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Prepared by: George Gurney (Project Supervisor)
Checked by: John Boothroyd (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by: Chris Hayden (Senior Project Manager)
Approved for Issue by: David Score (Head of Fieldwork)
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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Chief Executive Officer
Ken Welsh, BSc, MCIFA
Private Limited Company, No: 1618597
Registered Charity, No: 285627
Registered Office: Oxford Archaeology Ltd
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

Land at Broadmayne, Dorset

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Written by George Gurney

With contributions from Alex Davies, Mike Donnelly, Rebecca Nicholson, Richard Palmer and Ruth Shaffrey, and illustrations by Matt Bradley and Lucy Gane

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Summary

Between 10th and 14th January 2022 Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on the site of a proposed development at Broadmayne, Dorset. The works comprised the excavation of 12 trenches.

Targeting the results of the geophysical survey, the evaluation identified remains of prehistoric and later origin. Although middle Neolithic pottery was recovered from a ditch and a colluvial deposit, the earliest feature identified on site was the remains of a middle Bronze Age pit.

The most notable feature on site is a sizable D-shaped enclosure of suspected Iron Age date. A substantial assemblage of middle Neolithic to Bronze Age struck flint was recovered from the ditches that define the enclosure and alludes to earlier activity within the immediate vicinity.

Evidence of later activity was limited to land management ditches and chalk extraction pits of suspected medieval or later date.

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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by John Boothroyd. The fieldwork was directed by Dan Sykes, who was supported by George Gurney, Adam Rapiejko and Jana Smirnova. Survey and digitising were carried out by Jana Smirnova and Matt Bradley. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Southern Strategic Land LLP, in consultation with the Environmental Dimension Partnership (EDP), to undertake a trial trench evaluation at the site of Broadmayne, Dorset.
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken to inform the Planning Authority in support of a planning application. Although the Local Planning Authority did not set a brief for the work, discussions between EDP and Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist for Dorset Council (DC), established the scope of work required. A written scheme of investigation (WSI; OA 2021) was produced by OA detailing the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.
- 1.1.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and relevant *Standards and Guidance* (CIfA 2014b), and local and national planning policies.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the north-west edge of Broadmayne, Dorset, approximately 5km south-east of Dorchester.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of two arable fields separated by a mature hedgerow, which combined cover an area of approximately 13ha. The site is bounded to the north and south by arable fields and housing, to the east by housing and to the west by further arable fields. The highest point of the site lies at approximately 69m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and comprises a ridge located in the centre of the site between the two fields. The southern field drops down to the south from the ridge with the lowest part lying at approximately 53m aOD. To the north of the ridge the site falls away to approximately 59m aOD.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Portsdown Chalk Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 72 to 84 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period (BGS Online).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in detail in an Archaeology and Heritage Assessment (EDP 2021). The following summary is derived from the assessment and is provided to place these works in context.

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 Although there are no records of prehistoric activity within the site, there is a wealth of material in the surrounding landscape.

- 1.3.3 Mayne stone circle, a scheduled monument, is located approximately 175m to the north of the site. There is little information available on the monument but there are reports of stones being found there associated with a megalithic monument.
- 1.3.4 A scatter of struck flints of Neolithic date is recorded approximately 350m to the north-east of the site, along with a burial of suspected Bronze Age date associated with the remains of a possible barrow mound. A crouched Beaker burial was found during drainage works in a garden along Conway Drive, approximately 125m to the north of the site. A second crouched burial has been found in a garden nearby.
- 1.3.5 The burial of a female and infant were identified 425m to the east of the site. Although undated, the remains are suspected to be of prehistoric origin. A number of barrows are located in the vicinity including a linear barrow cemetery consisting of at least six bowl barrows, located approximately 475m to the south of the site.
- 1.3.6 A bowl barrow located approximately 875m to the east of the site is a scheduled monument and comprises a circular mound some 16m in diameter and surviving to a height of 2m. A second scheduled barrow is located approximately 1km to the north-west. Following ploughing in the 1950s, a crushed Bronze Age urn containing burnt bone and ashes was recovered from the barrow.
- 1.3.7 Artefacts of Bronze Age date have also been recovered during quarrying 150m to the north of the site.
- 1.3.8 Later prehistoric activity is also known in the vicinity of the site. Part of a late Iron Age settlement was discovered during construction work to the north of site in the 1960s. A ditched field system is also visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs approximately 300m to the south of the site. Although undated, based on their form, they are suspected to be of prehistoric date. Field boundaries are also identifiable on aerial photographs 475m to the west of the site and 350m to the north-west.

Romano-British

- 1.3.9 A settlement of potential Romano-British date was discovered in the 1960s during the aforementioned construction work to the north of the site. The settlement comprised an oven and other features, and produced pottery, coins and other finds indicating occupation in the later 3rd century which continued into the 4th century.
- 1.3.10 A ditch of late Roman date has also been discovered approximately 350m to the north-east of the site. Building debris recovered from the upper fills of the ditch suggest the presence of Roman settlement in the vicinity.

Medieval

- 1.3.11 The deserted medieval settlement of Little Mayne Farm is located approximately 225m to the north of the site. The settlement comprises house platforms, a field system and ridge and furrow visible as earthworks and on aerial photographs. A medieval chapel is also recorded there.

- 1.3.12 The shrunken medieval village of Broadmayne is located 425m to the east of the site on the north-east side of the current village. The remains comprise earthworks of banks, ditches and house platforms.
- 1.3.13 A shrunken medieval village is also recorded at the site of Manor Farm, some 325m to the north-east of the site, and earthworks associated with Fryer Mayne deserted medieval village are located approximately 700m to the east of the site.
- 1.3.14 Routes of medieval droveways and crop marks of field boundaries are recorded in the vicinity of the site.
- 1.3.15 Several listed buildings of medieval origin are recorded in Broadmayne, including the parish church of St Martin which has a 13th-century chancel.

Post-medieval

- 1.3.16 Chalk extraction pits have been recorded at various locations in the vicinity of the site, the closest located 175m to the north, and a small banked or walled enclosure is recorded adjacent to the northern site boundary. A second enclosure is recorded 200m to the south. Several buildings of post-medieval date are recorded on the HER including a Grade II listed granary located near to the church.
- 1.3.17 The site of Broadmayne brickworks lies approximately 500m to the south-east of the site. The brickworks were founded in the 18th century and continued in use until the mid-20th century.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

- 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 assess the associations and implications of any remains encountered with reference to the historic landscape,
- vii. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence, and the forms in which such evidence may survive,
- viii. To determine the implications of any remains with reference to economy, status, function and social activity, and
- ix. To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of the artefactual evidence present.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of 12 trenches, nine measuring 50m by 1.8m and three measuring 20m by 1.8m. The trenches were positioned to ground truth the results of the geophysical survey with all of the trenches targeting anomalies.

2.2.2 The trenches were laid out as shown in Figure 2 using a GPS with sub-15mm accuracy. Minor variations were required in the positioning of Trenches 5 and 6, but the revised locations still enabled the investigation of the targeted geophysical anomalies.

2.2.3 The trenches were excavated using a tracked 360° 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, the trench edges.

2.2.4 Machining continued in even spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural geology or the first archaeological horizon, depending upon which was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation was undertaken by hand.

2.2.5 The exposed surfaces were sufficiently cleaned 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.

2.2.6 Deeper features in Trenches 5 and 11 were excavated to a safe depth of 1m below the base of the trench. An augur was then used to safely ascertain the depth of the features. These augur holes were located on section drawings and plans.

- 2.2.7 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers, and context recording was in accordance with established best practice and the OA field manual. Samples were allocated unique numbers. Bulk finds were collected by context.
- 2.2.8 Digital photos were taken of any archaeological features, deposits, trenches and the evaluation work in general.
- 2.2.9 Sections of features were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All section drawings were located on relevant plans. The absolute height (m OD) of all principal strata and features, and the section datum lines, were calculated and indicated on the drawings.
- 2.2.10 Upon completion of the works, and in agreement with Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist for DC, the trenches were backfilled.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with the dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data and spot dates are tabulated in Appendix B.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The soil sequence in the trenches varied throughout the site. Located towards the high part of the site, near the top of the ridge, Trenches 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11 had a natural geology of silty sand. In the rest of the trenches, further away from the ridge, a natural geology of chalk and silty clay was observed. The natural geology was overlain by thin subsoil and topsoil. Trenches 2, 7 and 10 contained a colluvial layer from which archaeological material was recovered.

3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were mostly easy to identify against the underlying natural geology, although the fills of natural and archaeological features were often similar, and they could only be distinguished by excavation.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 1-6, and 10-12. These comprised ditches and pits which correspond with anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, but not all targeted geophysical anomalies corresponded to archaeological features (see section 4.2 for full discussion). Trenches 7, 8 and 9 contained no archaeological features despite being targeted on geophysical anomalies.

3.4 Trench 1 (Fig. 3)

3.4.1 The only feature observed in Trench 1 was a NE-SW aligned ditch (103). Measuring 4.5m wide and located at the SE end of the trench, the ditch corresponds with a broad geophysical anomaly upon which the trench was targeted. It also corresponds with a field boundary depicted on the 1919-47 Ordnance Survey map. Based on this, and the general characteristics of the ditch, it was interpreted a post-medieval field boundary and was not investigated further.

3.4.2 The trench also targeted three discreet geophysical anomalies, but these were revealed to be changes in the natural geology where chalk gave way to patches of sandy clay.

3.5 Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

3.5.1 A single NW-SE aligned ditch (203) was present at the south-west end of Trench 2. The ditch measured 1.06m wide by 0.60m deep and had steep sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 6, Section 200). A light reddish brown sandy silt stabilisation fill (205) was recorded in the base of the feature. This was overlain by a dark reddish brown sandy

silt fill (204) from which a single sherd of middle Neolithic pottery was recovered. This ditch corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly that, along with several other anomalies, appears to form the remains of a rectangular field system.

- 3.5.2 Overlying the natural geology, a colluvial layer (206) was identified towards the north-east end of the trench. A fragment of middle Neolithic pottery and an assemblage of struck flint were recovered from the layer. A similar colluvial layer was present in Trenches 7 and 10.
- 3.5.3 Along with the linear anomaly associated with ditch 203, the trench was positioned to investigate two geophysical anomalies of unknown origin. While it is not certain, the colluvial layer appears to corollate with these anomalies.

3.6 Trenches 3 and 10 (Fig. 3; Plate 1)

- 3.6.1 A large pit (303) was revealed in the north-east end of Trench 3 (Fig. 6, Section 300; Plate 2). Irregular in plan and measuring over 5m in diameter, the pit had steep sides and a shallow concave base. It was filled by a reddish brown silty sand deposit (304) which contained poorly sorted chalk inclusions. Probably associated with chalk extraction, the pit corresponds with one of a number of discrete geophysical anomalies in this area.
- 3.6.2 Around 10m south of the pit a shallow NW-SE aligned ditch (305) was revealed. The ditch measured 1.28m wide and up to 0.17m deep. It had steep sides and a shallow concave base (Fig. 6, Section 301; Plate 3). A single reddish brown sandy silt fill (306) was observed within the feature. The ditch continued into Trench 10 where it measured 0.9m wide and 0.24m deep and recorded as ditch 1000 (Fig. 6, Section 1000). No artefactual evidence was recovered from the ditch in either trench.
- 3.6.3 The geophysical survey suggested the presence of a ring ditch and another linear feature of unknown origin at the south-western end of Trench 3. The linear was revealed to be a change in geology, and the possible ring ditch was not present at all. Similarly, Trench 10 targeted two linear geological anomalies of unknown origin in addition to the previously discussed ditch. No corresponding features were identified that could be associated with the two linear anomalies of unknown origin, but as seen in Trench 2, a colluvial deposits (1005) was observed in this part of the trench.

3.7 Trench 4 (Fig. 3)

- 3.7.1 Despite being targeted on a variety of geophysical anomalies including the remains of two rectilinear enclosures, only a small pit was identified within Trench 4.
- 3.7.2 Located towards the north-east end of the trench, the pit (403) measured 0.5m wide and 0.26m wide (Fig. 6, Section 400; Plate 4). The pit contained one fill (403), a dark greyish brown sandy clay, which contained charcoal and heat-affected stone. An assemblage comprising 154 sherds of pottery was recovered from the fill. The sherds represent a single barrel urn or jar dating to the middle Bronze Age. 13 struck flint flakes and 15 fragments of irregular flint debitage were also recorded from the fill. Many of the fragments were heat affected and indicate the reuse of flint knapping debris as pot boilers.

3.7.3 An environmental sample (Sample 6) was taken from the fill. It produced an assemblage of fragmented and clinkered grain and a possible legume. The quality of material recovered is poor limiting identification and interpretation.

3.8 Trench 5 (Fig. 4)

3.8.1 Trench 5 was positioned to enable the investigation of a geophysical anomaly indicative a small circular enclosure. A series of intercutting ditches was recorded within the trench (Fig. 7, Section 500; Plate 6) which correlate with the anomaly.

3.8.2 Ditch 505 was located at the eastern end of Trench 5. The ditch had a moderate straight eastern side and shallow, slightly irregular base. Two fills (520 and 519) were identified, and both comprised silty sands. A small assemblage of struck flint was recovered from the upper fill (519). The western side of the ditch was truncated by ditch 506. The later ditch had moderately concave sides and a slightly irregular base. It measured 1.02m wide and 0.34m deep and contained only one fill (518), a greyish brown silty sand.

3.8.3 Ditch 506 also truncated the eastern side of ditch 504. Ditch 504 had a steep sides and measured at least 2.3m wide but was truncated on both sides. Unfortunately, due to the stability of the soils hand excavation to the base of the feature could not be safely undertaken. However, through the use of a hand auger the full depth of the feature was ascertained to be 1.12m. The ditch was filled with a yellowish brown sandy redeposited natural (517) which was overlain by two darker secondary fills (516 and 515). Burnt stone was recovered from fill 516.

3.8.4 The western side of ditch 506 was truncated by ditch 507. The later ditch had steep sloping sides and was augured to a depth of 1.1m. It was filled by a sandy redeposited natural (514) and two darker, siltier secondary fills (512 and 513). Struck flint was recovered from fills 512 and 513. An environmental sample taken from fill 512 (Sample 7) produced a poorly preserved assemblage of charred wheat grains.

3.8.5 Immediately to the west of ditch 507 was ditch 503. There was no discernible stratigraphic relationship between the two ditches. Ditch 503 measured 3.3m wide and had steep sides and a very shallow concave base reaching a depth of 1.2m. It had a similar fill sequence to ditch 507 with two sandy primary fills (511 and 510) overlain by two secondary fills (509 and 508). Struck flint was recovered from all of the fills except 508, and an environmental sample from fill 508 (Sample 9) produced a flint of poorly preserved wheat and a few charcoal fragments.

3.8.6 This series of intercutting ditches all appear to be associated with the curvilinear geophysical anomaly and probably represent various phases of the same enclosure that was maintained over an unknown period of time.

3.8.7 All archaeological features in Trench 5 were sealed by a deposit of sandy silt (501). The deposit was only present in the vicinity of the archaeological features and not throughout the trench. The deposit appears to represent a levelled bank deposit or buried soil. Several sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery and an assemblage of struck flint were recovered from the deposit. An environmental sample was taken of the deposit (Sample 8) from which grain identifiable as wheat and potentially barley was present. The grain is, however, damaged and in poor condition.

3.9 Trenches 6 and 11 (Fig. 4; Plate 11)

- 3.9.1 Trenches 6 and 11 both targeted the same large sub-circular geophysical anomaly. The anomaly suggested the presence of a D-shaped double ditched enclosure which had an entrance on the straight south-western side.
- 3.9.2 Within both trenches the presence of the enclosure was confirmed and was identified as being formed of two concentric curvilinear ditches.
- 3.9.3 Both ditches (605 and 607) crossed the north-eastern end of the trench. The outer ditch (607) measured approximately 3.23m wide but was not excavated. The upper visible fill (608) comprised a brownish grey silty sand. The inner ditch (605) was of a comparable size, measuring 3.52m in diameter but again was not excavated. The only visible fill of ditch 605 was a brownish grey silty sand (606). Charred wheat grains and fragments of glume base were recovered from an environmental sample (Sample 5) taken from fill 603.
- 3.9.4 The distance between the two ditches was approximately 5.9m. In between the ditches was pit 602 (Fig.6, Section 600). Circular in plan with a diameter of 1.90m, but surviving to a depth of only 0.2m, the pit had moderate sloping sides and a flat base. Two fills were noted: a mid orangey brown clayey silt (604) which was overlain by a dark greyish brown sandy silty (603). An assemblage of middle-late Iron Age pottery, struck flint, fired clay and burnt stone was recovered from the upper fill.
- 3.9.5 A posthole (609) was identified to the west of ditch 607 (ie outside the D-shaped enclosure). The posthole was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.38m and a depth of 0.28m. A single fill was recorded within the posthole: a mid-grey clay silt (610).
- 3.9.6 Both enclosure ditches were also recorded in Trench 11. There, the inner ditch was formed by two intercutting ditches, 1106 and 1109. The full extent of the earlier ditch (1106) is unknown, but it was at least 2.50m wide and 1.70m deep with a moderate profile. The depth of the feature was established through hand auguring and only the upper deposits (1107 and 1108) were observed. Iron Age pottery and struck flint were recovered from the lower fill (1107), a mid-brownish grey clayey sand. An environmental sample taken from the fill (Sample 2) produced a poor assemblage of material including a single clinkered cereal grain, anthracite like material, charcoal and a charred bedstraw seed. The north-western side of ditch 1106 was truncated by ditch 1109 which had moderate, slightly stepped sides and a shallow pointed base. A single fill was found in the later ditch (1110) from which early Iron Age pottery, struck flint and burnt stone were recovered. An environmental sample taken from the fill (Sample 1) produced charred grain which is probably wheat, but which is in too poor a condition to be certain. A fragment of hazelnut was also recovered.
- 3.9.7 The outer enclosure ditch (1111) was located approximately 5.6m to the north-west, a comparable distance to that observed in Trench 6. Here the outer ditch was considerably narrower than the corresponding ditch (607) in Trench 6, measuring only 1.87m wide. The geophysical survey suggests that the outer ditch terminates just to the north of the trench, and this may be the reason for the narrowing of the ditch between Trenches 6 and 11. The ditch had a steep concave profile with a narrow-tapered base measuring 0.93m deep. The ditch was filled by a series of 16 fills (Fig. 8,

Section 1102). Although most were devoid of artefactual evidence, struck flint was recovered from fill 1112, the earliest fill in the sequence, and Iron Age pottery and struck flint were recovered from fill 1119 which lay near the middle of the sequence of fills. Iron Age pottery was also recovered from one of the upper fills, fill 1125. Environmental evidence from fill 1125 (Sample 3) comprised clinkered, fragmented grain, a charred speedwell seed and a hazelnut fragment.

- 3.9.8 A large posthole (1127) was located 0.7m to the north-west of ditch 1111 (Fig. 8, Section 1103; Plate 10). The posthole had near vertical sides reaching a depth of 0.9m and measured 0.65m in diameter. The posthole was primarily filled with a redeposited natural (1128) which contained several large fragments of charcoal. This deposit was overlain by two sandy silt fills (1129 and 1130). An assemblage of struck flint was recovered from the upper fill (1130).
- 3.9.9 A third ditch (1103) was located in the centre of the Trench 11. Aligned NW-SE, the ditch had a shallow profile and flat base, measuring 1.90m wide and 0.44m deep (Fig. 8, Section 1100; Plate 11). The ditch two fills (1105 and 1104) both produced pottery of Iron Age date and struck flint. The upper fill also produced grains of wheat (Sample 4). The ditch corresponds with a linear geological anomaly and appears to form part of a field system.

3.10 Trench 12 (Fig. 5)

- 3.10.1 Trench 12 targeted four linear geophysical anomalies and two discrete anomalies.
- 3.10.2 Ditch 1203 was located in the centre of the trench and corresponds with one of the linear anomalies. The ditch had a moderate concave profile but measured only 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep. No artefactual evidence was recovered from the sole fill of the feature (1204).
- 3.10.3 A discreet feature (1205) located immediately to the east of ditch 1203 was investigated but determined to be of natural origin. No other features were present within the trench.

3.11 Finds summary

- 3.11.1 The pottery assemblage recovered during the evaluation comprised 403 sherds with a combined weight of 2425g and represents three different periods of activity: the middle Neolithic, the middle Bronze Age and the Iron Age. The middle Neolithic pottery assemblage comprised eight sherds which were all recovered from Trench 6 and are thought to be residual. One sherd was recovered from a suspected enclosure ditch (203) and the other seven from colluvial deposit 206. The sherds in both contexts could have derived from the same vessel, but this is not certain.
- 3.11.2 Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from one feature: fill 403 in pit 402. The assemblage comprised 154 sherds with a combined weight of 1005g, almost half of the total pottery assemblage recovered from the site by weight. All of the sherds were from a single Barrel Urn or jar which had a cordon and a single existing perforation just below the rim, and a rim diameter of approximately 30cm. Along with the pottery, an assemblage of struck flint (including 13 flakes and 15 pieces of irregular waste or

- debitage) and burnt sandstone were recovered from the pit. The flint assemblage showed signs of being heat affected indicating the reuse of thedebitage as pot boilers.
- 3.11.3 The rest of the pottery assemblage has been dated to the Iron Age and was recovered from Trenches 5, 6 and 11. Fill 1110 in ditch 1109 produced 29 sherds that have been dated to the early Iron Age. Middle to late Iron Age pottery was recovered from deposit 501 (5 sherds) which seals the series of intercutting ditches present in Trench 5, and from enclosure ditch 1103 (fill 1104) in Trench 11 (101 sherds). A large assemblage of middle to late Iron Age pottery was recovered from pit 602, located between the two curvilinear ditches which define the D-shaped enclosure. A total of 98 sherds were recovered from the upper fill of the pit (603) along with a small fragment (19g) of fired clay, burnt stone and struck flint. The flint assemblage recovered from the pit consisted of 9 flakes, a chip, a crested flake, a core and a piercer.
- 3.11.4 The remaining assemblage of pottery - eight sherds - are broadly dated to the Iron Age and it is not possible to refine this date based on the assemblage alone. One sherd was recovered from fill 1105, the lower fill of 1103. Given the presence of 101 sherds of mid-late Iron Age pottery in the overlying fill (1104) it is likely the sherd from 1105 is also of mid-late Iron Age date. Two sherds were recovered from fill 1107, the earliest hand-excavated fill within ditch 1106, part of the inner curvilinear ditch which defines the D-shaped enclosure, and five sherds (one from fill 1119 and four from fill 1125) were recovered from the outer curvilinear in Trench 11 (ditch 1111).
- 3.11.5 In addition to the struck flint recovered from pits 402 and 602, assemblages were also recovered from ditch 1103, ditch 1109 and ditch 1111. The struck flint from ditch 1103 included 14 flakes, four blades, two cores and a crested flake. This is characteristic of a Neolithic to early Bronze Age assemblage, as indicated by the relative frequency of blade forms (22.22% of the whole assemblage from the feature). In contrast the flake component of the assemblage is characteristic of later technologies including hard hammer bulbs and simple platforms. This is in keeping with the suspected Iron Age date of the feature as indicated by the pottery assemblage. It is possible that the assemblage comprises a mix of residual and contemporary pieces, but it should be noted that the flints are remarkably fresh and suggest little movement since deposition.
- 3.11.6 The assemblage recovered from ditch 1111 is equally problematic in terms of dating. It consists of 30 flakes, a blade, three bladelets, four pieces of irregular waste, 1 axe/adze working fragment, 10 chips, a crested flake, six cores and a piercer, and is the largest assemblage recovered from a single feature. As with the assemblage recovered from ditch 1103, the flint from ditch 1111 has strong characteristics of Neolithic flint industries, but some pieces would not be out of place in a later, potentially Iron Age flint assemblage.
- 3.11.7 The assemblage of struck flint recovered from ditch 1109 is considerably smaller than that from 1111, comprising just 18 pieces. This includes flakes or flake cores and an axe or adze sharpening flake of Mesolithic or Neolithic date. The only tool within the assemblage is a simple retouched flake. The characteristics of the assemblage suggest it is of a late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date.

3.11.8 Small assemblages of flint were also recovered from posthole 1127 and layer 501. In both cases, as with the flint recovered the ditches, the material is in good condition and is unlikely to have been disturbed significantly since its original deposition.

3.11.9 A single fragment of shale (65 x 35 x 17mm) was recovered from fill 1110 in ditch 1109 but due to its condition no traces of the fragment's original function can be ascertained.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 Ground and weather conditions throughout the evaluation were good and did not impact the reliability of the investigation.
- 4.1.2 The variable nature of the natural geology caused some difficulty in identifying archaeological features. Some trenches, such as Trenches 3 and 12, primarily had a natural geology of chalk, but with bands of sandy silt. These bands were of a similar colour to the archaeological features in the trenches and differentiating them was only possible through excavation.
- 4.1.3 The sandy nature of the natural geology at the top of the ridge in Trenches 5 and 11 caused some difficulty in finding the edges of features. Most of the features in these trenches had redeposited fills at the edges and bases which, by their very nature, were hard to distinguish from the natural. This made the interpretation of intercutting features such as those in Trench 5 difficult.
- 4.1.4 Despite the challenges presented by the variable geology, the results of the evaluation should be considered to be reliable and present an accurate representation of the archaeological potential of the site.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The evaluation had moderate success in confirming the geophysical survey. The survey suggested significantly more archaeological activity than was present, particularly on the western edge of the excavation where Trenches 7, 8 and 9 revealed no sign of the rectilinear enclosures suggested by the geophysical survey. It should be noted that despite the variation in the underlying geology, there was no correlation between this and the accuracy of the geophysical survey.
- 4.2.2 Significant archaeological activity was identified at the top of the ridge particularly in Trenches 5, 6 and 11. The remains here were well preserved with fairly simple vertical stratigraphy. Elsewhere, particularly in the field to the south of the ridge the archaeological activity was less significant, mostly consisting of small field boundary ditches and a few discreet features which were all well preserved. Where possible, these features have been dated based on the associated artefactual evidence.
- 4.2.3 The preservation and distribution of artefacts varied. Trenches 4, 6 and 11 produced well preserved prehistoric pottery in amounts that are atypical of early prehistoric sites. These correlate with the areas of site with significant archaeological activity. In the area to the south of the ridge finds were significantly more sparsely distributed.

4.3 Interpretation

Neolithic

- 4.3.1 Middle Neolithic pottery was recovered from two features: a colluvial deposit and ditch, both of which were identified in Trench 2. Based on the results of the geophysical survey, the ditch appears to form part of a field / agricultural management system. Ditches associated with the same system were recorded in Trenches 3 and 10

but neither produced any dating evidence. The character of the ditches both in profile and in plan is not indicative of middle Neolithic activity and suggest that the pottery recovered from ditch 203 was residual. Although not directly associated with features within the site, the presence of such material does suggest middle Neolithic activity within the vicinity (cf. section 1.3 of this report).

- 4.3.2 Struck flint of possible Neolithic date was also recovered from, and will discussed below in relation to, the enclosures identified in Trenches 5, 6 and 11.

Bronze Age

- 4.3.3 A single feature, pit 402, has been securely dated to the middle Bronze Age. An assemblage of 154 sherds of pottery associated with a single vessel were recovered from the pit along with struck flint. The pit is indicative of Bronze Age activity within the site and the wider landscape.
- 4.3.4 The identification of a single feature of this date may indicate that this activity was transitory and not a sign of intense activity within the site. However, discrete features such as pit 402 are difficult to identify through geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation. The presence of other similar features within the site should not be ruled out.

Iron Age

- 4.3.5 Both Trenches 6 and 11 targeted a large D-shaped double ditched enclosure which was identified by the geophysical survey.
- 4.3.6 Ditches corresponding with the geophysical anomalies were identified in both trenches. The exposed features and associated pottery assemblage from them suggest the remains of a double ditched, Iron Age D-shaped enclosure which probably functioned as a small, defended settlement. Due to the presence of services, hedgerows and a public right of way, no investigation was undertaken within the interior of the enclosure and as such there is currently no direct evidence of structures or settlement activity. Several geophysical anomalies identified within the enclosure were, however, interpreted as being indicative of discrete features or as having an association with burning.
- 4.3.7 While this interpretation appears fairly robust, the flint assemblage recovered from the three ditches exhibits characteristics indicative of a Neolithic to early Bronze Age date, suggesting that activity occurred in the area somewhat earlier than is indicated by the pottery assemblage.
- 4.3.8 This is also the case with ditch 1103 which, as indicated by the geophysical survey, forms part of an enclosure/land management system. The ditch is securely dated to middle-late Iron Age based on the pottery assemblage recovered from it. However, the flint assemblage is characteristic of Neolithic to early Bronze Age technologies, conflicting with the date suggested by the pottery assemblage.
- 4.3.9 As discussed in Appendix B.2, the idea that the practice of knapping flint continued into the Iron Age is now more widely accepted, and pieces, especially those from ditch 1103, are in keeping with Iron Age flintwork (ie they have hard hammer bulbs and

simple platforms, although these are not out of place in an earlier assemblage). Other pieces, such as narrow bladelets, crested pieces and axe/adze sharpening flakes are not, however, likely to date from the Iron Age. While it is possible that the flint assemblage is derived from more than one period, representing both earlier and later activity, this is normally attested to by varied surface conditions on the flint which is not evident in this assemblage. A likely hypothesis is that the flint has been derived from earlier activity potentially associated with later Neolithic or earlier Bronze Age funerary activity, a characteristic of the landscape in which the site is located. The D-shaped enclosure could possibly be a later reworking of an earlier prehistoric monument with flint arriving in the ditches from banks/mounds originally associated with a monument such as a henge or barrow. This interpretation is further supported by the presence of a potential ring of posts at the outer edge of the ring ditch, perhaps further suggesting a monumental feature.

Undated

- 4.3.10 Trench 5 targeted a curvilinear geophysical anomaly which was less pronounced than the anomalies targeted by Trenches 6 and 11. A series of intercutting curvilinear ditches were recorded within the trench. With the exception of a small assemble of struck flint of suspected Neolithic to early Bronze Age date, the features are undated. However, they are indicative of a well-maintained ring ditch which may have been associated with either a round barrow or a round house. While the origins of the buried soil overlying the ring ditches is unknown it may represent a ploughed-out bank or barrow mound.
- 4.3.11 The field systems located in the southern part of the site, identified in Trenches 1, 3 and 10 are of unknown date and could range in date from the Bronze Age through to the post-medieval period, although a medieval or later date is most probable. Similarly, a large pit identified in Trench 3, although undated, is probably evidence for medieval or later chalk extraction.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The evaluation has revealed evidence of a rich prehistoric site which reflects known remains within the wider landscape. Although no features except a pit of middle Bronze Age date in Trench 4 have been confidently dated to the Neolithic or Bronze Age, the quantities of struck flint recovered from the site suggest that there is high potential for significant Neolithic and Bronze age activity within the site. The presence of colluvial deposits towards the southern site limit reflect the movement of soils within the landscape. Neolithic material recovered from Trench 2 have been assessed as being residual and deposition within the trench is likely a direct result of these transitory soils. Therefore, Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity within the site is considered to be focused on the density of archaeological features identified atop the ridge in the middle of the site. It is from this focus that the finds recovered from Trench 2 are likely to have originated.
- 4.4.2 Further investigation of the D-shaped enclosures has significant potential to further our understanding of both middle-late Iron Age settlement and lithic use in later prehistory.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1							
General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a ploughsoil and subsoil overlying a natural geology of chalk and sandy clay. Contains one known field boundary.						Length (m)	50.00
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
100	Layer	-	2.00	0.32	Ploughsoil. Dark greyish brown, clayey silt, friable.	-	-
101	Layer	-	2.00	0.10	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, clayey silt, soft.	-	-
102	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. White chalk and reddish brown silty clay, firm.	-	-
103	Unexcavated feature	-	4.50	-	Other Cut. Known field boundary - unexcavated, fill: mid reddish brown sandy clay	-	-

Trench 2							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil, a colluvium, and a natural of silty chalk. Contained one ditch.						Length (m)	50.00
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
200	Layer	-	2.00	0.24	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable	-	-
201	Layer	-	2.00	0.08	Subsoil. Light reddish brown, silty sand, friable	-	-
202	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light yellowish white, sandy chalk, firm	-	-
203	Cut	-	1.06	0.60	Ditch. Field boundary or enclosure ditch	-	-
204	Fill	203	1.06	0.56	Secondary Fill. Dark reddish brown, sandy silt, soft	Pottery	Mid Neolithic
205	Fill	203	0.56	0.10	Primary Fill. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft, frequent chalk.	-	-
206	Layer	-	2.00	-	Colluvial Layer. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, firm	Pottery Flint	Mid Neolithic

Trench 3							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil and a natural of silty chalk. Contains one large pit, and one ditch.						Length (m)	50.00
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.30

Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
300	Layer	-	2.00	0.30	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey, silty loam, friable	-	-
301	Layer	-	2.00	0.10	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft	-	-
302	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light yellowish white, sandy chalk, friable	-	-
303	Cut	-	5.00	0.62	Pit. Chalk extraction pit	-	-
304	Fill	303	2.34	0.62	Primary Fill. Light reddish brown, silty sand, soft.	Flint	-
305	Cut	-	1.28	0.17	Ditch. Field boundary or enclosure.	-	-
306	Fill	305	1.28	0.17	Secondary Fill. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft	-	-

Trench 4							
General description					Orientation	NE-SW	
Trench consists of a ploughsoil overlying a natural geology of sandy clay. Contains a single pit.					Length (m)	50.00	
					Width (m)	2.00	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
400	Layer	-	2.00	0.28	Ploughsoil. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy clay, friable	Flint	-
401	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Reddish brown, sandy clay, firm	-	-
402	Cut	-	0.50	0.26	Pit	-	-
403	Fill	402	0.50	0.26	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy clay, soft. Frequent heat effected stone.	Pottery Flint Burnt stone	Mid Bronze-Age

Trench 5							
General description					Orientation	E-W	
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying ploughed out barrow material, and a natural of silty sand. Contains five ring ditches.					Length (m)	30	
					Width (m)	2.00	
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54	
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
500	Layer	-	2.00	0.20	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable	-	-
501	Layer	-	2.00	0.62	Other Layer. Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, soft	Pottery Flint	Mid-late Iron Age
502	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light brownish yellow, clayey sand, soft	-	-
503	Cut	-	3.30	1.30	Ditch. Outer ditch of double ditch circular feature.	-	-

504	Cut	-	3.70	1.10	Ditch. Large circular feature, possibly a round barrow.	-	-
505	Cut	-	1.50	0.33	Ditch. Large circular feature, possibly a round barrow.	-	-
506	Cut	-	1.02	0.34	Ditch. Circular feature, possibly a round barrow.	-	-
507	Cut	-	1.74	5.04	Ditch. Circular feature possibly a round barrow	-	-
508	Fill	503	3.30	0.34	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, firm.	-	-
509	Fill	503	1.16	0.20	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, firm.	Flint	-
510	Fill	503	1.30	0.17	Primary Fill. Light yellowish brown, silty sand, firm.	Flint	-
511	Fill	503	0.72	0.27	Primary Fill. Light yellowish brown, silty sand, firm.	Flint	-
512	Fill	507	1.44	0.27	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, firm	Flint	-
513	Fill	507	1.24	0.40	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, clayey silt, firm	Flint	-
514	Fill	507	0.34	0.46	Primary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, firm	-	-
515	Fill	504	1.80	0.29	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, firm	-	-
516	Fill	504	2.48	0.40	Secondary Fill. Light brownish grey, sandy silt, firm	Burnt stone	-
517	Fill	504	2.4	1.00	Primary Fill. Light yellowish brown, silty sand, firm.	-	-
518	Fill	506	1.00	0.33	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, firm	-	-
519	Fill	505	1.36	0.22	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, firm	Flint	-
520	Fill	505	1.00	0.15	Primary Fill. Light orangey yellow, silty sand, firm.	-	-

Trench 6							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of brick earth. Contains two ring ditches, a pit and a posthole.						Length (m)	30
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
600	Layer	-	2.00	0.30	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable.	-	-
601	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Mid orange brown, brick earth/gravel, firm	-	-
602	Cut	-	1.90	0.20	Pit. Shallow pit between inner and outer ring ditch of large round barrow.	-	-

603	Fill	602	1.78	0.14	Secondary Fill. Dark greyish brown, sandy silt, friable.	Pottery Flint Fired Clay Burnt stone	Mid-late Iron Age
604	Fill	602	1.56	0.06	Primary Fill. Mid orangey brown, clayey silt, friable	-	-
605	Cut	-	3.52	-	Ring Ditch. Inner ring ditch of round barrow (unexcavated)	-	-
606	Fill	605	3.52	-	Light brownish grey, silty sand, soft.	-	-
607	Cut	-	3.23	-	Ring Ditch. Outer ring ditch of round barrow (unexcavated)	-	-
608	Fill	607	3.23	-	Mid brownish grey, silty sand, soft.	-	-
609	Cut	-	0.38	0.28	Posthole. Posthole just outside the round barrow [607]	-	-
610	Fill	609	0.38	0.28	Primary Fill. Mid greyish brown, clayey silt, friable.	-	-

Trench 7

General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil, a colluvium, and a natural of sandy chalk. Contains no archaeology.						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.80
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
700	Layer	-	2.00	0.30	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable.	-	-
701	Layer	-	2.00	0.20	Subsoil. Light greyish brown, chalky silt, soft.	-	-
702	Layer	-	2.00	0.80	Colluvial Layer. Mid reddish brown, clayey silt, soft. True depth not known, at least 0.8m	-	-
703	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light brownish white, silty chalk, firm.	-	-

Trench 8

General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a natural of brick earth. Contains no archaeology.						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
800	Layer	-	2.00	0.30	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey, silty loam, friable.	-	-

801	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light yellow brown, brick earth/gravel, firm	-	-
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Trench 9							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil and a natural of sandy silt. Contains no archaeology.						Length (m)	50.00
						Width (m)	1.80
						Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
900	Layer	-	2.00	0.25	Topsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty loam, friable.	-	-
901	Layer	-	2.00	0.25	Subsoil. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, soft.	-	-
902	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Mid yellowish-brown, sandy silt with natural flint, soft.	-	-

Trench 10							
General description						Orientation	NE-SW
Trench consists of topsoil overlying a subsoil, a colluvium and a natural of silty sand. Contains one ditch.						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date
1000	Cut	-	0.90	0.24	Ditch. Field boundary or enclosure ditch.	-	-
1001	Fill	1000	0.90	0.24	Primary Fill. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, firm.	Flint Animal bone	-
1002	Layer	-	2.00	0.21	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable	-	-
1003	Layer	-	2.00	0.19	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, soft	-	-
1004	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light yellowish brown, silty chalk. Firm	-	-
1005	Layer	-	2.00	-	Colluvial Layer. Dark reddish brown, sandy silt, firm. >1m thick.	-	-

Trench 11							
General description						Orientation	NW-SE
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil and a natural of chalky sand. Contains three ring ditches, a rectilinear ditch, and a posthole.						Length (m)	50
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.50
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds	Date

1100	Layer	-	2.00	0.28	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable	-	-
1101	Layer	-	2.00	0.24	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft	Flint	-
1102	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Mixed light yellowish white and reddish brown, chalky silt, soft	Flint	-
1103	Cut	-	1.90	0.44	Ditch. Large rectilinear enclosure, perhaps related to [1106]	-	-
1104	Fill	1103	1.90	0.25	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, firm.	Pottery Flint	Mid Iron Age
1105	Fill	1103	1.10	0.17	Primary Fill. Light yellowish brown, silty sand, firm	Pottery Flint	Iron Age
1106	Cut	-	2.50	1.70	Ring Ditch. Large ring ditch, possibly a barrow.	-	-
1107	Fill	1106	2.50	1.00	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, clayey sand, firm	Pottery Flint	Iron Age
1108	Fill	1106	1.50	0.30	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, silty sand, soft.	-	-
1109	Cut	-	3.40	0.70	Ring Ditch. Recut of barrow ditch [1106]	-	-
1110	Fill	1109	3.40	0.70	Secondary Fill. Mid brownish grey, silty sand, soft	Pottery Flint Burnt stone Shale	Early Iron Age
1111	Cut	-	1.87	0.93	Ditch. Outer ditch of round barrow.	-	-
1112	Fill	1111	0.68	0.11	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark brownish grey sandy silt, soft	Flint	-
1113	Fill	1111	0.40	0.10	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt, soft.	-	-
1114	Fill	1111	0.48	0.05	Secondary Fill. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, compact.	-	-
1115	Fill	1111	0.50	0.12	Secondary Fill. Light-mid reddish brown, silty sand, soft	-	-
1116	Fill	1111	0.58	0.09	Primary Fill. Light whitish yellow, sandy clay, soft	-	-
1117	Fill	1111	0.66	0.06	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy silt, firm	-	-
1118	Fill	1111	0.50	0.04	Secondary Fill. Mid reddish brown, silty sand, compact.	-	-
1119	Fill	1111	1.04	0.18	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy silt, soft.	Pottery Flint	Iron Age
1120	Fill	1111	0.36	0.16	Secondary Fill. Light whitish yellow, sandy clay, firm	-	-
1121	Fill	1111	0.55	0.27	Secondary Fill. Mid-light reddish brown, silty sand, soft	-	-
1122	Fill	1111	0.78	0.07	Secondary Fill. Dark brownish grey, sandy silt, firm	-	-

1123	Fill	1111	0.55	0.06	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark reddish brown, sandy silt, compact	-	-
1124	Fill	1111	0.76	0.12	Secondary Fill. Mid dark reddish brown, sandy silt, compact.	-	-
1125	Fill	1111	1.60	0.38	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy silt, soft.	Pottery Flint	Iron Age
1126	Fill	1111	1.12	0.34	Secondary Fill. Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, soft	Flint	-
1127	Cut		0.57	0.90	Posthole. Posthole just outside barrow ditch [1111]	-	-
1128	Fill	1127	0.57	0.90	Secondary Fill. Light-mid brownish grey, sandy silt, compact.	Flint	-
1129	Fill	1127	0.57	0.24	Secondary Fill. Light-mid yellowish brown, sandy silt, compact.	-	-
1130	Fill	1127	0.30	0.16	Secondary Fill. Mid-dark greyish brown, sandy silt, compact.	Flint	-
1131	Fill	1106	-	0.20	Secondary Fill. Light reddish brown, silty sand, soft. Only seen in augur hole	-	-

Trench 12							
General description						Orientation	E-W
Trench consists of a topsoil overlying a subsoil and a natural of sandy chalk. Contains one ditch and one natural feature.						Length (m)	50.00
						Width (m)	2.00
						Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	Type	Fill Of	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Findings	Date
1200	Layer	-	2.00	0.26	Topsoil. Dark greyish brown, silty loam, friable	-	-
1201	Layer	-	2.00	0.10	Subsoil. Mid greyish brown, silty sand friable	-	-
1202	Layer	-	2.00	-	Natural. Light yellowish white, sandy chalk, firm	-	-
1203	Cut	-	0.50	0.20	Ditch. Field boundary or enclosure.	-	-
1204	Fill	1203	0.50	0.20	Secondary Fill. Mid reddish brown, sandy silt, soft	-	-
1205	Cut	-	1.20	0.34	Natural Feature. Mid greyish brown, sandy silt, soft. Tree throw	-	-

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Prehistoric pottery

by Alex Davies

B.1.1 Some 403 sherds (2425g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from 11 contexts across five trenches. Three periods were represented: the middle Neolithic, the middle Bronze Age, and the Iron Age.

Methodology

B.1.2 The pottery was assessed at context level with sherds quantified and spot-dates given by context. Notes were made on the fabric and forms. Iron Age form typology follows Brown (2000), a version of the typology used at nearby Maiden Castle (Brown 1991). All the recorded data are in Table 1.

Middle Neolithic

B.1.3 Two contexts produced middle Neolithic Peterborough Ware, both in Trench 2. Context 204 was a fill of a ditch, and 206 a nearby colluvial layer. The sherds could have been from the same vessel although this was not clear. The sherd from context 204 probably belongs to the Mortlake sub-style and is decorated with lines of probable bird bone impressions on the collar and cavetto. The sherds in context 206 were decorated with twisted cord ‘maggots’ in a chevron pattern on the body. All the sherds were in a similar fabric that included moderately sorted medium grade flint.

Middle Bronze Age

B.1.4 One context, pit fill 403, produced middle Bronze Age pottery (154 sherds, 1005g). This was from a single Barrel Urn or jar with a cordon and a single perforation just below the rim. About half of the circuit of the rim is present with a diameter of 30cm. The fabric has blocky vesicles usually c 1-3mm in size. It is unknown what the original inclusions were, but they did not have the appearance of shell and may have been chalk or limestone. Vesicular fabrics comprised just 3% of the middle Bronze Age pottery at Bestwall Quarry, c 20km to the east, where grog dominated the assemblage (Woodward 2009, fig. 141). Vesicular fabrics were, however, common in the late Bronze Age pottery at the site where it was thought that this represented grog that had leached out (Woodward 2009, 244, fig. 162). The original inclusions in the pot from context 403 may therefore have been grog, although this remains uncertain.

Iron Age

B.1.5 Eight contexts produced Iron Age pottery amounting to 241 sherds (1385g). This was from Trenches 5, 6 and 11. The material from Trench 5 is from the subsoil, and the contexts in Trenches 6 and 11 appear to relate to a double-ditched enclosure and an external enclosure ditch. A single sherd appears to be early Iron Age. It is a slightly flaring rim with traces of red coating in a sandy fabric from context 1110, from the double-ditched enclosure. Middle Iron Age forms (rounded/slack-sided jars) were present in context 1104, the surrounding enclosure ditch, and forms of middle to late

Iron Age date (probable handmade necked jars) were found in pit fill 603 between the two ditches forming the double-ditched enclosure. A probable middle Iron Age hemispherical bowl was found in the subsoil in Trench 5.

B.1.6 Quartz sand in coarse, medium and fine grades dominates the Iron Age fabrics. Calcite was occasionally present, and larger blocks of possible shale were also present in a few of the sherds. A vesicular fabric very similar to the middle Bronze Age fabric at the site characterised a significant number of sherds, notably the probable necked jars of middle to late Iron Age date in context 603. It is likely that similar inclusions which had leached out were originally present in the Bronze Age and Iron Age vesicular fabrics.

Retention

B.1.7 The pottery has future research value and should be retained.

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Fabric	Spot-date	Comment
204	1	21	Flint (medium), moderately sorted	M Neo	Peterborough Ware. Prob Mortlake. Partial collar and cavetto sherd. Externally decorated with lines of probable bird bone impressions
206	7	14	Flint (medium), moderately sorted	M Neo	Peterborough Ware. Mortlake or Fengate. Body sherd with chevron maggot decoration. Superficially looks dissimilar to 204 but could be the same
403	154	1005	Vesicular (medium)	MBA	Barrel 'Urn' with cordon (31mm wide). Perforation 17mm below rim (only one present). Rim dia=30cm, EVE=0.5.
501	5	28	Quartz sand (coarse, medium and fine)	M-LIA	One rim, form (after Brown 2000): BC2?
603	98	210	Vesicular (medium)	M-LIA	At least two vessels. Form JD or JE4
1104	101	950	Mainly quartz sand (coarse to medium), some with calcite, rare larger pieces of ?shale. Six sherds in vesicular fabric (limestone/chalk?) as cxt 603	MIA	Three rims with forms: JB? (neck, but could be JC2; medium sand); 2x JC2 (coarse sand, external carbonised residue). Some burnishing. One sherd line of fingernail impressions
1105	1	6	Quartz sand (coarse)	IA	Similar to fabrics in 1104
1107	2	11	Vesicular (medium, as 603)	IA	
1110	29	162	Quartz sand (coarse, medium and fine)	EIA	1 rim - slightly flaring and red-coated: BB?. 3 other sherds red-fired and smoothed

1119	1	2	Vesicular (medium, as 603)	IA	
1125	4	16	Quartz sand (coarse)	IA	
Total	403	2425g			

Table 1: Flint catalogue

B.2 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

B.2.1 The evaluation brought to light a large assemblage of 177 struck flints and very minimal amounts of burnt unworked material (22 fragments weighing just 42g). The flints were far from uniformly spread across the evaluation and showed a marked concentration in Trenches, 4, 5, 6 and 11, and the five largest assemblages from these trenches totalled 138 pieces (Table 4). Trench 11 had the most significant assemblages, and these were largely recovered from two ring ditches and a nearby enclosure ditch as well as from a very large posthole found nearby. Most of these assemblages appear to derive from later Neolithic or early Bronze Age knapping but two large pit assemblages from pits 402 and 602 look to have been contemporary with their pottery assemblages and would date to the middle Bronze Age and middle-late Iron Age respectively. Additionally, it is possible that the ditches contained mixed assemblages with some residual earlier material but with a largely flake-based Iron Age group of flints. While rare, Iron Age flint knapping appears to be gaining recognition by analysts in Britain especially in more marginal areas where access to metal might not always have been easy. The assemblages are very fresh, strongly indicating that they are likely to have been contemporary with their recovery contexts. They also have relatively normal levels of tools suggesting that they might be representative of the flint work in the area rather than exhibiting selective recovery bias (which is very often found in assemblages from evaluations). Any further work in the evaluation area should expect to encounter significant flintwork.

Methodology

B.2.2 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition was noted, and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and the state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (eg Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan et al. 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Ohnuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

Category Type	Number
Flake	102
Blade	4
Bladelet	8
Blade index	10.53% (12/114)
Irregular waste	21
Chips	2
Axe/adze working flake	1
Axe/adze sharpening flake	1
Sieved chips 10-2mm	13
Crested flake	3
Core single platform flakes	3
Core multiplatform flakes	6
Core keeled flakes	1
Core on a flake	1
Core fragment	2
Scraper end	2
Piercer	2
Microdenticulate	2
Denticulate	1
Retouched flake	2
Total	177

Burnt unworked	22/42g
No. burnt (%)	30/177 (16.95%)
No. broken (%)	51/162 (31.48%)
No cores and core dressing (%)	16/162 (9.88%)
No. retouched (%)	9/162 (5.56%)

Table 2: Flint assemblage composition

Condition

B.2.3 The flints are in very good condition with more than half being fresh (59.38%) and the bulk of the remainder displaying only light edge damage (32.81%) while just 7.81% are in worse condition and these mostly came from topsoil, subsoil or other layers. Cortication was dominated by lightly corticated pieces (88.29%) with minimal amounts displaying moderate cortication and very few other examples. The condition of the material suggests that the assemblage was largely *in situ*, and this is particularly true for the key assemblages which will be discussed further below.

Condition	Total	%	Cortication	Total	%
Fresh	76	59.38	None	2	1.56
Light	42	32.81	Light	113	88.29
Moderate	8	6.25	Moderate	10	7.81
Heavy	2	1.56	Heavy	3	2.34
	128			128	

Table 3: flint by condition and cortication

Assemblage

- B.2.4 Pit 402 contained just one hand recovered flint flake, but a sample taken from its fill contained numerous struck flakes (12) and irregular fragments (15) all of which had been burnt and many of which were also broken. The pit has been dated to the middle Bronze Age based on ceramic material and the lithic assemblage is wholly compatible with that date (but would in itself indicate only a broader and more generic later prehistoric date range). The material most likely became burnt through the reuse of flint knapping debris as pot boilers or through its disposal into a hearth prior to incorporation in the pit.
- B.2.5 Layer 501, described as a probable barrow soil, contained eight flakes, two flake tools, an end scraper, and a simple retouched flake. The flints are in good condition suggesting that they had not moved very far despite being recovered from a disturbed horizon. This trench also contained several flint flakes from ring ditches 503 and 507 as well as one narrow bladelet that most likely predates the ring ditches. The lithic assemblage lacked fully diagnostic pieces, but a well-made, largely flake-based assemblage could date from any time after the early Neolithic and could very easily have been contemporary with the ring ditches (should they prove to be early Bronze Age in date).
- B.2.6 Middle-late Iron Age pit 602 contained 13 struck flints in very good condition with nine flakes, one chip, one very fine piercer, a multiplatform flake core and a crested flake. Although Iron Age flint knapping is seen as problematic there is good evidence for its existence, and it is possible that this group was contemporary with the pit. However, core preparation through creasting as well as platform tableting, or core rejuvenation, is almost entirely absent from later prehistoric industries implying that the crested flake must be residual. As such this raises the issue of just how much of the group was residual and how much was contemporary. This was one of many Iron Age features that contained possibly contemporary flint assemblages in very good condition.
- B.2.7 Ditch 1103 is another feature of probable Iron Age date. It yielded an assemblage of 21 pieces from fills 1104 and 1105 although the latter only contained two flints. The assemblage comprised 14 flakes, four blade forms, two cores and another crested flake but lacked any retouched pieces. Overall, the assemblage appears quite typical of Neolithic to early Bronze Age material especially given the relative frequency of blade forms (22.22%), but it is also possible that the feature contained a mix of residual material with contemporary flintwork. The flints are remarkably fresh (20/21, 95.24%) suggesting that the most likely explanation for their provenance is that they were contemporary with the fills they were recovered from. In contrast to the blade component, much of the flake debitage suggests a later date with hard hammer bulbs being common alongside simple platforms and at least one of the cores was very typical of later prehistoric flintwork with large platform spurs.
- B.2.8 Possible ring ditch 1111 contained the largest assemblage, consisting of 58 pieces, and although 10 of these were sieved chips recovered from a bulk sample, the sample only yielded two of 48 significant pieces indicating how prevalent flintwork was within this ditch's fills. The assemblage includes 30 flakes and four blade forms including three narrow bladelets giving a blade index of 11.76% a figure typically associated with

Neolithic industries (Ford 1987). One axe or adze thinning flake was recovered alongside the fine chips and some irregular waste products (4). Tools comprise one piercer and a quite crude microdenticulated blade of probable early date. Cores and related debitage are numerous (14.58%) with three single and two multi-platformed examples as well as another crested flake. The flints are in slightly poorer condition than elsewhere on site but would still be considered fresh to lightly edge damaged and are likely to be a contemporary assemblage or possibly material derived from the collapse of an accompanying mound or bank. As with ditch 1109, this could either indicate a largely Neolithic-early Bronze Age assemblage or perhaps be evidence for mixed early and late assemblages.

B.2.9 Possible ring ditch 1109 contained a much smaller assemblage than its near neighbour 1111 consisting of just 18 pieces. The flints comprises either flakes or flake cores with one complete and two fragmentary examples but also includes a probable axe or adze sharpening flake of Mesolithic to Neolithic date that is most likely residual. The sole tool was a simple retouched flake while several of the flakes and at least one of the cores look to be quite well-made, thin examples with blade-like negative scars and a least one example of a faceted platform all of which are suggestive of an early date. While it is possible that this assemblage represents a mix of dates, perhaps quite widely separated in time, a more likely explanation would be that the assemblage belongs to the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age suggesting a possible funerary function for the ring ditches.

B.2.10 Posthole 1127 was a very large example of such a feature and included flints from two separate fills amounting to six pieces. These comprise five flakes with low levels of edge damage as well as a very fine microdenticulated blade of early date, most likely early to middle Neolithic although a later Neolithic or late Mesolithic date would also be an outside possibility.

Category Type	MBA Pit 402	M-LIA Pit 602	Ditch 1103	Ring ditch 1109	Ring ditch 1111
Flake	13	9	14	12	30
Blade			2		1
Bladelet			2		3
Blade index	0%	0%	22.22% (4/18)	0%	11.76% (4/34)
Irregular waste	15				4
Chips		1			
Axe/adze working flake					1
Axe/adze sharpening flake				1	
Sieved chips 10-2mm				1	10
Crested flake		1	1		1
Core single platform flakes					3
Core multiplatform flakes		1	2	1	2
Core keeled flakes					
Core on a flake					1
Core fragment				2	
Scraper end					
Piercer		1			1
Microdenticulate					1

Denticulate					
Retouched flake				1	
Total	28	13	21	18	58

Burnt unworked	4/1g				
No. burnt (%)	96.43% (27/28)	0%	0%	0%	1.72% (1/58)
No. broken (%)	89.29% (25/28)	0%	9.52% (2/21)	11.76% (2/17)	20.83% (10/48)
No cores and core dressing (%)	0%	15.38% (2/13)	14.29% (3/21)	17.65% (3/17)	14.58% (7/48)
No. retouched (%)	0%	7.69% (1/13)	0%	5.88% (1/17)	4.17% (2/48)

Table 4: Flint assemblage composition by key contexts

Discussion

- B.2.11 There is clearly some early material here and the key issue is whether it was contemporary with any of the features identified. Middle Neolithic pottery was recovered from Trench 2, ditch 204 and colluvial layer 206 which also yielded minimal amounts of flint so there is an established Neolithic presence on the site. One axe or adze sharpening flake was recovered from ditch 1109 as were an additional axe working flake (1111), and two blade-based microdenticulates in posthole 1127 and ditch 1111 as well as several blade forms. These could easily relate to more substantial Neolithic activity on site, but they could also simply represent material from a buried soil horizon possibly incorporated into banks or mounds associated with the ring ditches and the putative barrow soil 501.
- B.2.12 If this early component was residual, this would leave a largely flake-based and fresh assemblage from features dating largely to the middle Bronze Age through to the middle-late Iron Age. There has been some debate in the past about the existence of Iron Age flint assemblages in Britain (Saville 1981; Young and Humphries 1999) with a tendency to discount them but more recent work has shifted towards acceptance of such assemblages (McLaren 2008; Donnelly 2018).
- B.2.13 Pit 402 contained a very typical later prehistoric assemblage of flakes and irregular waste, but its condition is unusual with nearly every piece being heavily burnt and most being broken. This is particularly striking given the very limited amount of burnt unworked flint from site, but it may simply be a product of the evaluation process only revealing a part of the total flint assemblage present on site as there is little doubt that these flints were subjected to the same process that generated more typical pot boilers.
- B.2.14 Pit 602 produced what appears to be a very good example of probable mid-late Iron Age flintwork with numerous flakes displaying very simple platforms and core preparation alongside a crude flake core. However, the presence of a crested flake in the assemblage does suggest a more cautious approach is warranted before assigning all of the material to the Iron Age.
- B.2.15 The scenario with the ditch assemblages is even more complicated with numerous blade forms being present in good condition alongside flake cores and flake tools. The most likely explanation for such assemblages is the mixing of material of early and late

dates but this is usually detectable through the quite varied surface condition of the flints, and here, almost all the flints are fresh with low levels of cortication. The flints could conceivably all belong to later Neolithic (including middle Neolithic contexts) to early Bronze Age flint-related activity and may indicate a funerary component to some of the ring ditches. Alternatively, as mentioned above, this material may simply have been present in the prehistoric topsoil and became incorporated into any banks or mounds associated with the ditches.

B.2.16 The evaluation area has produced significant flint assemblage in very good condition and has very high potential for making additional discoveries in the development area. These could include significant Neolithic to early Bronze Age assemblages associated with buried layers, pits and other features. In addition to this, the potential of well-preserved and extensive later prehistoric assemblages is also of great importance for a better understanding of lithics use in later prehistory. As such, these factors should be borne in mind when planning additional works in the evaluated area.

B.3 Fired clay

By *Alex Davis*

Introduction

B.3.1 Three pieces of fired clay (19g) were recovered from the fill (603) of a middle Iron Age ditch (602). The fabric is fine and silty with occasional quartz grains and internally is dark grey in colour, turning to a creamy white near the surfaces. None of the surface survives, and the pieces are amorphous and of uncertain origin.

Recommendations for retention/disposal

B.3.2 The pieces have limited future research value but should be retained if further work were to be undertaken so they can be compared with any additional pieces that may be discovered.

B.4 Stone

By *Ruth Shaffrey*

Introduction

B.4.1 A total of 30 pieces of stone and one piece of shale was retained and submitted for analysis. These were examined with a x10 magnification hand lens for signs of use. All the stone is heavily burnt ferruginous sandstone and reddened with no signs of other use.

Context	Weight (g)	Number
403	1564	26
516	7	1
603	68	3

Table 5: summary of burnt stone

B.4.2 A single piece of shale was retained (ctx 1110, 26g). This is a largeish piece measuring 65 by 35 x 17mm, but it is dried out and no traces of function can now be ascertained.

Recommendations for retention/disposal

B.4.3 The burnt stone and shale can be discarded.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Richard Palmer

Introduction

C.1.1 Nine bulk samples were taken during the evaluation primarily for the retrieval and assessment of ecofacts and the recovery of artefacts.

Method

C.1.2 The samples were processed in their entirety at Oxford Archaeology using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine. The flots were collected in a 250µm mesh and residues in a 500µm mesh and were dried. The residue fractions were sorted by eye and with the aid of a magnet while the flot material was sorted using a low power (x10-x40) binocular microscope to extract cereal grains and chaff, smaller seeds and other quantifiable remains.

C.1.3 Nomenclature for identified species follows Stace (2010) and cereal and chaff identifications are made with reference to Jacomet (2006).

Results

C.1.4 Sample and flot abundance data is presented in Table 5. Modern rooting, plant debris and seeds were present in most samples.

Trench 4

C.1.5 Sample 6 from fill 403 of pit 402 produced a poor flot. The recovered grain is fragmented and clinkered and recorded fragments are all >2mm. Further unquantified fragments smaller than <2mm are present along with possible legume fragments which due to size and uncertainty of identification are not recorded in Table 5 but are noted as present. Pottery and a few pieces of flint were recovered from the residue. Three fragments of charcoal were also recovered by hand during excavation of this fill.

Trench 5

C.1.6 Sample 7 from fill 512 of ditch 507 produced a poor flot. Two charred wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recovered, one of which is clinkered. Pottery and burnt flint were recovered from the residue.

C.1.7 Sample 8 from layer 501 produced a poor flot. The recovered grain is identifiably wheat, and most grains are clinkered and/or fragmented. Based on morphology one grain could be that of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Given the condition of this grain and others in the assemblage this could easily be a distorted and damaged wheat grain, and this is the preferred identification at this stage. Flint was recovered from the residue. It is noted that during sampling this layer was interpreted as possible barrow mound material.

C.1.8 Sample 9 from fill 508 of ditch 503 produced a poor flot. The charred grain is identified as wheat and a few charcoal fragments are present along with multiple fragments of

anthracite like material. An incomplete glume base was also recovered, and no artefacts were recovered from the residue.

Trench 6

C.1.9 Sample 5 from fill 603 of pit 602 produced a poor flot. Rare charred wheat grains and fragments of glume base are present. Burnt flint, pottery and burnt stone were recovered from the residue.

Trench 11

C.1.10 Sample 1 from fill 1110 of ring ditch 1109 produced a poor flot. The charred grain is probably wheat with nearly all of it either clinkered or fragmented. A fragment of charred hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) was also recovered. Flint including burnt flint was recovered from the residue.

C.1.11 Sample 2 from fill 1107 of ring ditch 1106 produced a poor flot. A single clinkered cereal grain was recovered and anthracite like material is present alongside the charcoal. A charred bedstraw seed (*Galium* sp.) was also recovered. A few small pieces of flint were recovered from the residue.

C.1.12 Sample 3 from fill 1125 of ditch 1111 produced a poor flot. Recovered grain is clinkered and fragmented limiting identifiability. A charred speedwell seed (*Veronica* sp.) and hazelnut shell fragment were also recovered along with a few glume base fragments. Flint was recovered from the residue.

C.1.13 Sample 4 from fill 1104 of ditch 1103 produced a poor flot. Grain is slightly fragmentary but is probably wheat. Pottery and flint were recovered from the residue.

C.1.14 Four fragments of charcoal were hand recovered from fill 1128 of posthole 1127. These fragments are larger and in better condition than all other charcoal recovered from flotation and likely represent the only viable identifiable charcoal recovered during the evaluation.

Discussion

C.1.15 The recovery of charred material on this site appears poor with limited quantities of material that has poor preservation. In many samples the grain is fragmentary and clinkered hindering identification. Based on the occasional glume base fragments found throughout the assemblage the wheat is glume wheat, but the bases are too fragmentary to carry identifications any further. Charcoal is of limited potential with nearly all fragments <4mm in size and usually less abundant in the flots than anthracite like material.

C.1.16 Several of the sampled features were interpreted as being part of a barrow during excavation which could explain the low levels of material recovery since these features, and ditches in general, are only likely to include significant quantities of charred plant remains if located close to settlement, crop drying features, or if they were used for ceremonial activities involving fire.

Recommendations for retention/disposal

C.1.17 The flots warrant retention until all works on site are complete though further work is not expected to be required at this time. The material, whilst limited, is of prehistoric date and should still be retained as part of the final site archive.

Sample no.	Context no.	Feature / Deposit	Trench	Date	Sample vol. (L)	Flot vol. (ml)	Charcoal >2mm	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other Charred	Molluscs	Notes
1	1110	1109	11	EIA	35	16	++	++			+		10YR 5/8 sandy clay. Natural flints.
2	1107	1106	11	IA	40	10	+	+		+			10YR 4/6 sandy silt loam. Occasional natural flints.
3	1125	1111	11	IA	36	18	++	+	+	+	+		7.5YR 4/4 sandy silt loam. Occasional natural flints.
4	1104	1103	11	MIA	40	20	++	+					7.5YR 4/4 sandy silt loam. Occasional natural flints.
5	603	602	6	M-LIA	34	40	+	+		+			7.5YR 3/4 sandy silt. Natural flints.
6	403	402	4	MBA	31	20	++	+					7.5YR 5/4 sandy silt loam.
7	512	507	5		32	10	+	+					7.5YR 5/6 sandy clay. Natural flints.
8	501	501	5	M-LIA	36	20	+	++	+				7.5YR 4/6 sandy clay. Large clay lumps and gravel.
9	508	503	5		40	10	+	+	+				7.5YR 4/4 sandy silt loam. Occasional natural flints.

Key: +=present (up to 5 items), +=frequent (5-25), +++=common (25-100), ++++=abundant (100+). Other charred includes nutshell.

Table 5: *Assessment of bulk samples.*

C.2 Animal bone

By Rebecca Nicholson

C.2.1 A single sheep/goat tooth weighing 7g was recovered from context 1001.

C.2.2 No further work is recommended.

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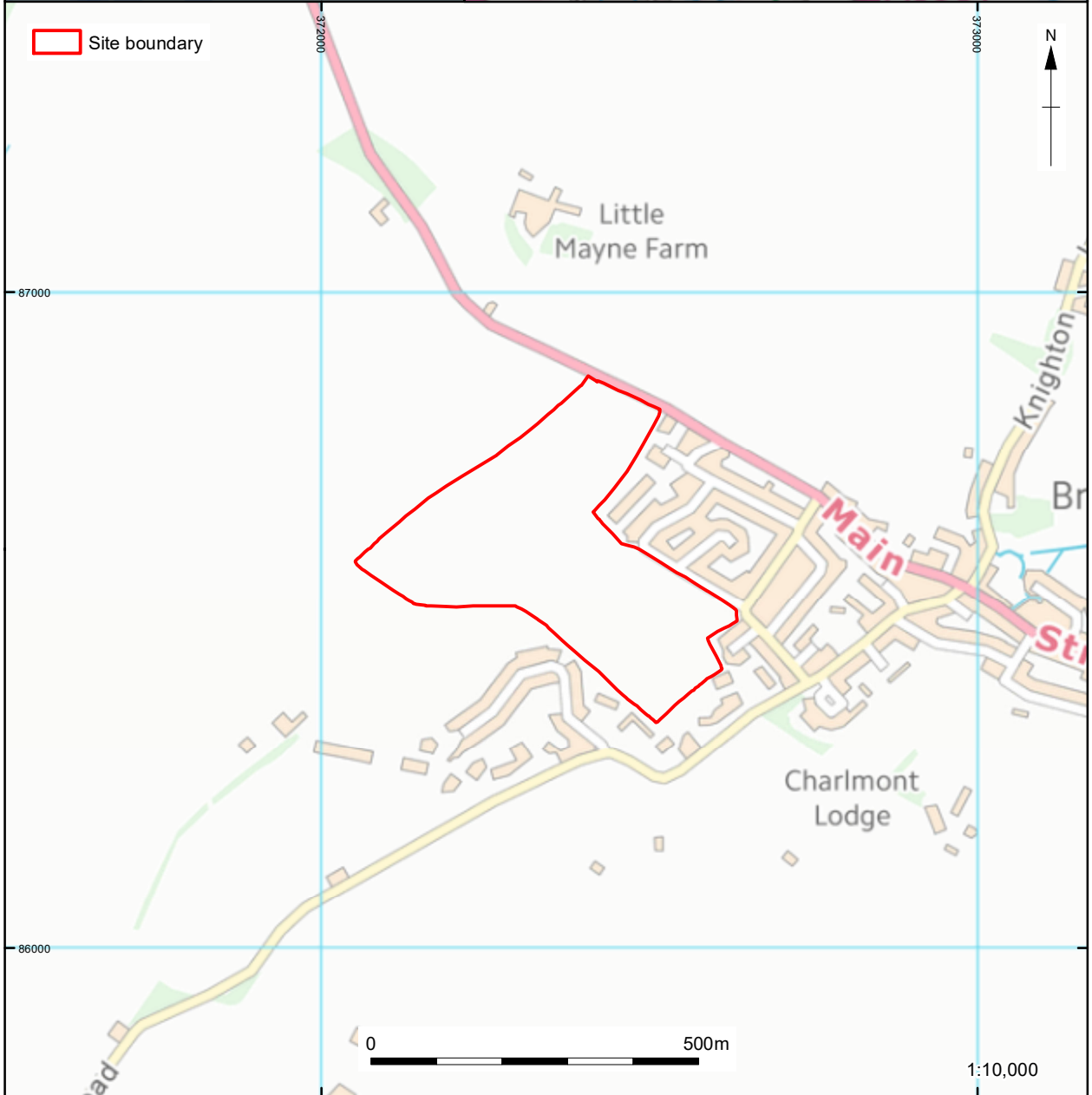
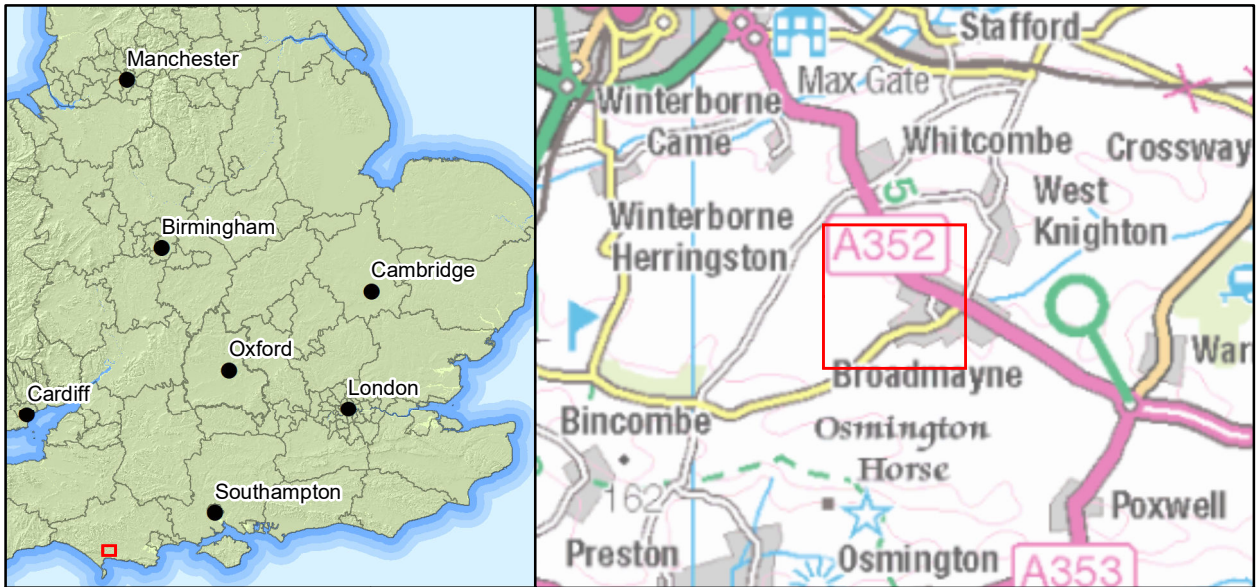
APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	Land at Broadmayne, Dorset
Site code:	BRMYEV22
Grid Reference	SY 72355 86580
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	January 2022 – one week
Area of Site	13ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Dorset County Museum in due course.
Summary of Results:	Between 10 th and 14 th January 2022 Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on the site of a proposed development at Broadmayne, Dorset. The works comprised the excavation of 12 trenches.

Targeting the results of a geophysical survey, the evaluation identified remains of prehistoric and later date. Although middle Neolithic pottery was recovered from a ditch and a colluvial deposit, the earliest feature identified was a middle Bronze Age pit.

The most notable feature on site was a sizable D-shaped enclosure of suspected Iron Age date. A substantial assemblage of middle Neolithic to Bronze Age struck flint was recovered from the ditches that define the enclosure and alludes to earlier activity within the immediate vicinity.

Evidence of later activity was limited to land management ditches and chalk extraction pits of suspected medieval or later date.



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Figure 1: Site location



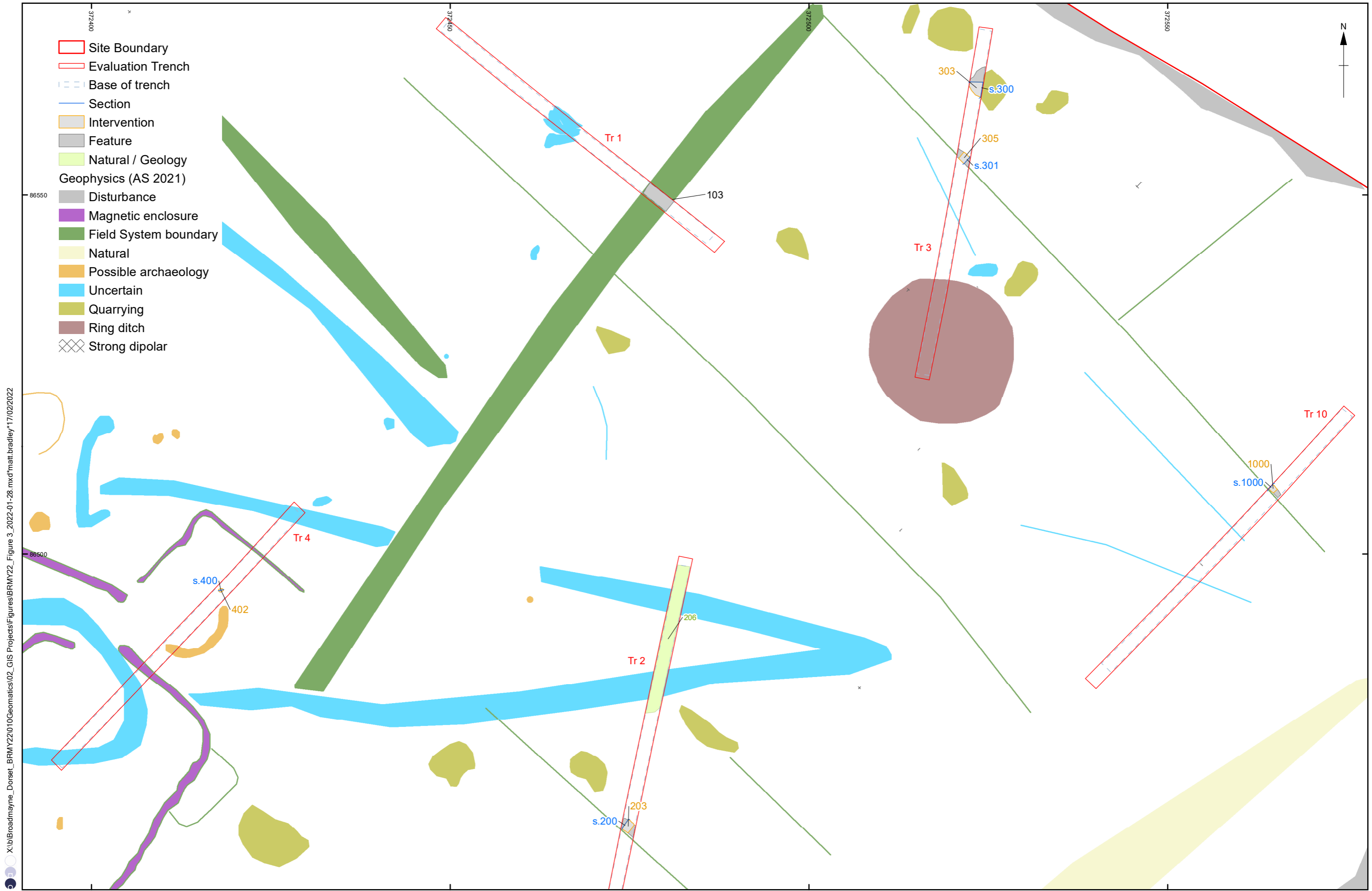
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- Site Boundary
- Evaluation Trench
- Feature
- Colluvial deposit
- Service
- 5 Metre exclusion around services
- Geophysics (AS 2021)
- Debris
- Disturbance
- Magnetic enclosure
- Field System boundary
- Natural
- Probable archaeology
- Possible archaeology
- Uncertain
- Quarrying
- Ring ditch
- Strong dipolar

0 1:2,500 @ A3 100m

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Figure 2: Trench locations and Geophysical survey results



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Figure 3: Detailed plan of Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, and 10

0 1:500 @ A3 25m

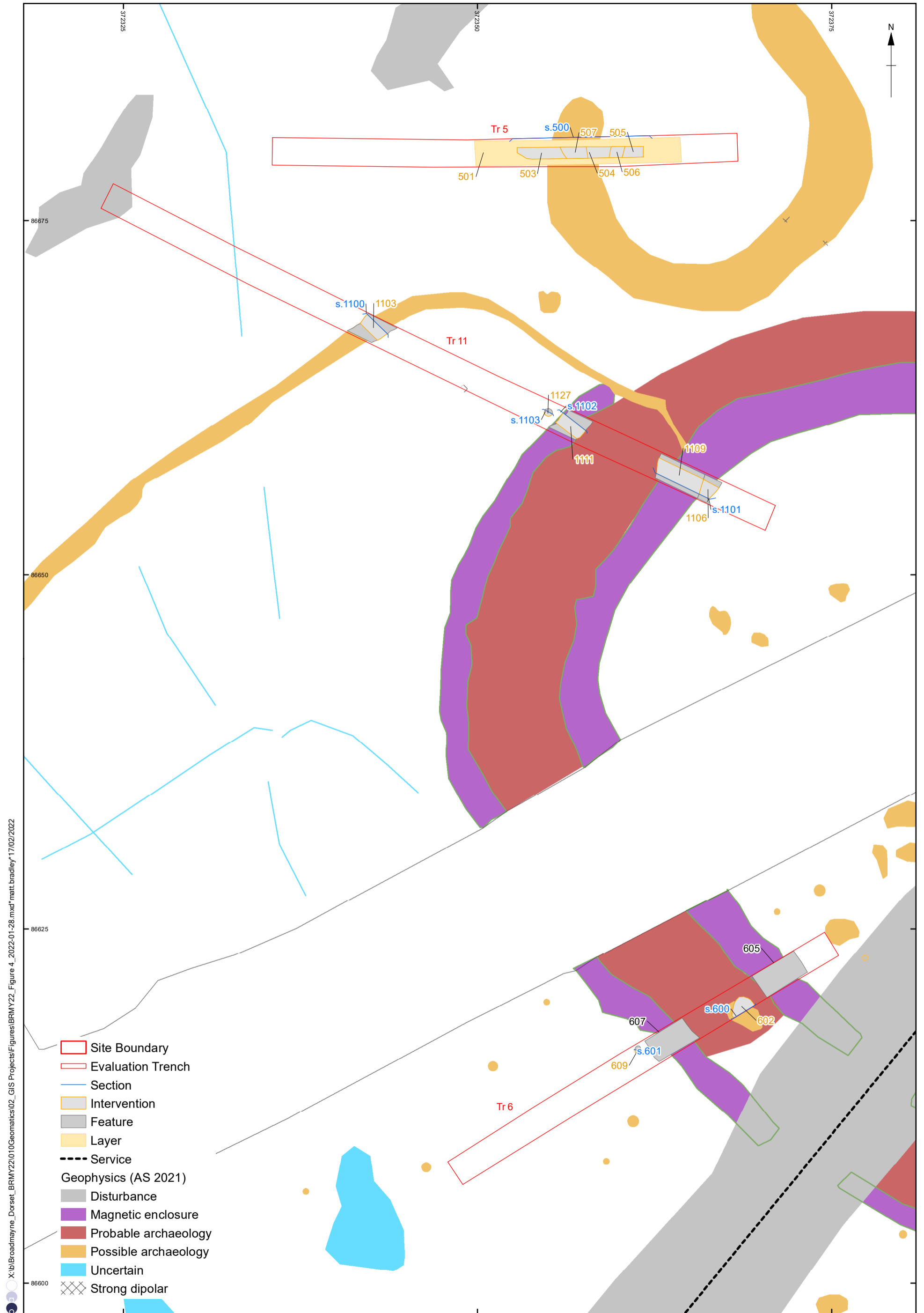


Figure 4: Detailed plan of Trenches 5, 6, and 11

0 1:250 @ A3 25m

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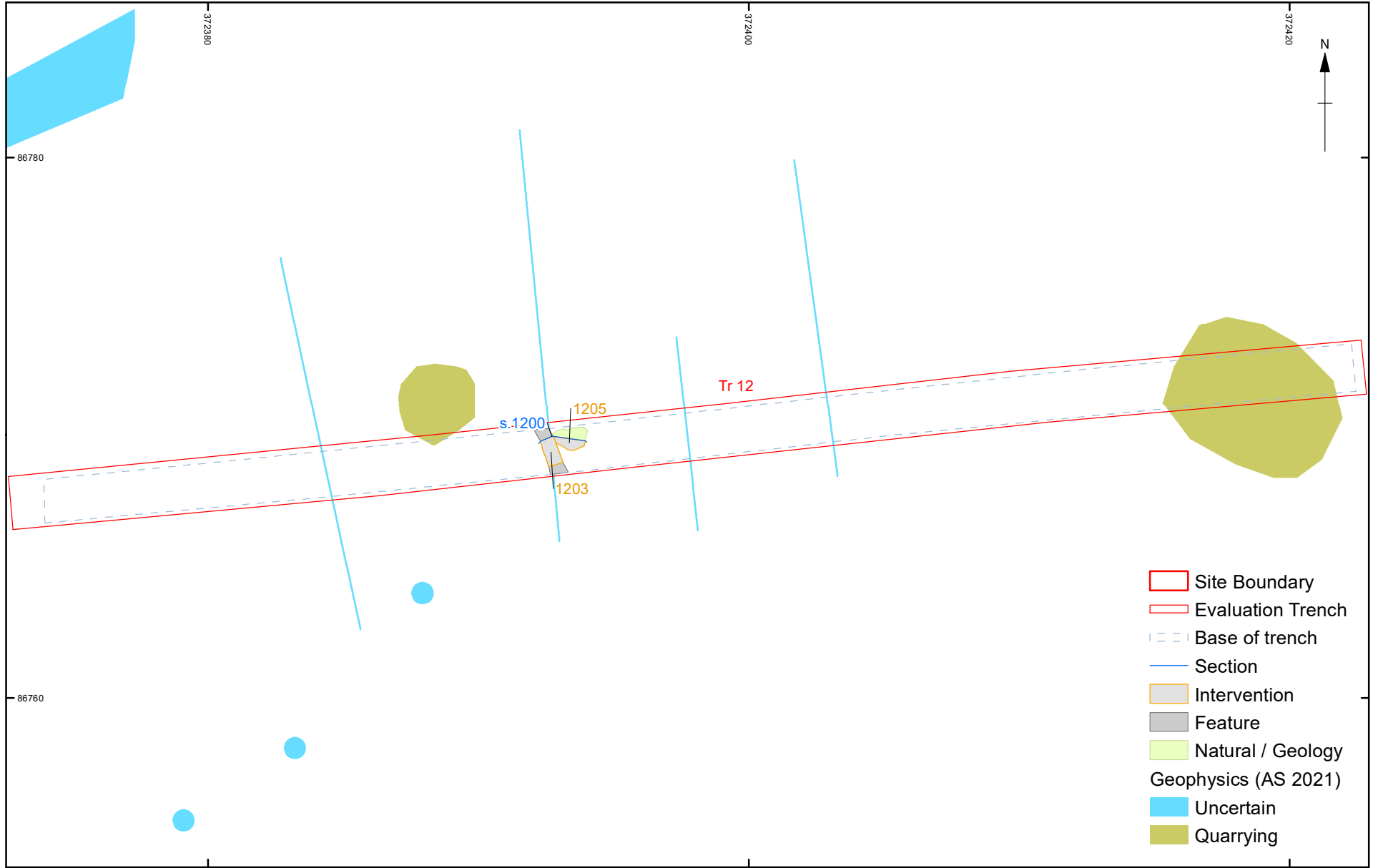


Figure 5: Detailed plan of Trench 12

0 1:200 @ A3 10m

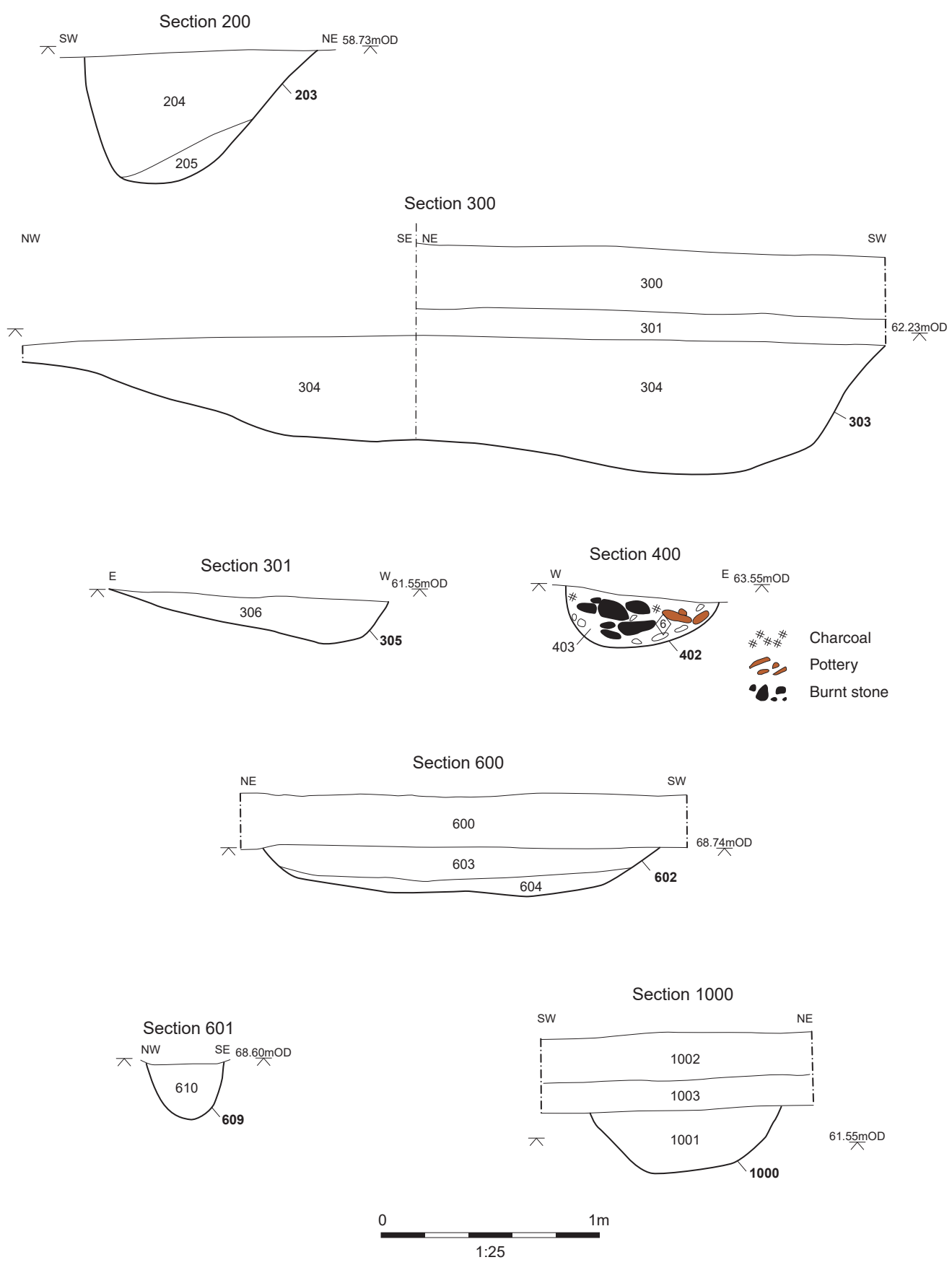


Figure 6: Sections 200, 300, 301, 400, 600, 601 and 1000

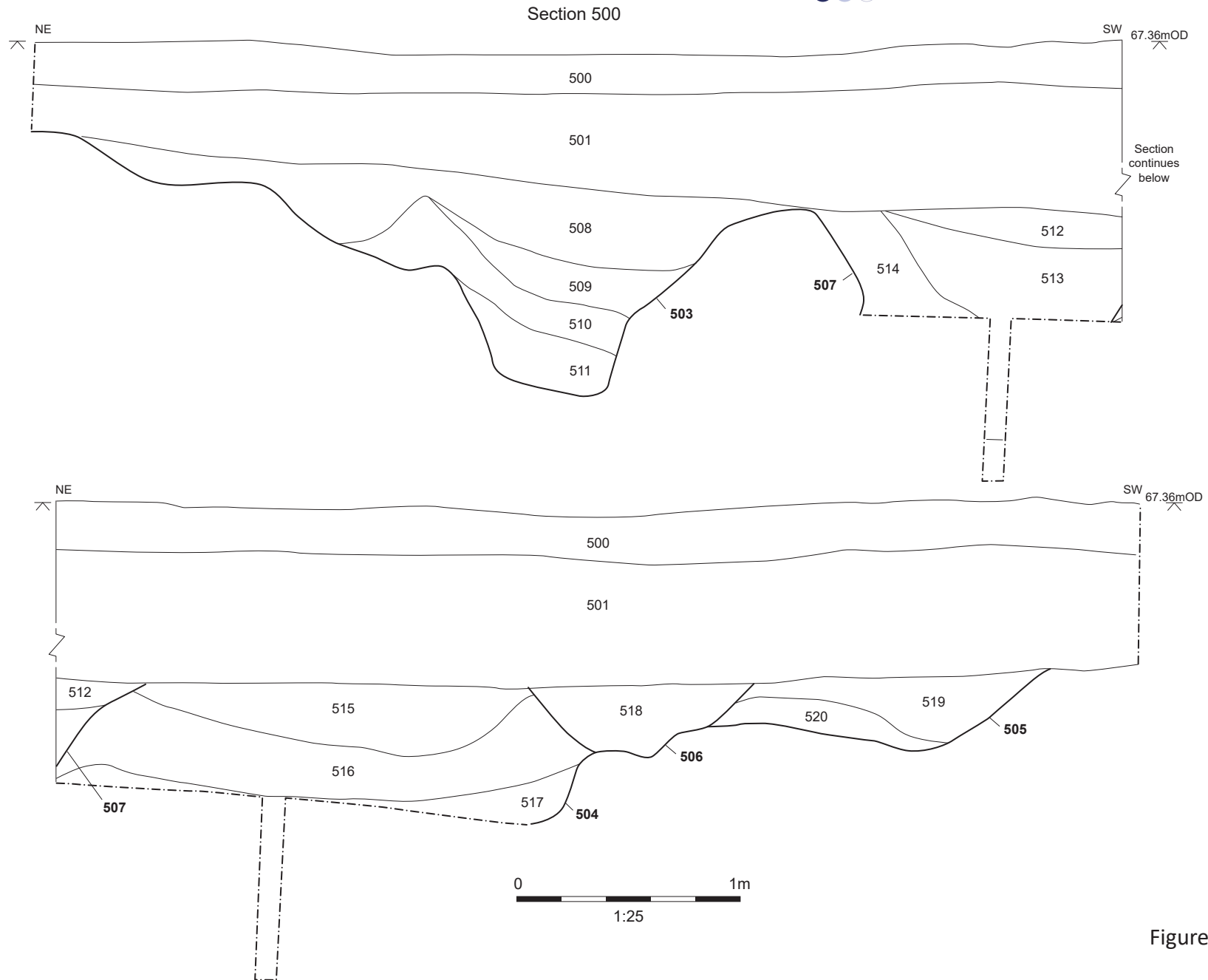


Figure 7: Section 500

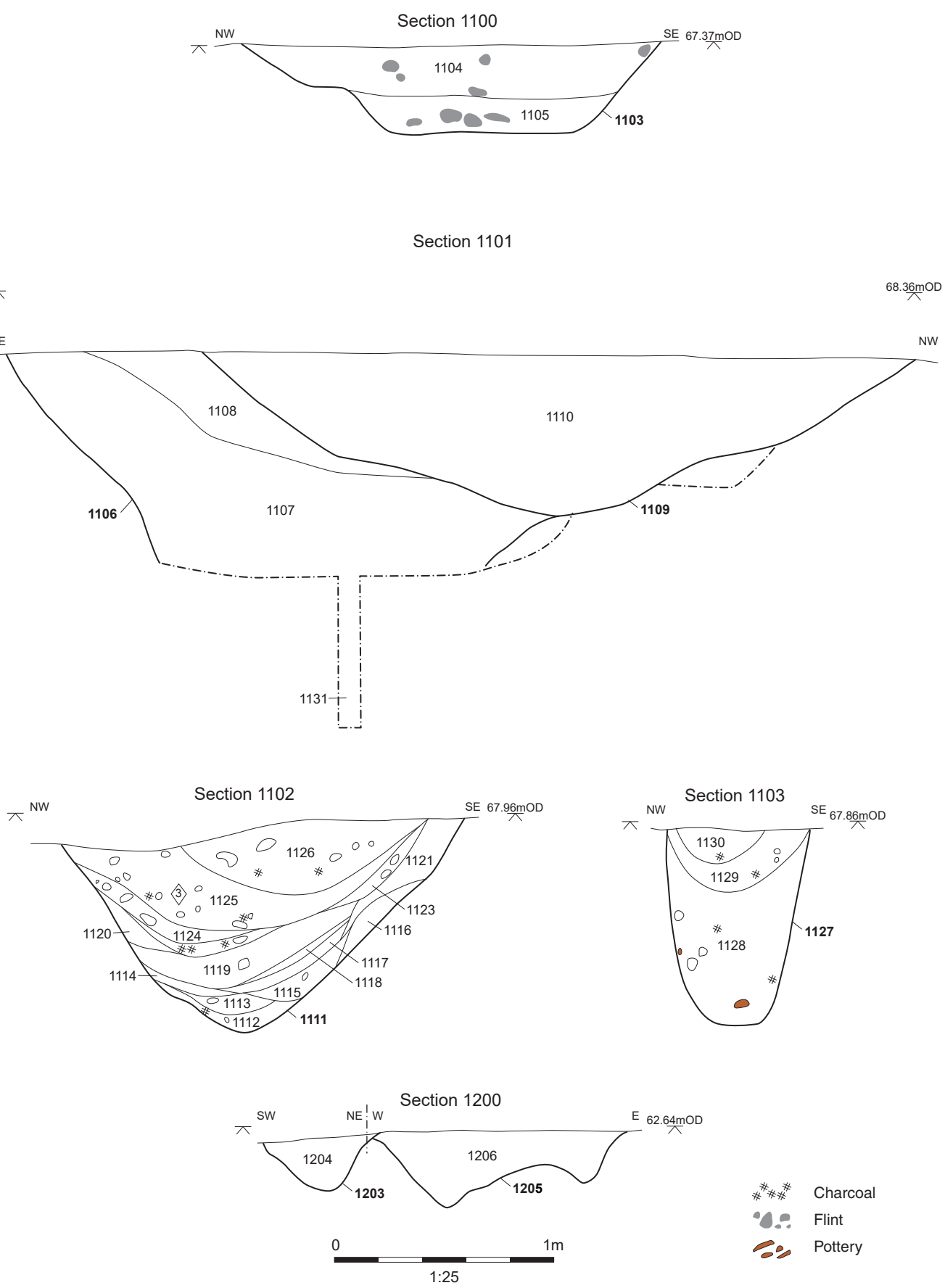


Figure 8: Sections 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103 and 1200



Plate 1: Trench 3, view to NE



Plate 2: Pit 303, view to NE



Plate 3: Ditch 305, view to SE



Plate 4: Pit 402, view to NE



Plate 5: Trench 5, view to W



Plate 6: Oblique shot of Section 500 showing ditches 503, 504, 505, 506 and 507, view to NW



Plate 7: Trench 11, view to NW

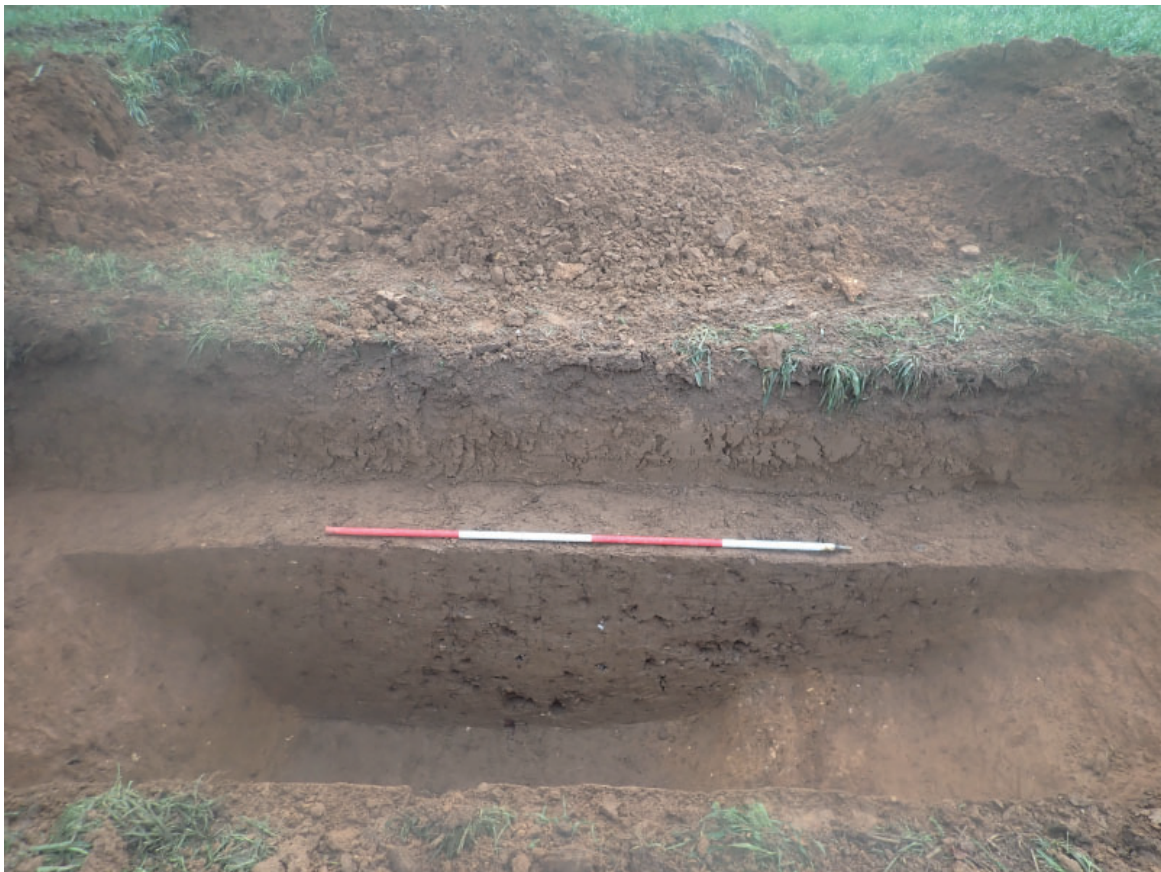


Plate 8: Section 1101, showing ditches 1106 and 1109, view to NE



Plate 9: Ditch 1111, view to NE



Plate 10: Posthole 1127, view to NE



Plate 11: Ditch 1103, view to NE



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

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

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>



Chief Executive Officer
Ken Welsh, BSc, MCIFA
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