



Archaeological Excavation on Land off Panteney Lane, Bapchild, Kent *May 2011*

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Archaeological Post-Excavation Assessment Report

Land off Panteny Lane, Bapchild, Kent

Planning Application Number: SW/03/0430

Submitted to;

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1) Introduction

In September 2003, Ibstock Brick Ltd of Almondbury, Bristol, commissioned SWAT Archaeology (Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company) to carry out an archaeological evaluation on a large tract of agricultural land lying south of and adjacent to Watling Street (the A2), east of Panteny Lane and south-east of Hemstead House, in Bapchild, near Sittingbourne, in north-east Kent. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with an Archaeological Specification issued by the Heritage Conservation Group of Kent County Council as a condition attached to an outline planning consent (SW/03/0430) for the use of the land for the commercial extraction of Brickearth and the construction of a haulage road.

The site centres on National Grid Reference TR 93250 62750, and has an average altitude ranging from OD 15.55m to OD 21.35m north to south and is rectilinear in plan. It measures approximately 295 north-south, 280m east-west and covers an area 8.1 hectares (81,000m²). It is proposed to extract Brickearth of a thickness of between 2.6m to 5m from a 5.58 hectare part of this area, the average thickness being 2.6m. Two phases of extraction were originally planned.

Land on which Brickearth is located is of high agricultural value; therefore, following the use of the site for Brickearth extraction, it is proposed that the land should return to agricultural use. To that end it is required that a 0.75m-thick basal layer of Brickearth be left, subsequently to be covered by a 0.35m-thick layer of topsoil. However, it is predicted that the tracking of heavy-duty plant over the basal Brickearth will disturb it to a depth of some 0.3m. As the average depth of the existing topsoil on the area is 0.45m, the extraction process can therefore be predicted to have a potential archaeological impact on depths of up to 5.75m below the present ground surface.

A total of 66 test trenches were mechanically excavated using a 2m-wide toothless bladed bucket according to a trench plan recommended by the Heritage Conservation Group. The total area of the test trenches was 2640m², this being just under 4.5 per cent of the area designated for extraction. Each trench was twenty metres long and, for approximately fifteen metres of this length, was cut to the depth of extant archaeological remains (only present in Test Trenches 1, 2, 61, 64 and 66) or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was the higher. However, test pits of some five metres length were cut to depths of between 1.1m and 2.25m at the ends of 54 trenches in order to expose the superficial geology (Brickearth) in section at greater depth and to assess the potential for the preservation of Palaeolithic remains.

The initial fieldwork began on the 13th October 2003 and was completed on the 23rd 2003.

2) Summary

A sequence of discontinuous and apparently localised gravels was exposed at different levels within the Brickearth, suggesting that the sequence as a whole resulted from changeable alluvial and/or colluvial regimes during the later Pleistocene. Although only two undiagnostic worked flints were recovered, they occurred within gravels and it is probable that they are broadly contemporary with the Levallois material collected from adjacent and nearby sites.

A localised concentration of later prehistoric flintwork, along with much burnt flint, was exposed in and around Test Trenches 1 - 9, on the northern edge of the site. Although small Mesolithic and Neolithic elements were present, most of this material, which occurred only in the topsoil and the upper subsoil, is considered to be of Mid to Late Bronze Age manufacture. Six cut features, four pits, possibly post-pits, a larger shallow pit (probably plough-truncated) and a curvilinear feature, possibly a ditch or gully, were exposed in Trenches 61, 64 and 66, about 80m to the south-west. The features in Test Trench 61 produced burnt flint and appeared to be associated with Late Bronze Age pottery, which, along with the flintwork to the north-west, suggested that localised and small-scale occupation activity took place on the site during this period.

More substantial Roman-period remains in the form of a large pit, a ditch and a consolidated area of flint cobbling were exposed in Trenches 1 and 2, with the flint cobbling almost certainly

representing metalling associated with Roman Watling Street. Much Romano-British pottery was recovered from the features, as were substantial quantities of burnt grain. It may be assumed that the ditch and pit, along with many others exposed in the immediate vicinity are peripheral features associated with a substantial Late Iron Age/Romano-British roadside settlement, the central part of which remains to be discovered.

This evaluation, carried out by SWAT Archaeology in October 2003 revealed the presence of pits and a ditch dating to the Middle Bronze Age associated with a possible Late Iron Age/Romano-British roadside settlement, confirming the presence of archaeological activity that would be threatened by the development proposals.

2a) Watching Brief

As a result, further investigation in the form of an Archaeological Watching Brief was maintained over seven (2004-2010) seasons of brick extraction with negative results.

3a) 2011 Excavation

However, by 2010 extraction of the Brickearth was moving closer to the known archaeological remains found in Evaluation Trench 61 in 2003, and it was decided after consultation with KCCHC that a 50 sqm area of Strip, Map and Sample centered on Trench 61 should be undertaken in order to mitigate against any archaeological impact caused during any further planned Brickearth extraction in 2011.

The subsequent archaeological investigation carried out in March/April 2011 within this area confirmed the presence of pits and ditches associated with the division of the landscape for arable, pastoral and domestic purposes. There was one enclosure, along with associated droveways, field boundaries and smaller internal divisions (possibly representing corrals or pens) dating from the Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age formed a network of herding features (Figs. 2, 3, 4) essential to the successful management and control of livestock.

This document forms a phase of post excavation assessment, which will be followed by the production of a Final Report and publication on completion of any further fieldwork.

1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1 *The Commission*

Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT) was initially contracted by Ibstock Bricks Ltd to conduct an archaeological investigation of land at Panteny Lane, Bapchild, Kent, (NGR. TR 93250 62750). The evaluation was conducted under the direction of Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT) between 13th and 23rd October 2003 in accordance with requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (Kent County Council 2003) and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

1.2 *Planning Background*

A planning application (PAN: SW/03/0430) for the extraction of Brickearth and landscaping at the above site was submitted to Swale Borough Council whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of Swale Borough Council, requested that an *Archaeological Evaluation* 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 SWAT Archaeology in 2003, revealed the presence of Middle Bronze Age agrarian activity, Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement within some areas of the site. As a result of the discovery of significant archaeological remains, further mitigation comprising an **Archaeological Watching Brief** of the entire site was required in advance of any future development. Subsequently after seven seasons of Brickearth extraction by Ibstock Bricks Ltd an area of known archaeological remains uncovered during the 2003 investigation was to be compromised and after discussions with the Principal Archaeological Officer, Kent County

Council it was agreed that an area of 50 sq m be investigated around Trench 61. This limited area of Strip, Map and Sample was undertaken in March/April 2011, the programme of work aimed to preserve, by record, archaeological features present within the extent of the proposed Brickearth extraction planned for 2011. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within a generic Archaeological Specification (KCC) and in discussion with the Principal Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.

1.3 Project Timescales

Archaeological investigation commenced in March 2011. The duration of the strip, map and sample was approximately three weeks, with the subsequent post-excavation work commencing in April 2011.

2 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In undertaking this archaeological work the principles set out in PPS 7 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.'

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 be 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 Kent.

The aims of this archaeological investigation were therefore (not exclusively):

- To understand the character, form, function and date of any other archaeological remains on the site. The investigation should include analysis of the spatial organisation of activities on the site during this period through examination of the distribution of artefactual and environmental assemblages;
- To assist in the understanding of the prehistoric occupation of Swale District through examination of the date, form and character of the site in the context of its topographical position and that of other similarly dated findings within the area and beyond.

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 working shots showing constraints and conditions.

Upon completion of mechanical excavation, a 5m 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 working the site was subsequently excavated into two distinct areas, Area 1 encompassing the eastern extent of the site, Area 2, the western extent (see Fig. 1)

3.2 *Project Constraints*

No significant constraints were associated with this project

3.3 *Project Monitoring*

Curatorial monitoring was carried out during the course of the excavation by the Principal Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, 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 BAP/EV/03), undertaken by SWAT Archaeology in May 2003. A total of 66 test trenches were mechanically excavated using a 2m-wide toothless bladed bucket according to a trench plan recommended by the Heritage Conservation Group. The total area of the test trenches was 2640m², this being just under 4.5 per cent of the area designated for extraction. Each trench was twenty metres long and, for approximately fifteen metres of this length, was cut to the depth of extant archaeological remains (only present in Test Trenches 1, 2, 61, 64 and 66) or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was the higher. The work was carried out according to a written scheme of investigation (Kent County Council 2003) submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

A localised concentration of later prehistoric flintwork, along with much burnt flint, was exposed in and around Test Trenches 1 - 9, on the northern edge of the site. Although small Mesolithic and Neolithic elements were present, most of this material, which occurred only in the topsoil and the upper subsoil, is considered to be of Mid to Late Bronze Age manufacture. Six cut features, four pits, possibly post-pits, a larger shallow pit (probably plough-truncated) and a curvilinear feature,

possibly a ditch or gully, were exposed in Trenches 61, 64 and 66, about 80m to the south-west. The features in Test Trench 61 produced burnt flint and appeared to be associated with Late Bronze Age pottery, which, along with the flintwork to the north-west, suggested that localised and small-scale occupation activity took place on the site during this period.

More substantial Roman-period remains in the form of a large pit, a ditch and a consolidated area of flint cobbling were exposed in Trenches 1 and 2, with the flint cobbling almost certainly representing metallurgy associated with Roman Watling Street. Much Romano-British pottery was recovered from the features, as were substantial quantities of burnt grain. It may be assumed that the ditch and pit, along with many others exposed in the immediate vicinity are peripheral features associated with a substantial Late Iron Age/Romano-British roadside settlement, the central part of which remains to be discovered. The character, date and extent of the archaeological features indicated the presence of a Middle Bronze Age farmstead/settlement site. The buried archaeology can be classed as of local/regional importance, but has been severely truncated by modern ploughing.

4.2 Previous Archaeological Assessments within the Area

An extensive archaeological narrative for the surrounding area is provided within the archaeological evaluation report prepared by SWAT (Allen 2003) which, for the site for the sake of consistency, is repeated (in edited and amended form where necessary) below.

A small group of Late pre-Roman Iron Age and/or Romano-British cremation burials were found about 400m south of Watling Street, probably just to the west of the development site, this location being derived from the National Grid Reference (**TQ 9311 6279**) provided in the Kent County Council Sites and Monuments Record SMR). However, these burials are also described as 'adjoining the highway' in the *Victoria County History* (1932, 98), which uses Roach Smith *Archaeologia* **29** (1840, 220) as its source. The burials were dated on the basis of their associated pottery to the early or mid first century. This view is supported by the results of other small-scale archaeological works in the immediate area (for example, Allen 1995), but of more importance is the work of the Sittingbourne and Swale Archaeological Society at NGR TQ 939 628 in 1968. Here, it

is reported in the HER for Kent that 'Roman coins, pottery and part of a brooch were found ... when a known Roman site at Radfield was being levelled by bulldozer' and 'a rescue excavation ... uncovered two wells and a number of pits, all providing material in plenty, and two cremation burials with pottery and jewellery'. Although described as 'a Roman complex', the discovery of several pre-Roman coins and a crimson and blue enamelled bronze terret (part of a horse harness) of *La Tène* style found on or near the site (Jessop 1930, 142-143) probably indicates that the settlement was of pre-Roman period origin.

An archaeological investigation of a pit and ditch in 1952 exposed during the widening of the A2 pit yielded large amounts of cultural materials, including pottery, bones, oyster shells, coins, roof tile, a brooch, glass and iron fragments and iron slag (Arch. Cant. 1953, 156-157). These materials were interpreted as evidence for a substantial roadside settlement Iron Age to the third century AD, the main part of which remains to be discovered.

It is also reported in relation the work of the Sittingbourne and Swale Archaeological Society that, when that work moved 'to a corner of the field next to the A2, where there was a mound known as The Castle, an extensive and substantial layer of flint metalling was revealed. Although the metalling overlay two shallow gullies containing early Roman and possibly pre-Conquest pottery and the excavation as a whole produced Romano-British coins, rings, brooches, pins, and a mass of mostly late first-century pottery, the presence of a medieval silver coin lying on the metalling suggests the 'The Castle' may have been a medieval structure (it has now been completely destroyed). More recent work by Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) in Abbey Fields, Faversham revealed Bronze Age occupation (**TR 06 SW 258**) whilst at Ridham Avenue in Kemsley, Sittingbourne Bronze Age ditches were found by CAT (**TQ 96 NW 96**). Additional work nearby found further Mid-Late Bronze Age intercutting features (**TQ 96 NW 97**). Mid to Late Bronze Age ditches and a rectangular enclosure were found at Shrubsoles Hill, Sheppey (**TQ 97 SE 44**) whilst a Late Bronze Age field system was revealed at Stickfast Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne (**TQ 86 NE 135**).

The Brickearth-dominated nature of the land around Bapchild has led to large-scale extraction of the material from at least the medieval period onwards. Thus, numerous 'brickfields', quarry sites and associated brickworks occur in the area, such as at Bunces Farm, a kilometre north of the

development site and at Hemstead Farm just north of the site on the opposite of the section of Watling Street called London Road. For a more detailed list of brickfields and brickworks in the area see the Kent County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

The British Geological Society shows that the local geology consists of Head Brickearth overlying Thanet Beds. An extensive geological assessment is provided within the evaluation report (SWAT 2003), which includes local and regional Loessic and colluvial deposits present on the site.

5 REVIEW OF THE 2011 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

5.1 Stratigraphical Deposit Model (SDM)

A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil/overburden (**001**) overlying a loose reworked mottled ploughsoil (**002**). The ploughsoil comprised moderately dense mid orange brown silty clay that blended well with the underlying Loessic/colluvial brickearth that not only sealed the majority of archaeological deposits recorded on site, but also contained fragments of friable abraded pottery and charcoal.

A clear line of horizon gave way to the natural deposits of Brickearth where mechanical excavation ceased and careful examination and investigation for truncating features was Loessic/colluvial silt (**004**) atop the natural brickearth (**005**). The topsoil/overburden consisted of relatively loose dark brown silty clay with frequent to moderate inclusions of sub-rounded – angular carried out. The depth of the overburden varied, averaging between 0.4m (east) and 0.7m (west) below the existing ground level. Archaeological deposits were recorded between c.15.3m and c.15.7m AOD. Each feature will be looked at separately, in conjunction with the full context list set out in Appendix 1. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits. Layers and fills are recorded (**100**). The cut of the feature is shown [**100**]. Context numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes; these are used in the report, where necessary.

5.2 Areas 1 and 2

Area 1 & 2 were excavated in sequence for ease of working and together measured approximately 57m x 55m and were located within the extent of the proposed 2011 Brickearth extraction area.

Six linear features, 16 pits, one pond and more than 22 post holes were present within this area, all of which are detailed below. A description of each feature is provided, with a phased site narrative included within section 6 of this report.

Linear Features

Distinctive patterns, characteristics and relationships between the six linear features were evident from the offset. **Linear A** measured approximately 14m in length, and orientated NNE-SSW, a total of three sections were excavated through this ditch [032], revealing an average width of 0.60m and depth of 0.30m, with a single fill (033, 034, 031) comprising mid orange grey brown silty clay, rare flint and rare chalk flecks. Two sherds of pottery were present with characteristic fairly sparse fine flint tempering giving a date range of 2000-1500BC dating this feature to the Early Bronze Age.

Linear B [005] ran about east to west and was at right-angles to Linear A. Approximately 0.60m in width with an average depth of 0.40m. The single fill (025, 041, 004, 148) was of pale mid brown silty clay with rare flint. Pottery retrieved from the fill (004) were 11 sherds of flint tempered ware dated to c.1550-1350BC and four sherds from (025) dated to c.1550-1350BC dating this linear to the Middle Bronze Age.

Linear C [008] ran parallel to Linear B and at right angles to Linear A. It ran beyond the scope of the excavation area on the west side and on to the east ended in a ditch terminal. Three sections were excavated through this ditch giving an average 1.60m in width with an average depth of 0.50m. The single fill (009, 011, 026) comprised pale to mid brown colluvium with rare chalk flecks, small to medium angular/rounded and tabular flint. 24 sherds of pottery retrieved from (011) were flint tempered ware with a date of c. 1550/1450-1350BC with nine sherds from (026) dated to about 1150-600BC but could be earlier and MBA. The linear has been dated to the Middle Bronze Age.

The configuration of all three ditches suggests a droveway and at the corner of the two fields formed a 'three way drafting gate' typical of Middle Bronze Age husbandry. It is worthy of note these field systems revealed by excavation at Bapchild- and including the later Roman Linear F, are at right angles to the Roman Watling Street.

Linear D crossed both Linears C and B at right angles and ran the length of the excavation area to

the NNE and SSW crossing Linear E in the north-west corner of the excavation area. About 46m of ditch was exposed and five sections were excavated [143, 154, 168, 083, 083] giving an average width of 0.70m and a depth of 0.20m. The single fill (015, 016, 093, 142, 154, 164, 165, 167) comprised light grey brown sandy silt with flint and charcoal flecks. Pottery retrieved dates from c.1550-1350BC dating this linear to the Middle Bronze Age. It was apparent from excavation that Linear D cuts across Linears B, C, and E and therefore post-dates them, and although the pottery evidence does not support such a hypothesis the archaeological evidence is clear.

Linear E is not a field boundary curving as it does from EW to NNE. The configuration of the ditch enclosing a multitude of pits and postholes does suggest a Mid to Late Bronze Age building either used for domestic or animal habitation. The overall width of the postulated structure is about 8m with the ditch (Linear E) acting as a drain on the south and east sides. The fall of the ditch is towards the west and away from the structure. To the east the ditch opens out in a 'clover-leaf' shape. Five sections [129, 131, were excavated with brown orange sandy silt with rare chalk flecks, small to medium angular/rounded and tabular flint. Pottery retrieved from these contexts include one sherd from (120) dated c.1550-1150BC and date the linear to the Middle Bronze Age.

The final ditch, **Linear F**, runs the entire length of the excavated area NNE/SSW and although much truncated was seen to run parallel to Linear D which dates from the Middle Bronze Age. Two sections [007] were excavated (028, 006) giving a width of 0.35m and a depth of 0.11m. The single fill comprised pale to mid brown colluvium (broken earth) with rare chalk flecks, small to medium angular/rounded and tabular flint. Pottery retrieved from (006) is Canterbury Sandy Ware dating the linear to c.150-200AD.

Linear F is Roman and planned in at right-angles to the Roman Watling Street. It is of particular interest that the modern field boundaries, some 2000 years later are parallel to this Roman field boundary and even more astounding that the Middle Bronze Age field boundaries are themselves parallel even though they are 1600 years earlier than the Roman field boundary. It may be that the Roman Watling Street followed an even earlier track dating to the Iron Age or even the Bronze Age.

Pit Complexes and discrete Features

At least fifteen pits were excavated and about 32 postholes. The densest area of pits and postholes were in a tight group in the area of **Linear E**. Most of these postholes cannot be dated- [107, 136, 132, 134, 138, 127, 094, 118, 116, 092, 108, 124, 122] but from this group [096, 094, 098] can be dated by pottery sherds to the Late Bronze Age (C.1150-800BC). One pit [092] and posthole [086] can be dated to the Middle Bronze Age (c. 1550-1350BC).

Another group of postholes formed a curve in the SW area of the excavation. [153, 151, 147, 145] cannot be dated but two from this grouping [161, 159] can be dated to the Middle Bronze Age whilst in the SE area of the excavation a line of ten postholes and stakes [044, 046, 048, 050, 054] can be dated by [052] to the Late Bronze Age.

Out of at least nineteen isolated pits [186, 188, 040, 114, 063, 061, 068, 076, 013, 157, 042] eleven cannot be dated but [141] can be dated to the Late Bronze Age whilst [035, 181, 029, 015, 081, 103] can be dated to the Middle Bronze Age with one [110] dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Pond

A large pond dating to the Middle Bronze Age was investigated in the centre of the excavation site. Measuring about 12x4m the feature had four sections cut and investigated [020, 060, 173, 171] which enabled a fine corpus of Mid Bronze Age pottery to be recovered. These include 64 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC). Mostly small to medium-sized sherds, a few fairly large. Smaller elements frequently have heavy uni- or bifacial damage, some very fragmentary. Some small, and most larger elements, are near-fresh and unworn. A fineware globular urn sherd has heavy but partial unifacial damage. Wear aspects indicate either, relatively long-term *in situ* accumulation of discarded pottery associated with varying degrees of exposure before final seal – or the discard of both previously and freshly broken pottery at the same time. Soil samples were also retrieved and will be processed as part of the post-excavation work.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL NARRATIVE

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 (Appendix 2), although it should be mentioned at this point that this may be subject to revision following further specialist assessment, as required. A general overview will be offered in an update of this report which will be followed by a phase by phase breakdown of archaeological features on site once the fieldwork is completed on site.

However, the archaeological excavations carried out in April/May 2011 have confirmed the presence of a Middle Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury) farmstead. Features include interrupted parallel ditches or droveways set out at right-angles, coupled with enclosure ditches and features that can be attributed with elements of animal husbandry. Such features would typically comprise collection pens and a funnel (or 'crush') giving way to a herding 'race', used for the droving, batching and sorting of the livestock. Evidence for drafting gates, such as the 'three way drafting gate system' as suggested by Pryor (1998) also appeared to be represented on site.

The site presents good evidence for early management of the landscape along with internal occupation activity for the Middle Bronze Age. It is suggested that the primary focus of the site would have been associated with land divisions and demarcation (placed deposits?), comprising the management and control of domesticated livestock within a co-axial system of land division. Mudd (1984), when discussing a site in West Kent, suggests that this 'land division and demarcation' may be based around the connections between highland and lowland areas within the landscape forming a system involving 'transhumant pastoralism' (1984: 407). If this is indeed the situation during the Middle Bronze Age at Bapchild, it is plausible to suggest that the development site is situated within the heart of this evolving landscape, between the higher grounds to the south and the lower towards the north. It is also essential of course to place this within a landscape reflecting social and economic pressures that would have required intensive land management and boundary definition. In fact, the absence of a substantial occupation site (or sites) is in stark contrast to the frequency of domestic pottery retrieved, indicating that evidence for 'living areas' has either been destroyed (ploughing?) or is located beyond the area so far excavated. The presence of enclosure ditches (Linears A, B, C, D,) would suggest that domestic occupation may have occurred (and may still survive) within areas to the immediate west of the site, while the presence of barrows on the high ground of the North downs (GoogleEarth/Swale Survey) suggest that the areas for the dead, or ancestors, would have been to the south on the higher (more visible) areas of the landscape. Issues

of social identity and complexity would have been visible within the contemporary landscape, domestic structures, agrarian field management, funerary and possibly even monumental semblances are all indicative of the Middle Bronze Age as some of the first complex field systems are seen in Britain, indicating a growing pressure on the land as the numbers of people and animals increased.

Occupation on this scale is rare within this area of Swale, with limited results obtained from Kemsley and Sheppey. Close parallels for feature patterns can also be recognised across Kent, particularly with the later Bronze Age site excavated by Oxford Archaeological Unit at Coldharbour Road, Gravesend (Mudd 1994), and excavation of the Loop at Manston Airport by SWAT Archaeology, although care should be exercised when comparing sites at opposite ends of the county.

However, an interesting comparison to Bapchild would be a landscape located within the eastern industrial area of Peterborough in Cambridgeshire known as Fengate. Fengate is positioned on First Gravel Terrace, which was extensively occupied throughout prehistory (Pryor, 1974; 1978; 1980; 1984; 1991; 1992; 1996; 1997a.; 1997b and 1998), with occupation primarily based on the management of intensive animal husbandry of cattle, especially sheep, using an elaborate system of droveways, paddocks, enclosures and byres. Farmers utilised that natural resources of the seasonally flooded lowland within an adjacent fenland basin, bringing livestock onto the higher and drier ground for the duration of the winter. This elaborate system is reflected within the contemporary landscape at Bapchild rising as it does to the North Downs.

4.1 Archaeological Phasing at Bapchild

Analysis of the ceramic assemblage (Appendix 2) has identified 4 phases of archaeological activity on site, three of which have been attributed to the Bronze Age. This is further supported by the alignments of particular linear features, which form coherent ditch networks. Further work will be done on the Archaeological phasing of the site once fieldwork on site is completed.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

5.1 *Lithic Assemblage*

A provisional assessment of the lithic assemblage is provided in Appendix 3.

5.2 *Ceramic Assemblage*

A full assessment of the ceramic assemblage is provided in Appendix 4.

5.3 *Environmental Evidence*

Analysis and assessment of environmental evidence was carried out by SWAT Archaeology, during the course of the archaeological fieldwork, at which time the potential of deposits was considered low-medium. As a result environmental samples were taken only from deposits with organic potential. These will be processed in due course.

5.4 *Faunal Assemblage*

Analysis of the faunal assemblage is, at present, ongoing. Faunal remains were incredibly scarce on site, so it is anticipated that little statistical data will be gained from such a small sample. That said, data are still being processed from the three bones recovered. A full assessment of all findings will be compiled to form part of the final report associated with this project, and will be included within any future publications.

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;

A full archival catalogue will be prepared following receipt of final specialist assessments, which will be incorporated within a final report. Correspondence Photographs: 275 Digital photographs. 20 35mm slide photographs, colour & b/w. SWAT film nos. 07/342-362. Photocopies of Ordnance Survey and other maps: Drawings: 21 A3 permatrace site drawing, comprising trench plans and

associated sections. Context Register including: Context Register Sheets (12), Drawings Register Sheets (9), Photographic Register Sheets (16), Levels Sheets (x), Environmental Samples Register Sheets (2) and Context Sheets (132)

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 RECOMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

7.1 Statement of Potential

The initial archaeological excavations at Panteny Lane, Bapchild have confirmed the presence of prehistoric settlement within the area immediately surrounding Bapchild, it is recommended that further archaeological assessment focus on the recommendations of artefact specialists, in order to supplement Kent assemblages recorded within the surrounding area. To date, the ceramic and lithic assemblages have been assessed and recommendations made (Appendices 3 & 4), which will be adhered to in order to attain publication standards.

7.2 Preparation of Full Report & Publication

A Full Report will be produced and submitted once archaeological work to the satisfaction of KCC has finished on site.

Within this time SWAT Archaeology and Ibstock Bricks 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 still to be done.

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, Kent County Council and the Kent Archaeological Society. Copies to additional organisations, such as local or regional archaeological organisations or groups will be available as a PDF on the SWAT Archaeology web site- www.swatarchaeology.co.uk

8 CONCLUSIONS

This archaeological excavation has been carried out in accordance with a written Specification produced by Kent County 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 Principal Archaeological Officer (KCC) of any further archaeological mitigations measures that may be necessary in order to satisfy Condition 9 of Planning Application SW/03/0430.

9 ACKNOWLEDEMENTS

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Ibstock Bricks Ltd for commissioning the project. Thanks are also extended to Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer Kent County Council for his advice and assistance, as well as Ben Croxford (Sites and Monuments Record Officer) of Kent County Council. Julie Martin, James Madden, Dan Quintain, Marcus Headfin assisted the author with the archaeological fieldwork. Site survey and illustrations were produced by James Madden and Jonny Madden of Digitise This.

Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA

May 2011

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Appendix 1 – Provisional Context Register, Bapchild (BAP/EX/11)

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
001	L	Topsoil								
002	L	Subsoil	Reworked, marled brickearth							
003	L	Brickearth	Mid red brown silty clay							
004	F	Fill of Ditch B	Pale mid brown silty clay with rare flint	[005]	(004)	Linear B			c.1550-1350BC	MBA
005	C	Ditch B cut								
006	F	Fill of Ditch F	Pale to mid brown colluvium (broken earth) with rare chalk flecks, small to medium angular/rounded and tabular flint.	[008]		Linear F			150-200AD	Roman
007	C	Cut of Ditch F			(008)					
008	F	Ditch F fill	As 006							
009	F	Fill of Ditch C	Pale to mid brown colluvium (broken earth) with rare chalk flecks, small to medium angular/rounded and tabular flint.	[008]		Linear C				MBA
010	F	Cut of Ditch C			(011)					
011	F	Fill of Ditch C	Pale to mid brown colluvium	[010]		Linear C			c.1550-1350BC	
012	F	Fill of pet grave	Dark brown silty clay	[013]					Modern	
013	C	Cut of pet grave		[008]						
014	F	Fill of Ditch D	Pale to mid brown colluviums with moderate chalk flecks	[007]		Linear D				
015	F	Fill of Ditch D	Mid brown to dark colluvium	[007]						
016	F	Fill of Ditch D	Mid brown to darker colluvium	[007]					c.1500-1350	

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
017	F	Top fill of shallow pit	Pale to mid brown colluvium (broken earth) with some chalk flecks. Charcoal seam.	[020]						
018	F	Fill of shallow pit	Mixed natural/basal fill	[020]					c.1550-1350BC	
019	F	Fill of shallow pit	Charcoal seam mixed with chalk pieces	[020]						
020	C	Cut of shallow pit	Shallow pit		(017, 018, 019)					
021	F	Top fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay (redeposited brickearth) with occasional small - medium rounded, angular and tabular flint	[023]					c.1150-600BC	
022	F	Pit fill	Mixed natural/basal fill	[023]						
023	C	Cut of shallow pit	Mid orange brown silty clay (redeposited brickearth) with occasional small - medium rounded, angular and tabular flint, rare worked flint		(021, 022)					
024	F	Top fill of Linear B	Chalky residue	[005]						
025	F	Fill of Linear B	Mid orange brown silty clay (redeposited brickearth) with occasional small - medium rounded, angular flint	[005]					c.1550-1350BC	
026	F	Fill of Linear C	Dark orange brown silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal	[007]					c.1150-600BC or c.1550-1350BC	
027	F	Fill of Pit/Posthole	Pale to mid brown colluvium (broken earth) with occasional chalk flecks and small to medium rounded, angular and tabular flint. Flint flake, Fe nail & abraded CBM recovered	[007]						
028	F	Fill of Ditch F	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint and chalk flecks	[007]		Linear F				
029	C	Cut of pit			(030)					
030	F	Fill of pit	'Tip' seams of mid to dark brown mottled silt	[029]						
031	F	Fill of Ditch A terminal	Mid orange grey brown silty clay, rare flint and rare chalk flecks	[032]						EBA

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
032	C	Ditch cut A			(031)		22	11		
033	F	Fill of Ditch A	Mid brown grey silty clay with some flints	[032]					c.2000-1500BC	EBA
034	F	Fill of terminus A	As (033)	[032]						
035	C	Cut of pit			(036-038)					
036	F	Fill of pit	Mid grey orange brown, silty clay with occasional flints of varying sizes	[035]					c.1550-1350BC	MBA
037	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange grey brown, silty clay with rare chalk flecks and flint	[035]						
038	F	Fill of pit	As (037) but with charcoal inclusions	[035]					c.1550-600BC	
039	F	Fill of pit?	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional flint plus rare chalk flecks	[040]						
040	C	Cut of pit?	Tree-bowl?		(039)					
041	F	Fill of Ditch B	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks and rare angular gravel	[005]						
042	C	Cut of pit			(043)					
043	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with occasional worked flint	[042]						
044	C	Cut of pit			(045)					
045	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with charcoal flecks and some worked flint and pot	[044]						
046	C	Cut of posthole			(047)					
047	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay	[046]						
048	C	Cut of posthole			(049)					
049	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey orange brown silty clay with rare flint	[048]						
050	C	Cut of posthole			(051)					
051	F	Fill of posthole	Mid dark orange brown silty clay	[050]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
052	C	Cut of posthole			(053)					MBA
053	F	Fill of posthole	Mid brown silty clay	[052]				c.1550-800BC		
054	C	Cut of posthole			(055)					
055	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey orange brown, silty clay	[054]						
056	F	Fill of pond	Mid orange grey brown silty clay	[060]				MBA or c.1150-600BC		
057	F	Fill of pond	Pale grey silty clay with rare chalk flecks and rare angular gravel	[060]				MBA or c.1550-600BC		
058	F	Fill of pond	Mid pale grey brown sandy silt	[060]						
059	F	Fill of pond	Mid grey brown silty clay	[060]				c.1550-1350BC		
060	C	Cut of pond			(056-059)					
061	C	Cut of pit			(062)					
062	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown sandy silt	[061]						
063	C	Cut of posthole			(064)					
064	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange grey sandy silt	[063]						
065	C	Cut of pit			(066)					
066	F	Fill of oblong feature	Pale mid brown silty clay	[065]				c.1550-1350BC		
067	C	Cut of oblong feature			(066)					
068	F	Fill of stakehole	Dark brown sandy silt							
069	F	Fill of stakehole	Dark brown sandy silt							
070	C	Cut of stakehole			(071)					
071	F	Fill of stakehole	Dark brown sandy silt	[070]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
072	F	Fill of stakehole	Pale to mid brown silty	[070]						
073	C	Cut	Oblong feature terminus		(074)					
074	F	Fill	Mid-dark grey brown silty clay with rare charcoal flecks and flint	[073]					c.2000-1500BC	
075	F	Fill	As (074)	[073]					c.2000-1500BC	
076	C	Cut	Oblong feature		(077)					
077	F	Fill		[076]						
078	C	Cut of posthole			(079)					
079	F	Fill of posthole	Mid brown sandy silt	[078]						
080	C	Cut of pit			(081)					
081	F	Fill of pit	Pale to mid brown silty clay with occasional tabulated flint and flecks of charcoal	[080]					c.1550-1350BC	
082	F	Top fill of Ditch E	Pale mid brown silty clay with occasional flint, charcoal flecks and shell. Moderate natural chalk inclusions	[083]						
083	C	Cut of Ditch E		[085]						
084	F	Fill of ditch E	Pale mid brown silty clay		(083)					
085	C	Cut of Ditch E		[086]						
086	F	Fill of Ditch E	Same as (082)		(085)				c.1550-1350BC	
087	C	Cut of Ditch E			(086)					
088	F	Fill of Ditch E	Mid dark grey brown silty clay with rare flint plus rare charcoal fragments	[089]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
089	C	Cut of Ditch E			(088)					
090	F	Fill of pit	Pale grey brown sandy silt with numerous worked flints	[092]					c.1550-1350BC	
091	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay with numerous flints	[092]						
092	C	Cut of pit			(091)					
093	F	Fill of Ditch D	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional chalk fragments plus occasional flint	[083]						
094	C	Cut of pit			(095)					
095	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with occasional flint and occasional chalk flecks	[094]					c.1550-800BC	MBA
096	C	Cut of posthole			(097)					
097	F	Fill of posthole	Dark grey brown silty clay with occasional flint (Tabular, angular and rounded), rare charcoal fragments	[096]						
098	C	Cut of post hole			(099)					
099	F	Fill of posthole	Dark brown silty clay with tabular and angulated flint	[098]					c.1550-800BC	MBA
100	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional flints	[101]						
101	C	Cut of pit			(100)					
102	F	Fill of oblong feature	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with occasional flint and occasional chalk flecks	[101]					c.1550-1350BC	MBA
103	C	Cut of oblong feature			(102)					
104	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with occasional flint	[105]						
105	C	Cut of pit			(104)					
106	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with occasional flint and charcoal	[107]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
107	C	Cut of posthole			(106)					
108	C	Cut of posthole			(109)					
109	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown silty clay	[108]						
110	C	Cut of splodge			(111)					
111	F	Fill of splodge	Mid orange brown silty clay with moderate occasional flint and occasional chalk flecks	[110]						
112	C	Cut of small oblong			(113)					
113	F	Fill of small oblong	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional tabulated flint and charcoal	[112]						
114	C	Cut of oblong feature			(115)					
115	F	Fill of oblong feature	Mottled orange brown silty clay and light white yellow sandy silt with rare flint	[114]						
116	C	Cut of posthole			(117)					
117	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare flint and chalk flecks	[116]						
118	C	Cut of posthole			(119)					
119	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare tabulated flint and charcoal flecks	[118]						
120	F	Fill of Ditch E	Mottled yellow and orange brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of chalk	[121]					c.1550-1150BC	MBA
121	C	Cut of Ditch E			(120)					
122	C	Cut of posthole			(123)					
123	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare flint inclusions	[122]						
124	C	Cut of posthole			(125)					
125	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown fine silty clay with rare flint and friable fragments of daub	[124]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
126	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown fine silty clay	[127]						
127	C	Cut of posthole			(126)					
128	F	Fill of Ditch E	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional tabulated flints and charcoal flecks	[129]						
129	C	Cut of Ditch E			(128)					
130	F	Fill of shallow pit	Mid orange brown silty clay with occasional fragments of tabulated flint	[131]						
131	C	Cut of shallow pit			(131)					
132	C	Cut of posthole			(133)					
133	F	Fill of posthole	Light grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint and charcoal flecks	[132]						
134	C	Cut of posthole			(135)					
135	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay	[134]						
136	C	Cut of posthole			(137)					
137	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty	[136]						
138	C	Cut of posthole			(139)					
139	F	Fill of Posthole	Mid yellow orange brown silty clay	[138]						MBA
140	F	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay	[141]				c.1550-800BC		
141	C	Cut of pit			(140)					
142	F	Fill of Ditch D	Light grey brown sandy silt with occasional flint and charcoal flecks	[143]						
143	C	Cut of Ditch D			(142)					
144	C	Fill of posthole	Dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal	[145]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
145	C	Cut of posthole			(144)					
146	F	Fill of small pit	Dark grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks	[147]						
147	C	Cut of small pit			(146)					
148	F	Fill of Ditch B		[149]					c.1550-1350BC	MBA
149	C	Cut of Ditch B	Dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks		(149)					
150	C	Cut of posthole			(151)					
151	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay	[150]						
152	C	Cut of posthole			(153)					
153	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks plus rare flint	[152]						
154	F	Fill of Ditch D	Dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks	[155]						
155	C	Cut of Ditch D			(154)					
156	C	Oblong feature			(157)					
157	F	Fill	Mid orange brown silty clay plus rare flint	[156]						
158	C	Cut of posthole			(159)				c.1550-1350BC	
159	F	Fill of posthole	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks plus rare flint	[158]						MBA
160	F	Fill of small pit	Dark grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks	[161]					c.1550-1350BC	
161	C	Cut of small pit			(160)					
162	F	Fill of oblong feature	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks	[163]						
163	C	Cut of oblong feature			(162)					
164	F	Fill of Ditch D		[166]					c.1550-1350BC	
165	F	Fill of Ditch D	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[166]						

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
166	C	Ditch F cut			(164) (165)					
167	F	Fill of Ditch D	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[168]						
168	C	Cut of Pond			(169)					
169	F	Top fill of Pond	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint plus rare flecks of charcoal	[168]					c.1550-1350BC	MBA
170	F	Basal fill of Pond	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[171]						
171	C	Cut of Pond			(169) (170)					
172	F	Fill of Pond	Mid orange grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[173]					c.1550-1350BC	
173	C	Cut of Pond			(172)					
174	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare flint and rare chalk fleck	[175]						
175	C	Cut of posthole			(174)					
176	F	Fill of Ditch E	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks, carbon flecks and flints	[177]						
177	C	Cut of Ditch E			(176)					
178	F	Fill of Ditch E terminus	Mid grey orange brown silty clay with rare flint	[179]						
179	C	Cut of Ditch E terminus			(178)					
180	F	Fill of large pit	Mid grey orange brown silty clay with rare flint	[181]					1550-1350BC	
181	C	Cut of large pit			(180)					
182	F	Fill of pond	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional flint, rare chalk flecks, sherds of pot and several possible worked flints	[184]						
183	F	Fill of Pond	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional flint, rare chalk flecks, sherds of pot and several possible worked flints	[184]					c.1550-1350BC	
184	C	Cut of Pond			(182) (183)					

Cont No	Type	Interpretation	Description	Fill of	Filled by	Group	Section No	Plan No	Artefact dating	ASSIGNED DATE
185	F	Fill of pit	Dark grey with frequent grey black burnt material; silty clay, rare flint, occasional charcoal and rare burnt flint	[186]						
186	C	Cut of pit			(185)					
187	F	Fill of pit	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[188]						
188	C	Cut of pit			(187)					
189	F	Fill of Ditch C	Mid grey brown clay with rare flint	[190]		Linear C				
190	C	Cut of Ditch C			(189)	Linear C				
191	F	Fill of Ditch C	Mid grey orange brown silty clay with occasional flint	[192]		Linear C			c.1550-600BC	MBA
192	C	Cut of Ditch C			(191)	Linear C				
193	F	Fill of Ditch C	Mid grey orange brown silty clay with occasional flint	[194]		Linear C				
194	C	Cut of Ditch C			(193)	Linear C				
195	F	Fill of posthole	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare flint	[196]						
196	C	Cut of posthole			(195)					
197	F	Fill of Ditch C	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare flint	[198]		Linear C			c.1350-1150BC	MBA
198	C	Cut of Ditch C			(197)	Linear C				
199	C	Cut of Pond			(182)					
200	C	Fill of pit	Mid orange brown silty clay with rare chalk flecks plus rare flint	[186]						

Appendix 2 – Ceramic Assessment (Nigel Macpherson-Grant)

SWAT Archaeology

THE DATING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE CERAMIC ASSEMBLAGE FROM :

BAPCHILD, KENT 2011 (BAP/EV/11)

A. Primary quantification : 306 sherds (weight : 2kgs.635gms)

B. Period codes employed :

EP	= Early Prehistoric
EBA	= Early Bronze Age
LP	= Later Prehistoric
MBA	= Mid Bronze Age
MBA-LBA	= Mid Bronze-Late Bronze Age transition
LBA	= Late Bronze Age
EIA	= Earliest Iron Age
ER-MR	= Early-Mid Roman transition
MR	= Mid Roman
PM	= Post-Medieval
LPM	= Late Post-Medieval

C. Context dating :

C.1 : Unstratified contexts :

Context: Surface finds - 11 sherds (weight : 63gms)

1 sherd ? EBA Collared Urn grog-tempered ware (c.2000-1500 BC)

1 sherd ? EBA Collared Urn or MBA-LBA transition flint-and-grog-tempered ware (c.2000-1500 or 1350-1150 BC)

9 sherds MBA>MBA-LBA transition flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350/1150 BC emphasis probably)

Comment : All bodysherds, small>fairly small-sized, mixed wear-pattern but mostly very abraded. The potential EBA Collared Urn sherd could be later – MBA-LBA transition or LIA but the fabric is too poor and loosely structured for most LIA grogged wares. It is not that severely worn – even considering its fabric (assuming it is residual in an MBA settlement) so an MBA-LBA transition date is possible – except that the loosely associated mixed-temper flint and grogged sherd contains pale buff grog – as does the sherd from *Context 11* – so that an EBA emphasis rather than MBA-LBA one is initially preferred.

Likely date : Residual

Context: SMS - 10 sherds (weight : 117gms)

10 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Small worn scraps > large sherd with heavy bifacial wear present –but otherwise mixed sherd sizes, mixed wear pattern.

Likely date : Residual

Context: Sub-soil - 10 sherds (weight : 72gms)

7 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

1 sherd ? LP flint-tempered ware (slight EIA-plus preference, c.1550/800-50 BC)

1 sherd LPM London stoneware (c.1800/1825-1875 AD emphasis probably; **incomplete stamp - intrusive**)

Comment : The LPM stoneware bottle base is large and fresh and intrusive. The LP sherd is small, only moderately worn and the flint-tempering much sparser than normal MBA-EIA fabrics but it might be contemporary or later. The MBA sherds are mostly small and very fragmentary – one coarseware thick-walled barrel jar rim is fairly small, fairly fresh.

Likely date : ? MBA horizon with later intrusive elements

C.2 : Excavated contexts :

Context: 004 - 11 sherds (weight : 121gms)

11 sherds MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350/800 BC; **2-3 x same-vessels**)

Comment : A few small sherds, most fairly small>fairly large. Two-three small and fragmentary, most fairly fresh.

1 coarseware base sherd, 1 fineware rim scrap. Base sherd has a basal 'skin' of profuse fine flint grits, a manufacturing trait normally associated with regional EIA (c.800-600 BC) assemblages – but *may* occur in some LBA assemblages. Occurrences on MBA-type pottery have been suspected but not confirmed.

Likely date : Preferred emphasis c.1550-1350 BC – but could be LBA, c.1150-800 BC

Context: 6 - 2 sherds (weight : 6gms)

1 sherd ? EBA Collared Urn or MBA-LBA grog and flint-tempered ware (c.2000-1500 or c.1350-1150 BC)

1 sherd ER-MR Canterbury sandy ware (c.125-175/200 AD emphasis)

Comment : Earliest is a small heavily worn uncertainly bodysherd (slight preference for EBA), latest a fairly fresh bodysherd

Likely date : c.150-200 AD

Context: 11 - 24 sherds (weight : 260gms)

1 sherd ? EBA-MBA Urn, flint-and-grog-tempered ware (arguably, c.1700-1550 BC)

10 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **3 x same-vessels**)

Comment : The single ? EBA-MBA Urn sherd is small and highly abraded overall. It is placed earlier because of its fairly large pale grog inclusions – and these are similar to some regional examples of coarse-grogged Collared Urn – admittedly these mostly do not have the same degree of flint temper as this sherd. Alternatively – it could be from a later, ? MBA-LBA transition phase of occupation but thus does not quite fit with the ? late-phase MBA developed angular-shoulder sherd. Later assemblage element contains mostly small>medium-sized sherds, a few fairly large. Mixed wear-pattern – some with bifacial damage, some near-fresh.

Two coarseware shoulder sherds

Likely date : c.1550/1450-1350 BC emphasis possibly – with ? residual EBA-MBA

Context: 12 - 2 sherds (weight : 9gms)

1 PM claypipe stem (thin, broadly C17-EC 18 AD)

1 sherd Modern red-earthenware – flower-pot type (c.1875/1900 AD-plus)

Comment : Both elements fairly small and fresh – claypipe stem partially burnt.

Likely date : Intrusive or residual

Context: 016 - 6 sherds (weight : 54gms)

6 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **5 same vessel**)

Comment : Fairly large rim sherd conjoining with smaller bodysherds. All moderately worn.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 017 - 4 sherds (weight : 35gms)

4 sherds MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350/800 BC)

Comment : All bodysherds, fairly fine flint tempering –but could still be purely MBA – small>moderate-sized, one fresh, smaller worn.

Likely date : Uncertain - preference for MBA but could be LBA

Context: 021 - 1 sherd (weight : 2gms)

1 sherd MBA>EIA flint-tempered ware (slight LBA-EIA preference, c.1550/1150-600 BC emphasis)

Comment : Small fairly fresh bodysherd

Likely date : If not intrusive – possibly c.1150-600 BC

Context: 25 - 4 sherds (weight : 57gms)

4 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **same vessel**)

Comment : Four bodysherds, small>fairly small, 1-2 split, 2 fairly fresh – thick-walled coarseware storage-jar.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 026 - 9 sherds (weight : 16gms)

1 sherd ? EBA Collared Urn flint-tempered ware (c.2000/1700-1500 BC emphasis probably)

8 sherds ? MBA>EIA flint-tempered ware (slight preference LBA-EIA, c.1550/1150-600 BC; **2 x same vessels**)

Comment : Earliest element is fairly small and has heavy bifacial wear and rather coarse MBA-type flint-tempering. The other sherds are scraps, variably worn but some fresh and with a basically finer grade of flint filler generally, but not necessarily, more typical of the later periods indicated. The earlier sherd has traces of chevron comb-tip decoration - stylistically more typical of EBA Collared Urns but the fabric more typical of MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type products.

Likely date : Uncertain - ? broadly c.1150-600 BC but could be earlier and MBA

Context: 33 - 2 sherds (weight : 11gms)

2 sherds EBA Collared Urn grog and flint-tempered ware (c.2000/1700-1500 BC probably; **same vessel**)

Comment : Bodysherds, small and fairly small, fairly worn with one face damaged. EBA Beaker-type firing colours but fabric too coarse for standard Beaker and bodywall thickness similarly atypical.

Likely date : Probably residual – if not probably late within c.2000-1500 BC currency range

Context: 36 - 2 sherds (weight : 3gms)

2 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Small worn bodysherd scraps.

Likely date : If not residual – c.1550-1350 BC probably

Context: 38 - 1 sherd (weight : 13gms)

1 sherd MBA>EIA flint-tempered ware (no preference, c.1550-600 BC)

Comment : Fairly small bodysherd, moderately worn.

Likely date : Uncertain – initially, broadly c.1550-600 BC

Context: 53 - 1 sherd (weight : 4gms)

1 sherd probable MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-800 BC range)

Comment : Worn small bodysherd.

Likely date : Residual - ? within lifespan of main settlement or derived and later

Context: 056, Surface - 5 sherds (weight : 11gms)

1 sherd MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

4 sherds ? LBA>EIA flint-tempered ware (c.1150-800/600 BC; **same vessel**)

Comment : Probably earlier heavily worn bodysherd is residual. Potentially later sherds are all small but fairly fresh with fine flint-temper.

Likely date : If not MBA - broadly c.1150-600 BC

Context: 57 - 4 sherds (weight : 27gms)

4 sherds MBA>MBA-LBA transition flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350/1150 BC; **2 same vessel**)

Comment : All bodysherds, two small and worn, one large fairly heavily worn overall, one fresh.

Likely date : c.1550-1150 BC probably – slight MBA preference

Context: 59 – 64 sherds (weight : 439gms)

64 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Mostly small>medium-sized sherds, a few fairly large. Smaller elements frequently have heavy uni- or bifacial damage, some very fragmentary. Some small, and most larger elements, are near-fresh and unworn – a fineware globular urn sherd has heavy but partial unifacial damage. Wear aspects indicate either, relatively long-term *in situ* accumulation of discarded pottery associated with varying degrees of exposure before final seal – or the discard of both previously and freshly broken pottery at the same time.

1 coarseware tub rim, 1 globular urn fineware shoulder sherd.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 66 - 18 sherds (weight : 217gms)

18 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **8-10 same vessel, some slightly burnt**)

Comment : A few small, mostly medium>fairly large-sized bodysherds and one base sherd. One or two near-fresh, most fairly heavily abraded, some unifacially. Some slightly pink and lightly re-fired.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 74 - 2 sherds (weight : 2gms)

2 sherds EBA Collared Urn grog-tempered ware (c.2000/1700-1500 BC probable emphasis; **same vessel**)

Comment : Two small rather worn bodysherd scraps. Although the combination of firing colours and fabric does suggest Beaker – the fabric is really too soft and coarse for standard Beaker fabrics (even late ones) and – again this combination is closer to known Collared Urn fabric trends.

Likely date : Probably residual – if not probably fairly late in span c.2000-1500 BC

Context: 75 - 2 sherds (weight : 2gms)

2 sherds EBA Collared Urn grog-tempered ware (c.2000/1700-1500 BC emphasis; **same vessel**)

Comment : Small bodysherd scraps, not heavily worn but fragmentary and fragile. Beaker-type firing colours but fabric too soft and coarse for standard Beaker.

Likely date : Possibly residual – if not probably fairly late within a c.2000-1500 BC range

Context: 81 - 1 sherd (weight : 1gm)

1 sherd MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Small split flake coarseware – fairly fresh.

Likely date : If not residual – c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 82 - 2 sherds (weight : 9gms)

1 sherd MBA Deverel-Rimbury flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

1 sherd MR moderately sandy grey ware (c.175-225/250 AD emphasis probably)

Comment : Earliest is a small very worn coarseware jar rim, latest a moderate-sized bodysherd, only moderately worn.

Likely date : If not intrusive – c.200-250 AD or slightly earlier

Context: 86 - 3 sherds (weight : 23gms)

3 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **2 same vessel**)

Comment : One fragmentary scrap, 2 fairly small near-fresh coarseware bodysherds.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 90 - 1 sherd (weight : >1gm)

1 sherd MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Fresh unworn flake- coarseware.

Likely date : Probably c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 95 - 1 sherd (weight : 11gms)

1 sherd MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-800 BC probably)

Comment : Medium-sized bodysherd, fairly fresh

Likely date : Uncertain – broadly c.1550-800 BC

Context: 98/99 - 3 sherds (weight : >10gms)

3 sherds MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-800 BC range probably)

Comment : Small sherd fragments.

Likely date : If not residual – broadly c.1550-800 BC

Context: 102 - 19 sherds (weight : 366gms)

19 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **3 x same-vessels, 1 = Context 164**)

Comment : Small>large bodysherds, several conjoining including 2-3 from the same very thick-walled bucket or barrel storage-jar. No material completely fresh but some sherds have partial unifacial wear and unworn inner/outer surfaces.

1 base sherd.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 120, ditch - 1 sherd (weight : 7gms)

1 sherd MBA>MBA-LBA transition flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350/1150 BC)

Comment : One fairly small, slightly worn bodysherd with off-set shoulder. Date based on timespan of shoulder type.

Likely date : c.1550-1150 BC

Context: 140 - 2 sherds (weight : 10gms)

2 sherds MBA>LBA flint-tempered ware (c.1550-800 BC; **same vessel**)

Comment : Two fairly small conjoining slightly worn coarseware bodysherds.

Likely date : Uncertain – broadly c.1550-800 BC probably

Context: 148, ditch - 10 sherds (weight : 186gms)

10 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **9 same vessel**)

Comment : One large storage-jar bodysherd – only moderately worn. Same vessel sherds all have exterior surfaces with light unifacial damage, interior fresh.

Part base small-diameter cup/bowl from.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC probably

Context: 158 - 3 sherds (weight : 9gms)

3 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **2 same vessel**)

Comment : One small worn scrap, 2 fairly fresh – one moderate-sized.

Fineware globular urn rim.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 160 - 1 sherd (weight : 6gms)

1 sherd MBA Deverel-Rimbury flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : Small coarseware bodysherd, unifacial abrasion but fairly fresh.

Likely date : Probably c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 164 - 21 sherds (weight : 265gms)

21 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **3 x same-vessels, 1 = Context 102**)

Comment : Small>fairly large-sized bodysherds, some smaller elements fragmentary. Some with heavy bifacial or unifacial damage, others with partial unifacial wear, a few near-fresh.

2 sherds same-vessel with single horizontal row finger-tip decoration, 1 very thick-walled barrel-type storage-jar shoulder sherd with finger-tip decoration.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 169 - 15 sherds (weight : 78gms)

15 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC)

Comment : All bodysherds, some small scraps, mostly small, a few medium-sized. 1-2 sherds with heavy bifacial wear, most only slightly worn.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 172 - 19 sherds (weight : 43gms)

19 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **2 x same vessels**)

Comment : Majority small fragmentary scraps but also a few small>fairly small-sized bodysherds. Some with obvious heavy unifacial damage.

Likely date : c.1550-1350 BC probably

Context: 180 - 1 sherd (weight : >1gm)

1 sherd EP>LP flint-tempered ware (probably no later than c.600 BC)

Comment : Small worn scrap.

Likely date : Uncertain - if not residual may be contemporary with main MBA phase

Context: 183 - 3 sherds (weight : 39gms)

3 sherds MBA Deverel-Rimbury-type flint-tempered ware (c.1550-1350 BC; **2 same vessel**)

Comment : Three bodysherds, medium-sized, heavy bifacial abrasion. Disturbed post-breakage/post-loss history – *possibly* within life of settlement.

Likely date : If not residual – c.1550-1350 BC

Context: 191 - 4 sherds (weight : 29gms)

4 sherds MBA>EIA flint-tempered ware (no preference, c.1550-600 BC; **3 same vessel**)

Comment : Small>moderate-sized bodysherds, fairly fine flint temper, 1 sherd worn with rounded edges and residual in-context. Remainder – same vessel sherds – are near-fresh and contemporary.

Likely date : Uncertain – initially, broadly c.1550-600 BC

Context: 197 - 1 sherd (weight : 1gm)

1 sherd ? MBA-LBA transition grog and flint-tempered ware (c.1350-1150 BC **probably**)

Comment : Small only slightly worn bodysherd.

Likely date : Uncertain – possibly c.1350-1150 BC

D. Assessment :

Overall, the recovered sherds provide the following period frequencies and implications :

PERIODS	SHERDS	IMPLICATIONS
MODERN	1	as below – C20 AD
LPM	1	as below – earlier C19 AD
PM	1	stray C17 AD discard – or re-deposited
LM	-	-
M	-	-
EM	-	-
LS	-	-
MS	-	-
ES	-	-
LR	-	-
MR	1	settlement-fringe activity ceasing c.225 AD
ER-MR	1	settlement-fringe activity from c.150 AD
ER	-	-
B/ER	-	-
LIA ‘Belgic’	-	-
MIA-LIA -	-	-
MIA	-	-
EIA-MIA -	-	-

EIA	-	-
LBA	?	?
MBA-LBA	?	? settlement continues between c.1350-1150 BC
MBA	219	settlement between c.1550-1350 BC
EBA	6	activity between c.2000 BC, more probably, c.1700-1500 BC
LN	-	-
MN	-	-
EN	-	-

Indeterminate : ? EP>LP : 1; ? LP : 1; ? EBA urn : 5; ? MBA>MBA-LBA transition : 15;

? MBA>LBA : 22; ? MBA>EIA : 14; ? LBA>EIA : 4

Summarising, four main periods of activity are represented :

Early Bronze Age – c.1700-1500 BC :

This period is primarily represented by 6 small and fragmentary bodysherds from *Contexts 33, 74* and *75*. Most share the bi-partite, externally oxidized (red-brown or orangey-buff) and internally reduced (dark brown or black) firing colours normally associated with Early Bronze Age Beaker and Collared Urn fabrics. Those from *33* have fairly sparse fine flint tempering, those from *74-5* are apparently purely grog-tempered. Whilst these could all be Beaker sherds, their grog content is rather coarse and their fabrics friable and poorly mixed – a trend regionally more typical of Collared Urn than Beaker products.

A further 4 flint and grog-tempered bodysherds, from *Contexts UN, 6* and *11* are less certainly attributed – their grog component is sparse and flint content rather coarse and closer to the site's MBA element in general character. On their own, within an MBA assemblage, they might be seen as representing the occasional slightly atypical use of grog – a fabric recipe survival from the Collared Urn tradition's use of mixed-temper fabrics. Here, since the content of a few context-assemblages is less obviously MBA in type but could be later, an MBA-LBA transition date might be applicable – particularly since the recent realization that mixed-temper fabrics of this type are a characteristic of some c.1350-1150 BC regional assemblages (Morris 2006, 59-63). This could, *just*, still be so here. Particularly since *Context 11* produced a vertical walled coarseware jar with a slight off-set shoulder 'ledge' – broadly similar to an MBA-LBA transition example from Beechbrook Wood near Ashford (Morris 2006, Fig.3.4b, BBW/9).

Another small and rather battered bodysherd from *Context 026* is coarsely flint-tempered – superficially more like MBA fabrics – has a pale buff oxidised exterior and is decorated with comb-tip impressions. The decoration consists of close-set diagonal lines forming a just-determinable pattern of filled chevrons. This type of decoration has not been recognised to date amongst Kentish MBA assemblages – although random comb impressions do occur on a small percentage of broadly contemporary Essex vessels (Brown 1999, Plate XXII, Fig.55.1, Fig.63.67 and Fig.73.137).

Summarising – although the 4 mixed-temper sherds could be seen as contemporary with their associated MBA sherds – they are all rather more worn and appear residual in-context. Whilst this could be no more than a by-product of their softer fabrics – their occurrence here amongst an overall site assemblage that contains more securely identified EBA-type sherds does encourage a similar placement. In addition, despite its fabric, comb-tip decoration does occur on EBA Collared Urns (Gibson 1986, 46) – though not as frequently as cord or incised decoration – as does the use of in-filled chevrons as a decorative scheme. If these allocations are correct it represents an Early Bronze Age phase of activity on-site, or nearby. It is felt that, at this stage, a date as early as c.2000 BC is not indicated, and that one late in the currency of Collared Urns, possibly just pre-dating or over-lapping the local emergence of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition might be more applicable – arguably between **c.1700** perhaps even **c.1600-1500 BC**.

Middle Bronze Age – c.1550-1350 BC :

Thirteen contexts – *11, 016, 25, 59, 66, 86, 90, 102, 148, 158, 164, 169* and *172* can be confidently allocated to this period. All of these are characterized by the presence of frequently thick-walled coarseware sherds tempered with fairly profuse coarse-grade flint. These are from medium- and large-diameter bucket-shaped storage jars, two (from *11* and *164*) with exceptionally thick body walls - >1.50cms – and a single horizontal row of finger-tip decoration at their slightly angled shoulders. There is another coarseware jar rim with an incurving rim, probably from a round-shouldered barrel-jar from the *Subsoil* horizon and, typical of the period, a small-diameter tub, represented by base and lower-body sherds from *Context 148*. Equally typical fineware types are represented by a sherd from a more finely flint-tempered globular urn with characteristic off-set shoulder (cf. Kimpton, Hampshire, Dacre and Ellison 1981, Fig.16) – from *Context 59 (Fig.1)*– and two rims, one each from *016* and *158*. That from *058* has very profuse finely-ground flint-temper, much more typical of regional EIA fineware fabrics – and acts as a warning when dating solely bodysherd material. With the latter in mind, it is worth noting a coarseware base sherd from *Context 004* which has a basal ‘skin’ of profuse fine flint grits – from being made on, or placed to stand on once made, a bed of such material. This productional characteristic occurs fairly regularly among regional Earliest Iron Age assemblages – a trait that has been suspected to occur as early as the Middle Bronze Age but without adequate confirmation. That confirmation still remains slim simply because the *004* base is unaccompanied by any obviously contemporary typically MBA forms. Since there are number of other contexts – *017, 021, 026, 38, 056, 57, 95, 98/99, 120, 140, 191* and *197* with difficult-to-date multi-period, MBA-EIA, manufacturing characteristics – broader dating has had to be applied to them. In addition, since *120* produced a rather weakly-moulded off-set shoulder and *11* the off-set ledge already referred to, the latter a formal trait that has also been recorded from at least one regional MBA-LBA transition assemblage (Beechbrook Wood, Ashford) – the possibility of a genuine MBA-LBA transition phase at Bapchild has to be borne in mind. At the moment, without more definitive context-assemblages, all that can be suggested are two possibilities. First - that the rather ephemeral EBA Collared Urn phase immediately preceded the local arrival of the MBA Deverel-Rimbury tradition early within the span c.1550-1350 BC, which was then followed later by a secondary MBA-LBA phase between c.1350-1150 BC. Or, second, that there was a temporary hiatus following the, still similarly-dated, Collared Urn phase with the

establishment of a farmstead/settlement only fairly late in the MBA – its use-span possibly continuing into the following MBA-LBA transition period. This scenario could arguably be dated as occurring between **c.1400-1300 BC**.

Mid Roman – c.150-250 AD :

Two kitchen coarseware jar bodysherds – one in Canterbury sandy ware from *Context 6* and one probable North Kent moderately sandy hard-fired grey ware from *Context 82* indicate nearby occupation during this period. Neither are particularly worn and are unlikely to be derived from agricultural manure scatters. The first is fairly, but not intensely, hard-fired, the second has a crisp hard fabric but only a faint pinkish firing bloom, rather than the more typically brighter-coloured russet-red scorched or tinged surfaces of many third and earlier fourth century regional products. A date within the second half of the second century – perhaps no later than c.225 AD for the second sherd – is likely for this phase. .

Post-Medieval and later – C17 AD-plus :

A single, probably earlier seventeenth-century clay-pipe stem from *Context 12* – together with a Modern flower-pot fragment - and a single base sherd from an earlier-mid nineteenth-century stamped London stoneware bottle (*Subsoil horizon*) – are the only elements representing this phase of activity.

E. Recommendations

1. Unless a larger excavation is undertaken at this site no further work on the pottery assemblage is recommended at this time.
2. However, a total of 15 fineware and coarseware elements have extracted and separately bagged and labelled for potential drawing – either to be integrated with any further future work on this settlement-zone or as part of a funded regional survey of MBA assemblages.

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Analyst : N.Macpherson-Grant 0.0.2011

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Appendix 3 – Lithic Assessment (Dr Hugo Anderson-Whymark)

DATING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE LITHIC ASSEMBLAGE FROM: BAPCHILD (BAP-EX-11)

Proposals for Assessment

The struck lithic material from Bapchild comprises a medium sized assemblage of approximately 65 pieces recovered from a wide variety of individual contexts. The site is in an area of considerable archaeological interest, not least that relating to the prehistoric periods. Analysis of the lithic material has the potential to significantly contribute to the stated specific aims of the archaeological work undertaken at Bapchild. In particular, they will contribute to an understanding of the character, function, significance and date of any lithic-based activities, including the spatial organisation of such activities, as well as to questions relating to matters such as ceremonial or ritual behaviour.

Preliminary examination of the material indicates it is multi-period. It was noted that there was a small proportion of blades and debitage originating from a blade-based reduction strategy, indicating the presence of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic industries. Other contexts contained material originating from a more opportunistic, flake-based, reduction strategy, which would be more typical of Bronze Age or possibly even Iron Age industries.

It is therefore desirable that the assemblage be examined in greater detail in order for its archaeological potential to be assessed.

It is therefore proposed that:

- The assemblage is catalogued and classified by individual context according to a basic technological and typological scheme
- A general overview of the material should be presented, including the chronological periods represented and a brief description of the characteristics of each industry
- A brief consideration of contextual associations should be made, including the spatial distribution of the material, the degree of residuality and a description of key selected sub-assemblages
- The archaeological significance of the material should be highlighted, including a statement of its potential to contribute to the further understanding of the nature and chronology of the activities identified during the project
- A recommendation detailing any further work required should be included

Figures and Plates



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1:30000@A4



Figure 1a: Location of Site

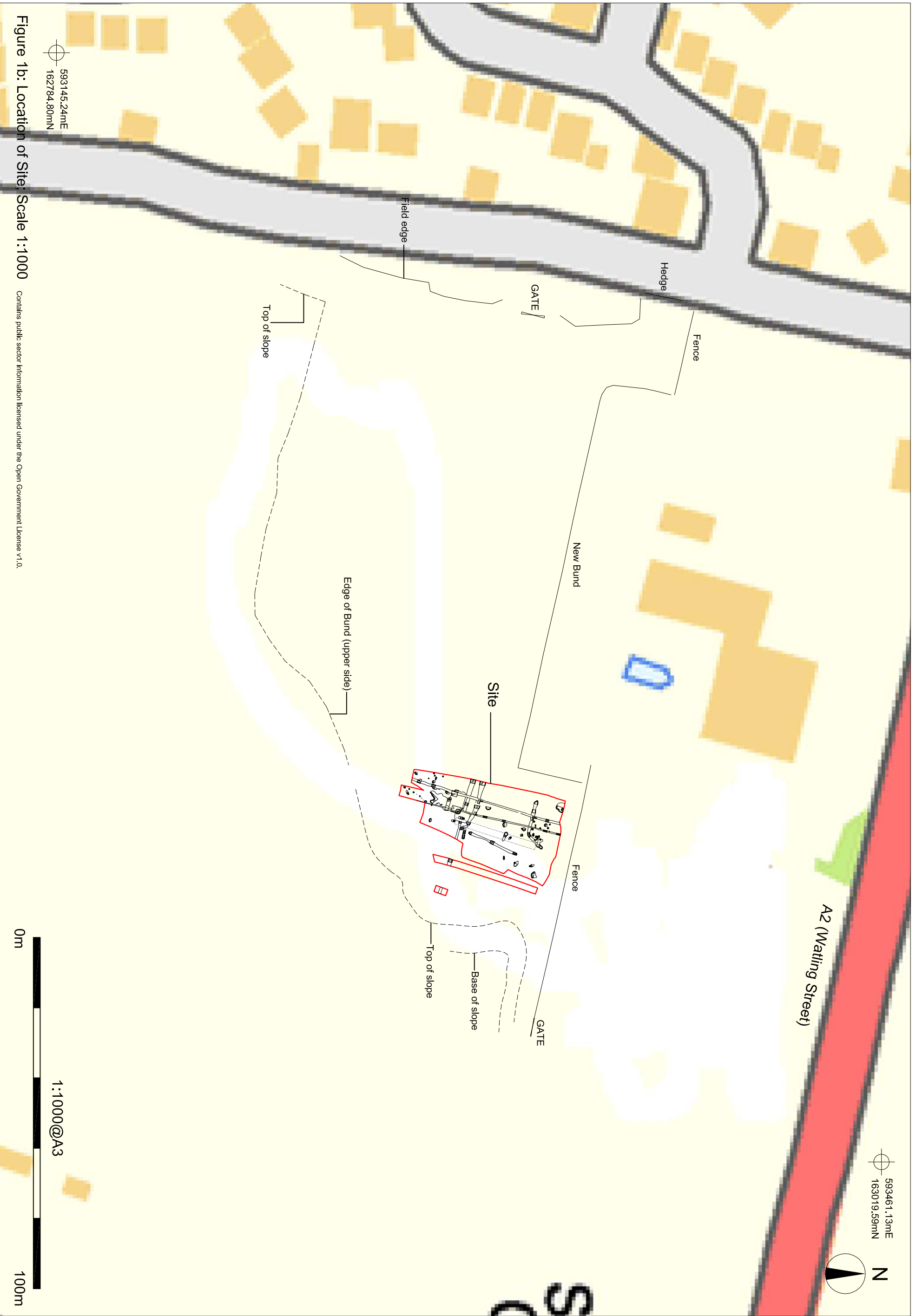
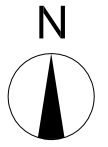


Figure 1b: Location of Site; Scale 1:1000

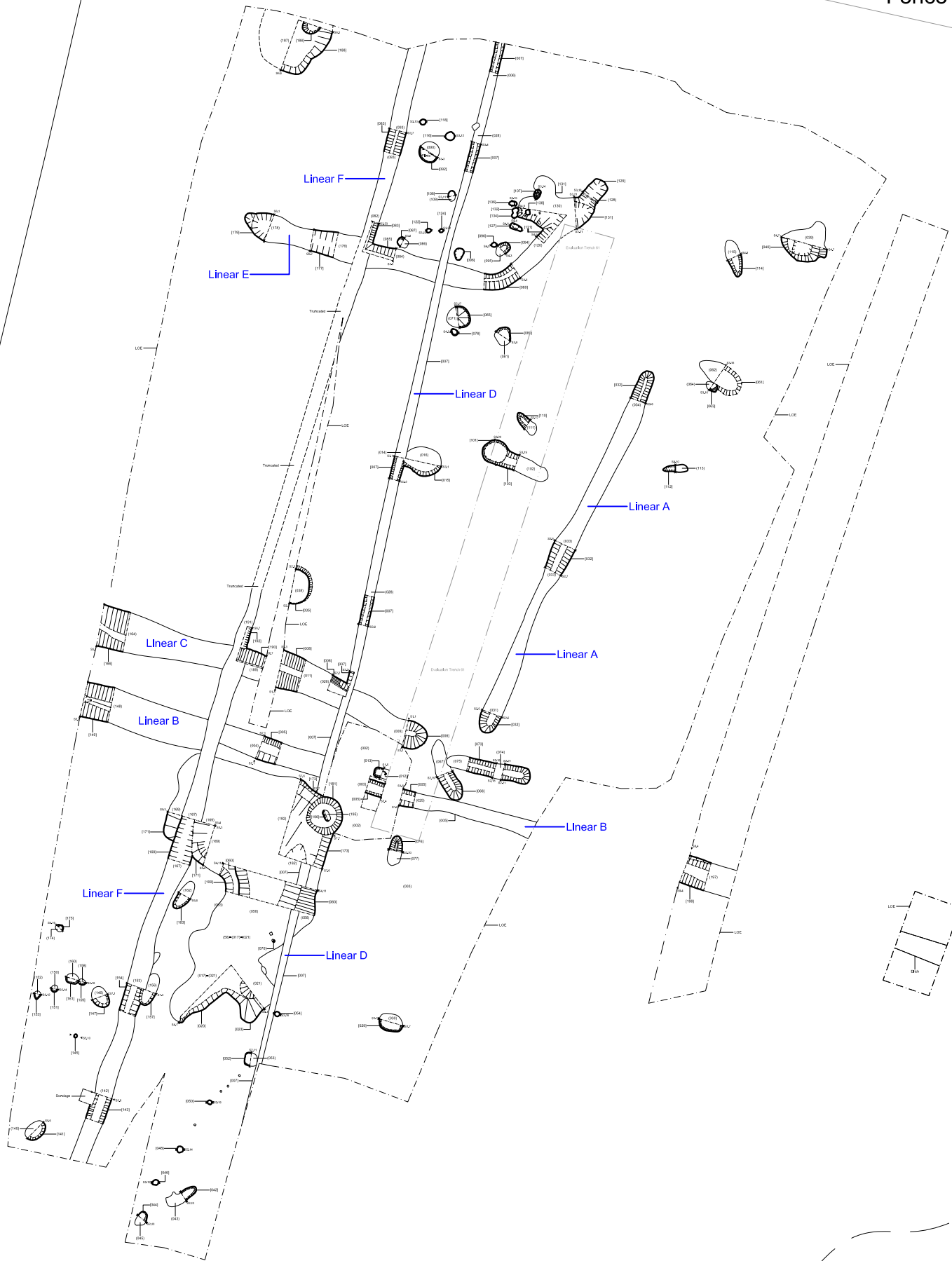
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593382.53mE
162938.50mN

Fence

New Bund



593350.0mE
162880.0mN

Top of slope

1:200@A3

0m

20m

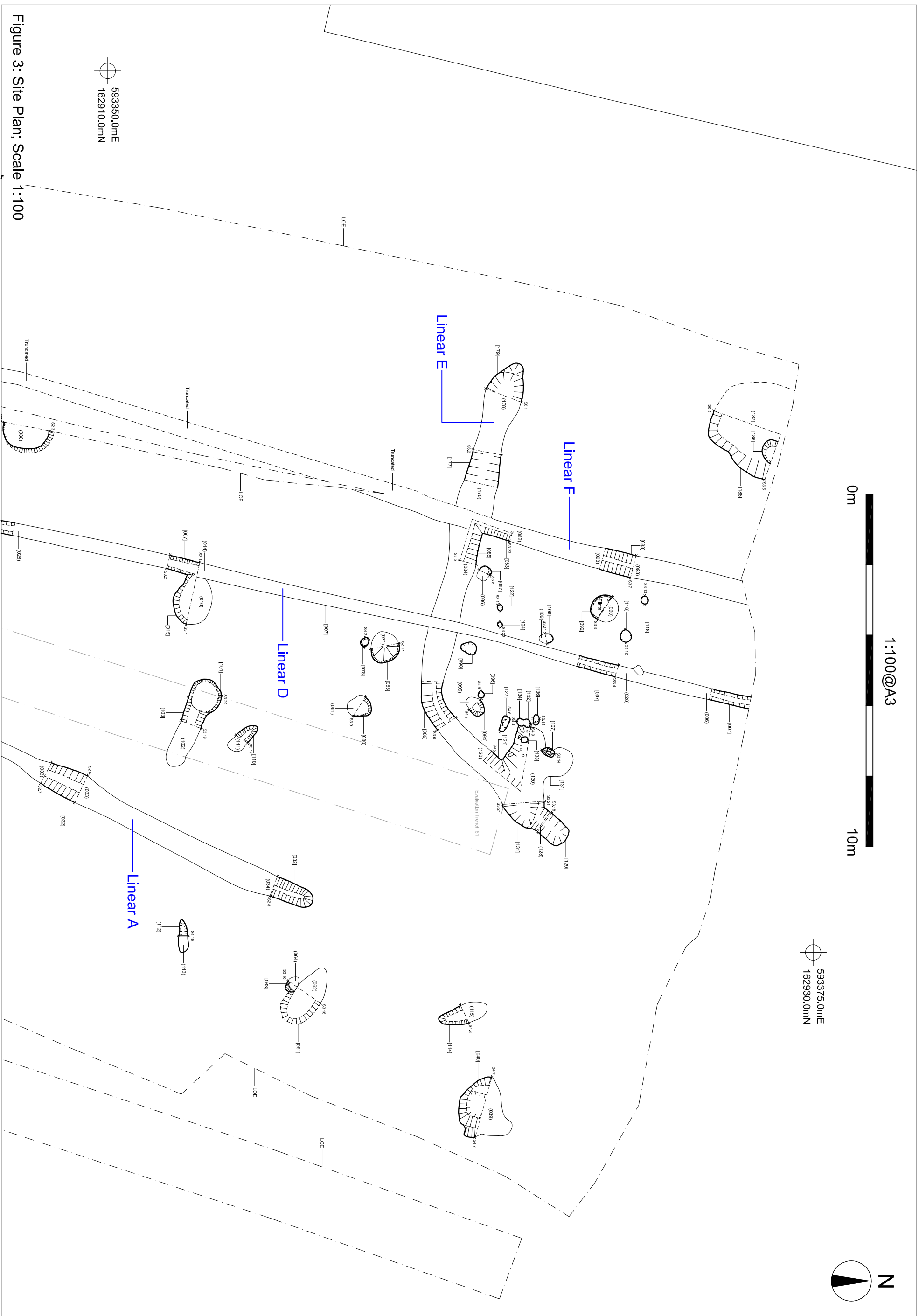
Figure 2: Site Plan; Scale 1:200

1:100@A3

0m

10m

5933375.0mE
162930.0mN



5933350.0mE
162910.0mN

Figure 3: Site Plan; Scale 1:100

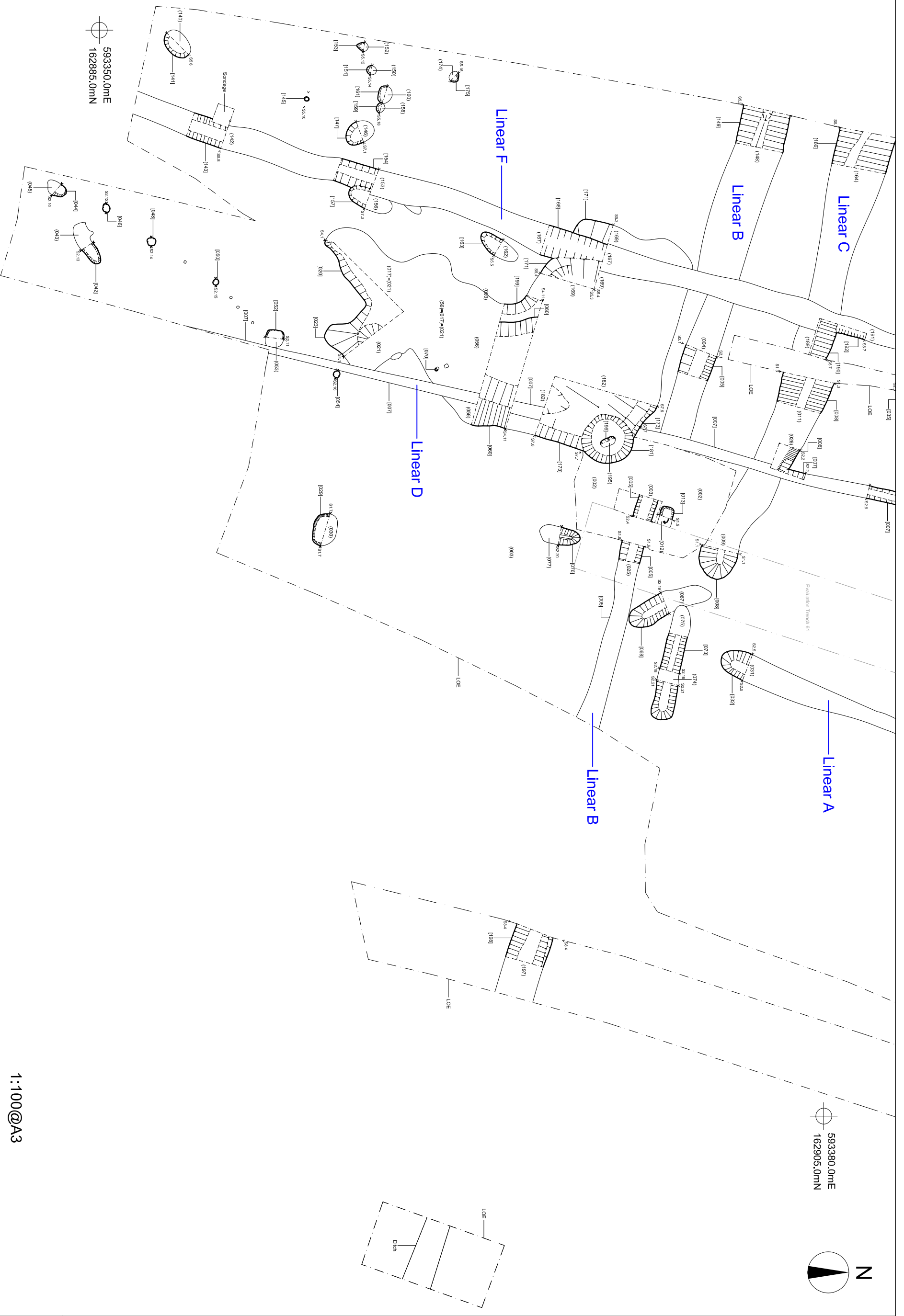
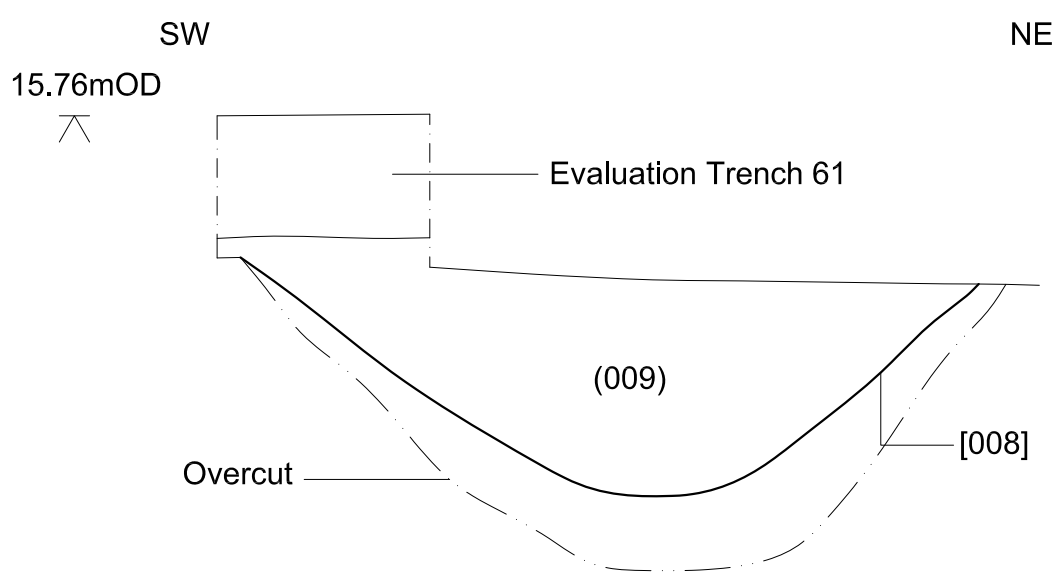


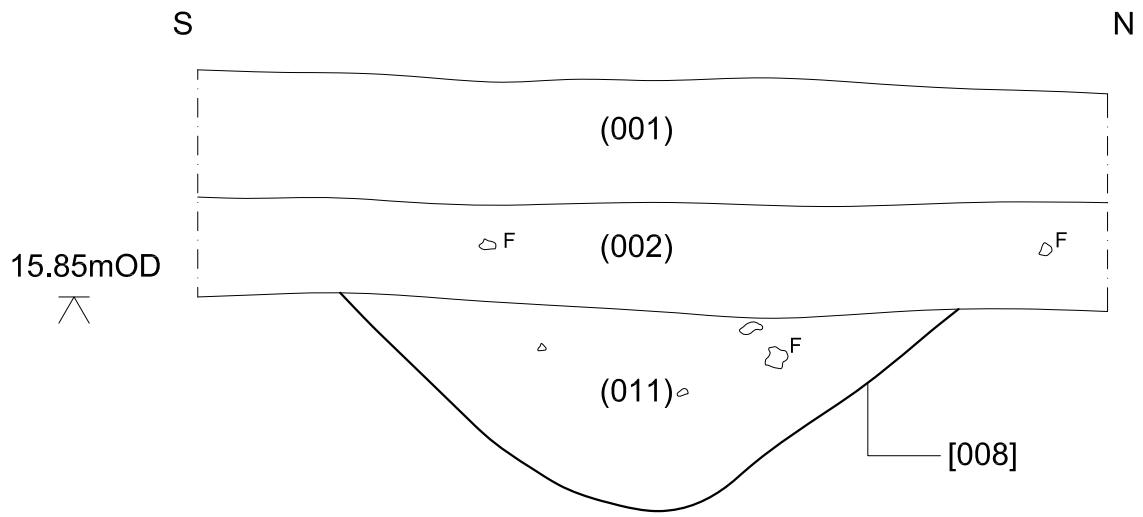
Figure 4: Site Plan; Scale 1:100



Dwg 1.1



Dwg 1.3

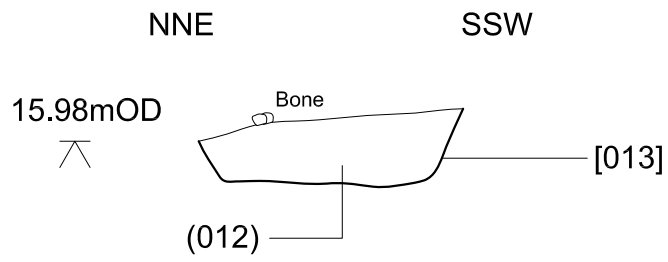


1:20@A4

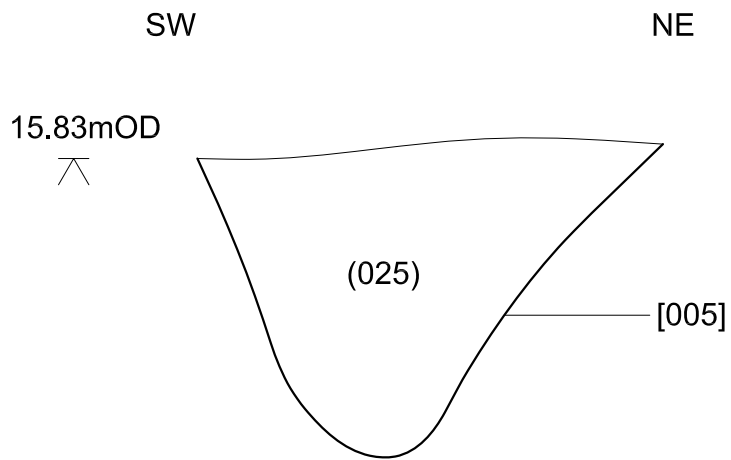


Figure 5: Sections

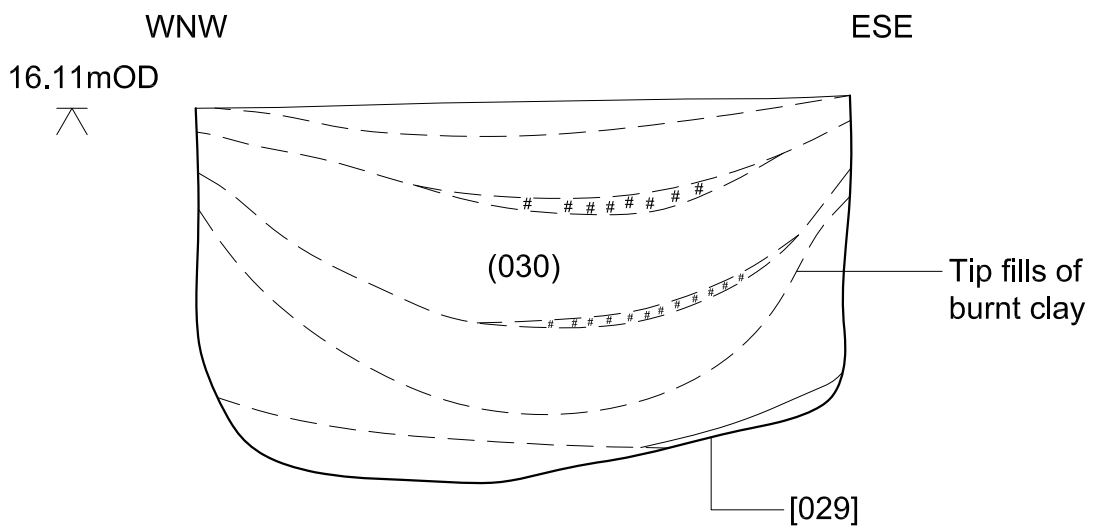
Dwg 1.5



Dwg 1.6



Dwg 1.7



1:10@A4

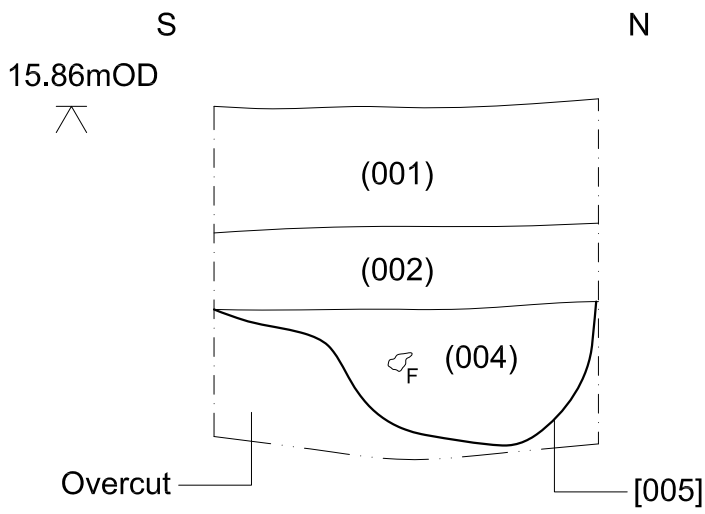


Figure 6: Sections

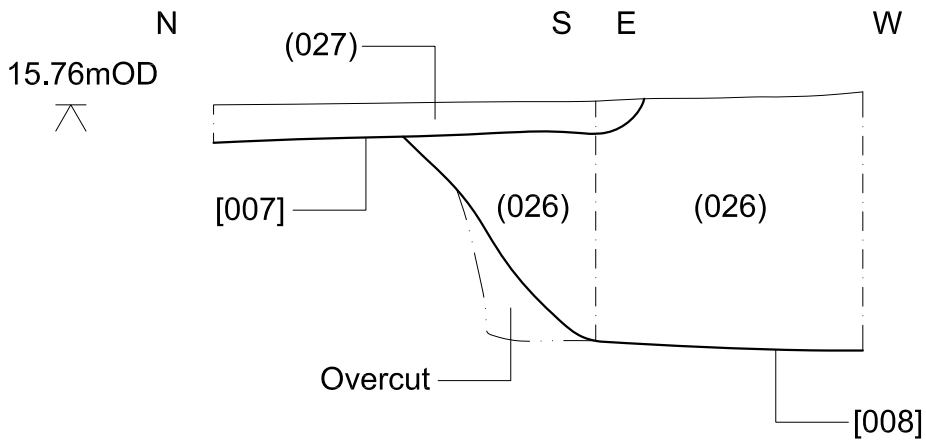
0m

1m

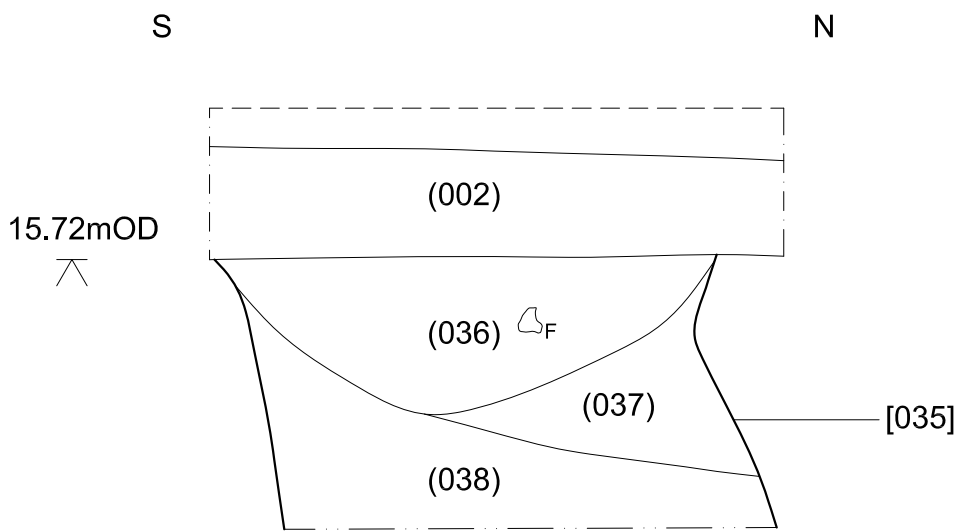
Dwg 2.1



Dwg 2.2



Dwg 2.3

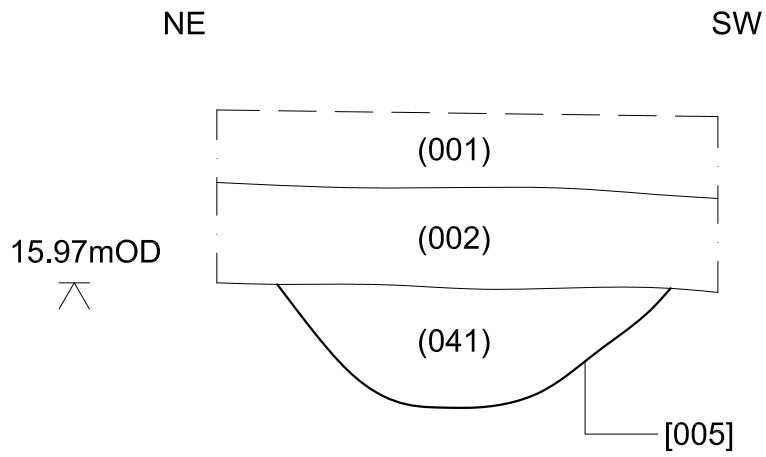


1:20@A4

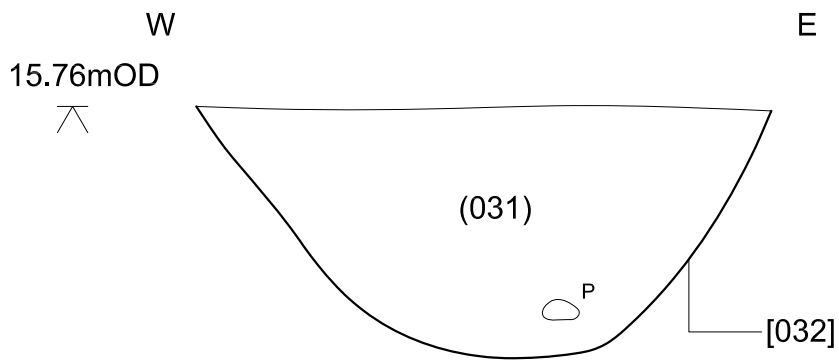


Figure 7: Sections

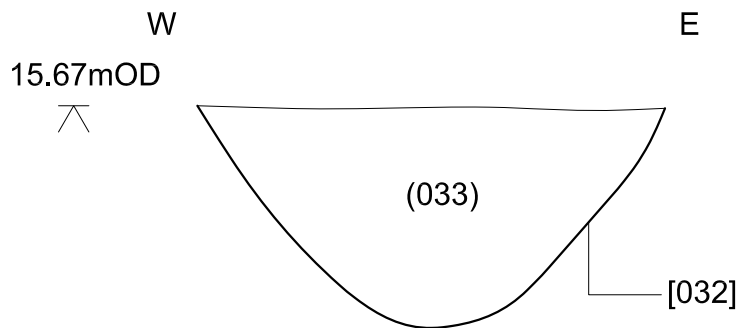
Dwg 2.4



Dwg 2.5



Dwg 2.6



1:10@A4

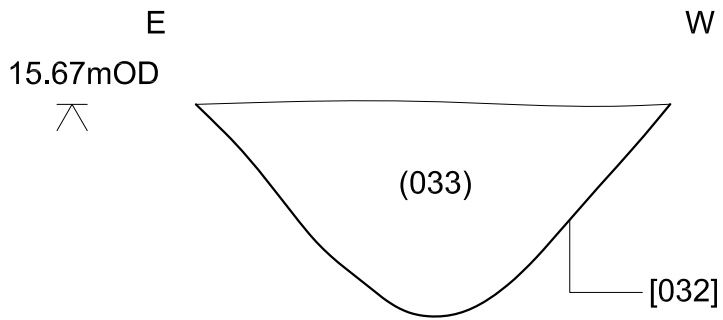


Figure 8: Sections

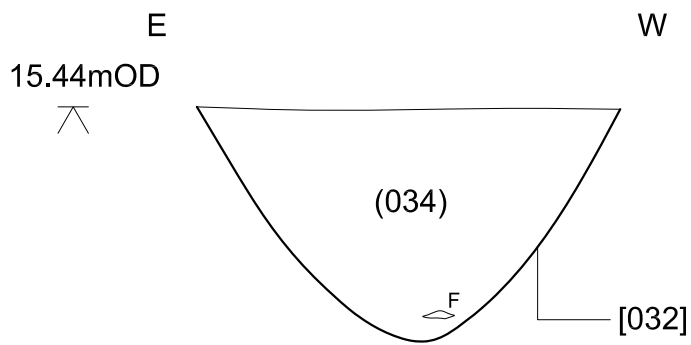
0m

1m

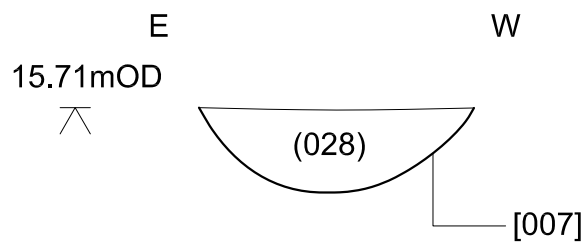
Dwg 2.7



Dwg 2.8



Dwg 2.9



1:10@A4



Figure 9: Sections

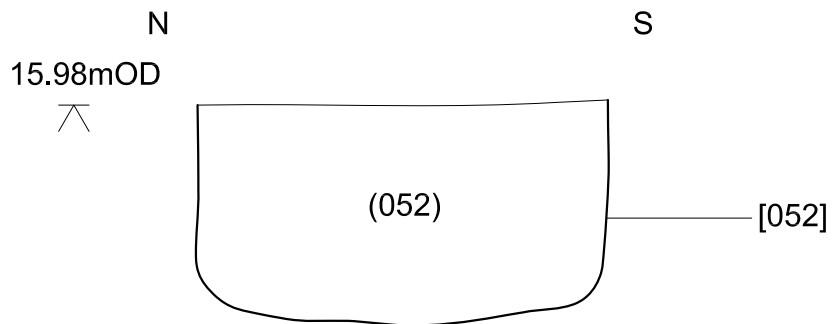
0m

1m

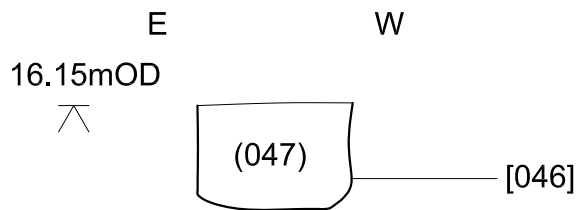
Dwg 2.10



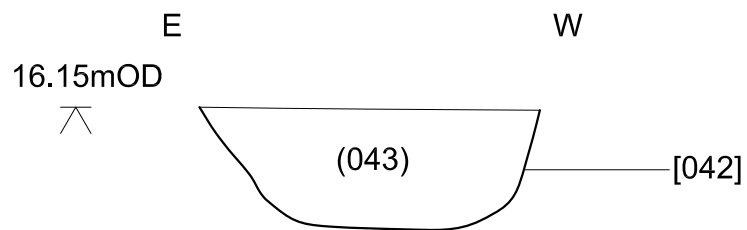
Dwg 2.11



Dwg 2.12



Dwg 2.13



1:10@A4

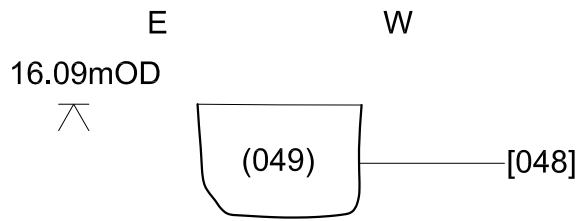


Figure 10: Sections

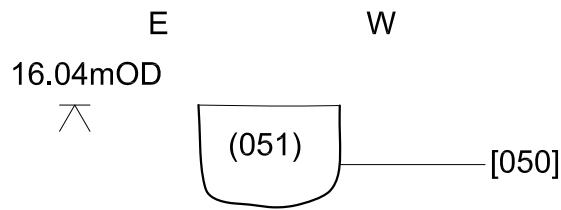
0m

1m

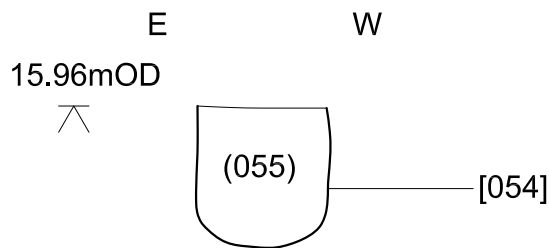
Dwg 2.14



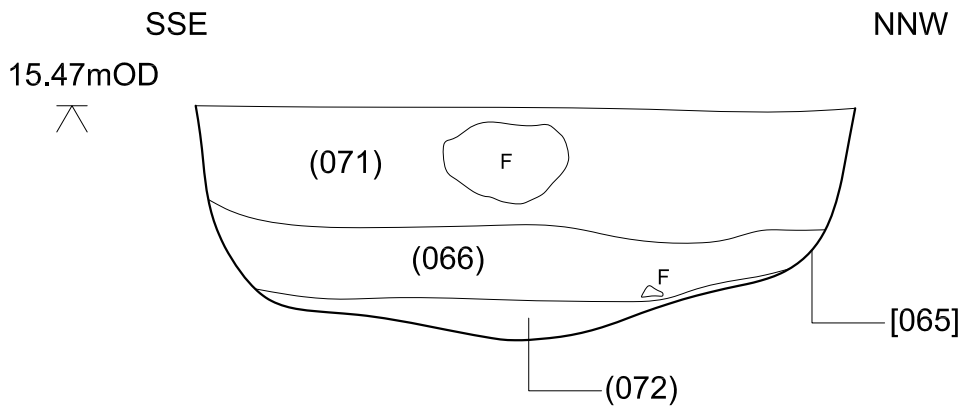
Dwg 2.15



Dwg 2.16



Dwg 2.17



1:10@A4

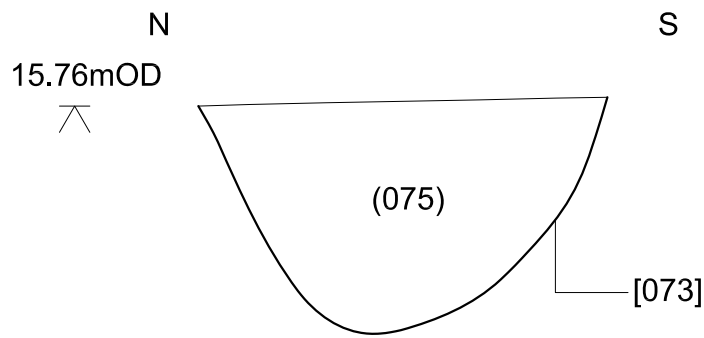


0m

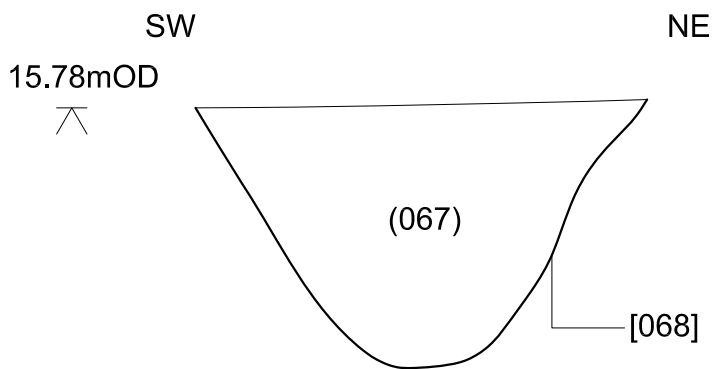
1m

Figure 11: Sections

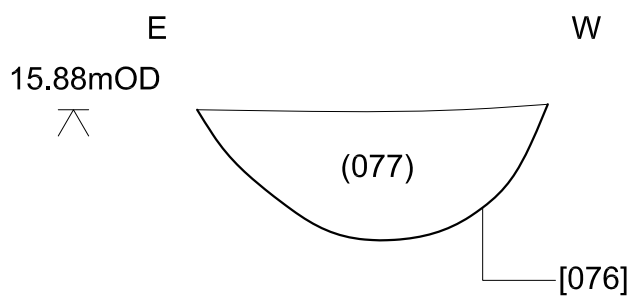
Dwg 2.18



Dwg 2.19



Dwg 2.20



1:10@A4



Figure 12: Sections

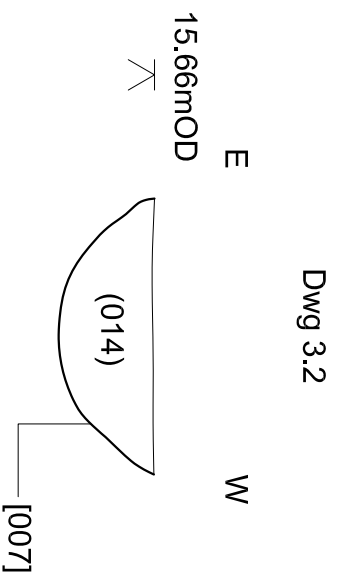
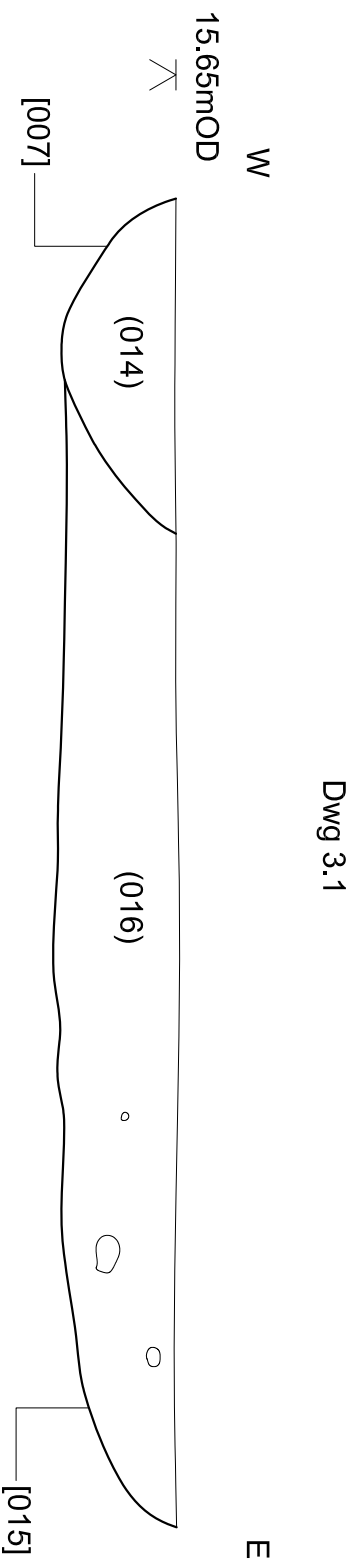
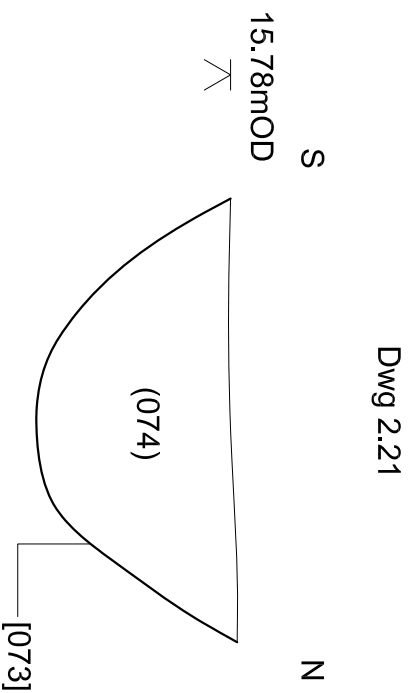
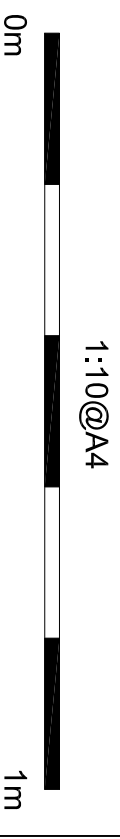
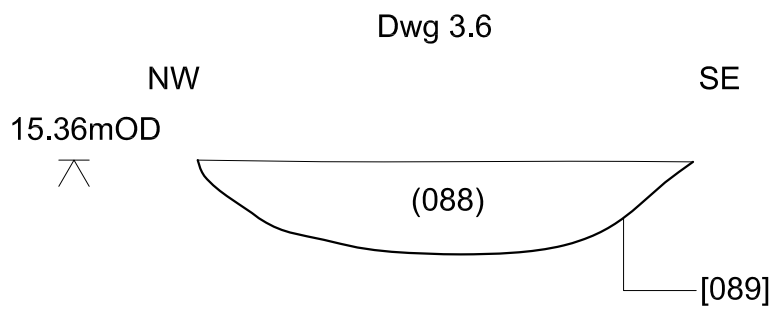
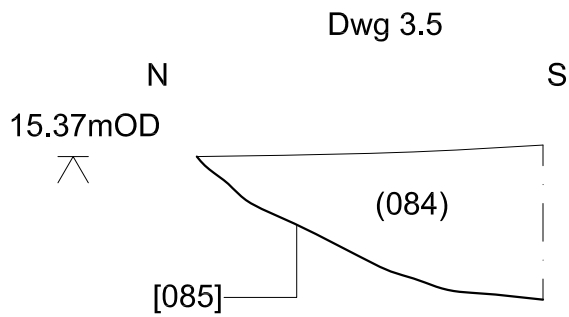
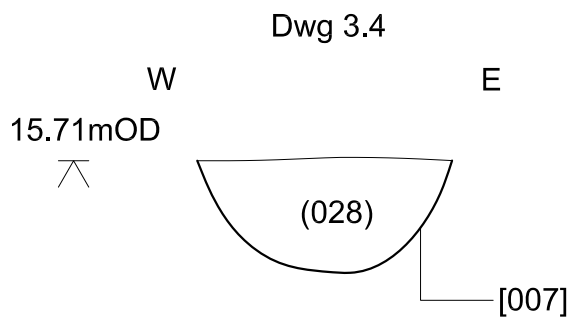
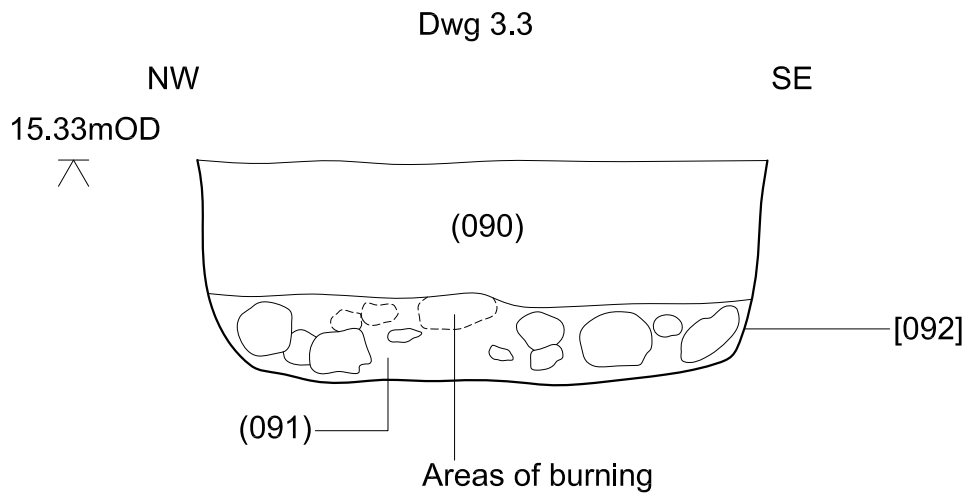


Figure 13: Sections





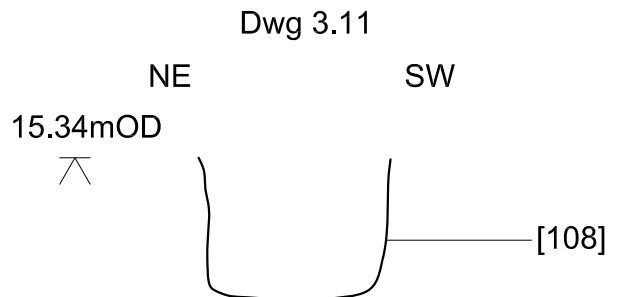
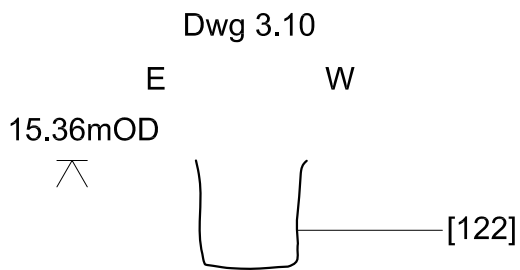
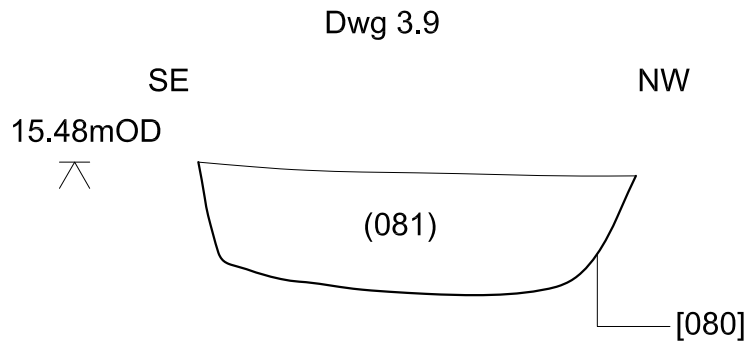
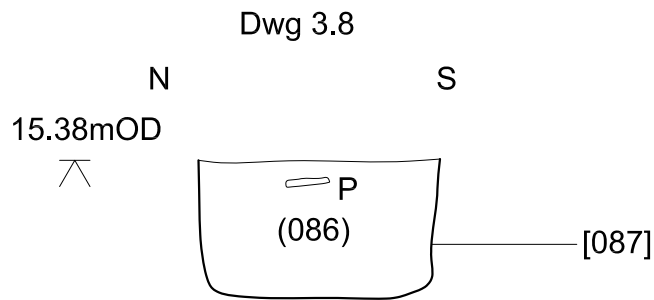
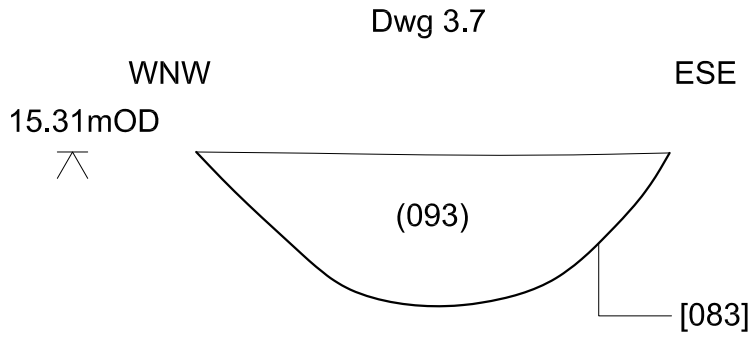
1:10@A4



Figure 14: Sections

0m

1m



1:10@A4

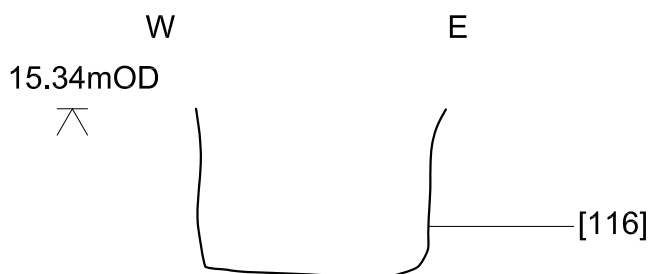


0m

1m

Figure 15: Sections

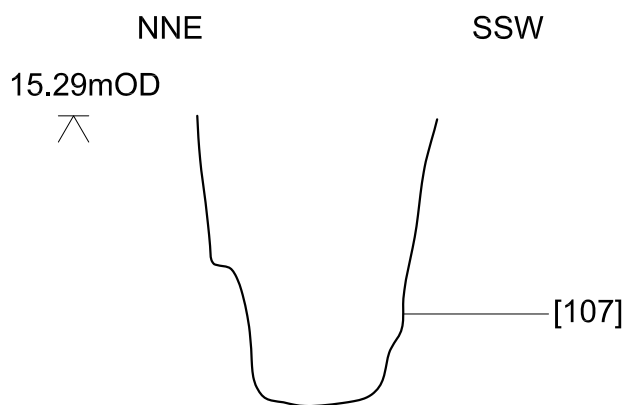
Dwg 3.12



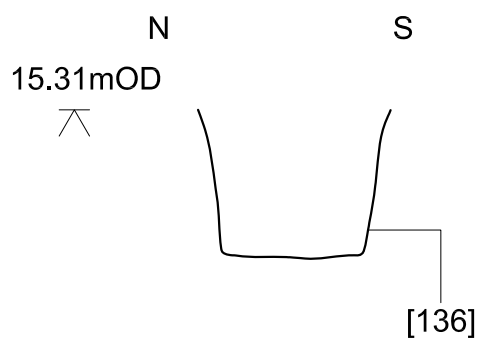
Dwg 3.13



Dwg 3.14



Dwg 3.15



1:10@A4

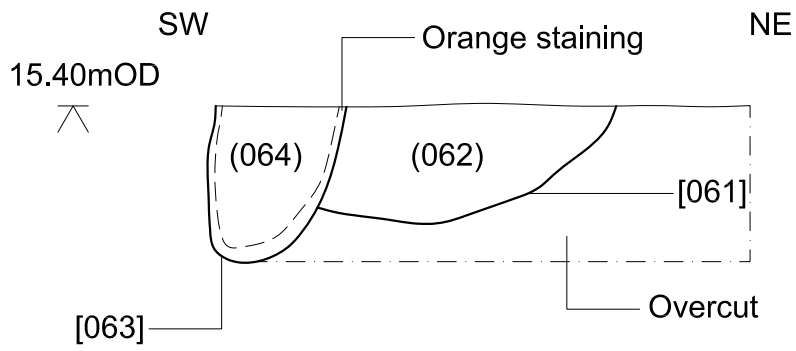


Figure 16: Sections

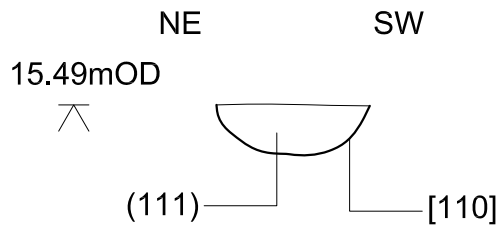
0m

1m

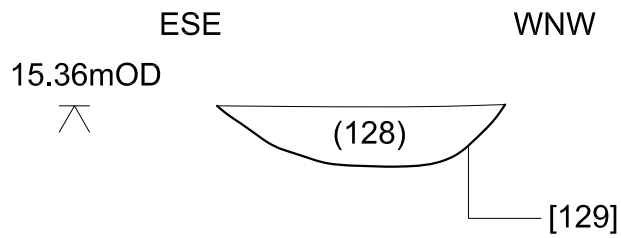
Dwg 3.16



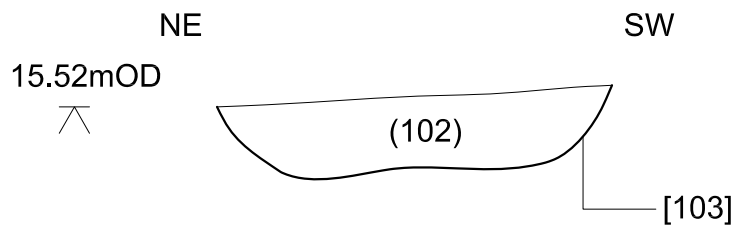
Dwg 3.17



Dwg 3.18



Dwg 3.19

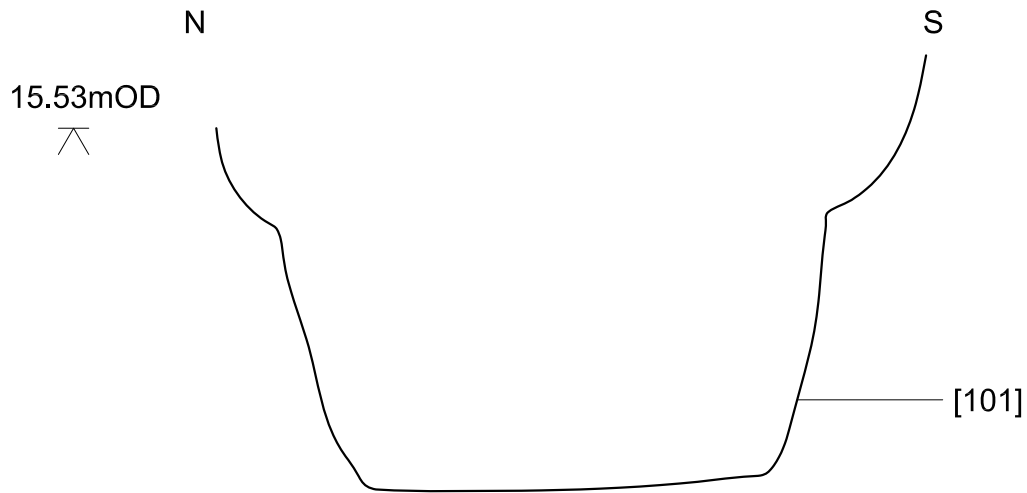


1:20@A4

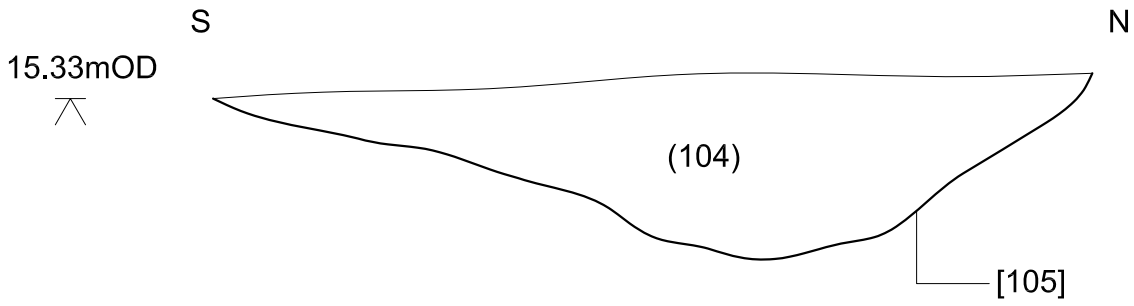


Figure 17: Sections

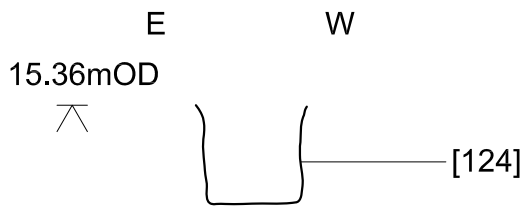
Dwg 3.20



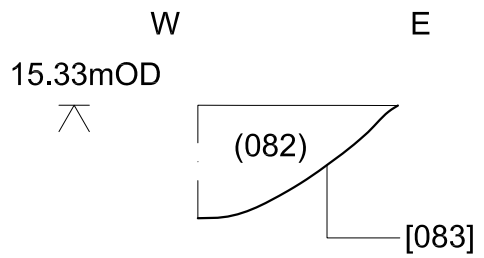
Dwg 3.21



Dwg 3.22



Dwg 3.23

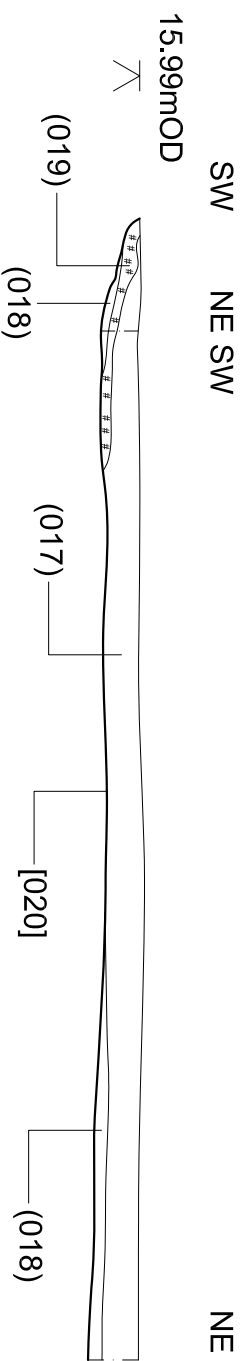


1:10@A4

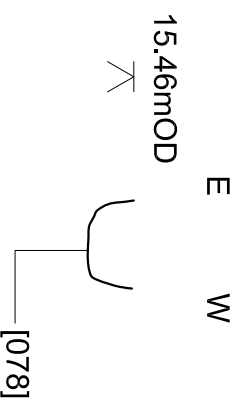


Figure 18: Sections

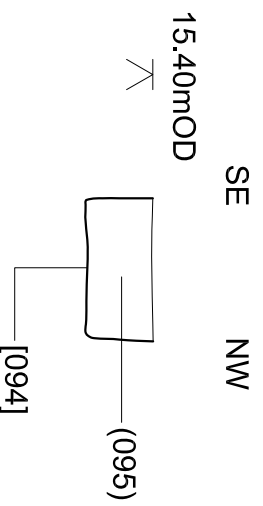
Dwg 4.1



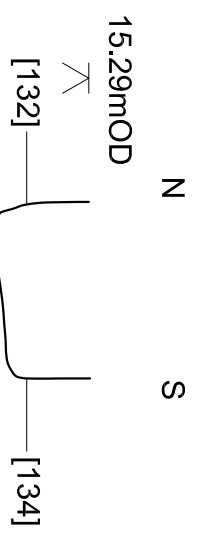
Dwg 4.2



Dwg 4.3



Dwg 4.4



1:200@A4



Figure 19: Sections

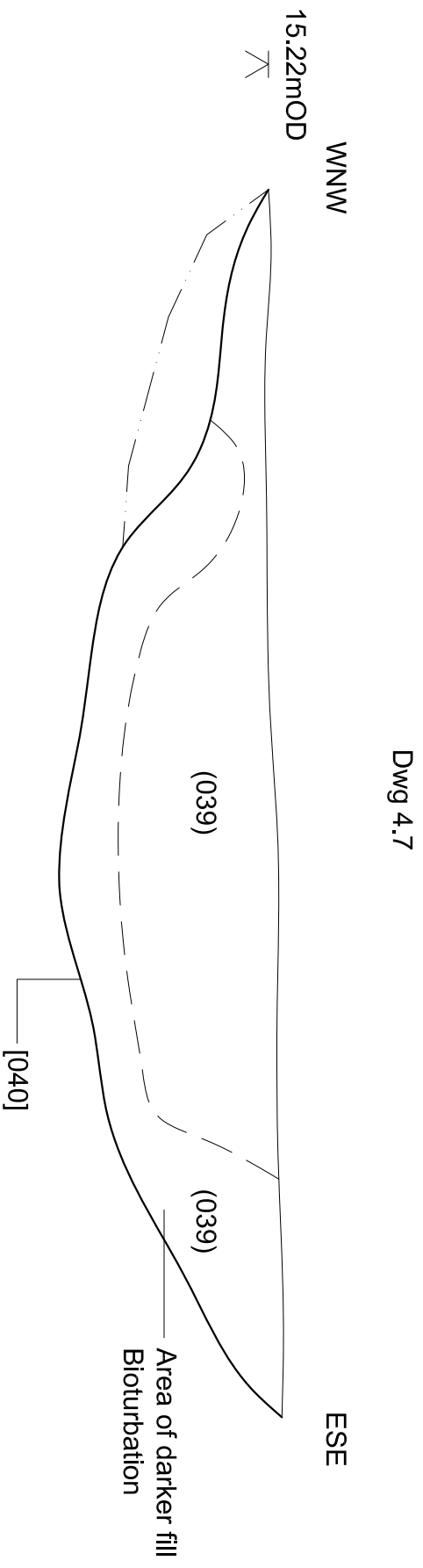
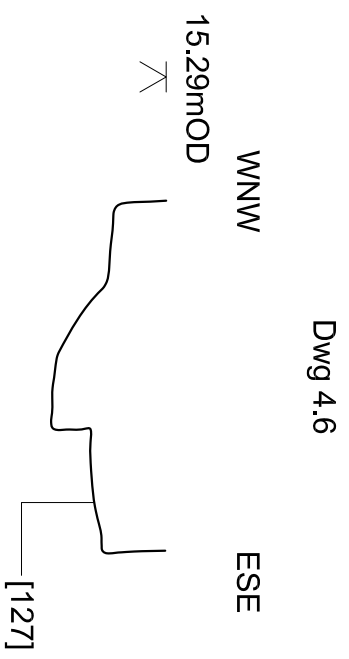
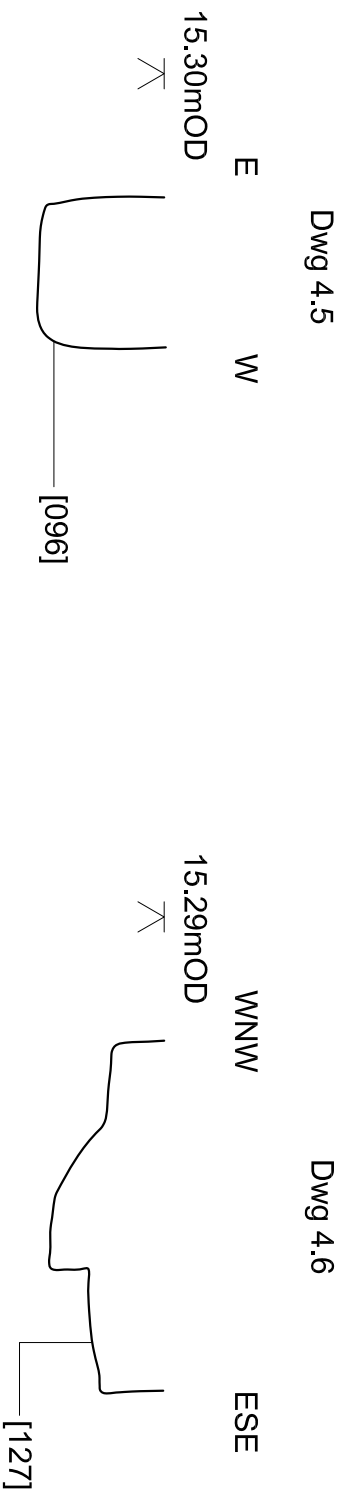
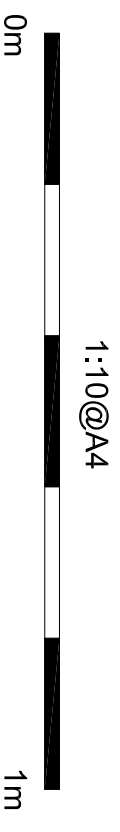


Figure 20: Sections



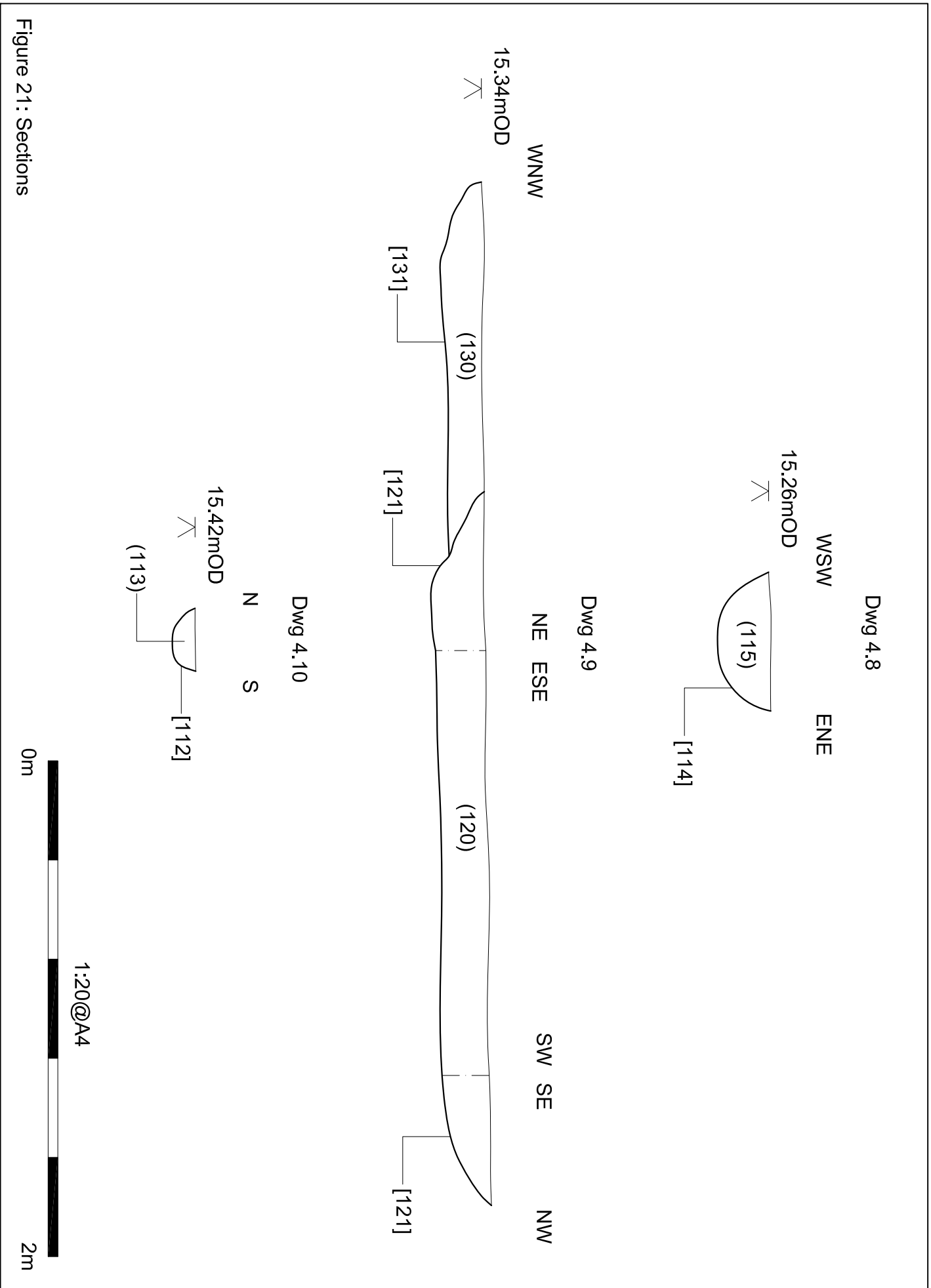
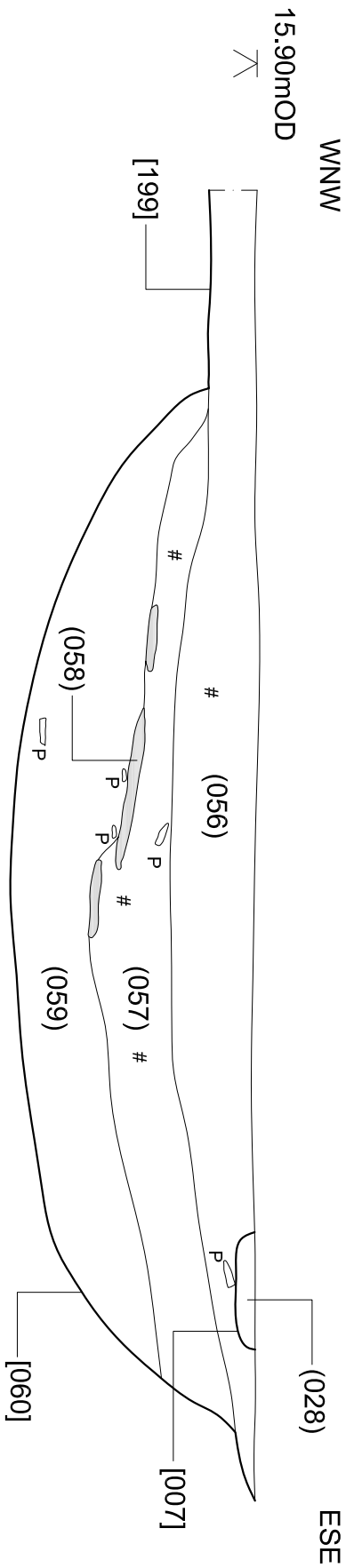


Figure 21 : Sections

Dwg 4.11



Dwg 5.1

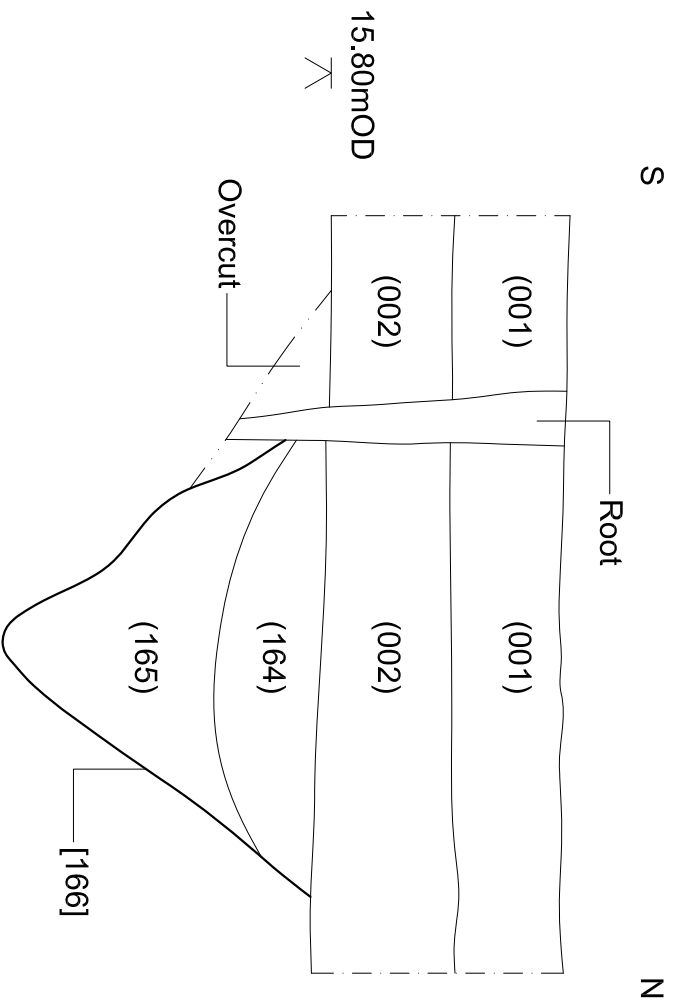
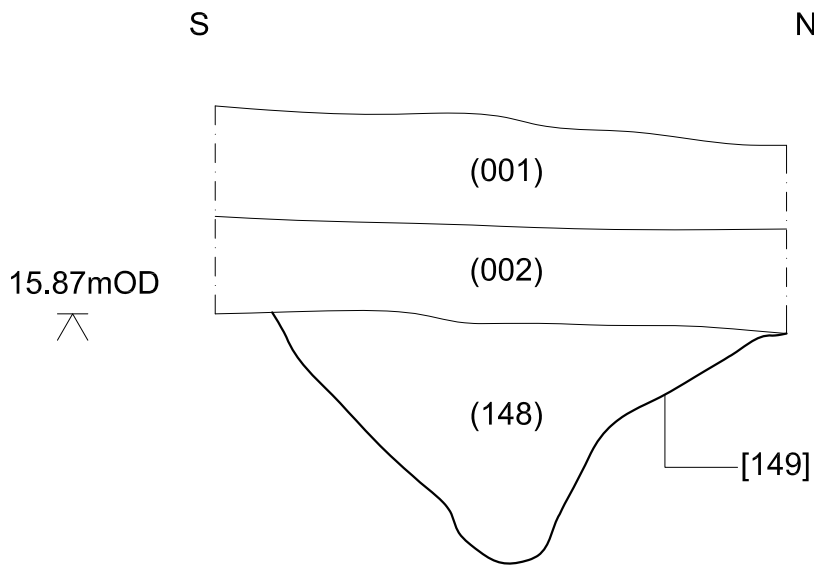


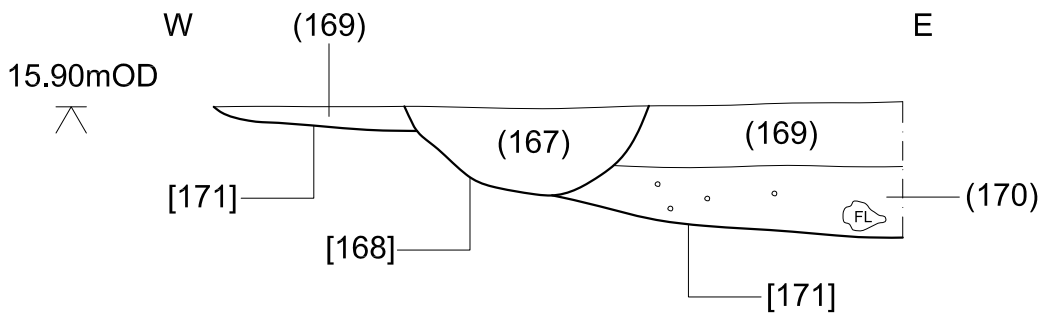
Figure 22: Sections



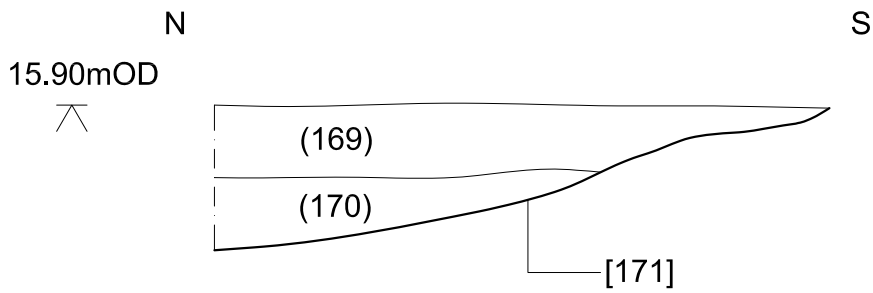
Dwg 5.2



Dwg 5.3



Dwg 5.4

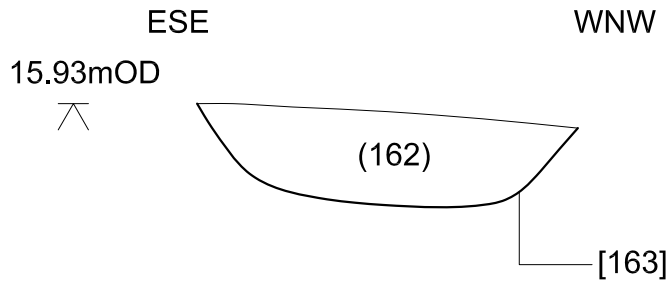


1:20@A4

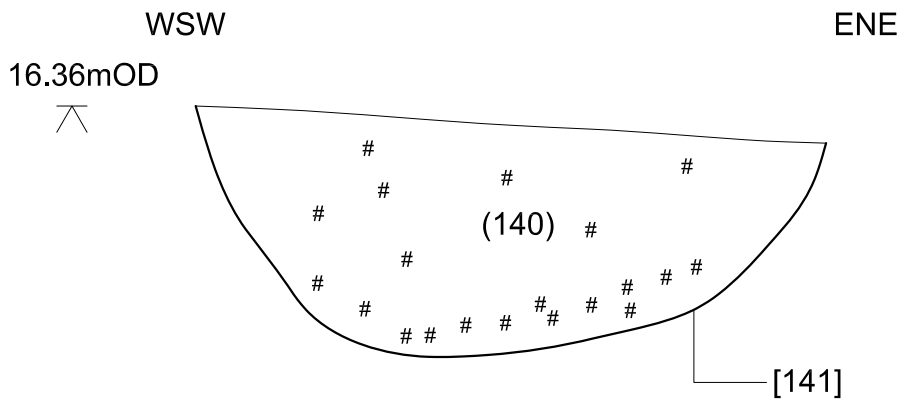


Figure 23: Sections

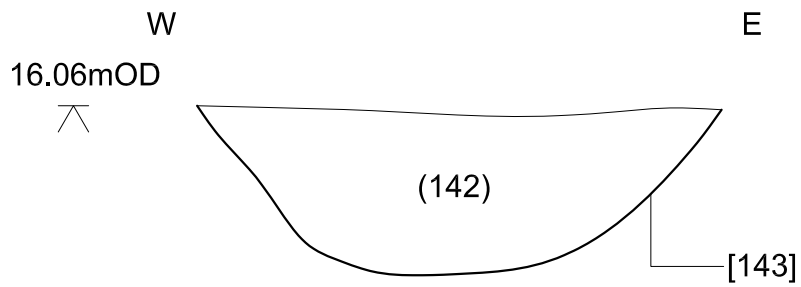
Dwg 5.5



Dwg 5.6



Dwg 5.8



1:10@A4



0m

1m

Figure 24: Sections

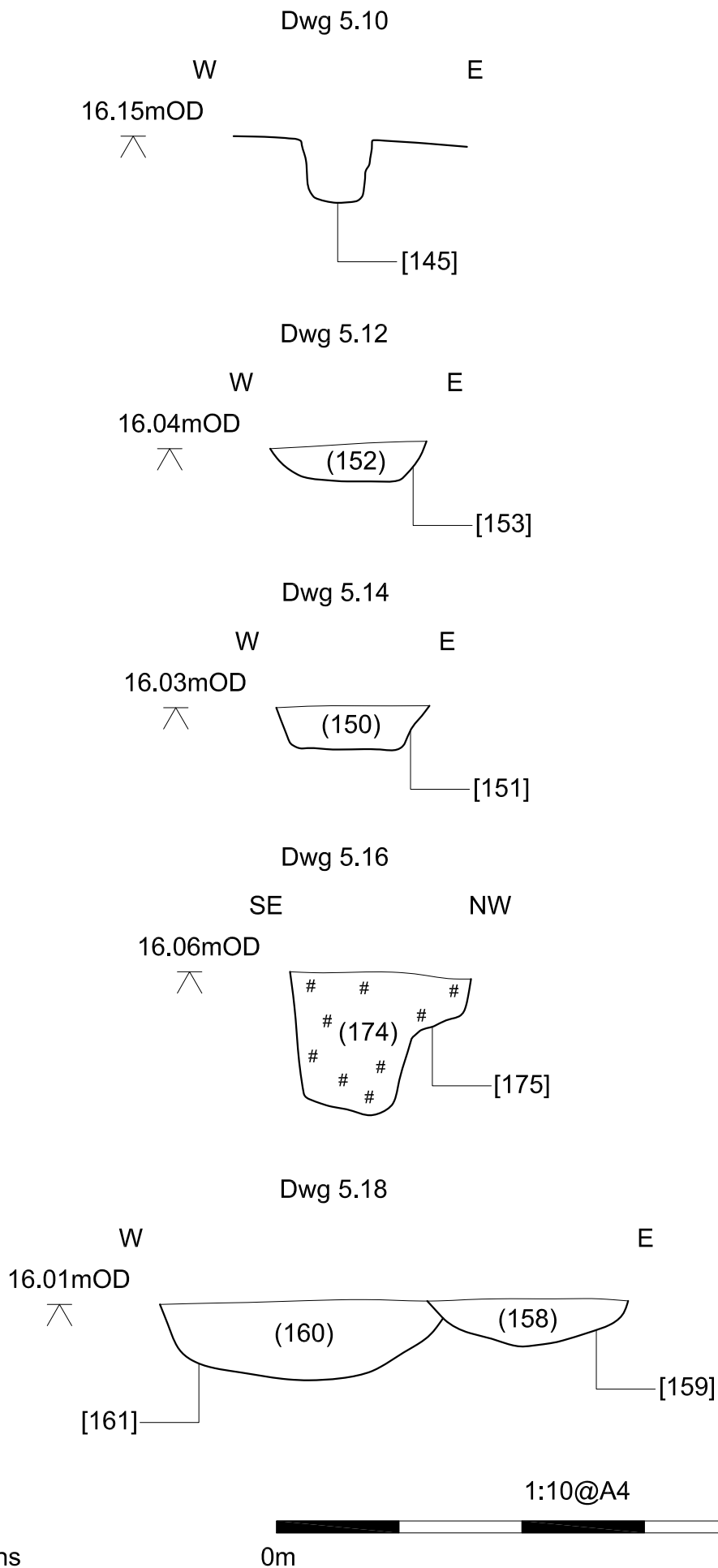
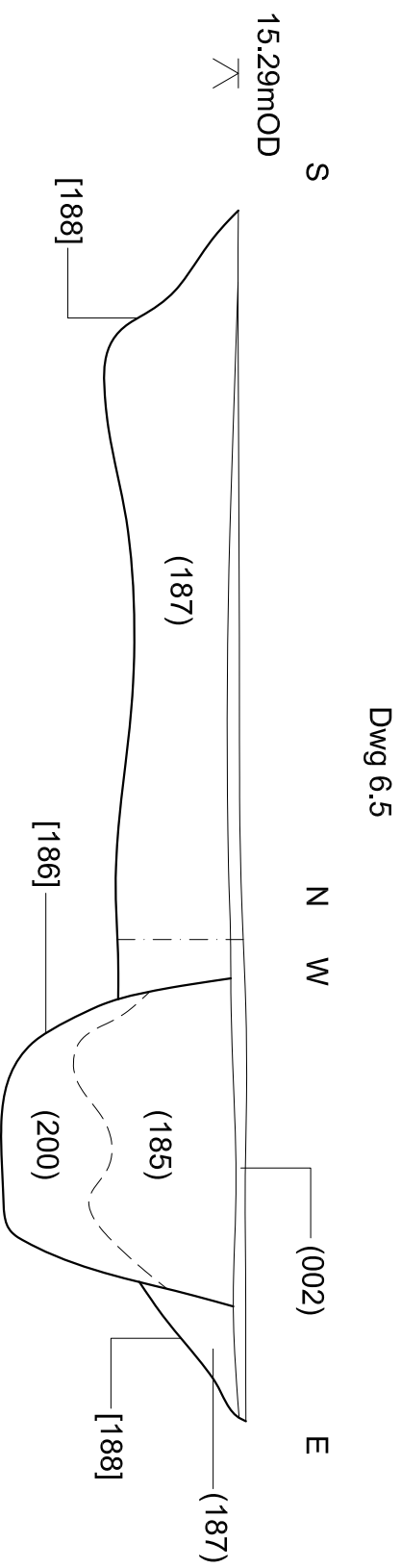
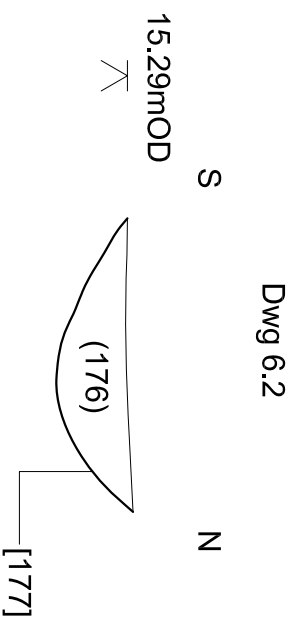
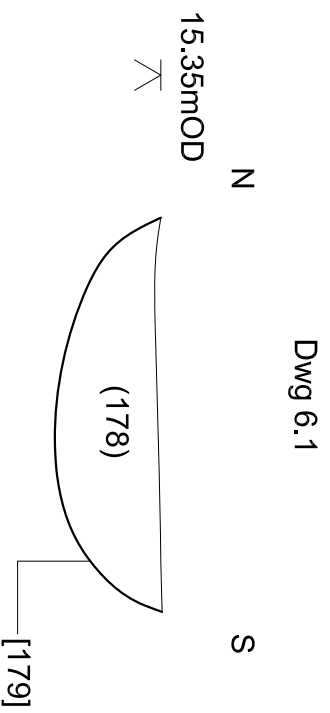


Figure 25: Sections



1:200@A4



Figure 26: Sections

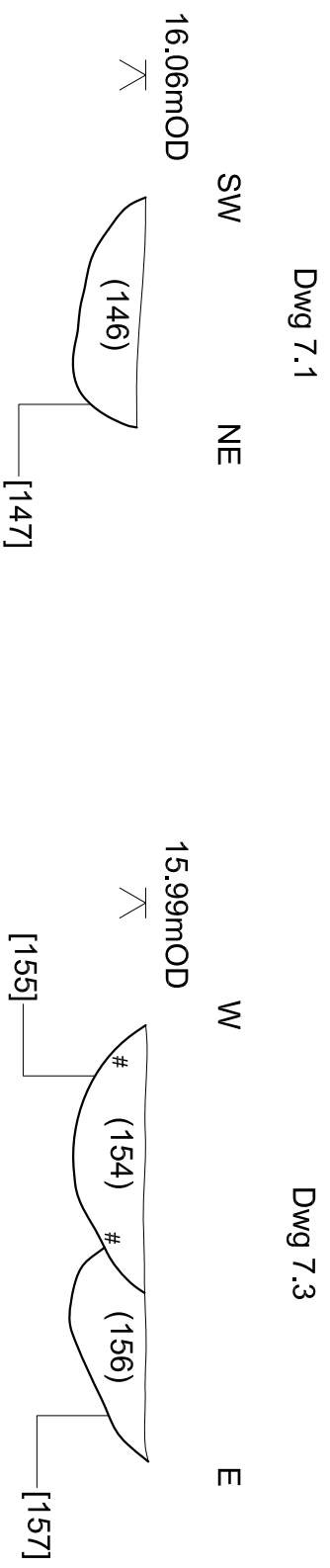
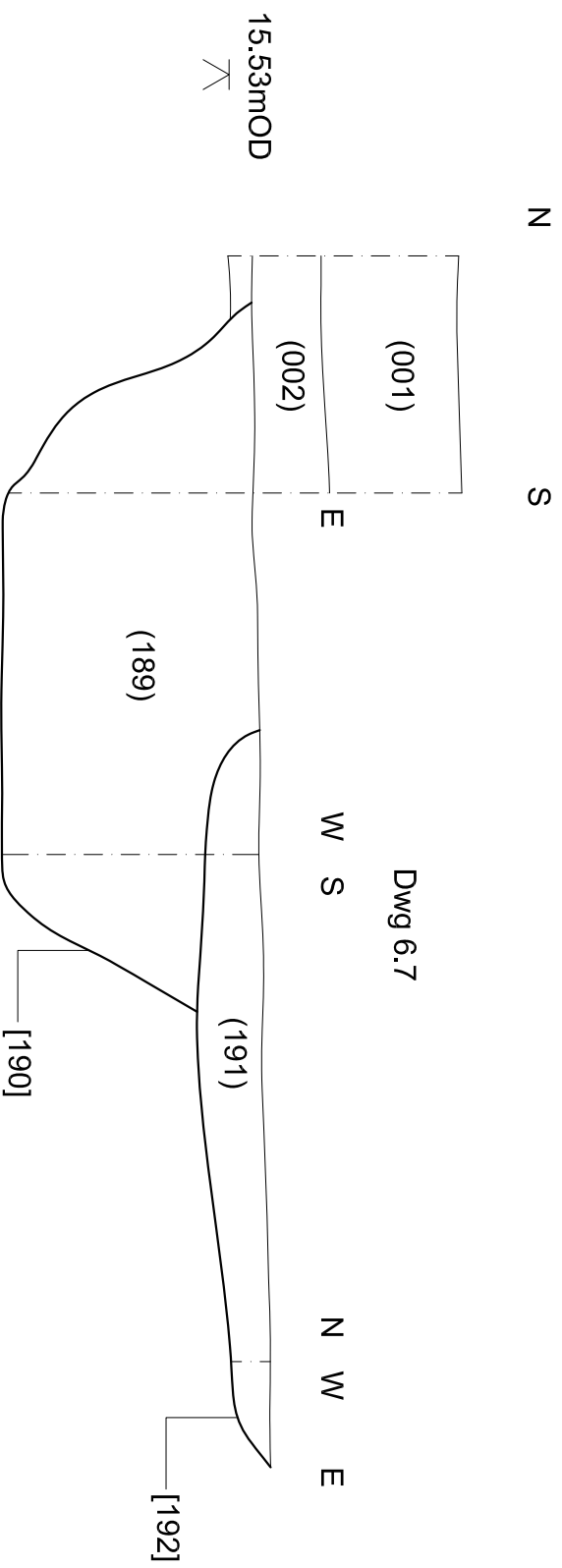


Figure 27 : Sections

1:200@A4

0m 2m

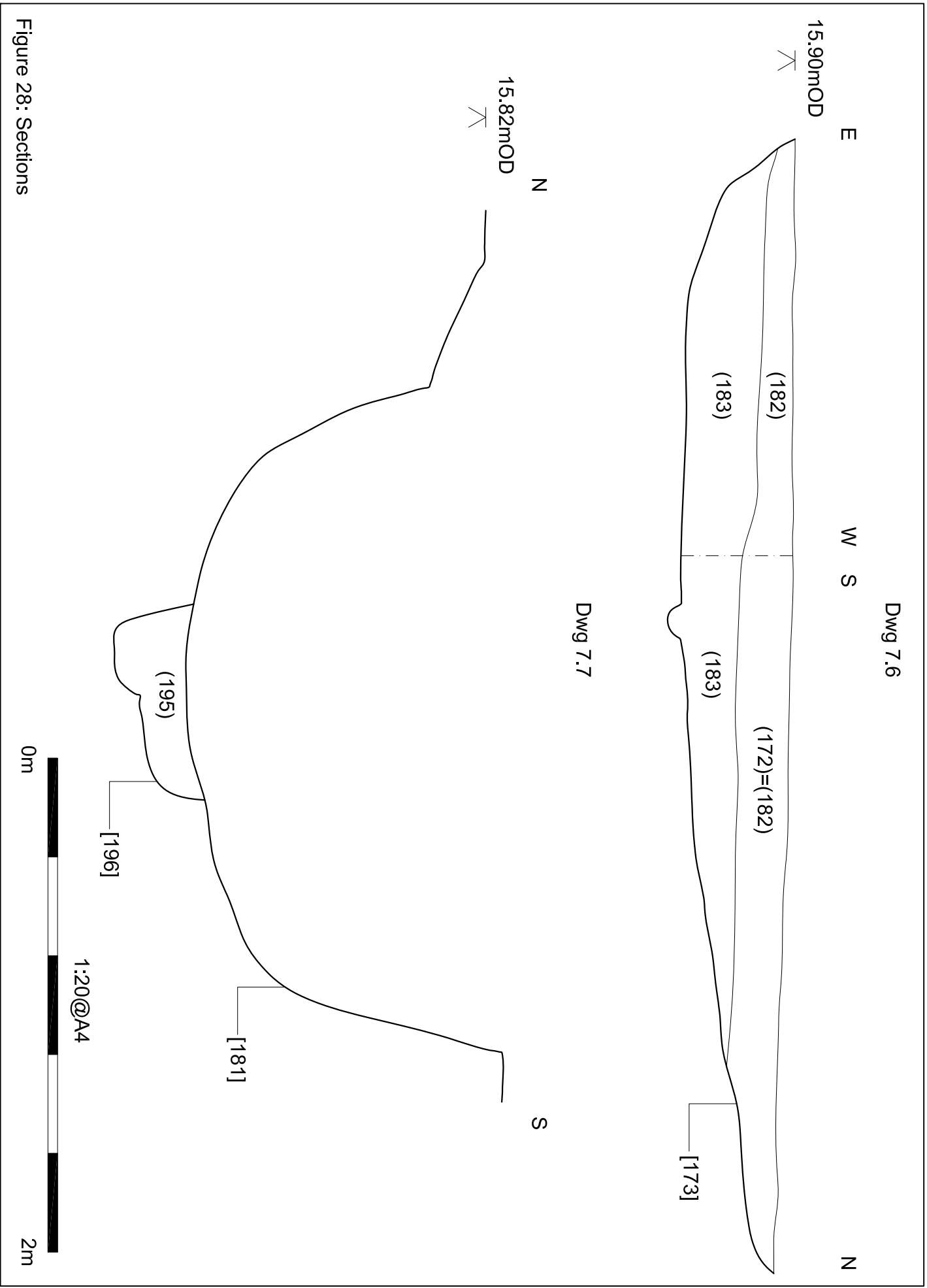


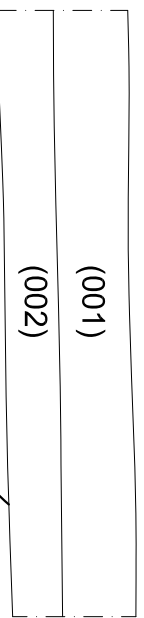
Figure 28: Sections

Dwg 8.4

S

N

16.10mOD



[198]

1:200@A4



Figure 29: Sections

- Key:
- Early Bronze Age (c. 1700 - 1500 BC)
 - Middle Bronze Age (c.1550 - 1350 BC)
 - Later MBA (c.1550 - 1350 BC)
 - Late Bronze Age (c. 1150 - 800 BC)
 - Roman (c. 150 - 250 AD)

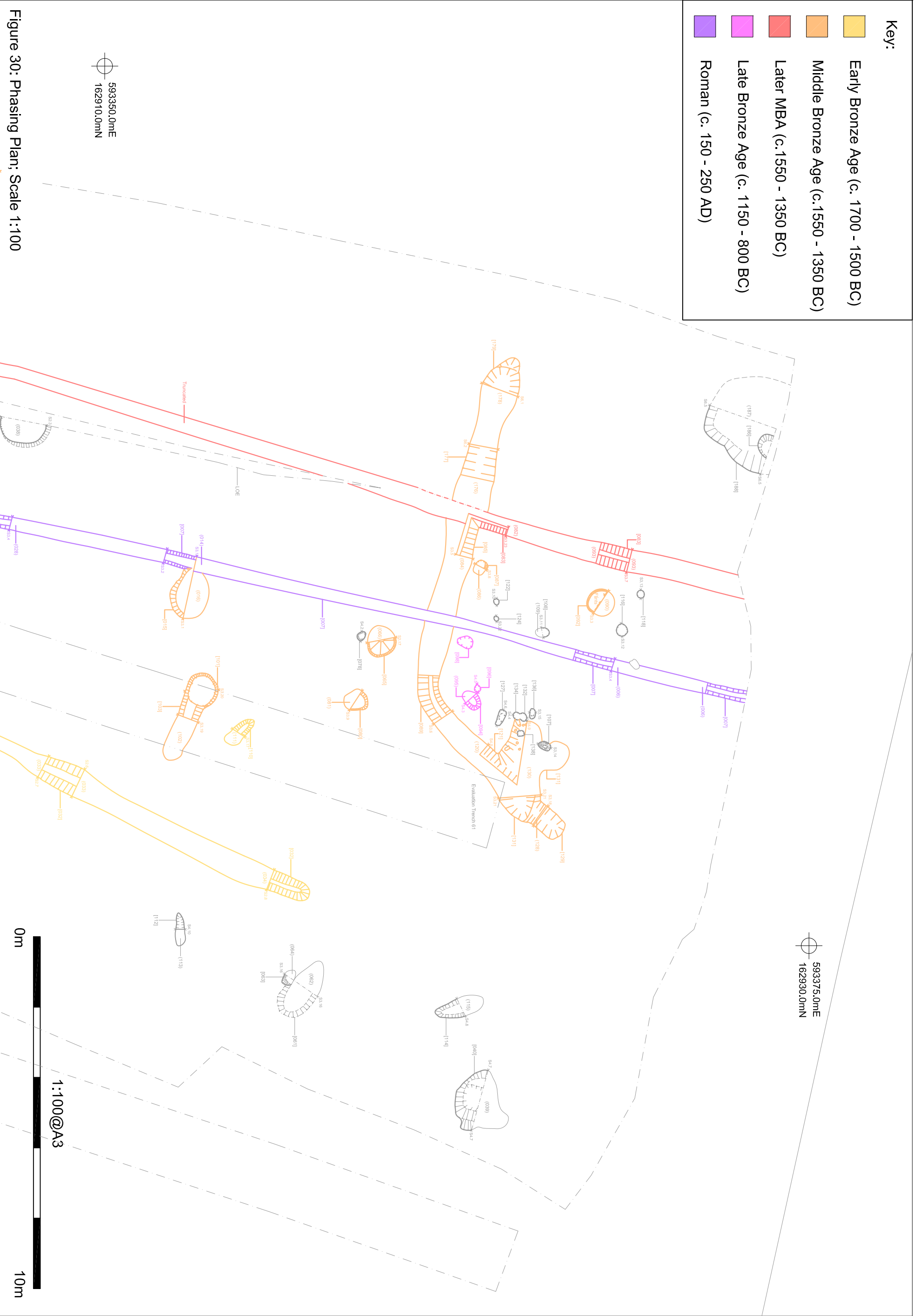
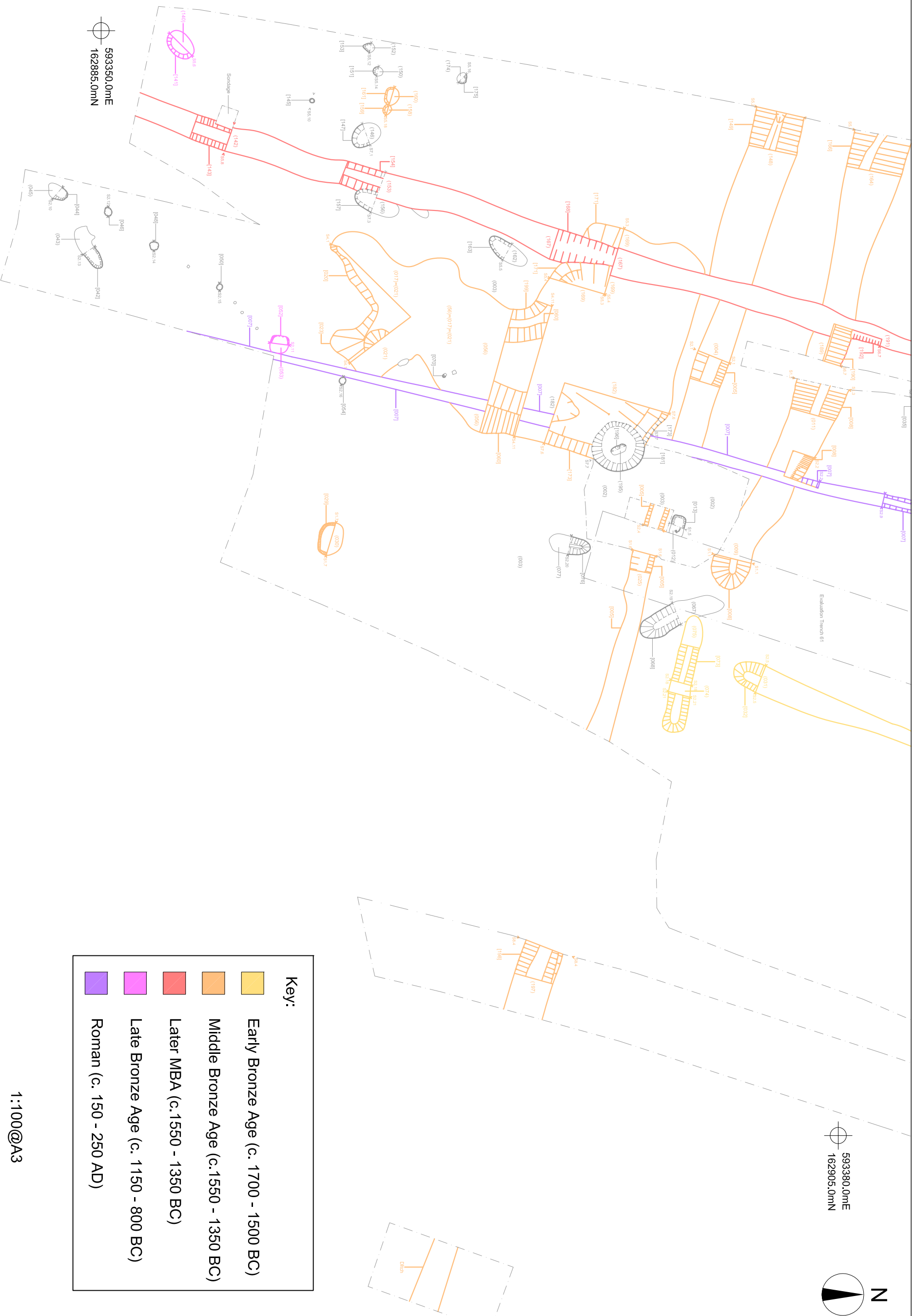


Figure 30: Phasing Plan; Scale 1:100



593380.0mE
162905.0mN

593350.0mE
162885.0mN

Key:

	Early Bronze Age (c. 1700 - 1500 BC)
	Middle Bronze Age (c.1550 - 1350 BC)
	Later MBA (c.1550 - 1350 BC)
	Late Bronze Age (c. 1150 - 800 BC)
	Roman (c. 150 - 250 AD)

1:100@A3

0m 10m

Figure 31: Phasing Plan; Scale 1:100



Plate 1. View of excavation site (2011) facing north-west.



Plate 2. View of excavation site (2011) showing Linear D (left to right) dating from the Roman period with Linear E curving to the left and dating from the Middle Bronze Age.