



**Syndale Park Motel, London Road,
Ospringe, near Faversham, Kent
Archaeological Evaluation
Interim Report
*August 2008***

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**Syndale Park Motel, London Road, Ospringe, near
Faversham, Kent**

**Archaeological Evaluation
Interim Report**

NGR: 599420 160395

Site Code: SYN-EV-08

**Report for
Property Development Options Limited**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT SYNDALE PARK MOTEL, LONDON ROAD,
OSPRINGE, KENT

INTERIM REPORT

(Predetermination Evaluation)

NGR: 599420 160395

Site Code: SYN-EV-08

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Under the direction of Dr Paul Wilkinson, Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out a predetermination archaeological evaluation of land at Syndale Park Motel, London Road, Ospringe, Kent, between July 2008 and August 2008.
- 1.2 The evaluation, comprising trial trenching and test-pitting, was undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (Kent County Council 2008) in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.
- 1.3 Twenty four evaluation trenches were originally requested, fifteen of which revealed the presence of ditches, pits and post holes representative of settlement dated to the prehistoric and Roman periods. Within the northern area of the assessment site, archaeological horizons were shown to survive at a depth approximately 0.5m below the existing ground level, while to the south and east it was clear that extensive terracing, remodelling and landscaping had occurred., within an area dominated by the presence of earthworks in the form of a mound and ditch. Truncation of the northern (i.e. in front of the existing motel) archaeological horizons was relatively minimal, evident only by the existence of services and drains associated with the existing buildings.
- 1.4 This **Interim** report presents the **preliminary** results of the archaeological fieldwork, in advance of the submission of a Post-Excavation Assessment Report (to follow) and has been prepared in order to support any planning application for the proposed development site. This report provides the results from the **archaeological evaluation only**, suggesting existing and proposed archaeological impacts and considers effective methods of archaeological mitigation. It should be noted at this stage that **the results incorporated herewith are only the opinion of the author and should be used to aid and inform the Archaeological Officer (Kent County Council), Planning Officer/Group (Swale Borough Council) and Inspector of Ancient Monuments (English Heritage) of any further archaeological mitigations measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.**

2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND ¹

2.1 Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains. It acknowledges the potentially fragile and finite or irreplaceable nature of such remains (para. 6) and states that the desirability of preservation of archaeological remains and their setting is a material consideration within the planning process (para. 18). PPG 16 provides that there is a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of nationally important archaeological remains (para. 8) and that where preservation *in situ* is not justified it is reasonable for planning authorities to require the developer to make appropriate and satisfactory provision for excavation and recording of remains (para. 25).

2.2 Paragraph 22 adds:

'Local planning authorities can expect developers to provide the results of such assessments ... as part of their application for sites where there is good reason to believe there are remains of archaeological importance.'

2.3 The underlying principle of this guidance is that the cultural heritage resource represents a finite and non-renewable resource and that its conservation should be the primary goal of archaeological resource management.

2.4 The Kent and Medway Structure Plan (adopted 2006) recognises the importance of archaeological sites whether scheduled or not (Policy QL8), and conforms to the guidance offered in PPG 16. Policy QL8 states:

'The archaeological and historic integrity of scheduled ancient monuments and other important archaeological sites, together with their settings, will be protected and, where possible, enhanced.

Where important or potentially important archaeological remains may exist, developers will be required to arrange for archaeological assessment and/or field evaluation to be carried out in advance of the determination of planning applications.

Where the case for development affecting an archaeological site is accepted, the archaeological remains should be preserved in situ. Where preservation in situ is not possible or justified, appropriate provision for preservation by record will be required.'

¹ Kent County Council (2008:3.1-3.5)

- 2.5 The Swale Borough Local Plan (First Review Re-deposit Draft July 2005) also recognises the importance of archaeological sites (Policy E16) and conforms to the guidance offered in PPG 16. Policy E16 states:

'1. Development will not be permitted which would adversely affect a Scheduled Ancient Monument, as shown on the Proposals Map or subsequently designated, or other nationally important monument or archaeological site, or its setting.

2. Whether they are currently known or discovered during the Plan period, there will be a preference to preserve important archaeological sites in-situ and to protect their settings. Development that does not achieve acceptable mitigation of adverse archaeological effects will not be permitted.

3. Where development is permitted and preservation in-situ is not justified, the applicant will be required to ensure that provision will be made for archaeological excavation and recording, in advance of and/or during development.'

- 2.6 Requirements for the archaeological evaluation comprised trial trenching targeting a minimum of 5% of the impact area, with trenches designed to establish whether there are any archaeological deposits at the site that may be affected by the proposed development. The results from this evaluation will be used to inform KCC of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

- 2.7 To date, archaeological works on site have comprised an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, a Historic Landscape Assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2008b) and Historic Building Recording (Wessex Archaeology 2008c) of the proposed development area.

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND TOPOGRAPHY ²

- 3.1 Syndale Park Motel is located off London Road (A2), at Ospringe, near Faversham in Kent. The site centre is taken to be at NGR 599420 160395. Syndale Park Motel is set in the grounds of the former Syndale House, with the site being adjoined by open parkland on its west, south and east sides and fronts onto London Road to the north. The Syndale Sports and Leisure Centre and a Day Nursery adjoin the site to the west, which are partially housed within the former service buildings of Syndale House. The site is within the historic parish of Ospringe and the administrative area of Swale Borough Council.

² Kent County Council (2008:2.1-2.2 & 4.1-4.2)

- 3.2 The site encompasses c 1.93 hectares and currently comprises a motel and ancillary buildings, holiday cottages, tennis courts plus landscaped and parkland gardens.
- 3.3 The site is shown on the mapping of the British Geological Society as lying on deposits of Head Gravel which overly Thanet Sand.
- 3.4 The Site is located at an approximate height of 43 m. above ordnance datum (AOD) and is located on a spur of land which falls away to the west towards Syndale Bottom and to the east towards Faversham. The land rises gently to the south towards Judd's Wood, the highest point locally at around 50 m. AOD.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND³

- 4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment, historic landscape assessment and historic building assessment (WA Heritage, 2008a 2008b and 2008c) have been undertaken for the site. The Archaeological Contractor should ensure that they are fully familiar with the content of these documents prior to the commencement of work. The results of the desk-based assessment are summarised below.
- 4.2 The site is in a topographically favourable position for settlement and has the potential to contain remains from the later prehistoric, Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods.
- 4.3 The line of Roman Watling Street crosses the northern edge of the site running roughly east—west and the site has been suggested as the possible location of the Roman town of *Durolevum*. Antiquarian and archaeological investigations from the eighteenth century to the modern day have concentrated on the Roman archaeology of the site and have recorded burials, ditches, roadways, buildings and other structures as well as material of Romano-British date in the area.
- 4.4 Recent work by Channel 4 Television's Time Team and Wessex Archaeology has investigated the site of a possible Roman military encampment (shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map) in the northern part of the development area. Whilst no firm evidence for a Roman fort could be found, features and finds relating to an Iron Age and Romano-British fortified farmstead were encountered. Finds recovered during the partial excavation of a well which lay within the area of the proposed development indicated the presence nearby of a potentially high status building.
- 4.5 Ongoing research within the wider parkland surrounding the former Syndale House by the Kent Archaeological Field School has identified numerous Roman features

³ Kent County Council (2008;5.1-5.9)

including first century ditches, a monumental sarcophagus, kilns, road and track-ways, buildings and cremation burials.

- 4.6 An eighteenth century map by Edward Jacob shows Syndale House as being located on the site of 'King Stephen's Castle' and shows the line of a 'very ancient ditch'. This ditch, which can still be traced as an earthwork on the site, has variously been interpreted as an Iron Age enclosure, Roman fort, medieval moated site or part of a medieval motte and bailey castle (Ward 2004).
- 4.7 In the mid-seventeenth century the parliamentarian and gunpowder manufacturer Daniel Judde built a neo-Palladian mansion at Syndale (originally known as Judde's House, later Judde's Folly, Syndale House and the Mumford Arms). The house was reputedly designed by the architect Inigo Jones. The house is shown on seventeenth century mapping as being set in formal landscaped gardens with an avenued drive leading from an ornamental gate or archway fronting onto London Road.
- 4.8 Syndale house was significantly altered in the nineteenth century and the naturalistic parkland that surrounds the present motel site is likely to have been laid out at the same time. The historic landscape assessment has identified that although the site has subsequently been altered during the construction of the present motel and holiday bungalows, elements of the original formal landscape and later parkland are well preserved within the proposed development site.
- 4.9 Syndale House (then known as the Mumford Arms Hotel) was largely destroyed by fire in 1961 and replaced by the present 'American style' motel shortly after. The existing motel buildings incorporate elements of the former Syndale House, including part of the west (side wall) of the seventeenth century mansion as well as numerous nineteenth century service buildings. These buildings include an early nineteenth century extension to the original house and the adjacent staff accommodation, both of which lie within the proposed development site. Immediately to the west of the proposed development site is a nineteenth century stable range and coach house, whilst further to the south-east is the estate dairy.

5.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 The purpose of the evaluation, as set out within the Archaeological Specifications was to:
- i) Establish whether there are any archaeological deposits at the site that may be affected by the proposed development. The excavation is thus to ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit, character, significance and condition of any archaeological remains on site.

- ii) Establish the extent to which previous development on the site has affected archaeological deposits.

5.2 Additional aims were to:

- iii) Gather sufficient information to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of any archaeological remains to be made and the impact development will have upon them.
- iv) Enable an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any archaeological remains and consider any appropriate mitigatory measures either in advance of any planning application and/or during development.

5.3 Specific aims included:

- v) Assessing the likely impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains that may be present at the site.
- vi) Assessing the impact of past activity and especially the construction of the existing motel buildings on the sites' archaeological potential.
- vii) Assessing the potential of the site to contain nationally important remains, using English Heritage assessment criteria.
- viii) Establishing the presence or absence of remains relating to the nearby Roman settlement of *Durolevum*.
- ix) Establishing whether any remains associated with the Iron Age or medieval occupation of the site survives within the development area.
- x) Establishing the degree of survival of buried remains associated with the seventeenth century mansion house constructed on the site, including any remains associated with the formal and informal landscaped gardens and parkland.
- xi) Contributing to the environmental and landscape history of the area.

6.0 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Trial trenching consisted of the excavation of 17 trenches, each measuring 1.8m in width and between approximately 10m and 22m in length. Initially 24 trenches were planned. However, the need for constant access and the presence of underground services meant that some trenches could not be excavated (see *Results* below). Trench locations were agreed prior to the excavation between KCC and SWAT. While a degree of flexibility was offered with regards to the trench locations, specific trenches were located in order to test specific features identified by the archaeological desk-based assessment, historic landscape assessment and historic building assessment (see Table 1 below). For ease of reference, the site was divided into three separate areas (See Figure 2) with Area 1 focusing on the south-western corner of the site, Area 2 on

the potential earthworks within the southern and eastern extents of the site and Area 3 within the northern extents of the site.

Trench	Area	Target(s)
1	A1	Positioned to pick up any continuation of the 'very ancient ditch' as marked on Edward Jacob's map of Syndale.
2-3	A2	Positioned to investigate historic garden features identified by the WA Heritage assessments as well as the location of antiquarian Roman discoveries
4, 5, 6 & 7	A2	Positioned to examine the mound identified by WA Heritage which Ward (2004) suggests might be part of a medieval motte and bailey.
8	A2	Positioned across the line of the 'very ancient ditch' marked by Edward Jacob.
9	A2	Positioned to determine the relationship between historic garden terraces and the mound
11	A2	Located to determine the relationship between the terrace and the 'very ancient ditch'
13	A2	Positioned across the line of the 'very ancient ditch' marked by Edward Jacob.
10	A2	Located to investigate the historic garden terrace as identified by WA Heritage
12	A2	Located to investigate the historic garden terrace as identified by WA Heritage
14-20	A3	Positioned within the interior of the postulated Roman Fort (Wilkinson 1999 and shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map). These trenches should also seek to identify if there is any continuation of the features identified by the Channel 4 Television and Wessex Archaeology's investigations at Syndale. In addition these trenches are also to determine if there are any remains of the early carriageway and formal avenue shown on historic mapping of the site.
21	A3	Located adjacent to the line of Roman Watling Street. The trench should seek to identify if there are any remains associated with Roman roadside activity and the town of <i>Durolevum</i> . The trench will also seek to determine if any remains associated with the formal archway or gateway to the Syndale Estate survives.
23-24	A2	Located to determine whether any remains associated with the early formal gardens of Syndale survive within the site.

Table 1. Location of trenches within the proposed development area

- 6.2 Each trench was initially scanned for surface finds prior to excavation. Excavation was carried out using a 360° 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. Trenches were subsequently hand-cleaned to reveal features in plan and carefully selected cross-sections through a selection (see below) of 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 the specification.
- 6.3 A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. A full list is presented in Appendix 1. Layers and fills are recorded (**100**). The cut of the feature is shown [**100**]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes; these are used in the report (in **bold**). Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (*i.e.* **Trench 1, 01/001+**, Trench 2, **02/001+**, Trench 3, **03/001+** etc.).

7.0 MONITORING

- 7.1 Curatorial monitoring was carried out during the course of the evaluation by KCC at which time, methodologies and preliminary results were discussed.

8.0 RESULTS (Area 1)

- 8.1 Area 1 was located within the south-western corner of the site, within an area laid to lawn at a height of approximately 44.8mAOD.
- 8.2 A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across this area of the site comprising topsoil/overburden (**001**) overlying subsoil (**002**) and natural gravels and sands. The topsoil/overburden consisted of friable dark grey black slightly silty clay. A clear line of horizon gave way to natural gravels where mechanical excavation ceased and careful examination and investigation for truncating features was carried out. The thickness of the overburden varied, with the average depth of the natural geology being located c.0.3m below the existing ground level. Appendix 1 provides the context listing for all trenches.
- 8.3 **Trench 1** was located within the rear garden of one of the Syndale Park residents. It was agreed with the KCC Archaeological Officer that this trench was not absolutely necessary at this stage.

- 8.4 Located within the northern extent of Area 1 and aligned northwest-southeast, **Trench 2** measured 14.2m in length and contained a curvilinear ditch [02/008], two shallow pits or post holes [02/004 & 02/006], natural undulation [02/010] and a modern gas pipe. Of particular interest, was the curving ditch [02/008], which possessed near vertical sides, a flat base and a single fill consisting of mid brown grey orange silty clay (02/007). Unfortunately no finds were associated with this feature which directly underlay a modern deposit filling (02/009) the natural shallow undulation [02/010]. The two shallow pits were incredibly ephemeral and may also represent undulating gravels. Possessing similar 'topsoil-like' fills comprising mid-dark grey brown silty clay, both features (02/003) & (02/005) were barren of finds and thereby subsequently assigned a modern date. All archaeological features within this trench were sealed by the subsoil (2/001), at a depth of approximately 0.23m (c. 44.9m AOD) below the existing ground level.
- 8.5 Directly to the south and orientated on a north south alignment **Trench 3** measured 20m in length and contained three discrete pits or post holes [03/006] [03/008] and [3/12], together with a curvilinear ditch [03/004] [03/018] and the possible terminus of a shallow gully [03/010]. The southernmost post hole [03/006] measured 0.49m in diameter with a depth of 0.15m. Concave sides and a relatively flat base gave way to a primary fill comprising mid brown orange silty clay (03/005). Adjacent to the north, the second pit/post hole [03/008] was slightly larger measuring 0.57m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.09m, containing a fill that consisted of mid brown orange silty clay (03/07). Similarly, pit/post hole [03/012] measured 0.62m in diameter with a depth of 0.09m, albeit with a slightly more tapered profile than other post holes within this trench. The single fill comprised mottled orange/brown silty clay with occasional angular gravel (03/011). Located within the southern extent of the trench a slightly curving ditch [03/004] had an average upper width of 1.12m tapering to approximately 0.52 at a depth of c.0.57m. Orientated north-south, the single fill comprised mid orange brown silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal (03/003) and a fragment of modern glass (may be intrusive). To the north a shallow gully [03/010] measured 0.49m in width with a depth of 0.07m. A concave profile gave way to a mid-dark gray brown silty clay fill (03/09) with similar characteristics to the topsoil (03/001). All archaeological features within this trench were sealed by the subsoil (03/002), at a depth of approximately 0.17m (c. 44.8m AOD) below the existing ground level.

9.0 RESULTS (Area 2)

- 9.1 Area 2 was located within the southern, central and eastern extents of the site, within the landscaped gardens and holiday cottages that surround the motel. Twelve trenches were initially located within this area (Trenches 4-13 & 23-24) however, the presence

- of live services, existing holiday facilities (chalets and a tennis court) and large mature trees prevented the excavation of Trenches 4, 9, 10 and 23.
- 9.2 A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across this area of the site comprising topsoil (001) overlying imported clay, hardcore rubble and backfilled material associated with the later landscaping of the site. The topsoil/overburden consisted of friable dark grey black slightly silty clay.
- 9.3 **Trench 4** was located adjacent to Area 1, within the southern gardens of the park, beneath large mature trees. Due to the presence of a live water main it was agreed with the KCC Archaeological Officer that this trench was not absolutely necessary at this stage.
- 9.4 **Trench 5** was positioned on the mound to the rear of the site, in an area identified as a potential motte and bailey. Orientated east-west, the trench measured 20m in length. From the outset it was evident that the mound was artificial, as tip lines indicative of dumped (or redeposited) material were clearly visible in plan (05/007, 05/008, 05/009, 05/0010, 05/011, and 05/012). A shallow garden feature, possibly a path [05/006] was recorded on a northwest-southeast alignment, comprising fragments of crushed building material and flint (05/005). A shallow pit measuring 1.21m in diameter and 0.12m in depth was also present at the eastern extent of the site, although no dateable material was present. All archaeological horizons within this trench were sealed by the topsoil (05/001) and subsoil (05/002), at a depth of approximately 0.17m (c. 44.5m AOD) below the existing ground level.
- 9.5 **Trench 6** bore similar characteristics to Trench 5. Also located on the mound on a northeast-southwest alignment, this trench comprised a sequence of redeposited clays and silts (06/007-06/014) indicative of intentional made ground. As with Trench 5 late garden features were also present within this trench (06/003-06/006). All archaeological horizons within this trench were sealed by the topsoil (06/001) and subsoil (06/002), at a depth of approximately 0.17m (c. 44.7m AOD) below the existing ground level.
- 9.6 Aligned north-south, **Trench 7** measured 12m in length and was located within the southern extent of the mound as it dropped into an adjacent ditch. The stratigraphic deposit model comprised topsoil (07/001) sealing a sequence of relatively modern tipped fills (07/002-07/013) containing lumps of concrete, modern kerb stones, plastic and other building and domestic waste. The nature of such material resulted in the instability of the trench sides causing concerns for health and safety. As a result the excavation ceased at a depth 2.4m (c 39-40mAOD). All deposits are described in full in Appendix 1.

- 9.3 **Trench 8** was also positioned in order to target the ditch adjacent to the eastern extent of the site. This was completely successful exposing a series of redeposited clays, silts, gravel and chalk. The lower fills (08/003, 08/005-08/013) represented deliberate backfilling of the ditch, while upper deposits (08/002, 08/004, 08/014 and 08/015) appeared to be associated with latter landscaping. Post-medieval building material was retrieved from layers 08/007 and 08/012 suggesting later backfilling of this section of the ditch, most likely associated with the construction of Syndale and the surrounding landscaping. Mechanical excavation ceased at a depth of 3.20m (39.5mAOD).
- 9.4 **Trench 9** was located adjacent to the eastern extent of the park, adjacent to the tennis courts and within an area dominated by mature trees. As access was to be maintained to the park facilities, this trench could not be relocated. Therefore it was agreed with the KCC Archaeological Officer that this trench was not absolutely necessary at this stage.
- 9.5 **Trench 10** was located adjacent to the eastern extent of the park, within an area set out with tennis courts. As these facilities were still in use, it was agreed with the KCC Archaeological Officer that this trench was not absolutely necessary at this stage.
- 9.6 **Trench 11** was located on the same alignment as Trench 8 and also positioned in order to target the earthwork. Similar deposits were instantly associated with western extent of later ditch fills (11/002-11/008). Mechanical excavation ceased at a depth of 3.40m (38.6mAOD).
- 9.7 **Trench 12** was positioned in order to determine the presence and extent of the 'very ancient ditch'. Orientated north-south and measuring approximately 12 m in length, this trench revealed the full horizontal extent of the ditch [12/025]. A total of 14 deposits (12/003, 12/009-12/014 and 12/016-12/023) provided the fill of this ditch, comprising post-medieval building material contemporary with the construction of Syndale House in 1652 (Wessex Archaeology 2008a). The ditch fills were covered by a series of landscaping layers (12/001-12/002 and 12/004-12/008) which form the north-eastern terrace associated with the formal gardens. Mechanical excavation ceased at a depth of approximately 3.20m (38.5mAOD).
- 9.8 **Trench 13** echoed the deposit model recorded within Trench 12 with both horizontal extents of the ditch [13/010] and associated fill (13/008) containing large fragments of post-medieval building material (bricks & tile). To the south, terraced landscape layers were once again visible (13/002, 13/003, 13/004 and 13/007), while to the north two small features containing Roman pottery were left unexcavated (13/011 &

13/012). Natural geology was present within the northern extent of the trench at a depth of c. 0.31m (43.25mAOD).

10.0 RESULTS (Area 3)

- 10.1 Area 3 was located within the northern extent of the site incorporating the main access on to and off site, along with overgrown shrub gardens and fruit trees.
- 10.2 A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across this area of the site comprising topsoil/overburden (001) overlying subsoil (002) and natural gravels and sands. The topsoil/overburden consisted of friable dark grey black slightly silty clay. A clear line of horizon gave way to natural gravels where mechanical excavation ceased and careful examination and investigation for truncating features was carried out. The thickness of the overburden varied, with the average depth of the natural geology being located c.0.5m below the existing ground level. Appendix 1 provides the context listing for all trenches.
- 10.3 **Trench 14** was located within the southern extent of Area 3, directly north of the parking areas assigned to the existing motel. Three modern features were excavated within this trench [14/004, 14/006] and (14/008), as well as a natural geological fissure/hollow (14/009). This trench was positioned in order to determine the presence and extent of the ancient ditch. As this had not been successful, it was suggested that the trench be extended to the north and south. This extended area was labelled as **Trench 26**. A large ditch [26/004] measuring approximately 2.4m in width with a depth of up to 1.23m was present within the northern extent of Trench 26. Ceramic material recovered from the single fill (26/003) suggested a Roman date. A small undated post hole [26/006] truncated the upper levels of the trench fill.
- 10.4 **Trench 15** was located centrally within Area 3. Initially excavated at a length of approximately 21m, this trench was extended to the east by a further 5m in order to further evaluate a flint metalled surface. This surface (15/006), which was initially thought to have been dated to the Roman period, was later assigned a post medieval date due to the extensive presence of post medieval ceramic building material. A late post medieval cut [15/004] and fill (15/009) may be attributed to truncation associated with recent landscaping, despite the presence of residual Roman pottery within the dark grey brown silty clay fill (15/003).
- 10.5 Due to extensive drainage within the eastern extent of Area 3 (see below) **Trench 16** was not excavated.

- 10.6 **Trench 17** was located within the eastern extent of Area 3. Measuring 20m in length, this trench revealed the presence of extensive drainage at which point mechanical excavation ceased and the trench closed.
- 10.3 **Trench 18** measured 17m in length and contained a single ditch [18/006], along with a pit [18/004] and natural geological spread [18/007]. Measuring 0.96m in width with a depth of 0.42m, ditch [18/006] was filled by mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone (18/005), containing finds, albeit residual, dating the fill to the medieval period. To the immediate west, pit [18/004] was filled by mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of gravel, with no dateable finds.
- 10.4 **Trench 19** was located in order to test the presence of archaeological deposits within an area thought to contain a Roman fort. While this is not necessarily the case, significant archaeological remains were encountered and from the outset it was evident that an extensive ditch was present within the southern extent of the trench. In fact, at least⁴ four separate phases of ditch cutting were visible, with earlier cuts continuing beyond safe workable depths. The later ditch within this sequence [19/011] was relatively small measuring approximately 1.10m in width with a depth of c. 0.61m. The fill of this feature (19/010) comprised dark grey brown silty clay with occasional fragments of unabraded Roman pottery. This ditch had truncated the upper two fills of an earlier and much larger ditch [19/004] containing up to six fills (19/003, 19/006-19/009, 19/017 & 19/029) provisionally dated to the Late Iron Age. A third cut beneath [19/004] was recorded, although not entirely clear. That said, underlying all of the above, clearly visible diagonal fills were evident, the lowest of which contained unabraded Iron Age pottery. A cut number could not be assigned to this feature as no cut was reached. What is clear, however, is that the earliest feature within this trench possessed up to 11 fills (19/018-19/028), had a distinctly concave and undulated profile and was over 7.5m wide and over 2m deep. As previously mentioned, the full extents of the feature(s) could not be determined at this stage. A single post hole [19/033] was recorded adjacent to the northern extent of the ditches. A later undated ditch was also recorded within the northern extents of this ditch [19/015] and is most likely associated with a similar ditch recorded in Trench 18.
- 10.5 **Trench 20** was located within the eastern extent of Area 3. Measuring 20m in length, this trench revealed the presence of extensive drainage at which point mechanical excavation ceased and the trench was closed.

⁴ The full extent of features within this extent of the trench was not determined due to health and safety considerations.

- 10.6 **Trench 21** was located at the far northern extent of the site, adjacent to the access road approximately 20m south of the existing A2 Watling Street. Four features were recorded within this trench, including two ditches [21/014, 21/016, 21/023 & 21/027] and pit [21/004 & 21/006] within the southern extents plus a third north-south orientated ditch [21/012] within the northern extent. Finds associated within all fills of these features (see Appendix 1) confirmed a secure Roman date, adding to the presence of partially exposed equine vertebrae within the fill (21/009) of the northernmost ditch. This feature was carefully backfilled, as requested by KCC, and therefore preserved in-situ should further examination be required.
- 10.7 **Trench 22**. This number was not assigned to any trench.
- 10.8 **Trench 23** could not be excavated due to the location within a working holiday facility.
- 10.9 **Trench 24** could not be excavated due to the location within a working holiday facility.
- 10.10 **Trench 25** was an additional trench located in order to chase the extensive features within Trench 19 to the immediate west. This trench measured approximately 10m in length and successfully identified the smaller Roman ditch [25/004] overcutting the larger and earlier Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch [26/008]. In addition, this trench also revealed the presence of a third ditch (25/006) that had been truncated by [25/004] and was cut into (25/007). Whilst not on the same scale as the underlying ditch, finds associated with the Late Iron Age/Early Roman periods suggested a close contemporary date, possibly a later recut?
- 10.11 For details of **Trench 26**, see Trench 14 (Section 10.3).

11.0 SUMMARY OF SITE ARCHIVE

11.1 Quantity of Archaeological Records

Photographs: 345 digital images, 56 Colour Slides SWAT film nos. 08/SYN/CS/1, 26 B&W SWAT film nos. 08/SYN/B&W/1

Drawings: Twenty two A3 permatrace site drawings, comprising feature plans (and associated sections).

Finds: To be quantified

Context Register including: Context Register (1), Drawings Register (1), Photographic Register (1), Levels Sheets (x), Environmental Samples Register (1), Environmental Sheets (12) and Context Sheets (217)

11.2 Quantity and Provenance of Archaeological Material

Archaeological excavations at Syndale Park produced pottery, flint and animal bone, along with samples taken for environmental assessments. To date, SWAT is in the process of obtaining preliminary analysis on all assemblages which will be incorporated into the *Post-Excavation Assessment* (to follow).

12.0 PROJECT CONSTRAINTS

- 12.1 Of particular note would be deep stratified features to the north of the existing motel. Should further archaeological investigation be required, it is highly recommended that provision be allowed for deep excavation, taking into consideration health and safety issues.
- 12.2 The complicated nature of the natural geology, in particular redeposited clays and silts has also become apparent. Clean quarried 'made ground', potential colluvial drift, windblown soils, bioturbation and a buried subsoil make the identification of the upper archaeological horizon extremely difficult, especially in bright and sunny conditions. With that in mind, the weathering of excavated surfaces is strongly recommended.

13.0 DISCUSSION

- 13.1 Archaeological investigations at Syndale Park have revealed the presence of significant archaeological remains. This interim report has been produced and collated within a week of the completion of the archaeological fieldwork and therefore sums up preliminary results prior to any extensive post-excavation analysis or dating of retrieved material/samples. That said, archaeological features encountered during the course of the evaluation were, to some degree, expected. Earthworks were targeted and theories as to the nature of the archaeological significance of Syndale were tested. From the outset, it was clear that the hypothetical 'Roman Fort and 'Motte and Bailey' dominated the archaeological record, coupled with the presence of later, and earlier occupation of the site. The archaeological investigations carried out during the summer of 2008 can now offer some explanation as to the definition, character, significance and importance of archaeological deposits encountered at Syndale Park.
- 13.2 There is without doubt Roman and Iron Age activity at the north end of the site consistent with a small Roman town which has been previously investigated both to the east and west by SWAT, the Kent Archaeological Field School (KAFS), Time Team/Wessex Archaeology and other. This may or may not be *Durolevum*. This activity falls sharply away as one moves towards the main house with the exception of the truncated Roman ditch which runs east west beyond the boundaries of the

development site. The large Iron Age truncated ditch within Trench 19 (dated by secure fresh Iron Age pottery) and bank on the north side with posthole is likely to be in its final phase of a late Iron Age defended settlement which has not, to date, been picked up by previous archaeological investigations within the proposed development site. However, the ditches and banks were mentioned by Hasted. Field walking in that particular area by the KAFS has produced copious amounts of Iron Age pottery which is indicative of prehistoric archaeological activity. The large ditch which circumnavigates the eastern extent of the site, as shown on the 1760 Jacob map and annotated 'ancient ditch', is present, albeit still undated.

- 13.3 The Iron Age ditch (Trench 19 and 25) has been investigated within (and potentially beyond) current parameters, however, to be absolutely certain of a provenance one should consider the possibility of further, more extensive investigations in order to understand completely the physical character of this feature (see recommendations below). What is evident is the fact that this particularly feature is extensive, possibly echoing known archaeological records associated with prehistoric defensive structures⁵.
- 13.4 The suggestion of the artificial mound being the 'motte' of a motte and bailey castle is tempting and may demand further investigation. To date, no medieval finds or features have been encountered during archaeological investigations within the proposed development area. What is certain is that the mound is not natural but artificial, and may be associated with prehistoric, medieval or even post medieval settlement/landscaping. It is, of course, essential to consider all possibilities. The lack of even residual medieval material culture, regardless of the absence of contemporary features (within both the proposed development area as well as the surrounding landscape), makes it difficult to assign a medieval date to this particular earthwork. Extensive landscaping during the formation of formal post-medieval gardens may, of course, have removed upper archaeological deposits and this possibility should not be ruled out at this stage. Despite this, the archaeological potential cannot be ignored. The eastern boundary ditch and the mound do seem to have a contemporary relationship; the alignment of the ditch respects the extents of the mound. With this in mind, any further investigation of these earthworks may benefit from the excavation of deeper trenches, targeting buried surfaces/soil horizons that may underlie the mound, along with the dating of lower, primary ditch fills. Cartographic regression has shown that these earthworks are, without any doubt, of archaeological and historical significance (Wessex Archaeology 2008a-c) and will need to be taken into

⁵ For a potential comparison please refer to the Bloodgate Iron Age Hill Fort in Norfolk (particularly the similar ditch sections) at <http://www.norfarchtrust.org.uk/bloodgate/panel2.htm>

consideration during any development proposal.

- 13.5 The archaeological evaluation at Syndale Park has confirmed and emphasised the frequency of archaeological deposits dated predominantly from the Iron Age through to the post-medieval period within the proposed development area. From the outset it was clear that archaeological remains were present on site. This report has attempted to further define the archaeological features encountered, although it must be stated that further work will be required to fully examine and provide an understanding for the complex settlement patterns present at Syndale Park.

14.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

14.1 Existing Impacts

The proposed development site has been extensively landscaped and redeveloped, and therefore subject to extensive archaeological impact particularly within the central, southern and eastern extent of the site. Northern areas of the site have suffered to a lesser degree with only superficial low impact remodelling occurring within areas containing potentially significant prehistoric and/or Roman remains.

14.2 Proposed Impacts

At the time of preparing this document, the full extent of future development proposals at Syndale Park was not known.

15.0 MITIGATION (Suggested)

- 15.1 The purpose of the (predetermination) archaeological evaluation was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record, in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works, in order to supplement any future planning application. Full development proposals are, at present time, unknown. In the event, however, that finished ground levels remain constant, the depth of foundations trenches, services, access and car parking are likely to have an impact on significant archaeological remains. Impacts to archaeological deposits throughout the entire site are therefore deemed as high.
- 15.2 The size and potentially undisturbed status of the development site along with the archaeological significance of the surrounding area, therefore aids the possibility of archaeological material surviving in-situ which could be disturbed and/or damaged by proposed groundwork's. It is therefore recommend that in any forthcoming consent provision is made for further archaeological field evaluation to be followed, if necessary, by preservation *in situ* of any important remains identified at the site and/or further archaeological excavation as appropriate.

- 15.3 Such a provision can be adequately secured by a **condition on any planning consent** that secures the implementation of archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority, prior to any development commencing on site. Following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to **ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording** should be conducted in accordance with a specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. This would then ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation *in situ* or by record.

16.0 CONCLUSION

- 16.1 The evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. Within the northern extents of the proposed development area archaeological horizons have been shown to survive at a depth approximately 0.5m below the existing ground level, indicating the presence of surviving archaeological features and finds. To the south and east, earthworks have been investigated, confirming the presence of a ditch and artificial mound. That said, the definition and nature of these features remains elusive at this stage.
- 16.2 Truncation of northern archaeological horizons was relatively minimal, evident only by the existence of low impact drains, root boles and animal burrows. Suggestions as to the definition of potential archaeological features have been offered above, although it must be stated that only after further excavation of these areas can more positive conclusions be drawn.
- 16.3 **This evaluation has therefore assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Archaeological Officer (Kent County Council), Planning Officer (Swale Borough Council) and Inspector of Monuments (English Heritage) of any further archaeological mitigations measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.**
- 16.4 It is emphasised that this Interim Report presents the **preliminary** results of the archaeological fieldwork, in advance of the submission of a Post-Excavation Assessment Report (to follow) and has been prepared in order to support any planning application for the proposed development site. Issues associated with Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments are beyond the scope of this investigation and should be directed towards the Conservation Officer (Swale Borough Council) and English Heritage.

17.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

17.1 SWAT would like to thank Brian Sheridan of Property Development Options Limited for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Kent County Council and English Heritage for their advice and assistance, in particular Peter Kendall (Inspector of Ancient Monuments), Ben Found (Archaeological Officer) and Simon Mason (Principal Archaeological Officer). Finally, thanks are due to the site team who assisted the author, namely: James Madden, Dan Quinly and Natasha Ransom. All surveying and illustrations were produced by Digitise This. This report was edited and collated by Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT).

David Britchfield, August 2008

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APPENDIX 1 - Context Summary

Syndale Park, Ospringe, Kent

Site Code: SYN-EV-08

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
Trench 1		Unexcavated						
02/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
02/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
02/003	F	Fill of [02/004]	Mid dark grey brown silt clay loam with inclusions of gravel	[02/004]		18	Fill appears very much like the topsoil, therefore very recent.	
02/004	C	Cut of small garden feature			(02/003)	18		
02/005	F	Fill of [02/006]	Mid dark grey brown silty clay loam with inclusions of gravel and pebbles	[02/006]		19	Fill appears very much like the topsoil. Finds: Pot	
02/006	C	Cut of small garden feature	Small Pit		(02/005)	19		
02/007	F	Fill of [02/008]	Mid brown grey orange silt clay with inclusions of angular stone and gravel	[02/008]		21	Full length of linear unknown. Finds: coke/slag	
02/008	C	Cut of linear			(02/007)	21	Full length of linear unknown.	
03/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
03/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
03/003	F	Fill of [03/004]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone and gravel	[03/004]		13	Full length of ditch unknown. One small piece of glass and one piece of burnt flint in fill plus very circular pebble. Irregular base. Finds: burnt flint	
03/004	C	Cut of shallow Pit (possible garden feature)			(05/003)	13		
03/005	F	Fill of [03/006]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone and gravel	[03/006]		14	Possible small Pit. Irregular base	
03/006	C	Cut of possible very small pit, large post hole			(03/005)	14		

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
03/007	F	Fill of [03/008]	Mid brown grey orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone	[03/008]		15	Possible small shallow Pit (garden feature)	
03/008	C	Cut of possible very small pit, large post hole			(03/007)	15		
03/009	F	Fill of [03/010]	Mid dark grey brown silt clay loam with inclusions of angular stone and gravel	[03/010]		16	Fill is very topsoil like - fairly loose compaction	
03/010	C	Cut of garden feature			(03/009)	16		
03/011	F	Fill of [03/012]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular stone and rare gravel	[03/012]		17	Full length of feature unknown. Irregular shape and base	
03/012	C	Cut of garden feature			(03/011)	17		
Trench 4		Unexcavated						
05/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
05/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
05/003	F	Fill of [05/004]	Mid grey brown silt clay with inclusions of gravel	[05/004]		12	Fill is very shallow and appears very similar to the subsoil. Perhaps just a fill of a garden feature.	
05/004	C	Cut of very shallow Pit (possible garden feature)			(05/003)	12		
05/005	F	Fill of [05/006]	Mid orange grey clay with inclusions of pebbles, gravel and brick (C18th / 19th)	[05/006]		20	Rubble garden path found	
05/006	C	Cut of path foundation			(05/005) (05/007)	20	Unexcavated	
05/007	F	Fill of [05/006] (unexcavated)	Mid grey orange clay with inclusions of gravel	[05/006]		20	Redeposited fill. Possibly connected with C18th/19th landscaping.	
05/008	F	Fill	Brick, gravel backfill					

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
05/009		Made ground						
05/010	D	Topsoil	Topsoil with abundant gravel					
05/011	F	Made ground	Mid yellow grey clay silt with inclusions of abundant gravel					
05/012	F	Made ground	Mid orange grey clay silt with inclusions of abundant gravel					
06/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
06/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
06/003	F	Fill of [06/006]	Light brown silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone, gravel and glass	[06/006]		10	Fill of possible pathway contained brick and glass bottle. Full length and depth unknown. Finds: glass	
06/004	F	Fill of [06/006]	Mid grey brown silt clay with inclusions of angular stone, gravel and glass	[06/006]		10	Fill of possible pathway contained brick and glass. Full length and depth unknown	
06/005	F	Fill of [06/006]	Light grey brown green silt clay with inclusions of angular stone and gravel	[06/006]		10	Fill of possible pathway. Iron object in fill plus marine shell. Finds: marine shell, iron object	
06/006	C	Cut of probable pathway, wall?			(06/003) (06/004) (06/005)	10		
06/007	D	Made ground	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of gravel			11	Slot dug to investigate and confirm whether deposit was natural.	
06/008	D	Made ground	Like backfill with brick (rare)					
06/009	D	Made ground	Light white grey clay silt with inclusions of abundant gravel					
06/010	D	Made ground	Mixed clay with inclusions of regular bricks, flints and gravel					
06/011	D	Made ground	Light orange brown silty clay					
06/012	D	Made ground	Light orange brown silty clay					
06/013	D	Same as 06/012	Light white grey clay silt with inclusions of abundant gravel					
06/014	D	Made ground	Light white grey clay silt with inclusions of abundant gravel					

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
07/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay				Dumped C20th material	
07/002	F	Fill of (07/013)	Yellow brown re-deposited sandy silty clay	[07/013]				
07/003	F	Fill of (07/013)	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/004	F	Fill of (07/013)	Grey brown sandy silty clay	[07/013]				
07/005	F	Fill of (07/013)	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/006	F	Fill of (07/013)	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/007	F	Made ground	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/008	F	Made ground	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/009	F	Fill of (07/013)	Yellow brown sandy silt	[07/013]				
07/010	F	Fill of (07/013)	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/011	F	Fill of (07/013)	Dark brown sandy soil	[07/013]				
07/012	F	Fill of (07/013)	Mottled brown orange silt clay with frequent inclusions of modern waste	[07/013]				
07/013	C	Cut of Ditch			(07/002) (07/003) (07/004) (07/005) (07/006) (07/007) (07/008) (07/009) (07/010) (07/011) (07/012)			
08/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
08/002	F	Post medieval landscaping	Grey sandy silt with inclusions of bricks (unfrogged), gravel and mortar					

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Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
08/003	F	Backfill of Ditch	Chalk deposit					
08/004	F	Post medieval landscaping	Dark grey sandy silt with inclusions of 10% C18th building material					
08/005	F	Backfill of Ditch	Yellow brown sand:Re-deposited					
08/006	F	Backfill of Ditch	Yellow brown sand gravel					
08/007	F	Backfill of Ditch	Grey brown sandy silt with inclusions of numerous C18th brick pieces, chalk and mortar				Dumps of C18th building material	
08/008	F	Backfill of Ditch	Yellow brown 'sticky' clay with inclusions of brick and tile					
08/009	F	Backfill of Ditch	Dark brown 'sticky' clay					
08/010	F	Backfill of Ditch	Dark brown 'sticky' clay					
08/011	F	Backfill of Ditch	Yellow brown sandy silt					
08/012	F	Backfill of Ditch	Grey-black sandy silt with inclusions of 50% dumped building material					
08/013	F	Backfill of Ditch	Dark brown silt with inclusions of tree roots					
08/014	F	Post medieval landscaping	Burnt chalk. Chalk re-deposited					
08/015	F	Post medieval landscaping	Dumped chalk					
Trench 9		Unexcavated						
Trench 10		Unexcavated						
11/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
11/002	F	Fill of Ditch	Yellow brown sandy gravel mix with inclusions of fine gravel					
11/003	F	Fill of Ditch	Brown grey sandy silt with inclusions of large pebbles					

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
11/004	F	Fill of Ditch	Yellow brown sandy silt with inclusions of complete C18th brick with mortar					
11/005	F	Fill of Ditch	Mid brown sandy silt with inclusions of numerous well rounded flints and occasional brick bits					
11/006	F	Fill of Ditch	Crushed red brick, C18th brick pieces (unfrogged)					
11/007	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark brown sandy silt with inclusions of numerous flecks, pieces of brick (unfrogged) and mortar					
11/008	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark brown sandy silt with inclusions of 'sticky' mortar					
12/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
12/002	D	Subsoil	inclusions of brick flecks					
12/003	D	Fill of Ditch	Light grey orange sandy silt deposit with inclusions of brick and chalk					
12/004	L	Landscaping						
12/005	L	Landscaping	Chalk deposited					
12/006	L	Landscaping	Light brown sandy silt					
12/007	L	Landscaping	Yellow brown sandy silt					
12/008	L	Landscaping	Darker brown sandy silt with inclusions of brick flecks					
12/009	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark brown sandy silt deposit with inclusions of numerous brick, chalk fragments and flecks					
12/010	F	Fill of Ditch	Light grey sandy silt with inclusions of brick fragments, mortar and chalk					
12/011	F	Fill of Ditch	Brick bits, chalk and soil					
12/012	F	Fill of Ditch	Mid grey sandy silt deposit with inclusions of chalk and brick					

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
12/013	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark grey dumped soil					
12/014	F	Fill of Ditch	Yellow orange 'sticky' clay with inclusions of re-deposited chalk flecks					
12/015	L	Fill of Ditch	Natural					
12/016	F	Fill of Ditch	Cavity. Mostly brick pieces and mortar					
12/017	F	Fill of Ditch	Mid orange brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions					
12/018	L	Fill of Ditch	Natural					
12/019	F	Fill of Ditch	Same as 12/014 but lighter					
12/020	F	Fill of Ditch	soil and brick					
12/021	F	Fill of Ditch	Brick fragments, mortar and chalk					
12/022	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark yellow brown sandy silt					
12/023	F	Fill of Ditch	Dark(er) yellow sandy silt					
12/024	L	Fill of Ditch	Natural					
12/025	C	Cut of Ditch						
13/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
13/002	F	Imported terraced landscape	Brick demolition material with inclusions of occasional chalk and gravel					
13/003	F	Drainage trench	Pea gravel strata (drainage?)					
13/004	F	Imported terraced landscape	Brick demolition material with inclusions of occasional chalk and gravel					
13/005	F	Fill of drainage	Backfilled with demolition material	[13/006]				

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
13/006	C	Modern drain			(13/005)			
13/007	F	Imported terraced landscape	Brick demolition material with inclusions of occasional chalk and gravel					
13/008	F	Fill of [13/010]	Brick rubble infill Ditch	[13/010]				
13/009	F	Natural	Yellow brown sand					
13/010	C	Cut of Ditch			(13/008)			
13/011	F	Pit (Unexcavated)	Mid to dark grey brown silty clay with moderate charcoal and fragments of unabridged Roman pottery					
13/012	F	Pit (Unexcavated)	Mid to dark grey brown silty clay with moderate charcoal and fragments of unabridged Roman pottery					
14/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
14/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
14/003	F	Fill of [14/004]	Mid grey brown clay silt loam. Fairly compact with inclusions of frequent enamel, rare bone, clay pipe, tile and pot	[14/004]		23	Fill of Post Med Ditch (aligned NNE-SSW, probably C18th/19th. Finds: Pot, brick, glass, tile	
14/004	C	Cut of Post Med Ditch			(14/003)	23		
14/005	F	Fill of [14/006]	Dark black brown clayey sandy silt (loam). Fairly loose with inclusions of glass, pot and occasional gravel.	[14/006]		23	Fill of Post Med Ditch or service trench. NB Northern terminus visible in plan. Finds: Pot, brick, glass, tile	
14/006	C	Cut of Post Med Ditch			(14/005)	24		
15/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
15/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
15/003	F	Path?	Deposit. Possible path laid on natural clay and flint. Made of flint and pebbles compacted and levelled.			22	Small burnt area 70cm from west section on south edge of path which produced several pieces of pot. Finds: Pot	

Archaeological Evaluation at Syndale Park Motel, London Road, Ospringe, Kent

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
15/004	C	Natural				22		
15/005	C	Natural	See Trench plan and section					
15/006	D	Possible natural	See Trench plan and section					
15/007	F	Topsoil	See Trench plan and section					
15/008	C	Same as (15/006)	See Trench plan and section					
Trench 16		Unexcavated						
Trench 17			Not fully excavated due to presence of modern live drainage					
18/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
18/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
18/003	F	Fill of [18/004]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of gravel	[18/004]		02	Small shallow Pit. Finds: Pottery and bone. Finds: Pot, bone	
18/004	C	Cut of possible small Pit			(18/003)	02		
18/005	F	Fill of [18/006]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone plus brick	[18/006]		01	Full length of linear unknown. Large amount of flint in fill plus possible modern brick. Finds: Brick	
18/006	C	Cut of Linear (Ditch)			(18/005)	01		
19/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
19/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
19/003	F	Fill of [19/004]	Dark brown grey silty clay	[19/004]			Finds: Pot, burnt flint, 1 environmental sample	Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/004	C	Cut of probable Pit			(19/003) (19/005) (19/006) (19/007) (19/008) (19/009) (19/017)			Late Iron Age - Roman transition

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
19/005	F	Fill of [19/004]	Dark brown grey silty clay	[19/006]			Finds: Pot, burnt flint, bone	Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/006	C	Cut of probable Pit			(19/005)			Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/007	F	Fill of [19/004]	Yellow	[19/004]				Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/008	F	Fill of [19/004]		[19/009]				Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/009	F	Fill of (19/004)			(19/008)			Late Iron Age - Roman transition
19/010	F	Fill of [19/011]		[19/011]				Roman
19/011	C	Cut of probable Ditch			(19/010)			Roman
19/012	F	Fill of [19/013]		[19/013]				
19/013	C	Cut of probable large Ditch			(19/012)			
19/014	F	Fill of [19/015]	Mid orange brown silty clay, Fairly compact with inclusions of frequent large gravel; Med/Post med brick, tile and glass	[19/015]		05	Fill of Post Medieval or possible late medieval Ditch running approximately N-S (Towards A2 Road). Possibly part of previous gardens/landscaping. Finds: glass, brick, tile, other building material	
19/015	C	Cut of N-S late Medieval/Post Medieval Ditch			(19/014)	05		
19/016	F	Fill of Ditch	Light brown gravel					
19/017	F	Fill of [19/004]	Brown grey sandy silt					
19/018	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange brown sandy silt					
19/019	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange brown sandy silt					
19/020	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange yellow silty gravel					
19/021	F	Fill of Ditch	Grey brown silty gravel					

Archaeological Evaluation at Syndale Park Motel, London Road, Ospringe, Kent

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
19/022	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange brown silty sand					Iron Age
19/023	F	Fill of Ditch	Grey brown silty gravel					
19/024	F	Fill of Ditch	Grey brown silty gravel					
19/025	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange yellow silty gravel					
19/026	F	Fill of Ditch	Grey brown silty gravel					
19/027	F	Fill of Ditch	Orange yellow silty gravel					
19/028	F	Fill of Ditch	Grey brown silty gravel					
19/029	F	Fill of [19/004]	Dark brown grey silty clay					
19/030	F	Fill of Post hole	Light brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional gravel					
19/031	F	Post pipe	Light brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional rounded stones					
19/032	F	Fill of Post hole	Light brown silty clay with inclusions of occasional gravel					
19/033	C	Post hole	Dark brown grey silty clay					
Trench 20			Not fully excavated due to presence of modern live drainage					
21/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
21/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
21/003	F	Fill of large rubbish Pit [21/004]		[21/004]			Finds: Pot, bone, iron	
21/004	C	Cut of large rubbish Pit			(21/003)			
21/005	F	Fill of [21/006]		[21/006]			Finds: Pot, bone	

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
21/006	C	Cut of Pit (Cutting [21/004])			(21/005)			
21/007	F	Fill of [21/008]		[21/008]			Finds: Pot, bone, slag	
21/008	C	Cut of feature (off [21/004])			(21/007)			
21/009	F	Fill of [21/010]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone and chalk flecks	[21/010]		07	Large amount of flint. Full length of feature unknown. Finds: Pot, bone, iron object	
21/010	C	Cut of N-S Ditch			(21/009)	07		
21/011a	F	Fill of N-S Ditch	Mid grey brown silt with inclusions of pebbles and flint plus animal skeleton.			25	Tile found in fill may be from backfill, where [21/021] was cut and redeposited. Finds: Pot, daub	
21/011b	F	Fill of N-S Ditch	Black brown silt loam with some brick earth and containing frequent angular flints			25	At bottom of ditch is skeleton of horse/cow (head and legs not uncovered) lying diagonally across ditch. One piece of pottery found under rib. Animal does not appear to have been butchered	
21/012	C	Cut of N-S Ditch				25	Ditch filled by articulated horse skeleton (only torso visible but complete)	
21/0013	F	Fill of [21/014]	Mid brown white silt clay with inclusions of gravel and chalk	[21/014]		8	Cut of E-W Gully, shallow and narrow. Finds: Pot (on surface)	
21/014	C	Cut of E-W Gully			(21/013)	8		
21/015	F	Fill of [21/016]	Mid brown orange silt clay sand very compact with inclusions of large flints, iron object, chalk flecks, rare Pottery and gravel	[21/016]		6	Full length of feature unknown. Finds: Pot, iron object	
21/016	C	Cut of Ditch			(21/015)	6		
21/017	F	Fill of [21/018]	Mid orange brown silt clay sand. Slightly compact with inclusions of flints, bone, pot, gravel and chalk flecks	[21/018]		6	Possible small very shallow Pits, surface spoil from (21/015) [21/016] Ditch. Full extent of feature unknown. Finds: Pot, bone	
21/018	C	Cut of possible very shallow Pit			(21/017)	6		
21/019	F	Fill of rubble filled feature	Same as 21/011	[21/020]		26		

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
21/020	C	Rubble filled feature	Same as 21/012		(21/019)	26		
21/021	D	Mottled surface	Inclusions of angular and rounded stone plus pebbles				Visible at interface with [21/012]. Sitting on natural	
21/022	F	Fill of [21/023]	Mod brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone, gravel and chalk	[21/023]		27	Full length of feature unknown. Finds: Pot, iron object	
21/023	C	Cut of shallow Ditch			(21/022)	27	Finds: Pot	
21/024	F	Fill of [21/025]	Mid brown orange silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone, gravel and chalk flecks	[21/025]		27	Full length and depth of feature unknown. Finds: Pot	
21/025	C	Cut of Pit			(21/024)	27	Finds: Pot	
21/026	F	[21/027]	Mid brown orange silt clay	[21/027]		28	Full length of linear unknown	
21/027	C	Cut of Linear			(21/026)	28		
21/028	F	Fill of [21/029]	Mid grey brown silt clay with inclusions of angular and rounded stone plus chalk	[21/029]		28	Full length and depth unknown. Finds: Pot	
21/029	C	Cut of Pit			(21/028)	28		
21/030	F	Fill of [21/029]		[21/029]			Finds: Pot, bone	
21/031	F	Fill of [21/004] Slump		[21/004]				
21/032	F	Fill of [21/004] Lower						
Trench 22		Not excavated						
Trench 23		Not excavated						
Trench 24		Not excavated						
25/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
25/002	D	Subsoil	Mid grey brown sandy silt					
25/003	F	Fill of [25/004]		[25/004]		03 (Also see PW Section)	Fill of Ditch running in NW-SE [25/004]. Finds: Pot, burnt flint, 2 Environmental samples and oyster shells	

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)	ASSIGNED DATE
25/004	C	Cut of shallow Ditch			(25/003)	03 (Also see PW Section)		
25/005	F	Fill of [25/006]	Mid grey brown silt clay. Fairly compact with inclusions of frequent gravel, rare oyster shell, pot and bone	[25/006]		04 (Also see PW Section)	Finds: Pot, bone	
25/006	C	Cut of large Ditch (Recut?)	(recut? Possibly not a Ditch) Cut of large iron age defensive Ditch		(25/005)	04 (Also see PW Section)		
25/007	F	Fill of [25/008]	Light- mid grey brown clay silt. Fairly compact with inclusions of frequent gravel, rare pot, bone	[25/008]		04 (Also see PW section)	Finds: Pot, bone	
25/008	C	Cut of large Ditch	Cut of large Ditch		(25/007)	04 (Also see PW Section)	Not fully excavated	
26/001	D	Topsoil	Friable dark grey black silty clay					
26/002	D	Subsoil						
26/003	F	Fill of Roman Ditch [26/004]		[26/004]		09	Finds: Pot, teeth	
26/004	C	Cut of E-W Roman Ditch			(26/003)	09		
26/005	F	Fill of [26/006]		[26/006]		08	Finds: Pot, brick, iron	
26/006	C	Cut of small rubbish Pit			(26/005) (25/007)	08		
26/007	F	Fill (Basal) of [26/006]		[26/006]		09	Finds: Pot	
26/008	L	Natural (same as [26/011])						
26/009	L	Natural						
26/010	L	Natural gravel						



Figure 1: Location of site of proposed development; Scale: 1:2000





Figure 2: Location of Evaluation Trenches; Scale: 1:2000



Figure 3: Map showing the projected course of the Ancient ditch (shown in red); Scale: 1:2000





Figure 4: Location of Kent Archaeological Field School and Time Team trenches; Scale: 1:2000



Figure 5: Geophysical survey of Syndale Park shows the original route of the Roman Watling Street south of the existing modern A2. Other features may be stone buildings connected to the known Roman cemetery associated with the settlement traditionally known as Durolevum.



Figure 6: Close-up view of the geophysical survey of Syndale Park. It shows the Roman Watling Street and associated stone buildings.

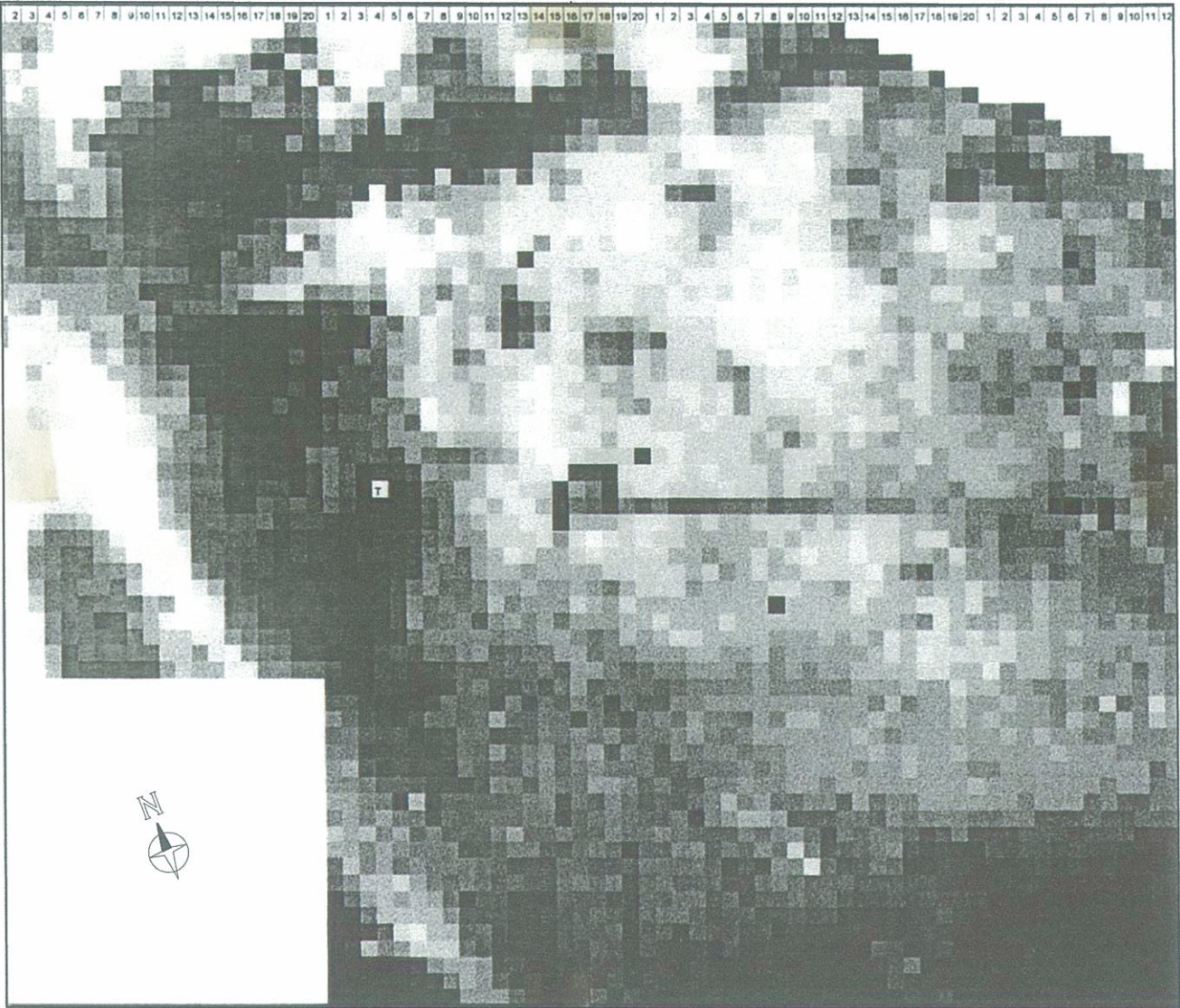


Figure 7: Geophysical survey of the Roman fort at Syndale. A section was dug through the rampart and ditch to the west (left of picture). A Roman fastigated ditch was found infilled with some 500 pottery sherds dated to the time of the Claudian invasion.

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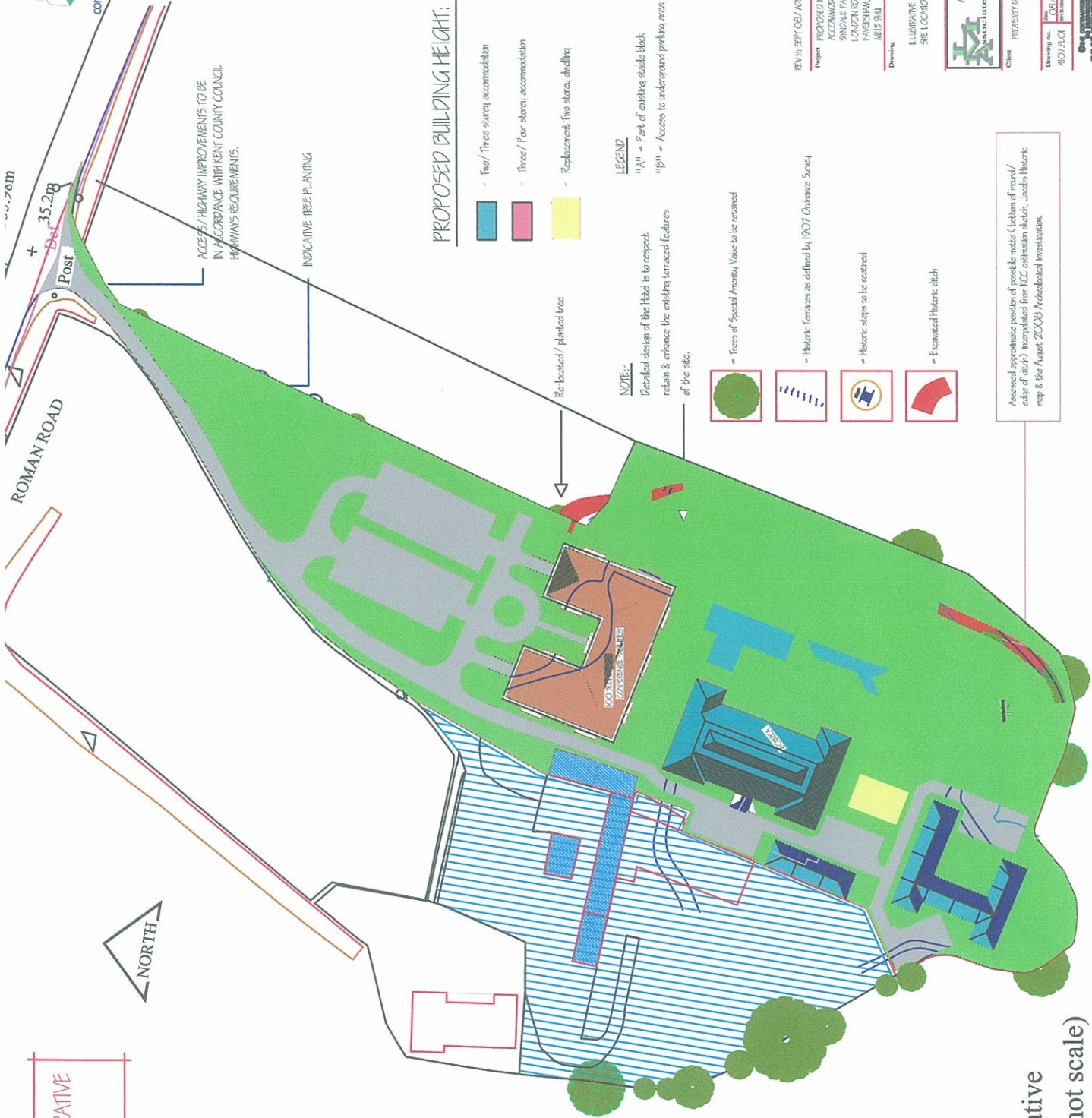
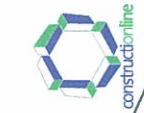


Figure 8: Proposed indicative development layout (Do not scale)

REV: 11 SEPT 06 / 07 HEDDIE PARIS WOOLY LAOUI / ANA

Project PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ACCOMMODATION SINDALE PARK HOTEL LONDON ROAD FAVERHAM, KENT NE13 9JL

Architects & Planning Consultants Clock Tower House, Lewes Road Faversham, Kent NE13 9JL Telephone 01444 484811

Client PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS OPTIMUS LTD

ILLUSTRATIVE SITE LAYOUT PROPOSALS SITE LOCATION PLAN

Drawings no. A107/PL01

Scale 1:1000

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Checked by: []

Date: []

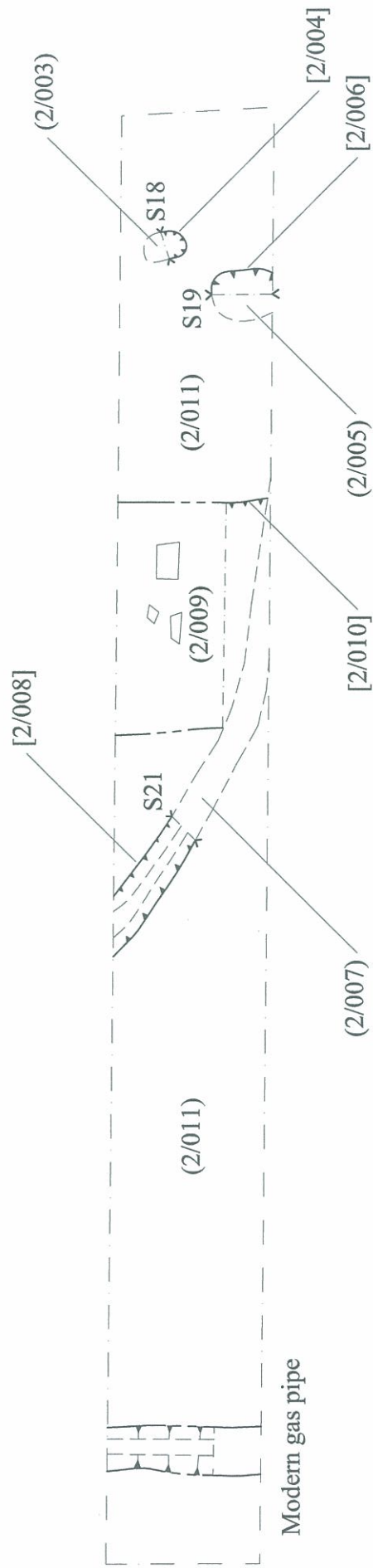
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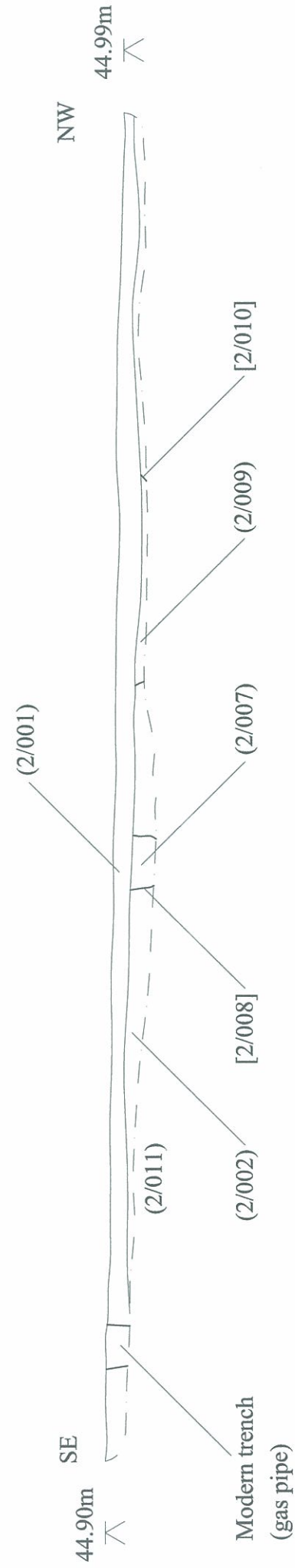
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Plan

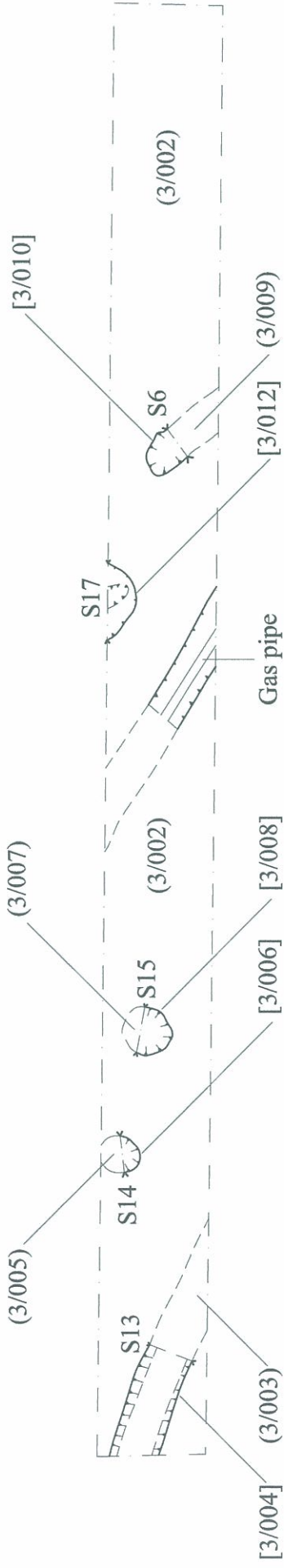


Section





Plan



Section

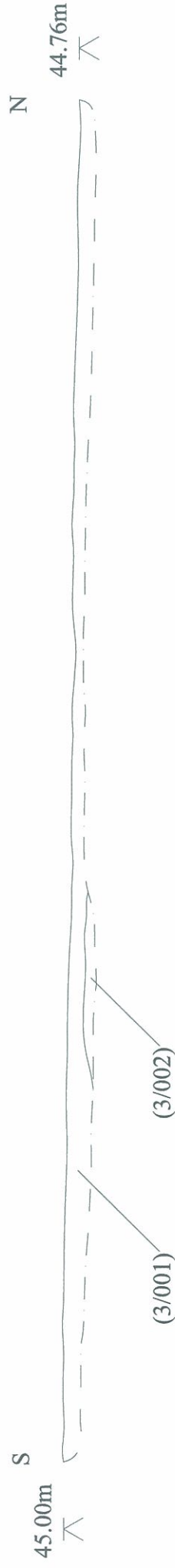
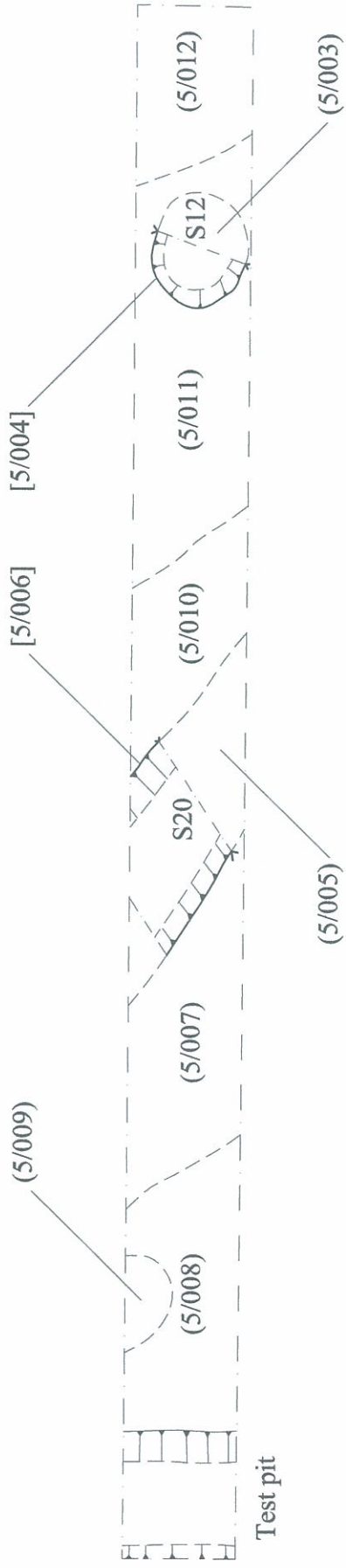


Figure 10. Trench 3 Plan and Section



Plan



Section

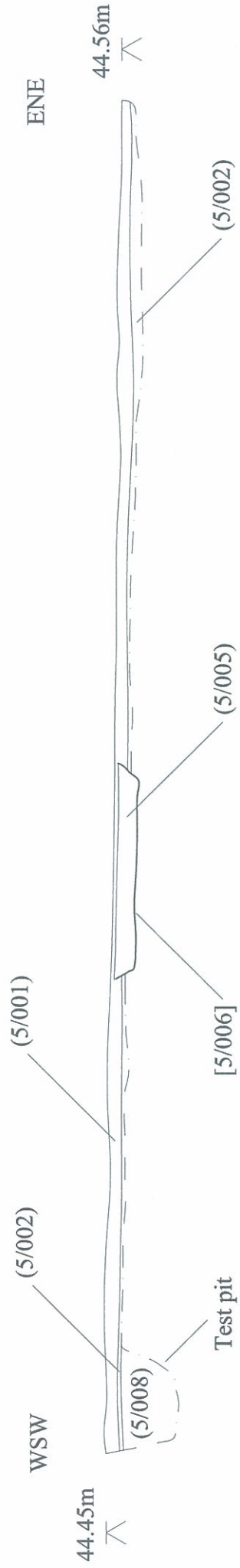
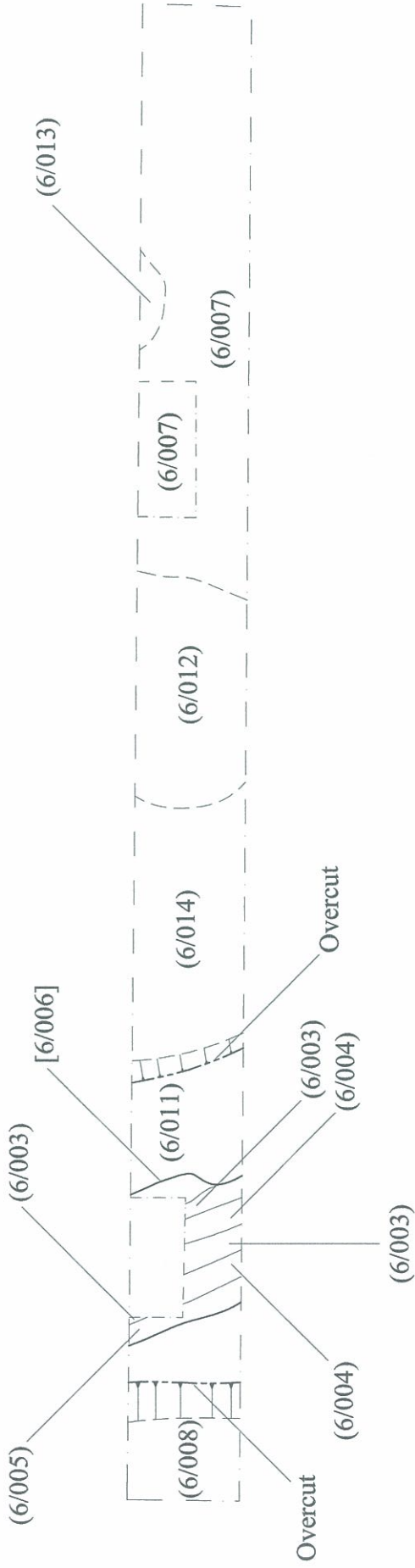


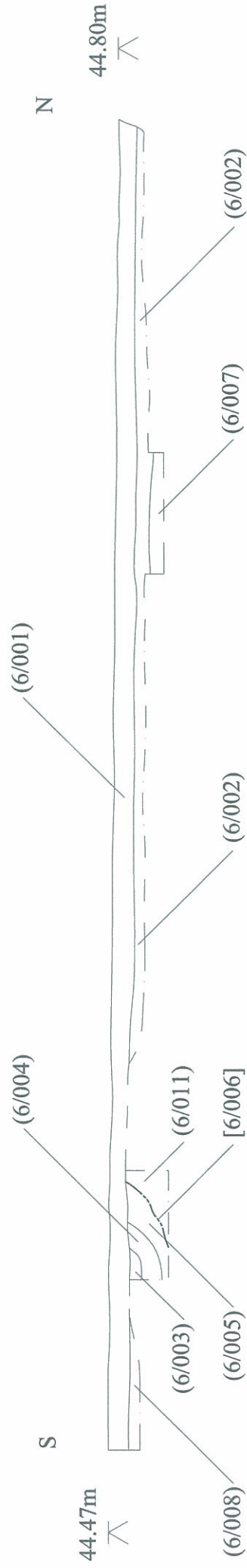
Figure 11. Trench 5 Plan and Section



Plan

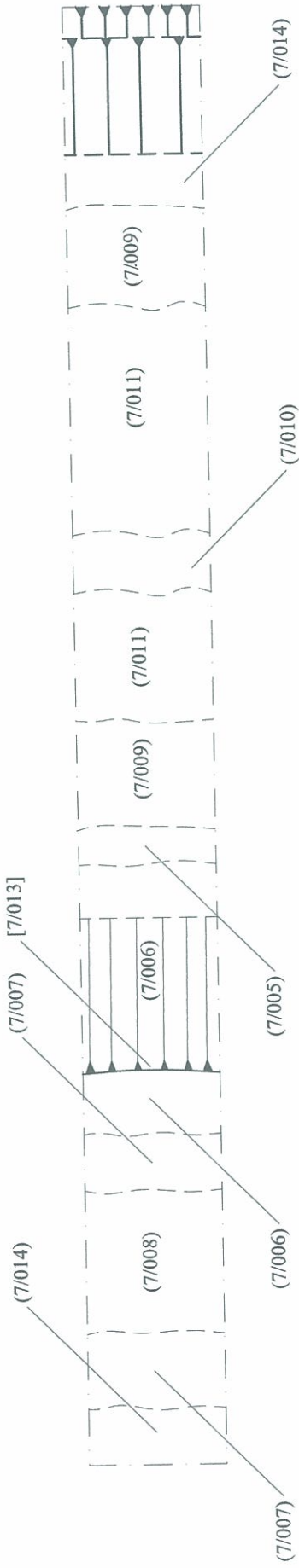


Section





Plan



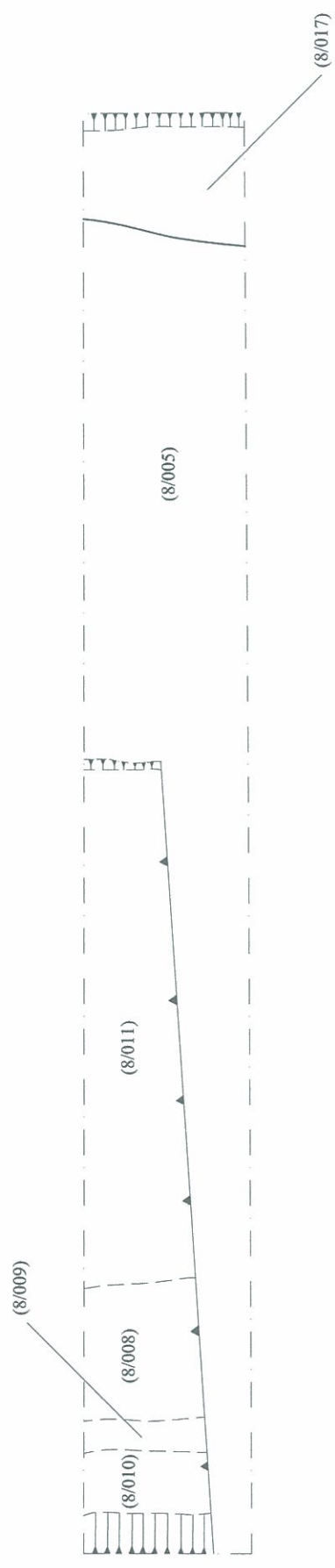
Section



Figure 12. Trench 7 Plan and Section



Plan



Section

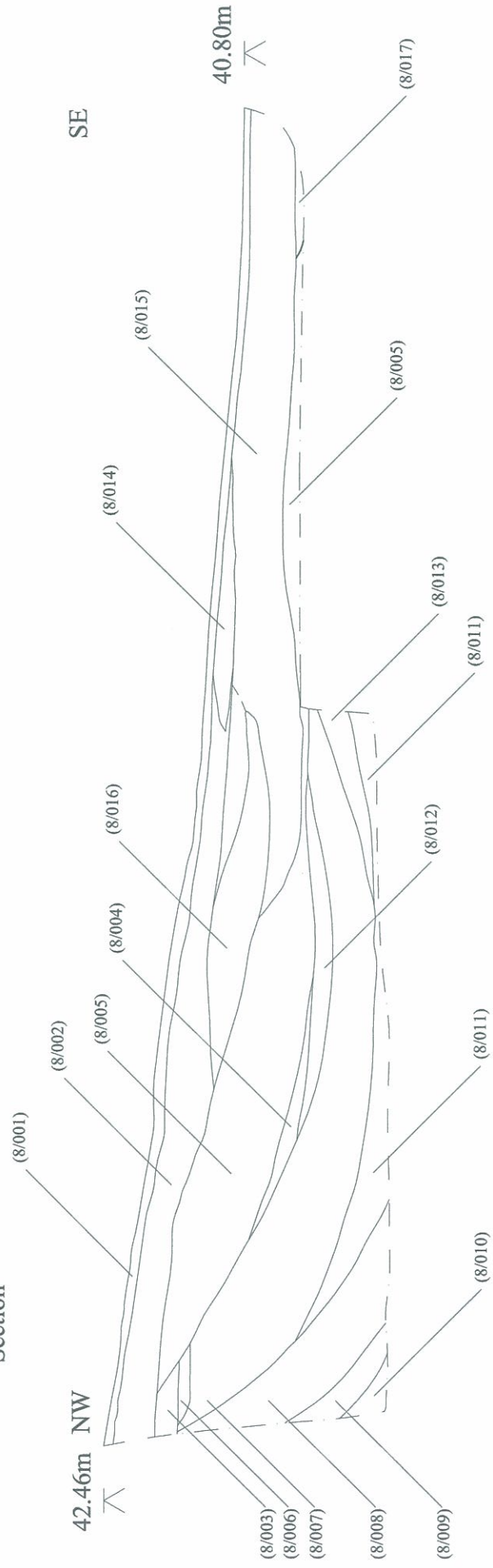
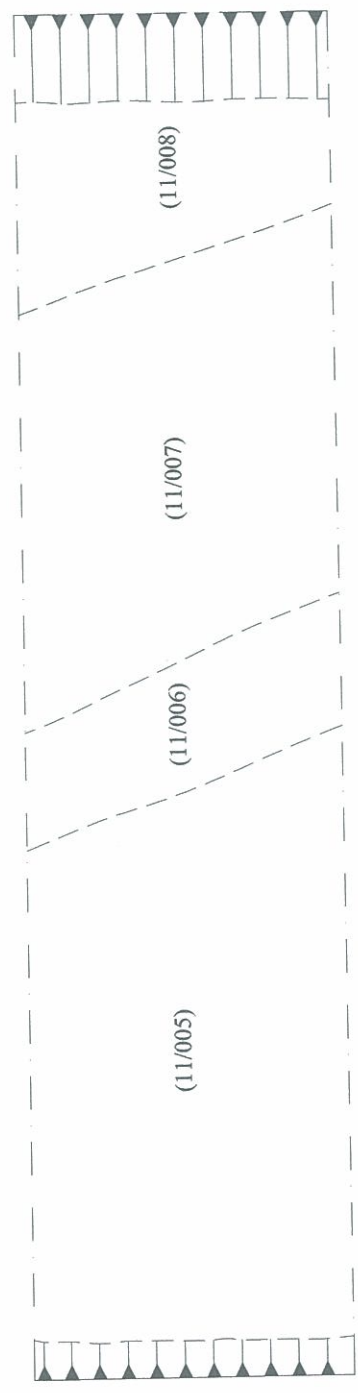


Figure 14. Trench & Plan and Section



Plan

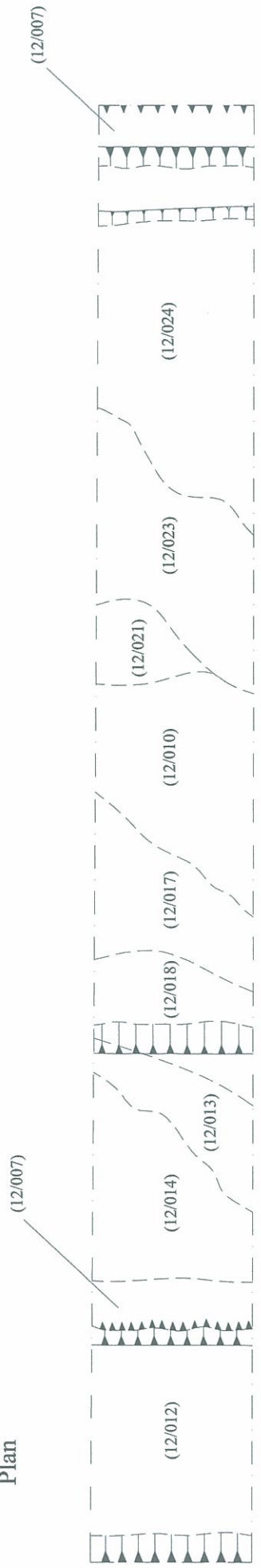


Section





Plan



Section

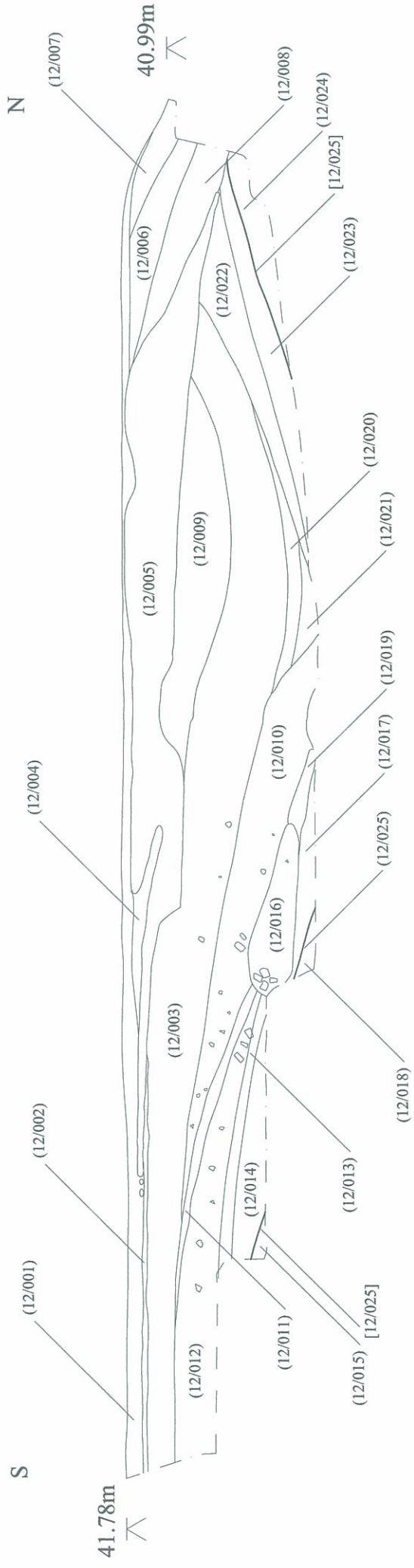
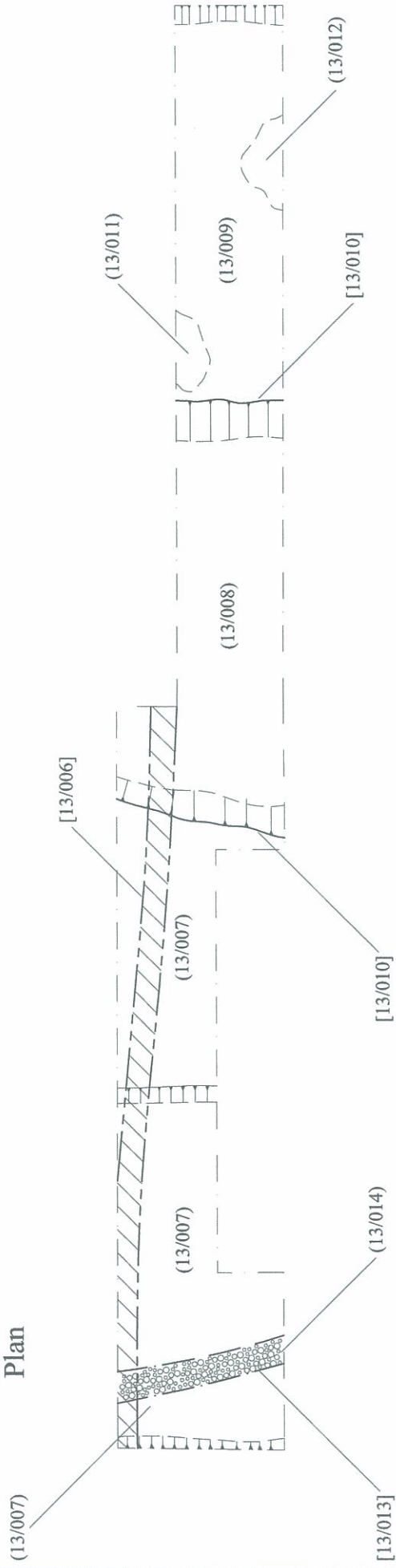


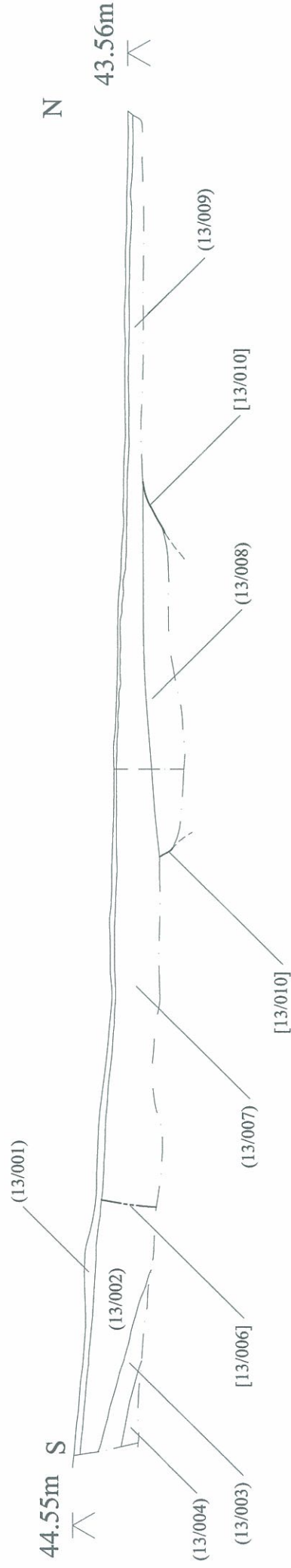
Figure 16. Trench 17 Plan and Section



Plan

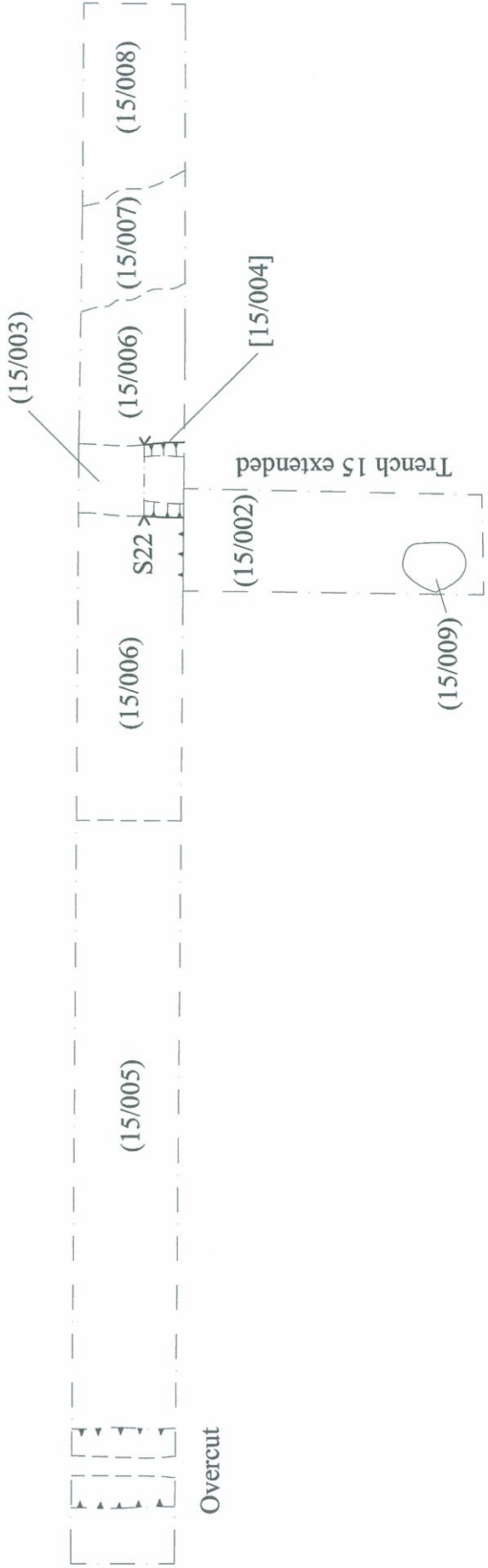


Section





Plan



Section

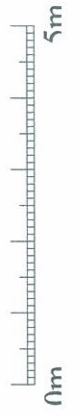
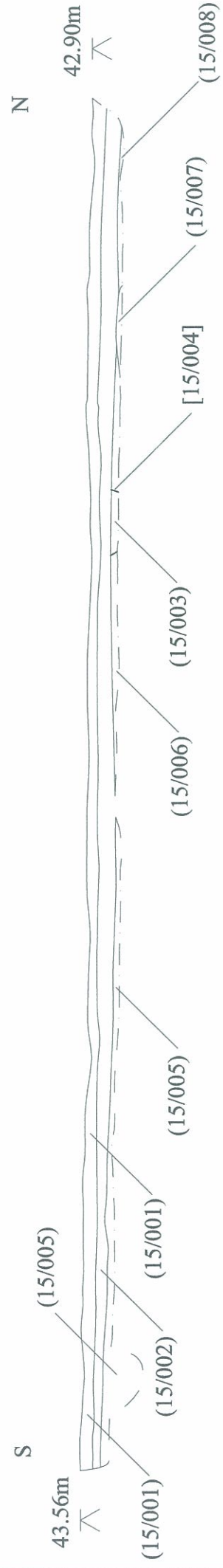
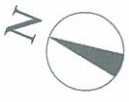
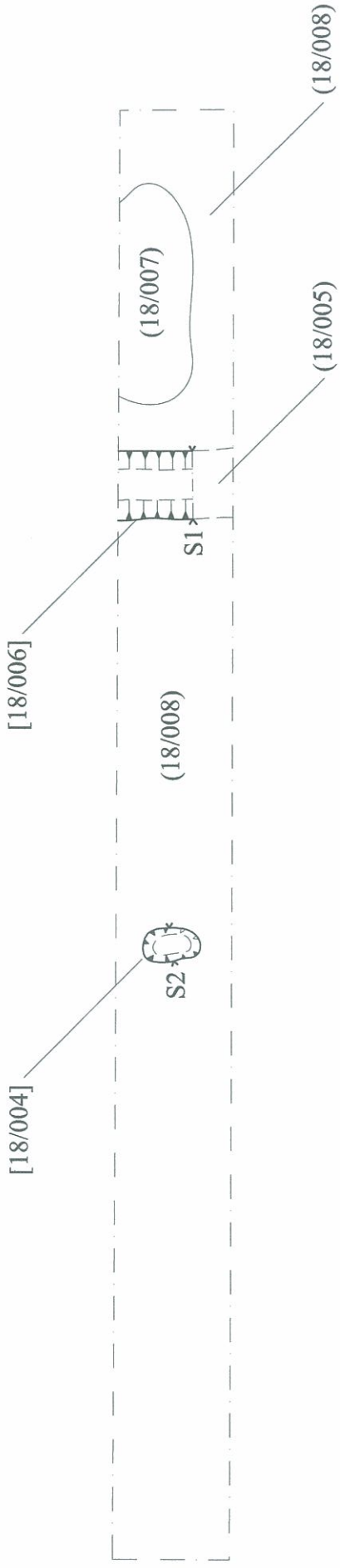


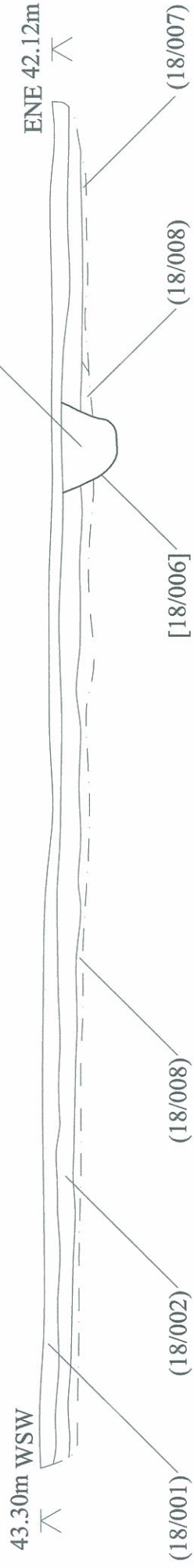
Figure 18. Trench 15 Plan and Section



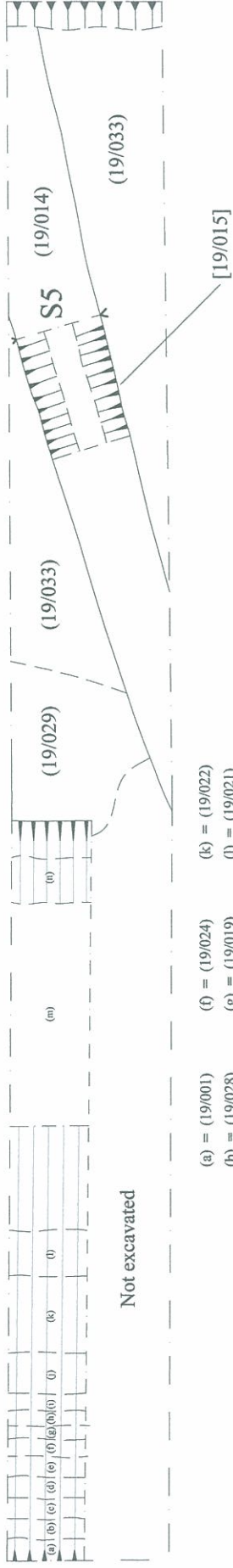
Plan



Section



Plan



- (a) = (19/001)
- (b) = (19/028)
- (c) = (19/027)
- (d) = (19/026)
- (e) = (19/025)
- (f) = (19/024)
- (g) = (19/019)
- (h) = (19/023)
- (i) = (19/020)
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Section

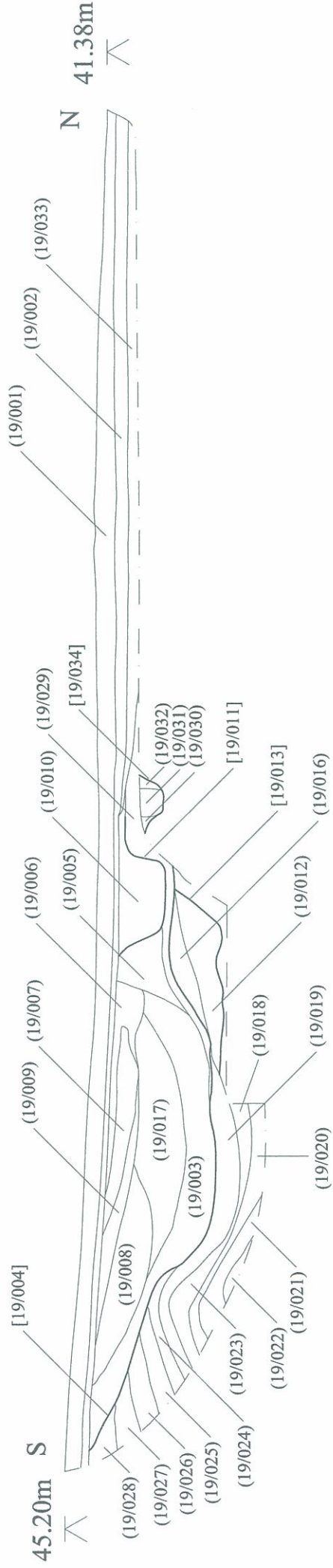
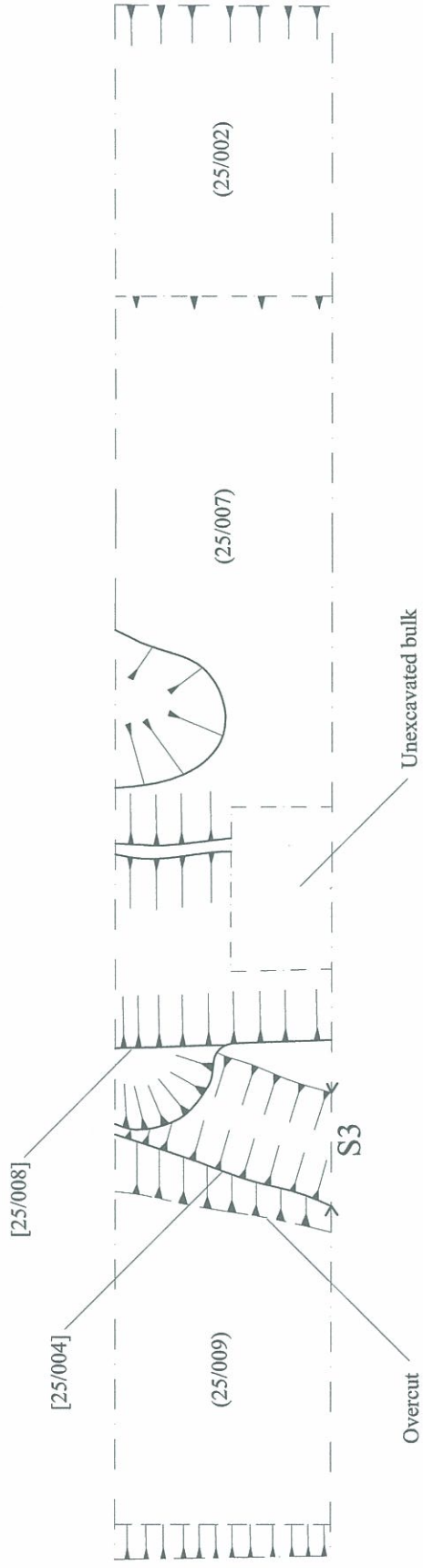


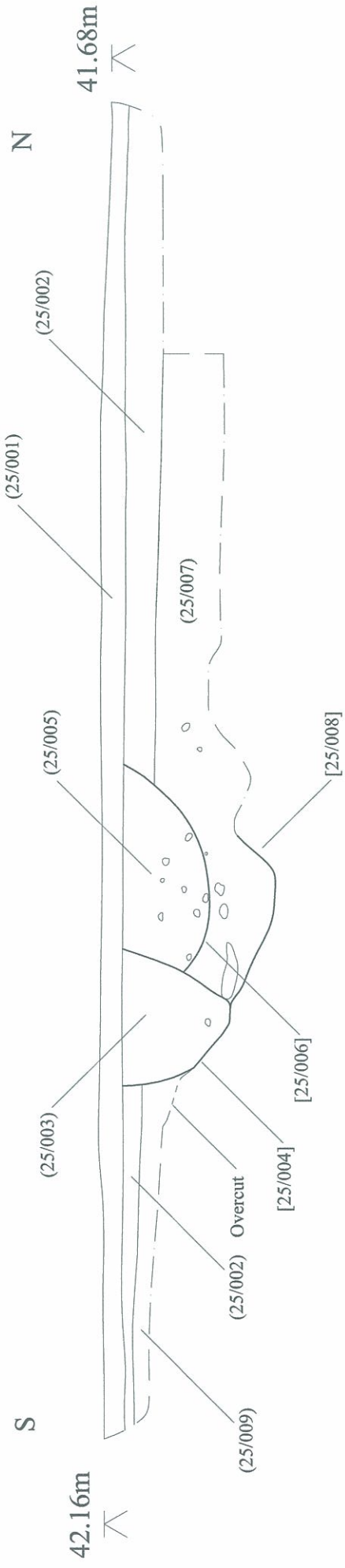
FIGURE 10. PLAN AND SECTION



Plan

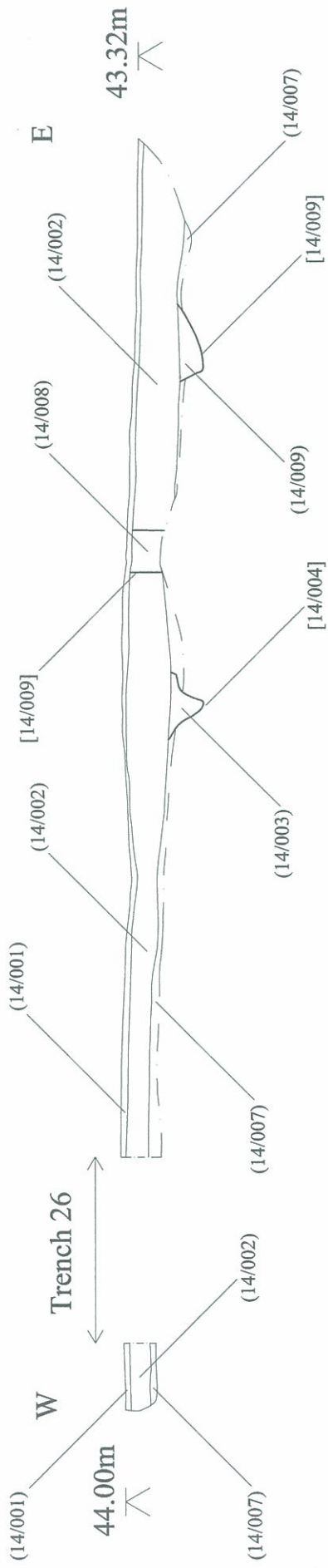


Section





Trench 14 Section



Trench 26 Section

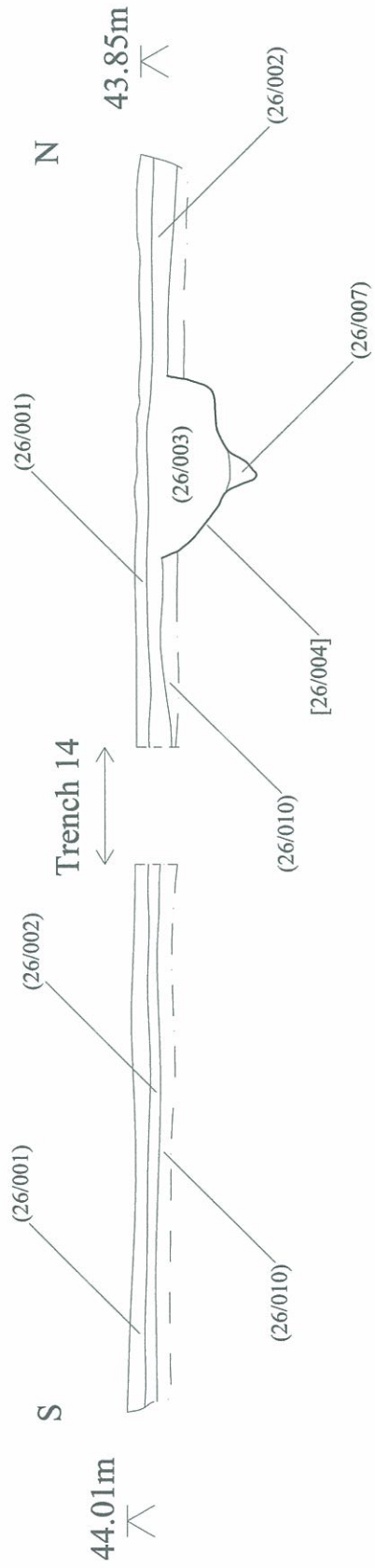
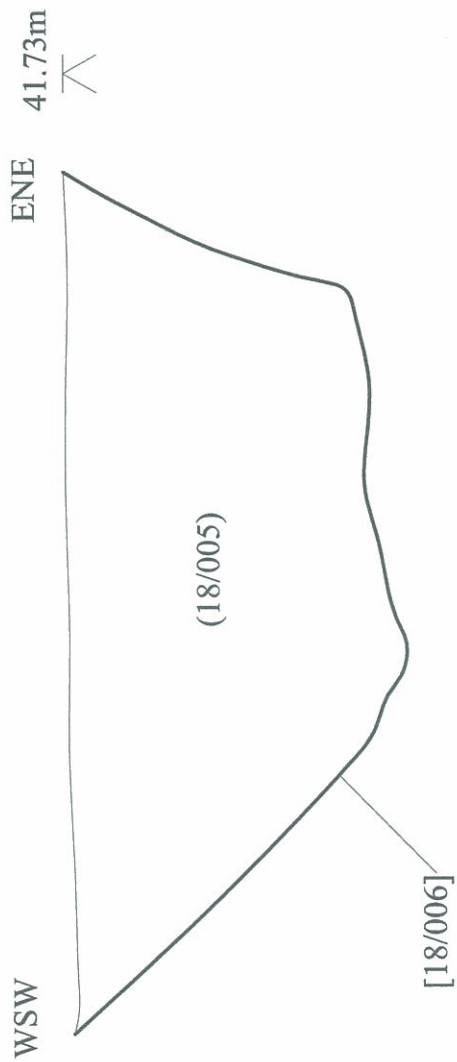


Figure 24: Trench 14 and 26 Section

Section 1



Section 2

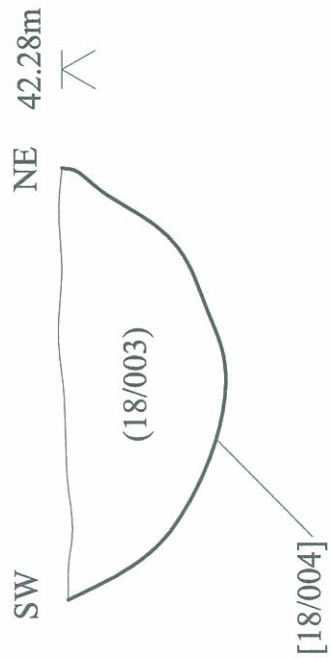
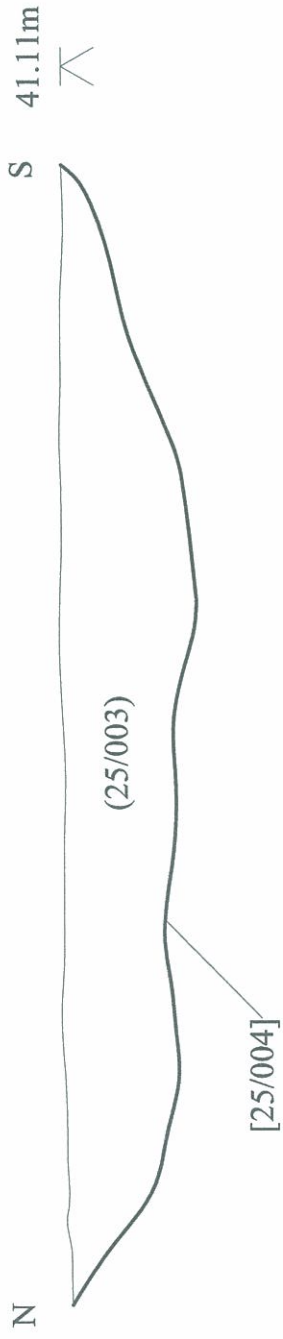


Figure 25: Sections 1:10

Section 3



Section 4
Same as Trench Section 25

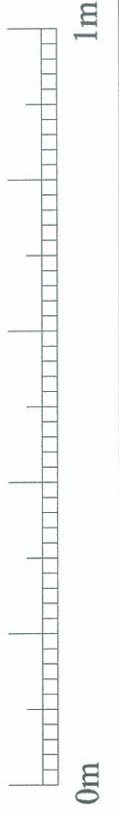


Figure 26: Sections 1:10

Section 5

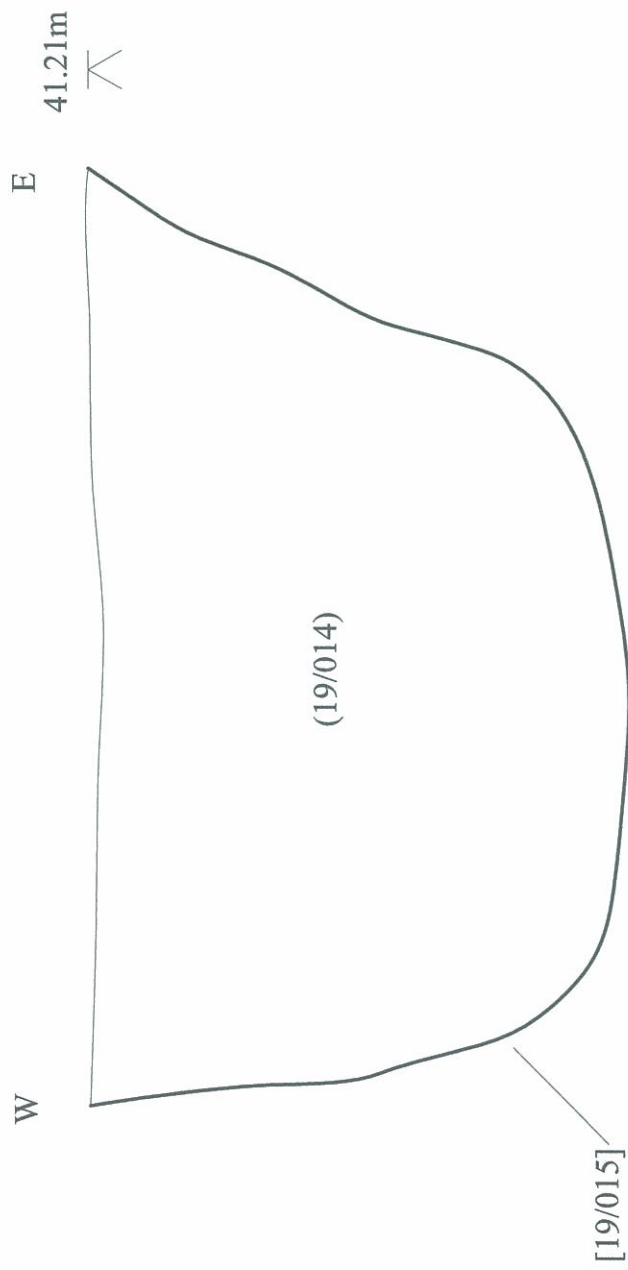


Figure 27: Sections 1:10

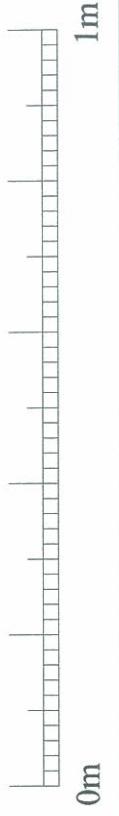
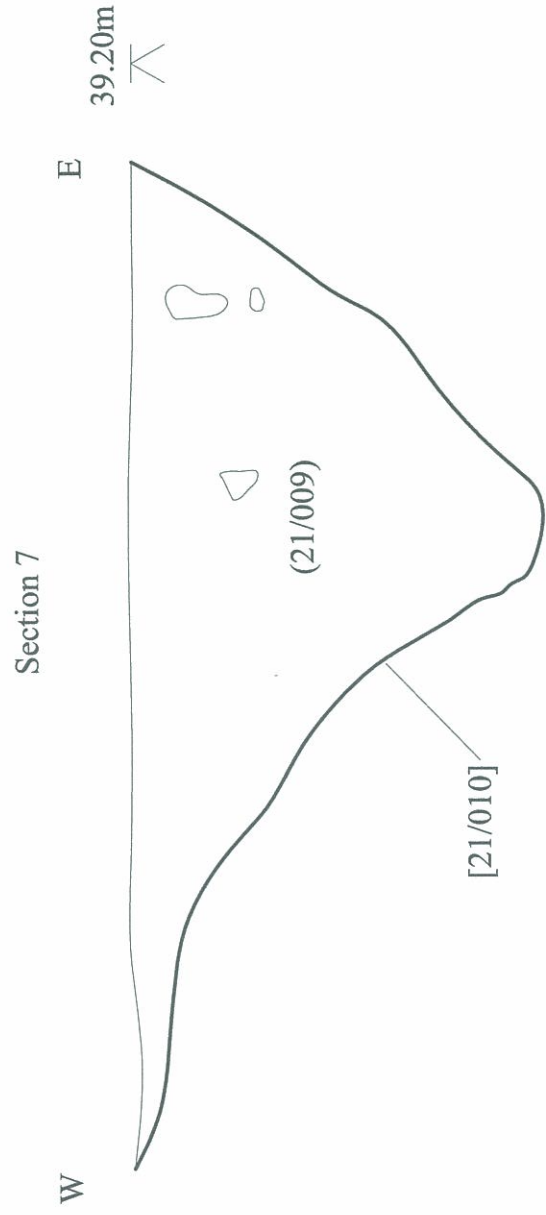


Figure 28: Sections 1:10

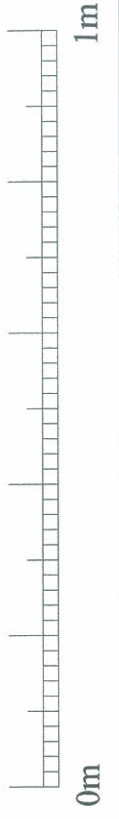
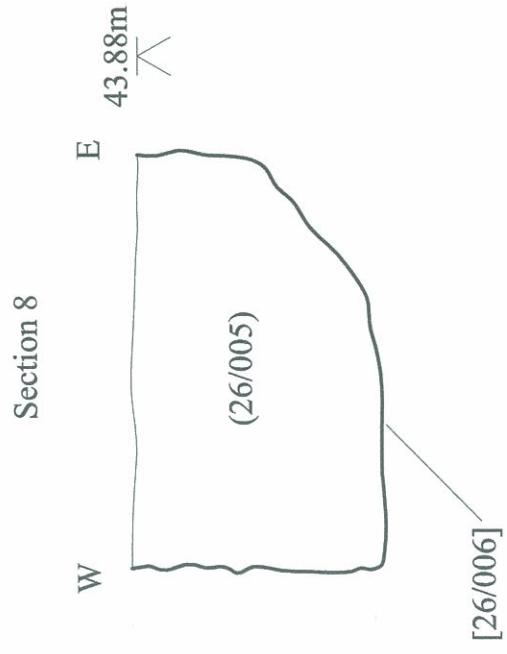


Figure 29: Sections 1:10

Section 9

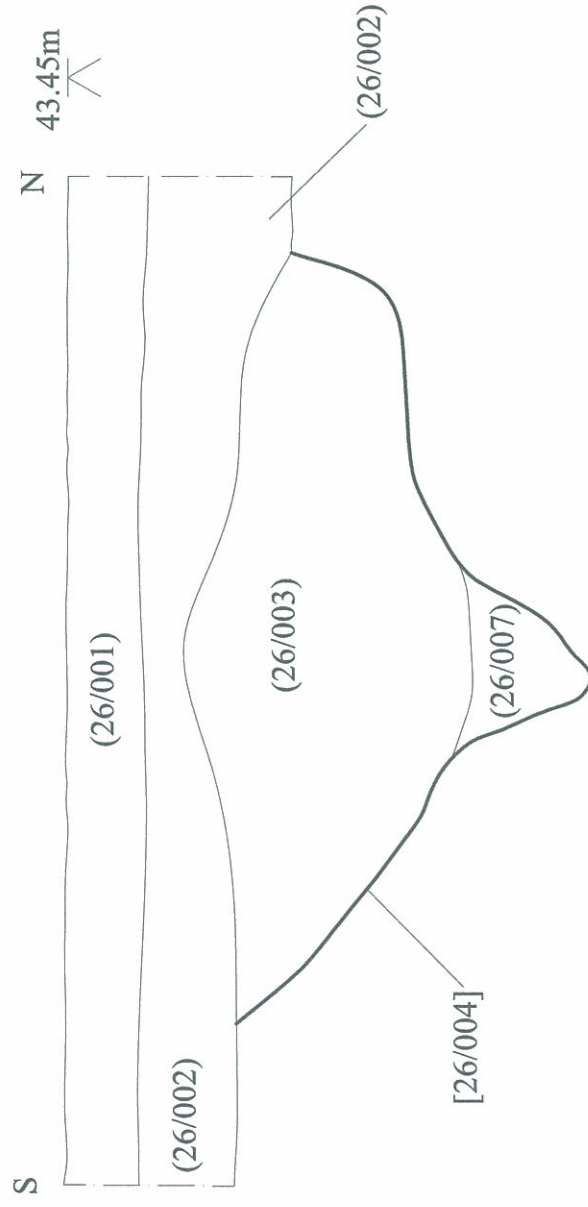


Figure 30: Sections 1:20

Section 10
Not used

Section 11
Not used

Section 12

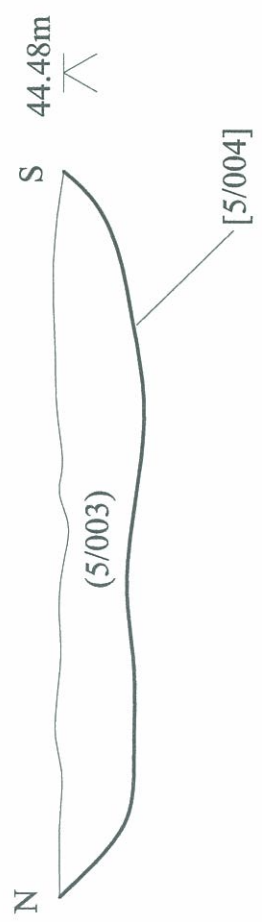
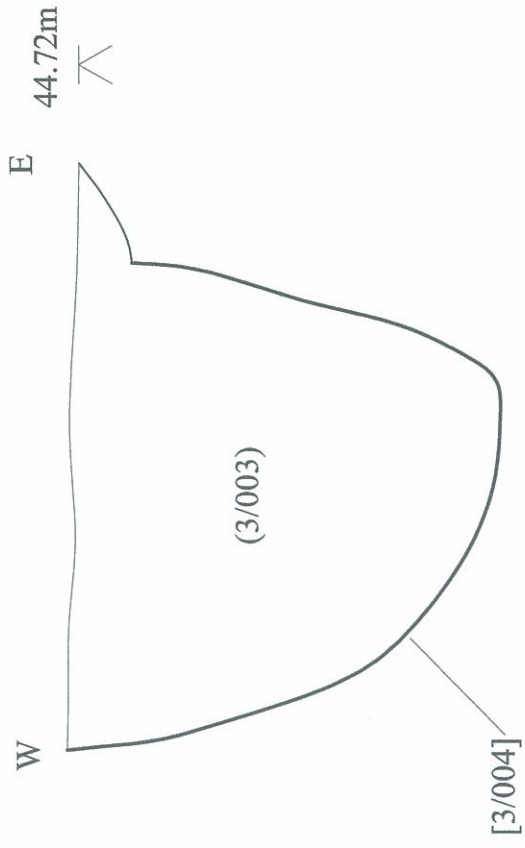


Figure 31: Sections 1:10

Section 13



Section 14

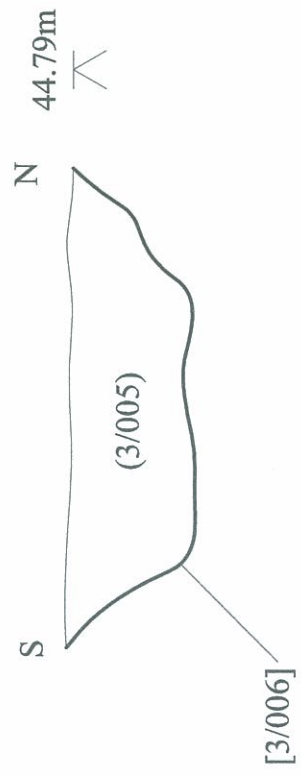
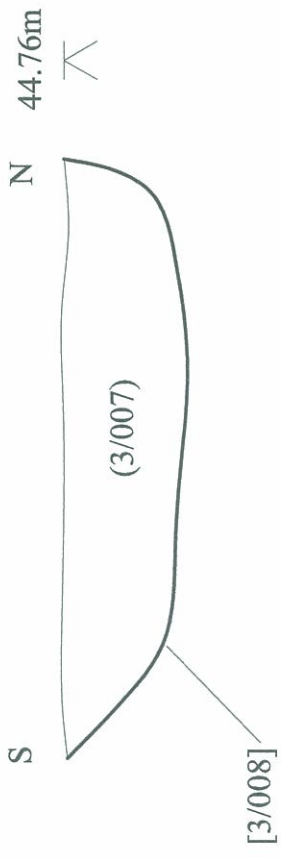


Figure 32: Sections 1:10

Section 15



Section 16

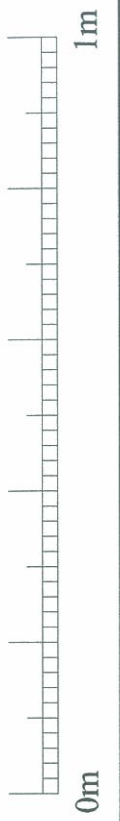
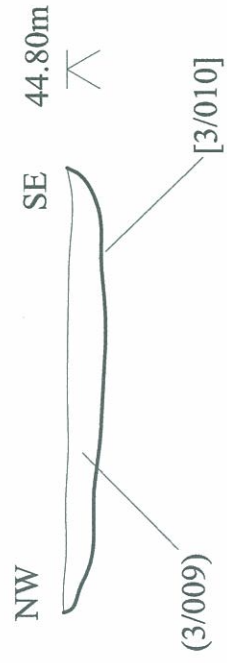
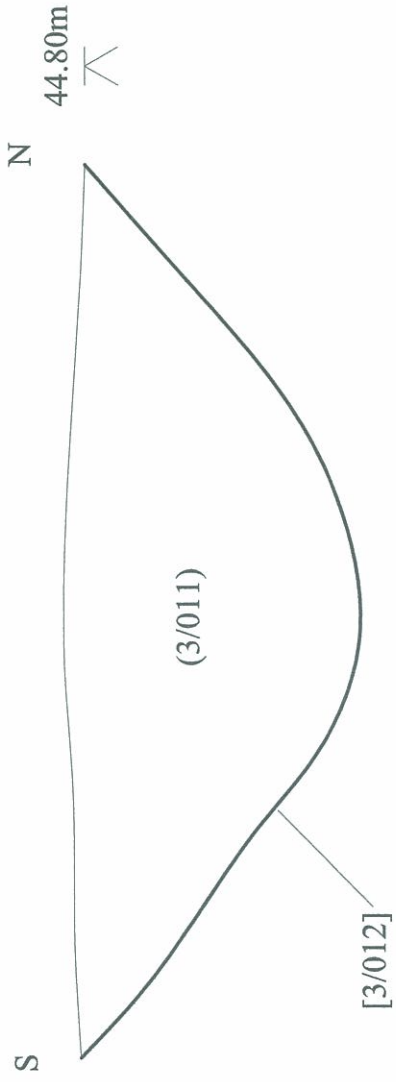


Figure 33: Sections 1:10

Section 17



Section 18

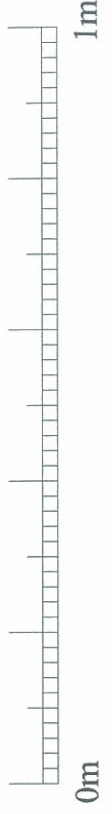
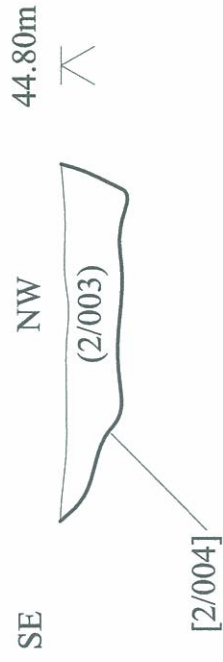
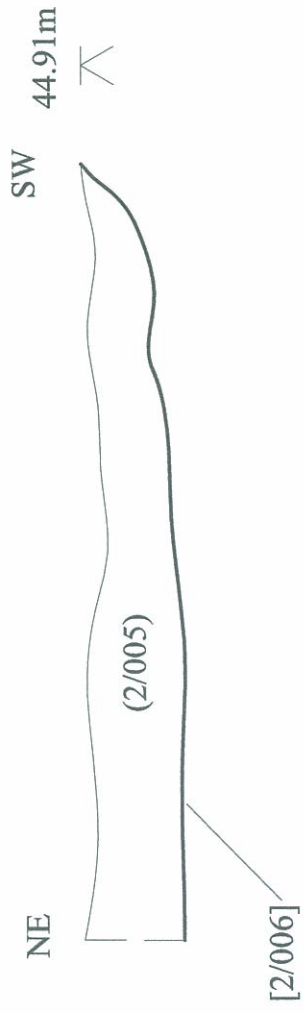


Figure 34: Sections 1:10

Section 19



Section 20

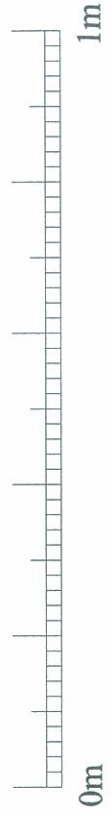
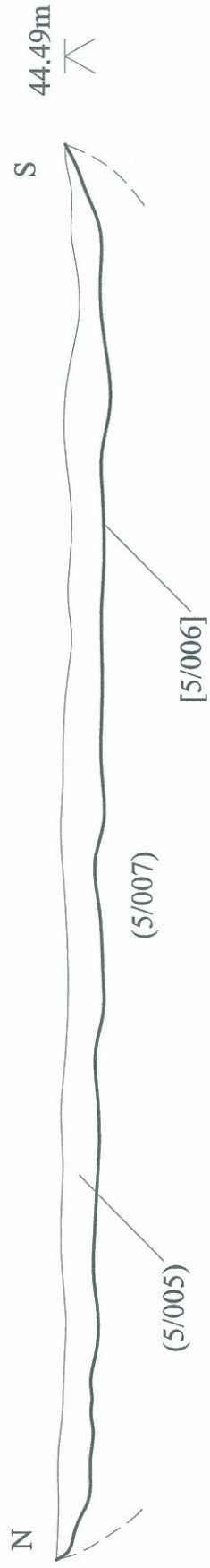
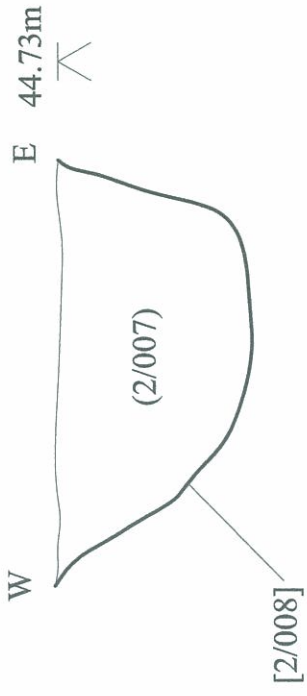


Figure 35: Sections 1:10

Section 21



Section 22

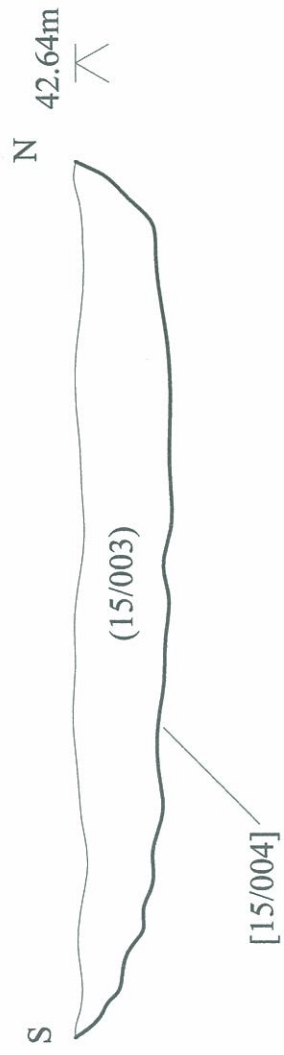
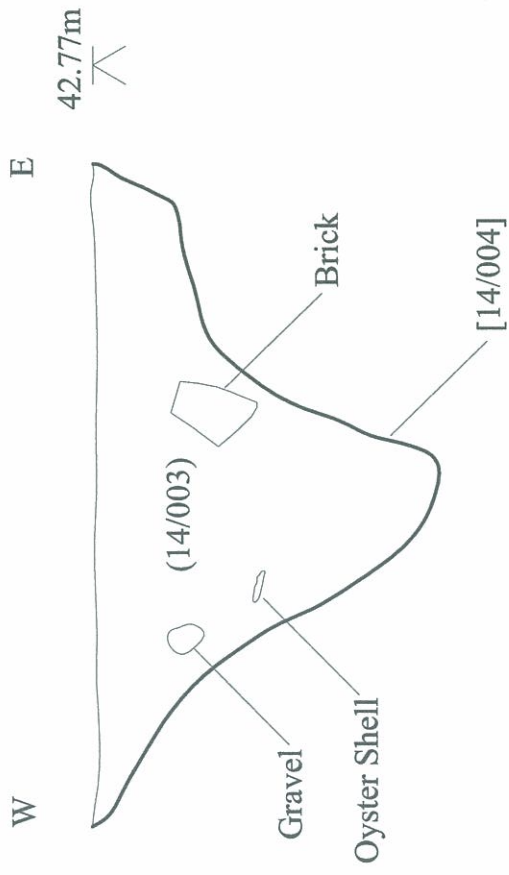


Figure 36: Sections 1:10

Section 23



Section 24

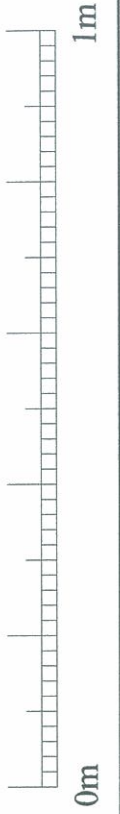
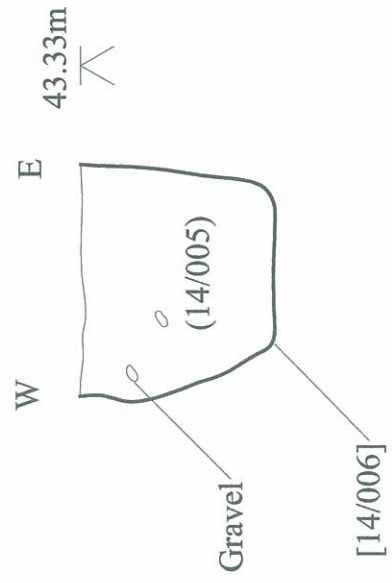


Figure 37: Sections 1:10

Section 25
Same as Section 26

Section 26

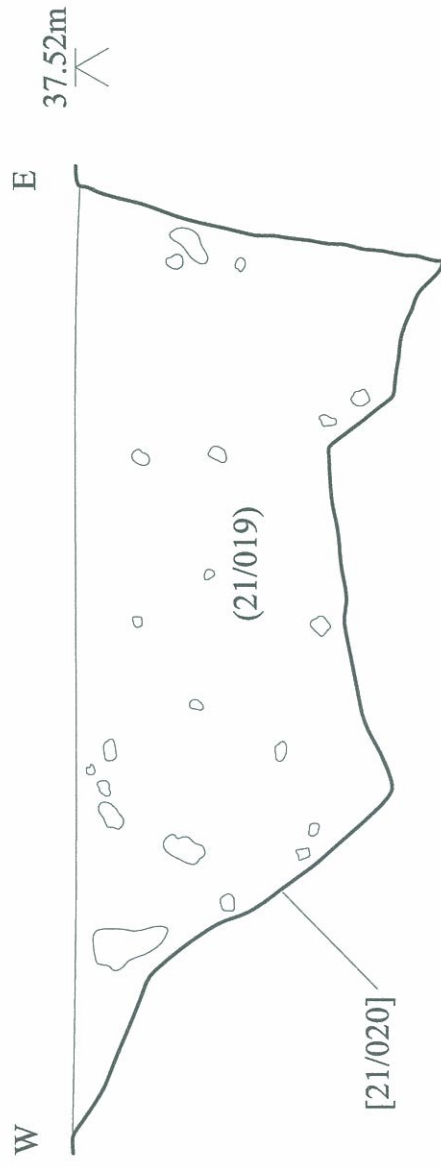
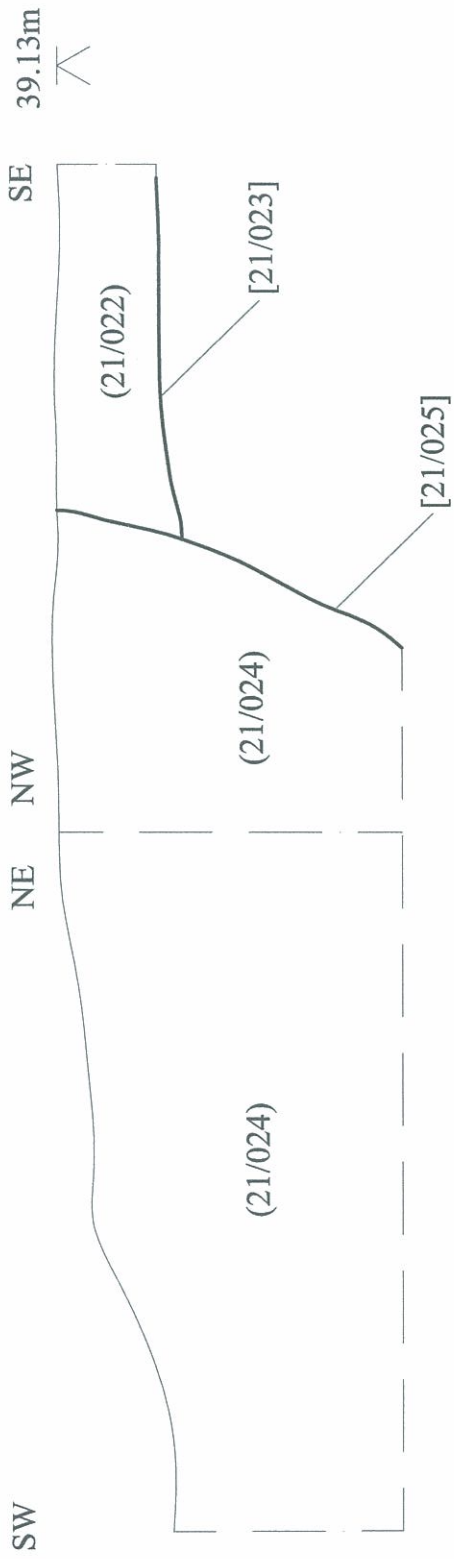


Figure 38: Sections 1:10

Section 27



Section 28

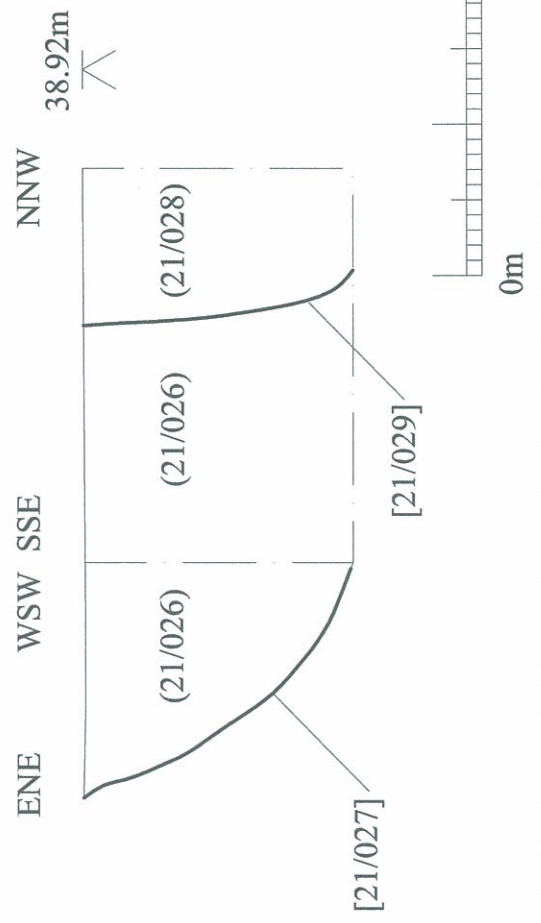
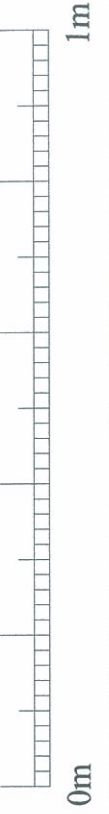


Figure 39: Sections 1:10



Section 29

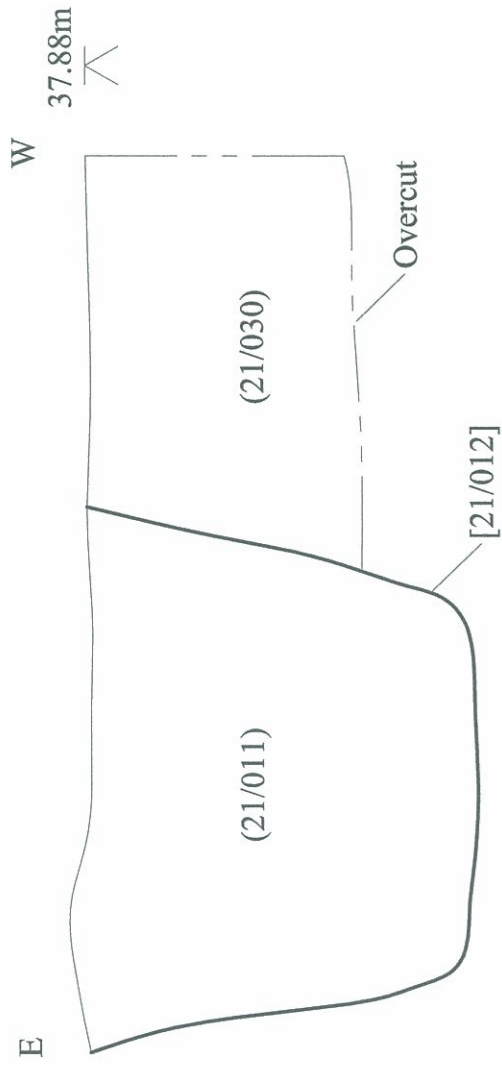


Figure 40: Sections 1:20

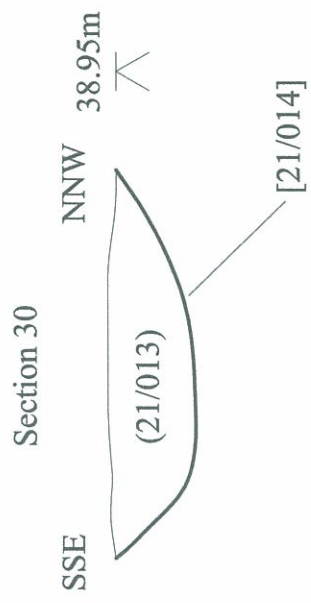


Figure 41: Sections 1:10