

Glyn House  
Ewell  
Surrey  
Area A  
Evaluation Report



**Archaeological Evaluation Report**



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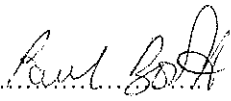
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Prepared by: Bryan Matthews/ Robin Bashford  
Position: Supervisor  
Date: 04th March 2003

Checked by: Andrew Holmes  
Position: Deputy Contracts Officer  
Date: 10th March 2003

Approved by: Paul Booth  
Position: Senior Project Manager  
Date: 18th March 2003

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**Oxford Archaeology**

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Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800

f: (0044) 01865 793496

e: [info@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordarch.co.uk)

w: [www.oxfordarch.co.uk](http://www.oxfordarch.co.uk)

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GLYN HOUSE,  
EWELL, SURREYPHASE I  
*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT*

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## SUMMARY

*In January 2003, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at Glyn House, Ewell, Surrey. A probable Bronze Age ditch and a series of Roman gullies and pits were recorded, together with a 19th/ 20th century horse burial.*

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 In January 2003, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at Glyn House, Ewell, Surrey (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Try Homes Ltd in advance of a proposed residential development.

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of a terrace of eight three-storey residential properties with rear gardens, a single U-shaped two-storey residential building to the south-west of these properties and a single rectangular building to the south.

1.1.3 A desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site and its environs was produced by OA in June 2002 (OA 2002) at the request of Bourton Hall Museum, the archaeological curators for the area. Given the high potential for multi-period archaeological deposits suggested by the DBA, an archaeological evaluation was required prior to the preliminary groundwork for the new development. The evaluation comprises two phases (Fig. 2). Phase I consisted of three trenches within the northern and eastern area of the site (Area A) and Phase II will consist of two trenches and will cover the southern area (Area B). This report details the findings of the Phase 1 evaluation.

#### 1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The proposed development site is an irregular shaped area, measuring a maximum of 80 m x 80 m and is located almost in the centre of the historic settlement of Ewell, within the parish of Ewell, Surrey (NGR TQ 220 627).

1.2.2 The site, which lies roughly 35 m above OD, is bounded by High Street to the west, an area of mature trees and hedges to the north, a lawn to the east and a wall and a number of properties to the south.

1.2.3 The Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 geological map (Sheet 270) indicates that the site is underlain predominantly by Upper Chalk, with a thin band of Thanet Beds just to the north of the site. However, a recent geotechnical survey indicates that the layer of Thanet Sands lies further south and underlies the entire site. This was consistent with the revealed evaluation results. Immediately to the north of the site is a spring, which flows northward, forming the Hogsmill River.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 A desk-based assessment of the site was produced by OA in June 2002, the archaeological implications of which are summarised below.
- 1.3.2 The area of proposed development has an uncertain but probably high potential to contain archaeology dated to the prehistoric period. This is based on the considerable number of known sites and finds in the study area, including the discovery of Iron Age pottery on the site, and the site's topographic location beside two natural water sources, which would have provide a predictable source of food (hunting and fishing) and water.
- 1.3.3 The area of proposed development has a demonstrated potential to contain archaeology dated to the Roman period. Ewell developed as a small market town within a well-settled landscape during this period. Roman pottery, possibly representing an area of settlement, was found at a depth of 1-2 ft across the whole of the Glyn House gardens during landscaping in 1959-63. A concentration of pottery was noted in the western part of the area of proposed development. The settlement would appear to have been located between Stane Street Roman road, the course of which probably ran along the eastern boundary of the proposed development site, and the Hogsmill Spring immediately to the north-west of the site.
- 1.3.4 The area of proposed development has an uncertain potential to contain archaeology dated to the early medieval period. Ewell is mentioned as a manor in Domesday Book. The exact location of settlement within the manor is uncertain, although it is likely that the historic village centre, located immediately to the south of the area of proposed development, grew up on, or in the vicinity of, the centre of early medieval settlement in the manor.
- 1.3.5 The area of proposed development has a high potential to contain archaeology dated to the later medieval period. The area of proposed development is located on the very edge of the medieval settlement core. It is possible that during this period roadside settlement extended further northwards along High Street, suggesting a potential for tenements along the western side of the area of proposed development, with backyard plots extending back from the street frontage. Backyards have the potential to contained rubbish pits, outbuildings and small-scale industrial activity.
- 1.3.6 The area of proposed development has a high potential to contain archaeology dated to the post-medieval period. As with the later medieval period, there is a potential for roadside settlement along the road in the western part of the site. The backyards of these properties may have extended a considerable way into the centre of the proposed development site, and may have contained rubbish pits, garden features, outbuildings or small-scale industrial activity.

## 2 EVALUATION AIMS

### 2.1 General

- 2.1.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.
- 2.1.2 To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present
- 2.1.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- 2.1.4 To make available the results of the investigation.

## 3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Scope of fieldwork

- 3.1.1 Phase I of the evaluation consisted of the excavation of three 1.8 m wide trenches, two measuring 30 m in length and one of 15 m (Fig 2).
- 3.1.2 Two additional trenches will be required in Area B once demolition within this part of the site is completed. An addendum to this report will be produced once the fieldwork for Phase II is complete.

### 3.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 3.2.1 The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.
- 3.2.2 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples.
- 3.2.3 All trenches were planned at 1:50 and their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All sections were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OA Fieldwork Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

### 3.3 Finds

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

## 4 RESULTS: GENERAL

### 4.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 4.1.1 Phase I evaluated the northern and eastern area of the site, which is currently utilised as a car park. The area falls from east to west by an estimated 1 to 1.5 m.
- 4.1.2 Soils consisted predominantly of sandy loams and were well drained.



## 4.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

- 4.2.1 The trenches were excavated to the top of the natural geology, which varied in depth between 0.40 m and 0.60 m below current ground level. All three trenches contained archaeological features.

## 5 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

### 5.1 Description of deposits

#### *Trench 1 (Figs. 3 & 6)*

- 5.1.1 Natural Thanet Sand (103) was exposed at a depth of 0.42 m below the surface of the current car park and was directly overlain by a 0.2 m thick layer of buried garden soil (102). A layer of made ground (101) for the 0.1 m thick tarmac surface of the car park (100) had been deposited directly over the garden soil and was approximately 0.2 m thick.
- 5.1.2 A number of features were cut into the natural geology, the majority of which were modern intrusions (112, 108, 109). Among these was a horse burial (115) within a sub-rectangular cut (113). A sherd of post-medieval redware was recovered from the grave backfill (114) showing that this burial was relatively recent and possibly associated with the coach house known to have been located to the south-west of the site (see above 1.3.19 and 1.3.20). A modern service trench was also recorded in the south-west corner of the Trench.
- 5.1.3 Two other undated features were also observed. A circular pit cut (104) approximately 0.8 m in diameter and 0.52 m deep was recorded in the south eastern end of the trench. This contained two deposits comprising a primary fill of soft pale grey, fine silty sand (106), and a grey- brown sandy loam upper fill, 105. Fill 106 contained occasional burnt flints and a single small piece of undiagnostic CBM.
- 5.1.4 A second circular feature (110) was recorded to the west of the centre of the trench, and was filled with a dark brown, loose silty sand (111). A fragment of cement was recovered from the top of the fill, and while this may have been intrusive, no other dating was recovered and it seems likely that this feature is relatively recent in origin.

#### *Trench 2 (Figs. 4 & 7)*

- 5.1.5 Thanet Sand (203) was exposed at a depth of 0.60 m below ground level. The overlying stratigraphic sequence was similar to that observed within Trench 1, and consisted of a 0.3 m layer of buried garden soil overlain by a 0.15 m thick make-up deposit beneath the present car park surface.
- 5.1.6 The southern half of the trench contained an 11 m wide 19th-20th century feature (205) which was backfilled with a mixed and banded deposit consisting primarily of silty clay loam (206), containing much 19th-20th century brick and tile. A sondage was excavated to a depth of 1.2 m below the car park surface but failed to establish the depth of the feature. The extent and shape of this feature were not established

given the confines of the trench and consequentially, characterisation was problematic. Suggestions as to the function of this feature are discussed below.

- 5.1.7 A shallow, roughly ovate pit (220) measuring 0.33 m x 0.58 m and 0.1 m in depth was recorded in the northern end of the trench. A sherd of post-medieval redware pottery was recovered from the dark brown sandy silt (221) deposit which was the single remaining fill of this feature.
- 5.1.8 Five potentially linear features were recorded in plan, three of which were aligned north-south and two east-west. Two of these features were too ephemeral to allow excavation and survived only as soil marks in the top of the natural sand. The remaining two north-south aligned features were recorded in plan and section (213 and 215) and both measured approximately 0.3 m wide by just 0.05 m deep. Both were filled by a compact dark brown clayey sand (214 and 216 respectively).
- 5.1.9 The most well-defined of these potentially linear features was on an east-west alignment and appeared to be a gully terminus (217). This measured at least 1.5 m in length by 0.75 m in width and 0.18 m in depth with sides sloping at approximately 45° to a concave base. The fill comprised a dark brown clayey sand (218) similar in composition to the fills of 213 and 215. A single sherd of Roman grey ware pottery was recovered from the top of 218.
- 5.1.10 Both 213 and 215 appeared to truncate a small circular pit (210), 0.8 m in diameter and 0.4 m in depth, with near vertical sides sloping to a flat base. The pit contained three distinct deposits. A primary fill of mixed dark brown and orange brown sands with 1% flint inclusions (211) was overlain by a loosely compacted dark brown silty sand with 2% chalk flecks (212). Within deposit 212 was a lens of mixed brown and orange brown sands (219), similar in composition to the primary fill (211). Both 211 and 212 produced sherds of 4th century pottery and a quantity of animal bone, fill 212 also contained worked flint.
- 5.1.11 A second pit (207) was partially exposed in the north-western corner of the trench. This circular feature measured approximately 1 m in diameter with vertical sides. Excavation was only possible to a depth of 0.8 m from the base of the trench, and consequently the depth of the feature was not established. However, the fills which were excavated were similar in composition to those filling 210 to the south (a mixed orange / brown sand (208) overlain by a dark brown silty clay sand (209)) and also produced 3rd-4th century pottery including samian and grey ware.

### ***Trench 3 (Fig. 5 & 8)***

- 5.1.12 Thanet Sand was exposed at an average depth of 0.4 m below current ground level. As with Trenches 1 and 2, the overlying stratigraphy comprised a c 0.28 m thick layer of buried garden soil (302) overlain by c 0.15 m of made ground (301) for the present tarmac car park surface (300).
- 5.1.13 A modern pit (309) was recorded but not excavated as post-medieval Pearlware pottery and 20th-century brick were clearly visible in the top of the upper fill.

- 5.1.14 A roughly south-east north-west aligned ditch (314) was observed in the south-western end of the Trench. This was at least 2.5 m wide and 0.42 m deep with sides sloping at 30° to a concave base. The single fill (315) consisted of a loose, grey-brown silty loam with sand mottling. No dating evidence was recovered from this fill although the composition of 315 was similar to the buried garden soil (302), perhaps suggesting that the feature is relatively recent.
- 5.1.15 Ditch 315 truncated a vertically sided, flat bottomed pit (316) measuring 0.7 m in diameter. Only the lower 0.2 m of the cut survived the truncation by 315 and this was filled by a sterile orange sand with brown silty loam mottling (317). No finds were recovered.
- 5.1.16 An undated pit (304) was recorded towards the north-eastern end of the trench. This was square in plan with vertical sides and a flat base and measured 0.5 m across and 0.24 m deep. The fills comprised a soft orange brown silty sand (306) overlain by a friable brown silt loam (305).
- 5.1.17 To the south-west of 304 was a probable north-west / south-east aligned ditch terminus (307). This was approximately 1 m wide and at least 1.5 m long and had fairly steep sides sloping 0.28 m to a flattish base, although the profile was somewhat irregular. Its fill (308) consisted of a soft darkish brown silty loam, which produced a sherd of 3rd-4th-century pottery.
- 5.1.18 Approximately 2 m to the south-west of 307, and roughly on the same alignment was a 1.1 m wide, 0.54 m deep ditch (320). The primary fill (321) comprised re-deposited natural sands with c 5% flint inclusions that presumably originated from the erosion of the sides of the ditch. This was overlain by light brown silty sand (322), containing worked flint including cores, flakes and blades and a single sherd of early Iron Age pottery.
- 5.1.19 Ditch 320 was truncated by an ovate pit (318) with sides sloping at 75° to a V-shaped base. This was filled by a loose, dark-brown silty sand which contained worked flint but also produced six sherds of middle- to- late Iron Age pottery.
- 5.1.20 Two further pits towards the south-west end of the trench produced Roman pottery. Pit 312 measured 1.1 m in diameter and 0.3 m in depth and was filled by a mid-dark brown silty sand with 5% flint inclusions (313). This cut truncated a second pit (310) which measured 1.25 m by 1 m and was 0.2 m deep. It was filled by a loose orange brown sand with 2% flint inclusions. A fragment of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered which may have been part of a pila.

## 6 FINDS

### 6.1 The flint

- 6.1.1 A total of 105 struck flints were recovered from seven evaluation contexts (table 1). The majority of flints (78 pieces or 74.3%) were retrieved from context 322. A further 17 fragments (426 g) of burnt unworked flint were produced by contexts 106, 209, 319 and 322 (table 2). The largest quantity of burnt material, by piece and by weight, was recovered from context 106.

Table 1: Struck flint by type and by context

Category:	Context:							Total:
	106	209	212	313	319	321	322	
Flake	1	1	1	2	6	9	55	75
Blade						1	2	3
Core face/edge rejuvenation flake	1							1
Irregular waste	1	1			2		8	12
Chip							6	6
Single platform flake core					1		1	2
Multi-platform flake core							2	2
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core							1	1
Retouched flake							1	1
Thumbnail scraper							1	1
Notch							1	1
Total:	3	2	1	2	9	10	78	105

Table 2: Quantity of burnt unworked flint by context.

Context:	106	209	319	322	Total:
Number of pieces:	11	2	1	3	17
Weight (g):	326	4	8	88	426

## Methodology

6.1.2 All the struck flints within the assemblage were individually examined and catalogued according to broad artefact/debitage type. Technological information was recorded throughout the analysis, particularly where such data contributed to the dating and characterisation of the assemblage. Further observations with regard to the condition, degree of cortication, and type of raw material were commented on where appropriate. Cores and core fragments were classified according to the type of removal and number of platforms, and were individually weighed. Burnt flint was described and quantified by piece and by weight. Additional information, such as the degree of calcination, was recorded where relevant. The data was entered directly on to an MS Access database.

## Condition

6.1.3 With a very small number of exceptions, the material from the site is in extremely good condition. The degree of post-depositional edge damage is negligible, implying that the flintwork has not been significantly disturbed since deposition. A total of 78 pieces (74.3% of the struck component) were recorded as fresh, and a further 20 pieces (19%) as minimally damaged; a moderate or heavy degree of damage was noted on five flints recovered from contexts 209, 319 and 322. Two flints (contexts 212 and 321) are in a heavily worn state, suggesting that they have been repeatedly redeposited.

6.1.4 The majority of flints from the site are uncorticated. This component is represented by 95 pieces (90.5%). The remaining flints possess a cortication that varies in extent, consisting either of an incipient speckling (8 pieces) or of a dense white

discolouration of the surface (2 pieces). Although all three flints from context 106 are corticated, in general there is no spatial patterning of cortication.

### *Raw material*

- 6.1.5 For the most part, the raw material employed both for the production of tools and debitage and for burning appears to have been a gravel-derived flint. The nodules are characterised by a stained, abraded cortex and the occasional presence of thermal fractures. The interior of the flint is fine-grained and homogeneous in composition, with few inclusions; the colour varies through light browns and greys.
- 6.1.6 A small proportion of the raw material base seems have been supplied by other flint sources. One flake (context 321) almost certainly derives from a chalk flint source; another from context 322 possesses a thick but slightly stained and abraded cortex, suggesting the exploitation of superficial chalk flint deposits. The use of bullhead flint, which occurs at the base of the Reading Beds (Dewey and Bromhead, 1915; Shepherd 1972, 114), is represented by five pieces. These were all recovered from evaluation context 322. Context 106 produced a single piece of burnt unworked flint (95 g) that may also represent the use of bullhead flint.

### *Technology and dating*

- 6.1.7 The majority of the struck assemblage (88 pieces) was recovered from two deposits within ditch cut 320 (contexts 321 and 322). The remaining flints (17 pieces) are much more thinly spread across the site, and generally occur as residual finds within later features. Given this distinction, the assemblage will be discussed in two parts.

### *The assemblage from ditch 320*

- 6.1.8 A total of 88 flints in a fresh, uncorticated condition were recovered from contexts 321 and 322 (table 3). The upper fill (context 322) produced the largest quantity of flintwork, a total of 78 pieces. The flintwork forms a technologically coherent assemblage of probable earlier Bronze Age date; the presence of a thumbnail scraper supports this attribution.

*Table 3 The assemblage from ditch 320*

	Ditch 320		
Category:	321	322	Total
Flake	9	55	64
Blade	1	2	3
Irregular waste		8	8
Chip		6	6
Single platform flake core		1	1
Multi-platform flake core		2	2
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core		1	1
Retouched flake		1	1
Thumbnail scraper		1	1
Notch		1	1
Total:	10	78	88
Number of burnt flints:	1	9	10
Number of broken flints:	5	23	28

- 6.1.9 The assemblage is largely composed of unretouched flakes (64 pieces); only three blades were recovered. The distinctly flake-based character of the assemblage implies a later Prehistoric date for the material (Pitts and Jacobi 1979; Ford 1987). Most are broad, squat, regularly-shaped removals. Where it can be determined, hard-hammer percussion dominates; very little evidence of platform preparation is present. Three flake cores and a flake core fragment were also recovered, providing an average complete weight of 70.7 g.
- 6.1.10 The retouched component is unusually restricted to three pieces (3.7% excluding chips). The thumbnail scraper (context 322) has been minimally retouched on a disc-like cortical blank of bullhead flint. The retouch, which is confined to the distal edge, is shallow, irregular and slightly invasive. The scraper can be dated to the early Bronze Age. Although less chronologically distinctive, the retouched flake may be of a similar date. This piece consists of a small, regularly-shaped tertiary flake with a limited area of inverse edge retouch to the proximal left-hand side.
- 6.1.11 The same context produced a narrow, parallel-sided blade with a neat proximal notch retouched to the left-hand side, perhaps representing an unfinished attempt at microlith manufacture using the microburin technique (Inizan et al. 1992, 69). A broad Mesolithic date would be appropriate for this piece and as such, it probably forms a residual element within the deposit.
- 6.1.12 Despite a low incidence of retouch, the assemblage contains a particularly high number of utilised pieces. A total of 15 flints exhibit macroscopically detectable use-wear, a figure that would undoubtedly increase given microscopic analysis. The observed degree of burning and breakage within the assemblage also implies that the assemblage was deposited following general domestic activity.
- 6.1.13 Several flakes of a related flint type were noted, which suggests that elements of the same reduction sequence were deposited together. When this observation is considered alongside the low incidence of retouch and high incidence of utilisation, it may be conjectured that the assemblage represents expedient flake production designed to supply the tools needed for immediately anticipated tasks; the fresh condition of the flintwork suggests that it was deposited in the ditch soon after these tasks were completed.

#### *The remaining assemblage*

- 6.1.14 The remaining 17 flints recovered from the site are in much more variable condition. Unretouched flakes predominate; most are chronologically undiagnostic. A single platform edge rejuvenation flake (context 106) was also identified.
- 6.1.15 A large, frost-shattered flake core (263 g) was recovered from context 319. A series of flake removals have been taken around the edge of a single, thermally fractured platform; no platform edge abrasion was noted. A later Neolithic or Bronze Age date would be appropriate for this piece.

### Recommendations

- 6.1.16 The assemblage of flintwork from ditch 320 provides an opportunity for further analysis. A technological analysis would permit a more detailed characterisation of the reduction strategy whilst enabling the dating of the material to be confirmed and hopefully refined. The study would involve recording numerous technological attributes, including butt-type, termination type, probable hammer-mode, the extent and position of dorsal cortex, and the presence or absence of platform edge abrasion and dorsal blade scars. Given the presence of related flint types, it is also recommended that further refitting work is conducted in order to contribute to the discussion of the reduction strategy and, more generally, depositional practices.

## 6.2 Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Table 4 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments (sherds in brackets)	Date
209	3	12	New Forest colour-coated ware (1), greyware (1), céramique à l'éponge (1)	Mid 3rd-Late 4th century
211	3	21	Late Roman shell tempered ware (1), greyware bead-rimmed jar rim sherd (1), unidentified (1)	4th century
212	5	14	Late Roman shell-tempered ware (2), greyware (2), oxidised ware (1)	4th century
218	1	1	Greyware (1)	Roman
308	1	5	Greyware hooked-rimmed jar (1)	3rd-4th century
311	3	2	Late Roman shell-tempered ware (3)	4th century
313	1	9	East Gaulish samian ware f31/31R dish (1)	Late 2nd - Mid 3rd century
319	6	67	Flint-tempered ware (1), sand tempered ware (5)	?M/LIA
322	1	9	Flint-tempered flat-topped rim (1)	?EIA
TOTAL	24	140	-	-

- 6.2.1 A total of 24 sherds of pottery were recovered from the site. Context 322 yielded the earliest-dated pottery. The handmade form and fabric is typical of the early Iron Age. A similar sherd was found in 319, but was with later sand-tempered ware and is probably residual. The remaining pottery in this context is likely to belong to the middle/late Iron Age. Most of the pottery, however, dated to the late Roman period. The samian ware arrived from East Gaul during the late 2nd century or first half of the 3rd. Marbled ware, or céramique à l'éponge, also arrived from Gaul, but from the west coast. The fabric is current from the early 3rd century, but, in association with New Forest colour-coated ware, dates to the late 3rd or 4th century here. The greyware retrieved from the site is consistent with a late Roman date. All the sherds are small and abraded and may well have been redeposited; consequently some or all sherds may be residual.

### 6.3 Post-medieval pottery

6.3.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 3 sherds with a total weight of 109 g. All of the sherds were post-medieval. The fabric was recorded using the Museum of London Archaeological Service pottery fabric codes and chronologies, as follows:

- PMR: Post-medieval redware, 1580-1900. 2 sherds, 100 g.
- PEAR: Pearlware, 1770-1850. 1 sherd, 9 g.

6.3.2 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in the table below. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

Table 5 Post medieval pottery

Context	PMR		PRL		Date
	No	Wt (g.)	No	Wt (g.)	
114	1	88			L 16th C?
221	1	12			L 16th C?
309			1	9	L 16th C?
Total	2	100	1	9	

### 6.4 Assessment of environmental indicators

#### Methods

6.4.1 One soil sample, <1> (106), deriving from the fill of an undated pit, was submitted for the assessment of environmental indicators. 25 litres of sediment was processed by flotation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh. After air-drying the flots were scanned for material under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification. The residue from the flotation was retained to 500µm, air-dried and scanned for bones and artefacts

#### Results

6.4.2 *Modern intrusive material* - The flot was of moderate size measuring 45ml. Modern intrusive material in the form of small quantities of modern roots and seeds as well as occasional fragments of coal were present.

6.4.3 *Charred plant remains* - Charred plant material was abundant and well preserved in the form of frequent wood charcoal, the majority of which measured >2 mm. the flot was rich in charred cereal grain consisting largely of *Hordeum* (Barley) but also with some *Triticum spp.* (wheat), and possibly occasional *Avena spp.* (oats) A fragment of a legume was also noted along with a single fragment of charred hazelnut.

6.4.4 *Residues* - No artefacts were retrieved from the residues apart from a small quantity of burnt flint. The residues did however to contain significant quantities of slag/possible hammerscale in the fine fractions (<2 mm) which have been retained.



## *Conclusions*

- 6.4.5 Charred plant remains were well preserved in the single sample assessed from the site. These consisted of well preserved wood charcoal, but also cereal grain. No cereal chaff was identified and the character of the assemblage suggests this is the remains of domestic activity rather than crop processing. The presence of slag in the residues suggests this feature is likely to be of Iron Age date or later and it is noteworthy that 100 m to the north of the site archaeological excavations (OA 2002, Site 82) also identified features, dated to the Roman period, containing slag suggesting that smithying was taking place nearby.

## *Recommendations*

- 6.4.6 The flot examined has clear potential for work involving further identification and quantification of the charred remains, as well as examination of the metalworking debris by the relevant specialists. In general the assessment has illustrated that charred plant remains have the potential to be well preserved on-site. Any future excavations undertaken on the site should include an appropriate strategy for sampling in accordance with current best practice.

## **7 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **7.1 Reliability of field investigation**

- 7.1.1 It is clear from the condition of the surviving archaeological features that some truncation has occurred across the site. However, the origin of this truncation is not clear. The historic map analysis carried out for the DBA suggested that the site has been open land since at least 1802, with the construction of various temporary structures throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, which would have had little impact on the underlying archaeology (OA 2002). The DBA also notes that two of the 19th-century maps (1869 and 1895) show features possibly associated with landscaped areas in or around the site, and it is possible that 18th/19th century landscaping is the source of the truncation observed during the evaluation.

### **7.2 Overall interpretation**

#### *Summary of results*

- 7.2.1 The deposits overlying the Thanet Sand were relatively uniform throughout the trenches, with the tarmac surface and associated layer of made ground directly overlying the former 'cultivation' horizon, which reflects the undeveloped nature of the site prior to the construction of the car park.
- 7.2.2 The majority of the features recorded in Trench 1 can be attributed to the late 19th / early 20th century, prior to the construction of the car park in 1957. The function of most of these is uncertain with the exception of the horse burial (115) which is almost certainly associated with the late 19th-century coach house known to have been located to the south-west of the site.

- 7.2.3 Interpretation of the two undated features (104 and 110) is problematic given the lack of dating evidence and no further conclusions as to their function can be drawn from the results of the evaluation.
- 7.2.4 The large modern feature recorded in Trench 2 (205) is difficult to interpret given its limited extent within the confines of the Trench. It may be the footprint of a demolished building, although the DBA would suggest that none of the 19th / 20th century buildings would have had significant impact on the underlying deposits.
- 7.2.5 Of the two Roman pits recorded, the function of 210 is uncertain although it is possible it may relate to the south-western entrance to an enclosure (see below). Pit 207 may possibly represent one of the shafts/wells known from previous excavations in the area.
- 7.2.6 The relative alignment of the linear features recorded in Trench 2 may suggest that they are contemporary, with 213/215 and 217 perhaps forming the south-western corner of an enclosure. However, given the insubstantial nature of these features (with the possible exception of 217), this can be no more than a tenuous suggestion.
- 7.2.7 The function of the Roman ditch terminus and associated pits in Trench 3 is uncertain, although it is feasible that they relate to the roadside settlement to the west of Stane Street.
- 7.2.8 The worked flint and small sherd of pottery recovered from the fill of ditch 320 date from the Middle Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, although again the function is unclear.
- 7.2.9 Despite the truncation discussed above, the features recorded during the evaluation were relatively well preserved and provide evidence of significant Roman activity within the site, and possibly of the northern continuation of the roadside settlement identified to the south (although it should be stressed that no structural remains were observed). The survival of prehistoric features (particularly ditch 320) would also suggest a good level of preservation across this area of the site.

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1: TABLE OF CONTEXTS

Trench 1					
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
100	Layer	Tarmac	0.1		
101	Layer	Make-up	0.2		
102	Layer	Cultivation level	0.25		
103	Layer	Natural			
104	Cut	Cultivation level	0.52		
105	Fill	Upper pit fill	0.25		
106	Fill	Primary pit fill	0.52	Burnt flint	
107	Layer	Natural			
108	Cut	Modern intrusion			Modern
109	Cut	Modern intrusion	0.25	Brick, glass	Modern
110	Cut	Modern intrusion	0.04	concrete	Modern
111	Fill	Pit fill	0.23	cement, bone	Modern
112	Cut	Modern intrusion		Brick, glass	Modern
113	Cut	Horse burial	0.48+		Post-med
114	Fill	Fill of 113	0.48+		Post-med
115	Skeleton	Horse skeleton			Post-med

Trench 2					
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
200	Surface	Tarmac	0.1		
201	Layer	Made ground	0.15		
202	Layer	Cultivation horizon	0.25		
203	Layer	Natural			
204	Layer	Natural			
205	Cut	Pit or robbed out building?	1.2+		Modern
206	Fill	Fill of 205	0.75+	Brick, tile	Modern
207	Cut	Pit	0.8		Roman
208	Fill	Primary fill of 207			
209	Fill	Secondary fill of 207	0.75+	Pot, bone, flint	Roman
210	Cut	Pit	0.4		Roman
211	Fill	Primary fill of 211	0.3	Pot, bone	Roman
212	Fill	Secondary fill of 212	0.4	Pot, bone, flint	Roman
213	Cut	Gully?	0.06		
214	Fill	Fill of 213	0.06		
215	Cut	Gully?	0.07		
216	Fill	Fill of 215	0.07		
217	Cut	Linear feature	0.14		Roman
218	Fill	Fill of 217	0.14	Pot, CBM	Roman
219	Fill	Fill of 210	0.24		
220	Cut	Pit ?	0.1		Post-med
221	Fill	Fill of 220	0.1	Pot	Post-med

Trench 3					
Context	Type	Description	Depth (m)	Finds	Date
300	Surface	Tarmac	0.8		Modern
301	Layer	Made ground	0.05		Modern
302	Layer	Cultivation horizon	0.26		
303	Layer	Natural			
304	Cut	Pit	0.24		
305	Fill	Fill of 304	0.2		
306	Fill	Primary fill of 304	0.2		
307	Cut	Ditch	0.52		Roman
308	Fill	Fill of 307	0.52	Pot	Roman
309	Group	Modern disturbance			
310	Cut	Pit	0.18	Pot, flint	Roman
311	Fill	Fill of 310	0.14	Pot, CBM	Roman
312	Cut	Pit	0.3		Roman
313	Fill	Fill of 312	0.3	Pot, bone, flint	Roman
314	Cut	Ditch	0.55		
315	Fill	Fill of 314	0.55		
316	Cut	Pit	0.27		
317	Fill	Fill of 316	0.27		
318	Cut	Pit?	0.26		Roman
319	Fill	Fill of 318	0.26	Pot, flint	Roman
320	Cut	Ditch	0.54		Prehistoric?
321	Fill	Fill of 320	0.31	Flint	Prehistoric?
322	Fill	Fill of 320	0.23	Pot, flint, burnt stone	Prehistoric?

## APPENDIX 2: BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

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### APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site name:** Glyn House, Ewell, Surrey

**Site code:** GH0 03

**Grid reference:** TQ 220 627

**Type of evaluation:** Two 30 m trenches and one 15 m trench

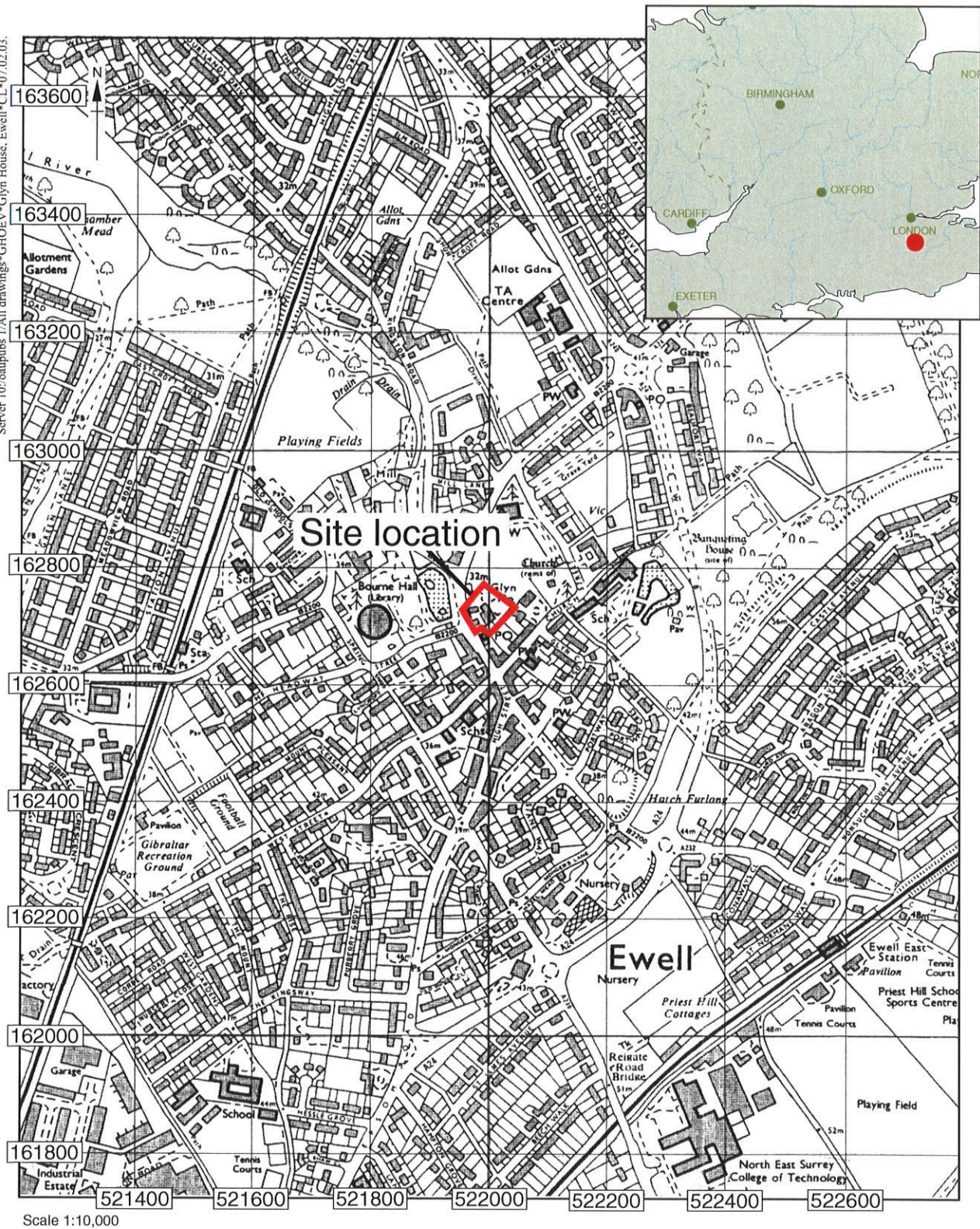
**Date and duration of project:** 27th – 30th January 2003

**Area of site:** 0.6 ha (Max)

**Summary of results:** Two possible prehistoric ditches, Three Roman period pits and one possible Roman well; one post-medieval horse burial, one undated pit, Extensive modern disturbance to north of site.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Bourne Hall Museum in due course.





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Figure 1: Site location





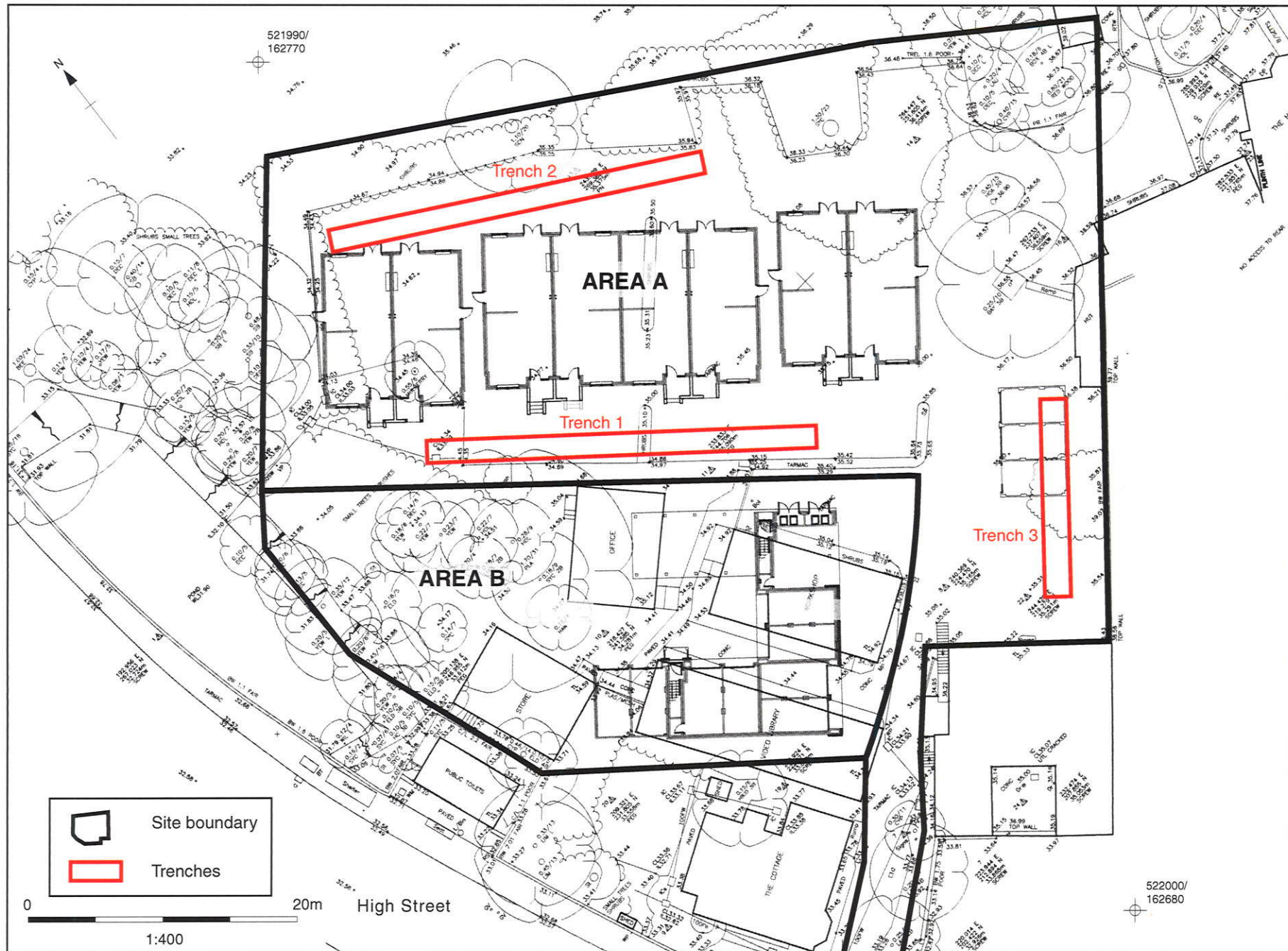


Figure 2: Trench location plan





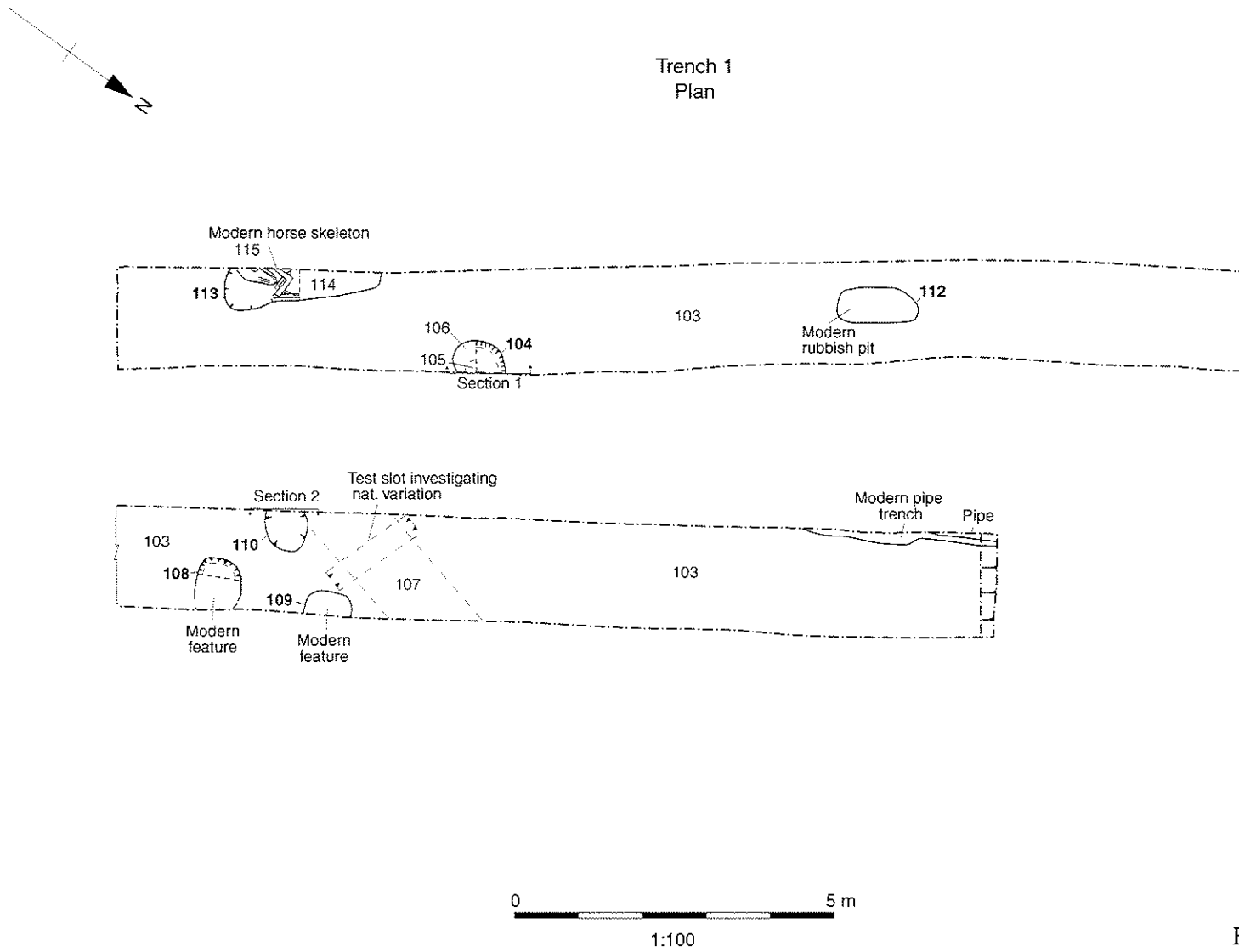


Figure 3: Trench 1 plan



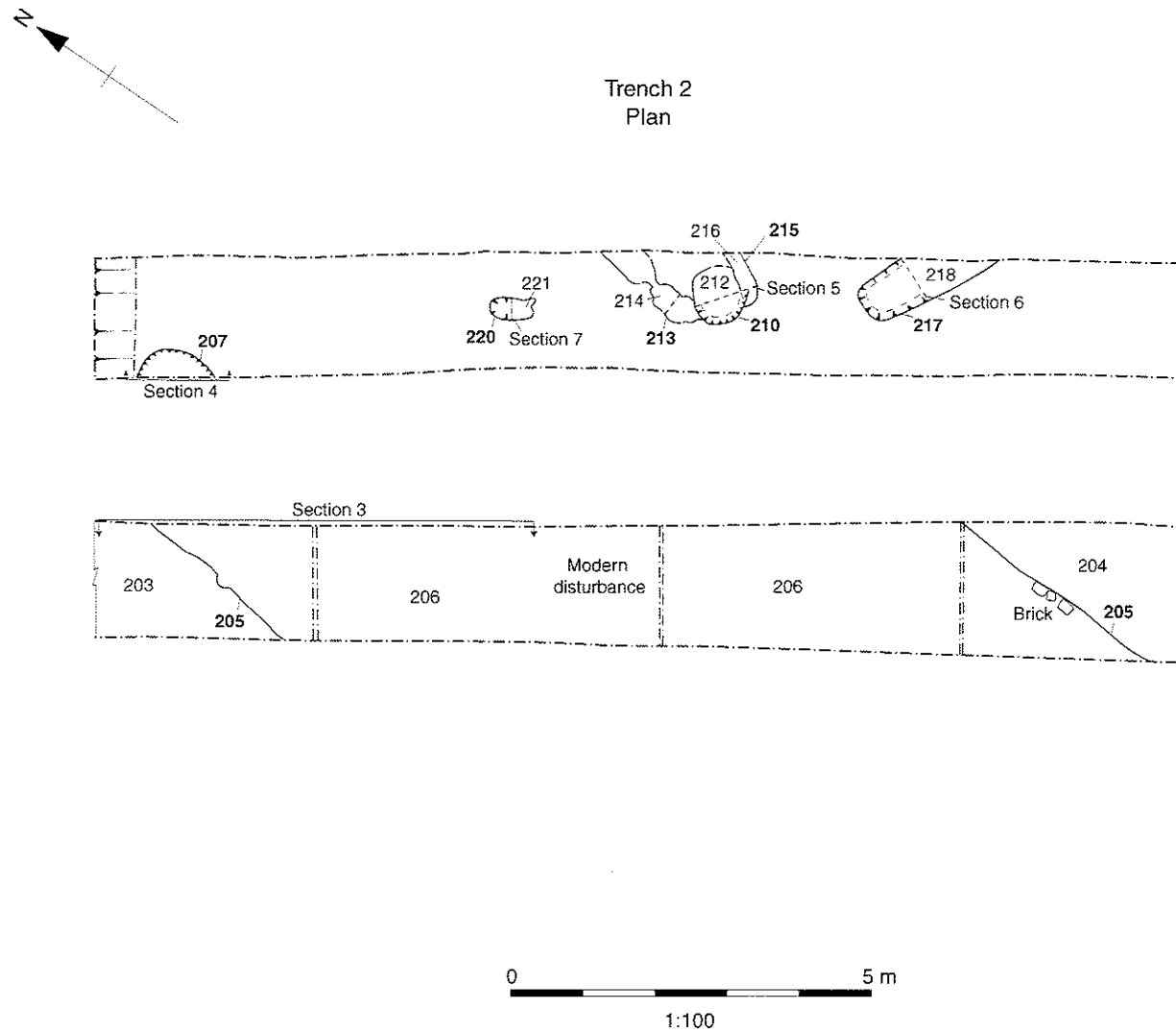


Figure 4: Trench 2 plan



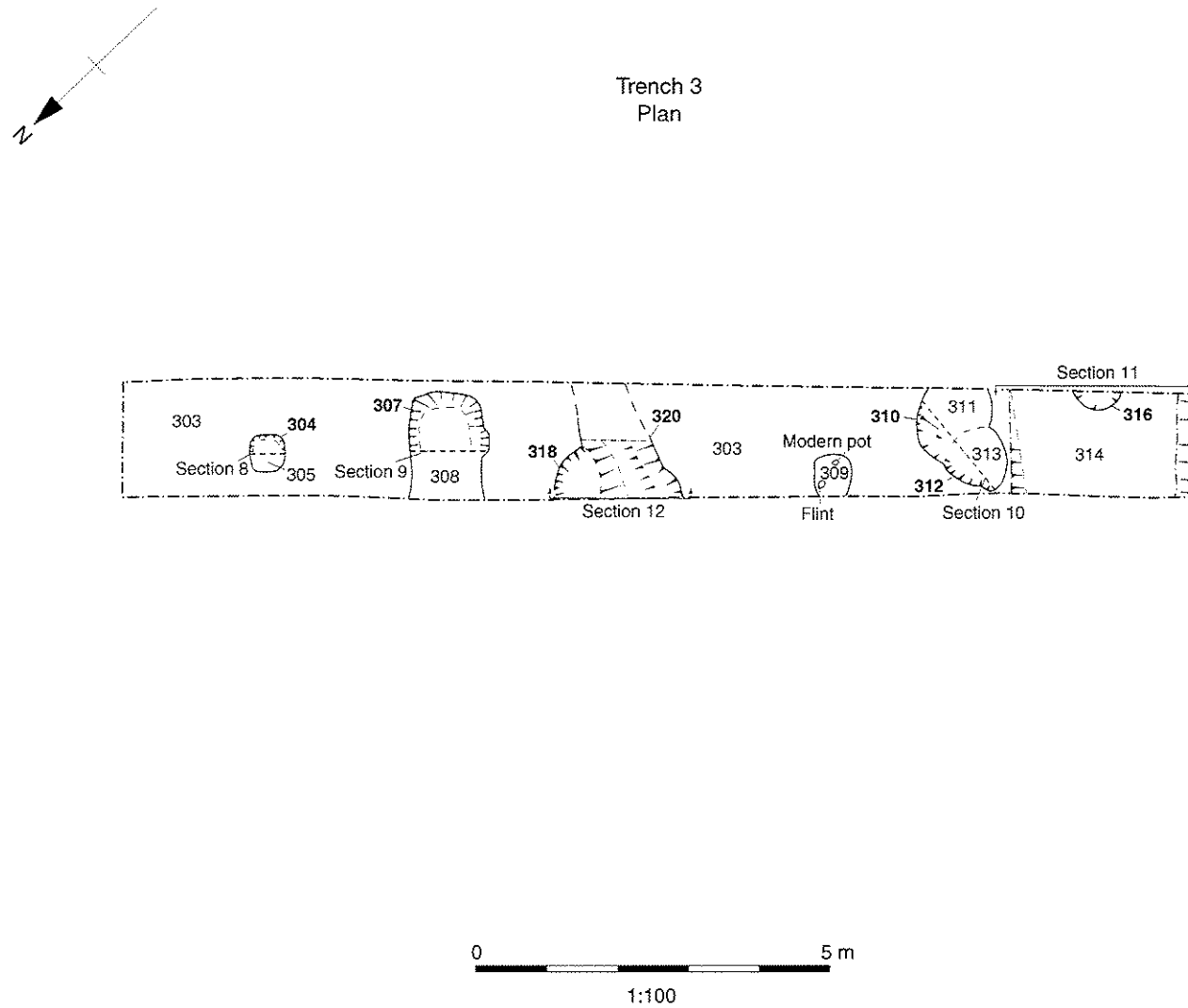
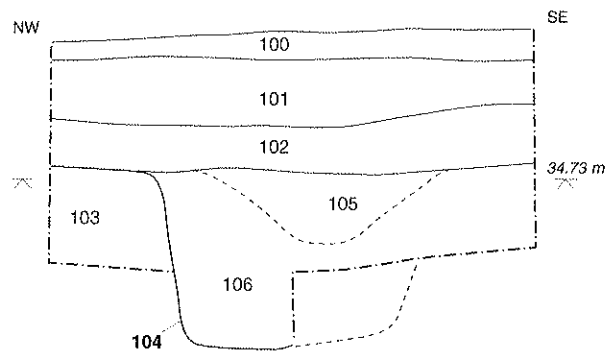


Figure 5: Trench 3 plan



### Section 1



### Section 2

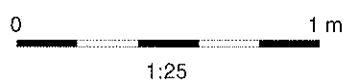
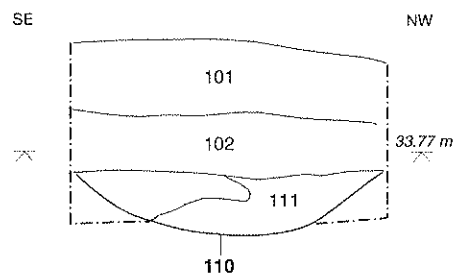


Figure 6: Trench 1, sections 1 and 2





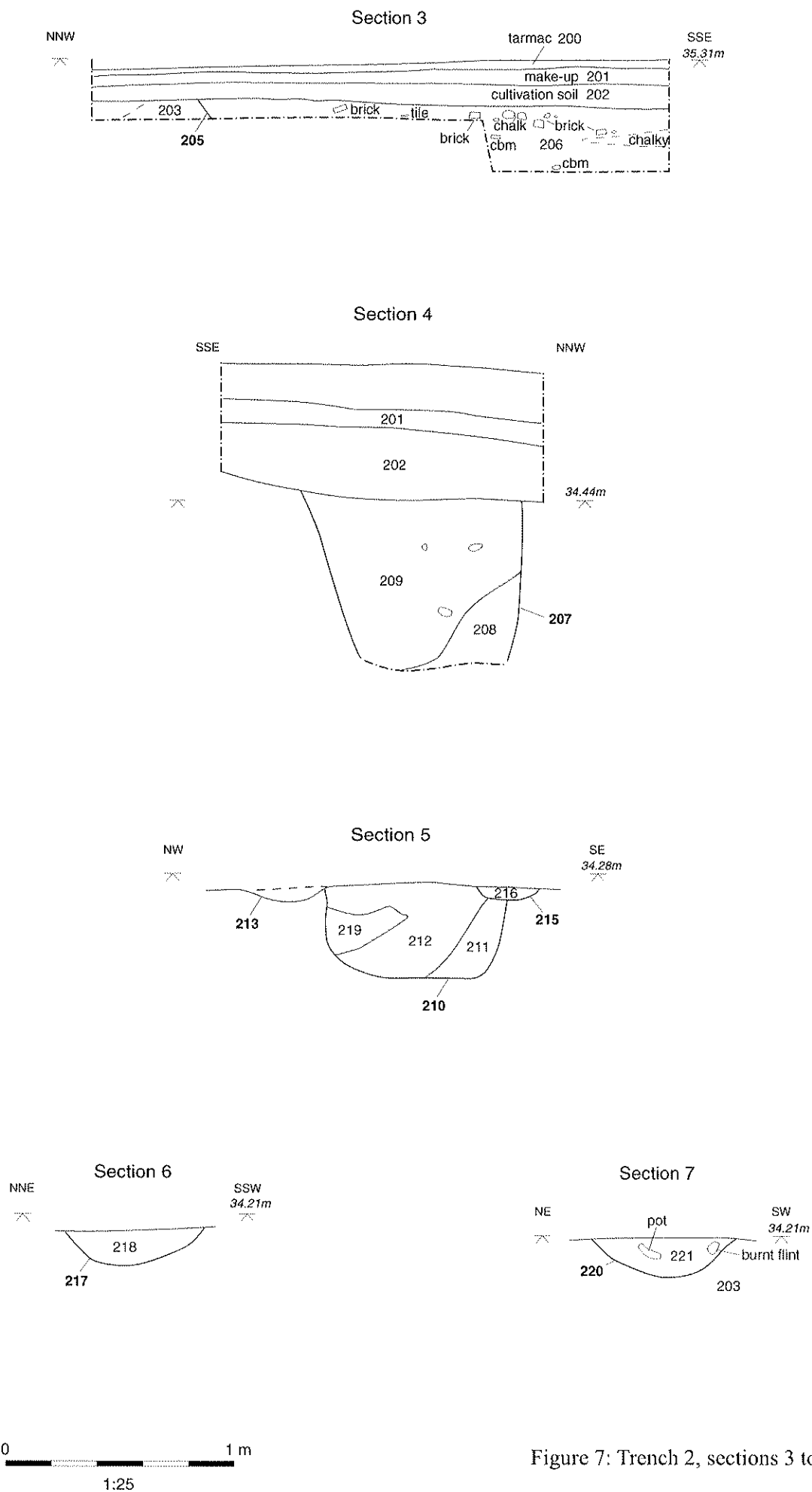


Figure 7: Trench 2, sections 3 to 7



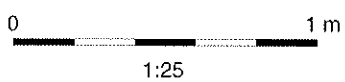
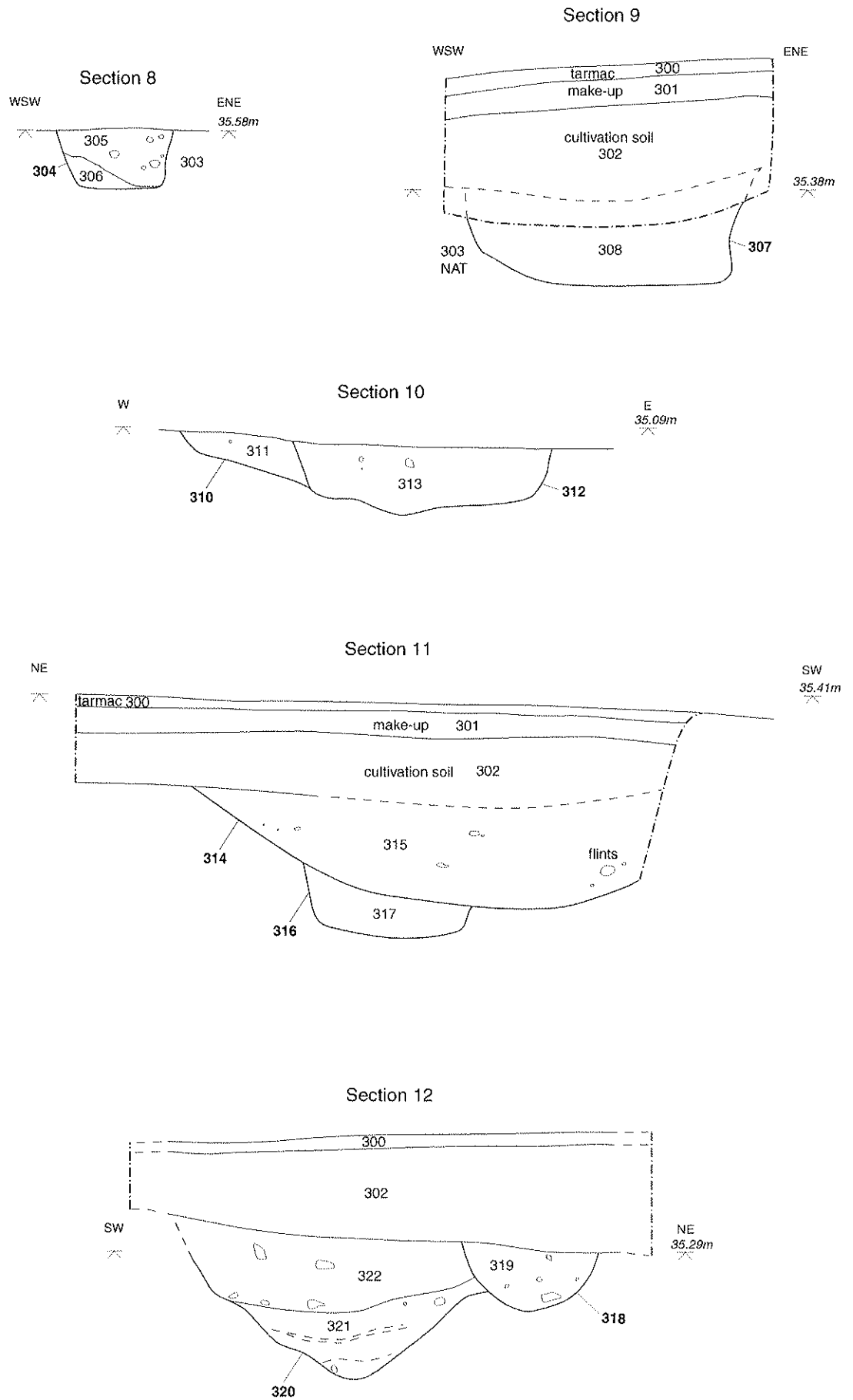


Figure 8: Trench 3, sections 8 to 12





### **Oxford Archaeology**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800  
f: (0044) 01865 793496  
e: [info@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordarch.co.uk)  
w: [www.oxfordarch.co.uk](http://www.oxfordarch.co.uk)



### **Oxford Archaeology North**

Storey Institute  
Meeting House Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 541000  
f: (0044) 01524 848606  
e: [lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk)  
w: [www.oxfordarch.co.uk](http://www.oxfordarch.co.uk)



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

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