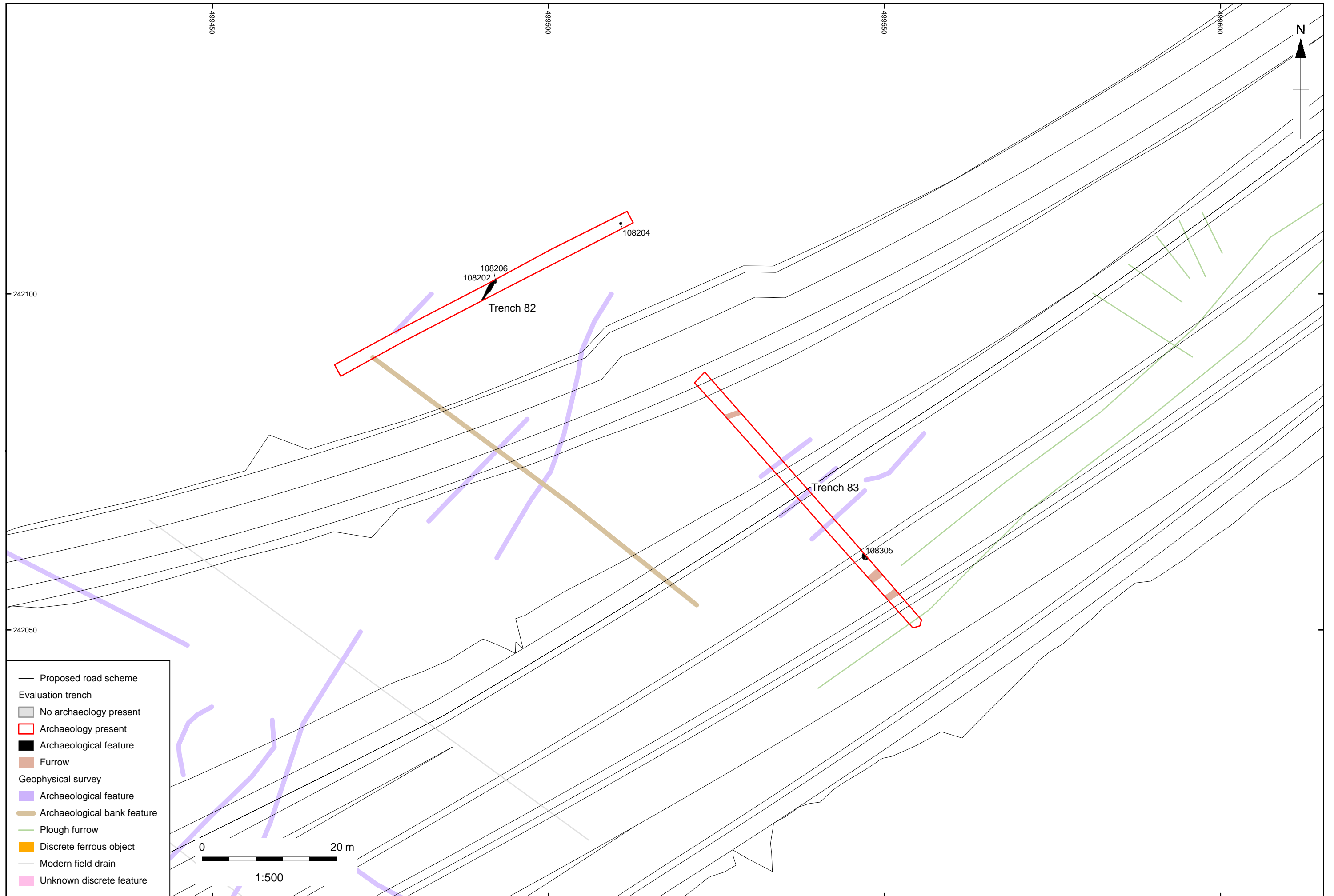


Figure 14: Plan of Trenches 82 and 83

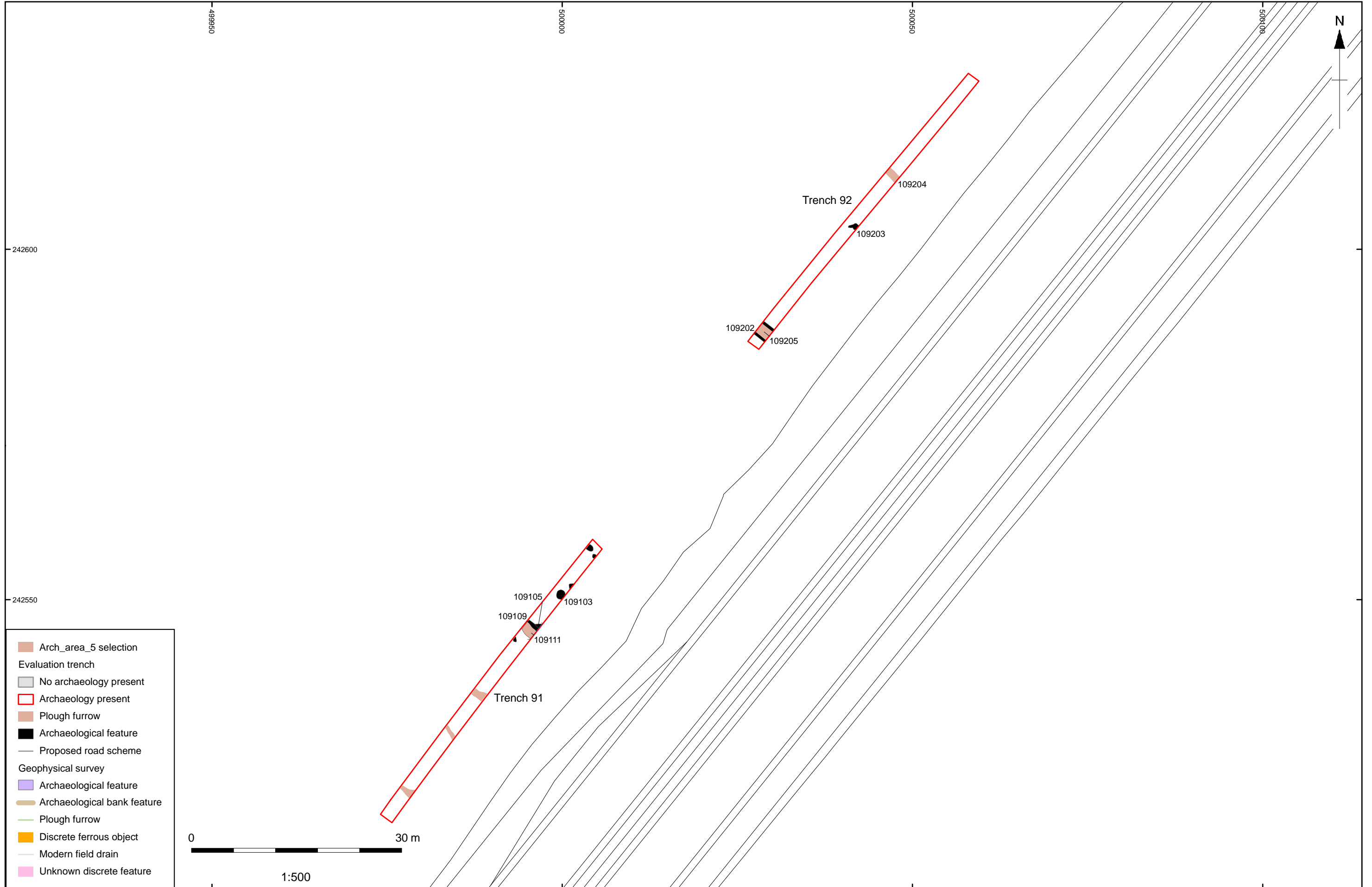


Figure 15: Plan of Trenches 91 and 92

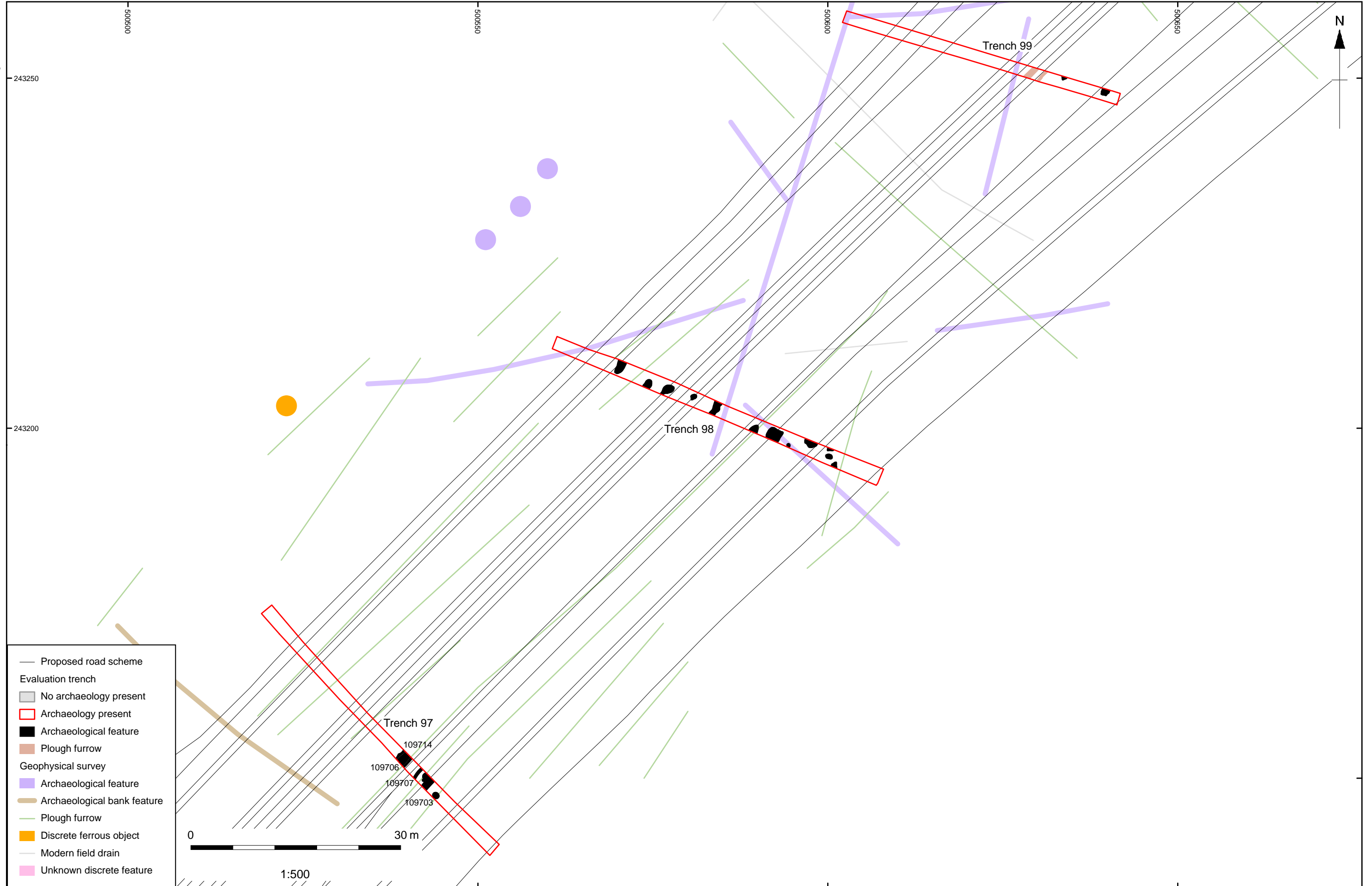


Figure 16: Plan of Trenches 97, 98 and 99

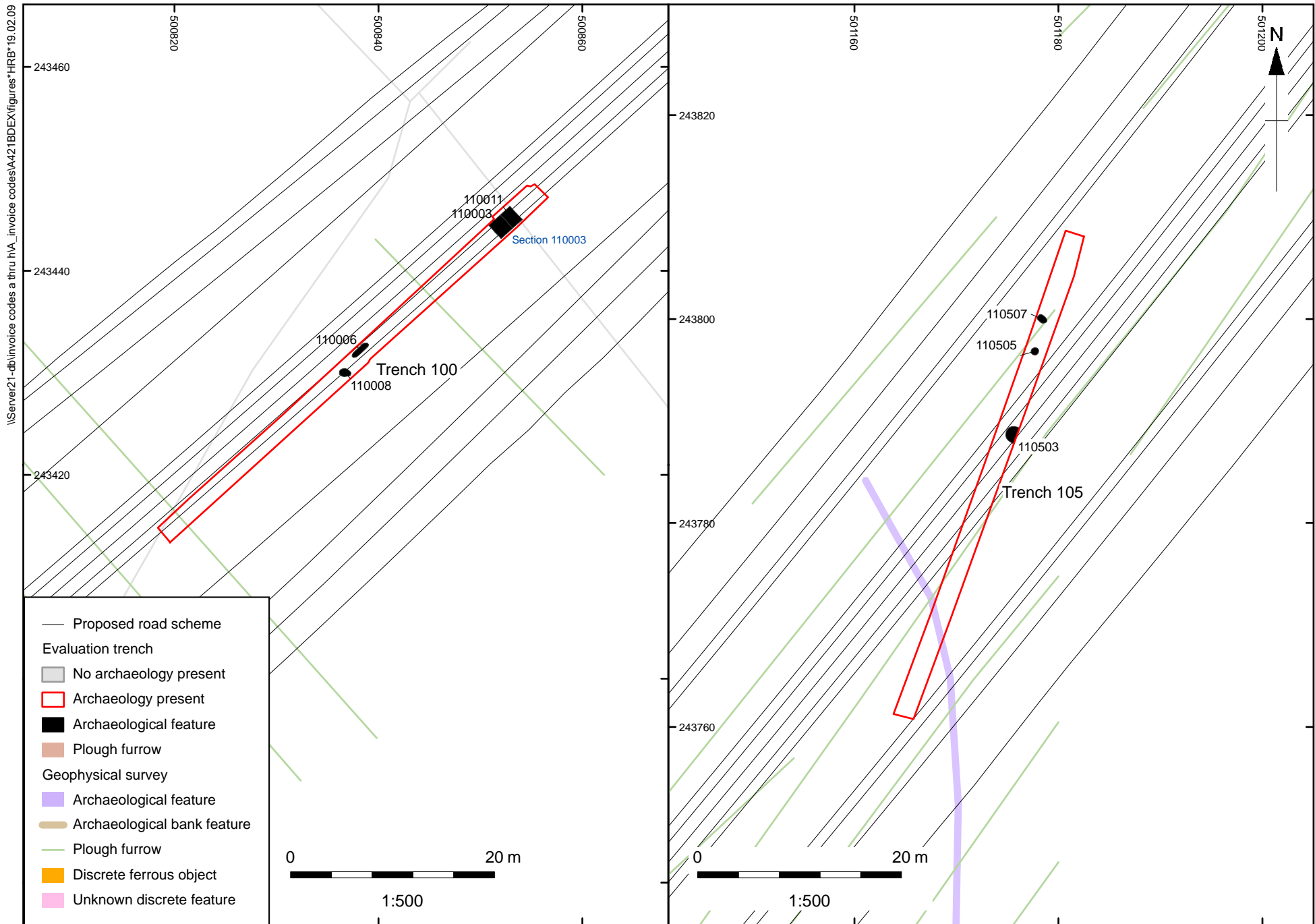


Figure 17: Plan of Trenches 100 and 105

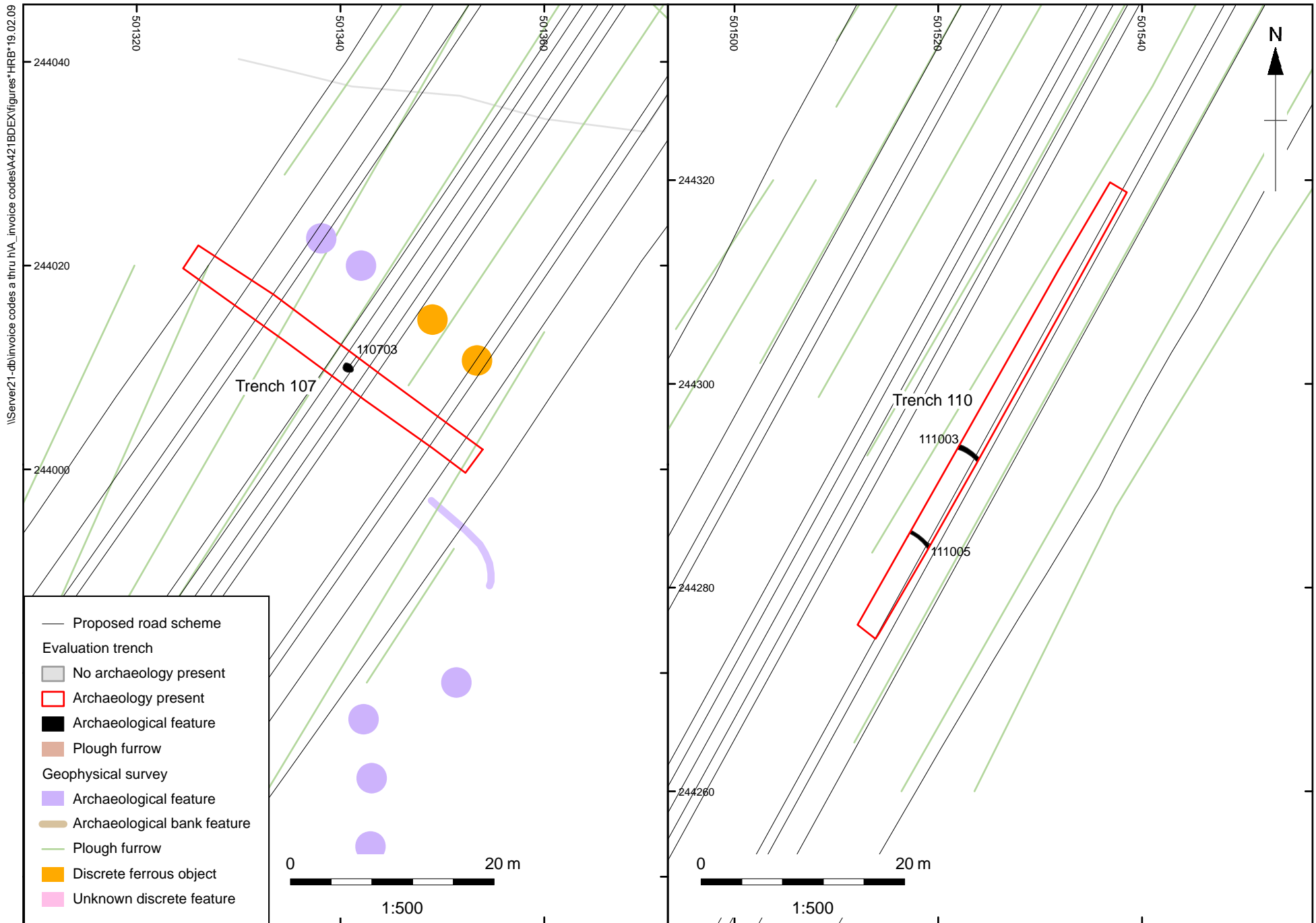


Figure 18: Plan of Trenches 107 and 110

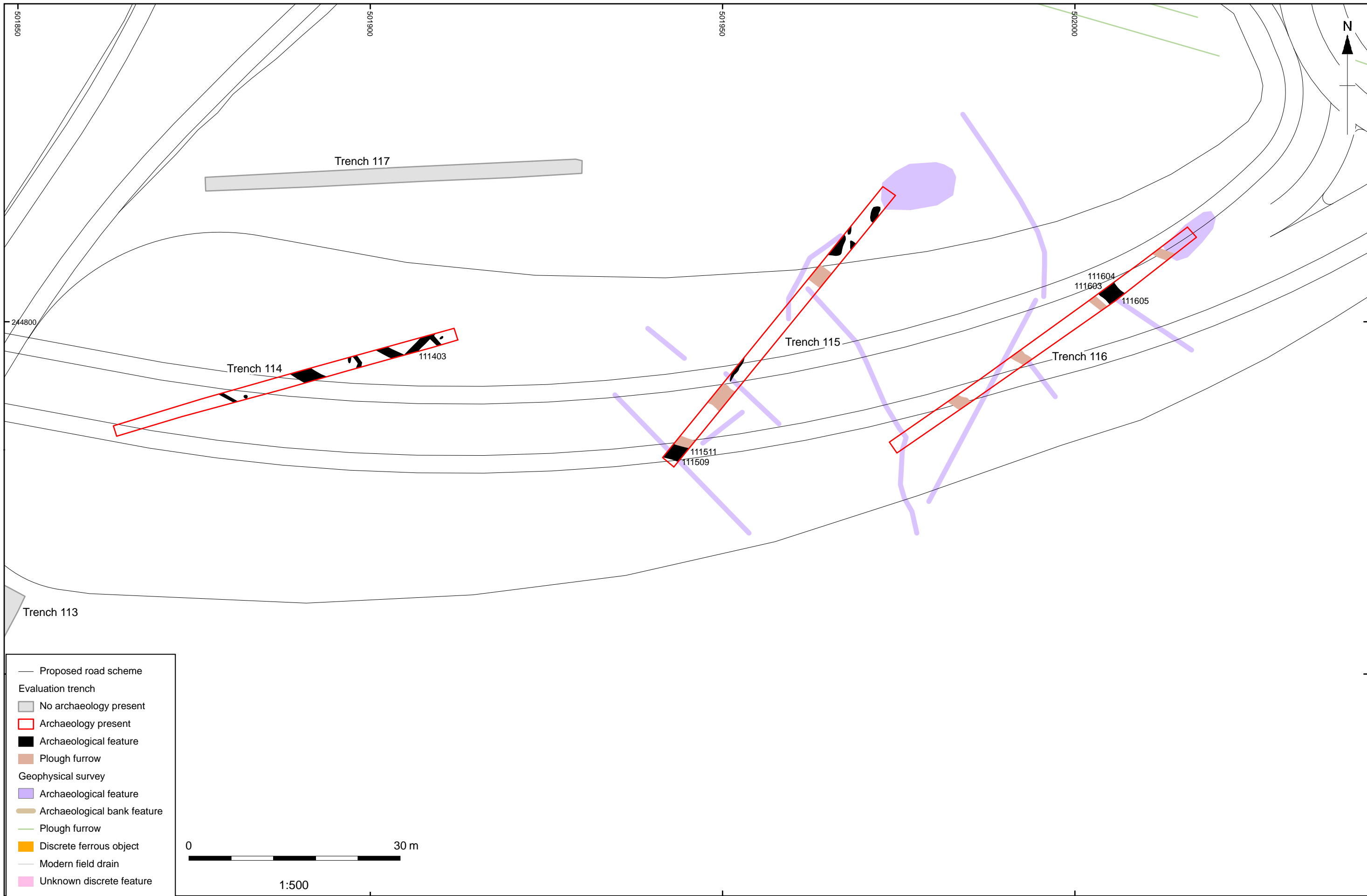
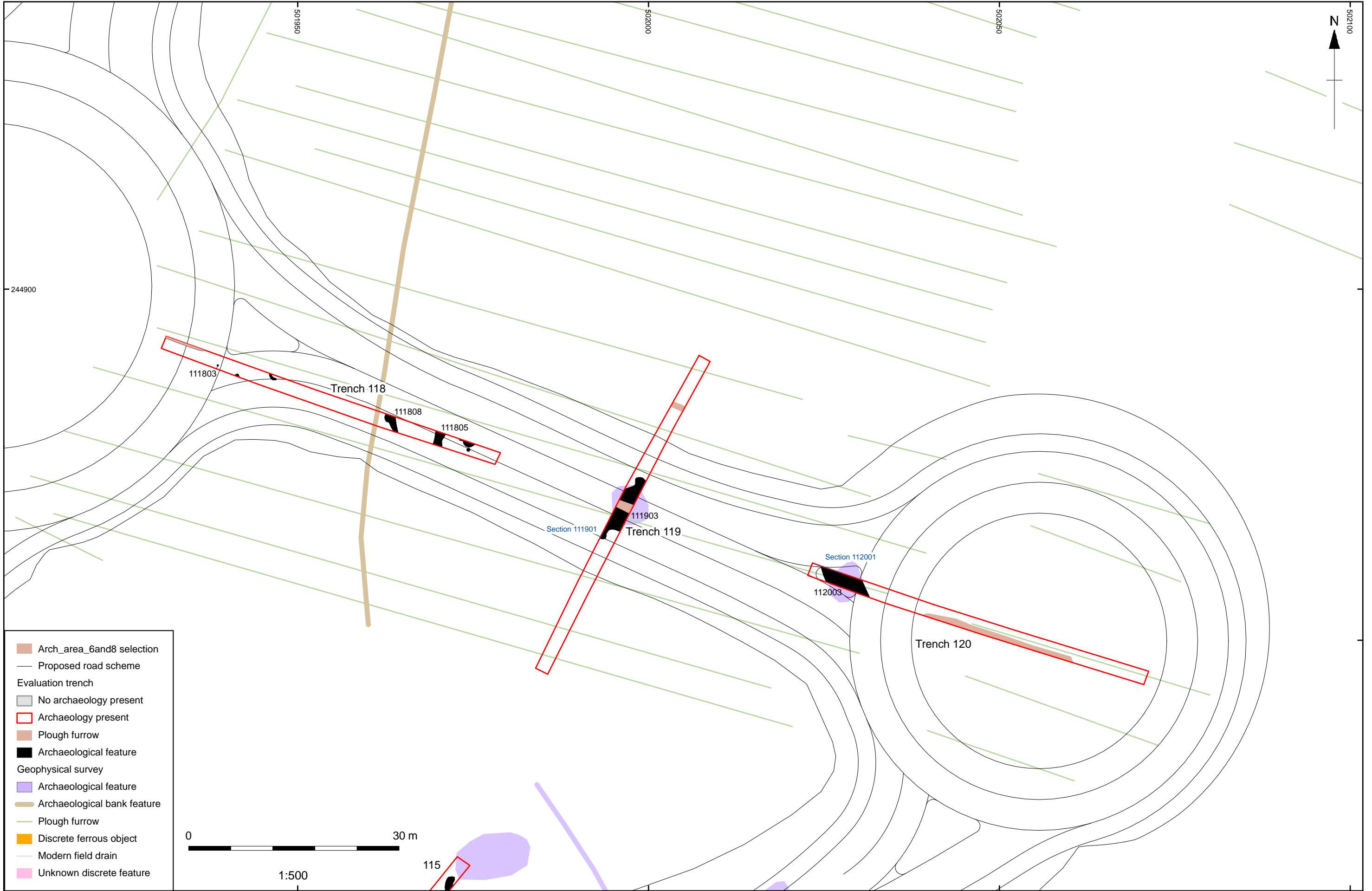


Figure 19: Plan of Trenches 114, 115 and 116



- Arch_area_6and8 selection
- Proposed road scheme
- Evaluation trench
- No archaeology present
- Archaeology present
- Plough furrow
- Archaeological feature
- Geophysical survey
- Archaeological feature
- Archaeological bank feature
- Plough furrow
- Discrete ferrous object
- Modern field drain
- Unknown discrete feature

0 30 m

1:500

115

Figure 20: Plan of Trenches 118, 119 and 120

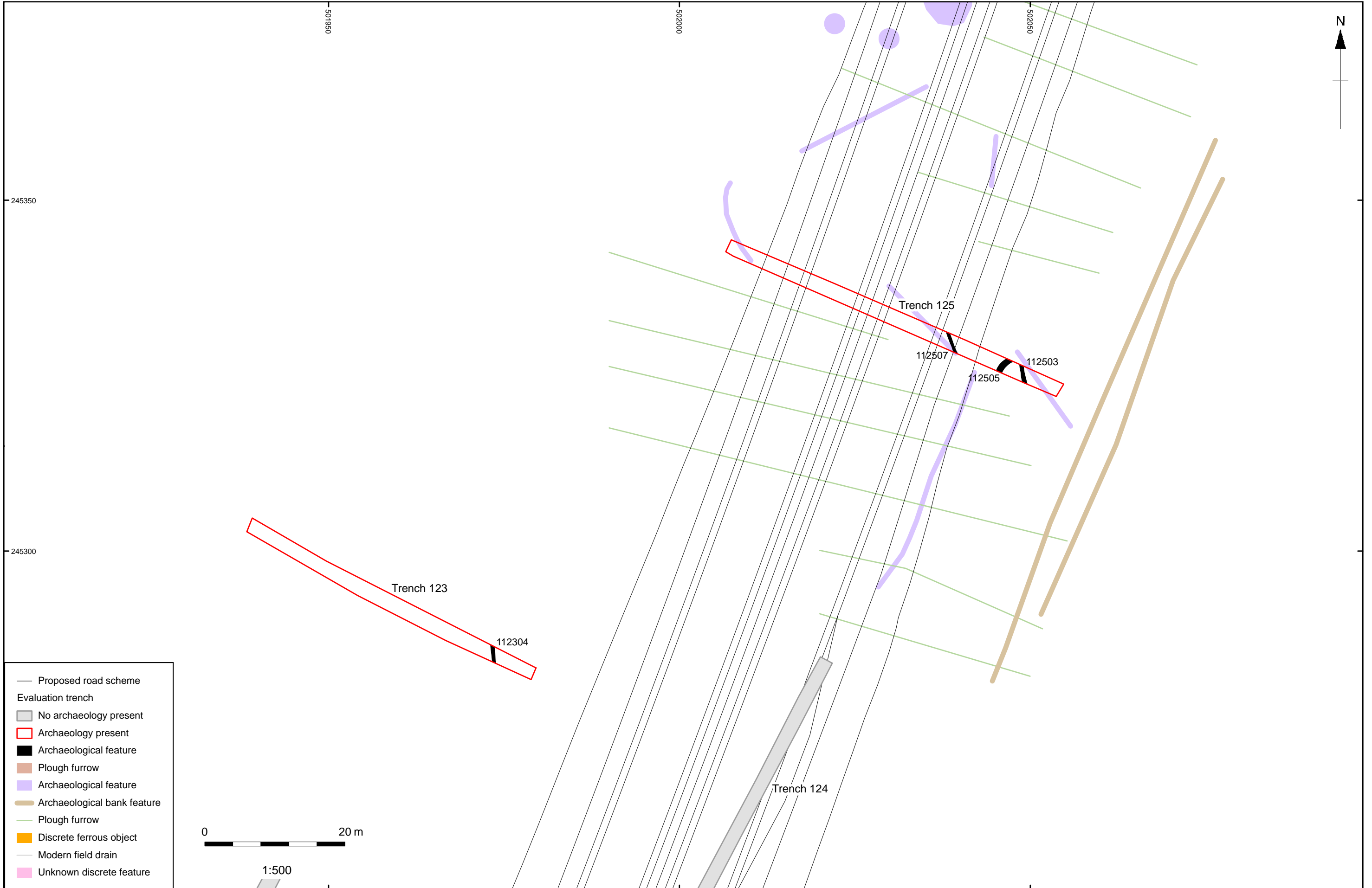


Figure 21: Plan of Trenches 123 and 125

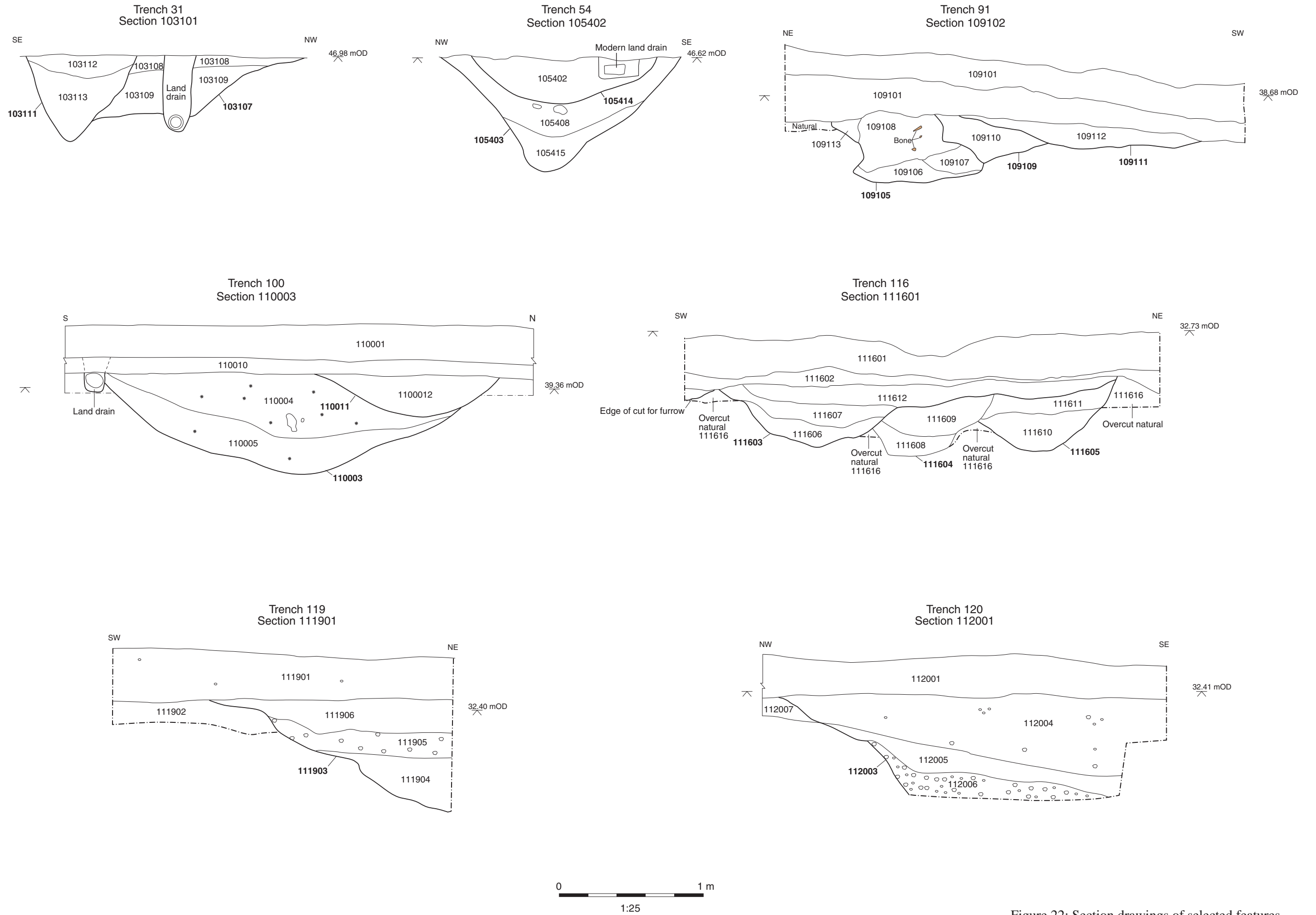


Figure 22: Section drawings of selected features



Plate 1: Trench 48



Plate 2: Flooding in Trench 58



Plate 3: Pottery in ditch 103107, Trench 31



Plate 4: Cremation burial 104802, in Trench 48



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