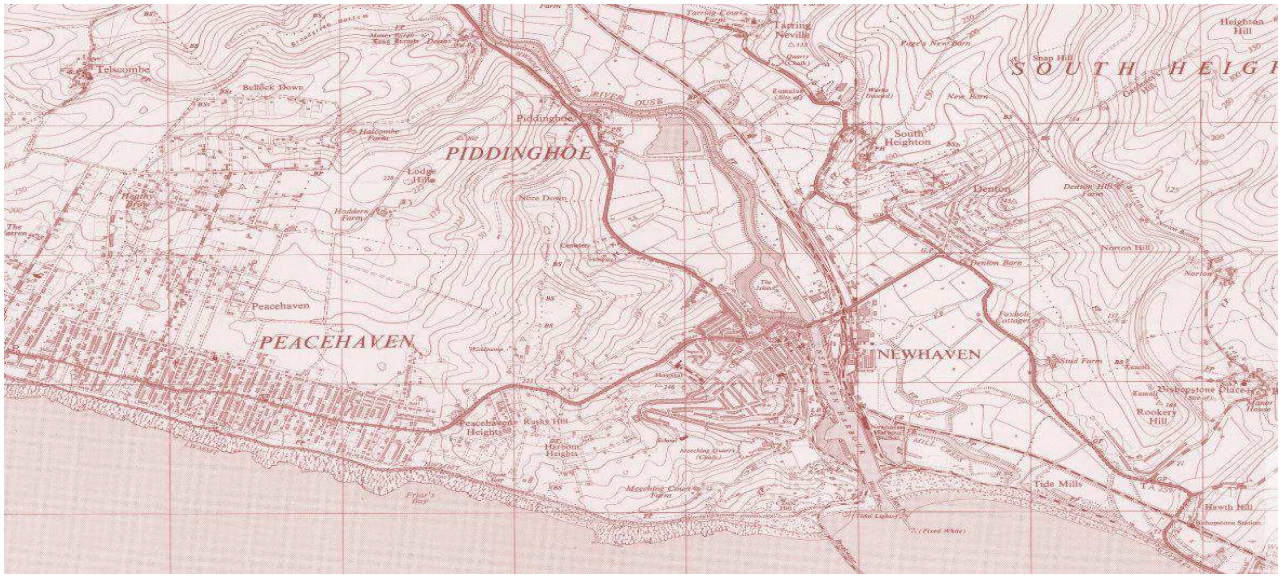
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Land at Lower Hoddern Farm, Peacehaven, East Sussex

PHASE 3 report



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SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by BDW Southern Counties to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Lower Hoddern Farm, Peacehaven, East Sussex (Phase 3). The archaeological works were monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at East Sussex County Council.

The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 39 trenches, of which 34 were excavated. 31 recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural geology. 3 evaluation trenches were cutting through recent spoil derived from nearby construction. Five trenches which proposed location was on the eastern side of internal access road were not excavated as there is no impact from development and whole area comprises recreational ground and attenuation pond.

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of Prehistoric activity within central-western extent of the site comprising ditches, post pits potentially comprising a structure and Post Medieval droveway or track. Some features belonging to this cluster were already investigated during drainage works; a part of SMS Phase 1.

Archaeological features within positive trenches have been attributed to the Early Neolithic and Post Medieval periods. Discrete features exposed during the evaluation are having similar characteristics to remains recorded during adjacent drainage mitigation works in 2019. Some features were backfilled with frequent calcined flints thus it suggests a potential burnt mound activity in the area. It is not clear at this stage of investigation how these remains are relating the Middle Bronze Age-Late Bronze Age agrarian landscape recorded by Archaeology South East as there was no dating evidence retrieved from linear feature discovered in similar alignment. Potential Post-Medieval trackway exposed in two evaluation trenches was already noted during drainage works but it was obscured by modern debris and it needs investigating within larger open area to fully ascertain its function and relation to other parallel ditch located to the southwest.

It has therefore been suggested that the proposed development may have an impact on archaeological remains. Further archaeological mitigation, should it be necessary, will need to be determined in consultation with ESCC and local planning authority.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by BDW Southern Counties to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT 2017, Updated March-April and September 2020) and in discussion with the County Archaeologist, East Sussex County Council. The evaluation commenced on 20th October and was completed by 2nd November 2020.

1.2 Development proposals for this project have been submitted to Lewes District Council (LW/17/0226). For a full planning application for the development of 143 dwellings (55 affordable) and outline planning application for up to 307 dwellings (125 affordable), vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access, internal site roads, parking and public open space, including extension to Peacehaven Centenary Park, and landscaping, all matters other than access reserved at Lower Hoddern Farm, Hoddern Farm Lane, Peacehaven, East Sussex BN10 8AP. Planning consent has subsequently been granted by Lewes District Council under planning reference LW/17/0226 with Condition 11 attached that states:

'No development of any phase including the full application and outline application areas shown on 2445-C-1005-N, shall take place (or other dates or stages in the development as may be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority) until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of full excavation in advance of any site set up or construction work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved by the Local Planning Authority. A written record of any archaeological works undertaken shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within 3 months of the completion of any archaeological investigation unless an alternative timescale for submission of the report is first agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.'

1.3 The County Archaeologist for East Sussex County Council recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological work in order to clarify the presence of archaeological remains within the site and to implement further mitigation measures. The results of this investigation can then guide appropriate mitigation measures for the future development.

1.4 **The scope of works undertaken so far comprises:**

- DBA produced by CgMs in November 2012
- Geophysical survey and report (Stratascan January 2017)
- SPECIFICATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT LOWER HODDERN FARM, PEACEHAVEN, EAST SUSSEX. WSI dated 04/04/2017 produced by SWAT and approved by the ESCC Archaeologist and Lewes DC. This covers the full extent of the site including the extra area to the northeast which is no longer included in the application.
- Phase 1 Evaluation Trenches 1-20 (April and May 2017)
- Phase 1 Evaluation report 01/02/2018
- SPECIFICATION FOR STRIP MAP AND SAMPLE Mitigation for Phase 1 WSI dated 19/01/2018.
- SMS Phase 1 fieldwork comprising northern extent of the site, haul road, compound, pond and U-shaped drainage to the west of the road. (February /March 2018 till early 2019).

- An update to approved SPECIFICATION FOR PHASE 2 EVALUATION Trenches 21-64 (16 March 2020)
- Evaluation Phase 2 fieldwork commenced on 24 March 2020.
- National lockdown due to Pandemic (25 March 2020) fieldwork Phase 2 interrupted, site was closed down and SWAT team was off-site until 1st June 2020.
- Evaluation re-commenced on 1st June 2020. The measured distance between Trench 23 and northern boundary was only 7.70 metre (should be 25metres) but no one realized that until preparation of this report in October 2020.
- Evaluation Phase 2 was completed on 02/07/2020 and County has sign-off fieldwork and agreed to backfill evaluation Trenches via e-mail on the same date.
- Evaluation Phase 2 draft report submitted to ESCC on 21/09/2020. Final version was issued in late October/ early November 2020 following completion of finds and environmental assessments.
- Further mitigation areas for Phase 2 including contingency areas were agreed with County archaeologist on 23/09/2020. ESCC has requested fencing-off the agreed areas including contingency zones.
- SPECIFICATION FOR STRIP MAP AND SAMPLE PROGRAMME (Phase 2) issued on 12/10/2020 and submitted to ESCC.
- A revision of submitted WSI requested by County archaeologist on 13/10/2020.
- SPECIFICATION FOR STRIP MAP AND SAMPLE PROGRAMME (Phase 2) revised and re-submitted to ESCC on 14/10/2020.
- Fieldwork Phase 2 commenced on 19th October.
- Following the strip of the area to the west of the internal road County monitoring visit and subsequent sign-off were carried out on 27th October and 3rd November respectively.
- Evaluation Phase 3 within southern extent of PDA comprising Trenches 65-102 (Fieldwork) commenced on 20th October and was completed on 2nd November 2020.
- Evaluation Phase 3 report with recommendations for further work was produced on 2th December 2020.
- Phase 2 (East) Strip map and sample programme is on-going.

1.5 **Pending further works for this project:**

- Further mitigation comprising strip map and sample programme Phase 3 (fieldwork).
- Post excavation assessment report comprising SMS Phases 1, 2 and 3.

1.6 The County Archaeologist for East Sussex County Council recommended that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological work in order to clarify the archaeological remains within the site. The results of this investigation can then guide appropriate mitigation measures for the future development.

2.0 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SETTINGS

2.1 The proposed development site (Figure 1) lies about 1 km inland from the English Channel on the chalk downland of Lower Hoddern Farm and is 1 km west of Newhaven and situated on the outskirts of Peacehaven. Residential housing lies to the west, the Meridian Industrial Estate to the south and agricultural fields to the north and to the east.

2.2 According to British Geological Survey southern extent of the site is underlain by geological formation of Lambeth Group - Clay, Silt and Sand. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 48 to 59 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. Setting environment for this geology comprised swamps, estuaries and deltas. These sedimentary rocks are fluvial, palustrine and shallow-marine in origin. They are detrital, forming deposits reflecting the channels, floodplains and deltas of a river in a coastal setting (with periodic inundation from the sea).

2.3 Northern part of the site is underlain by Clay-with-flints Formation - Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel. Superficial Deposits formed up to 23 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods. Local environment previously dominated by weathering processes. Setting comprised mainly weathering processes. These sedimentary deposits are subaerial and pedogenic in origin. They are detrital, comprising coarse- to fine- grained materials, weathered to form layers of accumulated material.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The East Sussex County Council Historic Environment Record (ESCCHER) has provided details of any previous investigations and discoveries. The potential of this area has been gauged in relation to the proximity of known archaeological remains. The archaeological record for the site include three Archaeological Notification Areas, one to the extreme north of the site with two others in close proximity (776 and 1228).

3.2 The archaeological potential is highlighted in the Archaeological Desk based Assessment (CgMs November 2012) and is unnecessary to repeat here. However, a very substantial corpus of Prehistoric finds and sites moving into the Bronze and Iron Age are known in the immediate vicinity of the PDA and field walking on the site by the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society revealed ‘a medium scatter of Prehistoric flintwork (HER Ref: EES 14250; TQ 41700 01800).

3.3 Further details of previous discoveries and investigations within the immediate and wider area may be found in the East Sussex County Council Historic Environment Record. The Historical Environment Record (HER) data maintained by ESCC has been summarised in a Desk-based Archaeological Assessment commissioned by the client from CgMs dated November 2012. In addition a Geophysical Survey was commissioned from Stratascan in January 2017.

3.4 The principle objective of the archaeological evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of any elements of the archaeological resource, both artefacts and ecofacts of archaeological interest across the area of the development. And to ascertain the extent, depth below ground surface, depth of deposit if possible, character, date and quality of any such archaeological remains by limited sample excavation.

3.5 To determine the state of preservation and importance of the archaeological resource if present and to assess the past impacts on the site and pay particular attention to the character, height/ depth below ground level, condition, date and significance of any

archaeological deposits. The opportunity was taken during the course of the evaluation to place and assess any archaeology revealed within the context of other recent archaeological investigations in the immediate area and within the setting of the local landscape and topography.

3.6 Specific research questions were answered to identify the archaeological anomalies highlighted by the recent geophysical survey. In general the work is to ensure compliance with the archaeological requirement from the East Sussex County Archaeologist that an archaeological evaluation was undertaken as a planning requirement to publish the results either on line, or through OASIS and/or in a local journal.

3.7 The South East Research Framework (SERF) sets out a draft research agenda for improving the understanding of the Prehistoric and Roman period in the region (Booth 2013).

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 34 evaluation trenches (of proposed 39) were dug measuring 1.8m wide by up to 25m long arranged in a pattern across the site of the development (Figures 2-3), distance between trenches was no greater than 16.5m and trench layout covered 5% of the area of interest, as shown on the attached drawing (Figures 2, 3). Some trenches for instance 65, 78 and 94 were excavated shorter in length due to adjacent site boundary.

4.2 All unexcavated evaluation trenches were located within planned open space/ green area to the east of internal access road. As attenuation pond was already investigated during Phase 1 and there is no further impact from the construction

4.3 In addition a metal detector survey was undertaken under archaeological constraints prior to the archaeological investigation outlined in WSI. One extension to existing trench was following on-site consultation with Archaeological Officer in order to fully understand exposed remains.

4.4 Undertaken mechanical excavation was limited to the removal of topsoil/overburden to expose the uppermost archaeological deposits or the natural geological surface whichever is the higher. Mechanical excavation in all instances was carried out by the machine equipped with a toothless bucket. The underlying surface comprised Lambeth Group - Clay, Silt and Sand. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 48 to 59 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period.

4.5 Following the mechanical clearance of overburden, excavation in all instances was undertaken by hand. The evaluation trenches were hand cleaned using a trowel and hoe and all archaeological features exposed were mapped, recorded and photographed.

4.6 Archaeological features in the evaluation trenches were generally sampled to elucidate the stratigraphic sequence and secure datable materials for assessment. Full excavation was not undertaken at this stage. Care was taken not to damage archaeological deposits or structures by unnecessary excavation. In particular the underlying strata were not reduced to more clearly expose anticipated archaeological features.

4.7 The Project was directed by Dr Paul Wilkinson of SWAT Archaeology of behalf of the client. Other SWAT Archaeology staff and trusted sub-contracted specialists contributed as necessary. Peter Cichy was managing the project; Duncan Cameron-Graham was supervising the fieldwork. Appendix 1 provides a list of the core personnel. Evaluation commenced on 20th October and was completed on 2nd November 2020.

4.8 A general site safety strategy was agreed and implemented prior to the commencement of the fieldwork, including a risk assessment and method statement, safety plans and procedures for safety inspections and the reporting of accidents. Safety procedures are to follow the guidelines established by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in: Policy statement of Health and Safety and in the Standards and guidance and the practical guidance in the SCAUM manual Health and Safety in the field archaeology.

4.9 All necessary precautions to the satisfaction of the Statutory or other Service Authorities

and the landowner concerned were undertaken to avoid interference with or damage to their services, and to comply with any of their codes of Practice that may be applicable. Where possible water drains which were interfered with, or cut through, were preserved. Enquiries as to the position and line of any existing services were made. Excavation not commenced where the presence of such services has been established. The positions, depths and dimensions of all services encountered was measured and recorded.

4.10 On completion of machine clearance the area of archaeological investigation was enclosed with appropriate barriers to appropriate safety standards and maintenance. Appropriate hazard signs were also displayed. Appropriate security was provided and particular care was taken to avoid the loss of data by unauthorized excavation for archaeological artefacts.

5.0 RECORDING

Notwithstanding the requirements detailed above, the following general procedures were followed:

5.1 All structures, deposits and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards using appropriate recording systems. The recording systems used were compatible with those used on other similar archaeological excavations within East Sussex District. The records are to be integrated into the East Sussex County Council HER. The site archive will be prepared according to the guidelines set out in: Management of archaeological of projects: appendix 3 (English Heritage 2nd Ed.1991).

5.2 All archaeological contexts were recorded individually on context record sheets. A further more general record of the work, comprising a description and discussion of the archaeology is included in this report.

5.3 A full colour and b/w photographic record of all phases of the excavation works is to be kept. The photographic digital record, as well as the written record of the same comprises a part of the site archive. Record digital photographs taken as part of the primary site archive included a scale, north indicator and header board detailing the site code and context number.

5.4 More general photography and area and feature photographs taken for publicity, educational or publication purposes may exclude these items. The archaeological contractor is to provide the East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Archaeological Officer with a selection of photographic images which reflect the archaeological findings and investigations undertaken on this site.

5.5 The site archive including all project records and cultural material produced by the project was prepared in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990). On completion of the project the Applicant will arrange for the archive to be held at the SWAT Archaeology storage facility until such times that Barbican House, Lewes, the catchment museum can accept the archive.

5.6 A site plan to indicate the location of the boundaries of the proposed development site

and the position of evaluation trenches drawn at a scale of 1:100 is shown on Figures 2 and 3. Plans to indicate the locations of archaeological features are drawn to a scale of 1:50. Detailed plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. All detailed plans and sections are related to the site plans.

5.7 All plans and sections were drawn on polyester based drawing film, and each plan and/or section was clearly labelled. A GPS site grid was established where necessary across the areas subjected to evaluation. All field surveying were preceded by a site visit to clarify the site specific surveying methodology, determine lines of sight and locate appropriate survey points. All recording points were accurately surveyed with a GPS/GNSS RTK survey kit in 1cm/1ppm accuracy and located to the National Grid.

6.0 RESULTS

6.1 Archaeological evaluation at Lower Hoddern Farm (Phase 3), Peacehaven has recorded an evidence for prehistoric activity of Late Mesolithic to Middle Neolithic Period in form of pits and postholes, potential Post-Medieval trackway and undated linear ditch.

6.2 Negative trenches that did not exposed any archaeological features or cuts were: 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96 and 97. Trenches that weren't dug to the east of internal access road (green space area and pond) were 98, 99, 100, 101 and 102.

6.3 Trench 80 was placed in south-western-central part of the area in NE-SW alignment and measured 24.50metres long by 1.8metre wide and 0.41metre in depth. It exposed natural geology context (8003) comprising firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints. A shallow linear cut [8004] in NW-SE alignment was exposed within north-eastern portion of the trench. Feature had shallow sides and measured 2metres in width by 0.1metre in depth. Its backfill context (8005) was brown-grey clay-sand-silt with frequent flint gravel. No dating evidence was retrieved here.

6.4 Trench 81 was placed in south-western-central part of the area in NE-SW alignment and measured 23.40metres long by 1.8metre wide and 0.48metre in depth. It exposed natural geology context (8103) comprising firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints. Trench has exposed a post-hole [8104] in its middle part. Feature had moderately sloping sides, concave base and measured 0.32metre wide and 0.28metre in depth. Its backfill context (8104) comprised brown-grey clay-sand-silt with infrequent angular flints. Several pieces of worked flint (Neolithic, debitage) were retrieved from this context.

6.5 Trench 86 was placed in south-western-central part of the area in NNW-SSE alignment and measured 24.30metres long by 1.8metre wide and 0.49metre in depth. It exposed natural geology context (8603) comprising firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints. A ditch terminus [8604] was exposed at NNE end of this trench. Feature had steep sides and concave base and measured 0.55metre wide and 0.48metre in depth. Its backfill sequence comprised two deposits (8605) and (8606) of which

first cited comprised grey, clay-sand-silt with infrequent angular stones and charcoal flecks and was capped by secondary fill (8606) comprising grey-brown clay-sand-silt with angular flints. Two pits or post holes [8607] and [8609] were exposed in NNE part of evaluation trench. The excavated [8609] was sub-circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Its backfill context (8610) comprised grey-brown clay-sand-silt with infrequent angular stones. Feature measured 0.6metre wide and 0.4metre in depth.

6.6 Trench 87 (the same as 87 A) was placed in south-western-central part of the area in E-W alignment and measured 24.50metres long by 1.8metre wide and 0.41metre in depth. It exposed natural geology context (8703) comprising firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints. It exposed undated but highly likely prehistoric linear ditch in its middle part. Feature was found in near N-S alignment and measured 1.7metre wide and 0.2 metre in depth.

6.7 Trench 87 B was placed in south-western-central part of the area in WNW-ESE alignment and measured 26.50metres long by 1.8metre wide and 0.45metre in depth. It exposed natural geology context (8703B) comprising firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints. It exposed 2.70metre-wide shallow linear cut [8710B] backfilled with flint gravel (context (8711B)) to the depth of at least 0.1 metre. Victorian potsherds were noted on top of its backfill. A pit [8704B] was exposed roughly in the middle of this evaluation trench. Feature was sub-circular in plan with moderate sides and concave base. Its backfill context (8705B) comprised brown-grey clay-sand-silt with infrequent angular stones. Late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic flintwork was retrieved from this context. A potential prehistoric although undated linear ditch [8706B] in N-S alignment was exposed in north-eastern part of the trench. Feature had moderately sloping sides, concave base and measured 1.2metre wide and 0.4metre in depth. Its backfill context (8707B) comprised grey-brown clay-sand silt with infrequent angular stones and produced a worked flint flake of Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic Period. At north-eastern end of evaluation trench a potential prehistoric feature [8708B] was truncated by modern service trench what makes it impossible to investigate appropriately.

Detailed results trench by trench are provided in table below.

6.8 TRENCH TABLES

Trench 65 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions: 12.03m x 1.8m Depth:0.58 m Trench alignment: ENE-WSW Ground level at WSW end: 37.03 m OD Ground level at ENE end: 37.36 m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
6501	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.44m
6502	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.44-0.58m
6503	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.58m+
6503A	Natural	Firm, dark-orange-brown clay-sand-silt	0.58m+

Trench 66 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions: 20.03m x 1.8m Depth:0.46 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 37.66 m OD Ground level at SE end: 37.24 m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)

6601	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.32m
6602	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.32-0.46m
6603	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.46m+

Trench 67 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.13m x 1.8m Depth:0.4 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 38.66 m OD Ground level at SE end: 38.35m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
6701	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.3m
6702	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.3-0.4m
6703	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.4m+
6703A	Natural	Firm, dark-orange-brown clay-sand-silt	0.4m+

Trench 68 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 20.94m x 1.8m Depth: 0.48m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 37.42 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.33m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
6801	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.32m
6802	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.32-0.48m
6803	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.48m+

Trench 69 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 21.63m x 1.8m Depth:0.47 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at SE end: 37.97 m OD Ground level at NW end: 37.54m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
6901	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.36m
6902	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.36-0.47m
6903	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.47m+

Trench 70 (*Figure 5)*	Dimensions 24.53m x 1.8m Depth:0.52 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 37.71 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.88m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7001	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
7002	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.52m
7003	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.52m+

Trench 71 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.59m x 1.8m Depth0.5: m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 38.27 m OD Ground level at SW end: 38.57m OD 3 modern boreholes were exposed in this trench		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7101	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.32m
7102	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.32-0.5m
7103	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 72 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.70m x 1.8m Depth:0.5 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 38.6 m OD Ground level at SW end: 38.04m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7201	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.35m

7202	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.35-0.5m
7203	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 73 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 21.60m x 1.8m Depth:0.56 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end 38.98 m OD Ground level at SE end: 38.60m OD Surface find, debitage flintwork, 2pcs		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7301	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.34m
7302	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.34-0.56m
7303	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.56m+

Trench 74 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.90m x 1.8m Depth:0.5 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 38.62 m OD Ground level at SE end: 38.22 m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7401	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
7402	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.5m
7403	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 75 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.88m x 1.8m Depth:0.52 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 38.20 m OD Ground level at SE end: 38.33m OD Bioturbation, tree bale was exposed in this trench		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7501	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.36m
7502	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.36-0.52m
7503	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.52m+

Trench 76 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.45m x 1.8m Depth:0.56 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at WSW end: 37.07 m OD Ground level at ENE end: 37.31m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7601	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.34m
7602	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.34-0.56m
7603	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.56m+

Trench 77 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.40m x 1.8m Depth: 0.5m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 37.94 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.09m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7701	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
7702	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.5m
7703	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 78 (*Figure5)*	Dimensions 24.16m x 1.8m Depth:0. 48 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at SW end: 36.79 m OD Ground level at NE end: 36.33m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7801	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
7802	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.48m
7803	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and	0.48m+

		sub-angular flints.	

Trench 79 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.22m x 1.8m Depth:0.41 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 36.74 m OD Ground level at SE end: 36.56m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
7901	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
7902	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.41m
7903	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.41m+

Trench 80 (*Figure7)*	Dimensions 24.50m Depth:0.41 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 36.58 m OD Ground level at SW end: 36.15m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8001	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
8002	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.41m
8003	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.41m+
8003a	Natural	Firm, orange, sandy gravel	0.41m+
8004	Trackway	Linear spread of flint gravel, undated in this trench	0.41-0.52m

Trench 81 (*Figure7)*	Dimensions 23.40m x 1.8m Depth:0.48 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 36.55 m OD Ground level at SW end:36.93m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8101	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.35m
8102	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.35-0.48m
8103	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.48m+
8104	Cut of pit	Sub-circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and concave base	0.48-0.66m
8105	Fill of [8104]	Pale grey, clay sand silt with infrequent angular flints and charcoal flecks. Prehistoric flintwork was retrieved	0.48-0.66m

Trench 82 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.04m x 1.8m Depth:0.4 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at SE end: 36.30 m OD Ground level at NW end: 37.05m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8201	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
8202	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.4m
8203	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.4m+

Trench 83 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 20.80m x 1.8m Depth:0.44 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 36.94 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.26m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8301	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.35m
8302	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.35-0.44m
8303	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.44m+

Trench 84 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.50m x 1.8m Depth:0.4 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 36.84 m OD Ground level at SE end: 37.20m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8401	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.34m
8402	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.34-0.4m
8403	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.4m+

Trench 85 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 23.50m x 1.8m Depth:0.44 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 36.46 m OD Ground level at SW end: 36.76m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8501	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
8502	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.44m
8503	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.44m+

Trench 86 (*Figure8)*	Dimensions 24.30m x 1.8m Depth: 0.49 m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end:36.16 m OD Ground level at SE end: 36.6m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8601	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.36m
8602	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.36-0.49m
8603	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.49m+
8604	Cut of ditch terminus	Linear cut with steep sides and concave base.	0.49-0.66m
8605	Primary fill of [8604]	Dark brown grey, clay sand silt with infrequent angular flints and charcoal flecks.	0.56-0.66m
8606	Secondary fill of [8604]	Brown-grey clay sand silt with moderate manganese and flint gravel. Infrequent angular flints.	0.49-0.56m
8607	Cut of pit	Sub-circular in plan with steep/moderate sides and concave base.	UNEXCAVATED
8608	Secondary fill of [8607]	Brown-grey clay sand silt with moderate manganese and flint gravel. Infrequent angular flints.	UNEXCAVATED
8609	Cut of pit	Sub-circular in plan with steep/moderate sides and concave base.	0.49-0.65
8610	Secondary fill of [8609]	Brown-grey clay sand silt with moderate manganese and flint gravel. Infrequent angular flints.	0.49-0.65

Trench 87 A (*Figure9)*	Dimensions 24.60m x 1.8m Depth: 0.45 m Trench alignment: E-W Ground level at E end: 35.66 m OD Ground level at W end: 35.30m OD Undated potentially prehistoric ditch		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8701	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.35m
8702	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.35-0.45m
8703	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.45m+
8704	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base	0.45-0.65m
8705	Secondary fill of [8704]	Brown-grey, clay sand-silt with infrequent angular flints	0.45-0.65m

Trench 87 B (*Figure9)*	Dimensions 26.50m x 1.8m Depth: 0.42m Trench alignment: ESE-WNW Ground level at ESE end:35.45 m OD Ground level at WNW end: 35.52m OD Neolithic pit, prehistoric ditches, Post Med Trackway and modern intrusions		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8701B	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to	0-0.33m

		moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	
8702B	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.42m
8703B	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.42m+
8704B	Cut of pit	Sub circular in plan with moderate sides and concave base.	0.42-0.67m
8705B	Fill of [8704B]	Pale grey, clay sand-silt with infrequent flint gravel and angular stones.	0.42-0.67m
8706B	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned linear cut with moderate sides and concave base	0.42-0.64m
8707B	Secondary fill of [8706B]	Brown-grey, clay sand-silt with infrequent angular stones	0.42-0.64m
8708B	Linear cut	NW-SE aligned linear cut with steep/ vertical sides. Possibly modern service trench cutting through archaeological feature	0.42-0.6m
8709B	Backfill of [8708B]	Pale grey, clay sand-silt without noticeable inclusions	0.42-0.6m
8710B	Linear spread of flint gravel	NW-SE aligned shallow linear cut, possibly a trackway or droveway. It contained Victorian potsherds in its backfill	0.42-0.55m
8711B	Backfill of [8710B]	Dark-grey, clay-sand-silt with moderate to frequent flint gravel. Truncated by modern intrusion, that goes beyond trench limit and require further investigation within larger open area	0.42-0.55m

Trench 88 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.00m x 1.8m Depth: 0.61m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at SE end: 36.23m OD Ground level at NW end: 36.31m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8801	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.3m
8802	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.3-0.61m
8803	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.61m+

Trench 89 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 25.00m x 1.8m Depth: 0.5 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at SSE end: 36.70 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 36.90m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
8901	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.35m
8902	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.35-0.5m
8903	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 90 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.04m x1.8m Depth: 0.52 Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 36.56 m OD Ground level at SE end: 36.54m OD Outcrops of natural gravel were noted here		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9001	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.36m
9002	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.36-0.52m
9003	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.52m+

Trench 91 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.70m x 1.8m Depth: 0.61 m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 36.95 m OD Ground level at SW end: 36.15m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9101	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
9102	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.61m
9103	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.61m+

Trench 92 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.10m x 1.8m Depth: 0.5m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at NW end: 37.66 m OD Ground level at SE end: 37.22m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)

9201	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
9202	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.5m
9203	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.5m+

Trench 93 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 24.0m x 1.8m Depth: 0.45m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 37.56 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.27m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9301	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
9302	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.45m
9303	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.45m+

Trench 94 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 20.23m x 1.8m Depth: 0.51m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at SE end: 37.65 m OD Ground level at NW end: 37.81m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9401	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0-0.33m
9402	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	0.33-0.51m
9403	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.51m+

Trench 95 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 26.94m x 1.8m Depth: 1.54m Trench alignment: NW-SE Ground level at SE end: 38.56 m OD Ground level at NW end: 37.96m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9501	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	1-1.33m
9502	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	1.33-1.54m
9503	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	1.54m+
9504	Modern redeposit	Mixture of hardcore and soil	0-1m

Trench 96 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions 20.30m x 1.8m Depth: 1.48m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end: 38.13 m OD Ground level at SW end: 37.93m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9601	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	1-1.33m
9602	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	1.33-1.48m
9603	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	1.48m+
9604	Modern redeposit	Mixture of hardcore and soil	0-1m

Trench 97 (*Figure6)*	Dimensions24.90 m x 1.8m Depth: 1.4m Trench alignment: NE-SW Ground level at NE end 37.95 m OD Ground level at SW end:38.20 m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
9701	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	0.98-1.31m
9702	Sub soil	Soft, pale brown sandy-silt with occasional to moderate angular flints and infrequent chalk flecks.	1.31-1.4m
9703	Natural	Firm, pale orange-brown, sandy-clay with infrequent angular and sub-angular flints.	0.4m+
9704	Modern redeposit	Mixture of hardcore and soil	0-0.98m

Trench 98 (*Figure4)*	Dimensions 0.0 x 0.0 Depth: UNEXCAVATED Trench alignment: Ground level at SSE end: 37.85 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 37.50m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
01	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	Unexcavated

Trench 99 (*Figure4)*	Dimensions 0.0 x 0.0 Depth: UNEXCAVATED Trench alignment: Ground level at SSE end: 37.85 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 37.50m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
01	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	Unexcavated

Trench 100 (*Figure4)*	Dimensions 0.0 x 0.0 Depth: UNEXCAVATED Trench alignment: Ground level at SSE end: 37.85 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 37.50m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
01	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	Unexcavated

Trench 101 (*Figure4)*	Dimensions 0.0 x 0.0 Depth: UNEXCAVATED Trench alignment: Ground level at SSE end: 37.85 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 37.50m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
01	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	Unexcavated

Trench 102 (*Figure4)*	Dimensions 0.0 x 0.0 Depth: UNEXCAVATED Trench alignment: Ground level at SSE end: 37.85 m OD Ground level at NNW end: 37.50m OD		
Context	Interpretation	Description	Depth (m)(bgl)
01	Top soil	Soft, mid brown sandy-silt with moderate peat and infrequent to moderate angular flints and chalk flecks.	Unexcavated

6.8 PHASED NARRATIVES

6.9 **Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic**

6.9.1 Potential Early Neolithic potsherds were retrieved from pit and ditch terminus in Trench 86 (contexts (8605) and (8610). Neolithic debitage flintwork were retrieved from pit in Trench 81 and from pit and ditch terminus in Trench 86 ((8605) and (8610)). Also Neolithic flintwork was recovered from pit and ditch in Trench 87B. All features mentioned above are part of Neolithic pit-cluster (or structure) partially investigated during adjacent drainage works (Part of Phase 1).

6.10 **Post-Medieval**

6.10.1 NW-SE aligned linear spread of flint gravel was partially investigated during drainage works (Phase 1) but a number of modern intrusions and adjacent service trench caused difficulty to ascertain feature's date. It remains undated in Trench 80 and due to number of Victorian potsherds observed at its top surface in Trench 87B it was attributed to Post-Medieval Period.

6.11 **Undated**

6.11.1 Linear ditch [8704] unearthed in evaluation Trench 87 remains undated as it did not produced any diagnostic dating evidence although its near N-S alignment suggest a possible continuation of Mid Bronze Age agrarian landscape recorded by Archaeology South East during adjacent water treatment works.

7.0 FINDS

7.1 **Spot Dates of Prehistoric pottery** by Jon Baczkowski

A small assemblage of prehistoric pottery was recovered from three contexts (see table). Two fine ware sherds were recovered from Fill (**1046**), both are possibly from the same vessel and are produced in sandy fabric with moderate amounts of small burnt flint. Dating is difficult on such small non-diagnostic samples, although the fabric is more typical of the Bronze Age period.

Four small sherds were recovered from Fill (**8605**), all are a sandy fabric with sparse small inclusions of white calcined flint. Although no diagnostic sherds are present, the fabric and general fineness of the potsherds is more typical of Early Neolithic period. Similar fabrics are noted from other assemblages in the Peacehaven area[1].

The last assemblage comprises of three non-diagnostic sherds from Fill (**8610**). These sherds are fine, but poorly fired in a quartz rich sandy fabric. Although difficult to date, they can tentatively be assigned an Early Neolithic date, being a fine ware, poorly fired laminated fabric.

Further analysis is required to fully describe the pottery fabrics, vessel form and dating. In consideration of the density of Early Neolithic pottery in the vicinity of the Site, including a recovery of a notable assemblage of pottery from a pit in Phase 2 of the project, a thorough program of fabric analysis is recommended, once all phases of the project is complete. Such analysis may help in dating non-diagnostic sherds.

Context	Description	Weight
(8605)	Four sherds, a quartz rich fabric with sparse, sub-1mm calcined flint inclusions. A fine ware.	14g
(8610)	Three sherds in a quartz rich sandy fabric, a fine ware with visible laminations, but poorly fired.	9.8g
(1046)	Two sherds in a sandy with moderate burnt flint inclusions.	11g

7.2 **Prehistoric Flintwork** by Chris Butler

An assemblage of prehistoric struck flint was recovered from six contexts and two surface deposits and comprised 30 pieces of struck flint weighing 189gms., and five unworked fire-fractured pieces weighing 15gms (see table below).

The flint was a mixture of Chalk Downland pieces in black and grey types, with a couple of pieces of Bullhead flint, the majority having some cortext present. The majority of the assemblage seemed fairly fresh and unabraded. One flake from (**8605**) was fire-fractured.

[1] Baczkowski, J. 2017. Post Excavation Assessment Report for Archaeological Excavations
At 1 South Coast Road, Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 7AE. LW15/0462 Project No. CBAS0754

Overall there was little evidence for platform preparation noted on the pieces, with a number having hinge fractures. No pieces could be refitted. A few of the pieces have been retouched and are described below.

Context	Description	Weight
Tr73 surface	1 hard hammer struck flake 1 soft hammer struck flake	25g
Tr80 surface	1 end scraper 2 hard hammer struck flakes	25g
(8105)	1 hard hammer struck flake 2 shattered pieces Plus 3 fire-fractured flints (9g)	8g
(8605)	5 soft hammer struck flakes 1 hard hammer struck flake (FF)	28g
(8610)	1 hard hammer struck flake 3 fragments	12g
(8705)	1 hard hammer struck flake 2 soft hammer struck flakes 2 fragments	41g
(8705B)	2 hard hammer struck flakes 1 soft hammer struck bladelet 3 fragments	42g
(8707B)	1 hard hammer struck flake Plus 2 fire-fractured flints (6g)	8g

The two pieces unstratified from the surface of Trench 80 comprise a small end scraper on a flake. This has been finely produced on a soft hammer-struck flake with platform preparation, and is possibly Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. One of the other flakes from this deposit has retouch on both lateral edges, and has probably been utilised.

The group of five small soft hammer-struck flakes from (**8605**) have no evidence for platform preparation, although all exhibit the typical lipped platforms of soft hammer struck pieces. None have any evidence for additional working or utilisation, and the only other piece from this context is a fire-fractured hard hammer struck flake. An Early Neolithic date is possible for this group, although the group is too small and lacking in diagnostic traits to be certain.

The hard hammer struck flake from (**8610**) has a small area of retouch on one lateral edge, but both this and the small fragments are undiagnostic and cannot be assigned a date.

The two soft hammer-struck flakes in (**8705**) have platform preparation, suggesting an Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, but the other pieces in this context are undiagnostic, as are most of the flakes and fragments from (**8705B**). The exception is a soft hammer-struck bladelet with fine serrations along one lateral edge, typical of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic tool types[2].

Overall the assemblage is too small to draw any firm conclusions, but the presence of some

[2] Butler, C. 2005 *Prehistoric Flintwork* Tempus Publishing Ltd

pieces that would typically fit an Early Neolithic timeframe is consistent with the pottery. It is not certain whether these pieces are residual in their contexts as the undiagnostic pieces could be contemporary or later in date, although the fresh appearance of the pieces suggests they are in-situ.

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL

8.1 No environmental samples were acquired at this stage of investigation.

9.0 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

9.1 Archaeological evaluation at Lower Hoddern Farm (Phase 3) successively fulfilled aims and objectives of the specification and exposed common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil concealing natural geology. Significant archaeological features were exposed within western-central part of the area comprising ditches, post-holes, pits and potential trackway.

9.2 The natural geology was encountered at an average depth of approximately 0.45m below the existing ground surface (34-39m aOD), directly underlying a subsoil sealed by the existing topsoil. Rapid cartographic regression suggests that the site has been relatively undisturbed throughout the past 150 years, confirmed during the evaluation, as any modern truncation was limited to low impact access routes and rooting.

9.3 Archaeological features within positive trenches have been provisionally attributed to the prehistoric period, of the Late Mesolithic to Middle Neolithic. Linear ditches remain undated and in one case feature was heavily truncated by modern intrusion. The remains of potential Late Post Medieval trackway exposed in two trenches could have been also truncated by modern intrusions (mainly service trenches) leading towards adjacent water treatment works.

9.4 Neolithic pits exposed during evaluation are possessing similar characteristics to remains recorded adjacently to the east during drainage works (Phase 1), features were filled in with frequent calcined flint what indicates potential burnt mound activity in the vicinity. The alignments of some identified linear features may suggest a continuation of the Middle Bronze Age-Late Bronze Age agrarian landscape recorded by Archaeology South East although there was no finds representative for that period recorded during Phase 3 evaluation.

9.5 The geophysical survey, carried out by Stratascan, suggested the presence of geological formations in this area and did not record any anomalies of archaeological origins. The presence of confirmed archaeological features within ‘blank’ geophysical areas would also suggest that positive features identified to the south (Stratascan 2017: Figure 4) may also extend into the current site.

9.6 With no known modern high impact activity being recorded within the site extents it is plausible to suggest that extensive prehistoric settlement may be present within the extents of the proposed development site. Such settlement patterns offer an extension to the distribution of previously recorded archaeological sites within the surrounding area, in particular the process of nucleated settlement evolving during the Bronze Age as identified within the adjacent site.

9.7 In the event that finished ground levels remain constant, the depth of impact associated with future development is likely to require the excavation of material exceeding 0.50m in depth. In the absence of ground rising, proposed impacts to archaeological deposits throughout the site are expected.

9.8 Undertaken fieldwork recorded substantial evidence that significant archaeological

features and deposits are still present within western-central part of Phase 3 PDA and that subsequent mitigation measures must take place prior to the commencement of construction works. Therefore a further strip map and sample programme is recommended to take place within south-west-central part of the area as indicated on plan submitted and discussed with ESCC. The ultimate scale and scope of mitigation will be set out in WSI and agreed with the ESCC Senior Archaeological Officer separately in due course.

10.0 GENERAL AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 SWAT Archaeology would like to thank to the Developer for commissioning the project. Thanks are extended to Neil Griffin from ESCC for his help and advice during the course of investigation and to Duncan Cameron-Graham for supervising the fieldwork. Thanks are extended to Robin Hodgkinson from IHG for undertaking metal detecting survey and to Joe Cantwell for carrying out the fieldwork.

10.2 All artefacts recovered during the excavation shall remain the property of the landowner. The finds will be retained by the archaeological contractor for a period not exceeding 2 years for post-excavation analysis. The artefacts are suitably bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with: Walker, K. Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage and conservation (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Archaeology Section, 1990) and: Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections (Museum and Galleries Commission, 1992).

10.3 On completion of the project, the archaeological contractor is to arrange for the transfer, subject to the landowners consent, of the documentary, photographic and material archive to SWAT Archaeology, and to ensure that the appropriate level of resources for cataloguing, boxing and long term storage are provided for a set fee until such times that Barbican House, Lewes can accept the archive.

10.4 The archaeological contractor is to allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time, during or after the valuation, by the landowner, and the East Sussex County Council Archaeological Officer.

10.5 Copies of all reports compiled as a result of the excavation and post-excavation archaeological works will be submitted to the landowner as CD containing a .pdfA version. In addition a CD containing a .pdfA version of the report and a selection of site photos in jpeg format to be sent to the ESCC Archaeological Officer and once approved sent to the ESCC HER for inclusion on the East Sussex County Sites & Monuments Record.

10.6 The work the archaeological contractor is to abide by the: Code of conduct and the: Codes of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The report was written by: SWAT Archaeology (Peter Cichy) The Office, School Farm Oast, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8UP Date: 30/11/2020.

Appendix 1

Core Personnel Structure

Project Management - Fieldwork	**Role**
Dr Paul Wilkinson, MCIfA, FSA	Director
Peter Cichy	Project Manager
Bartek Cichy	Project Officer/ Surveyor
Jon Baczkowski	Project officer
Duncan Cameron-Graham	Site Supervisor
Finds	**Specialist**
Flint	Chris Butler, MCIfA
Early Prehistoric Pottery	Paul Hart
Later prehistoric and Roman pottery	Dr Malcolm Lyne
Saxon, Medieval and Post Medieval pottery	Luke Barber
Small finds (Coins and metalwork)	Dana Goodburn-Brown, MSc
Conservation support and x-ray photography	Dana Goodburn-Brown, MSc
Samples and human remains	**Specialist**
Environmental soil processing	Lisa Gray, MSc, AIFA
Faunal, floral micro and macro remains	Dr Mike Allen
Animal Remains (Bones, Oyster shells)	Carol White
Human Remains	Dr Chris Dieter
Micro-excavation (cremation burials)	Dana Goodburn-Brown
Post-Excavation and publication	**Role**
Bartek Cichy	illustrator
Peter Cichy	author

APPENDIX 2 – HER FORM

Site Name: Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Lower Hoddern Farm, Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8AP

SWAT Site Code: PH-EV-20

Site Address: As above

Summary: *Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) was commissioned by BDW Southern Counties Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Lower Hoddern Farm, (Phase 3) Peacehaven, East Sussex. The archaeological programme was monitored by the Senior Archaeological Officer at East Sussex County Council. The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of 39 trenches, which recorded a relatively common stratigraphic sequence comprising topsoil and subsoil with colluvium and modern made-up ground overlying natural geology.*

The archaeological evaluation has recorded the presence of prehistoric activity, cluster of pits or structure of Neolithic Period, couple undated ditches and Later Post Medieval Trackway.

Further mitigation in the form of a Strip map and Sample Excavation Programme are required

District/Unitary: Lewes District Council & East Sussex County Council

Period(s): prehistoric, Neolithic, Late Post Medieval, undated

NGR (centre of site to eight figures) NGR 541680 101969

Type of Archaeological work: Archaeological Evaluation

Date of recording: October-November 2020

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

Geology: Chalk bedrock capped by Head Deposits and colluvium

Title and author of accompanying report: SWAT Archaeology (P. Cichy 2020) Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 3) on Land at Lower Hoddern Farm, Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8AP

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

Contact at Unit: Paul Wilkinson

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Archaeologists

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Figure 1: Site location map (red)

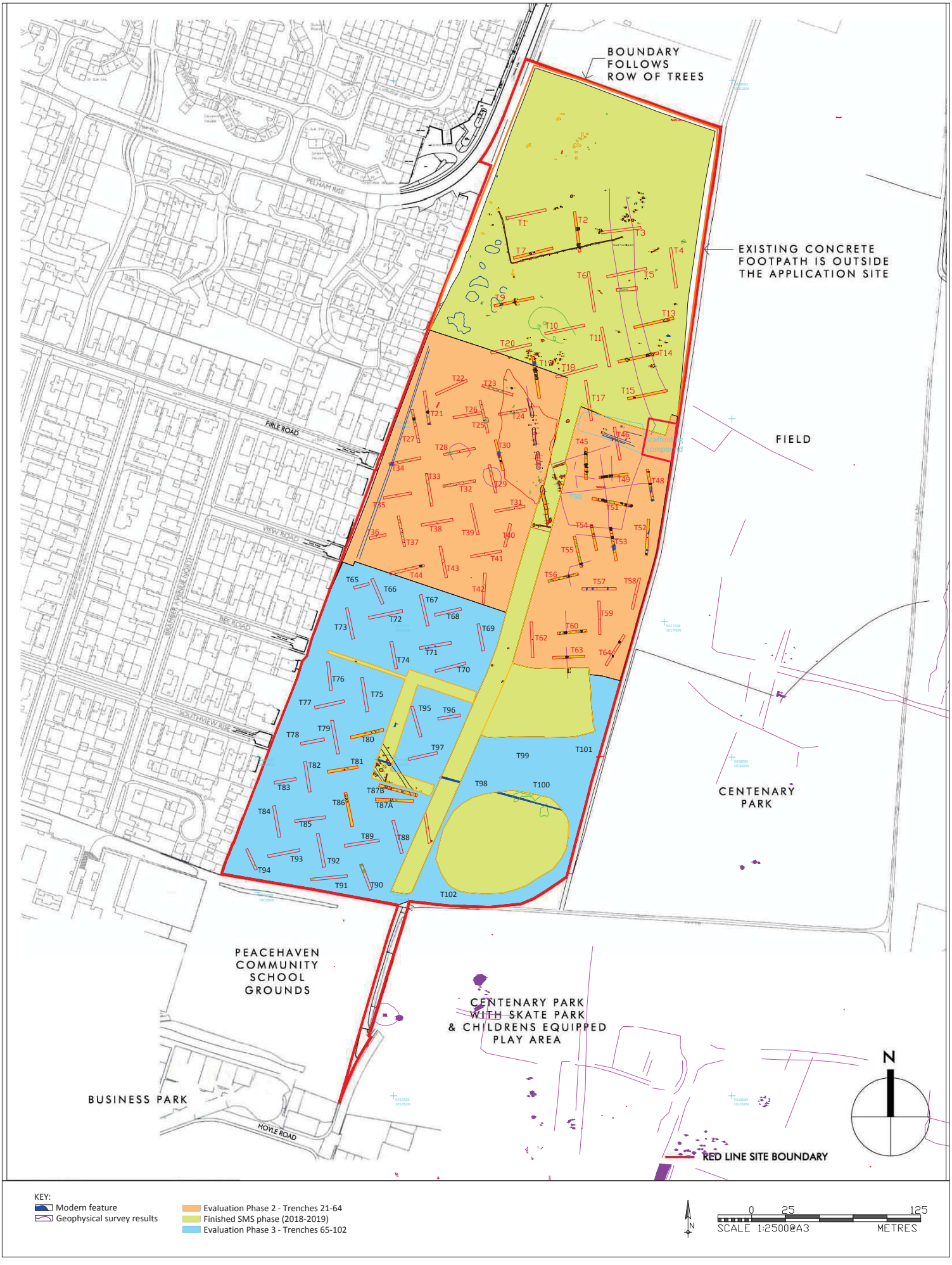


Figure 2: Evaluation trenches - phase 3 - in relation to completed phases and ASE results (from the WWTW site and the Bovis housing, taken from the HER mon records).

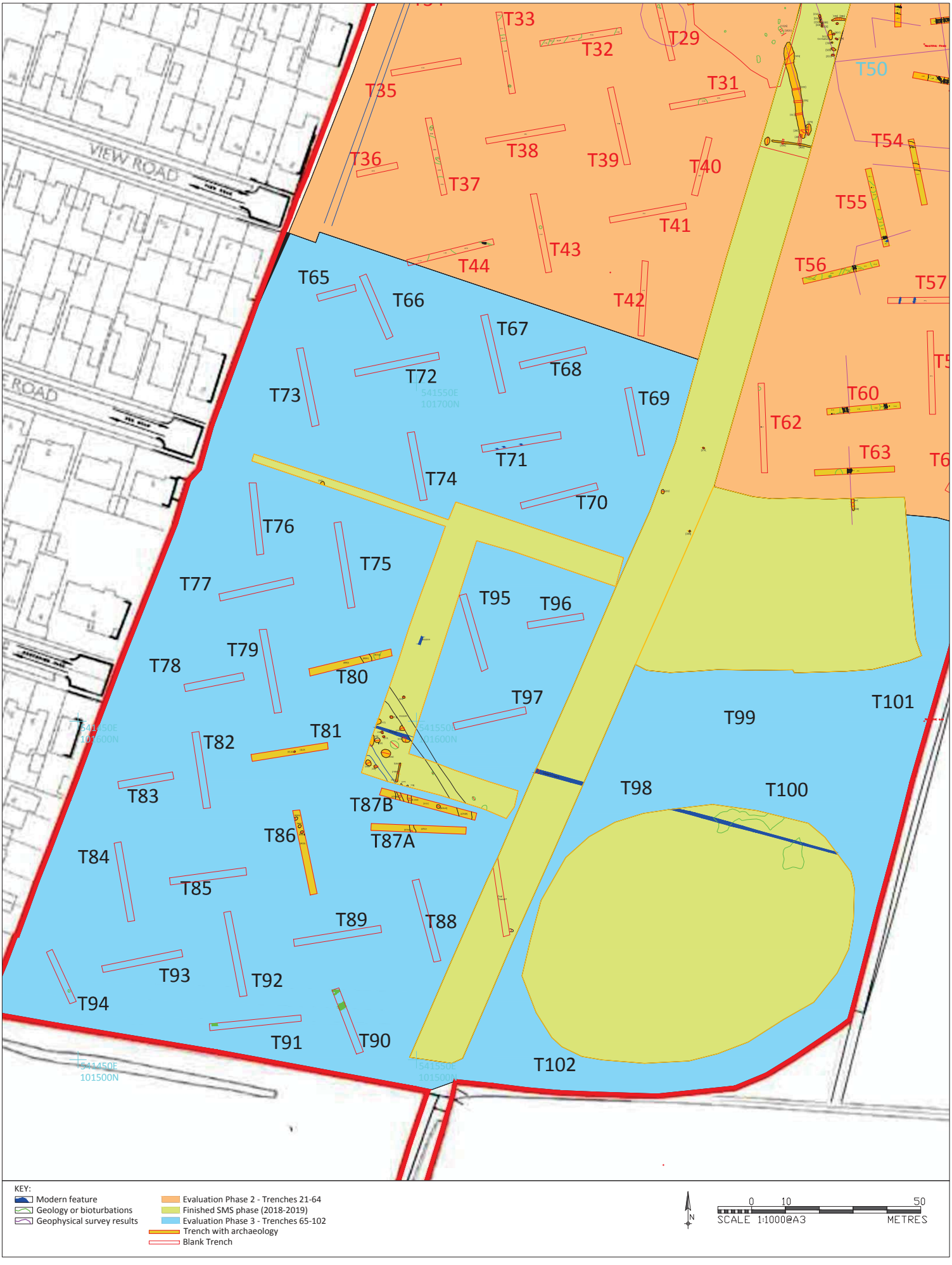


Figure 3: Trench location

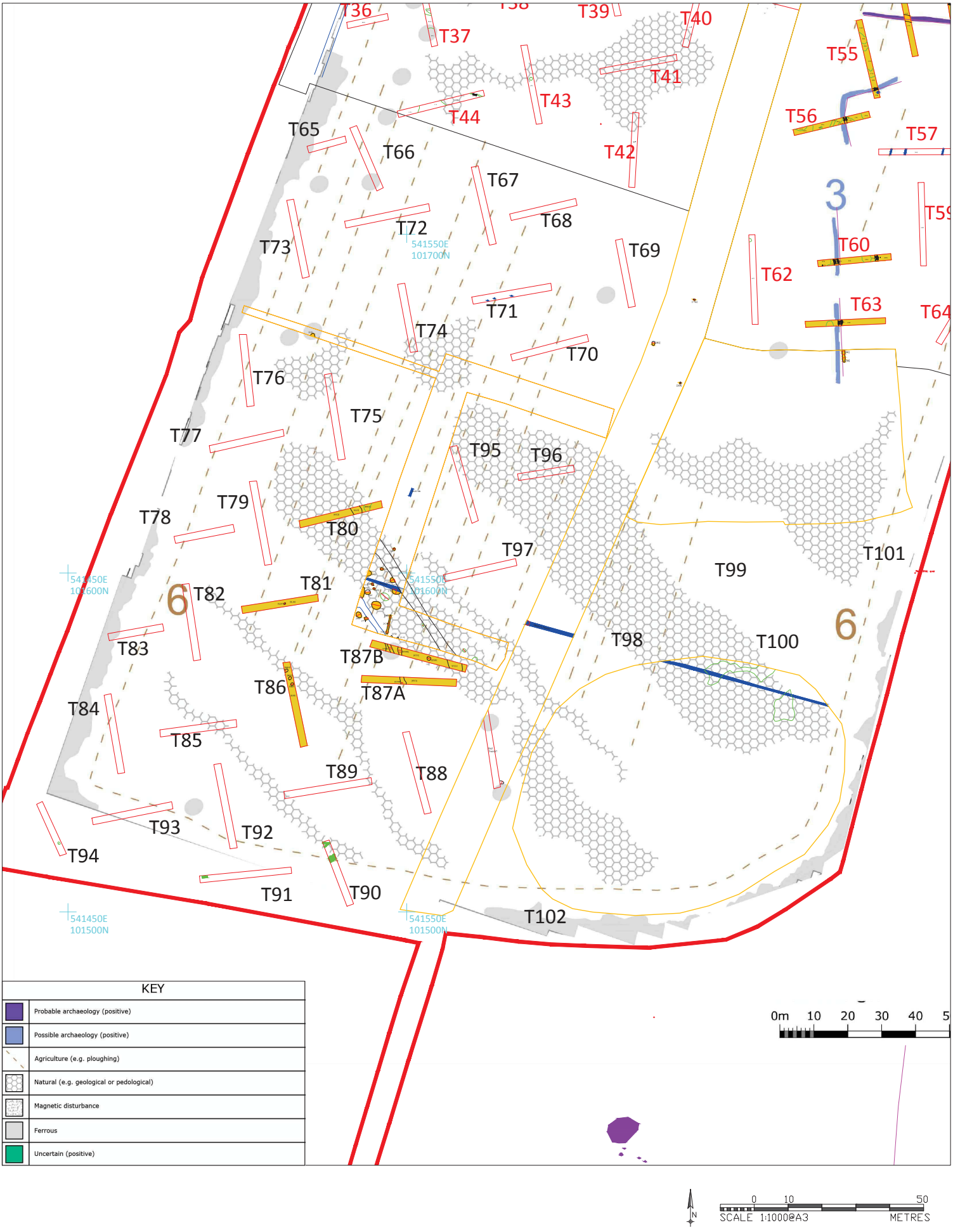


Figure 4: Trench location superimposed on geophysical interpretation plan

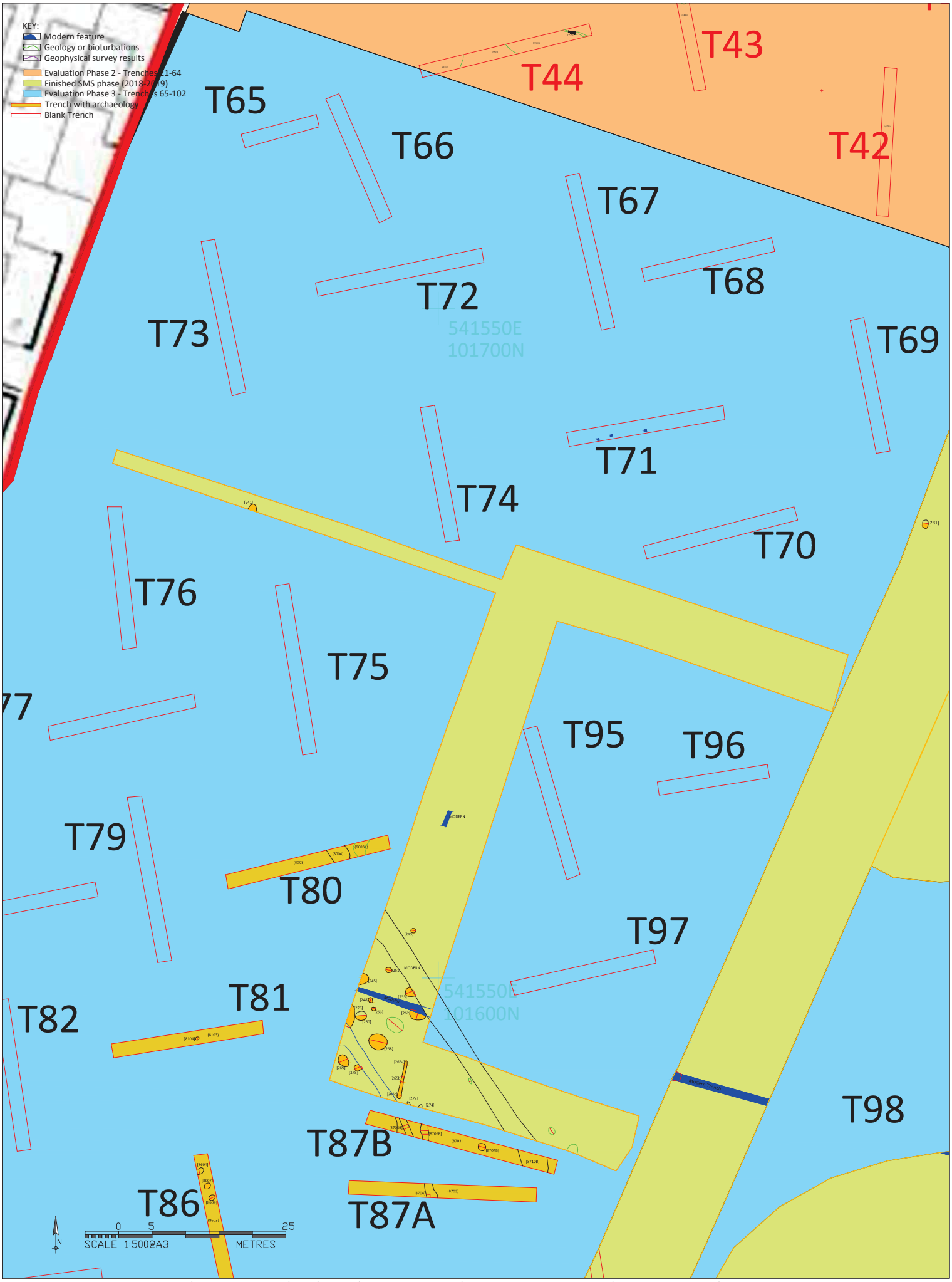


Figure 5: Evaluation Phase 3 - Northern extent - Trenches 65-75 and 95-97

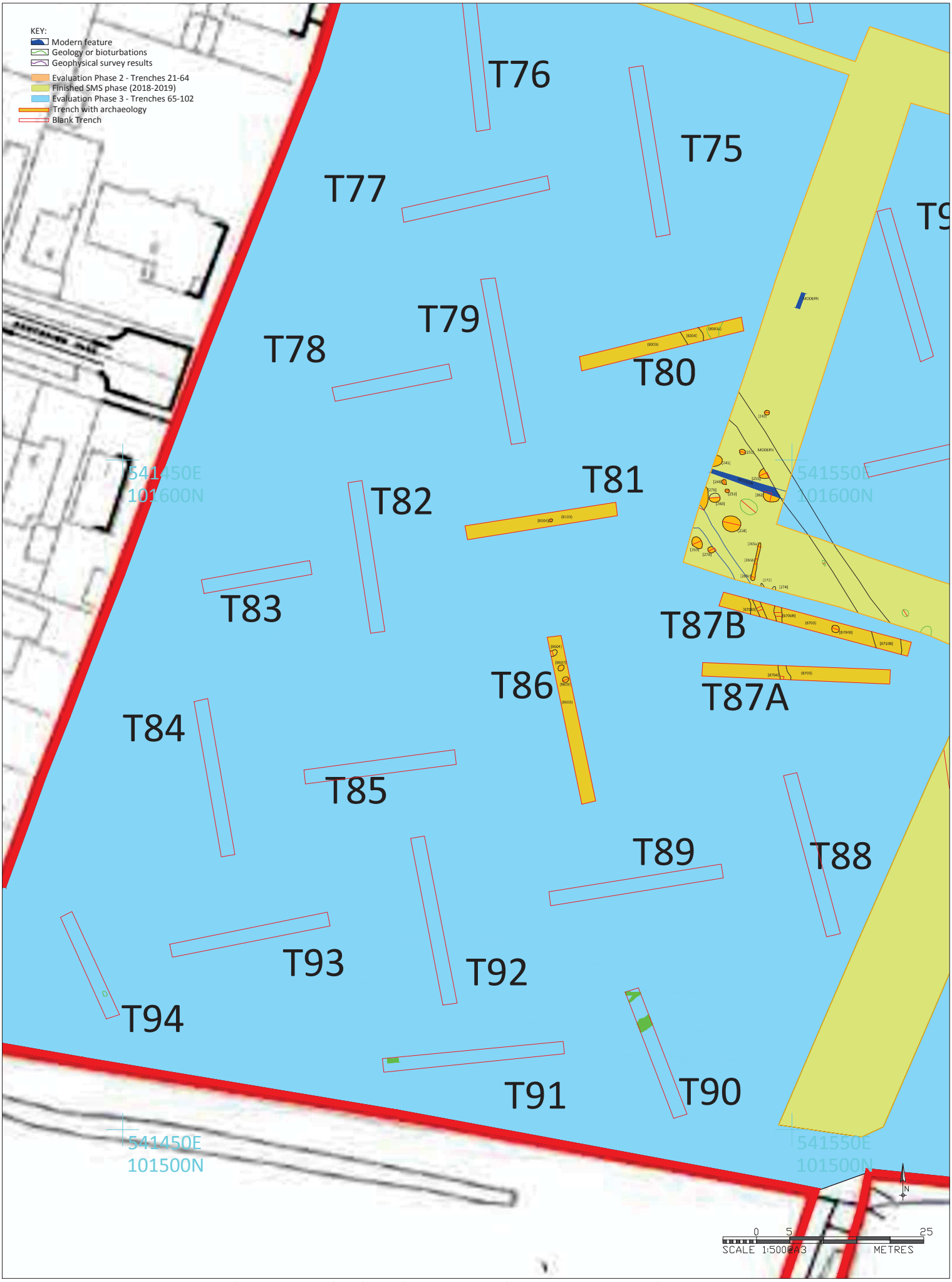
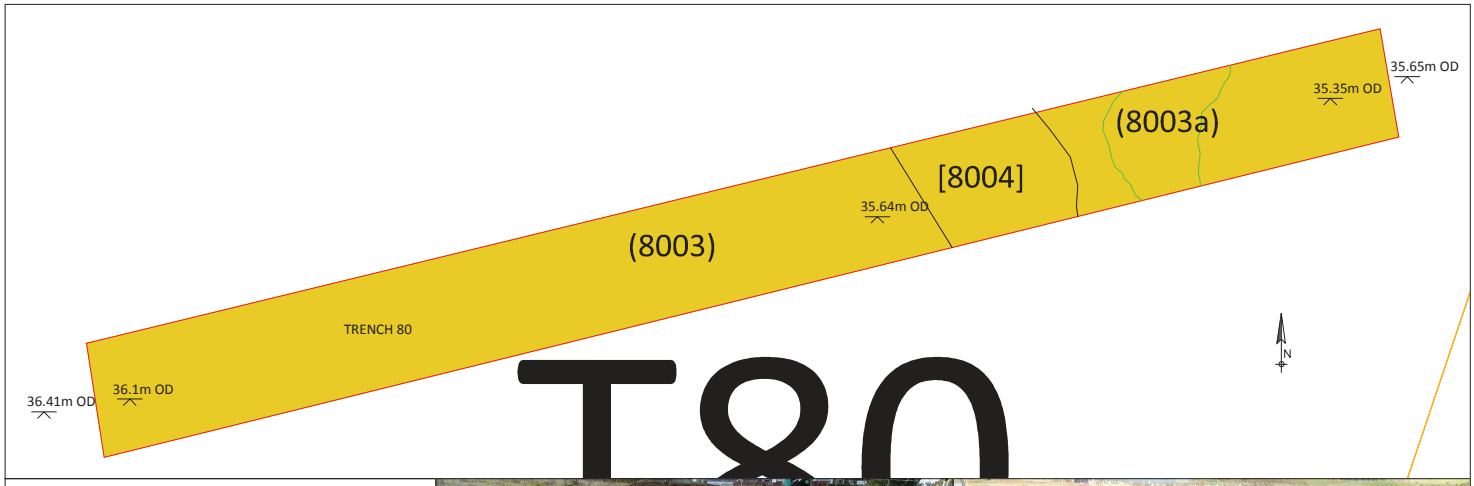


Figure 6: Evaluation Phase 2 - Southern extent - Trenches 75-94



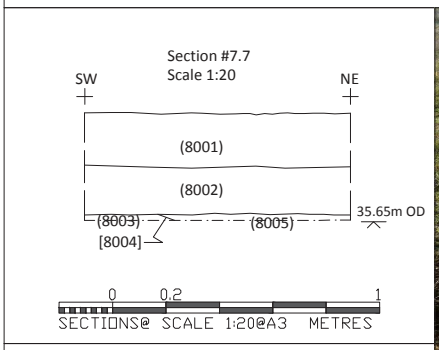


Plate 1: Looking WSW at trench 80

Plate 2: Looking ENE at trench 81

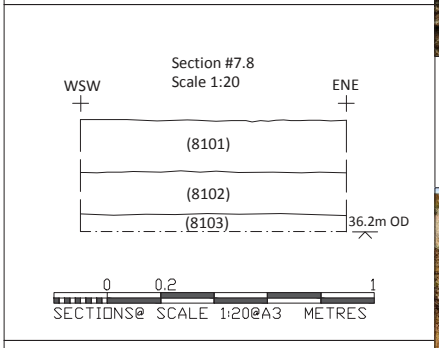
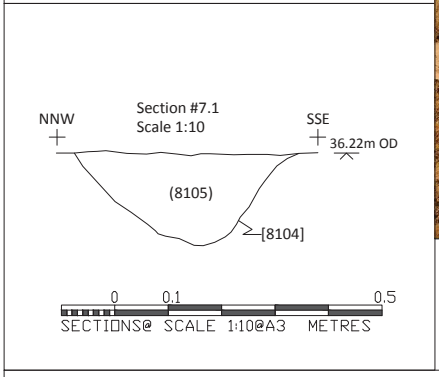


Plate 3: Looking NNW at section of trench 81

Plate 4: Looking ENE at section of pit 8104



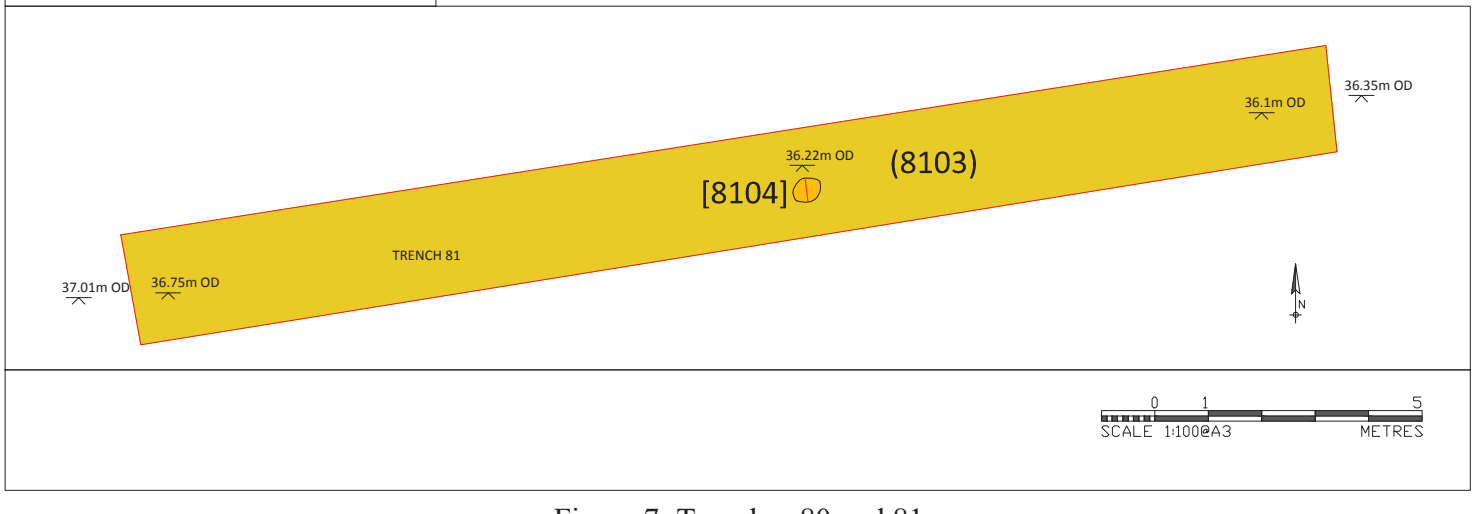


Figure 7: Trenches 80 and 81

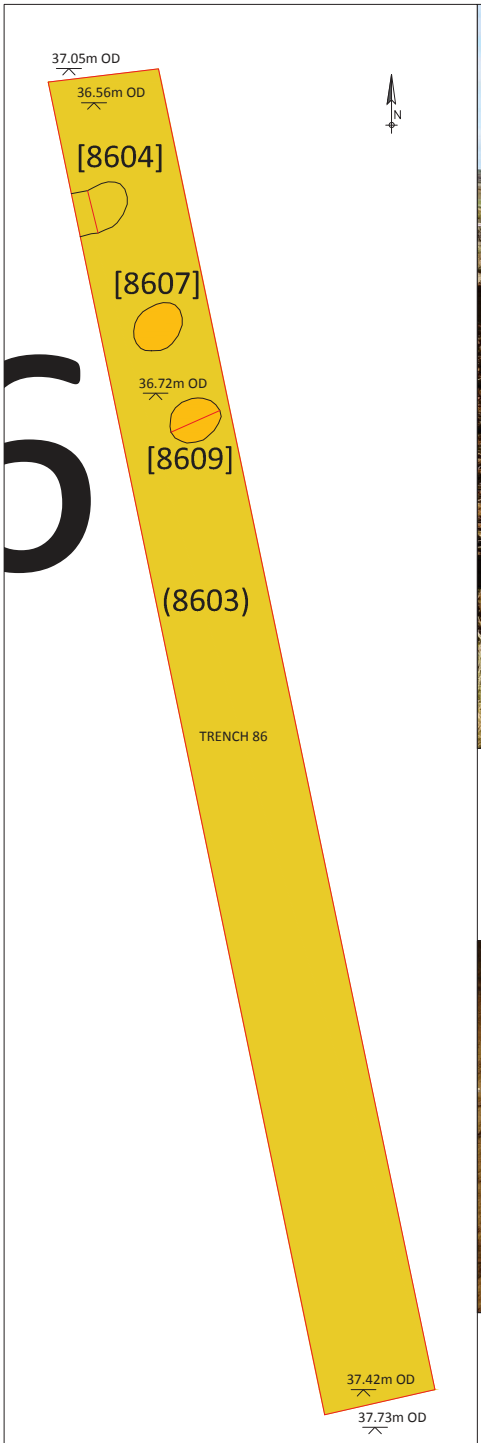
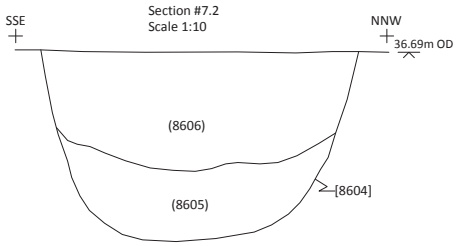


Plate 5: Looking NW at trench 86

Plate 6: Looking WSW at section of pit 8604

Plate 7: Looking NNW at section of pit 8609



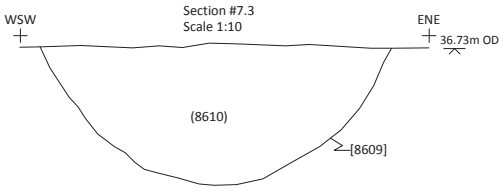


Figure 8: Trench 86

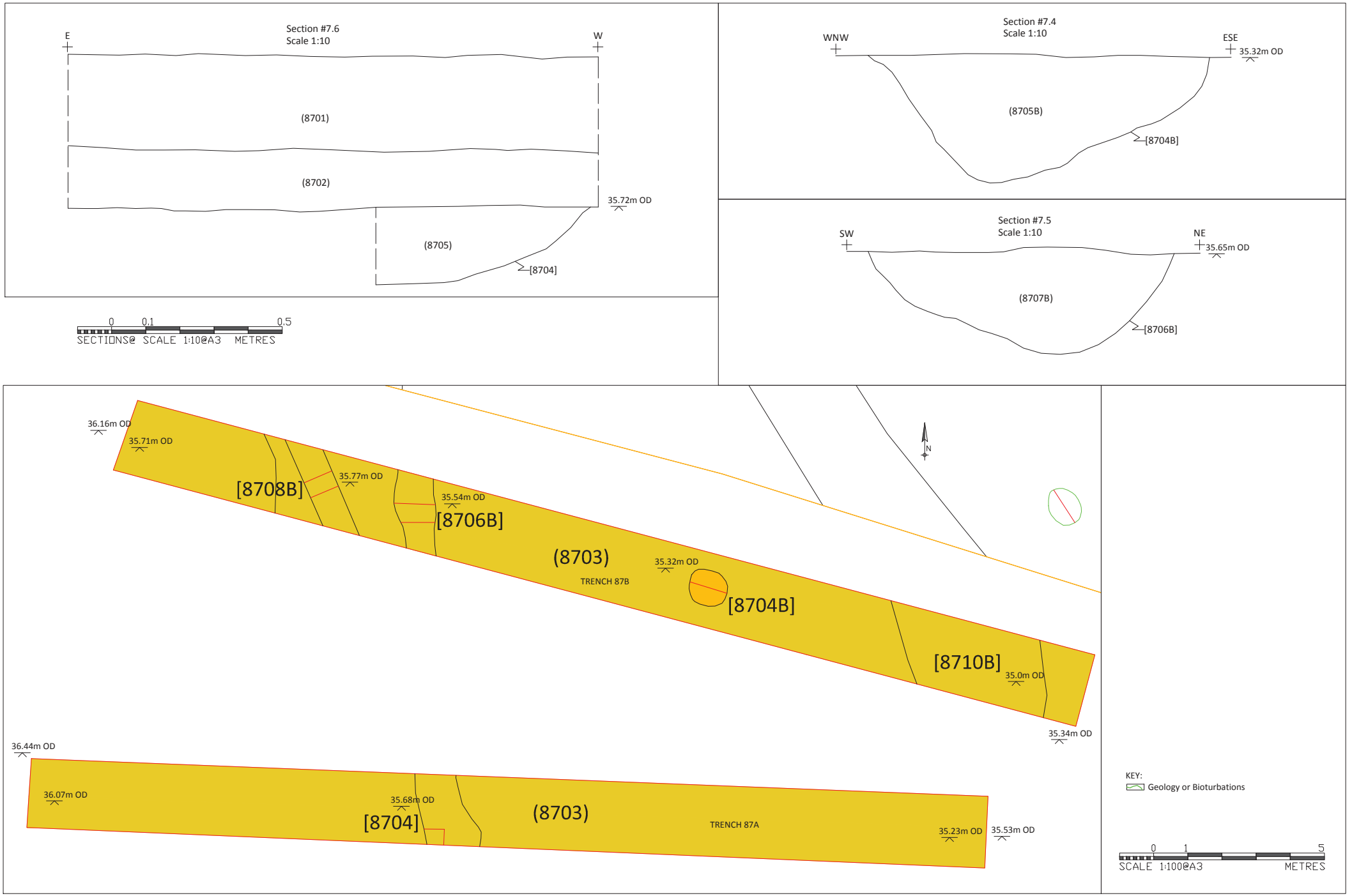


Figure 9: Trenches 87A and 87B

Plate 8: Looking north west at trench 87A

Plate 9: Looking south at section of ditch [8704A]

Plate 10: Looking north west at trench 87B

Plate 11: Looking NNE at section of pit 8704B

Plate 12: Looking north at section of ditch 8706B

Figure 10: Plates showing sections exposed in trenches 87A and 87B