

# Archaeological Evaluation on land Adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD

EVALUATION REPORT

V1.0

NGR Site Centre: **590163E 167072N**

Planning Application Number:



Report for: **Persimmon Homes**

Date: 26/05/2022

Accession number: <pending>

Site code: **IWA-EV-22**

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## **Abstract**

*Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by Persimmon Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD. The archaeological works were monitored by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.*

*The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of twenty seven trenches, which encountered a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology to a depth of approximately 0.4-0.6m.*

*The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of dense archaeological activity in the form of multi-phase Farmstead dated to the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, rectilinear field systems, discrete features, droveways, trackways and significant land boundaries. The farmstead and associated field system appears to be multi-phase although no activity later than Iron Age was recorded within the centre of the site and the occupation declined at the end of Iron Age and has not resumed until Early Medieval and Medieval periods. However infrequent calcined bones revealed in Trenches 7, 9, 12 and 13 implies the potential for a Roman burial ground to be located within southern and/or south-western extent of the site.*

*A number of archaeological sites were identified in the vicinity of the proposed development, many of potential early Prehistoric date comprising Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age and Medieval Periods.*

*Regarding positive outcome of archaeological evaluation it has therefore been suggested that the proposed development will have an impact on buried archaeological resource and further mitigation measures are needed in form of open strip map and sample investigation. The detailed extend, methodology and scope of further mitigation will need to be determined in consultation with KCC Heritage and the Local Planning Authority.*

## **Acknowledgements**

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Persimmon Homes for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer from Kent County Council for his advice and assistance.

Pawel Cichy managed the archaeological fieldwork and subsequent excavations were carried out by T Meany, J Cantwell, M Cichy, Jeff West, R Danilowicz and Django Rayner. Site survey and illustrations were produced by Bartek Cichy and this report was written by Peter Cichy and Pawel Cichy. On behalf of the client project was directed by Dr Paul Wilkinson, PhD, MCIFA.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND ADJACENT TO POND FARM,  
GROVEHURST ROAD, IWADE, KENT ME9 8RD**

**EVALUATION REPORT**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1.1 SWAT archaeology was commissioned by the client to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD.

1.1.2 This phase of archaeological works has confirmed the presence of archaeological remains on this proposed development area and guides the need for additional detailed mitigation.

**1.2 Project background**

1.2.1 The developer is planning to develop the land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD. The land has outline planning permission for erection of 69 dwellings accessed from Grovehurst Road; public open and amenity space; together with associated landscaping and ecological enhancement works; drainage; utilities; and internal access roads, footpaths and parking.

1.2.2 Prior to evaluation archaeological WSI was prepared by SWAT.

**1.3 Planning background**

1.3.1 On the basis of the present archaeological information KCCHC recommended to Swale District Council that the proposed development should be subject to a programme of archaeological works in order to clarify the archaeological elements within the site.

1.3.2 This archaeological evaluation will clarify the presence/absence of archaeological remains and guide the need for any additional detailed mitigation. Condition on the planning permission may state that:

*No development shall commence until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, have secured and implemented:*

*a) archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority; and b) further archaeological investigation, recording and reporting, determined by the results of the evaluation, in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.*

*Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.*

1.3.3 Post excavation and publication timescale and programme will also need to be agreed prior to the commencement of construction work on site.

1.3.4 The methodology of the archaeological evaluation phase of investigation is identified within approved specification which is based on KCC site specific specifications and in the KCC Evaluation Manual Part B.

## **2 SITE DESCRIPTION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

2.1.1 The site is situated in the village of Iwade and located on the western side of Grovehurst Road, and on the eastern side of the Sheppey Way. To the north is a new housing estate and to the south is Featherbed Farmyard and Farm shop. The site includes the curtilage of Pond Farm, built sometime between 1797 and 1869. The site occupies the highest point in the immediate vicinity, centred around the 16m contour, and it commands views across the large expanses of marshes, the Swale and the Isle of Sheppey to the north, and the North Downs to the south. The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located on the outskirts of Iwade, which itself is circa 2 miles north of the town of Sittingbourne. Iwade lies on the old route of the A249 road towards the Isle of Sheppey but was bypassed in 2006 when a new dual carriageway was built. The north Kent coast and the Swale is in the northern boundary of the village. It separates the Isle of Sheppey from the mainland and the only access is via 2 bridges located 2km north of the village. The PDA appears to be on the parish boundary just within Iwade. To the southwest is the Parish of Bobbing and to the south east is the parish of Sittingbourne

2.1.2 The recent excavations to the north of the PDA demonstrated that London Clay was present but locally brickearth, consisting of orange-brown clay-sand-silt up to 0.50m thick, was limited to those parts lying above 14m AOD. Below this contour, on the northern and eastern fringes of the site, the London Clay was mixed with frequent patches of sub-angular flint cobbles and gravels.

2.1.3 The recent excavations to the west recognised a common stratigraphic sequence across the site comprising topsoil/overburden overlying and loose reworked mottled subsoil consisting of moderately dense mid orange brown silt clay. The subsoil blended well with the underlying loessic/colluvial brickearth, sealing the majority of archaeological deposits recorded on site. An area excavated adjacent to the western side of the Sheppey way

opposite the PDA located archaeology once the topsoil and subsoil were removed, at an average depth of 0.52m (16.7m OD).

### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

3.1.1 The PDA has historically been used as arable fields or orchards and the pond on the site appears to pre-date the maps. Pond Farm was added to the north eastern corner in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Given the intense house building at Iwade over the past decade, large areas to the south of the village, and immediately to the north and west of the PDA have been excavated. These excavations have recorded evidence for agrarian, industrial, domestic and funerary settlement dating to the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. Evidence for Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity consists of field systems, ditches, enclosures, ring ditches, barrows, trackways, barrows and a possible Henge, along with associated pits, post holes and several cremation deposits. Pottery recovered from these features suggests activity spanning the Neolithic to Bronze Age. Limited evidence of Romano-British activity was recorded comprising ditches and pits. Saxon and medieval activity comprised agrarian settlement, animal husbandry, quarrying, industry and localised domestic settlement. The Neolithic and Bronze Age activity is potentially of regional and national importance and the PDA has the potential to show continuation of some of the features seen in the excavations to the north and west. For a full analysis of archaeology in the Iwade area see the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for Pond Farm produced by SWAT Archaeology (SWAT 2018).

#### **3.2 Previous archaeological work in the immediate area**

3.2.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology excavated the Site B, directly to the north of the PDA and also Site A, which was to the west of Site B on the western side of the Old Sheppey Way. This was undertaken during 2000. Site B consisted of areas B, C and D. Area B included Neolithic pits, Bronze Age activity being pits and flints, some containing urns. A pit that could have been a Bronze Age well or waterhole was located in the southern part of Site B. A copper alloy palstave was found in a Bronze Age ditch as well as a quern stone. Cremated human remains were recovered from a couple of pits radiocarbon dated to the Bronze Age. More cremations were found in Area C. Area B had a 12<sup>th</sup> century boundary ditch running on a north south axis for circa 120m the continues to the north and south beyond the limits of excavations and is interpreted as either part of the field system or a precursor to the Holloway that developed to the west in Area A, a century later.

- 3.2.2 Area A in Site A identified a late Bronze Age field system with trackway along with a Mesolithic pit. An Iron Age enclosure settlement was seen in the form of a ditch with a number of circular structures. This enclosure ditch continued across the Sheppey Way and the eastern side was seen in Area B. It is not clear from the post hole arrangement or lack of entrances on some of these structures whether they were in fact roundhouses, animal pens or other ancillary buildings. Some were identified as roundhouses due to having hearths. Only residual sherds of pottery from the Roman and Saxon period were seen. Activity at the site commences again in the 12th century in the form of ditch relating to agricultural field systems. (Bishop B. and Bagwell M., 2005, *Iwade: Occupation of a North Kent Village from the Mesolithic to the Medieval Period. Pre-Construct Archaeology Monograph 3*)
- 3.2.3 Following an evaluation in 2011, SWAT Archaeology undertook a programme of excavation of various areas up until 2016. Area A was the field that bordered the eastern side of School Lane and was to the south of the Area A excavated by Pre-Construct Archaeology, whilst Area B was the field to the west of the Old Sheppey Way and to the north of the track to Coleshall Farm. Area B being the field immediately to the west of the PDA. The northern western area of Area A recorded archaeological features included ditches, pits and post holes dating predominantly to the Early Medieval – Medieval periods. These included enclosure ditches and field systems and possible animal pens. Assessment of this north western section of Area A recorded had a reduction in the density of features as it moved away from the medieval settlement area. An older field system was seen relating to the prehistoric period. As well as an isolated Roman post hole, shallow gully and ditch assigned to the later Neolithic period. A single cremation, possibly Roman was also recorded. The eastern section of Area A in the centre of the site included Iron Age ditches along with Medieval ditches suggesting that the field system was established and in use for 1000 years. Another single cremation, possible Roman was also found. In addition, a separate enclosure ditch from middle Iron Age was also recorded along with pits, post holes, a horseshoe shaped gully and a ring ditch. An isolated Roman ditch was identified. There was also evidence of Neolithic activity was found comprising of ditches, pits and post holes. A Saxon ditch terminus that may be from an enclosure, along with Bronze Age pits and a linear feature that may be part of a Medieval eroded trackway or Holloway.
- 3.2.4 In Area B, the archaeology included three identifiable field systems, linear features, pits and post holes, relating to the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Medieval periods. Field System One, a series of narrow, linear ‘Gullies’ arranged at right angles and forming three distinctive land divisions is potentially Neolithic and is potentially of great importance as this is rare.

Parallel to this first field system was Field System Two – a series of segmented linear features that have been dated to the Mid Bronze Age. The third field system observed in Area 4a1 was a continuation of the Medieval ditch. In addition, a Bronze Age Beaker Burial was discovered. A pit dated to the Bronze Age that went out of use at the beginning of the Iron Age contained charcoal, bone, cess, flint flakes, pottery and an antler tool. The pond in Area B found evidence of flint knapping, hammerstone and pottery suggesting Bronze Age activity as well as stake holes suggesting the pond had been fenced off at some point in time.

- 3.2.5 In the western end of Area B, a henge of 30m diameter was identified being a double ringed structure with the interior space between the inner and outer ring ditches extremely sterile with no traces of human or animal activity. The outer ditch was dated to the Neolithic. The inner ditch being 19 meters diameter was dated to the bronze Age. In addition, a ceremonial trackway leading to/from the outer ring ditch was seen and continued into the Pre-Construct Archaeology excavation site and was dated to the bronze Age. To the west of the henge a second smaller ring ditch was located dated to the Neolithic. Saxon and Norman activity were identified in a large number of clay extractions pits. Another Neolithic ring ditch was found and interpreted as the remains of a barrow burial mound, now destroyed by *ploughing (Unpublished Document: SWAT Archaeology 2018a archaeological Excavations on Land Adjacent to Coleshall Farm, Iwade, Kent (2011-2016): Post Excavation Assessment Volume 1 (narrative). SWAT Report Ref.: 31040.01)*
- 3.2.6 The site is in an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation as orchards in the northern part of the site with the remainder as 'Prairie Fields (19th century enclosure with extensive boundary loss)'. The northern area classified as orchards has since been partly built on and effectively is now Post 1810 settlement.
- 3.2.7 There are two KHER entries for this area. Circa 100m to the north west of the PDA a Medieval field system was found in 2011 by SWAT Archaeology (TQ 96 NW 136). The same excavation also found a late Neolithic ditch (TQ 96 NW 137). The KHER does not ascribe any records specifically to the Area B excavated by Pre-Construct Archaeology that is directly north to the PDA although we know from the excavation reports that finds were found there of the Neolithic and Bronze Ages.
- 3.2.8 There are four KHER entries for this area. Circa 200m to the north, north west of the PDA, an Iron Age enclosure and settlement area was found, this being in Site A by Pre-Construct Archaeology (TQ 96 NW 103). They also found two isolated Bronze Age pits (TQ 86 NE 154) circa 120m north west. A hollow way from the Iron Age was found by SWAT Archaeology

circa 150m to the NW of the PDA. (TQ 86 NE 155). Circa 180m east, south east was Grovehurst Cottage, which has since been destroyed (TQ 96 NW 74).

### 3.3 **Landscape Characterisation (DBA)**

3.3.1 There are seven KHER entries for this area. Pre-Construct Archaeology found a series of late Bronze Age field systems circa 280m north west of the PDA (TQ 86 NE 160). They also found a Medieval pit and possible dew pond at Site A circa 200m north, north west of the PDA (TQ 96 NW 118). SWAT Archaeology found a Medieval enclosure in 2011 circa 260m north west of the PDA (TQ 86 NE 151). Neolithic pits, ditch terminus and post holes were discovered circa 270m north west of the PDA (TQ 86 NE 150). Grovehurst tile works, circa 250m south east of the PDA, were identified on the first 1st edition 6" map but had disappeared by the tithe map of 1839 (TQ 96 NW 75). Circa 210m south west, is an enclosure, which is undated (TQ 86 NE 115). A farmstead was located circa 250m south, south east and was to the west of Little Grovehurst. This was a dispersed type plan and the farmstead has since been completely demolished (MKE 85357). Featherbed House, circa 300m south east of the PDA used to be Grade II listed until 2007 (TQ 96 NW 1151). Originally thought to be late 16th century. It is not clear why the listed was lifted but the house is now separated from the name of the lane it was associated with by the A249 bypass. Little Grovehurst is a linear plan farmstead that has received little alteration and is circa 300m south east (MKE 85357).

3.3.2 There are 10 KHER records for this area. Finds and features include an Iron Age enclosure circa 400m north west (TQ 86 NE 148), and an isolated Roman ditch (TQ 86 NE 149). Wessex Archaeology in the fieldwalking and excavations around Great Grovehurst found concentrations of pottery from the Bronze Age Roman and Medieval periods circa 400m south east (TQ 96 NW 1083). A couple of possible hearths were also found circa 390m east and 400m east, south east respectively (TQ 96 NW 1082 & TQ 96 NW 1078). A possible field ditch was found in 2003, which has not been dated (TQ 96 NW 117). A farmstead circa 400m south east of the PDA for Great Grovehurst has been recorded. It was a multiyard farmstead with the farmhouse detached and in a central position (MKE 85355). The Grade II listed Coleshall Farmhouse is circa 310m west, north west of the PDA. Originally 16th century with 18th century cladding and 19th century extensions (TQ 86 NE 1166). The farmstead that relates to Coleshall is circa 410m west, north west of the PDA. This was a multiyard farmstead with the farmhouse in a detached central position (MKE 88677). There is an associated barn at Coleshall that was formally Grade II listed from around 1700 in date (TQ 86 NE 1146).

3.3.3 Wessex Archaeology in the fieldwalking and excavations around Great Grovehurst found concentrations of pottery from the Bronze Age Roman and Medieval periods circa 430m

south east (TQ 96 NW 1079). 460m to the north east, 19th century field drainage was found in 2003 (TQ 96 NW 47). Great Grovehurst Farm is also recorded (TQ 96 NW 72) along with the national Grade II listing (TQ 96 NE 1155) and is circa 440m south east. In the area, 450m east, south east of the PDA, possible Neolithic, Bronze Age field systems and pits were discovered (TQ 96 NW 1168). The same excavation also found a truncated pit containing late Bronze Age and Roman pottery (TQ 96 NW 1081) circa 480m east of the PDA, with a Medieval pit nearby (TQ 96 NW 1169) and a Roman ditch dated due to a coin and pottery circa 470m east (TQ 96 NW 66). Circa 500m to the north west a Bronze Age/ Iron Age field system was excavated (TQ 86 NE 146) as well as a possible Roman cremation (TQ 86 NE 147). To the north, north east circa 430m from the PDA Medieval activity was identified (TQ 96 NW 110) and the same excavation by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust in 1997 found a possible Neolithic or Bronze Age burial (TQ 96 NW 111) in an area where Bronze Age field system was found. Nearby, circa 490m north, Medieval pottery from the 12th to 16th centuries were found (TQ 96 NW 1140) along with Roman pottery (TQ 96 NW 108), Bronze Age flints (TQ 96 NW 113) and Medieval ditches (TQ 96 NW 109). A Medieval field system was identified including a trackway and field boundaries (TQ 86 NE 161), circa 480m north west Along with a post-built structure though to be a barn.

- 3.3.4 On the edge of the assessment area, south, south west is Pheasant Farm (MKE 88678) situated on the Old Sheppey Way between Bobbing and Iwade. This was a farmstead with agricultural buildings on four side and the farmhouse detached in a central position. The farmhouse is also listed and is Grade II and is thought to be circa 1700 in date with early 19th century alterations. From the Historic England listing, the farmhouse appears to be listed twice (TQ 86 NE 1167 And TQ 86 NE 1368) as well as a third detailing a Post Medieval building, Ferry Road (TQ 86 NE 116).

## **4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **4.1 General Aims**

The general aims of the archaeological fieldwork were therefore to;

- establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource, both artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest across the area of the development;
- ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit if possible, character, date and quality of any such archaeological remains by limited sample excavation;

- Determine the state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource, if present, and to assess the past impacts on the site and pay particular attention to the character, height/depth below ground level, condition, date and significance of any archaeological deposits.

#### 4.2 **Project Specific Objectives**

4.2.1 The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation was to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. The aims of this investigation were to determine the potential for archaeological activity and in particular the earlier Prehistoric and also any Roman, Early Medieval and later archaeological activity.

4.2.2 The programme of archaeological work is carried out in a phased approach and commenced with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase has determined that archaeological remains will be affected by the development and that further mitigation measures are required including detailed archaeological excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during construction works or an engineering solution to any preservation in situ requirements.

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

- 5.1.1 The evaluation consisted of 27 machine excavated trenches (c.25m x 1.8m) in a layout agreed with the County Archaeologist (Figure 2, 3). The area of investigation is the proposed development area. Each trench was machine excavated under constant archaeological supervision using machine equipped with toothless grading bucket down to the first recognizable archaeological horizon or natural geology.
- 5.1.2 A contingency trenching was not activated at this stage. The requirements were set out in KCC Spec Manual for Trial Trenching Part B and attached to the approved specification.
- 5.1.3 A soil sampling programme was not implemented at this stage. Suitable deposits were identified but these could be more extensively excavated and sampled during a subsequent strip map and sample investigation.
- 5.1.4 Where appropriate, trenches, or specific areas of trenches, were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through the features were excavated to enable sufficient information about form, development date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded without prejudice to more extensive investigations, should these prove to be necessary. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC and ClfA standards and guidance. A complete photographic record was maintained on site that included working shots; during mechanical excavation, following archaeological investigations and during back filling.
- 5.1.5 On completion, the trenches were made safe and left open in order to provide the opportunity for a curatorial monitoring visit. Backfilling was carried out once all recording, survey and monitoring had been completed.

## **6 RECORDING**

- 6.1.1 A complete drawn record of the evaluation trenches comprising both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) was undertaken. The plans and sections were annotated with coordinates and aOD heights. Additionally large sections that would not fit on single A3 page were drawn digitally in 1:10.
- 6.1.2 Photographs were taken as appropriate providing a record of excavated features and deposits, along with images of the overall trench to illustrate their location and context. The record also includes images of the Site overall. The photographic record comprises digital photography. A photographic register of all photographs taken is contained within the project archive.

- 6.1.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix. Layers and fills are identified in this report thus (100), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [100]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (i.e. Trench 1, 101+, Trench 2, 201+, Trench 3, 301+ etc.).
- 6.1.4 A site plan to indicate the location of the boundaries of the proposed development site and the position of evaluation trenches drawn at a scale of 1:100 is shown on Figures 2 and 3. Plans to indicate the locations of archaeological features are drawn to a scale of 1:50. Detailed plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. All detailed plans and sections are related to the site plans.
- 6.1.5 A colour coding linework was implemented on plans for the purpose of differentiate archaeological features from modern intrusions, geological changes and bioturbations. The black linework was used for archaeological features and deposits. Green linework and shade indicates geological changes, deposits, bedrock outcrops and bioturbations and dark blue lines and shades were used for modern features. Additionally red lines indicate excavated slots and sections.
- 6.1.6 All plans and sections were drawn on polyester based drawing film, and each plan and/or section was clearly labelled. A GPS site grid was established where necessary across the areas subjected to evaluation. All field surveying were preceded by a site visit to clarify the site specific surveying methodology, determine lines of sight and locate appropriate survey points. All recording points were accurately surveyed with a GPS/GNSS RTK survey kit in 1cm/1ppm accuracy and located to the National Grid.

## **7 RESULTS**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 Archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD has recorded a scatter of an early Bronze Age pits overlain by multi-phase Bronze Age to Early Iron Age and Iron Age to Late Iron Age farmstead with a potential small settlement and associated coaxial rectilinear field system.
- 7.1.2 The investigation has revealed that complex prehistoric activity has declined at the end of Iron Age and resumed in High Medieval Period when smaller arable parcels were also demarcated by ditches, many potentially re-established on top of prehistoric boundaries

although later in Post-Medieval Period field divisions were re-defined and smaller parcels we congregated into larger arable fields and that tendency prevailed until modern period.

## 7.2 Exposed geology and stratigraphy

7.2.1 Stratigraphic sequence exposed across the site comprised top soil (context xx01) and subsoil (xx02) overlying natural geology (xx03) and (xx04) and/or levelling deposit, colluvium or ploughsoil.

7.2.2 There was significant geological change recorded on site during the evaluation. Western part of the site exposed bedrock geology of London Clay formation and eastern extent exposed superficial geology comprising clay-silts and infrequent pockets of brickearth.

## 7.3 Archaeological Trench Narrative

7.3.1 Trench 1 was placed in western part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (103) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. SW-NE aligned ditch [104] was recorded in north-eastern part of the trench. Feature consisted of moderately sloped sides and concave base. Ditch measured 1.05metres in width and 0.32metres in depth. It was filled-in by single fill (105) comprising firmly compacted mid brownish grey clay-silt with very occasional burnt flint, charcoal flecks, lumps of chalk up to 6cm, small stones up to 3cm, pot sherds and frequent animal bones (poss. rabbit). Two metres south-west from the middle of the trench a ditch terminus or elongated pit [106] has been investigated. Feature consisted of south-eastern aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in length by 1.4metres in width and 0.66metres in depth. It was filled-in by single context (107) comprising firmly compacted medium brown-grey clay-silt with occasional charcoal and subangular stones up to 5cm in size. Also small quantities of potsherds, bones and worked flints were retrieved from this fill. There was also sub-circular feature measured nearly two metres in width and it was located between features described above but it was not investigated at this stage.

7.3.2 Trench 2 was placed in western part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 28metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (203) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. Two parallel linear features were observed in south-eastern part of the trench. Ditch [204] located closer to the middle of the trench was NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderately sloped sides and concave base. Feature measured 2.47metres in width and 0.62metres in depth. It was filled-in by a single fill (205) comprising firmly compacted medium grey mottled with small patches of orange clay-silt with frequent manganese flecks, occasional charcoal flecks

and snail shells and very occasional burnt sandstones. Also small amount of pottery was recovered. Small pit [206] was revealed during excavation of ditch [204] and was located on its north-western side. Feature was circular with gradual break of slope at top, steep concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.7metres in diameter and 0.4metres in depth. Its fill (207) looked same as fill (205) of the ditch therefore relation between them was uncertain. Another potentially sub-circular feature was located at north-western end of the trench but it was not investigated at this stage. Similarly as partially exposed small pit located half-way between just mentioned pit and ditch [204].

7.3.3 Trench 3 was placed in western part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 24metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (303) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. Nearly 8metres wide trackway was exposed in north-eastern part of this trench. Small exploratory slot [306] revealed NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. Depth of the feature was of 0.23metres. Its base was covered with 0.04metres thick stone surface (307) consisted of flints up to 120mm, varying from rounded to angular. Stones were sealed by layer (308) a moderately compacted mid brownish grey clayey-silt with rare charcoal flecks and stones. Also bones, potsherds, flints and metal (including SF3 pony horseshoe) were recovered from this feature. All finds came from the very bottom of this fill on top of the stones (307) except for the potsherd and flint scraper.

7.3.4 Trench 4 was placed in western part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 28metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (403) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. A ditch in NE-SW alignment was revealed at south-eastern end of this trench. Intervention [405] revealed linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to a slightly concave base. It measured 1.2metres in width and 0.23metres in depth and was filled-in by single context (406) comprising soft mottled brown and light grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded stones up to 20 mm in size. Couple metres to the north a pit [409] was circular in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to a flat base. It measured 0.5metres in diameter and 0.23metres in depth and was filled-in by context (510) comprising firmly compacted grey-brown silty clay with frequent manganese. In the middle of the trench a 0.1metres-thick occupational deposit (404) was investigated and comprised firmly compacted, light grey, clay-silt with Early Iron Age potsherds. At NW

end of this trench a circular cut [407] had gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.7metres in diameter and 0.16metres in depth.

7.3.5 Trench 5 was placed in western part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 26metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (503) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. No archaeological cuts or deposits were revealed in this trench.

7.3.6 Trench 6 was placed in western part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 25.7metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.45metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (603) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. A potential linear feature was revealed at SE corner of this trench. Intervention [606] revealed circular cut with gradual break of slope at the top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base and a flat base. It measured 0.6metres by 1metre and 0.37metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising two deposits.

7.3.7 Trench 7 was placed in western part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.43metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (703) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. Two ditches and a pit were revealed in this trench. Intervention [704] revealed circular cut with almost vertical sides and flat base. It measured 0.9metres by 0.96metres and 0.27metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising 3 deposits. Primary fill (707) was softly compacted, light brown, clay-silt with rare charcoal flecks and was overlain by (705) comprising softly compacted, dark grey, clay-silt with frequent charcoal flecks, pottery and very occasional bones and burnt bones, frequent burnt flints up to 3cm, moderate amount of worked flints and subangular stones up to 4cm. That was capped on top by (706); firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks, very occasional small stones up to 3cm, occasional burnt flints and moderate amount of potsherds. Ditch [708] was NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.19metres in depth and was filled-in by context (709) comprising moderately compacted, mid grey, silty-clay with rare small stones up to 30mm and very occasional charcoal flecks. Ditch [710] was revealed in north-eastern extent of this trench and it was NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top with steep straight sides gradually breaking into a flat base. It measured 0.84metres in width and 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Context (711) was firmly compacted, mid brownish grey, silty-clay with occasional sub-

angular stones up to 70mm in size and occasional charcoal flecks. It was capped by (712) comprising firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

7.3.8 Trench 8 was placed in western part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 30metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (803) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay. Intervention [804] revealed NE-SW aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and undulating base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.34metres in depth and was filled-in by context (805) comprising firmly compacted mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional flecks of manganese. Fill produced LBA pottery sherds and lithics. Ditch [806] was NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and unknown base at it was not fully exposed. It measured 0.3metres in width and was filled-in by context (807) comprising firm mid grey brown clayey silt with occasional flecks of manganese. Context produced lithics and LBA potsherd.

7.3.9 Trench 9 was placed in central part of the site in NE- SW alignment and measured 20metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.42metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (903) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown silty-clay with occasional sub-angular flints. Trench has exposed 3 ditches, holloway and 3 other yet undermined archaeological cuts. Unknown features are [905], [907] and [916]. Ditch [909] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with shallow straight sides and sharp break of slope at base breaking into flat base. It measured 1.64metres in width and 0.21metres in depth and was filled-in by context (910) of firmly compacted mid grey-brown silty-clay. Ditch [911] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight SW side an moderately sloped NE side and gradual break of slope at base breaking into concave base. It measured 0.98metres in width by 0.4metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising 3 deposits. Primary fill (912) was firmly compacted, mid brownish grey, silty-clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 40mm. Next context (913) was firmly compacted, dark grey, clay-silt with moderate amount of charcoal, occasional small subangular stones and occasional calcined bones. That was capped on top by (914) of firmly compacted, light greyish brown, silty-clay and was truncated by Holloway [921].

7.3.10 Trench 10 was placed in central part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 24.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1003) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with occasional subangular flints. Trench has exposed two pits, ditch and unknown feature. Pit [1004] was circular in plan with gradual break of slope at top, shallow straight sides, base slightly

sloping towards NE. It measured 1.1metres in diameter and 0.27metres in depth and was filled in by single context (1005) comprising firmly compacted dark greyish brown silty clay with moderate amount of small animal bones (dogs or foxes?). Pit [1006] was located at NE end of this trench and comprised circular cut with gradual break of slope at top, near vertical straight sides and sharp break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.9metres in diameter and 0.22metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower fill (1007) was moderately compacted, mid greyish brown, silty-clay with occasional stones up to 5cm, rare charcoal flecks and occasional pottery. Upper fill (1008) comprised moderately compacted, dark grey, clay-silt with frequent charcoal flecks, occasional lumps of charcoal (up to 2cm), occasional subangular small stones up to 2cm, very occasional subangular stones up to 10cm, very occasional burnt flints, moderate amount of pottery, 2x teeth and moderate amount of worked flint. Ditch [1009] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep irregular sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.4metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1010) comprising firmly compacted mid orange-brown silty-clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 120 mm and occasional charcoal flecks.

7.3.11 Trench 11 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 24.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.52metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1103) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with occasional subangular flints. Trench has exposed 3 ditches, Holloway and a pit. Ditch [1104] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.55metres in width by 0.1metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1105) comprising moderately compacted, dark grey, clay silt with occasional small stones up to 3cm, very occasional charcoal flecks and pottery sherds. Pit [1106] comprised oval cut with gradual break of slope at top, moderate straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 1.2metres by 0.9metres and 0.24metres in depth and was filled-in by two contexts. Fill (1107) was firmly compacted mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional pebbles 1-2cm and Derived as result from erosion of surrounding material. It was capped by context (1108) comprised firmly compacted mid brownish grey silty clay with very occasional pebbles. Fill derived as a result from general overtime silting processes. Trackway [1109] was NW-SE linear cut with shallow sides and flat, slightly uneven base. It measured 4.4metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1110) comprising firmly compacted mid brownish grey silty clay with rare charcoal flecks up to 10 mm and occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm. It was truncated by Ditch [1111] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides

and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.55metres in width and 0.35metres in depth and was filled-in by two contexts. Fill (1112) was firmly compacted light grey brown silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm and was capped by (1113) comprising firmly compacted mid grey silty clay with rare charcoal flecks up to 10 mm and occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm. Wide and shallow linear [1114] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 4.3metres in width and 0.3metres in depth.

7.3.12 Trench 12 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 28.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.53metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1203) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints. Trench has exposed several ditches and discrete features. Ditch [1206] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.64metres in width and 0.57metres in depth and was filled-in by two contexts. Primary fill (1208) comprised firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks and was capped by (1207) comprising firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with moderate amount of charcoal flecks and lumps up to 30mm, occasional subangular stones up to 80mm, occasional burnt clay and small sandstones up to 30mm. Ditch [1209] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with concave sides that are gently sloping at the top and near vertical lower down and a concave base. It measured 5metres in width and 1.37metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising 9 deposits. Primary fill (1210) was firm light brownish grey clay. Context (1211) comprised firm orange stoney silty clay, 30% subangular stones up to 60 mm and was capped by two contemporary fills. (1213) was firm light brownish grey silty clay and (1214) was firm light brownish grey silty clay with frequent subangular stones. That was overlain by (1215); a firm mid grey silty clay with rare flecks of manganese and was capped by (1216) comprising firm mid greyish brown mottled with orange with some mid grey lenses running through it clayey silt, rare stones and a moderate amount of manganese flecks. Next in turn context (1217) was firm mottled mid brown and mid grey clayey silt with a moderate amount of manganese flecks and was sealed-off by (1218) of firm dark grey mottled with mid brown clayey silt, occasional rounded and subangular stones up to 40 mm and frequent flecks of manganese and was capped by (1219) comprising firm dark grey mottled with orange clayey silt, occasional angular stones up to 50 mm and a moderate amount of manganese flecks.

7.3.13 Trench 13 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 24.8metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1303) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed trackway and several discrete and unknown features. Holloway [1304] was NW-SE aligned linear with moderate sides and flat base. It measured 1.98metres in width and 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by two contexts. Fill (1321) comprised firmly compacted, mid grey, silty-clay 60% gravel 40% with occasional charcoal flecks, very occasional burnt clay lumps up to 20mm, one piece of burnt bone, very occasional crushed (milled) pieces of pottery. That was sealed on top by (1305) of firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with occasional gravel, occasional charcoal flecks and very infrequent burnt flints. Pit [1310] had oval shape in plan, steep NE side, truncated SW side and Irregular base. It measured 1.06metres by 0.76metres and 0.24metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower stratigraphically (1312) was firmly compacted, light greyish brown, clay with occasional subangular stones up to 60mm and charcoal flecks. It was capped on top by (1311) comprising firmly compacted, very dark grey, silty-clay with occasional small subangular stones and moderate amount of charcoal flecks. Pit [1313] had uncertain shape in plan, sides and base not fully exposed. Exposed was just the little side for relation. It measured 0.22metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1314) comprising firmly compacted, mid grey with light brown flecks, clay-silt with occasional subangular small stones up to 40mm and charcoal flecks. Pit [1315] had oval shape in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.68metres by 1.68metres and 0.39metres in depth and was filled in by context (1316) comprising firmly compacted, mid grey with light brown flecks, silty-clay with moderate amount of manganese, subangular stones up to 90mm, very occasional charcoal flecks and sandstones up to 40mm. Pit [1317] had oval shape in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.84metres by 0.6metres and 0.35metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising 3 deposits. Primary fill (1318) was firmly compacted, light brown, silty-clay with moderate amount of subangular and subrounded stones up to 90mm. Next (1319) was firmly compacted, dark grey silty-clay with frequent charcoal flecks, occasional sandstone, occasional small subangular stones up to 30mm. That was sealed on top by (1320) Firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks, occasional subangular stones up to 50mm, very occasional burnt flint.

7.3.14 Trench 14 was placed in central part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 27metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. It exposed natural

geology context (1403) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints. Trench has exposed 3 ditches, couple discrete and unknown features. Ditch [1406] was N-S aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.05metres in width and 0.47metres in depth and was filled in by (1407) of firm light brown with orange stains clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 60 mm. That was truncated by Ditch [1408] which was N-S aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.95metres in width and 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by (1409) of soft dark grey with orange brown stains silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 30 mm. Terminus [1410] comprised NE-SW aligned rounded terminus in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It was filled-in by two deposits, lower (1411) had medium compaction and was light brownish grey silty clay with occasional flecks of manganese. That was capped by (1412) which was firm dark grey mottled with orange silty clay with rare stones. Ditch [1413] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.6metres by 0.28metres in depth and was filled-in by (1414) of firm mid orangish brown silty clay with occasional subrounded stones.

- 7.3.15 Trench 15 was placed in eastern part of the site in E - W alignment and measured 8metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1503) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints. Trench has exposed Ditch [1504] which was aligned NE-SW linear shape in plan with steep sides in the middle but gently sloping at the top and bottom, sides are convex at the top and concave at the bottom gradually breaking into flat base. It measured 1.6metres in width by 0.75metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising four deposits. Primary fill (1505) was firm light brownish grey clay with a slight silt content , rare stones up to 35 mm and occasional flecks of manganese. That was overlain by (1506) comprising firm medium greyish brown mottled with light grey and orange silty clay, frequent subangular and subrounded stones up to 60 mm and rare flecks of manganese. Next was (1507) and it was firm medium grey mottled with light grey, light brown and orange silty clay with with frequent stones up to 80mm situated only at the top of this fill and occasional flecks of manganese. That was sealed on top by (1508) which was firm medium grey mottled with light greyish brown silty clay, occasional stones up to 40 mm and a moderate amount of manganese flecks.

7.3.16 Trench 16 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 24.3metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.52metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1603) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed four pits and two ditches. Linear [1604] was oval in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and sharp break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.66metres by 0.25metres in depth and was filled-in by (1605) of firm mid brownish grey silty clay with few tiny bits of coal at the base. Pit [1606] was not fully exposed in plan and had shallow sides and flat base. It measured 0.15metres in depth and was filled-in by (1607) comprising firm light greysih brown silty clay, moderate amount of subangular stones up to 100 mm and rare charcoal flecks. Ditch [1608] was E-W aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1metre in width by 0.17metres in depth and was filled-in by (1609) comprising firmly compacted, mid brownish grey, silty-clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 50mm and occasional manganese.

7.3.17 Trench 17 was placed in central part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 26.4metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.48metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1703) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed post-hole, ditch and several discrete features which could be either pits or ditch termini. Ditch [1704] comprised N-S aligned linear cut with steep sides and flat base. It measured 1.3metres in width by 0.33metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1705) of firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with occasional gravel and very infrequent charcoal flecks. Feature [1706] was not excavated and had uncertain shape in plan and was filled-in by (1707) of firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with occasional gravel. Post-hole [1708] was oval in plan with gradual break of slope at top, near vertical straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.39metres by 0.19metres and was filled-in by (1709) comprising firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, silty-clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 70mm. Pit [1710] comprised NE-SW aligned rounded terminus exposed in plan with gradual break of slope at top, it exposed sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to slightly undulating base. It measured 1.16metres in width by 0.15metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower (1711) comprised firm light greysih brown silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 60 mm and one burnt flint 50mm. That was capped by (1712) of firm mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent subangular stones up to 100 mm. Pit or ditch terminus [1713] was oval in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at

base leading to flat base. It measured 1.04metres in width and 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1714) comprising firmly compacted, mid grey clay-silt with brownish manganese flecking. Another pit or ditch terminus [1716] was rectangular in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.33metres in width and 0.17metres in depth and was filled-in by (1717) comprising firmly compacted mid grey, silty-clay with frequent chalk flecks and lumps up to 30mm, occasional charcoal flecks and subangular stones.

7.3.18 Trench 18 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1803) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed several ditches and pits. Features [1804] and [1806] were not excavated at this stage. Pit [1808] was circular in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to slightly descending westwards base. It measured 0.82metres in width by 0.31metres in depth and was filled-in by (1809) of firm compacted light grey, clay which was capped by (1810) comprising firmly compacted, dark grey, silty-clay with frequent charcoal flecks and lumps up to 10mm, moderate amount of burnt clay lumps up to 10mm, occasional angular stones up to 50mm. Ditch [1811] was NW-SE aligned linear in plan, SW side truncated. NE starts shallow then diving steeply down and came back sharply to the level of the shelf except by the NW facing section where significant undercut was observed. Base was narrow and slightly concave. It measured 1.6metres in width and 0.6metres in depth and was filled in by (1812) of medium compaction dark grey clayey silt with occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm. Ditch [1813] was NW-SE aligned linear in plan with shallow SW side and moderately sloped NE side. Gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.82metres in width and 0.4metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1814) of firm mid orangish brown silty clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 50 mm. That was capped by (1815) of medium compaction dark grey with orange brown flecking clayey silt with frequent subangular stones up to 80 mm. Ditch [1817] was NNE-SSW aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, shallow concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 3metres in width by 0.25metres in depth and was filled-in by (1818) comprising firm mid greyish brown silty clay, rare charcoal flecks up to 10 mm with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 50 mm. That was truncated by Ditch [1819] which was NNE-SSW aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 1.7metres in width by 0.5metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower (1820) was firm light grey clayey silt with

rare subangular stones up to 50 mm and was capped by (1821) comprising firm dark grey clayey silt with rare subangular stones up to 50 mm and occasional charcoal flecks up to 10 mm.

7.3.19 Trench 19 was placed in central part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.47metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1903) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with frequent subangular flints. Trench has exposed Holloway, several ditches and discrete features. [1904] was not excavated at this stage and had rounded terminus shape in plan. It was filled-in by (1905) of firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with occasional gravel. NW-SE aligned linear [1906] measured 1.46metres in width and 0.42metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower (1907) was firmly compacted, mid grey, clay-silt with occasional gravel and was capped by (1908) of firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with very occasional subrounded stones. Ditch [1909] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with steep SW side and shallow NE side and concave base. It measured 1.12metres in width and 0.4metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower (1910) was firmly compacted, dark grey with orange flecking, clay-silt with occasional subangular and subrounded small stones (up to 4cm). That was capped by (1911) of firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with very occasional subangular stones and very occasional chalk. Ditch [1915] was NW-SE aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep convex sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.52metres in depth and was filled-in by 3 deposits. (1916) was firmly compacted dark brown silty-clay. (1917) was firmly compacted light brown silty clay and was sealed on top by (1918) comprising firmly compacted mottled grey and brown silty-clay with occasional manganese flecks. That was truncated by Ditch [1912] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep convex sides and sharp break of slope at base leading to flat base. It was filled-in by (1913) of firmly compacted, dark grey with orange flecking, clay-silt with occasional subangular and subrounded small stones (up to 4cm). Next in turn it was capped by (1914) comprising firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with very occasional subangular stones and chalk flecks. Pit [1919] had uncertain shape in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides breaking into unexposed base. It measured 1.1metres in width by 0.5metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower fill (1920) was firm dark grey silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 20 mm and was capped by (1921) comprising firm mid brown silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm. That was truncated by Pit [1922] comprising circular cut with gradual break of slope at top, moderate concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.1metres in width and

0.55metres in depth and was filled-in by (1923) comprising firm mid grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks with occasional subangular stones up to 30 mm. Ditch [1924] was NW-SE aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, near vertical straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.48metres in width and 0.45metres in depth and was filled-in by (1925) of firm mid grey silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 20 mm and rare charcoal flecks. That was truncated by another ditch [1925] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to slightly concave base. It measured 1.9metres in width by 0.33metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower (1927) was firm mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm and was overlain by (1928) comprising firm mid brown silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 50 mm.

7.3.20 Trench 20 was placed in eastern part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 25.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2003) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed ditch and several uncertain in plan features possibly pits truncating each other. Unexcavated feature [2004] was not fully revealed in plan but its fill (2005) produced pottery sherds. Ditch [2006] comprised linear cut with moderately to steeply sloping straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 3 metres in width by 0.8metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising four deposits. The lowest fill (2007) was firm dark grey silty clay, with occasional subangular stones and moderate amount of manganese flecks. That was overlain by (2008) comprising firm mid orangish brown mottled with light grey silty clay with occasional subangular stones and manganese. Next in turn fill (2009) was firm dark grey with small patches of orange silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional subangular stones and moderate amount of manganese. That was sealed on top by (2010) comprising firm dark grey very mixed with very small orange patches silty clay with occasional subangular stones. Feature [2011] was not much exposed in plan with sharp break of slope at top, steep straight sides and unexposed base. It measured 0.2metres in depth and was filled-in by (2012) comprising firm dark grey very mixed with very small orange patches silty clay with occasional subangular stones. Potential Ditch [2013] was E-W aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate sides and unexposed base. It measured 0.5metres in width by 0.2metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Lower fill (2014) was dark grey silty-clay and was capped by (2015) of firm mid greyish brown silty clay.

- 7.3.21 Trench 21 was placed in eastern part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 26.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.48metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2103) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed two ditches and a number of unknown possibly intercutting features. Ditch [2104] was NW-SE aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, moderate straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 0.86 metres in width by 0.36metres in depth and was filled-in by (2105) comprising firmly compacted, mid greyish brown, clay-silt with frequent small subangular stones up to 5cm, a lot of roots and very occasional charcoal flecks. Ditch [2106] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep NE side moderately sloped SW side and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.6metres in width by 0.36metres in depth and was filled-in by (2107) comprising firmly compacted, light brownish grey, clay-silt with frequent various shape and size stones and very occasional charcoal lumps up to 1cm.
- 7.3.22 Trench 22 was placed in eastern part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 24metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2203) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed two ditches, two pits and several unexcavated features. Ditch [2204] comprised linear shape in plan, aligned E-W with very steep sides and flat base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.45metres in depth and was filled-in by two deposits. Fill (2205) was firmly compacted, light greyish brown mottled with light grey and orange, silty-clay with moderate amount of gravel and occasional flecks of manganese. Next (2206) was firm dark grey clayey silt with very occasional flecks of manganese. Pit [2207] was not fully exposed in plan with sharp break of slope at top, near vertical sides and unexposed base. It measured 1.35metres in length by 0.7metres in width and 0.6metres in depth and was filled-in by 3 deposits. Lowest (2208) was firm light brownish grey with patches of medium brown silty clay and rare subangular stones. Next was (2209) of firm mid orangish brown silty clay with frequent coarse grit. That was capped on top by (2210) comprising firm light brownish grey with patches of medium greyish brown and mottled in places with light grey and orange silty clay with rare subangular and subrounded stones up to 50 mm. Pit [2211] was sub-circular in plan with moderate concave sides and concave base. It measured 1.3metres by 1metre and 0.21metres in depth and was filled-in by deposit (2212) comprising firm mid greyish brown mottled with light grey and orange clayey silt, rare subangular stones and occasional flecks of manganese.

- 7.3.23 Trench 23 was placed in eastern part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 20metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2303) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with frequent flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed ditch, pit and couple potential intercutting features. [2304] was unexcavated but its infill (2305) produced pottery sherds. Ditch [2306] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 1.3metres in width and 0.37metres in depth and was filled-in by (2307) comprising firmly compacted light greyish brown silty-clay with moderate amount of stones and occasional burnt flint. It also contained cluster of burnt flint (mostly crushed) sized about 0.25x0.25x0.08m.
- 7.3.24 Trench 24 was placed in eastern part of the site in N - S alignment and measured 24.6metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2403) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed one potential ditch and several intercutting features. Cut [2404] had unknown shape in plan, gently sloping sides and slightly undulating base. It measured 6metres in width by 0.24metres in depth and was filled-in by (2405) comprising firm, medium greyish brown mottled with light grey and orange, silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints and occasional flecks of manganese. Pit or Ditch [2406] had unknown shape in plan, steep sides that are concave at the top then become convex and unexcavated base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.55metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising five deposits. Lowest (2407) was firm, light brownish-grey mottled with orange, slightly silty clay with very occasional flecks of manganese and very occasional sub-angular flints. Next was (2408) comprising firm medium brown silty clay with patches of light brownish grey silty clay, rare subangular stones up to 80 mm and very occasional flecks of manganese. That was capped by (2409) of firm mottled light grey and light greyish brown silty clay with very occasional flecks of manganese and was overlain by (2410) comprising firm dark brownish grey silty clay with patches that look the same as (2409) with rare subangular stones up to 60 mm and very occasional flecks of manganese. Finally it was sealed on top by (2411) comprising firm mottled light grey, light greyish brown and orange silty clay with occasional subangular flints up to 70 mm and occasional flecks of manganese.
- 7.3.25 Trench 25 was placed in eastern part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.23metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2503) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed

several linear features. Pathway [2504] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, shallow straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to flat base. It measured 1.3metres in width but only exposed part and 0.25metres in depth and was filled-in by (2505) comprising firmly compacted, mid brownish grey, clay-silt with moderate amount of small subangular stones up to 4cm and very occasional charcoal flecks. Ditch [2506] comprised WNW-ESE aligned linear in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep sides and unexposed base. It measured 0.85metres by 0.73metres and was filled in by 3 deposits. Lowest (2507) was firm light greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent subangular stones up to 80 mm. Next (2508) was firm light greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and subangular stones up to 60 mm. that was capped by (2509) comprising firm light greyish brown with frequent orange staining silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks and subangular stones up to 100 mm. Next in turn it was truncated by Ditch [2510] comprising WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with gradual break of slope at top, moderate sides and unexposed base. It measured 2.17metres in width and 0.73metres in depth and was filled-in by a sequence comprising six deposits. Lowest (2511) was compacted mid greyish brown clayey gravel with occasional charcoal flecks. Next was (2512) of firm silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent subangular stones up to 80 mm. That was overlain by (2513) comprising firm mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and subangular stones up to 50 mm. next was (2514) of firm dark grey silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional subangular stones. Overlain by (2515) comprising firm light greyish brown with frequent orange staining silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks and moderate amount of subangular stones up to 60 mm. That was sealed on top by (2516) comprising firm light brownish grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and subangular stones up to 50 mm.

- 7.3.26 Trench 26 was placed in eastern part of the site in NE - SW alignment and measured 25.2metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.48metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2603) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints and outcrops of light greenish grey clay. Trench has exposed several pits and a ditch. Pit [2604] was of uncertain shape in plan with steep sides and undulating base. It measured 0.62metres in depth and was filled-in by (2605) comprising firmly compacted, dark grey with light brown flecking, clay-silt with occasional gravel and moderate amount of charcoal flecks and very occasional pottery. (2608) was firmly compacted, light brown, silty-clay with moderate amount of small stones. (2609) was firmly compacted, light greyish brown, silty-clay with occasional subangular small stones and occasional manganese. Pit [2606] was not fully exposed and measured 0.35metres in depth and was filled in by (2607) comprising firmly compacted mid grey clay-silt with brown

flecking clayey silt and frequent subangular stones up to 0.05m. Pit [2610] was unknown in plan with gradual break of slope at top, steep straight sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to unexposed base. It measured 0.19metres in depth and was filled-in by (2611) comprising firmly compacted, mid brownish grey, silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks, and occasional small subangular stones. Pit [2612] was uncertain shape in plan with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.31metres in depth and was filled-in by (2613) comprising firmly compacted, orange brown with light grey patches, silty-clay with occasional subangular stones. Ditch [2615] comprised firmly compacted, orange brown with light grey patches, silty-clay with occasional subangular stones. It measured 1.85metres in width and 0.87metres in depth and was filled-in by three deposits. The lowest (2616) was firm mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional subangular stones up to 80 mm. next was (2617) of firm dark grey silty clay with moderate amount of subangular stones up to 70 mm. That was sealed on top by (2618) of firm mid orangish brown clayey silt.

7.3.27 Trench 27 was placed in eastern part of the site in NW - SE alignment and measured 25.3metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.47metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2703) comprising firmly compacted orangish brown clay with moderate amount of subangular flints. Trench has exposed pit and a ditch [2704] which was NE-SW aligned linear with steep SE side and moderately sloped NW side. Base was flat and feature measured 1.4metres in width and 0.46metres in depth and was filled-in by (2705) comprising firmly compacted, dark grey, clay-silt with occasional gravel (one stone sized 100x100x250mm rounded) and charcoal flecks. Pit [2706] comprised circular cut with gradual break of slope at top, steep concave sides and gradual break of slope at base leading to concave base. It measured 0.36metres by 0.6metres and 0.19metres in depth.

## **8 FINDS**

### **8.1 Introduction**

8.1.1 Substantial amount of finds comprising pottery sherds, lithics and ferrous objects were retrieved from investigated features. These already were washed and are being assessed by specialists. The overall dating evidence comprises Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury and post Deverel), Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, general Iron Age, Medieval and post Medieval. For the purposes of this report all provisional spot dates were indicated on trench plan.

8.1.2 Table below provides an insight on what was collected from which features and their provisional spot dates. A full pottery report will be included in final revision of this report.

Photo	context	parent	quantity	weight(g)	Spot date	Fabric	Temper	Features	other finds
							AF- abundant flint; MF- moderate flint; SF- sparse flint; SCH - sparse chalk; SCHM- sparse chalk and manganese; AM - abundant manganese; S -sandy; G -grog		
1	1305	1304	1	5	LBA/EIA	Reduced, darker inside, flint temp.	AF		
2	308	306	1	7	LBA/EIA	Brown and grey, flint temp	AF		Horseshoe (pony) 1650-1710
3	1219	1209	2	8	LBA/EIA	Orange outside, black core, dark brown inside	AF		
4	1814	1813	1	5	LBA/EIA	Brown outside, black core and inside	AF		
5	1607	1606	1	5	LBA/EIA	Brown outside and inside, black core	SF	rim	
6, 7	912	911	1	9	EIA	Black and brown outside and inside, mid gray	AM , SCH	decoratin grove and carination	
8	1820	1819	2	19	HM/LM	(1)mid brown, buff core, soarse flint; (2) Orangey brown outer half, black inner half, abundant flint, Deverel rimbury	SF		
9	1712	1710	2	12	LBA/EIA	(1)abraded sandy, grey, orange outside; (2) black, abundant flint	Sandy	rim	
10	1105	1104	7	95	EIA	(1)orange, black core, soothed, moderate flint	MF	Base	
11	1105	1104	8	69	EIA	(2,3) mulicoloured black and brown, sparse to moderate flint; (4) abraded thin orange, light grey core	MF	rim, wide groovees decor, thin groove decor	
12	410	409	4	5	EIA	Small abraded	MF		
13,14	1318	1317	1	16	BA	Greyish brown, black outside, moderate flint >3mm	MF		
15	805	804	3	5	BA/IA		MF		
16	1320	1317	5	27	LBA	Reduced other oxidised, abundant flint	AF		
17	1005	1004	2	25	LM/PM	two peg tiles			
18	1709	1708	1	4	LBA	oxidised abundant flint	AF		
19	2618	2615	3	5	LIA	orange, grey core, thin			
20	2009	2006	12	52	LBA/EIA	mostly black, orange outside, sparse to abundant flint, (2) reduced, no temper	AF	rim	
21	1821	1819	1	9	LBA/EIA	Brown outside, black core and inside	AF		
22	2411	2406	6	7	EIA	(1)reduced, abundant fine flint; (2) brown, black moderate flint <3mm	MF	rim frag.	
23	711	710	3	5	EIA/MIA	reduced, abundant flint	AF		
24	2405	2404	1	5	EIA	black and brown moderate flint	MF		
25	1812	1811	1	5	LBA/EIA	black abundant flint	AF		

26	406	405	1	5	LBA/EIA	black and brown abundant flint	AF		
27	1316	1315	4	8	EIA	black abundant flint	AF	wide groove decor	
28	308	306	5	144	M?	buff			
29	1216	1209	1	7	M/PM	very abraded cbm or pot			
30	205	204	1	9	LBA/EIA	brown, mid grey core, pores, sparse charcoal and manganese	SCHM	base	
31	2617	2615	1	5	LBA/EIA	black, moderate flint	MF		
32	2010	2006	1	5	LBA/EIA	black, moderate flint	MF		
33	2505	2504	5	25	LBA/EIA	(1)black, abundant flint; (2)orange, black core	AF		
	807	806	3	2	P	3 tiny scraps			
34	1218	1209	3	31	IA	(1) light grey outside, brown slip, mid grey core, dark grey inside, sparse manganese; line pattern (2) black brown, abundant flint	AF	line decor	
35	1910	1909	3	10	IA	(1) orange, black core abraded; (2)orange outside, brown inside, black core, sparse flint	SF	rim	
36	1112	1111	3	15	LBA/EIA	brown outside, black core and inside, abundant flint <3mm	AF		
37	2212	2211	7	13	HM	(1) orange, light grey core, pinkish slip wit tiny bits of green; (2) black and brown, abundant flint	S	lines decor	
38	2205	2204	3	11	LBA	black and brown, moderate to abundant flint	AF	rim	
39	2605	2604	6	17	LBA/EIA	black and brown abundant flint	AF		
40	1321	1304	6	16	LBA	black and brown abundant flint	AF		
41	2705	2704	8	101	EIA	mixed	AF		
42	2705	2704	14	106	PM	mostly prehistoric, peg tile? Intrusive	AF		
43	1809	1808	7	39	LBA/EIA	(1)black and brown abundant flint; (2) oxidised, abundant flint	AF		
44, 45	918		3	388	R+	Roman tile and sandy briquetage		CBM	
46	2605	2604	20+	163	LBA/EIA	black and brown abundant flint	AF	base	
47	1205	1204	2	7	IA	(1)very abraded sandy; (2)black, abundant flint	AF		
48	1309	1308	2	58	LBA	brown outside, black core and inside, abundant flint <3mm	AF		
49	1305	1304	2	15	IA	(1) abraded black and red sparse flint; (2)black and brown abundant flint	AF		
50	1311	1310	10	119	LBA	Orange outside, black core and inside, abundant flint<4mm	AF		
51	107	106	11	137	M	greyish brown, grey core, sandy; 2 intrusive prehistoric	S		
52	1707	1706	5	54	EIA	(1)Orange outside, black core and inside, abundant flint<4mm; (2) Reduced moderate flint, rim	AF	rim	
53	105	104	6	65	PM	Peg tiles; light grey sandy pot		CBM	
54, 55, 56	2205	2204	6	177	EIA	Brown sparse flint, rim with diagonal line decor at top and mounting hole	SP	rim with diagonal line decor at top and mounting hole	
	2205	2204	30+	356	EIA	Brown sparse flint, rim with worn diagonal line decor; other mixed			

57	2512	2510	4	23	EIA	abraded (1) brown sandy with abundant fine flint; (2) Brown and black with abundant flint	AF		
58	2010	2006	3	9		Small abraded briquetage			
59	1008	1006	33	121	IA	mixed	AF	2x rim	
60	1913	1912	13	101	IA	(1)Oxidised with abundant flint; (2) Reduced, sparse to moderate flint; (3) other	AF		Rim of bowl or plate
61	1311	1310	6	7	LBA/EIA	scraps	MF		
62	1314	1313	5	14	EIA	(1)Brown, moderate flint; (2) black sparse flint	AF		
63	1907	1906	7	62	IA	(1) Oxidised with abundant flint, rim of plate; (2) Oxidised thin	AF		
64	1305	1304	18	116	IA	(1) Oxidised with abundant flint, rim of plate; (2) Reduced thin; other	AF		
	1810	1808	20	44	IA	mixed			rim
65	1208	1206	11	25	IA	thin reduced and other mixed			
	2508	2506	1	9	LIA	black, sandy, grog	G		
66	908	907	1	15	IA?	Greyish brown, light grey outside, grog and magnase	G M		
67	1207	1206	27	200	IA	mixed	AF		rims
68	1216	1209	17	114	EIA	mixed	AF		rim
69	2514	2510	5	27	LIA	Thin reduced rim; (2) reduced, sparse flint			
70	705	704	48	314	EIA	Brown with flint>3mm; other	AF		rim
71	705	704	10	75	EIA	Black, moderate flint,	MF		rims with diagonal line decor at top
	1312	1314		50	P	Crushed pottery			
	1905	1904			HM				
	404				EIA rim				
	1705	1704			LBA/EIA				
	1904	1906			LBA/EIA				
	2607	2606			EIA				
	906	905			IA				
	305	304			HM				
	1207	1206			IA				
	2305	2304			LIA				
	1307	1306			MBA/LBA				rim
	1405	1404			LBA/EIA				
	2705	2704			LIA				
	1807	1806			IA				
	1805	1804			EIA				
	1007	1006			IA				
	1508	1504			IA				
	706	704			IA				

Table: *pottery sherds retrieved during the course of evaluation*

## **9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

### **9.1 Introduction**

9.1.1 Four soil samples were acquired during the course of evaluation but these are proposed to be processed with oncoming strip map and sample samples and full assessment to be included in post-excavation assessment report.

9.1.2 Infrequent calcined bones were noted in deposits from Trenches 7, 9, 12 and 13 and these are indicating the presence of burial ground located to the south or south west. The evidence for funerary activity is expected to be revealed during strip map and sample investigation.

## **10 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **10.1 Introduction**

- 10.1.1 Archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD has successively fulfilled aims and objectives of the specification and exposed common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil concealing natural geology.
- 10.1.2 Evaluation recorded the presence of sparsely distributed early prehistoric activity (before 1550BC) overlain by a large multi-phase Farmstead (central and eastern extent of the site) comprising date-span from Late Bronze Age to Earliest Iron Age and Mid to Late Iron Age. Associated coaxial rectilinear field systems were revealed across the site and their alignment is matching the remains investigated in recent years to the west of present day Sheppey Way.
- 10.1.3 The activity appears to cease at the end of Iron Age and it resumes in Medieval Period. It's worth noting that very infrequent calcined bones noted in Trenches 7, 9, 12 and 13 implies the potential for a small Roman burial ground to be located in the southern or south-western extent of the proposed development area.
- 10.1.4 Potentially very important boundary ditch of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date was exposed at south-eastern end of Trench 12. The revealed backfill sequence comprised nine distinctive deposits indicating that feature stayed open for prolonged period of time, was certainly seasonally maintained and plausible re-used with a bit shallower re-cut in Medieval and Post-Medieval periods.
- 10.1.5 Another significant land boundary or enclosing ditch was exposed and investigated in Trench 25. Feature 2510 was filled-in by six distinctive deposits and was an established re-cut following an earlier ditch 2506. Ditch also appears to be maintained and kept open for prolonged period of time.
- 10.1.6 A potential Post-Medieval Trackway revealed in Trenches 3, 11, 13 and 19 appears to be branching-off from major Medieval to Post-Medieval road beneath modern day Sheppey Way.
- 10.1.7 Several other potential pathways or trackways were revealed during the evaluation stage although their exposition in very narrow evaluation trench would limit the ability of correctly perceiving their alignment so any attempt to attribute these features to their counterparts would be highly speculative and it should be reserved for post-excavation analysis after completion of required strip map and sample investigation. Certainly many of

exposed pathways are part of revealed farmstead which key features might be obscured by later activity thus an open strip map and sample investigation is required to fully understand these very complex remains.

10.1.8 Undertaken fieldwork recorded substantial evidence that significant archaeological features and deposits are still present within the proposed development area and that subsequent mitigation measures must take place prior to the commencement of construction and associated groundworks.

## 10.2 **Recommendation**

10.2.1 Development proposals are likely to impact on archaeological remains therefore a preservation in-situ is proposed where possible and strip map and sample programme is recommended to take place within areas of the site where archaeological remains can't be preserved. The ultimate scale and scope of mitigation will be set out in WSI and agreed with Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council separately in due course.

## 11 **ARCHIVE**

11.1.1 The Site archive, which will include; paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

11.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises 1 file/document case of paper records & A4 graphics. The Site Archive will be retained at SWAT Archaeology offices until such time it can be transferred to a designated Kent Museum.

## 12 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

12.1.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank to the Developer for commissioning the project. Thanks are extended to Simon Mason, the Principal Archaeological Officer from KCC for his help and advice during the course of investigation.

12.1.2 On completion of the project, the archaeological contractor is to arrange for the transfer, subject to the landowners consent, of the documentary, photographic and material archive to SWAT Archaeology, and to ensure that the appropriate level of resources for cataloguing, boxing and long term storage are provided for a set fee until such times that designated museum in Kent can accept the archive.

- 12.1.3 The archaeological contractor is to allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time, during or after the evaluation, by the developer, and the Kent County Council Archaeological Officer.
- 12.1.4 Copies of all reports compiled as a result of the excavation and post-excavation archaeological works will be submitted to the developer as CD containing a PDF A version. In addition a CD containing a PDF A version of the report and a selection of site photos in jpeg format to be sent to the KCC Archaeological Officer and once approved sent to the KCC HER for inclusion in HER Records.
- 12.1.5 The work the archaeological contractor is to abide by the Code of conduct and the Codes of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The report was written by: SWAT Archaeology (P Cichy) The Office, School Farm Oast, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP Date: 26/05/2022.

## 13 REFERENCES

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*Brown, D.H., 2011. Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)*

*Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2009, Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, Institute for Archaeologists*

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*SMA 1993. Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections, Society of Museum Archaeologists. SMA 1995. Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, Society of Museum Archaeologists*

*Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD (SWAT 2021)*

## APPENDIX 1

### Core Personnel Structure

<b>Project Management - Fieldwork</b>	<b>Role</b>
Dr Paul Wilkinson, MCIfA, FSA	Director
Peter Cichy	Project Manager
Pawel Cichy	Site Supervisor
Django Rayner	Surveyor
<b>Finds</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
Flint	Paul Hart
Early Prehistoric Pottery	Paul Hart
Later prehistoric and Roman pottery	Dr Malcolm Lyne
Saxon, Medieval and Post Medieval pottery	Paul Hart
Metal finds, glass and oyster	Ges Moody
Conservation support and x-ray photography	Dana Goodburn-Brown, MSc
<b>Samples and human remains</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
Environmental soil processing	QUEST
Faunal, floral micro and macro remains	Dr Mike Allen
Animal Remains (Bones)	Carol White
Palaeomagnetism	Peter Cichy
Human Remains	Dr Chris Dieter
Micro-excavation (cremation burials)	Dana Goodburn-Brown
<b>Post-Excavation and publication</b>	<b>Role</b>
Peter Cichy	Author
Bartek Cichy	Illustrator

## APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

**Site Name:** Archaeological Evaluation land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD

**SWAT Site Code:** IWA-EV-22

**Site Address:** As above

**Summary:** *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by Persimmon Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council. The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 27 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil, subsoil overlying natural geology.*

*The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated the presence of dense archaeological activity in the form of Late Bronze Age and Iron Age farmstead, field system, discrete features, droveways and trackways. The farmstead and associated field system appears to be multi-phase although no activity later than Iron Age was recorded within the centre of the site and the occupation declined at the end of Iron Age and has not resumed until Early Medieval and Medieval periods.*

*A number of archaeological sites were identified in the vicinity of the proposed development, many of potential early Prehistoric date comprising Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age and Medieval Periods.*

***Preservation in-situ where possible and strip map and sample prior to commencement of construction works.***

**District/Unitary:** Swale Borough Council

**Period(s):** Prehistoric, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Medieval, Post-Medieval

**NGR (centre of site to eight figures)** NGR 590163 167072

**Type of Archaeological work:** Archaeological Evaluation

**Date of recording:** May 2022

**Unit undertaking recording:** Swale and Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology)

**Geology: London Clay Formation** - Clay and Silt. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 48 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Local environment previously dominated by deep seas.

**superficial deposits description:** Head - Clay And Silt. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by subaerial slopes (U).

**Title and author of accompanying report:** SWAT Archaeology (P Cichy 2022) Archaeological Evaluation of land adjacent to Pond Farm, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, Kent ME9 8RD

**Location of archive/finds:** SWAT. Archaeology. Graveney Rd, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8UP

**Contact at Unit:** Paul Wilkinson



Plate 1: Aerial photograph showing western part of the site. Looking west, trench length = 25metres.



Plate 2: Aerial photograph showing eastern part of the site. Looking south-east, trench length = 25metres.

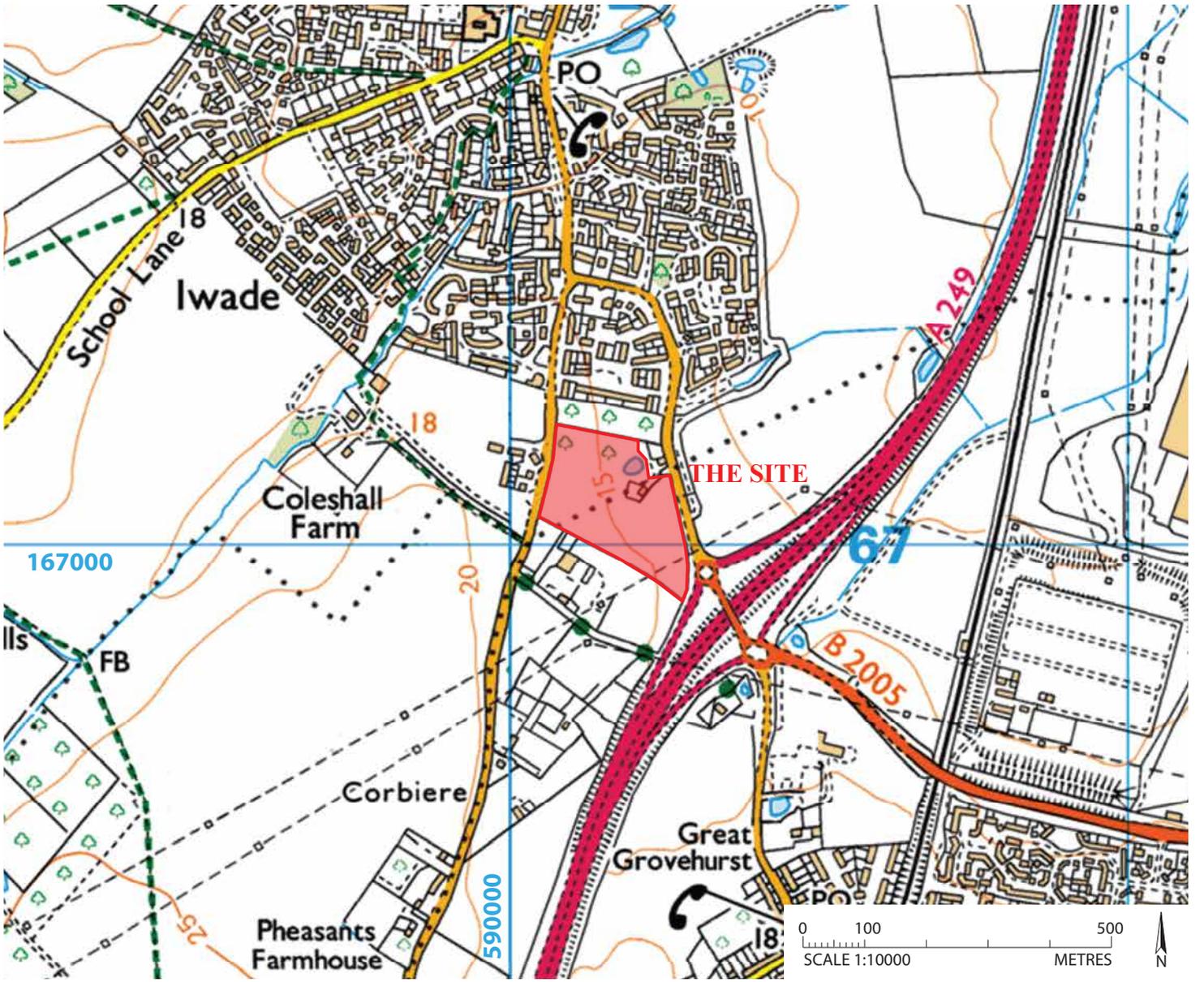
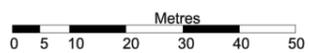


Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:10000.



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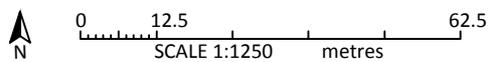


Scale: 1: 1250

- Archaeological deposit
- Uncertain deposit
- Natural geology
- Natural feature
- Excavated

Figure 2: Trench location in relation to OS map





- Archaeological deposit
- Uncertain deposit
- Natural feature
- Excavated

Figure 4: Trench location in relation to development

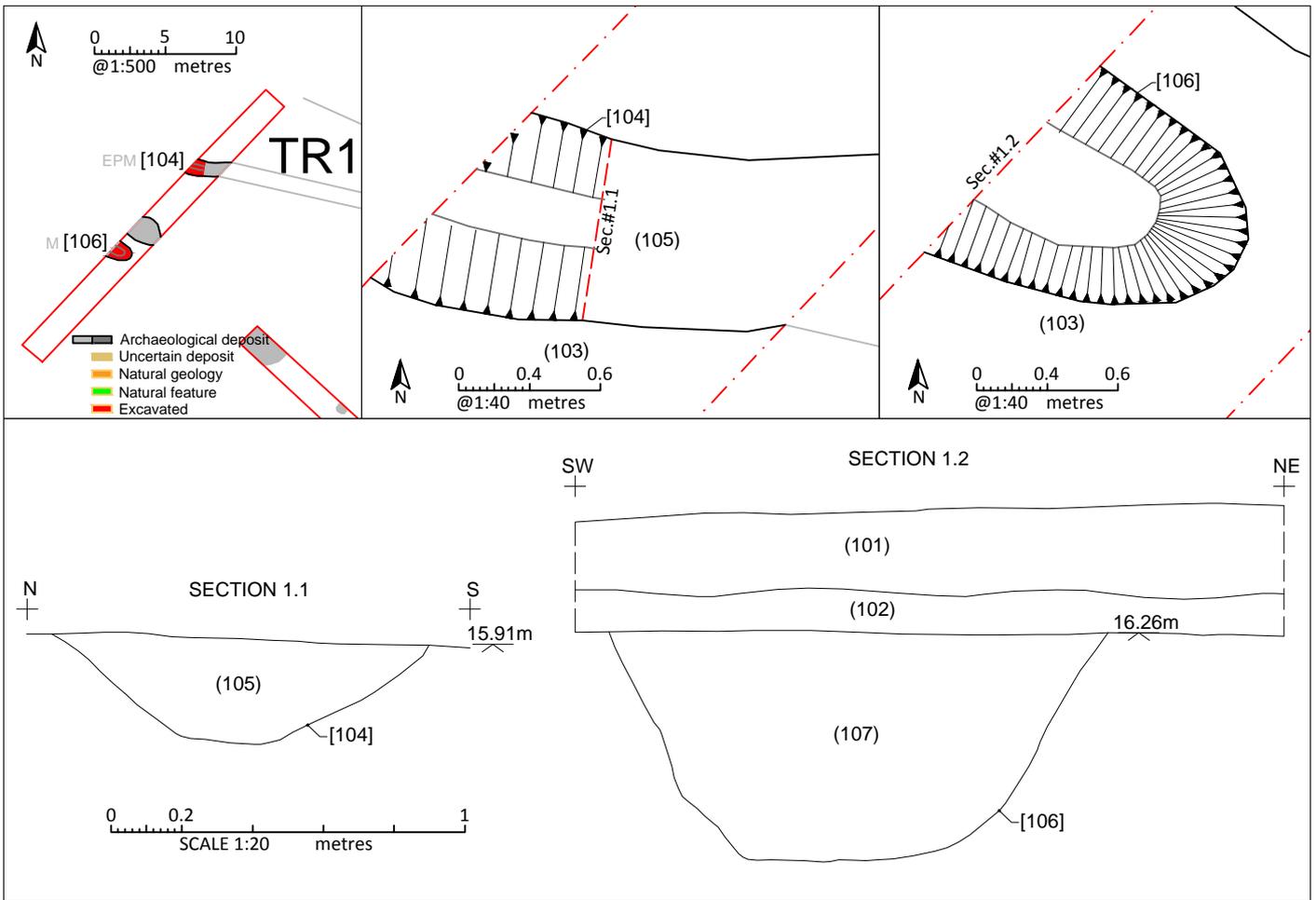


Plate 3: Looking west at sheep exposed in the Post Medieval ditch 104; two half metres scales.



Plate 4: Looking north west at section of ditch 104; two one metre scales.



Plate 5: Looking north west at section of terminus 106; two metre scale.



Plate 6: Looking west at trench 1; two metres scale.

Figure 5: Plans, sections and Plates (3-5) of Trench 1

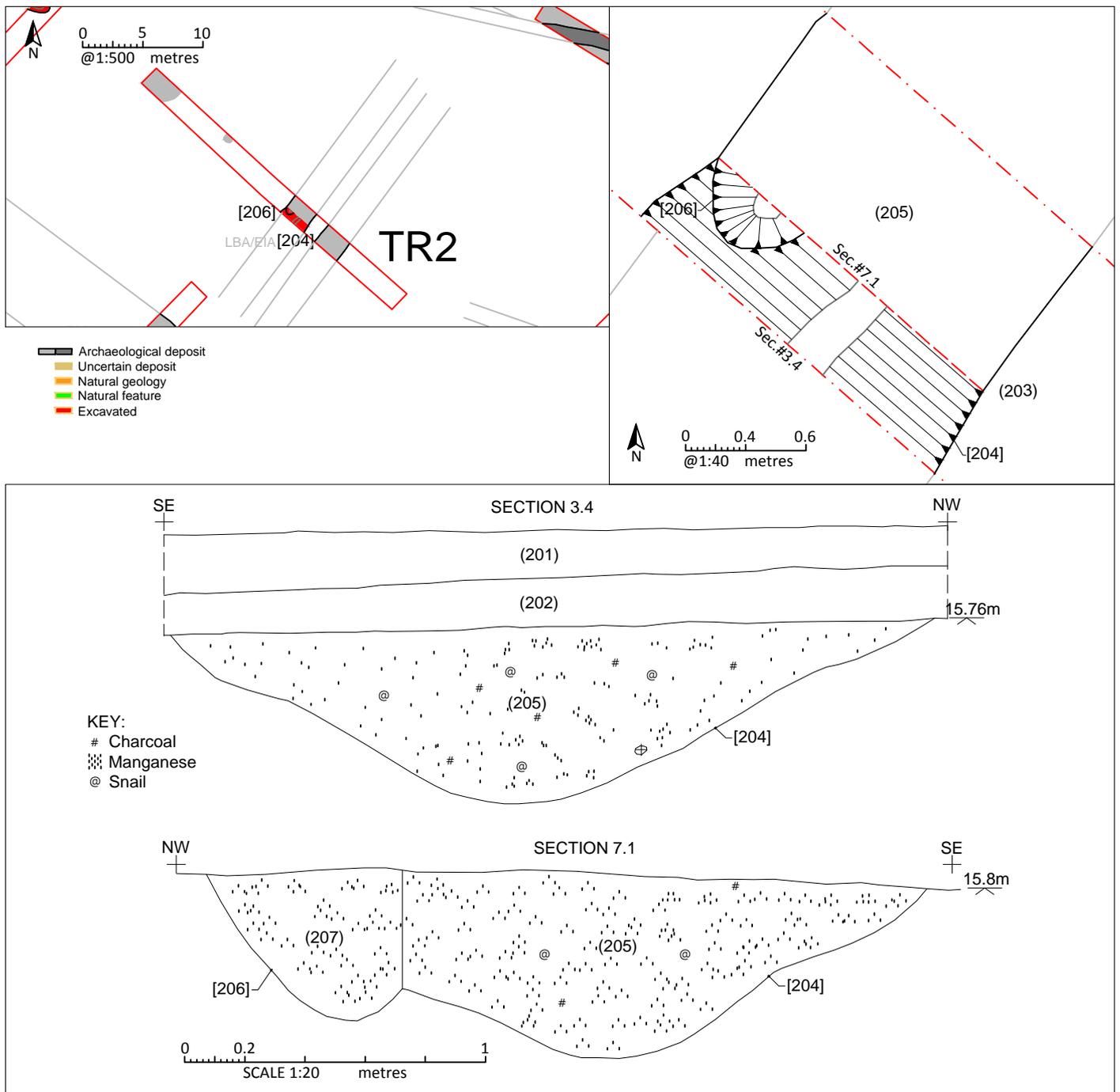


Plate 7: Looking south east at trench 2; two metres scale.



Plate 8: Looking south west at section of ditch 204; two metres scale.

Figure 6: Plans, sections and Plates (7 and 8) of Trench 2

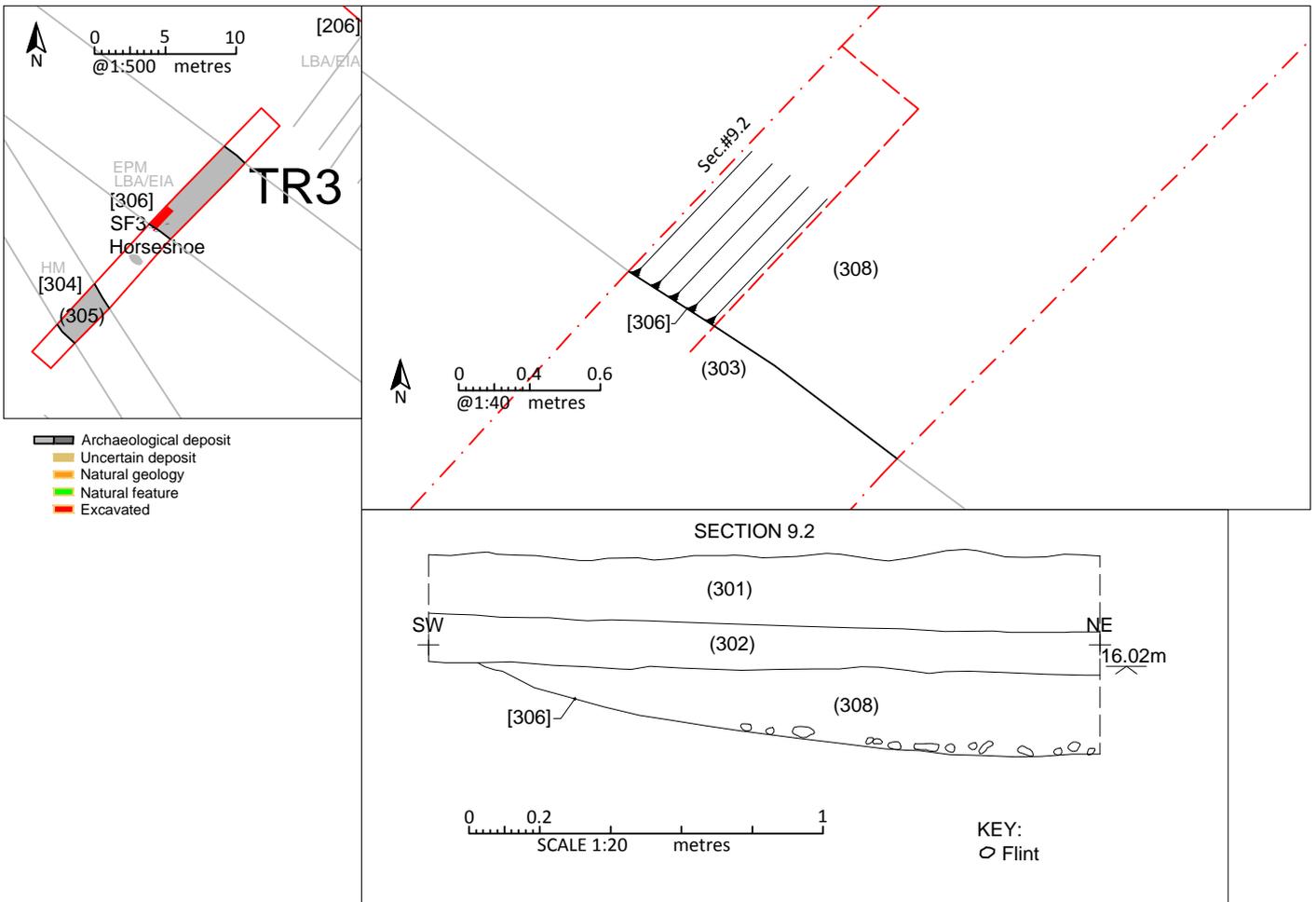


Plate 9: Looking south west at trench 3; two metres scale.



Plate 10: Looking north west at section of holloway 306; two metres scale.

Figure 7: Plans, sections and Plates (9 and 10) of Trench 3

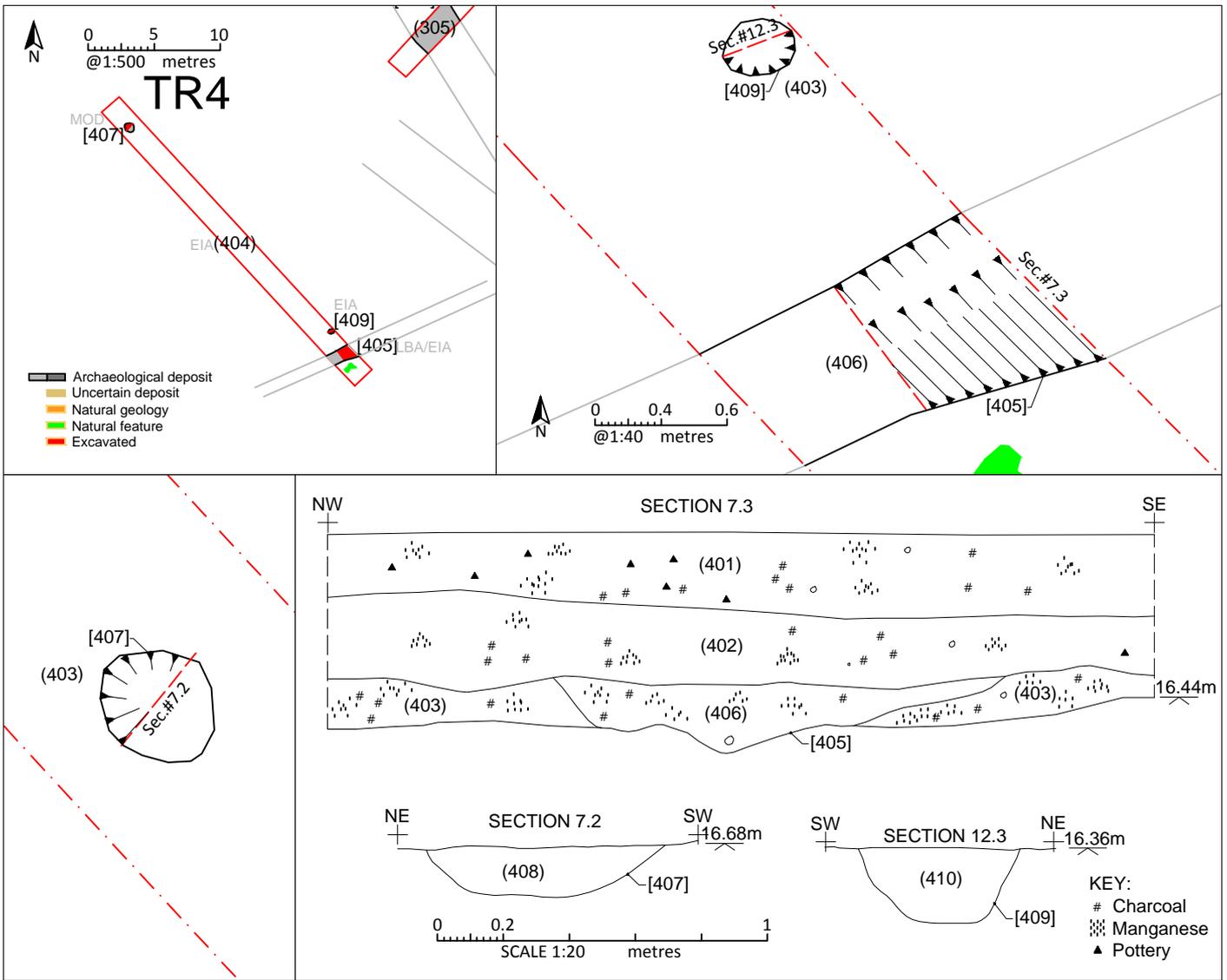


Plate 11: Looking north east at LBA/EIA ditch 405; two metres scale.



Plate 12: Looking south east at section of modern pit 407; one metre scales.



Plate 13: Looking north at section of EIA pit 106; half metre scale.



Plate 14: Looking south east at trench 4; two metre scale.

Figure 8: Plans, sections and plates of Trench 4

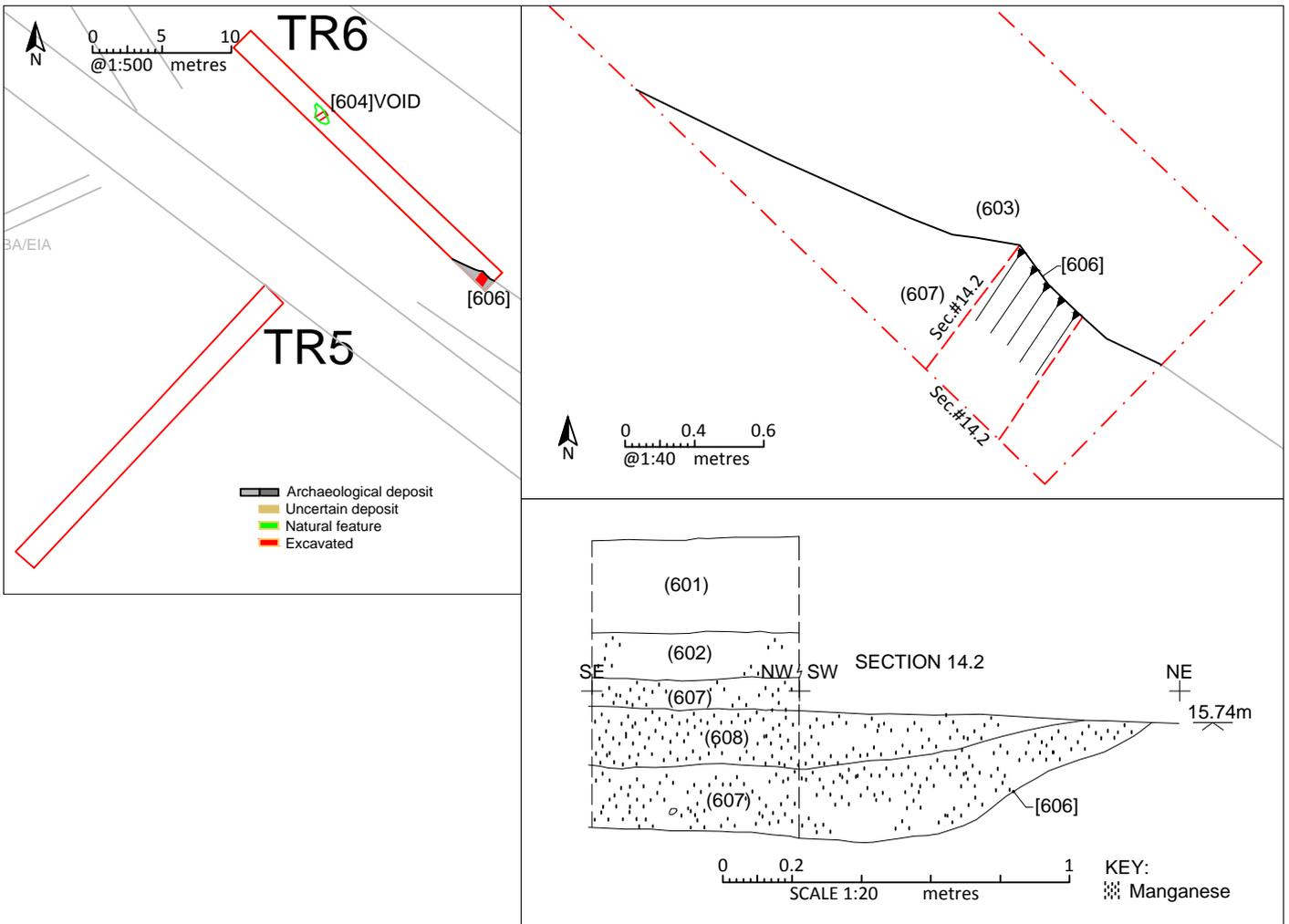


Plate 15: Looking north at Trench 5; two metres scale.



Plate 16: Looking south east at trench 6; two metre scale.



Plate 17: Looking north west at section of undated ditch 606; two one metre scales.

Figure 9: Plans, sections and Plates (15 to 17) of Trench 5 and 6

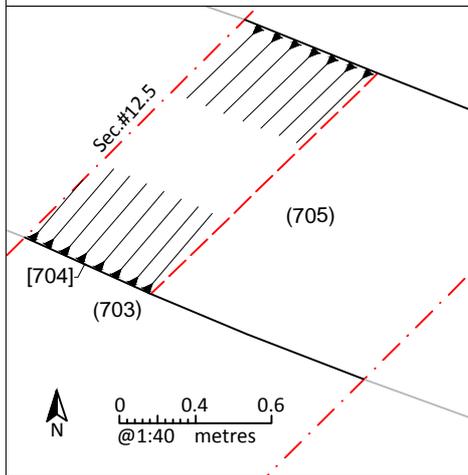
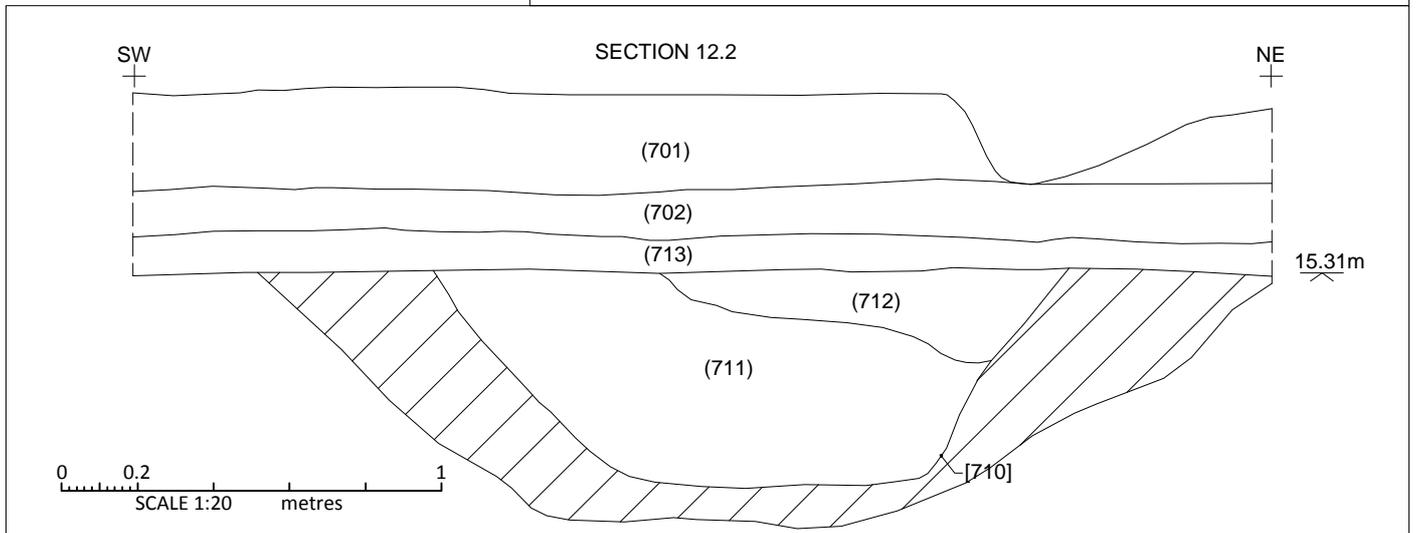
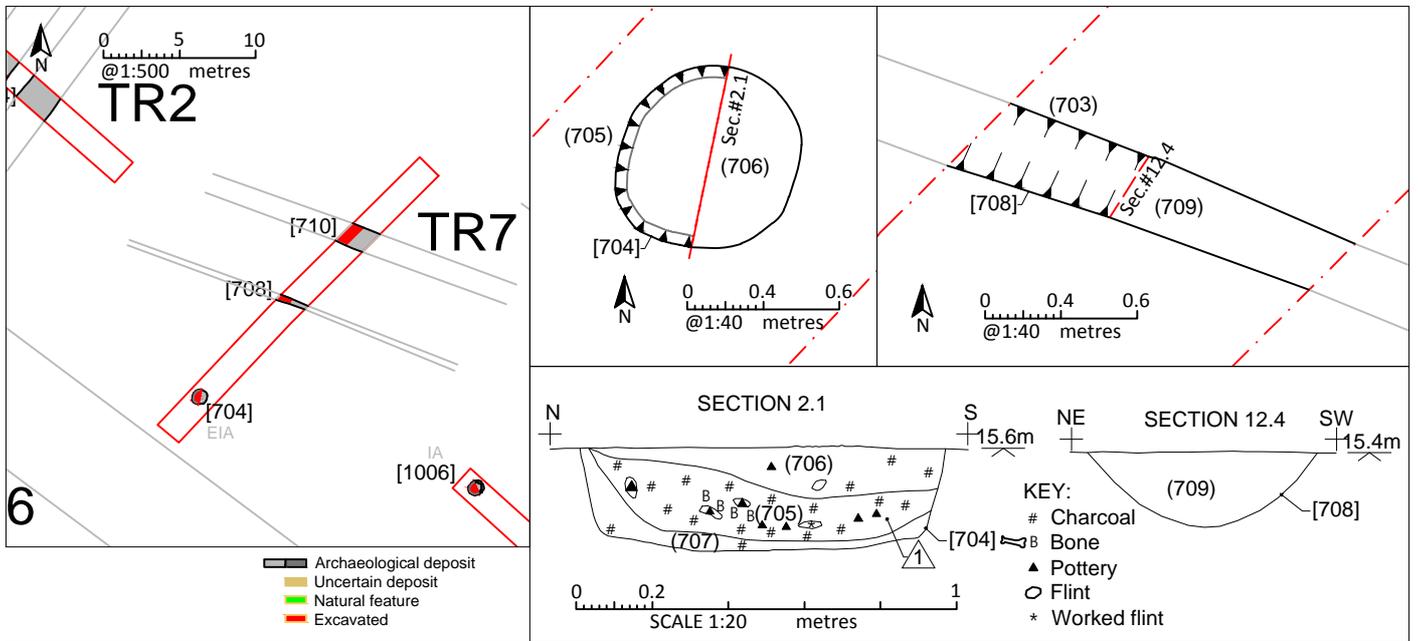


Plate 18: Looking north east at trench 7; two metre scale.



Plate 19: Looking east at EIA pit 704; one metre scale.



Plate 20: Looking north west at undated ditch 710; two metre scale.



Plate 21: Looking north west at section of undated ditch 708; half metre scale.

Figure 10: Plans, sections and Plates (18 to 21) of Trench 7

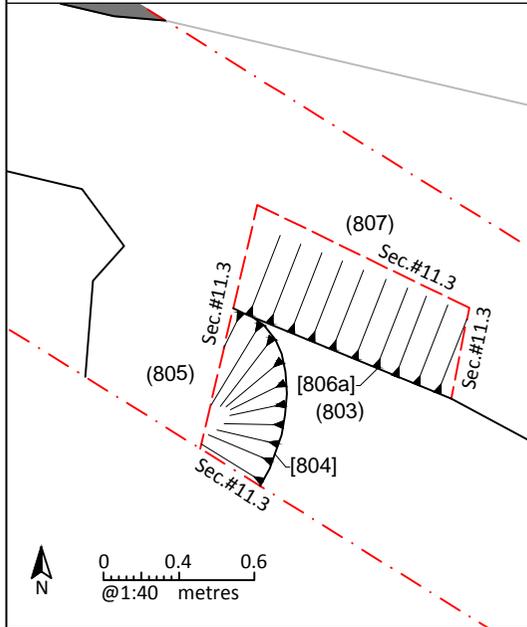
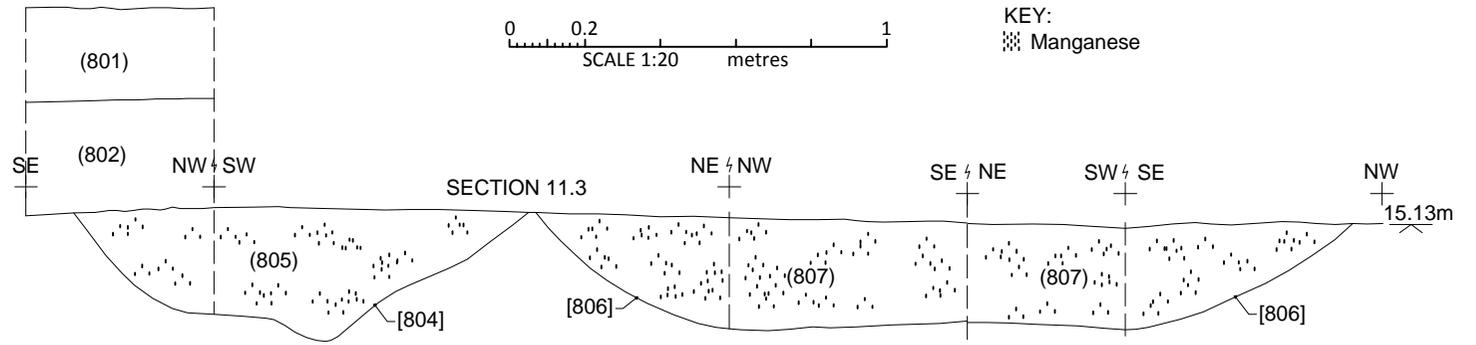
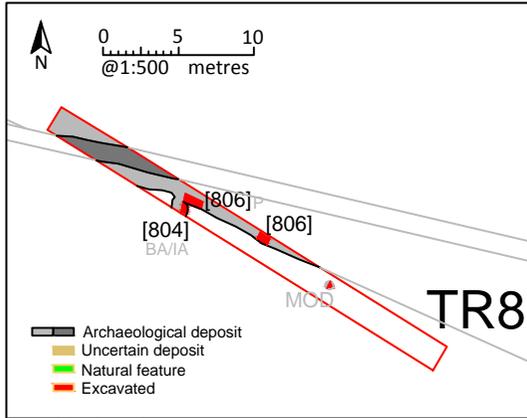


Plate 22: Looking south east at trench 8; two metre scale.



Plate 23: Looking south east at section of ditch 806 and pit 804; half metre and two one metre scale.

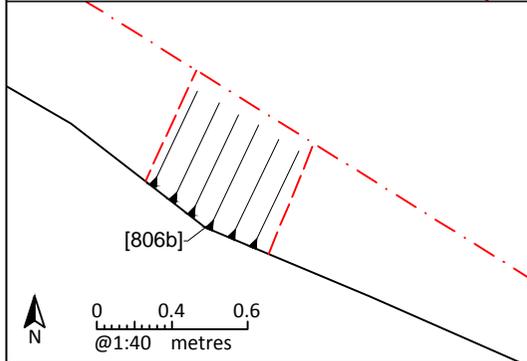


Figure 11: Plans, sections and plates of trench 8.

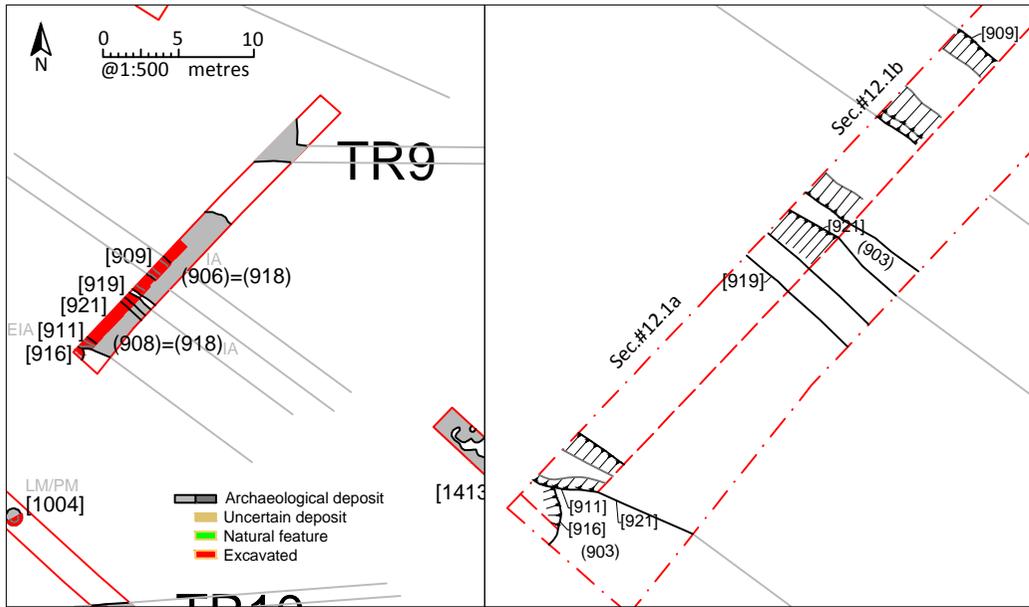


Plate 24: Looking north at trench 9; three one metre scales.

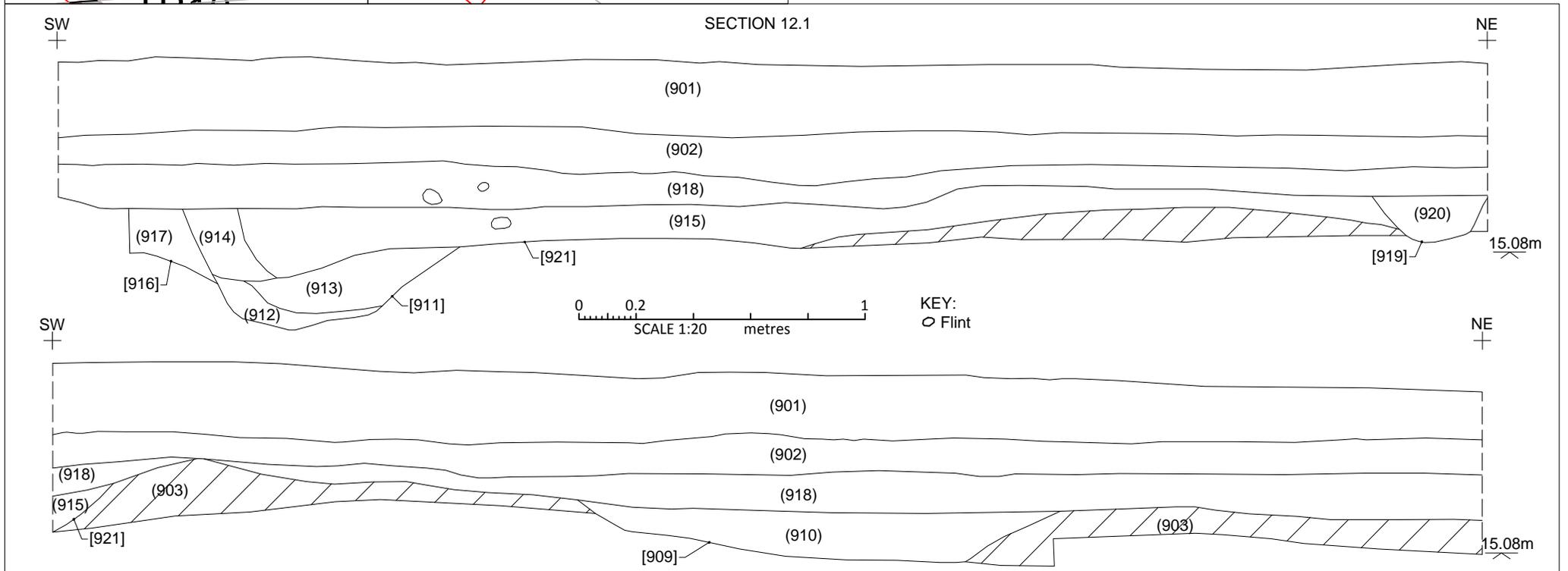


Figure 12: Plan and sections of trench 9.

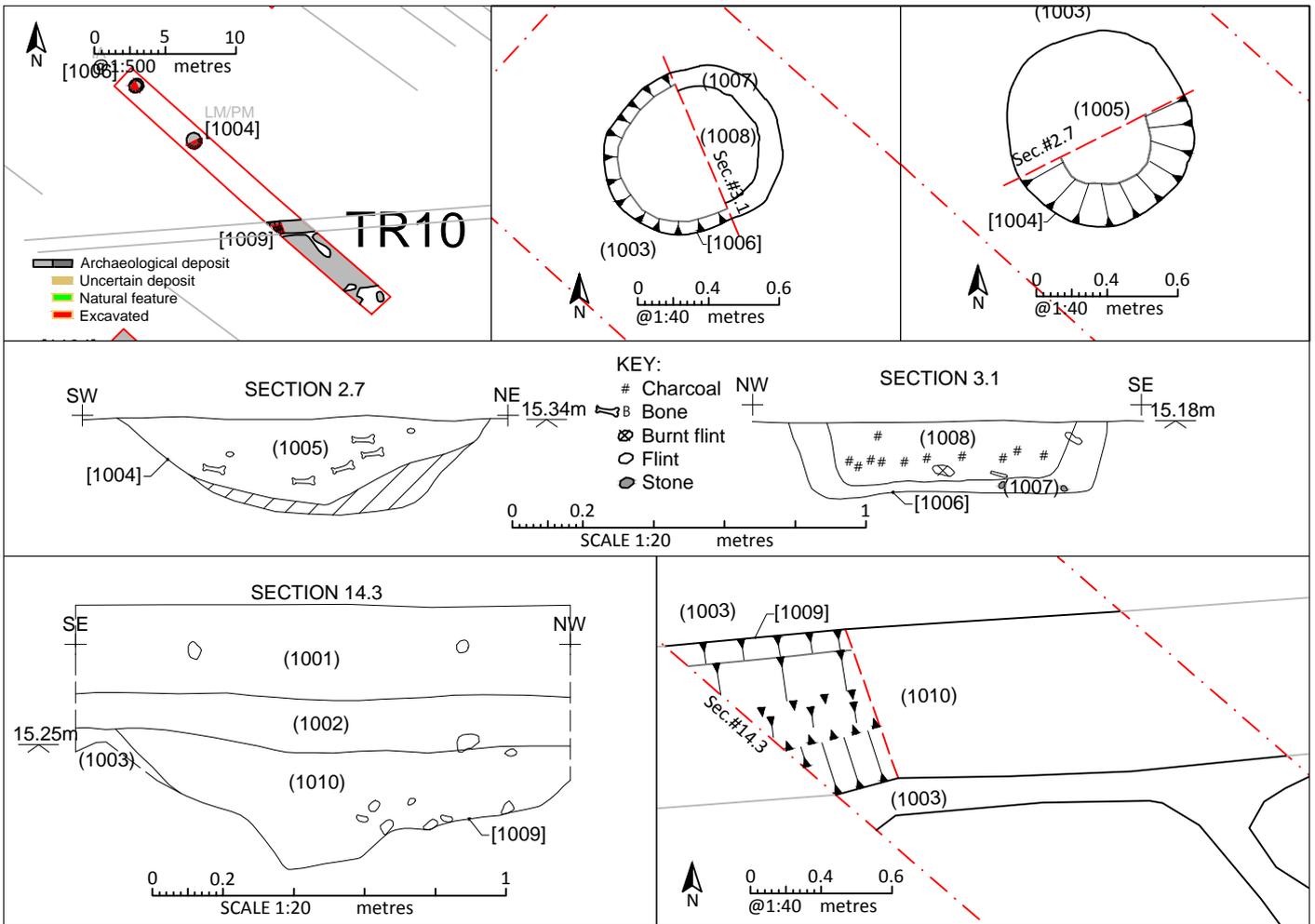


Plate 25: Looking south east at trench 10; two metre scale.



Plate 26: Looking north west at section of EPM pit 1004; half metre scale.



Plate 27: Looking east at section of IA pit 1006; half metre scale.

Figure 13: Plan and sections of trench 7.

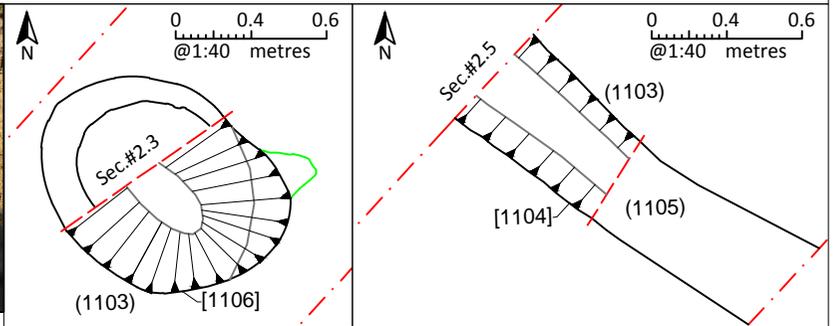
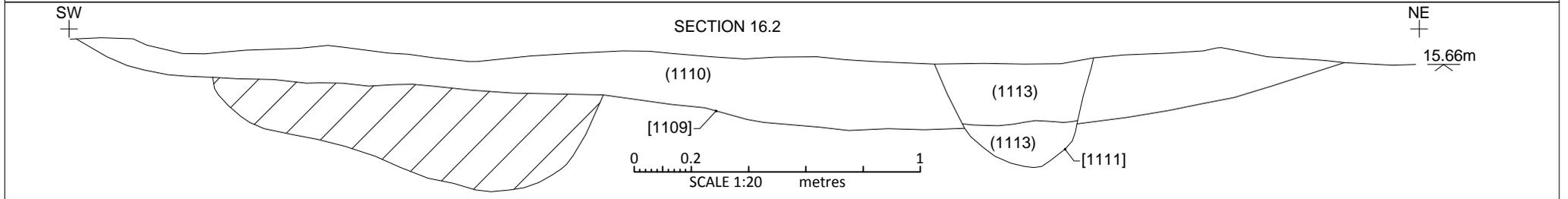
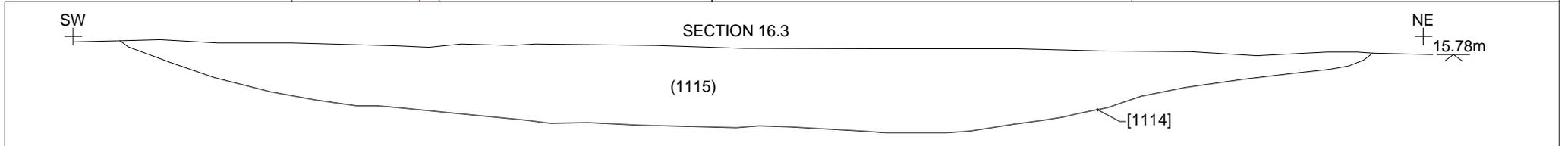
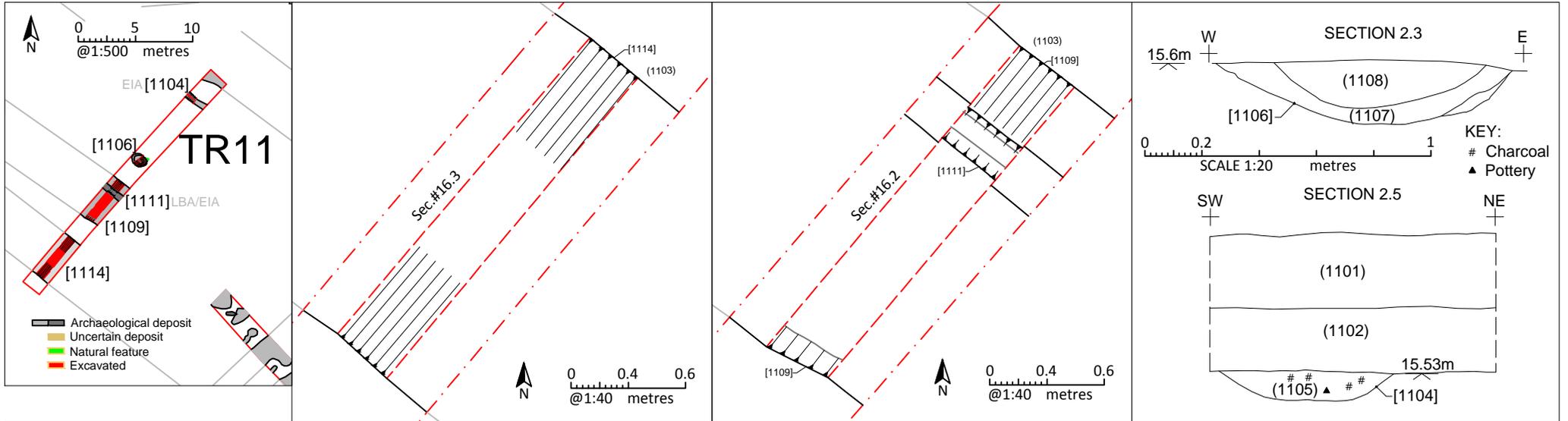


Plate 28: Looking north west at section of holloway 1109 truncated by ditch 1109; two metre scale.

Plate 29: Looking north west at section of holloway 1114; two metre scale.

Plate 30: Looking north west at section of pit 1106; one metre scale.

Figure 14: Plan and sections of trench 11.

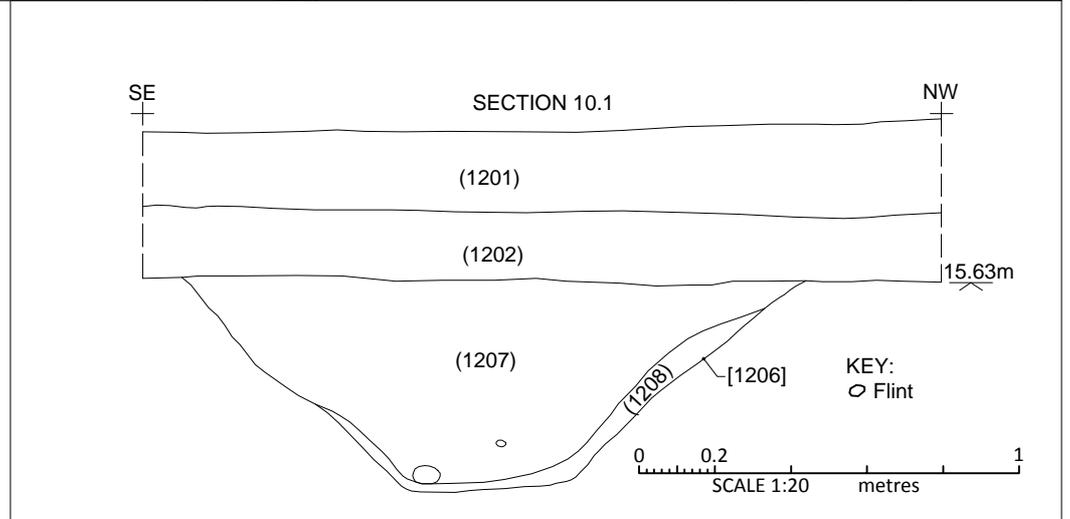
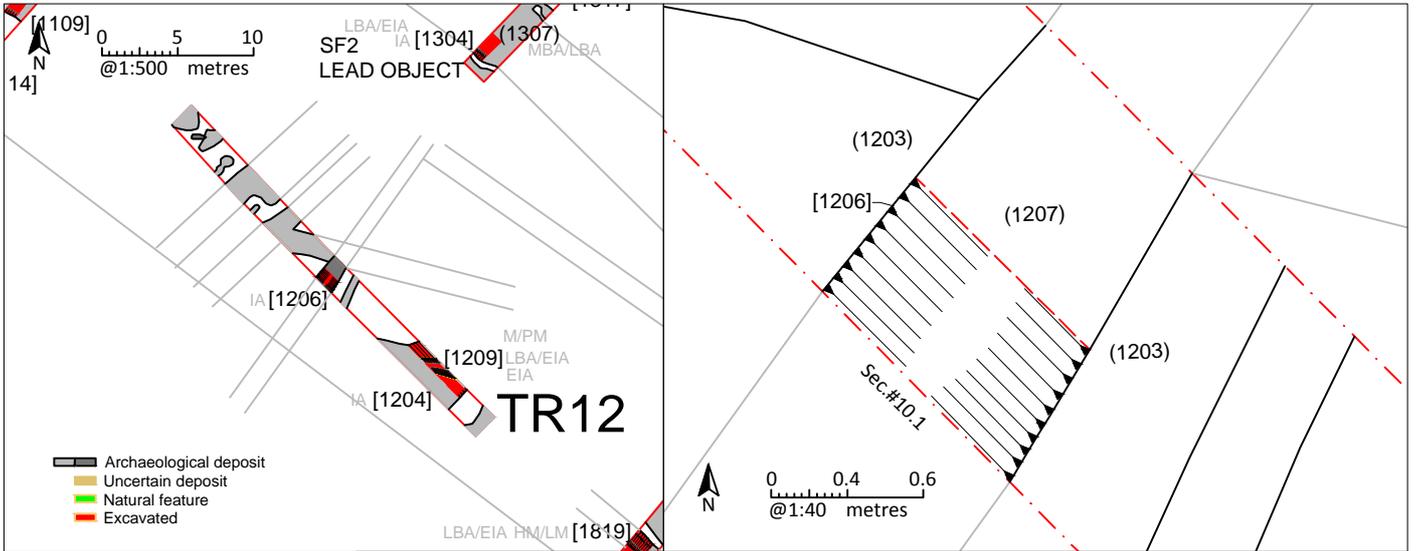


Plate 31: Looking south east at trench 12; two metre scale.



Plate 32: Looking south west at section of IA ditch 1206; one metre scale.

Figure 15: Plan and sections of trench 12 (part 1 of 2).

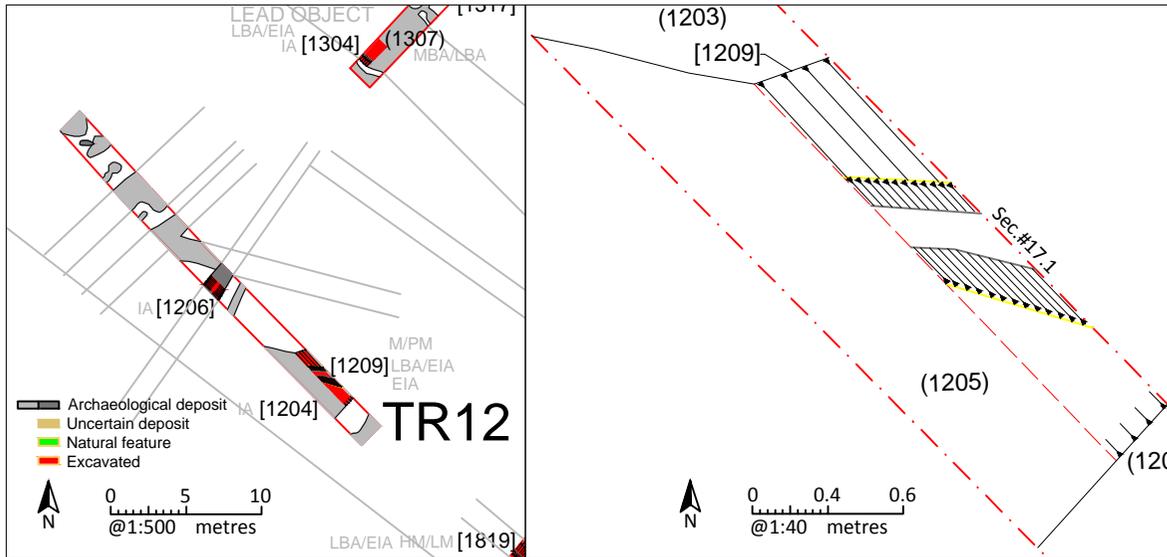


Plate 33: Looking north east at section of EPM ditch 1209; one metre scale.

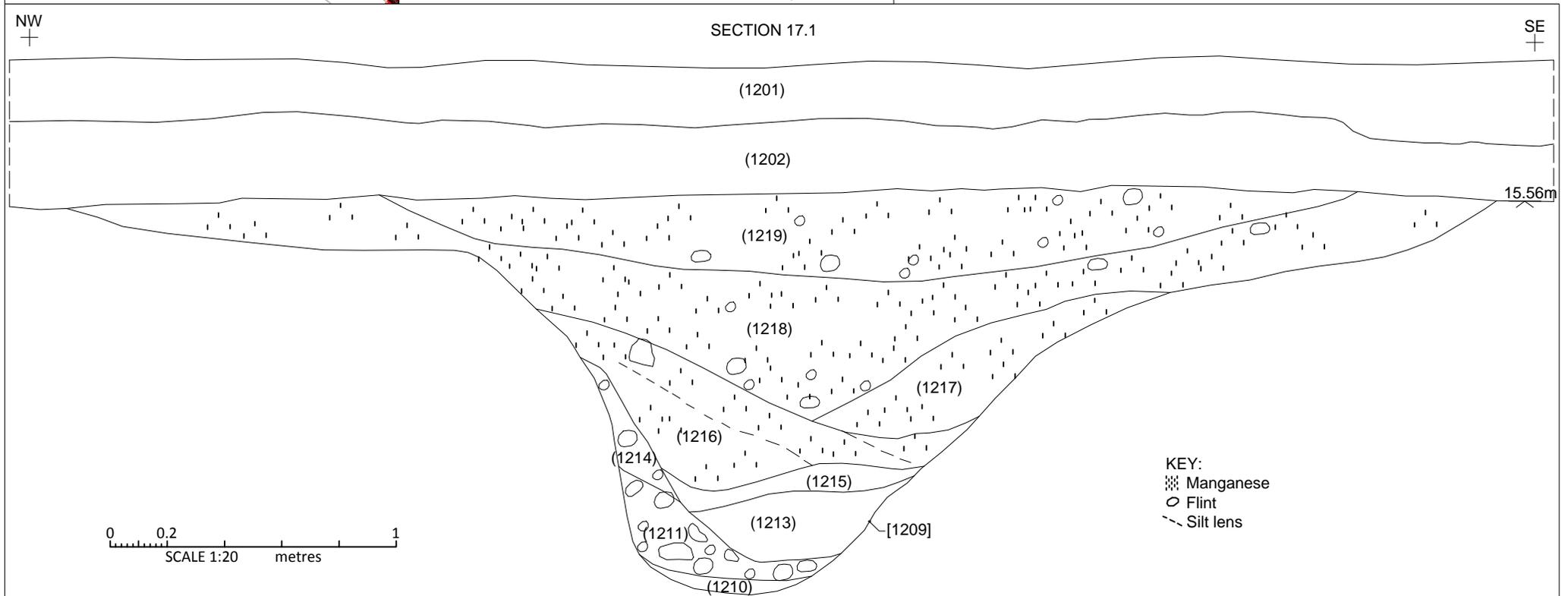


Figure 16: Plan and sections of trench 12 (part 2 of 2).

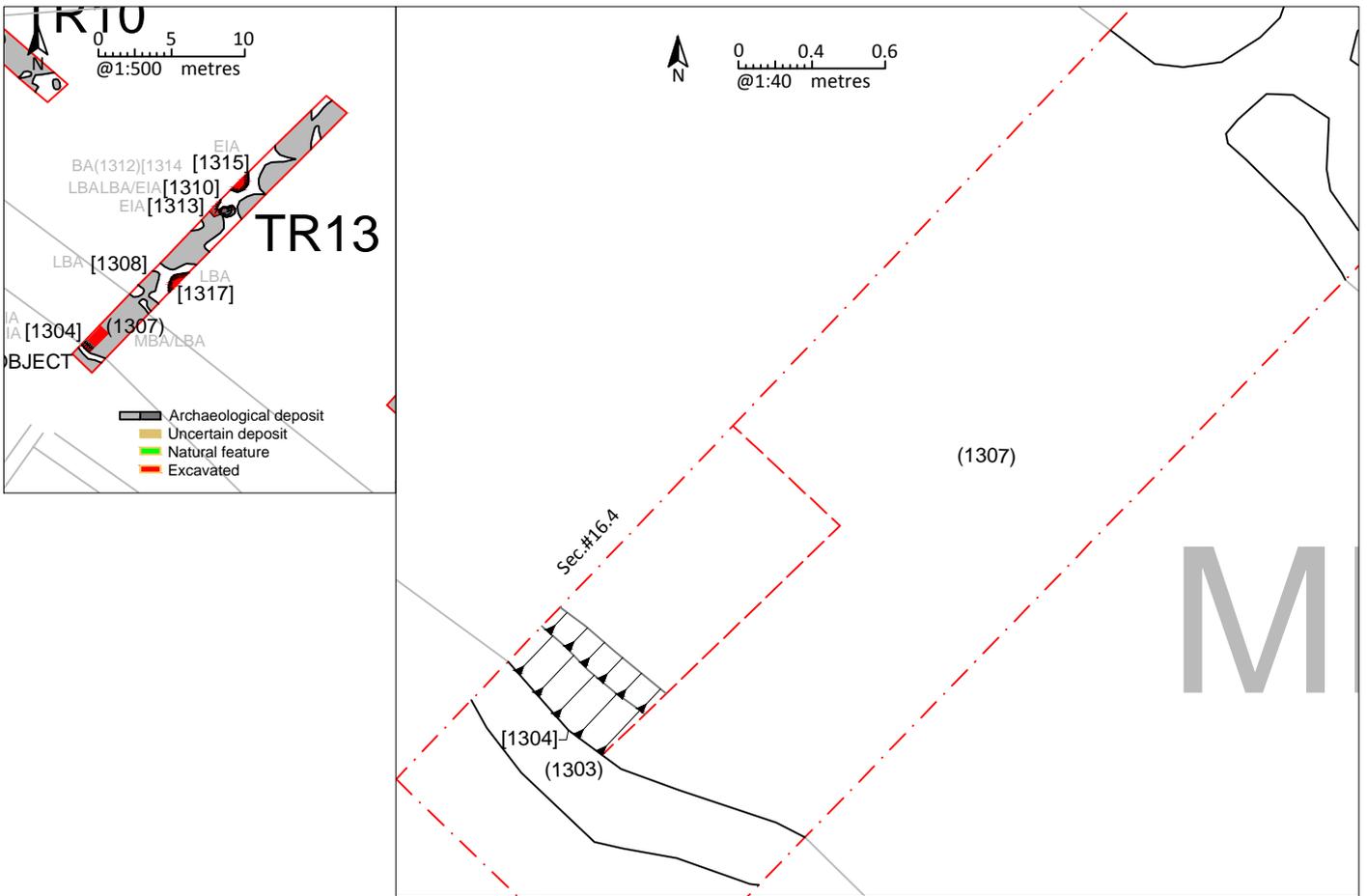


Plate 34: Looking north east at trench 13; two metre scale.



Plate 35: Looking north west at section of holloway 1304; one metre scale.

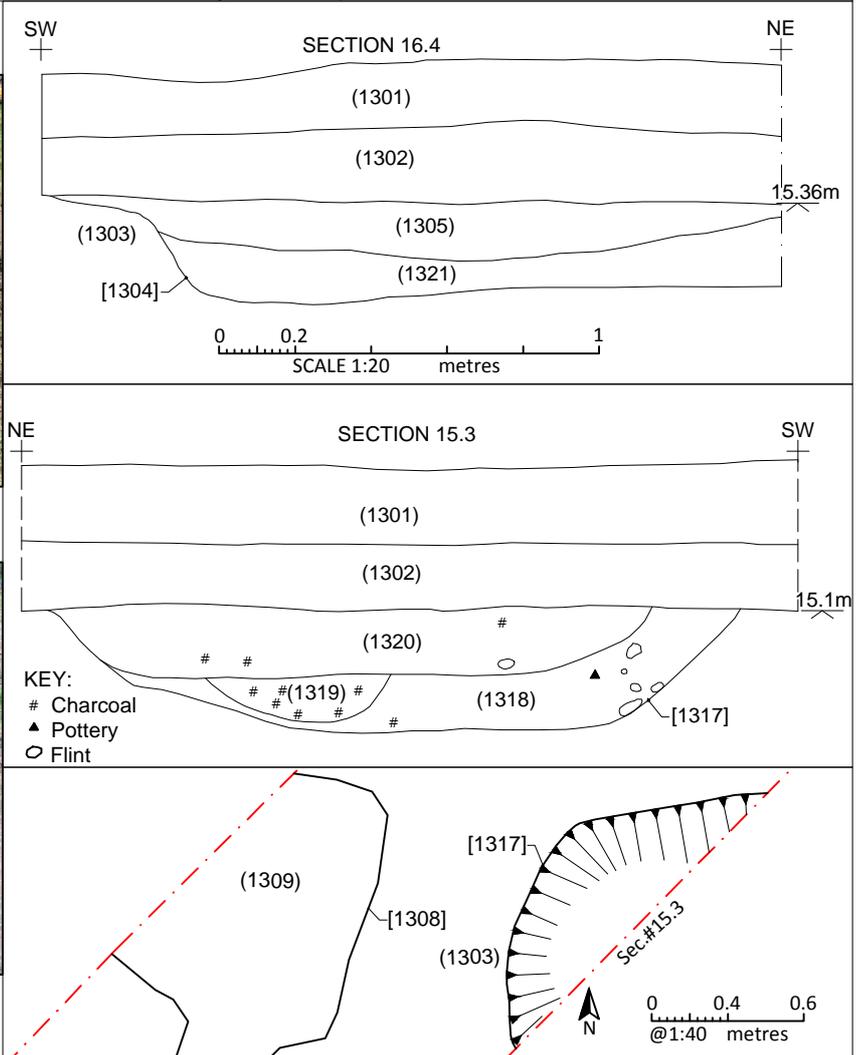


Figure 17: Plan and sections of trench 13 (part 1 of 2).

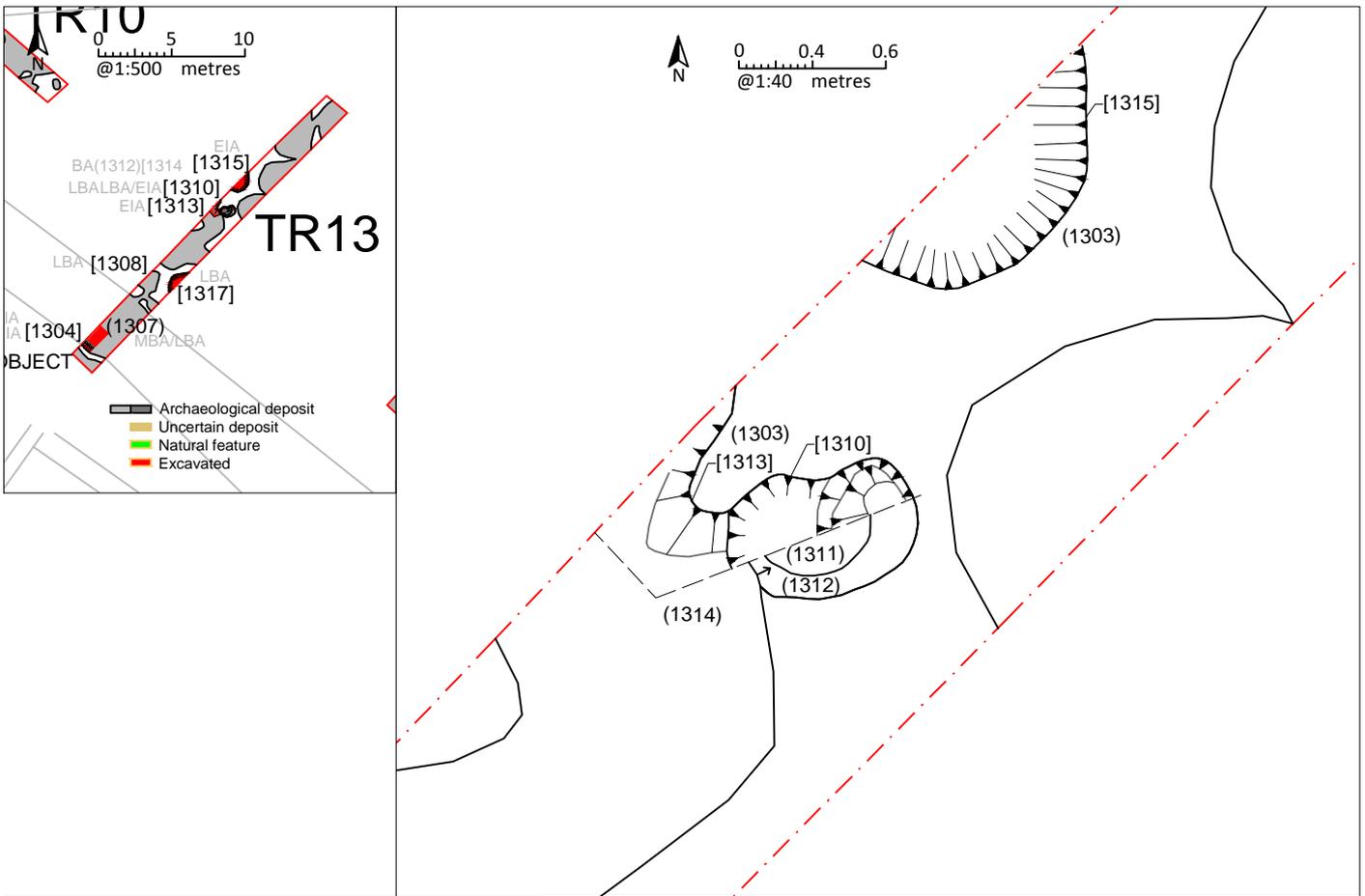


Plate 36: Looking south at section showing pit 1310 truncated by gully 1313; two metre and half metre scale.



Plate 37: Looking north west at section of pit 1315; one metre scale.

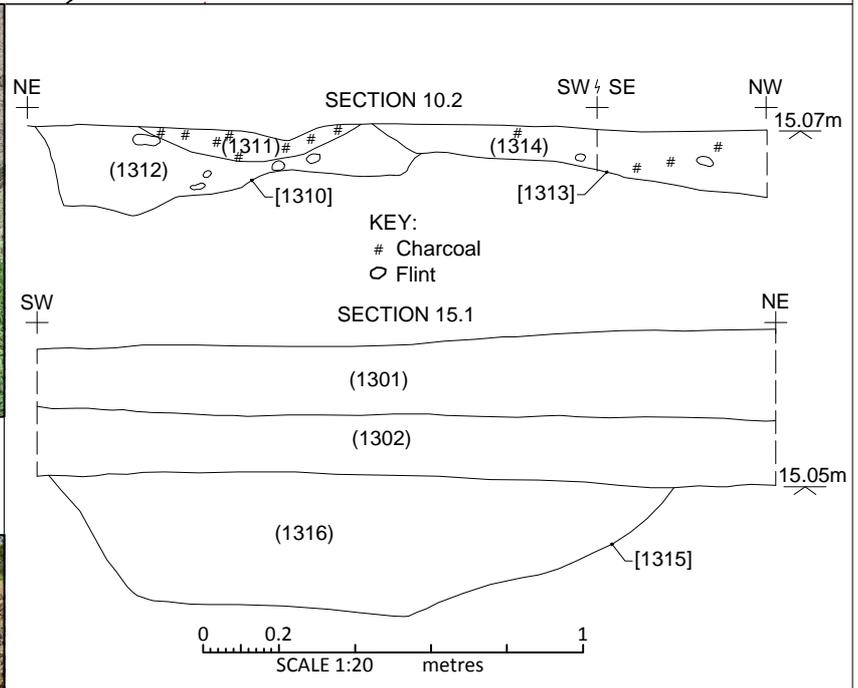


Figure 18: Plan and sections of trench 13 (part 2 of 2).

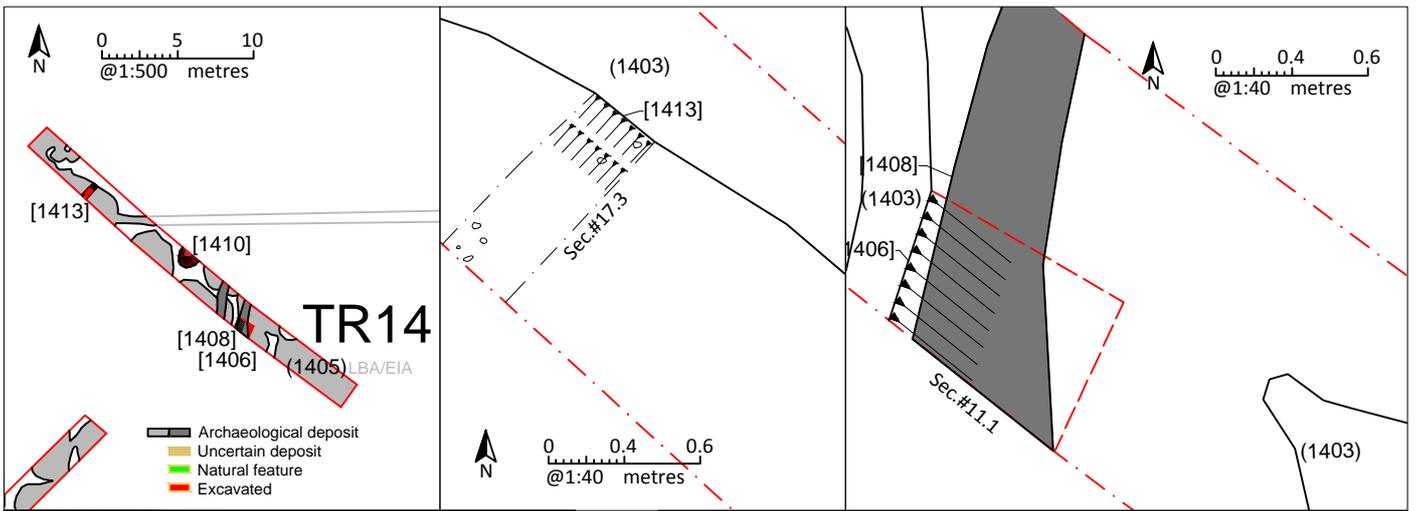


Plate 38: Looking south east at section of ditch 1413; one metre scale.



Plate 39: Looking south west at section of ditch 1406 and modern ditch 1408; one metre scale.



Plate 40: Looking north east at section of terminus 1410; one metre scale.

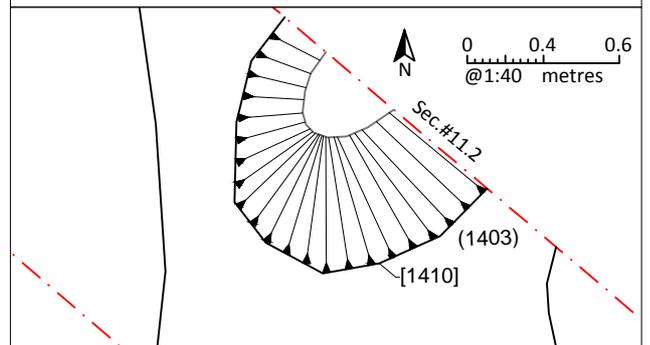
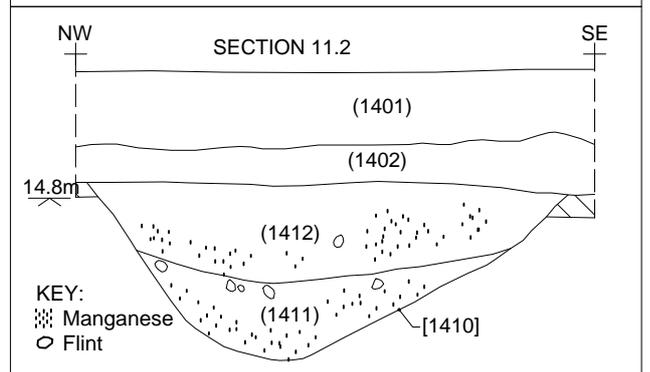
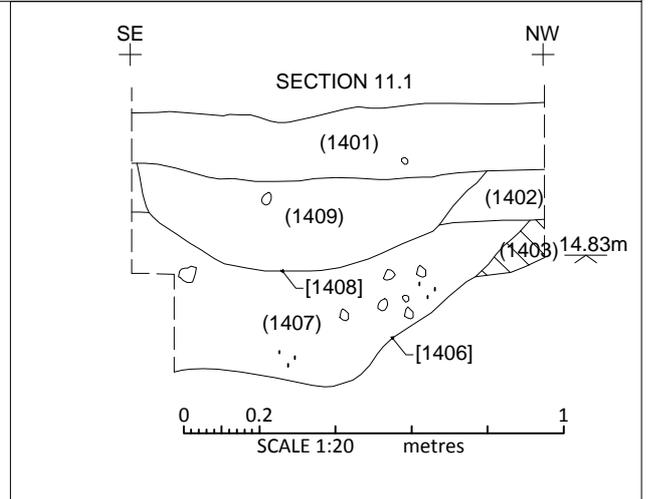
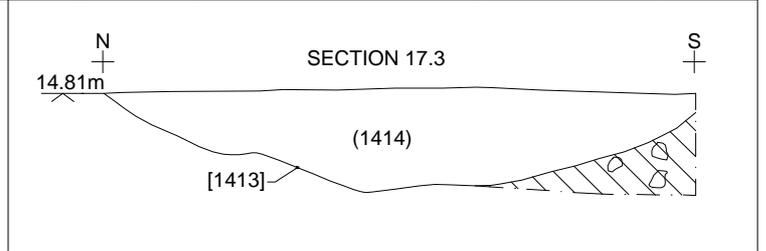


Figure 19: Plan and sections of trench 14

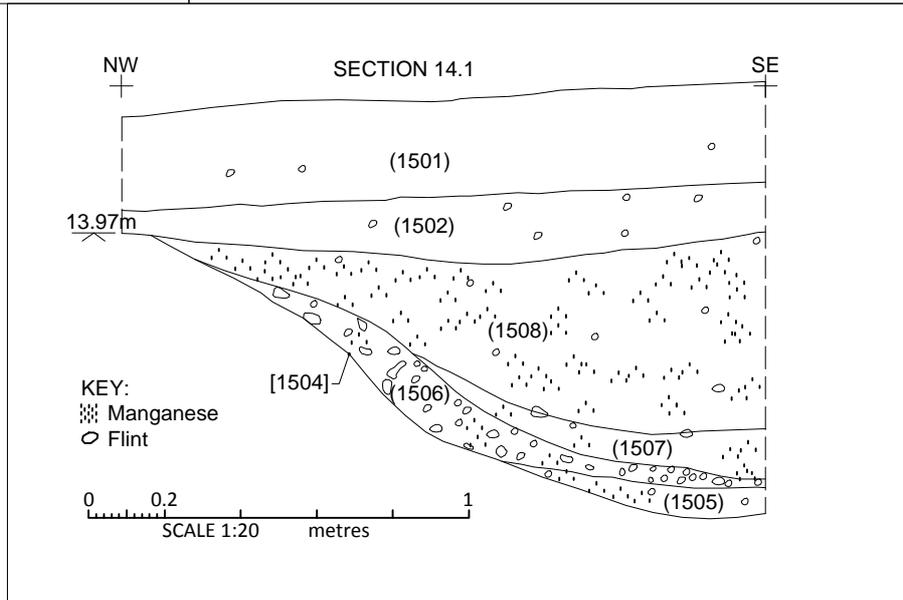
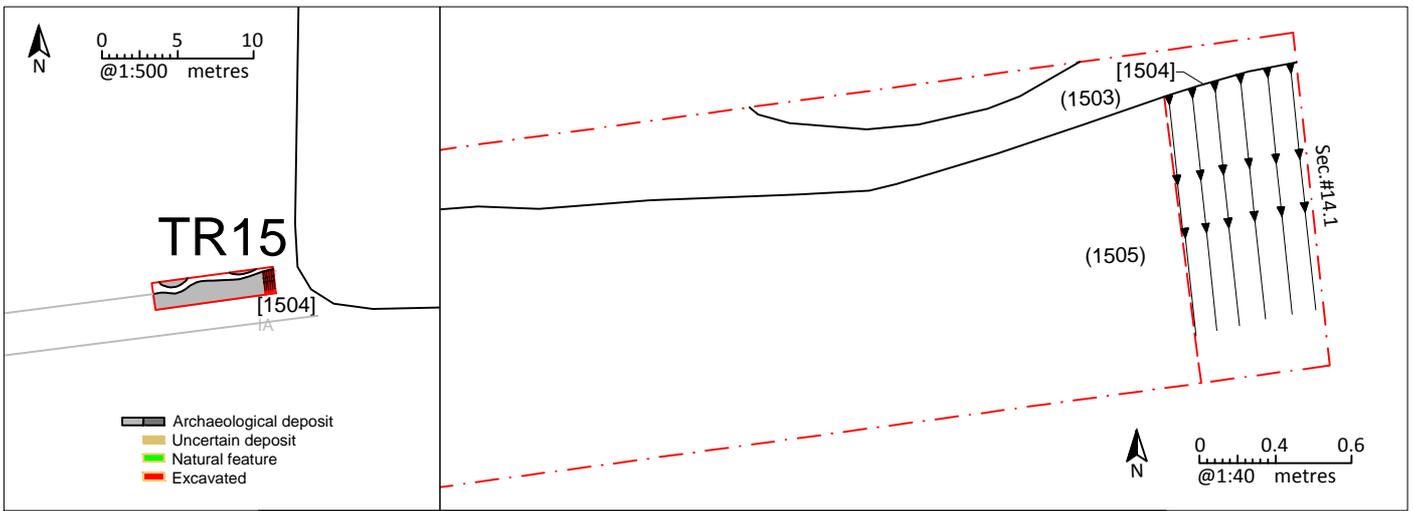


Plate 41: Looking east at trench 15; two metre scale.



Plate 42: Looking east at section of IA ditch 1504; two metre scale.

Figure 20: Plan and sections of trench 15

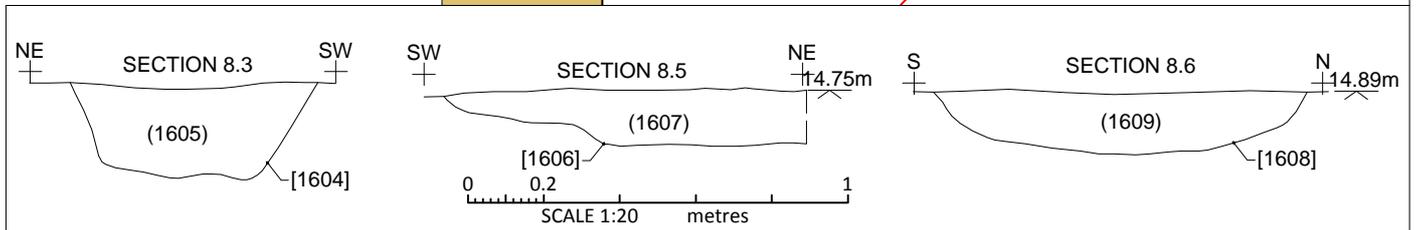
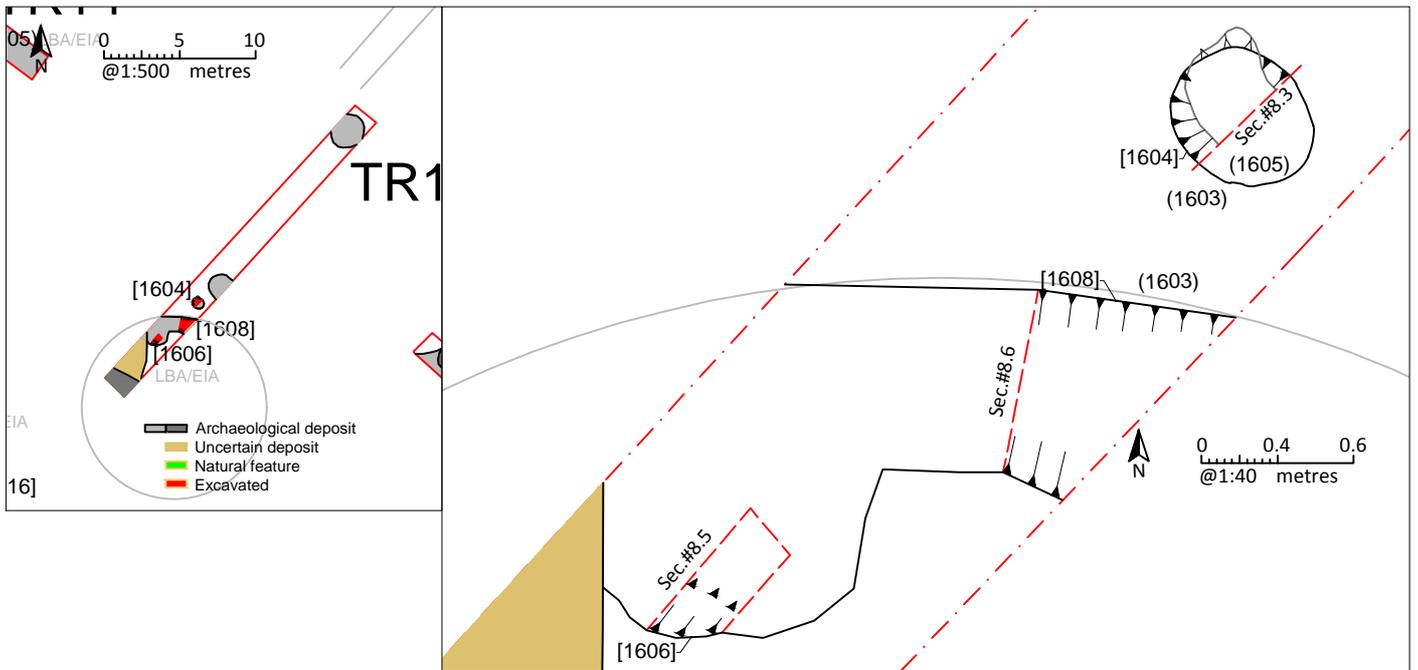


Plate 43: Looking north east at trench 16; two metre scale.



Plate 44: Looking south east at section of undated pit 1604; half metre scale.

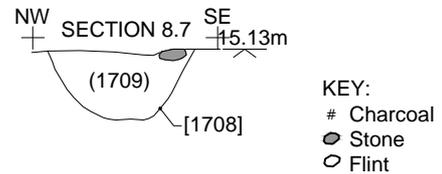
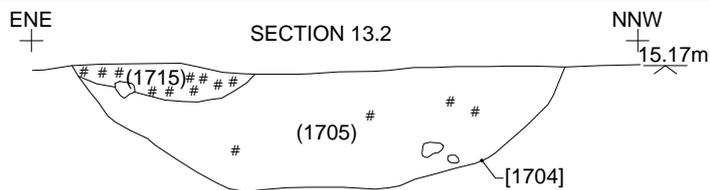
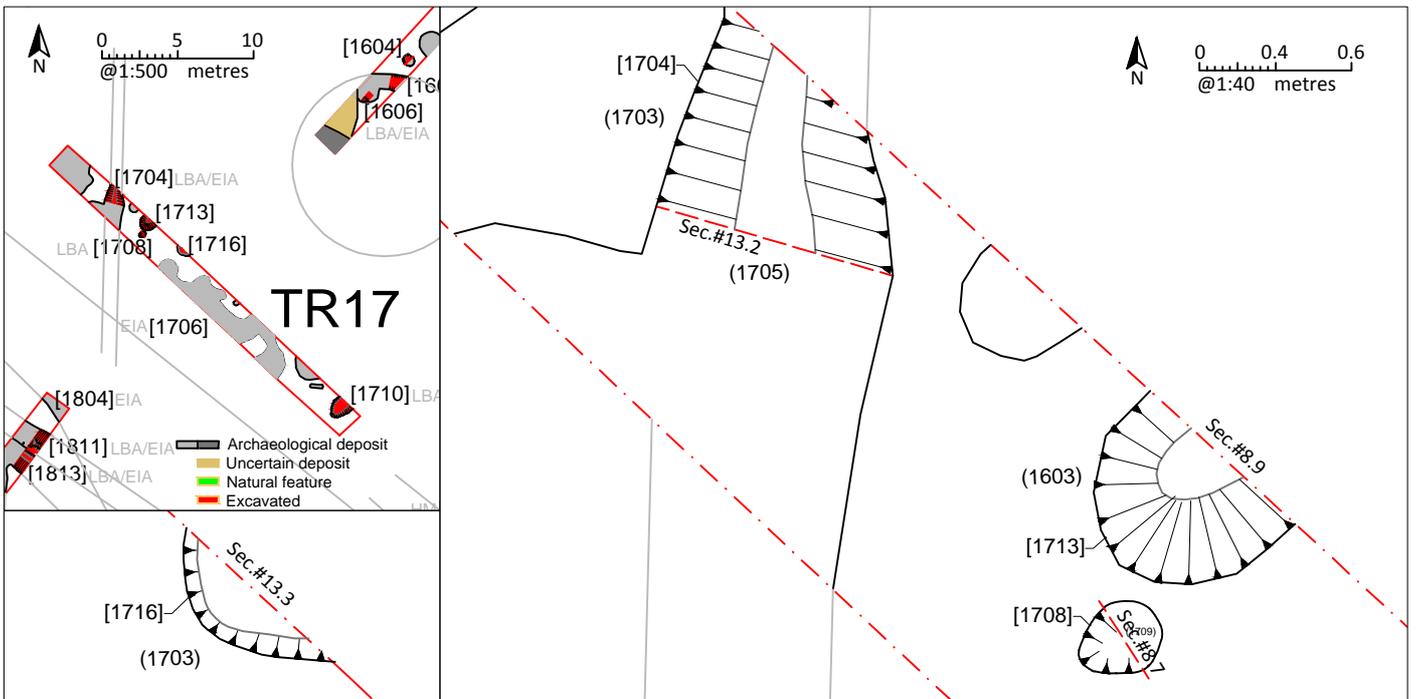


Plate 45: Looking north west at pit 1606; one metre scale.



Plate 46: Looking south east at section of undated ditch 1608; one metre scale.

Figure 21: Plan and sections of trench 16



KEY:  
 # Charcoal  
 ● Stone  
 ○ Flint

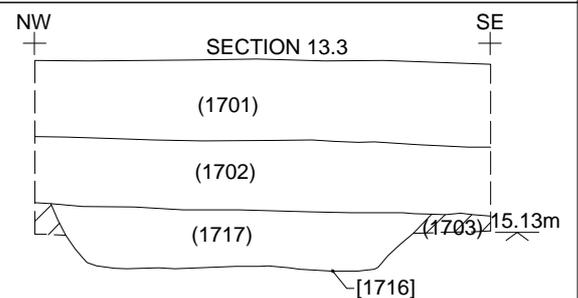
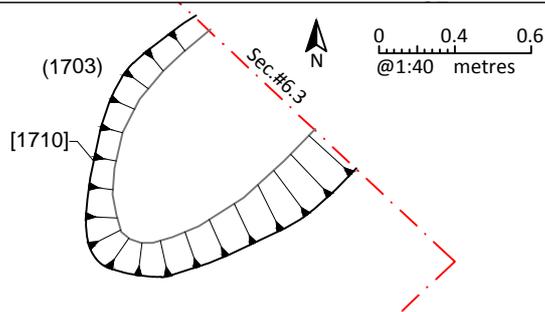
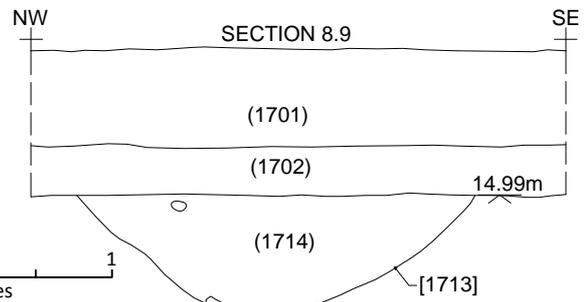
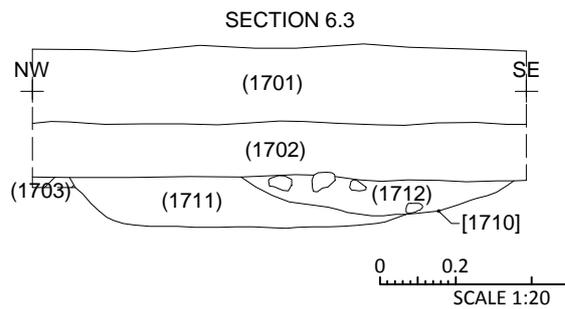


Plate 47: Looking north east at section of LBA/EIA ditch 1704; two one metre scales.



Plate 48: Looking north east at section of LBA post hole 1708; half metre scales.



Plate 49: Looking north east at section of LBA/EIA terminus 1710; one metre scale.

Figure 22: Plan and sections of trench 17

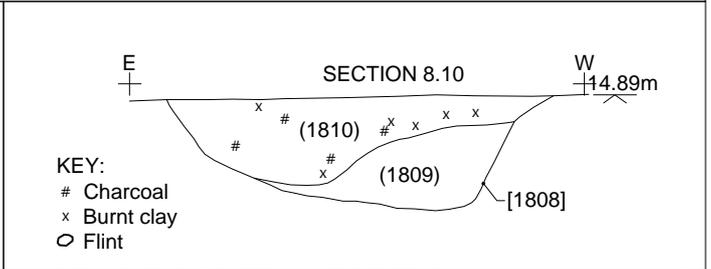
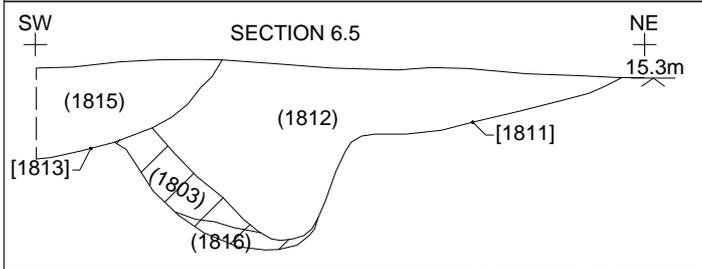
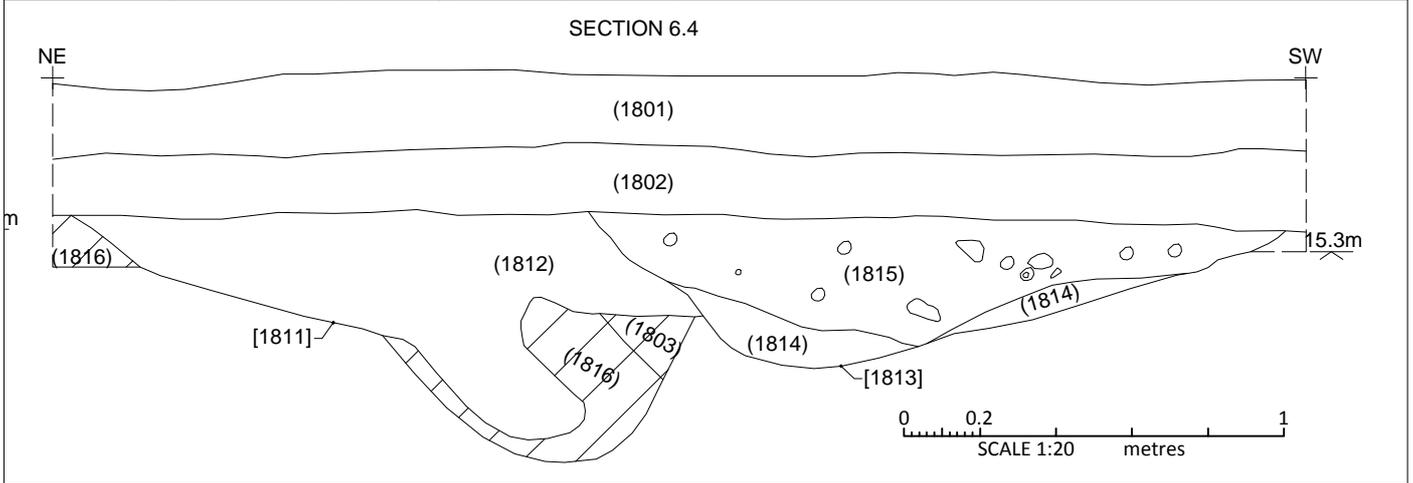
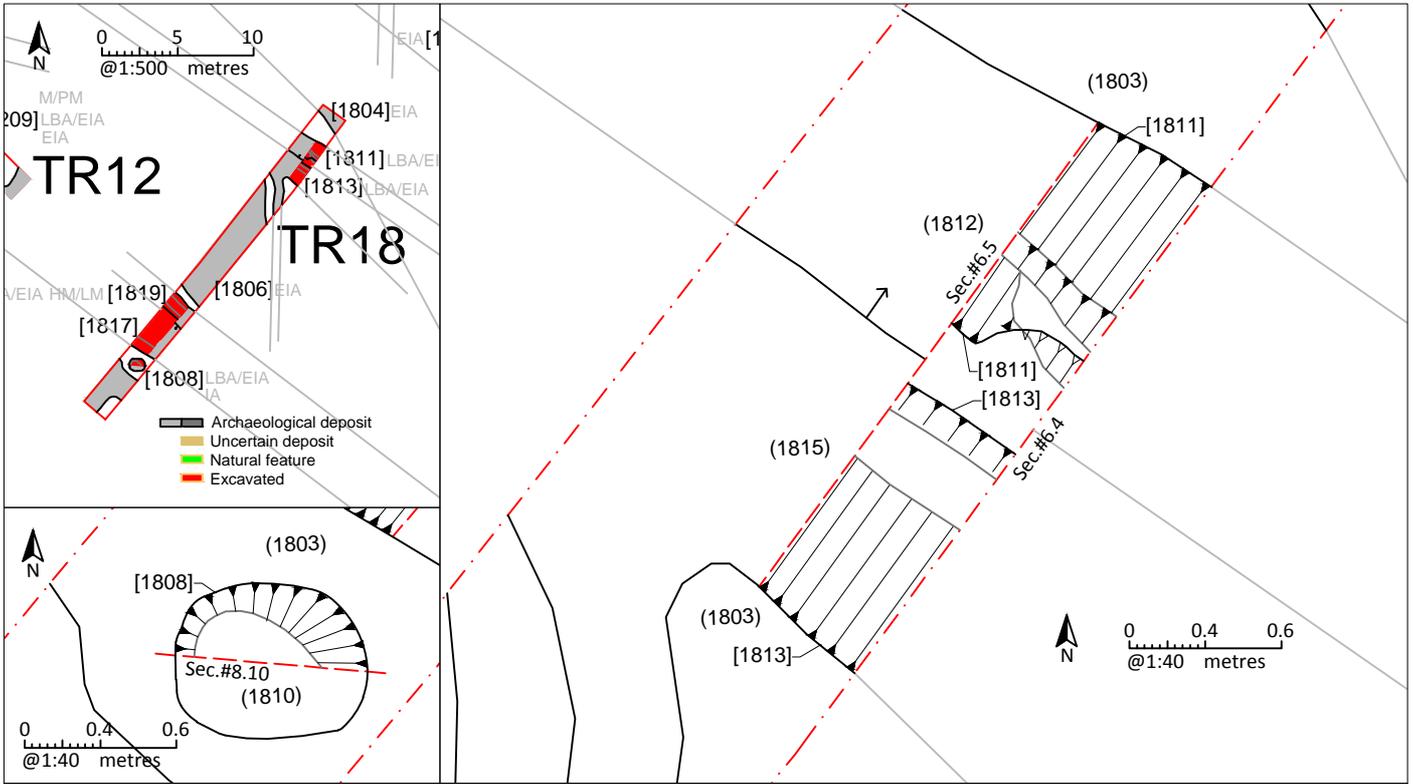


Plate 50: Looking south east at trench 18; two metre scale.

Plate 51: Looking south east at intersecting LBA/EIA ditches 1811 and 1813; two one metre scale.

Plate 52: Looking south at pit 1808; one metre scale.

Figure 23: Plan and sections of trench 18 (part 1 of 2)

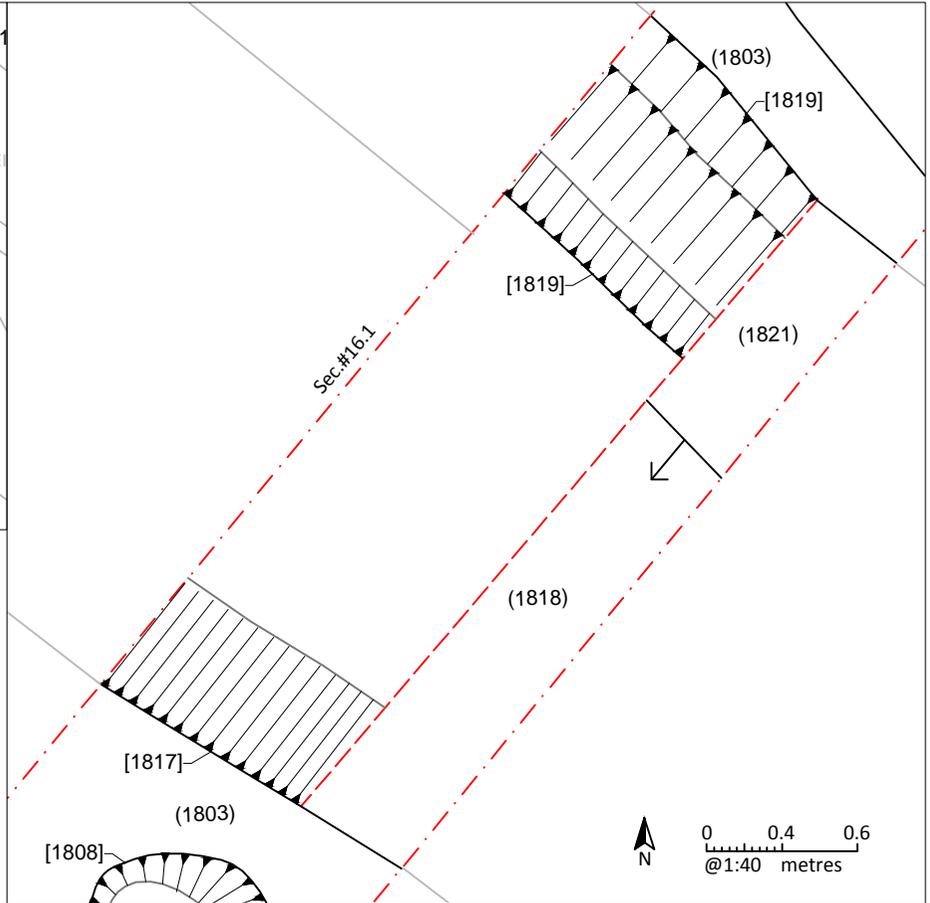
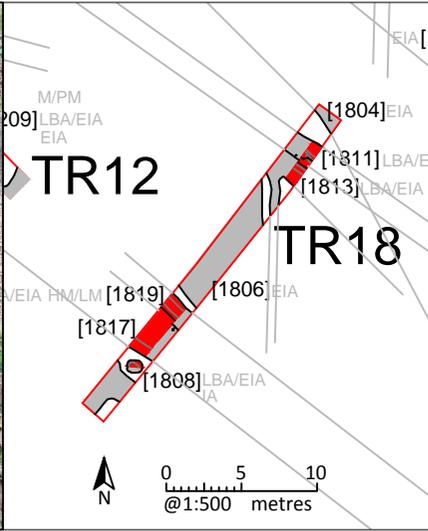


Plate 53: Looking south east at EIA holloway 1817 truncated by HM ditch 1819; three one metre scales.

- Archaeological deposit
- Uncertain deposit
- Natural feature
- Excavated

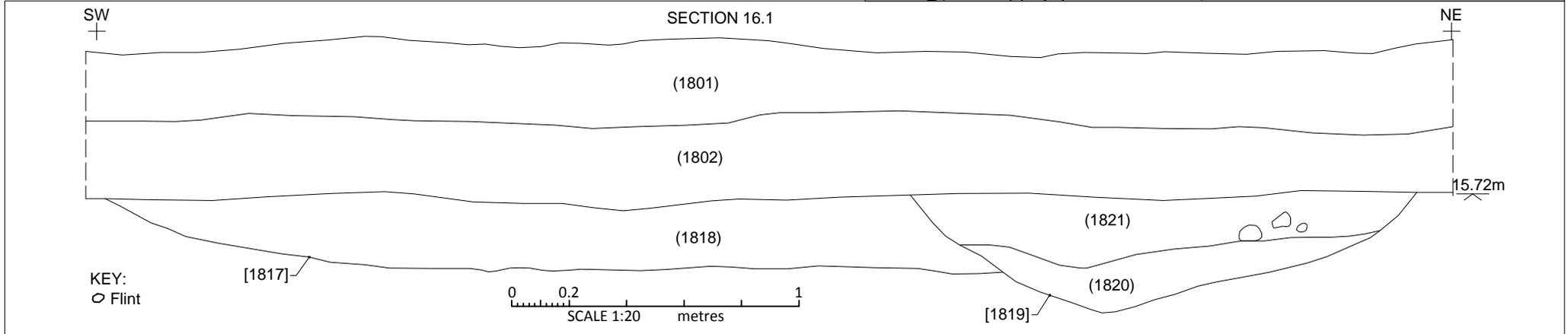


Figure 24: Plan and sections of trench 18 (part 2 of 2)



Plate 54: Looking south west at trench 19; three one metre scales.



Plate 55: Looking north west at section of intersecting features 1919, 1922, 1924, 1926; three one metre scales.

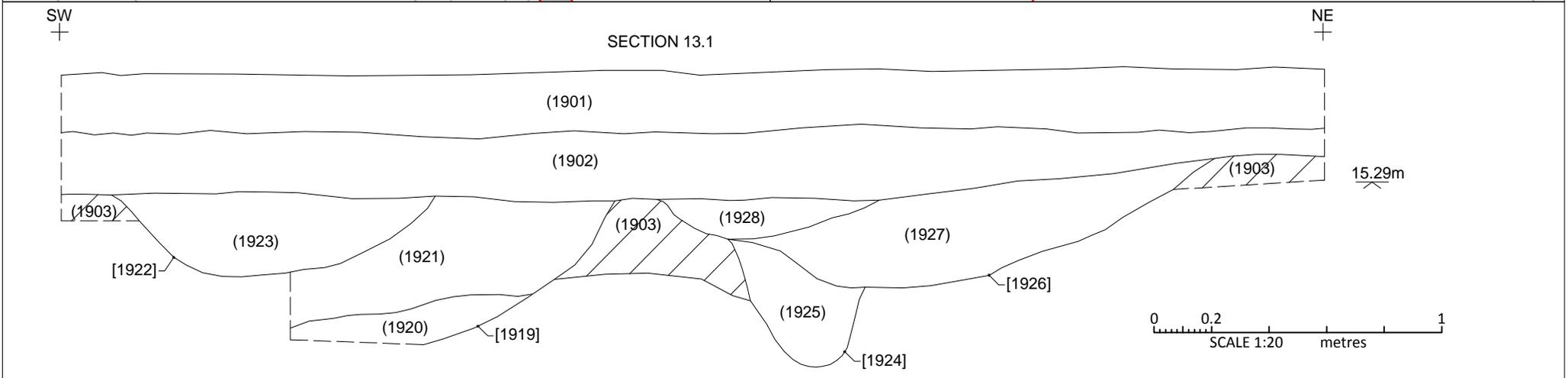
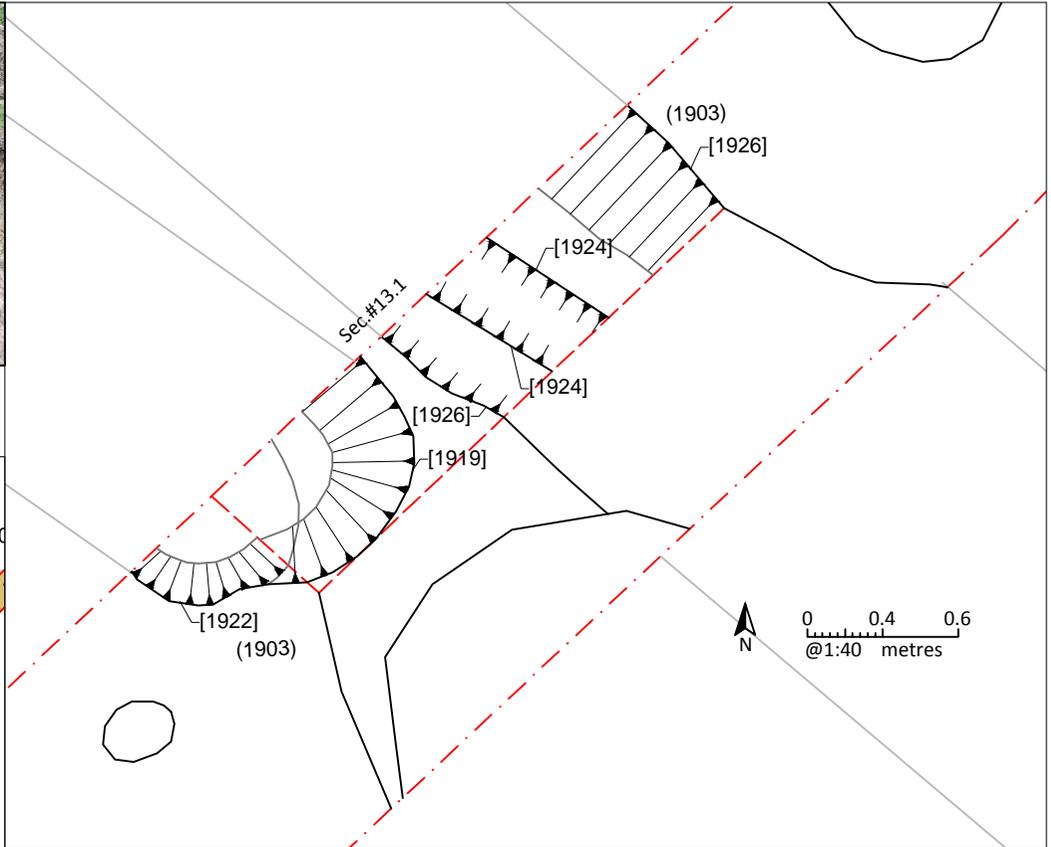
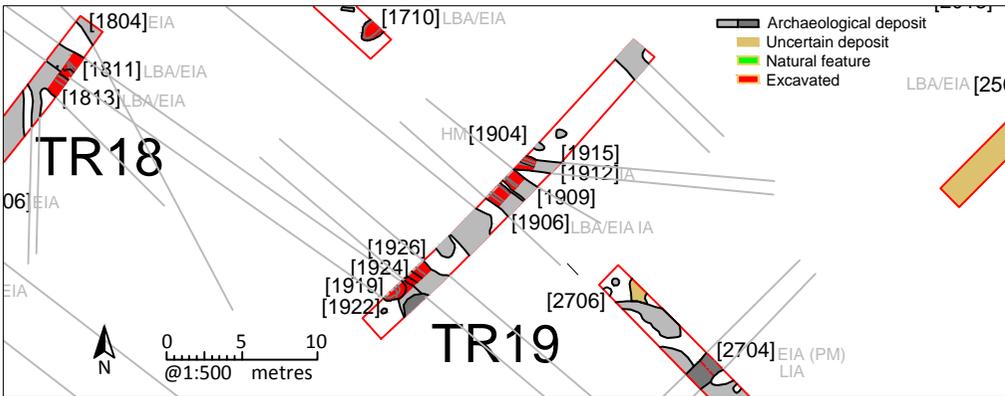


Figure 25: Plan and sections of trench 19 (part 1 of 2)

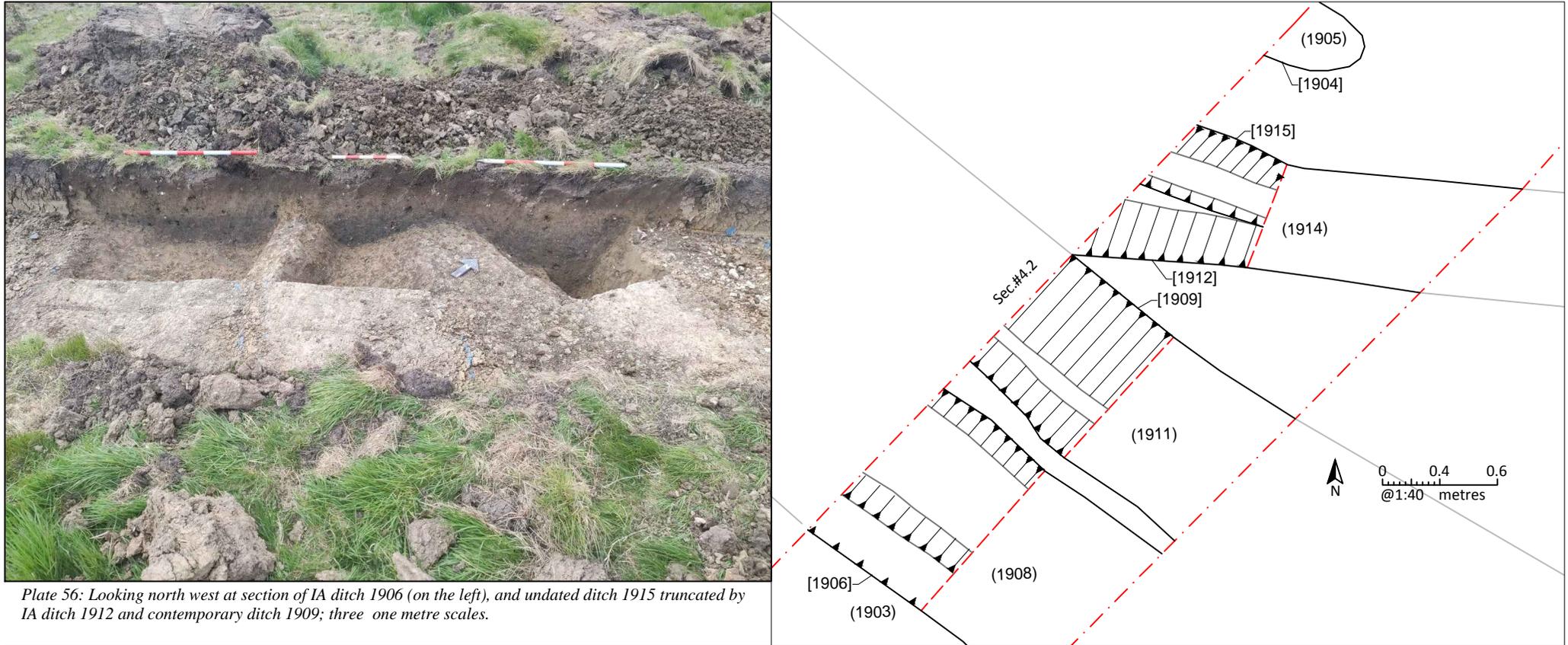


Plate 56: Looking north west at section of IA ditch 1906 (on the left), and undated ditch 1915 truncated by IA ditch 1912 and contemporary ditch 1909; three one metre scales.

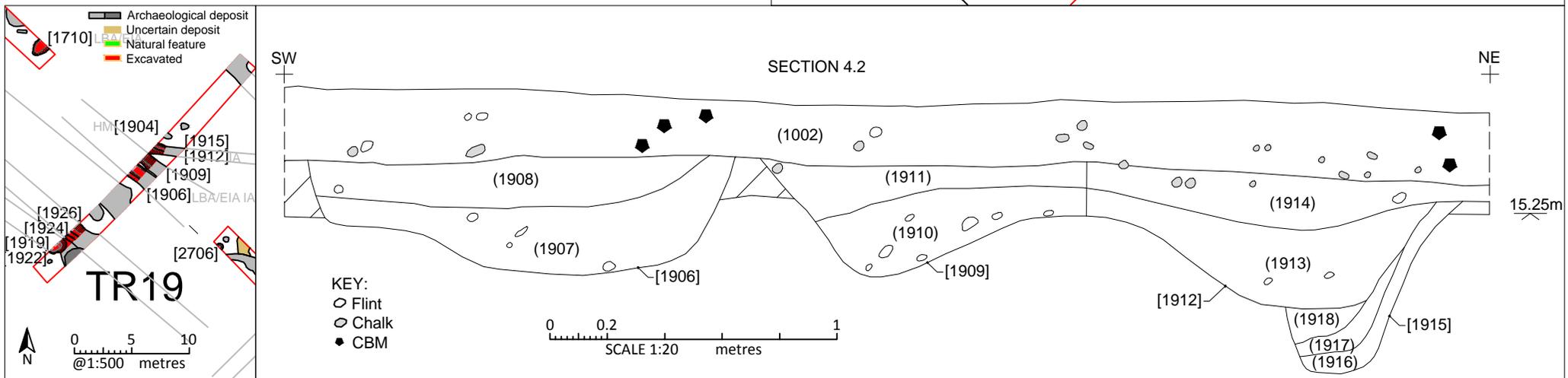


Figure 26: Plan and sections of trench 19 (part 2 of 2)



Plate 57: Looking north west at trench 20; two metre scales.



Plate 58: Looking north east at section of holloway 2013; two metre scale.

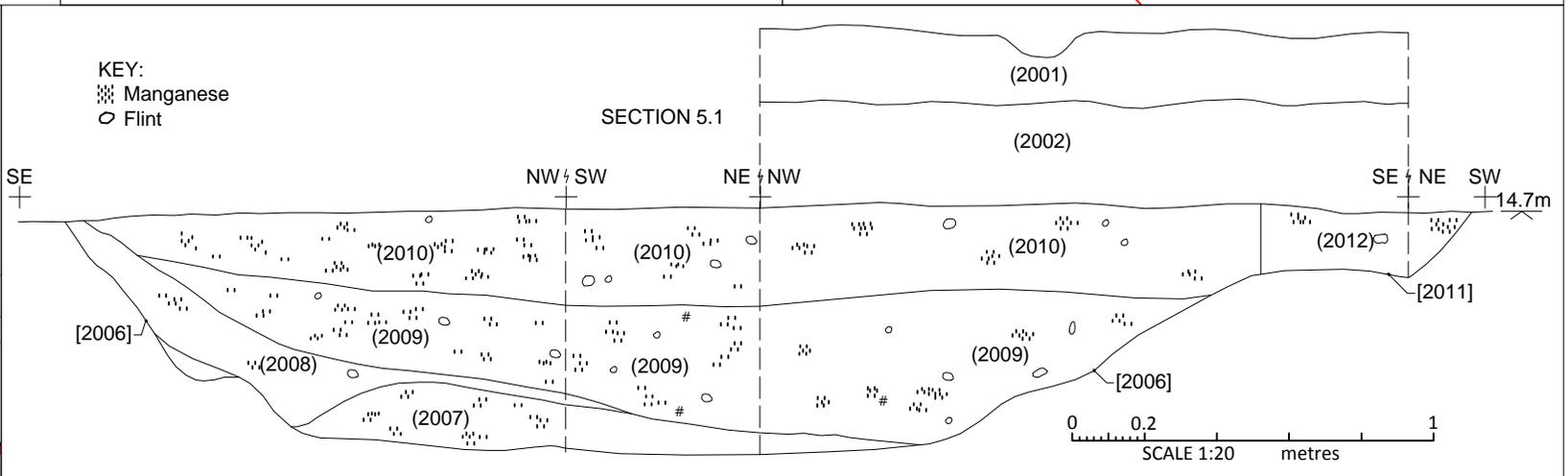
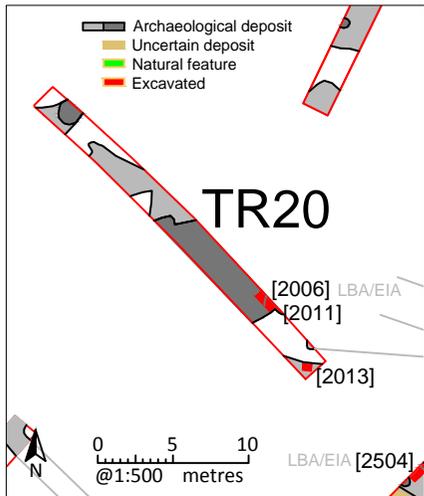
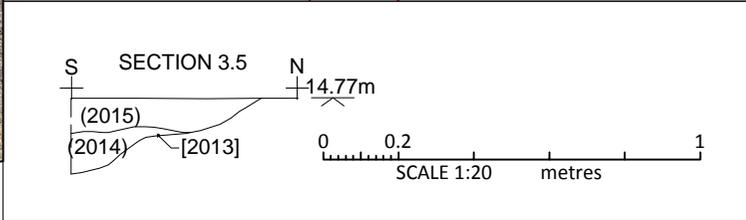
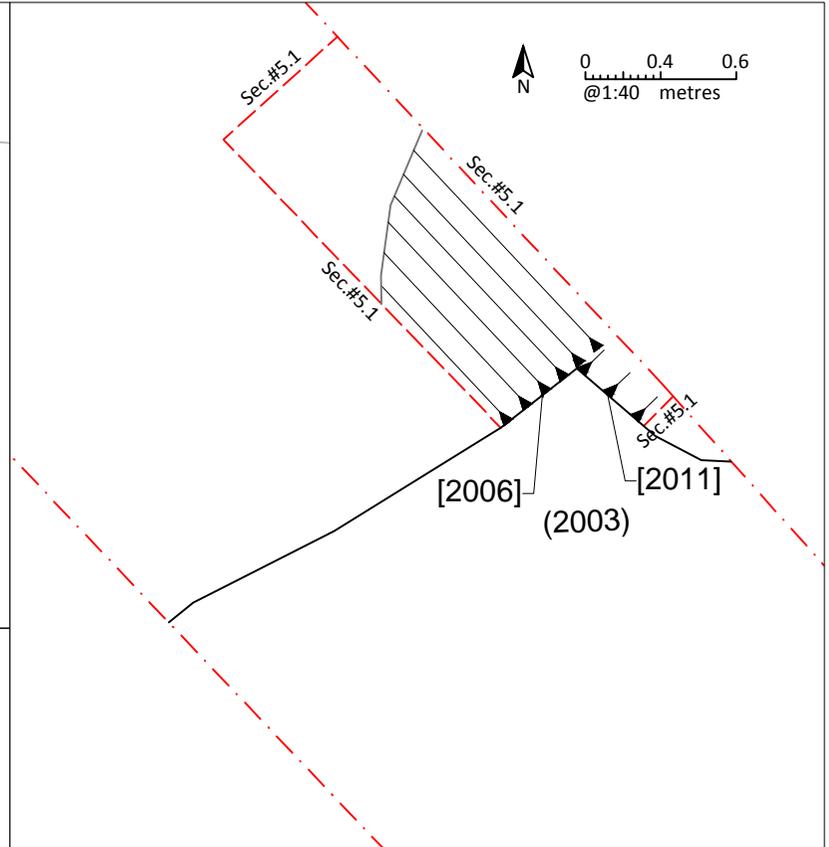
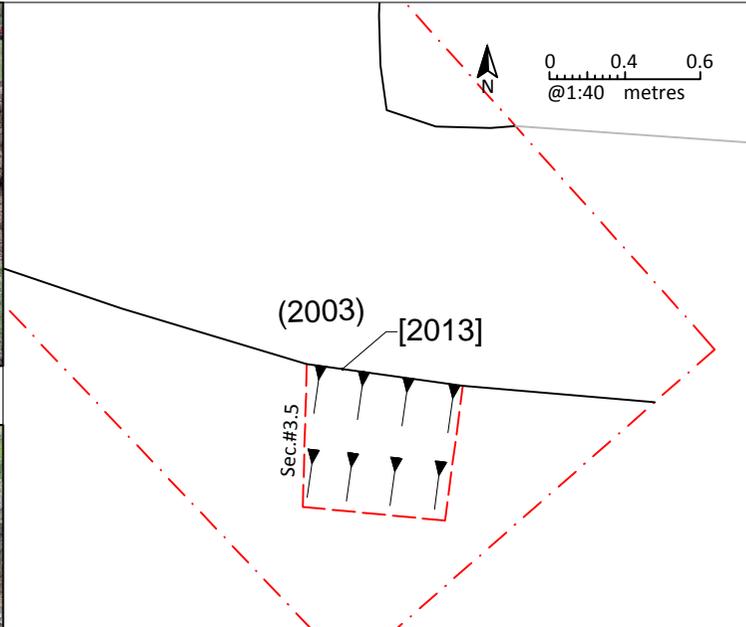


Figure 27: Plan and sections of trench 20

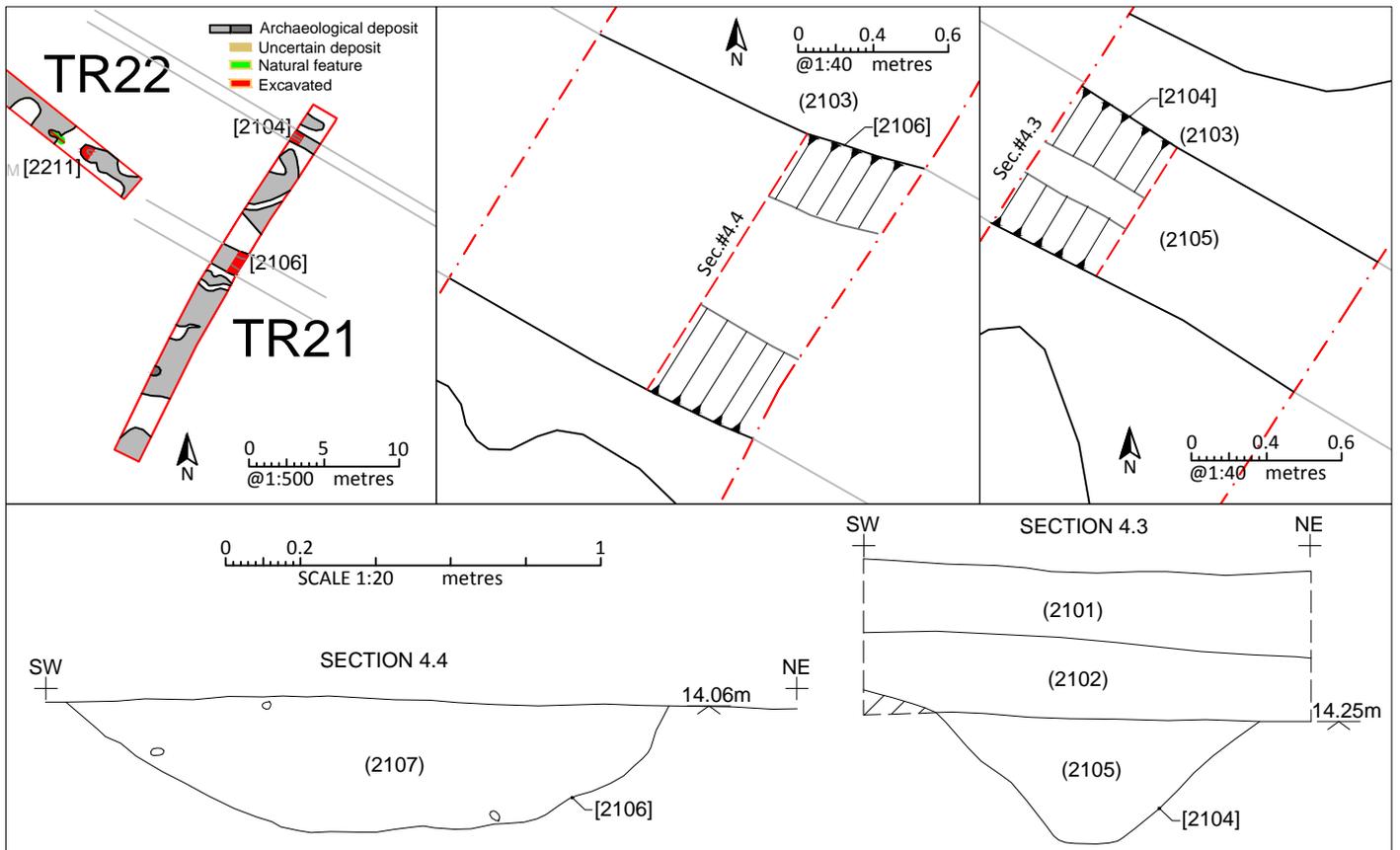


Plate 59: Looking south trench 21; half metres (vertical) and one metre scales.



Plate 60: Looking north west at section of ditch 2104; half metres and one metre scales.



Plate 61: Looking south east at section of ditch 2106 ; one metre (vertical) and two metres scales.

Figure 28: Plan and sections of trench 21



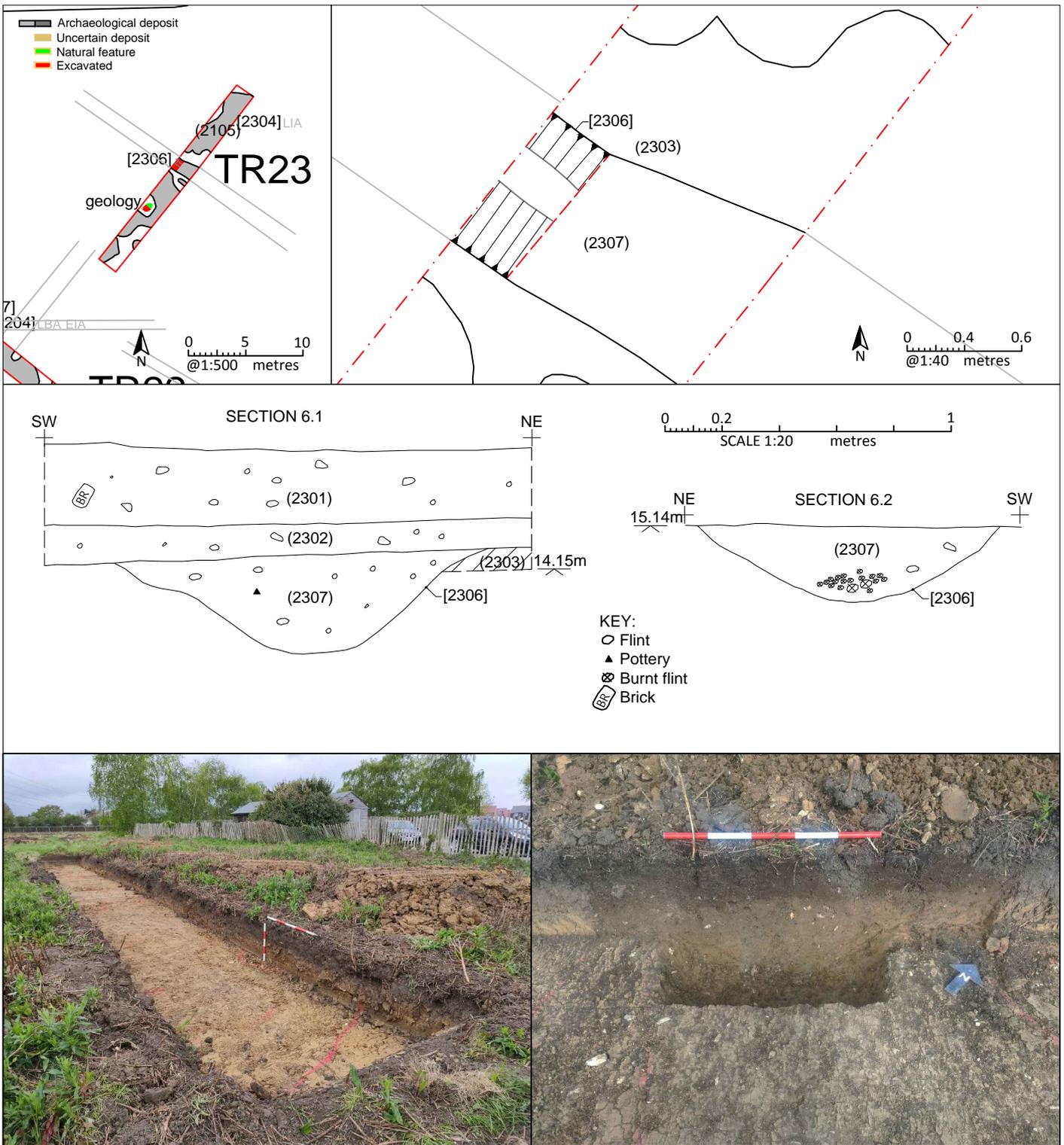


Plate 64: Looking south west at trench 23; half metre (vertical) and one metre scales.

Plate 65: Looking north west at section of ditch 2306; one metre scale.

Figure 30: Plan and sections of trench 23



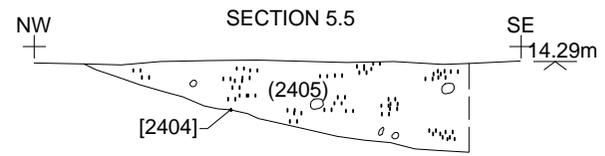
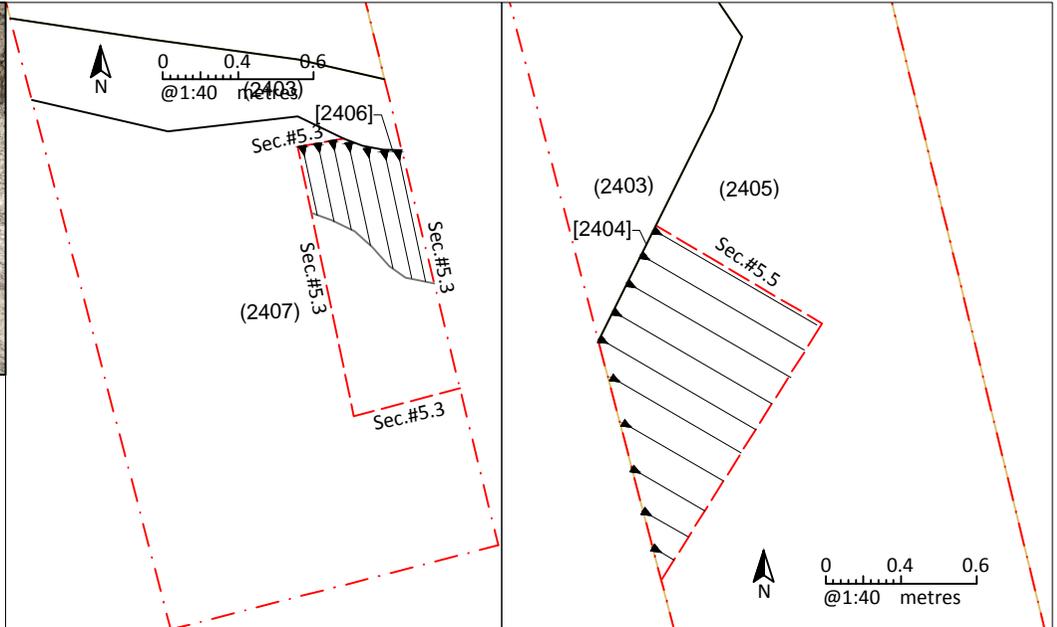
Plate 66: Looking north at trench 24; two metres scale.



Plate 67: Looking east at section of EIA ditch 2406; two one metre scales.



Plate 68: Looking south east at section of EIA ditch 2406; one metre scale.



KEY:  
 ■ Manganese  
 ○ Flint

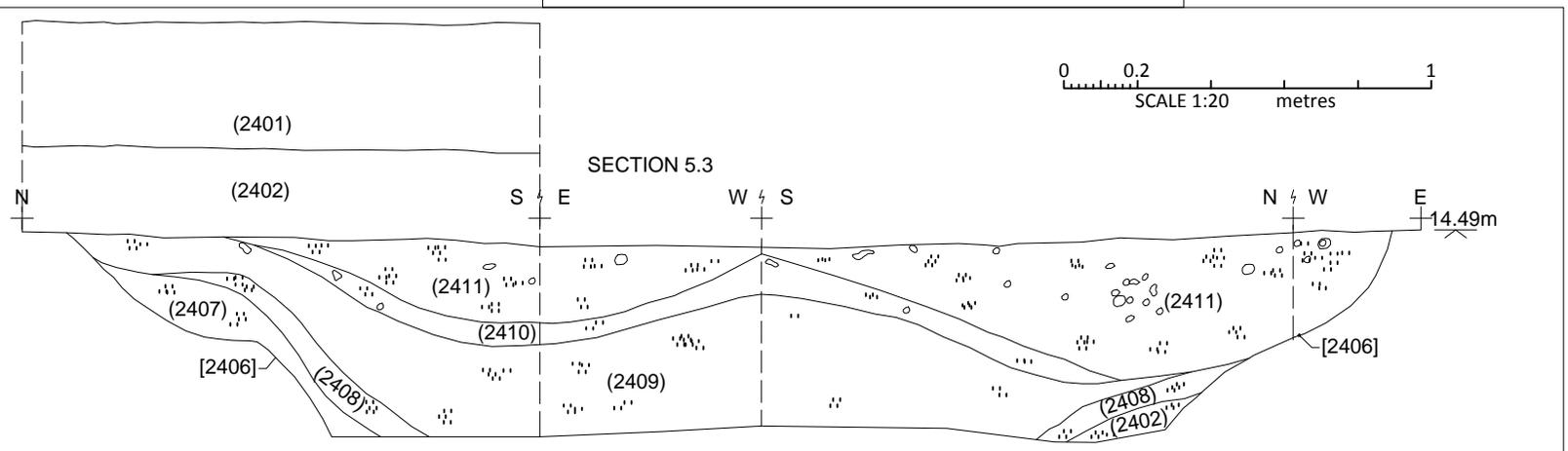
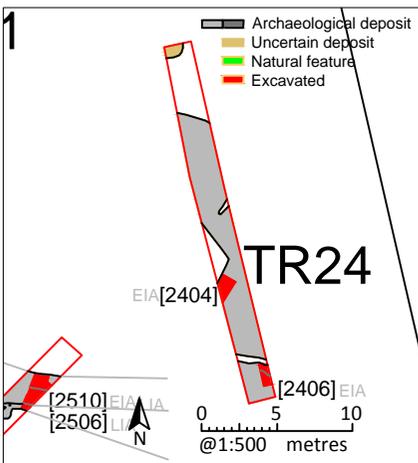


Figure 31: Plan and sections of trench 24

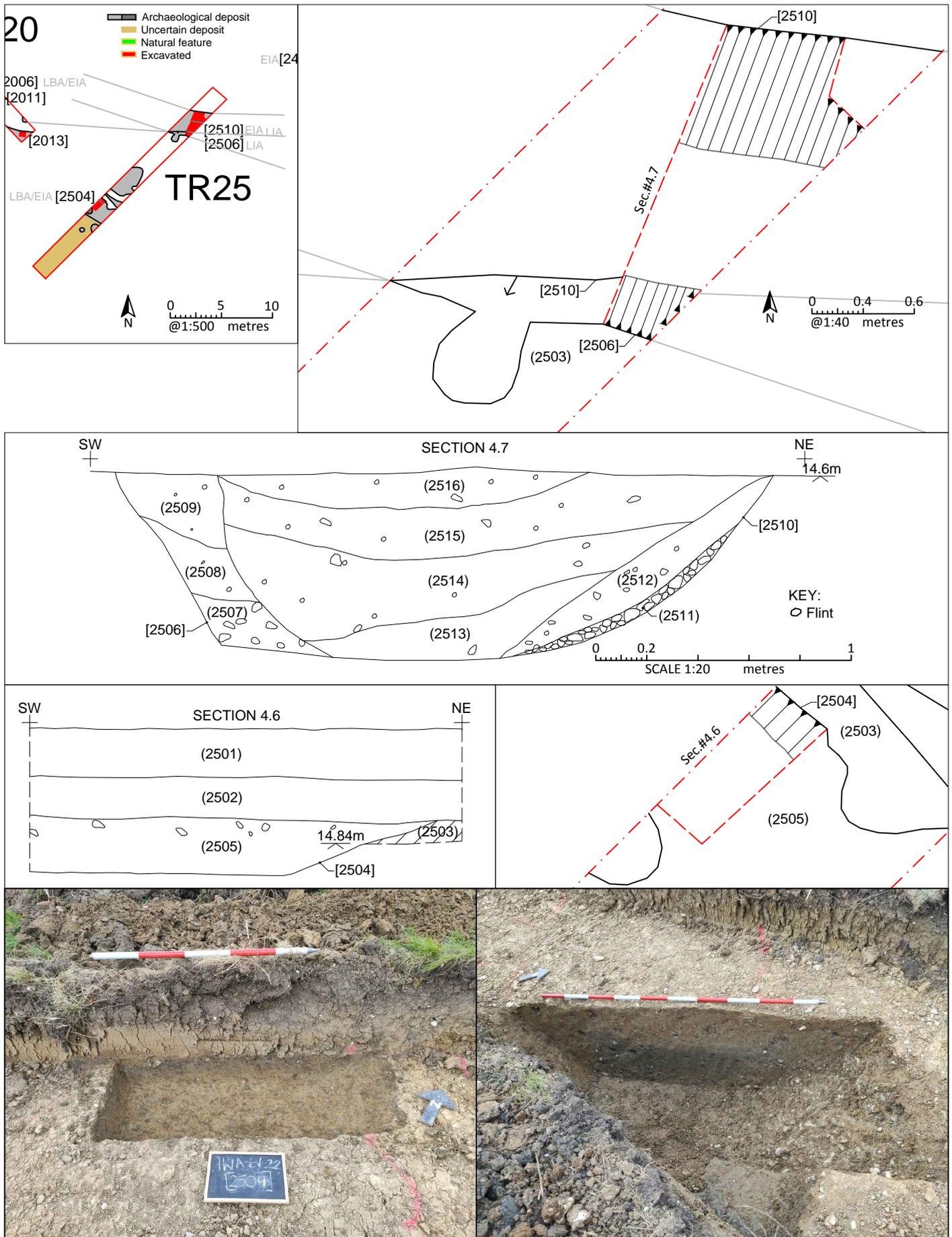


Plate 69: Looking north west at section of holloway 2504; one metre scale.

Plate 70: Looking north west at section of IA ditch 2506 truncated by LIA ditch 2510; two metre scale.

Figure 32: Plan and sections of trench 25

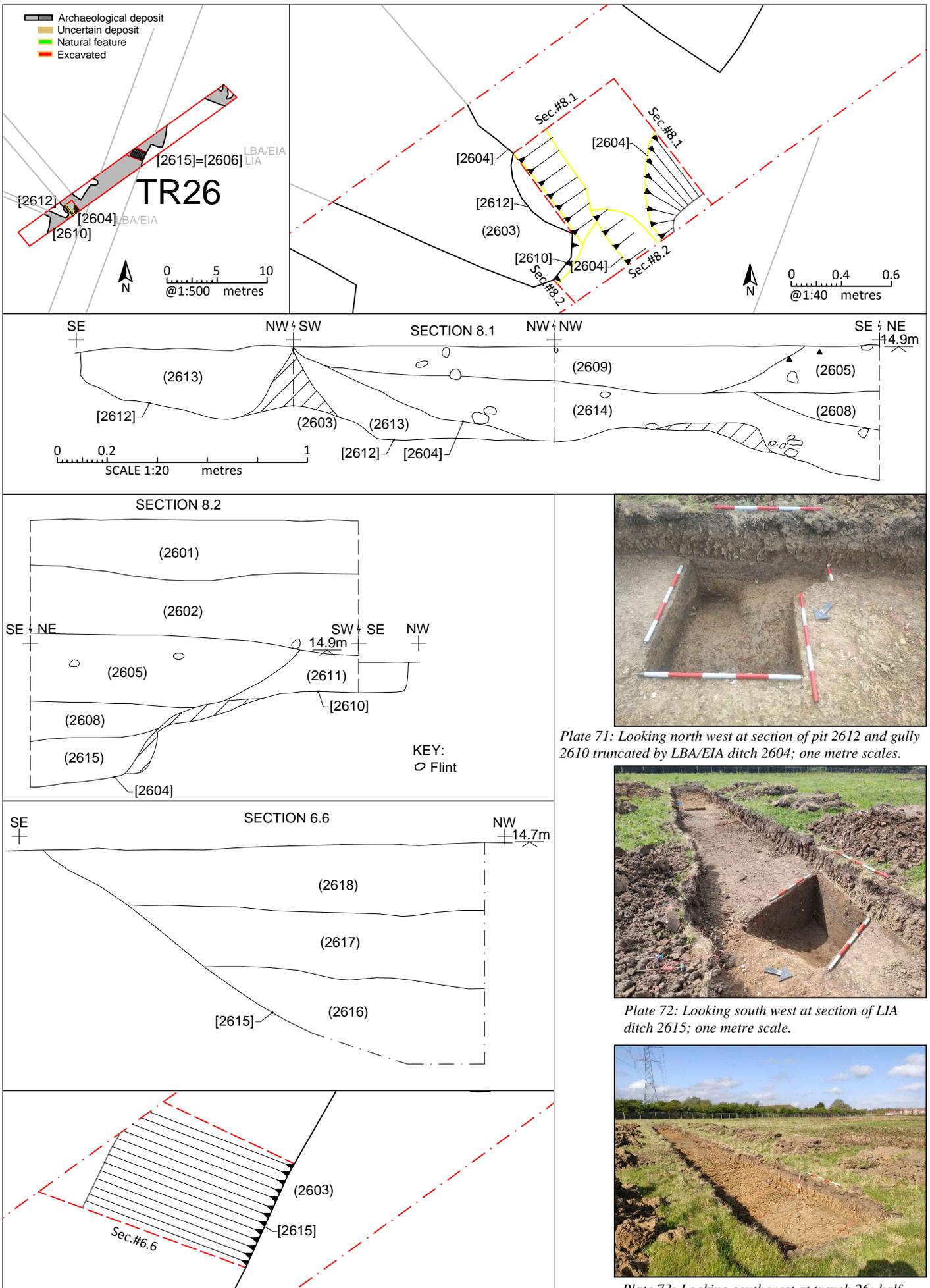


Figure 33: Plan and sections of trench 26

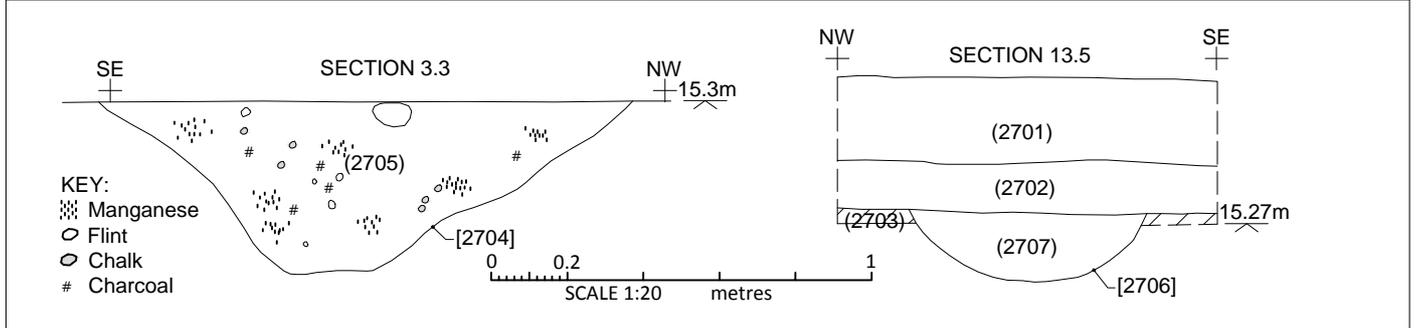
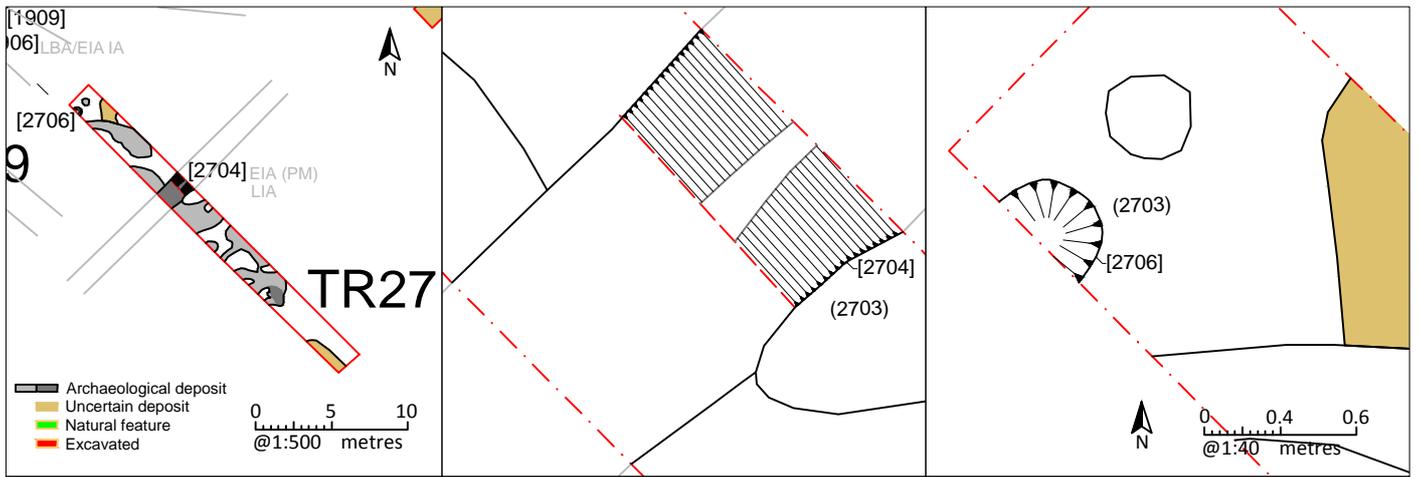


Plate 74: Looking south west at section of EPM ditch 2704; one metre scale.



Plate 75: Looking south west at section of terminus 2706; one metre scale.



Plate 76: Looking north west at trench 27; two metres scale.

Figure 34: Plan and sections of trench 27