

Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent

EVALUATION REPORT

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Planning Application Number: 18/01592/AS



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Abstract

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by Clarus Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent. The archaeological works were monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

The fieldwork was carried out in two phases which took place in January and March 2022 respectively and in accordance with an archaeological specification (SWAT Archaeology 2021) submitted to the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of works.

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of thirty five trenches (phase 1: 20 trenches and phase 2: 15 trenches), which encountered a simple stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology to a depth of approximately 0.4m.

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of archaeological features comprising several ditches and pits of which two contained evidence of in-situ burning. Infrequent dating evidence points out to an Early Medieval Period. A residual piece of flint of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date and only one residual Late Iron Age to Roman potsherd implies a potential for features of these periods to be present within the proposed development area and/or within immediate surrounding area.

It has been demonstrated that the proposed development will have an impact on archaeological remains. Further mitigation is proposed. The ultimate scope and extend of further works will be negotiated with Senior Archaeological Officer separately in due course.

Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank to the Client for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Ben Found and Simon Mason, Senior Archaeological Officers from Kent County Council for their advice and assistance.

Pawel Cichy managed the archaeological fieldwork. Dan Worsley completed the second phase of evaluation. Site survey and illustrations were produced by Malgorzata Cichy and this report was written by Pawel Cichy. On behalf of the client project was directed by Dr Paul Wilkinson, PhD, MCIFA.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SWAT archaeology was commissioned by the client to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent. Archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of archaeological remains within proposed development area and recommended additional mitigation measures. Fieldwork was carried out in two phases. First phase has covered new houses plots and second phase the area of the access road.

1.2 Project background

1.2.1 The land has outline planning permission (18/01592/AS) for the outline application for the erection of 10 no. dwellings to consider access, layout and landscaping.

1.2.2 Prior to evaluation archaeological WSI was prepared by SWAT.

1.3 Planning background

1.3.1 An outline planning application was granted on the 5th August 2020 (Application 18/01592/AS) for the outline application for the erection of 10 no. Dwellings to consider access, layout and landscaping. A Condition of archaeological works were attached to Outline Planning Decision Notice and it was:

(29) Prior to the commencement of development the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, will secure and implement:

i) archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and:

ii) 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 by the Local Planning Authority.

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

- 1.3.2 On the basis of the present archaeological information KCCHC advising Ashford Borough Council recommended that the proposed development should be subject to a programme of archaeological works in order to clarify the archaeological elements within the site.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1.1 The application site is located in the village of Great Chart and the civil parish of Great Chart with Singleton and the Ashford Borough in the county of Kent and the south east of England. Great Chart is situated 2 miles (3.2 km) west of Ashford. The proposed development area (PDA) is used as a golf course and is formed of around 29 acres of grassland bounded to the east and west by dense woodland, to the north by agricultural fields and to the south by the railway. The site is characterised as Golf Courses, surrounded by pre 1810 woodland and late medieval to post medieval rectilinear fields with wavy boundaries. The site was more or less level with an OD height of about 39m OD. Although all three fields (now a golf course) were walked as part of the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and no archaeological features or artefacts were identified.

2.1.2 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the site is set on bedrock geology of Weald Clay Formation (Mudstone), a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 125 to 134 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. These rocks were formed in marginal coastal plains with lakes and swamps periodically inundated by the sea; or estuaries and deltas, and shallow seas. No superficial deposits are recorded and the OD height is about 40m aOD.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1.1 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located close to a number of archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database and in the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of Development at Great Chart Golf Course, Bear's Lane, Ashford (Swat Archaeology 18/08/2016).

3.1.2 There are two records for Bronze Age period held at the Kent HER that fall within the assessment area. A copper alloy axe (MKE56150) was found c. 450m northeast of the PDA and a copper alloy awl was also found c. 480m northeast (MKE93964).

- 3.1.3 There is one record dating to the Anglo-Saxon period within the assessment area, a silver sceatta coin dating from 710-750 AD found c.480m northeast of the PDA.
- 3.1.4 There are two records dating to the medieval period within the assessment area both found c. 180m northwest of the PDA. Both archaeological finds were of copper alloy vessels dated 1400-1700 AD (MKE93962, MKE93963).
- 3.1.5 The PDA is located c. 80m south of the London and Dover Railway, which was completed in 1844 AD. There are also two post-medieval farmsteads c. 500m from the PDA on the Kent HER. Outfarm is an isolated field barn with no associated yard, the farmstead having been demolished (MKE87269). Rippers Cross farm is a regular courtyard multiyard with detached elements and a farmhouse in a central position set in an isolated position retaining less than 50% of its original form (MKE87267).

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 General Aims

4.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological evaluation 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 objectives of the archaeological evaluation were 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

Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern history of the PDA and also any other Prehistoric, Roman and later archaeological activity.

- 4.2.2 The programme of archaeological work was carried out in a phased approach and commenced with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase 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 35 machine excavated trenches (25m x 1.8m) in a layout agreed with the Senior County Archaeologist. The area of investigation is the proposed development area.

- 5.1.2 The site plan showing excavated trench layout is attached (Figure 4). The trenches were machine excavated down to the first recognisable archaeological horizon or natural geology.

- 5.1.3 In addition a RAMS (Risk Assessment and Method Statement) was produced before the work started on site and issued to all interested parties with itemised additional safeguards during the present pandemic of Coronavirus.

- 5.1.4 There was also an allowance of c.5m of contingency trenching on each individual plot which could be used if it would help address the aims set out above. Finally there was no need for any contingency trenching to be activated.

- 5.1.5 A soil sampling programme was put in place to facilitate palaeo-environmental analysis, bulk screening, and soil micromorphology in the case that suitable deposits were identified (within the limits of the objectives of this evaluation), from which data can be recovered (see also KCC Evaluation Specification Part B: 9. Archaeological Science and Environmental Sampling).

- 5.1.6 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.

5.1.7 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 providing a record of excavated trenches 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 4. 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 1:2000 is shown on Figures 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 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 GNSS RTK survey kit at 1cm+1ppm accuracy and located to the National Grid.

7 RESULTS

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Archaeological evaluation at Bears Lane, Ashford comprising 35 trenches has recorded the presence of archaeological remains within proposed development areas. Revealed archaeological features comprised several ditches with discrete features. Two pits contained evidence for in-situ burning. One residual worked flint, one residual LIA/ERB potsherd and about 7 Early Medieval to Medieval pot sherds were recovered in the course of investigation.

7.2 Positive Trenches

7.2.1 Trench 1 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 12.5metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.37metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (103) comprising firmly compacted light yellow-brown clay. Two field ditches were exposed within southern extent of this trench. Feature [104] comprised N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base, located on a gentle slope the ditch might be a naturally formed water channel. It measured 1.1metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (105) comprising firmly compacted, mid brown-grey, silty-clay with frequent manganese flecks. Ditch [106] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 1.5metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (107) comprising firmly compacted mid brownish grey silty-clay with frequent manganese flecks. Fill derived as a result from gradual over time silting and fresh water standing within the feature what is evident in form of manganese nodules and the ditch can be naturally formed water channel as it did not contained any anthropogenic inclusions.

7.2.2 Trench 7 was placed in south-eastern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 23metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.3metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (703) comprising firmly compacted light yellow-brown clay. Trench has exposed a Pit [704] comprising sub-circular cut with very shallow sides and almost flat base. Feature measured 1.25metres by

1.12metres and 0.06metres in depth and its backfill sequence comprised two deposits. Primary fill context (705) was burnt in-situ poorly sorted black and red clay. It measured 0.05metres in depth and 0.02metres in average thickness and was capped by fill (706) comprising firmly compacted, poorly-sorted dark-grey and black mixture of silty-clay ash and charcoal. An environmental bulk samples were acquired from these fills

7.2.3 Trench 9 was placed in south-eastern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 15metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.45metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (903) comprising firmly compacted light yellow-brown clay. A Ditch [904] was exposed within western extent of this trench. Feature comprised N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and uneven base. It measured 0.8metres in width by 0.2metres in depth and was filled-in by context (905) comprising firmly compacted mottled orange-brown and light-grey silty-clay with frequent manganese and occasional small stones. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting.

7.2.4 Trench 10 was placed in south-eastern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 13metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.41metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (1003) comprising firmly compacted light yellow-brown clay. A Ditch [1004] was exposed within southern extent of this trench. Feature comprised E-W aligned linear cut with shallow sides and uneven base. It measured 2metres in width by 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1005) comprising firmly compacted mid brown-grey, silty-clay with moderate amount of manganese. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting.

7.2.5 Trench 11 was placed in south-eastern part of the site in N-S alignment and measured 19.5metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.36metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (1103) comprising firmly compacted light yellow-brown clay. A Ditch [1104] was exposed within southern extent of this trench. Feature comprised E-W aligned linear cut with shallow sides and uneven base. It measured 2metres in width by 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1105) comprising firmly Firm compaction, mid brownish grey, silty clay

with moderate amount of manganese. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting.

- 7.2.6 Trench 19 was placed in south-western part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 13metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.41metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (1903) comprising firmly compacted mid orange-brown silty-clay. Trench has exposed a Ditch [1904] comprising an N-S aligned linear cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.4metres in width and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (1905) comprising firmly compacted grey-brown, silty-clay with moderate amount of manganese. Deposit derived as a result from general overtime silting.
- 7.2.7 Trench 20 was placed in south-western part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 16.7metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. Trench has exposed natural geology context (2003) comprising firmly compacted mid orange-brown silty-clay. A Pit [2004] was exposed in southern part of this trench. Feature had irregular shape in plan (although it was not fully exposed), steep sides and uneven base. It measured 2.6metres by 0.75metres and 0.58metres in depth and was filled in by a sequence comprising 3 deposits. Context (2005) comprised light grey silty-clay with moderate amount of charcoal lumps (up to 4cm) concentrated within lowest part of the fill. Context (2006) comprised light-brown mottled grey silty-clay with occasional charcoal and manganese and was capped by fill (2007) comprising light-brown silty-clay with moderate amount of manganese.
- 7.2.8 Trench 22 was placed within south-western part of proposed internal access road easement in NE-SW alignment and measured 24metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. Small E-W aligned ditch was investigated in trench 22. Linear [2203] had near vertical (S side and W end of N side) and steep (E end of N side) inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base. Feature measured 1.80m+ x 0.89m x 0.35m. It was filled by (2202), a compact mottled light blue grey with mid brownly orange clay with occasional manganese lump inclusions.
- 7.2.9 Trench 28 was placed within south-eastern part of proposed internal access road easement in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. Three roughly parallel linear features were discovered in trench 28. Linear [2803], aligned NE-SW, measured 2.10m+ x 0.90m x

0.14m and was a rectilinear with gentle inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base. It contained one fill, (2802), a moderately compact mottled mid-dark blueish grey with mid orange brown flecking silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions. Linears [2805] and [2807], both ENE-WSW aligned, appeared to interact with each other, but no clear relationship could be established. [2805] measured 1.90m+ x 0.86m x 0.14m, was a rectilinear with gentle-moderate inwards sloping sides and a very shallow concave base. It was backfilled with (2804), a moderately compact mottled light brown and light grey very silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions. [2807] measured 1.90m+ x 1.16m x 0.13m, and was a possible linear feature with gentle inwards sloping sides and a flat, slightly undulating base. It contained (2806), a moderately compact mottled mid-dark blueish grey with orange brown flecking silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions.

- 7.2.10 Trench 29 was placed within south-eastern part of proposed internal access road easement in NW-SE alignment and measured 24metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.4metres in depth. One feature was discovered in Trench 29: pit [903], a sub-circular/ovate pit with gentle inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base, measuring 1.90m+ x 1.60m x 0.10m. It was filled by (902), a moderately compact mottled mid grey brown, light blue grey and mid orange brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese inclusions.
- 7.2.11 Trench 30 was placed within north-eastern part of proposed internal access road easement in NE-SW alignment and measured 19.5metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.44metres in depth. Possible fire pit or area of in-situ burning [3004] was discovered at the north-northeast end of Trench 30. This feature consisted of a shallow irregular shaped cut measuring 1.1m x 0.77m+ x 0.08m, containing backfill (3002), a moderately compact light-mid grey brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese and burnt clay fleck inclusions measuring 0.04m thick. This overlaid a heat affected area of fill, (3003), a firm dark brownish red mottled with mid grey baked silty clay with very frequent manganese measuring 0.05m thick.
- 7.2.12 Trench 31 was placed within north-eastern part of proposed internal access road easement in NW-SE alignment and measured 24metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.54metres in depth.. Trench 31 contained two linear features (possibly the same linear turning a corner) and a pair of possible pits. Ovate pit/terminus

[3103], in the middle of the trench, was E-W aligned, had gentle inwards sloping sides and a very gentle concave base, and measured 1.85m x 1.17m x 0.09m. It was filled by (3102), a soft-moderate dark grey brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese and iron panning inclusions. Adjacent to [3103], possible pit [3105] was assumed square in plan with very gentle inwards sloping sides and a mostly flat but slightly undulating base, measuring 2.02m x 1.10m x 0.07m. It was cut by a modern field drain. Linears [3107] and [3109], to the northwest of the trench, were NW-SE and NE-SW aligned respectively and had identical fills (3106) and (3108), soft mottled light grey and very light grey clayey silts with very frequent manganese inclusions, supporting the interpretation that they were the same linear. A modern feature truncated [3107] at the point the two linears intersected within the trench. [3107] measured 4.06m+ x 0.20m x 0.16m, with moderate-steep inwards sloping sides and a moderate concave base. [3109] measured 2.64m+ x 0.48m x 0.13m, with moderate inwards sloping sides and a gentle-moderate concave base.

- 7.2.13 Numbers of other potential features were checked across the evaluation but was confirmed they to be either natural (such as bioturbation or geological) or modern.
- 7.2.14 All trenches exposed similar sequence of top soil and sub soil overlaying natural clay deposits with noticeable addition of silt in south-western part of PDA. Thickness of overlaying deposits varied between 0.3m to 0.4m.
- 7.2.15 Detailed Results trench by trench are provided in appendix 4 – trench table.

8 FINDS

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 Archaeological evaluation at Great Chart Golf Course has successively recorded the presence of archaeological features which produced datable dating evidence comprising 7 Early Medieval potsherds, one residual worked flint, recovered from linear feature in trench 10 and one also residual LIA/ERB potsherd.

8.2 Flintwork (by Paul Hart)

- 8.2.1 Only one piece of worked flint was retrieved from potential field ditch exposed in Trench 10. One flint from (1005) [1004] has weighted 10 g. Looks like the broken proximal end from a decent flake or possibly a broadish blade/blade-like flake. It can't be determined

with absolute certainty if it was broken accidentally or snapped on purpose. It could be the latter, given that the break is just below the bulb, as the flake starts to thin, but the upper part of one thin lateral margin does show a very short length of direct abrupt fine marginal retouch, with some minor chipping/abrasion of the edge below. This could potentially have resulted from tool-use or perhaps hafting, thus the whole flake might have been used as a tool before it was broken, which then occurred either during use or post-discard (but pre-patination; see below).

- 8.2.2 Considering that this is a quality piece and potentially a blade or blade-like flake, then technically it would be broadly Upper Palaeolithic (UP) to Neolithic, but evidence of the former period occurs incredibly rarely, particularly in Kent, so it's much more likely to be Mesolithic to Earlier Neolithic.
- 8.2.3 If it was an intentionally simply snapped piece, to create a blade segment for tool use, it would also suggest a slight preference for the Earlier Neolithic, though simply snapped blades can occur in the Mesolithic too. So, it is most likely broadly Mesolithic to Neolithic, with a slight preference for the Earlier Neolithic, 9200/4000 to 2900/2300 BC, given also that Earlier Neolithic activity seems, in East Kent at least and probably the county in general, to occur much more often compared to activity that is identifiably Mesolithic.
- 8.2.4 If, however, there is a significant known Mesolithic presence and no established Earlier Neolithic presence in the vicinity of the site, then the date-range should take account of that (ie. 9200 to 4000/2900 BC, or, if the activity is Later Mesolithic, which is more common than the earlier phase, then 7550 to 4000/2900 BC).
- 8.2.5 The patina. Notably it shows a strong iron stained/river-gravel like patina (including across the break, so the break occurred pre-patination), suggesting it saw a lengthy period of exposure/immersion in an iron-rich environment. Such patinas are common on Palaeolithic material, particularly Lower and Middle Palaeolithic, because they are often recovered from river-gravel deposits, or were formerly incorporated in such. A similar patina occurred on Neolithic pieces, however, though it was weaker (and only once). Clay-with-Flints deposits can also incorporate raw material with similar orangey-brown patinas.
- 8.2.6 It should be presumed that the piece is most likely going to be residual. It does show some post-patina chips, though very minor, but if this is not excavation damage it would also suggest the piece is residual and the damage resulted from post-patination disturbance, trampling or solifluction.

8.3 Pottery

8.3.1 A total of 8 pottery sherds were retrieved during the course of evaluation. An Early Medieval to Medieval 1150/ 1175 to 1225/1250 AD potsherds were retrieved from Trenches 28 and 29. One residual LIA to ERB 75 BC to 75 AD was retrieved from Trench 31. One lump of brittle faylithic slag (residual iron slag) was retrieved from Trench 8. The detailed results are presented in the Appendix.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Soil samples have been acquired from the fire-pit exposed in trench 7 and these are being processed. An updated version of this report will be issued following the receipt of environmental assessment.

10 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Discussion

10.1.1 Archaeological evaluation at Ashford Golf Complex has successively fulfilled aims and objectives of the specification and revealed simple deposit-sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil concealing natural geology. It recorded the presence of archaeological features in 13 out of total 35 evaluation trenches.

10.1.2 Discovered features comprise an agrarian field system of an Early Medieval to Medieval date 1150/ 1175 to 1225/ 1250 AD. Small discrete features have been recorded of which two contained traces for in-situ burning. Infrequent dating evidence retrieved from Trenches 28 and 29 emphasises a Medieval date for these remains.

10.1.3 A lump of residual iron slag was retrieved from Trench 8 and also residual piece of worked flint was retrieved from ditch exposed in Tr 10. These artefacts imply a possibility of Neolithic and LIA-ERB features being present within the proposed development area and/or within immediate vicinity of the site.

10.2 **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

- 10.2.1 Archaeological evaluation has demonstrated the presence of archaeological features within the proposed development area. An agrarian activity of Early Medieval to Medieval period is regarded as of local and regional interest. There is also a very low possibility that Mesolithic or Neolithic and Late Iron Age/ Early Roman remains are present within the proposed development area and these are of regional and national level of interest.
- 10.2.2 In light that proposed development will have an impact below existing ground level and in the absence of suitable engineering solutions facilitating preservation in-situ, it has therefore been concluded that proposed development will have a significant impact on archaeological resource, therefore a further mitigation programme comprising archaeological watching brief with open strip excavation is recommended to take place prior to the commencement of construction works.
- 10.2.3 The ultimate scope and extend of subsequent mitigation will be communicated with the Senior Archaeological Officer 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 Wendy Rogers and Simon Mason from KCC Heritage for their 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 allowed 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 .pdfA version. In addition a CD containing a .pdfA 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 (Pawel Cichy) The Office, School Farm Oast, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP Date: 07/04/2022.

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Specification (SWAT 2021) Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bears Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent

APPENDIX 1

Core Personnel Structure

Project Management - Fieldwork	Role
Dr Paul Wilkinson, MClfA, FSA	Director
Peter Cichy	Project Manager
Pawel Cichy	Project Officer
Dan Worsley	Site Supervisor Phase 2
Surveys	
Malgorzata Cichy, Jonny Madden (digitise it)	Surveyor
Finds	Specialist
Flint	Paul Hart
Early Prehistoric Pottery	Paul Hart, Malcolm Lyne
Later prehistoric and Roman pottery	Paul Hart, Malcolm Lyne
Saxon, Medieval and Post Medieval pottery	Luke Barber, Paul Hart
Small finds (Coins and metalwork)	Simon Holmes
Conservation support and x-ray photography	Dana Goodburn-Brown, MSc
Samples and human remains	Specialist
Environmental soil processing	QUEST
Faunal, floral micro and macro remains	Dr Mike Allen
Animal Remains(Bones)	Carol White
Palaeomagnetism	Peter Cichy
Archaeometallurgist	David Dungworth
Human Remains	Dr Chris Dieter
Micro-excavation (cremation burials)	Dana Goodburn-Brown
Post-Excavation and publication	Role
Malgorzata Cichy	illustrator
Pawel Cichy	author

APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent

SWAT Site Code: GCA-EV-22

Site Address: As above

Summary: *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by the Client to undertake an archaeological evaluation on Land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent.*

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of thirty five trenches (phase 1: 20 trenches and phase 2: 15 trenches), which encountered a simple stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology to a depth of between approximately 0.3m and 0.4m.

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of archaeological features comprising several ditches and pits of which two contained evidence of in-situ burning. Infrequent dating evidence points out to an Early Medieval Period. A residual piece of flint of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic and one residual LIA/ERB potsherd implies a very low potential for features of these periods to be present within the proposed development area and/or within the immediate surroundings.

Further mitigation programme is recommended

District/Unitary: Ashford District Council & Kent County Council

Period(s): Early Medieval to Medieval with residual traces of Mesolithic to Neolithic, Late Iron Age, Early Roman.

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 596013 143180

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: January and March 2022

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

Geology: bedrock geology of Weald Clay Formation (Mudstone), a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 125 to 134 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in a local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas.

Title and author of accompanying report: SWAT Archaeology (P Cichy 2022) Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Ashford Golf Complex, Bear's Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Plates:



Plate 1: The Site Looking south-west.



Plate 2: Ditch [106] looking south-east, 1 metre scale.



Plate 3: Trench 3 – Section, looking south-west. 1 metre horizontal and 0.4m vertical scale.



Plate 4: Trench 6, looking south-west.



Plate 5: Fire-pit [904] looking north-east, 1 metre scale.



Plate 6: Linear feature [904] looking south-west, 1 metre scale.



Plate 7: Ditch [1004] pre-excitation, looking north-east, 1 metre scale.



Plate 8: Ditch [1104], looking north-west, horizontal 1m scale, and vertical 0.5m scale.



Plate 9: Trench 14 looking north-west, 1 metre scale.



Plate 10: Trench 17 – Section, looking north, 1 metre horizontal and 0.4m vertical scale.



Plate 11: Gully [1904], looking south-west, 1 metre scale.



Plate 12: Pit [2004], looking south-east, 1 metre scale



Plate 13: Plan photo of ditch [2203], 1 metre scale.



Plate 14: Plan photo of ditch [2803], 1 metre scale.



Plate 15: Plan photo of linears [2805] and [2807], 1 metre scale.



Plate 16: Section photo of shallow pit [2903]. Looking east, 1 metre scale.

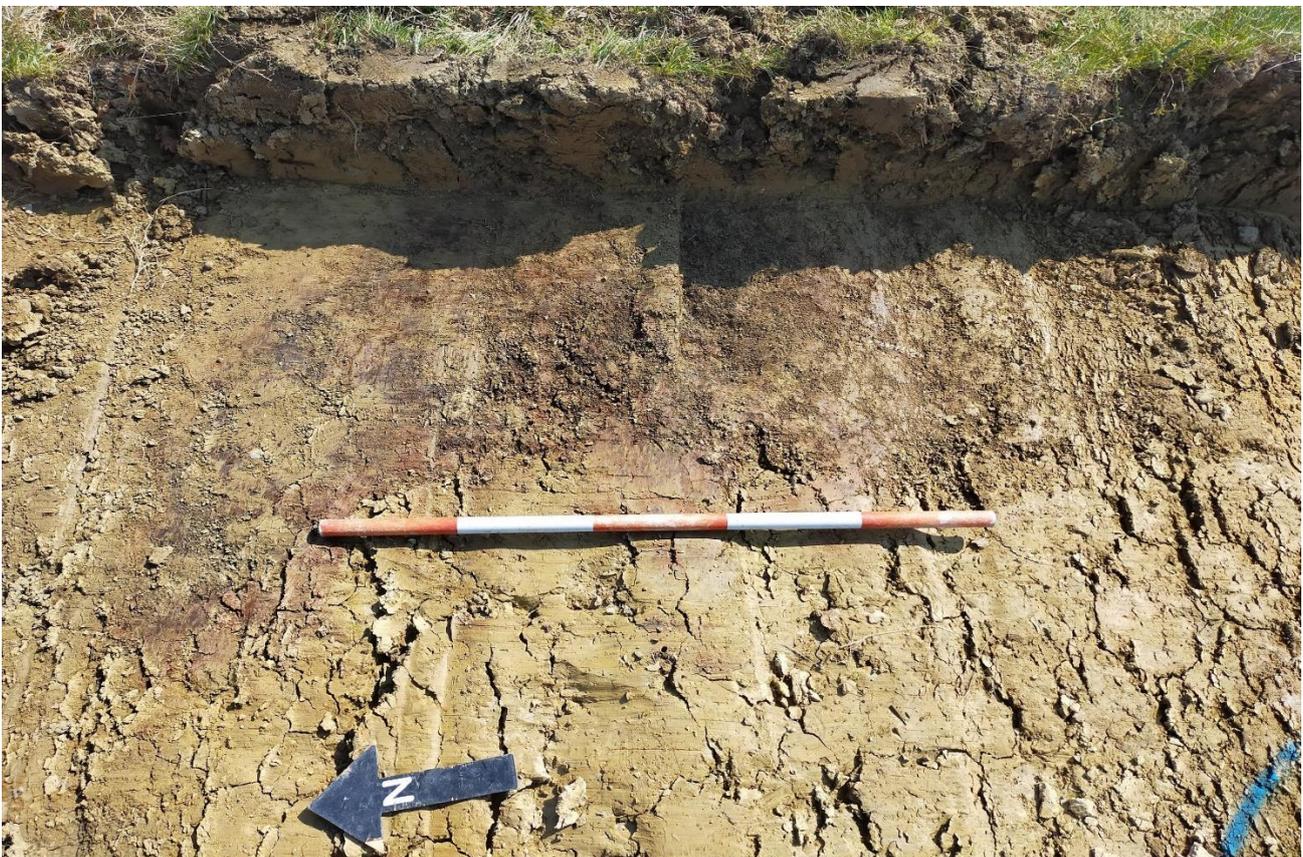


Plate 17: Pre-excavation plan photo of in-situ burning in Trench 10. 1 metre scale.



Plate 18: Section photo after removal of backfill and heat affected base of possible fire pit [3004], looking north with half-metre scale.



Plate 19: Plan photo of pit/terminus [3103], with the edge of the area of redeposited natural visible at the top of the photograph. 1 metre scale.



Plate 20: Plan photo of possible shallow pit [3105]. Note the modern cables in the trench section above the feature and the field drain, running WNW-ESE, truncating it. Looking north-east, 1 metre scale.



Plate 21: Section photo of linear [3107] showing modern feature (right of photograph) truncating it. Looking south-west, half-metre scale.



Plate 22: Section photo of linear [3109] Note the fills of the modern feature truncating [3107] on the left of the photograph. Looking south-west, 1 metre scale.



Plate 23: Showing area of redeposited natural clay and topsoil at the south-eastern end of Trench 31. Looking north-west, 1 metre scale.



Plate 24: Plan of Trench 21, with trenches 22 and 23 in the background. Looking north-east, 1 metre scale.



Plate 25: Sample section of Trench 23 showing depths of topsoil and subsoil. Looking west, 1 metre scale



Plate 26: Plan of Trench 29, with trench 28 in the background. Looking south-east, 1 metre scale.



Figure 2: Trench location in relation to OS map; scale 1:2000

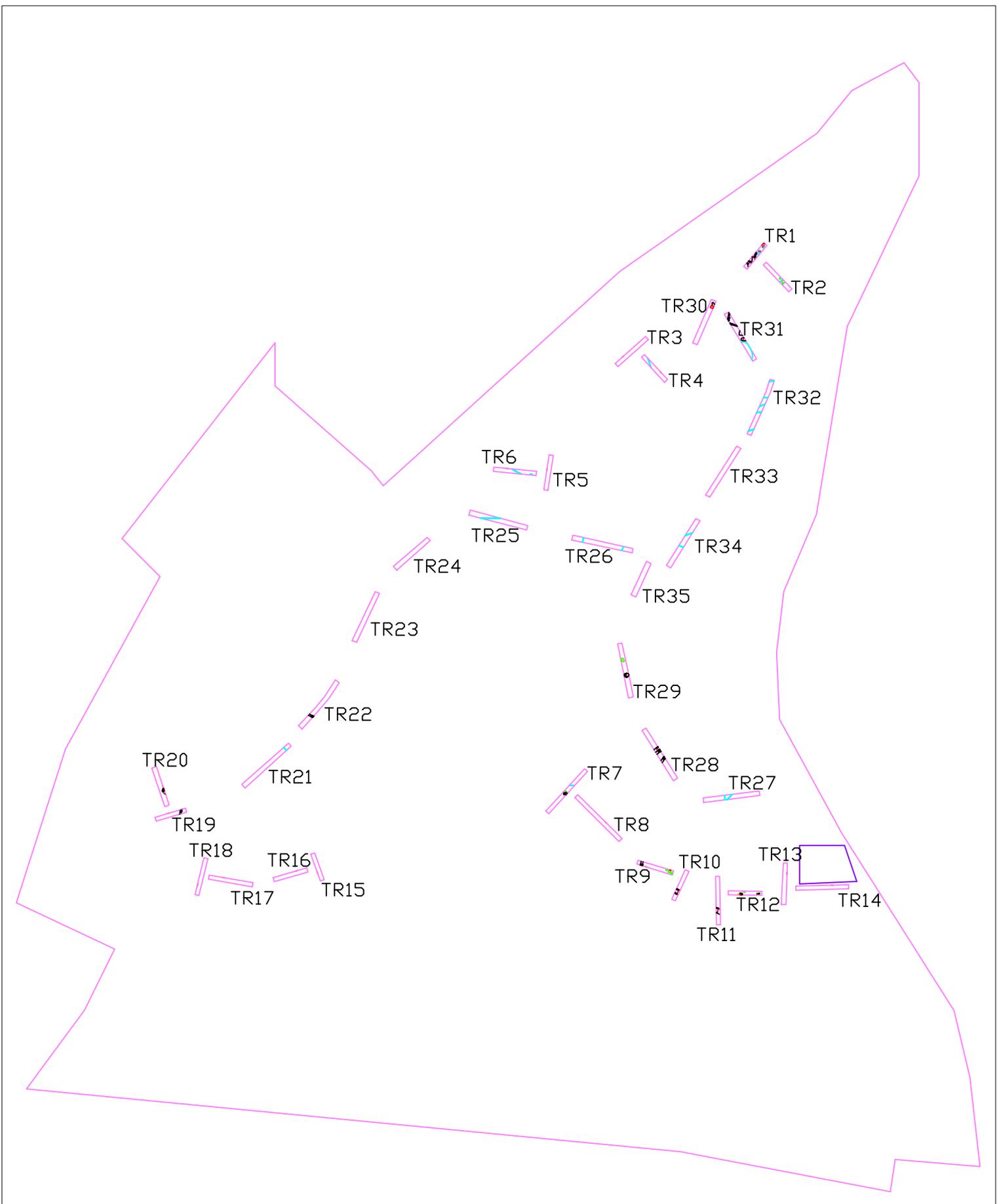


Figure 4: Site plan; scale 1:2000

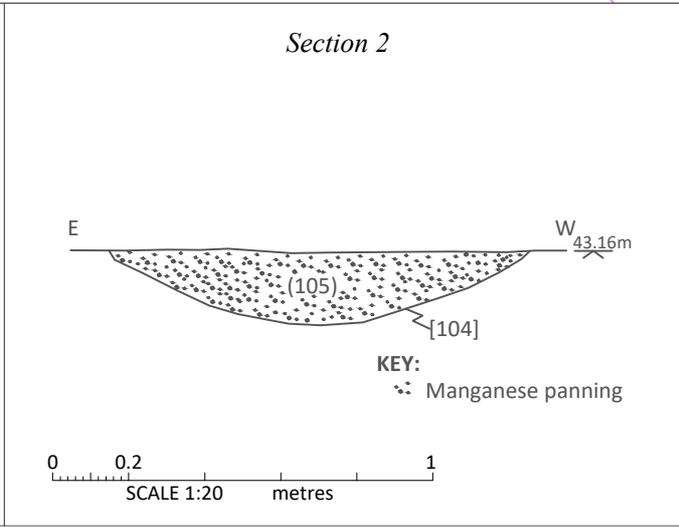
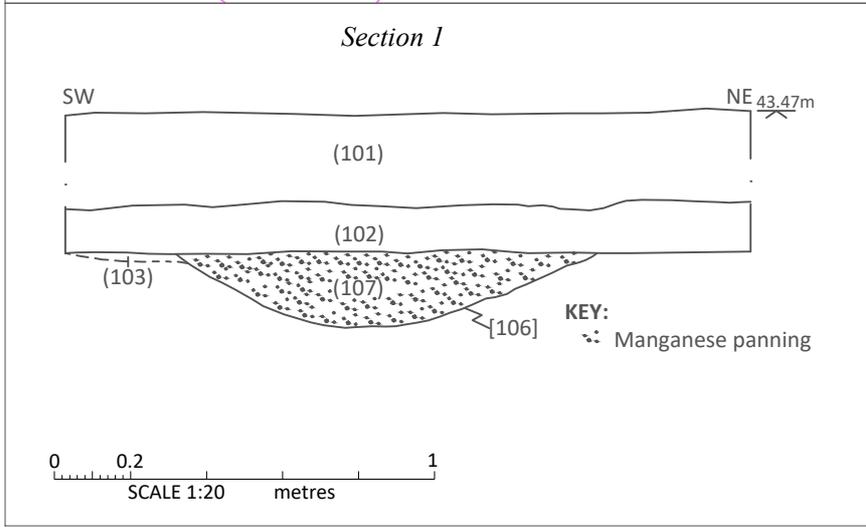
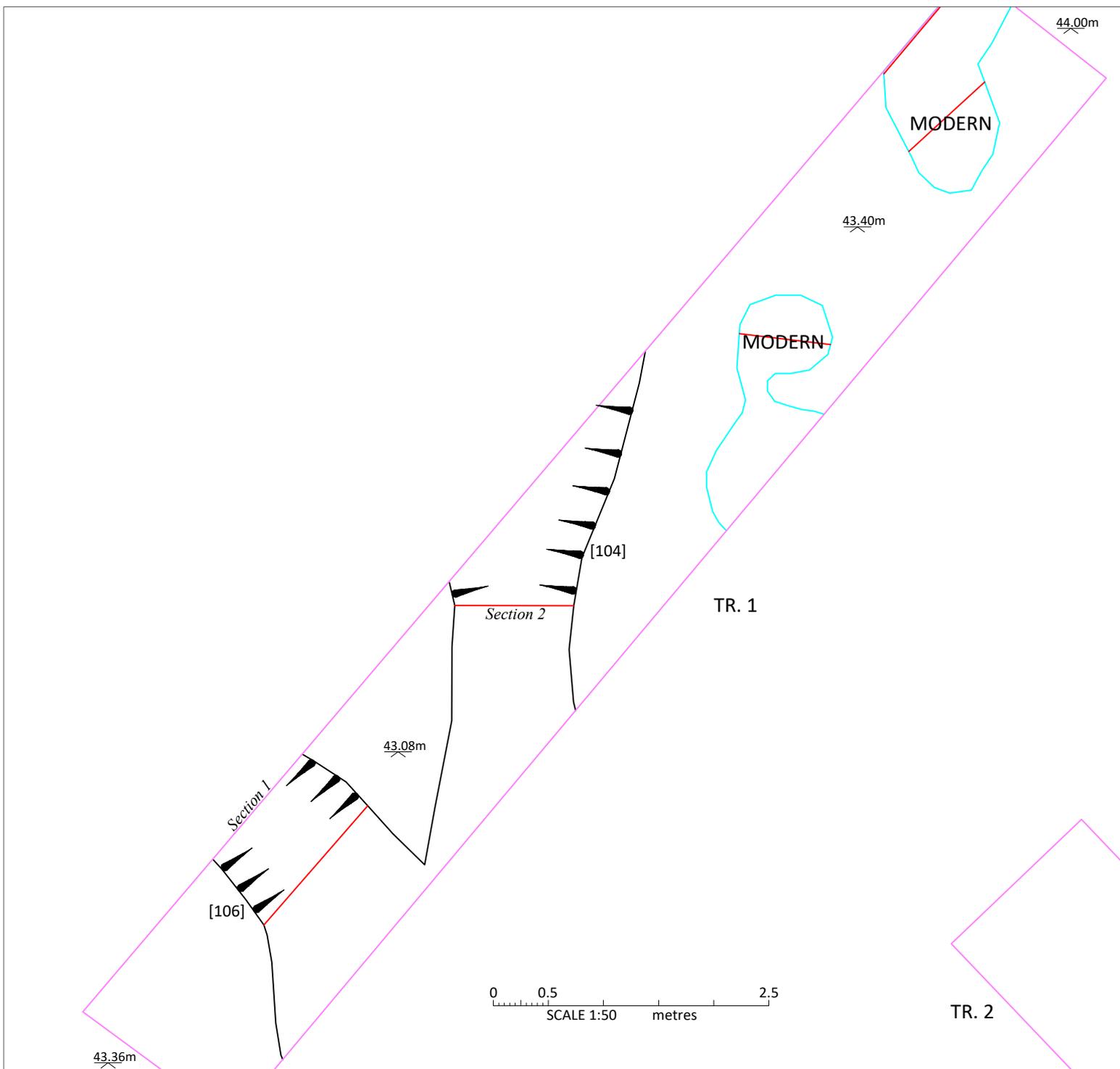
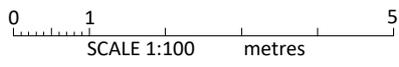
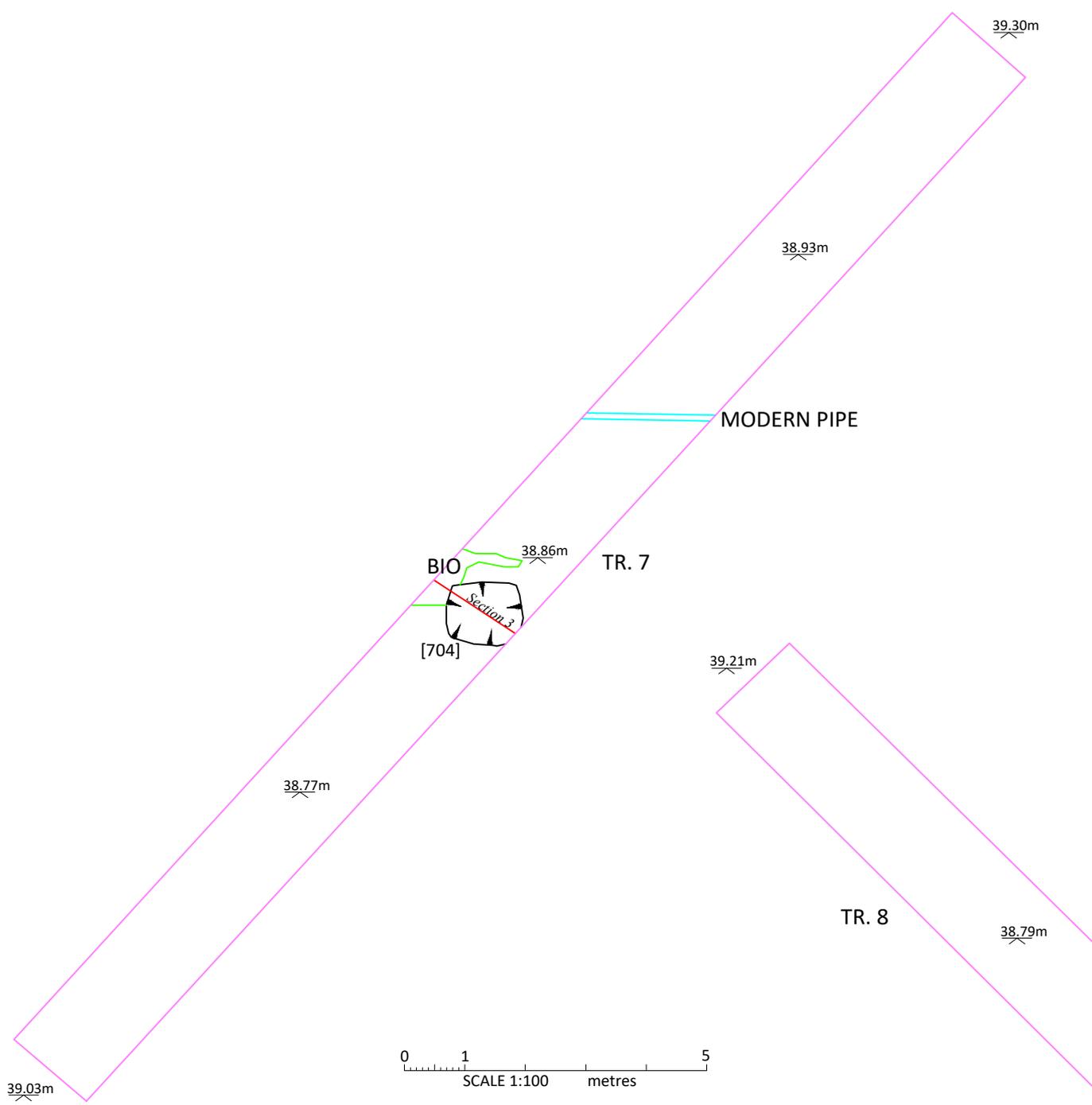
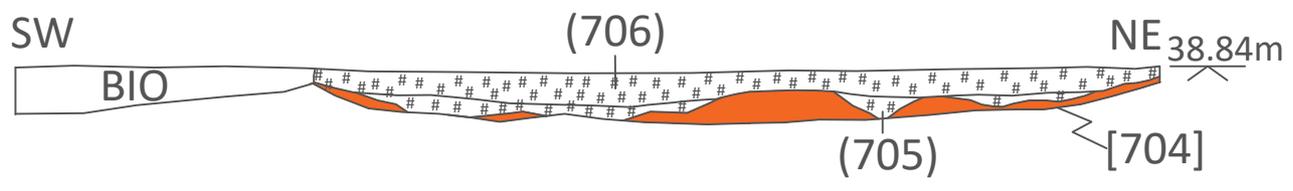


Figure 5: Trench 1 plan and sections



Section 3



- KEY:**
- # Charcoal
 - 🔴 Burnt clay

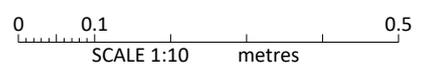


Figure 6: Trench 7 plan and section

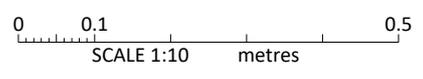
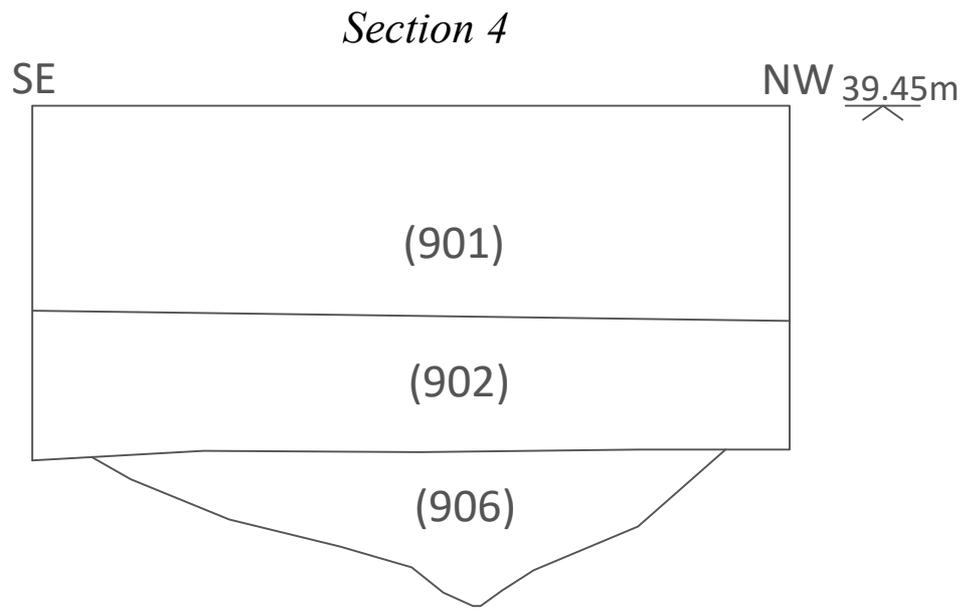
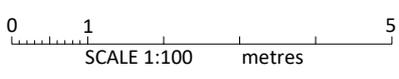
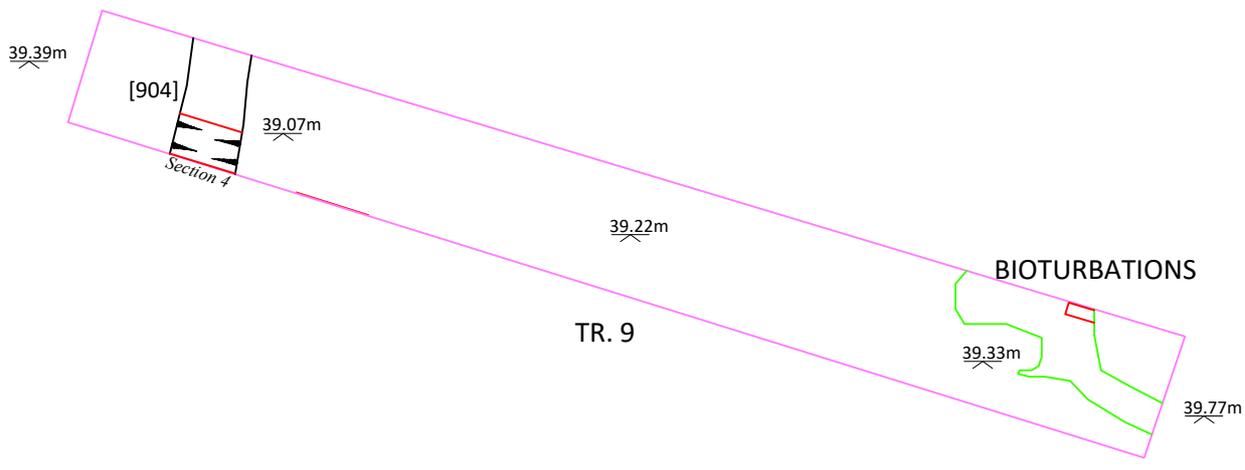


Figure 7: Trench 9 plan and section

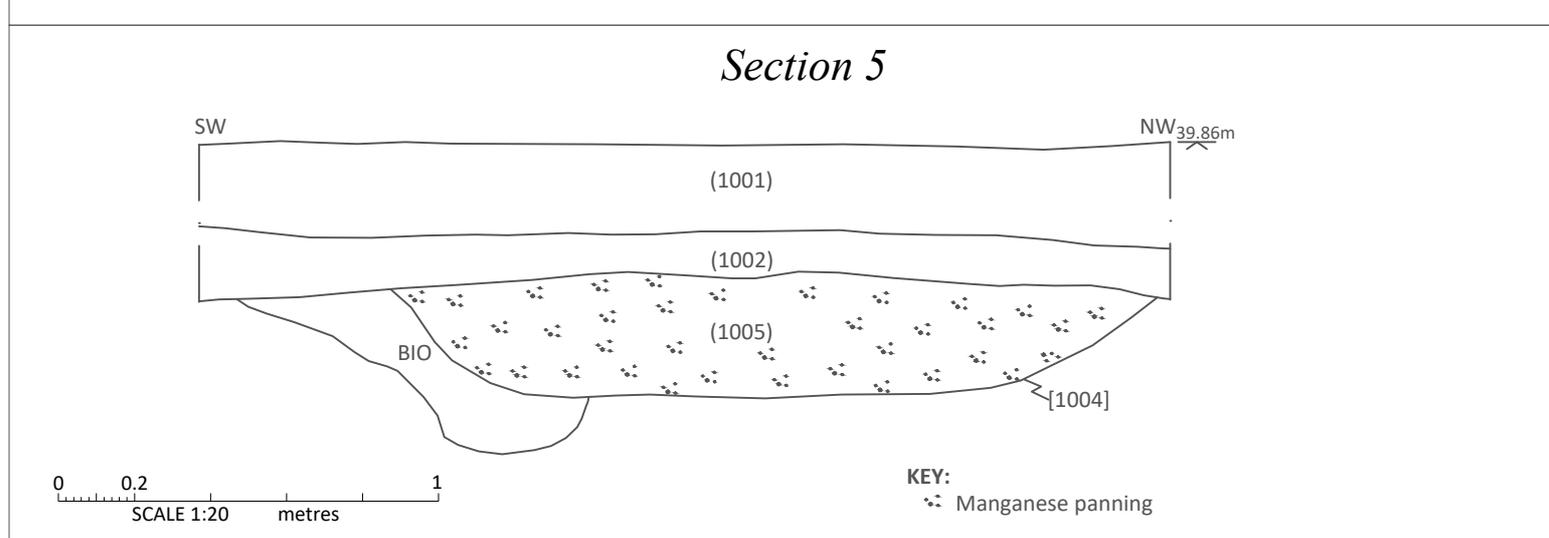
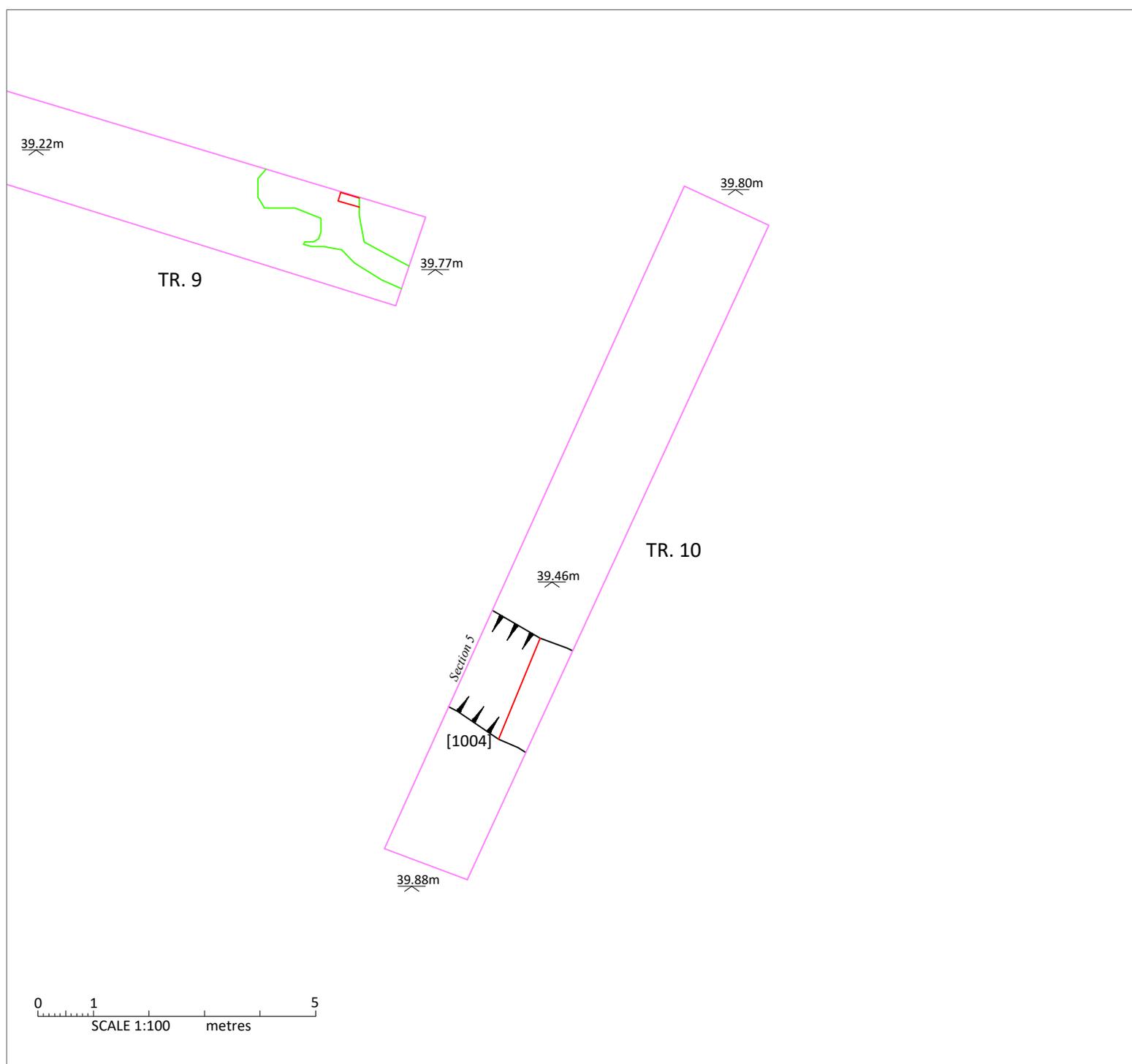


Figure 8: Trench 10 plan and section

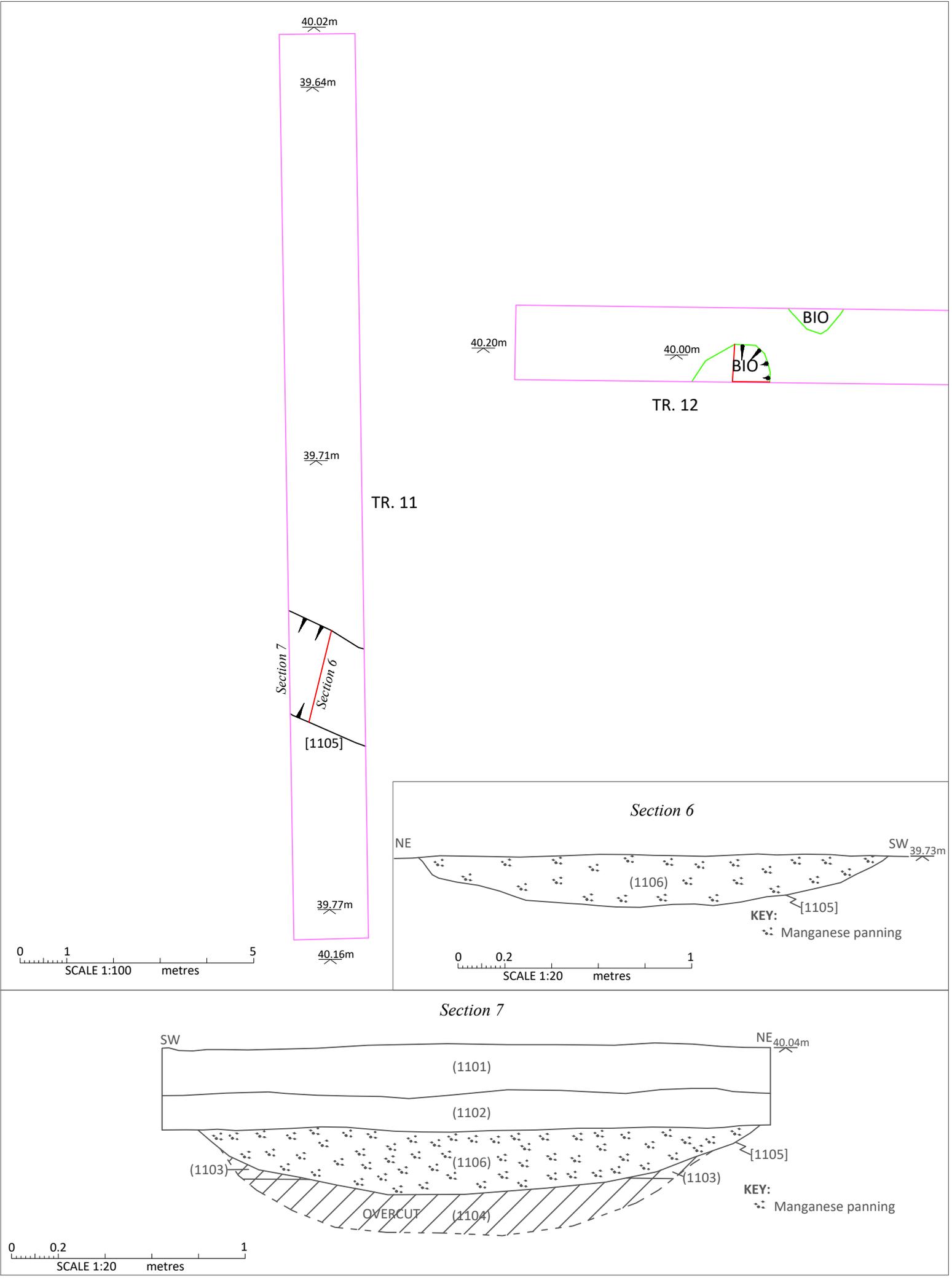


Figure 9: Trench 11 plan and sections

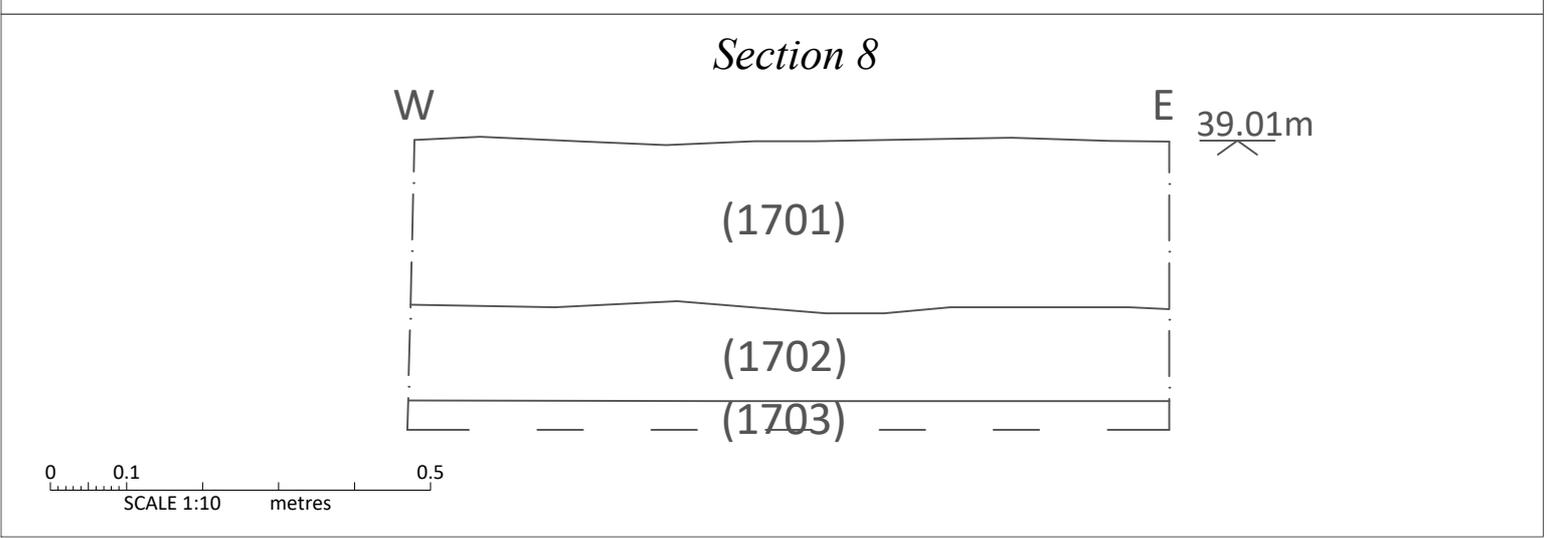
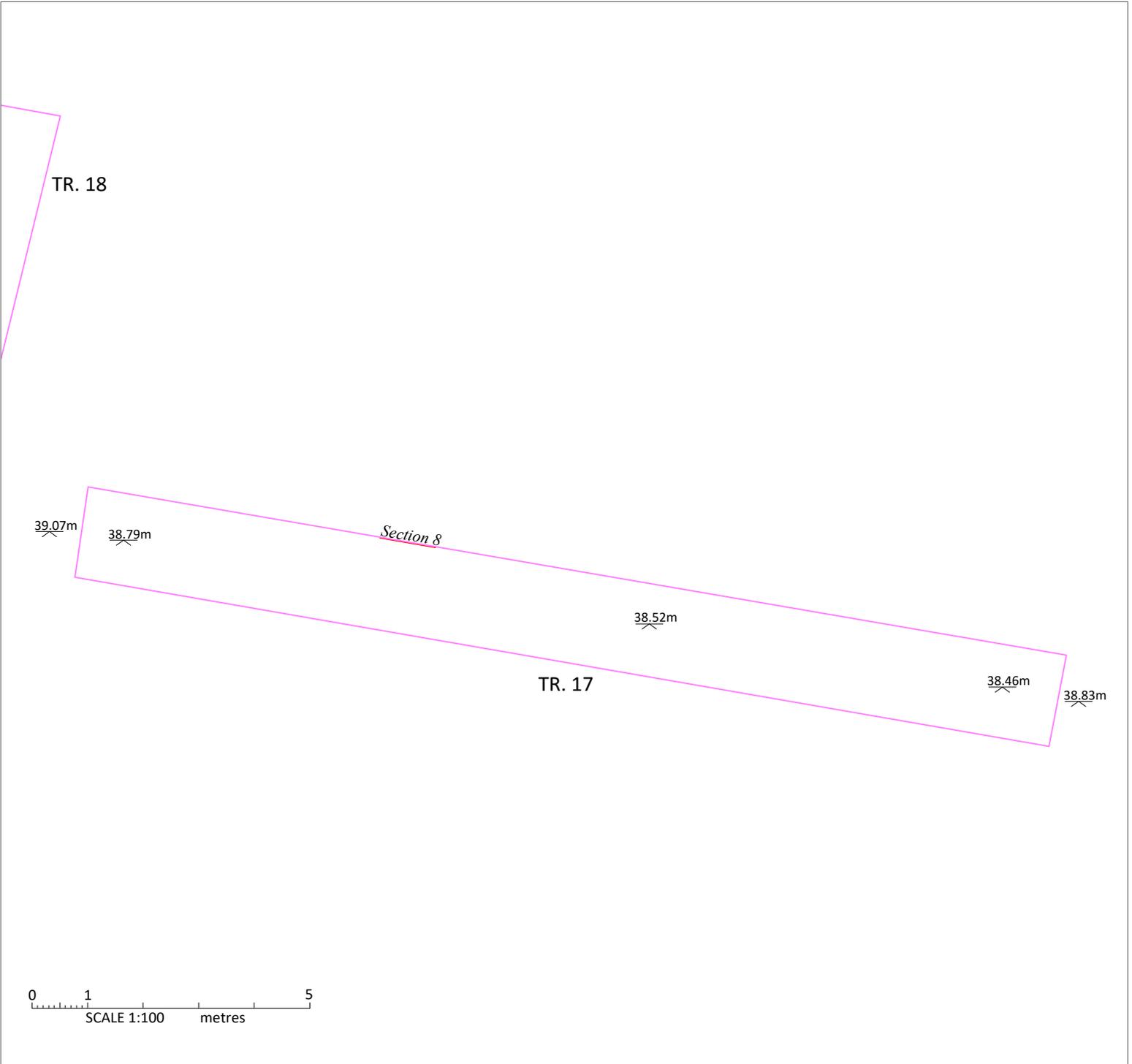


Figure 10: Trench 17 plan and section

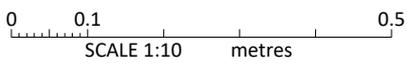
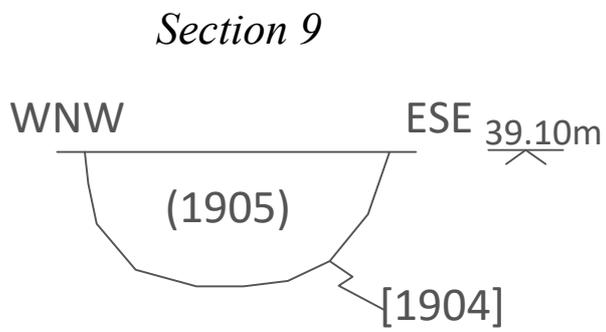
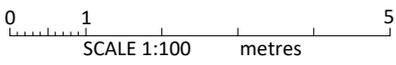
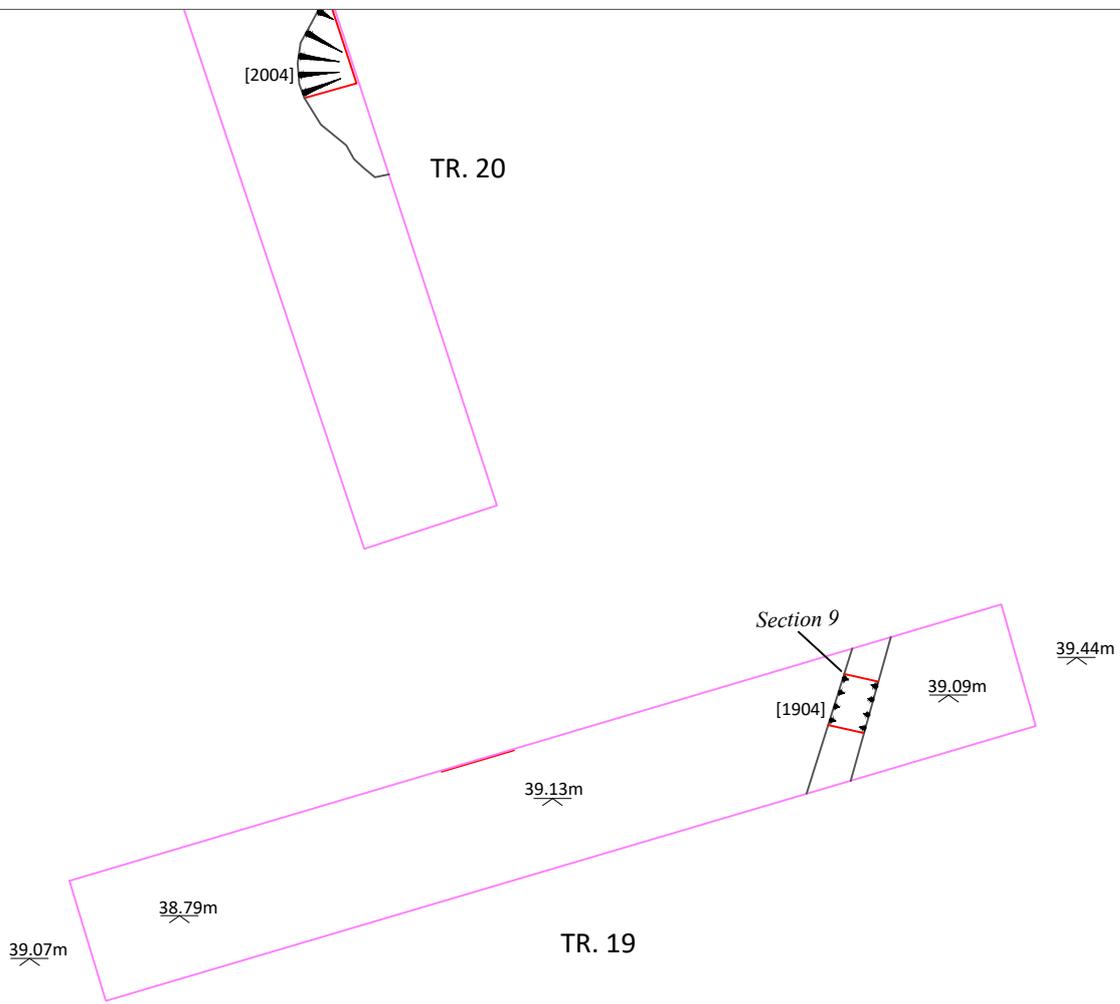
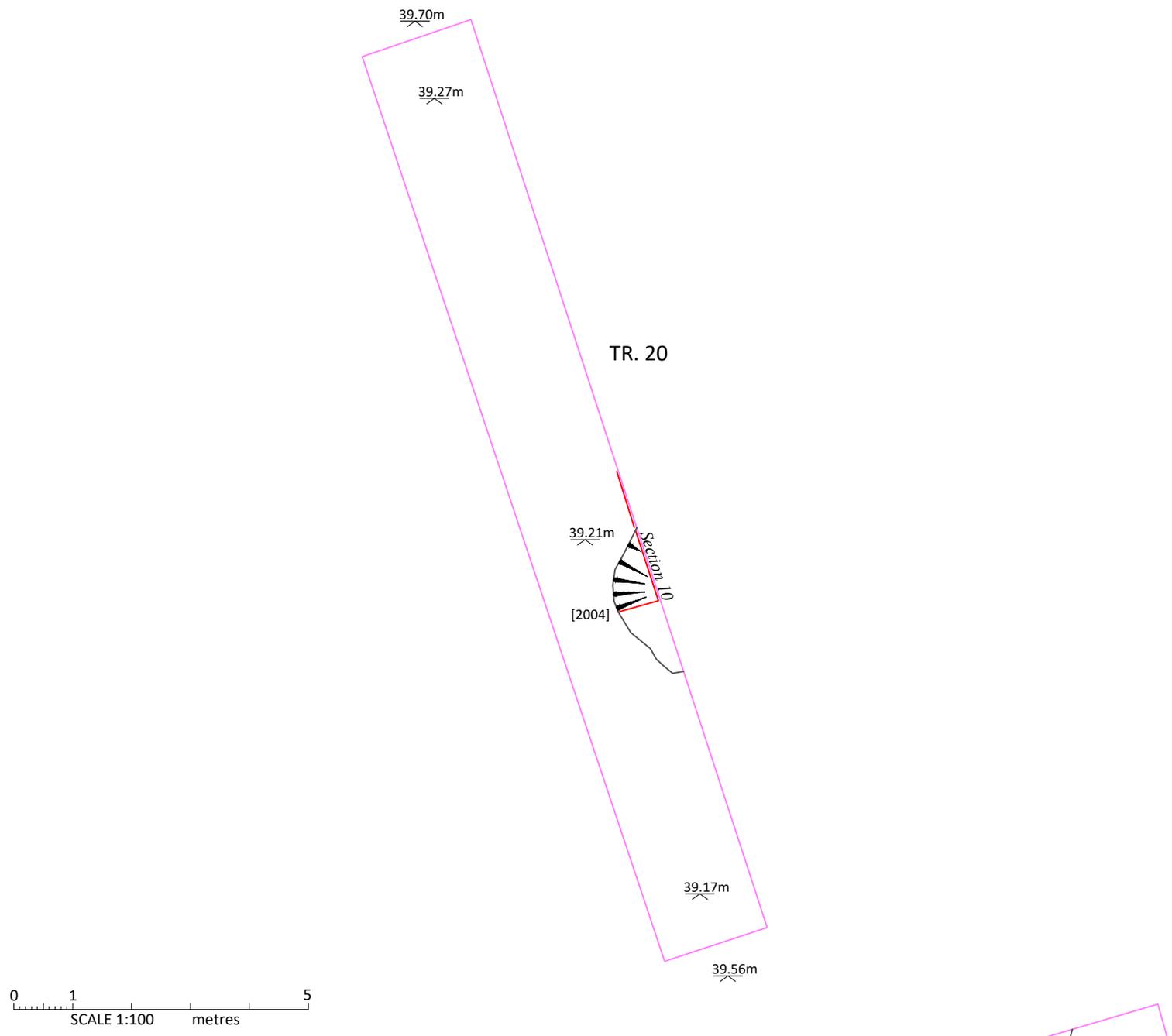


Figure 11: Trench 19 plan and section



Section 10

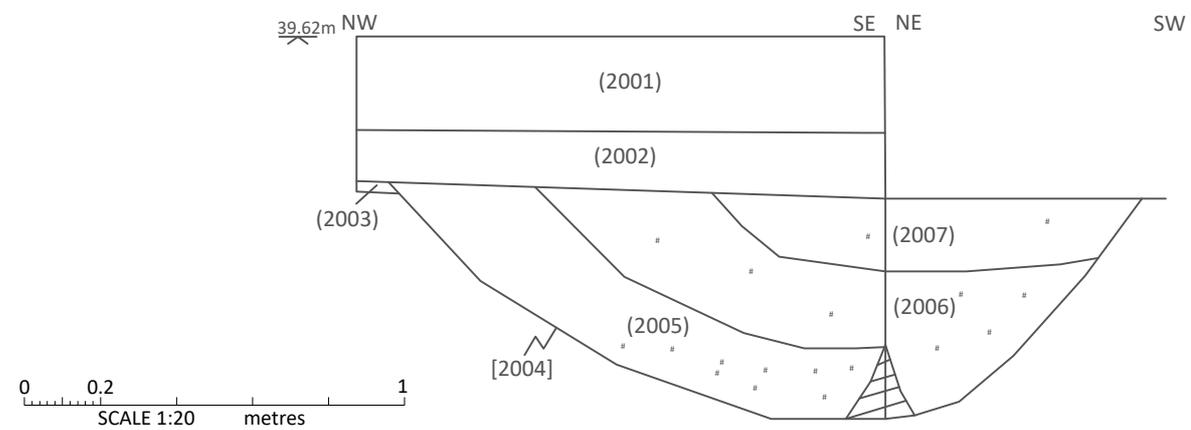


Figure 12: Trench 20 plan and section

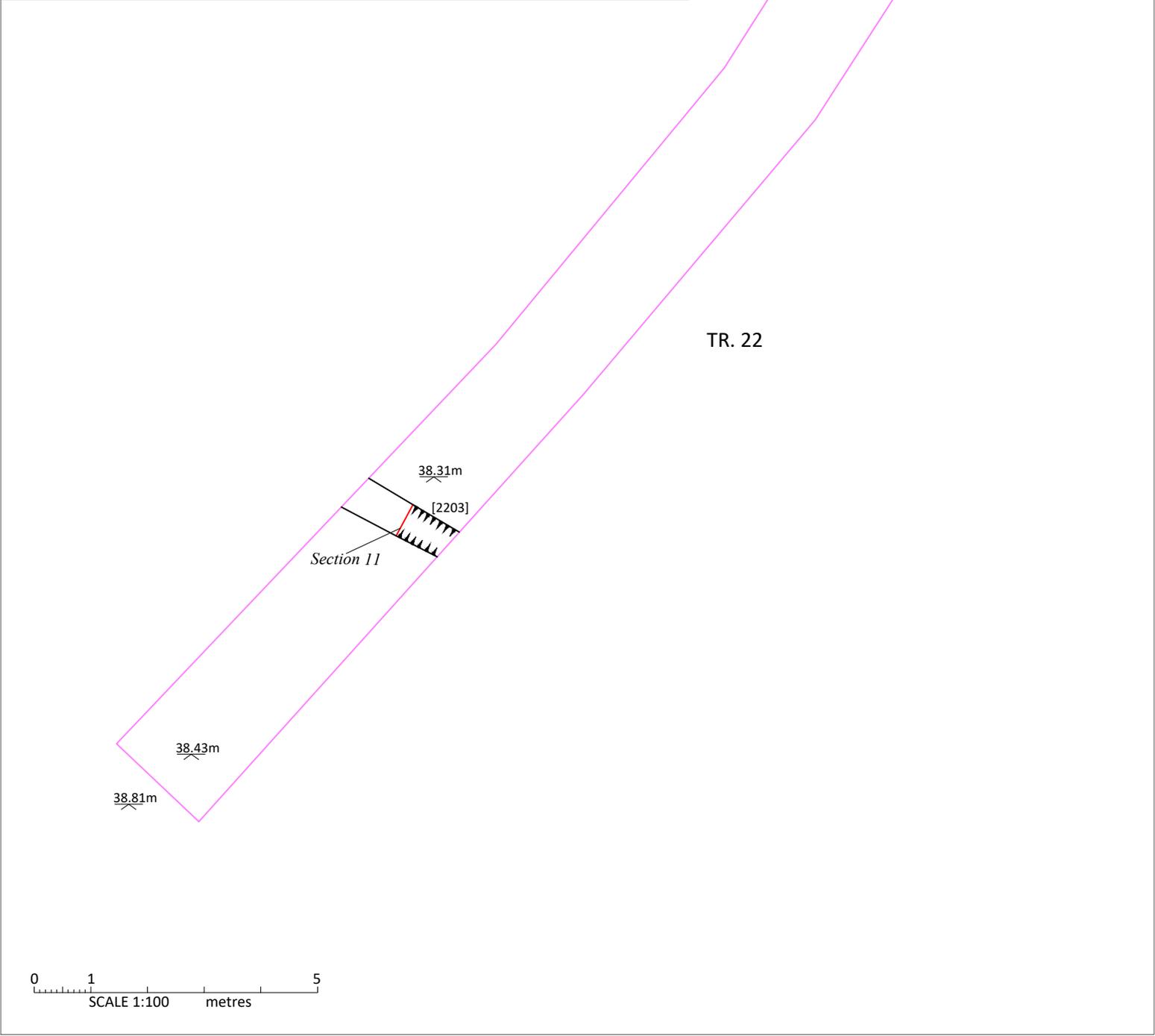
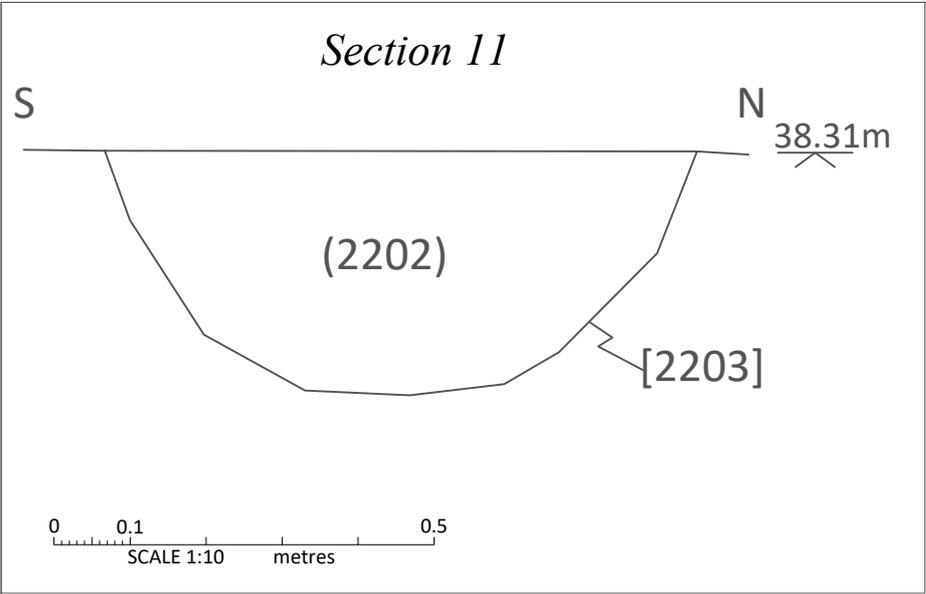


Figure 13: Trench 22 plan and section

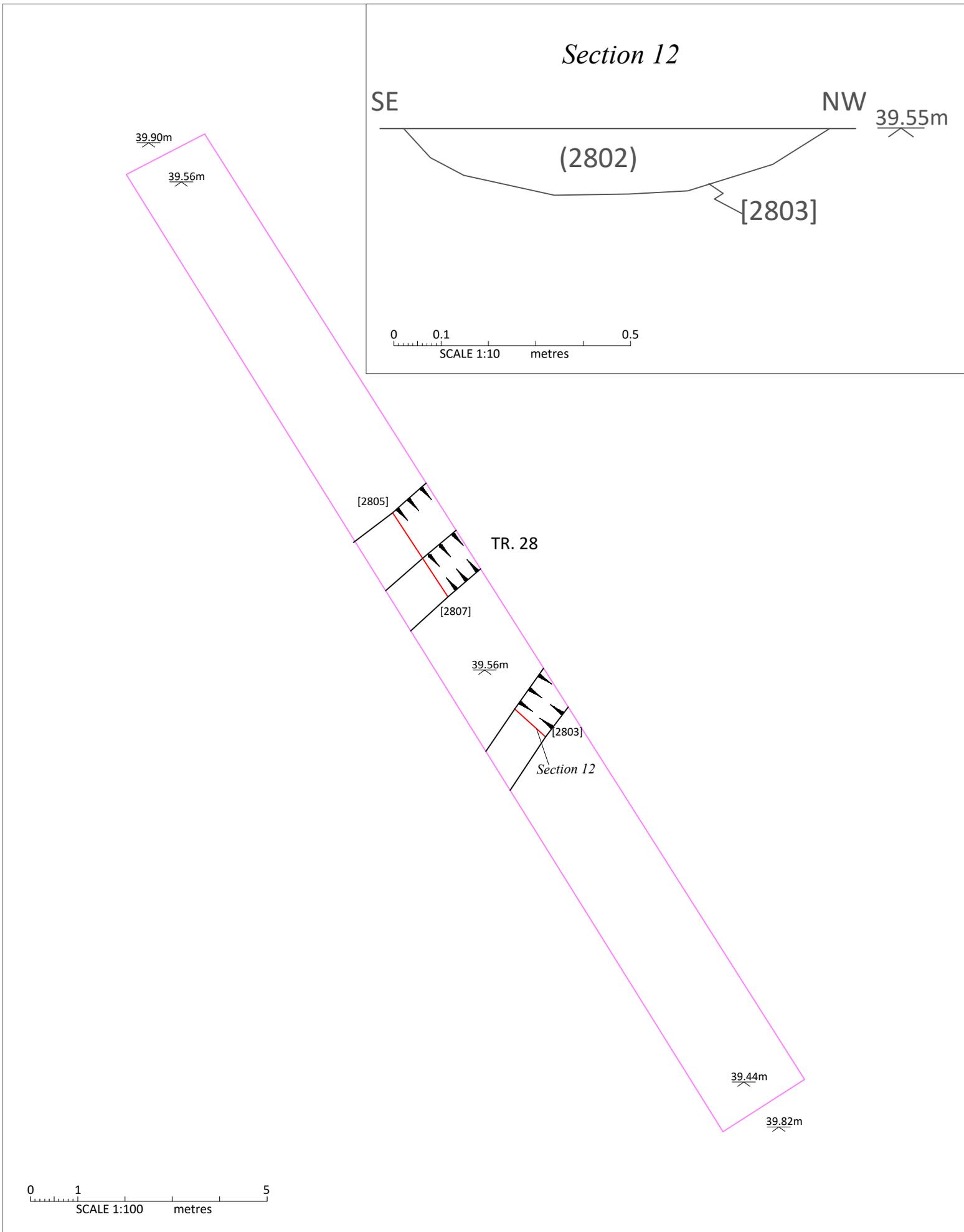


Figure 14: Trench 28 plan and section

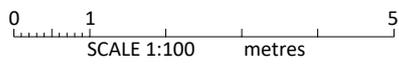
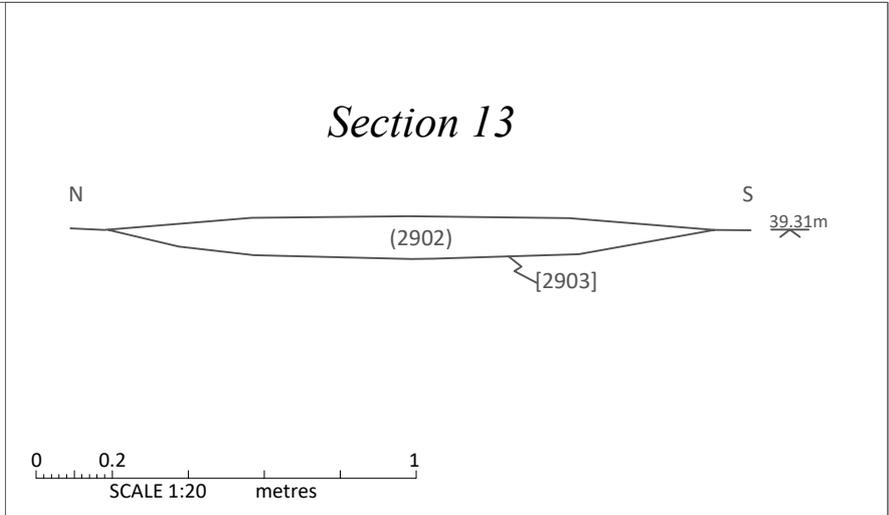
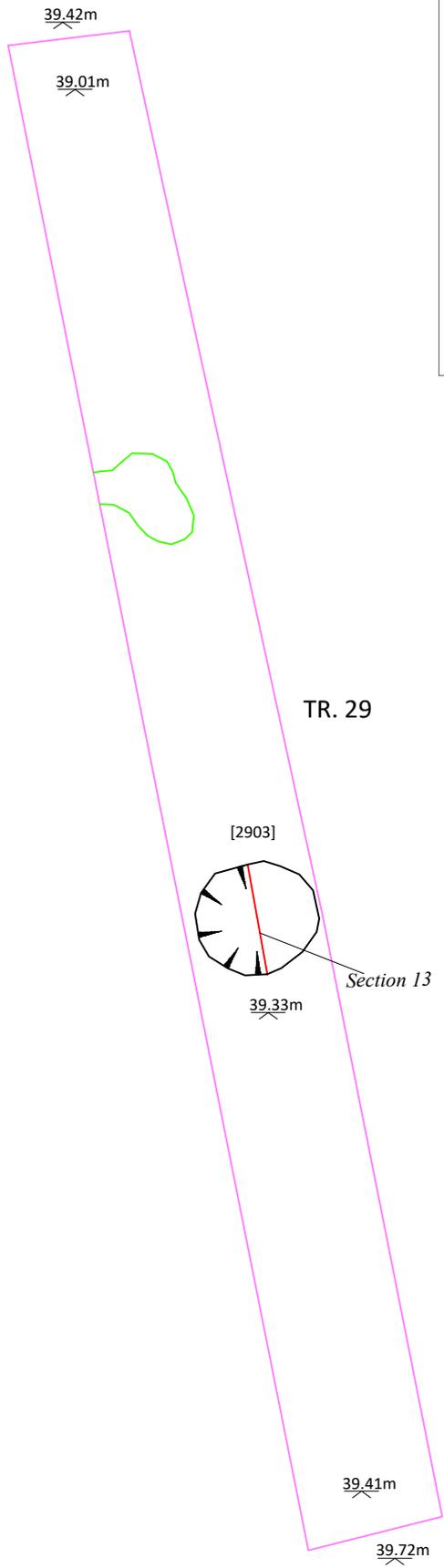


Figure 15: Trench 29 plan and section

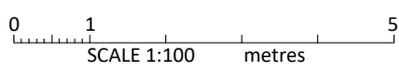
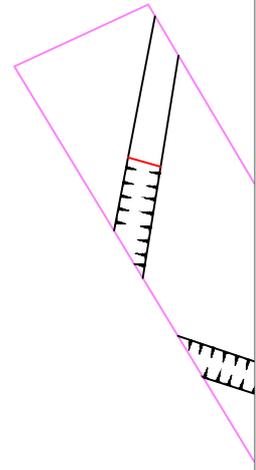
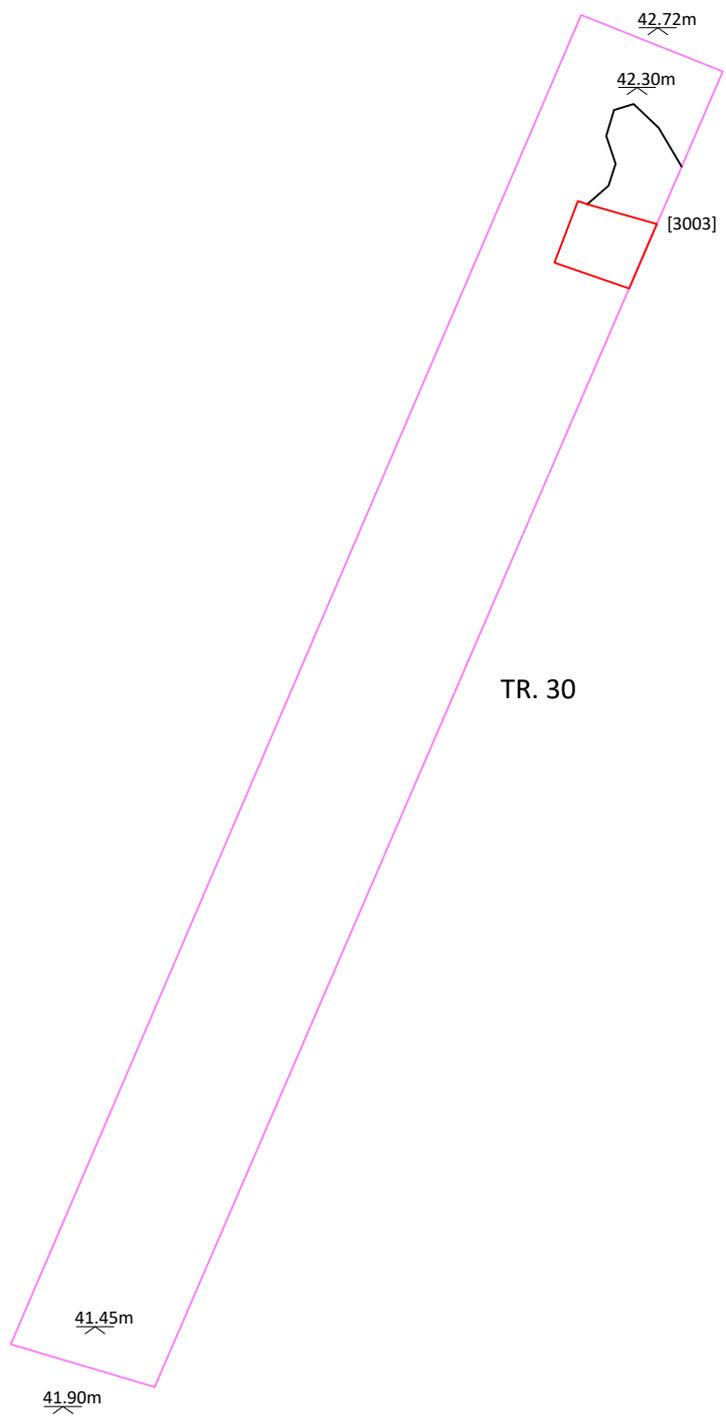


Figure 16: Trench 30 plan

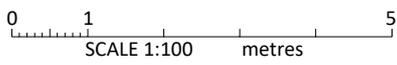
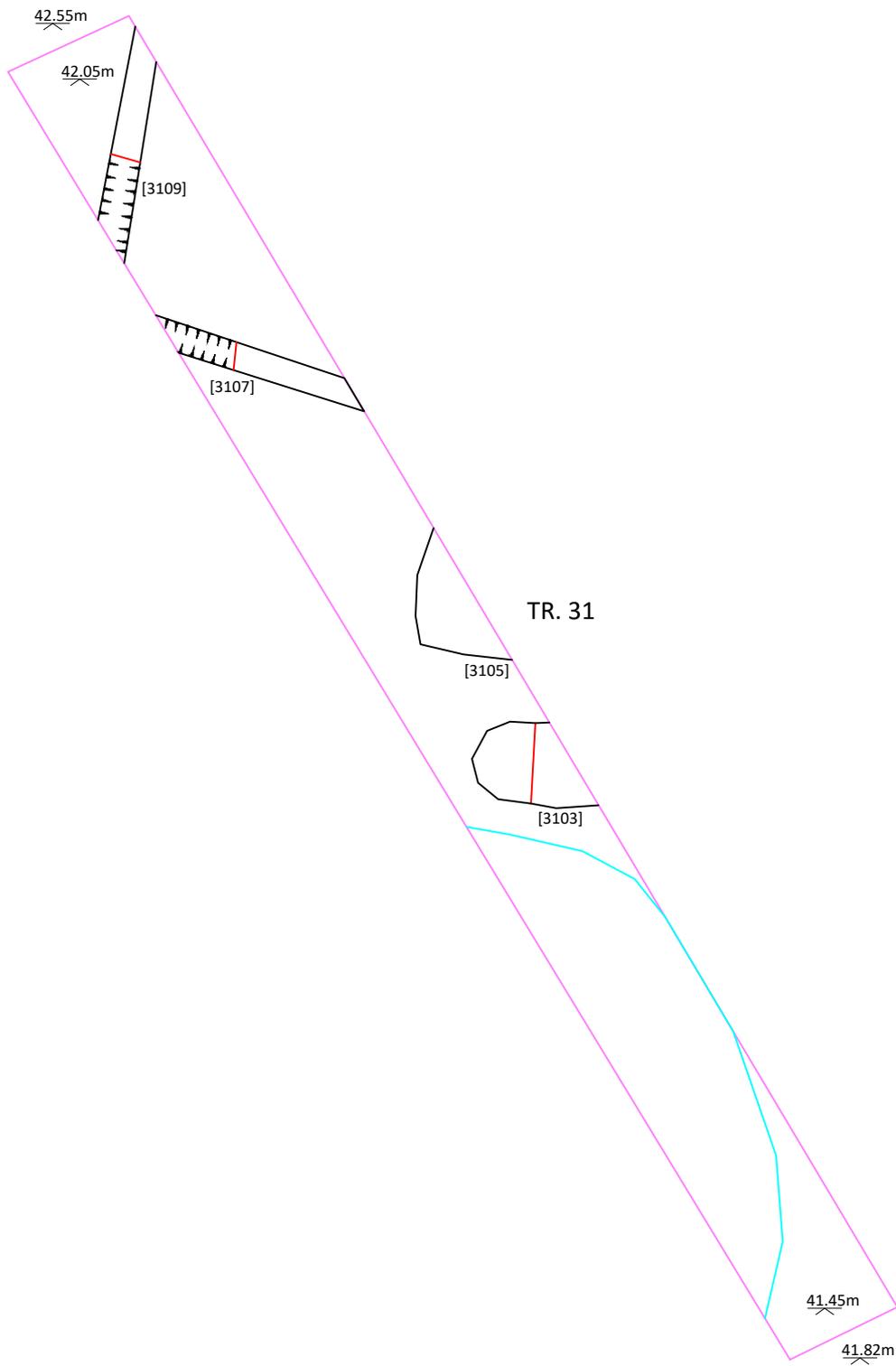


Figure 17: Trench 31 plan

**A catalogue and summary of the pottery,
plus a catalogue of slag,
recovered during an archaeological evaluation at
the former Great Chart Golf Club,
Ashford,
Kent**

Site Code: GCA-EV-22

CATALOGUES ONLY!

Analyst: Paul Hart

Last updated: 31.03.2022

For: Swale and Thames Archaeology Survey Company

Contents

1. Summary
2. Period-based review
 - 2.1. Mid to Late Iron Age to Early Roman, 75 BC to 75 AD
 - 2.2. Early Medieval to Medieval, 1150/1175 to 1225/1250 AD
3. Comment
4. Bibliography

Appendix (PDF version only)

5. Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery assemblage
 - 5.1. Methodology
 - 5.2. Period Codes employed
 - 5.3. Abbreviations used in 5.4
 - 5.4. Catalogue: Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery, with notes
6. Catalogues of other finds presented
 - 6.1. Catalogue of slag

Appendix

5. Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery assemblage

5.1. Methodology

The sherds were examined in good light using a hand lens of x10 magnification and were catalogued on a context, total quantity, bulk weight (calculated to the nearest gram), period, ware type, estimate of the number of vessels per ware, condition and date preference basis. They are listed in date order from the earliest to the latest. No information about the contexts or their stratigraphic relationships was known unless stated. In the notes, the pieces are typically plain or less diagnostic body sherds unless stated otherwise.

All dates given are *circa*.

It should also be noted that:

- All form and decorative pieces are noted and described in the catalogue and their presence is highlighted by the inclusion of the word 'DRAW' (which does not mean that such pieces necessarily need to be drawn for archive level reporting or for publication).

5.2. Period Codes employed

<i>Period</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Date (circa)</i>		
Mid to Late Iron Age	MLIA	200	- 50	BC
Early Roman	ER	50	- 150	AD
Early Medieval	EM	1050	- 1200	AD
Medieval	M	1200	- 1375	AD

5.3. Abbreviations used in 5.4

Wear

L	:	Light
M	:	Moderate
H	:	Heavy

Dating

>	:	To/or later
---	---	-------------

5.4. Catalogue: Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery, with notes

Context		Total sherds	Total weight (g)		
<i>Context:</i>	Information on the nature of the context if known.				
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely commencement date of the context based on the pottery evidence.				
<i>End date:</i>	Likely end date of the context based on the pottery evidence.				
<i>Dating:</i>	General implications.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Highlighting elements, wares and issues of particular note.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
	Notes.				
(2804)[2805]		4 sherds	54 g		
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Nothing certainly before 1150 AD and likely after around 1175 AD.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear. Nothing certainly after 1250 AD, but the sherds could be residual to some degree.				
<i>Dating:</i>	As given. Relationship to context unclear, as slightly worn, though not significantly so and all are of the same period, though potentially from the same vessel. Consider the nature of the context and their distribution, if possible.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Small to medium sized sherds, not significantly worn, no rims and no specific data beyond the fabric type, which could be an Ashford Potters Corner or Wealden sandy ware, both of which can appear similar. DRAW: 2.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
4	EM>M	Ashford/Wealden shelly-sandy	1/2	M	1150-1250 AD
	2 conjoin to a largeish plain body sherd, 1 small sherd possibly from the shoulder and 1 medium sized sherd from a base, the latter with a lesser shell context and possibly from a different vessel, though the dull patchy oxidised orangey and brownish surface colours are otherwise similar. Profuse fine sand. DRAW.				
(2902)[2903]		3 sherds	43 g		
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 1175 AD.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear. Nothing certainly after 1250 AD and possibly by or shortly after 1225 AD, though all are residual to some degree.				
<i>Dating:</i>	The 1 rim present likely dates up to 1225 AD and its main focus could be a little earlier. A period of use-life must be considered and its edges are slightly worn, but less so than the other sherds, which are in a different sandy fabric. These might have accrued sequentially, or were broadly related and same period. Consider the nature of the context and their relative distribution, if possible.				
<i>Comments:</i>	2 different fabric types, 1 being profusely fine sandy, as seen in (2804), the other less so, this a rim that likely doesn't date after 1225 AD. All are worn, the rim less so. DRAW: 2.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
2	EM>M	Ashford/Wealden shelly-sandy	1/2	M>H	1150-1250 AD
	Small sherds, 1 plain body with dull orangey surfaces, 1 base with patchy orange and black interior surface and pale grey underside and orangey exterior, edges quite rounded and abraded. Profuse fine sand. DRAW: 1.				
1	EM>M	Ashford/Wealden shelly-sandy	1	M	1150/1175-1200/1225 AD
	Medium sized rim, right-angled everted with slightly convex rim top, patchy orangey, brown and grey-black surfaces. The sand content is much less profuse and slightly coarser than the other Ashford/Wealden fabric in this context. DRAW.				

(3102) [3103]		1 sherd		4 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Nothing certainly before 75 BC.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear. Nothing certainly after 75 AD, but this is a single small sherd only, though not significantly worn.				
<i>Dating:</i>	A soft reduced grog tempered fabric that could date very widely, but is most likely (most commonly) a 'Belgic style grog tempered ware dating within the range given.				
<i>Comments:</i>					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	MLIA>ER	'Belgic' style grog tempered	1	L	75 BC - 75 AD
	Small plain reduced body sherd, fairly soft.				
Totals			8 sherds		101 g

6. Catalogues of other finds presented

6.1. Catalogue of slag

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Date</i>
(804)	1	34	Small irregular nodular lump of iron slag.	-
Totals	1	34		

TRENCH TABLE

Trench: 1		Dimensions: 12.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.37m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 44 m OD Ground level at SW: 43.36 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
101	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.16m
102	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.16m
103	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
104	Ditch	N-S aligned linear with shallow sides and concave base, located on gentle slope might be naturally formed water channel.	Width: 1.1m Depth: 0.2m
105	Fill of ditch	Firm compaction, mid brownish grey, silty clay with frequent manganese	Width: 1.1m Depth: 0.2m
106	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear with shallow sides and concave base, located on gentle slope might be naturally formed water channel. No anthropogenic inclusions.	Length: 2m Width: 1.5m Depth: 0.2m
107	Fill of ditch	Firm compaction, mid brownish grey, silty clay with frequent manganese	Length: 1.5m Width: 0.2m
108	Wheel rut	Irregular in plan, shallow sides, concave base.	
109	Fill of wheel rut	Firm compaction, Light grey, silty clay with moderate amount of of manganese and pebbles up to 4cm	
110	Recently formed deposit	Purly sorted mixture of natural yellowish brown clay and subsoil	
111	Recently disturbed subsoil	Firm compaction, dark grey, silty clay with frequent pebbles, occasional iron slag,	Thickness: 0.5m

Trench: 2		Dimensions: 15m by 1.8m Depth: 0.34m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 43.52 m OD Ground level at SE: 43.08 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
201	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.16m
202	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.16m
203	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 3		Dimensions: 16.6m by 1.8m Depth: 0.34m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 41.92 m OD Ground level at SW: 41.56 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
301	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.08m
302	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.21m
303	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 4		Dimensions: 0m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 41.68 m OD Ground level at SE: 41.39 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
401	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.1m
402	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.22m
403	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
404	Lower natural	Firm compaction, mottled light grey and lighth brown clay with freq. Manganese within contact of lower and uper natural clay	

Trench: 5		Dimensions: 14.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.3m	Trench alligment: NNE-SSW
		Ground level at NNE: 40.69 m OD Ground level at SSW: 40.15 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
501	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.07m
502	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.23m
503	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 6		Dimensions: 17.2m by 1.8m Depth: 0.36m	Trench alligment: WNW-ESE
		Ground level at WNW: 40.38 m OD Ground level at ESE: 40.45 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
601	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.15m
602	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.17m
603	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 7		Dimensions: 23m by 1.8m Depth: 0.3m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.3 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.03 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
701	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.08m
702	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.21m
703	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
704	Fire-pit	Sub-circular with very shallow sides and almost flat base.	Length: 1.25m Width: 1.12m Depth: 0.06m
705	Fire-pit base	Burnt in-situ poorly sorted black and red clay.	Thickness: 0.02m Length: 1.25m Width: 1.12m Depth: 0.05m
706	Fill of fire-pit	Firm compaction, poorly sorted dark grey and black mixture of silty-clay, ash and charcoal.	Length: 1.25m Width: 1.12m Depth: 0.04m

Trench: 8		Dimensions: 25.1m by 1.8m Depth: 0.45m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 39.21 m OD Ground level at SE: 39.29 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
801	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.12m
802	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.27m
803	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 9		Dimensions: 15m by 1.8m Depth: 0.45m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 39.39 m OD Ground level at SE: 39.77 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
901	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.25m
902	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.15m
903	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
904	Naturally formed deposit - bioturbation	Light grey with dark grey stains silty clay, freq. Manganese	Thickness: 0.04m
905	Linear feature	N-S aligned linear with shallow irregular sides and irregular base, very unclear contact with natural	Width: 0.8m Depth: 0.2m
906	Fill of linear feature	Firm compaction, mottled orangish brown and light grey silty-clay wit frequent manganese and occasional small stones.	Width: 0.8m Depth: 0.2m

Trench: 10		Dimensions: 13m by 1.8m Depth: 0.41m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.8 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.88 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1001	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.21m
1002	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.19m
1003	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
1004	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear with moderately sloped sides and slightly concave base.	Width: 2m Depth: 0.3m
1005	Fill of ditch	Firm compaction, mid brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of manganese, 1 large flint and 1 small worked flint, a lot of root	Width: 2m Depth: 0.3m

Trench: 11		Dimensions: 19.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.36m	Trench alligment: N-S
		Ground level at N: 40.02 m OD Ground level at S: 40.17 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1101	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.2m
1102	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.16m
1103	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
1104	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear with moderately sloped sides and slightly concave base.	Width: 2m Depth: 0.3m
1105	Fill of ditch	Firm compaction, mid brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of manganese.	Width: 2m Depth: 0.3m

Trench: 12		Dimensions: 13.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.45m	Trench alligment: E-W
		Ground level at E: 40.37 m OD Ground level at W: 40.2 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1201	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.25m
1202	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.14m
1203	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	
1204	Tree throw hole	Irregular shape in plan with shallow to steep sides and undulating base	Length: 1.65m Width: 0.9m Depth: 0.2m
1205	Fill of three throw hole	Light grey silty clay with freq. Manganese	

Trench: 13		Dimensions: 17m by 1.8m Depth: 0.32m	Trench alligment: N-S
		Ground level at N: 40.4 m OD Ground level at S: 40.53 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1301	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.13m
1302	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.14m
1303	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 14		Dimensions: 21.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: E-W
		Ground level at E: 40.71 m OD Ground level at W: 40.47 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1401	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.18m
1402	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.18m
1403	Natural	Firm compaction, light yellowish brown clay.	

Trench: 15		Dimensions: 11.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.43m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 38.69 m OD Ground level at SE: 38.4 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1501	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.17m
1502	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.21m
1503	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	

Trench: 16		Dimensions: 14.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.48m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 38.65 m OD Ground level at SW: 38.75 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1601	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.18m
1602	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.22m
1603	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	

Trench: 17		Dimensions: 18m by 1.8m Depth: 0.35m	Trench alligment: WNW-ESE
		Ground level at WNW: 39.07 m OD Ground level at ESE: 38.83 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1701	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.18m
1702	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.15m
1703	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	

Trench: 18		Dimensions: 16m by 1.8m Depth: 0.42m	Trench alligment: NNE-SSW
		Ground level at NNE: 39.22 m OD Ground level at SSW: 39.15 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1801	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.24m
1802	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.16m
1803	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	

Trench: 19		Dimensions: 13m by 1.8m Depth: 0.41m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.45 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.62 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
1901	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.27m
1902	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.1m
1903	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	
1904	Gully	N-S aligned linera with steep sides and concave base	Width: 0.4m Depth: 0.18m
1905	Fill of gully	Firm compaction, na d greyish brown, silty clay with moderate amount of manganese	Width: 0.4m Depth: 0.18m

Trench: 20		Dimensions: 16.7m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 39.7 m OD Ground level at SE: 39.56 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2001	Top-soil	Firm compaction, dark brownish grey silty-clay with occasional stones. Vegetation at the top.	Thickness: 0.24m
2002	Sub-soil	Firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty-clay with occasional stones.	Thickness: 0.14m
2003	Natural	Firm compaction, mid orange brown silty-clay.	
2004	Pit	Irregular shape in plan however not wholly exposed. Steep sides and uneven base.	Length: 2.6m Width: 0.75m Depth: 0.58m
2005	Fill of pit	Light grey silty-clay with moderate amount of charcoal lumps up to 4cm. Concentrated within lowest 0.2m	Length: 1.26m Width: 0.5m Depth: 0.58m
2006	Fill of pit	Light brown with light grey patches silty clay with occasional charcoal and manganese	
2007	Fill of pit	Light brown with mod manganese	

Trench: 21		Dimensions: 27m by 1.8m Depth: 0.45m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 38.8 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.26 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2101	Top-soil	Moderate-compact mid-dark grey brown clay loam	Thickness: 0.3m
2102	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled light yellow brown with white grey and mid-light orange clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.12m
2103	Natural	Moderately compact mottled mid orange brown and light white grey silty clay with occasional manganese inclusions and white silt streaking	

Trench: 22		Dimensions: 24m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 38.68 m OD Ground level at SW: 38.78 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2200	Top-soil	Moderately compact mottled mid-dark grey brown, light blue grey and mid orange brown silty clay	Thickness: 0.28m
2201	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled light yellow brown with white grey and mid-light orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.1m
2202	Fill of Linear [2203]	Compact mottled light blue grey with mid brownly orange clay with occasional manganese lump inclusions	Depth: 0.35m
2203	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear with near vertical (S & NW) and steep (NE) inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base. Aligned E-W	Length: 1.8m Width: 0.89m Depth: 0.35m
2204	Natural	Compact mottled light-mid yellowish orange brown and light blueish grey slightly silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions and white silt streaking	

Trench: 23		Dimensions: 24m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.08 m OD Ground level at SW: 38.77 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2300	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clay loam	Thickness: 0.29m
2301	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clay loam	Thickness: 0.29m
2302	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled mid-light grey brown and light yellow brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.07m
2303	Natural	Firm mottled light-mid orange brown, light blueish grey and light white grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	

Trench: 24		Dimensions: 19.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.45m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.47 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.19 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2400	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clay loam	Thickness: 0.32m
2401	Sub-soil	Moderately compact light-mid grey brown and light yellowish brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.1m
2402	Natural	Firm mottled light-mid orange brown, light blueish grey and light white grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions and frequent tree rooting	

Trench: 25		Dimensions: 25m by 1.8m Depth: 0.52m	Trench alligment: E-W
		Ground level at E: 39.78 m OD Ground level at W: 39.81 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2500	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.4m
2501	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay	Thickness: 0.1m
2502	Natural	Firm mottled light-mid orange brown, light blueish grey and light white grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	

Trench: 26		Dimensions: 25m by 1.8m Depth: 0.48m	Trench alligment: E-W
		Ground level at E: 39.84 m OD Ground level at W: 39.76 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2600	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.34m
2601	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay	Thickness: 0.14m
2602	Natural	Firm mottled light-mid orange brown, light blueish grey and light white grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	

Trench: 27		Dimensions: 24m by 1.8m Depth: 0.44m	Trench alligment: E-W
		Ground level at E: 40.23 m OD Ground level at W: 39.92 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2700	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.32m
2701	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled light yellow brown and light grey brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions (interface layer?)	Thickness: 0.08m
2702	Natural	Firm mottled mid orange and blueish grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	

Trench: 28		Dimensions: 25m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench allignment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 39.9 m OD Ground level at SE: 39.82 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2800	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.3m
2801	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mid brownish grey with light orange flecking silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.08m
2802	Fill of Linear [2803]	Moderately compact mottled mid-dark blueish grey with mid orange brown flecking silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions	Depth: 0.14m
2803	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear with gentle inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base, aligned NE-SW	Length: 2.1m Width: 0.9m Depth: 0.14m
2804	Fill of Linear [2805]	Moderately compact mottled light brown and light grey very silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions	Depth: 0.14m
2805	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear with gentle-moderate inwards sloping sides and a very shallow concave base. No clear relationship with [2807] surviving due to slight over-machining of trench. Aligned ENE-WSW	Length: 1.9m Width: 0.86m Depth: 0.14m
2806	Fill of Poss. Linear [2807]	Moderately compact mottled mid-dark blueish grey with orange brown flecking silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions	Depth: 0.13m
2807	Cut of Poss. Linear	Possible linear feature with gentle inwards sloping sides and a flat, slightly undulating base. No surviving relationship with [2805]. Aligned broadly ENE-WSW	Length: 1.9m Width: 1.16m Depth: 0.13m
2808	Natural	Firm mottled mid orange brown and light blueish grey silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions and tree throws (large trees adjacent to trench)	

Trench: 29		Dimensions: 24m by 1.8m Depth: 0.4m	Trench alligment: NNW-SSE
		Ground level at NNW: 39.45 m OD Ground level at SSE: 39.72 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
2900	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.3m
2901	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mid brownish grey with light orange flecking silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.06m
2902	Fill of Pit [2903]	Moderately compact mottled mid grey brown, light blue grey and mid orange brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese inclusions	Depth: 0.1m
2903	Pit	Sub-circular/ovate pit with gentle inwards sloping sides and a gentle concave base	Length: 1.9m Width: 1.6m Depth: 0.1m
2904	Natural	Firm mottled light blue grey and light orange silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions and moderate tree rooting	

Trench: 30		Dimensions: 19.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.44m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 42.72 m OD Ground level at SW: 41.9 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3000	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.3m
3001	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled mid grey brown, light blue grey and mid orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.1m
3002	Backfill of Fire Pit/In-Situ Burning [3004]	Moderately compact light-mid grey brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese and burnt clay fleck inclusions	Depth: 0.04m
3003	Heat Affected Base of Burning in [3004]	Firm dark brownish red mottled with mid grey baked silty clay with very frequent manganese	Depth: 0.05m
3004	Cut of Fire Pit/In-Situ Burning	Irregular/amorphous area of in-situ burning	Length: 1.1m Width: 0.77m Depth: 0.08m
3005	Natural	Firm mottled mid orange brown and light blue grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions and frequent tree throws and field drains	

Trench: 31		Dimensions: 22m by 1.8m Depth: 0.56m	Trench alligment: NW-SE
		Ground level at NW: 42.55 m OD Ground level at SE: 41.8 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3100	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.4m
3101	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled dark brownish grey, light grey and mid orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.14m
3102	Fill of Terminus/Poss. Pit [3103]	Soft-moderate dark grey brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese and iron panning inclusions	Depth: 0.09m
3103	Cut of Terminus/Poss. Pit	Ovate terminus with gentle inwards sloping sides and a very gentle concave base. Aligned E-W	Length: 1.85m Width: 1.17m Depth: 0.09m
3104	Fill of Poss. Pit [3105]	Soft-moderately dark grey brown clayey silt with very frequent manganese and iron panning inclusions	Depth: 0.07m
3105	Cut of Poss. Pit	Square with very gentle inwards sloping sides and a mostly flat but slightly undulating base. E-W aligned. Cut by field drain	Length: 2.02m Width: 1.1m Depth: 0.07m
3106	Fill of Linear [3107]	Soft mottled light grey and very light grey clayey silt with very frequent manganese inclusions. Possibly same as (3108)	Depth: 0.16m
3107	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear gully with moderate-steep inwards sloping sides and a moderate concave base. Modern feature truncates [3107], probably a field drain, and destroys	Length: 4.06m Width: 0.2m Depth: 0.16m
3108	Fill of Linear [3109]	Soft mottled light grey and very light grey clayey silt with very frequent manganese inclusions	Depth: 0.13m
3109	Cut of Linear	Rectilinear with moderate inwards sloping sides and a gentle-moderate concave base. Aligned NE-SW	Length: 2.64m Width: 0.48m Depth: 0.13m
3110	Natural	Firm mottled mid orange with light blue grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions. 2 field drains towards NW end of trench and 8.7m wide, 1.9+m long area of truncation/redep natural clay and mixed topsoil towards SE end of trench. Appears to be infilled former pond	

Trench: 32		Dimensions: 25m by 1.8m Depth: 0.38m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 41.88 m OD Ground level at SW: 40.93 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3200	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.24m
3201	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled light grey, mid brown orange and mid grey slightly silty clay	Thickness: 0.1m
3202	Natural	Firm mottled mid orange and light blue grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions. 5 field drains in trench	

Trench: 33		Dimensions: 24m by 1.8m Depth: 0.41m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 40.72 m OD Ground level at SW: 40.15 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3300	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.3m
3301	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled mid grey, light blue grey and light orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.08m
3302	Natural	Firm mottled light orange, light grey and light blue grey silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions, and patches and streaks of very light grey very silty clay. 2 field drains in the trench	

Trench: 34		Dimensions: 22.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.35m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 40.05 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.71 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3400	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.31m
3401	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mottled mid grey, light blue grey and light orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.12m
3402	Natural	Firm mottled light orange, light grey and light blue grey silty clay with frequent manganese inclusions. Cut by multiple field drains	

Trench: 35		Dimensions: 15.5m by 1.8m Depth: 0.5m	Trench alligment: NE-SW
		Ground level at NE: 39.71 m OD Ground level at SW: 39.67 m OD	
Context Number	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
3500	Top-soil	Moderately compact mid-dark grey brown clayey loam	Thickness: 0.38m
3501	Sub-soil	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay with occasional manganese inclusions	Thickness: 0.1m
3502	Natural	Moderately compact light-mid yellowish grey with greenish hue very silty clay	