Hilperton
East Trowbridge
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Oxford Archaeology

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Hilperton, East Trowbridge, Wiltshire

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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SUMMARY

In May 2004 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a watching brief and field evaluation on land sited to the west of Hilperton Village in East Trowbridge, Wiltshire for John Samuels Archaeological Consultants on behalf of RPS Group Plc. The excavations revealed evidence of imported flint scatter across the length of the southern half of the site, a Romano-British farmstead within the centre of the site, medieval activity at the northern end and extensive patterns of 19th century land improvement throughout.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 On the 12th May 2004 OA conducted a watching brief on geotechnical pits and, between the 17th and 26th May 2004, OA carried out a field evaluation on land at Hilperton, East Trowbridge, Wiltshire for John Samuels Archaeological Consultants on behalf of the RPS Group Plc in respect of a proposal to develop the site by Persimmon Homes. The work was done in accordance with specifications for an archaeological trial trenching evaluation set by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies on land between the north-east edge of Trowbridge and the western edge of Hilperton village, and runs between the junction of the A361 and the B3105 and the junction of Horse Road and Wyke Road, centred at NGR: ST 867 585. The site is bounded to east and west by agricultural land, to the south by the Devizes Road and to the north by residential dwellings (Fig. 1). The site lies on soils characterised as brown rendzinas of the Elmton 1 association (343a) and comprise shallow well drained brashy calcareous fine loams formed from a parent of Jurassic Limestone (SSEW 1983) running from approximately 40 m OD at its highest point down to 20 m OD at its lowest.. The site is presently in agricultural use and occupies an area of 4.6 hectares.

1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The archaeological background to the evaluation has been the subject of a separate desk study and geophysical survey by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC 886/03/04), with the geophysical survey undertaken by GSB Prospection. The first geophysical survey, undertaken in May 2002 along the corridor of the proposed alignment of the new road, located a ring ditch, possibly part of a Bronze Age Barrow, resulting in a southwards realignment of the proposed road. A second geophysical survey was carried out in May 2003 covering the re-aligned corridor and areas not surveyed in the first survey. Several anomalies of archaeological interest were recorded, particularly in the southern part of the corridor, the most significant of these was the

edge of a large square enclosure. The majority of the trial trenches have been sited to test the results of this recent geophysical survey.

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1.1 To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the proposed development area during the period of the watching brief and the trial trenching, and in particular to target areas known to contain anomalies detected during the geophysical survey.

2.1.2 To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.

2.1.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.

2.1.4 To assess the sites archaeological potential in order to allow the Local Planning Authority to make an informed decision regarding its suitability for development.

2.1.5 To make available the results of the investigation.

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Scope of fieldwork

Geotechnical Test Pits

3.1.1 A monitoring watching brief was carried out during the excavation of six geotechnical pits of approximately 2 m long by 1 m wide (Figs 2 & 3). These pits were spaced throughout the length of the site to provide geotechnical data to inform the design.

Field Evaluation

3.1.2 The evaluation consisted of thirty one trenches each measuring 20 m long and 2 m wide (Figs 2 & 3). These trenches were sited to intercept the anomalies produced during the geophysical survey as well as providing coverage of the non-anomalous areas of the development site.

3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

Geotechnical Test Pits

3.2.1 The test pits were excavated using a mechanical excavator (JCB) fitted with a 0.8 m wide toothed bucket. The pits were excavated in spits down to the depth required by the Project Geologist.

3.2.2 Due to the depth of the pits exceeding the Health and Safety (H & S) limits, recording was undertaken from ground level using hand tapes to measure the

approximate depths of deposits. Recording followed procedures detailed in OA's *Fieldwork Manual* (OAU 1992).

Field Evaluation

3.2.3 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide toothless grading bucket. Excavation proceeded to the top of the natural geology or to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first.

3.2.4 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and where possible to retrieve dating evidence. All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers. The trenches were planned at a scale of 1:100 where sterile, and at a scale of 1:50 if containing archaeological features. Section drawings of features and sample sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All features, sections and trenches were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in OA's *Fieldwork Manual* (OAU 1992).

3.3 Finds

3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of obvious modern origin within the ploughsoil were evaluated on site, but not retained. All the finds recovered from the archaeological features were retained.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

3.4.1 No deposits of palaeo-environmental significance were encountered during the fieldwork.

3.5 Presentation of results

3.5.1 The results of the fieldwork are presented below, covering significant finds within individual trenches followed by an overall discussion.

4 RESULTS: GENERAL

4.1 Soils and ground conditions

4.1.1 The site was located on a gentle slope running from the south east boundary down towards the north west extent of the site. All the trenches came down onto natural drift geology represented by either a sandy clay alluvium or by corn brash. Sondages were dug in Trenches 1, 22, 23 and 24 in order to identify the depth of alluvium and to determine whether the alluvium sealed earlier archaeology. All the soil divisions were sharply defined with little or no mixing between the contexts. Groundwater was not encountered in any of the trenches.

4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

4.2.1 All the significant archaeological deposits were confined to trenches located within the northern (Area 1) and central (Area 4) regions of the site.

5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Description of deposits

5.1.1 The trenches can be broadly divided into two groups, those within the northern and southern ends of the site (Areas 1, 2, 3 and 6), whose bases came down onto alluvium and those in the central region (Areas 4 and 5), which came down onto corn brash. A general description will be given for each group with details of specific trenches following on.

Group one, Northern and Southern Trenches

5.1.2 Within Trenches 1, 2, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 31 and Test Pits 1, 4, 5 and 6, a layer of an orange brown sandy clay was reached at a depth of approximately 0.3 m below ground level. Representing an alluvial layer, this was shown within the sondages and the test pits to be between 0.3 m and 0.5 m deep and directly overlying a blue grey natural clay, with no sealed archaeological horizon between the two. Overlying the alluvium was a layer of a tenacious yellow brown silt clay of between 0.15 m and 0.3 m depth, a subsoil layer probably representing an earlier plough soil. This was sealed by a 0.2 m to 0.25 m layer of a friable grey brown silt loam, the present day plough soil and turf.

Group two, Central Trenches

5.1.3 Consisting of Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29 and 30 and Test Pits 3 and 4 these came down onto a layer of corn brash, consisting of mixed small to medium sized sub-angular limestone fragments within a reddish brown clay matrix, the frost and plough disturbed top bed of the limestone, at a depth of 0.35 m below ground level. This was overlaid by a pale brown silt clay 0.1 m to 0.15 m in depth representing an earlier ploughsoil. This was sealed by a 0.25 m to 0.3 m deep layer of a friable grey brown silt loam, the present day ploughsoil and turf.

5.1.4 Only Trenches 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 16, 18, 25 and 31 produced relevant archaeology and only those will be considered in detail. Full details of the stratigraphy and the contexts of the other trenches can be found in the context inventory.

Trench 2 (Fig. 4, plan 200, Fig. 5, sections 201 and 202)

5.1.5 This trench was excavated to a depth of 0.5 m below ground level down onto a orange brown sandy clay alluvium (203). This layer was cut by two linear features, an east-west running gully (204) and a south-west to north-east running ditch (206). Gully (204) measured 0.5 m wide by 0.12 m deep and was filled with a yellow brown silt clay (205) and may represent the truncated base of an early field boundary. Ditch (206) measured 1.2 m wide by 0.25 m deep and was filled by a orange brown silt clay

(207) and although containing no dating evidence has been interpreted as a backfilled post medieval field boundary which continues into Trench 3. Both these features were sealed by a yellow brown clay silt layer (202), 0.15 m in depth, a probable layer of earlier plough soil. Sealing the trench was a 0.3 m deep layer of a greyish brown silt loam (201), the present day agricultural soil.

Trench 3 (Fig. 4, plan 300, Fig.5, section 301)

5.1.6 Excavated to a depth of 0.45 m this came down onto a layer of corn brash composed of small sub-angular limestone fragments within a reddish brown clay matrix (303). This was cut by a south west to north east running ditch (304), measuring 1.2 m wide by 0.3 m deep and filled by an orange brown silt clay (305). This is a continuation of ditch (206) within Trench 2, which can be confirmed by examination of the geophysical survey. Overlying the corn brash and the ditch fill was a 0.25 m deep layer of a yellow brown clay silt (302), a probable earlier plough soil. This was in turn overlaid by a 0.2 m deep layer of a greyish brown silt loam (301) the present day plough soil.

Trenches 5 and 6 (Fig. 4, plans 500 and 600, Fig.5 sections 501 and 601)

5.1.7 This two trenches were sited to investigate the extent of a large anomaly located during the geophysical survey. Both the trenches were excavated to a depth of 0.35 m coming down onto the top of a layer of corn brash (503) and (603). This was sealed by a 0.15 m deep layer of a yellow brown silt clay in both trenches (502) and (602), representing an earlier plough soil. Cutting into this layer was a steeply sloping, large (approximately 20 m x 20 m), but shallow (0.55 m depth) feature (504) and (605). Filled with a tenacious reddish brown silt clay (505) and (604) this only produced a few bone and flint fragments, which may be residual. This feature has been interpreted as a backfilled (dew) pond, which was confirmed when after the machine had finished backfilling and flattened the surrounding vegetation, both the trenches could be seen to be sited in an area noticeably lower than the remainder of the field. Both the earlier ploughsoils and the backfilled pond were overlaid by a 0.2 m deep layer of greyish brown silt loam (501) and (601), the modern plough soil.

Trench 13 (Fig.4, plan 1300, Fig.5, Section 1301)

5.1.8 This trench was sited to straddle two south west to north east running linears revealed during the geophysical survey. Excavated to a depth of 0.3 m the base of the trench came down onto a layer of corn brash (1303). Cutting into this was a 0.8 m wide by 0.4 m deep ditch (1304). Filled by a yellow brown clay silt (1305), and with evidence for a possible re-cut (1306). Although no dating evidence was recovered the "V" shaped profile with a possible cleaning slot in the base suggests a probable Romano-British boundary ditch. The second linear was shown to be the base of a shallow plough furrow. Filling the furrow and sealing the ditch fill was a 0.15 m deep layer of a yellow brown silt clay (1302), an earlier plough soil. Overlying this layer was a 0.25 m deep layer of a greyish brown silt loam (1301), the modern plough soil.

Trench 16 (Fig.4, plan 1600, Fig.5, sections 1601 and 1602)

5.1.9 This was located to investigate a narrow rectangular enclosure discovered during the geophysical survey. The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.4 m coming down onto the top of a layer of corn brash (1603). Cut into the surface of this layer were two parallel south west to north east running linears 4.0 m apart, ditches (1604) and (1606). Ditch (1604) measured 1.0 m wide by 0.4 m deep with a shallow bowl shaped profile. It was filled by a orange brown silt clay (1605) which produced no dating evidence. Ditch (1606) measured 1.2 m wide by 0.8 m wide with a steep sharply pronounced "V" shaped profile. This was filled with an orange brown silt clay (1607) which produced fragments of Romano-British pottery and glass. While the profiles suggest they are not contemporary they both appear to be associated with the large square enclosure shown to the north of area 4 during the geophysical survey, and may form a smaller enclosure within the larger. Both the ditches were sealed by a 0.1 m deep layer of a yellow brown silt clay (1602), a probable early plough soil. Overlying this was a 0.2m deep layer of a greyish brown silt loam (1601) the modern plough soil.

Trench 18 (Fig.4, plan 1800, Fig.5, section 1801)

5.1.10 Located along the northern edge of area 4 this was sited to intercept a south west to north east running leg of a large square enclosure detected during the geophysical survey. The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.3 m at its south east end rising to a depth of 0.6 m at its north west end. The base of the trench came down onto the top of a compact layer of corn brash (1808). Overlying this context was a patchy layer of tenacious reddish brown clay (1804), up to 0.15 m in depth, a probable peri-glacial deposit. This was sealed by a 0.1 m deep layer of a yellow brown silt clay (1803) an earlier plough soil. Overlying this at the north west end of the trench was a layer of yellow brown clay silt (1802), a colluvium 0.2 m thick at its deepest tapering away towards the centre of the trench. Cutting through this deposit at the northern end of the trench was the southern edge of a wide ditch (1805), an estimated 2.8 m wide by 0.5 m deep, its location matching that shown on the geophysical survey. The primary fill was a dark yellow brown silt clay (1807), 0.2 m deep and a probable silting deposit. The remainder of the ditch was filled by a yellow brown silt clay (1806) 0.3 m deep. While the section shows that the ditch is cut from a 19th century horizon, it is probable that this feature is the last in a series of recuts which have respected the alignment of the Roman enclosure but have completely truncated the original ditch. Sealing this feature was a 0.25 m thick layer of a grey brown silt loam (1801), the modern plough soil.

Trench 25 (Fig.4, plan 2500, Fig.5, section 2501)

5.1.11 This was excavated to a depth of 0.4 m, cutting 0.15 m deep into the top of the alluvium (2503). Exposed in the base of the trench was a curvi-linear feature (2504). This measured 0.4 m wide by 0.15 m deep and describes an arc of approximately 12 m diameter. This may represent the eaves drip gully from a circular structure, although no associated features such as post holes were found. The gully was filled

with an orange grey silt clay (2505) which although 100% excavated produced no dating evidence. Sealing the fill was a 0.1 m thick layer of a yellow brown silt clay (2502) the earlier plough soil. Overlying this was a 0.1 m thick layer of a greyish brown silt loam (2501), the modern plough soil.

Trench 31 (Fig.4, plan 3100, Fig.5, sections 3101, 3102 and 3103)

5.1.12 This was located in the back garden of 116 Wyke Road. The trench was excavated to a depth of 0.65 m coming down onto the top of an orange brown sandy clay alluvium (3103). Cut into the top of this context were two gullies (3105) and (3107), and a ditch (3109). Ditch (3109) was aligned south west to north east, cutting diagonally across the trench. Measuring 1.5 m wide by 0.5 m deep with a steeply sloping bowl shaped profile, it was filled by a greyish brown silt clay (3108) which produced fragments of medieval glazed tile. Its location, profile, and dating evidence suggests it is a medieval boundary ditch, possibly defining a burgage plot.

5.1.13 Cutting across the fill of this ditch was Gully (3107), an east-west aligned feature running across the trench. This measured 0.6 m wide by 0.2 m deep and was filled by a greyish brown silt clay (3106) containing fragments of glazed post-medieval pottery and probably represented a truncated boundary ditch.

5.1.14 Gully (3105) ran south east to north west across the southern end of the trench. 0.4 m wide by 0.15 deep this was filled by a greyish brown silt clay (3106), which produced no dating evidence. Similar to Gully (3107), it is also probably a truncated boundary ditch.

5.1.15 Sealing these ditch fills was a 0.15 m thick layer of a yellow brown silt clay (3102), an earlier plough soil. This was overlaid by a 0.4 m thick layer of a dark grey silt loam (3101), the modern garden soil.

5.2 Finds

5.2.1 Excluding the modern finds noted within the present day plough and garden soils very few finds were recovered from the archaeological features. This may be explained by the rural nature of the site precluding any build up of finds from domestic occupation. The finds recovered range from flint flakes, Romano-British pottery and glass, medieval glazed tile to post-medieval pottery.

5.2.2 A general spread of unworked flint fragments was noticed in the top of the modern plough soil during the course of the evaluation (See Fig. 3 for limits) within areas 3, 4, 5 and the northern end of area 6, coincident with the highest points of the proposed road corridor. As the natural on site was oolitic calcareous lime stone, the presence of these flints indicates they had been imported.

6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

6.1 Reliability of field investigation

6.1.1 Conditions in the field were dry. There was little intrusion by modern features such as services and land drains. The percentage sample, distribution, positioning of the trenches over anomalies produced by the geophysical survey and blank areas of the site is believed to have given a good reflection of the overall archaeological potential of the site.

6.2 Overall interpretation

6.2.1 The evaluation has shown that there is a very close correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the evidence exposed within the trenches with over 90% of the anomalies shown to be either archaeological features or discernible geological features.

6.2.2 In Area 1 the density of boundary ditches and gullies within Trench 31, together with its position on a road junction may suggest possible tenement activity, examination of earlier maps including tithe maps may confirm this.

6.2.3 The trenches within Areas 2 and 3 produced a stratigraphy suggestive of marginal agricultural land, probably mostly used as seasonal pasture (As its name of Hilperton Marshes would suggest), with evidence of 19th/20th century hedgerow removal. With the exception of the curvi-linear feature within Trench 25 there is no evidence for occupation, again consistent with marsh land.

6.2.4 In Area 4 the ditches observed in Trenches 13, 16 and 18, together with the geophysical information is indicative of a Romano-British farmstead, notably field boundaries and a possible enclosure.

6.2.5 Within Areas 5 and 6, the backfilled ditches within Trenches 1, 2 and 3 and the backfilled pond within Trenches 5 and 6 suggest post-medieval agricultural improvement of the area, probably 19th century in origin.

6.2.6 The general spread of unworked flints noted throughout the southern half of the site may be indicative of earlier prehistoric activity, however no concentrations of flints, particularly worked flints, or associated features were observed during the evaluation.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*Date*
Trench 1						
	101	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern ploughsoil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	102	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier ploughsoil	-	-
	103	Layer	0.35 m - >0.5 m	Alluvium	-	-
	104	Lens	0.35 m - 0.4 m	Base of plough furrow	-	-
Trench 2						
	201	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern ploughsoil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	202	Layer	0.2 m - 0.3 m	Earlier ploughsoil	-	-
	203	Layer	0.3 m - >0.5 m	Alluvium	-	-
	204	Cut	0.3 m - 0.4 m	Shallow gulley	-	-
	205	Fill	0.3 m - 0.4 m	Fill of gulley	-	-
	206	Cut	0.3 m - 0.45 m	Ditch cut	-	-
	207	Fill	0.3 m - 0.45 m	Fill of ditch	-	-
	208	Cut	0.3 m - > 0.5 m	Land drain	-	C20th
	209	Fill	0.3 m - > 0.5 m	Backfill of land drain	-	C20th
Trench 3						
	301	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	302	Layer	0.2 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	303	Layer	0.35 m - > 0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	304	Cut	0.35 m - 0.65 m	Boundary ditch	-	C19th ?
	305	Fill	0.35 m - 0.65 m	Fill of ditch	-	-
Trench 4						
	401	Layer	0.0 m - 0.22 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	402	Layer	0.22 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	403	Layer	0.45 m - > 0.6 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 5						
	501	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	502	Layer	0.15 m - 0.25 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	503	Layer	0.25 m - >0.35 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	504	Cut	0.25 m - 0.95 m	Possible dew pond ?	-	-

	505	Fill	0.25 m - 0.95 m	Backfill of pond	-	C19th ?
Trench	***Ctxt No***	***Type***	***Depth (m)***	***Comment***	***Finds***	***Date***
Trench 6						
	601	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	602	Layer	0.25 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	603	Layer	0.45m - > 1.0 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	604	Fill	0.45 m - 0.95 m	Backfill of pond	-	-
	605	Cut	0.45 m - 0.95 m	Continuation of feature in trench 5, Possible dew pond ?	-	C19th ?
Trench 7						
	701	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	702	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	703	Layer	0.35 m - > 0.4 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	704	Fill	0.35 m - 0.65 m	Fill of feature	-	-
	705	Cut	0.35 m - 0.65 m	Geological ?, base of plough furrow ?	-	-
Trench 8						
	801	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	802	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	803	Layer	0.35 m - >0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	804	Lens	0.35 m - > 0.7 m	Geological feature	-	-
Trench 9						
	901	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	902	Layer	0.25 m - 0.5 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	903	Layer	0.5 m - >0.6 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 10						
	1001	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1002	Layer	0.25 m - 0.4 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1003	Layer	0.4 m - > 0.6 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 11						
	1101	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1102	Layer	0.25 m - 0.4 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1103	Layer	0.4 m - > 0.6 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 12						

	1201	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	1202	Layer	0.2 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
Trench	***Ctxt No***	***Type***	***Depth (m)***	***Comment***	***Finds***	***Date***
Trench 12						
	1203	Layer	0.3 m - >0.4 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 13						
	1301	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1302	Layer	0.2 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1303	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.8 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	1304	Cut	0.3 m - 0.8 m	Boundary Ditch	-	R.B. ?
	1305	Fill	0.3 m - 0.8 m	Ditch fill	-	-
	1306	Cut	0.3 m - 0.8 m	Ditch recut	-	R.B. ?
Trench 14						
	1401	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1402	Layer	0.15 m - 0.25 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1403	Layer	0.25 m - > 0.4 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	1404	Cut	0.25 m - 0.3 m	Base of plough furrow	-	-
	1405	Fill	0.25 m - 0.3 m	Furrow fill	-	-
Trench 15						
	1501	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1502	Layer	0.15 m - 0.25 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1503	Layer	0.25 m - > 0.3 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	1504	Cut	0.3 m - 0.5 m	Horse shoe land drain	-	C19th
Trench 16						
	1601	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1602	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1603	Layer	0.35 m - > 1.1 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	1604	Fill	0.35 m - 1.1 m	Fill of ditch	-	-
	1605	Cut	0.35 m - 1.1 m	Ditch	-	R.B. ?
	1606	Cut	0.35 m - 0.8 m	Ditch	-	R.B. ?
	1607	Fill	0.35 m - 0.8 m	Fill of ditch	Pot, Glass	R.B. ?
Trench 17						
	1701	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	1702	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-

	1703	Layer	0.35 m - > 0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 18						
	1801	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Flint	C20th
Trench	***Ctxt No***	***Type***	***Depth (m)***	***Comment***	***Finds***	***Date***
Trench 18						
	1802	Layer	0.25 m - 0.4 m	Layer of colluvium	-	-
	1803	Layer	0.25 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1804	Layer	0.35 m - 0.65 m	Peri-glacial clay	-	-
	1805	Cut	0.2 m - 0.8 m	Boundary ditch, probable recut on alignment of Roman ditch	-	C18th/19th
	1806	Fill	0.2 m - 0.5 m	Upper fill of ditch	-	-
	1807	Fill	0.5 m - 0.8 m	Primary fill of ditch	-	-
	1808	Layer	0.65 m - >0.8 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 19						
	1901	Layer	0.0 m - 0.35 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	1902	Layer	0.35 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	1903	Layer	0.45 m - >0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 20						
	2001	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2002	Layer	0.0 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2003	Layer	0.35 m - 0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 21						
	2101	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2102	Layer	0.15 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2103	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-
Trench 22						
	2201	Layer	0.0 m - 0.25 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2202	Layer	0.25 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2203	Layer	0.45 m - 0.75 m	Alluvium	-	-
	2204	Layer	0.75 m - > 0.9 m	Natural clay	-	-
Trench 23						
	2301	Layer	0.0 m -0.2 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2302	Layer	0.2 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2303	Layer	0.3 m - 0.4 m	Alluvium	-	-

	2304	Layer	0.4 m - >0.55 m	Natural clay	-	-
Trench 24						
	2401	Layer	0.0 m - 0.22 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2402	Layer	0.22 m - 0.37 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
Trench	***Ctxt No***	***Type***	***Depth (m)***	***Comment***	***Finds***	***Date***
Trench 24						
	2403	Layer	0.37 m - 0.65 m	Alluvium	-	-
	2404	Layer	0.65 m - 1.25 m	Natural yellow brown clay	-	-
	2405	Layer	1.25 m - >1.35 m	Natural blue grey clay	-	-
Trench 25						
	2501	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2502	Layer	0.15 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2503	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.45 m	Alluvium	-	-
	2504	Cut	0.3 m - 0.42 m	Curvi-linear feature, possible eaves drip gully ?	-	-
	2505	Fill	0.3 m - 0.42 m	Fill of gully	-	-
Trench 26						
	2601	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2602	Layer	0.2 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2603	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.45 m	Alluvium	-	-
Trench 27						
	2701	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2702	Layer	0.15 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2703	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.5 m	Alluvium	-	-
Trench 28						
	2801	Layer	0.0 m - 0.15 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	2802	Layer	0.15 m - 0.3 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2803	Layer	0.3 m - > 0.45 m	Alluvium	-	-
	2804	Cut	0.15 m - > 0.5 m	Cut for land drain	-	C20th
	2805	Fill	0.15 m - >0.5 m	Backfill of land drain	-	-
Trench 29						
	2901	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	2902	Layer	0.2 m - 0.35 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	2903	Layer	0.35 m - >0.5 m	Corn Brash	-	-

Trench 30						
	3001	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	Pot, Glass	C20th
	3002	Layer	0.2 m - 0.4 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	3003	Layer	0.4 m - > 0.55 m	Corn Brash	-	-

Trench	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*Date*
Trench 31						
	3101	Layer	0.0 m - 0.4 m	Modern garden soil	Pot, Brick	C20th
	3102	Layer	0.4 m - 0.6 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	3103	Layer	0.6 m - > 1.0 m	Alluvium	-	-
	3104	Fill	0.6 m - 0.8 m	Fill of gully	-	-
	3105	Cut	0.6 m - 0.8 m	Shallow gully	-	-
	3106	Fill	0.6 m - 0.8 m	Fill of Gully	Pot	C18th ?
	3107	Cut	0.6 m - 0.8 m	Shallow gully	-	-
	3108	Fill	0.6 m - 1.0 m	Fill of ditch	Glazed tile	C15th ?
	3109	Ditch	0.6 m - 1.0 m	Boundary (Possible Burgage ?) ditch	-	-

Context Inventory for the Geotechnical Test pits

Test Pit	*Ctxt No*	*Type*	*Depth (m)*	*Comment*	*Finds*	*Date*
Test Pit 1						
	11	Layer	0.0 m - 0.18 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	12	Layer	0.18 m - 0.8 m	Earlier plough soils	-	-
	13	Layer	0.8 m - 0.95 m	Alluvium	-	-
	14	Layer	0.95 m - 1.2 m	Natural sandy clay	-	-
	15	Layer	1.2 m - 2.2 m	Mixed sandy clays	-	-
	16	Layer	> 2.2 m	Limestone Bedrock	-	-
Test Pit 2						
	21	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	22	Layer	0.2 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	23	Layer	0.45 m - 1.0 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	24	Layer	1.0 m - 1.3 m	Natural yellow clay	-	-

	25	Layer	1.3 m - >3.3 m	Natural grey clay	-	-
Test Pit 3						
	31	Layer	0.0 m - 0.35 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	32	Layer	0.35 m - 0.45 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	33	Layer	0.45 m - 0.8 m	Corn Brash	-	-
	34	Layer	>0.8 m	Limestone Bedrock	-	-
Test Pit	***Ctxt No***	***Type***	***Depth (m)***	***Comment***	***Finds***	***Date***
Test Pit 4						
	41	Layer	0.0 m - 0.2 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	42	Layer	0.2 m - 0.7 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	43	Layer	0.7 m - 1.0 m	Natural blue grey clay	-	-
	44	Layer	1.0 m - 1.5 m	Natural orange brown clay	-	-
	45	Layer	1.5 m - 2.1 m	Natural grey clay	-	-
	45	Layer	> 2.1 m	Limestone bedrock	-	-
Test Pit 5						
	51	Layer	0.0 m - 0.35 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	52	Layer	0.35 m - 0.7 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	53	Layer	0.7 m - > 3.2 m	Natural blue grey clays	-	-
Test Pit 6						
	61	Layer	0.0 m - 0.3 m	Modern plough soil	-	-
	62	Layer	0.3 m - 0.6 m	Earlier plough soil	-	-
	63	Layer	0.6 m - 1.7 m	Alluvium	-	-
	64	Layer	1.7 m - >3.4 m	Natural blue grey clay	-	-

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

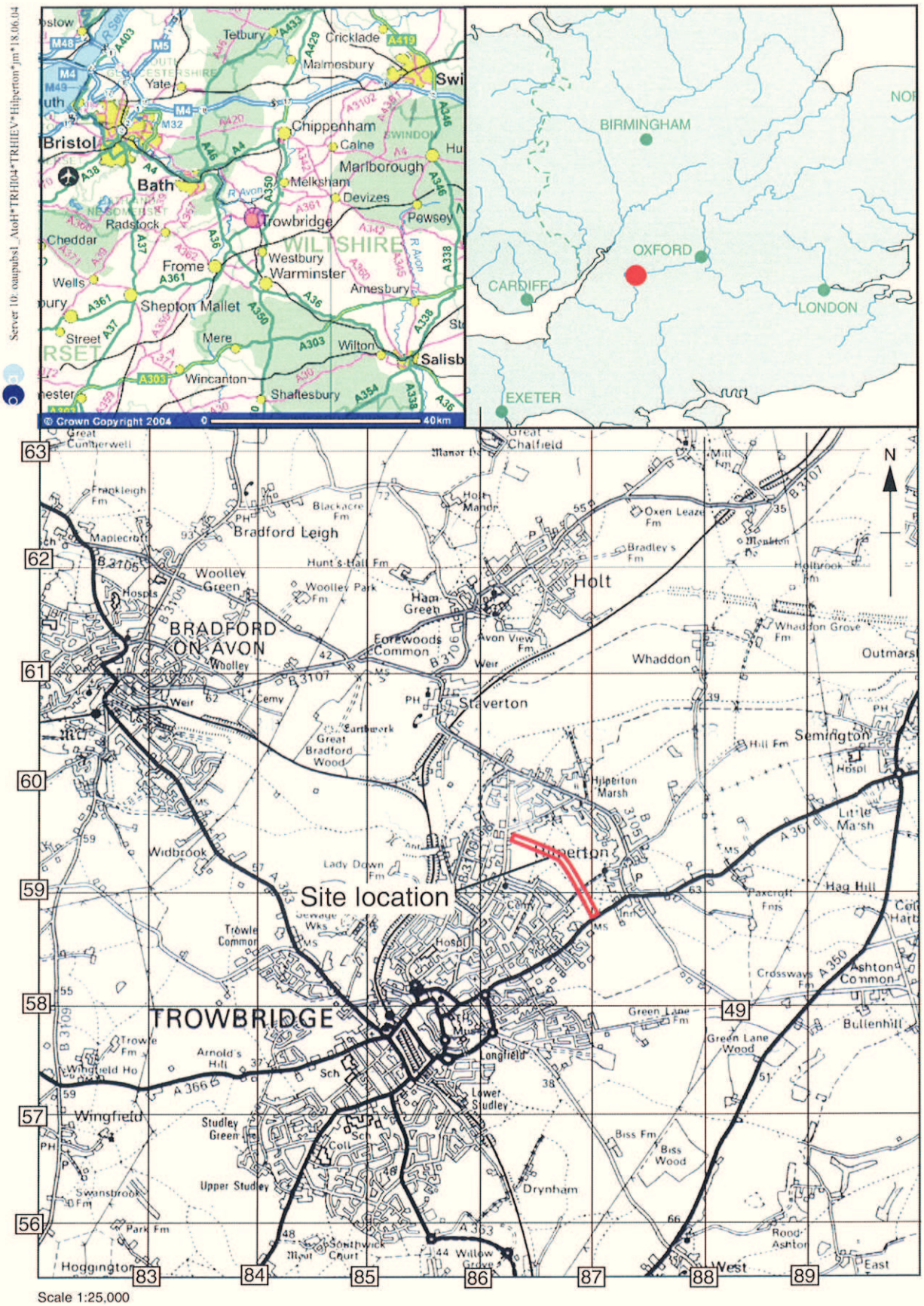
OAU, 1992 *Fieldwork manual* (ed. D. Wilkinson)

JSAC, 2004 *A Specification for an Archaeological Trail Trenching Evaluation at Hilperton, East Trowbridge, Wiltshire*

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Hilperton, East Trowbridge, Wiltshire
Site code: TRHI 04
Grid reference: ST 867 585

Type of evaluation: Thirty one 20 m x 2 m trenches
Date and duration of project: 8 days, from 17th to 26th May 2004
Area of site: 4.6 hectares
Summary of results: Evidence of imported flint in the form of a general surface scatter across the southern area of the site, a Romano-British farmstead, possible medieval boundary ditches and post-medieval agricultural improvement.
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Wiltshire County Museums Service in due course.



Scale 1:25,000

Figure 1: Site location

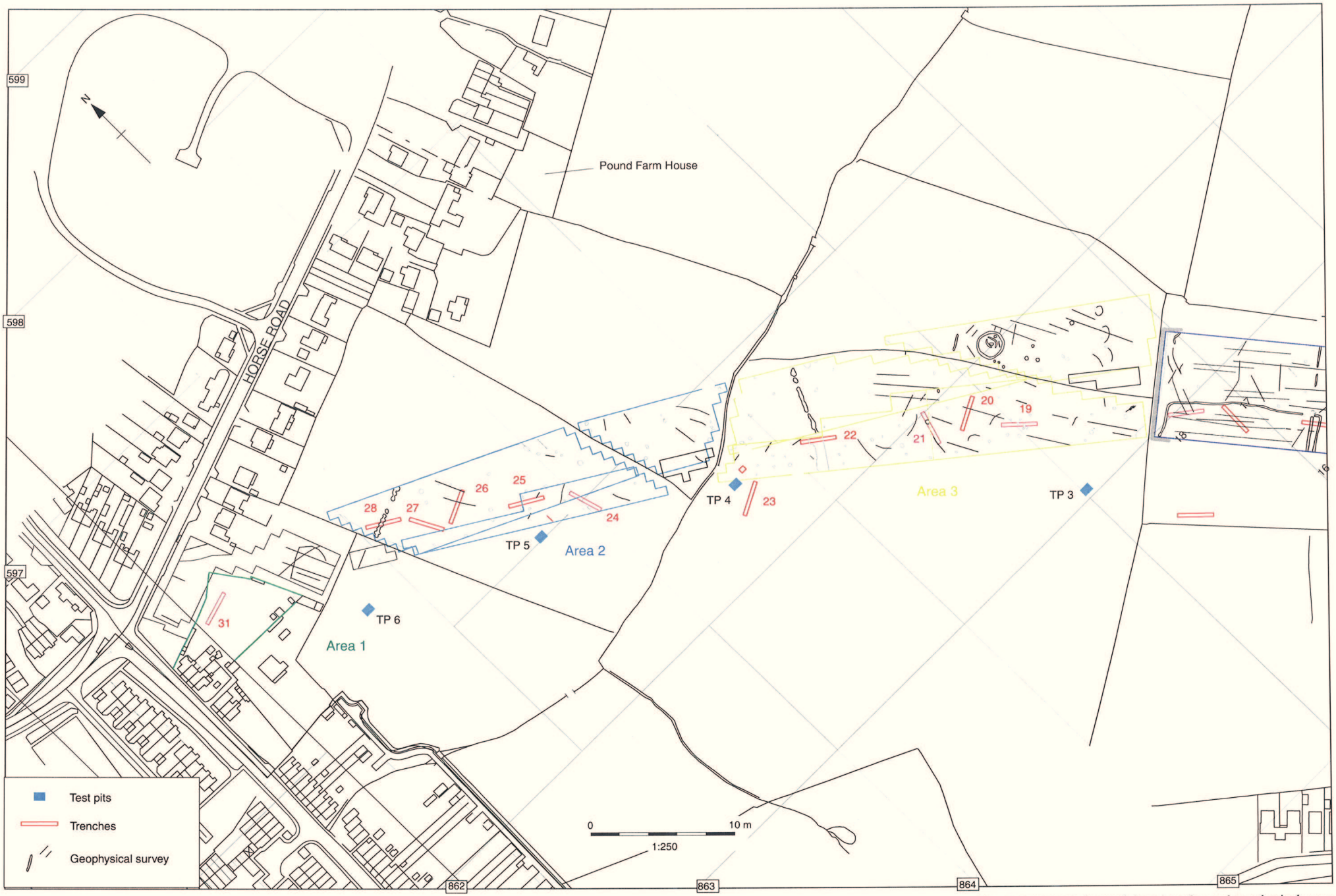


Figure 2: Areas 1-3, trench location plan and geophysical survey

Figure 3: Areas 4-6, trench location plan and geophysical survey

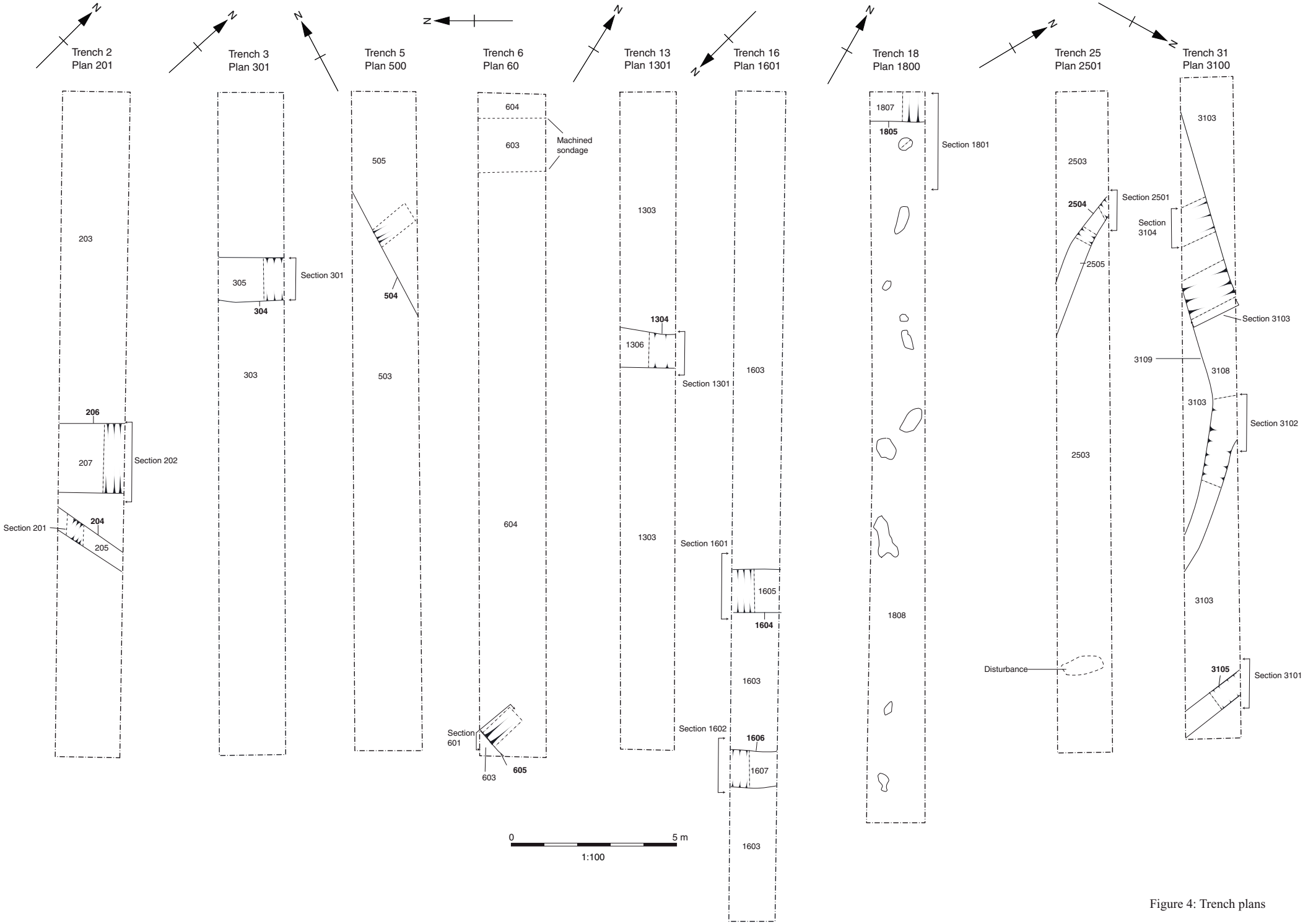


Figure 4: Trench plans

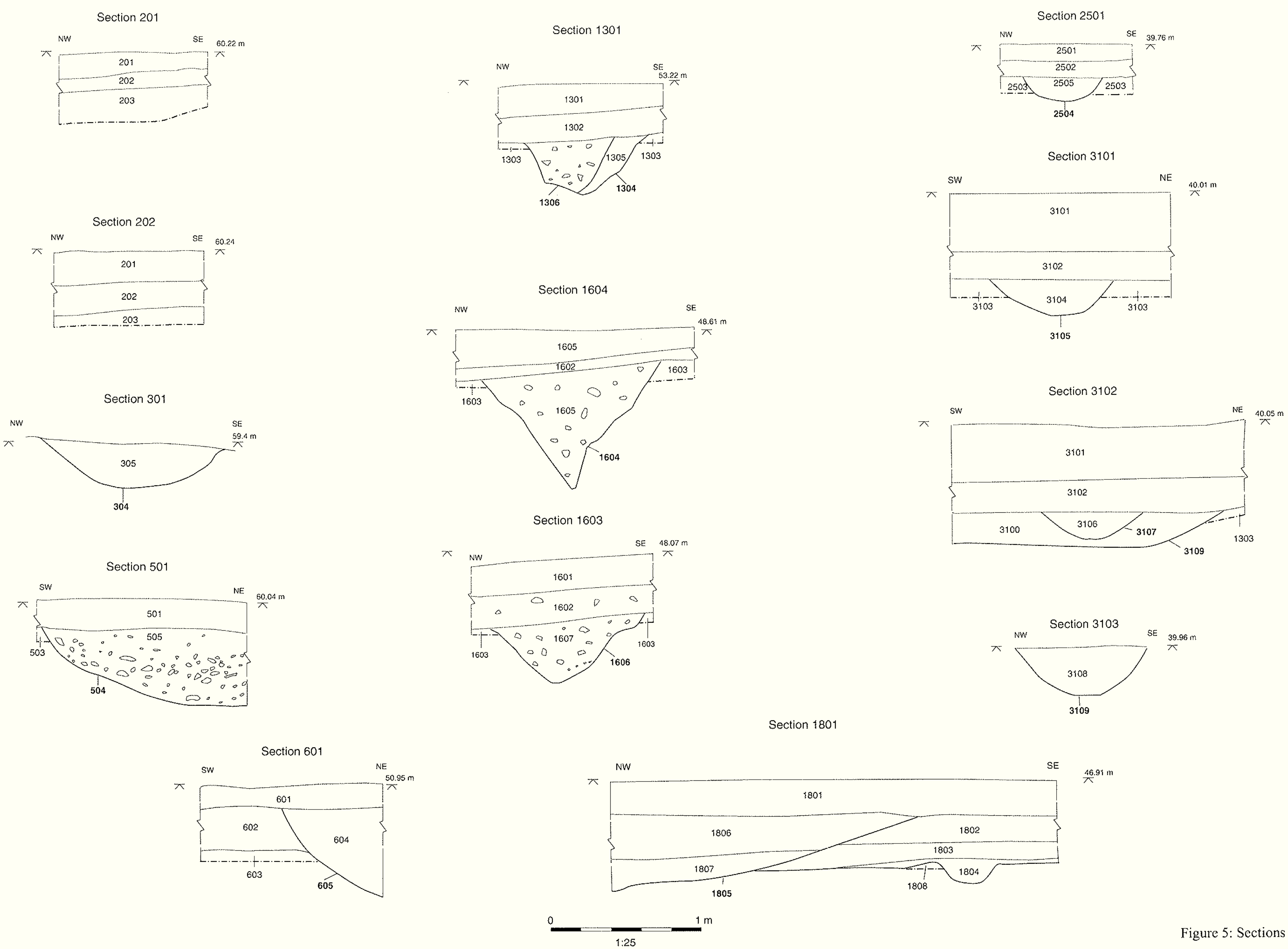


Figure 5: Sections

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