# Land at Blood Hill Bramford Suffolk

## Archaeological Evaluation Report

Oxford Archaeology

June 2004

**Client Name:**
**A F Howland Associates**

Issue No: 1
OA Job No: 2082
NGR: TM 114 484

| | |
|---|---|
| **Client Name:** | A F Howland Asociates |
| **Client Ref No:** | n/a |
| **Document Title:** | Land at Blood Hill, Bramford, Suffolk |
| **Document Type:** | Evaluation |
| **Issue Number:** | 1 |
| National Grid Reference: | TM 114 484 |
| Planning Reference: | MS/566/98 |
| OA Job Number: | 2082 |
| Site Code: | BRF 068 |
| Invoice Code: | BRBL00 EV |
| Museum Accession No: | n/a |
| Prepared by: | Alan Ford |
| Position: | Supervisor |
| Date: | 20th February 2004 |
| Checked by: | David Score |
| Position: | Senior Project Manager |
| Date: | 24th February 2004 |
| Approved by: | Adrian Hadley Signed..... |
| Position: | A F Howland Associates |
| Date: | June 2004 |
| Document File Location | X:\Blood Hill, Bramford\Blood Hill eval rep.doc |
| Graphics File Location | \\Server4\oaupubs1/AtoH*BRBLOO*Blood Hill*LM*11.12.03_ |
| Illustrated by | Lucy Martin |



**Oxford Archaeology**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

# LAND AT BLOOD HILL
# BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK

## *ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT*

CONTENTS


SUMMARY ..... 1
INTRODUCTION ..... 2
Location and Scope of Work ..... 2
Geology and Topography ..... 2
Archaeological and Historical Background ..... 2
EVALUATION AIMS ..... 5
EVALUATION METHODOLOGY ..... 6
Fieldwork Methods and Recording ..... 6
Finds ..... 6
Palaeo-environmental Evidence ..... 6
Presentation of Results ..... 7
RESULTS: GENERAL ..... 8
Soils and Ground Conditions ..... 8
Distribution of Archaeological Deposits ..... 8
RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS ..... 9
Description of Deposits ..... 9
FINDS ..... 12
Copper Alloy Buckle - Leigh Allen (OA) ..... 12
Prehistoric Pottery - Emily Edwards (OA) ..... 12
Lithics - Kate Cramp (OA) ..... 12
Paleoenvironmental Remains - Claire Sampson (OA) ..... 13
DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION ..... 14
Reliability of Field Investigation ..... 14
Overall Interpretation ..... 14
Summary ..... 15

Appendix 1: References
Appendix 2: Archaeological Context Inventory
Appendix 3: Summary of Site Details
Appendix 4: Drawings

## SUMMARY

*Between the 17th and 28th November 2003 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation on land at Blood Hill, Bramford, Suffolk on behalf of A F Howland Associates. The evaluation revealed archaeological features in the form of a pit and a ditch. Pottery and flints from these were dated to the Bronze Age, indicating that the site is on the edge of an area of prehistoric activity. Additionally, a probable Medieval boundary ditch, a number of undated pits and an undated ditch were also investigated.*

# INTRODUCTION

## Location and Scope of Work

1.1.1 The scheme area is situated upon the south-east facing slopes of Blood Hill, Bramford, Suffolk (centred at National Grid Reference TM 114 484). The site at Blood Hill overlooks the valley and flood plain of the River Gipping.

1.1.2 The proposed extraction site is to be located immediately adjacent to the existing landfill area, bounded by Pound Lane to the north and by Somersham Road to the west.

1.1.3 Planning permission for the extraction of sand, gravel and chalk at Blood Hill, Bramford (MS/566/98) was updated in 2001. The updated permission included a condition for a programme of archaeological investigation prior to the commencement of the scheme.

1.1.4 A Brief for an archaeological evaluation was prepared by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team. Oxford Archaeology (OA) was appointed by A F Howland Associates to undertake the archaeological work in accordance with their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).

## Geology and Topography

1.1.5 The site slopes downward to the east and south from *c.* 15-40m OD. The underlying geology is sand and gravel over chalk.

## Archaeological and Historical Background

1.1.6 The archaeological potential of the project had been outlined in a desk based assessment prepared by A F Howland Associates (2002) and is reproduced below.

1.1.7 There are a number of locations within the surrounding area of Blood Hill that have yielded evidence representative of important archaeological/historical periods. The evidence includes information recovered by incidental discoveries of both artefacts and features and from organised fieldwork investigations; the details of which are recorded on the Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) held by Suffolk County Council.

1.1.8 The SMR indicates that there was an area approximately 50m to the south of the development zone that was recognised to have yielded a 'dense concentration of pot-boilers' which was spread across an area of approximately 10-15 metres (NGR: TM 1128 4828). The feature was considered to be an indication of a Burnt Mound, which are often of prehistoric origin. The term pot-boilers is applied to the medium sized (*c.* 0.10-0.20m diameter) cobblestones that were once heated by fire and then placed within water for the purpose of raising the water temperature. Many of the pot-boilers appear at the surface as a spread of shattered cobble fragments that have fractured as

consequence of sudden quenching and they are often situated amongst a thickness of burnt debris from the fire in which they were heated.

1.1.9 There are several theories put forward about the origin and function of these features that range from the cooking of meat carcasses to bathing and textile production. Additionally, examples from elsewhere – including the East Anglian fens - have on occasions yielded inhumation beneath the cobble spreads that evoke theories of ritual or funerary practice.

1.1.10 The extent of remnant burnt mounds is known to vary considerably between little more than a scattered spread of cobblestones to an elevated mound made of burnt material and cobblestones. The 10-15m extent of the 'pot-boiler' spread within the development zone is considerable and suggests that the feature may indeed potentially yield a central pit or trough. Often lined with either stone or wood, these central troughs would have contained the water that was heated and there is generally the site of a hearth situated nearby.

1.1.11 This particular location however, on the south-east face of Blood Hill, appears unusual because most examples from elsewhere are often situated much closer to a natural source of water. The River Gipping currently navigates the floodplain approximately 1.2km east of the proposed development zone and although the position of the river during prehistory is undetermined, it would probably have been situated at an average of 1km from the site.

1.1.12 As a tentative suggestion in support of there having been being prehistoric activity upon the slopes of Blood Hill, it was observed during a site visit that the topography of the south-east slope exhibits relatively flat platforms that exhibit a potential of occupation.

1.1.13 Other archaeological activity has been recorded upon the slopes of Blood Hill that have included materials of Palaeolithic artefacts, Roman artefacts, a record of Medieval features and associated finds.

1.1.14 During the abstraction of chalk at the location of the present landfill site, Palaeolithic artefacts were recovered along with the discovery of a Medieval Well. Pottery fragments recovered from deposits at the bottom of the well indicated the feature to be 13$^{th}$ century. The feature was approximately 49 feet deep and three feet in diameter and it was interpreted to have been rapidly backfilled during the 13$^{th}$ century: associated dwellings have not yet been located.

1.1.15 Close to the southern extent of the proposed development zone, the Suffolk County Council sites and monument record reports the recovery of a number of Roman artefacts. Scatters of early Romano-British coarse-ware pottery, a brooch and several

coins dated *c.* AD286-340 have been discovered. A coin, a *denarius of Tiberius* (AD14-37), was also recovered by metal detection within the immediate vicinity.

1.1.16 Field name analysis of the 1839 tithe map for the parish of Little Blakenham indicates that the area of the proposed development was once a field named Little Camping Field. Conjectural inference suggests that the name is a reference to the game of "camping-ball" which was a traditional game of apparent violence. An account of 1840 describes a game of 'camping' on Diss Common between the people of Norfolk and Suffolk that resulted in nine fatalities.

1.1.17 In summary, the assessment recognises that archaeological remains may survive *in situ* within the proposed extraction site. In particular, an area of high archaeological potential is indicated within the south-west area of the site, at the known location of a 'dense concentration of pot-boilers'. These artefacts are inferred to represent a possible prehistoric Burnt Mound.

## EVALUATION AIMS

1.1.18 The aims of the evaluation were to determine the location, extent, date, character, and state of preservation of any archaeological remains surviving on the site.

1.1.19 Attention was to be given to remains of all periods. This was to include evidence for past environments, with a provision for environmental sampling.

1.1.20 The evaluation would seek to clarify the nature and extent of any modern disturbance and intrusion on the site.

1.1.21 The results of the evaluation were to be made available in the form of a written report.

## EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

### Fieldwork Methods and Recording

1.1.22 The evaluation trenches formed a 5% sample of the 3.97 hectare site. Thirty seven trenches measuring 30 x 1.8m were excavated. Additional trenching was undertaken to clarify areas of archaeological potential. The location of the trenches is shown in Fig. 2.

1.1.23 The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under the direction of an archaeological supervisor. Excavation proceeded to the first significant archaeological horizon, which in this case coincided with the surface of the natural geology.

1.1.24 A representative sample of the features were excavated by hand in order to determine their depth, extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. Where finds were visible in the surface of unexcavated features, these were retained. All features and deposits encountered were issued a unique context number. The spoil tips were inspected visually for the presence of artefacts. The trenches and spoil tips were scanned with a metal detector for metal artefacts.

1.1.25 A plan was drawn of each trench at a scale of 1:100, and each excavated feature was recorded in section at 1:10. Colour transparency and black-and-white photographs were taken of each feature, as well as more general shots of each trench. All recording was conducted in accordance with the practices detailed in the OA Fieldwork Manual (OAU, 1992).

1.1.26 The trenches were surveyed using a total station theodolite (TST). Levels were taken relative to Ordnance Datum.

### Finds

1.1.27 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context.

### Palaeo-environmental Evidence

1.1.28 A single sample was taken from Pit 304 in Trench 3 in order to assess the likely quality of any environmental remains from this area.

## Presentation of Results

1.1.29 A general description of the soils and ground conditions is given. This is followed by descriptions of the individual trenches and finds, with a brief discussion of the results. Details of individual contexts are given in Appendix 2.

## RESULTS: GENERAL

### Soils and Ground Conditions

1.1.30 A fairly uniform topsoil 0.2 to 0.4 m deep was encountered which overlay a sandy subsoil that thickened to a deep colluvium up to 1.4 m deep in a band running approximately south to north across the centre of the site from Trenches 3 and 14 to Trenches 15 and 22. At the top of the slope Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 10, and 12 lacked a significant subsoil as did the trenches towards the base of the north-eastern and eastern slope (29 - 37). A series of erosion gullies bisected the eastern slope on a west to east axis. The natural was confirmed to be a mixture of sand and fine gravel with periglacial scarring across the whole site and some outcrops of boulder clay across the centre of the site.

### Distribution of Archaeological Deposits

1.1.31 A total of nine trenches (3, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 27, 28 and 35) contained archaeological features or deposits. Overall there was a grouping of trenches containing archaeology along the southern margin of the site.

## RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

### Description of Deposits

*Trenches 1, 2, 4 - 13, 16, 18, 20 -26, 29 -34, 36 and 37*

1.1.32 No archaeological deposits or features were encountered in these trenches. A modern post hole (2108) was noted within Trench 21. Trench 9 was extended to the west by 10m in an attempt to identify features associated with those in Trench 3.

***Trench 3; Ditch 308, Pit 304, Stakehole 306 and Boundary 312 (Fig. 3)***

1.1.33 Trench 3 was the closest intervention to the location of the burnt mound previously discovered to the south of the site. This trial trench was extended in order to determine the extent of archaeological activity across this part of the site. Trench 3 was excavated a further 12 m to the east. An open area, of approximately 10m square was also created around the location of Pit 304 and Ditch 308.

1.1.34 A ditch (308) 1.4 m wide and 0.3 m deep was identified extending beyond the limits of the trench. This ditch had a distinct dog leg at its southern end prior to its truncation by feature 311 (interpreted as a boundary ditch). Ditch 308 was filled by a reddish brown sandy silt (305) containing flints, identified as Neolithic or Bronze Age in date, and had been deposited in the ditch from the west suggesting the presence of a low bank adjacent to this side. Ditch 308 truncated a shallow pit (304).

1.1.35 Pit 304 was sub oval in shape extending c.3 m north-west to south-east and c.1.25 m wide. The pit was 0.28 m deep and contained a single fill of blackish brown silty clay (303) containing charcoal and burnt flints, including shattered cobbles. Sherds of prehistoric pottery and struck flints, probably Bronze Age in date, were also recovered from it.

1.1.36 A single stakehole (306) lay c.4 m to the west of pit 304 and ditch 308. This stakehole had a distinct v profile and appeared to have been inserted from the east. The stakehole contained a single fill (307) with traces of charcoal.

1.1.37 The latest feature in Trench 3 occupied the extension excavated to the south of the trench. This comprised a spread of dark greyish brown clay silt (312) the fill of 311 that truncated ditch 308. This material was not excavated but its location and apparent east-west alignment suggested that it was the top of a large boundary ditch investigated in Trenches 27 and 28.

*Trench 14; Pit 1404 (Fig. 4)*

1.1.38 Trench 14 contained a single feature (1404) that extended beyond the eastern edge of the trench. Within the trench, this pit measured 3.54m in length, 1.77m in width, and was 0.79m deep. The feature was characterised by near vertical sides and an irregular base. The primary fill (1405) comprised a brown sandy clay, 0.4m deep, with inclusions of boulder clay and chalk; indicating that this feature was deliberately backfilled. The material slumped from the north. This deposit was overlain by material indistinguishable from the sandy subsoil (1402).

1.1.39 A fragment of pot rim and a flint were recovered from the colluvium (1402). The pottery was identified as being possibly Late Bronze Age in date.

*Trench 15; Pit 1504*

1.1.40 Trench 15 contained a single circular pit (1504), 0.9m in diameter and 0.2m deep, filled by a single deposit of burnt material (1505). There was no evidence to indicate that the natural sand (1503) had been heated, suggesting that the burning did not take place *in situ.*

*Trench 17; Pits 1705 and 1708. (Fig. 4)*

1.1.41 Trench 17 contained two pits (1705, 1708). Pit 1705 was similar to pit 1404. The latest pit (1708) must be recent as it is clearly cut from immediately under the topsoil. Pit 1705 was 4.25 m long north to south, 1.25 m east to west, and 0.30 m in depth. Its primary fill consisted of an orangey brown silty sand (1706) 0.18 m deep containing fragments of chalk, indicative of deliberate backfill. Fill 1706 was overlain by a brown silty sand (1707) which also contained fragments of chalk. This was sealed by colluvium (1703), suggesting an early date for pit 1705.

*Trenches 27 and 28; Boundary Ditch 2705, 2809 and burnt material 2703 (Fig. 5)*

1.1.42 Trenches 27 and 28 were both extended 5 m southwards to investigate a ditch (2705, 2809) that was present on a west to east axis. This ditch was investigated in Trench 27 (2705) where it was identified as being over 3m wide and 0.9 m deep. The primary fill (2706) was a yellow brown clay silt 0.4 m deep from which a copper alloy buckle of 14th - 15th century date was recovered. Above this was a slump of material from the south (2707) consisting of a dark brown silty sand 0.25 m thick suggesting a bank existed to the south. Evidence for a bank also existing to the north was demonstrated by 2708 a similar material to 2707 0.3 m thick that had slumped from the north. A hedge may have occupied the upper southern side of the ditch and was represented by

a loose humic horizon with roots (2709). The ditch then appears to have gradually infilled with the deposition of a dark brown sandy silt (2710) 0.30 m thick containing large roots, again suggesting the presence of a more recent hedgeline. Finally subsoil or bank material appears to have been pushed across the infilled ditch from the north, represented by 2711 and 2712 leaving a slight terrace on which subsoil (2713) has accumulated.

1.1.43 This ditch noted above (2705) was also present but not fully investigated in the southern extension to Trench 28.

1.1.44 A small patch of burnt material (2703), less than 0.3m across, was noted within Trench 27.

*Trench 35; Ditch 3503 (Fig.6)*

1.1.45 A single ditch (3503) extended along most of the northern side of Trench 35. The trench was extended to the north in order to recover a full profile of this feature. The ditch was ascertained to be 1.2m wide and 0.35m deep. The feature appears to have been filled from the north by a series of sandy fills (3504, 3505 and 3506). These fills potentially indicate the presence of a bank to the north of the ditch.

1.1.46 A single flint identified as Neolithic or Mesolithic in date was recovered from the subsoil (3502).

## FINDS

### Copper Alloy Buckle - Leigh Allen (OA)

1.1.47 A copper alloy double oval buckle frame complete with pin was recovered from the primary fill 2706 of the boundary ditch 2705. Buckles of this type became popular in the late 14th - early 15th centuries. This artefact may be dated to this period.

### Prehistoric Pottery - Emily Edwards (OA)

1.1.48 A total of five flint tempered sherds were recovered from Blood Hill, deriving from colluvial deposit 1402 and the fill (303) of pit 304. The artefacts comprise four body sherds and one rim sherd. These may date to the Late Bronze Age.

1.1.49 The fabrics contained common flint, sized up to 7 mm although most measure approximately 1 mm in size. The small size of the flint inclusions suggests a late Bronze Age date. The flint is likely to have been acquired locally.

1.1.50 These sherds are difficult to date positively due to their size, level of abrasions and lack of distinguishing features. The small rim sherd from 1402 is a simple flat topped rim found in the late Bronze Age (Barrett 1980, 304). The fabric also points to a late Bronze Age date (plain ware phase of the Late Bronze Age).

1.1.51 The sherds were small and some of the breaks were very abraded. The pottery is well fired although it should be considered to be fragile.

*Table 1 Pottery by weight from Bloodhill Suffolk*

| Context | Sherd count | Weight (g) | Pot Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 303 | 4 | 15 | LBA? |
| 1402 | 1 | 3 | LBA? |

### Lithics - Kate Cramp (OA)

1.1.52 A total of 20 struck flints were thinly distributed between six contexts (Table 2). A further 68 pieces of burnt unworked flint weighing 2767 g were recovered from two contexts (Table 3). The majority of the burnt unworked flint came from context 303 and includes two very large nodules weighing 610 g and 1037 g each.

1.1.53 The struck flints were uncorticated and in variable condition. Several pieces were heavily rolled and damaged, particularly those from unstratified contexts. The assemblage was composed entirely of unretouched types and was dominated by flakes.

The majority were undiagnostic, but are likely to date broadly to the Neolithic or Bronze Age on general technological and morphological grounds. A small number of blades and bladelike flakes were also recovered, some of which exhibited platform edge abrasion and were probably struck using soft-hammer percussion. Examples include the bladelike flake from context 1402 and the blade from context 3502. A Mesolithic or Neolithic date is most appropriate for these pieces.

*Table 2: Struck flint by type from Blood Hill, Suffolk.*

| Category: | Context: | | | | | | Total: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 0 | 302 | 303 | 305 | 1402 | 3502 | |
| Flake | 6 | 5 | 2 | 2 | | | 15 |
| Blade-like flake | | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 |
| Blade | | | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| Irregular waste | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Total: | 6 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 20 |

*Table 3: Burnt unworked flint from Blood Hill, Suffolk.*

| | Context: | | Total: |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 303 | 2703 | |
| Total no. of pieces: | 64 | 4 | 68 |
| Total weight (g): | 2750 | 17 | 2767 |

**Paleoenvironmental Remains - Claire Sampson (OA)**

1.1.54 During the evaluation one sample (<1> (303)) was taken for the recovery of charred plant remains. The feature sampled was a pit which is thought to be Bronze Age in date. The sample was processed in a modified Siraf machine, with the flot retained on a 250μm mesh.

1.1.55 The flot was quite small (20ml) and had a moderate amount of modern roots in it. The rest of the flot was made up of charcoal, with a small amount of >2mm charcoal present (between 1 and 5 pieces). No charred plant remains were noted within the sample. The presence of charcoal along with the burnt flint and bone from the residue indicates that this was likely to be a dump deposit of domestic waste.

## DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

### Reliability of Field Investigation

1.1.56 The field evaluation encountered a natural of clays, sands and gravels, within which features could clearly be observed. Overall the spatial distribution of trenches aided in qualifying this site as having a low density of archaeology. The results of the evaluation are considered to provide a fair representation of the archaeological potential of this site.

### Overall Interpretation

1.1.57 The most significant remains lay towards the southern boundary of the site; in Trenches 3, 27 and 28.

1.1.58 The presence of a pit (304) containing burnt flints, including shattered cobbles, and prehistoric pottery in Trench 3, the closest trench to the area of the Burnt Mound, previously identified during the Desk Based Assessment, indicates that prehistoric activity associated with this burnt mound extends onto the southern limit of the site. Trenches 3 and 9 were both extended in an attempt to pick up any more evidence for activity associated with the burnt mound but without success. It is highly probable that further prehistoric deposits will be identified within the south western corner of the proposed extraction site.

1.1.59 The boundary ditch identified in Trenches 3, 21, 27 and 28 is situated along the southern limit of the proposed site. This ditch appears to have originally had a bank on both sides as indicated by the slump of materials 2707 and 2708. A small hedge (indicated by context 2709) may also have marked the southern boundary of the ditch before it was gradually infilled (by deposit 2710) over a period of time. Another hedgeline appears to have been established after this episode. The remaining hollow appears to have been graded over in the more recent past (by deposits 2711and 2712). The buckle retrieved from the primary ditch fill (2706) suggests that this field boundary was established in the Late Medieval period. The boundary is clearly shown on the tithe map of 1847, as well as the Ordnance Survey County Series. The feature is last marked on the 1:10,000 edition of 1977.

1.1.60 A series of undated pits were found across the centre of the site in Trenches 14, 15 and 17. Pit 1708 in Trench 17 was interpreted as a modern feature; cut from directly under the topsoil. Pits 1404, 1504 and 1705 were sealed by colluvial deposits 1402, 1502 and 1703, respectively; potentially indicating an early date for these features. The function of the three irregular pits is not clear. However, the fills suggest that these features were deliberately backfilled soon after excavation, indicating that they may have been excavated for sand or gravel. Pit 1504 can also be inferred to be of relatively early date

as it is sealed by subsoil and may have been excavated for the sole purpose of depositing the burnt material (1505) it contained.

1.1.61 The shallow depth of topsoil immediately overlying the natural to the north-east of the site may have resulted in any archaeology present being destroyed by recent agricultural activity. Overall the evaluation results across the lower slopes of Blood Hill indicate that the relatively flat platforms in this area were not used for occupation, although a single undated ditch (3503) was found in Trench 35.

1.1.62 A single broken flint blade of Neolithic or Mesolithic date was recovered from the spoil from Trench 35: these artefacts cannot be used to establish a firm date for the ditch 3503. Erosion gullies on the eastern slope of the scheme area also indicate that a considerable amount of run-off has occurred in this part of the site. The finds retrieved from this slope may therefore have migrated through soil creep.

**Summary**

1.1.63 A substantial ditch was identified along the southern perimeter of the proposed scheme. The ditch is of note as a modern land boundary conforming to an alignment that had been delimited as early as the Medieval period.

1.1.64 Additional archaeological features were identified within the south-west corner of the site. These features have been interpreted as deriving from settlement activity ascribed to the Bronze Age.

1.1.65 The evaluation results indicate that the prehistoric remains represent peripheral features; the local topography suggests that the focus of the prehistoric settlement is situated to the south of the proposed scheme. The location of the previously identified burnt flints, to the south of the scheme area, would also support this hypothesis.

1.1.66 It is therefore highly probable that further occupation evidence will be encountered within the south-west corner of the scheme area. The density of archaeological features within this area is considered to be low.

A F HOWLAND ASSOCIATES
June 2004

## APPENDIX 1: REFERENCES


A. F. Howland Associates, 2002, *An Archaeological Assessment of Blood Hill, Little Blakenham, Bramford, Suffolk* (Unpublished client report)

Barrett, J, 1980, The pottery of the later Bronze Age in Lowland England, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, 46, 297-320

IFA, 1992, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*

OA, 2003, *Land at Blood Hill, Little Blakenham, Bramford, Suffolk, a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

OAU, 1992, *Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D. Wilkinson)

PCRG (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group), 1997, The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication, *Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group Occasional Paper 1 / 2*

# APPENDIX 2: ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

| *Context* | *Type* | *Width (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comments* | *Finds* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trench 1** | | | | | | |
| 101 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 102 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 2** | | | | | | |
| 201 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.20 | Topsoil | | |
| 202 | Layer | - | 0.20 – 0.60 | Colluvium | | |
| 203 | Layer | - | 0.60 | Natural | | |
| 204 | Layer | - | 0.60 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 3** | | | | | | |
| 301 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.28 | Topsoil | | |
| 302 | Layer | - | 0.28 – 0.50 | Subsoil | Flint | Late Bronze Age |
| 303 | Fill | 0.40 | 0.16 | Fill of 304 | Pot, Flint | Late Bronze Age |
| 304 | Cut | 0.40 | 0.16 | Pit | | Late Bronze Age |
| 305 | Fill | 0.90 | 0.38 | Fill of 308 | Flint | Late Bronze Age |
| 306 | Cut | 0.12 | 0.08 | Stakehole | | Undated |
| 307 | Fill | 0.12 | 0.08 | Fill of 306 | | Undated |
| 308 | Cut | 0.90 | 0.38 | Ditch | | Late Bronze Age |
| 309 | Fill | 1.40 | 0.30 | Fill of 304 | | Late Bronze Age |
| 310 | Layer | - | 0.50 | Natural | | |
| 311 | Cut | 1.7 + | Unknown | Ditch | | Medieval |
| 312 | Fill | 1.7 + | Unknown | Fill of 311 | | Medieval |
| **Trench 4** | | | | | | |
| 401 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 402 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| 403 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 5** | | | | | | |
| 501 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 502 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 6** | | | | | | |
| 601 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.26 | Topsoil | | |
| 602 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 7** | | | | | | |
| 701 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.32 | Topsoil | | |
| 702 | Layer | - | 0.32 – 1.20 | Natural | | |
| 703 | Layer | - | 0.32 – 0.90 | Colluvium | | |
| 704 | Layer | - | 0.90 – 1.20 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 8** | | | | | | |
| 801 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 802 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.70 | Colluvium | | |
| 803 | Layer | - | 0.70 | Natural | | |
| 804 | Layer | - | 0.70 – 0.96 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 9** | | | | | | |
| 901 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.22 | Topsoil | | |
| 902 | Layer | - | 0.22 – 0.90 | Colluvium | | |
| 903 | Layer | - | 0.90 - 1.0 | Natural | | |
| 904 | Layer | - | 1.0 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 10** | | | | | | |
| 1001 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.28 | Topsoil | | |
| 1002 | Layer | - | 0.28 | Natural | | |

| *Context* | *Type* | *Width (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comments* | *Finds* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trench 11** | | | | | | |
| 1101 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 1102 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 12** | | | | | | |
| 1201 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.22 | Topsoil | | |
| 1202 | Layer | - | 0.22 – 1.00 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 13** | | | | | | |
| 1301 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 1302 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.80 | Colluvium | | |
| 1303 | Layer | - | 0.80 – 1.38 | Natural | | |
| 1304 | Layer | - | 1.38 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 14** | | | | | | |
| 1401 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.18 | Topsoil | | |
| 1402 | Layer | - | 0.18 – 0.60 | Colluvium | Pot, Flint | Late Bronze Age |
| 1403 | Layer | - | 0.60 | Natural | | |
| 1404 | Cut | 1.70 | 0.80 | Pit | | Undated |
| 1405 | Fill | 1.70 | 0.80 | Fill of 1404 | | Undated |
| **Trench 15** | | | | | | |
| 1501 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 1502 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.74 | Subsoil | | |
| 1503 | Layer | - | 0.74 | Natural | | |
| 1504 | Cut | 0.90 | 0.20 | Pit | | Undated |
| 1505 | Fill | 0.90 | 0.20 | Fill of 1504 | | Undated |
| **Trench 16** | | | | | | |
| 1601 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.38 | Topsoil | | |
| 1602 | Layer | - | 0.38 – 0.70 | Colluvium | | |
| 1603 | Layer | - | 0.70 – 1.10 | Colluvium | | |
| 1604 | Layer | - | 1.10 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 17** | | | | | | |
| 1701 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.20 | Topsoil | | |
| 1702 | Layer | - | 0.20 – 0.60 | Colluvium | | |
| 1703 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 0.90 | Colluvium | | |
| 1704 | Layer | - | 0.90 | Natural | | |
| 1705 | Cut | 4.25 | 0.30 | Pit | | Undated |
| 1706 | Fill | - | 0.28 | Fill of 1705 | | Undated |
| 1707 | Fill | - | 0.10 | Fill of 1705 | | Undated |
| 1708 | Cut | 1.80 | 0.50 | Pit | | Modern |
| 1709 | Fill | 1.80 | 0.50 | Fill of 1708 | | Modern |
| **Trench 18** | | | | | | |
| 1801 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 1802 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.74 | Colluvium | | |
| 1803 | Layer | - | 0.74 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 19** | | | | | | |
| 1901 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.26 | Topsoil | | |
| 1902 | Layer | - | 0.26 | Natural | | |
| 1903 | Cut | 0.80 | 0.26 | Gulley | | Undated |
| 1904 | Fill | 0.80 | 0.26 | Fill of 1903 | | Undated |
| **Trench 20** | | | | | | |
| 2001 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.24 | Topsoil | | |
| 2002 | Layer | - | 0.24 – 0.60 | Subsoil | | |
| 2003 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 1.20 | Colluvium | | |
| 2004 | Layer | - | 1.20 | Natural | | |

| *Context* | *Type* | *Width (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comments* | *Finds* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trench 21** | | | | | | |
| 2101 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.20 | Topsoil | | |
| 2102 | Layer | - | 0.20 – 0.32 | Subsoil | | |
| 2103 | Layer | - | 0.32 – 0.60 | Subsoil | | |
| 2104 | Layer | - | 0.40 – 0.54 | Subsoil | | |
| 2105 | Layer | - | 0.54 | Natural | | |
| 2106 | Layer | - | 0.24 – 0.60 | Subsoil | | |
| 2107 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 0.90 | Subsoil | | |
| 2108 | Cut | 0.30 | 0.30 | Posthole | | Modern |
| 2109 | Fill | 0.30 | 0.30 | Fill of 2108 | | Modern |
| 2110 | Cut | - | - | Posthole | | Modern |
| 2111 | Fill | - | - | Fill of 2110 | | Modern |
| **Trench 22** | | | | | | |
| 2201 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.16 | Topsoil | | |
| 2202 | Layer | - | 0.16 – 0.40 | Subsoil | | |
| 2203 | Layer | - | 0.40 – 0.76 | Colluvium | | |
| 2204 | Layer | - | 0.76 – 1.30 | Colluvium | | |
| 2205 | Layer | - | 1.30 – 1.38 | Colluvium | | |
| 2206 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 0.80 | Colluvium | | |
| 2207 | Layer | - | 0.80 – 1.38 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 23** | | | | | | |
| 2301 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 2302 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.70 | Subsoil | | |
| 2303 | Layer | - | 0.70 – 0.94 | Colluvium | | |
| 2304 | Layer | - | 0.94 | Natural | | |
| 2305 | Deposit | 0.75 x 0.45 | - | Fill of 2306 | | |
| 2306 | Cut | 0.75 x 0.45 | - | Tree Throw | | |
| 2307 | Deposit | 0.20 x 0.15 | - | Fill of 2308 | | |
| 2308 | Cut | 0.20 x 0.15 | - | Decayed Roots | | |
| **Trench 24** | | | | | | |
| 2401 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.28 | Topsoil | | |
| 2402 | Layer | - | 0.28 – 0.60 | Subsoil | | |
| 2403 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 1.40 | Colluvium | | |
| 2404 | Layer | - | 0.60 – 0.90 | Colluvium | | |
| 2405 | Layer | - | 1.40 | Natural | | |
| 2406 | Layer | - | 1.40 | Natural | | |
| 2407 | Layer | - | 1.40 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 25** | | | | | | |
| 2501 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.40 | Topsoil | | |
| 2502 | Layer | - | 0.40 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 26** | | | | | | |
| 2601 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.40 | Topsoil | | |
| 2602 | Layer | - | 0.40 | Natural | | |

| *Context* | *Type* | *Width (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comments* | *Finds* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trench 27** | | | | | | |
| 2701 | Layer | - | 0 – 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 2702 | Layer | - | 0.30 -0.54 | Subsoil | | |
| 2703 | Deposit | 0.30 | - | Charcoal | | |
| 2704 | Layer | - | 0.54 | Natural | | |
| 2705 | Cut | 2.80 + | 1.20 | Ditch | | Medieval |
| 2706 | Fill | 0.70 | 0.40 | Fill of 2705 | Cu Buckle | 14th - 15th Century |
| 2707 | Fill | 2.50 | 0.25 | Fill of 2705 | | Medieval |
| 2708 | Fill | 0.70 + | 0.30 | Fill of 2705 | | Medieval |
| 2709 | Fill | 0.60 | 0.25 | Fill of 2705 | | Medieval |
| 2710 | Fill | 2.40 + | 0.40 | Fill of 2705 | | |
| 2711 | Fill | 4.60 + | 0.30 | Bank deposit | | |
| 2712 | Fill | 4.60 + | 0.20 | Bank deposit | | |
| 2713 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Subsoil | | |
| **Trench 28** | | | | | | |
| 2801 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 2802 | Layer | - | 0.30 – 0.50 | Subsoil | | |
| 2803 | Fill | - | 0.20 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2804 | Fill | - | 0.20 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2805 | Fill | - | 0.12 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2806 | Fill | - | 0.14 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2807 | Fill | - | 0.18 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2808 | Fill | - | 0.30 | Fill of 2809 | | |
| 2809 | Cut | - | 0.70 + | Ditch | | |
| 2810 | Layer | - | 0.50 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 29** | | | | | | |
| 2901 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 2902 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| 2903 | Cut | - | 0.14 | Hedge | | Modern |
| 2904 | Fill | - | 0.14 | Fill of 2903 | | Modern |
| **Trench 30** | | | | | | |
| 3001 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.38 | Topsoil | | |
| 3002 | Layer | - | 0.38 | Natutral | | |
| **Trench 31** | | | | | | |
| 3101 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 3102 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 32** | | | | | | |
| 3201 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.20 | Topsoil | | |
| 3202 | Layer | - | 0.20 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 33** | | | | | | |
| 3301 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.30 | Topsoil | | |
| 3302 | Layer | - | 0.30 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 34** | | | | | | |
| 3401 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.20 | Topsoil | | |
| 3402 | Layer | - | 0.20 - 0.50 | Subsoil | | |
| 3403 | Layer | - | 0.50 | Natural | | |

| *Context* | *Type* | *Width (m)* | *Depth (m)* | *Comments* | *Finds* | *Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trench 35** | | | | | | |
| 3501 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.34 | Topsoil | | |
| 3502 | Layer | - | 0.34 | Natural | Flint | Mesolithic / Neolithic ? |
| 3503 | Cut | 0.40 | 0.30 | Ditch | | Undated |
| 3504 | Fill | - | 0.28 | Fill of 3503 | | Undated |
| 3505 | Fill | - | 0.20 | Fill of 3503 | | Undated |
| 3506 | Fill | - | 0.18 | Fill of 3503 | | Undated |
| **Trench 36** | | | | | | |
| 3601 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.38 | Topsoil | | |
| 3602 | Layer | - | 0.38 | Natural | | |
| **Trench 37** | | | | | | |
| 3701 | Layer | - | 0 - 0.18 | Topsoil | | |
| 3702 | Layer | - | 0.18 | Natural | | |

## APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site Name:** Blood Hill, Bramford, Suffolk

**Site Code:** BRF 068

**Grid Reference:** TM 114 484

**Type of Evaluation:** Thirty-seven machine excavated trenches 30m x 1.8m

**Date and Duration of Project:** 17/11/2003 - 28/11/2003

**Area of Site:** 3.9 hectares

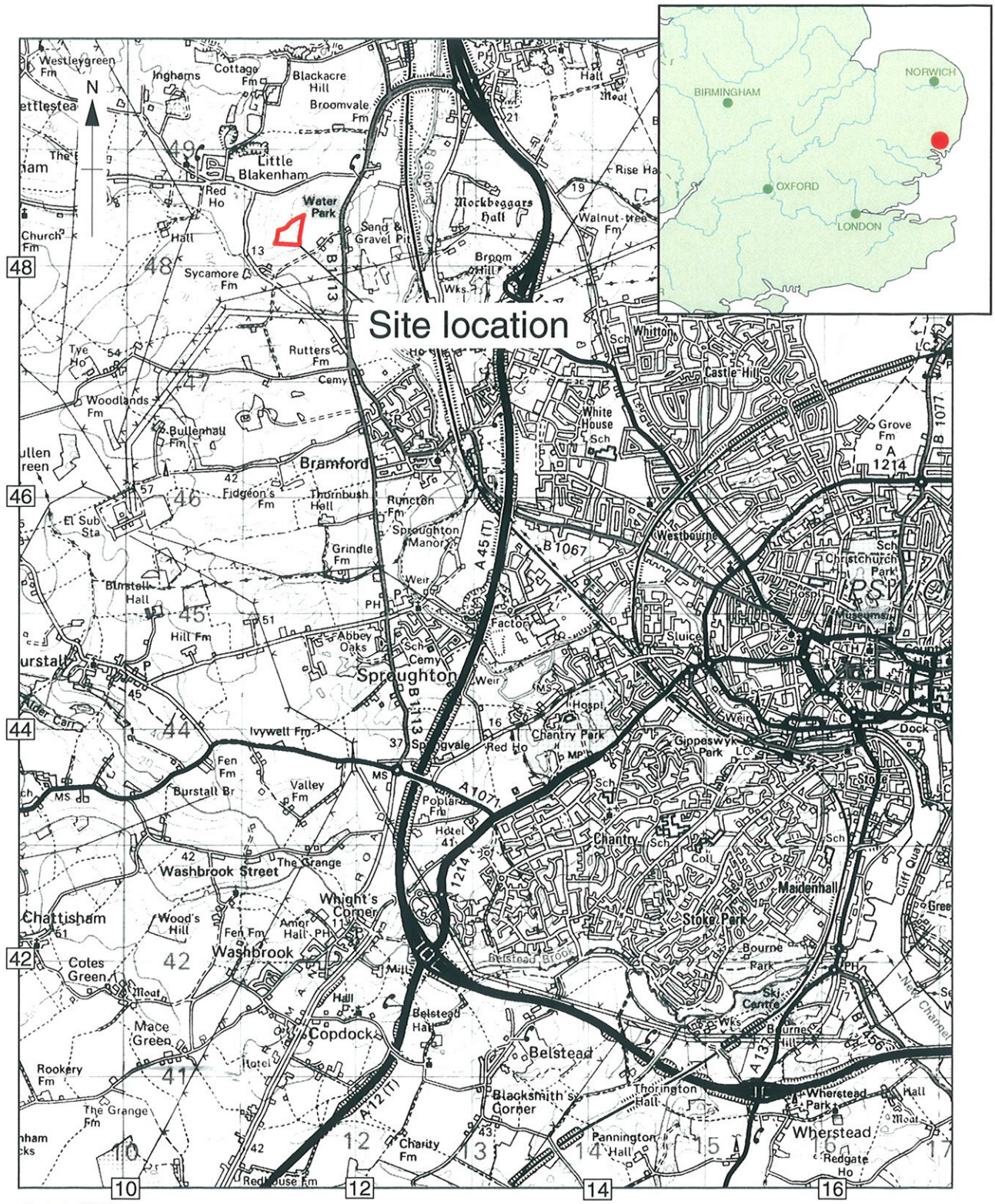
**Summary of Results:** A pit containing burnt material and a ditch, both of Late Bronze Age date, representing a northward extension of known possible burnt mound activity. A medieval boundary ditch. Three undated pits and an undated ditch.

**Location of Archive:** The archive is currently held at Oxford Archaeology, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. The archive will be deposited with Suffolk SMR.

## APPENDIX 4: DRAWINGS

### LIST OF FIGURES

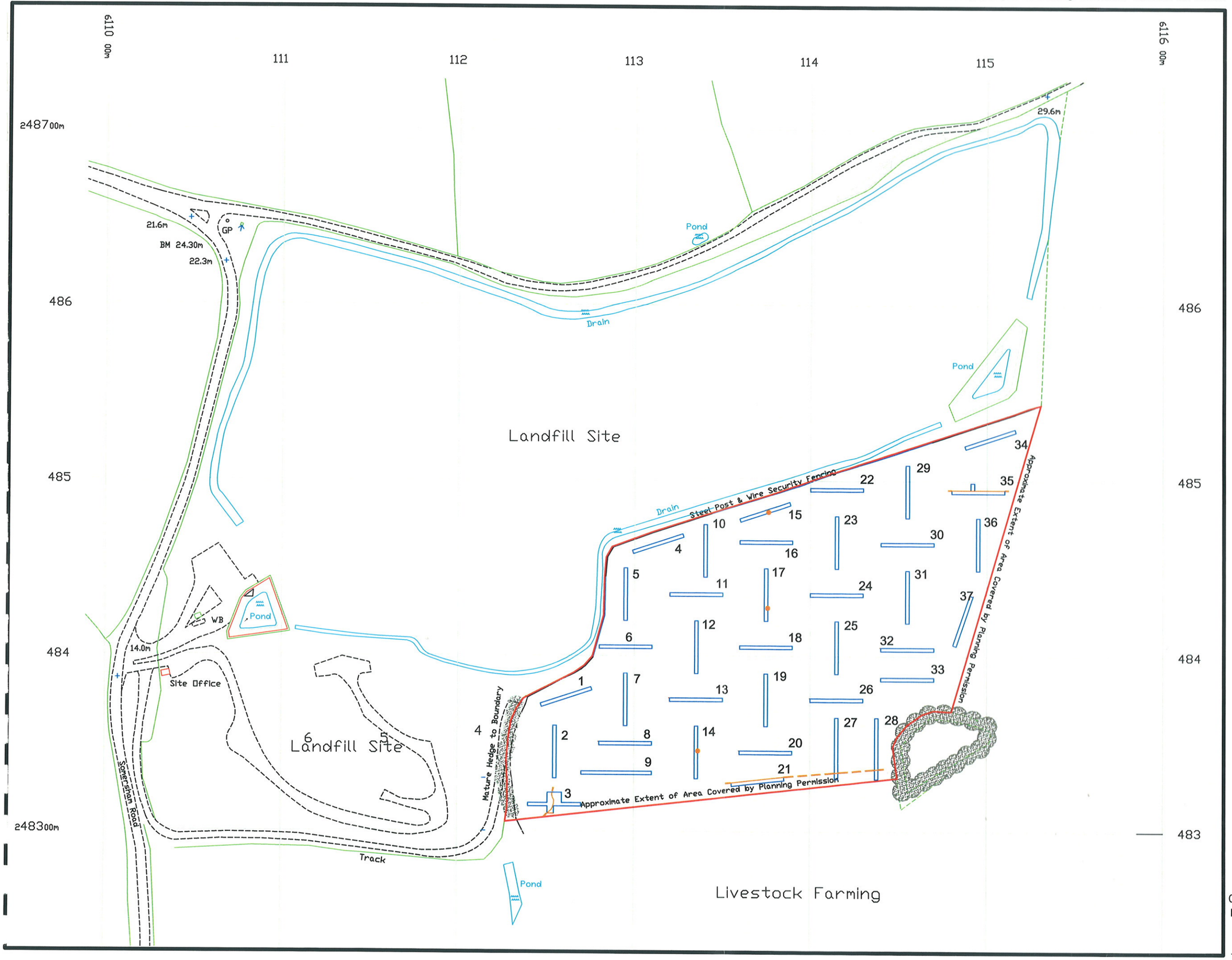
Fig. 1 Site location
Fig. 2 Trench location plan
Fig. 3 Trench 3 plan and sections
Fig. 4 Trenches 14 and 17, plans and sections
Fig. 5 Trench 27, plans and sections
Fig. 6 Trench 35 plan and sections




Scale 1:50,000



Figure 1: Site location




Scale: 1:2000

Figure 2: Trench location plan

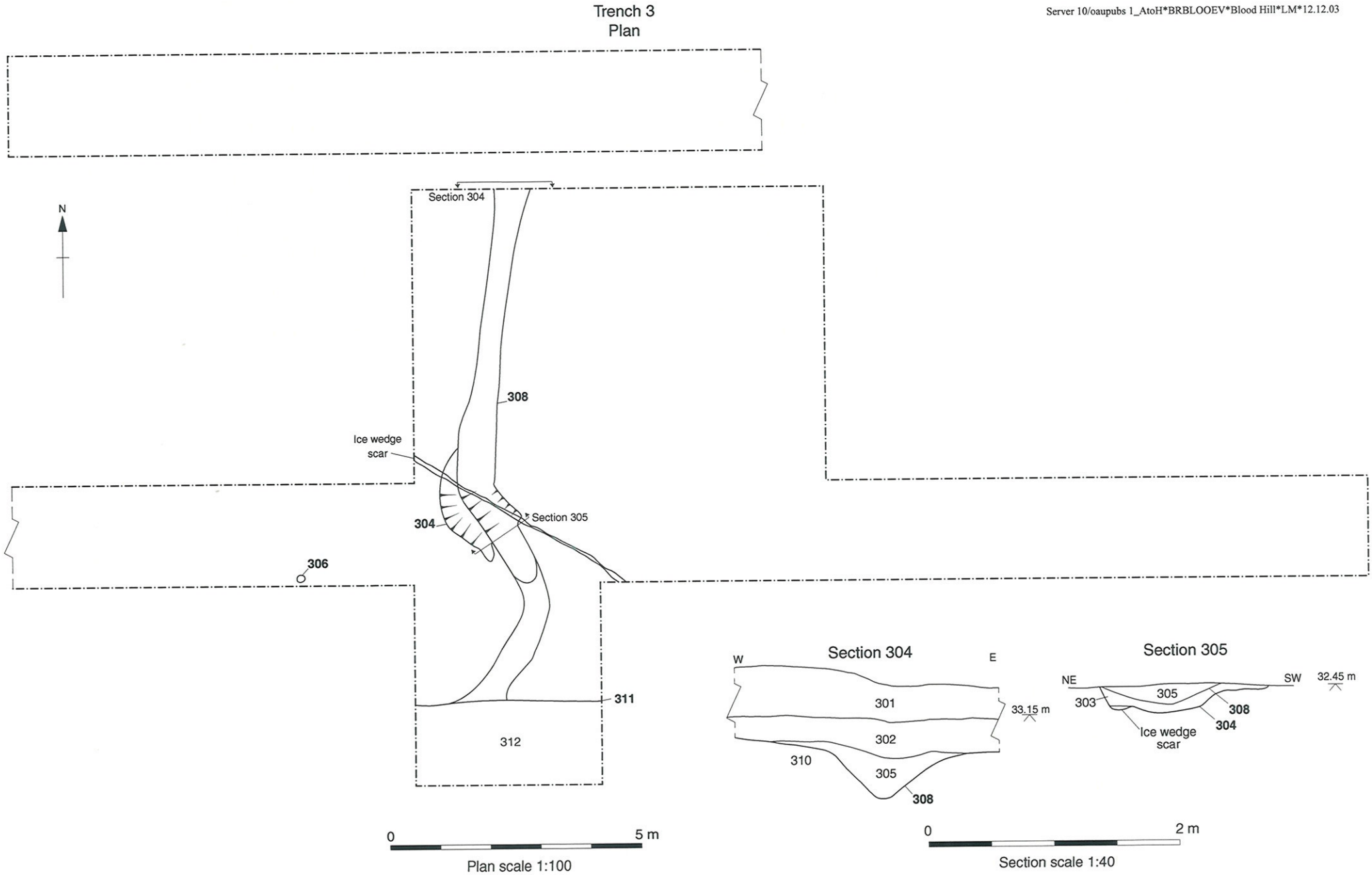



Figure 3: Trench 3 plan and sections

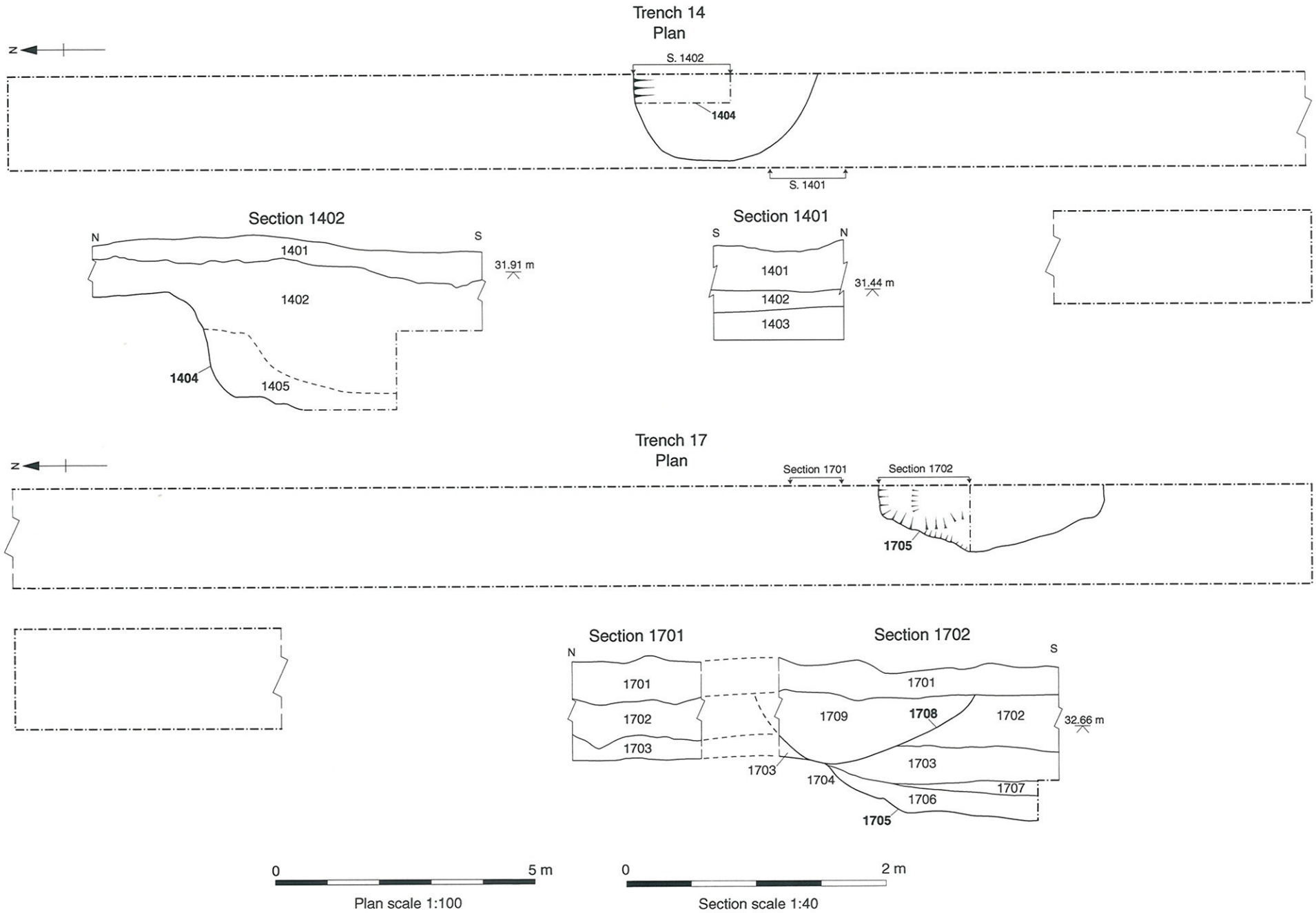
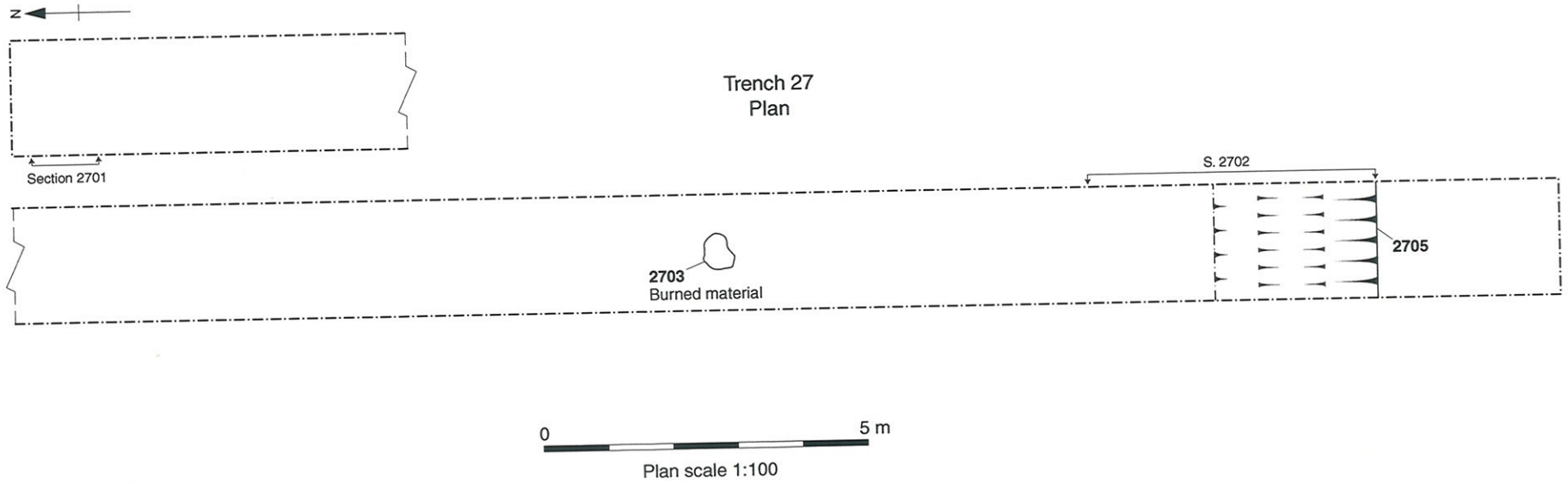



Figure 4: Trenches 14 and 17, plans and sections



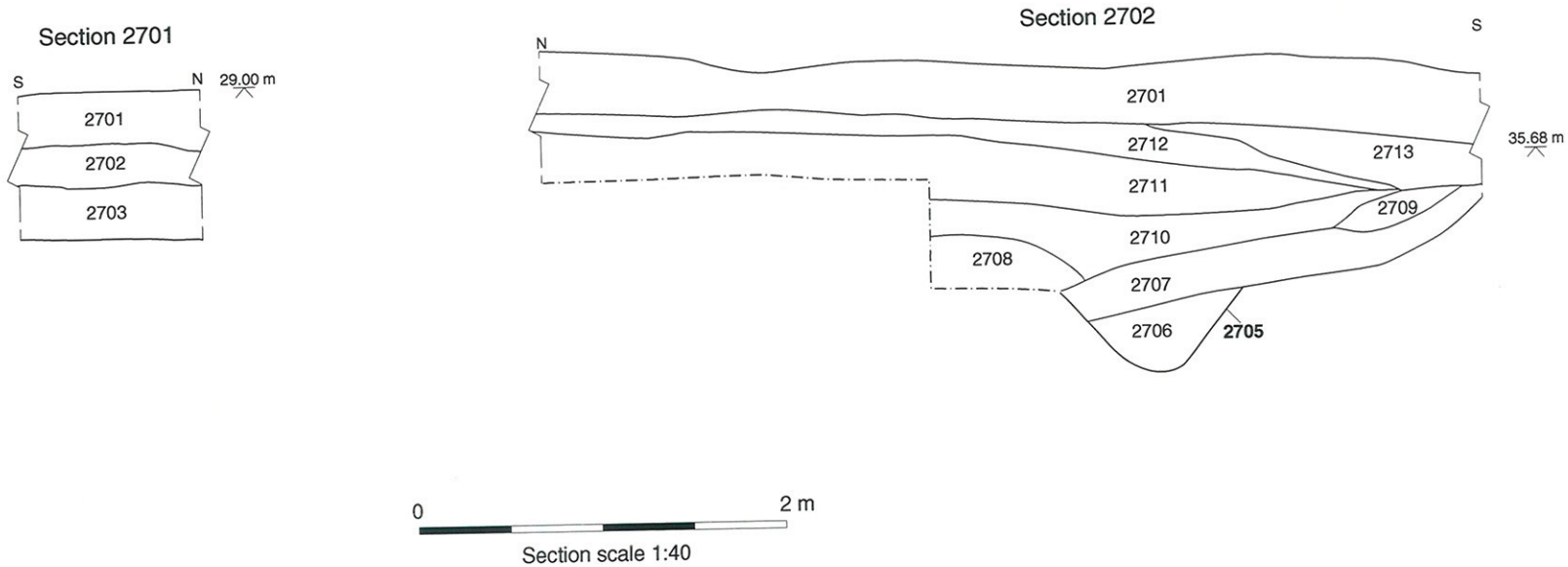




Figure 5: Trenche 27, plans and sections

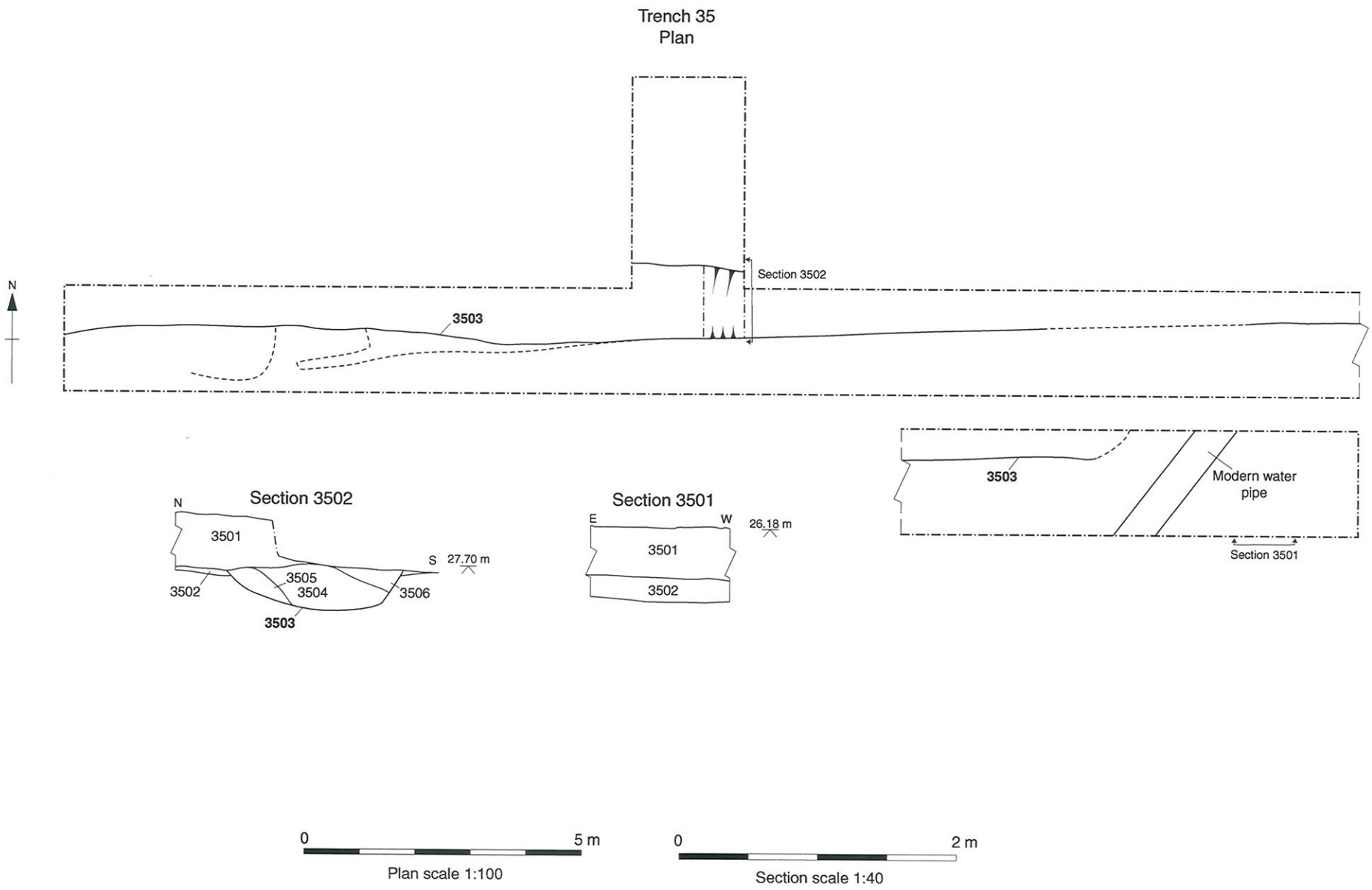



Figure 6: Trench 35 plan and sections

**Oxford Archaeology**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w:www.oxfordarch.co.uk

**Oxford Archaeology North**

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606
e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk
w:www.oxfordarch.co.uk

**Director:** David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

Oxford Archaeological Unit is a
Private Limited Company, N°: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N°: 285627

**Registered Office:**
Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES