

Archaeological Evaluation of land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT

Evaluation Report

Site Code: PRM-EV-22

NGR Site Centre: E594520 N172335

Planning Application Number: 15/507059; 18/503855/OUT



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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Abstract

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.

The archaeological works have investigated the extents of the proposed development area using 37 trenches each measuring 18-28m in length.

The archaeological evaluation has confirmed the presence of an undated, Late Iron Age, Early Roman and medieval field system comprising discrete features, field divisions and boundaries within majority of the site. A large Roman refuse pit was exposed in Trench 2 and notable ditches were exposed in Trenches 10 and 31. Sparse distribution of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery sherds across the site increased within northern extent, thus suggesting an approach to a potential settlement or a farmstead of that period, which could be located immediately to the north-east off proposed development area. Infrequent medieval and Post-Medieval boundaries indicate prolonged land use as an agricultural plot until Late Post-Medieval and Modern Periods.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals which are likely to have an impact exceeding 0.5m in depth. The ultimate scope and extent of further mitigation measures will be decided by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council separately in due course.

Archaeological Evaluation of land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT

NGR Site Centre: 594520 172335

Site Code: PRM-EV-22

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT.(Figure)

1.1.2 An outline planning application was granted on the 18th September 2019 (Application No: 15/507059; 18/503855/OUT) for the residential development on the land off Plover Road, including associated access, parking and landscaping.

1.1.3 A Condition of archaeological works were attached to Planning Decision Notice and it was:

(8) No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

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

1.1.4 On the basis of the present archaeological information. KCCHC advising Swale 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.

1.1.5 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2020), prior to the commencement of works.

1.1.6 The evaluation is the first stage of the programme of archaeological works and addresses part i) of the planning condition only. Its main aim is to clarify the presence/absence of archaeology and its significance. On the basis of the results of the evaluation, further archaeological works may be needed and could include excavation and/or watching brief and post excavation and publication.

1.2 Timetable

1.2.1 A timetable for the archaeological programme of works, to date, is provided below;

Task	Dates	Personnel/Company
Desk-based assessment	June 2015	CgMs
Submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation	April 2020	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation: Fieldwork	September-October 2022	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation Report	This document	SWAT Archaeology

Table 1 *Timetable for the archaeological programme of works*

1.3 Site Description, Topography and Geology

1.3.1 The PDA (Proposed Development Area) is centred on NGR 594520 172335 (Figure 1) and is situated on open ground of approximately 3.60 ha in areal coverage, demarcated by Parish Rd from northwest, housing estates from northeast and southeast and Plover Road from southwest. Site is located on descending slope to the northeast of levels varying from 6 to 17metres above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.2 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the PDA is set on bedrock geology of London Clay Formation- Clay and Silt. Superficial deposits are not recorded.

1.4 Scope of Report

1.4.1 This report has been produced to provide initial information regarding the results of the archaeological evaluation. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer (KCC) of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located close to a number of archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database.

2.2 HER Records

2.2.1 The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located close to a number of archaeological sites and Simon Mason Principal Archaeological Officer KCC commented on the planning application:

Thank you for consulting on this site and my comments are the same as for the previous applications for this site. The application is supported by a desk based assessment written by CgMs (dated June 2015). I agree with the assessment of the sites archaeological potential in that the previous investigations around this area on recent development has revealed prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval remains and there is a potential for this to extend into the present undeveloped site at Plover Road. I agree with the conclusion that archaeology can be dealt with through a condition on any planning consent for this proposal and advise that the following condition for a programme of archaeological work be attached: AR1 No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

2.2.2 The Archaeological Desk Based Assessment dated June 2015 and titled 'Land at Plover Road, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, Kent' contains a fully comprehensive survey of known archaeological sites within the surrounding area of the PDA and the DBA report summarises that: 'The study site can be considered likely to have a potential for the later prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and Medieval periods'. A KCCHER search in April 2020 shows that about 200m to the south three Roman cremations were found on Thistle Hill (TQ 97 SW 129). To the east an undated feature was investigated (TQ 97 SW 113) and to the SSE at about 250m from the PDA a medieval pit was excavated (TQ 97 SW 130). To the SE at about 300m from the PDA Late Iron Age/Early Roman pits were excavated (TQ 97 SW 137).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General Aims

3.1.1 The specific aims of the archaeological fieldwork were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (SWAT Archaeology 2020) as stated below;

- *6.1 The primary objective of the archaeological evaluation is to establish or otherwise the presence of any potential archaeological features which may be impacted by the proposed development. The aims of this investigation are to determine the potential for archaeological activity and in particular the earlier prehistoric period and also any Roman, medieval and later archaeological activity.*
- *6.2 The programme of archaeological work should be carried out in a phased approach and will commence with evaluation through trial trenching. This initial phase should*

determine whether any significant archaeological remains would be affected by the development and if so, what mitigation measures are appropriate. Such measures may include further detailed archaeological excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during construction work or an engineering solution to any preservation in situ requirements.

(SWAT Archaeology 2020: Section 6)

3.2 General Objectives

3.2.1 The general objectives of the archaeological fieldwork were therefore:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts, or ecofacts within the specified area;
- To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the methodology set out in the Specification (SWAT 2020) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (CIfA 2014).

4.2 Fieldwork

4.2.1 37 evaluation trenches were excavated (Figures). Each trench was initially scanned by a metal detector for surface finds prior to excavation. Excavation was carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

4.2.2 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.

4.2.3 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.

4.2.4 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, surveying, and monitoring had been completed.

4.3 Recording

4.3.1 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 OD heights.

4.3.2 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.

4.3.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix 1. 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.).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The site, as shown on Figure 2, provides the trench layout while further Figures illustrates the results for each individual archaeological evaluation trench along with representative soil sequence sections. Plates consist of photographs of features and selected trenches that have been provided to supplement the text.

5.1.2 Individual trench results are discussed below.

5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the majority of the Site comprising topsoil and colluvium sealing intact subsoil, which overlay the natural geological

deposits. The topsoil generally consisted of dark organic brown clay-silt/ silt-clay with frequent roots and occasional building material (bricks, tiles, etc), overlying the subsoil/ colluvium which consisted of light to mid brown-orange silty-clay with moderate small rounded stones. Natural geology comprised silty clays from London Clay Formation. In most of the areas the natural geology (xx03) was sealed-off by subsoil/ colluvium (xx02).

5.3 Archaeological Narrative – Positive Trenches

Trench 1 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.1 Trench 1 was placed in northern corner of the site in NW-SE alignment. It measured 25metres in length, 1.8metres in width and 0.75metres in depth. The trench was excavated through 0.5m thick topsoil and 0.1m thick subsoil. The top soil (101) was of firm compaction dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone. The subsoil (102) was of firm compaction, dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel. At the base natural geology was exposed context (103) cut by five features of which two were excavated. Parent material (103) was firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly clay. The gravel was flint pebble and subangular. The unexcavated features comprise partially exposed feature within north west end of the trench, post hole and oval pit within south east half of the trench. The ditch terminus 104 in NW-SE alignment was located within SE end of the trench. Its profile had moderate sides and concave base. It was filled with (105) of firm compaction, mid brown clayey silt with moderate flint pebble and subangular. The ditch 106 was exposed in NE-SW alignment running across the middle of the trench. Its profile had moderate sides and flat base. It measured 0.55m in width and 0.1m in depth. It was filled with (107) of firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint pebble and subangular stones.

Trench 2 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.2 Trench 2 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.8metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (203) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silt-clay with moderate pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed a large shallow pit and a ditch. An extension was dug at north-eastern end of the trench to the northwest. It measured 5metres by 5metres and exposed large part of shallow Pit [206]. NE-SW aligned feature was sub-oval in plan with shallow sides and mainly uneven base. It measured over 5metres in length and 4.2metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (207) comprising firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, angular stones and a number of Early Roman pottery sherds all likely date within 50-175 AD, some broadly and most commonly up to around 150 AD, a few perhaps more likely between 100/125-175 AD. Ditch [204] comprised

NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.4metres in depth and was filled in by context (205) which was firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel. Fill produced Roman pottery sherds potentially 125-175 AD.

Trench 3 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.3 Trench 3 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (303) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with moderate pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed two shallow pits. Feature [304] comprised NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 2.9metres in length by 1.65metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled-in by context (305) which was firm brown silty-clay with infrequent rounded stones. Pit [306] was sub-oval or more likely ovoid in plan with shallow sides and uneven but flat base. It measured 1.2metres in length by 0.7metres in width and 0.12metres in depth. Its backfill context (307) was firmly compacted brown silty-clay with infrequent rounded pebbles and Late Post-Medieval clay pipe stems.

Trench 4 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.4 Trench 4 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.51metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (403) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with infrequent pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [404] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with very shallow sides and uneven slightly concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled-in by context (405) comprising firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and rounded pebbles. Deposit produced Roman potsherds, the majority are ER and likely date between 75-150/175 AD, with 1 potential Thameside sandy ware more likely after 120 AD. Second feature investigated in this trench was a terminus [406] of shallow ditch or patch of natural silt giving overall impression that we're dealing with a feature in here which was NE-SW aligned shallow linear cut with shallow sides and uneven mainly flat base. Its backfill context (407) was pale-grey clay-silt/ silt-clay with infrequent flint gravel. Feature measured 1.1metres in width and 0.08metres in depth. Trench has exposed another suspected discrete feature which shared very similar characteristics with just described one but it was not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 5 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.5 Trench 5 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context

(503) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with moderate pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated to preserve newt fencing. Trench has exposed ditch and a pit. Pit [504] comprised NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (505) which was brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks. Fill produced worked flint piece, but on a fairly decent flake. This could date widely, potentially/more likely N>MBA-LBA. A Potential E-W aligned or curvilinear ditch was also exposed at SE end of this trench although feature was not excavated at this stage.

Trench 6 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.6 Trench 6 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.56metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (603) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed sub-circular Pit [604] (or ditch terminus) comprising sub-circular shape in plan with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.26metres in depth and was filled in by context (605) comprising yellow-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles. Ditch [606] comprised WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with moderate to steep sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.35metres in depth and was filled-in by context (607) which was brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel. Two other potential archaeological cuts of discrete features were noted in this trench but not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 7 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.7 Trench 7 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.53metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (703) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with very occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Pit [704] comprising sub-circular cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in width and 0.38metres in depth and was filled in by context (705) which was yellow-grey silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, ferromanganese nodules and round pebbles. Shallow ditch or footpath [706] comprised N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and mainly flat although uneven base. It measured 2.1metres in width and 0.12metres in depth and was filled in by context (707) which was firmly compacted pale grey clay-silt/ silt-clay with infrequent round pebbles.

Trench 8 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.8 Trench 8 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.52metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context

(803) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [804] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width by 0.25metres in depth and was filled in by context (805) which was dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles, charcoal flecks and small ferromanganese nodules. Another Ditch [806] comprised N-S aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.3metres in depth and was filled-in by context (807) comprising firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal, ferromanganese and round pebbles. Two other potential discrete features and another ditch were also revealed in this trench but these were not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 9 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.9 Trench 9 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.56metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (903) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated for the purpose of preserving the existing newt fencing. Trench has exposed sub-oval pit or ditch terminus [904] comprising NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.47metres in depth and was filled in by context (905) which was brown-yellow silty-clay with infrequent charcoal, ferromanganese, round pebbles and Roman pottery sherd presumably date after 175/200 AD. Ditch [906] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.75metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (907) which was firmly compacted, brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and ferromanganese. Fill produced 7 potsherds date between 50 BC - 50 AD. Pit [908] comprised sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.45metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled by context (909) comprising firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round stones, ferromanganese, charcoal flecks and potsherds which date 25-75 AD. Similar sub-oval shallow cut was noted nearby but was not excavated at evaluation stage due to similar characteristics shared with previously discussed feature. Ditch [912] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and mainly flat base. It measured 2.1metres in width and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (913) comprising brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel and pottery sherds likely dating between 50-125/150 AD.

Trench 10 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.10 Trench 10 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.51metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1003) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [1004] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and flat/ uneven base. It measured 0.82metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (1005) comprising firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles, ferromanganese and pottery sherds dating likely after 100 AD and perhaps after 125 AD at least. Ditch [1006] was N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 2metres in width and 0.17metres in depth and was filled in by context (1007) which was dark grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, ferromanganese and angular stones. Fill produced worked flint piece of potential MBA>EIA date. Ditch [1008] comprised NE-SW aligned linear cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in width and 0.47metres in depth and was filled in by a sequence comprising two deposits. Primary fill (1010) was firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese and abraded Roman pottery sherds post 75 AD, clay pipe stem. It was sealed on top by secondary fill (1009) which was brownish-grey silty-clay with moderate ferromanganese, daub, infrequent charcoal and round pebbles. Fill produced a number of Roman pottery sherds dating it after 50/75 AD and perhaps most likely after 125 AD and medium sized fragment of Roman Tegula. Another potential feature was noted at NW end of this trench although it was not excavated at this stage.

Trench 12 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.11 Trench 12 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 18metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.50metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1203) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Pit [1204] comprising sub-oval cut with shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 1.7metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by (1205) which was dark grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles.

Trench 13 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.12 Trench 13 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.49metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1303) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [1304] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.18metres in depth.

Ditch [1306] was NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width by 0.33metres in depth and was filled-in by context (1307) which was firmly compacted dark grey brown silty-clay with moderate ferromanganese and charcoal. Another ditch in similar alignment was observed in this trench although feature was not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 14 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.13 Trench 14 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.54metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1403) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed sub-oval pit or ditch terminus [1404] comprising N-S aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (1405) comprising firm grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent ferromanganese and flint gravel. Ditch [1406] comprised N-S aligned linear cut with shallow side and flat uneven base. It measured 0.78metres in width and 0.1metres in depth.

Trench 15 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.14 Trench 15 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1503) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Pit [1504] comprising NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in length by 0.98metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (1505) comprising brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round stones. Feature [1506] was circular in plan with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.5metre in diameter and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (1507) comprising dark brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles. Another circular potential discrete feature was exposed here but not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 16 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.15 Trench 16 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.52metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1603) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [1605] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.5metres in depth and was filled in by context (1606) comprising dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks, round pebbles and worked flint piece of Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA date. Pit

[1607] comprised NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.3metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (1608) comprising mid-brown silty-clay with infrequent angular stones.

Trench 17 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.16 Trench 17 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.53metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1703) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [1704] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.76metres in width and 0.5metres in depth and was filled in by context (1705) which was dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks and flint gravel. Ditch [1706] comprised NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.55metres in width and 0.33metres in depth and was filled in by context (1707) comprising firm dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Trench 18 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.17 Trench 18 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.53metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1803) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed sub-oval cut of Pit [1804] with shallow sides and uneven base. It measured 1.3metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (1805) which was brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles.

Trench 19 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.18 Trench 19 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.52metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1903) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [1904] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (1905) comprising firmly compacted dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles. Parallel Ditch [1906] comprised NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (1907) which was firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Trench 21 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.19 Trench 21 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.48metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2103) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated to protect newt fencing. Trench has exposed Ditch [2104] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.19metres in depth and was filled in by context (2105) which was firmly compacted dark-brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and round pebbles.

Trench 22 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.20 Trench 22 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2203) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated to protect newt fencing. Trench has exposed Ditch [2204] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.15metres in depth.

Trench 24 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.21 Trench 24 was placed in northern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.55metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2403) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed curvilinear Ditch [2404] comprising curvilinear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by (2405) which was dark-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles. Ditch [2406] comprised NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.16metres in depth. Two other potential features were noted in this trench although those were not excavated at evaluation stage.

Trench 25 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.22 Trench 25 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2503) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed curvilinear ditch [2504] comprising curvilinear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.5metres in width and 0.25metres in depth and was filled in by context (2505) which was firm, brown silty-clay with angular stones. Ditch

[2506] comprised NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.14metres in depth and was filled in by context (2507) comprising brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles.

Trench 26 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.23 Trench 26 was placed in southern 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 (2603) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed sub-oval cut or Ditch terminus [2604]; feature had moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (2605) which was firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles.

Trench 27 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.24 Trench 27 was placed in southern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.48metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2703) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed sub-oval pit or ditch terminus [2704] comprising NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.2metres in depth. Ditch [2708] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.27metres in depth and was filled in by context (2709) which was dark brown grey silty clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and round stones. Pit [2706] comprised sub-oval cut with shallow sides and mainly flat/uneven base. It measured 0.7metres by 0.5metres and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (2707) comprising brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese.

Trench 28 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.25 Trench 28 was placed in southern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.54metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2803) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [2804] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate to steep slope sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.5 metres in depth and was filled-in by context (2805) which was firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent manganese and charcoal flecks. Another Ditch [2806] comprised curvilinear cut in roughly NE-SW alignment with shallow sides and flat slightly concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.12metres in depth and was filled in by context (2807) comprising brown-grey silty clay with infrequent angular and rounded stones.

Trench 29 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.26 Trench 29 was placed in southern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2903) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [2904] comprising NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.25metres in depth and was filled-in by context (2905) which was firm dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent pebbles, charcoal flecks and Roman pottery sherds dating after 75/100 AD. Another sub-oval pit or ditch terminus [2906] comprised NE-SW aligned cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.78metres in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (2907) comprising firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round stones.

Trench 30 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.27 Trench 30 was placed in southern 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 (3003) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Pit [3004] comprising sub-circular cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 0.8metres by 0.7metres and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (3005) which was firm brown-grey silty-clay with occasional pebbles. Pit or ditch terminus [3006] comprised E-W aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (3007) comprising brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones. Another pit or ditch terminus [3008] comprised sub-circular cut with shallow/ moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.2metres in depth and was filled in by context (3009) which was firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese.

Trench 31 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.28 Trench 31 was placed in southern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.57metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (3103) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [3104] comprising NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.16metres in depth. Another similar and perpendicularly aligned to previously described one was ditch or pit terminus [3106] which comprised NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with moderate side and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (3107) which was firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Ditch [3108] comprised NE-SW aligned linear cut with steep sides and flat slightly concave base. It measured 1.2metres in width and 0.6metres in depth and was filled in by context (3109) which was grey-brown silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks, round pebbles and Roman potsherds dating after 100 AD.

Trench 32 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.29 Trench 32 was placed in southern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (3203) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated to preserve newt fencing. Trench has exposed multiple cuts for archaeological features however due to nearby leaking drain the trench was constantly filling up with water thus making its investigation impossible as many attempt were made to remove the water which was constantly arising in the trench.

Trench 33 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.30 Trench 33 was placed in southern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.58metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (3303) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed two parallel ditches. Feature [3304] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.25metres in depth and was filled in by context (3305) comprising firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones. Its parallel counterpart ditch [3306] comprised E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.88metres in width and 0.22metres in depth and was filled in by context (3307) comprising firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles. Pit or ditch terminus [3308] comprised sub-circular cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.72metres in width and 0.16metres in depth and was filled in by context (3309) of firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones. Pit [3310] comprised E-W aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width by 0.1metres in depth.

Trench 34 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.31 Trench 34 was placed in southern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.6metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (3403) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [3406] comprising NE-SW aligned slightly curving linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.18metres in depth and was filled in by context (3407) which was brown-grey silty-clay with

infrequent manganese. Pit [3408] comprised sub-circular cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.82metres in width and 0.13metres in depth and was filled in by context (3409) which was brown silty-clay with infrequent pebbles.

Trench 37 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.3.32 Trench 37 was placed in southern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (3703) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. Trench has exposed Ditch [3704] comprising WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.23metres in width and 0.1metres in depth and was filled in by context (3705) comprising firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with very occasional pebbles.

5.4 Archaeological Narrative – Negative Trenches

Trench 11 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.4.1 Trench 11 was placed in central part of the site in ENE-WSW alignment and measured 26metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (1103) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-grey clay-silt with moderate pebbles and flint gravel. No archaeological cuts or deposits were exposed in this trench.

Trench 20 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.4.2 Trench 20 was placed in southern 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 (2003) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. A gap was left unexcavated to preserve newt fencing. No archaeological cuts or deposits were exposed in this trench.

Trench 23 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.4.3 Trench 23 was placed in northern part of the site in NW-SE alignment and measured 25metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context (2303) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. No archaeological cuts or deposits were exposed in this trench.

Trench 35 (Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.4.4 Trench 35 was placed in southern part of the site in NE-SW alignment and measured 21metres in length by 1.8metres in width and 0.5metres in depth. It exposed natural geology context

(3503) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. No archaeological cut or deposits were exposed in this trench.

Trench 36(Figure 2, 3 Plates)

- 5.4.5 Trench 36 was placed in southern 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 (3603) comprising firmly compacted yellow to orange-brown silty-clay with occasional pebbles and flint gravel. No archaeological cut or deposits were exposed in this trench.

6 FINDS

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 99 Pottery sherds were retrieved from archaeological fills and deposits during the course of evaluation. These were mainly Roman in date with small addition of Late Iron Age, Medieval and Post-medieval material. Additionally 6 worked lithics were found, daub and other ceramics including CBM. The detailed catalogue is presented in the appendix and only key spot dates are referred below.

6.2 Pottery

Context (205) [204]

- 6.2.1 Start date: Likely after 75/100 AD and perhaps significantly after, noting the latest dated piece, potentially 125-175 AD, is the most worn. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible. End date: Unclear, all likely residual to various degrees. Dating: Little specific data and the fabrics and traits could potentially date widely, the reasonable alternatives for this material being ER/M and ER>MR/LS>EM. On current evidence however, Roman dates are slightly preferred (see Comments), but the possibility for this being evidence of later activity, particularly if LS>EM, is notable. Review in light of the nature of the context, the distribution (if possible), any associations and the final assemblage trends (after all work is completed), plus if any LS>EM activity is known to occur in the immediate vicinity (and consider if the character of that material is comparable). Comments: All sandy wares, which could date widely, but with preferences for ER and ER>MR at present. The 2 bases in reduced fine sandy fabrics *have some potential to be LS>EM. 1 has a horizontal knife-trimmed facet forming the outer edge, a trait which could occur in the ER>MR or the LS>EM, but perhaps mostly between 950-1150 AD for the latter (occasionally later), noting also that the slightly earlier Saxon and ER>MR instances of knife trimming are perhaps more typically confined to the body. The firing of this particular fine sandy fabric (with the brown margins) is akin to that often seen on Thameside fine sandy/BB2, but this fabric is finer and more profusely sandy than

what is generally typical for that ware and as such is not currently a certain example of that industry. The fabric and firing of the other small base is similarly not typical of the wares that are usually seen distributed in East Kent. The small oxidised sherds **could alternatively be M, potentially between 1225-1275/1300 AD. Given the dominance of Roman (particularly ER) material in the site assemblage as a whole, including many instances of oxidised sandy wares, plus the lack of anything certainly Medieval (apart from the more worn potential EM bases in this context, hence this note), an ER date is slightly preferred at present. DRAW: 2 small bases (1, perhaps both, not worth drawing).

Context (207) [206]

- 6.2.2 Start date: Likely after 75 AD. End date: Unclear, all are residual to some degree, though noting certainly after 175 AD. Dating: Little specific data, other than all are worn and potentially residual to various degrees. No specifically dateable elements are present, though all likely date within 50-175 AD, some broadly and most commonly up to around 150 AD, a few perhaps more likely between 100/125-175 AD, considering the relative hardness of their fabrics, though none of the latter are very hard fired. Given the quantity and consistency, the context could be broadly of the same period as its contents, though perhaps one which might either have gradually received incidentally accrued weathered sherds resulting from material formerly discarded nearby, or a single episode deposit that had received material perhaps formerly stored and weathered on a rubbish dump. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution (if possible) and perhaps review. Comments: Small to large sized sherds, all appearing worn to various degrees, none fresh and sharp. No rims, 1 fragmented base, most of the material is soft, a few harder. Notable are 3 thick-walled reduced sherds, which have a distinctive sandy fabric* that currently appears different to the others seen in the site assemblage. Also 3 sherds of Kentish white-cream ware, the only examples in the site assemblage. DRAW: 1 small fragmented base (not worth drawing).

Context (405) [404]

- 6.2.3 Start date: Likely after 75 AD and depending upon the nature of the context potentially after 120 AD. End date: Probably by 175 AD and perhaps by around 150 AD. Dating: 1 MIA>/MLIA>LIA-ER is not significantly worn but presumably residual, unless it dates at the very latest end of its potential range, 50-75 AD, when it could have a closer relationship to some of the ER material. The majority are ER and likely date between 75-150/175 AD, with 1 potential Thameside sandy ware more likely after 120 AD if so. None of the ER material is particularly fresh looking, with only a couple more lightly worn. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, ie. whether this is a slowly accruing deposit potentially gathering material,

perhaps incidentally, over a long period, or a short single phase deposit, which might then potentially date more around 125-150 AD, if the latest element is indeed a Thameside import, rather than a local product, in which case it could date earlier. Comments: Mostly small sized and mostly body sherds, those plain, with only 1 small rim present, which does not preserve a significantly extensive profile. All show some wear, though often not enough to be significantly residual and obviously unrelated in a broad period basis. Perhaps incidentally accrued scraps of debris from adjacent activity? DRAW: 1 small rim (not worth drawing).

Context (905) [904]

- 6.2.4 Start date: If not intrusive, presumably after 175/200 AD (and perhaps significantly later). End date: Unclear, residual. Dating: Minimal sample of the fabric, which has the potential to be an extremely worn fragment of Samian, the strongly marled fabric potentially from various production centres, but likely dating after around 138 AD. Comments: Tiny worn fragment, marled fine oxidised fabric.

Context (907) [906]

- 6.2.5 Start date: Possibly after 50 BC. End date: Unclear, potentially residual. Dating: Little specific data beyond the fabrics, which could date widely. The grog tempered is most likely to be 'Belgic' style grog tempered ware, likely after 100 BC and most common/dominant after 50 BC. If both fabrics are related, a date between 50 BC - 50 AD is reasonable. Comments: Tiny fragmented crumbs, reduced, the flint tempered thinnish-walled and more likely EIA>.

Context (909) [908]

- 6.2.6 Start date: More likely after 50 AD. End date: Unclear, all residual. Dating: Little specific data. If a broadly related group, a date between 25-75 AD is possible, particularly if the oxidised vessel was inspired by/is copying Gallo-Belgic Terra Rubra. The flint tempered could date as late as 75 AD, but is less typically handmade significantly post-conquest. Consider the nature of the context, the distribution and any stratigraphic associations and perhaps review. Comments: Small sherds and fragments, worn. Minimally flint tempered sherd, weakly oxidised, perhaps slightly more worn, broadly MIA>LIA-ER but with slight preference for LIA>LIA-ER, 50 BC - 50 AD. The 2 other vessels represented are in grainy silty fabrics, thinnish-walled, 1 reduced, 1 oxidised (very fine sandy), the latter (and perhaps both) potentially inspired by Gallo-Belgic wares and more likely post 25 AD. DRAW: 1 small body panel with linear groove (not worth drawing).

Context (913) [912]

- 6.2.7 Start date: Start date: Most likely after around 75 AD, depending upon the nature of the context. End date: Possibly by around 150 AD or shortly after. Dating: All could be residual to various degrees, the MLIA>LIA-ER presumably certainly so, the ER being slightly abraded. Consider the nature of the context and their distribution. Was the MLIA>LIA-ER recovered below the ER in a gradually accruing deposit, or might the ER also be somewhat derived/incidentally accrued within a nevertheless broadly contemporary feature? Comments: All somewhat chipped and worn, the largest and freshest likely dating between 50-125/150 AD, both the ER material with some edge rounding.

Context (1005) [1004]

- 6.2.8 Start date: Likely after 100 AD and perhaps after 125 AD at least. End date: Unclear, both residual. Dating: Broadly ER, 1 more worn sherd could date slightly earlier than the others. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible. Comments: Small worn plain fragments of thin-walled grainy silty and more compact fine fabrics with oxidised surfaces, neither hard and likely broadly ER.

Context (1009) [1008]

- 6.2.9 Start date: Start date: Likely after 50/75 AD and perhaps most likely after 125 AD. End date: Probably by around 225 AD, if not a little earlier. Dating: The earliest element which is not significantly worn could date between 20 BC and 75 AD and it might date at the very end of that range, 50-75 AD. More worn material which probably dates between 75-125/150 AD forms a significant element, while the lightly/slightly worn pieces likely date between 120-175 AD and the freshest looking and largest (but still relatively small) element 175-230/250 AD. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible, re whether this context could have been open from approximately 50/75 or rather 125 to around 200/225 AD, gradually accruing variously fresh or more worn material, or whether the earliest freshest piece could have been redeposited in a feature that was open between around 125-200/225 AD, or if this was a result of a single episode of disposal around 175-200 AD, which contained slightly and more significantly worn pieces from earlier episodes of activity, which nevertheless offer evidence of activity in the immediate vicinity potentially between around at least 0/25-200 AD. Given that only 1 piece at present is more likely to have been made after 175 AD, the lack of any obvious contemporary material of this late date suggests a more minimal presence at that stage and that it might more likely date towards the earlier end its range, ie. 175-200 AD. Perhaps review with additional data and in light of final site trends. Comments: All small, many tiny or fragmentary. 3 flint tempered sandy wares: 2 coarsely tempered body sherds

could date widely, more likely 250/200 BC - 50 AD, but perhaps broadly associated with (ie. same period and not needing to significantly pre-date) 1 slightly less worn and only sparsely flint tempered rim, which could be from a lid, broadly 20 BC - 75 AD if so, being of more Roman than 'Belgic' style, the best parallels being specifically post-conquest (Thompson 1982), but likely no later than around 75 AD, given the flint tempered fabric. 3 sandy rims, largest and freshest looking in a scorched Thameside fabric, likely from a Monaghan 1987 5C1 plain 'pie dish', broadly 175-230/250 AD but not very hard fired. 2 softer similar rounded rolled rims (1 a fragment only) could slightly pre-date, or be broadly associated around 175 AD. The fragment may be a Thameside product, the other shows coloured quartzes not typical of those fabrics. 2 bases, both in grainy silty fabrics. 1 very small fragment oxidised, soft, worn and possibly 50/75-125/150 AD. 1 fairly hard, broadly 75/100-150/175 AD, the colour of the latter superficially akin to some early North Kent fine ware, but the fabric is grainier than typical and also fairly hard. Of the body sherds, most are tiny fragments or small sized, medium to thin-walled and all but 3 are oxidised orange or orangey-brown. 1 soft black sherd is a North Kent fine fabric, 1 a tiny fragment of North Kent Thameside sandy. Others include silty and sandy wares and 1 notable marled fabric (see below). Notable is 1 grainy North Kent silty sherd containing (mostly rectangular) grains of yellowy chalk. Another less calcareous sherd appears in (1010) [1008]. DRAW: 4 rims, 2 bases (1 rim fragment and both bases not worth drawing).

Context (1010) [1008]

- 6.2.10 Start date: See (1009). End date: Unclear, residual. See (1009). Dating: The flint tempered sandy ware could date widely, but with a slight preference for LIA>LIA-ER. The oxidised sandy is likely to be ER and probably post 75 AD. Both are worn and residual. Comments: 1 flint tempered sandy with sparse chalk/?shell (note another more calcareous sherd in (1009) [1008]; likely local source). 1 orangey strongly sandy ware.

Context (2905) [2904]

- 6.2.11 Start date: Likely after 75/100 AD. End date: Unclear, residual. Dating: Both likely early within the ER, but allowing for use and post-discard wear (though soft) these may not have arrived (likely incidentally) within their context until some time later. Comments: Small, worn. 1 North Kent fine with early style firing, 1 probably local area sandy ware, fairly soft.

Context (3109) [3108]

- 6.2.12 Start date: Likely after 100 AD at least and perhaps significantly later. End date: Unclear, probably all residual to some or various degrees. Dating: Little specific data. The rouletted sherd is potentially LIA-ER>MR or perhaps EM, though with a current preference for ER. The sandy ware could be ER or EM>M, though is preferably 75-125 AD for now. Consider any

context associations and review against final assemblage trends. Comments: Small. 1 very thin-walled in a reduced grainy silty marled fabric, only a minimal sample. It is decorated with a rouletted grid and a brief search for similar examples have found none as yet. *It might be a continental import of LIA-ER or EM date, though the character of the fabric is an issue, or perhaps a Kentish/local product of ER>MR date. Overall, an ER date is slightly preferred. 3 oxidised sandy wares **could potentially be ER or EM>M 1150-1275 AD; perhaps more likely ER, given current assemblage trends. DRAW: 1 small body showing a rouletted grid (probably not worth drawing).

6.3 Worked Lithics

Context (505) [504]

- 6.3.1 Small thinnish decent looking long flake of Bullhead flint, small areas of direct and inverse abrupt and shallow marginal retouch and potential use-wear, plus chipping, on the thin laterals. Short relatively thick steep cortexed distal end show direct marginal scarring. Proximal end shows angled shoulders of snap breaks and retouch, possibly hafted, as a somewhat expedient/simple end scraper? and knife. Summary: Simple piece, but on a fairly decent flake. Could date widely, potentially/more likely N>MBA-LBA, though it needn't be and is not certainly particularly early, with a slight preference for the EBA>MBA at present. The precise nature of the flint that is available within the surrounding geology and along the beaches at the coast is currently personally unknown, though the good quality Bullhead flint that this flake was struck from is typically recovered from (and originally related to) areas of chalk geology. It may have been brought in for use on this site and if so then a Later Prehistoric date, MBA>, is less likely, particularly if other flint was available (even if poor quality). Relationship to context unclear, given the nature of the underlying geology, though probably residual, being the sole recovery. Not worth cataloguing further.

Context (1007) [1006]

- 6.3.2 Small thick broken chunk, probably a fragment of a small core, 1 right-angled short straight edge chipped and abraded, with a small shallow hollow on an adjacent edge, the former thus more likely to also be from use rather than platform preparation, the use more likely Later Prehistoric, probably MBA>EIA, if so. Summary: Little specific data. Potentially MBA>EIA, its relationship to the context unclear due to the nature of the underlying geology, though more likely residual, given its the sole piece recovered. Not worth cataloguing further.

Context (1606) [1605]

- 6.3.3 Small flakes and fragments. 1 thin distal fragment with a sharp point not certainly utilised as such. 1 squat flake with an advanced early stage chalk-soil type patina, 1 thinnish short lateral

showing bifacial shallow semi-abrupt marginal retouch and use-wear potentially unpatinated re-use, likely Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA+. 1 very small squat flake, its broad convex distal end showing some apparent retouch and potential use-wear chipping and abrasion, more likely Later Prehistoric and ?EIA>EMIA+ if so. Summary: Little specific data. The tool element is more likely to be Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA+; nothing else need significantly pre-date. Their relationship to each other and the context is unclear however, due to the nature of the underlying geology. Not worth cataloguing further.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL

7.1 Overview

7.1.1 No bulk soil samples were acquired during the course of evaluation.

8 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation on land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT, has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using 37 trenches measuring 18m-28m in length.

8.1.2 The archaeological evaluation has confirmed the presence of an undated, Late Iron Age, Early Roman and medieval field system comprising discrete features, field divisions and boundaries within majority of the site. A large Roman refuse pit was exposed in Trench 2 and notable ditches were exposed in Trenches 10 and 31. Sparse distribution of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery sherds across the site increased within northern extent, thus suggesting an approach to a potential settlement or a farmstead of that period, which could be located immediately to the north-east off proposed development area. Infrequent medieval and Post-Medieval boundaries indicate prolonged land use as an agricultural plot until Late Post-Medieval and Modern Periods.

8.2 Discussion

8.2.1 Majority of evaluation trenches have exposed agrarian remains. The intensification of activity occurred within northern and north-eastern parts of the proposed development area where large Roman refuse pit was exposed within extension dug to evaluation Trench 2

8.2.2 Notable boundary/ drain ditch in NE-SW alignment and parallel to the existing western boundary of the site was exposed in Trenches 10 and 31. Another potentially significant drain/ boundary ditch perpendicular to the one mentioned above was exposed in Trench 28, however

its further run to the south-east and to the north-west was not confirmed in Trenches 26 and 30.

8.2.3 An interesting configuration was noted in Trenches 4, 5 and 9 where revealed ditches have a potential to form a rectilinear enclosure.

8.2.4 A potential trackway was recorded in Trench 7 although no dating evidence was present within the fills thus it can be definitely ascribed to any particular phase. Majority of revealed Roman ditches are following NE-SW rectilinear alignment which also follows general topography in the area.

8.2.5 An attempt was made to establish field divisions in N-S and E-W alignment what is eviden by two parallel ditches revealed in Trench 33. These however could be a side drains for another trackway. The other E-W aligned linears were exposed in trenches 6 and 9.

8.2.6 A very narrow linear ditch exposed in Trench 37 could be a deep plough scar or another boundary/ drain denoting parcel of land which lies immediately to the Thistle Hill where three Roman cremations were found. Evaluation Trench 37 did not exposed any evidence for funerary activity although Roman burial practice have a tendency to burry individuals in clusters if they belong to the same family and/or estate thus it is still probable that Roman urns can be present within southern extent of the proposed development area,

8.2.7 The least interesting part of investigated area appears to be western extent containing Trenches 23, 24, 26, 25, 35 and 34. Features investigated there were very faint and/or heavily bioturbated and did not produced any datable dating evidence.

8.3 Conclusion

8.3.1 The archaeological investigation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

8.4 Recommendation

8.4.1 Further work is recommended.

9 ARCHIVE

9.1 General

9.1.1 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).

9.1.2 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 and A4 graphics. The Site Archive will be retained at SWAT Archaeology offices until such time it can be transferred to a Kent Museum.

10 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

10.1.1 SWAT would like to thank the Client for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, for his advice and assistance.

10.1.2 Django Rayner, Jeff West, Tegan Meaney, Pavel Cichy, Gosia Cichy, Joe Cantwell from SWAT Archaeology carried out the archaeological fieldwork; illustrations and drone photography were produced by Bartek Cichy. The report was written by Peter Cichy and on behalf of the client project was directed by Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment in Advance of the Proposed Development of Land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT. CgMs December 2020

SWAT Archaeology 2020 Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of Land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT

12 Trench tables

Trench 1 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 6.80 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 7.22 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 6.05 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 6.52 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(101)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(102)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(103)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[104]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base.	
(105)	Fill of [104]	Firm compaction, mid brown clayey silt with moderate flint pebble and subangular stones.	
[106]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and flat base. It measured 0.55m in width and 0.1m in depth	
(107)	Fill of [106]	firm compaction, mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate flint pebble and subangular stones	

Trench 2 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 7.53 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 7.61 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 6.71 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 6.82 mOD			
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Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(201)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.53
(202)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.65
(203)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.65+
[204]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.4metres in depth	
(205)	Fill of [204]	firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel. Fill produced Roman pottery sherds potentially 125-175 AD	
[206]	Pit	NE-SW aligned feature was sub-oval in plan with shallow sides and mainly uneven base. It measured over 5metres in length and 4.2metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(207)	Fill of [206]	firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, angular stones and a number of Early Roman pottery sherds all likely date within 50-175 AD	

Trench 3 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 7.13 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 7.17 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 6.53 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 6.61 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(301)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.45
(302)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.55
(303)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.55+
[304]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 2.9metres in length by 1.65metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(305)	Fill of [304]	firm brown silty-clay with infrequent rounded stones	
[306]	Pit	sub-oval or more likely ovoid in plan with shallow sides and uneven but flat base. It measured 1.2metres in length by 0.7metres in width and 0.12metres in depth	
(307)	Fill of [306]	firmly compacted brown silty-clay with infrequent rounded pebbles and Late Post-Medieval clay pipe stems	

Trench 4 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 7.65 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.12 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 7.18 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 7.54 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(401)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(402)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(403)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[404]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with very shallow sides and uneven slightly concave base. It measured 1metre in	

		width and 0.1metres in depth	
(405)	Fill of [404]	firmly compacted grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and rounded pebbles. Deposit produced Roman potsherds, the majority are ER and likely date between 75-150/175 AD, with 1 potential Thameside sandy ware more likely after 120 AD	
[406]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned shallow linear cut with shallow sides and uneven mainly flat base	
(407)	Fill of [406]	pale-grey clay-silt/ silt-clay with infrequent flint gravel	

Trench 5	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 7.72 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 7.85 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 7.10 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 7.23 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(501)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(502)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(503)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[504]	Pit	NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(505)	Fill of [504]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks. Fill produced worked flint piece potentially/more likely N>MBA-LBA	
Trench 6	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 7.67 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.06 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 7.03 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 7.42 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(601)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(602)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(603)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[604]	Pit or Ditch Terminus	sub-circular shape in plan with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.26metres in depth	
(605)	Fill of [604]	yellow-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	
[606]	Ditch	WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with moderate to steep sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.35metres in depth	
(607)	Fill of [406]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel	

Trench 7	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 8.15mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.35 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 7.6 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 7.75 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(701)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50

(702)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(703)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[704]	Pit	sub-circular cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in width and 0.38metres in depth	
(705)	Fill of [704]	yellow-grey silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, ferromanganese nodules and round pebbles	
[706]	Ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and mainly flat although uneven base. It measured 2.1metres in width and 0.12metres in depth	
(707)	Fill of [706]	firmly compacted pale grey clay-silt/ silt-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

Trench 8	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 8.26 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 8.38 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 7.77 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 7.85 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(801)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(802)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(803)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[804]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width by 0.25metres in depth	
(805)	Fill of [804]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles, charcoal flecks and small ferromanganese nodules	
[806]	Ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.3metres in depth	
(807)	Fill of [806]	firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal, ferromanganese and round pebbles	

Trench 9	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 8.27 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.79 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 7.8 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 8.24 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(901)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(902)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(903)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[904]	Pit or Ditch terminus	NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.47metres in depth	
(905)	Fill of [904]	brown-yellow silty-clay with infrequent charcoal, ferromanganese, round pebbles and Roman pottery sherd presumably date after 175/200 AD	
[906]	Ditch	E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.75metres in width and 0.2metres in	

		depth	
(907)	Fill of [906]	firmly compacted, brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and ferromanganese. Fill produced 7 potsherds date between 50 BC - 50 AD	
[908]	Pit	sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.45metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(909)	Fill of [908]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round stones, ferromanganese, charcoal flecks and potsherds which date 25-75 AD	
[912]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and mainly flat base. It measured 2.1metres in width and 0.18metres in depth	
(913)	Fill of [912]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel and pottery sherds likely dating between 50-125/150 AD.	

Trench 10			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE			
Top ground level at NW end: 8.56 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 8.68 mOD			
Archaeology level at NW end: 7.93 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 8.08 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1001)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1002)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1003)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1004]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and flat/uneven base. It measured 0.82metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(1005)	Fill of [1004]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles, ferromanganese and pottery sherds dating likely after 100 AD and perhaps after 125 AD at least	
[1006]	Ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 2metres in width and 0.17metres in depth	
(1007)	Fill of [1006]	dark grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks, ferromanganese and angular stones. Fill produced worked flint piece of potential MBA>EIA date	
[1008]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in width and 0.47metres in depth	
(1009)	Fill of [1008]	brownish-grey silty-clay with moderate ferromanganese, daub, infrequent charcoal and round pebbles. Fill produced a number of Roman pottery sherds dating it after 50/75 AD and perhaps most likely after 125 AD and medium sized fragment of Roman Tegula	
(1010)	Fill of [1008]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese and abraded Roman pottery sherds post 75 AD and clay pipe stem	

Trench 11	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 8.75 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.99 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 8.15 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 8.44 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1101)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1102)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1103)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+

Trench 12	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 8.85mOD Top ground level at SW end: 8.95 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 8.18 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 8.32 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1201)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1202)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1203)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1204]	Pit	sub-oval cut with shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 1.7metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(1205)	Fill of [1204]	dark grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

Trench 13	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 9.26 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 9.16 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 8.61 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 8.54 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1301)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1302)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1303)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1304]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.18metres in depth	
(1305)	Fill of [1304]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles, charcoal flecks and small ferromanganese nodules	
[1306]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width by 0.33metres in depth	
(1307)	Fill of [806]	firmly compacted dark grey brown silty-clay with moderate ferromanganese and charcoal	

Trench 14	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 8.98mOD Top ground level at SW end: 9.35 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 8.4 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 8.67 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1401)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and	0-0.50

		stone	
(1402)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1403)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1404]	Pit or ditch terminus	N-S aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(1405)	Fill of [1404]	firm grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent ferromanganese and flint gravel	
[1406]	Ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with shallow side and flat uneven base. It measured 0.78metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(1407)	Fill of [1406]	firmly compacted pale grey clay-silt/ silt-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

Trench 15	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 8.98 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 9.16 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 8.46 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 8.54 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1501)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1502)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1503)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1504]	Pit	NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 1.4metres in length by 0.98metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(1505)	Fill of [1504]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round stones	
[1506]	Pit	circular in plan with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.5metre in diameter and 0.18metres in depth	
(1507)	Fill of [1506]	dark brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

Trench 16	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 9.78mOD Top ground level at SW end: 10.14 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 9.17 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 9.56 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1601)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1602)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1603)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1605]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.5metres in depth	
(1606)	Fill of [1605]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks, round pebbles and worked flint piece of Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA date	
[1607]	Pit	NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with steep sides and concave base. It measured 0.3metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	

(1608)	Fill of [1607]	mid-brown silty-clay with infrequent angular stones	
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Trench 17 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 10.23 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 10.06 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 9.61 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 9.44 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1701)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1702)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1703)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1704]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.76metres in width and 0.5metres in depth	
(1705)	Fill of [1704]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks and flint gravel	
[1706]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.55metres in width and 0.33metres in depth	
(1707)	Fill of [1706]	firm dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks	

Trench 18 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 9.98mOD Top ground level at SW end: 10.33 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 9.28 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 9.71 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1801)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1802)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1803)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1804]	Pit	sub-oval cut with shallow sides and uneven base. It measured 1.3metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(1805)	Fill of [1804]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

Trench 19 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 10.23 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 10.51 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 9.72 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 9.78 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1901)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(1902)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(1903)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[1904]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(1905)	Fill of [1904]	firmly compacted dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	

[1906]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width and 0.18metres in depth	
(1907)	Fill of [1906]	firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks.	

Trench 20	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 9.85 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 10.08 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 10.5 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 10.7 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2001)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2002)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2003)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+

Trench 21	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 11.38 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 11.20 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 10.72 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 10.66 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2101)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2102)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2103)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2104]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.19metres in depth	
(2105)	Fill of [2104]	firmly compacted dark-brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and round pebbles	

Trench 22	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 11.55mOD Top ground level at SW end: 12.09 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 10.89 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 11.47 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2201)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2202)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2203)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2204]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in with by 0.15metres in depth	
(2205)	Fill of [2204]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks and round pebbles	

Trench 23	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 11.35 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 11.24 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 10.69 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 10.62 mOD		
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Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2301)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2302)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2303)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+

Trench 24 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 10.55mOD Top ground level at SW end: 11.66 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 9.66 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 10.75 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2401)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2402)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2403)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2404]	Ditch	curvilinear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(2405)	Fill of [2404]	dark-brown silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles	
[2406]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in with and 0.16metres in depth	
(2407)	Fill of [2406]	dark-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese, charcoal flecks and round pebbles	

Trench 25 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 12.75 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 12.98 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 12.15 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 12.32 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2501)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2502)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2503)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2504]	Ditch	curvilinear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.5metres in width and 0.25metres in depth	
(2505)	Fill of [2504]	firm, brown silty-clay with angular stones	
[2506]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.14metres in depth	
(2507)	Fill of [2506]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles	

Trench 26 Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 12.6mOD Top ground level at SW end: 13.2 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 11.91 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 12.5 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2601)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50

(2602)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2603)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2604]	Pit or ditch terminus	Sub-oval cut with moderately sloping sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(2605)	Fill of [2604]	firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles	

Trench 27			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE			
Top ground level at NW end: 12.82 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 12.88 mOD			
Archaeology level at NW end: 12.12 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 12.20 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2701)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2702)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2703)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2704]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(2705)	Fill of [2704]	firmly compacted dark-brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and round pebbles	
[2706]	Pit	sub-oval cut with shallow sides and mainly flat/uneven base. It measured 0.7metres by 0.5metres and 0.1metres in depth	
(2707)	Fill of (2706)	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese	
[2708]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 1metre in width and 0.27metres in depth	
(2709)	Fill of [2708]	dark brown grey silty clay with infrequent charcoal flecks and round stones	

Trench 28			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW			
Top ground level at NE end: 12.3mOD Top ground level at SW end: 12.81 mOD			
Archaeology level at NE end: 11.67 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 12.16 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2801)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2802)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2803)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2804]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate to steep slope sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.5 metres in depth	
(2805)	Fill of [2804]	firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent manganese and charcoal flecks	
[2806]	Ditch	curvilinear cut in roughly NE-SW alignment with shallow sides and flat slightly concave base It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.12metres in depth	

(2807)	Fill of [2806]	brown-grey silty clay with infrequent angular and rounded stones	
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Trench 29			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE			
Top ground level at NW end: 12.72 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 12.95 mOD			
Archaeology level at NW end: 12.03 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 12.33 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(2901)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(2902)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(2903)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[2904]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.8metres in width and 0.25metres in depth	
(2905)	Fill of [2904]	firm dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent pebbles, charcoal flecks and Roman pottery sherds dating after 75/100 AD	
[2906]	Pit or ditch terminus	NE-SW aligned cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.78metres in width and 0.2metres in depth	
(2907)	Fill of (2706)	firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent round stones	

Trench 30			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW			
Top ground level at NE end: 12.5mOD Top ground level at SW end: 13.2 mOD			
Archaeology level at NE end: 11.8 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 12.35 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3001)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3002)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3003)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[3004]	Pit or ditch terminus	sub-circular cut with shallow sides and flat uneven base. It measured 0.8metres by 0.7metres and 0.1metres in depth	
(3005)	Fill of [3004]	firm brown-grey silty-clay with occasional pebbles	
[3006]	Pit	E-W aligned sub-oval cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.7metres in width by 0.2metres in depth	
(3007)	Fill of [3006]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones	

Trench 31			
Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW			
Top ground level at NE end: 14.82mOD Top ground level at SW end: 15.18 mOD			
Archaeology level at NE end: 14.03 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 14.4 mOD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3101)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3102)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60

(3103)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[3104]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width and 0.16metres in depth	
(3105)	Fill of [3104]	firmly compacted dark-grey-brown silty-clay with infrequent manganese and charcoal flecks	
[3106]	Ditch	NW-SE aligned sub-oval cut with moderate side and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.18metres in depth	
(3107)	Fill of [3106]	firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent round pebbles and charcoal flecks	
[3108]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned linear cut with steep sides and flat slightly concave base. It measured 1.2metres in width and 0.6metres in depth	
(3109)	Fill of [3108]	grey-brown silty-clay with occasional charcoal flecks, round pebbles and Roman potsherds dating after 100 AD	

Trench 32	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 14.05 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 14.09 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 13.72 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 13.44 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3201)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3202)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3203)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
Multiple features		Flooded unable to drain	

Trench 33	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 14.00 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 14.6 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 13.28 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 13.9 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3301)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3302)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3303)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[3304]	Pit or Ditch terminus	E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.9metres in width and 0.25metres in depth	
(3305)	Fill of [3304]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones	
[3306]	Ditch	E-W aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.88metres in width and 0.22metres in depth	
(3307)	Fill of [3306]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent pebbles	
[3308]	Pit or ditch	sub-circular cut with shallow sides and concave base. It	

	terminus	measured 0.72metres in width and 0.16metres in depth	
(3309)	Fill of [908]	firm brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent angular stones	
[3310]	pit	E-W aligned sub-oval cut with shallow sides and slightly concave base. It measured 0.6metres in width by 0.1metres in depth	
(3311)	Fill of [3310]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent flint gravel	

Trench 34	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 14.32 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 14.01 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 13.67 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 13.3 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3401)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3402)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3403)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[3406]	Ditch	NE-SW aligned slightly curving linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.65metres in width and 0.18metres in depth	
(3407)	Fill of [3406]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese	
[3408]	Pit	sub-circular cut with shallow sides and concave base. It measured 0.82metres in width and 0.13metres in depth	
(3409)	Fill of [3408]	brown-grey silty-clay with infrequent manganese	

Trench 35	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 14.68 mOD Top ground level at SW end: 14.95 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 14.17 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 14.20 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3501)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3502)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3503)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+

Trench 36	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NW-SE Top ground level at NW end: 14.74 mOD Top ground level at SE end: 14.92 mOD Archaeology level at NW end: 15.5 mOD Archaeology level at SE end: 15.72 mOD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3601)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3602)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3603)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+

Trench 37	Dimensions: 25m x 1.80m Trench alignment: NE-SW Top ground level at NE end: 15.91mOD Top ground level at SW end: 16.9 mOD Archaeology level at NE end: 15.32 mOD Archaeology level at SW end: 16.18 mOD		
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Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(3701)	Topsoil	dark greyish brown clayey loam with occ. gravel and stone	0-0.50
(3702)	Subsoil	dark brown silty clay with frequent lenses of gravel	0.60
(3703)	Natural	firmly compacted, mid orangey brown gravelly silty-clay. London Clay formation	0.6+
[3704]	Ditch	WNW-ESE aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base. It measured 0.23metres in width and 0.1metres in depth	
(3705)	Fill of [3704]	firmly compacted brown-grey silty-clay with very occasional pebbles	

14 APPENDIX 1 – HER FORM

Site Name: Land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT

SWAT Site Code: PRM-EV-22

Site Address: As above

Summary. *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT. The archaeological programme was monitored remotely by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council.*

The archaeological works have investigated the extents of the proposed development area using 37 trenches each measuring 18-28m in length.

The archaeological evaluation has confirmed the presence of an undated, Late Iron Age, Early Roman and medieval field system comprising discrete features, field divisions and boundaries within majority of the site. A large Roman refuse pit was exposed in Trench 2 and notable ditches were exposed in Trenches 10 and 31. Sparse distribution of Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery sherds across the site increased within northern extent, thus suggesting an approach to a potential settlement or a farmstead of that period, which could be located immediately to the north-east off proposed development area. Infrequent medieval and Post-Medieval boundaries indicate prolonged land use as an agricultural plot until Late Post-Medieval and Modern Periods.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification and has assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Principal Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals which are likely to have an impact exceeding 0.5m in depth. The ultimate scope and extent of further mitigation measures will be decided by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council separately in due course.

Further work is recommended

District/Unitary: Swale Borough Council

Period(s): Late Iron Age, Early Roman, Medieval, Post-Medieval and Modern

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) 594520 172335

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: September-October 2022

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

Geology: London Clay Formation

Title and author of accompanying report: Peter Cichy (2023) Archaeological Evaluation of Land off Plover Road, Minster on Sea, Kent ME12 3BT

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 24/04/2023

PLATES



Plate 1: Viewing the site from south.



Plate 2: Excavated Ditch [3108] in Trench 31. Looking southwest with one-metre scale.



Plate 3: Viewing sondage through large Roman refuse Pit [206] in Trench 2. Looking southwest with 1metre scale.



Plate 4: Excavated Roman Ditch 1008. Looking northeast with one and half-metres scales.



Plate 5: Viewing the site and evaluation Trench 11 from the north with one-metre scale.



Plate 6: Ditch/Trackway [706] in Trench 7.



Plate 7: Showing excavated Terminus 904 in Trench 9. Looking northeast with one metre scale.



Plate 8: Overlook at archaeological features in Trench 33. Looking southwest with one and half metre scale bars.



Plate 9: Viewing the site and evaluation Trench 36 from the west with one-metre scale.



Plate 10: Excavated Roman Ditch 2904 in Trench 29. Looking west with point five scale bar.



Plate 11: Showing excavated undated Ditch 1704 in Trench 17. Looking southwest with one metre scale.

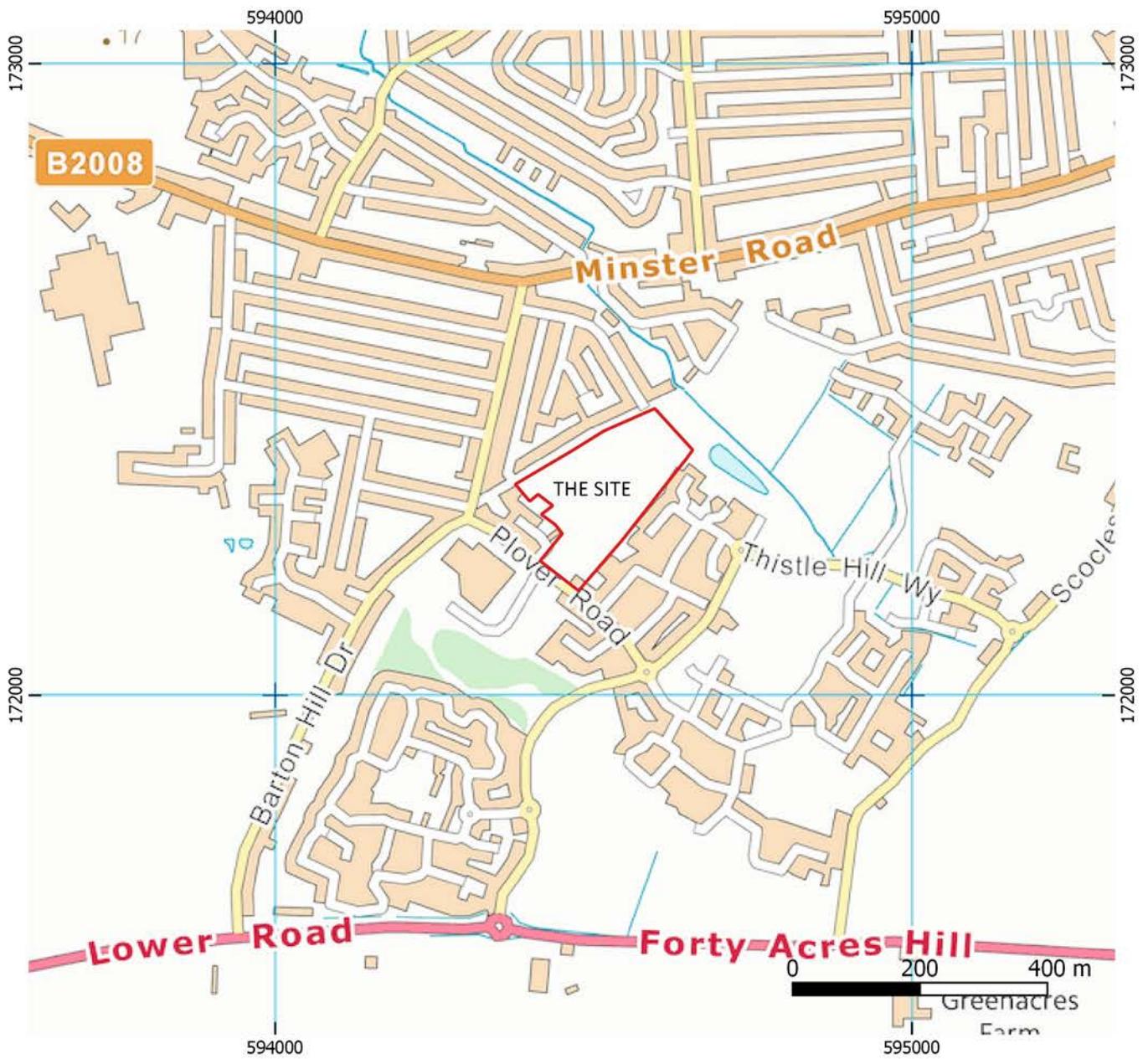
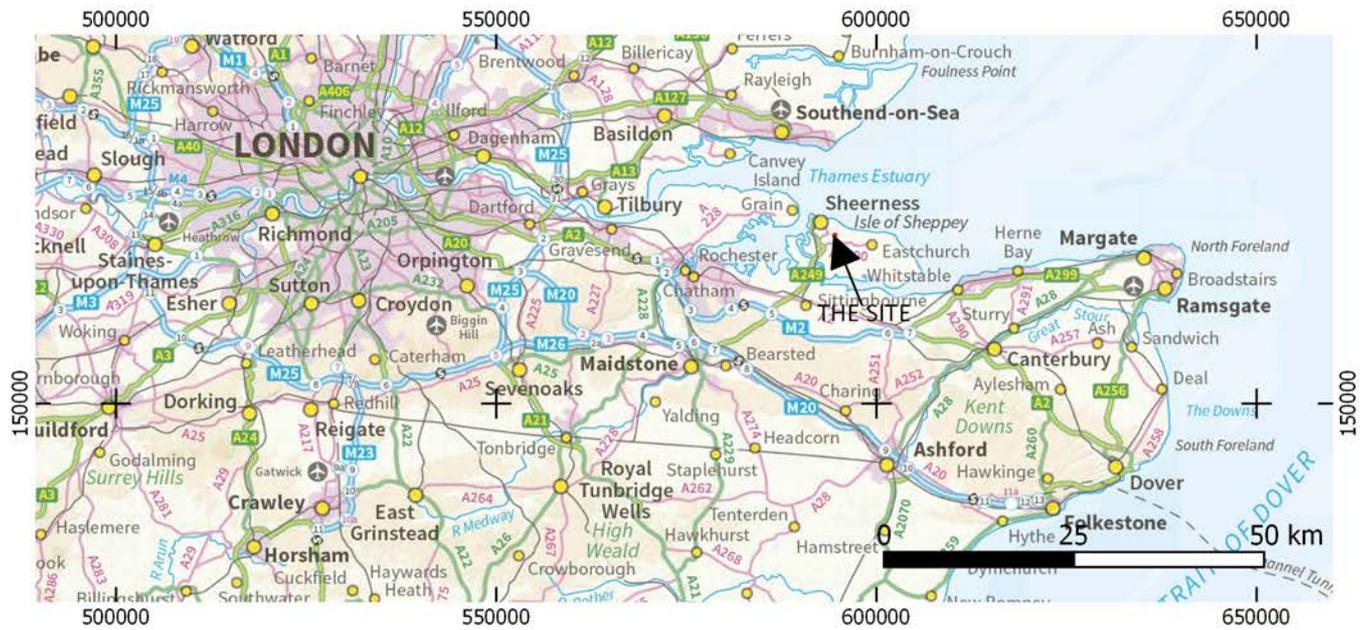


Figure 1: Site location

- KEY:**
- PDA outline
 - Trench
 - Feature
 - Extrapolated feature
 - TL:13.19m Top ground level
 - AL:12.19m Archaeology level
 - Trench with archaeology
- PHASES**
- LIA - Late Iron Age
 - ER - Early Roman
 - M - Medieval
 - PM - Post Medieval

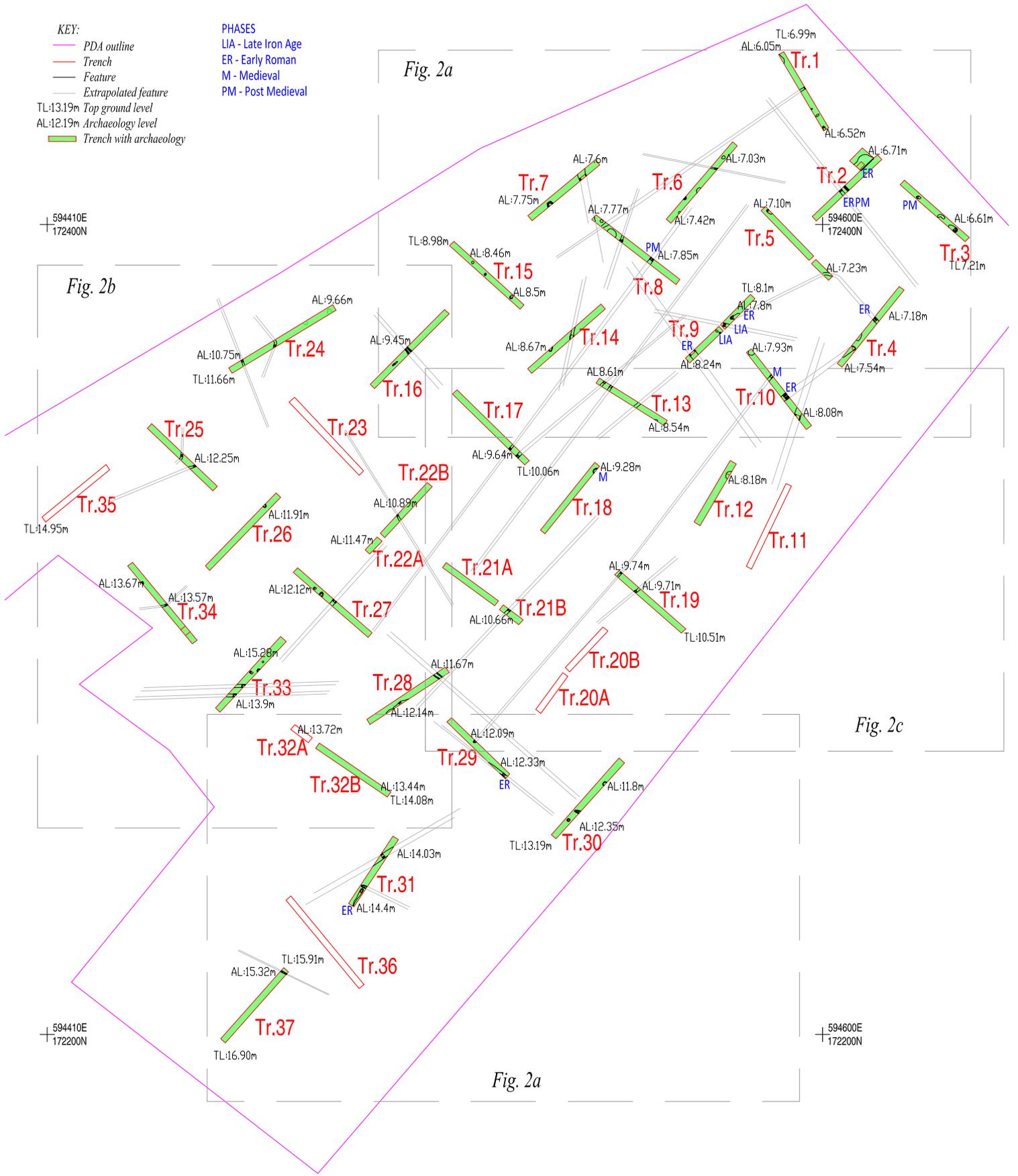


Figure 2: Trench location



- KEY:**
- PDA outline
 - Trench
 - Feature
 - Extrapolated feature
 - Trench with archaeology
- PHASES**
- LIA - Late Iron Age
 - ER - Early Roman
 - M - Medieval
 - PM - Post Medieval

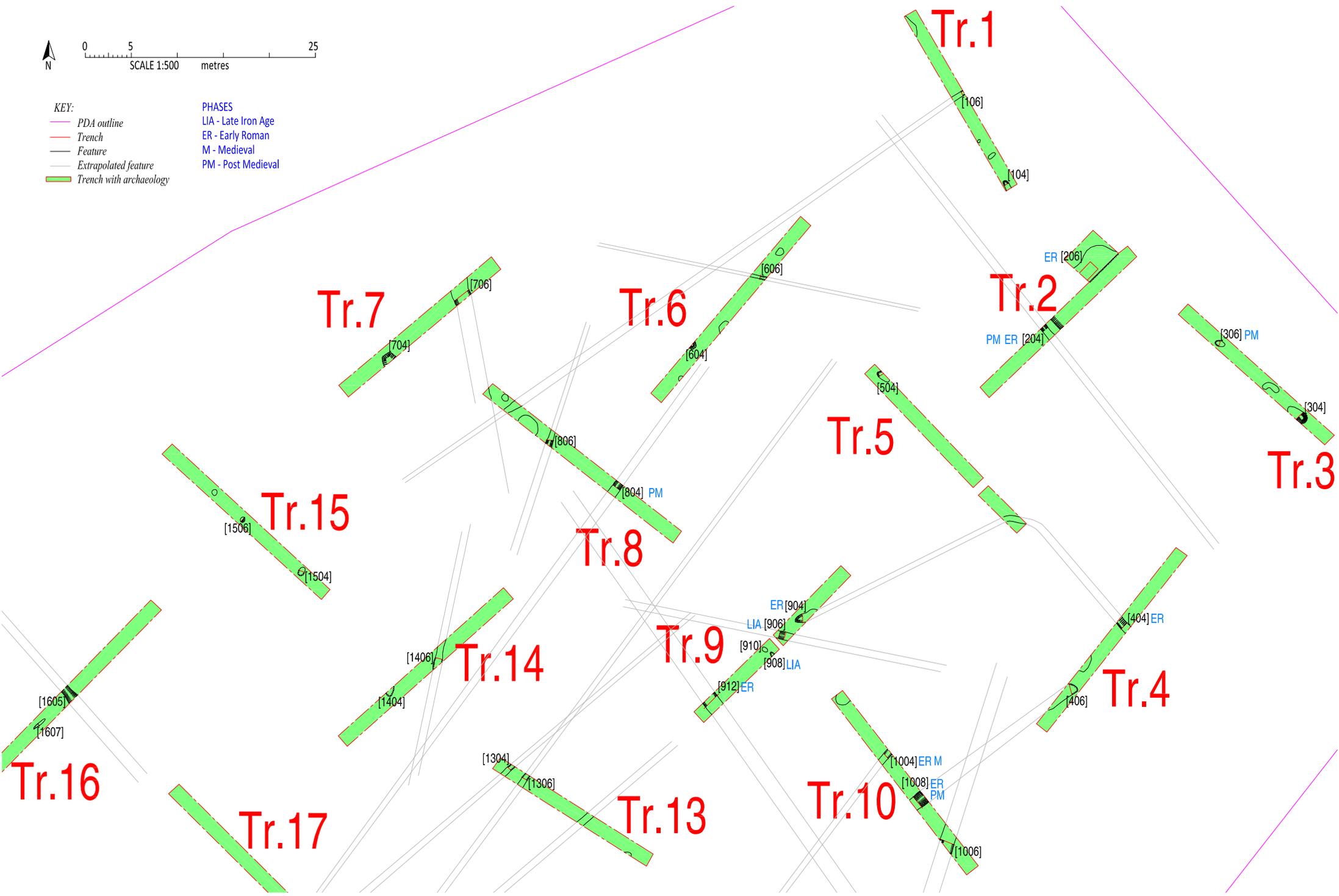


Figure 2a: Trench location



- KEY:**
- PDA outline
 - Trench
 - Feature
 - Extrapolated feature
 - Trench with archaeology
- PHASES**
- LIA - Late Iron Age
 - ER - Early Roman
 - M - Medieval
 - PM - Post Medieval

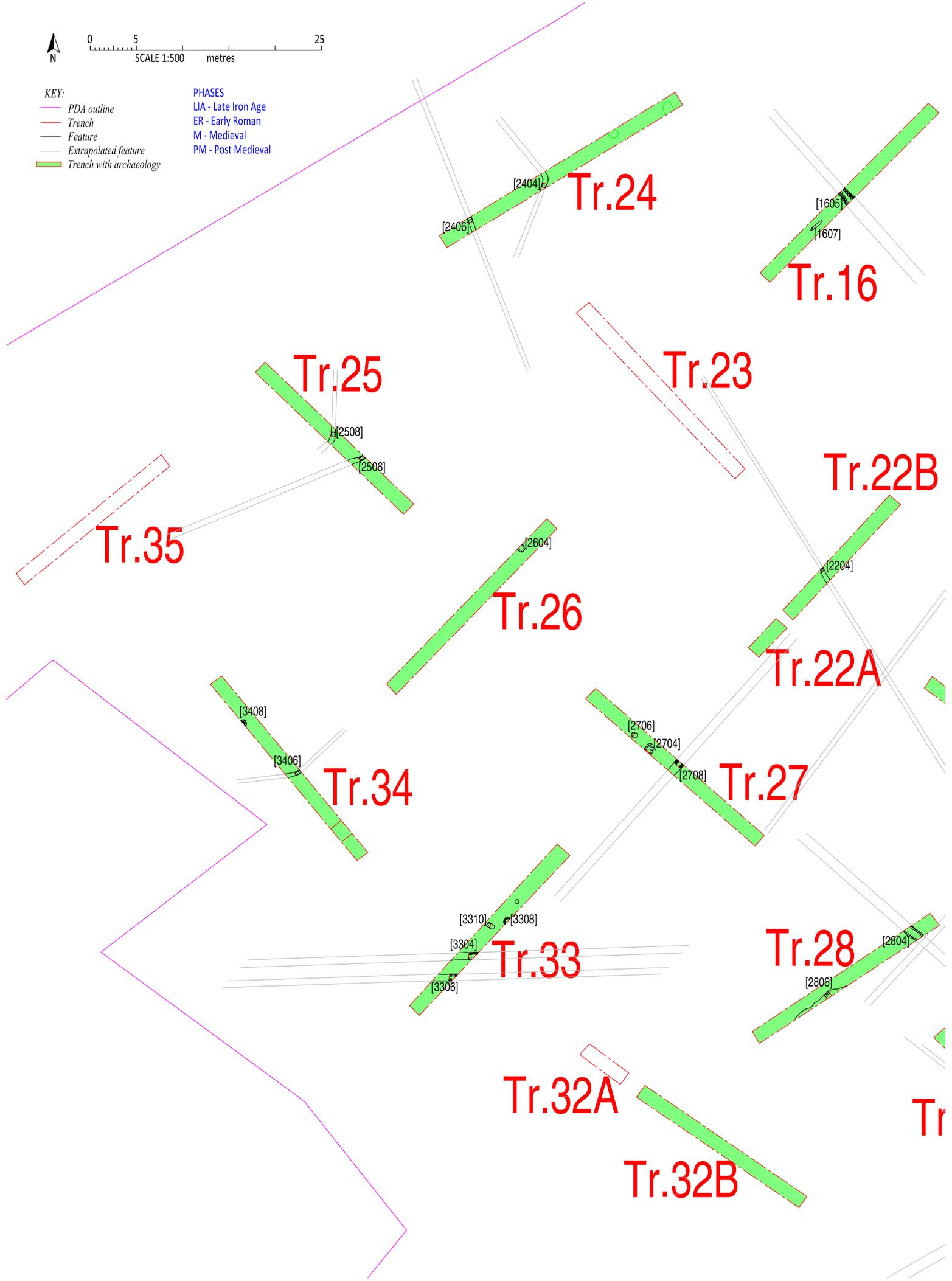


Figure 2b: Trench location

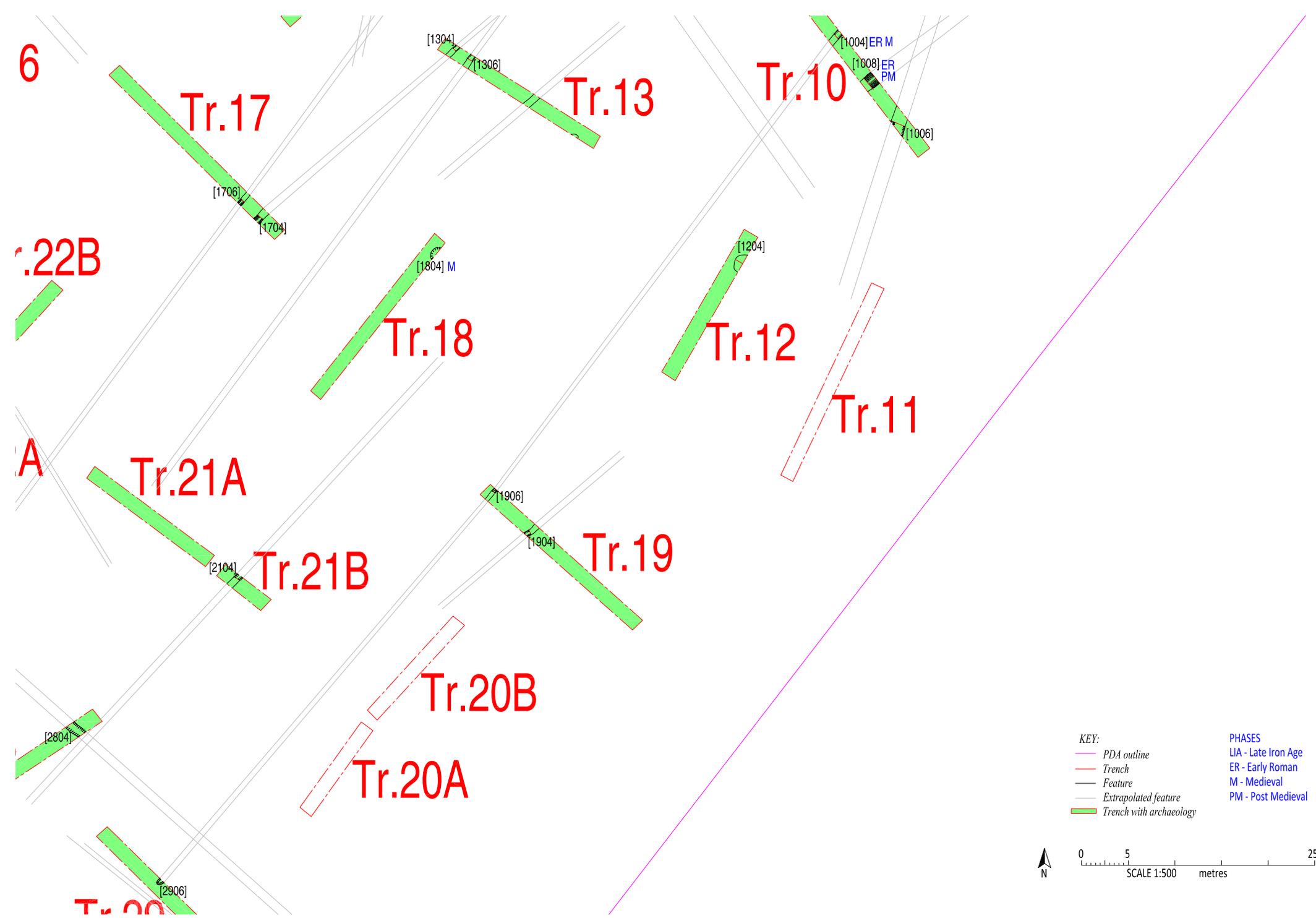
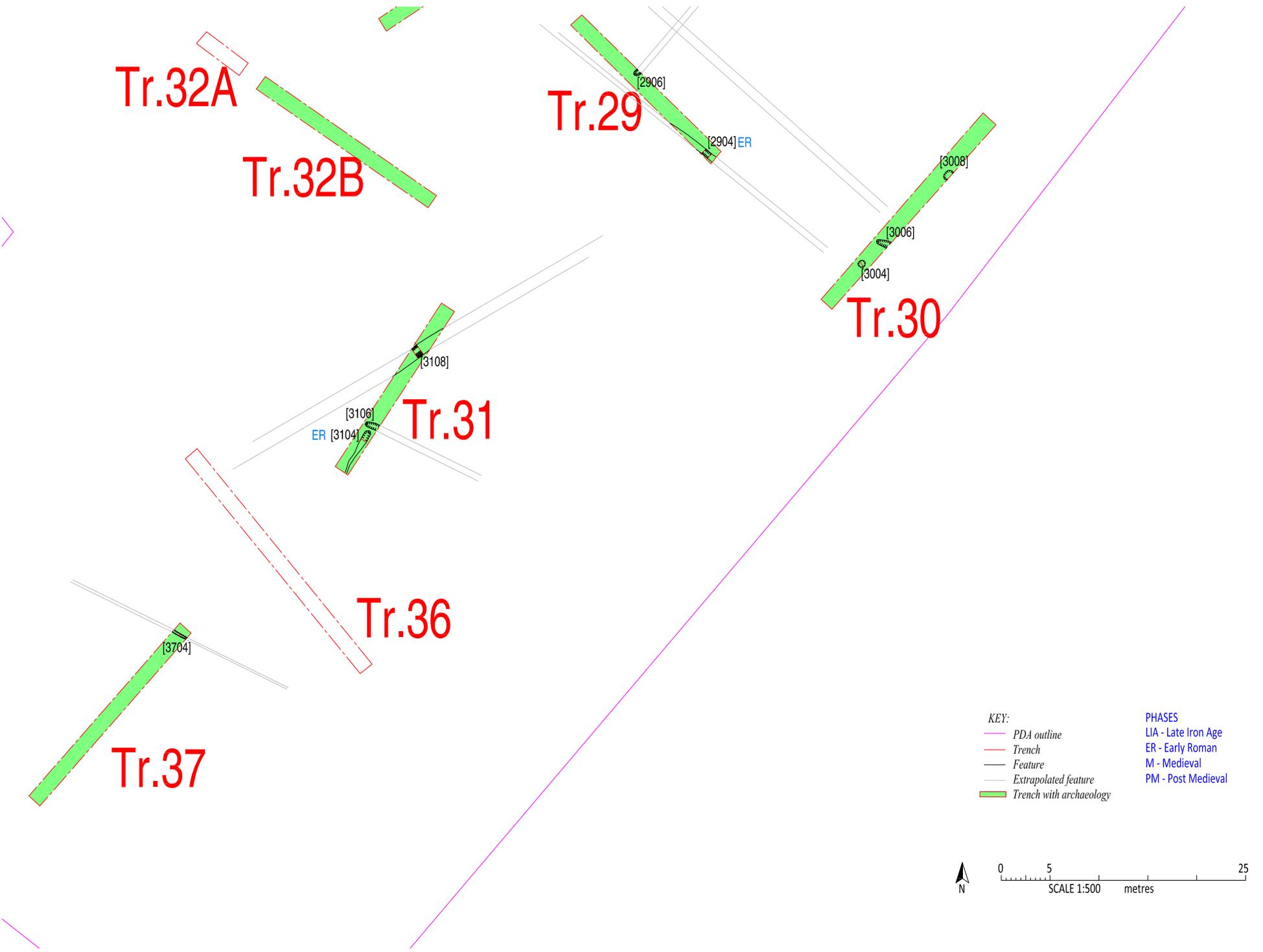


Figure 2c: Trench location



Tr.32A

Tr.32B

Tr.29

Tr.30

Tr.31

Tr.36

Tr.37

KEY:

- PDA outline
- - - Trench
- Feature
- - - Extrapolated feature
- ▨ Trench with archaeology

PHASES

- LIA - Late Iron Age
- ER - Early Roman
- M - Medieval
- PM - Post Medieval

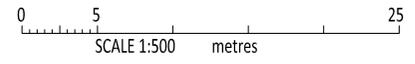


Figure 2d: Trench location

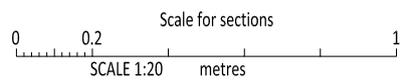
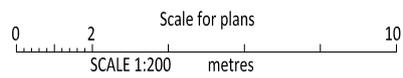
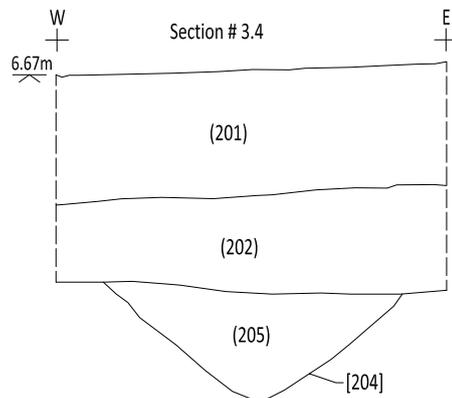
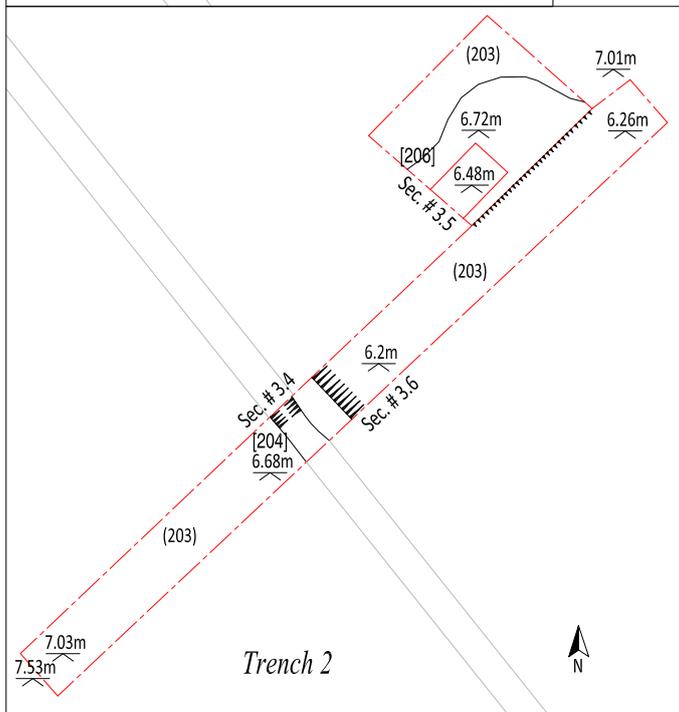
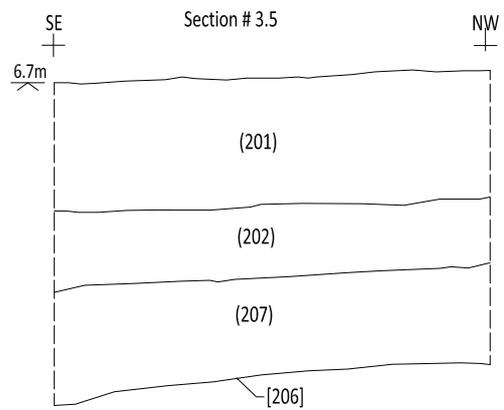
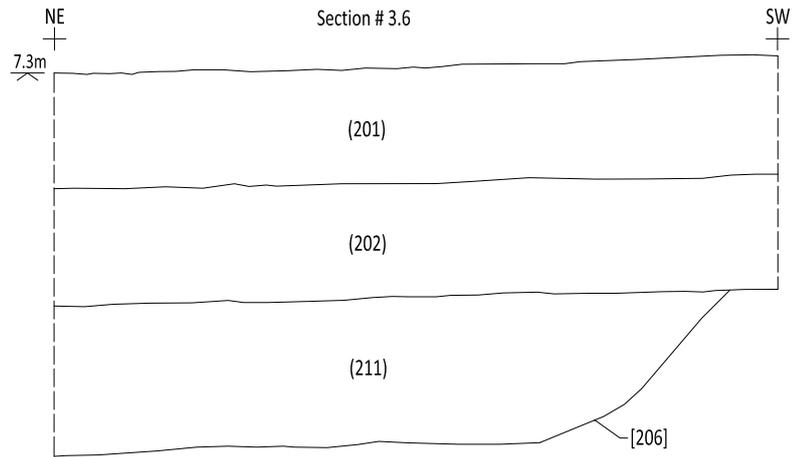
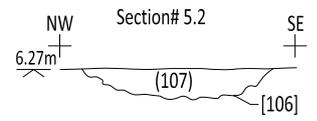
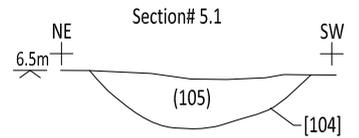
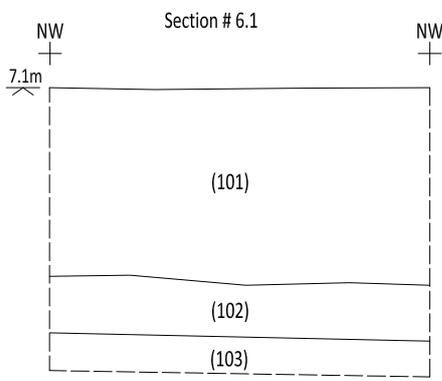
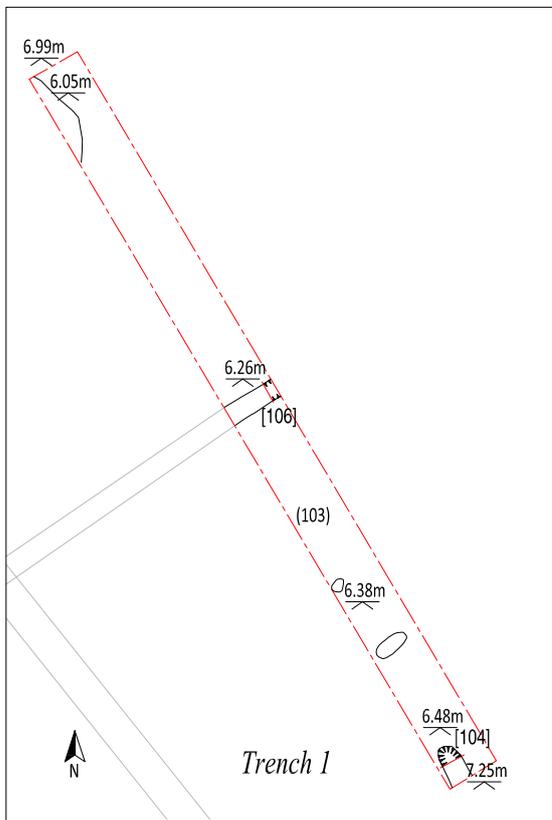


Figure 3: Trench 1 and 2

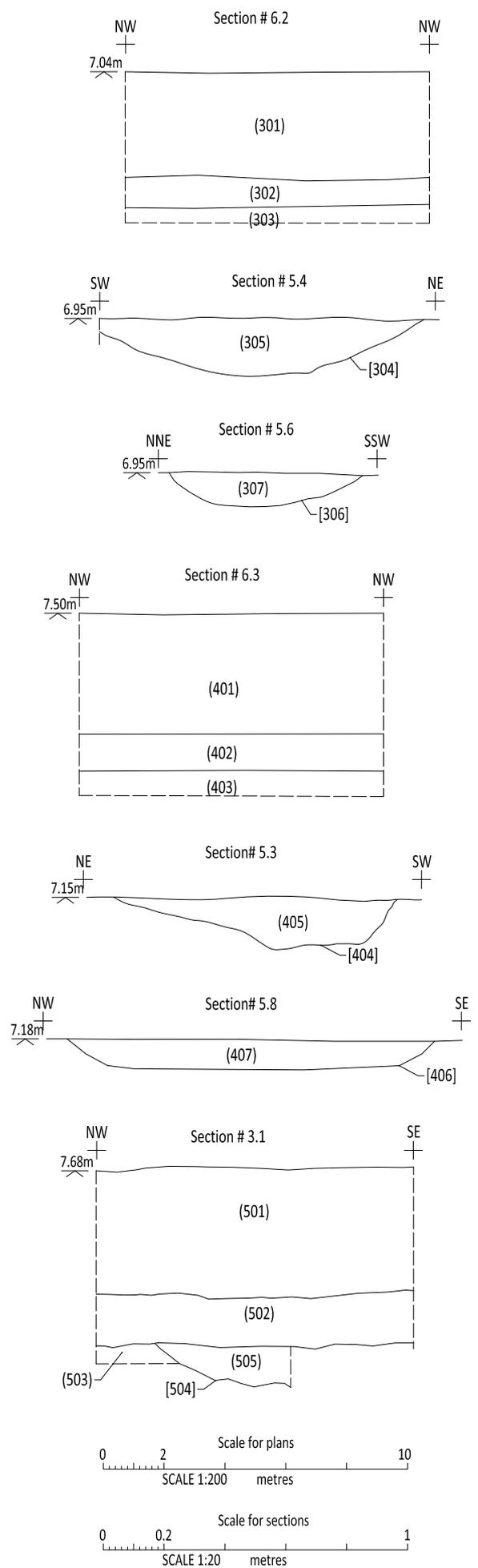
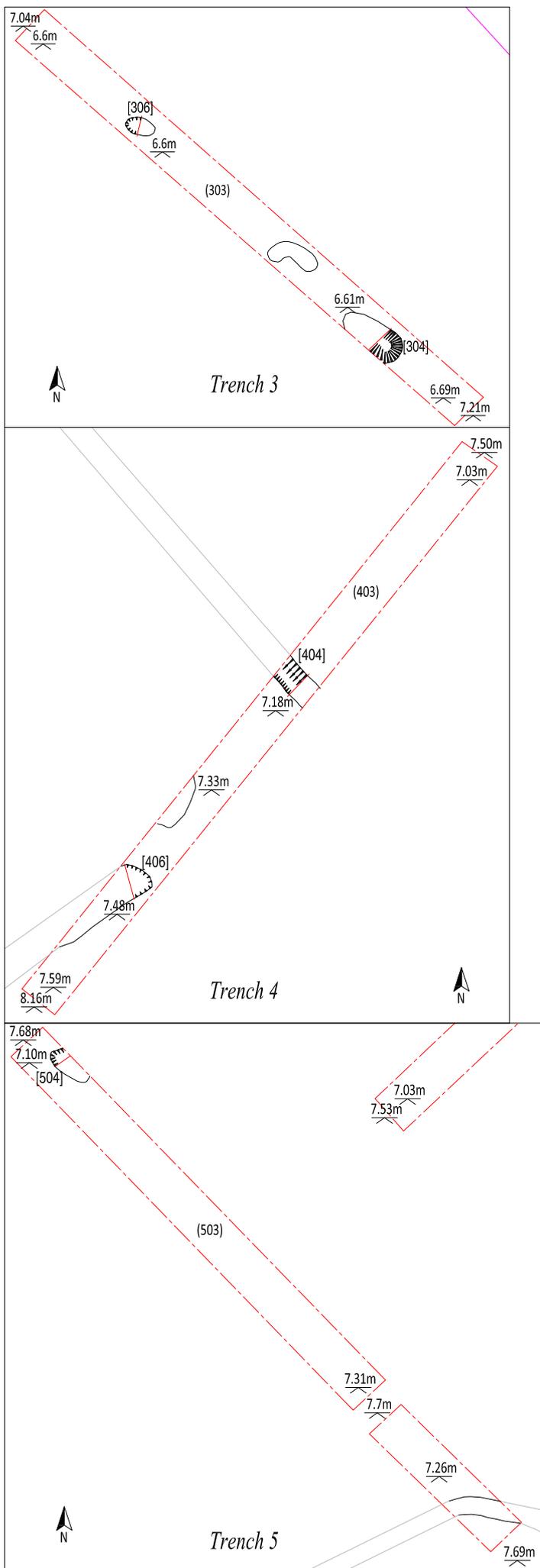


Figure 4: Trench 3, 4, and 5

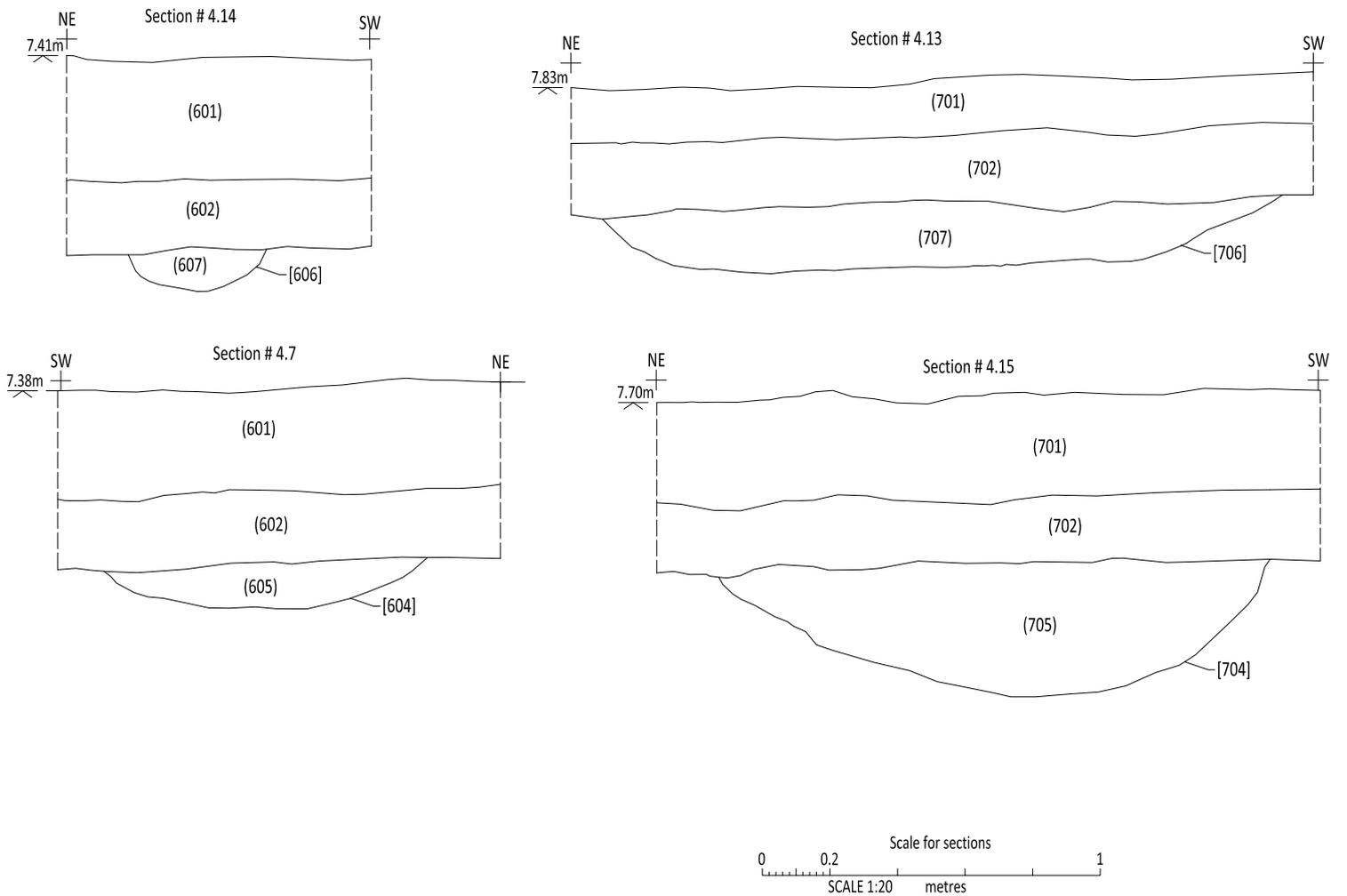
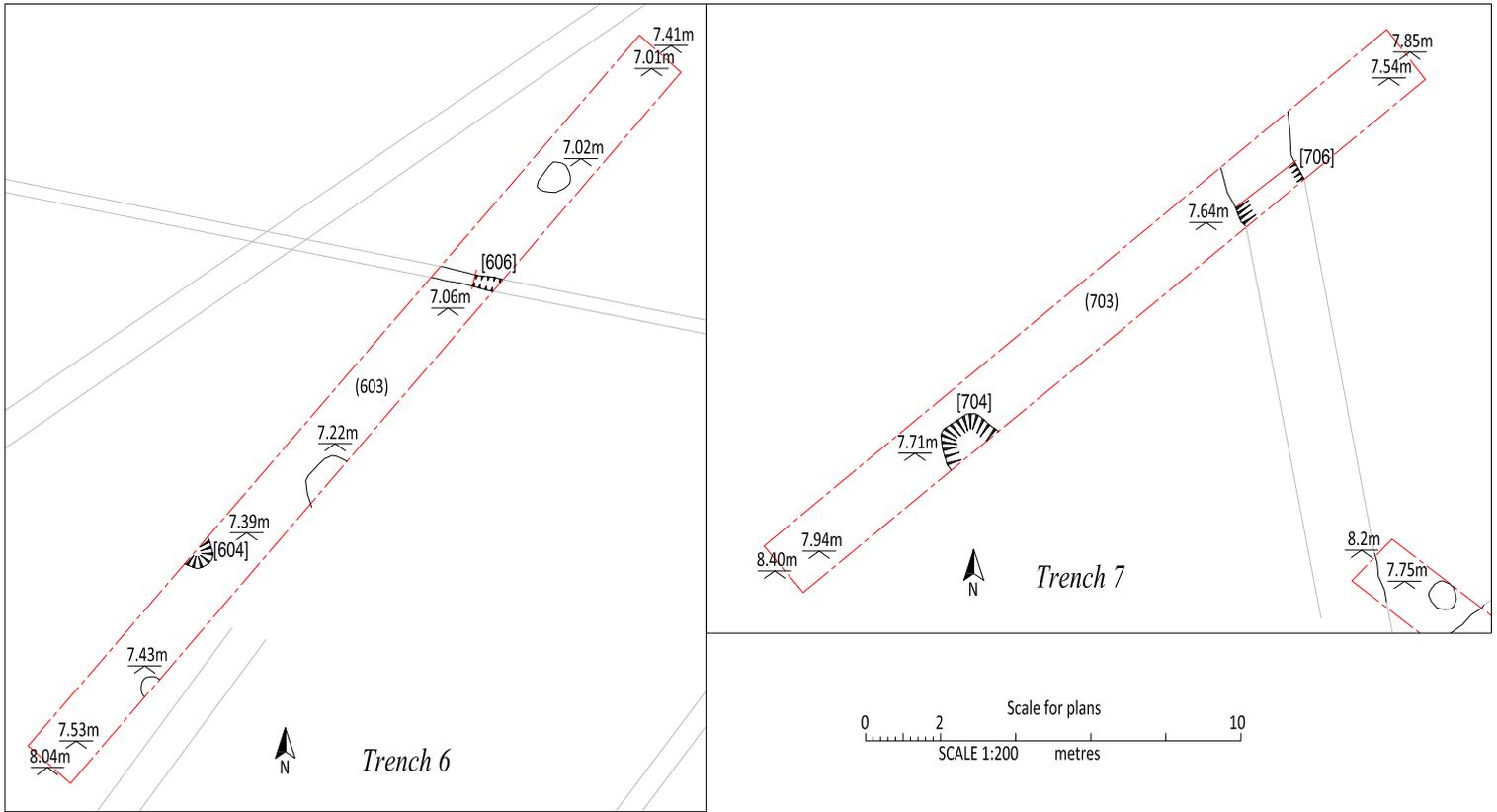


Figure 5: Trench 6, and 7

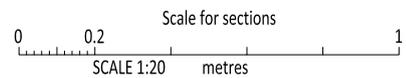
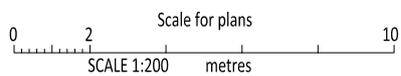
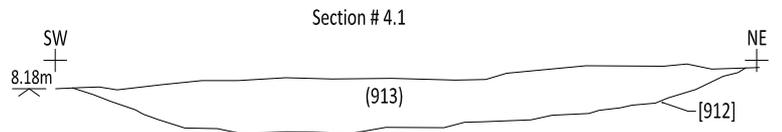
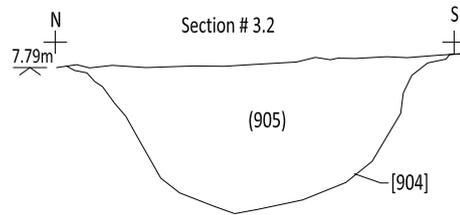
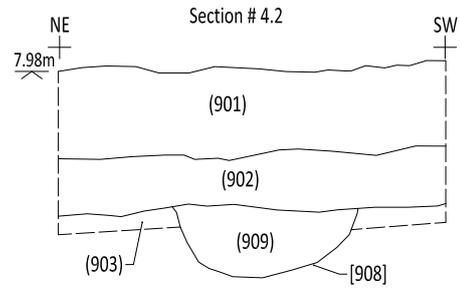
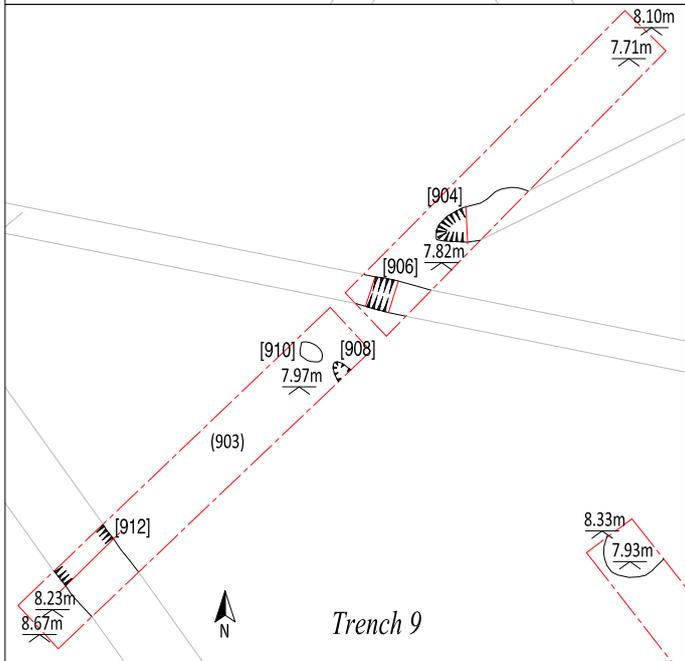
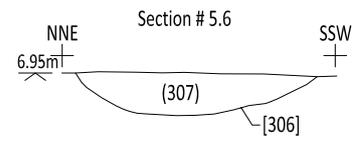
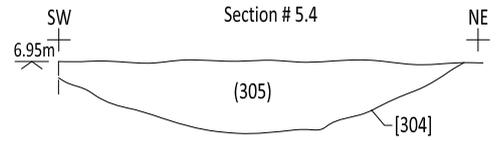
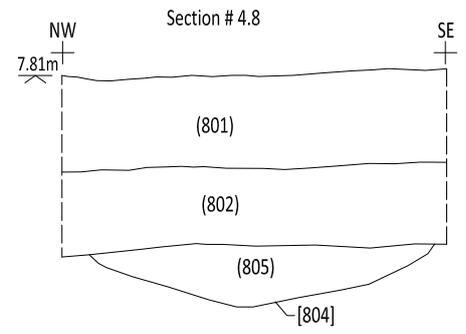
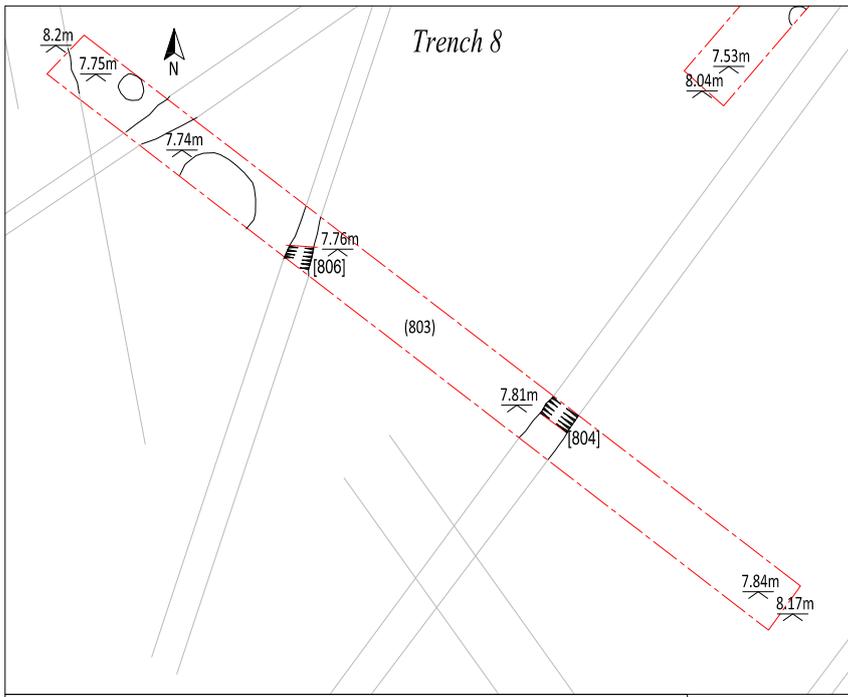


Figure 6: Trench 8, and 9

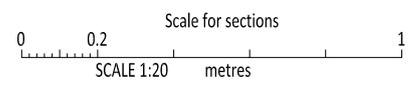
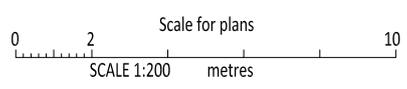
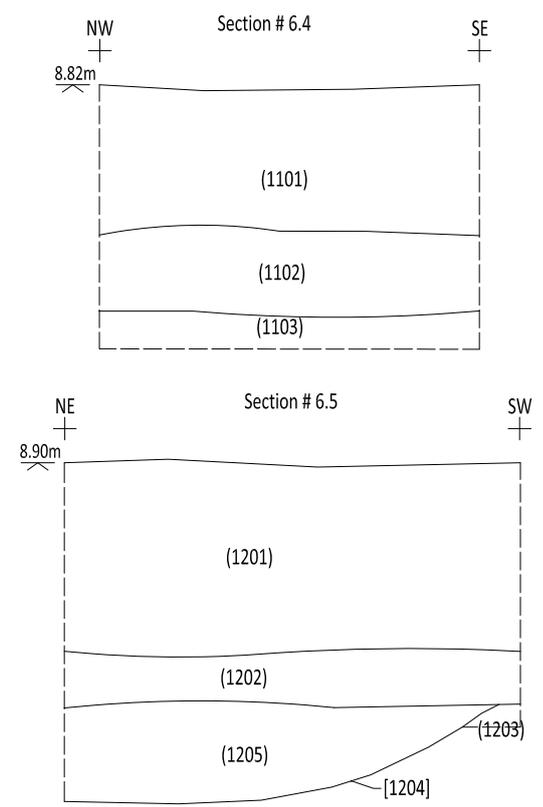
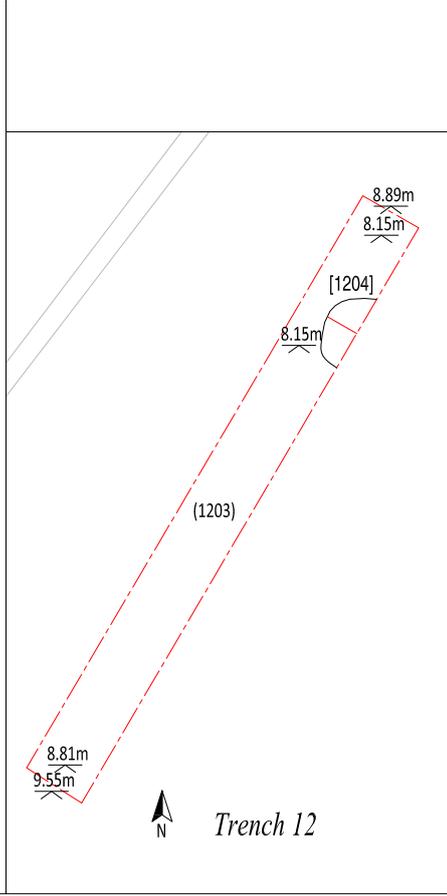
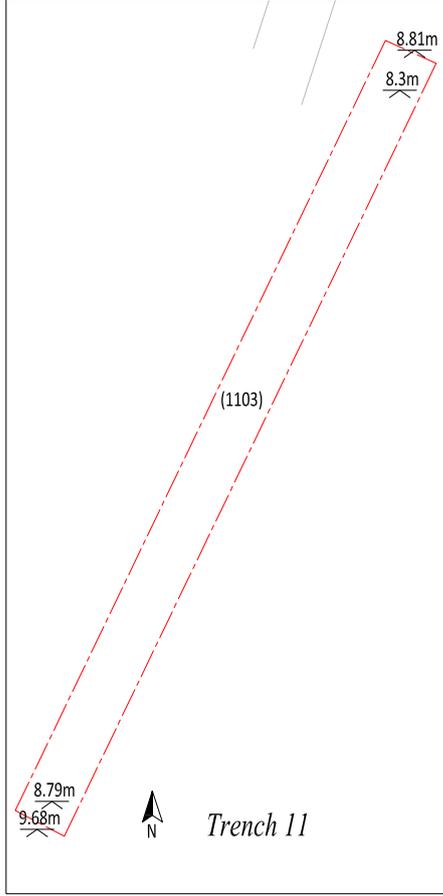
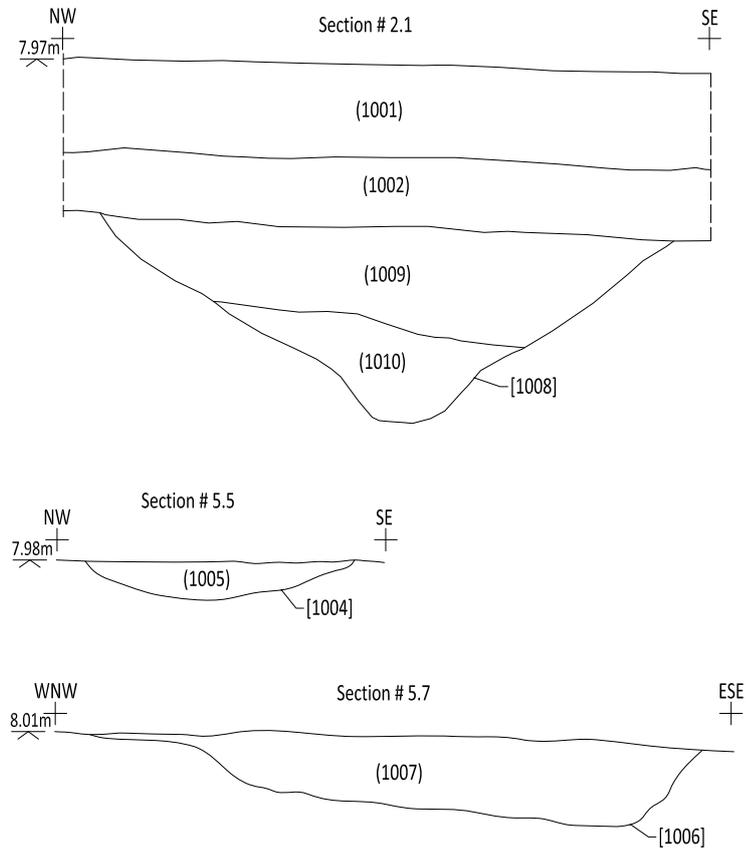
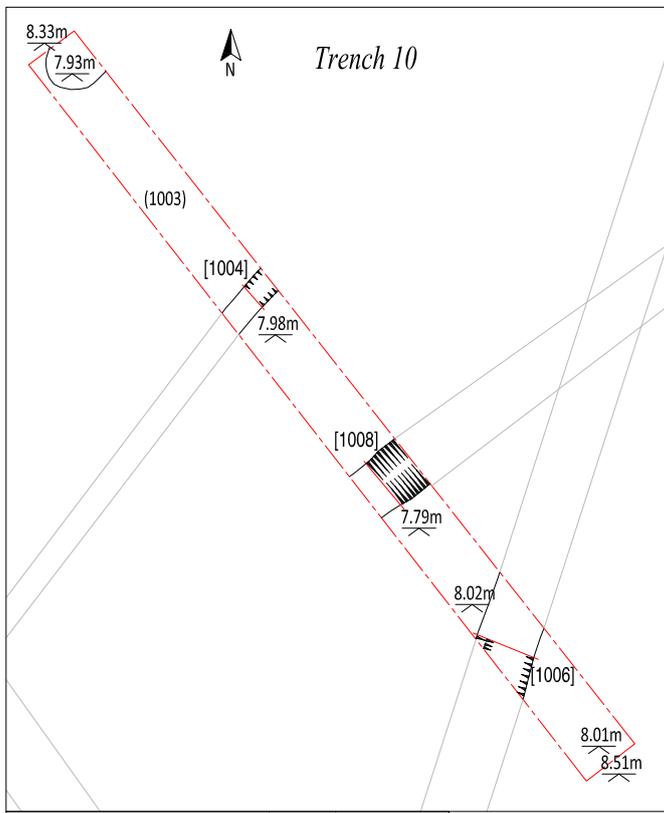


Figure 7: Trench 10, 11, and 12

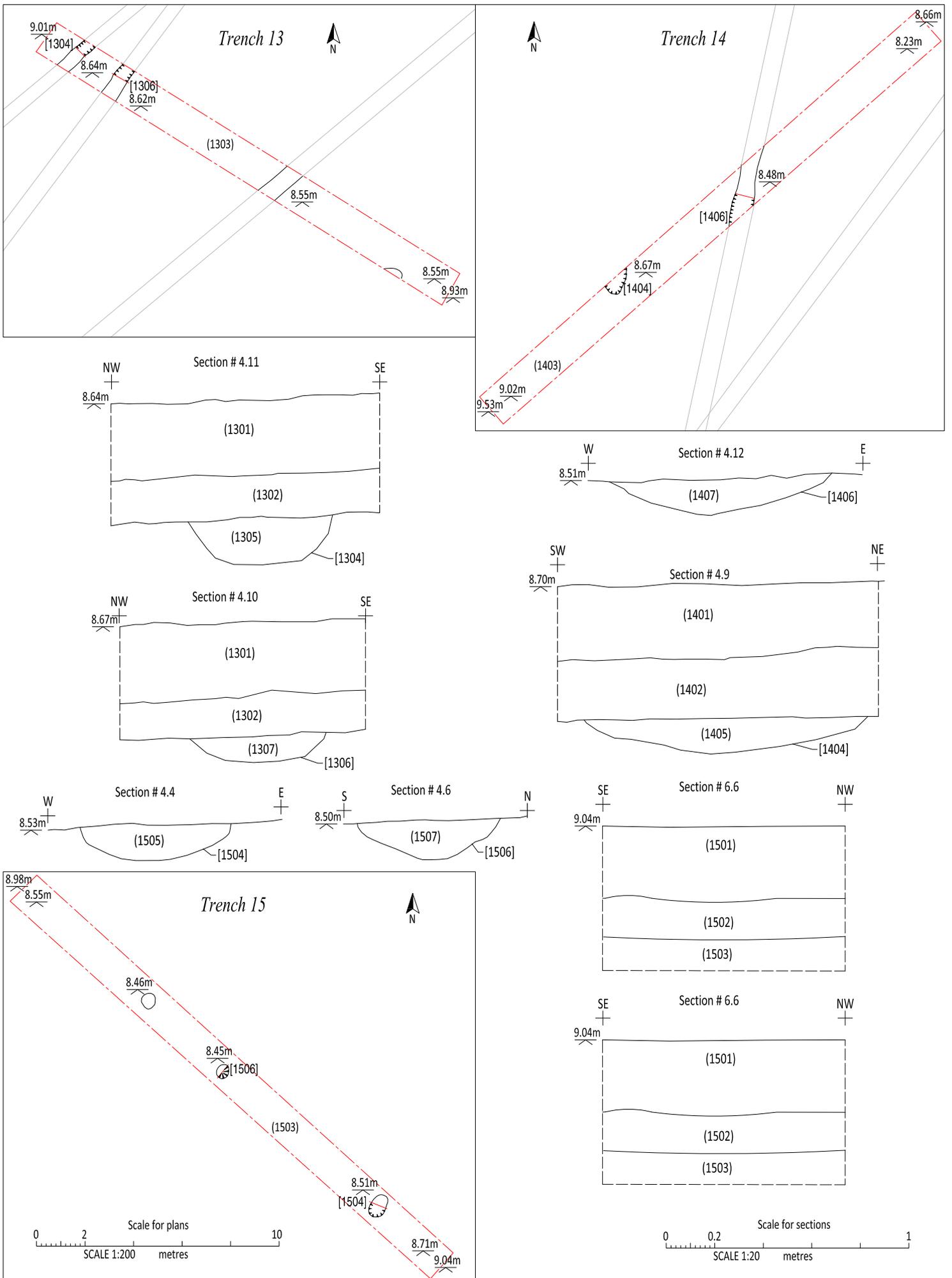


Figure 8: Trench 13, 14, and 15

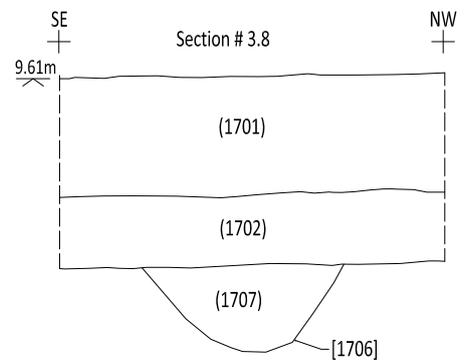
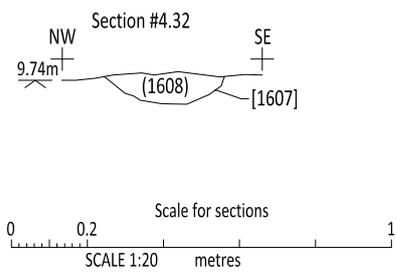
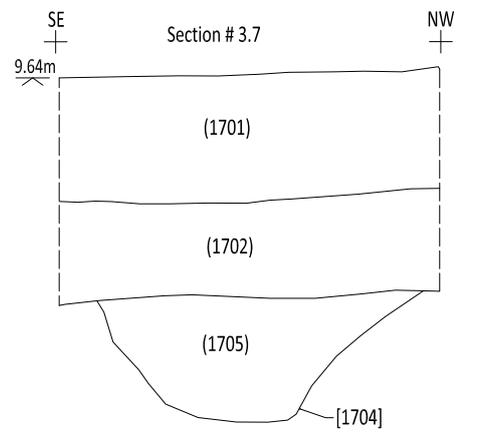
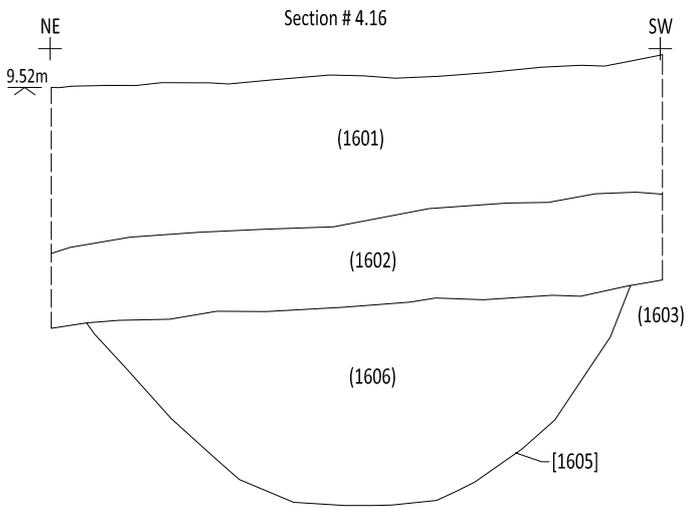
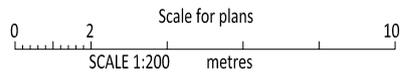
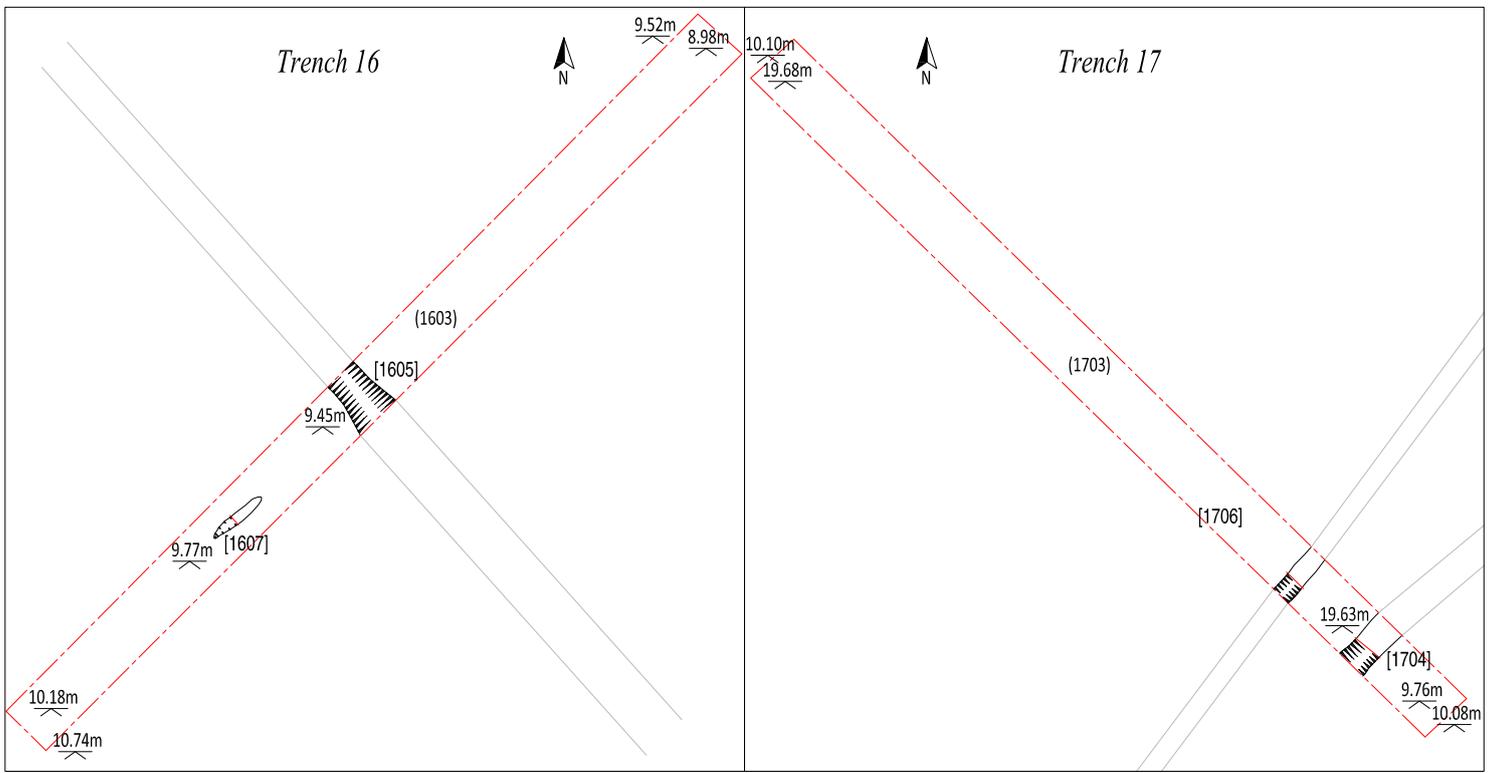


Figure 9: Trench 16, and 17

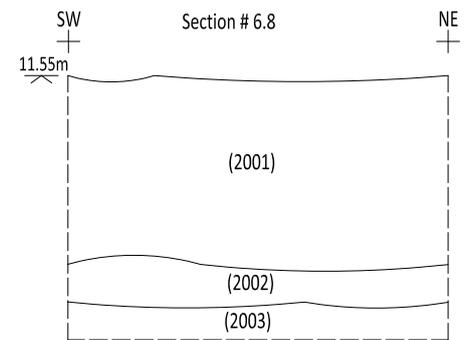
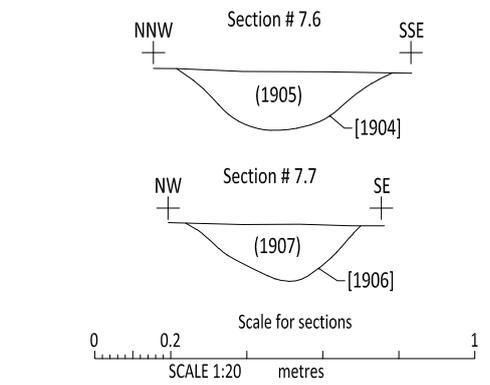
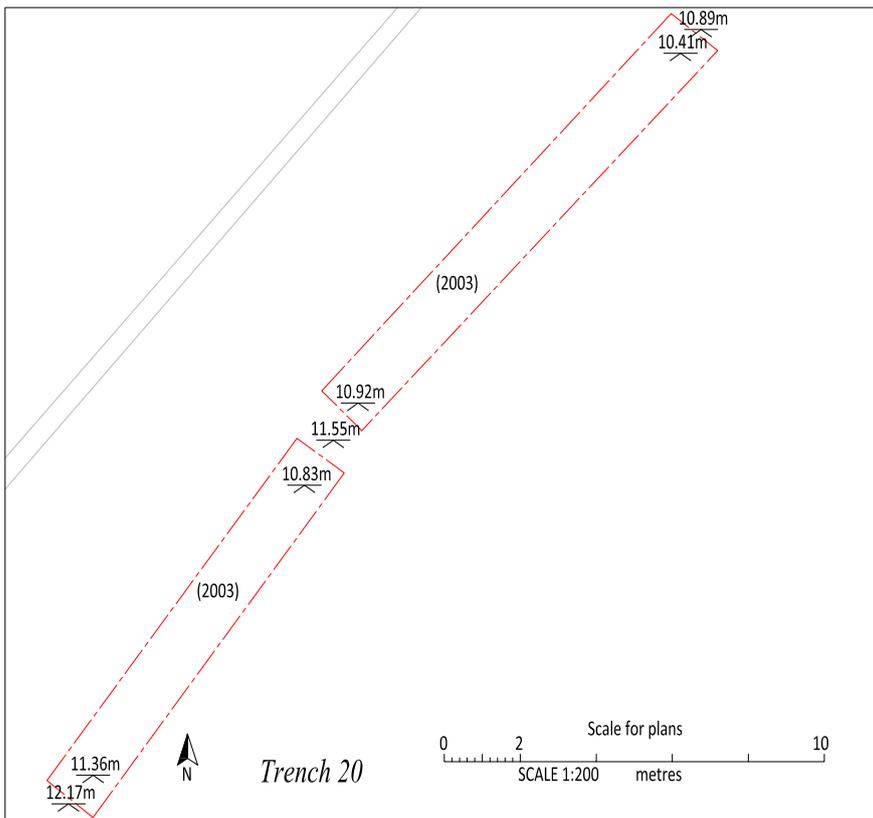
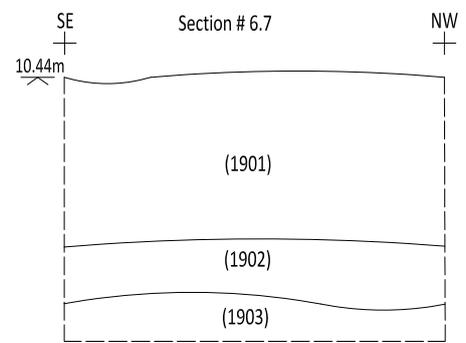
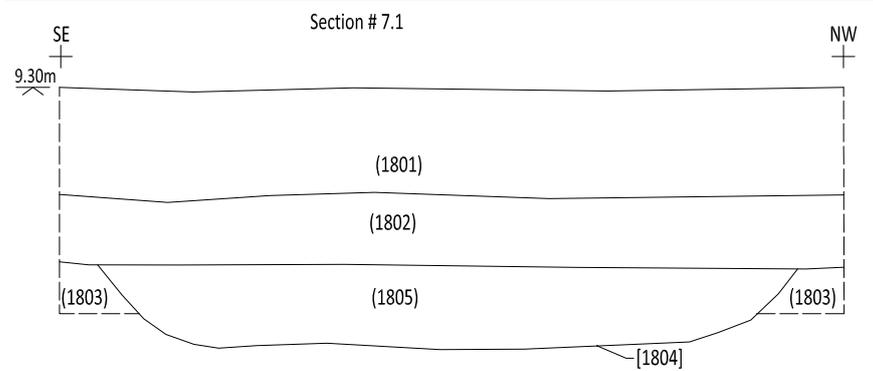
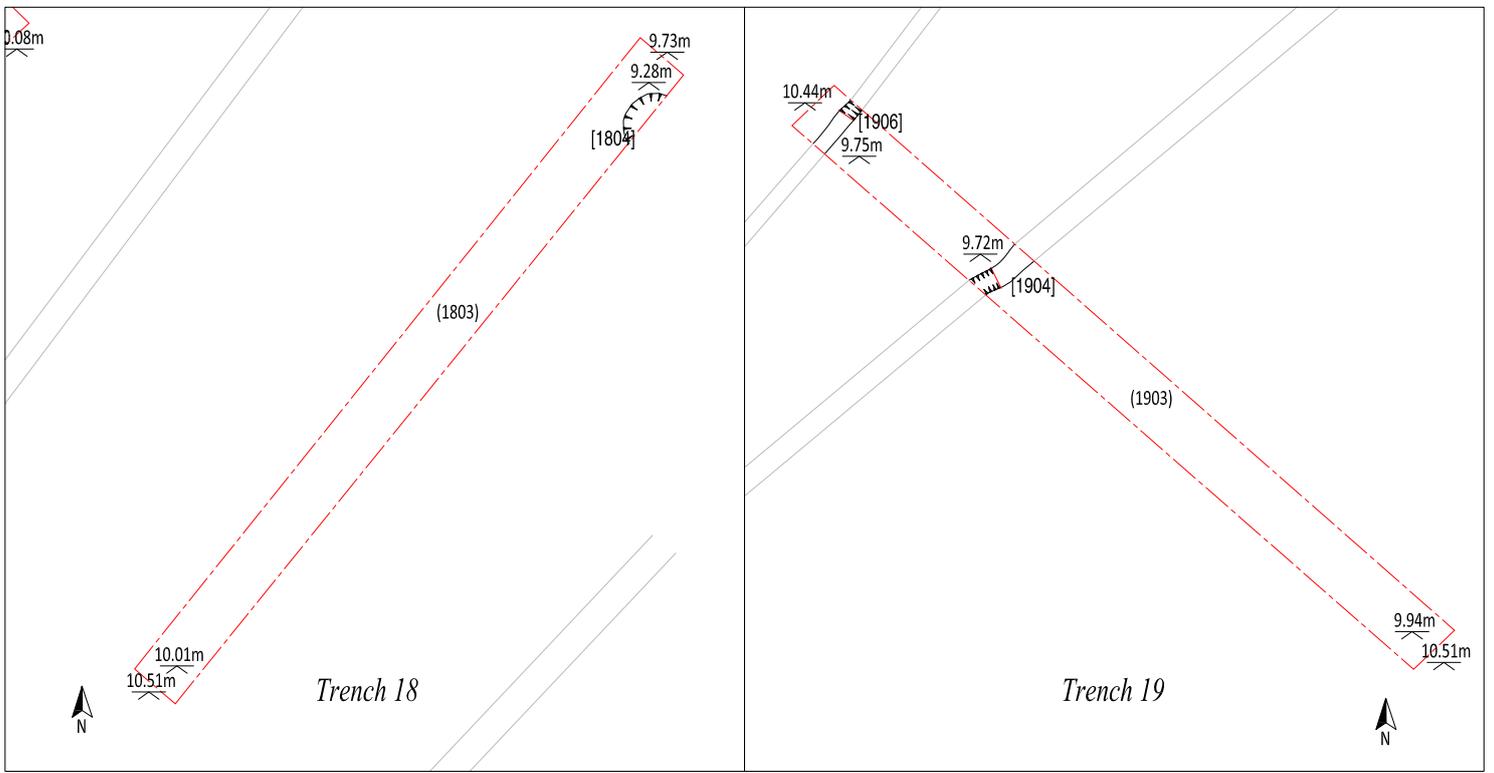


Figure 10: Trench 18, 19 and 20

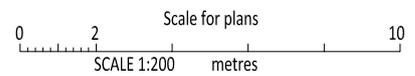
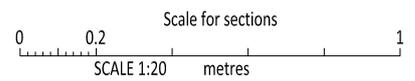
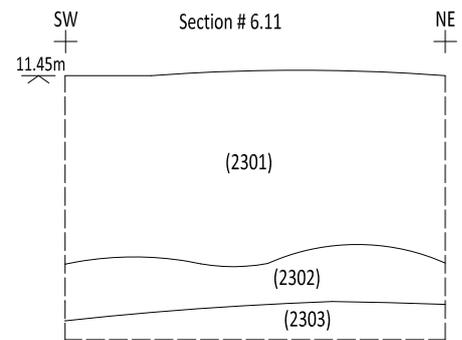
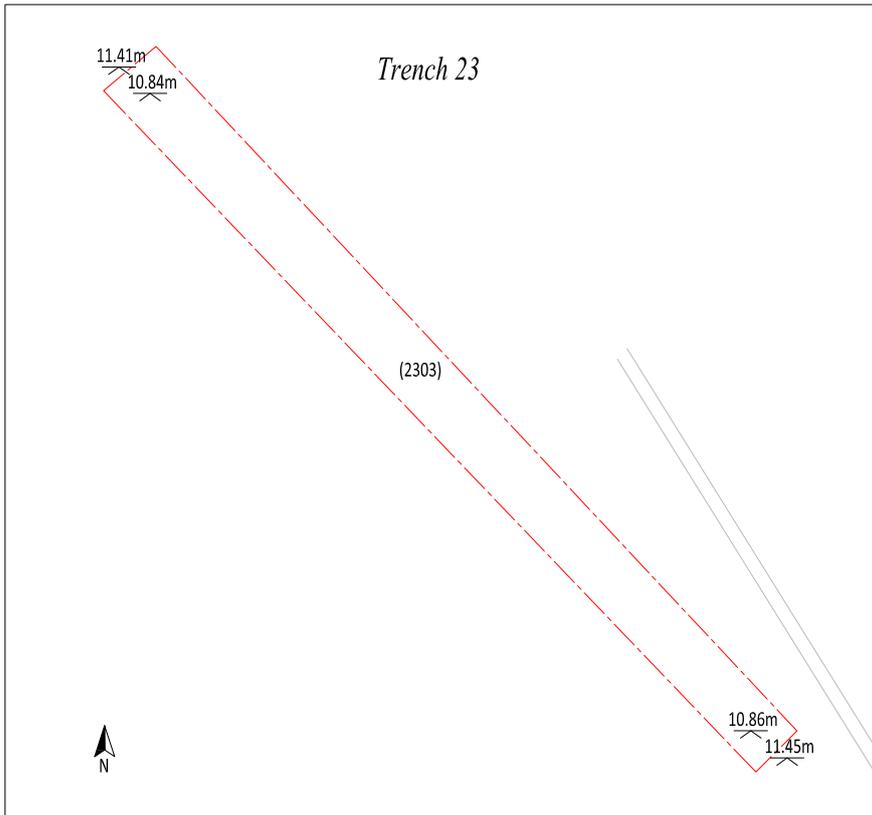
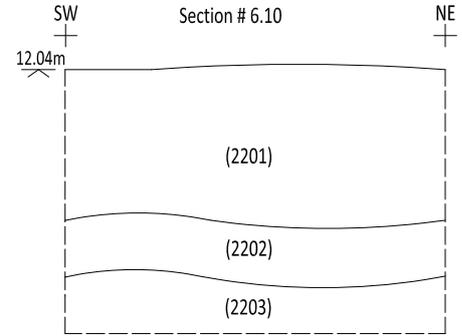
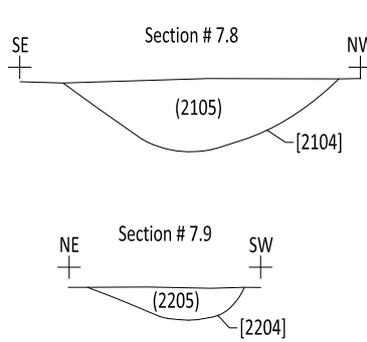
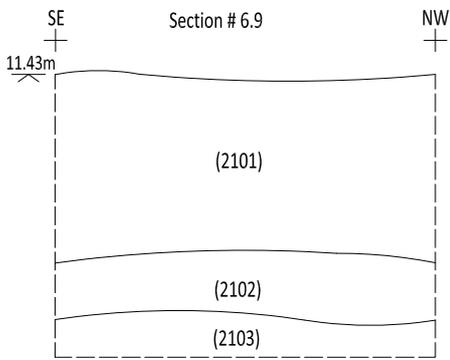
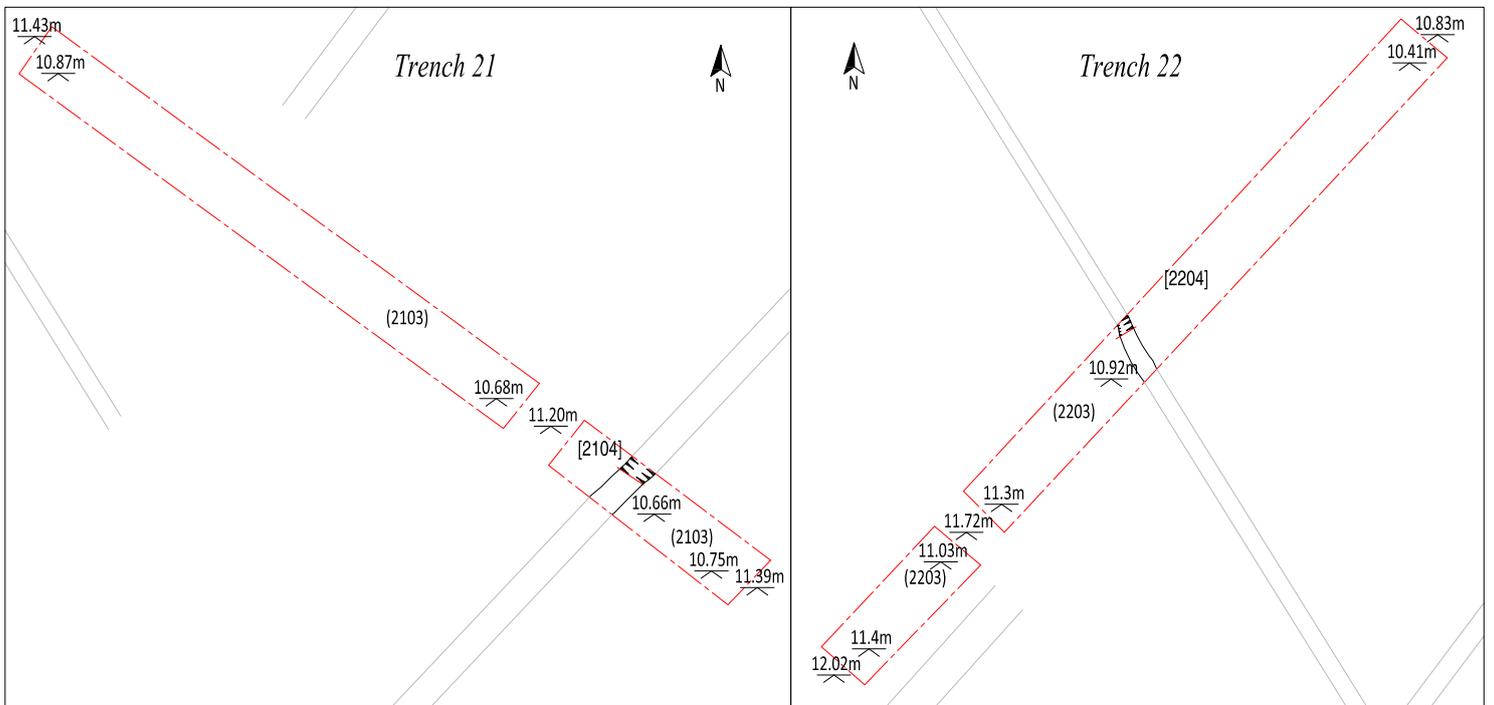


Figure 11: Trench 21, 22 and 23

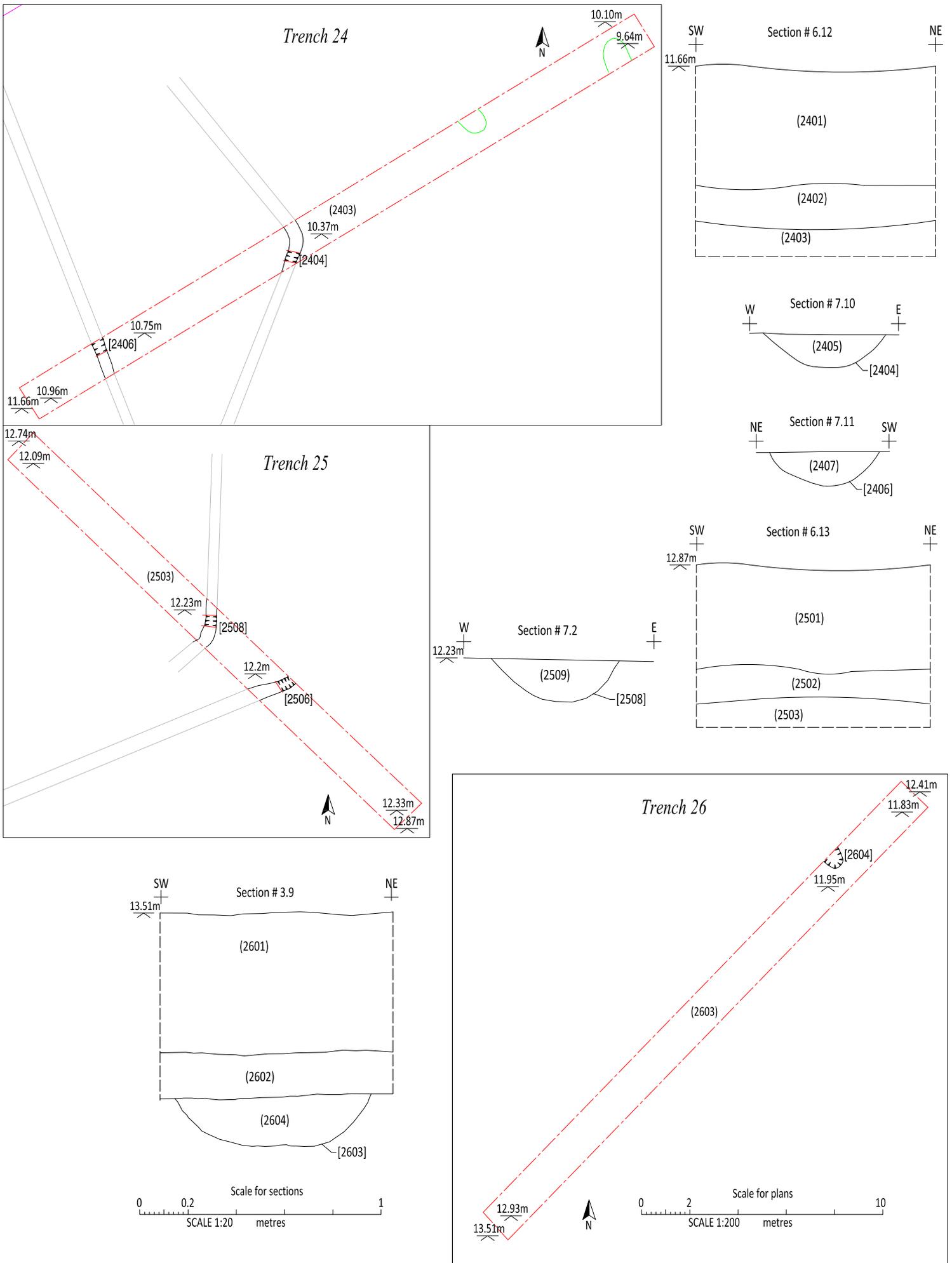


Figure 12: Trench 24, 25 and 26

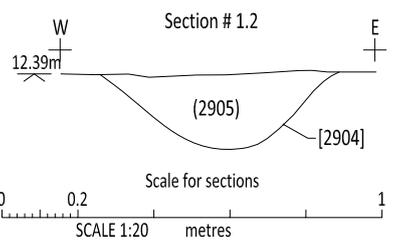
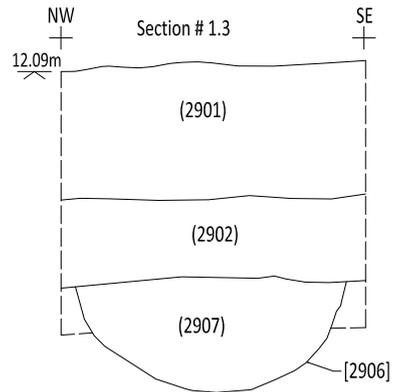
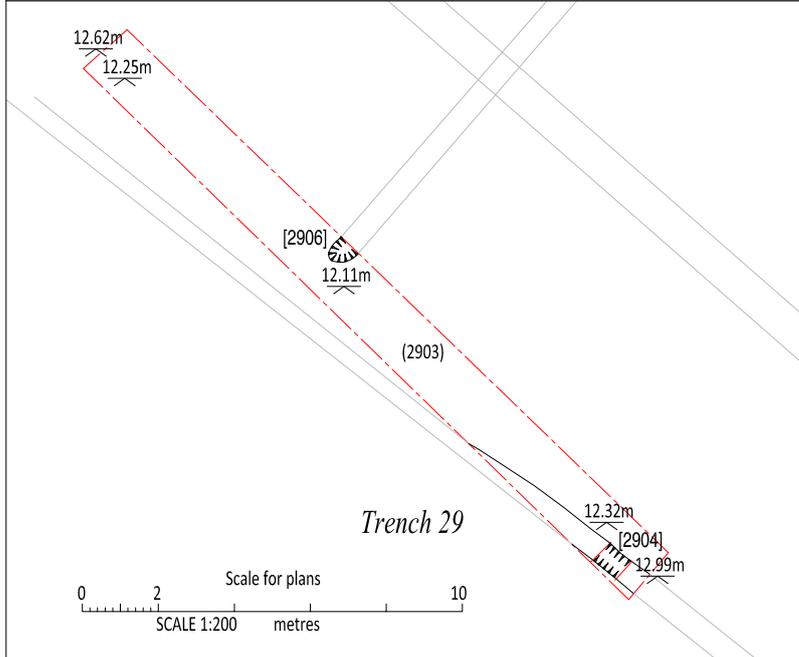
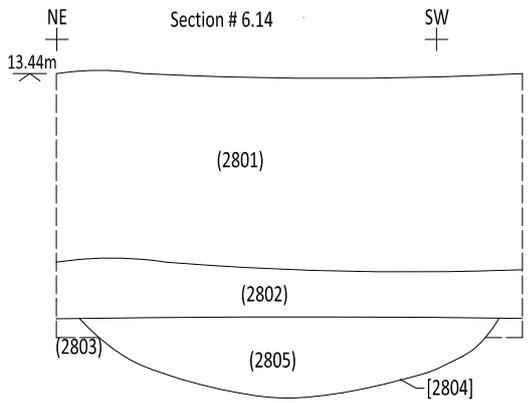
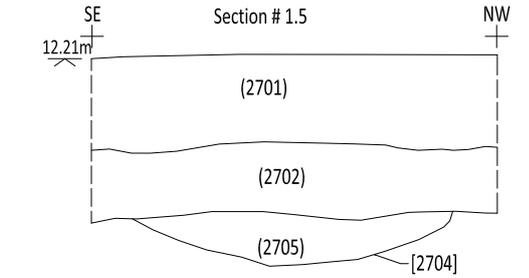
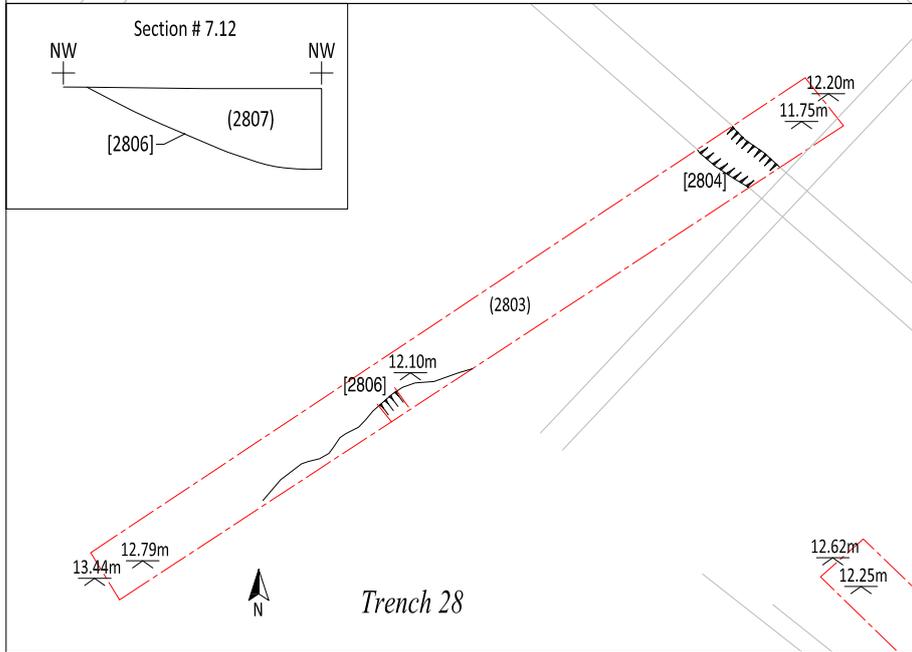
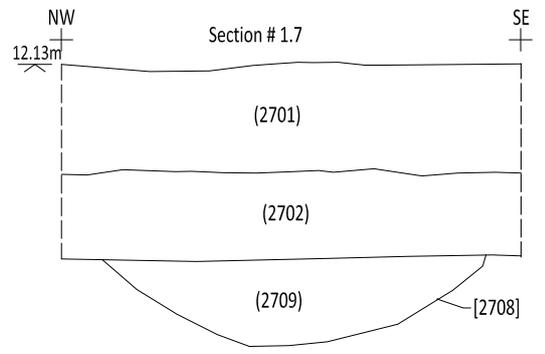
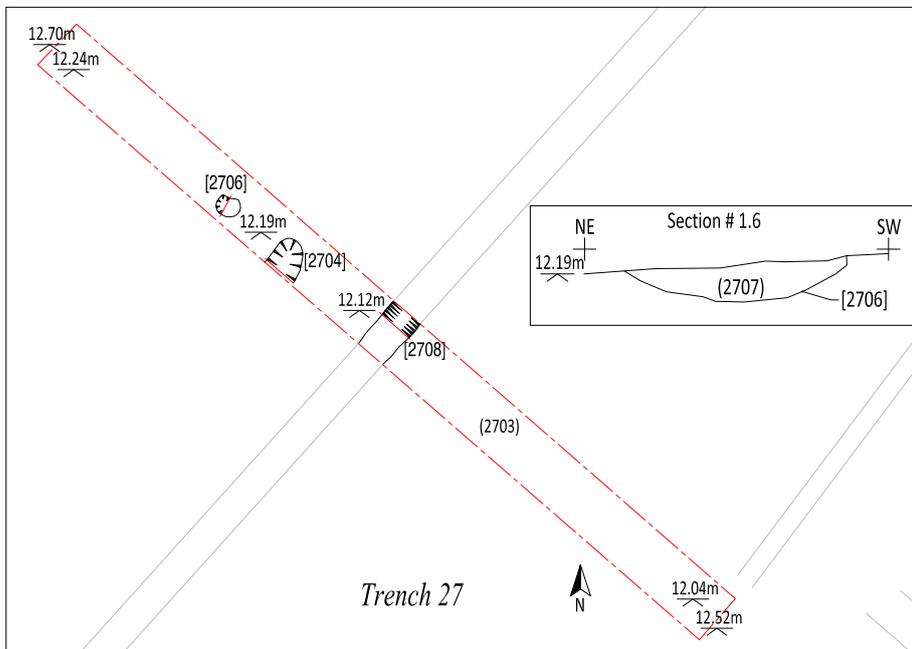


Figure 13: Trench 27, 28 and 29

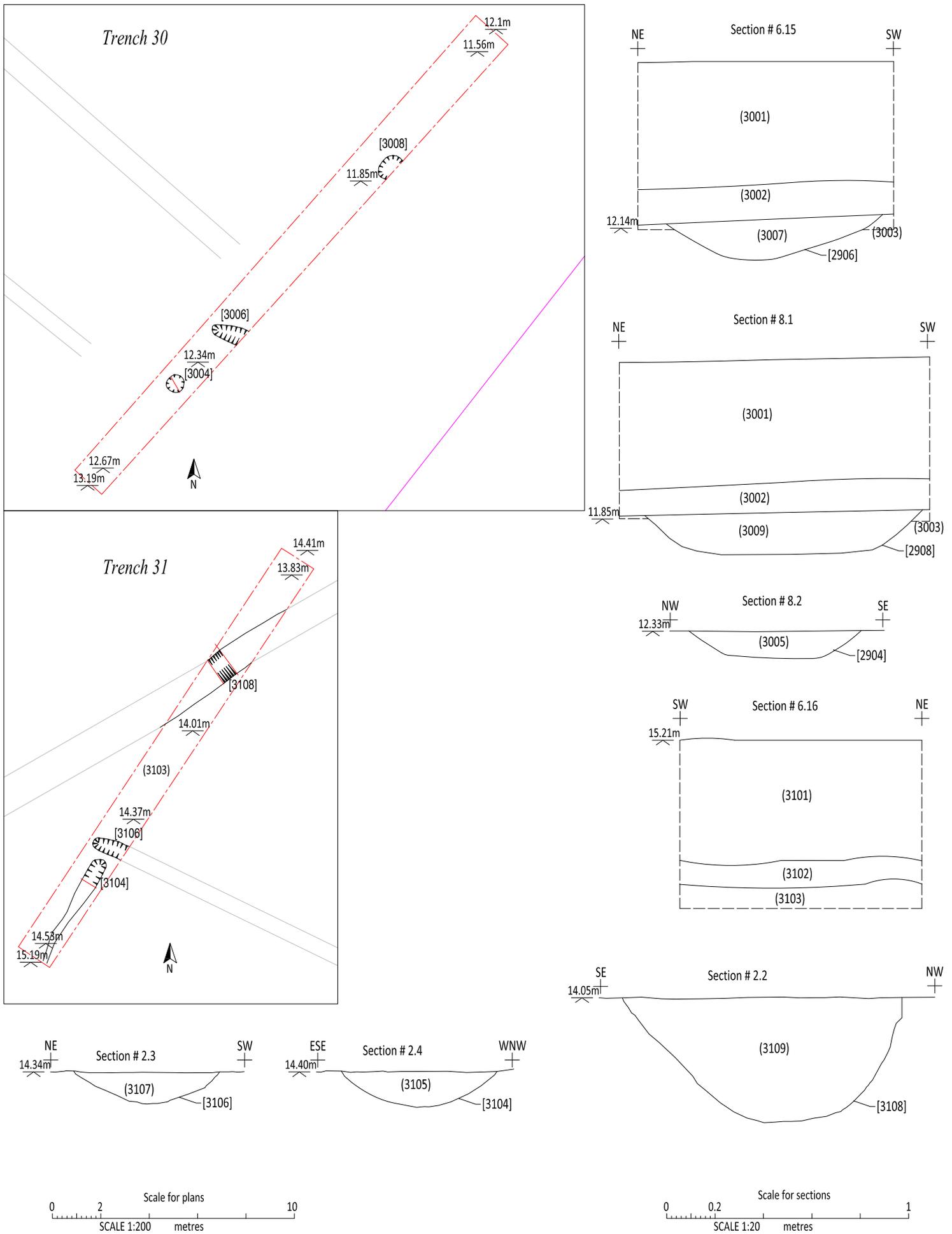


Figure 14: Trench 30 and 31

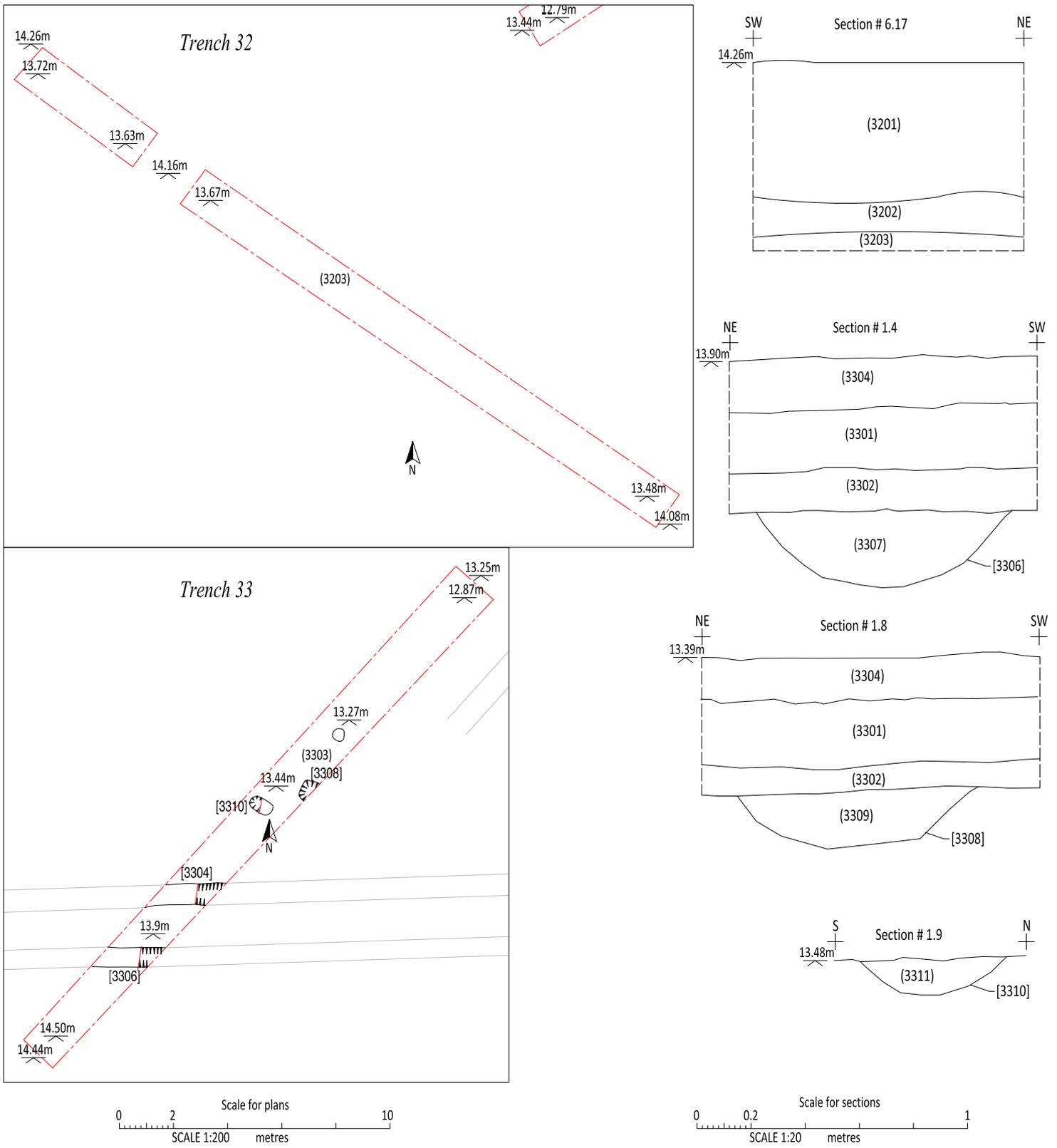


Figure 15: Trench 32 and 33

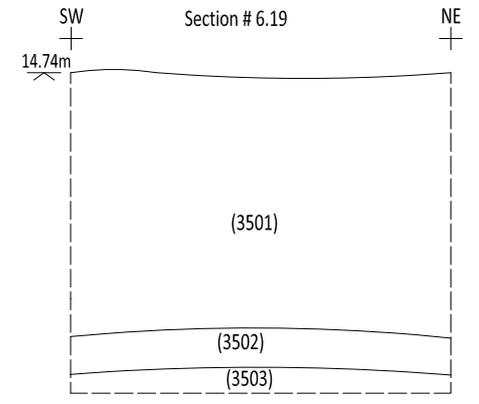
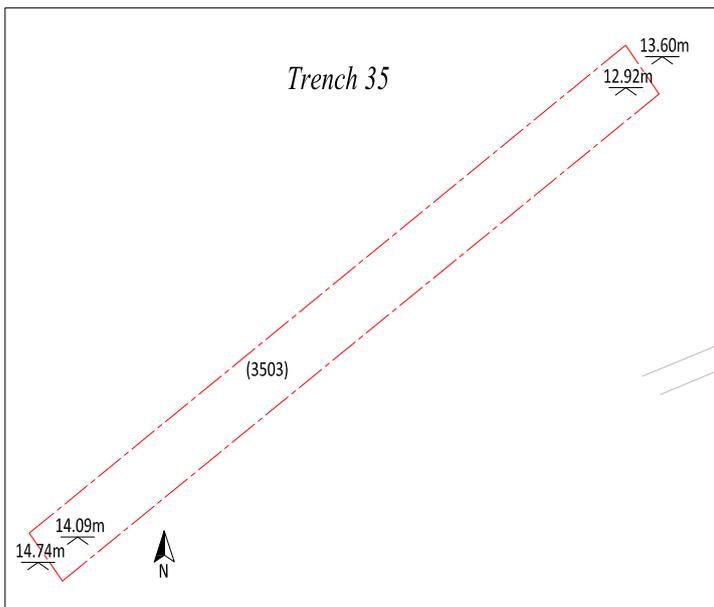
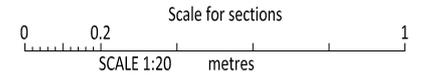
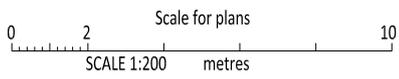
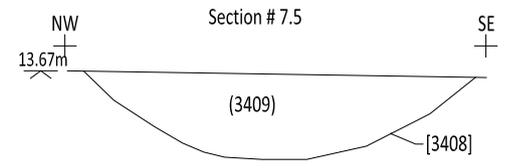
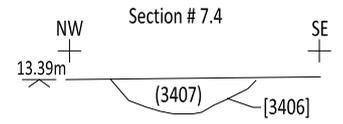
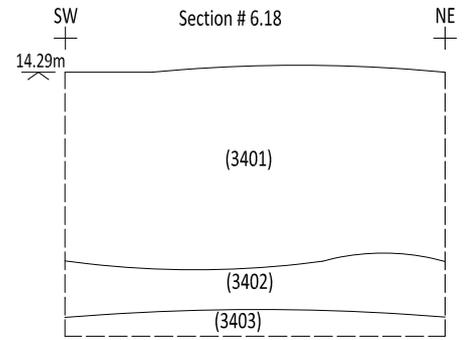
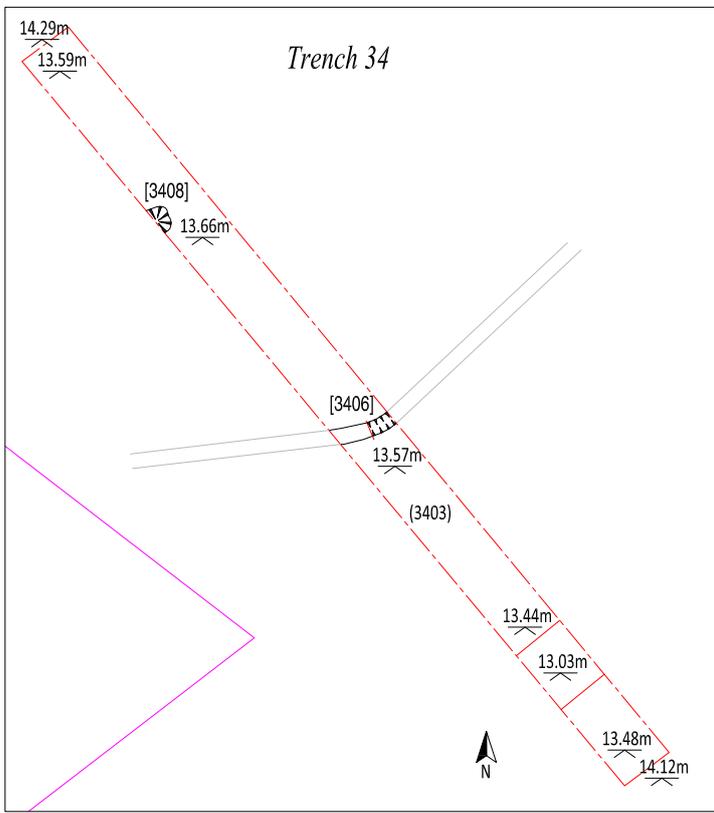


Figure 16: Trench 34 and 35

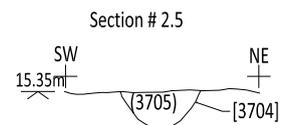
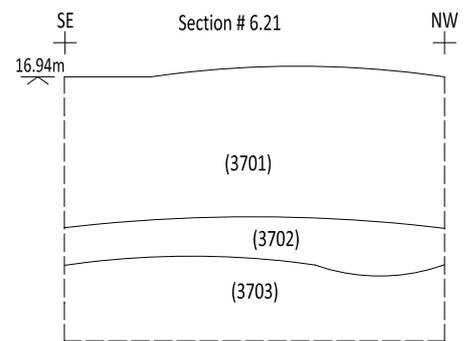
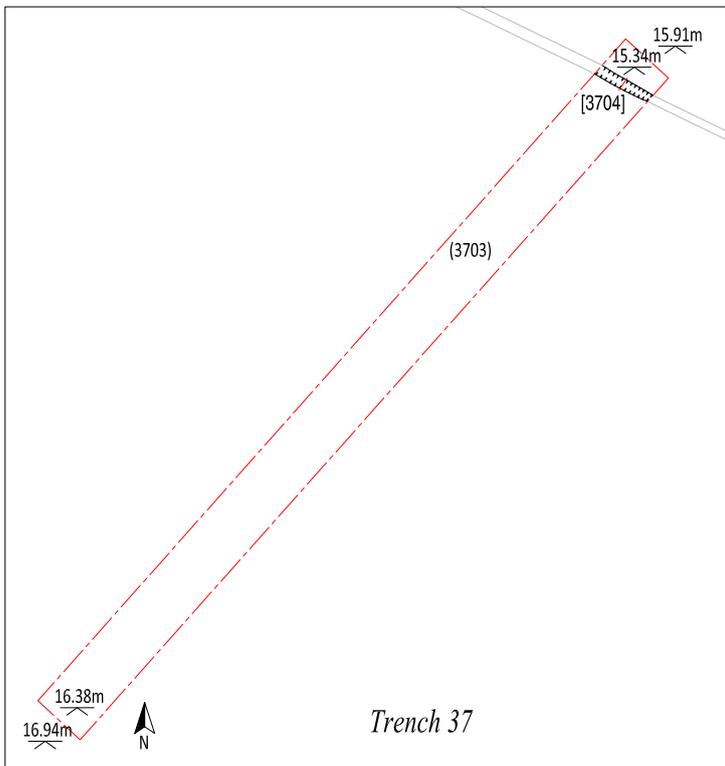
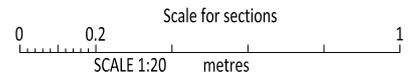
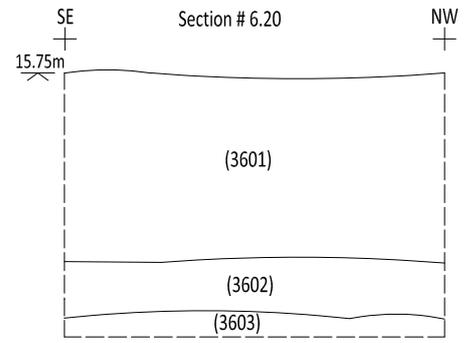
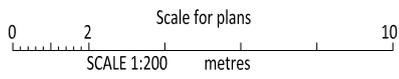
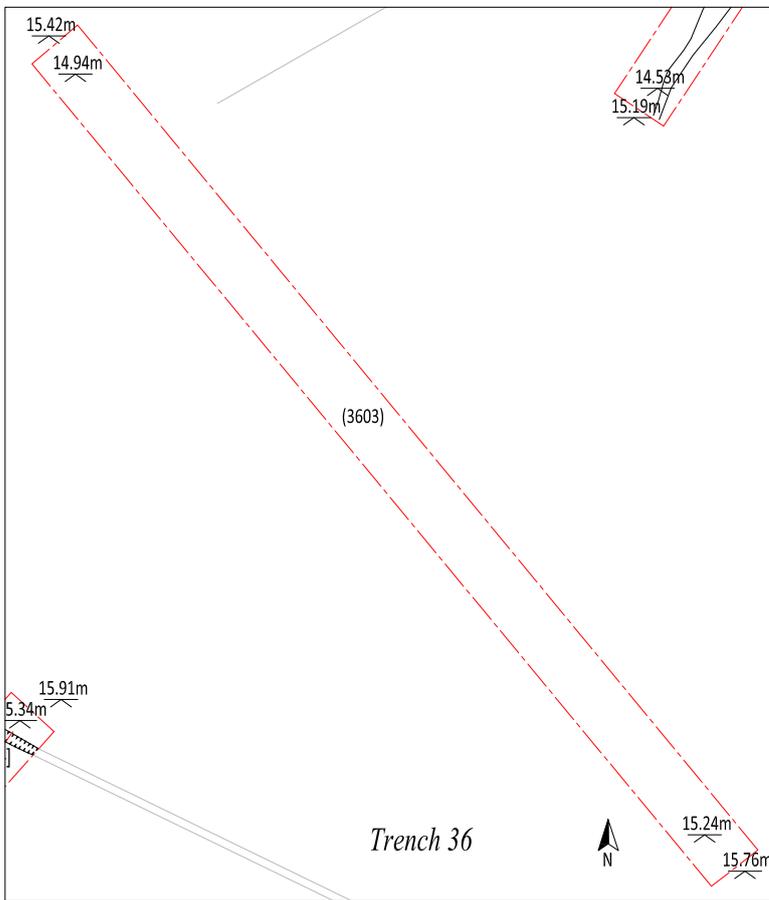


Figure 17: Trench 36 and 37

**Catalogues of the pottery, flint,
ceramic building materials and sundries
recovered during an archaeological evaluation at
Plover Road,
Minster on Sea,
Sheppey,
Kent**

Site Code: PRM-EV-22

Analyst: Paul Hart

Last updated: 05.12.2022

For: Swale and Thames Archaeology Survey Company

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1. Period Codes employed

<i>Period</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Date (circa)</i>			
Neolithic	N	4000	-	2300	BC
Early Bronze Age	EBA	2100	-	1550	BC
Middle Bronze Age	MBA	1550	-	1350	BC
Mid to Late Bronze Age	MBA-LBA	1350	-	1150	BC
Earliest Iron Age	EIA	1000/900	-	600	BC
Early to Mid Iron Age	EMIA	600	-	350	BC
Middle Iron Age	MIA	400	-	200	BC
Mid to Late Iron Age	MLIA	200	-	50	BC
Late Iron Age	LIA	50	-	0	BC
Latest Iron Age	LIA-ER	0	-	50	AD
Late Saxon	LS	850	-	1050	AD
Early Medieval	EM	1050	-	1200	AD
Medieval	M	1200	-	1375	AD
Late Medieval	LM	1375	-	1525	AD
Post-Medieval	PM	1525	-	1750	AD
Late Post-Medieval	LPM	1750	-	1900	AD
Modern	MOD	1900+			AD

Dating

- > : To/or later.
- < : No later than.
- / : Or/or indicating a preference within a preceding broader range.

NB. All dates used throughout are *circa*.

2. Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery

2.1. 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).
- The material has been bagged by period and separated into DRAW-ables (which do not necessarily need to be drawn for archive level or final site reports or publication) and body sherds.

2.2. Abbreviations used in 2.3.

Wear

F	:	Fresh/fairly fresh
L	:	Light
M	:	Moderate
H	:	Heavy
C	:	Chipped
S	:	Splintered

2.3. Catalogue: Quantification and spot-dating of the pottery

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.					
(205) [204]		6 sherds		38 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 75/100 AD and perhaps significantly after, noting the latest dated piece, potentially 125-175 AD, is the most worn. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear, all likely residual to various degrees.				
<i>Dating:</i>	Little specific data and the fabrics and traits could potentially date widely, the reasonable alternatives for this material being ER/M and ER>MR/LS>EM. On current evidence however, Roman dates are slightly preferred (see <i>Comments</i>), but the possibility for this being evidence of later activity, particularly if LS>EM, is notable. Review in light of the nature of the context, the distribution (if possible), any associations and the final assemblage trends (after all work is completed), plus if any LS>EM activity is known to occur in the immediate vicinity (and consider if the character of that material is comparable).				
<i>Comments:</i>	<p>All sandy wares, which could date widely, but with preferences for ER and ER>MR at present. The 2 bases in reduced fine sandy fabrics *have some potential to be LS>EM. 1 has a horizontal knife-trimmed facet forming the outer edge, a trait which could occur in the ER>MR or the LS>EM, but perhaps mostly between 950-1150 AD for the latter (occasionally later), noting also that the slightly earlier Saxon and ER>MR instances of knife trimming are perhaps more typically confined to the body. The firing of this particular fine sandy fabric (with the brown margins) is akin to that often seen on Thameside fine sandy/BB2, but this fabric is finer and more profusely sandy than what is generally typical for that ware and as such is not currently a certain example of that industry. The fabric and firing of the other small base is similarly not typical of the wares that are usually seen distributed in East Kent. The small oxidised sherds **could alternatively be M, potentially between 1225-1275/1300 AD. Given the dominance of Roman (particularly ER) material in the site assemblage as a whole, including many instances of oxidised sandy wares, plus the lack of anything certainly Medieval (apart from the more worn potential EM bases in this context, hence this note), an ER date is slightly preferred at present.</p> <p>DRAW: 2 small bases (1, perhaps both, not worth drawing).</p>				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	ER>MR*	North Kent fine sandy	1	H	50-125/150 AD
Small base, medium-walled, grey black exterior, grey-buff interior, brown core, soft. DRAW (not worth drawing).					
2	ER>MR*	North Kent fine sandy	1	H	50/120-175 AD
Conjoin to a medium sized thick-walled base (base very thick), profuse fine sand with some larger quartz, black exterior with partial brown margin, worn grey-black interior with pale orangey-brown margin, black core, soft, horizontal knife-trimmed facet forms the outer edge, broken as wall rises above the base. DRAW.					
3	ER**	North Kent sandy	?1	L>M	75-125/150 AD
Small body, 2 conjoining, thinnish-walled, orange, soft.					

(207) [206]		24 sherds	262 g		
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 75 AD.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear, all are residual to some degree, though noting certainly after 175 AD.				
<i>Dating:</i>	Little specific data, other than all are worn and potentially residual to various degrees. No specifically dateable elements are present, though all likely date within 50-175 AD, some broadly and most commonly up to around 150 AD, a few perhaps more likely between 100/125-175 AD, considering the relative hardness of their fabrics, though none of the latter are very hard fired. Given the quantity and consistency, the context could be broadly of the same period as its contents, though perhaps one which might either have gradually received incidentally accrued weathered sherds resulting from material formerly discarded nearby, or a single episode deposit that had received material perhaps formerly stored and weathered on a rubbish dump. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution (if possible) and perhaps review.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Small to large sized sherds, all appearing worn to various degrees, none fresh and sharp. No rims, 1 fragmented base, most of the material is soft, a few harder. Notable are 3 thick-walled reduced sherds, which have a distinctive sandy fabric* that currently appears different to the others seen in the site assemblage. Also 3 sherds of Kentish white-cream ware, the only examples in the site assemblage. DRAW: 1 small fragmented base (not worth drawing).				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
4	ER	*?North Kent sandy	2/3	C M	50-125/100 AD
	Small to medium body, 3 thick-walled with patchy black and brown surfaces, largest with solely black interior, 1 small medium-walled with patchy black exterior and grey-buff interior, all in same fabric of profuse fine quartz with occasional medium and large clear to yellowy or brown quartz. Largest and 1 small have smoothed exteriors, latter also shows 2 adjacent dull burnished lines recessing the wall. *The fabric appears distinctly different to those seen in the site assemblage so far, particularly regarding the character of the background of profuse fine quartz with a scattering of larger quartz.				
1	ER	North Kent fine sandy	1	L>M	50-125/150 AD
	Medium body, medium-thickish walled, worn exterior shows horizontal bands of grey-black and dirty buff colours, with remnants of a smooth surfaced pale to grey-buff slip, soft.				
1	ER	?North Kent fine	1	M>H	70-150 AD
	Small thin-walled body, orange, soft. ?Flagon.				
1	ER	North Kent fine sandy + ?grog	1	M>H	75-150 AD
	Small, thin-walled, pale orange, occasional fine sand with larger brown ?grog pellets, soft. ?Flagon.				
6	ER	North Kent sandy	1/2	H	75-125/150 AD
	2 small sherds and fragments, potentially associated, 5 thin to medium-walled body, 1 badly damaged base. DRAW (don't draw).				
3	ER	North Kent shell tempered	1/2	H	75-150 AD
	1 medium sized medium-walled and 1 large thick body sherd, orange, significant exterior surface loss and wear. 1 small thick body, grey-black exterior, rest dull orangey-brown.				
1	ER	Romanising grog tempered	1	M	75-150 AD
	Small thick-walled body, orange.				
3	ER>MR	Kentish white-cream	2	M	75-150/175 AD
	Medium sized thick-walled body, soft, 1 with a mid grey slipped interior.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent fine sandy		M	75-150/175 AD
	Small body, orangey-buff exterior, reddish-orangey interior, hardish but not very hard.				
1	ER>MR	?North Kent sandy	1	M	100-175 AD
	Small body, very thick, grey, hardish but not hard.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent fine sandy	1	M>H	100/125-175 AD
	Large body, medium-thickish walled, buffish-grey surfaces, hardish but not hard.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent sandy	1	L>M	100/125-175 AD
	Small body, thin-walled, brown surfaces, sharply delineated grey core, hardish but not hard.				

(405) [404]			11 sherds		49 g
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 75 AD and depending upon the nature of the context potentially after 120 AD.				
<i>End date:</i>	Probably by 175 AD and perhaps by around 150 AD.				
<i>Dating:</i>	1 MIA>/MLIA>LIA-ER is not significantly worn but presumably residual, unless it dates at the very latest end of its potential range, 50-75 AD, when it could have a closer relationship to some of the ER material. The majority are ER and likely date between 75-150/175 AD, with 1 potential Thameside sandy ware more likely after 120 AD if so. None of the ER material is particularly fresh looking, with only a couple more lightly worn. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, ie. whether this is a slowly accruing deposit potentially gathering material, perhaps incidentally, over a long period, or a short single phase deposit, which might then potentially date more around 125-150 AD, if the latest element is indeed a Thameside import, rather than a local product, in which case it could date earlier.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Mostly small sized and mostly body sherds, those plain, with only 1 small rim present, which does not preserve a significantly extensive profile. All show some wear, though often not enough to be significantly residual and obviously unrelated in a broad period basis. Perhaps incidentally accrued scraps of debris from adjacent activity? DRAW: 1 small rim (not worth drawing).				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	MIA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered sandy	1	L	250/200 BC - 50 AD
	Small body, black, moderately sandy, thinnish-walled.				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	50-125/150 AD
	Small-medium body, medium-walled, brown surfaces, soft.				
2	ER	North Kent sandy	1	L	50/75-125/150 AD
	Small body, medium-thinnish walled, dull orange, soft.				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	L>M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Small body, thin-walled, orange, soft.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent silty	1	M	50/75-150/175 AD
	Small extremely thin body, grey-buff exterior, orange interior.				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	75-125/150 AD
	Medium body, medium-walled, orange, soft.				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	L>M	75/100-150 AD
	Small body, buff surfaces, black core, hard-ish.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent Thameside sandy	1	L>M	120-175 AD
	Small rim and 2 smaller body likely associated, medium-walled, grey-black surface skin, soft. Rim a slightly thickened everted with squared exterior edge, broken just below. Quartz is mostly clear to grey, akin to the more typical Thameside products, though only moderately sandy. DRAW.				
(905) [904]			1 sherd		1 g
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	If not intrusive, presumably after 175/200 AD (and perhaps significantly later).				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear, residual.				
<i>Dating:</i>	Minimal sample of the fabric, which has the potential to be an extremely worn fragment of Samian, the strongly marled fabric potentially from various production centres, but likely dating after around 138 AD.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Tiny worn fragment, marled fine oxidised fabric.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	ER>MR	?South/East Gaulish Samian	1	H	138-225 AD
	Tiny very thin sliver, orange, fine silty with frequent fine yellowy marl spots.				

(907) [906]		7 sherds			3 g
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> Possibly after 50 BC.					
<i>End date:</i> Unclear, potentially residual.					
<i>Dating:</i> Little specific data beyond the fabrics, which could date widely. The grog tempered is most likely to be 'Belgic' style grog tempered ware, likely after 100 BC and most common/dominant after 50 BC. If both fabrics are related, a date between 50 BC - 50 AD is reasonable.					
<i>Comments:</i> Tiny fragmented crumbs, reduced, the flint tempered thinnish-walled and more likely EIA>.					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
4	MBA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered	?1	-	1550/900 BC - 50 AD
3	?MLIA>ER	Grog tempered	?1	-	100/50 BC - 75 AD
(909) [908]					
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> More likely after 50 AD.					
<i>End date:</i> Unclear, all residual.					
<i>Dating:</i> Little specific data. If a broadly related group, a date between 25-75 AD is possible, particularly if the oxidised vessel was inspired by/is copying Gallo-Belgic Terra Rubra. The flint tempered could date as late as 75 AD, but is less typically handmade significantly post-conquest. Consider the nature of the context, the distribution and any stratigraphic associations and perhaps review.					
<i>Comments:</i> Small sherds and fragments, worn. Minimally flint tempered sherd, weakly oxidised, perhaps slightly more worn, broadly MIA>LIA-ER but with slight preference for LIA>LIA-ER, 50 BC - 50 AD. The 2 other vessels represented are in grainy silty fabrics, thinnish-walled, 1 reduced, 1 oxidised (very fine sandy), the latter (and perhaps both) potentially inspired by Gallo-Belgic wares and more likely post 25 AD. DRAW: 1 small body panel with linear groove (not worth drawing).					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
2	MIA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered sandy	1	C M	250/50 BC - 50 AD
Small body and fragment, moderate fine flint and moderate sand, thick-walled, orangey-brown exterior, brown interior, black core.					
1	LIA-ER>ER	?Grog tempered silty	1	M	0/25-75/125 AD
Small body, medium-thinnish walled, grainy silty with small brown grog-like pellets/inclusions, grey-black exterior, grey-brownish interior, soft.					
6	LIA-ER>ER	North Kent very fine sandy-silty	1/2	M	0/25-75/125 AD
Small to tiny fragments of body sherds, 3 conjoining, very fine sandy-grainy micaceous silty with occasional slightly larger quartz, medium-thinnish walled, bright orange surfaces and black core, 2 sherds with a single incised groove, soft. ?Gallo-Belgic/Terra Rubra copy/inspired. DRAW (don't draw).					
(913) [912]					
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> Most likely after around 75 AD, depending upon the nature of the context.					
<i>End date:</i> Possibly by around 150 AD or shortly after.					
<i>Dating:</i> All could be residual to various degrees, the MLIA>LIA-ER presumably certainly so, the ER being slightly abraded. Consider the nature of the context and their distribution. Was the MLIA>LIA-ER recovered below the ER in a gradually accruing deposit, or might the ER also be somewhat derived/incidentally accrued within a nevertheless broadly contemporary feature?					
<i>Comments:</i> All somewhat chipped and worn, the largest and freshest likely dating between 50-125/150 AD, both the ER material with some edge rounding.					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	MLIA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered sandy	1	M	200 BC - 50 AD
Small body, black, moderate small to large coarse flint.					
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	L>M	50-125/150 AD
Medium body, medium to thickish-walled, dark grey brown exterior skin over pale brown exterior, dull orangey-brown interior, softish.					
5	ER	North Kent fine	1	L>M	70-150 AD
Small body, most/?all likely conjoin to a medium sherd, dull orangey buff surfaces and black core.					

(1005) [1004]		3 sherds		2 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 100 AD and perhaps after 125 AD at least.				
<i>End date:</i>	Unclear, both residual.				
<i>Dating:</i>	Broadly ER, 1 more worn sherd could date slightly earlier than the others. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible.				
<i>Comments:</i>	Small worn plain fragments of thin-walled grainy silty and more compact fine fabrics with oxidised surfaces, neither hard and likely broadly ER.				
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	ER	North Kent silty	1	M>H	75-125/150 AD
	Small body, very thin-walled, grainy silty, orange surfaces, brownish core, soft.				
2	ER>MR	North Kent fine	1	C M	75-175 AD
	Small body fragments, very thin-walled, orange surfaces, black core.				
(1009) [1008]		22 sherds		86 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i>	Likely after 50/75 AD and perhaps most likely after 125 AD.				
<i>End date:</i>	Probably by around 225 AD, if not a little earlier.				
<i>Dating:</i>	The earliest element which is not significantly worn could date between 20 BC and 75 AD and it might date at the very end of that range, 50-75 AD. More worn material which probably dates between 75-125/150 AD forms a significant element, while the lightly/slightly worn pieces likely date between 120-175 AD and the freshest looking and largest (but still relatively small) element 175-230/250 AD. Consider the nature of the context and the distribution, if possible, re whether this context could have been open from approximately 50/75 or rather 125 to around 200/225 AD, gradually accruing variously fresh or more worn material, or whether the earliest freshest piece could have been redeposited in a feature that was open between around 125-200/225 AD, or if this was a result of a single episode of disposal around 175-200 AD, which contained slightly and more significantly worn pieces from earlier episodes of activity, which nevertheless offer evidence of activity in the immediate vicinity potentially between around at least 0/25-200 AD. Given that only 1 piece at present is more likely to have been made after 175 AD, the lack of any obvious contemporary material of this late date suggests a more minimal presence at that stage and that it might more likely date towards the earlier end its range, ie. 175-200 AD. Perhaps review with additional data and in light of final site trends.				
<i>Comments:</i>	<p>All small, many tiny or fragmentary.</p> <p>3 flint tempered sandy wares: 2 coarsely tempered body sherds could date widely, more likely 250/200 BC - 50 AD, but perhaps broadly associated with (ie. same period and not needing to significantly pre-date) 1 slightly less worn and only sparsely flint tempered rim, which could be from a lid, broadly 20 BC - 75 AD if so, being of more Roman than 'Belgic' style, the best parallels being specifically post-conquest (Thompson 1982), but likely no later than around 75 AD, given the flint tempered fabric.</p> <p>3 sandy rims, largest and freshest looking in a scorched Thameside fabric, likely from a Monaghan 1987 5C1 plain 'pie dish', broadly 175-230/250 AD but not very hard fired. 2 softer similar rounded rolled rims (1 a fragment only) could slightly pre-date, or be broadly associated around 175 AD. The fragment may be a Thameside product, the other shows coloured quartzes not typical of those fabrics.</p> <p>2 bases, both in grainy silty fabrics. 1 very small fragment oxidised, soft, worn and possibly 50/75-125/150 AD. 1 fairly hard, broadly 75/100-150/175 AD, the colour of the latter superficially akin to some early North Kent fine ware, but the fabric is grainier than typical and also fairly hard.</p> <p>Of the body sherds, most are tiny fragments or small sized, medium to thin-walled and all but 3 are oxidised orange or orangy-brown. 1 soft black sherd is a North Kent fine fabric, 1 a tiny fragment of North Kent Thameside sandy. Others include silty and sandy wares and 1 notable marled fabric (see below).</p> <p>Notable is 1 grainy North Kent silty sherd containing (mostly rectangular) grains of yellowy chalk. Another less calcareous sherd appears in (1010) [1008].</p> <p>DRAW: 4 rims, 2 bases (1 rim fragment and both bases not worth drawing).</p>				

Quantity	Period	Ware	Vessels	Wear	Date preference
2	MIA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered sandy	2	M	250/200 BC - 50 AD
	Small, medium-walled. 1 oxidised body, strongly sandy with occasional fine to large flint, coarse. 1 body, oxidised exterior, grey interior, similar flint.				
1	LIA>ER	Flint tempered sparse sandy	1	L	20 BC/?50-75 AD
	Small, rim, medium-walled, flat topped squared, dark reduced, moderate sand, sparse flint. Possibly a lid, which could be akin to Thompson's 1982 'Belgic' L9 type of very shallow out-turned conical lids, though these appear to be post-conquest (the most similar of the published examples being the only type in Thompson 1982 from Kent, found at Preston). A similar L8 form of conical lid with an out-turned rim could date from 20 BC. DRAW.				
1	ER	North Kent silty + chalk	1	M	25/50-75/150 AD
	Small body, medium to thickish-walled, grainy, with occasional quartz and moderate small to large sized yellowy chalk grains, these mostly rectangular, sometimes more oval, also perhaps some sparse ?grog, brown exterior, orangey-brown interior and core, not very hard. 2 spaced incised/scored parallel lines on exterior.				
2	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Tiny body, thin-walled, orange, soft. More strongly and differently sandy than the 2 other small fragments of oxidised N. K. sandy.				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Small, moderately sandy, orange.				
1	ER	North Kent silty	1	M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Very small base, thin-walled, grainy silty, orange, soft DRAW.				
2	ER	North Kent silty	1	M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Conjoin to a small thin-walled body, grainy silty, orange exterior, slightly orangey-pale buff interior, pinkish core, soft.				
2	ER	North Kent sandy	?1/2	L>M	50/75-125/150 AD
	Very small body, thin-walled, orange, coloured quartz, 1 more abraded.				
1	ER	North Kent fine	1	S M	70-150 AD
	Tiny thin-walled body fragment, black, soft.				
2	ER	North Kent shell tempered	2	M>H	75-150 AD
	Small body, very worn, leached. 1 thinnish-walled, grey-black and brown exterior, orangey interior, grainy fine sandy micaceous. 1 medium-walled, orange surfaces, occasional to moderate fine to medium sandy, more heavily worn.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent silty	1	M	75-150/175 AD
	Small body, medium-walled, grainy, smooth thin orange surfaces (sharply delineated) and grey core, not compact or very hard.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent silty	1	C L	75/100-150/175 AD
	Small base, grainy silty, grey-buff exterior, grey core, fairly hard, but surface colour more akin to early N.K. fine. DRAW (don't draw).				
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	C L	75/120-150 AD
	Small thickened rolled rim, grey exterior with orange core, soft, coloured quartz. Potentially akin to a Monaghan 1987 5C1 plain 'pie dish', 120/150-230/250 AD, but broken just below the rim. DRAW.				
1	ER>MR	North Kent Thameside sandy	1	C L	120-175 AD
	Tiny body fragment, black surfaces, brown core, soft.				
1	ER>MR	N. K. ?Thameside fine sandy	1	C L	120-175 AD
	Small top fragment of rolled rim, grey with patchy orange exterior, ?not scorched, very soft. Akin to some of the less typical/common more moderately and less strictly clear to grey quartz N.K. Thameside fine sandy fabrics. DRAW (don't draw).				
1	ER>MR	N. K ?Thameside fine sandy	1	L	120-175/200 AD
	Small body, medium-walled, dull grey exterior and dull brown interior, not very hard. Akin to some of the less typical/common more moderately and less strictly clear to grey quartz N.K. Thameside fine sandy fabrics.				

1	MR	North Kent Thameside sandy	1	F	175-230/250 AD
	Small thickened rolled rim, grey surfaces with orangey scorching, not compact or very hard. Akin to Monaghan 1987 5C1 plain 'pie dish', mostly 150-230/250 AD overall, scorching typically post 175 AD . DRAW.				
(1010) [1008]			2 sherds	24 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> See (1009).					
<i>End date:</i> Unclear, residual. See (1009).					
<i>Dating:</i> The flint tempered sandy ware could date widely, but with a slight preference for LIA>LIA-ER. The oxidised sandy is likely to be ER and probably post 75 AD. Both are worn and residual.					
<i>Comments:</i> 1 flint tempered sandy with sparse chalk/?shell (note another more calcareous sherd in (1009) [1008]; likely local source). 1 orangey strongly sandy ware.					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	MIA>LIA-ER	Flint tempered sandy*	1	M	250/50 BC - 50 AD
Small body, black, occasional medium to large coarse grits, *occasional small sometimes rectangular grains of yellowy ?chalk and sparse larger white chalk/degraded ?shell.					
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	50/75-125/150 AD
Medium body, medium-walled, strongly sandy with coloured quartz, pale orangey surfaces, softish.					
(2905) [2904]			3 sherds	8 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> Likely after 75/100 AD.					
<i>End date:</i> Unclear, residual.					
<i>Dating:</i> Both likely early within the ER, but allowing for use and post-discard wear (though soft) these may not have arrived (likely incidentally) within their context until some time later.					
<i>Comments:</i> Small, worn. 1 North Kent fine with early style firing, 1 probably local area sandy ware, fairly soft.					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
2	ER	North Kent fine	1	M	70-100/125 AD
Small body, medium-walled, some fine grog/grog-like pellets, brown surfaces, black core, soft.					
1	ER	North Kent sandy	1	M	70-125/150 AD
Small body, thinnish-walled, brown surfaces and sandwiched grey core, but soft.					
(3109) [3108]			4 sherds	9 g	
<i>Context:</i>					
<i>Start date:</i> Likely after 100 AD at least and perhaps significantly later.					
<i>End date:</i> Unclear, probably all residual to some or various degrees.					
<i>Dating:</i> Little specific data. The rouletted sherd is potentially LIA-ER>MR or perhaps EM, though with a current preference for ER. The sandy ware could be ER or EM>M, though is preferably 75-125 AD for now. Consider any context associations and review against final assemblage trends.					
<i>Comments:</i> Small. 1 very thin-walled in a reduced grainy silty marled fabric, only a minimal sample. It is decorated with a rouletted grid and a brief search for similar examples have found none as yet. *It might be a continental import of LIA-ER or EM date, though the character of the fabric is an issue, or perhaps a Kentish/local product of ER>MR date. Overall, an ER date is slightly preferred. 3 oxidised sandy wares **could potentially be ER or EM>M 1150-1275 AD; perhaps more likely ER, given current assemblage trends. DRAW: 1 small body showing a rouletted grid (probably not worth drawing).					
<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Wear</i>	<i>Date preference</i>
1	?LIA-ER>MR*	Silty	1	?L	70-125/150 AD
Small very thin body, grainy silty with some fine yellowy marl spots, patchy black-yellow-buff exterior grey yellowy-buff interior, black core, exterior covered by a rouletted grid of linear narrow grooved lines leaving raised tiny squares between, soft. DRAW.					
3	?ER**	North Kent sandy	?2	M	75-125/150 AD
Small body, 1 thin, 1 thinnish, 1 medium-walled, orange surfaces, soft.					
Totals			99 sherds	543 g	

3. Quantification and initial review of the worked lithics

3.1. Methodology

The information presented is based upon an initial review of the lithics that was conducted as the first stage in the usual process of cataloguing, spot-dating and assessment. It comprised listing all of the contexts presented, recording the total quantity and weight of the lithics within, compiling some notes on elements and trends of interest and giving a summary of the initial dating of elements or potential groups, along with an estimate of their relationship to the context. The artefacts were examined using a hand lens of x10 magnification and the lithics can generally be considered as comprising flint that was unpatinated or not significantly patinated, unless stated otherwise. Details about the nature of the context were noted where known. The precise nature of the underlying geology was not known, though maps of the British Geological Survey indicate the presence of London Clay (BGS 2022) and this has been factored in to the analysis, with regards to interpreting any patination present and the potential the material has to be contemporary with its context.

The lithics were not catalogued individually at this time. That task has been reserved for any further stages of work on this material, which can be targeted on the most useful lithics and the most relevant contexts. At present however, none of the material is particularly worthy of extensive further work on its own merits.

For the *Notes*, the flintwork was considered on its own merits. For the *Summary*, the flintwork was considered first on its own merits, then the presence of any pottery was researched and the lithics relationship to said pottery was considered. This system was employed partially as a check against the validity of the trends being factored into the dating on this particular site and because, on this site, no associations between the flintwork and any pottery are guaranteed as a consequence of the underlying geology, while the presence of residual flintwork is to be expected.

3.2. Catalogue: Quantification and initial review of the worked lithics

Context		Total lithics	Total weight (g)
<i>Context:</i>	Information on the nature of the context if known.		
<i>Pottery:</i>	Date of any pottery present or the ceramic date of the context if known.		
<i>Notes:</i>	Elements and trends of initial interest.		
<i>Summary:</i>	Dates and relationships to context.		
(505) [504]		1 lithic	5 g
<i>Context:</i>			
<i>Pottery:</i>			
<i>Notes:</i>	Small thinnish decent looking long flake of Bullhead flint, small areas of direct and inverse abrupt and shallow marginal retouch and potential use-wear, plus chipping, on the thin laterals. Short relatively thick steep cortexed distal end show direct marginal scarring. Proximal end shows angled shoulders of snap breaks and retouch, possibly hafted, as a somewhat expedient/simple end scraper ?and knife.		
<i>Summary:</i>	<p>Simple piece, but on a fairly decent flake. Could date widely, potentially/more likely N>MBA-LBA, though it needn't be and is not certainly particularly early, with a slight preference for the EBA>MBA at present. The precise nature of the flint that is available within the surrounding geology and along the beaches at the coast is currently personally unknown, though the good quality Bullhead flint that this flake was struck from is typically recovered from (and originally related to) areas of chalk geology. It may have been brought in for use on this site and if so then a Later Prehistoric date, MBA>, is less likely, particularly if other flint was available (even if poor quality). Relationship to context unclear, given the nature of the underlying geology, though probably residual, being the sole recovery.</p> <p>Not worth cataloguing further.</p>		
(1007) [1006]		1 lithic	12 g
<i>Context:</i>			
<i>Pottery:</i>			
<i>Notes:</i>	Small thick broken chunk, probably a fragment of a small core, 1 right-angled short straight edge chipped and abraded, with a small shallow hollow on an adjacent edge, the former thus more likely to also be from use rather than platform preparation, the use more likely Later Prehistoric, probably MBA>EIA, if so.		
<i>Summary:</i>	<p>Little specific data. Potentially MBA>EIA, its relationship to the context unclear due to the nature of the underlying geology, though more likely residual, given its the sole piece recovered.</p> <p>Not worth cataloguing further.</p>		
(1606) [1605]		4 lithics	18 g
<i>Context:</i>			
<i>Pottery:</i>			
<i>Notes:</i>	Small flakes and fragments. 1 thin distal fragment with a sharp point not certainly utilised as such. 1 squat flake with an advanced early stage chalk-soil type patina, 1 thinnish short lateral showing bifacial shallow semi-abrupt marginal retouch and use-wear potentially unpatinated re-use, likely Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA+. 1 very small squat flake, its broad convex distal end showing some apparent retouch and potential use-wear chipping and abrasion, more likely Later Prehistoric and ?EIA>EMIA+ if so.		
<i>Summary:</i>	<p>Little specific data. The tool element is more likely to be Later Prehistoric, MBA>EMIA+; nothing else need significantly pre-date. Their relationship to each other and the context is unclear however, due to the nature of the underlying geology.</p> <p>Not worth cataloguing further.</p>		
Totals		6 lithics	35 g

4. Catalogue of burnt flint 'potboilers'

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(1606) [1605]	13	69	Small angular pieces and fragments of small pebbles, some lightly burnt, others fired white, most with remnants of smoothed water-rolled cortexes, mostly grey, blue-grey or white, 1 grey-black, some likely from small pebbles, others could potentially be from larger cobbles.	-
T 19	4	20	Small angular fragments, 1 with a remnant of pale grey water-rolled pebble/cobble cortex, mostly fired white.	
Totals	17	89		

5. Catalogues of other ceramics

5.1. Catalogue of tile

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes and date</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(205) [204]	2	90	Medium sized fragments, orange surfaces, chipped and worn and residual. 1 strongly fine sandy with sparse yellowy chalk/marl spots, more likely EM>LPM and preferably PM>LPM. 1 redware type fabric with sanded surface and glaze spots, PM>LPM.	?ER>MR
(805) [804]	3	34	Small fragments, orange core with darker grey-black surfaces, moderately sandy, compact, very hard, LM>LPM, preferably PM>LPM.	-
(1005) [1004]	1	59	Largeish fragment, orange with partial grey core, moderately sandy, hard, M>LPM.	ER
(1009) [1008]	1	115	Medium sized fragment of tegula, thick, pale orange silty fabric with occasional to moderate mostly fine to occasionally coarser sand and occasional to moderate small to large grog-like pellets, poorly sorted, Roman, presumably ER>MR given the pottery, chipped and worn and residual.	ER>MR
(1805) [1804]	1	20	Small fragment, orangey-brown surfaces and orange core, strongly sandy, hard, likely EM>LPM, ??Medieval.	-
Totals	8	318		

5.2. Catalogue of daub

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(1009) [1008]	6	78	Small to medium sized irregular fragments, occasional to moderately sandy-silty (at most), mostly fired orange, soft. Largest lump with 1 flattened face, this pale grey over orangey-brown. Presumably contemporary with the pottery.	ER>MR
Totals	6	78		

5.3. Catalogue of clay pipes

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes and date</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(307)F [306]C	1	1	Small fragment of stem, 5 mm diameter, hole 2 mm diameter, PM>/?LPM>.	-
(1010) [1008]	1	1	Small fragment of stem, 6 mm diameter, hole 2 mm diameter, PM>/?LPM>.	ER>MR
Totals	2	2		

5.4. Catalogue of miscellaneous ceramic objects

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes and date</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(1707) [1706]	4	3	Small fragments, orange, grainy silty fabric. 1 larger and 1 other show smoothed flattish upper and lower surfaces with a rounded edge that's convex in plan. All potentially fragments of a single small object, possibly a spindlewhorl, though no central hole remaining. Could date widely.	-
Totals	4	3		

6. Catalogue of bone

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(205) [204]	9	46	1 large tooth, cow/horse (41 g). 8 small rounded worn fragments of bone, 2 larger pieces at least likely from long bone shafts.	?ER>MR
(1010) [1008]	4	20	3 teeth, sheep/goat or slightly larger herbivore. 1 small long bone shaft. Appear relatively 'fresh'/unweathered.	ER>MR
(1606) [1605]	104	176	Small to medium sized soft friable fragmentary bones. 1 larger piece and a couple of smaller fragments of possible socket from a long bone. 1 larger piece from a ?pelvis. Smaller fragments possibly from long bone shafts.	-
Totals	117	242		

7. Catalogue of metal objects

<i>Context</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Weight (g)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Pottery</i>
(3109) [3108]	1	51	Handle-like object, 94 mm long, generally 14 mm thick (excluding some corrosion lumps), 1 broader convex end maximum 29 mm wide, 1 shorter end with straight break edge 16 mm wide, flattish sides with rust coloured decayed ?iron/?iron infused wood adhering to each, the flattened edge 9 mm thick a creamy colour, ?lead.	?ER / ?EM>M
Totals	1	51		

8. Bibliography

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