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Archaeological Evaluation Report

October 2020

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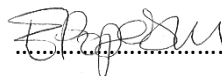
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Prepared by: Nicholas Cox (Project Officer)
Checked by: Nicholas Gilmour (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by: Tom Phillips (Senior Project Manager, Post-Excavation)
Approved for Issue by: Elizabeth Popescu (Head of Post-Excavation & Publications)
Signature:



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OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD

t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk

w. oxfordarchaeology.com

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Director and Chief Executive
Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIFA
Private Limited Company, No: 1618597
Registered Charity, No: 285627
Registered Office: Oxford Archaeology Ltd
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

Lady Grove, Didcot, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Nicholas Cox BSc

*With contributions from Alex Davies PhD, Martha Craven BA,
Hayley Foster BA MA PhD and Anthony Haskins BSc MSc ACIfA
AIOSH*

illustrations by David Brown BA

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Summary

Between the 7th and 18th of September 2020, Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation at the site of a proposed residential development at Lady Grove, Didcot, Oxfordshire (SU 54090 91230). A total of 58 trenches were excavated across an area of approximately 15ha, currently divided into five fields. Archaeological features were exposed in 29 of these trenches, and were dominated by ditches, which were widely distributed but with a particular concentration in the north-western part of the site. The ditches were mostly aligned north to south/east to west and seem to relate to fairly extensive systems of field boundaries. Discrete features were rare, but included a small number of undated postholes and pits and several natural features. Finds were very scarce, with 14 sherds of pottery (64g), five worked flints and 130g of animal bone, recovered largely from the fills of a small number of the ditches. The pottery was dominated by small, abraded sherds of Middle or Late Bronze Age date, with one ditch also producing a single sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery. On this basis it seems likely that some of the ditches relate to a Middle Bronze Age field system of the kind well known from the wider area, which may be overlain by a later, Late Iron Age and/or Early Roman field system – potentially associated with a nearby Roman settlement on Hadden Hill. Desk-based research suggests that the site was wooded throughout much of the medieval and post-medieval periods, and the only evidence for later activity revealed by the trenching were the remains of furrows associated with the cultivation of the site following its clearance and enclosure in the mid 19th century.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Manor Oak Homes to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of a proposed residential development at Lady Grove, Didcot, Oxfordshire (SU 54090 91230).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. P20/S1577/O). A brief was set by Richard Oram and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary discharge the planning condition. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site is located to the East of Lady Grove (B4016), on the eastern edge of Didcot, Oxfordshire. It lies in the north-eastern corner of Didcot parish. The site is approximately 15 hectares (ha) in size and is rectangular in shape.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of five fields (labelled 1 to 5 on Fig. 1) which are mostly used for pasture, except for Field 5 which was under cultivation at the time of the fieldwork. There are arable and pastoral fields to the north, south and west of the site and to the east is Hadden Hill Golf Club.
- 1.2.3 The site is situated on the south-west facing side of a hill. In the north-eastern corner of the site the ground level is at approximately 67m OD. It slopes gently down to the west, reaching a height of 55m OD in the south-western corner.
- 1.2.4 The geology of the area is mapped as Gault Formation, a sedimentary mudstone bedrock formed during the Cretaceous period (BGS 2020). The bedrock is overlain by superficial head (clay and silt) deposits which are recorded across the majority of the site (*ibid*).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 A full account of the archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in a desk-based assessment (Legge 2020), and a very brief summary is provided here. The location of selected records returned from a search of the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) for a study area within 1km of the site are plotted on Fig. 2.
- 1.3.2 Earlier prehistoric – Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age – activity in the area is attested by a small number of stray finds including records of poorly provenanced flint/stone axeheads from Willington Down and Down Farm (HER 7944 and 1886) and residual Neolithic flintwork recovered during a watching brief some 900m to the north-east of the site (HER 28827). A Bronze Age palstave was also recovered as a stray find some 600m north of the site (HER 1894).
- 1.3.3 Later prehistoric and Romano-British activity is better attested, and the desk-based assessment concluded that the site was likely to have lain within the agricultural

hinterland of known later prehistoric/Roman settlements in the area (Legge 2020). To the north of the site, on the southern edge of the extensive gravel terraces of the Thames, an Iron Age settlement is known from excavation carried out in the 1930s (HER 2384), together with records of possible later prehistoric pits (HER 12544). These sites lie south of a major complex of cropmarks around Pearith Farm, just beyond the search area, which attest to a major area of later prehistoric and Romano-British settlement. To the north-west of the site, evaluation of an extensive area to the north-east of Didcot (EOX 3323/5985; Leech 2013) investigated further later prehistoric and Romano-British remains on the edge of the gravel terrace (HER 28555; 28827; 27484; 27722), but also demonstrated that associated field systems extended to the south, onto the heavier soils of the Gault Clay.

- 1.3.4 To the south of the site, excavations at Wallingford Road, just outside of the search area, revealed parts of an extensive Middle Bronze Age field system, with evidence for associated settlement (Rueben and Ford 1992). Some 650m to the south-east of the site a substantial Roman settlement is known at Hadden Hill (HER 15677; Boyle *et al* 1993), and fieldwork in areas to the west of this settlement have recorded both later prehistoric and Romano-British field systems and trackways (HER 16399, 26129).
- 1.3.5 Anglo-Saxon remains are poorly attested in the immediate area of the site. Two possible Saxon sunken-featured buildings were reported c. 925m north of the site during gravel extraction in the late 19th-century (HER 12544), but more recent interpretation suggests that the features are more likely to be contemporary with an Iron Age settlement (HER 2384) recorded nearby (see above). Anglo-Saxon pottery has been recovered some 350m west of the site (HER 7674).
- 1.3.6 The site lies some 2km from the historic (medieval) core of Didcot and comprised an area of woodland known as 'Hadden Wood' from at least the 16th-century and probably throughout the medieval period. It is uncertain when the wood was established, and no woodland is referred to in the area by the Domesday Survey of 1086. The woodland was cleared, and the site was enclosed in 1841. Post-medieval ridge and furrow post-dating the clearance of the woodland is recorded on aerial photographs of the site and extant, slight, earthworks of ridge and furrow survive within one of the fields (Field 1).

Previous work

- 1.3.7 A programme of geophysical survey undertaken across the site in January 2020 recorded weak magnetic anomalies relating both to the pattern of ridge and furrow across the site and to modern ploughing (Arana & Fortuny 2020). Several probable modern drainage features were also recorded. The results of the geophysical survey are shown overlain by the results of the trenching in Fig. 3.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation were:

- I. To determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive,
- II. To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains,
- III. To determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means,
- IV. To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains,
- V. To determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy,
- VI. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive,
- VII. To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- I. To ground truth the results of the geophysical survey (Arana and Fortuny 2020).

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The design of the evaluation allowed provision for the excavation of 100 trenches (Trenches 1-100, each 30m long and 1.8m wide), and it was planned that results of an initial phase consisting of the excavation of 50 trenches (Trenches 1-50) would dictate the requirement for further excavation, based on consultation with Richard Oram of Oxfordshire County Council. In the event, two of the original 50 trenches (Trenches 31 and 32) were not excavated due to problems with access, and supplementary trenching beyond the original 50 trenches was limited to the excavation of ten further trenches (Trenches 65, 66, 74, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90 and 94), with a total of 58 trenches excavated in all.

2.2.2 The trenches were excavated using a 13-ton mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Spoil was stored adjacent to, but at a safe distance from trench edges.

2.2.3 Machining continued in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology, which corresponded to the upper surface of the fills of archaeological features. Once archaeological deposits had been exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand.

2.2.4 The exposed surfaces were sufficiently clean to establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains. A sample of each feature or deposit type, for example pits, postholes, and ditches, was excavated and recorded.

- 2.2.5 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers and recorded to established best practice and the OA Field Manual. Samples were allocated unique numbers. Bulk finds were collected by context.
- 2.2.6 Digital photos were taken of any archaeological features, deposits, trenches and evaluation work in general.
- 2.2.7 Sections of features have been drawn at a scale of 1:20. All section drawings are located on the plan. The absolute height (m OD) of all principal strata and features, and the section datum lines, has been calculated and indicated on the drawings.
- 2.2.8 Environmental sampling was undertaken to characterise the modes of preservation and concentrations of assemblages of biological material from different periods, areas and context types in order to inform the strategy during any further mitigation.
- 2.2.9 Soil samples were taken from a variety of feature types and dates to assess the paleoenvironmental potential across all periods along the length of the scheme. An emphasis was placed on contexts that:
 - I. were not believed to be contaminated or of mixed origin;
 - II. were known or thought likely to contain biological remains (*e.g.* charcoal, plant macrofossils, molluscs);
 - III. were representative of the range of feature types and periods present;
 - IV. contained datable artefacts or had the potential to be dated (*e.g.* by radiocarbon analysis);
 - V. were interpretatively important at the context or site level, and;
 - VI. were potentially of archaeological or historical significance.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below by field, from north (Field 5) to south (Field 3) and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in App. A. Overall trench plans are provided as Figs. 4 (Fields 4 and 5) and 5 (Fields 1-3), with detailed trench plans (including insets of selected section drawings) provided in Figs. 6-11. Photographs of selected features and trenches are reproduced in Plates 1-10. Reports on the finds and environmental remains are provided in Apps. B and C respectively.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of mixed light to mid white and grey clays was overlain by a mid brown grey silty clay subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil or ploughsoil.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were generally easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in 29 of the 58 excavated trenches (Trenches 3-5, 8, 14-16, 19-20, 22-25, 35-41, 45-47, 66 and 85-89). Features were concentrated in the western half of Field 5 and were more evenly distributed across Fields 1-3, whilst no features were revealed in the four trenches excavated in Field 4.

3.4 Trenches in Field 5 (Fig. 4)

3.4.1 A total of 24 trenches were excavated in Field 5, of which 15 revealed archaeological features. These were concentrated in the western part of the field, and the trenches and their associated features are described here from west to east.

Trench 36 (Figs 4 & 6)

3.4.2 Trench 36 was located in the north-west corner of the field and was aligned north to south. At the northern end of the trench was a north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**3606**) measuring 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep, with a concave base. This was filled by a single mid yellow grey clay (3607) which contained no finds. The ditch was cut to the north by a second ditch (**3608**) on the same alignment. This was 1.9m wide and 0.24m deep, filled by a mid brown grey clay (3609), devoid of finds. To the south was a sub-circular tree bowl (**3600**) partially exposed against the eastern baulk, this was 1.1m wide and 0.28m deep and filled with a mid brown grey silty clay (3601). A north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**3602**) crossed the trench to the south of this. The ditch was 0.75m wide and 0.18m deep, filled with a mid brown grey silty clay (3603), devoid of finds. It was cut to the south by another irregular tree bowl (**3604**), 1.33m wide and 0.18m deep. This contained a light brown grey sandy clay (3605), which produced two small sherds (2g) of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery. At the southern end of the trench

was a west to east aligned ditch (**3610**), 1.5m wide and 0.27m deep. This contained a mid grey brown clay (3611) which produced no finds, and a bulk sample of this deposit (sample 2) yielded no preserved plant remains. The continuation of this ditch is likely to be represented by features exposed in Trenches 37 and 88 (see below)

Trench 35 (Figs 4 & 6)

- 3.4.3 To the south of Trench 36, Trench 35 was aligned west to east and contained a possible ditch terminus (**3502**) at the western end. This was on a north to south alignment, measuring 1.09m wide by 0.19m deep. It was filled by a light brown grey silty clay (3503), which produced no finds. Close to the centre of the trench was a sub-circular tree bowl (**3500**), 2.12m wide and 0.26m deep with an irregular profile. Its fill was a mid grey brown sandy clay (3501), devoid of finds.

Trench 87 (Figs 4 & 6)

- 3.4.4 Trench 87 was aligned east to west, to the east of Trench 36. It contained a single small posthole (**8700**), 0.25m wide and 0.13m deep. This was filled with a mid brown clay (8701), which produced no finds. Several natural features, representing localised variation within the natural geology, were also test excavated in this trench.

Trenches 37 and 88 (Figs 4 & 6)

- 3.4.5 To the east of Trench 87, Trenches 37 and 88 (both on north to south alignments) exposed sections of what was almost certainly a single east to west aligned ditch, which probably also corresponded to ditch **3610** in Trench 36. This feature was excavated in Trench 37 (ditch **3700**), where it measured 1.3m wide and up to 0.16m deep, and in Trench 88 it was recorded in plan only (**8800**), here it measured 1.45m wide, and, as exposed, its fill was a similar mid brown grey silty clay (8801). No finds were recovered from either trench.

Trench 86 (Figs 4 & 6)

- 3.4.6 Trench 86 was located south of Trench 87 and was laid out on a north to south alignment. At the southern end of the trench was a probable plough furrow (**8600**), aligned east to west and measuring 2.48m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled by a light brown grey silty clay (8601), containing no finds.

Trench 38 (Figs 4 & 6)

- 3.4.7 To the east of Trench 86, Trench 38 was aligned west to east. In the western half of the trench was a sub-circular pit (**3800**), 0.7m wide and 0.17m deep. The pit was filled by a mid grey brown sandy clay (3801) which contained no finds. A north to south aligned ditch (**3802**) cut the pit on its western side (Plate 1). This was 0.88m wide and 0.47m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 6, Section 38). Its basal fill was a dark grey brown silty clay (3803), 0.16m thick. Above this was a light brown grey sandy silt (3804), 0.38m thick. The final fill was a dark grey brown sandy clay (3805), 0.19m thick. No finds were recovered from any of the fills.

Trench 85 (Figs 4 & 7)

3.4.8 South of Trench 86, Trench 85 was aligned east to west. Close to the middle of the trench was a circular pit (**8500**), measuring 0.8m wide and 0.14m deep and filled by a mid yellow grey clay (8501). A second sub-circular pit (**8505**) was located to the west, 0.8m wide and 0.22m deep, filled with a dark grey brown clay (8506). This was heavily truncated by a north to south aligned ditch (**8502**). The ditch was 1.2m wide and 0.55m deep with a wide shallow-sided upper profile, and a narrow steeper-sided lower half and a flat base (Fig. 7, Section 85). A dark grey brown clay (8503), 0.22m thick, filled the base of the ditch, overlain by a mid grey brown clay (8504) 0.32m thick. Sampling of this fill produced only a very small volume of charcoal (sample 47). No finds were recovered from the trench.

Trench 39 (Figs 4 & 7)

3.4.9 Trench 39 was located south of Trench 38, on a north to south alignment (Plate 2). In the northern half of the trench was a single sub-circular pit (**3910**), 0.65m wide and 0.22m deep with a base sloping to the north. It was filled with a dark black grey clay (3911), sampling of which produced only a very small volume of charcoal and a single flint flake (sample 46). In the southern half of the trench was a circular pit (**3908**), 0.45m wide and 0.05m deep, filled with a mid brown yellow silty clay (3909) which contained no finds. South of this pit was a narrow ditch (**3904**) on a broadly south-west to north-east alignment, measuring 0.33m wide and 0.23m deep. This was filled by a mid brown grey clay (3905), which produced a single sherd of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery (3g) and a flint flake. A large sub-circular pit (**3906**) cut the eastern end of the gully. This measured 2.2m wide and 0.23m deep, filled with a dark brown grey clay (3907) which produced fragments of a long bone belonging to a large mammal (probably horse or cattle). At the southern end of the trench were two parallel east to west aligned ditches. The northernmost of the two (**3900**) was 1.0m wide and 0.4m deep, with a concave base (Fig. 7, Section 95; Plate 3). It was filled with a dark brown grey clay (3901), which contained three sherds (26g) of pottery, two of which are of Middle/Late Bronze Age date, alongside a single base sherd from a Late Iron Age/Early Roman vessel. Sampling of this fill failed to produce any preserved plant remains (sample 3). The second ditch (**3902**) was 0.44m wide and 0.28m deep, with a flat base. Its single fill (3903) was a light grey brown silty clay, which contained no finds.

Trench 40 (Figs 4 & 7)

3.4.10 Trench 40 was located south of Trench 39, on an east to west alignment. At the western end of the trench was a single ditch (**4000**), on a north-west to south-east alignment, measuring 0.93m wide and 0.46m deep, with a U-shaped profile and flat base (Fig. 7, Section 40). The basal fill (4001) was a light blue grey clay, 0.08m thick, which contained no finds. This was overlain by a mid yellow brown silty clay (4002), 0.18m thick, containing three sherds (13g) of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery and a single cattle tooth. The uppermost fill was a mid grey brown clay (4003), 0.2m thick and devoid of finds.

Trench 89 (Figs 4 & 7)

3.4.11 To the east of Trench 39, Trench 89 was on an east to west alignment. A single ditch (**8900**) was exposed in the eastern half of the trench; initially on a north-east to south-west alignment it then turned a right angle towards the south-east. The ditch was 0.57m wide and 0.13m deep, with shallow sides and a concave base. The sole fill (8901) was a light grey brown silty clay, which produced no finds.

Trench 41 (Figs 4 & 7)

3.4.12 Trench 41 was located south-east of Trench 89, on a west to east alignment. A single sub-circular pit (**4100**) was partially exposed under the northern baulk. This measured 0.9m wide and 0.38m deep, with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 4). At the base of the feature was a dark blue grey clay (4101), 0.08m thick. Above this on the eastern side of the pit was a mid yellow brown silty clay (4102), 0.05m thick. The upper fill was a dark grey brown clay (4103). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Trench 45 (Figs 4 & 8)

3.4.13 In the eastern half of the field, Trench 45 was aligned north to south. A single circular pit (**4500**) was exposed in the middle of the trench, measuring 0.98m wide and 0.16m deep with a concave base (Plate 5). The sole fill (4501) was a mid brown grey silty clay, which produced a single struck flint, whilst a small volume of charcoal and a fragment of hazelnut shell were recovered from a sample taken of its fill (sample 1).

Trench 46 (Figs 4 & 8)

3.4.14 South of Trench 45, Trench 46 was laid out on an east to west alignment. A single circular pit (**4600**) was exposed in the middle of the trench, partially exposed against the northern baulk. This feature measured 1.3m wide and 0.54m deep, with a flat base. Its lower fill (4601) consisted of a mid brown yellow silty chalk, 0.04m thick, sealed by an upper fill of dark grey brown clay (4602), 0.52m thick. No finds were recovered.

Trench 47 (Figs 4 & 8)

3.4.15 South of Trench 46 was Trench 47, on a north to south alignment. A single sub-circular pit (**4700**) was exposed in the northern half of the trench. This measured 1.3m wide and 0.4m deep, with a concave base. Its single fill (4601) consisted of a dark grey brown silty clay. No finds were recovered.

3.5 Trenches in Field 1 (Fig. 5)

3.5.1 A total of 11 trenches were excavated in Field 1, six of which revealed archaeological features.

Trench 19 (Figs 5 & 9)

3.5.2 Trench 19, located in the western part of the field and aligned north to south, contained three parallel furrows (unexcavated).

Trench 20 (Figs 5 & 9)

- 3.5.3 Trench 20 was located to the north-east of Trench 19 on a north to south alignment. At the northern end was a large west to east aligned ditch (**2000**), 1.8m wide and 0.8m deep (Fig. 9, Section 52). The ditch contained a dark brown chalky clay at its base (2001), 0.4m thick, containing three small sherds (16g) of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery. This was overlain by a mid yellow brown chalky clay (2002), 0.6m thick, with no finds recovered. A second ditch (**2003**) on a similar alignment cut the upper part of the earlier ditch. This was 0.6m wide and 0.5m deep with a concave base. It contained a dark grey brown clay (2004), 0.29m thick, overlain by a mid yellow white chalky clay (2005), 0.21m thick. No finds were recovered from this ditch.

Trench 22 (Figs 5 & 9)

- 3.5.4 Trench 22, to the south-east of Trench 20, was aligned west to east and exposed a single north to south aligned ditch (**2200**). This ditch was 0.49m wide and 0.2m deep, with a concave base. It contained a mid brown grey clay (2201), which produced a single sherd (3g) of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery.

Trench 23 (Figs 5 & 9)

- 3.5.5 To the east of Trench 22, on a north-west to south-east alignment, Trench 23 exposed several features along its length (Plate 6). At the north-west end was an east to west aligned ditch (**2300**), 1.52m wide and 0.54m deep with a narrow 'ankle-breaker' profile at the base (Plate 7). Its basal fill was a mid brown grey silty clay (2301), 0.12m thick. This was overlain by a mid brown grey silty clay (2302), 0.42m thick. No finds were recovered from either fill. To the south, mid-way along the trench, was a sub-rectangular pit, partially exposed against the western trench baulk (**2303**). This was 1.23m wide within the trench and 0.26m deep, with a flat base. It contained a dark brown grey sandy clay (2304), devoid of finds. At the southern end of the trench were two almost parallel ditches on a west to east alignment. Ditch **2305** was 1.44m wide and 0.23m deep with a concave base. It contained a light grey brown silty clay (2306), 0.12m thick. This was overlain by a mid grey brown silty clay (2307), 0.11m thick. Ditch **2308** was 1.18m wide and 0.26m deep with steeper sides and a concave base. Its single fill (2309) was a dark brown grey sandy clay. Neither ditch produced any finds.

Trench 24

- 3.5.6 Trench 24 was on a north to south alignment located east of Trench 23. Three parallel east to west aligned ditches were exposed near the middle of the trench. Ditch **2400** was the southernmost of the three, measuring 1.0m wide and 0.16m deep with a flat base. It was filled by a dark brown grey clay (2401) containing a single flint blade. Ditch **2402** was 0.47m wide and 0.1m deep, filled by a dark brown grey silty clay (2403). Ditch **2404** was 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep, filled by a dark brown grey silty clay (2405), which contained a single struck flint.

Trench 25 (Fig. 5)

3.5.7 Trench 25 was aligned west to east and exposed a single ditch (**2500**) in the eastern half. This ditch was aligned north-east to south-west, measuring 0.95m wide and 0.4m deep. It contained a dark brown grey clay (2501), devoid of finds.

3.6 Trenches in Field 2 (Fig. 5)

3.6.1 A total of nine trenches were excavated in Field 2, four of which revealed archaeological features.

Trench 66 (Figs 5 & 10)

3.6.2 Trench 66, aligned west to east, contained a single large ditch (**6600**). This feature was on a west-north-west to east-south-east alignment, 2.4m wide and 0.35m deep (Fig. 10, Section 143). It was filled by a dark grey silty clay (6601), which produced a cattle metatarsal.

Trench 16 (Figs 5 & 10)

3.6.3 To the south-east, Trench 16 was on a north-east to south-west alignment. At the southern end of the trench a modern sub-circular posthole (**1600**) was exposed, 0.59m wide and 0.11m deep. This was filled by a distinctive light red brown topsoil derived deposit (1601). An amorphous natural feature, probably a tree bowl, (**1602**) was located north-east of the posthole. This was 1.1m wide and 0.3m deep, filled with a dark brown grey silty clay (1603). No finds were recovered from these features.

Trench 15 (Figs 5 & 10)

3.6.4 Trench 15 was aligned north to south and revealed a single gully (**1500**) which ran parallel to and was partially exposed against the eastern baulk in the southern part of the trench. The gully was at least 0.24m wide within the trench and 0.12m deep. Its fill was a dark brown grey silty clay (1501), devoid of finds.

Trench 14 (Figs 5 & 10)

3.6.5 Trench 14 was aligned east to west, with a single ditch (**1400**) running parallel to its southern baulk. The ditch was 0.65m wide and 0.14m deep. Its fill was a dark brown grey silty clay (1401), devoid of finds.

3.7 Trenches in Field 3 (Fig. 5)

3.7.1 A total of ten trenches were excavated in Field 3, four of which revealed features.

Trench 3 (Figs 5 & 10)

3.7.2 Trench 3 was located in the western part of Field 1 and was aligned north to south. It contained two linear features at its southern end, one aligned north-east to south-west (**300**), and one aligned west to east (**302**). Both features appeared to be freshly cut, with vertical sides and flat bases, and were interpreted as modern field drains, although a very small sherd (1g) of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill of feature **300**.

Trench 4 (Figs 5 & 10)

- 3.7.3 Trench 4 was located to the east of Trench 3, on a north-east to south-west alignment. In the north-east half of the trench was a west-north-west to east-south-east aligned ditch (**400**), 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep (Fig. 10, Section 53). This was filled with a dark grey brown chalky clay (401), devoid of finds. In the south-west half of the trench was a north to south aligned ditch (**402**), 0.3m wide and 0.26m deep (Plate 8). It contained a dark grey brown chalky clay (403), also devoid of finds.

Trench 5 (Figs 5 & 10)

- 3.7.4 Trench 5 was aligned north-west to south-east. It exposed a single ditch (**500**) on a north to south alignment, measuring 0.8m wide by 0.34m deep (Fig. 10, Section 55). The ditch contained a light blue grey silty clay (501), which produced no finds.

Trench 8 (Figs 5 & 11)

- 3.7.5 Trench 8 was aligned north to south; two ditches were located at its southern end. Ditch **800** was aligned north-east to south-west, 0.98m wide and 0.33m deep (Plate 9). The fill (801) was mid grey brown sandy clay, which contained no finds. An east to west aligned gully (**802**) cut the top of ditch **800**. It was 0.3m wide and 0.19m deep, filled with a mid brown grey sandy clay (803). Neither feature produced any finds.

3.8 Finds and environmental summary

- 3.8.1 A total of 14 sherds of pottery (64g) was recovered (App. B.1). This material was dominated by small, abraded sherds of Middle/Late Bronze Age date, with a single sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date and a small sherd (1g) of Roman grey ware.
- 3.8.2 Five struck flints, all unretouched flakes/blades, were also recovered from several features and are consistent with a broad Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date (App. B.2).
- 3.8.3 Processing of five bulk samples taken from the fills of ditches and pits produced very sparse remains (App. C.1). Aside from a fragment of charred hazelnut shell from pit **4500**, the samples were either entirely devoid of preserved material or produced very small volumes of charcoal.
- 3.8.4 A total of 130g (27 fragments) of animal bone was recovered, with two specimens identified to taxa, both cattle, and fragments from one large mammal long bone (App. C.2).

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 Generally, the conditions on the site made identification of archaeological features simple, and features were well defined against the natural geology. Root disturbance was a potential issue in identifying features in several trenches in close proximity to trees (Trenches 4, 20, 22, and 23) and along some parts of the western side of the site variations in the natural geology required investigation to determine they did not represent archaeological features. These minor issues notwithstanding, the fieldwork is thought to have a high level of reliability.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 General Site Aims:

I. *determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains which may survive,*

The evaluation established the presence of archaeological remains within the study area.

II. *determine or confirm the approximate extent of any surviving remains,*

The evaluation has established the extent of archaeological remains, primarily in the west of the site, particularly in Field 5 and more generally at the base of the slope in the western half of the investigation area.

III. *determine the date range of any surviving remains by artefactual or other means,*

The evaluation did establish a probable date for some of the features exposed, and others may be possible to generally date by proximity. However, due to the relative paucity of artefactual evidence the majority of features are not directly datable.

IV. *determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains,*

The features discovered are generally in good condition with little or no disturbance by later activity. However, many features were quite shallow, suggesting some level of vertical truncation.

V. *determine the degree of complexity of any surviving horizontal or vertical stratigraphy,*

The stratigraphy of the exposed features was relatively simple with few features impinging on others and only a limited number of ditches obviously traceable between trenches even in the most densely active part of the investigation area.

VI. *determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive,*

Bulk sampling of the fills of features investigated during the investigation produced very sparse charred plant remains. Aside from a single fragment of

hazelnut shell from a probable prehistoric pit (**4500**, Trench 45) the features contained either no preserved material at all or very small volumes of charcoal. Small quantities of animal bone were found in the fills of a small number of features, indicating the potential for the preservation of bone on the site, but it was in fragmentary condition, with identifiable specimens limited to robust elements (a molar and metatarsal).

VII. *determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present,*

The artefactual evidence recovered was generally sparse with only a few features producing very small amounts of pottery. The pottery generally consists of very small, abraded sherds with few diagnostic features. Very few sizable fragments of bone were recovered.

VIII. *ground truth the results of the geophysical survey (Arana & Fortuny 2020)*

The results of the evaluation suggest that the geophysical survey of the site was generally unsuccessful, with none of the features identified in the trial trenching being evident on the geophysical results, which only show anomalies corresponding with post-medieval furrow alignments and modern gravel-filled land drains.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The archaeological remains revealed by the evaluation consist mostly of ditches alongside a small number of scattered pits and natural features. The greatest concentration of features was found in the western part of Field 5, but they were also present across Fields 1-3, whilst the absence of features in Field 4 at least partly reflects the relatively low coverage achieved by the trenching in this area, with access problems preventing the opening of two of the six trenches originally planned in Field 4.

4.3.2 On this basis it seems that the boundaries/field system(s) represented by the ditches clearly extended across large parts of the proposed development area. It is notable, however, that the ditches in Field 5 were confined to the western, lower-lying, part of that field, and appeared not to continue beyond a slight break of slope running broadly north to south across the central part of the field, roughly on the axis of Trenches 88 and 90 (see Fig. 4; Plate 10). The only features identified further upslope, to the east, were isolated and undated pits present in Trenches 45, 46 and 47, and the corner of the ditch identified in Trench 89 (**8900**) may have turned to follow this break of slope. Although the ditches in the southern fields (Fields 1-3) did extend further east than those in Field 1 (notably in Trenches 8 and 25), the densest distribution of features again seems to have been on the lower lying ground across the central and western parts of the site.

4.3.3 Most of the ditches were laid out on a north to south/east to west alignment but a significant number were on a north-east to south-west/north-west to south-east alignment. This, together with the presence of intercutting and recut ditches in some trenches, suggest that the ditches probably belong to a relatively complex, multi-period, system of boundaries. In this context, it is not possible to confidently

reconstruct the layout of the boundary systems in any detail, but probable/possible continuations of individual ditches are indicated on the relevant trench plans (see Figs. 4 and 5), and include the east to west ditch traced across Trenches 36, 37 and 88 in Field 5, similarly aligned features running between Trenches 23 and 24 in Field 1 (ditches **2305/2404** and **2308/2402**) and a north to south aligned ditch running between Trench 5 (Field 3) and Trench 15 (Field 2).

- 4.3.4 The ditches produced very few finds, and the only dating evidence is provided by a very small assemblage of pottery, much of which was in a highly fragmented and abraded condition. Three of the linear features in Field 5 produced pottery, with very small quantities of Middle or Late Bronze Age (M/LBA) pottery coming from ditch **4000** and gully **3904**, whilst ditch **3900** produced two sherds of M/LBA pottery alongside a sherd from a LIA/ER vessel. In the southern part of the site, two ditches in Field 1 (ditches **2000** and **2200**) also produced small quantities of M/LBA pottery. Whilst the material recovered from these features can hardly be considered secure dating evidence, the paucity of later finds in the excavated features suggest that many of these boundaries do relate to later prehistoric field systems, probably of Middle Bronze Age date, with the possibility that these are overlain by a separate system of later, Late Iron Age and/or Early Roman boundaries – a sequence which would be consistent with the results of fieldwork undertaken in the local area, where extensive systems of later prehistoric and Roman field systems, boundaries and trackways are well attested (see Section 1.3).
- 4.3.5 There was little evidence that these ditched boundaries/field systems were ever associated with significant levels of settlement/domestic-type activity. Not only were finds from the ditches themselves very scarce, the trenching revealed very few discrete features, consisting of a small number of postholes, pits and natural features. Only two of these were associated with any finds. A probable tree bowl in Trench 36, Field 5 (**3604**) produced two tiny sherds of L/MBA pottery, but this highly abraded material is likely to be residual, whilst the recovery of a single struck flint (probably of Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic date; App. B.2) and charred hazelnut shell in a sample taken from the fill of pit **4500** in Field 5 (Trench 45), could suggest a prehistoric date for this feature.
- 4.3.6 Evidence for later activity was essentially limited to the remains of furrows, which correspond to the pattern of post-medieval ridge and furrow across the site previously documented by aerial photographs, geophysical survey and walkover survey (Legge 2020).

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The evaluation has identified the remains of ditched boundaries extending over much of the proposed development area, but especially concentrated in its north-western corner (in Field 5). The recovery of small quantities of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery from several of the ditches suggests that some of these features relate to a Middle Bronze Age field system of the kind widely attested in the area, with major concentrations of field systems known from this stretch of the Thames Valley, from the Goring Gap upstream to Oxford (Yates 2007, 37-9, fig. 5.1). In the Didcot area it is now clear that such field systems are by no means limited to the gravel terraces flanking

the river and its tributaries; extensive fields systems are now well-documented on the extensive Greensands to the west of Didcot (Davies *et al* forthcoming; Hayden *et al* forthcoming) and on the Gault Clay at Wallingford Road, a little over 1km to the south of the subject site (Rueben and Ford 1992), whilst later prehistoric boundaries/field systems (probably including a Middle Bronze Age component), are known from evaluation work in the immediate vicinity of the site (see Section 1.3). The identification of a probable field system of this date at the site is of some significance in terms of providing further evidence for their presence across a range of geological and topographic zones in the local area, and for the sheer scale of land division during this period. Notwithstanding that the remains of Middle Bronze Age settlement associated with such field systems can be extremely ephemeral (see Lambrick 2009, 101-105), there was very little evidence for contemporary domestic occupation on the site.

- 4.4.2 The recovery of a single sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery from one of the ditches suggests some elements of the boundary system across the site may relate to this later period. This would be consistent with the results of work in the environs of the site (see Section 1.3) where the presence of later prehistoric and Early Roman field systems and trackways attests to an organised agricultural landscape, perhaps associated with the settlement known just 650m south-east of the site at Hadden Hill (Fig. 2, HER 15677; see Section 1.3).

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1							
General description				Orientation		N-S	
Trench contains topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.				Length (m)		30	
				Width (m)		1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)		0.63	
Trench 2							
General description				Orientation		NW-SE	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.				Length (m)		30	
				Width (m)		1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)		0.6	
Trench 3							
General description				Orientation		N-S	
Trench topsoil over subsoil. Two probably modern drainage ditches were exposed.				Length (m)		30	
				Width (m)		1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)		0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Cut		1	0.52	Ditch		
301	Fill	300		0.52	Primary Fill	Pottery	Roman
302	Cut		0.47	0.25	Ditch		
303	Fill	302		0.25	Deliberate Backfill		
304	Layer			0.45	Topsoil		
305	Layer			0.16	Subsoil		
306	Layer				Natural		
Trench 4							
General description				Orientation		NE-SW	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with two undated ditches.				Length (m)		30	
				Width (m)		1.8	
				Avg. depth (m)		0.55	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Cut		0.5	0.2	Ditch		
401	Fill	400	0.5	0.2	Primary Fill		
402	Cut		0.3	0.27	Ditch		
403	Fill	402	0.3	0.27	Primary Fill		
404	Layer			0.39	Topsoil		
405	Layer			0.18	Subsoil		
406	Layer				Natural		
Trench 5							
General description				Orientation		NW-SE	

Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with a single N-S ditch.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Cut		0.8	0.34	Ditch		
501	Fill	500	0.8	0.34	Primary Fill		
502	Fill	500	0.61	0.26	Secondary Fill		
503	Layer			0.36	Topsoil		
504	Layer			0.27	Subsoil		
505	Layer				Natural		
Trench 6							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contains topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Trench 7							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench contains topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.53
Trench 8							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with a NE-SW ditch and E-W gully.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Cut		0.98	0.33	Ditch		
801	Fill	800	0.98	0.33	Primary Fill		
802	Cut		0.3	0.19	Ditch		
803	Fill	802	0.3	0.19	Primary Fill		
804	Layer			0.27	Topsoil		
805	Layer			0.31	Subsoil		
806	Layer				Natural		
Trench 9							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contains topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Trench 10							

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contains topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Trench 11							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Trench 12							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.52
Trench 13							
General description						Orientation	NE-SE
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Trench 14							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with a E-W single ditch.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1400	Cut		0.65	0.14	Ditch		
1401	Fill	1400	0.65	0.14	Primary Fill		
1402	Layer			0.23	Topsoil		
1403	Layer			0.47	Subsoil		
1404	Layer				Natural		
Trench 15							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with a single N-S gully along the eastern edge.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1500	Cut		0.24	0.12	Ditch		
1501	Fill	1500	0.24	0.12	Primary Fill		
1502	Layer			0.4	Subsoil		

1503	Layer			0.2	Topsoil		
1504	Layer			0.23	Topsoil		
1505	Layer			0.4	Subsoil		
1506	Layer				Natural		
Trench 16							
General description					Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with a modern posthole and a tree throw.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1600	Cut		0.59	0.11	Posthole		
1601	Fill	1600		0.11	Deliberate Backfill		
1602	Cut		1.1	0.3	Tree bowl		
1603	Fill	1602		0.3	Secondary Fill		
1604	Layer				Subsoil		
1605	Layer				Topsoil		
1606	Layer			0.35	Topsoil		
1607	Layer			0.3	Subsoil		
1608	Layer				Natural		
Trench 17							
General description					Orientation	NW-SE	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Trench 18							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Trench 19							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with three post-medieval furrows (unexcavated).					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45	
Trench 20							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with two intercutting ditches					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2000	Cut		1.8	0.8	Ditch		
2001	Fill	2000	1.8	0.35	Primary Fill	Pottery	M/LBA
2002	Fill	2000	1.8	0.6	Secondary Fill		
2003	Cut		0.6	0.5	Ditch		
2004	Fill	2003	0.6	0.29	Primary Fill		
2005	Fill	2003	0.6	0.24	Secondary Fill		
2006	Layer			0.2	Topsoil		
2007	Layer			0.3	Subsoil		
2008	Layer				Natural		
Trench 21							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.47	
Trench 22							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with a single N-S ditch.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2200	Cut		0.49	0.21	Ditch		
2201	Fill	2200		0.21	Primary Fill	Pottery, Stone	M/LBA
2202	Layer			0.17	Topsoil		
2203	Layer			0.51	Subsoil		
2204	Layer				Natural		
Trench 23							
General description					Orientation	NW-SE	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil with three ditches and a rectangular pit.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.53	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2300	Cut		1.52	0.54	Ditch		
2301	Fill	2300		0.12	Primary Fill		
2302	Fill	2300		0.42	Secondary Fill		
2303	Cut		1.23	0.26	Pit		
2304	Fill	2303		0.26	Primary Fill		
2305	Cut		1.43	0.23	Ditch		
2306	Fill	2305		0.11	Primary Fill		
2307	Fill	2305		0.12	Secondary Fill		

2308	Cut		1.18	0.26	Ditch		
2309	Fill	2308		0.26	Primary Fill		
2310	Layer			0.32	Topsoil		
2311	Layer			0.28	Subsoil		
2312	Layer				Natural		

Trench 24

General description					Orientation	N-S
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with three small ditches.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2400	Cut		1	0.16	Ditch		
2401	Fill	2400		0.16	Primary Fill	Flint	
2402	Cut		0.93	0.1	Ditch		
2403	Fill	2402		0.1	Primary Fill		
2404	Cut		0.52	0.1	Ditch		
2405	Fill	2404		0.1	Primary Fill	Flint	
2406	Layer			0.18	Topsoil		
2407	Layer			0.51	Subsoil		
2408	Layer				Natural		

Trench 25

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil, with a single ditch.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
2500	Cut		0.95	0.4	Ditch		
2501	Fill	2500		0.4	Primary Fill		
2502	Layer			0.43	Topsoil		
2503	Layer			0.2	Subsoil		
2504	Layer				Natural		

Trench 26

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4

Trench 27

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30
					Width (m)	1.8

	Avg. depth (m)	0.47
Trench 28		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Trench 29		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Trench 30		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Trench 31		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened due to restricted access.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 32		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened due to restricted access.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 33		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Trench 34		
General description	Orientation	N-S
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Trench 35		

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a ditch terminus and a tree throw.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3500	Cut		2.12	0.26	Tree Throw		
3501	Fill	3500	2.12	0.26	Primary Fill		
3502	Cut		0.19	1.09	Ditch		
3503	Fill	3502	1.09	0.19	Primary Fill		
3504	Layer			0.32	Topsoil		
3505	Layer			0.28	Subsoil		
3506	Layer				Natural		
Trench 36							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with three ditches, two tree throws and a gully.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3600	Cut		2.12	0.28	Tree Throw		
3601	Fill	3600	2.12	0.28	Primary Fill		
3602	Cut		0.75	0.18	Ditch		
3603	Fill	3602	0.75	0.18	Primary Fill		
3604	Cut		1.33	0.13	Tree Throw		
3605	Fill	3604	1.33	0.13	Primary Fill	Pottery	M/LBA
3606	Cut		1.1	0.3	Ditch		
3607	Fill	3606	1.1	0.3	Primary Fill		
3608	Cut		1.9	0.24	Ditch		
3609	Fill	3608	1.9	0.24	Primary Fill		
3610	Cut		1.5	0.27	Ditch		
3611	Fill	3610		0.27	Primary Fill		
3612	Layer			0.28	Topsoil		
3613	Layer			0.21	Subsoil		
3614	Layer				Natural		
Trench 37							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil with a single ditch.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3700	Cut		1.3	0.16	Plough Furrow		
3701	Fill	3700	1.3	0.16	Primary Fill		

3702	Layer			0.39	Topsoil		
3703	Layer			0.22	Subsoil		
3704	Layer				Natural		
Trench 38							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a ditch and a pit.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.51
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3800	Cut		0.7	0.17	Pit		
3801	Fill	3800	0.7	0.17	Primary Fill		
3802	Cut		0.88	0.47	Ditch		
3803	Fill	3802		0.16	Primary Fill		
3804	Fill	3802		0.38	Secondary Fill		
3805	Fill	3802		0.19	Tertiary Fill		
3806	Layer			0.4	Topsoil		
3807	Layer			0.22	Subsoil		
3808	Layer				Natural		
Trench 39							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with two ditches, a curvilinear gully and two small pits.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
3900	Cut		1	0.4	Ditch		
3901	Fill	3900		0.4	Primary Fill	Pottery	M/LBA & LIA/ER
3902	Cut		0.28	0.44	Ditch		
3903	Fill	3902		0.44	Primary Fill		
3904	Cut		0.33	0.23	Gully		
3905	Fill	3904		0.23	Primary Fill	Pottery, flint	M/LBA
3906	Cut		0.7	0.51	Pit		
3907	Fill	3906		0.51	Primary Fill		
3908	Cut		0.45	0.5	Pit		
3909	Fill	3908		0.5	Primary Fill		
3910	Cut		0.65	0.22	Pit		
3911	Fill	3910		0.22	Deliberate Backfill		
3912	Layer			0.44	Topsoil		
3913	Layer			0.23	Subsoil		
3914	Layer				Natural		
Trench 40							

General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil with a single ditch.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
4000	Cut		0.93	0.48	Ditch		
4001	Fill	4000	0.93	0.08	Primary Fill		
4002	Fill	4000	0.93	0.18	Secondary Fill	Pottery, Animal Bone	M/LBA
4003	Fill	4000	0.93	0.2	Tertiary Fill		
4004	Layer			0.38	Topsoil		
4005	Layer			0.34	Subsoil		
4006	Layer				Natural		
Trench 41							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a single small pit.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
4100	Cut		0.89	0.4	Pit		
4101	Fill	4100	0.89	0.06	Primary Fill		
4102	Fill	4100	0.89	0.05	Secondary Fill		
4103	Fill	4100	0.89	0.15	Secondary Fill		
4104	Layer			0.42	Topsoil		
4105	Layer			0.3	Subsoil		
4106	Layer				Natural		
Trench 42							
General description						Orientation	N-S
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.59
Trench 43							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8
						Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Trench 44							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	1.8

							Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Trench 45								
General description						Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil with a single pit.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.47	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
4500	Cut		0.98	0.16	Pit			
4501	Fill	4500	0.98	0.16	Primary Fill			
4502	Layer			0.3	Topsoil			
4503	Layer			0.3	Subsoil			
4504	Layer				Natural			
Trench 46								
General description						Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil with a single pit.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
4600	Cut		1.3	0.54	Pit			
4601	Fill	4600	0.02	0.04	Primary Fill			
4602	Fill	4600	1.28	0.5	Secondary Fill			
4603	Layer			0.43	Topsoil			
4604	Layer			0.2	Subsoil			
4605	Layer				Natural			
Trench 47								
General description						Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a single pit.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.54	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
4700	Cut		1.12	0.4	Pit			
4701	Fill	4700	1.12	0.4	Primary Fill			
4702	Layer			0.46	Topsoil			
4703	Layer			0.26	Subsoil			
4704	Layer				Natural			
Trench 48								
General description						Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	

	Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Trench 49		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Trench 50		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contains plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.33
Trench 51		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 52		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 53		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 54		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 55		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 56		

General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 57		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 58		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 59		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 60		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 61		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 62		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 63		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	

		Avg. depth (m)					
Trench 64							
General description		Orientation					
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.		Length (m)					
		Width (m)					
		Avg. depth (m)					
Trench 65							
General description		Orientation		E-W			
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.		Length (m)		30			
		Width (m)		1.8			
		Avg. depth (m)		0.52			
Trench 66							
General description		Orientation		E-W			
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil and a single large NW-SE ditch.		Length (m)		30			
		Width (m)		1.8			
		Avg. depth (m)		0.57			
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
6600	Cut		2.4	0.35	Ditch		
6601	Fill	6600		0.35	Primary Fill	Animal Bone	
6602	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		
6603	Layer			0.4	Subsoil		
6604	Layer				Natural		
Trench 67							
General description		Orientation					
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.		Length (m)					
		Width (m)					
		Avg. depth (m)					
Trench 68							
General description		Orientation					
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.		Length (m)					
		Width (m)					
		Avg. depth (m)					
Trench 69							
General description		Orientation					
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.		Length (m)					
		Width (m)					
		Avg. depth (m)					

Trench 70		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 71		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 72		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 73		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 74		
General description	Orientation	E-W
Trench contained topsoil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.47
Trench 75		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 76		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 77		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	

						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
Trench 78							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 79							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 80							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 81							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 82							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 83							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	
						Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 84							
General description						Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.						Length (m)	
						Width (m)	

							Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 85								
General description						Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a N-S ditch and two pits.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.43	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
8500	Cut		0.8	0.14	Pit			
8501	Fill	8500	0.8	0.14	Primary Fill			
8502	Cut		1.2	0.56	Ditch			
8503	Fill	8502	1.2	0.22	Primary Fill			
8504	Fill	8502	1.2	0.34	Secondary Fill			
8505	Cut		0.8	0.22	Pit			
8506	Fill	8505	0.8	0.22	Primary Fill			
8507	Layer			0.38	Topsoil			
8508	Layer			0.26	Subsoil			
8509	Layer				Natural			
Trench 86								
General description						Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a single E-W furrow.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
8600	Cut		2.48	0.2	Plough Furrow			
8601	Fill	8600	2.48	0.2	Primary Fill			
8602	Layer			0.26	Topsoil			
8603	Layer			0.28	Subsoil			
8604	Layer				Natural			
Trench 87								
General description						Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a posthole and geological features.						Length (m)	30	
						Width (m)	1.8	
						Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date	
8700	Cut		0.25	0.13	Posthole			
8701	Fill	8700		0.13	Primary Fill			
8702	Layer			0.36	Topsoil			
8703	Layer			0.32	Subsoil			
8704	Layer				Natural			

Trench 88							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a single ditch.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
8800	Cut	8800	1.45		Ditch. Unexcavated, same as 3700		
8801	Fill	8800	1.45		Other Fill. Unexcavated, same as 3701		
8802	Layer			0.24	Topsoil		
8803	Layer			0.32	Subsoil		
8804	Layer				Natural		
Trench 89							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil, with a single curvilinear ditch.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
8900	Cut		1	0.13	Ditch		
8901	Fill	8900		0.13	Primary Fill		
8902	Layer			0.4	Topsoil		
8903	Layer			0.2	Subsoil		
8904	Layer				Natural		
Trench 90							
General description					Orientation	N-S	
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	1.8	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6	
Trench 91							
General description					Orientation		
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.					Length (m)		
					Width (m)		
					Avg. depth (m)		
Trench 92							
General description					Orientation		
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.					Length (m)		
					Width (m)		
					Avg. depth (m)		

Trench 93		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 94		
General description	Orientation	N-S
Trench contained plough soil over subsoil. Devoid of archaeology.	Length (m)	30
	Width (m)	1.8
	Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Trench 95		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 96		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 97		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 98		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 99		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	
	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	
Trench 100		
General description	Orientation	
Trench not opened. Not required by Local Authority.	Length (m)	

	Width (m)	
	Avg. depth (m)	

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

by Alex Davies

- B.1.1 The evaluation recovered 14 sherds of pottery weighing 64g from seven contexts (Table 1). Most of the assemblage belonged to a single coherent group probably dating to the Middle or Late Bronze Age. There was also a Late Iron Age/Early Roman sherd, and an undiagnostic sherd of Roman greyware.
- B.1.2 The assemblage is in a poor state with a low average sherd weight of 4.6g. Most of the material is highly abraded and there is only a single diagnostic sherd (the LIA/ER base from 3901, ditch **3900**, Tr. 39). This has caused considerable uncertainty in spot-dating, especially as the fabrics present in the prehistoric assemblage can occur in quite different prehistoric periods.
- B.1.3 The material spot-dated to the Middle or Late Bronze Age are in a flint and/or quartzite tempered fabric, with one vessel also containing probable limestone. This corresponds to Middle and Late Bronze Age fabrics at Great Western Park, Didcot (Brown forthcoming a; b). Similar fabrics were much rarer in the Early Iron Age at Great Western Park. Bronze Age sherds appear to be residual in context 3901 (ditch **3900**) as this also produced Late Iron Age/Early Roman material.

Context	Cut	Trench	Type	Sherds	Weight (g)	Spot-date	Fabric	Comment
301	300	3	Ditch/drain	1	1	Roman	Greyware	Highly abraded
2001	2000	20	Ditch	3	16	M/LBA	Quartzite and ?limestone	
2201	2200	22	Ditch	1	3	M/LBA	Flint, medium	Highly abraded
3605	3604	36	Tree bowl	2	2	M/LBA	Flint, medium	Highly abraded
3901	3900	39	Ditch	3	26	LIA/ER	Grog; residual flint-temper	1x wheel-thrown grog-tempered base; 2x residual LBA flint-tempered sherds
3905	3904	39	Gully	1	3	M/LBA	Flint and quartzite, medium	Highly abraded
4002	4000	40	Ditch	3	13	M/LBA	Flint and quartzite, medium	Highly abraded

Table 1. Pottery quantification and spot dating

B.2 Worked flint

By Anthony Haskins

B.2.1 Five struck flints were recovered from the site (Table 2). All were struck from a mid to dark greyish-brown opaque flint. The assemblage included three narrow flakes from contexts 2405, 3905 and 3911, a blade from context 2401 and a core rejuvenation flake with surviving bladelet scars from context 4501. All are most likely to be residual flints of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

Context	Cut	Trench	Type	Narrow flake	Blade	Rejuvenation flake
2405	2404	24	Ditch	1		
3905	3904	39	Gully	1		
3911	3910	39	Pit	1		
2401	2400	24	Ditch		1	
4501	4500	45	Pit			1

Table 2. Worked flint quantification

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Remains

By Martha Craven

Introduction

C.1.1 Five bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated area at Lady Grove, Didcot, Oxfordshire in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Samples were taken from pits and ditches encountered within Trenches 36, 39, 45 and 85 from deposits that are unknown in date.

Methodology

C.1.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of sodium carbonate for 24hrs prior to processing to break down the heavy clay matrix. The total volume (up to 20L) of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraf-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 3. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al.* 2006) and OAE's reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (2010) for other plants. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.1.4 For the purpose of this report, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-5, ## = 6-25 specimens

Key to tables:

f=fragment

Results

C.1.5 The botanical material from this site is preserved through carbonisation only and is extremely sparse. The samples are either devoid of or contain only a small quantity of charcoal. The only other botanical material recovered from the samples was a single fragment of carbonised hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell in Sample 1, fill 4501 of pit **4500** (Trench 45).

C.1.6 The samples from this site do not contain any molluscs.

C.1.7 Several pieces of possible worked flint were recovered from Sample 1 and Sample 46, fill 3911 of pit **3910** (Trench 39). No other finds are present.

Trench No.	Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume Processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Tree/Shrub Macrofossils	Charcoal Volume (ml)
36	2	3611	3610	Ditch	14	20	0	0
39	3	3901	3900	Ditch	20	10	0	0
39	46	3911	3910	Pit	16	5	0	1
45	1	4501	4500	Pit	16	20	#f	<1
85	47	8504	8502	Ditch	14	10	0	<1

Table 3. Environmental samples

Discussion

C.1.8 The recovery of very small quantities of charcoal and hazelnut in these samples indicate that there is limited potential for the preservation of plant remains at this site. Such small quantities of charred remains are unlikely to be significant and may represent a background scatter of material from activity in the surrounding area. If greater quantities of hazelnut shell were present it may hint at the gathering of wild plant resources as part of the diet, particularly if the deposits are prehistoric.

C.1.9 If further excavation is planned for this area, it is recommended that environmental sampling is carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2011).

C.2 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster

Introduction and methodology

- C.2.1 The animal bone from the evaluation represents faunal remains weighing 130g. There were 27 fragments retrieved solely from hand collection (Table 4). Bone was recovered from two ditches and a pit. The species represented include cattle (*Bos taurus*) and large mammal (probably cattle/equid).
- C.2.2 The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which is modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East.

Results

- C.2.3 The assemblage is comprised of cattle and large mammal remains consisting of only three elements.
- C.2.4 The condition of the bone is fair to poor, with much of the assemblage exhibiting moderate signs of surface weathering and root etching. Fragmentation is high, with no complete bones retrieved.
- C.2.5 Ageing of the remains is not possible; however, based on size they are likely to have come from adult animals.
- C.2.6 The volume of bone recovered was small and the remains do not show clear signs of domestic activity; however, they do reveal the presence of cattle at the site.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature type	Species	Element	No. of fragments
3907	3906	39	Pit	Large Mammal	Long Bone	18
4002	4000	40	Ditch	Cattle	Loose Maxillary Molar	1
6601	6600	66	Ditch	Cattle	Metatarsal	8
Total						27

Table 4. Quantification of the faunal remains

Discussion

- C.2.7 The assemblage is of a small size and cannot provide any further significant interpretations. Should further faunal remains be recovered from the site, a broader understanding of trends in husbandry practices and spatial distribution would be more viable.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-405019		
Project Name	Lady Grove, Didcot: Archaeological Evaluation		
Start of Fieldwork	07/09/2020	End of Fieldwork	18/09/2020
Previous Work	Yes	Future Work	Yes

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XOXLAG20	Planning App. No.	P20/S1577/O
HER Number	TBC	Related Numbers	

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	Pre-application

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography – interpretation | <input type="checkbox"/> Grab-sampling | <input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity-core | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Trenches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch | <input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning | <input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Augering | <input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted Trenches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors | <input type="checkbox"/> Test Pits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Documentary Search | <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphate Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Topographic Survey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Sampling | <input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibro-core |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldwalking | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography | |

Monument	Period
Ditch	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)
Pit	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)
Ditch	Uncertain
Posthole	Uncertain
Pit	Uncertain

Object	Period
Vessel	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)
Vessel	Roman
Animal Bone	Uncertain
Worked flint	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Oxfordshire	Address (including Postcode) Lady Grove Didcot Oxford OX11 9BP
District	South Oxfordshire	
Parish	Didcot	
HER office	Oxfordshire	
Size of Study Area	15.17 ha	
National Grid Ref	SU 54090 91230	

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Richard Oram
Project Design Originator	Nicholas Gilmour
Project Manager	Nicholas Gilmour
Project Supervisor	Nicholas Cox

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	Oxfordshire County Museum Service	TBC
Digital Archive	OA East	XOXLAG20
Paper Archive	Oxfordshire County Museum Service	TBC

Physical Contents

Present?

Digital files associated with Finds

Paperwork associated with Finds

Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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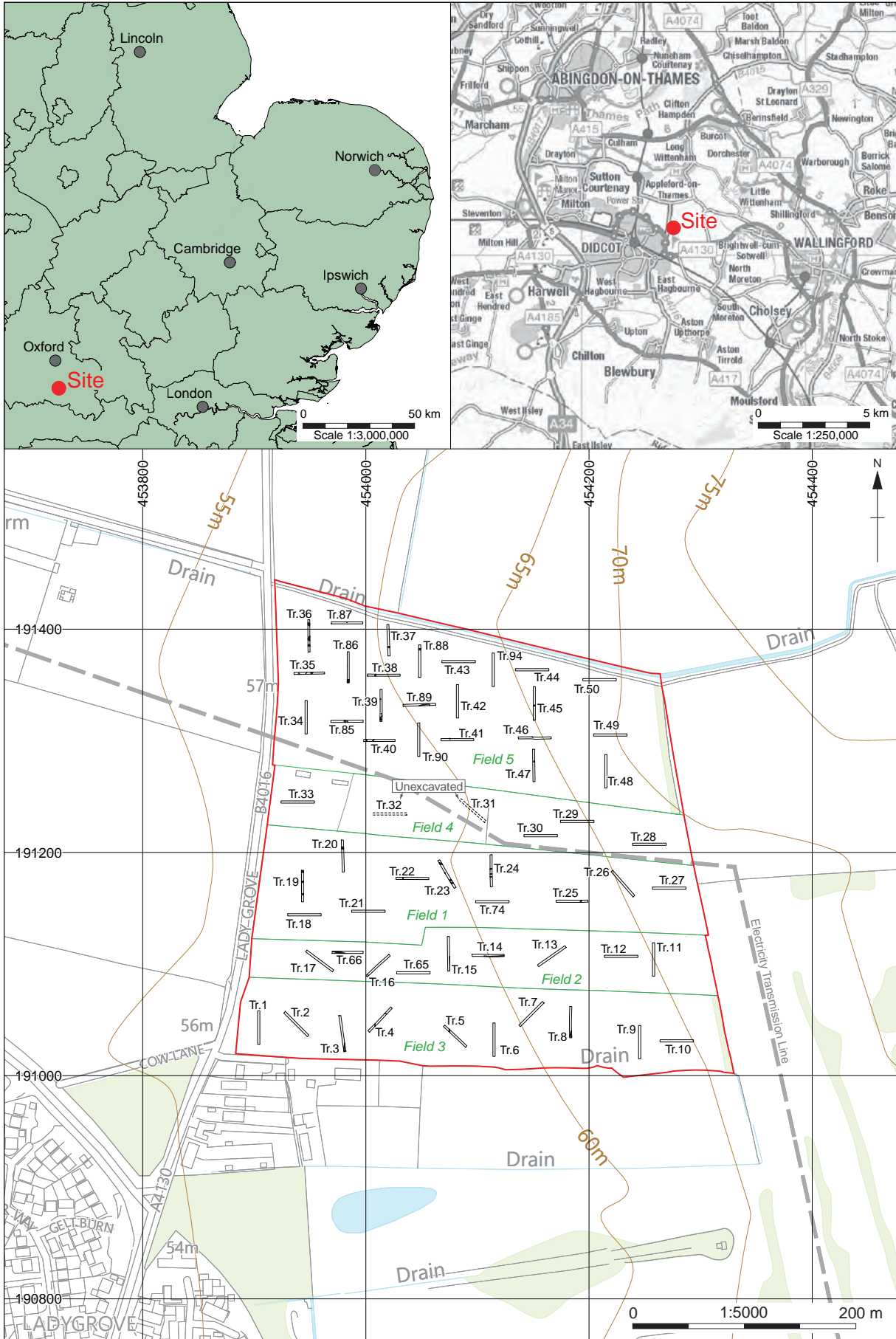
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Paper Media

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Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>

Further Comments



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Figure 1: Site location map showing evaluation trenches (black) within development area (red)

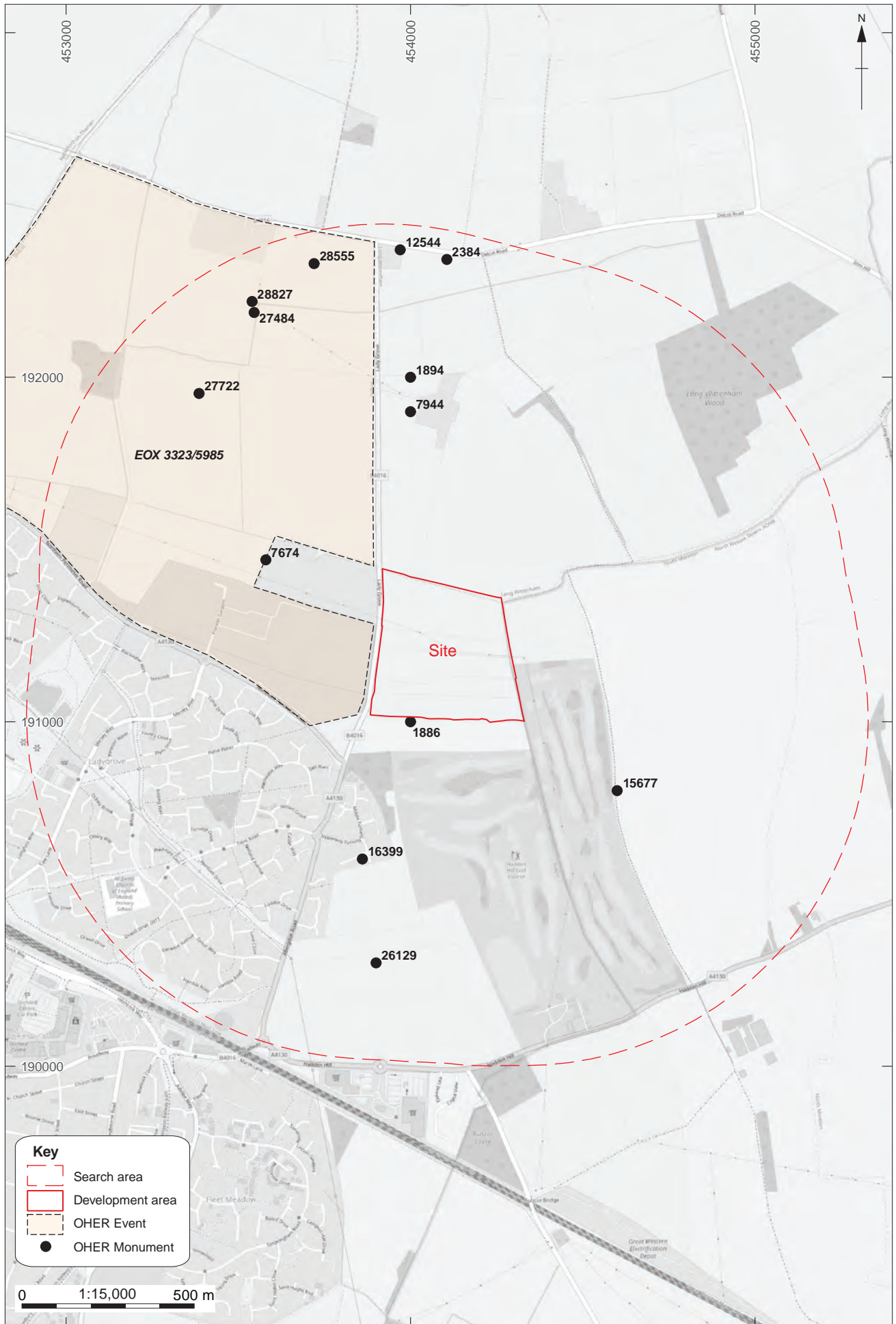


Figure 2: OHER entries mentioned in the text

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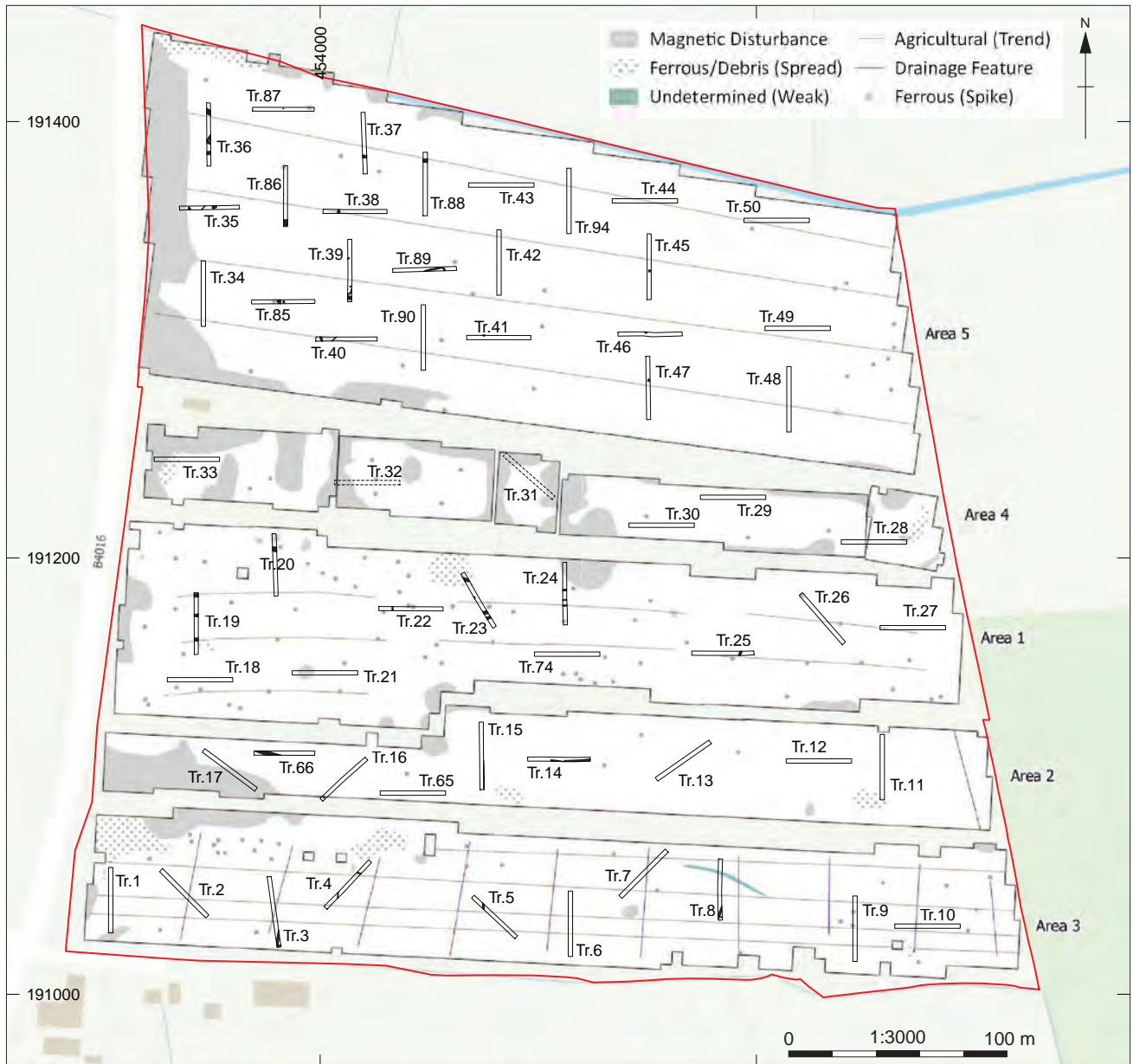


Figure 3: Trench plan overlaid on geophysical survey magnetic interpretation (after Perez Arana & Fortuny 2020)

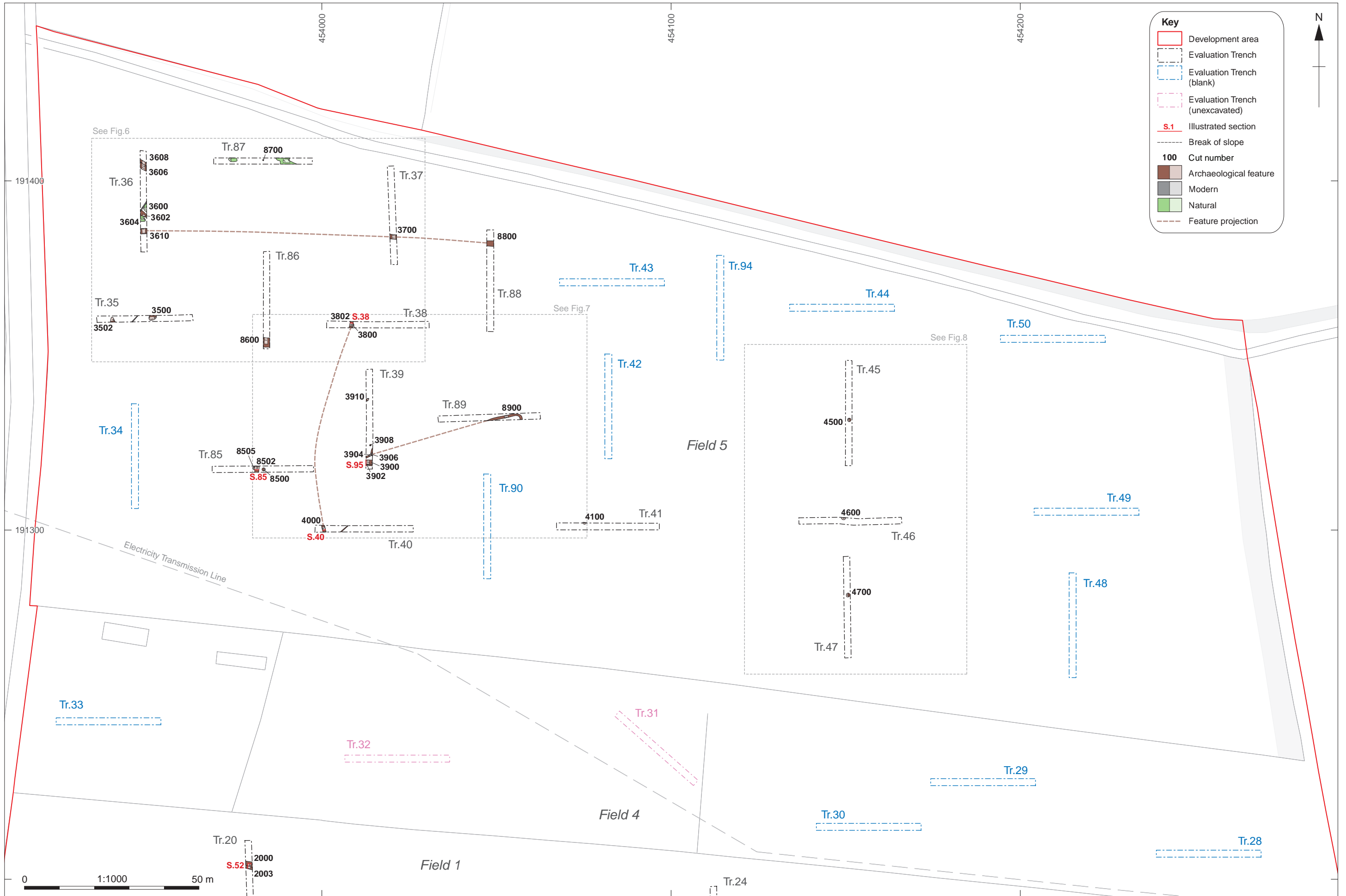


Figure 4: Trench plan, Fields 4 and 5

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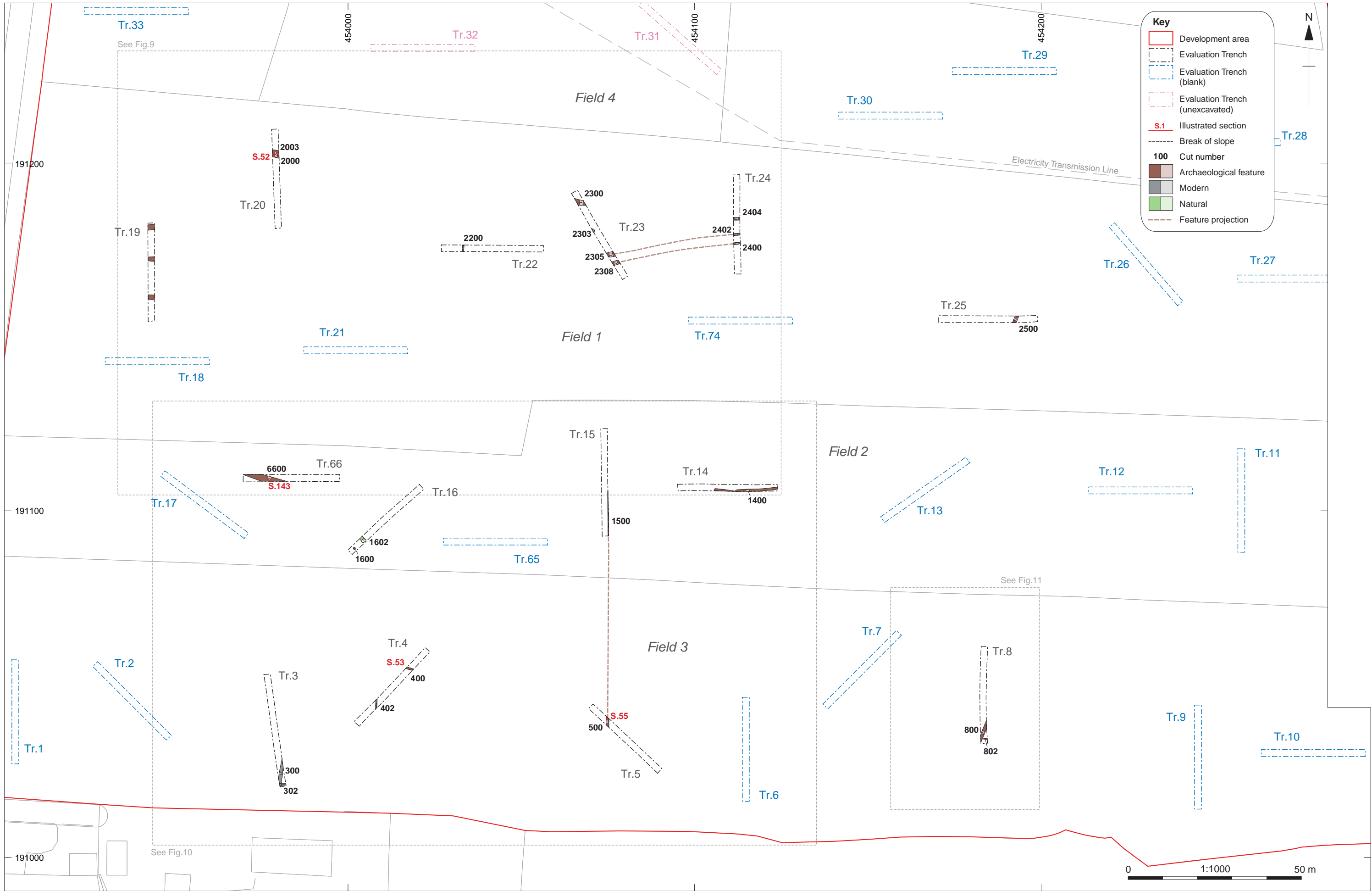


Figure 5: Trench plan, Fields 1-3

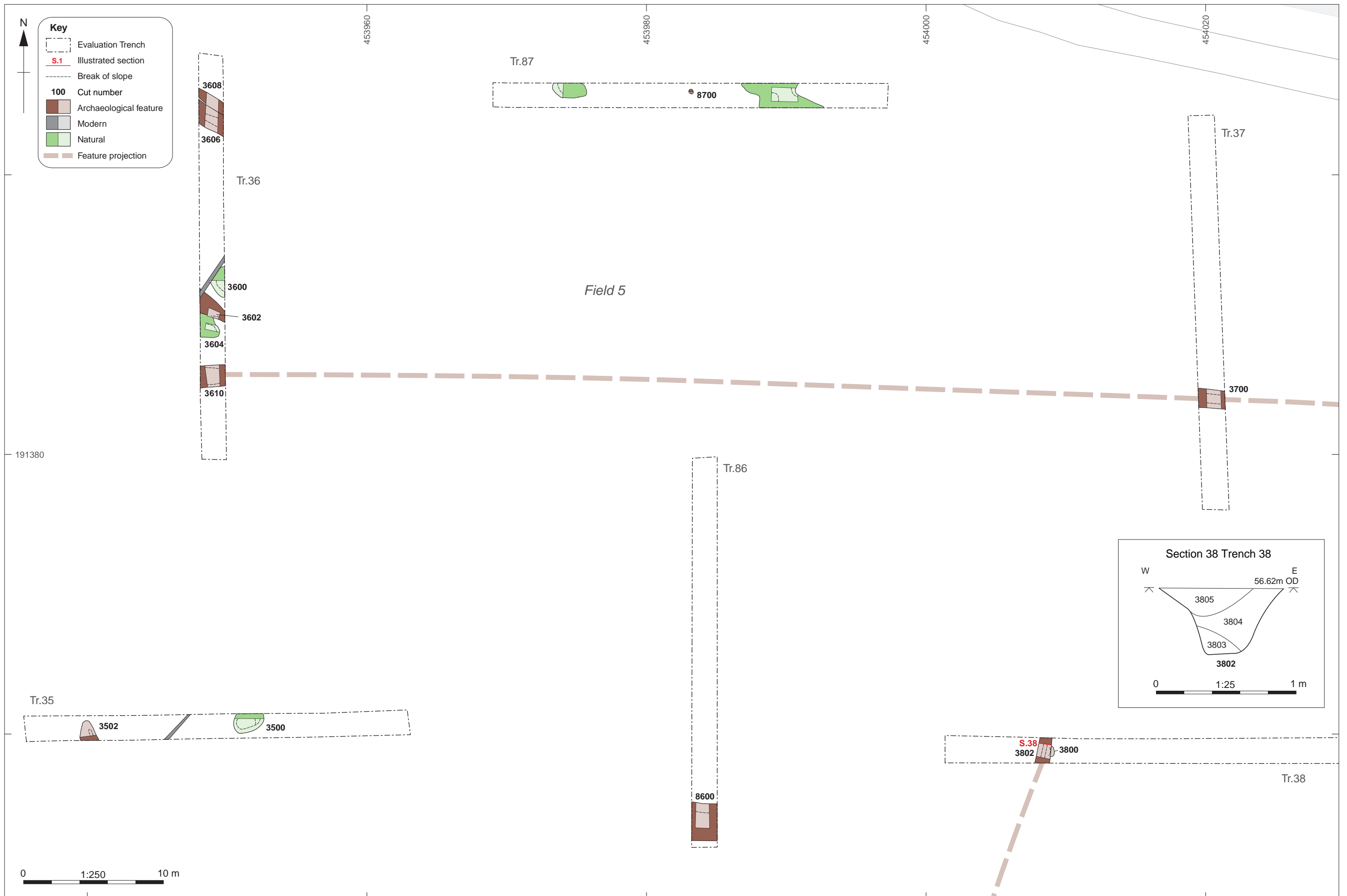


Figure 6: Field 5, Trenches 35-38 and 86-87 detailed plan, with selected section

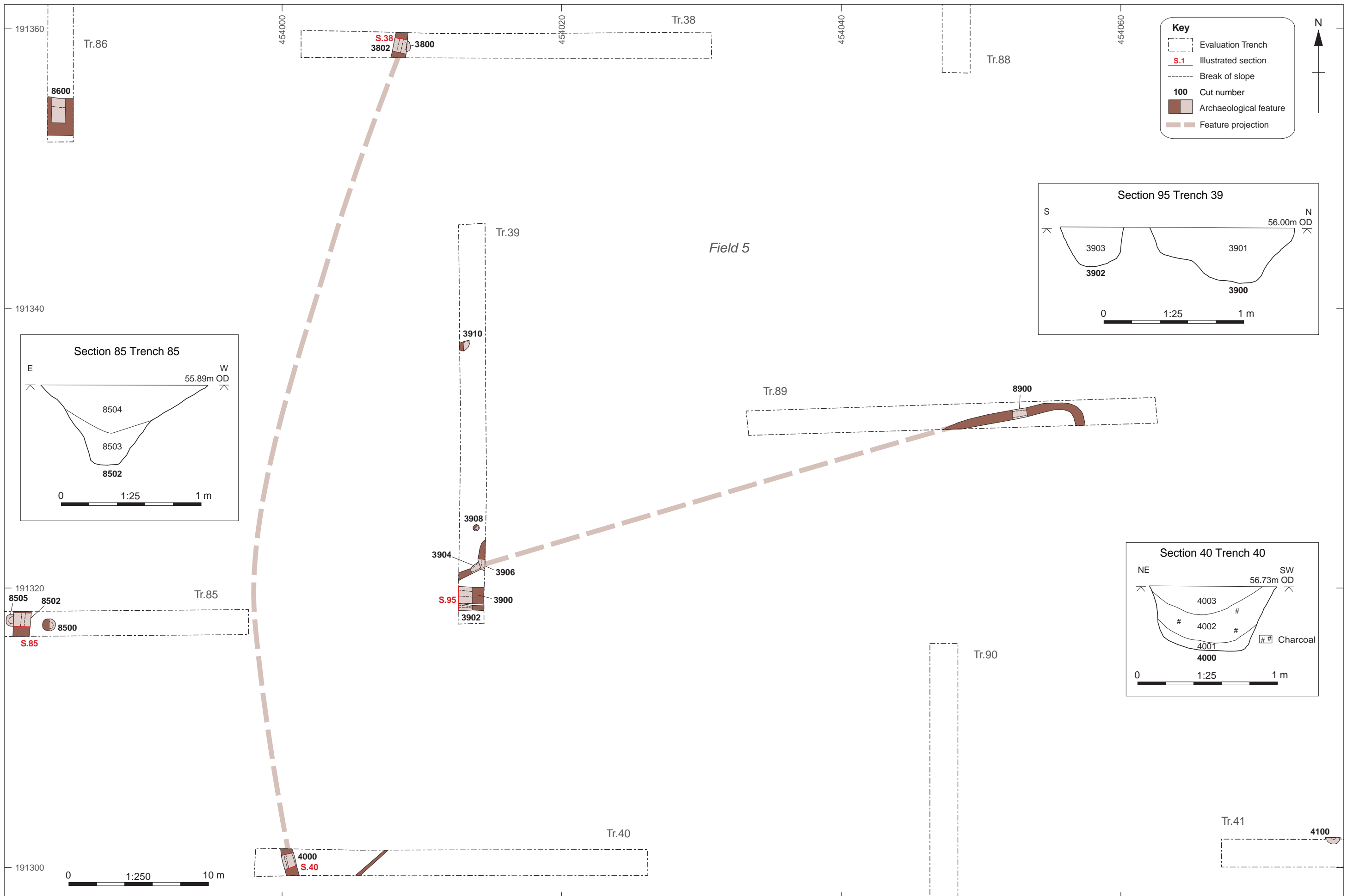


Figure 7: Field 5, Trenches 38-41, 85, 86 and 89 detailed plan, with selected sections

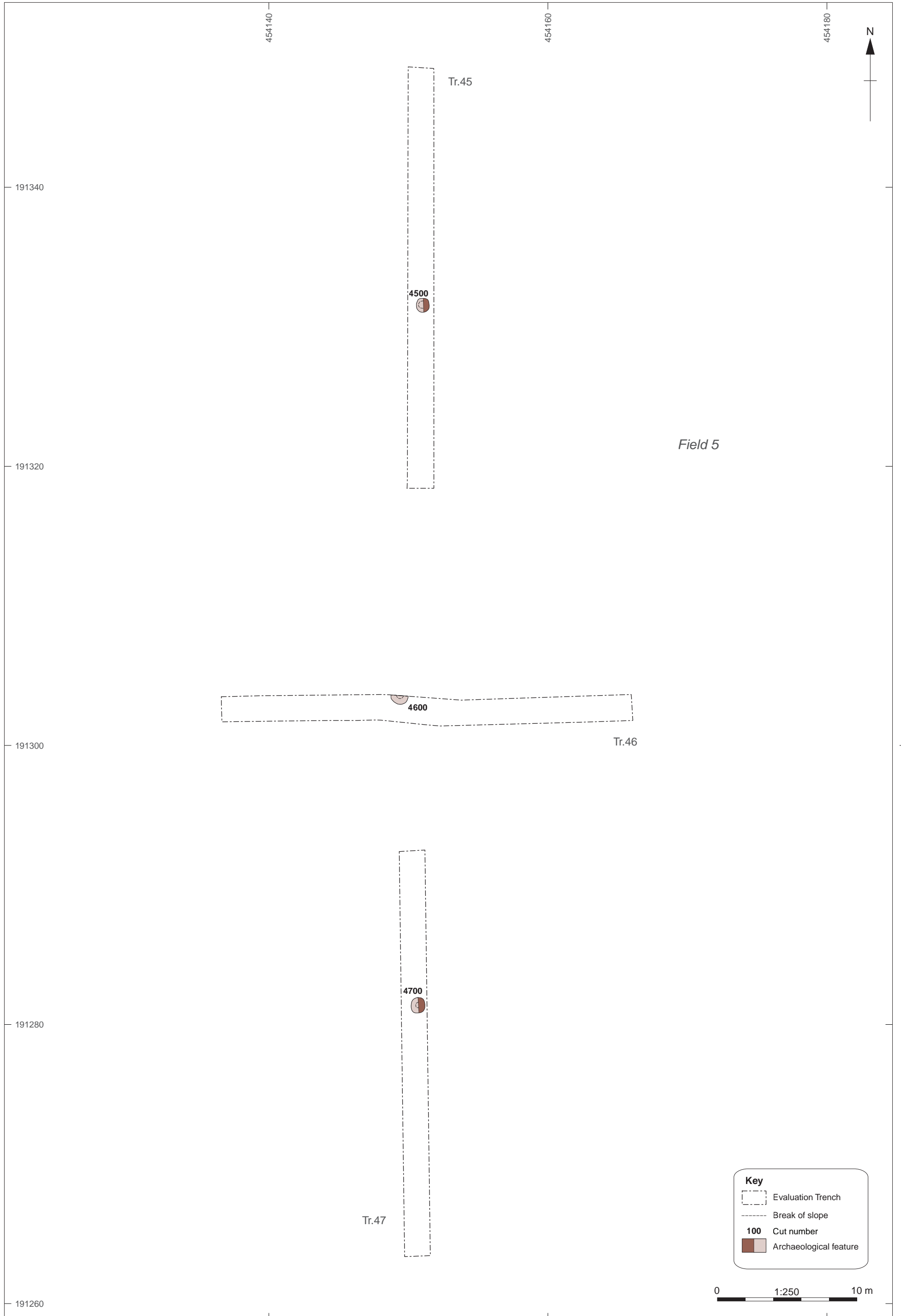


Figure 8: Field 5, Trenches 45-47 detailed plan

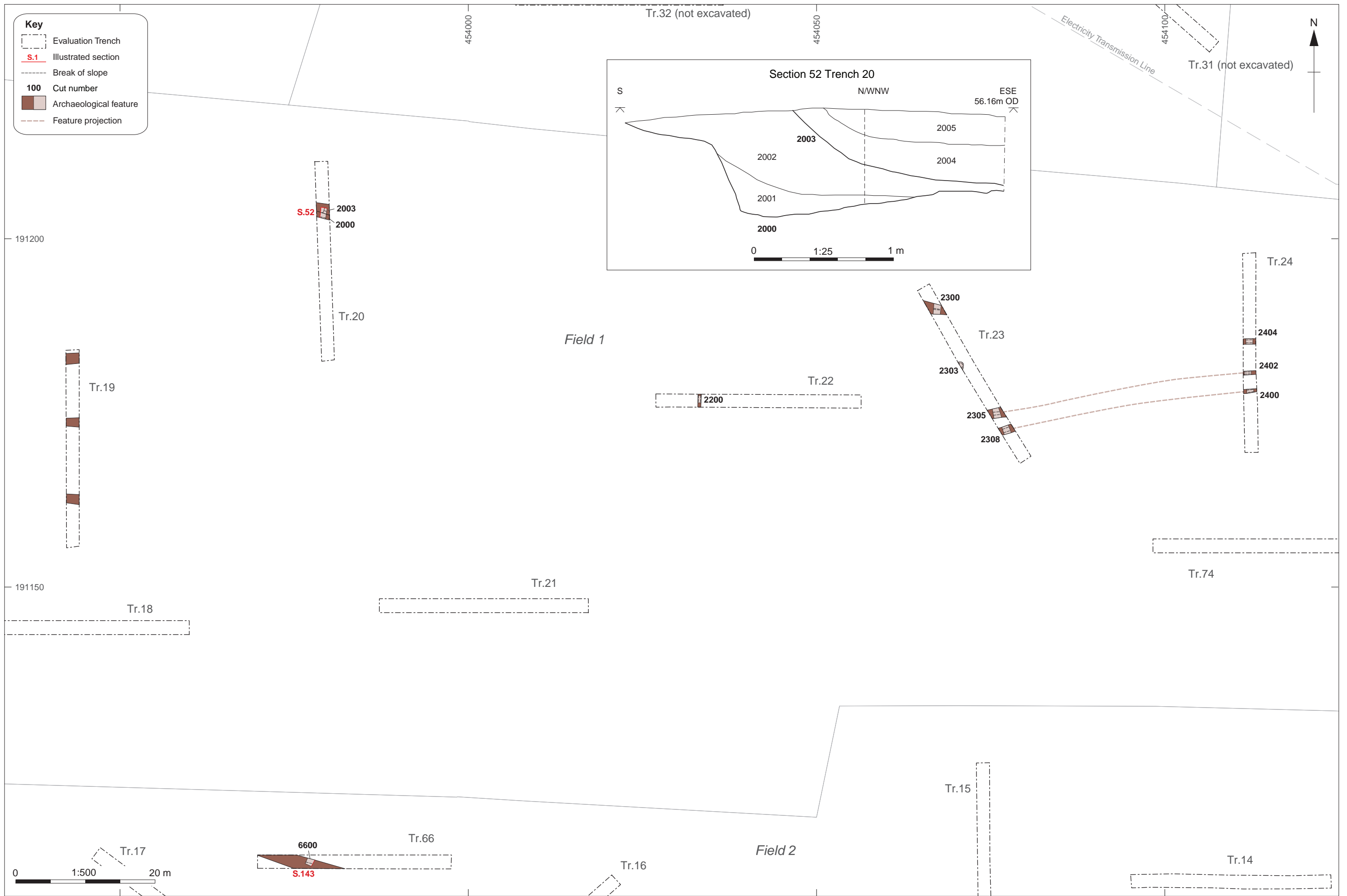


Figure 9: Field 1, Trenches 19-24 detailed plan, with selected section

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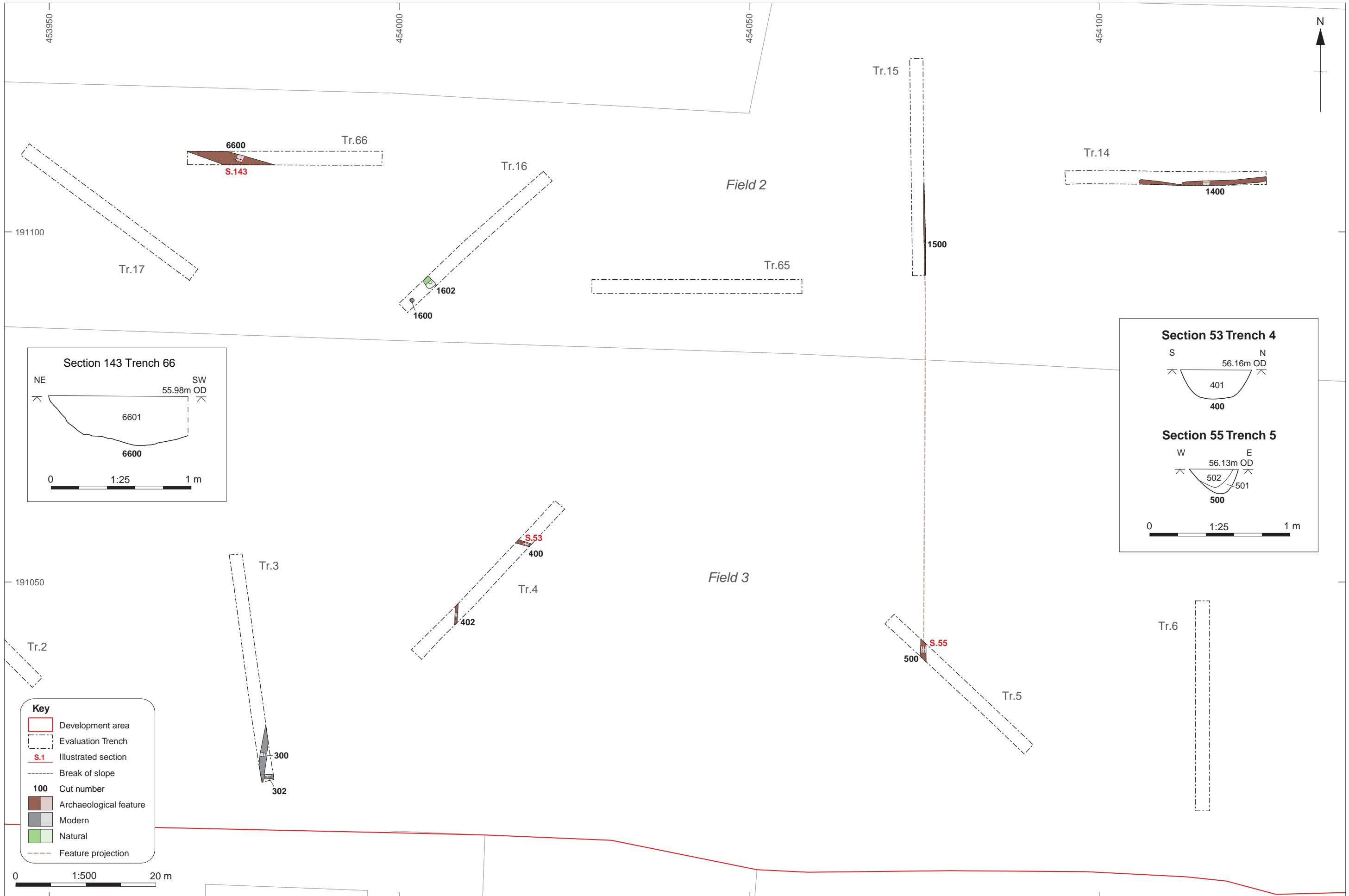


Figure 10: Fields 2 and 3, Trenches 3-6, 14-17, 65 and 66 detailed plan, with selected sections

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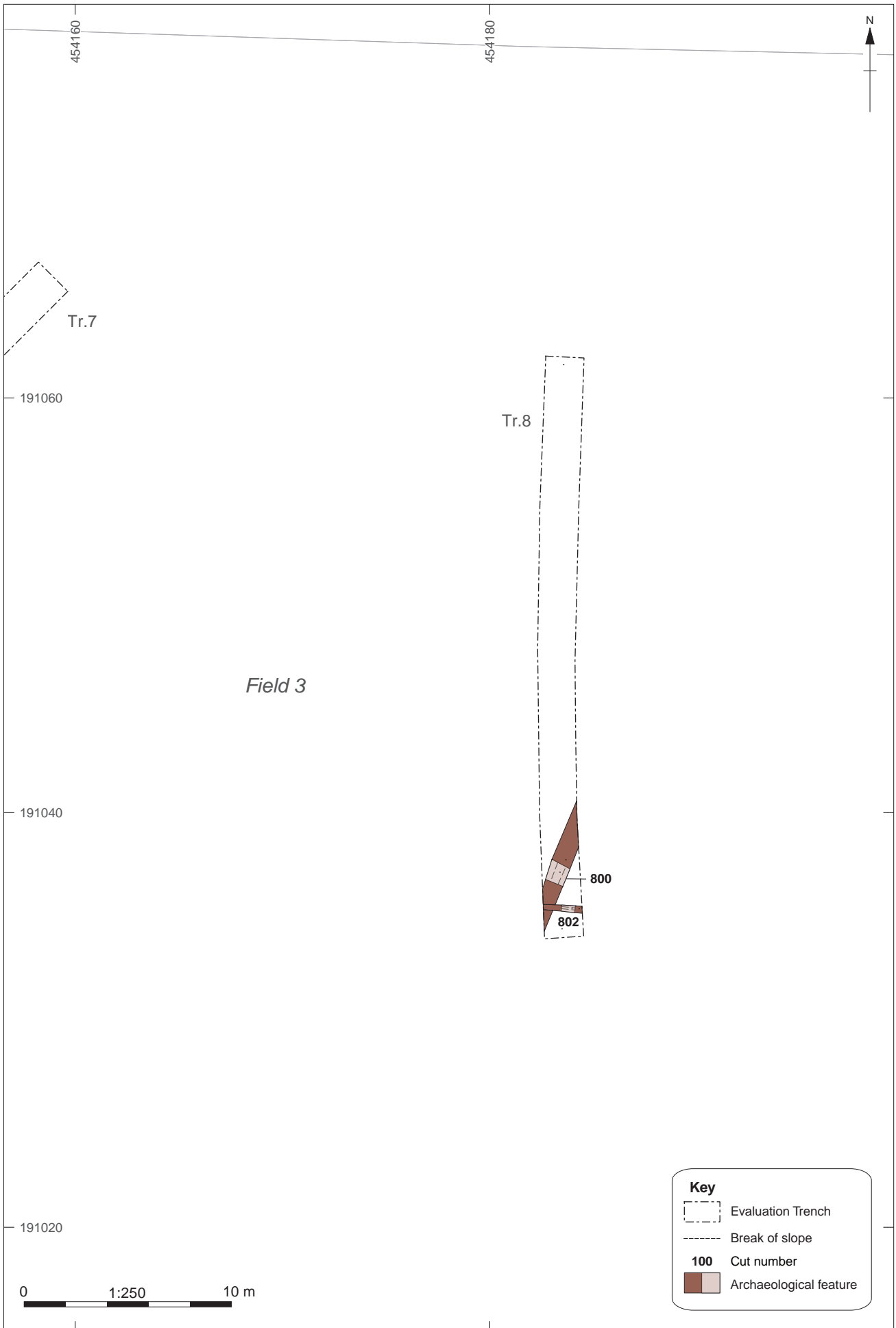


Figure 11: Field 3, Trench 8 detailed plan

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Plate 1: Pit 3800 & Ditch 3802, Trench 38, looking north



Plate 2: Trench 39, looking north



Plate 3: Ditches 3900 and 3902, Trench 39, looking west



Plate 4: Pit 4100, Trench 41, looking north



Plate 5: Pit 4500, Trench 45, looking east



Plate 6: Trench 23, looking north



Plate 7: Ditch **2300**, Trench 23, looking east



Plate 8: Gully **402**, Trench 4, looking south



Plate 9: Ditch **800**, Trench 8, looking north-east



Plate 10: Field 5, looking south-west



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX20ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCifA
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