

Archaeological Evaluation of Land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent

Site Code: WCW-EV-23

NGR Site Centre: 602999 142625

Planning Application Number: 15/00260/AS



Report for;

Tolman Homes

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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Summary

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Fraser Tolman of Tolman Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent. The works have been carried out as part of a planning condition which required an archaeological evaluation in order to further characterise the potential archaeological impact from any proposed development.

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in evaluating the proposed development site for the possibility of archaeological remains. Despite the archaeological potential of the surrounding area and the favourable preservation conditions recorded only four potential archaeological features were present within any of the 16 trenches excavated. Features recorded within Trench 4, Trench 15 and Trench 16 included three linear features and a single pit, none of which contained any finds. A modern ditch was also recorded between Trench 2 and Trench 4, as was a series of modern water channels.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore 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.

Archaeological Evaluation of Land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent

NGR Site Centre: 602999 142625

Site Code: WCW-EV-23

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Fraser Tolman of Tolman Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough near Ashford in Kent (Figure 1).

1.1.2 A planning application (PAN: 15/00260/AS) for the erection of 16 No. dwellings, 4 No. affordable dwellings and 3 No. affordable apartments, car barns, vehicle access, parking and open space, was submitted to Ashford Borough Council (ABC) whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of ABC, requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains.

1.1.3 The following conditions were attached to the planning consent:

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.

(15/00260/AS, Condition 14, 15th March 2015)

1.1.4 The archaeological evaluation initially comprised the excavation of 18 trenches measuring 25m in length and 2m in width. However, on site obstructions meant that some trenches required relocation and two could not be excavated. The location and length of each trench is described below in Section 5.3.

1.1.5 The archaeological works were carried out over the course of four days in April 2023 (see Table 1 below). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by SWAT Archaeology (2019), prior to commencement of works.

1.2 Timetable

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

Task	Dates	Personnel/Company
Submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation	November 2019	SWAT Archaeology
Archaeological Evaluation – Fieldwork	4 th – 7 th April 2023	SWAT Archaeology David Britchfield BA MCifA Dan Worsley MA Ali Mckeever
Archaeological Evaluation Report	This document	SWAT Archaeology David Britchfield BA MCifA

Table 1 Timetable for the archaeological programme of works

1.3 Site Description and Topography

1.3.1 The site is centred on NGR 602999 142625 within the boundary of fields, measuring approximately 8,730sq.m in area (Figure 1). The application site is located to the northeast of Ashford, Kent and situated at the northern edge of an existing housing estate situated at Abbey Road and Waltham Close. The site is currently undeveloped and open grassland and located close to the Willesborough Lees Conservation Area with the nearest listed buildings being about 120m away from the eastern boundary.

1.3.2 The Geological Survey of Great Britain (1:50,000) shows that the site is located on bedrock geology of Sandgate Formation – Sandstone. With regards to superficial deposits Alluvium (Clay, Silts, Sand and Gravel) are recorded within the eastern extent of the site, beyond the area of evaluation.

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 Senior Archaeological Officer (KCC) of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with potential future development proposals.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The proposed development area is located close to several archaeological sites which are identified on the KCCHER database. A KCCHER search shows that about 200m to the east is Rosemary Farmstead (MKE87370) and 320m to the SSW another important farmstead (MKE 87344).

2.1.2 In a consultation document with the Senior Archaeological Officer the following points were made:

Based on the cartographic and documentary evidence the site lies within an area that has formerly been open land, principally used for agricultural purposes. Archaeological discoveries within the study area are relatively sparse. However, important discoveries of prehistoric date made nearby demonstrate that this area was occupied by humans as early as the Palaeolithic period. From the Anglo-Saxon period, much of the land in the area was administered by the Church and subsequently formed part of manorial holdings.

It should be emphasised that the paucity of archaeological discoveries in the area is as likely due to a lack of previous archaeological investigation as a lack of archaeology. Discoveries made in the wider Ashford area, beyond the study area, recently demonstrated a high potential for the survival of hitherto unsuspected archaeological remains.

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 2019; 6.1) which stated that;

- *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 medieval, post-medieval and Modern history of the proposed development area (PDA) and also any other prehistoric, Roman and later archaeological activity.*

3.1.2 The general aims (or purpose) of the evaluation, in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), are therefore to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General Objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation are to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- 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 Archaeology 2019) and carried out in compliance with the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (ClfA 2014).

4.2 Fieldwork

4.2.1 A total of 16 out of the proposed 18 evaluation trenches were excavated (Figure 2). 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. 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.

4.2.3 On completion, the trenches were made safe and left open in order to provide the opportunity for a curatorial monitoring visit. Backfilling was carried out once all recording, survey, and monitoring had been completed.

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 and drone 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 (101), whilst the cut of the feature is shown as [101]. 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 All trenches were mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision. Trenches were positioned in order to cover as many areas of the site as possible as set out in the WSI. Relocation and re-orientation of the trenches was required when on site obstacles were present (details presented in individual trench description below).

5.1.2 The site, as shown on Figure 2, provides the trench layout with Figures 3-7 illustrating the results for each individual archaeological evaluation trench. Plates 1-15 consist of photographs of features and selected trenches that have been provided to supplement the text. Appendix 1 provides the stratigraphic sequence and contextual information for all trenches.

5.2 Stratigraphic Deposit Sequence

5.2.1 A relatively consistent stratigraphic sequence was recorded across most of the site comprising topsoil sealing an intact subsoil, which overlay the natural geological chalk bedrock. Variation occurred within the more northern trenches (Trench 2, Trench 5 and Trench 6) where previous works on the site appeared to have stripped overburden to natural levels and then replaced with a thin layer of topsoil. Further details for individual trenches are provided below.

5.2.2 The topsoil generally consisted of mid grey brown silt clay, moderate roots topped with grass, overlying the subsoil which consisted of soft grey brown sandy silt. Natural geology comprised moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey mottling and rare iron panning.

5.3 Archaeological Narrative

Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 3)

5.3.1 Trench 1 was located within the eastern extent of the site, directly west of the proposed access to the site (Figure 2) and was excavated on a broadly E-W alignment. This trench measured 18.5m in length, 1.75m in width and a maximum depth of 0.46m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 34.96m OD.

5.3.2 Modern rooting was recorded within the eastern extent of the trench, no archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 1.

Trench 2 (Figure 3, Plate 3)

5.3.3 Within the eastern extent of the site (Figure 2), Trench 2 was excavated on a NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 22.8m in length, 1.75m in width with a maximum depth of 0.46m (Figure 3). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 34.70m OD.

- 5.3.4 Within the eastern extent of the trench a modern cut ditch [204] was filled with compact dark brown silt clay that contained modern clinker and building waste (205). No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 2.

Trench 3

- 5.3.5 Trench 3 was not excavated due to space constraints.

Trench 4 (Figure 3, Plate 4)

- 5.3.6 Within the south-western corner of the site (Figure 2), Trench 4 was excavated on an NE-SW alignment and measured approximately 27.7m in length, 1.75m in width with a maximum depth of 0.33m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 35.24m OD and 35.76m OD.

- 5.3.7 Within the western extent of the trench a modern cut ditch [407] was filled with compact dark brown silt clay that contained modern clinker and building waste (406), similar to the ditch recorded within Trench 2. Directly adjacent a shallow ditch measured 0.07m in depth [405] contained a fill which consisted of soft light blue grey silty clay (404) (Plate 12). No archaeological finds or features were present in ditch [405].

Trench 5 (Figure 4, Plate 5)

- 5.3.8 Trench 5 was excavated directly north of Trench 4 within the northern corner of the site and measured 20.8m in length with a maximum depth of 0.33m. At the southern extent of the trench the natural geology (503) dropped significantly towards the south to a level of approximately 35.52m OD.
- 5.3.9 A modern field drain was recorded within this trench. No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 5.

Trench 6 (Figure 4, Plate 5)

- 5.3.10 Within the central northern extent of the site (Figure 2), Trench 6 was excavated on a N-S alignment and measured approximately 18m in length. Natural geological deposits (603) were recorded at a level of approximately 35.99m OD.
- 5.3.11 Trench 6 was relocated due to the presence of onsite spoil heaps (Figure 2). No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 6.

Trench 7 (Figure 4, Plate 5)

- 5.3.12 Trench 7 was located within the western extent of the site, directly east of the western boundary (Figure 2) and was excavated on a broadly NW-SE alignment. This trench measured 19m in length, 1.75m in width and a maximum depth of 0.36m (Plate 5). Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 35.62m OD.
- 5.3.13 Trench 7 was relocated due to the presence of onsite spoil heaps (Figure 2). No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 7. No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 7.

Trench 8 (Figure 4, Plate 6)

- 5.3.14 Trench 8 was excavated adjacent to the central southern boundary of the site and measured 25.8m in length with a maximum depth of 0.24m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 35.62m OD.
- 5.3.15 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 8.

Trench 9 (Figure 5, Plate 6)

- 5.3.16 Trench 9 was excavated directly southwest of Trench 8 within the central southern area of the site and measured 20.6m in length with a maximum depth of 0.27m. This trench was excavated in the original agreed location following the removal of an existing spoil heap (Figure 2). This trench was excavated in wet and boggy ground present along the southern boundary of the site.
- 5.3.17 At the northern extent of the trench a modern water channel (904) was orientated roughly E-W continuing through to Trench 12 to the west. A second channel (905) was recorded further to the south. The natural geology (903) was recorded at a level of approximately 35.55m OD.
- 5.3.18 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 9.

Trench 10 (Figure 5, Plate 7)

- 5.3.19 Trench 10 was located within the central area of the site and was divided into two sections due to the presence of an existing spoil heap (Figure 2). To the west, Trench 10.1 measured 11.8m in length while to the east Trench 10.2 measured 14.9m in length. Natural geology (1003) was recorded at an average height of 36.41m OD (Trench 10.1) and 36.04m OD (Trench 10.2).

5.3.20 A modern land drain was present within Trench 10.1. No archaeological finds or features were present in either trench.

Trench 11 (Figure 5, Plate 8)

5.3.21 Trench 11 was excavated adjacent to the central northern boundary of the site and measured 25.4m in length with a maximum depth of 0.30m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 36.22m OD.

5.3.22 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 11.

Trench 12 (Figure 6, Plate 8)

5.3.23 Trench 12 was excavated on a NW-SE orientation adjacent to the central western extent of the site and measured 24.6m in length with a maximum depth of 0.38m.

5.3.24 At the southern extent of the trench a modern water channel (1204) was orientated roughly NE-SW continuing through to Trench 9 to the east. The natural geology (903) was recorded at a level of approximately 35.55m OD.

5.3.25 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 12.

Trench 13 (Figure 6, Plate 9)

5.3.26 Trench 13 was excavated adjacent to the central southern boundary of the site and measured 21.9m in length with a maximum depth of 0.17m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level of approximately 35.81m OD. At the eastern extent of the trench a modern water channel (1304) was orientated roughly NE-SW continuing through to Trench 9 to the northeast.

5.3.27 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 11.

Trench 14

5.3.28 Trench 14 was not excavated due to space constraints.

Trench 15 (Figure 6, Plate 9)

5.3.29 Trench 15 was excavated on a NW-SE orientation within the western extent of the site and measured 24.5m in length with a maximum depth of 0.22m.

5.3.30 At the eastern extent of the trench a modern water channel [1505] was orientated roughly NW-SE and measured approximately 1.8m in width with a depth of 0.19m. The fill of this

feature consisted of a dark organic grey brown silt clay, similar to the topsoil recorded on site, albeit very wet. There was very little distinction between the Topsoil (1501) and the fill of this feature (1504) which was indicative of other similar features recorded within Trenches 3, 9, 12, and 13.

5.3.31 Adjacent and to the west a small pit [1507] measured approximately 0.6m in width with a depth of 0.07m (Plate 13). The shallow concave base gave way to a fill comprising soft mottled mid-dark grey with blue hue silty clay (1506) that contained no dateable finds. To the west a linear that measured approximately 0.61m in width was aligned N-S [1509] and contained a single fill consisting of very soft mid to bluish grey very slightly silty clay with frequent root and occasional manganese (1508) (Plate 14). No finds were associated with this feature.

5.3.32 The natural geology (1503) was recorded at a level of approximately 36.34m OD.

Trench 16 (Figure 7, Plate 10)

5.3.33 Within the western corner of the site (Figure 2), Trench 16 was excavated on an E-W alignment and measured approximately 24.3m in length, 1.75m in width with a maximum depth of 0.32m. Natural geological deposits were recorded at a level ranging between 36.36m OD and 35.58m OD.

5.3.34 Within the central area of the trench a shallow ditch measured 0.54m in width and 0.09m in depth [405] and contained a fill which consisted of soft light blue grey silty clay (1604) (Plate 15). No archaeological finds or features were present in ditch [1605] but similarities were noted with the ditch recorded in Trench 15 to the south.

Trench 17 (Figure 7, Plate 10)

5.3.35 Trench 17 was excavated adjacent to the western boundary of the site and measured 18.8m in length with a maximum depth of 0.10m. Natural geological deposits (1702) were recorded at a level of approximately 36.40m OD. No subsoil was present within this trench.

5.3.36 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 17.

Trench 18 (Figure 7, Plate 11)

5.3.37 Trench 11 was excavated adjacent to the central northern boundary of the site and measured 25.4m in length with a maximum depth of 0.30m. Natural geological deposits (1803) were recorded at a level of approximately 36.21m OD.

5.3.38 No archaeological finds or features were present in Trench 18.

6 FINDS

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 No archaeological finds were retrieved during this evaluation.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The archaeological investigation on land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent has investigated the extents of the proposed development area using 16 out of a proposed 18 trenches, measuring between 11.8m and 25.4m in length and 1.75m in width. The natural geology was encountered within all trenches at an average depth of approximately 0.35m below the existing ground surface, directly underlying subsoil (with the exception of Trench 17) and topsoil.

7.1.2 The topography of the site was split between a higher land to the north and a lower wetter area to the south, which also contained area of standing water. Modern water channels were present within this area of the site; these were initially investigated but then left once characterisation has been determined.

7.2 Archaeological Narrative

7.2.1 The total area of the site measured approximately 8,730sq.m in area of which 5,430 sq.m was evaluated. The 16 trenches excavated covered an area of approximately 631.2sq.m giving an evaluation sample size of 7.2%. The recording of an intact subsoil across the majority of the site suggested that preservation conditions are favourable.

7.2.2 A series of potential features were excavated and recorded. Features recorded within Trench 4, Trench 15, and Trench 16 included three linear features and a single pit, none of which contained any finds. A modern ditch was also recorded between Trench 2 and Trench 4, as was a series of modern water channels. The distribution of these features is shown on Figure 2.

7.3 Conclusions

7.3.1 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 Senior Archaeological Officer of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with any future development proposals.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1 General

8.1.1 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).

8.1.2 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.

9 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

9.1.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Mr Fraser Tolman of Tolman Homes for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, for her advice and assistance.

9.1.2 David Britchfield BA (Hons) MCIfA, Dan Worsley and Ali Mckeever carried out the archaeological fieldwork; illustrations were produced by Ravelin Archaeological Services. David Britchfield produced the draft text for this report. The Project Manager for the project was Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA, FRSA of SWAT Archaeology.

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SWAT Archaeology (2023) *Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent*

11 APPENDIX 1 – TRENCH TABLES

Trench 1			
Dimensions: 18.5m x 1.75m Depth: 0.46m			
Ground Level: 34.96m OD – 35.01m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(101)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.22
(102)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.22-0.36
(103)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.36-0.46+

Trench 2			
Dimensions: 22.8m x 1.75m Depth: 0.36m			
Ground Level: 35.24m OD – 35.39m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(201)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.29
(202)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.11+
(203)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.29-0.36+
[204]	Ditch	Cut of ditch filled by (205)	-
(205)	Fill of ditch	Relatively compact dark brown silt clay with occasional clinker flecks and modern building waste	-

Trench 4			
Dimensions: 27.7m x 1.75m Depth: 0.33m			
Ground Level: 35.53m OD – 35.95m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(401)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.22
(402)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.22-0.33
(403)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.33+
(404)	Fill of Linear	Soft mottled light bluish grey with occ. orange patches, slightly silty clay with occ. Flint, roots and Mg flecks.	L: 0.28+ W: 0.84+
[405]	[405]		
[405]	Cut of Linear (404)	Rectilinear w/v gently inward sloping sides and very gentle concave base aligned E-W.	D: 0.07
(406)	Modern build-up	Soft black brown silt with clays with frequent rooting, occ. clinker and tile	-
[407]	Ditch	Cut of ditch filled by (406)	-

Trench 5	Dimensions: 20.8m x 1.75m Depth: 0.33m Ground Level: 35.72m OD – 36.35m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(501)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.20
(502)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.20-0.33
(503)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.33+
(504)	Field Drain	Modern	-

Trench 6	Dimensions: 18m x 1.75m Depth: 0.30m Ground Level: 36.26m OD – 36.31m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(601)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.20
(602)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt.	0.20-0.30
(603)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.30+

Trench 7	Dimensions: 19m x 1.75m Depth: 0.36m Ground Level: 35.73m OD – 36.23m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(701)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.20
(702)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.20-0.36
(703)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.36+

Trench 8	Dimensions: 25.8m x 1.75m Depth: 0.24m Ground Level: 35.37m OD – 35.72m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(801)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.20
(802)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.20-0.24
(803)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.24+

Trench 9	Dimensions: 20.6m x 1.75m Depth: 0.27m Ground Level: 35.32m OD – 36.67m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(901)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.12-0.13
(902)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.13-0.14
(903)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.18-0.27+
(904)	Water Management System	Channel infilled with Topsoil	-
(905)	Water Management System	Channel infilled with Topsoil	-

Trench 10.1	Dimensions: 11.8m x 1.75m Depth: 0.30m Ground Level: 36.48m OD – 36.44m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1001)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.02
(1002)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.20-0.30
(1003)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.30+

Trench 10.2	Dimensions: 14.9m x 1.75m Depth: 0.36m Ground Level: 36.36m OD – 36.44m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1001)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.22
(1002)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt.	0.22-0.36
(1003)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.36+

Trench 11	Dimensions: 25.4m x 1.75m Depth: 0.30m Ground Level: 36.36m OD – 36.54m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1101)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.15
(1102)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.15-0.30
(1103)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.30+

Trench 12			
Dimensions: 24.6m x 1.75m Depth: 0.38m			
Ground Level: 35.85m OD – 36.66m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1201)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.18
(1202)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.18-0.38
(1203)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.38+
(1204)	Water management System	Channel infilled with Topsoil	-

Trench 13			
Dimensions: 21.89m x 1.75m Depth: 0.17m			
Ground Level: 35.83m OD – 36.13m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1301)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.11
(1302)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.11-0.17
(1303)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.17+
(1304)	Water management System	Channel infilled with Topsoil	-

Trench 15			
Dimensions: 24.5m x 1.75m Depth: 0.22m			
Ground Level: 36.52m OD – 36.60m OD			
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1501)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.14
(1502)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.14-0.22
(1503)	Water management System	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.22+
(1504)	Fill	Fill of [1505] Dark organic silt clay	-
[1505]	Cut	Natural water channel	-
(1506)	Fill of Pit [1507]	Soft mottled mid-dark grey with blue hue silty clay with moderate manganese inclusions	D: 0.07
[1507]	Cut of Pit	Cut of ovate Pit with gentle inwards sloping sides and a shallow concave base. NW-SE alignment	W: 0.6 L: 0.8 D: 0.07
(1508)	Fill of Linear [1509]	Very soft mid to bluish grey very slightly silty clay with frequent root and occasional Manganese. No finds	W: 0.68 L: 1.5 D: 0.09

Trench 15	Dimensions: 24.5m x 1.75m Depth: 0.22m Ground Level: 36.52m OD – 36.60m OD		
[1509]	Cut of linear	Cut of rectilinear with gentle inward sloping sides and flat base aligned NNE-SSW, very shallow. Same as [1604]	-

Trench 16	Dimensions: 24.3m x 1.75m Depth: 0.22m Ground Level: 36.38m OD – 36.40m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1601)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.27
(1602)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.27-0.32
(1603)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.32+
(1603)	Fill of Linear [1604]	Friable slightly blueish light grey slightly silty clay with occasional manganese. Same as (1508)	D: 0.09
[1604]	Cut of linear	Rectilinear with very gentle inwards sloping sides with a very shallow concave base. N-S aligned. Same as [1503]	W: 0.54 L: 1.5+ D: 0.09

Trench 17	Dimensions: 18.8m x 1.75m Depth: 0.10m Ground Level: 36.47m OD – 36.57m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1701)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.10
(1702)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.10+

Trench 18	Dimensions: 21.1m x 1.75m Depth: 0.3(1803)0m Ground Level: 36.25m OD – 36.75m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)
(1801)	Topsoil	Mid grey, brown silt clay, frequent roots, topped with scrub	0.00-0.21
(1802)	Subsoil	Light grey, brown sandy silt	0.21-0.30
(1803)	Natural	Moderately firm brown, orange silt clay with occasional blue grey clay mottling and rare iron panning	0.30+

12 APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: Land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent

SWAT Site Code: WCW-EV-23

Site Address: as above

Summary. *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) were commissioned by Mr Fraser Tolman of Tolman Homes to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent. The works have been carried out as part of a planning condition which required an archaeological evaluation in order to further characterise the potential archaeological impact from any proposed development.*

The archaeological evaluation has been successful in evaluating the proposed development site for the possibility of archaeological remains. Despite the archaeological potential of the surrounding area and the favourable preservation conditions recorded only a few archaeological features were present within any of the 16 trenches excavated. Features recorded within Trench 4, Trench 15 and Trench 16 included three linear features and a single pit, none of which contained any finds. A modern ditch was also recorded between Trench 2 and Trench 4, as was a series of modern water channels.

The archaeological evaluation has therefore 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.

District/Unitary: Ashford Borough Council & Kent County Council

Period(s): NA

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 602999 142625

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: April 2023

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

Geology: Sandgate Formation - Sandstone

Title and author of accompanying report: D Britchfield (2023) Archaeological Evaluation of Land to the rear of 11 to 22 Waltham Close, Willesborough, Kent. SWAT Archaeology Ref. WCW-EV-2023

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

Date: 26/04/2023

PLATES



Plate 1 Aerial photograph of the site following excavation of the trenches



Plate 2 Conditions within the lower southern area of the site



Plate 3 Trench 1, viewed from the west (left) and Trench 2, viewed from the west (right)



Plate 4 Trench 4, viewed from the west (left) and Trench 5, viewed from the south (right)



Plate 5 Trench 6, viewed from the south (left) and Trench 7, viewed from the south (right)



Plate 6 Trench 8, viewed from the west (left) and Trench 9, viewed from the south (right)



Plate 7 Trench 10.1, viewed from the west (left) and Trench 10.2, viewed from the west (right)



Plate 8 Trench 11, viewed from the northwest (left) and Trench 12, viewed from the south (right)



Plate 9 Trench 13, viewed from the west (left) and Trench15, viewed from the east (right)



Plate 10 Trench 16, viewed from the east (left) and Trench17, viewed from the north (right)



Plate 11 Trench 18, viewed from the west and selected feature interventions



Plate 12 Linear [405], viewed from the north



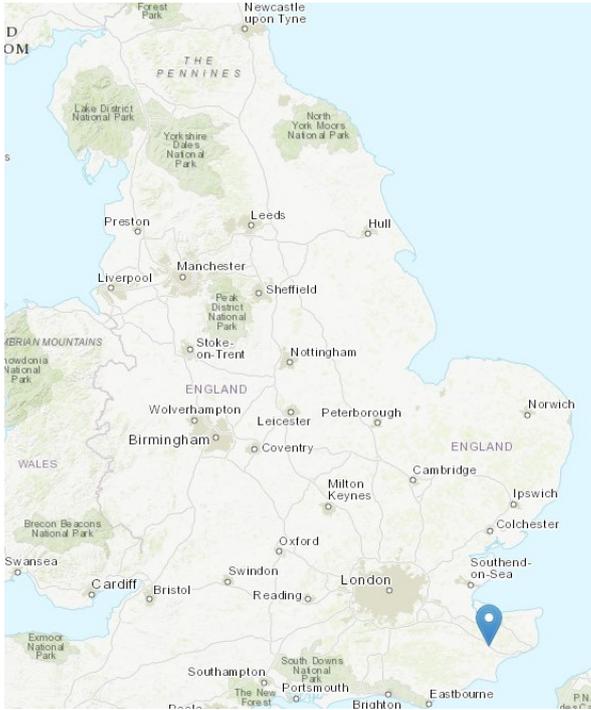
Plate 13 Pit [1507], viewed from the southeast



Plate 14 Linear [1509], viewed from the east



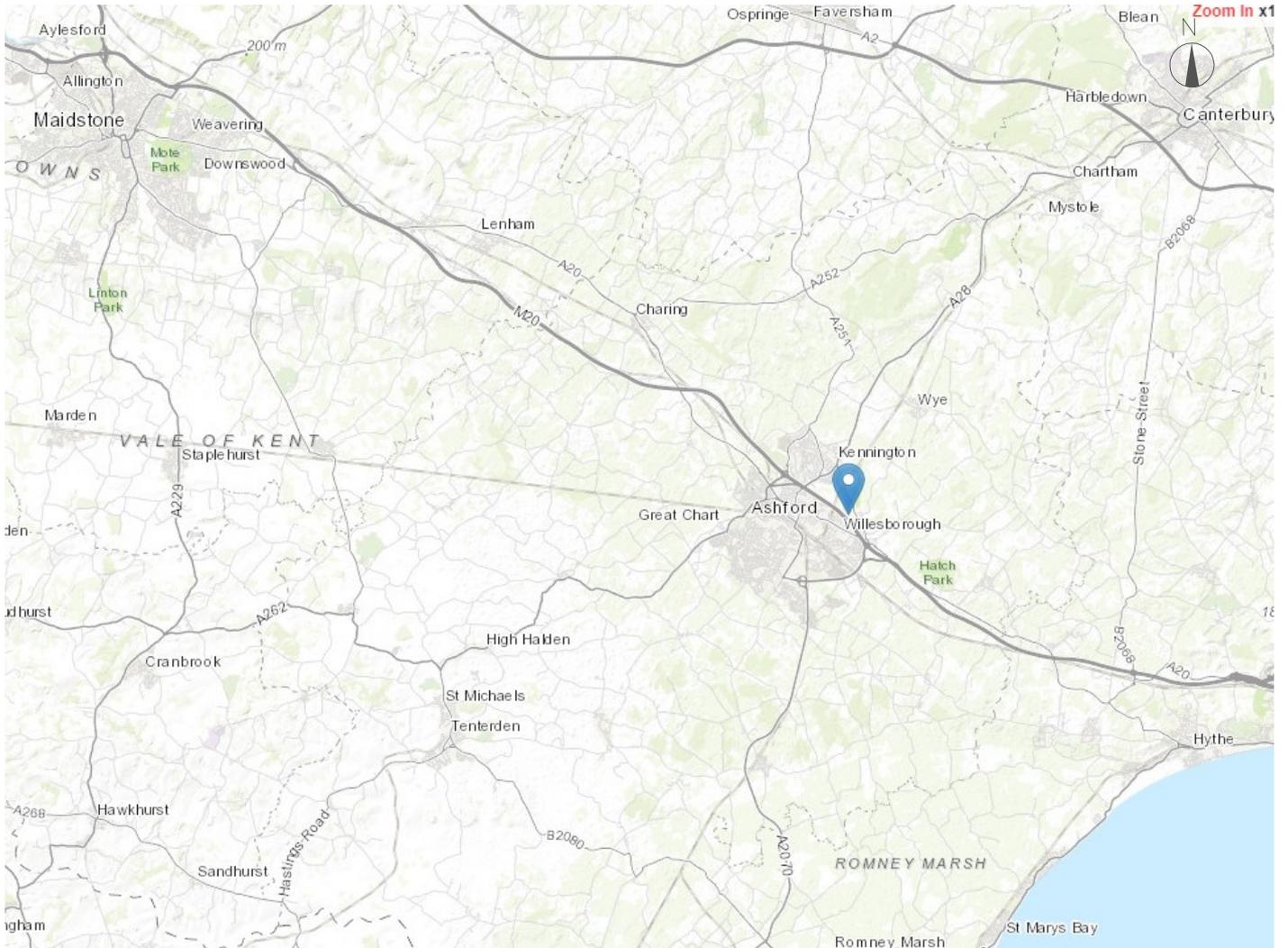
Plate 15 Linear [1604], viewed from the east



Map of UK (NTS)



Map of Kent (NTS)



Map courtesy of National Library of Scotland (NTS)

Key
 Site Location

Figure 1 Site Location Plan

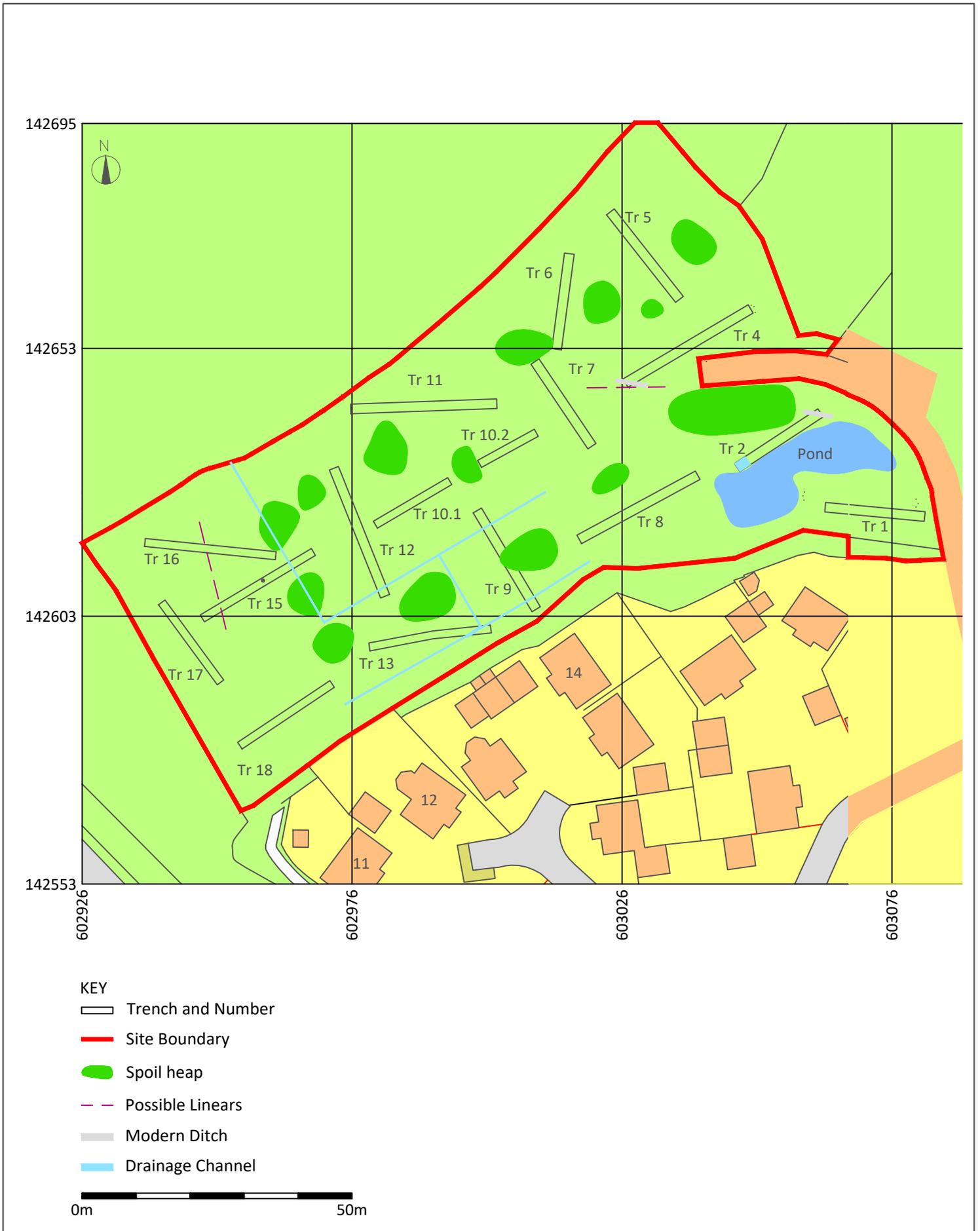
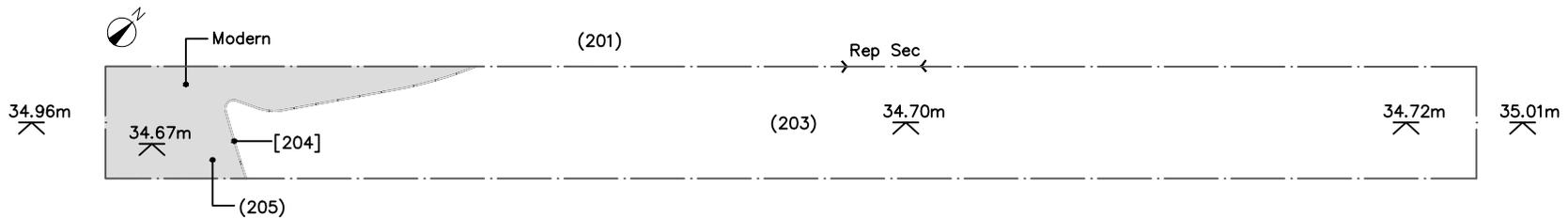


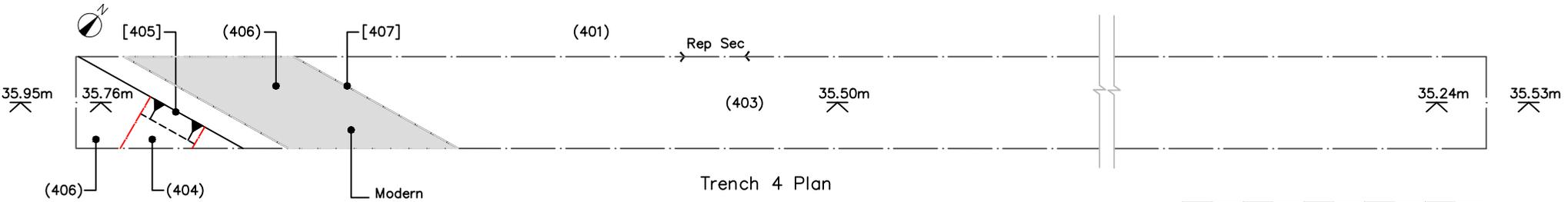
Figure 2 Site Plan



Trench 1 Plan



Trench 2 Plan



Trench 4 Plan

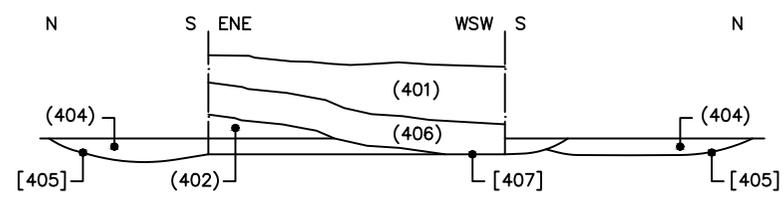
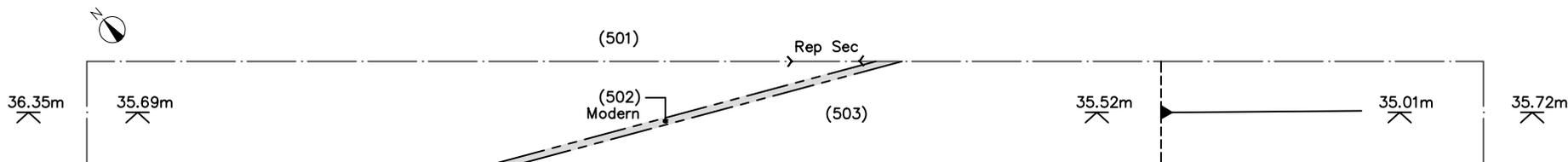
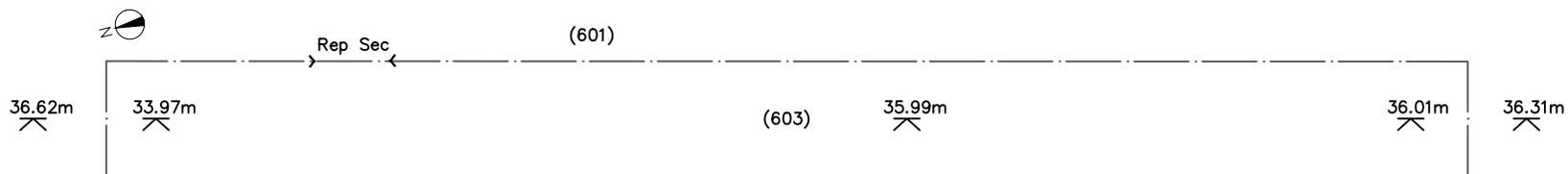


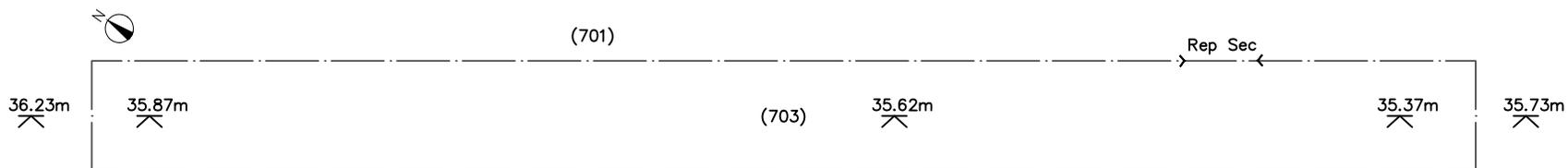
Figure 3 Trenches 1 to 4



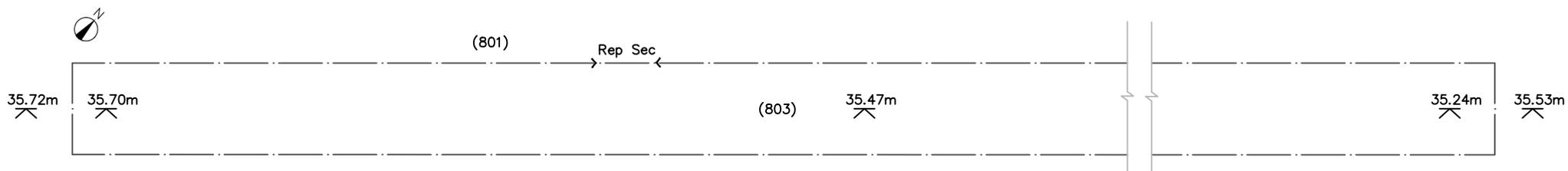
Trench 5 Plan



Trench 6 Plan

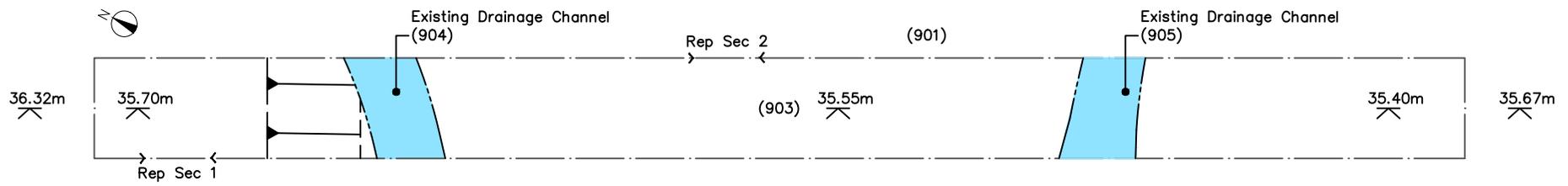


Trench 7 Plan

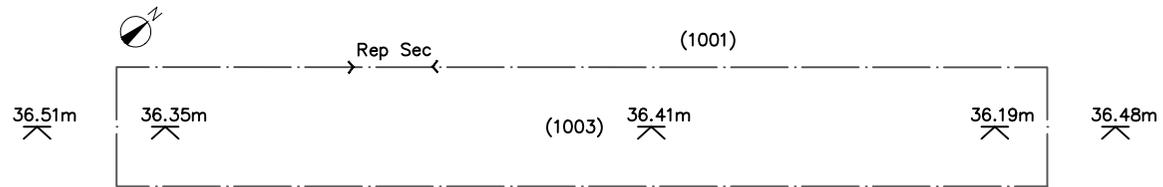


Trench 8 Plan

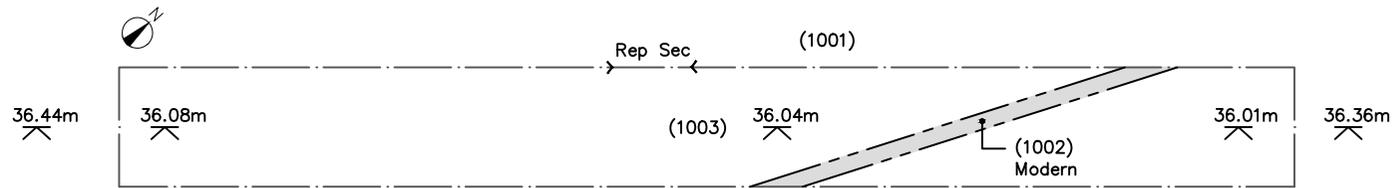
Figure 4 Trenches 5 to 8



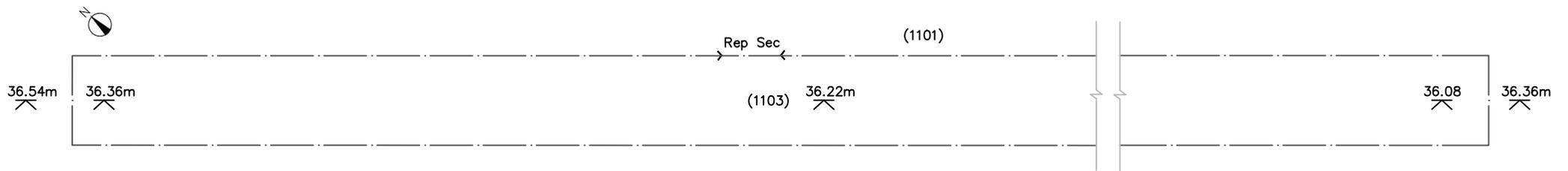
Trench 9 Plan



Trench 10.1 Plan



Trench 10.2 Plan



Trench 11 Plan



Figure 5 Trenches 9 to 11

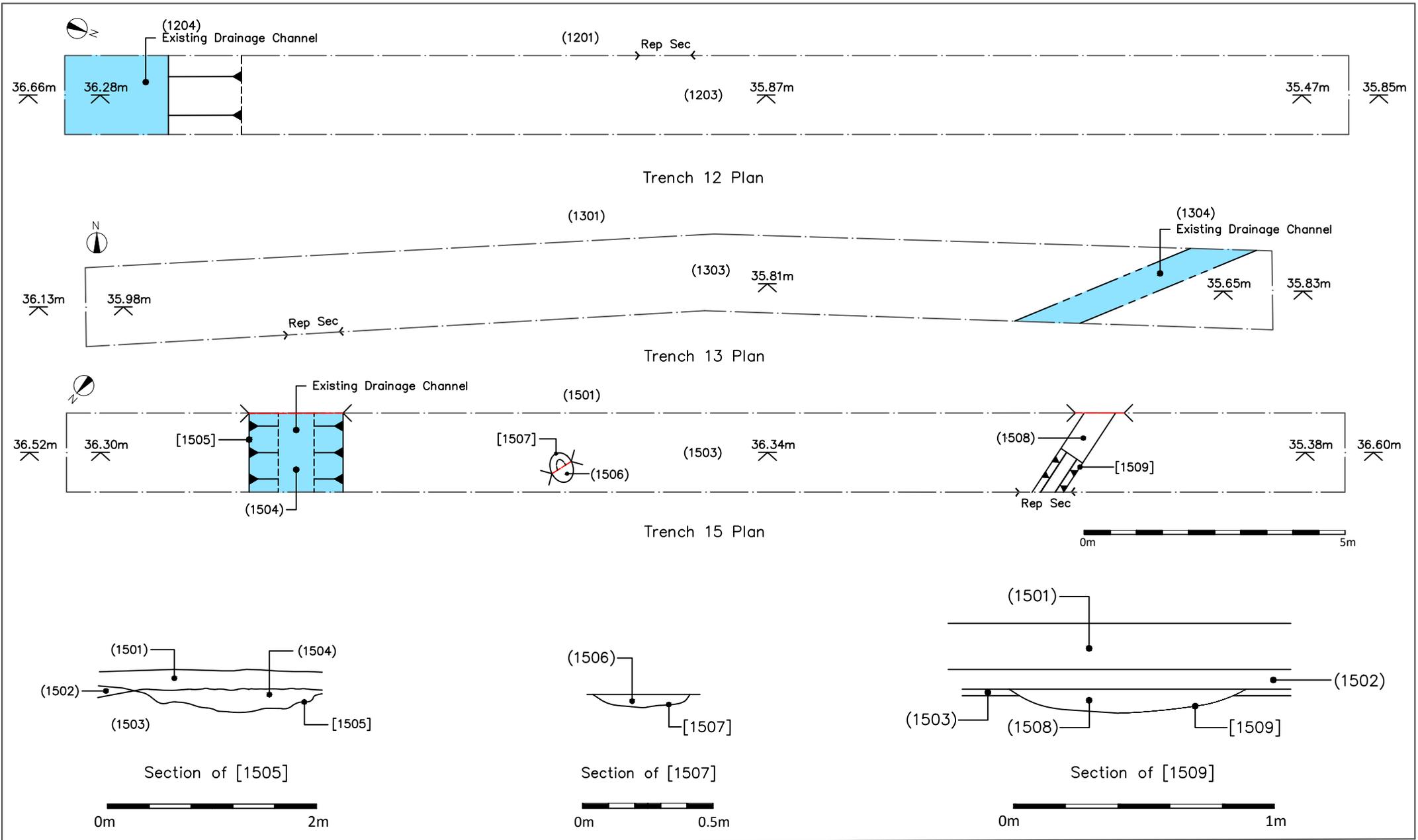


Figure 6 Trenches 12 to 15

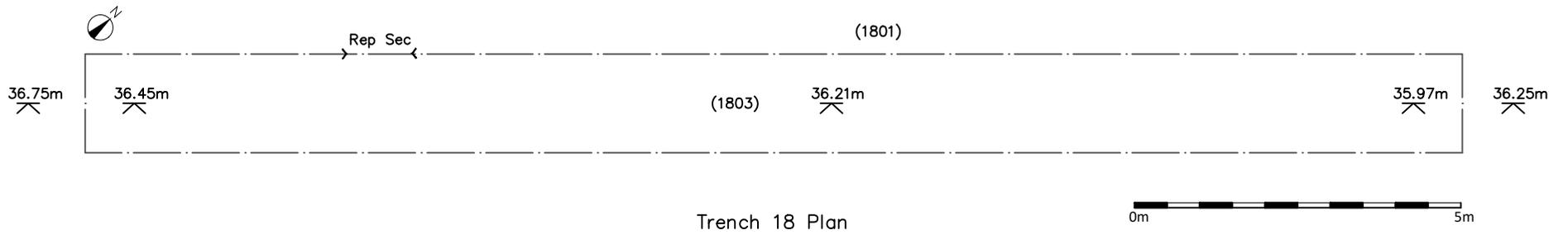
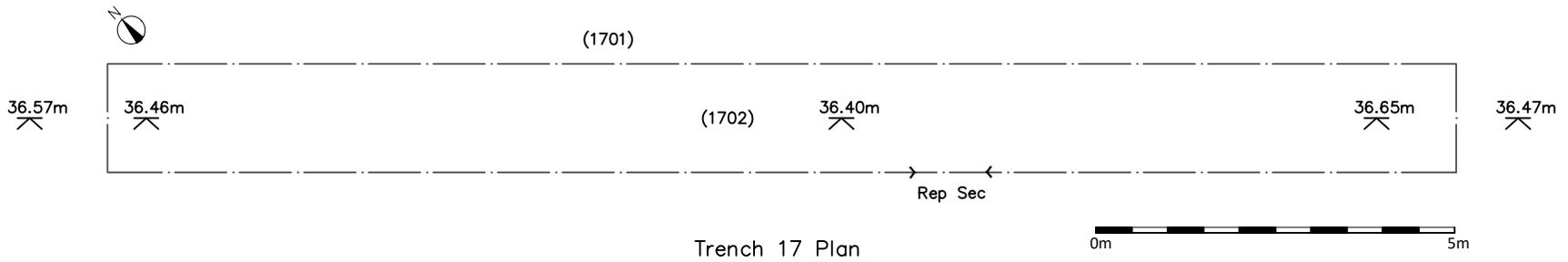
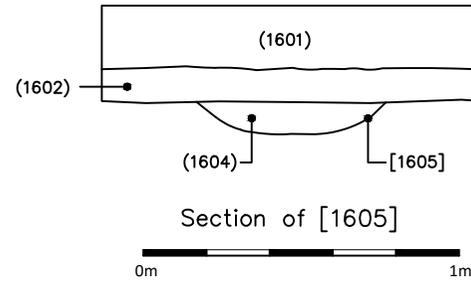
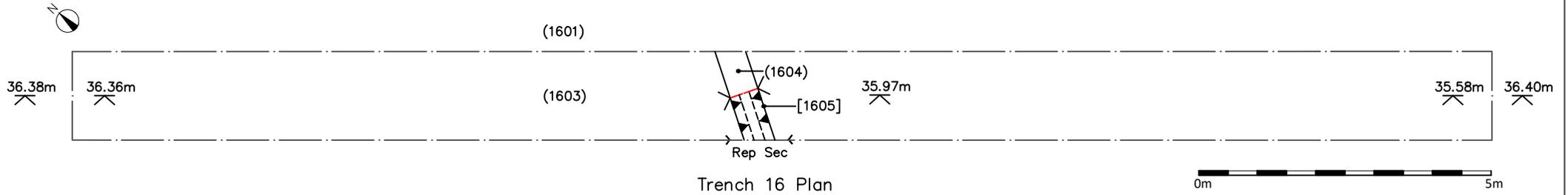


Figure 7 Trenches 16 to 18