Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between 9th and 27th January 2017 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out a trenched evaluation at Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent (TR 134 561). This work was commissioned by Pentland Properties Ltd. The evaluation comprised the excavation of 246 trenches that primarily targeted geophysical survey results, but also tested 'blank' areas. An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site was carried out by CgMs in 2013 (Hawkins 2013). Although over two-thirds of the trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits, two areas of significant later prehistoric activity were identified.

One of these areas was found along the northern edge of the plateau extending across Field B to the western edge of Field C. The presence of archaeological remains focused in this area had previously been suggested by the results of a geophysical survey. Ditches on various alignments were revealed that probably belong to a network of fields or enclosures of Middle Bronze Age origin. A total of six pits were also identified in this area that contained assemblages of later prehistoric pottery and worked flint spanning the Early Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age periods. One Middle Iron Age pit contained substantial quantities of pottery, burnt flint and daub, perhaps indicating that industrial or craft processes were being undertaken in the area during this period.

A second smaller area of prehistoric remains was also revealed in the north-eastern corner of the site (Field F). Two further Middle Bronze Age ditches were uncovered here that yielded further assemblages of prehistoric pottery, worked and burnt flint.

In Field B, a ditched boundary was revealed in a trench immediately to the south of Cockering Farm (Cockering Manor) that contained locally-produced medieval pottery sherds dated to the 12th-13th centuries. Trenching also identified ditches of post-medieval/modern date that respect post-medieval field boundaries, with many containing brick and tile fragments.

Many trenches on the sloping east-facing ground in the eastern part of the site (Fields C, D, F, H and I) contained the remains of linear post hole alignments, with many containing modern brick and tile fragments. These post holes were associated with recent activity associated with hop growing.

Preservation of environmental remains from across the site was poor, with bulk samples producing only a background scatter of charred grain. The lack of animal bone is probably due to the acidic nature of the soil.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank Nigel Borrell of Pentland Properties Ltd for commissioning the work and for his practical help and organisation on the ground, and Charlotte Dawson of Wardell Armstrong for overseeing the project. Thanks are also extended to Rosanne Cummings, who monitored the work on behalf of Kent County Council, for her advice and guidance.

The project was managed for OA East by Richard Mortimer. The fieldwork was directed by Graeme Clarke, who was supported by Simon Birnie, Lee Sparks, Ben Slader and Camille Guezennec. Survey and digitising was carried out by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the direction of Katherine Hamilton.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by Pentland Properties Ltd to undertake a trial trench evaluation at Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent (centred on TR 134 561; Fig. 1). The site encompasses a proposed residential development area of 73ha of arable land, extending to the south of Thanington. A Desk-Based Assessment was undertaken for the site in 2013 by CgMs that indicated a high archaeological potential for prehistoric remains for the site (Hawkins 2013). A geophysical survey on the site was also carried out by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in 2015 that determined the probable presence of archaeological features within the site (Railton 2015; Fig. 2).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. CA/15/01479/OUT. This document outlines how OA East implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The site comprises nine arable fields (designated Fields A-I; Fig. 2) to the south of Cockering Road within the civic parish of Thanington Without.

1.2.2 These fields extend westwards from the A2 carriageway, and the western limit of the City of Canterbury, to the eastern edge of the Larkey Valley Wood (Fig. 1). The westernmost field (Field A) rises from 44m OD adjacent to Cockering Road to the higher plateau of Fields B and C, lying at a height of 64m OD. The topography falls in the eastern fields (Fields C to I) to a height of 18m OD adjacent to the A2 carriageway.

1.2.3 The underlying bedrock geology of the site comprises Seaford Chalk Formation - Chalk. Superficial deposits comprise either River Terrace or Head deposits (www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 1st February 2016). The underlying geology of each field is summarised below in Table 1.

Field	Underlying geology
A	Chalk
B	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
C	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
D	Head – Clay and Silt
E	Head – Clay and Silt
F	Head – Clay and Silt
G	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
H	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel
I	River Terrace Deposits – Sand and Gravel

Table 1: Underlying Geology by Field

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Desk-Based Assessment

1.3.1 A Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) of the site was carried out by CgMs in January 2013 (Hawkins 2013), which details the archaeological potential of the site and should be referred to for the full background. The DBA included: a search of the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER); a study of historical aerial photographs of the site and a cartographic search. The main results of this report are summarised below and detailed on Figure 2.

Bronze Age (c.2500-800BC)

1.3.2 Two findspots of Bronze Age date are recorded in Field D. These are a copper alloy razor (MKE 57157) and a copper alloy 'object' (MKE 57161). An assemblage of flint spanning the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods is also recorded immediately to the north-east of Field F (TR 15 NW 614).

Iron Age (c.800BC-AD43)

1.3.3 Two findspots of Iron Age date are recorded in Field C, both of which are copper alloy coins (MKE 57031 and MKE 57674). A copper alloy brooch is also recorded in Field B (MKE 57151). An archaeological watching brief also revealed Iron Age remains immediately to the east of Field H (TR 15 NW 215).

Roman (c.AD43-410)

1.3.4 Previous metal detecting events have recorded numerous metalwork findspots across all the fields that form the site. The metalwork mostly comprises low denomination bronze coins with a few bronze brooches and cosmetic implements. The metalwork is indicative of manuring of these fields with rubbish and 'night soil' brought from the Roman city of Canterbury, within which the metalwork was intermixed. These findspots have therefore not been presented on Figure 2.

Post-Roman (c. 410-1900)

1.3.5 Numerous metalwork findspots spanning the medieval to modern periods have also been recorded across the site from previous metal detecting events. As with the Roman metalwork, these probably also represent manuring of fields throughout this period, with material brought in from the city of Canterbury. These findspots are similarly not presented on Figure 2. Historical cartographic evidence shows that the present layout of the fields comprising the site developed from smaller pre-existing subdivisions.

Geophysical Survey

1.3.6 The geophysical survey of the site was undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in January and February 2015 (Railton 2015). The results of the survey are presented on Figure 2. The majority of the anomalies are considered to be agricultural in origin, representing post-medieval field boundaries and plough furrows. Possible tree pits were also identified believed to be associated with former orchards and shown on historical maps of the site. Some of the linear and discrete

anomalies were interpreted to be possible soil-filled features that may reflect underlying archaeological features. These were interpreted as probably representing possible former field boundary ditches, quarry pits or ponds of uncertain date (Railton 2015).

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; (Dawson 2016) are as follows:

- ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit, character, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains on site;
- establish the extent to which previous development and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site; and
- establish the likely impact on archaeological deposits of the proposed development.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 In accordance with the WSI (Dawson 2016) a total of 246 30m-long trenches (Trenches 1-246) were excavated, representing a 2% sample of the 73ha proposed development area. These were primarily positioned to investigate the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey and were designed to follow the natural topography of the landscape. Blank areas were also tested.

2.2.2 The evaluation has been split into nine areas corresponding to each field comprising the site (Fields A-I; Figure 2); these are summarised below in Table 2.

Field	Number of Trenches	Trench Numbers allocated	Figures
A	14	1-14	-
B	97	15-111	4
C	77	112-188	5
D	20	189-208	6
E	6	209-214	-
F	20	215-234	7
G	4	235-238	-
H	3	239-241	8
I	5	242-246	9

Table 2: Trial Trenches by Field

2.2.3 It was determined that the impact of the development in Field A would be limited to an area of tree planting around its southern and western periphery. Consultation between Charlotte Dawson of Wardell Armstrong on behalf of Pentland Properties Ltd and Rosanne Cummings of the KCC/HCT agreed a maximum excavated depth of 300mm for the trenches in Field A (Trenches 1-14) to determine the impact of the tree planting in this area.

2.2.4 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with 360º mechanical excavators using 2m-wide toothless ditching buckets.

2.2.5 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET.

2.2.6 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern. The findings of the metal detecting survey are given as Appendix B.1.

2.2.7 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.8 A total of 16 bulk samples were taken from the excavated features. These each totalled between 20L & 40L and were processed by flotation at OA's environmental processing facility at Bourn.

2.2.9 Site conditions were good, with rain and snow at times.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 Descriptions of the ground conditions encountered, features identified and artefacts recovered are given for each area of the evaluation (Fields A-I) and described numerically by trench. Further context descriptions with dimensions are given in Appendix A; Table 12, supplemented by artefact and ecofact reports included as Appendices B and C.

3.1.2 Figure 2 shows the location of all the trenches in relation to selected KHER data within the site and the geophysical survey. Figure 3 provides an overall plan of the results of the evaluation and Figures 4-9 provide a more detailed plan of the features encountered in Fields A-I and incorporate selected sections of features.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The underlying natural deposits were found to be consistent with the superficial Head (4) or River Terrace deposits (3) indicated for each Field on the BGS website (Section 1.2.3; Table 1). The Chalk bedrock (5) was only encountered as an outcrop in the eastern part of Field C, in an area encompassing Trenches 139, 140, 142, 143 and 146.

3.2.2 Some of the larger discrete geophysical anomalies targeted by the trenching (Trenches 23, 24, 67, 74, 108 and 122; Fig. 3) were found to be soil filled sinkholes (all assigned context number 7). The sinkholes are geological features, encountered on sites with underlying Chalk bedrock. The sinkhole revealed in Trench 74 formed a broad circular depression still extant in the landscape.

3.2.3 The overlying soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology was overlain by a subsoil (2), which in turn was overlain by topsoil/ploughsoil (1).

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

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Figure 3 provides an overall plan of the results of the evaluation The evaluation revealed a focus of prehistoric activity corresponding with the densest area of anomalies shown on the geophysical survey in Field B. This lay on the northern edge of the higher plateau extending across the south of the site. A further smaller focus of prehistoric activity was also present on the flat ground at the base of the hill, at the northeastern extremity of the site. Medieval activity was confined to a single ditch feature immediately south of Cockering Farm, the site of Cockering Manor. Post-medieval subdivisions of the current field system were encountered mainly in the northern part of the site, towards Cockering Road. Below ground remains of probable modern hop gardens lay on the east facing slopes of the fields in the eastern part of the site.

3.4 Field A (Trenches 1-14)

3.4.1 Fourteen 30m-long trenches were opened in the westernmost field of the site (Fig. 3; Table 3; Plate 1). As required in the WSI, each trench was opened to a maximum depth of 300mm, corresponding with the base of the topsoil (1). The natural subsoil (2) was encountered in each of the trenches. No archaeological remains were revealed in any of the trenches in this field.

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
1	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
2	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
3	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy crotal bell (Sf42) and medieval buckle (Sf44) from topsoil
4	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
5	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
6	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
7	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
8	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
9	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
10	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
11	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
12	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None
13	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	Post-medieval lead horse boss (Sf19) from topsoil
14	30	0.3	Not applicable	No archaeology	None

Table 3: Field A summary trench descriptions

3.5 Field B (Trenches 15-111)

3.5.1 A total of 97 30m-long trenches were excavated on the large field to the south of Cockering Farm (Fig. 4; Table 4). As well as testing blank areas, the trial trenching targeted numerous discrete features of uncertain origin in this field shown on the geophysical survey (Fig. 2).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
15	30	0.2	0.1	1 medieval ditch **25**	**25** (26) medieval pottery. Modern copper-alloy button (Sf51) from topsoil
16	30	0.25	0.1	1 post-medieval ditch **70**	**70** (71) CBM
17	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	None
18	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None
19	30	0.15	0.3	No archaeology	Modern coin (Sf10) and button (Sf21) from topsoil
20	30	0.3	0.1	1 modern ditch **33**	**33** (34) modern pottery, glass, CBM (not retained)
21	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
22	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
23	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	Post-medieval copper-alloy clothes fastener (Sf13) from topsoil
24	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	None
25	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf15) from topsoil
26	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
27	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
28	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Silver coin of Elizabeth I (Sf1) from topsoil
29	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
30	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy buttons (Sf17 and Sf22) from topsoil

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
31	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
32	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
33	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
34	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
35	30	0.2	0.15	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **122**	None
36	30	0.2	0.25	No archaeology	None
37	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
38	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
39	30	0.25	0.25	No archaeology	None
40	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	None
41	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	Fragment of copper-alloy cooking vessel (Sf9) of uncertain date from topsoil
42	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
43	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
44	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
45	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
46	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
47	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
48	30	0.25	0.25	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf50) from topsoil
49	30	0.3	0.4	No archaeology	Modern silver walking stick ferrule (Sf2) from topsoil
50	30	0.3	0.4	No archaeology	None
51	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf4) from topsoil
52	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
53	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
54	30	0.25	0.3	No archaeology	None
55	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf16)

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
					from topsoil
56	30	0.25	0.3	No archaeology	None
57	30	0.2	0.3	No archaeology	None
58	30	0.2	0.4	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **21**	None
59	30	0.25	0.3	No archaeology	None
60	30	0.25	0.3	1 Middle Bronze Age ditch **66**	**66** (67) worked flint
61	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
62	30	0.2	0.3	1 Middle Bronze Age ditch **18**	**18** (19) worked flint
63	30	0.2	0.2	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **64**	Lead plumb bob (Sf12) of uncertain date from topsoil
64	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
65	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
66	30	0.2	0.2	1 post-medieval ditch **35**	**35** (36) CBM
67	30	0.25	0.3	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	Modern copper-alloy stud (Sf3) from topsoil
68	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
69	30	0.3	0.15	No archaeology	None
70	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
71	30	0.2	0.1	1 Early Bronze Age pit **37**	**37** (38) Early Bronze Age pottery and worked flint
72	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	Post-medieval lead musket ball (Sf8) from topsoil
73	30	0.2	0.1	1 post-medieval ditch **61**	**61** (62) CBM and iron stirrup (Sf.34)
74	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	None
75	30	0.25	0.35	No archaeology	None
76	30	0.3	0.2	1 Middle Iron Age pit **39**	**39** (40-42) Middle Iron Age pottery, worked flint, burnt flint and fired clay
77	30	0.25	0.5	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **93**	Modern copper-alloy disc (Sf7) from

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
					topsoil
78	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
79	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
80	30	0.2	0.3	No archaeology	None
81	30	0.25	0.15	No archaeology	None
82	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
83	30	0.2	0.2	1 Middle Iron Age pit **27**	**27** (28) Middle Iron Age pottery, fired clay fragments and worked flint
84	30	0.2	0.25	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **31**	None
85	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
86	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
87	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
88	30	0.2	0.2	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **29**	None
89	30	0.25	0.25	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf5) from topsoil
90	30	0.3	0.25	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf14) and coin (Sf18) from topsoil
91	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None
92	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	None
93	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None
94	30	0.25	0.35	No archaeology	None
95	30	0.3	0.15	No archaeology	None
96	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
97	30	0.25	0.25	No archaeology	None
98	30	0.2	0.25	No archaeology	None
99	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf6) from topsoil
100	30	0.25	0.15	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy coin (Sf20) from topsoil

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
101	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	None
102	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
103	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
104	30	0.25	0.15	No archaeology	None
105	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf11) from topsoil
106	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
107	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
108	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	None
109	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
110	30	0.15	0.15	No archaeology	None
111	30	0.15	0.15	No archaeology	None

Table 4: Field B summary trench descriptions

Trenches 15-24 (Fig. 4a)

3.5.2 These trenches were located in the northwestern corner of Field B, immediately to the south of Cockering Farm.

3.5.3 Trench 15 contained a single ditch (**25**) on a southwest-northeast alignment. The ditch measured 1.09m wide and 0.41m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (26) consisted of mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced two sherds of medieval pottery; dated to the 12th-13th centuries. The excavated topsoil also yielded a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 51).

3.5.4 Trench 16, located immediately to the east of Trench 15 also contained a single ditch (**70**). This lay on a northwest-southeast alignment and measured 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (71) consisted of dark grey sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that yielded a fragment (64g) of post-medieval brick.

3.5.5 Trenches 17-19 were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The excavated topsoil of Trench 19 contained a modern coin (Sf 10) and button (Sf 21).

3.5.6 Trench 20 was located to the south of Trenches 15 and 16 and revealed a modern ditch (**33**) on the same northwest-southeast alignment as the current field boundary. The ditch measured 0.86m wide and 0.39m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (34) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions. It contained many sherds of modern pottery, glass and fragments of CBM (not retained).

3.5.7 Trenches 21 and 22 were found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.5.8 Trenches 23 and 24, located to the northeast of Trench 16, each contained natural sinkhole deposits (7) that consisted of mid brown sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. These deposits extended across much of the length of the trenches indicating that the geological features were approximately 30m in diameter. A test pit was excavated into each sinkhole deposit by the 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level to investigate the extent of these features and sample the resultant spoil for finds. No artefacts were recovered from either of the sinkhole deposits. The excavated topsoil of Trench 23 also yielded a post-medieval copper-alloy clothes fastener (Sf 13).

Trenches 25-34

3.5.9 These trenches, located to the south and east of Trenches 15-34 were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The excavated topsoil of Trench 25 contained a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 15) and the topsoil of Trench 28 yielded a silver coin of Elizabeth I (Sf 1). The excavated topsoil of Trench 30 also contained modern copper-alloy buttons (Sf17 and Sf22).

Trench 35 (Fig. 4c)

3.5.10 This trench, located to the east of Trenches 23 and 24, contained a single undated ditch (**122**) on a north-south alignment. The ditch measured 0.67m wide and 0.3m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (121) consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

Trenches 36-55

3.5.11 These trenches, located across the southwestern part of Field B, were found to be devoid of archaeological features. Metalwork artefacts were recovered from the excavated topsoil. The topsoil of Trench 41 produced fragments of a copper-alloy cooking vessel (Sf 9) of uncertain date and the topsoil of Trench 48 produced a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 50). The topsoil of Trench 49 contained a modern silver walking stick ferrule (Sf 2). Modern copper-alloy buttons (Sf 4 and Sf 16) were found in the topsoil from Trenches 51 and 55 respectively.

Trenches 56 and 57

3.5.12 Trenches 56 and 57 were located at the northern end of Field B; immediately south of Cockering Farm. Both lay towards the northern end of the north-facing slope in this part of the site, and a layer of colluvium was revealed beneath the subsoil in each of the trenches. A test pit excavated into this deposit at the northern end of Trench 56 revealed the colluvium to be up to 1.5m thick, overlying the natural River Terrace Gravels. Both trenches were found to be devoid of archaeological features.

Trenches 58-63 (Figs 4b and 4d)

3.5.13 These trenches were located immediately to the south of Trenches 56 and 57. Trenches 58, 60, 62 and 63 each contained a ditch, while Trenches 59 and 61 were found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.5.14 Ditch (**21**) in Trench 58 lay on a northeast-southwest alignment, and measured 1.66m wide and 0.84m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The primary fill (24) consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This was overlain by secondary fills (23 and 22) that respectively consisted of dark and mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

3.5.15 Within Trench 60, a ditch (**66**) followed an east-west alignment, to the east of Trench 58. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. Its single fill (67) consisted of mid orange brown clayey silt with rare gravel inclusions. This yielded three worked flints representing a mixed assemblage of Neolithic and later prehistoric material.

3.5.16 Trench 62, located immediately to the southeast of Trench 60, contained a ditch (**18**) on a north-south alignment. It measured 1.04m wide and 0.34m deep with a U-shaped profile. The primary fill (20) consisted of mid yellowish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (19) comprising mid brownish yellow clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. The secondary fill (19) produced a single worked flint broadly dated to the Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age periods.

3.5.17 Another ditch (**64**) was revealed in Trench 63, on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. The single fill (65) consisted of mid brown sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. The excavated topsoil also produced a lead plumb bob (Sf 12) that is not closely datable.

Trenches 64-75 (Fig. 4b)

3.5.18 These trenches were located at the northern end of Field B. Archaeological features were revealed in Trenches 66, 71 and 73, while sinkhole deposits were encountered in Trenches 67 and 74. Trenches 64, 65, 68-70, 72 and 75 were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The excavated topsoil from Trench 72 yielded a post-medieval lead musket ball (Sf 8).

3.5.19 Trench 66 contained a ditch (**35**) on a northwest-southeast alignment. It measured 0.5m wide and 0.17m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (36) consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions which produced a fragment (50g) of post-medieval tile.

3.5.20 Trenches 67 and 74 contained natural sinkhole deposits (7; Plate 2) consisting of mid brown sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Similar to the sinkhole deposits encountered in Trenches 23 and 24 (Section 3.5.9), these deposits extended across the most of the length of the trenches, indicating that the geological features were in excess of 30m in diameter. A test pit was excavated into the sinkhole in Trench 74 with a 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level. The deposit in this test pit yielded a fragment (75g) of post-medieval tile. A test pit (**10**) was also excavated by hand (11 and 12) in Trench 67 to sample the deposit for artefacts, although no artefacts were recovered. The excavated topsoil yielded a modern copper-alloy stud (Sf 3).

3.5.21 To the south-east of this in Trench 71 (Figs 4b and 4d), a single circular pit (**37**) was revealed. The pit measured 1.5m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a flat based U-

shaped profile. The fill (38) consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced four sherds (16g) of Early Bronze Age pottery, 41 worked flints and a burnt flint (4g).

3.5.22 A ditch (**61**) was revealed in Trench 73 on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (62) consisted of dark grey sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. The ditch fill produced fragments (19g) of post-medieval CBM and an iron stirrup (Sf 34).

Trenches 76-88 (Fig. 4b, 4c and 4d)

3.5.23 These trenches were located in the central part of Field B. Archaeological features were revealed in Trenches 76, 77, 83, 84 and 88. Trenches 78-82 and 85-87 were found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.5.24 In Trench 76 (Figs 4b and 4d), a single circular pit (**39**) was revealed (Plates 3 and 4). The pit measured 1m in diameter and 0.28m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The primary fill (42) consisted of mid yellowish brown silty sand with frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (41) comprising dark brown silty sand with frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This fill yielded 77 sherds (1541g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and 72 burnt flints (2492g). Fill 41 also produced 1269g of clay daub with wattle/rod impressions, with many fragments showing flattened surfaces and displaying signs of firing. The uppermost fill (40) consisted of mid yellowish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced 17 sherds (158g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, four worked flints and 28 burnt flints (1098g).

3.5.25 Trench 77 (Figs 4c and 4d) contained a ditch (**93**) on an east-west alignment. It measured 0.8m wide and 0.39m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (94) consisted of mid brown clayey silt with moderate flint gravel inclusions. The excavated topsoil yielded a modern copper-alloy disc (Sf 7).

3.5.26 In Trench 83 to the south-east, a single circular pit (**27**) was revealed that measured 0.65m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (28) consisted of dark greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced 10 sherds (86g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, three worked flints and 6g of fired clay.

3.5.27 A ditch (**31**) lay on an east-west alignment within Trench 84. It measured 0.7m wide and 0.21m deep with a U-shaped profile. Fill 32 consisted of mid orange brown clayey silt with rare gravel inclusions.

Trench 88 contained a ditch (**29**) on an east-west alignment that measured 0.61m wide and 0.17m deep. The U-shaped profile contained three fills. The fill (30) consisted of light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

Trenches 89-111 (Fig. 3)

3.5.28 These trenches, located in the southeastern part of Field B, were found to be devoid of archaeological features. A natural sinkhole deposit (7) was revealed in Trench 108 towards the southern edge of the field. The sinkhole was test pitted with a 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level. No artefacts were recovered from the resultant spoil. The excavated topsoil from Trenches 89, 90, 99

and 105 yielded modern copper-alloy buttons (Sf 5, Sf 14, Sf 6 and Sf 20 respectively). The topsoil from Trenches 90 and 100 also produced modern coins (Sf 18 and Sf 20).

3.6 Field C (Trenches 112-188)

3.6.1 A total of 77 30m-long trenches were excavated across the large field to the east of Field B and to the south of Cockering Road (Fig. 5; Table 5; Plate 5). Similar to Field B, the trial trenching targeted numerous discrete features of uncertain origin in this field identified by the geophysical survey (Fig. 2).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
112	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None
113	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
114	30	0.3	0	No archaeology	None
115	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
116	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
117	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
118	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	Post-medieval copper-alloy decorative mount (Sf23) from topsoil
119	30	0.3	0	No archaeology	None
120	30	0.3	0	1 post-medieval ditch **13**	**13** (14) CBM
121	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
122	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology. Geological sinkhole deposits (7)	None
123	30	0.3	0.1	1 post-medieval ditch **116**	None
124	30	0.35	0.1	1 post-medieval pit **56**	**56** (57) CBM
125	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy object (Sf27) and button (Sf48) from topsoil
126	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
127	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
128	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
129	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
130	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
131	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
132	30	0.3	0.15	No archaeology	None
133	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
134	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
135	30	0.3	0.15	No archaeology	None
136	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
137	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
138	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
139	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
140	30	0.2	0	No archaeology	None
141	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
142	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
143	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
144	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
145	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
146	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
147	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
148	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
149	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
150	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
151	30	0.2	0.1	12 modern hop garden post holes, of which seven (**101**, **103**, **105**, **107**, **109**, **111** and **113**) were excavated	CBM from all post hole fills
152	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
153	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Post-medieval copper-alloy coin (Sf30) from topsoil
154	30	0.25	0.1	5 modern hop garden post holes, of which one (**114**) was excavated	**114** (115) CBM. Modern copper-alloy button (Sf31) and lead shot (Sf49) from topsoil
155	30	0.25	0.1	2 modern hop garden post holes **82** and **84**	**82** (83) and **84** (85) CBM

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
156	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
157	30	0.2	0.1	1 Middle Iron Age ditch **80**	**80** (81) Middle Iron Age pottery
158	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
159	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
160	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
161	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
162	30	0.2	0.1	1 Middle Bronze Age? ditch **89** and 1 Early Iron Age pit **87**	**87** (88) Early Iron Age pottery and worked flint, **89** (90) worked flint
163	30	0.25	0.1	2 modern hop garden post holes **76** and **78**	**76** (77) CBM
164	30	0.3	0.1	7 modern hop garden post holes **43**, **45**, **47**, **49**, **51**, **53** and **55**) were excavated	**43** (44) and **47** (48) CBM
165	30	0.3	0	2 modern hop garden post holes **72** and **74**	**74** (75) CBM
166	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
167	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
168	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
169	30	0.3	0.1	1 Middle Iron Age pit **16**	**16** (17) Middle Iron Age pottery and worked flint. Modern copper-alloy barrel tap key (Sf24) from topsoil
170	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
171	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
172	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf32) from topsoil
173	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
174	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
175	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy coin (Sf25) from topsoil
176	30	0.3	0.15	No archaeology	Copper-alloy ring (Sf28) of uncertain

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
					date from topsoil
177	30	0.25	0.1	1 undated pit (possibly Iron Age?) **68**	None
178	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
179	30	0.25	0.15	No archaeology	None
180	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
181	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	Folded lead object (Sf33) of uncertain date from topsoil
182	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy vessel fragment (Sf26) from topsoil
183	30	0.3	0.1	No archaeology	None
184	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
185	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
186	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
187	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy button (Sf29) from topsoil
188	30	0.2	0	No archaeology	None

Table 5: Field C summary trench descriptions

Trenches 112-119

3.6.2 These trenches, located in the northwestern corner of Field C, were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The topsoil excavated from Trench 118 yielded a post-medieval copper-alloy decorative mount (Sf 23).

Trenches 120-124 (Fig. 5a)

3.6.3 This group of trenches were located in the northwestern part of Field C to the south of Trenches 112-119. Trench 121 was found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.6.4 Trench 120 contained a ditch (**13**) on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 0.67m wide and 0.24m deep with a U-shaped profile. The primary fill (15) consisted of light yellowish brown silty sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (14) comprising mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Fill 14 produced three fragments (13g) of post-medieval tile.

3.6.5 Trench 122, located to the east of Trench 120, contained natural sinkhole deposits (7) that consisted of mid brown sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

These deposits extended across the central 10m of the trench indicating that these geological features were approximately 10m in diameter. A test pit was excavated into the sinkhole deposit by the 360º mechanical excavator to a depth of 1m below ground level to prove the extent of the feature beyond this depth and sample the resultant spoil for finds. However, no artefacts were recovered from the deposit.

3.6.6 Trench 123 to the east of Trench 122 contained a ditch (**116**) on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (117) consisted of mid brownish grey sandy clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

3.6.7 A large circular pit (**56**) was partly revealed in Trench 124 to the southwest of Trench 123. The pit measured 3m in diameter and 0.5m deep with a U-shaped profile. The primary fill (57) consisted of mid orange brown silty sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (58) comprising dark orange brown silty sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions with some post-medieval CBM fragments (not retained).

Trenches 125-131

3.6.8 These trenches, located in the western part of Field C to the south of Trenches 120-124, were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The topsoil excavated from Trench 125 produced a modern copper-alloy object (Sf 27) and a button (Sf 48).

Trenches 132-150

3.6.9 These trenches were located in the northeastern part of Field C and found to be devoid of archaeological features.

Trenches 151-166 (Fig. 5b)

3.6.10 These trenches were located in the central part of Field C. Trenches 152, 153, 156, 158-161 and 166 were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The topsoil excavated from Trench 153 produced a post-medieval copper-alloy coin (Sf 30). The topsoil from Trench 154 also yielded a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 31) and lead shot (Sf 49).

3.6.11 A set of 12 post holes were revealed across the full extent of Trench 151. Seven post holes were excavated (**101**, **103**, **105**, **107**, **109**, **111** & **113**) and measured between 0.3-0.62 in diameter and 0.05-0.15m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110 and 112 respectively) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions. Each post hole fill yielded fragments of post-medieval CBM totalling 87g.

3.6.12 Trench 154 contained a set of five post holes, of which one (**114**) was excavated. It measured 0.7m in diameter and 0.3m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (115) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions and yielded two fragments (40g) of post-medieval brick.

3.6.13 To the east, two post holes (**82** and **84**) were found in Trench 155. Each measured 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (83 and 85) consisted of mid orange brown sandy clayey silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions and contained a fragment each (14g and 10g respectively) of post-medieval CBM.

3.6.14 Further to the east, Trench 157 contained a narrow ditch or gully (**80**) on a northwest-southeast alignment. It measured 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (81) consisted of mid orange brown sandy clayey silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions that yielded two sherds (13g) of Middle Iron Age pottery.

3.6.15 To the south-east, Trench 162 also contained a ditch (**89**), on a northwest-southeast alignment, that measured 1.35m wide and 0.53m deep with a rounded V-shaped profile (Plate 6). The fill (90) consisted of mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This yielded four worked flints broadly dated to the later prehistoric period. The ditch was cut by a circular pit (**87**) that measured 0.93m in diameter and 0.27m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (88) consisted of dark brown sandy clayey silt with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This fill produced 11 sherds (60g) of Early Iron Age pottery, two worked flints and a burnt flint (7g).

3.6.16 To the north-east, Trench 163 contained a set of two post holes (**76** and **78**). Each measured 0.4m in diameter and 0.1m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (77 & 79 respectively) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Fill 77 produced fragments of CBM.

3.6.17 A set of seven post holes (**43**, **45**, **47**, **49**, **51**, **53** & **55**) was revealed across the full extent of Trench 164. Each measured between 0.42-0.49 in diameter and 0.09-0.15m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54 and 56 respectively) consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint gravel inclusions. Fragments of CBM were recovered from the fills of post holes **43** and **47**.

3.6.18 Two post holes (**72** and **74**) were found in Trench 165 to the south. Each measured 0.5m in diameter and 0.2m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (73 and 75) consisted of mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. Fill 75 produced one fragment (6g) of post-medieval tile.

Trenches 167-188 (Fig. 5c)

3.6.19 These trenches were located in the southern part of Field C. Trenches 167, 168, 170-176 and 178-188 were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The topsoil excavated from Trenches 172, 175, 176 181, 182 and 187 respectively produced: a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 32); a modern copper-alloy coin (Sf 25); a copper-alloy ring (Sf 28) of uncertain date; an undated folded lead object (Sf 33); a modern copper-alloy vessel fragment (Sf 26); and a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 29).

3.6.20 In Trench 169, a single circular pit (**16**) was revealed. The pit measured 0.67m in diameter and 0.21m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (17) consisted of mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions that produced 10 sherds (39g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and four residual worked flints of probable Neolithic date. The excavated topsoil also produced a modern copper-alloy barrel tap key (Sf 24).

3.6.21 To the south-east, a circular pit (**68**) was revealed in Trench 177 that measured 0.9m in diameter and 0.5m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (69) consisted of dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions.

3.7 Field D (Trenches 189-208)

A total of 20 30m-long trenches were located on the slope leading down from the higher ground of Field C to the south and Cockering Road to the north (Fig. 6; Table 6; Plate 7).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
189	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None
190	30	0.35	0.4	No archaeology	None
191	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
192	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
193	30	0.25	0.25	4 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
194	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
195	30	0.2	0.3	No archaeology	None
196	30	0.2	0.3	No archaeology	None
197	30	0.25	0.3	No archaeology	None
198	30	0.2	0.3	No archaeology	Modern lead pipe (Sf38) from topsoil
199	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
200	30	0.2	0.2	1 post-medieval ditch **118** and 4 modern hop garden post holes	**118** (119) CBM. Modern copper-alloy button (Sf47) from topsoil
201	30	0.2	0.2	No archaeology	None
202	30	0.3	0.5	No archaeology	None
203	30	0.25	0.2	2 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
204	30	0.2	0.1	5 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
205	30	0.2	0.1	5 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
206	30	0.2	0.1	4 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills. Modern copper-alloy button (Sf39) from topsoil
207	30	0.2	0.1	4 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills. Modern copper-alloy disc (Sf40) from topsoil

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
208	30	0.15	0.1	Two modern crop irrigation water pipes and 4 hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills

Table 6: Field D summary trench descriptions

Trenches 189-192, 194-199

3.7.1 These trenches, located in the northern part of Field D, were found to be devoid of archaeological features. The excavated topsoil from Trench 198 yielded a section of modern lead pipe (Sf 38).

Trenches 193, 200-208

3.7.2 These trenches were located in the southern part of Field D. Trenches 201 and 202 were found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.7.3 Trench 200 contained a ditch (**118**) on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (119) consisted of dark grey sandy clayey silt with occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions that yielded one fragment (76g) of post-medieval tile. The excavated topsoil also yielded a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 47).

3.7.4 Trenches 193, 200 and 203-208 contained a number of modern circular post holes with fills containing fragments of CBM. These post holes were mapped but not excavated. The excavated topsoil from Trenches 206 and 207 produced a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 39) and a modern copper-alloy disc (Sf 40).

3.7.5 Water pipes for crop irrigation was also encountered passing through Trench 208.

3.8 Field E (Trenches 209-214)

3.8.1 A total of six 30m-long trenches were opened in the small field at the base of the dry valley in the southeastern part of the site (Fig. 3; Table 7). No archaeological remains were encountered in this area.

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
209	30	0.25	0.2	No archaeology	None
210	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
211	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
212	30	0.3	0.2	No archaeology	None
213	30	0.3	0.25	No archaeology	None
214	30	0.3	0.3	No archaeology	None

Table 7: Field E summary trench descriptions

3.8.2 A test pit was excavated with the 360º mechanical excavator, at the northern end of Trench 209 and the southern end of Trench 214, to establish the depth of the underlying natural Head deposits. These deposits were proved to a depth of 2m below ground level, where natural River Terrace Deposits were encountered. A darker horizon (0.2m thick) was observed at the interface between these two natural deposits in Trench 209. This layer indicates a pre-existing land surface may be present at the base of the dry valley, at some depth beneath this part of the site.

3.9 Field F (Trenches 215-234)

3.9.1 Twenty 30m-long trenches were excavated in this field located on the northeastern edge of the site, adjacent to the A2 carriageway (Fig. 7; Table 8).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
215	30	0.2	0.1	1 Middle Bronze Age ditch **95**	**95** (96 & 97) Middle Bronze Age pottery, residual Early Bronze Age pottery, worked flint and burnt flint
216	30	0.2	0.1	1 Middle Bronze Age ditch **98**	**98** (126) Middle Bronze Age pottery, residual Early Bronze Age pottery, worked flint and burnt flint. Modern copper-alloy button (Sf52) from topsoil
217	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
218	30	0.25	0.1	1 Middle Bronze Age ditch **123**	**123** (124 & 125) Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery, worked flint, burnt flint and fired clay
219	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
220	30	0.2	0.15	1 modern hop garden post hole	CBM in post hole fill
221	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
222	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
223	30	0.2	0.1	5 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
224	30	0.25	0.1	2 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
225	30	0.25	0.2	11 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
226	30	0.3	0.2	3 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
227	30	0.35	0.2	6 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
228	30	0.35	0.1	14 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
229	30	0.25	0.1	6 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
230	30	0.25	0.1	No archaeology	None
231	30	0.2	0.1	4 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
232	30	0.25	0.1	14 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills. Modern copper-alloy stud (Sf36) and Napoleonic musket ball (Sf35) from topsoil
233	30	0.35	0.25	8 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
234	30	0.25	0.1	6 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills. Lead weight (Sf45) of uncertain date from topsoil

Table 8: Field F summary trench descriptions

Trenches 215-218 (Fig. 7a)

3.9.2 These trenches were located towards the northern end of Field F. Trench 217 was found to be devoid of archaeological features.

3.9.3 Trench 215 contained a ditch (**95**) on an east-west alignment. It measured 1.5m wide and 0.58m deep with a V-shaped profile (Plate 8). The primary fill (97) consisted of light brown clayey silt sand with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (96) comprising mid brown clayey silt with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. The primary fill (97) produced four sherds (7g) of Middle Bronze Age pottery, six worked flints and 15 burnt flints (149g). The secondary fill (96) contained a single residual sherd (2g) of Early Bronze Age pottery, one worked flint and one burnt flint (27g).

3.9.4 Trench 216, located to the east of Trench 120, contained a probable continuation (**98**) of the ditch (**95**) revealed in Trench 215, also on an east-west alignment. It measured 0.44m wide and 0.3m deep with a V-shaped profile. The primary fill (127) consisted of light brownish grey clayey silt sand with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (126) comprising mid brown silty clay with moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions. The secondary fill (126) produced six sherds (23g) of Early and Middle Bronze Age pottery, 23 worked flints and 29 burnt flints (265g). The Early Bronze Age pottery sherds are considered to be residual finds. The excavated topsoil also contained a modern copper-alloy button (Sf 52).

3.9.5 Trench 218, located to the southeast of Trench 216, contained a further ditch (**123**) on an east-west alignment. It measured 1.78m wide and 0.39m deep with a U-shaped profile (Plate 9). The primary fill (125) consisted of light brownish grey clayey silt sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions. This was overlain by a secondary fill (124) comprising light greyish brown clayey silt with frequent flint gravel inclusions. The primary fill (125) contained one worked flint and one burnt flint (128g). The secondary fill (124) produced four sherds (26g) of Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery, 17 worked flints, 16 burnt flints (398g) and 1g of fired clay.

Trenches 219-234

3.9.6 The remaining trenches to the south of Trenches 215-218 were devoid of archaeological features other than a number of modern circular post holes (Table 8). The presence of these indicate a continuation in this field of the hop garden activity described in the neighbouring Field D to the west (Section 3.7.2). The post hole fills were observed to contain fragments of CBM. These post holes were mapped but not excavated. The excavated topsoil from Trench 232 yielded a modern copper-alloy stud (Sf36) and Napoleonic musket ball (Sf35). The topsoil from Trench 234 also produced a lead weight (Sf 45) of uncertain date.

3.10 Field G (Trenches 235-238)

3.10.1 Four 30m long trenches were opened in the field bordering the southeastern part of the site (Fig. 3; Table 9). No archaeological remains were encountered in this area.

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
235	30	0.15	0.1	No archaeology	Modern copper-alloy buckle (Sf46) from topsoil
236	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
237	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
238	30	0.15	0.1	No archaeology	None

Table 9: Field G summary trench descriptions

3.11 Field H (Trenches 239-241)

3.11.1 Three 30m long trenches were located on the field on the eastern extremity of the site, bordering the A2 carriageway (Fig. 8; Table 10).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
239	30	0.3	0.3	1 post-medieval ditch **120** and 5 modern hop garden post holes	**120** (99) CBM and CBM from all post hole fills. Modern copper-alloy watch key (Sf43) from topsoil
240	30	0.25	0.25	12 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills
241	30	0.2	0.1	13 modern hop garden post holes	CBM from all post hole fills

Table 10: Field H summary trench descriptions

3.11.2 A ditch (**120**) was revealed in Trench 239 on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 3.5m wide and 0.45m deep with a flat based U-shaped profile. The fill (99) consisted of mid brown sandy clayey silt with occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions with fragments of CBM. The excavated topsoil also yielded a modern copper-alloy watch key (Sf 43).

3.11.3 The hop garden post holes were mapped but not excavated in this trench.

3.12 Field I (Trenches 242-246)

3.12.1 Five 30m-long trenches were located in this field in the eastern part of the site, bordering the A2 carriageway (Fig. 9; Table 11).

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
242	30	0.2	0.15	No archaeology	None
243	30	0.25	0.1	2 modern hop garden post holes and crop irrigation water pipe	CBM from both post hole fills
244	30	0.2	0.1	2 modern hop garden post holes and crop irrigation water pipe	CBM from both post hole fills
245	30	0.2	0.1	No archaeology	None
246	30	0.2	0.1	1 modern hop garden post hole	CBM. Post-medieval copper-alloy buckle

Trench number	Length (m)	Average topsoil depth (m)	Average subsoil depth (m)	Archaeological summary	Finds
					(Sf41) from topsoil

Table 11: Field I summary trench descriptions

3.12.2 The hop garden post holes were mapped but not excavated in these trenches. A water pipe for crop irrigation was also encountered passing through Trenches 243 and 244.

3.13 Finds summary

Metalwork (Appendix B.1)

3.13.1 An assemblage of 52 metallic small finds was recovered almost exclusively from the excavated topsoil of the evaluation trenching. Two items of silver were recovered comprising a silver groat of Elizabeth I (Sf 1) and a walking stick ferrule of Victorian date (Sf 2). A total of 40 copper-alloy items were also recovered including: a clothes fastener (Sf 13); a decorative mount (Sf 23); a barrel tap key (Sf 24); a buckle part (Sf 41); a crotal bell (Sf 42); a watch key (Sf 43); and a buckle and buckle plate (Sf 44). Eight lead objects were also recovered of which three are musket balls. The single item recovered from a feature comprises an iron stirrup (Sf 34) recovered from the post-medieval ditch (61) in Trench 73 (Field B).

Flintwork (Appendix B.2)

3.13.2 A total of of 110 pieces of struck flint and over 4.5kg of unworked burnt flint was recovered. Significant deposits of unworked burnt flint have been identified from the Middle Iron Age pit (**39**) in Trench 76 (Field B) and the Middle Bronze Age ditches (**95**, **98** and **123**) in Trenches 215, 216 and 218 (Field F). Although the quantities of unworked burnt flint recovered are not on the same scale as seen at some later prehistoric sites, they are greater than might be expected from casual hearth use and the uniformity of their heating suggests they have accrued from industrial or craft processes undertaken in the vicinity. The earlier struck flint material suggests sporadic visiting of the site although the assemblage from the Early Bronze Age pit (**37**) in Trench 71 (Field B), if of Early Bronze Age date, is of greater interest in that it provides dated and securely contexted material that can inform on specific flintworking practices. Likewise, the two relatively substantial assemblages from the Middle Bronze Age ditches (**98** and **123**) in Field F provide a welcome insight into the poorly understood flintworking practices of this period. There is also the possibility that flintworking continued at the site into the Iron Age; if so this has recently been identified as a research priority.

Prehistoric pottery (Appendix B.3)

3.13.3 A total of 146 sherds (1971g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the evaluation, displaying a high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 13.5g. The pottery derived from 11 contexts relating to five pits and five ditches across Trenches 71, 76, 83, 157,

162, 169, 215-216 and 218 (Table 19). The bulk of the assemblage is of Middle Iron Age date with small Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age components. The earliest material comprises small fragments of decorated Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery from pit **37** in Trench 71 of Field B and the ditches (**95** & **98**) revealed in Field F. The ditches (**95**, **98** & **123**) excavated in Field F also produced the Middle Bronze Age pottery assemblage. A ditch (**123**) in Field F also produced sherds attributed to the Early Iron Age. The Middle Iron Age pottery assemblage derived from the pits (**16**) in Trench 169 of Field C, (**27**) in Trench 83 of Field B and (**39**) in Trench 76 of Field B; and the ditch (**80**) in Trench 157 of Field C. The material is in good condition, and includes some very large unabraded sherds from the Middle Iron Age pit (**39**) in Trench 76 of Field B.

Fired clay (Appendix B.4)

3.13.4 The evaluation produced 39 fragments (1276g) of fired clay, including those from samples. Context 41 from the Middle Iron Age pit (**39**) in Trench 76, produced the majority of the fired clay (1269g) which consists of fragments of daub. These fragments exhibit flattened surfaces or wattle/rod impressions and show signs of being smoothed and formed by hand. Notably, the largest piece of this daub appears to be a fragment from the top of a wall. Where the clay from two parallel faces have been rounded and smoothed together, within its perpendicular break is a large wattle impression running the length of this fragment. It is unclear where this daub originates from or when it may be attributed to. However, the poor and patchy firing of this material suggests that it may have been part of a wall structure which may have been burnt unintentionally.

Ceramic building material (Appendix B.5)

3.13.5 The evaluation work produced 27 fragments (747g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM). Those fragments that could be identified are broadly post-medieval in date. The diagnostic pieces, brick and flat tile, are very fragmentary and some are quite abraded; preventing close dating. This CBM is related to construction and demolition that pre-dates the post-medieval and modern features in which they were found. The building material was subsequently discarded and dispersed through the landscape and represents little more than background noise.

3.14 Environmental summary

Environmental samples (Appendix C.1)

3.14.1 Samples were taken from prehistoric features excavated within three fields (Fields B, C and F) as part of the evaluation. The samples indicate that preservation of preserved plant remains is poor although there is a background scatter of charred grain. It is possible that the scatters of charred cereals are not contemporary with the sampled deposits and are the result of later agricultural activity.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The archaeological features were clearly visible within the evaluation trenches. The natural geological horizon beneath the topsoil and subsoil overburden into which features were cut was also clearly identifiable. A wide range of feature types was observed in the trenches that included post holes, pits and ditches. The brown and grey feature fills contrasted strongly with the orange and red natural deposits of the underlying geology. The feature fills and natural deposits were free draining, with no standing water observed in any of the excavated trenches to hinder their identification.

4.1.2 Therefore, the results of the evaluation trenching are considered to have a good level of reliability.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The project aims and objectives defined in the WSI (Dawson 2016) and listed in Section 2.1 are included below with summary statements outlining the remains encountered on the site and how these help in achieving these objectives.

- *ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit, character, date, significance and condition of any archaeological remains on site.*

4.2.2 Features dating to the Bronze Age, Iron Age, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods were present across the site. A surface scatter of post-medieval and modern metalwork was also recovered from the trenching spoil.

4.2.3 Prehistoric remains were encountered during the investigation in two discrete areas of the site: along the northern edge of the plateau in Field B continuing to the western edge of Field C; and in the lower lying area of relatively level ground towards the northern end of Field F. The remains in each area were protected by an overlying thickness of subsoil beneath the topsoil/ploughsoil. Apart from a single pit (**37**), the Bronze Age features identified across the site were ditches, of which six were securely dated and a further six were dated on their morphology. The Iron Age features comprised almost exclusively pits. The feature fills representing each period produced assemblages of pottery, flintwork, fired clay and burnt flint that are considered to be in a reasonably good state of preservation. The Middle Iron Age artefacts recovered from pit **39** were noted to be of particularly good condition, with the pottery assemblage including some large unabraded sherds.

4.2.4 The medieval/post-medieval former boundary ditches, the modern hop garden post hole remains, and the metalwork of these periods recovered from the trenching spoil, are deemed to be of lower significance.

- *establish the extent to which previous development and/or other processes have affected archaeological deposits at the site.*

4.2.5 The DBA showed the site to be comprised of agricultural fields (with an area of woodland covering part of Field B) from at least 1796 (Hawkins 2013, fig. 2). The

only significant change in land use indicated in the recent period was the appearance of an orchard that extended across parts of Fields B, C and I for a time around 1962 (Hawkins 2013, fig. 9). During the evaluation investigation there was no evidence in any of the trenches for the disturbance of the natural ground or archaeological deposits from the trees of the woodland of 1796 or orchard of 1962.

4.2.6 Despite environmental sampling of all the prehistoric feature fills it is evident that plant remains have not been well preserved. The lack of any faunal remains from feature fills also suggest that preservation is probably adversely affected by the acidic nature of the soil.

- *establish the likely impact on archaeological deposits of the proposed development.*

4.2.7 The plan of the proposed development given by Pentland Properties Ltd (Illustrative Masterplan. Proposed Development, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent. Drawing number 2585-60H, dated October 2015) indicates the two discrete areas of significant prehistoric remains encountered on the site will be impacted by the proposed development. The higher density remains in Field B lie in an area of proposed residential development and sports pitches. The lower density remains in Field C also lie in an area of proposed residential development, parkland and cricket pitch. The remains in Field F lie within the footprint of a proposed pond within a SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) area/ecological mitigation area.

4.3 Interpretation

Bronze Age enclosures (Fig. 10)

Fields B and C

4.3.1 The evaluation of Field B revealed a number of prehistoric features in close proximity to the densest area of anomalies shown on the geophysical survey (Fig. 10). The earliest activity revealed on the site comprised pit **37** in Trench 71 that contained worked flint with small fragments of Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery. This pit lay to the north of an area of Middle Bronze Age remains on the northern edge of the plateau extending across Field B to the western edge of Field C. A number of linear ditches (**18**, **21**, **29**, **31**, **66**, **93** and **122**) were revealed in Field B on multiple alignments that indicate the presence of an enclosure system of probable Middle Bronze Age origin. The fills of ditches **18** and **66** yielded worked flint dated to the later prehistoric period. Ditch **89**, revealed in Trench 162 of Field C, also contained later prehistoric flintwork demonstrating the continuation along the eastern edge of the plateau of the enclosure system present in Field B. This ditch was observed to be cut by Early Iron Age pit **87**.

Field F

4.3.2 Three ditched boundaries (**95**, **98** and **123**) were revealed in Trenches 215, 216 and 218 in the northern part of the field. These features were not identified by the geophysical survey but are in an area of known Bronze Age activity. The DBA describes an assemblage of flint spanning the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods

found immediately to the east of these remains across the A2 carriageway (TR 15 NW 614; Fig. 2). The DBA also describes a copper alloy razor (MKE 57157) and a copper alloy 'object' (MKE 57161) of Bronze Age date recovered from Field D to the west. The ditch fills in Field F yielded pottery dating from the Early-Middle Bronze Age along with a couple of sherds of Early Iron Age date. Worked flint and a significant quantity of burnt flint were also recovered. The presence of burnt flint suggests the remains of later prehistoric industrial activities may also be present in this area. These ditches are considered to be elements of a Middle Bronze Age enclosure system extending across the relatively flat ground along the northeastern edge of the site. The small quantity of Early Iron Age pottery recovered from the ditches possibly indicates a continuity of use of these enclosures.

Iron Age continuation of use and settlement-related activity

Fields B and C

4.3.3 The DBA for the site described the presence of a copper alloy brooch dated to the Iron Age period in the vicinity of Trench 90 in Field B (MKE 57151; Fig. 2). The DBA also describes the presence of two copper alloy coins dated to the Iron Age in the vicinity of Trench 157 in Field C (MKE 57031 and MKE 57674; Fig. 2).

4.3.4 The Early-Middle Iron Age remains found during trenching consisted predominantly of pits (**16**, **27**, **39**, & **87**) that produced varying quantities of pottery and worked flint. These pits were located in the area of Middle Bronze Age enclosures that extended across the northern edge of the plateau of Fields B and continuing to the western edge of Field C (Fig. 10). This apparent focus of activity suggests the Middle Bronze Age enclosures in this area were probably still in use during the Iron Age period.

4.3.5 Middle Iron Age Pit **39** in Trench 76 (Field B) contained significant quantities of pottery, burnt flint and daub. The pottery assemblage is in good condition, and includes some very large unabraded sherds. The burnt flint appears to be uniformly heated which suggests industrial or craft processes were taking place in this area during the Middle Iron Age period. The daub displayed evidence of firing, and exhibits flattened surfaces and contains wattle/rod impressions. These characteristics suggest these fragments may have been part of a wall structure that may have been unintentionally burnt: possibly associated with the same industrial process that produced the burnt flint.

Medieval activity near Cockering Manor

Field B

4.3.6 A ditched boundary (**25**) was revealed in Trench 15 immediately to the south of Cockering Farm (the site of Cockering Manor) that yielded two sherds of medieval pottery dated to the 12th-13th centuries. This suggest a low level of activity on the site in this period.

Post-medieval field boundaries

Fields B, C, D and H

4.3.7 Evidence for pre-existing subdivisions of the current fields during the post-medieval period was found in Trenches 16, 66, 73, 120, 123 and 200 (ditches **70**, **35**, **61**, **13**, **116** and **118** respectively) in the northern part of the site towards Cockering Road. A ditch (**120**) dating to the post-medieval period was also encountered in Trench 239 in Field H. A single post-medieval pit (**56**) containing CBM was revealed in Trench 124 in Field C. These are likely to relate to earlier boundaries shown on historic mapping.

Modern hop garden activity

Fields C, D, F, H and I

4.3.8 A discrete area on the east facing slope of Field C (encompassing Trenches 151, 154-157 and 163-165) contained rows of circular post holes (**43**, **45**, **47**, **49**, **51**, **53**, **55**, **74**, **76**, **78**, **82**, **84**, **101**, **103**, **105**, **107**, **109**, **111**, **113** and **114**) the fills of which incorporated recent CBM fragments. These features indicated the presence of a pre-existing hop growing garden in this part of the site. The trenches on the east-facing slopes of Fields D, F, H and I comprising the eastern part of the site also contained numerous post holes with recent CBM. The presence of the post holes indicates that these fields were used as hop gardens in the recent past. The geophysical survey showed the presence of many buried water pipes within these fields for crop irrigation. Water pipes were encountered in Trench 208 in Field D and Trenches 243 and 244 in Field I. Relict posts were observed still standing amongst the undergrowth bordering the eastern edge of the Field F.

Field B

4.3.9 A ditch infilled with modern rubbish was also encountered in Trench 20 on the western edge of Field B indicating it to be a recently disused field boundary.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The evaluation has demonstrated prehistoric remains of low to medium importance to be present in two areas of the site: along the northern edge of the plateau in Field B continuing to the western edge of Field C; and in the lower lying area of relatively level ground towards the northern end of Field F. The remains mostly comprise enclosure ditches of probable Middle Bronze Age origin that may have continued in use into the Iron Age and acted as a focus for the Iron Age pits and other settlement-related activity.

4.5 Recommendations

4.5.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

APPENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
1	1	-		Layer	natural	topsoil			dark grey	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
2	1	-		Layer	natural	subsoil			orange brown	loam	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
3	0	-		Layer	superficial geology	river terrace deposits			orange brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
4	0	-		Layer	superficial geology	head deposits			mid brownish orange	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
5	0	-		Layer	solid geology	chalk			white	chalk	occasional flint nodule inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
6	0	-		Layer	natural	colluvium			mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
7	0	-		Layer	natural	sink hole			mid brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
10	10	B	67	Cut	natural	sink hole	30	>0.5				unknown	unknown
11	10	B	67	Fill	natural	sink hole			dark brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
12	10	B	67	Fill	natural	sink hole			mid brown	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
13	13	C	120	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.67	0.24				linear	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
14	13	C	120	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brownish grey	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
15	13	C	120	Fill	ditch	silting			light yellowish brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
16	16	C	169	Cut	pit	unknown	0.67	0.21				circular	U-shaped
17	16	C	169	Fill	pit	backfill			mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
18	18	B	62	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.04	0.34				linear	U-shaped
19	18	B	62	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brownish yellow	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
20	18	B	62	Fill	ditch	silting			mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
21	21	B	58	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.66	0.84				linear	U-shaped
22	21	B	58	Fill	ditch	silting			mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
23	21	B	58	Fill	ditch	silting			dark yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
24	21	B	58	Fill	ditch	silting			mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
25	25	B	15	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.09	0.41				linear	U-shaped
26	25	B	15	Fill	ditch	silting			mid yellowish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
27	27	B	83	Cut	pit	unknown	0.65	0.15				circular	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
28	27	B	83	Fill	pit	backfill			dark greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
29	29	B	88	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.61	0.17				linear	U-shaped
30	29	B	88	Fill	ditch	silting			light brownish grey	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
31	31	B	84	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.7	0.21				linear	U-shaped
32	31	B	84	Fill	ditch	silting			light greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
33	33	B	20	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.86	0.39				linear	U-shaped
34	33	B	20	Fill	ditch	silting			mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
35	35	B	66	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.5	0.17				linear	U-shaped
36	35	B	66	Fill	ditch	silting			dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
37	37	B	71	Cut	pit	unknown	1.5	0.15				circular	flat based U-shape
38	37	B	71	Fill	pit	backfill			dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
39	39	B	76	Cut	pit	unknown	1	0.28				sub-circular	flat based U-shape
40	39	B	76	Fill	pit	backfill			mid yellowish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
41	39	B	76	Fill	pit	backfill			dark brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		
42	39	B	76	Fill	pit	backfill			mid yellowish brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		
43	43	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.42	0.1				circular	U-shaped
44	43	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
45	45	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.48	0.12				circular	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
46	45	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
47	47	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.45	0.14				circular	U-shaped
48	47	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
49	49	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.44	0.09				circular	U-shaped
50	49	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
51	51	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.49	0.15				circular	U-shaped
52	51	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
53	53	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.42	0.1				circular	U-shaped
54	53	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
55	55	C	164	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.49	0.13				circular	U-shaped
56	56	C	124	Cut	pit	unknown	3	0.5				circular	U-shaped
57	56	C	124	Fill	pit	backfill			mid orange brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
58	56	C	124	Fill	pit	backfill			dark orange brown	silty sand	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
61	61	B	73	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.2	0.25				linear	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
62	61	B	73	Fill	ditch	silting			dark grey	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
64	64	B	63	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.7	0.15				linear	U-shaped
65	64	B	63	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
66	66	B	60	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.7	0.15				linear	U-shaped
67	66	B	60	Fill	ditch	silting			mid orange brown	clayey silt	rare gravel inclusions		
68	68	C	177	Cut	pit	unknown	0.9	0.5				circular	flat based U-shape
69	68	C	177	Fill	pit	backfill			dark greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
70	70	B	16	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.8	0.15				linear	U-shaped
71	70	B	16	Fill	ditch	silting			dark grey	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
72	72	C	165	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.5	0.2				circular	U-shaped
73	72	C	165	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
74	74	C	165	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.45	0.2				circular	U-shaped
75	74	C	165	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
76	76	C	163	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.5	0.1				circular	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
77	76	C	163	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
78	78	C	163	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.4	0.1				circular	U-shaped
79	78	C	163	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	sandy silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
80	80	C	157	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.2	0.05				linear	U-shaped
81	80	C	157	Fill	ditch	silting			mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
82	82	C	155	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.5	0.1				circular	U-shaped
83	82	C	155	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
84	84	C	155	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.5	0.1				circular	U-shaped
85	84	C	155	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid orange brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint gravel		
86	55	C	164	Fill	post hole	disuse			dark greyish brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
87	87	C	162	Cut	pit	unknown	0.93	0.27				circular	flat based U-shape
88	87	C	162	Fill	pit	backfill			dark brown	sandy clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		
89	89	C	162	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.35	0.53				linear	rounded V-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
90	89	C	162	Fill	ditch	silting			mid greyish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
93	93	B	77	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.8	0.39				linear	U-shaped
94	93	B	77	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brown	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel inclusions		
95	95	F	215	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.5	0.58				linear	V-shaped
96	95	F	215	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brown	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
97	95	F	215	Fill	ditch	silting			light brown	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		
98	98	F	216	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.44	0.3				linear	V-shaped
99	120	H	239	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brown	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions		
100	101	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
101	101	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.45	0.13				circular	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
102	103	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
103	103	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.42	0.08				circular	U-shaped
104	105	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
105	105	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.3	0.05				circular	U-shaped
106	107	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
107	107	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.62	0.15				circular	U-shaped
108	109	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
109	109	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.58	0.13				circular	U-shaped
110	111	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
111	111	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.55	0.13				circular	U-shaped
112	113	C	151	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
113	113	C	151	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.5	0.13				circular	U-shaped
114	114	C	154	Cut	post hole	hop garden	0.7	0.3				circular	U-shaped
115	114	C	154	Fill	post hole	disuse			mid greyish brown	silty clay	occasional flint gravel inclusions		
116	116	C	123	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.5	0.2				linear	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
117	116	C	123	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brownish grey	sandy clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
118	118	D	200	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.5	0.1				linear	U-shaped
119	118	D	200	Fill	ditch	silting			dark grey	sandy clayey silt	occasional flint and chalk gravel inclusions		
120	120	H	239	Cut	ditch	boundary	3.5	0.45				linear	flat based U-shape
121	122	B	35	Fill	ditch	silting			mid greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
122	122	B	35	Cut	ditch	boundary	0.67	0.3				linear	U-shaped
123	123	F	218	Cut	ditch	boundary	1.78	0.39				linear	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Field	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Profile
124	123	F	218	Fill	ditch	silting			light greyish brown	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
125	123	F	218	Fill	ditch	silting			light brownish grey	clayey silt	frequent flint gravel inclusions		
126	98	F	216	Fill	ditch	silting			mid brown	silty clay	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		
127	98	F	216	fill	ditch	silting			light brownish grey	clayey silt	moderate flint gravel and charcoal inclusions		

Table 12: Context inventory

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Simon Birnie

Introduction

B.1.1 An assemblage of 52 metallic small finds were recovered almost exclusively from the excavated topsoil of the evaluation trenching (Tables 13-16).

Methodology

B.1.2 The spoil from all trenches was scanned using a Technetics T2 metal detector. The detector screened against the recovery of iron objects as items of this material were found to be very common in the topsoil across the site, especially in Field C.

Results

B.1.3 Two items of silver (Table 13) were recovered comprising a silver groat of Elizabeth I (Sf 1) and a walking stick ferrule of Victorian date (Sf 2). A total of 40 copper-alloy items (Table 14) were also recovered. Items retained for the archaeological archive included: a medieval buckle and buckle plate (Sf 44); a post-medieval clothes fastener (Sf 13), decorative mount (Sf 23) and buckle (Sf 41); a modern barrel tap key (Sf 24), a crotal bell (Sf 42) and watch key (Sf 43). Eight lead objects (Table 15) were also recovered of which three are musket balls and one a post-medieval horse boss (Sf 19). The single item recovered from a feature fill comprised an iron stirrup (Sf 34; Table 16) found in post-medieval ditch **61** in Trench 73 (Field B).

B.1.4 The remaining copper-alloy items consisted of modern buttons and coins that were subsequently discarded after cataloguing. The lead objects, apart from the horse boss (Sf 19) were also discarded.

Catalogues

Sf no.	Context no.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
1	1	B	28	Coin	Post-medieval Tudor	A silver groat of Elizabeth I (Spink and Son 2010, 248). The coin measures 24mm in diameter.
2	1	B	49	?Walking stick ferrule	Modern	A highly decorated but rather worn silver object, it is now squashed, but originally it would have been a tapered tube. It is possible that that this item is a walking stick ferrule dating to the mid 19th century. Walking sticks had a ferrule attachment to prevent the wood from wearing, most walking stick ferrules were made of base metals such as brass, however it is known that the very wealthy used silver ferrules. They generally display a hall mark (Bailey 1997, 34-35), although one is not apparent on this example which may be due to its worn state. This item does not appear to be broken on its 'top' or its 'bottom' but it has remains of an attached silver band at

Sf no.	Context no.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						the 'bottom' which has segments missing. In its squashed form the item measures 26mm wide at its 'top' and 20mm at its 'bottom'.

Table 13: Silver catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
3	1	B	67	Stud	Modern	A copper-alloy stud of probable Modern date. The stud is conical in shape and retains a copper-alloy pin which has been distorted and bent. This stud was probably used to decorate leather or wood. It measures 15mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the attachment pin). The bent pin measures 13mm in length.
4	1	B	51	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century. It is conical in form. The front face has a fine sunburst design, showing a central 'pimple'. The back face is missing, no sewing loop is present. The button measures 13mm in diameter and 5mm in thickness. All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
5	1	B	89	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and a flat back. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 23mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some signs of an added sliver coloured metal coating remains on the front and back face.
6	1	B	99	Livery button	Modern	A copper-alloy Livery button displaying a standing lion facing to the left. Livery buttons often show a family crest, they were used by families of high status, they can offer a diverse display, including people, animals, castles and mythical creatures (Bailey 1992, 22; Cuddeford1994,15). This button is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and concaved back, Both front and back display a pronounced outer lip. The back face has a complete circular sewing loop which is attached directly to the back of the button. It probably dates from the mid 19th century. A high percentage of gold coloured gilding remains on the front of the button. It measures 15mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including the loop).
7	1	B	77	Unidentified object	Modern/Uncertain	A small copper alloy disc with a rectangular attachment to the back. The front shows some remains of a silver coloured metal coating. The item is very worn. It measures 13mm in diameter and 15mm in height (including its attachment).
9	1	B	41	?Vessel fragment	Uncertain	A broken fragment of copper-alloy, showing a raised rim to the 'top'. Possibly part of a large

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						metallic cooking vessel. The object measures 34mm in length and up to 27mm in height, the rim measures 4mm in thickness. Also see **Sf 26.**
10	1	B	19	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disk, probably a farthing of George I (1714-27), George II (1727-60) or William IV (1830-7) (Spink and Son 2010, 386, 398, 429). The coin measures 20mm in diameter.
11	1	B	105	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back, the back has a raised outer rim and a broken sewing loop. The button measures 19mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
13	1	B	23	?Clothes fastener	Uncertain ?Post-medieval	A copper alloy object displaying an upward facing blunt hook of square design on the lower flat back, a body which tapers towards an upper loop. The front of body is adorned with two protruding notches a quarter of the way up its length leading to a damaged loop at the top. The upper loop displays very small fragmented remains of decoration, petals perhaps. This is a cast copper-alloy example, possibly dating to the 17th century. Hooked methods of fastening clothing date back thousands of years. Some fasteners had very sharp hooks which allowed the fitting to pierce the garment directly, some had a blunt hook (like this example) which was incorporated with an eyelet attached to the garment. It can be seen that some of these 'hooks' were very ornate and became not just functional but also pieces of ornamental jewellery (Bailey 1995, 29-33; Read 1995,117-119). The blunt hook on this example measures 8mm in length and 3mm in thickness, the upper loop measures 17mm in diameter (with its damaged decoration) the undamaged internal loop measures 10mm in diameter, the tapering body of the fastener measures 10mm at the point of the protruding notches and 4mm where it meets the upper loop.
14	1	B	90	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century, AD. It is disc-shaped in form, the front and back are flat, the back has a raised outer rim and has a broken sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
15	1	B	25	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back face. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 14mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop)

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
16	1	B	55	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably19th or 20th century AD. It is of disc-shaped form with a concaved front and back face. The button is hollow and constructed from two pieces of copper-alloy. The back face retains a bent circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 9mm in thickness (including the sewing loop).
17	1	B	30	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and back face. The back face has a broken sewing loop which extends from a conical and tapered stem. The button measures 30mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some signs of an added sliver coloured metal coating remain on the front and back face.
18	1	B	90	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disc, probably a half penny of George I (1760-1820) (Spink and Son 2010, 385-6). The coin measures 25mm in diameter.
20	1	B	100	Coin	Modern	A copper coin, worn to a blank disk, probably a half penny of George II (1727-60) or George III (1760-1820) (Spink and Son 2010, 396, 412). The coin measures 27mm in diameter.
21	1	B	19	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form. The front and back face are flat. The back face has a broken sewing loop. The button measures 16mm in diameter and 2.5mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
22	1	B	30	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, displaying a convex front and a concaved back. The back face has an intact circular sewing loop attached directly to the button. It measures 16mm in diameter and 9mm in thickness (including the sewing loop).
23	1	C	118	Decorative mount.	Uncertain ?Post-medieval	A highly decorative copper-alloy cast mount, the back is of flat form. This item displays two fleur de lis designs, one sitting above the other and was probably used to decorate a leather fitting. The lower fleur de lis has a sharp downward facing curved pin attached to the back. The upper fleur de lis has six pointed spikes protruding from it and a decorated loop to the right. The mount appears to be complete and displays no damage. The pin attached to the lower rear measures 10mm, the lower fleur de lis measures 15mm in height and 22mm in width, the upper fluer de lis measures 15mm in height and 25mm in width. The complete length of the mount is 43mm (including the curved pin and upper loop).
24	1	C	169	Barrel tap key	Modern	A copper-alloy barrel lock key, these keys came into high usage during the early 18th century

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						through into the late 19th century, they allowed the owner of the barrel to be the only person to be able to unlock the barrel tap. Unlocking the barrel tap allowed the liquid to flow after turning the tap valve 45 degrees. Makers marks can sometimes be observed on these keys (Bailey 1993, 60-63). This design is 'T' shaped. It has a hole through the centre of the 'T' measuring 10mm in diameter, it is 45mm in length and up to 14mm thick (at the locks aperture). The locks aperture is triangular in shape.
25	1	C	175	Coin	Modern	A George Ist copper half penny dating 1718. A "'Dump' issue obv. legend continuous over bust, plain edge..." (Spink and Son 2010, 385). The coin is in worn condition and measures 25mm in diameter.
26	1	C	182	?Vessel fragment	Uncertain	A broken fragment of copper-alloy, showing a raised rim to the 'top'. Possibly part of a large metallic cooking vessel. The object measures 23mm in length, up to 12mm in height, the rim measures 4mm in thickness. Also see **SM 9**.
27	1	C	125	Unidentified object	Modern	A broken and distorted copper-alloy object of unknown function and of probable Modern date. It consists of a flat formed circular loop which is attached to to three flat strips. The item measures 36mm in width, 34mm in height and 3mm in thickness.
28	1	C	176	Ring	Uncertain	A copper-alloy ring of unknown date or function. The ring measures 17mm in diameter and 2mm in thickness.
29	1	C	187	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped, it has a flat front and a concaved back, retaining a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including the sewing loop). Some added silver coloured metal coating remains on the front.
30	1	C	153	Coin	Post-medieval	A Rose Farthing of Charles I (1625-49). This example is a later edition of this coinage and dates from approximately 1642 to 1649 (Spink and Son 2010, 308). The coin is in worn condition and measures 13mm in diameter and a thickness of 1mm.
31	1	C	154	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and a concaved back. A broken sewing loop is present. The button measures 10mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop).
32	1	C	172	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a flat front and concaved back. A broken sewing loop is present. The button measures

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						16mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including the broken sewing loop). Some added silver coloured metal coating remains on the back.
36	1	F	232	Stud	Modern	A copper-alloy stud of probable Modern date. The stud is conical in shape and retains it's copper-alloy attachment pin. It was probably used to decorate leather or wood and measures 11mm in diameter and 15mm in thickness (including the attachment pin).
39	1	D	206	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a raised rim to the front. No sewing loop is present. The button measures 23mm in diameter and 4mm in thickness. A small amount of gilding survives on the front.
40	1	D	207	Copper Alloy disc	Modern	A copper alloy disc of probable modern date, its function is unknown. The item has two pierced holes and is concaved in shape. One of the pieced holes shows evidence of an iron attachment. It measures 41mm in diameter and 1mm in thickness. The piercings measure 3mm in diameter.
41	1	I	246	Buckle part	Post-medieval	Part of a copper-alloy two piece shoe buckle. This example is called a "cooking pot" shaped loop-chape and has an internal spike. The pin is missing from this loop-chape and dates from around 1690-1720 AD. Until the 17th century AD the majority of buckles were made in one piece and after 1680 AD two piece buckles became widespread (Whitehead 1996, 96-103). Some examples display a makers mark (Cuddeford 1994, 10). It measures 35mm in width and 27mm in length.
42	1	A	3	Crotal bell	Modern	A copper alloy crotal bell probably dating between the 17th and 18th century AD. This type of bell is spherical in form, the bell generally has two holes at the bottom separated by an open slot in the cast construction. Generally bells of this age contain an iron ball which acts as a ringer, this iron ball has often corroded before the bell is recovered, It has been noted that sheep wore bells for a variety of reasons, it helped the flock stay together, or if the flock was disturbed by predators the bells would give the shepherd warning of such an assault (Bailey 1995, 35-45; Bailey 2000, 64-67). This example retains a complete rectangular loop at the top. The bell is fairly worn, however there is some evidence of the typical sunburst design on its lower surviving quarter. One bottom quarter of this bell is missing, probably due to plough action, resulting in one of the founders initials being missing. The remanding bottom quarter displays the letter 'R'. This is the makers mark indicating

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						the name of the bell founder. Examples of crotal bell founders which include the letter 'R' as their makers mark are as follows- R.C. (Robert Corr)1694-1715, Aldbourne foundary R.C. (Robert Corr) 1716-1724, Aldbourne R.W. (Robert Wells) 1716-1781, Aldbourne R.W. (Robert Wells Jnr) 1781-1799. Aldbourne R.A. (Ralph Ashton) 1703-1720. Wigan R.S. (Richard Sellers) 1713-1760, York R.H. (Unknown) 18th-19th Century R.M. (Robert Mott) 1575-1607, Whitechapel R.P. (Richard Phelps) 1700-1738, Whitechapel R.W. (Robert Wiseman) 1589-1618, Somerset R.K. (Richard Keanes) 1656-1704, Woodstock R.P. (Roger Purdue) 1649-1688, Bristol R.B. (Richard Bowler) 1587-1603, Colchester (Bailey 1995, 35-45) This crotal bell measures a diameter of 37mm across and 46mm in height (including the loop).
43	1	H	239	Watch key	Modern	A copper-alloy watch key of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. This is a very plain example, however many elaborate examples exist (Cuddeford 1994, 53). Some keys from this period display a number which explains the dimension of the square winding shaft it was designed to fit, many watch keys advertised the name of the watch makers or suppliers. Watch keys are rarely found from the 18th century AD due to being so fragile (Bailey 1993, 26-28). This key is a broken example and is missing an additional loop on the top from where it would have hung from a chain, it measures 21mm in length and 11mm across its circular body, with a thickness of up to 4mm.
44	1	A	3	Buckle and buckle plate	High to Late Medieval	A cast copper-alloy single loop D-shaped buckle showing a notched lip with part of a copper-alloy buckle plate (Whitehead 1996, 21). The buckle plate shows one rivet hole. The pin is missing from the buckle. Probably dating between 1350-1450. The buckle measures 22mm in width and approx 15mm in height (the bottom of the buckle is concealed by the buckle plate). The buckle plate measures 14mm in length and 13mm in width. The buckle shows a dark brown patina, the buckle plate shows a light green patina due to continuing corrosion.
46	1	G	235	Buckle	Early Modern	A cast copper-alloy rectangular boot or garter buckle. It is likely that buckles measuring less than 25mm were used for fastening garters on boots during the 18th century AD. These buckles were attached above or below the knee to prevent close fitting boots from falling down. Most of these buckles are tinned copper-alloy and have a

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						double spiked tongue (Whitehead 1996, 114). However, no tinning remains on this example and the double spiked tongue is missing. The buckle measures 16mm in length and 15mm in width.
47	1	D	200	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, it is flat to the front and to the slightly concaved back it retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 17mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including sewing loop). All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
48	1	C	125	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form with a convexed front and a concaved back which displays a raised outer rim. The button retains a complete circular sewing loop. It measures 17mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop). The back retains most of its gilding and the letters GED can be observed.
50	1	B	48	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, it is convexed to the front and concaved to the back. It retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 12mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop). Some gilding remains on back.
51	1	B	15	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of Modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form and displays a convex front and a flat back. The back retains a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 10mm in diameter and 7mm in thickness (including sewing loop) All surfaces have an added silver coloured metal coating.
52	1	F	216	Button	Modern	A copper-alloy button of modern date, probably 19th or 20th century AD. It is disc-shaped in form, displaying flat front and back, retaining a complete circular sewing loop. The button measures 13mm in diameter and 6mm in thickness (including sewing loop).

Table 14: Copper-alloy catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
8	1	B	72	Musket ball	Post-medieval	Musket shot or musket balls were fired from smoothbore pistols or muskets, the bore of these weapons varies (Read 1995, 162). Prior to the Civil War in England (1642-1651) a variety of metals had been experimented with in an attempt to find the best material to produce musket balls. Lead was found to be the most efficient material as it

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
						had a low melting point, and to cast the material over a fire was an easy process. Prior to the Civil War, in 1630 and in 1638, attempts were undertaken by the Council of War to standardise the bores of the matchlock musket to 12 bullets from each pound of lead, 17 balls per pound of lead for the arquebus and the caviler and 24 balls per pound of lead for the pistol and carbine. A standard calibre size of musket shot did not exist during the Civil war, and each gun was issued with its own individual mould, of course this could cause problems if shot was needed to be used from a different supply which would often mean adjustments were needed to be made to the musket ball using a knife (Bailey 2002. 22). This example measures 20mm in diameter, due to its larger size it is likely that it was used in a 'Brown Bess' (18th century) dating it to the Napoleonic period (Cuddeford 1994, 3).
12	1	B	63	?Plumb bob	Uncertain	A circular lead item with a conical tip at the ' bottom', the lead shows an even white patina. To the 'top' of the item the remains of some iron can be observed, this could possibly have acted as an attachment loop. If the iron was originally a loop then this item would have acted as an effective plumb bob. It measures 15mm across its body, and 23mm from 'top' to 'bottom' (including the iron remains). The iron remains measure 6mm in length.
19	1	A	13	Horse boss	18th century AD	A lead horse boss. This item would have been part of a pair. Each boss would have been attached either side of the snaffle bit. Snaffle bits have changed very little over time, they are generally made of iron and have either a ridged or two linked bar. The horse boss was the equivalent of heraldic plaques, but instead of displaying a coat of arms personal designs were displayed. Sizes vary between 40mm and 80mm, materials also vary, using lead, bronze and pewter, often with silver or gold gilt, and sometimes enamel would be incorporated. A few oval ones are known but they are usually circular in form (Bailey 1995, 84-86; Bailey 2002, 30-31). This example displays an interwoven design on the outer front face surrounding blank central boss. The reverse shows remains of an attachment loop. The boss, which is slightly convex-ed, measures 46mm in diameter and 8mm in thickness (including attachment loop remains).
33	1	C	181	Folded lead	Uncertain	A folded piece of lead of unknown date or function, it has a white patina. It measures17mm in length and 8mm in width.
35	1	F	232	Musket ball	Napoleonic	As seen with **SF 8**, **t**his example also measures 20mm in diameter, due to its larger size it is likely it was used in a 'Brown Bess' and dates to the Napoleonic period (Cuddeford 1994, 3).

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
37	1	D	198	Lead object	Uncertain	A lead item of unknown date or function, displaying no patina. Its length is 30mm and tapers towards the 'top', its width at the top is 7mm. At the 'bottom' it becomes foot like in shape and measures 18mm in width.
38	1	D	203	Lead pipe fragment	Modern	A squashed lead pipe fragment, probably of modern date. It shows no patina and measures 40mm in length and 15mm in diameter.
45	1	F	234	Lead weight	Uncertain	An almost circular lead item, with an off centered hole pieced through its body, probably a lead. The weight shows no patina suggesting a modern date. It measures 16mm across, with a height of 13mm, the piecing has a diameter of 6mm.
49	1	C	154	Lead shot	Modern	A small calibre lead shot, this type of ammunition was often used in small pocket pistols, it is also of the type and size which is used as 'buck shot' and is still used for shotguns of a modern date (Cuddeford 1994, 3). This example measures 12mm in diameter.

Table 15: Lead catalogue

Sf No.	Context No.	Field	Trench	Object	Period	Description
34	62	B	73	Stirrup	Post-medieval	Probable broken iron stirrup, in heavily corroded and damaged condition. A surviving width of 85mm and a surviving height of 100mm. The thickness varies from 6mm to 20mm due to heavy corrosion of the iron.

Table 16: Iron catalogue

B.2 Lithic assessment

By Barry Bishop

Introduction

B.2.1 Archaeological investigations at the site resulted in the recovery of quantities of struck flint and unworked burnt flint. The assemblage has been catalogued by context which includes further details of the material (Table 18). This report summarises the data in the catalogue (summarised in Table 17). It quantifies the material and presents a preliminary assessment and outline of its significance. No statistically based technological, typological or metrical analyses have been conducted and a more detailed examination may alter or amend any of the interpretations offered here.

Quantification

Type	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Chip (<15mm)	Flake	Blade-like flake	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragment (>15mm)	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Core tool	Unworked burnt flint (no.)	Unworked burnt flint (wt:g)
No.	9	2	1	57	4	8	15	4	1	8	1	164	4568

Table 16: Quantification of the lithic material

Burnt flint

B.2.2 Over 4.5kg of unworked burnt flint was recovered (Table 16). It has all been intensively burnt, to the extent that it had become 'fire crazed' and attained a uniform white / light grey colour, suggestive of intentional heating. The greatest quantities came from Middle Iron Age pit **39** in Trench 76 (Field B) which contained just over 3.5kg with Middle Bronze Age ditches **123** and **98** in Trenches 218 and 216 respectively (Field F) also producing relatively large quantities.

Struck flint

B.2.3 The struck assemblage consists of 110 pieces of worked flint that were recovered from 11 separate features (Table 16). The raw materials used mostly comprise fine-grained translucent dark grey or brown flint with frequent opaque inclusions, typical of that from the North Downs. Its cortex is rough but weathered and heavily recorticated thermal scars are common, suggesting that the raw materials were obtained from mass wastage or 'head' deposits overlying the parent chalk. A minor but still significant proportion comprise 'bullhead bed' flint which can be found at the junction of the cretaceous Upper Chalk and overlying Tertiary deposits throughout Kent.

B.2.4 No truly typologically diagnostic are present but the technological traits of the assemblage as a whole suggests flintworking was conducted at the site over a long period, probably from the Neolithic through to the end of the Bronze Age or even Iron Age (Table 17). Most of the features contained small quantities but a few furnished larger assemblages.

B.2.5 Early Bronze Age pit **37** in Trench 71 (Field B) produced the largest collection comprising 41 pieces. These were dominated by simply produced flakes that are mostly quite thick although often relatively narrow, two of which have coarse notches cut into them. Their condition indicates the assemblage had been redeposited but technologically it is fairly homogeneous. It contains no diagnostic pieces but would be compatible with the provisional Early Bronze Age date given to the feature.

B.2.6 Middle Bronze Age ditch **98** in Trench 216 (Field F) produced 23 pieces that are in a good condition. These are dominated by variably shaped but mostly thick and short flakes with wide obtuse striking platforms, comparable to Martingell's 'squat' flakes (1990; 2003). These are typical of later prehistoric industries that date to the later second and first millennium BC. Such a date would also be consistent with the three retouched pieces that were recovered from the ditch, these being informal types that comprise an irregularly retouched end-scraper, a flake with invasive retouch that was possibly used for cutting and a 'squat' flake with coarse inverse retouch forming a denticulated edge.

B.2.7 Middle Bronze Age ditch **123** in Trench 218 (Field F) contained 18 pieces, most of which are comparable to those from ditch **98** and can be similarly dated. They include a large coarsely notched flake and an irregularly worked core that had been heavily burnt. Also present in this feature, however, are a number of more competently produced blade-like flakes that are likely to have been produced at an earlier date, most likely during the Neolithic, and which are presumably residually deposited.

B.2.8 The material from the remaining features is chronologically mixed; some earlier, probably Neolithic, pieces are present, such as the well-made scraper and other flakes from Middle Iron Age pit **16** in Trench 169 (Field C) as well as a few scattered other pieces. The majority, however, are more comparable to later prehistoric flintworking traditions and include many 'squat' flakes, informally retouched implements and minimally worked cores.

Significance

B.2.9 A few significant deposits of unworked burnt flint have been identified, the largest coming from Middle Iron Age pit **39** in Trench 76 and others from Middle Bronze Age ditches **95**, **98** and **123** (Trenches 215, 216 and 218 respectively). Although the quantities of unworked burnt flint recovered are not on the same scale as seen at some later prehistoric sites, they are greater than might be expected from casual hearth use and the uniformity of their heating suggests they have accrued from industrial or craft processes undertaken in the vicinity.

B.2.10 The struck flint suggests persistent but low key activity at the site during the Neolithic, Bronze Age and possibly Iron Age. The earlier material suggests sporadic visiting of the site although the assemblage from pit **37** in Trench 71 (Field B), if of Early Bronze Age date, is of greater interest in that it provides dated and securely contexted material that can inform on specific flintworking practices. Likewise, the two relatively substantial assemblages from ditches **98** and **123** in Field F which are predominantly later prehistoric in date and likely to be broadly contemporary with the infilling of the Middle Bronze Age ditches provide a welcome insight into the poorly understood flintworking practices of this period. There is also the possibility that flintworking continued at the site into the Iron Age; if so this has recently been identified as a research priority (Haselgrove *et al*. 2001, 21).

Recommendations

B.2.11 As it stands, the assemblage is too small to warrant any further technological, functional or metrical analyses and no further analytical work is recommended. The assemblages from Early Bronze Age pit **37** and Middle Bronze Age ditches **98** and **123** are of local interest but this report and associated catalogue should suffice for the purposes of archiving and as a basis for any published accounts of the investigations. The assemblages' research potential would be, however, greatly increased should further field work be conducted. From the point of view of the lithic material, any further fieldwork should focus on obtaining as large and closely contextually defined lithic assemblage as possible, in order to attempt to understand the nature, extent and chronology of any prehistoric lithic-based activities. Should sufficient quantities of lithic artefacts be procured from any future work, full metrical, typological and technological analysis may be warranted.

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Phase	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Chip (<15mm)	Flake	Blade-like flake	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragment (>15mm)	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Core tool	Suggested date	Unworked burnt flint (no.)	Unworked burnt flint (wt:g)	Comments
17	16	169	fill	pit	backfill	Middle Iron Age		1		1		1				1		Neo-BA			Thick but reasonably well struck pieces. The retouched implement is an end scraper with fine executed well arced medium, moderately steep scalar retouch around its distal end
19	18	62	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age				1								MBA-IA			Quite 'squat'
28	27	83	fill	pit	backfill	Middle Iron Age		1		2								BA-IA			All in good condition, the two flakes are undiagnostic but one is quite broad and could be prehistoric. The blade is well struck and could be earlier, perhaps Neolithic.
38	37	71	fill	pit	backfill	Early Bronze Age	6			21		4	8			2		BA-IA			Mostly fairly crudely produced thick flakes although many are quite narrow. The condition is variable; one flake is heavily burnt but several show some edge chipping and a few may have been utilized. The two retouched implements are both large flakes wit
38	37	71	fill	pit	backfill	Early Bronze Age												Undated	1	4	Heavily burnt flint

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Phase	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Chip (<15mm)	Flake	Blade-like flake	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragment (>15mm)	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Core tool	Suggested date	Unworked burnt flint (no.)	Unworked burnt flint (wt:g)	Comments
40	39	76	fill	pit	backfill	Middle Iron Age												Undated	28	1098	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
40	39	76	fill	pit	backfill	Middle Iron Age				4								MBA-IA			Two large 'squat' flakes and two small trimming flakes.
41	39	76	fill	pit	backfill	Middle Iron Age												Undated	72	2492	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
67	66	60	fill	ditch	silting	Bronze Age				2	1							Mixed Neo and MBA-IA			Thick 'squat' flake of later prehistoric date and a well struck flake and broken possible blade that could be earlier, probably Neolithic
88	87	162	fill	pit	backfill	Early Iron Age				1			1					MBA-IA			Poorly detached flake in good condition
88	87	162	fill	pit	backfill	Early Iron Age												Undated	1	7	Heavily burnt flint
90	89	162	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age					1				1	2		BA-IA			Retouched pieces consist of an end scraper made on a narrow but poorly struck flake and a large cortical flake with steep backing suggesting use as a

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Phase	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Chip (<15mm)	Flake	Blade-like flake	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragment (>15mm)	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Core tool	Suggested date	Unworked burnt flint (no.)	Unworked burnt flint (wt:g)	Comments
																					cutting implement
96	95	215	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age												Undated	1	27	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
96	95	215	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age	1											Undated			Small, possibly 'accidentally' struck
97	95	215	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age												Undated	15	149	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
97	95	215	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age				4			1	1				BA-IA			The flakes are variable and undiagnostic. The core is a crudely flake thermally fractured nodular fragment with a few flakes removed and additional undeveloped Hertzian cones from failed attempts at further flake production
124	123	218	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age												Undated	16	398	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
124	123	218	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze											1	MBA-IA			Large 'squat' cortical flake with medium to coarse bifacial semi-invasive retouch forming a coarse

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Phase	Decortication flake	Decortication blade	Chip (<15mm)	Flake	Blade-like flake	Non-prismatic blade	Flake fragment (>15mm)	Core	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Core tool	Suggested date	Unworked burnt flint (no.)	Unworked burnt flint (wt:g)	Comments
						Age															large notch on its right margin
124	123	218	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age			1	7	2	3	1		2			Mixed Neo and MBA-IA			Mixed assemblage with some blade-based pieces and some thick crudely struck flakes
125	123	218	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age												Undated	1	128	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint
125	123	218	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age								1				BA-IA			Heavily burnt nodular fragment that has had several flakes removed from numerous directions. 272g
126	98	216	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age	2			14			4			3		MBA-IA			Variably shaped and sized flakes but most are thick and 'squat'. Retouched implements consist of an irregular end-scraper, a flake with fine invasive retouch possibly used for cutting and a 'squat' flake with coarse inverse retouch forming a denticulated
126	98	216	fill	ditch	silting	Middle Bronze Age												Undated	29	265	Heavily and uniformly burnt flint

Table 18: Lithic catalogue

B.3 Prehistoric pottery

By Matthew Brudenell

Introduction

B.3.1 A total of 146 sherds (1971g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the evaluation, displaying a high mean sherd weight (MSW) of 13.5g. The prehistoric pottery catalogue is presented in Table 21. The pottery derives from 11 contexts relating to five pits and five ditches across Trenches 71, 76, 83, 157, 162, 169, 215-216 and 218 (Table 19). The bulk of the assemblage is of Middle Iron Age date with a small Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age components. The material is in good condition, and includes some very large unabraded sherds from pit **39** in Trench 76 (Field B). This report provides a quantified description of the material by period.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	No. of sherds	Wt. (g)	Pottery date
17	16	169	pit	10	39	Middle Iron Age
28	27	83	pit	10	86	Middle Iron Age
38	37	71	pit	4	16	Early Bronze Age
40	39	76	pit	17	158	Middle Iron Age
41	39	76	pit	77	1541	Middle Iron Age
81	80	157	ditch	2	13	Middle Iron Age
88	87	162	pit	11	60	Early Iron Age
96	95	215	ditch	1	2	Early Bronze Age
97	95	215	ditch	4	7	Middle Bronze Age
124	123	218	ditch	4	26	Middle Bronze Age & Early Iron Age
126	98	216	ditch	6	23	Early & Middle Bronze Age
TOTAL	-	-	-	146	1971	-

Table 19: Quantified prehistoric pottery by context

Methodology

B.3.2 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). All sherds were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to fabric (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim forms have been described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and are assigned vessel numbers. All pottery has been subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter have been classified as 'small' (94 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm are classified as 'medium' (46 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter 'large' (six sherds).

Fabric series

B.3.3 Four fabric types were distinguished in the assemblage (Table 20).

Fabric	Fabric group	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	% assemblage by Wt.	MNV
F1	Flint	13	56	2.8	0
FQ1	Flint and sand	129	1900	96.3	10
G1	Grog	3	13	0.7	0
Q1	Sand	1	3	0.2	0
TOTAL		146	1972	100	10

Table 20: Quantified prehistoric pottery by fabric. MNV = minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified (8 rims, 2 bases)

B.3.4 Flint:

- F1: Sparse to common medium to coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size).

B.3.5 Flint and sand:

- FQ1: Sparse to common fine to coarse flint (mainly 1-3mm in size) in a dense sandy clay matrix.

B.3.6 Grog:

- G1: Moderate to common medium to coarse grog (mainly 2-4mm in size).

B.3.7 Sand:

- Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand.

Discussion

Early Bronze Age

B.3.8 Seven sherds (30g) of Early Bronze Age pottery were identified in the assemblage, deriving from pit **37** in Trench 71 of Field B (4 sherds, 16g) and ditches **95** (1 sherd, 2g) and **98** (2 sherds, 12g) in Trenches 215 and 216 respectively of Field F. The group includes sherds in fabrics G1 (3 sherds, 13g), FQ1 (1 sherd, 3g) and F1 (3 sherds, 14g). The earliest material comprises small fragments of Beaker pottery from the ditches decorated with comb (2g) and cord impressions (2g). Ditch **98** also yielded a fragment of rusticated Beaker (10g). The pottery from pit **37** included grog-tempered fabrics typical of the Early Bronze Age, with one sherd decorated with fingertip impressions (5g), possibly derived from a small urn.

Middle Bronze Age

B.3.9 Pottery assigned to the Middle Bronze Age includes 10 sherds (42g), all in fabric F1, and all derived from ditches revealed in Field F (ditch **95**, four sherds, 7g; ditch **98**, four sherds, 11g; ditch **123**, two sherds, 24g). The dating of this material is primarily based on the coarse flint tempered fabrics and the recovery of sherd fingertip decorated sherd (19g) belonging to a small urn from ditch **123**.

Early Iron Age

B.3.10 A total of 13 sherds (62g) of pottery were assigned to the Early Iron Age. These derived from pit **87** in Field C (11 sherds, 60g) and ditch **123** in Field F (2 sherds, 2g). All the pottery is in fabric FQ1, and two vessel rims are represented (both from pit

87). One of these is from a small burnished bipartite fineware bowl with diagonal tool decoration on the shoulder (5g).

Middle Iron Age

B.3.11 The largest period assemblage dates to the Middle Iron Age and comprises 116 sheds (1838g). These derived from pits **16** in Field C (10 sherds, 39g), 27 (10 sherds, 87g) and **39** in Field B (94 sherds, 1699g) and ditch **80** in Field C (two sherds, 13g). With the exception of a single sherd in fabric Q1 (3g), all the sherds are tempered with crushed burnt flint of fabric FQ1. The largest assemblage was recovered from pit **39**, which includes fragments of a minimum of eight different vessels (six different vessel rim, two bases). This includes the partial profile of two large ovoid jars, with rim diameters of 26 and 32cm. The smaller of the two is a neck-less jar with an in-turned rim, while the large one displays a triangular profiled rim. The group also includes the base and lower walls of a jar combed on the exterior.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Sample	Fabric group	Fric simplified	Sherd type	Simplified decorative category	Decorative position	No sherds	Wt (g)	No refits	Rim type	Rim %	Rim dia	Base type	Base %	Base dia	Form	Class	Vessel no	Initial Spot Date	Crumbs (g)	Small <4cm	Medium 4-8cm	Large >8cm
17	16	169	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			3	8											MIA		3		
17	16	169	pit	3	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			7	31											MIA		7		
28	27	83	pit	10	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	1											MIA		1		
28	27	83	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			2	29											MIA			2	
28	27	83	pit	11	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			7	57											MIA		6	1	
38	37	71	pit		Grog	G1	o			2	8											MIA		2		
38	37	71	pit		Grog	G1	sh	Fingertip impression		1	5											EBA		1		
38	37	71	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	3											EBA		1		
40	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			10	107											MIA		6	4	
40	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	b			1	41					1	21	11			8	MIA			1	
40	39	76	pit	2	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			5	7											MIA		5		
40	39	76	pit	2	Sand	Q1	o			1	3											MIA		1		
41	39	76	pit	5	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			4	9											MIA	11	4		
41	39	76	pit	5	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	1											MIA		1		
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			26	139											MIA		26		
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			13	256											MIA			13	
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			5	168											MIA			5	
41	39	76	pit		Flint and	FQ1	o			1	62											MIA				1

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Sample	Fabric group	Fric simplified	Sherd type	Simplified decorative category	Decorative position	No sherds	Wt (g)	No refits	Rim type	Rim %	Rim dia	Base type	Base %	Base dia	Form	Class	Vessel no	Initial Spot Date	Crumbs (g)	Small <4cm	Medium 4-8cm	Large >8cm
					sand																					
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r			1	62		EVFL	?	?						1	MIA				1
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			4	101										1	MIA			4	
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	63											MIA				1
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	36											MIA			1	
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r			1	3		FD	?	?						2	MIA		1		
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r			1	3		FRE	?	?						3	MIA		1		
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r			1	4		TRI	?	?						4	MIA		1		
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r/sh			10	253	10	HKR	8	26				JD K (Ovoid jar with in turned rim)		5	MIA		5	4	1
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	71										5	MIA			1	
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	b/o	Combed	Body	4	218					1	27	16			6	MIA			3	1
41	39	76	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	r/sh			2	92		FPE	11	32						7	MIA			1	1
81	80	157	ditch		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			2	13	2										MIA		1	1	
88	87	162	pit	9	Flint and sand	FQ1	o			1	4											EIA	4	1		
88	87	162	pit	9	Flint and sand	FQ1	r			1	2		RD	?	?						10	EIA		1		
88	87	162	pit		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			8	49											EIA		5	3	
88	87	162	pit		Flint and	FQ1	r	Tool	Shoulder	1	5		RRE	?	?				M	IV	9	EIA		1		

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature Type	Sample	Fabric group	Fric simplified	Sherd type	Simplified decorative category	Decorative position	No sherds	Wt (g)	No refits	Rim type	Rim %	Rim dia	Base type	Base %	Base dia	Form	Class	Vessel no	Initial Spot Date	Crumbs (g)	Small <4cm	Medium 4-8cm	Large >8cm
					sand			impress-ions																		
96	95	215	ditch		Flint	F1	o	Comb impress-ed	Body	1	2											Beaker		1		
97	95	215	ditch		Flint	F1	o			2	3											Prehis		2		
97	95	215	ditch	16	Flint	F1	o			2	4											MBA		2		
124	123	218	ditch		Flint	F1	o	Finger-tip impress-ions	Girth	1	19											MBA			1	
124	123	218	ditch		Flint and sand	FQ1	o			2	2											EIA		2		
124	123	218	ditch		Flint	F1	o			1	5											MBA		1		
126	98	216	ditch		Flint	F1	o	Finger-tip rusticat-ion	Body	1	10											Beaker			1	
126	98	216	ditch		Flint	F1	o			1	8											MBA		1		
126	98	216	ditch		Flint	F1	o	Cord impress-ed	Body	1	2											Beaker		1		
126	98	216	ditch		Flint	F1	o			3	3											MBA		3		

Table 21: Prehistoric pottery catalogue (MBA=Middle Bronze Age; EIA= Early Iron Age; MIA= Middle Iron Age; prehistoric = preh)

B.4 Fired clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.4.1 The evaluation trenching produced 39 fragments (1276g) of fired clay, including those from samples.

Methodology

B.4.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 22.

Fabrics

B.4.3 The only identifiable fabric is a fine silt clay with common fine rounded flint, grit and voids and less common coarse sub-angular flint and voids and sub linear rod/organic impressions. Although the exact source of the clay or inclusions has not been proven for this assemblage these are likely to have been naturally occurring in the local clay.

Assemblage and discussion

B.4.4 The fired clay was recovered from three contexts. Context 28 from Middle Iron Age pit **27** in Trench 83 (Field B) and context 124 from Middle Bronze Age ditch **123** in Trench 218 (Field F) produced fragments that were not assessed for their fabric because they were too small, although they were counted and weighed. No information could be gleaned from these.

B.4.5 Context 41 from Middle Iron Age pit **39** in Trench 76, produced the majority of the fired clay (1269g) which consists of fragments of daub. These fragments exhibit flattened surfaces or wattle/rod impressions and show signs of being smoothed and formed by hand. Notably, the largest piece of this daub appears to be a fragment from the top of a wall. Where the clay from two parallel faces have been rounded and smoothed together, within its perpendicular break is a large wattle impression running the length of this fragment.

B.4.6 It is unclear where this daub may have originated from: the poor and patchy firing of this material suggests that it may have been part of a wall structure which may have been burnt unintentionally.

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Count	Weight (g)	Notes
28	27	83	Pit	1	6	Undiagnostic fragments, not assessed for fabric. From sample <11>

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Count	Weight (g)	Notes
41	39	76	Pit	36	1269	Fragments of daub with wattle/rod impressions, many fragments show forming and flattened surfaces. One large fragment appears to be an upper fragment of a wall or flattened daub surface as it is rounded by hand with wattle impressions in the broken surface (wattles: 5 - 15mm). All fragments show signs of being fired, though not completely or very highly. Includes sample <5>.
124	123	218	Ditch	2	1	Undiagnostic fragments, not assessed for fabric.
Grand Total				**39**	**1276**	

Table 22: Fired clay catalogue

B.5 Ceramic building material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.5.1 The evaluation work produced 27 fragments (747g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM). The CBM assessed is fragmentary and somewhat abraded, therefore, the majority of it is not closely datable. Those fragments that could be identified are broadly post-medieval.

			Brick		Tile		Undiagnostic				
Context	Cut	Trench	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Total Count	Total Weight (g)	Date
14	13	120	3	13					**3**	**13**	Post Med
36	35	66			1	50			**1**	**50**	Post Med
7	-	74			1	75			**1**	**75**	Post Med
7	-	74					2	66	**2**	**66**	No Date
7	-	74			1	103			**1**	**103**	Post Med
62	61	73					4	19	**4**	**19**	No Date
71	70	16	1	64	1	73			**2**	**137**	Post Med
75	74	165			1	6			**1**	**6**	Post Med
83	82	155			1	14			**1**	**14**	Post Med
85	84	155					1	10	**1**	**10**	No Date
100	101	151					1	6	**1**	**6**	No Date
106	107	151					2	28	**2**	**28**	No Date
106	107	151			1	21			**1**	**21**	Post Med
110	111	151			1	24			**1**	**24**	Post Med
112	113	151	1	51			1	8	**2**	**59**	No Date
115	114	154	2	40					**2**	**40**	No Date
119	118	200			1	76			**1**	**76**	Post Med
Grand Total			**7**	**168**	**9**	**442**	**11**	**137**	**27**	**747**	

Table 23: Summary of CBM catalogue

Methodology

B.5.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible.

B.5.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 23.

Assemblage and discussion

B.5.4 The assemblage was recovered from 14 contexts in nine trenches. The majority of the fragments are undiagnostic and not closely dateable. The diagnostic pieces, brick and flat tile, are very fragmentary and some are quite abraded this too prevents close dating. The post-medieval date applied is in its broadest sense and somewhat tentative.

B.5.5 This CBM is related to construction and demolition that pre-dates the features in which they were found. The building material was subsequently discarded and dispersed through the landscape and represents little more than background noise.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Bulk samples were taken from the prehistoric features revealed within Fields B, C and F of the site in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume of each of the samples was processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.1.3 The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 24. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

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

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

C.1.5 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

C.1.6 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation and is poor. Charcoal volumes did not exceed 1ml and occasional charred cereal grains are the only plant remains present. Most of the sample residues produced pottery. Flint, some of which was burnt, was frequent.

Field B

C.1.7 Samples were taken from pits and ditches from Trenches 62, 71, 76, 83, 84 and 88 spanning the Middle Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age periods. The only pit to produce

preserved plant remains was Middle Iron Age pit 39 (Trench 76) which contained occasional charred cereal grains in each of the three fills (40, 41 and 42). Each of the Middle Bronze Age ditches 66 (Trench 60), 18 (Trench 62), 93 (Trench 77) and 31 (Trench 84) contain occasional charred cereal grains.

Field C

C.1.8 Three samples were taken from fills of Iron Age pits (**16**, **68**, **87**) in Trenches 169, 177 and 162 respectively. Only fill 88 of Early Iron Age pit **87** contains four poorly-preserved charred remains in the form of cereal grains, one of which can be identified as barley (*Hordeum vulgare*).

Field F

C.1.9 Samples were taken from the fills of Middle Bronze Age ditches (**95** and **123**) encountered in Trenches 215 and 218. A single, poorly-preserved charred cereal grain was recovered from lower fill 97 of ditch **95** in Trench 215.

Sample No.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Type	% context sampled	Field	trench No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Charcoal volume (ml)	Pottery	Burnt flint
1	38	37	Pit	5	H	71	16	35	0	<1	#	0
2	40	39	Pit	50	H	76	16	20	#	<1	##	###
3	17	16	Pit	50	G	169	18	30	0	<1	##	0
4	19	18	Ditch	10	H	62	17	15	#	<1	0	0
5	41 & 42	39	Pit	50	H	76	33	150	##	<1	#	##
6	67	66	Ditch	5	H	60	15	10	#	<1	0	####
7	69	68	Pit	20	G	177	16	20	0	<1	##	0
9	88	87	Pit	50	G	162	34	70	#	1	##	##
10	28	27	Pit	50	H	83	14	50	0	<1	#	#
11	28	27	Pit	30	H	83	14	250	0	<1	##	0
12	32	31	Ditch	2	H	84	17	50	#	<1	0	0
13	30	29	Ditch	2	H	88	16	50	0	<1	#	0
14	94	93	Ditch	2	A	77	17	30	#	<1	#	0
16	97	95	Ditch	?	A	215	16	5	#	1	##	#
17	96	95	Ditch	?	A	215	15	20	0	<1	#	#
15	124	123	Ditch	5	A	218	18	5	0	1	##	#

Table 24: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.1.10 The environmental samples taken during the evaluation of this site indicate that preservation of preserved plant remains is poor although there is a background scatter of charred grain. It is possible that scatters of charred cereals are not contemporary with the sampled deposits and are the result of later agricultural activity.

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APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	Oxfordar3-274960
Project Name	Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Canterbury, Kent

Start of Fieldwork	09/02/17	End of Fieldwork	27/02/17
Previous Work	No	Future Work	Yes

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XKTTHA16	Planning App. No.	CA/15/01479/OUT
HER Number		Related Numbers	

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority – PPS5
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐	Aerial Photography – interpretation	☐	Grab-sampling	☐	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
☐	Aerial Photography - new	☐	Gravity-core	☒	Sample Trenches
☐	Annotated Sketch	☐	Laser Scanning	☐	Survey/Recording of Fabric/Structure
☐	Augering	☐	Measured Survey	☒	Targeted Trenches
☐	Dendrochonological Survey	☒	Metal Detectors	☐	Test Pits
☐	Documentary Search	☐	Phosphate Survey	☐	Topographic Survey
☒	Environmental Sampling	☐	Photogrammetric Survey	☐	Vibro-core
☐	Fieldwalking	☐	Photographic Survey	☐	Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)
☐	Geophysical Survey	☐	Rectified Photography		

Monument	Period
Ditch and pit	Bronze Age (- 2500 to - 700)
Pit	Early Iron Age (- 800 to - 400)
Ditch, pit and post	Modern (1901 to present)

Object	Period
Pottery and flintwork and fired clay	Bronze Age (- 2500 to - 700)
Pottery, flintwork and fired clay	Early Iron Age (- 800 to - 400)
Ceramic building material	Modern (1901 to present)

Project Location

County	Kent
District	City of Canterbury
Parish	Thanington Without
HER office	Kent Historic Environment Record
Size of Study Area	73 ha
National Grid Ref	Centred on TR 134 561

Address (including Postcode)

Land off Cockering Road, New Thanington, Thanington Without, Canterbury , Kent

Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology East
Project Brief Originator	Rosanne Cummings (Kent County Council)
Project Design Originator	Charlotte Dawson (Wardell Armstrong)
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer (OA East)

Project Supervisor	Graeme Clarke (OA East)

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	Canterbury Museum and Galleries	XKTTHA16
Digital Archive	OA East	XKTTHA16
Paper Archive	Canterbury Museum and Galleries	XKTTHA16

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☒	☒
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☐	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☒	☒
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☒	☒	☒

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☒	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☒	Context Sheets	☒
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Images (Digital photos)	☒	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☒	Drawing	☐
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☐
Spreadsheets	☐	Map	☐
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		Survey	☒

Further Comments

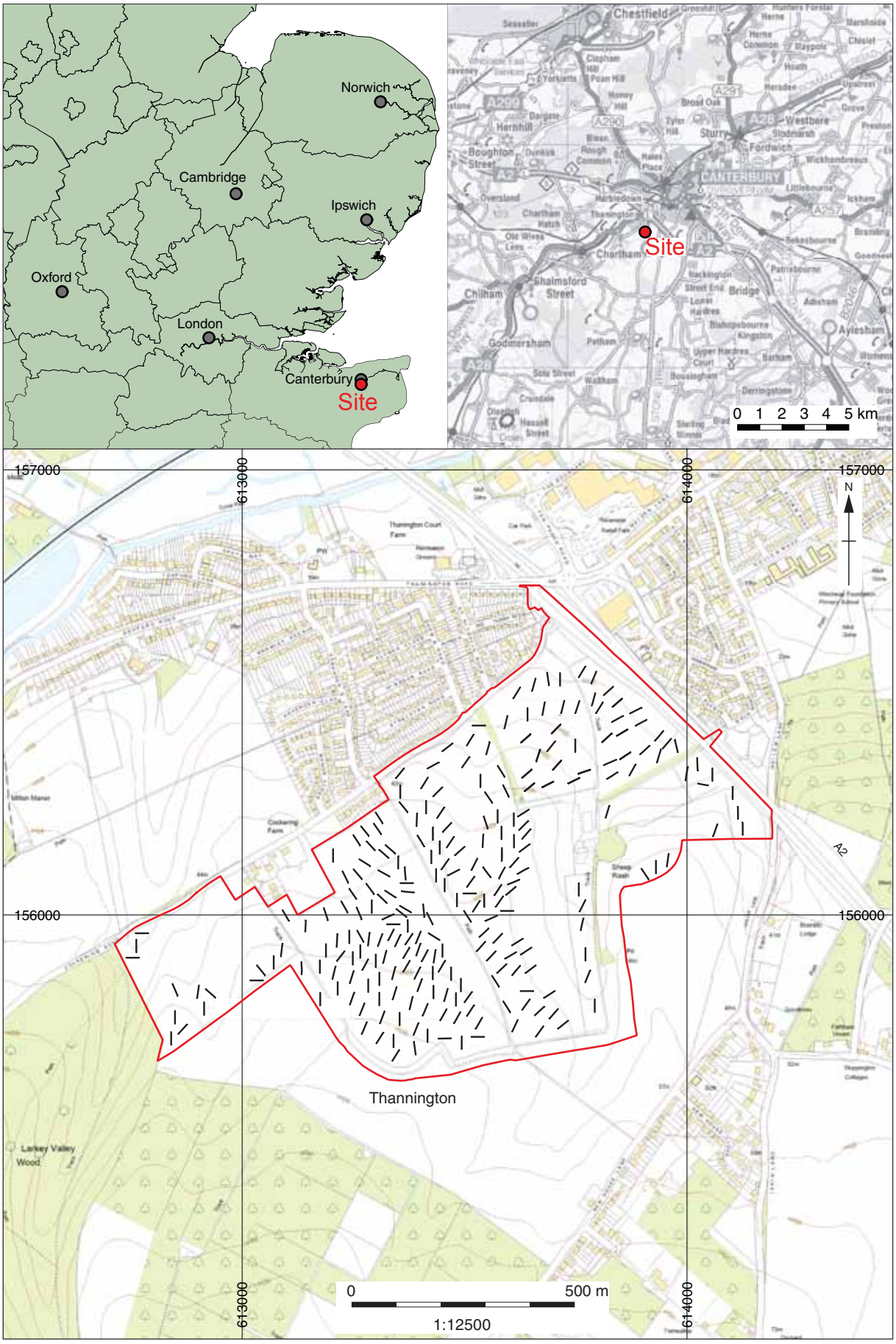

Figure 1: Site location showing evaluation trenches (black) in proposed development area (outlined red)

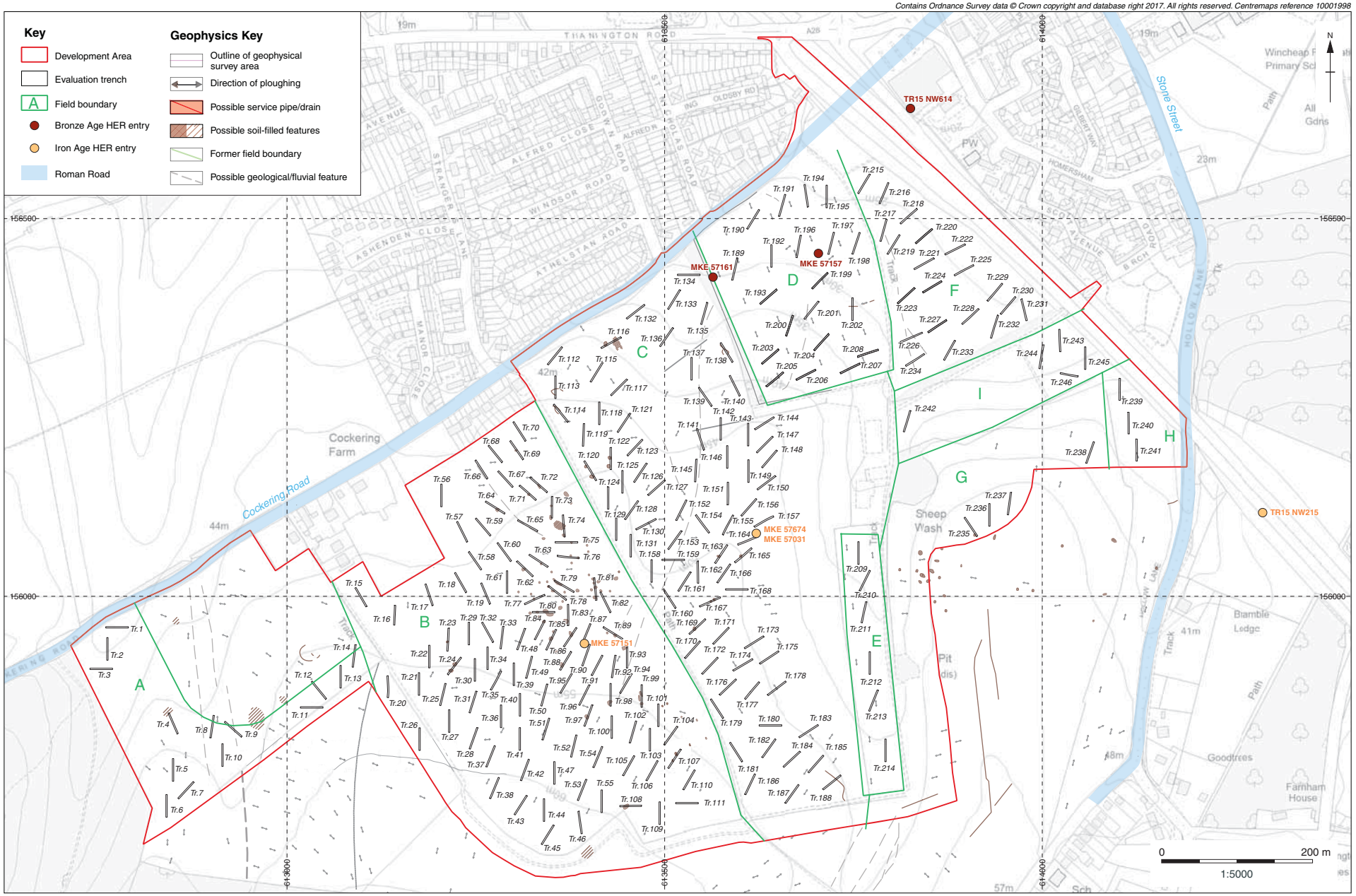

Figure 2: Trench layout overlain on the results of the geophysical survey and selected HER entries (based on Wardell Armstrong Geophysical Survey Report; Railton 2015 & CgMs Desk-Based Assessment report; Hawkins 2013)

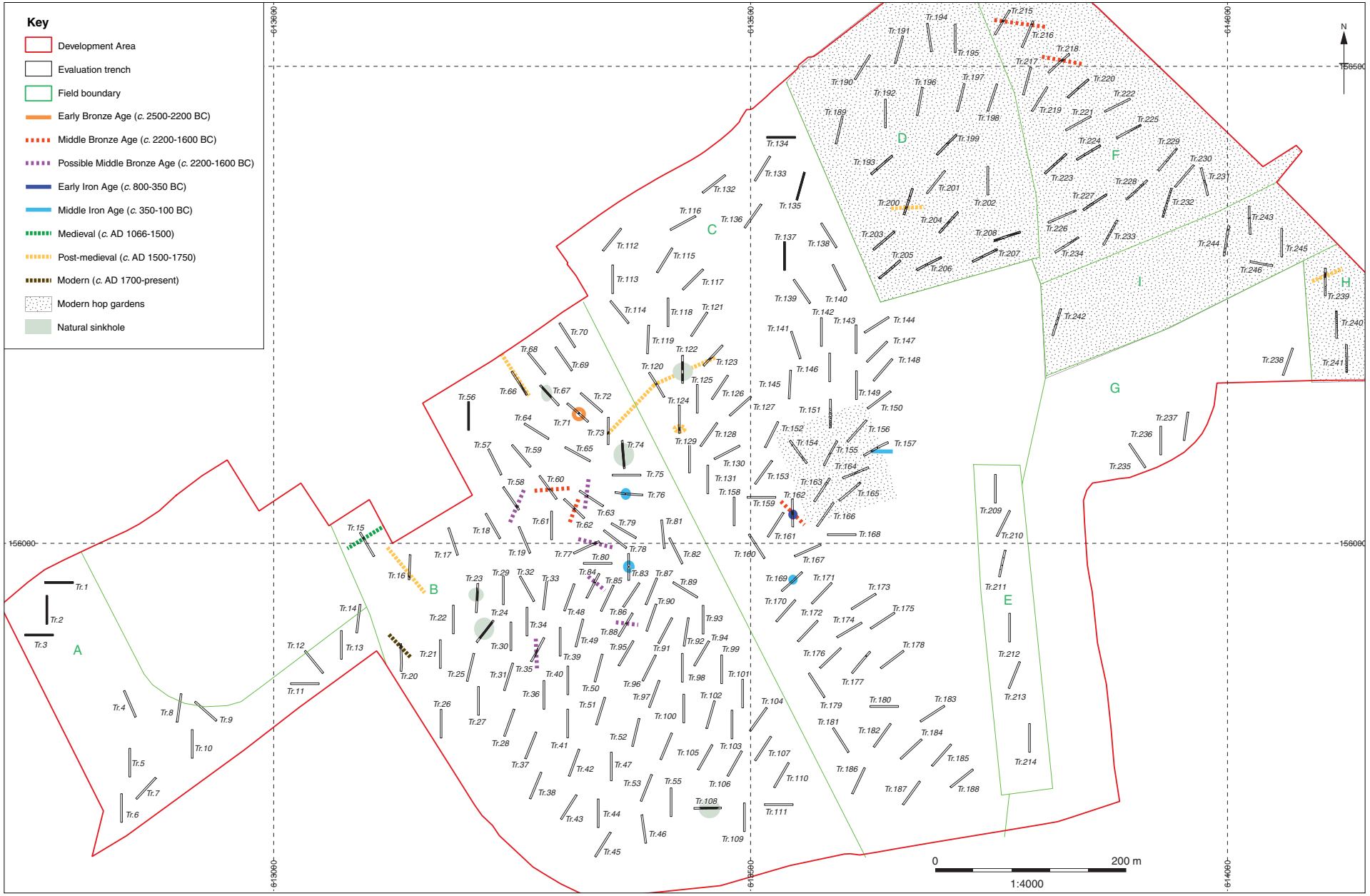

Figure 3: Overview of evaluation results

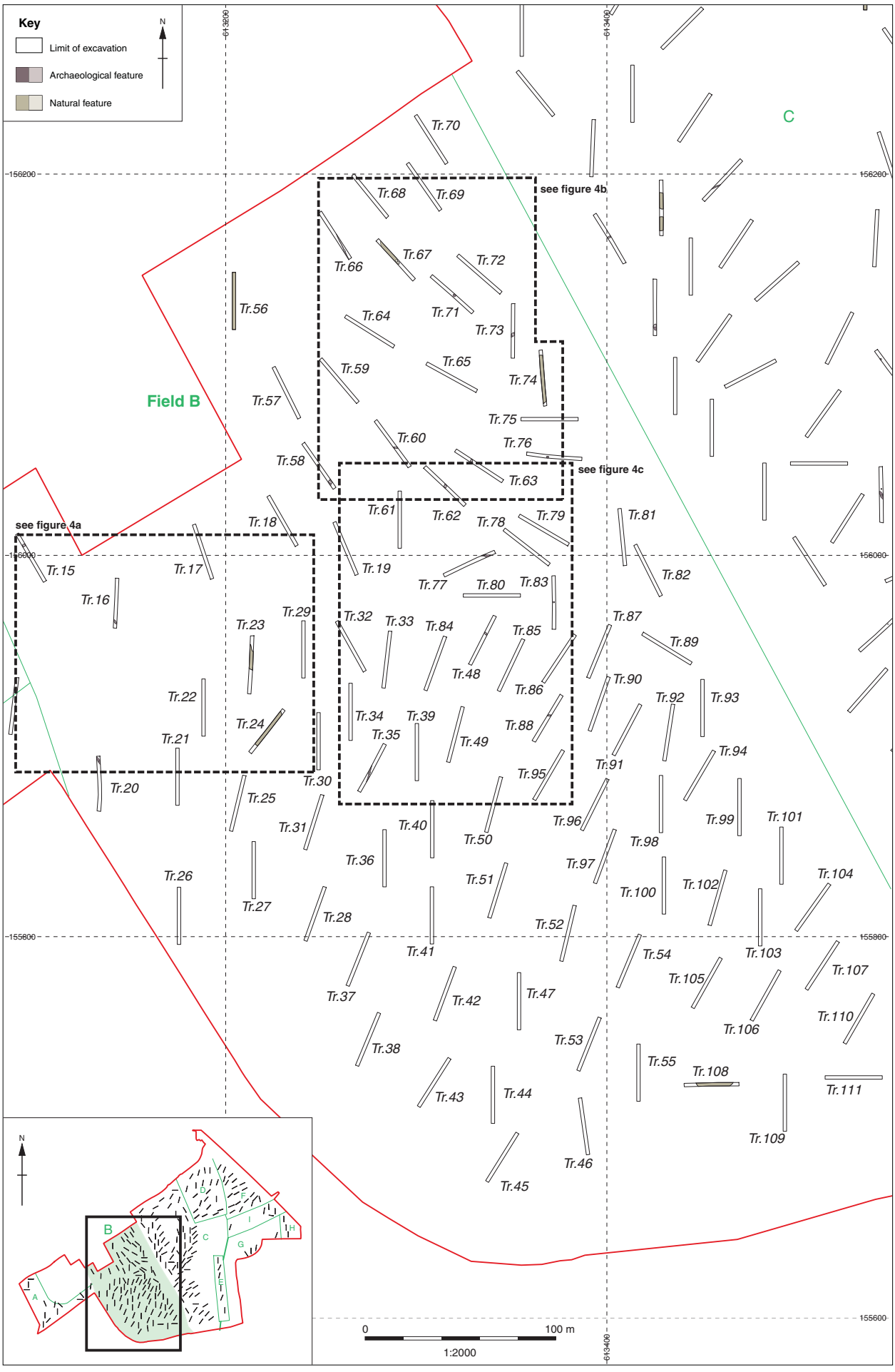

Figure 4: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field B

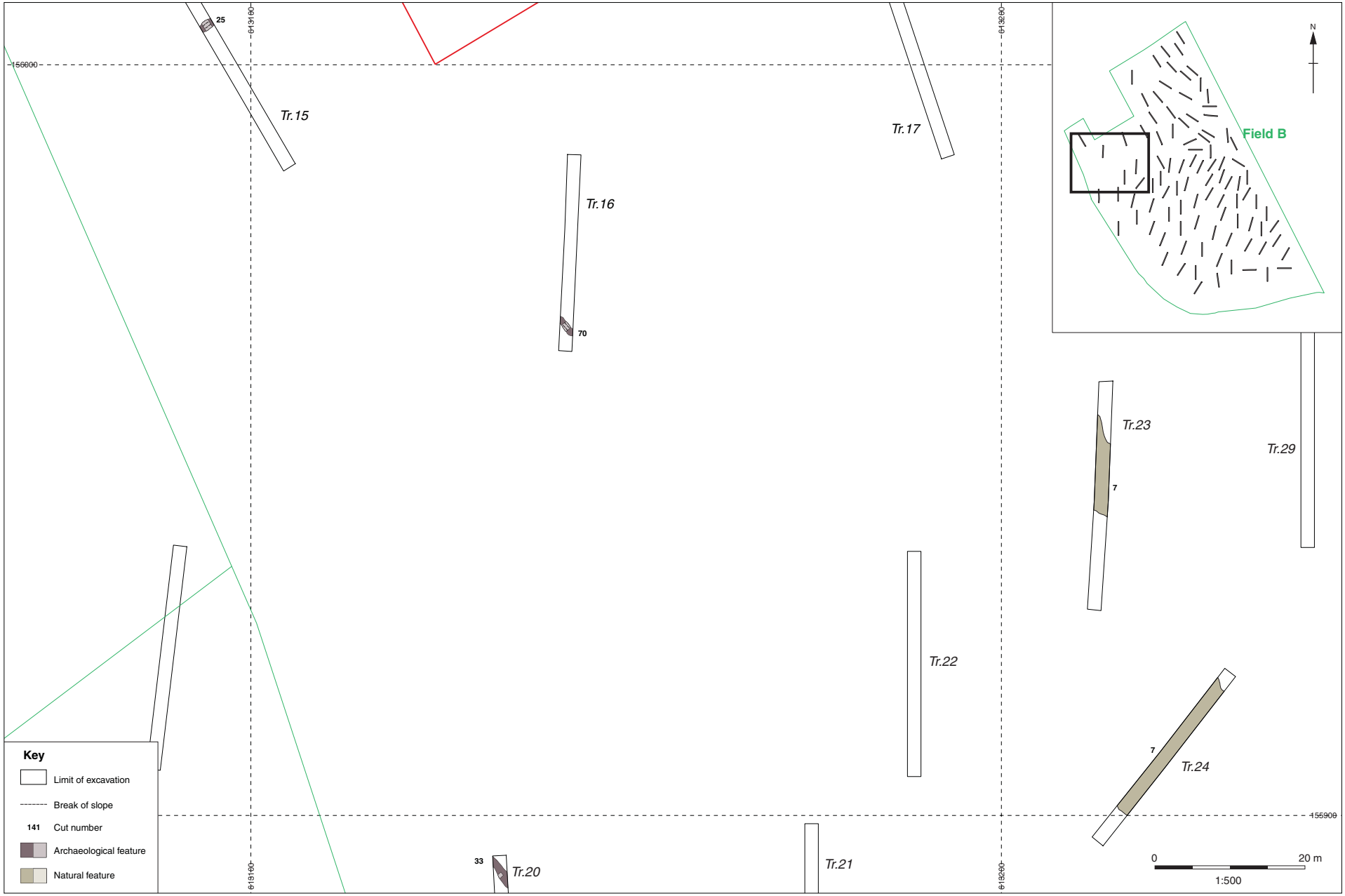

Figure 4a: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 15-17 and 22-24 in Field B

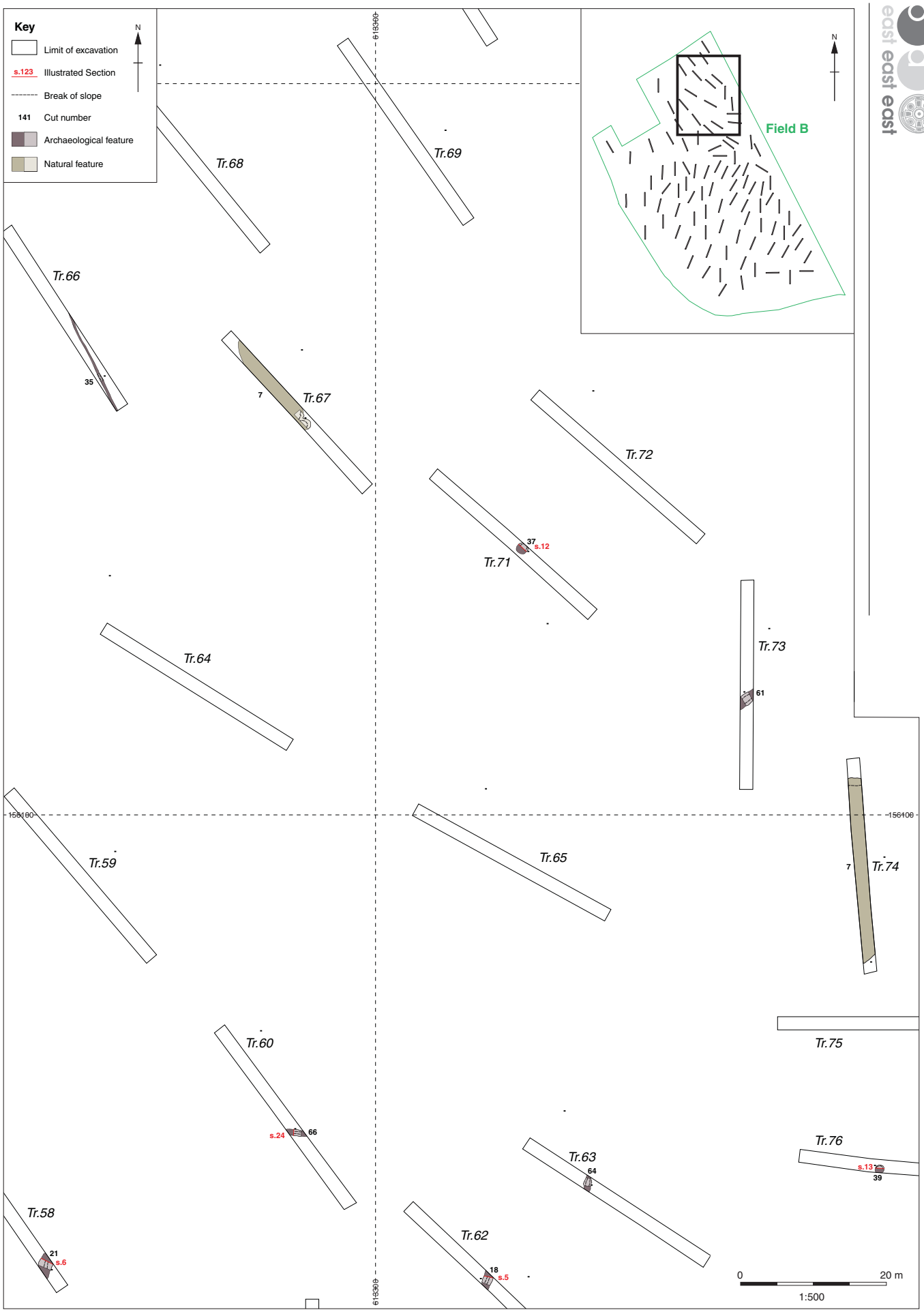

Figure 4b: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 58-60, 62-69 and 71-76

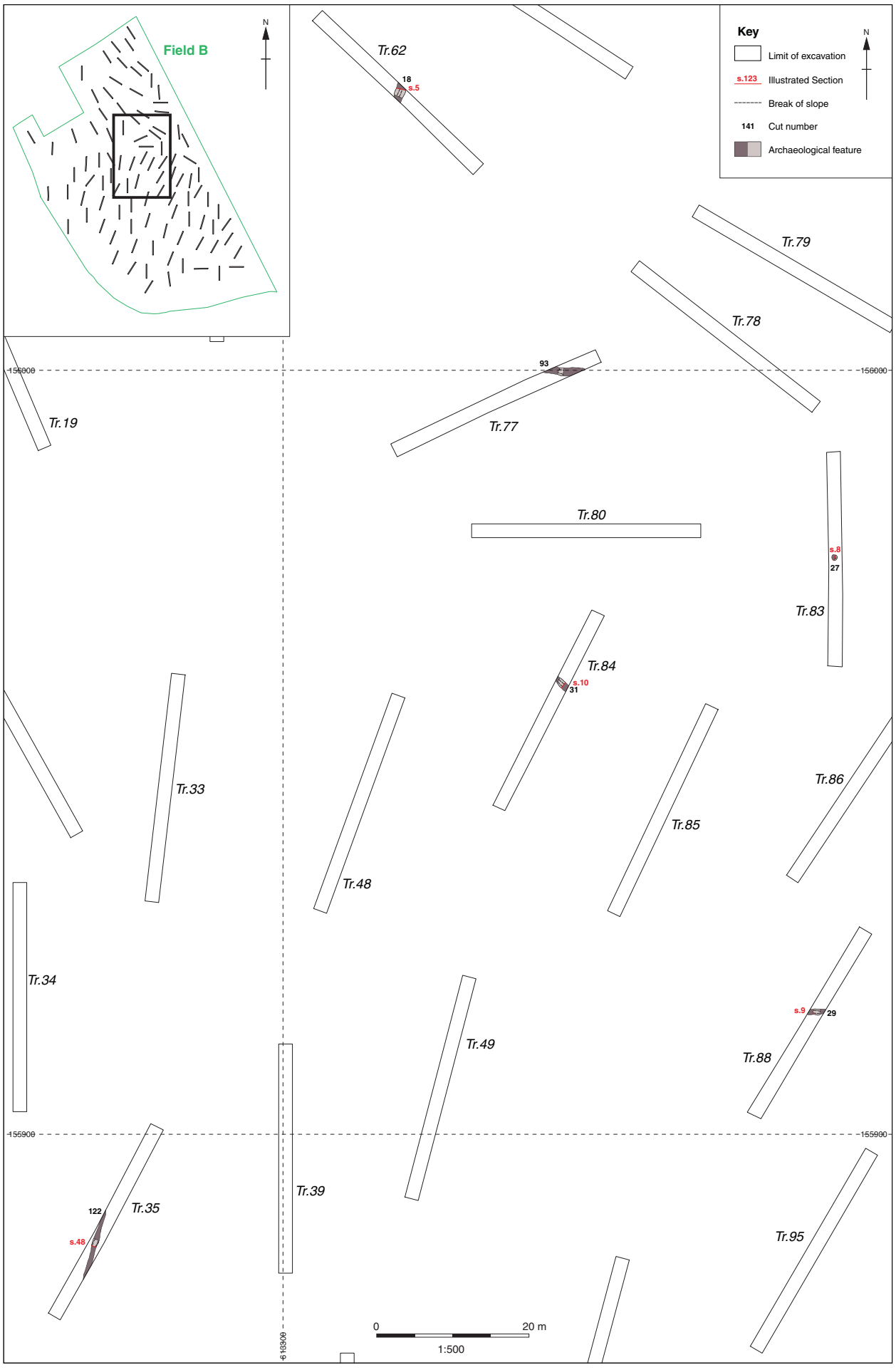

Figure 4c: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 19, 33-35, 39, 48-49, 62, 77-80, 83-86, 88 and 95

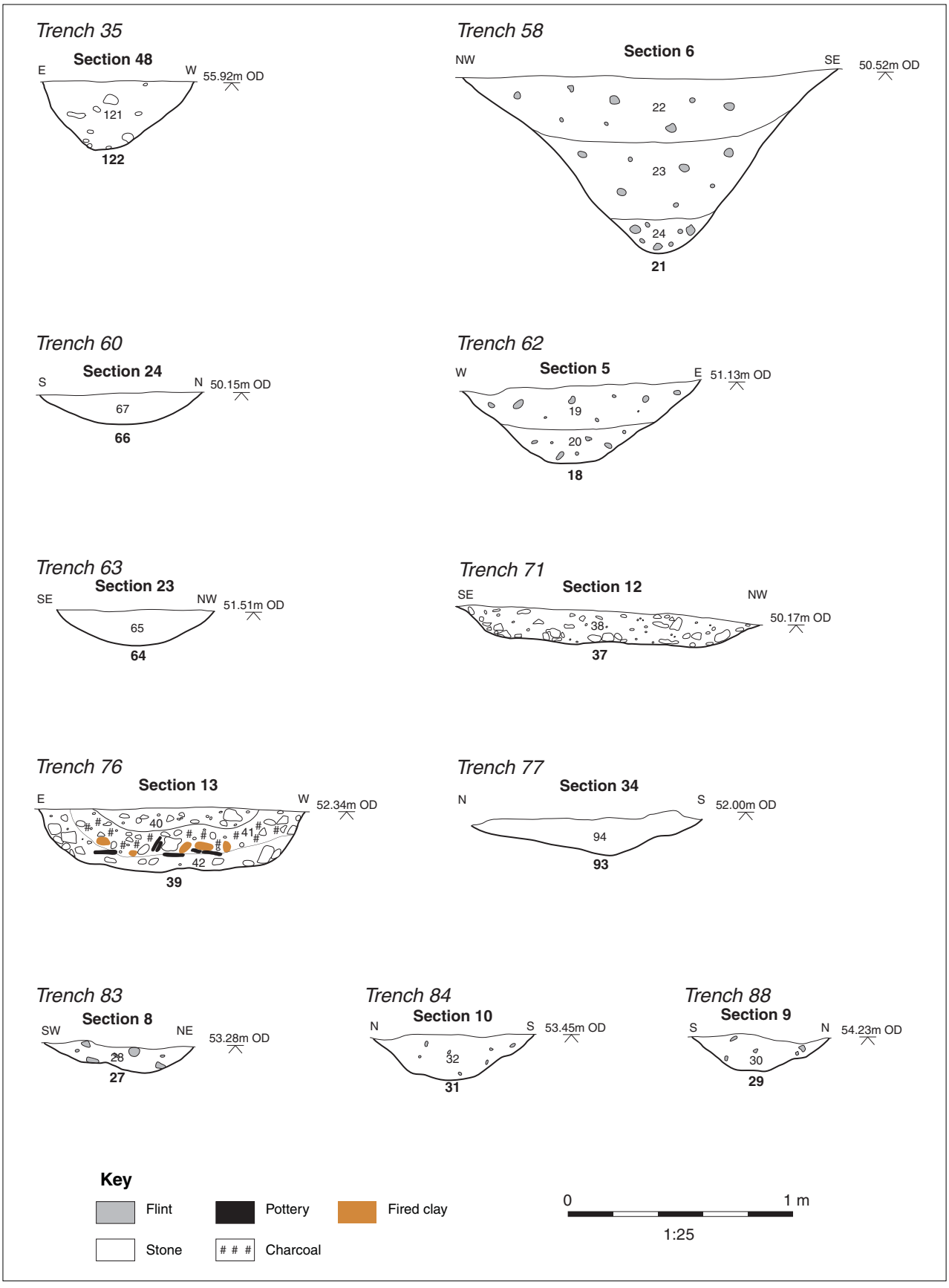

Figure 4d: Selected sections in Field B

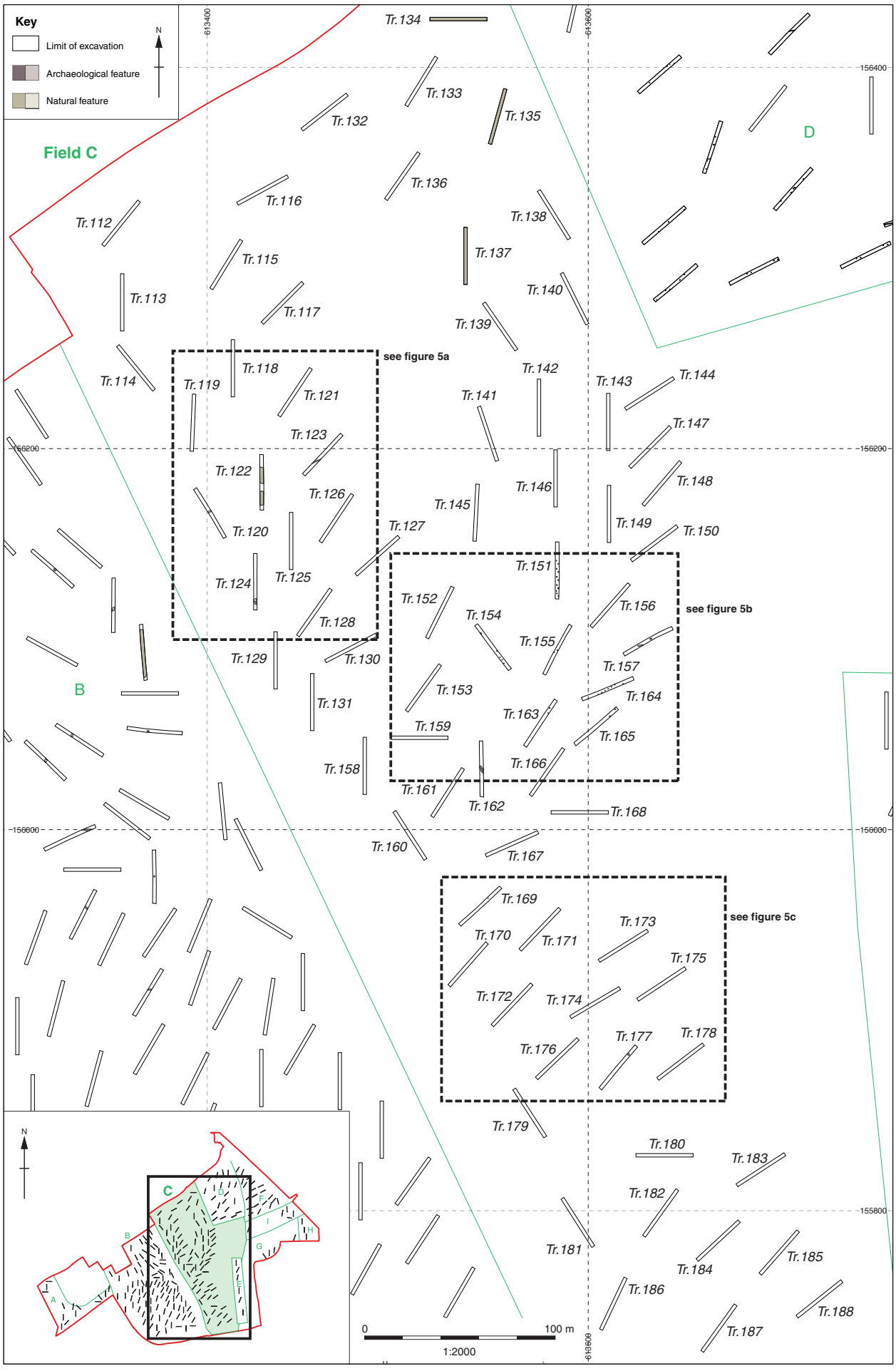

Figure 5: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field C

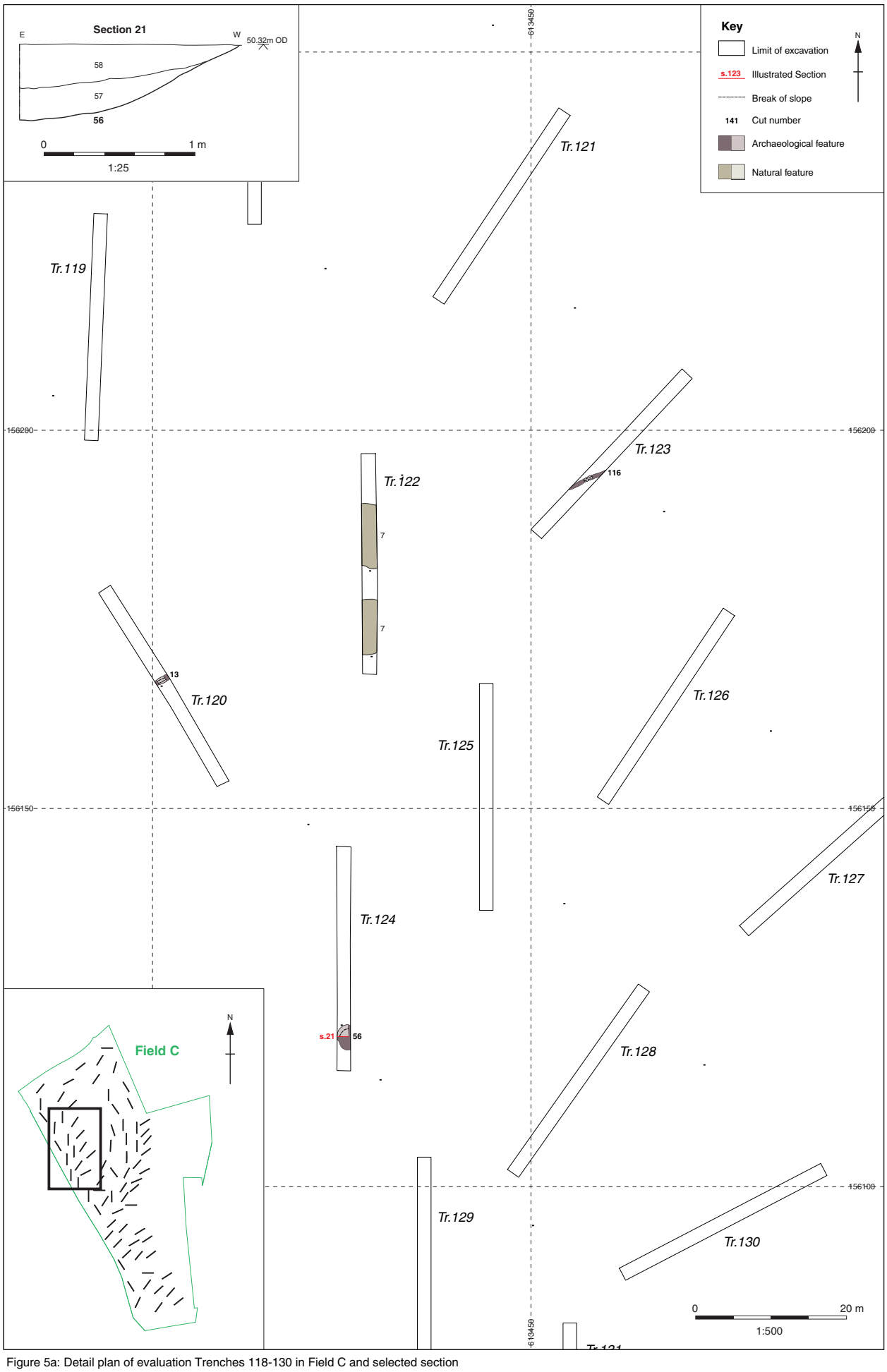

Figure 5a: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 118-130 in Field C and selected section

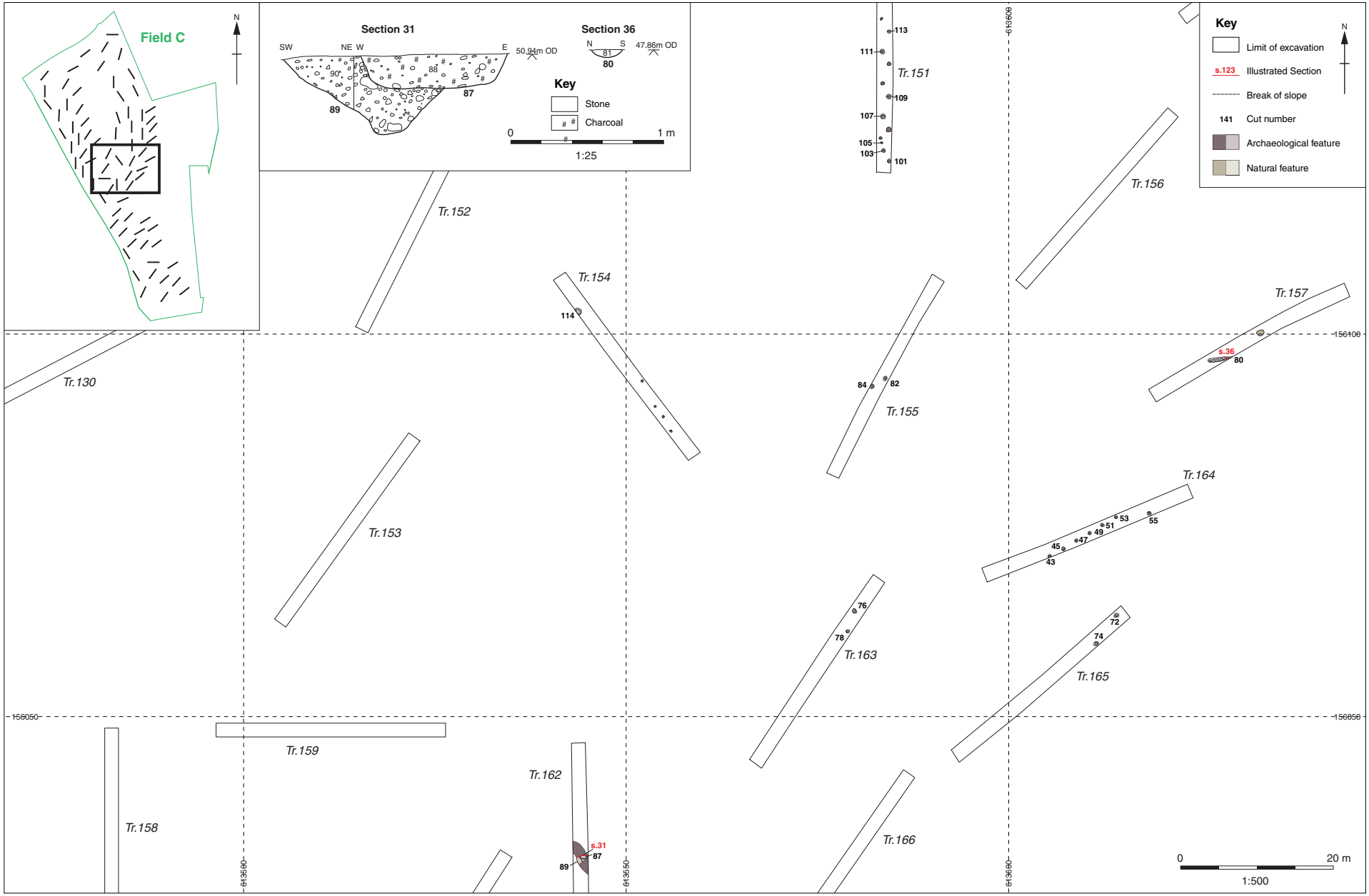

Figure 5b: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 151-166 in Field C and selected sections

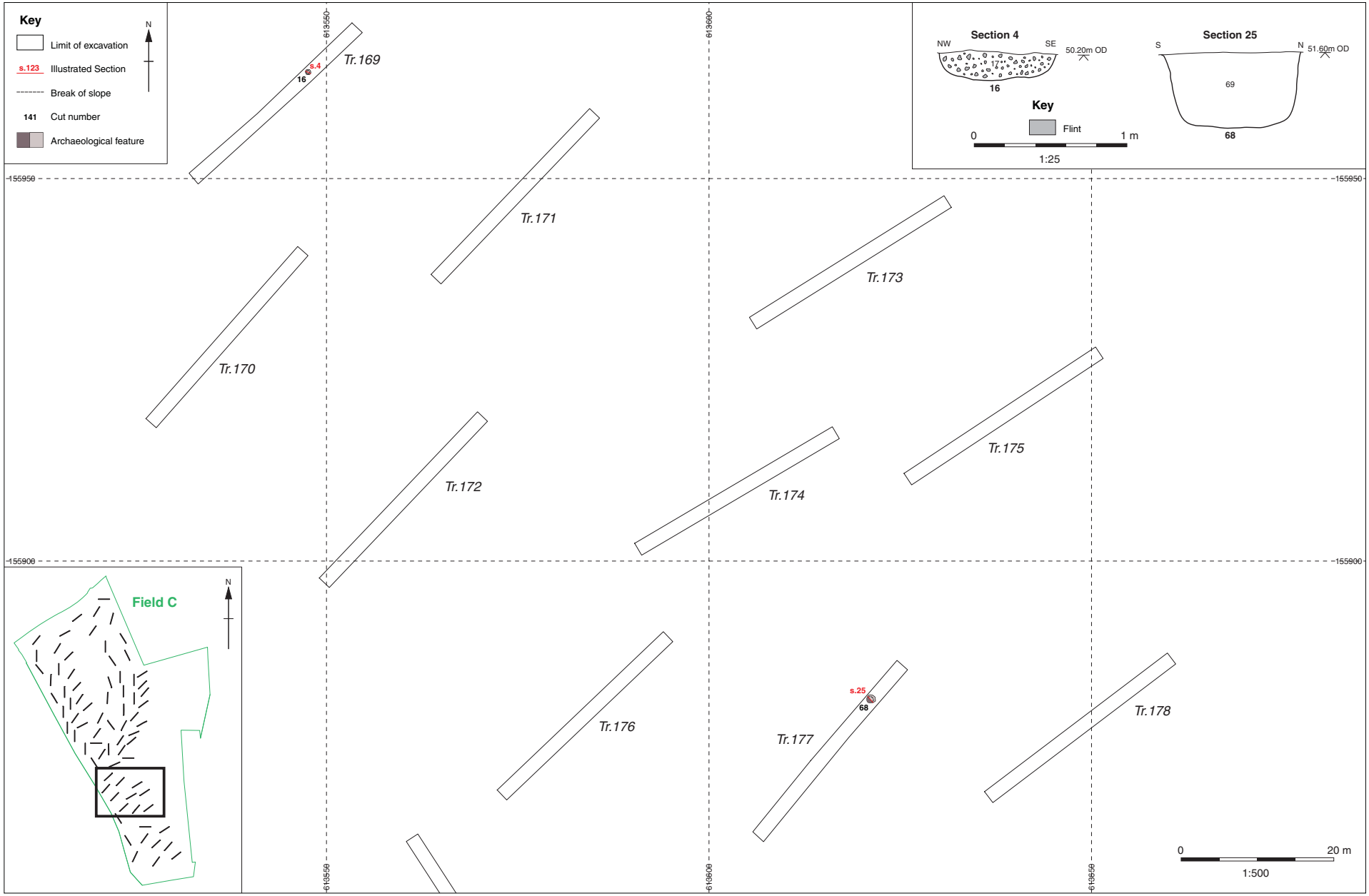

Figure 5c: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 169-178 in Field C and selected sections

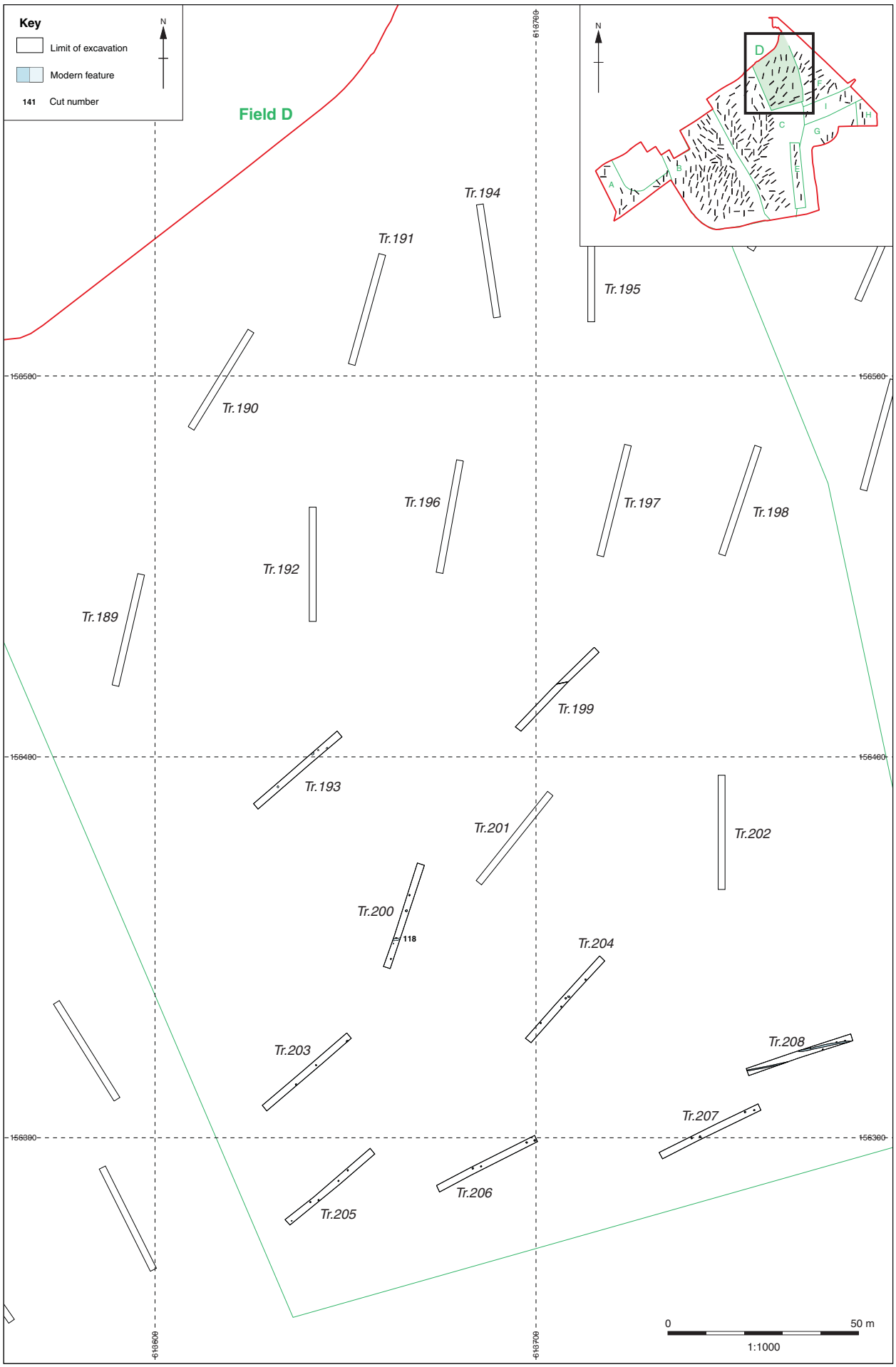

Figure 6: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field D

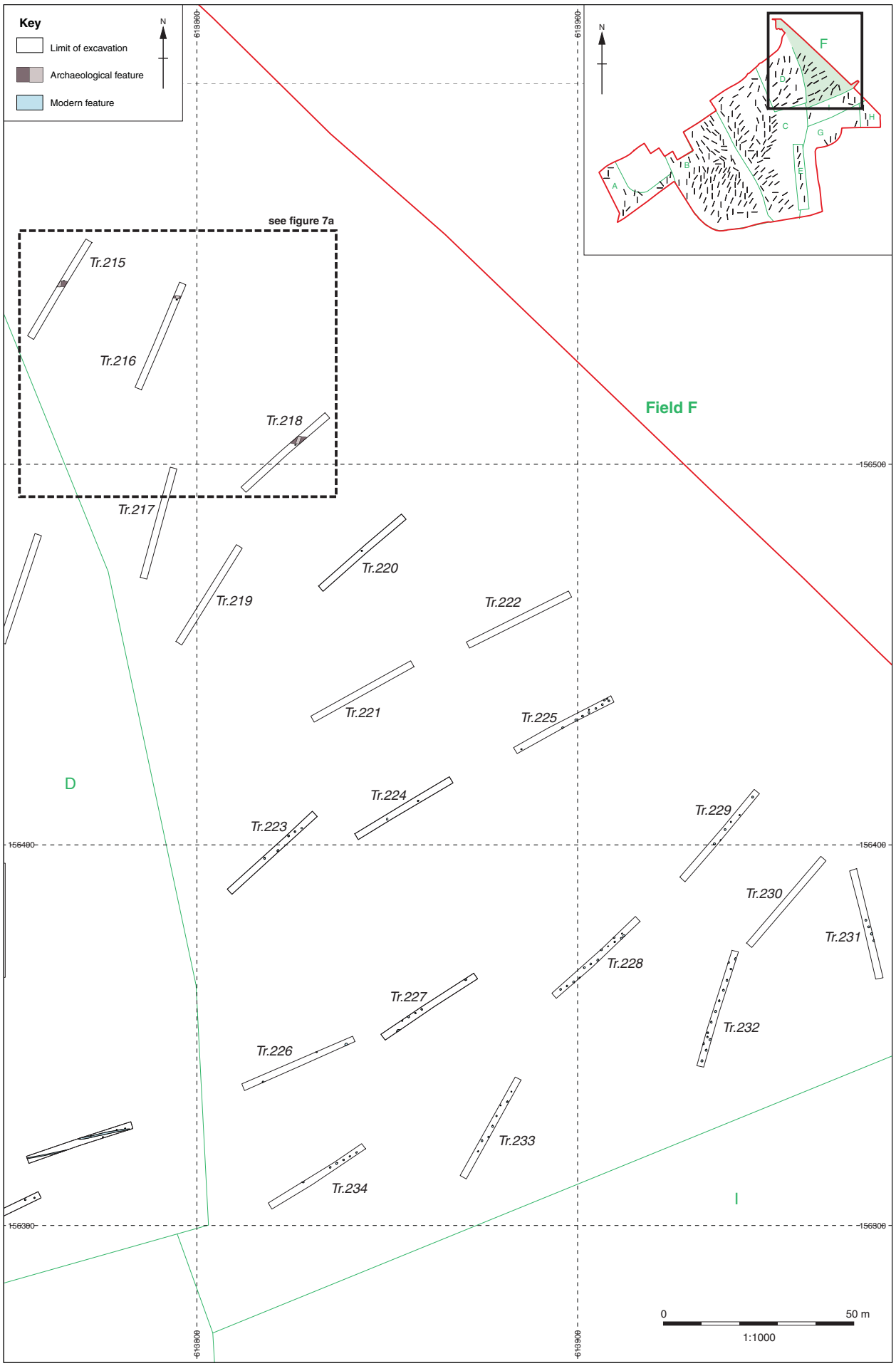

Figure 7: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field F

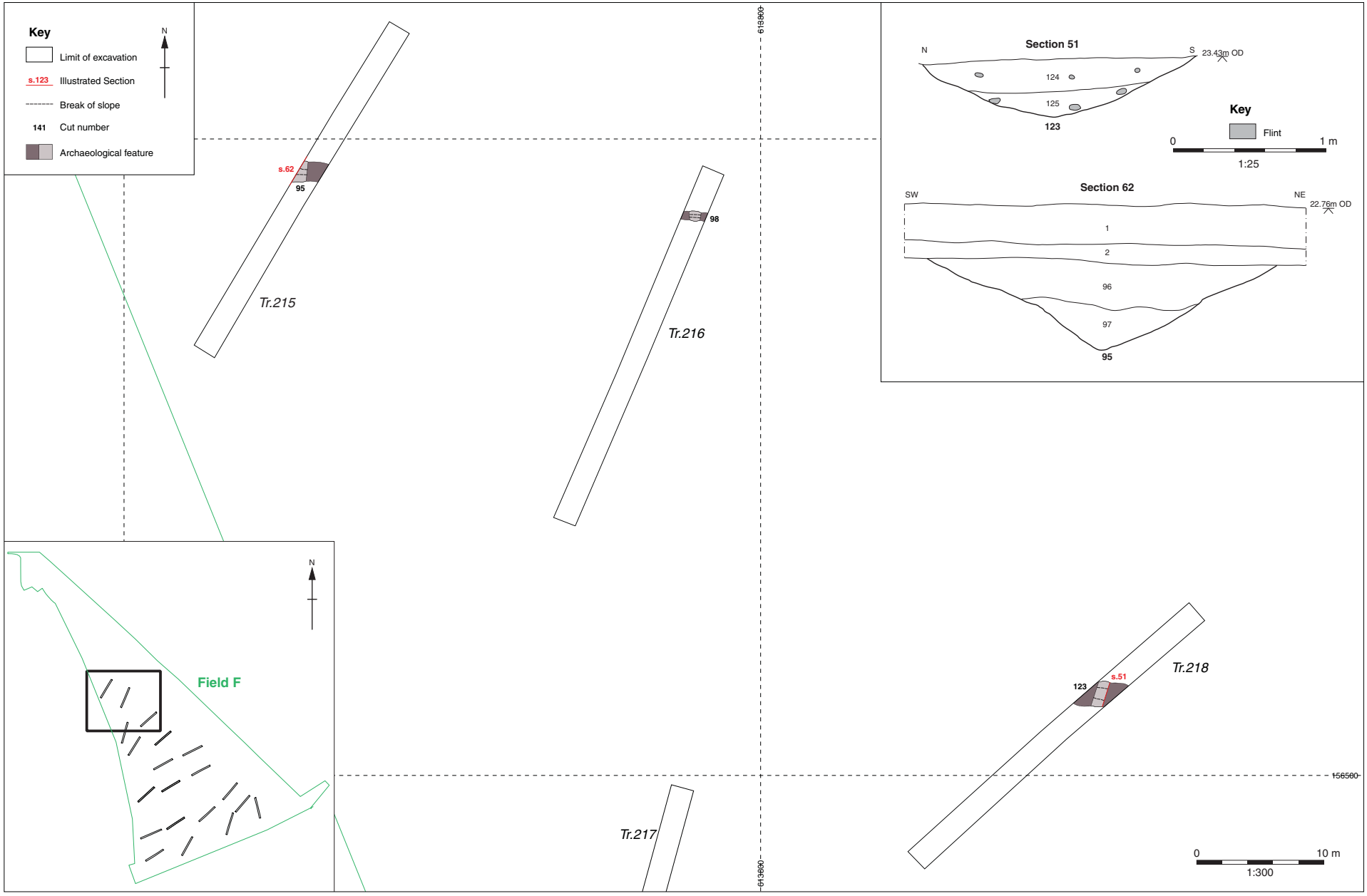

Figure 7a: Detail plan of evaluation Trenches 215-218 in Field F and selected sections

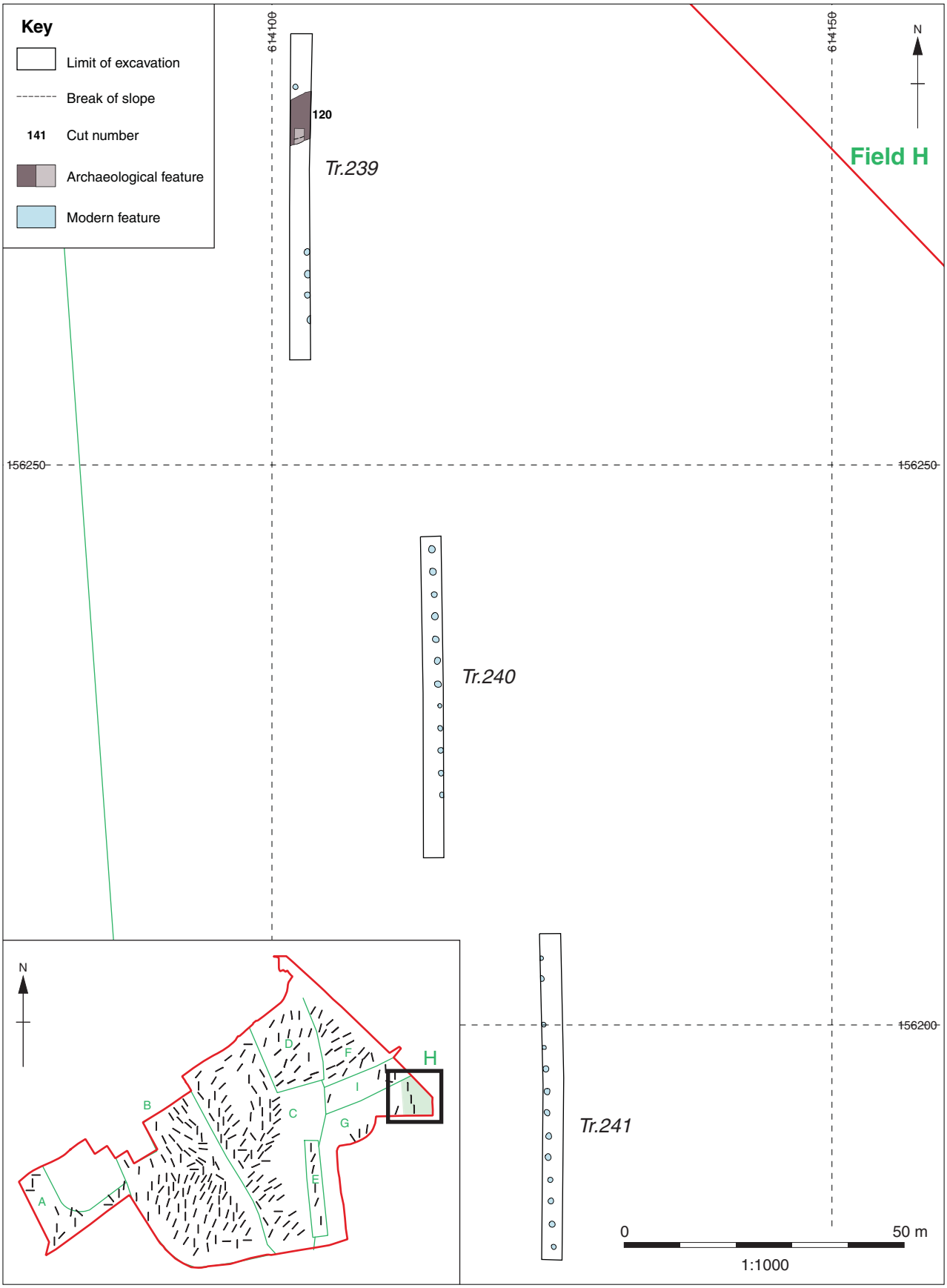

Figure 8: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field H

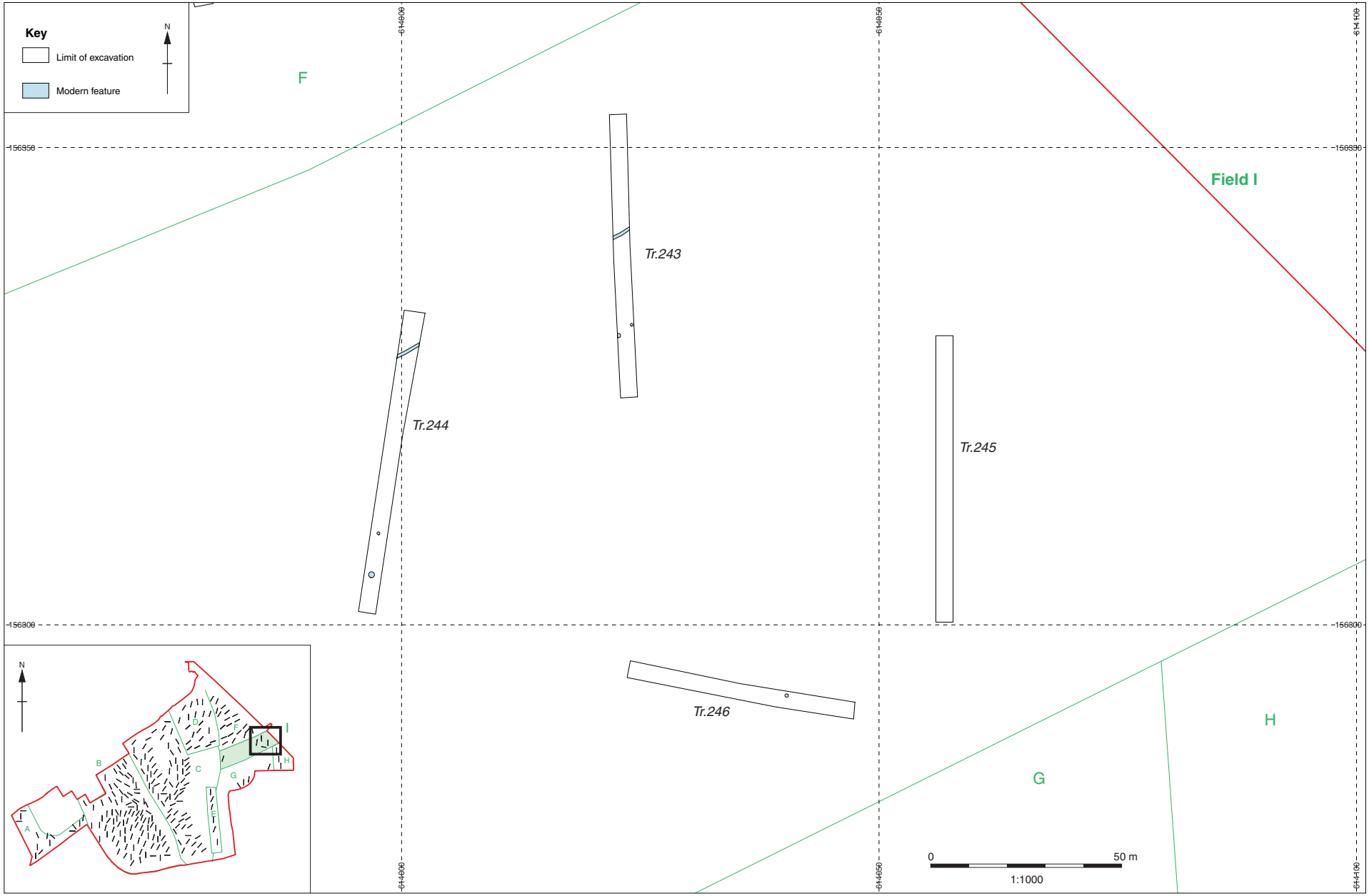

Figure 9: Plan of evaluation trenches in Field I

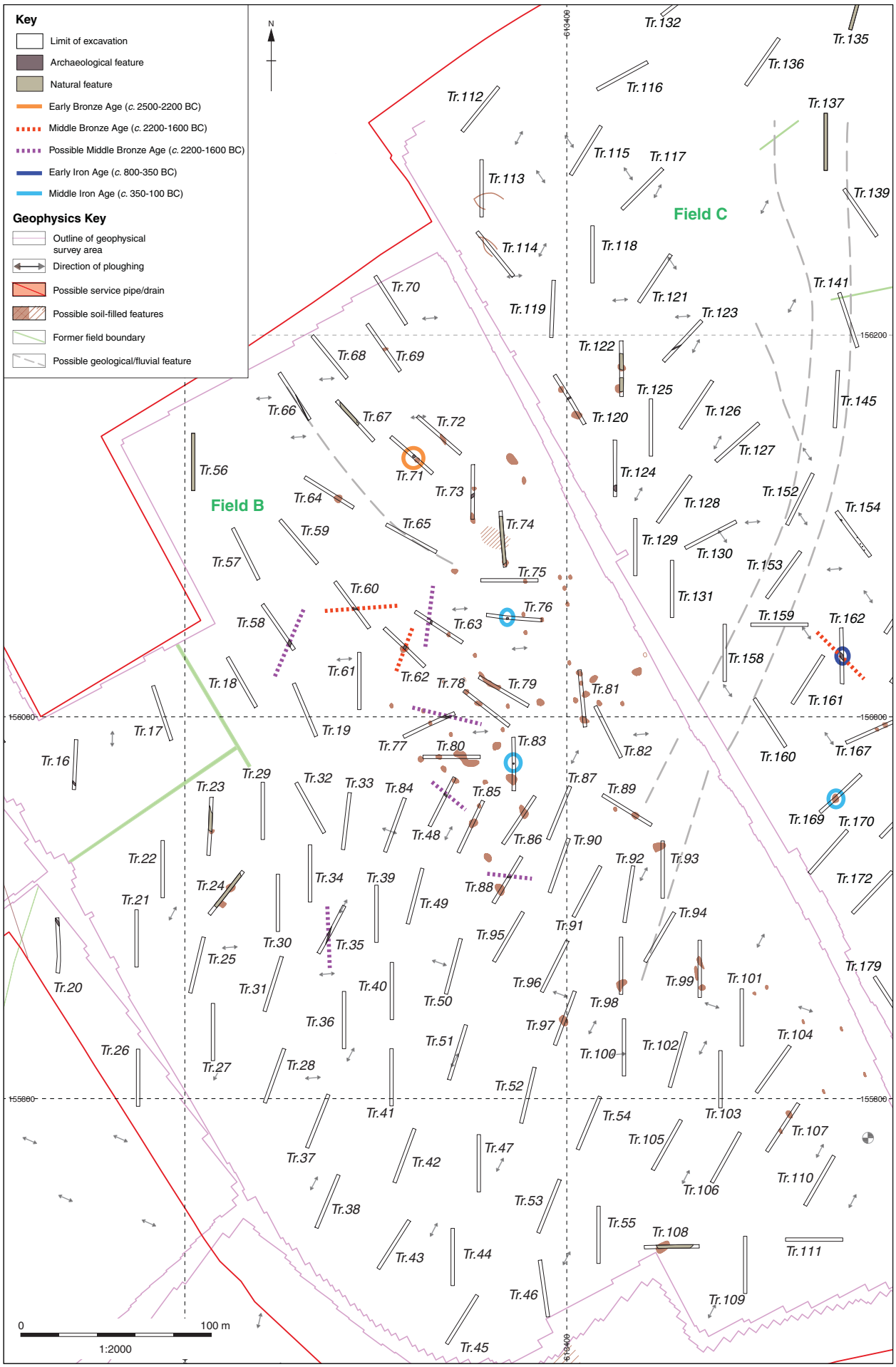

Figure 10: Overview of evaluation results in Fields B and C overlain on the results of the geophysical survey (based on fig. 32 of Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Geophysical Survey report; Railton 2015)

Plate 1: Field A, looking east

Plate 2: Natural sinkhole deposit in Trench 74, Field B, looking north

Plate 3: Pottery sherds and fired clay fragments within Middle Iron Age pit **39** in Trench 76, Field B

Plate 4: Detail of Scored Ware pottery within Middle Iron Age pit **39** in Trench 76, Field B

Plate 5: Field C, looking north-east

Plate 6: Middle Bronze Age ditch **89** in Trench 162, Field C, looking south-east

Plate 7: Field D, looking east, with Cantebury Cathedral in the background

Plate 8: Middle Bronze Age ditch **95** in Trench 215, Field F, looking west

Plate 9: Middle Bronze Age ditch **123** in Trench 218, Field F, looking east

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