

# Hunts Grove Quedgeley Gloucestershire



## Archaeological Evaluation Report



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## Hunts Grove, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire

### *ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION*

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## SUMMARY

*Between April and June 2005 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at Hunts Grove, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire (NGR SO 8106 1220). The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Crest Strategic Projects Ltd. The evaluation revealed two main foci of late prehistoric and Roman activity. The main focus was a double ditched enclosure and associated field system, located towards the east of the site. The enclosure formed a probable farmstead which dated from the mid-late Iron Age but continued in use to the end of the Roman period. An associated burial, probably dated to the Iron Age, and an undated cremation were also revealed.*

*Iron Age and mid-late Romano-British ditches were revealed towards the west of the site. The ditches may have marked the eastern limits of a settlement to the west, beyond the limits of the evaluation. Also present were a large number of mainly undated ditches and gullies, the remnants of agricultural field systems possibly associated with the farmsteads. Undated pits and postholes were also revealed.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 From late April until early June 2005 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at Hunts Grove near Quedgeley in Gloucestershire on behalf of CgMs Consulting Ltd. The work was carried out in advance of a planning application by Crest Strategic Projects Ltd. CgMs produced a specification for the archaeological evaluation (Pugh 2005) outlining the requirements and methodology of the investigation. OA produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (OA 2005) outlining how they would undertake the work. The WSI was agreed with Charles Parry of Gloucestershire County Archaeological Services. The proposed development site is bounded to the north by RAF Quedgeley, to the south by the M5 motorway, to the east by the Birmingham to Bristol railway and to the west by the A38. The site is 97 hectares in area.

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The underlying geology of the site is Lower Lias, overlain in part by gravels associated with the river Severn (BGS sheet 234). The majority of the site lies at c 20 m above OD, but to the east of the site the land rises to c 40 m above OD. The site is located on a working dairy farm with land use comprising grazing fields, grass seeded fields, maize fields and silage fields.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment and a walkover survey of the study area were conducted by Wessex Archaeology in December 2001, the results of which are summarised below. A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Stratascan, the first phase of which was completed in November 2002, the second phase was completed in May 2005. Recent work to the north of the site (Waterwells

Development) revealed a trackway following a stream (Phil Greateorex, Gloucester City Council *pers comm*); the trackway is as yet undated. The remainder of the area was archaeologically sterile.

### ***Prehistoric***

- 1.3.2 The desk-based assessment concluded that no evidence for prehistoric activity had been recorded within the study site.

### ***Romano-British***

- 1.3.3 There is evidence for Romano-British activity both within the study site and adjacent to it. A cemetery was recorded in 1847 to the south-east of Hunts Grove, although the number of burials and exact location were not specified. Some of the burials were said to be enclosed in stone cists and Samian ware, a coin and a figurine were associated with the skeletal remains.
- 1.3.4 Beyond the site a single burial was recorded to the west. Although undated the burial was presumed to be Roman due to the proximity of other Roman sites.
- 1.3.5 Finds of 2nd-3rd century date, and indicative of settlement were discovered 100 m to the south-east of the site. A field boundary ditch of a similar date was found during an evaluation to the north of the site.
- 1.3.6 During the assessment for the M5 (Junction 12) scatters of material and cropmarks were identified to the west and south-west of Colethrop Farm.

### ***Saxon and early medieval***

- 1.3.7 There are no records or artifactual evidence of Saxon or early medieval date within the study area.

### ***Medieval and post-medieval***

- 1.3.8 The remains of ridge and furrow cultivation methods in the vicinity of Colthrop Farm are visible as earthworks and from air photographs. Although the current farm buildings date from the 19th century it is possible that earlier farm buildings once existed on the farm's current location.
- 1.3.9 A shrunken farmstead and associated hollow way were recorded to the south of the site.

## **2 EVALUATION AIMS**

### **2.1 General**

- 2.1.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.
- 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 make available the results of the investigation.

## **2.2 Specific aims**

2.2.1 To establish the presence/absence and extent of the cemetery identified in 1847.

2.2.2 To establish the full extent and character of the enclosed settlement enclosure, identified by the geophysical survey located, to the east of the site.

2.2.3 To investigate the scatter of non-ridge and furrow linear and possible enclosure features identified across the site by the geophysical survey.

2.2.4 To investigate other geophysical anomalies with archaeological potential.

2.2.5 To establish if further burials are present at the western edge of the site.

2.2.6 To establish the extent of potential archaeological deposits associated with the surface scatter of Roman finds across the south-western extent of the site.

2.2.7 To establish if the medieval remains associated with a shrunken farmstead and an associated hollow way recorded during the construction of the M5 extend into the southern boundary of the site.

## **3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Scope of fieldwork**

3.1.1 The evaluation consisted of 351 trenches each measuring 30 m by 1.8 m, a 2% sample of the site. The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

3.1.2 The trenches were located so as to investigate any features revealed within the geophysical survey. Trenching did not take place within 50 m of the three areas occupied by great crested newts, trenches located within 100 m were kept to a minimum.

3.1.3 Eight trenches could not be opened due to topographical, environmental and health and safety concerns. The trench numbers and reasons for abandonment are mentioned in the pertinent sections below.

### **3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording**

3.2.1 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white

print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

### 3.3 Finds

- 3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds of special interest were given a unique small find number.

### 3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 3.4.1 Palaeo-environmental samples were taken from several datable contexts to assess for the presence/absence of charred plant remains.

## 4 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

- 4.1.1 The site was sub-divided into 15 fields (Fig. 2); Huntsgrove, Common, OS3 and OS4 to the north; 5.5, 4.0, 30 Acres, In Front of Johns, 9 Acres and Junction 12 to the south; 4 Elms, Feed Store and Big Colthrop to the west; Badger Field, 6 Acres, 10 Acres and Shorne Brook to the centre. Section 5 comprises a detailed description of all archaeological observations within each field, by trench, and includes individual context descriptions. General archaeological information is summarised in the trench inventory table (Appendix 1).

## 5 RESULTS: GENERAL

### 5.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 5.1.1 The underlying geology of the site comprised Lower Lias clays of varying colours (from yellow and orange to blue and almost black). The overlying soils comprise Evesham 2 (slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils) in the higher ground to the north-east and Badsey 2 (well drained fine calcareous soils) in the flatter ground to the south-west. A plough derived subsoil was present in most fields. The fields below the high ground to the north-east also had a considerable depth of colluvium present. Depths of overburden for each trench are recorded in the trench inventory table (Appendix 1).
- 5.1.2 Ground conditions were generally good but certain trenches (in Feed Store, Common and Hunts Grove) flooded soon after excavation. These trenches required bailing and the digging of sumps before archaeological excavation could take place.

### 5.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

- 5.2.1 The evaluation revealed evidence of Iron Age/Romano-British settlement in the east and west of the study area. A ditch in In Front of John's contained Iron Age material. The rest of the site contained a limited and mostly undated array of archaeological features, mainly small ditches or gullies with occasional pits and post-holes. The majority of the undated features were to the NW and SE of the site. Evidence of ridge and furrow, mainly containing pottery of post-medieval date, was present in most

fields. The furrows were generally not excavated, but were recorded in plan and on the trench inventory table (Appendix 1). Subsoil was present over the majority of the site and sealed the ridge and furrow. Associated pottery was dated to the post-medieval period.

### 5.3 General

- 5.3.1 Trench orientation, specific OD levels and presence/absence of ridge and furrow will generally not be mentioned in the trench descriptions as this data is recorded in Appendix 1. Trenches devoid of archaeological features will not be discussed.

### 5.4 Junction 12 (J12)

- 5.4.1 Junction 12 is located to the south of the study area and had previously been used for maize cultivation. Trenches 5, 6, 8-10 and 12 to 31 were located within Junction 12 (Figs 3 and 4). Trenches 1, 2, 4, 7 and 11 could not be opened as their location coincided with extant ditched and hedged field boundaries. Trenches located next to the motorway contained debris from the M5 construction. A fairly thin layer of subsoil was present across the field and sealed all archaeological deposits, including furrows, unless otherwise stated.

#### *Trench 23*

- 5.4.2 A small ditch was revealed towards the southern end of the trench. The ditch (2300) was aligned W-E, and was 0.45 m wide and 0.1 m deep. The fill (2301) was a mid-brown silty clay and contained no inclusions or finds.

#### *Trench 28*

- 5.4.3 Two small, parallel ditches were revealed, both of which appeared to terminate within the confines of the trench. Ditch (2800) ran W-E across the northern end of the trench, its terminal end to the east. It was 0.54 m wide and 0.14 m in depth with a shallow concave profile. Its fill (2801) was a dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional fine gravels present.
- 5.4.4 Ditch (2802) also ran in a W-E direction some 2.75 m south of 2800, its terminus was also to the east. It was 0.36 m wide and 0.22 m deep with steeper sides and a concave base. The fill of the southern ditch (2803) was near identical to (2801). Neither ditch fill yielded any cultural material and both appeared to have naturally silted up.

#### *Trench 30*

- 5.4.5 A small NE-SW aligned ditch (3002) was revealed, running across the central area of the trench. It was 0.4 m wide and 0.1 m deep with a concave profile and a mid to dark brown silty clay fill (3003) with no inclusions or finds.

#### *Trench 31*

- 5.4.6 A ditch (3101) and small gully (3103) were located towards the east of the trench. Ditch (3101) ran in a NNE-SSW direction and was 1.18 m wide and reached a depth

of 0.4 m. The fill (3105) was a homogenous grey brown silty clay with neither inclusions or finds present, it was probably indicative of fairly rapid natural silting. Gully (3103) lay 1 m to the east and ran in a NE-SW direction. The gully was 0.18 m wide and only 0.08 m deep with a brown silty clay fill.

## 5.5 9 Acres

- 5.5.1 9 Acres is located to the south of the study area, immediately east of Junction 12. Subsoil was present and overlay plough furrows. No archaeological features were present within 9 Acres, which contained Trenches 32 to 34, 37 to 39 and 43 to 44. Prior to excavation 9 Acres had been under silage.

## 5.6 Big Colthrop

- 5.6.1 Big Colthrop is located to the north of Junction 12 and 9 Acres, and immediately south of Haresfield Lane. Subsoil was present across the field and was up to 0.3 m in depth. Trenches 35 to 36 and 40 to 42 were located within the field (Figs 5 and 6), which prior to excavation was under a maize crop.

### ***Trench 35***

- 5.6.2 Two postholes and two ditches were revealed within the trench. Posthole (3500) was located 6 m from the northern end of the trench, had a diameter of 0.45 m, a maximum depth of 0.15 m and had a flat base. The fill (3501) was a mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions but no datable material.
- 5.6.3 Posthole (3504) was situated to the SE of (3500), had a concave profile and a dark grey silty clay fill (3504) which was heat modified in the centre by *in situ* burning. No finds were recovered from (3504).
- 5.6.4 A ditch (3502) ran NE-SW across the southern end of the trench and was truncated to the SE by a modern land drain. The ditch was approximately 1.0 m wide, had a maximum depth of 0.24 m, sides sloping at 45° and a concave base. The fill (3503) was a friable mid grey brown silty clay and contained a single sherd of pottery dated from AD 200-400.
- 5.6.5 A second ditch (3506) ran in a NW-SE direction across the centre of the trench. The ditch was 0.75 m wide and 0.14 m deep with gently sloping sides. The fill (3507) was a mid to light brown plastic silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions but no finds.

### ***Trench 40***

- 5.6.6 A small pit/posthole was located towards the centre of trench 40. The pit (4000) measured 0.53 m by 0.55m and reached a depth of 0.23m. The fill (4001) was a dark brown silty clay and exhibited signs of root disturbance. Bone was recovered from the fill, but no datable material.

***Trench 41***

- 5.6.7 A ditch and three pits were present within trench 41. Pit 4114 measured 0.3 m by 0.3 m and reached a maximum depth of 0.24 m. The fill (4113) was a reddish brown clay.
- 5.6.8 The ditch (4101) ran NE-SW across the eastern end of the trench. The ditch was 0.6 m wide and 0.16 m deep. Its single fill (4102) was a homogenous light brown silt and contained a single piece of iron.
- 5.6.9 Two other pits (4110 and 4109) cut the subsoil and were of recent date.

***Trench 42***

- 5.6.10 A large pit (4200) was located at the northern end of trench 42. The pit measured 3.9 m (N-S axis) by at least 2 m (it ran beneath the eastern baulk). The pit was excavated to a depth of 0.6 m but could not be bottomed due to the high level of the water table. The pit was filled by a mid orange brown sandy clay (4202), probably derived from slumping of the sides, below a mid brown clay silt (4201). The upper fill contained quantities of animal bone.

**5.7 In Front Of Johns (IFOJ)**

- 5.7.1 This field was located immediately to the east of 9 Acres and contained Trenches 45 to 50 and 54 to 55 (Fig. 7). There was no subsoil present within this field. The field had been re-seeded prior to evaluation.

***Trench 50***

- 5.7.2 Two NE-SW aligned ditches (5000 and 5002) were revealed, situated adjacent to each other at the northern end of the trench. Ditch 5000, the northernmost, was slightly curvilinear in plan, 1.25 m wide with a slightly irregular concave profile and a maximum depth of 0.24 m. The only fill (5001) was a dark grey silty clay that contained animal bone, burnt clay and a single sherd of mid to late Iron Age pottery.
- 5.7.3 Ditch 5002 was 0.9 m wide by 0.13 m deep with a concave profile. Its fill (5003) was a dark grey plastic silty clay that contained burnt daub but no datable material. No relationship between the two features could be ascertained.

## 5.8 30 Acres

- 5.8.1 30 Acres was located immediately east and north-east of the Colthrop Farm buildings and contained Trenches 51 to 53 and 56 to 97 (Figs 8 and 9). Subsoil was present in some trenches. 30 Acres was used for grazing prior to evaluation

### *Trench 77*

- 5.8.2 A NW-SE aligned ditch (7700) was revealed, some 6 m from the western end. The ditch measured 0.41 m wide and reached a depth of 0.19 m. The fill (7701) was similar to the natural clays and contained no cultural material.

### *Trench 80*

- 5.8.3 A W-E orientated ditch (8000) was revealed. The ditch measured 0.78 m wide by 0.2 m deep. The fill (8001) was a dark brown silty clay with occasional gravels present, but no finds.

### *Trench 94*

- 5.8.4 Two parallel linear ditches were revealed that ran in a NE-SW direction. The northernmost (9402) measured 0.65 m wide and 0.21 m in depth, the fill (9403) was a tenacious mid grey brown silty clay. Ditch (9400) lay 7 m to the south and measured 0.73 m in width and 0.3 m deep. Its fill (9401) was near identical to 9403. Both ditches had steep sides and flat bases. Neither fill contained any finds. The similar orientations and profiles of the ditches suggest that they had a related function, possibly drainage.

### *Trench 95*

- 5.8.5 A small ditch was revealed, running in a NW-SE direction across the western end of the trench. The ditch (9503) measured 0.42 m wide and was 0.16 m deep. Its fill (9504) was a mid grey brown silty clay and contained no finds.

### *Trench 96*

- 5.8.6 A burnt posthole or fire pit was revealed 7 m from the western end of the trench. The feature (9600) measured 0.4 m by 0.3 m and was 0.09 m deep. The fill (9601) contained lumps of orange brown and black burnt clay but no cultural material.

## 5.9 4.0

- 5.9.1 Field 4.0 was situated due east of the southern part of 30 Acres and contained Trenches 98 to 104 (Figs 10 and 11). Subsoil was present throughout the field, apart from Trenches 98 and 103 where the subsoil had been replaced by made ground associated with the construction of the M5. Prior to evaluation the field had been re-seeded.



***Trench 100***

- 5.9.2 A posthole was revealed towards the centre of the trench. The posthole (10000) had a concave profile and had a diameter of 0.15 m and a depth of 0.1 m. The only fill (10001) was a fairly compact mid-brown silty clay and contained burnt daub. A linear gully cut the remains of ridge and furrow within this trench. The gully was recorded in plan but not excavated due to its fairly recent date.

***Trench 102***

- 5.9.3 A small ditch (10200) was observed at the southern end of the trench. It was 0.77 m wide by 0.08 m deep with a flat base and 45° sides. The fill (10201) was a mid yellow brown silty clay and contained no finds. The fill was overlain by colluvium and subsoil.

***Trench 104***

- 5.9.4 A NW-SE aligned ditch (10401) was located at the east end of the trench. The ditch measured 0.65 m wide (within the confines of the trench) and was 0.15 m deep. The sole fill (10400) was a friable mid orange yellow silty clay and contained no finds.
- 5.9.5 A second NW-SE aligned ditch (10403) measured 2.2 m wide, 0.27 m deep and had gently sloping sides and a flat base. The only fill (10402) was also a mid orange yellow silty clay, very similar to the overlying subsoil. No datable material was present within the fill. The two features could be interpreted as field boundaries, possibly one replacing the other.
- 5.9.6 A third ditch (10405) was N-S aligned and had a concave profile with a slight step on its eastern side. It measured 0.7 m wide and 0.16 m deep. The fill (10404) was a friable orange yellow silty clay and contained no cultural material.

**5.10 4 Elms**

- 5.10.1 4 Elms is located to the west of the study area and contained Trenches 105 to 141 (Figs 12-14). Subsoil was present throughout the field. Prior to evaluation 4 Elms was under maize crop.

***Trench 106***

- 5.10.2 A small ditch (10601) was revealed at the westernmost end of the trench. Orientated WNW-ESE the ditch measured 0.55 m wide by 0.15 m deep with a concave profile. The only fill (10602), a mid to dark brown silty clay, contained no finds and was considerably root disturbed. Several sherds of Romano-British mortaria were recovered from the subsoil (10600), within the immediate vicinity of the ditch, and may have been removed from 10602 by plough action.

***Trench 109***

- 5.10.3 A small gully was observed at the western end (10900) of the trench and a larger ditch (10902) towards the centre. The gully (10900) ran in a WNW-ESE direction

with a concave profile and was 0.5 m wide and 0.2 m deep. The fill (10901) was a mid brownish grey sandy silt and contained no finds. The larger ditch (10902) ran in a NNE-SSW direction and was 1.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep with a shallow irregular profile. The fill (10903) was a loose mid grey silty clay that contained no finds. Ditch 10902 may have represented a former field boundary.

### ***Trench 110***

- 5.10.4 A small ditch (11000) was present within trench 110. It ran W-E towards the south of the trench and measured 0.92 m wide and 0.42 m deep. The fill (11001) contained no finds. The feature cut the subsoil and was not considered to be of antiquity.

### ***Trench 113***

- 5.10.5 At the northern end of the trench two small gullies were revealed. Ditch 11307 to the north and 11309, that terminated within the trench, to the south. Both ditches ran in a NW-SE orientation. Ditch 11307 was 0.66 m wide and reached a depth of 0.12 m. The fill (11308) was a dark brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions. Ditch 11309 was 0.38 m wide and 0.16 m deep within its terminal end. It was filled with a light grey-brown silty clay with pebble inclusions (11311) and a mid-dark brown clay silt (11310).
- 5.10.6 To the south of (11309) were two intercutting pits (11302 and 11304). Pit 11302 was the earlier of the two, with a concave profile that measured 1.0 m in diameter and 0.42 m deep. The single fill (11303) was a mid orange grey silty clay with occasional charcoal specks and sub angular gravels. Pit 11304 to the north was at least 2.4 m wide and 0.48 m deep, with an undulating base and steep sides to the north, more gently sloping to the south. The pit was filled by a dark brown clay silt (11306) below a light brown silty clay (11305). None of the pit fills contained any cultural material.
- 5.10.7 To the south of 11302 was a small ditch (11314) that had an unclear relationship with a pit (11312). Ditch 11314 was 1.0 m wide and 0.3 m deep with a rounded base and filled with a dark brown silty clay (11315). Pit (11312) formed an irregular circular shape 0.8 m by 0.72 m and was 0.12 m deep. Its fill (11313) was very similar to 11315. Neither feature contained any finds.
- 5.10.8 A W-E aligned ditch (11300) crossed the southern end of the trench. It had a concave profile 0.24 m deep and 0.72 m wide. The fill (11301) was a mid brown clay silt with occasional pebbles but no finds were present.

### ***Trench 116***

- 5.10.9 Two small gullies were present towards the eastern end of trench 116. The easternmost (11602) ran in a NW-SE direction and had a concave profile, measuring 0.3 m across and 0.11 m deep. The sole fill (11603) was a mid greyish brown clay with occasional rounded gravels, but no finds. To the west the second ditch (11600) ran NNE-SSW and was slightly irregular in plan. The ditch was 0.5 m wide and 0.2

m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The fill (11601) was a mid brown silty clay with no finds present.

### ***Trench 118***

5.10.10 Two intercutting ditches (11800 and 11802) were observed. Ditch 11802 was 1.24 m wide and 0.2 m deep with gently sloping sides. Its sole fill (11803) was a loose mid brown silty clay and contained small fragments of animal bone. It was truncated by ditch 11800, which ran in a NW-SE direction. The later ditch had a steep sided concave profile and measured 0.5 m wide and 0.2 m deep. Its fill (11801) was a dark brown sandy clay that contained no finds.

### ***Trench 119***

5.10.11 A ditch (11900) was present towards the western end of trench 119. Orientated NE-SW the ditch had a concave profile with steeper sides to the west than east. The ditch measured 0.7 m wide and 0.2 m deep, its sole fill (11901) was a loose brown sandy clay with occasional rounded pebbles present.

### ***Trench 121***

5.10.12 Two NE-SW orientated ditches were located to the north and centre of the trench. The NW ditch (12101) measured 1.05 m wide and 0.4 m deep and had fairly steep sides and a flat base with three distinctive fills. The primary fill was a light blue grey sandy clay (12105) that had slumped in from the south-east. The secondary fill (12106) was a light orange sandy clay that had also slumped into the ditch from the south-east, perhaps indicative of the location of an associated bank. The upper fill (12103) was a mid brown silty clay. None of the fills contained any finds.

5.10.13 The second ditch (12102) had gently sloping sides with a imperceptible break of slope and measured 1.3 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was filled by a light grey sandy clay (12104), with no associated finds.

### ***Trench 122***

5.10.14 Two ditches and a small posthole were observed. Ditch 12206 ran across the northern end of the trench in a NW-SE direction. It measured 0.54 m wide and 0.14 m deep. The sole fill (12207) was a dark brown silty clay with no inclusions or finds.

5.10.15 Towards the centre of the trench was a W-E orientated ditch (12202) with a width of 0.74 m and a depth of 0.14 m. The fill (12203) was a light brown clay silt with no finds present.

5.10.16 To the south of the trench was a small posthole (12200) that measured 0.45 m by 0.34 m and was 0.06 m deep. Its sole fill (12201) was a dark grey silt that had been heat affected in places. No finds were recovered from (12201).

***Trench 123***

5.10.17 A NE-SW orientated ditch (12303) terminated within the confines of trench 123. It was 0.9 m across and 0.12 m deep at its terminal end, to the south-west. It was filled by a mid brown sandy clay (12306) that contained no cultural material.

***Trench 124***

5.10.18 A N-S orientated ditch (12400) was revealed at the eastern end of the trench. It measured 0.7 m wide and 0.2 m deep with a concave profile. Its fill (12401) was a mid brown sandy clay with no inclusions or finds present.

***Trench 125***

5.10.19 A ditch running NE-SW was present towards the southern end of trench 125. It cut the subsoil and contained pottery dating from the post-medieval period, it was interpreted as a recent field boundary.

***Trench 130***

5.10.20 A NE-SW orientated ditch (13000) was observed; it measured 0.55 m wide and 0.2 m deep. The SE side sloped at 45° whilst the NW edge was steeper and the base concave. The fill (13001) was a dark brown silty clay with gravel inclusions but no finds.

***Trench 134***

5.10.21 Two small burnt patches were present within trench 134 (13400) and (13401). Area 13400 measured 0.48 m by 0.38 m and was 0.14 m deep. Area 13401 measured 0.66 m by 0.4 m and was also 0.14 m in depth. These areas did not represent true deposits but heat altered natural geology. The features were presumed to be the bases of fires rather than dug hearths.

***Trench 135***

5.10.22 Two pits were situated at the western end of the trench. Pit 13500 was ovoid in shape and measured 1.75 m long by 0.7 m wide, it was 0.27 m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The fill (13501) was a mid grey brown sandy clay, reminiscent of the underlying natural. A single piece of worked flint was recovered from within the fill.

5.10.23 Pit 13502 measured 0.7 m wide and 0.19m deep. Its single fill (13503) was a light greyish yellow sandy clay which was very clean and contained no inclusions or finds.

***Trench 136***

5.10.24 A small NW-SE aligned gully (13600) was revealed. The gully was 0.5 m wide and 0.18 m deep with a V-shaped profile. The sole fill (13601) was a loose mid brown silty clay and contained no finds.

### 5.11 Feed Store

- 5.11.1 Feed Store was located east of the southern part of Four Elms and contained Trenches 143 to 148 (Figs 15 and 16). Subsoil was present throughout the field, often to a considerable depth. The trenches all (with the exception of 148) suffered from severe water-logging due to the high water table in this area of the study site. Feed store was re-seeded prior to evaluation.

#### ***Trench 143***

- 5.11.2 Ditch 14300 ran in a NW-SE direction with fairly steep sides and was at least 0.8 m wide. Its sole excavated fill (14301) was a light brown silty clay with frequent small limestone inclusions and fairly large amounts of mid-late Romano-British pottery and animal bone. This ditch was re-cut to the SW by 14302 which had the same orientation.
- 5.11.3 Ditch (14302) was 0.7 m wide with steep sides and a sole excavated fill (14303), a firm dark grey brown silty clay. The fill contained pottery dating from 120-400 and animal bone. Neither ditch could be fully excavated because of a high water table.
- 5.11.4 Similarly, ditch 14304 to the south was also covered in water prior to excavation. It ran in a NE-SW direction and had sides at approximately 45° and a flat base. The ditch was 1.05 m wide and 0.3 m deep. Its fill (14305) was a dark grey brown silty clay and contained late Romano-British pottery, animal bone and iron objects (small finds 7-12).

#### ***Trench 144***

- 5.11.5 A NE-SW orientated ditch (14401) was revealed that measured 1.62 m wide and reached a depth of 0.42 m. The ditch had fairly steep sides and a base that sloped up slightly to the NW. It was filled by a mid brownish grey sandy clay (14400) with frequent sub-angular gravel inclusions and contained two sherds of 1st-century pottery. A re-cut was not visible in the section but the trench was extremely waterlogged making excavation difficult.

#### ***Trench 145***

- 5.11.6 A narrow ditch and a small posthole were revealed. The ditch (14502) ran in a W-E direction across the centre of the trench. The ditch was 0.52 m wide and 0.14 m deep with a concave profile. The fill (14503) was a mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. The posthole (14500) was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.3 m and a depth of only 0.1 m. Its sole fill (14501) was a light grey silty sand with no inclusions or finds present.

#### ***Trench 148***

- 5.11.7 Trench 148 contained six postholes (14800, 14802, 14804, 14806, 14808 and 14810); and three pits (14812, 14814 and 14817). The postholes may have represented a fence line; 14804, 14808 and 14810 were on a W-E orientated line. The postholes

varied in diameter from 0.25 m to 0.3 m and in depth from 0.11 m to 0.22 m. The majority of the postholes had flat bases and fairly steep to vertical sides. All of the postholes had similar fills, dark orange brown silty clays (14801, 14803, 14805, 14807, 14809 and 14811). None contained any dating evidence, although the fill of 14808 (14809) contained fragments of animal bone.

- 5.11.8 Pit 14817 was 1.5 m wide with an excavated depth of 0.24 m. Its single fill (14818) was a mid to dark brown silty clay that contained occasional gravels but no finds.
- 5.11.9 Pit 14814 truncated 14817 and measured 3.66 m wide, with an almost rectangular shape in plan. It had gently sloping sides and was excavated to a depth of 0.55 m where the water table was encountered. It contained a mid to light brown silty clay (14816) with moderately frequent charcoal and gravel inclusions, below a dark grey silty clay (14815). The upper fill contained charcoal and animal bone fragments.
- 5.11.10 Pit 14812 had an unclear relationship with 14814 and was ovoid in plan with dimensions of 1.5 m by 1.05 m and a depth of 0.23 m. Its fill (14813) was a light grey brown silty clay which contained fragments of animal bone and frequent charcoal flecks.
- 5.11.11 The only feature to contain any direct dating evidence was a tree hole immediately west of the intercutting pits. The hole (14819) was irregular in plan with an undulating base and the fill (14820), a mid yellowish brown sandy gravel, contained bone, burnt bone and mid-late Iron Age pottery.

## 5.12 Badger Field

- 5.12.1 Badger Field was located due east of 4 Elms and north of Feed Store. Subsoil was present throughout the field which contained Trenches 149 to 174 (Figs 17 and 18). Trench 142, due to be located to the south west of the field, was not opened as it was situated within an area that had been used to dump a thick pile of slurry. Badger Field was harvested for silage prior to evaluation.

### *Trench 153*

- 5.12.2 Four small gullies were revealed; gully 15301 ran in a NW-SE direction and terminated within the trench. The gully was 0.28 m wide and 0.06 m deep with a concave profile. The fill (15300) was a grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal fragments but no finds.
- 5.12.3 An adjacent gully (15303) ran in a NE-SW direction and also terminated within the trench. It measured 0.35 m wide and 0.16 m deep with sides of 45° and a flat base. The fill (15302) was a grey brown sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal and a single small piece of CBM.
- 5.12.4 Ditch 13505 was situated 3.5 m to the west and ran in a NE-SW direction. It measured 0.4 m wide, reaching a depth of 0.14 m and had a concave profile. Its single fill (15304) was also a grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks but no finds.

- 5.12.5 Ditch 15307 ran in a NE-SW direction across the western end of the trench and was cut by a modern land drain. The ditch was 0.45 m across and 0.1 m deep. The fill was near identical to those of the other ditches within Trench 153, and contained no finds.

#### ***Trench 154***

- 5.12.6 Two NE-SW aligned intercutting ditches were observed. The easternmost ditch (15400) had a remaining width of 0.8 m, a depth of 0.14 m and had a shallow profile with no discernible break of slope. Its single fill (15401) was a brownish orange sandy clay with well sorted gravel inclusions and no finds.
- 5.12.7 The western ditch (15402) cut 15400 and their shared orientation may indicate two phases of field boundary. Ditch 15402 had a width of 1.08 m and a depth of 0.3 m with a concave profile. The primary fill (15403) was an orange brown sandy clay with no associated finds. The upper fill (15404) was a greyish brown silty clay with patches of sand and gravel and contained a few sherds of post-medieval pottery.

#### ***Trench 155***

- 5.12.8 Two intercutting ditches (15500 and 15502) were located to the west of the trench. The earlier ditch (15502) measured 0.5 m wide and 0.19 m deep, had a concave profile and was filled by a brown grey clay silt (15503) with no finds.
- 5.12.9 The larger, and later N-S aligned ditch (15500) was 1.17 m wide and 0.52 m deep with a pronounced V-shaped profile. The fill (15501) was a dark grey brown silty clay.

#### ***Trench 158***

- 5.12.10 Two postholes were present at the western end of trench 158. The westernmost (15802) had a diameter of 0.46 m, a depth of 0.36 m and had vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (15803) was a loose grey brown sandy silt and contained no finds.
- 5.12.11 The second posthole (15800) had sides of 45° and a flat base, but was only 0.07 m deep with a diameter of 0.35 m and a fill (15801) similar to 15803.

#### ***Trench 159***

- 5.12.12 A posthole (15903) was revealed at the southern end of the trench. The posthole measured 0.3 m by 0.35 m with a depth of 0.24 m, it had a slightly irregular profile. The fill (15902) was a light yellow grey silty clay with no finds present.

#### ***Trench 161***

- 5.12.13 A posthole was revealed (16103) that had a diameter of 0.4 m and a depth of 0.26 m with steep sides and a flat base. The fill (16102) was a yellow grey silty sand and contained no finds.

***Trench 164***

- 5.12.14 A probable NW-SE aligned ditch was revealed; its SW side was disturbed by roots. The ditch (16403) had gently sloping sides, an undulating base and measured at least 2.5 m wide and 0.46 m deep. The primary fill (16404) was a yellow brown silty loam with limestone fragments and no finds. The upper fill (16405) was a dark greyish brown loamy silt. This feature was difficult to interpret and may have been one large tree throw hole.

***Trench 165***

- 5.12.15 A ditch was revealed (16500) that ran in a NNE-SSW direction, partially under the eastern baulk, and was at least 1.0 m wide with an excavated depth of 0.4 m. The fill (16501) was a brownish grey clay with pockets of silty sand and roots. No finds were recovered.

***Trench 166***

- 5.12.16 A posthole (16600) was present towards the western end of trench 166. It had a diameter of 0.28 m and a depth of 0.13 m with steep sides and a flat base. Its fill (16601), a brownish grey sandy clay, contained no finds.

**5.13 10 Acres**

- 5.13.1 10 Acres was located east of Badger Field and contained trenches 175 to 182. Subsoil was present throughout this field but no archaeological features were identified. A sherd of middle-late Iron Age/Early Roman date was recovered from the subsoil in trench 181 (18100). Prior to evaluation the field was used for grazing.

**5.14 6 Acres**

- 5.14.1 6 Acres was located to the north-east of Badger Field and contained Trenches 183 to 191. Subsoil was present to a fair depth throughout this field. Trenches 186 and 189 were not opened because Trench 186 was too close to the tree-line for the plant to operate; Trench 189 ran through a large pile of brush and rubble deemed to be a possible bird nesting site. No archaeological features were present within 6 Acres. Prior to evaluation the field was used for grazing.

**5.15 Hunts Grove**

- 5.15.1 Hunts Grove was located to the north-east of the study area, to the north of 6 Acres and contained trenches 192 to 225 (Figs 19 and 20). Subsoil was present throughout the field. The field was harvested for silage prior to evaluation.

**5.16 Trench 193**

- 5.16.1 A NE-SW orientated ditch (19300) was revealed. It was 1.05 m wide and 0.1 m deep with a flat base and gently sloping sides. The fill (19301) was a mid-dark brown silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal, daub and animal bone. It is possible that this feature was a plough furrow, but there were no others in the immediate vicinity.



***Trench 194***

- 5.16.2 A ditch (or possible furrow) ran in a NE-SW direction. The ditch (19401) had a shallow concave profile 0.65 m across and 0.08 m deep. The fill (19400) was mid orange brown with no inclusions or finds present. This ditch appeared to be continuation of 19300 seen in Trench 193.

***Trench 197***

- 5.16.3 A NE-SW aligned ditch (19701) was observed, 2.14 m wide and 0.27 m deep with a shallow flat based profile. It appeared to cut the subsoil and was fairly recent in date. The fill (19700) contained an abraded Romano-British pot sherd.

***Trench 198***

- 5.16.4 A N-S aligned ditch (19800) was observed. It was *c* 4.0 m wide (it had been truncated by a furrow at its western extent) and was 0.56 m deep with a slightly undulating concave profile. The fill (19801) was a yellow brown silty clay which contained fragments of bone.

***Trench 200***

- 5.16.5 Trench 200 proved too wet to excavate, but a ditch (20000), on the same alignment as 19800 described above, was faintly visible in plan towards the western end of the trench.

***Trench 201***

- 5.16.6 A N-S orientated ditch was present at the east end of the trench. The ditch (20101) was 1.3 m wide and 0.34 m deep with an undulating profile. The sides became steeper towards the concave base. The fill (20100) was a yellow grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks but no finds.

***Trench 206***

- 5.16.7 A N-S aligned ditch (20601) was observed, measuring 0.63 m wide and 0.3 m deep. Two sherds of Romano-British pottery, presumably redeposited, were recovered from the fill (20600). The ditch was noted to cut the subsoil.

**5.17 Common**

- 5.17.1 Common was located to the east of Hunts Grove and to the north of 6 Acres and contained Trenches 226 to 231, 233 to 237, 239 to 246 and 266 to 281 (Figs 21 and 22). The natural clays within Common varied in colour from black and blue to yellow and light brown. Towards the south of the field the trenches became waterlogged. Common was under a maize crop prior to evaluation.

***Trench 227***

- 5.17.2 A NW-SE aligned ditch (22703) was revealed. It was 0.59 m wide and 0.17 m deep with a concave profile. The sole fill (22704) was a light yellow grey silty clay with no inclusions or finds present.

***Trench 231***

- 5.17.3 A curvilinear gully was present to the western end of trench 231. The gully (23103) was 0.31 m wide, 0.13 m deep and ran under the southern baulk. The internal diameter of the ditch (within the trench) was 4.0 m. The ditch had a concave profile with sides of around 45°. The fill (23104) was a mid to light yellow brown silty clay, similar in nature to the overlying subsoil. The ditch was similar to a drip gully, associated with a round house, although there were no associated postholes, or other features or finds, visible.

***Trench 239***

- 5.17.4 A NE-SW orientated ditch (23903) was revealed. It had a width of 0.88 m and a depth of 0.28 m. The ditch had steep sides and a relatively flat base. The fill (23904) was a mid to dark yellow brown silty clay with occasional small flint pebbles. Several sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the fill.

***Trench 242***

- 5.17.5 A posthole (24203), which was ovoid in plan, was located towards the centre of the trench. The posthole measured 0.54 m by 0.35 m and was 0.13 m deep. The fill (24204) was a brownish orange sandy clay and contained no finds.

***Trench 276***

- 5.17.6 A W-E running ditch was present in the centre of trench 276. The ditch (27603) was 1.3 m wide and 0.34 m deep. The profile was generally concave but slightly irregular, perhaps due to edge erosion. The fill (27604) was a yellow brown silty clay containing lumps of more orange or blue clay, possibly indicative of deliberate back-filling.

**5.18 Shorne Brook**

- 5.18.1 Shorne Brook is a thin strip of land located between 30 Acres to the south and Common and OS3 to the north. The field contained Trenches 232, 238 and 247 to 252 (Fig. 24). Trench 232 ran through the middle of a copse of oak trees and the plant could not get access.

***Trench 249***

- 5.18.2 A ditch ran ENE-WSW across the eastern end of the trench. The ditch (24903) measured 0.5 m wide and 0.08 m deep and had a shallow concave profile with no discernible break of slope. The fill (24904) was a grey brown silty clay which contained no finds.

***Trench 252***

- 5.18.3 A small NW-SE aligned ditch was revealed terminating within the confines of the trench. The ditch (25200) was 0.48 m wide and 0.12 m deep with sides at 45° and a flat base. The fill (25201), a dark grey brown silty clay, contained no finds.

**5.19 5.5**

- 5.19.1 Field 5.5 is located immediately north-east of 4.0 and south of OS4. Sub soil was present throughout, except in Trench 262 that contained debris from the construction of the M5. Trenches 254 to 265 were located within 5.5. Only Trench 254 contained any archaeological features (Fig. 24), although land drains and plough furrows were present. The field was re-seeded prior to evaluation.

***Trench 254***

- 5.19.2 The terminus of a ditch (25405), or possible small pit, was revealed. It had a concave profile, was 0.58 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It was filled with a yellow brown clay silt (25404).
- 5.19.3 The terminus was truncated by a single NE-SW orientated ditch that ran across the centre of the trench. The ditch (25403) was 0.96 m wide and 0.24 m deep with fairly steep sides to the SE, more gently sloping sides to the NW, and a fairly flat base. The fill (25402) was a light yellowish brown silty clay which had been root disturbed and contained no finds.

**5.20 OS3**

- 5.20.1 OS3 was located to the east of the study area, directly east of Common and north of Shorne Brook. OS3 contained Trenches 282 to 307 (Figs 25 and 26). Colluvium was present towards the Shorne Brook and was overlain by subsoil.

***Trench 282***

- 5.20.2 Two ditches and a pit were revealed. Ditch (28206) ran in a N-S direction and measured 0.58 m in width and 0.2 m deep with a concave profile. The fill (28207), a mid to dark brown silty clay contained no finds. The ditch was truncated to the NW by a plough furrow.
- 5.20.3 Ditch (28208) was orientated NE-SW and terminated just within the trench. The ditch measured 0.3 m wide and 0.3 m deep with fairly steep sides and a concave base. The fill (28209) was a firm dark grey brown silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 5.20.4 A pit (28204) was ovoid in shape with a length of 1.85 m and a width of 0.92 m. Its depth was 0.19 m and its only fill (28205) was a grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks; no finds were present.

***Trench 283***

- 5.20.5 A ditch (28300) was orientated W-E, had sides of 45° and a flat base. The only fill (28301), a mid brown silty clay, contained no finds.

***Trench 284***

- 5.20.6 Two gullies and two small pits or postholes were present. Gully 28401 ran NW-SE and terminated within the trench. The gully was 0.48 m wide and 0.07 m deep with a

gently rounded profile. The fill (28400) was a grey brown silty clay that contained no finds.

- 5.20.7 The second gully was segmented, possibly due to plough damage as it was very shallow. Segment (28407) ran in a NE-SW direction and was 1.45 m long, 0.47 m wide and 0.08 m in depth with a concave profile. It was filled a grey brown silty clay (28406) that contained no finds. The other segment of this gully (28409), 0.4 m to the east, ran under the northern baulk. It measured 0.4 m across (the available width) by 0.08 m deep with a similar profile and fill (28408) to 28407.
- 5.20.8 The two pits (28403 and 28405) were both ovoid in plan. Pit 28403 measured 0.75 m by 0.37 m and had a depth of 0.12 m. The fill (28402) was near identical to the ditch fills but contained flecks of charcoal. Pit 28405 measured 0.75 m by 0.42 m and was 0.06 m deep. Fill 28404, a mid grey brown silty clay, contained three sherds of medieval pot.

#### ***Trench 286***

- 5.20.9 A small irregularly shaped pit (28603) was revealed within the trench. It measured 1.08 m by 0.49 m with a depth of 0.08 m. Its fill (28604), a yellow brown silty clay, contained occasional charcoal flecks and some burnt clay. It seems possible that this feature was a product of tree clearance.

#### ***Trench 291***

- 5.20.10 A N-S orientated ditch (29103) was revealed within the trench, it had a width of 0.66 m and a depth of 0.24 m. The fill (29104) was a yellow brown silty clay.

#### ***Trench 294***

- 5.20.11 A posthole (29404/29405) of post-medieval date was present.

#### ***Trench 297***

- 5.20.12 Three ditches were observed; ditch 29700 ran in a N-S direction and was 0.45 m wide and 0.16 m deep with a concave profile and two fills. The primary fill (29701) was a brownish grey silty clay, 0.05 m deep. The upper fill (29702) was similar and 0.11 m deep. Both fills were indicative of natural silting.
- 5.20.13 Ditch 29703 ran in a NE-SW direction and was 0.8 m wide and 0.26 m deep. The primary fill (29704) was an orange brown silty clay and the upper fill (29705) was a brown silty clay. The fills of this ditch looked equivalent to those of the enclosure ditches (see Trench 299 onwards).
- 5.20.14 The third ditch (29706) ran N-S, parallel with the current field boundary. It measured 0.8 m wide and 0.4 m deep with a concave profile. The primary fill (29707) and upper fill (29708) were brown silty clays. None of the ditch fills contained any finds.

***Trench 298***

- 5.20.15 Two ditches and two gullies were observed. Gully 29809 ran W-E, and 29806 ran NW-SE; neither fills (29810 and 29807) contained any finds. They were sealed by a layer containing large limestone blocks, initially thought to be structural. On closer inspection the limestone blocks were set within a layer (29808) that also contained clay pipe.
- 5.20.16 A W-E aligned ditch (29804) measuring 1.3 m wide and 0.24 m deep with a brown silt fill (29805) also contained no datable material. Two similar sized ditches (29802 and 29800) were also revealed, neither ditch fill (29803 and 29801) was dated.

***Trench 299***

- 5.20.17 Two ditches both orientated NW-SE were revealed. The northernmost ditch (29900) was 0.4 m wide, 0.26 m deep and filled with silty clays (29901 and 29902).
- 5.20.18 The ditch to the south (29903) measured 0.8 m wide and 0.38 m deep. The silty fills of this ditch (29904/29905) had accumulated from the northern side, perhaps indicative of a bank, and contained AD 1st-century pottery.

***Trench 300***

- 5.20.19 A NNE-SSW orientated ditch was revealed that formed part of the outer ditch of an enclosure. The ditch (30000) measured 2.4 m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m, although not bottomed for reasons of health and safety. The ditch contained three visible fills. The lower fill, a light grey brown clay (30003), contained animal bone. The middle fill (30002), an orange brown silty clay, contained animal bone, CBM and pottery dating from the middle to late Iron Age. The upper fill (30001), a dark grey brown silty clay contained animal bone, CBM, and pottery dating from the 1st century. An iron "rod" (small find 5) was also recovered from this fill.

***Trench 301***

- 5.20.20 The earliest feature was the base of a small pit or posthole (30105) filled by a mid reddish brown clay silt (30106). The fill contained pot dating from the mid to late Iron Age/1st century.
- 5.20.21 The pit was truncated by ditch (30100) that was 6 m wide and 1.2 m deep. It was filled with silty clays (30101-30102), the lowest of which (30102) contained middle to late Iron Age pottery. The ditch was truncated by ditch 30103, its silty fill (30104) contained intrusive medieval pottery.
- 5.20.22 Ditch 30103 was cut by ditch 30107 to the east. It was 3.8 m wide and 0.9 m deep with gently sloping sides to the east and steeper sides to the west. The single fill (30108) contained animal bone and Romano-British pottery.
- 5.20.23 A NE-SW orientated gully (30109), filled with a silty clay (30110) measured 0.8 m long by 0.35 m wide and contained no datable material.

***Trench 303***

5.20.24 Two W-E orientated ditches were revealed. The southern ditch (30301) coincided with the inner ditch of the enclosure as represented on the geophysical plot. It was 3.14 m wide and excavated to a depth of 1.3 m. The two lower fills (30303/30302) both contained animal bone and middle to late Iron Age pottery. Fill 30303 also contained a flint scraper (small find 4) and a small piece of limestone with mortar adhering to it. The upper fill (30304), a grey brown silty clay, contained animal bone and pottery dating to the 1st century AD. A bone die that had been remodelled as a bead (small find 1) was also recovered.

5.20.25 The northern ditch (30305) was associated with the outer enclosure, measured 2.63 m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.75 m. The lower fill (30307) contained animal bone and pottery dating from the middle to late Iron Age/1st century. The upper fill (30306) contained animal bone and pottery that dated to the 1st century. A small posthole (30308) was present towards the northern end of the trench but its fill (30309) contained no finds.

***Trench 304***

5.20.26 Trench 304 contained a single curvilinear ditch (30403) that was orientated NNE-SSW. The ditch was 0.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep with a flat base. The fill (30402) contained no finds.

***Trench 307***

5.20.27 Three sherds of middle to late Iron Age/1st-century AD pottery were recovered from the subsoil (30700).

## 5.21 OS4

- 5.21.1 OS4 was located to the east of the study area, directly east of OS3 and north of 5.5. OS4 contained Trenches 171, 218 and 308 to 351 (Figs 27 and 28). Colluvium was present towards the Shorne Brook and was overlain by subsoil.

### *Trench 309*

- 5.21.2 A NW-SE orientated ditch was seen. The ditch (30900) measured 0.6 m wide by 0.2 m deep. The only fill (30901), a brown silty clay, contained 1st-century pottery.

### *Trench 310*

- 5.21.3 A small gully (31000) was present and was orientated NW-SE. It measured 0.46 m wide, 0.12 m deep and the fill (31001) contained no finds.

### *Trench 312*

- 5.21.4 Two gullies were revealed; gully 31200 was orientated NE-SW and was 0.4 m wide and 0.04 m deep. Gully 31203 ran NW-SE and measured 0.45 m wide and 0.1 m deep. The fills of both gullies (31201 and 31204) were devoid of finds.

### *Trench 313*

- 5.21.5 An intercutting ditch and pit were revealed. The ditch (31302) ran NW-SE and measured 1.45 m wide and 0.3 m deep. The fill (31303) contained daub. The pit (31300) was over 2.5 m wide and 0.28 m deep. The fill (31301) contained fragments of human long bone and animal bone. Neither feature was dated and the relationship between them could not be ascertained. The fills of the two features were near identical and dissimilar to other deposits in the vicinity.

### *Trench 314*

- 5.21.6 A N-S aligned ditch (31400) measured 1.0 m wide and 0.2 m deep. The fill (31401) contained pottery from the 1st century AD. An undated posthole (31402 and 31403) was also present to the west of the trench.

### *Trench 315*

- 5.21.7 A W-E aligned ditch was revealed in the centre of the trench (31506). It was 1 m wide and 0.25 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (31507) that contained pottery dated from AD 43-100. It was truncated by a N-S gully (31500) that was 0.5 m wide, 0.15 m deep and intersected with a similarly sized W-E aligned gully to the south (31502). The gullies were filled with a grey silty clay (31501 and 31503).

### *Trench 316*

- 5.21.8 To the west of the trench a N-S aligned ditch was revealed (31610). It was 0.8 m wide and 0.15 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (31611). Pottery dating between AD 43 and 100 was recovered from the fill.

- 5.21.9 A larger NE-SW aligned ditch (31606) was revealed in the centre of the trench. It was 2.2 m wide and 1 m deep and filled with grey and brown silts and clays (31607-31609). The basal fill (31609) contained mid to late Iron Age pottery and the upper fills pottery dated from 43-100. The upper fills were truncated by a circular pit (31605) that was 1 m wide and 0.5 m deep. The pit was filled by a light grey silt (31604), which contained pottery dated to the 1st Century AD, below a dark clay silt (31603). The upper fill contained a mid to late Iron Age jar (31601) and pottery sherds dated from to the 1st Century AD (31602). The presence of large stones in the primary fill suggests that the pit may have functioned as a large posthole.
- 5.21.10 A posthole (31614) was recorded in the centre of the trench. It was 0.7 m across by 0.15 m deep and filled with a dark silt clay (31615). A curvilinear feature (31612) was observed to the east of 31614. It was 1.5 m long, 0.6 m wide and 0.12 m deep and was filled with a light brown silt clay (31613).

### ***Trench 317***

- 5.21.11 A NW-SE aligned gully (31700) was revealed to the north of the trench. It was 0.6 m wide by 0.1 m deep and was filled by a light brown silt clay (31701). A fragment of clay pipe stem was noted within the fill. A similar sized NE-SW aligned to the south of the trench (31702) was filled with a similar silt (31703).
- 5.21.12 In the centre of the trench a circular pit (31704) was revealed. It was 0.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep and filled with a light grey clay (31705). The pit was truncated by a W-E aligned ditch (31710) that was 4.8 m wide and 0.6 m deep. It was filled with silty clay (31711 and 31712) that contained pottery dated from the mid to late Iron Age.
- 5.21.13 The ditch fills were truncated by a pit (31713) that was 0.7 m wide and 0.4 m deep. It was filled with light brown silt clay (31714).

### ***Trench 319***

- 5.21.14 A posthole (31903) was revealed to the east of the trench. It was 0.45 m wide and 0.2 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (51904) that contained mid to late Iron Age pottery.

### ***Trench 322***

- 5.21.15 A NE-SW aligned gully (32200) was revealed within the west part of the trench. It was 0.4 m wide and 0.2 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (32201).

### ***Trench 323***

- 5.21.16 A NW-SE aligned ditch (32300) was revealed within the northern part of the trench. It was 1.6 m wide, 0.4 m deep and filled with an orangey silt (32301). To the south of the trench a NE-SW gully (32302) was seen, it was 0.4 m wide, 0.1 m deep and filled with a dark brown silt clay (32303).



***Trench 324***

5.21.17 At the north end of the trench two parallel ENE-WSW ditches were revealed (32405 and 32408). The southern ditch (32408) was 2.2 m wide and 0.35 m deep. It was filled by a dark silt clay that contained pottery dated between AD 43 and 100. The northern ditch (32405) was 0.9 m wide, 0.5 m deep and it was filled with orange and brown silt clays (32406 and 32407). Pottery dated between AD 120 and 410 was recovered from the upper fill (32407).

5.21.18 Ditch 32400 was located in the centre of the trench, it was 3.6 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was filled with yellow brown silt clays (32401 and 32402) that contained pottery dated from 120 to 200.

5.21.19 To the south of ditch 32400 was ditch 32403. It was 1 m wide, 0.2 m deep and filled with an orangey brown silt clay (32404) that contained pottery dated from 120-410.

5.21.20 At the south end of the trench was ditch 32410. It was 0.4 m wide, 0.3 m deep and filled with silty clays (32411 and 32412).

***Trench 325***

5.21.21 A NE-SW aligned gully (32503) was revealed in the eastern half of the trench. It was 0.5 m wide, 0.1 m deep and filled with yellow brown silty clay (32504).

***Trench 330***

5.21.22 An E-W aligned gully (33000) was seen within the northern end of the trench. It was 0.5 m wide, 0.25 m deep and filled with a brown clay (33001).

***Trench 332***

5.21.23 A NE-SW aligned gully (33200) was revealed at the eastern end of the trench. It was 0.6 m wide, 0.1 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (33201).

***Trench 335***

5.21.24 A pit (33500) was revealed at the west end of the trench. It was 0.3 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It was filled with a brown silt clay (33501) that contained cremated human bone.

5.21.25 To the east of the cremation a curvilinear gully (33504) was seen. It was 0.3 m wide, 0.45 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (33505). The gully was truncated by a NW-SE aligned ditch (33502) that was 1.6 m wide and 0.5 m deep. It was filled with a reddish brown silt clay (33503) that contained mid to late Iron Age pottery.

***Trench 340***

5.21.26 A N-S aligned gully (34000) was revealed within the eastern half of the trench. It was 0.3 m wide, 0.1 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (34001).

***Trench 344***

5.21.27 A NE-SW aligned ditch (34400) was observed within the centre of the trench. It was 0.8 m wide, 0.35 m deep and filled with a brown clay silt (34001). A total of 153 sherds of pottery were recovered from the silt, dated from AD 43-100. The ditch was truncated by a similar sized parallel ditch (34402) that was filled with a dark brown clay silt (34403).

***Trench 345***

5.21.28 A NE-SW ditch (34500) was seen at the east end of the trench. It was 0.8 m wide, 0.3 m deep and filled with a brown clay silt (34501). A NE-SW aligned ditch terminus (34502) was revealed to the west, it was of similar dimensions to 34500 and was similarly filled (34503).

***Trench 346***

5.21.29 Two postholes were revealed in the northern part of the trench (34603 and 34605). They were c 0.5 m wide, c 0.2 m deep and filled with brown silt clay (34604 and 34606).

5.21.30 The termini of two NW-SE aligned gullies (34607 and 34609) were observed to the south. They were between 0.4 m and 0.7 m wide and 0.15 m to 0.2 m deep. They were both filled with brown silt clays (34608 and 34610).

***Trench 347***

5.21.31 A NW-SE aligned gully (34703) was revealed within the centre of the trench. It was 0.5 m wide, 0.2 m deep and filled with a brown silt clay (34704).

**5.22 Finds*****Pottery***

5.22.1 A total of 793 sherds, weighing 6054 g, was recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage as a whole indicates activity during the middle/late Iron Age and throughout the Roman period. There is, however, a strong bias towards the later Iron Age and second half of the 1st century AD. The condition of the pottery was mixed. The low average sherd weight of 8 g reflects the poor preservation of much of the pottery, although large pieces were occasionally present. Further identification of fabrics and forms is required to gain a better idea of site chronological and ceramic supply.

***Ceramic Building Material (CBM)***

5.22.2 A total of 16 fragments of ceramic building material weighing 334 g were recovered from the site. The assemblage comprises small very abraded fragments mostly of post medieval date. There are, however, 4 fragments of Roman tile from contexts 30001, 31509 and 32407. Two joining fragments have a slight curve and may be from an imbrex (curved roofing tile).

### ***Worked Flint***

- 5.22.3 A total of eight pieces of worked flint were recovered from the evaluation. The material was spread between eight contexts and was of varied condition, suggesting some post-depositional disturbance. The flint assemblage could not be accurately dated.

### ***Fired Clay***

- 5.22.4 A total of 69 fired clay fragments, weighing 754 g, was recovered from the evaluation. The vast majority of the assemblage comprised burnt or poorly fired fragments. Deliberately added inclusions were generally sparse. Limestone appeared to be most common; shell and sand were recorded occasionally. Clay pellets were present in most pieces resulting from poor clay preparation and firing. All the material was oxidised, but varied in colour.
- 5.22.5 Some fragments were light buff or white and friable, while others were harder fired and much darker in colour. The darker, burnt pieces probably belonged to hearths or ovens. Other fragments, particularly those that were lighter in colour, amorphous and lacking obvious inclusions, are tentatively identified as daub.

### ***Metalwork***

- 5.22.6 A total of 21 objects were recovered from site. The assemblage comprises one copper alloy object and 20 iron objects, 17 of which are nails. Most of the metalwork (with the exception of the copper alloy buckle) is in poor condition, the ironwork is corroded and fragmentary. The majority of the assemblage comprises structural items; a strap hinge from a Roman context and nails from Roman and post medieval contexts. There is also a possible bit-head/awl (Roman) and a buckle frame (post medieval).

### ***Worked Stone***

- 5.22.7 Two pieces of stone have been used, although neither are worked. One is a fragment with a rubbed surface and the other is a flat pebble utilised as a whetstone.

### ***Worked Bone***

- 5.22.8 A single worked bone object was recovered from a ditch fill. It is a polished parallelepiped die dating from the late Iron Age / early Roman period. It is 23 mm in length and weighs 3 grammes. Parallelepiped dice are commonly made from small long bones such as metapodials, resulting in the open ends and the smaller numbers one and two are missed off. This example, however, has been carved from a larger bone such as a cattle tibia. It has a square section with a round hole drilled through the section. The die has four elongated sides which have the numbers three to six carved into them. This particular find is highly polished, small and evenly carved.

## 5.23 Palaeo-environmental remains

### *Animal Bone*

- 5.23.1 A total of 999 fragments (9699 g) of animal bone was recovered from the evaluation. A number of these bones exhibited fresh breaks, the re-fitting of which reduced the total fragment count to 759. Cattle, sheep, horse, dog, cat, red deer and swan were represented.

### *Human Bone*

- 5.23.2 One deposit of unburnt human bone and one cremation deposit were discovered during the evaluation. The former was recovered from the fill (31301) of a large, irregular pit within Trench 313. The bone had been collected with a scatter of animal bone and the spatial relationship between the human bones was not recorded. They are unlikely to have been articulated and probably represent secondary interment within the pit. No dateable artefacts were recovered from this feature, but surrounding field systems were dated to the late Iron Age and early Roman periods.
- 5.23.3 The cremation deposit was discovered within a small sub-rectangular pit (33500). The deposit had been truncated by later ploughing and machine stripping of the topsoil. The burial was unurned and there were no artefacts associated with the deposit. Given its location within the late Iron Age/early Roman field systems, it seems probable that this deposit was early Roman in date.

### *Carbonized plant remains and charcoal*

- 5.23.4 Six samples were taken from the evaluation, five of the samples were from Roman contexts and one was an undated cremation. Five of the samples were taken to assess the potential of charred plant remains and the cremation sampled for the recovery of burnt bone, other finds and charred plant remains.
- 5.23.5 The charred material from the samples represents typical Roman cereal remains but the quantities were exceedingly low. The bone from the possible cremation sample (context 33501) was confirmed as human. The lack of charred plant material in this sample suggests that the cremation did not occur in situ, and that the skeletal material was redeposited after burning. Tubers were present and are frequently found in cremation deposits, particularly of a Bronze Age date.

## 6 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

### 6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 The evaluation comprised a 2% sample of a 97 hectare site. The entire area had been geophysically surveyed and trenches were positioned so as to examine any anomalies. Generally the results of the survey were not borne out by the evaluation, most of the areas of possible archaeological significance proved to be of limited archaeological worth. The one exception was the area of enclosure ditches identified within fields

OS3 and OS4. The results of the evaluation confirmed its existence, although what appeared to be a possible driveway to the south was not identified.

- 6.1.2 It is possible that bands of clay within the natural geology were identified as (archaeological) features during the geophysical survey.
- 6.1.3 Because of the newt exclusion zones only limited work was carried out in the area around Colthrop Farm. No features of archaeological significance were seen within 6 Acres and 10 Acres, although Iron Age ditches were revealed within In Front of John's. It is feasible that further Iron Age activity lay within the newt exclusion zones.
- 6.1.4 The evaluation trenches appeared to identify general areas of archaeological activity, although it is possible that smaller areas of activity went undetected. In the 19th century a cemetery was identified to the east of Hunts Grove. No evidence of this was found although it is possible that it lay outside the evaluation area.
- 6.1.5 No evidence was found for burials to the west of the site, or for a shrunken medieval farmstead to the south.
- 6.1.6 Much of the area had been ploughed; furrows dated to the post medieval period had disturbed much of the archaeology. Evidence for shallower features such as postholes may have been lost throughout much of the site. Despite this truncation there appeared to be little cross contamination of finds, the dating of the archaeological deposits appears to be sound. In general, the results from the evaluation appear to be reliable.

## 6.2 Overall interpretation

### *Bronze Age*

- 6.2.1 No archaeological features or deposits dating to the Bronze Age were identified during the evaluation. However, an undated cremation was identified in the NW corner of OS4. The lack of charred plant material in the environmental sample suggested that the cremation did not occur in situ, and that the skeletal material was redeposited after burning. Tubers were present in the sample and are frequently found in cremation deposits, particularly of a Bronze Age date.
- 6.2.2 The lack of any other Bronze age features, and the proximity of the cremation to a late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead, could suggest a Roman date.
- 6.2.3 Re-deposited flint dating to the prehistoric period was recorded; this may have been Bronze Age in date.

### *Mid to late Iron Age*

- 6.2.4 A double ditched enclosure, identified by the geophysical survey, was revealed within the eastern part of site (OS3 and OS4). The inner ditch was roughly square and measured *c* 65 m in width. The outer ditch was rectilinear and measured *c* 135 m in length and *c* 75 m in width. Mid to late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the

primary fills of both ditches and indicates that perhaps they were contemporary. The enclosure, located on the brow of a hill, was probably a farmstead. The outer enclosure may have functioned as a stock enclosure whilst the inner ditch may have defined a domestic area. There was no real evidence for structural remains within the enclosure, although a posthole was identified in Trench 301.

- 6.2.5 To the south of the enclosure, in Trench 313, human remains were found within an undated pit. The deposition of human remains within the fill of pits on or near settlement sites is a well-recognised burial rite of the Iron Age period. Complete crouched inhumations, partial articulated body parts and isolated disarticulated elements have all been found, sometimes in association with animal bone (Whimster 1981). It is probable that these remains are another example of this widespread tradition.
- 6.2.6 There was little evidence for Iron Age activity across the rest of the site. A mid to late Iron Age ditch was identified in the southern part of the site in In Front of John's, but the surrounding area was part of the newt exclusion zone and could not be fully investigated.
- 6.2.7 In the western part of the site, in Feed Store, an Iron Age ditch and several undated postholes and pits were revealed. There were also many undated ditches to the north and east, although the area to the south was outside the limits of the evaluation. It is possible that this may have been the site of a second farmstead.

### ***Roman***

- 6.2.8 The Iron Age farmstead within OS3 and OS4 continued in use into the early Roman period. The upper fills of both enclosure ditches contained 1st-century pottery; a similarly dated die was also recovered from the outer ditch. Evidence for associated field systems was identified to the south.
- 6.2.9 A third enclosure, to the SE, was probably added in the 1st century. This may have formed a separate stock enclosure or paddock. Although the geophysical information suggested that a droveway may have led off this enclosure, no evidence for it was found. Internal divisions dating to the mid to late Roman period were identified, both in this enclosure and the enclosure to the north. The ditches may have formed animal pens and demonstrate a continuity of occupation from the Iron Age to the end of the Roman period.
- 6.2.10 There was limited structural evidence, Roman roof tile and limestone blocks were recovered from the upper fills of the enclosure ditches. The walls of any building may have been constructed directly onto the natural geology and would have been totally removed by any ploughing (Charles Parry *pers comm*).
- 6.2.11 There also appeared to be some continuity of occupation in the western part of the site. Early Roman ditches were identified in Feed Store and to the south of Big Colthrop. The presence of artefacts within these ditches suggests that a settlement lay close by, perhaps outside the investigation area within the northern part of Big

Colthrop. Many undated ditches were revealed to the north, within 4 Elms, these may have formed part of an associated field system.

***Medieval onwards***

- 6.2.12 Little evidence for post Roman activity was revealed; two medieval postholes were observed within OS3 that may have related to an agricultural structure. Evidence for post-medieval ridge and furrow was also revealed. It is possible that the fields had been farmed since the medieval period and the post-medieval ridge and furrow was a continuation of earlier ploughing.
- 6.2.13 A line of postholes was seen along the SE edge of Badger Field. It may have related to an earlier field boundary, perhaps pre-dating the medieval period. Modern pits associated with the farm and deposits relating to the construction of the M5 were also seen.

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 TRENCH INVENTORY

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
1	j12	not opened				ran along extant field boundary			
2	j12	not opened				ran along extant field boundary			
3	j12	w-e	.5m	17.85m	no				
4	j12	not opened							
5	j12	w-e	.7m	18.5m	no				
6	j12	w-e	.7m	18.9m	no				
7	j12	not opened							
8	j12	n-s	.6m	18.8m	no				
9	j12	w-e	.45m	18.75m	no				
10	j12	n-s	.5m	18.4m	no				
11	j12	not opened							
12	j12	w-e	1m	18.65m	no				
13	j12	w-e	.4m	18.9m	no				
14	j12	n-s	.3m	20.05m	no				
15	j12	w-e	.5m	20.6m	no				
16	j12	n-s	.4m	20.75m	yes	1 furrow		no	
17	j12	w-e	.25m	21.15m	yes	3 furrows		no	
18	j12	n-s	.25m	21.25m	no				
19	j12	w-e	.25m	21.25m	yes	3 furrows		no	
20	j12	n-s	.4m	21.4m	no				
21	j12	w-e	.45m	21.65m	yes	2 furrows		pot	med
22	j12	n-s	.4m	21.9m	yes	3 furrows		pot	rom/pm
23	j12	n-s	.35m	21.2m	yes	1 small linear		no	
24	j12	w-e	.4m	21.3m	yes	4 furrows		pot	rom/pm
25	j12	n-s	.25m	21.8m	yes	2 furrows		no	
26	j12	n-s	.4m	21.8m	no				
27	j12	n-s	.5m	21.95m	yes	1 furrow		no	
28	j12	n-s	.25m	21.8m	yes	2 small linears 1 furrow		no	
29	j12	w-e	.4m	21.9m	yes	2 furrows		no	
30	j12	n-s	.4m	22.2m	yes	1 furrow 1 small linear		pot bone	pm
31	j12	w-e	.35m	22.6m	yes	1 small linear 1 linear 2 furrows		no	
32	9 acres	w-e	.3m	22.55m	yes	3 furrows		no	
33	9 acres	n-s	.25m	22.8m	no				
34	9 acres	w-e	.3m	23.05m	no				
35	big colthrop	n-s	.45m	22.8m	yes	2 small linears 2 postholes		pot	200-400
36	big colthrop	w-e	.6m	23.1m	yes	2 furrows		pot	rom



trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
37	9 acres	w-e	.3m	23.1m	yes	4 furrows		no	
38	9 acres	n-s	.45m	23.25m	yes	2 furrows		no	
39	9 acres	w-e	.35m	23.7m	no				
40	big colthrop	w-e	.55m	23.3m	yes	1 pit or tree hole		bone	
41	big colthrop	w-e	.6m	23.4m	yes	3 pits 1 linear		slag bone	43-100
42	big colthrop	n-s	.55m	23.9m	yes	1 pit		bone	
43	9 acres	n-s	.4m	23.6m	no				
44	9 acres	w-e	.25m	24.1m	yes	1 furrow		no	
45	ifoj	w-e	.3m	24.65m	yes	4 furrows		no	
46	ifoj	n-s	.25m	24.55m	yes	2 furrows			
47	ifoj	w-e	.25m	25.0m	no				
48	ifoj	w-e	.3m	24.85m	no				
49	ifoj	w-e	.35m	25.45m	no				
50	ifoj	n-s	.3m	25.9m	yes	3 small linears		pot bone daub	MIA-LIA
51	30 acres	w-e	.3m	26.2m	no				
52	30 acres	n-s	.2m	26.25m	no				
53	30 acres	w-e	.45m	25.7m	no				
54	foj	n-s	.3m	26.05m	no				
55	foj	w-e	.3m	26.3m	no				
56	30 acres	n-s	.3m	26.6m	no				
57	30 acres	n-s	.2m	26.15m	no				
58	30 acres	w-e	.2m	26.1m	no				
59	30 acres	n-s	.35m	26.75m	no				
60	30 acres	w-e	.3m	26.8m	no				
61	30 acres	n-s	.2m	26.65m	no				
62	30 acres	n-s	.2m	26.1m	no				
63	30 acres	n-s	.45m	25.65m	no				
64	30 acres	n-s	.4m	25.7m	no				
65	30 acres	w-e	.4m	25.6m	no				
66	30 acres	w-e	.5m	25.25m	no			flint in subsoil	
67	30 acres	n-s	.3m	25.4m	no				
68	30 acres	w-e	.3m	25.1m	no				
69	30 acres	w-e	.4m	24.65m	yes	2 furrows		no	
70	30 acres	ne-sw	.4m	24.3m	no				
71	30 acres	n-s	.3m	23.9m	no				
72	30 acres	w-e	.3m	27.4m	no				
73	30 acres	n-s	.25m	27.55m	no				
74	30 acres	w-e	.25m	26.95m	yes	1 furrow		no	
75	30 acres	w-e	.25m	26.55m	no				
76	30 acres	n-s	.3m	26.6m	no				
77	30 acres	w-e	.35m	26.1m	yes	1 small linear		no	
78	30 acres	w-e	.4m	26.15m	no				
79	30 acres	n-s	.45	26.05m	no				
80	30 acres	nne-ssw	.55m	25.3m	yes	1 small linear		no	
81	30 acres	n-s	.4m	25.25m	no				

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
82	30 acres	n-s	.5m	24.9m	no				
83	30 acres	w-e	.35m	24.85m	no				
84	30 acres	n-s	.5m	24.7m	no				
85	30 acres	n-s	.35m	24.4m	no				
86	30 acres	n-s	.35m	24.15m	no				
87	30 acres	w-e	.35m	27.65m	no				
88	30 acres	n-s	.35m	27.1m	no				
89	30 acres	w-e	.3m	26.5m	no				
90	30 acres	n-s	.4m	26.55m	no				
91	30 acres	n-s	.35m	25.9m	no				
92	30 acres	w-e	.5m	25.95m	no				
93	30 acres	w-e	.4m	25.8m	no				
94	30 acres	n-s	.55m	25.4m	yes	2 small linears		no	
95	30 acres	w-e	.45m	25.2m	yes	1 small linear		no	
96	30 acres	w-e	.35m	25.2m	yes	1 post hole		no	
97	30 acres	n-s	.5m	24.8m	yes	1 furrow		no	
98	4.0	n-s	.4m	27.6m	no	modern made ground			
99	4.0	n-s	.45m	27.8m	no				
100	4.0	w-e	.7m	27.1m	yes	1 furrow 1 small linear 1 posthole		no	
101	4.0	n-s	.5m	27.5m	no				
102	4.0	n-s	.7m	27.8m	yes	1 small linear		no	
103	4.0	w-e	.7m	27.2m	no	modern made ground			
104	4.0	w-e	.6m	26.5m	yes	3 linears		pot (subsoil)	rom
105	4 elms	w-e	.7m	20.65m	no				
106	4 elms	w-e	.8m	21.05m	yes	1 small linear		pot	100-410
107	4 elms	n-s	.65m	20.75m	no				
108	4 elms	w-e	.7m	20.0m	no				
109	4 elms	w-e	.6m	20.85m	yes	1 ditch and 1 small linear		no	
110	4 elms	n-s	.5m	21.45m	yes	1 small linear		no	
111	4 elms	n-s	.45m	20.4m	yes	1 linear probable furrow		no	
112	4 elms	w-e	.7m	19.0m	no			no	
113	4 elms	n-s	.55m	21.65m	yes	2 small linears 3 pits		no	
114	4 elms	w-e	.6m	21.55m	no			no	
115	4 elms	w-e	.5m	21.65m	no			no	
116	4 elms	w-e	.6m	21.15m	yes	3 small linears		no	
117	4 elms	n-s	.7m	20.5m	no			no	
118	4 elms	w-e	.55m	20.75m	yes	3 small linears		bone	
119	4 elms	w-e	.5m	19.95m	yes	1 linear		no	
120	4 elms	n-s	.7m	20.0m	no				
121	4 elms	w-e	.5m	22.1m	yes	1 linear		no	
122	4 elms	n-s	.6m	21.9m	yes	1 pit 2 small linears 1 furrow		no	

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
123	4 elms	n-s	.6m	22.2m	yes	1 linear 2 furrows		pot	rom
124	4 elms	w-e	.5m	22.1m	yes	1 linear 2 furrows		no	
125	4 elms	nw-se	.5m	21.85m	yes	1 linear		pot	pm
126	4 elms	n-s	.6m	21.45m	no				
127	4 elms	w-e	.5m	21.15m	yes	3 furrows?		pot bone	rom/pm
128	4 elms	n-s	.55m	19.9m	no				
129	4 elms	ne-sw	.6m	22.45m	no				
130	4 elms	w-e	.55m	22.6m	yes	1 small linear		no	
131	4 elms	n-s	.7m	22.0m	no				
132	4 elms	w-e	.4m	22.4m	no				
133	4 elms	nw-se	.5m	21.7m	no				
134	4 elms	w-e	.55m	22.9m	yes	1 linear 2 post holes		no	
135	4 elms	wnw-ese	.55m	22.7m	yes	2 pits 3 furrows		flint	
136	4 elms	w-e	.55m	21.8m	yes	1 small linear 1 probable furrow		no	
137	4 elms	w-e	.6m	22.7m	no				
138	4 elms	nnw-sse	.6m	22.2m	no				
139	4 elms	n-s	.6m	22.8m	yes	1 furrow		no	
140	4 elms	w-e	.8m	20.9m	no				
141	4 elms	w-e	.6m	21.8m	no				
142	badger field	not opened				danger due to depth of slurry			
143	feed store	n-s	.6m	23.2m	yes	3 linears	7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.	pot bone fe	240-410
144	feed store	w-e	.65m	23.4m	yes	1 linear		pot	43-100
145	feed store	n-s	.6m	23.5m	yes	1 small linear 1 posthole			
146	feed store	w-e	.4m	24.05m	no	no			
147	feed store	n-s	.35m	24.1m	no				
148	feed store	w-e	.35m	24.75m	yes	6 postholes and 3 pits		pot bone flint	MIA-LIA
149	badger field	n-s	.6m	23.6m	no				
150	badger field	w-e	.5m	23.65m	no				
151	badger field	n-s	.45m	23.8m	no				
152	badger field	n-s	.5m	24.05m	no				
153	badger field	w-e	.65m	24.1m	yes	4 linears		cbm	
154	badger field	n-s	.4m	24.1m	yes	2 linears		pot	pm
155	badger field	w-e	.4m	24.0m	yes	1 linear 1 small linear		no	

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
156	badger field	n-s	.4m	23.55m	no				
157	badger field	w-e	.4m	21.6m	no				
158	badger field	w-e	.45m	24.8m	yes	2 postholes		no	
159	badger field	n-s	.55m	24.8m	yes	1 posthole		no	
160	badger field	w-e	.45m	24.65m	no				
161	badger field	n-s	.35m	24.55m	yes	1 posthole		no	
162	badger field	w-e	.45m	24.4m	no				
163	badger field	n-s	.5m	24.15m	no				
164	badger field	w-e	.35m	23.95m	yes	1 linear		no	
165	badger field	n-s	.4m	22.45m	yes	1 linear		no	
166	badger field	w-e	.35m	24.9m	yes	1 post hole		no	
167	badger field	n-s	.45m	24.5m	no				
168	badger field	n-s	.45m	24.7m	no				
169	badger field	w-e	.55m	24.45m	no				
170	badger field	n-s	.35m	24.05m	no				
171	os4	w-e	.5m	24.0m	no				
172	badger field	w-e	.45m	23.3m	yes	modern field boundary ditch		no	
173	badger field	ne-sw	.4m	22.05m	no				
174	badger field	n-s	.45m	22.45m	no				
175	10 acres	w-e	.5m	25.7m	no				
176	10 acres	n-s	.65m	25.55m	no				
177	10 acres	w-e	.55m	25.3m	yes	1 furrow		no	
178	10 acres	n-s	.9m	24.7m	no				
179	10 acres	w-e	.55m	25.2m	no				
180	10 acres	w-e	.55m	25.8m	no				
181	10 acres	wnw-ese	.5m	25.85	yes	1 furrow		yes subsoil	m/LIA-100
182	10 acres	n-s	.6m	25.7m	no				
183	6 acres	n-s	.6m	24.3m	no				
184	6 acres	w-e	.5m	23.95m	no				
185	6 acres	n-s	.7m	22.9m	no				
186	6 acres	not opened				trench too close to tree line			
187	6 acres	ne-sw	.7m	24.45m	no				

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
188	6 acres	w-e	.5m	23.9m	no				
189	6 acres	not opened				trench through nest site			
190	6 acres	w-e	.55m	24.4m	no				
191	6 acres	n-s	.7m	23.25m	no				
192	hunts grove	n-s	.25m	21.31m	no				
193	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	20.5m	yes	1 linear		bone	
194	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	19.8m	yes	1 furrow		no	
195	hunts grove	n-s	.4m	20.85m	no				
196	hunts grove	n-s	.4m	19.85m	no				
197	hunts grove	w-e	.35m	20.55m	yes	1 linear		pot	rom
198	hunts grove	wnw-ese	.4m	20.25m	yes	1 linear		no	
199	hunts grove	n-s	.30m	19.35m	no				
200	hunts grove	w-e	.35m	18.7m	yes	1 linear		no	
201	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	20.5m	yes	1 linear 1 furrow		no	
202	hunts grove	n-s	.4m	19.5m	yes	2 furrows		no	
203	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	18.75m	no				
204	hunts grove	n-s	.45m	20.15m	no				
205	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	19.3m	yes	1 furrow			
206	hunts grove	wnw-ese	.35	23.4m	yes	1 small linear		pot	rom
207	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	24.45m	no				
208	hunts grove	n-s	.35m	24.35m	no				
209	hunts grove	w-e	.45m	23.9m	yes	2 furrows		no	
210	hunts grove	w-e	.45m	23.4m	no				
211	hunts grove	ne-sw	.4m	22.0m	no				
212	hunts grove	w-e	.45m	21.0m	no				
213	hunts grove	n-s	.3m	20.3m	no				
214	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	22.3m	no				

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
215	hunts grove	n-s	.4m	23.4m	no				
216	hunts grove	w-e	.3m	24.85m	no				
217	hunts grove	n-s	.25m	25.65m	yes	1 furrow		no	
218	os4	w-e	.55m	25.8m	no				
219	hunts grove	w-e	.4m	25.2m	no				
220	hunts grove	n-s	.3m	24.35m	no				
221	hunts grove	n-s	.25m	25.15m	no				
222	hunts grove	ne-sw	.3m	24.75m	no				
223	hunts grove	nw-se	.3	23.95m	no				
224	hunts grove	n-s	.35m	22.7m	no				
225	hunts grove	w-e	.35m	23.2m	no				
226	common	w-e	.55m	23.45m	no				
227	common	w-e	.4m	23.9m	yes	2 small linears		no	
228	common	n-s	.6m	24.35m	no				
229	common	w-e	.4m	25.7m	no				
230	common	n-s	.5m	26.0m	no				
231	common	w-e	.4m	25.85m	yes	1 curvilinear		no	
232	shorn brook	not opened				trench ran through oak grove			
233	common	n-s	.6m	24.5m	no				
234	common	w-e	.45m	25.3m	no				
235	common	n-s	.7m	25.45	no				
236	common	w-e	.55m	25.95m	no				
237	common	n-s	.5m	26.25m	no				
238	shorn brook	w-e	.6m	24.35m	no				
239	common	n-s	.55m	24.75m	yes	1 small linear		pot	43-410
240	common	w-e	.55m	24.8m	yes	1 furrow		no	
241	common	n-s	.5m	25.35m	no				
242	common	w-e	.6m	25.75m	yes	1 posthole		no	
243	common	n-s	.45m	27.5m	no				
244	common	w-e	.6m	28.7m	no				
245	common	n-s	.6m	27.7m	no				
246	common	w-e	.45m	27.75m	no				
247	shorn brook	w-e	.5m	24.7m	no				
248	shorn brook	n-s	.65m	24.9m	no				
249	shorn brook	w-e	.45m	25.9m	yes	1 small linear		no	

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
250	shorn brook	n-s	.35m	26.05m	no				
251	shorn brook	n-s	.45m	26.15m	no				
252	shorn brook	w-e	.35m	26.6m	yes	possible small linear		no	
253	shorn brook	w-e	.35m	26.15m	no				
254	5.5	n-s	.5m	26.9m	yes	2 linears			
255	5.5	w-e	.5m	27m	no				
256	5.5	n-s	.4m	27.4m	no				
257	5.5	ne-sw	.4m	27.25m	yes	1 furrow		no	
258	5.5	w-e	.45m	27.6m	no				
259	5.5	w-e	.45m	27.3m	yes	1 linear 3 furrows			
260	5.5	w-e	.6m	27.7m	no				
261	5.5	n-s	.8m	28.15m	no				
262	5.5	n-s	.4m	28.35m	no	modern made ground			
263	5.5	w-e	.5m	28.55m	no				
264	5.5	w-e	.4m	28.7m	no				
265	5.5	n-s	.45m	28.6m	no				
266	common	n-s	.45m	25.4m	no				
267	common	w-e	.4m	25.7m	no				
268	common	n-s	.6m	25.65m	no				
269	common	w-e	.65m	25.95m	no				
270	common	w-e	.45m	27.95	no				
271	common	n-s	.45	28.3m	no				
272	common	w-e	.4m	31.6m	no				
273	common	w-e	.5m	31.7m	no				
274	common	nne-ssw	.4m	31.75m	no				
275	common	w-e	.6m	29.05m	no				
276	common	n-s	.4m	26.5m	yes	1 linear		pot	
277	common	w-e	.4m	32.1m	no				
278	common	w-e	.45m	26.75m	no				
279	common	n-s	.6m	27.2m	no				
280	common	n-s	.6m	30.15	no		2	fe in subsoil	
281	common	n-s	.4m	32.4m	no				
282	os3	w-e	.4m	26.6m	yes	2 linears 1 pit 2 furrows		no	
283	os3	nw-se	.5m	26.5m	yes	1 small linear		no	
284	os3	ne-sw	.55m	26.0m	yes	2 small linears 3 pits		pot	med
285	os3	w-e	.3m	26.05m	no				
286	os3	n-s	.4m	26.4m	yes	1 pit		no	
287	os3	ne-sw	.45m	26.8m	yes	1 small linear modern cuts s. soil		no	
288	os3	n-s	.45m	27.3m	no				

trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
289	os3	w-e	.35m	26.7m	yes	2 furrows		no	
290	os3	w-e	.25m	27.7m	yes	3 furrows		no	
291	os3	w-e	.35m	27.4m	yes	1 small linear 2 furrows		pot in subsoil	
292	os3	n-s	.5m	27.85m	no				
293	os3	w-e	.35m	28.9m	no				
294	os3	n-s	.5m	29.8m	yes	1 posthole		pot	pm
295	os3	w-e	.5m	30.45m	no				
296	os3	n-s	.45m	27.0m	yes	2 furrows		no	
297	os3	w-e	.45m	27.25m	yes	3 small linears		no	
298	os3	n-s	.5m	28.1m	yes	5 small linears		clay pipe	
299	os3	n-s	.7m	28.55m	yes	1 linear 1 small linear		pot bone	43-100
300	os3	nw-se	.55m	28.4m	yes	1 linear	5	pot bone flint fe	MIA-LIA/43-100
301	os3	w-e	.55m	29.9m	yes	2 linears 1 small linear 1 pit		pot bone	MIA-LIA-100/120-410/med
302	os3	w-e	.35m	29.3m	yes	1 linear 2 furrows		pot bone fe	pm
303	os3	n-s	.3m	31.4m	yes	2 linears 1 posthole	1, 4	pot bone flint	MIA-LIA/43-100
304	os3	w-e	.4m	30.45m	yes	1 linear		no	
305	os3	w-e	.5m	32.4m	yes	3 furrows		no	
306	os3	w-e	.45m	32.75m	yes	5 furrows		no	
307	os3	n-s	.3m	31.05m	yes	2 furrows		pot in subsoil	M/LIA-100
308	os4	n-s	.35m	27.35m	no				
309	os4	w-e	.4m	28.4m	yes	1 linear		pot bone	43-100
310	os4	w-e	.5m	27.75m	yes	1 small linear 2 furrows		no	
311	os4	ne-sw	.55m	28.7m	no				
312	os4	w-e	.55m	28.45m	yes	2 small linears		no	
313	os4	w-e	.7m	29.15m	yes	1 small linear 1 pit		no	
314	os4	nw-se	.6m	31.2m	yes	1 linear 1 posthole		pot	43-150
315	os4	nw-se	.55m	33.65m	yes	3 linears		pot bone	43-100/rom
316	os4	w-e	.5m	31.9m	yes	2 linears 2 pits 1 posthole	3	pot bone	MIA-LIA/43-100
317	os4	ne-sw	.5m	34.85m	yes	2 linears 2 small linears 2 pits	6	pot bone flint	MIA-LIA
318	os4	w-e	.3m	36.55m	yes	2 furrows		no	
319	os4	w-e	.45m	35.05m	yes	1 posthole		pot	MIA-LIA
320	os4	w-e	.5m	30.65m	no				
321	os4	n-s	.3m	30.2m	no				
322	os4	n-s	.6m	30.95m	yes	1 small linear		no	



trench number	field name	orientation	overburden	nat od av	arch	description of features	small finds	finds	date
323	os4	n-s	.55m	31.1m	yes	1 small linear 1 furrow		no	
324	os4	nw-se	.4m	35.0m	yes	2 linears 3 small linears 1 furrow		pot bone fe	43-100/120-410
325	os4	w-e	.45m	36.6m	yes	1 small linear		no	
326	os4	n-s	.35m	37.5m	yes	2 furrows		no	
327	os4	w-e	.4m	29.85m	no				
328	os4	n-s	.4m	30.75m	no				
329	os4	w-e	.45m	32.95m	no				
330	os4	ne-sw	.6m	35.9m	yes	1 small linear		no	
331	os4	w-e	.3m	37.6m	no				
332	os4	w-e	.5m	38.3m	yes	1 small linear 6 furrows		no	
333	os4	n-s	.35m	39.3m	yes	2 furrows		no	
334	os4	w-e	.35m	38.85m	no				
335	os4	w-e	.3m	37.7m	yes	1 linear 1 small linear 1 cremation		pot/bone	MIA-LIA
336	os4	n-s	.4m	35.55m	no				
337	os4	n-s	.45m	31.75m	no				
338	os4	w-e	.4m	33.6m	no				
339	os4	ne-sw	.45m	36.85m	no				
340	os4	w-e	.25m	40.35m	yes	1 small linear		no	
341	os4	w-e	.35m	39.6m	no				
342	os4	n-s	.45m	40.4m	no				
343	os4	w-e	.55m	41.0m	no				
344	os4	n-s	.45m	40.15m	yes	2 small linears 2 furrows		pot	43-100
345	os4	w-e	.4m	40.05m	yes	1 small linear 2 furrows		no	
346	os4	n-s	.55m	39.9m	yes	2 small linears 2 postholes		no	
347	os4	n-s	.35m	39.3m	yes	1 small linear		no	
348	os4	w-e	.5m	39.05m	no				
349	os4	n-s	.55m	36.9m	no				
350	os4	n-s	.25m	38.0m	no				
351	os4	n-s	.45m	40.65m	no				

## APPENDIX 2 POTTERY

*By Edward Biddulph*

A total of 793 sherds, weighing 6054 g, was recovered from the evaluation. The assemblage was rapidly scanned to identify the range of forms and fabrics present. Each pottery-yielding context was dated on the basis of its ceramic content. The total weight in grammes and sherd count were recorded for each context. Fabrics and forms were identified using Oxford Archaeology's standard recording system for late Iron Age and Roman pottery (Booth, nd).

The assemblage was dominated by handmade limestone-tempered fabrics and Severn Valley wares. The former were current throughout the middle and late Iron Age and early Roman period. Most limestone-tempered pottery was assigned the generic code E50, or less usually C20 if the deposit dated beyond the Roman conquest. Both codes mask a range of fabrics that on closer examination may refine dating and reveal source. Forms included bead-rimmed or barrel-shaped jars (CB) with handles typical of the middle to late Iron Age, and everted rimmed jars that belong to the late Iron Age and early Roman period. Vessels were plain, although a globular or wide-mouthed jar (CM) in a relatively fine limestone-tempered fabric and decorated with dimples and incised arcs was recovered from middle/late Iron Age context 30303. A fabric with burnished surfaces and available in the form of an everted-rimmed jar (eg from context 30304) has tentatively been identified as Malvernian limestone-tempered ware G25. The fabric has date range spanning the middle/late Iron Age to early Roman period (cf Timby 1999, 322), but at this site was mainly recovered from mid to late 1st century deposits. Grog-tempered ware (E80), a late Iron Age and early Roman fabric, was present to a lesser extent. In most occurrences it was associated with Roman-period pottery and was therefore deposited after AD 43. However, the fabric may have arrived before that date, probably during the first half of the 1st century, as the presence of carinated bowls (HA) in contexts 31602 and 31604 suggests.

Oxidised Severn Valley wares (O40) formed the bulk of the Roman-period assemblage. The industry spanned the 1st to 4th centuries, but the forms present here suggest that the pottery was deposited largely during the 1st and 2nd centuries. Forms included the standard tankards (GA) or carinated beakers (EG) and wide-mouthed jars (CM). A body sherd perforated before firing probably belonged to a colander. An early Roman variant of Severn Valley ware was tentatively identified in contexts 4111, 30901 and 34401 on the basis of grog pellets and limestone fragments present (cf Timby 1999, 323). An oxidised fabric identical to O40 but with a dark red/brown slip (F60) was recovered from context 14400. The sherds, decorated with barbotine scales, derived from a beaker presumably copying a mid to late 1st century continental prototype (eg in Lyon ware, cf Greene 1979). A small amount of genuine continental wares arrived in the form of 1st century South Gaulish samian ware (S20) and 2nd century Central Gaulish samian ware (S30). Single sherds of each were represented. Grey wares (R10, R20, R30 and R90) and miscellaneous sandy oxidised wares (O20) were encountered, most probably arriving from local sources. Black burnished ware (B11) from Dorset was deposited from the mid 2nd century onwards. Cooking-pot types (CK) with everted rims and lattice decoration were the commonest form represented. Late Roman activity is attested by Oxfordshire wares. White ware and colour-coated mortarium fabrics (M22 and M41 respectively) are represented, as well as red/brown colour-coated fine ware (F51). The assemblage from context 14305, containing B11, F51 and M41 sherds, was one of latest-dated, belonging to the 4th century. Medieval and post-medieval wares (Z20 and Z30) were recovered from 13 deposits. Some of these also yielded Iron Age or Roman wares, which must be residual.

The assemblage as a whole indicates activity during the middle/late Iron Age and throughout the Roman period. There is, however, a strong bias towards the later Iron Age and second half of the 1st century. The condition of the pottery was mixed. The low average sherd weight of 8 g reflects the poor preservation of much of the pottery, although large pieces were occasionally present. Further identification of fabrics and forms is required to gain a better idea of site chronology and ceramic supply.

Table A2.1 Pottery spot dates

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Date
2103	1	4	Z20	MED
2200	2	11	Z30	PM
2201	1	11	O40	ROM
2400	1	3	Z30	PM
3001	13	32	Z30, E80, E50/G25	PM
3503	1	27	M50 - coarse oxidised	200-400
3601	3	12	O40	ROM
4111	1	12	O40 (early SVW)	43-100
5001	2	7	E50/C20	MIA-LIA
7300	1	25	O40 (dish/bowl)	ROM
10406	1	13	R30	ROM
10600	3	35	M22	100-410
12302	1	9	O40	ROM
12501	1	3	Z30	PM
12702	2	4	F60 (sandy dark cc fabric)	ROM
12705	1	6	Z30	PM
14301	7	195	F51, B11	240-410
14303	5	84	B11, O40	120-400
14305	35	686	R30 (CD), B11 (CK), O40, F51, M41 (Young type	300-410
14400	3	16	F60; beaker with barbotine scale decoration; copy of Lyon ware prototype	43-100
14820	5	4	E50	MIA-LIA
15402	1	3	Z30	PM
18100	3	12	E50/G25, + organic temper	M/LIA-100
19700	1	3	O20	ROM
20600	2	20	O40	ROM
23904	4	33	O40	43-410
28404	3	71	Z20 jar	MED
29403	1	7	Z30	PM
29904	3	14	O40 (colander), C20/G25	43-100
30001	4	14	O40, C20, R10	43-100
30002	13	52	E50	MIA-LIA
30102	50	699	E50 (CD, everted rim; CB, lug handle)	MIA-LIA
30103	12	162	O40 (GA), C20, Z20	MED
30104	25	103	Z20, E50/G25, O40 (CM, everted rim)	MED
30106	6	14	?G25	M/LIA-100
30108	17	156	B11 (CK), C20 (CD, everted rim), O40	120-410
30204	12	10	Z30, O40	PM
30302	14	166	E50	MIA-LIA
30303	58	265	E50 (CM, incised arc and dimple decoration; CD, everted rim)	MIA-LIA
30304	29	97	?G25 (burnished jar, everted rim), O40 (single sherd)	43-100
30306	28	149	O40, E80, C20, E50	43-100
30307	6	95	E50/C20	M/LIA-100
30700	3	20	E50/C20	M/LIA-100
30901	4	45	O40 (early SVW)	43-100
31401	13	186	O40 (?GA or EG)	43-150

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Date
31507	4	105	O40, R	ROM
31509	4	20	R30, E80	43-100
31510	7	125	Z20 earthenware, B11, R20 (CK)	MED
31600	9	105	E50	MIA-LIA
31601	24	155	E50 (jar)	MIA-LIA
31602	4	77	E80 (HA)	1-100
31603	23	264	E80 (CD, everted/funnel rim), O40 (CM, everted rim), S20 (?cup)	43-100
31604	4	75	E80 (HA)	1-100
31607	24	134	E50, G25, O40, E80 (HA)	43-100
31608	6	17	C20, R20	43-100
31609	1	6	E50/C20	MIA-LIA
31611	2	15	E50, O40	43-100
31712	6	7	E50/C20	MIA-LIA
31904	2	5	E50	MIA-LIA
32401	12	89	R10, C20, R90, B11, O20	120-410
32402	40	329	O40 (bowl), R30 (CD), S30 (dish), B11 (CK), C20	120-200
32404	15	88	B11 (HB), O40 (?platter), R20	120-410
32407	18	98	O40 (?GA or EG), B11 (CK)	120-410
32409	30	75	O40, R20, C20	43-100
33503	3	6	E50	MIA-LIA
34401	153	664	O40 (incl. early fabric) (CD), O22 (HC), C20 (CN)	43-100

### APPENDIX 3 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

*By John Cotter*

A total of 16 fragments of ceramic building material weighing 334 g were recovered from the archaeological investigations at Hunts Grove, Quedgeley. The assemblage comprises small very abraded fragments mostly of Post Medieval date. There are, however, 4 fragments of Roman tile from contexts 3001, 31509 and 32407, two joining fragments have a slight curve and may be from an imbrex (curved roofing tile).

**Table A3.1 Incidence of CBM by context**

Context	No. fragments	Weight of fragments (g)	Date
2200	1	4	PM
3001	1	12	PM
3001	2	41	RB
5003	1	31	PM
13509	1	4	RB
14813	1	41	PM
15302	1	2	PM
30103	1	86	Med
30204	1	8	PM
30303	1	2	PM
31303	2	54	-
32407	1	49	RB

**APPENDIX 4 WORKED FLINT***By Rebecca Devaney*

A total of eight pieces of worked flint were recovered from the evaluation at Quedgeley Hunts Grove (Table A4.1). The material was spread between eight contexts and is of varied condition, suggesting some post-depositional disturbance.

**Table A4.1 Summary of worked flint by context**

Context	6600	13501	14821	30002	30104	30303	31711	33503	Total
SF. No.						4	6		
Flake					1				1
Blade-like flake			1						1
Bladelet		1							1
Single platform flake core								1	1
Multiplatform flake core				1					1
End scraper						1			1
Serrated flake							1		1
Piercer	1								1
Total	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8

The multiplatform flake core has removals taken from one side of a small cortical nodule. It has two platforms and weighs 41 g. The single platform flake core is smaller, weighing just 10 g. Removals are taken from all sides. Both exhibit slight post-depositional damage and the latter is heavily corticated.

The end scraper, which is in a fresh condition, has direct retouch on the distal end. The serrated flake has tiny serrations and gloss along the right edge. The piercer has direct retouch on both edges which forms a sharp point at the distal end.

Dating cannot be confidently attempted on this assemblage. The retouched tools are not chronologically diagnostic and would be consistent with most later prehistoric periods.

No further work is recommended for the flint. However, it should be considered alongside any material recovered from future excavations.

**APPENDIX 5 FIRED CLAY***By Edward Biddulph*

A total of 69 fired clay fragments, weighing 754 g, was recovered from the evaluation. The vast majority of the assemblage comprised burnt or poorly fired fragments. Deliberately added inclusions were generally sparse. Limestone (L) appeared to be commonest; shell (S) and sand (A) were recorded occasionally. Clay pellets were present in most pieces resulting from poor clay preparation and firing. All the material was oxidised, but varied in colour.

Some fragments were light buff or white and friable, while others were harder fired and much darker in colour. The darker, burnt pieces probably belonged to hearths or ovens. Other fragments, particularly those that were lighter in colour, amorphous and lacking obvious inclusions, are tentatively identified as daub. One piece, from context 5001, was triangular in section. Finger marks on one surface indicate that the piece had been deliberately shaped. Its function was probably structural. Further work is required to refine fabric and functional identifications.

**Table A5.1. Incidence of fired clay by context.**

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Inclusions	Comments
3001	3	24	-	Oxidised; daub
5001	8	221	S	Oxidised; large piece with triangular section and finger impressions.
14301	1	26	-	Oxidised surface; lumpy surfaces. Daub
29403	10	86	A	One flat surface; organic impressions; oxidised, burnt. Hearth/oven
29406	2	3	? L	Oxidised; lumpy surfaces. Daub
30001	1	45	L, S	Oxidised. Large pieces of chalk/limestone
30102	1	15	L, S	Oxidised. One flat surface, occasional organic voids - daub
30104	1	11	L, A	Oxidised. One surface. Partially burnt. ?From hearth/oven.
30106	2	16	A	Oxidised/burnt. Organic impressions. ?Daub
30108	1	10	L	Oxidised. Lumpy surfaces - daub
30204	2	8	-	Fine fabric, no obvious inclusions
30303	2	23	-	Oxidised; burnt. ?From hearth/oven.
30306	13	76	S	Flat, oxidised surfaces
31301	2	55	A	Oxidised lumpy fragments
31510	1	17	-	Triangular section; 2 flat surfaces; burnt
31600	3	19	-	Oxidised
31603	7	71	S	Oxidised. Lumpy surfaces; occasional organic voids. ?Daub
31607	2	13	-	Oxidised, burnt fragments. ?From hearth/oven.
31609	1	3	-	Oxidised, burnt fragment. ?From hearth/oven.
31712	3	3	A	Oxidised, burnt fragments. ?From hearth/oven.
32402	1	6	-	Oxidised, burnt fragment ?From hearth/oven.
32407	2	3	-	Oxidised, burnt fragments. ?From hearth/oven.
TOTAL	69	754	-	-

A = sand; L = limestone; S = shell

## APPENDIX 6 METALWORK

*By Leigh Allen*

A total of 21 objects were recovered from the archaeological investigations at Hunts Grove Quedgeley. The assemblage comprises one copper alloy object and 20 iron objects, 17 of which are nails. Most of the metalwork (with the exception of the copper alloy buckle) is in poor condition, the ironwork is corroded and fragmentary. The majority of the assemblage comprises structural items; a strap hinge from a Roman context and nails from Roman and post medieval contexts. There is also a possible bit-head/awl (Roman) and a buckle frame (post medieval).

### Copper alloy object

A D-shaped buckle frame with a raised bar, the corroded remains of an iron pin are attached to the bar, this type of buckle is Post Medieval in date

SF 2, ctx 28002, length 28mm

**Iron objects**

Rod with a rectangular section tapering towards each end, possible bit head or awl (Manning 1985, 27).

SF 5, ctx 30001, length 150mm.

Four joining fragments of corroded rectangular strip with the remains of 4 possibly 5 rivets/nails through it, possible strap from a door hinge (Manning 1985, 126-127).

SF 9,10, 11 and 12, ctx 14305, length 188mm.

Miscellaneous irregularly shaped fragment of iron sheet recovered during sieving

SF -, ctx 31604, length 25mm

Nails were recovered from the following contexts

4102

4201

14303

14305 (x2)

30104 (x2)

30204 (x3)

31604

32402 (x4)

32409 (x2)

**APPENDIX 7 WORKED STONE**

*By Ruth Shaffrey*

**Summary and Quantification**

Thirty six pieces of stone were retained. Of these two have been used.

**Methodology**

The stone was examined with the aid of a x10 magnification hand lens.

**Description**

Two pieces of stone have been used, although neither are worked. One is a fragment with a rubbed surface and the other is a flat pebble utilised as a whetstone.

**Catalogue**

31604	Fragment with rubbed surface	Cream and red banded sandstone
31301	Natural whetstone	Probably Drybrook sandstone

**Statement of Potential**

The assemblage has no potential for further analysis.

**APPENDIX 8 WORKED BONE**

*By Rose Grant*

A single worked bone object ( SF 1 ) was recovered from context 30304. It is a polished parallelepiped die dating from the late Iron Age / early Roman Period (MacGregor 1985). It is 23 mm in length and weighs 3 grams. Parallelepiped dice are commonly made from small long bones such as metapodials, meaning that the ends are open and that the smaller numbers one and two are missed off. This example, however, has been carved from a larger bone such as a cattle tibia. It has a square section with a round hole drilled through the section. The die has four elongated sides which have the numbers three to six carved into them. This particular find is highly polished, small and evenly carved.

## APPENDIX 9 ANIMAL BONE

*By Emma-Jayne Evans*

A total of 999 fragments (9699 g) of animal bone was recovered from this evaluation. A number of these bones exhibited fresh breaks, the re-fitting of which reduced the total fragment count to 759. This bone has survived in reasonably good condition, the majority scoring 2 according to Lyman's grading (Lyman, 1996), as shown in Table A9.1 below.

**Table A9.1. Condition of animal bone**

Condition				
1	2	3	4	Total
5.7%	68.1%	25.7%	0.5%	100.0%

This reasonable condition has allowed for 25.8% of the total number of fragments to be identifiable to species, with a summary of the quantities of the species recovered shown in Table A9.2 below.

**Table A9.2. Total number of bones identifiable to species**

Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Horse	Dog	Cat	Red deer	Swan	Bird	Unidentified	Total
65	80	22	20	1	1	2	1	2	563	759

The ageing of the cattle, sheep/goat and pig remains using tooth wear analysis suggests that the majority of cattle were killed at the optimum age for meat production, as were the pigs. However, from the small sample of aged sheep/goat, it is likely that these animals were kept for wool production as well as meat. It is likely that the remains of cattle, sheep/goat (including one sheep and one goat skull) and pig are those from butchery waste, where carcasses are prepared for consumption, with some domestic waste present also. The presence of horse, dog and cat on Roman sites is not unusual, and red deer would have been hunted also. The swan bone may be from a bird caught locally to supplement the diet, and is often considered a high status food source.



## APPENDIX 10 HUMAN BONE

by Ceridwen Boston and Diana Mahoney

### Introduction

One deposit of unburnt human bone and one cremation deposit were discovered during the evaluation. The former was recovered from the fill (31301) of a large, irregular pit within Trench 313. The bone had been collected with a scatter of animal bone and the spatial relationship between the human bones was not recorded. They are unlikely to have been articulated and probably represent secondary interment within the pit. No dateable artefacts were recovered from this feature, but surrounding field systems were dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman periods.

The cremation deposit was discovered within a small sub-rectangular pit (33500). The deposit had been truncated by later ploughing and machine stripping of the topsoil. The burial was unurned and there were no artefacts associated with the deposit. Given its location within the late Iron Age/early Roman field systems, it seems probable that this deposit was early Roman in date.

The following report assesses the potential for further analysis of the two deposits.

### Methodology

The methodology used to assess the unburnt human bone is in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Institute of Field Archaeology's technical paper 13 (McKinley and Roberts 1993).

Age estimation of the cremation deposit was made using a combination of cranial suture closure (Meindl and Lovejoy 1985) and epiphyseal fusion (Bass 1995; Schwartz 2000).

### Results

#### *Unburnt human bone within fill 31301*

A human tibial and a humeral shaft fragment and 29 unidentifiable long bone fragments were recovered from pit fill 31301. The remains were in very poor condition, with severe erosive damage to the cortical bone, probably as a result of chemical leaching. Although it was possible to identify the tibial and humeral fragments from the cross-sectional morphology, no side-diagnostic features were present to determine whether they were right or left limbs. The remaining long bone fragments were too eroded to assign to the relevant element.

It is impossible to be certain that these bones were part of a single skeleton, but given the lack of replication of elements and consistency in general size it seems probable that this was so. It is not possible to assign an age or sex to these skeletal remains, although the general size of the bone indicates an older adolescent or adult. No pathology was noted on cursory examination, and no enthesophytes were present to suggest that the individual undertook strenuous physical activity. In general the individual was of gracile build.

### ***Cremated human bone (33501)***

A single isolated human cremation (33501) is represented by 145 g of cremated bone. Due to truncation, this cannot be taken as a true indication of the original weight of the cremation deposit. The majority of the bone fragments were white in colour, with a small proportion being a mixture of pale and dark grey and grey-blue. This would suggest a fairly thorough cremation on the funerary pyre. Warping of long bone fragments was present, indicating either high temperature of the pyre or obesity of the individual. The bone was mixed in terms of fragment size, the largest being 57.1 mm long. Identifiable fragments include cranial vault, petrous bone, vertebral neural arch, ribs, femur, finger phalanges, one single root of a tooth (probably canine or premolar) and a multitude of long bone shaft fragments that could be assigned to the upper and lower body. Hence, it appears that most parts of the body are represented.

The bone appears to be part of one adult individual. Fused distal epiphyses of two finger phalanges indicated an age greater than 16 years, whilst the presence of both fused and unfused ectocranial sutures suggest an adult of at least 30 years old. It was not possible to sex the individual. There was no animal bone or grave goods mixed in the assemblage.

### **Archaeological context**

The deposition of human remains within the fill of pits on or near settlement sites is a well-recognised burial rite of the Iron Age period. Complete crouched inhumations, partial articulated body parts and isolated disarticulated elements have all been found, sometimes in association with animal bone (Whimster 1981). It is probable that the human bone from context 33501 is another example of this widespread tradition.

Cremation of human remains in England largely occurred during the early to mid-Bronze Age, late Iron Age, early Roman and early Anglo-Saxon periods. In the absence of artefacts and stratigraphic relationships, cremation deposit 33501 could not be dated. However, its proximity to late Iron Age/Roman field systems makes it probably early Roman. Unfurnished and unurned cremation burials are common in this period (Philpott 1991; Taylor 2001).

## **APPENDIX 11 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

*By Seren Griffiths and Dana Challinor*

### **Methodology**

Six samples were taken as part of the evaluation from Hunts Grove, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire. Five of the samples were from Roman contexts and one undated cremation was also sampled. Five of the samples were taken to assess the potential of charred plant remains and the cremation sampled for the recovery of burnt bone, other finds and charred plant remains. The sample sizes ranged from 10-40 litres. The samples were processed by floatation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot being collected onto a 250 micron mesh. The samples were air-dried and the flots scanned under a binocular microscope at Oxford Archaeology. For a summary of the results see Table A11.1.

### **Results**

The flots produced were relatively small, between 10 and 20 ml, with often significant percentages of modern root material. Very limited quantities of charred indeterminate grain were produced: samples <3> context (31605), <5> (30303), <6> (30307) and <9> (31711) produced under five items each. *Triticum spelta/dicoccum* (spelt/emmer wheat) glume bases

featured in two samples, <3> (31605) and <4> (31604). Charred weed seeds were present in samples <3> (31605), <5> (30303) and <6> (30307), with a tuber fragment (cf *Arrhenatherum elatius*, false oat grass) present in sample <8> (33501). Comminuted charcoal was present in all samples, but only common in sample <3> (31605). Although samples were not taken specifically to assess mollusc preservation on the site, snails were recovered as part of the floatation process.

### Discussion

All the material sampled from Hunts Grove originated from Roman period contexts, with the exception of the undated cremation context. The bone from the possible cremation sample (context 33501) was confirmed as human. The lack of charred plant material in this sample suggests that the cremation did not occur in situ, and that the skeletal material was redeposited after burning. Tubers are frequently found in cremation deposits, particularly of a Bronze Age date.

The charred material from these samples represents typical Roman cereal remains but the quantities were exceedingly low. The assessment demonstrates that charred plant material is preserved at Hunts Grove, and while the features sampled here have not produced significant volumes of material, any future work should certainly include targeted sampling of charcoal rich features. Since the scope of this assessment is limited to charred plant remains and charcoal, provision should also be made for the sampling of other suitable environmental remains, especially as the snail preservation from the site seems reasonably good.

**Table A11.1- a summary of the charred plant remains**

Sample No	Context No	Flot vol (ml)	Type of context	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other	Molluscs	Volume floated
3	31605	10	Pit	+++	+	+ 1 spikelet base <i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> (spelt/emmer wheat)	+ Rumex (dock) Poaceae		+++	30
4	31604	10	Lower pit fill	+		+ glume bases <i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> (spelt/emmer wheat)				10
5	30303	20	Enclosure ditch fill	++	+		+		+++	40
6	30307	10	Primary fill	+	+		+		+++	40
7	31609	20	Primary fill	+	+				+++	40
8	33501	20	Undated cremation	++				+ tuber cf. <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	+	20

Sample No	Context No	Flot vol (ml)	Type of context	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other	Molluscs	Volume floated
9	31711	20	Enclosure ditch fill	+	+ indeterminate cereal grain				++	40

Key: +=present (up to 5 items), ++=frequent (5-25), +++=common (25-100)

## APPENDIX 12 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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#### **APPENDIX 13 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Site name:** Hunts Grove, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire

**Site code:** QUHG05

**Grid reference:** SO 8106 1220

**Type of evaluation:** 351 Trench evaluation

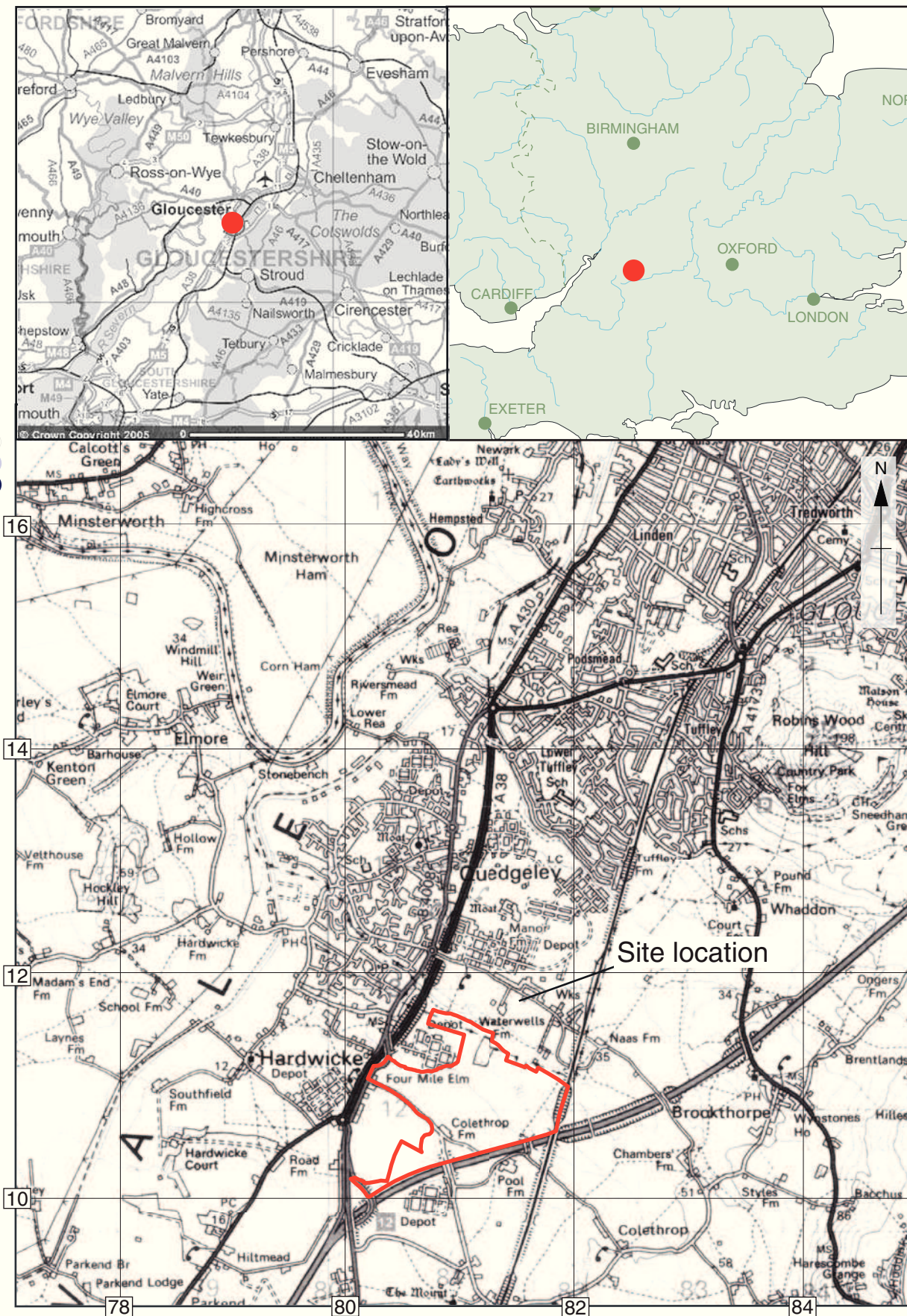
**Date and duration of project:** April to June 2005

**Area of site:** 97 ha

**Summary of results:** Mid-late Iron Age/Roman farmstead to the east, associated IA burial and undated cremation. Possible similar settlement to the west. Large amount of associated undated field systems.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Stroud District Museum in due course, under the following accession number: 2005.13





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Figure 1: Site location

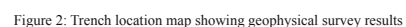


Figure 2: Trench location map showing geophysical survey results



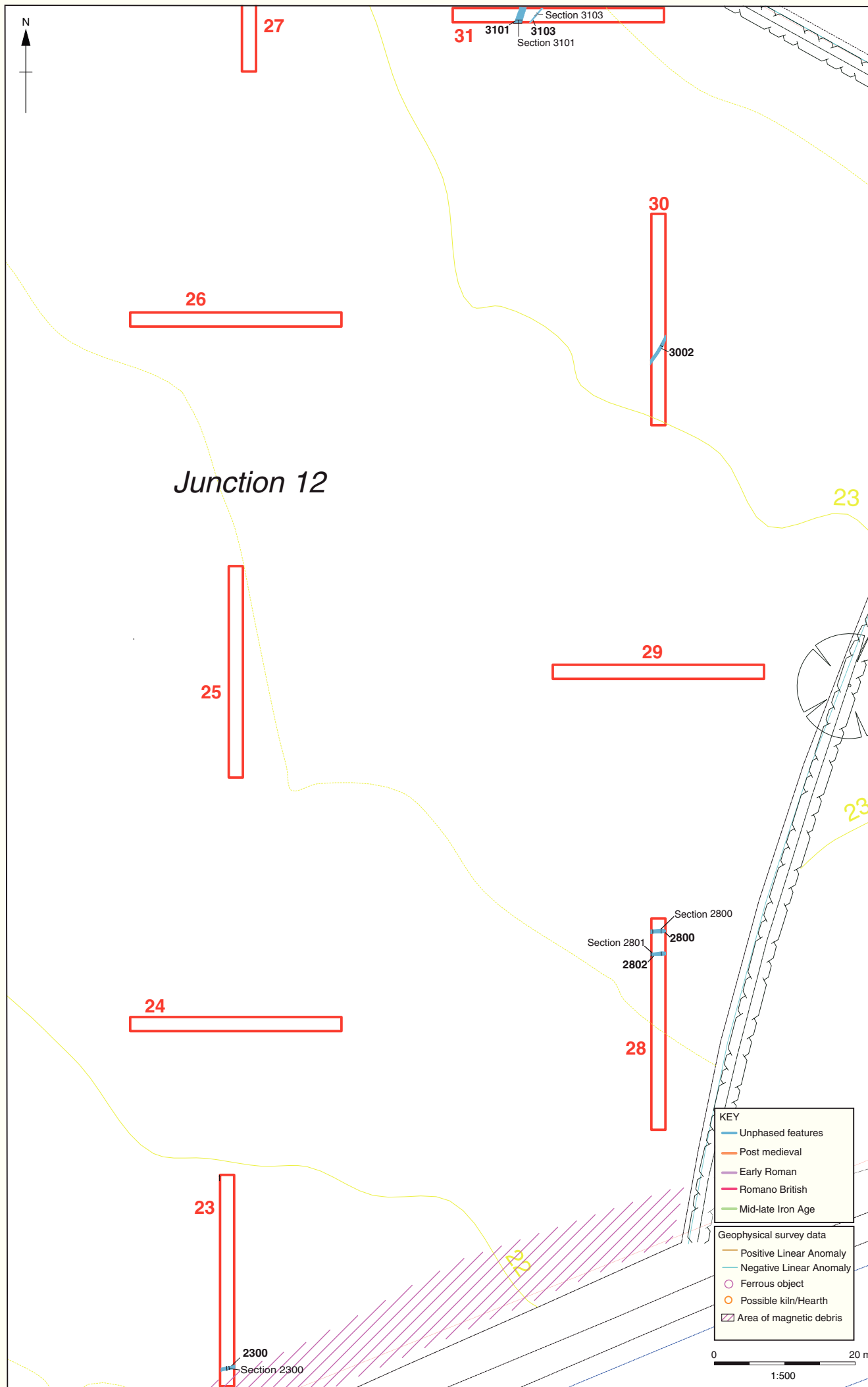


Figure 3: Junction 12, plans



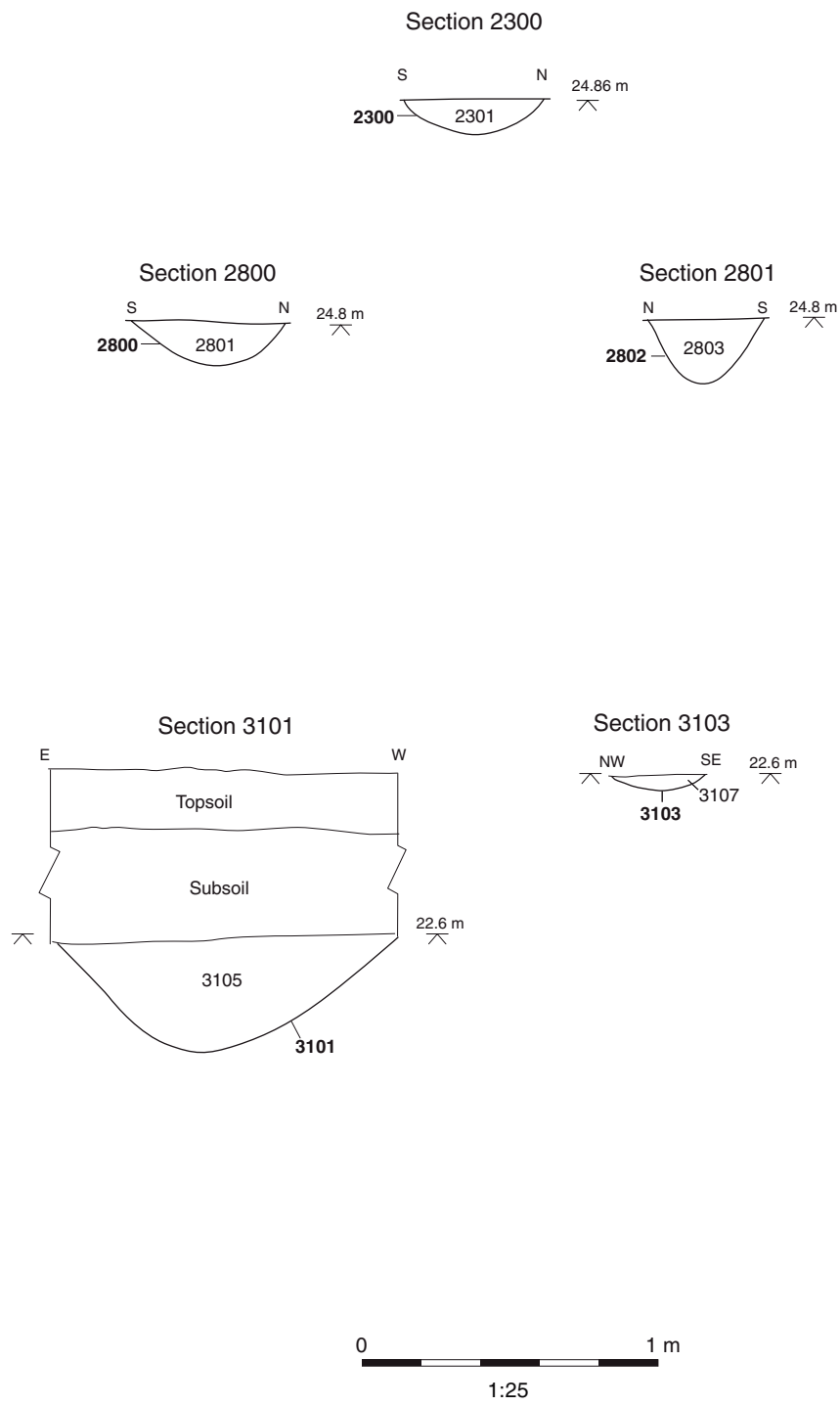


Figure 4: Junction 12 sections

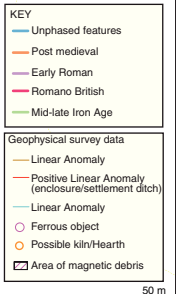


Figure 5: Big Colthrop plans

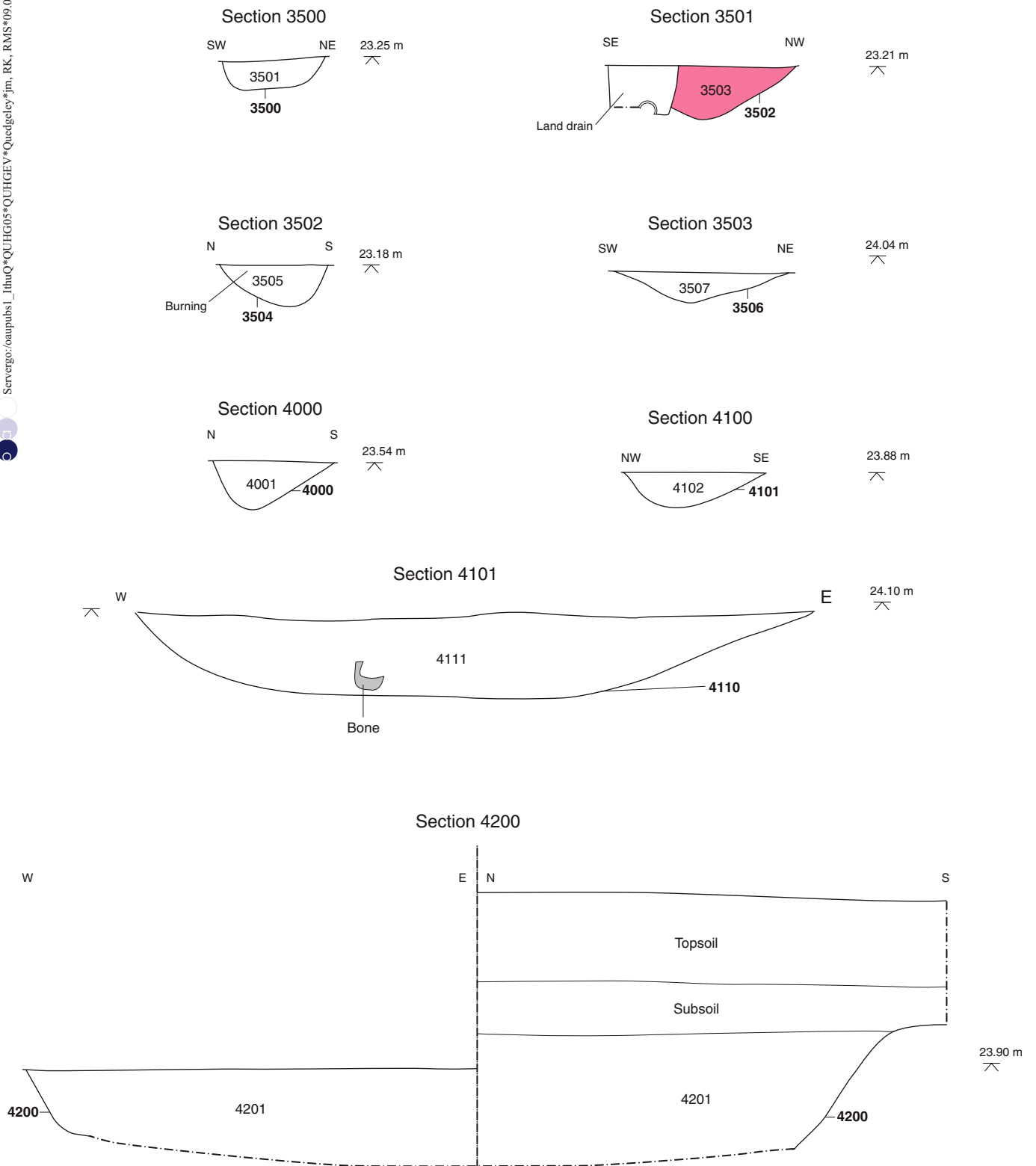


Figure 6: Big Colthrop sections

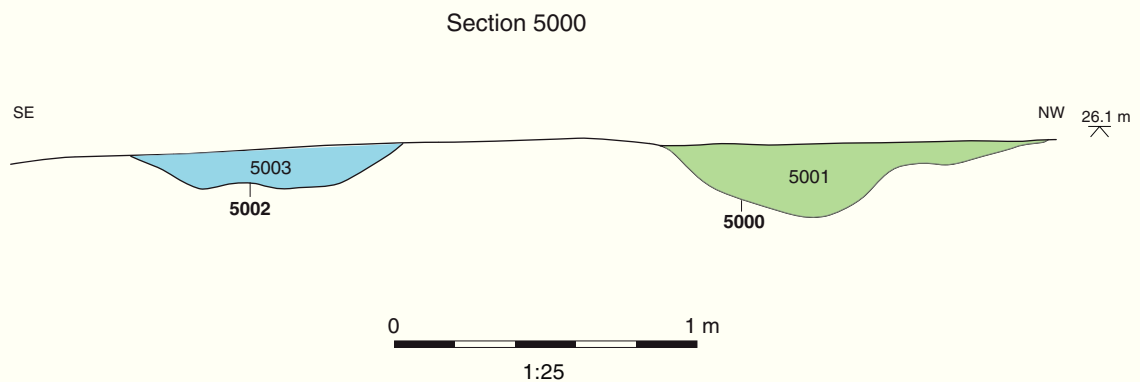
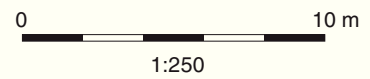
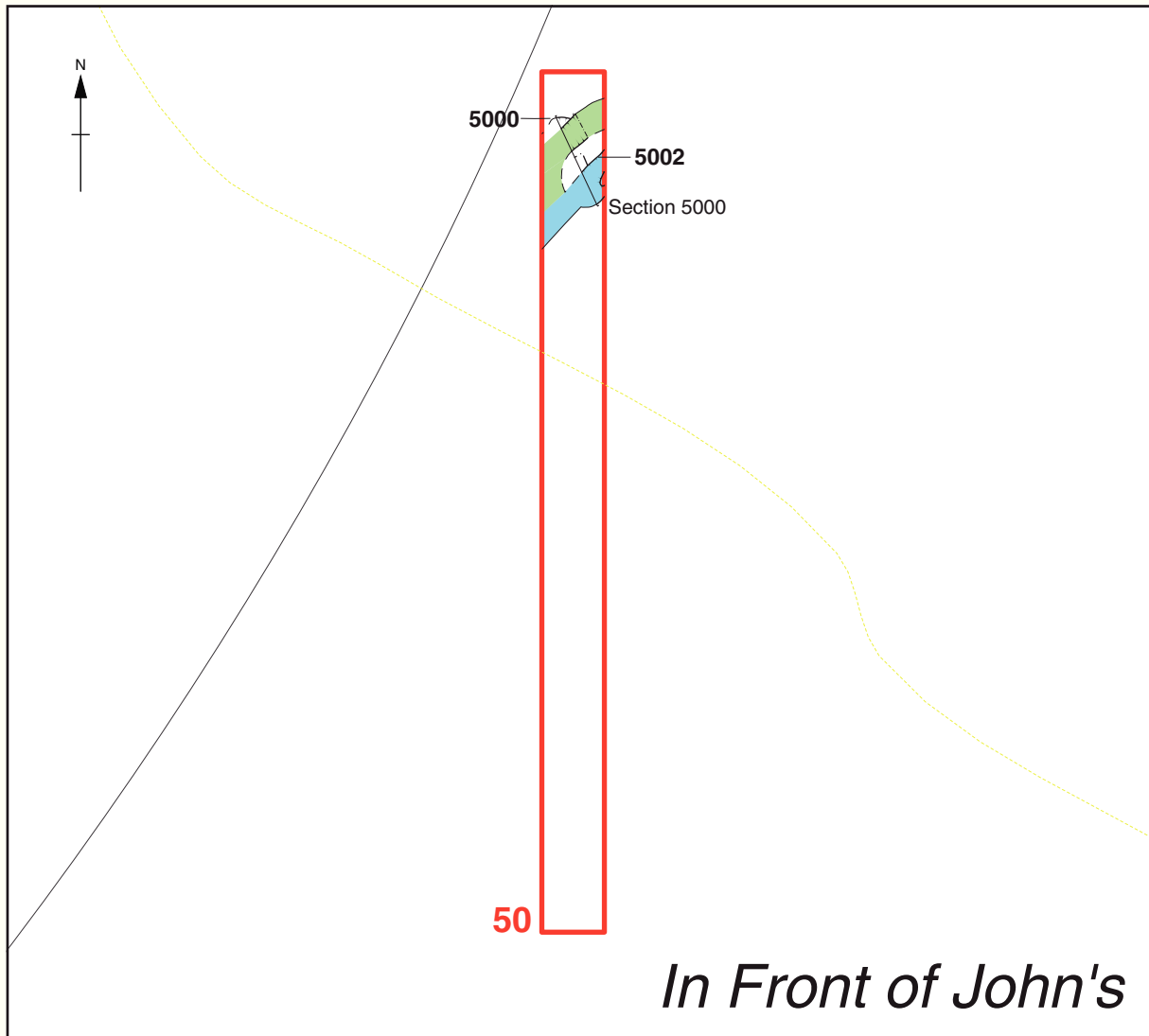


Figure 7: In Front of John's, plan and section

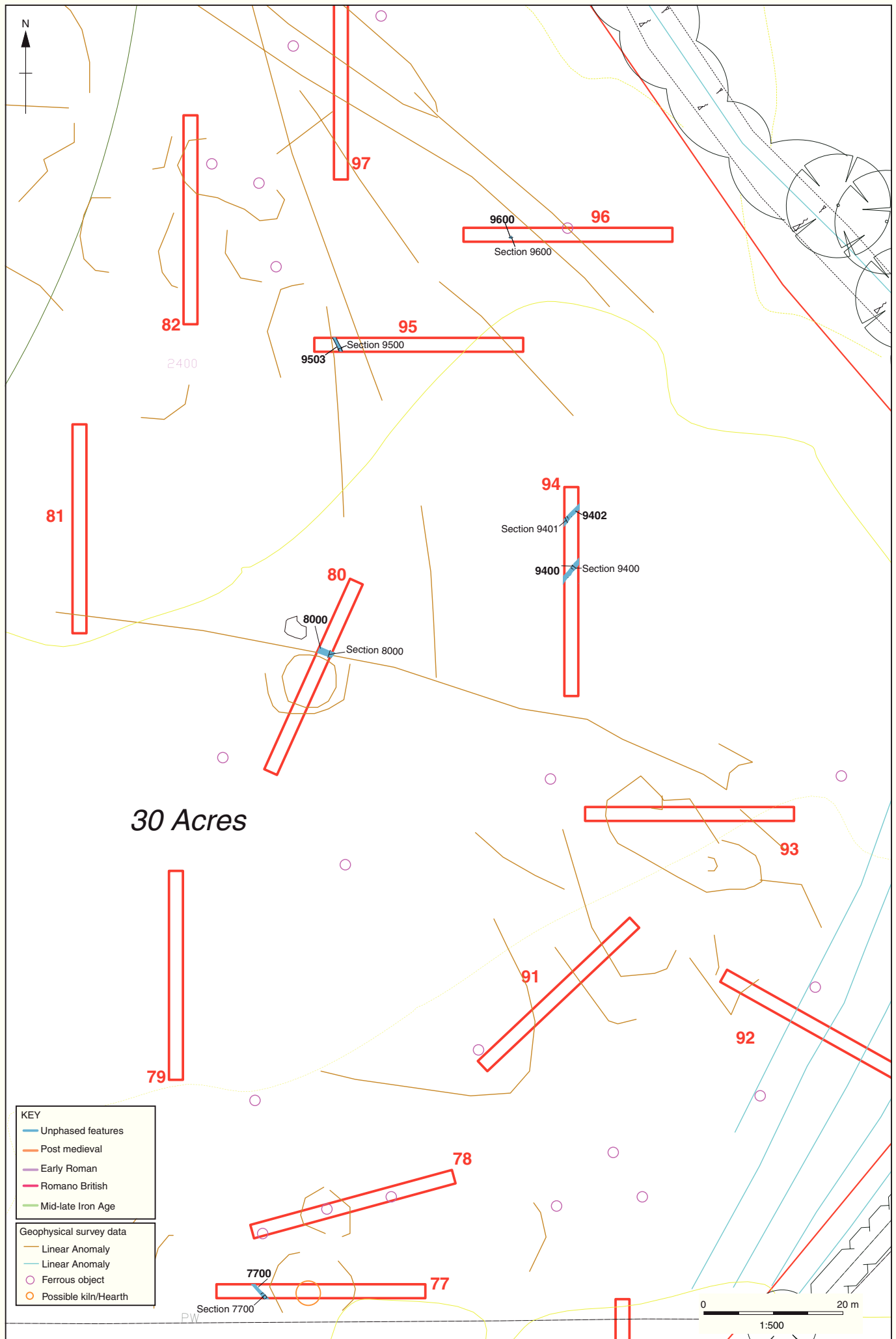


Figure 8: 30 Acres plans

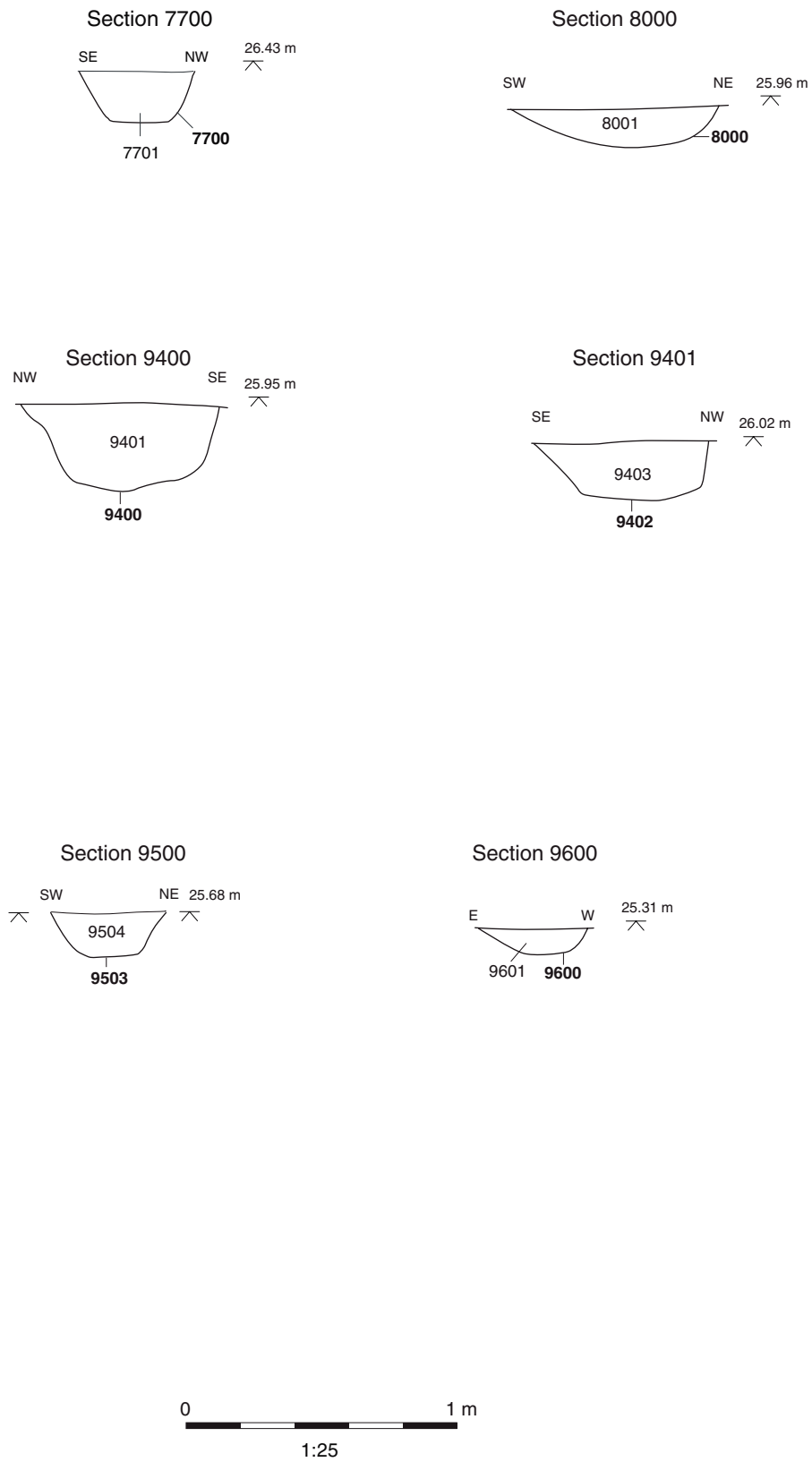


Figure 9: 30 Acres sections

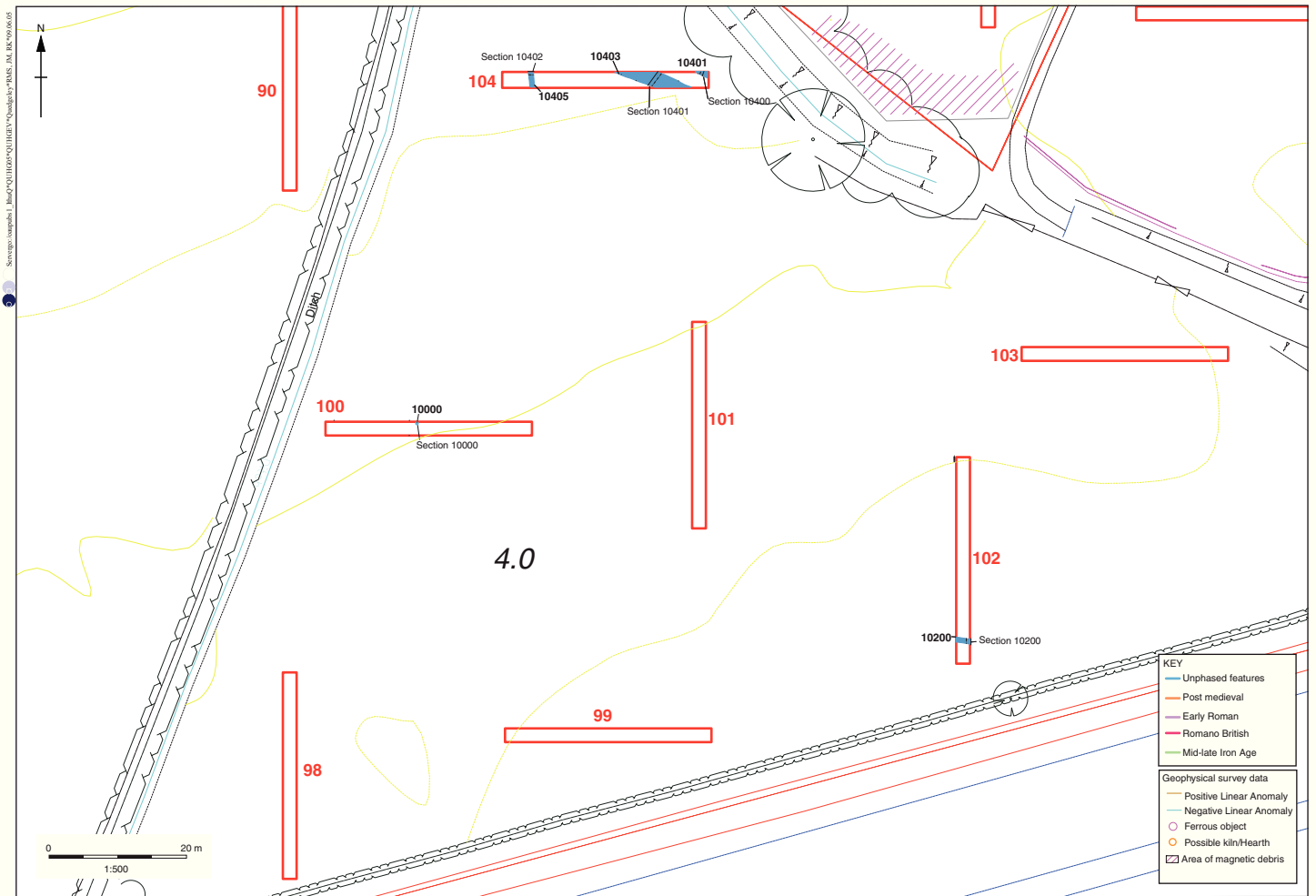


Figure 10: 4.0 plans

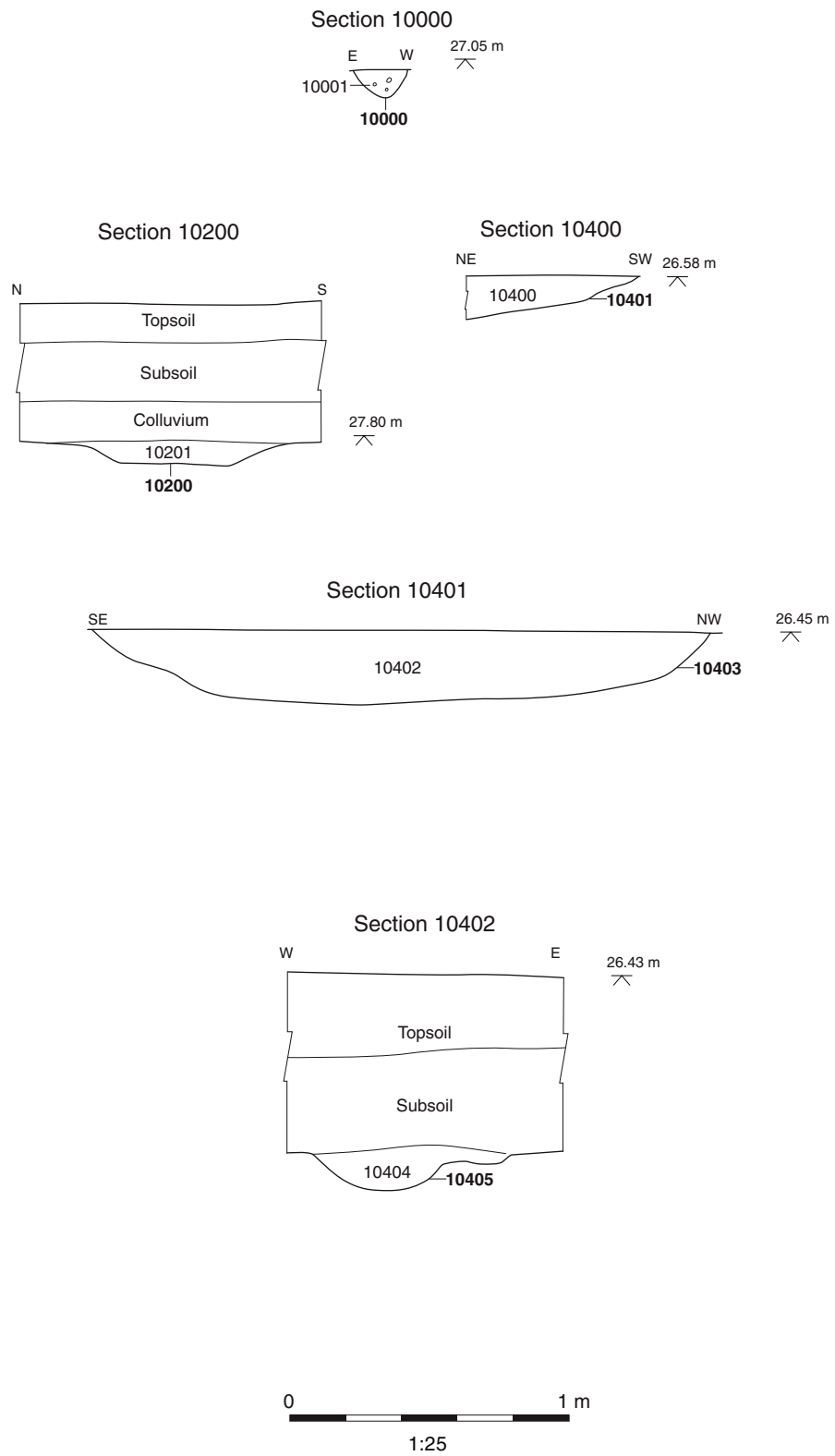


Figure 11: 4.0 sections



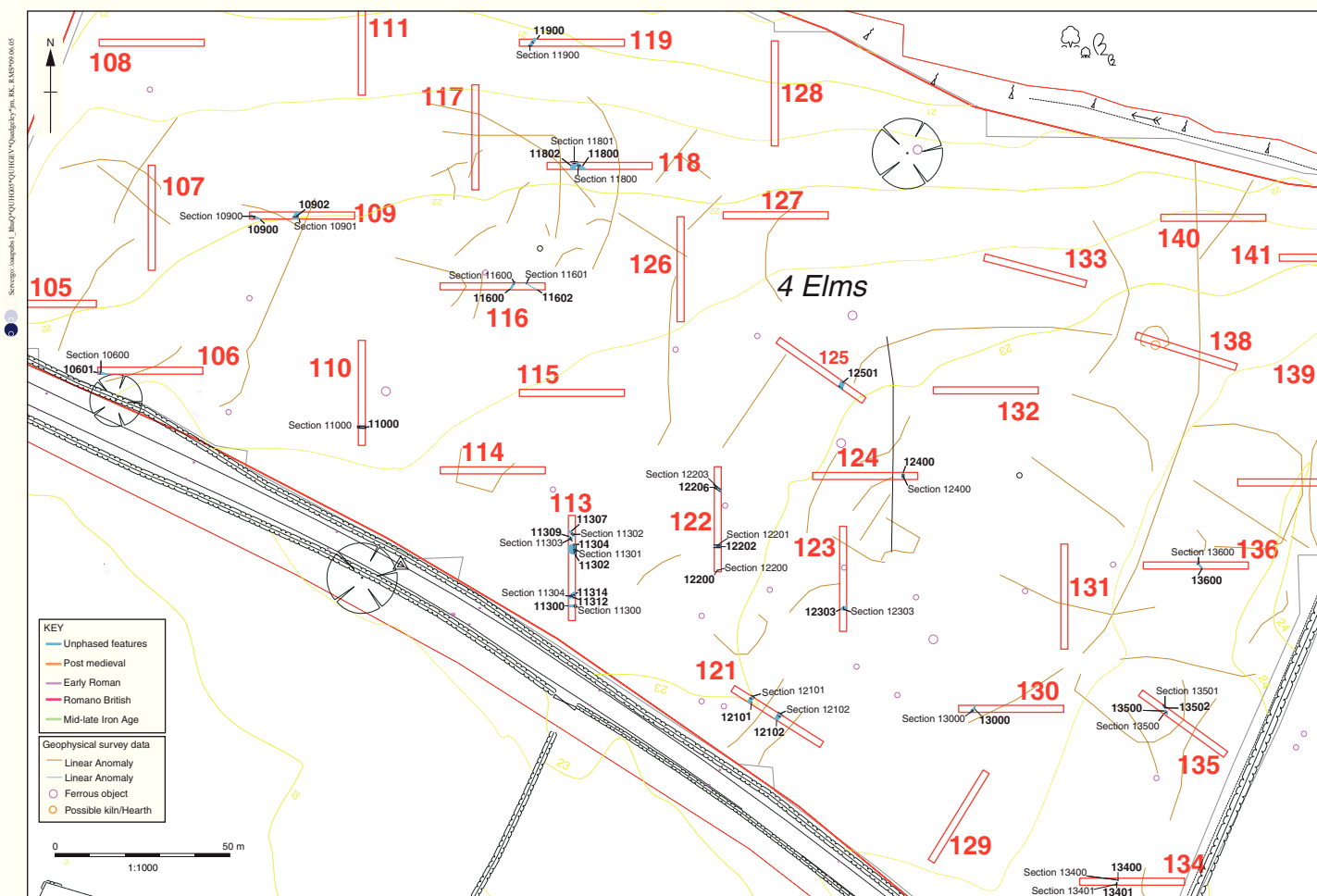


Figure 12: 4 Elms plans

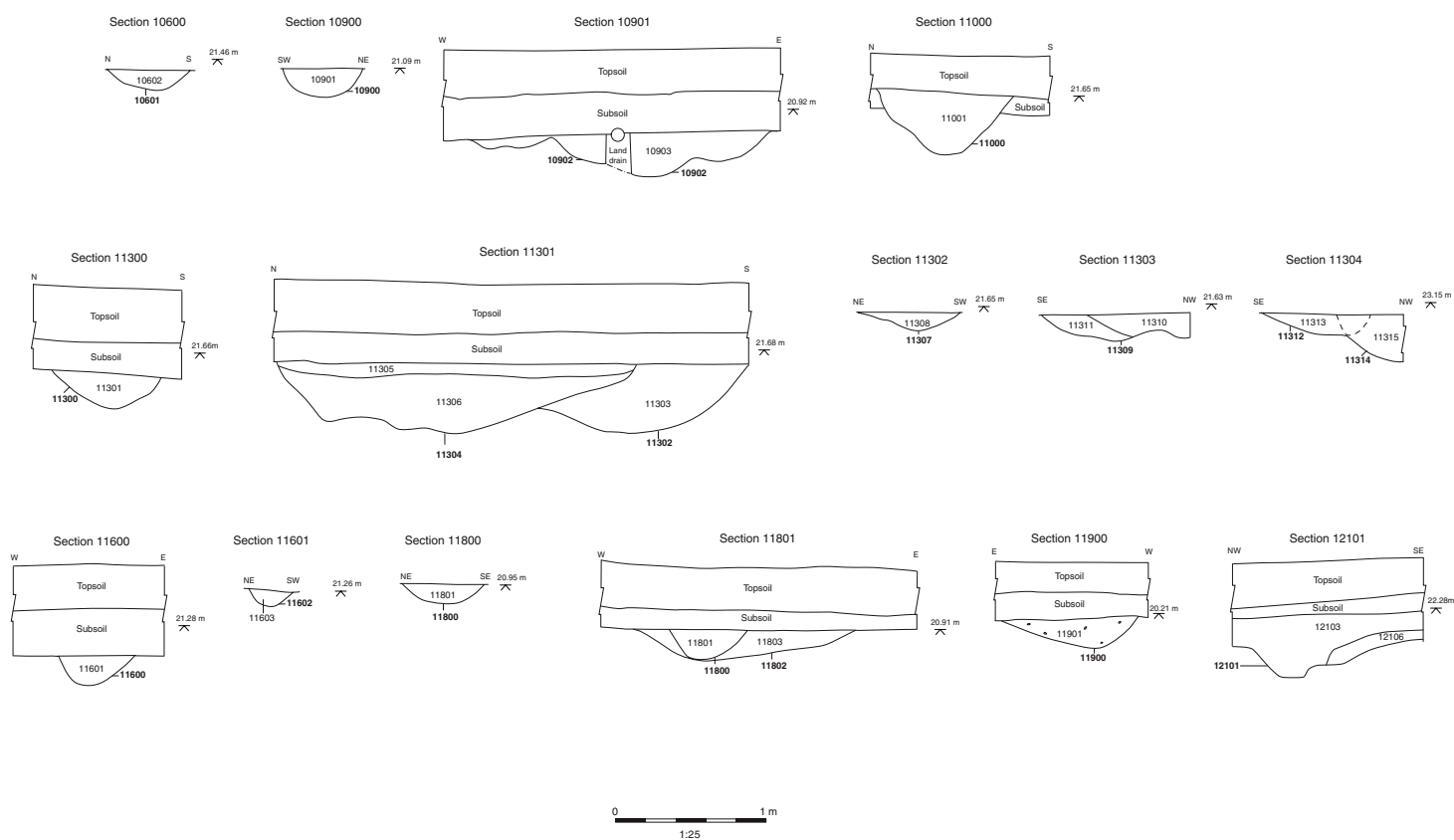


Figure 13: 4 Elms sections

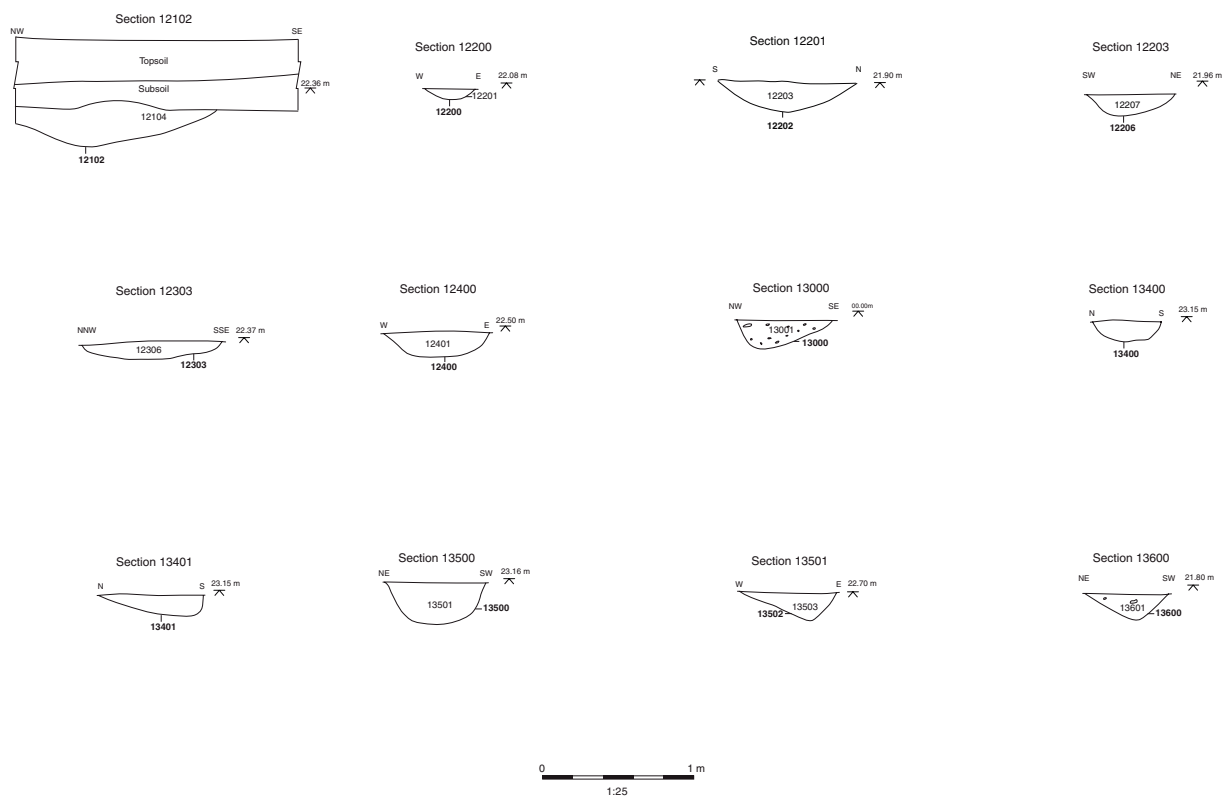


Figure 14: 4 Elms sections



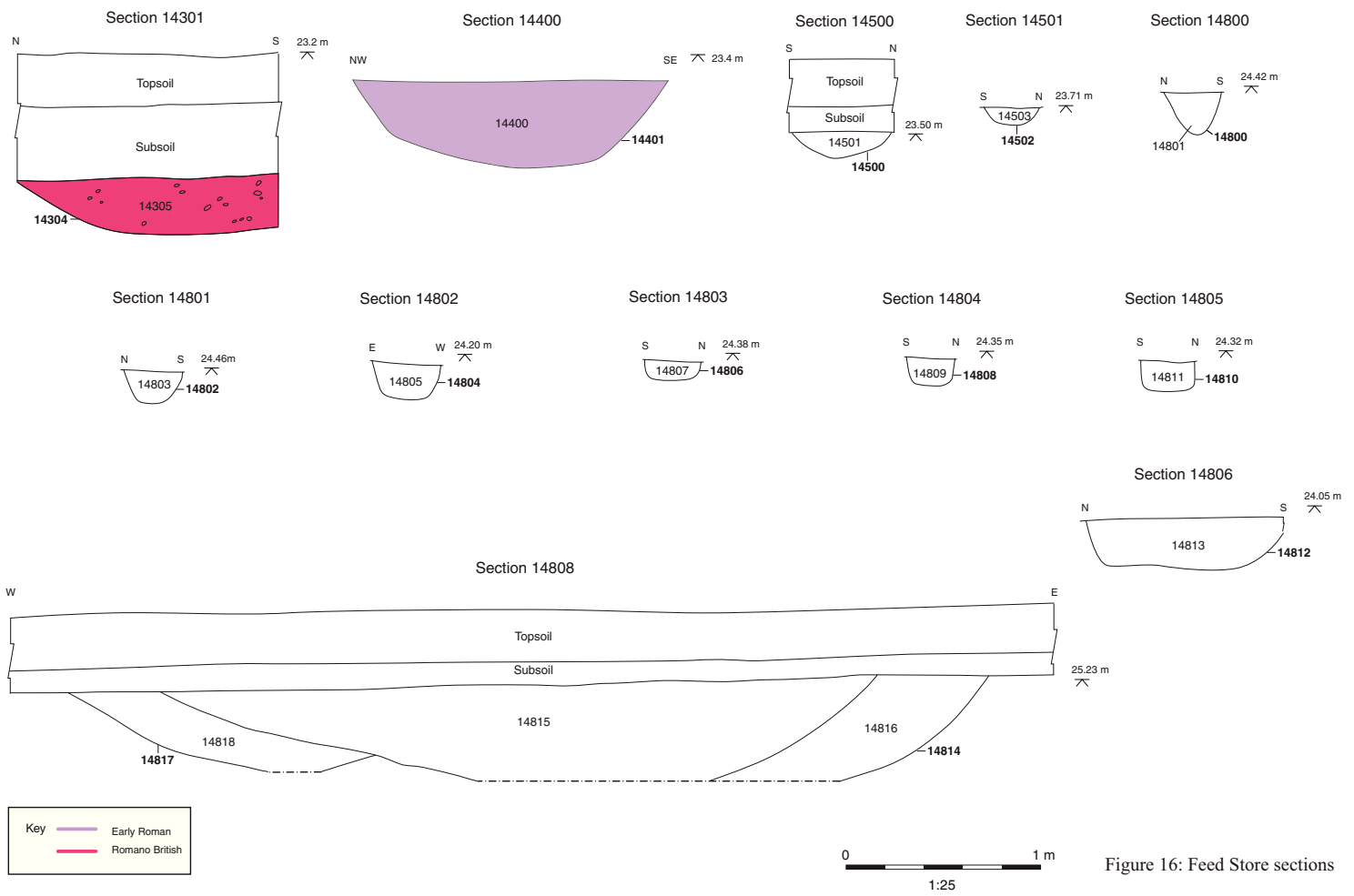


Figure 16: Feed Store sections

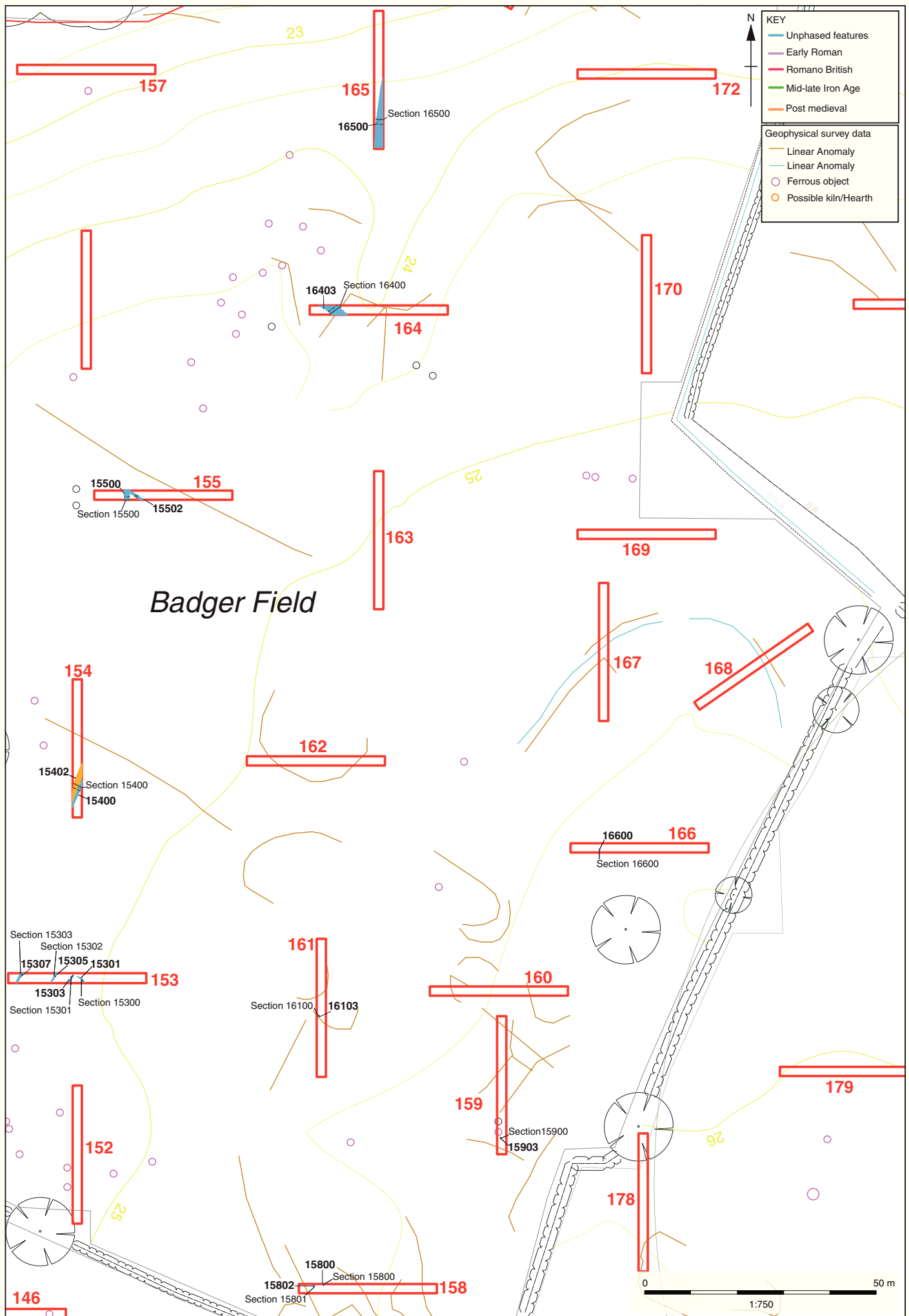


Figure 17: Badger Field plans

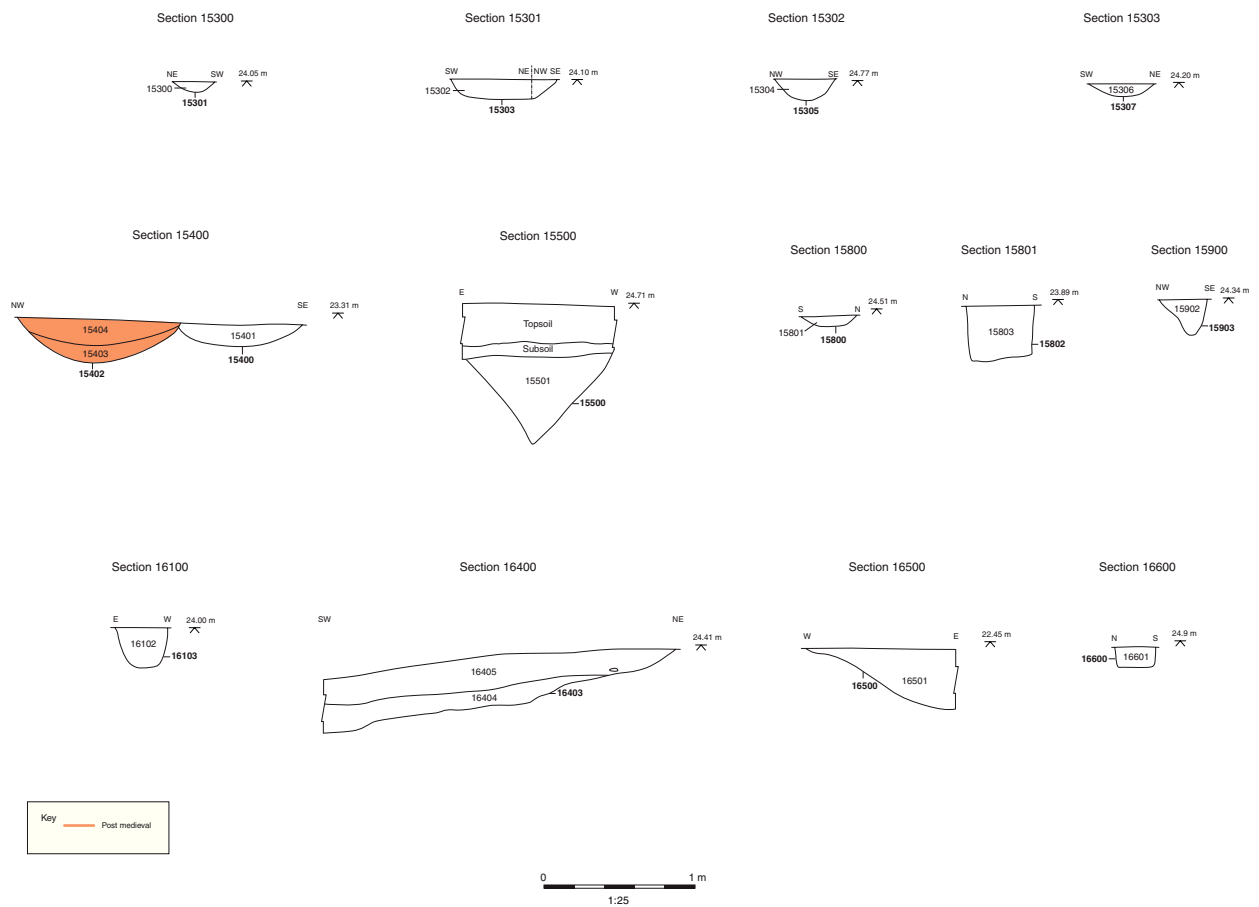


Figure 18: Badger Field sections

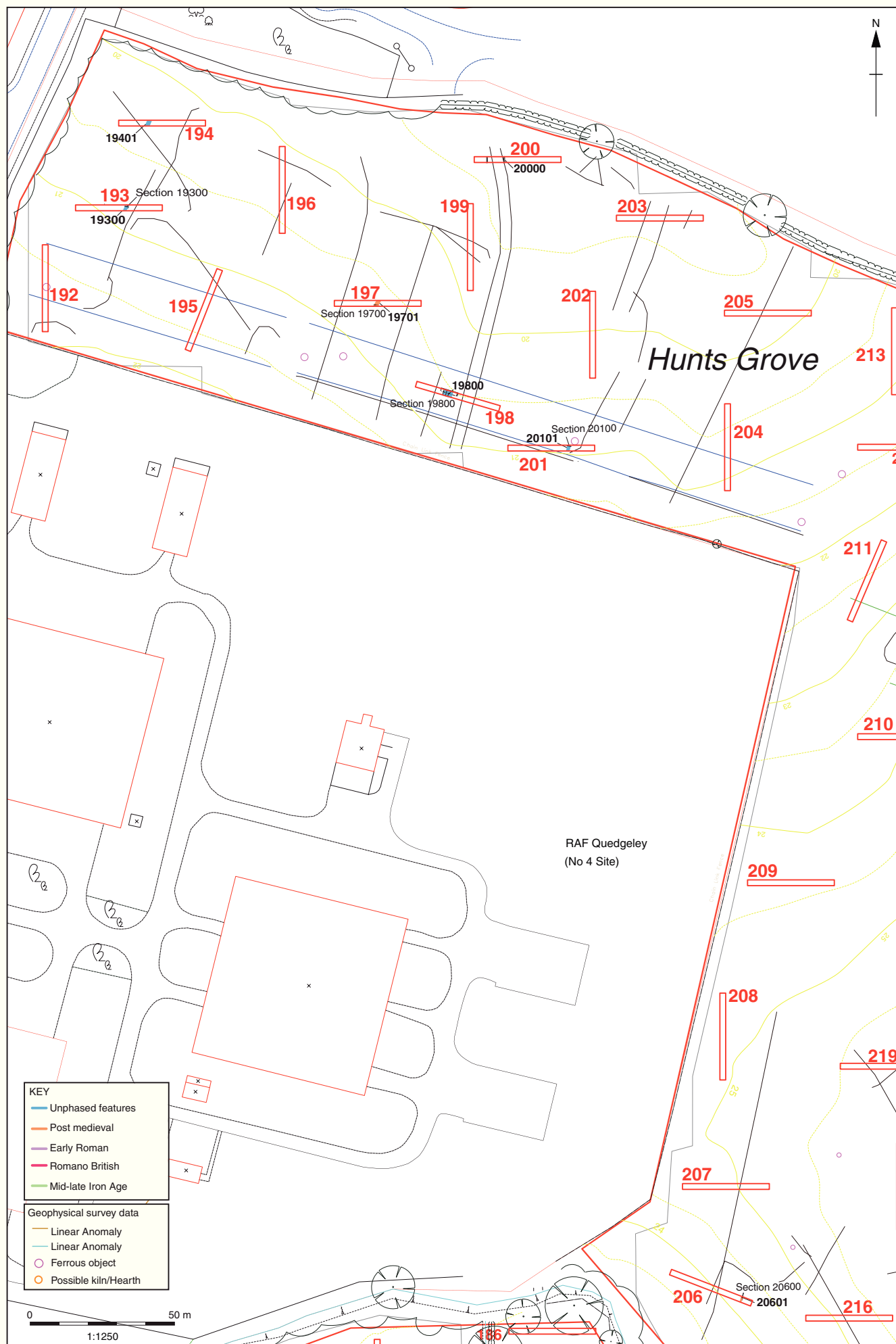
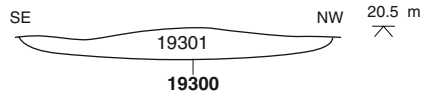


Figure 19: Hunts Grove plans

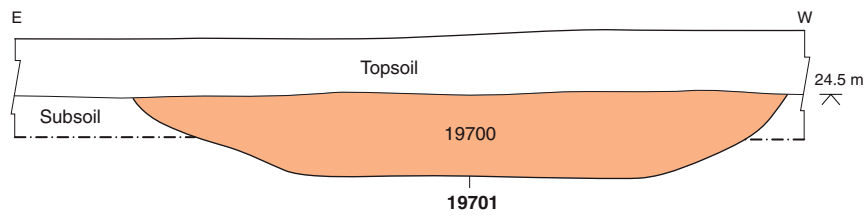




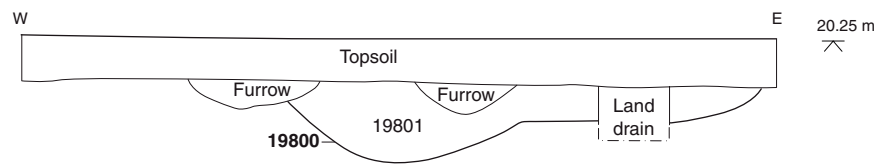
### Section 19300



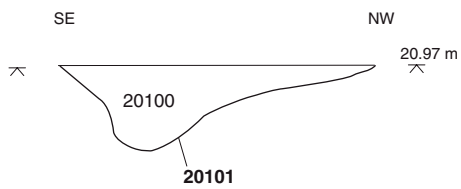
### Section 19700



### Section 19800



### Section 20100



### Section 20600

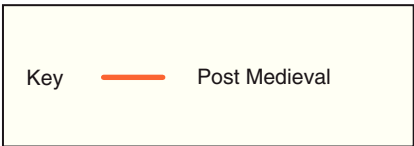
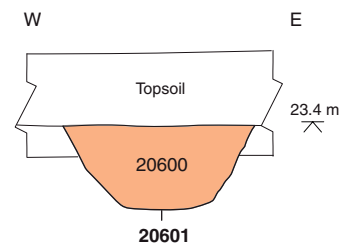


Figure 20: Hunts Grove sections

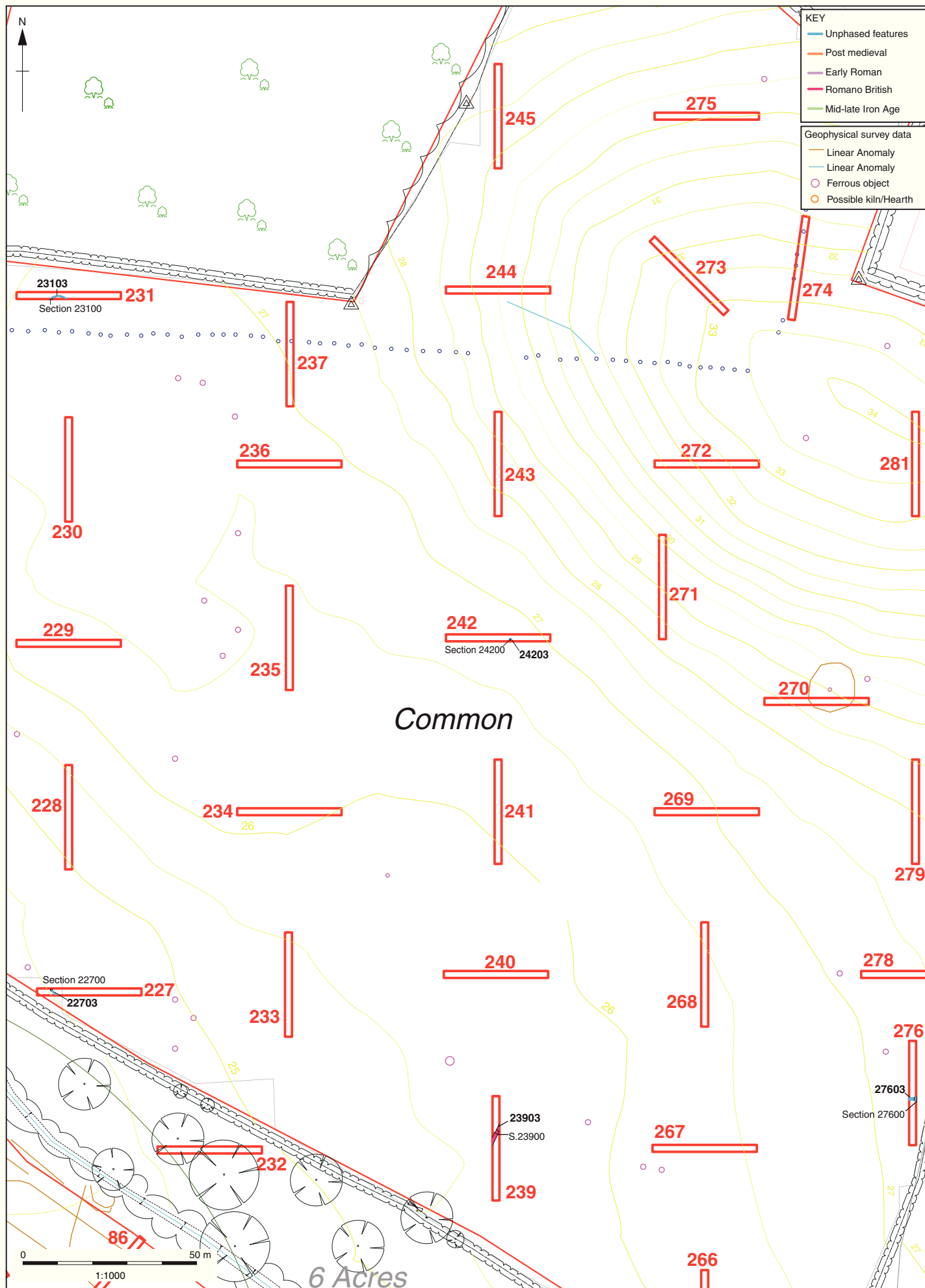
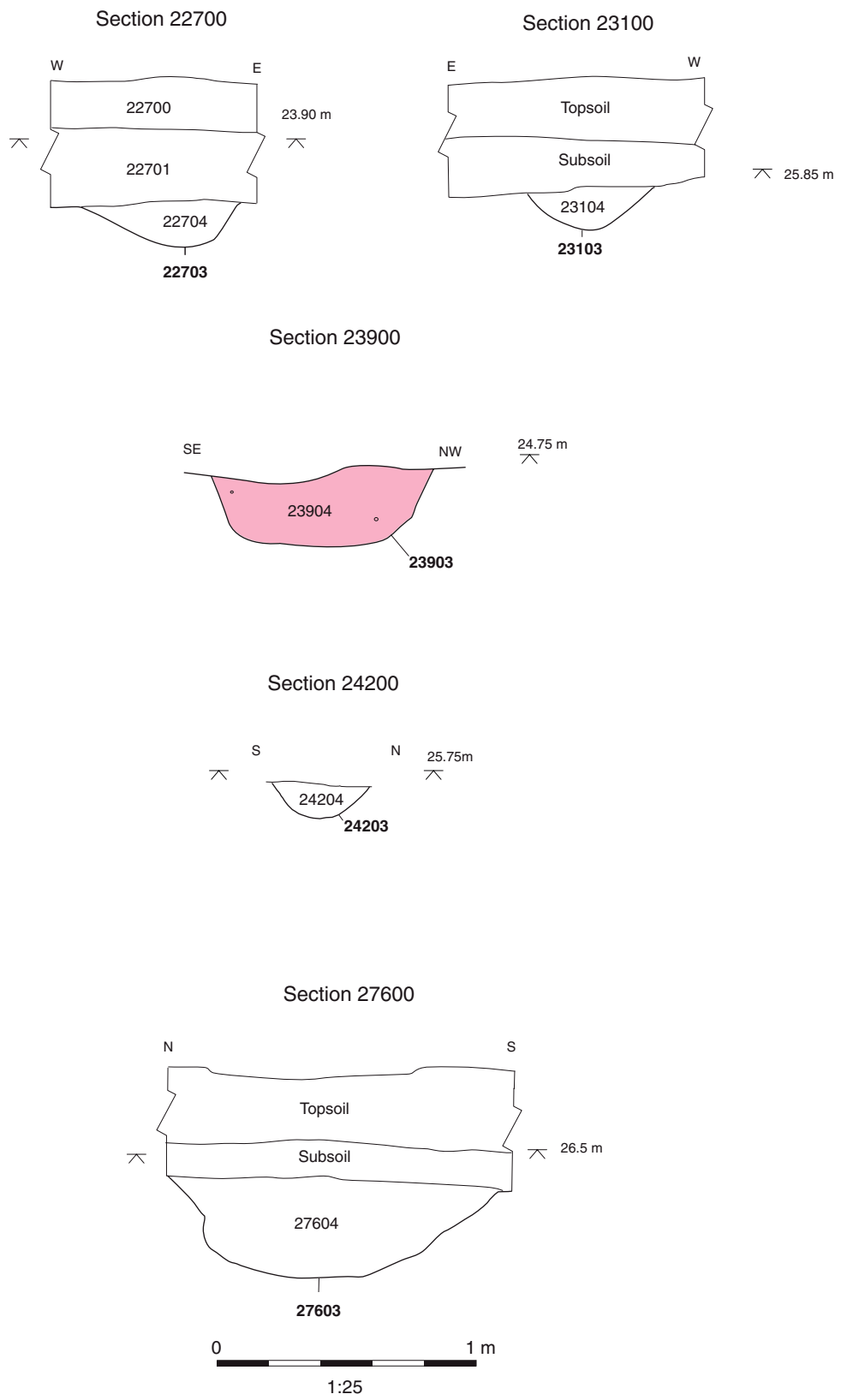


Figure 21: Common plans



Key Romano British

Figure 22: Common sections

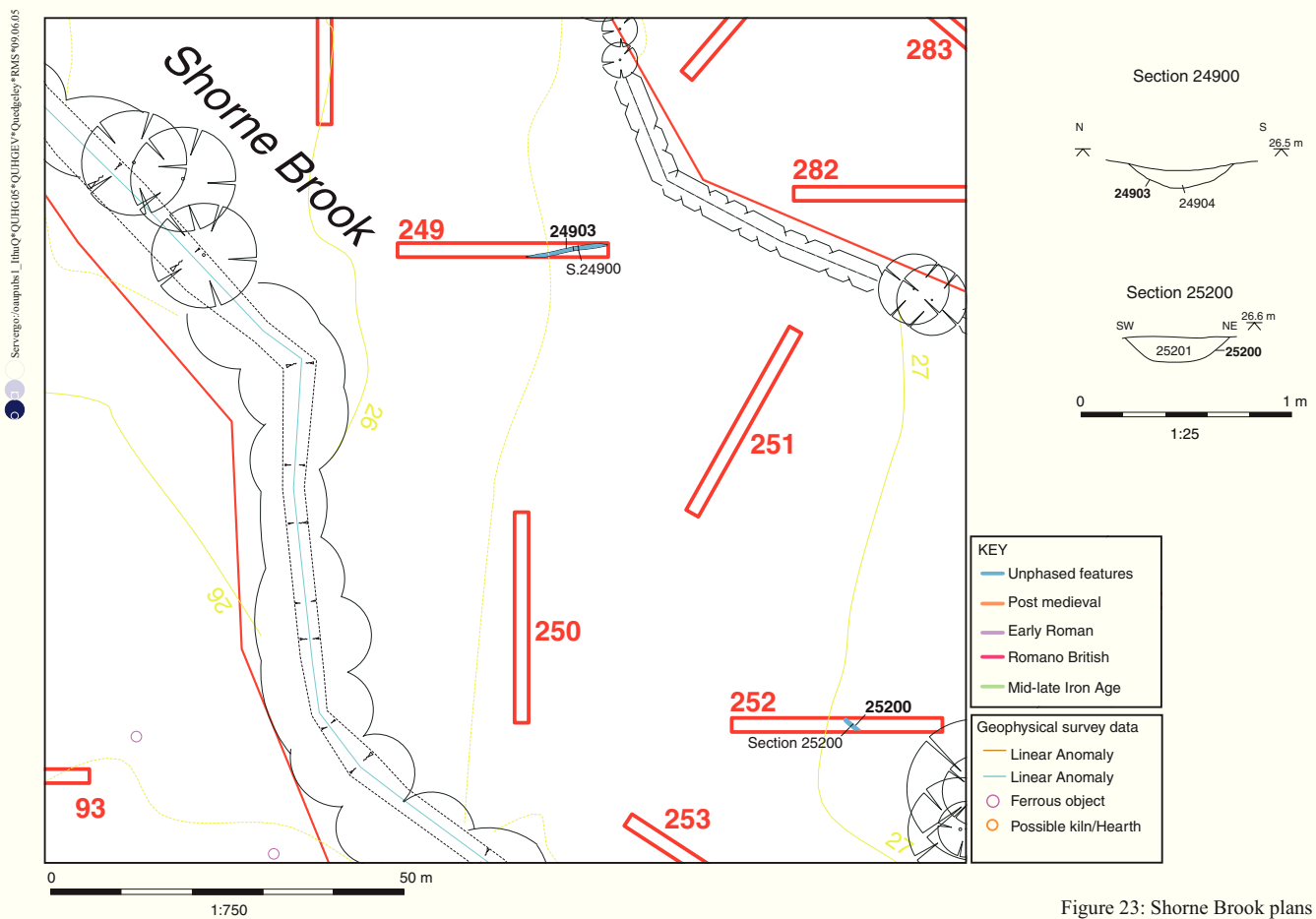


Figure 23: Shorne Brook plans and sections

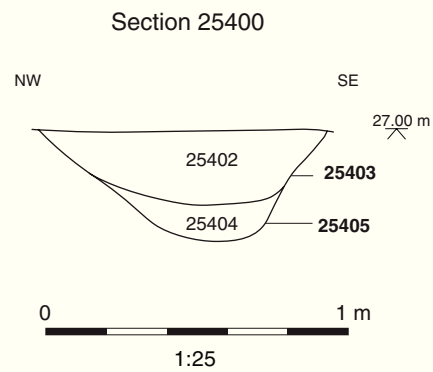
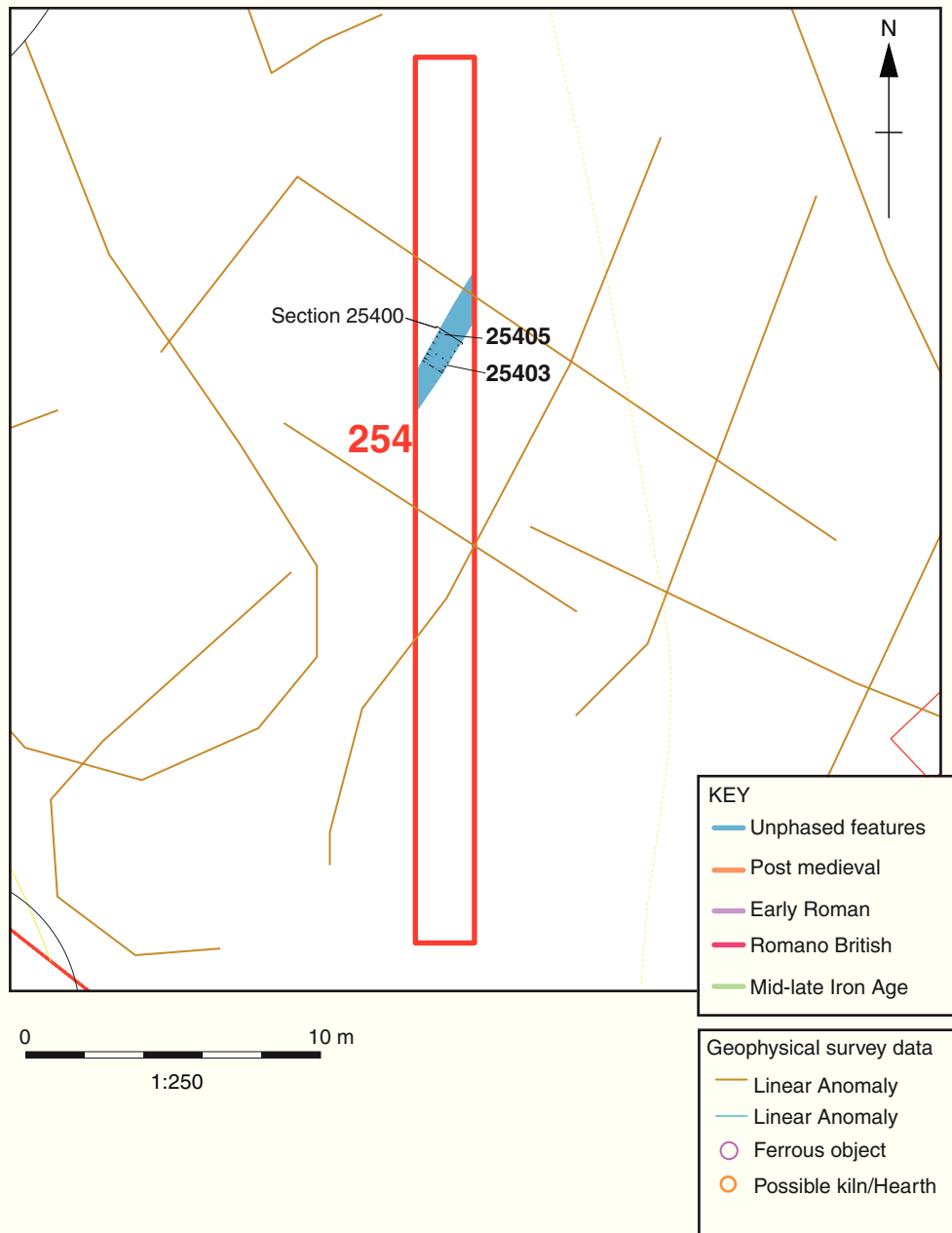


Figure 24: 5.5 plan and section

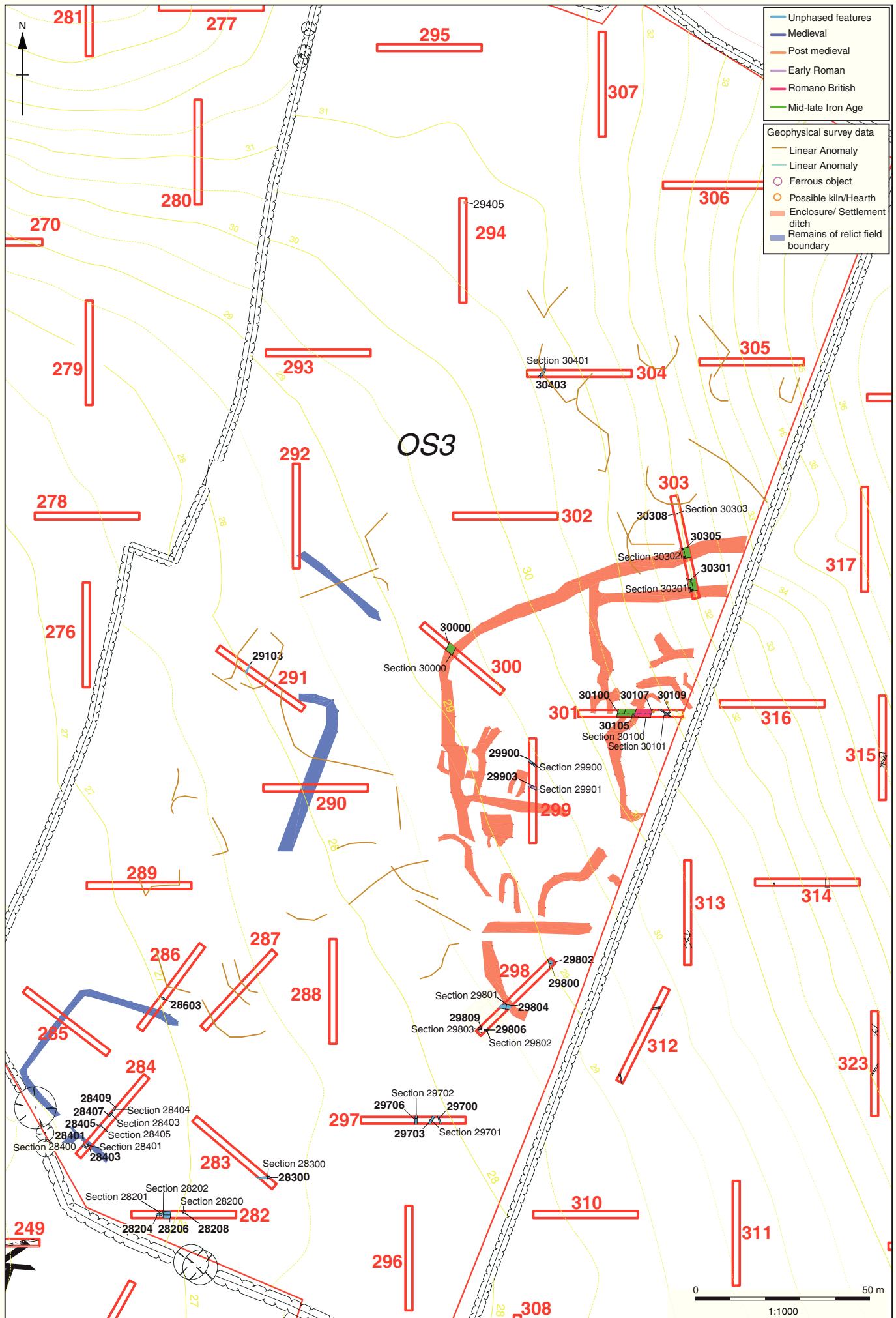
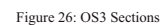


Figure 25: OS3 plans



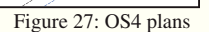


Figure 27: OS4 plans



