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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Perry Court Farm, Faversham, Kent

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Orion Heritage on behalf of Hallam Land Management to undertake an evaluation of the site of a proposed housing/mixed use development at Perry Court, Faversham, (centred on TR 01148 60011).

The work consisted of 47 trenches excavated between 14th September and 4th October 2016. The features show some correlation to the geophysical survey results, particularly in Trenches 24, 35, 46 and 47 and possibly Trench 13, but many features were not detected prior to trenching. This may be related to the variable underlying geological deposits and/or the ephemeral nature of some of the features.

Evidence was found for activity from two main periods, the middle to late Bronze Age and the late Iron Age to early Roman periods.

The evaluation demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains in 26 out of the 47 trenches excavated and investigated. The majority of features recorded were linear features (18 and 3 probable furrows or broad ditches), along with pits (11), four possible stony boundary features, two quarry features and a deposit spread.

Only 11 features could be provisionally dated in this investigation.

One feature in Trench 8 was dated to the middle to late Bronze Age, and a deposit/spread in Trench 15 might be of a broad late Prehistoric date. It is difficult to characterise any middle to late Bronze Age activity based on the single feature but it may not exist in isolation.

A further nine features were dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period.

Features were uncovered in Trenches 12, 33, 35, 37, 41, 46 and 47. All were linear in form except the small pit in Trench 12. The majority of the linear features may be small boundaries for fields of this period, which seem to be concentrated around Trenches 33, 35 and 37. Other linear features may be of the same date but produced no artefacts to confirm this.

In the south-western part of the site the linear features in Trenches 46 and 47 demonstrated two probable phases of activity, one ditch being re-cut. The features correlated closely with features seen in the geophysical survey. The survey suggests a rectilinear subdivided feature that measures 46m by 80m. Whether this is structural or an enclosure with rubbish being discarded into open features is unclear. The finds suggest a settlement of relatively high status possibly with a wide range of associated activities.

The quantity of Roman remains recorded within the study area should be viewed in the context of the locality of Watling Street, to the north, with its related settlements, villas and a possible harbour to the north. The focus within the investigation area appears to have been the features seen in the south-west around Trenches 46 and 47.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Orion Heritage on behalf of Hallam Land Management to undertake an evaluation of the site of a proposed housing/mixed use development, centred on TR 01148 60011 (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The work was undertaken in relation to a planning application for mixed use development (15/504264/OUT). The application has been approved. The County Principal Archaeological Officer has advised that the local planning authority attach the permission with the following condition;

1.1.3 '*AR5 No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of an archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and ii following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority Reason: To ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation in situ or by record. It would be preferable if the evaluation, which should comprise both geophysical survey and evaluation trenching could be undertaken in advance of any future detailed planning submission in order that preservation issues can be taken account of in future design and detailed permissions.'*

1.1.4 A geophysical survey was carried out by Headland Archaeology (HA 2016 - see background section below). The methodology for the evaluation was produced by Oxford Archaeology (OA 2016) and approved by Simon Mason on behalf of the LPA. This report details the results of the archaeological evaluation.

1.1.5 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*' (revised 2008) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012).

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies to the north of the M2 and is bound by Brogdale Road to the west and Ashford Road to the east. The area of proposed development currently consists of arable fields centred on TR 01148 60011 (Fig. 1).

1.2.2 The geology of the central part of the investigation area is Seaford Chalk Formation overlain with Head deposits. The underlying geology at the eastern part of the site is Thanet Sand Formation. The site was essentially flat arable land lying at *c* 30m OD.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A desk-based assessment of the site was produced by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2015). The following summarises the results of the assessment.

Prehistoric

1.3.2 The only prehistoric remains in the study area comprise some late Iron Age pottery and a leaf shaped arrowhead (Neolithic in date) recorded c 100m to the east of the site.

1.3.3 An Iron Age farmstead has been recorded to the north of the site near the Faversham Creek. The presence of a number of sherds of Iron Age pottery near the site is indicative of at least some limited late prehistoric activity in the vicinity, although the evidence suggests that the focus of activity in the area was at Faversham Creek.

Roman

1.3.4 Watling Street lies *c* 200m to the north of the site. This was one of the primary roads in the Roman province. Other Roman remains close to the site are four or five skeletons with a silver Roman coin that were located near Watling Street *c* 500m to the north-east of the study site, and a number of urns and a coin have been recorded *c* 300m to the north of the site.

1.3.5 The focus of Roman settlement in the Faversham area appears to have been centred between Watling Street and the Swale to the north of the site. A small roadside town has been recorded at Ospringe, along with a series of villa estates between Watling Street and the Swale, and a settlement in the present town centre. It has been suggested that there could have been a harbour on Faversham Creek but no evidence of this has been found as yet.

Saxon & Medieval

1.3.6 Faversham has Saxon origins and was an important royal centre but the settlement was focussed on the Creek beside a former ford, well away from the site.

1.3.7 Faversham developed into a busy sea port and medium-sized market town during the medieval period focussed on Faversham Creek to the north. The site would have been within the agricultural hinterland of the medieval town during this period

Post Medieval and Modern

1.3.8 There are two post-medieval structures close to the site. These are Filmers windmill that stood near the Windmill pub at Preston c 400m to the north-east, and Perry Court Farm that is recorded as a regular U-plan courtyard farmstead.

1.3.9 A number of post-medieval sites/features recorded on the Kent HER within the study area have no direct bearing on the study site and therefore will not be described in any detail in this report. A summary of these features can be found in the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2016).

1.3.10 The same report includes a full summary of the cartographic evidence for the development of the site. This outlines the sites development from open countryside to small orchards by the end of the 18th century, the addition of chalk pits in 1898 and the construction of an oast house by 1908, further orchards to the west were introduced by 1961 and the M2 was opened in 1965.

Undated

1.3.11 An undated denehole (commonly interpreted as man-made shaft excavations) was observed in the south-eastern field.

Geophysical Survey

1.3.12 Geophysical survey of the site (Headland Archaeology 2016) revealed linear anomalies forming at least two conjoined rectangular enclosures in the south-west of the site and pit type anomalies across the southern part of the site (Fig. 3).

2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The aim of the evaluation was to identify the presence or absence of archaeological remains and, if present, characterise any such remains in order to provide sufficient information for planning decisions and/or future mitigation of development impact on the remains by full excavation and recording.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 An array of 47 trenches, each 50m x 2m, was excavated to investigate any geophysical anomalies. Trenches were also located in areas where no geophysical anomalies were recorded (Figs. 2 and 3). This represented a 3% sample of the area of proposed development impact. The area to be evaluated excluded the south-west corner of the site, as it will remain as greenorth-southpace within the development red line boundary. However, it was considered useful to understand the nature of the rectilinear anomalies revealed by geophysical survey, so these were targeted with two trenches (46 and 47).

2.2.2 All trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

2.2.3 All fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with standard OAS practices (Wilkinson 1992) as outlined in the WSI.

2.2.4 The discovery of a pot in a feature in Trench 8 led to it being 'block' lifted and carefully excavated in laboratory conditions, rather than in the field.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, beginning with a summary of the trench results, followed by a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. An index of all trenches is presented in Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The underlying geology consisted of a varied range of deposits that changed across the site, including areas of yellow, orange and brown silty clays.

3.2.2 The ploughsoil was between 0.2 and 0.4m thick. A lower subsoil or possible colluvium was noted in a small number of trenches (Trenches 23, 25, 29 and 32) clustered together towards the central eastern area.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 There was no overall pattern to the distribution of archaeological remains. The datable deposits ranged from the Bronze Age onwards, with a significant number being of Romano-British origin (Fig. 2).

3.3.2 Of the 47 trenches excavated, 26 contained archaeological features. The majority of features recorded were linear features (18 and 3 furrows), along with pits (11), two quarry features and a deposit spread.

3.3.3 The 21 trenches that contained no significant remains and will not be discussed below, were as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 30, 34, 38, 42 and 45.

3.3.4 In general, the Bronze Age activity was identified as one area focused towards the north-east (Trench 8). The Late Iron Age to early Roman activity was concentrated more towards the south and west (Trenches 12, 33, 35, 37, 41, 46 and 47). The remaining undated features were at a low density across the site.

3.3.5 The archaeological features and deposits were cut from or lay immediately beneath the ploughsoil or subsoil where present, unless otherwise stated.

3.4 Trench results

Trench 6

3.4.1 The trench contained a probable field boundary 603 (Plate 1) in the form of a linear arrangement of three stones within a possible bank. The deposit contained no artefactual material and was undated.

Trench 7

3.4.2 The trench contained a shallow undated linear feature (703) 0.65m wide, with a rounded terminus at the western end. The feature was of uncertain origin and function and may have been a small ditch or natural depression.

Trench 8

3.4.3 The trench contained a discarded (or possibly placed) pot 804, (Plate 2) within a linear ditch 805, 0.2m wide, aligned east-west. The pot was middle to late Bronze Age in date and flint fragments were also found.

Trench 11

3.4.4 The trench contained a probable pit (1103) located at the south end (Fig. 4, Plate 3). The single fill contained no artefactual material and was undated.

Trench 12

3.4.5 The trench contained two inter-cutting pits: pit 1203 cut pit 1205 (Fig. 4, Plate 4). Each pit had a single fill. The fill of pit 1203 (1204) contained pottery dated to 50 BC-AD 50.

Trench 13

3.4.6 The trench contained a 1m-wide, north-south aligned ditch (1303) (Fig. 4, Plate 5). The single fill (1304) contained undated fired clay and animal bone.

Trench 14

3.4.7 The trench contained four relatively shallow pits, 1403, 1405, 1407 (Fig. 4, Plate 6) and 1409 (Plate 7) and a 0.44m wide east-west aligned ditch 1411. Each pit had only a single fill and only fill 1410 within pit 1403 contained any finds consisting of undated fired clay fragments.

Trench 15

3.4.8 The trench contained an expanse of a possible buried ground surface. The layer 1503 was within a confined area, 1504, and contained both pottery and flint of later prehistoric date (Fig. 4, Plate 8).

Trench 17

3.4.9 The trench contained a 0.61m wide ditch, 1704, aligned NW-SE (Fig. 4). The single fill,1703, contained undated worked flint fragments.

Trench 18

3.4.10 The trench contained an east-west aligned ditch, 1804, (Fig. 4) 0.46m wide, which had a single fill that contained undated fragments of fired clay and flint.

Trench 24

3.4.11 The trench contained two parallel linear ditches or furrows, 2403 (Figs. 5 and 7, Plate 9) and 2405 aligned north-south, both were approximately 4m wide. Each had a single fill, neither of which produced any artefactual material.

Trench 25

3.4.12 The trench contained a layer of subsoil and a possible stone field boundary 2503 (Fig. 5, Plate 10). This was seen as a north-west trending alignment of ten large rounded stones, within subsoil 2504.

Trench 29

3.4.13 The trench contained an undated possible stone field boundary 2904 (Plate 11) comprising an aligned east-west alignment of four large sub-angular stones, and an area of lower subsoil 2907. The lower deposit, 2907, contained no artefactual material.

Trench 31

3.4.14 The trench contained a possible field boundary 3104 in the form of a linear arrangement of three stones within a possible bank or accumulated deposit 3105 (Plate 12).

Trench 32

3.4.15 The trench contained a 1.1m-wide north-south aligned ditch, 3204, with a single undated fill. The trench had a lower subsoil /colluvial deposit, 3203.

Trench 33

3.4.16 The trench contained a 1.4m wide, east-west aligned ditch, 3303 (Plate 13). The single fill, 3304, contained Roman pottery dated to AD 50-160.

Trench 35

3.4.17 The trench contained two parallel east-west aligned ditches, 3503 was 1.3m wide and 3505 (Plate 14) was 0.77m wide. Each ditch had a single fill but the more northerly ditch, 3505, had late Iron Age – early Roman pottery dated to 50 BC-AD 50.

Trench 36

3.4.18 The trench contained a NW-SE aligned ditch, 3603, 0.78m wide. The single fill contained no artefactual material.

Trench 37

3.4.19 The trench contained a 3.28m wide furrow, 3703, and a parallel 0.44m wide north-south aligned ditch, 3705 (Plate 15). The fill of the ditch contained fired clay / CBM of broadly Roman date.

Trench 39

3.4.20 The trench contained a large circular feature, possibly a chalk quarry or extraction pit, 3903 (Plate 16). The feature was 6.12m in diameter and over 1m in depth. The fill contained no artefactual material.

Trench 40

3.4.21 The trench contained two parallel north-south aligned ditches. Ditch 4003 was 0.75m wide and contained a single fill, while ditch 4005 was 0.66m wide and contained two fills. None of the fills produced any artefactual material.

Trench 41

3.4.22 The trench contained two east-west ditches aligned ditches, 4105 and 4107, and two pits, 4103 and 4109. Each feature had a single fill and only fill 4108 of ditch 4107 contained artefacts which were pottery fragments broadly dated to the Roman period.

Trench 43

3.4.23 The trench contained a 0.84m wide north-south aligned ditch, 4303, which had a single fill that yielded no artefactual material.

Trench 44

3.4.24 The trench contained a large circular feature, 4403, possibly a chalk quarry or extraction pit. The feature was 5.9m in diameter and over 1.7m in depth. The fill contained no artefactual material.

Trench 46

3.4.25 The trench contained two north-south ditches aligned ditches, 4603 and 4605 (Figs. 6 and 7). Ditch 4603 (Plate 17) contained a single fill that had a small assemblage of finds which included pottery, flint, animal bone and hammerscale. The late Iron Age – early Roman pottery was dated to 50 BC-AD 100. The flint was dated to the later prehistoric period.

3.4.26 Ditch 4605 had a single fill, 4606 which contained late Iron Age – early Roman pottery dated to the 50 BC-AD 100 and fragments of animal bone.

3.4.27 Ditch 4605 was later re-cut as 4607 (Plate 18). The re-cut contained two fills, 4608 overlain by 4609. The lower fill contained Roman pottery dated to AD 50-100, and animal bone. The upper fill contained pottery, fired clay, animal bone, metal and flint. The Roman pottery was dated to AD50-70 and the metal which included elements of a toiletry set dated to the 1st century AD. The flint was of earlier prehistoric date.

Trench 47

3.4.28 The trench contained two ditches, 4703 and 4708 (Figs 6 and 7). Ditch 4703 was 1.4m wide, north-south aligned and filled by 4704 and 4705 (Plate 19). The upper fill (4704) contained Roman and Saxon pottery dated to AD 410-650, as well as flint and animal bone.

3.4.29 Ditch 4708 was 1.65m wide, east-west aligned and filled by 4706 and 4707 (Plate 20). The upper fill 4706 contained Roman pottery dated to AD 50-70, fired clay of possible late Iron Age to Roman date, animal bone, metal, flint and shell.

3.5 Finds and environmental summary

3.5.1 A moderate quantity of artefactual material was recovered from the features recorded in the evaluation. The range of material included pottery, fired clay / ceramic building material (CBM), flint, metal and animal bone. A fuller description of the finds can be found in Appendices B and C.

Pottery

3.5.2 Pottery from 14 contexts was recovered, with a total of 261 sherds weighing 3.155kg.

3.5.3 The earliest pottery was recovered from context 805 which contained the remains of a bucket-shaped vessel in a flint-gritted fabric for which a middle to late Bronze Age date is likely.

3.5.4 The majority of the assemblage belongs to the late Iron Age or early Roman period (*c* 50 BC-AD 100). Groups containing grog-tempered pottery of late Iron Age tradition in association with post-conquest material have been dated to the mid to late 1st century AD. There are no groups that must date before AD 43. No context groups were dated with certainty to the middle or late Roman period.

3.5.5 Vessels include: storage jars, cordoned jars, bead-rimmed jars, a jar with rilled decoration, a lid, and a bead-rimmed platter, a girth beaker, a carinated beaker and cordoned bowls. There were also flagons in white-slipped fabrics including some from the North Kent industry, and a base from a large flagon from the Verulamium region.

3.5.6 There were fragments of imported wares: a beaker rim of terra rubra fabric, a platter in South Gaulish samian ware, a glazed ware from Central Gaul, and a fragment of probable Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4 wine amphora fabric from Campania.

3.5.7 While locally-made grog-tempered pottery is predominant, the presence of imported wares from north, central and south Gaul and Italy, as well as copies of Gallo-Belgic forms in North Kent fine reduced ware, points to knowledge of continental styles of dining among the inhabitants of a settlement of relatively high status and with good trade links.

3.5.8 The latest pottery was a sherd from an organic-tempered vessel of early Anglo-Saxon date. It was found with relatively well-preserved Roman-period pottery, and may therefore be intrusive.

Fired clay / CBM

3.5.1 A total of 21 fragments (132g) was recovered from six contexts by hand excavation and sieving. No diagnostic pieces were recovered, though one forming a flat slab with a flat moulded surface and a rough base may be a fragment of oven plate. Another hard-fired piece with a very smooth flat surface may possibly be Roman tile rather than plate. A small fragment from the edge of an imbrex was recovered from context 3706. Much of the remainder is indeterminate, mostly amorphous or occasionally with a flat moulded surface, though likely to derive from oven structures. However, a number of pieces have a distinctive cerise or pink colouring, which can sometimes result from the effect of salt on the clay.

3.5.2 The assemblage is fragmentary and can only be dated within very broad parameters. It seems likely, however, that the assemblage is of late Iron Age to Roman date.

Metal

3.5.3 There is a small number of metal finds from three contexts. Most of the objects are from context 4609. These include a nail and nail fragments, a small quantity of possible hammerscale and a Roman three-piece toilet set. The only other finds are a small quantity of possible hammerscale from context 4604 and a nail from context 4706. The possible hammerscale from context 4604 is associated with pottery dated 50 BC-AD 100, and the nail from context 4706 with pottery dated AD 50-70. The finds from context 4609, which include a toilet set of 1st-century date, are associated with pottery dated AD50-70.

Roman Toilet Set

Flint

3.5.4 A moderate assemblage of 69 struck flint, three natural fragments and 218 pieces of burnt unworked flint (1046g) was recovered from this evaluation. Feature fill 804 yielded two worked flints and a large oval burnt flint cobble that may have been utilised. Buried soil layer 1503 produced 15 flints consisting of 11 flakes, two blade/lets, and two cores as well as 63 pieces of burnt natural flint weighing 133g. The assemblage is fairly

typical of later prehistoric knapping strategies with frequent use of hard-hammer percussors and relatively simple butt types. One core on a thermal chunk best typifies these expedient strategies. The context probably contains flints from more than one period as the blade forms are almost certainly earlier in date. Pit fill 4104 contained one of the more interesting assemblages consisting of 16 pieces as well as 148 burnt flint fragments weighing 757g. The assemblage was very flake based but included a partially crested blade as well as two very thin regular flakes. The assemblage recovered from Trench 46 highlighted the potential of that area being near to a focus of early prehistoric activity.

Animal bone

3.5.5 A small collection of animal bone (80 fragments weighing 492g) was collected by hand during the evaluation excavation and from the residues of sieved samples from two ditch fills within Trench 46. Sample <1> (4609) from a Roman re-cut of a early Roman ditch and sample <2> (4604) from the upper fill of a late Iron Age-early Roman ditch from the same enclosure. The small assemblage includes all three of the common domesticates, cattle, sheep/goat and pig, with adults and younger animals present. It is likely that all of the bones classified as caprine (sheep/goat) are from sheep. This is typical for a late Iron Age/early Roman mixed farming economy, but the assemblage size is far too small for further interpretation.

Shell

3.5.1 A collection of European flat oyster (*Ostrea edulis* L.) valves was recovered by hand on site and from the residues of the sieved soil samples (567g). Most of the shell came from context 4706. Oysters are often found on Roman sites (for example Nicholson 2015), and it is likely that the majority of shell is of this date.

Environmental Remains

3.5.2 Sample <1> (4609) was taken from a Roman re-cut of an earlier Iron Age ditch and sample <2> (4604) was taken from the upper fill of an Iron Age ditch from the same enclosure.

3.5.3 Sample <1> contains frequent charcoal, and moderately frequent charred cereal grain but in poor distorted, condition. Five of the best-preserved grains are wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and seven fragments of glume wheat chaff of what may be spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). A single fragment of a large legume cannot be further identified. No charred wild seeds were present.

3.5.4 Sample <2> contains only occasional small, unidentifiable, fragments of charcoal.

4 Discussion

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The trenches were excavated in reasonable weather, and conditions were sufficiently good in all of the trenches for it to be possible to identify the presence or absence of archaeological features. It is therefore felt that the recorded absence of archaeological features provides an accurate representation of the evaluation area as a whole.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The evaluation at Perry Court Farm, Faversham aimed to identify the presence or absence of archaeological remains and, if present, characterise any such remains in order to provide sufficient information for planning decisions and/or future mitigation of development impact of the remains by full excavation and recording.

4.2.2 The evaluation demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains in 26 out of the 47 trenches excavated and investigated. The majority of features recorded were linear features, (18 and 3 probable furrows or broad ditches), along with pits (11), four possible stony boundary features, two quarry features and a deposit spread.

4.2.3 Only 11 features could be provisionally dated. One feature in Trench 8 was dated to the middle to late Bronze Age, and the deposit spread in Trench 15 might be of a broad late prehistoric date. A further nine features were dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period.

4.2.4 The features show some correlation to the geophysical survey results, particularly in Trenches 24, 35, 46 and 47 and possibly Trench 13, but most features were not detected as part of the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). This may be a factor of the variable underlying geological deposits or the ephemeral nature of many of the features.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 The results from the current evaluation enhance those of the previous investigations that used non-intrusive techniques of desk-based assessment and geophysical surveys.

4.3.2 Evidence was found for activity spanning the Bronze Age to the Roman period as well as agricultural/drainage activity of later periods.

Bronze Age

4.3.3 Only one feature can be attributed to this period, the small ditch with the fragmentary pot, located in the north-eastern part of the site in Trench 8. The block lifting and excavation of the pot revealed it be a group of rim sherds from a bucket-shaped vessel in a flint-gritted fabric for which a middle to late Bronze Age date. The associated flints were likely part of a feature fill rather than material placed in the vessel. The two flint flakes are broadly undiagnostic, but one is typical of the squat and simple pieces that are regularly recovered from mid-late Bronze Age assemblages.

4.3.4 It is difficult to characterise any middle to late Bronze Age activity based on the single feature but it may not exist in isolation.

Late Iron Age to Roman (LIA to Roman)

4.3.5 Features of this date were uncovered in Trenches 12, 33, 35, 37, 41, 46 and 47, all were linear in form except the small pit in Trench 12. The majority of the linear features may be small boundaries for fields of this period, which seem to be concentrated

around Trenches 33, 35 and 37. Other linear features may be of the same date but produced no artefacts to confirm this.

4.3.6 In the south-western part of the site the linear features in Trenches 46 and 47 demonstrated two probable phases of activity with one ditch being re-cut. Feature 4703 may have been still infilling in the Saxon period but only one sherd of this period was recovered and it could have been intrusive.

4.3.7 The features correlated closely with the features seen in the geophysical survey. The survey suggests a rectilinear subdivided feature that measures 46m by 80m. Whether this is structural or an enclosure with rubbish being discarded into open features is unclear.

4.3.8 The features in Trenches 46 and 47 contained the largest amount of pottery and other finds. The finds are consistent with domestic use and there are both locally-made grog-tempered wares and imported wares from north, central and south Gaul and Italy, as well as copies of Gallo-Belgic forms in North Kent fine wares. There was also a 1st-century toilet set and possible evidence of smithing in the form of hammerscale, as well as animal bone fragments and charred crop waste. This suggests a settlement of relatively high status possibly with a wide range of activities and good trade links with the local area and beyond to the continent.

4.3.9 The quantity of Roman remains recorded within the study area demonstrates fairly intensive in the vicinity of Watling Street, to the north, with its settlements, villas and a possible harbour at Faversham Creek. The focus of activity in the present site may have been around the features seen in the south-west around Trenches 46 and 47.

4.3.10 There is within the site an undated north-south aligned trackway defined by ditches (see below) which was also visible on the geophysical survey and in map regressions as a property boundary and bridle path. It seems possible that this represents a route way of some long standing, leading from Watling Street. The continuation of this line southwards and the nature of the features and artefactual evidence from the site may suggest that evidence found in Trenches 46 and 47 represents the northern periphery of a farmstead or villa settlement to the south.

Undated

4.3.11 There were two large features interpreted as probable extraction pits or small quarries, seen in Trench 39 and 44. Both were located towards the south-eastern part of the site.

4.3.12 In four trenches (6, 25, 29 and 31) there were features which consisted of larger rounded stones forming a loose linear cluster, with accumulated sediments. These features are difficult to interpret but they may have been formed by the deliberate clearance of stones from within fields towards their boundaries. They could therefore represent old field boundaries of uncertain date. The features seen in Trenches 25 and 29 seemed to be a continuation of the same feature, suggesting that these boundaries could be relatively extensive.

4.3.13 The remaining linear features were unremarkable and their origin and function are uncertain. They might be part of field systems of unknown dates and are potentially of agricultural use.

4.3.14 The north-south linear parallel features identified in the geophysical survey and seen as archaeological features in the evaluation in Trench 24 are likely to be the parish boundary and bridle path noted on OS mapping. A routeway on this alignment may have early origins associated with Watling Street.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Trench 1						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.55
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
101	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 2						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.62
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
201	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 3						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of white chalk with patches of brown gravel.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
301	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 4

General description					Orientation	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale reddish brown silty sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
400	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-	-
401	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 5						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
501	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil	-	-
502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 6						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a possible field boundary in the form of a linear arrangement of three stones within a possible bank. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
600	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-
601	Layer	-	0.22	Subsoil	-	-
602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
603	Deposit	0.4	>0.1	Uncertain: alignment of three large rounded stones	-	-

Trench 7						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west

Trench contained a single feature of uncertain origin and function, (a possible small ditch or natural). Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of brownish grey silt with a band of white chalk.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.42
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
700	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
701	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
703	Cut	0.65	0.08	Uncertain linear: filled by 704, rounded terminus at west end	-	-
704	Fill	0.65	0.08	Uncertain linear fill: soft pale brownish grey silty clay, flint pebble inclusions	-	-

Trench 8

General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a discarded pot within a small linear ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
800	Layer	-	0.12	Topsoil	-	-
801	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
803	Cut	0.11	0.08	Pit: intervention for the insertion of the pot	-	-
804	Fill	0.11	0.08	Pot fill: firm mid yellowish brown silt	Pottery Flint	?M/LBA Iron Age
805	Cut	0.2	0.08	Ditch: east-west aligned filled by 804 and 806	-	-
806	Fill	0.2	0.08	Ditch fill: fill of 805	Pottery	M/LBA

Trench 9

General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid orangey grey silty sand with greyish yellow silty clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.29
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
900	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
901	Layer	-	0.07	Subsoil	-	-
902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 10		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of white chalk with patches of orangey brown clay and flint pebbles.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.35
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 11		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a single probable pit located at the south end. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of dark orangey brown silty clay	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.33
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1100	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
1101	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
1102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1103	Cut	0.67	0.16	Pit: filled by 1104, oval	-	-
1104	Fill	0.67	0.16	Pit fill: fill of 1103, firm dark greyish brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 12		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained two inter-cutting pits: pit 1203 cut pit 1205. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.42
	Width (m)	2

					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1200	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1201	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
1202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1203	Cut	2.48	0.69	Pit: filled by 1204, oval-circular	-	-
1204	Fill	2.48	0.69	Pit fill: fill of 1203, soft dark brownish grey clayey silt	Pottery	50 BC-AD 50
1205	Cut	1.6	0.62	Pit: filled by 1206, oval	-	-
1206	Fill	1.6	0.62	Pit fill: fill of 1205, firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 13						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained a single north-south aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of dark yellowish brown silty clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.91
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1300	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1301	Layer	-	0.71	Subsoil	-	-
1302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1303	Cut	1	0.26	Ditch: filled by 1304, aligned north-south	-	-
1304	Fill	1	0.26	Ditch fill: fill of 1303 firm dark purplish brown clayey silt	Fired clay Animal bone	Undated undated

Trench 14						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained four pits and a single small east-west aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid brown silty clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.3
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**

1400	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1401	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
1402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1403	Cut	1.15	0.27	Pit: filled by 1404, circular	-	-
1404	Fill	1.15	0.27	Pit fill: fill of 1403, firm dark greyish brown clayey silt	Fired clay	undated
1405	Cut	0.8	0.16	Pit: filled by 1405, oval	-	
1406	Fill	0.8	0.16	Pit fill: fill of 1405, firm dark yellowish brown clayey silt	-	-
1407	Cut	0.6	0.24	Pit: filled by 1408, circular	-	-
1408	Fill	0.6	0.24	Pit fill: fill of 1407, firm dark reddish brown silt	-	-
1409	Cut	1.1	0.26	Pit: filled by 1410, circular	-	-
1410	Fill	1.1	0.26	Pit fill: fill of 1409, firm dark reddish brown silt	-	-
1411	Cut	0.44	0.26	Ditch: filled by 1412, aligned east-west	-	-
1412	Fill	0.44	0.26	Ditch fill: fill of 1411, firm dark yellowish brown silty clay	-	-

Trench 15						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained an expanse of a possible buried ground surface. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid brownish orange sandy clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1500	Layer	-	0.5	Topsoil	-	-
1501	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
1502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1503	Deposit	23	0.4	Layer: within a confined area, firm pale yellowish brown sandy silt	Pottery Flint	Prehistoric Later Prehistoric
1504	Interface	23	0.4	Uncertain: interface for deposit 1503	-	-

Trench 16		
General description	**Orientation**	east-west

Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid orange silty clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.59
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1600	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-
1601	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-	-
1602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 17

General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a single ditch aligned NW-SE. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.72
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1700	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
1701	Layer	-	0.46	Subsoil	-	-
1702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1703	Fill	0.61	0.12	Ditch fill: fill of 1704, firm pale greyish yellow silty sand, occasional charcoal	Flint	undated
1704	Cut	0.61	0.12	Ditch: filled by 1703, aligned NW-SE	-	-

Trench 18

General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a single ditch aligned east-west. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.8
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1800	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
1801	Layer	-	0.6	Subsoil	-	-
1802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
1803	Fill	0.46	0.18	Ditch fill: fill of 1804, firm mid yellowish orange silty sand	Fired clay Flint	Undated Undated

1804	Cut	0.46	0.18	Ditch: filled by 1803, aligned east-west	-	-

Trench 19						
General description					**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of dark yellowish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.49
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
1900	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
1901	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
1902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 20						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid orangey brown silty clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2000	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.33	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 21						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of dark yellowish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2100	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
2101	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
2102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 22

General description					Orientation	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of dark yellowish brown silty sand.					Avg. depth (m)	0.52
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2200	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
2201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
2202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 23						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45-0.85
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2300	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2301	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
2302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2303	Layer	-	0.4	Subsoil: deposit of pale yellowish brown clayey silt below subsoil 2301	-	-

Trench 24						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained two parallel linear ditches or furrows, aligned north-south. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale yellowish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
2401	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
2402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2403	Cut	4	0.26	Ditch / Furrow: filled by 2404, aligned north-south	-	-
2404	Fill	4	0.26	Ditch fill: fill of 2403, firm dark greyish brown silt	-	-

2405	Cut	4.15	0.14	Ditch / Furrow: filled by 2406, aligned north-south	-	-
2406	Fill	4.15	0.14	Ditch fill: fill of 2405, firm mid brownish grey silt	-	-

Trench 25						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a layer of subsoil and a possible stone field boundary (undated). Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2500	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
2501	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
2502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2503	Deposit	0.49	0.54	Uncertain: alignment of several (10) large rounded stones, linear NE-SW trend, within 2504	-	-
2504	Layer		0.4	Subsoil: deposit of pale yellowish brown clayey silt below subsoil 2501	-	

Trench 26						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale yellowish brown clayey silt.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2600	Layer	-	0.29	Topsoil	-	-
2601	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
2602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 27		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale yellowish brown clayey silt.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.4
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2700	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-
2701	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
2702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 28		
General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2800	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2801	Layer	-	0.3	Subsoil	-	-
2802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 29		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a possible stone field boundary aligned east-west and an area of lower subsoil. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.41
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
2900	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
2901	Layer	-	0.19	Subsoil	-	-
2902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2903	void	-	-	-	-	-
2904	Deposit	1.45	>0.15	Uncertain: alignment of several (4) large sub-angular stones, linear east-west trend, below 2905	-	-
2905	Deposit	1.45	>0.15	Uncertain: firm mid brownish grey silt	-	-
2906	Interface	20	0.24	Uncertain: interface for deposit 2907	-	-
2907	Deposit	20	0.24	Layer: within a confined	-	-

				area, firm pale yellowish brown sandy silt		

Trench 30						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3000	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
3001	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
3002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 31						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a possible field boundary in the form of a linear arrangement of three stones within a possible bank. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.51
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3100	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
3101	Layer	-	0.26	Subsoil	-	-
3102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3103	void	-	-	-	-	-
3104	Deposit	0.6	0.1	Uncertain: alignment of three large rounded stones	-	-
3105	Deposit	0.6	0.1	Uncertain: firm mid brownish grey silt	-	-

Trench 32						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a single north-south aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale yellowish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.7
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**

3200	Layer	-	0.24	Topsoil	-	-
3201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
3202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3203	Layer	-	0.31	Subsoil, lower	-	-
3204	Cut	1.1	0.33	Ditch: filled by 3205	-	-
3205	Fill	1.1	0.33	Ditch fill: fill of 3204, firm pale greyish brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 33						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a single east-west aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.83
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3300	Layer	-	0.24-0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3301	Layer	-	0.32-0.83	Subsoil	-	-
3302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3303	Cut	1.4	0.32	Ditch: filled by 3304	-	-
3304	Fill	1.4	0.32	Ditch fill: fill of 3303, firm pale orangey grey clayey silt	Pottery	AD50-160

Trench 34						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid brownish orange silty clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.97
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3400	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
3401	Layer	-	0.67	Subsoil	-	-
3402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 35		
General description	**Orientation**	north-south

Trench contained two parallel east-west aligned ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid orange clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.61
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
3500	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
3501	Layer	-	0.35	Subsoil	-	-
3502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3503	Cut	1.3	0.43	Ditch: filled by 3504	-	-
3504	Fill	1.3	0.43	Ditch fill: fill of 3503, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt, occasional charcoal	-	-
3505	Cut	0.77	0.31	Ditch: filled by 3506	-	-
3506	Fill	0.77	0.31	Ditch fill: fill of 3505, firm greyish brown clayey silt	Pottery	50 BC-AD 50

Trench 36

General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a single NW-SE aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.62
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
3600	Layer	-		Topsoil	-	-
3601	Layer	-		Subsoil	-	-
3602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3603	Cut	0.78	0.27	Ditch: filled by 3604	-	-
3604	Fill	0.78	0.27	Ditch fill: fill of 3603, firm mid orangey grey clayey silt	-	-

Trench 37

General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a furrow and a parallel north-south aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.52
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
3700	Layer	-	0.23	Topsoil	-	-

3701	Layer	-	0.29	Subsoil	-	-
3702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3703	Cut	3.28	0.47	Furrow: filled by 3704	-	-
3704	Fill	3.28	0.47	Furrow fill: fill of 3703, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt	-	-
3705	Cut	0.44	0.2	Ditch: filled by 3706	-	-
3706	Fill	0.44	0.2	Ditch fill: fill of 3705, firm greyish orange silty clay	Fired clay / CBM	Roman

Trench 38						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid orange silty clay.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.65
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3800	Layer	-	0.22	Topsoil	-	-
3801	Layer	-	0.43	Subsoil	-	-
3802	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 39						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained a large circular feature, probably a chalk quarry shaft. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
3900	Layer	-	0.21	Topsoil	-	-
3901	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
3902	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3903	Cut	6.12	>1	Quarry: circular, filled by 3904 (and other deposits), for chalk extraction	-	-
3904	Fill	6.12	>1	Quarry fill, fill of 3903	-	-

Trench 40		
General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained two parallel north-south aligned ditches.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.48

Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale brownish orange clay.	**Width (m)**	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4000	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
4001	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
4002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4003	Cut	0.75	0.12	Ditch: filled by 4004	-	-
4004	Fill	0.75	0.12	Ditch fill: fill of 4003, firm pale greyish brown silty clay	-	-
4005	Cut	0.66	0.32	Ditch: filled by 4006 and 4007	-	-
4006	Fill	0.66	0.2	Ditch fill: upper fill of 4005, firm pale greyish brown silt	-	-
4007	Fill	0.44	0.12	Ditch fill: lower fill of 4005, firm mid greyish brown clayey silt	-	-

Trench 41

General description	**Orientation**	north-south
Trench contained two east-west ditches aligned ditches and two pits. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale yellowish brown silt.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.6
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
4100	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4101	Layer	-	0.28	Subsoil	-	-
4102	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4103	Cut	0.53	0.06	Pit: filled by 4104, elongated oval	-	-
4104	Fill	0.53	0.06	Pit fill: fill of 4103, firm pale yellowish brown silt, burnt flint pebbles	Flint	undated
4105	Cut	0.38	0.1	Ditch: filled by 4106, ENeast-westSW aligned	-	-
4106	Fill	0.38	0.1	Ditch fill: fill of 4105, mid yellowish brown silt	-	-
4107	Cut	0.6	0.06	Ditch: filled by 4108, WNW-ESE aligned	-	-

4108	Fill	0.6	0.06	Ditch fill: fill of 4107, pale yellowish brown silt	Pottery	AD43-410
4109	Cut	0.45	0.15	Pit: filled by 4110, elongated oval	-	-
4110	Fill	0.45	0.15	Pit fill: fill of 4109, firm mid greyish brown silt, burnt stone	-	-

Trench 42						
General description					**Orientation**	north-south
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.5
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4200	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
4201	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-	-
4202	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 43						
General description					**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained a single north-south aligned ditch. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of mid reddish brown silty sand.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.38
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4300	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4301	Layer	-	0.18	Subsoil	-	-
4302	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4303	Cut	0.84	0.2	Ditch: filled by 4304, north-south aligned	-	-
4304	Fill	0.84	0.2	Ditch fill: fill of 4303, pale greyish brown silt	-	-

Trench 44		
General description	**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench contained a large circular feature, probably a chalk quarry shaft. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale orangey brown clayey silt.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.31
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4400	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-
4401	Layer	-	0.12	Subsoil	-	-
4402	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4403	Cut	5.9	>1.7	Quarry: circular, filled by 4404 (and other deposits), for chalk extraction	-	-
4404	Fill	5.9	>1.7	Quarry fill, fill of 4403	-	-

Trench 45		
General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale orangey brown clay.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.45
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4500	Layer	-	0.32	Topsoil	-	-
4501	Layer	-	0.13	Subsoil	-	-
4502	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 46		
General description	**Orientation**	east-west
Trench contained two north-south ditches aligned ditches, one was later re-cut. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of pale brown – white chalk.	**Avg. depth (m)**	0.28
	Width (m)	2
	Length (m)	50

Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4600	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-
4601	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
4602	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4603	Cut	1.08	0.56	Ditch: filled by 4604, north-south aligned	-	-
4604	Fill	1.08	0.56	Ditch fill: fill of 4603, mid reddish brown silt, chalk pebbles	Pottery Flint Animal bone Hammerscale	50 BC-AD 100 Later Prehistoric Undated

4605	Cut	2.8	1	Ditch: filled by 4606, north-south aligned	-	-
4606	Fill	2.8	1	Ditch fill: fill of 4605, pale yellowish brown silt, flint pebbles	Pottery Animal bone	50 BC-AD 100 Undated
4607	Cut	2	0.6	Ditch re-cut: filled by 4608 and 4609, north-south aligned	-	-
4608	Fill	2	0.3	Ditch fill: fill of 4607, mid greyish brown silt, chalk inclusions	Pottery Animal bone	AD50-100 Undated
4609	Fill	2	0.3	Ditch fill: fill of 4607, dark greyish brown silt, chalk inclusions, charcoal	Pottery Fired clay Animal bone Metal Flint	AD50-70 Undated undated AD0-100 Earlier Prehistoric

Trench 47						
General description					**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench contained two ditches. Consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of white chalk.					**Avg. depth (m)**	0.32
					Width (m)	2
					Length (m)	50
Contexts						
Context no	**Type**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Comment**	**Finds**	**Date**
4700	Layer	-	0.26	Topsoil	-	-
4701	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-
4702	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
4703	Cut	1.4	0.7	Ditch: filled by 4704 and 4705, north-south aligned	-	-
4704	Fill	1.4	0.5	Ditch fill: upper fill of 4703, pale yellowish brown clayey silt, flint pebbles, chalk inclusions	Pottery Flint Animal bone	AD410-650 undated undated
4705	Fill	1.1	0.2	Ditch fill: lower fill of 4703, dark yellowish brown clayey silt, chalk inclusions	-	-
4706	Fill	1.65	0.8	Ditch fill: upper fill of 4708, mid brown clayey silt, flint pebbles, chalk inclusions	Pottery Fired clay Animal bone Metal Flint Shell	AD50-70 LIA-RB? undated Undated undated

4707	Fill	1.65	0.1	Ditch fill: lower fill of 4708, pale brownish grey silt, flint pebbles, chalk inclusions	Shell	undated
4708	Cut	1.65	0.88	Ditch: filled by 4706 and 4707, east-west aligned	-	

Appendix B. Finds Reports

B.1 Roman Pottery

By Edward Biddulph

Introduction and methodology

B.1.1 The assemblage from Perry Court Farm was scanned to identify diagnostic forms and fabrics. Where possible, forms have been identified to types defined by Thompson (1982) and Monaghan (1987). Fabric codes are taken from OA's standard guidelines for recording Iron Age and Roman pottery (Booth, nd). Table 1 presents a list of fabrics encountered.

B.1.2 The pottery from Perry Court Farm was quantified within context groups by sherd count and weight in grammes. Vessels identified by rim were additionally quantified by estimated vessel equivalents (EVE), which measures the extant portion of the rim (for example, 0.1 EVE equals 10% of the rim surviving, 0.15 equals 15%). All EVE values are shown in brackets after the fabric code in the description field of Table 2.

Fabric code	Description	NRFRC code (Tomber and Dore 1998)
A35	Campanian 'black sand' amphora fabric	CAM AM 1
E30	Late Iron Age/early Roman sandy fabric	
E60	Late Iron Age flint-tempered ware	
E80	Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered ware	SOB GT
F12-14	Terra rubra	GAB TR 1A-C
F21	Central Gaulish glazed ware	CNG GL 1)
O10	Unsourced fine oxidised ware	
O20	Unsourced sandy oxidised ware	
P	Prehistoric fabrics	
Q50	White-slipped oxidised ware, probably North Kent	
R16	North Kent fine reduced (Upchurch) ware	UPC FR
R30	Unsourced medium sandy reduced ware	
S20	South Gaulish samian ware	LGF SA
W21	Verulamium-region white ware	VER WH
W30	Imported fine white ware, probably North Gaul	NOG WH 1
Z10	Anglo-Saxon pottery fabric	

Table 1: Pottery fabrics

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Description	Date
804	4	3	Tiny fragments, fabric includes flint (P)	?M/LBA
805	13	39	Rim and body sherds from flint-gritted bucket-shaped vessel (P, 0.36)	M/LBA
1204	2	11	Body sherd (E60)	50 BC-AD 50
1503	1	5	Flint-tempered body sherd (P)	Prehistoric
3304	10	346	Base of flagon, blackened externally (W21)	AD 50-160
3506	1	2	Body sherd (E60)	50 BC-AD 50
4108	1	11	Flagon handle (O20)	AD 43-410
4604	3	18	Globular jar with everted rim (E80, 0.05), body sherds E80	50 BC-AD 100
4604	3	11	Sample 2. Flint-tempered body sherds (P)	50 BC-AD 100
4606	10	405	Storage jar Mon3D1 (E80, 0.07), narrow-necked cordoned jar ThompB2-1 (E80, 0.15), bead-rimmed jar Mon3G1 (E80, 0.1); body sherds E80	50 BC-AD 100
4608	25	327	Base of jar or bowl (R16), spout Mon13 (R16), cordoned jar ThompB2-1 (E80, 0.1), jar rim (E80, 0.05), straight-sided bead rimmed platter ThompG1-11 (E80, 0.05) body sherds E80	AD 50-100
4609	62	756	Girth beaker Mon2F (R16, 0.5), carinated beaker Mon2G1 (R16, 0.1), lid (E80, 0.12), cordoned jar ThompB2-1 (E80, 0.1), rilled jar ThompC7-1 (E80, 0.12), jar with everted rim (E80, 0.1), everted rim from jar or bowl (R16, 0.09), body sherds E30, E80, O10, Q50	AD 50-70
4609	41	150	Sample 1. Body sherds E80, R16, R30, Q50 (flagon handle), F21 (probably from flagon)	AD 50-70
4704	6	111	Organic-tempered body sherd (Z10), ?cordoned bowl (R16, 0.1), body sherds E80, flint-tempered sherd	AD 410-650
4706	79	960	?Cordoned bowl Mon4J1 (R16, 0.15), storage jar with everted rim (E80, 0.03), jar with everted rim (E80, 0.06), butt beaker base (O10), body sherds from North Gaulish white ware ?flagon (W30), dish Drag15/7 or 15/17R (S20, 0.04), beaker with everted rim and body sherds (F12-14, 0.05), body sherds A35, E80	AD 50-70
TOTALS	**261**	**3155**		

Table 2: Summary of pottery

Description

B.1.3 The earliest pottery was recovered from Trench 8. Context 805 contained the remains of a bucket-shaped vessel in a flint-gritted fabric for which a middle to late Bronze Age date is likely. Fragments from context 804 cannot be closely dated, though are consistent with the vessel from 805.

B.1.4 The majority of the assemblage belongs to the late Iron Age or early Roman period (*c* 50 BC-AD 100). Groups containing grog-tempered pottery of late Iron Age tradition (E80) in association with post-conquest material have been dated to the mid to late 1st century AD. Groups with grog-tempered pottery alone are more broadly dated, but may well share a post-conquest date. There are, in other words, no groups that must date before AD 43.

B.1.5 Fabric E80 was the best represented fabric by EVE (Table 3). Forms included storage jars, cordoned jars, bead-rimmed jars, a jar with rilled decoration, a lid, and a bead-rimmed platter. Fine reduced ware R16 also made an important contribution; vessels included the substantial remains of a girth beaker, a carinated beaker and cordoned bowls. The first two copied Gallo-Belgic prototypes. A more unusual vessel in fabric R16 is represented by a spout, possibly from a spouted strainer bowl similar to Colchester form 323 (Hull 1963), but the type is not precisely attested in Monaghan (1987); the spout is too large to be part of a feeding bottle of the type shown by Monaghan (Type 13).

B.1.6 A rim of a beaker was recorded in a terra rubra fabric (F12-14), and a platter was seen in South Gaulish samian ware (S20). Other imported wares included fine white pipeclay, probably from North Gaul (W30), a glazed ware from Central Gaul (F21), and a fabric from Campania (A35), probably part of a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4 wine container.

B.1.7 Other pottery of note included the remains of flagons in white-slipped fabrics (Q50), among them products of the North Kent industry, and a base from a large flagon from the Verulamium region (W21).

B.1.8 No context groups were dated with certainty to the middle or late Roman period. The latest pottery was a sherd from an organic-tempered vessel of early Anglo-Saxon date. It was found with relatively well-preserved Roman-period pottery, and may therefore be intrusive.

Fabric	**EVE**
E80	1.1
R16	0.94
P	0.36
F12-14	0.05
S20	0.04
Total	**2.49**

Table 3: Total EVEs by fabric

Discussion

B.1.9 Much of the pottery is likely to have been deposited during the mid-late 1st century AD. The pottery also attests to activity during the Bronze Age and early Anglo-Saxon period.

B.1.10 While locally-made grog-tempered pottery is predominant, the presence of imported wares from north, central and south Gaul and Italy, as well as copies of Gallo-Belgic forms in North Kent fine reduced ware, points to knowledge of continental styles of dining among the inhabitants of a settlement of relatively high status and with good trade links. In this regard, it is worth noting that the site is *c* 1.5km south-east of the extensive Roman cemetery of Ospringe (Whiting *et al.* 1931), which is likely to be associated with a roadside settlement, although whether this can be identified as the site of *Durolevum*, which is recorded on the Antonine Itinerary, remains a matter of debate (eg Detsicas 1983, 80-1).

B.1.11 Late Iron Age or early Roman pottery was recovered from across the evaluation area, but most of the assemblage came from the southern part of the site. Trench 46, which was placed across the outline of a rectangular building, produced the largest amount of pottery.

B.1.12 Overall, the condition of the assemblage is good. The mean sherd weight (MSW) is 12g, or 15g when prehistoric pottery and pottery from samples are excluded. The mean EVE value is 0.12 EVE, or 12%. The pottery from Trench 33 has the highest MSW value (35g); that from Trench 46 is 11g. These values, together with the composition of the assemblage with regard to the forms and fabrics encountered, suggest that while the pottery underwent episodes of disturbance and redeposition, its place of final deposition for the pottery in some areas is unlikely to be far from locations of use and initial discard.

B.2 Fired Clay (CBM)

By Cynthia Poole

Introduction and methodology

B.2.1 A small assemblage of fired clay amounting to 21 fragments (132g) was recovered from six trenches by hand excavation and sieving. Fragments ranged from 3 g to 26g with an overall mean fragment weight of 6g and most are moderately to highly abraded. All has been identified as fired clay apart from one fragment of Roman tile. The assemblage has been fully recorded on an Excel spreadsheet and is summarised in Table 4.

B.2.2 All pieces were made in a similar fabric consisting of a fine sandy clay occasionally containing a low density of ferruginous grits 0.5-1mm (fabric A). Some pieces had voids from an added organic component in the form of cereal chaff (fabric AV). Two fragments contained small chalk grit 1-2mm (AC).

B.2.3 No diagnostic pieces were recovered though one forming a flat slab with a flat moulded surface and a rough base may be a fragment of oven plate. Another hard-fired piece with a very smooth flat surface may possibly be Roman tile rather than plate. A small fragment from the edge of an imbrex was recovered from context 3706. Much of the remainder is indeterminate, mostly amorphous or occasionally with a flat moulded surface, though likely to derive from oven structures. However, a number of pieces have a distinctive cerise or pink colouring, which can sometimes result from the effect of salt on the clay. These together with a sherd of chaff tempered briquetage (context 4706) indicate the presence of salt production in the locality.

Discussion and Recommendations

B.2.4 Most of the fired clay was found in Trenches 46 and 47, which examined rectangular enclosures identified as a result of a geophysical survey. Most of the remaining fragments came from trenches 13, 14 and 18 in the north-west area of the site, apart from the fragment of imbrex in Trench 37 further to the east. The fired clay is not intrinsically dateable in view of the lack of diagnostic pieces, but the general character is consistent with an Iron Age-Roman date. This accords with the pottery dating of late Iron Age – early Roman established for the associated contexts. Whilst most of the fired clay is likely to derive from domestic ovens or hearths, there is a hint that salt production also formed part of the activities of the community. Whilst the site lies a few kilometres inland, it is not uncommon to find evidence of briquetage in such a situation along the north Kent coast and it has been suggested that a secondary phase of salt working may have been undertaken at inlying settlements following the seasonal activity of primary evaporation (Poole 2011, 139-40).

B.2.5 No further work is necessary, but should the site go to full excavation and publication it is recommended that the data be incorporated into any further analysis.

Context	Sample	Count	Weight (g)	Fabric	Form	Date
1304	-	1	7	A	Oven?	
1404	-	1	26	A	Oven?	
1803	-	1	3	A	Indet	
3706	-	1	7	Q	Imbrex?	RB
4609	<1>	3	21	A	Oven?	
4609	<1>	7	22	AV	Oven?	
4609	<1>	1	1	AC	Indet	
4706	-	3	37	AV	Oven/hearth plate?	LIA-RB?
4706	-	2	4	A	Oven?	
4706	-	1	4	X1	Briquetage vessel	LIA RB?

Table 4: Catalogue of Fired Clay

B.3 Metal

By Ian R. Scott

Introduction and methodology

B.3.1 There is a small number of metal finds for just three contexts. Most of the objects are from context 4609. These include some a nail and nail fragments, a small quantity of possible hammerscale and a Roman three-piece toilet set. The only other finds are a small quantity of possible hammerscale from context 4604 (Obj. 1) and a nail from context 4706. The possible hammerscale from context 4604 is associated with pottery date 50 BC-AD 100, and the nail from context 4706 with pottery dated AD 50-70. The finds from context 4609, which include a toilet set (Obj. 2) of 1st-century date, are associated with pottery dated AD 50-70.

Description

B.3.2 Context 4604

- (Obj. 1) **Hammerscale**. A small quantity of possible fine spherical hammerscale. Fe. Not measured. Sample <2>

B.3.3 Context 4609

- (Obj. 2) **Toilet set**. The set comprises a spoon, nail cleaner and tweezers cast in copper alloy and probably hung from an iron ring or bar. The spoon has a plain stem with a pierced loop at one end and decorated with five transverse groves adjacent to the bowl. L: 54mm. The cast nail cleaner has a leaf-shaped blade with simple incised border and transverse mouldings on the front face below the

loop. L: 53mm. The final element is a pair of tweezers with a simple narrow incised border. L: 52mm.

- (Obj. 3) **Ring**, fragment. Fragment of a small plain iron ring. D: *c* 30mm. Sample <1>
- (Obj. 4) **Nail**. Stem of small nail with missing head, twisted. Fe. L extant: 30mm. Sample <1>
- (Obj. 5) **Nail** or **wire**. Small fragments. Fe. Not measured. Sample <1>
- (Obj. 6) **Hammerscale**. A quantity of possible fine spherical hammerscale. Fe. Not measured. Sample <1>

B.3.4 Context 4706

- (Obj. 7) **Nail**. Almost complete nail with flat circular head. Fe. L extant: 49mm

B.4 Flint

By Michael Donnelly

Introduction and methodology

B.4.1 A moderate assemblage of 69 struck flints, three natural fragments and 218 pieces of burnt unworked flint (1046g) was recovered from this evaluation. The flint mostly came from features in the south-western portion of the evaluation area. Two features out with that area also produced flint but a large proportion of the trenches did not contain any lithics. None of the flints recovered were diagnostic to a specific period,but several of the pieces display enough technological criteria to allow broad date ranges to be applied to certain groups.

Description

B.4.2 The assemblage contained a moderate quantity of blades and bladelets accounting for 18.5% of all blanks (10/54). Ditch fill 4607 contained three bladelets alongside a blade core and as the pieces were fairly fresh, this may indicate the location of some early prehistoric activity in the immediate environs.

B.4.3 Feature fill 804 yielded two worked flints and a large oval burnt flint cobble that may have been utilised. These finds were recovered from the fill of what as believed to be a complete pot. However, excavation of the block revealed it be a group of rim sherds so the flints were actually part of a feature fill rather than placed material in a vessel. The two flints flake are broadly undiagnostic but one is typical of the squat and simple pieces that are regularly recovered from mid-late Bronze Age assemblages.

B.4.4 Buried soil layer 1503 produced 15 flints consisting of 11 flakes, two blade/lets and two cores as well as 63 pieces of burnt natural flint weighing 133g. The assemblage is fairly typical of later prehistoric knapping strategies with frequent use of hard-hammer percussors and relatively simple butt types. One core on a thermal chunk best typifies these expedient strategies. The soil horizon probably contains flints from more than one period as the blade forms are almost certainly earlier in date. One fairly heavily worked discoidal core is also likely to be earlier in date, most probably Neolithic.

B.4.5 Two gullies located in adjacent trenches yielded fairly large flint assemblages. Gully fill 1703 contained five flakes and two blades, while gully fill 1803 contained four flakes and two fragments of burnt flint (12g). One flake from 1893 almost looked like a microburin but was heavily retouched, including ventrally, and may in fact be a broken

segment from a fabricator. These two assemblages lack diagnostic material but do not appear to typify later prehistoric knapping strategies and are probably earlier in date.

B.4.6 Pit fill 4104 contained one of the more interesting assemblages of 16 pieces as well as 148 burnt flint fragments weighing 757g. The assemblage was very flake based but included a partially crested blade as well as two very thin regular flakes. One core fragment recovered was geared towards flake production. Two tools were also recovered, one was a denticulate on a side trimming flake while the other was a slightly odd end scraper on an inner flake. The scraper's retouch was limited to the right half of its distal edge. The assemblage from this feature was quite fresh and it is likely that this material dates to between the early Neolithic to early Bronze Age.

B.4.7 Ditch fills 4603 and 4607 belonged to a pair of parallel ditches in Trench 46. No flints were recovered from either of these fills by hand but environmental sampling of these features yielded 12 and nine flints respectively. Fill 4603 contained several pieces with a distinctly later prehistoric appearance. It also yielded three very small refitting flakes that may have been struck by the excavator during excavation from a nodule of flint. Another broken piece may well have originated from a broken scraper face. One tool was recovered and consisted of a naturally backed knife on a side trimming flake. This was not a formal knife, but its shallow cutting edge had clear evidence of heavy use.

B.4.8 Fill 4607 contained three flakes, three bladelets a chip, blade core and a piece of spall-like waste that refitted one of the flakes. In contrast to 4603, the assemblage is best described as early prehistoric in date and may well relate to the erosion or truncation of earlier soil horizons or features by the ditch. The flints, and especially the blade forms are fresh and thus have not moved far.

B.4.9 Ditch fills 4704 and 4706 originated from another pair of ditches. Fill 4604 yielded only three very small fragments of burnt flint (2g) while fill 4706 contained two flakes, a blade and an end scraper on an inner flake. The blade also displayed possible retouch at its distal end, but the retouch was quite informal and may relate more to use than intentional modification, the piece also had a distal terminus well-suited to use as a scraper without modification.

Discussion

B.4.10 The evaluation has brought to light a moderate sized flint assemblage spanning several probable ages. The range of features that produced flint is also of note and in particular the recovery of a sizeable assemblage from a buried soil horizon is of high potential. The assemblage recovered from Trench 46 highlighted the potential of that area being near to a focus of early prehistoric activity. The moderate amounts of later prehistoric material recovered, presumably many of which were contemporary with the features that they were recovered from, should ensure that a very good mid-late Bronze Age/Iron Age assemblage would be recovered at excavation.

Main groups	Feature type	Flakes	Blades	Waste/ chips	Cores	Tools	Totals	Burnt/ unworked	Date
803	pot fill	2					2	1/131g	Iron Age
1503	buried soil	11	2		2		15	63/133g	LPH
1703	gully fill	5	2				7		
1803	gully fill	3				1	4	2/12g	
4103	pit fill	8	1	4	1	2	16	148/757g	

4603	ditch fill	10	1			1	12		LPH
4607	ditch fill	3	3	2	1		9	3/2g	EPH?
4704	ditch fill							1/11g	
4706	ditch fill	2	1			1	4		
Totals		**372**	**135**	**219**	**22**	**8**	**847**	**91**	

Table 5: flint groups by context

B.5 Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Introduction and methodology

B.5.1 Two pieces of sandstone weighing 466g were retained from context 4110. Neither are worked but both are burnt (reddened and heat cracked). Both can be discarded.

B.6 Animal Bone

By Rebecca Nicholson

Introduction and methodology

B.6.1 A small collection of animal bone (80 fragments weighing 492g) was collected by hand during the evaluation excavation and from the residues of sieved samples from two ditch fills within trench 46. Sample <1> (4609) from a Roman re-cut of a late Iron Age-early Roman ditch and sample <2> (4604) from the upper fill of an late Iron Age-early Roman ditch from the same enclosure.

B.6.2 The bones were identified at Oxford Archaeology South using a comparative skeletal reference collection in addition to osteological identification manuals. All animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to species, element, side and zone (following Serjeantson 1996). Ribs and vertebrae, with the exception of atlas and axis, were classified by size: 'large mammal' representing cattle, horse and red deer sized; and 'medium mammal' representing sheep/goat, pig and large dog sized. Conjoining fragments were counted as 1.

B.6.3 The condition of the bone was graded on a 6-point system (0-5). Grade 0 equating to extremely well preserved bone (as fresh), and Grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable (Table 6).

B.6.4 For ageing, Habermehl's (1975) data on epiphyseal fusion and the wear stages of Grant (1982) for dentition were used. Measurements were taken according to von den Driesch (1976), using digital callipers with an accuracy of 0.01 mm.

B.6.5 A full record of the small assemblage will be incorporated with the site archive.

B.6.6 The bone is in variable but frequently poor condition (Table 7) and consequently many fragments are identifiable only as mammal. Root etching and surface erosion is common and this may have obscured butchery and gnawing marks. Only one bone, a caprine tibia from (4609) shows definite gnaw marks and no butchery evidence or pathology was observed.

B.6.7 The species identified in each context are given in Table 8. A large mammal mandible from undated context 1304 lacks teeth and is in particularly poor and fragmentary condition. Context 4604 includes a single sheep/goat molar from an adult sheep of 4-6 years old (after Vretemark 1997) as well as large and medium-sized mammal bone

fragments. Bones from cattle, caprine and pig are all present in context 4606; a canine pig tooth is from a male. Caprines from 4609 include both young (less than 2 years old) and adult (4-6 years old) individuals. Although no bones were complete, a partially complete tibia (distal fused) is of similar dimensions to a modern Soay. Small mammal (mouse or vole) and amphibian bones were recovered from sample <1> from this context. A partial mandible from (4704) is from an adult pig (M3 in wear, see O'Connor 1988) but since the canine tooth is broken, sex can not be determined. A pig of <1 year old is indicated by an unfused proximal radius in 4706, while an adult individual is indicated by a loose tooth (M1 at wear stage k).

Discussion

B.6.8 The small assemblage includes all three of the common domesticates, with adults and younger animals present. It is likely that all of the bones classified as caprine (sheep/goat) are from sheep. This is typical for a late Iron Age/early Roman mixed farming economy, but the assemblage size is far too small for further interpretation. The data could be added to those collected from any future excavation at the site.

Grade 0	Excellent preservation. Entire bone surface complete.
Grade 1	Good preservation. Almost all bone surface complete.
Grade 2	Fair preservation
Grade 3	Poor preservation. Most bone surface destroyed.
Grade 4	Very poor preservation. No surface structure remaining.
Grade 5	Extremely poor preservation. Unlikely to be able to identify element.

Table 6: Bone preservation grading methodology

Condition/ Context	**1304**	**4604**	**4606**	**4608**	**4609**	**4704**	**4706**	**Total**
0		1	1				3	5
1					8			8
2			1		2			3
3		2	4		28	1	12	47
4		3		2	5	3		13
5	1					3		4
Total	**1**	**6**	**6**	**2**	**43**	**7**	**15**	**80**

Table 7: Number of fragments in each category

Context	**1304**	**4604**	**4606**	**4608**	**4609**	**4704**	**4706**	**Total**
Phase	undated	LIA/ERB	LIA/ERB	ERB	ERB	Roman/early AS	ERB	
Cattle			1				1	2
Sheep/goat		1	1		3		1	6
Pig			1		1	1	2	5
Pig?						1		1
Large mammal	1	3	1		3	1	2	10
Medium mammal			1	2	6	1	9	19
Small mammal					6			6

Mammal indet.		2	1		23	3		29
Amphibian					1			1
Total	**1**	**6**	**6**	**2**	**43**	**7**	**15**	**80**

Table 8: Number of identified fragments per species

B.7 Shell

By Rebecca Nicholson

Introduction and methodology

B.7.1 A collection of european flat oyster (*Ostrea edulis* L.) valves was recovered by hand on site and from the residues of the sieved soil samples (567g). Most of the shell came from context 4706, with single valves retrieved from contexts 1204, 3304, 4608 and 4704 and three valves, in poor condition, from sample <1> (4609).

B.7.2 The valves from 4704 and 4706 are generally eroded: thin, friable and incomplete, with few potentially measurable. Nevertheless some general comments can be made. Most valves are of moderate size with both small rounded and elongate hinges, the former the more frequent. There are also several examples of angled hinges. Roughly equal numbers of left (n=26) and right (n=33) valves are present in late Iron Age/early Roman context 4706 and several valves exhibit tunnelling on the exterior typical of the polychaete worm *Polydora ciliata*. Several valves have chalky deposits internally and opening notches are visible on several of the better preserved valves.

B.7.3 Oysters are often found on Roman sites (for example Nicholson 2015), and it is likely that the majority of shell is of this date. Here, however, the relatively small numbers and poor condition of this assemblage means that it is of limited interpretable value.

B.7.4 A small collection of 10 land snails (*Cepaea* sp.) from 4706 is not likely to be of any economic significance (I.e a foodstuff).

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Sharon Cook

Introduction and methodology

C.1.1 Two bulk soil samples, each of 40 litres, were taken from ditch fills within Trench 46. Sample <1> (4609) was taken from a Roman re-cut of a late Iron Age- early Roman ditch and sample <2> (4604) was taken from the upper fill of a late Iron Age-early Roman ditch from the same enclosure. Finds from the fill suggest a late Iron Age/early Roman date.

C.1.2 The samples were processed in their entirety by water flotation using a modified Siraf style flotation machine. The flots were collected on a 250µm mesh and the heavy residues sieved to 500µm; both were dried in a heated room, after which the residues were sorted by eye. The recovered finds are reported in the relevant specialist reports, together with the hand collected material. The dried flots were scanned for charred plant remains using a binocular microscope at approximately x10 magnification.

C.1.3 Sample <1> produced a flot of 100ml of which 50% was scanned, while sample <2> produced a flot of 50ml of which 100% was scanned.

Results and discussion

C.1.4 Both samples contain large quantities of modern roots and plant material. Land snails are also present in both samples but are mostly *Cecilioides acicula* which is a burrowing snail and consequently the shells are likely to be of recent origin. A few other species of land snail are also present but in small amounts, and are not likely to be of interpretative value.

C.1.5 Sample <1> contains frequent charcoal, but this is mainly small in size (<2mm) although some larger fragments may be further identifiable. Charred cereal grain is fairly frequent (over 30 fragments), but in poor, 'puffed up' and distorted, condition. Five of the best-preserved grains are wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and seven fragments of glume wheat chaff, although too incomplete to identify to species with certainty, may be spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*), which would be consistent with the likely date of the context. A single fragment of a large legume (>4mm) cannot be further identified. No charred wild seeds were present within the scanned portion of this flot.

C.1.6 Sample <2> contains only occasional small, unidentifiable, fragments of charcoal.

Conclusion

C.1.7 Sample <1> contains material potentially consistent with an Iron Age/Roman date but in fairly poor condition. Nevertheless, charred remains are evidently preserved at the site and any future excavations should incorporate a sampling policy in accordance with the most recent sampling guidelines.

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Appendix E. Summary of Site Details

Site name: Perry Court Farm, Faversham, Kent

Site code: FAPC 16

Grid reference: TR 01148 60011

Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: 14th September to 4th October 2016

Area of site: 30.3 hectares

Summary of results: Oxford Archaeology (OA) were commissioned by Orion Heritage on behalf of Hallam Land Management to undertake an evaluation of the site of a proposed housing/mixed use development at Perry Court, Faversham, (centred on TR 01148 60011).

The work consisted of 47 trenches excavated between 14th September and 4th October 2016. The features show some correlation to the geophysical survey results, particularly in Trenches 24, 35, 46 and 47 and possibly Trench 13, but many features were not detected prior to trenching. This may be related to the variable underlying geological deposits and/or the ephemeral nature of some of the features.

Evidence was found for activity from two main periods, the middle to late Bronze Age and the late Iron Age to early Roman periods.

The evaluation demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains in 26 out of the 47 trenches excavated and investigated. The majority of features recorded were linear features (18 and 3 probable furrows or broad ditches), along with pits (11), four possible stony boundary features, two quarry features and a deposit spread.

Only 11 features could be provisionally dated in this investigation.

One feature in Trench 8 was dated to the middle to late Bronze Age, and a deposit/spread in Trench 15 might be of a broad late Prehistoric date. It is difficult to characterise any middle to late Bronze Age activity based on the single feature but it may not exist in isolation.

A further nine features were dated to the late Iron Age to early Roman period.

Features were uncovered in Trenches 12, 33, 35, 37, 41, 46 and 47. All were linear in form except the small pit in Trench 12. The majority of the linear features may be small boundaries for fields of this period, which seem to be concentrated around Trenches 33, 35 and 37. Other linear features may be of the same date but produced no artefacts to confirm this.

In the south-western part of the site the linear features in Trenches 46 and 47 demonstrated two probable phases of activity, one ditch being re-cut. The features correlated closely with features seen in the geophysical survey. The survey suggests a rectilinear subdivided feature that measures 46m by 80m. Whether this is structural or an enclosure with rubbish being discarded into open features is unclear. The finds suggest a settlement of relatively high status possibly with a wide range of associated activities.

The quantity of Roman remains recorded within the study area should be viewed in the context of the locality of Watling Street, to the north, with its related settlements, villas and a possible harbour to the north. The focus within the investigation area appears to have been the features seen in the south-west around Trenches 46 and 47.

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Faversham Museum, Kent.

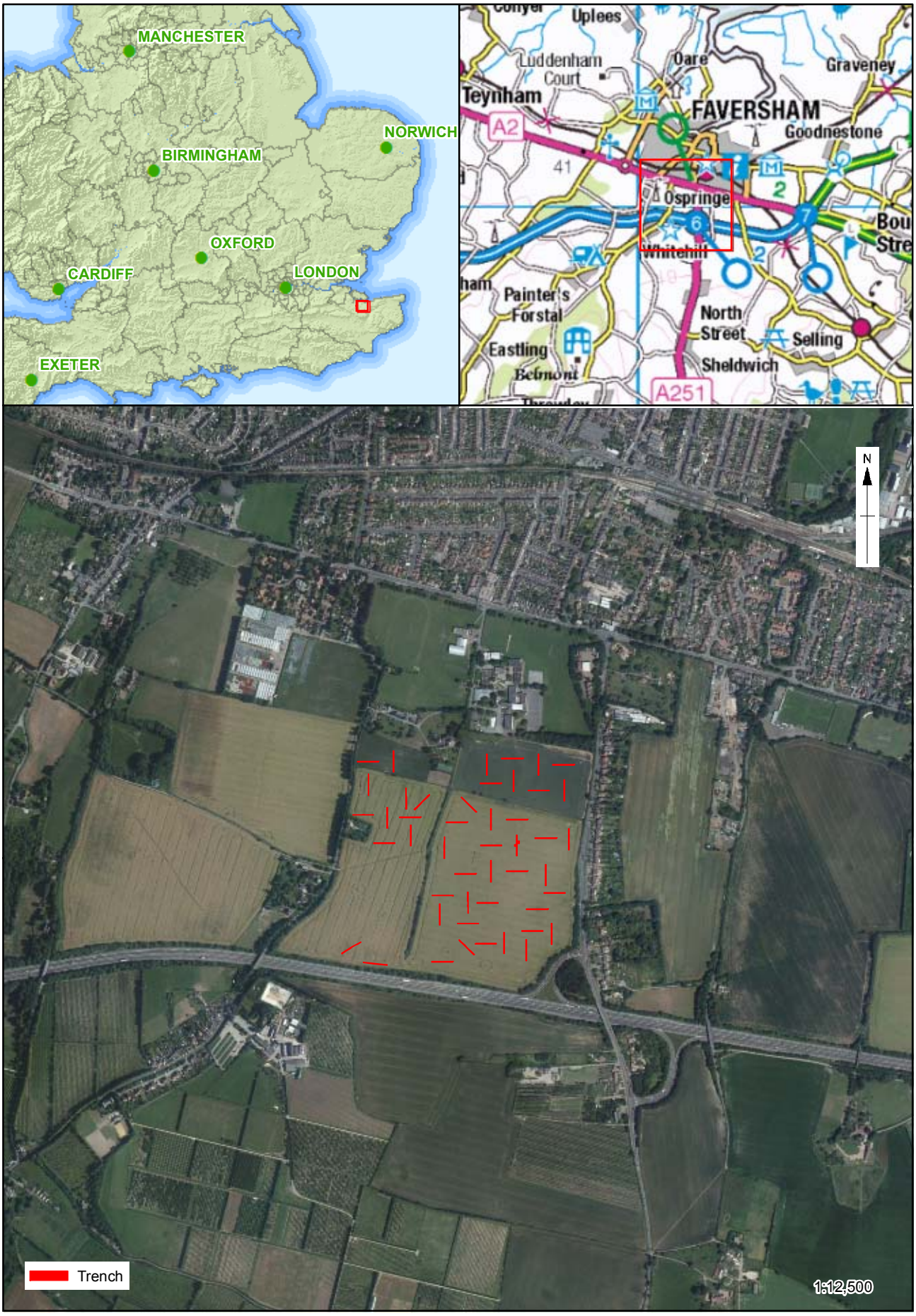

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Figure 1: Site location

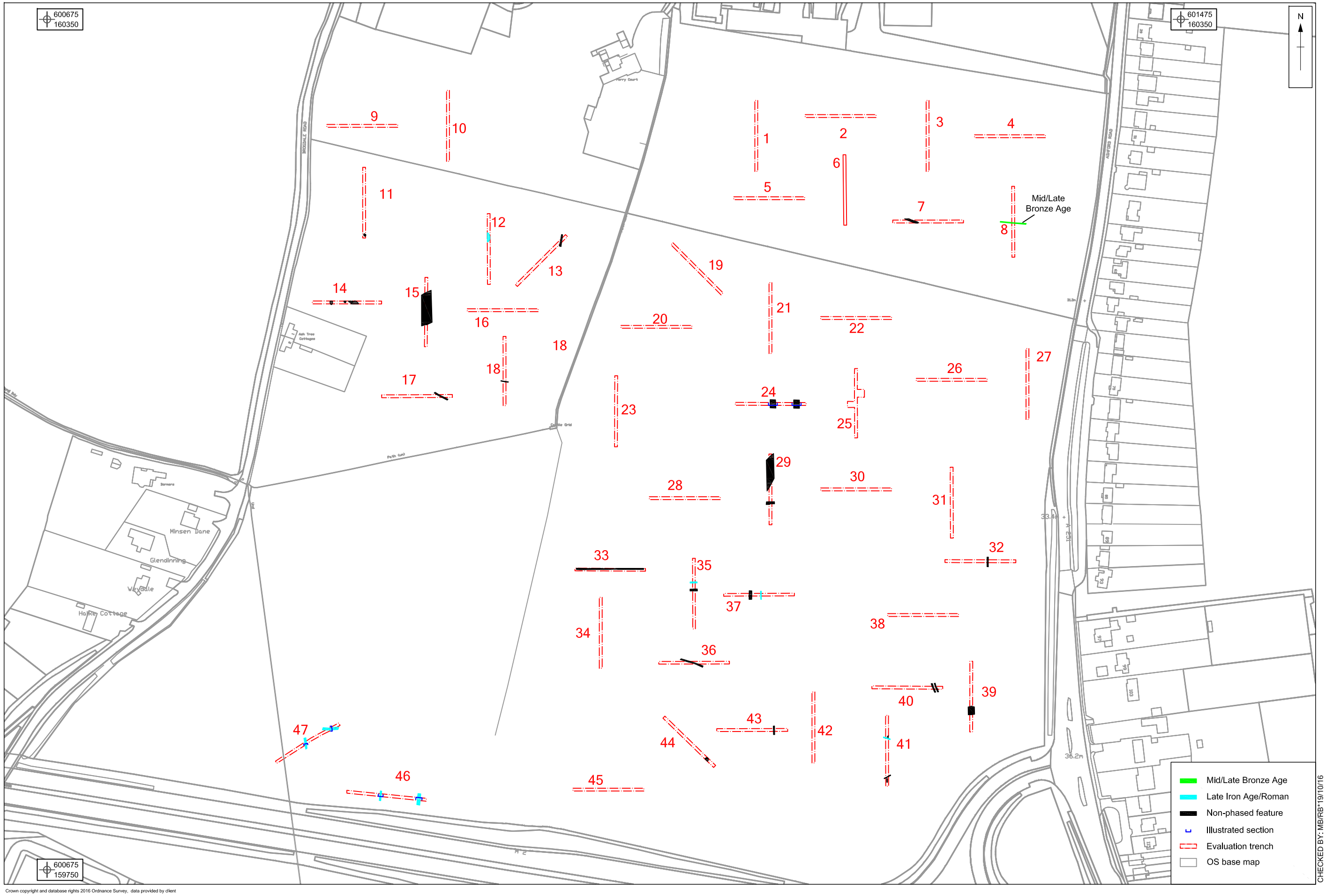
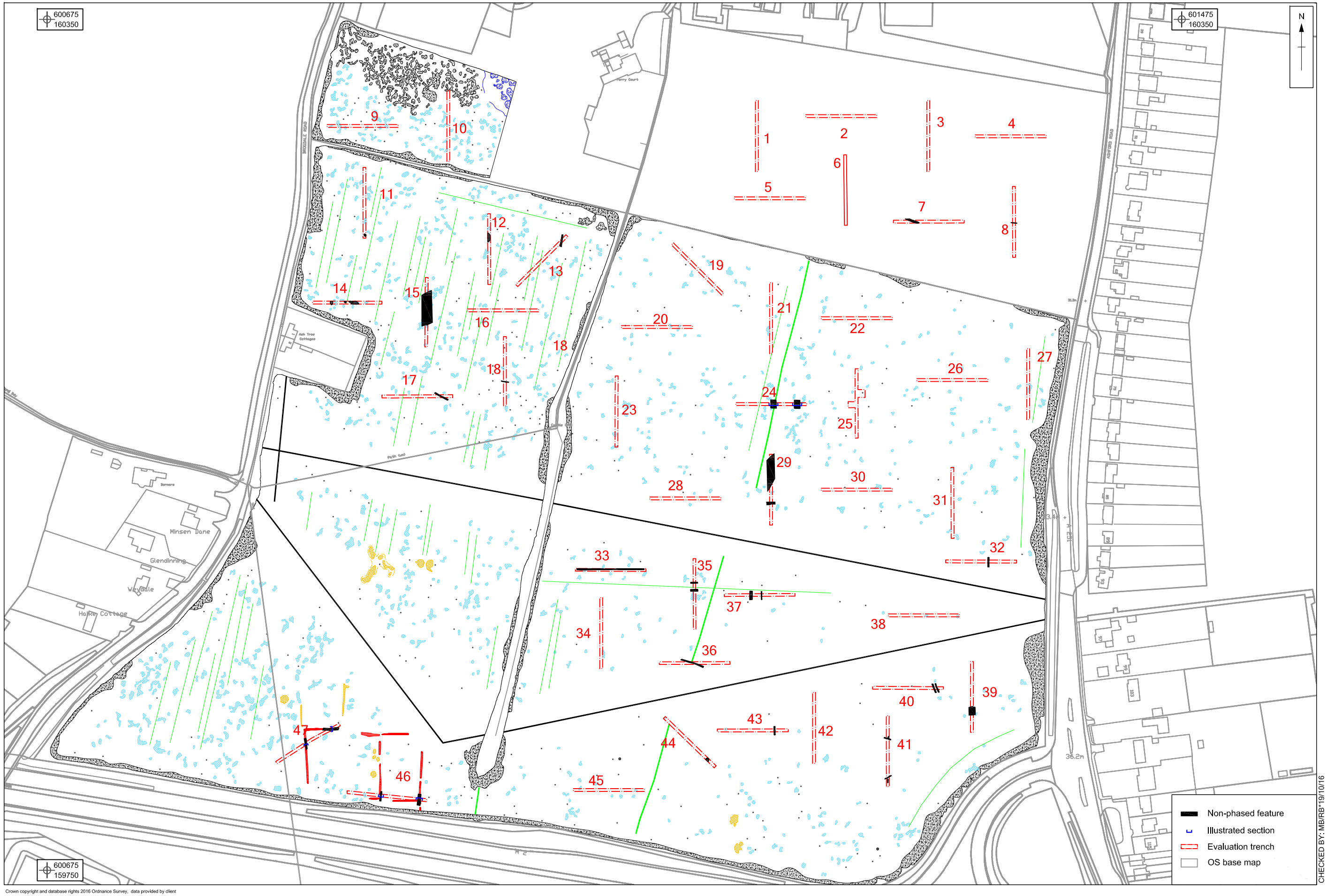


Figure 2: Trench location plan



0 50 100 m

Scale at A3 1:2500

Figure 3: Location of archaeological features overlaid on to geophysical survey results.

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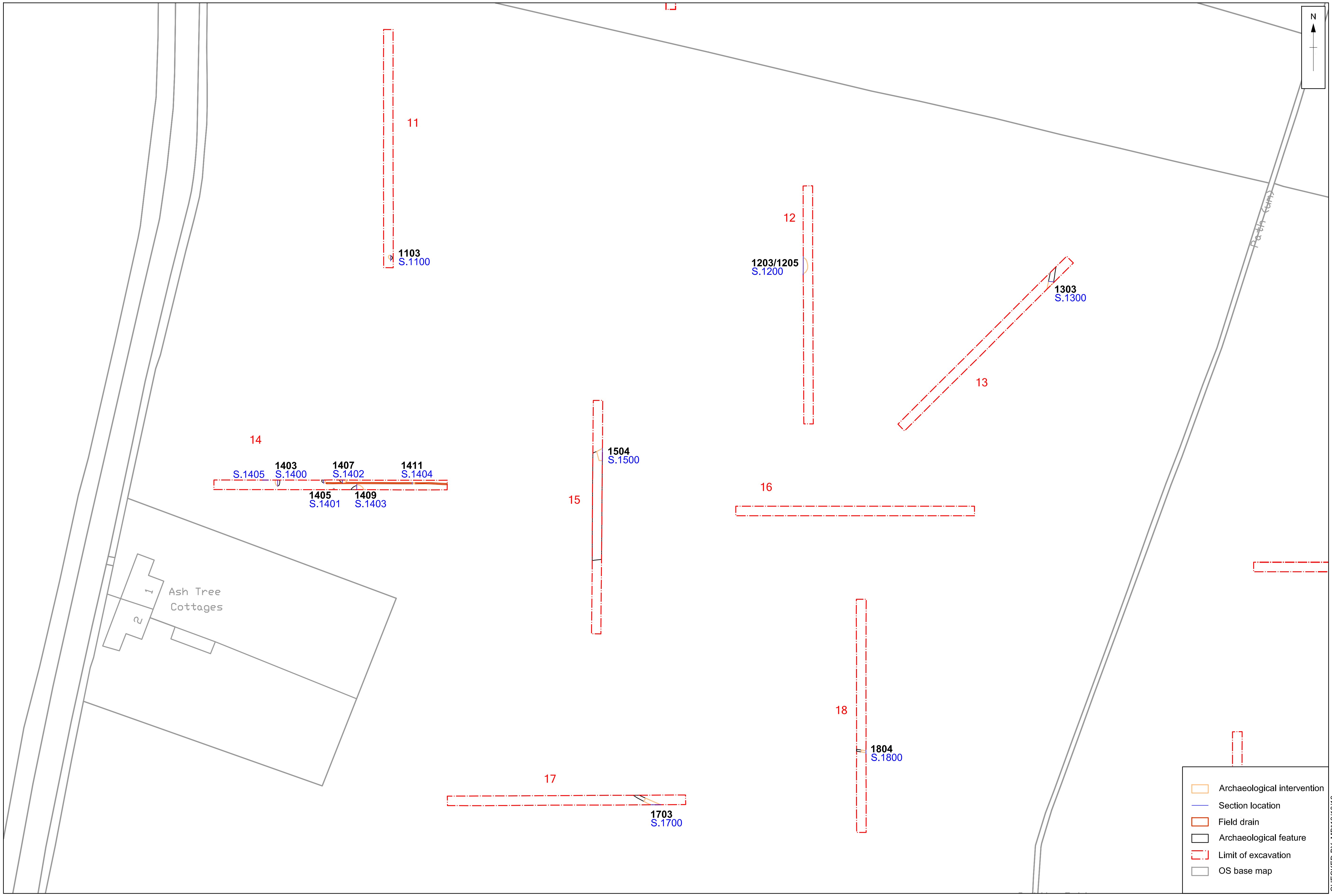

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Figure 4: Trenches 11-18

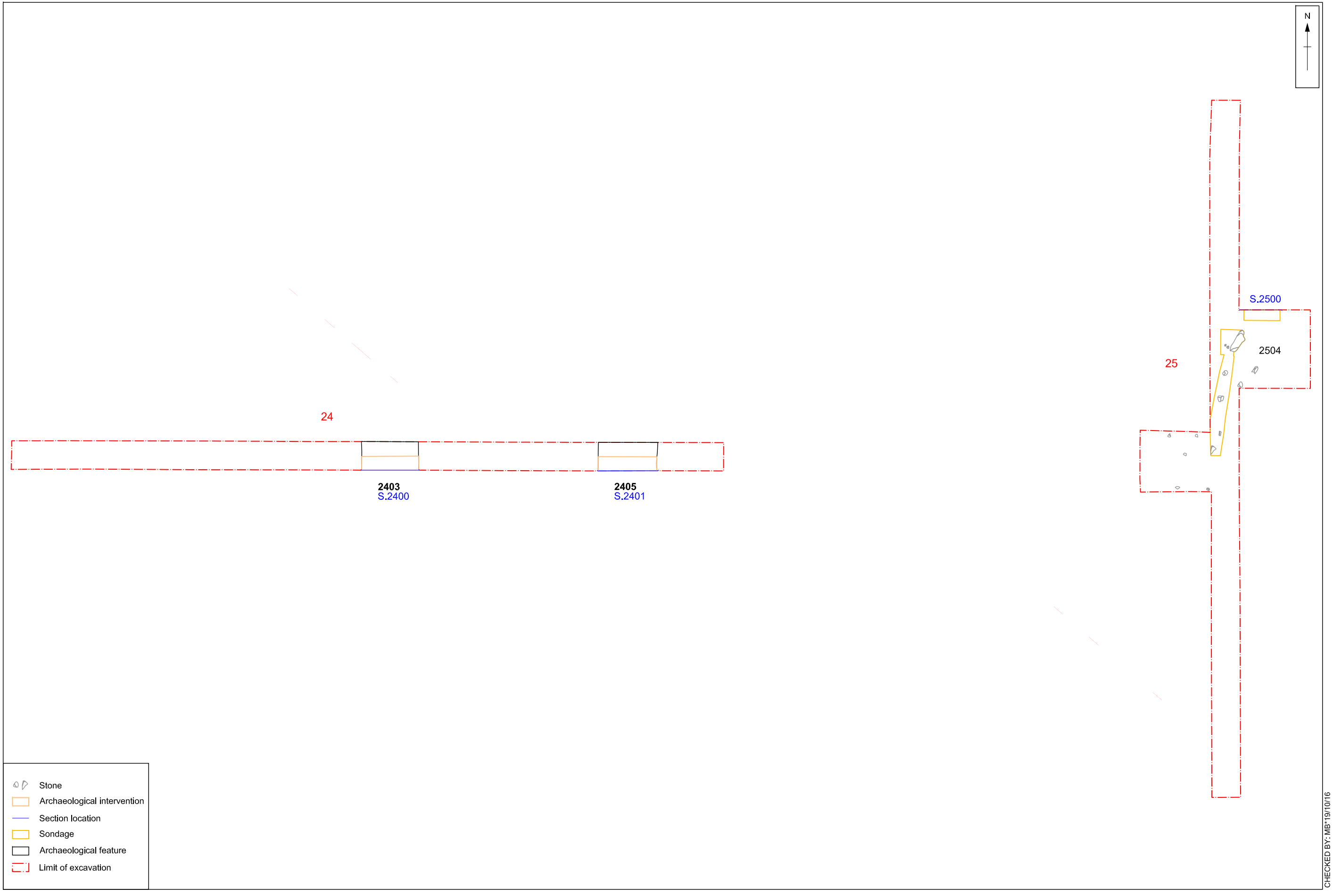

Figure 5: Trenches 24 and 25

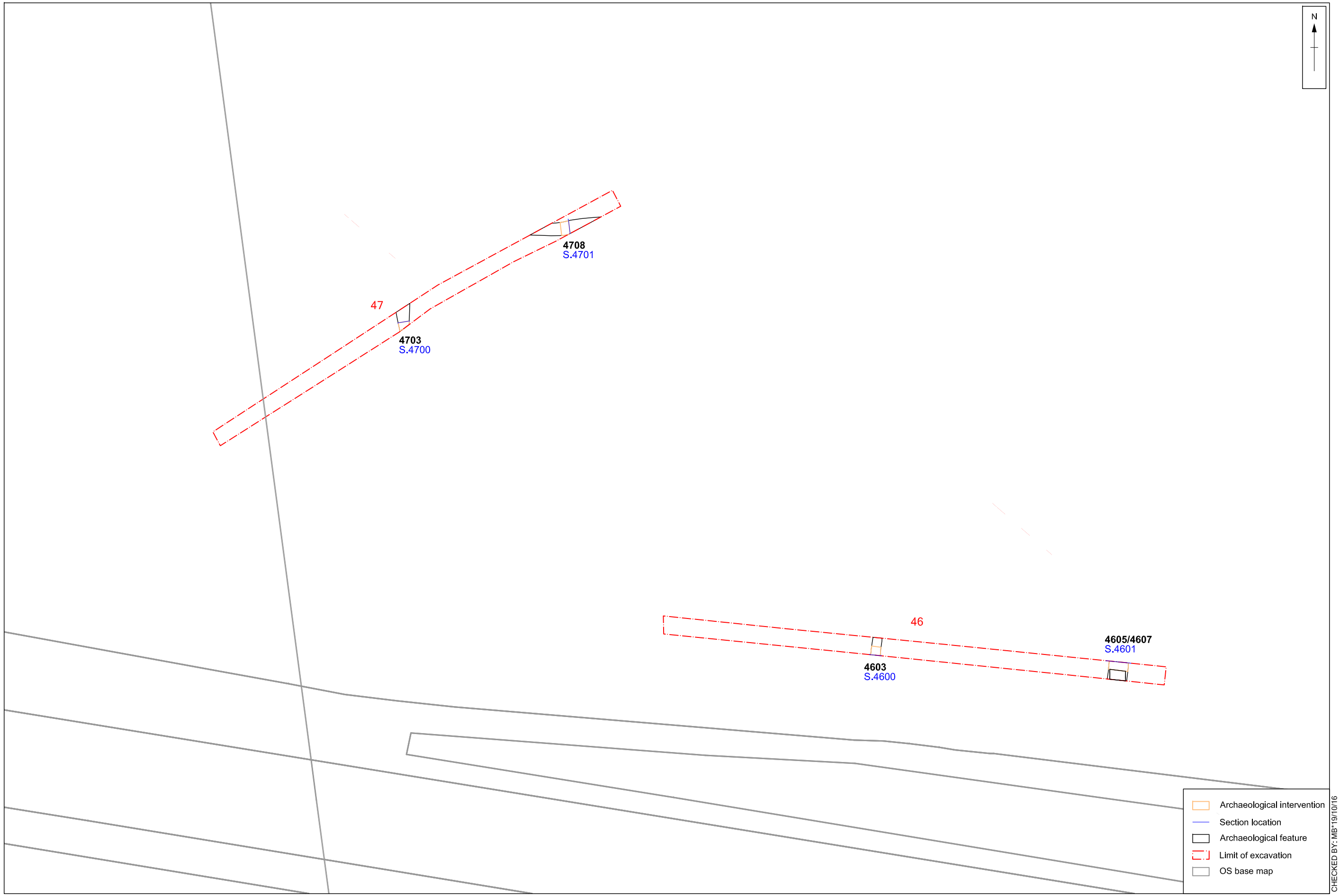

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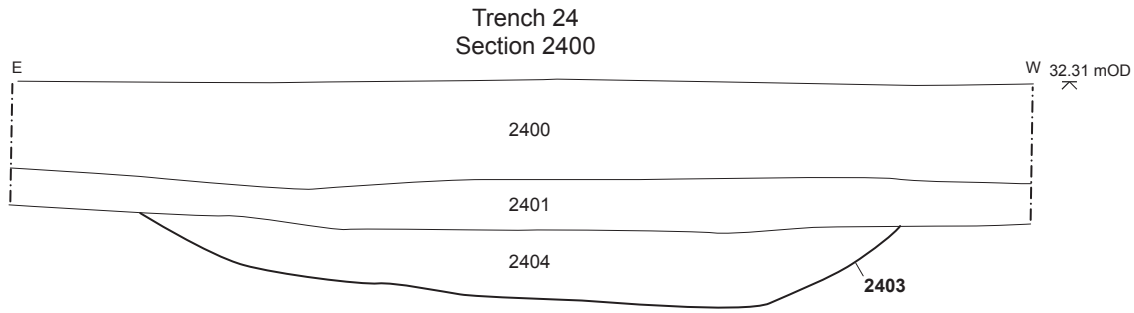
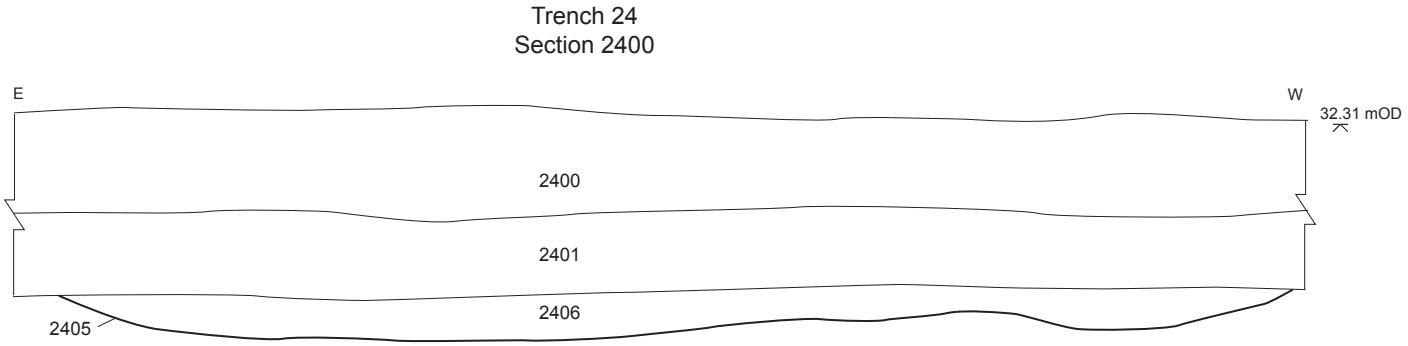
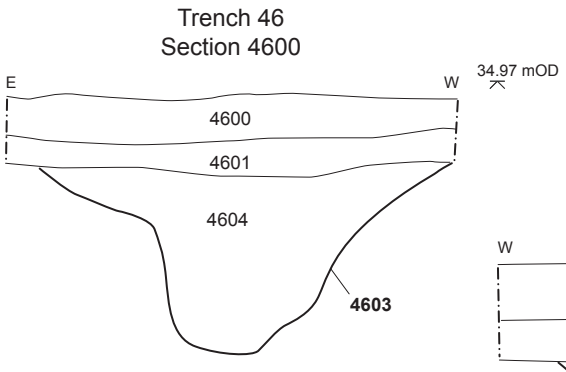
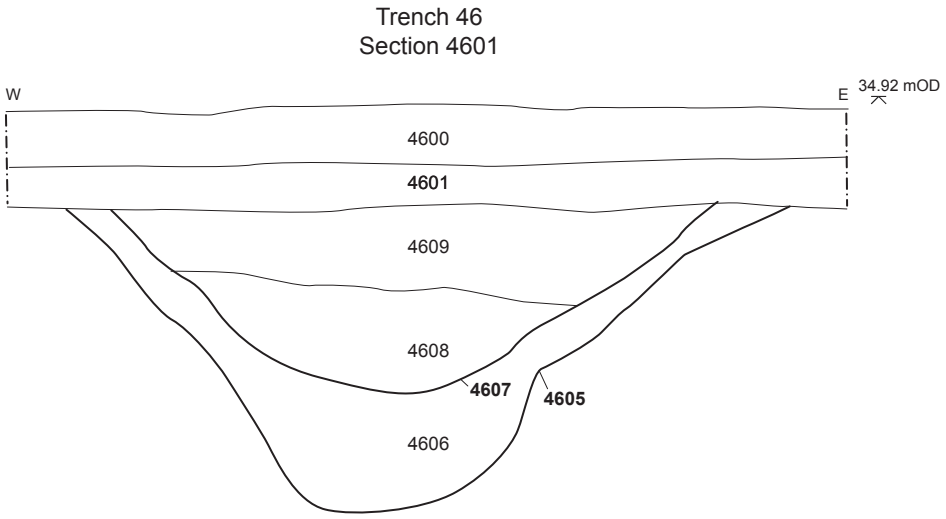
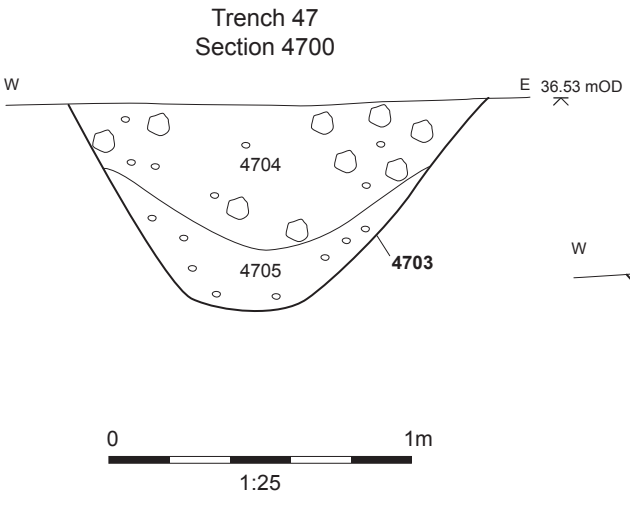
Figure 6: Trenches 46 and 47











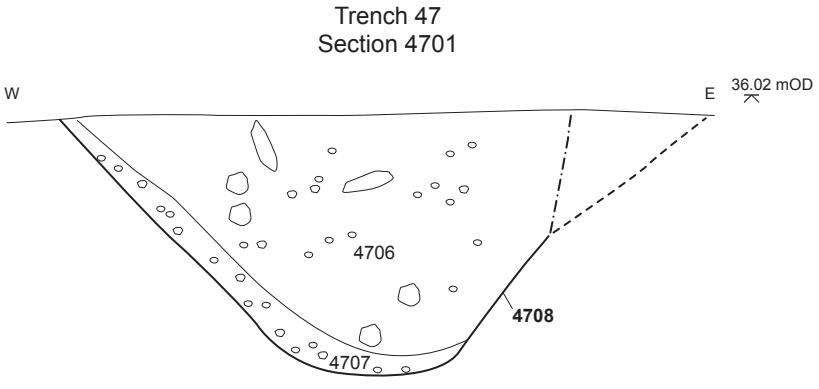


Figure 7: Sections

Plate 1: Trench 6, boundary feature 603, looking west

Plate 2: Trench 8, pot 804 in ditch 805, looking south

Plate 3: Trench 11, pit 1103, looking north

Plate 4: Trench 12, pits 1203 and 1205, looking west

Plate 5: Trench 13, ditch 1303, looking north

Plate 6: Trench 14, pit 1407, looking north

Plate 7: Trench 14, pit 1409, looking south

Plate 8: Trench 15, deposit 1503 part excavated, looking south

Plate 9: Trench 24, ditch 2403, looking south

Plate 10: Trench 25, boundary feature 2503, looking south

Plate 11: Trench 29, boundary feature 2904, looking east

Plate 12: Trench 31, boundary feature 3104, looking east

Plate 13: Trench 33, ditch 3303, looking east

Plate 14: Trench 35, ditch 3505, looking west

Plate 15: Trench 37, ditch 3705, looking north

Plate 16: Trench 39, chalk quarry / extraction pit 3903, looking west

Plate 17: Trench 46, ditch 4603, looking south

Plate 18: Trench 46, ditch 4605 with re-cut 4607, looking north

Plate 19: Trench 47, ditch 4703, looking north

Plate 20: Trench 47, ditch 4708, looking east

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