

# An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Assessment Report at Howt Green Farm, Sheppey Way, Bobbing, Kent



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Report for  
Lambert and Foster

SWAT Archaeology

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company. School Farm Oast, Graveney Road  
Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP Tel: 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112

[www.swatarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.swatarchaeology.co.uk)

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## A Strip, Map and Sample Investigation at Howt Green Farm, Sheppey Way, Bobbing, Kent

### **3. Summary**

*Between 28<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an Archaeological Excavation on the land proposed for the development of a new fruit store at Howt Green Farm, Sheppey Way, Bobbing in Kent. A strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken as requested by the Principal Heritage Officer, Kent County Council following positive results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by SWAT in April 2014.*

*The subsequent archaeological work comprised the mechanical removal of top-soil followed by an initial pre-excavation GPS survey, and then hand excavation and recording of the exposed features.*

*The investigation revealed the presence of prehistoric field systems comprising ditches, elongated pits, drainage gullies and other agricultural activity concentrated within an area located to the west of a large linear feature group, a possible hollow way or trackway. This large linear feature was provisionally interpreted as potential track way or hollow way leading to the Iwade settlement, located approximately 1k to the north and investigated by SWAT Archaeology and Pre Construct Archaeology.*

*The evidence for pottery making, provisionally dated to the Beaker Period, was discovered to the east of the centrally located large linear. The industrial features comprised a 'one shot' pottery kiln exposed during the evaluation. A refuse pit and adjacent post-holes located in the vicinity of the kiln were found during the excavation. The results from the excavation suggest that prehistoric activity from the Early Bronze Age into the Late Iron Age may have centred around the trackway as an important access route through this area south of the Swale and its marshlands.*

*The excavation was carried out in accordance to the requirements set out within the Archaeological Specification and in discussion with the Principal Heritage Officer, Kent County Council.*

#### **4. INTRODUCTION**

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by Lambert and Foster to carry out an archaeological strip, map and sample at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2014) and in discussion with the Principal Heritage Officer, Kent County Council. The investigation was carried out from the 28<sup>th</sup> April to 12th May 2014 and followed on from a five trench evaluation that revealed limited, but rare features including the remnants of a prehistoric hearth and fragments of Early Bronze Age beakers.

#### **5. SITE DESCRIPTION AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The proposed site was located northwest of Sheppey Way in the hamlet of Howt Green within a large orchard that was partially grubbed out to make way for the development and on an area of rough, disturbed ground southwest of the orchard within the farm yard. Bounded by existing orchards to the north and east, Sheppey Way to the southeast and farm buildings to the west, the site was relatively L shaped and measured approximately 0.3819 ha and sloped gently to the southeast at approximately 24.30m to 25.67m aOD (above Ordnance Datum). Google Earth images showed a change of use sometime between 2007 and 2011 when the arable field was turned over to orchard. Earlier Ordnance Survey maps show the development site was an arable field from at least 1870.

According to the British Geological Survey, the site lies on Head deposits, and pale brown sandy silty clay in the form of Brickearth was exposed as superficial geology below the ploughsoil.

#### **6. PLANNING BACKGROUND**

Swale Borough Council granted planning permission for a development (SW/13/0501) consisting of the construction of a new fruit cold store and accompanying hard standing and access road and a small extension to an existing building. On the advice of the Principal Heritage Officer, Kent County Council, a programme of archaeological works in the form of an initial archaeological evaluation, was attached to the consent:

*(Condition 9) No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in*

*accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.*

The archaeological evaluation, carried out by Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT), revealed the presence of potential field gullies and ditches, a pottery kiln and pit. The features were provisionally dated from the Bronze Age and the Iron Age time, therefore further mitigation works comprising a Strip, Map and Sample of the entire western portion of the site and part of the eastern portion was required in advance to the proposed development.

The programme of work aimed to preserve, by record, archaeological features present within the extent of the proposed development imprint. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within the Archaeological Specification from Kent County Council and the ClfA Standards and Guidance.

## **7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

SWAT Archaeology has been involved in significant archaeological work at Coleshall Farm in Iwade, just over a kilometre north of the proposed development site. These ongoing works have revealed an extensive range of human activity from Neolithic pits (c.3350-2800BC) to Medieval field systems (c.1125-1350AD) (Wilkinson 2012). Prior to the work carried out by SWAT, Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) found evidence of Mesolithic to Iron Age remains in the neighbouring vicinity (Bishop & Bagwell 2005) and later Medieval activity in 2000 (PCA Unpublished document 2000). Just over a kilometre south of Howt Green Farm, Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 2008 uncovered a large high status Migration Period Anglo Saxon cemetery and earlier prehistoric ring ditches at The Meads between Bobbing and Sittingbourne (Weekes 2012).

As the proposed development site at Howt Green Farm was sandwiched between these two areas of high archaeological activity, it was likely some evidence of Man's past would be found during the evaluation

There are limited listings in the Historical Environment Record (HER) of recorded findings closer to Howt Green Farm. Between 2000 and 2002 Thames Valley Archaeological Services

carried out excavations at the site of a new crematorium and cemetery off of Stickfast Lane, approximately half a kilometre southwest of the development site. Work in 2000 revealed late Bronze Age to early Iron Age pits, ditches and gullies (HER Number TQ 86 NE 135), and further work in 2002 exposed post Medieval activity (HER Number TQ 86 NE 137).

## **8. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The results from the evaluation, including the discovery of a prehistoric kiln, emphasised the possibility of prehistoric activity within the development site. Added to this the proximity of intensive surviving archaeology at the vast site in Iwade meant this site may have been part of a larger prehistoric landscape.

## **9. METHODOLOGY**

After consultation with the Principal Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, it was agreed that although the groundwork contractors had reduced the site with a top soil strip, the surface would be cleaned back with a 360° machine with a flat bladed bucket. The re-machining involved stripping the area in a single direction from the western limit of the site. Once the area was stripped, the exposed archaeological features were mapped, and interventions excavated to characterise the features.

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the specification. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers (CRN) were assigned to all cuts and deposits for recording purposes. These were used in the report and shown in **bold**. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with SWAT and ClfA standards and guidance.

## **10. RESULTS**

### ***10.1 Introduction***

Archaeological features investigated on this site were predominantly discrete sub linear pits concentrated west of a roughly north-south aligned sequence of linears and long 'pits'. These features may represent a hollow way/trackway **[150]** which has been identified further north at Iwade. The extreme southern end of the feature narrowed to a ditch terminus **[114]** which appeared to form an entranceway with right angled linear **[088]** with



discrete pits grouped around it. Further to the east were a small group of intercutting pits.

Three periods were represented in the ceramic assemblage. These were:

Early Bronze Age: c2000 – 1700 BC - **CRN: 16, 17, 19, 21, and possibly 14 and 107**

Early to Mid Iron Age: c600 – 200 BC - **CRN: 89 and 83**

Middle to Late Iron Age: c75 BC – 50 AD - **CRN: 30, 31 and possibly 115**

## **10.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Model**

A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil **CRN (001)** up to 0.26m thick overlying a loose reworked mottled ploughsoil **CRN (002)**, between 0.14m to 0.22m thick. The ploughsoil was comprised of moderately firm pale orange grey clayey sandy silt that sealed with the underlying brickearth natural geology **CRN (003)**. A clear line of horizon gave way to the natural geology where mechanical excavation ceased and careful examination and investigation for potential archaeological features was carried out.

## **10.3 Results and Interpretation**

### **10.3.1 The Field Systems**

**(Plan Figs 2, 5, 6, 7) (slots 1-7)**

**(Plates 1 – 12)**

A group of archaeological features comprising a field system consisted of a series of NNE-SSW aligned ditches **[114], [136], [140] and [146]**. Oblong pits **[28]** and **[132]** appeared to make up part of this ditch system and may have been the termini of the of the ditches, but this was not revealed in the interventions. Above the fills of these features was cut/interface **[150]** which has been interpreted as a trackway and is discussed later. Following on-site consultation with the Principal Heritage Officer, Kent County Council, this central north-northeast aligned linear group was intersected by seven 2m wide mechanically excavated slots, and after preliminary assessment carried out in slots 4 and 5, another 3 metre wide slot was dug as an extension next to the slot 5.

At the extreme SSW end of this linear group, a ditch was seen to terminate **[114], (Plates 2-4), (sections s.14.2, s.14.3)**. This feature had fairly steep sides and a slightly concave base and measured 4.02m in length, 0.92m in width and 0.21m in depth at its terminus.

Approximately 3.8m to the north, where this ditch was seen to widen, an 'L' shaped slot was

excavated in an attempt to establish the stratigraphic relationship with another linear, [132]. The intervention gave no indication of one feature cutting the other and suggests these features may have fallen out of use around the same time. The fill (115) of ditch [114] recorded in the 'L'-shaped intervention (Plates 3-4), (s.14.2) revealed a fairly compact brown grey clay silt with infrequent manganese inclusions and rare pottery dated to between c1550-50 BC. The wide span in the dating was due to the two, poorly preserved small sized sherd fragments which made analysis difficult, and therefore these sherds could be residual. Also within this L-shaped intervention was a pit or possibly a ditch terminus [132] that was fairly deep and sub-oval in plan (Plan Fig.5 sections s.3.1 and s.10.2) (Plates 4-6). This feature had moderately sloping sides which gradually broke into a concave base and had a maximum depth of 1.06m and a width of over 6m (s.10.2), (Plate 6). There were two distinguishable waterlogged fills (133) and (134)(Plate 5) of feature [132]. Primary deposit (CRN 133) was comprised of firmly compacted blue brown grey, silt clay with moderately distributed iron pan and occasional gravel. This possibly waterborne deposit may have been the product of periodical fluvial events. This 0.2m-thick, curved band of waterlogged silt clay measured 5.88m in width and 0.84m in depth and was overlaid by (134) which was composed of compacted brown grey silt clay with moderately distributed iron pan and manganese inclusions. Infrequent charcoal flecks, peat and other organic material within the soil matrix suggests that protracted soil 'slumping' played a main role in this deposition which was 5.85m wide and 0.81m deep and was overlaid by a broad band of firm pale grey clay silt (135), one of the silting deposits within the trackway [150].

A very consistent, steep sided field ditch [140] (Plate 7) measured approximately 1.3m wide and 1.02m deep emerged from the northern corner of the site and ran southwards for approximately 14 metres where (Plate 8) it gradually transformed into an elongated sub-oval pit [28](Plate 9)(s.2.1), which measured 11.72m long, 6.4m wide and with a maximum depth of 1.38m, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. The fills of both these features were very similar and it was difficult to ascertain the relationship of these two features, suggesting the gradual filling of the cuts was done at relatively the same time. In both cases the back-fill sequence comprised two distinguishable deposits, with only one noticeable difference between primary fill (141) of ditch compared to the primary of the pit (29), the texture of which was more homogenous and 'smoother' than the primary fill of its linear counterpart. Primary deposit (29) consisted of blue grey silt clay and moderate

additions of iron pan, and the primary fill of ditch **(141)**, which was also compacted, consisted of orange blue-grey silt clay with frequent iron pan, occasional charcoal flecks and infrequent flint gravel. It appeared, during excavation that the secondary fill **(30)** of pit **[28]**, comprising firm-friable brown blue grey silt clay with moderate iron pan and 'peat' inclusions was equivalent to the secondary fill **(142)** of ditch **[140]**. These fills were in turn sealed by the two fills **(31) = (143)** between 0.2-0.6m thick of bright sand silt of trackway **[150]**.

Mechanically excavated slots **(Plan fig sections)(slots 3, 4 and 5)** across the central linear group between pits **[28]** to the north and **[132]** to the south revealed a gentle shallow wide scoop within an 18m long gap between these pits. The hollow, possibly an earlier trackway **[136](Plate 10)**, was also recorded as **[146]** and measured at least 10 metres wide (east-west) had a maximum depth of 0.89m in slot 5 **(s.9.1)** where a gravelled surface was revealed. The gravelled surface **(137=147)** was laid along the flat base of the hollow and contained moderately scattered small and medium sized flints embedded/ squashed into natural clay surface and mixed with mineralised material (greenish cress) **(Plate 11)** and other trample-derived components. Fairly moderate distribution of cress patches around pit **[28]** decreased southwards and eventually faded entirely in slot 3. The distribution of gravel was observed extending south in Slot 2. The upper fill of this feature **(138) (sections s.10.1 and s.9.1)** was composed of re-deposited natural orange grey clay silt with was sealed by the silting deposit **(139)** of later possible hollow way/trackway **[150]**.

Approximately 10m to the south of ditch terminus **[114]**, an 'L' shaped field ditch was identified and appeared to make an entranceway with the southern limit of the possible linear boundary/trackway. **(Fig.4)(Sections s.6.1 6.2 4 6 and 8.1)**.

A 1.1m wide linear feature **[88]** emerged from the south-eastern limit of the development site and ran northwards for approximately 8 metres where it gradually turned and continued its run towards the east-south-east for approximately 10 metres where it terminated. The depth of this feature gradually decreased from the site boundary where it emerged towards its terminus what appeared to be deliberately dug against a slightly increasing ground level was approximately 0.16m, exactly the same as the difference in feature's depth between terminus section 6.6 and first section 5.1, however for some reason the feature was deeper in its mid point where it turned to the south-east. The fill **(89)** of this ditch was composed of firm dark brown grey clay silt with occasional carbon flecks and manganese flecks and eight

sherds of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery (c.600-200 BC). The ditch was cut by two features, pit [126] and linear [128], and a further intervention at the bend revealed this later truncation by steep-sided sub-oval pit [126] which contained a post-hole or stake-hole located at the western edge. The fill of the pit (129) was a firm grey brown clay silt with rare manganese flecks and no cultural material.

Parallel to linear [114] on its eastern side was a 5.68m long, 0.64m wide and 0.28m deep 'stub' linear [106] which appeared to form a narrow passageway with ditch [114] and narrowed to the north. Features like this have been found at Iwade and other prehistoric sites and could comprise a form of livestock crush. "Evidence of droving, batching, confining, inspection and sorting is plentiful in the layout of most British prehistoric field systems and it says much about the scale, state and organisation of pre-Roman livestock farming." (Pryor, p.100). The fill (107) was comprised of firm, orange-grey, clay-silt with moderate iron panning and infrequent manganese flecks and pottery dated to the Early Bronze Age. East and roughly perpendicular to ditch [106] was ditch [112] which appeared to make another entranceway. The western end of this feature was evident during the excavation and measured 3.4m long, 0.96m wide and up to 0.13m deep. The fill of this ditch (113) was made up of a firmly compacted mixture of brown-orange clay-silt with grey silt-clay, abundant amounts of iron precipitates, manganese flecks and infrequent inclusions of chalk and charcoal flecks. Ditch [112] was the division between two fields, and two post holes, [108] and [110] could be interpreted as posts for a gate allowing access to fields to the north and south with the linear group making up the western boundary. Ditch [112] (Plan Fig.4 Section s.14.4) was also aligned perpendicularly to the east-south-east aligned portion of ditch [88]. During the site evaluation phase, this ditch was almost certainly picked up and excavated in trench 2 as [201] (SWAT 2014) and interpreted as field ditch.

### **10.3.2 The Trackway [150]**

**(Plan Figs 5, 6, 7)**

**Sections: s.3.1 2.1 9.1 10.1 10.4 10.2 3.1 and 14.2**

**(Slots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6 ,7)**

The centrally located wide linear spread with a number of clay silt deposits (31=143=139=135=148=149) was interpreted as an eroded trackway or hollow way [150] which possibly cut a group of segmented Bronze Age boundary ditches. The fill(s) were composed of firm, pale grey clay silt with occasional manganese and rare small to medium

sub angular and rounded flints, carbon flecks and gravel. Fill **(31)** produced one large grog and flint tempered pottery sherd and one small, possibly decorated, sand and flint tempered sherd. Both dated to the Early Bronze Age, making this large feature contemporary with other Beaker era activity on the site. Trackway **[150]** emerged from the north-northeastern corner of the site and ran south-southwest for approximately 57.1 metres, where it gradually faded into the deposits of underlying features **[132]** and terminus **[114]**, making the limit of where the trackway ended indeterminate.

This track possibly originated as a shallow linear hollow running between Howt Green Farm and Iwade Village, as the extreme northern profile on the site attests. In time the ditch silted up and become wider which resulted in edges of the linear boundary becoming concealed. Deposit **(031)** and its equals are evident that the fill(s) of the trackway derived as a result of very a slow silting process over along period of time.

Trackway **[150]** investigated on this site was fairly similar to the trackway excavated by PCA and SWAT on nearby archaeological sites in and around Iwade village, located approximately 1k the north of Howt Green Farm. Features with a similar configuration comprising a wide, shallow linear hollow with the same alignment was excavated on the Iwade site during the evaluation phase, and two phases of strip map and sample excavations. Similar features were encountered in evaluation trenches 22, 27 and 60 (Iw-Ev-CRNs 2207, 2718 and 6006) and it was also encountered later during first phase of excavations (Iw-Ex-CRN 40137) and recorded in section (Iw.Ex- s.106.1).

The trackway continue its run northwards into the village where it was excavated by PCA in 2005. According to the PCA assessment report, this trackway was dated to c1250-1350 AD, but it could be that the retrieved cultural material could be derived from later truncations/intrusions or from accidental loses occurred during long time-span when the trackway was in use. If the retrieved ceramics was definitely not derived by later truncations it has to be considered that in this case, the Medieval Period is the '*terminus ad quem*' for the trackway, not its ultimate date.

As no later date finds were retrieved from the trackway portion adjacent to the Iwade village itself, it can be deducted that plausibly after c.AD 1350 this route was superseded by a newer one, certainly more substantial, better build with ability to sustain faster steel-wheeled carriages which could sunk easily during very wet periods. A Comparison of trackway '*terminus ante quem*' from this site to the '*terminus ad quem*' from Iwade sites can

provide an interesting view onto how feature evolved where time-spans varied between Howt Green Farm and Iwade Village and shows that, as an earlier route to Sheppey, the portion located further of the village could be superseded when the adjacent part to the village was still in use. It have to be mentioned that trackway as an early prehistoric route to Sheppey was postulated couple years ago by Dr. Paul Wilkinson (*Wilkinson, P 2011-2012, Excavations on land adjacent to Coleshall Farm, Iwade*) and suggested by KCC (KCC 2011:6) “...Extrapolating the extents and alignment of the current holloway along with the PCA trackway, one would ultimately arrive at the current Kingsferry Crossing point across the Swale. Further extrapolation of this route onto the island and one would not arrive too far away from Minster. Ultimately the origins of this route are of prime importance and further work within the surrounding area should focus on establishing the nature and character of such a route as well as attempting to tie down the phasing and longevity.” (*Wilkinson, P 2011-2012:24-25*)

### **10.3.3 Pits and post/stake holes**

The archaeological features excavated to the west of central field system were discrete sub-rounded and sub-linear pits of a form and type common in and around prehistoric field systems in Kent. Unfortunately, such features tend to contain limited cultural material making dating these pits difficult and making interpretation as to their use very limited. They have been often interpreted as prehistoric (and later) tree boles, suggesting a wooded area or agriculturally as a place for pannage/swine keeping, there is a lack of evidence. The distribution of the majority of the pits was concentrated on a NE/SW alignment which could represent the remains of a hedgerow.

For detailed descriptions of every feature and recorded deposits readers are referred to *Appendix II*, here only indicative examples will be fully discussed.

The series of elongated pits (**CRNs 22, 06, 10 and others**) (**Plan Fig. 3 and 5, sections s.1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.15, 1.16, 1.18 and others**) emerged from the western corner and were distributed quite evenly along south-eastern edge of the site and accompanied by unevenly scattered post-holes [8], [11], [24], [26], [36], [48], [52], [62], [64], [84]. All excavated features, except post-hole [62] appeared to have a similar fill consisting of redeposited natural superficial geology consisting of mixed bright orange yellow clay silt with a changeable density of manganese inclusions. Cultural material was found mainly as small flecks of poorly preserved porous pottery fragments, and even this was seen in few

interventions. One shallow post-hole **[62]**(**Plate 16**) contained fill **(63)** (**plan fig 6 section s.1.22**) comprising dark grey clay silt with moderate charcoal and iron pan and a knapped round flint scraper, provisionally dated to the Early Bronze Age. (sampled **<2>**)

Interestingly two post-holes **[11]** and **[52]** were observed within feature **[10]**(**Plate 12**) which was an east-west aligned 'stub' linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base and measured 4.20m long, 0.6m wide and with a maximum depth of 0.15m. The fill **(012)** of pit **[10]** was comprised of pale orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese flecks.

Other post-holes were excavated in this area were so shallow and so heavily disturbed that they more likely resembled bioturbation activity such as root channels as opposed to post or stake holes. Many of these small features were located in close proximity to the longer 'sausage' shaped features suggesting a possible agricultural usage as tree stakes.

Other elongated sub-oval or 'C' shaped features were interpreted also as remnants of (prehistoric) agricultural activity and a few other regular or irregular pits were interpreted as potential small tree boles. The distribution of agriculture-originated features in the form of pits and post-holes respected the central NNE-SSW aligned linear boundary, and were not revealed on the eastern part of the site (east of central linear pattern, but not further to the south than terminus of ditch **[114]**). Archaeological features investigated here include all post-holes/stakeholes and pits, and were provisionally dated to the Early Bronze Age, but evidence in the form of diagnostic cultural material is lacking. Probably the most conclusive datable cultural material was retrieved from previously mentioned shallow post-hole **[62]**.

The area located to the east of the central linear boundary contained significantly less features than the western part. (**Plan Fig 8**)(**Sections s.3.3, 3.4, 3.5 3.6**) Approximately 23m to the east of feature **[132]** a south-east north-west aligned sub-oval refuse pit **[15]** and abutted post-holes **[18]** and **[20]** were excavated and recorded and environmental soil sample **<1>** was taken from the abundant charcoal dump, recorded as **(17)**. The basal fill of this feature **(16)** was derived as a result from deliberated back-filling with the addition of industrial waste material comprising angular fired ceramic lumps and vitrified globules of sandy material occurring only in trace amounts comparing to the overlying deposit **(17)**. The fills of this feature and fill **(21)** of abutted post-hole **[20]** produced diagnostic cultural material in the form of pottery sherds dated to the Early Bronze Age (c.2200-1700 BC). Context **(16)** contained one decorated sherd and another with the same fabric was found in

context **(17)** which produced five sherds of pottery, most with the same fabric. Similar pottery was found in context **(21)** and other flint tempered sherd with grooved linear decoration. The fill of abutted post-hole **(21)[20]**, produced two sherds of a Rusticated Beaker (c. 2200-1700 BC). This feature was interpreted as waste or refuse pit associated with pottery making and general ceramic-focused industry due to the content of its fills and its location near a possible prehistoric pottery kiln which was excavated during the evaluation phase in early 2014 (**Trench 3, Ev-CRN 302**). (Martin, 2014)

An oval pit **(144)**(**Section.11.4, Plan Figs 6 and 7**) cutting the fill **(031)** of the central trackway **[150]** contained abundant animal bone and frequent iron pan. This feature was aligned southeast/northwest with a vertical south-eastern side and a moderately sloping north-western side breaking to a relatively flat base. It measured 0.9m long by 0.7m wide with maximum depth of 0.22m and was filled by **(145)**, a fairly loose, mid grey clay silt with frequent animal bones (sheep?), moderate iron pan and infrequent small manganese flecks. The deposit produced datable cultural material in form of domestic pottery sherds and certainly derived as a result from rapid back-fill. The pottery sherds retrieved from this feature were provisionally dated to the Medieval period, and was the only feature on the site from this time period.

#### **The central trackway [150]**

The main infill of this feature **(31)** produced two sherds: one large grog + flint tempered and one sand and flint tempered with possible twisted decoration (small fragment.).

Both were broadly dated to the Early Bronze Age.

#### **'Pit' [28] (slot 6 s.2.1) located beneath trackway [150]**

The upper fill **(30)** produced a few sherds including one grog tempered, two conjoining rims and one with an incurved (neck?). These were dated to the Early Bronze Age 2200-1550 BC, but not like the grooved ware seen at the Iwade site, located just over a kilometre to the north. Later analysis by Nigel Macpherson Grant of six sherds identified these as 'Belgic' style grog tempered ware from the Late Iron Age (c. 50 BC-25 AD).

#### **'L' - shaped ditch (CRN 88)**

The fill of this feature **(89)** produced eight flint tempered sherds, three from the same vessel. They have been broadly dated to the Early to Mid Iron Age (c600-200 BC)



### **Refuse pit [15] and abutted post-holes [18] and [20]**

The fills of these features produced a number of sherds. Fill **(16)** contained two sherds, one decorated and the other the same fabric as in context **(17)** with an Early Bronze Age (c.2000-1700 BC) date.

Fill **(17)** produced seventeen sherds, all of the same fabric (superficially) and one appearing to be the same fabric as in context **(21)** (superficially). One sherd was notably flint tempered with grooved linear decoration, and all date from the Early Bronze Age (c2000-1700 BC).

Fill **(21)** produced two sherds from, possibly, a Rusticated Beaker and dated to the Early Bronze Age (c.2200-1700 BC).

## **12. DISCUSSION**

The Strip, Map and Sample excavation at Howt Green Farm revealed a prehistoric landscape hinted at during the evaluation earlier in 2014 where a possible Bronze Age kiln was discovered. The excavation revealed an Early Bronze Age/Beaker field system reused and 'improved' in the Iron Age, including what appeared to be the southern portion of an (Iron Age?) trackway identified by SWAT and PCA during mitigation work at Iwade over a number of years. PCA's Medieval date may attest to the trackway's use far beyond the prehistoric era, or may have been nothing more than the product of intrusive artefacts as a result of ploughing or bioturbation. A pit **[144]** cutting the trackway **(31)/[150]** was the only feature containing Medieval pottery. Below the NNE/SSW aligned trackway was a series of segmented linear ditches and possibly pits, but the pits may have been terminal ends of the ditch system. Only 'pit' **(030)/[28]** produced pottery which dated to the Mid to Late Iron Age. Neighbouring ditches made up entranceways with this ditch group, including **[88]** to the south of the linear group, which contained pottery dated to the Early to Middle Iron Age, and **[106]** and **[110]** to the west of the group. The fill of **[106]** contained pottery dated to the Early Bronze Age, and the placement of two postholes **[108]** and **[110]** suggest a gateway between fields north and south, with ditch **[112]** as the division between the two.

West of the linear group was an assortment of short 'sausage' shaped pits of a type that suggests tree throws, and some of these had stake or post holes associated with them. Most were devoid of artefacts, which is not uncommon with features of this type, except for **(93)/[92]**, located northwest of right-angled ditch **[88]**. Pottery from this feature was dated to the Early to Mid Iron Age (c.600-200 BC). The lack of diagnostic pottery limited the

interpretation and phasing of a number of features, especially the many pits found west of the trackway/ditch group, but the appearance of elongated 'sausage' shaped pits, many devoid of artefacts, is a common site on prehistoric sites.

It is worth noting the difference in the number and placement of features on the site and their association with the NNE-SSW linear group/trackway. The western side of the site was littered with possible tree throws, especially in the northwest corner, while east of the trackway was relatively devoid of features besides pit [15] and its associated post holes. A possible kiln or hearth was identified near these features during the evaluation. Perhaps the northwestern corner was an ancient hedgerow, and the eastern side of the boundary lead to the edge of the occupied area where production of pottery or habitation was sited.

### **13. CONCLUSION**

The Strip, Map and Sample excavation was successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the specification including identifying further the extent of prehistoric human occupation revealed during the evaluation stage of the mitigation process. Not only did the site reveal features most likely associated with a Bronze Age kiln or hearth found during the evaluation, the excavation has tied this site into the prehistoric environment via the discovery of a trackway identified over a kilometre north at Iwade.

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## Appendix 1

### Context summary table

No	CONT EXT TYPE	INTERPRET ATION	FUNCTI ON	Provis ional DATE	DRAWI NGS	PLA TES	DESCRIPTION & Dimensions
00 1	Depos it	Top-soil					Moderately compacted, dark grey, clay sandy silt with moderate peat/ organic content and occasional small angular stones.  FINDS: modern inclusions Average thickness: 0,26m
00 2	Depos it	Sub-soil					Moderately compacted, pale orange grey, clay sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones.  FINDS: modern inclusions Thickness: 0,14-0,22m
00 3	Depos it	Natural					Firmly compacted, orange yellow brickearth with infrequent manganese flecks.  Superficial alluvial deposit.
00 4	Cut	Post-hole		EBA	p.1.5 s.1.3		East-west aligned, sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. Modern land drain (no CRN assigned) was

							abutted to the feature's northern side. It measured 0.96m by 0.58m and had a maximum depth of 0.3m.
005	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [004]	EBA	p.1.5 s.1.3		Firm, mid grey brown clay silt with moderate manganese flecks. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.96m by 0.58m with maximum depth of 0.3m.
006	Cut	Gully		EBA	p.1.12 s.1.10		East-west aligned short 'wavy' linear cut with steep/moderately sloping sides and mainly concave base. It measured 3.51m by 0.76m with maximum depth of 0.28m.
007	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [006]	EBA	p.1.12 s.1.9 s.1.10 s.1.11		Firm, orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. Fill derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 3.51m by 0.76m with maximum depth of 0.28m.
008	Cut	Post-hole		EBA	s.1.8 p.1.12		Small circular cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.32m by 0.25m with maximum depth of

						0.16m
009	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [008]	EBA	p.1.12 s.1.8	Firm, orange grey, clay silt with infrequent manganese flecks. Fill derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured, respectively 0.32m by 0.25m with maximum depth of 0.16m.
010	Cut	Gully		EBA	s.1.18 p.1.19 s.1.15	East-west aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. This feature was interpreted as planting row and had a couple of post-holes accommodated in. After all it measured 4.20m by 0.6m with max depth of 0.15m
011	Cut	Post-hole		EBA	p.1.19 s.1.15	Small sub-circular cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.2m in diameter and had a maximum depth of 0.12m.
012	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [010], [011]	EBA	s.1.18 p.1.19 s.1.15	Firm, pale orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 4.20m by 0.6m

							with maximum depth of 0.15m.
<b>014</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [013]</b>	<b>EBA</b>			<b>FINDS:</b> EBA Beaker pottery
<b>015</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>	<b>refuse</b>	<b>EBA</b>	<b>p.3.5</b> <b>s.3.3</b> <b>s.3.4</b>		South-east north-west aligned sub-oval cut with moderately/ steep sloping sides and base with concave-convex-concave configuration. Feature was interpreted as refuse pit as it contained industrial waste, associated with pottery making and unused fuel in form of discarded charcoal powder. It measured 3.48m by 1.49m with maximum depth of 0.48m. The pottery kiln of 'one shot' type was investigated adjacently during the evaluation phase.
<b>016</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Primary fill</b>	<b>Fill of [015]</b>	<b>EBA</b>	<b>p.3.5</b> <b>s.3.3</b> <b>s.3.4</b>		Firm, yellow grey, clay silt with occasional angular stones and infrequent charcoal flecks among scorched clay fragments. It derived as a result from discarded material along with side erosion and

						possible collapse to the inside. It measured 3.48m by 1.35m and 0.48m in depth. FINDS: EBA Beaker pottery
<b>017</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Secondary fill</b>	<b>Fill of [015]</b>	<b>EBA</b>	<b>p.3.5 s.3.3 s.3.4</b>	Fairly loose dark grey, clay silt with abundant charcoal flecks and moderate scorched daub, clay, cbm etc. Deposit derived as certainly as a result from deliberated deposition of discarded ceramic material and unused fuel (charcoal powder). It measured 2.4m by 0.95m with maximum depth of 0.34m. SAMPLE FINDS: EBA Beaker pottery
<b>018</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>		<b>EBA</b>	<b>p.3.5 s.3.7</b>	Small sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. Feature was abutted to the refuse pit (CRN 15) and other similar post-hole to the north-west (CRN 20). It measured 0.62m by 0.48m with maximum depth of 0.25m
<b>019</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Back-fill</b>	<b>Fill of [018]</b>	<b>EBA</b>	<b>p.3.5 s.3.7</b>	Firm, dark orange grey, clay silt with occasional charcoal and manganese flecks.



						Deposit derived as a result from rapid back fill and measured 0.62m by 0.48m with maximum depth of 0.25m FINDS: EBA Beaker pottery
<b>020</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.3.5</b> <b>s.3.6</b>	Small sub-oval cut with steep almost vertical sides and concave base. Feature was also abutted to the refuse pit (CRN 15) and similar post hole to the south-east (CRN 18) and measured 0.66m by 0.42m with maximum depth of 0.4m.
<b>021</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Back-fill</b>	<b>Fill of [020]</b>		<b>p.3.5</b> <b>s.3.6</b>	Firm, mid grey, clay silt with occasional charcoal and angular flints. It derived as a result from rapid back fill and measured, respectively 0.66m by 0.42m with total depth of 0.4m FINDS: EBA Beaker pottery
<b>022</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Gully</b>	<b>Field system</b>		<b>p.1.7</b> <b>s.1.6</b>	Roughly north-south aligned linear or sub-oval cut runs beyond site limit with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured at least 2.5m in length; 1.31m in width and

						0.43m in depth.
02 3	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [022]		p.1.7 s.1.6	Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese and bright silt patches. It measured 1.31m wide and 0.43m in depth and derived as a result from general overtime silting processes.
02 4	Cut	Post-hole			p.1.2 s.1.1	East-west aligned small sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.4m by 0.32m with maximum depth of 0.14m
02 5	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [024]		p.1.2 s.1.1	Firm, mid grey, clay silt with occasional charcoal and manganese flecks. This fill has derived as a result from general overtime silting process and measured 0.4m by 0.32m with maximum depth of 0.14m.
02 6	Cut	Post-hole			p.1.5 s.1.4	Small 'pear shape' cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.42m by 0.42m with maximum depth of 0.11m.
02 7	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [026]		p.1.5 s.1.4	Firmly compacted, dark brown grey, clay silt with

						occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured 0.42m by 0.42m with maximum depth of 0.11m
<b>028</b>	<b>Cut</b>				<b>p.Fig.6 p.2.2 s.2.1</b>	North-south aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into concave base. It measured 11.72m in length; 6.4m in width and had a maximum depth of 1.38m.
<b>029</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Primary waterlogged</b>	<b>Basal fill of [28]</b>		<b>p.2.2 s.2.1</b>	Firm, brown blue, silt clay with moderate iron pan, manganese flecks and infrequent charcoal flecks. This basal deposit has derived as a result from initial feature's side erosion along with water laid deposition. It measured 4.61m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.49m.
<b>030</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Secondary fill</b>	<b>Fill of [28]</b>		<b>s.2.1</b>	Friable, blue grey, silt clay with moderate iron pan and 'peaty' organic content. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and

						fluvial processes and measured 3.62m in width and 1.14m in depth. FINDS: MIA-LIA
<b>03 1</b>	<b>Depos it</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [150], same as (135). (139), (143), (148), (149). Cut by [144]</b>		<b>p.Figs.1 ,2,6 p.2.2 s.2.1</b>	Firm, pale grey, clay silt with moderate bright silt laminations,, occasional daub, charcoal, flint and gravel. This deposit has derived very slowly from overtime silting, successively the silting process occurred when underlying layers slumped forming a shallow hollow which was filled in then followed by further slump and filling sequence as it is evident in thin 10-20mm-thin bands of bright silt. It is possible that later in time the remaining shallow hollow become a track way leading to the Iwade settlement located couple miles to the north. This broad deposit measured at least 12m in length; 8.02m in width and had maximum measurable depth of 0.61m.

						FINDS
<b>03 2</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>			<b>s.2.3 p.2.4</b>	East-west aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 1.08m by 0.7 m and had maximum depth of 0.17m
<b>03 3</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [032]</b>		<b>s.2.3 p.2.4</b>	Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting along with protracted perturbations associated with agricultural activities. Deposit measured 1.08m by 0.7 m with maximum depth of 0.17m
<b>03 4</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>			<b>p.2.6 s.2.5</b>	Roughly north-south aligned well disturbed by roots, sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides forming concave although uneven base which resulted from protracted bioturbations. It measured 2.5m in length by 0.74m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.16m.
<b>03 5</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [034]</b>		<b>p.2.6 s.2.5</b>	Firm, orange grey clay silt with moderate bright silt

							patches. It derived as a result from protracted planting and measured 2.5m in length by 0.74m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.16m.
03 6	Cut	Post-hole			p.7.5 s.2.7		Sub-circular cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.5m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.22m. This agricultural feature was interpreted as an agricultural planting post
03 7	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [036]		p.7.5 s.2.7		Firmly compact dark brown grey, clay silt with infrequent charcoal and manganese flecks. It derived as a result from rapid backfill and measured 0.5m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.22m. <b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This context is truncated by pit (CRN 38)</u>
03 8	Cut	Pit			p.7.5 s.2.7		North-south aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. This plant bedding feature measured 1.66m by 0.9m with maximum depth of 0.28m

							<b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This context is truncating deposit (CRN 037)</u>
<b>039</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [038]</b>		<b>p.7.5 s.2.7</b>		Firmly compacted dark brown grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured 1.66m by 0.9m with maximum depth of 0.28m.
<b>040</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>			<b>p.1.21 s.1.20</b>		Roughly north-south aligned shallow sub-oval cut with gently sloping sides and mainly flat base. It measured 0.72m by 0.64m with maximum depth of 0.08m.
<b>041</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [040]</b>		<b>p.1.21 s.1.20</b>		Firm, pale orange grey clay silt with infrequent manganese flecks. Fill derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.72m by 0.64m with maximum depth of 0.08m
<b>042</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>			<b>p.7.10 s.7.11</b>		East-west aligned, elongated sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into

						concave base. It measured 3.6m in length by 0.70m in width and 0.17m in depth.
<b>04 3</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [042]</b>		<b>p.7.10 s.7.11</b>	Fairly firm, pale orangish grey, clay silt with occasional manganese pan. This deposit has derived as a result from overtime silting along with protracted bioturbations. It measured 3.6m by 0.7m with maximum depth of 0.17m. STRATIGRAPHY: truncated by modern land drain (no CRN assigned).
<b>04 4</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit</b>			<b>s.7.7 p.7.8</b>	South-west north-east aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It was interpreted as potential plant bedding feature and measured 1.66m by 0.94m with maximum depth of 0.24m.
<b>04 5</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [044]</b>		<b>s.7.7 p.7.8</b>	Firmly compacted, pale orange grey, clay silt with infrequent angular stones and bright silt patches. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting along with protracted



						bioturbations and measured 1.66m by 0.94m with maximum depth of 0.24m.
<b>04 6</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Pit/ gully</b>			<b>p.7.6 s.2.8 s.2.9 s.2.10</b>	North-south aligned short linear cut with moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into concave base. It measured 3.01m long; 0.84m wide with maximum depth of 0.22m.
<b>04 7</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>fill</b>	<b>Fill of [046]</b>		<b>p.7.6 s.2.8 s.2.9 s.2.10</b>	Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with infrequent manganese pan and occasional angular stones. Fill derived as a result from protracted bioturbations along with overtime silting processes. It measured 3.01m by 0.84m and had a maximum depth of 0.22m
<b>04 8</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.2.12 s.2.11</b>	Small sub-circular cut with shallow, although, moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.4m in diameter with maximum depth of 0.07m
<b>04 9</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [048]</b>			Firm, orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese and angular stones. Fill

							derived as a result from general overtime silting along with protracted ground disturbances. Deposit measured 0.4m by 0.4m with maximum depth of 0.07m
05 0	Cut	Gully			p.4.19 s.4.17 s.4.18		'C' shaped short curvilinear shallow cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 3.5m by 1.0m with max depth 0.16m.
05 1	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [050]		p.4.19 s.4.17 s.4.18		Firm, pale grey, clay silt with occasional manganese and angular flint. It derived as a result from protracted agricultural activities and silting process. Deposit measured 3.5m by 1.0m with 0.16m in depth and was well disturbed by bioturbations.
05 2	Cut	Post-hole			s.1.17 p.1.		Small sub-circular cut with steep sides and concave base. This agricultural post-hole was accommodated in planting/ bedding row (CRN10) and measured 0.18m in diameter with maximum depth of 0.1m

05 3	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [052]				Firm, grey, clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint stones. Deposit derived as a result from rapid back-fill and measured 0.18m by 0.18m with 0.1m in depth.
05 4	Cut	Post-hole					
05 5	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [054]				
05 6	Cut	Post-hole					
05 7	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [056]				
05 8	Cut	Short gully			p.4.12 s.4.9 s.4.10 s.4.11		Short north-south aligned sub-oval elongated shallow cut with moderately sloping sides and flat/ concave base. It measured 1.84m by 0.48m with 0.13m in depth.
05 9	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [058]				Firm, pale grey, clay silt with occasional manganese and angular flint. It derived as a result from protracted agricultural activities and overtime silting processes and measured 1.84m by 0.48m with maximum depth of 0.13m.
06	Cut	Post-hole					Small, sub-oval east-west

<b>0</b>							aligned cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.78m by 0.5m with maximum depth of 0.17m.
<b>061</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [060]</b>				Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with infrequent manganese and charcoal flecks. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.78m by 0.48m with 0.17m in depth.
<b>062</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.1.23</b> <b>s.1.22</b>		North-east south-west aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping but shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.28m by 0.2m with maximum depth of 0.08m.
<b>063</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Back-fill</b>	<b>Fill of [062]</b>		<b>p.1.23</b> <b>s.1.22</b>		Firmly compacted, pale orange grey clay silt with infrequent angular stones and bright silt laminations. This deposit derived as a result from bioturbations followed by final overtime silting. It measured 0.28m by 0.2m and had max depth of 0.08m.
<b>06</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.2.13</b>		East-west aligned, sub-oval

4					s.2.14	cut with moderately sloping shallow sides and mostly flat base. It measured 0.76m by 0.6m with maximum depth of 0.08m.
06 5	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [064]		p.2.13 s.2.14	Firm, orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from protracted agricultural activities associated with bedding plants. It measured 0.76m by 0.6m with maximum depth of 0.08m.
06 6	Cut	Pit/ gully		Provisional BA	s.7.12 s.7.13 s.7.14	South-east north-west aligned short linear cut with steep/moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. It measured 4.24m long by 1.2m wide with maximum depth of 0.22m
06 7	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [066]		s.7.12 s.7.13 s.7.14	Firmly compacted, pale orange grey clay silt with occasional angular stones. Fill derived as a result from bioturbations followed by general overtime silting and measured 4.24m by 1.2m with maximum depth of 0.22m
06 8	Cut	pit	Tree bole?		p.8.6 s.8.5	North-south aligned sub-oval pit with moderately

							sloping sides and slightly concave base. It measured 1.6m long by 1.02m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.23m.
<b>069</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [068]</b>		<b>p.8.6</b> <b>s.8.5</b>		Moderately compacted, pale orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. This fill derived as a result from bioturbations followed by gradual overtime silting and measured 1.6m by 1.02m with maximum depth of 0.23m.
<b>070</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Gully</b>			<b>s.8.8</b> <b>s.8.9</b> <b>s.8.10</b>		North-west south-east aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 3.08m in length by 0.54m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.15m
<b>071</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [070]</b>		<b>s.8.8</b> <b>s.8.9</b> <b>s.8.10</b>		Firmly compacted, pale orange grey clay silt with infrequent angular stones and bright silt laminations. This deposit derived as a result from bioturbations followed by final overtime silting. It measured 0.54m in width and had a

						maximum depth of 0.15m.
<b>07 2</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.8.11 s.8.14</b>	Roughly east-west aligned sub-oval cut with stepped sides and concave base. It measured 0.82m in length 0.74m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.13m. Potential timber post was accommodated in this feature.
<b>07 3</b>	<b>Depos it</b>	<b>Back-fill</b>	<b>Fill of [072]</b>		<b>p.8.11 s.8.14</b>	Firmly compacted, dark orange grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate iron pan. This fill derived as a result from rapid back-fill after postulated post was removed. It measured .82m in length 0.74m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.13m.
<b>07 4</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole</b>			<b>p.8.12 s.8.13</b>	North-south aligned sub-oval cut discovered during monitoring of the side trench excavation. Feature had moderately sloping sides, concave base and measured respectively 0.72m by 0.62m with 0.14m in depth.
<b>07</b>	<b>Depos</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of</b>		<b>p.8.12</b>	Moderately compacted,

5	it		[074]		s.8.13		pale orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting plausibly along with protracted bioturbations. It measured 0.72m by 0.62m with maximum depth of 0.14m.
07 6	Cut	Post-hole					
07 7	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [076]				
07 8	Cut	Post-hole			p.8.16 s.8.15		East west aligned shallow sub-oval cut with gently sloping shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.72m by 0.55m and had a maximum depth of 0.12. Feature was interpreted as well eroded post-hole indicating agricultural planting post.
07 9	Depos it	Back-fill	Fill of [078]		p.8.16 s.8.15		Firm compaction, mid grey, clay silt with infrequent charcoal flecks and moderate iron pan. This well disturbed by plant roots deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting and



							measured 0.72m by 0.55m and had a maximum depth of 0.12.
<b>080</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Gully</b>		<b>Provisional EBA</b>	<b>s.11.6</b> <b>s.11.7</b>	<b>P50</b> <b>2038</b> <b>0</b> <b>P50</b> <b>2038</b> <b>1</b>	Roughly north-east south-west aligned, short linear cut with sharp break of slope top and moderately sloping sides gradually breaking into slightly concave bottom. This short 'gully like' agricultural feature measured: 4.05m long by 0.94 wide with maximum depth of 0.24m
<b>081</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [080]</b>	<b>Provisional EBA</b>	<b>s.11.6</b> <b>s.11.7</b>	<b>P50</b> <b>2038</b> <b>0</b> <b>P50</b> <b>2038</b> <b>1</b>	Firmly compacted, pale orange grey clay silt with occasional angular flints and noticeable bioturbations, mostly caused by plant roots. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured: 4.05m long by 0.94 wide with maximum depth of 0.24m
<b>082</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>pit</b>		<b>Provisional EBA</b>	<b>s.11.2</b>		West-south-west east-north-east aligned sub-oval cut with sharp top break of slope and steep sides gradually breaking into

							concave bottom. It measured: 1.7m in length, 0.65m in width and had maximum depth of 0.4m
<b>083</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [082]</b>	<b>Provisional EBA</b>	<b>s.11.2</b>		Firmly compacted, pale orange grey, clay silt with infrequent angular stones and frequent iron panning. Fairly noticeable plant roots marks were spotted during the excavation. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured: 1.7m in length, 0.65m in width and had maximum depth of 0.4m
<b>084</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Post-hole or small pit</b>			<b>p.4.8 s.4.7</b>		North-east south west aligned small sub-oval cut with steep/ moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.48m by 0.28m with max depth of 0.1m
<b>085</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [084]</b>		<b>p.4.8 s.4.7</b>		Firm, orange grey, clay silt with occasional angular stones. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.48m by 0.28m with max depth of 0.1m.
<b>08</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Gully/ pit</b>			<b>p.4.2</b>		East-west aligned sub-oval

6					s.4.1		elongated cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 2.4m by 0.61m with max depth of 0.16m.
08 7	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [086]		p.4.2 s.4.1		Firm pale grey clay silt derived as a result from overtime silting. Deposit measured 2.4m by 0.28m with maximum depth of 0.16m.
08 8	Cut	ditch	Boundary or field ditch	EMIA-MIA	p.6.3 s.6.1 s.6.2 s.6.4 s.6.6		'L' shaped north-south; east-west aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. The north-south aligned part measured 6.8m in length by 1.15m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.44m, then after taking 90deg turn to the east it measured 7.8m long by 0.96m wide with maximum depth of 0.46m
08 9	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [088]	EMIA-MIA	p.6.3 s.6.1 s.6.2 s.6.4 s.6.6		Firm, dark brown grey clay silt with occasional charcoal and manganese flecks. This deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting and produces datable cultural material in form of

						IA pottery sherds. FINDS: EMIA-MIA <b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This fill is truncated by pit (CRN 126) and gully (CRN 128)</u>
09 0	Cut	Pit			p.4.6 s.4.5	North-east south-west aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured: 1.45m by 1.02m with maximum depth of 0.45m.
09 1	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [090]		p.4.6 s.4.5	Firm, orange grey, clay silt with infrequent manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 1.45m by 1.02m with maximum depth of 0.45m.
09 2	Cut	Pit/ tree bole		EMIA-MIA	p.4.4 s.4.3	Sub-circular cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 1.52m by 1.25m with maximum depth of 0.38m .
09 3	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [092]	EMIA-MIA	p.4.4 s.4.3	Firm, pale orange grey clay silt with very occasional manganese flecks and derived as a result from general overtime silting. It measured 1.52m by 1.25m

							with max depth of 0.45m FINDS: EMIA-MIA
09 4	Cut	Post-hole	Field pole		p.5.4 s.5.3		East-west aligned small sub-oval cut with steep sides and mainly flat base. It measured 0.9m by 0.6m with max depth of 0.11m.
09 5	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [094]		p.5.4 s.5.3		Firm, pale grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.9m by 0.6m with 0.11m in depth.
09 6	Cut	Pit?/Post-hole	Pit/ tree bole		p.7.2 s.7.1		South-west north-east aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.9m in length (only exposed part) and 1.05m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.21m. Feature was interpreted as well disturbed pit accommodating one or more agricultural planting posts.
09 7	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [096]		p.7.2 s.7.1		Fairly compacted, bright orange grey clay silt with occasional manganese flecks and angular stones.

							This deposit derived as a result from sides erosion and bioturbations followed by final overtime silting. It measured 0.9m by 1.05m with a maximum depth of 0.21m.
098	Cut	gully			p.5.7 s.5.8 s.5.9 s.5.10		East-west aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 4.6m by 0.52m with max depth of 0.2m.
099	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [098]		p.5.7 s.5.8 s.5.9 s.5.10		Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured, respectively 4.6m by 0.52m with 0.2m in depth.
100	Cut	pit			p.5.11 s.5.12 s.5.13		South-east north west aligned slightly curvilinear cut with gently sloping sides and mainly flat base. It measured 2.55m by 0.8m with max depth of 0.12m.
101	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [100]		p.5.11 s.5.12 s.5.13		Firm, pale grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 2.55m

							by 0.8m with 0.12m in depth.
10 2	cut	Post-hole			p.1.13 s.1.14		Small, north-south aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.2m by 0.14m with maximum depth of 0.22m
10 3	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [102]		p.1.13 s.1.14		Firm, pale orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese flecks. It measured 0.2m by 0.14m and was 0.22m deep.
10 4	Cut	Post-hole	pole		s.8.4		Small sub-circular cut with steep sides and concave bottom. It measured 0.3m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.25m
10 5	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [104]		s.8.4		Firm, mid grey clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks. This infill derived as certainly as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.3m by 0.25m in depth.
10 6	Cut	gully		EBA			
10 7	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [106]	EBA			FINDS: EBA Beaker pottery
10 8	Cut	Post-hole					

109	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [108]				
110	Cut	pit					
111	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [110]				
112	Cut	ditch	h				
113	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [112]				
114	Cut	Ditch terminus	Part of field system /hollow way/trackway?	IA?	s.14.1 s.14.2 s.14.3		North-south aligned linear cut with moderately sloping, but shallow sides and a concave base. It measured 4.02m in length, 0.62m in width and 0.21m in depth. Feature is gradually getting wider and deeper towards north where it becomes waterhole recorded as (CRN 132)
115	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [114]	IA?	s.14.1 s.14.2 s.14.3		Firm, orange grey, clay silt with infrequent manganese flecks. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.62m in width and 0.21 in maximum depth. This deposit appears to be the same as (CRN 134).



							FINDS: c1550-50 BC
116	Cut	ditch	Linear boundary				The same as 140
117	Deposit	Primary	Fill of [116]				The same as 141
118	Deposit	Secondary	Fill of [116]				The same as 142
119	Deposit	Tertiary	Fill of [116]				The same as <b>143</b>
120	Cut	Post-hole			p.5.5 s.5.6		Small sub-circular cut with moderately sloping sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.3m in diameter with max depth of 0,06m.
121	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [120]		p.5.5 s.5.6		Firm, pale grey, clay silt with occasional angular stones. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.3m by 0.3m with max depth of 0.06m.
122	Cut	Small pit			p.7.4 s.7.3		North-north-west south-east-south aligned sub-oval cut with moderately sloping shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.58m by 0.44m with maximum depth of 0.1m. Plant bedding feature?
12	Deposit	Fill	Fill of		p.7.4		Firm, mid orange grey clay

3	it		[122]		s.7.3		silt with very occasional manganese and charcoal flecks. This infill derived as a result from overtime silting along with protracted bioturbations. It measured 0.58m by 0.44m with maximum depth of 0.1m.
12 4	Cut	Post-hole					
12 5	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [124]				
12 6	Cut	pit			p.6.3 s.6.1 s.8.1		Roughly north-south aligned sub-oval cut with steep/moderate sloping sides and mainly flat base. It measured 3.3m by 2.4m with maximum depth of 0.55m.  <b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This cut is truncating deposit (CRN 89) fill of ditch (CRN 88) and small stake-hole (CRN 130) probably contemporary was located on feature's western side</u>
12 7	depos it	fill	Fill of [126]		p.6.3 s.6.1 s.8.1		Firmly compacted, dark orange grey clay silt with moderate iron pan and infrequent charcoal flecks. This fill derived as a result

							from general overtime silting processes and measured 3.3m by 2.4m and had maximum depth of 0.55m
12 8	Cut	gully	Re-cut of ditch (88)		s.6.2		<p>Cut of a short, roughly east-west aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave bottom. Feature was interpreted as possible attempt to re-cut of ditch (CRN 88). It measured 1.4m by 0.65m and had a maximum depth of 0.26m.</p> <p><b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This cut is truncating deposit (CRN 89) fill of ditch (CRN 88) and is probably contemporary with (CRN 126)</u></p>
12 9	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [128]		s.6.2		<p>Firmly compacted, grey brown clay silt with infrequent manganese flecks. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured 1.4m by 0.65m with a maximum depth of 0.26m.</p>
13	Cut	Post-hole/	Structu		p.6.3		Small circular cut with steep

0		stake-hole	re in feature (CRN 126)?		s.8.2	<p>sides and concave base. Feature was discovered on the western side of waterhole (CRN 126) and is plausibly contemporary with it. It measured 0.25m in diameter and had a maximum depth of 0.14m</p> <p><b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This cut is plausibly contemporary with (CRN 126) as it is accommodated within.</u></p>
131	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [130]		n/a	<p>Firmly compacted, dark orange grey clay silt with moderate iron pan and infrequent charcoal flecks. This fill derived as a result from general overtime silting processes and measured 0.25m wide by 0.14m in depth.</p> <p><b>STRATIGRAPHY:</b> <u>This deposit is contemporary with (CRN 127)</u></p>
132	Cut	Hollow way/trackway?		IA?	s.3.1 s.10.2	<p>Roughly north-south aligned sub-oval elongated cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 11.62m in length by 6.12m in width and 1.06m in depth.</p>

133	Deposit	Primary waterlogged	Basal Fill of [132]	IA?	s.3.1 s.10.2		Firm, blue brown grey, silt clay with moderate iron pan and occasional gravel. It derived as a result from initial side erosion along with some fluvial processes. It measured 5.88m in width and 1.06m in depth.
134	Deposit	Secondary	Fill of [132]	IA?	s.3.1 s.10.2		Firm, brown grey, silt clay with moderate iron pan, occasional manganese and infrequent charcoal flecks. It derived as a combined result from fluvial and silting processes and measured 5.85m wide with maximum depth of 0.81m. FINDS: THE SAME AS: it appears to be the same as (CRN 115).
135	Deposit	Fill	Fill of [150]. See (031).		s.3.1 s.10.2		Firm, pale grey, clay silt with infrequent charcoal and manganese flecks. It derived as a result from very slow final overtime silting, which occurred in stages forming 10-20mm thin laminations of bright silt, successively, after slump occurred in underlying layers forming a

						shallow hollow which consequently was filled-in by overtime siltation. It measured 5.65m in width and 0.51m in depth FINDS: THE SAME AS: (CRNs 31, 139, 143 and 148)
136	Cut	Hollow way/trackway?			s.9.1 s.10.1	North-south aligned, sub-oval but very irregular shallow cut with gently sloping eastern side and moderately sloping western side gradually breaking into mainly flat base. It measured 11.57m in length by 10.02m in width and 0.89m in depth. THE SAME AS: 146
137	Deposit	Basal primary	Trampled layer in [136]		s.9.1 s.10.1	Firm, orange grey, clay silt with moderate gravel inclusions and cess patches. It derived as a result from deliberate deposition of gravel along with protracted trample. This basal deposit measured 5.6m wide and 0.56m in maximum depth.
138	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [136]		s.9.1 s.10.1	Firm, orange grey, clay silt with occasional manganese

						and infrequent gravel. This deposit derived as a result from deliberated back fill which occurred at some stage when the waterhole access hollow become very rough, boggy and unusable. It is also possible that water level increased significantly blocking access to the western field. It measured 6.2m in width with maximum depth of 0.74m.
<b>139</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of [150]. See (031).</b>		<b>s.9.1</b> <b>s.10.1</b>	Firm, pale grey, clay silt top sealing deposit derived as a result from very slow final overtime siltation. It measured 6.8m+ in width and had a maximum depth of 0.32m.  FINDS THE SAME AS: (CRNs31, 143, 148, 135)
<b>140</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>ditch</b>	<b>Linear boundary</b>	<b>Provisional EBA</b>	<b>s.9.3</b>	North-south aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope top and steep sides breaking into slightly concave/ flat base. The overall length of the feature was not available; however within investigated area it

						measured 14.5m long by 2.4m wide and had a maximum depth of 1.02m.
14 1	depos it	Basal primary waterlogge d	Fill of [140]		s.9.3	Firmly compacted, orange blue grey, waterlogged silty clay with frequent iron pan, occasional charcoal flecks and infrequent flint gravel. This primary waterlogged basal deposit measured 1.04m in width a maximum depth of 0.4m
14 2	Depos it	Secondary waterlogge d	Fill of [140]		s.9.3	Friable blue-grey silty clay with moderate iron pan, occasional charcoal and manganese flecks. This waterborne deposit measured 1.7 m wide with maximum depth of 0.44m FINDS: Prehistoric pottery sherds
14 3	Depos it	Fill	Fill of [150], see (031).		s.9.3	Firm, pale grey, clay silt with very occasional flint gravel, charcoal flecks and angular flint stones. This fill derived as a result from very slow final overtime silting which occurred after under laying deposits slumped down. It measured 2.4m in width by 0.24m in



						average thickness FINDS: Prehistoric pottery sherds and worked lithics
144	Cut	pit	Animal burial	Provisional EMED - LMED	s.11.4	South-east north-west aligned sub-oval cut with vertical south-eastern side and moderately sloping north-western side breaking into mainly flat base. It measured 0.9m long by 0.7m wide with maximum depth of 0.22m
145	Deposit	Back-fill	Fill of [144]	Provisional EMED - LMED	s.11.4	Fairly loose compacted, mid grey, clay silt with frequent animal bones (sheep?), moderate iron pan and infrequent small manganese flecks. Deposit derived as a result from rapid back-fill and measured 0.9m long by 0.7m wide with maximum depth of 0.22m Find: EMED-LMED? Pottery sherds
146	Cut	Hollowway /trackway			p.11.1 s.10.4	North-south aligned wide and shallow linear hollow with gently sloping sides and mainly flat/ uneven base with patches of gravel spread. Feature was

						<p>discovered between two waterholes (CRNs 28 and 132) and interpreted as a waterholes access, presumably for the cattle what is clearly evident at its base in form of greenish mineralised excrements (cess patches). This 0.45m deep hollow was at least 7m+ wide with the hypothetical very gently-sloping approach ramp abutted to the east side. The area to the west was rather kept out of animals range due to the protracted crop plantation cultivated over there.</p> <p>THE SAME AS: (CRN 136)</p>
<b>14 7</b>	<b>Depos it</b>	<b>Trample/ Back-fill</b>	<b>Fill of [146]</b>		<b>p.11.1 s.10.4</b>	<p>Firm, orange grey clay silt with patches of frequent gravelling, trample and cess. This 0.45m-thick band of non-homogeneous mixture derived as a result from trample deposition along with protracted overtime siltation.</p> <p>THE SAME AS: (CRN 138)</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Depos</b>	<b>Fill</b>	<b>Fill of</b>		<b>s.14.1</b>	Firm, pale grey, clay silt

8	it		[150]		s.14.2		with occasional manganese flecks and angular stones. It derived as a result from general overtime silting and measured 0.1m in thickness. THE SAME AS: (CRN 135) = (CRN 139) = (CRN 31) = (CRN 143)
149	depos it	Eill	Fill of [150]		s.10.4		
150	Cut	Trackway		IA?			NNE-SSW aligned linear, possible trackway/hollow way extending to Iwade. Filled by (031), (135), (139), (143), (148) and (149).

## Appendix 2. Pottery

A small but interesting multi-period assemblage consisting of 49 sherds, weighing 28gms, and sub-dividing into the following periods –

### *Early Bronze Age - c.2000-1700 BC*

This is the main assemblage component – and the most interesting recovered from this location to date. It is represented by an overall total of 23 definitely identified sherds of Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery derived from 4 contexts – 16-17, 19 and 21 – and a further 3 less certainly allocated same-vessel elements from *Context 107*. For the first group, the majority of the sherds come from *Context 17* with only one or two each from *Contexts 16, 19* and *21*. The majority of the sherds are fairly small but most contexts also produced larger, moderate-sized, sherds. All are moderately worn but not severely – and the overall quantity confirms that these are derived from undisturbed contemporary deposits. In addition, the degree of condition-similarity shared by all these sherds, irrespective of context, and coupled with further similarities in fabric and firing-colour trends suggests that most of them were deposited at more-or-less the same time. Two conjoining base fragments, from two different contexts – 16 and 17 - underpins this likelihood.

The mixed-temper fabrics of the main group are generally similar. These consist of moderate quantities of both variably coarse rounded grog grains – possibly crushed and allowed to weather before use - and moderate quantities of fairly finely crushed flint that also include the occasional coarse 5mm. grit. Firing trends are less similar – fairly hard-fired and consistently oxidized but with varying buff, buff-brown or drab grayish-buff surface colours with pinkish or dark grey cores in the thicker body portions.

Overall, 10 decorated and plain Beaker vessels are definitely represented with fragments from between 4-5 comb- or incise-decorated vessels, one impress-decorated or rusticated coarseware jar and, *possibly*, 2-3 plainware Beakers. The decorated sherds include 4 elements from standard ‘drinking’ vessels - 2 from Beakers with fairly graceful concave upper bodies sections, one from a vessel with a marked shoulder angle together with one base fragment. A further sherd *may* be from a decorated open bowl with a simple rim. However, although the fracture pattern of the ‘rim’ is markedly different from the sherd’s other edges – the smoothness of the potential rim and the associated pattern-alignment below could be coincidentally co-equal – so the identification has to be tentative. The single rusticated sherd is from the upper-body of a medium-diameter fairly thin-walled jar with a below-rim neck cordon. Apart from the possible bowl and the rusticated jar, the other decorated Beakers are from zone-decorated vessels with alternating plain and decorated panels. The plain zones appear to be consistently narrow. The identification of domestic plainware vessels is tentative and mostly represented by fairly small sherds. However, some are larger with bigger undecorated surface areas than the narrow plain zones of the decorated Beakers. This applies not only to a rounded base element from a medium-diameter jar but also to a relatively large plain bodysherd from *Context 21* and two conjoining fragments from, again tentatively, a medium-diameter simple-rimmed bowl. Similar condition-based qualifications apply to this ‘bowl’ as to its decorated equivalent. The recording of bowls is currently rare nationally but it has recently been expressed, since the recovery of a decorated bowl from near Tilmanstone, Eastry, that others may exist unrecorded amongst frequently fragmentary Beaker domestic assemblages (Gibson 2014, 85). On this basis, the present two identifications are signposted only – and remain tentative.

For the zone-decorated Beakers, only three are comb-impressed, the rest are incised - and both in association with additional impressed decoration. For all, the surviving décor consists of horizontal zones comprising 4 combed or incised lines framing a narrow band of impressed zig-zags or left-pointing chevrons. Each main zone has an additional line of short linear impressions or ‘feathering’ – aligned in alternate directions dependant upon whether the ‘feathering’ is at the top or bottom of each zone. Although superficially neat and compact, most panels show signs of comb-overlap or irregular conjunctions within a single line of decoration – an aspect that particularly applies to the rather crude and irregularly-decorated base sherd. For the putative bowl rim, the whole sherd is decorated – again with

two sets of 3-4 horizontal incised lines framing a rather crude sequence of impressed zig-zags. The decoration on the rusticated jar is neatly applied and consists of rows of spaced impressions made with a short asymmetrically-shaped 3-toothed 'comb' – two rows in one, two in another and probably similarly above the cordon.

In the absence of radiocarbon samples the dating applied has to be rather imprecise. Simplistically, the fairly neat zoned decoration could indicate Gibson's 1986 'middle'-style group. However none of the sherds are large enough to confirm whether the decorated zones are actually broad or narrow. So that, since both the rather angular shoulder of the single sherd from *Context 19* and the rusticated probably fairly tall 'pot-bekker' type vessel from *Context 21* are more typical of his 'late' group, it is likely the overall assemblage belongs fairly late in the Beaker style sequence. The relatively neatly applied decoration suggests perhaps not too late – and a date between **c.1900-1700 BC** is initially suggested.

#### *Early to Mid Iron Age – c.600-200 BC*

Represented overall by a rather indifferent assemblage of 14 flint-tempered bodysherds recovered from 4 contexts – *89, 93, 115* and *200*. The small scraps from the latter two contexts could, technically, be placed anywhere within the Later Prehistoric period – but probably stem from the same phase of activity as the material from *Contexts 89* and *93*. Although the manufacturing traits of the material from both contexts are closely similar and likely to be broadly contemporary, there are no really diagnostic aspects and, again, superficially, it could be placed anywhere between c.1500-50 BC. However, based on general period-based manufacturing trends, this material is not typical of Mid Bronze to Earliest Iron Age pottery so that a date **after c.600 BC, and perhaps prior to the Mid-Late Iron Age**, is initially preferred.

#### *Late Iron Age – c.75 BC-50 AD*

Only a single context, *30*, represents this broad period. It produced a small fairly fresh cluster of 'Belgic-style grog-tempered sherds – mostly consisting of fragmented elements from the same everted-rim coarseware jar. The form is simple, typically Late Iron Age and could, technically, be placed anywhere within the date bracket indicated. However, the vessel is handmade with a rather soft and low-fired fabric containing fairly coarse grog tempering – and generally atypical of the harder better-made wheel-thrown products of the Conquest-period AD or later. Although the evidence is slim, available manufacturing characteristics suggest a date no later than c.25 AD and quite probably **within the first century BC**.

#### ***Recommendations***

**1.** Although small, the number of vessels and range of types represented in the EBA Beaker assemblage suggests it stems from domestic rather non-secular contexts. If so, domestic assemblages from the County are infrequent and, as such, this location should receive a

'high-profile' placement if any further work should be undertaken in the immediate area.

2. All the decorated and formal Beaker sherds should be drawn for archive and made available for specialist reference – irrespective of whether this site receives standard post-excavation publication or not.

### ***Bibliography***

#### **Gibson 1986 :**

Gibson, A.M., *Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Pottery*, Shire Archaeology **43** (1986)

#### **Gibson 2014 :**

Gibson, A.M., 'The Beaker' in Bennett, P., *et.al. Prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon Discoveries on the East Kent Chalklands – Investigations along the Whitfield-Eastry by-pass 1991-1996* Canterbury Archaeological Trust Occasional Paper **9** (2014), 85.

## **APPENDIX 2 : CONTEXT-BASED POTTERY QUANTIFICATION AND DATING CATALOGUE**

### ***Primary quantification : 49 sherds (weight : 228gms)***

#### ***Period codes employed :***

EBA	= Early Bronze Age
EIA-MIA	= Early-Mid Iron Age
MIA	= Mid Iron Age
MIA-LIA	= Mid-Late Iron Age
LIA	= Late Iron Age

#### ***Context dating :***

**Context: 14** - 3 sherds (weight : 3gms)

3 probable EBA Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC; **2-3 same vessel**)

*Comment* : Small worn scraps, two definitely the same vessel, soft sub-laminar silty fabric without obvious grog inclusions and pale brown oxidised exterior. The identification as Beaker is not definite – but likely.

**Likely date : Probably residual**

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**Context: 16** - 2 sherds (weight : 12gms)

2 EBA grog and flint-tempered Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC; **1 = Context 17**)

*Comment* : One small plain base sherd and one moderate-sized comb-decorated bodysherd. Although surfaces and decoration rather worn, the sherds are large enough, considering their fairly soft fabrics, to stem from an undisturbed contemporary deposit.

**Likely date : c.2000-1700 BC**

**Context: 17** - 17 sherds (weight : 76gms)

17 EBA grog and flint-tempered Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC; **2 x same-vessels, 1 = Context 16**)

*Comment* : An even mix of small and moderate-sized body and base sherds – 3 are decorated (from different vessels), 2 are base sherds (probably from the same vessel), the rest are plain with, tentatively two conjoining elements from a simple-rimmed bowl. The sherd fabrics – ingredients, firing colours and condition - are virtually identical to those from *Context 16* and should be broadly contemporary. From an undisturbed discard deposit.

**Likely date : c.2000-1700 BC**

**Context: 19** - 1 sherd (weight : 2gms)

1 EBA grog and flint-tempered Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC)

*Comment* : Fairly small, fairly worn decorated Beaker bodysherd – from a Beaker with a fairly marked shoulder angle.

**Likely date : c.2000-1700 BC**

**Context: 21** - 2 sherds (weight : 31gms)

2 EBA grog and flint-tempered Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC)

*Comment* : Two moderate-sized bodysherds – one plain and rather worn, one decorated and fresher. The latter is from the collar and upper shoulder zone of a neatly-made thin-walled Rusticated Beaker. Again condition, sherd size and fabric types – indicate broadly contemporary with at least the assemblages from *Contexts 16-17*

**Likely date : c.2000-1700 BC**

**Context: 30** - 6 sherds (weight : 16gms)

6 MIA-LIA>LIA 'Belgic'-style grog-tempered ware (c.75/50 BC-50 AD; **4-5 same vessel**)

*Comment* : Small rim and bodysherds, fairly fresh and probably from an undisturbed contemporary context.

**Likely date : c.50 BC-25 AD emphasis probably**

**Context: 89** - 8 sherds (weight : 68gms)

8 LP flint-tempered ware (slight preference EMIA>MIA, c.1550/600-200 BC; **3 same vessel**)

*Comment* : All coarseware bodysherds, mostly small, one moderate-sized, two split and beginning to weather, remainder only slightly worn – with the exception of a single highly

abraded re-fired element. Should all be from an undisturbed contemporary discard deposit.

**Likely date : Rather uncertain but possibly between c.600-200 BC**

**Context: 93** - 2 sherds (weight : 12gms)

2 LP flint-tempered ware (slight preference EMIA>MIA, c.1550/600-200 BC)

*Comment* : Coarseware bodysherds - one small fresh, one larger fairly worn. *Probably* from a contemporary deposit.

**Likely date : Rather uncertain but possibly between c.600-200 BC**

**Context: 107** - 3 sherds (weight : 7gms)

3 *probable* EBA flint-tempered Beaker (c.2300/2000-1700 BC; **same vessel**)

*Comment* : Three small, 2 conjoining, bodysherds. The fabric is fine and silty and closely similar to the matrices of the definite Beaker sherds from *Contexts 16-17, 19 and 21* but contains no obvious grog tempering and is slightly higher fired and harder than the confirmed elements above. Allocation to the EBA is likely but not definite. Although slightly chipped externally, overall condition confirms derivation from an undisturbed context.

**Likely date : Probably c.2000-1700 BC**

**Context: 115** - 2 sherds (weight : 1gm)

2 LP flint-tempered ware (no real preference, c.1550-50 BC; **same vessel**)

*Comment* : Small thin-walled sub-fineware bodysherds, fairly worn.

**Likely date : Uncertain – possibly residual**

**Context: 200** - 2 scraps (weight : >1gm)

2 LP flint-tempered ware (no preferences, c.1550-50 BC)

*Comment* : Worn small bodysherd scraps.

**Likely date : Uncertain – probably residual**

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## Plates

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*Plate 2). Showing southern terminus of ditch 114 s.14.3, looking north (one metre scale)*



*Plate 3). Looking north on 'L' shaped slot where ditch 114 is gradually transforms into waterhole 132. (one metre scale)*



*Plate 4). Looking east on 'L' slot and its west-faced section interface showing continuity of both features. (one metre scale)*



*Plate 5). Looking north on waterhole 132 in slot 1. (one metre scale)*



*Plate 6). Looking south on waterhole 132 in slots 1 (in background) and 2 (in foreground). The groundwater level raised very quickly filling up entire feature.*



*Plate 7). Looking north on ditch 140 showing section 9.3in slot 7. (one metre scale)*



*Plate 8). Looking south on ditch 140 in slot 7. A left in part of infill visible in foreground to the right was later carefully assessed to dismiss or confirm potential truncation. (half and one metre scales).*



*Plate 9). Looking north on waterhole 28 in slot 6 (s.2.1) (half and one metre scales)*



*Plate 10). Looking north, waterhole 28 approach in slot 5, part of slot 4 visible in foreground*



*Plate 11). Looking east, slot 5, close up on gravelled surface with moderate distribution of cess patches. (one and half metre scale)*



*Plate 12). Showing garden patch 10 and accommodated inside post-holes 11 and 52. Looking east, (half metre scale)*

**Plates (cont.)**

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*Plate 13). Looking south-east, showing post-hole 36 and pit 38. Half metre scale*



*Plate 14). Looking south-east, showing section through pit 34. (1m scale)*



*Plate 15). Looking south-east, showing section of another garden-patch 06. (0.5m scale)*



*Plate 16). Looking north-west showing charcoal layer 17 in pit 15. (1m scale)*



*Plate 17). Looking north-west, showing section through pit 15. (1m scale)*



*Plate 18). Looking south-west, showing section through post-hole 18*





*Plate 19). Looking south-east, showing section through post-hole 20*



*Plate 20). Looking south-east, showing middle section through ditch 88. (1m scale)*



*Plate 21). Looking east at section of ditch 88 and it's later re-cut. 1m scale*



*Plate 22). Looking east at section through pit 126 and truncated ditch 88. 1m scale*



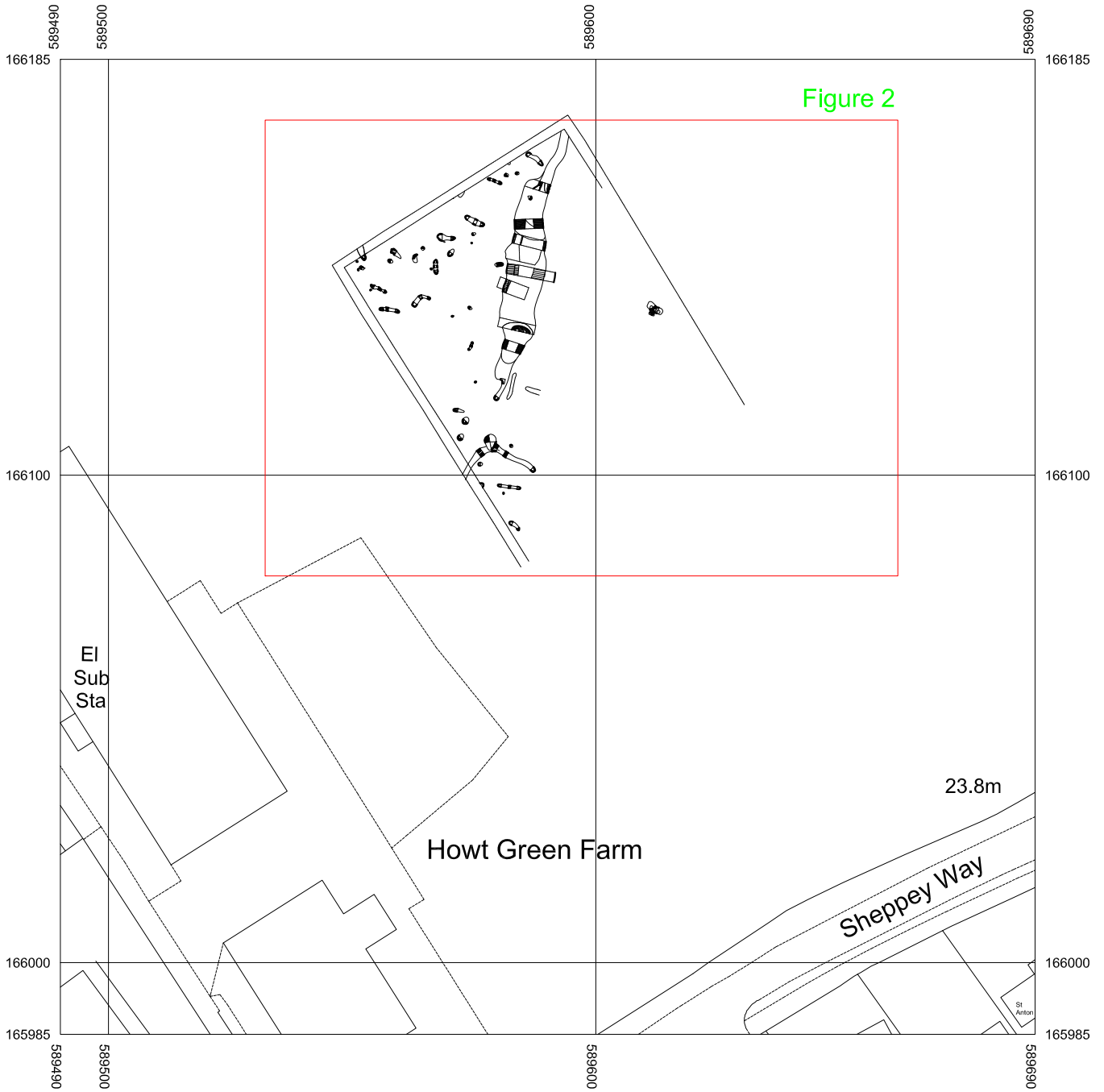
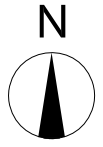
*Plate 23). Looking south-east at field ditch 112 terminus. Half metre scale*



*Plate 24). Looking north-east at section through gully 106*



*Plate 25). Looking south-west at section through post-hole 108*



1:1250@A4

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Figure 1: Location of site

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166168.0mN

Figure 3

Figure 7

Figure 6

Figure 8

Figure 5

Figure 4



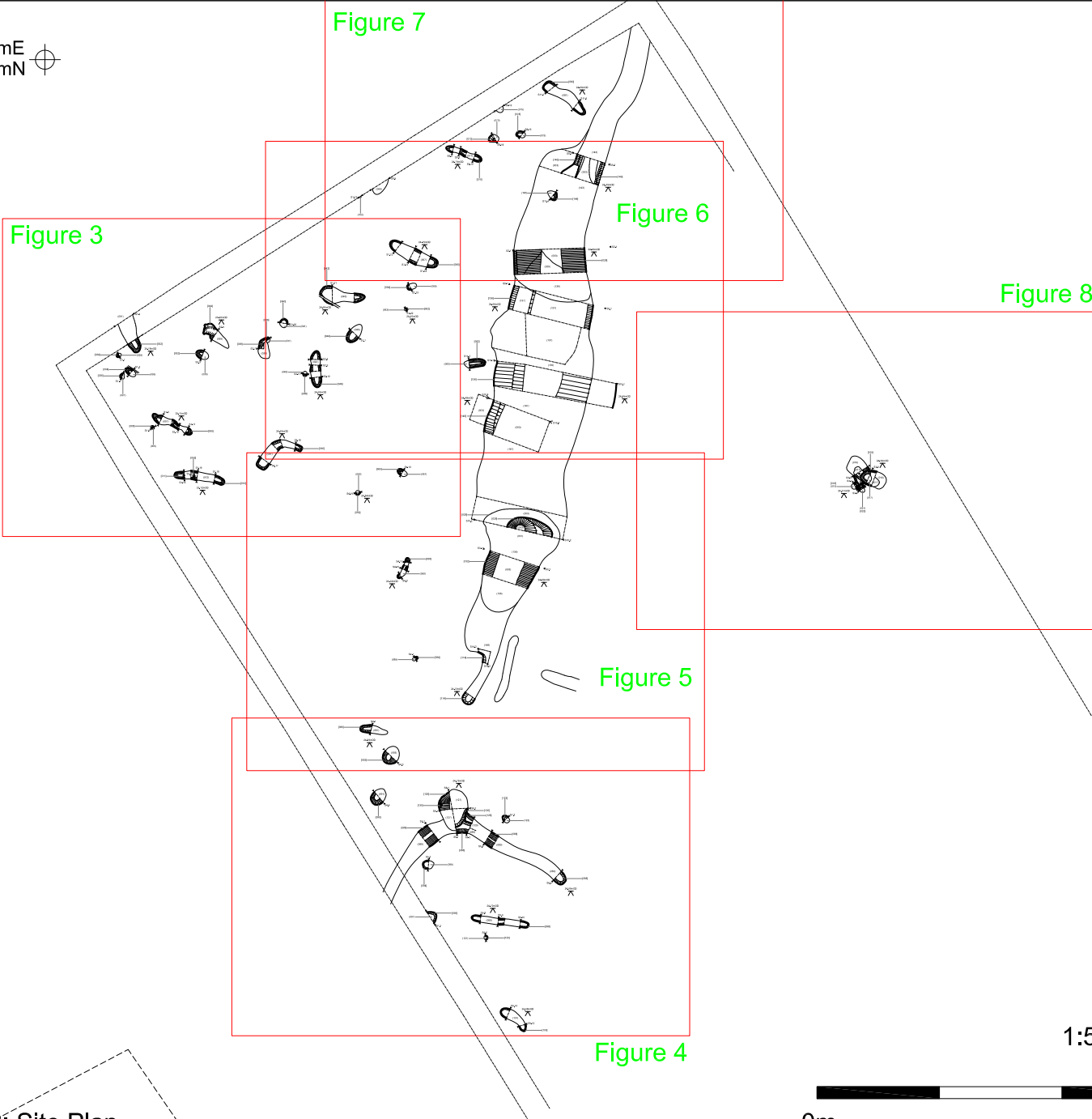
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Figure 2: Site Plan



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Figure 3

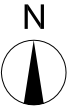
Figure 7

Figure 6

Figure 8

Figure 5

Figure 4



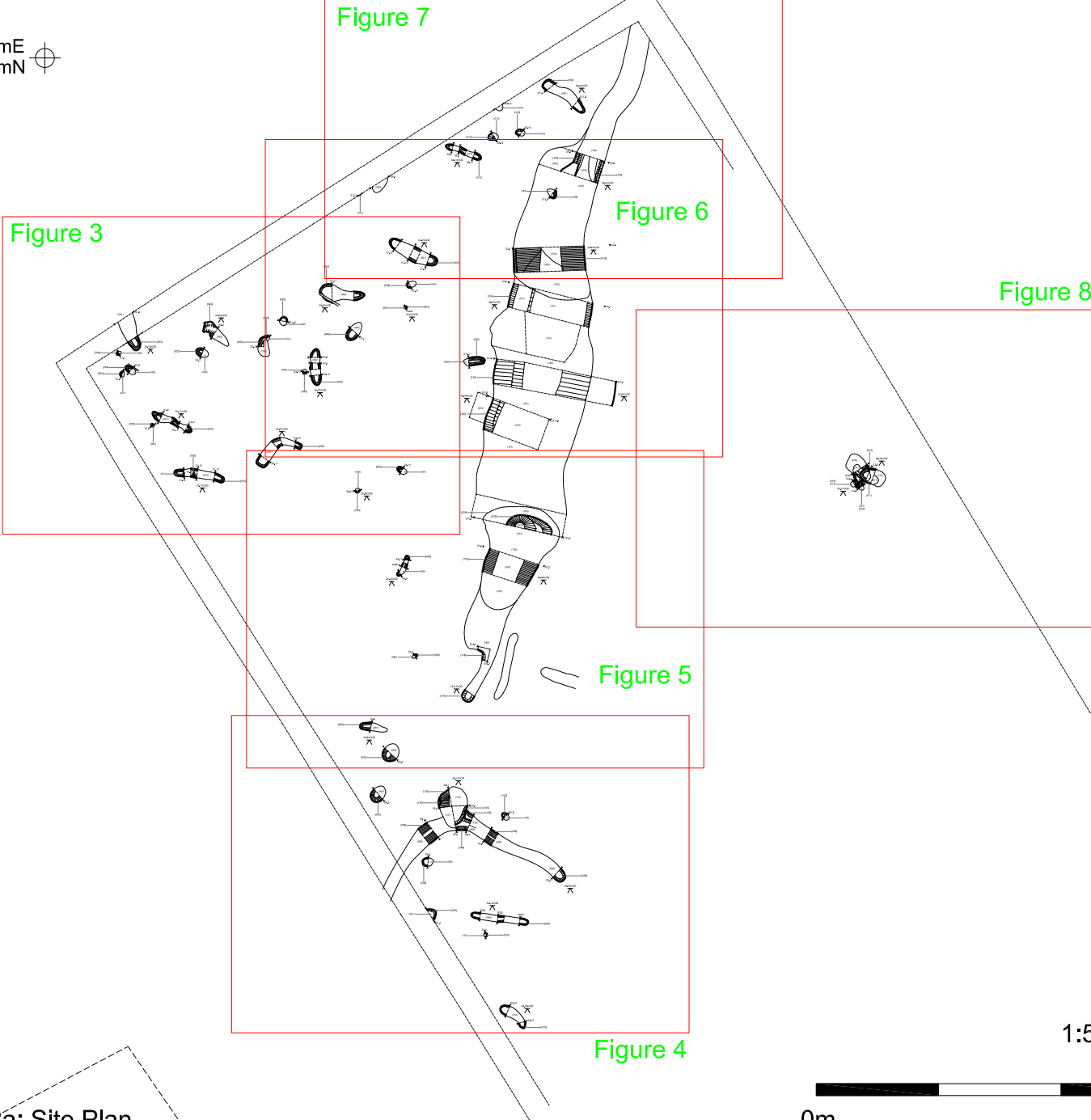
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Figure 2a: Site Plan



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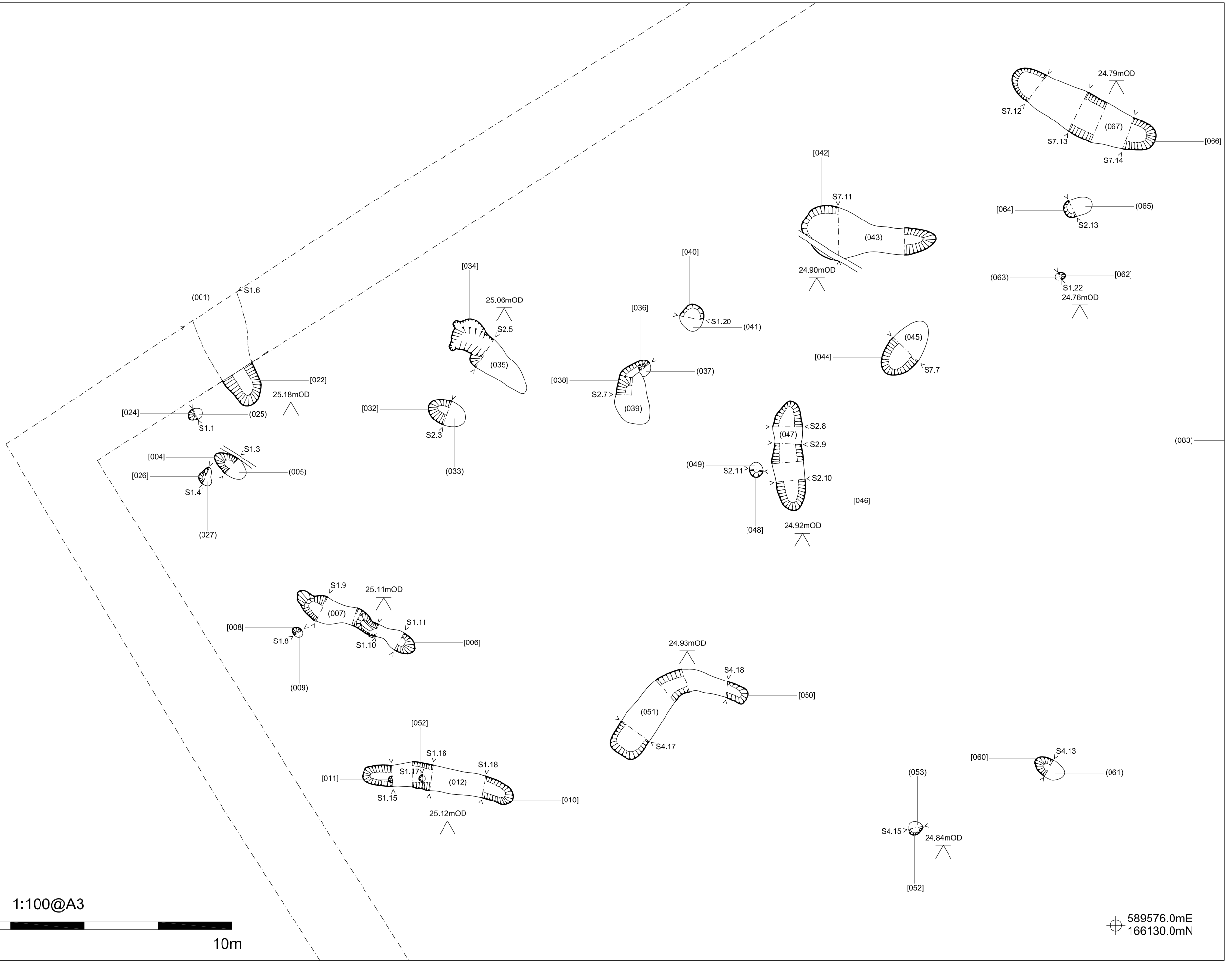


Figure 3

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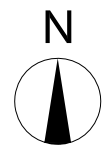
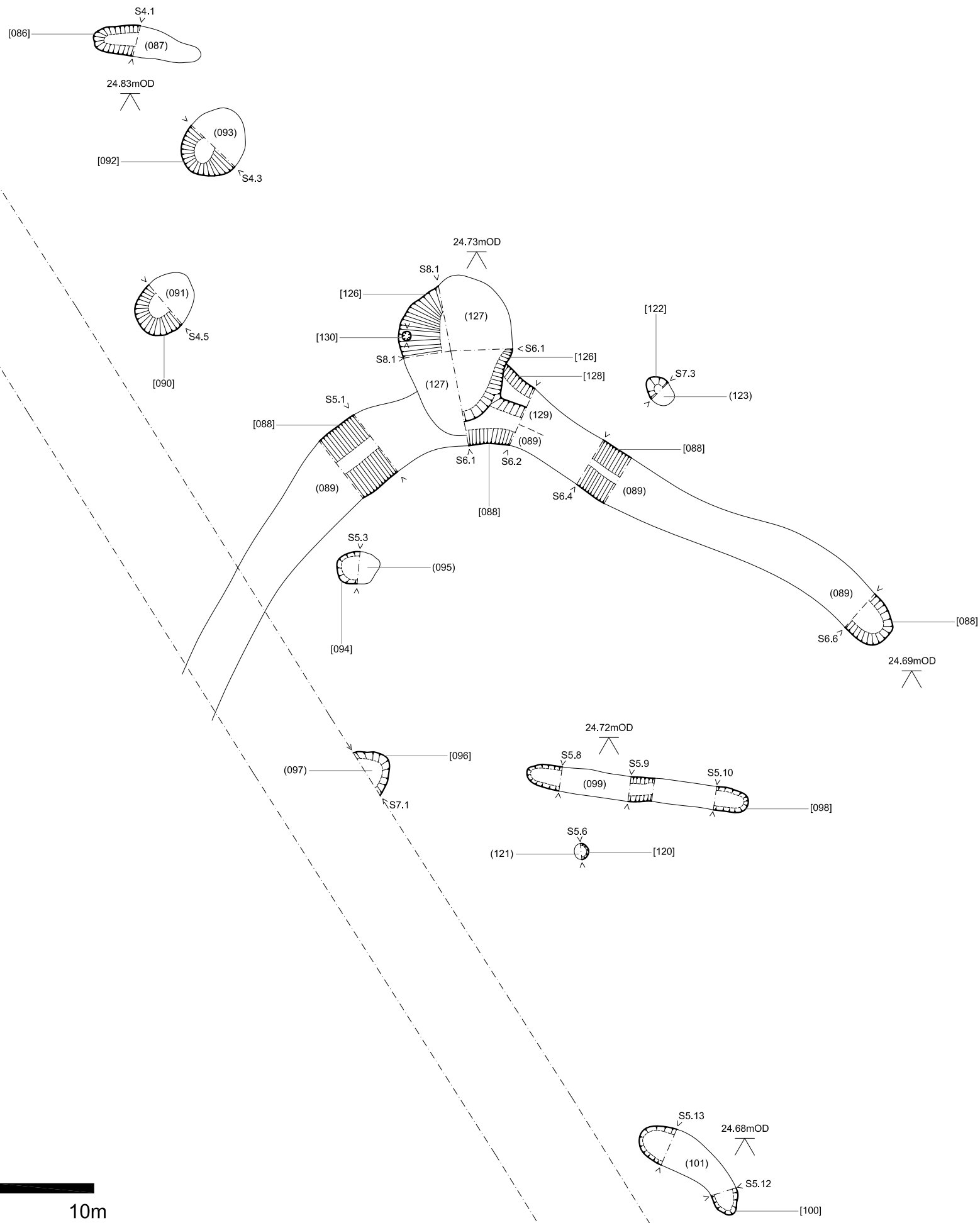


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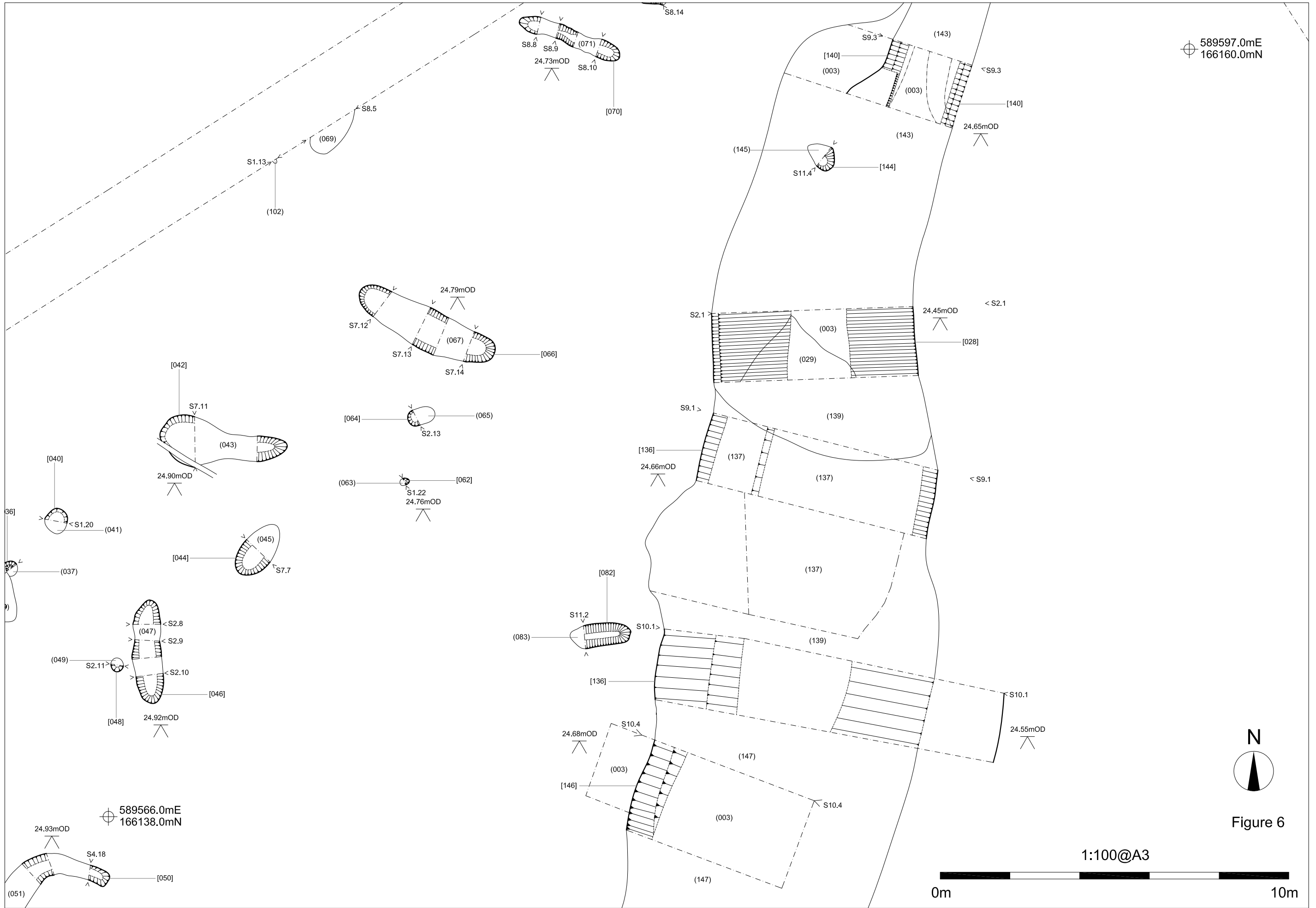


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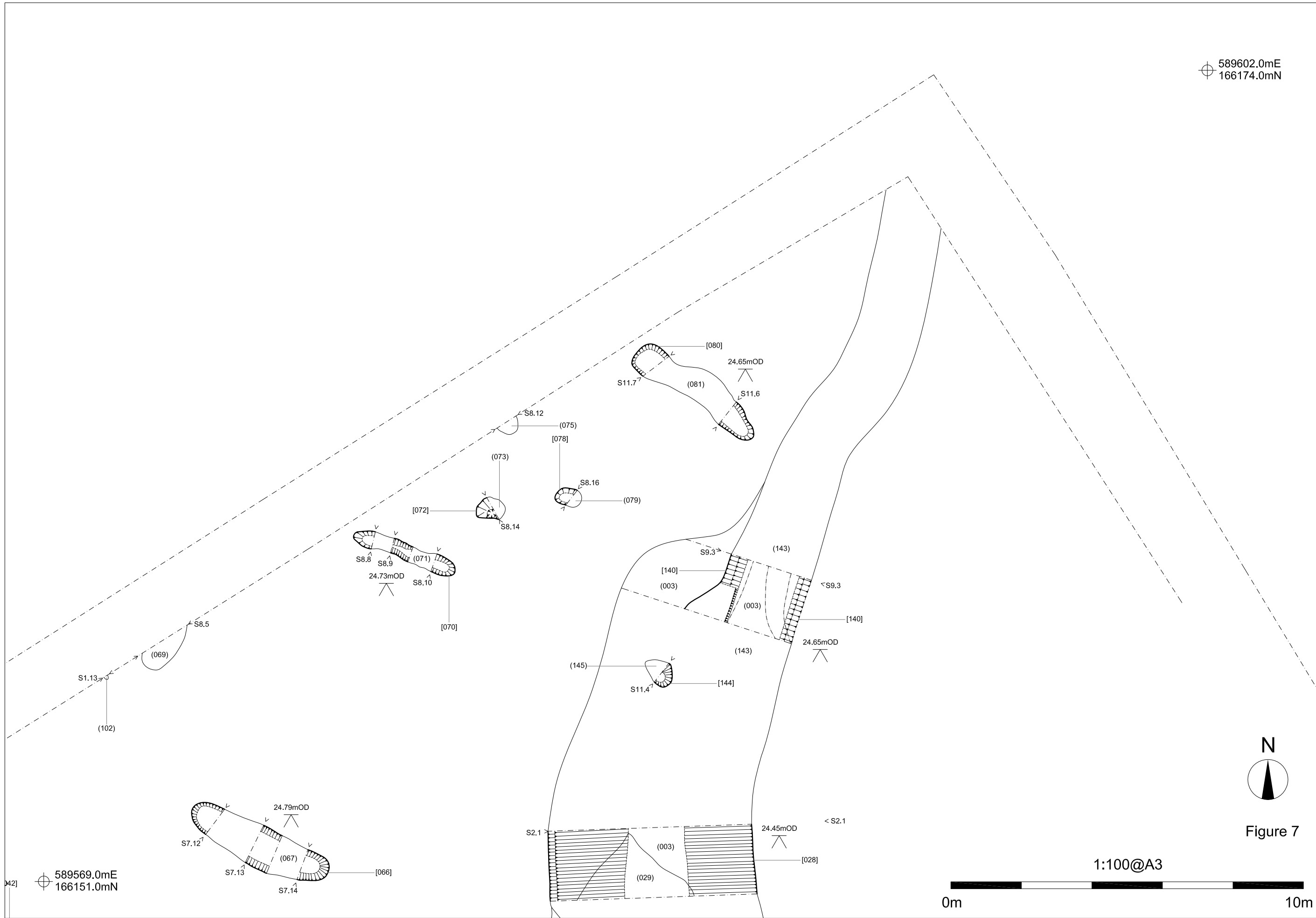


Figure 7

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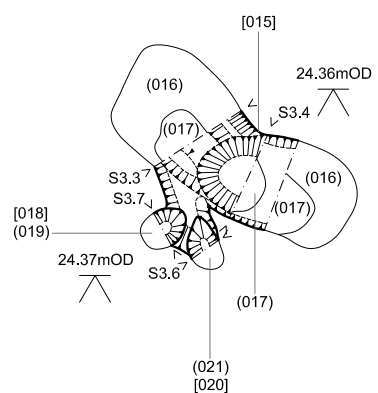
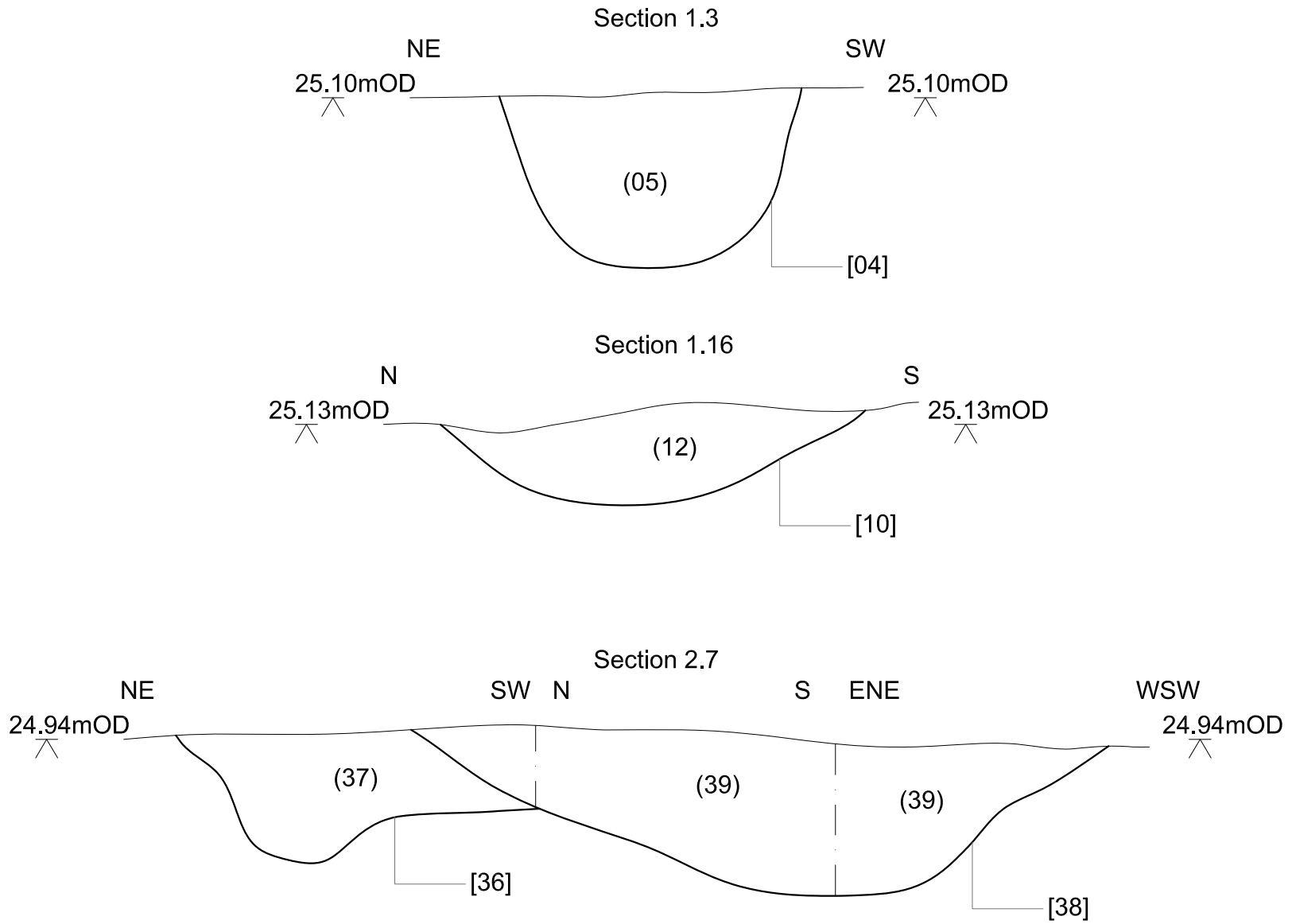


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Figure 9: Sections

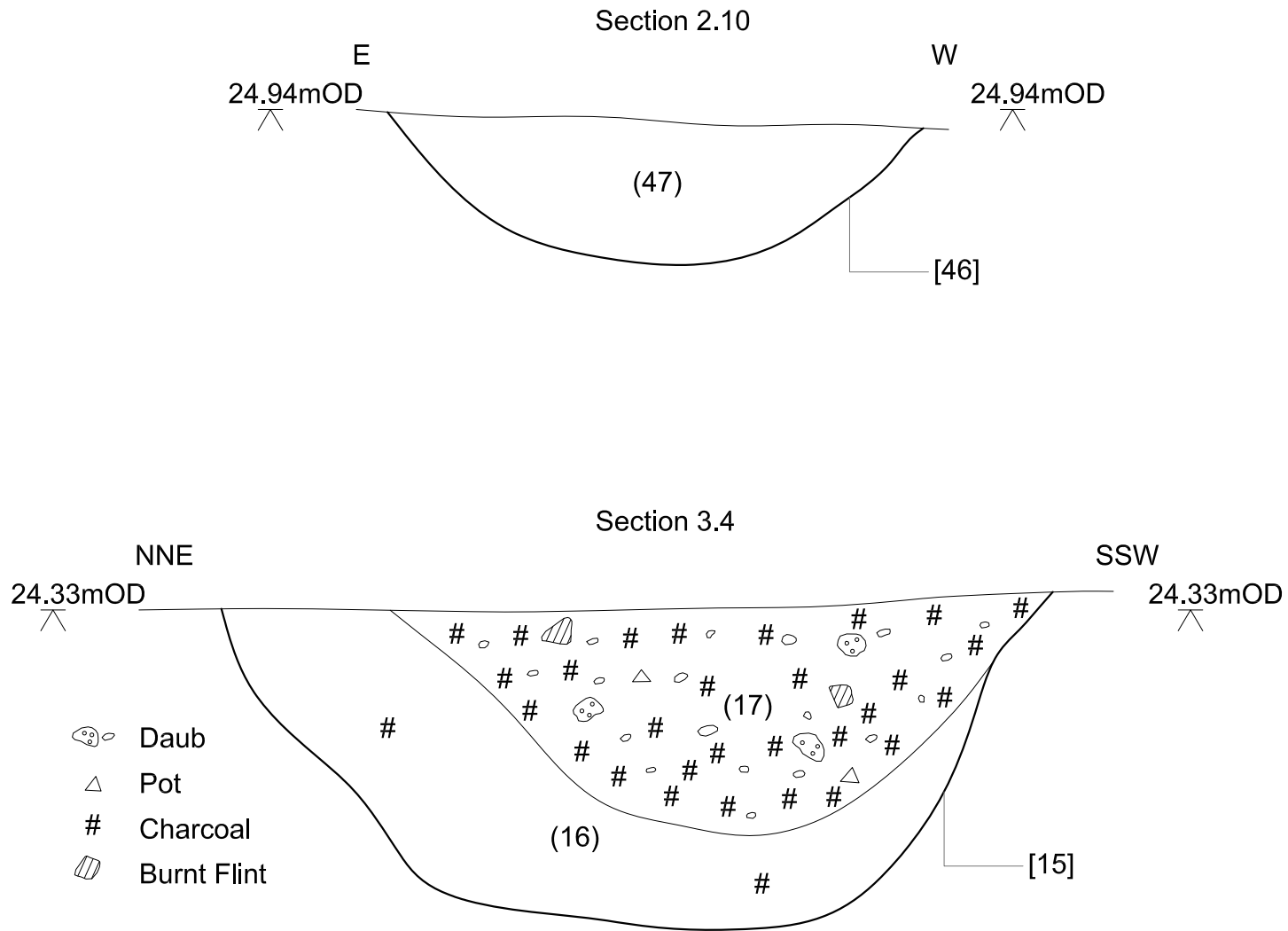
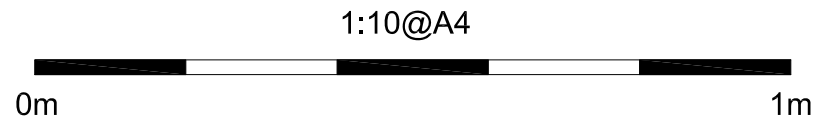
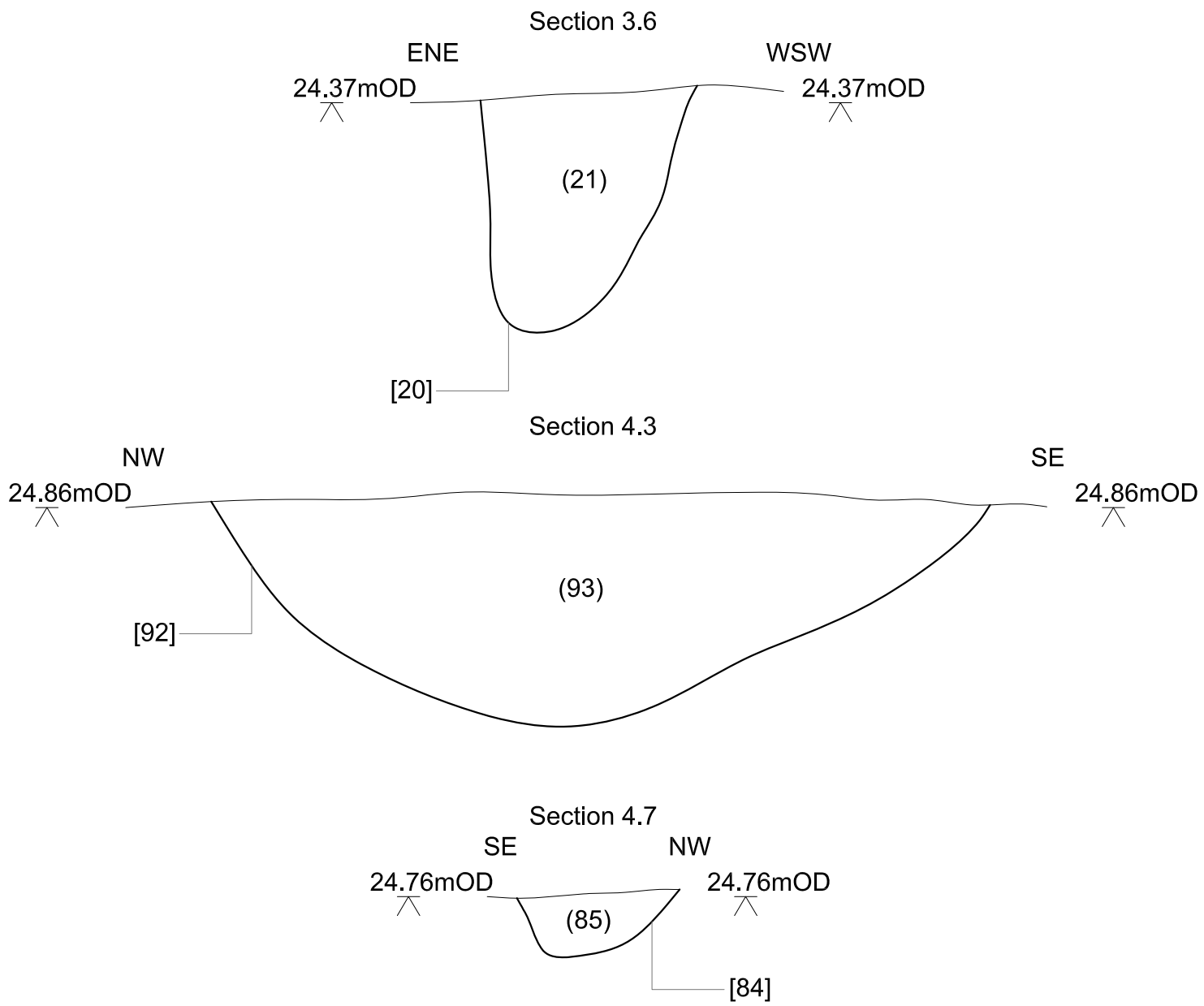


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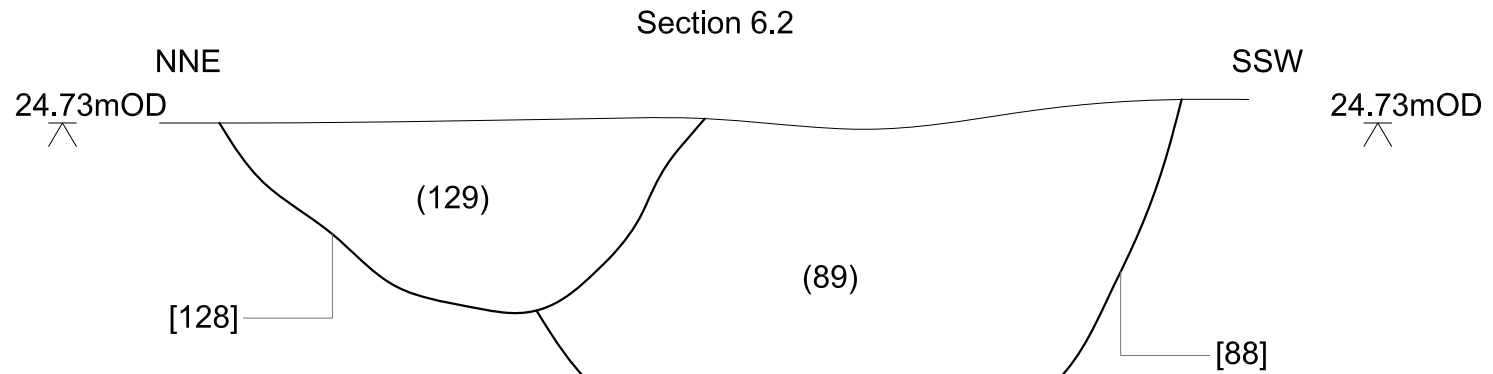
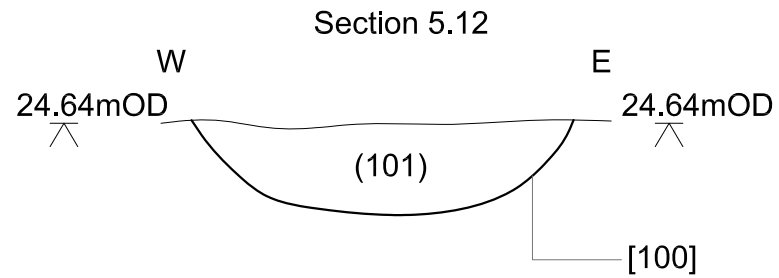
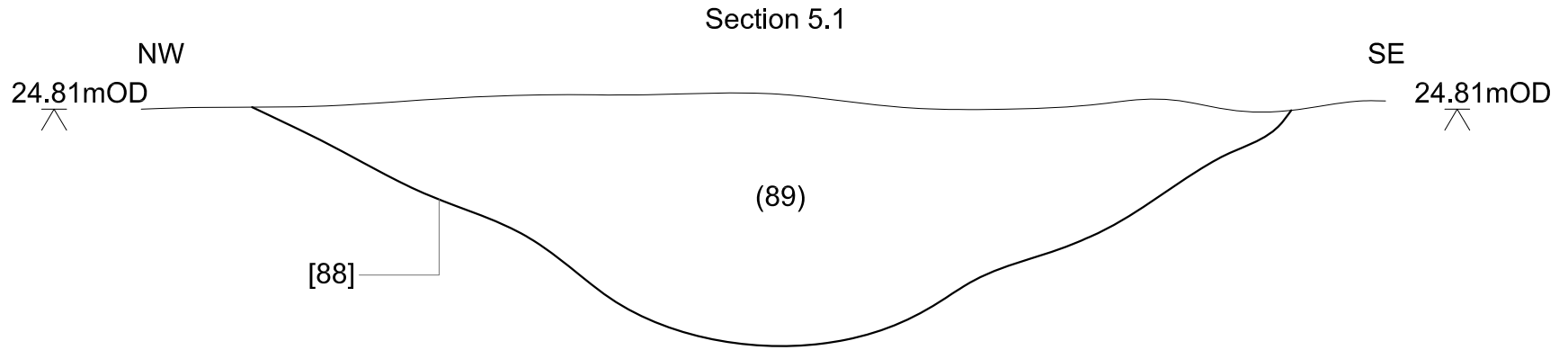




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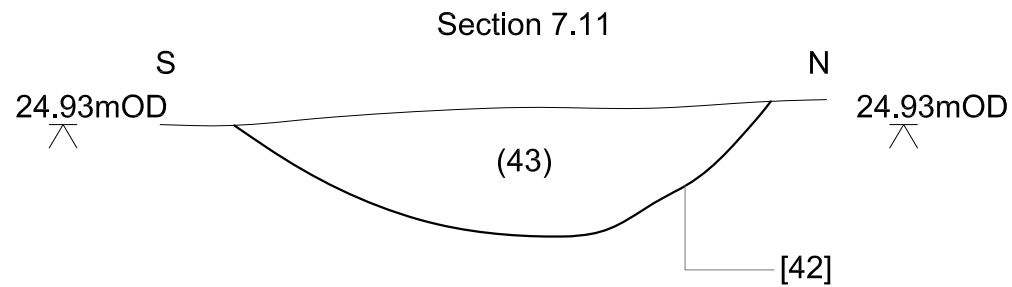
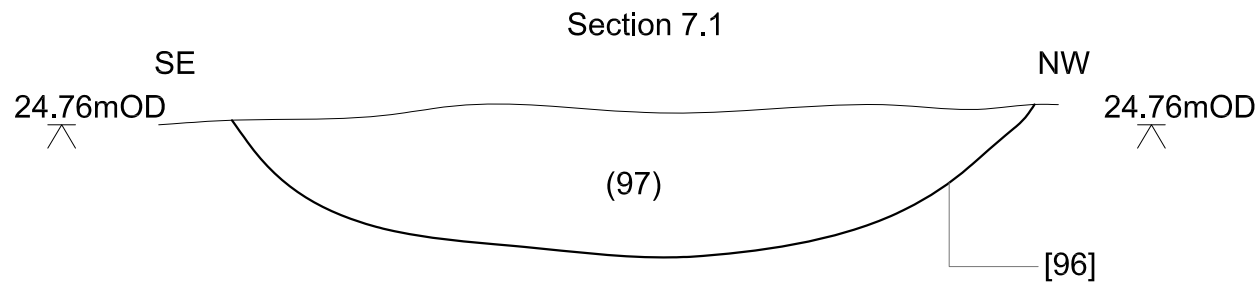
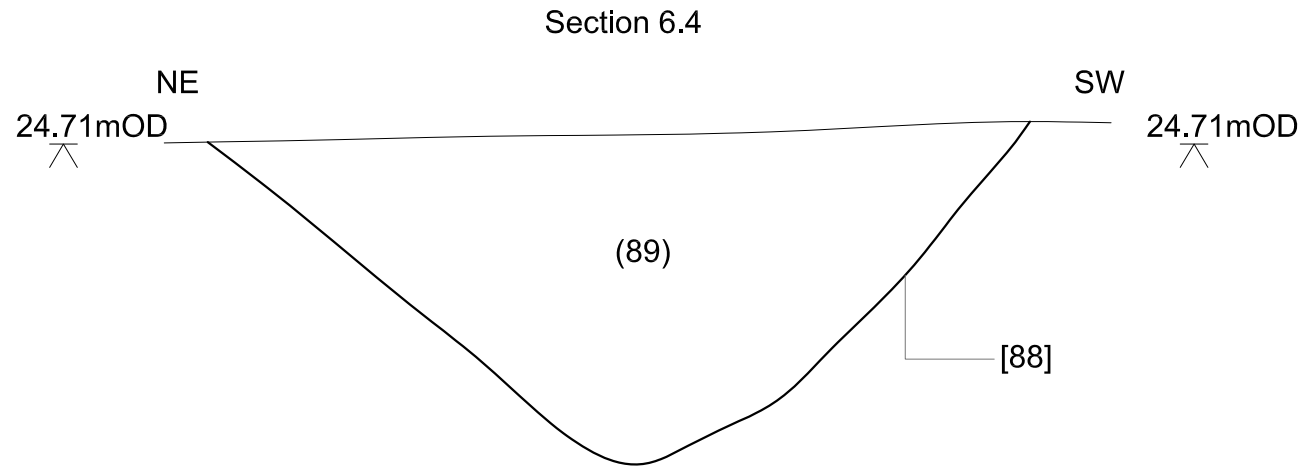
Figure 11: Sections



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Figure 12: Sections

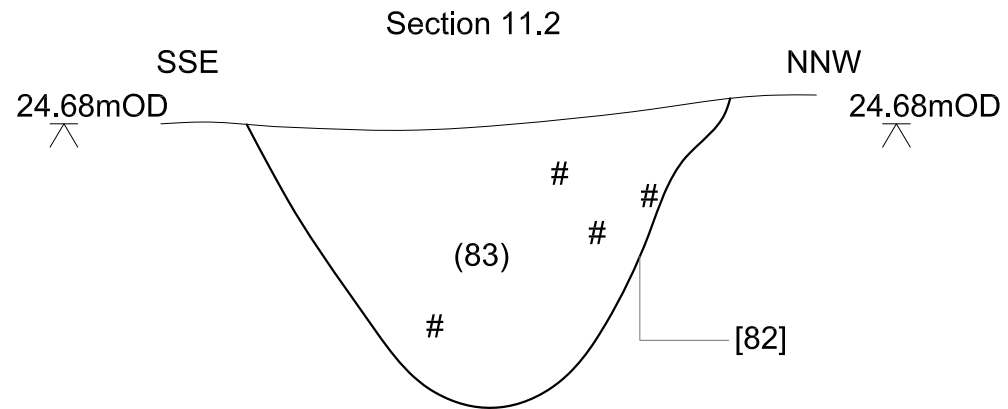
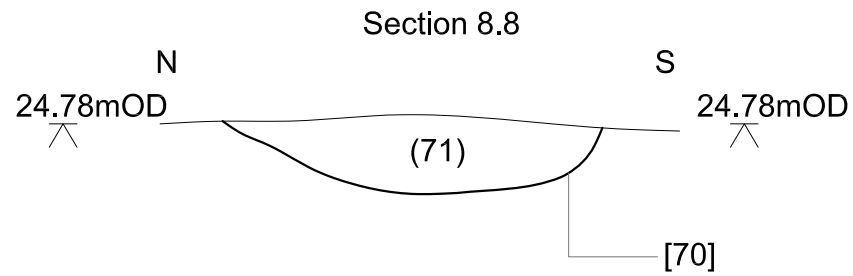
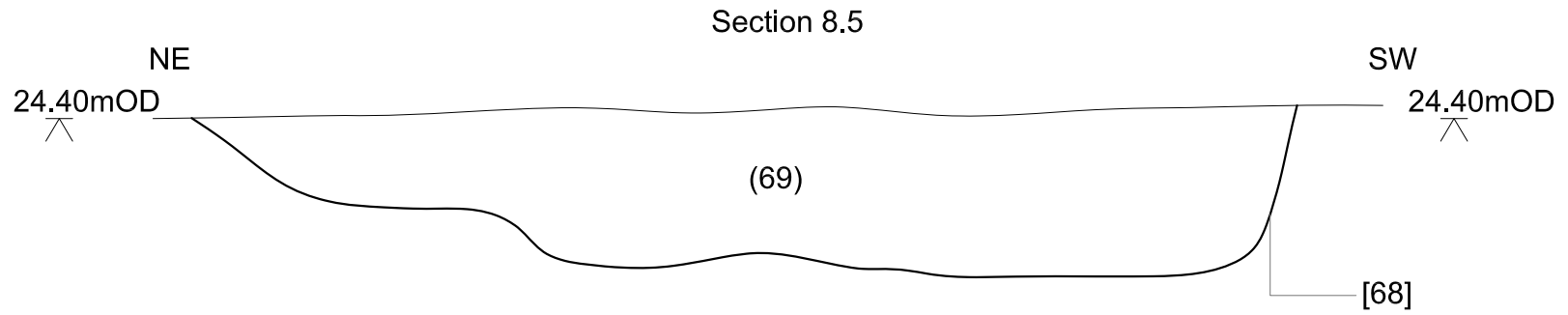


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Figure 13: Sections





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Figure 14: Sections

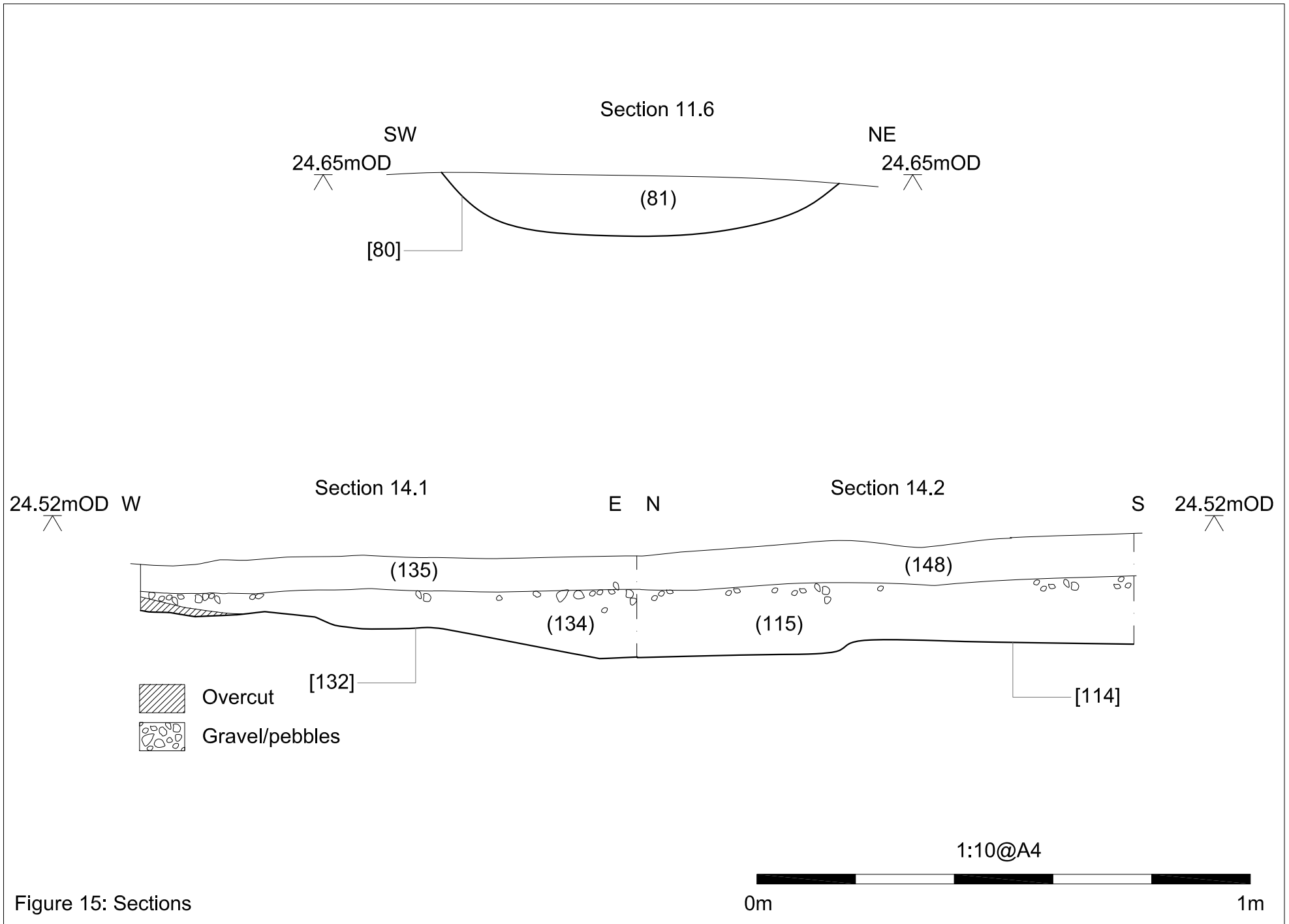
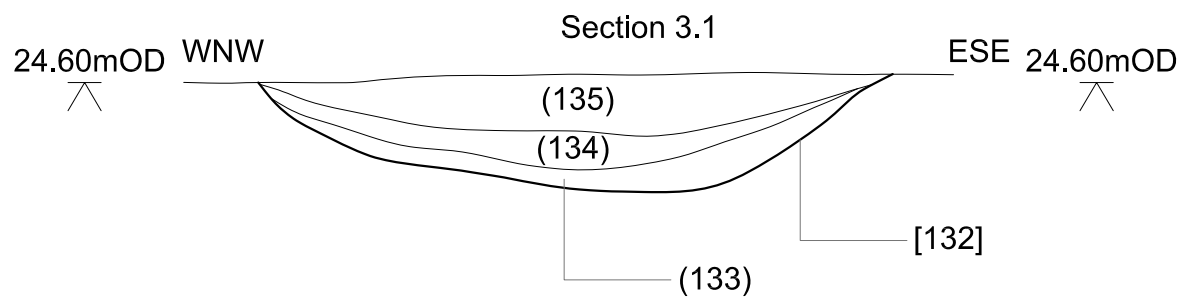
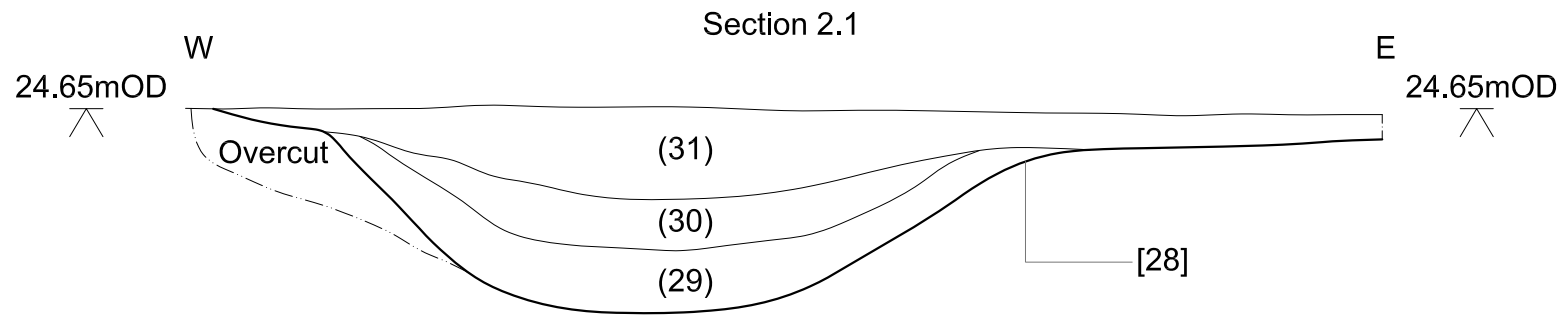


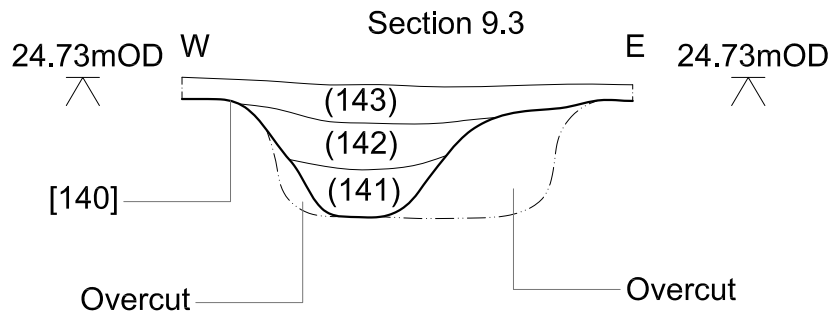
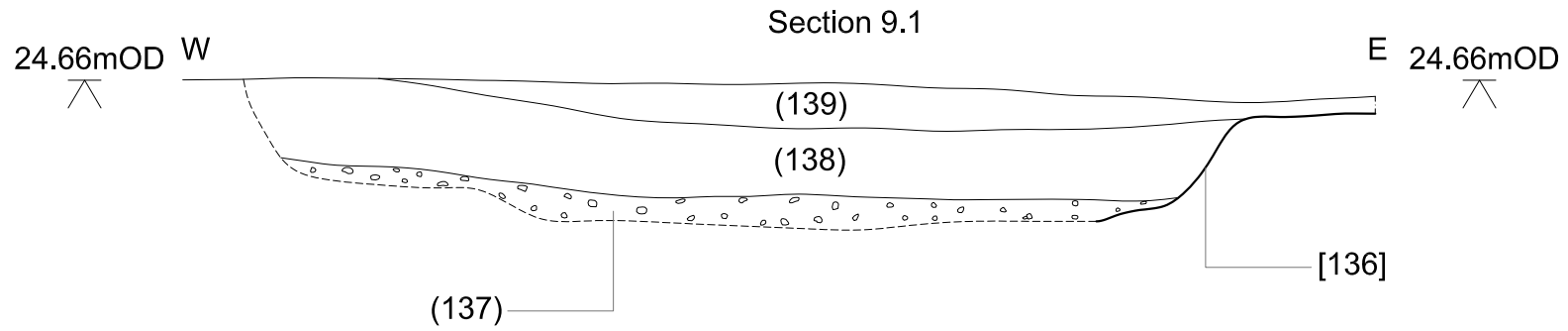
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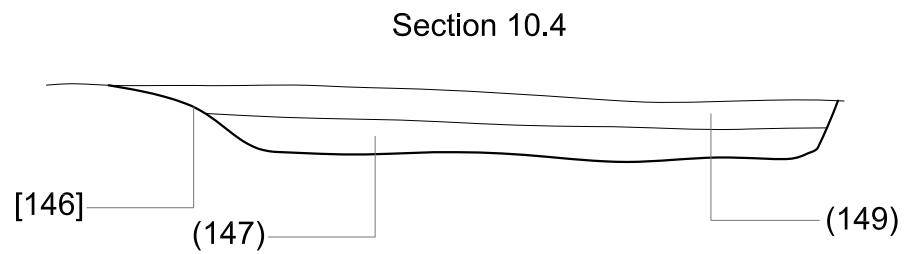
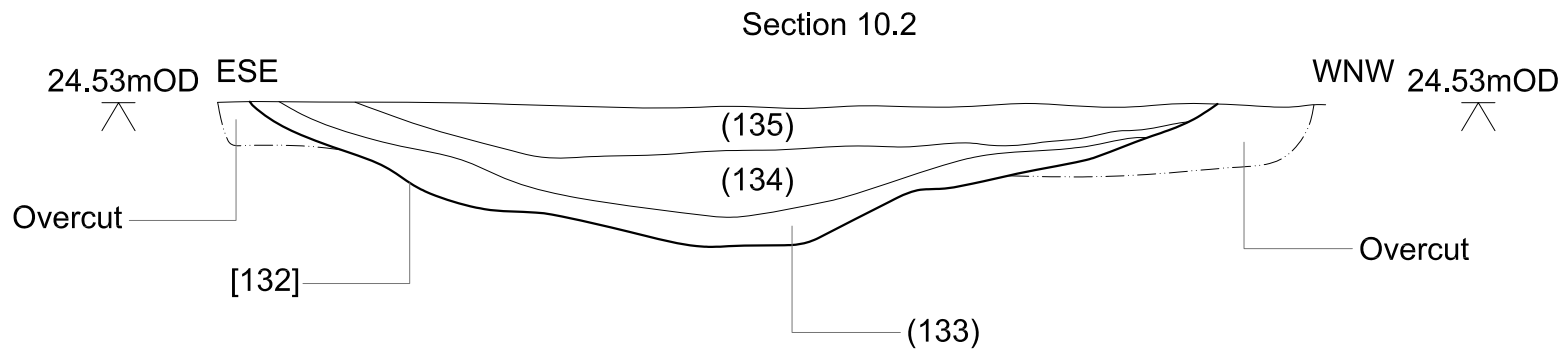
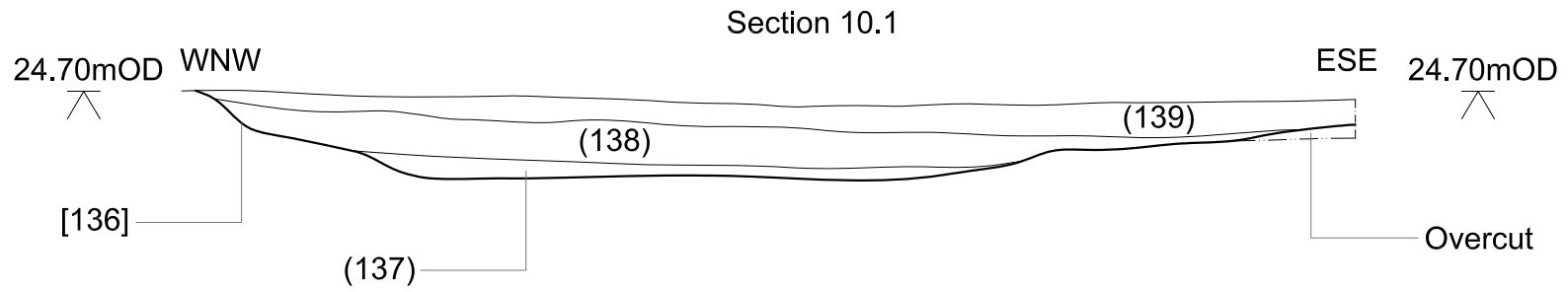
Figure 16: Sections



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Figure 17: Sections



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Figure 18: Sections