An Archaeological Post-Excavation Assessment Report Invicta Road, Whitstable, Kent

July 2008

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Archaeological Post-Excavation Assessment Report

Invicta Road, Whitstable
Kent

Planning Application Number: CA/07/00384/WHI & CA/07/01413/WHI

Submitted to
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&
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i SUMMARY

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT) carried out a Programme of Assessment and Archaeological Excavation of land at Invicta Fields, Invicta Road, Whitstable, Kent, in January and February 2008. A planning application (PAN: CA/07/00384/WHI & CA/07/01413/WHI) for the erection of six detached houses, along with associated access, car parking and services at the above site was submitted to Canterbury City Council, at which time it was requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The evaluation, carried out by SWAT in August and September 2007, demonstrated the presence of archaeological activity in the form of field systems along with potential enclosures and drove ways, tentatively dated to the Neolithic and/or Bronze Age, within the extents of the proposed development area. In addition, evidence for mid-late Saxon, medieval and post medieval occupation is suggested within the surrounding landscape. As a result, further investigation comprising an area excavation of the entire site, was considered in order to mitigate against archaeological impact caused during any proposed development.

Archaeological excavations carried out within the proposed development area revealed no proven features confirming the presence of domestic or agricultural settlement within the proposed development area, although the density of natural root boles and tree throws highlights the importance of 'negative' evidence on site. While no actual occupation is recorded it is evident that tree clearance has occurred, in advance of multi-period phases of localised clay extraction, a pattern which is reflected by features recorded on the Sunset Caravan Park (Allen 2001).

In addition to the above, there is an additional area of potential interest. Following further analysis of the distribution of features within Area 3, it may be plausible to suggest that the feint remnant of prehistoric settlement may be visible. Two features adjacent to the southern baulk provide the possibility that a circular enclosure continues into the northern extent of the adjacent property. In addition to this, three parallel 'elongated' ditches, which are associated with localised clay extraction may in fact be the remnants of an earlier field system.

This document forms the initial phase of post excavation assessment, which may be followed by the production of a Final Report and/or publication, as considered necessary.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT) was contracted by Murston Construction Ltd to conduct an archaeological excavation of land at Invicta Fields, Invicta Road, Whitstable, Kent (NGR. 611772 165912). The excavation was conducted under the direction of Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT) between January and February 2008 in accordance with requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (Canterbury City Council 2007) and in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council.

1.2 Planning Background

A planning application (PAN: CA/07/00384/WHI & CA/07/01413/WHI) for the erection of six houses with vehicular access, along with associated services at the above site was submitted to Canterbury City Council (CCC), whereby it was requested that an Archaeological Assessment be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. Initial mitigation proposals required the excavation of trial trenches in order to determine the presence and condition of archaeological deposits. The following condition was 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 by the Local Planning Authority.

[Reason: To ensure a proper record of matters of archaeological interest]

The archaeological evaluation, carried out by Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT), revealed the presence of possible Neolithic and Bronze Age agrarian settlement within the extent of the site (Britchfield 2007). As a result, further mitigation measures were considered necessary. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within the Archaeological Specification (CCC 2007) and in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Canterbury City Council. As a result of the discovery of significant archaeological remains, further mitigation comprising an **Archaeological Excavation** of the entire site was required in advance of any future development. The programme of work aimed to preserve, by record, archaeological features present within the extent of the proposed development site;

1.2 Project Time scales

Archaeological investigation commenced in August 2007, with the cutting of seven trial trenches within the proposed development area. The duration of the evaluation was approximately 1 week, following which an excavation of the entire site commenced. All archaeological fieldwork was completed by the end of February 2008.

2 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In undertaking this archaeological work the principles set out in PPG 16 regarding the need to safeguard archaeological remains have been adhered to;

'*Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite, and non-renewable resource, in many cases highly fragile and vulnerable to damage and destruction. Appropriate management is therefore essential to ensure they survive in good condition. In particular, care must be taken to ensure that archaeological remains are not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed.*' (Para A6)

Following on from the initial stage of evaluation work, suitable mitigation measures were proposed and agreed. The preferable option for important archaeological remains was "preservation *by record*" (i.e. archaeological excavation).

The Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) defines an excavation as being;

'....a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and that results of that study published in detail appropriate to that design' (IFA 1999b:2)

The primary objectives of the excavation were to identify, excavate and record any significant archaeological remains present, which were under threat by the development as a contribution to knowledge of the archaeological and historical development of Whitstable (CCC 2007:1.5).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Archaeological 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. Exposed surfaces 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 the specification.

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 and detailed on pro-forma SWAT context sheets; these are used in the report (in **bold**). Plans of all features were made using a scale of 1:20, with sections recorded at 1:10. A full photographic record of all stages of the excavation was kept, which included ongoing shots showing working constraints and conditions.

Upon completion of mechanical excavation, a 10m grid was established and a pre-excavation plan generated using global positioning satellite (GPS) technology recording three dimensional points every 0.10m. For ease of reference the site was subsequently divided into 4 distinct areas.

3.2 Project Constraints

With the exception of a high water table and thus wet surfaces, no constraints were associated with this project.

3.3 Project Monitoring

Curatorial monitoring was carried out during the course of the excavation by CCC, at which time methodologies and preliminary results were discussed.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Archaeological Evaluation

The proposed development site has been the subject of an archaeological evaluation (Site Code IRW07), undertaken by SWAT Archaeology between August and September 2007. Seven trenches were excavated according to a written scheme of investigation submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The archaeological evaluation demonstrated the presence of archaeological activity in the form of field systems, along with potential enclosures and drove ways, tentatively dated to the Neolithic and/or Bronze Age, within the extents of the proposed development area. In addition, evidence for mid-late Saxon, medieval and post medieval occupation is suggested within the surrounding landscape.

4.2 Previous Archaeological Assessments within the Area

Substantial archaeological evidence has recently been recorded for late prehistoric and early Roman period settlement in the near vicinity of the proposed development site, notably remains of Bronze Age and Iron Age agricultural settlements, along with a rectangular tile-built cellar structure found to the south of the proposed development site at South Street, along with an early second century Roman settlement abutting the north side of Owls Hatch Road. Late Iron Age settlement has also been recorded to the east at Molehill Road in Chestfield, along with the remains of part of a drove way leading to a large Late Anglo-Saxon and medieval enclosure complex at Churchwood Drive, Chestfield. Indeed, recent archaeological investigations within the surrounding area have provided evidence for the increase in the occupation and settlement of northern edges of the Blean from the Neolithic through to the medieval period. A full background of archaeological assessments within the surrounding area has been prepared by SWAT and is included below.

The Sunset Caravan Park and Church Lane East sites (NGR TR 1025 6725 – TR 0975 6450)

Initial analysis of the results of excavation of this site, show the settlement to have been long-lived (*c.* 850/750 BC - *c.* 150/50 BC) with a significant part of its economy having revolved around clay extraction and pottery production. Evidence of this is supported in the form of three kilns having been identified on the Sunset Caravan Park. The presence of multiple parallel linear clay quarries, large multi-phase pit quarries on the Sunset Caravan Park site and, on the adjacent Church Lane East site, large spreads of crushed calcined flint (probably used for the tempering of pots), suggest that the pottery industry was both large-scale and systematic. Further evidence from the datable associated ceramics show production to have continued for several hundred years and to have increased considerably in scale in the Late Iron Age (Allen 1999; Allen and Willson 2001,10).

Following their use for clay extraction, the quarries were used for the disposal of domestic rubbish such as burnt flint pebbles (pot boilers), animal bones and a wide variety of seashells, the latter showing that the nearby sea provided a valuable resource (see also Ladysmith Grove below). The occasional presence of salt evaporation vessels suggests that small-scale salt production also took place. In addition, the presence of vessels copied from Continental examples, such as Late Bronze/Early Iron Age Italian situlate wares, or wares directly imported from the Continent, such as first-century BC Italian amphora, show that the settlement benefited from its position on a major maritime trade route.

At least three different kinds of structure have been identified on the site, including six circular huts, a large post-supported rectangular building and a small but complex hut-like structure divided into two compartments displaying a sunken floor.

Although much analysis remains to be done on this site, it is already clear that it is of considerable archaeological importance in understanding the development of later prehistoric settlement on the North Kent coast, especially in terms of early settlement nucleation and the factors that led to it.

Continuous occupation of this site covers a time line from the Late Bronze Age to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period. Archaeological evidence from the Late Iron Age indicates an increasing spread of size at that time culminating with its extents eventually reaching to Wraik Hill and Borstal Hill (see below). The reasons for this expansion are too complex to address here but are probably socio-economic and multi-factorial in nature; A general increase in the population, the re-establishment of a major maritime and riverine trade link with the continent (as the Roman influence increased) and the adoption of new, more efficacious pottery production techniques. Indeed, this era enjoyed the inaugurate use of the potters wheel in Britain and utilized grog (pre-fired clay fragments, often old potsherds) to supersede calcined flint grits as a main tempering agent.

Wraik Hill 1999 (NGR TR 1035 6445)

This site is situated south of the Old Thanet Way (A2990), approximately 300m south-east of the central part of the Iron Age settlement exposed on Sunset Caravan Park. The exposed and investigated archaeology, covering a date range of *c.* 150 BC – *c.* AD 70, consisted of pits, ditches and spreads of burnt flint. All contained daub (scorched clay) and much fire-damaged ceramic material, some being grog-tempered 'Belgic' type, datable to the last part of the Iron Age and some, although stylistically earlier, probably of the same date. Most of the ceramic material was derived from a large, discontinuous ditch and a pit complex, both containing much daub.

Four structures identified within the upper fills of the ditch were interpreted as the remains of clamp/bonfire kilns, suggesting that the part-filled ditch had been re-used, presumably because it afforded some degree of shelter. This also allowed utilization of clay from the nearby quarry to be turned into pots on this site during the later part of the settlement's life.

Also exposed on this site were the remains of a road or trackway in the form a north-south aligned linear depression and an adjacent and similarly-aligned ditch and bank. Associations with the other prehistoric remains was postulated on the basis that no pits, ditches or post-holes were present within the linear depression or the adjacent ditch and bank but were present in large numbers on either side. The road probably represented the route into the settlement from the south and may have connected the settlement with Durovernum (Iron Age Canterbury).

Ladysmith Grove (NGR TR 0850 6475)

During small-scale archaeological works a large pit containing a group of 27 flint-tempered potsherds dated to the Late Bronze Age was exposed at Ladysmith Grove, Seasalter (Willson 2002, 10). A further 29 sherds of the same type were recovered from associated deposits. Also present within the large pit were numerous fragments from cylindrical and sub-rectangular ceramic objects. On reconstruction, the cylindrical examples were identified as loom weights dating to the Bronze or Early Iron Age, while the sub-rectangular examples are considered to be fishing net weights or fishing line spacers. Although insufficient parallels are known for this identification to be certain, their presence some 900m west of the Whitstable settlement suggests that sea fishing formed part of its economy during the founding years.

Another phase of archaeological evaluation work recently undertaken some 40m south-west of the site described above at NGR TR 0893 6472 also produced evidence for prehistoric settlement or occupation activity, but will require further investigation to establish its type and possible extent (Allen 2006).

South Street, Whitstable (NGR TR 16450 61325)

The remains of a Mid/Late Bronze Age agricultural settlement, which probably survived into the Early Iron Age, were exposed at South Street, approximately 2.7km east of Wraik Hill. These remains were sufficiently extensive to provide a means of dating, at least in part, the deforestation and subsequent large-scale colonisation of this part of the coastal levels.

The settlement occupied a low hilltop on the edge of the Blean overlooking the coastal levels to the north. It was probably ditch enclosed (part of a large ditch was exposed to the west), and may have been associated with two round barrows situated in Woodside Wood in the Blean, approximately 750m to the south-west (O.S. 1965, 284). Excavation on the South Street site produced evidence for two hearths, a large quantity of flint-tempered potsherds of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age type, daub fragments and bone fragments from cattle, sheep and horse. Most of the animal bones were recovered from rubbish pits surrounding the probable site of a hut, suggested by a roughly 9m diameter circular cluster of six postholes.

Also recovered from rubbish pit deposits were fragments of charred cereal chaff and grain, indicating that the settlement's inhabitants had practiced cereal cultivation as well as animal husbandry. A cluster of intercutting rubbish pits situated some 25m south of the probable hut site produced large quantities of ceramic material, bone and carbonised wood, the latter yielding a radiocarbon date of 1260 BC - 920 Cal. BC, dating the settlement, at least in part, to the Mid/Late Bronze Age. However, the bulk of the diagnosable potsherds were identified as Late Bronze/Early Iron Age type, suggesting that occupation continued into the Early Iron Age.

The presence of five perforated ceramic slabs pointed to, as yet undetermined, domestic/light industrial usage of the site. In addition, *in situ* pot manufacture was indicated by a large

quantity of calcined, small-aggregate flint grits (used both as tempering and to reinforce pot bases) found lying at the bottom of a pit. Overall, the evidence suggests that this was the site of a single-dwelling farmstead established during the Mid/Late Bonze Age (*c.* 1200 BC) and abandoned sometime during the Early Iron Age, probably no later than 600/500 BC.

Part of the South Street site was re-occupied during the Late Iron Age following a hiatus of perhaps 700 years. A Late Iron Age assemblage of 72 grog-tempered 'Belgic' potsherds was recovered from a cluster of eight pits in which a small number of abraded and presumably residual Late Bronze Age sherds were also present. The absence of Romanised 'Belgic' or early Roman types suggests that the Late Iron Age settlement was abandoned before the Claudian invasion of AD 43, having been founded some 100/150 years or so previously. Similar evidence for a small-scale Late Iron Age 'Belgic' settlement was also uncovered at the Ridgeway, Chestfield, about one kilometre north of the South Street site and 6km east of the Whitstable prehistoric settlement (Ward 1987, 22), but here, in common with many of the Late Iron Age such settlements on the levels, occupation appears to have continued into the early Roman period.

In 1961, during the mechanical backfilling of the Canterbury to Whitstable railway line (now decommissioned and used as a footpath and cycle track known as the Crab and Winkle Line), evidence was found for an early Roman period building in the form of the east end of a rectangular tile-built cellar structure with a niche in the east wall (Jenkins 1962, 190). This measured 3.35m by 2.43m internally north to south, survived to a height of 0.91m and was constructed of sixteen courses of tile, although the quantity of collapsed tile within the structure suggested an original height of some 1.5m. Many of the in situ and collapsed tiles were wasters, suggesting the nearby presence of a tile kiln. Painted wall plaster was also recovered, as were potsherds dated to the late first/early second century AD.

Most of the exposed structure had been destroyed during the construction of the railway in 1828-9, and it is not known if the cellar underlay a small building or, more likely given the substantial nature of the remains, comprised part of a larger structural complex, possibly a large farmstead or villa. It is therefore likely, as in the case of the Owl's Hatch settlement, that the South Street Roman building represents evidence for one of the few new Roman-period rural centres that superseded the many Late Iron Age settlements in the immediate area.

Lesser amounts of re-deposited Roman-period building materials have been found in the general area around Wraik Hill, suggesting that relatively small (but not necessarily low-status) settlements were established in the area at that time. For example Roman building materials were observed during an archaeological evaluation in advance of the construction of the New Thanet Way (A299) (Ouditt 1990, 15-16). A small number of Roman tile and brick fragments were recovered from a medieval ditch near Churchfield Drive, Chestfield (see Allen 2004, 128, and below) and sixty-eight Roman tile fragments and seven Roman

brick fragments were recovered from a small area near Church Lane, Seasalter (see Weekes 2002, and below). Similarly significant amounts of Roman-period building materials have been recovered from the Seasalter, Tankerton and Swalecliffe foreshores (Allen 2000, 176).

Radfall Corner, Chestfield (NGR TR 16472 61345)

The Mid/Late Bronze-Early Iron Age farmstead at South Street may not have been an isolated settlement. Approximately 300m to the east, near Radfall Corner, lay a concentrated spread of daub and potsherds overlying a circular arrangement of post-holes, almost certainly the remains of a hut with a diameter of 8m. The potsherds here dated to the Late Bronze/Early Iron Age and paralleled the South Street assemblage in type, form and fabric. It was therefore considered that contemporeinity with the South Street settlement was possible, if not likely.

The Radfall Corner settlement was situated to the west and immediately below Shrub Hill, which, like Wraik Hill/Borstal Hill, is a northern promontory of the Blean. Access to the Blean, either for fuel, pannage or merely in order to cross it, was afforded to the settlement's inhabitants by a patchily metalled trackway, which extended up to the Blean, immediately north of the hut. The trackway was considered to be contemporary with the hut because it was partly covered by a spread of crushed daub and potsherds, which was clearly a mixture of domestic and demolition rubbish derived from the adjacent hut. The use of horse-drawn or, more likely ox-drawn, carts or wagons on the levels and the Blean at this time was suggested by the presence within the trackway of two parallel ruts of equal width set 1.75m apart.

Churchwood Drive, Chestfield (NGR TR 16635 61423)

Perhaps more indicative of large-scale, settlement-related woodland clearance on the levels during the Mid/Late Bronze Age is the evidence for an extensive ditched field system, including probable enclosures, exposed at Chestfield between 1.3km and 2km north of the South Street farmstead and about 3.5km east of Wraik Hill (Allen 2002, 23-27). Here, covering an area of some 32,400m^2 (3.2 hectares, 8 acres) on the levels below the Blean, a series of ditches, some intercutting, indicated the presence of a field system that was clearly large-scale, multi-phase and of protracted use.

Pottery recovered from the ditches varied in date from the Mid/Late Bronze Age (*c.* 1500 BC - *c.* 1000 BC) to the Late Bronze/Early Iron Age (*c.* 1100 BC - *c.* 600 BC). Also included were much domestic waste material in the form of bone fragments from cattle, pig, sheep, horse and red deer, along with daub, oyster shell and burnt flint. Considered as a whole, such a large quantity of occupation-derived evidence suggests the nearby presence of a settlement site, the settlement having been supported by animal husbandry and, to a lesser extent, hunting (although evidence for cereal cultivation was not recovered, such evidence present on the nearby South Street site discussed above suggests that this also took place).

Also present on the site, but of later date (*c.* 900 BC - *c.* 600 BC), were the remains of a sub-

rectangular hut, the sunken floor of which was covered by the detritus of domestic occupation in the form of potsherds and fire-crazed flints. The hut had measured some 4m east-west and 2.1m north-south, with a floor sunken 0.34m below the present ground surface. An amber bead was recovered from the floor debris, which surrounded the remains of a substantial circular internal hearth/fire (diameter 0.97m) containing large quantities of potsherds. The ceramic assemblage from within the hut remains consisted of 135 sherds made up exclusively of flint-tempered wares dated as above. Exposed 21m to the south-east was a shallow, roughly circular pit containing charcoal and small fragments of calcined bone. This probably represented the remains of a cremation burial for one of the hut's inhabitants, almost certainly an infant. Burnt bone from this pit was radiocarbon dated to 920 BC - 795 Cal. BC.

Borstal Hill (NGR TR1095 6475)
As previously mentioned, the ceramic material recovered from the Wraik Hill site dated to *c.* 150 BC – *c.* AD 70, and this date-range was paralleled on the Borstal Hill site, some 250m to the north-east, where a group of much truncated pits, ditches and burnt-flint spreads was exposed and investigated (Allen 2001, 12).

That such extensive, peripheral areas developed in the Late pre-Roman Iron Age around a long-lived hilltop settlement of Late Bronze Age origin had previously been suggested by archaeological work on the Church Lane East site, 450m to the west of the hilltop settlement. Here, evidence of industrial activity in the form of large quantities of daub, burnt flint and continuous ground disturbance was exposed, with a high percentage of Late Iron Age potsherds also being evident. It therefore appears that the Whitstable settlement reached its peak in terms of size during the 150 years or so before the Claudian invasion of 43 AD. Thereafter, the settlement appears to have contracted dramatically because first century/early second century AD Roman ceramics comprised less than 1% of the whole, with none being recovered from the Wraik Hill or Borstal Hill sites discussed above. The demise of the settlement took place gradually around the last part of the first and the first part of the second century AD, probably as a result of the development of the villa system and the expansion of nearby Canterbury (Durovernum Cantiacorum) following its designation as the cantonal capital of Roman Kent (Rivet and Smith 1981, 353-4).

Molehill Road, Chestfield (NGR TR 61402 16573)
A small quantity of Late Iron Age, grog-tempered 'Belgic' potsherds was recovered from the northern edge of the Churchwood Drive site in association with a series of Mid/Late Anglo-Saxon and early medieval enclosures (Allen 2003, 117-136), and substantial numbers of similar sherds were also recovered from two pits, also presumed to be of Late Iron Age date. The Late Iron Age remains, which lay some 4.3km east of Wraik Hill, were probably associated with a Late Iron Age settlement exposed some 150m to the south, near Molehill

Road (Wooldridge and Lyne, 1998).

Here, evidence for settlement took the form of a possible post-pit, a small pit of unknown function and three intercutting pits surrounded by a horseshoe-shaped gully, all dated by their ceramic contents to the Late Iron Age. It is possible that the horseshoe-shaped ditch surrounding the pits was the surviving part of an 'eaves' or 'drip' gully (a ditch which took away rain water draining of the hut's roof). However, small quantities of residual Late Bronze Age potsherds and flintwork suggest that occupation activity had taken place in the area some 1000 years earlier. The fills of the Late Iron Age pits contained fragments of burnt animal bone, burnt daub, charcoal and large quantities of potsherds, nearly all coarse, grog-tempered 'Belgic' fabrics, with very few flint-tempered, typologically-earlier wares being present in this instance. Charred grain and chaff remains from emmer and/or spelt wheat (triticum dicocum/spelta) and barley (hordeum) were also recovered, suggesting that cereal cultivation formed part of the settlement's economy.

At a distance of approximately 100m south of the above-described remains were the remains of two probable single-chambered sunken kilns within two adjacent pits. The pit fills contained ceramic fragments interpreted as briquetage or, more likely, broken kiln furniture, along with potsherd clusters thought to be the remains of complete vessels left within the abandoned kilns. Again, the great majority of the sherds were of coarse, grog-tempered 'Belgic' fabric. Overall, 1351 sherds dated to *c.* 100/50 BC - *c.* AD 100 were recovered from the Molehill Road site, suggesting that the settlement originated in the Late pre-Roman Iron Age settlement and survived into the early Roman period.

Owl's Hatch Road (NGR TR 1655 6625), from records and information supplied by the excavator, Keith Parfitt.

A site excavated near to Owl's Hatch Road, south of Herne Bay and approximately 380m to the west of Plenty Brook and some 5.5km east of Wraik Hill, represents one of the few exceptions to the general pattern of settlement on the coastal levels. Here, evidence for part of an early Romano-British settlement was exposed in the form of 65 archaeological features, including 38 rubbish pits, two sunken hearths, a large pit (possibly the result of clay extraction), six post holes, two ditches and a gully. Associated with these remains were eight flint-tempered Late Bronze/Iron Age sherds (almost certainly residual) and approximately 1850 Romano-British ceramic sherds dated to *c.* AD 50/100 - *c.* AD 250/300. Assuming, in the absence of any grog-tempered 'Belgic' wares, that the flint-tempered sherds derived from earlier, unrelated Late Bronze/Iron Age activity, the evidence suggests that a small early Roman-period settlement occupied the site for about 200 years (*c.* AD 75 - *c.* AD 275), in an area where low-level occupation activity had occurred during the Late Bronze/Early Iron Age.

Several fragments of a Mayen lava-stone quern were recovered on the site from a small ditch or gully, suggesting that cereals were probably grown on the surrounding land. Many of the

rubbish pits contained oyster shell, showing that the foreshore, two kilometres to the north, had also been exploited as a food source. Although a small quantity of tile was present, flint cobbling and building debris in the form of brick or mortar fragments were notable by their absence, suggesting that this was the site of a small unenclosed timber-built farmstead. The increased concentration of features in the north of the site probably indicates that the main body of the settlement was situated north of Owl's Hatch Road.

Church Lane West, Seasalter (NGR TR 0950 6470)
Here, a hollow way of probable Early Anglo-Saxon origin was discovered during archaeological investigation prior to development (Weekes 2002). The hollow way appears to have provided access from the Seasalter Levels to the Blean and probably to Canterbury and the Stour Valley to the south. The presence, just to the east of the hollow way, of seven pits containing Anglo-Saxon potsherds, scorched daub, shells, charred cereal grain and, in one case, part of a ceramic loom weight, provide convincing evidence for settlement on or in the near vicinity of the site between *c.* AD 450 – *c.* 750.

The presence of seven sherds of later Anglo-Saxon Ipswich ware within deposits associated with later use of the hollow way points to the use of Seasalter as a port of trade during the period AD *c.* 750 – *c.* 850/75, and it is proposed that the port supplied the important ecclesiastical centre of Canterbury, where Ipswich ware is relatively common in Anglo-Saxon features (Boden 2001, 13).

As is common with trackways in the London Clay-dominated terrain of the north Kent coastal margin, the hollow way at Church Lane shifted its position to the east and ran at a slightly different alignment, the altered course being dated to the Late Anglo-Saxon/early medieval period by the ceramic inclusions in its fills.

It is worth mentioning here that the body of St. Alphege is reported in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle to have landed at Seasalter when it was returned to Canterbury from London in 1023, following his death at the hands of the Danes at Greenwich in 1012. This probably explains the presence of Pilgrims Lane leading from Seasalter Cross via Church Lane and Fox's Cross to Canterbury (a chapel at Seasalter, now lost to marine incursion, and the present church are both dedicated to St. Alphege).

Churchwood Drive, Chestfield (between NGR TR1398 6655, 1410 6650, 1410 6605 and 1390 6607.
At Chestfield, some six kilometres east of Wraik Hill, archaeological works exposed part of a drove way leading into the remains of a large Late Anglo-Saxon and early medieval enclosure complex, the drove way apparently separating the enclosures from dwellings immediately to the south. The drove way appeared to represent the northern termination of

Radfall Road, an ancient road surviving to the north and east as an extensive but only partly intact embanked woodland track, one section of which is now a modern metalled highway. Archaeological and documentary evidence suggest that the Chestfield drove road/Radfall Road, along with the Radfall (another embanked woodland trackway) formed part of an Anglo-Saxon and early medieval road system, and that these roads may have originated as Anglo-Saxon drove ways leading from small agricultural settlements such as Chestfield to the swine pastures of the Blean. It may also be inferred from documentary evidence that the Radfall served as a major salt way, as well as for the transport of seafood, and that many of the other drove roads extending south to the Blean from the North Kent Coast were similarly used for these purposes. The hollow way at Church Lane East, (Seasalter) as discussed above, may well represent another example of such a road.

Also exposed on the Churchfield Drive site were the remains of a sub-rectangular sunken-floored hut measuring 4m by 4m. The floor survived at a depth of 0.2m below present ground surface and contained an internal hearth in the form of a pit, the fill of which included charcoal, burnt clay and pottery dating to the thirteenth century. Large amounts of pottery dated to *c.* 1250 - c. 1300 were recovered from the deposits covering the floor. To the south was a midden of oyster, mussel and whelk shells along with a short, shallow drainage channel and a rubbish pit, all of which yielded pottery of thirteenth century date.

Although of thirteenth-century date, the hut can be assumed to have been an habitation of 'grub-hut' type normally associated with the Early Anglo-Saxon period. Its small size and isolated position suggest it was of low-status, perhaps the dwelling of a serf or villein and perhaps only temporarily occupied rather than a permanent habitation. In either event, an extremely rudimentary standard of living is indicated.

For a detailed description of the Churchwood Drive Anglo-Saxon and medieval remains and their general context in terms of the Blean and the coastal levels see Allen 2002, 32-27; Allen 2004b, 117-136.

4.3 Archaeological Sites & Monuments Record

In addition to the assessment of previous archaeological investigations in the area, it is recognized that the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) held at Kent County Council contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape. As a result, a search was carried out within a 1km radius of the proposed development site (18 December 2007).
Extensive cropmarks are recorded within the surrounding landscape. Already covered in some detail by Canterbury Archaeological Trust (2007:5) these include linear droveways, enclosures, ring ditches and 'macula', or blotches. Monuments TR26NW34, TR26NW70,

TR26NW85, TR26NW88, TR26NW89 and TR26NW90 are recorded within the surrounding landscape. In addition to a Mesolithic axe and associated cores (TR26NW59), early settlement was evident from the discovery of Roman building debris (suggestive of a small furnace) was revealed approximately 700m to the south during ploughing (TR26NW25). In addition a small incised slab, possibly part of a tombstone or memorial tablet (TR26NW12) dated to the Roman period is recorded at Ford Manor to the west. Medieval occupation within the area is evident from Ford Manor House (TR26NW8) to the west, salt working mounds to the northeast (TR26NW30) and southeast (TR26NW31) with a barn (TR26NW58) and farmhouse (TR26NW202) to the northwest.

Additional records held by Kent County Council detail later post-medieval quarrying activity, comprising chalk pits (TR26NW93 & TR26NW200), gravel pits (TR26NW98, TR26NW99 & TR26NW100), as well as a clamp kiln (TR26NW92).

4.4 Geology and Topography

The British Geological Society shows that the local geology consists of London Clay. The London Clay of the Blean and elsewhere is a Mid Tertiary (but in this area the latest) Eocene deposit, laid down some 54 million years ago as marine/estuarine sediment in a tropical or sub-tropical climate. Little or nothing is known about the London Clay during the period of transition between the Tertiary (the last geological age) and the Quaternary (the present geological age), when it is assumed to have first become an exposed land surface.

Whitstable is located approximately 11km east of Faversham and 2km west of Herne Bay, on the north Kent coast within the northern extent of the Canterbury district. The proposed development site is situated directly adjacent to Invicta Road (NGR: 611772 165912), on the eastern extent of grounds associated with Whitstable Community College (Fig. 1). The site is relatively flat at a height of approximately 25-26m A.O.D, (Above Ordnance Datum) and is c.0.6ha in extent.

5 REVIEW OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

5.1 Stratigraphical Deposit Model (SDM)

A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil/overburden (**001**) overlying a colluvial subsoil (**002**) and the natural London Clay. The topsoil/overburden consisted of firm dark grey brown silty clay with frequent to moderate inclusions of sub-rounded – angular flints and occasional fragments of modern building material. The subsoil comprised moderately dense mid brown silty clay that not only sealed all archaeological deposits recorded on site, but also contained fragments of friable abraded pottery and charcoal. A clear line of horizon gave way to variable natural deposits where

mechanical excavation ceased and careful examination and investigation for truncating features was carried out. The depth of the overlying layer varied, with the average depth of the natural geology being located between 0.6m (east) 0.7m (west) below the existing ground level. Each feature, or group of features, will be looked at separately, in conjunction with the full context list set out in Appendix 1. For the sake of consistency, features have been assigned a Phase number i.e. ***Phase I***, corresponding to the dating range provided in Table 1, with more specific dates being provided within the Archaeological Narrative (below) and Ceramic Assessment set out in Appendix 2. The site was divided into four separate areas, each of which will be looked at individually below.

Phase	*Period*
Phase VIII	Post-Medieval
Phase VII	Mid-Late Medieval
Phase VI	Late Saxon-Early Medieval
Phase V	Mid-Late Saxon
Phase IV	Roman
Phase III	Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition
Phase II	Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition
Phase I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition

Table 1 Phasing of Archaeological Features

5.2 Area 1

Area 1 measured approximately 35m x 32m and was located within the western quadrant of the site, adjacent to Invicta Road to the west. Three linear features and a series of irregular pits were present within this area, along with extensive modern disturbance, all of which are detailed below. A description of each feature is provided below, with a phased site narrative included within section 6 of this report.

Ditches

Distinctive patterns, characteristics and relationships between three ditches within the far western corner of Area 1 were evident, two of which ran parallel on a NE-SW alignment, with the third being orientated NNE-SSW. The most recent of the three ditches, which dated to the post-medieval period, measured in excess of 1.30m in width (disappearing beneath the northern baulk) with a depth of 0.49m. The earlier cut of this ditch [**022**] was filled with moderately dense mid brown silty clay (**021**) and had been truncated by a latter re-cut [**020**] comprising a fill of light brown orange silty clay (**019**). This later feature had subsequently cut through an earlier prehistoric ditch [**018**], [**024**] & [**053**] containing pottery dated to the Middle/Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition, which ran parallel to a contemporary ditch [**014**] & [**051**] directly to the south. The extents of these two ditches were somewhat

different with the southernmost possessing an average width of 1.26m and depth of 0.54m, will the smaller northern linear feature was narrower with an average width of 0.93m and shallower with a depth of 0.31m. That said, associated fills (**013**, **017**, **023**, **050** & **052**), both of which contained ***Phase II*** pottery, were similar in compaction and composition while undulating concave profiles also suggest a contemporary relationship.

Pits

Six dateable pits were recorded within Area 1. Adjacent to the northern extent of the site three post-medieval (***Phase VIII***) pits [**009**], [**049**] and [**055**] were similar in size and each contained fills comprising mid-dark grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks (**008, 047** & **054** respectively). Further to the east, a larger pit [**016**] also contained post-medieval building material, as did a fourth contemporary pit located to the southwest [**012**].

Of considerable interest within Area 1 was an isolated pit [**027**] containing fragments of Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age (***Phase III***) pottery. This pit measured approximately 1.03m in diameter with an average depth of approximately 0.47m. The single fill comprised moderately dense mid brown silty clay (**026**) that had been truncated by a natural tree bole [033] along its southern extent.

Undated Features

Four undated features were present within Area 1. Two of these features represented former tree boles [**033**] & [**005**], while the remaining two [**007**] & [**004/031**] have been associated with localised clay extraction.

Modern Truncation

Extensive modern truncation had occurred within Area 1, as shown on Figure 2. These areas comprised redeposited building materials including bricks, metal road pins, stock piled ballast and sand, along with occasional food wrappers and discarded plastic builders waste. Local residents suggested that the site had been used as a storage area during the construction of adjacent properties.

5.3 Area 2

Area 2 measured approximately 32m x 31m and was located within the northern quadrant of the site, adjacent to the 'Crab and Winkle Way' to the east. Five linear features and a series of irregular pits were present within this area, all of which are detailed below. In addition, groups of updateable 'elongated' pits were present, most likely representing multi-period

phases of localised clay extraction. A description of each group of features is provided, with a phased site narrative included within section 6 of this report.

Ditches

Five ditches were recorded within Area 2, all of which appeared to be orientated on an approximate northeast-southwest alignment, similar to those in Area 1. The largest of the ditches which appeared beneath the northern baulk snaking across the site until fading out into Area 1 had an average width of 1.21m and depth of 0.19m. Four sections excavated through this ditch **[072]**, **[122]**, **[124]** & **[138]** contained a single fill comprising mid orange brown silty clay with moderate gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks (**071**, **121**, **123** & **137**) that contained no dateable finds.

Of particular interest were the possible extents of two (possible) parallel ditches emerging from the eastern baulk. Two slots **[039]** & **[116]** were excavated through the northernmost ditch revealing a bowl-shaped profile, with an average width of 1.02m and depth of 0.34m. Context (**115**), fill of **[116]**, consisted of light orange brown silt clay with pottery dating to the early prehistoric period. To the immediate south ditch **[110/114]** was similar in profile with a fill comprising light orange brown silt clay (**109/113**) containing early prehistoric flint tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC).

Three post-medieval ditches recorded within Area 2 **[047/132]**, **[043]** & **[037/146]** comprised fills consisting of mid grey brown silty clay (**046/131**, **042** & **036/145**), while an additional ditch **[047]** has been provisionally associated with the Late Medieval period, although relationships between this cluster of linear features was not clear and earlier finds may in fact be residual

Pits

A total of six datable pits were recognised within Area 2. Contexts **[035]**, **[043]**, **[120]** and **[088]** have been confidently dated to the post-medieval period (or later) and possessed distinctly natural characteristics. Similarly feature **[041/057]** located adjacent to the eastern baulk edge possessed undulated sides with a distinctly curved shape in plan that may represent a natural tree throw. Although containing pottery dated to the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age, it is considered unlikely that this feature represents anything more than tree clearance.

Undated Features

A total of 32 undated pits were recognised within Area 2. Three particular 'groups' were instantly recognisable during the investigation of the features. The first grouping clearly represented localised clay extraction and quarrying present not only at Invicta Road but on

other sites within the Whitstable area (see Section 4.2). Features associated with this process were elongated in plan, with regular cut profiles, filled by natural processes, rather than deliberately backfilled. The second grouping comprise the more circular or ovoid pit, while the third group were more discrete and regular in plan and profile. Classification of such features is difficult, particularly when dealing with un-phased patterns and it is more than possible that they represent little more than natural shallow root boles. Further attention will be given to this idea in Section 4 below. Feature numbers associated with the assigned groups

Group A	Elongated irregular pits. Clay extraction?	**[060] [062] [070] [076] [080] [082] [088] [090] [094] [118] [140] [144] [148]**
Group B	Larger circular or ovoid pits. Natural tree boles?	**[029] [035] [084] [086] [096] [104] [108] [126] [128] [136] [142]**
Group C	Discrete circular features. Root boles, pits or post holes?	**[064] [066] [074] [098] [100] [102] [106]**

are detailed in Table 2.

Table 2 Grouping of undated features within Area 2

Modern Truncation

Modern disturbance within this area of the site was limited to occasional irregular pits and machine excavated test pits, possibly associated with previous geotechnical works.

5.4 Areas 3 and 4

Area 3 measured approximately 35m x 32m and was located within the eastern quadrant of the site, also adjacent to the 'Crab and Winkle Way'. Area 4 measured 36m x 30m and was located within the southern quadrant of the site adjacent to Invicta Road. For the sake of consistency these two areas will be dealt with as one. As with Area 2 above, these quadrants were dominated by the presence of elongated clay extraction pits and naturally formed ovoid and circular features. That said some interesting patterns have presented themselves within the southern extent Area 3.

Ditches

Directly adjacent to the southern extent of Area 3, a cluster of dated archaeological features are recorded. Two of these are of particular interest. Orientated on an east-west alignment feature [**162**] measured approximately 8m in length width a width of 0.21m and depth of 0.32m. The single fill of this feature (**161**) comprised stiff mid orange brown silty clay with

occasion charcoal flecks and pottery assigned to the Early Prehistoric periods (see ceramic assessment). To the immediate south, a second feature [**176**] contained a fill (**175**) possessing similar characteristics and pottery, suggesting the possibility of a contemporary date. That being the case, it is possible to extrapolate a circular pattern, perhaps indicative of a ring ditch, as suggested on Figure 2.

Pits

All remaining dateable features within this area of the site fall with the three groups suggested within Table 2, with the exception that some can be clearly dated. Pottery associated with elongated pits [**228/230**] and [**150/158/186**] suggest a chronological relationship with the possible ring ditch mentioned above, while the east-west alignment of both of these features may be indicative of a fragmented prehistoric field system.

Features [**220/226/236**] and [**214/232**] are on similar alignments, each measuring nearly 2m in width with average depths of 0.41m. The fill within both of these quarry pits comprises moderately dense mid brown silty clay possessing pottery, provisionally dated between 1500-600 BC (see ceramic assessment). Ceramic analysis also suggests that pits [**172**], [**192**] & [**204**] can be placed within ***Phase II***, while [**216/222**] can be associated with ***Phase III*** and feature [**168/210**] is associated with ***Phase VI***. Three later pits were also present within Areas 3/4, with [**156**] being attributed to the medieval period while [**206/212**] and [**196**] contained post-medieval pottery.

Undated Features

A total of 15 undated features were recorded within Areas 3/4, all of which fall within the classification system used in Table 2. Group A (clay extraction pits) features within Areas 3/4 would therefore include [**152**], [**166**], [**200**], [**208**], [**218**], [**224**], [**238**] & [**240**], while Group B (natural tree boles) would consist of [**154**], [**160**], [**164**], [**172**], [**180**], [**182**], [**198**] & [**202**]. Undated Group C features within Areas 3/4 would therefore include only discrete pit/post hole [**184**].

Modern Truncation

Modern truncation with Area 3 was limited to small geotechnical test pits, whilst Area 4 has been exposed to similar degrees of destruction to Area 1. In addition, the south-western edge of Area 4 had been subjected to the construction of concrete bases associated with cricket nets belonging to the adjacent college.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION

The purpose of this archaeological narrative is to draw the various strands of evidence together into a coherent picture. The presence of archaeological features, their characteristics and contents enable us to propose a provisional chronological matrix for the site, although it should be mentioned at this point that this may be subject to revision following the preparation of additional specialist assessments, if required.

No proven features confirming the presence of domestic or agricultural settlement within the proposed development area were discovered (possible exception see below), which comes as a surprise given evidence for multiphase settlement within the surrounding landscape (see Section 4 above). The lack of evidence for intensive early prehistoric occupation within the immediate vicinity of the site need only reflect the relatively small scale of systematic archaeological excavation to date, but it might also reflect the fact that the earlier settlement(s) were attracted to the higher ground to the west. That said, it is clear that extensive manipulation of the landscape has occurred on the site. The density of root boles and tree throws highlights the importance of 'negative' evidence on site. While no actual occupation is recorded it is evident that tree clearance has occurred, possibly in advance of localised clay extraction for the production of pottery etc. Every feature on site that has been associated with *Group A* (quarrying) followed naturally forming clay seams cut into the underlying gravel. Once gravel levels had been reached, extraction had ceased. This is further reflected by the similar alignments of said multi-period features, a pattern which is reflected by features recorded on the Sunset Caravan Park (Allen 2001).

It is important to mention at this point that dating of features on the site at Invicta Road has been carried out through ceramic analysis of fabrics retrieved from individual context. Caution may need to be exercised here purely due to the nature of the features involved. Natural rooting, the removal and clearance of trees and the extraction of clay are all incredibly destructive processes that have a significant effect on underlying natural geology and subsoil. The possibility that residual finds may make their way into later contexts is therefore more than possible. Unlike the Sunset caravan Park, the extraction pits at Invicta Road were not used as rubbish pits and did not therefore provide the density of domestic material required for a more significant analysis.

In addition to the above there is an additional area of potential interest. During the excavation it was clear that no significant domestic settlement would be present within the proposed development area and that the most likely place for such activity would be located on the higher ground to the east. However, on further analysis of the distribution of features within Area 3, it may be plausible to suggest that the feint remnant of prehistoric settlement may be visible. Two features adjacent to the southern baulk provide the possibility that a circular

enclosure continues into the northern extent of the adjacent property. In addition to this three parallel 'elongated' ditches [**224/240**], [**218/238**] & [**150/158/186**] that have been associated with localised clay extraction, may in fact be the remnants of an earlier field system. If this is indeed the case the archaeological record would benefit greatly should any future investigations adjacent to the site be deemed necessary.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

5.1 Lithic Assemblage

The lithic assemblage was not considered large enough to provide an accurate statistical analysis. Initial assessment of the assemblage has been carried out and is incorporated within the Ceramic Assessment (Appendix 2).

5.2 Ceramic Assemblage

A full assessment of the ceramic assemblage is provided in Appendix 2.

5.3 Environmental Evidence

Quantification and analysis of the environmental potential was carried out by Royal Holloway during the course of the archaeological investigations. Due to the nature of the deposits encountered, no further assessment was recommended.

5.4 Faunal Assemblage

No faunal remains were retrieved from site.

6 SUMMARY OF SITE ARCHIVE

6.1 Quantity of Archaeological Material and Records

In addition to artefact assemblages mentioned above, the site archive comprises the following elements;

- Correspondence
- Photographs: 273 Digital photographs SWAT Film nos. 07/080. 35mm 21 slides
- Photocopies of Ordnance Survey and other maps: NA

- Drawings: 26 A3 permatrace site drawing, comprising trench plans and associated sections.

- Context Register including: Context Register Sheets (11), Drawing Register Sheets (11), Photographic Register Sheets (12), Levels Sheets (x), Environmental Samples Register Sheets (1) and Context Sheets (242)

A full archival catalogue will be prepared following receipt of final specialist assessments, which will be incorporated within a final report.

6.2 Storage of Archaeological Material

The complete archaeological archive will be temporarily held by SWAT Archaeology until provision is made by Kent County Council for an adequate storage facility. The archive will be prepared in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990).*

7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

7.1 Statement of Potential

The archaeological excavations at Invicta Road, Whitstable have suggested that extensive multiphase domestic, agricultural or industrial settlement within the surrounding landscape does not extend into the proposed development area. That said, it is suggested that the current site may lie on the periphery of more intensive occupation. In light of this, it is recommended that further archaeological assessment focus on the recommendations of artefact specialists, in order to supplement Whitstable assemblages recorded within the surrounding area. To date, the lithic and ceramic assemblage has been assessed and recommendations made (Appendix 2), which will be adhered to in order to attain publication standards, if considered necessary by Canterbury City Council.

7.2 Preparation of Full Report & Publication

Any further analysis associated with a Full Report (if necessary), will be produced and submitted within 18 months of the submission of this post-excavation assessment. Within this time SWAT Archaeology and Murston Construction Ltd will discuss and agree with the County Archaeologist the scope of the Full Report and the format and destination of subsequent publication(s) arising from excavation and post-excavation work on the site.

As a minimum at this stage, it is recommended that a short summary be compiled and provided to the Kent Archaeological Society for publication within *Archaeologia Cantiana.*

7.3 Format

The Final Report will be submitted to the County Archaeologist in a bound hard-copy and in digital format. The digital copy will be supplied for preference in .pdf format or alternatively in .rtf format accompanied by digital copies of images, plans and maps in .bmp, .tif or .jpg format. The medium will be a PC CD-ROM (CD-R format only), unless otherwise requested. Digital files will be supplied in a PC readable format.

7.4 Dissemination

Subject to confidentiality arrangements, copies of the Final Report will be provided to the client, Canterbury City Council, Kent County Council and the Kent Archaeological Society. Copies to additional organisations, such as local or regional archaeological organisations or groups will also be produced on request.

8 CONCLUSIONS

This archaeological excavation has been carried out in accordance with a written Specification produced by Canterbury City Council. Archaeological remains present within the development area have been assessed and reported, enabling preservation of archaeological deposits by record. The results from this work will be used to aid and inform the Archaeological Officer (CCC) of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in order to satisfy Condition 9 of Planning Application CA/07/00384/WHI & CA/07/01413/WHI.

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David Britchfield

July 2008

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Appendix 1 – Context Register

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
001	L	Topsoil	Firm dark grey brown silty clay with frequent to moderate inclusions of sub-rounded – angular flints and occasional fragments of modern building material	Site	x	x	40-42	x	x	
002	L	Subsoil	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint				40-42			
003	F	Fill of [004]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	1	[004]		2			
004	C	Pit		1		(003)	2			
005	D	Fill of tree/root bole	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1			12			
006	F	Fill of [007]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	1	[007]		15	VII	Medieval-Late Medieval	
007	C	Irregular Pit		1		(006)	15			
008	F	Fill of [009]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	1	[009]		10	VIII	Post-Medieval	
009	C	Cut of linear/shallow Pit (PM)		1		(008)	10			
010	D	Shallow deposit over Natural	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1			NA			
011	F	Fill of [012]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	1	[012]		4	VIII	Post-Medieval	Residual prehistoric and medieval
012	C	Cut of sub-circ PM Pit		1		(011)	4			
013	F	Fill of [014]	Mid orange brown silt, with blue/grey clay mottling	1	[014]		5	II	Uncertain	Provisional dating due to alignment
014	C	Ditch		1		(013)	5			
015	F	Fill of [016]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	1	[016]		14			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
016	C	Pit?		1		(015)	14			
017	F	Fill of 018	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	1	[018]		11	II	Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	Residual medieval
018	C	Ditch		1		(017)	11			
019	F	Fill of [020]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	1	[020]		1a + b	VIII		
020	C	Ditch re-cut		1		(019)	1a + b			
021	F	Fill of [022]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[022]		1a + b	VIII		
022	C	Ditch		1		(021)	1a + b			
023	F	Fill of [024]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	1	[024]		1a + b	II	Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	
024	C	Ditch		1		(023)	1a + b			
025	D	Natural Deposit		1			1a + b			
026	F	Fill of [027]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[027]		13	III	Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	Intrusive Post-Medieval
027	C	Pit		1		(026)	13			
028	C	Fill of [029]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[029]		3 + 24			
029	C	Pit		2		(028)	3 + 24			
030	F	Fill of [031]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[031]		6			
031	C	Pit		1		(030)	6			
032	F	Fill of [033]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[033]		13			
033	C	Pit		1		(032)	13			
034	F	Fill of [035]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[035]		22	VIII	Post-Medieval	
035	C	Pit		2		(034)	22			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
036	F	Fill of [037]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[037]		40	VIII		Same as (139)
037	C	Ditch		2		(036)	40			Same as [140]
038	F	Fill of [039]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[039]		41			
039	C	Ditch		2		(038)	41			
040	F	Fill of [041]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[041]		30	III	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
041	C	Curvilinear Ditch		2		(040)	30			Same as [057]
042	F	Fill of [043]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[043]		21			
043	C	Pit or Post hole		2		(042)	21			
044	F	Fill of [045]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[045]		21	VII	Medieval-Late Medieval	
045	C	Sub linear		2		(044)	21			
046	F	Fill of [047]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[047]		21			
047	C	Sub linear		2		(046)	21			
048	F	Fill of [049]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	1	[049]		9	VIII	Post-Medieval	
049	C	Ditch		1		(048)	9			
050	F	Fill of [051]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[051]		9			
051	C	Natural root bole		1		(050)	9			
052	F	Fill of [053]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	1	[053]		7 + 8	II	Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	
053	C	Ditch		1		(052)	7 + 8			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
054	F	Fill of [055]	Mid grey brown silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	1	[055]		7 + 8			
055	D	Overlying Med/PM Deposit		2		(054)	7 + 8			
056	F	Fill of [057]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[057]		42	III	Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	
057	C	Ditch		2		(056)	42			Same feature as [041]
058	D	Natural		2			x			
059	F	Fill of [060]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[060]		31			
060	C	Ditch		2		(059)	31			
061	F	Fill of [062]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[062]		44			
062	C	Pit?		2		(061)	44			
063	F	Fill of [064]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	2	[064]		x			
064	C	Pit	Feature cuts [062]	2		(063)	x			
065	F	Fill of [066]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[066]		16			
066	C	Post hole		2		(065)	16			
067	F	Fill of [068]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[068]		16			
068	C	Post hole		2		(067)	16			
069	F	Fill of [070]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	2	[070]		35			
070	C	Ditch		2		(069)	35			
071	F	Fill of [072]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[072]		17 + 25			
072	C	Ditch		2		(071)	17 + 25			
073	F	Fill of [074]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[074]		23			
074	C	Post hole		2		(073)	23			
075	F	Fill of [076]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[076]		39			
076	C	Shallow linear		2		(075)	39			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
077	F	Fill of [078]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[078]		26			
078	C	Pit		2		(077)	26			
079	F	Fill of [080]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	2	[080]		18			
080	C	Ditch		2		(079)	18			
081	F	Fill of [082]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[082]		34			
082	C	Pit		2		(081)	34			
083	F	Fill of [084]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[084]		38			
084	C	Pit		2		(083)	38			
085	f	Fill of [086]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[086]		22			
086	C	Shallow oblong ditch/pit		2		(085)	22			
087	F	Fill of [088]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[088]		36	VIII	Post-Medieval	
088	C	Pit		2		(087)	36			
089	F	Fill of [090]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[090]		45			
090	C	pit		2		(089)	45			
091	F	Fill of [092]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[092]		19			
092	C	Small Pit		2		(091)	19			
093	F	Fill of [094]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[094]		20			
094	C	Pit		2		(093)	20			
095	F	Fill of [096]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[096]		21			
096	C	Pit		2		(095)	21			
097	F	Fill of [098]	Moderately dense mid brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and angular flint	2	[098]		27			
098	C	Pit		2		(097)	27			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
099	F	Fill of [100]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[100]		28			
100	C	Post hole		2		(099)	28			
101	F	Fill of [102]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	2	[102]		29			
102	C	Pit		2		(101)	29			
103	F	Fill of [104]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[104]		32			
104	C	Pit		2		(103)	32			
105	F	Fill of [106]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[106]		37			
106	C	Pit (Poss. nat?)		2		(105)	37			
107	F	Fill of [108]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[108]					
108	C	Shallow Pit		2		(107)				
109	F	Fill of [110]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[110]					
110	C	Long oval Pit		2		(109)				
111	F	Fill of [112]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[112]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
112	C	Wide shallow Pit		2		(111)				
113	F	Fill of [114]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[114]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
114	C	Long oval Pit		2		(113)				
115	F	Fill of [116]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[116]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
116	C	Cut of linear terminal		2		(115)				

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
117	F	Fill of [118]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[118]					
118	C	Cut of possible linear		2		(117)				
119	F	Fill of [120]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[120]			VIII	Post-Medieval	
120	C	Cut of very shallow Pit		2		(119)				
121	F	Fill of [122]	x	2	[122]					
122	C	Cut of possible shallow Ditch		2		(121)				
123	F	Fill of [124]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[124]					
124	C	Cut of possible shallow Ditch		2		(123)				
125	F	Fill of [126]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[126]					
126	C	Terminus		2		(125)				
127	F	Fill of [128]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[128]					
128	C	Cut of Pit and Ditch		2		(127)				
129	F	Fill of [130]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[130]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
130	C	Tree bole		2		(129)				
131	F	Fill of [132]	x	2	[132]					
132	C	Terminus of linear		2		(131)				
133	F	Fill of [134]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[134]					
134	C	Cut of small Pit		2		(133)				
135	F	Fill of [136]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	2	[136]					
136	C	Cut of small Pit		2		(135)				

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
137	F	Fill of [138]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[138]		47			
138	C	Ditch (Same as [072])		2		(137)	47			
139	F	Fill of [140]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[140]		49			
140	C	Terminus		2		(139)	49			
141	F	Fill of [142]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[142]		50			
142	C	Shallow Pit		2		(141)	50			
143	F	Fill of [144]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	2	[144]					
144	C	Ditch		2		(143)				
145	F	Fill of [146]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[146]		48	VIII	Residual Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition, along with Medieval and post medieval tile	
146	C	Cut of linear (same as [037])		2		(145)	48			
147	F	Fill of [148]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	2	[148]					
148	C	Shallow Pit		2		(147)				
149	F	Fill of [150]	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	3	[150]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
150	C	Cut of Ditch		2		(149)				
151	F	Fill of Gully	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	3	[152]		45			
152	C	Cut of Gully		3		(151)	45			
153	F	Fill of pit	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	3	[154]		51			
154	C	Shallow Pit		3		(153)	51			

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
155	F	Fill of linear	Mid grey brown silty clay. Occasional fragment of CBM and charcoal	2	[156]		46	VIII	Medieval-Late Medieval	
156	C	Linear Terminus		2		(155)	46			
157	F	Fill of [158]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	3	[158]					
158	C	Shallow Pit		3		(157)				
159	F	Fill of [160]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[160]		52			
160	C	Shallow Pit		3		(159)	52			
161	F	Fill of [162]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[162]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
162	C	Ditch		3		(161)				Curvilinear enclosure ditch with [176]?
163	F	Fill of [164]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	3	[164]					
164	C	Shallow Pit		3		(163)				
165	F	Fill of [166]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[166]					
166	C	Linear ?		3		(165)				
167	F	Fill of [168]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	3	[168]			VI	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	Intrusive Roman and Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.
168	C	Possible linear		3		(167)				
169	F	Fill of [170]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[170]			V	Mid-late Saxon material	Intrusive Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition
170	C	Pit		3		(169)				
171	F	Fill of [172]	Light brown orange silty clay with moderate fragments of flint	3	[172]			II	Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.	
172	C	Shallow Pit		3		(171)				
173	F	Fill of [174]		3	[174]					
174	C	Possible Pit		3		(173)				

Context Number	Type	Interpretation	Description	Area	Fill of	Filled by	Section No	Phase	Artefact dating	Comments (Finds/alignment/soil type etc)
175	F	Fill of [176]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[176]			I	Early-Mid Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition	
176	C	Pit/segmented ditch?		3		(175)				
177	F	Fill of [178]	x	3	[178]					
178	C	Shallow Pit		3		(177)				
179	F	Fill of [180]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	3	[180]					
180	C	Shallow Pit		3		(179)				
181	F	Fill of [182]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[182]					
182	C	Shallow Pit		3		(181)				
183	F	Fill of [184]	x	3	[184]					
184	C	Pit		3		(183)				
185	F	Fill of [186]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[186]					
186	F	Terminus		3		(185)				
187	F	Fill of [188]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[188]					
188	C	Shallow Pit		3		(187)				
189	F	Fill of [190]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[190]			VI	Late Saxon-Early Medieval	
190	C	Small oval		3		(189)				
191	F	Fill of [192]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[192]			V	Mid-Late Saxon	Residual Middle Bronze Age or the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition.
192	C	Shallow Pit		3		(191)				
193	F	Fill of [194]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	3	[194]					
194	C	Shallow Pit		3		(193)				
195	F	Fill of [196]	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and rounded stone	3	[196]			VIII	Post-medieval	
196	C	Shallow Pit		3		(195)				
197	F	Fill of [198]	Mid brown clay, occasional orange mottled silt	3	[198]					
198	C	Shallow Pit		3		(197)				

CONTEXT : 155

Sherds : 2 (weight : 14gms)

2 sherds M Canterbury Tyler Hill sandy ware (c.1250-1275/1300 AD; **conjoin, extracted for KAFS Fabric Type Series**)

Likely context date : c.1250-1300 AD

Comment : Moderate-sized sherd with some soot-staining, some slight edge wear but not seriously residual in its context.

CONTEXT : 161

Sherds : 4 (weight : 8gms)

4 sherds EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

and :

1 worked flint (weight : 1gm) – made from a glauconitic pebble. Brown-grey flint. Un-patinated small blade-like flake with deep retouch at blade-end forming a side-end spokeshave with deliberate finger-grip blunting on the other edge.

1 fragment burnt flint (weight : 6gms) - **DISCARDED**

Likely context date : Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 167

Sherds : 3 (weight : 16gms)

2 sherds LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500/900-600 BC)

1 sherd LS-EM Canterbury-type sandy ware (c.950/1050-1150 AD)

Likely context date : Broadly c.950-1150 AD

Comment : The prehistoric sherds are small and worn, the post-Roman sherd larger and sufficiently fresh to suggest it could be derived from an undisturbed contemporary context.

CONTEXT : 169/170

Sherds : 3 (weight : 10gms)

2 sherds EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

1 sherd MLS Canterbury-type sandy ware (c.775-825/850 AD. **Extracted for KAFS Fabric Reference Collection**)

Likely context date : If not residual, c.800-850 AD

Comment : The prehistoric sherds are small and fragmentary. The MLS sherd has heavy unifacial wear. However its size and the fresher condition of its other surface suggest it could be from an undisturbed contemporary context.

CONTEXT : 171

Sherds : 4 (weight : 15gms)

4 sherds LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500-600 BC)

and :

1 worn lump daub (weight : 9gms) - **DISCARDED**

Likely context date : Later Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 173

4 small rounded scraps daub (weight : 7gms) - **DISCARDED**

Likely context date : Prehistoric probably

CONTEXT : 175

Sherd : 1 (weight : >1gm)

1 sherd EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

Likely context date : Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 179/180

1 flint flake (weight : 3gms) – re-worked naturally fractured pale brown flint (with thick white patination), waste flake.

Likely context date : Prehistoric or later

CONTEXT : 189

Sherd : 1 (weight : 3gms)

1 sherd M Canterbury Tyler Hill sandy ware (c.1225-1250/1275 AD)

and :

2 flint flakes (weight : 6gms) – both small, one semi-cortical, both un-patinated, one waste (brown-grey flint), one possibly used as a short-term thumb-scraper (dark-grey flint).

1 fragment burnt flint (weight : 112gms)

Likely context date : c.1250-1300 AD

Comment : The sherd is small, with fairly fresh surfaces but some edge damage. Probably slightly residual in its context.

CONTEXT : 191

Sherds : 4 (weight : 14gms)

1 sherd ? LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware (c.900-600 BC)

3 sherds MLS Canterbury-type sandy ware (c.775-825/850 AD; **2 same vessel. 1 extracted for KAFS Fabric Reference Collection**)

Likely context date : If not residual, c.800-850 AD

Comment : The prehistoric sherd is a small worn scrap. The MLS sherds are larger and, despite some wear, could come from an undisturbed contemporary context/

CONTEXT : 195

Sherd : 1 (weight : 8gms)

1 sherd M Canterbury Tyler Hill sandy ware (c.1225-1250/1275 AD; **extracted for KAFS Fabric Type Series**)

and :

1 fragment LM/PM brick (weight : 47gms) – C16 AD probably

Likely context date : Broadly ? C16-C17 AD

Comment : Moderate-sized but with fairly heavy bifacial wear and should be residual

CONTEXT : 203

Sherds : 4 (weight : 2gms)

4 sherds LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500-600 BC)

Likely context date : Later Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 205

Sherds : 2 (weight : 2gms)

1 sherd EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

1 sherd MLS Canterbury-type sandy ware (c.775-825/850 AD)

and :

1 flint flake (weight : 11gms) – semi-cortical flake re-using naturally broken and patinated grey-brown flint. Un-patinated, some secondary flake scars. Possibly used as a spokeshave and scraper.

Likely context date : If not residual, c.800-850 AD?

Comment : The prehistoric sherd is scrappy and worn, the MLS sherd is also small. Derivation from an undisturbed contemporary deposit is not so certain.

CONTEXT : 209

Sherd : 1 scrap (weight : >1gm)

1 scrap with mud EP/LP flint-tempered ware - **DISCARDED**

Likely context date : Prehistoric or later

CONTEXT : 211

1 PM claypipe stem (weight : 3gms) – C18-C19 AD

1 flint flake (weight : 4gms) – Snapped, semi-cortical waste flake, un-patinated

1 fragment burnt flint (weight : 3gms) - **DISCARDED**

Likely context date : C18-C19 AD or later

CONTEXT : 213

Sherds : 2 (weight : 2gms)

1 sherd LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500/900-600 BC)

1 sherd ER Upchurch-type ware 50/75-100 AD)

Likely context date : Roman material ? residual in a later context

Comment : Both sherds are small and worn, the Roman sherd slightly less so.

CONTEXT : 221

Sherds : 2 (weight : 8gms)

1 sherd LBA/EIA flint-tempered ware (c.900-600 BC)

1 sherd MLS Canterbury-type sandy ware (c.775-825/850 AD)

and :

2 flint flakes (weight : 29gms) – un-patinated, one from small sea-rolled pebble of black flint (waste flake), one crude flake (black flint) used as a broad partially trimmed end-scraper.

Likely context date : If not residual, c.900-600 BC

Comment : The Later Prehistoric sherd is fairly small with heavy unifacial wear and may be from a contemporary context. The MLS sherd is small, fairly worn and could be intrusive.

CONTEXT : 229

Sherds : 6 scraps (weight : 4gms)

6 scraps EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

Likely context date : Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 231

Sherd : 1 (weight : 4gms)

1 sherd EP/LP flint-tempered ware (c.3500/1500-600 BC)

Likely context date : Prehistoric – see Assessment

CONTEXT : 235

Sherd : 1 (weight : 4gms)

1 sherd LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500-600 BC)

Likely context date : Later Prehistoric – see Assessment

Comment : The sherd is small but fresh and may be from an undisturbed contemporary context.

CONTEXT : Area C1 (E1?)

Sherds : 2 (weight : 12gms)

2 sherds LP flint-tempered ware (c.1500/900-600 BC)

Likely context date : Later Prehistoric – see Assessment

D. Assessment :

This small multi-period assemblage consists of variably worn mostly small sherds; only one fairly large sherd was recovered, represented by a single Late Medieval sherd from *Trench 7 Context 43*. Overall, the recovered sherds provides the following period frequencies and implications :

PERIODS	SHERD QUANTITY	ASSESSMENT
MODERN	-	-
LPM	-	-
PM c.1675-1725 AD	2	+ 25 tile fragments; demolition/manure spreads between ?
LM	7	Settlement-fringe discard between c.1375-1525 AD
M shifted after c.1325 AD	19	Settlement, from c.1200/1225 AD, main phase c.1225-1275, ?
EM	-	-
LS	?	?
MS	6	Settlement-fringe discard or manure scatters c.775-850 AD
ES	-	-
LR	-	-
MR	-	-
ER	4	? Manure scatters between c.75-150 AD
B/ER	-	-
LIA 'Belgic'	-	-
LIA	-	-
MIA	-	-
EIA	-	-
LBA/EIA	3	3 Probable activity between c.900-600 BC
LBA	-	-
MBA	?	? Possible activity
EBA	-	-
LN	-	-

MN	**?**	**? Activity between c.3200-?2700 BC (and possibly earlier)**
EN	-	-

Indeterminate : ? MN or MBA or LBA/EIA : 34; MBA or LBA/EIA : 21; LS-EM : 1

Prehistoric :

Flint : The material requiring spot-dating also included a small quantity of flint. It is fresh and un-patinated suggesting loss into a rapidly re-generating or quickly sealed environment. Most of the flakes are crude, small and mostly made from brown-grey glauconitic or other pebble flint, though the two from *Context 221* are both probably made from black chalk-flint pebbles. Apart from the spokeshave from *Context 161* there are no genuine blade-like flakes of Mesolithic type and no large Neolithic-type flakes. The preparation of the side-end scraper (*Context 23*) is crude, though the opposing-side preparation around the point of the borer (*Context 115*) is deliberate and considered. Overall, there is a general lack of the preparatory flakie scars associated with Mesolithic and Neolithic assemblages and, assuming this material is broadly contemporary, as the absence of patination could suggest, the borer and spokeshave may indicate the poorer technologies of the mid-later Bronze Age date, or even the LBA/EIA – but this needs confirmation.

Pottery : The sherd evidence is ambiguous, with most examples heavily worn and small and virtually devoid of diagnostic manufacturing or formal characteristics, except in the broadest terms. As a result dating of the material and some associated contexts is difficult. For the latter – it has been assumed (for this record) that a context containing only flint-tempered material *could* be prehistoric - but since most sherds are very worn – **this may not be so**. For the former, the material is best grouped as follows :

a. Potentially only datable to either the Early-Mid Neolithic, the MBA or the LBA/EIA transition :

Evaluation contexts : 09/10, 13, 17/18

Excavation contexts : 040, 115, 111, 113, 129, 145, 149/150, 161, 169/170, 175, 205, 229, 231,

This is the largest group, represented by 34 sherds and scraps, and with manufacturing characteristics that could easily belong in any of the above periods but here particularly represented by fabric tendencies for coarse relatively open-spaced tempering with a tendency to cluster. In addition, the sherd from *Context 040* may have coarse grog, as well as flint-tempering, and appears to have a 'squeezed' laminar structure to its fabric, noted among material of Middle Neolithic Peterborough-type from the region. The scraps from *Context 229* contain coarse angular grog and sparse flint tempering. However both examples could occur in later EBA Urn or transitional EBA/MBA fabrics. The only formal elements are a rim from a simple-rimmed bowl (*Context 149/150*) – it could be from an Earlier Neolithic hemispherical bowl (although the fabric is not entirely convincing) and a potential simple neck and rim could be from a Peterborough-type bowl with *possible* traces of a single row of ovoid impressions internally, just below the rim (*Context 129*). Again, neither is entirely convincing and both could probably occur in the later periods indicated. Of all the listed contexts only the sherds from *Contexts 09/10, 13, 145* and at least the simple bowl rim from *149/150* are sufficiently fresh to possibly suggest derivation from undisturbed contemporary deposits.

b. Potentially datable to either the MBA or the LBA/EIA transition :

Evaluation contexts : 15, 41

Excavation contexts : 011/012, 017/018, 052, 167, 171,191,203, 213, 235, Area C1 (E1)

The 21 sherds in this group are less likely to date prior to c.1600 BC and have a tendency for fairly profuse coarse or fine flint tempering. Only the sherds from *Context 15* could fairly convincingly stem from an MBA Deverel-Rimbury type bucket or barrel urn – but these are heavily eroded and could still be later. There is only one possible decorative element – the sherd from *Context 41* may have traces of horizontal finger-nail decoration. In addition there are two knobular scraps possibly from broken off, thumb/finger-tip decorated, applied cordoned (*Contexts 011/012, 191*) – but again all these could occur later. Of these, the sherd from *Context 235* is the only one fresh enough to suggest derivation from an undisturbed contemporary deposit.

c. Potentially datable to the LBA/EIA transition :

Excavation contexts : 026, 056, 221

Though 2 of the sherds in this group could occur in an MBA assemblage, there are specific characteristics suggesting an earlier first millennium BC date. The fabric and firing colour combination of the sherd from *Context 221*, the fine very profuse tempering of the fineware sherd from *Context 026* and the simple curving everted coarseware jar rim from *Context 056* are more typical of LBA/EIA-type material. Of these, only the sherd from *221* may stem from an undisturbed context.

Summarising, there appears to be a complete absence of pottery dating after c.600 BC. Whilst some sherds could be later, ie. indigenous Late Iron Age, the absence of any 'Belgic'-style grogged wares and the very low count of Early Roman wares suggests that there was no, or very little, activity of mid-late first millennium BC date in the immediate area. The potential Earlier-Middle Neolithic and Middle Bronze Age elements are possible, but highly tentative, and require greater confirmation. The Late Bronze/Early Iron Age element is a reasonable likelihood, but if so, can only be dated broadly, c.900-600 BC.

This is apparently followed by an approximate 700 year gap in activity

Early Roman :

Only three residual sherds represent this period, one each from *Contexts 011/012, 030* and *213*. They are highly worn and mostly small and their condition and quantity indicates that the excavated area was probably peripheral to any settlement area and that they are probably derived from agricultural manure scatters.

This is apparently followed by an approximate 700-year gap in activity

Mid-Late Saxon :

The second main phase of activity. The identifications are definite – the subtly finer and denser sand content (than the normal range of Canterbury/Tyler Hill sandy ware fabrics) and traces of external burnishing on handmade vessels are typical of Canterbury-type Mid-Late Saxon sandy ware. Sherds were recorded from *Trench 7 Context 43 (Evaluation)* and *Contexts 169/170, 191, 205* and *221(Excavation)* of which, those from *Contexts 169/170* and *191* may be from undisturbed contemporary deposits. The quantity of sherds, and their condition, suggests derivation from settlement-fringe contexts and represents a topographically useful addition to the sub-regional database for this period's settlement distribution.

Late Saxon-Early Medieval :

Represented by a single bodysherd from *Context 167*, with manufacturing characteristics that are typical of the Canterbury-type sandy ware industry but which, technically, cannot be dated any closer than indicated. In the

general absence of any obviously later eleventh-mid twelfth century AD material it might be reasonable to expect this sherd to be closer in time to the, relatively, more substantial evidence for Mid-Late Saxon occupation than any of potential Early Medieval date. Irrespective more evidence is required if this sherd can be used to make a claim for Late Saxon activity.

Some slight settlement-fringe or agricultural activity during either the Late Saxon or Early Medieval periods, but no reliable indications o activity until c.1200 AD – a potential gap of approximately 350 years

Medieval – Late Medieval :

The third main phase of activity, represented by a moderate quantity of principally earlier-mid C13 AD sherds, mostly cooking-pots but also including two glazed jug sherds. Their size, relatively low quantity and condition suggests they are derived from settlement-fringe activity associated with a farmstead or hamlet. Despite being recorded from 11 contexts, only those from *Context 155* are fresh enough to suggest that they represent undisturbed discard in a broadly contemporary context. For the remainder, where they are not residual in later Post-Medieval contexts, their degree of wear indicates discard, exposure and weathering in open contexts, or backfilled inclusion into the same, a reasonable period of time after their likely manufacture and use. Overall, this indicates that the main phase of on-site activity was during the mid-late quarters of the thirteenth century (c.1225-1300 AD) with some activity probably continuing into the earlier fourteenth century. Thereafter, either the focus of activity shifts or discard patterns change. Only a trickle of sherds represent the Late Medieval period, with fairly fresh moderate-sized sherds coming from *Context 43 (Evaluation)* and *Contexts 006* and *011/012 (Excavation)* indicating a degree of renewed on-site activity or discard from nearby occupation.

There are no further apparent indications of activity until the mid-later C17 AD, a potential gap of between approximately 100-150 years

Post-Medieval

This period is represented almost entirely by roof-tile fragments, frequently fairly large and relatively unworn with only two small and worn sherds of mid-late sixteenth century pottery being recovered. Whilst some contexts may represent Post-Medieval features, the low ceramic count coupled with the predominant tile spread is more probably the bi-product of including in farmyard manure either roof renewal or rubble from the demolition of a nearby building. There is no C18 AD or later pottery and the only obviously later elements are the C18-C19 claypipe stem from *Context 211* and, probably, the roof-slate fragment from *Context 119*. If a little time is allowed for the usage and survival of the two PM sherds from *Contexts 23* and *008* – the lack of later finds may indicate that the cause of the tile spread occurred at some point between the late seventeenth-early eighteenth centuries.

NB : One flake of charcoal from *Context 235* has been discarded – the associated ceramic material does not warrant retention for submission for C-14 assay.

E. Recommendations :

1. *Flint :* The flint should be properly assessed by a specialist.

2. *Tile :* Tile fragments have been broadly dated. Nine samples have been retained in dated bags; the other fragments and brick scraps are **recommended for discard.**

3. *Pottery :* None of the pottery is worth illustrating and no pottery report is recommended.

4. One Roman sherd, from *Context 011/012*, is from a small-diameter jar decorated with thumb-presses around the outer edge of its everted rim. Both the fabric and decoration are unusual (for this analyst), however any uncertainty in identification does not affect the overall site trends recorded.

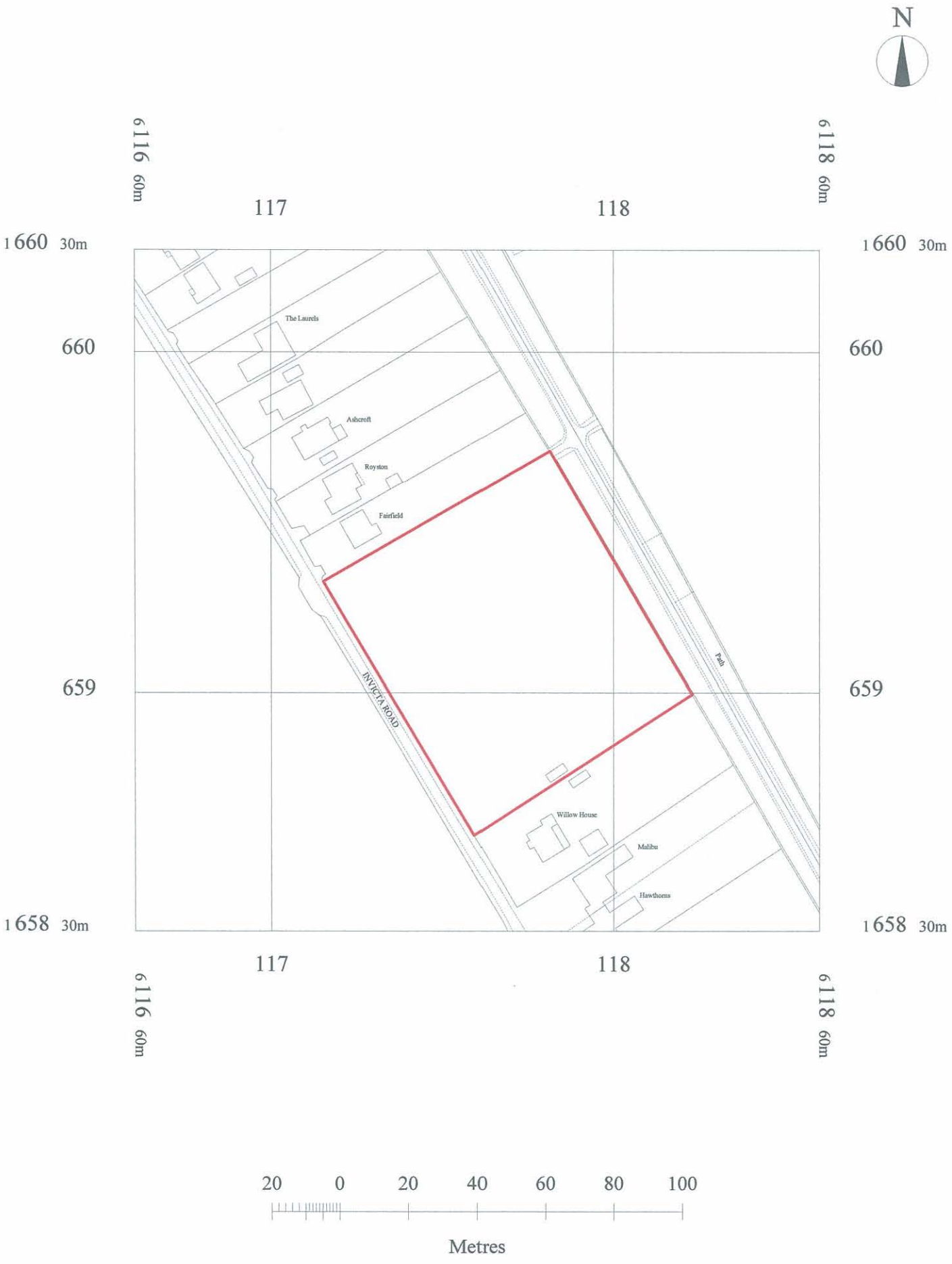


Figure 1: Location of site of proposed development 1:1500

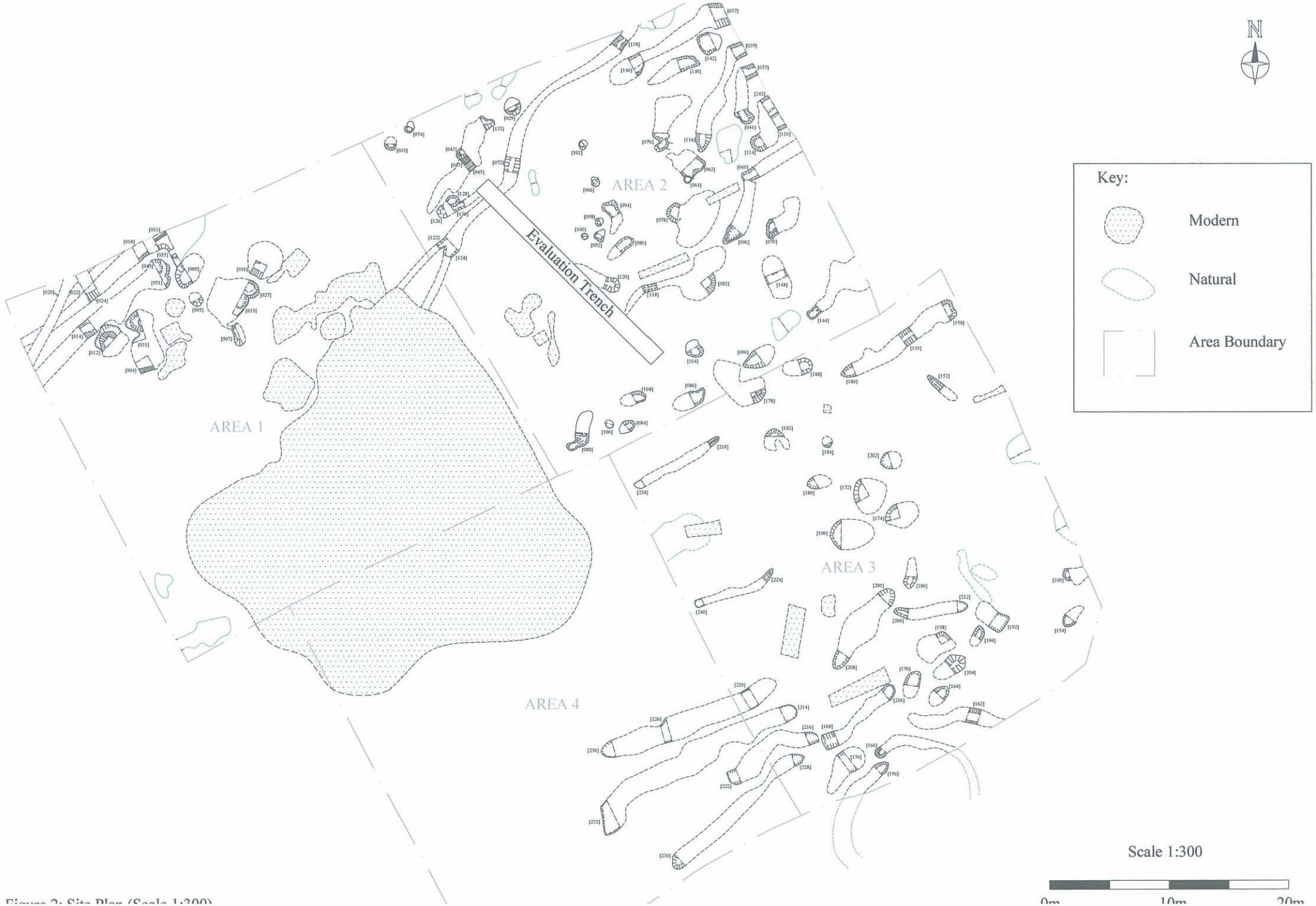


Figure 2: Site Plan (Scale 1:200)

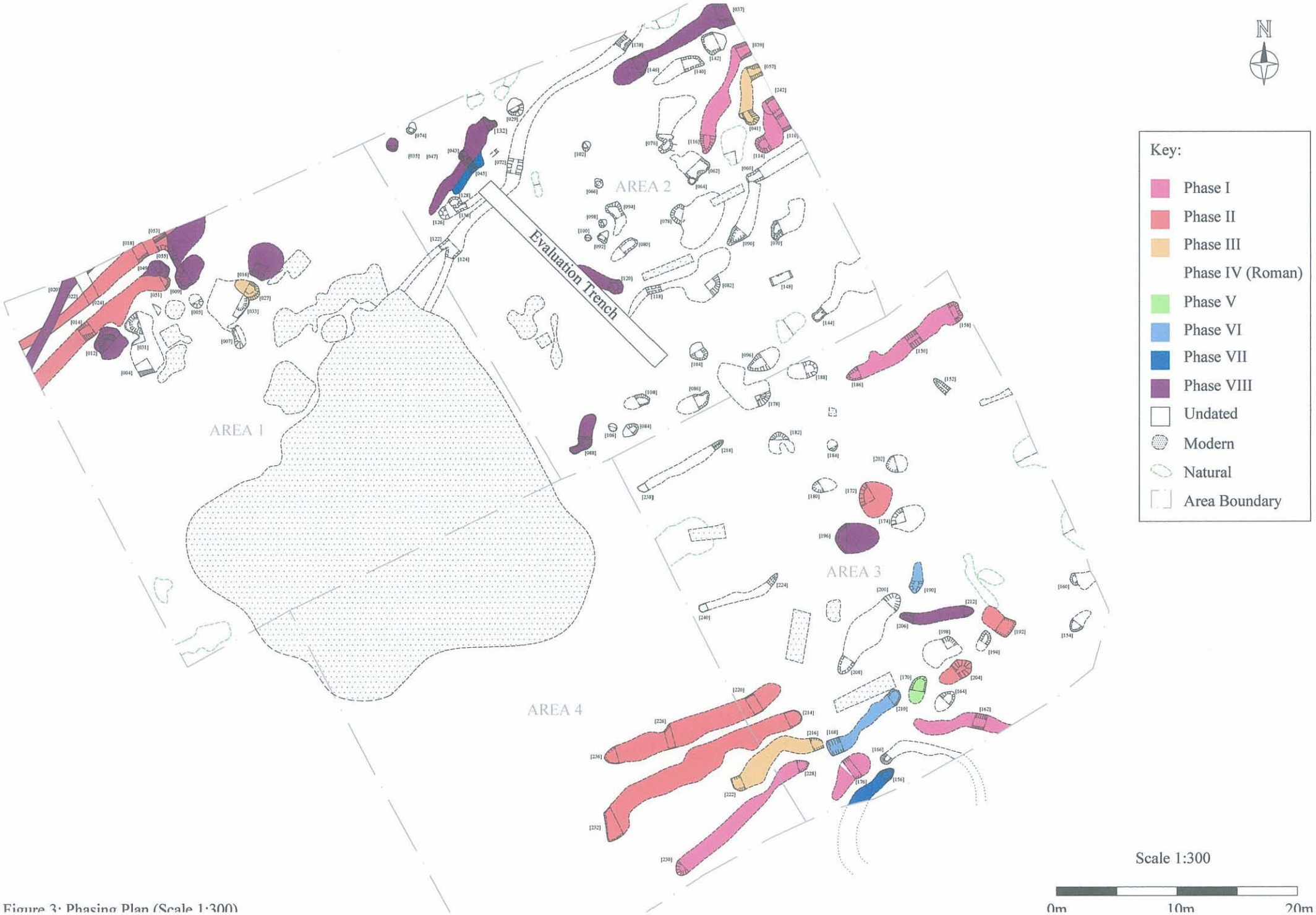
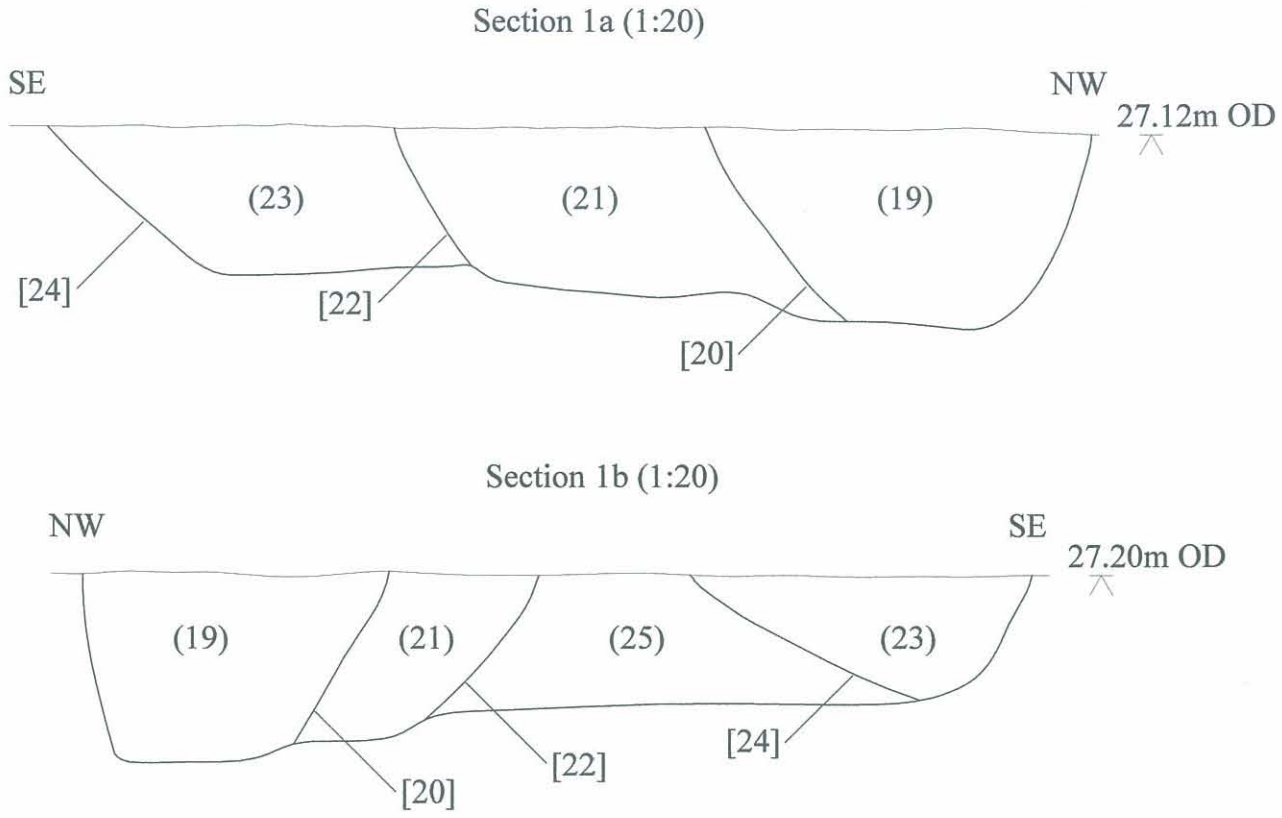


Figure 3: Phasing Plan (Scale 1:300)



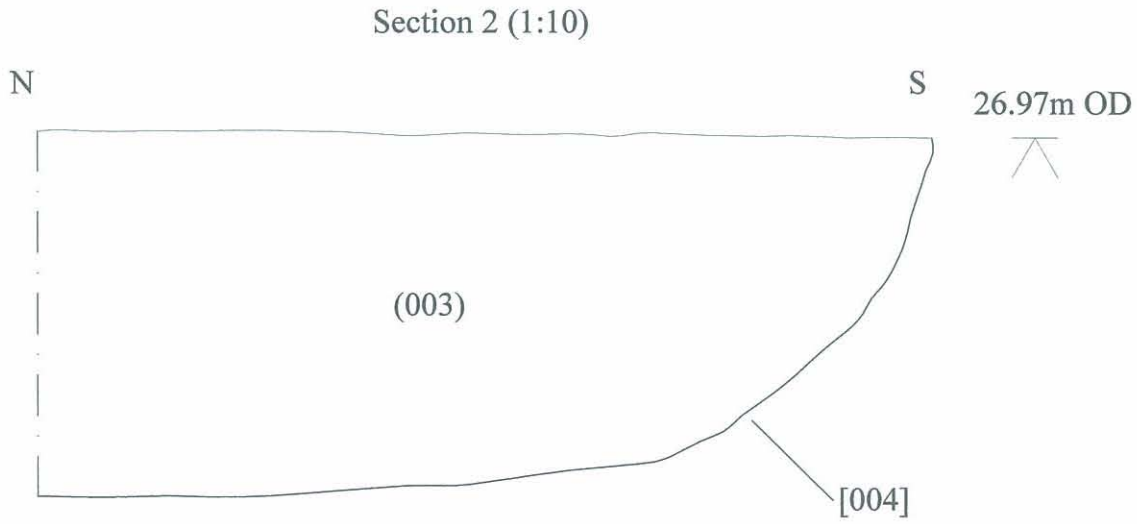


Figure 4: Sections 1 - 2; Scale 1:20 and 1:10

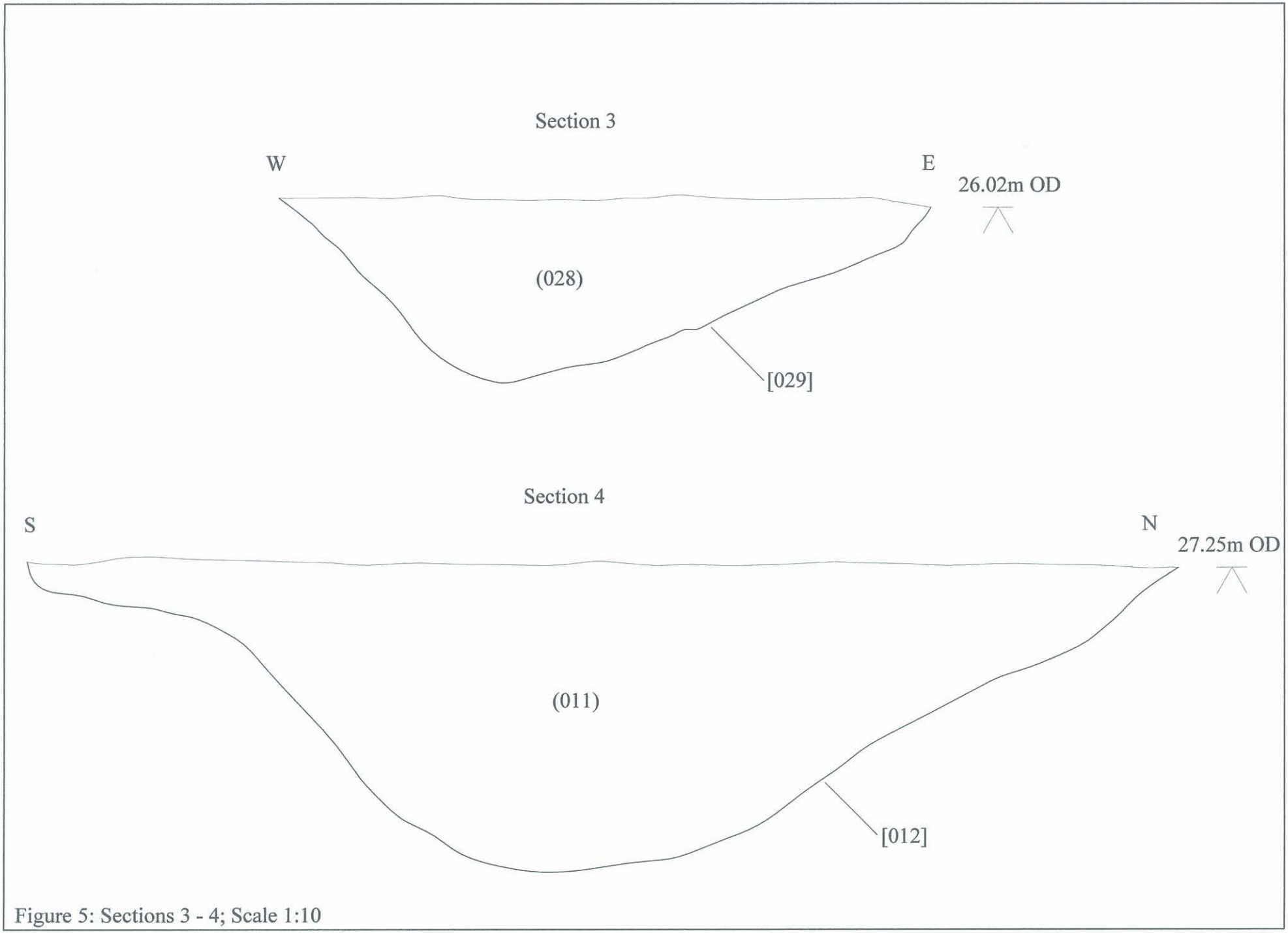
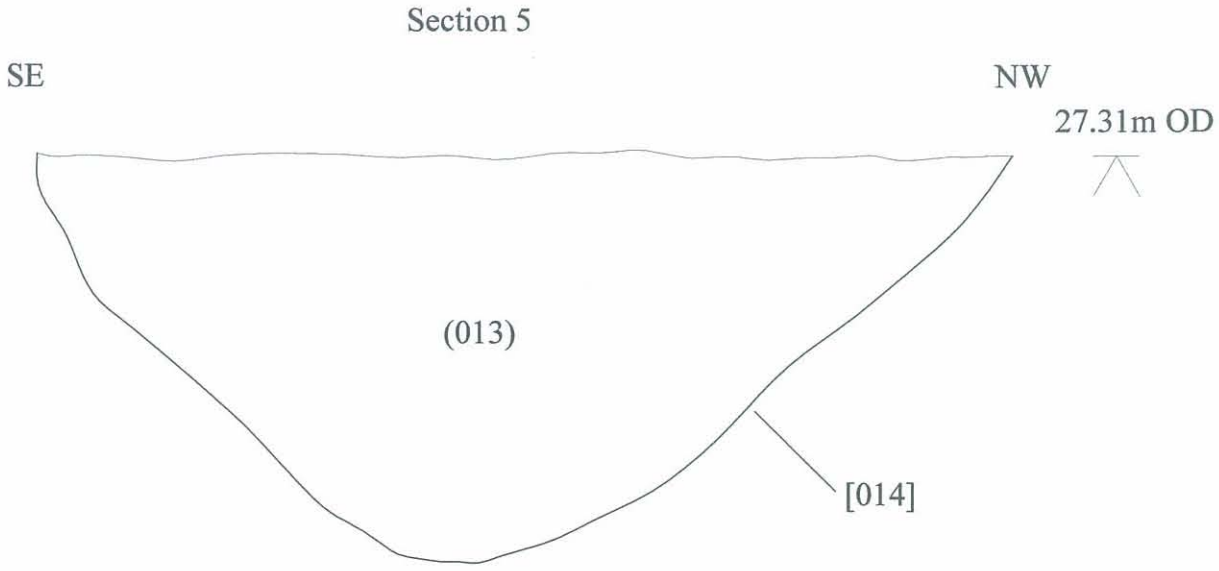


Figure 5: Sections 3 - 4; Scale 1:10



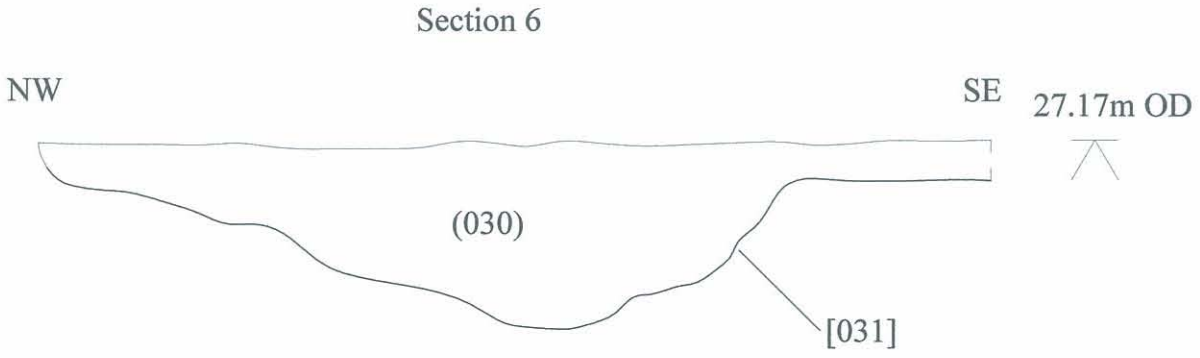


Figure 6: Sections 5 - 6; Scale 1:10

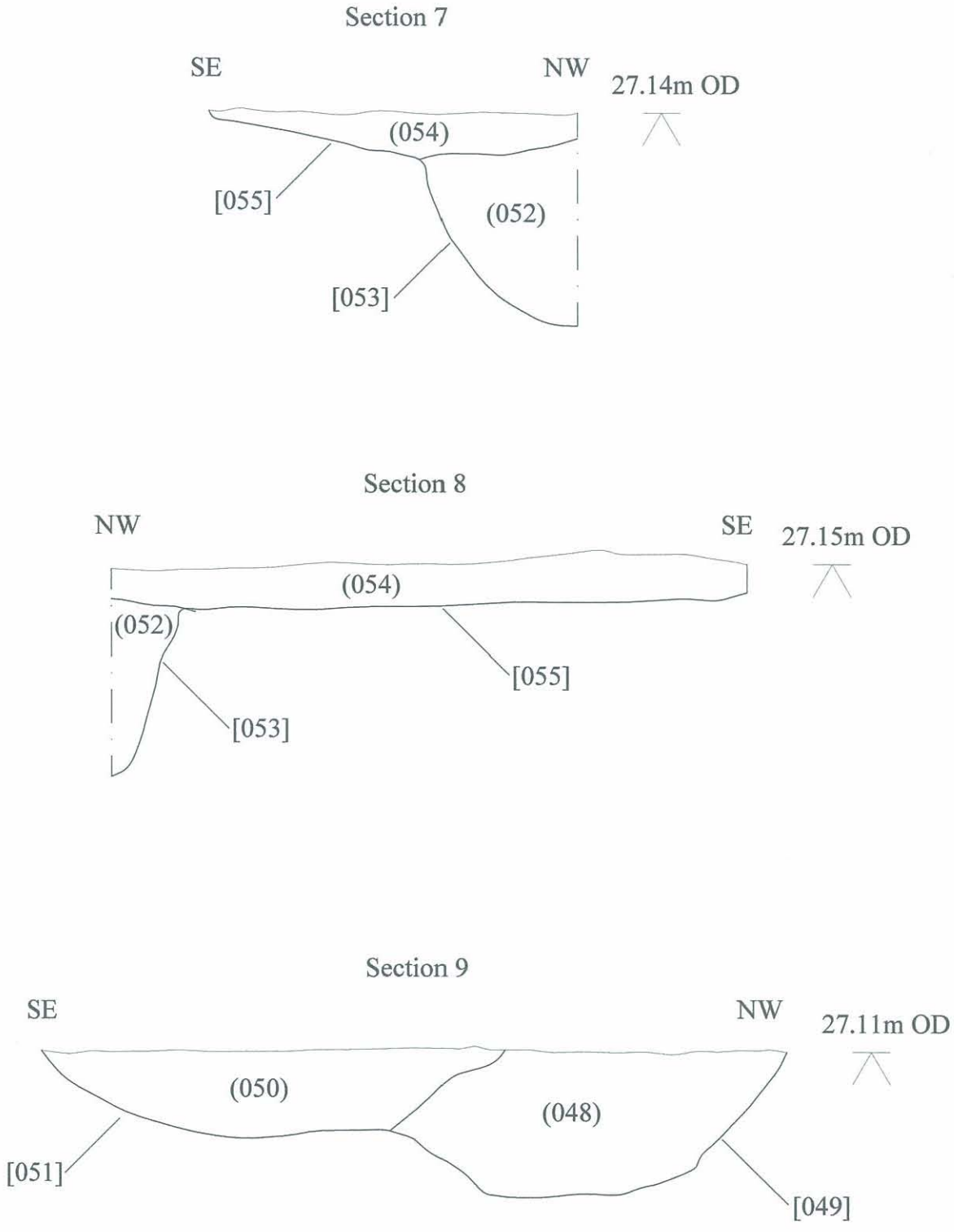
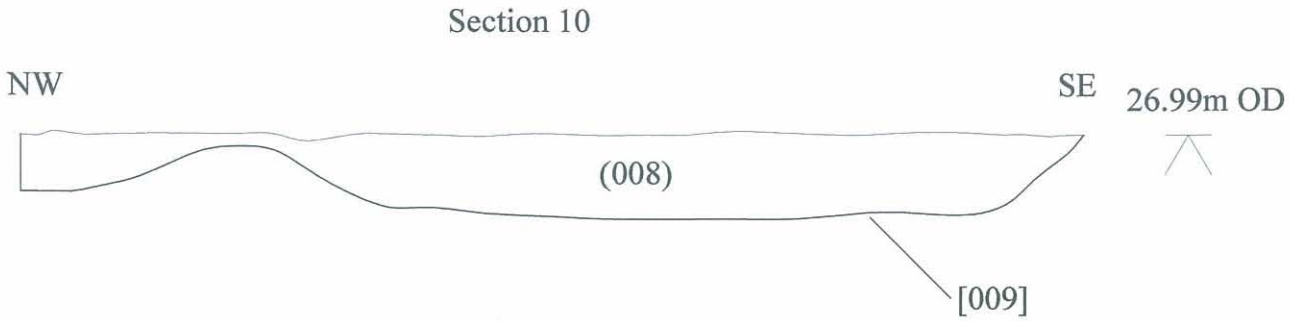
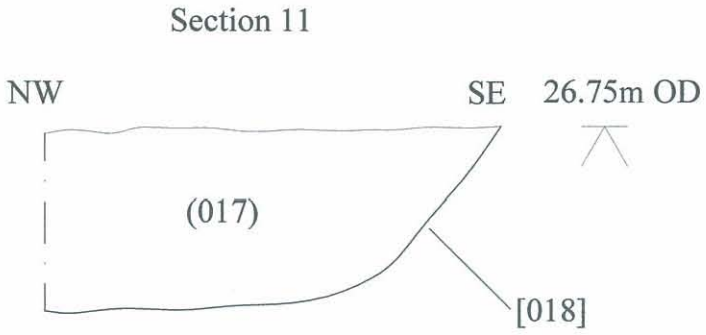


Figure 7: Sections 7 - 9; Scale 1:20





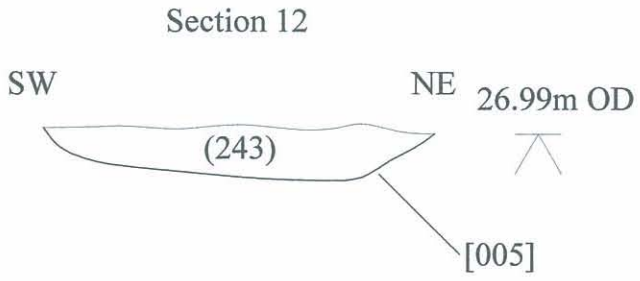


Figure 8: Sections 10 - 12; Scale 1:20

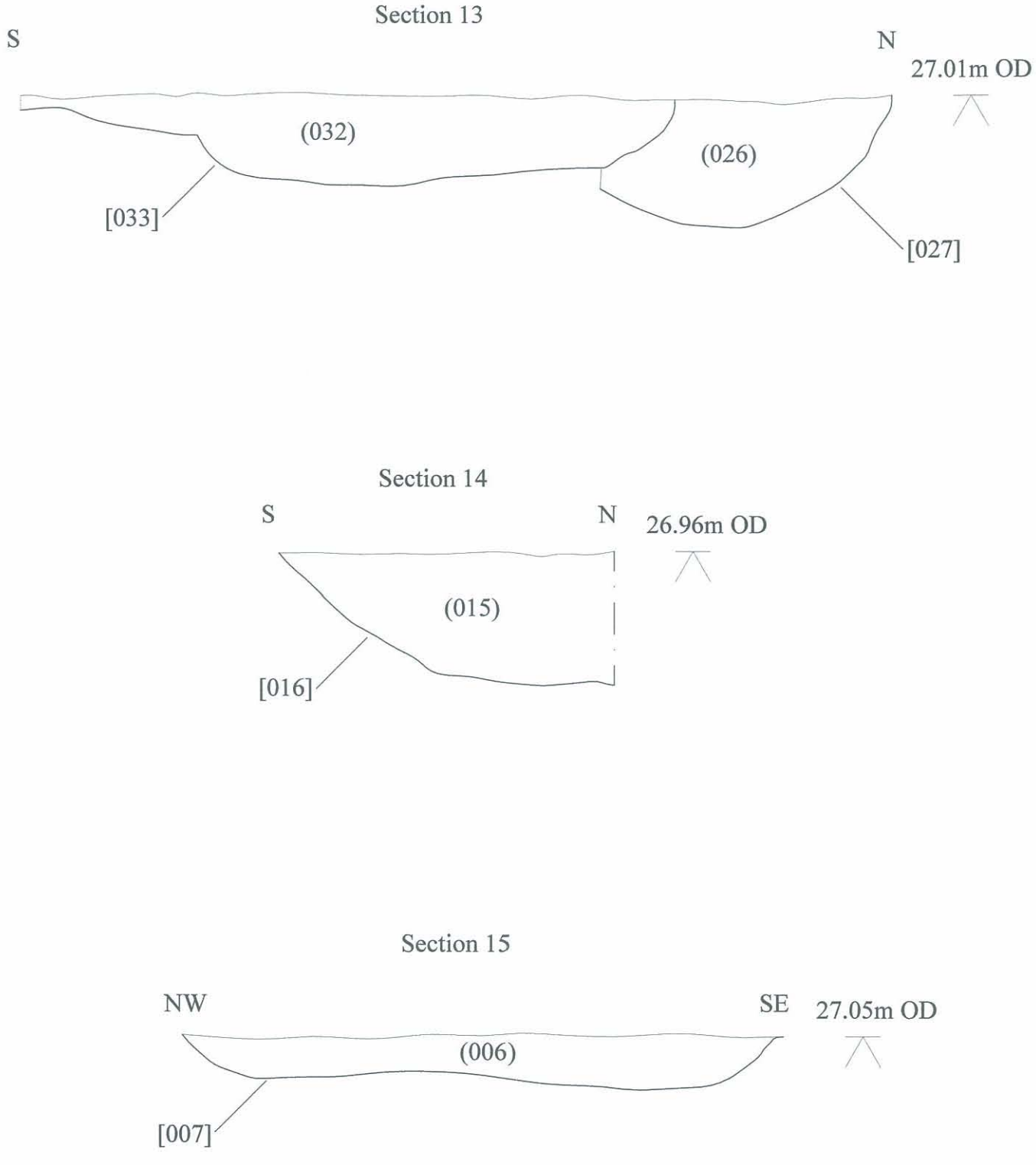


Figure 9: Sections 13 - 15; Scale 1:20

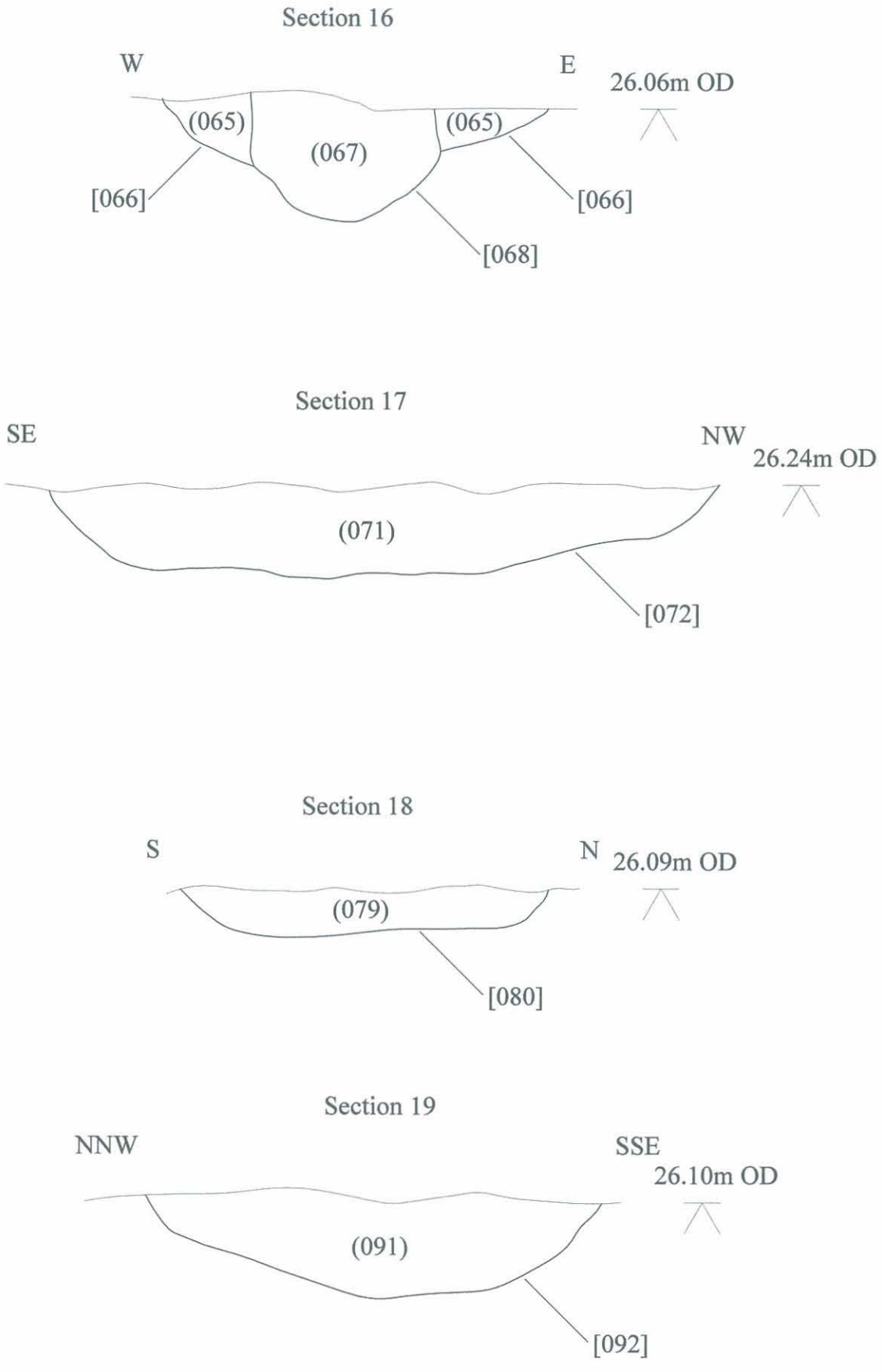


Figure 10: Sections 16 - 19; Scale 1:10

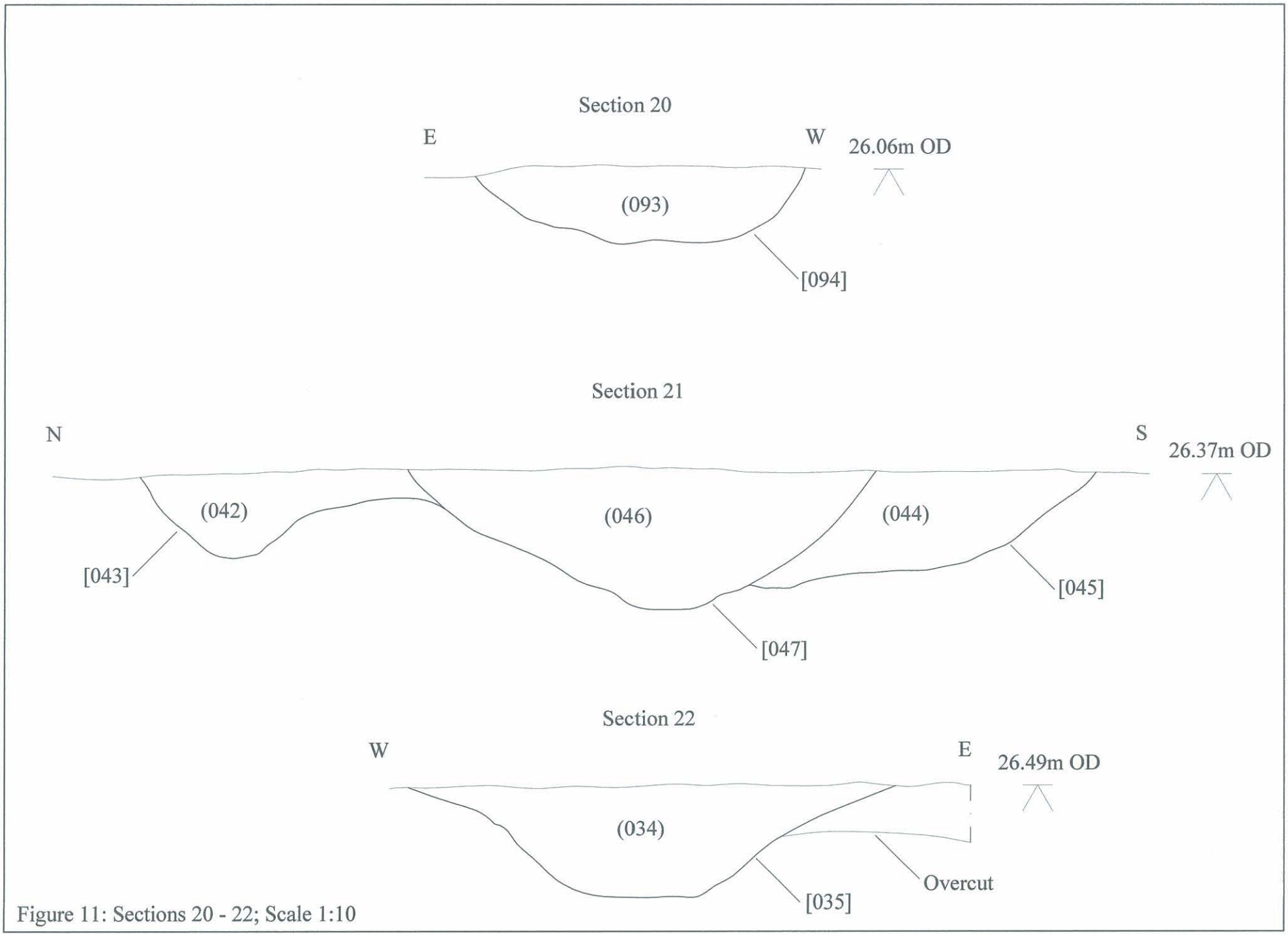


Figure 11: Sections 20 - 22; Scale 1:10

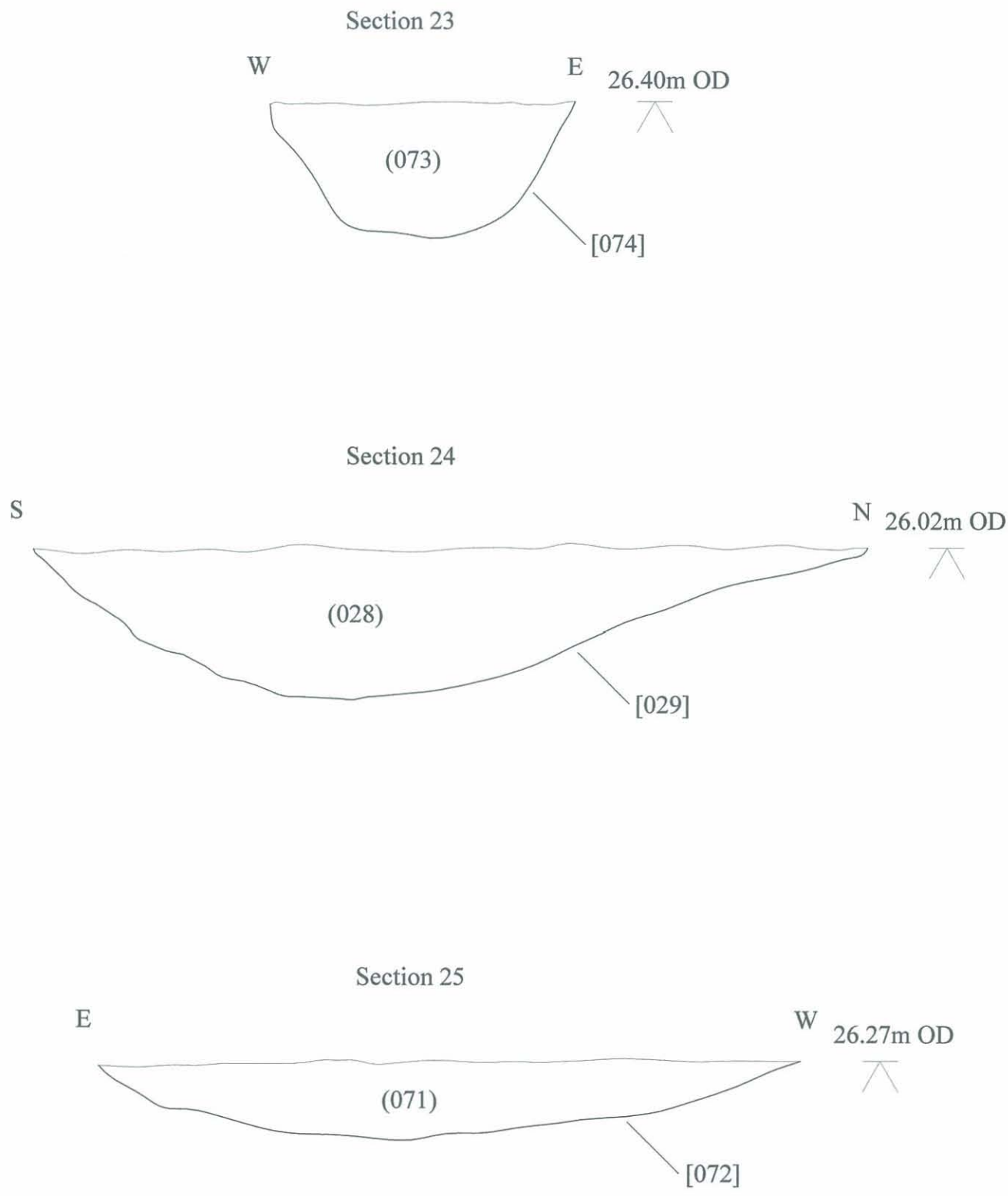
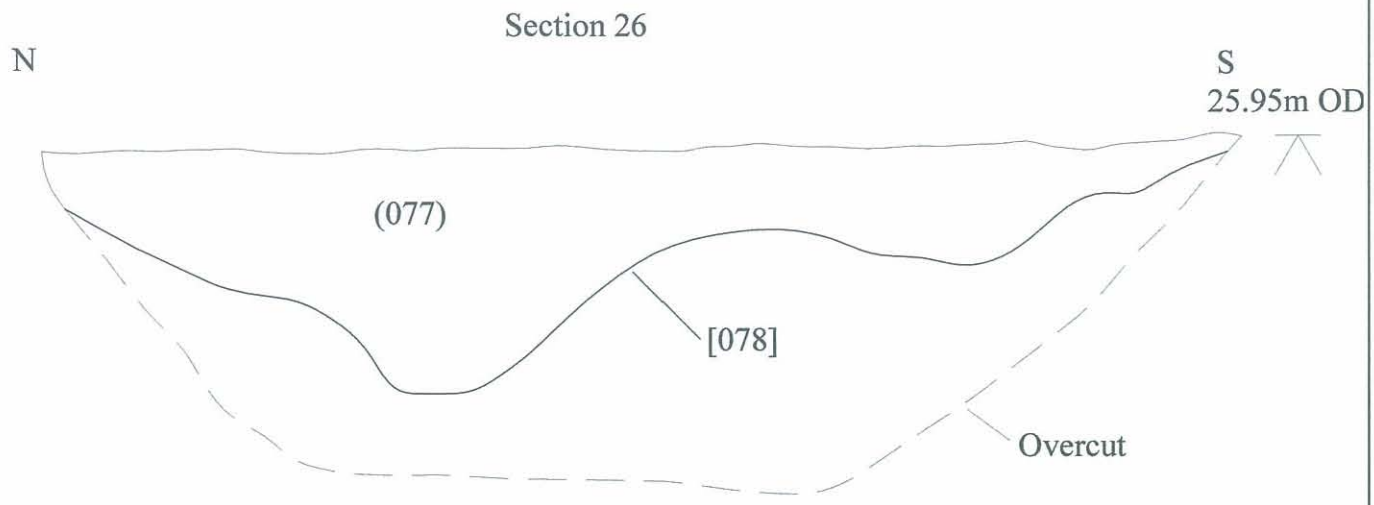
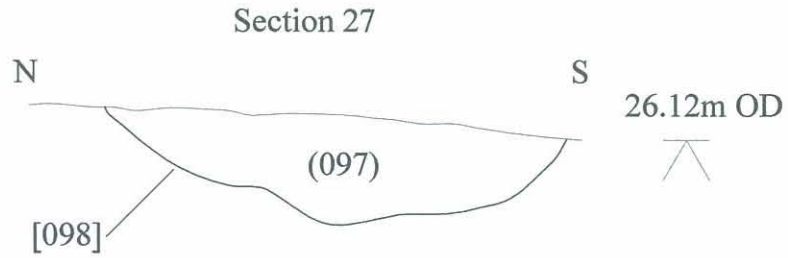
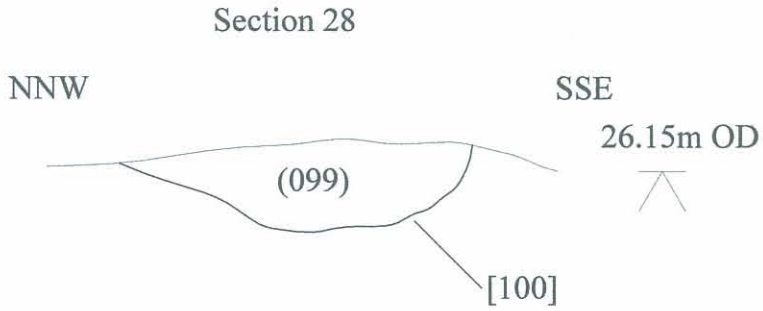


Figure 12: Sections 23 - 25; Scale 1:10







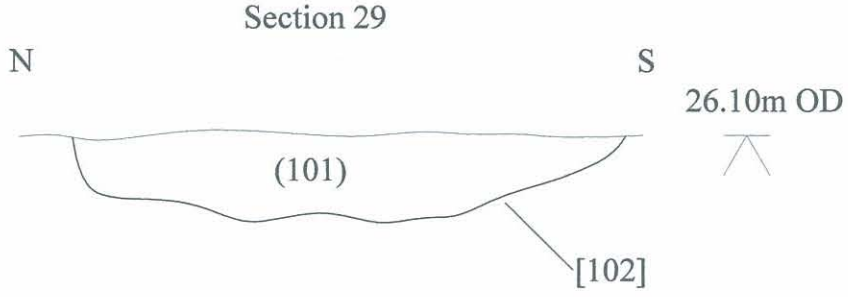
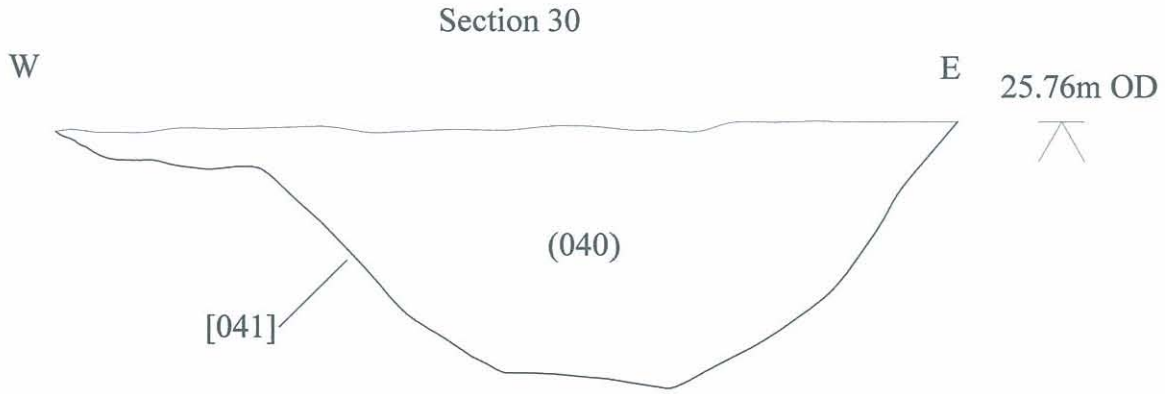
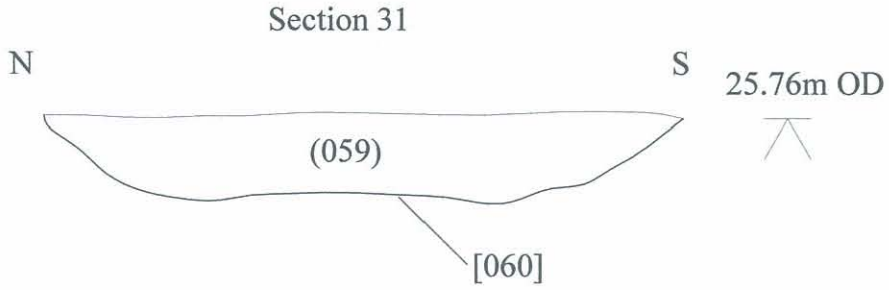


Figure 13: Sections 26 - 29; Scale 1:10





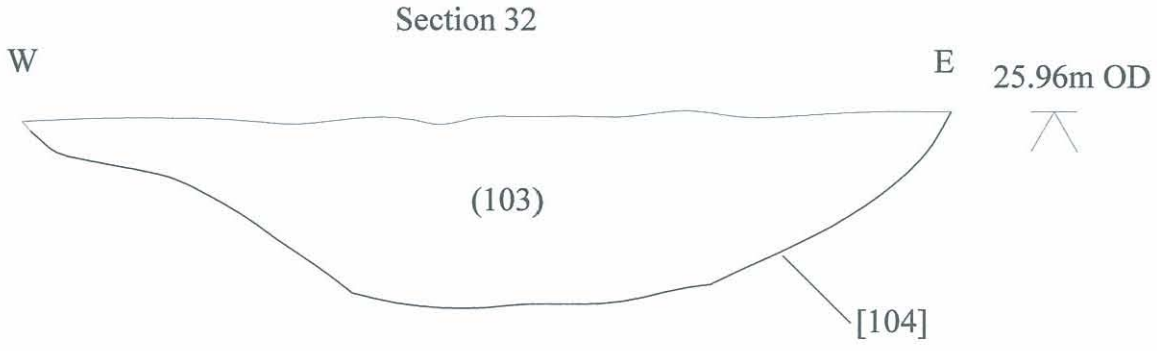


Figure 14: Sections 30 - 32; Scale 1:10

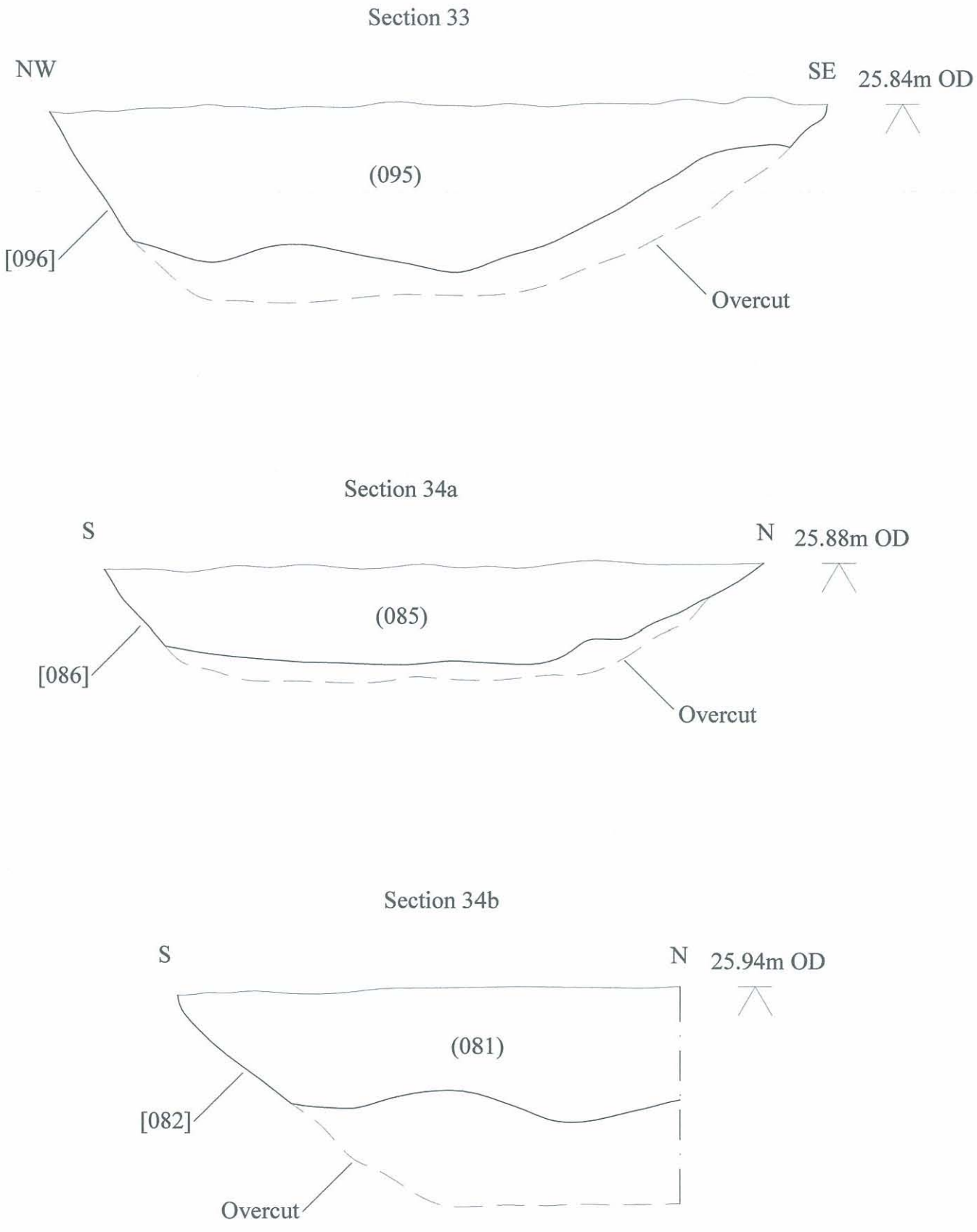


Figure 15: Sections 33 - 34; Scale 1:10

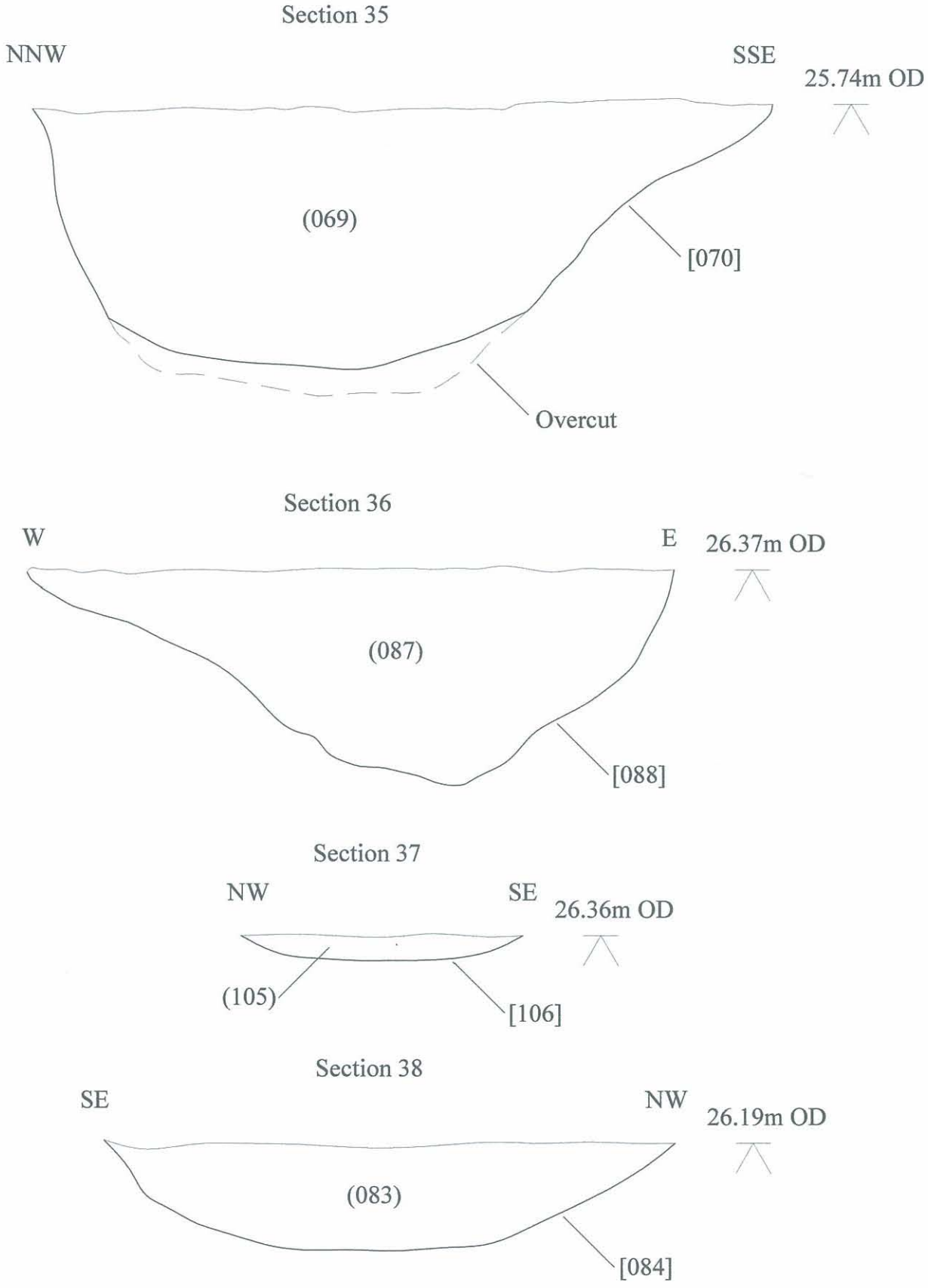


Figure 16: Sections 35 - 38; Scale 1:10

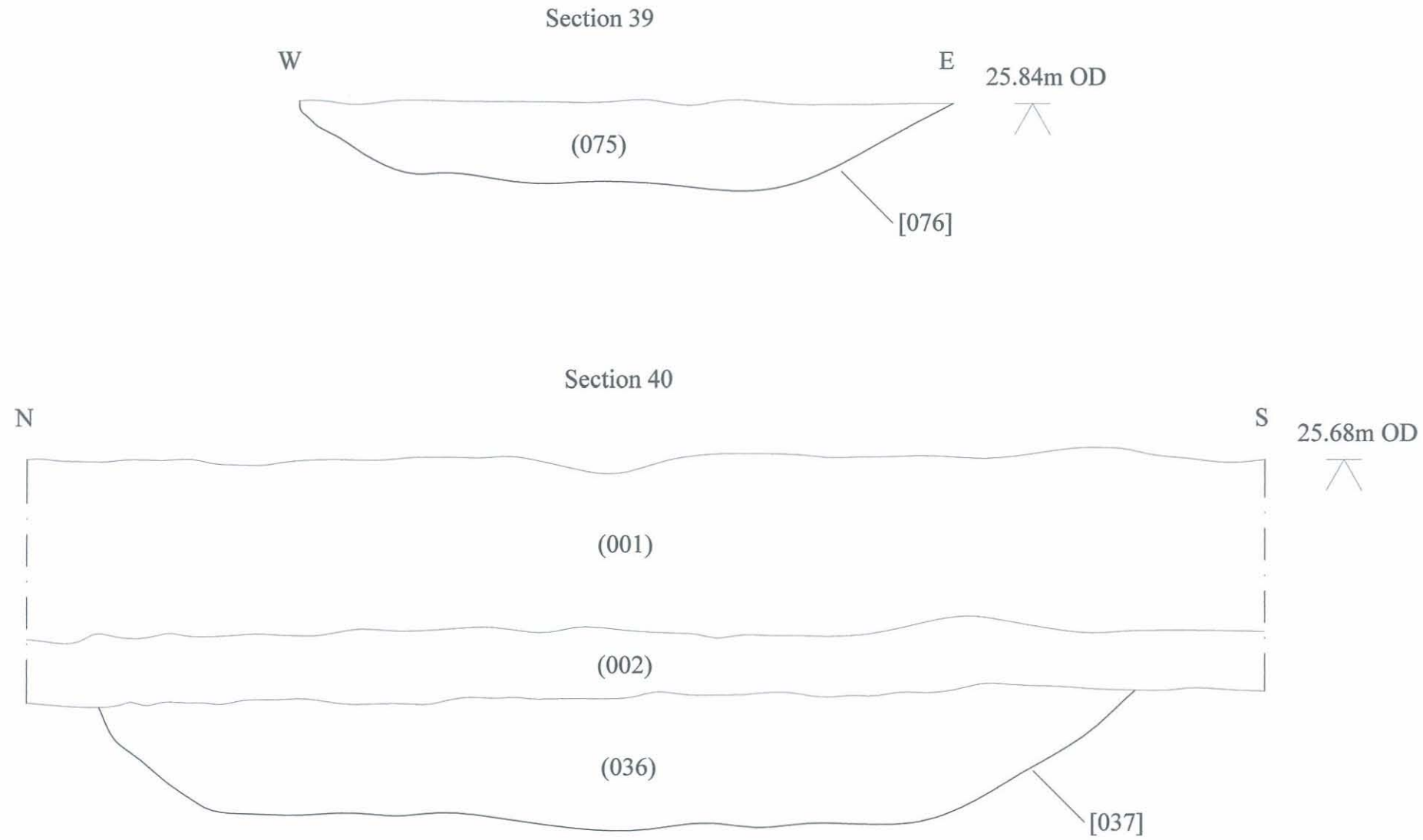


Figure 17: Sections 39 - 40; Scale 1:10

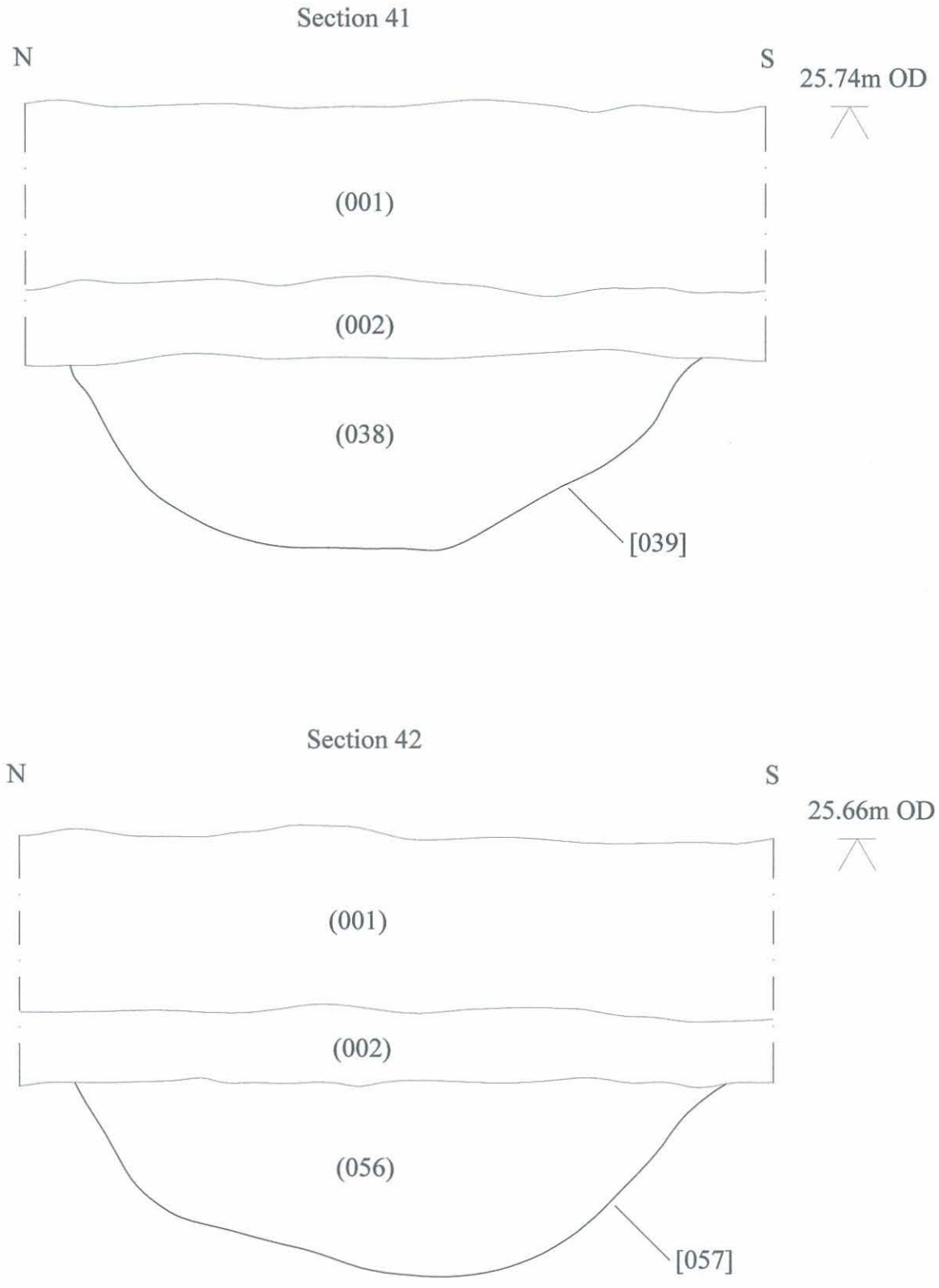


Figure 18: Sections 41 - 42; Scale 1:10

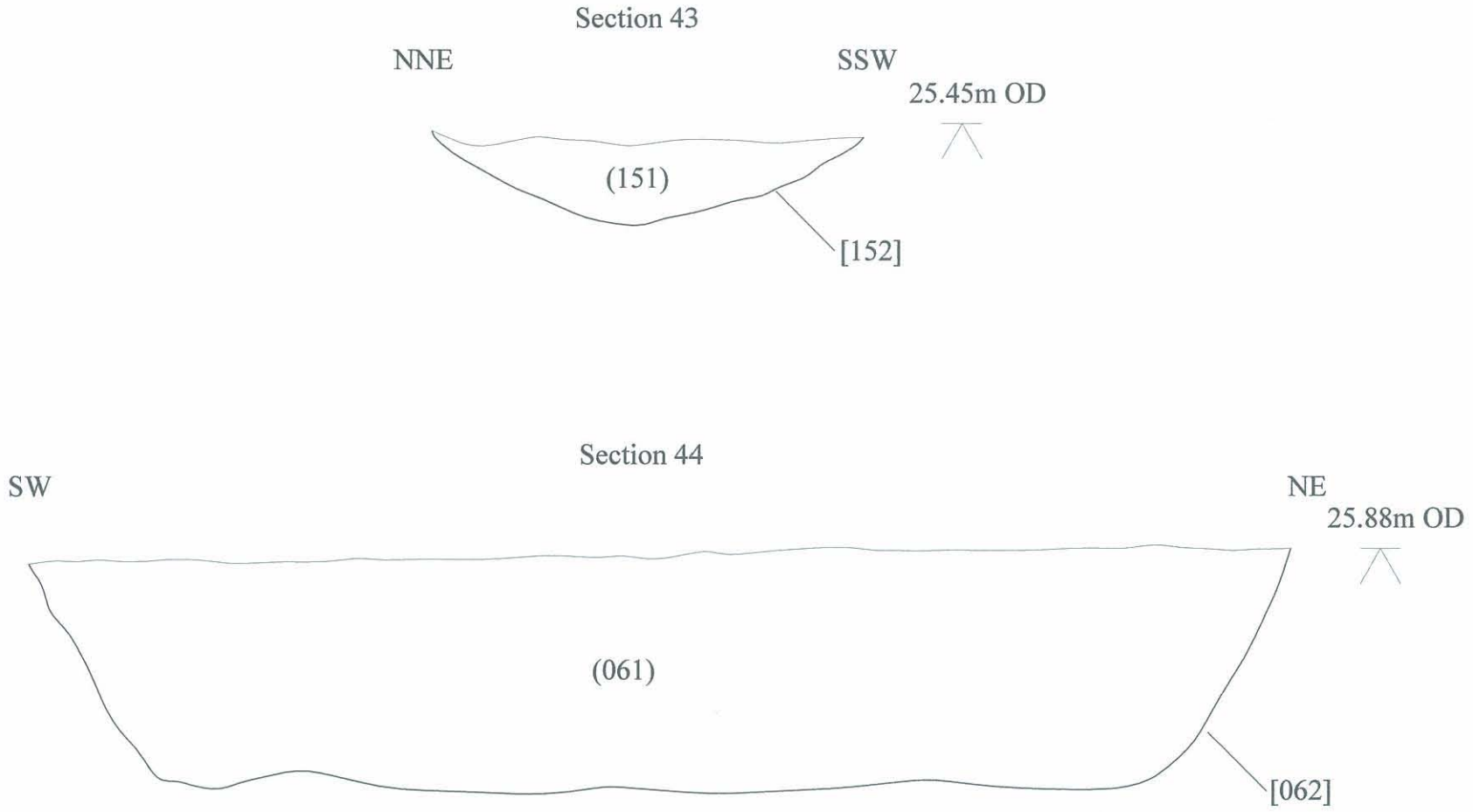


Figure 19: Sections 43 - 44; Scale 1:10

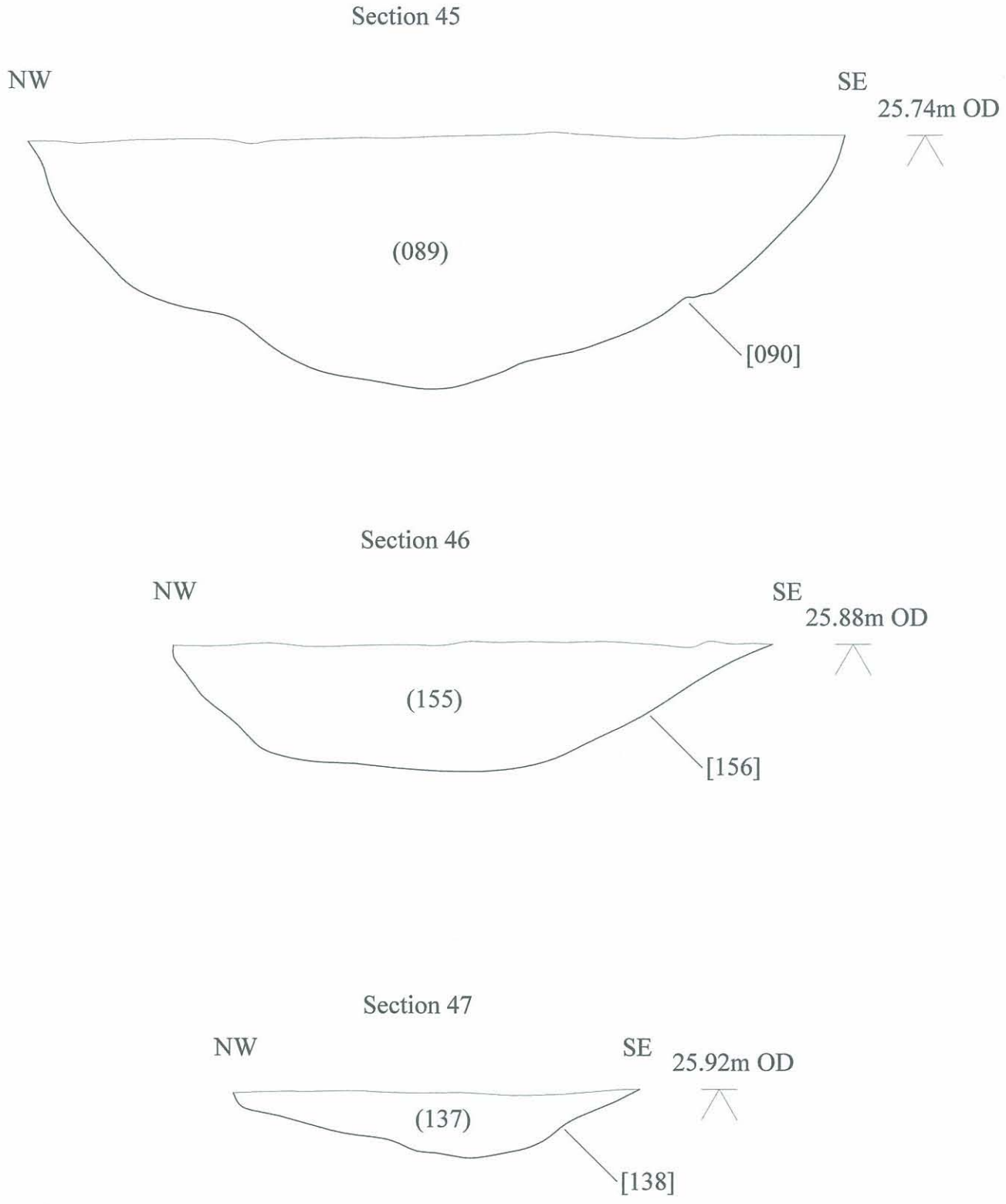
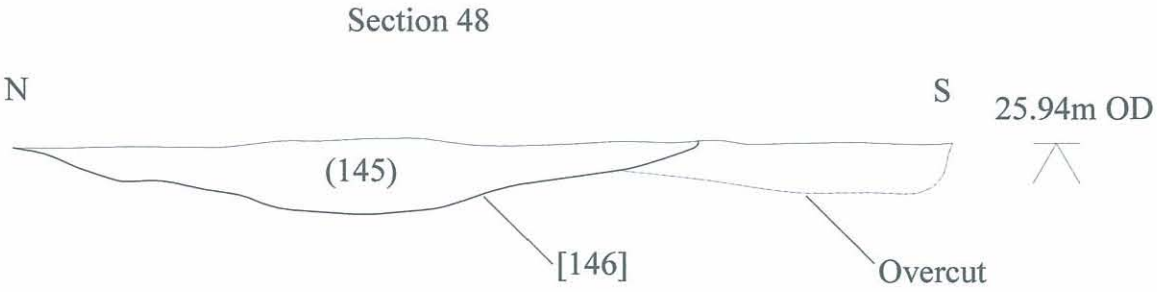
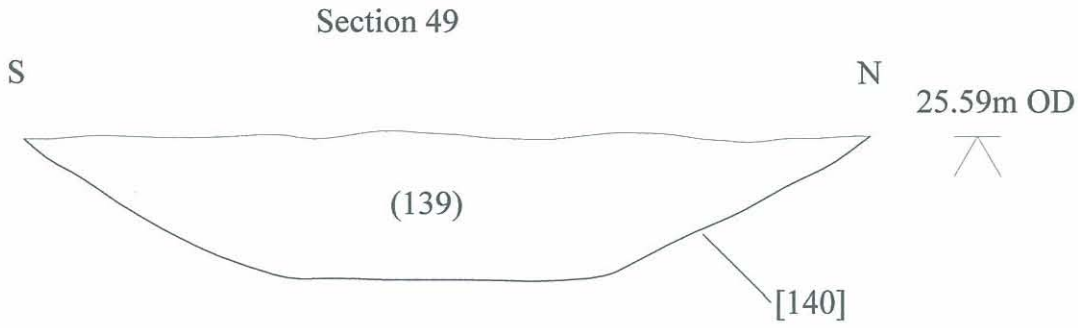


Figure 20: Sections 45 - 47; Scale 1:10





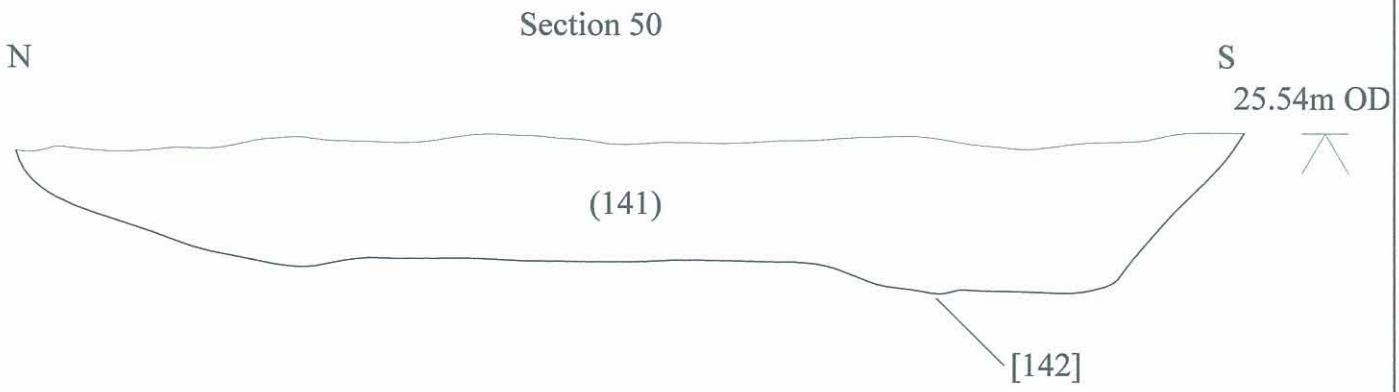


Figure 21: Sections 48 - 50; Scale 1:10

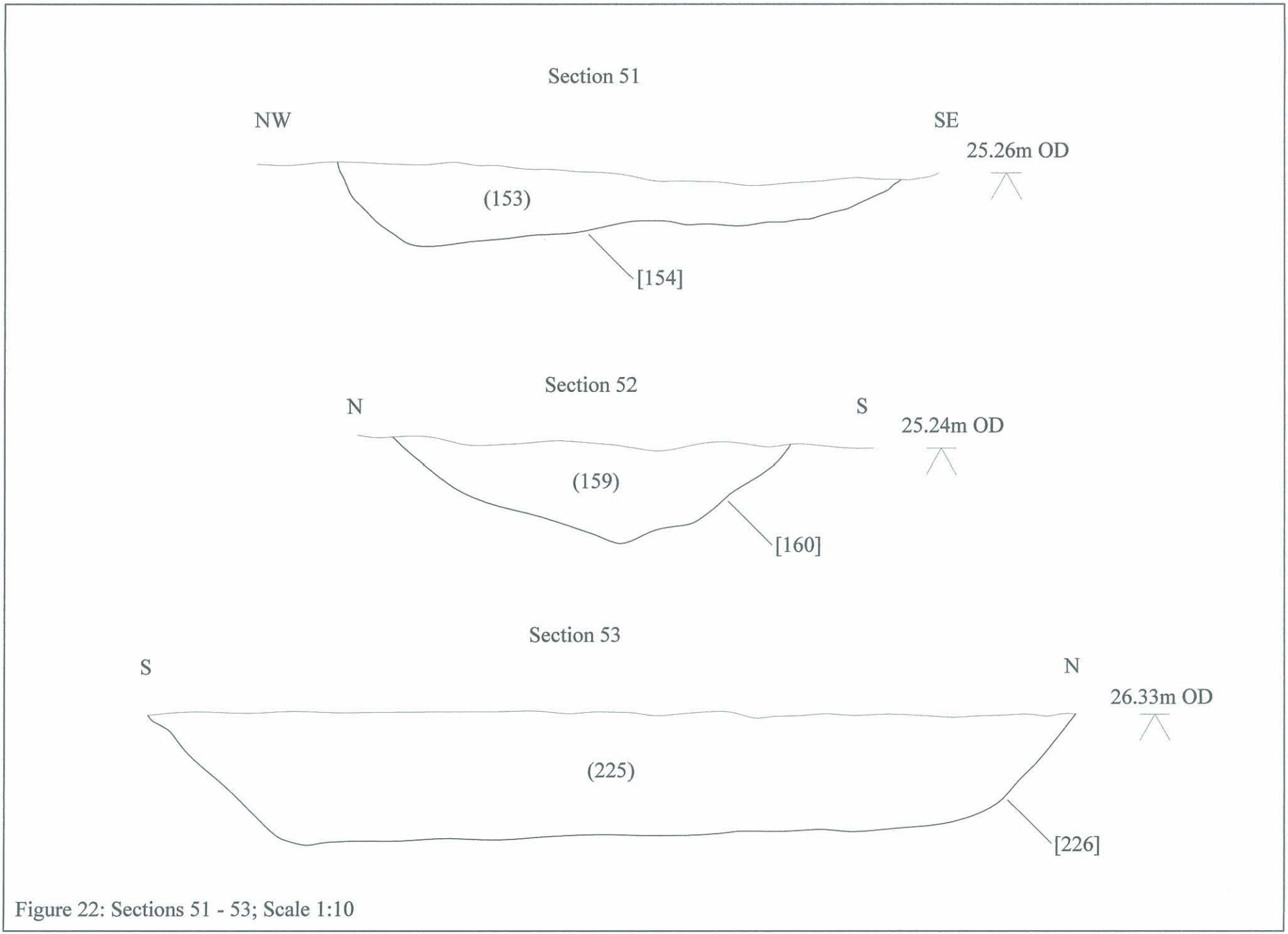


Figure 22: Sections 51 - 53; Scale 1:10

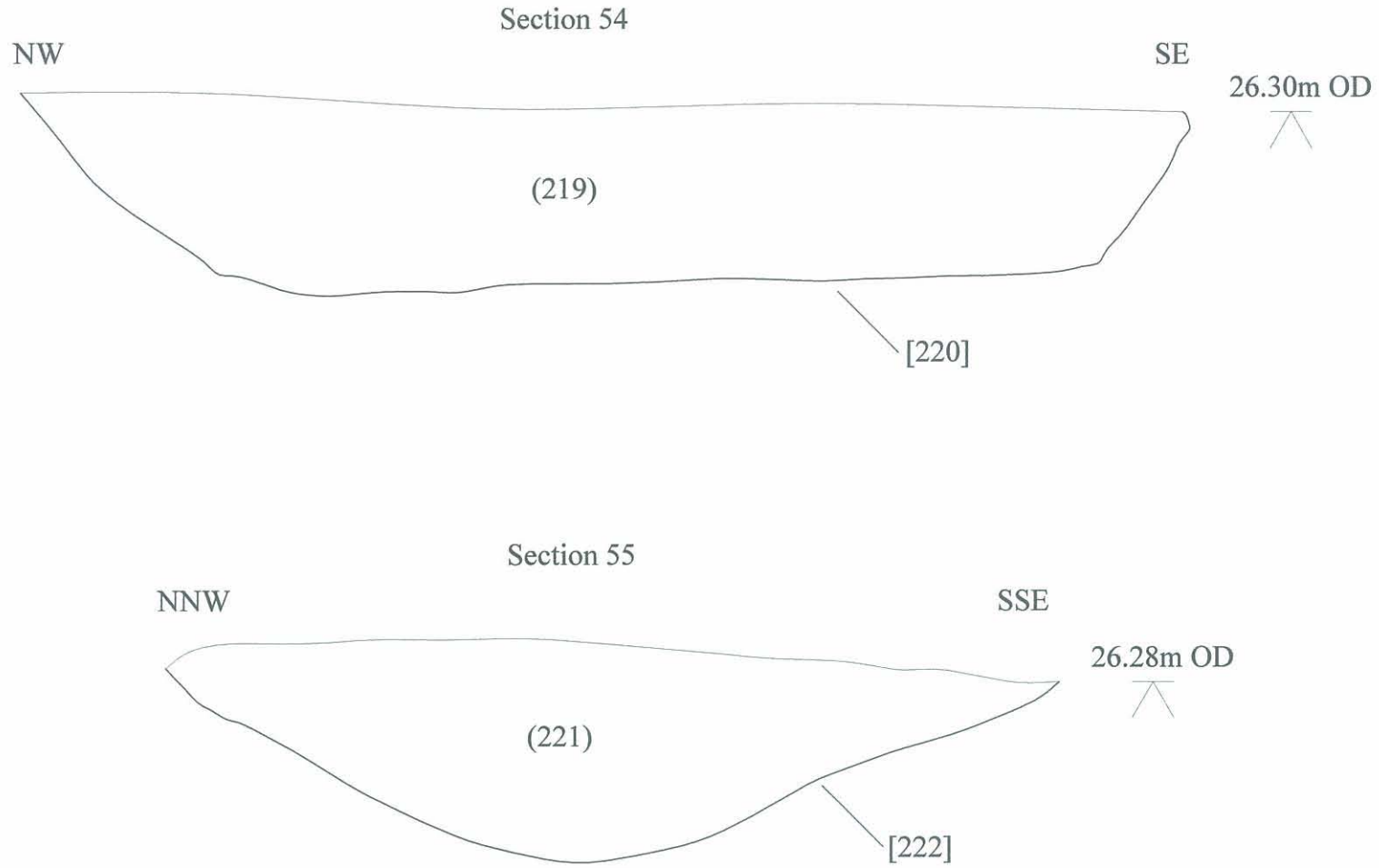


Figure 23: Sections 54 - 55; Scale 1:10

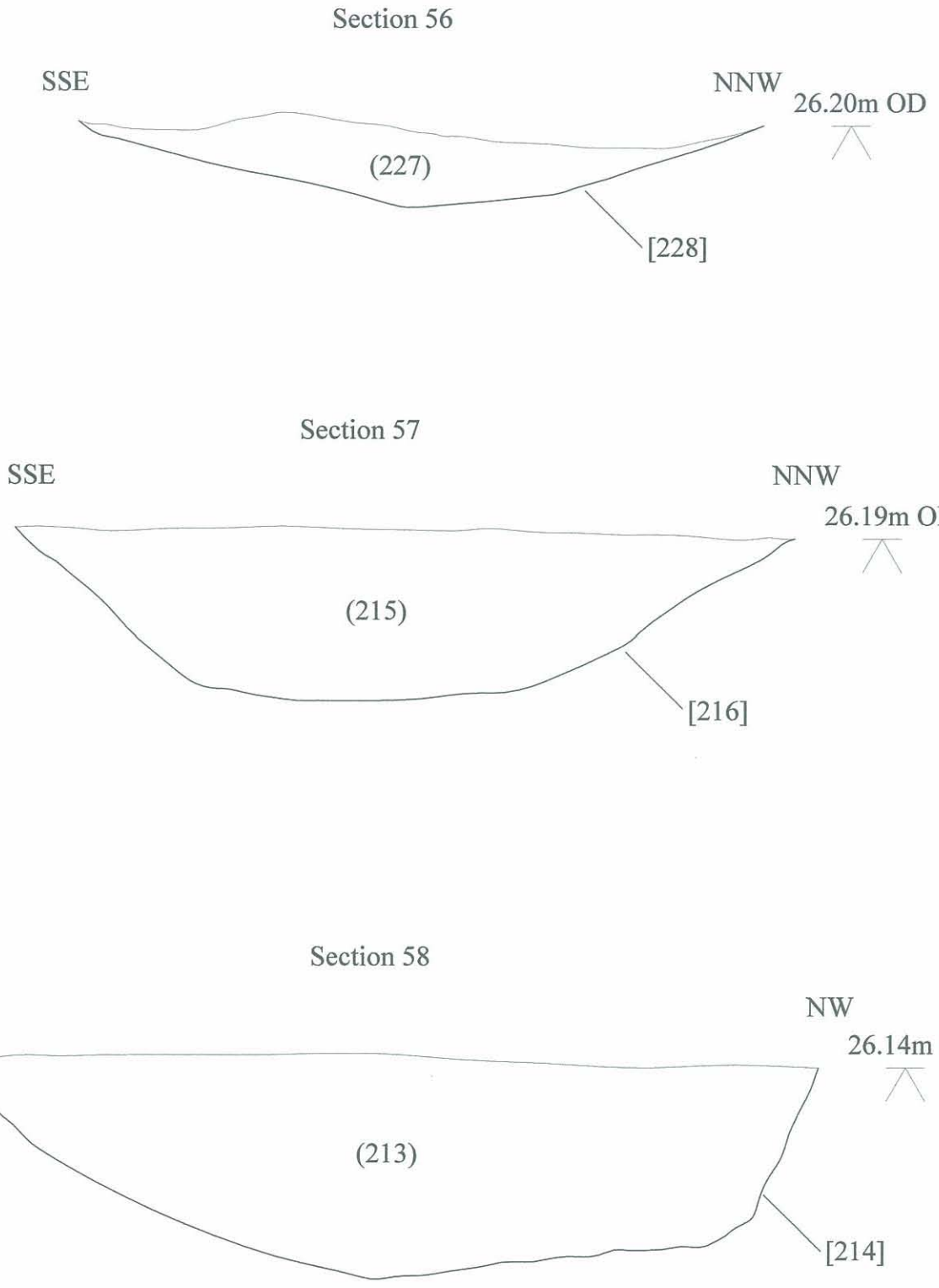


Figure 24: Sections 56 - 58; Scale 1:10

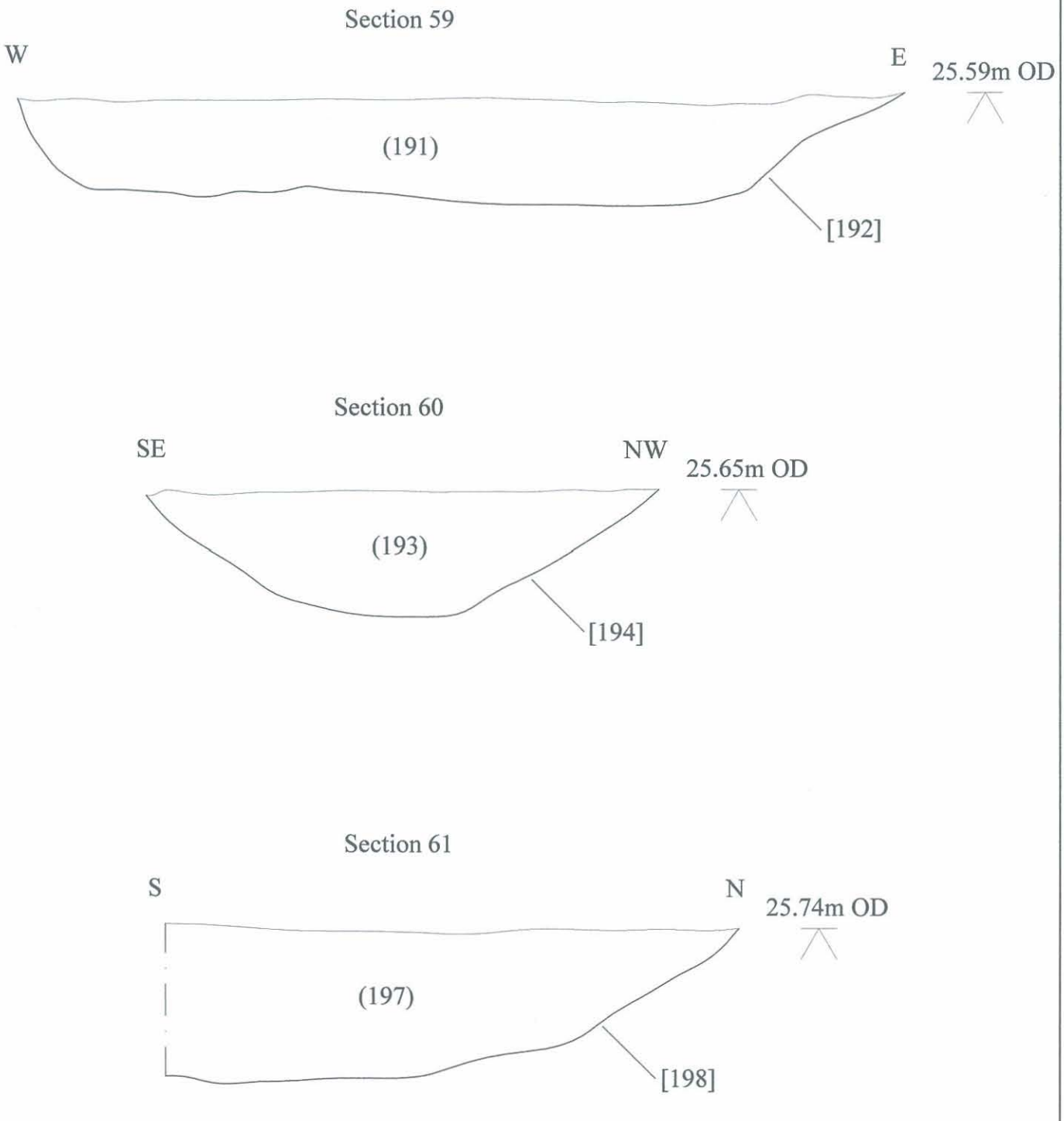


Figure 25: Sections 59 - 61; Scale 1:10

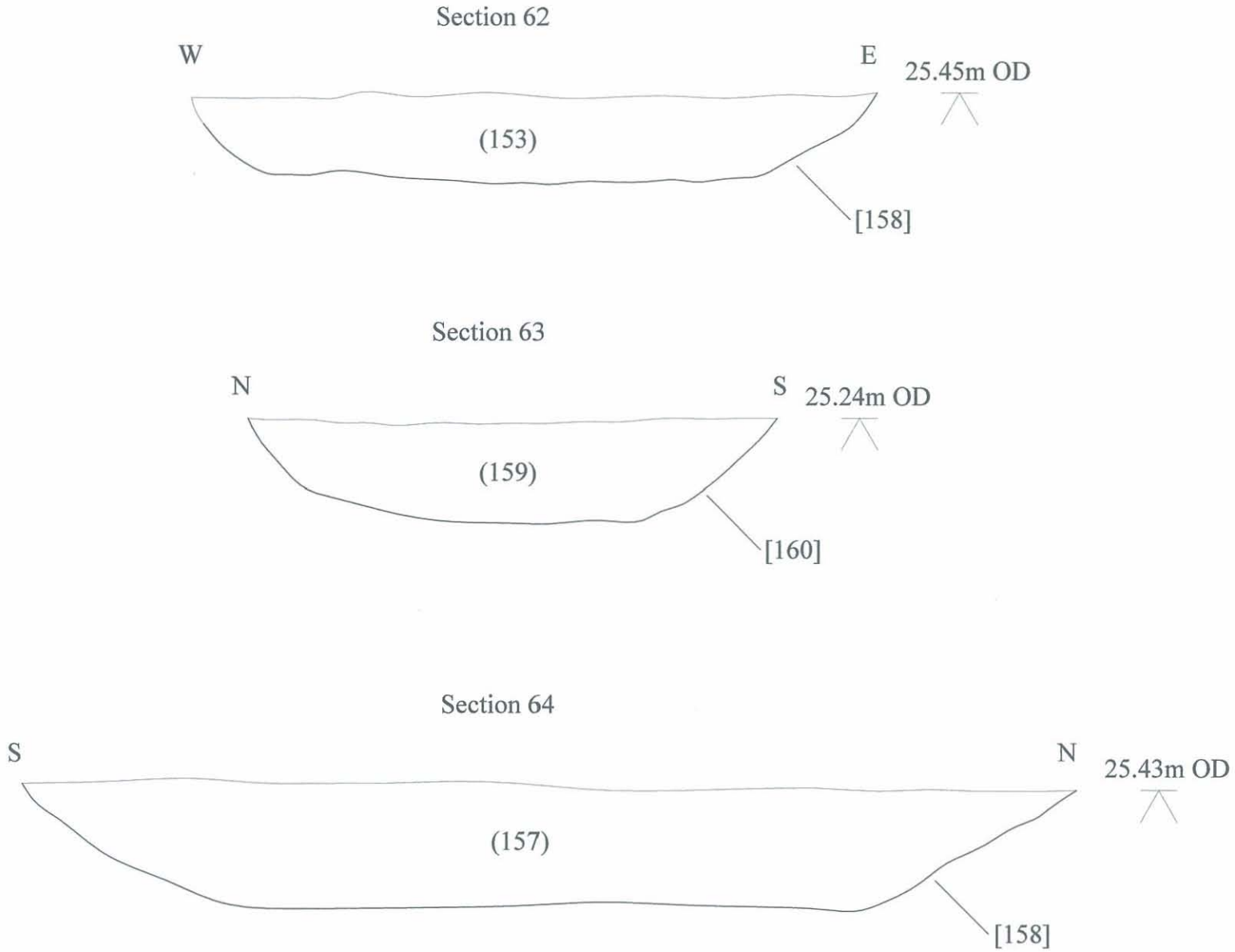
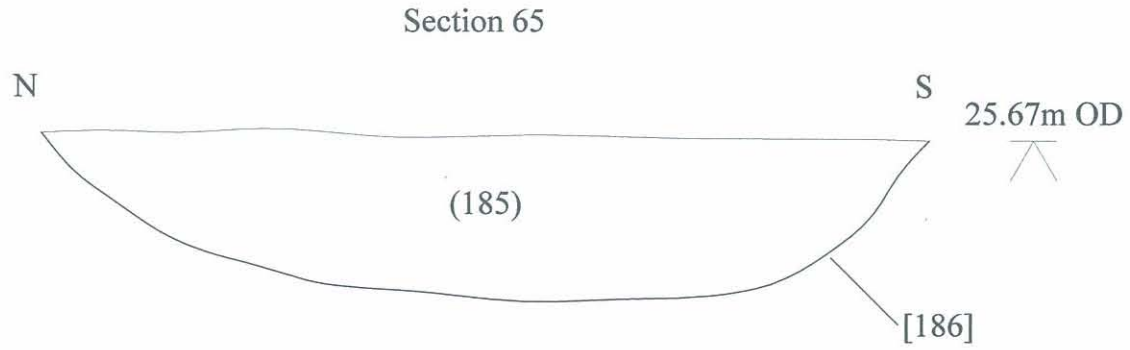
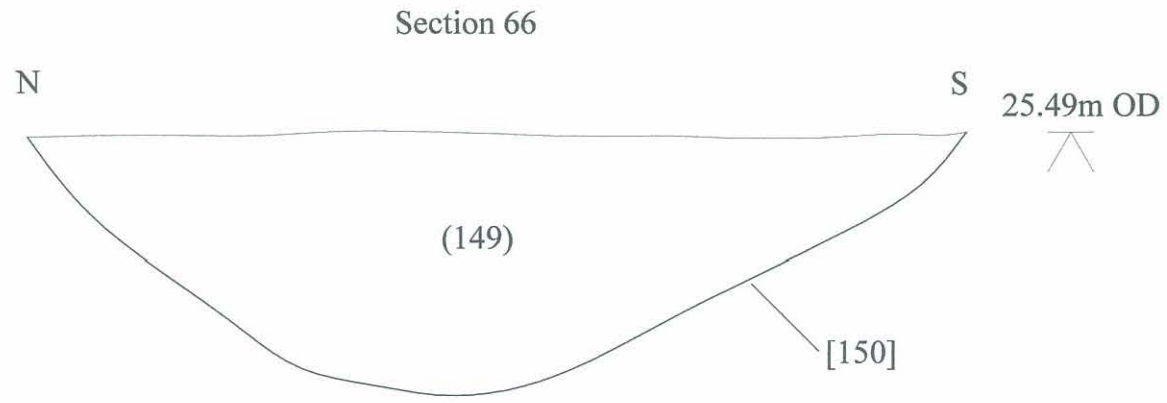


Figure 26: Sections 62 - 64; Scale 1:10





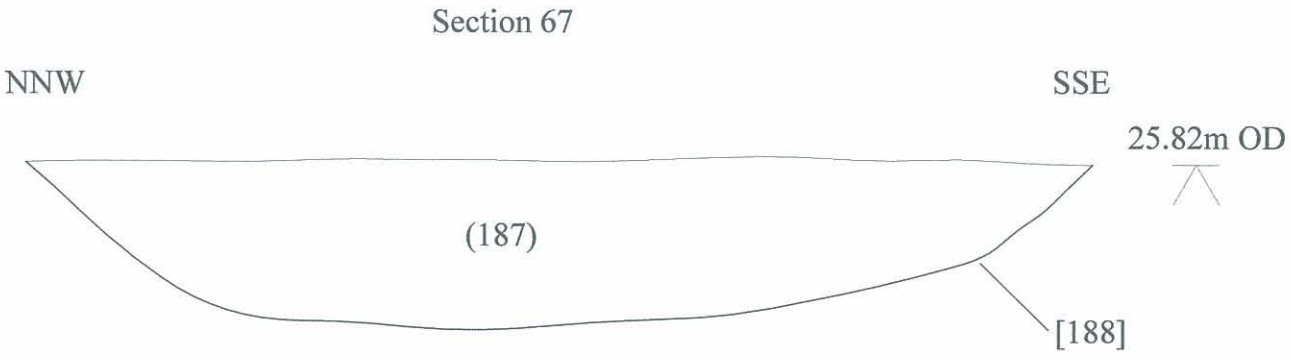
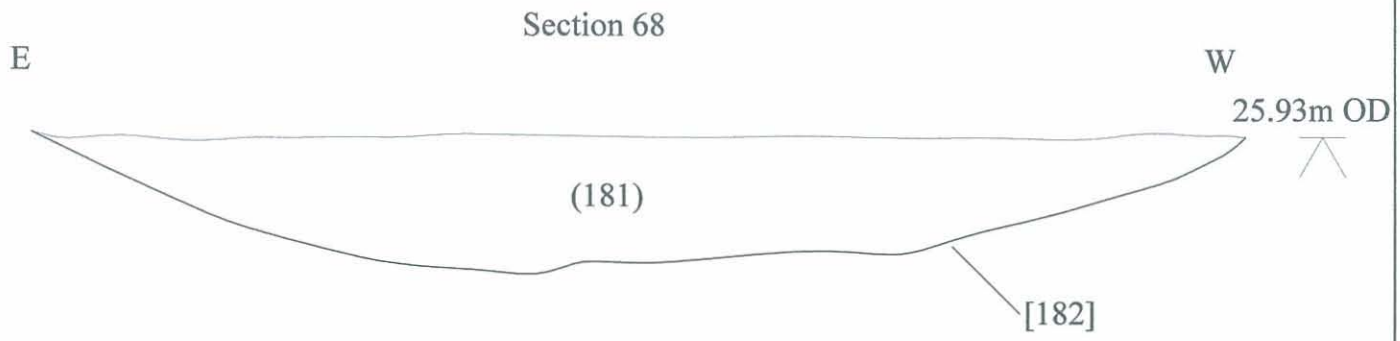
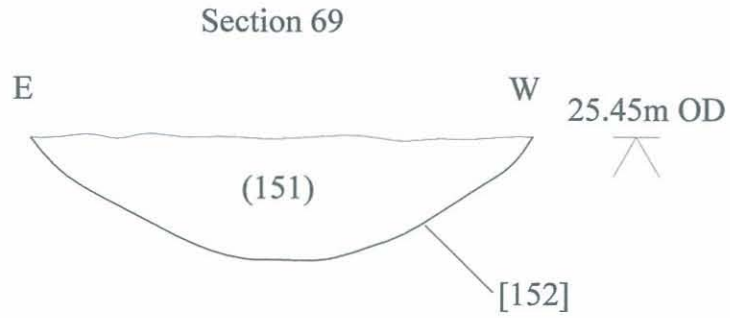


Figure 27: Sections 65 - 67; Scale 1:10





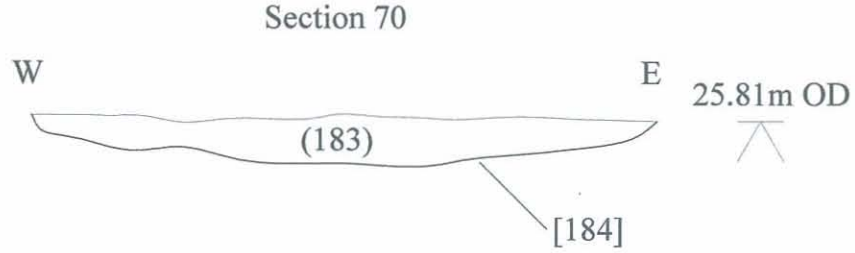


Figure 28: Sections 68 - 70; Scale 1:10

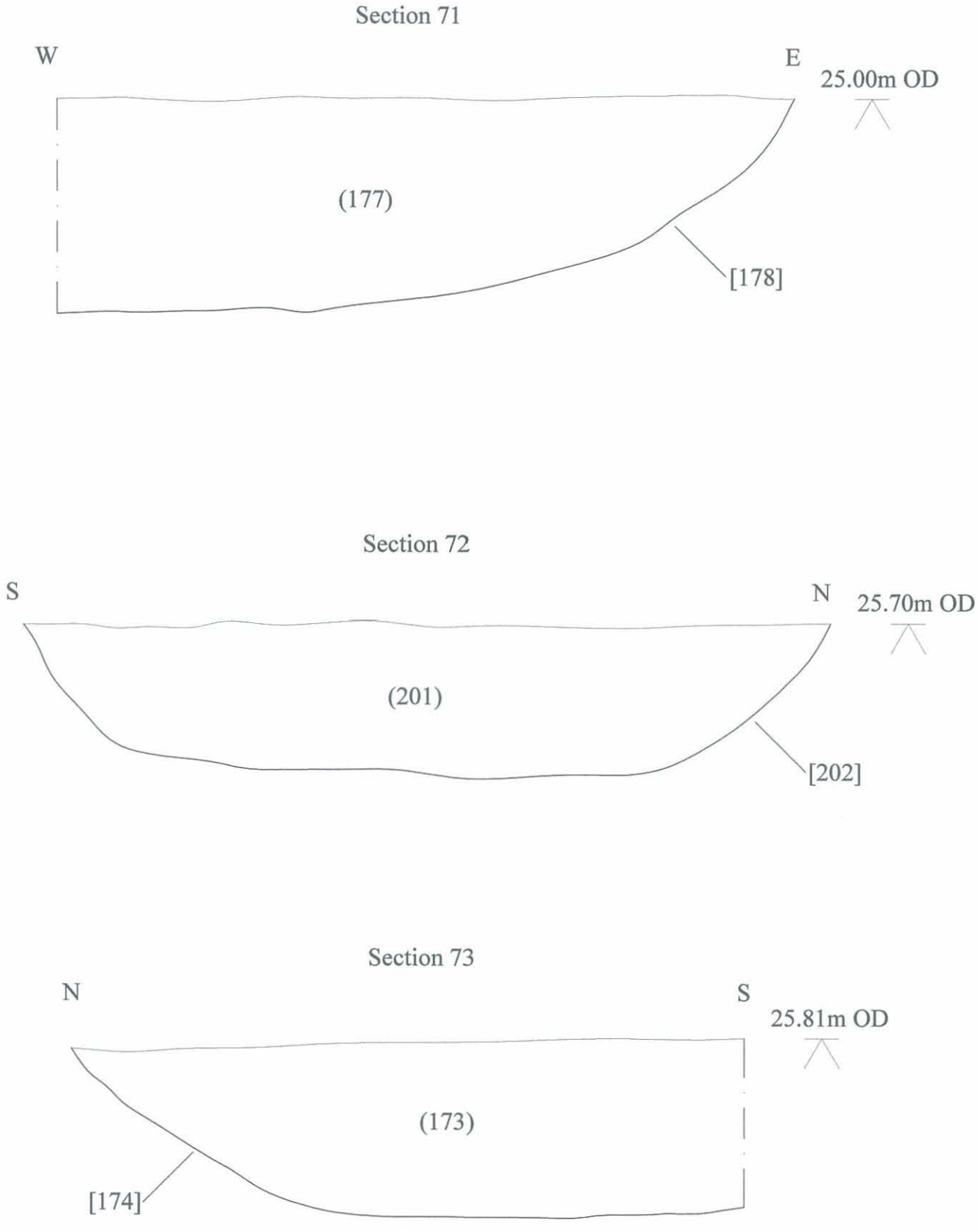
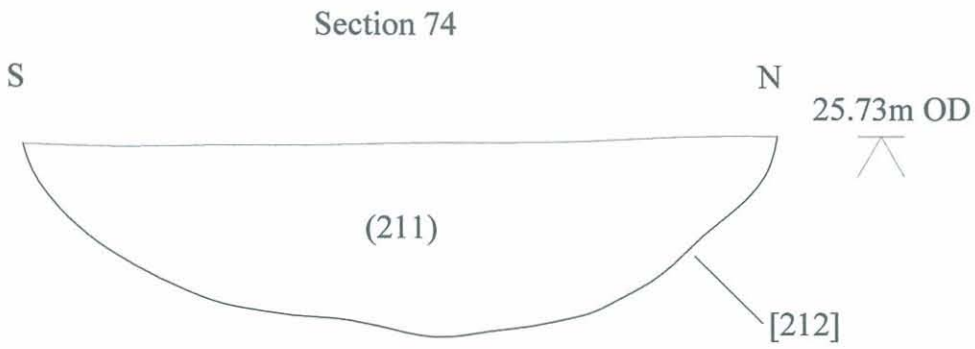
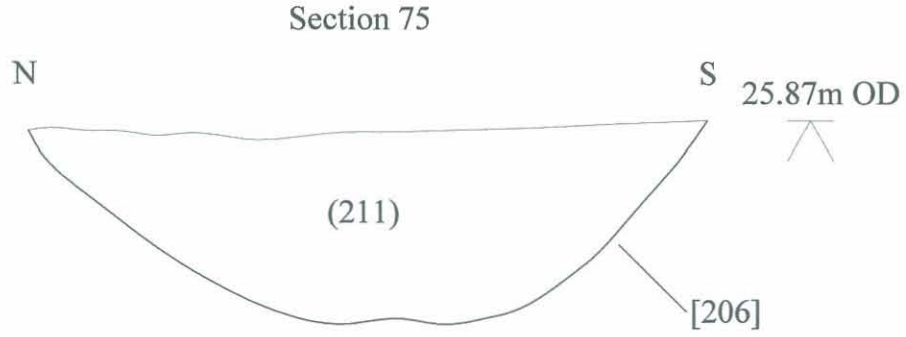


Figure 29: Sections 71 - 73; Scale 1:10





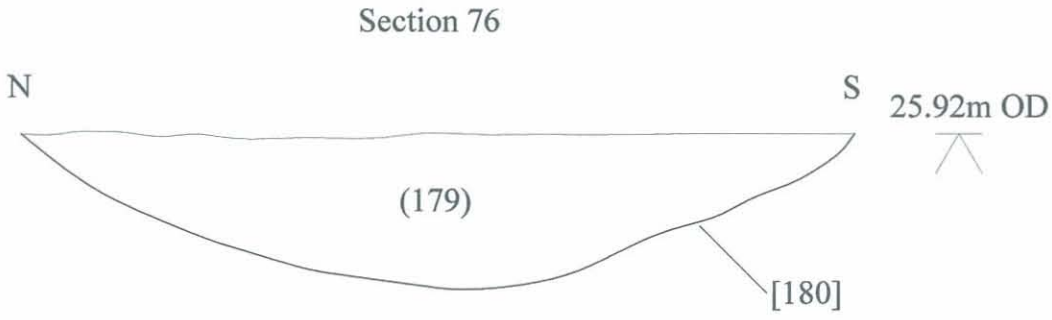


Figure 30: Sections 74 - 76; Scale 1:10

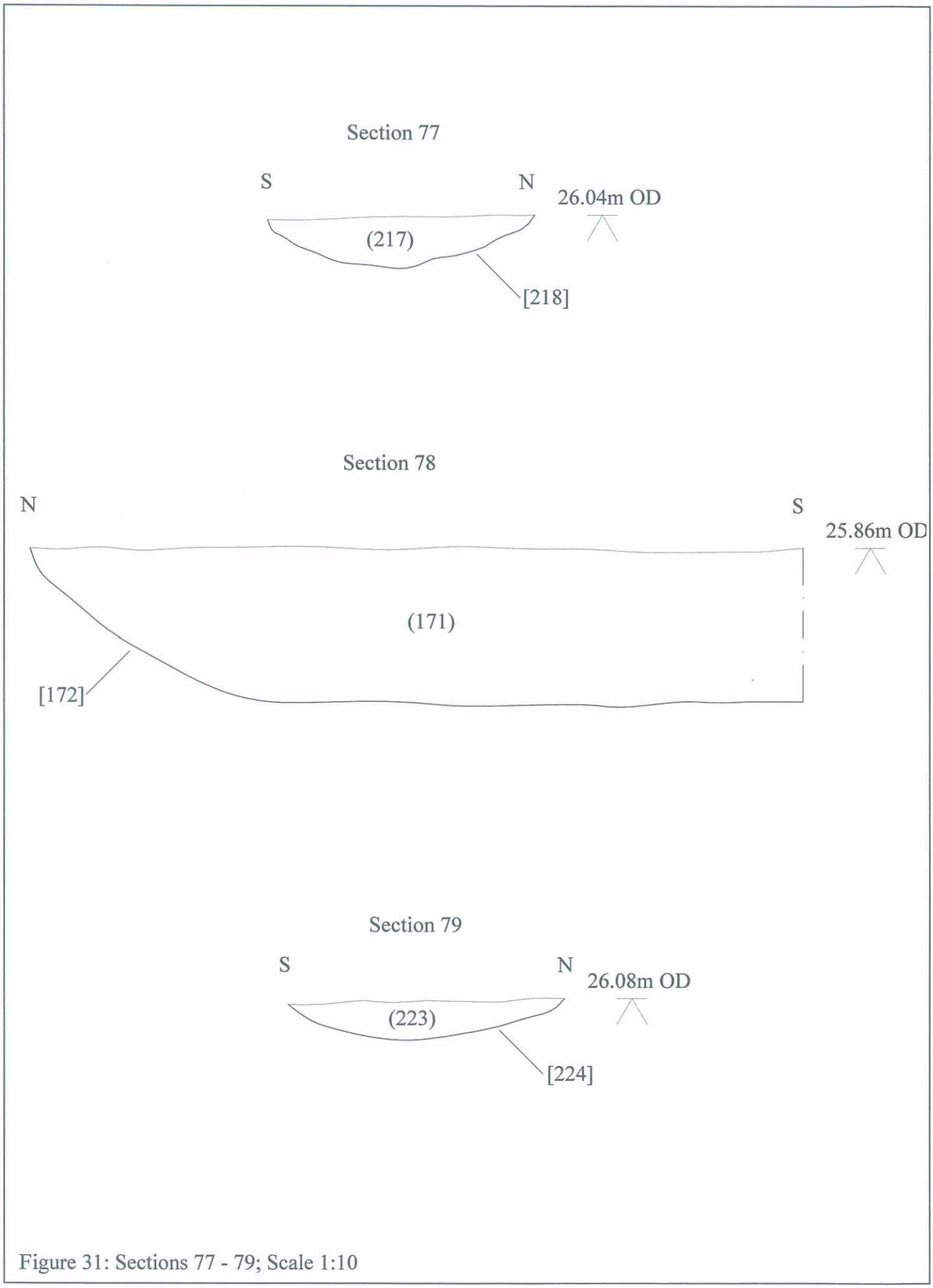


Figure 31: Sections 77 - 79; Scale 1:10

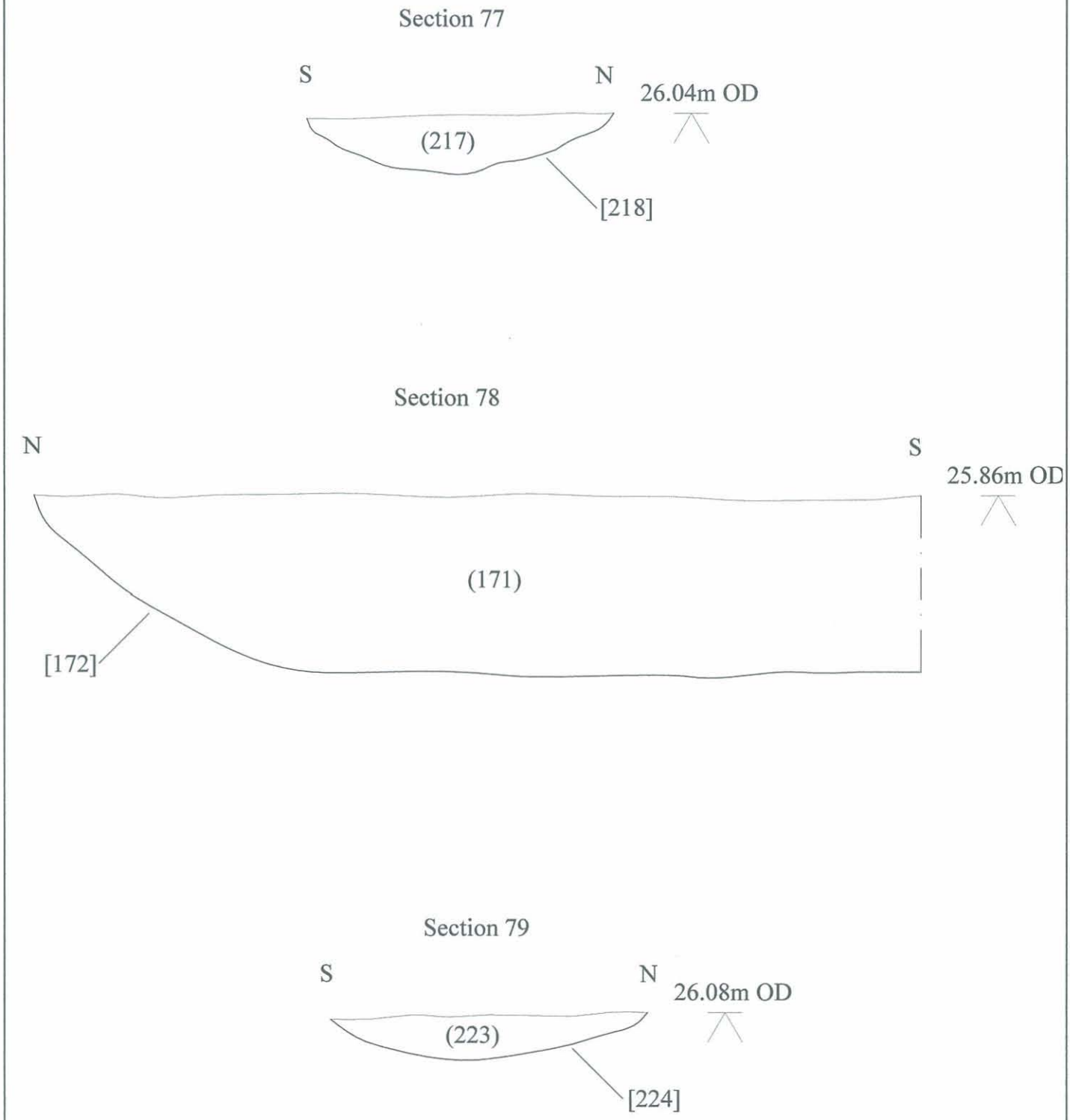
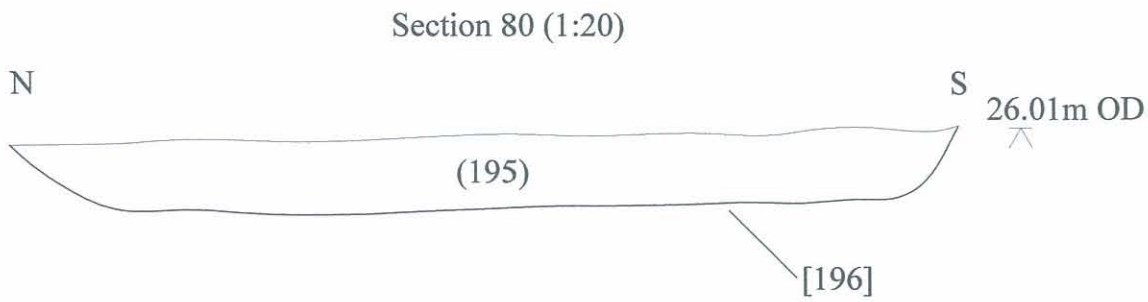
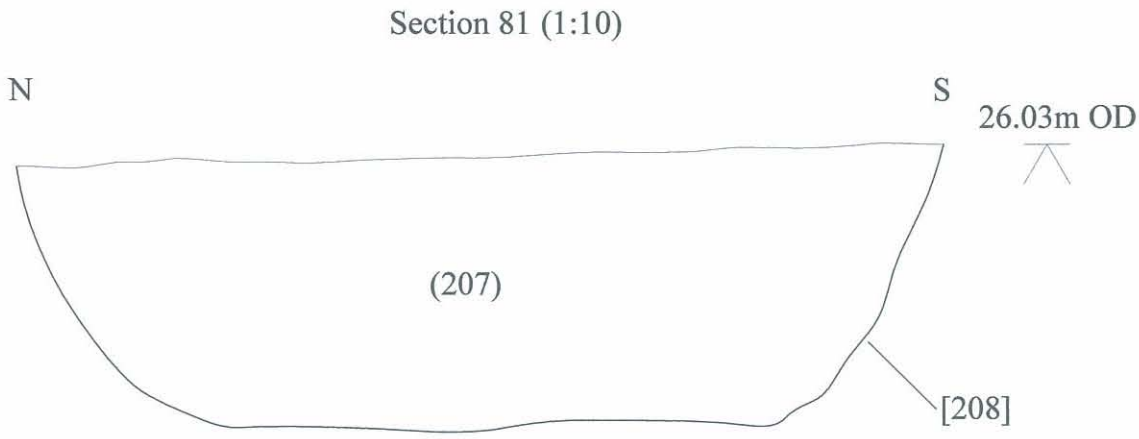


Figure 31: Sections 77 - 79; Scale 1:10





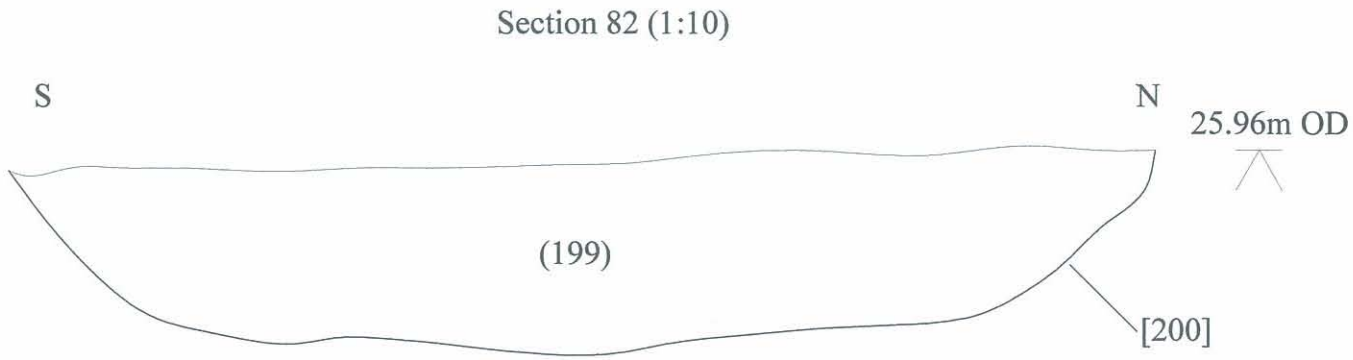
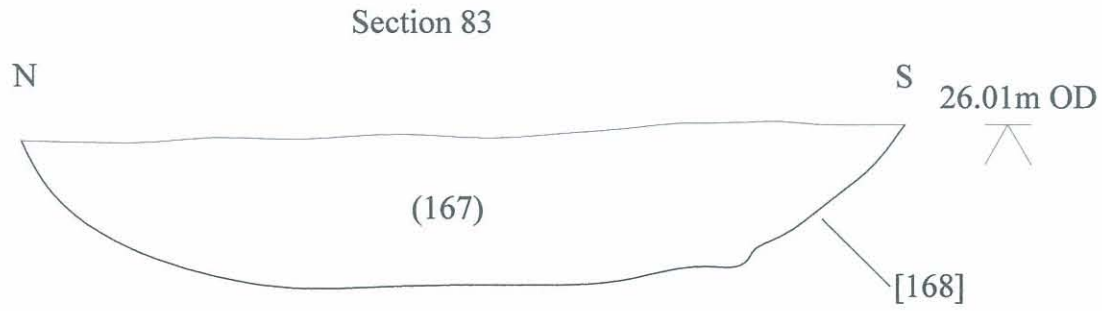
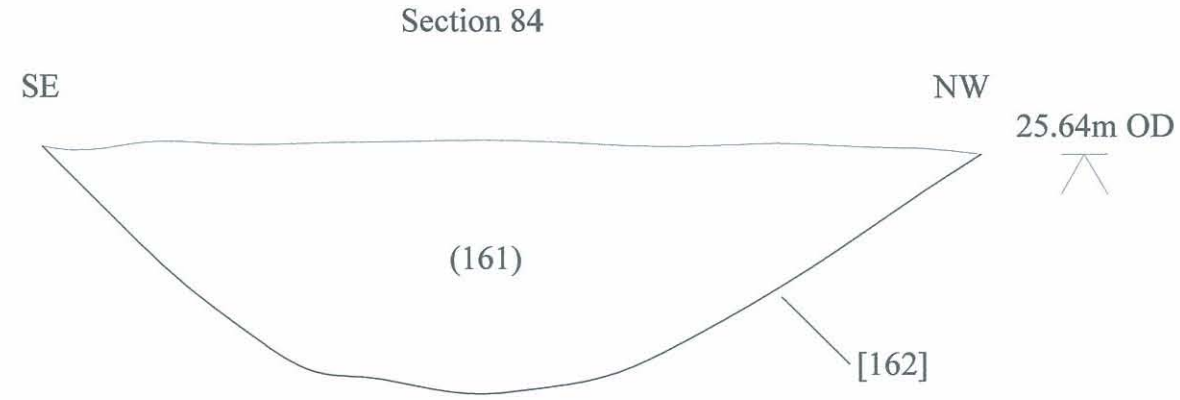


Figure 32: Sections 80 - 82; Scale 1:20 and 1:10





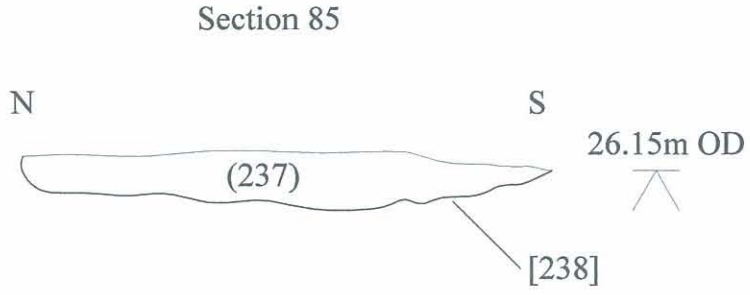


Figure 33: Sections 83 - 85; Scale 1:10

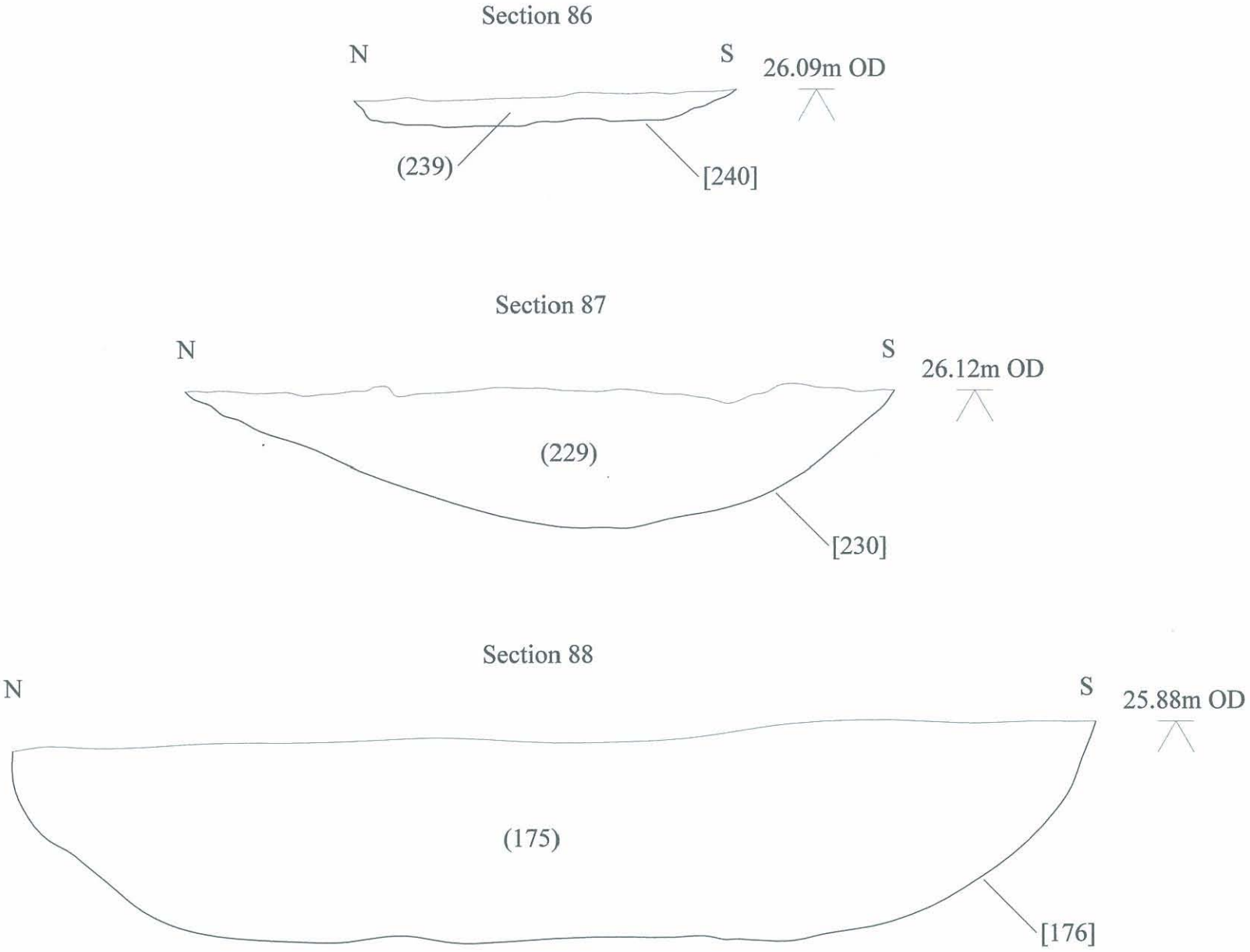


Figure 34: Sections 86 - 88; Scale 1:10

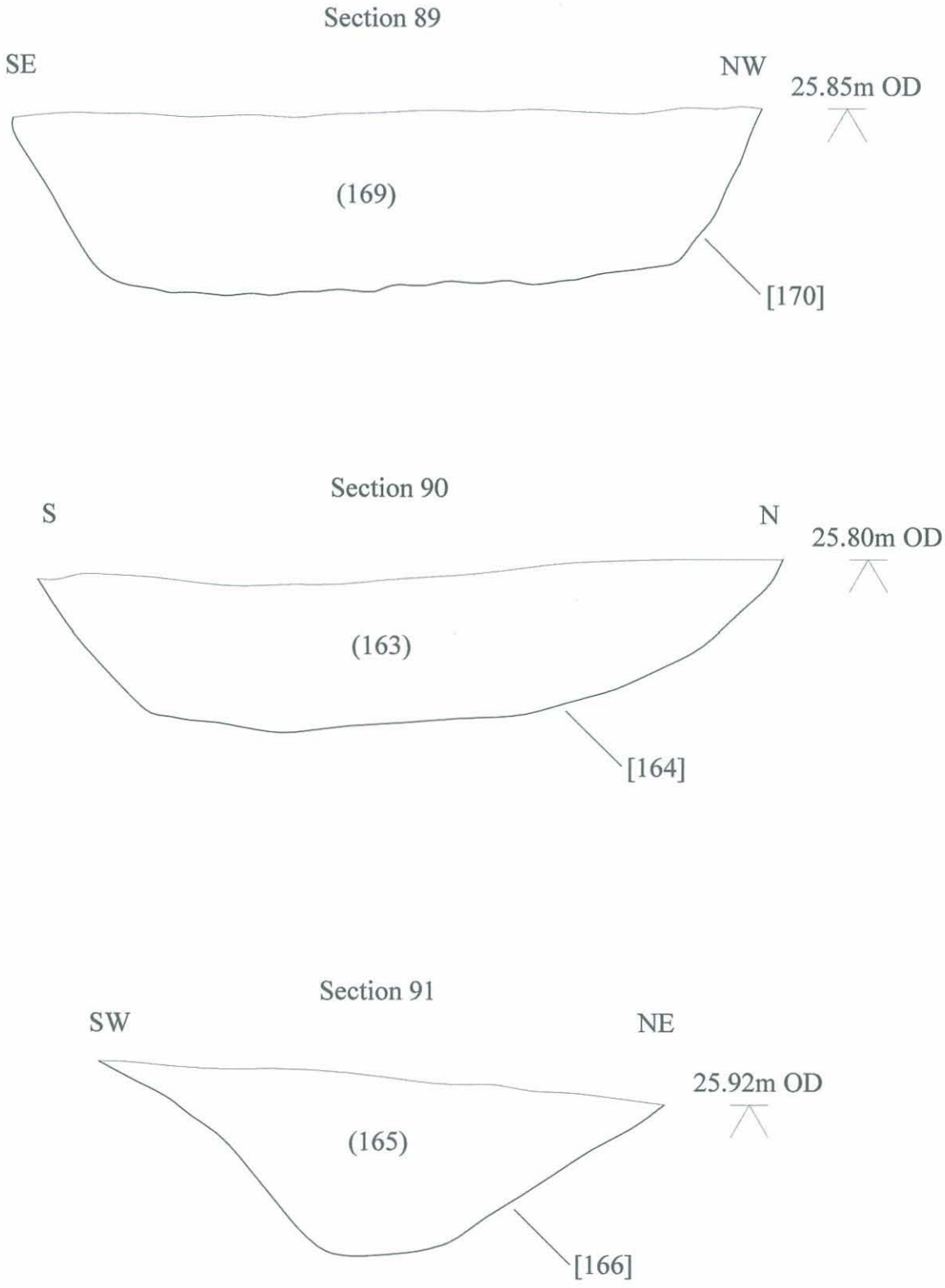
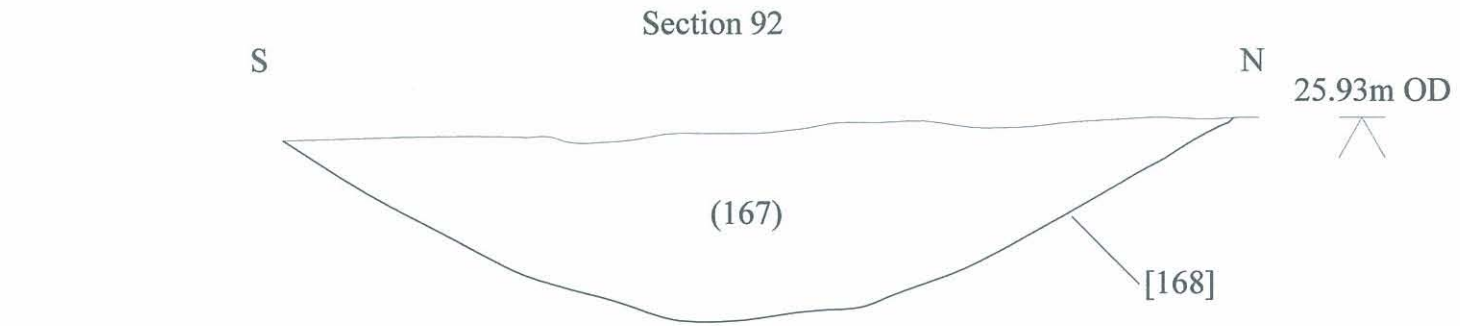


Figure 35: Sections 89 - 91; Scale 1:10



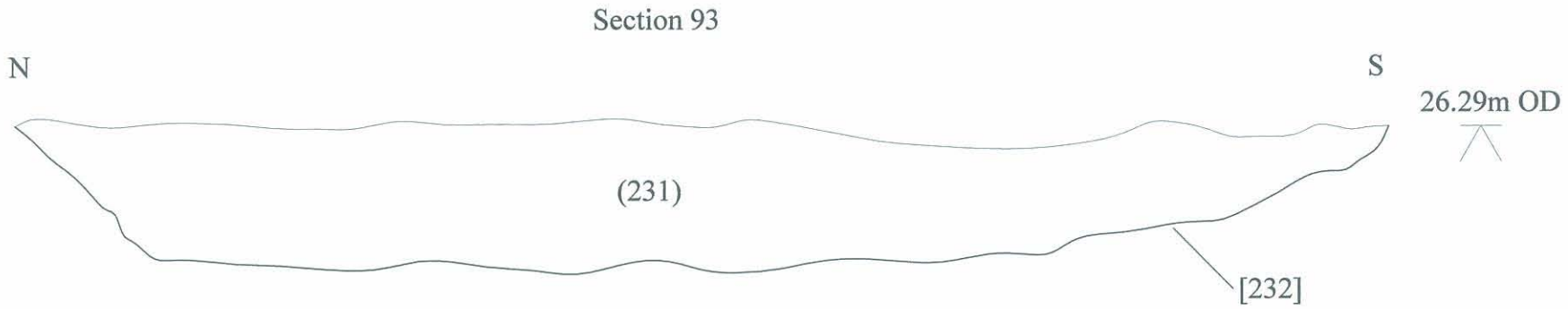


Figure 36: Sections 92 - 93; Scale 1:10

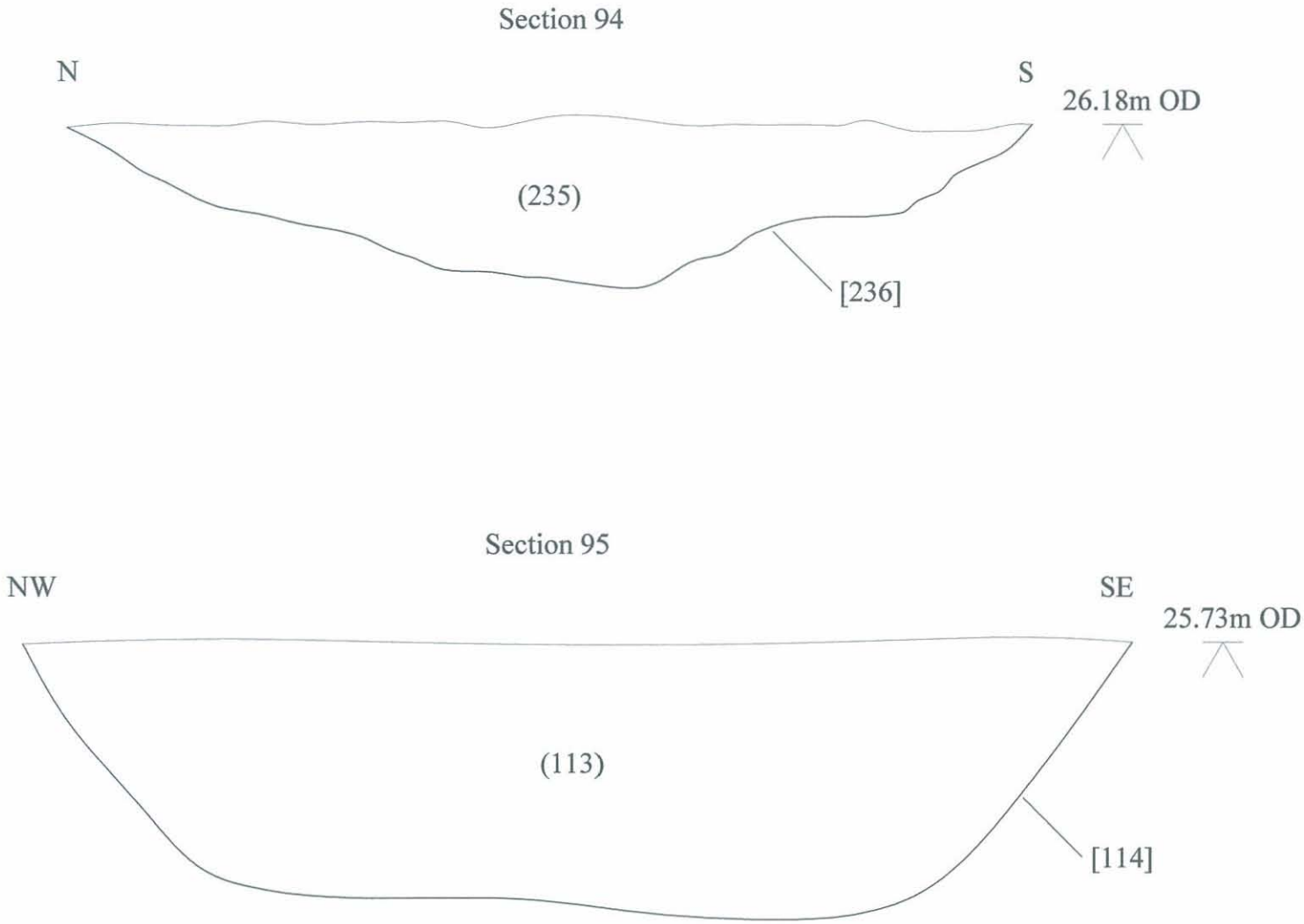


Figure 37: Sections 94 - 95; Scale 1:10

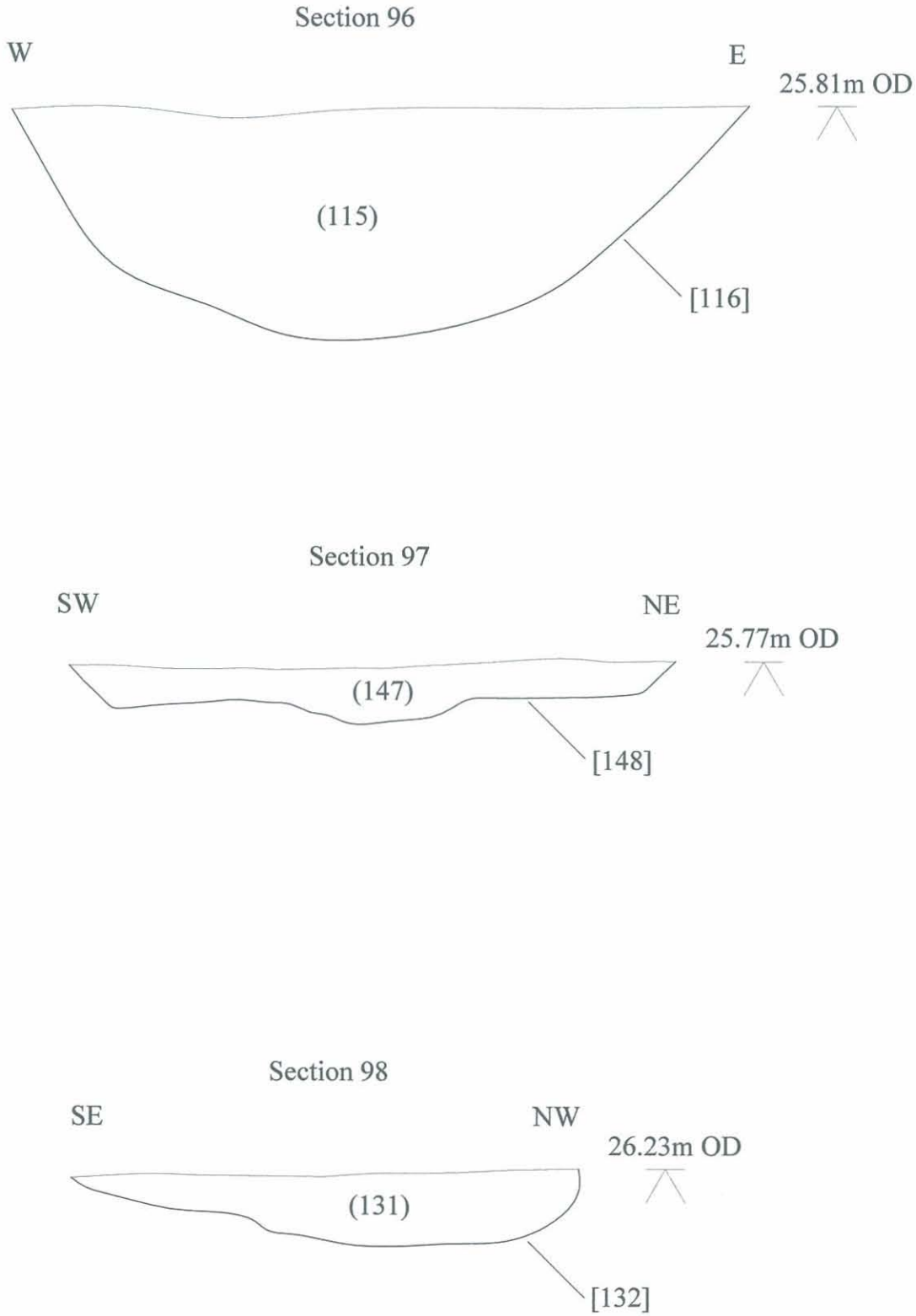
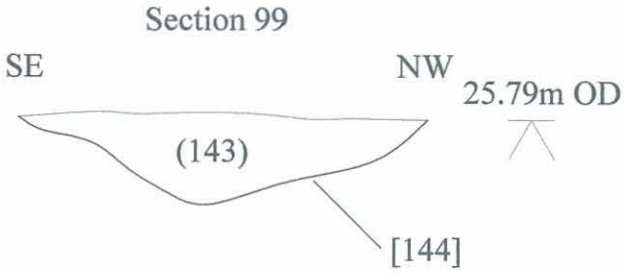
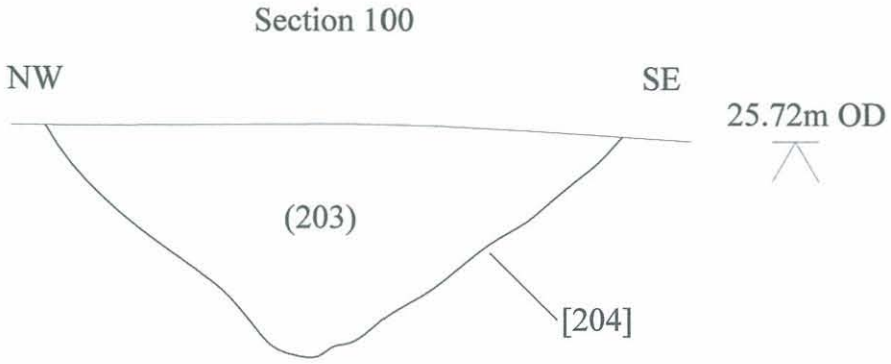
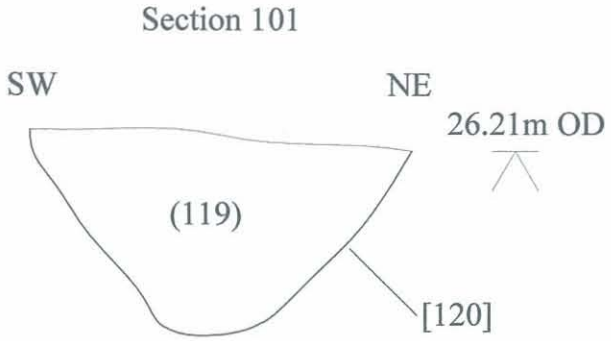


Figure 38: Sections 96 - 98; Scale 1:10







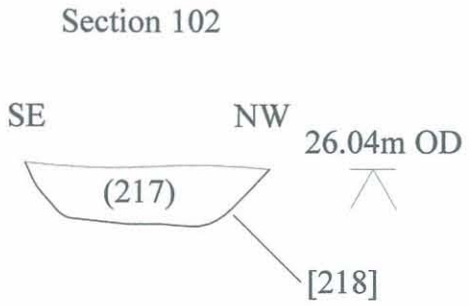
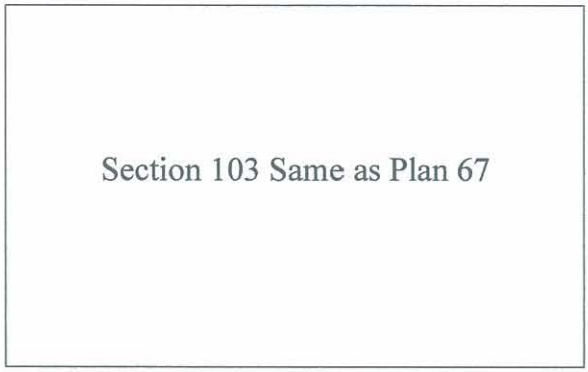
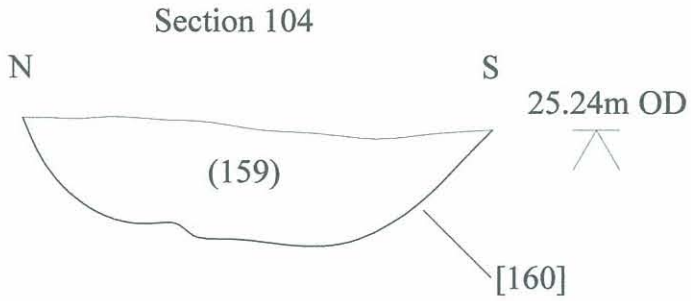
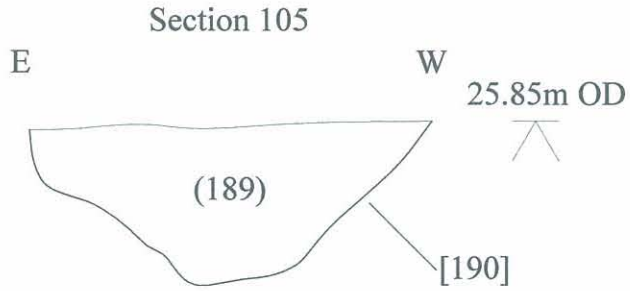


Figure 39: Sections 99 - 102; Scale 1:10







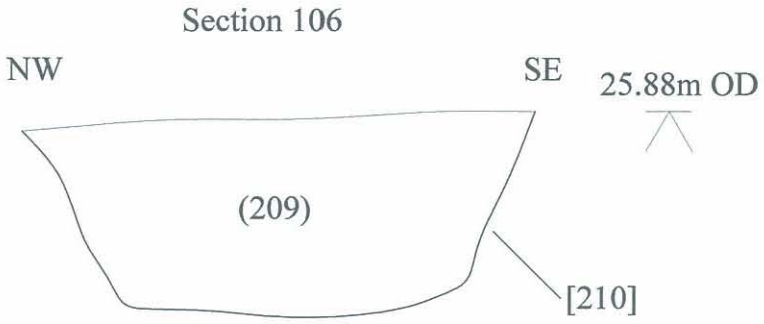


Figure 40: Sections 103 - 106; Scale 1:10