M20 Junction 10a, Ashford, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation Report

September 2017

Client: Highways England

Issue No: 2.0
OA Reference No: 6797
NGR: TR 04060 41328

oxfordarchaeology
southsouthsouth

Client Name:	Highways England
Document Title:	M20 Junction 10a, Ashford, Kent
Document Type:	Evaluation Report
Report No.:	6797
Grid Reference:	TR 04060 41328
Planning Reference:	N/A
Site Code:	WIM2017
Invoice Code:	WIM20EV
Receiving Body:	Not available
Accession No.:	Not available
OA Document File Location:	X:\m\M20_J10A_EVAL\002Reports
OA Graphics File Location:	\\10.0.10.86\invoice codes r thru z\W_codes\WIM20EV
Issue No:	v2.0
Date:	28/09/2017
Prepared by:	Lauren McIntyre (Project Officer)
Checked by:	Stuart Foreman (Project Manager)
Edited by:	Leo Webley (Head of Post-excavation)
Approved for Issue by:	Dave Score (Head of Fieldwork)
Signature:	

OA South
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SG

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North
Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com
Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627

M20 Junction 10a, Ashford, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by Lauren McIntyre and Ben McAndrew

With contributions from Edward Biddulph, Lee G. Broderick, Sharon Cook, John Cotter, Michael Donnelly, Julia Meen, Ian R. Scott and Ruth Shaffrey, and illustrations by Aidan Farnan, Gary Jones and Markus Dylewski

Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

Summary

Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Highways England to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the site of the M20 Junction 10a improvements, Ashford, Kent. The evaluation comprised 69 trenches, which were located to investigate anomalies identified during a preceding geophysical survey.

A modest number of archaeological features were identified during survey and evaluation trenching, including 36 linear features such as ditches that may be indicative of the past field systems. Seven possible cremation burials were uncovered in Area 4. Two possible palaeochannels were present, as well as one pond. Post-medieval and modern features were concentrated in Area 1: three post-medieval field boundaries were identified which correlated with boundaries on the first edition Ordnance Survey map.

Limited quantities of artefacts were recovered during the evaluation, which has made the dating of most features highly uncertain. A small number of features produced broadly datable artefacts. Dateable features were mostly medieval, but also contained residual prehistoric artefacts. A palaeochannel in Area 2 contained medieval pottery. Residual flint found in several features spread across the site most likely relates to an area of prehistoric tool production and use.

The geophysical survey, trial trenching, archaeological walkover survey and evaluation trenching provide a robust assessment of the site's archaeological potential. However, the scarcity of artefacts and other evidence limits what can be said regarding the significance of the remains.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Vinci Joint Venture and Highways England for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Christina Reade (Jacobs, Archaeological Consultant) and Wendy Rogers (KCC Heritage Conservation) who monitored the work, for their advice and guidance. Thanks are also extended to staff of the Vinci Joint Venture for much practical assistance with the site works.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Stuart Foreman. The fieldwork was directed by Tom Black and Jim Harriss, who were supported by Lee Sparks, Adam Rapiejko, Ben Slader, Emma Powell and Tom Bruce. Survey and digitising was carried out by Aidan Farnan, Gary Jones and Markus Dylewski. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Leigh Allen, processed the environmental remains under the management of Rebecca Nicholson, and prepared the archive under the management of Nicola Scott.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Vinci Joint Venture, on behalf of Highways England, to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land adjacent to Junction 10 of the M20, to the south-east of Ashford, Kent. The works are associated with the construction of the M20 Junction 10A Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project Scheme, Kent, and involved the excavation of 69 archaeological trial trenches. The evaluation followed a geophysical survey undertaken over a third of the scheme's area, and previous evaluation trenches along the proposed route of the link road. The purpose was to determine the archaeological potential of the land required for the construction of the M20 Junction 10A Main and Alternative Schemes. The work was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation produced by Mott MacDonald Sweco on behalf of Highways England (Highways England 2017). This document outlines how OA implemented the specified requirements.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 The c. 27 hectare site is centred on NGR TR 04060 41328. It is located partly in Ashford and partly in Sevington parish.

1.2.2 The area of proposed development mostly consists of agricultural fields comprising both pasture and arable land bordered by hedgerows, on the north and south sides of the M20. The site is bounded to the south-west by Bad Munstereifel Road (the A2070) and to the north by Hythe Road (the A20). The topography is sloped with an increase in height from approximately 44m AOD on the north-west side of the site to 57m AOD on the south-east side.

1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped as Hythe Formation, interbedded sandstone and limestone. A small area of Atherfield Clay Formation, mudstone is located within the site where the Hythe Formation has been cut by the Aylesford Stream. Alluvial deposits of clay, sand and gravel are present within the site around Aylesford Stream.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A programme of investigation has been undertaken to the south of the site for the Stour Park Development (Wessex 2012a). A walkover survey, metal detecting survey, and trial trenching of this area identified limited remains, with only a few scattered features being encountered across the development area.

1.3.2 As part of the initial assessment of the M20 Junction 10a proposals, a geophysical survey was undertaken along the provisional route (Stratascan 2010). At the western end of the site (to the north of St Mary's Church and east of the A2070) the survey identified north-south running utility trenches and an area of potential made ground. Pit-like anomalies of uncertain origin were also identified (potential Pleistocene ice wedges). In the central section of the survey (halfway between Highfield Lane and the A2070), a further utility was identified by the survey, but also a potential archaeological pit-like feature. At the eastern end of the survey area (near Highfield

Lane, adjacent to the former nursery) a former quarry pit was identified, along with a possible pit-like feature and a potential ditch.

1.3.3 Two further areas were surveyed on either side of the M20, adjacent to Aylesford Stream (to the north-west). In the south area, potential pit-like features were identified. Further archaeological remains may be present within the survey area, but have been masked by alluvial deposits around Aylesford Stream and by ground disturbance and made ground in the former orchard to the north of St Mary's Church.

1.3.4 In addition to the geophysical survey, the section of the site between the former nursery at Highfield Lane and the A2070 has been subject to an archaeological walkover, metal detecting survey and trial trenching (Wessex 2012b). The walkover survey and metal detecting survey comprised a 12.5% sample of the evaluated area and the archaeological evaluation consisted of the mechanical excavation of nine 30m trenches. One trench was located just to the south of the site boundary. The promoter of the proposed Stour Park development undertook the evaluation. The metal detecting survey only recovered four metal artefacts, all of modern date. The four trenches located to the north of St Mary's Church did not identify any archaeological features. Two trenches were excavated in the central section, of which the westerly trench contained a possible drainage ditch and the easterly trench contained a ditch, two postholes/pits and a tree-throw hole. No artefacts were recovered.

1.3.5 The archaeological and historical background of the site is summarised below.

Palaeolithic to Bronze Age (pre-800 BC)

1.3.6 No evidence relating to early prehistoric periods (Palaeolithic and Mesolithic) is recorded within the proposed development area.

1.3.7 Residual Neolithic/Bronze Age finds were recovered during archaeological investigations of Boys Hall scheduled moat, *c*. 350m south-west of the site.

1.3.8 A Late Bronze Age field system was recorded during archaeological investigations for a balancing pond at Ashford Orbital Park, *c*. 320m south-west of the site.

1.3.9 Middle Bronze Age to late Iron Age agricultural remains were found during investigation at Ashford Business Park, *c*. 345m west of the site.

Iron Age (800 BC-AD 43) and Romano-British (AD 43-410)

1.3.10 Late Iron Age and Roman settlement features and five cremations were uncovered at Ashford Orbital Park, *c*. 320m south-west of the site.

1.3.11 Late Iron Age/Roman ditches and pits were recorded during the construction of the A2070, *c*. 270m south of the site.

1.3.12 A Late Iron Age settlement and field system has been recorded to the east of the A2070, *c*. 300m south of the site.

1.3.13 Iron Age/Roman pit and ditches were recorded at Boys Hall Road, *c.* 400m south-east of the site.

1.3.14 A findspot for an Iron Age lead fitting is recorded within the field to the east of St Mary's Church, to the immediate south of the site.

Early Medieval (AD 410-AD 1066) and Medieval (AD 1066-1539)

1.3.15 Medieval features include the churches of St Mary's, Sevington and St Mary's the Virgin, Willesborough, and their associated villages.

Post-Medieval (AD 1539-1800) and modern (AD 1801-present)

1.3.16 The site appears to have remained within a predominantly rural landscape during both the post-medieval and modern periods, as shown by the 1841 tithe map and 1876 OS first edition map.

2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:

i. To determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and confirm the general nature, complexity and extent of any remains present.
ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
iii. To identify the nature of the ground conditions and identify any areas where archaeological deposits have been truncated or removed.
iv. To identify the depth at which archaeological remains are likely to survive across the proposed development area.
v. To identify uncertain anomalies of possible archaeological interest identified from the geophysical survey, and characterise these (nature, date, complexity and extent).
vi. To identify the extent and date of archaeological remains encountered during the 2012 evaluation, through the excavation of further archaeological trial trenches in their vicinity.
vii. To identify the nature and extent of any previously unknown archaeological deposits within the development area.
viii. To identify any remains that may survive associated with the medieval occupation of Sevington which may be present within the development.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The trenching program comprised a total of 69 trenches, of which 3 trenches measured 10m by 1.8m, 25 trenches measured 30m by 1.8m and 41 trenches measured 50m by 1.8m (Figs 2-6). The excavation and recording of archaeological features was undertaken as outlined in the WSI, which is compliant with CIfA and KCC standards.

2.2.2 Prior to excavation, each trench location was set out by an OA or Vinci JV surveyor using GPS equipment, following the approved trench plan. The trenches were numbered from 1-70 (omitting number 58, which was not used in the WSI trench numbering), with an additional Trench 80.

2.2.3 Plough-disturbed soil horizons were removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m-wide toothless bucket to expose archaeologically significant horizons or the surface of the superficial geology, whichever was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand.

2.2.4 Trench 30 could not be excavated due a reptile habita. Trench 52 was moved 12m to the south to avoid badger disturbance. Furthermore, this trench was only excavated to a length of 48m, as the final 2m would have fallen outside of the site.

2.2.5 Trenches 40 and 57 were extended in order to investigate observed features in more detail. These trench extensions measured 5m x 2m and of 3m x 0.75m respectively. The extension to Trench 40 was recorded as Trench 80.

2.2.6 All features and deposits were issued with unique context numbers relating to the individual trench (e.g. Trench 18, context 1800, 1801 etc.).

2.2.7 Once the trenches had been excavated and recorded, they were backfilled using the mechanical excavator.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented in this section, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches that contained archaeological remains. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits can be found in Appendix A. Finds data are presented in Appendix B. Trenches that did not contain archaeology are not described in this section. Similarly, natural soil sequences such as topsoil, subsoil and geological variations are not described trench by trench unless such information is pertinent to the archaeological features or deposits being described.

3.1.2 Context numbers reflect the trench numbers unless otherwise stated e.g. ditch 103 is a feature within Trench 1, while posthole 1204 is a feature within Trench 12.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The natural geology ranged between silt, clay, sand, limestone and rag stone. Natural geology was overlain by subsoil, which in turn was overlain by topsoil.

3.2.2 Subsoil varied in colour across the site from light to dark grey-brown, orange-brown and yellow-brown. Subsoil predominantly comprised sandy silt on the north and west sides of the site, with pockets of silty clay and clayey silt. Clayey silt subsoil was more common to the south-west. Sandy silt and silty clay were most common on the east side of the site.

3.2.3 Within the lower-lying areas of the site, accumulations of colluvium were also observed. These sequences are described below by trench where applicable.

3.2.4 Ground conditions during the evaluation were variable, with episodes of heavy rain resulting in difficult working conditions during the second and sixth weeks of the project. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in 24 trenches. These are described below and discussed further in Section 4.

3.3.2 A total of 45 trenches were devoid of archaeological features. Descriptions of these are recorded in Appendix B, and will not be further discussed in this section.

3.4 Area 1 (Trenches 1-29: Figure 3)

3.4.1 Seven trenches in Area 1 contained archaeological deposits. Modern made ground, likely associated with construction of the M20, was found in three trenches (7, 11 and 12). Three features in Area 1 corresponded in location and orientation to a field boundary on the 1876 OS map.

Trench 1

3.4.2 Trench 1 contained an undated ditch and two post-medieval/modern drainage ditches.

3.4.3 Ditch 103 was aligned SW-NE and had shallow, moderately sloping sides and a flat base, measuring >1.9m long, 1.55m wide and 0.23m deep. It contained a dark greyish brown sandy silt, containing moderately frequent sub-angular flints.

3.4.4 Ditch 105 is a stone-lined drain of post-medieval date. It was aligned NW-SE and had steep sides and a flat base lined with large, angular stones measuring 0.15-0.3m. The ditch was >1.9m long, 0.94m wide and 0.26m deep. In contained a mid greyish brown sandy silt. Ceramic building material (CBM) and clay tobacco pipe recovered from fill 106 are post-medieval in date.

3.4.5 Drainage ditch 107 was aligned NE-SW and had steep sides and a flat base, measuring 4.61m long, 0.75m wide and 0.36m deep. It contained a light brownish yellow sandy silt. This feature was very similar in character to drainage ditches observed in trenches 39 and 40, which contained modern concrete. In view of this, ditch 107 is likely to be modern.

Trench 4

3.4.6 Trench 4 contained a possible ditch on a NE-SW alignment: this was not recorded. The trench also contained a modern high-pressure sewage pipe.

Trench 12

3.4.7 Trench 12 contained made ground and a single possible posthole cut into the natural at the southern end.

3.4.8 At the northern end of the trench, the natural geology was overlain by 0.36m of made ground (1202). This layer comprised mid greyish brown sandy silt with red and orange flecks, with frequent angular stone inclusions and modern CBM throughout. This layer is likely to be modern, and related to the construction of the M20.

3.4.9 Possible posthole 1204 was ovoid in shape, with steep sides and a flat base. It measured 0.29m long, 0.34m wide and 0.08m deep (Fig. 13). It contained a firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt. No artefacts were present and the feature is undated.

Trench 15

3.4.10 Trench 15 contained two ditches.

3.4.11 Ditch 1502 was aligned NW-SE with moderately steep sides and a concave base, measuring >2.3m long, 1.12m wide and 0.34m deep. It contained two fills: upper fill 1503, a firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with moderately frequent sub-rounded ragstones and manganese flecks; and basal fill 1504, a firm, mid-light greyish brown sandy silt with frequent manganese flecks and infrequent sub-rounded stones. This feature is identified as a post-medieval field boundary (Fig. 3). One fragment of worked flint and one iron nail were recovered from 1503. Pottery from 1504 was late prehistoric or early Roman in date, and therefore residual.

3.4.12 Ditch 1505 was also aligned NW-SE with very steep, almost vertical sides and a flat, even base, measuring >3.15m long, 0.79m wide and 0.31m deep. It contained two fills: upper fill 1506, a firm, light yellowish brown sandy silt, and basal fill 1507, a firm, light grey sandy silt. Pottery was present in 1506, comprising 26 sherds of late medieval

Ashford Potters Corner shelly-sandy ware. This material could be contemporary with the feature. A single worked flint blade fragment was likely to be residual.

Trench 21

3.4.13 Ditch 2102 was aligned NW-SE and had steep, concave sides and an even, rounded base, measuring 2.53m long, 1.17m wide and 0.43m deep. It contained two fills: upper fill 2103, a firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.16m deep and containing infrequent small rounded pebbles; and lower fill 2104, a firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.43m deep and containing infrequent small rounded pebbles. This ditch is present on the first edition OS map (Fig. 3). Both fills contained post-medieval CBM. Metal artefacts from 2103 were not closely dateable. Flint from 2104 is possibly Neolithic in date and clearly residual.

Trench 24

3.4.14 Ditch 2402 was aligned N-S and had steep, regular sides and a concave, uneven base, measuring 1.8m long, 0.78m wide and 0.21m deep (Fig. 13). It contained a soft, mid brown sandy silt with yellow mottling. This ditch ran parallel to an existing hedge line and may represent the remains of an old field boundary.

Trench 25

3.4.15 Ditch 2502 was aligned E-W and had moderate to steeply sloped sides and an irregular base, measuring >1.9m long, 1.5m wide and 0.3m deep. It contained a very firm, mid brownish grey clayey sandy silt. The fill of this feature contained fragments of post-medieval CBM, and was heavily disturbed on the north side by rooting. It is likely that this feature represents a post-medieval/modern hedge line or other boundary.

3.5 Area 2 (Trenches 31-41 and 80: Figure 4)

3.5.1 Of the eleven trenches in Area 2, seven contained archaeology.

3.5.2 Although Trench 35 did not contain any archaeological features, a bulk environmental sample taken from subsoil 3501 yielded over 20 fruit stones (bird cherry) and a small number of unidentified wild plants seeds, as well as modern intrusive material. The fruit stones are likely to derive from an overhanging tree.

Trench 31

3.5.3 This trench contained a palaeochannel. An additional 26 possible features were present (a pit, three ditches and 22 stakeholes), but these were not excavated.

3.5.4 Palaeochannel 3104 was aligned NNE-SSW and had steep sides and a flat base, measuring >1.8m long, 10m wide and 0.67m deep (Figs 4 and 14; Plate 1). It contained five fills. Basal fill 3107 comprised a firm, dark brownish grey clayey silt which contained pottery sherds and worked flint and likely represented a layer of silt/vegetation that had washed into the feature base. This was overlain by fill 3106, a firm, light yellowish grey clayey silt containing infrequent small stones and worked flint. This may also represent material that had washed into the feature. This was overlain by fill 3112, a firm, mid brownish grey sandy silt which was devoid of artefacts. A fourth fill (3105) overlay this, comprising a firm light grey sandy silt containing

infrequent charcoal flecks as well as pottery, bone, worked flint, worked stone and metal and likely representing in wash. The uppermost fill was 3103, comprising a firm, mid yellowish grey sandy silt and containing pottery, metal and fired clay.

3.5.5 Pottery found within four of these five fills dates to the 12th to 14th centuries and indicates that the feature is likely late medieval in date. The prehistoric worked flint in this feature is likely to be residual. Domestic cattle and sheep or goat were both present in the animal bone assemblage but the caprine specimen (a left tibia) was in excellent condition. It is possible that this bone is intrusive.

Trench 32

3.5.6 Trench 32 contained one medieval ditch and a possible tree-throw hole.

3.5.7 Ditch 3203 was aligned NE-SW and had shallow sides and a concave, even base, measuring 4.9m long, 0.49m wide and 0.17m deep (Fig. 14). It contained a firm, mid brown sandy silt, which likely represents natural silting. This fill contained one sherd of medieval pottery.

3.5.8 Possible tree-throw hole 3205 was a small curvilinear feature with steep irregular sides and a concave, uneven base, measuring 0.95m long, 0.27m wide and 0.25m deep. It contained a firm, dark greyish brown sandy silt containing approximately 20% charcoal. No artefacts were recovered from this feature. A bulk sample taken from this fill contained a mixture of charcoal and clinker-type material. Charcoal fragments measured >4mm, and may be identifiable. Modern roots, insect fragments and uncharred goosefoot seeds were also present.

Trench 37

3.5.9 Trench 37 contained a total of six ditches, two of which were potentially prehistoric in date. The remaining four ditches are undated.

3.5.10 Ditch 3701 was aligned SE-NW, with shallow, gently sloping sides and a flat base, measuring >1.8m long, 0.96m wide and 0.08m deep (Fig. 14). It contained a soft, light brownish grey sandy silt with infrequent pebbles: this material likely represented natural in wash. No artefacts were present.

3.5.11 Ditch 3703 was aligned SE-NW with steep sides and a slightly curved base, measuring >1.9m long, 0.25m wide and 0.11m deep (Fig. 14). It contained a soft, light grey sandy silt and infrequent charcoal flecks: this material likely represented natural in wash. No artefacts were present.

3.5.12 Ditch 3705 was aligned SE-NW and had steep sides and a flat base, measuring >1.9m long, 0.84m wide and 0.34m deep (Fig. 14). It contained two fills: upper fill 3706, a soft, mid grey sandy silt with infrequent pebbles, and lower fill 3707, a soft, light grey sandy silt with infrequent pebbles. Both fills likely represented natural in wash. Lower fill 3707 contained worked flint of possible early Neolithic date. However, it is unclear whether these flints are residual, or indicative of the date of the feature.

3.5.13 Possible ditch 3708 was aligned SE-NW and had moderately sloped sides and a flat base, measuring >1.9m long, 1m wide and 0.1m deep. It contained a soft, light yellowish brown sandy silt and occasional manganese flecks. This feature clearly cut

through ditch 3710. No artefacts were recovered. It is unclear whether this feature is a ditch or a plough furrow.

3.5.14 Ditch 3710 was aligned N-S, with steeply sloped sides and a flat base, measuring >1m long, 0.55m wide and 0.14m deep (Fig. 14). It contained a soft, light grey sandy silt with infrequent charcoal inclusions. No artefacts were recovered. The feature terminated at the north end. A second possible terminus was observed to the immediate north of this but was not excavated, indicating that 3710 may be part of a segmented ditch.

3.5.15 Ditch 3712 was aligned SSE-NNW and was located at the SW end of the trench. This feature was not excavated, but was recorded as measuring 0.75m wide. Worked flint was recovered from the top of this feature. This flint is possibly early Neolithic in date. However, it is unclear whether this material is residual or indicative of the date of the feature.

Trench 38

3.5.16 Ditch 3802 was aligned N-S, with rough, steep sides and a concave, uneven base, measuring >1.8m long, 1.71m wide and 0.42m deep (Fig. 14). It contained two fills: upper fill 3803, a firm, light grey clayey silt, and lower fill 3804, a firm, dark greyish brown clayey silt. Both fills may represent natural in wash. Pottery sherds from 3803 indicate that the feature is likely to date to the late Iron Age or early Roman period. One cattle tooth was present in fill 3804. The size of the feature indicates that it may be a boundary ditch.

Trench 39

3.5.17 Trench 39 contained two ditches and a possible animal burial, all of which are likely to be post-medieval or modern in date.

3.5.18 Ditch 3903 was aligned NW-SE, with shallow sides and a concave base, measuring 3.12m long, 0.28m wide and 0.08m deep. It contained a firm, dark brown clayey silt, which likely represented natural in wash. The character of this feature suggests it may be post-medieval or modern.

3.5.19 Ditch 3905 was aligned E-W, with shallow sides and a concave base, measuring 3.28m long, 0.84m wide and 0.17m deep. It contained a firm, mid brown sandy silt. No artefacts were recovered. The southern edge of this feature cut a modern land drain, indicating that this feature is also likely to be modern.

3.5.20 Feature 3907 was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 1.9m long and 1.1m wide. It contained a firm, fine grained dark greyish brown sandy silt with orange-brown flecks, and was not fully excavated. This feature contained an articulated sheep skeleton, as well as pottery sherds, clay tobacco pipe and CBM, indicating a post-medieval date.

3.5.21 The sheep was a female individual around 20 months of age. Root-etching was particularly evident on the foot bones, suggesting that the animal may have been disposed of upside down in a shallow ditch. No evidence for butchery was present but lesions, consistent with osteochondrosis, were present on both metatarsals. It is probable that the burial represents disposal of deadstock from natural causes.

Trench 40/Trench 80

3.5.22 This trench contained a possible pond of unknown date and three modern drains (Fig. 8). A 5m x 2m trench extension (Trench 80) was machined on the west side to further investigate the pond.

3.5.23 Pond 4003 was aligned NW-SE, with steep sides, measuring >1.8m long and 12.15m wide. This feature was not fully excavated so the depth is unknown. It contained a soft, waterlogged dark brown peaty clay. Bulk environmental samples taken from this fill contained large quantities of fibrous material such as root and stem fragments, and small pieces of wood. The uppermost samples (<4000> and <4001>) contained fine modern roots: these were absent in samples taken from the lower parts of the fill. Occasional snails were also present in the uppermost sample. A single raspberry/blackberry seed was present in sample <4002>. Occasional small insect fragments were present in samples from the lower half of the fill.

3.5.24 Extension of Trench 40 (Trench 80) revealed that 4003 was a sub-circular feature containing a firm, mid greyish brown clayey peat containing waterlogged organic material (Plate 2). Recording was halted as Trench 80 quickly flooded with water.

Trench 41

3.5.25 Trench 41 contained two possible tree-throw holes and one possible ditch. All features were of unknown date.

3.5.26 Possible tree-throw hole 4103 was irregularly shaped, with shallow sides and an irregular base, measuring 1.17m long, 0.72m wide and 0.08m deep. It contained a fine-grained, firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderately frequent charcoal inclusions. Three fragments of burnt, unworked flint were recovered from this deposit. This feature was cut by two modern land drains.

3.5.27 Possible tree-throw hole 4105 was shallow with irregularly sloped sides and a narrow base, measuring >1.82m long, 0.62m wide and 0.06m deep. It contained a fine-grained, firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderately frequent charcoal inclusions. One fragment of flint was recovered from this feature: this fragment was not worked, but marks indicated that it may have been used as a tool.

3.5.28 Possible ditch 4107 was aligned NW-SE, with steep, concave sides and a rounded base, measuring >1.06m long, 0.43m wide and 0.23m deep. It contained fine-grained, firm dark brown sandy silt. No artefacts were recovered. The function of this feature is unclear: proximity to a plough scar could suggest that this is a furrow, but it is also possible that this represents a boundary ditch.

3.6 Area 3 (Trenches 42-49: Figure 4)

3.6.1 Only three trenches in Area 3 contained archaeological deposits.

Trench 42

3.6.2 Land drain 4203 was aligned E-W, with straight, steep sides, measuring >1.9m long, 0.55m wide and 0.28m deep. The base of the drain was covered with limestone pieces of various sizes (*c*. 0.05-0.4m). The drain contained a firm, mid brownish yellow sandy

silt with infrequent charcoal and gravel inclusions. No artefacts were recovered from this feature, but a post-medieval date is likely.

Trench 44

3.6.3 This trench contained one natural feature/ditch/palaeochannel, and one pit/ditch terminus. Nineteen tree-throw holes were also observed but not recorded. No artefacts were recovered from any feature, and all features were of unknown date.

3.6.4 Feature 4402 was aligned E-W, with irregular sloped sides and a rounded but irregular base, measuring >1.9m long, 1.73m wide and 0.43m deep. It contained two fills: upper fill 4404, a compact, mid brownish grey sandy silt with infrequent limestone inclusions, and lower fill 4403, a firm light yellowish grey sandy silt with infrequent limestone inclusions. It is unclear whether this feature represents a ditch, a palaeochannel or a natural feature. A bulk environmental sample of 4403 produced mostly modern material such as roots, burrowing snails and uncharred seeds. A small quantity of charcoal was present, but the fragments were too small to be identifiable.

3.6.5 Feature 4406 was aligned N-S, with a concave south side and steep, stepped north side and a flat base, measuring 1.75m long, 1.28m wide and 0.44m deep (Fig. 15). It contained two fills: lower fill 4407, a compact, light brownish greyish sandy silt with infrequent limestone inclusions (<0.1m), and upper fill 4408, a compact, mid brownish grey silty sand with infrequent limestones (<0.1m). It is unclear whether this feature represents a pit or a ditch terminus.

Trench 49

3.6.6 This trench contained two ditches: one medieval and one modern.

3.6.7 Ditch 4903 was not fully excavated. It was oriented N-S and contained modern waste and plastic.

3.6.8 Ditch 4905 was aligned N-S, with moderately steep sides and a flat base, measuring >1.9m wide, 1.05m wide and 0.4m deep (Fig. 15). It contained two fills, basal fill 4906, a soft grey sandy silt with infrequent small stones, and upper fill 4907, a soft, brown clayey silt with infrequent manganese mottling and small stones. Both fills likely represent natural in wash. Several sherds from glazed and unglazed ceramic jugs indicated that this ditch may date to the late medieval period.

3.7 Area 4 (Trenches 50-59: Figure 5)

3.7.1 Of the nine trenches in Area 4, five contained archaeological deposits.

Trench 50

3.7.2 Ditch 5004 was aligned E-W, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base, measuring 9.0m long, 0.47m wide and 0.29m deep (Fig. 15). It contained a firm, mid greyish yellow sandy silt with infrequent stone inclusions. The ditch was located at the northern edge of the trench. No artefacts were present. The size of the feature indicates that it may be a boundary ditch.

Trench 53

3.7.3 Ditch 5304 was aligned N-S, with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base, measuring >1.9m long, 0.37m wide and 0.19m deep (Fig. 16). It contained a compact, mid brownish grey sandy silt and infrequent gravel inclusions. No artefacts were recovered.

Trench 56

3.7.4 Trench 56 contained one ditch, possibly of early prehistoric date, and one possible cremation burial or cremation-related deposit of unknown date (Fig. 9). A possible palaeochannel was also found in the northern half of the trench, but this was not fully excavated or recorded.

3.7.5 Ditch 5603 was aligned NE-SW, with moderately steep, concave sides and an irregular base, measuring >1.24m long, 1.0m wide and 0.3m deep (Fig. 16). It contained two fills: lower fill 5604, a fine-grained, soft, mid brownish grey sandy silt, and upper fill 5605, a fine-grained, soft, mid-to light greyish brown sandy silt, with infrequent charcoal flecks and small stones. The basal fill may have formed because of weathering of the open feature. Two worked flints were recovered from upper fill 5605: these were of a type consistent with an early prehistoric date. It is unclear whether these are residual finds or genuinely reflect the date of the feature.

3.7.6 Feature 5606 was potentially a cremation burial or cremation-related deposit (e.g. pyre debris). This was located to the immediate south of ditch 5603, and was not excavated. The feature was ovoid in plan, measuring 0.29m long and 0.2m wide. It contained a firm, very dark brownish grey sandy silt with infrequent charcoal flecks and small angular chalk stones. This feature was very similar in character to the four features observed in Trench 57 (see below). No finds or burnt bone were recovered from this feature. This feature was covered with plastic and reburied subsequent to recording.

Trench 57

3.7.7 This trench contained four possible cremation burials or cremation-related deposits of unknown date. All four features were located in a straight line, spaced approximately 0.3m apart, and cut into buried soil 5702, a mid orange-brown sandy silt (Fig. 10 and Plate 3). These features were not excavated, although the top 0.06m of 5705 and 0.1m of 5707 were removed by machine during excavation of the trench. No artefacts were recovered from any of the features.

3.7.8 Only feature 5704 was exposed within the original extent of Trench 57. An extension was machined in the NE side of the trench to expose the remainder of this feature and track any further related deposits. The initial extension measured 1.75m long and 0.75m wide. This exposed the remainder of 5704 and western side of feature 5706. These features were both slightly over-machined: as soon as burnt bone and charcoal were identified in these features, machining was altered to be undertaken at a slightly higher level to avoid further truncation. The extension was then enlarged to a total extent of 3m long and 0.75m wide, which exposed the remainder of feature 5706, and features 5708 and 5710. As 5710 was observed to continue beyond the limit of the trench extension to the west, machining was halted, all four features were recorded and covered with plastic and reburied *in situ*.

3.7.9 Possible cremation burial 5704 was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.43m long, 0.38m wide and >0.06m deep. It contained fine-grained, firm mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt. Approximately 30% of the deposit comprised charcoal fragments. Burnt bone fragments were also observed but not removed.

3.7.10 Possible cremation burial 5706 was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.54m long, 0.48m wide and >0.09m deep. It contained two fills: lower fill 5707, a fine-grained, firm, mid to dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent (approximately 30%) charcoal; and upper fill 5712, a fine-grained, firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with infrequent flint and stones and frequent charcoal flecks. Burnt bone fragments were observed in both fills but were left *in situ*.

3.7.11 Possible cremation burial 5708 was circular in plan, measuring 0.4m in diameter. It contained a fine-grained, firm, mid to dark brownish grey sandy silt, and comprised >30% charcoal. Burnt bone fragments were observed but were left *in situ*.

3.7.12 Possible cremation burial 5710 was approximately circular in plan, although the whole extent of the feature was not revealed (continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the NE). The observable extent was 0.39m long and >0.14m wide. It contained a fine-grained, firm, mid brownish grey sandy silt with frequent charcoal inclusions. Burnt bone fragments were observed but were left *in situ*.

Trench 59

3.7.13 Trench 59 contained two possible cremation burials or cremation-related deposits (Fig. 11). Neither of these features was excavated and no artefacts were recovered: both are thus of unknown date. These features were both cut through an alluvial deposit which contained upper Palaeolithic-Mesolithic worked flint and 17 sherds of late Iron Age-early Roman period pottery. It is unclear whether these artefacts are residual or are indicative of the period of deposition/accumulation. Both features were covered with plastic and reburied.

3.7.14 Feature 5904 was ovoid in plan, measuring 0.4m long and 0.35m wide. It contained a firm, mid brownish grey silty sand, infrequent small stones and charcoal flecks. No burnt bone was observed in this feature, but it was deemed to be very similar in character to the four possible cremation burials in Trench 57.

3.7.15 Feature 5906 was ovoid in plan and measured 0.5m long and 0.4m wide. It contained a firm, mid brownish grey sandy silt with infrequent small stones and charcoal flecks. No burnt bone was observed in this feature, but it was deemed to be very similar in character to features in Trench 57.

3.8 Area 5 (Trenches 60-61: Figure 5)

3.8.1 This area contained two trenches, one of which contained archaeological deposits.

Trench 60

3.8.2 Ditch 6003 (Figs 12 and 17) was aligned NE-SW, with slightly irregular, concave sides and an uneven base, measuring >3.79m long, 1.58m wide and 0.35m deep. It contained two fills: lower fill 6004, a firm, mid brown sandy silt and upper fill 6005, a firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt with mid orange-brown mottling, and frequent

charcoal inclusions. Iron Age pottery was also recovered from both ditch fills. This feature also contained the largest worked flint assemblage recovered from the site, with 15 fragments of worked flint from 6004 and four from 6005. The worked flint is likely to date to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age, and is therefore residual.

3.8.3 A bulk environmental sample from 6005 contained mostly modern material such as roots. Charcoal was present: a very small number of fragments measured >4mm and may be identifiable. A single fragment of unidentifiable cereal grain and a fragment of a glume base were also present.

3.9 Area 6 (Trenches 62-63) and Area 7 (Trenches 64-65: Figure 6)

3.9.1 Areas 6 and 7 were completely devoid of archaeology.

3.10 Area 8 (Trenches 66-67: Figure 3)

3.10.1 Of the two trenches in Area 8, only Trench 67 contained archaeological deposits.

Trench 67

3.10.2 Trench 67 contained two ditches of unknown date and function. No artefacts were recovered from either of these features (Fig. 17).

3.10.3 Ditch 6703 was aligned N-S, with moderately sloped sides and a flat base, measuring >2.2m long, 0.67m wide and 0.23m deep. It contained a firm/compact mid brownish grey sandy silt, and infrequent small stones.

3.10.4 Ditch 6705 was also aligned N-S, with moderately sloped sides and a concave base, measuring >0.6m long, 0.51m wide and 0.16m deep. It contained a fine-grained, firm, mid greyish brown sandy silt, with infrequent manganese, small stone and flint inclusions. This feature ran parallel to ditch 6703.

3.11 Area 9 (Trenches 68-70: Figure 5)

3.11.1 The trenches in Area 9 were devoid of archaeology, although a layer of colluvium (6902) and a colluvium interface (6903) were observed in Trench 69. Layer 6903 produced pottery that may be indicative of a later prehistoric date. A bulk environmental sample from 6903 yielded one small fragment of hazelnut shell.

3.12 Finds summary

3.12.1 Detailed finds reports are presented below in Appendix B. Most of the finds derive from trenches on the southern half of the site. Unfortunately, the limited nature of the evidence available means that in many cases (particularly with the prehistoric artefacts), it is not possible to tell whether these are contemporary with the features or are residual, e.g. because of ploughing. The finds can be summarised as follows.

3.12.2 A total of 55 struck flints, one piece of natural flint and 12 pieces of burnt unworked flint were recovered. The flints displayed a consistently early character to the industry, most likely the Neolithic or possibly the Mesolithic period. There was also a very limited amount of flint that typified the later prehistoric period and at least two large broken blades that are probably Mesolithic but could be late Upper Palaeolithic in date.

3.12.3 The largest and freshest flint assemblage originated from the upper fills (6004-5) of later prehistoric ditch 6003. This assemblage could be contemporary with the ditch fills, assuming they are later prehistoric, but the material is more likely to be late Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date. Many of the trenches in the evaluation area record the presence of alluvium and it may be that most of the flintwork recovered from here was derived from these alluvial contexts. The high levels of breakage despite quite low levels of edge damage also suggest redeposited material that has not travelled far and may have either been washed or eroded out of open ditch and pit edges where they cut through the alluvium. Modern ploughing may well have lowered the level of alluvial cover and it may have been far more extensive. This would explain the flintwork recovered as residual finds in features that no longer cut the alluvium.

3.12.4 The evaluation produced flint from many of its trenches but two areas appeared to represent concentrations of activity. At the centre of the site, Trenches 21, 35, 37 and 49 contained flintwork including several pieces of very similar early character in Trenches 21 and 37, most probably dating to the Neolithic period. The second area of interest occurred at the eastern end of the site where both alluvial assemblages were recovered near each other and to flint-rich Trench 60. This may suggest that the main area of flint-related activity was in this part of the site and the potential exists for the recovery of *in situ* scatters associated with alluvial sequences as well as for quite considerable redeposited collections in later features.

3.12.5 A small quantity of pottery (59 sherds) dated to the later prehistoric to early Roman period: sherds of this date were found in features located across the whole site. Most came from ditches (1503, 3802 and 6003), and one residual sherd was present in palaeochannel 3104. Two broad fabric divisions were noted – fabrics with flint as the principal inclusion and grog as a secondary component, and fabrics with grog as the principal inclusion and sand or flint as secondary components. Lacking many diagnostic elements, the former could belong either to the Bronze Age or Iron Age. Flint- and grog-tempered pottery dating to the middle to late Bronze has been recorded at Park Farm on the southern edge of Ashford, and flint continued to be used in pottery at that site up to the end of the Iron Age (Jones 2012). The grog-tempered pottery from contexts 1504, 4801, 5902 and 6004 can be dated more confidently to the late Iron Age, although an earlier date may still apply. It is possible that the pottery was deposited in the early Roman period (that is, the mid/late 1st century AD), but the association of the grog-tempered pottery with flint-tempered fabrics and the absence of any pottery that must date after *c.* AD 43 suggests that all this pottery is confined to the prehistoric period. It is unclear whether many of the features containing earlier pottery fabrics are genuinely prehistoric features, or whether material is present e.g. as a result of ploughing.

3.12.6 A limited range of medieval and post-medieval pottery vessel forms and fabrics were present. Of the 169 sherds of pottery recovered, the majority (109) were medieval and predominantly date to the 12th to 14th centuries. Most of this was recovered from palaeochannel 3104 (Area 2), though other sherds were found in ditches 1505 (Area 1), 3202 and 4905 (both Area 2). The most common fabric represented in the medieval pottery assemblage was an unglazed coarseware known as Ashford Potter's Corner shelly-sandy ware (Fabric EM.M5) which, as the name suggests, was produced in the

Ashford area during the period c 1175-1300 (Cotter 2006, 169). Sherds of this fabric mainly comprise typical medieval wide cooking pots with everted rims and sagging bases. More than half of the EM.M5 sherds derive from palaeochannel fill 3103.

3.12.7 One sherd of pottery, twelve fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) and three fragments of clay pipe date to the post-medieval period. The recovered tiles fragments from 2103 (the upper fill of ditch 2102) are very similar to roof tile samples from the site of a medieval tilery at Naccolt (Kennington), near Wye - only a mile or two north of Willesborough. This confirms that the fragments from Trench 21 were locally made.

3.12.8 Fired clay fragments were recovered from three contexts (106, 3101 and 3103). These were in poor condition and generally undateable.

3.12.9 A single whetstone was found in the fill of palaeochannel 3104 (3105). This is a very fine grained micaceous quartzitic sandstone, possibly Reigate stone. It has been extensively used longitudinally on all four faces so that there are grooves and sharp arrises. It may be Roman or post-Roman in date.

3.12.10 A single sherd of glass was recovered from subsoil 5201. This likely dates to the early 20th century and is probably from a beer bottle.

3.12.11 Fragments of thirteen iron objects were recovered from six contexts. None of these are closely datable, although a complete horseshoe from subsoil 101 may be late medieval or early post medieval in date.

3.12.12 The presence of charcoal and a very small quantity of other charred plant remains indicates that this material does survive but the relative paucity of this material is likely to be an indicator that the sampled features are at a distance from any main settlement activity and/or food processing areas. The incremental waterlogged samples show that the survival of waterlogged material is patchy, with loss of less robust material likely in the sampled deposits. The fruitstones found within organic layer 3501 probably derive from an overhanging tree. While the results from context 4004 are disappointing in their lack of identifiable material, they do demonstrate that there is a high potential for organic material to survive in deeper features, and pollen preservation is likely and should be considered for any future sampling strategy. Mollusc preservation is good within organic layer (3501) but snails are scarce in other features and deposits.

3.12.13 Waterlogged wood recovered from 3105 was of irregular shape, measuring approximately 40mm x 60mm. No obvious cut-marks or other signs of working were observed. The wood is a maximum of 8mm thick and includes the outer bark and the inner, secondary phloem. As little xylem tissue was present it was difficult to clearly see the anatomical characteristics required for species identification and therefore, no identification was possible.

3.12.14 A total of 142 animal bones were recovered from the site, mostly from contexts which did not also yield ceramic finds, which were the basis for dating the assemblage. Bone from context 3105 could be phased on this basis dated to c.AD 1175-1300. Context 3908 was dated as broadly post-medieval. The assemblage was in moderate to good condition with no particular pattern of preservation observed - range extremes were present in the dated and undated components.

3.12.15 Domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) and caprines (sheep [*Ovis aries*] or goat [*Capra hircus*]) were both present in context 3105 and the caprine specimen (a left tibia) was in excellent condition. It may possibly, therefore, be intrusive. Material from context (3908) consisted of a sheep ABG (Associated Bone Group). This was a female individual, around 20 months of age according to epiphyseal fusion date.

3.12.16 Root-etching was particularly evident on the foot bones of the ABG, suggesting that the animal may have been disposed of upside down in a shallow ditch. No evidence for butchery was present but lesions, consistent with osteochondrosis, were present on both metatarsals. It's probable that the burial represents disposal of deadstock from natural causes.

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation, in combination with the preceding geophysical survey, walkover survey, metal detecting survey and trial trenching, has provided a robust assessment of the archaeological potential of the site.

4.1.2 The excavated trenches revealed a moderate level of corroboration between results from previous surveys and the current evaluation. Some areas previously suggested to have low archaeological potential e.g. Area 3 and west side of Area 4 continued to demonstrate an absence of features. Most of the identified archaeological features were ditches, which are much more likely to be detected by geophysical survey and long, narrow trial or evaluation trenches. Artefact recovery allowed preliminary dates to be assigned to some of these, but many features were still of unknown date and character.

4.1.3 In the instances where archaeological features were revealed, only representative samples of the revealed feature were excavated. Environmental samples were taken from several features. Environmental results were limited, but show potential for survival of charcoal and high potential for organic material and pollen to survive in deeper features.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 Section 2.1 outlined both the general and specific aims and objectives of the evaluation. The major objective was to target anomalies identified by trial trenching, and investigate areas that had previously not been targeted. A number of features were identified as being of archaeological interest, such as a cluster of potential cremation burials of unknown date, a pond of unknown date, two potential palaeochannels, and a variety of dated and undated ditches. Most of these features were not identified until the current evaluation.

4.2.2 Of the dateable archaeology, possible early prehistoric archaeology is present to the south of the site, in Areas 2 and 4. Possible late prehistoric to early Roman period finds and features are widely scattered across the whole site. Medieval features are located on the western side of the site, in Areas 1-3 but chiefly clustered on the west side of Area 2. Post-medieval and modern features appear to cluster on the north side of the site in Area 1, e.g. modern made ground. This is unsurprising, given the proximity to the M20.

Area 1

4.2.3 The potential archaeological anomalies targeted by Trenches 28 and 29 at the eastern side of Area 1 were not found, with these trenches being completely devoid of archaeology. A likely medieval ditch was found in the centre of Area 1 in Trench 15. A medieval date for this feature is bolstered by this ditch being absent on the 1876 ordnance survey map (Figure 3).

4.2.4 The second ditch (1502) in Trench 15 contained (broadly prehistoric) worked flint and one iron nail, but these could not be closely dated. However, the alignment and

location of this feature did correspond with a known post-medieval field boundary (Figure 3). Linear feature 2102 in Trench 21 and 2502 in Trench 25 also align with this field boundary, confirming that they are part of the post-medieval field system and the same feature as 1502.

4.2.5 Linear features in Trenches 1, 4 and 24 do not align with any other archaeological features in adjacent trenches, or any known post-medieval field boundaries (Figure 3). It was not possible to date or characterise these features.

Area 2

4.2.6 Trenches 35-37 were located to investigate limited archaeological potential in this area. Although Trenches 35 and 36 did not contain archaeology, Trench 37 contained six linear features, at least two of which have potential to be early prehistoric in date. These do not appear to continue into any of the adjacent trenches, although this may be a result of feature alignment. The character of these features is unclear at present, and it is uncertain whether they are related to features observed in nearby Trial Trench CW14. Furthermore, none of these (or any of the archaeological deposits in other Area 2 trenches) correlate with historic map features. The same can be said of possible later prehistoric linear features in Trench 38 to the east. Ditches of unknown date in Trench 37 (and 41) are also difficult to characterise as a result of lack of evidence. These features do not appear to continue into adjacent trenches, and it is unclear if and how they relate to adjacent features within the same trench.

4.2.7 A concentration of possibly medieval features is present at the west side of Area 2, spanning Trenches 31 and 32 and comprising a palaeochannel and a ditch. It is unclear whether these two features are related.

4.2.8 A pond of unknown date was present in Trench 40/80, and a palaeochannel was present in Trench 31. These features are not present on the 1876 ordnance survey (Figure 4), and therefore pre-date this. It is unclear if they relate to the present water course located to the immediate north of this trench.

4.2.9 A sheep burial in Trench 39 is likely to be post-medieval in date, based on the presence of broadly dateable ceramic artefacts within the fill. The burial is likely to represent the disposal of dead livestock from natural causes.

Area 3

4.2.10 Trenches in Area 3 were located to confirm presence/absence of archaeological remains associated with the historic core of Sevington. Previous survey may have identified that some of this area was used as an orchard: historic map data suggests that this orchard was in a field to the west of Trench 44 (where Trenches 42 and 43 are located), with the field containing Trench 44 used as arable land. There was no evidence of tree-throw holes in Trenches 42 and 43, or in Trenches 45-48 to the north and east of Trench 44. It is therefore unclear what the localised concentration of tree-throw holes in Trench 44 represent.

4.2.11 No direct settlement evidence was found, although the 1876 ordnance survey (Figure 4) may suggest that this was located to the south of the development area. However, later medieval ceramic wares from Trench 49 (as well as Trenches 15, 31 and 32 in

Areas 1 and 2) may derive from the nearby settlement of Sevington, which was well established by this period, and indicate that field management was being practiced on the site during this time.

4.2.12 Observed linear features with tentative dates and of unknown date do not appear to run into adjacent trenches: the lack of evidence from Area 3 also makes characterisation of these very difficult.

Area 4

4.2.13 Trenches 50 and 51, and 55-57 were located to test for the presence/extent and date of remains identified in Trial Trenches CW14 and CW18. No archaeology was present in Trench 51. A ditch of unknown date in Trench 50 may have been a boundary ditch, but this is unconfirmed. None of the archaeological deposits observed in Area 4 match field boundaries or known historic map features.

4.2.14 A total of seven possible cremation burials, or cremation related deposits (e.g. cremation pyre debris) were present in Trenches 56, 57 and 59. Four of these features were located in Trench 57, oriented in a straight line on an approximate W-E alignment and each spaced 0.3m apart. These possible cremation burials and adjacent linear features in Trench 56 require thorough investigation in order to determine if these are indeed burials containing human remains and also to obtain secure dating evidence. Previous surveys have not indicated any potential for funerary activity in this area, so characterisation and dating of these features is crucial.

Area 5

4.2.15 This area had not previously been evaluated archaeologically. Only Trench 60 contained archaeology: one ditch that may be later prehistoric in date. Features in Area 5 do not correspond to any observable historic map data. Again, the limited evidence available means that this feature required further characterisation and confirmation of date.

Areas 6-9

4.2.16 Very little in the way of archaeology was uncovered in the northern and easternmost part of the development area. Only Trench 67 in Area 8 exhibited archaeological features, comprising two ditches of unknown date. Late prehistoric pottery was recovered from a colluvium deposit in Trench 60. It is unclear whether this is related to the finds and features present in Trenches 59 and 60, which may be of a similar date.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 Very few features could be dated or characterised, so only a very rough site narrative could be extrapolated from the available evidence, from the Upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic period to the modern period.

4.3.2 The upper Palaeolithic (or Mesolithic) dates come from a possible broken flint long blade (with faceted platform and evidence of usage) from alluvium layer 5902. Long blades with faceted platforms usually date to either the late/terminal Upper Palaeolithic or early Mesolithic period, with the earlier date being less likely but far

more important archaeologically (Barton 1989). While these are rare in this region, this would not be altogether surprising as Kent is known for several Upper Palaeolithic sites including the recovery of a long blade assemblage near Canterbury (Barton 1986).

4.3.3 The evaluation also produced a sizeable quantity of flintwork of Mesolithic or more probably, earlier Neolithic date. At the centre of the development area, 21, 35, 37 and 49 contained flintwork including a number of pieces of very similar early character in Trenches 21 and 37, most probably dating to the Neolithic period. Although these finds are largely residual in later features, flints are unlikely to have travelled far from the site of production/usage. Similar assemblages have been recovered from the immediate vicinity at Ashford orbital park (OA 2011) and from the Boys Hall moated site (HE 2017).

4.3.4 The evaluation also recovered a low level of later prehistoric flintwork (late Neolithic or early Bronze Age), chiefly originating from the upper fills (6004-5) of a later prehistoric ditch 6003. However, the presence of later prehistoric pottery is indicative of a slightly later date. Later prehistoric (Iron Age) to early Roman ditches were present in several locations across the site, though it is unclear whether these are enclosure ditches or have another function.

4.3.5 Securely dated Roman finds and features are absent from the site: although some of the pottery discussed above may have been deposited in the early Roman period, the association of the grog-tempered pottery with flint-tempered fabrics and the absence of any pottery that must date after c AD 43 suggests that all the pottery is confined to the prehistoric period.

4.3.6 Another absence of evidence is encountered for the early medieval period. Artefacts recovered from ditches in Trenches 15, 32 and 49, and the palaeochannel in Trench 31 all date to the 12th-14th centuries, and it is anticipated that these may derive from the nearby settlement at Sevington. Sevington, to the west of the development area, is recorded in the Domesday book, and St. Mary's church to the south of the site was built in the early 12th century (KentPast 2010), so the discovery of archaeology pertaining to this time period is not unexpected. The ditches containing medieval finds may thus be the remains of later medieval field boundaries, drainage ditches, or furrows.

4.3.7 Very little evidence of later medieval activity is present, though fragments of 15th-17th century roof tile from are very similar to samples from the site of a medieval tilery at Naccolt (Kennington), near Wye - only a mile or two north of Willesborough. This only confirms that these tiles were locally made.

4.3.8 Activity returns in the post-medieval period, chiefly in the form of field boundaries and features of unknown function in Area 1, plus one sheep burial in Area 2. Modern made ground in Area 1 is likely to relate to construction of the M20 in the 20th century.

4.3.9 The majority of the undated linear features are likely to represent a mixture of boundaries, drainage ditches, enclosures and furrows, all of which are indicative of a sequence of changing agricultural regimes. Although most of the ditches excavated produced no dating evidence, the medieval pottery from ditches 1505, 3202 and 4905 and palaeochannel 3104 indicate that land management was being undertaken on the

site from at least the 12th century (and likely before). The precise form and extent of features is difficult to ascertain within the narrow confines of an evaluation trench. A more detailed analysis focused on the concentrations of the linear features may provide a more complete and informative picture of agricultural practices in the area. The exposure of more of the field system ditches may also provide the opportunity to produce further dating evidence and assist in establishing a chronology for the practice of agriculture in the immediate vicinity.

4.3.10 The undated possible cremation burials in Area 4 are of great interest as currently there is no other evidence that the site has ever been used for funerary purposes. Confirmation of these features as cremation burials (or indeed, cremation related deposits such as redeposited pyre debris) would contribute greatly to our understanding of the site. Cremation burials are not unusual for the area: excavation of an Iron Age/early Roman occupation area by Canterbury Archaeological Trust at Waterbrook Farm (to the south of the development area) uncovered urned and unurned cremation burials (CAT, 1999; Wessex Archaeology, 2008). Furthermore, early Bronze Age cremation burials were found in pits at Charing Quarry, only seven miles to the NW of site.

4.3.11 The current evidence establishes that the development site and its immediate vicinity is likely to have been occupied in some manner since the upper Palaeolithic. It is difficult to elucidate this further until the medieval period, where it is apparent that agricultural land management was taking place. The use of the site as agricultural land continued into the post-medieval period, until more significant development of the area in the modern period.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 The number of ditches and related features revealed during the archaeological evaluation indicate a sequence of successive agricultural regimes incorporating drainage ditches, plough furrows, and boundaries. Although more secure dating evidence is present from the medieval period onwards, there is substantial potential for activity (agricultural or otherwise) from much earlier periods. Further work should produce more dating evidence and characterise the form and nature of the ditches revealed during the evaluation.

4.4.2 The worked flint recovered from several features represents evidence of flint tool usage within, or in close proximity to the site. This could be of significance to the local region and the wider county.

4.4.3 Confirmation of the presence of a late Iron Age or very early Roman activity at the site, which is suggested by the presence of pottery and possibly contemporary ditches, would be of regional interest, and would add substantially to the interpretation of the agricultural practices evidenced at the site itself.

4.4.4 Further investigation of medieval features may contribute to knowledge pertaining to the early development of Sevington, and land management to the immediate northeast of the settlement at this time.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one probable ditch, two drainage ditches and a pit.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	1.6
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.6	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	Metal, pot, CBM	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
103	Cut	1.55	0.23	Probable ditch	-	-
104	Fill	1.55	0.23	FO ditch [103]	-	-
105	Cut	0.94	0.26	Drainage Cut	-	Post-medieval
106	Fill	0.49	0.26	FO drainage Cut [105]	CBM, Clay Pipe, Fired Clay	Post-medieval
107	Cut	0.75	0.36	Drainage Cut	-	Post-medieval/modern?
108	Fill	0.75	0.36	FO drainage Cut [107]	-	-
109	Cut	?	?	Pit	-	-
110	Fill	?	?	FO Pit [109]	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	5o
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	1
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.17	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of clay silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.30
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
300	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 4						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contain possible ditch on NE-SW alignment. Not recorded. The trench also contained a high pressure sewage pipe.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	0.17	Alluvial	-	-
403	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	?
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of silty clay.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
						1
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
600	Layer	-	0.37	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.63	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil, subsoil and made ground to the West overlying natural geology of silty sand.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.57
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
700	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	0.31	Made Ground	-	-
703	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 8						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy silt. Within the trench was a BT cable and junction box.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
800	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 9						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of sandy silt. Within the trench was a BT cable and junction box.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.40
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
900	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of yellow sandy silt and limestone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 11						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil, subsoil and made ground to the West overlying natural geology of silty sand and limestone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1100	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.29	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1103	Layer	-	0.65	Made Ground dark brown silty clay and concrete	-	-

Trench 12						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained a single Posthole cut into the natural at the southern end. At the Northern end the natural was overlain by made ground (1202).					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	0.36	Made Ground greyish brown with orange and red flecks sandy clay, stone and CBM	-	-
1203	Layer	--		Natural	-	-
1204	Cut	0.34	0.08	Possible Posthole	-	-
1205	Fill	0.34	0.08	FO [1204]		

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.41
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1300	Layer	-	0.41	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light brown, yellow sandy silt and limestone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.43
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1400	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.21	Subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contains two ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1500	Layer	-	?	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	?	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Cut	1.12	0.34	Ditch	-	-
1503	Fill	1.12	0.12	FO [1503]	Flint, Metal	-
1504	Fill	1.12	0.18	FO [1503]	Pot	Late Iron Age/early Roman?
1505	Cut	0.79	0.31	Ditch	-	-
1506	Fill	0.63	0.14	FO [1505]	Pot	Medieval
1507	FIll	0.79	0.31	FO [1505]	Flint	-
1508	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 16						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of dark brown sandy silt. The trench was crossed by a modern concrete pipe.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.58
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1600	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
1601	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
1602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of orangey brown sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1700	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
1701	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil	-	-
1702	Layer	-	0.12	Colluvium	-	-
1703	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 18						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of grey brown silty clay.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1800	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
1801	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of orangey brown sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1900	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	0.14	Colluvium	-	-
1903	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of orangey brown sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2000	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.06	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light brown grey sandy silt. The trench contained a ditch on a NW-SE alignment.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2100	Layer	-	0.	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Cut	1.17	0.43	Ditch	-	-
2103	Fill	0.74	0.16	Fill	Metal, CBM	Post-medieval
2104	Fill	1.17	0.43	Fill	Flint, CBM	Post-medieval
2105	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of mid orangey brown sandy silt and rag stone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2200	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil, subsoil and colluvium layer overlying natural geology of mid orangey brown sandy silt and rag stone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.63
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2300	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
2301	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil	-	-
2302	Layer	-	0.03	Colluvium	-	-
2303	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a ditch and consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown yellow sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.34
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2400	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.11	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Cut	0.78	0.21	Ditch	-	-
2403	Fill	0.78	0.21	Fill	-	-
2404	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one modern boundary ditch/ hedgerow [2502]. Consists of topsoil natural geology of yellow brown sandy silt and limestone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2500	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2502	Cut	1.3	0.3	Ditch	-	-
2503	Fill	1.5	0.3	Fill	CBM	Post-medieval/ modern
2504	Layer	0.52	0.3	Disturbed Natural	-	-

Trench 26						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of dark orangey brown sandy silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2600	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2601	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 27						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of dark orangey brown sandy silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2700	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2701	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of dark orangey brown sandy silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2800	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2801	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology of mid orangey brown sandy silt and stone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2900	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2901	Layer	-	0.1	Colluvium	-	-
2902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a large linear to the Western end. And some unexcavated possible features Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of mid orangey brown/grey sandy clay.					**Length (m)**	37.5
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3100	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
3101	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	Fired Clay	-
3102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3103	Fill	1.8	0.17	FO paleo-channel [3104]	Pot, Metal, Fired Clay	Medieval (c. 1175-1300)
3104	Cut	1.8	0.67	Palaeo-channel/Ditch	-	-
3105	Fill	1.8	0.27	FO paleo-channel [3104]	Pot, Bone, Flint, Stone, Metal, Animal Bone	Medieval (c. 1175-1300)
3106	Fill	1.8	0.13	FO paleo-channel [3104]	Flint	-
3107	Fill	1.8	0.21	FO paleo-channel [3104]	Pot, Flint	Medieval (c. 1175-1300)
3108	Layer/Cut	1.7	-	Light yellowish grey silty sand. Ditch? Unexcavated	Pot	Medieval (c. 1175-1300)
3109	Layer/Cut	1.5x0.5	-	Pit or ditch terminus, mid yellowish drown sandy silt. unexcavated	-	-
3110	Layer/Cut	1.05	-	Ditch? mid orangey brown sandy silt. Unexcavated.	Metal	-
3111	Layer	1.5	-	Ditch? Mid yellowish brown fill. Unexcavated	-	-
3112	Fill	1.8	0.35	FO paleo-channel [3104]	-	-
3113	Layer				-	-

Trench 32						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained two ditches Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of mid grey/brown sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	?
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3200	Layer	-	?	Topsoil	-	-
3201	Layer	-	?	Subsoil	-	-
3202	Cut	0.49	0.17	Ditch	-	-
3203	Fill	0.49	0.17	FO Ditch [3202]	Pot	Medieval (c. 1175-1300)
3204	Layer	-		Natural	-	-
3205	Cut	0.27	0.25	Possible Tree-throw hole	-	-
3206	Fill	0.27	0.25	FO [3205] charcoal rich	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					**Orientation**	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology of mid orangey brown/grey sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3300	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3301	Layer	-	02	Colluvium	-	-
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 34						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of yellow sandy silt and limestone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3400	Layer	-	0.45-0.6	Topsoil	-	-
3401	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 35						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil/peaty layer overlying natural geology of light greening grey silty sand.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3500	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3501	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil, Peaty dark organic layer	Flint	-
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 36						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of orangey brown clayey sand and rag stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3600	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3601	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 37						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained six ditches and consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3700	Layer	-	0.34	Topsoil	-	-
3701	Cut	0.96	0.08	Ditch	-	-
3702	Fill	0.96	0.08	FO ditch [3701]	-	-
3703	Cut	0.25	0.11	Ditch	-	-
3704	Fill	0.25	0.11	FO ditch [3703]	-	-
3705	Cut	0.84	0.34	Ditch	-	-
3706	Fill	0.84	0.2	FO ditch [3705]	-	-
3707	Fill	0.6	0.14	FO ditch [3705]	Flint	Early Neolithic?
3708	Cut	1	0.6	Ditch	-	-
3709	Fill	1	0.6	FO ditch [3708]	-	-
3710	Cut	0.55	0.14	Ditch	-	
3711	Fill	0.55	0.14	FO ditch [3710]	-	-
3712	Cut	0.75	-	Ditch, unexcavated	Flint	Early Neolithic?
3713	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 38						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil natural geology of yellow grey clayey sandy and stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3800	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3801	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3802	Cut	1.71	0.42	Ditch	-	-
3803	Fill	1.71	017	FO [3802]	Pot	Late Iron Age/early Roman
3804	Fill	1.04	0.31	FO [3802]	Animal Bone	-

Trench 39						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches and possible animal burial. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light yellow/grey sandy silt clay.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.46
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
3900	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
3901	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
3902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3903	Cut	0.26	0.08	Ditch	-	-
3904	Fill	0.26	0.08	FO ditch [3903]	-	-
3905	Cut	0.84	0.17	Ditch	-	Modern
3906	Fill	0.84	0.17	FO ditch [3905]	-	-
3907	Cut	1.1	-	Possible animal burial	-	-
3908	Fill	1.1	-	FO [3907]	Pot, Animal Bone, Clay Pipe, CBM	Post-medieval

Trench 40						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a possible pond with dark peaty deposit. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light brown grey sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4000	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
4001	Layer	-	0.29	Subsoil	-	-
4002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4003	Cut	1.8	0.34	Possible pond	-	-
4004	Fill	1.8	0.34	FO [4003]	-	-

Trench 41						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench loricated by flood plain of nearby stream. Contained two possible tree-throw holes and a ditch, trench consists of topsoil and subsoil and alluvial layers overlying natural geology of dark blueish grey limestone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.42
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4100	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
4101	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
4102	Layer	-	0.06	Alluvial	-	
4103	Cut	0.72	0.08	Tree-throw hole	-	-
4104	Fill	0.72	0.08	FO [4102]	Flint	-
4105	Cut	0.62	0.12	Possible Tree-throw hole/Ditch	-	-
4106	Fill	0.62	0.12	FO tree [4105]	Flint	-
4107	Cut	0.43	0.23	Possible Ditch	-	-
4108	Fill	0.43	0.23	FO [4107]	-	-
4109	Layer	-	-	Alluvial	Animal Bone	-
4110	Layer	-	-	Alluvial	Flint	-
4111	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 42						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench contained one land drain. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown silt and stones.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.45
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4200	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	-	-
4201	Layer	-	0.29	Subsoil	-	-
4202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4203	Cut	0.55	0.28	Land Drain	-	-
4204	Fill	0.55	0.28	FO [4203]	-	-

Trench 43						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown silt and stones.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4300	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
4301	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
4302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 44						
General description					**Orientation**	N-
Trench contained one pit of ditch terminus and two natural features. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of limestone.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.38
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4400	Layer	-	0.15	Topsoil	-	-
4401	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
4402	Cut	1.73	0.43	Natural Feature/Palaeochannel/Ditch	-	-
4403	Fill	1.73	0.04	FO [4402]	-	-
4404	Fill	1.73	0.39	FO [4402]	-	-
4405	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4406	Cut	1.75	0.44	Pit/Ditch terminus	-	-
4407	Fill	1.75	0.20	FO [4406]	-	-
4408	Fill	1.75	0.25	FO [4406]	-	-

Trench 45						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of bedrock with patches of light brown clay.					**Length (m)**	29
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4500	Layer	-	0.17	Topsoil	-	-
4501	Layer	-	0.27	Subsoil	-	-

4502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 46						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contained a natural feature. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light yellow silt and limestones.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.65
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4600	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4601	Layer	-	0.42	Subsoil	-	-
4602				Alluvial FO [4603]	-	-
4603	Cut			Natural Feature	-	-
4604	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 47						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light greyish yellow silt.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4700	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	CBM	-
4701	Layer	-	0.44	Subsoil	-	-
4702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 48						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light brown sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.56
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4800	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
4801	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	Pot	-
4802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 49						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench one ditch and one modern ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown silts.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
4900	Layer	-	0.16	Topsoil	-	-
4901	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	Pot, Flint	-
4902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4903	Cut		?	Ditch Modern	-	-
4904	Fill		?	FO [4903]	-	-
4905	Cut	1.05	0.5>	Ditch	-	-
4906	Fill	0.95	0.17	FO [4905]	-	-
4907	Fill	1.05	0.17	FO [4905]	Pot	Medieval (c. 1225-1400)

Trench 50						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil and colluvium deposit overlying natural geology of brown silt and stones.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.60
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5000	Layer	-	0.20	Topsoil	-	-
5001	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
5002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5003	Layer	-	0.14	Colluvium	-	-
5004	Cut	0.42	0.29	Ditch	-	-
5005	Fill	0.42	0.29	FO ditch	-	-

Trench 51						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of dark orange brown silty sand and rag stone.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5100	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
5101	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
5102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 52						
General description					**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology of red brown silt clay and stones.					**Length (m)**	48
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.6
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5200	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
5201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	Glass	-
5202	Layer	-	0.3	Colluvium	Pot, Coal	-
5203	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 53						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench contains one ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil and alluvium overlying natural geology of yellowish grey sandstones.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5300	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
5301	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
5302	Layer	-	0.3	Alluvium	-	-
5303	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5304	Cut	0.37	0.19	Ditch	-	-
5305	Fill	0.37	0.19	FO [5304]	-	-

Trench 54						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown silty clay and stones.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5400	Layer	-	0.27	Topsoil	-	-
5401	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
5402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 55						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of yellow brown clayey silt, brown silty clay and stones.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.32
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
5501	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
5502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 56						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained one Cremation and Ditch. Unexcavated palaeo-channel. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of yellowish greyish brown silt.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.55
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5600	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
5601	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-	-
5602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5603	Cut	1.24	0.3	Ditch	-	-
5604	Fill	1.24	0.25	FO [5603]	-	-
5605	Fill	1.24	0.12	FO [5603]	Flint	Early Prehistoric?
5606	Cut	0.29x0.20	-	Possible Cremation	-	-

5607	Fill	0.29x0.20	-	FO [6606]		-

Trench 57

General description					Orientation	E-W
Trench contained four Cremations. Consists of topsoil, subsoil buried soil overlying natural geology of brown silt and stones.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.5
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5700	Layer	-	0.26m	Topsoil	-	-
5701	Layer	-	0.37m	Subsoil	-	-
5702	Layer	-	?	Buried soil	-	-
5703	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5704	Cut	0.43x0.38	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5705	Fill	0.43x0.58	-	FO [5704]	Bone	-
5706	Cut	0.48x0.54	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5707	Fill	0.48x0.54	-	FO [5706]	Bone	-
5708	Cut	0.4x0.4	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5709	Fill	0.4x0.4	-	FO [5708]	Bone	-
5710	Cut	0.39x0.14>	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5711	Fill	0.39x0.14>	-	FO [5710]	Bone	-
5712	Fill	0.48x0.20	0.4	FO [5708]	-	-

Trench 59

General description					Orientation	NW-SE
Two possible cremation burials. Trench Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of red brown silt clay.					Length (m)	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
5900	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
5901	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
5902	Layer	-	0.22	Alluvium	Flint, Pot	Late Iron Age/early Roman?
5903	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
5904	Cut	0.4x0.35	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5905	Fill	0.4x0.35	-	FO [5904]	-	-
5906	Cut	0.5x0.4	-	Possible Cremation	-	-
5907	FIll	0.5x0.4	-	FO [5906}	-	-

Trench 60						
General description					**Orientation**	NNE-SSW
Trench contained a ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light orangey brown silt and stones.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.48
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6000	Layer	-	0.05	Topsoil	-	-
6001	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-	-
6002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6003	Cut	1.58	0.35	Ditch	-	-
6004	Fill	1.58	0.35	FO [6003]	Pot, Flint	Late Iron Age
6005	Fill	0.28	0.08	FO [6003]	Flint, Pot	Late Prehistoric/early Roman?

Trench 61						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown sandy silt and bedrock .					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6100	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
6101	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
6102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 62						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brown sand and stones.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.54
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6200	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
6201	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
6202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 63						
General description					**Orientation**	EES-WWN
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of light brownish yellow sandy silt and stones.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.28
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6300	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
6301	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 64						
General description					**Orientation**	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light yellow sandy silt and bedrock.						50
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.37
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6400	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
6401	Layer	-	0.16	Subsoil	-	-
6402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 65						
General description					**Orientation**	SE-NW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of alluvial light yellow silt and grey bedrock.					**Length (m)**	50
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.43
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6500	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
6501	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 66						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of orangey brown sandy silt and stone inclusions.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6600	Layer	-	0.1	Topsoil	-	-
6601	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
6602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 67						
General description					**Orientation**	WWN-EES
Trench contained two ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of brownish orange sandy silt.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.49
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
6701	Layer	-	0.09	Subsoil	-	-
6702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
6703	Cut	0.67	0.23	Ditch	-	-
6704	Fill	0.67	0.23	FO [6703]	-	-
6705	Cut	0.51	0.16	Ditch	-	-
6706	Fill	0.51	0.16	FO [6706]	-	-

Trench 68						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of Hardcore and Terram overlying natural geology of orangey brown/ grey silt and bedrock.					**Length (m)**	10
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.26
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6800	Layer	-	0.26	Modern Hardcore	-	-
6801	Layer	-	-	Terram	-	-
6802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 69						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil, subsoil and colluvium layer overlying colluvium of orangey brown of brown silt.					**Length (m)**	10p
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4-0.92
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
6900	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-
6901	Layer	-	0.2-0.8	Subsoil	-	-
6902	Layer	-	-	Colluvium/Natural	-	-
6903	Layer		0.3	Colluvium interface between (6901) and (6903)	Pot	Later Prehistoric

Trench 70						
General description					**Orientation**	N-E
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology of greyish brown silt and sandstone.					**Length (m)**	10
					Width (m)	1.9
					Avg. depth (m)	0.23
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
7000	Layer	-	0.19	Topsoil	-	-
7001	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 80						
General description					**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology of light greenish grey silt.					**Length (m)**	30
					Width (m)	1.8
					Avg. depth (m)	0.4
Context No.	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
8000	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
8001	Layer	-	?	Subsoil clayey peat	-	-
8002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

APPENDIX B SPECIALIST REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By John Cotter and Edward Biddulph

Introduction and Methodology

B.1.1 A total of 169 sherds of pottery weighing 1230g were recovered from 16 contexts. This comprises a group of Prehistoric/Roman sherds (mostly in very poor condition), a group of much larger medieval sherds and a single post-medieval sherd. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.). Fabric codes referred to are those of the Kent fabric type series housed at Canterbury Archaeological Trust and which the author helped to develop. Medieval (and some post-medieval) Kent fabrics are fully described in a report on pottery from Townwall Street, Dover (Cotter 2006).

Date and Nature of the Assemblage

B.1.2 The assemblage is in a mixed condition, the earliest material (Prehistoric/Roman) is very worn and scrappy, while the medieval material includes some large fresh pieces. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented and all typical of the wares commonly found in this part of Kent. The two main chronological groupings are described below.

Prehistoric/Roman Pottery

B.1.3 Pottery dating to the later prehistoric or early Roman period amounted to 59 sherds weighing 103g. This comes from eight contexts. In only one of these (3103) does it occur with obviously later material (ie. medieval). The material was on the whole very scrappy and worn. No rims were present and there was very little indication of form. Two broad fabric divisions were noted – fabrics with flint as the principal inclusion and grog as a secondary component, and fabrics with grog as the principal inclusion and sand or flint as secondary components. Lacking many diagnostic elements, the former could belong either to the Bronze Age or Iron Age. Flint- and grog-tempered pottery dating to the middle to late Bronze has been recorded at Park Farm on the southern edge of Ashford, and flint continued to be used in pottery at that site up to the end of the Iron Age (Jones 2012). A sharply angled body sherd in a relatively fine flint-tempered fabric from context (6004) may be part of a carinated jar or bowl, which may date to the earlier Iron Age. From the same context there is a crude flat-based vessel with part of the lower wall (formed of five joining sherds) in a grog-tempered fabric with sparse flint. This appears to be from a large vessel (possibly a jar?) with a base diameter possibly in excess of 300mm? The lower external wall of the same base sherd

has at least one impressed dimple which is probably a construction feature rather than decoration. The grog-tempered pottery from contexts (1504), (4801), (5902) and (6004) can be dated more confidently to the late Iron Age, although an earlier date may still apply. It is possible that the pottery was deposited in the early Roman period (that is, the mid/late 1st century AD), but the association of the grog-tempered pottery with flint-tempered fabrics and the absence of any pottery that must date after c AD 43 suggests that all the pottery is confined to the prehistoric period. No further work on this assemblage is recommended.

Medieval and post-medieval pottery

B.1.4 This comprises 110 sherds (1127g) from nine contexts. Apart from a single sherd of late post-medieval redware (c 1775-1900) from context (101), all the pottery is medieval and dates from the late 12th to the 14th century. Most of this is in an unglazed coarseware known as Ashford Potter's Corner shelly-sandy ware (Fabric EM.M5) which, as the name suggests, was produced in the Ashford area during the period c 1175-1300 (Cotter 2006, 169). The assemblage here mainly comprises typical medieval wide cooking pots with everted rims and sagging bases. A few rims have thumbed decoration. The 26 sherds from (1506) appear to be from a single wide cooking pot with widely-spaced thumbed vertical strips around the body. This, and several other vessels in this fabric, show external sooting from use as cooking vessels - attesting to the fact they were used in a domestic context, and rules-out any possibility that this might be a production site for this ware. A more unusual jar rim from (3103), with a bulbous neck, might be from a spouted pitcher - an early type of jug with a short tubular spout; this form had probably died-out in Kent by c 1250. Most of the EM.M5 assemblage (66 sherds), and more than half of the entire medieval pottery assemblage, comes from context (3103) alone. This also produced a small sherd of flint- and shell-tempered sandy ware (EM33) dating to c 1075-1300. Another possible sherd of this came from (3107). These slight indications, and the absence of later vessel forms (eg glazed jugs), suggest that all of the contexts here assigned a spot-date of c 1175-1300, might possibly date within the period c 1175-1250 rather than later. The limited range of vessel forms present from these earlier contexts, and the limited range of fabrics (EM.M5 and EM33), is similar to a larger assemblage of contemporary pottery from a group of medieval corn-driers excavated at Warren Lane, Ashford (Fletcher and Cotter 2012).

B.1.5 Two contexts (4901 and 4907) produced a few sherds of glazed and unglazed jugs dating to c 1225-1400. A later 13th- to 14th-century dating is rather more likely. Context (4901) produced 5 sherds (61g) from two jugs, both probably local products. One of these is a worn glazed jug base in Ashford/Wealden sandy ware (M40B), while the other is an unglazed jug rim and body sherd in Ashford/Wealden pasty ware (M40C). Context (4907) produced another jug sherd in Ashford/Wealden sandy ware (M40B). This appears to be a kiln waster as the handle has clearly broken off in the kiln and the broken stump was then glazed over with a dark brown overfired glaze. Even so, the vessel may still have been usable. Such damaged vessels (known as 'seconds'), are unlikely to have been sold in the market place but may have been used close to where they were produced. It provides another small but useful piece of evidence that glazed medieval pottery was produced in the Ashford area. Further details of the

assemblage may be consulted in the spot-dates spreadsheet. In view of the fairly small size and condition of the medieval pottery no further work is recommended.

B.2 Clay Tobacco Pipes

By John Cotter

B.2.1 A total of 3 pieces of clay pipe weighing 5g were recovered from two contexts. The condition of the material is fairly poor. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and instead the pipes are simply described and spot-dated below.

B.2.2 Context (106) Spot-date: c 1820-1900. Description: 2 pieces (3g): Two joining pieces from the front rim area of a pipe bowl with typical 19th-century moulded oakleaf decoration down the seam. Fairly fresh but with chipped edges.

B.2.3 Context (3908) Spot-date: Late 18th to 19th century. Description: 1 piece (2g): Worn stem fragment. Slender and with a stem bore diameter of c 2mm.

B.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

By John Cotter

B.3.1 A total of 12 pieces of CBM weighing 178g were recovered from six contexts. These were examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage in a similar way to the pottery (see elsewhere) and the data recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. As usual, the dating of broken fragments of ceramic building material is an imprecise art and spot-dates derived from them are necessarily broad. The assemblage, which is mostly very fragmentary and worn, is described in some detail in the spreadsheet and only briefly summarised here as there is little of note.

B.3.2 The assemblage mostly comprises worn pieces and scraps of post-medieval flat roof tile (peg tile) in a hard orange-buff fabric. These have been spot-dated to the 17th-19th century, but it is quite possible that some are 18th-19th century. The two very worn pieces of tile from (4700) have a rougher look and may date to the 15th-17th century. The tiles are in a similar light-firing fabric to roof tile samples from the site of a medieval tilery at Naccolt (Kennington), near Wye - only a mile or two north of Willesborough. This only confirms that they were locally made.

B.4 Fired Clay

By John Cotter

B.4.1 A total of 8 pieces of fired clay weighing 23g were recovered from three contexts. The condition of the material is very poor and scrappy and generally undatable. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and instead the material is simply described and spot-dated below.

B.4.2 Context (106) Spot-date: Undatable (Prehistoric and later?). Description: 4 pieces (2g): Small to very small shapeless scraps. One oxidised, three reduced. One black and cindery. The smallest two might be chips of prehistoric pottery?

B.4.3 Context (3101) Spot-date: Undatable (Prehistoric or medieval?). Description: 1 piece (19g): Very worn fragment possibly part of a curved object/element with a pale grey-brown outer surface and margins and an oxidised orange-brown interior. Medium sandy texture with much very fine mica. Fairly hard but can be scratched with fingernail.

B.4.4 Context (3103) Spot-date: Undatable (Prehistoric or medieval?). Description: 3 pieces (2g): Small to very small shapeless scraps - possibly part of the same object/element? Similar in fabric and texture to FC from (3101). Soft, orange-brown core with grey outer surface.

B.5 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction

B.5.1 A moderate sized assemblage of 55 struck flints, one piece of natural flint and 12 pieces of burnt unworked flint weighing 242g was recovered from this evaluation. The flints displayed a consistently early character to the industry, most likely the Neolithic or possibly the Mesolithic period. There was also a very limited amount of flint that typified the later prehistoric period and at least two large broken blades that are probably Mesolithic but could be late Upper Palaeolithic in date.

The Assemblage

B.5.2 Ditch fills yielded 35 struck flints and one very small piece of burnt unworked flint. Ditch 6003 contained the largest assemblage of 25 pieces, 19 of which were recovered by hand with a further six in sample <6000>. The assemblage included a quite low blade index of 11.76% compared to the remaining background materials figure of 35% and may indicate that this assemblage dates from near to the end of the early prehistoric period (late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age?) or is a well-knapped later prehistoric collection. The flints included one heavily burnt denticulate on an irregular blade and there was also a simple retouched flake. No cores or related core debitage was present but at least two of the waste flakes looked to have been struck from the same nodule/core indicating knapping in the immediate vicinity.

B.5.3 Ditches in Trenches 15, 21, 37 and 56 also yielded flintwork. Trench 15 contained two such ditches, 1502 and 1505. The former contained a utilised inner flake while the latter had a broken blade form of early date. Trench 21, ditch 2102 contained two very regular thin flakes with parallel dorsal ridge scars indicative of Mesolithic or Neolithic knapping industries.

B.5.4 Trench 37 had flint from two ditches, 3705 and 3712. Ditch 3705 contained three flints including another example of a very early looking flake and also a fine blade with a soft-hammer bulb and heavy platform abrasion. Ditch 3712 contained a fine microdenticulate with regular well-spaced teeth along its left edge and heavy damage on its right edge that had very probably obliterated similar teeth there. Such pieces are found throughout much of early prehistory but examples with very regularly spaced teeth tend to belong to the earlier part of the Neolithic.

B.5.5 Two treethrows in Trench 41 contained flint. Treethrow 4103 had three pieces of burnt unworked flint weighing 42g while treethrow 4105 contained a lightly burnt flake with odd distal damage that may indicate that is was used as an expedient tool.

B.5.6 Flintwork was recovered from two contexts described as alluvium. Context 5902 yielded four flints recovered by hand while a sample taken from context 6903 generated seven pieces and three small pieces if burnt flint (4g). The flints from the alluvium were quite mixed, one very squat hard-hammer flake indicated mid-late Bronze Age or later activity, while a few thin, regular flakes and a crested flake indicate early prehistoric knapping. In addition to this, layer 5902 contained a possible broken long blade surviving to 59mm in length with a faceted platform and signs of possible use. Long blades with faceted platforms usually date to either the late/terminal Upper Palaeolithic or early Mesolithic period, with the earlier date being less likely but far more important archaeologically (Barton 1989).

B.5.7 Similar to the alluvial material, a small assemblage of five flints was recovered from two putative palaeochannel or pond fills, 3104 and 4110. Fill 4110 yielded one of the large blades discussed above. This piece was broken but still survived to around 50mm in length and looked to have broken close to the middle of the piece. The blade displayed very parallel dorsal ridges and had a faceted platform. Fill 3104 had four flints including one piece of burnt unworked material (9g) and an early blade form. It also contained an awl on the side of a squat side trimming flake of probable later prehistoric date.

B.5.8 Finally, flints were recovered from the subsoil in Trenches 31, 35, 49 and 60. This included four pieces of burnt unworked material (189g) as well as two flakes, and a small chip from Trench 60 that also contained the rich ditch fills 6003 and 6004. One possible strike-a-light or short fabricator was also recovered from the subsoil in Trench 49. This curious piece is hard to characterise and does not display signs of use as a strike-a-light. It is also possibly some very poor levallois core attempt or a form of crude, heavy denticulate.

Discussion

B.5.9 Rather oddly, the largest and freshest flint assemblage originated from the upper fills (6004-5) of a later prehistoric ditch 6003. This assemblage could be contemporary with the ditch fills, assuming they are later prehistoric but the material is more likely to be late Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date. Many of the trenches in the evaluation area record the presence of alluvium and it may be that most of the flint work recovered from here was derived from these alluvial contexts. The high levels of breakage despite quite low levels of edge damage also suggest redeposited material that has not travelled far and may have either been washed or eroded out of open ditch and pit edges where they cut through the alluvium. Modern ploughing may well have lowered the level of alluvial cover and it may have been far more extensive. This would explain the flintwork recovered as residual finds in features that no longer cut the alluvium.

B.5.10 The evaluation produced sparse flint from many of its trenches but two areas appeared to represent relative concentrations of activity. At the centre of the development area, 21, 35, 37 and 49 contained flintwork including a number of pieces

of very similar early character in Trenches 21 and 37, most probably dating to the Neolithic period. The second concentration occurred at the eastern end of the main development area where both alluvial assemblages were recovered in close proximity to each other and to flint-rich Trench 60. This may suggest that the main area of flint-related activity was in this part of the scheme and the potential exist for the recovery of in situ scatters associated with alluvial sequences and other in-filled palaeochannels as well as for quite considerable redeposited collections in later features.

Summary

B.5.11 In summary, the evaluation has recovered a moderate flint assemblage and one that could represent several periods of prehistory. There is a slight possibility that late Upper Palaeolithic material exists in the evaluation area. While rare, this would not be altogether surprising as Kent is known for several Upper Palaeolithic sites including the recovery of a long blade assemblage near Canterbury (Barton 1986). The evaluation also produced flintwork of Mesolithic or more probably, earlier Neolithic date. Similar assemblages have been recovered from the immediate vicinity at Ashford Orbital Park (OA 2011) and from the Boys Hall moated site (HE 2017). Finally, the evaluation also recovered a low level of later prehistoric flintwork, possibly associated with the cut features that they were recovered from. Several nearby excavations have also brought to light mid-late Bronze archaeology and associated flint work (HE 2017).

Methodology

B.5.12 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (e.g. Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan et al. 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

CATEGORY TYPE	Ditch 6003	Remainder	Total
Flake	15	13	28
Blade		6	6
Bladelet	2	1	3
Blade index	11.76% (2/17)	35% (7/20)	24.32% (9/37)
Irregular waste	2	2	4
Sieved chips	4	4	8
Crested flake		1	1
Awl		1	1
Microdenticulate		1	1
Retouch flake	1		1
Retouch other	1	1	2
Total	25	30	55

No. burnt (%)	6/25 (24%)	6/30 (20%)	12/55 (21.82%)
No. broken (%)	9/21 (42.86%)	18/26 (69.23%)	27/47 (57.45%)

No. retouched (%)	2/21 (9.52%)	3/26 (11.54%)	5/55 (9.09%)

B.6 Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Introduction

B.6.1 A total of seven fragments of stone were retained and submitted for analysis. These were examined by eye for evidence of working. Four of these are unworked and have not been used; they can be discarded. Two pieces of coal/shale were found in context 106 and 5902. They have not been worked but should be retained for potential future analysis to identify them more closely. A single whetstone was found in the fill of palaeochannel 3104 (3105). This is a very fine grained micaceous quartzitic sandstone, possibly Reigate stone. It has been extensively used longitudinally on all four faces so that there are grooves and sharp arrises. It measures 118mm x 22-24 x 21-26mm and weighs 116g. It could be Roman or post-Roman in date. This item should be retained and illustrated.

B.7 Metals

By Ian R. Scott

B.7.1 There are 13 objects (16 frags) of iron recovered from six contexts. All three pieces are encrusted with corrosion products and would benefit from x-radiography.

B.7.2 Context 101 (1): Horseshoe with broad branches ending in square heels with right-angle calkins. Shoe is encrusted with corrosion products and no nails or nail holes are visible Fe. L: 14mm; W: 140mm. The shoe is not closely datable but could be late medieval or post medieval.

B.7.3 Context 1503 (2-4): Nails, 1 x possibly complete nail, encrusted with corrosion. L: c 44mm; 1 x incomplete nail with flat circular head, encrusted with corrosion; and 1 x nail stem fragment. All probably hand-made. Fe. Not measured. Not closely datable.

B.7.4 Context 2103 (5): Object comprising bar of oval section apparently forked at one end. 3 x fragments. Encrusted with corrosion products. Fe. L: c 90mm. Not closely datable.

B.7.5 Context 2103 (6): Object comprising tapered or pointed rod forked at one end. Encrusted with corrosion products. Fe. L extant: 88mm. Not closely datable.

B.7.6 Context 2103 (7): U-staple, incomplete and encrusted. FE. Not measured.

B.7.7 Context 2103 (8-9): Nails. Two nail stem fragments. Fe. Not measured.

B.7.8 Context 3103 (10): Possible Horseshoe heel fragment, comprising tapered and curved strip. Partly encrusted with corrosion. Fe. L: c 84mm.

B.7.9 Context 3103 (11): Object of uncertain identification. Possibly two objects fused together. Not magnetic. Not measured.

B.7.10 Context 3105 (12): Hooked object, 2 x pieces, heavily encrusted but cross-section appears triangular in break. L: c 125mm; W: c 95mm.

B.7.11 Context 3110 (13): Nail, not quite complete, heavily encrusted. L extant: c 73mm.

B.7.12 None of the metal objects is closely datable, although the complete horseshoe (No. 1) may be late medieval or early post medieval in date.

B.8 Glass

By Ian R. Scott

B.8.1 The single piece of glass is a sherd probably from a beer bottle

B.8.2 Beer bottle. Body sherd from a moulded large cylindrical bottle with embossed lettering comprising part of a U followed by R: "…[U]R…" The glass is olive green. Not measured. The bottle was probably flagon and dated to first half of the 20th-century.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental Samples

By Sharon Cook

Introduction

C.1.1 Fifteen samples were taken during the evaluation at the M20 Junction 10a (WIM2017) in August and September 2017. These included a single monolith, sample <3500> taken from Trench 35 through peaty subsoil (3501), for reference purposes at this stage. Samples <3501>, <3502> & <3503> (3501) were a series of incremental samples from this layer taken primarily to assess the survival and condition of any Waterlogged Plant Remains (WPR). Samples <4000>, <4001>, <4002>, <4003>, <4004>, <4005> & <4006> were also incremental samples taken from the organic rich silty clay fill (4004) of an undated pond within Trench 40, again principally for the assessment of waterlogged plant remains.

C.1.2 The remaining samples were standard bulk samples taken for the recovery of charred plant remains (CPR), molluscs, bones and artefacts. Sample <3200> (3206) was taken from the fill of a small charcoal-rich but as yet undated feature [3205]; sample <4400> (4403) was taken from an undated feature [4402] within Trench 44; sample <6000> (6005) from the upper fill of later prehistoric/early Roman ditch [6003] within Trench 60, and sample <6900> (6903) from a layer of colluvium dating to the later prehistoric period, within Trench 69.

Methods

C.1.3 The bulk, CPR, samples were processed by water flotation using a modified Siraf style machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residue sieved to 500µm; both were dried in a heated room, after which the residues were sorted by eye for artefacts. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at approximately x 10 magnification.

C.1.4 For the WPR samples, a 1 litre subsample was processed by hand flotation (wash over technique). The flot and residue for these samples was collected on a 250µm mesh and kept wet to facilitate preservation. The wet flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at approximately x 10 magnification. Nomenclature follows Stace 2010.

Results

The CPR Samples

C.1.5 Sample <3200> produced a flot of 60ml which contains a mixture of charcoal and clinker type material. The charcoal is in good condition with slight encrustation observed. The majority of fragments are small but there are a few potentially identifiable pieces >4mm. Occasional modern roots are present together with some modern insect fragments and some uncharred goosefoot seeds (*Chenopodium sp.*) which are probably also modern.

C.1.6 Sample <4400> produced a flot of 25ml most of which is modern material such as roots and other plant parts including uncharred seeds. A small quantity of charcoal is present but the fragments are all very small and unsuitable for further work. Three small land snails are present together with occasional *Cecilioides acicula* which are a burrowing snail and probably modern.

C.1.7 Sample <6000> produced a flot of 25ml, as with sample <4400> this is mostly modern material such as roots, however a larger proportion of charcoal is present than in sample <4400>. The fragments of charcoal are small with only one or two fragments larger than 4mm. A single fragment of unidentifiable cereal grain and a fragment of a glume base are present.

C.1.8 Sample <6900> produced a flot of 15ml. The contained charcoal is small with only one or two fragments larger than 4mm. Modern roots and insect fragments are common with an unusually high number of insect heads observed. As these appear to of modern origin they have not been further identified. A single small fragment of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) is present however this is likely to be too small to be used for radiocarbon dating.

The Waterlogged Samples

Context 3501

C.1.9 Sample <3501> produced a flot of c10ml of which 5ml was scanned. The flot is rich in small terrestrial snails and snail fragments. Modern roots are common, and occasional insect fragments, probably also modern, are present. Three goosefoot seeds (*Chenopodium sp.*) are present and are probably also recent intrusives: one was sprouting when observed.

C.1.10 Sample <3502> produced a flot of c30ml of which 10ml was scanned. The flot contains over 20 fruit stones in the examined portion of the flot, the exteriors of which are stained and slightly encrusted. These have been provisionally identified as bird cherry (*Prunus cf padus*). A single holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) seed is also present as well as two goosefoot seeds (*Chenopodium sp.*). The flot contains fragments of snail shell together with a number of small snails.

C.1.11 Sample <3503> produced a flot of c25ml of which 10ml was scanned. A single bird cherry stone and a small unidentified wild plant seed are present together with fragments of snail shell and several complete small snails.

Context 4004

C.1.12 The samples from context (4004) all produced large flots of between 200 and 250 ml. 25ml of each was scanned. These flots were fairly uniform with all containing large amounts of fibrous material, mostly root and stem type fragments with some small wood pieces. The uppermost samples <4000> and <4001> contained some fine modern roots which are not present within the lower samples in this sequence. Seeds are extremely rare with a single raspberry/blackberry (*Rubus sp.*) seed within sample <4002>, the only observed seed in the sequence. Occasional small insect fragments are present within the lower samples <4004>, <4005> and <4006> but these are very

few in number. Occasional small snails (<10 in scanned portion) are present in sample <4000> but were not observed within the other samples.

Discussion and Conclusion

C.1.13 The presence of charcoal and a very small quantity of other charred plant remains indicates that this material does survive but the relative paucity of this material is likely to be an indicator that the sampled features are at a distance from main settlement activity and/or food processing areas.

C.1.14 The incremental waterlogged samples show that the survival of waterlogged material is patchy, with loss of less robust material likely in the sampled deposits. The fruitstones found within organic layer (3501) probably derive from an overhanging tree. While the results from context (4004) are disappointing in their lack of identifiable material, they do demonstrate that there is a high potential for organic material to survive in deeper features, and pollen preservation is likely and should be considered for any future sampling strategy.

C.1.15 Mollusc preservation is good within organic layer (3501) but snails are scarce in other features and deposits. Consequently, for any further excavations a sampling strategy should consider incremental sampling for snails from deeper datable sequences, particularly where organic material survives, and from any buried soils or datable colluvial deposits, to provide information on the nature of the local landscape. Incremental samples may need to be larger than the usual 1 or 2 litres.

C.1.16 No further work is recommended for these samples at this time, but the monolith and the remaining soil from the incremental samples has been retained and could be used for additional study if further work is carried out on site in the near future.

C.1.17 If further excavation is carried out sampling should be carried out in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines (eg. Oxford Archaeology, 2005 and English Heritage, 2011).

C.2 Waterlogged Wood

By Julia Meen

C.2.1 A single fragment of waterlogged wood was sent to the Environmental Laboratory at Oxford Archaeology South for further analysis. The fragment is of irregular shape measuring approximately 40mm x 60mm. No obvious cut-marks or other signs of working were observed. The wood is a maximum of 8mm thick and includes the outer bark and the inner, secondary phloem. As little xylem tissue was present it was difficult to clearly see the anatomical characteristics required for species identification and therefore, no identification was possible.

C.3 Animal Bone

By Lee G. Broderick

Introduction

C.3.1 A total of 142 animal bones were recovered from the site, mostly from contexts which did not also yield ceramic finds, which were the basis for dating the assemblage. The only part of the assemblage that could be phased on this basis dated to c.AD 1175-1300 (context 3105). The assemblage was in moderate to good condition with no particular pattern of preservation observed – range extremes were present in the dated and undated components. All of the material was recovered by hand.

C.3.2 Domestic cattle (Bos taurus taurus) and caprines (sheep [*Ovis aries*] or goat [*Capra hircus*]) were both present in the dated component of the assemblage but the caprine specimen (a left tibia) was in excellent condition. It may possibly, therefore, be intrusive. The majority of the undated material came from context (3908) which consisted of a sheep ABG (Associated Bone Group). This was a female individual, around 20 months of age according to epiphyseal fusion date.

C.3.3 Root-etching was particularly evident on the foot bones of the ABG, suggesting that the animal may have been disposed of upside down in a shallow ditch. No evidence for butchery was present but lesions, consistent with osteochondrosis, were present on both metatarsals. It's probable that the burial represents disposal of deadstock from natural causes.

C.3.4 Given the very small size of the dated assemblage no further work on it is recommended and the material should be considered a low priority for retention.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen, T, Barclay, A, Cromarty, A, M, Anderson-Whymark, H, Parker, A, Robinson, M, and Jones, G, *Opening the wood, making the Land; The Archaeology of a Middle Thames Landscape, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age, Vol 1*, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **38**

Archaeology South-East, 2015 *Post-excavation assessment and updated project design report, Charing Quarry, Hook Lane, Charing, Ken*. Unpublished grey literature report

Bamford, H., 1985 *Briar Hill: excavation 1974-1978*, Northampton: Northampton Development Corporation. Archaeological monograph **3**

Barton, R N E, 1986 *A Study of Selected British and European Flint Assemblage of Late Devensian and Early Flandrian Age*. Unpublished PhD Thesis, University of Oxford

Barton, R N E, 1998 Long blade technology and the Question of British late Pleistocene/early Holocene lithic assemblages, in *Stone Age Archaeology: Essays in honour of John Wymer* (eds N Ashton, F Healey & P Pettitt), Lithic studies society occasional papers **6**, Oxbow, 158-16

Bradley, P, 1999 The worked flint. In A. Barclay and C. Halpin. Eds. *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire*, Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph **11**: 211-227.

Canterbury Archaeological Trust, 1999, *Waterbrook Farm, Ashford: Report on Evaluation Trenching in 1992, Report and Assessment of Excavations in 1993*. Unpublished client report

Cotter, J P, 2006, 'The Pottery' in K Parfitt, B Corke and J Cotter, *Townwall Street Dover Excavations 1996*. The Archaeology of Canterbury New Series III, 121-254 and 407-416.

English Heritage, 2011. *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (second edition). Centre for Archaeology guidelines.

Fletcher, C and Cotter, J P, 2012 'Pottery' in R Atkins and M Webster *Medieval corn-driers discovered on land probably once part of Repton Manor, Ashford*, Archaeologia Cantiana 132, 282-84.

Harding, P, 1990 The worked flint, in *The Stonehenge environs project*, (ed J C Richards) London, English Heritage

Healy, F, 1988 *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hil, North Elmham, Part VI: Occupation during the seventh to second Millennia BC*, East Anglian Archaeological reports 38

Highways England 2017 M20 Junction 10a, TR010006. Archaeological intrusive evaluation, written scheme of investigation

Inizan, M.-L, Reduron-Ballinger, M, Roche, H and Tixier, J, 1999 *Technology and terminology of knapped stone*, Cercle de Recherches et d'Etudes Préhistoriques, CNRS, Nanterre.

Jones, G P, 2012 Pottery, in *Excavations south-east of Park Farm, Ashford, Kent. Part 2: Finds and environmental reports* (A B Powell), Wessex Archaeology, http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/10/006.pdf

Kent Past 2010 *History of Sevington* http://www.kentpast.co.uk/sevington.html

Oxford Archaeology, 2005. *Sampling guidelines.* Unpublished document (revised 2010).

Oxford Archaeology, 2011 *Ashford Orbital Park, Oxford*, Oxford Archaeology Unpublished client report.

Onhuma, K and Bergman, C A, 1982 Experimental studies in the determination of flake mode, *Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, London* **19**, 161-171

Saville, A., 1980 On the measurement of struck flakes and flake tools, *Lithics* **1**, 16-20.

Stace, C, 2010 *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd Edition. Cambridge: CUP.

Stratascan, 2010 *Geophysical Survey Report; M20 J10a, Ashford Kent*. Ref:J2780

Wessex Archaeology, 2008, *Area A, Waterbrook Park, Ashford, Kent: Post-Excavation Assessment Report* Unpublished client report

Wessex Archaeology, 2012a *Land at Sevington West, Sevington SWC8:03/04/06 Ashford, Kent* Unpublished client report

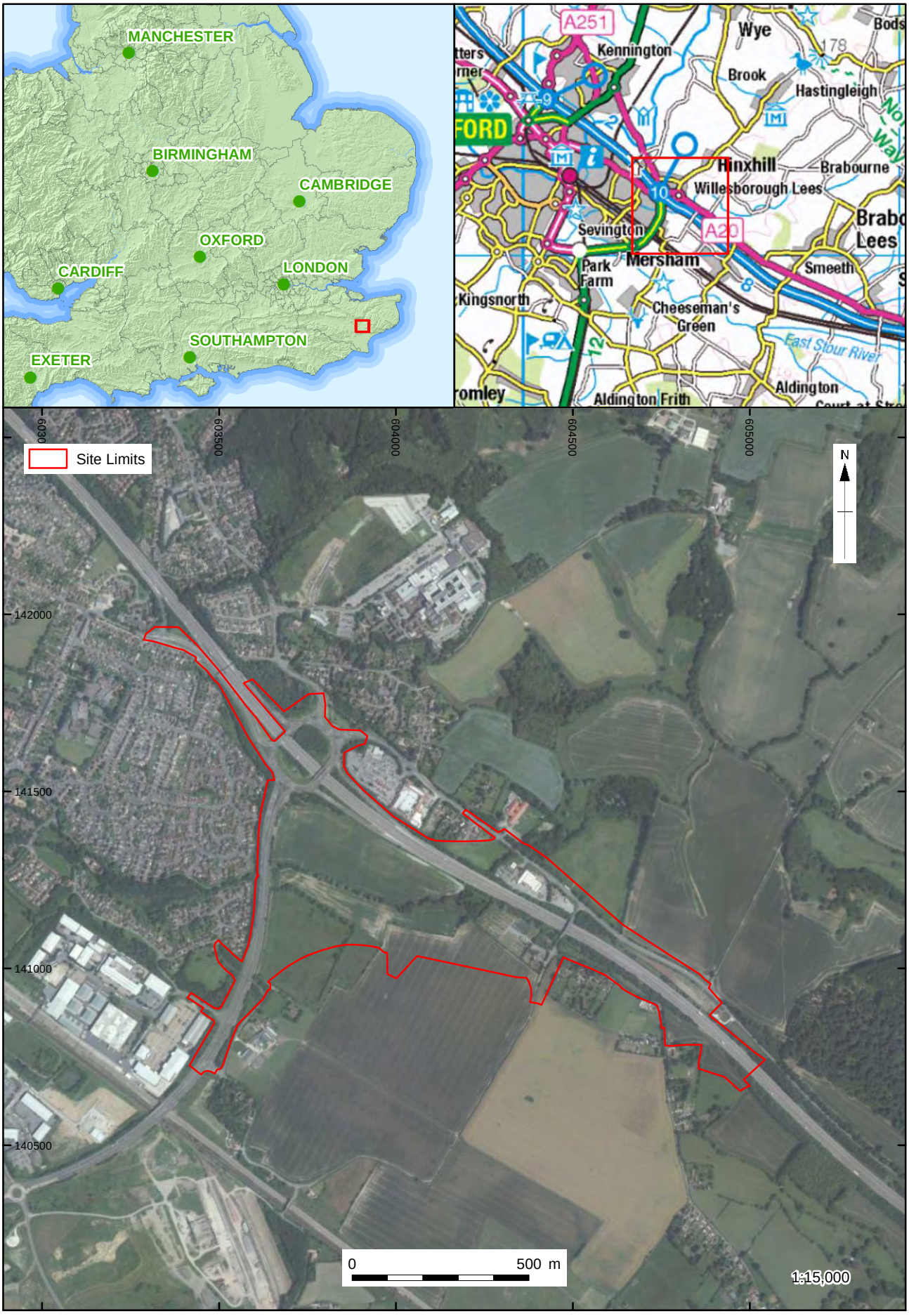
Wessex Archaeology, 2012b *Sevington J10C9:043/04/06 Ashford Kent; Walkover survey, metal detecting and evaluation trenching report* Ref: 86670.02 Unpublished client report

Maps

OS First Edition, 1876 1:10,560 map
Figures 2-6 are overlaid on the OS 25” map (1898)

APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS

Site name:	M20 Junction 10a, near Ashford, Kent
Site code:	WIM2017
Grid Reference	TR 04060 41328
Type:	Evaluation
Date and duration:	31/09/17 – 06/09/17
Area of Site	c. 27 Ha
Location of archive:	The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. At present there is no museum accepting archives in the Ashford area. The archive will be retained for the time being at OA, pending identification of a suitable repository.
Summary of Results:	Oxford Archaeology was commissioned by Highways England to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the site of the M20 Junction 10a improvements, Ashford, Kent. The evaluation comprised 69 trenches, which were located to investigate anomalies identified during a preceding geophysical survey. A modest number of archaeological features were identified during survey and evaluation trenching, including 36 linear features such as ditches that may be indicative of the past field systems. Seven possible cremation burials were uncovered in Area 4. Two possible palaeochannels were present, as well as one pond. Post-medieval and modern features were concentrated in Area 1: three post-medieval field boundaries were identified which correlated with boundaries on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. Limited quantities of artefacts were recovered during the evaluation, which has made the dating of most features highly uncertain. A small number of features produced broadly datable artefacts. Dateable features were mostly medieval, but also contained residual prehistoric artefacts. A palaeochannel in Area 2 contained medieval pottery. Residual flint found in several features spread across the site most likely relates to an area of prehistoric tool production and use.



X:\m\M20_J10A_EVAL\010Geomatics\03 GIS Projects\Figure1_M20J10.mxd*aidan.farnan*19/09/2017

Figure 1: Site location

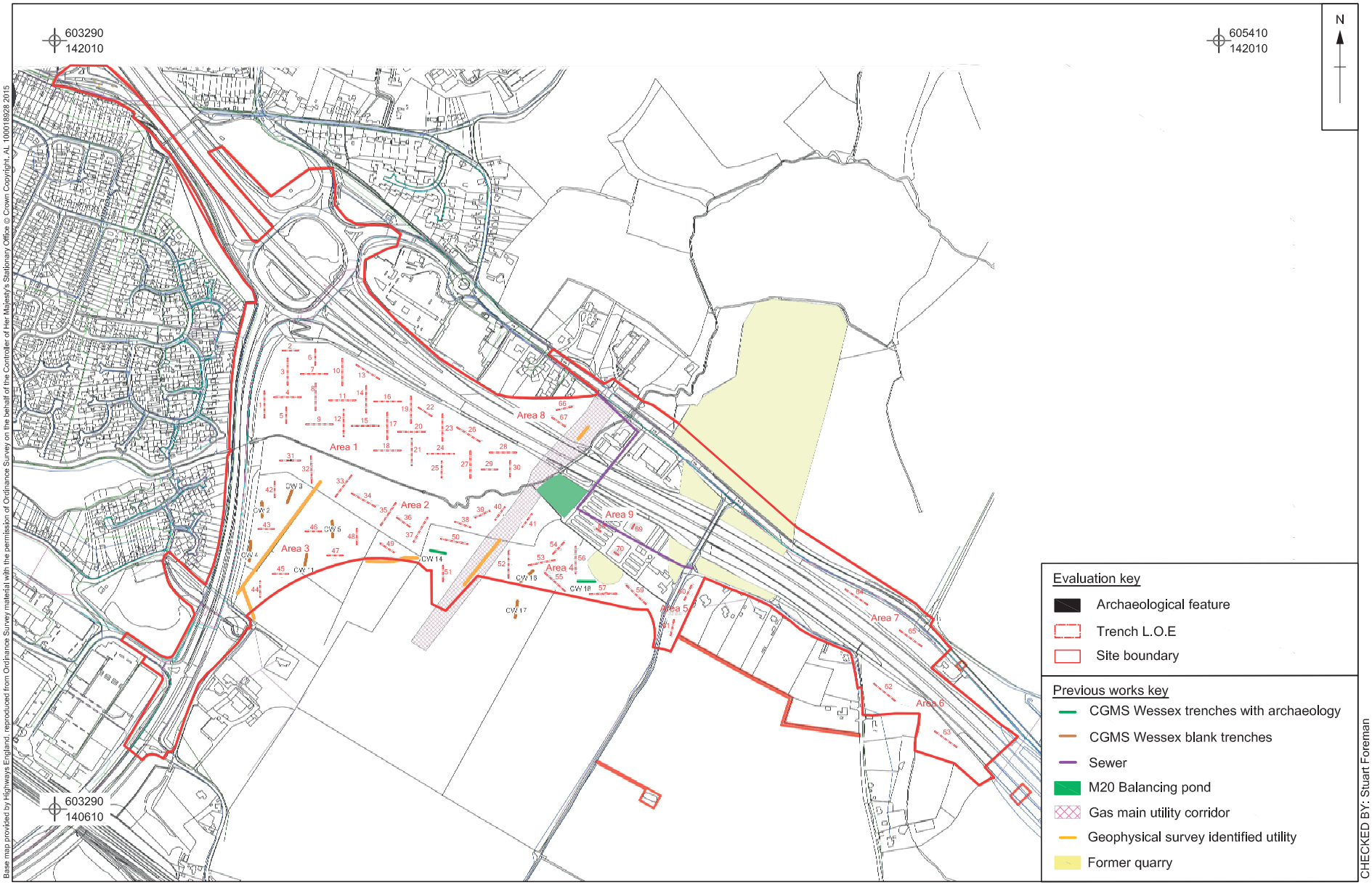


Figure 2: Trench layout

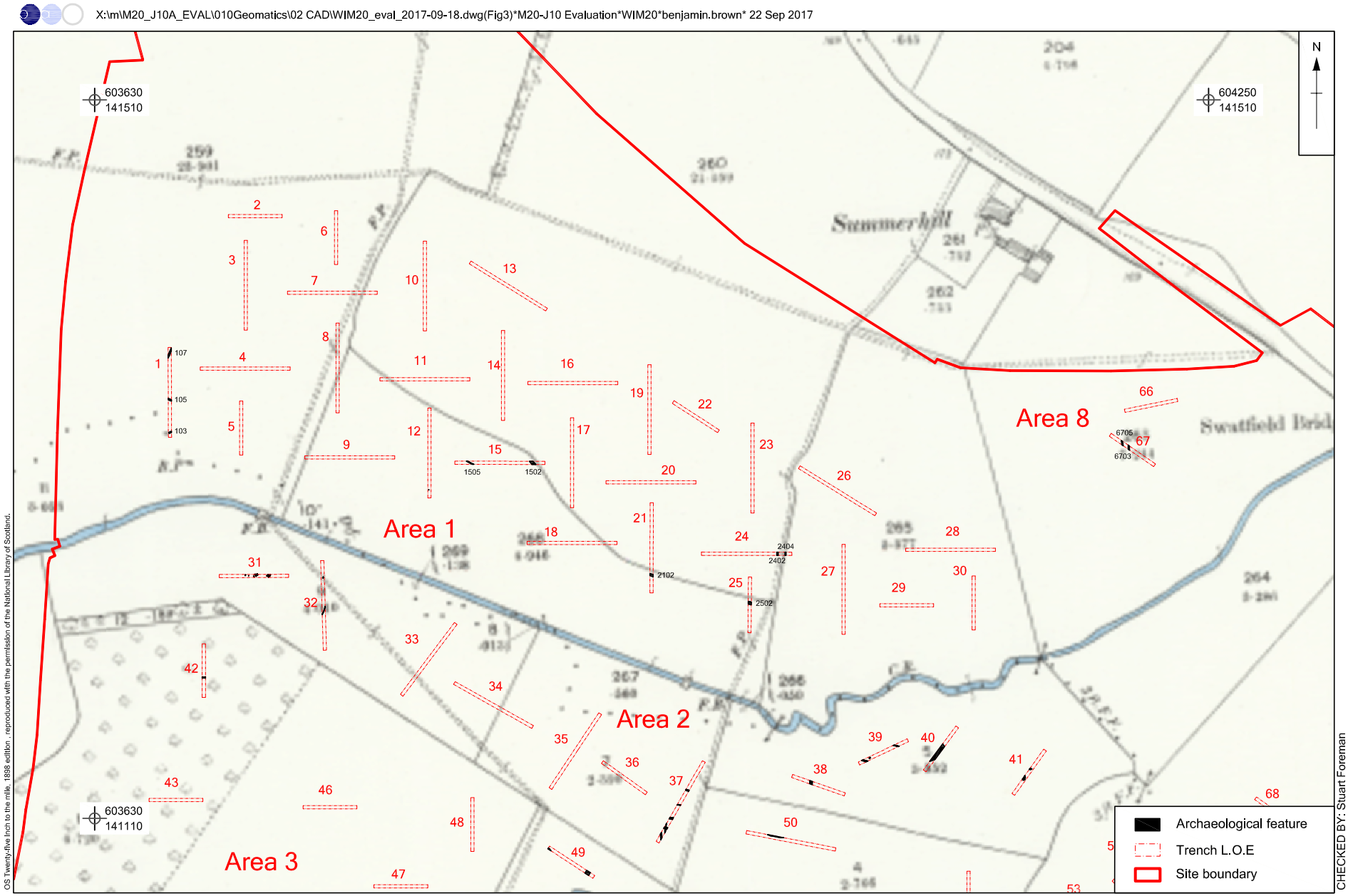


Figure 3: Area 1 and 8, overlain on OS 25" Map (1898)

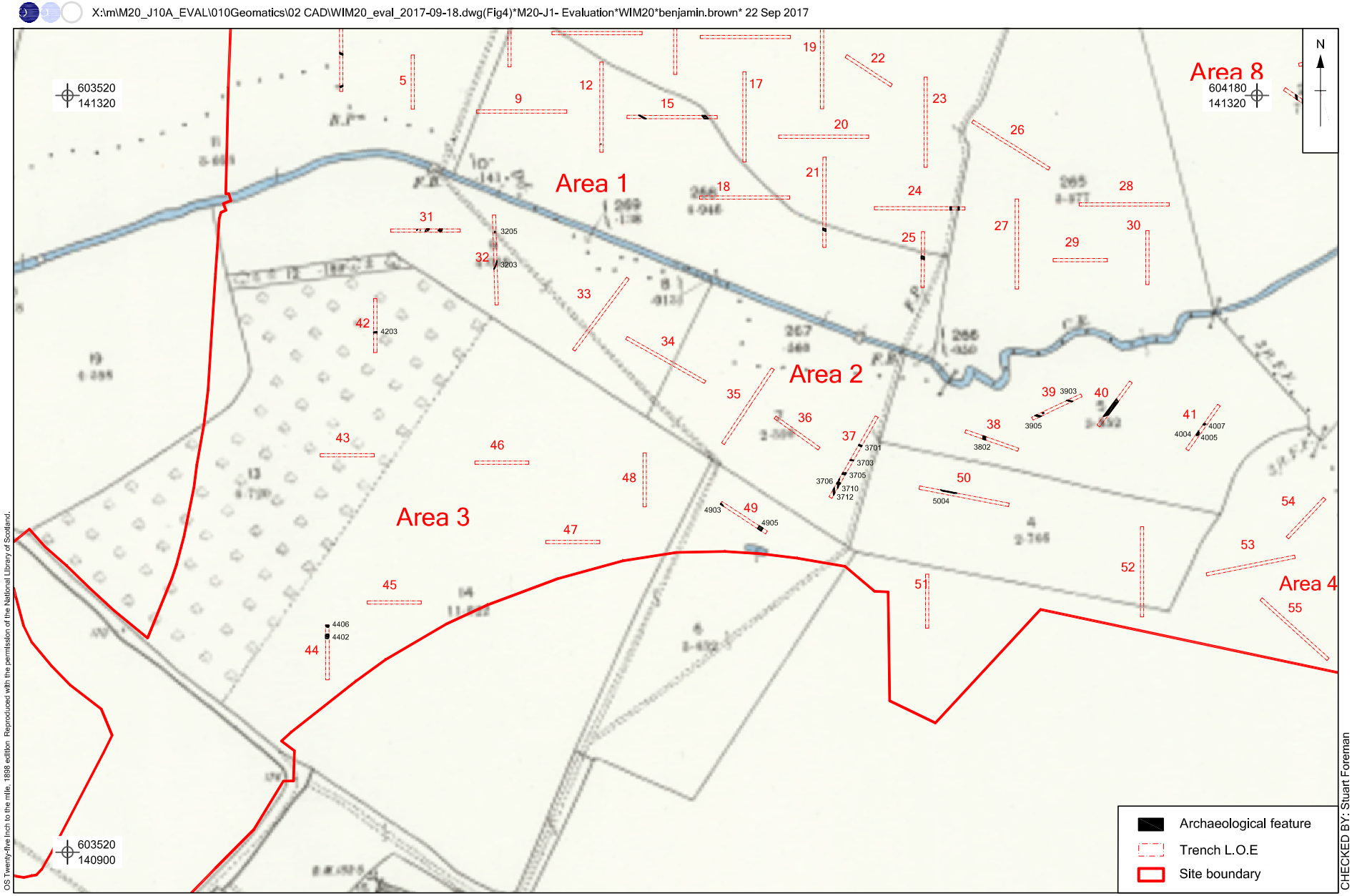


Figure 4: Area 2 and 3, overlain on OS 25" Map (1898)

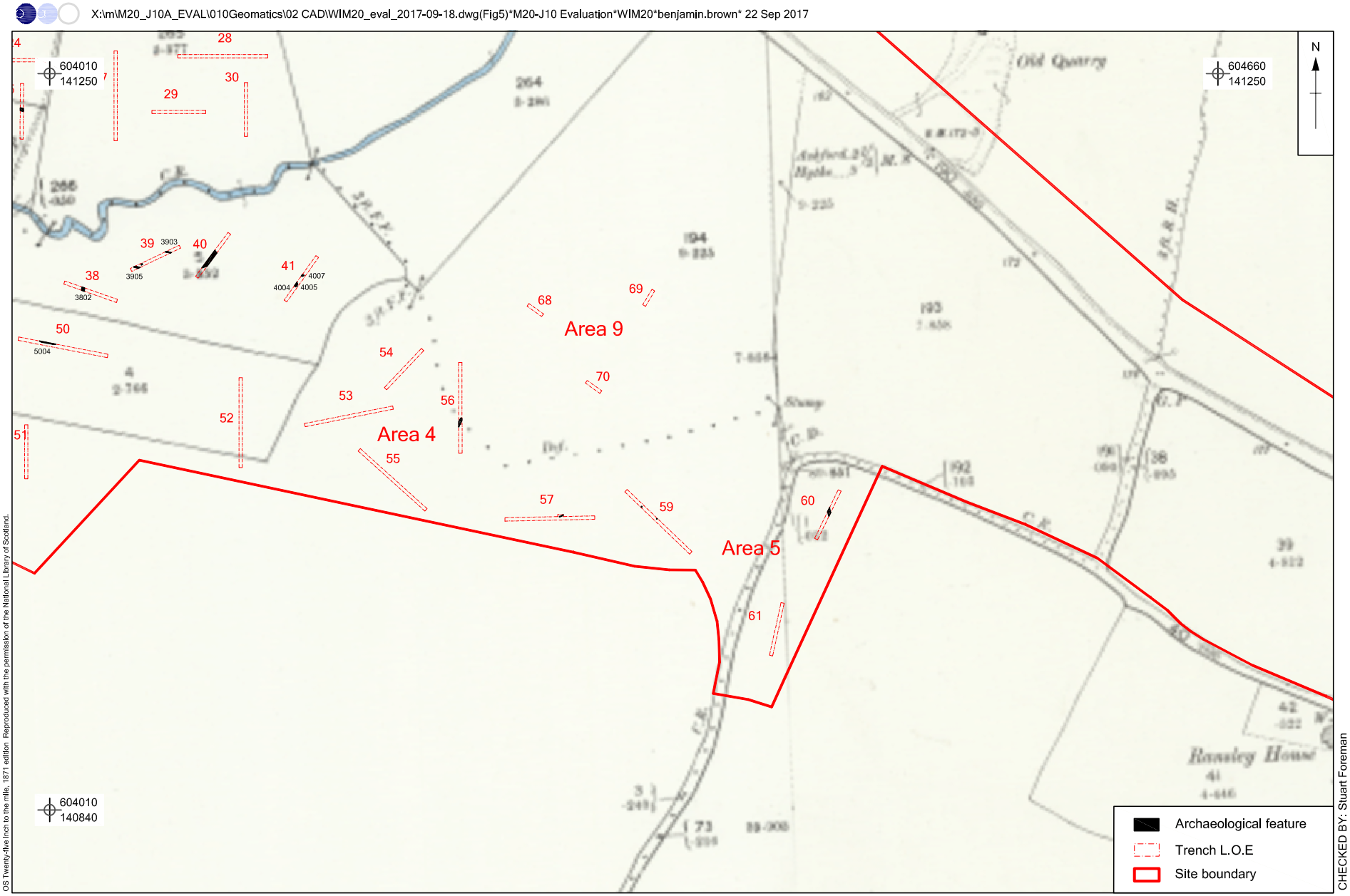


Figure 5: Area 4, 5 and 9 overlain on OS 25" Map (1898)

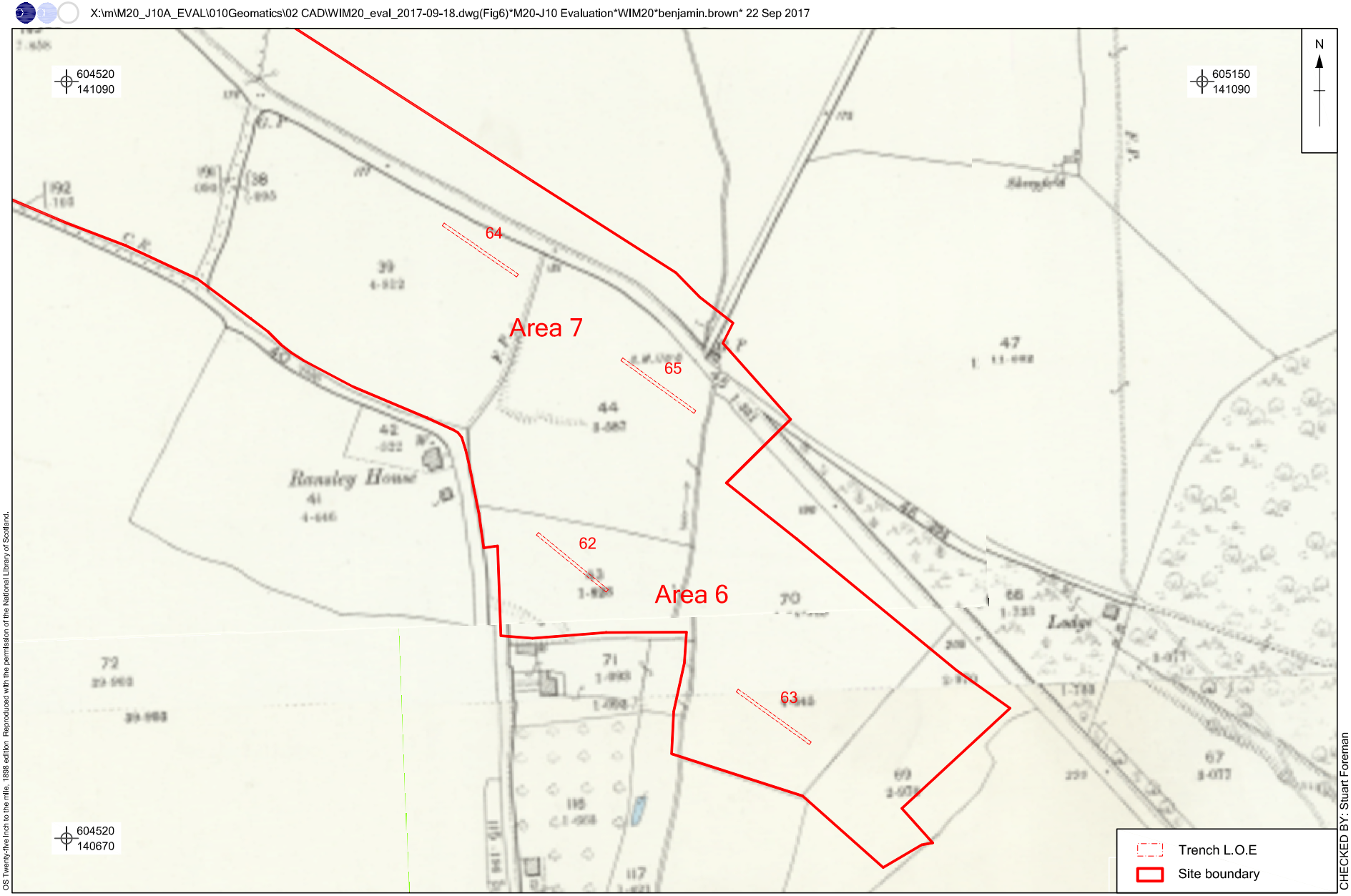


Figure 6: Area 6 and 7 overlain on OS 25" Map (1898)

X:\m\M20_J10A_EVAL\010Geomatics\02 CAD\WIM20_eval_2017-09-18.dwg(Fig7)*M20-J10 Evaluation*WIM20*benjamin.brown* 22 Sep 2017

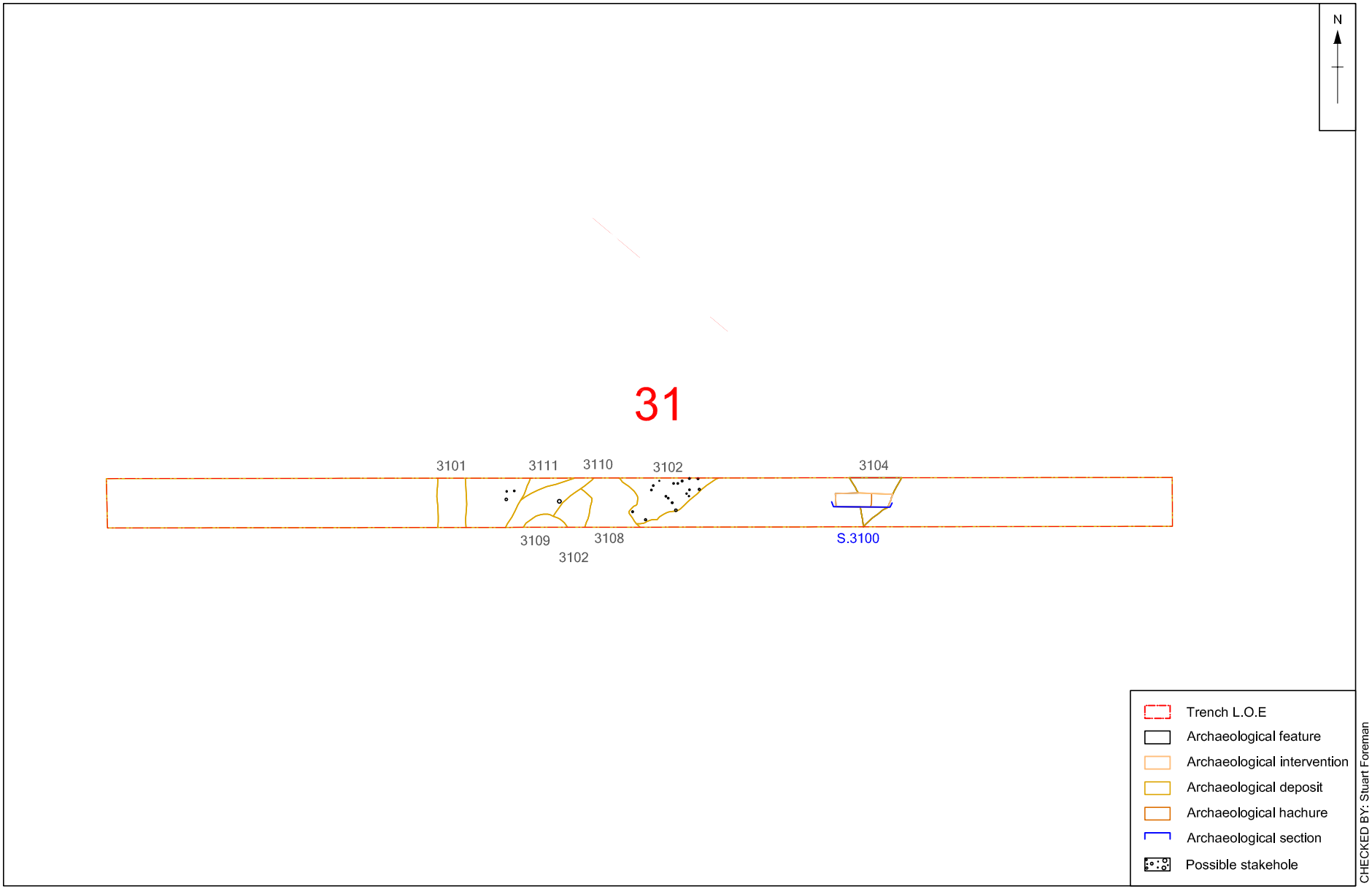


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 31

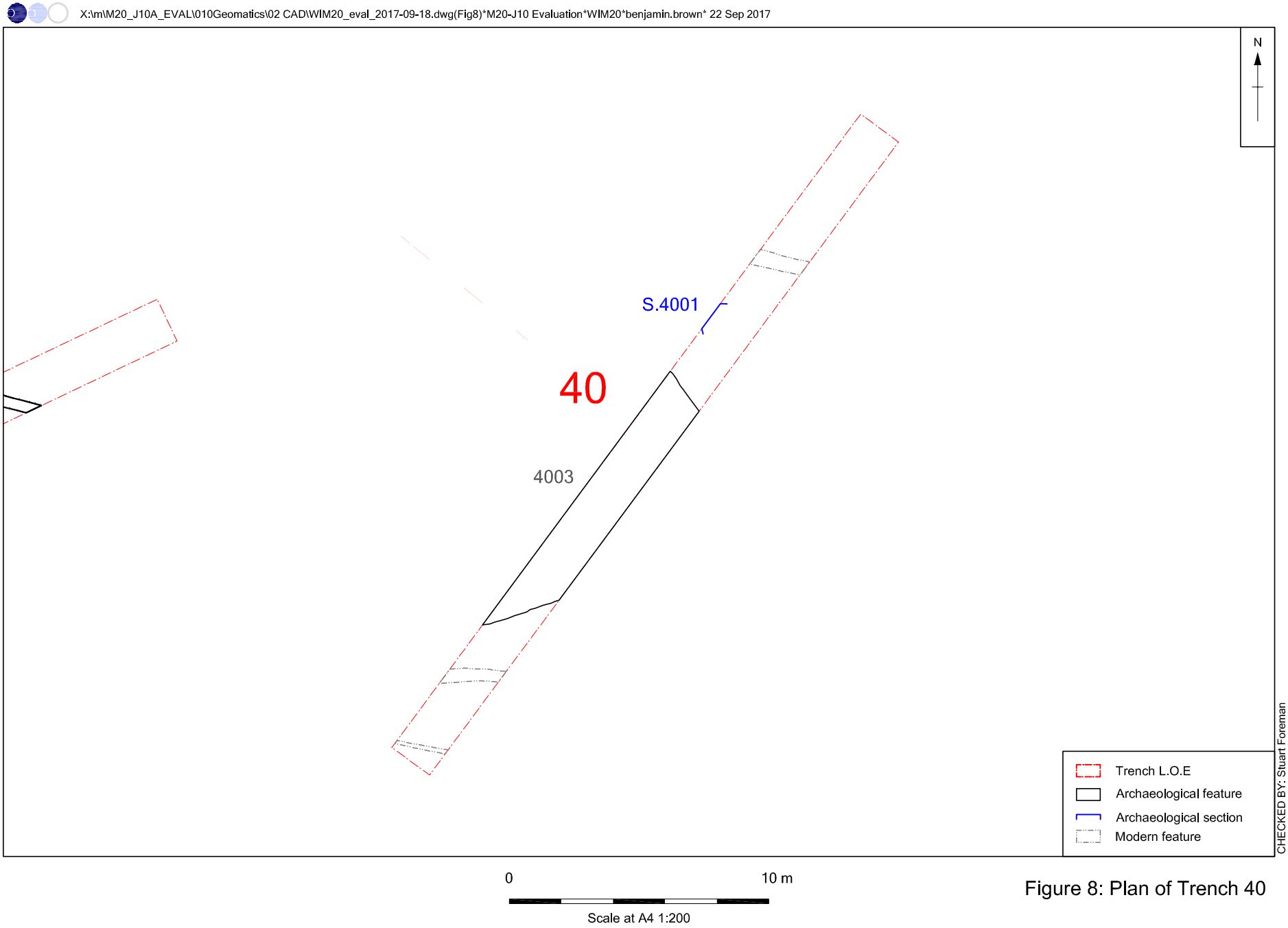


Figure 8: Plan of Trench 40

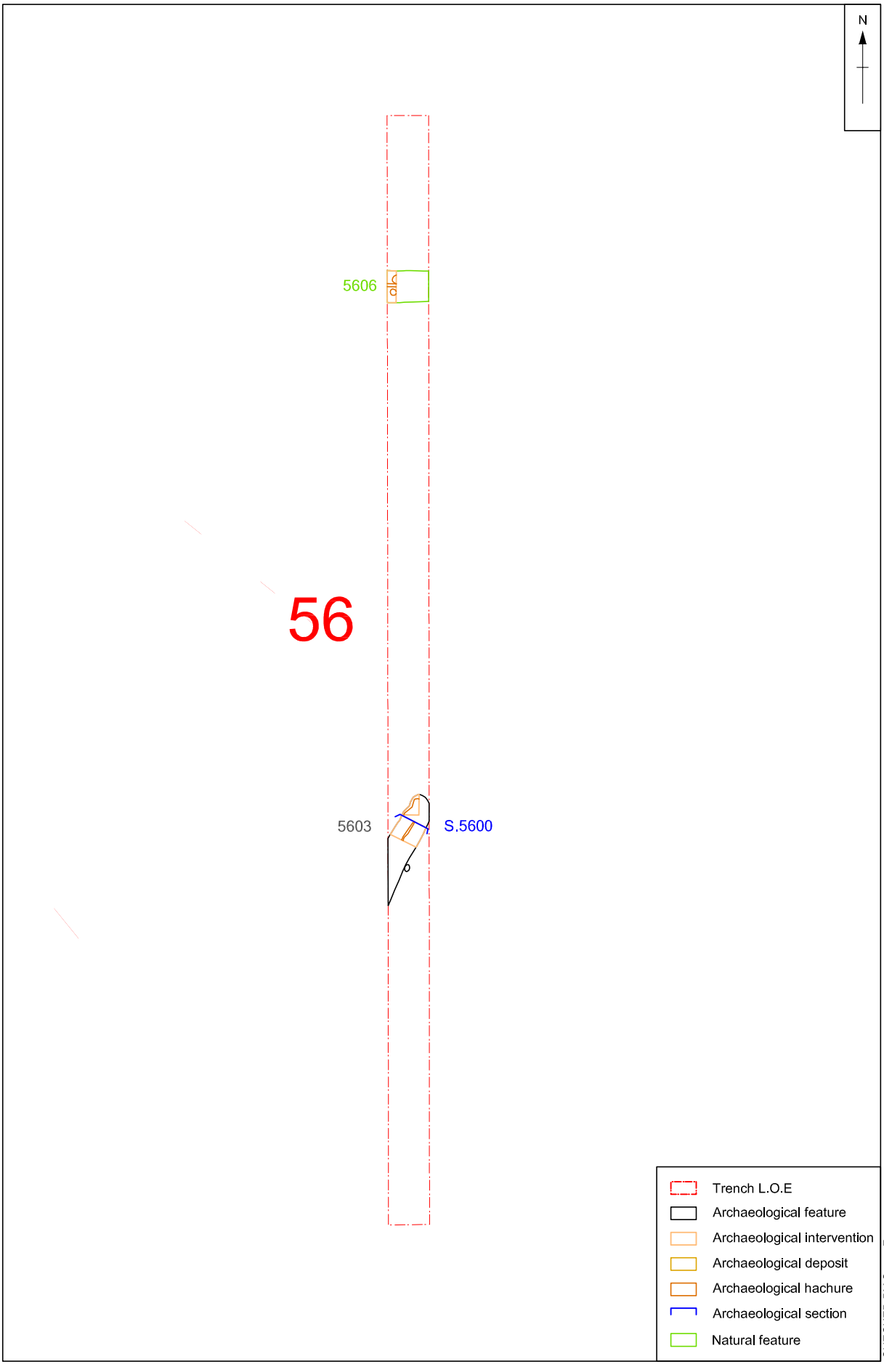


Figure 9: Plan of Trench 56

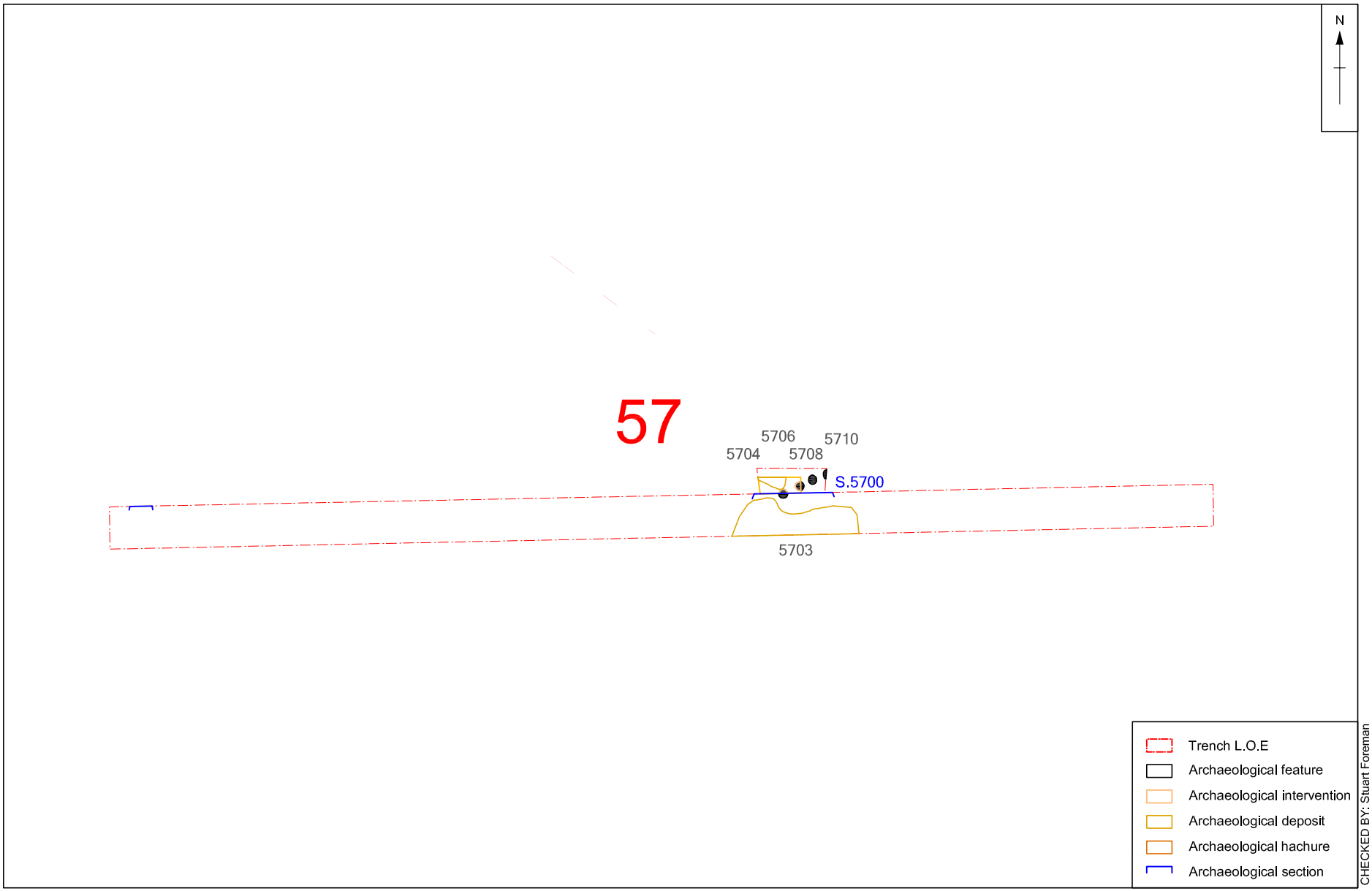


Figure 10: Plan of Trench 57

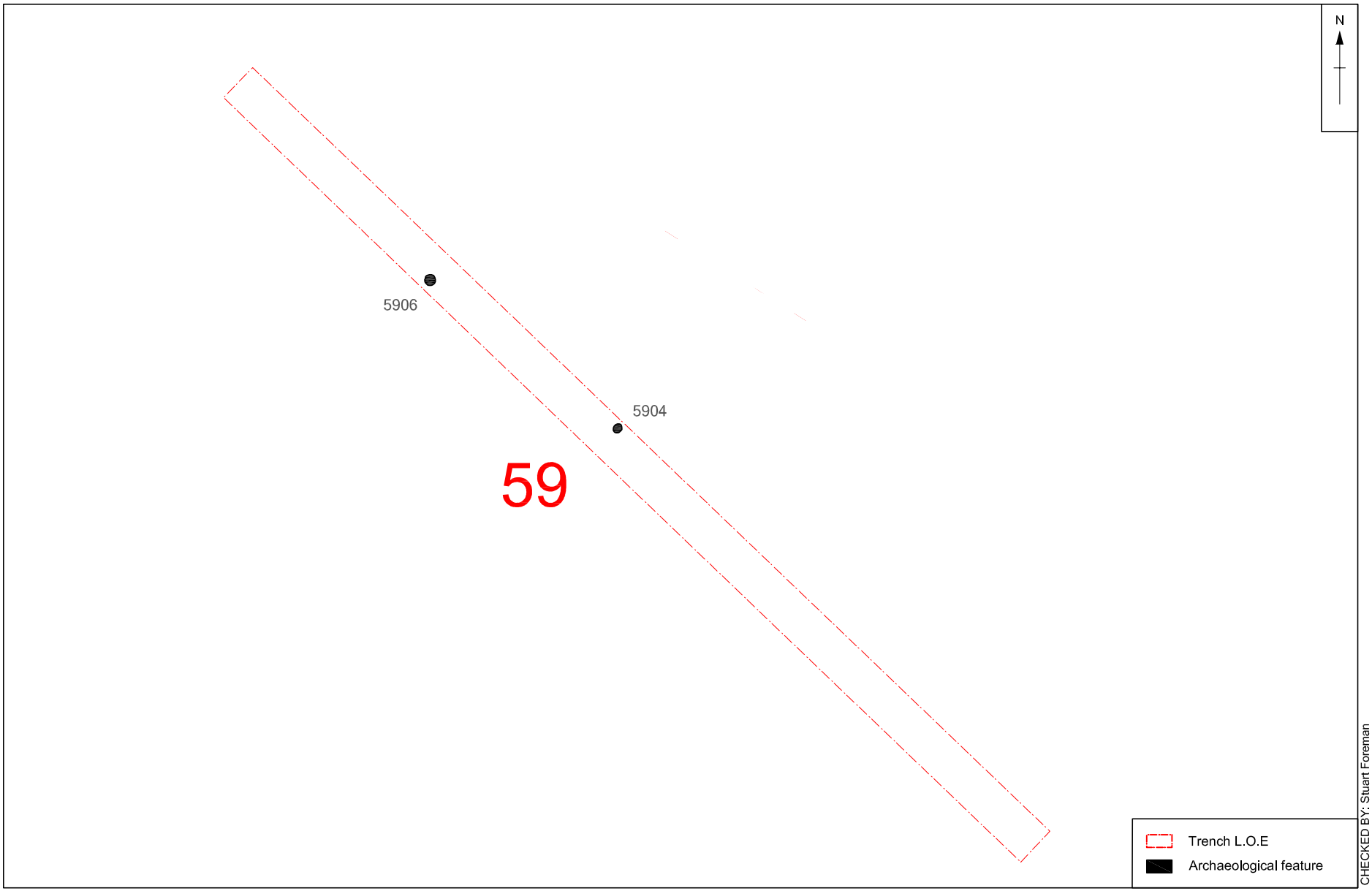


Figure 11: Plan of Trench 59

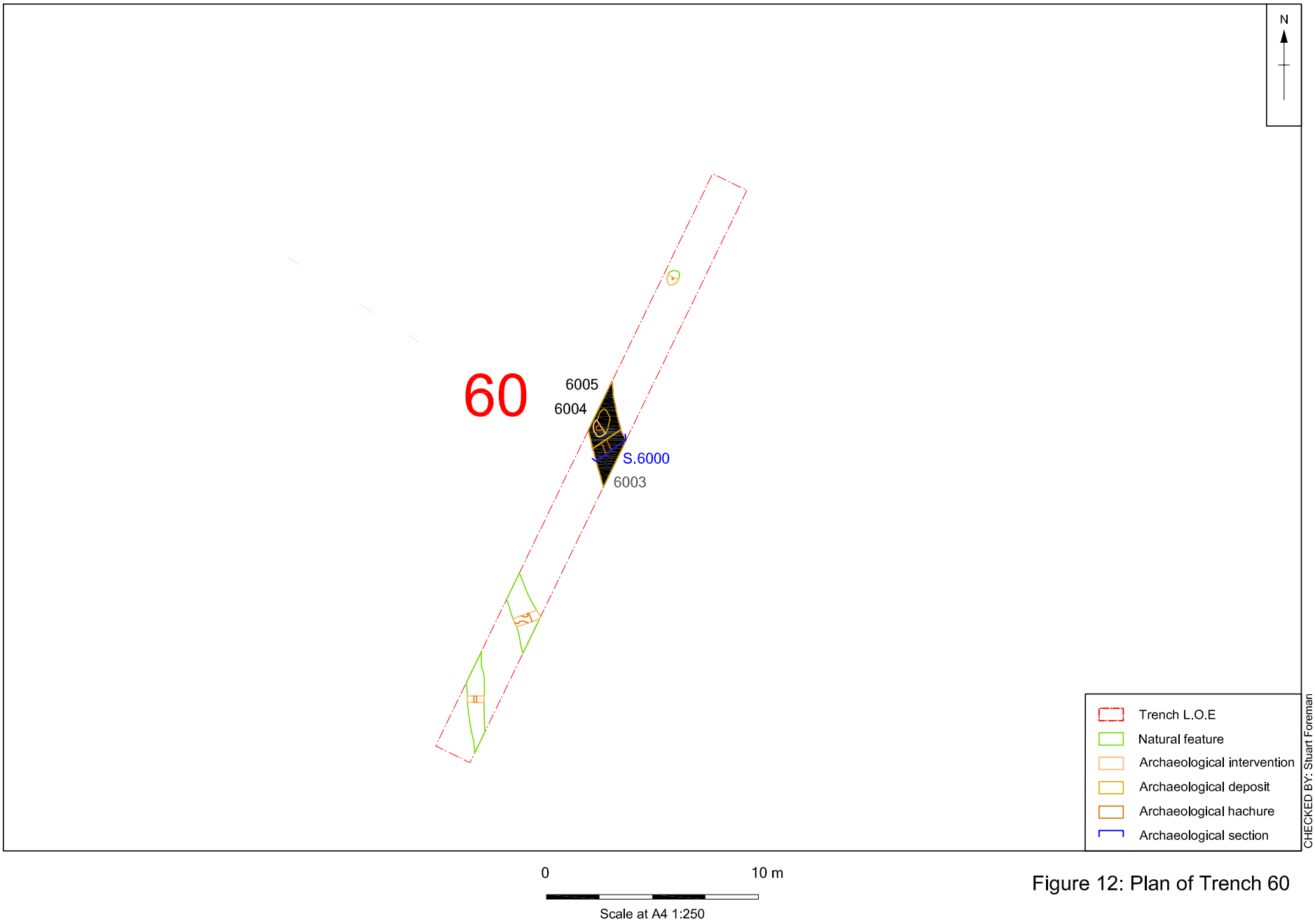
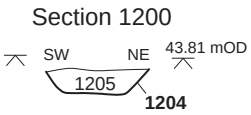


Figure 12: Plan of Trench 60



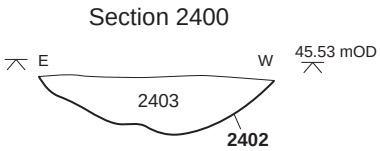


Figure 13: Sections from Trenches 12 and 24

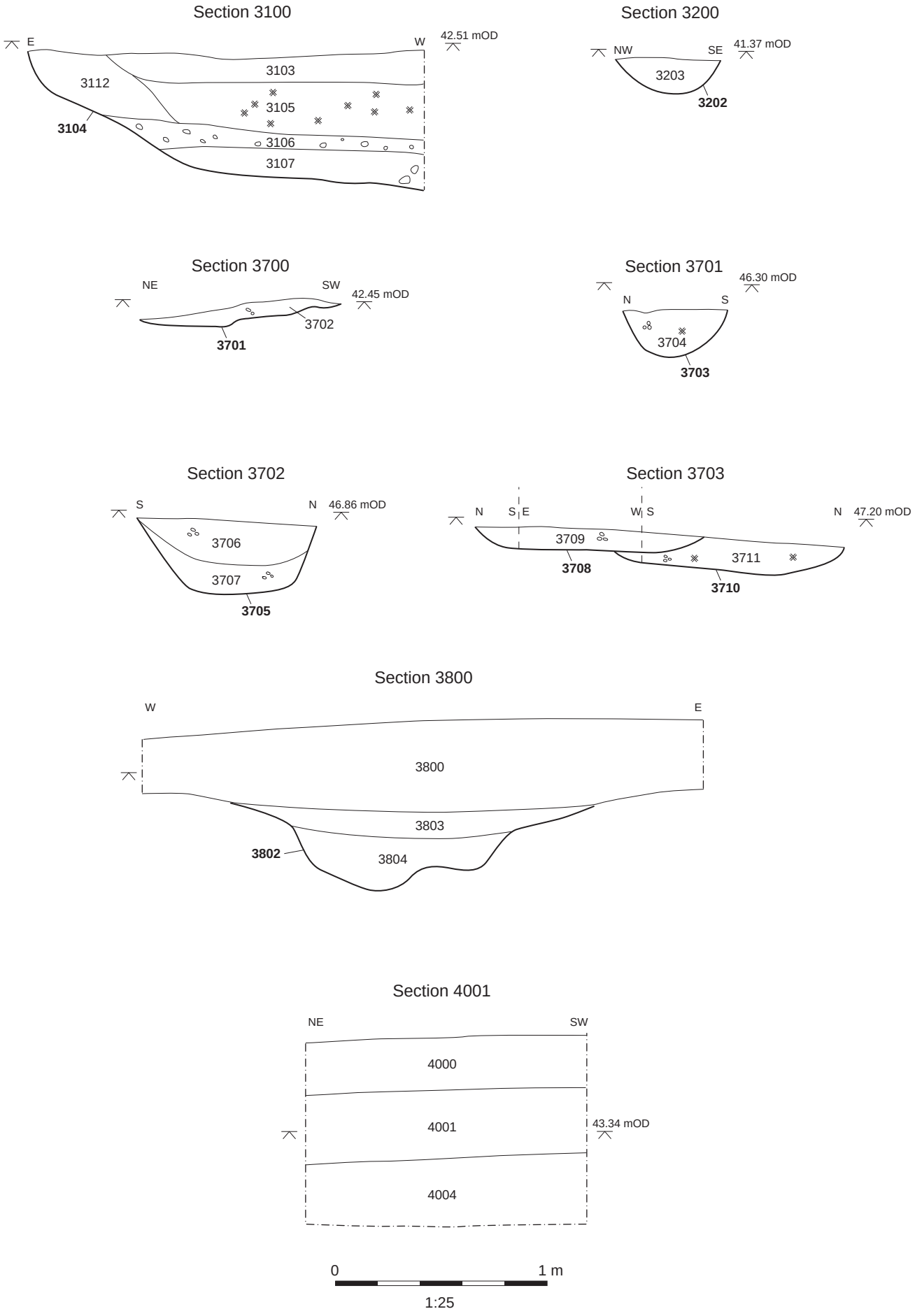
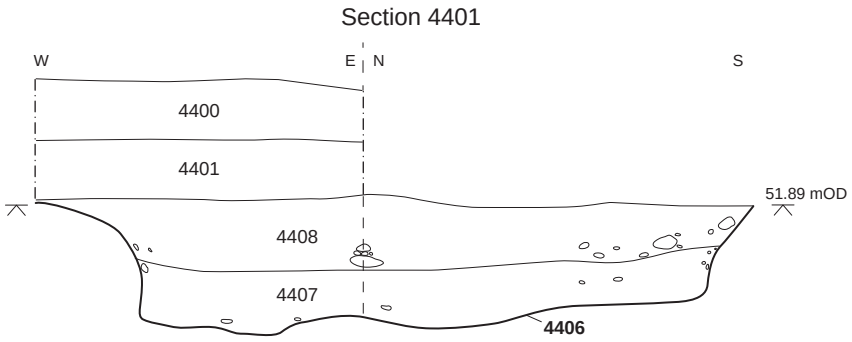
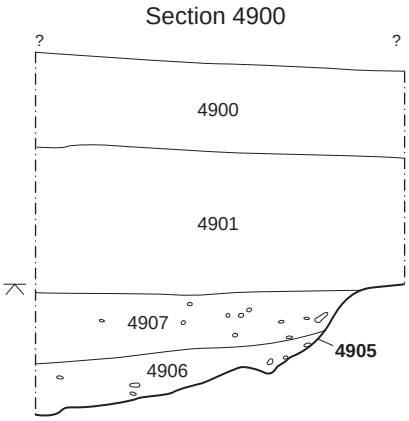


Figure 14: Sections from Trenches 31, 32, 37, 38 and 40





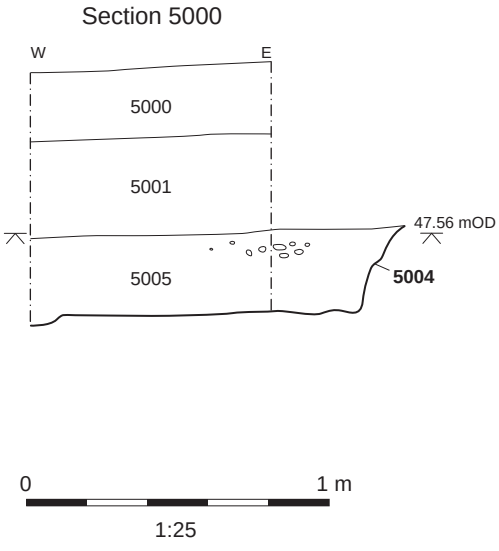


Figure 15: Sections from Trenches 44, 49 and 50

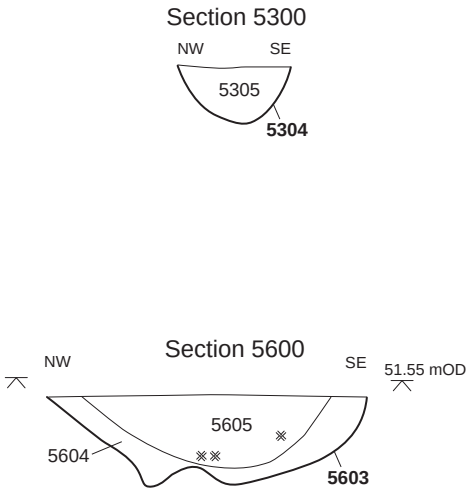


Figure 16: Sections from Trenches 53 and 56

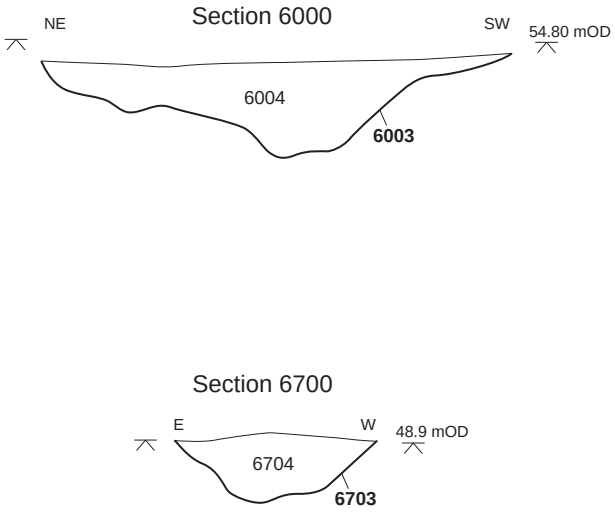


Figure 17: Sections from Trenches 60 and 67

Plate 1: Trench 31, palaeochannel 3104

Plate 2: Trench 80, pond 8001

Plate 3: Trench 57, possible cremation burials 5704, 5706, 5708 and 5710

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com